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Cane River Creole National Historical Park
Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana



Magnolia Plantation

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

Cultural Landscape Report

September 2021

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

Magnolia Plantation

Cultural Landscape Report

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Cane River Creole National Historical Park

Magnolia Plantation

Cultural Landscape Report

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Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report
Cane River Creole National Historical Park



Table of Contents

Table of Contents v

List of Plans and Aerials vii

Part I: Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape History and Evolution, Analysis and Evaluation

Chapter 1: Administrative Data, Scope and Methodology 1

A. Introduction and Project Background 1
B. Project Team 3
C. Project Description and Scope 4
D. Cultural Landscape Report Methodology 5
E. Magnolia Plantation Significance and Period of Significance 9
F. Magnolia Plantation Landscape Integrity 11
G. CLR Summary of Findings 11

Chapter 2: Magnolia Plantation History and Evolution 19

A. History and Evolution Introduction 19
B. Natural Setting and Early Settlement, pre-1753 20
C. Magnolia Plantation Establishment and Development, 1753 to 1864 23
D. Magnolia Plantation Reestablishment and Transformation, 1865 to 1949 24
E. Circa 1941 Landscape Plan Overall Description 26
F. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Circa 1941 Landscape Character Area 29
G. LCA 2 Quarters Circa 1941 Landscape Character 35
H. Magnolia Plantation Modernization, 1950 to 1993 41
I. Circa 1958 Landscape Plan Overall Description 45

J. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Circa 1958 Landscape Character 47
K. LCA 2 Quarters Circa 1958 Landscape Character 50
L. Persistence and Evolution Conclusion 53

Chapter 3: Recent History and Existing Landscape 91
A. Recent History and Existing Landscape Introduction 91
B. Magnolia Plantation Recent History, 1994 to 2020 92
C. Magnolia Plantation Existing Landscape 102
D. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Character, Condition and Issues 106
E. LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Character, Condition and Issues 111

Chapter 4: Landscape Significance, Integrity and Analysis 159
A. Introduction to Landscape Significance 159
B. Landscape Significance and Period of Significance, 1835 to 1976 160
C. Landscape Continuity and Change 163
D. LCA 1 Landscape Continuity and Change 168
E. LCA 2 Landscape Continuity and Change 173
F. Contributing, Non-Contributing and Missing Features Lists 176
G. Landscape Integrity 182
H. Summary of Landscape Analysis Findings 185

Part II: Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Treatment

Chapter 5: Landscape Treatment Approach 201
A. Introduction to Cultural Landscape Treatment 201
B. Cultural Landscape Treatment Goals and Objectives 202
C. Existing Landscape Preservation Treatment Guidance 203
D. Ongoing and Planned Landscape Projects at Magnolia Plantation 205
E. Climate Change, Disaster Preparedness and Response 206
F. Cultural Landscape Treatment Approach 208
G. Recommended Landscape Treatment of Preservation and Rehabilitation 212

Chapter 6: Recommended Landscape Preservation Treatment 215
A. Introduction to Recommended Landscape Preservation Treatment 215
B. Overall Preservation and Rehabilitation Treatment Recommendations 217
C. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Treatment Recommendations 234
D. LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Treatment Recommendations 244
E. Recommended Landscape Treatment Implementation 252
F. Landscape Treatment Recommendations Conclusion 254

Bibliography 269



List of Plans and Aerials

Part I: Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape History and Evolution, Analysis and Evaluation

Chapter 1: Administrative Data, Scope and Methodology

L1. Landscape Character Areas

Chapter 2: Magnolia Plantation History and Evolution

L2. 1848 Survey
L3. 1941 Aerial
L4. Circa 1941 Landscape Plan
L5. 1958 Aerial
L6. Circa 1958 Landscape Plan
L7. 1972 Aerial

Chapter 3: Recent History and Existing Landscape

L8. 1994 Aerial
L9. 1998 Aerial
L10. 2004 Aerial
L11. 2009 Aerial
L12. 2013 Aerial
L13. 2016 Aerial
L14. 2020 Landscape Plan
L15. 2020 Trees
L16. 2020 Fences

Chapter 4: Landscape Significance, Integrity and Analysis

L17. Aerial Comparison, 1941, 1958, 1994 and 2016
L18. Landscape Comparison, ca. 1941, ca. 1958 and 2020
L19. Circulation Comparison
L20. Vegetation Comparison
L21. Fences Comparison
L22. Buildings Comparison
L23. Archeological Sensitivity Plan

Part II: Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Treatment

Chapter 6: Recommended Landscape Treatment

L24. Landscape Treatment
L24A. Alternate Landscape Treatment Detail
L25. LCA 1 Landscape Treatment
L26. LCA 2 Landscape Treatment
L27. Store Landscape Treatment
L28. Overseer's House Landscape Treatment
L29. Cabin 1 Landscape Treatment
L30. Fences Treatment
L31. Fence Treatment Details
L32. Fence Treatment Details
L33. Fence & Walk Treatment Details

Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report
Cane River Creole National Historical Park



1 ▪ Administrative Data, Scope and Methodology

A. Introduction and Project Background

This Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) update addresses the history, existing landscape, analysis, and treatment for the Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI), Magnolia Plantation unit. The project intent is to develop a detailed basis for day-to-day management and capital projects to preserve and steward this important landscape. The Magnolia Plantation complex within the National Park Service (NPS) is a unique, intact example of a highly productive southern cotton plantation that employed enslaved and sharecropper labor to support a large agricultural enterprise. The project scope of work includes a well-articulated background statement for the CLR, included here:

> *Magnolia Plantation is located along Highway 119 near Derry, Louisiana on a bend along the Cane River. The approximately 18-acre parcels[1] that makes up the Magnolia Unit of CARI are largely surrounded by agricultural fields. Magnolia Plantation was established by the LeComte[2] family in the late 1700s as one of the largest cotton plantations within Natchitoches parish. Its success relied heavily on enslaved labor. During the Civil War, the main house burned, but was rebuilt by the early 1890s, while the remaining outbuildings remained untouched. After the Civil War, much of the formerly enslaved population remained on the plantation, becoming tenant farmers, sharecroppers, and day laborers. These families remained on the plantation grounds*

until the early 1970s, when mechanization of agriculture shifted labor practices. In the late 1970s, approximately 18 acres was split from the main plantation grounds and donated to a non-profit organization called Museum Contents who worked to preserve the slave/tenant cabins on the property. The organization owned the property until 1994 when Cane River Creole National Historical Park was established. Museum Contents donated two tracts of land to the National Park Service for the new park. The first parcel included 17.71 aces transferred in January 1996, while the second .52-acre parcel was transferred in February 1998.

Magnolia Plantation was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 2001. The NHL district includes the remaining historic structures, which include a blacksmith's shop, store, cotton picker shed, garage, overseer's house, eight slave/tenant cabins, gin barn, and cotton screw press. In addition, the property includes historic patterns and features directly related to the 200-year occupation of the landscape. These features include field patterns, remnants of gardens, historic trees, fences, ditches, and natural features.

Today, the National Park Services owns and maintains an 18.23-acre parcel, while the Hertzog family (descendants of the LeComte family) retain ownership of the rest of the plantation grounds, including the main house. In the early 2000s, a lot of preservation work was carried out on the historic structures, though landscape features have been largely neglected. As the park continues to develop and grow, treatment guidelines and recommendations are needed to ensure NPS maintains the plantation's historic character.

Additionally, a number of cultural landscape features are at risk—affected by the local environment, strong storms, and pest infestations, which has led to a steady degradation in condition. The CLR is needed to minimize the loss of critical character defining landscape features by providing sound, systematic management guidance.

Magnolia Plantation lies along the meandering bank of Cane River within the community of Derry and near the community of Cloutierville in Natchitoches Parish (Figure 1.1).[3] Situated on the east bank, the plantation benefits from the fertile and flat terrain of the Red River system east of the Cane River.

Cane River Creole National Historical Park includes Magnolia Plantation and Oakland Plantation, the latter of which is located about twelve miles north of Magnolia and the subject of a parallel CLR project.[4] These plantations are also important historic sites within the Cane River National Heritage Area, an approximately 116,000-acre designation created through the same legislation as CARI in 1994.[5] In addition to the plantations, the national heritage area includes seven national historic landmarks, three state historic sites, and 24 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.[6] The heritage area and national park protect and present the plantation landscapes and the

stories of families who lived and worked there over centuries and steward and interpret the national significance of the Cane River Creole culture in the region.

Magnolia Plantation buildings, farm roads, and fields extend from LA-119 (historically River Road) in an arrayed pattern that echoes a bend in the Cane River. The core of Magnolia Plantation includes two areas under different ownership regimes: a northern portion including the Main House grounds and buildings and approximately 2,000 acres under private ownership; and, a southern portion totaling 18.23 acres comprising the CLR study area to include the landscape and buildings under NPS stewardship to the south and a sliver of land on the west side of LA-119 created when the road shifted east between 1955 and 1957 (Figures 1.2 and 1.3).[7]

The 2020 CLR does not include attention to the details of the privately-held acreage around the Main House, though the Main House contributes to the historical significance of Magnolia Plantation as a whole and shares its historical context. As background, it is useful to note that in 1864 federal troops burned the original Magnolia Main House. The family moved nearby, occupying the old slave hospital, now the Overseer's House. The delay in building a new Main House until the late 1890s reflected the far-reaching upheaval of plantation life in the post-Civil War years, requiring decades to regain stability and profitably farm the lands once again. The 1890s Main House and its landscape dominated by live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*) remains in place today, as evolved over the past centuries. This adjacent landscape and remaining buildings, to the north of the NPS Magnolia Plantation acreage, compliments and completes the plantation core area, that functioned over many decades as the heart of plantation life.

B. Project Team

The CLR project team consists of NPS and contractor personnel. Staff at CARI supported the efforts of Heritage Landscapes to obtain archival documents, carry out field work, develop treatment recommendations and review submittals.

The CARI staff includes:

- Carrie A. Mardorf, Superintendent
- Dustin Fuqua, Chief of Resource Management
- Joseph (Beau) Graff, Chief of Facilities
- Barbara Justice, Chief of Interpretation
- Sara Berry, Museum Technician

The Heritage Landscapes team members who collaborated in preparing the CLR include:

- Patricia M. O'Donnell, PLA, FASLA, Founder, Partner
- Gregory DeVries, PLA, ASLA, Managing Partner
- Peter F. Viteretto, PLA, ASLA, Principal
- Beth Powell Faragan, PLA, Associate ASLA, Project Staff
- Thomas Helmkamp, ASLA, Technical Staff

Staff of WSP USA who provided support include:

- Rudi Byron, AICP, Director, Federal Environmental Planning Lead, Planning & Environment

C. Project Description and Scope

This project brings forward existing research and writing to complete a full cultural landscape report Part 1 and Part 2 for the Magnolia Plantation at CARI. This CLR builds upon research already compiled for the site, incorporating information from existing studies including a 2006 CLR Part 1 for Magnolia Plantation.[8] The project involves additional research and analysis to contextualize individual features and components of the 18.23-acre Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape. The CLR is developed within the approved framework of existing planning documents including the CARI General Management Plan (GMP) and in consultation with park staff to develop specific treatment recommendations for the characteristics and associated features of the cultural landscape. For example, the GMP and CARI Foundation Document provide the primary framework for interpretation, general treatment of resources, and management of park resources, while the CARI updated List of Classified Structures (LCS) serves as a checklist for contributing features to be addressed.[9] All existing and proposed planning is incorporated into the CLR.

This CLR conforms to the format and contents outlined by the NPS Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports, including an abbreviated Part 1: Site History, Existing Conditions, Analysis and Evaluation, and Part 2: Treatment. The abbreviated Part 1 describes the development and evolution of the landscape including the site history, using information provided in the 2006 CLR Part 1 and the 2019 Historic Resources Study, and existing conditions, developed from field study. Landscape analysis includes a statement of significance, determination of landscape integrity, and list of contributing, non-contributing, and missing features. The existing wealth of studies and reports served to inform much of the Part 1 text with limited additional historical research. Aerial and ground photographs within the CARI archives provided a vital visual account of the landscape over time to capture the historic character of the landscape. Field study

formed an equally essential component to understanding of the historic and contemporary landscape with thorough field notes and extensive photographic capture used to formulate the illustrated narrative and develop a 2020 landscape AutoCAD base map.

As Part 1 fosters understanding of the historic Magnolia Plantation landscape, discussion and treatment recommendations presented in Part 2 present management strategies and actionable project efforts to protect and steward the property in alignment with landscape preservation policy and guidelines. Part 2 of the CLR focuses on treatment, including the preservation strategy for long-term management based on significance, existing conditions, and use. Specific treatment recommendations and design drawings describe possible directions for implementation of the overall preservation strategy to protect historic landscape character. In addition to landscape projects, Part 2 also includes discussion of overall management objectives for the site to stabilize, protect and enhance the historic landscape in response to local climatic and pest pressures which put historic landscape character and features at risk. The treatment section of this CLR addresses the landscape as well as specific landscape characteristics and features within it. Collaboratively agreed-upon objectives inform prioritization of site maintenance and treatment recommendations. Part 2 treatment recommendations conform to NPS Management Policies (2006) and The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Historic Landscapes (1996). Access and circulation recommendations abide by ADA and ABA Guidelines for Facilities and Buildings (ADAAG/ABAAG). Protocols of the 2018 Harpers Ferry Center Editorial Style Guide, as modified by the park, are followed throughout the CLR.[10]

D. Cultural Landscape Report Methodology

This cultural landscape planning and management project addressing the historically significant landscape of Magnolia Plantation adheres to accepted professional practice, informed by the depth of Heritage Landscapes experience, to reference and conform to federal cultural landscape preservation guidance found in the following reference documents:

- Birnbaum, Charles with Christine Capella Peters, Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, US DOI, NPS, Historic Landscape Initiative, 1996;
- Page, Robert, et al, A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques, US DOI, NPS, Historic Landscape Initiative, 1996;
- National Park Service Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management, 1999;

- NPS Preservation Brief 36: Protecting Cultural Landscapes, US DOI, NPS, Historic Landscape Initiative;
- National Register Bulletin 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes, US DOI, NPS, National Register Program;
- National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes.

The Heritage Landscapes project team aided in shaping some of these documents, is thoroughly familiar with them and uses these materials constantly in project work, as they have in this effort.

D1. Resources Reviewed

The majority of the resources studied for the development of the CLR were provided by the NPS at the onset of the project. Research is based largely on existing park archives from the museum collection.

A series of research and planning documents provided foundational understanding of the Magnolia Plantation landscape. Among these, *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report* (2006) by Firth and Turner served as the starting point for development of this revised and enlarged CLR.

- Cane River Creole National Historical Park, *Historic Resource Study*, 2019;
- Cane River Creole National Historical Park *Foundation Document*, September 2015, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service;
- Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. *Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report*, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006;
- Department of Interpretive Planning Harpers Ferry Center and Cane River Creole National Historical Park, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Long-Range Interpretive Plan*, September 2006;
- National Park Service, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement*, 2001;
- Fricker, Johnathan and Donna Fricker, *Magnolia Plantation National Historic Landmark Nomination*, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, LA, 2001;
- Dr. and Mrs. Ambrose J. Hertzog, *Magnolia Plantation National Register Nomination*, 1979.

Additional documents were reviewed for topical depth or contextual reference. A full list is included in the Bibliography. Examples of useful resources include:

- Jeffrey S. Girard, “Archaeology in the Cane River National Heritage Area: Inventory of Recorded Sites and Investigations in the Rivière aux Cannes Region,” 2016;

- Dayna Bowker Lee, et. al., "Oral History and Ethnographic Interviews with Traditionally Associated People of Cane River Creole National Historical Park," National Park Service, December 2015;
- Alabama Natural Heritage Program, "Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification of the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana," for NPS, 2011;
- Muriel Miki Crespi, "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park," US National Park Service Publications and Papers, 2004;
- Bennie C. Keel and Jason T. Raupp, "A Survey and Examination of Cisterns at Cane River Creole National Historic Park, Louisiana," National Park Service Southern Eastern Archeological Center, SEAC Accession Numbers 943 & 1304, 1998;
- "Special Resource Study Environmental Assessment: Cane River, Louisiana," US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, June 1993.

Imagery accompanying the narrative text were gathered from numerous sources. The holding repository is credited in each figure caption and expanded image citations are provided in the respective chapter endnotes. Figures included in this report are credited using the following repository abbreviations:

- CARI - Cane River Creole National Historical Park
  The following are the archival collection with the specific one noted when known.
  - CARI 0001 Resource Management Records Collection
  - CARI 0002 Magnolia Plantation Records
  - CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints
  - CARI-145 Betty Hertzog of Magnolia Plantation Collection
  - CARI-176 Historic Photographs of the Magnolia Plantation Quarters Community
- CGHRC - Cammie G. Henry Research Center
  - Melrose Collection, scrapbooks and historic photographs
  - DeBlieux Collection, 1970-80s documentation of the Magnolia Plantation landscape
- LOC - Library of Congress
- LSU - Louisiana State Library

Citations include information available for each image though few records verify photographer and date. Circa dates express general timeframe. Many of the historic images from the 1930s to 1960s held in CARI archives were photographed by Dr. Ambrose J. Hertzog II who also recorded movies of plantation life and events generally in the 1950s. Dr. Hertzog's son, Ambrose J. Hertzog III, is also attributed as photographer of early images. These were later adapted to 1999 documentary film, *Life on Magnolia Plantation*. Still images captured from this film are included as figures.

D2. Landscape Character Areas

The practice of subdividing the landscape into discrete areas of similar character, known as landscape character areas (LCAs), facilitates discussion and analysis. Delineation of the LCAs for this CLR are based on the historically functional uses of the overall plantation landscape set forth in the 2006 CLR[11]. The 2006 report also included descriptions of "The Grounds around the Big House," "Sweet Potato Field, Pasture Field and Clover Lot," and "Cultivated Lands" but these plantation landscapes lie outside of the scope of this report and are omitted for the purposes of this CLR. Though these areas were included in the 2006 CLR, as of 2020, they remain in private ownership and as of 2020 are located beyond the NPS authorized boundary.[12] The two Magnolia Plantation LCAs referenced in this report are diagrammed on the accompanying plan L1. Landscape Character Areas and described as:

- LCA 1 Plantation Yards – This area served as the center of plantation activity with daily uses by residents and tenant farmers who lived nearby. Organized along the road frontage and adjacent river banks and Cane River, the area was generally open, displaying evidence of intensive daily use in the rough path system. Landscape contributing features in the generally open and sunny LCA 1 include drives, paths, gathering areas, fences, such as the prominent Mule Lot, a bell tower, and a series of buildings as space-defining features and destinations to include the Mule Barn, Store, Overseer's House, Blacksmith Shop and several smaller buildings. This area is distinctive as it is used and shared by everyone in the vicinity and functions as a highly active zone with people coming and going constantly.

- LCA 2 Quarters – The landscape surrounding the brick cabins of the Quarters was used as swept yards and gardens with a functional circulation system of beaten paths. Scattered shade, fruit and nut trees provided sustenance, cooling and protection from the sun. Fences defined selected cabin garden areas, to protect crops from livestock, confine small animals, and define these as semi-private spaces. This area is distinctive as a landscape of residential daily use by those who lived there and their visitors, functioning like a small neighborhood.

These two LCAs organize discussion of historic and existing landscape character, landscape analysis, and treatment recommendations.

D3. Landscape Contributing Features

Character-defining features (CDFs), also known as contributing features, described within this CLR follow the standardized characteristics listed in the NPS's *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (1998). CDFs discussion begins with those features which apply across the Magnolia Plantation property or relate to the context of the Main House, Cane River, River Road LA-119 and agricultural landscapes beyond the core area. CDFs described include:

- Natural Systems and Topography: surface water, drainage, the shape of the ground
- Spatial Organization: patterns and arrangement of features that comprise the landscape
- Views and Vistas: open, closed, and screened aspects of the site, directed or framed compositions

Following these broad features, a second set of CDFs describe each of the two LCAs. These specific contributing features include:

- Vegetation: all types of plant material including ornamental, agricultural, and native vegetation
- Circulation: describing the landscape of movement, circulation describes the arrangement, alignment and materials of roads, drives, paths, and walks for use by vehicles and pedestrians
- Buildings and Structures: habitable buildings and non-habitable landscape structures such as bridges, walls, fences, including remnant features that are legible such as the patterns of sandstone foundation footings throughout the site which indicate the location of non-extant structures
- Small-Scale Features: objects and furnishings including benches, signs, trash and recycling receptacles, and landscape ornamental elements

E. Magnolia Plantation Significance and Period of Significance

Research and analysis of the historic Magnolia Plantation landscape yielded understanding of landscape significance as defined through the National Register of Historic Places qualification criteria. In alignment with the 2006 CLR, this CLR determines Magnolia Plantation expresses significance in Criterion A: Association with events that have made a significant contribution to our history; Criterion C: Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; and Criterion D: Has yielded or may be likely to yield information important to history or prehistory.

The Magnolia Plantation landscape witnessed and responded to numerous significant events through American history. Magnolia Plantation landscape character-defining features reflected the evolving economic, social and political context of cotton agriculture through plantation eras of colonialism, slavery, day laborer and tenant farming and the expansion of mechanized agriculture. For example, changing compacted soil paths reflected changes in movements of people and animals across the landscape. Increasing mechanization of plantation agriculture diminished the extent of foot-worn paths and reduced the number of resident laborers in the cabins, among other changes.

Magnolia Plantation stands as a representative example of a southern cotton plantation. Fences, paths and vegetation organize the extant complex of agricultural, residential, management and support

landscapes including fields, Gin House, pastures, eight remaining brick cabins, Overseer's House and plantation store. Landscape organization reflects the functioning agricultural landscape and the social movements of plantation management and laborers while responding to the local conditions of mostly-level native topography, arcing adjacent river and drive, and intense summer heat. The brick slave quarters and naturalized bulbs remaining in former yards are especially distinctive.

A 1999 archeological study revealed significant artifacts from prehistory through plantation periods uncovering building materials, clothing items and pottery sherds which provide clues about life in this landscape over time. Little ground disturbance since the close of plantation periods supports likelihood that additional archeological features remain.

Magnolia Plantation expresses a wide period of occupation, from 1753 to the 1976 defined by the date of the French land grant to Jean Baptiste LeCompte to the end of the plantation system and replacement by commercial mechanized agriculture. This broad period encompasses many eras of landscape and social evolution, providing opportunity for a selected date of interpretation in the mid-twentieth century. For the plantation landscape under NPS ownership, this CLR argues that the historical period of significance begins in 1835 with the acquisition of the parcel and ends at a point when the residential patterns associated with the plantation system end. Prior documents use the following dates for the period of significance:

- 2001 General Management Plan, ca.1835-ca.1960
- 1979 National Register/ 2001 National Historic Landmark nominations, ca.1835-1939
- 2006 Cultural Landscape Report, 1753-1960
- 2019 State Historic Preservation Office Determination of Eligibility, ca.1835-1969
- 2019 Historic Resource Study, ca.1835-1970s

Given the above details, Heritage Landscapes recommends the period of significance from 1835 to 1976. This closing date marks transfer of 18.23 acres including the Quarters and Plantation Yards to a non-profit organization called Museum Contents, Inc., which took place in 1976, three years after the death of Mathew Hertzog II.

Within the relatively lengthy period of significance, a period of interpretation establishes an era for presentation of the landscape, guiding possible preservation and restoration actions. The CLR team

generally recommends using the close to the period of significance as the period of interpretation because this moment in time presents the fully evolved landscape, incorporating changes across the period of significance. Further, an important characteristic of the Magnolia Plantation landscape is the residential work force suggesting the period of interpretation should capture a time when residential patterns were intact. The period of change from the 1940s to the early 1970s when the prior landscape patterns fade and are replaced by mechanization provides opportunity to interpret and present the historic character of the plantation landscape. The landscape treatment approach chapter of this text recommends the period of interpretation center on 1958, when available documentation shows the landscape of the residential work force remains present.

F. Magnolia Plantation Landscape Integrity

Despite changes across the landscape from the 1960s to the close of the period of significance in 1976, this CLR concurs with earlier studies affirming that the 2020 Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape expresses integrity. The plantation remains in its historic location with agricultural and river-side setting preserved. The presence of broad views, remaining landscape contributing features, buildings and structures and overall landscape organization and patterns contribute to design integrity. Selected historic landscape materials remain including compacted earth, wood fence posts, wire fencing, and vegetative materials including live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*), and pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) trees and naturalized bulbs in the Quarters landscapes. The combined impact of remaining features provides integrity of feeling as the landscape continues to convey its history as a working plantation with enslaved and later resident labor. The landscape is associated with National Register Criterion A: association with cotton plantation history; Criterion C: representative of distinctive cotton plantation landscape characteristics; and Criterion D: potential to yield important historical information remain intact.

G. CLR Summary of Findings

The extended period of significance, from 1835 through 1976, provides broad opportunities for presentation of the evolved cultural landscape in a broad context of place, inhabitants, activities, and meanings over 141 years. The historic narrative and images offer a wealth of detail, particularly for the Sharecropper and day labor periods after the Civil War and Emancipation. The existing landscape creates a strong foundation for future interventions by capturing recent history from the 1994 NPS purchase to

the landscape of 2020. The analysis of landscape change and continuity over time aids in focusing on what remains, and what has been lost and added, to clarify the target landscape character. An overall finding of this CLR is that the landscape fails to resonate with its unique and important history and evolution as it exists today. The current cultural landscape fails to communicate its rich and diverse stories. The intent of the cultural landscape treatment is to bring the landscape into greater legibility as a strong platform for those stories.

The landscape preservation treatment approach of Preservation and Rehabilitation of character and contributing features, based on documentary evidence, is also well informed by the capacity of the park to staff and carry out ongoing stewardship. The strengthening of the perception of this important landscape is integrated with its care into the future and its presentation to visitors. The landscape treatment recommendations are proposed for implementation, step by step, over a period of years, addressing functional and presentation issues and funding opportunities, recognizing and addressing health, safety, welfare issues at each step. These recommendations are presented in sufficient detail to form the basis for detailed project planning, preliminary costing, and park funding requests. The proposed Preservation and Rehabilitation treatment is underpinned by sound stewardship and takes a comprehensive approach to enable and support a more vibrant, legible site that engages visitors while focusing and limiting maintenance burdens.

It is possible that there may be a future opportunity for the park to acquire the Main House and its grounds. This potential enlargement of the landscape to include the entire core area of Magnolia Plantation would be welcomed as an opportunity to present this historically important place as a whole and would more completely convey the park's significance by adding to the depth and breadth of the park landscape. If that acquisition were to occur, a cultural landscape report addressing the Main House landscape would build on this CLR. Ideally the future treatment of that Main House landscape will align conceptually and in project details to the Preservation and Rehabilitation treatment of the current park acreage.

Chapter 1 Endnotes

[1] The NPS property covers 18.23 acres across two parcels, Parcel #8090002100 of 13.40 acres and Parcel #8090002000 of 4.83 acres in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The previous CLR erroneously described the property as 18.75 acres. As of 2020, the park is in the process of resurveying the property to obtain a correct acreage.
[2] The family name LeComte and its variant LeCompte have been applied in various ways by descendants and in historic documents. Park interpretive usage refers to the family name as LeCompte as of 2020. Also see Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park,* Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, p.4-10, 4-46.
[3] Map, "Cane River National Heritage Area and Cane River Creole National Historic Park," National Park Service.
[4] Susan Turner Associates, LLC/JKOA, *Oakland Plantation Cultural Landscape Report: Phase 2*, Cane River Creole National Historical Park, July 2021, PMIS#104197.
[5] US Congress, Public Law 103-449 "To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor in the State of Connecticut, and for other purposes," H.R. 1348-6 "Title III—Cane River Creole National Heritage Park," Nov. 2, 1994; 108 Stat. 4752.
[6] NPS, "Places," Cane River Creole National Heritage Area, Louisiana, online 29 May 2020: https://www.nps.gov/crha/learn/historyculture/places.htm.
[7] Map, "Cane River Creole National Historic Park," National Park Service; Legal Descriptions and Tax Maps for Parcels #8090002000 and #8090002100, Dollie C. Mahoney, Assessor, Natchitoches, LA, 11 September 2020, provided by CARI.
[8] Ian Firth and Suzanne Turner, *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report*, December 2006, Cane River Creole National Historical Park, p77; Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019, (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources) p9-1; Jonathan Fricker and Donna Fricker, *Magnolia Plantation*, National Historic Landmark Nomination Form, January 3, 2001, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.
[9] National Park Service, *General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, Washington, D.C.: NPS, 2001; NPS, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Foundation Document,* Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Region, 2015; NPS, *Master Cane River Creole National Historical Park List of Classified Structures*, December 2018. CARI.
[10] National Park Service, *2018 HFC Editorial Style Guide*, Harpers Ferry Center, accessed 3/2/2020: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/hfc/upload/HFC-2018-Style-Guide.pdf.
[11] Ian Firth and Suzanne Turner, *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report*, December 2006, 77. Cane River Creole National Historical Park.
[12] Damage to the main house property following Hurricane Laura in August 2020 prompted descendants of the Hertzog family to contact the NPS and inquire about transferring the main house property to the park. Should this occur, additional study of the main house area may be required to inform treatment recommendations for areas surrounding the main house.



Figure 1.1 Cane River Creole National Historical Park including Magnolia Plantation, Oakland Plantation, and Park Headquarters and Curation Facility set within the context of the Cane River National Heritage Area. Courtesy NPS.



Figure 1.2 Map of the primary buildings and structures at Magnolia Plantation. The southern portion of the plantation is part of Cane River Creole National Historical Park, while the northern portion remains under private ownership as of 2020. Note the Garage was misidentified in this map as "Carriage House." This image does not include the NPS ownership between the river and LA-119. Courtesy NPS.

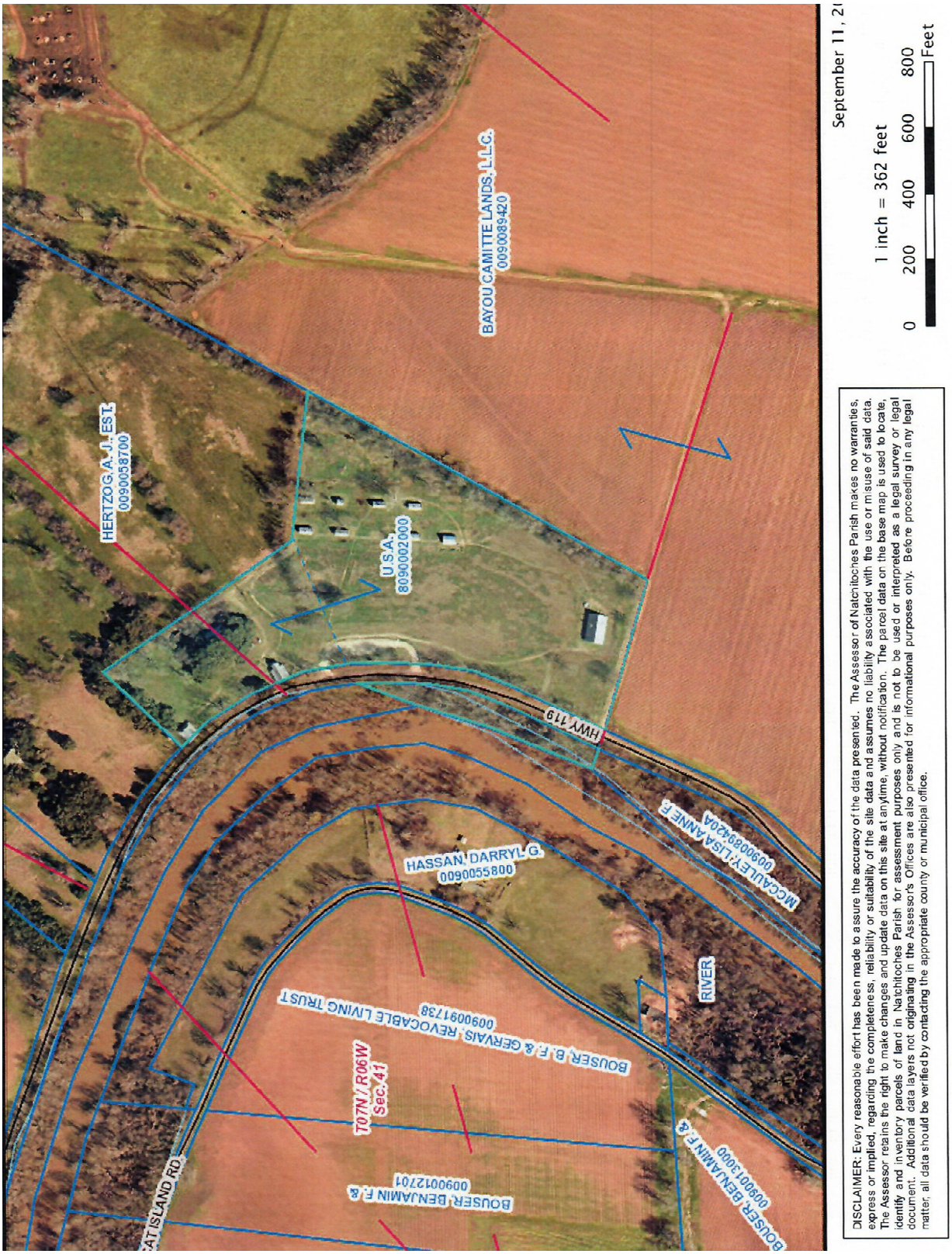


Figure 1.3a Parish tax map shows the Federal acreage boundaries in teal with a green tone overlay. Note that the Plantation house and landscape are located to the left on this image. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 1.3b This of the parish tax map provides detail on the boundaries of the Magnolia Plantation park property, bounded by the teal green line with a sliver of land on the west side of LA-119. Courtesy CARI.

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MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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2 ▪ Magnolia Plantation History and Evolution

A. History and Evolution Introduction

This chapter presents an overview of the landscape history of Magnolia Plantation. It provides a chronological account of the evolution of the property from the initial formation of the physical landscape through four periods of development prior to the incorporation of the plantation as part of Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) in 1994.

- Natural Setting and Early Settlement, pre-1753
- Establishment and Development of Magnolia Plantation, 1753 to 1864
- Reestablishment and Transformation of Magnolia Plantation, 1865 to 1949
- Modernization of Magnolia Plantation, 1950 to 1993

Each period includes a narrative summary of landscape modifications developed from the *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Historic Resource Study* (2019), *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report* (2006), and *Magnolia Plantation National Historic Landmark Nomination* (2001). Ethnographic, archeological, and historic architectural studies also complement these documents. The scope of this Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) emphasizes the importance of existing

comprehensive historical studies and therefore includes limited additional research. This CLR integrates the prior research, reaching beyond the landscape of the Creole plantation owner families, to document features of the domestic and working landscapes that were the domain of laborers who were primarily of African descent and Creoles of Color and gave rise to the Cane River Creole community of the region.

Images of the Magnolia Plantation landscape history illustrate this narrative with photographs, maps, and plans from the CARI Archives. The first map presented is a detail from the 1858 Walmsley Plat Map as and 11 x 17-inch fold out, to show core area details and adjacencies. An aerial photograph dated April 5, 1941, serves as the primary reference for L4 Circa 1941 Landscape Plan, while the updated landscape character documents the rising agricultural modernization at Magnolia Plantation, captured in the L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan. The early survey, 1941 and 1958 period plans, and related aerial photographs referenced in this chapter include:

- L2 1858 Survey
- L3 1941 Aerial
- L4 Circa 1941 Landscape Plan
- L5 1958 Aerial
- L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan
- L7 1972 Aerial

B. Natural Setting and Early Settlement, pre-1753

The land that would become Magnolia Plantation was first inhabited by American Indians approximately 13,500 years ago marking the time at the end of the last ice age when humans first appeared in the archeological record in North America.[1] The first of many cultural groups in the history of the landscape, early hunters and gathers of the Paleoindian period passed through the Red River region leaving stone tools as evidence of a transitory mode of living. From about 10,000 BCE (Before the Common Era) to 2,500 BCE, settlements were established and territories defined by Archaic period humans. Subsistence patterns relied increasingly on horticulture and people developed shelters, burials, and ceremonial mounds during this time. The subsequent Woodland Period, from about 2,500 BCE to 1,100 BCE, included the continuation of mound construction and increased specialization in ceramics for cooking and storage. Archeological evidence suggests heavy reliance on deer, shellfish, and fish as protein sources.[2] From 1,100 BCE to about 700 BCE, the preexisting cultural practices evolved into the Caddo culture, which was associated with particular ceramic techniques and burial practices in the Mexican Highlands, the Yucatan peninsula, and parts of Guatemala. By about 500 BCE, Caddo culture became

part of the widespread Mississippian culture that was characterized by mound construction, ceramic advancements, large trade networks, political centralization, and institutionalized social inequality. Sedentary lifeways and new farming techniques led to the production of sunflowers, corn, beans, squash, and pumpkins. By the end of the 1400s CE (Common Era), the Caddo population reached 200,000 with significant densities along the Red River; however, diseases brought by Spanish exploration resulted in an approximately 95% population loss between the mid-1500s and the 1680s.[3] By this time, remaining Caddo people using resources in the vicinity of Magnolia Plantation pertained to small, independent groups called the Ais and Adaes, and a larger Caddo confederacy known as the Natchitoches. These groups and eventually other confederacies lived in small villages established on natural river terraces in the valley of what is now the Cane River, including in the vicinity of Magnolia Plantation.

Habitation areas were typically located in uplands near streams and wetlands, where occupants would have access to a wide range of resources. The cultural landscape of the region offered a rich habitat produced from the warm climate and shifting channels of the Red River. Within the 10-mile-wide floodplain between the Nacogdoches Wold hills to the west and the Kisatchie Wold hills to the east, the Red River, its tributaries, and divided channels wound over the level, low-lying landscape. As a shifting waterbody on alluvial soils, the Red River meandered and changed channels once in the mid-eighteenth century, when it transitioned northeast from the present-day Old River to what is now the Cane River (Figure 2.1a, b).[4] The Cane River, fluctuated in navigability throughout the year as water levels rose and fell. The conversion of the upper Cane River into Cane River Lake by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the early twentieth century brought an end to the use of the river as a navigable route connected to the present-day Red River.[5]

American Indian habitation and eventual European settlement in the Cane River area depended on the abundant flora and fauna of the area that, in turn, relied on fertile soils. Conveyance of sand, silt and clay in the rivers' journeys from the north developed a bed of alluvial soils across the floodplain including Yahola very fine sandy loam at the core of the future plantation with uplands of Miller very fine sandy loam and Yahola clay, and Miller clay in lowlands (Figure 2.1a, b).[6] The rich soils sustained native wetlands and woodlands. Riverbanks were covered with dense thickets of the native river cane (*Arundinaria gigantea)* from which the name Cane River was derived. Lowlands contained black willow (*Salix nigra*), Eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), and American

sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). Uplands dominated by oaks (*Quercus* species), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), and Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*).[7]

Europeans arrived in Louisiana in the mid-sixteenth century. Teams of Spanish explorers including Hernando de Soto and Luis de Moscoso traveled through Florida, Louisiana, Texas, and Mexico. In an effort to claim the same territory, French explorers sought to colonize the lower Mississippi River in the 1680s. René Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle, was the first French explorer to reach the region. The French developed friendly relations with the Caddo during a brief period of settlement. Competing Spanish attempts to settle in the area and missionize the Caddo were thwarted until 1700 when Phillip V, the Bourbon grandson of King of France Louis XIV, took the Spanish throne and the nations united. That year, a French group including Jean Baptiste Le Moyne and Louis Juchereau de St. Denis traveled up the Red River and met with three Caddo tribes that eventually joined into the Natchitoches Caddo confederacy. The Caddo became allied with the French in the context of being persecuted and constrained by other American Indian groups allied with the English, such as the Chickasaws, Choctaws, and Osages. Under urging by French allies, the Natchitoches Caddo moved southward to the Lake Pontchartrain.

In 1713, St. Denis and members of displaced Natchitoches Caddo people worked to establish a trading post in the middle of the Red River (now Cane River). The desired site, fifteen miles north of Magnolia Plantation, was inhabited by the Doustioni people, a tribe that joined the Natchitoches Caddo confederation. The Doustioni, Natchitoches Caddo, and French came to an amicable agreement and created a fortified settlement that became known as Fort St. Jean Baptiste des Natchitoches. Over the first half of the seventeenth century, the Yatasis tribe of the Caddo people and other tribes brought by the French or Spanish, continued the precedent of intercultural exchange.[8] By the early 1720s, they were joined in the Natchitoches settlement by twenty enslaved Africans. The admixture of indigenous tribes and other immigrant tribes, Europeans, and African and Afro-Caribbean people in the Rivière aux Canne or Cane River region, initiated an evolving process of creolization with a wide range of social and ethnic groups including *métis* and *mestizo* groups of mixed ancestry and *gens des couleurs libres*, or free People of Color. In time descendants of these groups and future immigrants developed an identity as Creoles of Color that remain a foundation for the cultural heritage of current Cane River Creole residents of the region.[9]

C. Magnolia Plantation Establishment and Development, 1753 to 1864

Around 1753, Jean Baptiste LeCompte (unknown-1784), and his Natchitoches-born wife Margarite Le Roy received a French grant of the first land parcel that later became Magnolia Plantation. Associated with the growth of Natchitoches and the Rivière aux Cannes or Cane River region, this land grant resulted from increased trade and interaction downriver to New Orleans and upriver to settlements in Texas. The Spanish census of 1766 records LeCompte's holdings of eight arpents of land. An arpent was the standard measure of land units used in the French colonies and equal to about one acre. Along the Cane River as in other colonies, the long, thin shape of the parcel stretched from the river's edge inward to productive land to ensure a range of natural resources available for the title bearer's use.

Margarite and Jean Baptiste had three children including two daughters, Marie Louise Marguerite and Marie Francoise, and a son, Ambrose (1760-1834) who later married Hélène Cloutier and inherited the land that would become Magnolia Plantation. In succession, their son and grandson, Jean Baptiste LeCompte II (1786-1825) and Ambrose LeCompte II (1807-1883), purchased additional tracts in the 1820s and 1830s to create a plantation of some 7,800 acres. Ambrose II became the first owner of the future Magnolia Plantation to be born in US territory, resulting from the 1803 Louisiana Purchase and subsequent statehood in 1812.

The LeCompte holdings expanded during the early decades of the nineteenth century. The holdings containing the core property, including the Plantation Yards and Quarters, resulted from a purchase by Ambrose LeCompte II from Gasparite LaCour in 1835. This purchase marked the founding of the Magnolia Plantation.[10] The plantation name derived from the southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) trees on the property. The family continued to expand their holdings in the area. Later plat maps indicate LaCour's name on the arpents that became Magnolia Plantation (Figure 2.2a, b).[11] The LeCompte family ginned cotton as early as 1830 with a wood screw press.[12] Into the nineteenth century, enslaved African and Afro-Caribbean people replaced American Indians as forced labor. The LeCompte Plantation relied on 182 enslaved workers by the middle of the century. To tend to the health of the workforce, the LeComptes constructed a hospital around 1840, now known as the Overseer's House. In 1852, Matthew Henry Hertzog (1829-1903) married Atala LeCompte (1830-1897), the daughter of Ambrose LeCompte II, and began to manage the plantation on behalf of his family in-law.

An annotated plat map of Magnolia Plantation by surveyor G. S. Walmsley, documented the overall organization and land uses of the plantation landscape in 1858 (Figure 2.3).[13] The map remains the best illustration of the landscape prior to changes during and after the US Civil War. It illustrates the layout of fields and position of structures in relation to the Cane River and roads. The Main House, also known as the Big House, gardens, double allée of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), and a stable lay northwest and apart from the rest of the plantation. The Plantation Yards contained several structures including a Blacksmith Shop, a sawmill, hospital, smoke house, bell tower, mill, nursery, stable, corn cribs, gin barn, and a cotton press. To the east, a field of clover (*Trifolium* sp.) and potatoes (possibly *Ipomoea batatas* and *Solanum tuberosum*) edged a gridded block of twenty-four quarters for enslaved workers. A wide lane or road passed between the blacksmith shop and Overseer's House, while two smaller lanes connected the gin to points east and south. To the east of the plantation core, a levee protected the Main House and surrounding orchard and pastures. This general organization of the plantation core persisted for many decades through to the current time. The map also shows labeled levees to the east between the core area and the fields.

In the early 1860s, Magnolia Plantation produced the most cotton in Natchitoches Parish. Production came to an abrupt end when the plantation was liberated and damaged during the US Civil War Red River Campaign. Union Troops engaged the 21st Texas Regiment in an area "behind" the slave quarters and burned the Main House in April 1864.[14] The war effected important changes to the physical and social landscape of Magnolia Plantation that mark the end of the period of plantation establishment and development.

D. Magnolia Plantation Reestablishment and Transformation, 1865 to 1949

From 1865 to 1949, the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation transformed from a slave labor based social and economic system with the outcomes of the US Civil War to a day labor tenant and sharecropper system. Following the war, the Hertzogs occupied the Slave Hospital/Overseer's House for over thirty years until 1897 when they built and moved into the Main House, reportedly rebuilt from reused brick slave cabin materials. The former hospital and residence, reverted to the residence of the overseer.

As a result of Emancipation, plantation production shifted to a system of sharecroppers, tenant farmers, and day laborers. During Reconstruction after years of slavery, Magnolia Plantation continued to function through the wage economy paying workers in a combination of cash, store credit, lodging, and farm plots. Following the death of Ambrose LeCompte II, in 1883, his daughter Ursula Atala LeCompte (1830-1897) and Matthew Henry Hertzog (1829-1903) inherited and managed the plantation. Their descendants continued to manage labor intensive agricultural production into the mid-twentieth century. Beginning in 1903, the plantation lands were divided between the Hertzog children, with the "upper part" including the National Park Service (NPS) property operated by Ambrose John Hertzog (1857-1921) and his wife, Sarah Jane "Sally" Hunter Hertzog (1873-1960). Upon the death of Ambrose, the property transferred to the Ambrose J. Hertzog Estate, as his son Matthew Hertzog (1897-1973) managed with his wife Eleanor Lydia "Dee" Compton (1903-1988). In turn, the ownership and care of Magnolia Plantation fell to their daughter Elizabeth "Betty" Hertzog and several family members, to include Ambrose J. Hertzog III, Norman Gunn, Mary Johnston, Marie Louis Spencer, Sally Boggs, Irma H. Laufersweiler, and Dr. and Mrs. Ambrose J. Hertzog over the ensuing decades to the present.

During this extended period, the plantation landscape reflected changes due to larger trends including a cotton-related recession, the Great Depression, two world wars, and the mobility of the largely Black labor force despite institutionalized obstacles. Technological advancements in production and transportation also contributed to new modes of transit and greater mobility of both workforce and goods. The change to a wage labor system, demise of waterborne transport, and the introduction of motorized vehicles put new emphasis on the plantation store and the public road network. USGS Topographical maps provide evidence of trends affecting Magnolia Plantation during the early twentieth century (Figure 2.4).[15] In the early 1900s, the Cane River was dammed at the north and south ends, which shifted waterborne transit to the Red River and created the Cane River Lake. The former river channel island, across from Magnolia Plantation, became a game and fish preserve in 1912. The rise of share cropping also led to the proliferation of individual houses along the main road during this time as depicted on the 1944 topographical maps which capture the patterns of this period. The Hertzog Plantation adapted to the changes and was marked in local descriptors within the Cane River region. After generations of family ownership, the family persistence became embedded in place names, to include Hertzog Lake and Hertzog Swamp located in lowlands north and east of Magnolia Plantation.

In the early twentieth century, Magnolia Plantation gradually incorporated mechanization into agricultural practices. Cars, trucks, electricity, and telephones altered prior patterns in the landscape. In 1917, stables near the Main House were removed and other outbuildings were converted into garages. Automobile circulation and parking areas were established to access the Overseer's House during this period. Environmental changes also contributed to landscape change at Magnolia Plantation. In January 1939, a tornado damaged six of the eight remaining cabins of the Quarters and the Gin Barn, while it destroyed the gin's engine house. After this loss, Magnolia Plantation ceased ginning cotton on site, instead trucking bulk cotton to collection points for processing.

While machinery altered field patterns and modified production techniques, manual labor remained essential for production. Workers made limited economic progress in the decades following Emancipation.[16] The plantation store, built in 1873, became the focal point in a wage, credit, and share based economy. In general, farm day laborers occupied the remaining cabins and small structures along the road. All plantation laborers relied on community networks, and diversified their livelihoods to survive. Ethnographic research depicts the range of activities and strategies of Magnolia Plantation residents:

> *They took odd jobs to supplement their wages. They grew gardens, gathered fruit from trees growing nearby, harvested edible wild plants, and canned, pickled, or dried the produce. They raised livestock, hunted wild game, and fished. Their knowledge of folk remedies enabled them to cure common ailments instead of relying solely on doctors and store-bought medicine. Families also ensured their survival by taking advantage of every able-bodied family member. Not only did the adult men and women work but the children contributed also.*[17]

An aerial photograph taken in 1941 by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service reveals patterns of continuity and change across the active plantation and provides a record of the cultural landscape prior to full modernization of farm practices in the subsequent two decades (Figure 2.5a, b and L3 1941 Aerial).[18]

E. Circa 1941 Landscape Plan Overall Description

The development of drawing, L4 Circa 1941 Landscape Plan, relied on period photographs and a well-defined L3 1941 Aerial. This 1941 period plan illustrates what is known about the physical landscape of the current NPS area of the Magnolia Plantation in the 1940s. This aerial photograph provides valuable information as a source reference for this historical plan (Figure 2.5a, b and L3 1941 Aerial). Combined

with historical photographs and numerous reports that compile primary sources from the early to middle of the twentieth century, the documentary record sheds light on the vibrant landscape of this time. These archival resources also underpin knowledge about fences that delineated land uses during the mid-twentieth century, as illustrated on L4. Circa 1941 Landscape Plan.

The ca. 1941 landscape and fences plans depict the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation at a time when a residential labor force still managed plantation production with their daily work. Farm roads, fences, and tree rows demarcate the fields, pastures, gardens and orchards that extend northeast from the public road along Cane River. A web of pedestrian paths connected the Store, farm buildings and residential areas of the Quarters, Overseer's House, and Main House. These complex patterns emphasize the integration of domestic spaces and work places.

The overall character of Magnolia Plantation landscape during the 1940s presented here, is followed by the description of character-defining features that make up the living landscapes specific to LCA 1 Plantation Yards and LCA 2 Quarters. Descriptions of landscape features also provide information about the gradual plantation alterations, taking place during the mid-twentieth century, as the social and economic fabric of the farm modernized. The scope of the discussion focuses on the 18.23 acres of what would become the Magnolia Plantation Unit of the Cane River Creole National Historical Park.

E1. 1941 Natural Systems and Topography

Natural systems and topography of Magnolia Plantation relate to the fluvial rivers system of the Cane River and the related soils upon which the farm was originally sited. Fertile soils of very fine sandy loam underlay the plantation's residential areas and most of the area for farm fields and yards within the study area (Figure 2.1).[19] Originally woodland, the highly modified landscape reflects some 200 years of farming operations.

Relatively level terrain characterizes the topography of the study area. Slopes range from one to two percent across the site. Elevation across the plantation varies approximately six feet, with higher ground at 106 feet above sea level (fsl) by the main farm buildings and structures near the road. Swales, commonly referred to as drainage ditches, south of the Overseer's House and east of the Store help to drain the gently undulating yards. While the predominantly level terrain facilitates direct infiltration, it is

likely that the microtopography of the plantation landscape directed rainwater away from paths and toward the main east-west swale.

E2. 1941 Spatial Organization

In the 1940s, Magnolia Plantation comprised approximately 2,570 acres, including the 18.23 acres that make up the NPS property. Spatial organization relates to land uses of residential domicile and agricultural production with their supporting uses. The circa 1941 Landscape Plan depicts how fences and tree rows defined fields, pastures, and domestic lots. Land divisions spread in angular patterns to the east from the curving road that follows a Cane River channel bend. Individual land division names are associated with their use, such as the Mule Lot south of the Store.

Landscape patterns are a spatial manifestation of historic socioeconomic diversity at Magnolia Plantation. Outside NPS boundaries, the Main House serves as a home to the plantation owners. Fences and a line of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees separate the Main House landscape, representing the highest socioeconomic rung of the circa 1941 plantation landscape, from the working landscape to the south. Mirroring the overseer's function on the plantation, the Overseer's House geographically divides the space between the plantation owners and labor residences. Constructed on piers and sited to rise above other plantation structures, the Overseer's House expresses white dominance over the working landscape. The cluster of two rows of aligned cabins creates a gridded area known as the Quarters. Day laborers resided in the buildings which historically housed enslaved workers. Each of the eight cabins of the Quarters have a yard often defined by swept ground, fences, gardens and other vegetation. The Overseer's House, structures, and fields lie between the residences of the farm laborers and the Main House to the north.

Farm roads and paths often run parallel to field edges; however, a hierarchy of pedestrian paths crisscross the fields connecting the residential areas of the Quarters and the Overseer's House with various farm buildings, with particularly strong access routes to the Store.

E3. 1941 Views and Vistas

The relatively flat terrain of the study area offers open views in all directions. Focal points include farm and residential buildings and structures which serve as property landmarks and destinations. From near the Gin Barn, the hills of Kisatchie National Forest are visible to the west. In the 1940s, occasional tree

rows along field edges partially screen otherwise open views. An approximately twenty-foot-high bell tower made from a scaffold of wood poles rises above the Plantation Yards between the Store and the Overseer's House (Figures 2.6 and 2.7).[20] The tower creates a visual and audible point of reference within the study area. Rising above the horizon to the north of the study area is the Main House and its surroundings, dominated by massive live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees (Figure 2.8).[21] In the 1940s, as today, the Main House and Overseer's House nest within the mass of grand old oaks which impede direct views into the residences from the public road and to the Store to the east. A visual buffer of live oaks also lines a field edge north of the Blacksmith Shop effecting separation of the Main House from both LCA1 and LCA2 (Figure 2.8).[22] While the live oaks provide strong forms and edges, partial views open irregularly through the slot between the bottom of the oak canopy and the ground plane.

F. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Circa 1941 Landscape Character

F1. 1941 LCA 1 Circulation

Circulation at the Plantation Yards consists of a combination of vehicular and pedestrian patterns that convey people, goods, and animals across the site. In the 1940s, all vehicular routes are also used for foot and equestrian traffic. The apparently unpaved, earthen surfaces enable movements between the residences, fields, and River Road--the main north-south public road along the Cane River (now Hwy 119). This chapter refers to the public road with the longstanding historical name of River Road, which was incorporated into the Louisiana State Highway System in 1928 as LA-423 and reassigned as LA-119 in 1955. Three major farm roads occur within the study area, located north and south of the Overseer's House and across the Gin Yard. These three interior roads, Overseers Road, East Field Road, and Gin Yard Road respectively, are named for clarity and labeled on Plan L4. Gasoline pumps, likely added in front of the Store in the 1920s, contribute to the formation of a vehicular pullover off the public road.

Secondary routes link production and equipment storage areas. Though vehicular and pedestrian routes are comparably sized and surfaced, yard paths connect laborers to places of work, centers of farm management, and essential services. Primary paths visible on L3 1941 aerial indicate the importance of the Store to the residents of the Quarters. An earthen path creates a distinctive "Y" shape in a fenced yard and connects shared pathways to Cabins 3 and 4 to the Mule Lot and then to the Store. This livestock yard between the Quarters and Mule Lot also confines any tethered, large livestock owned by residents of the Quarters.[23] A variety of secondary paths link the Store to the area around the Overseer's

House and the Blacksmith Shop to the Main House. The repeated livestock movements create additional paths in the pastures of the Plantation Yards.

Due to the density of fences and frequency of pedestrian movement across the Plantation Yards, farm hands constructed stiles as an efficient method of crossing fence lines without needing to build a gate. A stile made of upright log steps allowed pedestrians to cross over the wood and hogwire fence at the large pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) tree north of the Mule Lot entry gate (Figure 2.7).[24] One of at least three stiles in the Plantation Yards, it formed part of the main path between the Quarters and the Store on River Road. In general, hogwire fence material is composed of a pattern of wire squares forming a constant fabric between fence posts and rails. Depending on the date and manufacturer, there are subtle differences in hogwire fabric wire wrapping and dimensions. Contemporary hogwire fabric may not precisely match historic wrap and dimensions though it provides a compatible character.

F2. 1941 LCA 1 Vegetation

Vegetation of the Plantation Yards consists of garden and ornamental plantings at the Overseer's House, tree rows along field edges, scattered trees, and fields of pasture grasses and hay. Limited areas of rough turf occur in interstitial locations by roadside buildings and at the Overseer's House. In the 1940s, sheep cropped areas of turf. Documentation of vegetation is limited; however, oral history offers insights, for example indicating that a blackberry (*Rubus* sp.) patch located near the Blacksmith Shop was used for making table wine.[25] An orchard, vegetable gardens, and other fields associated with the Plantation Yards are located outside of the study area east of the Overseer's House.

Farm managers grew flowering shrubs and fruit and ornamental trees at their residence during the mid-twentieth century. The limited photographic record of the Overseer's House shows small trees, shrubs, and a narrow path inside a picket fence at the southwest side of the yard (Figure 2.9).[26] Trees at the Overseer's House include plum (*Prunus persica*) and pear (*Pyrus communis*) though their precise location is unknown. A bed of ornamental groundcover plants, to include iris (*Iris* sp.) and cast iron plant (*Aspidistra* sp.), grow on the southeastern side. L3 1941 Aerial photograph also shows a possible garden or fenced enclosure with four internal sections, adjacent to a row of large trees north of the Overseer's House.

Tree rows marked some fence lines, field edges, and roads of the Plantation Yards. Illustrated on L4. Circa 1941 Landscape Plan, large live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees grew in a row along a fence line near the Blacksmith Shop and west of the Overseer's House. It is likely that they are contemporaneous with the remaining double allée of live oak trees at the Main House depicted on the annotated plat map of 1858 (Figure 2.3).[27] Informal and partial rows of unidentified trees mark farm roads south and east of the Gin yard. The relatively thin tree rows do not appear to resemble a hedge, like a row east of the Overseer's House, beyond the study area. There and in other locations on the plantation, farmers planted and managed the growth of Osage-orange (*Maclura pomifera*), known locally as *bois d'arc*, as living fences to delimit livestock areas.

Scattered trees of the Plantation Yards provide shade for people and animals. Planted pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) trees provided nut food value in addition to shade. Individual trees grew at edges of roads and yards such as near the Store, in the Mule Lot and the pasture to its north, and in a few locations along River Road. Farm managers took precautions to protect specific trees from livestock and pests with documented efforts occurring throughout the plantation. In the field directly north of the Blacksmith Shop, the limewashed trunks of some trees protect them from disease and temperature extremes (Figure 2.8).[28] This practice also occurred by the Main House and the Quarters.

Non-pasture fields of the Plantation Yards produced a rotation of crops and fodder including cotton, corn, and hay and fields. Harvesting of these areas transitioned to machine work with the support of manual labor during this decade. The 1940s saw mules used in farming extensively but not exclusively (Figure 2.10).[29] By the late 1930s, there is documented use of tractors for harvesting however; the configuration of farm fields and turning radius of tractor-driven farm implements failed to reach corners, requiring hand labor for harvesting of these leftover cultivated rows.[30] Also, mechanized devices such as hay baler require a considerable amount of accompanying manual labor to gather, load, and stack the bales (Figure 2.11).[31]

F3. 1941 LCA 1 Buildings and Structures

In the 1940s, the Plantation Yards contain a high concentration of buildings and structures. Remaining buildings recorded on the 1858 map in this part of Magnolia Plantation include: Blacksmith Shop, Pigeonnier, Overseer's House, Cotton Gin and its engine house, and the Seed House. Buildings constructed between 1858 and the 1940s include Stables by the Overseer's House, Garage, Store, an

outhouse by the store, and Mule Barn in the Mule Lot.[32] Structures at the plantation include a bell tower, corn cribs, and cisterns at the Overseer's House, Store and Gin. The siting of several of these buildings and structures reflects the common practice on active farms of relocating facilities to more practical places over time. The circa 1941 Landscape Plan buildings list for LCA 1 includes:

A. Blacksmith Shop
B. Pigeonnier
D. Stable (unverified)
E. Overseer's House
F. Garage
H. Plantation Store
I. Gin Barn / Cotton Gin
J. Cotton Gin Cistern
K. Cotton Gin Machinery
M. Seed Barn
N. Outhouse at Store
O. Mule Barn
P. Mule Lot Corn Crib
Q. Bell Tower

Note that later structures not present at this date include: C. Corn Crib, G. Cotton Picker Shed, L. Dipping Vat.[33] Several buildings are concentrated in the north of the Plantation Yards. The ca. 1840s Blacksmith Shop stands at the north end of the study area adjacent to River Road. The Pigeonnier, constructed ca. 1840–1855, is located northeast of the Blacksmith Shop after relocation from an area south of the Overseer's House sometime after construction. The Overseer's House dates to the 1840s when it served as the hospital for the enslaved workers and, and from 1864 to 1897, as the home of the Hertzog family, while the main house was rebuilt after the Civil War. The central location and constellation of nearby landscape features and pathways indicate the importance of this farm manager's house to the activity in the Plantation Yards. L3 1941 aerial photograph fails to clearly depict the Stable or Garage in their 2020 locations near the Overseer's House. However, these secondary buildings appear to date to from the early twentieth century.[34] To the north of the Overseer's House, the ca. 1920 Stable includes a dog pen in front of the structure. Its location may have changed around the mid-twentieth century. The Garage lies under the canopy of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) northwest of the Overseer's House. Constructed around 1910, the storage building is used for farm machinery. To the west of the Garage and Overseer's House, the Store sits along River Road and serves as the primary social and economic hub for the plantation workers. Constructed ca. 1873 and rebuilt prior to 1883, it functions as a place of gathering

and recreation in addition to the provision of food, medicine, clothing, and other staple supplies (Figure 2.12).[35] Direct pathways between the Quarters and the Store emphasize the importance of foot traffic between them during the 1940s. An outbuilding, likely an outhouse, is located along a fence to the east in back of the Store, around the 1930s (Figure 2.13).[36] A stable in the Mule Lot southwest of the store completed the cluster of farm buildings at the north end of the Plantation Yards.

With a backdrop of trees growing along a farm road, the Cotton Gin Barn and Seed House rise out of a field at the south end of the Plantation Yards. The gin complex includes the barn constructed in the 1850s and remnants of an extension to house a steam engine built around 1870. Though it processed cotton for nearly two centuries, the large building had been used to store hay since the 1920s. The engine house extending from the east of the Gin exhibits damage from a tornado that struck Magnolia Plantation in January 1939. West of the Gin Barn, a large seed house stands along River Road. Historically this building was associated with the Gin but little is known about its specific uses in the 1940s, as it was removed sometime after 1958.

Structures of the Plantation Yards include a bell tower, corn cribs, and cisterns at the Store and Gin. Photographs show the plantation bell tower rising above fence lines between the Store and the Overseer's House (Figure 2.7)[37]. The bell would ring to mark transitions in the daily work schedule and alert residents and workers to emergencies. The bell and tower remained at least until the 1950s.[38] A large corn crib is located near River Road immediately southwest of the Mule Lot stables in the 1940s; documentation is unclear if this is the same as the extant corn crib at a different location.

Water cisterns exist at the northwest and east corner of the Overseer's House, at the Store, and near the Gin.[39] North of the Store porch, a wooden plank covering for a cistern also served as a table for games and bench for resting (Figure 2.12).[40] Collected rainwater from the north half of the roof filled this cistern. Another cistern, of fifteen-feet in diameter with a brick reservoir, lies adjacent to the northeast corner of the Gin Barn.

F4. 1941 LCA1 Small-scale Features

The cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation contained many small-scale features that served farm uses in the 1940s. Many of these features are altered, relocated, or removed over time in accordance with the needs of the plantation. Photographs provide documentation of selected plantation features

while others remain unknown. A large timber hay rack, for example, provided fodder for mules and other livestock in the Mule Lot south of the Store (Figure 2.6).[41]

In the 1940s, fences and gates define spaces throughout the Plantation Yards. Fenceposts materials include Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*), cedar (*Cedrus* or *Juniperus* species), bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), pine (*Pinus* sp.), other local species, and repurposed railroad ties. Gates generally consist of milled lumber with metal hinges. Fence types range from posts with planks, hogwire, or barbed wire to picket fences in residential areas.

Simple field fences, alone or together with rough field edge vegetation, confine livestock to pastures or exclude animals from planted areas. Some of these fences consist of three strands of barbed wire attached to irregularly-spaced narrow wooden posts (Figure 2.14).[42] Farm workers would need to regularly inspect, repair, and replace the lines, some of which likely remained from 1886, when Matthew Hertzog purchased 3,960 feet of wire fence.[43]

Fences demarcate the plantation boundary at River Road and define internal spaces of the Plantation Yards. To the north near the Blacksmith Shop and by the adjacent horse pasture, roadside fences consist of four strands of barbed wire with log fence posts spaced approximately six feet on center (Figure 2.15).[44] Extending east from the Blacksmith Shop, an interior fence separated the pasture and row of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) from the field north of the Blacksmith Shop. A photograph from the 1920s shows that higher branched tree limbs allow partial views between the bottom of the tree canopy and the top of the approximately four-foot-high picket fence (Figure 2.8).[45]

Portions of the fence between the Blacksmith Shop and the Store consist of posts and irregular planks that may have been supplemented with twisted or barbed wire (Figure 2.12).[46] Fencing south of the Store and connected to the Mule Lot includes repurposed railroad ties for posts. The approximately five-foot posts and widely spaced planks compose the fence around the 1940s (Figure 2.16).[47] East of the Store, a post and plank fence separate the back of the Store from a work yard with an outbuilding that appears to be an outhouse. The approximately four-foot-high fence consists of five boards facing the work yard (Figure 2.13).[48] A metal vehicular gate just south of the Blacksmith Shop aligns with remnants of a historic land or road on the 1858 Walmsley plat.[49]

Along the road bounding the Mule Lot, fencing appears to consist of hogwire topped with a single strand of barbed wire (Figure 2.6).[50] Four-foot-high recycled railroad ties serve as posts for the enclosure. The entry gate to the lot is a single swing gate with seven horizontal boards of varying widths, bracketed on ends with double vertical boards, and braced by a double diagonal board. Two gates with double crossed braces lead out of the Mule Lot near the northeast corner. The hogwire fencing may have been replaced around the 1930s with a fence of wood posts and boards in some locations such as between the main Mule Lot gate and the Store.

