29 Jun 2005

Indian Mounds – Located on Waties Island are several sites that have been identified as mounds built by Native Americans.

According to a report by Dr. Reinhold J. Engelmayer of Coastal Carolina University, dated March 30, 1976, there are numerous archaeological sites on Waties Island that can be attributed to Native Americans in the prehistory period. Numerous campsites varying in size from one meter to thirty meters can be found on the island. Those campsites that were tested showed a thin stratum of shells (clams, tidal and subtidal oysters) mixed with fragments of pottery of the Wilmington complex (ca. 0-700 A.D.) and the Savannah I phase (700 – 1200 A.D.).

Indian mounds can be divided into four types: conical, linear, effigy and complex. Ongoing research on Waties Island will hopefully authenticate several of these examples on the island and help preserve these historic sites for posterity.