

Spanning Progress and Preservation Charting The District "...consider a convenient place for a ferry upon every navigable river..." - Lords Proprietors 1686 When Preservation Isn't Possible

direct overland route closest to the Atlantic Ocean between Charleston and points south. Since the founding of the Carolina Colony, this route has been a vital transportation artery in our state.



DID CULTURAL **YOU** RESOURCES **KNOW** ARE:

Archaeological Sites Historic Buildings

- Cemeteries : Battlefields
- : Landscapes
- : Historic Structures
- Traditional Cultural Places Objects

Highway 17 follows the most In 2006 several deadly accidents prompted SCDOT hired archaeologists to look for the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to widen the last stretch of two-lane highway between Jacksonboro and Garden's Corner and replace the 1954 Combahee River Bridge.





Archaeologists found many soil features at 38BU1216.

important historical resources along this stretch of the highway. Archaeologists found six archaeological sites and seven architectural and landscape features along the roadway. Underwater archaeologists found five submerged sites in the river near the bridge.

Researchers learned these 18 resources are associated with people and events that shaped the development of South Carolina from 1715 until 1927. Most importantly, this crossing was the site of a Civil War raid personally guided by Harriett Tubman that freed over 700 enslaved people in one evening.

The SCDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History supported the creation of the **Combahee** Ferry Historic District to protect and preserve these important sites. The district covers approximately 1,600 acres where US Highway 17 crosses the Combahee River.

38/소(감감감감) 당당] HISTORIC DISTRICT Bridging the Past & Present

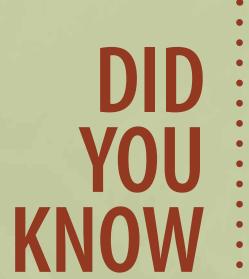
For 300

the Combahee River and made this crossing a vital transportation hub that influenced the economic, social, and political development our state and nation.

events converged at

American Indians traveled this route for thousands of years. Their trading path became the Charleston to Port Royal Road, an important transportation link in the new Carolina Colony. By 1715 the colonial government required a regulated ferry here.

General William Moultrie used it as a gathering place for troops and supplies during the American Revolution.



INGKESS : LAWS

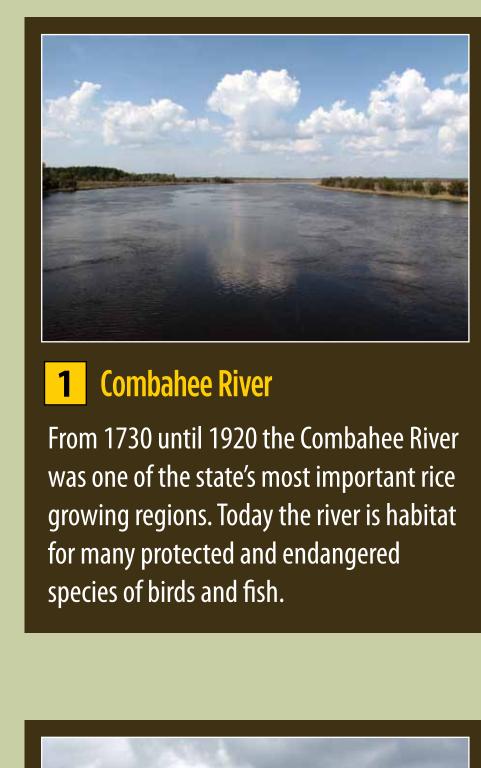
: that require federal : agencies to protect and manage cultural resources on federal : lands. Projects that use : federal funds or require : federal permits, such as highway construction, must abide by these laws

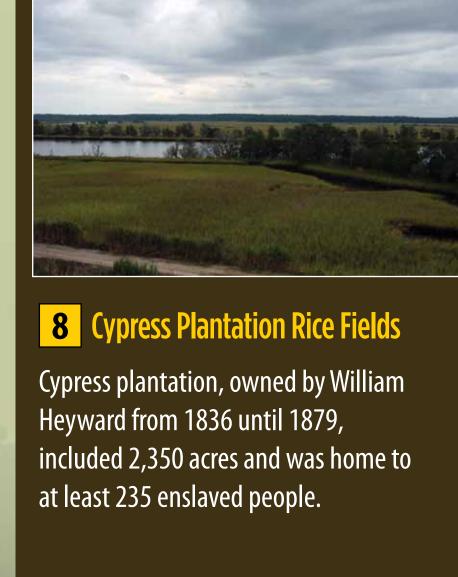
people and Robert E. Lee ordered construction of Confederate earthworks here to defend the Charleston & Savannah Railroad.