The various fencing at the Overseer's House expresses a similar character to the boundary fence at the Main House, a more decorative fencing than elsewhere. Parallel detailing at these two homes may reflect the comparable higher social standing of the residents. A circa 1930s white-washed picket fence borders the west side of yard and perhaps the north side of this fenced yard (Figure 2.9).[51] These 1930s picket fence sections of narrow, even spacing, were attached to four-foot-high posts. Each picket had an angle cut top that sloped in one consistent direction. In a location near the south end of the west fence, two pickets are cut level with the horizontal brace. On the south and east sides of the Overseer's House, fencing consists of hogwire stretched between posts, with angled braces, documented in a 1940s image (Figure 2.17).[52]

Aside from the picket fence around the Overseer's House, the utilitarian fences of the Plantation Yards contrast with the those of the Main House outside of the study area. At the Main House, an ornamental, woven wire fence with vertical and horizontal strands and a rounded top pattern surrounds the garden (Figure 2.18).[53] Four-foot-high posts with top and bottom rail support the fence wire fabric with a matching steel tube gate with an ornamental top scroll. Together the fence and gate form a complementary ensemble that is unique to the Main House.

G. LCA 2 Quarters Circa 1941 Landscape Character

G1. 1941 LCA 2 Circulation

A well-used hierarchy of pedestrian routes comprise the Quarters circulation network in the 1940s. Pedestrian movements reach to and from destinations and coalesce at stiles over fence lines. Vehicular access occurs outside of the study area as one farm lane runs to the east of the Quarters and connects

the area to the fields of Magnolia Plantation; however, by 1955, a road leads directly into the compound from River Road (Figure 2.5).[54]

Shown on Plan L4 Circa 1941 Landscape Plan, a primary north-to-south path runs between the two rows of cabins. Passing through the Quarters, this path bends to the west and continues directly to the Store and other destinations in the Plantation Yards. The path forms the eastern terminus of the distinctive "Y" shaped route in the Plantation Yards through the first half of the twentieth century. The south end of the primary path extends to the Gin field, other roads and fields to the south. From this main spine within the Quarters, a dense path network connects cabins to the main route and to each other. Some paths also connect across fence lines to adjacent fields and pastures where residents' personal livestock and possibly one outhouse are located. A sequence of three photographs from about 1940 shows the primary path entering the Quarters from the south, passing by the standing ruin of a Cabin 9, and crossing into the yard of Cabin 8 (Figures 2.19, 2.20, 2.21).[55]

The material of footpaths and the unplanted, swept surfaces of home yards consists of exposed, compacted earth in the 1940s. To create a uniform walking and work surface as well as to reduce proximity to insect pests and other animals like rodents and snakes, residents maintained the ground immediately outside of the buildings by sweeping. Space for gardens and other domestic functions lie outside of these clear areas (Figure 2.22).[56] Turf and groundcovers of variably maintained heights create a walking surface beyond the edges of main earthen paths.

G2. 1941 LCA 2 Vegetation

During the 1940s, vegetation of the Quarters consists of a basically sunny space with varied, scattered trees, a tended ground plane of mixed ornamental and functional gardens in the cabin yards, and productive ground covering plants. Vegetation in shared areas includes the variably maintained herbaceous grasses and wildflowers and broadleaf ground covers visible in the progression of photograph from the south (Figures 2.19, 2.20, 2.21).[57] Mounded herbaceous plants appear around inhabited cabins and the ruined Cabin 9. A photograph from November 1904 shows a more open landscape with lower maintained ground plane of turf between the cabins (Figure 2.23).[58]

Interviews with former residents elicited their recollections of flowering trees, shrubs, and gardens in the Quarters during the middle of the twentieth century.[59] Large shade trees visible in the early

twentieth century photograph do not persist in the 1940s; however, other fruit and canopy trees near cabins provide shade and edible crops to include pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), fig (*Ficus carica*), peach (*Prunus persica*), plum (*Prunus* sp.), and jujube (*Ziziphus zizyphus*).[60] In the 1940s, limewash appears on the trunks of some trees in the Quarters, as at the Main House and Blacksmith Shop.

Produce from the cabin gardens forms an important component to resident diets, as required by the Hertzog's for occupancy in the Quarters. One worker grew a row of sunflowers within the fenced yard of Cabin 3 in the 1920s (Figure 2.24).[61] Leaves from sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) growing naturally along Cane River, and at least one "filé tree" documented in the field east of the Quarters landscape, were used according to the local tradition as a gumbo ingredient known as filé.[62] According to ethnographic documentation of local practices, roots of the sassafras tree were harvested in the winter and used to prepare a medicinal tea.

Quarters families tended abundant gardens of both food crops and ornamental plants. Ornamental plantings remaining in the 2020 landscape provide compelling evidence that cabin residents collected and planted bulb flowers within their fenced yards. Residents may have brought bulbs with them when moving in and others may have taken plant material with them when moving out.

A 1960s photograph reveals a diverse mixture of plants in another cabin garden to include sugar cane (*Saccharum* sp.) and the flowers of cockscomb (*Celosia* sp.), and possibly zinnia (*Zinnia* sp.) (Figure 2.22).[63] Archeological research substantiated the use of cabins gardens as part of a subsistence practices.

> *The evidence for this can be seen in their purchases of seed from the store, as well as archeological evidence of canning activities: jar and lid liner fragments. Former residents recalled that they relied more on their gardens and livestock for food than they did the Magnolia store. They cultivated and canned, jarred, or dried beans, corn, cucumbers, garlic, mustard greens, okra, sweet peas, onions, peanuts, pumpkins, red peppers, tomatoes, and turnips. Residents also grew Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes and stored them in holes dug into banks and covered them for later use. Although not a major crop, some grew sugar cane that they had processed into syrup at a local mill operated by a Magnolia sharecropper. A former resident from a nearby plantation remembered they also made cane beer from the foam that formed during sugar processing.*[64]

Plants grown within the Quarters served medicinal as well as dietary purposes.[65] Gardens supply skilled healers, known as root doctors, herb doctors, or vine healers, with plants for poultices, ointments, and infusions. For example, plantation workers gave children tea from chinaberry tree (*Melia azedarach*) fruit to eliminate worms and cure fevers. One chinaberry tree is visible in historic views of the yard of Cabin 8 (Figure 2.21).[66] Other chinaberry trees were present near the north and south ends of the Quarters.[67] Other fever-reducing plants used by residents include castor bean/palm of Christian (*Ricinus communis*) leaves, peach (*Prunus persica*) leaves and bitter weed (possibly *Helenium amarum* or *H. tenuifolium*). Folk doctors also used the leaves of cedar (*Cedrus* or *Juniperus* species) for rheumatism. Additional plants with ethnobotanical significance that grew then and remain at Magnolia Plantation include elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), wild onions or garlic (*Allium* species), and others.[68]

G3. 1941 LCA 2 Buildings and Structures

Buildings and structures of the Quarters include residential cabins, outhouses and cisterns in the 1940s. The Dipping Vat is documented by the 1950s but may have been present earlier. The cabins are labeled as numbers 1 to 8. Ruins of the Cabin 9, south of Cabin 8, were present at this time, though uninhabitable and lacking a roof. The remaining Quarters of the original twenty-four brick double family units, were built circa 1845 for enslaved workers, and possibly built by enslaved people with building craft skills although there is no clear documentation of the builders. During the 1940s, each cabin typically housed one family; however, during the period of slavery, two families occupied each two-room cabin – one family on each side of the cabin. Records from 1938 count only seven resident families within the eight cabins, so occupancy may not be consistent. The two, partial rows of four cabins create an irregular grid pattern on the ground plane, which is a remnant of the historical pattern.

Each cabin plot offers family space for personalization and some basic comfort. Deeply shaded porches provide protection from the heat and space for socializing during the waning hours of the day and on weekends. The surrounding yards are multiuse zones for work and pleasure. There are no sanitary services within the cabins and privy locations are largely unknown during this time period; however, it is possible that one outhouse occurs east of Cabin 5 in the 1940s.[69]

G3a. 1941 Quarters Cabins

The 1941 Quarters cabins exhibit alterations over time with exterior additions extending along the west face of Cabins 3 and 4 and with added rooms to the east face of Cabins 1 and 8. Also note that several

cabins have additions at this point in time to increase living space. Cabins 3 and 4 appear to have larger additions that run the length of the west elevation as the width of those two buildings is wider than that of Cabin 2, while Cabins 1 and 8 have smaller appendages or rooms to the east. These lines match to "ghost" lines on the west elevations of the buildings. Additions to cabins were likely removed in the 1990s by Museum Contents or early 2000s by the NPS.

Other structures in LCA 2 include cisterns at the cabins with gutters directing roof drainage into them. Cabins 1, 3, 4, and 7 each had a cistern in the 1940s. Rain barrels connected to roof gutters supplemented cisterns (Figure 2.25).[70] Cisterns provided a location for preserving food as well as fresh, cool water. For example, residents would put jars of milk and wrapped ice in a bucket and lower them into cisterns for preservation.[71]

G4. 1941 LCA 2 Small-scale Features

The assortment of small-scale features at the Quarters includes the diverse and functional elements that support domestic livelihoods and leisure of resident families. Barrels, boxes, crates, ladders, clotheslines, toys, rocking chairs, and tables are all captured in images. Vernacular alterations to Quarters' architecture are indicated in the benches created by installing boards between the porch posts, documented in historic photos. Images indicate roughly-built scaffolds and frames supporting cabin gutters. Residents used trees to hang ropes and tools and support fences or gates. Cabin yards contain animal pens and small enclosures to keep hogs, geese, and ducks. Nesting areas are likely present for free ranging chickens. Fences at the Quarters define space and separate home yards from public space. Light poles and electric supply wires, though unknown in location, appear in the landscape after electrification, around 1946. Historic Quarters images are often undated, ranging over four decades from the 1920s to 1960s. Due to this lack of precise dates, descriptions address general character with specific details where possible.

The visual colors are also of importance within the Quarters area. Brick yields a color similar to the earth tones at Magnolia Plantation. However, some historic images show exterior brick surfaces limewashed or whitewashed. Other images indicate the exterior walls plastered over with a parging using a white cementitious product that created a bright white visual, and adversely affected the exterior masonry surfaces.

L3 1941 Aerial documents the general location of plantation fences. Employing this and other sources, plan L4 shows what is known about fences, illustrating this important character-defining feature that shapes space. Fences typically define the edges of fields and yards at Magnolia Plantation, but the Quarters area does not demonstrate a uniform enclosure in the 1940s. Instead, most residents define their individual cabin yards with fences in various locations, materials, and designs to suit their land uses. Handmade fences and gates vary widely in the Quarters and residents employed available materials including branches, milled lumber, and hogwire.

Historic photographs provide detail about the fences and other small features of Cabins 2, 3, 7, and 8 circa 1940s. An upright picket fence borders the south and west sides of Cabin 2 (Figure 2.25).[72] Irregular sized palings average about five feet in height. The palings are braced by branch poles on the interior along the west fence and on the exterior of the palings along the south fence. Relatively narrow spacing suffices to contain or exclude small animals. Inside the fence, the yard includes a clothesline and a swept earth floor extending four to ten feet from the cabin.

Cabin 3 displays a carefully constructed picket fence spaced tightly along the west side facing the corn or hay fields and along the south side of the yard against the Quarters path (Figure 2.24). Sunflowers rise above the inside of the fence. The resident cut the vertical board palings at a height of approximately five feet. A shorter gate, at about four feet, faced the path in the southwest corner of the enclosure. Two metal hinges and upright planks formed an inverted 'V' echoing the angle of the cabin's gabled roofline. The fence line east of the gate consists of narrower palings planted with climbing vines. Fences are braced on the interior with two boards at approximately four feet and at the ground level.

Between Cabins 7 and 8, a whitewashed, upright picket fence shows rabbit-tight spacing with irregular paling heights of four to six feet (Figure 2.26).[73] Extra branches brace the bottom of the fence to about sixteen inches off the ground. A horizontal rail braces the palings on the inside of the fence. People could access the enclosure from the central shared path through a framed gate with a diagonal brace. The poor condition of the porch roof and boarded window suggest that the Cabin 7 was either abandoned at this time or damaged by a storm. A rear fence at Cabin 7 appears with four-foot-high posts on the north side of the house.

A fence or pen on the south side of Cabin 8 uses branch posts, about four feet high with a branch top rail and wood plank infill (Figure 2.21).[74] The two to three-foot-high fence enclosed or excluded livestock. A swing gate with upright planks provided access near the southwest corner just north of a tree.

H. Magnolia Plantation Modernization, 1950 to 1993

During the second half of the twentieth century, the landscape of Magnolia Plantation transformed from an inhabited building cluster where the domestic life of laborers linked directly to farm crop production, to an increasingly mechanized farm with a waning resident labor force. Cabins appear inhabited through the 1950s with the some of the plantation labor force relocating off the property to nearby wooden cabins along LA-119.[75] Over the next four decades plantation use shifted. By the 1990s, the Hertzog family engaged in corporate farming of the acreage and increased involvement in preservation of the physical heritage of the core plantation structures and landscape.

An annotated aerial photograph from around 1950 marks a transition to a mechanized and modernized agricultural and social complex at Magnolia Plantation (Figure 2.27).[76] The relatively low-quality image shows limited paths through fields and around the Quarters. Pencil lines demarcating the Quarters indicate a compact area of use, somewhat smaller than the early 1940s, possibly indicating field maximization and a reduced need for domestic and subsistence activities at the dwellings. Annotations enumerate field units used to manage agricultural production. At least twelve agricultural zones fell outside of the excluded areas of the Quarters, Gin Barn, Seed Barn, Stable, Store, Overseer's House, Main House, and other dwellings along the road. The following zones are shown within the current NPS boundary:

1. Field between road and Quarters
2. Mule Lot and eastern pastures
3. Fields east of the Quarters
6. Fields surrounding of the Overseer's House and orchard to the east (offsite)
7. Blacksmith Shop, tree row, and pasture to the north (offsite)

While episodic documentation limits a comprehensive understanding of landscape character throughout this time period, the aerial photograph sequence and plan L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan, do provide sound evidence of cultural landscape evolution. L5 1958 aerial and L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan capture in detail the plantation core landscape at this time when workers and animals were present. These useful graphics are detailed in the 1958 Plan narrative below.

Since mechanized farming required fewer hands, day labor workers, sharecroppers, and tenant farmers all decreased and largely ended in the 1960s. The Hertzog's diversified field crops and expanded the raising of cattle. Production still required day laborers who commuted to the farm, although a small number of the day laborers continued to live in the cabins until the 1970s. During this period, farm workers' lives and patterns of movement increasingly branched beyond Magnolia Plantation. While the Magnolia Store remained important, it no longer served the prior functions as the hub for provisions and social life. As noted in an ethnography of the plantation:

> *Family ties or social and economic interests created social networks that crossed town and plantation boundaries. Magnolia's cotton was ginned at the Cohen's place, Lakeview plantation, and Magnolia residents sometimes bought clothes and supplies at the Cohen's plantation store. Recreational facilities, such as juke joints, race tracks and baseball fields, work, and ties of kinship brought Magnolia tenants in contact with their neighbors and neighboring places, such as Lakeview and Melrose plantations.*[77]

River Road was included in the Louisiana State Highway System in 1928 and renamed LA-119 in 1955. The name LA-119, rather than River Road, is employed for the remainder of this report.

The 1955 aerial photograph reveals how the unfolding process of labor mechanization and the reduction and eventual elimination of tenant farming, sharecropping, and day laborer hand work resulted in landscape change at Magnolia Plantation (Figure 2.28a, b).[78] The fields and pastures expand with productive land use changes. With increased use of automobiles, plantation circulation patterns changed and foot traffic to the Store and elsewhere around the Plantation Yards lessened. The familiar "Y" shaped path west of the Quarters faded with decreased use and a new road appeared across the Gin Yard from Cabins 1 and 2 linking to a LA-119 access point near the Mule Lot. Changes in field usage also suggest that the corn crib was erected, or moved to its 2020 location, when the field west of the Overseer's House was clearly separated into north and south divisions by a circular-shaped entry drive and parking area. A corn crib photograph is included in the 1979 NR nomination at a location other than the 2020 location, though it is unknown if the corn crib in the photo is the same corn crib on site today.[79] By 1955, the Garage was present near the Overseer's House, as was a shed with gable roof and flat roof extension in the current location of the Cotton Picker Shed.

The process of vehicular accommodation and simplification of farm patterns continued in the late 1950s as depicted on L5 1958 Aerial and the larger contextual setting shown on the same photograph (Figure 2.29a, b).[80] Sources indicate that between the reclassification of the Louisiana highway system in 1955 and 1957, a portion of LA-119 near the southwest corner of the property was realigned.[81] The straightening of the road required the removal of the Seed Barn directly west of the Gin Barn and its reconstruction approximately 130 feet to the northeast. That shift in alignment also created a sliver of land west of LA-119, between road edge and river bank, that today is within NPS ownership.

The Main House and the Overseer's House reduced in practical importance as points of day-to-day farm management during this period. By the mid-1960s, the Overseer's House was unoccupied since the plantation no longer required a resident farm manager.[82]

L7 1972 Aerial documents evolution near the end of the period of significance (Figure 2.30a, b).[83] This useful photographic capture shows the landscape a few years before 1976, which signals the end of the period of significance. Changes noted on this plan include that the ruins of Cabin 9 are not highly visible as the cabin site has dense vegetative growth surrounding it. Note also that the Cotton Picker Shed, constructed at some point between after 1958, appears on this aerial view, replacing the two earlier sheds in this same location. The Long Barn, dating to 1963 to 1972, is also shown at the north edge of the gravel parking/drive area west of the Overseer's House and north of the Store. It was removed by Museum Contents between 1994 and 1997 as a non-contributing feature.

In 1973, following the death of Matt Hertzog, the fields were leased and farming of the plantation was transferred to a corporation. The last residents of the Quarters moved off-site during this transition.[84] The landscape setting and singular presence of the Main House also changed when a contemporary-style house and yard were constructed immediately west of the Main House around 1976.

By the late 1970s, many plantation landscape features deteriorated due to lack of use for farm operations. Trees self-sowed and grew along fence lines and in untended areas including at the property boundary along River Road. In response, the Hertzog's and local supporters embarked on a preservation campaign to record and stabilize the plantation outbuildings. The Hertzog family donated approximately 19 acres encompassing the Quarters and Plantation Yards including 21 buildings to a non-profit organization called Museum Contents, Inc. in 1976.[85] An organization focused on protecting

Natchitoches community artifacts, Museum Contents sponsored and obtained state funding for the stabilization of the brick cabins and the Gin Barn throughout the 1980s and early 1990s. Three years after it acquired Magnolia, the plantation was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.[86]

In 1989, the Family Farm Recognition Program honored Magnolia Plantation as a National Bicentennial Farm.[87] At the time, the various owners of the approximately 2,400-acre plantation included Elizabeth "Betty" Hertzog, Ambrose John Hertzog III, Norman Gunn, Mary Johnston, Marie Louis Spencer, Sally Boggs, Irma H. Laufersweiler, and Dr. and Mrs. Ambrose J. Hertzog. Betty Hertzog resided in the Main House after the death of her mother Lydia in 1988. Mr. Ambrose J. Hertzog, Jr., son of Dr. Ambrose, lived in the contemporary house directly west of the Main House.

A 1990 aerial photograph depicts the plantation landscape at that date (Figure 2.31).[88] Only small fields east and north of the Overseer's House are in productive use. Vegetation along fence lines within the plantation core grew freely, possibly due to dual desires to reduce maintenance and to buffer the private Main House grounds from the non-profit owned spaces of the Plantation Yards and Quarters. A row of trees also grew along the property edge along the River Road. The aerial also shows evidence of new grading with a distinct north-south swale in the center of the yards west of the Quarters. The swale does not appear in earlier documentation such as a 1982 aerial photograph.

The 18.23 acres of the Plantation Yards and Quarters were stewarded by the Museum Contents, Inc. for some two decades prior to the creation of the Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Despite the best efforts of Museum Contents and the Hertzog family, the period between the 1970s and 1990s appears to be one of landscape decline. Stabilization and repair efforts focused on buildings with extensive work undertaken at the Quarters and especially at Cabin 1. Removal of later Quarters building additions restored some of the historic landscape to an earlier period. A 1993 architectural conservation survey and assessment noted that although the cabins had been stabilized, vines and trees growing at the building foundations threatened their integrity.[89]

The establishment of the park in 1994 put in place the institutional framework for the later acquisition of the outbuildings and surrounding property by the NPS beginning in 1996. The Main House and farm land remain in private ownership of Hertzog family descendants and 2,400 acres of farm land is leased

to industrial farms.[90] Chapter 3: Existing Conditions continues the recent history of the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape from 1994 to the present.

I. Circa 1958 Landscape Plan Overall Description

By the late 1950s, the escalated pace of farm mechanization and simultaneous reduction of tenant farming, sharecropping, and resident day labor led to changed patterns in the core area of the plantation landscape. Mechanization likely resulted in increased leisure time for plantation residents. Circa 1960s photographs capture recreational landscape use including horseback riding and baseball, as well as glimpses of cabin gardens. L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan, illustrates documented features of the physical landscape of Magnolia Plantation in the late 1950s. This historic period plan relies on detail captured by a 1958 aerial photograph and a few ground photographs (Figure 2.38 and L5 1958 Aerial). These archival photographs from the period provide additional evidence of landscape character and features during this time of transition at the plantation. As the period of significance continues to 1976, landscape features added after 1958 are not shown on the 1958 period plan. The 1972 aerial photograph, included at large scale as L7, aids in filling that gap (Figure 2.30a, b).

I.1 1958 Spatial and Visual Organization and Views

In the later 1950s the core area of the plantation continues to exhibit overall spatial and visual organization, as evolved from the 1940s. The 18.23 acres of NPS Plantation Yards and Quarters area shape much of the core area of the plantation, with the Main House and grounds to the north as the accompanying core area parcel. L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan graphically captures documented spatial patterns and visual organization to include fenced fields, pastures and gardens, that add definition to generally open views across the Yard and through the Quarters. Zones of dense live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) canopy and boundary tree rows define specific aspects of the core property. In addition, smaller detailed spaces are defined around structures, adding more intricate patterns to the overall open character of the landscape. Property and land use divisions create angular patterns related to uses, extending from LA-119 into the property. Pastures and yards are concentrated to the north, while fields predominate to the south.

Land uses are shaped by contributing features remaining from earlier periods to include the Mule Lot south of the Store and a fence-edged defined Quarters zone. Relying on the 1955 and 1958 aerial

photographs and some ground photography, it is apparent that the families living in the Quarters use gardens and yard spaces around the cabins, though to a lesser degree than they did in 1941. Circulation around the cabins and from the Quarters to the Store and fields is evident in relatively narrow foot paths linking destinations and crossing fences at stiles. However, the aerials also show a decrease in foot traffic, which is a marked change in spatial organization between the 1940s and late 1950s as routes of foot traffic reduce in width and intensity. Conversely, increased cattle and mules shaped different circulation patterns along fence lines and along routes to a cattle watering pond in the pasture north of the Quarters. Also, increased vehicle uses reveal changes in vehicular circulation patterns. For example, a new parking area and delivery zone north of Store emerges during this time. The landscape opens to a number of wide viewsheds, achieved from LA-119, and within the core area from various positions.

I.2 1958 Topography

The natural systems and topography of Magnolia Plantation remain unchanged from the 1941 era, relating to the fluvial rivers system of the Cane River and the related fertile agricultural soils of Magnolia Plantation. To the west the Cane River banks are steeply sloped along the opposite side of the eastward shifted LA-119. The plantation core area lies on a relatively level terrace above the river. As seen in the soils map, very fine sandy loam underlays the plantation core area and much of the farm fields (Figure 2.1).

The core area is predominantly flat with some gentle slopes and swales between the Overseer's House and the cabins that convey stormwater from west to east toward a lower bayou. Efforts to facilitate drainage across the generally flat terrain occurred throughout the mid-twentieth century. Two distinct ditches drained surface runoff eastward to the fields between the Plantation Store and the Quarters. The roughly parallel ditches define the edges of the field east of the Plantation Store. Comparison of aerial photographs dated 1955 and 1958 reveals modification of the northern of the two ditches to create a direct connection to a pond to the east.

Indicators of modified microtopography remaining in 2020 suggest the locations of these swales, or drainage ditches, that previously facilitated storm water movement. Deduced from contemporary topography and historic feature locations, the swales shown on L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan intersect within the landscape capturing excess water in the nearly level fields. Primary north-south swales cut through the fields between LA-119 and the Quarters direct water to the center of the field. With no

significant grade change across the property north to south, water drained east along intersecting cut drainage to lower elevations.

Circulation continuity and changes are evident on L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan. An increase in automobile access altered plantation circulation patterns with a somewhat circular parking zone north of the Store and compacted earth or gravel area west of the storefront porch. A new route, possibly a road or a wide multiple-use path appeared across the open field to connect to Cabins 1 and 2 linking to a LA-119 at the south end of the Mule Pen. The familiar "Y" shaped path linking Store to Quarters remained and narrowed with decreased use.

Smaller topographic changes may have occurred as land uses, circulation, and buildings changed. In particular, when the entry drive and parking area appears north of the Store, the corn crib may have been moved to its 2020 location at that time. Similarly, as the two sheds (and later Cotton Picker Shed) were erected near the Overseer's House, as the southwest portion of LA-119 shifted the road east, and as the Seed Barn moved about 130 feet to the northeast, the ground plane likely changed.

J. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Circa 1958 Landscape Character

J1. 1958 LCA 1 Circulation

Circulation routes added between 1941 and 1958 record new patterns of on-site movement. By 1958 some simplification of beaten earth paths appears to reflect fewer residents and demonstrate more livestock movements. The number of narrow footpaths decrease and wider routes increase, which appears to document increased vehicle traffic between structures and across fields. The "Y" path alignment between the Quarters and Store remains, while paths between cabins connect to destination routes. West of the Overseer's House and north of the Store, an earth or gravel entry drive and parking area with a central planting area replaces half of a former fenced field. This new circulation route accesses the Garage and a shed with two rooflines, smaller than the current Cotton Picker Shed west of the Overseer's House (Figure 2.32).[91]

J2. 1958 LCA 1 Vegetation

L5 1958 Landscape Plan captures the vegetation palette, field and fence patterns, and individual trees documented in the landscape. The areas to the north appear to be in pasture reflecting increased animal

husbandry, while areas to the south are turf/ groundcover or fallow fields. This large turf/ground cover or fallow field area extends south and west of the Quarters to a cleared area around the Gin. Mown turf around the Store reflects change that accompanies fewer residents. Large live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) and water oak (*Quercus nigra*) trees at the Overseers House and at the north property edge remain and two large pecan trees flank the front of the Store. Other trees, likely volunteer growth of pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), and other scrub trees extend along the east boundary.

A circa 1960s photograph taken near the Blacksmith Shop shows a wood cage around a small tree likely added to protect that tree from damage by horses (Figure 2.33).[92] This practice of fencing-in desirable trees may have occurred elsewhere on the plantation in areas where livestock grazed or were penned. The image also reveals a mass of large trees, vines, and shrubs on the riverbank, likely providing soil stabilization and erosion control on that steep slope.

J3. 1958 LCA 1 Buildings and Structures

Buildings are space-forming elements and destinations that predict circulation within the plantation landscape. While many buildings remain from the 1941 date, specific moves, removals, or additions appear on the 1958 Landscape Plan. A list of LCA 1 buildings present in 1958 includes:

A. Blacksmith Shop
B. Pigeonnier
C. Corn Crib
D. Stable
E. Overseer's House
F. Garage
G. Shed
H. Plantation Store
I. Gin Barn / Cotton Gin
J. Cotton Gin Cistern
K. Cotton Gin Machinery
L. Dipping Vat (LCA 2)
M. Seed Barn
N. Outhouse at Store
O. Mule Lot Stable
P. Mule Lot Corn Crib

Additions to buildings and structures for this time period include the Corn Crib, a shed with two roof lines in the location of the Cotton Picker Shed with a slightly smaller footprint, and Dipping Vat, all related to plantation farm use and evolution.[93] The Corn Crib was likely moved to its current location during this time, and the two sheds were built in a nearby location (same location as Cotton Picker Shed today). All three buildings edged the circular gravel drive and parking lot, just north of the Store and west of the Overseer's House. The Dipping Vat was added to the area east of the Quarters and is addressed in the discussion of LCA 2 below. Moved buildings or structures include the Seed Barn, located farther north after the improved and realigned LA-119; the Mule Lot Corn Crib that was shifted east; and the Bell Tower that was moved slightly east. Small structures, no longer seen in 1958 include one outbuilding east of the Store (likely an outhouse). Cisterns for the Store and Gin remain in place. Some farm structures may have been set on foundation stones, which appear in the cultural landscape decades later after the structures themselves have been removed.

J4. 1958 LCA 1 Small Scale Features

Fences divide and define spaces and uses throughout LCA 1 as an important plantation landscape small-scale feature. While there is little detailed data on fence types, it is likely that many 1958 fences remain from 1941 and previous eras. Two notable exceptions are the improved board fence at the Store and a two-board fence west of the Blacksmith Shop, both captured in period photographs (Figures 2.33 and 2.34). To accompany increased livestock, fencing north and south of the Store changes with the addition of evenly spaced, white-painted boards for rails and facing-boards affixed to the road-side of posts. This was possibly done to improve the Mule Lot appearance for aesthetic purposes, as the Hertzog family increased mule sales during this time (Figures 2.34, 2.35).[94] Hogwire appears to make up the fence panel north of the Store while four boards comprise the fence south of the Store at this time. A photograph from the 1950s shows either a picket gate or the transition between the picket fence and a board and hogwire fence the near the Garage (Figure 2.32).[95] By the early 1960s, interior fences within the pasture adjacent to the Blacksmith Shop (also used for baseball) consist of two board rails and four-foot-high posts spaced at ten feet on center (Figure 2.36).[96] A small fenced area appears around the Bell Tower and extending northeast, perhaps as an animal pen. A group of small fenced areas is noted in the Mule Lot and another around the Blacksmith Shop.

Related to fence lines, stiles are in use to make connections between destinations. One stile over a pasture fence at the pecan tree, southeast of the Store, remains to connect a path to the Quarters. Boundary fences around the Mule Lot and pasture areas define those spaces.

The 1958 Store landscape includes additional small-scale features, other than fences. A bench, two gas pumps and related tank ports, and a bird house on a tall pole add interest and diverse functions to the roadside venue. These elements may have been added by the Hertzogs' as early as the 1920s (Figure 2.37).[97] The bird house, designed to shelter purple martins, serves as a traditional form of insect pest control at the popular gathering place. Also, electric poles and suspended utility lines continue to appear in the landscape.

K. LCA 2 Quarters Circa 1958 Landscape Character

K1. 1958 LCA 2 Circulation

Significant changes to circulation routes occurred in the Quarters during this time. Vehicular access shifted to the west to link the area to LA-119. The 1955 aerial shows a visible route extending westward from Cabins 1 and 2 to LA-119, then turning south to run parallel along the highway to a point north of the Seed Barn (Figure 2.28a). Another farm lane runs to the east of the Quarters along the eastern fence line, connecting the Quarters to the fields to the south.

With a decrease in occupancy, the Quarters pedestrian circulation, predominantly composed of compacted earth paths, shows a simplification from 1941 to 1958. While fence lines and trees clearly remained at Cabins 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, the size and complexity of Cabin yards was reduced from decreasing daily use and decreasing reliance on the landscape for subsistence. By 1958 Cabin 2 appears to be unoccupied, while the remaining seven cabins have smaller fenced yards and fewer swept yards. Narrower circulation routes internally linked the areas between Cabin 4 and 7 and Cabin 8. To the west, a portion of the Y-shaped pedestrian path leading to the Store remained, linking to the north and south of Cabins 3 and 4.

As seen elsewhere in the Magnolia landscape, the Quarters shows a less dense and less used network of pedestrian paths due to a decreased level of foot traffic. Overall, this decrease in labor occupancy is due to the increased mechanization of agricultural and reduced reliance on manual labor.

K2. 1958 LCA 2 Vegetation

1958 vegetation within the Quarters appears to show a combination of shade trees, fruit or nut trees, and gardens organized in fenced enclosures around the inhabited cabins. The tree count by cabin during this time is as follows:

Location	Tree Count
Cabin 1	7
Cabin 2	2
Cabin 3	1
Cabin 4	2
Cabin 5	4
Cabin 6	4
Cabin 7	1 plus 3 further to the east
Cabin 8	1 plus 1 further east
Total	22 plus 4 further east

L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan also shows four dense patches of vegetation, possibly crops or smaller trees, near Cabins 4, 7, and 8. The pattern of trees around the cabins in gardens appears similar, though less dense, than the trees shown on L3 Circa 1941 Landscape Plan. Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) and hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) are likely to be found along fence and boundary margins, while small fruit trees appear in the Quarters area.

In addition to fruit and nut trees, resident gardens continue to include food crops, medicine, and flowers with fenced boundaries. Photographs indicate a mixture of plants occupying the same beds such as sugar cane (*Saccharum* sp.) and cockscomb (*Celosia* sp.) (Figure 2.22).[98] The existing perennial bulbs in cabin yards include St. Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*), Spanish (or Texas) copper lily (*Habranthus tubispathus*), crinum lily (*Crinum* sp.), red spider lily (*Lycoris radiata*), Byzantine gladiolas (*Gladiolus byzantinus*), pink rain lily (*Zaphyranthes grandiflora*), autumn rain lily (*Zephyranthes candida*), and daffodil (*Narcissus* sp.), likely date to this period or remain from even earlier gardens. The Spanish copper lily, for example, is a short herbaceous plant with dark yellowish-orange to copper-colored petals that may date to the earliest years of Magnolia Plantation. While the species is found throughout South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean, local lore holds that the bulbs in the Cane River region were a gift from Spanish colonizers who established missions and presidios along the El Camino Real de los Tejas in Texas and northwestern Louisiana beginning in the late seventeenth century.[99]

Subtle landscape changes occur in LCA 2 by 1958. Swept yards surrounding the garden spaces decrease in size, perhaps an indication of smaller families or simply a change in the practice of keeping large areas free of vegetation. On the outskirts of the Quarters, mown areas increase with mixed species turf around Cabin 2 and to the west of Cabin 5. To the northeast of the cabins, a pasture area replaces a former crop field.

K3. 1958 LCA 2 Buildings and Structures

Buildings and structures remained relatively similar between 1941 and 1958. Plan L6. Circa 1958 Landscape Plan shows the gap of a missing cabin between Cabins 2 and 3, with Cabin 6 being a half cabin. Displaying part of the earlier pattern, the 1955 and 1958 aerial photographs reveal somewhat legible former building footprints of the historical, missing cabins within the Quarters. Both aerials also show seven two-room cabins and one half-cabin in place. Most of these cabins were serving as housing for the reduced on-site workforce for Magnolia Plantation by the mid to late 1950s.[100]

Five small buildings appear in the vicinity of Cabins 1, 3, 4, and 8, while Cabins 1 and 8 depict small additions to increase living space.[101] The separate small buildings may be sheds, outhouses, or perhaps outdoor kitchens. A small outbuilding east of Cabin 5, originally visible in 1941, is no longer visible by 1958, but does correspond with an outhouse in a similar location in later aerials. Later photographs show that two small structures were built in the field east of the Quarters between 1982 and 1994 and were removed between 2000 and 2003.

L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan also shows a new structure, a concrete Dipping Vat, added to the Quarters area during this time. Over several decades, cattle production increased as reliance on farm labor decreased. The Dipping Vat was critical in maintaining herd health as it was used to treat cattle for ticks. The linear Dipping Vat forces livestock to walk or swim single file through the five-foot deep, insecticide-filled reservoir. As shown on the plan, the structure is surrounded by fences, pens, and corrals to separate treated and untreated cattle. The structure may predate 1955, but it is first confirmed in its location along the fence line east of Cabin 7 in the 1955 aerial (Figure 2.28b).[102] Oral tradition suggests the structure exists at Magnolia Plantation in the 1930s or 1940s; however, a 1936 farm study fails to mention the dipping vat, nor is it clearly visible on the 1941 aerial photograph. This vat remains in place today in the 1955 location, without the surrounding fences, pens, or corrals.

K4. 1958 LCA 2 Small Scale Features

The Quarters area is spatially separated from the adjacent fields and pastures by long lines of fences to the east and west, and short segments to the north and south. This pattern of fences, with gates and perhaps some stiles, served to separate and protect gardens and yards. It is likely that with a reduced resident populace, the small ephemeral features within the landscape diminished including furnishings, tools, and other daily life related objects. Fences that no longer served specific purposes in Cabin yards may have also been removed. In one period photograph, a gate made of irregular pickets leans against a tree to form a passage into a hogwire enclosure (Figure 2.38).[103] Other fences within the Quarters are wood with widely spaced posts and a single top rail (Figure 2.39).[104] It is unknown if hogwire was strung under the rail, though wire fabric was probably used to complete the enclosure. Without wire panels to fully enclose the space, the fence would not have kept livestock in or out, only serving to demarcate space. Hogwire was likely used to effectively block people and animals from entering the garden and as a means to protect plants from trampling. Based on photographic evidence, residents appear to have gradually replaced wood picket fences with wire ones. Simple fences consisted of irregular lengths of lumber, with hogwire often strung between posts and tree trunks.

L. Persistence and Evolution Conclusion

In summary, the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape persisted and evolved for more than a century. Over the decades the land uses varied to a degree, though the occupied landscape remained legible until 1976. As the period of significance drew to a close, the shift to commercial farming and intensive mechanization resulted in a gradual reduction of resident labor and occupation of the site. By 1976, the result of mechanization yielded unoccupied buildings and a closed plantation Store.

The circa 1941 and 1958 period plans capture the active plantation landscape with productive farming and residential land uses underway. While details of this landscape deteriorated over the years from 1976 to the present, this historic documentation can serve as a basis for landscape preservation treatment recommendations, set forth in subsequent chapters.

Chapter 2 Endnotes

[1] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, pp.1-4 - 1-7.
[2] Girard, Jeffrey S. "Archaeology in the Cane River National Heritage Area: Inventory of Recorded Sites and Investigations in the Rivière aux Cannes Region," 2016, p.8.
[3] Smith, The Caddo Indians, p.7.
[4] Heritage Landscapes 10 November 2019 photograph of Soil Map, Field Operations, Bureau of Soils, 1921. CARI 001 Resource Management Records Collection.
[5] Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. "Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park," 14. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006.
[6] Heritage Landscapes 10 November 2019 photograph of Soil Map, Field Operations, Bureau of Soils, 1921. CARI 001 Resource Management Records Collection.
[7] Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. "Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park," 16. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006.
[8] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Turner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, pp.2-3 - 2-6.
[9] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Turner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, pp.3-1 - 3-2; Bowker Lee, Dayna, *Oral History and Ethnographic Interviews with Traditionally Associated People of Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, National Park Service, December 2015, p.4.
[10] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, p.4-67.
[11] Plat Map, "Districts North and South of Red River, Louisiana," 27 December 1889. Department of the Interior, General Land Office. CARI 001 Resource Management Records Collection.
[12] Hartrampf, Inc. and Office of Jack Pyburn, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park, Magnolia Plantation, Overseer's House, Historic Structure Report*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Region, 2004, p.1.
[13] G.S. Walmsley Map, 1858, published in Bennie C. Keel, *A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation*, 1999 (Tallahassee: NPS Southeast Archeological Center), original map in the collection of CGHRC.
[14] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, p.5-23. (cited as HSR). In discussions between Ambrose Hertzog and NPS in 2020, he indicated that family members regularly found Civil War bullets in the pasture northeast of the main house (east of the pecan orchard).
[15] USGS Topographical Map, 1944. CARI 001 Resource Management Records Collection.
[16] Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, p. 179-180.
[17] Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, p. 180.
[18] Aerial photograph, 1941, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[19] Heritage Landscapes 10 November 2019 photograph of Soil Map, Field Operations, Bureau of Soils, 1921, CARI 001 Resource Management Records Collection.
[20] Photograph, State Library of Louisiana; Photograph, CGHRC.
[21] Photograph, CARI.
[22] Photograph, CARI.
[23] Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. "Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park," 14. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006, p.146.
[24] Photograph, CGHRC.
[25] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.29.
[26] Photograph, ca. late 1930s, *Historic Resource Study*, CARI.
[27] G.S. Walmsley Map, 1858, published in Bennie C. Keel, *A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation*, 1999 (Tallahassee: NPS Southeast Archeological Center), original map in the collection of CGHRC.

[28] Photograph, CARI.
[29] Ambrose Hertzog II, photograph, 1941, in Christina E. Miller's *Slavery and it's aftermath*, CARI.
[30] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.33-34.
[31] Ambrose Hertzog II, photograph, 1939, CARI.
[32] The Garage has been misidentified as the Carriage House and Carriage Shed in earlier NPS reports. Throughout this document, the building northwest of the Overseer's House is referred to as the Garage.
[33] A corn crib was present as the Mule Lot in the 1940s; documentation is unclear if this is the same corn crib between the Store and Blacksmith Shop in the 1950s or the extant corn crib in 2020.
[34] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019.
[35] Ambrose Hertzog II, photograph, 1940, HFR, CARI-150.
[36] Photograph, Marion Post Wolcott, summer 1940, LOC, Washington, DC.
[37] Photograph, CGHRC.
[38] Ann Malone, *Draft Historic Resource Study*, Magnolia Plantation, NPS, 11.
[39] Bennie C Keel and Jason Raupp, "A Survey and Examination of Cisterns at Cane River Creole National Historic Park, Louisiana," 1998, 3-7 (Atlanta: NPS Southeastern Archeological Center).
[40] Ambrose Hertzog II, photograph, 1940, HFR, CARI-150.
[41] Photograph, State Library of Louisiana.
[42] Photograph, c1930s, Louisiana State University Library, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
[43] Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. *Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, 16. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006, p.116.
[44] Still image captured from DVD, historic footage by Dr. Ambrose J. Hertzog II, *Life on Magnolia Plantation, 1938-1950s: A Documentary of a Bygone Era*, (A Village Research, 1999).
[45] Photograph, CARI.
[46] Ambrose Hertzog II, photograph, 1940, HFR, CARI-150.
[47] Photograph, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[48] Photograph, Marion Post Wolcott, summer 1940, LOC, Washington, DC.
[49] This gate exists today and serves as an incidental entrance for facility management since the closure of LA-119, which was heavily used during the 2020 hurricane recovery operations.
[50] Photograph, State Library of Louisiana.
[51] Photograph, ca. late 1930s, *Historic Resource Study*, CARI.
[52] Photograph, Marion Post Wolcott, summer 1940, LOC, Washington, DC.
[53] Photograph, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[54] Aerial photograph, 1941, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[55] Three Photographs, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[56] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, in Christina E. Miller's *Slavery and its aftermath*, CARI.
[57] Three Photographs, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[58] E. Collins, "Negro Slave Quarters on Hertzog Plantation," November 1904, CARI-176 Carey Blanchard Collection.
[59] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.88.
[60] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.28, 29.
[61] Photograph, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[62] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.8, 24, 29.

[63] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, in Christina E. Miller's *Slavery and its aftermath*, CARI. Note: Sugar cane, cockscomb, and zinnia do not persist in the Quarters landscape in 2021.
[64] Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, p. 87.
[65] Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, p. 88.
[66] Photograph, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[67] [67] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.27-28.
[68] Alabama Natural Heritage Program, Cane River Creole National Historical Park Vegetation Assessment Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification of the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, December31, 2011
[69] Aerial photographs indicate that two outhouses appear in the field east of the Quarters between 1982 and 1994 and are removed between 1998 and 2003. A map drawn in 2000 for the CARI GMP shows the two outhouses.
[70] Scanned scrapbook page, Aunt Agnus Cabins, 1922, Melrose Collection, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[71] Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, p. 46-47.
[72] Scanned scrapbook page, Aunt Agnus Cabins, 1922, Melrose Collection, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[73] Photograph, Melrose Collection, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[74] Photograph, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Natchitoches, Louisiana.
[75] Dustin Fuqua, lecture, "Unlikely Paper Trail: Identifying the Sites and Inhabitants of the Tenant Quarters Community at Magnolia Plantation," 15 July 2014, posted by Jason Church, 16 March 2015, < https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/blog/an-unlikely-paper-trail/ > Accessed October 2020.
[76] Annotated aerial photograph, CARI-145 Betty Hertzog of Magnolia Plantation Collection.
[77] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.27.
[78] Aerial photograph, 1955, CARI 0001 Resource Management Records Collection.
[79] The corncrib in the 1979 National Register nomination may also be the extant corn crib on the privately-owned portion of Magnolia Plantation. As of 2020, an intact corncrib with hipped roof was located in the corner of the pasture area east of the Main House, near the pecan orchard.
[80] Aerial photograph, 1958, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[81] Aerial photographs document alterations in River Road at the southwest boundary of Magnolia Plantation at this time. Circa 1955 and Dec. 16, 1958 aerial photographs reveal alterations in the alignment of the road, location of the Seed House, and configuration of other nearby structures outside of the CARI boundary.
[82] Overseer's House HSR, 2004, p15.
[83] Aerial photograph, 1972, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[84] Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: National Park Service, 2019, p8-3.
[85] Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: NPS 2019, p8-3, 8-14-15.
[86] Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: NPS 2019, p8-15.
[87] Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: NPS2019, p8-4.
[88] Aerial photograph, 1990, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[89] Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: National Park Service, 2019, p8-15.
[90] Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park. Atlanta: National Park Service, 2019, p8-4.
[91] Ambrose J. Hertzog II, photograph, CARI.
[92] Photograph, c1960s, CARI.

[93]Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Turner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, pp.9-13 to 9-14. The Cotton Picker Shed appears to date to the early 1960s. The 1958 structure seen in an aerial photograph has a gable roof and shed extension, as one structure with one shadow line. The footprint in 1958 is smaller than the Cotton Picker Shed. It is unknown if components of that 1958 shed remain in the contemporary shed.
[94] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, CARI.
[95] Ambrose J. Hertzog II, photograph, CARI.
[96] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, CARI.
[97] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, CARI.
[98] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, in Christina E. Miller's *Slavery and its aftermath*, CARI. Note: Sugar cane, cockscomb, and zinnia do not persist in the Quarters landscape in 2021.
[99] Dustin Fuqua (Chief of Resource Management, CARI), Magnolia Plantation CLR 75% Comment Review Comments, October 10, 2020.
[100] G.S. Walmsley Map, 1858, published in Bennie C. Keel, *A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation*, 1999 (Tallahassee: NPS Southeast Archeological Center), original map in the collection of CGHRC; Aerial photograph, 1958, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[101] Note that several cabins have additions at this point in time to increase living space, comment provided by Carrie Mardorf, March 2020.
[102] Aerial photograph, 1958, CARI-102 Collection of Natchitoches Parish Aerial Prints.
[103] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, CARI.
[104] Ambrose J. Hertzog II or Ambrose J. Hertzog III, photograph, in Christina E. Miller's *Slavery and its aftermath*, CARI.

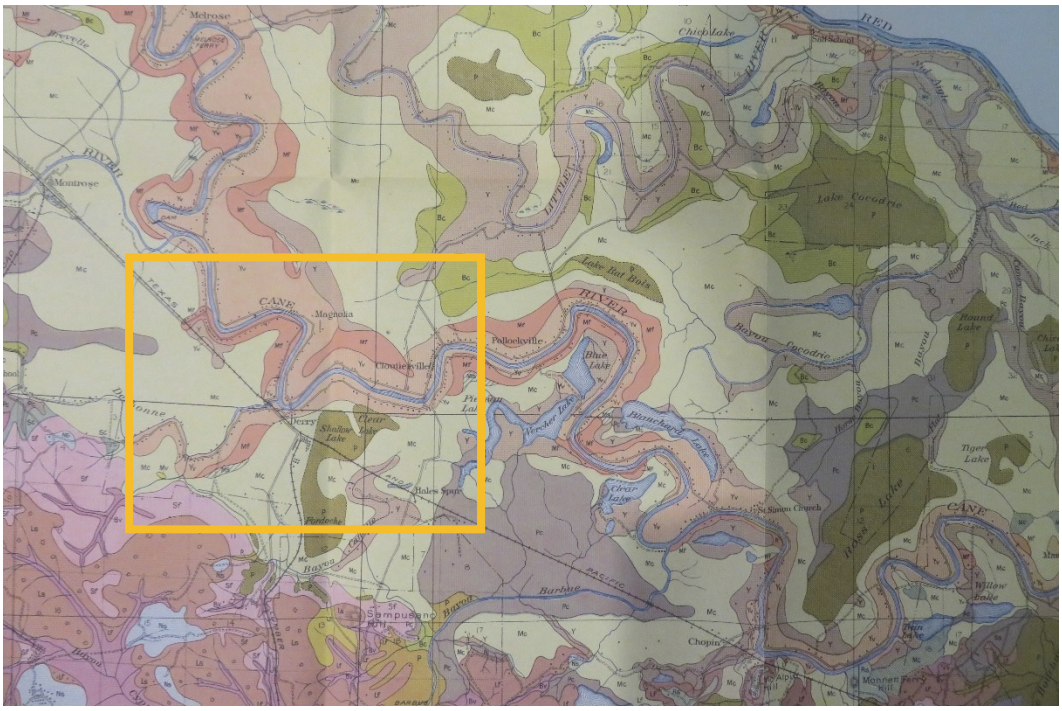


Figure 2.1a A 1921 soil map shows the undulating oxbows of the Cane River channel southwest of the Red River. Very fine sandy loam (shown in two shades of peach) is deposited along the banks of the Cane River with clay (in brown and pale yellow) in lowlands beyond the river deposition areas. Detail below. Courtesy CARI.

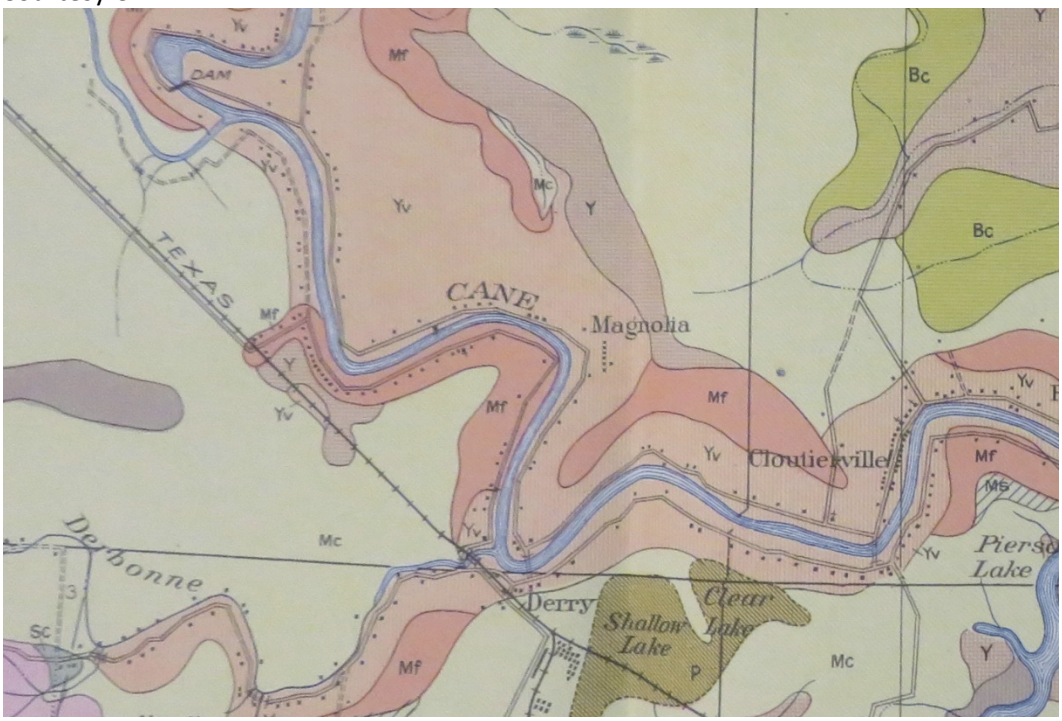


Figure 2.1b Depositions of Yahola, very fine sandy loam ("Yv" in pale peach), compose the soils immediately surrounding Magnolia Plantation. Dots locate buildings and structures, including the Cabins grouping, near the word Magnolia along River Road (LA-119). Courtesy CARI.

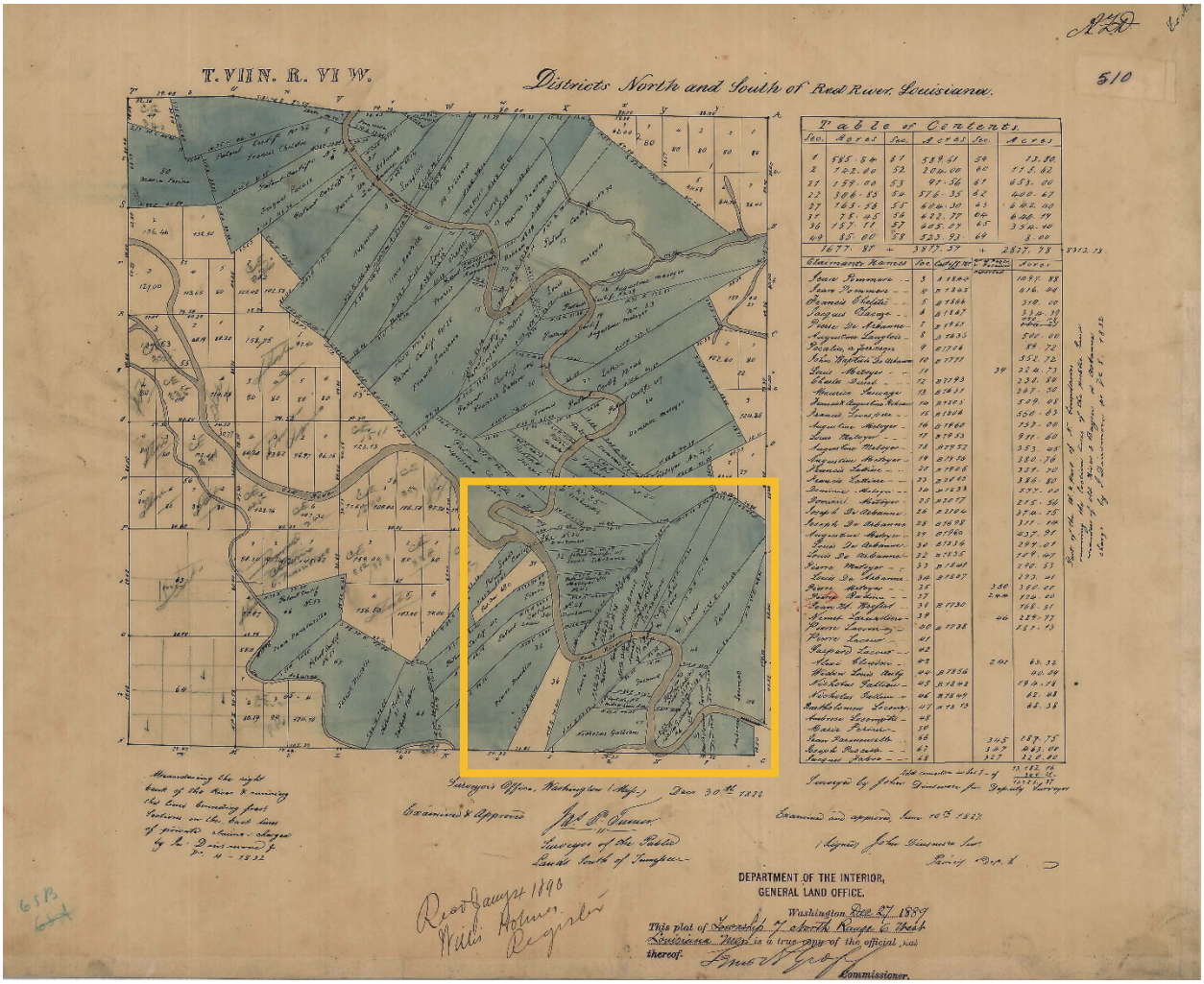


Figure 2.2a A 1889 plat map of properties derived from narrow French arpents along the Cane River shows the LeCompte and LaCour family names on tracts comprising Magnolia Plantation along the east bank of the river. Detail below. Courtesy CARI.

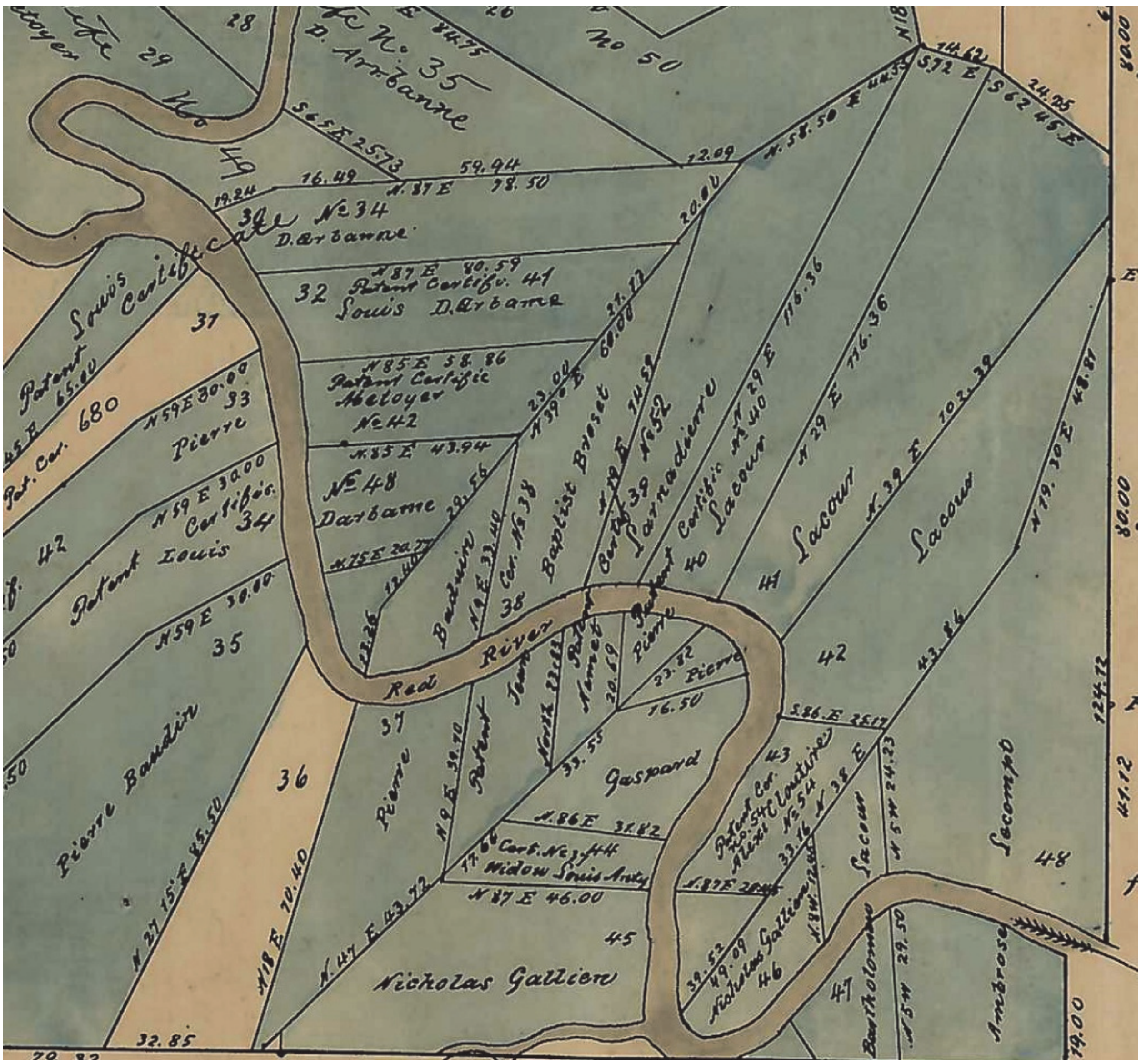


Figure 2.2b Detail of the LeCompte and LaCour holdings making up the core of the Magnolia Plantation along the Red River, which would later become Cane River. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.3 Detail from an 1858 plat map of Magnolia Plantation prepared by G.S. Walmsley illustrates the configuration of fields and roads, location and function of buildings and structures, and location of gardens and an oak allée at the Main House. Selected buildings are depicted in elevation. Fields and pastures are shown in blue and beige tones. The four by six rows grid of Quarters would have housed a maximum of 48 enslaved families in 24 buildings. Wide black lines are labeled as "LEVEE" indicating a historic flood control feature. See also Plan L2. Courtesy CGHRC. Courtesy CGHRC.

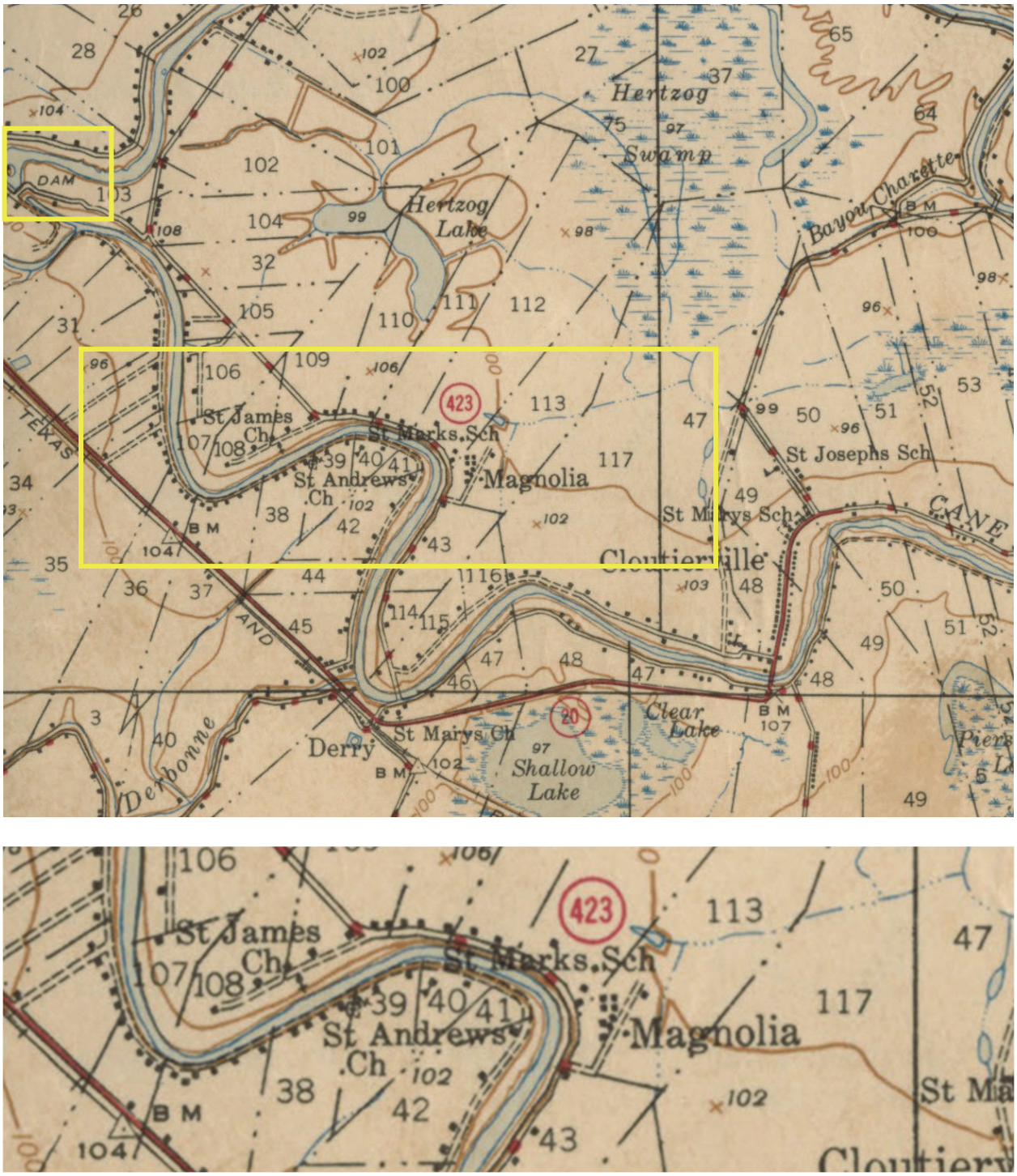


Figure 2.4 A 1944 USGS topographical map area and detail show contextual changes to the setting of Magnolia Plantation during the early twentieth century. A dam located upriver helped to create Cane River Lake. The abundance of individual dwellings along the main roads around the plantation indicates changes in the plantation labor force. The influence of plantation family persists through place names such as Hertzog Lake and Swamp. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.5a A 1941 aerial photograph provides the earliest comprehensive detailing of Magnolia Plantation landscape prior to modernization and mechanization of farm practices from the 1950s to the 1970s. Surrounded by productive fields and lowlands to the northeast, the core of the farm sits along the cut bank of a bend in Cane River. Detail below. Courtesy CARI.

