Evidence for the Dating of Mounds A, B, P, R, and S, Moundville

Vernon James Knight, Jr. Associate Professor of Anthropology University of Alabama

Paper presented at the 51st annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, November, 1994

Draft of October 31, 1992
This is a working paper. Please do not quote without permission of the author.

The University of Alabama is currently engaged in a multiyear project devoted to examining the monumental architecture at the Mississippian center of Moundville. The aims of this project are, first, to obtain a chronology of earthwork construction at Moundville, and second, to examine differences in the use of the mound summits. By the end of the project we plan to have new information on at least 16 of Moundville's 26 mounds, along with 30 to 40 new radiocarbon dates relevant to episodes of mound construction.

Both new excavations and the analysis of older curated collections are involved in this work. Since 1989, annual field schools have concentrated on Mound Q, on the western margin of Moundville's central plaza. A preliminary report on this aspect of the project was presented at the 1992 Southeastern Archaeological Conference (Knight 1992). Analysis of the summit architecture of this special-purpose mound is intended to complement and contrast with our current work on the summit architecture of Mound E, which is one of the large elite residence mounds located on the northern margin of the plaza. Our Mound E work, along with the flank trenching of four mounds (R, E, F, and G) during the 1993 season, is sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

The curated materials to be studied for the mound project primarily consist of small collections obtained by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the restoration of Mound State Park¹ during the late 1930s. We will also incorporate materials from two more recent projects: a 1970-1971 field school excavation into the southern flank of Mound M,² and a 1988 field school excavation into the eastern flank of Mound P.³

Among the Depression-era materials, those from mounds H, I, J, K, and L have the best documentation. They come from systematic testing using five foot wide flank trenches oriented to the four cardinal directions. They were excavated in the Spring of 1937 in order to reveal the original contours of these relatively eroded mounds prior to re-shaping them in the interest of the park development. An analysis of the sherd collections and pertinent documentation was reported in 1989 (Knight 1989) in an aspect of the mound project sponsored by the research grants program of the University of Alabama.

The remaining Depression-era collections, those from Mounds A, B, P, R, and S, which have generally more problematic documentation, are the subject of this paper, which may be thought of as a supplement to the 1989 report. This mostly involves an analysis of some 3,362 sherds, that are largely without specific excavation provenience.

A New Model Concerning the Spatial Layout of Moundville

Before discussing the materials at hand, it will be helpful to review certain propositions which have guided our work on the mound project in recent years. Following a suggestion by Christopher Peebles (1971:82-83), we are exploring, on the one hand, the possibility that the formal arrangement of public architecture at the Moundville site is deliberate, and conforms to principles of town planning. One of the important corollaries of this idea is that the laying out of public space at the site may be thought of as a specifiable event in Moundville's history. On the other hand, this argument is difficult to reconcile with a previous reconstruction of the site's architectural history, advanced during the 1980s (Steponaitis 1983; Peebles 1986, 1987) and broadly cited (e.g., Fagan 1991:399-401; Bense 1994:221), which envisioned an accretional pattern of architectural growth culminating in the Moundville III phase (ca. A.D. 1400-1550), during which the site finally assumed the configuration seen today.

Some preliminary resolution concerning this problem has been founded upon three recent sources of information: first, a new population history for the site based on a comparison of sherd collections with grave goods; second, the radiocarbon dating of the palisade sequence; and third, the dating of mound construction along the southern plaza margin using existing sherd collections. Vincas Steponaitis (1993) demonstrated that the majority of the diagnostic sherds deposited in middens across the site may be dated to the Moundville I phase (ca. A.D. 1050-1250), with a dramatic decrease in midden deposition occurring during the Moundville II and III phases (ca. A.D. 1250-1550). He interprets this as a shift in character from a compact town early on, to a largely vacant administrative and ceremonial center later, which was also a necropolis for nonresidents. Margaret Scarry (1993: 203-223), using radiocarbon evidence, showed that the palisade system surrounding the site was in use only during the late Moundville I and early Moundville II phases (ca. A.D. 1150-1300), concurrent with the early residential period. Finally, my own analyses of sherd collections from the southern tier of mounds, mentioned previously (Knight 1989), showed that only one of these, Mound L, had diagnostic artifacts indicating use during the Moundville III phase. All of them, however, yielded relatively strong evidence of use during the late Moundville I or early Moundville II phase. The evidence therefore suggests that most of these mounds were abandoned by about A.D. 1350, at about the same time as the majority of Moundville's inhabitants moved away and the palisade was abandoned.

