

SAVANNAH RIVER SITE COLD WAR HISTORIC PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION

*NARRATIVE AND PHOTOGRAPHY*

# **CMX AND TNX SAVANNAH RIVER'S PILOT PLANTS**

*Aiken County, South Carolina*



**NEW SOUTH ASSOCIATES**

PROVIDING PERSPECTIVES ON THE PAST

# ABSTRACT

This documentation was prepared in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by the Department of Energy–Savannah River (DOE-SR) and the South Carolina Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) dated February 27, 2003, as well as the Consolidated MOA of August 2004. The MOA stipulated a thematic study and photographic documentation of 679-T and 678-T, known respectively as the CMX and TNX buildings. Initially, this area was called the CMX-TNX Area, and was only later identified as T Area or 600 Area (in the early years, the CMX and TNX buildings were simply listed in G Area, or the “general” area of the plant). This thematic study tells the story of these buildings, including: their beginnings; operational history and development; and closure. New South Associates prepared the narrative and Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) completed the photographic documentation. T Area (the CMX-TNX Area) was one of the very first operational facilities at Savannah River Plant. The CMX facility was constructed and started up in 1951, followed just months later by TNX.

After more than three decades of use, the successful completion of the mission to produce plutonium and tritium for national defense led to the closure of both pilot plants. CMX was the first to close in the early 1980s. This was followed by the closure of the TNX facilities in the late 1990s. Deactivation of the T Area facilities began soon after. Photographic documentation (large format photography, 35 mm black and white photography, and photo keys) was completed in 2003. The research and compilation of the narrative history were completed in 2005.

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