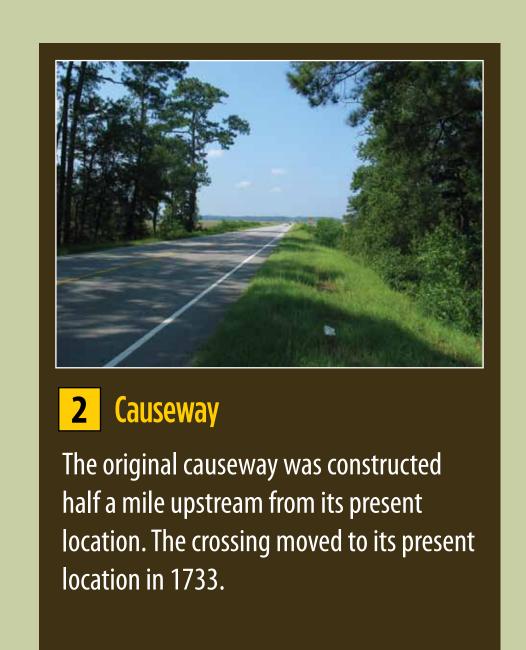
> From 1740 until 1863, the river's marshes were the setting of a huge rice empire where thousands of enslaved Africans worked.

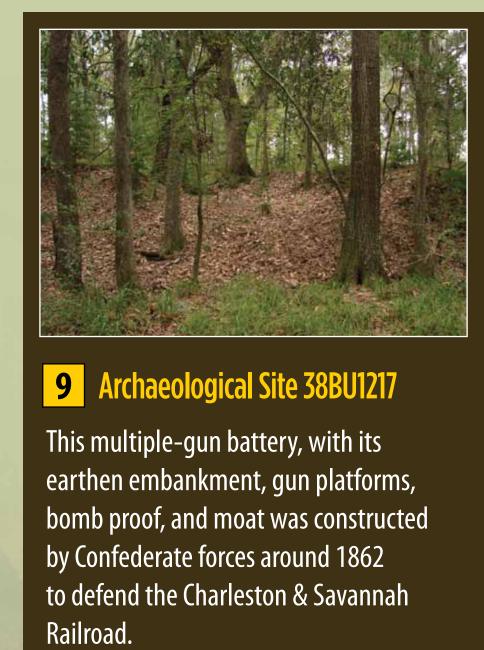
The Combahee River rice plantations were a symbol of oppression to abolitionists. In 1863 Harriet Tubman and Colonel James Montgomery led a raid that freed over 700 slaves in a single night.

Today remnants of this historic hub are preserved in the Combahee Ferry Historic District. Explore this aerial view and learn about the eighteen resources that make up one of our state's most important historic places.



