

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 18 1978  
DATE ENTERED *Approved 2/22/78*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

The Cowpens, Cowpens, Hannah's Cowpens, Cowpens Battleground  
AND/OR COMMON  
Cowpens National Battlefield (Preferred)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Junction of South Carolina Highways 11 and 110

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Chesnee

VICINITY OF  
CODE

5th  
COUNTY CODE  
Cherokee 021

STATE

South Carolina

45

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (if applicable)

National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Boulevard

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cherokee County, South Carolina Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

East Smith Street

CITY, TOWN

Gaffney

STATE

South Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Cowpens National Battlefield Site (800 acres) is at an elevation of 934 feet in gently rolling terrain. With the exception of houses and vegetation, the area is much like it was when the battle was fought. Soils are sandy loam and a light red clay. Drainage is good and there are few outcrops. The climate is typical of the southern Piedmont.

During the five years from 1972 until December 1977, an ongoing land acquisition program has purchased approximately 787 acres in compliance with a legislative mandate to expand the battlefield from less than 3 to over 800 acres. When land acquisition is complete the Battlefield will include 842.9 acres. Of this acreage, approximately 175 acres form the historic core - it is this irregularly shaped area (see district map) that will be nominated to the National Register. The remaining 680 acres will contain park residences, maintenance areas, environmental education facilities, and will be managed to preserve its natural appearance.

Within the proposed 843 acres of the park were eight pre-1900 structures. Of these only one meets the National Register criteria, relates to the main theme of the historic area, and is within the historic core area. The remainder do not qualify and have been, or will be, removed after compliance with 36 CFR 800.

The vegetative cover of the battlefield reflects man's use of the land. Cattle were grazed in the area beginning in the last half of the 18th century until ultimately it was overgrazed. During the second quarter of the 19th century, large tracts of forest were clear-cut for agricultural use. Beginning about 1890, and lasting until the early 1930's, the land was in cotton until it became so depleted as to no longer support a cash crop. Today approximately one-third of the core area is in woods and one-third of the remaining acreage is under cultivation and the remainder is pasture, orchards, or occupied by structures. The wooded areas range from pine plantations to nearly pure hardwood stands. Presently the area is criss-crossed by roads.

At the time of the Battle of Cowpens in January 1781, there were no settlers living in the vicinity. The name, Hannah's Cowpens, referred to the use of the area as a holding place for cattle, but the nearest man-made structures were some 2 miles away from the battle area. The area where the battle was fought was an open, mature hardwood forest with red, post, and white oak predominating. There was little undergrowth and it was possible to see movement of men at a distance of 500 yards. Cattle browsed on the grasses that carpeted the forest floor. Two roads traversed the area. Running north and south the Green River (Mill Gap) Road followed the watershed between the Broad and Pacolet Rivers and gradually ascended to intersect with the road leading from Coulter's Ford on the Pacolet<sup>River</sup> to Island Ford on the Broad<sup>River</sup>. This intersection was 600 yards northwest of Morgan's command post, and outside of the historic core area. The Green River Road continued on, following the Little Buck and Horse Creek watershed, while the road to Island Ford followed the Horse-Suck Creek divide. The road to Coulter's Ford crossed Little Buck Creek and ran along the watershed between Little Buck and Island Creek.

During the next 40 years it is proposed to restore the historic core area to its appearance at the time of the battle. The vegetation will be restored through reforestation and

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      January 17, 1781

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

During the American Revolution, the Battle of Cowpens, January 17, 1781, played an important part in the chain of events that led to the climax of the war at Yorktown. Cowpens was the second American victory in the Southern campaign of the Revolution during a 3-month period. Depressed by 2 years of defeat and persecution, these two victories within 3 months of each other served to strengthen the Patriots' resolve.

On October 7, 1780, the British were set back at Kings Mountain. American riflemen destroyed a Tory force under Major Patrick Ferguson. General Cornwallis, 30 miles away, suddenly felt his army was exposed and pulled back to Winnsboro, South Carolina. There he got word that the new American Army Commander in the South, General Nathaniel Greene, had divided his army. A detachment was led by Brigadier General Daniel Morgan. In dividing an inferior army in the presence of the enemy, Greene had violated a basic military rule, and at least in theory, exposed his divided forces to being beaten in detail. Cornwallis thus divided his force and sent Colonel Banastre Tarleton to overtake Morgan while his main force moved to get between Greene and Morgan and cut off the latter's retreat.

Upon learning of the British approach, Morgan moved north near Board River, stopping 8 miles short at a place called Cowpens, because it was a winter pasture and gathering area well known to other Patriots who were hastening to reinforce his command. The position Morgan had chosen lay astride the Green River or Mill Gap Road. On the left or northeast of the position was a boggy area where Suck Creek #2 begins. To the southwest were Maple Swamp and the headwaters of Long Branch of Island Creek. In order to turn Morgan's flanks the British would have had to pass those bogs which recent rains had made more treacherous. The ground was slightly undulating and covered with an open forest of oak, hickory and pine.