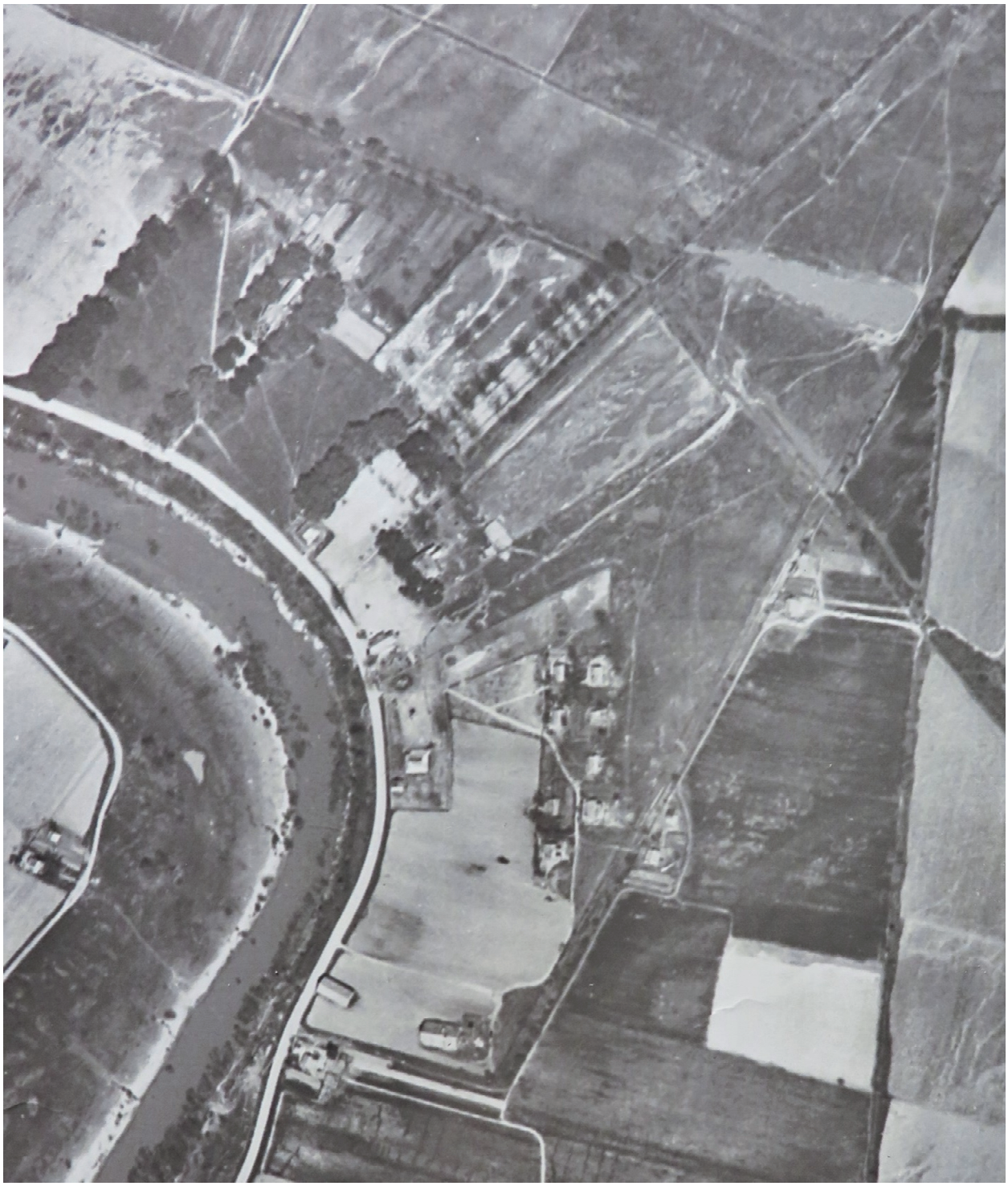


Figure 2.5b The 1941 aerial photograph of Magnolia Plantation core area shows farm roads, fences, and tree rows extending northeast from River Road (LA-119) to define fields, pastures, orchards, and residential areas. Paths formed by residents and livestock crisscross over the site. The landscape of the eight cabins of the Quarters depict pathways and vegetation of a domestic landscape. The Main House landscape, of large live oaks trees, lawns, gardens and orchard, appears to the north. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.6 A circa 1930s photograph shows the bell tower southeast of the Store rising above Mule Lot. Hog wire fence attached to railroad ties posts define the lot boundaries. Board gates are located along the road and in the back of the lot. In the distance, live oaks near the Overseers House create canopy density visible across the fenced fields of the Plantation Yards. A timber haystack stands within the Mule Lot. Courtesy LA State Library, LSU.



Figure 2.7 The bell tower visible in the distance expresses a more vernacular construction than the earlier milled construction. The log post steps of a stile attached to a tree enable people to cross a hogwire fence on the west side of the Mule Lot around the 1940s. The stile forms part of the primary path between the Quarters and the Store. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.8 A live oak row and fence north of the Blacksmith House and Pigeonnier define a visual separation, dividing the Plantation Yards from the field used for horses west of the Main House. The space between the tree canopy and fence offers some views between fields. White limewash shows on the lower portion of a large tree in the field. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.9 A photograph from the 1930s shows ornamental or possibly fruiting trees and shrubs growing near the Overseers House. A narrow path within the fenced yard connects to the entry steps and circumnavigates the building. Some pickets of the fence suggest intentional modification. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.10 Teams of mules and laborers plow fields at Magnolia Plantation in this photograph from 1941. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.11 Use of agricultural machinery around the 1940s still required many field hands, as shown in this photograph of hay baling in a field on the plantation. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.12 During the 1940s, the Store on River Road (LA-119) functions as a major social and economic hub. The covered cistern located between the front porch and irregular board fences along the road to the north collects rainwater and serves as a bench and table. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.13 A fence and outbuilding, likely an outhouse, define a yard east of the Store in the early twentieth century. The flywheel and cylindrical tank against the fence may have been a part of a water pump system. Courtesy LOC.



Figure 2.14 Simple split log poles and three strands of barbed wire make up a fence alongside a cotton field in the 1930s. Courtesy LSU.



Figure 2.15 In the early twentieth century, a combination of branches, split and milled posts hold four barbwire strands to form the fenced roadside boundary near the Blacksmith Shop. The curved posts are likely harvested and cut from Osage orange (Maclura pomifera), known as *bois d'arc*. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.16 Beyond the gravel roadbed of River Road (LA-119) in the foreground, board fences, a picket gate, and trees form the plantation boundary south of the store in the early twentieth century. The roof of a stable and the plantation bell tower appear in the yard southeast of the fence. A portion of stile step is visible at the right side of the image. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.17 Sheep maintain the rough turf east of the Overseers House, circa 1940s. Wire fencing on posts on the south and east sides of the yard differs from the picket fence along the west side, seen in Figure 2.10. This image also captures roof gutters and vernacular modifications to capture rainwater from both structures and feed the Overseers House cistern. Courtesy LOC.



Figure 2.18 Ornamental wire fencing and a preassembled tube and wire gate at the Main House related to the Overseer's House regular picket fence. Both of these contrast with utilitarian fences of the Plantation Yards and garden or pen fences of the Quarters, circa 1940s. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.19 Extending from the south a beaten path into the Quarters passes through a field of corn, squash and perhaps sweet potato in this circa 1940s view. The ruin of Cabin 9 is the first structure on the right. This scrapbook photograph is one of a set of three. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.20 Three images taken after the 1939 tornado show Quarters landscape details. Small, scattered fruit and nut trees and rough ground plane vegetation grow in the cabin yards. Vines climb the walls of the roofless Cabin 9, south of Cabin 8. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.21 Handmade fences of varied boards and wire form a perimeter around the Cabin 8 yard. A chinaberry tree grows inside of the fence. What appear to be sweet potato and squash plants grow in the foreground. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.22 This image of either Cabin 4 or 5 captures the abundant gardens with a variety of plants outside of swept earth and turf yard areas established and maintained by residents during the mid-twentieth century. Plantings in this view appear to be sugar cane and possibly celosia and zinnia flowers. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.23 Large trees and fences rise from a low turf ground plane crisscrossed by footpaths among the cabins in this November 1904 view. Other views document changes to this relatively open character, as more trees and fenced yards reduce the common space in the Quarters area. This day laborer era photograph is the earliest known image of the Quarters at Magnolia Plantation and captures an intact Cabin 6 prior to the 1939 tornado. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.24 Sunflowers grow behind the picket fence of vertical boards and gate at Cabin 3 around 1920.This view shows a fence with trimmed boards, unlike the fence on the scrapbook page, Figure 2.25 top and as seen in Figure 2.26. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.25 A series of photos taken in June 1922 show the yard and wood-plank porch of Cabin 2 with its resident, Aunt Agnes. A swept earth yard, rain barrels, and a ladder appear inside of the irregular picket fence with variation in fence post material and spacing. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.26 a. View of Cabin 7 and Cabin 8, circa 1920s. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 2.26b In this enlargement of the view above, vernacular picket fences employ irregular board lengths and low horizontal members, between Cabins 7 and 8 around the 1920s. Unlike the porch of Aunt Agnes (Figure 2.25 above) no porch deck is present. The irregular ground plane in the foreground include leftover garden bulbs.



Figure 2.27 An aerial photograph from around 1950 marks a transition to a mechanized and modernized farm. Fields are demarcated and numbered for agricultural management. Building clusters are excluded. Pencil lines circumscribing the Quarters show a compact area. Paths from the cabins through the fields to the northeast are no longer present. The following zones are shown within the current NPS boundary: 1. Field between road and Quarters; 2. Mule Lot and eastern pastures; 3. Fields east of the Quarters; 6. Fields surrounding of the Overseers House and the orchard to the east (offsite); and, 7. Blacksmith Shop, tree row, and pasture to the north (offsite). Zone 9 is annotated as "Beans," likely soybeans and representing a shift in crops and new agribusiness along with mechanization. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.28a A 1955 aerial photograph shows a degree of simplification of field arrangements, traces of prior pedestrian patterns, new cattle paths and features near the Overseers House, and the partial occupancy of cabins 1, 3, and 8 at Magnolia Plantation. The Seed House stands on River Road (LA-119) west of the Gin Barn. Detail below. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.28b A 1955 aerial photograph provides the earliest record showing the cattle dipping vat, highlighted with an orange box, near the fence line east of the Quarters. This image also reveals the incomplete grid pattern of the eight remaining cabins and the footprints of other brick cabins removed after Emancipation and during the early twentieth century. The ruin of one cabin, Cabin 9, appears as a vegetative blur south of the second row of cabins. Cabin 9 was a half cabin, similar to Cabin 6. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.29a This 1958 aerial photograph reveals larger and simplified field patterns around Magnolia Plantation than in years past. Numerous sharecrop house plots off the main road along the Cane River record a shift out of the Quarters of these families, while day laborers likely remain in the cabins. Detail below. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.29b This detail view of a 1958 aerial photograph depicts simplified circulation patterns across the Plantation Yards and the partially inhabited Quarters in locations with maturing trees and other vegetation. Main House landscape, with live oaks, lawn or pasture and what appears to be a small pecan orchard by the tree shadow forms, is shown to the north. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.30a This 1972 aerial photograph, shows the plantation and surrounding area along the Cane River. Details below. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.30b This 1972 aerial of the plantation core area, clearly depicting the boundaries of core from surrounding fields and adjacent river, is also included as annotated plan L7. The light tone of the beaten earth areas documents foot and animal traffic in the core area. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.31 A 1990 aerial photograph shows the core of Magnolia Plantation separated from surrounding fields by dense tree rows and groves that matured along fence lines. Large trees grow within the Quarters, the Overseers House, and the Main House landscapes. The remaining residential zone on the property at this time is the Main House and a house built to its west in 1976. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.32 A parking area by the Overseers House and Garage captures a combination of cars, trucks, and a mule cart. Locating garage buildings and parking adjacent to residences illustrates the transition to a mechanized farm landscape. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.33 A circa 1960s photograph in the field near the Blacksmith Shop shows a tree, possibly a pecan or live oak, protected by a board enclosure. The white post and plank fencing within the pasture is specific to areas with horses and differs from the more utilitarian fences of the plantation yards in the 1940s. This view to the west captures the densely riverbank with trees allowed to grow tall and aid erosion control. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.34 By 1961, evenly spaced boards and post facing boards make up the fence line south of the Store. A Mule Barn, no longer extant, is visible to the south. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.35 In 1961, the fence north of the Store consists of top and bottom boards likely with panels of hogwire. Small scale features by the Store include barrels, benches, gas pumps, tank ports at the ground level, and a cistern that is filled with a gutter drain pipe while advertisements appear in the Store windows. Sandstone serves as the bottom step centered in the front of the Store porch. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.36 Captured in this 1961 view, a simple post and board fence frames a horse pasture, separate from a ballfield area where children play, adjacent to the Blacksmith Shop. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.37 Two gas pumps with capped pipes showing an underground tank, perhaps installed as early as the 1920s, draw customers to the plantation store. Horses and automobiles in a photograph from 1962 indicate mixed modes of transportation at the time. A house for purple martins rises on a tall pole near the cistern downspout, on the north side of the porch, later relocated to the south. Note also the antenna and hanging electric supply line. Courtesy CARI.

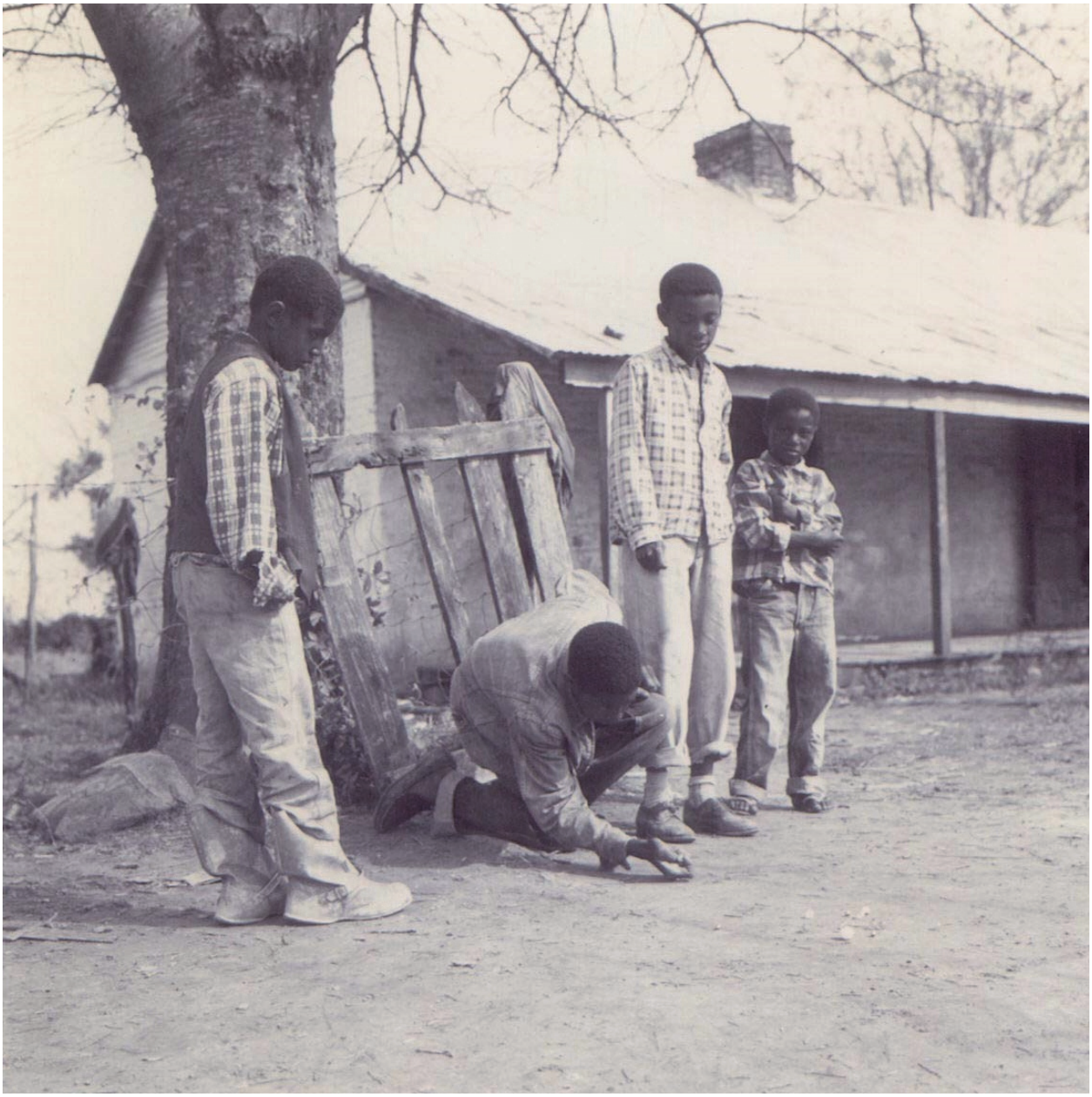
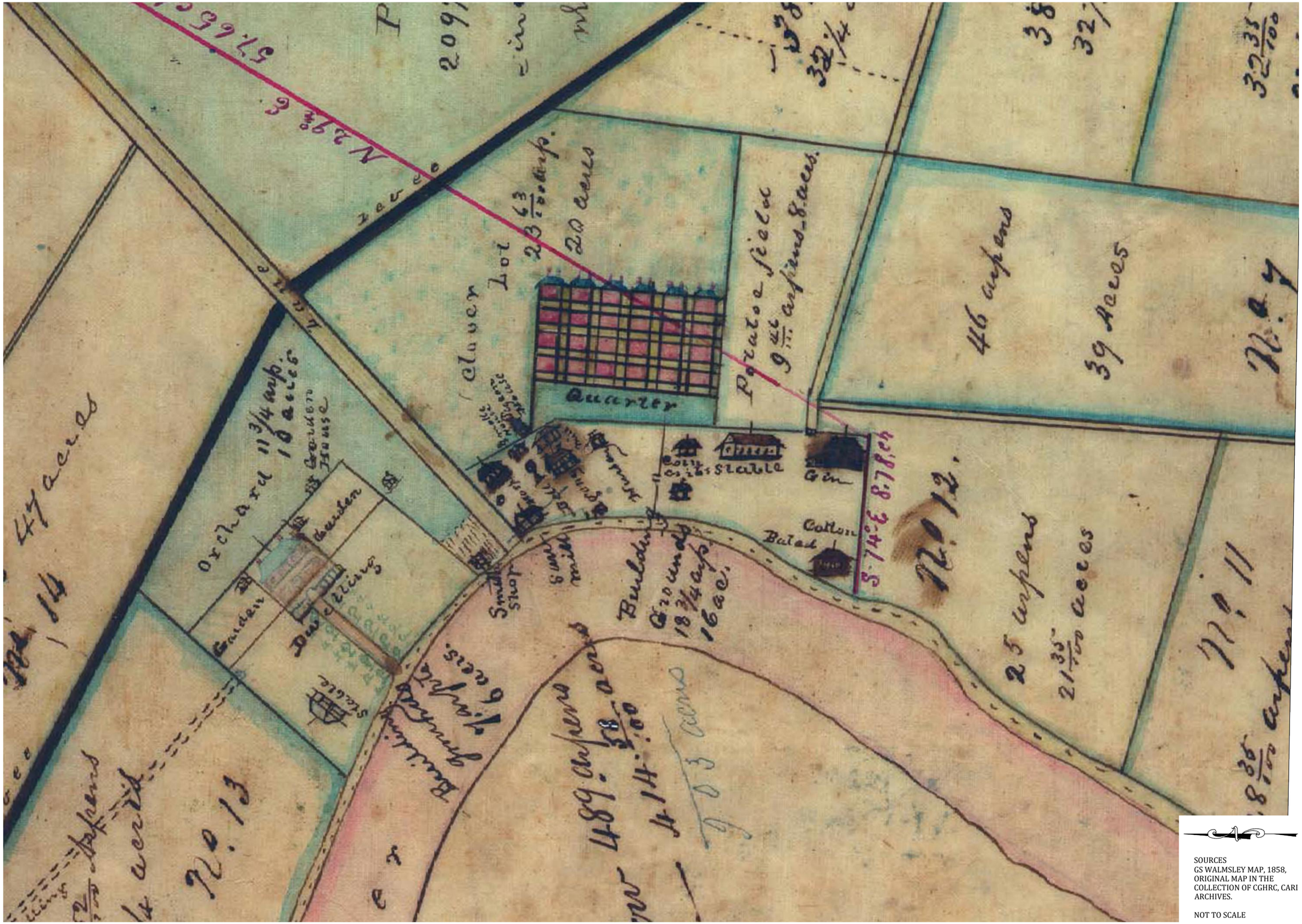


Figure 2.38 Boys play marbles on the swept compacted earth yard. Note the picket gate connected to a hogwire fence, using a tree for a fence post, in an image that may date to the 1960s. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 2.39 In the background of this ca. 1960s photograph, a fence at the edge of a shaded cabin yard depicts a board top rail between posts, and likely contains hogwire infill that is not discernable. The board and wire fence transitions to a picket fence. Courtesy CARI.

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SOURCES
GS WALMSLEY MAP, 1858, ORIGINAL MAP IN THE COLLECTION OF CGHRC, CARI ARCHIVES.

NOT TO SCALE



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



Heritage Landscapes LLC
Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners
Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

1858 Survey

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:

L2



SOURCES
1941 AERIAL, CARI ARCHIVES.

0' 30' 60' 120'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

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Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
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Drawing Title:

1941 Aerial

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:

L3

BUILDING/STRUCTURE KEY

1-9 CABINS

A. BLACKSMITH SHOP

B. PIGEONNIER

D. STABLE (UNVERIFIED)

E. OVERSEER'S HOUSE

F. GARAGE

H. PLANTATION STORE

I. GIN BARN/COTTON GIN

J. COTTON GIN CISTERN

K. COTTON GIN MACHINERY

M. SEED BARN

N. OUTHOUSE AT STORE

O. MULE LOT BARN

P. MULE LOT CORN CRIB

Q. BELL TOWER

R. OUTHOUSE AT QUARTERS

(Not present C. CORN CRIB, G. COTTON PICKER SHED, L. DIPPING VAT)

SYMBOL KEY

- DECIDUOUS TREE
- BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREE
- TREE MASS
- GARDEN/QUARTERS VEGETATION
- SCRUB/SHRUB VEGETATION
- PASTURE/YARD VEGETATION
- FIELD
- TURF/GROUNDCOVER
- COMPACTED EARTH
- GRAVEL
- FENCE
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE BUILDING
- BUILDING FOUNDATION
- CISTERN
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- NPS BOUNDARY

EAST FIELD ROAD

OVERSEER ROAD

RIVER ROAD / LA-119

PARISH ROAD

CANE RIVER

SOURCES
1941 AERIAL, HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 120'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

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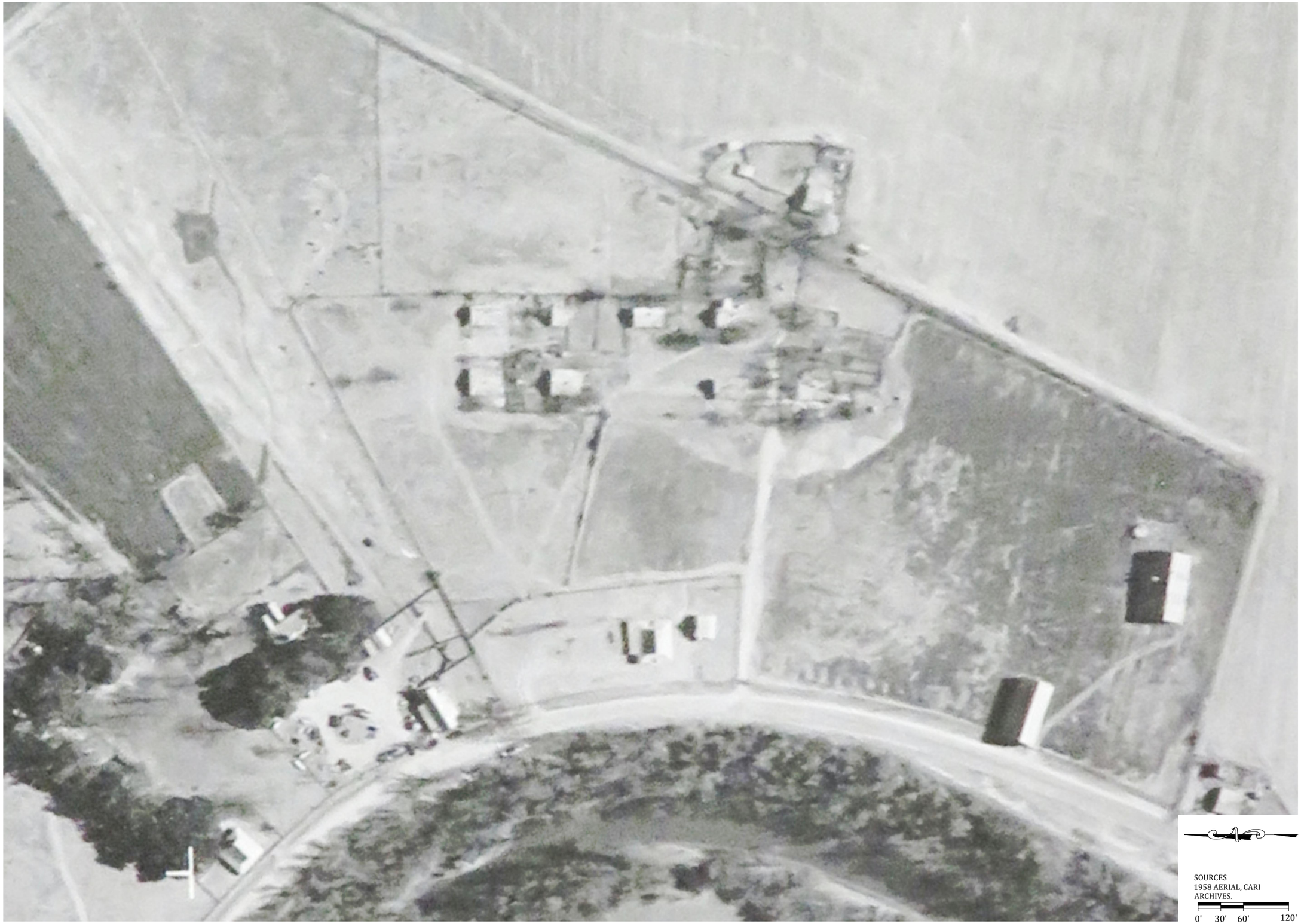
Drawing Title:

Circa 1941 Landscape Plan

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:

L4



SOURCES
1958 AERIAL, CARI ARCHIVES.

0' 30' 60' 120'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

1958 Aerial

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:

L5

BUILDING/STRUCTURE KEY

1-8 CABINS

A. BLACKSMITH SHOP
B. PIGEONNIER
C. CORN CRIB
D. STABLE
E. OVERSEER'S HOUSE
F. GARAGE
G. COTTON PICKER SHED
H. PLANTATION STORE
I. GIN BARN/COTTON GIN
J. COTTON GIN CISTERN
K. COTTON GIN MACHINERY
L. DIPPING VAT
M. SEED BARN
N. OUTHOUSE AT STORE
O. MULE LOT BARN
P. MULE LOT CORN CRIB
Q. BELL TOWER
R. GAS PUMPS

SYMBOL KEY

- DECIDUOUS TREE
- BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREE
- TREE MASS
- GARDEN/QUARTERS VEGETATION
- PASTURE/YARD VEGETATION
- FIELD
- TURF/GROUNDCOVER
- COMPACTED EARTH
- ASPHALT
- FENCE
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE BUILDING
- BUILDING FOUNDATION
- CISTERN
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- NPS BOUNDARY

LA-119

PARISH ROAD

CANE RIVER

SOURCES
1958 AERIAL, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 120'



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Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

Circa 1958 Landscape Plan

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:

L6



3 ▪ Recent History and Existing Landscape

A. Recent History and Existing Landscape Introduction

This chapter describes the existing condition of the landscape of Magnolia Plantation and summarizes the studies, plans, construction, and removals completed since National Park Service (NPS) management of Magnolia Plantation. The period between 1994 and 2020 encompasses initial involvement of the NPS in the Cane River region, the incorporation of part of Magnolia Plantation within the national park, and NPS stewardship of Magnolia Plantation to the present. During this time, the NPS initiated multiple inventories, studies, and assessments to develop baseline documentation which in turn informed a series of planning and management documents. Stabilization and repair efforts undertaken included construction of a parking area, formalization and surfacing of walking trails, and replacement of building components. A series of plan drawings graphically capture and illustrate this recent history and existing landscape narrative:

- L8. 1994 Aerial
- L9. 1998 Aerial
- L10. 2004 Aerial

- L11. 2009 Aerial
- L12. 2013 Aerial
- L13. 2016 Aerial
- L14. 2020 Landscape Plan
- L15. 2020 Trees
- L16. 2020 Fences

A group of 2020 photographs visually capture the property to support the narrative. Where applicable and informative, List of Classified Structures (LCS) numbers are provided in parenthesis within the landscape description.

B. Magnolia Plantation Recent History, 1994 to 2020

President Bill Clinton established the Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) and the Cane River National Heritage Area by signing Public Law 103-449 on November 2, 1994.[1] Including both Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, the heritage area and national park protect and preserve the plantation landscapes and the present the stories of families who lived and worked there over centuries. Both entities also steward and interpret the national significance of the Cane River Creole culture in the region. While the majority of Magnolia Plantation remained in Hertzog family ownership into the 1990s, the non-profit organization Museum Contents Inc. gifted ownership of 17.71 acres that now composes the park to the NPS in January 1996 as the first portion of CARI.[2] This property, Tract 101-01 of the newly established park, included the plantation yards and Quarters in which enslaved and later wage laborers dwelled but not the Store and surrounding landscape.[3] Presence of underground fuel tanks and contaminated soils, related to the Store's earlier use as a gas station, required that the Store parcel (Tract 101-02) be conveyed separately. Museum Contents facilitated the removal of the underground storage tanks and NPS accepted the additional 0.52 acres of Store landscape along with the additional responsibility of soil remediation in February 1998.[4]

Prior to the donation of the property to the NPS, Museum Contents, Inc. spent the majority of their time and energy on improving Cabin 1. The structure received the most extensive stabilization and repair efforts prior to 1993 with a new roof and replica porch. Museum Contents may have also removed some buildings and landscape features throughout the property, though features may have also been lost to neglect and deterioration. The Bell Tower and the Seed House both appear in the 1972 aerial photograph, included with the previous chapter, but are not present by 1994. The Long Barn[5], visible in

the parking area west of the Overseer's House in both the 1972 and 1994 aerial photographs, is no longer in place by 1998. Local knowledge recalled removal of the barn before NPS stewardship. At least one foundation stone for the Long Barn remained in or close to its original location near the Corn Crib after the removal of the shed. The Mule Barn (possibly Shadow LCS 92410)[6], a stable within the historic Mule Lot south of Plantation Store, also was removed around 1996.

B1. Early Studies, Planning Documents, and Investigations

A series of studies and investigations with recommendations to understand, assess, and plan the stewardship of Magnolia Plantation characterized the period of NPS management between 1994 and 2020. In general, the inventories, assessments, and stabilization work undertaken in the 1990s informed concurrent planning efforts. In July 1996, the US Senate Appropriations Committee approved $5.6 million for stabilization, repairs, and exhibits at the park.[7] The funds were for both Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, but initial funding at Magnolia went toward stabilization of plantation outbuildings in poor condition and a month-long archeological investigation.[8] The earliest studies and assessments included a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) conducted in 1996. The Level 0 inventory was completed in July and the Level 1 inventory was completed in December.[9] The 1996 CLI formally introduced the NPS to the historic value of the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape with a chronology, a list of potential contributing landscape characteristics and features, and an understanding of missing site features (Figure 3.1).

Concurrently, a building assessment reviewed and inventoried the twelve Magnolia Plantation buildings.[10] The study determined that most major plantation buildings were constructed circa 1840s with only the Store built during the post-Civil War era. The building assessments ultimately informed a series of future line item construction projects, known as Construction Package 101 and 103. However, before major planning and construction initiatives could begin, the NPS needed a baseline survey of the plantation conditions. In 1997, Nowlin & Associates (N&A) completed a topographic survey showing buildings, fences, and trees within the new NPS property (Figure 3.2). The survey recorded height and canopy width of 75 trees but did not include trunk diameter or identification. Annotations describe all fences present at this time with material and height; for example, "4.5' high board" fence extended southeast of the store and 3.5'-5.5' high hog wire and barbed wire surrounded the Overseer's House. In total, the survey captured the overall spatial organization at the early establishment of the park.

Archeological investigations published in 1999 also guided early planning efforts and uncovered and documented artifacts from prehistory, plantation, and tenant farming periods. The report developed a series of maps locating archeological feature types on the property. Distribution of structure, food, clothing and agriculture objects provides evidence of historic land uses and possible locations for missing landscape features (Figure 3.3).[11] Early ethnographic studies and reports supplemented understanding of the landscape and culture in 1996 and 2004.[12] The park also completed a cistern study in 1998.[13]

All of these early studies and investigations fed into the planning process for the *Cane River Creole National Historical Park General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement* (GMP), which was completed in 2001. The document provided an overall approach to historic property management and interpretation for the park. Public meetings beginning in 1998 provided the NPS an opportunity to share progress on the planning process and gain understanding of local residents' desires for learning at and about the plantation. The GMP published five management and interpretation alternatives with varied levels of intervention. The preferred alternative preserved and rehabilitated the landscapes and buildings and established "a quality onsite visitor experience and strong partnerships with the community."[14] The GMP proposed that Magnolia Plantation provide a "discovery experience" learning environment with brochures, wayside exhibits and/or audiotapes, in contrast with the active interpreter-led programs and demonstrations proposed at Oakland Plantation. Recommended new construction at Magnolia Plantation included a parking area for 10 cars and 2 buses sited in the historic Mule Lot (Figure 3.4). Development at Magnolia would be a very small area of the site and would solely be for visitor parking and access. Visitor orientation and restrooms would be provided at the Store, while a pathway system would be developed to help visitors navigate throughout the site.[15]

As provided in the Draft GMP, interpretation and rehabilitation of the Plantation was to "reflect the appearance of the plantations when they were still family-run plantations reliant on a resident labor force (circa 1948)." This draft language was presented to the public in June 2000 with a 60-day comment period. The final GMP published in January 2001 revised the date of interpretation to circa 1960 for both Magnolia and Oakland Plantations. The reasoning for this revision as presented in the Comments and Reponses section of the Final GMP follows:

Based on concerns expressed by the public and Louisiana state historic preservation officer, the preferred alternative has been modified to propose the date of significance to be circa 1960. By doing this, the potential impacts on structures from removing, altering, or moving them to a pre-1960 location would be eliminated. Other ways can be used to illustrate to the public what the landscape may have looked like at different times in its history. Also, the use of the 1960 date for making cultural landscape management decisions does not prevent the park from depicting how life on the plantation changed from one period to the next through programs and interpretive exhibits. Using a 1960 date also does not commit the National Park Service to perpetuating building treatments used during the 1950s that are damaging to the structure. The paramount responsibility is to protect the resources, even if that means in certain circumstances that certain building treatments would reflect an earlier timeframe. [16]

As the park worked its way through the GMP planning process, Magnolia Plantation was opened to the public with limited weekend tours beginning in the spring of 1998. Distinct in the NPS system as a recent acquisition, rather than waiting for park to complete rehabilitation and interpretation work, visitors were provided an opportunity to observe investigations and preservation efforts underway.[17] From 1998 to 2008, all buildings at Magnolia were preserved, first through initial stabilization funding and later as part of Construction Packages 101 and 103. Some of the earliest NPS stabilization efforts focused on Cabins 2-8 with structural, walls, and roof repair and removing trees from cabin foundations.[18] Historic Structures Reports for the Magnolia Store (1997), Blacksmith Shop, Pigeonnier and Garage (2003), Overseer's House (2004), and Gin Barn (2004) were completed at the same time.[19]

Magnolia Plantation was designated as a National Historic Landmark in December 2001 with national significance under Criterion 1, association with significant historical event, and Criterion 5, composed of integral parts that collectively form an entity of exceptional historic significance or illustrate a way of life or culture. The Plantation was deemed significant for its connection with the US agricultural economy through plantation and sharecropping and tenant farming eras. In addition to the large and intact plantation complex, the nomination particularly references the surviving slave cabins in the Quarters and Cotton Gin.[20] A year later in 2002, a Historic American Buildings Survey was completed of the Big House (Main House) including survey of the house garden and back yard, as well as some of the NPS-owned outbuildings.[21]

B2. Early Preservation and Construction Activities

Based on the approved 2001 General Management Plan, construction for visitor access began in earnest at Magnolia Plantation shortly thereafter. Three CARI line item construction packages were contracted with an NPS preservation crew undertaking smaller projects. The packages included projects for both Oakland and Magnolia Plantations. Projects for the Magnolia Plantation property include:

- Construction Package 101, Summer 2004: construction of the visitor parking lot; rehabilitation of the Store for visitor services; upgrade site utilities
- Construction Package 103, 2006-2008: architectural rehabilitation of Overseer's House, Cabins, Gin Barn, and Blacksmith Shop.[22]

Additional details on the work completed in these construction packages can be found in Chapter 9 of the 2019 Historic Resource Study.

As work on the buildings progressed, a trail system was also planned for Magnolia. Previous trail alignments had been designed by the NPS Denver Service Center in 1997 and 2000 (Figures 3.5 and 3.6). The first was a curvilinear design connecting the various elements of the site, while the later was a more segmented and linear alignment. Ultimately, the park ended up with a blend of the two via a mown path trail system. Aerial photographs from 2004 to the present show mown paths linking landscape features and buildings. This mowed looping trail system with some sections of rubberized matting deliberately connects plantation features in a logical progression through the landscape.

By 2003, the NPS removed two outhouses built between 1982 and 1994 east of Cabin 5.[23] The former outhouse locations gathered accumulated soil, site debris and architectural material removed from the Cabins. The resulting "archeomound" fostered volunteer trees and added maintenance demand. Park staff began removing the collected materials and volunteer vegetation on the mound in 2016 and completed the removal of the debris pile in 2020.

The NPS restored cisterns at Quarters cabins 3, 4, and 7 in 2010. In the same process, the two cisterns at the northwest and east corner of the Overseer's House were filled rather than being restored.[24] As initial major construction projects came to a close in 2008 and specific preservation work tapered off around 2010, the park became more reliant on in-house staffing supplemented by specific project funding to continue landscape and building preservation and repairs.

A series of six aerial photographs document the removals and additions to the Magnolia Plantation landscape with aerial photographs from 1994, 1998, 2004, 2009, 2013 and 2016 as well as August 2005 views from a powered parachute (Figures 3.8 to 3.16).[25] Aerial comparisons, across these recent decades, aid in understanding the high degree of continuity in overall park spatial organization and land uses for the past 30 years. They also document specific changes. These aerial photographs are included as captioned figures and as 11x17 plan drawings L8 to L13.

B3. Recent Guiding Documents, Plans and Improvements

While the *General Management Plan* (2001) set the early foundation for the park, additional plans and studies continued park development. A 2004 NPS paper, "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation" prepared by Muriel Crespi, documented interviews and revealed the complex cultural landscape at Magnolia Plantation.[26] From 2006 to 2019, the park completed the following baseline documents: *Long-Range Interpretive Plan* (2006), *Cultural Landscape Report Part 1* (2006), *Quarters Historic Structure Report (2013),* [27] *Foundation Document* (2015), *Ethnographic Study (2017),* [28] *Wayside Exhibit Plan (2018),* and *Historic Resource Study* (2019).

The park's long-range interpretive plan (LRIP) completed in 2006 outlined primary interpretive themes and visitor experiences for Magnolia Plantation.[29] Continuing the "discover experience" approach resolved in the GMP, the LRIP recommended locations for new focused learning features. The plan identified specific structures for interior interpretive features including the overseer's house/hospital, plantation store, two quarters, and the Gin Barn. Recommendations thoughtfully presented aspects of the life and activities of the plantation over time though often presented mixed periods of interpretation to concurrently depict the landscape as it would have been in 1860, 1940, and 1960.

Completed in 2006, the Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) Part 1 provides landscape history, analysis and preservation recommendations for the property.[30] This document exhibits few historic documents, with limited photographs and detailed mapping. The 2006 CLR recommendations align with the GMP, focusing efforts on rehabilitation of missing and deteriorated circa 1960 character and features, rather than the mid-1970s. A 1958 period plan provides some guidance in historic organization and alignments (Figure 3.5). Recommendations from the CLR Part 1 include:

- Repair and reconstruction of fence lines with gates and stiles in historic locations recapture historic spatial organization.
- Presentation of historic bare soil walks may be stabilized with polymer or cement blended into the soil. Reestablishment of the historic practice of rainwater collection from building roofs and maintenance of existing drainage ditches can alleviate some stormwater issues.
- Distinct ground plane treatment differentiates between historic land uses with infrequently mown meadow grasses in historic cultivated crop lands, shorter mown lawn in pasture areas, and cement or polymer-mixed bare soil in animal pens and corrals.
- Partial restoration of mixed garden vegetation at the Overseer's House and Quarters Cabins 1 and 2.

List of Classified Structures (LCS) condition assessments were completed in 2014, which itemized historic and contributing features with subsequent updates in 2018 and 2019.[31] The recent updates captured additional contributing landscape features through the period of significance.

The 2015 *Foundation Document* provides a groundwork for planning and management decisions, outlining core values, purpose, significance and features and identifying dynamic trends, issues and opportunities. [32] Identified resources, values and features essential to the park character and significance include Magnolia Plantation's character as a "vernacular cultural landscape… set in a rural, agricultural setting."

The *Historic Resource Study*, completed in June 2019, provides a comprehensive understanding of Magnolia Plantation's social and physical history. Following the NHL nomination, the study notes the period of significance from 1835 to 1939, "when the plantation owners ceased cotton ginning, although Magnolia continued to operate as a plantation past this date," but explains that park management and interpretation targets the 1960s.[33]

Throughout these planning efforts, the landscape and buildings were maintained by park staff with limited project funding. By 2014, efforts to improve accessibility included installing rubber trail mats in select locations and an accessible lift at the Overseer's House.[34] The porch and adjoining trail at Cabin 1 were also rebuilt in 2014-2015 to increase accessibility with the addition of ramps.

In 2017, the park continued improvements to the Magnolia landscape trail system by re-installing rubber trail mat at the visitor parking lot, adding a gravel path and wood footbridge to link the parking lot to Cabin 1, and installing one 18-inch culvert along the gravel access drive southeast of the

Overseer's House.[35] These trail locations adhered to the 2006 CLR recommendation for a loop generally following Plantation Era footpaths in the core of the site and the new gravel path along the 1950s road alignment that linked Cabin 1 to LA-119 (Figure 3.17). The goal of the trail project was to improve accessibility of existing mown trails which were dotted with fire ant mounds and frequently flooded. Existing trail mats, previously laid on unprepared bare soil, were reinstalled on a prepared trail surface. As described in the project Section 106 compliance package, ground preparation included surface leveling with disturbance not to exceed two inches and the addition of compacted limestone aggregate to fill low areas. This fill ranged in depth from one to ten inches with "tapered edges to blend into surrounding grade." This base was then overlaid with a geotextile fabric and topped with rubber Safety Deck II mat held in place with six to eight-inch plastic and metal spikes. A final compaction effort leveled the surface. The footbridge was constructed with lumber and secured to concrete blocks with no footings or ground disturbance. [36] Executed with AmeriCorps volunteer labor, constructing this important access project proved challenging with a youth volunteer crew. Near project completion, volunteers were directed to deposit and spread gravel between the footbridge and Cabin 1 to complete that trail segment without rubber mats. In terms of durability and appearance, the trail mat system has fallen short of expectations, not providing an even and level path surface. The gravel trail portion is difficult to maintain as it lacks sufficient subbase or edging so gravel spills beyond the intended path width and weeds quickly infiltrate the path surface. Regardless, the path as improved provided visitors with more direct access to the Quarters, and provided a direct route back to the parking lot.[37]

Between 2017 and 2019, another campaign of preservation actions at the Quarters replaced bricks and repointed exterior elevations on all cabins.[38] Red square metal plates are visible on the exterior cabin walls from tie rods installed on the Cabins during this time.[39] Porches consisting of new posts, roof frames, and metal roofing panels were added to Cabins 2 to 8 in 2018 and 2019 while porch floor framing and decking was omitted. Masonry and carpentry work were completed by skilled staff from the NPS Historic Preservation Training Center. Archeological monitoring was performed by CARI staff and resulted in several new archeological finds related to daily life at the cabins, namely evidence of food remains, and uncovered elements from games and gambling.

A surface of gray, compacted crushed limestone gravel topped all roads and the visitor parking area in fall of 2018. The gray crushed stone surface of the visitor parking area and access road differentiated these new circulation patterns from the historic patterns, historically paved in tan-colored chert. The

2004 rustic log wheel stops at parking spaces were replaced with concrete wheel stops for a more formal appearance and to reduce fire ant mounds and visitor tripping hazards. The wood park entrance sign was replaced with a metal sign in early 2019. An interpretive sign was added to the parking lot area in 2017, while "this way to trail" wayfinding signs were added in 2017 to 2019.

During 2018 and 2019 episodic vegetation management campaigns cleared recent volunteer growth. In spring of 2018, preservation arborists from Blue Ridge Parkway pruned large specimen trees, focusing on the live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) near the Overseer's House and Blacksmith Shop, and removed small trees from interior fence lines. The live oak pruning work increased tree canopy resilience to the high winds of the two 2020 hurricanes. Over the winter of 2018 to 2019, a forestry contractor removed over 120 trees under 25-inch DBH along with vines and shrubby undergrown on the north and east property lines in the Quarters area. During Summer 2019, the large pecan tree along LA-119 near the Store, known as the "pitty pat tree", was lost. The large diameter trunk remained from Summer 2019 to November 2020, marking the tree's former size and location. Prior to August 2020, NPS attempted to propagate saplings from the remaining genetic material; however, winds from Hurricane Laura removed the last living sprout from the tree and the stump was subsequently removed in November 2020. Despite this recent tree work, the trees at Magnolia continue to shed limbs and pose safety hazards to staff and visitors. At least three large tree limbs east of the Overseer's House and south of the Quarters were lost during the summer of 2020. Several trees and large limbs also came down along LA-119 and along the east property line as a result of Hurricane Laura in late August 2020.

Outside of the park boundary, additional landscape changes have impacted the site. Significant adjacent action is taking place along the Cane River as hydrological processes proceed to undermine the bank of LA-119 to the west of the Store. Issues of road collapse were first noted and reported to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) in November 2017 following increased flooding. Further deterioration necessitated road closure in front of the Store in June 2018, and a permanent barricade was installed summer 2019. Since 2017, approximately 3 to 5 feet of ground has been lost in the area as the embankment along the river destabilizes, making Magnolia Plantation accessible only from the South. A second area of road collapse has begun to the south of the visitor parking lot access drive. Should this deterioration progress into LA-119, visitor access to the park will be blocked from both north and south. While the park has attempted to find a possible solution to the road collapse through a variety of partners, LA-119 remains within DOTD jurisdiction and state funding for

any type of bank stabilization or repair of the road in its current alignment is not anticipated in the foreseeable future. In April 2021, DOTD announced that $5 million had been secured for a realignment project, but the funds were not enough to repair the embankment slide along the current road.

Acknowledging future needs at Magnolia, the park has several projects in planning and design phases as of 2020. These projects include the replacement of the trail mat and mown path system with paved asphalt, rubber surfaced walks; reestablishment of field drainage ditches; and installation of waysides throughout the property. Additional description of ongoing and planned projects at Magnolia Plantation is included in Chapter 5 of this report.

B4. Hurricane Laura, August 27, 2020 and Hurricane Delta, October 9, 2020

During the Summer of 2020, Hurricane Laura hit the Louisiana coast as a Category 4 hurricane on Thursday, August 27. The historic storm made landfall near Cameron, approximately 170 miles south of Natchitoches, closely following the track of Hurricane Rita in 2005. The storm retained its intensity as it made its way up the western side of the state and was still a Category 2 hurricane as it entered Natchitoches Parish and remained a Category 1 hurricane as it approached the Louisiana-Arkansas border. As the largest hurricane to hit the Louisiana coast since the 1850s, the storm changed the existing landscape at Magnolia Plantation as this CLR was being written.

Hurricane Laura toppled and uprooted several trees along the property boundaries and interior fence lines, large limbs and branches were torn from trees and strewn across the landscape, and vehicular access to the plantation was blocked for a few days until LA-119 could be cleared. As trees fell, fences were broken as well. Building damage was minimal, mainly limited to minor roof damage on the north Gin Barn dormer and a broken fire suppression pipe inside of the Gin Barn that sprayed the wood cotton screw press with water for nearly 48 hours.

Following the hurricane, the NPS Arborist Incident Response (AIR) team was deployed to assist the park with stabilization and recovery efforts. The 4-person team spent approximately 10 days cutting and removing trees from the Oakland and Magnolia landscapes with chainsaws, wood chipper, aerial lifts, and tractors with assistance from park staff and additional staff from Vicksburg National Military Park (Figures 3.18 to 3.27). Upon their departure, Magnolia Plantation reopened to the public on September 21, though several trees remain down along the east property line, east of the Quarters. The park

secured $160,000 in emergency repair and rehabilitation funding to remove the remaining trees through contracts in fall and winter 2020. Due to the widespread tree losses, the existing 2020 landscape witnessed considerable change. Those changes to vegetation were recorded and used to update Plan L14 2020 Landscape Plan to show removed trees and the current status in October 2020.

Only six weeks after Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Delta made landfall in nearly the exact same spot along the Gulf Coast as a Category 2 storm on Friday, October 9. Though the storm was quickly downgraded, the storm brought tropical storm force winds and extended periods of rain to Magnolia Plantation, flooding the grounds and saturating soils. Damage from Delta was relatively minor with additional tree limbs and branches down, minor roof damage to the Blacksmith Shop, and damage to some shutters at the Overseer's House.

C. Magnolia Plantation Existing Landscape

The following section describes, with supporting figures, the NPS 18.75-acre holding of the historic 2,570-acre plantation. In 2020, LCA 1 Plantation Yards and LCA 2 Quarters serve as preserved visitor landscapes with various types of interpretation. Within the NPS property, numerous buildings, tree rows and fences communicate historic landscape character. Adjacent lands are in compatible, commercial agricultural use. Plans L7. 2016 Aerial, L8. 2020 Landscape Plan, L9. 2020 Trees, and L10. 2020 Fences provide graphic reference for this narrative. Also included in this section are lists of extant historic features which contribute to the historic landscape.

The Main House and the majority of the agricultural fields that were a part of the historic property remain in private ownership. However, significant changes on the privately-owned portion of the plantation have recently taken place. Since early 2019, the family has attempted to clean-up the grounds, which resulted in the removal of a garage/chicken coop, garden, and several fences, generally due to decline in condition. The Cook's Cabin has also partially collapsed, and the property was especially hit hard during Hurricane Laura when a large pecan tree fell on the back ell of the Main House. Debris piles of the former buildings and fences can be seen throughout the landscape, along with several downed trees and branches from the storm. There has been an overall loss of historic features, spatial organization and a related decline in integrity since 2019.

C1. Spatial Organization 2020

Paths, buildings, vegetation, and fences divide the primarily open landscape. The plantation yards of LCA 1 respond to the arcing form of LA-119 and the Cane River, with buildings, tree lines, and the parking lot aligned to the arced highway. Linear fences and tree lines at irregular angles subdivide the interior landscape area. The linear alignment of the Quarters organizes the LCA 2 landscape. Mown trails between the Quarters reinforce this gridded organization along the western row while some arced trails and mown areas surrounding the Quarters deviate from the linear pattern.

The line of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees at the north property edge function within a larger pattern, extending east beyond the NPS property boundary and turning to align north-south near the Cook's Cabin, framing in the low open landscape. Additionally, the pattern of live oak tree rows is repeated in a similar size and configuration north of the Main House outside the NPS property.

C2. Views and Vistas 2020

The generally open landscape affords panoramic views into and within the property. Open views across the former sweet potato area and Mule Lot appear expansive (Figure 3.28). In 2020, the flat, open grassy landscape permits wide views across the property to the Quarters (Figures 3.18 and 3.21). Dense vegetation on the Cane River bank forms a relatively impermeable visual boundary at the west frontage of the property (Figure 3.22). Views reach well beyond the property edge in all other directions where boundaries of low fences and vegetation partially screen extended views to adjacent agricultural landscapes. Within the site, few features disrupt panoramic views. A mosaic of fences and fence line vegetation would have defined views across the historic landscape, today large oaks serve as the primary spatial element dividing landscape features in the 2020 landscape. The combined effect of the live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) and water oak (*Quercus nigra*) trees in front of the Overseer's House and along the north property boundary distinguish the lawn east of the Blacksmith Shop as a separate space (Figures 3.20, 3.26 and 3.29).

C3. Topography 2020

The plantation is situated on the east bank of the Cane River and benefits from the rich soils and level topography. The Cane River follows the old channel of the Red River which is a tributary of the Mississippi. The alluvial soils accreted over geologic time support hardwood species with community variation relating to soil drainage. The climate supports a long growing season with hot summers, heavy

rainfall, and high humidity. Hurricanes from the Gulf of Mexico in late summer and early fall drop heavy rain with strong winds. Additional detail on the natural systems present at Magnolia Plantation is available in the 2006 Cultural Landscape Report Part 1.[40] The 2020 landscape is mostly flat with drainage ways cut to facilitate water movement from west to east.

The mostly level ground plane of Magnolia Plantation presents challenges to stormwater management. Elevation across the property varies approximately five feet, between 101 and 106 feet in elevation above sea level. A three-foot rise to meet LA-119 occurs at the western property edge. The terrain of the park pitches gently to the east. Beyond the boundary, overall drainage patterns flow northeast to a large bayou named Hertzog Swamp. The historic levee system visible in the 1858 Walmsley Plat Map was largely demolished in the field and pasture areas by James Hertzog in the 1970s, but the levee system remains intact to the east of the Main House.[41] These structures prevented backwater flooding from the Red and Little River Systems and their absence from the 2020 landscape may contribute to contemporary flood conditions.

Onsite drainage is partially facilitated by a microtopography of shallow, remnant historic ditches and a more recent north-south swale that convey some surface runoff generally eastward. However, poor drainage and ponding are also evident. Two relatively distinct ditches, or vegetated swales, are located west of the Quarters and south of the Overseer's House. Dredged sometime between 1982 and 1990, the ditch west of the Quarters directs water north from the north part of the field by the Gin Barn and the area between the Plantation Store and the Quarters. This ditch connects to the west-to-east flowing ditch south of the Overseer's House into an adjacent pasture on private lands. Expanded in the late 1950s, this drainage feature historically conveyed water from the area east of the Plantation Store to the Hertzog Swamp northeast of the plantation core. South of this ditch, little evidence remains of a second west-to-east running ditch located along a field edge near the Quarters, although it is recorded on the 1996 CLI plan (Figure 3.1).[42]

Evidence of historic drainage swales remains in the 2020 landscape. Remnant ditch alignments shown on L14. 2020 Landscape Plan are recognizable through careful study of microtopography in available topographic maps. These ditches were observed on site during rain events and field verified. The primary north-south swale west of the Quarters continues to gather and store water, necessitating the addition of a pedestrian bridge over the remaining swale (Figure 3.28). Intersecting east-west swales

are less evident in the 2020 landscape, having been incrementally leveled by bank erosion and sedimentation accretion. The northernmost east-west swale is still evident in the landscape and is marked by an 18-inch culvert under the gravel access drive south of the Overseer's House along the eastern property line.

The relatively flat topography at Magnolia Plantation remains consistent with its historic character; however, poor drainage across the property creates frequent ponding and muddy conditions. Ponding especially occurs along the foundations of the cabins, along the circulation network of mown paths, and in the open space east of the Quarters. Frequent storms and rainy conditions often create a backlog of landscape maintenance, particularly in terms of mowing, bush hogging, and accessing the maintenance area east and north of the Overseer's House. Staff regularly have to wait for ground conditions to dry-up before carrying out maintenance work. The movement and setting caused by oscillation between wet and dry conditions adds to masonry wall issues at the cabins. Fluctuating climatic conditions exacerbate challenges to landscape management. Anticipated climatic changes including more intense rain and storm events may disrupt increasingly extended periods of drought. The combination of dry soils and fast precipitation may increase flood events and erosion with impacts to infrastructure, archeology, buildings, and landscape.

A slope along the west edge of LA-119 immediately west of the property drops to the Cane River. This waterway shaped the historic plantation land use and continues to exert influence on the adjacent landscape. Increased storm intensity and frequency have caused the river to regularly extend beyond its channel and flood the embankment adjacent to the road, causing the road embankment to rotate – undercutting the road and creating an embankment failure. Previous failure points along the same stretch of LA-119 were repaired by the Louisiana Department of Transportation Division (LADOTD) in the early 2000s, though repairs didn't stretch far enough north to the point of the current collapse. Park staff first noticed the issue in November 2017, and LADOTD closed LA-119 near the Magnolia Plantation Store in June 2018. The road is now permanently barricaded with no traffic permitted through in either direction (Figures 3.30 and 3.31). LADOTD has indicated that the failure point is 65-feet below the road surface and is one of several issues along LA-119. Though the main problem is subsurface, erosion from stormwater may also be contributing to the issue. To a lesser degree, erosion may be occurring west of the road where stormwater rushes off of the road and down the steep slope to the river. Simultaneously, surface stormwater may be moving from east to west across the plantation landscape

until reaching the slightly elevated road, forming a dam. Held against the east edge of the highway, slow moving water may be infiltrating and undercutting soils from the east.

D. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Character, Condition and Issues

The existing landscape of LCA 1, diagrammed on L1. Landscape Character Areas, includes the historic plantation yards along LA-119. The current character of this landscape is discussed by contributing feature.

D1. LCA1 Circulation 2020

Circulation includes former farm lanes, a gravel parking lot, and pedestrian paths. Primary access to Magnolia Plantation is from the south from Highway 1 to LA-119 due to the LA-119 road closure near the Store. Visitor traffic enters the park from LA-119 through a gated one-way drive via a concrete apron. The apron turns into a gravel drive and travels north to a gravel and concrete parking area with two bus parking areas, eleven standard vehicle parking spaces, concrete-paved accessible spaces, each with concrete wheel stops (Figure 3.32). The 30-foot-wide gravel drive continues north to a second gated concrete apron onto LA-119. North of the Store, a vehicular gate provides access to an internal gravel drive that arcs east passing south of the Cotton Picker Shed and Overseer's House and intersects an internal farm lane which follows the east property boundary. Just south of this intersection, an 18-inch culvert conveys stormwater below the farm lane from the swale system off the NPS property to the east. To the north, the road extends behind (east) of the Overseer's House to the Stable, now used as a maintenance shop. To the south, the gravel lane follows the fence line and extends into LCA 2. All of the gravel roads, including the parking lot, were resurfaced with compacted gravel in November 2018. Two additional gated vehicular accesses serve park maintenance, just south of the Blacksmith Shop and northwest of the Gin Barn. Both of these gates align with former historic roads and access drives, though both access drives now consist of turf without a visually difference from surrounding grassy landscape.

A series of trails prescribes pedestrian movement within the property. Rubber geogrid, specifically "Safety Deck II," underlays primary trails for structural reinforcement and improved accessibility. The rubber mat trails link with crushed stone trails to form routes between many landscape features. A crushed stone trail extends east from the parking lot with a wood bridge to cross a drainage ditch and link to Cabin 1 (Figure 3.33). Reinforced mat trails follow the west edge of the parking area to the Store

(Figure 3.34). From the Store, the mat trail links north to a gravel farm lane and a rubber mat trail spur extends north toward the Blacksmith Shop and Overseer's House. A link of rubber mat trail leads from the front of the Overseer's House to the small accessible lift on the south façade. Visibility of the rubber geogrid varies. The green matting is generally visible above the soil but nearly imperceptible where vegetation grows through covering the mat. Though intended to be accessible, installation without a proper base course and current surface variations fail to meet access standards. Also, the mat trails are difficult to maintain. The permeable surface requires frequent mowing or weed wacking and temperature fluctuations pop the gridded tiles and spikes that hold them in place, create tripping hazards.

Short mown turf routes form secondary trail connections for visitor access and link the sections of rubberized trails. As shown on L14. 2020 Landscape Plan, mown turf paths loop from the parking area to the Gin Barn to the south, to the Quarters and back across the open field to the parking lot. Short mown turf also encircles each of the cabins and the Gin Barn to prevent overgrowth and simultaneously shapes a walking route around each building. A separate mown trail spur extends north to the Blacksmith Shop. These trails become exceptionally muddy with standing water in wet weather, making them virtually impassable for the typical visitor. Trails with geogrid support also suffer water inundation.

Universal accessibility is incomplete on the property. Rubber mat paths extend in spurs to connect the parking area, Quarters, and Store but do not form a complete loop and omit the Blacksmith Shop and Gin Barn, which are accessed along mown paths. Further, due to warping and subsurface instability, the rubber matting does not form an ADA-compliant continuous, level walking surface.

D2. LCA 1 Vegetation 2020

Deciduous trees and a small number of ground plane plants mainly make up the vegetation of LCA 1. Despite the historic property name, no magnolia trees grow within the Magnolia Plantation park boundaries. Remaining historic magnolias at the Main House may be seen from the north park boundary, though they are in poor condition. Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*), and live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) comprise the majority of the plantation canopy. The included plan L15. 2020 Trees locates and identifies trees present across the property. Exceptionally large oak trees stand as witness trees, present on the property from the nineteenth

century. A row of five live oak line the northern property boundary and may date to at least 1858 (Figures 3.35 and 3.36). Several of these trees display the traditional practice of limewashing the trunks of large trees. The washing was carried out in the summer of 2019 as a demonstration project for a children's summer camp (Figure 3.36). The use of lime reduces disease from fungus and insects while the white color reveals insect and animal damage and protects trees from excessive heat by reducing light absorption and heat accumulation in the bark and trunk. Moreover, the highly-visible, orderly and clean aesthetic may have bolstered the local appeal of limewash on trees. A mix of live oak and water oak shade the west face of the Overseer's House (Figure 3.37). Large, low branches rest on the ground to form a mass of leaves in front of the house (Figure 3.38). Hackberry grows among other self-sown trees along several fence lines. The stump of a large pecan remained near Store until late 2020; the tree, known as the "pitty pat tree" fell during the summer of 2019. Attempted propagation from this tree was ongoing prior to Hurricane Laura in August 2020. The stump marking the former tree location was removed during Hurricane Laura clean-up efforts in fall and winter 2020.

The majority of the property contains a ground plane of common turf species as well as wild onions which produce a strong odor. The open turf landscape is managed in two ways, differentiating uses. Paths and areas surrounding buildings are regularly mown height with a riding lawnmower to a height of 2-3 inches. These areas are illustrated on plan L14. 2020 Landscape Plan in a slightly darker green annotated "Mown Turf" which is classified by NPS as B1 Functional Short turf. Larger expanses, shown in a bright green and labeled "Rough Turf," classified as B2 Functional Tall turf, are cut less frequently to a taller height.[43] When open area grasses reach 18-24 inches, they are bush-hogged to 6-8 inches tall. Park maintenance staff tries to avoid allowing grasses to reach 36 inches, at which point, tick and rat populations noticeably rise and cutting at that taller height causes added stress to the park machinery. However, wet conditions at Magnolia frequently mean that some areas are not bush hogged as often. The ethnobotanical study and Vascular Plants Inventory identify three species of hay in the field areas: dallisgrass (*Paspalum dilatatum*); Bermuda (*Cynodon dactylon*); and, bahia grass (*Paspalum notatum*). Classification of this turf field is currently also B2. These historic hay species are among the botanical assets of Magnolia Plantation. They were harvested and bailed for use until 2017, under permits with the park.[44]

In contrast with the mown landscape classes B1 and B2 the front yard of the Overseer's House contains English ivy (*Hedera helix*). English ivy also grows on the live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees at the plantation Main House, outside the NPS property. A fence on the west margin of the Overseer's yard bounds this garden area, effectively containing the ivy groundcover, while short turf covers the opposite side (Figure 3.40). North and south of the Overseer's House, masses of established cast iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*) grow in clumps at the base of large oak trees, and dense groupings of resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*) sprout from the live oak branches creating layers of complementary vegetation textures (Figure 3.42). Additionally, poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) seasonally appear, possibly introduced and spread by bird droppings.

D3. LCA 1 Buildings and Structures 2020

All of the buildings and structures present in the 2020 landscape are contributing resources listed in the 2001 Magnolia NHL nomination or later determined eligible by Louisiana SHPO:[45] Buildings LCS record ID or Shadow LCS ID are provided in Chapter 4: Landscape Significance, Integrity and Analysis, where applicable.[46]

LCA 1 Buildings and Structures

Contributing Features (showing LCS numbers)

Blacksmith Shop (LCS 91559)
Corn Crib (Shadow LCS 100497)
Cotton Gin Cistern (Shadow LCS 91644)
Cotton Picker Shed (Shadow LCS 92411)
Garage (Shadow LCS 100737)
Gin Barn (LCS 91561)
Overseer's House (LCS 91558)
Pigeonnier (LCS 91560)
Plantation Store (LCS 91557)
Stable (LCS 100652)
Store Cistern (Shadow LCS 100635)

The Plantation Store serves as a visitor contact station with direct walking trail and exterior American flag highly visible from the parking area (Figure 3.42). Collected rainwater from the north half of the roof is stored in an historic cistern northwest of the building. Downspouts direct rainwater from the southern roof face into lawn areas. To the east, the Overseer's House includes an added elevator lift to provide universal access to the porch and building interior (Figure 3.43). This ADA lift was replaced in Spring 2020 with an aluminum one that blends into the landscape more effectively. To the north, the Blacksmith Shop is open to visitors with tools and equipment on exhibit inside (Figure 3.44). Nearby the

Pigeonnier is surrounded by temporary fencing to restrict visitor contact (Figure 3.44). At the south end of the property, the Gin Barn encloses the historic gin machinery and is open for visitors (Figures 3.45 and 3.46). Adjacent to the Overseer's House, the Stable is in use for maintenance storage (Figure 3.36) as is the Garage (Figure 3.47). The Corn Crib stands as an interpretive element between the Blacksmith Shop and Plantation Store (Figure 3.48). The Cotton Picker Shed is used for maintenance equipment storage and display of a 1960s John Deere Cotton Picker, historically used on Magnolia Plantation, in the southernmost bay (Figure 3.37).[47] Cisterns within LCA 1, repaired by the NPS, remain present at the northwest corner of the Store and northeast corner of the Gin Barn.[48]

D4. LCA1 Small-scale Features 2020

Small-scale features provide detail within the broader landscape as interpretive components of the historic landscape and support contemporary visitor use.

Machinery Pedestal Near Gin Barn (Shadow LCS 100736)
Sandstone remnants (Figure 3.27)

In the park's determination of National Register Listing eligibility (2018), fences and gates were considered holistically as a contributing landscape feature, not necessarily itemized by type and location. This study extends that understanding to document each of the several fence types dividing the 2020 landscape as shown on plan L9. 2020 Fences. Twisted wire, without barbs, strung between metal posts forms the north property boundary (Figure 3.50). Hog wire fence with top and bottom wood boards defines the west boundary with LA-119 near the Blacksmith Shop and Store and demarcates the front edge of the Overseer's House front garden (Figures 3.51). Further south along the LA-119 boundary to the west of the Store, the painted board fence with three and four rails stand in varied conditions with some portions of fence missing (Figure 3.52). Hog wire, barbed wire, and wood posts continue along LA-119 and turn to shape the south property edge (Figure 3.53). Locations where fence remnants remain in deteriorated condition, especially south and east of the Store and south and east of the Overseer's House, reference historic material uses and organization (Figures 3.54 and 3.55).

The Purple Martin Bird House is constructed with multiple nesting cavities and mounted to a tall wooden pole south of the Store to support colonial nesting birds (Figure 3.55). Purple martins are common in the area though staff has not observed active use of this birdhouse. This bird house appears to be different than the bird house visible in historic views north of the Store.