Using the new information, I have proposed that Moundville does indeed possess a deliberate plan in its public architecture, and that this plan was introduced and mapped onto the landscape at about A.D. 1150 or shortly thereafter, during the Moundville I phase. I predict that all of the mounds contributing to the plaza

periphery have construction episodes dating to this time. I have characterized Moundville as a diagrammatic ceremonial center (Knight 1993), possessing the following spatial aspects: first, a bilateral symmetry indicative of a dual organization of kin groups; second, a pairing of mounds around the plaza periphery, where each elite residence mound is paired with a smaller special purpose mound containing burials; third, a regular gradation in the size of elite residence mounds from north to south around both margins of the plaza, reflecting a fixed rank order among constituent kin groups; and fourth, architecture proposed to be associated with the office of the paramount (Mound B), placed on the central axis of the site opposite the principal public building in the center of the plaza (Mound A). I have found that this arrangement, except for the architecture on the center axis, has a close historic analog in a spatial diagram of ranked kin groups among the historic Chickasaw, recorded by Frank Speck (Speck 1907).

If this model is correct, Moundville's plan is a spatial diagram of a fixed social order, imposed at the time the Black Warrior River Valley became politically centralized during the late Moundville I phase. Nonetheless, not long afterward, as the resident population largely vacated the ceremonial center, a number of the plaza-periphery mounds were also abandoned. Presumably the abandoned architectural units were associated with those kin groups having less of a stake in the political status quo.

In what follows, our model will find support if the chronologically diagnostic artifacts in various mound collections reveal a uniform showing of late Moundville I or early Moundville II phase materials, with a more uneven showing of later Moundville III phase materials.

Collections from Mound A

Mound A is the second largest mound by volume at Moundville, located in the center of the plaza on what we interpret as the site's primary north-south axis. The pottery sherds carry the prefix "M-Ap," and although there is no more specific provenience documentation available, the collection can be reasonably matched with a known excavation. This was a 10 foot wide trench, for which there survives an excavation plan and profile drawing. The location of this excavation on the Mound A summit is apparently given on a topographic map of Mound A prepared in September of 1938. If this is the trench, it was excavated across the center of the mound on an east-west axis. The measured drawings reveal two mound stages within the uppermost section of the mound, both showing evidence of well-preserved public buildings.

A collection of 275 sherds was located and analyzed for this project in 1992. Table 1 includes a summary of the pottery types, using Steponaitis's typology. Table 2 lists other diagnostic

Table 1: Typological Analysis of Sherds from Mounds A, P, B, R, and S		
13019 1: Typological Analysis of Sherds from Mounds A, P, B, R, and S		
1 able 1. Typological Analysis of Sherds from Mounds A, P, B, R, and S		
ruble 1. Typological Allalysis of Sherds from Mounds A, P, B, R, and S		
The standard Little And Standard Louis Mounds M. P. H. M. and S		
Transfer of Strong Hourids A, P, B, N, and S		
,		
Annual Manageria Salamana and Annual		

TYPE	Mound A	Mound B	Mound P	Mound P	Mound R	Mound C
	,,,		(CCC)	(1988)	Mound H	Mound S
Mississippi Plain var. Warrior	224	138	181	1107	987	110
Moundville Incised var. Carrollton	5	4	101	1107	907	110
Moundville Incised var. Moundville	6	3	7	2	5	3
Moundville Incised var. Unspecified	3		3		3	
Bell Plain var. Hale	30	31	48	282	68	17
Carthage Incised var. Akron	3	2	4	2	- 00	17
Carthage Incised var. Carthage			<u> </u>	1		
Carthage Incised var. Fosters				3		
Carthage Incised var. Moon Lake		1	3	1	2	
Carthage Incised var. Poole(?)		<u>'</u>		<u>'</u>		4
Carthage Incised var. Summerville	1			······		1
Carthage Incised var. Unspecified	2	1	3	10	·	
Moundville Engraved var. Havana				1		
Moundville Engraved var. Middleton		2		1		
Moundville Engraved var. Stewart	1					
Moundville Engraved var. Taylorville			1			
Moundville Engraved var. Tuscaloosa	1					·
Moundville Engraved var. Unspecified	,	1	7	9		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Addis Plain var. Addis			1	- J		
Addis Plain var. Unspecified (black)			1			
Alabama River Applique	,		3			
Alabama River Incised				1		
Barton Incised (Estill-like motif)			1	- '		······································
Barton Incised (Togo-like motif)		1	·····			
Coles Creek Incised var. Unspecified		1				
Plaquemine Brushed var. Unspecified		•	1			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Grog Tempered Plain		2	2	5		
Grog Tempered Incised			1	3		1
Sand Tempered Plain				1		
Shell Tempered Incised				1	1	
Shell Tempered Incised (L'Eau Noire motif)		······	1			1
Shell Tempered Mat Impresed						
Shell Tempered Punctated			1		······································	1
Non-tempered Incised			1			
Non-tempered Plain		·	<u>'</u>	3	-	
٠				3	······	······································
TOTAL	276	187	270	1430	1063	137