On the morning of January 17, 1781, Tarleton struck the positions that Morgan had moved into the night before. On the morning of the 17th, General Morgan deployed his men in two lines with the militia units to the front and his Continental Troops in a second line behind. His cavalry was held in reserve. The British advance was met with brief resistance from the militia who then retreated as instructed to a point to the rear of the Continentals. The British pressed forward and saw the Continental line retreat. Believing victory was theirs, they charged on, to be caught in a double envelopment, as the cavalry struck Tarleton's right and the reformed militia hit the left. The result was total victory as only 200 of the 1100 British troops escaped. News of the victory heartened the Americans and inflicted severe losses of men on the British. British military activity in the south would continue another 9 months before ending with the surrender at Yorktown, Virginia.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bearss', Ed. Historic Grounds and Resource Study-Cowpens Interpretive Prospectus, Cowpens, U. S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, 1973.  
Master Plan, Cowpens. U. S. Dept. of the Interior, NPS, 1971

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 178

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	42,5	3,7,5	388,9	10,0,0	B	17	42,7	5,0,0	3,8	8,7	6,7,5
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C	17	42,5	4,5,0	388	87	3,5,0	D					

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the historic core area is an irregularly shaped area as shown on the enclosed land classification map on either side of the Green River Road. At the eastern end the boundary narrows to a long corridor 100 feet wide enclosing the Green River Road and widening to form a square to encompass the Robert Scruggs house.

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Lenard Brown, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service

DATE

12/76

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Boulevard

TELEPHONE

404-996-2520, Ext. 243

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta, Georgia 30349

# 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

*Robert L. ...*

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*J. B. ...*

TITLE

Chief, Div. of Cultural Resources Mgmt.

DATE

6/26/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles ...*

DATE

12-22-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Jane K. ...*

DATE

12/20/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

selective cutting of existing forested areas. The Green River Road will be returned to its 1781 appearance. All other existing roads will be obliterated and regraded to a natural contour.

The Robert Scruggs House (CP-1), located within the historic core area, was constructed in 1828 with frame additions added at various times during the next 60 years. Architectural investigation in 1975-76 revealed that the original log structure was substantially intact and had retained much of its integrity. Based on this information, it was decided to return the house to its appearance circa 1830. In June 1977 a Section 106 statement outlining this work was approved by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The Robert Scruggs house was a 1½-story, 1-room cabin, resting on dry-laid stone piers. It had a shingled gable roof. The gables of the house were enclosed with beaded lap siding. The brick chimney on the east end rests on a stone base. The original cabin measured approximately 16x20 feet with doors on the north and south sides. There is a window on the east end next to the fireplace and a window on the west gable. A stairway to the loft is in the southeast corner of the room. The cabin has beaded ceiling joists.

In addition to the Scruggs house the historic core of the National Battlefield also contains two monuments or memorials to the battle and the historic Green River Road.

Washington Light Infantry Monument (CP-4)--Erected April 22, 1856, it was described as follows: "On a solid stone foundation rises an octagonal base of concrete, composed of shell and sand from Fort Moultrie. Capping this is an 8-sided slab of white marble from which springs a cast iron shaft, surmounted by an English bombshell, on which is perched a golden eagle." Since this description of the monument's original appearance, it has been vandalized through the years. The eagle is no longer present nor the 30' iron fence that once surrounded it. At the base is a small granite block with an inscription plate on the front. The entire monument is surrounded by a 1' high natural stone wall. The height of the monument is approximately 10'. Several objects were placed inside the monument: a bottle of water from Eutaw Springs, a brick from the house at Eutaw Springs where the British took refuge, a roll of the officers and men in the Washington Light Infantry who participated in the expedition, and a pamphlet describing the Cowpens Battle. The monument stands on an acre of land about 300 feet south of the 32' granite monument erected by the War Department.

War Department or United States Monument (CP-6)--Erected in 1932, the War Department Monument is a granite shaft 32 feet high and 7 feet square. The base of the monument is 11'4" square and is also made of granite. On the north face of the monument at a height of 25 feet there is a seal that is approximately 3 feet in diameter. There are inscriptions on the north and south faces of the monument and commemorative plaques on the east and west faces.

Green River (Mill Gap) Road (No. HS-5)--A narrow, well-used road, used by both the American and the British forces during the Cowpens Battle. It appears sandy with plant growth in places. The road will be restored to its 1781 appearance and closed to traffic.

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*G. J. ... 12/22/78*

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The approved Master Plan calls for all modern improvements to be removed from the historic core area. The Green River Road will be restored to its 1781 appearance. All other roads existing within the area have been, or will be, removed and graded back to natural contours. Efforts will also be made to restore the landscape to its earlier appearance of a open forest.

Cowpens National Battlefield and, more particularly, the historic core will increasingly reflect the conditions that existed on that day in mid-January when General Morgan totally defeated the British forces and heartened the Patriots' resolve and brought the war one step closer to its conclusion at Yorktown in October of that year.