Small-scale features added in the contemporary landscape support current needs and uses. Directional and interpretive signage occurs throughout the property to guide vehicle traffic, welcome visitors, and provide information including call-in numbers and QR codes for audio tours (Figures 3.57, 3.58 and 3.59). A low-profile bicycle rack at the parking area supports multimodal visitor access. A recycle bin between the parking area and Store provides a needed service but contrasts with the historic landscape character (Figure 3.52). Wood barrel trash cans present on the property blend effectively with the plantation character while blue recycle bins draw undue attention. Several movable wood picnic benches, generally grouped under large shade trees, afford visitor seating. Additional seating at the Overseer's House porch includes a porch swing, 1950s style lawn chairs, and wood benches.

E. LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Character, Condition and Issues

The Quarters buildings and property boundary fences organize LCA 2 into an open landscape with views into the plantation yards and adjacent property agricultural fields.

D1. LCA2 Circulation 2020

A gravel access road at the north property boundary in LCA 2 connects to LA-119 through LCA 1 and provides the only vehicular circulation route to this landscape character area. The road is mainly used by park staff and contractors working on the Quarters. Rubber matting, mown turf, and gravel surface paths provide pedestrian access through LCA 2. As shown on L14. 2020 Landscape Plan, these routes connect the eight cabins in LCA 2 and connect to the Gin Barn and parking lot in LCA 1. A primary path along the west façade of Cabins 1-4, provides visitor access to the cabins via a combination of mown grass and rubber matting. At Cabin 1, ascending and descending concrete paver ramps at the wood porch provide accessible access to the building. (Figure 3.49). A crushed gravel walk with wood footbridge extends from the north of Cabin 1 to the LCA 1 parking area. Mown paths continue south and link to the Gin Barn in LCA1.

D2. LCA2 Vegetation 2020

Deciduous trees, turf, and ornamental, naturalized ground plane plants make up the vegetation of the Quarters. Individual canopy and ornamental trees dot the landscape among the Quarters. Plan L15. 2020 Trees locates a large sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) between Cabins 7 and 8 and an American elm (*Ulmus americana*) in the open area east of Cabin 5. As of 2020, the elm was a standing dead tree,

which was removed after Hurricane Laura, reportedly planted by park staff in the early 2000s to replace an earlier historic elm in that same location. Other notable trees in the Quarters include a pecan (*Carya illinoinenis*) tree east of Cabin 5, pecan west of Cabin 2, pecan southeast of Cabin 8, and smaller elm (*Ulmus* sp.) trees near Cabins 3 and 6. Of these, only the sycamore near Cabin 7 and the pecan southeast of Cabin 8 appear to be from the historic era.

Self-sown mixed tree and shrub vegetation follow the north property boundary. Some of the Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*), locally referred to as bois d'arc, present along this boundary fence in 2020 may have been purposely planted or regenerated from earlier plantings. These thorned trees are valued for their natural defense and dense wood. Pecan trees as well as volunteer hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) and other vegetation informally line the east property edge from the cabins to the Gin Barn.

In addition to mown turf, notable groupings of naturalized bulbs bloom in spring and summer near individual cabins. Species observed during fieldwork include St Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*) and daffodils (*Narcissus* papyraceus, *N. pseudonarcissus*, *N. jonquilla*, and others). Other species known to staff to be present include crinum lily (*Crinum* sp.) and Byzantine gladiolas (*Gladiolus byzantinus*).[49] After summer and autumn rain events, pink rain lilies (*Zaphyranthes grandiflora),* Autumn rain-lily (*Zephyranthes candida*), red spider lilies (*Lycoris radiata*), and perennial Spanish (or Texas) copper lilies (*Habranthus tubispathus*) bloom, brightening the mixed species turf (Figure 3.61).

D3. LCA2 Buildings and Structures 2020

All of the cabins and structures present in the 2020 landscape are contributing resources listed in the 2001 Magnolia NHL nomination or later determined eligible by Louisiana SHPO in 2018.[50] Eight cabins remain in 2020. The quarters for enslaved workers and later wage laborers are organized in a grid pattern with paired entrance doors oriented to the west (Figure 3.62). A galvanized metal porch roof supported by wood posts extends shade over the west face of each building, though most cabins do not have reconstructed porch flooring with the exception of Cabin 1 (Figure 3.60). Cabin 1, the southeastern building, expresses the most complete rehabilitation efforts including a historically-furnished interior and porch furnishings to support interpretation of plantation life to visitors. Ramps made of concrete pavers at either end of Cabin 1 link to the reconstructed wood porch decking which is accessed along stabilized mat paths. Gutters collect and convey rainwater from the porch roof to a folded sheet of

corrugated metal and into the historic cistern, capped with a wooden cover (Figure 3.63 and 64). The four cisterns identified and located in the 1998 cistern inventory and HL field work are shown on the L14. 2020 Landscape Plan. These four were rehabilitated during NPS ownership. It is likely that cisterns were historically present at each of the Quarters buildings at the turn of the twentieth century and may require archeological investigations to locate. [51]

A concrete Dipping Vat remains near the east property edge, covered and surrounded by temporary orange safety fence (Figure 3.66).

D4. LCA2 Small-scale Features 2020

Few small-scale objects and furnishings are present in the 2020 LCA 2 landscape. Within LCA 2, fencing is only present along the north and east property boundary. North of the quarters, contemporary wire fencing strung between trees and wood posts references the historic landscape character (Figure 3.54). To the east, mixed post types including wood, trees, and metal, support barbed wire. Materials including railroad ties and bricks are stockpiled east of the Cabins. Previous breaches in the property boundary fence have allowed feral hogs to enter the property, damaging the cultural landscape and unearthing archeological resources. The perimeter fence has been maintained since late 2018 to limit the potential for feral hog intrusion.

Other small-scale features within LCA 2 include metal chairs on the porch of Cabin 1, referencing daily residential life in the mid-twenty-first century. The interior of Cabin 1 is historically furnished, as recommended in the 2015 Historic Furnishings Report, to reflect conditions at the end of the plantation era. Also, at Cabin 1, paired information signs repeat the interpretive sign vocabulary present in LCA 1 (Figure 3.67). Mounted to a porch post, a simple painted slate sign identifies the building and a hanging card provides a dial-in number and QR code for audio tour and additional information.

Chapter 3 Endnotes

[1] US Congress, H.R. 1348/Public Law 103-449 "To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor in the State of Connecticut, and for other purposes," Nov. 2, 1994; 108 Stat. 4752.
[2] "Cane River Creole NHP, Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Inventory," December 1996, History 7 (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources); Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. "Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park," 169. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006.
[3] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019,1-4. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources); "Magnolia Plantation, Site Map," nd. NPS.
[4] HRS, 2019, 9-1.
[5] The Long Barn has also been referred to as the Tractor Shed by the Hertzog family and others. Long Barn remains the preferred name because "tractor shed" is also used for a structure at Oakland Plantation and is sometimes used by staff for the Magnolia Plantation Garage.
[6] The NHL nomination description for shadow LCS 92410 may describe either the Mule Barn or the Garage. The nomination does not include a photograph.
[7] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019, 9-1. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).
[8] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019,9-2. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).
[9] "Cane River Creole NHP, Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Inventory," December 1996 (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).
[10] Barbary Yocum, *Magnolia Plantation: Building Materials Assessment and Analysis*, August 1996 (Lowell: NPS Northeast Cultural Resources Center). CARI.
[11] Bennie C. Keel, *A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation*, 1999 (Tallahassee: NPS Southeast Archeological Center).
[12] HF Gregory "Adaesano: A Nahuatl Lexicon from Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes, Louisiana," *Southern Studies*, Vol. VII, No. 1, Spring 1996, 89-96. CARI; Muriel (Miki) Crespi, "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historic Park," *NPS Studies in Archeology and Ethnography #4*, 2004.
[13] Bennie C Keel and Jason Raupp, "A Survey and Examination of Cisterns at Cane River Creole National Historic Park, Louisiana," 1998 (Atlanta: NPS Southeastern Archeological Center).
[14] Draft General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, June 2000, iv.
[15] Draft General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, June 2000, 46-48.
[16] Final General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, January 2001, 5.
[17] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019,9-2. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources
[18] HSR, 2019, 9-7.
[19] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019,1-4. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources), 9-14 – 9-15.
[20] The National Historic Landmarks Survey letter to Ms. Laura Soulliere, 10 December 2001. CARI; Magnolia Plantation National Historic Landmark Nomination, NPS Form 10-900. CARI.
[21] "Magnolia Plantation, HABS," Summer 2002.
[22] HRS, 2019, 9-5-7.
[23] 1994 Aerial Photograph, HistoricAerials.com; 2007 Aerial Photograph, HistoricAerials.com; Department of Interpretive Planning, Harpers Ferry Center and Cane River Creole National Historical Park, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Long-Range Interpretive Plan*, September 2006.; Master CARI LCS, December 2018. CARI.
[24] Master CARI LCS, December 2018. CARI.
[25] Magnolia Plantation park area aerial images taken from a powered parachute, courtesy of Dr. Tommy Hailey, NSU Cultural Resource Office, 2005.

[26] Crespi, "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historic Park," *NPS Studies in Archeology and Ethnography #4*, 2004.
[27] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019,1-4. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources), 9-14 – 9-15.
[28] HF Gregory "Adaesano: A Nahuatl Lexicon from Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes, Louisiana," *Southern Studies*, Vol. VII, No. 1, Spring 1996, 89-96. CARI; "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historic Park," *NPS Studies in Archeology and Ethnography #4*, 2004.
[29] Department of Interpretive Planning, Harpers Ferry Center and Cane River Creole National Historical Park, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Long-Range Interpretive Plan*, September 2006.
[30] Firth, Ian, and Suzanne Turner. "Magnolia Plantation, Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, Cane River Creole National Historical Park," 14. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2006.
[31] Digital spreadsheets, "Master CARI List of Classified Structures," February 2018 and December 2018. CARI.
[32] *Foundation Document: Cane River Creole National Historic Park*, September 2015 (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources). CARI.
[33] Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019,1-2. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).
[34] HSR, 2019, 9-9.
[35] Carrie A Mardorf email to DCRT Section 106, 7 February 2017; Carrie A. Mardorf memorandum to Phil Boggan, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer, 6 February 2017.
[36] Carrie A Mardorf email to DCRT Section 106, 7 February 2017; Carrie A. Mardorf memorandum to Phil Boggan, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer, 6 February 2017.
[37] Carrie Mardorf and Dustin Fuqua 75% Draft Report comments to Heritage Landscapes, 10 October 2020.
[38] HSR, 2019, 9-7.
[39] Dustin Fuqua 75% Draft Report comments to Heritage Landscapes, 10 October 2020.
[40] CLR, 2006, 13-17.
[41] Carrie Mardof, CARI Superintendent note reporting on walking the Main House property, January 2021.
[42] Explanatory note-- The ditch west of the Quarters first appears on a 1990 aerial photograph but is not clearly evident on a 1982 aerial photograph. Comparison of aerial photographs dated 1955 and 1958 reveals the alteration of a preexisting ditch that connects the area east of the store to a pond northeast of the park property. 1955 Aerial Photograph, HistoricAerials.com and ca.1955 Aerial Photograph, CARI Archives; 1958 Aerial Photograph, CQJIHH159C, 15 Dec. 1958, CARI Archives; 1982 Aerial Photograph, HistoricAerials.com; 1990 Aerial Photograph, NAPP 1432-063, CARI Archives.
[43] The NPS Park Cultural Landscapes Program uses six turf classifications for park cultural landscapes, as defined, depicted and discussed in a spring 2021 PowerPoint presentation by S. Dolan and M. Stachowicz, provided by CARI for turf management classes and this citation.
[44] "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historic Park," *NPS Studies in Archeology and Ethnography #4*, 2000; Alabama Natural Heritage Program, Auburn University, "Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification of the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana," December 2011, CARI.
[45] Master CARI LCS, December 2018. CARI; Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019, 9-13 and 9-14. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).
[46] Shadow LCS numbers existed in the LCS system prior to the 2019 migration to the new CRIS (Cultural Resources Inventory System) database. Shadow records were a way to track "placeholder" records for buildings that were removed, destroyed, or were awaiting a determination of eligibility by the State Historic Preservation Office. Although CARI staff updated all LCS records for Magnolia in 2018, including a number of shadow records that should have been moved to the LCS, it appears that Shadow records were not migrated to CRIS. Several legacy Shadow LCS records for Magnolia Plantation are not included in CRIS.
[47] As described in the 2019 Historic Resource Study, the Cotton Picker Shed was not included with the 2001 nomination but was determined eligible in June 2018. Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019, 9-14. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).

[48] Bennie C Keel and Jason Raupp, "A Survey and Examination of Cisterns at Cane River Creole National Historic Park, Louisiana," 1998, 3-7 (Atlanta: NPS Southeastern Archeological Center).
[49] Species at Magnolia Plantation identified observed by staff and other studies. Dustin Fuqua (Chief of Resource Management, CARI), Magnolia Plantation CLR 75% Comment Review Comments, October 10, 2020; Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014; "Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification of the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana," December 2011, CARI.
[50] Master CARI LCS, December 2018. CARI; Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc and Suzanne Turner Associates, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park: Historic Resource Study*, June 2019, 9-13 – 9-14. (Atlanta: NPS Southeast Region, Cultural Resources).
[51] Bennie C Keel and Jason Raupp, "A Survey and Examination of Cisterns at Cane River Creole National Historic Park, Louisiana," 1998, 3-7 (Atlanta: NPS Southeastern Archeological Center).

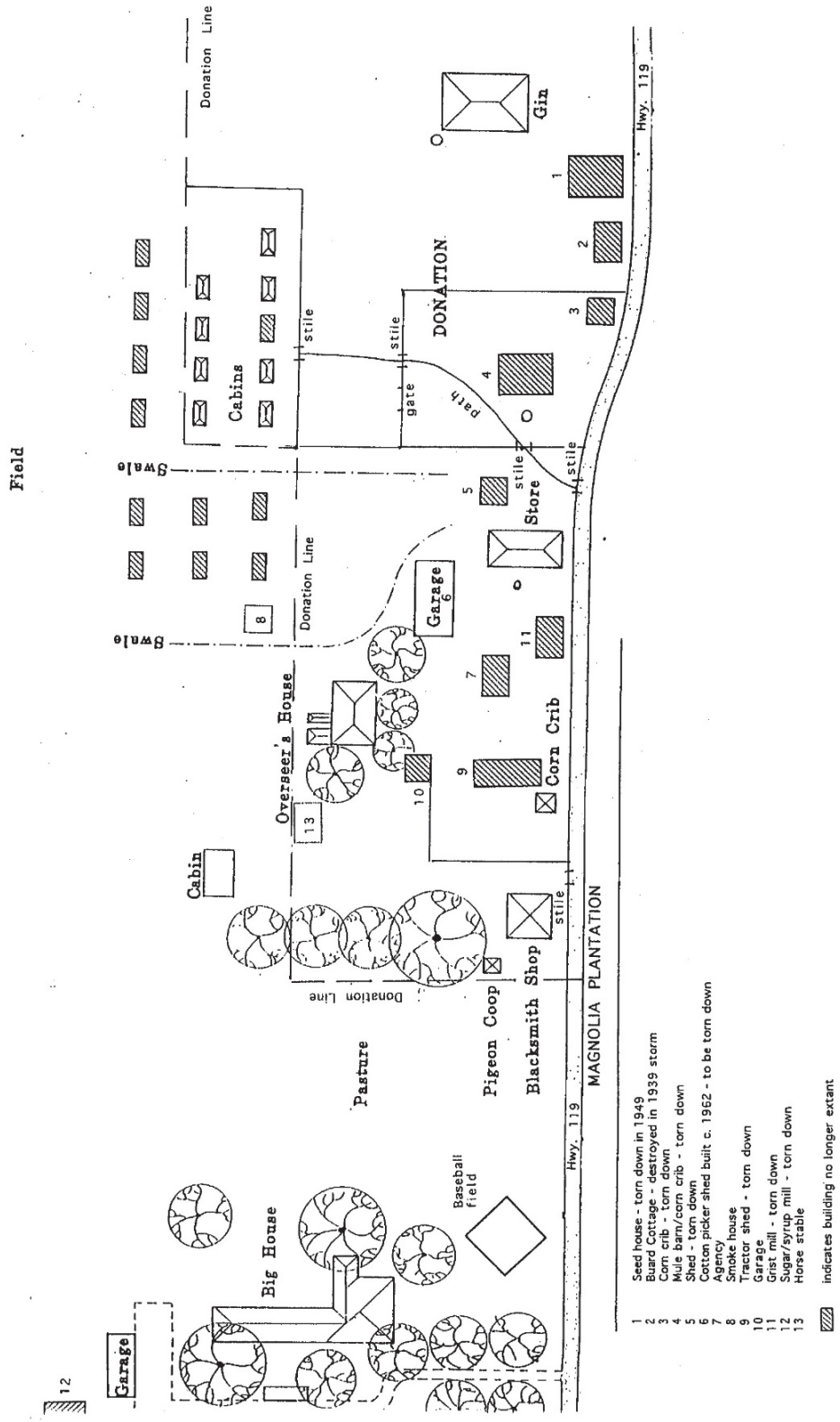


Figure 3.1 The 1996 Cultural Landscape Inventory recorded the locations of extent and missing buildings and structures as well as large trees present in 1996 as part of earliest NPS investigations. Courtesy CARI, N&A.

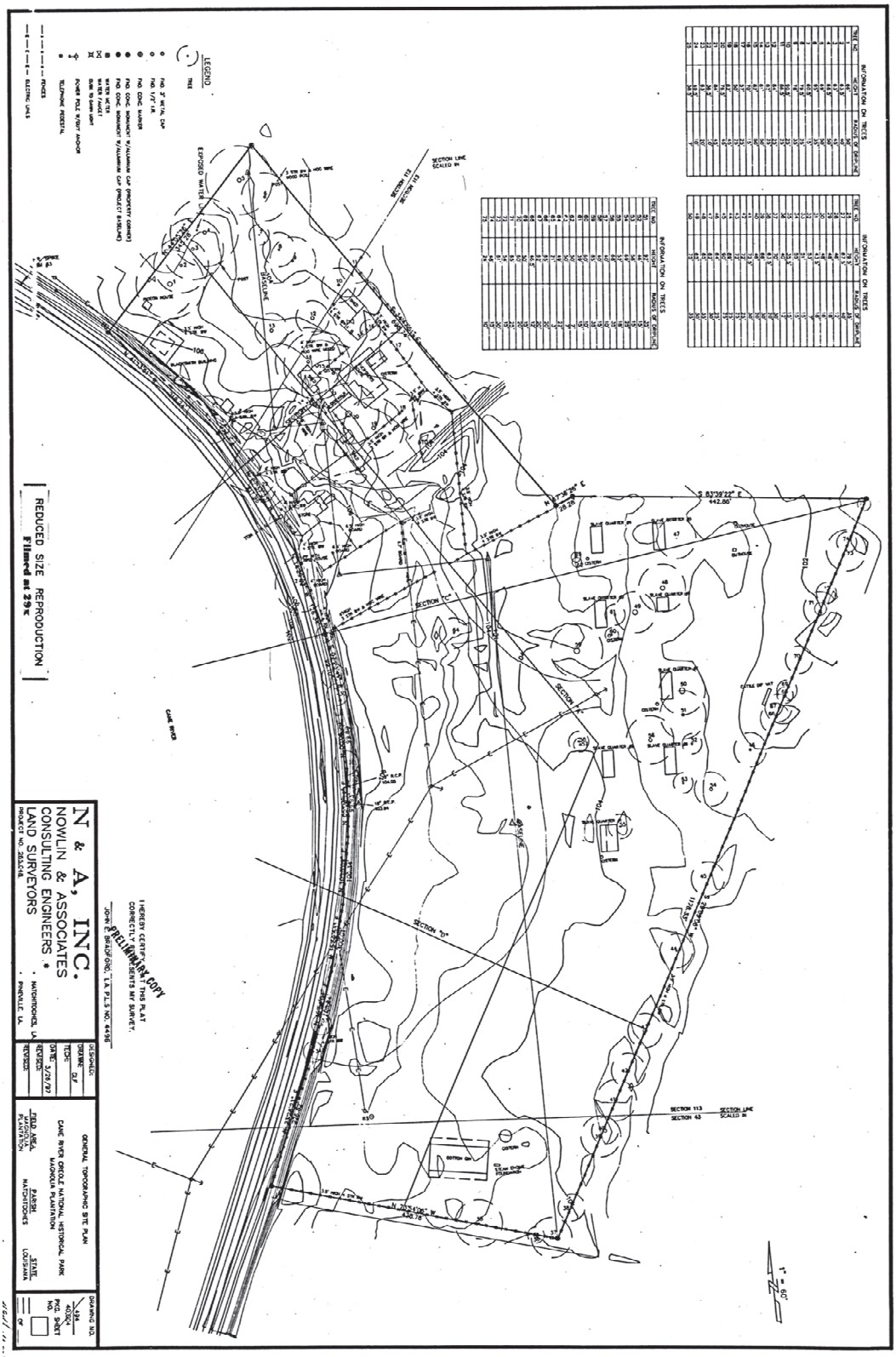


Figure 3.2 The 1997 survey recorded topography, buildings, fences and trees on the NPS property. Courtesy CARI, N&A.

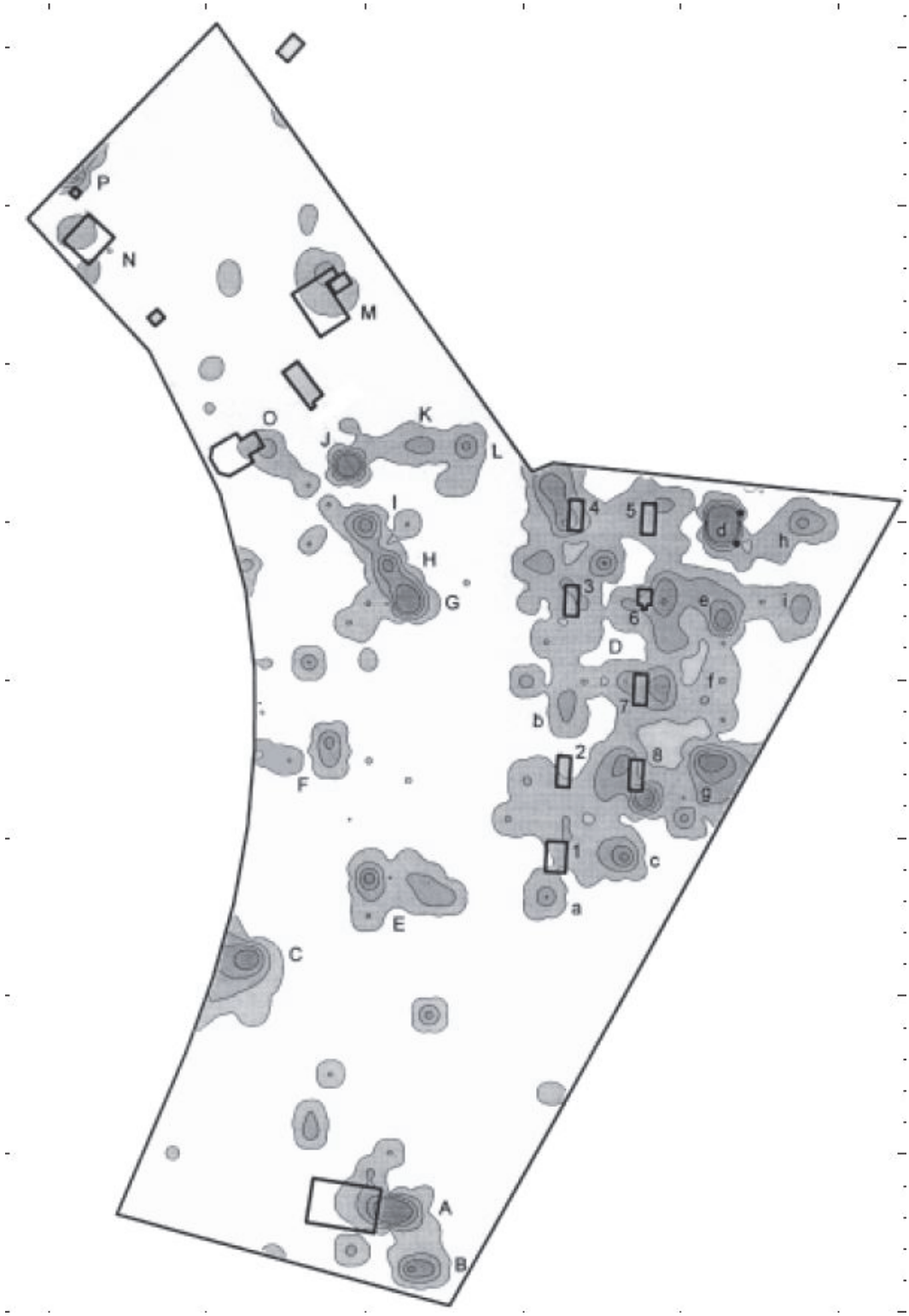


Figure 3.3 Among a series of maps included in *A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation*, one shows the distribution of structure-related archeological features, suggesting locations of non-extant historic buildings and structures. Courtesy NPS SEAC.

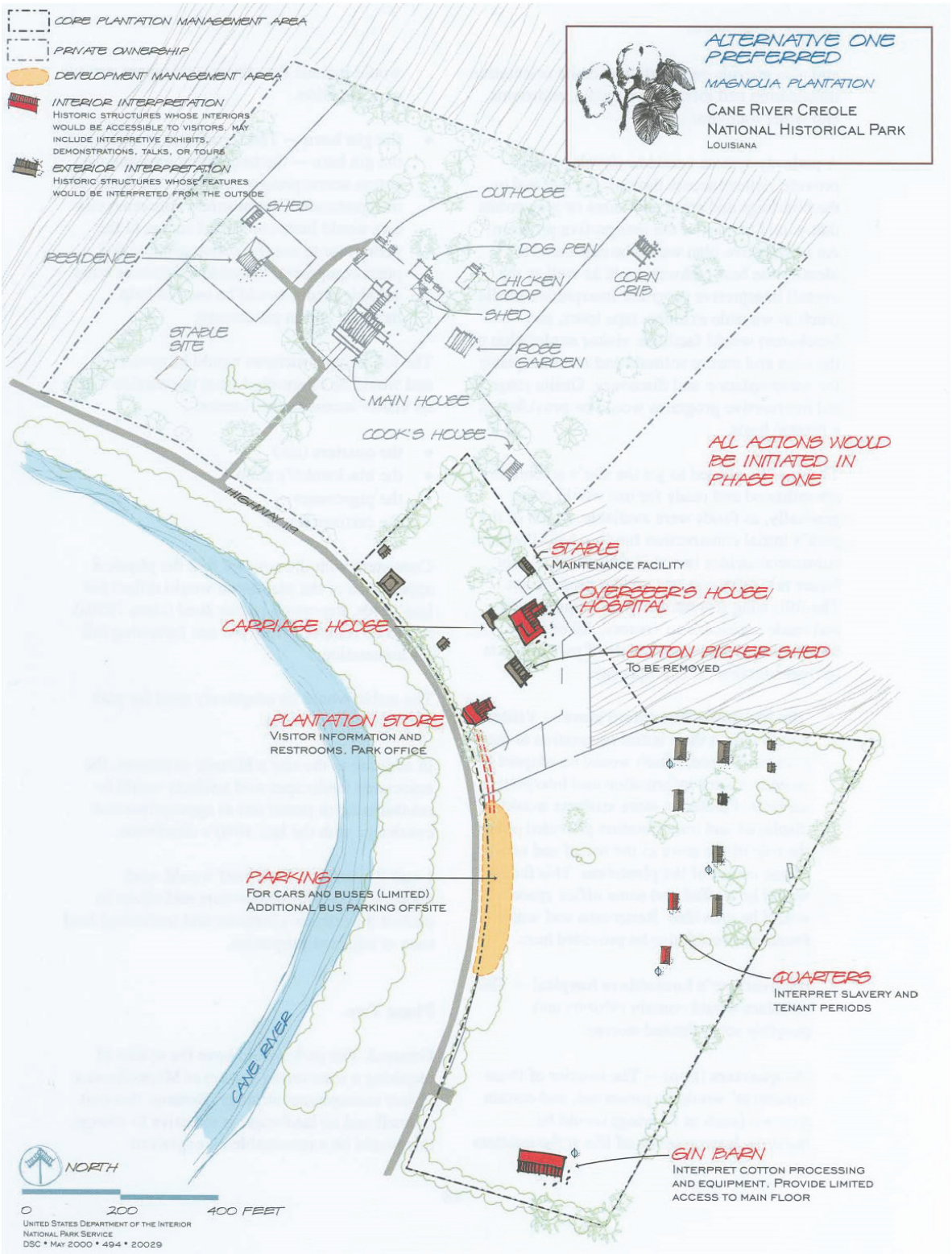


Figure 3.4 The preferred alternative developed by the NPS Denver Service Center in 2000 as part of the 2001 General Management Plan located parking for 10 cars and 2 RVs or buses with additional bus parking available off-site. Courtesy NPS DSC.

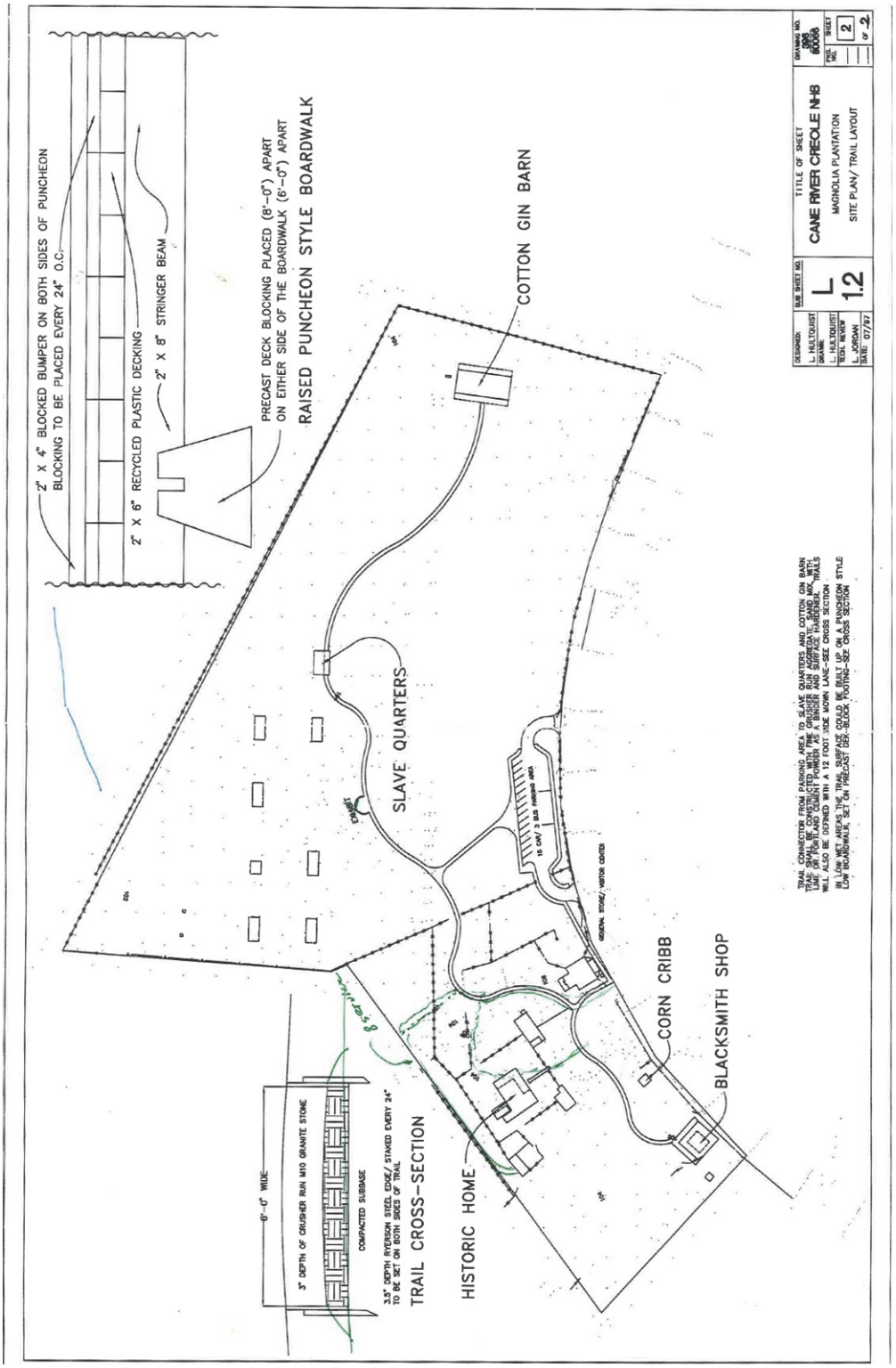


Figure 3.5 Preliminary trails alignment and proposed materials at Magnolia Plantation dated 1997 prioritizes connecting key features including the Gin Barn, Cabin 1, the Store and Blacksmith Shop via a curvilinear path. Courtesy NPS DSC.

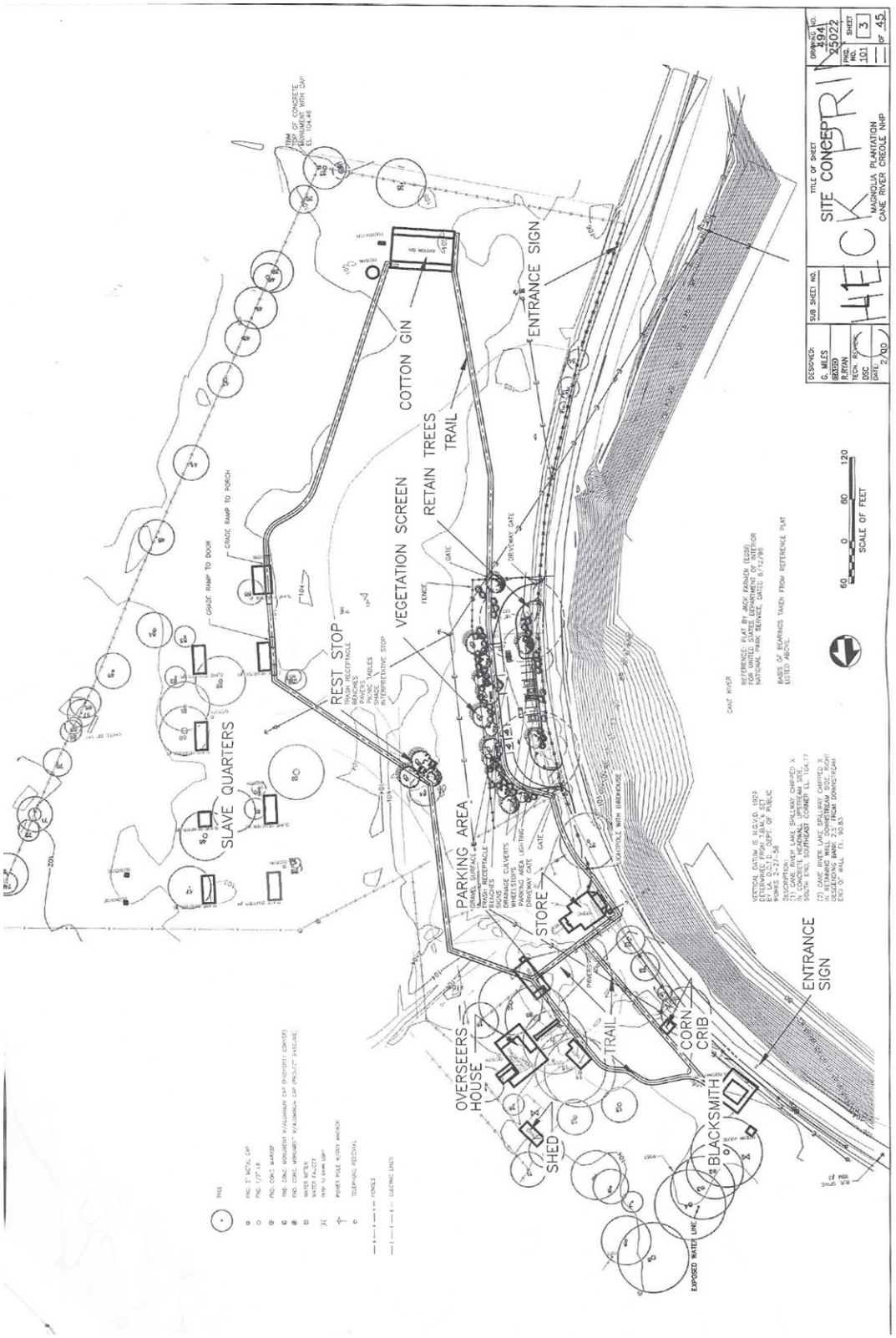


Figure 3.6 Revised trails alignment and site concept plan from 2000 forms a loop between key features. Courtesy NPS DSC.

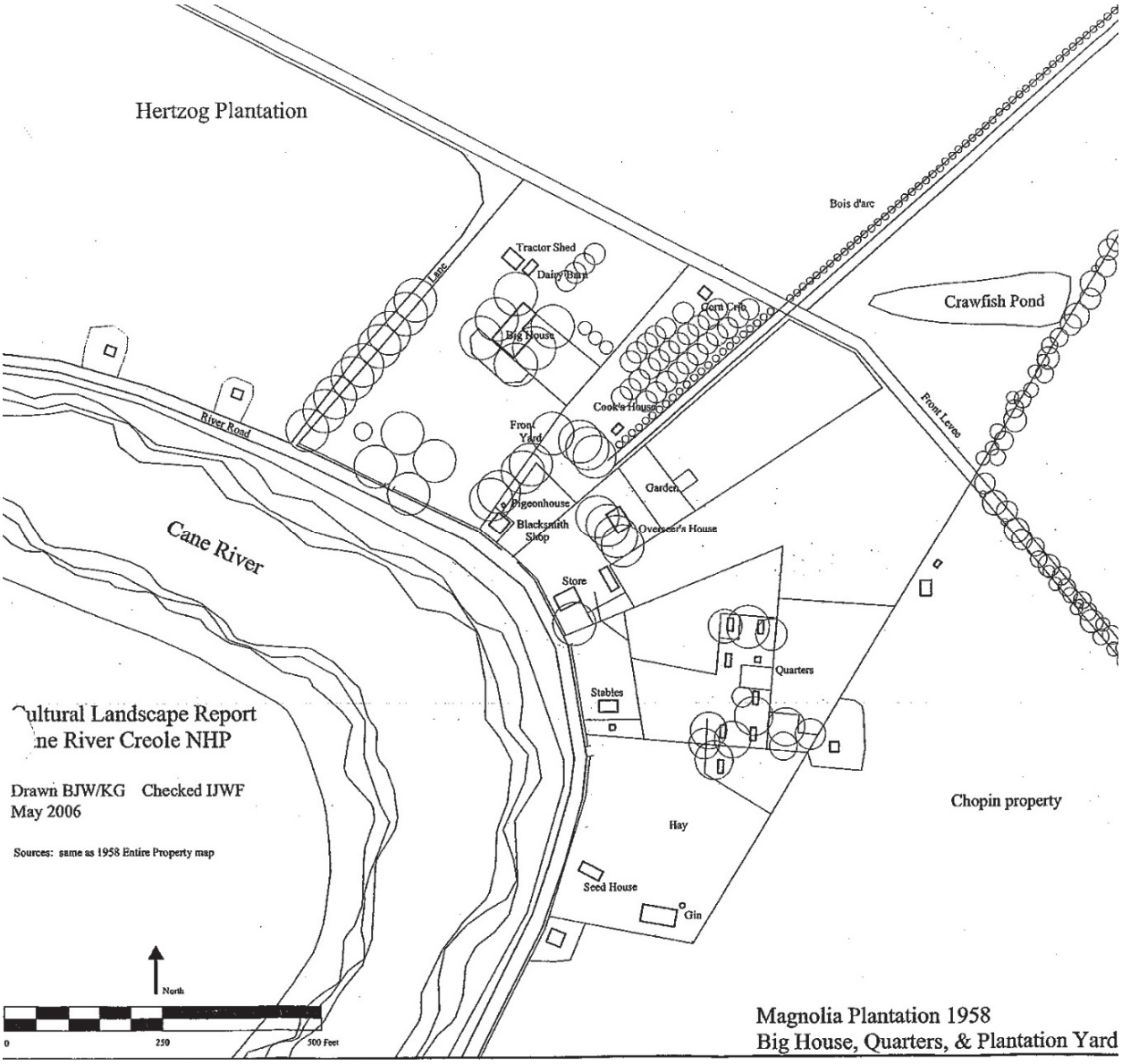


Figure 3.7 A 1958 period plan included with the 2006 CLR illustrates spatial relationships around the time of the recommended circa 1960 period of significance. The CLR proposed rehabilitation of missing and deteriorated landscape features present circa 1960. Courtesy Firth and Turner.

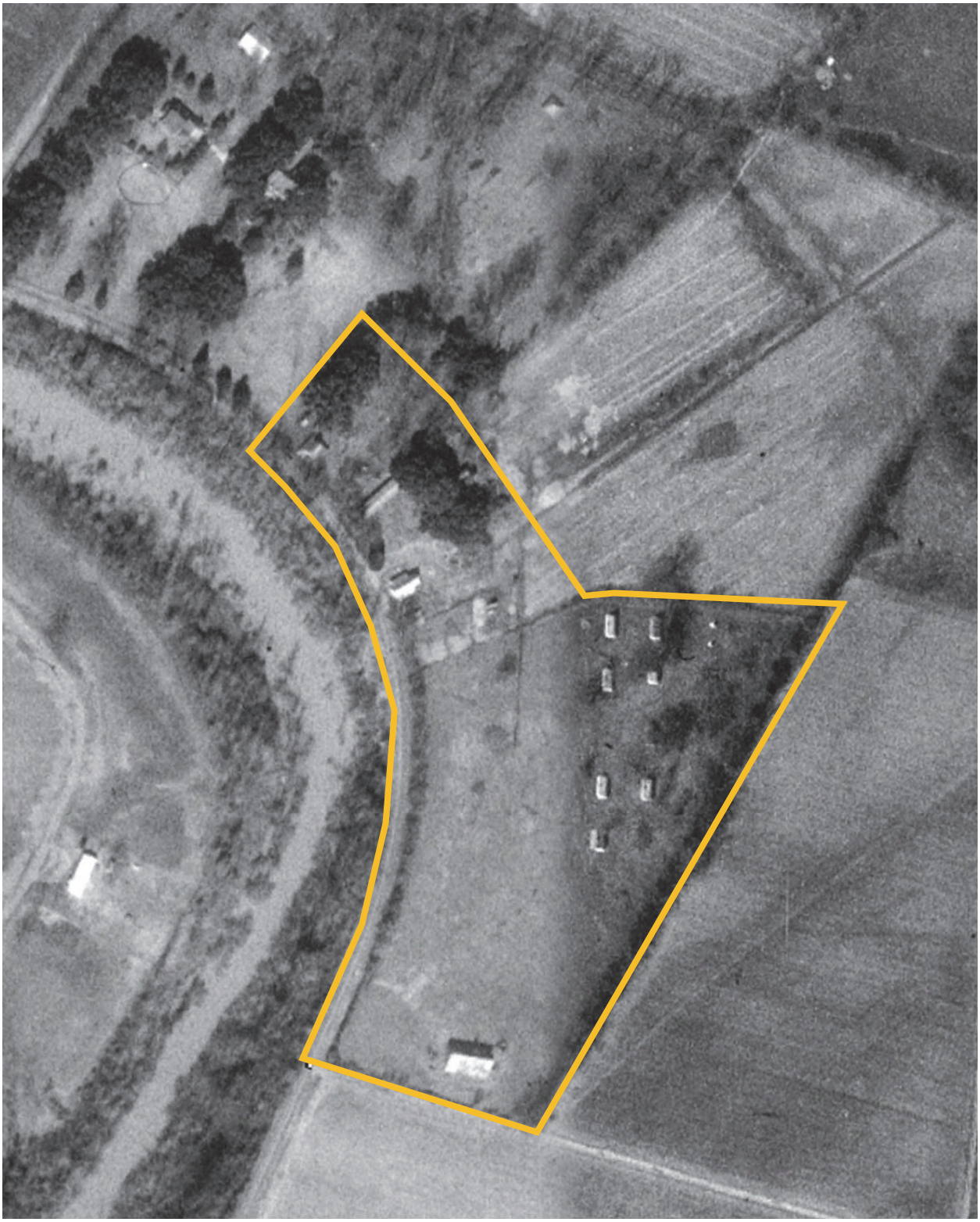


Figure 3.8 This aerial photograph captures the Magnolia Plantation landscape in 1994 shortly before NPS ownership. Note the adjacent agricultural field use extends into the property boundary east of the Store, terminating at an angled fence line. Also note long barn north of the Store. Courtesy CARI-102.

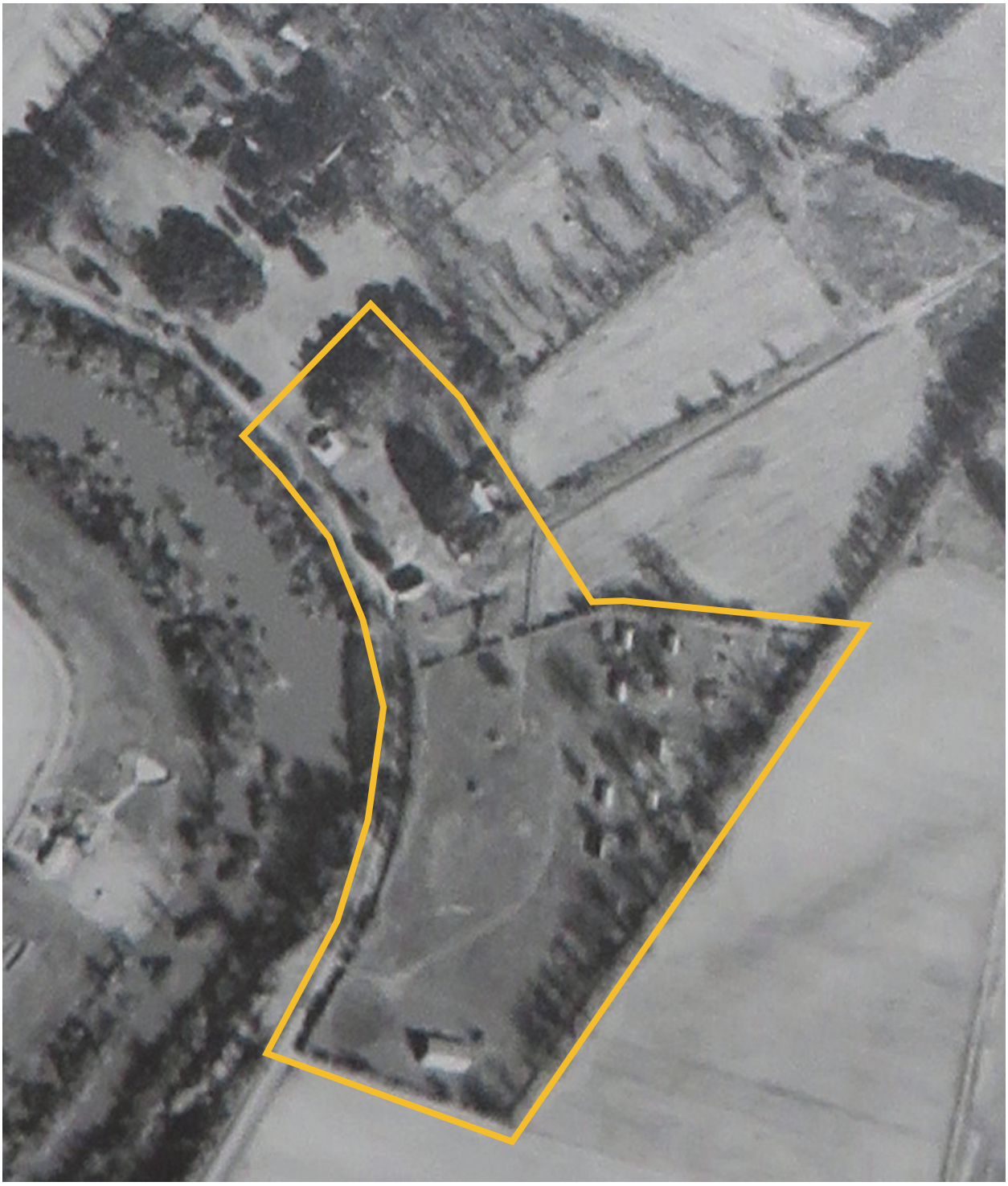


Figure 3.9 The Long Barn north of the Store is no longer present in this 1998 view. Path traces through the Gin Yard connect to LA-119. Courtesy CARI-102.



Figure 3.10 The parking area from Highway 119 was in place by 2004. East and northeast of the parking area, hedgerows and fences present in 1998 are no longer present. The angled property boundary north and west of the Quarters was reinforced by a drive, trimming the adjacent field crop land use previously encroaching into the NPS property. Courtesy Google Earth.



Figure 3.11 August 2005 view of Quarters with close mown and field mown patterns evident. Trees within the Quarters provide shade, while those along fence and field lines define space, to include self-sown and planted pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) and hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*). Courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.12 The parking area located in close proximity to the Store and Quarters disrupts the historic core plantation yards landscape area, on August 16, 2005. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.13 August 2005 view shows adjacent productive landscapes maintain the historic agricultural setting. The steep slope to the Cane River in the foreground presents challenges for stormwater management, erosion, and property accessiblity issues. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.14 Gently arcing bare soil paths connect buildings and landscape features in this August 2009 aerial. An interior path between the Gin Barn and parking area replaces the earlier path to the road. A new path forms a direct route between the parking lot and Quarters. Courtesy Google Earth.



Figure 3.15 In this April 2013 view, the framing of the site with fence-line trees around an open space are clear while interior walks and former land use divisions are less apparent. Courtesy Google Earth.



Figure 3.16 A large deciduous tree present west of the Quarters in 2013 is missing by March of 2016. Google Earth. Aerial imagery comparison indicates continuity, with no major landscape interventions of 2009 and 2016 images. Courtesy Google Earth.



Figure 3.17 The yellow line shown on this 2017 map delineates a trail loop of new and re-laid rubber mat. The project installed a new culvert and footbridge, shown at the orange circles. This trail loop follows the recommended route described in the 2006 Cultural Landscape Report. Courtesy CARI.



3.18 Post Hurricane Laura view looks southeast to record work underway. Courtesy CARI.



3.19 A second lift view looking south showing post Hurricane Laura status. Courtesy CARI.



3.20 This view reveals tree canopy losses and machinery tracks after the hurricane. Courtesy CARI.



3.21 Trees with partial canopy remaining and machinery tracks form clean-up activity are visible in this image looking east southeast from the Store, from a lift. Courtesy CARI.



3.22 View west toward Cane River shows vegetation damage along banks. Courtesy CARI.



3.23 Large deciduous tree uprooted by high winds, located in the field west of the Quarters. Courtesy CARI.



3.24 Post hurricane damage particularly to trees seen during clean-up. Courtesy CARI.



3.25 A large old tree along east property boundary fence uprooted by hurricane winds, shown after being sawn into pieces. Courtesy CARI.



3.26 Live oak trees lost branches but were not uprooted. Courtesy CARI.



3.27 Limbs down and trees damaged along the east fence line. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.28 Looking northwest, this open panorama across the open Magnolia Plantation landscape reaches to the dense vegetation along the Cane River along LA-119. Bright clumps of vegetation reveal the foliage of flowering plants. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.29 Oak and pecan trees around an expanse of mixed species turf creates a distinct visual space east of the blacksmith shop. The deteriorated Cook's Cabin is shaded by canopy to the left. Views extend north and east to fields beyond the property. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.30 Route LA-119 is closed to traffic near the plantation Store in this December 2019 view. Barriers mark the road closure to indicate unsafe road conditions. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.31 Embankment failure along the slope of Cane River west of LA-119 and west of the Store has compromised the road integrity. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.32 Wheel stops define 11 parking spaces in the gravel parking area with concrete paving at the handicapped space. A small traffic sign indicates a one-way traffic direction. Interlocking rubber mats improve access along the walks from parking area to Plantation Store. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.33 Along this gravel path between the parking area and Cabin 1, a wood foot bridge crosses a north-south drainage ditch remnant. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.34 Green rubber trail matting defines the walk between the parking lot and Store with a ramp accommodating access to the elevated porch. The matting is largely visible in this area, though vegetation obscures the matting in other areas. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.35 Near the Blacksmith Shop a row of large live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees mark the north park boundary, providing a visual edge. These large oak trees remain as witness trees. The sandstone and pipe may signal a former water trough location. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.36 Traditional limewash on several live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trunks dates to a summer camp activity in 2019. The practice protects trees from disease and excessive summer heat. The deteriorated Cook's Cabin, visible beyond the background tree row, is outside NPS holdings. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.37 This view helps illustrate the massive scale of the oaks at the Overseer's House. The tree shades three picnic tables. The Cotton Picker Shed (background) restricts views to the Store. A new unpainted aluminum lift installed in 2020 (not pictured) blends into the landscape. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.38 A row of large live oak and water oak (*Quercus nigra*) tower over the Cotton Picker Shed (right) and Garage (left) and the Overseer's House (center). A low branch drops to the ground in front of the House limiting views through. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.40 A groundcover of English ivy (*Hedera helix*) fills the landscape in front of the Overseer's House with limited spread beyond the fence into the lawn. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.41 English ivy (*Hedera helix*) surrounds large oak trunks, offset from the Overseer's House by turf and narrow walk. In the foreground, clusters of cast iron plant (*Aspiditra elatior*) grow beneath the spreading branches of oak trees as do resurrection fern. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.42 The Store serves as the visitor contact station for the park. North roof storm water is captured to fill the historic cistern, located to the north of the building. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.43 This view captures the setting of the Overseer's House with a rear addition and L-shaped fence in foreground. Live and water oak trees flank one side with a pecan tree seen on the other side. An ADA lift provides visitor access to the porch. Annabel Jones, CARI.



Figure 3.44 A broad roof overhang shades the Blacksmith Shop. A large live oak and the Pigeonnier provide context for the building. Temporary, plastic fencing controls visitor contact with the Pigeonnier. Annabel Jones, CARI.



Figure 3.45 Expansive turf ground plane surrounds the isolated Gin Barn. The round concrete cistern tank beside the Gin Barn holds rainwater from the large roof. A mature pecan (*Carya illinoiensis*) tree is located at the right. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.46 Rubber mat surfaces the ground plane below the Gin Barn roof overhang. Gutter leads to the cistern at the right edge of this photo. 2020 hurricanes damaged the structure. Annabel Jones, CARI.



Figure 3.47 The sheet metal Stable building with corral, northeast of the Overseer's House, serves as maintenance storage in 2020. Two pecan trees trunks flank it. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.48 A three-sided wooden corn crib likely moved several times during the period of significance contributes to visitor understanding of the property's agricultural heritage. Annabel Jones, CARI.



Figure 3.49 This view into the park property from the adjacent Big House yard shows a two-strand twisted wire fence marking the property boundary. Beyond, metal posts between wood posts line the property east edge near the Cooks' Cabin, outside of NPS property. A large pecan trunk is evident. 11/10/2019. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.50 Wood posts with hog wire and unpainted wood top and bottom rails form a clear boundary with LA- 119 between the Blacksmith Shop and Store. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.51 A hog wire fence with top and bottom wood boards defines the front edge of the Overseer's House garden. White wash or paint on the top rails and two large square posts flank the walk and relate to the white building. The round intermediate posts are unpainted. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.52 Whitewashed or painted board wood fences with round posts and face picket are in varied condition east of the Store, with some elements missing. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.53 New wood posts support hog wire and a string of barbed wire west of the parking lot along LA-119. Hog wire fabric varies in size and material of various metals. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.54 A remnant fence east of the Store is composed of hog wire with wood posts. Stumps of trees grown into the fence remain. A single lower fence board suggests the fence may have had top and bottom wood rails in the past. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.55 Standing wood railroad ties remain marking a former fence line and fence posts along the Mule Lot south of the store. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.56 A purple martin bird house mounted to a repurposed wood utility pole stands south of the Store. The foreground trunk is a recently demised pecan, known as the “pitty pat tree.” A blue recycle bin draws attention and detracts from the historic character. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.57 The primary park entrance sign with brick piers is relates to the on-site materials of the brick cabins in the Quarters. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.58 An interpretive kiosk at the parking lot welcomes visitors to the park; a low profile bike rack is to the left. A pedestrian-scaled light mounted on a wood pole illuminates the path. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.59 Traditional painted slate signs identify each plantation building, while a sign hanging below includes dial-in number and QR code to access an audio tour information. The location of this sign on the Overseer's House porch requires visitors to walk off the path to reach the sign. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.60 A paved ramp cuts into both ends of the Cabin 1 wood porch deck to reach the porch and furnished interior. The accessible path extends to Cabin 2 and connects to the gravel walk to the left, leading to the parking area. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.61 Perennial bulbs in the landscape of the Cabin 1 landscape remain, to include St. Joseph's Lily (*Hippeastrum x johnsonii*) and daffodil (*Narcisscus*) foliage. These flowering bulbs persist former cabin gardens as remnants of residential landscapes. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.62 Organized in a grid pattern, Quarters buildings face west with rebuilt extended galvanized metal porch roofs to shade the structure from hot afternoon sun. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.



Figure 3.63 Porch roofs of corrugated metal were added to all cabins to replace missing historic roofs. They shade the west façade of each Quarters building. As shown in this photograph, most buildings do not have porch decking, but have a dirt floor surface. The concrete edge of a below-ground cistern is visible beside the building (yellow circle). 11/10/2019. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.64 Gutters on the Cabin 1 porch roof convey rainwater to folded sheet of corrugated metal which spills into the historic cistern. 11/10/2019. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.65 A contemporary fence demarcates the park boundary north of the Quarters. Strung with wire between trees and wood posts, this NPS era vernacular-style fence also includes small sections with top boards, presenting a rustic appearance. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.

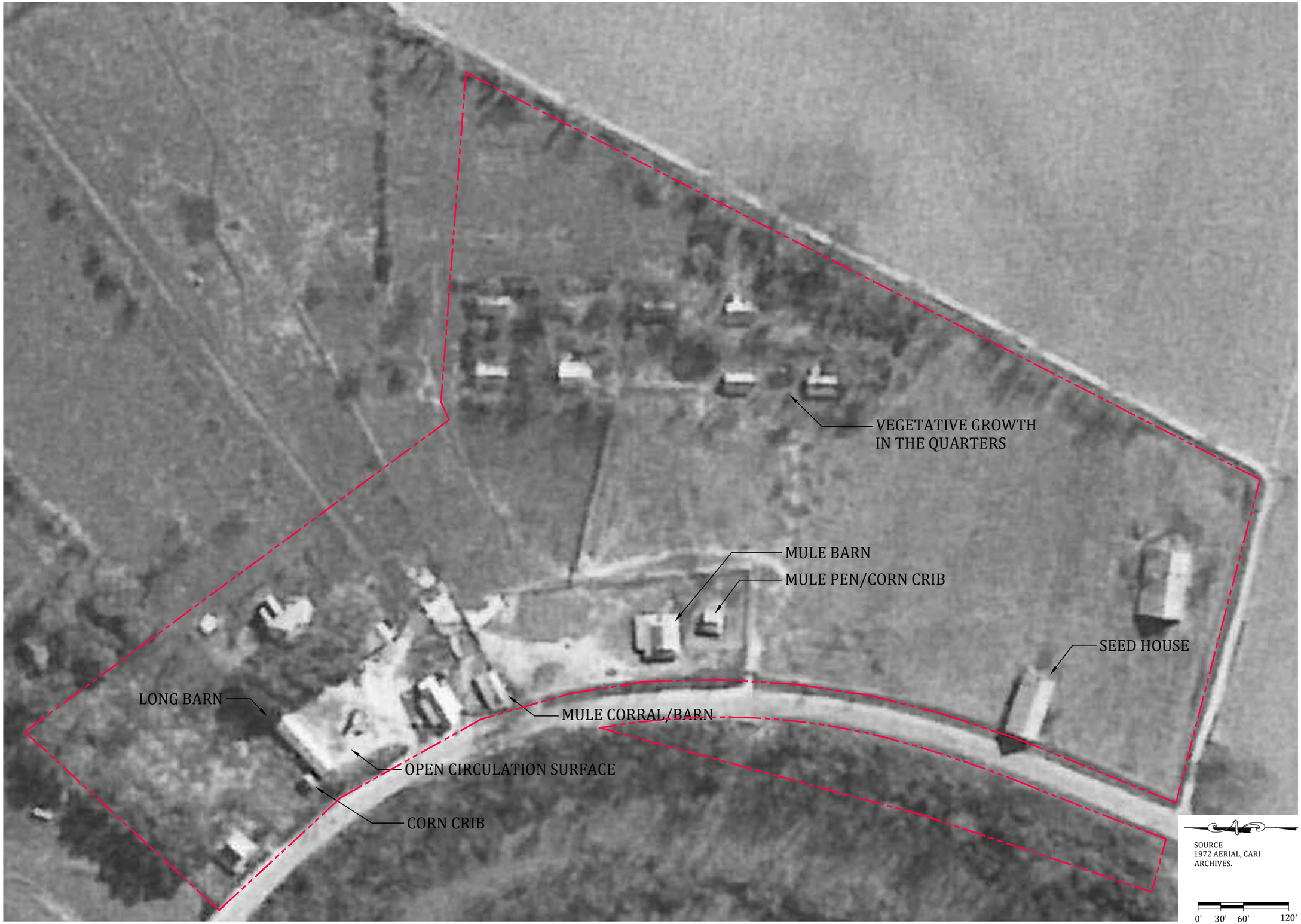


Figure 3.66 Safety fencing surrounds the covered dipping vat at the east boundary of LCA 2, alerting and protecting visitors from the trip and fall hazard and toxic soils. 11/10/2019. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 3.67 A traditional slate sign rests on a wrought iron post-mounted rack identifying this cabin. An information card for the Park audio tour hangs below. However, placement requires visitors to walk off the trail in an area that contains historic plants. Heritage Landscapes.

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SOURCE
1972 AERIAL, CARI
ARCHIVES.

