

Why Archaeology on the SRS?

SRS@



1950

2025

PROJEC
FROM ONE
FPM 19

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)



Photo: Pres. Johnson signing NHPA;
from ACHP archives

- ▶ Signed Oct. 15, 1966
- ▶ “the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development”
- ▶ Created
 - National Register of Historic Places
 - Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)

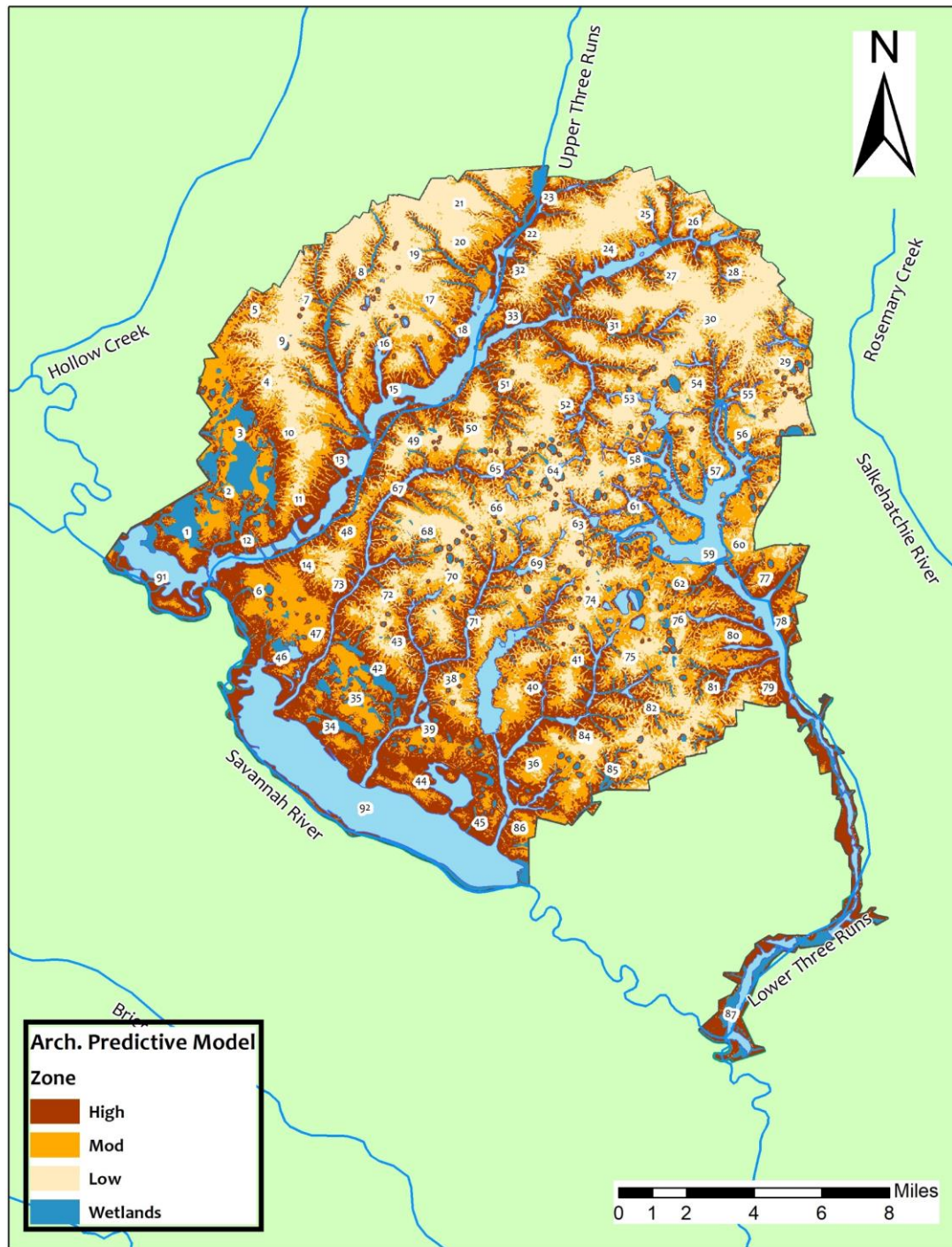
Why was the National Historic Preservation Act enacted?