The Robert Scruggs House, though built nearly 50 years after the battle, has a close association with the battleground. From 1849, when Historian-Illustrator Benson J. Lossing stopped and chatted with Robert Scruggs, through the visits of other historians and military personnel interested in the battle, to the 1970's, students of the battle have paused at the Scruggs house to get directions, discuss the battle and orient themselves. Because of its age and the role of three generations as information sources for the battlefield, the house is linked to the main theme of the nomination.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

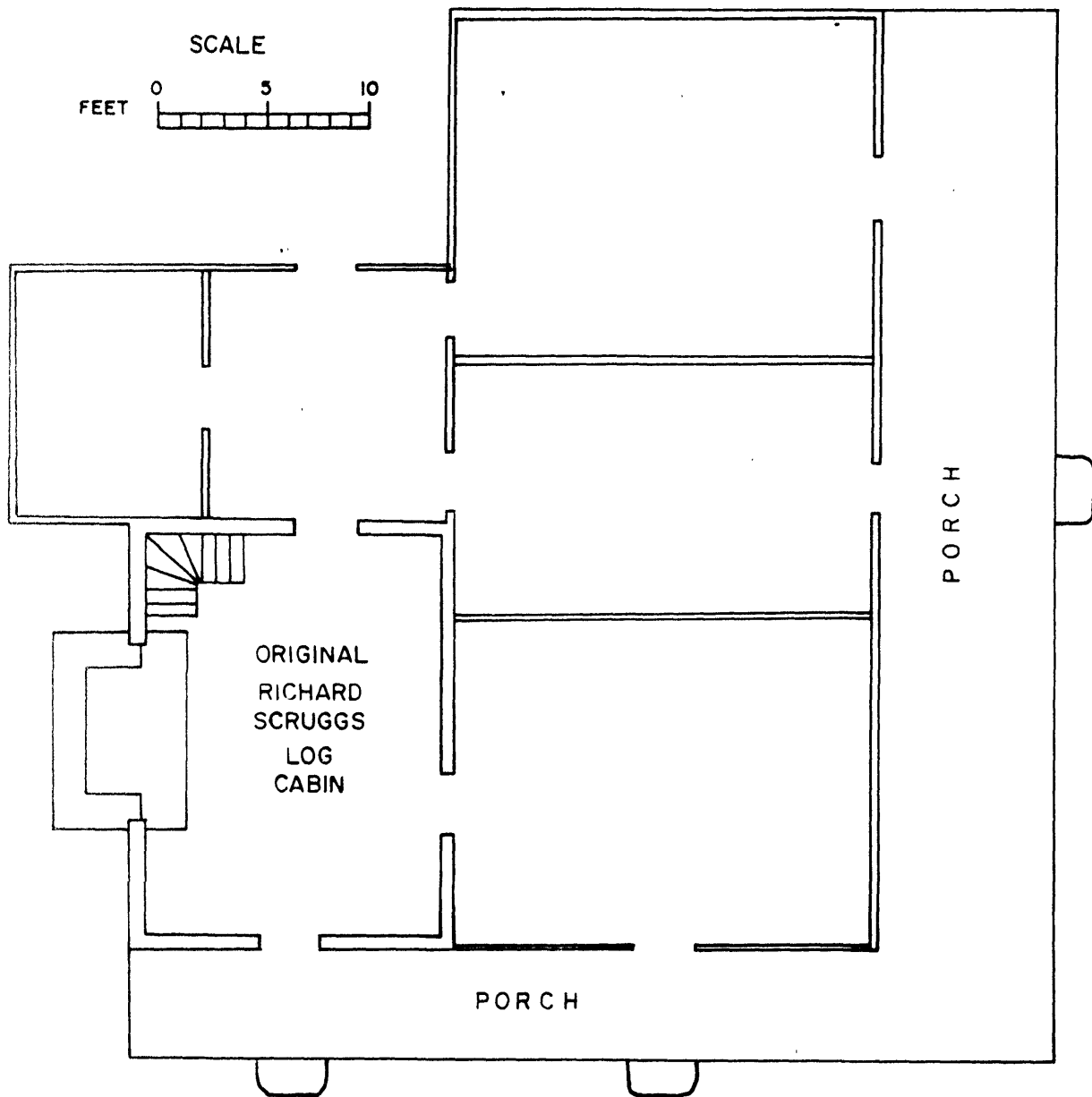
ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Richard Scruggs Chimney and Foundation- Richard Scruggs' log cabin was built on the Long Branch of Island Creek about 1811, a date confirmed by deeds in the Spartanburg County Courthouse. The chimney and a few foundation stones remain in place since a 1950s fire destroyed the cabin. The 1974 Historic Grounds and Resource Study for Cowpens National Battlefield noted a stone in the chimney inscribed "R. S. Q 17 1811." Stabilization work on the chimney was done in 1978. The top of the flue was rebuilt, a new lintel was put in, and the chimney was repointed due to the collapse of the original mortar. The chimney is constructed of field stones and mortar, is of Tidewater design, and measures approximately 9 feet wide, 20 feet tall and 4½ feet thick. The hearth measures 50 inches x 75 inches. A 6 inch x 8 inch x 100 inch hardwood lintel runs across the top of the hearth and is built into the chimney. The chimney's significance is based on its Tidewater design, large overall size and large firebox (hearth). These features make the structure a unique remnant of 19th century architecture found very few places in the Southeast.

