

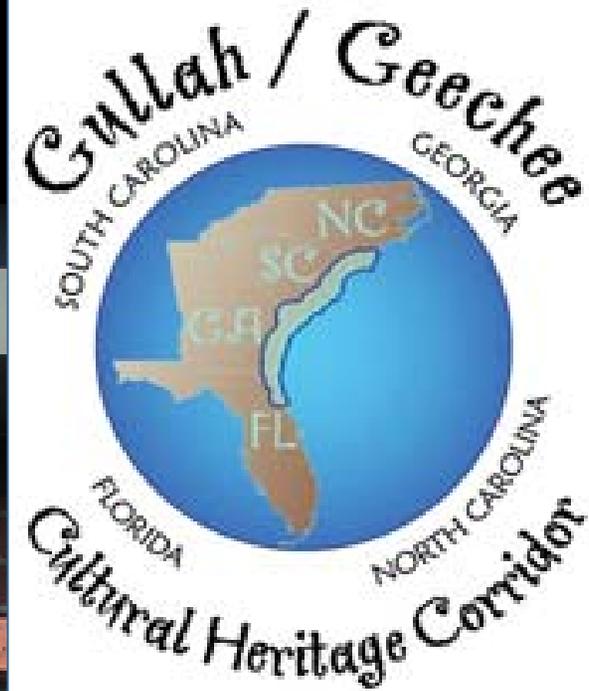


Summerville Heritage Corridors

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Summerville and the Heritage Corridors

- Gullah/Geechee Corridor
- Proposed SRS Revolutionary Corridor
- SC National Heritage Corridor –
“Discovery Route”