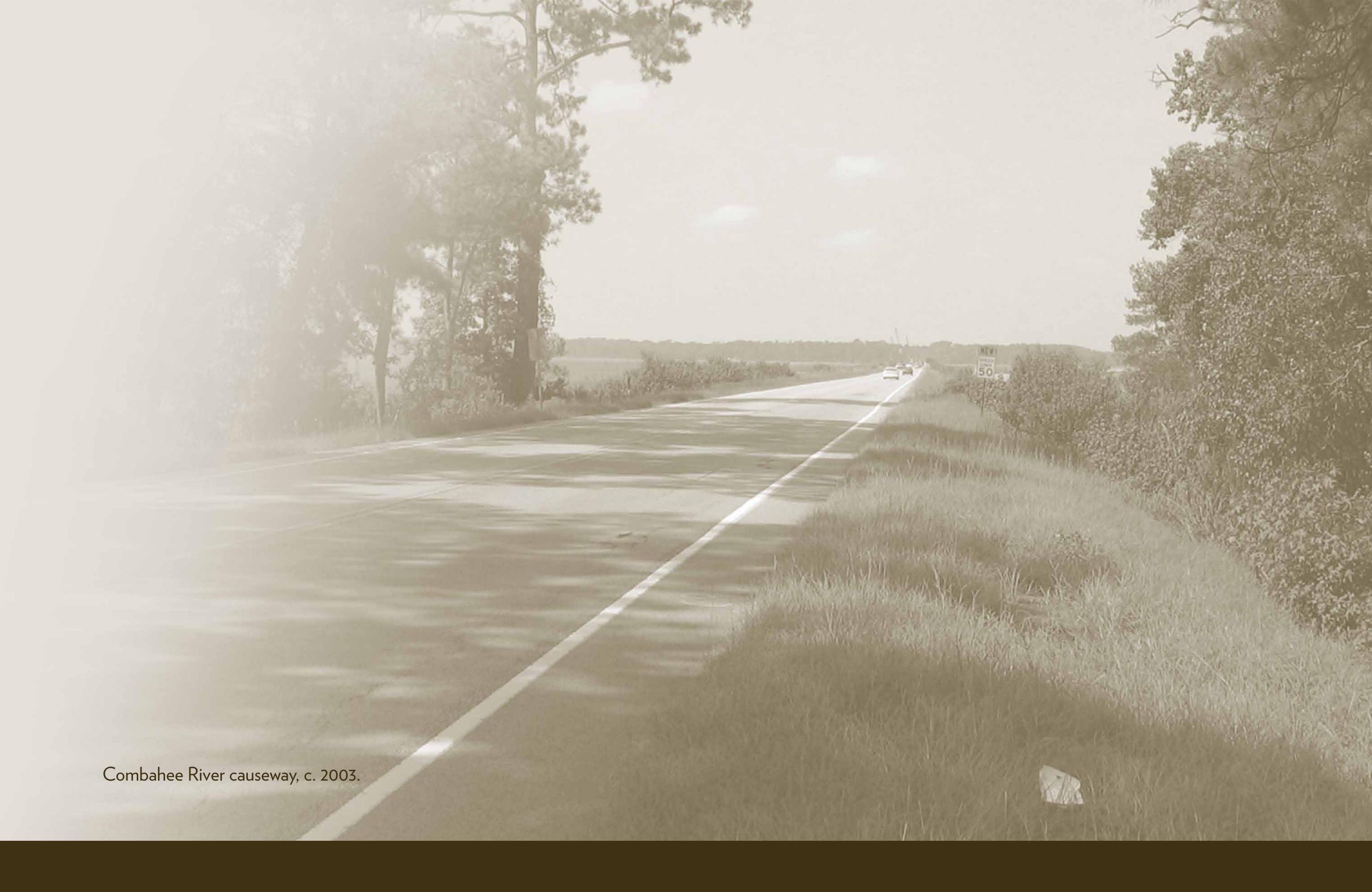






COMBAHEE FERRY HISTORIC DISTRICT



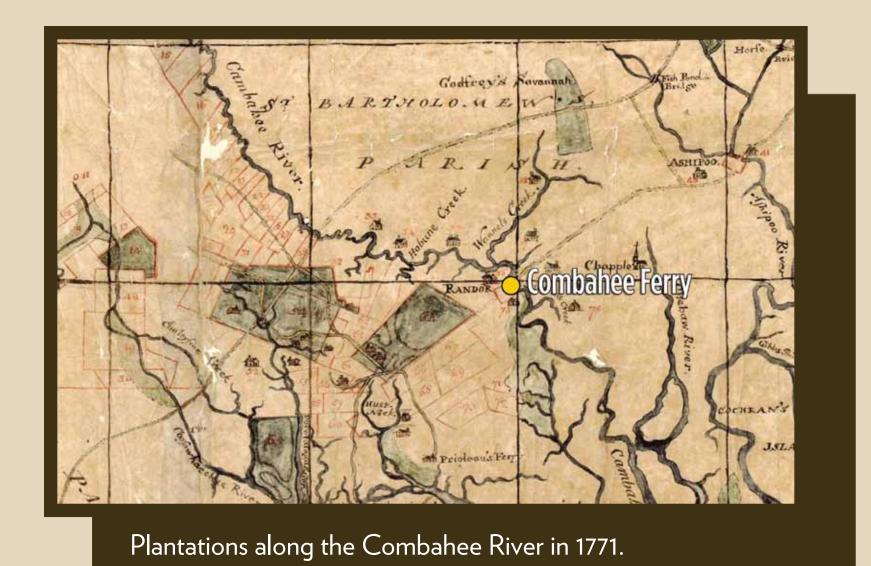


SCDOT

US Highway 17 projects to avoid disturbing portions of the Combahee Ferry Historic District. Archaeologists and historians returned to the river crossing to explore and document the resources that would be affected by road and bridge construction.