0' 30' 60' 120'



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Cane River Creole National Historical Park

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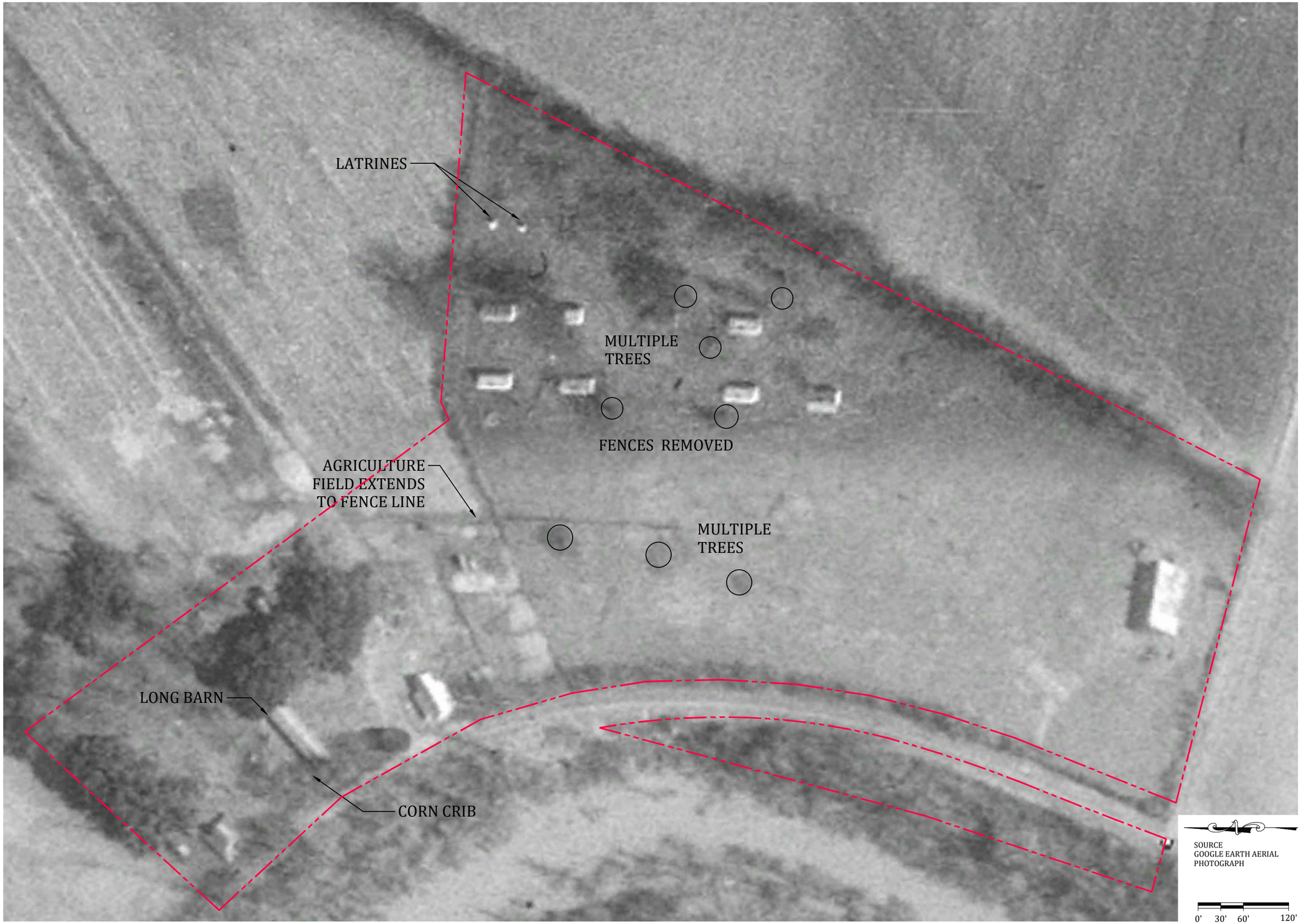
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1972
Aerial

Date:
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L7



SOURCE
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PHOTOGRAPH

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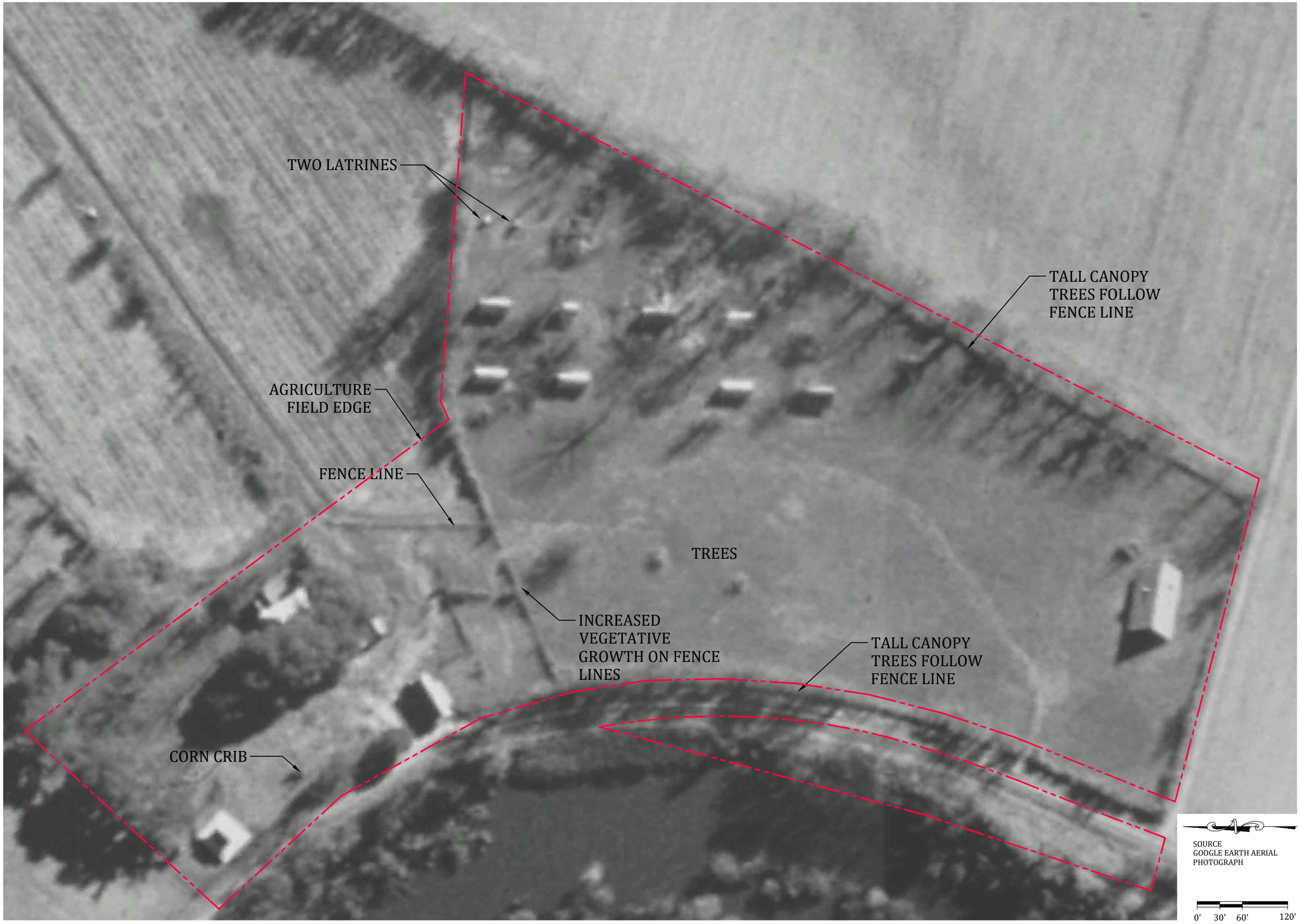
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L8





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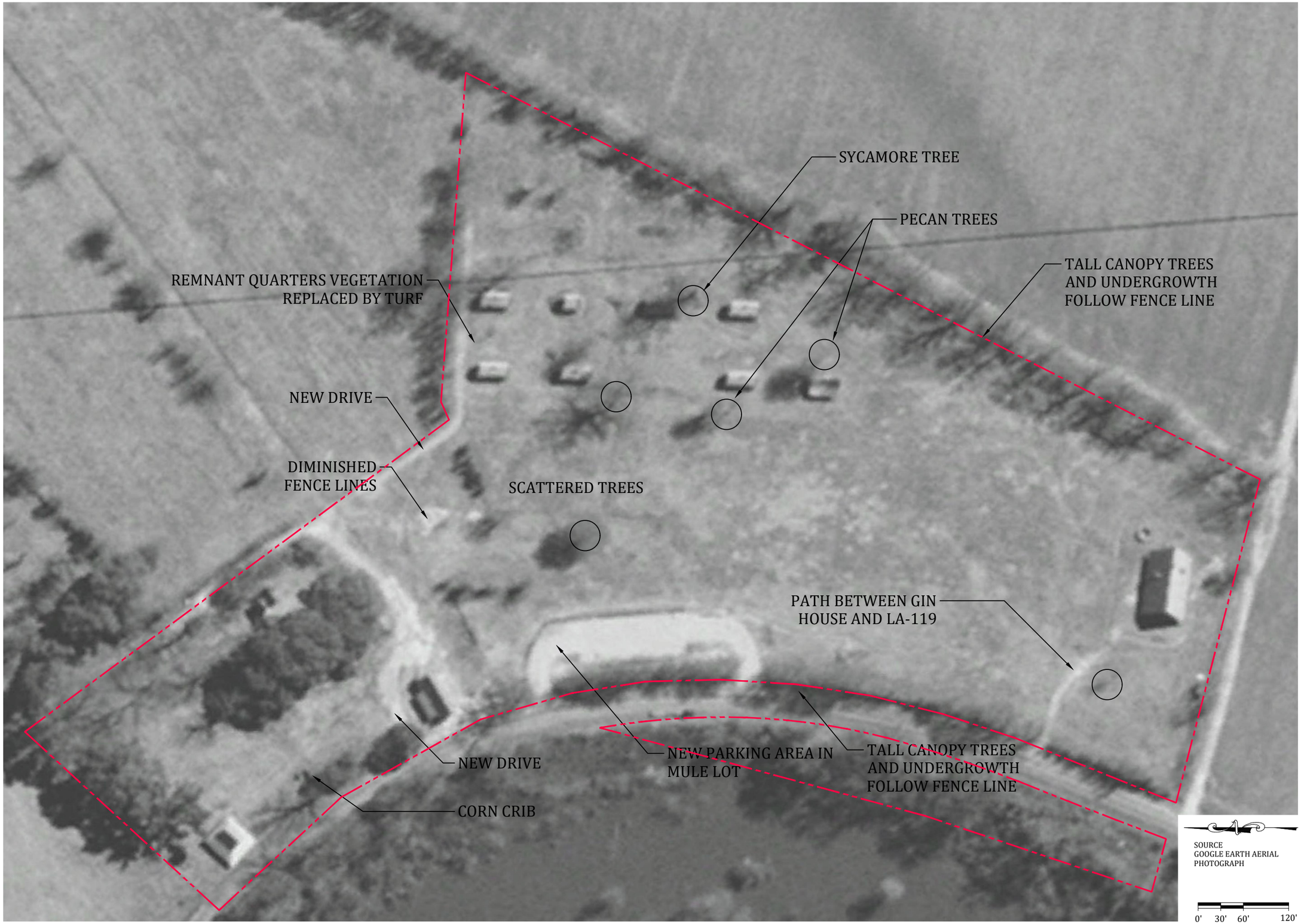
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1998 Aerial

Date:
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L9





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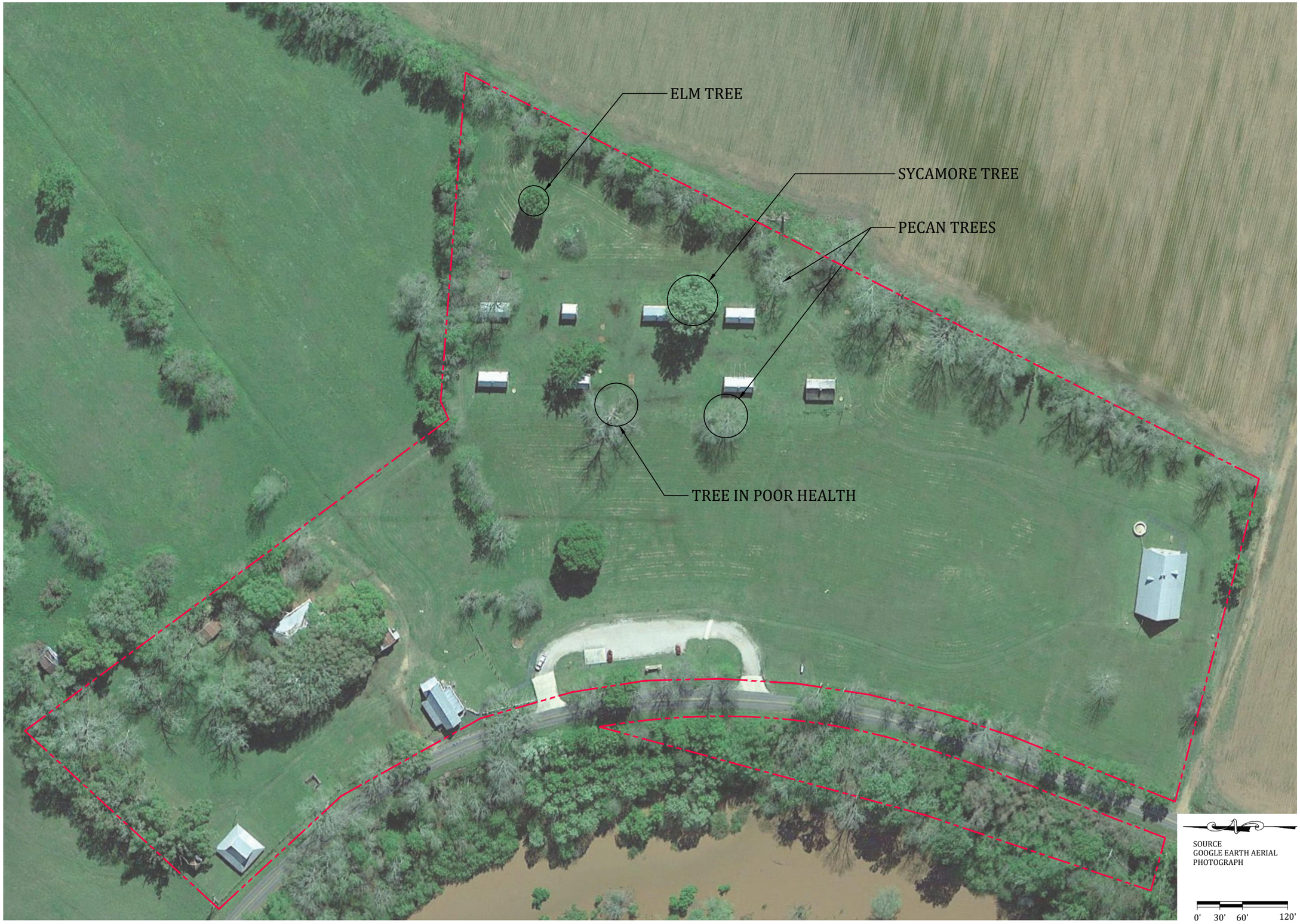
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2009 Aerial

Date:
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Drawing Number:

L11



SOURCE
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2013 Aerial

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Aerial

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Drawing Number:
L13

BUILDING/STRUCTURE/FEATURE KEY

1-8 CABINS

A. BLACKSMITH SHOP

B. PIGEONNIER

C. CORN CRIB

D. STABLE

E. OVERSEER'S HOUSE

F. GARAGE

G. COTTON PICKER SHED

H. PLANTATION STORE

I. GIN BARN/COTTON GIN

J. COTTON GIN CISTERN

K. COTTON GIN MACHINERY PEDESTAL

L. DIPPING VAT

M. FOOT BRIDGE

N. VISITOR CONTACT SIGN AND BIKE RACK

O. FOOTING STONE OF FORMER BUILDING

SYMBOL KEY

- DECIDUOUS TREE
- BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREE
- ORNAMENTAL TREE
- TREE MASS
- PLANTING
- HISTORIC TREE
- REMOVED TREE (10/2020)
- ROUGH TURF
- MOWN TURF
- BANK VEGETATION
- RUBBER TRAIL MAT
- GRAVEL
- CONCRETE
- ASPHALT
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- FENCE
- NPS IDENTITY SIGN
- CISTERN
- PICNIC TABLE
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR (2019)
- NPS BOUNDARY



SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 2019 CARI GIS, CARI & HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

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2020 Landscape Plan

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9/2021

Drawing Number:

L14

TREE SPECIES KEY

An	ACER NEGUNDO	BOX ELDER
Ci	CARYA ILLINOINENSIS	PECAN
Co	CELTIS OCCIDENTALIS	AMERICAN HACKBERRY
Ma	MORUS ALBA	MULBERRY
Po	PLATANUS OCCIDENTALIS	AMERICAN SYCAMORE
Qn	QUERCUS NIGRA	WATER OAK
Qv	QUERCUS VIRGINIANA	SOUTHERN LIVE OAK
Ua	ULMUS AMERICANA	AMERICAN ELM
Us	ULMUS SPECIES	ELM

TREE KEY

CANOPY DIAMETER	ORNAMENTAL TREES DBH
8'	UNDER 8"
16'	8-16"
24'	17-24"
32'	25-31"
40'	32" AND UP

CANOPY DIAMETER	DECIDUOUS TREES DBH
10'	UNDER 4"
20'	4-8"
30'	9-16"
40'	17-24"
50'	25-31"
60'	32" AND UP

CANOPY DIAMETER	BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREES DBH
10'	UNDER 4"
20'	4-8"
30'	9-16"
40'	17-24"
50'	25-31"
60'	32" AND UP

HISTORIC TREE

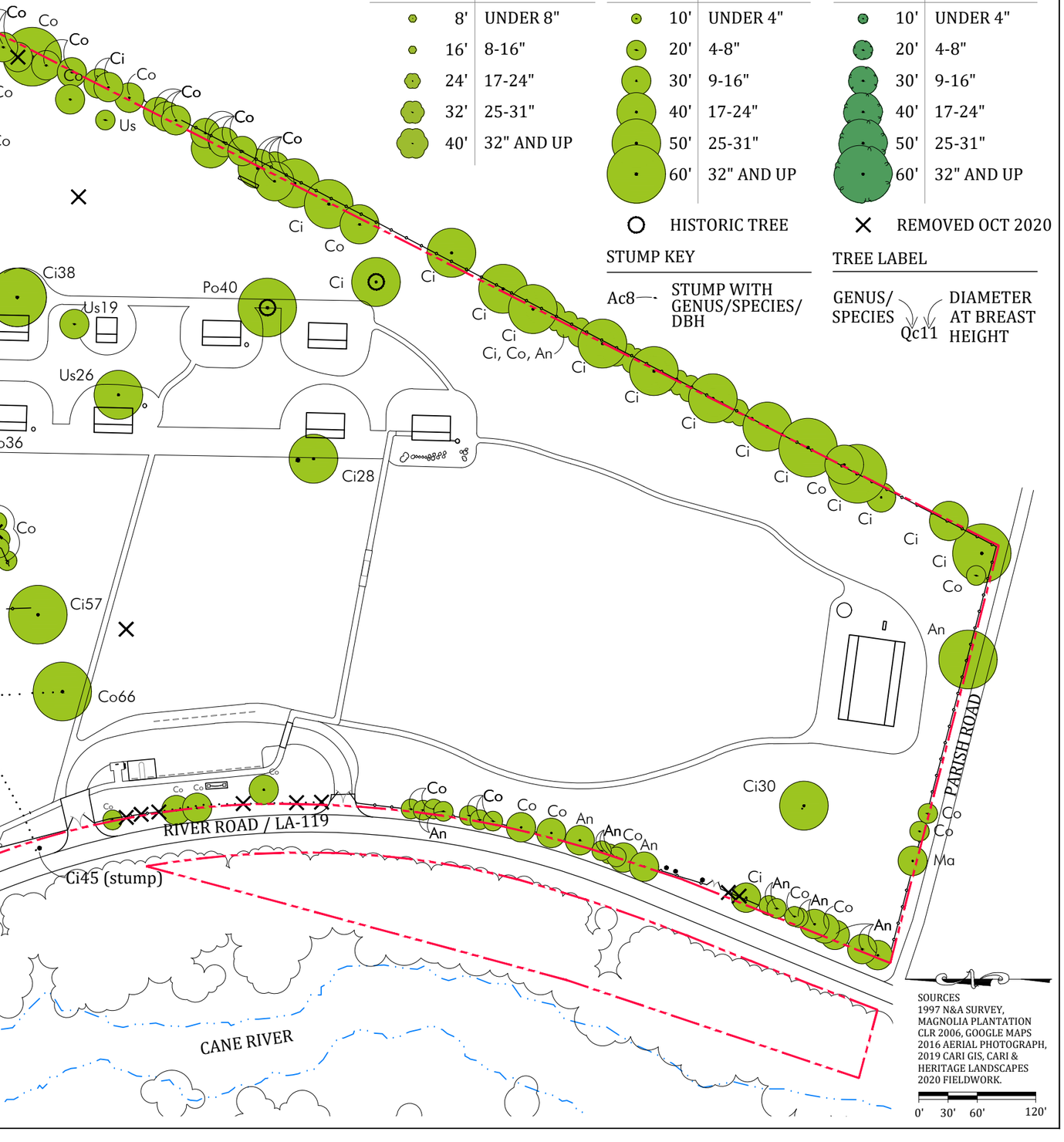
REMOVED OCT 2020

STUMP KEY

Ac8 — STUMP WITH GENUS/SPECIES/DBH

TREE LABEL

GENUS/SPECIES — Qc11 — DIAMETER AT BREAST HEIGHT



SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 2019 CARI GIS, CARI & HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

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2020 Trees

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9/2021

Drawing Number:
L15

SYMBOL KEY

- BARBED WIRE & WOOD POST
- BARBED WIRE & METAL POST
- WIRE & WOOD POST - TWISTED TWO-STRAND
- WIRE, BOARD & WOOD POST - NPS VERNACULAR
- HOGWIRE, BOARD & WOOD POST
- HOGWIRE & WOOD POST
- 3 BOARD & WOOD POST
- 4 BOARD & WOOD POST
- WOOD POST ONLY

RIVER ROAD / LA-119

PARISH ROAD

CANE RIVER

SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 2019 CARI GIS, CARI & HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 120'



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2020 Fences

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Drawing Number:
L16



4 ▪ Landscape Significance, Integrity and Analysis

A. Introduction to Landscape Significance

This chapter explores the significance of the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation and provides a comparison of the existing landscape with the historic landscape as documented to the middle of the twentieth century. Dates of period plan comparison include circa 1941 and 1958 in order to present the gradual transition of landscape features between a resident and non-resident labor force and between the production of cotton and cattle based on documentary sources. Both dates fall within the twentieth century years of the property period of significance, which begins in 1835 with the land grant and ends in 1976 as the commercial agriculture shift is completed.

By capturing landscape character and details at these points, these plans offer potential guidance for landscape preservation treatment recommendations. Enumeration of currently existing contributing and non-contributing features underpins the investigation of the historic integrity of the Magnolia Plantation landscape. The figures also aid in the analysis as several of these, offering direct visual comparison of historic and existing images. A group of analysis drawings accompany this illustrated narrative to further the graphic capture of continuity and change:

- L17 Aerial Comparison, c1941, c1958, 1994 and 2016
- L18 Landscape Comparison, c1941, c1958 and 2020
- L19 Circulation Comparison
- L20 Vegetation Comparison
- L21 Fences Comparison
- L22 Buildings Comparison
- L23 Archaeological Sensitivity Plan

This group of 11x17 plan drawings graphically augment and provide detail for the Chapter 4 text and figures, as in prior chapters.

B. Landscape Significance and Period of Significance, 1835 to 1976

Extending from the historic property development beginning in 1835 to the late twentieth century when resident labor was supplanted by commercial agriculture, the narrative addresses aspects of landscape significance, integrity and analysis of continuity and change at Magnolia Plantation. As part of CARI, this plantation embodies the collective heritage and evolution of plantation life for 141 years, in the unique Cane River region from 1835 in the first half of the nineteenth century, to 1976. Numerous documents have identified and expanded understanding of the significance of the plantation landscape and the dating that relates to its areas of significance under National Register criteria.

As a framework for all historic properties, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) establishes four criteria by which to assign historic significance:

- Criterion A: Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of US history;
- Criterion B: Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- Criterion C: Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artists values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
- Criterion D: Has yielded or may be likely to yield information important to history or prehistory.

Magnolia Plantation gained listing in the NRHP in 1979.[1] As an early listing, the NRHP nomination of that date fails to itemize the criteria used for determination of significance and has minimal text. The nomination indicated significance in the areas of agriculture and architecture for the nineteenth century with specific dates of ca. 1840 and 1899, to mark the initial construction and later reconstruction of the

Main House. The nomination stressed the national importance of the surviving cabins for enslaved workers, the 1830s cotton press, and the Main House, all of which remain today through prior preservation efforts. Discussion of cultural landscape features and broader landscape patterns is largely missing.

In 2001, Magnolia Plantation became a national historic landmark (NHL).[2] Inscribed as a district containing the cultural landscape of the plantation, the nomination identified 21 resources that contribute to national significance in the area of agriculture for the years ca. 1835 to 1939. The nomination focused on the size and integrity of the plantation complex, slave cabins, and the cotton ginning equipment. Noting the importance of the cotton ginning equipment, the end date used for this NHL period of significance relates to the year when the plantation outsourced cotton processing. The NHL identified criteria indicating that Magnolia Plantation is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of US history. The NHL further describes that the plantation meets NHL Criteria 1 and 5 with Criterion 1 akin to NRHP Criterion A. These criteria indicate the collective importance of the plantation complex as an outstanding characterization of a way of life, as well as contributing to broad patterns of history.

Drawing on public comment and technical and planning reports, the 2001 CARI General Management Plan (GMP) highlighted connections between the region's cultural heritage and the physical resources of the park.[3] The GMP expanded the period for interpretation of Magnolia Plantation to the 1960s in order to include important resources added after 1939 and to embrace the mid-twentieth century farming culture when resident laborers inhabited the Quarters and the commercial farming transition was underway.

The 2006 Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) investigated and unfolded additional areas of significance associated with cultural connections to the landscape over time.[4] The CLR made use of archeological studies and ethnographic research with the Hertzog family, former resident workers, and their descendants. The 2006 CLR employed a period of significance dating from 1753 to the "end of the plantation system around 1960."[5] The significance discussion identified national significance of the plantation landscape under NRHP Criterion A, like the NHL nomination, and added Criteria C and D.[6]

Criterion A: Association with the history of cotton plantations from the colonial period onward
The Magnolia Plantation landscape represents the outcome of numerous significant events and historic processes in the US. The features of this plantation landscape reflect the evolving economic, social and political context of cotton agriculture in the American South through plantation eras of European colonialism, slavery, day laborer and tenant farming and the introduction of mechanized agriculture. Through these shifts, the plantation landscape demonstrates adaptation to changes in technology and farm labor forces. The persistence of historic trees, roads, fence lines, and plantation buildings within the context of views to the Cane River valley and surrounding agricultural fields clearly indicate an association with broad patterns of US history.

Criterion C: Illustration of the distinctive landscape characteristics of a cotton plantation
The cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation presents an outstanding example of a distinctive style of southern cotton plantation from its development as dependent on enslaved and tenant labor to reliance on farm mechanization. Characteristic of a French Creole plantation of the Red River region, the landscape of Magnolia Plantation displays the adaptation of French patterns and spatial layout to the environment along the Cane River. Tree rows and farm lanes evoke the long lots based on the French arpent that originated at the river. The historic landscape remains legible as a complex punctuated by a constellation of associated buildings, structures, and historic trees. A layered coherency exists among the relationships between the brick cabins of the Quarters and other farm buildings, including the Main House (outside of the NPS property), combined with patches of garden plants, fences, cisterns and other features at the ground level.

Criterion D: Potential to yield important historical information
The subsurface of Magnolia Plantation possesses great potential for research on the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation. Topics for future research include gaining a greater understanding of the practices and features of residential life in the Quarters, the evolution of farm operations, the alteration of landscape features such as fences and buildings, and evidence of plantation patterns that are now absent from the ground plane.

The addition of Criterion D was based on the findings of previous professional archeological investigations in 1980, 1991, and between 1996 and 1999, which provided information on the potential value of further excavations and archeo-geophysical surveys in the future.[7]

The investigations of the late 1990s by SEAC uncovered significant artifacts from pre-Colonial indigenous eras, through American slavery, and into the decades of plantation modernization.[8] A systematic phase 2 survey of 1,206 tests gridded across the property resulted in 52 auger holes revealing historic materials. The report concluded with a series of questions for future archaeological investigation including locating several missing buildings and structures and increasing understanding of slave resident lives. In 2004, additional research combined these archeological investigations with historic and ethnographic studies to clarify an understanding of the social and environmental context of the Magnolia Plantation's cultural landscape.[9] The plantation landscape has experienced little ground

disturbance since the close of the period of significance and any remaining archaeological features are likely to remain intact.

Park staff use the data and findings gathered in these studies to review potential project undertakings and avoid archeologically-sensitive areas during NHPA Section 106 compliance planning. CARI Park staff with archeological training steward subsurface resources by monitoring minor subsurface construction projects. CARI also utilizes SEAC archeologists for geophysical survey, monitoring and mitigation activities. Drawing L23 Archeological Sensitivity Plan depicts the areas of the property that are likely to hold important subsurface evidence that may yield valuable information.

Acknowledging the previous studies, this updated 2020 CLR supports the identification of NRHP Criteria A, C, and D as determined in the 2006 CLR and recommends a period of significance dating from 1753 to 1976. While the land grant dates to the 1753, the initial development of Magnolia Plantation took place 82 years later in 1835, which focuses that date of building as the first point of significance. That period of historic importance for Magnolia Plantation extends to the 1976, the date that witnessed the end of reliance on a resident labor force and saw related landscape changes from depopulation. The sequential eras of landscape change and social and economic evolution on the ground at Magnolia Plantation are framed by this 141-year period of significance. Recent cultural resource documentation by the NPS, and concurrence on contributing resources through a Determination of Eligibility by the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office in 2018, uphold an expanded period of significance and extend the final date to 1976 a 45-year span from 2021.[10] Within the 1835 to 1976 period of significance, appropriate dates for comparison to the present cluster within the mid-twentieth century, offer points when adequate documentation coincides with a resident labor force prior to the close of the manual labor supported plantation system.

C. Landscape Continuity and Change

Comparative analysis of the 2020 Magnolia Plantation between the circa 1941, 1958, and 2020 landscapes utilized historic ground and aerial photographs and period plans to explore continuity and change. A number of historic and contemporary images and analysis plans compare and provide visual evidence for landscape continuity and change over time.

A series of feature-focused diagrams and overlays, on four plans, further this analysis. These diagrams employ orange linework and fill for 1941 features, green for 1958, and blue for 2020. The applied layering protocol puts the earliest date on the bottom layer with the most current 2020 layer on top. Therefore, if blue (2020) shows over an historic element it means continuity; the historic element remains. However, if orange (1941) and green (1958) shows, it means change; the historic element was removed or has been lost over time. Assessment of period plans and current landscape documentation was applied to the development of these graphics shown on L19 Circulation Comparison L20 Vegetation Comparison, L21, Fences Comparison and L22 Buildings Comparison, each discussed by character-defining feature below.

The last plan of the analysis, L23 Archeological Sensitivity Plan, employs an overlay of the 1941, 1958 and 2020 landscapes with areas previously determined to be archaeologically sensitive. The plan includes graphic bubbles to diagram areas of archaeological sensitivity as mapped in the 1999 "A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation." This graphic supports the stewardship of unknown subsurface resources by revealing historic patterns and features no longer present that may be evident below grade.

C1. Cane River Context Continuity and Change

The fluvial river system of Cane River influenced the use and development of the Magnolia Plantation landscape throughout its long history. The continued geographic relationship between the plantation and adjacent Cane River can be seen on L17 Aerial Comparison. The fertile soils cultivated by river deposition across the mostly level landscape buoyed human habitation and agricultural use. The Magnolia Plantation landscape continues to benefit from centuries of natural soil improvements. However, increased flooding and the natural processes of the river have begun to shift the alignment of the river to the east, causing embankment de-stabilization along LA-119 west of the Store.

C2. Spatial Organization Continuity and Change

The primary organizational element of the Magnolia Plantation landscape was and continues to be the Cane River. Circulation, building, and fence alignments radiate from the river arc. With these essential relationships intact, other elements of spatial organization vary in continuity and change.

Plan L17 Aerial Comparison, 1941, 1958, 1994 and 2016 shows four aerial photographs side-by-side on a single sheet to easily compare continuity and change. The 1994 aerial marks the year that Cane River Creole National Historical Park was established, though NPS did not acquire Magnolia Plantation land until 1996 and 1998. Regardless, the aerial shows the landscape prior to NPS improvements, with new mowing patterns by Museum Contents. The decline in agricultural use, witnessed by fewer paths over time and fewer on-site residents, clearly shows up in comparing the 1941 and 1958 images to 1994 and 2016. Another important note is the change in plowing, crops, pasture, or other productive uses in 1994 and 2016.

Fences along the NPS property boundary form the organizing perimeter and roughly reflect historic property edges. Plan L18 Landscape Comparison, circa 1941, circa 1958, and 2020 most clearly shows these relationships with the NPS boundary shown in orange over the 1941 and 1958 plans for comparison.[11] The north, south, and eastern-most NPS property boundaries correspond with historic fence lines, preserving spatial organization patterns. To the west, the boundary reflecting the mid-twentieth century shows LA-119 (River Road) remaining along the property boundary with the Cane River on the opposite side of the state road. The east boundary behind the Overseer's House and north boundary of the Quarters landscapes bear little association to historic spatial boundaries as larger parcels of land were subdivided to establish the park. East of the Overseer's House, the NPS property edge intersects ca.1941 garden beds and pasture landscapes with the organizing fence line approximately 100 feet beyond the park property. North of the Quarters, the property edge aligns with the Cabin 5 fence line though the historic area appears to extend north to the angled pasture fence. These boundary alignment adjustments alter the landscape spatial organization, with contemporary boundary fences disrupting historic connections.

Loss of internal fence lines diminish spatial organization within the Magnolia Plantation landscape. While the numerous remaining buildings and structures preserve alignments and relationships, historic subdivisions of land use such as field crops, vegetable gardens, and pasture are not legible in the 2020 landscape. These fenced areas, critical to plantation function, organized landscape use. The 2020 landscape lacks distinguishable subdivisions and, therefore, falls short in conveying the multiple agricultural and residential undertakings underway during the Magnolia Plantation period of significance.

C3. Views and Vistas Continuity and Change

For the park property, the 2020 landscape generally expresses more open views and vistas than the historic landscape as some small-scale features are no longer present. Fences in the 1941 and 1958 landscape partially screened and divided views (Figure 4.1). Typically, eye-level views extended over the fences, under live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) canopy, and across the broad, flat terrain. While views continue in 2020, the loss of a number of subdividing fences open views to a greater extent than historically present, while dropped live oak tree branches partially obscure specific views. For example, a low oak branch compromises an historically significant view to and from the Overseer's House main façade. This single large branch reaches to the ground, blocking views to and from the west porch. A line of live oaks east of the Blacksmith's Shop effectively visually buffer the Main House to the north in 2020 as it did during the period of significance, preserving visual character.

There are several missing buildings that formerly contributed to views and to the visual space-shaping patterns between 1958 and today. Historically, these currently missing buildings were present:

- The shed southwest of the Overseer's House apparent on the 1958 aerial, current site of the Cotton Picker Shed
- Tall bell tower rising above the Plantation Yards southeast of the Store
- Mule Barn and unnamed shed near it
- Seed House
- Outhouses and additions to cabins

The former Overseer House shed is replaced with the somewhat larger Cotton Picker Shed, leaving no gap in spatial organization. The Bell Tower served as a visual and auditory focus of plantation life apparent across the landscape and marking times of work day. This missing feature diminishes historic view character and daily soundscape. The Mule Barn was another notable spatial feature and a focal element along LA-119. The distinctive Seed House served as a frontage element adding mass along LA-119 that is missing today.

There are also views upon approaching the property and views out from within it that are important to the character of the landscape within an adjacent context. Views to the river and riverbanks along LA-119 and approach views to Magnolia Plantation along the highway when arriving from north and south offer previews of the park and overviews of landscape character. When arriving from the north, the sweeping curve of LA-119 with the Blacksmith Shop, Pigeonnaire, and later Store on the left cue visitors to this special place. Similarly, when approaching from the south, the curve of LA-119 with the Gin Barn

and Quarters in the distance creates a unique arrival experience. The full visual experience is truncated today with the road closure along LA-119. Within the park, views of the broader plantation fields beyond the park boundary, as well as the views to the core property highlight the former holdings of the LeCompte-Hertzog planter families. Views to adjacent cultivated crops, including cotton, corn, and soybeans, and adjacent pastures with grazing cattle connect the plantation present to its past.

The current 2020 circulation patterns serve as the route to experience the landscape visually. As that circulation has evolved for access, not on historic alignments, the perception of visual space has been altered. In terms of visual change, a striking landscape change is the loss of fences. Today a much more open landscape greets park visitors. In contrast, the historic landscape was subdivided by fences based on landscape uses. These patterns are no longer evident. Vegetation patterns have also changed over time. For example, the mid-twentieth century historic Quarters area had more trees, such as smaller fruit bearing trees, larger canopy trees offering shade, and pecan, a protein-rich food source. The appearance of the Quarters historically, as seen in sharecropper era views, shows both trees and gardens created a more vertical landscape that complemented the cabin building massing.

From within the landscape, the views west from the Gin vicinity toward the hills of Kisatchie National Forest are visible, especially during winter months. Also, the viewshed facing southeast from the Quarters and Gin to Cloutierville remains visible. Open views across areas of fields of crops and pasture remain. During the period of significance, the Magnolia Plantation property reached far beyond the plantation yard and quarters landscapes of LCAs 1 and 2. Views to these fields extended north, east and south, partially screened with fence and tree rows. Extended views beyond the NPS property perimeter to adjacent agricultural fields persist in 2020.

C4. Topography Continuity and Change

Topography across the property remains largely consistent from the period of significance. The relatively level ground plane, with slopes generally ranging from one to two percent across the site, has experienced no notable grading interventions since the mid-twentieth century. Surface erosion and lack of maintenance has obscured the historic drainage swales that were part of the surface water management system. Note the potential swales shown on Plan L18, that highlights a sequence of historic ditches or swales draining west to east, found in remnant form today. In addition, the presence of functioning cisterns at many buildings through the early 1970s can be observed today as circular

depressions. Over time, the unused cisterns collapsed and settled or were filled. The park is currently completing a topographic survey to identify low points, collapsed cisterns, and the remnant ditches.

Changes in topography are actively occurring along the Cane River bank in relationship to LA-119. Since 2017, the park has observed that each flood or storm event shifts the river to the east nearer or into the roadway.[12] The riverbank west of LA-119 is significantly steeper in 2020 than in the historic landscape and, as the bank moves east from river flow and wave actions, the undermining of the river bank and adjacent road proceeds incrementally. The crumbling of the river side of the road paving evident on site and has caused road closure opposite the Store. Similar events approximately 20 years ago also began to undermine the road immediately south of the current road closure; however, the Louisiana Department of Transportation Development (LADOTD) repaired that previous embankment failure at that time. Today there are other points of failure along LA-119 that make bank stabilization a larger issue, and LADOTD has contended that LA-119 is a minor route with limited traffic, suggesting it does not raise in importance for significant funding.

D. LCA 1 Landscape Continuity and Change

D1. LCA 1 Circulation Continuity and Change

For L19, showing circulation, the diminished interior path system marks the change from inhabited—used daily by many people crossing the landscape; to lightly visited—with few visitors moving around the park and no productive landscape. Additionally, the purpose and alignment of the existing circulation provided for park visitors focuses on functionality, not the historic alignment of paths and drives.

The extent of paths and farm lanes through the Magnolia Plantation landscape diminished between circa 1941 and 2020. Plan L18 Landscape Comparison and Plan L19 Circulation Comparison ca.1941, ca.1958 and 2020 illustrates changes to the circulation network over time. The active and populated landscape circa 1940s and 1950s formed a web of compacted soil paths, worn by frequent foot traffic of people and animals. Where paths crossed fence lines, stiles provided an efficient crossing method which were faster and less expensive to construct than gates. The adjacent road, LA-119, historically served as part of the pedestrian network with paths linking to the road from the Gin and Seed House, Store and Overseer's House, and Quarters. By 1958, as the plantation increasingly used mechanized

agricultural methods and more vehicles, the walk network simplified with narrow worn footpaths. With an increase in vehicles, a large clearing of compacted earth or gravel formed a roughly circular vehicle and equipment parking area between the Garage, Overseer's House, and Store. The historic heavily used and compacted footpaths are not visible today although compacted soils may remain along former alignments.

In 2020, an elongated U-shaped gravel drive and parking area accommodates visitor vehicles. Gray crushed limestone gravel, mown turf, and rubber mat geogrid surfaced paths, connect landscape features through LCA 1. A gravel path, including a small wood bridge over a low-lying swale, connect the parking area and Quarters landscapes and corresponds to location and alignment of a circa 1958 route. Further north, as visible on the diagram L19, the mown path to the Quarters lies between two circa 1958 path locations. The existing gravel access drive passing between the Store and Overseer's House, first appears on L10, 2004 Aerial view. This new circulation alignment fails to follow a historic route, nor does the mown trail connecting the Store and Blacksmith Shop. While these drives and paths effectively connect landscape features today, they do not reflect historic movement patterns. None of the current paths or drives exhibits the historic material character of exposed, compacted earth or tan-colored chert (Figure 4.2).

Unsafe road conditions limit Magnolia Plantation access from the north along LA-119. This route served as the primary access route to the property throughout plantation history. As a result of embankment failure and soil instability, noted first in November 2017, a road barrier in front of the Magnolia Store permanently closed vehicular access in June of 2018. As noted in the previous chapter, there is also a second area of collapse starting near the site parking lot access. These soil stability issues along Cane River limit site access and may eventually impact site stability on NPS lands.

C2. LCA 1 Vegetation Continuity and Change

Plan L20 Vegetation Comparison reveals changing patterns of trees and volunteer vegetation massing across time from 1941 to 1958 to 2020. The tendency for vegetation to grow along fence lines is captured in 1941, while it decreases with fewer fences shown in 1958, and further decreases within the interior of the landscape by 2020. The boundary fence provides the exception as vegetation grows along the property margins, but changes era to era. The live and water oak (*Quercus virginiana* and *Q. nigra*)

row at the Overseer's House repeats through to the present, as does the live oak row north of the Blacksmith Shop along the park boundary.

Field crops and pasture with scattered canopy trees characterized the majority of LCA 1 vegetation during the period of significance. Pasture fields held grasses and hay, maintained at a low height by grazing animals. Crops including cotton, corn, and hay filled the field near the Gin, worked and harvested by a combination of labor, mules, and mechanized equipment. These two vegetation types, related to agricultural uses, no longer persist in the Magnolia Plantation landscape. Instead, a mown ground plane fills the expanses that would have historically held productive vegetation. Around the buildings and along the paths, the ground plane is mowed at a height of 2 to 3 inches, and elsewhere the ground is mown via bush hog that cuts grasses to 6 to 8 inches. Park staff attempt to bush hog the grounds when the taller grasses reach a height of 18 to 24 inches. This activity effectively conveys the character of the historic pasture grasses (Figure 4.3).

Documentation supports that ornamental and fruit-bearing vegetation was grown near the Blacksmiths Shop and at the Overseer's House during the period of significance. In general, the presence of ornamental and edible plants is greatly diminished over time. For example, blackberries (*Rubus* sp.) once found near the Blacksmith Shop are no longer present. A bed of herbaceous flowers as well as fruit and flowering trees including plum (*Prunus persica*) and pear (*Pyrus communis*) that populated the residential landscape of the Overseer's House are no longer present. The diminished, remaining ornamental character at the Overseer's House includes a groundcover of English ivy (*Hedera helix*) and groupings of cast iron plant (*Aspidistra* sp.) west of the house. These plants at the Overseer's House, various flowering bulbs in LCA 1 (St. Joseph's lily [*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*], red spider lilies [*Lycoris radiata*], and rain lilies [*Zaphyranthes* spp.]), and the flowering bulbs at the Quarters all persist from earlier gardening activities. The 2020 landscape does not include flowering trees. The mown turf to the north of the Overseer's House today, differs in character from the historic garden area there, that was organized in a linear pattern.

The characteristic feature of scattered mixed canopy trees to shade people and animals continues in 2020 along with somewhat diminished tree rows along fence lines, field edges, and road. The emblematic large broad crowns of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) and water oak (*Quercus nigra*) trees near the Overseer's House and Blacksmith Shop persist in location and scale to the present. Pecan

(*Carya illinoinensis*) trees, also a constant presence on the property are noted in LCA1 and along the east edge of LCA 2.

Informal tree lines historically marked landscape edges in several locations: near the Overseer's House; around the Mule Pen; and south and east of the Gin Barn. Remnants of these linear plantings remain in 2020 with larger trees possibly dating to the period of significance, while smaller trees have likely volunteered from on-site seed sources. The landscape and vegetative edge of the Mule Pen is missing in 2020. A line of large live oak trees persists east of the Blacksmith Shop, maintaining separation between the Plantation Yards and the Main House (Figure 4.4). A second line of large mixed live oak and water oak mark the west edge of the Overseer's House landscape. These witness trees stand from the period of significance, contributing to the landscape patina of age.

C3. LCA 1 Buildings and Structures Continuity and Change

Plan L22 Buildings demonstrates considerable continuity; the majority of buildings present in 1941 and 1958 remain.

The patterns of buildings diminished over the period from the mid-twentieth century to the present, and a few small buildings were added, as depicted on Plan L18 Landscape Comparison, ca.1941, ca.1958 and 2020 and L22 Buildings Comparison. Many of the buildings and structures from the period of significance persist in 2020. The extensive number and condition of remaining buildings contribute greatly to the overall landscape historic character. Contributing buildings and structures, include the Plantation Store, Overseer's House, Blacksmith Shop, Pigeonnier, Gin Barn, Garage, Stable, Cotton Picker Shed, and Corn Crib. Remaining contributing cisterns include those at the Gin and Store, , which are actively used to collect roof water.

The Bell Tower, documented in two constructed forms, is missing from the landscape. Recorded on the 1972 aerial, does not show up on the 1994 or 2004 aerial views. The Mule Pen and Mule Barn housed the Hertzog-bred mules and, positioned along the main road, prominently featured the animals for sale. This unique and valuable aspect of twentieth century history is missing from the landscape today, while the current parking lot intrudes on the former site of these characteristic features. The Seed House, shown in both orange and green, was moved and later removed. Positioned along LA-119, a companion

in functional use to the Gin Barn nearby, this large structure is present on the 1972 aerial and disappears before the 1994 aerial view.

A wood bridge along the path between the parking area and LCA 2 Quarters was added in 2017 and passes over a typically wet swale. Bridges are not a part of the historic landscape vocabulary and this non-contributing feature deviates from the historic character to address contemporary visitor needs.

C4. LCA 1 Small-scale Features Continuity and Change

While several small-scale features persist, others are missing today. Specific documented small features include those near the Store, which served as the social heart of the historic landscape. Features included a pair of gasoline pumps in front and boxes and barrels on the porch which served as casual seating (Figures 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5). A martin house perched at the top of a tall pole south of the Store remains in 2020, though it has been relocated from its original location north of the Store. On the Overseer's House porch, wood benches and porch swing remain today, hinting at the former historic residential use.

Fences are particularly important to the shaping of landscape spaces. Plan L21 captures fences by era to clearly demonstrate the definition of spatial compartments based on land use functions. The definition of spaces with fences of different types is an aspect of the park missing today as few interior fences remain. The perimeter fences are also important and intact, as they still serve a purpose of restricting site access and keeping out feral pigs. The historic landscape included fences of post and rail, woven wire, hog wire, scrap wood, and wood pickets. Overall Plan L21 records the reduction of fences that formed interior landscape patterns of land uses in the mid-twentieth century and are largely missing today with a few notable remnants. The park perimeter fence while intact today with both new and historic alignments, likely contains fence posts installed over time. The frontage fence along LA-119 changed with the road shift to the east. The fence east of the Overseer's house aligns on a park boundary, not a historic one. Sequential fence alignments, captured from aerial photographs, indicate placement while type of fence construction is not documented in all locations. The historic materials, details, alignments of selected fences are known, as seen on Plan L4 1941 Fences, for some areas that also have companion photographs, however many fence alignments are clear but actual fence types are unknown.

Fences serve as a character-defining feature of the historic landscape that give clues to historic land use. For example, wood rail fence indicated enclosures for horses or mules, as was present and remains south of the Store linking to the former Mule Lot (Figure 4.5).

While the historic landscape included diverse fence types, contemporary additions of metal T-posts and barbed wire complicate and confuse the fence typologies of the contemporary landscape. Fences added since the close of the period of significance include the boundary fence east of the Overseer's House. While this fence marks the 2020 property edge, the landscape composition extended east and was defined differently in the period of significance. Park maintenance mechanic, Ron Bolton, has verbally stated that the barbed wire fences east of the Overseer's House and north of the Quarters were erected by the adjacent farmer to allow cattle grazing on the adjacent fields.

E. LCA 2 Landscape Continuity and Change

D1. LCA 2 Circulation Continuity and Change

Circulation patterns historically reflected the frequent movements of people and animals, wearing compacted soil paths through the landscape. As resident labor decreased after the mid-twentieth century, the extent and complexity of paths through the residential landscape of LCA 2 diminished as well. Plan L18 Landscape Comparison, ca.1941, ca.1958 and 2020 illustrates the changing network of paths at key points of Magnolia Plantation history. In 1941, compacted soil paths connected swept earth surfaces immediately surrounding each cabin in straight lines and gently arcing routes. By 1958, the extent of swept earth around each cabin significantly diminished with no visible paths between the cabins. Routes instead passed through LCA 2 to areas of work, connecting crop fields and pastures, connecting LA- 119 with Cabin 1, reflecting the reduced dependence on residential labor and lessened vibrance of life and activity around the cabins. The 2020 LCA 2 landscape reflects little of the historic circulation character, mown turf grass paths now connect the eight cabins. The extent of mowing around the cabins follows former fence boundaries that were present in circa 1958, with linear routes connecting the west faces of Cabins 1 through 4 and the east faces of Cabins 5 through 8. The mowing pattern creates a circular area around the buildings forming arcs that connect Cabins 1 to 8 and Cabins 3 to 7 in a pattern not historically present.

Rubber geogrid matting underlays segments of the primary walking path at Cabins 1 and 2. Added between 2014 and 2017, the mats somewhat improve accessibility and define visitor access paths. This non-contributing feature somewhat improves landscape accessibility though, where the green mat rises above the grade, detracts from historic character and creates tripping hazards.

D2. LCA 2 Vegetation Continuity and Change

Plan L 20 Vegetation Comparison diagram captures both continuity and change in the trees and fence line or hedgerow patterns, but fails to yield data about gardens or productive crop fields. Quarters vegetation is diminished in 2020 in terms of tree canopy, though two large trees that were present during the period of significance remain today. Historic fences may have better defined garden vegetation spaces and swept yards, but are not accurately shown on the diagrams.

Vegetation in LCA 2 became increasingly simplified between 1941 and 2020. As made apparent on Plans L18, L19, and L20, the more uniform mown turf, limited interior tree canopy, and lack of gardens with the exception of remnant vascular plants marking former gardens, bear little resemblance to the varied garden vegetation, scattered trees, and productive crops historically present in the Quarters landscape. A scattered tree canopy is seen in 2020 in different locations and density than 1941 or 1958 (L20 and Figure 4.6). For the Quarters area, only two large trees present in 2020 remain from the early 1970s and prior--a 40-inch caliper sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) between Cabins 7 and 8 and 38-inch caliper pecan (*Carya illinoiensis*) east of Cabin 5. Historic garden vegetation included sunflowers (*Helianthus* spp.), squash (*Cucurbita* spp.), and sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*) among other edible plants within the fenced cabin landscapes (Figure 4.7). The mixed plant types formed a mosaic of textures and shades of green that does not exist today. Field crops extended outside the fenced gardens (Figure 4.8). In contrast to gardens and crops, mown turf, cut at short and longer heights, covers the majority of the 2020 ground plane, presenting a nearly homogeneous carpet of green when flourishing or beige for the non-growth weeks during the winter.

Remnants of historic plantings interrupt the continuous ground plane of turf grass. St. Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*), Spanish (or Texas) copper lily (*Habranthus tubispathus*), crinum lily (*Crinum* sp.), red spider lily (*Lycoris radiata*), Byzantine gladiolas (*Gladiolus byzantinus*), pink rain lily (*Zaphyranthes grandiflora*), autumn rain lily (*Zephyranthes candida*), and daffodil (*Narcissus* spp.) remain, likely from the period of significance, in naturalized patches within the cabin landscapes (Figure

4.9). The largest groupings of daffodil and St. Joseph's lily remain in loose lines west of Cabin 1 with red spider lily and rain lily visible across the LCA 2 landscape after rain events. These groupings preserve and present historic vegetative material and character. There is also documentation of limewash on tree trunks in the historic Quarters landscape which is no longer present in 2020.

D3. LCA 2 Buildings and Structures Continuity and Change

The eight cabins present in circa 1941 and circa 1958 remain in 2020. The preserved buildings continue to express historic organization and materials with some change. The eight cabins remaining from the Magnolia Plantation period of significance display historic form and red brick material with whitewash remnants. Replaced building and porch roofs installed during NPS ownership reflect historic form but differ from historic material. Historic, wood shingle roofs have been replaced with metal which was used as roofing during the 1950s and 1960s. The wood shingles are seen in historic views (Figure 4.7); however, metal roofing has a longer life cycle and is more sustainable in the Louisiana climate.

The location and number of outhouses additions or small secondary buildings for the Quarters changed over time. Documentation shows some of these present in circa 1941 and 1958. Two outhouses recorded in a 1997 survey were located east of Cabin 5, but are no longer present (Figure 3.2).

Remnants of the former cattle dipping vat east of the Quarters remain from the mid-twentieth century. In 2020, the feature is protected behind a safety fence and covered with metal lids due to contamination from pesticide use.

D4. LCA 2 Small-scale Features Continuity and Change

A boundary fence along the 2020 eastern property boundary holds the historic fence location. Some wood fence posts may date to the period of significance though many posts have been replaced with metal T-posts over time. The fence along the north edge of LCA 2, was repaired in a 2018 tree removal project to exhibit a vernacular style compatible with historic character, however, it does not appear to be on an historic alignment.

Fences which historically divided the individual residential landscapes do not remain in 2020. Historic ground views record the character of tall picket fences at several of the residences (Figure 4.7). As interpolated from varied collected sources, Plans L17, L18 and L21, comparing 1941, 1958 and 2020,

depict the evolving placement and alignments of the fences. In 1941, fences enclosed most of the individual cabin landscapes with additional smaller enclosures, likely for small livestock or vegetable gardens. Changes in fence locations by circa 1958 suggest changes to land use with greater subdivisions for livestock. Although no ground photography records details, a series of fences east of the cabins, seen on the 1950s aerial views, near the cattle dipping vat may have held cattle and other livestock before leading them through the vat. No internal fences are present in LCA 2 in 2020 though the east and west edges of the LCA 2 mown paths follow the outer 1958 fence alignments.

Two mid-twentieth century period metal chairs on the porch of Cabin 1, offer an image of the casual uses of the peopled historic landscape. Wood barrels, ladders, and wood benches seen in historic ground views and other small features likely to have been present in the historic landscape are not present in 2020 (Figure 4.10).

F. Contributing, Non-Contributing and Missing Features Lists

This section provides a list of contributing, non-contributing, and missing features of the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape organized by landscape characteristic for LCA 1 Plantation Yards and LCA 2 Quarters. Contributing features demonstrate the historic integrity of the landscape related to the historical significance of the plantation. Non-contributing features have been added after the period of significance. Non-contributing features that are compatible with the historic character and significance of the park are indicated with an asterisk (*). The lists also include important features that were present in the landscape during the period of significance but are absent today, listed as missing features. Features included in the List of Classified Structures (LCS) include LCS numbers after the park's preferred structure name. Non-landscape features inside of structures such as the Wood Cotton Screw Press (LCS 1131652), Steam and Box Press Gin Equipment (LCS 1131688), and museum objects including the Cotton Picker, Hay Baler, Cart, and machinery are not included in the list of landscape features.

E1. LCA 1: Plantation Yards Contributing, Non-Contributing and Missing Features

LCA 1 Views and Vistas

Contributing Features

1. View from Blacksmith Shop and Plantation Store north to bend in LA-119 (within NPS property)
2. View looking south from the curve in LA-119 of Blacksmith Shop, Magnolia Plantation Store, and fields (north of NPS property)

3. View looking north from the curve in LA-119 of Gin Barn and Quarters (south of NPS property)
4. Open views across field north of the Gin Barn from LA-119 to fields and Quarters
5. Visual screen of live oak trees between Plantation Yards and Main House
6. View from LA-119 across former Mule Pen and fields to Quarters
7. View of historic arpents (colonial land divisions) marked by tree lines
8. View west from LCA 1 to foothills of the Kisatchie National Forest

Non-Contributing Features

- Open views across core of plantation landscape without former spatial defining features (i.e. fences)
- Recently established row of trees along LA-119 alters the once open visual relationship between the plantation core and riverine landscape to the west

Missing Features

- View to and from Overseer's House west porch (now blocked/screened by live oak branches)
- Interior landscape fences within views across fields
- Plantation bell tower serving as visual focal point
- Signs and advertisements along LA-119 (e.g. "Home Made Mules")
- Uninterrupted views from the road into the Magnolia landscape when traveling along LA-119 (impeded by road closure)

LCA 1 Topography

Contributing Features

9. Relatively level ground plane
10. West-east drainage swales
11. Micro topographic evidence of historic drainage swales that require restoration

Non-Contributing Features

- South-north swale (cut in post plantation era)

Missing Features

- Swales or drainage ditches throughout the landscape that effectively gathered and moved stormwater

LCA 1 Vegetation

Contributing Features

12. Row of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) along north NPS property boundary near Blacksmith Shop
13. Row of water oak (*Quercus nigra*) and live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees west of Overseers House
14. Large trees along west and east perimeter fence lines dating to Period of Significance
15. Remnant flowering bulbs: St. Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*), red spider lily (*Lycoris radiata*), rain lilies (*Zaphyranthes* spp.), and daffodil (*Narcissus* spp.)
16. Pasture lot hay species

17. Overseer's House west garden space (English ivy [*Hedera helix*] and cast iron plant [*Aspidistra* sp.])[13]

Non-Contributing Features

- Mown turf and bush hog ground plane around Overseer's House and Plantation Store*
- Tall field grasses in meadow north of Gin Barn*

Missing Features

- Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) tree with stile, south of the Plantation Store, removed in 2020
- Blackberry (*Rubus* sp.) patch near the Blacksmiths Shop
- Historic field crop vegetation, hay, and sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*)

LCA 1 Circulation

Contributing Features

18. Historic alignment of gravel path from parking area to Cabin 1, not materials*
19. Open space in front of Plantation Store formerly part of daily circulation use (former gas pump location)

Non-Contributing Features

- Rubber mat trail subsurface
- Crushed limestone trail surface
- Concrete drive aprons
- Crushed gravel and concrete parking area
- Alignment of mown paths

Missing Features

- Linear compacted soil path network connecting buildings
- Use of Route 119 as part of pedestrian walk system
- Use of Route 119 as arterial vehicular route (since road closure)
- Gravel/earth parking and turnaround area north of the Store and west of Overseer's House

LCA 1 Buildings and Structures

Contributing Features (showing LCS numbers)

20. Blacksmith Shop (LCS 91559)
21. Corn Crib (LCS 100497)
22. Cotton Gin Cistern (LCS 91644)
23. Cotton Picker Shed (LCS 92411)
24. Garage (LCS 100737)
25. Gin Barn (LCS 91561)
26. Overseer's House (LCS 91558)
27. Pigeonnier (LCS 91560)
28. Plantation Store (LCS 91557)
29. Stable (LCS 100652)
30. Store Cistern (LCS 100635)

Non-Contributing Features

- Wood bridge on gravel path leading to Quarters

Missing Features

- Mule Barn [corral shed south of Plantation Store] (LCS 92410), removed c.1996
- Seed House, removed 1949
- Long Barn/Tractor Shed [adjacent to former parking area south of Corn Crib], removed c.1996

LCA 1 Small-scale Features

Contributing Features

31. Machinery Pedestal Near Gin Barn (Shadow LCS 100736)
32. Martin House (Bird House) (LCS 100457)
33. Fences/Gates [remnants throughout LCA 1] (LCS 1131606)
34. Mule Lot Fence (LCS 1131630)
35. Sandstone footing [remnant in LCA 1]

Non-Contributing Features

- NPS park sign with brick piers
- Directional traffic signs
- Slate signs with building names
- Interpretive kiosk at parking lot
- Parking wheel stops
- Bicycle rack
- Recycling bin
- Trash bins
- Metal gate at each end of the parking area
- Fence along east property boundary behind Overseer's House*
- Signs and barriers blocking road access in front of the Store
- Plastic safety fence surrounding Pigeonnier
- Electrical transformer covers (east perimeter at Overseer's and Quarters)

Missing Features

- Plantation bell tower
- Fences subdividing landscape into functional areas
- Lime or whitewashed fences facing LA-119
- Stiles for crossing fences along walking routes
- Gas pumps in front of Store

E2. LCA 2: Quarters Contributing Features

LCA 2 Views and Vistas

Contributing Features

36. Visual and spatial pattern of the Quarters buildings in a grid seen from LCA2, LCA1, and approach via LA-119
37. View west from LCA 2 to foothills of the Kisatchie National Forest

Non-Contributing Features

- Unobstructed views between cabins
- Open view from Quarters to south and west

Missing Features

- Screened views over fences and gardens around individual cabins
- Uninterrupted views from LA-119 into the Magnolia landscape when traveling along LA-119 (impeded by road closure)

LCA 2 Topography

Contributing Features

38. Relatively level ground plane
39. Traces of historic swales

Non-Contributing Features

- Raised ground plane over time, and swales filled in, contributing to excess ponding, lack of water movement east and south and around Cabin foundations

Missing Features

- None

LCA 2 Vegetation

Contributing Features

40. Scattered canopy and ornamental trees
41. Remnant flowering bulbs at Cabins 1, 2 and 8: St. Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*), Spanish (or Texas) copper lily (*Habranthus* tubispathus), crinum lily (*Crinum* sp.), red spider lily (*Lycoris radiata*), Byzantine gladiolas (*Gladiolus byzantinus*), pink rain lily (*Zaphyranthes grandiflora*), autumn rain lily (*Zephyranthes candida*), and daffodil (*Narcissus* sp.)
42. Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) trees along boundary fence
43. Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) trees along east boundary fence
44. Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) tree between Cabins 7 and 8
45. Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) tree east of Cabin 5

Non-Contributing Features

- Expanse of mown ground plane
- Open mown area east of cabins*

Missing Features

- Mixed garden vegetation including vegetables and ornamental and medicinal plants
- Small trees for fruits and herbal purposes including fig (*Ficus carica*), peach (*Prunus persica*), plum (*Prunus* sp.) jujube (*Ziziphus zizyphus*), pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*), and sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) trees
- Field crops south of cabins
- Limewashed tree trunk treatment

LCA 2 Circulation

Contributing Features

46. Connecting paths between cabins, though in altered locations and material

Non-Contributing Features

- Mown turf path surface*
- Concrete paver ramp at porch of Cabin 1*

Missing Features

- Swept earth ground plane surrounding each cabin
- Network of compacted earth paths connecting cabins
- Stiles used to cross over fences

LCA 2 Buildings and Structures

Contributing Features

47. Slave Cabin 1 (LCS 91562)
48. Slave Cabin 2 (LCS 91563)
49. Slave Cabin 3 (LCS 91564)
50. Slave Cabin 4 (LCS 91565)
51. Slave Cabin 5 (LCS 91566)
52. Slave Cabin 6 (LCS 91567)
53. Slave Cabin 7 (LCS 91568)
54. Slave Cabin 8 (LCS 91569)
55. Slave Cabin Cisterns [Cabin 1] (Shadow LCS 91643)
56. Slave Cabin Cisterns [Cabin 3] (Shadow LCS 91643)
57. Slave Cabin Cisterns [Cabin 4] (Shadow LCS 91643)
58. Slave Cabin Cisterns [Cabin 7] (Shadow LCS 91643)
59. Dipping Vat (Shadow LCS 100500)

Non-Contributing Features

- Wood porch of Cabin 1*
- Porches of Cabins 2-8*

Missing Features

- Minor buildings Outhouses, Sheds
- Additions on Cabins 1, 3, 4, 8
- Wood porch flooring on Cabins 2-8, added by the 1940s
- Slave Cabin Privies [non-historic] (LCS 82411)
- Cabin 9 (appears as a roofless ruin in the 1940s removed after that date)

LCA 2 Small-scale Features

Contributing Features

60. Fences/Gates [remnants along east boundary of LCA 2] (LCS 1131606)
61. Electric meter on west side of Cabin 2

Non-Contributing Features

- Metal porch chairs*
- Plastic safety fence surrounding the Dipping Vat
- North boundary fence with mix of wood posts, tree stump posts*

Missing Features

- Limewashed fence along west side of Quarters
- Fences dividing and within cabin yards and gardens
- Clothes lines
- Residential landscape furnishings (benches, barrels, ladders, chairs, etc.)
- Electric supply poles and wires, electric meters

G. Landscape Integrity

The NRHP defines integrity as "the unimpaired ability of a property to convey its historical significance" through the "survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic or prehistoric period."[14] The analysis of landscape integrity evaluates Magnolia Plantation across seven interrelated aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation possesses historic integrity by exhibiting varying degrees of integrity for each aspect. The study area demonstrates adaption to major changes over the past 50 to 60 years. Extant landscape features attest to the demise of the plantation system, transition to industrial agriculture, and the preservation efforts of the NPS, the Hertzog family, and the local preservation community. A sense of the inhabited and working landscape that Magnolia Plantation evoked in the mid-twentieth century remains through the framework of extant buildings and structures set within a larger agricultural context of farm roads, tree rows, and scattered small-scale elements. Overall, Magnolia Plantation retains the identity for which it is significant and thus reflects historic integrity.

Location

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.[15] The relationship between the Magnolia Plantation landscape and its location along the Cane River of the Red River system is vital to understanding its origin, development, and relationship to surrounding environmental and social contexts. The location of the plantation, set within a meander of the Cane River, evokes a sense of plantation history, American slavery, the US Civil War, and the economic transition after emancipation and into the twentieth century. Magnolia Plantation retains integrity of location.

Design

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.[16] The design of Magnolia Plantation as expressed through the layout of key landscape features such as buildings and field patterns reflect the origins in the French ardent long lots and plantation layout during the colonial period of the eighteenth century. The collection of extant landscape features demonstrates adaption to evolving farm products and technologies over centuries and reflects the decisions made during the period of significance. Essentialized by remaining buildings and structures, the distribution of core plantations functions along the River Road (LA-119) and the parallel course of the Cane River conveys the historic organization of space, construction and production technologies, and materials. The spatial relationships between major features, such as between the eight brick cabins of the Quarters and the live oaks clustered around the Overseer's House, create a visual relationship that is both functional and aesthetic. This relationship remains substantially unchanged since the period of significance; however, other missing or degraded landscape features demonstrate the loss of some design qualities. The absence of most interior historic fences and paths reduces the ability to understand the functioning of plantation yards. In the case of the mule lot south of the Store, the visitor parking lot occupies a portion of this an important space that once contained the Mule Lot stable, fencing, and related features. In addition, a recently established row of trees along LA-119 alters the once open visual relationship between the core of the plantation and the riverine landscape to the west. Also, the absence of a domestic landscape of fences, pens, and gardens at the Quarters impedes the expression of the historic vernacular design of this area during the tenant farming era. Despite these losses and a small number of modern additions, the relative number, scale, and configuration of extant features that hold significance enables Magnolia Plantation to convey a sense of the historic landscape and demonstrate integrity of design. A degree of replication of historic contributing features that are missing today would bolster integrity to the tenant farming era.

Setting

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.[17] The setting of Magnolia Plantation largely reflects the character of the plantation during its historical role through the mid-twentieth century. Within the plantation, recent fence lines and tree rows form divisions between the NPS holding and private parcels of the historic plantation. To a degree, these recent divisions diminish the historic character of the overall plantation complex but were required to separate NPS lands from adjacent property owners. Nevertheless, the placement of the plantation in relation to surrounding features and

open space provides continuity with the past despite minor changes. Proximity to the Cane River, farm roads that create field divisions, and the surrounding countryside of agricultural fields reflect changes from decades of agricultural transition and growth of vegetation. Urban development exemplified by the loss of twentieth century sharecropper houses and very limited scattered construction of modern homes throughout the region do not alter the pervasive qualities of the rural, agrarian setting in which the plantation lies. However, if modern housing subdivisions such as those south of Natchitoches and surrounding Oakland Plantation were to be developed in the area around Magnolia, the setting would be substantially altered. For now, the Magnolia Plantation larger landscape context remains rural and open as little residential development has occurred nearby, shaping an intact setting and context. With the creation of Cane River Lake and separation from Cane River, the lands to the south retain relatively low real estate value, while acreage surrounding Natchitoches and Cane River Lake have increased in value. These factors aid in the preservation of Magnolia Plantation and its broader setting. The study area demonstrates a high degree of integrity of setting.

Materials

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.[18] Most landscape features of Magnolia Plantation are resources that consist of original materials dating to the period of significance, including compacted earth, wood fence posts, wire fencing, brick cabins, and vegetative materials including grasses harvested as hay, live oak, water oak, sycamore, hackberry, and pecan trees and naturalized bulbs in the Quarters landscapes. These local materials demonstrate regional traditions in the French Creole plantation style and help define a sense of time and place for Magnolia Plantation. The plantation landscape possesses integrity of materials.

Workmanship

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.[19] The remaining built elements of the Magnolia Plantation landscape show workmanship through rare and unique technologies and use of materials in construction. The use of brick for the cabins of the Quarters demonstrates the wealth and desire for durability by the LeCompte family and the skill of the possibly enslaved or indentured masons that built the residences. The planting of specific tree species, like live oak, to provide year-round shade by the Overseer's House reflects workmanship of planting design. Surviving small-scale features such as the wooden purple

martin house by the Store also expresses vernacular carpentry skills and alludes to the traditional practice of placing a roost in highly social areas to reduce nuisance insect populations. Magnolia Plantation expresses integrity of workmanship.

Feeling

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.[20] The landscape of Magnolia Plantation cultivates a semblance of agricultural life. While many small-scale elements and features of an active farm and collection of homes no longer persist, the plantation landscape does possess enough of its original design, materials, workmanship, and setting to evoke the feeling of the property's layered history. The collective impact of extant landscape features provides integrity of feeling as the plantation continues to express its identity as a working farm reliant on resident labor.