Table 2: Selected Modes Observ	ed on Sherds	from Mou	nda A. B. I	D D pn4 (•	
Table 2: Selected Modes Observed on Sherds from Mounds A, B, P, R, and S See Table 1 for sample sizes)						
MODE	Mound A	Mound B	Mound P (CCC)	Mound P (1988)	Mound R	Mound S
Red/White*			1	11	1	1
Hemagraved		1				<u>'</u>
Folded Rim	3	2	5		6	
Folded-Flattened Rim	1	1	3	1	8	
Beaded Rim		1	6		3	······i
Beaded Shoulder	1		1	1	1	
Slab Base						
Pedestal Base			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			1
Terraced Bowl		1				
Short Neck Bowl		•	1	3		
Unburnished Bottle			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	3	1	1
Oversize Jar	5	2			9	2 1
		:				
TOTAL	10	8	18	16	29	9

^{*}Includes Red on White and White on Red painting.

pottery modes. Most of the material would fit comfortably in the late Moundville I to early Moundville II phase. This is indicated by the strong showing of the type Moundville Incised vars.

Moundville and Carrollton, the two varieties being present in about equal proportion. The incised "eyelashes" above the arcades on var. Moundville include both long and short versions, a feature tentatively believed to possess chronological significance. A sherd of Carthage Incised var. Summerville is another Moundville I phase marker. Most of the jar collars in the collection are short and angular, conforming to the Moundville I phase standard.

There are five examples here of oversize jar rims (Scarry 1993:64), possessing thick body walls, vertical rims, and massive thickened rim folds. These tentatively may be considered as storage jars. Such sherds are very rare outside of the Moundville site in the Black Warrior Valley, and their chronological position is believed to be confined to the Moundville I and possibly Moundville II phases.

One sherd classified as Moundville Engraved <u>var. Stewart</u>, a Moundville I phase variety, has an unusual sandy, micaceous paste outside the normal range for Moundville Engraved. An alternative possibility is that the sherd comes from an imported vessel, perhaps related to the type O'Byam Incised.

A few of the sherds, however, indicate a later, though probably minor component. There are, especially, two tapering, noded strap handles of a form most common in the Moundville III phase. Also, one of the sherds classified as Carthage Incised var. Unspecified, although it is too small to confidently identify to the variety level, shows some features suggestive of the hand-eye motif of var. Fosters. If so, this would be another Moundville III phase diagnostic.

Collections from Mound B

Mound B is the largest mound at Moundville, located on the north side of the plaza on the central axis of the site. A small collection of potsherds and other artifacts is cataloged as coming from this mound, but the circumstances of recovery are unclear. The only documented excavation of the Mound B summit, other than C.B. Moore's, was by an AMNH party during the early spring of 1930. Six pottery vessels were recovered at that time, none reportedly associated with burials. The vessels include two large jars with 75+ miniature triangular handles at the rim. Also recovered was a Carthage Incised var. Carthage bottle.

It is unlikely that the collection reported here comes from the 1930 work, because sherds were not generally saved at that period, and those few sherds that were saved have known catalog numbers. There is greater likelihood that the collection was made from eroded places during the restoration of Mound B later in the 1930s by the C.C.C., when the mound was cleared of trees, stabilized, and sodded (see Jones 1941).