NHPA was enacted in recognition that historic places were being lost or altered, and that preservation was in the public's interest.



Various regulations and policies were passed in the early 1970s to implement the National Historic Preservation Act on public lands such as the SRS.

The Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) is a division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) at the University of South Carolina (USC). The SRARP maintains an on-site presence at the Savannah River Site (SRS) and manages the archaeological and other historic resources for the United States Department of Energy (DOE).



How did the SRARP come to be? 1973 to the present

In 1973, archaeological survey of the SRS was initiated to comply with **Executive Order 11593** (Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment) signed by President Nixon in 1971.

In 1978, the SRARP intensive archaeological survey in areas slated for development in compliance with the **National Environmental Policy Act** of 1969 and the **Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act** of 1974. The SRARP was awarded multi-year contracts and began an on-site presence on the SRS.

In 1988, after 15 years and 6 different contracts, the SRARP negotiated a cooperative agreement with DOE, which allowed the SRARP to conduct archaeology research in the CSRA focusing on the SRS.

The SRARP has the sole ARPA permit for the SRS and work is conducted according to Section 110 and 106 processes.

SRAP's three-fold mission:



PROGRAMMATIC MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

AMONG

THE SAVANNAH RIVER OPERATIONS OFFICE,
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY,
THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
AND THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
ON THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE, AIKEN, ALLENDALE AND BARNWELL
COUNTIES, SOUTH CAROLINA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH MANAGEMENT PLAN

OF THE

SAVANNAH RIVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT: DE-EM0002875

BETWEEN

THE SAVANNAH RIVER OPERATIONS OFFICE,
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY,
AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND
ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL REVIEW
OF
CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS
BY THE
SAVANNAH RIVER
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR 2020

SAVANNAH RIVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM
SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 2020



THE ANTIQUITIES ACT



The President of the United States is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments...

Theodore Roosevelt

JUNE 8, 1906

(A) Conduct archaeological, geoarchaeological and historical research.

(B) Test and refine the predictive models of prehistoric and historic settlement variability.

(C) Use the predictive models to conduct regional-level comparisons by physiographic province and crosscutting drainages.

Use the results of (B) above to construct nomothetic-level contributions of relevance to the broader discipline of anthropology.

The knowledge from (A)-(C) above will enable the DOE to better manage the cultural resources of the SRS. This information provides a context for future National Environmental Research Park (NERP) studies.

Report on archaeological investigations using regional perspectives.

Conduct geoarchaeological research on the SRS and integrate those results with similar research in other portions of the Savannah River Valley.

Continue to coordinate with SRS personnel to integrate archaeological site locational data into a Geographic Information System (GIS).

Integration of GIS archaeological data layers with the curation databases for cultural resource management.

Integration of Cold War-era facilities and processes into the cultural resource management plan.

Provide protection for the remnant cemeteries through Site Use System responses in accordance with South Carolina Code 16-17-600 as amended Destruction of Graves and Burial Grounds.

Outreach and Public Education:
Public Exhibits
School Programs
Volunteer Digs and Labwork



The public awareness and educational responsibilities of the SRARP are:

Continue to develop and implement an educational outreach program in the SRS area.

Continue the hands-on approach of the volunteer program when possible, with the goal of providing the general public with actual archaeological work experience.

Continue the Community History Project in conjunction with the outreach program in light of proposed new 36CFR800 Section 106 regulations.

Involve graduate and undergraduate students in hands-on training programs in archaeological research and cultural resource management.

SRARP Cultural Heritage Program

With the coming of the SRS, some 7000 residents had to relocate.

In the 1990s, the SRARP began a program that involved interviews with previous residents of the SRS.

This resulted in two reports on residents of the incorporated towns of Ellenton, and Dunbarton and Meyers Branch.

Research is now focusing on the unincorporated, rural communities of the SRS.

The SRS is producing documentary videos on the previous residents and their communities.



The primary objective of the SRARP is to report on the current state of knowledge of the archaeology of the SRS and implications for managing the cultural resources in an enlightened manner.