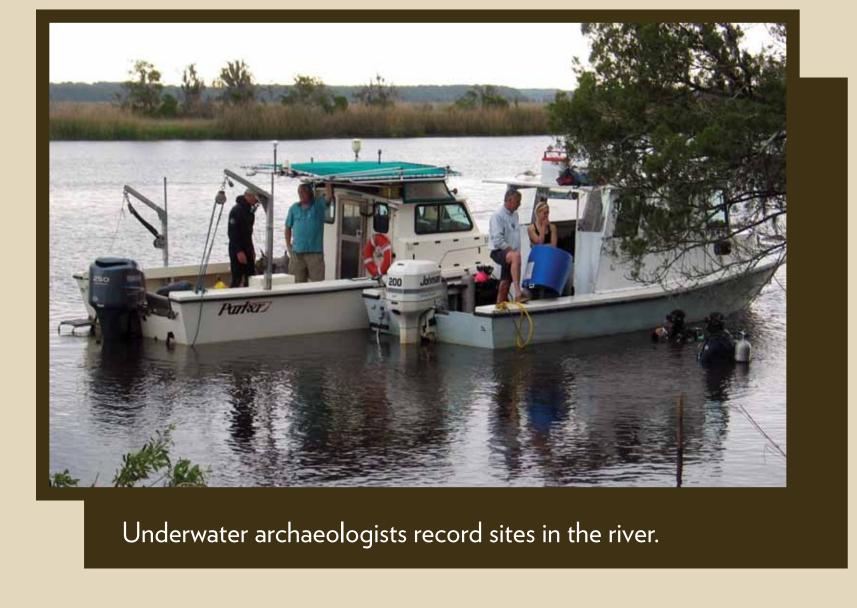
Historical Research

Historians undertook research at local and state archives and at the national archives in Washington, DC. They wanted to learn about the ferry that operated on the Combahee River from 1710 until 1927, the history of rice plantations along the river, important Civil War engagements, and the famous raid led by Harriet Tubman and James Montgomery.



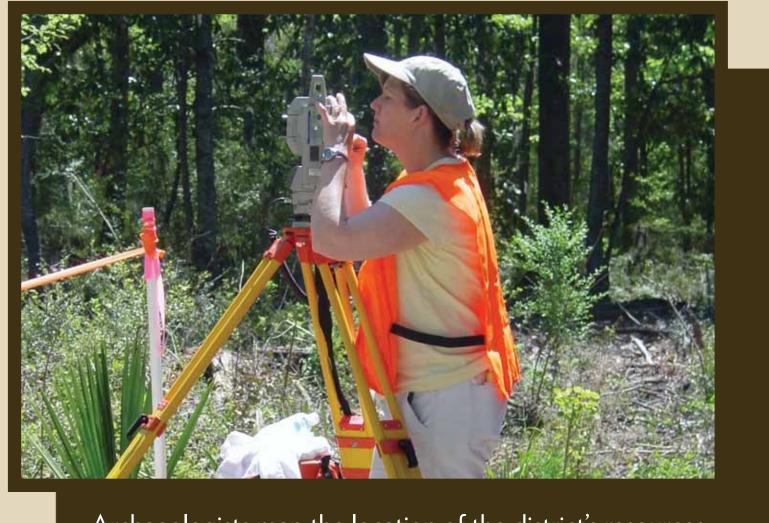
could not redesign the Underwater Archaeology Archaeology Underwater archaeologists dove on the pontoon wreck to measure and record its exact dimensions and to learn more about how it was constructed. They used the data to create a virtual reconstruction of the vessel. The underwater

archaeologists monitored the condition of the vessel during bridge construction to make sure it was not disturbed.



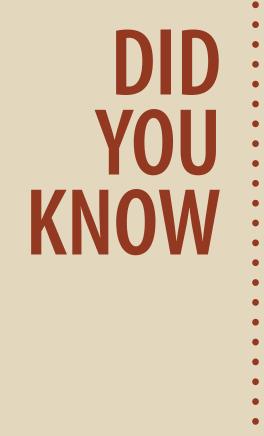
Mapping

Archaeologists mapped the location and dimensions of the old Charleston to Port Royal Road, the Civil War fortifications, and the African American cemetery to create a detailed picture of the district's landscape.



Archaeologists excavated the portions of site 38BU1216 that would be disturbed by road construction. They found features and artifacts associated with the ferry keeper's house and the tavern and store that operated at Combahee Ferry from 1735 until 1927. The tavern was an important stopover for travelers.





ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARE places where the physica remnants of past human activities exist.

