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1980

*INDIANS
OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA
LOWCOUNTRY*

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*INDIANS
OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA
LOWCOUNTRY
1562-1751*

by
GENE WADDELL

SOUTHERN STUDIES PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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1980

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

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To my Mother and Father

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I dedicate this book to my parents for enabling me to follow my own interests. The teachers and friends who helped most to determine these interests have been Mary Manning Hanner, Donald M. Mackintosh, Antonio J. Waring, M. D., Samuel Gaillard Stoney, Dr. J. Glenn Grayson, Joseph E. Norwood, and Dr. Norman Chamberlain, Jr. Each has influenced this book in a significant way.

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During the summer of 1979, as Visiting Research Fellow of the Southern Studies Program of the University of South Carolina, I had the assistance of several of its students and staff members for the final revision. Gail Morrison made translations of Spanish manuscripts; Esther Temple typed Part One and the Index; and Elisabeth Alford prepared the name index, with assistance from Mary Layton. The Program also furnished travel funds which allowed me to study Spanish sources that are available in this country only at the University of Florida.

G.W.

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PREFACE

This book has two parts. The first part is a general discussion of nineteen Lowcountry tribes. The second part contains documentation and annotations.

Part One, the discussion, has information which comes from three sources: (1) It summarizes material about specific tribes and place-names in Part Two. (2) It includes general accounts. (3) It provides comparative information about Indians who lived in other areas of the Southeast. All of this information is presented within topical headings such as language, food, and ceremonies.

Part Two, the documentation, consists largely of passages from eye-witness accounts and other types of primary sources. For accuracy, immediacy, and availability, I have quoted relevant portions instead of paraphrasing them. Each indigenous tribe and placename is considered separately in alphabetical order. The format is essentially the same as the *Oxford English Dictionary*. Each entry begins with variant spellings, and the variants are followed by definitions and examples of usage in chronological order.

Nineteen Lowcountry tribes are not known to have lived elsewhere. I have limited this study to them because they can be considered indigenous, because they achieved a distinguishable pattern of existence, and because they are not known to have been closely associated with other tribes. The "Yemassee" are not discussed because they lived on the Lower Coast only between 1685 and 1716. They deserve a book-length treatment that would include their earlier and later history in other states. At least nine other tribes are known to have been in the area, but they were represented by only a small part of their membership and for only a small part of their recorded existence.

I begin with 1562 because I am not aware of a definite reference to any tribe before that year. Although Francisco de Chicora's account is earlier, its references are so indefinite that I have not at-

tempted to add to the speculation about them. I end with 1751 because no tribe is known to have retained its separate identity after that year.

I have made less use of Spanish manuscripts than I would have had I been able to visit Spanish archives and were I proficient in Spanish. I am convinced, though, that copies of most of the relevant manuscripts are represented in the Stetson, Lowery, Connor, and Smith collections. After having studied the calendars prepared for these collections by the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, I believe that information which may subsequently become available is more likely to supplement than to substantially alter what is known through these collections and from printed sources.

I have not discussed subjects such as the Indian trade and colonial attitudes toward Indians because my goal has been to reconstruct a way of life rather than to trace its destruction. For acculturation and related subjects and for the context of events, Milling, Crane, Sirmans, and Hewatt provide comprehensive surveys.

I made no use of archaeological studies because too little work has been done on coastal historic sites. The village sites mentioned in this study have not been excavated, and until some are, the direct historical approach proposed by Willey and Phillips cannot be applied. This study is partially intended to facilitate archaeological research. Until more work is done, surface finds cannot be confidently associated with the tribes which are considered.

The citations for Part One have been kept to a minimum. When a tribe is mentioned, a year is usually noted in conjunction with it. The source of the information can be found by checking in Part Two, first alphabetically for the name of the tribe and then chronologically for the date. Whenever an author, date, and page are mentioned together in either Part One or Part Two, more information about the source can be readily found in the Annotated Bibliography.

For the past fifteen years, this study has taken much of the time that I could give to it, but altogether it probably represents about three years of research. College, military service, museum work, and archival work have delayed its completion. I have persisted in trying to make it as comprehensive as possible because I have remained convinced that no great advances can be made in anthropology until all of the surviving information about pre-literate societies is readily available.

G.W.

ABBREVIATIONS

N. B.: An asterisk is used exclusively to designate the form of an Indian word which best seems to indicate the original sounds.

- AGI—Archivo General de Indias; Sevilla, España
AWI—America and West Indies (Calendar of State Papers)
BM—British Museum
BPRO—British Public Records Office, London
C&GS—Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington
LAC—Library of American Civilization (cf. Bernick 1972)
LC—Library of Congress
MAR—Motte Alston Read
MCO—Mesne Conveyance Office, Charleston
Mex.—Audiencia de Mexico (AGI)
SCDAH—South Carolina Department of Archives and History,
Columbia
SCH&GM—*South Carolina Historical & Genealogical Magazine*
(SCHS)
SCHM—*South Carolina Historical Magazine* (SCHS)
SCHS—South Carolina Historical Society
SCSHD—South Carolina State Highway Department
SP—Shaftesbury Papers (cf. Cheves 1897)
SPG—Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,
London
SPO—State Paper Office, London
ST—Stetson Collection of Spanish Manuscripts, P. K. Yonge Library,
University of Florida
Sto. Dom.—Audiencia de Santo Domingo (AGI)