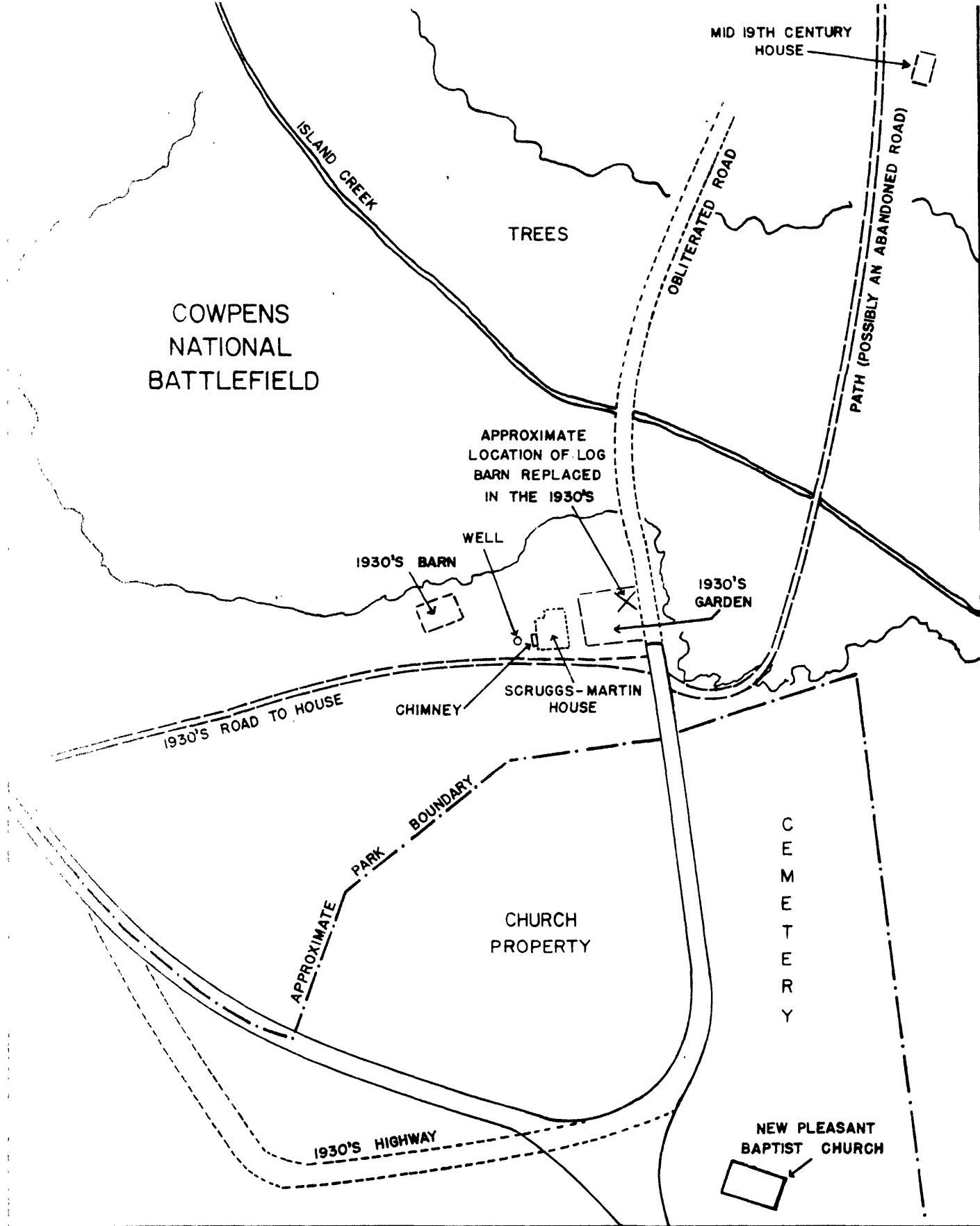
CONCUR: Edwin C. Brann  
Federal Representative, National Park Srv.

