

### 30. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

- A. 1. **Describe any known historical or archaeological sites on the development site. Provide a letter from the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) which includes a list of known sites within the development site, the likelihood of historical or archaeological sites occurring within the development site, whether a site survey is needed, and whether any known sites are significant.**

An archaeological assessment was conducted by Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. and is included in **Exhibit 30-1**. No archaeological or historical sites were documented on the parcel as a result of this assessment nor are there any sites regarded as being potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places on the parcel. No historical or archaeological sites are shown to exist in the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) on the parcel.

This report references “Krome Groves”, the name by which this project was known at the time the assessment was conducted.

**Exhibit 30-2, Letter To and From the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR)**, includes a letter from DHR stating that it concurs that a cultural resource survey should be conducted on this site. The cultural resources survey that was recommended to be done is included as part of the archaeological assessment in Exhibit 30-1.

2. **If DHR recommends that a site survey be done, the results of such a survey, conducted for the development site by an acceptable professional, should be provided.**

A reconnaissance level archaeological survey of the parcel was undertaken. The survey found no historic or archaeological sites located within the parcel that have a probability of being considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The report is included in **Exhibit 30-1**.

- B. **If significant historical or archaeological sites exist on-site, indicate what measures would be taken to protect them, or to minimize or mitigate impacts to them. Where appropriate, describe the measures for providing public access to the sites.**

Not applicable. There are no historical or archaeological sites in the project vicinity.

**EXHIBIT 30-1**  
**An Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey**  
**Of the Parkland Project**  
**By Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.**

**A Reconnaissance Archaeological Survey  
of the Krome Groves Parcel,  
Miami-Dade County, Florida**

by

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for  
The Curtis Group

AHC Technical Report #636  
August 2005  
2005.66

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## **Consultant Summary**

In August 2005, the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy Inc. (AHC) conducted an archaeological reconnaissance survey for The Curtis Group of the Krome Groves parcel in central Miami-Dade County. The 850 acre parcel was surveyed to locate any sites of archaeological and/ or historical significance.

The parcel encompasses all of Section 19 and the western one-quarter of Section 20 in Township 55S, Range 39E. The parcel is presently vacant agricultural lands with no structures or any natural areas.

This archaeological reconnaissance survey encompassed an archival review and pedestrian and vehicular survey of the entire parcel. A site search with the Florida Division of Historic Resources determined that no recorded archaeological sites occur in Sections 19 or 20 in Township 55S, Range 39E. A review of aerial photographs failed to identify any intact topographical or vegetative features that might be associated with archaeological or historic sites. Further investigation of the parcel from field level resulted in the determination that the parcel has a low probability for containing archaeological or historic sites based on the parcel's elevation and intense disturbance by rock plowing. As a result, no shovel tests were dug on the project parcel, and no archaeological material was recovered.

The assessment resulted in the determination that no historic or archaeological sites occur on the parcel, and that development of this parcel will have no affect on any significant cultural resources considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