The sherd collection has 186 sherds (cataloged as M-Bp), listed by type in Table 1. Additional chronologically diagnostic sherd modes are given in Table 2, most notably including the rim of a terraced bowl. Chronologically diagnostic pottery runs the gamut from the Late Woodland West Jefferson phase to the late Moundville III phase.

The Moundville I through Moundville II phase spectrum is well represented among the sherd diagnostics. Among the types are Moundville Incised var. Moundville and var. Carrollton, the latter slightly better represented, and Carthage Incised var. Moon Lake. One folded-flattened rim and two folded rims are among the jar rims, and all of the jar collars present are short and angular, an early characteristic. The only sherd classified as Moundville Engraved is "hemagraved," another Moundville I phase marker. A single sherd of Coles Creek Incised, undoubtedly an import from the Lower Mississippi Valley, may belong to this time frame as well.

There are two examples of oversize jar rims with thick vessel walls and rim diameters probably in excess of 90 cm. Both have thick rim folds. We are interpreting this as a previously unrecognized storage jar form, probably confined to the Mound-ville I or early Moundville II phase.

Moundville III phase diagnostics include the Carthage Incised <u>var. Carthage</u> bottle and the two large jars with multiple miniature handles, mentioned previously. The latter specimens particularly are characteristic of the very end of the occupation span of Moundville, probably dating to the sixteenth century. A beaded rim sherd in the collection probably dates to the late Moundville II or Moundville III phase. One large rim sherd, grog tempered with a combination of incising and zone punctation, we have classified as Barton Incised, similar to <u>var. Togo</u>. It is presumably a late Mississippian import from the Lower Mississippi Valley.

Other artifacts in this small collection include two celt fragments (one beautifully made and probably non-utilitarian), the handle of a pottery trowel, and a fragment of a griddle-like pottery object of shell tempered clay, perhaps a pot lid.

Collections from Mound P

We possess two collections from Mound P. The first is a C.C.C. era collection consisting of 271 sherds along with a large amount of daub in good condition. The second is from a 1988

University of Alabama field school, which excavated a small trench into the base of the east flank. 10 Regarding the earlier collection, there is no accompanying documentation nor a record of any excavation into Mound P during the Depression era, so we must surmise that the material was exposed during clearing and stump grubbing of the mound during its restoration. These sherds bear the prefix M-Pp. Since the series begins with catalog numbers above 3,000, it is possible that some of the original collection has not been located or has been lost.

The sherds from both collections are tabulated by type in Table 1 and by selected pottery modes in Table 2. We can discuss the two collections together as a unit. Good diagnostics are present from all periods of Moundville's history. Roughly dating to the Moundville I phase are Moundville Incised var. Moundville, Carthage Incised var. Moon Lake, five folded jar rims and one folded-flattened jar rim. The middle interval of Moundville's history is signalled by the presence of Moundville Engraved var. Taylorville and two plain sherds with beaded shoulders. Finally, Moundville III phase diagnostics are relatively abundant. Along with six beaded rims11 and four short-necked bowl rims, we have Carthage Incised vars. Carthage, Fosters, and Lupton 12. Of particular significance is the indication of a very late component, signalled by the types Alabama River Appliqué, Alabama River Incised, and a very strong showing of eleven red and white painted sherds together with markers of the late Moundville III phase. Such an assemblage has been documented in only a few places at Moundville, and probably dates to the sixteenth century.

Particularly prominent in the C.C.C. collection from Mound P are sherds showing a Lower Mississippi Valley connection, especially early Plaquemine material and perhaps local copies. 13 Some of this material is probably contemporaneous with the Moundville I and early Moundville II phases.

Collections from Mound R

The Mound R collections differ from the others in this series in having a more ordinary balance between potsherds and other artifacts. The sherds bear the prefix "M-Rp," and the other artifacts bear the prefix "M-Ra." Although the Mound R sherd collection is the largest of the series, with 1,063 sherds, it is incomplete. Sherds M-Rp1 through M-Rp499 are definitely missing, and this includes all of the material originally classified as decorated pottery. Thus, we are largely left with the plain ware. Fortunately, a few specimens that actually are decorated seem to have been accidentally cataloged with the plainware (and so we have them), and the plain sherds also show a fair number of chronologically diagnostic modes.