DATE: 3/2/87

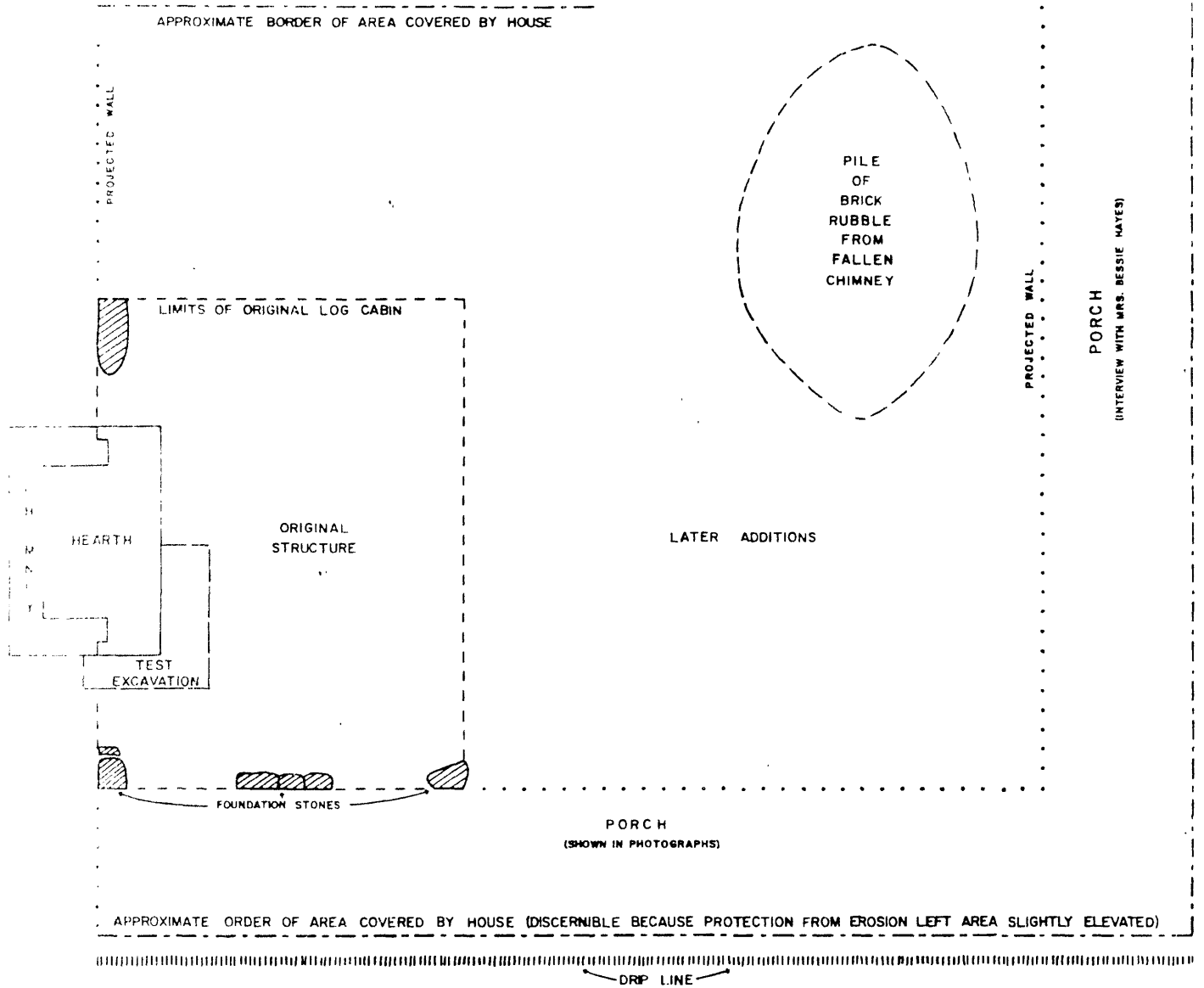
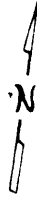
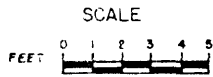


PLAN OF  
 THE  
 DAISY SCRUGGS MARTIN HOUSE  
 COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
 SOUTH CAROLINA  
 ADAPTED FROM DRAWING  
 BY LEE PRICE  
 WHICH WAS BASED ON INFORMATION  
 SUPPLIED BY  
 MRS. BESSIE MARTIN HAYES, AGE 80  
 GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF RICHARD SCRUGGS