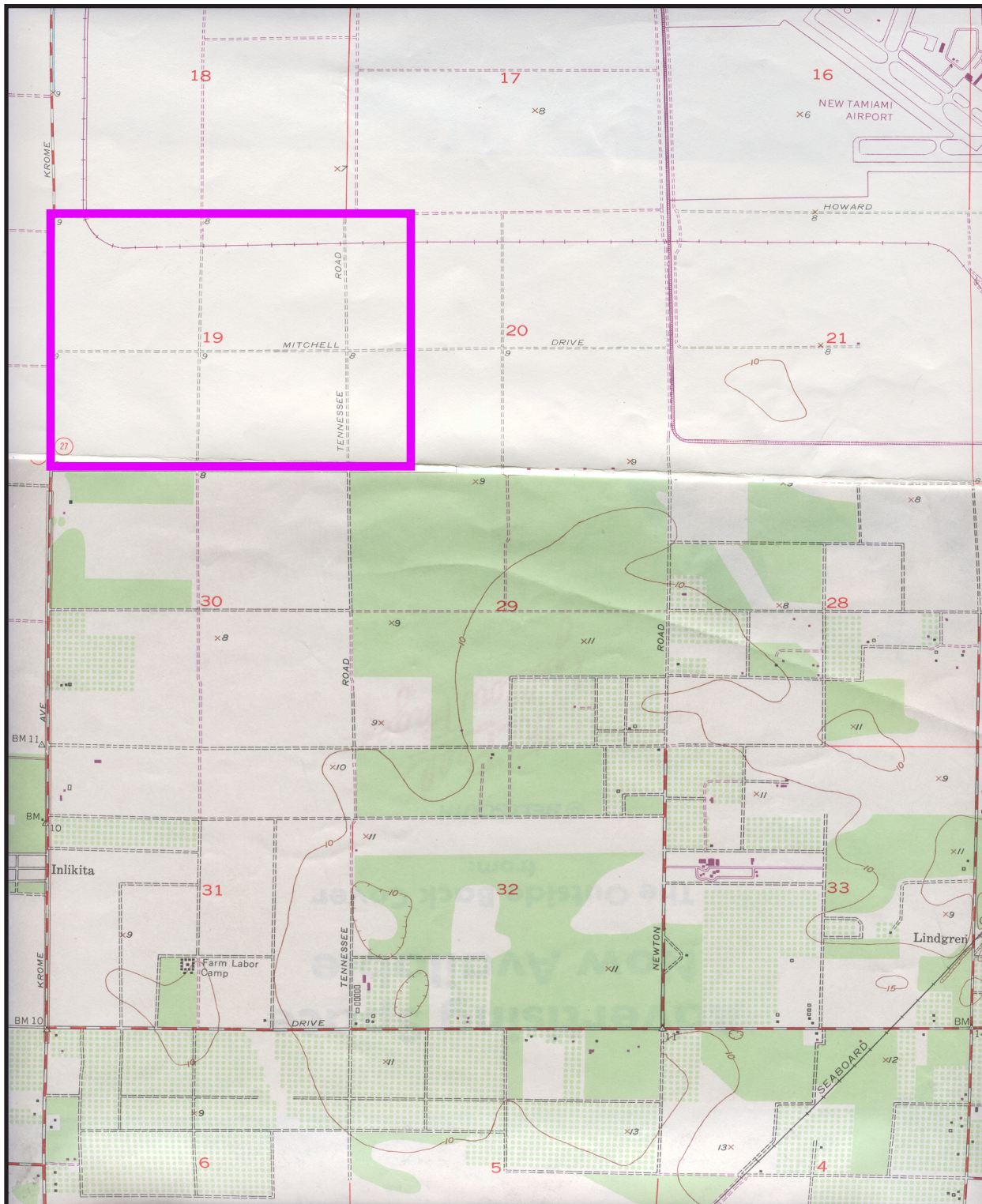
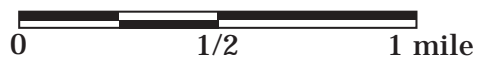


Figure 1. Map of Krome Groves project area



 Project parcel

Twp. 55S, Rng. 39E, Sections 19, 20

Source: USGS Goulds Quadrangle (1956, rev. 1969) and South Miami NW Quadrangle (1955, rev. 1973)

## Project Setting

The Krome Groves parcel is located in central Miami-Dade County. The rectangular parcel encompasses approximately 850 acres bounded on the north by SW 136 Street, on the east by SW 164 Avenue, on the south by SW 152 Street, and on the west by SW 177 Avenue (Krome Avenue) on the western edge of the Miami-Dade County urban area. The project consists of a rectangular parcel and comprises the western one-quarter of Section 20, and all of Section 19, Township 55S, Range 39E. The relevant USGS map is Goulds, Fla.

The area of the subject parcel lies in the eastern part of the Everglades Trough, an immense drainage feature extending from Lake Okeechobee south to the Taylor Slough/Shark River/Florida Bay area in Southern Florida. Historically, the parcel area lay four miles to the west of the Atlantic Coastal Ridge and was a part of the “sawgrass” Everglades.

