

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OF POE SPRINGS PARK
ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHASE II

Submitted to:

Alachua County Public Works Department
P.O. Box 582
Gainesville, Florida 32602

Submitted by:

Lucy B. Wayne
Martin F. Dickinson
Environmental Services & Permitting, Inc.
P.O. Box 5489
Gainesville, Florida 32602-5489
(Telephone: 904-462-4334)

March 1988

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
LIST OF TABLES	iii
LIST OF FIGURES	iv
1.0 INTRODUCTION	1-1
2.0 PROJECT SETTING	2-1
2.1 Environmental Setting	2-1
2.2 Cultural History	2-4
2.2.1 Prehistory	2-5
2.2.2 History	2-10
3.0 METHODOLOGY	3-1
4.0 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS	4-1
4.1 Recommendations	4-4
5.0 REFERENCES CITED	5-1
APPENDIX A -- ARTIFACT CATALOG	
APPENDIX B -- FLORIDA STATE SITE FILE FORM	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Alachua County is in the process of developing a public recreation area on property on the Santa Fe River and Poe Springs (Figure 1-1). A cultural resource assessment of the property was required under the provisions of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-95. The eastern portion of the property surrounding Poe Springs was surveyed in 1985 and 1986 (Dickinson and Wayne 1985; 1986). Subsequently, an additional 122 acres was acquired west of the springs. The new acreage was surveyed in January, 1988 by Martin F. Dickinson and Lucy B. Wayne, archaeologists with Environmental Services & Permitting, Inc. (ESP), Gainesville, Florida. The study was conducted under a contract with the Alachua County Public Works Department.

The 122 acre survey area consists primarily of pastures abutting the Santa Fe River. Small wooded areas are located along Poe Springs Road (SR 236) and the river. A small spring and spring run are located at the northeast corner of the acreage. A slough which possibly connects to Lilly Spring is located at the northwest corner. A house with barn and a mobile home are located on the bluff on the northeast portion of the acreage. A number of dirt roads, trails, and fence rows are present. The previous alignment of SR 236 is also visible in the south end of the property. At present, the property is occupied by the County caretaker's family.

This project was designed to delineate archaeological or historic sites at a level sufficient to assist the County's planners in development of the park facilities. No efforts were made to assess the significance of the located resources, as it is anticipated that there is sufficient available acreage to allow development of the park without impact to the