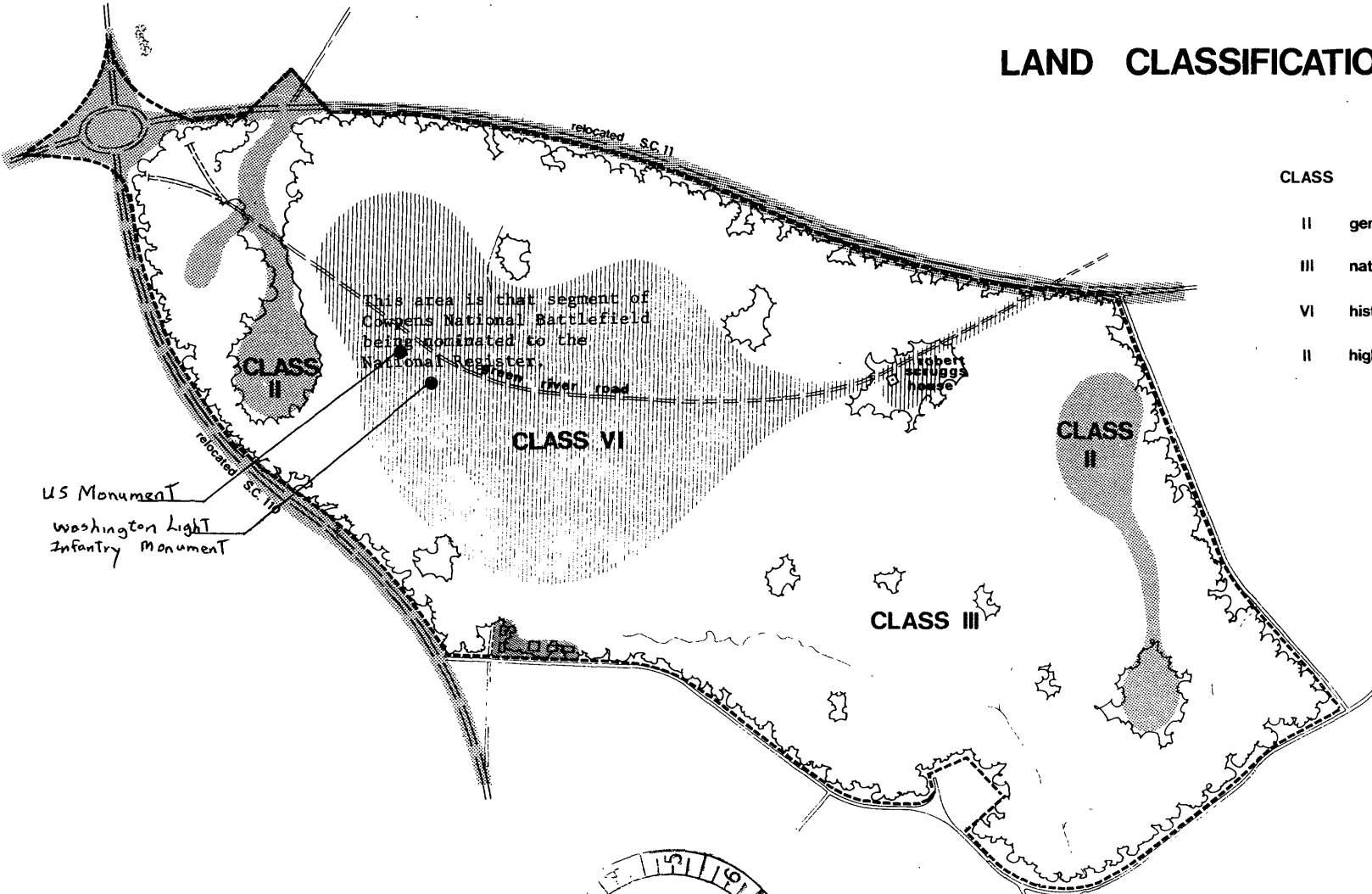


LOCATIONS OF STRUCTURES IN THE  
 RICHARD SCRUGGS-DAISY S. MARTIN COMPLEX  
 COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
 SOUTH CAROLINA

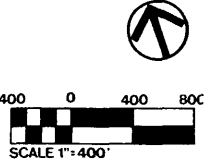
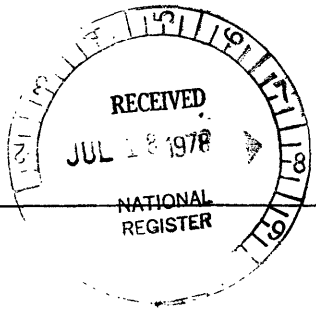


RICHARD SCRUGGS' HOUSE  
 COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD SITE  
 SOUTH CAROLINA

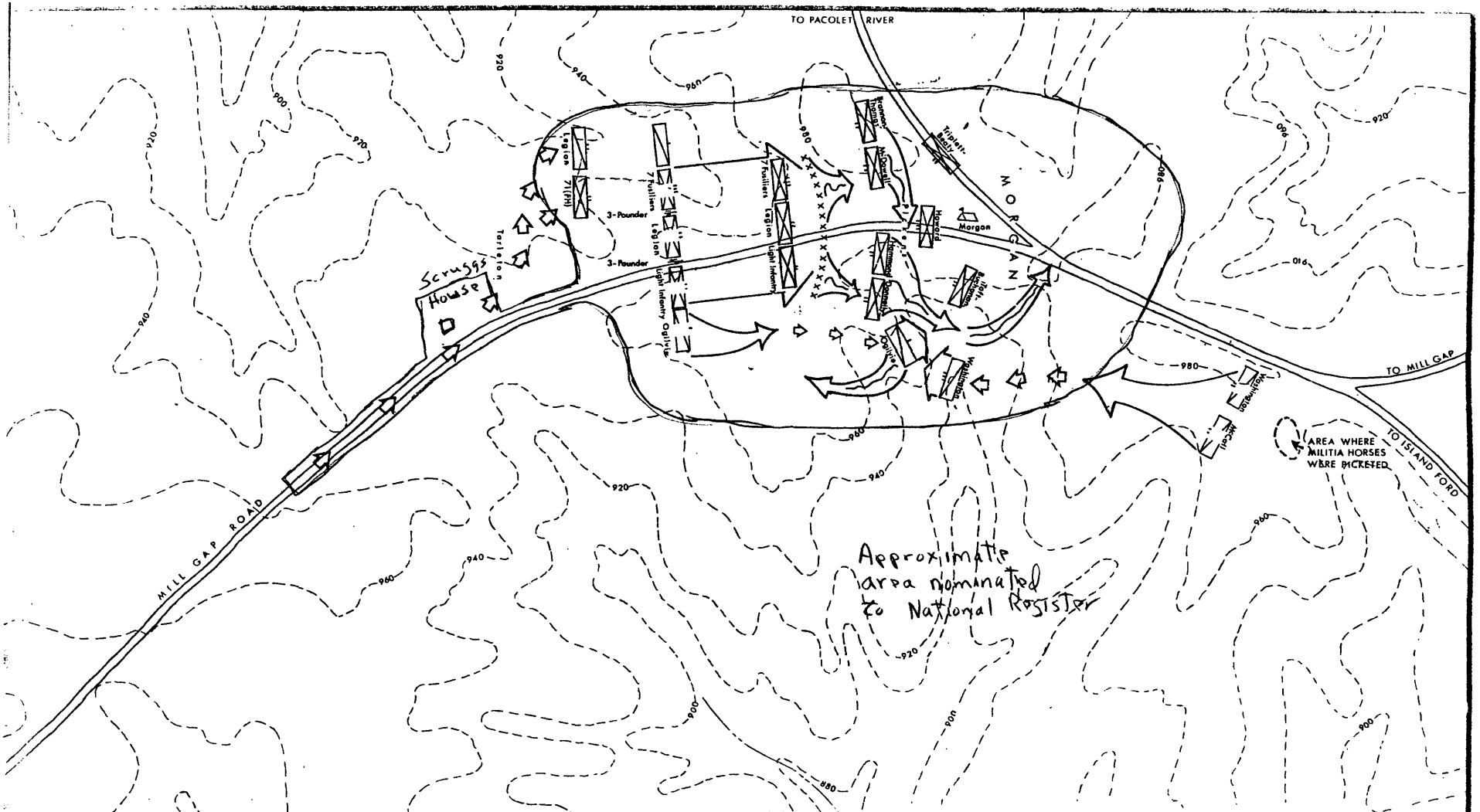
# LAND CLASSIFICATION PLAN



CLASS	AREA	ACRES
II	general outdoor recreation	45
III	natural environment	580
VI	historic and cultural	175
II	highway r/w	45
		845