The historic geology of the general area is characterized by organic deposits of peat (“muck”) of varying depths covering oolitic and calcitic limestone bedrocks and marls. The surficial peats are organic depositions formed over the past several thousand years through a combination of plant processes and periodic dry-season fires. These deep peat formations and the extensive wetlands they encompass help define the Everglades as a unique geographic feature and determine the sorts of human activities/interaction taking place there in the last five thousand years.

Historically, this area of the southeastern Everglades contained numerous “tree-islands”—comma-shaped high-ground formations, at the head (north end) of which are found “black-dirt” midden sites of extensive age and intensity. The material comprising these sites is deposited by human activity and may contain a very high quantity of faunal bone (usually turtle and snake), artifacts, some marine shell, and decayed organic material. These tree island sites also contain historical material from Seminole and early white hunting camp activity. The “tail” and outlying areas of the tree islands were formed by debris buildup due to historic waterflow south through the Everglades and were frequently willowhead areas that also have the potential of yielding archaeological deposits and material. Recent fires and drainage have altered many of these tree-islands in terms of appearance and configuration. The destruction through fire of much of the organic material in and around these tree-island features turned many of them into depressional areas or other anomalous formations. These fire-impacted sites still contain important non-organic archaeological remains and should be investigated and preserved (Carr and Zamanillo 1989).

No tree islands or other features associated with archaeological sites occur on the parcel. This paucity of features is a direct result of farming on the parcel, dating back to at least the 1960s (based on aerial photographs). These farming activities have disturbed and leveled all of the parcel’s natural features.



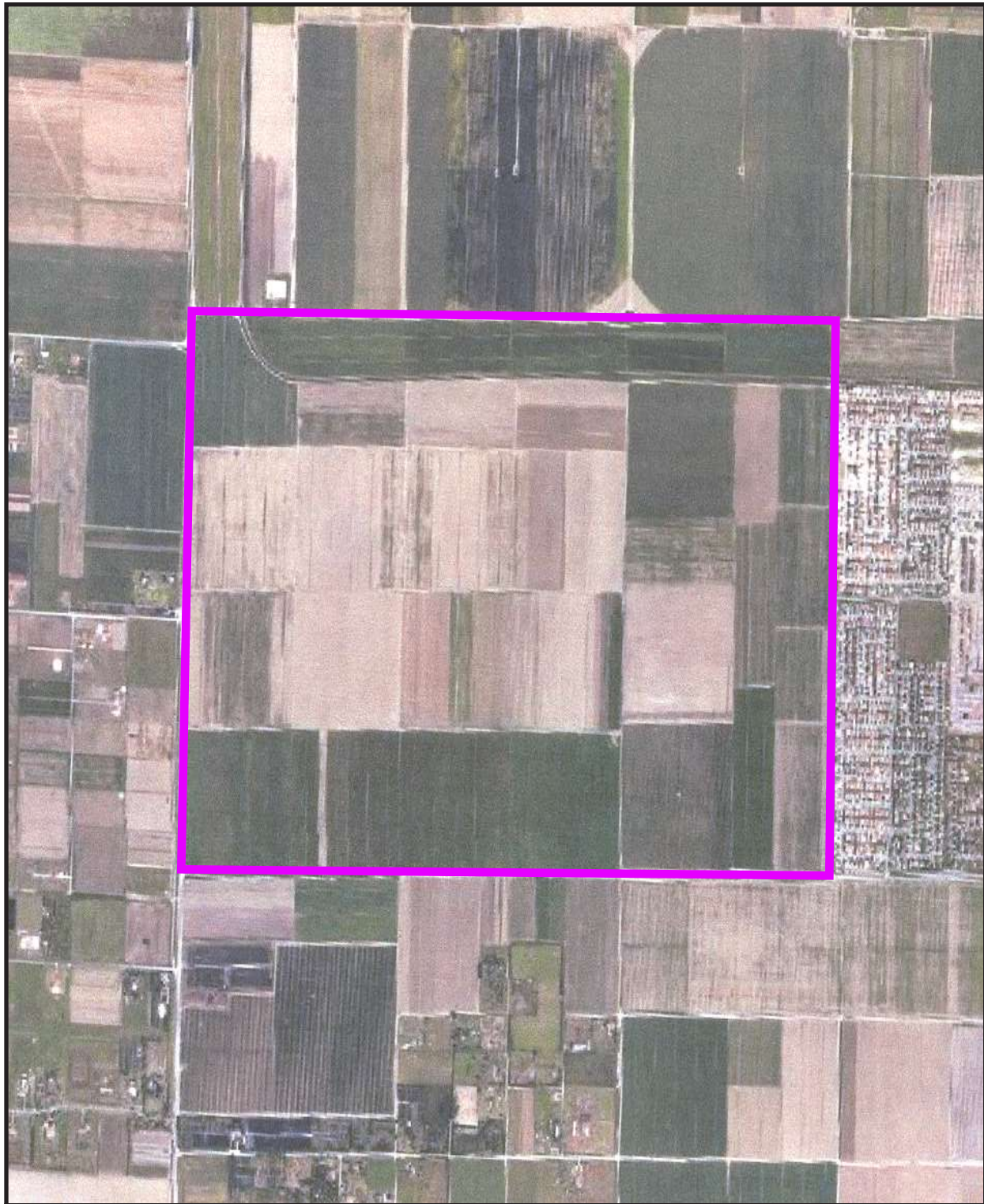
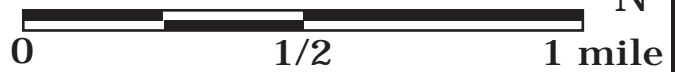