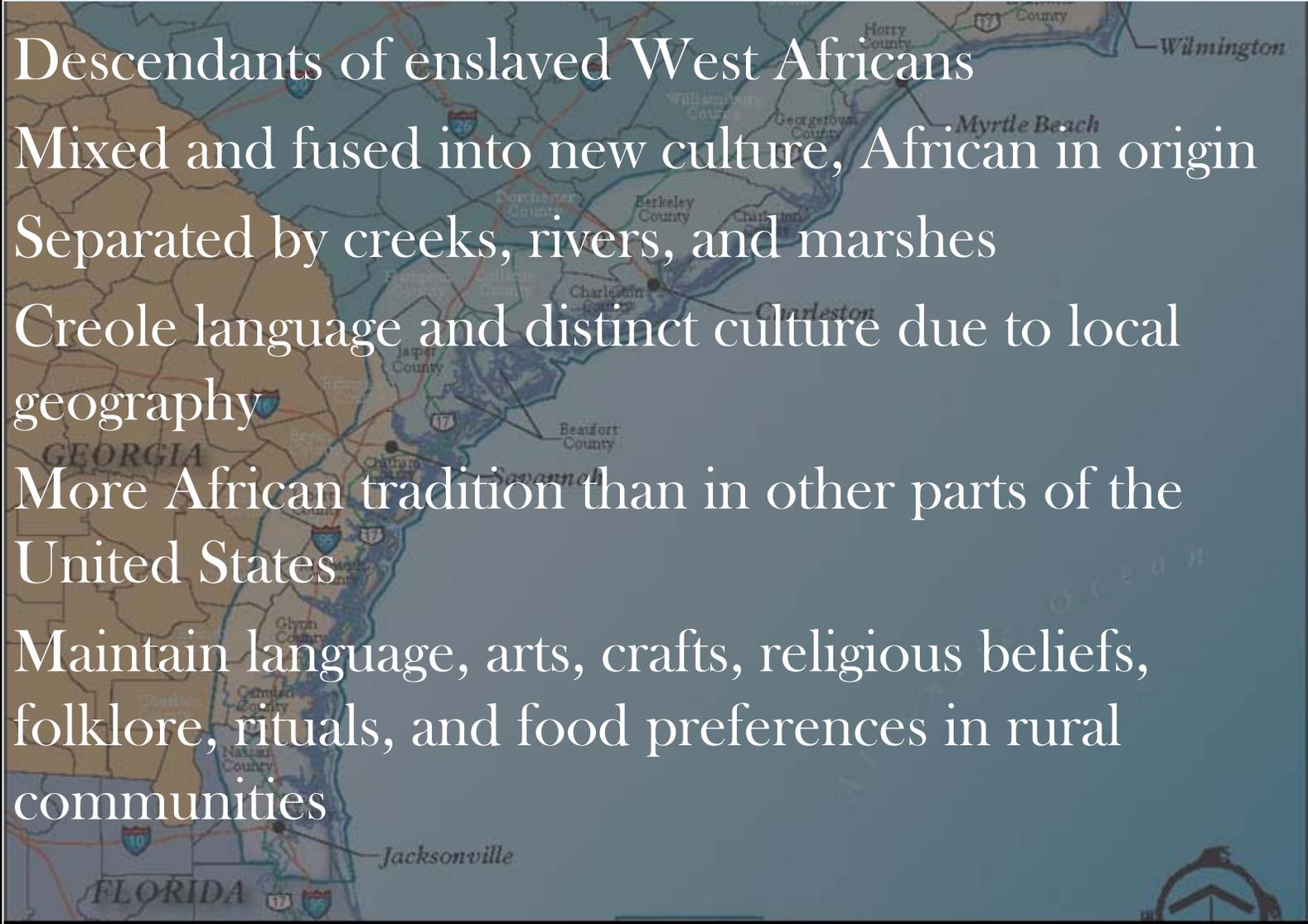


Gullah / Geechee Corridor



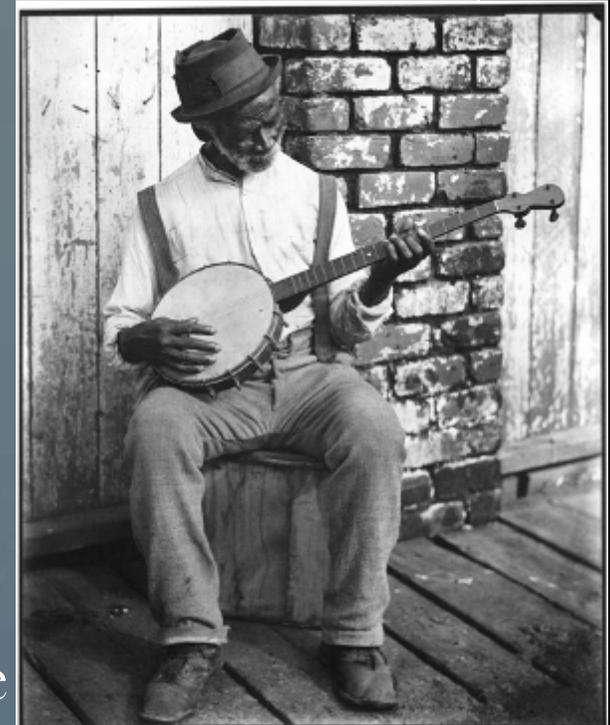
Gullah People

- Descendants of enslaved West Africans
- Mixed and fused into new culture, African in origin
- Separated by creeks, rivers, and marshes
- Creole language and distinct culture due to local geography
- More African tradition than in other parts of the United States
- Maintain language, arts, crafts, religious beliefs, folklore, rituals, and food preferences in rural communities



Gullah and Summerville

- African presence in vicinity since 1691
- Summerville geographically located inland and has less to do with Sea Islands
- Post bellum communities like Lincolnville add diversity during the establishment of inland corridor region
- Revitalization process as a result of war, rapid economic change, population losses and political oppression
- Socio-cultural change in order to survive



Plantations as Gullah Cultural Properties



Magnolia Plantation and the Slave Cabins

Recently restored in 2009, the cabins are quickly becoming the center of Summerville's Gullah history and culture.