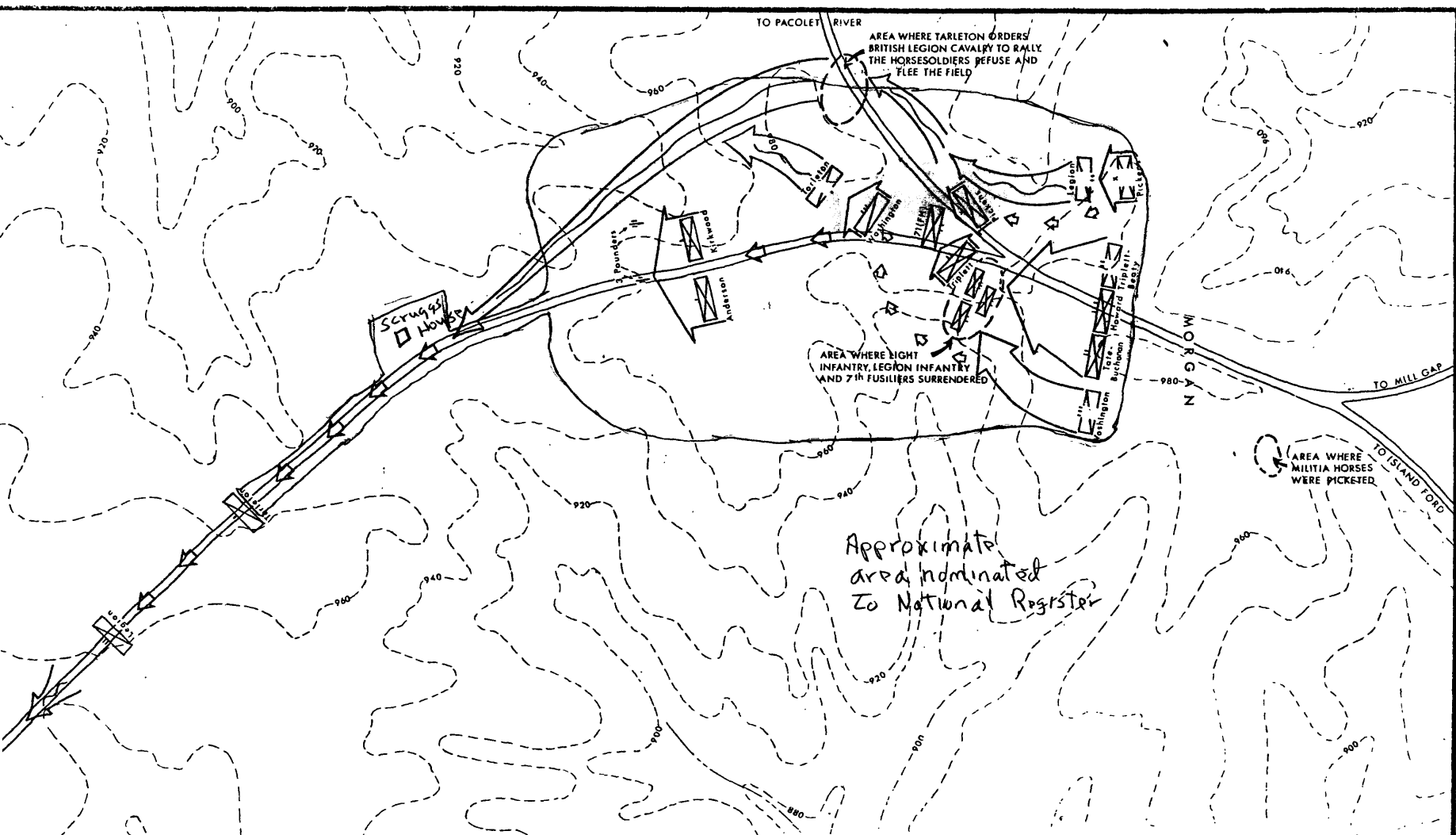


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DENVER SERVICE CENTER	PREPARED NPS DESIGNED DAJ DRAWN BKBS CHECKED DATE SEPT 21 1973	TITLE OF DRAWING LAND CLASSIFICATION PLAN LOCATION WITHIN PARK ENTIRE PARK NAME OF PARK COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD REGION SOUTHEAST CHEROKEE COUNTY S. CAROLINA STATE	DRAWING NO. 331 40,004 PCIP SHEET PKG I OF 1
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LEGEND		TROOP MOVEMENTS OF PHASE II	
BRIGADE		AMERICAN	
REGIMENT		BRITISH	
BATTALION		LINE OF MARCH	
COMPANY		ATTACK	
SKIRMISHERS	*****	RETREAT	
INFANTRY			
CAVALRY			
CAMP	▲▲▲		
COMMAND POST			
ARTILLERY (3Pd)			
	in action →		
	out of action ←		
	SCALE		