Figure 2. 2004 Aerial photograph of the Krome Groves project area

 Project parcel

Source: GlobeExplorer, Airphoto USA



## Previous Research

The first known archaeological investigation of a prehistoric site in the Everglades was the visit by M. R. Harrington to Pine Island in 1908 (Harrington 1909:139-143). His visit did not include excavations but he conducted a surface collection of artifacts that currently repose at the Museum of the American Indian in New York.

Archaeological investigations in this area of the eastern Everglades date back to the Works Projects Administration (WPA) era of the 1930s. Those excavations of south Florida sites were funded by the U.S. government and were administered by the Smithsonian Institution (Willey 1949). A number of sites were tested near the Broward-Dade County line. These sites were black dirt middens located on Everglades tree islands or "hammocks" and yielded evidence of prehistoric habitation dating back to the Glades II Period (ca. 500 A.D.). Also recovered were historic artifacts associated with the nineteenth-century Seminoles.

Archaeologist John Goggin was next to document sites in the east Everglades. His observations of the Flagami site (8DA36) in 1932 represent the first site visit of his long career in south Florida archaeology (Goggin 1932). His recording of tree island sites in Dade and Broward Counties include the first listing of east Everglades sites in the Florida State Master Site File.

A hiatus in professional archaeological research in South Florida followed Goggin's important paper, "Stratigraphic Sites in the Everglades" (Goggin 1950), after which Goggin took a faculty position in a northern Florida university. It was twenty years before any other professional archaeologist would contribute to South Florida prehistoric research. In the interim, the rapid urban development of the 1960s began to encroach into the eastern Everglades, resulting in the destruction of numerous archaeological sites. The archaeological vacuum left by Goggin was partially filled when a number of local amateur archaeological societies were formed; these included the Archaeological Society of South Florida and the Broward County Archaeological Society. Initially, the amateur societies excavated without any regard as to whether a site was truly endangered by development or if it were preserved in a park setting. Thus, archaeological excavations intensively damaged many of the east Everglades sites such as those in Markham Park. However, an increasing conservation movement within the archaeological community has shifted amateur excavations away from conducting digs at preserved sites to a focus on sites scheduled for destruction.

Several individuals emerged from the avocational archaeological movement who produced important papers about Everglades sites. These include Dan Laxson, who tested numerous Everglades tree island sites in Dade and Broward Counties. His tests were generally limited in size and rarely excavated below the depth of the concretion "hard pan" that underlies most midden deposits. Wes Coleman, one of the founders of the Miami-West India Archaeological Society, was the first to excavate below the concretion and note the presence of early St. Johns pottery, a marker for the Late Archaic Period (Coleman 1973).