Association

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.[21] The presence of sufficiently intact landscape features at Magnolia Plantation readily conveys its historic significance related to NRHP criteria identified in the 2001 NHL and the 2006 Cultural Landscape Report. Association of the cultural landscape with these criteria continue to the present: Criterion A: Association with cotton plantation history; Criterion C: Representative of distinctive cotton plantation landscape characteristics; and Criterion D: Archeological potential to yield important historical information. Magnolia Plantation retains integrity of association as the place where historic events and plantation production and residential activities occurred.

H. Summary of Landscape Analysis Findings

The cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation reflects significance and integrity related to its history as a historic cotton plantation. Major social and economic changes expressed in the landscape attest to the wide period of significance, from 1835 to the 1976, defined by the first date of development on the property of Magnolia Plantation spanning to the end of the plantation system and replacement by commercial mechanized agriculture. This broad period encompasses many eras of landscape and social evolution to conclude when the plantation was a vibrant and occupied.

Based on the 1835 to 1976 period of significance, there are several contributing, non-contributing, and missing features within the cultural landscape. In total there are:

- **61** contributing features
- **36** non-contributing features
- **39** missing features

The comparison of the existing 2020 landscape plan with period plans for circa 1941 and circa 1958 demonstrates how features of the landscape display continuity and change over time, particularly from the period of significance to the present day. Overall patterns of spatial organization, building and structure locations, and some fence lines and roads persist in the landscape. The plantation no longer contains most small-scale features, fenced yards, purpose oriented pedestrian paths, and the collection of domestic features at once-inhabited cabins. Relatively few modern features, like the visitor parking area and recent tree rows, partially obscure historic spatial patterns and views. In comparison with the period of significance, the currently simplified landscape of Magnolia Plantation contains numerous important landscape features that reflect a sense of the property's historic character.

In general, analysis of the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation finds that the historic property possesses historic integrity despite numerous changes over time. The overall lack of landscape features that convey the historic feeling of the working plantation results in a diminished sense of historic character; however, the prominence of extant contributing features and the low impact of the few non-contributing features establish a framework through which to understand the historic integrity of the cultural landscape. This situation presents an opportunity for a future landscape condition that enhances and recaptures historic landscape character.

Chapter 4 Endnotes

[1] National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form, Magnolia Plantation, received 5 February 1979, entered 21 March 1979. CARI.
[2] Jonathan Fricker and Donna Fricker, *Magnolia Plantation*, National Historic Landmark Nomination Form, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, January 3, 2001.
[3] National Park Service, *General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, Washington, D.C.: NPS, 2001.
[4] Ian Firth and Suzanne Turner, *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report*, December 2006, pp.179-185.
[5] Ian Firth and Suzanne Turner, Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report, December 2006, p.191.
[6] Ian Firth and Suzanne Turner, Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report, December 2006, pp.181-185.
[7] Thurston H.G. Hahn III and Tom Wells, *Archaeological Investigations of the Magnolia Plantation Slave Quarters, Natchitoches, Louisiana* (Baton Rouge: Coastal Environments, Inc., 1991); Dr. Bennie C. Keel, *A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation* (Tallahassee, Florida: Southeast Archeological Center, 1999); Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, Florida State University.
[8] Bennie C. Keel, Christina Miller, Marc Tiemann, "A Comprehensive Subsurface Investigation at Magnolia Plantation," 1999, Tallahassee: Southeast Archeological Center. CARI.
[9] Miller, Christina E. 2004. *Slavery and its aftermath: the archeological and historical record at Magnolia Plantation.* Tallahassee, FL: A Dissertation submitted to the Department of History, Florida State University.
[10] Concurrence on July 27, 2018 by Jessica Richards, Louisiana SHPO National Register Coordinator, in Mardorf, Carrie A., Letter to Kristin Sanders, "Re. Request Consensus Determination of Eligibility, Magnolia Plantation," June 12, 2018.
[11] See the color symbol key on L3, L5 and L14, as they do not fit on these analysis images. Note that the color palettes of the graphic, used to show varied land uses, are revealed as green turf cut at two heights, in 2020.
[12] Superintendent Carrie Mardorf, communication May 2020.
[13] The English ivy at the Overseer's House, while not documented in early 1970s photographs or prior, does appear to be well established along the west side. The north area was productive garden and probably did not include ivy.
[14] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.44-45, 53; Charles Birnbaum and Christine Capella Peters, Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1996) p.5.
[15] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.44.
[16] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.44.
[17] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.45.
[18] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.45.
[19] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.45.
[20] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.45.
[21] National Register of Historic Places, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (Washington DC: Department of the Interior, 1990 (1997 ed.), p.45.

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Figure 4.1a Two-rail fence separates grass pasture areas with the blacksmith shop and pigeon house beyond the fence in this 1961 view. Children use the field northeast of the blacksmith shop for a game of baseball. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 4.1b This contemporary repeat view illustrates remaining pastoral character in the grassy landscape and the missing fence north of the blacksmith shop. With historic rail fence no longer present, views across the landscape are more open. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.2a The storefront porch, fence, and drive organize the landscape west and south of the store. The groundplane appears to be primarily loose soil and gravel surface with shared pedestrian, vehicular, and equestrian use. Two gas pumps face the drive. A purple martin birdhouse is seen to the left of the store in this 1962 historic view. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 4.2b. Trail mat reinforces the circulation surface with added ramp to facilitate porch access. The contrasting surface detracts from the open, undefined circulation seen in the earlier view. A low stone step is present in the historic location. The standing stump of a historic pecan tree that supported a stile is located to the right, not pictured. Missing features include the gas pumps, purple martin birdhouse (relocated to the south), gravel paved frontage and wooden box bench. The angle and configuration of the contemporary gutter was not restored as depicted in the 1962 image. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.3a Overseer's House side view of south façade with sheep on a high lawn, not close cropped. Fences to right may be a paddock. Live oaks trees located left or west, and tree canopies to the right add scale, mass and shade. Courtesy LOC.



Figure 4.3b Although animal grazing no longer occurs around the Overseer's House, mown lawn conveys some character of the historic pasture grasses. Large canopy trees persist in the background of this repeat view. Single post is a remnant of a historic fence line present in the 1940s and a post and wire fence remnant remains behind the photographer of this image. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.4a Pasture animals graze the open grass landscape with live oak trees lining the far pasture edge. Note lime wash on a tree trunk north of the current NPS property. A trough is present east of the Pigeonnier and Shop. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 4.4b The character of an open groundplane continues, without pasture land use. Grand, historic live oak trees remain as edge-defining vegetation and display trunks with worn lime wash. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.5a Fence, wood box, and steel barrel accommodate seating and a post-mounted hook ties off a horse in front to the store in this 1961 view. A broad three-rail fence encloses a Mule Pen with a Mule Barn beside the store. An electric line to the building is visible at the top of the image. An air-conditioning unit is installed in the foreground window. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 4.5b The purple martin house remains, now relocated so the south of the Store. A similar three-rail fence holds the edge of the historic animal enclosure. An added ramp provides improved accessibility to the porch. Missing features include the barrel, wood box, layered fences, Mule Pen and Mule Barn are longer present, extending views over the open landscape to the parking area. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.6a About 20 residents of Quarters gather under a large pecan tree with a vertical board picket fence around a garden or communal hog pen in this 1904 image. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 4.6b The center axis of the Quarters shows open landscape with a few remnant garden plants in the mixed turf. The large tree to the right is a historic sycamore. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.7a A compound-leaf tree shades the cabin west face within a wood and hog wire fenced informal garden landscape. This early view captures squash or sweet potato foliage and pole beans. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 4.7b Tall sunflower blooms rise above the cabin picket fence, cut to a consistent height. Boards cut to a peak ornament the hinged gate. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 4.7c Closely spaced pickets with irregular heights enclose this cabin. Recently cultivated soils fill the foreground of this 1922 view. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 4.7d The current open landscape around Cabin 8 that may include some remnant St. Joseph's lily and daffodil foliage. Historic fences that enclosed domestic animals or gardens are missing. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 4.8 Crop vegetation, including corn as seen in this view, filled fields south of the cabin landscapes. (CARI-nd-CA-Magnolia cabin cammie henry8). Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 4.9 Naturalized groupings of daffodil and St. Joseph's lily remain within cabin landscapes. These plant material remnants express historic vegetation and are largely extant at Cabin 1. Heritage Landscapes.



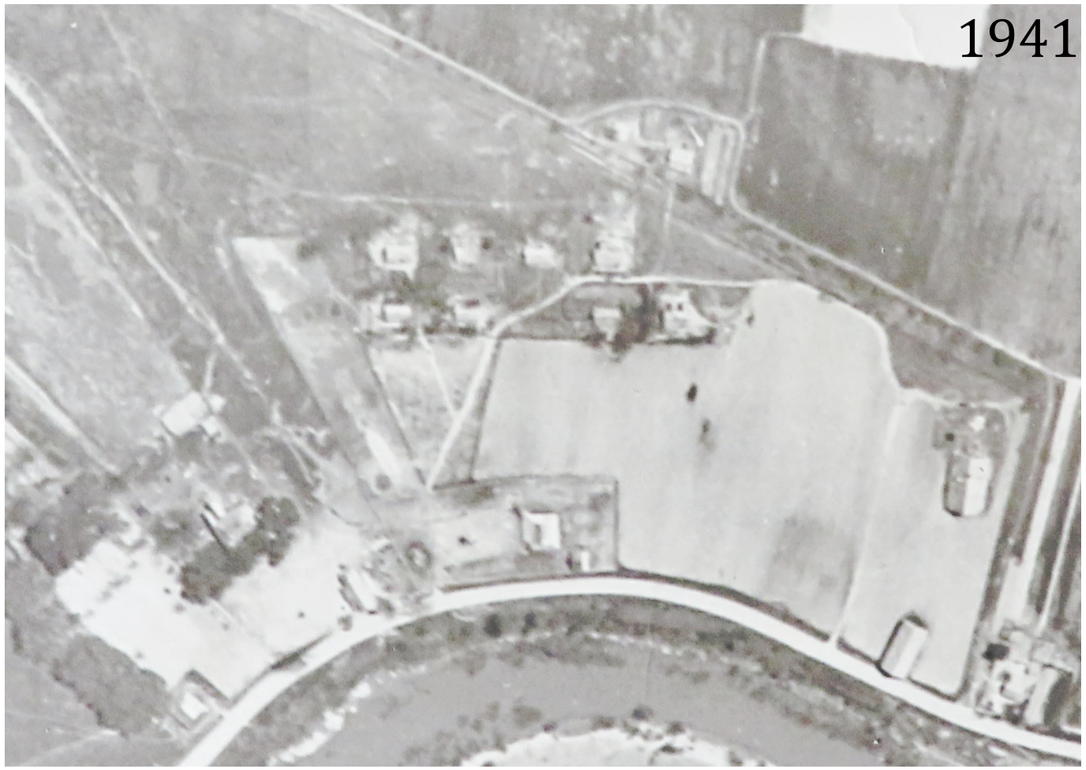
Figure 4.10a This 1922 view shows a swept yard with a wood picket fence, a wooden ladder to the roof, two wood barrels, and a wood porch bench. Swept earth yards were traditional features of a cabin landscape for multi-use space and to keep vermin and snakes away. (CARI-1922-CA-Aunt Agnes Magnolia and notes). Image courtesy of CGHRC.

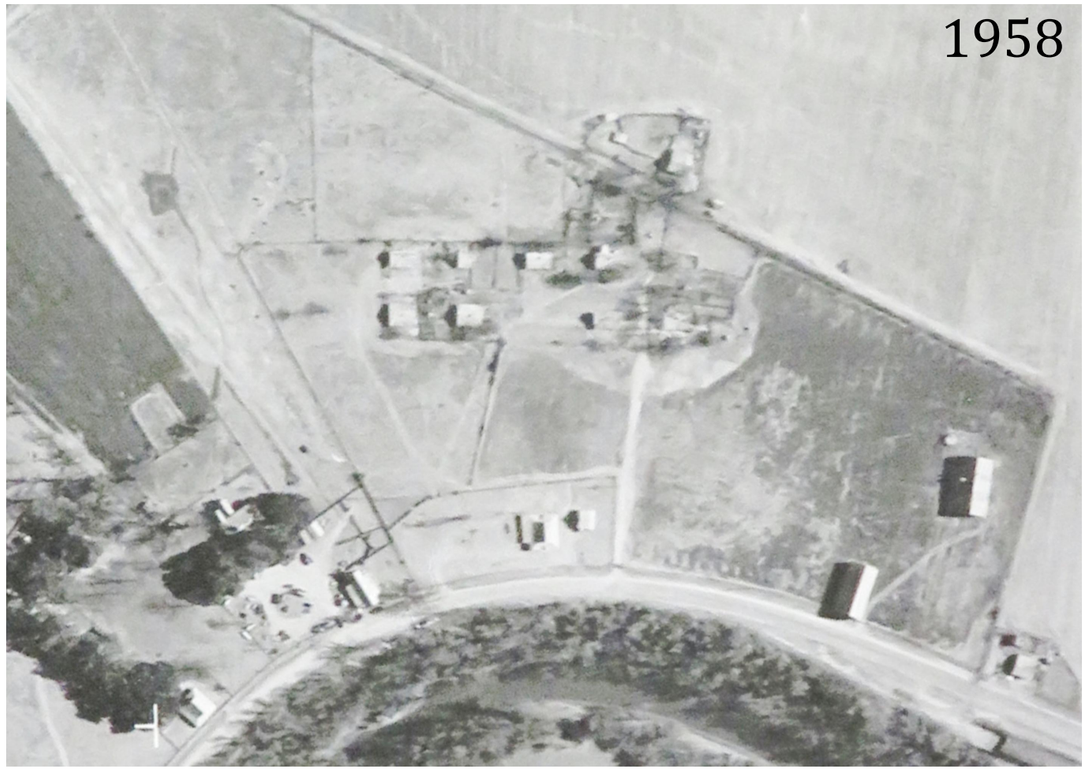


Figure 10b. This 1960s color image depicting a freshly-painted Cabin 1 or 2 was the image used as the basis for the replica gutter, shown in the view below. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 4.10c Fences, barrels, benches, and ladders are not present while red metal chairs on the porch and galvanized metal washtub hanging on the wall of Cabin 1 reference the presence of historic furnishings of the mid-twentieth century. The gutter extension to the cistern is a replica of a documented historic feature. Heritage Landscapes.









SOURCES
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 1994, 2016 AERIALS, GOOGLE MAPS, 2020.

0' 60' 120' 240'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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Drawing Title:
Aerial Comparison, 1941, 1958, 1994 and 2016

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:
L17







SOURCES
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 60' 120' 240'



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Drawing Title:
Landscape Comparison, ca.1941, ca.1958 and 2020

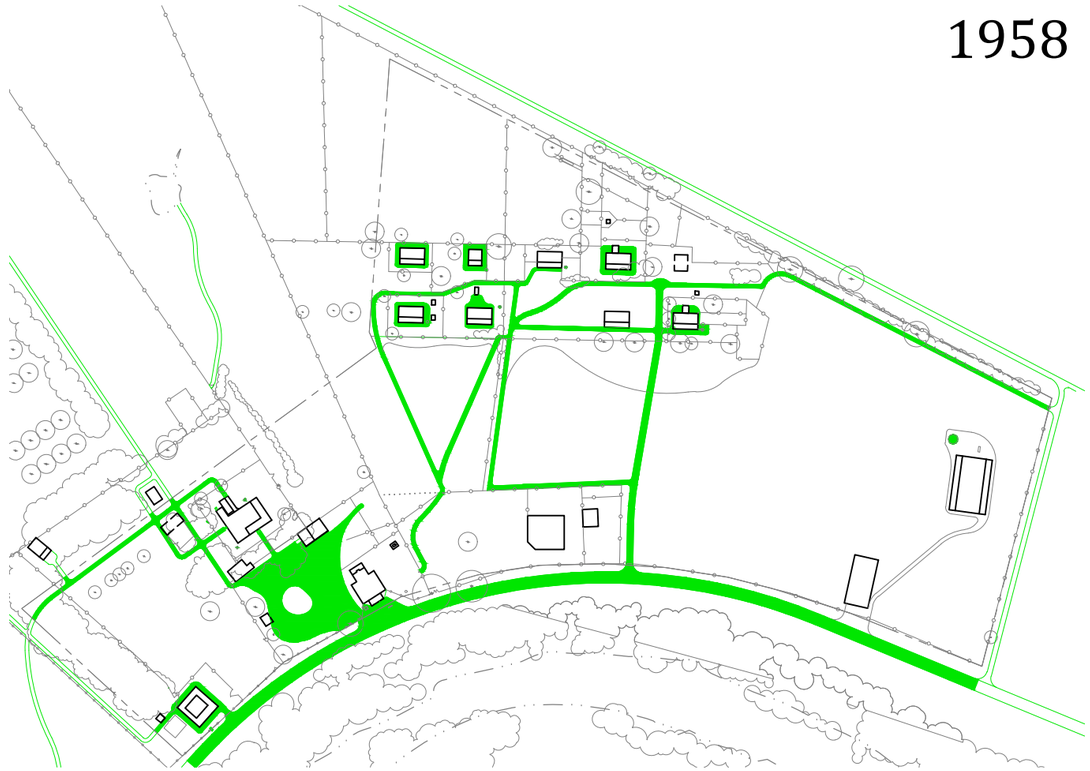
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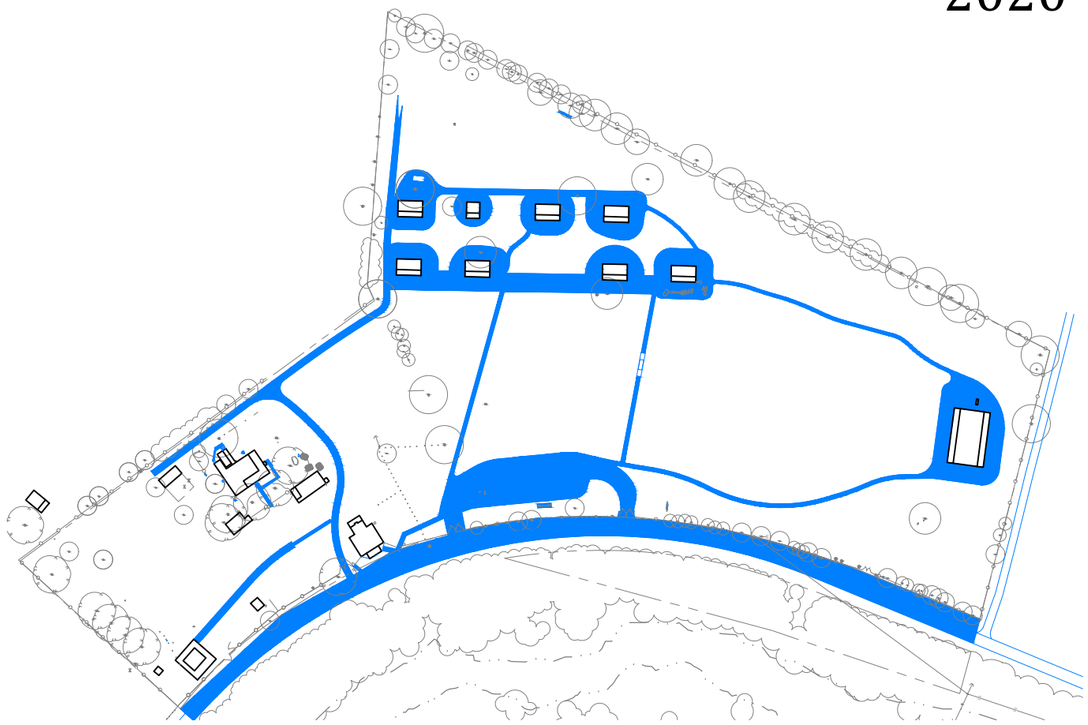
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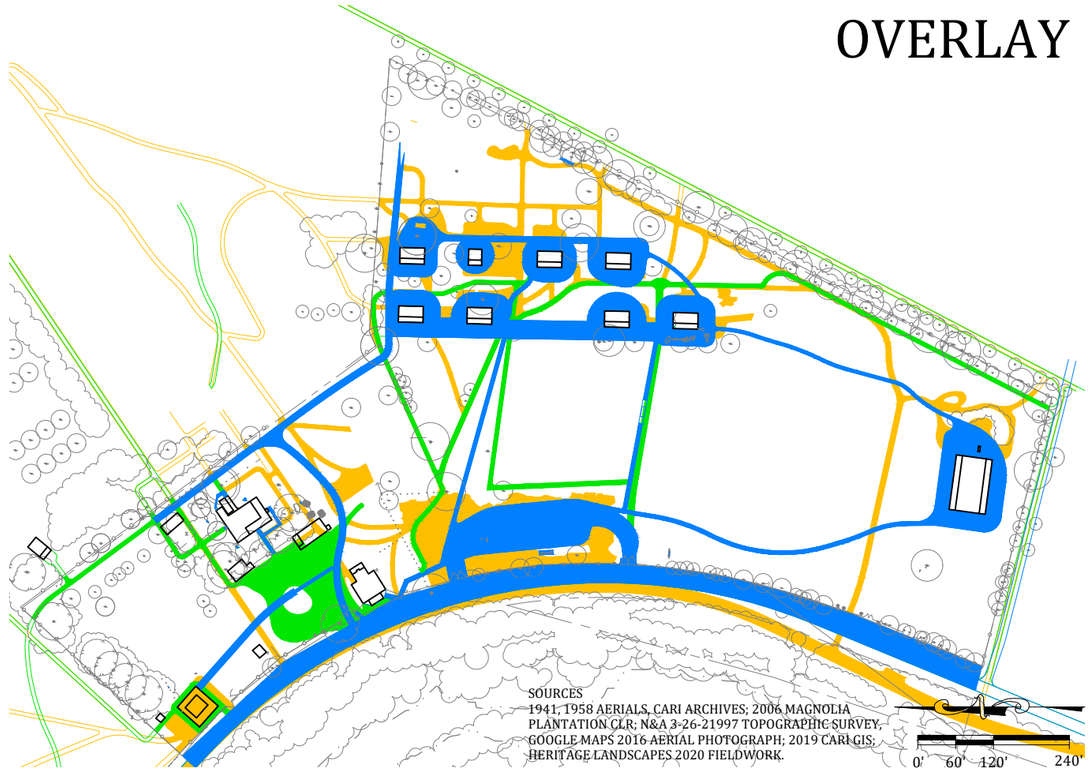
1958



2020



OVERLAY



SOURCES
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY; GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 60' 120' 240'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

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Drawing Title:

Circulation Comparison

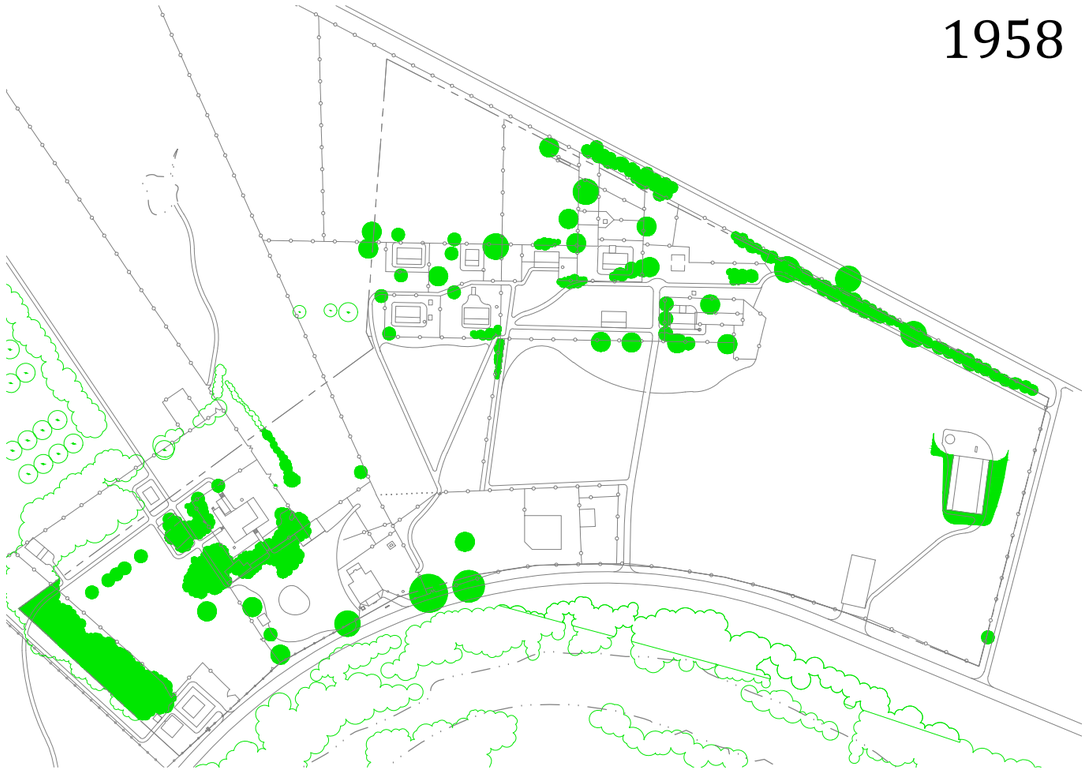
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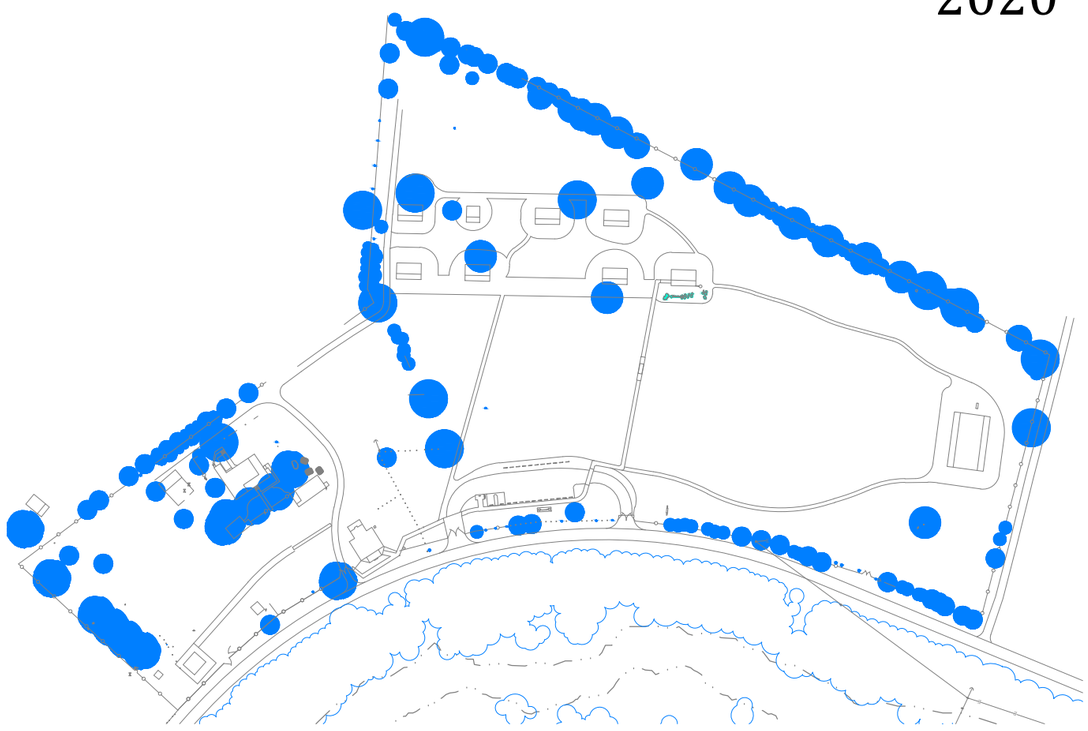
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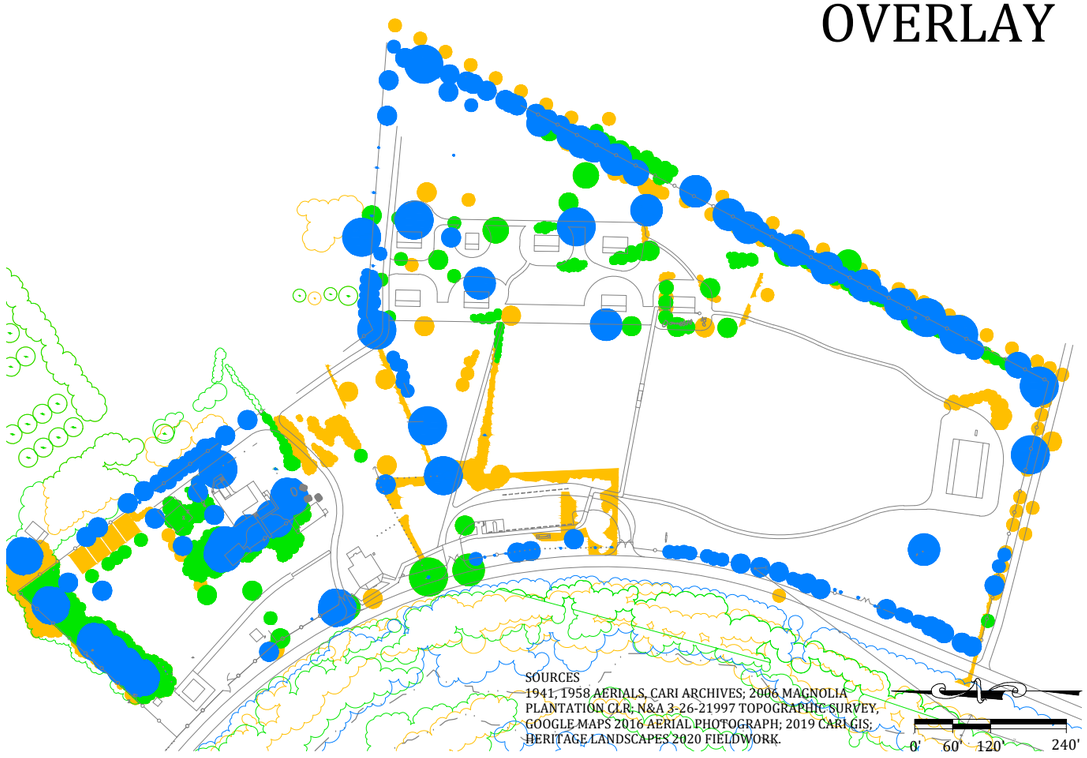
1958



2020



OVERLAY



SOURCES
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY; GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 60' 120' 240'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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Drawing Title:

Vegetation Comparison

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:
L20

1941

1958

2020

OVERLAY

SOURCES
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY; GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 60' 120' 240'



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Drawing Title:

Fences Comparison

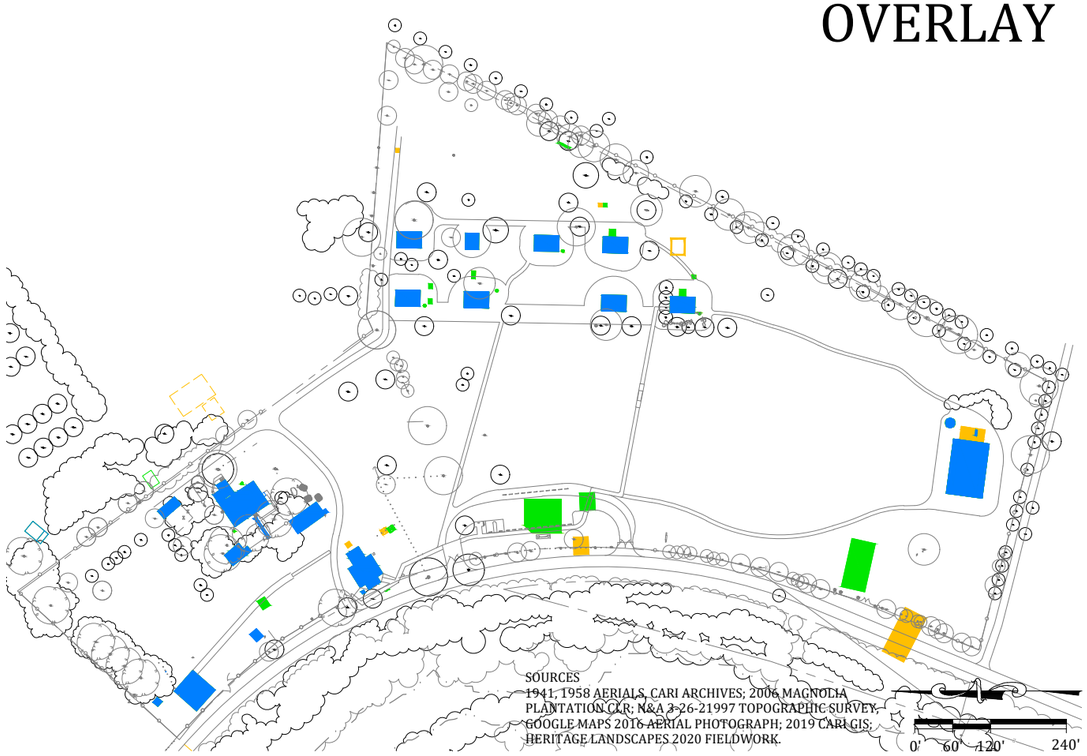
Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:
L21









SOURCES
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY; GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 60' 120' 240'



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Drawing Title:

Buildings Comparison

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:
L22

SYMBOL KEY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

1941 FEATURES

1958 FEATURES

2020 FEATURES

SOURCES
1999 COMPREHENSIVE SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION;
1941, 1958 AERIALS, CARI ARCHIVES; 2006 MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR; N&A 3-26-21997 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; 2019 CARI GIS; HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 80' 160' 240'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

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National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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Drawing Title:

Archeological Sensitivity Plan

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:
L23



5 ▪ Landscape Treatment Approach

A. Introduction to Cultural Landscape Treatment

Landscape preservation treatment for the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape serves as the focus for this CLR Part 2. As the Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) continues to refine and fulfill its mission, treatment recommendations require clarity and coherence in alignment with preservation best practices. Appropriate treatment of the landscape at Magnolia Plantation will bolster historic character preservation and presentation of the landscape to visitors. Treatment includes a strategy for near and long-term management based on significance, existing conditions, and the intended engaging visitor experience. Additionally, aspects of the cultural landscape face risks from the local environment to include changing river dynamics, stronger weather events, pests, and other factors, which contribute to processes of landscape deterioration. Landscape preservation treatment seeks to minimize deterioration and aid in recapture of landscape character-defining features by providing sound, systematic management guidance.

This chapter presents the recommended treatment approach for the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation, the federally owned portion of the historic plantation lands. The recommendations seek to preserve the extant layers of historic landscape resources and recapture the historic character of the Magnolia Plantation landscape through site-wide interventions that rehabilitate site features and

support landscape interpretation. Consideration of cultural landscape treatment goals and objectives, existing treatment guidance, ongoing and planned park projects, and climate resiliency form the basis of design for the discussion of treatment approaches and the selection of a recommended treatment approach for the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape. This chapter provides a framework for the descriptive treatment section of the CLR, Chapter 6: Recommended Landscape Treatment, which addresses the entire landscape as well as specific landscape features within it. Chapter 6 also guides continued landscape maintenance and prioritizes recommended landscape treatment.

B. Cultural Landscape Treatment Goals and Objectives

Landscape treatment goals and objectives include preservation and stewardship to protect the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation as a valued heritage asset, responding to contemporary needs and imperatives while conserving it as a place of learning available to the public. The goals and objectives originate from the CLR Scope of Work, discussions with CARI staff, and the results of a remote landscape treatment workshop. On May 19, 2020, members of the project team and NPS staff participated in a conference call workshop to discuss treatment goals, issues, and direction in conjunction with a review of the 50% Draft CLR. Treatment topics were discussed by location and in relation to current maintenance and ongoing park projects. The treatment workshop focused on directions for the landscape treatment approach and options for the study area. Following the workshop, the project team refined aspects of landscape treatment including circulation and fences for park review and comment.

Overall Magnolia Plantation preservation treatment goals establish conceptual level guidance for landscape projects and management:

- Apply NPS management guidance as directed through cultural landscape preservation documents
- Preserve unique aspects of historic character and contributing features
- Reestablish cohesion between preserved buildings and structures and the broader landscape
- Reinforce historic integrity of the landscape character areas (LCAs) to evoke historic spatial organization and land use
- Protect archeologically sensitive soil strata
- Steward the cultural landscape as a place of learning
- Accommodate compatible contemporary visitor uses
- Expand universal access for people of all abilities
- Anticipate potential reconfiguration of site access due to Cane River channel changes affecting Route 119
- Balance preservation objectives with maintenance requirements for long-term sustainability
- Apply best practices to improve landscape adaptation and resilience

Aligned to goals listed above, landscape preservation treatment objectives specific to each LCA illuminate treatment intent.

LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Preservation Treatment Objectives

- Retain and recapture historic landscape organization around the Store, Overseer's House, Blacksmith Shop and Gin landscapes
- Improve stormwater management to support the preservation of buildings, structures, roads, and trails
- Replace missing historic fences that are vital for enabling the landscape to reflect historic spatial patterns
- Expand the presence of small objects and furnishings at the Store to recapture historic character
- Integrate compatible, non-contributing landscape features including maintenance equipment storage, visitor parking, and signage into the historic fabric to welcome and support visitor use
- Connect landscape features through a historically-responsive network of accessible trails

LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Preservation Treatment Objectives

- Partially restore historic landscape organization formed by fences and vegetation
- Improve stormwater management to support the preservation of Quarters buildings
- Expand presence of vegetation, small objects, and furnishings within Quarters landscape to support interpretation of domestic life at the residential cabins
- Select plant materials representative of historic residential yards and gardens
- Replace selected missing contributing features and historic detailing where feasible such as at a demonstration cabin
- Connect landscape features through a historically-responsive network of accessible trails

C. Existing Landscape Preservation Treatment Guidance

The treatment recommendations require alignment to the existing park documentation including the enabling legislation and park preservation and management baseline data in guiding materials specific to CARI and Magnolia Plantation. The CARI General Management Plan (GMP) and Foundation Document provide the primary framework for interpretation, general treatment of resources, and management of park resources. This CLR is developed within the approved framework of these prior documents, and in consultation with park staff to address on-site issues and directions underway. These baseline resources offer guidance for treatment of the Magnolia Plantation cultural landscape. These documents, and the period of significance they cite and the treatment direction recommended are listed here as:

- *Enabling Legislation, Public Law 103-449/H.R. 1348-6, 1994*
    - The enabling legislation declares a mandate to "preserve resources and cultural landscapes relating to the Creole culture of the Cane River and enhance public understanding of the important cultural heritage of the Cane River region."

Specific findings related to the cultural landscape note its contribution to "providing the base for a holistic approach to understanding the broad continuum of history within the region."[1]

- *Cane River Creole National Historical Park General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, 2001*
    - The GMP provides a mission statement, goals, and suggested stewardship actions for CARI that inform a discussion cultural landscape treatment. The mission statement states that "Cane River Creole National Historical Park preserves the resources and cultural landscapes of the Cane River area and enhances the understanding of its peoples and traditions."[2] Further it emphasizes the goal of preserving park resources, which is explained as, "Natural and cultural resources and associated values of Cane River Creole National Historical Park are protected, restored, and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural contexts." The goal of preservation is balanced with goals of providing for public enjoyment and visitor experience and of ensuring organizational effectiveness with respect to management practices and external networks of support. Based on an evaluation of alternatives, the GMP focuses management emphasis on "preserving and rehabilitating the landscapes, structures, and artifacts of the two national park units, setting up basic operations to manage and maintain the resources, and establishing a quality visitor experience onsite and strong partnerships with the community."[3]

    - In comparison with Oakland Plantation, the GMP proposes that Magnolia Plantation be "a quieter, more contemplative discovery experience that would be based primarily on the integrity and character of the site's landscape and on interpretive media…"

    - Recommendations final amended GMP identify 1960 as a target for interpretation to highlight the residential labor force; however, the GMP acknowledges its suggestions are an exercise conducted without recommended studies such as this CLR.

- *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Foundation Document, 2015*

    - The Foundation Document draws on the park mission in the GMP and provides the park purpose as, "Cane River Creole National Historical Park preserves and protects Oakland and Magnolia Plantation and, in partnership with Cane River Creole National Heritage Area and its living communities, preserves the resources of the Cane River region and enhances the understanding of its peoples and traditions through research, interpretation, education, and technical assistance."[4] Treatment guidance includes lists of park conditions, threats, and needs related to fundamental resources and values. For Magnolia Plantation, fundamental needs associated with the cultural landscape include environmental remediation of contaminated soils and improved visitor access and orientation.

- *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Long-Range Interpretive Plan, 2006*
    - The LRIP suggests an overall interpretive framework and recommends specific suggestions for graphics and interpretive elements at the park entrance/Plantation

Store, development of a walking tour and wayside exhibits, and the study of historic building furnishings. The recommended interpretive framework for both Magnolia and Oakland Plantations is specified as "The concept of three worlds (the social structure of workers, overseers, and owners) interacting over three significant agricultural time periods (slavery, tenancy, and mechanization). How these social systems remained separate but also interacted and evolved through the three agricultural eras will help visitors make sense of the layout, organization, and operation of the plantations over time."[5]

- *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report, Part 1, 2006*
  - The 2006 CLR provides several recommendations for character-defining features of the cultural landscape that are incorporated into this updated CLR.[6]

- *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Historic Resource Study, 2019*
  - The HRS recommends an expanded period of significance, additional studies on the historic vegetation, and the development of a climate mitigation plan for Magnolia Plantation. The HRS suggests the "early 1970s" as the end of the period of significance on account of the departure of the last tenant farmers; however, it also notes that 1976 is valid based on ownership transfers.[7] Special studies recommended for the cultural landscape include attention to gardening traditions, limewash practices, ornamental plants, and tree care including dendrochronology.

- *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan, 2014*
  - The Draft Vegetation Management Plan provides general direction on the vegetative resources of CARI. Recommendations focus on maintenance by plant type including turfgrass and pasture management. The majority of the document focuses on Oakland Plantation though much of the guidance is relevant to Magnolia Plantation due to the similarity of species diversity and maintenance regimes.[8]

Existing management documents inform treatment recommendations of this CLR; however, the landscape treatment recommendations are nuanced to reflect the current realities of the park and constraints of staff time and funding.

D. Ongoing and Planned Landscape Projects at Magnolia Plantation

Current projects affecting the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation are supported and influenced by the information and recommendations of this CLR. As of June 2020, pertinent projects that are also included as recommendations of the CLR include:

- Planning and Design for Swales and Ditches (PMIS 252844): Information on the use and location of historic swales in the CLR can provide background information for this rehabilitation project. A detailed topographic survey is underway to serve as a base for identifying partially filled

swales. The project will also address schematic designs for grading and drainage plans. This project is being carried out under a joint contract with the circulation project noted below. Planning and design efforts begin Fall 2020.

- Planning and Design for Circulation (PMIS 248206): This CLR provides information on historic trails to inform the location of proposed visitor trails. Barrier free visitor trails will be constructed with an asphalt path and a rubberized overlay over a raised gravel base to minimize ground disturbance and impacts on subsurface resources. The configuration of fences and other cultural landscape features relate to this project. The circulation project is being carried out under separate contract as part of the swales and ditches project noted above and will provide design development and construction drawings for new circulation routes at Magnolia. Planning and design efforts begin Fall 2020.

- Boundary Fence and Cultural Landscape Fences (PMIS 252636, 256198, and 252734): This CLR informs the placement and design of fences in the landscape. Development of a consistent boundary fence is required for basic site protection from hogs. Only portions of the current NPS boundary reflect historic fence lines. Historic missing and deteriorated interior fences can be considered for replication including post locations at the mule lot corral, posts at the Overseer's House, and the arrangement of fences in and around the Quarters. Gates and stiles are also to be considered for treatment to depict patterns of movement. A separate project to repair and replace the Magnolia boundary fence is funded for 2021 (PMIS 252636).

- Wayside Planning (PMIS 252555): This CLR helps to refine the location of proposed interpretive waysides in conjunction with the proposed visitor path route. A separate project to fabricate and install waysides at Magnolia was contracted in Summer of 2020; installation is anticipated to begin in late 2021.

- Conservation of Objects: The CLR explains the landscape context for specific historic interpretive objects and recommends compatible locations and details for conservation of the hay baler and pieces of steam gin machinery. The planned conservation project focuses on preservation and presentation of these objects. Conservation of these objects is anticipated to begin in 2021.

Each of these projects has implications for the plantation landscape and is described as an element of the cultural landscape treatment in Chapter 6.

E. Climate Change, Disaster Preparedness and Response

Historical documentation indicates that Magnolia Plantation survived severely damaging events from environmental threats in the past, such as the tornado of 1939, flood of 1945, Hurricanes Laura and Delta in 2020, and will continue to confront hazards in years to come.[9] Past efforts to limit environmental hazards within the setting of the historic plantation include topographic changes like

levees and swales to control flooding; however, weather patterns, climate, and river systems continually change. The effects of world-wide climate change on the Cane River region include an increase in extreme weather events, particularly tropical storms, as well as flooding, drought, and extreme temperatures. All of these events challenge the ability of the park to maintain historic buildings and landscapes that were constructed or created during a time when climate was more temperate and predictable.

To set the course for the agency, the NPS established the Climate Change Response Program. This program has published the Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy (CRCC Strategy) to guide park managers in anticipating, planning for, and responding to the real and potential effects of the changing climate on park resources.[10]

The strategy begins by outlining the potential effects of the various types of climate stressors. The two that will have the greatest effect at Magnolia Plantation are tropical storms and drought.[11] The climate alterations of local weather also foster stresses and conditions that have been observed to bring increased pests. The potential effects of these threats on the cultural resources at CARI are discussed for the cultural landscape including buildings and structures.[12] Potential effects include:

- Loss of landscape features
- Erosion of earthworks, such as levees, and supporting ground around buildings and structures
- Loss of historical integrity with the addition of modern drainage structures, such as culverts and detention ponds
- Decline and disappearance of some vegetation species and other species favored
- Increased tree fall due to waterlogging
- Increased susceptibility to destructive fungi
- Disruption or delay of traditional maintenance practices
- Washout or damage to roads, trails, and landscape features throughout parks
- Numerous impacts on the integrity and material condition of buildings and structures
- Increased pressure to relocate or elevate structures, and/or surrounding structures.
- Damage to utilities, generators and electrical systems
- Sewage backup and overflow leading to saturation and related flooding, contamination, and damage
- Increase in number, type, and intensity of pests, such as termites, carpenter bees, fire ants, etc.
- Increased utility costs related to weather extremes and related heating/cooling needs

To reduce risk of hazards, protect park resources, and build resiliency in the cultural landscape, the CRCC Strategy related to Magnolia Plantation includes four steps.[13] First, update existing conditions documentation. This CLR is an example of accomplishing this step for the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation. The park is also planning to complete 3D laser scanning and HALS documentation of both plantation landscapes in 2021 and 2022 to supplement this CLR (PMIS 236004A). Second, incorporate significance evaluations such as those of the National Historic Landmark (NHL) nomination and Determination of Eligibility (DOE) information into park documentation. For the cultural landscape, this step has been accomplished through the coordination of resource lists and data from these sources. Third, prioritize cultural resources for treatment and protection based on vulnerability and significance. Prioritization and considerations for future accessibility are underway at CARI. This CLR incorporates treatment based on vulnerability and issues of reuse and access. Fourth, consider options for action. Overtime, the strategy recommends that the park prepare to address each asset for active decision-making when presented with climate change related events. The diversity of factors involved developing a resource-based climate action plan requires a robust and inclusive planning process led by the park. The process would make strategic decisions with options and thresholds including no active interventions, offsetting stress, improving resilience/resistance, managing change, relocating/facilitating movement, documenting and preparing for loss, and interpreting the change. Development of a treatment approach and recommendations for the cultural landscape need to be informed by the range of future options in response to climate change that may be applied to the cultural and natural resources of Magnolia Plantation.

F. Cultural Landscape Treatment Approach

The US Secretary of the Interior provides professional standards and guidance for the preservation treatment of historic properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Four approaches outlined in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* are defined, including Preservation, Restoration, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction.[14]

F1. Preservation

Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction.[15]

Preservation treatment as an overall approach is insufficient to meet NPS goals of improving access, enhancing historic character, and improving interpretation of the cultural landscape at Magnolia Plantation. The approach is appropriate as a basic preservation treatment to protect to what remains within the landscape from the plantation era. For the character defining features (CDFs) that contribute to historic value, this includes the remaining spatial arrangement demonstrated by the open landscape, original standing structures, remnants of circulation, partial lines of fences, topography, and historic plant materials including old live oak and water oak trees, vascular plants, bulbs at the Quarters, and types of hay in the fields. All these are the object of ongoing stewardship. In addition to preservation, they may be the target of other treatments to more completely express, present, and interpret the plantation landscape.

F2. Rehabilitation

In Rehabilitation, a cultural landscape's character-defining features and materials are protected and maintained as they are in the treatment Preservation; however, a determination is made prior to work that a greater amount of existing historic fabric has become damaged or deteriorated over time and, as a result, more repair and replacement will be required. The Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation allow the replacement of extensively deteriorated, damaged, or missing features using either traditional or substitute materials.[16]

Rehabilitation allows repairs, alterations, and additions necessary to enable a compatible use for a property, as long as the portions or features which convey the historical, cultural or architectural values are preserved. Rehabilitation returns aspects of modified or missing historic characteristics while suiting current and future uses. This approach is fully appropriate for the Magnolia Plantation landscape as several historic landscape features are in remnant form today and relate to visitor use and interpretation.

Rehabilitation treatment could be applied to the remnant systems of paths, fences, and drainage ways to facilitate the visitor experience of this authentic place and interpretation of the cultural landscape. One of the primary issues for the visitor is site circulation, which is hindered by poor drainage as a result of local weather and infilling of a system of gentle swales over time. Rehabilitation treatment would recapture swales to address climate and align visitor routes to historic circulation patterns. At the same time rehabilitation of that circulation would employ suitable contemporary materials and details for accessibility and maintenance. Furthermore, two groups of features - paths and fences - were particularly important in shaping spaces and therefore providing an understanding of historical space

uses. Photographs capture fences at specific points in time. While fragments of fences remain, many sections are no longer present. Likewise, lack of use since the early 1970s, has removed many of the historic paths trod by those who lived and worked at Magnolia Plantation. There is evidence of the path system and specific fences in the historic documentation of aerial photographs, ground photographs, and a collection of film footage. Rehabilitation of the system of paths, fences, and site drainage is possible to return landscape legibility. Functional path system and fence lines rehabilitation based on historic documentation, and cognizant of access requirements, spatial perception of visitors, and maintenance burdens, is presented in Chapter 6.

F3. Restoration

Restoration is the process of depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period in time. Elements that relate to earlier or later periods are removed in order to clearly represent one time period. A high level of documentation is necessary to ensure that the site accurately represents the historic period.

The application of Restoration as an overall approach to the landscape requires the selection of a specific point in time at which to recapture well documented historic character, materials, and details. This approach is inappropriate at Magnolia Plantation due to the desire of the park to interpret the entire evolution of the site to the present, retain some landscape features that post-date the years of heavy occupation, and minimize implementation and maintenance costs that would be incurred from a landscape restored to a point in time. Also, the ability of the landscape to be restored is challenged by level of documentation and requirement to minimize speculation, as well as changes in use over time – from a very large, privately operated plantation with resident labor to the lease of farmland and then to a federally managed historic site focused historic resource preservation, stewardship, and public visitation.

While the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation may not be suited for an overall restoration approach to treatment, the approach is a valid potential treatment for specific landscape character-defining features such as particular fences or the elements of a historic collapsed rainwater cistern. Potential examples are the connected Store fence and stile and the Mule Lot fence, which defined the area adjacent to the Store and functioned as a daily hub of activity. Another example is a cabin yard, historically defined by hand-built fences using scrap wood. Photographs document the fences at a few cabins. The restoration of a roof gutter at Cabin 1 has already opened an opportunity for a cistern

restoration. The work already done could be complemented by stabilizing and reusing extant rain cisterns at other cabins. This offers another option for restoration and interpretation. As a practice of water conservation, a cistern offers a resource-based message about historical self-reliance and sustainability. Applying a restoration treatment can return degraded landscape features to the overall landscape composition improving legibility and thereby enhancing park visitor perception and learning.

F4. Reconstruction

Reconstruction is the act of using new construction to depict a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object as it appeared at a specific period of time in its historic location. This approach is used only in cases where the highest level of significance applies and detailed documentation exists regarding the historic configuration and details of the site or feature. Reconstruction is rarely applied as an overall approach to a cultural landscape.

The application of a Reconstruction approach to Magnolia Plantation is limited by feasibility, documentation, financial resources, and management direction in way similar to the discussion of a Restoration approach. Nevertheless, individual features could be considered for accurate reconstruction with sufficient documentation and if the action was justified and desired under an overall treatment approach. Reconstructing an example cabin yard could be pursued, as desired, to interpret a single yard to explain cabin yard uses and practices. Guided by an aerial view, establishing a simple boundary shapes a space for the range of daily uses. Those uses included: a swept compacted earth area for movement and outdoor work; a chicken enclosure for egg production and chicken protection; and a garden area for herbs, flowers and food crops. Using Cabin 1 would provide an enclosure to view the persistence of flowering bulbs including daffodil, St. Joseph's lily, rain lily, and others, as tangible remnants of cabin yard use.

In addition, reconstruction of selected individual features or objects may be relevant to achieve interpretive objectives of explaining plantation life. For example, the bell tower and bell that was rung at specific times kept the daily schedule could be considered if sufficient documentation is available. The reconstructed feature would need to be structurally sound. Alternately, the bell tower location could be marked by a portion of the bell tower frame and roof over the actual bell, with documentary photographs displayed on an interpretive panel.

One or more focused reconstruction efforts may be appropriate in the treatment of this cultural landscape if desired for interpretive purposes. This approach relies on documentation which may also be inconclusive, meaning that accuracy could be compromised. As speculation is to be avoided, reconstructing features that are not fully and clearly documented should not proceed; instead, those features may be replaced under a rehabilitation strategy using historically compatible materials.

G. Recommended Landscape Treatment of Preservation and Rehabilitation

This CLR recommends Preservation and Rehabilitation as the overall approach for treatment of the cultural landscape of Magnolia Plantation. Preservation serves as the baseline of respect for the contributing features that remain. Rehabilitation addresses compatible continuing use. This treatment provides overarching guidelines toward compatibility and effective integration in addition to the stabilization and maintenance directives of Preservation treatment.[17] The recommended treatment of the cultural landscape of seeks to accomplish the following tasks at Magnolia Plantation:

- Identify, retain, and preserve historic features and materials
- Protect and maintain historic features and materials
- Repair historic features and materials
- Replace-in-kind deteriorated historic materials and features
- Design for the replacement of selected, missing historic features
- Design alterations/additions for new uses

This approach integrates the protection of extant features from eras across the 1835 to 1976 period of significance with the acceptance of landscape changes after several critical dates affecting Magnolia Plantation:[18]

- 1960s – Last decade with resident and mechanized labor
- Early 1970s – Resident families move out of the cabins
- 1971 - End of direct management by the owning Planter Family, responsibilities shift from Matthew Hertzog II to James Scarborough.
- 1973 - Death of Matthew Hertzog II, closure of the Plantation Store and subsequent departure of the last residents.
- 1976 - Transfer of plantation farming operation from the Hertzog family to corporate entities for large scale commercial farming. Outbuildings and surrounding grounds were also transferred from the Hertzog Family to Museum Contents, LLC.

These significant dates near the close of the 1835 to 1976 period of significance form options for the period of interpretation. Within an era of change between the 1940s and 1970s, when landscape

patterns reflected the transition from a residential to a mechanized work force, this CLR recommends a period of interpretation focused on a legible historic landscape as it continues to evolve. This year aligns with the 2001 *Cane River Creole National Historical Park General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement* recommendation for a 1960 date of interpretation and is supported by historic documentation including a 1958 aerial photograph and the L6 Circa 1958 Landscape Plan developed for this report. With landscape history and analysis narratives serving as reference, the recommended interpretation of the circa 1958 Magnolia Plantation landscape presents an active working plantation.

As the Magnolia Plantation landscape today does not fully communicate the character or details of the time when it was a place of active daily life and work, the recommended approach also proposes compatible interventions to enhance historic landscape character with the replacement of particular remnant or missing features and to actively interpret the working plantation landscape and its peoples particularly to the sharecropper era that is well documented.

This balanced treatment interprets the entire evolution of the landscape while accommodating current and future needs to support a more vibrant, legible site that engages visitors while focusing and limiting maintenance burdens. Following treatment recommendations will result in legibility of the core area of a once vast, bustling and productive plantation.

Chapter 5 Endnotes

[1] US Congress, Public Law 103-449 "To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor in the State of Connecticut, and for other purposes," H.R. 1348-6 "Title III—Cane River Creole National Heritage Park," Sec. 302 and 304, Nov. 2, 1994; 108 Stat. 4752.
[2] National Park Service, *General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, Washington, D.C.: NPS, 2001, pp. 21-22.
[3] National Park Service, *General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, Washington, D.C.: NPS, 2001, p.42.
[4] *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Foundation Document.* Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Region, 2015, pp. 5, 32
[5] HAFE and CARI, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Long-Range Interpretive Plan*, December 2006, 77. Cane River Creole National Historical Park, pp. 193-222.
[6] Ian Firth and Suzanne Turner, *Magnolia Plantation Cultural Landscape Report*, NPS, September 2006, p22.
[7] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, p.10-1.
[8] Bernadette Cooney, Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan, NPS, 2014, this document remains in draft form.
[9] Bowker Lee, Dayna, *Oral History and Ethnographic Interviews with Traditionally Associated People of Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, National Park Service, December 2015, pp.60-61.
[10] National Park Service, Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy, Washington, DC: National Park Service, Climate Change Response Program, 2016.
[11] Patrick Gonzalez, "Climate Change Summary, Cane River Creole National Historical Park, Louisiana," Washington, DC: Natural Resource Stewardship and Science, National Park Service, January 28, 2015.
[12] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, pp.10-3 - 10-7.
[13] Commonwealth Heritage Group and Suzanne Tuner Associates. *Historic Resource Study: Cane River Creole National Historical Park*. Atlanta: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2019, pp.10-3 - 10-7.
[14] 36 CFR § 68.3, The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, 2002.
[15] Introduction for Preservation Quote from NPS website, https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/landscape-guidelines/preserve/index.htm, accessed May 13,2021.
[16] Introduction for Rehabilitation Quote from NPS website, https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/landscape-guidelines/rehab/approach.htm, accessed May 13,2021.
[17] Charles A. Birnbaum, and Christine Capella Peters, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1996, https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/landscape-guidelines/rehab/approach.htm.
[18] Dates noted in interviews quoted in Bowker Lee, Dayna, *Oral History and Ethnographic Interviews with Traditionally Associated People of Cane River Creole National Historical Park*, National Park Service, December 2015, pp.60-62.



6 ▪ Recommended Landscape Preservation Treatment

A. Introduction to Recommended Landscape Preservation Treatment

This illustrated narrative presents the recommended preservation treatment of the cultural landscape at Magnolia Plantation, a unit of the Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI). These recommendations follow the conceptual treatment approach set forth in Chapter 5 and integrate park staff inputs addressing daily management of the site. An overall approach of Preservation and Rehabilitation cultural landscape treatments for Magnolia Plantation provides a framework to address the stewardship of existing contributing features and the limited and focused recapture of missing and degraded features. This approach integrates the protection of contributing features from eras across the period of significance that remain while putting forward compatible interventions to enhance historic landscape character and presentation of this important plantation to visitors. Stated simply, the recommendations seek to preserve contributing features, prescribe treatments to minimize the intrusion of non-contributing features, selectively recapture and/or interpret missing features, and strategically introduce new landscape features that augment historic character and legibility, to achieve an improved visitor experience at CARI.

This chapter begins with general recommendations that address the entire plantation site within NPS boundaries. This is followed by specific treatment tasks organized into two landscape character areas (LCAs): LCA 1 Plantation Yards; and LCA 2 Quarters. The treatment narrative is accompanied by landscape treatment drawings that include recommended treatment plans and schematic-level design drawings detailing specific proposed landscape features.

- Plan L24. Overall Landscape Treatment
- Plan L24A. Alternate Landscape Treatment
- Plan L25. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Treatment
- Plan L26. LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Treatment
- Plan L27. Store Landscape Treatment
- Plan L28. Overseer's House Landscape Treatment
- Plan L29. Cabin 1 Landscape Treatment
- Plan L30. Fences Treatment
- Plan L31. Fence Treatment Details
- Plan L32. Fence Treatment Details
- Plan L33. Fence and Walk Treatment Details

This schematic design drawings of the recommended treatment include paths, fences, and enlarged plans of specific areas. These drawings describe the desired scale, materials, and details of features that can contribute to the distinctiveness of Magnolia Plantation, while improving visitor access, site functionality, and interpretation of the cultural landscape.

The recommended landscape treatment tasks derive from the documentation and analysis provided in Part 1 of this CLR as informed by the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* and *National Park Service Director's Orders 28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline*.[1] Both Preservation and Rehabilitation treatment approaches are consistent with the park's enabling legislation, recent studies and reports, and guidance for CARI, enumerated in Chapter 5.

Location-specific elements are articulated at the LCA level on plans L25 and L26 and on plans L27 addressing the Store landscape, L28 showing the Overseer's House landscape, and L29 depicting the Cabin 1 yard and in more detail. Plans L30, L31, and L32 provided schematic level details of walks and fences that align to the recommendations.

B. Overall Preservation and Rehabilitation Treatment Recommendations

General treatment recommendations inform the application of the specific treatment tasks that are presented in greater detail for each LCA. A fully implemented treatment plan is illustrated on L24. Plan L24A provides a potential alternative addressing arrival and parking for future consideration. Treatment tasks are described in the following narrative under the contributing features headings.

B1. Overall Spatial Organization Treatment

This CLR recommends the Preservation and Rehabilitation of landscape characteristics and features that aid in defining the spatial organization of Magnolia Plantation to include land use patterns shaped by vegetation, circulation along paths and roads, fences, and specific features and objects. As an overall recommendation for spatial organization, this CLR encourages rehabilitation and enhancement of the overall massing of cultural landscape features in the Quarters. Features like fences, gardens, trees, and the grid of cabins distinguish the Quarters from the fields and facilities of the Plantation Yards.

The intent of preserving and reinforcing the relationship between the plantation landscape patterns in relation to landscape features including buildings, visitor destinations, as the public road is impinged on by Cane River bank deterioration. This bank failure is already causing issues in exploring the plantation cultural landscape with the road blocked for safety, which changes the views along LA-119 and the setting in front of the Plantation Store. Within this context, it is important to preserve the focal location of the Plantation Store as an activity hub with respect to the Plantation Yards and Quarters. If relocation of cultural landscape features becomes necessary due to environmental changes, such as the endangerment of the Plantation Store due to changes along the Cane River, strive to rehabilitate spatial patterns to the degree possible by safety relocating imperiled features in compatible, proximate locations.

One interpretive challenge for visitors is the separation of the national park property from the private property containing the Main House (also known as the Big House). Since public access to this adjacent private property is curtailed, and trees and fences limit visibility, the story of the larger plantation should continue to be told through interpretive waysides. When a future opportunity presents itself to join the Main House acreage to the current NPS Magnolia Plantation unit, the combined holdings would reunite

the entire core area of this evolved plantation and greatly enhance site interpretation and understanding for visitors.[2] From a cultural landscape perspective, the CARI holdings should be enlarged to include the Main House landscape and its buildings should the opportunity arise. Once secured in NPS stewardship, prior to any changes to vegetation, paths, fences, and other landscape features, the landscape surrounding the Main House should be the subject of a cultural landscape report with a detailed treatment plan. For any newly acquired property, emergency treatments may include tree and building stabilization measures but not removal of features in order to facilitate appropriate study of the historic landscape. By undertaking this planning work at the outset of NPS ownership, the contributing features of this landscape of the Main House parcel can be identified, stabilized, and preserved into the future. The addition of this parcel would deepen and enrich the presentation of Magnolia Plantation to visitors, through the ability to narrate a more complete story of plantation life over time.

B2. Overall Views and Vistas Treatment

Landscape treatment tasks throughout this chapter enhance the preservation and rehabilitation of spatial organization of the historic plantation and its elucidation through views. As landscape treatment proceeds, constantly consider the visual landscape and its character to limit non-historic elements in the viewsheds and panoramas. The plantation landscape is quite open and with views throughout, framed and punctuated by grand old trees, perimeter tree lines and fences, and contributing structures and objects.

The CLR recommends the preservation of historic views and visual relationships in the Plantation Yards which were more open and interconnected than in the Quarters. Retaining the open views is critical to understanding the landscape. In comparison, in the Quarters it is important to rehabilitate historic views and visual relationships that historically demonstrated internal cohesion as personal domains through a system of fences, swept yards, and gardens. Specific recommendations include:

B2a. Preserve and Manage Approach Views Along LA-119

Preserve the visual relationship between the open fields, Plantation Store, Blacksmith Shop, and the field north of the Gin Barn to the Quarters. Also preserve viewsheds from the north and south curves in LA-119 when approaching the park from either direction. The management of vegetation along the highway, along the west fence line of the park can preserve these views.

B2b. Preserve the Visual Screen of Live Oak Allee north of the Blacksmith Shop

These grand live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees serve as an element of patina of age and a space shaper, providing a visual north edge along the current park boundary. Inspect and care for the live oak trees between the Plantation Yards and the Main House to the north to preserve the visual screen these grand trees create.

B2c. Preserve Plantation Yard Views

Preserve and retain open views across the Plantation Yards over interior fence lines. Integrate new circulation patterns not only with historic movement routes, but also with the visual choreography of moving through the space.

B2d. Maintain Screened Views to Fields

Maintain the partially screened views of fields east of the Quarters through selective clearing of fence line vegetation.

B2e. Rehabilitate Enclosed Views at Cabin for Interpretation

Establish an example of enclosed residential yard views and screened views over fences by rehabilitating the fences and gardens of Cabin 1 in the style and details documented.

