

## Project Example: Battersea Petersburg, Virginia

### Petersburg, Virginia

**Project Team Members:**

Cultural Resources, Inc.

**Key Project Personnel:**

Ellen M. Brady

**Firm's Responsibilities:**

Phase I cultural resources survey

Public education events

PowerPoint Presentation

**Client Contact:**

John Zeugner, Battersea Inc.

P.O. Box 111

Petersburg, VA 23804

P 804.732.9882

F 804.732.9883

**Completion Date:**

Projected November 2008

**Total Project Costs:**

\$30,000

CRI contracted with Battersea, Inc. and the City of Petersburg, Virginia to provide a Phase I survey of the property and support public education initiatives for Battersea Plantation, which comprises a tract totaling approximately 37.5 acres. Battersea is a c. 1770 Palladian style colonial plantation house, the home of the first mayor of Petersburg and Revolutionary delegate, John Banister. Currently the property contains a number of standing structures ranging from the main plantation house to an 18<sup>th</sup>-century greenhouse to 20<sup>th</sup> century workspaces and tenant housing. Historic research conducted by CRI indicated traces of several features no longer visible on the surface including formal gardens and landscape features and several outbuildings. In addition, research showed evidence of possible encampments, associated with the Revolutionary and the Civil War, along the eastern edge of the tract on the second terrace above the Appomattox River. Remnants of a mill, originally associated with Battersea, were thought to be on the margins of the property also along the river. Other documents outlined the presence of slave quarters associated with the property, outbuildings, landscape features such as haha's or boundary ditches, and farm related structures such as barns, granary's, and other outbuildings. In addition, there was strong evidence for an intensive prehistoric occupation of the area. With this information in hand, CRI initiated a Phase I survey and focused on areas thought to be associated with the late 18<sup>th</sup> century occupation but also with the goal of documenting the totality of archaeological sites across the property.

CRI followed a multifaceted research strategy in order to assess the Battersea tract for the array of sites possible including shovel testing and metal detector survey. A number of sites were documented on the property and CRI is currently analyzing the artifacts and preparing the technical report and a organizing a public event to be held on the property during Virginia Archaeology month in October.

**ARCHAEOLOGY OPEN HOUSE  
AT HISTORIC BATTERSEA**

Come and witness our history being unearthed  
at Historic Battersea in Petersburg, VA!

City officials, Battersea Inc. representatives, and Chief Archaeologist  
Josh Duncan from Cultural Resources Inc. will be on hand to  
showcase Battersea's first complete Phase I Archaeological Survey.

**Wednesday, July 16, 2008**  
12:00pm - 3:00pm

**Location:** Battersea Grounds  
1289 Upper Appomattox St.  
Petersburg, VA 23803  
\*Free to Public

Co-Sponsored by the City of Petersburg. Promoted by Battersea, Inc.  
For more information email us at BatterseaInc@gmail.com  
or call (804) 732-9882

Historic Battersea Circa 1768  
Villa of Petersburg's first Mayor,  
Col. John Banister

Below: One of Battersea Inc.'s two Archaeology  
students, Shate' Cummings, displays a  
prehistoric projectile point.