More recent excavations in Broward County by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy have yielded a C-14 date of  $4840 \pm 210$  B.P. for a preceramic horizon on Taylor's Head, 8BD73 (Masson et al. 1988:346). Other archaeological investigations in the eastern Everglades have been conducted by Gypsy Graves of the Broward County Archaeological Society. In 1981, she completed a thesis on the West Rolling Oaks site, which addresses the identification of fauna exploited by the Tequesta. Studies of prehistoric ecology in the eastern Everglades are the subject of ongoing research at the Honey Hill site (8DA411) and at Miramar Oaks in Broward County (Dickinson and Wayne 1990).

Robert S. Carr, with the Dade County Historic Preservation Division, directed a comprehensive archaeological survey of Dade County between 1978-1981 (Carr 1981b). Previously recorded sites and newly discovered sites were assessed and recorded in the County files to form a database for management of cultural resources within the County. This site inventory also helped form predictive site models used to predict the type of sites that may possibly be found under similar conditions.

Since 1981, archaeological surveys in the Miami-Dade County area of the eastern Everglades have been conducted on an "as needed" basis as required by various permit requirements of Miami-Dade County, the State of Florida, and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These surveys have been conducted generally by archaeological consultants and have resulted in numerous site discoveries and assessments. Few archaeological sites are recorded in the immediate general area of the subject parcel, but several tree island sites are recorded at Big George and Little George Island located about 2 miles to the northeast.

## **Cultural Summary**

The Glades area was originally defined by M.W. Stirling in 1936 as a distinctive cultural area including all of Southern Florida. John M. Goggin defined more specific boundaries for the area and identified three inclusive sub-areas (1947). These were the Calusa sub-area in southwest Florida, the "Tekesta" sub-area for Southeast Florida and the Florida Keys, as well as the Okeechobee sub-area around Lake Okeechobee. Goggin classified these sub-areas on the basis of his recognition of their distinctive natural environments, the different tribes in those regions during historic times, and differences in the archaeological record.

Beriault and Carr offered a redefinition of the Glades culture area, using the term "Everglades Area" to encompass only southeast Florida (Carr and Beriault 1984: 1-11). In 1988, Griffin concurred by using Everglades Area in his recent synthesis of South Florida archaeology. This revision confines the Everglades Area to southeastern Florida and the Florida Keys. It is difficult to determine an exact western boundary for the area, but Beriault and Carr suggest one somewhere west of the Shark River and east of Turner River, probably near the eastern boundary of Big Cypress Swamp. A northern boundary would be somewhere near the Broward-Palm Beach County line (Carr and Beriault 1984:2).

### **Paleo-Indian Period (10000 B.C. to 8000 B.C.)**

The Paleo-Indians lived in southern Florida in probable association with mammoths, bison, and other types of megafauna. Deposits of fossilized Pleistocene bone have been uncovered by dredging operations from several locations in South Florida and from solution holes in southern Dade County. Martin and Webb (1974) note the wide range of grazing ungulates and sloths indicating more extensive grasslands than present. With the extinction of the megafauna by about 11,000 years ago, the Paleo-Indian apparently made an effective adaptation to the emerging wetlands of southern Florida, and began to establish the patterns of subsistence that were to provide the basis of resource procurement for the subsequent 10,000 years. Evidence of the Paleo-Indian in southern Florida is now well-established with the discovery of a late Paleo/Early Archaic site at Cutler in South Dade County (Carr 1986). Radiocarbon dates of 9,640 +/- 120 years were determined for this site, yielding evidence for the exploitation of deer, rabbit, and some marine fauna, as well as some indication of hunting now-extinct horse and peccary. However, the majority of data from this site reflects an Indian adaptation to the post-extinction of New World megafauna.

