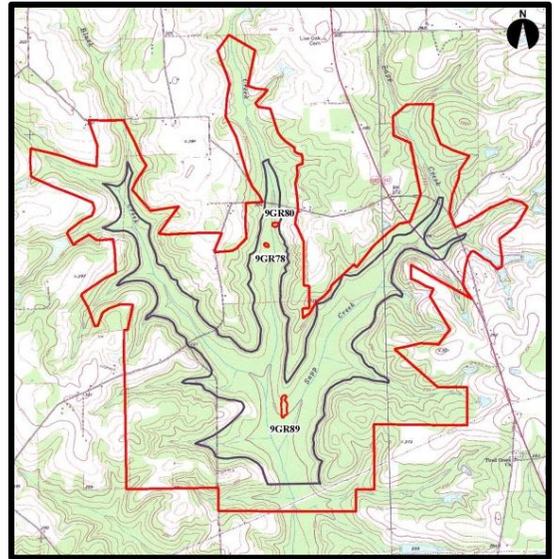


Ten Thousand Years

at Tired Creek Lake

Since the mid-2000s, archaeologists have been investigating the proposed Tired Creek Fishing Lake and surrounding areas. These studies have recorded several prehistoric archaeological sites, of which three (9GR78, 9GR80, and 9GR89) were determined to be significant. Since these cultural resources could not be avoided, data recovery mitigation was conducted that included over 100 square meters (over 300 square feet) of excavation. The results included the recovery of thousands of stone artifacts associated with the Early, Middle, and Late Archaic periods (9000 BP to 3000 BP), with the Early and Late having the most intensive occupations. Excavations at site 9GR89, in the southern portion of the lake, also encountered possible evidence of a Paleo-lithic occupation as evidenced by a channel flake, a by-product of fluted points, indicative of the earliest accepted time period of human occupation in North American (12,000 BP to 10,000 BP). In addition to the Archaic and possible Paleo artifacts, Woodland period (1000 BP to 2500 BP) pottery was also recovered. The low number of pottery artifacts recovered suggests the sites were short term campsites.



Due to the many years of occupation at Tired Creek, the artifacts from earlier time periods became mixed with those from later occupations.



This created challenges in interpreting the sites. While a lot of the artifacts collected could not be placed temporarily, many were projectile points (aka arrowheads) which have been previously assigned to specific time periods allowing the archaeologists to associate certain deposits to specific dates in the past. One thing is for certain, Tired Creek was (and still is) an important resource for the occupants living around it.