B3. Overall Topography and Surface Drainage Treatment

Treatment recommendations addressing topography at Magnolia Plantation help reduce water-related damage to cultural landscape features and buildings. While the park landscape pitches to the east, the entire area is relatively flat and results in issues with surface water that impedes visitor circulation, threatens historic building foundations, and complicates vegetation management. Ditches, or vegetated swales, that historically captured and moved storm water reflect alterations over time in efforts by plantation workers to control the flow of water. Review of aerial photographs reveals long standing soil color and drainage patterns running from west to east; however, cultural features such as the rows of brick cabins lie north to south, necessitating that intersecting drainage features run north to south in order to convey water around static features and eventually to the east. The approximate locations of these linear historic drainage features are shown on L3, L6, and L14. The 2020-2021 topographic study, currently under contract as part of a broader ditches and trails project (PMIS 248206B, 252844B, and 252844C), is intended to reveal these periodically modified ditches as well as more subtle and eroded

micro-topographic features today. Based on what this survey reveals, the historic ditches may be located and optimal patterns reestablished to either replicate them or develop sympathetic, functional patterns.

B3a. Rehabilitate Surface Drainage System

Rehabilitation of the surface drainage system requires understanding the evolved drainage system and making modifications by adding links to make the system functional. The recommendation is to utilize existing drainage project (PMIS 248206B, 252844B, and 252844C), to understand current conditions and to develop solutions that possibly integrate historic west-to-east swales south of the Overseers House and non-historic, south-to-north swales east of the Quarters. In the Quarters, rehabilitation of grades at cabin foundations includes the strategic addition of soil to ensure positive drainage and to reduce areas of ponding. In general, regrading should be minimized where possible to reduce ground disturbance. The park should use current and forecasted climate modeling to anticipate future capacity requirements, and consult with SEAC (Southeast Archeological Center) or other specialists for archeological sensitivity when ground disturbance is necessary.

B3b. Consider Study of Cistern Reuse as Part of Stormwater Control

Magnolia Plantation contains several remaining historic cisterns for capture of rainwater at the Plantation Store, Overseer's House, Gin Barn, and cabins of the Quarters. Historically, these features provided water storage but also controlled water flows immediately around the structures. One cistern at Cabin 1 remains in use for interpretive purposes. It is recommended that a study of cistern reuse be conducted to determine if they are structurally sound and provide sufficient capacity to warrant reuse in their historic locations. Since the amount of stormwater capture is limited for each cistern, the site-wide topographic and drainage study remains essential to devising a complete and functioning drainage system.

B3c. Monitor Cane River Changes

Monitor off-site riverbank and highway pavement stability west of Magnolia Plantation to track rates of change and anticipate future remediation efforts. The park also should consider stakeholder and partner outreach initiatives to combat short-term issues like riverbank erosion and long-term issues of river channel rotation since both relate to the sole existing public access to Magnolia Plantation. For the long-term it is important to prevent encroachment of incompatible features in the road or right-of-way along

LA-119 into the NPS property. Planning projects should be undertaken to explore options for the stabilization of the NPS property boundary prior to further failures along LA-119.

B4. Overall Circulation Treatment

The pedestrian circulation system proposed in this treatment aligns to historic routes where feasible and includes very few new linkages. The intent is to move visitors on foot through the landscape in a way that fully engages them with this unique historic place. The path details, as proposed, will create a fully accessible route for people of all abilities. The expanded accessible network also increases the ability of the park to respond to guidance on social distancing from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local public health authorities during pandemics such as COVID-19. The proposed paths also open opportunities to position interpretative elements, including landscape features and signage, appropriately in relation to historic spatial organization and views. Specific recommendations for each circulation element and long-term planning are listed below.

B4a. Enhance Pedestrian Circulation

Redesign and build out the visitor pedestrian circulation along paths to more closely reflect historic patterns to enhance site experience, while improving access and maintenance. This recommendation aligns to the current accessible trails project at CARI. Overall, the new trail network should integrate and accommodate the rehabilitation of specific historic fence alignments know to be present historically throughout Magnolia Plantation, and to anticipate potential changes in the location of the visitor parking area. Wherever possible trails should align to fence lines such that path material can abut fence posts to ease the maintenance burden of trimming or mowing between fences and paths. General aspects of proposed circulation will include the following:

- Provide a network of paths featuring convenient loops that emanate from the Plantation Store and visitor parking area to connect across the landscape reaching contributing features and providing a legible, informative landscape route.
- Offer a spur trail to the Blacksmith Shop from the Plantation Store.
- Reuse the alignment of the existing gravel path from the parking area to Cabin 1 that closely follows the historic alignment. Remove the existing visitor trail paths that use: rubber mats; crushed limestone; wood bridge over a swale and mown turf. Replace with path materials outlined below.
- Provide six-foot-wide trails unless constrained by existing site features in order to accommodate small motorized vehicles, larger groups, improve dual direction accessible routes, and facilitate social distancing.

- Install barrier-free visitor trails following project specifications that will construct raised, asphalt trails with a rubberized surface overlay. Rather than trying to match vegetation or draw stark contrast to surrounding materials, the color selection of the rubberized overlay should be a brown earth tone that resembles the most widespread hue of local soils onsite. New trails should use a profile with a gravel base excavated only two inches deep and built up to minimize ground disturbance during construction by preserving subsurface resources in situ. These paths will rise slightly above the surrounding landscape in order to drain and provide all weather access.
- Consider visitor paths that employ colored concrete material at key locations, taking into account the balance of factors including historic aesthetics, subsurface disturbance, functionality for accessibility, durability over clay soils, lifecycle costs, carbon footprint, and procedural feasibility with approvals. The integral color would match adjacent soil and represent historically exposed compacted soil footpaths and swept earth yards. Coloration should be adjusted as necessary to reflect changes in local soils, in the style of paths constructed at the Jimmy Carter Boyhood Farm of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site (See Figures 6.1 and 6.2).
- Coordinate circulation improvement work with locations of the new interpretive waysides. Install interpretive waysides in conjunction with the recommended visitor route while placing them thoughtfully in relationship to views and spatial organization.

B4b. Provide Pedestrian Bridges

Install raised puncheon bridges, approximately two or three, where needed to elevate the new paths above drainage swales. Puncheon bridges are usually wooden structures built directly on the surface, without excavation. Construct the sides of the bridge with bumper guide boards at edges of the walking surface to avoid use of hand rails (Figure 6.3). Bumper boards may be top mounted or bolted to the side of stringer boards to facilitate the replacement of decking. A larger structure with handrails would accentuate the presence of an introduced element and detract from contributing views across the open landscape.

B4c. Provide Mown Paths

Make connections to paved paths with mown turf paths (B1 short turf) as needed to link secondary visitor destinations beyond the paved path system after providing universal access to all primary interpretive and visitor amenity locations. For example, mown paths along historic alignments from Cabins 3 and 4 can link to the primary accessible route that connects to the parking area and Plantation Store. Mown paths create a hierarchy of visitor circulation routes that provide access and limit impervious surfaces, while mowing on historic alignments offer interpretive clues.

B4d. Future Considerations for Site Access and Setting

There are existing limitations and concerns with visitor access to Magnolia Plantation. Long-term, alternative routes for park access should be studied due to ongoing environmental hazards concerning the current public arrival and egress route along LA-119. Additionally, the possiblity of future acquisition of the Magnolia Plantation Main House property north of the current park boundary and a potential realignment of LA-119 east of the park warrant new studies of parking capacity and visitor and maintenance circulation.

Rotational shear failure of the Cane River embankment has impacted LA-119, which provides the only access to the property. At least three areas of surface failure are evident along the west edge of the road: near the Main House access, near the Plantation Store, and south of the visitor parking area. At the Plantation Store, the road is closed with a permanent barricade, meaning that all visitor traffic must currently arrive from the south.

In April 2021, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) announced that it had received $5 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to repair the embankment slide along LA-119; however, the funding is not enough to repair the road in its current alignment. Preliminary discussions with DOTD have revealed that the funds will cover the cost of realigning the road to the east of the park. DOTD engineers are currently in the planning stages of the project to evaluate the best, most cost-effective road realignment. The NPS preferred alternative is the road alignment with the least impact to the park—repairing the road in its original location, which is currently estimated to be $15 million due to the complexity of the project (depth of repair, contamination, archeology). The projected costs may increase in the future as conditions change and worsen. The NPS is unable to offer any funding to address the issue until points of failure reach the CARI park boundary (east road right-of-way) or until the park boundary is expanded to include the riverbank lands.[3]

Alternative routes for visitor access and parking at Magnolia Plantation should be considered in conjuction with LA-119 repair and potential realignment. While current needs mandate the design and funding of projects within CARI boundaries, consideration of park adjacencies and access is justified for planning purposes. The following vehicular access options, illustrated on Figure 6.4, should be considered:

- Alternative 1: Secure additional funding and repair LA-119 in its current alignment (NPS preferred alternative; cyan option)
    - Pros – retains original spatial organizaiton, visitor arrival experience, and sequence of views/vistas; utilizes existing infrastructure; restores access to Magnolia from the north and south; restores through traffic for local community; retains access to main house property for Hertzog family
    - Cons – high cost, complex environmental compliance, environmental contamination may create additional complications

If LA-119 is realigned to the east, shown in gray, the NPS has several options for access to Magnolia:

- Alternative 2: Use existing LA-119 alignment as a spur road to the park (red option)
    - Pros – Reuses a portion of the original alignment of LA-119, retains the visitor arrival sequence from the south, utilitizes existing visitor parking area
    - Cons – Creates long spur road to access the park which will not receive much maintenance, does not restore access to the park from the north, may promote housing developments and subdivision of land south of the park, cuts off access to main house for Hertzog family

- Alternative 3: Construct new park access road along Parish Road and link to existing parking lot (green option)
    - Pros - Recaptures Parish Road as contributing circulation feature, creates shorter park access route, utilitizes existing visitor parking area
    - Cons – disrupts historic spatial organization, alters visitor arrival sequence and historic views/vistas, does not restore access to the park from the north, may promote housing developments and subdivision of land to the south of the park

- Alternative 4: Construct new park access road along 1830s lane and link to new visitor parking lot (yellow option)
    - Pros - Recaptures 1830s Lane as contributing circulation feature, creates shorter park access route, relocates visitor parking area outside of the Mule Corral
    - Cons – alters visitor arrival sequence and historic views/vistas, does not restore access to the park from the north, may promote housing developments and subdivision of land south of the park, may require significant drainage structures, requires a park boundary expansion which may take several years.

Of these, Alternatives 2 and 3 offer potential options for rerouting traffic to the existing parking area. If LA-119 remains closed at Magnolia Plantation in the near term and if the road is realigned in the long term, it is conceivable access would continue to be provided to the southern park boundary, shown in cyan on Figure 6.4. An alternate short-term option is to maintain the existing parking area with a realigned entry drive inside of the park boundary and parallel to LA-119, shown in magenta. In the event

that the current or future rerouted LA-119 could no longer provide access to park boundary, the Parish Road from Cloutierville to the east could be studied for improvement and public access. Indicated by a white line, this abandoned road is an unimproved right-of-way.

Multiple options exist for future parking to the south and north of the existing parking area. If the existing parking area becomes inaccessible due to the road failures, the southern field west of the Gin Barn offer options for alternative parking areas (Figure 6.5). A potential parking area along the southern boundary parallel to a farm lane would minimize visual intrusion of automobiles in the interior of the park. Another option is to establish parking in the location of the former Seed House along LA-119 that was demolished between 1972 and 1981. This location would reactivate an area that was once part of the active plantation. Both parking options would alter tour routes; however, the nearby Gin Barn and surrounds could be utilized as a visitor contact station.

An alternative parking location also exists north of the existing parking area and adjacent to the Plantation Store, west of the Overseer's House. Public and farm parking occurred here during the period of significance (See Figures 6.4 and 6.5, Plans L6 and L24A). This area may be considered if additional capacity is needed due to acquisition of the Main House or if southern parking locations become unworkable due to environmental changes along the Cane River and LA-119 closures or realignments. Reuse of the historic parking area north of the Store and west of the Overseer's House could be designated for staff and maintenance as well as visitor overflow parking if the existing parking area in the former Mule Lot was retained. If access from the south is discontinued, access to the historic lot from the west via LA-119 may be possible, shown in blue on Figure 6.4. Another arrival and egress option for this centrally located area is provision of a road along the east boundary of the park and following the property line, shown in orange. Other options follow fence and tree lines at the edge of historic fields east of the CARI boundary, shown in purple and yellow. The yellow option would follow the historic alignment of the "lane" shown on the 1858 Walmsley plat. This roadbed located south of the Blacksmith Shop leads in an easterly direction and could connect to a rerouted LA-119 or an improved Parish Road. The recommended visitor trail system takes into account the potential of rerouted access to the park. Any major change to access, parking, and potential expansion of the park will necessitate new planning studies to analyze alternatives and select the most appropriate, preferred alternative.

B5. Overall Vegetation Treatment

The recommended treatment of vegetation at Magnolia Plantation includes preservation and rehabilitation treatment information along with pertinent vegetation maintenance guidance from current park staff and from the 2014 *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, the 2017 *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Mowing and Roadside Operations Plan*, and a spring 2020 trip report on vegetation maintenance by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.[4]

B5a. Preserve and Improve Historic and Existing Vegetation

There are important repositories of historic plants present at Magnolia Plantation as indicated by a vascular plant inventory.[5] Preservation of the tree, shrub, field, garden, and other herbaceous species is an important aspect of property stewardship and maintenance. The park should continue to manage the on-site individual and clusters of plants to sustain and augment these biotic resources. Where necessary for interpretation, efforts should be made to remove incompatible non-contributing vegetation. Where possible, the park should suppress invasive species. Given the rate of growth, surrounding context and riverine setting of the park area, control of invasive species will require cooperation of surrounding private land owners or public authorities. Riverbank vegetation of the park property west of LA-119 should be monitored for unstable slopes and trees with the potential to effect site access. See detailed recommendations for LCA 1 and 2 below.

B5b. Preserve Historic Trees, Replace In-Kind as Required

NPS has a tree management approach that establishes guidance for the inspection and care of trees at Magnolia Plantation.[6] This integrated program follows NPS DO-77 and ANSI A300 Part 9 for tree risk assessment and management that aligns to best practices.[7] NPS recommends a deliberate documentation process to inspect and pursue maintenance of trees with park boundaries and adjoining private lands as needed. Trees are classified by risk ratings based on observations applying these useful standards. Implementation of a hazard tree risk assessment and the work undertaken to address issues would follow guidance included in ANSI A300 and safety protocols in ANSI Z133.

The grandeur of the historic trees at Magnolia Plantation lends a historic character to the property that is irreplaceable. Ultimately, the park should preserve extant historic trees by extending their lives through informed stewardship. There are 14 historic trees within the park lands of Magnolia Plantation

(Plans L14, L15, L24). While important for their age, scale and preservation, these trees are not considered witness trees that would be propagated for direct replacement of the genetic progeny. Rather, replacement in-kind by genus and species is recommended. Specific historic tree recommendations include:

- Perform regular arboricultural assessments combined with pruning and fertilization, perhaps on a 3 to 5-year cycle. File the arboriculture reports in the park archives and the Facilities office for future reference.
- Request support from arborists when historic trees are damaged by storms, winds, pests, or diseases, or for timely assessment and guidance on remedial actions. The National Park Service has an Arborist Incident Response (AIR) Team who has training and expertise in storm recovery, tree stabilization, and working on historic trees.
- Replace historic trees in-kind and in-location when damaged by applying documented details. Replacement should favor replacement with a local specimen from the region or volunteer plants from the park if possible. The historic cultivar should be planted if this specificity is known.
- If the historic tree species is not known, new tree selection should be based on increasing the diversity of native species within the property; however, the planting of southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) is not recommended for the Quarters or Plantation Yards LCAs. It is important to note that though the plantation is named *Magnolia*, the presence of southern magnolia within the current NPS property remains unconfirmed. The unique concentration of southern magnolia near the Main House, rather than widely dispersed throughout the wider plantation landscape, should be retained and perpetuated through planting practices unless new documentation emerges. If an adventitious southern magnolia grows from seed within a group of fence line trees, it may be retained.
- Implement best practices for planting of new trees. Install with watering wells formed in the soil, and a layer of mulch six-feet in diameter circle or a square shape centered on the tree trunk. Wood mulch should be placed to a two-to-three-inch-depth, tapering mulch depth to half-inch around the tree trunk. New mulch would be best applied with removal of old mulch and weeding of the mulch area during the months of November and December when weed growth activity is reduced.
- Consult with SEAC (Southeast Archeological Center) or other specialists as required for archeological sensitivity guidance prior to digging holes for new trees throughout Magnolia Plantation.

B5c. Preserve and Foster Fence Line Trees

- Preserve contributing and other desirable trees along the fence lines while controlling bush and new tree growth to provide historic character of aligned, informally spaced trees and small groups of trees. The overall park tree collection should be reviewed prior to tree replacement. Selectively foster sapling trees in place in order to replace failing or dead trees and continue patterns seen in historic aerial photographs, for example on L7 1972 Aerial. If new planting is necessary, determine tree selection for fence line trees with a target of increasing the diversity

of native species within the property. For example, the addition of historically present trees like sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) and bois d'arc/Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) would diversify a tree row primarily consisting of hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*), and boxelder (*Acer negundo*). Specific tree rows are described in sections on LCAs below.

- Consider a field trial of environmentally sustainable herbicide options instead of glyphosate to control ground plane vegetation along fence lines. Alternative herbicides do not contain toxic ingredients. Suggested options include horticultural vinegar (>20% formulation) such as Green Gobbler and citric acid-based blends such as Avenger.[8]

B5d. Apply Limewash to Historic Trees for Interpretation

Cultural practices regarding trees such as applying limewash to trees should be considered in addition to preserving individual and groupings of trees. The presence of limewash can continue former cultural landscape practices, enhance interpretation of heritage resources, and highlight the remaining historic trees for ease of recognition as witness trees at Magnolia Plantation.[9] While past projects by CARI staff have continued this historic practice, the application of limewash may be best be carried out as an experiential interpretive process by school groups or volunteers to reduce maintenance burdens. As limewash is a labor-intensive process, consider developing a volunteer partnership to annually apply the treatment to one or more specific trees in a logical multi-year sequence. The following recommendations may be useful if this practice is carried out.

- Align the number of trees to be limewashed with park staff and the volunteer capacity. Options include limewashing only one historic tree as a demonstration exhibit, all historic trees that form an allée or a discreet grouping, or 14 historic trees on site with diameters of over 36 inches, as shown with a black circle beyond the trunk (Plan L24). Exclude trees along fence rows of the east and south property boundaries as many of these trees are not historic and there is no record of the practice occurring along these field edges.
- The limewash formula for trees should consist of only hydrated lime and water, as recommended by the NPS National Center for Preservation Training and Technology (NCPTT).[10] The solution should be applied around the base of tree trunks to about six feet in height down to the exposed root features. Heights of former limewash may vary. Observe former height if possible and apply to match. Park staff recommends at least three coats per tree to provide a consistent appearance for up to eight months. The vestige of this practice is also meaningful so infrequent and episodic applications provide an interpretive effect similar to regular, periodic applications. Annual treatment may not be necessary.
- Monitor soil conditions around limewashed trees including pH to determine if the frequency of application could potentially negatively affect tree health over time.

B5e. Continue Turf and Field Mowing

For turf and field vegetation, the park should move forward with three turf classes, B1 Functional Short, B2 Functional Tall and S4 Managed Tall.[11] These are shown on L24 in three colors for ease of understanding. Bright green is mown turf B1, light green is rough turf B2 and light golden yellow is meadow S4, as noted in the symbol key. These mowing regimes, shorter and taller, across most of the Magnolia Plantation landscape simulate differences between historic uses to an extent and provide clear, easily followed visitor walking routes. Short turf in visitor areas reflects historic areas of more intensive use and increases safety with fewer snakes, fire ants, and rodents. Longer grasses lend a pasture or field appearance that evokes the historic livestock grazing and hay filed uses. These three turf classes closely align to the current CARI mowing plan with important variations to enhance visitor perception and experience.[12] In addition, areas around large historic trees may be mulched for a breadth around each tree that relates to protection of surface exposed roots. These roots can be damaged by mowing and if scalped or nicked weaken the tree and provide an entry point for diseases and pests. Applying and renewing mulch shifts mowers away from valued trees.

In both the Plantation Yards and Quarters LCAs, the park should consider permitting broad leaf herbaceous plants to coexist with turfgrass to enhance historic character and reduce time that may be employed in applying turfgrass broadleaf weed herbicides. Some “shagginess” is welcome as plantations are agricultural landscapes.[13] Common weed species include Virginia Buttonweed (*Diodia virginiana*), Torpedograss (*Panicum repens*), Dallisgrass (*Paspalum dilitatum*), Dollarweed (*Hydrocotyle* sp.), Dichondra (*Dichondra repens*), Yellow Nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*), and Crabgrass (*Digitaria* sp.). Varied mowing regimes targeting specific areas of the landscape may alter the presence of weeds. Lawns mown more frequently and maintained at a lower height may contain fewer weeds than less frequently and higher mown areas.

While adjusting to weather, staffing availability and other park priorities, the frequency of mowing should align to growth rates such that no more than one third of grass blade height is cut at a time for optimal turf health. Mowing should not be done on wet grass as it can create surface ruts and increase susceptibility to Brown Patch, Pythium Blight, and other fungal diseases.[14] Emergency mowing prior to major storm events like hurricanes should be anticipated in order to reduce clean up and to expedite drying. Proposed detailing of fences responds to facilitating mowing equipment and regimes and is defined as rehabilitation, rather than strict restoration. Also, to ease mowing effort, the surface of

former fields and yards should be smoothed with a tractor-pulled roller or other means on an as-needed basis. Such leveling should reduce damage to equipment and decrease safety hazards for staff. The recommended mowing regimes are as follows:

- Mow short functional turf B1, of mixed species to approximately 3 inches in height to interpret areas of heavy historic pedestrian use in the following locations:
  - Along all paved paths at single mower width, on both sides
  - V-shaped path between parking area and Cabins 3 and 4
  - Overseer's House within the fenced yard
  - Around cabins in a simple rectilinear pattern
  - Around the foundation of all buildings

- Bush hog functional long turf B2, of mixed species when vegetation reaches 12 to 18 inches high. Growth rate will vary across the seasons. Mow to approximately 6-8 inches in height to interpret former pastures and utility yards in the following locations:
  - All fields and yards east and north of the parking area
  - Field east of the cabins

B5f. Rehabilitate and Manage former Agricultural Field as Meadow

In the field between the Gin Barn and the Quarters east of the existing parking area, the park should maintain and augment field grasses and other herbaceous meadow species to interpret former agricultural usage that included corn, hay, and other rotational crops. This specific field should be managed to sustain native plants that give the appearance of hay production and can be differentiated from other fields at Magnolia Plantation. This recommendation is a deviation from the current mowing plan at CARI.

- Consider haying the meadow field, shown on the treatment plan in golden yellow, as managed tall vegetation cover S4, of mixed species when appropriate for that field, perhaps twice annually.

To establish the meadow field, seed with species likely present at Magnolia Plantation during the period of significance such as White Clover (*Trifolium repens*), Bur Clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), Bush Clovers (*Lespedeza* spp.), Carpetgrass (*Axonopus* spp.), Rescuegrass (*Bromus catharticus*), and Big Bluestem (*Andropopgon gerardii)*. Numerous other introduced and native species of grasses and other field plants exist at Magnolia Plantation.[15] While traditional fodder grasses like Bahiagrass (*Papsalum notatum*) and Coastal Bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) can be retained, establishing a homogenous cover of these grasses is not recommended as they require additional fertilization, soil additives, watering, and

insecticides. As a general rule, grasses should be sown in the spring and forbs should be hand broadcasted and raked in by hand in the late summer or fall.

Mow or bush hog the field to a height of 6 to 8 inches to foster historically desirable grasses, as recommended by a rangeland specialist from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Department of Agriculture.[16] Mow at different angles on consecutive mowing, to reduce the pattern of matting from the long clippings. This varied angle mowing practice will minimize the impact on the plant community dynamic from cut material that has a differential effect on species composition due to thatch build-up.

Consider continuing recent haying by local partners to manage the S4 class meadow for hay while protecting cultural resources and amenities (e.g. subsurface archeological potential and trails). Manage the meadow area to support the historic hay species. For hay production, historic species and native grasses can be supplemented with Bermudagrass as it will not generally smother clovers and grasses. Specific arrangements about partner access, haying frequency, growth cycles, heights of plants, field edge conditions, natural resource factors such as nesting avifauna and pollinator habitat should be discussed with a potential partner. Emergency operations in advance of potential storms also should be agreed upon.

B5g. Develop a Clear Vegetation Inspection and Maintenance Schedule

Develop a regular schedule of vegetation management actions that include cyclic and rotated elements, through the calendar year, to facilitate ongoing vegetation preservation and specific care. Consider updating the 2014 CARI *Draft Vegetation Management Plan*. A revised plan would guide inspection, perhaps at three to four intervals around the annual calendar times. That inspection would lead to defining priority actions and to securing funding to schedule critical, routine and cyclic work that will support ongoing cultural landscape vegetation preservation, regardless of staffing changes.[17] It would include the full range of potential tasks already being undertaken, aided by a regular inspection. Consider developing a printed document and/or in a Job Plan format to integrate into the park's FMSS data.[18]

Another way to move ahead with this recommendation, would be to include all aspects of landscape management in one calendar. Three or four annual walks to inspect current status and conditions of the

entire landscape and its systems would provide a baseline understanding of the features to observe and what needs to be addressed. The proposed calendar would include detailed information on all cultural landscape features. For example, the times and durations at which remnant flowering vegetation grows and blooms would be itemized and aspects of contributing features, from spatial and visual organization to small-scale objects and furnishings, would be listed with relevant tasks for ease of checking off tasks to be accomplished.

B6. Overall Small-Scale Features Treatment

Small scale features are particularly important to the feeling and association of the landscape with the plantation history. These small-scale features include those remaining from the plantation period and those that may be replicated based on historic documentation. The Martin House, Plantation Bell, Corn Crib, cisterns, rain gutters, foundations of former structures, and fences all aid in communicating the past of this unique and important historic site of plantation life for enslaved workers, tenant farmers, sharecroppers, and owners. Specific, detailed recommendations for small-scale features at the end of the period of significance are addressed in LCA 1 and LCA 2 discussions as appropriate.

B6a. Rehabilitate Perimeter Fences

Rehabilitate historically compatible fences along the perimeter to prevent incursion by cattle or by feral hogs that threaten cultural landscape features and archeological resources. Preserve historic perimeter fenceposts and functional fence remnants by incorporating these dispersed, site-wide elements. Inspect existing boundary fences on a regular basis for damage and repair requirements. Coordinate perimeter fencing with the current boundary fence repair and replacement project (PMIS 252636). Any work on this fence may require communication with the adjacent land owner and survey work to determine ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Plan L30 shows the locations of fence lines to be rehabilitated.

Eleven recommended fence details are illustrated on Plans L31, L32 and L33, drawn from historic images, titled by location, and including detail 9, a modified version that shifts the base board up to 8 inches above grade to increase mowing efficiency. When repair or replacement is necessary, use a simple wood post and hogwire fences along the north, south, and east property lines. For sections of perimeter fence that abut an active pasture use detail 11, including two strands of barbed wire to

confine neighboring livestock. The specific fence along the park boundary at LA-119 and the fence section directly north of the cabins are described as separate tasks in the LCA recommendations below.

The general-purpose hogwire for fences recommended for Magnolia Plantation is rolled, galvanized steel wire material that withstands weather and wear and tear from livestock, and is shown on fence details 1, 4, 5, 9 and 11. Typical infill patterns have either uniform square openings (e.g. 6" x 6") or smaller square openings at the bottom and larger openings at the top (e.g. 3" x 6" up to 7" x 6"). Both are acceptable; however, fence with variable-height openings may be preferred in sensitive and high use areas as it reduces incursion by small burrowing animals such as armadillo. Hogwire may be woven wire with welded bonds or employ proprietary knots that act as hinges. Uncolored steel materials are preferred over fence types that have colored wire, such as a top red wire. Where perimeter fence serves to exclude feral pigs, it should reach the ground rather than be raised to 8" facilitate mowing.

B6b. Preserve Footings and Foundations

Preserve the remnant sandstone footing in its location near the Corn Crib and in the vicinity of the Blacksmith Shop. The stones mark the site of a former outbuilding known as the Long Barn/Tractor Shed (Figure 6.6) and a possible water trough. Incorporate the features into the herbicide regime for fence line vegetation management.

Identify, record, and preserve the locations of any footing remnants that may become exposed throughout Magnolia Plantation. For disinterred piles of stone remnants, record locations and protect in situ or protect from potential disturbance of landscape maintenance or visitor use through relocation near where they currently exist. Larger, partially embedded stones may mark removed structures and should be retained in situ.

B6c. Provide Wayfinding and Interpretative Signage

When adding wayfinding and interpretive signage, carefully position signs to maintain views and spaces without unnecessary distraction. Signage should support the ability of visitors to understand the rehabilitated historic landscape without unnecessary visual intrusion. It is important to closely coordinate signage projects with future circulation and fence projects so that access to new features is ensured without additional modifications to the landscape. Signage armature directly adjacent to or

mounted to features such as fences and paving materials helps to reduce the additional maintenance task of mowing between and around these new features.

Implementation of signage projects, such as the CARI Wayside Exhibit Project (PMIS 252555), should be aligned with CLR recommendations for preserving contributing features and enhancing historic character.[19] It is desirable to limit the visibility of new, non-contributing features in the landscape whether they are stand-alone signage elements or elements that also draw attention to the presence of a non-historic element. For example, signage in open areas should have a relatively low height in relation to its surroundings or be positioned elsewhere. With regards to the implementation, the CLR provides the following specific observations for consideration:

- Ensure that all signage locations correspond to new, proposed paths and fences that have been designed to enhance historic landscape character rather than paths that existed in 2018.
- Reconsider the location of the Porches and Gardens wayside by Cabin 1 so that it is supports the rehabilitation of the Cabin 1 setting. The sign could be repositioned along a new proposed fence and path near the porch.
- Reconsider the location of the Plantation Landscape wayside in the center of the field west of the Quarters by positioning it elsewhere in a manner that does not intrude on the historic landscape spaces and views that it is interpreting. A railing mounted sign on a noncontributing bridge feature would be highly visible and distracting to the perception of spaces. Also, the puncheon bridge can be purposely constructed to avoid the need for a railing, which would further reduce the presence of the walkway feature. The sign could be repositioned near the fence where the proposed trail enters the field from the parking area in the Mule Lot.

C. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Treatment Recommendations

Preservation and rehabilitation recommendations for LCA 1 offer specific guidance for the landscape characteristics of vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features. Park-wide recommendations and information common to treatment of these features in both LCA 1 and LCA 2 are provided above in the section on the overall landscape. Plan L25. LCA 1 Plantation Yards Landscape Treatment illustrates the intention of specific tasks described below.

C1. LCA 1 Vegetation Treatment

Landscape features that correspond to aspects of historic vegetation character in LCA 1 should be preserved, with inspection and care as required. Later additions, planted or volunteer, and specific losses in recent decades have altered both the type and the spatial organization of vegetation.

C1a. Preserve Historic Vegetation and Renew as Needed

Preserve vegetation that contributes to the historic character of the Plantation Yards and reestablish historic vegetation patterns including character, form, or species of individual plants where known. Specific vegetation preservation targets are:

- Preserve the row of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) along north property edge.
- Preserve the row of live oak and water oak (*Quercus nigra*) and live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) west of Overseer's House.
- Preserve large trees along west and east perimeter fence lines in the informal rhythm of the 1970s. Periodically remove brush and volunteer vegetation while fostering specific trees into maturity.

If these important trees are lost in the future, replacement in-kind and in-location is recommended, as noted elsewhere.

C1b. Preserve Herbaceous Plants and Vines

For herbaceous plants and vines, maintain historic species in situ and limit disturbances that impact plant health. Plants to preserve in specific locations include resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*) growing in the large oak (*Quercus* spp.) trees and other trees within LCA 1, hay species in former pasture at Blacksmith Shop, Clasping-leaf Coneflower (*Rudbeckia amplexicaulis*) along the remnant fence line east of the Overseer's House, and historic daffodils (*Narcissus* spp.) and English ivy (*Hedera helix*) at Overseer's House. For the English ivy beds west of the Overseer's House, monitor growth and cut back ivy as needed, removing it from trees and fences periodically and when it begins to cover the path. Periodically remove poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), tree seedlings, and other volunteer plants from this area.

C1c. Remove Non-Historic Trees

Remove trees that are not historic and detract from the historic character due to their location (See Plan L25). Trees to be removed are:

- Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) grouping along former fence west of Cabin 4 blocks views across yards and increases overall density in a formerly more open area. Remove these trees when possible.
- Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) west of the Gin Barn creates a non-historic focal point in a formerly open field. Consider removal of this tree in approximately ten years after other pecans have been planted as part of rehabilitation efforts since this is one of the only remaining examples of

this species at Magnolia. If this tree is retained until natural demise, do not replace the tree in this location.

C1d. Add Replacement for Historic Pecan by Plantation Store

Plant a pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) tree within the vicinity of the former pecan tree along LA-119 south of the Plantation Store. Plant the new tree immediately south of and adjacent to the former stump location. If excavation is required for planting the tree, consult with SEAC or other specialists for archeological sensitivity and consider performing environmental studies to determine the potential hazard of soil contamination prior to ground disturbance.

C2. LCA 1 Circulation Treatment

The landscape of LCA 1 holds historic routes, expansive views, and visitor contact and learning destinations. An accessible pedestrian path system is proposed to connect these features favoring historic alignments. Pedestrian paths, future access, and parking scenarios are described in the Overall Circulation Treatment section B4.

C2a. Maintain Vehicular Access and Parking Area

For vehicular circulation in the near term, maintain the existing parking area in the former Mule Lot and access via LA-119 until use of the road is unfeasible due to environmental conditions (Plan L24). Maintain the crushed gravel parking area and accessible spaces in concrete paving. Link the site-wide accessible path system to this parking area. The visual intrusion of the visitor parking area within the historic landscape can be improved through the restoration of fencing around the Mule Lot, an important and distinct interpretive area that no longer remains identifiable (See fence recommendation C7a.). The Overall Circulation Treatment section B4 provides recommendations for possible future parking and alternative access related to boundary expansion or roadway failure.

C3. LCA 1 Buildings and Structures Treatment

C3a. Preserve Historic Buildings and Structures as Landscape-Shaping Features

Preserve the historic buildings and structures of the Plantation Yards by referencing treatment recommendations in historic structure reports (HSR) and historic structure assessment reports (HSARs). Assessment of recommendations and verification of completion for historic architecture recommendations in the various reports spanning multiple years lies beyond the scope of this CLR.

Future building treatments or additional planning studies should be coordinated with CLR recommendations for the surrounding grounds in order to enhance spatial and visual character and support interpretation of the historic landscape. The building treatment recommendations are found in related reports, as cited:

- Plantation Store (LCS 91557) and Store Cistern (LCS 100635) treatment recommendations in the HSAR (1997).
- Blacksmith Shop (LCS 91559), Pigeonnier (LCS 91560), Garage (LCS 100737), and Cotton Picker Shed (LCS93411) treatment recommendations in the Blacksmith Shop, Pigeonnier and Garage HSR (2003) and HSAR (1997). Coordinate recommendations for the Pigeonnier with the placement of a new wire fence (C7.2.6) and development of a project to remediate contaminated soils and groundwater at the Pigeonnier and at the Dipping Vat (D7.2).
- Gin Barn (LCS 91561) and Cotton Gin Cistern (LCS 91644) treatment recommendations in the Gin Barn Complex HSR (2004).
- Overseer's House (LCS 91558) and Stable (LCS 100652) treatment recommendations in the Overseer's House/Slave Hospital HSR (2003).
- Preserve, repair and stabilize remnants of the Corn Crib (LCS 100497). Continue stabilization efforts.

C3b. Interpret Missing Buildings

Interpret missing buildings using waysides, site markers or other interpretive devices to recall the important missing structures that hold compelling stories and previously shaped landscape spaces.

- Long Barn/Tractor Shed near the Corn Crib
- Mule Barn (corral shed) south of Plantation Store (LCS 92410, removed c.1996).
- Seed House along LA-119 west of the Gin Barn (removed in 1949)

C4. LCA 1 Small-scale Features Treatment

Small scale features provide clear evidence of the past and relate to visitors due to their scale and details. While some such features remain, others are missing or degraded. These recommendations seek to enliven the park landscape to connect with visitors while being considerate of maintenance capacity.

C4a. Rehabilitate and Replace Historic Fence Lines Overall Discussion

Given the importance of fence lines to spatial organization, these small-scale features are addressed first. The treatment direction is to rehabilitate existing deteriorated fences (LCS 1131606) and replace selected missing historic fences and gates to reinforce and make legible the historic spatial organization and land use functions in LCA 1. Coordinate fence rehabilitation with the ongoing fence repair and replacement project (PMIS 252636). This ongoing project only focuses on the boundary fence, so

additional fence projects will be necessary to complete all fencing recommendations. Recommendations for the boundary fence are provided above in section B6a.

Modify historic fence design and new space forming fences for ease of maintenance with horizontal members or wire fabric no closer than eight inches above grade except where necessary for feral hog exclusion. This will facilitate mechanical mowing and string trimming along fences. For new fence segments, select pressure treated wood to reduce cost and maintenance. Space posts at widths to accommodate commonly available lumber such 92 and 5/8-inch for use of standard eight-foot board lengths or 116 and 5/8-inch for ten-foot lengths between posts on center. If a top board is added, some of the trees along the fence line may be taken out to keep the fence straight. For pressure treated wood components, assemble using polymer or ceramic-coated screws for durability and ease of repair.

Plans L30, L31, L32, and L33 provide details of the fences to be rehabilitated and built. For LCA 1, these include several prioritized categories of fence to be rehabilitated or constructed. Prioritization is related to visitor and staff safety, resource protection, and cultural landscape interpretive function, or how the fence segment increases visitor understanding of the historic landscape and significance. High priority existing historic fence segments to be rehabilitated include:

- Roadside Fence – North and South
- Roadside Fence – Plantation Store to Parking Area
- Roadside Fence – Parking Area
- Fence at Overseer's House – Garage
- Fence at Overseer's House – Cotton Picker Shed

High priority missing historic fence segment to be constructed:

- Mule Lot Fence - Interior

High priority non-historic fence segments to be constructed:

- Barbed wire Fence at Pigeonnier

Low priority missing historic fence segments to be constructed:

- Fence from Mule Lot to Quarters
- Gate at Overseer's House by Cotton Picker Shed

Low priority missing existing historic fence segments to be preserved and eventually rehabilitated:

- Fence and Gates South and East at Overseer's House

Each of these becomes a specific project with detailed guidance, as enumerated below.

C4b. Rehabilitate Roadside Fence

Recommended treatment for the fence along LA-119 varies by location. This is a high priority, existing historic fence line. North of the store, the 375-foot-long fence should employ wood posts and hogwire with white painted fascia boards to replicate the deteriorated and missing limewashed fence (Figures 6.7). Rolled, woven-wire fencing recommended for Magnolia is described above in section B6a. Fascia boards occur on upright posts and as a single horizontal member at the top of the fence. Selective trimming or accommodating cuts in the top facia board may be required where tree trunks or branches interfere with a new fence. Fascia boards were historically painted or limewashed white on the side facing the road, matching the fence that extended along the road in front of the Main House. Historically, the fence included a bottom horizontal board but many of these lower boards were removed by the end of the period of significance and not recommended for replacement in order to reduce maintenance related to painting and mowing. Vertical fascia boards on posts rise six inches above the upper horizontal rail and terminate with chamfered corners. Reuse existing post and board materials where possible and integrate with remainder of existing boundary fence. Maintain existing gate locations along LA-119.

South of the Magnolia Store, the fence type is different with a painted post and board fence. Rehabilitate this 70-foot-long fence segment with upright railroad tie posts, four planks, and white painted fascia boards (Figure 6.8). Fascia boards occur on the roadside of vertical railroad tie posts and over the four horizontal rails. Vertical fascia boards on posts overlap horizontal members, rise four inches above the upper horizontal beam, and terminate with chamfered corners. Reuse existing post and board materials where possible and integrate with remainder of existing boundary fence. Maintain existing gate locations along LA-119.

For the cumulative 275-foot-long fence of the Mule Lot between the visitor parking lot and LA-119, rehabilitate this portion of the boundary fence. Use upright railroad tie posts and rolled hogwire with one upper horizontal fascia board and fascia boards on upright railroad ties. Paint fascia boards white on the side facing the road. The historic fence of the pen would have had four horizontal members similar to the adjoining fence to the north; however, a variation on the missing historic fence is recommended. The semi-transparency offered by a wire fence enables views from the road to the park identifier sign in the parking area. This treatment is reversible such that if the site identifier sign moves to another location in the future, the hogwire can be replaced with four boards. Existing railroad tie posts and post

locations should be preserved and reused where possible and new components should be added where necessary.

Fencing from the south end of the Mule Lot to the south park boundary should employ wood posts and rolled hogwire with white painted fascia boards matching the fence type north of the Plantation Store. This fence line is 570 feet long. Fascia boards occur on upright posts and as a single horizontal member at the top of the fence. Vertical fascia boards on posts rise six inches above the upper horizontal rail and terminate with chamfered corners. Reuse existing post and board materials where possible and integrate with remainder of existing boundary fence. Maintain the existing gate location west of the Gin Barn along LA-119.

C4c. Rehabilitate Overseer's House Fence

At the Overseer's House rehabilitate fences to preserve fence remnants and recreate historic character and spatial patterns. These recommendations do not pertain to the perimeter boundary fence which is described in the Overall Treatment Recommendation section B6a above.

Construct a wood post and rolled hogwire fence with white fascia boards 34-foot-long south of the Garage and a 34-foot-long wood picket fence north of the Cotton Picker Shed (Figures 6.9 and 6.10). These are high priority, existing historic fence lines. Fascia boards occur on upright posts and as a single horizontal member at the top of the fence. Historically, the fence included a bottom horizontal board but many of these lower boards were removed by the end of the period of significance and are not recommended for replacement in order to reduce maintenance related to painting and mowing (Figure 6.9). Connect to picket gate adjacent to the wood picket fence extended from the Cotton Picker Shed. Other segments of the fence around the Overseer's House are low priority, existing historic fence lines.

Rehabilitate wood post and wire fence south and east of the Overseer's House. These segments lie within the NPS property and are not part of the boundary fence which is described above in section B6a. The south and east fences are 130 feet and 122 feet, respectively. Preserve and integrate existing materials where possible (Figures 6.11). When deteriorated, replace barbed wire with three lines of single-strand barbless steel wire. Rehabilitate the remnant fence segments and extend new fence segments where necessary to enclose the area south of the Overseers House. Protect existing clasping-leaf coneflower (*Rudbeckia amplexicaulis*) during work (Figure 6.12).

Construct two wood picket gates along the west and south fence lines of the Overseer's House. If desired, these gates can be secured in the open position for ease of visitor movements. Install one gate between the Cotton Picker Shed and the Garage. Paint this gate white to resemble original limewashed gate (Figure 6.9).

Install one wood picket gate along the south fence line at the Overseer's House. Allow the wood boards of this gate weather into a natural patina and do not paint this gate white (Figure 6.11).

C4d. Rehabilitate Mule Lot Fence

Rehabilitate the Mule Lot Fence (LCS 1131630) to recreate spatial pattern of the historic enclosure and to diminish the visual intrusion from visitor vehicles, directional and interpretive signage, light pole, bicycle rack, and trash and recycling bins in this central part of Magnolia Plantation. This is a high priority, missing historic fence line 702 feet long. The segment of the Mule Lot Fence facing LA-119 is discussed above. Construct interior Mule Lot fences with four horizontal boards. Preserve and integrate existing railroad tie posts and post locations where possible. Rehabilitate the remnant fence segments and construct new fence segments where recommended. Another option is to provide fence posts in lines where fences occurred if resources and maintenance staff prohibit full replacement. Fence line replication would be phased as funding allows.

C4e. Construct Fence from Mule Lot to Quarters

Between the Mule Lot fence and the fence west of the Quarters, add a wood post and hogwire fence with white fascia boards in its historic location. This fence is 238 feet long from west to east. Historically, the fascia board only occurred on the north side as a single horizontal member at the top of the fence and not over posts like elsewhere at Magnolia Plantation (Figure 6.13). Only the top board (not the posts) is painted white on the north side. This is a low priority, missing historic fence line.

C4f. Construct Barbed Wire Fence at the Pigeonnier

Add a new barbed wire and steel T-post fence, approximately 90 feet in cumulative length, around the Pigeonnier to limit visitor access and replace the existing, obtrusive plastic safety fence. Under a rehabilitation approach, this non-historic but compatible feature is a special consideration for health and safety and environmental reasons. Use three or four strands of barbed wire and employ a simple,

unpainted, galvanized steel tube gate with matching wire infill. Ensure that the lowest wire is above eight inches to facilitate mowing. Consider affixing unobtrusive, temporary signage to the fence to inform visitors of past use of chemicals and future remediation projects. The near-term remediation of toxins at the Pigeonnier could be coordinated parallel with work at the Dipping Vat as a long-term solution that may not require future fencing.

C4g. Interpret Historic Stile near the Plantation Store

Stiles no longer exist at Magnolia Plantation but present an opportunity for interpretation of these simple step structures for crossing fences. Waysides other interpretive means can inform visitors about known, historic stile locations along the west boundary fence including a 1940s rustic log stile near the Plantation Store and a possible milled lumber step stile with rails at the Blacksmiths Shop (Figures 6.14 and 6.15).

In the future, the park may wish to consider the feasibility of constructing a partial stile as an interpretive element. The well-documented vernacular stile constructed of rustic logs next to a pecan tree south and west of the Plantation Store offers one example for recapture; however, reconstruction in-kind and in-location is not advised as it facilitates access after hours and poses safety risks if used. Construction of only half of the feature on the interior of a fence may eliminate or reduce these concerns.

C4h. Provide a Plantation Bell Feature

Consider installing a simple plantation bell feature to interpret the historic bell tower in the vicinity of the missing feature. The bell was a marker of daily life ever-present on the plantation. Using solely the documentation of the top of the bell tower, consider constructing a ten-foot tall, functional bell tower with weathered steel scaffolding and a wooden roof that evokes the historic cover. The scaffolding can be designed with horizontal members higher than eight-feet above the ground in order to discourage visitors from climbing the structure.[20] Bringing back the original bell would be preferred if it is available. The importance of the bell as a time marker and the evolution of the bell tower over time may be interpreted to engage visitors.

C4i. Preserve Remaining Small-scale Features

Preserve historic small-scale features that enhance the historic integrity of the Plantation Yards including:

- Martin House (Bird House) (LCS 100457) adjacent to the Plantation Store. Remove and reconstruct the birdhouse prior to its deterioration posing a safety risk to visitors.
- Preserve Machinery Pedestal Near Gin Barn (LCS 100736) by periodically clearing volunteer vegetation from the ruins.

C4j. Replicate Missing Small-scale Features

Add missing historic small-scale features to augment the visitor experience and improve understanding of the historic plantation landscape in LCA 1 including:

- Provide a replica steel mailbox on railroad tie post to replace missing feature west of Store Cistern. Refer to historic photographs (Figure 6.8).
- Add a replica sign of the historic advertisement indicating "Home Made Mules / for Sale / Matt Hertzog" nailed into a tree along LA-119 (Figure 6.16).[21] The sign could enliven the site and enhance interpretation. The recommended location of the sign is attached to a hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) inside the fence line and north of south entrance to the existing parking area (former Mule Lot). This interior location offers visibility from the road and entrance to the lot as well as greater security than a sign located along LA-119 to the south. While the original location of the sign is unverified, it does not appear in photographs around the Plantation Store. The rustic, painted wood board sign can be attached to the tree with hot dipped galvanized nails inserted about 1.5 inches into the bark. At this depth, the tree should compartmentalize and heal the wound around it. If nails do not hold as the tree grows but the sign is still intact, consider attaching the sign to the tree with stainless steel or hot dipped galvanized lag bolts with 2 inches of space between the tree and the board attached to the lag bolt.
- Add Gas Pumps if feasible by acquiring, installing, securing, and maintaining antique gas pumps. The original gas pumps may become available in the future. Consider historic locations with respect to road right-of-way. Position in a way to minimize potential damage. If not feasible, interpret the missing fuel pump stations through signage at the Plantation Store. Refer to historic photographs for details (Figure 6.8). Minimal ground disturbance is recommended in this area due to environmental contamination.

C4k. Maintain and Evaluate Identifying and Wayfinding Signage

The identifying and wayfinding signage on site is limited and should be evaluated and for retention or enhancement. Functional identifying signs include the NPS site identifier and slate building labels. The NPS arrowhead sign with the park name positioned in the parking area should be retained as long as this primary visitor parking lot remains in use. If entry route changes, this sign would be moved to inform visitors of a new entry point. The slate building signs are appealing and appropriate and the staff

practice of making and replacing these as needed is recommended to continue. Other wayfinding signage on site is limited and should be improved as projects proceed to alter the circulation of the park landscape.

- Retain the NPS Site Identifier Sign west of parking area for the near-term.
- Retain the slate building labels prepared by park staff as they are compatible with the property. Continue to coordinate names on buildings with the ongoing Wayside Exhibit project (PMIS 252555A).
- Consider the effectiveness and need for trail signs once new paved trails are constructed. Redesign and install signs if they are necessary for site circulation.
- Reevaluate the location of the visitor contact kiosk within the parking lot with consideration of the desired future visitor route when new trails are installed. Consider retention of a sign near this location or placement of a kiosk near the southeast corner of the enclosure where the trails connect to the Quarters and the Gin Barn area.

C4l. Conserve Plantation Objects

There are a number of existing historic objects held in park collections that may be located within the cultural landscape. This guidance urges the continued conservation of existing plantation objects, considering the placement and interpretation of features where documentation substantiates their location. For example, locate steam gin machinery within secure areas in or adjacent to the Gin Barn, using historic photographic documentation. For the existing hay baler, consider the proposed circulation route and consult historic photographs to determine a location near the Cotton Picker Shed or by the Gin Barn.

Coordinate actions with ongoing museum conservation projects. Present a consistent vernacular theme for the park landscape, to harmonize the aesthetic character and details of this evolved plantation landscape. Where possible and approved, use basic, everyday materials as pedestals, bases or foundations that are of materials located elsewhere within this landscape. Conserve materials by stabilizing deterioration and protecting objects rather than by repairing and restoring objects to like-new condition. This treatment is compatible with the style of other interpretive elements, such as the weathered steel frames to be used in the wayside project (PMIS 252555A).

D. LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Treatment Recommendations

Recommendations for LCA 2 treatment preserve existing park resources and rehabilitate the area around the cabins to evoke the historically residential character of the cultural landscape. Treatment categories for specific tasks include vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features. Plan L26. LCA 2 Quarters Landscape Treatment illustrates the intention of specific tasks described below. Plan L27. Cabin 1 Landscape Treatment provides additional detail on the rehabilitation of the cabin yard selected for additional intervention for interpretive purposes.

D1. LCA 2 Vegetation Treatment

Today this area retains some historic bulbs around some cabins and a few large trees; however, the overall character of vegetation does not present the diversity, function, or beauty of the cabin yards when they were tended by resident families. The aim of vegetation treatment LCA 2 is to preserve remaining historic vegetative character with all contributing features to be preserved, with inspection and care as required. Later additions, planted or volunteer, and specific losses in recent decades have altered both the type and the spatial organization of vegetation.

D1a. Preserve Historic Vegetation and Renew as Needed

Preserve vegetation that contributes to the historic character of the Quarters and reestablish historic vegetation patterns including character, form, or species of individual plants where known. Preserve the flowering herbaceous plants in the Quarters. Certain species are known to remain in the yards of specific cabins:

- Preserve Cabin 1 perennial flowering plants including St. Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*), red spider lily (*Lycoris radiata*), Byzantine gladiolus (*Gladiolus byzantinus*), and daffodil (*Narcissus papyraceus, N. pseudonarcissus, N. jonquilla*).
- Preserve Cabin 2 St. Joseph's lily clump (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*).
- Preserve Cabin 8 perennial flowering plants including St. Joseph's lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*), red spider lily (*Lycoris radiata*), and daffodil (*Narcissus papyraceus, N. pseudonarcissus, N. jonquilla*).
- Identify and preserve other flowering bulbs where they occur, such as rain lilies (*Zaphyranthes spp.*), crinum lily (*Crinum* sp.), and Spanish or Texas copper lilies (*Habranthus tubispathus*) known to be present at Magnolia Plantation.[22]

Ideal care for perennial flowering plants requires additional maintenance effort than what is currently available for vegetation maintenance at Magnolia Plantation; however, basic maintenance practices can

minimize threats to the sustainability of these contributing features. Periodic inspection by a horticulturist is recommended to evaluate vigor every three years or as necessary as maintenance staff observe concerning changes to the plant collection. The CARI *Draft Vegetation Management Plan* provides additional guidance for the care of herbaceous flowering plants if additional resources become available.[23]

Staff should perform and record observational assessments of the flowering plants at the Quarters throughout the year to indicate when leaves emerge, flowers bloom, and any other comments on general health or density. The report should be filed in the park archives and in the Facilities office for future reference. Training of landscape maintenance staff should include information recorded on the seasonality of plant growth to minimize damage from mowing since each species varies with respect to emergence of flowers and foliage throughout the year:

- Daffodil (*Narcissus papyraceus, N. pseudonarcissus, N. jonquilla*) blooms yellow in the winter.
- St. Joseph Lily (*Hippeastrum* x *johnsonii*) blooms red during the spring.
- Crinum lily (*Crinum sp.*) blooms white potentially with other colors from spring to late fall.
- Byzantine gladiolus (*Gladiolus byzantinus)* blooms magenta in the spring.
- Spanish copper lily (*Habranthus tubispathus*), also known as Texas copper lily, blooms from summer into early fall.
- Pink rain lily (*Zephyranthes grandiflora*) blooms after rain from late spring until early fall.
- Autumn rain lily (*Zephyranthes candida*) blooms white after rain during the fall.
- Red Spider lilies (*Lycoris radiata*) bloom from early to mid-fall after a heavy rainfall. Bulbs bloom on stocks before they send up any foliage. The foliage sprouts in the fall and persists until spring when it dies back completely.

Preserve historic trees of the Quarters including:

- Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) tree between Cabins 7 and 8
- Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) tree east of Cabin 8

Maintain large, free-standing non-historic trees of the Quarters. These trees occur in locations of historic tree plantings and augment historic character. It is important to note that the elm at Cabin 3 is likely an invasive species and may warrant removal to eliminate seed sources. Non-historic, free-standing trees to remain include:

- Pecan (*Carya illlinoinensis*) at Cabin 2
- Elm (*Ulmus* sp.) at Cabin 3; note that this is an invasive plant and the park may wish to remove it to eliminate a future seed source

Maintain trees and understory plants along east property fence through selective clearing to establish partially screened views of fields from the Quarters. Preserve pecan trees within the fence line. If the future loss of fence line trees requires replacement, intersperse sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) and bois d'arc/Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) with remaining trees for diversification and to enable the interpretation of culinary and living fence traditions.

D1b. Remove Invasive Trees

Remove trees that are not historic and detract from the historic character due to their location or invasive qualities (See Plan L15. *2020 Trees*). Trees to be removed are:

- Elm (*Ulmus* sp.) north of Cabin 6
- Elm (*Ulmus* sp.) near property line east of Cabin 6

D1c. Add Replacements for Historic Trees

Add historic tree species known to have been used by residents of the Quarters during the historic period in the approximate locations of historic tree cover during the period of significance to rehabilitate historic character and enhance interpretation of the residential landscape (Plan L26). Photographic and ethnographic documentation, as noted in oral histories, identify the presence or use of peach (*Prunus persica*), fig (*Ficus carica* 'Brown Turkey'), sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), chinaberry/China ball (*Melia azedarach*), jujube (*Ziziphus zizyphus*), and pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*).

For new trees, carefully identify and excavate tree pits in locations without flowering herbaceous plants. Salvage bulbs from soil if encountered. Apply a three-foot diameter of pecan mulch at the base of the new tree. Applications of new mulch are best applied during the months of November and December when there is no perennial activity beneath the trees. Consult with SEAC or other specialist for archeological sensitivity and consider performing environmental studies to determine the potential hazard of soil contamination prior to ground disturbance for tree pits.

- Plant one peach tree (*Prunus persica*) at the northwest corner of the Cabin 1 yard (inside proposed fence). Suggested peach varieties for locations north of Alexandria include Regal, Bicentennial, Surecrop, Gala, Harvester, Wildrose, Majestic, Redglobe, Loring, LaPremier, Ruston Red, Dixiland, and Ouachita Gold.[24] Choose one with good disease and pest resistance.
- Plant one fig tree (*Ficus carica* 'Brown Turkey') at the northeast corner of the Cabin 1 yard (inside proposed fence).
- Plant one sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) east of the Cabin 1 yard (outside proposed fence). A sassafras existed in an unidentified location near Cabin 1 during the period of significance.

- Plant one chinaberry tree (*Melia azedarach*) at the southwest corner of the Cabin 1 yard (inside proposed fence). and north of Cabin 6. Chinaberry historically were present near the north and south extents of the Quarters.[25]
- Plant one chinaberry tree near the southwest corner of Cabin 8 near its historic location.
- Plant one Jujube *(Ziziphus zizyphus*) near the northeast corner of Cabin 3.
- Plant one pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) north of Cabin 6. This location reduces the likelihood that nuts will impede access while still renewing the presence of pecans at the Quarters.
- Plant one sassafras tree between Cabin 5 and Cabin 6.
- Plant one chinaberry tree between Cabins 4 and 5.

D1d. Consider Establishing Cabin 1 Planting Bed

If future resources become available, consider establishment of a planting bed that integrates the existing perennial flowering plants (Figure 6.17 and 6.18). This would be accomplished by removing existing turf around bulbs in January prior to primary emergence of foliage. Horticultural best practices indicate that the health of flowering bulbs would be improved by periodic lifting, dividing and resetting.[26] This work could be performed with an onsite workshop on historic garden maintenance in partnership with the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation or NPS Cultural Landscapes Program or with a small team of NPS gardeners or local master gardeners. In addition to resources for initial execution, long-term sustainability should be considered including regular maintenance (weeding, herbicide application, and insecticide treatment) and life cycle costs.

D1e. Consider Adding an Interpretive Sweet Potato Patch

The residents of the Quarters tended a communal patch of sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*) that could be added for interpretation if staffing and funding allows. The planting area could be located east or south of Cabin 1. Due to the potential soil contamination, the patch could be located within an approximately 10-foot by 3-foot planting box filled with new soil. The tubers should be composted rather than eaten. This sweet potato planting would be suggestive of the values of collective action, food security, and self-reliance that the historic, communal sweet potato patch historically demonstrated. Depending on the program, sweet potato could be alternated with other crops to be planted at the Quarters such as common yellow forms of annual sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*).

D1f. Modify Turf Mowing Patterns

Maintain short functional turf, B1, throughout the Quarters area in a clean rectangular pattern rather than in curvilinear shapes currently followed, to the degree possible. This approach will unify the

character of the ground plane at the Quarters, enhancing visitor perception of the area and interpretation and will also delineate the historically fenced area around the Quarters.

D2. LCA 2 Circulation, Pedestrian and Vehicular Treatment

The landscape of the Quarters offers a unique, multifamily residential character that distinguishes itself from the rest of Magnolia Plantation. An accessible pedestrian path system is proposed to enhance the visitor experience of this area and connect it to other places in LCA 1. The existing, accessible path only connects the parking area with Cabin 1. In contrast, the proposed path forms an accessible pedestrian trail network on the site. Furthermore, it follows approximate historic alignments with a central trail between the two rows of cabins. The central pedestrian connection between the cabins should be coordinated with the ongoing trail project (PMIS 248206B).

D2a. Install Swept Earth Style Yard at Cabin 1

Install a small, swept earth style ground plane around Cabin 1 to enhance historic character. Add concrete paving with integral color to match the native surface soils in this location. As part of this effort, install a concrete entry path at Cabin 1. Discontinue use of rubber surface matting. Integrate existing concrete paver ramps into access to the porch.

Consider hardened soil paving as an alternative to concrete. Hardened soil could be added over the existing ground and graded to a two percent slope to facilitate drainage away from the building. Paving mixtures of local soil, sand, and lime should be tested to determine for optimal ratio prior to application. The final application should retain its hardness in damp and wet conditions.

D3. LCA 2 Buildings and Structures Treatment

D3a. Preserve Historic Cabins and Cisterns

Treatment of the eight cabins and four cabin cisterns should focus on the continuation of preservation efforts by repointing masonry walls with lime mortars at the cabins, repairing and replacing lime plaster on the exteriors of the cisterns, and replacing wood components at the cabins (PMIS 191500A, completed March 2021). Background information for the following buildings and structures is provided in the Magnolia Quarters HSR (2013) and HSAR (1997):

- Cabin 1 (LCS 91562)
- Cabin 2 (LCS 91563)
- Cabin 3 (LCS 91564)
- Cabin 4 (LCS 91565)
- Cabin 5 (LCS 91566)
- Cabin 6 (LCS 91567)
- Cabin 7 (LCS 91568)
- Cabin 8 (LCS 91569)
- Cabin Cisterns [at Cabins 1, 3, 4, and 7] (LCS 91643)

D3b. Document Dipping Vat and Remediate Soils

Documentation of the Dipping Vat (LCS 100500) and remediation of surrounding contaminated soils and groundwater is recommended. Contaminants in groundwater should be identified and dissolved in preparation for soil excavation and removal. The environmental hazard may require the removal rather than preservation of the subsurface remnant of the Dipping Vat. The structure is isolated from the current visitor route; however, if future expression of the Dipping Vat in the landscape was desired, fences designed from known precedents at other farms could be erected to represent this former agricultural practice.

D4. LCA 2 Small-scale Features Treatment

The small-scale features at the Quarters can be evocative, as the gutter and capped cistern at Cabin 1 already attest. The addition of a fence line to the east and Cabin 1 garden fences are especially important for space shaping and perception.

D4a. Retain and Repair Existing Boundary Fence North of Quarters

The non-historic, compatible boundary fence north of the Quarters, running 180 feet east from Cabin 4, should be retained and repaired as necessary. Any work on this fence may require communication with the adjacent land owner and survey work to determine ownership and maintenance responsibilities. This barbed wire fence functions to demarcate NPS property, confine neighboring cattle, and reduce potential damage occasional feral hogs. Additionally, this fence directly north of the cabins contributes to the vernacular character of LCA 2. Posts in this area include a variety of wood and metal members as well as tree trunks. The fence should incorporate existing and new wood, metal, and tree fencepost types as needed. Wood posts should be used for the section running from this point to the east corner of the property. In the long term, it is recommended that replacement fence consist of hogwire with

barbed wire in coordination with the ongoing boundary fence repair and replacement project (PMIS 252636).

D4b. Rehabilitate Historic Fence Lines

Replace selected missing historic fences and gates to reinforce historic spatial organization and land use functions in LCA 2. These fences are crucial for visitors to understand and differentiate the change in landscape character and function between the laborers' residential area and the working fields, yards, and commercial spaces of Magnolia Plantation. Only a small number of the many historic fences are proposed in order to demarcate and shape space for basic comprehension and to minimize the maintenance burden. Historic fence design of new fences should be modified for ease of maintenance with no horizontal members or wire fabric no closer than eight inches above grade. This will facilitate mechanical mowing or string trimming. Plans 26 and L30 show the fences and gates to be installed. For LCA 2, these include:

D4b1. Quarters West Frontage Fence
This is a high priority, missing, historic fence 536 feet long. Install a wood post and hogwire fence in its historic location along the entire west frontage of the Quarters. By the end of the period of significance in the early 1970s, hogwire replaced picket fence along the entire west side of the cabins. Interior fences were connected to this fence to demarcate space by many cabins. Originally, the white fascia board only occurred on the west side as a single horizontal member at the top of the fence and not over vertical posts like elsewhere at Magnolia Plantation (Figure 6.19 and 6.20). Construct the fence to historic specifications including the white-painted top facia board. The fence replicates the missing feature and reestablishes historic spatial patterns. A wood picket gate along the west side of the Quarters can be added but is lower in priority than the fence itself. The gate would consist of milled, vertical boards for entry between Cabin 1 and Cabin 2. This is a low priority, missing, historic gate.

D4b2. Cabin 1 Fence
Add vernacular wood picket fences to enclose the yard of Cabin 1 that will recapture historic character and define the perimeter of a residential yard at Magnolia Plantation (Figure 6.20). Coordinate with preservation of historic bulbs. Totaling approximately 260 feet, these fence segments are replacement materials in the style of the missing, historic fence. Its installation is of moderate priority. Two vernacular wood picket gates at Cabin 1 can be added but are lower in priority than the fence itself. The gates would consist of variable width vertical boards for entry between Cabin 1 and Cabin 2. Gates may be secured in the open position for ease of access and management. These are low priority gates in the style of missing historic features.

D4c. Augment Outdoor Furnishings at Cabin1

Consider providing additional replica outdoor furnishings at Cabin 1 to aid interpretation and enhance historic character. Retain the metal porch chairs and wash tub. Consider placing features such a historic

style broom, barrel, bench, coil of rope, clothesline or other furnishings based on historic photographs within CARI archives and included in the history chapters of this CLR and aligned to the recommendations of the interpretive staff.

E. Recommended Landscape Treatment Implementation

To complete the tasks described above, this CLR recommends project groups for implementation. Project groups are presented in order of priority and include:

- Project Group 1: Drainage Improvements and Visitor Trail Loop
- Project Group 2: Tree Removal and Tree Replacement
- Project Group 3: Repair and Rebuild Fences
    - 3a Boundary Fence
    - 3b Visitor Safety Fence at Pigeonnier
    - 3c Mule Lot fence
    - 3d Other Interior Fences
- Project Group 4: Highway Frontage and Interpretation
- Project Group 5: Quarters Landscape and Gardens

Prioritization is based on assuring visitor and staff safety, protecting and maintaining cultural and natural resources, and enhancing visitor experience with increased understanding the historic landscape and its significance at Magnolia Plantation. Funding procedures and logical implementation sequence are also key factors in task prioritization. Each project group is addressed below with abbreviated action tasks that reference the more detailed treatment recommendations above. Also included are routine preservation and maintenance tasks and recommendations for future consideration.