### **Archaic Period (6500 B.C. to 1000 B.C.)**

During the Post Glacial era, the sea level rose and greatly diminished Florida's land size. It has been calculated that the rate of sea level rise was approximately 8.3 cm per 100 years from 6000 to 3000 years ago. That rate has decreased to about 3.5 cm per 100 years from 3000 years ago to present (Scholl et al. 1967). By 5000 years ago, cypress swamps and hardwood forests characteristic of the sub-tropics began to develop in



southern Florida (Carbone 1983, Delcourt and Delcourt 1981). The Archaic Period was characterized by an increased reliance by the native populations on shellfish and marine resources on the coast, and a generally expanded hunting, fishing, and plant-gathering base throughout southern Florida. Archaeologists were not aware until recently of the extent and nature of Archaic Period sites in southern Florida. The earliest dated mid-Archaic archaeological materials are from the Bay West site, a cypress pond mortuary situated in Collier County northeast of Naples (Beriault et al. 1981). It is likely that the Bay West site was a hydric sinkhole that provided an "oasis" and water hole during the much drier mid-Archaic period. Radiocarbon dates recovered there indicate a temporal range of 5500 to 7000 years ago. This chronology and the cultural materials, particularly the preservation of organic materials, are very similar to those recovered from Little Salt Spring 110 km to the north (Clausen et al. 1979). The mortuary pond is undoubtedly one of the characteristic types of cemeteries of the Archaic Period throughout central and southern Florida.

A mid-Archaic Period site was recently discovered in Broward County, the first site from this period discovered in southeast Florida (Carr and Sandler 1991). The site, 8BD1119, was discovered on Pine Island Ridge. Characterized by a scatter of chert flakes and several mid-Archaic projectile points, the site appears to be a lithic workshop for reshaping tools.

Sites from the Late Archaic Period are becoming increasingly evident in Southeast Florida. Sites dating from as early as 4000 years ago have been located along Biscayne Bay (Carr 1981), but Late Archaic horizons appear to be commonplace on Everglades sites. Radiocarbon dates in the Everglades indicate early ages of 3050 years ago, +/- 140 years for the Peace Camp site (Mowers and Williams 1972: 18), and 4840 years ago +/- 210 years for Taylor's Head (8BD73) (Masson et al. 1988:346).

The Late Archaic Period is distinguished by the development of fiber-tempered pottery. The Orange series of fiber-tempered pottery is well documented by Cockrell on Marco Island (1970), and undecorated fiber-tempered pottery has been recovered on the southeast coast at the Atlantis site (Carr 1981b). Sites containing fiber-tempered pottery have been dated from as early as 3400 +/- 100 years ago on Marco Island, and dates of ca. 2500 years ago at the Firebreak site in Collier County, and 3000 +/- 4000 years ago along Biscayne Bay (Carr 1981b). Partial fiber and sand tempered pottery has been recovered from interior sites such as the Honey Hill site (8DA411) and the 202<sup>nd</sup> Street site in northern Dade County, and the Markham Park (8BD183) site in Broward County.

### **The Glades Period (Ca. 750 B.C. - 1750 A.D.)**

Goggin (1947) defined three periods for the Formative Era. Using decorated pottery types that have proven to be effective time markers, he created the Glades I, II, and III periods. These divisions have proven most useful in extreme southern Florida. The Glades I Early period (750 B.C. - ca. A.D. 200) is characterized by the use of undecorated sand-tempered pottery. Ceramic decorations in extreme southern Florida were developed by 500 A. D., with the inception of the Ft. Drum decorated series. While

decorated types begin during Goggin's Late Glades I period, future revisions of the Glades period may simply make the first appearance of decorated wares coincide with the inception of the Glades II Period.

During the Glades II period (A. D. 750 - A. D. 1200), there are shifts in ceramic styles that allow the archaeologist to accurately divide the period into three sub-periods based on the relative frequency of certain decorative styles (i.e., Key Largo Incised, Miami Incised, Sanibel Incised, etc.). Mound construction was also commonplace during this period, reflecting the rise of a stratified society with a select ruling and/or priest class.

