



Atkinos: Size Matters!

Now that the conflict about naming the new lands had been settled, the little armada was able to set sail to explore more. Surely there were more islands out there and maybe even bigger than the little ones found thus far. After loading fresh supplies, the fleet set sail for points unknown. After several hours, they saw yet more land on the horizon. The sailor in the crow's nest called out "Land ho!" He said "And this is the biggest one yet!" Jack Sparrow pulled out his eyepiece and looked for himself. He said "Ye only partially right. Thar be *two* islands out there, savvy?" The crew knew that this would double their pleasure and thus began chewing on the ship's stores of Doublemint gum.



The ships pulled up to the shore of one of the large islands as the late afternoon sun began to dip low in the sky. Long shadows fell upon the landing party as they approached the shore. Luckily the bears which frolicked around the water's edge were not carnivorous. They were very playful and quite talented, actually. The scientific name for this species is Ursus circus, or circus bear. These animals have been known to ride unicycles through the wilderness and juggle jars of honey to amuse the other wildlife. What great fortune to visit an island with this talented species present!

The crew was excited by the performance and by the magnitude of the find. They had two substantial islands at their disposal. This time, there was no argument about naming them. Here's the exciting new discoveries:



The island of Atkinos. It is just east of the other island and south of the Schulmaniac Archipelago. It seems to be a great place to farm.



The large island of Gran Maru is visible south of the Schulmaniac Archipelago and is due west of Atkinos.

Of course, who could stop after such a great set of discoveries? Not these Sims! The Schulminions were on the beach one evening, looking out across the water at points unknown, to the south, when one Sim thought he saw yet more land off in the distance.



Beach party with the llama. Is there something out there in the distance? Hmmm.....

First thing in the morning, a group would set out to see what laid beyond the islands. What they found surprised them in a way no discovery had up to this point. What they found was a continuous shoreline. This was no island. Or, if it was, it was a big one- far bigger than even Schulmanicus.

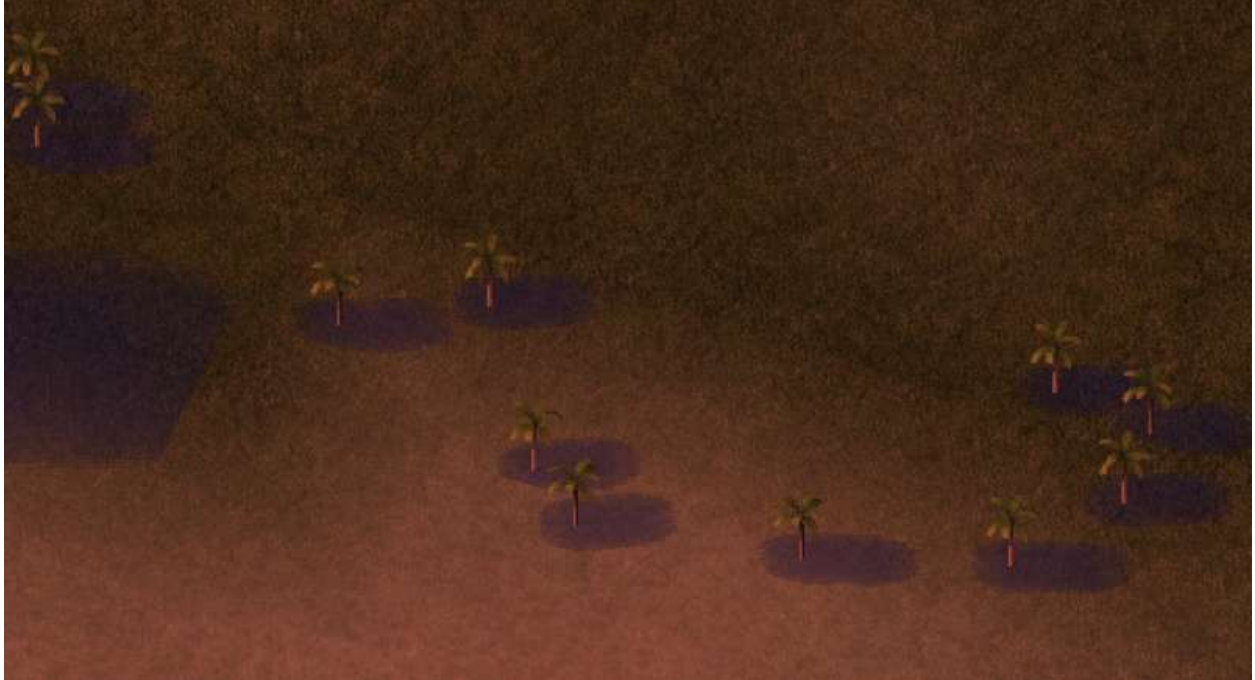


The shoreline discovered south of Gran Maru (seen at the top of the frame)



The shoreline discovered south of Atkinos (seen at top of frame)

As the landing party rowed to the shore, they were amazed at the variety of flora and fauna they encountered. As dawn broke, they saw a strange new type of tree never seen on Schulmanicus or any recently discovered island.



The sun was rising on the main land as the landing party disembarked. As the captain led them ashore, the Junior Deputy Assistant Rowmaster, a Mr. Baby “Ooo Ooo” Monkey exclaimed “Look at those weird trees!” All were impressed with the strange new trees and let him name the new tree. He looked at his hand for inspiration and was unable to grasp anything close by. So, he stared at his open hand and then gasped. “I got it” he said “the Palm Tree”. Everyone agreed that sounded good. Thus, it was so. These little ones they called palmettos. Millennia later, these were exported to South Carolina, where they became the state tree. So, far away from the shore of Schulmania, Baby Monkey’s legacy lives on in the symbols of the state of South Carolina.



Baby “Ooo Ooo” Monkey, the discoverer of the palm tree. Shown with his now famous palm extended outward.



The South Carolina state flag. Baby Monkey's legacy carries on to this very day, as South Carolina is known as "The Palmetto State".

Exploring further inland, the group found that the animals seemed to like hanging around the palmetto trees.



They also saw some full sized palm trees – quite an impressive sight for the impressionable crew.



These exciting discoveries would be the biggest news to hit Schulmanicus since the Great Tomato Scare! The ships were loaded with provisions and set sail back home to the happy island of Schulmanicus and share the great news. Before departing, Captain Splunt said “This would be a great place to plant out flag. Oh, yeah. We don’t have a flag.” The Supreme Wirdle will need to make a decision about that so a fine new flag can be hoisted over all newly discovered lands.