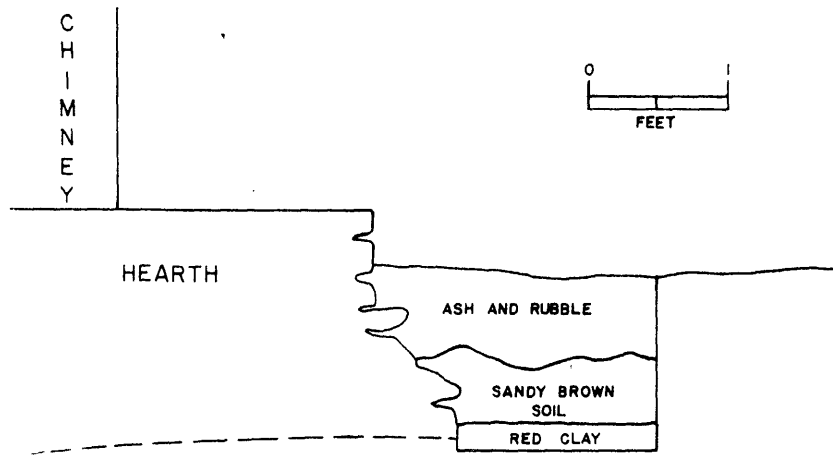
**BATTLE OF COWPENS**  
 FROM THE BRITISH ADVANCE TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF PICKENS' MILITIA



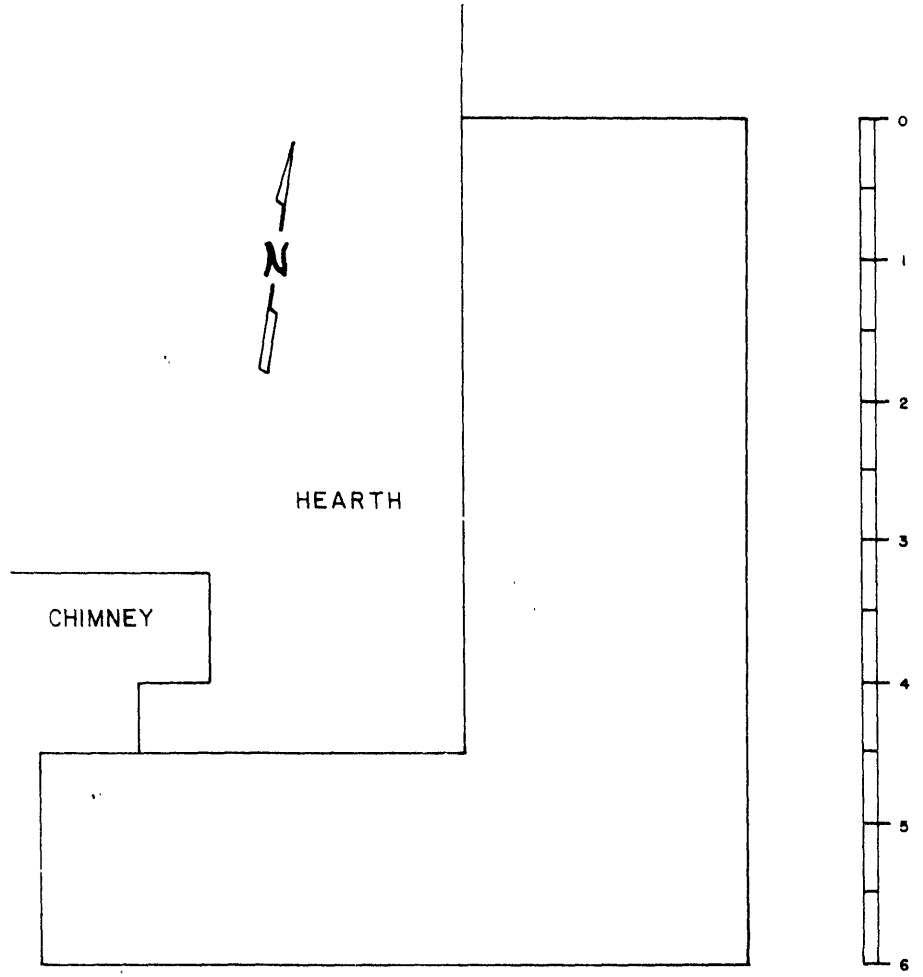
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BRIGADE		AMERICAN	
REGIMENT		BRITISH	
BATTALION		LINE OF MARCH	
COMPANY		ATTACK	
SKIRMISHERS	*****	RETREAT	
INFANTRY			
CAVALRY			
CAMP	A B A		
COMMAND POST			
ARTILLERY (3 Pdr)			
	in action →		
	out of action ←		

SCALE  
0 375 750 1125

**BATTLE OF COWPENS**



NORTH PROFILE



FLOOR PLAN

TEST EXCAVATION  
 AT  
 RICHARD SCRUGGS' CHIMNEY  
 COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD  
 SOUTH CAROLINA