During the Glades II and III periods (A.D. 1200 - A.D. 1750), there is a shift in ceramic decorations and vessel shape in extreme southern Florida. Griffin reports the near absence of decorated pottery between A.D. 1000 - A.D. 1200 (1974). Occurrences of St. Johns tradeware and Belle Glade Plain increase along the east coast, and in general, a thriving trade network that brought a variety of exotic resources, such as lithic tools and ornaments, is evident.

### **Historic Period (ca. A.D. 1500 - A.D. 1900)**

When the Europeans arrived in the sixteenth century they encountered a thriving population with at least five separate tribes in southern Florida: the Tequesta in southeast Florida, the Calusa in southwest Florida, and the Jeaga and Ais along the east coast north of the Tequesta, and the Mayaimi near Lake Okeechobee. At the time of Spanish contact the Calusa maintained political dominance over these other tribes. It has been estimated that there were about 20,000 Indians in south Florida when the Spanish arrived (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). By 1763, when the English gained control of Florida, that population had been reduced to several hundred. These tribal remnants were reported to have migrated to Cuba with the Spanish (Romans 1962). However, it is likely that the so-called "Spanish Indians" (Sturtevant 1953) who raided Indian Key in 1840, were the mixed-blood descendants of the Calusa and/or refugees from north Florida missions raided by the English in the early eighteenth century. The Spanish-Indians became part of the Seminoles, who had fled *en mass* into south Florida in 1838 after the Battle of Okeechobee, although some Creek groups apparently had migrated to south Florida earlier in the century.

The earliest documentary evidence of Seminole settlement in South Florida is an account by John Lee Williams describing Snake Warrior's Island at the headwaters of Snake Creek. This site was recently identified as probably being site 8BD1867 in Miramar in southern Broward County. Seminole Archaeology is a relatively new discipline in South Florida, but recent work has contributed new data about Seminole lifeways in the Everglades (Carr et al. 1991), and Seminole trade (Carr 1981a). Evidence of probable Seminole occupation at the West Kendall Site was noted in the 1972 and 1983 fieldwork which recovered an early glass fragment and a faceted blue glass trade bead.

## **Methodology**

Prior to conducting fieldwork, an archival and literature search was performed. This included, but was not limited to, studying prior archaeological reports for sites in Miami-Dade County, reviewing information from the Master Site File in Tallahassee concerning nearby sites, and examining USGS maps and black and white aerial photographs which could aid in revealing anthropogenic changes to the topography and floral communities.

### **Research Design**

The objective of this assessment was to determine whether any prehistoric or historic sites occur on the project parcel. This archaeological reconnaissance survey of the Krome Groves parcel incorporated the use of certain predictive models. These models are based on topographic and vegetative attributes that are associated with prehistoric sites the eastern Everglades in central Dade County. These models postulate that high oak/ tropical hardwood hammock tree islands are high probability targets for archaeological sites. The elevational information on the USGS Goulds Quadrangle maps for the area also were used. It was determined that overall, the project parcel had a low possibility of containing archaeological sites because of the tract's disturbances. Any archaeological sites that had existed on the parcel are now destroyed or severely compromised due to modern agricultural activities.

### **Field Work**

The archival research was followed by field assessment. The subject parcel was visited and photographed. A windshield survey of the parcel was conducted in an attempt to identify any archaeological targets or features that were not revealed by the aerial photograph. Finally, the exposed soil present on the parcel was examined for any traces of archaeological material.

### **Collections**

No collections were made during this survey

### **Informants**

No informants were interviewed for this survey

## **Results and Conclusions**

This archaeological reconnaissance survey of the Krome Groves parcel resulted in determining that no archaeological or historical sites occur on the parcel. No targets of even moderate archaeological probability were noted, only disturbed agricultural land with exposed soils with an abundance of limestone spalls created from farming activities.

It is the opinion of the consultants that the development of the parcel will not impact any archaeological or historic resources considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In the unlikely event that any archaeological sites, features, or artifacts are encountered in the course of development, then relevant reviewing agencies and the consultant archaeologist should be contacted. If human remains are found, then State Statute 872.05, the Unmarked Human Graves Act, will apply.