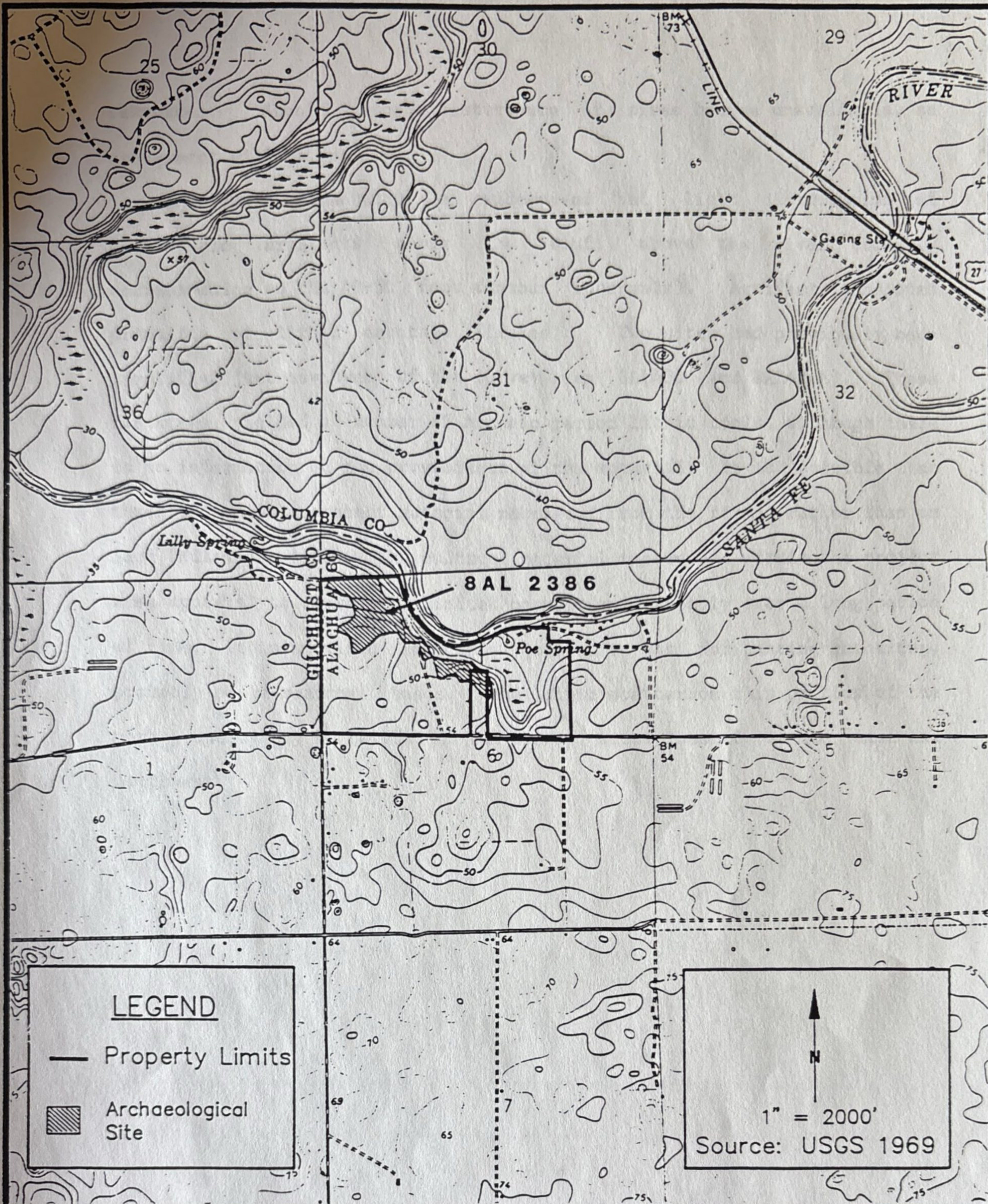


Figure 1-1. Project Location,
Poe Springs,
Alachua County, Florida.

Prepared By Environmental Services & Permitting, Inc. 2/88

resources. Should ground disturbance of sites become unavoidable, an assessment will be required.

The survey identified a widespread but light distribution of prehistoric artifacts along the bluff above the river (roughly corresponding to the 40-50 foot contour intervals). Artifacts consisted primarily of lithic debitage (flakes). Two sites had previously been identified just northwest of the survey area (8AL426 and 8AL426A). These two sites yielded a number of Archaic period lithic tools, although there is no information on the provenience of the material. It is possible that these two sites represent material recovered from the river, rather than on land (Milanich, 1988). The cultural material recovered within the project area appears to represent limited occupation, probably over a long period of time. It is surmised that this occupation was for hunting-gathering, probably on a seasonal basis. The lithic scatter on this portion of the park property may be related to the denser sites located to the east and northwest.