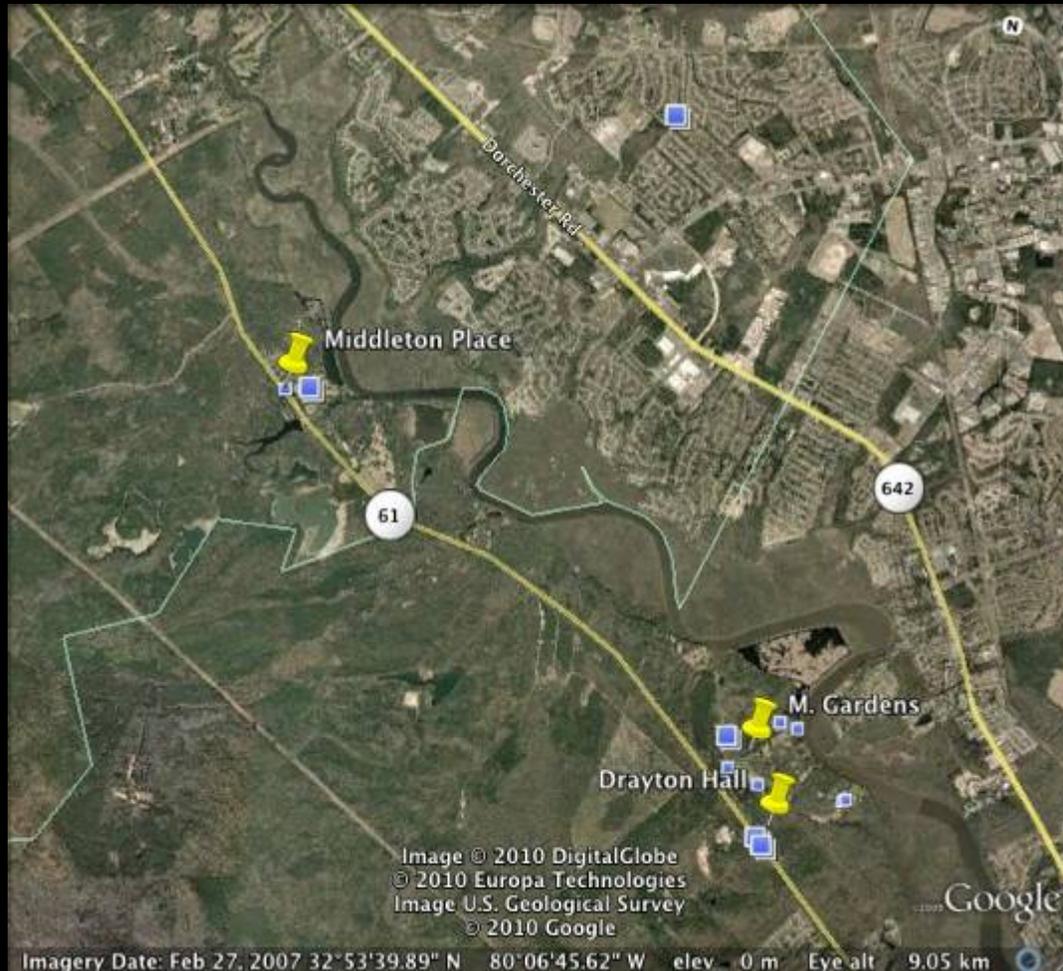


Middleton Plantation and Chapel
Interactive Rice Planting
Traditional Gullah Arts



Preserve Gullah Culture in Summerville by protecting the National Ashley River Scenic Byway and the Ashley River Historic District that surround these plantations.

National Ashley River Scenic Byway and the Ashley River Historic District



Strategic Plan



- Establish a relationship with local GGHCC/NPS coordinator, Michael Allen
- Expand the ARHD
- Expand on existing cultural programs for heritage tourism
- Work with historians and interpreters to gather oral histories before they are gone forever.
- Maintain an interactive map so the people of Summerville can locate important Gullah sites.