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**Exhibit 30-2**  
**Letters to and from the Florida Department of State**  
**Division of Historical Resources**

2005.66



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Glenda E. Hood  
Secretary of State  
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

September 6, 2005

Mr. Robert S. Carr  
Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.  
4800 S.W. 64th Avenue, Suite 107  
Davie, FL 33314

Re: DHR Project File No. 2005-8824 / Received by DHR: August 19, 2005  
*A Reconnaissance Archaeological Survey of the Krome Groves Parcel, Miami-Dade County, Florida*

Dear Mr. Carr:

We note that in August 2005, Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. (AHC) conducted the above referenced survey for The Curtis Group in anticipation of a request by the Florida Division of Historical Resources for a cultural resource assessment survey. Our office proceeded to review this report with the expectation that The Curtis Group will be engaging in permitting processes that will require this office to comment on possible adverse impacts to cultural resources listed or eligible for listing in the *National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)*, or otherwise of historical, architectural, or archaeological significance. We recommend at the time such actions are taken, a copy of this letter be forwarded to the permitting agency(ies) with the application. This may eliminate the permitting agency(ies) from having to submit an application to the Division of Historical Resources for review or, if applications are forwarded to the Division with this letter, it would facilitate our review.

No cultural resources were identified during this investigation. It is the opinion of AHC that the proposed development will have no effect on cultural resources listed or eligible for listing in the *NRHP*, or otherwise of historical, architectural or archaeological value. AHC recommends no further investigation of the subject parcel.

Based on the information provided, our office concurs with these determinations and finds the submitted report complete and sufficient in accordance with Chapter 1A-46, *Florida Administrative Code*.

We request that future submissions to this office include unbound original Survey Log Sheets/Site Forms and appropriate maps.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Beth Chambless, Historic Sites Specialist, by phone at (850) 245-6333, or by electronic mail at [ejchambless@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:ejchambless@dos.state.fl.us). Your continued interest in protecting Florida's historic properties is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*for*  
  
Frederick Gaske, Director, and  
State Historic Preservation Officer

500 S. Bronough Street • Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 • <http://www.flheritage.com>

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- Historic Preservation (850) 245-6333 • FAX: 245-6437
- Historical Museums (850) 245-6400 • FAX: 245-6433
- Southeast Regional Office (954) 467-4990 • FAX: 467-4991
- Northeast Regional Office (904) 825-5045 • FAX: 825-5044
- Central Florida Regional Office (813) 272-3843 • FAX: 272-2340

PARKLAND  
2004-22



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
**Glenda E. Hood**  
Secretary of State  
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Mr. Rob Curtis  
The Curtis Group  
7520 Red Road, Suite M  
South Miami, Florida 33143

July 28, 2005

RE: DHR Project File Number: 2005-7265  
Received by DHR July 15, 2005  
Parkland Development of Regional Impact  
Miami-Dade County

Dear Mr. Curtis:

Our office received and reviewed the above referenced project in accordance with this agency's responsibilities under Section 380.06, *Florida Statutes*. The State Historic Preservation Officer is to advise in the identification of historic properties (listed or eligible for listing in the *National Register of Historic Places*, or otherwise of historical or architectural significance), assess effects upon them, and consider alternatives to avoid or minimize adverse effects.

We have reviewed *Question 30 - Archaeological and Historical Resources* and note that a cultural resource survey will be performed. This office concurs with this action. The purpose of this survey will be to locate and assess the significance of historic properties present. The resultant survey report will conform to the specifications set forth in Chapter 1A-46, *Florida Administrative Code*, and will be forwarded to this agency in order to complete the process of reviewing the impact of this proposed project on historic properties.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Scott Edwards, Historic Preservationist, by electronic mail [sedwards@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:sedwards@dos.state.fl.us), or at 850-245-6333 or 800-847-7278.

Sincerely,

*Barbara C. Mattick*  
Chief, BHP

for Frederick P. Gaske, Director, and  
State Historic Preservation Officer

XC: Lisa Lorbeck, South Florida RPC

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