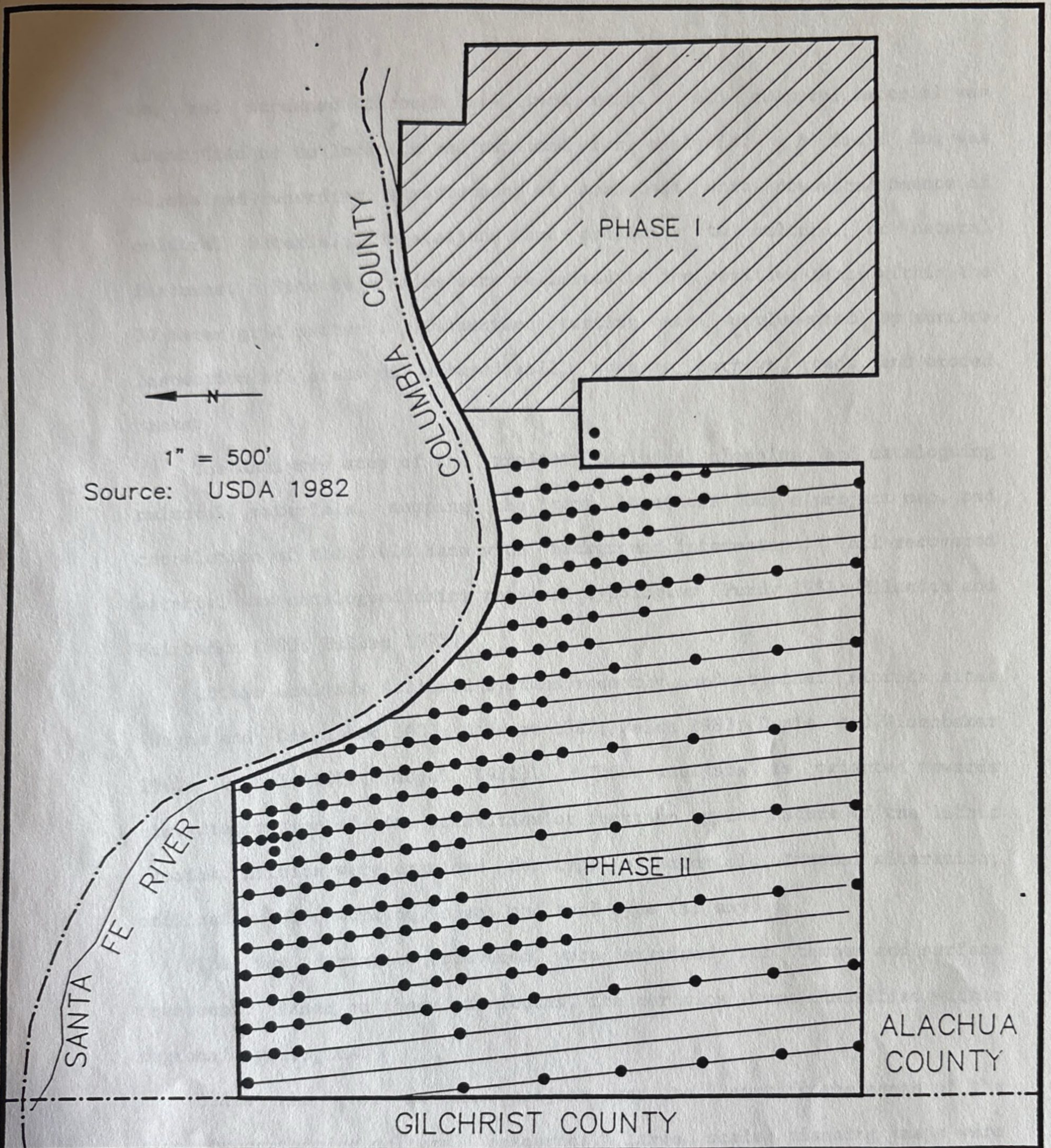


Figure 3-1. Location of Transects and Test Units,
Poe Springs,
Alachua County, Florida.

Prepared By Environmental Services & Permitting, Inc. 2/88

cm, and screened through 1/4 inch mesh. All cultural material was identified as to location and retained for analysis. A field log was maintained recording stratigraphy of each test unit, presence/absence of cultural material, vegetation, and proximity to cultural or natural features. Site boundaries were delimited by the positive tests within the 30 meter grid pattern. Subsurface testing was supplemented by surface inspection of areas of exposed soil, such as burrows, roads, and eroded banks.

The analysis step of the project included cleaning and cataloguing cultural materials, mapping the test locations on a project map, and correlation of the field data with background information. All recovered material was catalogued using regional typologies (Purdy 1981; Milanich and Fairbanks 1980; Bullen 1975).

Lithic analysis followed systems recently used at other Florida sites (Wayne and Dickinson 1987; Stewart 1987; Welch 1983; Daniel and Wisenbaker 1981; Daniel 1982; Gagel 1981). This analysis is oriented towards characterization of site activities or function by the nature of the lithic remains. Lithics were examined for type of material, thermal alteration, utilization or reworking, size, and tool type (if any).

The few ceramics recovered were examined for temper and surface treatment. Based on these attributes, the ceramics were classified within regional typologies.

Since the goal of the project was to identify the areas of the property containing cultural resources, large scale planning maps were developed in consultation with the park planner to delineate areas where: (1) unrestricted development could occur; (2) disturbance must be limited

to the plowzone; and (3) no development could occur. Areas of unrestricted development include highly disturbed areas or areas which apparently do not contain cultural resources. Areas where disturbance must be limited to the plowzone are those areas containing cultural resources which have already been in agricultural use and/or contain limited remains. No ground disturbing development can occur in undisturbed cultural resources which appear to merit additional testing.

Analysis of the artifact assemblage indicates a pattern which is consistent with those defined for hunting camps: low artifact density, dominance of small tertiary flakes indicative of final stage tool manufacture or reworking, tools utilized for hunting activities (points and scrapers), and few ceramics. The lack of ceramics indicates limited or brief occupation with a lack of emphasis on food storage or processing. The time range for the materials is not well-defined due to a lack of diagnostic artifacts. However, other sites in the immediate vicinity have been identified from the Paleo-Indian period through the late prehistoric. Therefore, it seems likely that this site represents repeated occupation of the area on a limited basis throughout the region's prehistory.

4.1 Recommendations

The nature of the impacts from the proposed park are very limited. There will be athletic fields, bark trails for jogging or hiking, parking lots, and picnic areas with restroom facilities. Management recommendations for the archaeological remains have been developed with these impacts in mind.

1. Areas which contain no evidence of archaeological material can be developed without restrictions or additional study.
2. In previously plowed areas which contain artifacts, development must be confined to the plow zone (top 30 cm) unless further testing is conducted. This limitation would permit on-grade development such as athletic fields, parking, or trails.
3. In unplowed (wooded) areas which contain artifacts, development should be confined to bark trails unless further testing is conducted.

4. Installation of below grade features, such as septic tanks, water lines, or foundations, should be confined to areas which do not contain artifacts or areas which are already highly disturbed (such as the area of the existing septic tanks, wells, and structures). If such features must be placed in areas containing archaeological remains, further testing will be required.
5. Development activities should be avoided in the vicinity of rock outcrops or in the area containing the concentration of sherds and bone fragments (Figure 4-1).

In conclusion, the project archaeologists believe that the archaeological material should be designated as a continuation of the 8AL2386 site. If it would facilitate management of the site, subareas could be designated with the suffixes "a", "b", etc.