Revolutionary War Heritage Corridor

- Federal Research Studies is proposing a Revolutionary War Corridor
- Summerville region developed around many war sites
- Colonial Dorchester began in 1697 as a trading town and continued through the Revolutionary War
- 1779-1780 thousands of British troops camped out at Drayton Hall until Charleston occupation ended
- Summerville rich in War history, much still unknown/undiscovered

Summerville and the Revolutionary War Corridor

- Establish relationships with local historians and artifact scavengers to gain better sense of cultural resources in local region
- Find other important Revolutionary War locations to add to Global Gazetteer on Google Earth which can be later incorporated into the Revolutionary War Corridor
- Establish an interactive map incorporating the new oral histories and locations to submit to the Federal Research Studies

Givham's Ferry

Bacon's Bridge

Dorchester Creek

Dorchester

15-Mile House

Otranto

Image USDA Farm Service Agency

Image U.S. Geological Survey

Image © 2010 DigitalGlobe Plantation (near)

Google

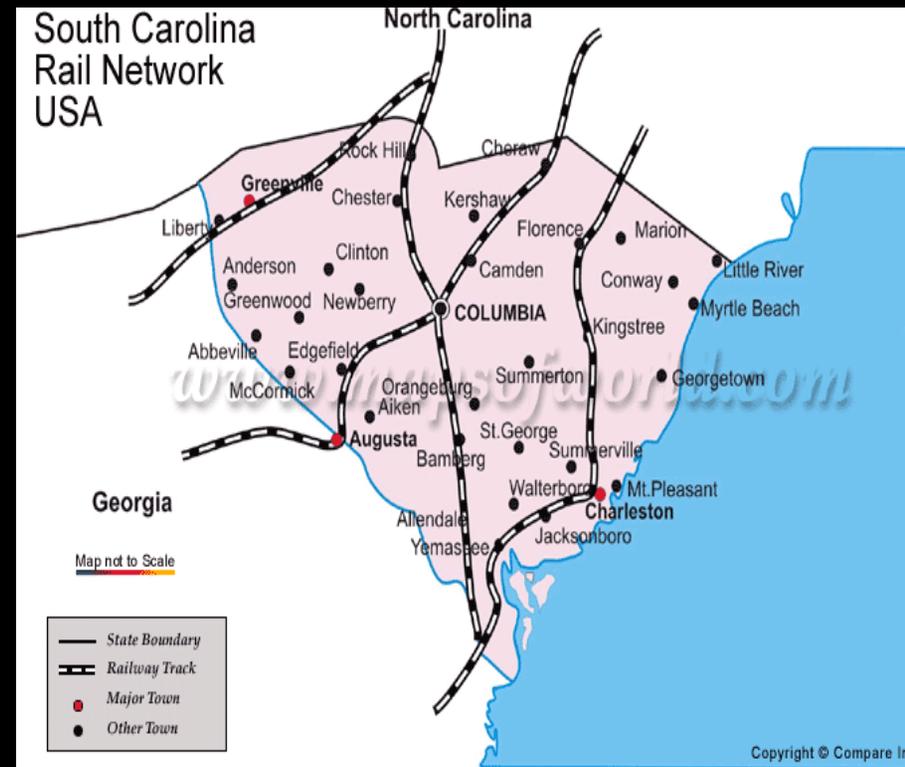
2009

Should the Railroad be Considered?

- A rail system put in place in the state by the South Carolina Railroad through the Summerville vicinity in 1830.
- 1832, the “new town” was laid out with regular grid streets running parallel and right angles to the rail tracks.
- Summerville settled by residents from surrounding area seeking escape from dangers of the city during the summer months.
- The rails were transportation routes for visitors to the inns that made Summerville into a resort town.
- Links Summerville with the South East.

How to Incorporate the Railroad as a Cultural Resource

- More public initiative toward commuter rail system put in place for Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester counties, with direct route from Summerville to Charleston
 - Decreases traffic congestion in I-26, making conditions in the area better.
- Acknowledge railroad importance to development of Summerville
- Incorporate exhibits around town displaying history of rail line through Summerville
- Link Summerville with other major towns/cities in South Carolina that were/are major stops: i.e. Greenville, Augusta, and Columbia



Historic Railroad Corridor