E1. Project Group 1: Drainage Improvements and Visitor Trail Loop

- Rehabilitate surface drainage system in conjunction with ditches projects (PMIS 248206B, 252844B) (B3a)
- Enhance pedestrian circulation in conjunction with trails project (PMIS 252844C) (B4a)
- Provide pedestrian puncheon bridges (B4b)
- Provide mown paths to link secondary visitor destinations (B4c)

E2. Project Group 2: Tree Removal and Tree Replacement

- Remove 2 non-historic trees in LCA 1 (C1c)
- Remove 2 invasive trees in LCA 2 (D1b)
- Add replacement tree for historic pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*) by Plantation Store (C1d)
- Add 9 replacements for historic trees in Quarters (D1c)
- Develop Vegetation Inspection and Maintenance Schedule (B5g)

- Rehabilitate and manage former agricultural field by Gin Barn as meadow (B5f)

E3. Project Group 3: Repair and Rebuild Fences

E3a. Boundary Fence

- Rehabilitate perimeter fences in coordination with boundary fence repair and replacement project (PMIS 252636) (B6a)
- Rehabilitate and replace historic fence lines along LA-119 (C4a)
- Retain and repair existing boundary fence north of Quarters (D4a)

E3b. Visitor Safety Fence

- Construct barbed wire fence around Pigeonnier (C4f)

E3c. Mule Lot Fence

- Rehabilitate Mule Lot Fence (C4d)

E3d. Other Interior Fences

- Rehabilitate Overseer's House Fence (C4c)
- Add Historic Quarters West Frontage Fence (D4b1)
- Construct Fence from Mule Lot to Quarters (C4a)

E4. Project Group 4: Highway Frontage and Interpretation

- Provide Wayfinding and interpretative signage in conjunction with CARI Wayside Exhibit project (PMIS 252555A) (B6c)
- Interpret missing buildings including the Long Barn/Tractor Shed, Mule Barn, and Seed House (C3b)
- Interpret missing historic stile near the Plantation Store (C4g)
- Provide a Plantation Bell feature (C4h)
- Replicate missing small-scale features including mailbox, Home Made Mules for Sale sign, and gas pumps (C4j)

E5. Project Group 5: Quarters Landscape & Gardens

- Install swept earth style yard at Cabin 1 (D2a)
- Install Cabin 1 fence (D4b2)
- Augment outdoor furnishings at Cabin 1 (D4c)
- Add interpretive sweet potato patch (D1e)

E6. Preservation and Management Tasks

- Monitor Cane River changes (B3c)
- Preserve and manage views along LA-119 (B2a)
- Preserve Plantation Yard views (B2c)
- Maintain screened views to fields through vegetation management (B2d)
- Preserve historic vegetation and renew as needed (B5a, B5b C1b, D1a)
- Preserve the visual screen of live oak allée north of the Blacksmith Shop (B2b)
- Preserve and foster fence line trees (B5c)

- Adjust short and rough turf and meadow field mowing (B5e)
- Modify turf mow patterns in the Quarters (D1f)
- Manage former agricultural field as meadow (B5f)
- Maintain vehicular access and parking area (C2a)
- Preserve historic buildings and structures as landscape-shaping features (C3a, D3a)
- Preserve footings and foundations (B6b)
- Preserve remaining small-scale features such as the Martin House (Bird House) and machinery at the Gin Barn (C4i)
- Maintain and evaluate identifying and wayfinding signage (C4k)

E6. Future Research and Planning

- Assess the cisterns of the Quarters for feasibility of reuse for stormwater control (B3b)
- Document the Dipping Vat and remediate surrounding soils (D3b)
- Consider long-term implications for site circulation and visitor experience with the potential future addition of the Main House into the NPS Magnolia Plantation unit (B1, B4d)
- Consider alternative scenarios for site access due to ongoing deterioration of LA-119 (B4d)
- Monitor Cane River changes and consider short and long-term bank and roadway stabilization solutions (B3c)
- Consider interpretive strategies to demonstrate missing historic elements in the landscape (C3b, C4h, C4j)
- Consider a program to apply limewash on trunks of historic trees (B5d)
- Consider addition of a planting bed at Cabin 1 (D1d)

F. Landscape Treatment Recommendations Conclusion

The extended period of significance, from 1835 through 1976, provides broad opportunities for presentation of the evolved cultural landscape in a broad context of place, inhabitants, activities and meanings over 141 years. The historic narrative and images offer a wealth of detail, particularly for the sharecropper and day labor periods after the Civil War and Emancipation. The existing landscape creates a strong foundation for future interventions by capturing recent history from the 1994 park establishment to the landscape of 2020. The analysis of landscape change and continuity over time aids in focusing on what remains and what has been lost and added, to clarify the target landscape character. An overall finding of this CLR is that the landscape today fails to resonate with its unique and important history and evolution. In short, the current cultural landscape fails to communicate its rich and diverse stories. The intent of the cultural landscape treatment is to bring the landscape into greater legibility as a strong platform for those stories. The strengthening of this important landscape is integrated with its future care and its presentation to visitors.

The Preservation and Rehabilitation landscape preservation treatment focuses on historic character and contributing features, based on documentary evidence, but is also informed by park staffing capacity to carry out ongoing maintenance actions. The landscape treatment recommendations are proposed for implementation, step by step over a period of years, addressing functional issues and funding opportunities, recognizing and addressing health, safety, welfare issues at each step. These recommendations are presented in sufficient detail to form the basis for detailed project planning, preliminary costing, and park funding requests. The proposed Preservation and Rehabilitation treatment is underpinned by sound stewardship and takes a comprehensive approach to enable and support a more vibrant, legible site that engages visitors while focusing and limiting maintenance burdens.

It is possible that there may be a future opportunity for the park to acquire the Main House and its grounds. This potential enlargement of the landscape to include the entire core area of Magnolia Plantation would be welcomed as an opportunity to present this historically important place as a whole. If that acquisition were to occur, a cultural landscape report addressing the Main House landscape would build on this CLR. The future treatment of that landscape would ideally align conceptually and in project details to the Preservation and Rehabilitation treatment of the current park acreage.

Chapter 6 Endnotes

[1] Charles A. Birnbaum, and Christine Capella Peters, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1996 and NPS, *National Park Service Director's Order 28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, 11 June 1998.

[2] In September 2020, the Hertzog family approached the park about the possibility of donating the main house property to the National Park Service. A letter of intent was received from the family in December 2020, and the NPS Interior Region 2 (former Southeast Region) Investment Review Board approved the acquisition of the main house property in March 2021. Discussions are currently underway with the family, NPS Lands office, and Congressional delegation about a park boundary expansion to accept the property donation.

[3] As of March 2021, discussions are underway with the Hertzog family about donating the strip of land west of LA 119 and Cane River. If the riverbank lands were owned as a part of the park, NPS funds could be used to find a solution to the embankment failure. Donating the lands to the park would require Congressional legislation to modify the park boundary.

[4] Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014; NPS, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Mowing and Roadside Operations Plan*, CARI, Sept. 15, 2017; Michelle Richardson and Charlie Pepper, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) Trip Report – Cultural Landscape Preservation Maintenance*, NPS, February 2020.

[5] Alabama Natural Heritage Program, *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification of the Oakland And Magnolia Plantations, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana*, 31 December 2011.

[6] The NPS Park Cultural Landscapes Program presented a PowerPoint titled "Updated Approach to Hazard Tree Risk Management," by Jason Gillis, Susan Dolan and Michael Stachowicz in 2021, provided via CARI for this citation.

[7] NPS recommends each park employ the NPS Draft Hazardous Tree Risk Management Plan for a five-year cycle of continuous assessments. This planning tool and the guidance from NPS policy DO-77, ANSI A300, and ANSI Z133, frames the work to be funded and carried out.

[8] Recommendation from Michelle Richardson and Charlie Pepper, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) Trip Report – Cultural Landscape Preservation Maintenance*, NPS, February 2020.

[9] Marcy Frantom, "Limewash: An Old Practice and a Good One: Cane River Creole National Historical Park," NPS, Dec. 6, 2017, online 08/17/2020: https://www.nps.gov/articles/limewash-an-old-practice-and-a-good-one.htm.

[10] Carrie Mardorf, Letter to Phil Boggan, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer, re. Initiation of Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and request for concurrence on PEPC 70160, March 22, 2017; NPS, PEPC 70160: Apply Limewash Treatment to Mature Trees at Oakland Plantation and Magnolia Plantation, CARI, January 31, 2017.

[11] The NPS Park Cultural Landscapes Program uses six turf classifications for park cultural landscapes, as defined, depicted and discussed in a spring 2021 PowerPoint presentation by Michael Stachowicz and Susan Dolan, provided by CARI for turf management classes and this citation.

[12] NPS, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Mowing and Roadside Operations Plan*, CARI, Sept. 15, 2017.

[13] NPS, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Mowing and Roadside Operations Plan*, CARI, Sept. 15, 2017, p.5.

[14] Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014.

[15] Alabama Natural Heritage Program, *Vascular Plant Inventory and Ecological Community Classification of the Oakland And Magnolia Plantations, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana*, 31 December 2011.

[16] Mowing recommendation from the Natural Resources Conservation Service is noted in Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014.

[17] Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014.

[18] Recommendation from Michelle Richardson and Charlie Pepper, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) Trip Report – Cultural Landscape Preservation Maintenance*, NPS, February 2020.

[19] Harpers Ferry Center, Cane River Creole NHP Wayside Exhibit Proposal, NPS, 2018; Ref. PMIS 252555A.

[20] Eight feet is beyond the reach of the average height of visitors. Structures with horizontal members at this height discourage climbing as no footholds are accessible.

[21] *Life on Magnolia Plantation, 1938-1950s: A Documentary of a Bygone Era*, DVD, A Village Research, 1999. Still image captured from DVD.

[22] Species observed by CARI staff. Dustin Fuqua (Chief of Resource Management, CARI), Magnolia Plantation CLR 75% Comment Review Comments, October 10, 2020; Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014.
[23] Bernadette Cooney, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park Draft Vegetation Management Plan*, NPS, 2014.
[24] John Pyzner, David Himelrick, and Don Ferrin, The Louisiana Home Orchard, Pub. 1884, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center and Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, Feb. 2007.
[25] Crespi, Muriel (Miki), "A Brief Ethnography of Magnolia Plantation: Planning for Cane River Creole National Historical Park" (2004). U.S. National Park Service Publications and Papers, v.96, p.28-29.
[26] Recommendation by NPS landscape preservation specialists for the herbaceous plants of the Oakland Plantation Bottle Garden are applicable to the areas of flowering herbaceous plants at the cabins of Magnolia Plantation. Michelle Richardson and Charlie Pepper, *Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI) Trip Report – Cultural Landscape Preservation Maintenance*, NPS, February 2020.



Figure 6.1 Concrete walks may be an alternative future path material at Magnolia Plantation in select location such as at Cabin #1. This example shows tinted concrete blending with surrounding soils of swept yard of the Carter House at Jimmy Carter's Boyhood Farm, Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, Plains, GA. Heritage Landscapes.



Figure 6.2 Integral color concrete walks can match adjacent soils and provide the appearance of earthen paths like this example from the Jimmy Carter's Boyhood Farm at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, Plains, GA. Heritage Landscapes.

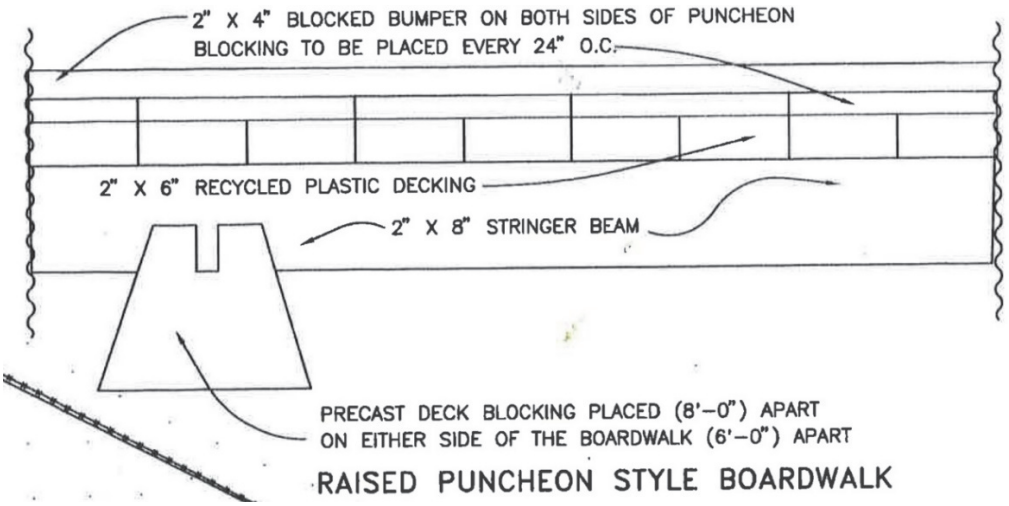


Figure 6.3 Detail of a raised puncheon boardwalk with blocked bumpers from a 1997 unimplemented trail project at Magnolia Plantation. Top mounted bumpers, as shown in the detail, or side bolted bumper boards can eliminate the use of rails that introduce new visual elements in the open field of the historic landscape. CARI Magnolia Plantation Site Plan/Trail Layout, Sheet 2, 395/80006. Courtesy CARI.

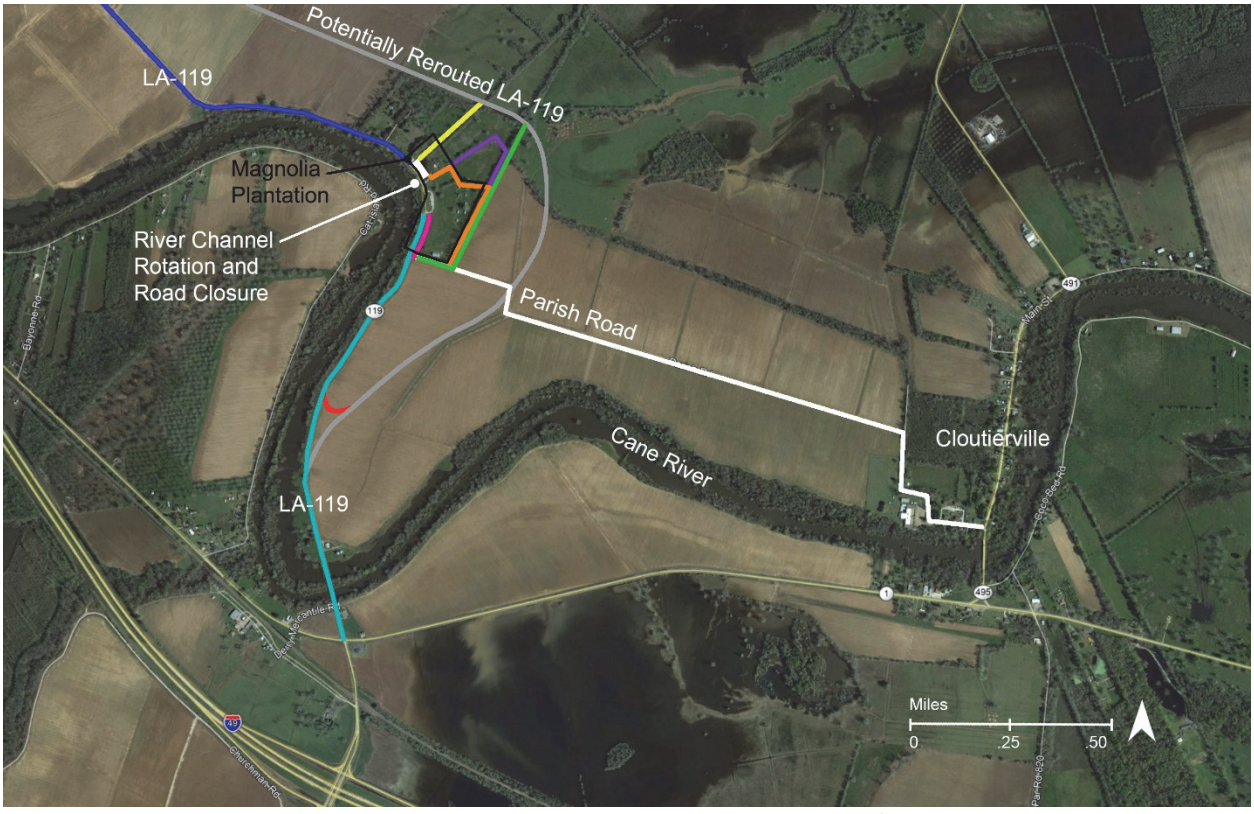


Figure 6.4 Alternative routes to Magnolia Plantation may be considered if the existing cyan route on LA-119 is discontinued. The magenta route is a possible alignment internal to Park property to reach the existing lot. The white route shows potential access to the existing parking area from the unimproved Parish Road. The green line shows potential access to the existing lot from a rerouted LA-119 in gray. The orange, purple, and yellow routes demonstrate options for access to a potential, historic parking area north of the Plantation Store. Google Earth 2016, annotations Heritage Landscapes, 2021.

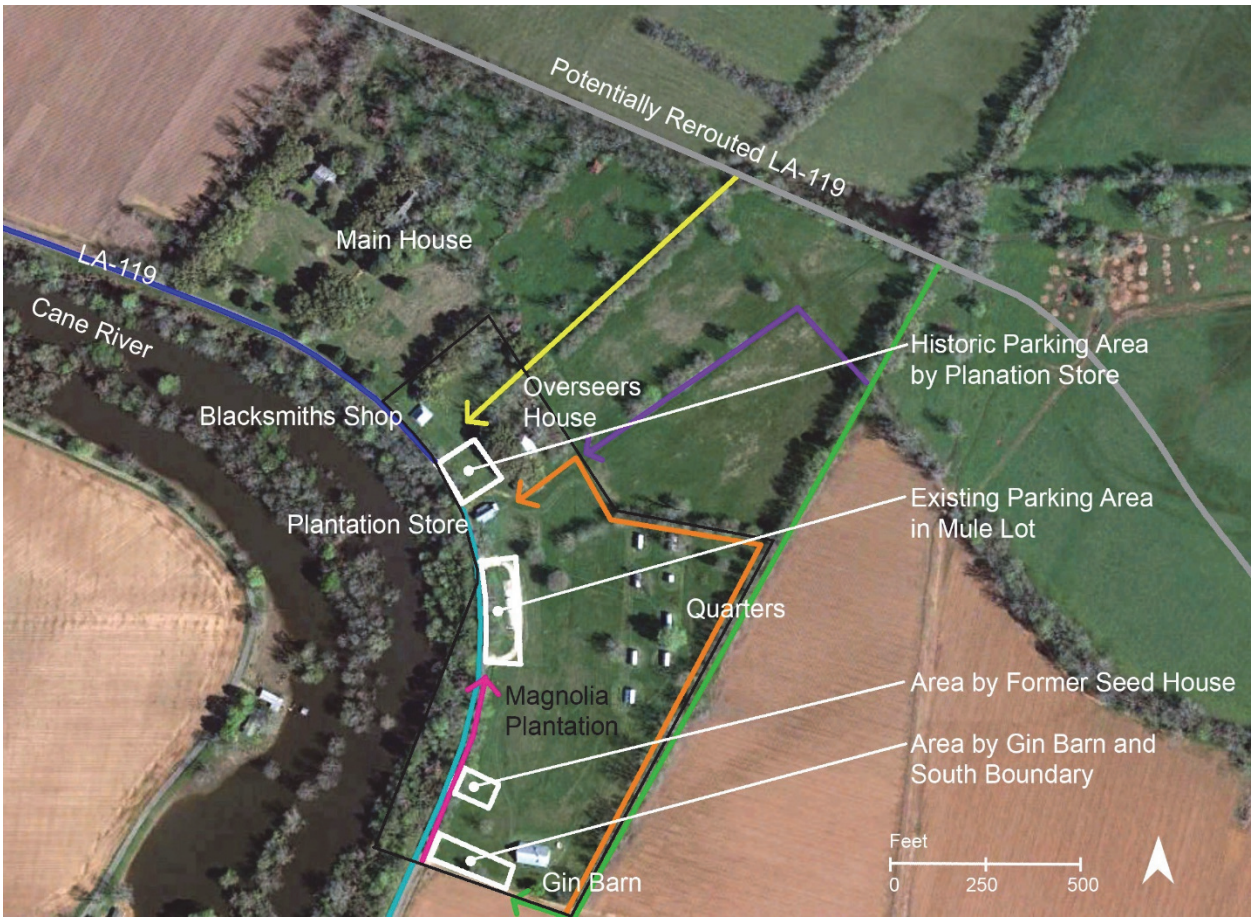


Figure 6.5 Potential alternative parking locations may be considered if the existing parking area in the Mule Lot is infeasible due to discontinued use of LA-119 or destabilization of the parking area itself. Options include reestablishing the historic parking area north of the Plantation Store or developing a parking area at the former Seed House or at an area along the south boundary by the Gin Barn. Google Earth 2016, annotations Heritage Landscapes, 2021.



Figure 6.6 The park herbicide program should include vegetation suppression around the remnant sandstone footings near the Blacksmith Shop and Corn Crib 2020. Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.7 Rebuild the fences south of the Plantation Store along LA-119 to match the historic detailing with upright railroad ties, four horizontal boards, and vertical fascia boards on posts that affix through the horizontal members. The west side of the fence facing the road would be painted white to replicate the appearance of limewashing as seen in this 1961 photograph. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.8 Rebuild to match the fences north of the Plantation Store along LA-119 includes replacing wood post and hogwire fences with white fascia boards. Fascia boards occur on upright posts and as a single horizontal member at the top of the fence but have been removed from the bottom of the fence by the time of this ca.1975 photograph. The Long Barn/Tractor Shed is also depicted between the Store and Blacksmith's Shop. This image was scanned from a slide attributed to Harold Burns 11/1975. CARI-127 Archives Related to CARI Prior to NPS Acquisition. Courtesy CARI.

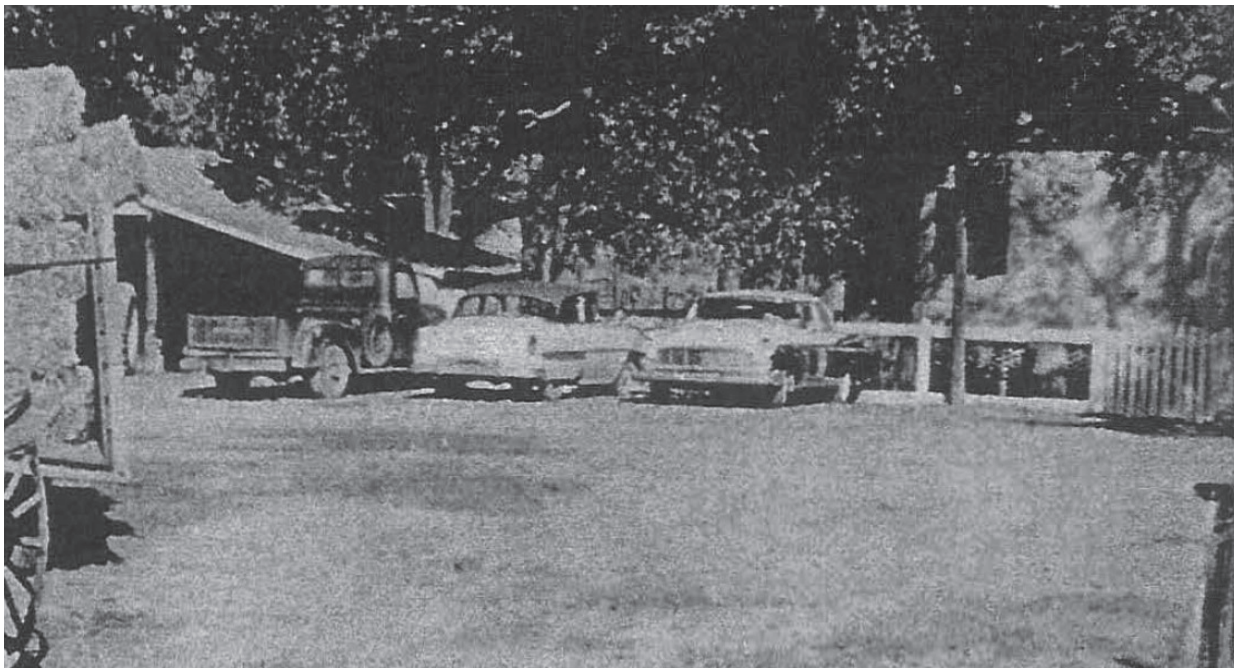


Figure 6.9 Treatment of the fence between the historic parking area and the Overseer's House includes matching the post and hogwire fence to the north and a picket fence and gate to the south as shown in this late 1950s photograph. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.10 Rebuild to match the picket fence at the Overseer House includes details such as angle cut on picket tops and the trimming of two pickets shown in this ca.1930s photograph. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.11 Recommended treatment of the remnant south and east fences at the Overseer's House includes repairing the wire fence and constructing a picket gate on the south side. The fence and gate are outlined in yellow on this photograph by Marion Post Wolcott, Summer 1940. Courtesy LOC.



Figure 6.12 Existing fence remnants using both twisted and barbed wire, seen in this 2019 photograph, also captures Clasping-leaf coneflower (*Rudbeckia amplexicaulis*), which should be incorporated into the rehabilitation of the south and east fences at the Overseer's House. 2019 Annabel Jones, courtesy CARI.

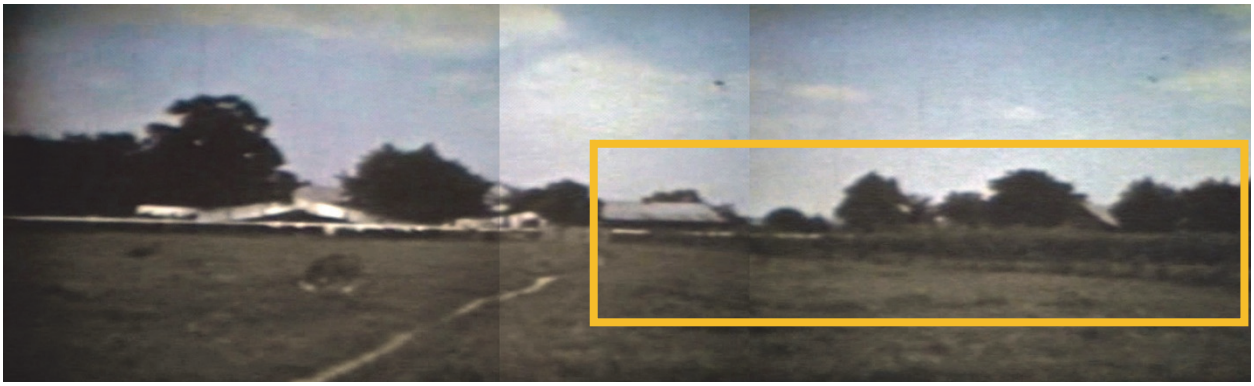


Figure 6.13 Recommend rebuilding in location a wood post and hogwire fence with a white fascia board as a single, top horizontal member between the Mule Pen fence and the fence west of the Quarters. The still image captured from ca.1950s video shows the historic fence partly covered by vegetation and outlined in yellow. The rooftops of the cabins and a clothesline appear behind a similar fence along the west side of the Quarters. Life on Magnolia Plantation, 1938-1950s: A Documentary of a Bygone Era. DVD. A Village Research, 1999. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.14 Historic stiles for crossing fences present an opportunity for interpretation. Near the Store frontage, this vernacular example includes rustic logs shown in a circa 1940s photograph. Rebuilding this configuration in-kind and in-location is suggested, with signage to request visitor to use gates. Courtesy CGHRC.



Figure 6.15 Interpretation of stiles could display various configurations. This view indicates a milled lumber stile, with steps and double handrail, at the Blacksmith Shop fence, as seen in this circa 1950s still image captured from video and highlighted in yellow on a duplicate image. CARI. Life on Magnolia Plantation, 1938-1950s: A Documentary of a Bygone Era. DVD. A Village Research, 1999. Still image captured from DVD. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.16 A replica of the historic roadside sign advertising "Home Made Mules" shown in this still image captured from video is recommended for placement on a tree at the parking area along LA-119. CARI. Life on Magnolia Plantation, 1938-1950s: A Documentary of a Bygone Era. DVD. A Village Research, 1999. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.17 Proposed preservation treatment of swept yard and garden at Cabin #1 includes the development of a fenced yard with a planting bed west of the cabin, including the existing perennial flowering plants. This January 2020 image shows daffodils in bloom. These historic plants are to be preserved in place with turf carefully removed from around them. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.18 The proposed garden at Cabin #1 would contain a variety of herbaceous plants that are separated from the porch by a hardened swept earth ground plane similar to this undated photograph of residents of one cabin. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.16 Reestablishing historic spatial patterns at Magnolia Plantation entails construction of the selected missing fence that separated the residential cabins from the fields and yards to the west as evident in this ca.1950s still image captured from video. The horizontal, white facia board at the top of the post and wire fence stands out from the clothesline and rooftops behind. A wood gate marks a point of entry into the Quarters. CARI. Life on Magnolia Plantation, 1938-1950s: A Documentary of a Bygone Era. DVD. A Village Research, 1999. Still image captured from DVD. Courtesy CARI.



Figure 6.17 Vernacular picket fences, similar to the fence identified with a yellow box on this ca. 1960s photograph, are recommended for interior fences that enclose the yard of Cabin #1. These fences connected to the post and wire fence at the west edge of the Quarters. Courtesy CARI.

NEW TREE SPECIES KEY

Ci	CARYA ILLINOINENSIS	PECAN
Fc	FICUS CARICA	FIG
Mz	MELIA AZEDARACH	CHINABERRY/CHINA BALL
Pp	PRUNUS PERSICA	PEACH
Sa	SASSAFRAS ALBIDUM	SASSAFRAS
Zz	ZIZIPHUS ZIZYPHUS	JUJUBE

BUILDING/STRUCTURE KEY

1-8 CABINS
9 CABIN FOUNDATION
A. BLACKSMITH SHOP
B. PIGEONNIER
C. CORN CRIB
D. STABLE
E. OVERSEER'S HOUSE
F. GARAGE
G. COTTON PICKER SHED
H. PLANTATION STORE
I. GIN BARN/COTTON GIN
J. COTTON GIN CISTERN
K. COTTON GIN MACHINERY PEDESTAL
L. DIPPING VAT
M. PUNCHEON BRIDGE (2)

SYMBOL KEY

- NEW TREE
- DECIDUOUS TREE
- BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREE
- ORNAMENTAL TREE
- HISTORIC TREE
- TREE MASS
- REMOVED TREE
- PLANTING/GARDEN
- MOWN TURF (CLASS B1)
- ROUGH TURF (CLASS B2)
- MEADOW (CLASS S4)
- BANK VEGETATION
- CONCRETE, COLORED
- CONCRETE, EXISTING
- GRAVEL
- ASPHALT SOFT SURFACE TRAIL
- ASPHALT DRIVE
- FENCE
- NPS IDENTITY SIGN
- CISTERN
- PICNIC TABLE
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR
- NPS BOUNDARY



SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 2019 CARI GIS, CARI & HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 120'



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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Landscape Treatment

Date:
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Drawing Number:
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BUILDING/STRUCTURE KEY

1-8 CABINS
9 CABIN FOUNDATION
A. BLACKSMITH SHOP
B. PIGEONNIER
C. CORN CRIB
D. STABLE
E. OVERSEER'S HOUSE
F. GARAGE
G. COTTON PICKER SHED
H. PLANTATION STORE
I. GIN BARN/COTTON GIN
J. COTTON GIN CISTERN
K. COTTON GIN MACHINERY PEDESTAL
L. DIPPING VAT
M. PUNCHEON BRIDGE (2)

SYMBOL KEY

- NEW TREE
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- CONCRETE, EXISTING
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- ASPHALT DRIVE
- FENCE
- NPS IDENTITY SIGN
- CISTERN
- PICNIC TABLE
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR
- NPS BOUNDARY

EXTEND DRIVES AS POSSIBLE ALTERNATE PROPERTY ENTRANCES

CONSIDER ALTERNATE ACCESS SCENARIOS TO SEPARATE PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR USES

RETAIN EXISTING PARKING AREA OR INTERPRET HISTORIC MULE LOT AS AN OPEN LANDSCAPE WITH NEW TRAIL

NEW PARKING AREA IN HISTORIC LOCATION WITH ONE WAY MOVEMENT

TRAIL ALIGNMENTS FUNCTION WITH MULTIPLE PARKING SCENARIOS

RIVER ROAD / LA-119

PARISH ROAD

CANE RIVER

SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION
CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH,
2019 CARI GIS, CARI &
HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 120'



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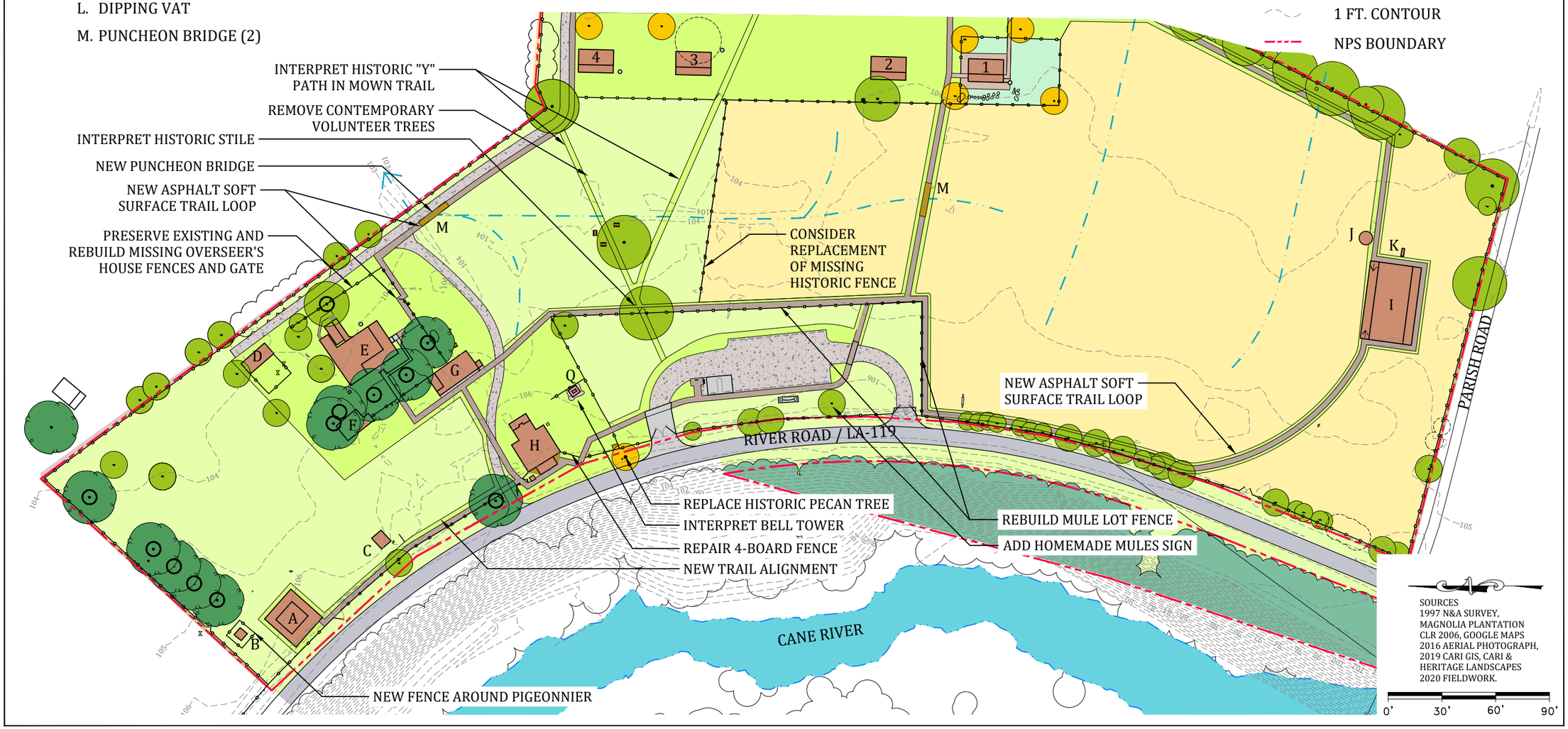
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L24A

BUILDING/STRUCTURE KEY

1-8 CABINS
9 CABIN FOUNDATION
A. BLACKSMITH SHOP
B. PIGEONNIER
C. CORN CRIB
D. STABLE
E. OVERSEER'S HOUSE
F. GARAGE
G. COTTON PICKER SHED
H. PLANTATION STORE
I. GIN BARN/COTTON GIN
J. COTTON GIN CISTERN
K. COTTON GIN MACHINERY PEDESTAL
L. DIPPING VAT
M. PUNCHEON BRIDGE (2)

SYMBOL KEY

- NEW TREE
- DECIDUOUS TREE
- BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREE
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- HISTORIC TREE
- TREE MASS
- REMOVED TREE
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- MEADOW (CLASS S4)
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- CONCRETE, EXISTING
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- ASPHALT DRIVE
- FENCE
- NPS IDENTITY SIGN
- CISTERN
- PICNIC TABLE
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR
- NPS BOUNDARY



SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS 2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, 2019 CARI GIS, CARI & HERITAGE LANDSCAPES 2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 90'



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BUILDING/STRUCTURE KEY

1-8 CABINS

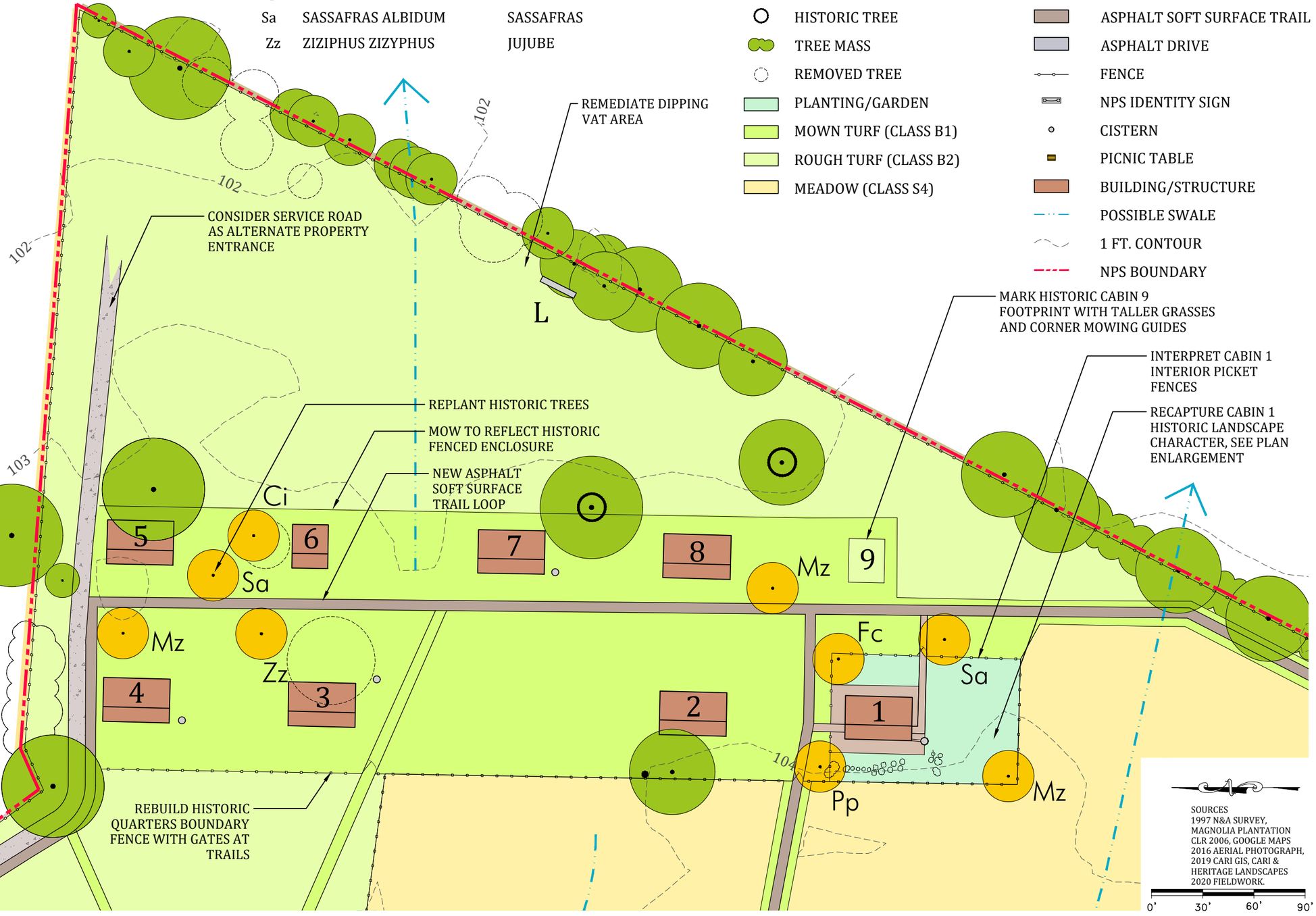
9 FORMER CABIN FOOTPRINT

NEW TREE SPECIES KEY

Ci	CARYA ILLINOINENSIS	PECAN
Fc	FICUS CARICA	FIG
Mz	MELIA AZEDARACH	CHINABERRY/CHINA BALL
Pp	PRUNUS PERSICA	PEACH
Sa	SASSAFRAS ALBIDUM	SASSAFRAS
Zz	ZIZIPHUS ZIZYPHUS	JUJUBE

SYMBOL KEY

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- MEADOW (CLASS S4)
- BANK VEGETATION
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- GRAVEL
- ASPHALT SOFT SURFACE TRAIL
- ASPHALT DRIVE
- FENCE
- NPS IDENTITY SIGN
- CISTERN
- PICNIC TABLE
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR
- NPS BOUNDARY



SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION
CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH,
2019 CARI GIS, CARI &
HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
2020 FIELDWORK.

0' 30' 60' 90'



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LCA 2 Landscape Treatment

Date:

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Drawing Number:

L26

SYMBOL KEY

- NEW TREE
- DECIDUOUS TREE
- BROADLEAF EVERGREEN TREE
- MOWN TURF (CLASS B1)
- ROUGH TURF (CLASS B2)
- CONCRETE, EXISTING
- GRAVEL
- ASPHALT SOFT SURFACE TRAIL
- ASPHALT DRIVE
- FENCE
- CISTERN
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR

COTTON PICKER SHED

106

STORE

AC

INTERPRET PLANTATION BELL TOWER

PROVIDE DURABLE ASPHALT SOFT SURFACE TRAIL

REHABILITATE MULE LOT FENCE

REHABILITATE 4-BOARD FENCE

PRESERVE MARTIN BIRD HOUSE

INTERPRET HISTORIC STILE INSIDE FENCE

REPLANT PECAN TREE

PRESERVE EXISTING CISTERN

REHABILITATE POST AND ROLLED HOG WIRE FENCE NORTH OF STORE

CONSIER REPLACEMENT MAIL BOX

106

SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION
CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH,
2019 CARI GIS, CARI & HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
2020 FIELDWORK.

GRAPHIC SCALE

(IN FEET)
1 inch = 10 feet



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Store Landscape Treatment

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Drawing Number:
L27



SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY,
MAGNOLIA PLANTATION
CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH,
2019 CARI GIS, CARI &
HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
2020 FIELDWORK.

GRAPHIC SCALE

(IN FEET)
1 inch = 10 feet



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Overseer's House Landscape Treatment

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:

L28

SYMBOL KEY

- NEW TREE
- DECIDUOUS TREE
- PLANTING/GARDEN
- MOWN TURF (CLASS B1)
- ROUGH TURF (CLASS B2)
- MEADOW (CLASS S4)
- CONCRETE, COLORED
- ASPHALT SOFT SURFACE TRAIL
- FENCE
- CISTERN
- BUILDING/STRUCTURE
- POSSIBLE SWALE
- 1 FT. CONTOUR

INTERPRET MISSING CABIN 9 FOOTPRINT WITH TALLER GRASSES

CABIN 8

ASPHALT SOFT SURFACE TRAIL LOOP

MELIA AZEDARACH / CHINABERRY TREE

FICUS CARICA 'BROWN TURKEY' / FIG TREE

SASSAFRAS ALBIDUM / SASSAFRAS TREE

WOOD PICKET GATE

HARDENED SOIL PAVING OVER EXISTING GROUND SURFACE

EARTH-COLORED CONCRETE WALK

VERNACULAR WOOD PICKET FENCE

CABIN 2

CABIN 1

WOOD PICKET GATE

PRESERVE EXISTING CISTERN AND GUTTER

104

POST AND ROLLED HOG WIRE FENCE AT WEST EDGE OF QUARTERS

PRUNUS PERSICA / PEACH TREE

PICKET GATE

EXISTING FLOWERING PLANTS

MELIA AZEDARACH / CHINABERRY TREE

SOURCES
1997 N&A SURVEY, MAGNOLIA PLANTATION
CLR 2006, GOOGLE MAPS
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH,
2019 CARI GIS, CARI &
HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
2020 FIELDWORK.

GRAPHIC SCALE

(IN FEET)
1 inch = 10 feet



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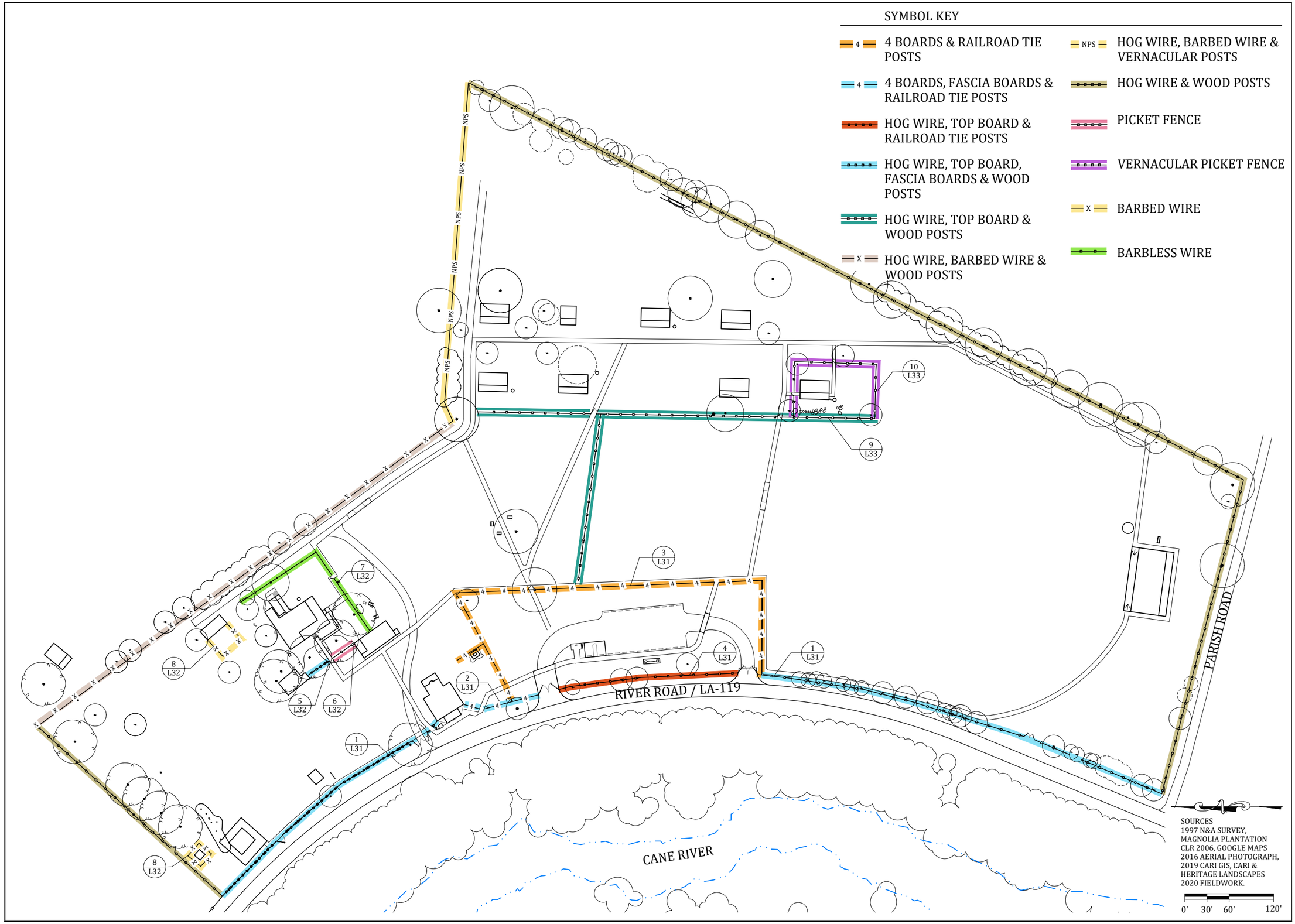
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Cabin 1 Landscape Treatment

Date:
9/2021

Drawing Number:
L29





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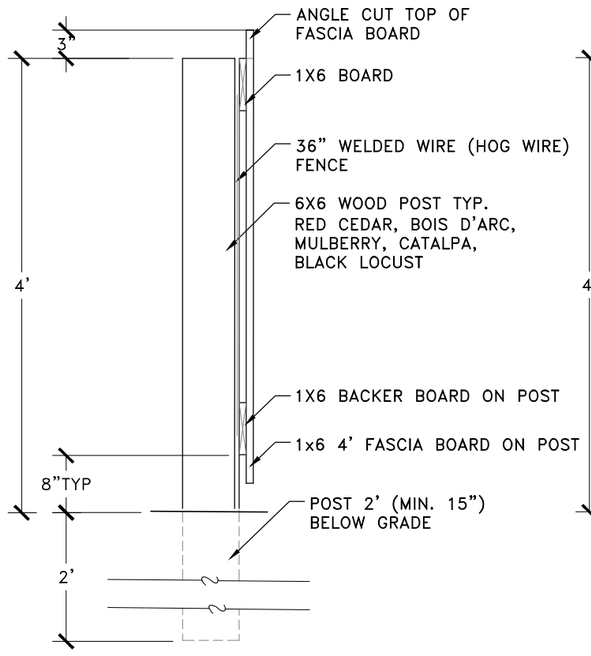
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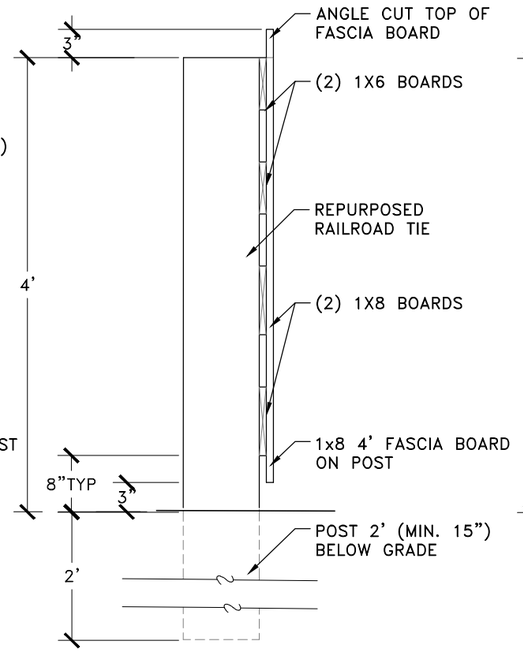
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9/2021

Drawing Number:
L30

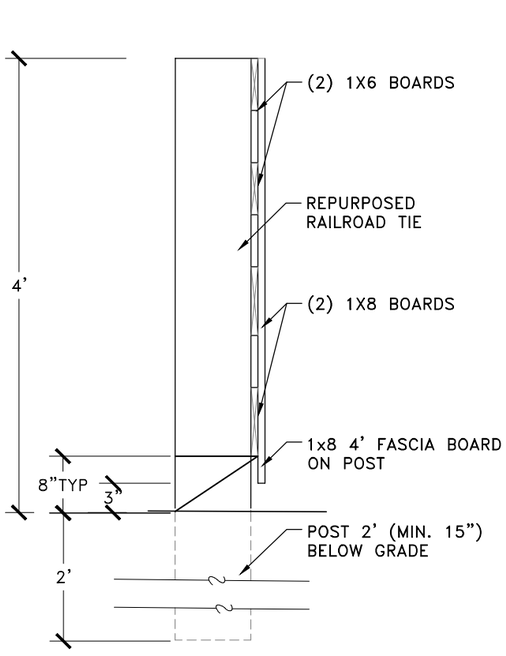
NOTE: HOGWIRE IS TO BE ROLLED, WOVEN WIRE, GALVANIZED STEEL. UNCOLORED STEEL PREFERRED.



1 L31 ROADSIDE FENCE, NORTH/SOUTH
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"

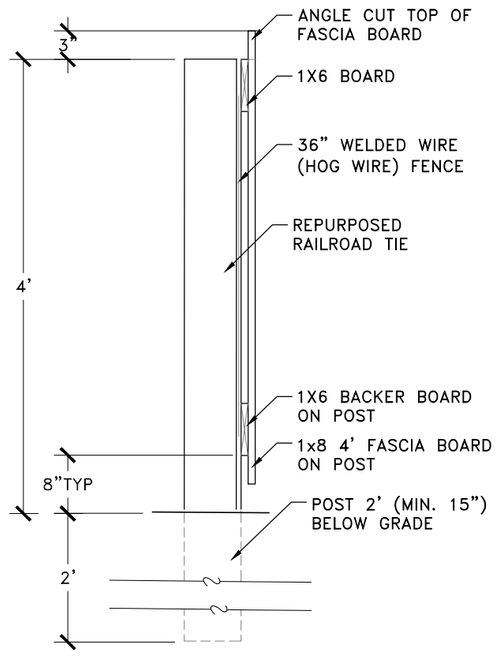


2 L31 ROADSIDE FENCE, STORE TO PARKING
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



3 L31 MULE LOT INTERIOR FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"

NOTE: HOGWIRE IS TO BE ROLLED, WOVEN WIRE, GALVANIZED STEEL. UNCOLORED STEEL PREFERRED.



4 L31 ROADSIDE FENCE, MULE LOT/PARKING
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

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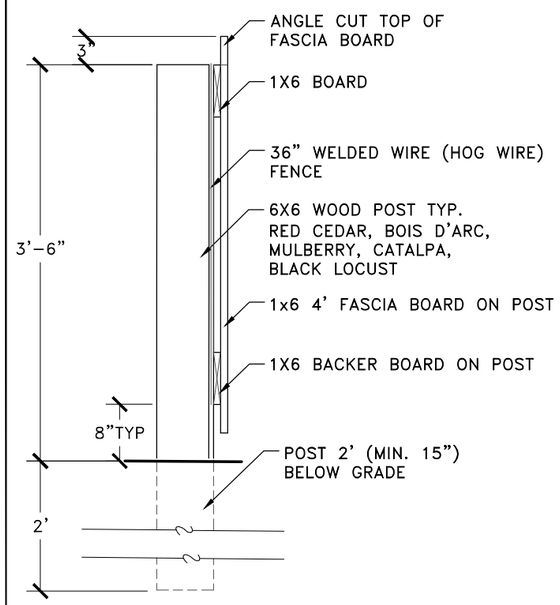
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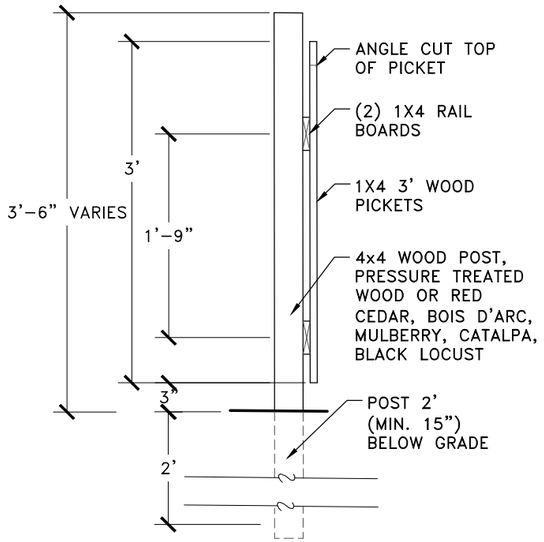
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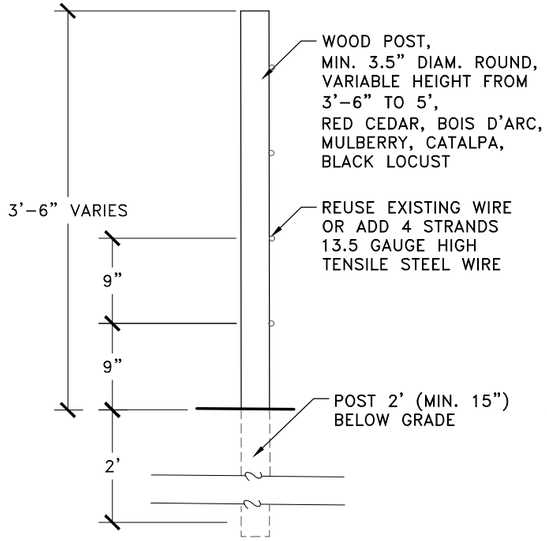
Date:
9/2021

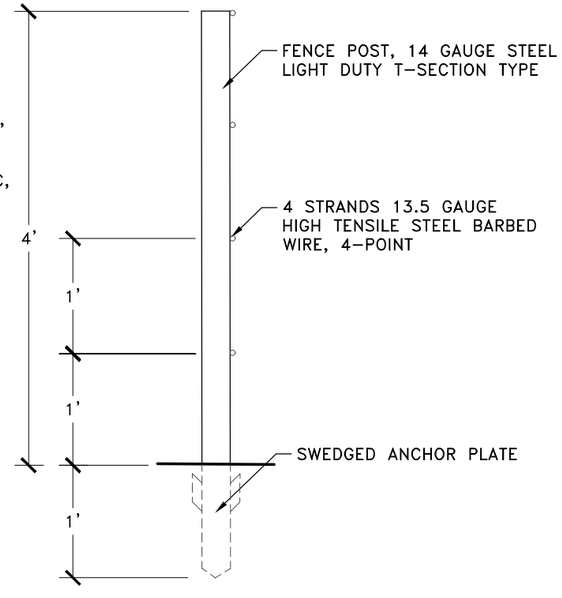
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L31

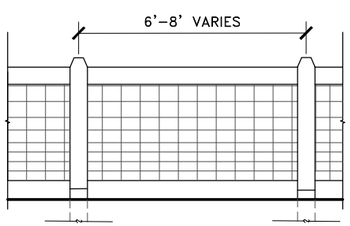
NOTE: HOGWIRE IS TO BE ROLLED, WOVEN WIRE, GALVANIZED STEEL. UNCOLORED STEEL PREFERRED.



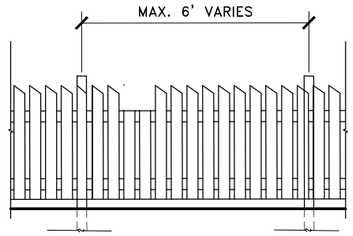




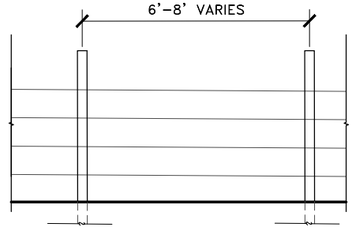




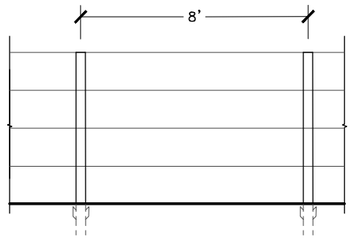
5 L32 OVERSEER'S HOUSE HOGWIRE FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



6 L32 OVERSEER'S HOUSE PICKET FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



7 L32 OVERSEER'S HOUSE WIRE FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



8 L32 PIGEONNIER BARBED WIRE FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



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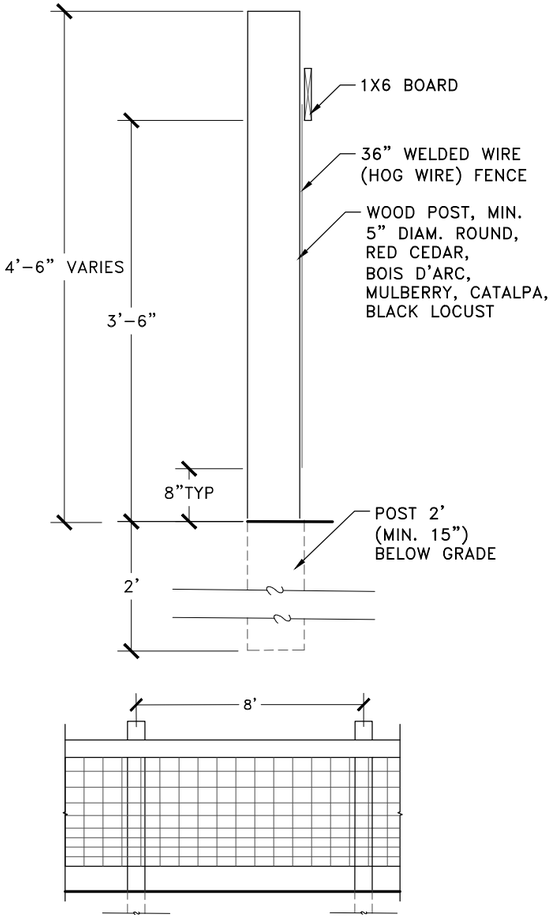
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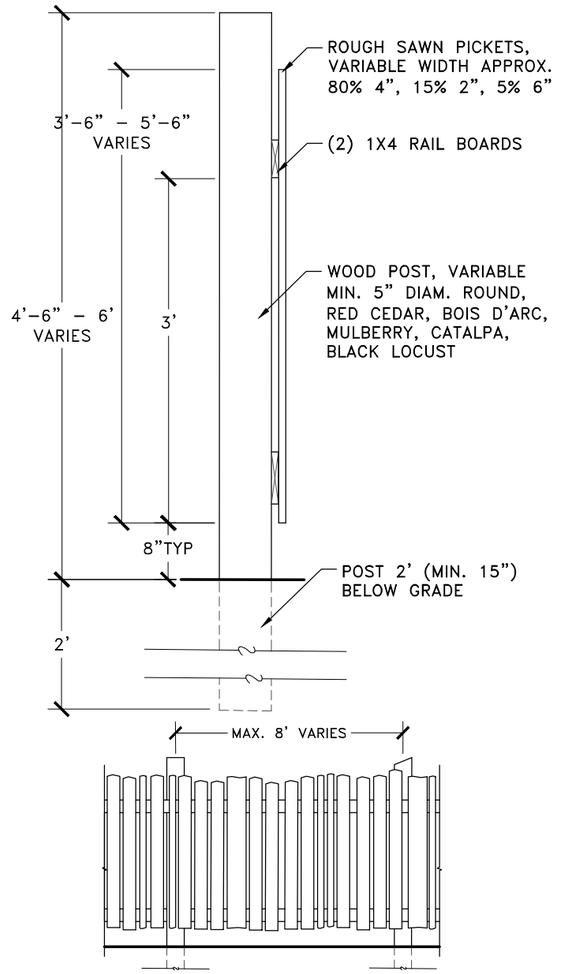
Date:
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Drawing Number:
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NOTE: HOGWIRE IS TO BE ROLLED, WOVEN WIRE, GALVANIZED STEEL. UNCOLORED STEEL PREFERRED.

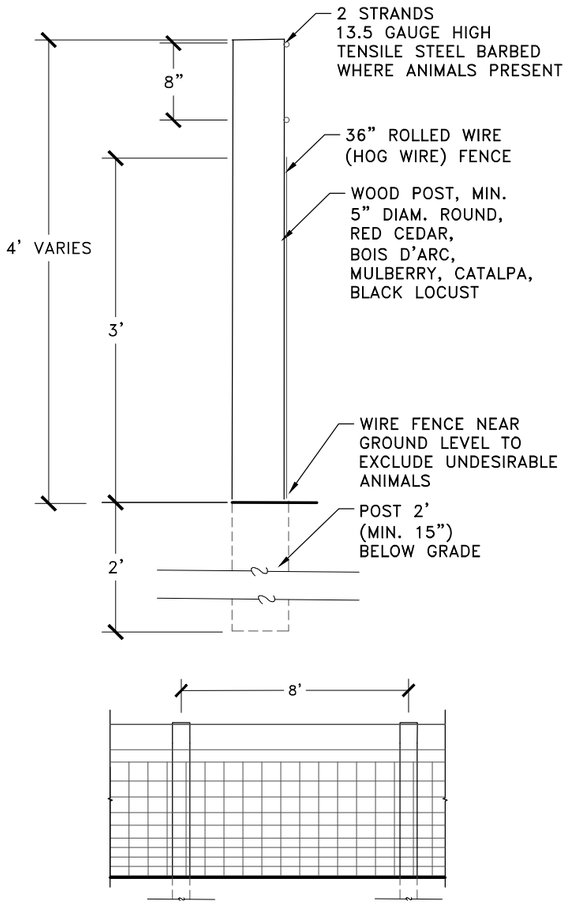


9 L33 HOGWIRE FENCE, WEST OF QUARTERS
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"

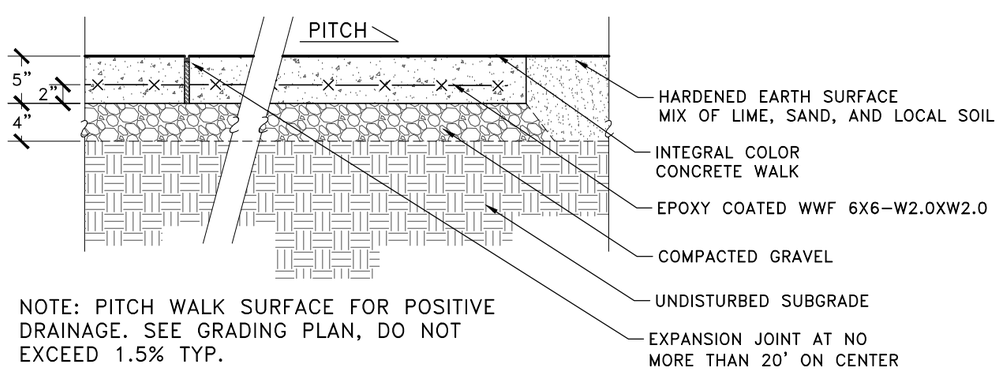


10 L33 QUARTERS PICKET FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"

NOTE: HOGWIRE IS TO BE ROLLED, WOVEN WIRE, GALVANIZED STEEL. UNCOLORED STEEL PREFERRED.



11 L33 HOG/BARBED WIRE BOUNDARY FENCE
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



NOTE: PITCH WALK SURFACE FOR POSITIVE DRAINAGE. SEE GRADING PLAN, DO NOT EXCEED 1.5% TYP.

12 L33 COLOR CONCRETE WALK AT CABIN #1
SCALE: SECTION 1-1/2"=1'-0" ELEVATION 1/2"=1'-0"



MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

Cultural Landscape Report

Cane River Creole National Historical Park

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



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Drawing Title:
Fence & Walk Treatment Details

Date:
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Drawing Number:
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