The specific provenience of this material, like that of Mounds B and P, is unknown. There are no known formal Depression-

era excavations on this mound. Mound R, however, was the scene of a substantial restoration project involving the filling in and leveling of an eroded summit and the restoration of the south ramp (Jones 1941). It is possible that the collections under study were incidentally recovered by the C.C.C. in the conduct of that restoration.

The sherd collection is presented by type in Table 1 and selected modes are shown in Table 2. Despite the missing decorated types in this collection there are nonetheless a few clues as to its age, sufficient to diagnose both a Moundville I and a Moundville III phase presence. Probably the majority of Moundville Incised sherds originally collected are among the missing, but five sherds of var.moundville are here nonetheless, perhaps originally overlooked as plainware. These, and two sherds of Carthage Incised var.moon Lake (probably also strays, originally misclassified as plainware) indicate a Moundville I phase dating. Also relevant to this phase are the occurrence of six folded jar rims and eight folded-flattened jar rims. The fact that the latter outnumber the former may, more specifically, signal an Early Moundville I phase component in the collection.

I have previously mentioned the occurrence of "oversize" jar rims among these collections, and their apparent, although still tenuous, association with Moundville I and II phase materials. There are nine such rim sherds in the Mound R collections, showing two distinct kinds of rim reinforcement. I suspect that these are storage jars. Another vessel type that has not been previously reported for Moundville (probably because it is not found in the burial sample) is present here. It is a very large, non-burnished bottle with a relatively thick body wall and coarse shell temper. Other sherds from similar non-burnished bottles are in the Mound S collection to be reported below.

A definite Moundville III phase component is also present. Despite the absence of diagnostic pottery types, the recorded sherd modes include a number of beaded rims and broad and noded strap handles on jars with tall, gently flaring collars. These are Moundville III phase characteristics.

The collection from Mound R originally cataloged as "artifacts" as opposed to sherds is noteworthy. There are a number of greenstone celt fragments and grooved abraders of greenstone and micaceous sandstone. Pottery objects include an owl rim adorno and a small pottery biconcave discoidal. A fine gray micaceous sandstone palette fragment is remarkable in that it shows and engraved human head in profile view. This is one of only a handful of known palettes from Moundville that have engraved representational art on them, in contrast to geometric decorative borders. The presentation of the head is similar to that shown on a shell gorget from south of Mound D (Moore 1907:397), which in

turn recalls the Braden style identified in shell engraving from Spiro (Phillips and Brown 1978:120).

It is necessary to add that the stratification of Mound R was tested in the Fall of 1993 by means of a trench placed into its west flank. The analysis of that material, yet to come, along with the presentation of radiocarbon dates from that work will improve very considerably our knowledge of the dating of this mound.

Collections from Mound 8

The material cataloged as coming from Mound S derives, without doubt, from the trenching of this mound in 1937 in connection with its restoration by the C.C.C. The 1937 mound restoration project has been discussed in a previous paper (Knight 1989). Photographs from the work reveal that four five-foot-wide test trenches were dug into Mound S from the four cardinal directions. 14

Mound S is a very small mound that, like Mound T, is anomalously located within the border of the plaza-periphery mounds on the eastern side of the site. It was probably some sort of special-purpose construction. Although Mound S was restored as a truncated pyramid, there is room for doubt as to its original shape. Photographs taken prior to its restoration show only a small shapeless rise in a plowed field.

The collection of 137 sherds is listed by type in Table 1, and selected sherd modes are presented in Table 2. The majority of the datable material appears to belong to the Moundville I or Moundville II phase, but there is a later component as well. For the earlier diagnostics we have the usual Moundville Incised vars. Moundville and Carrollton, one folded rim, and one folded-flattened rim. For the Moundville III phase component we have a rim sherd from a short-necked bowl, classified tentatively as Carthage Incised var. Poole. Also relevant is a jar collar that is gently flared in good Moundville III fashion, and a red on white painted sherd.

Other diagnostic sherds include a pedestal base, unusual in being not burnished, and additional jar collars showing relatively angular collar breaks and loop-like handles. Two sherds are from large, non-burnished bottles, a form noted previously in our discussion of the Mound R materials. Finally, we encounter here an unusually good example of our oversize jar form, with its typical vertical thickened rim, thick vessel wall, and estimated rim diameter over 60 cm.

Results

The results of these analyses are given in Table 3.

Table 3. Phase Components of Mounds A, B, P, R, and S as Determined from Sherd Collections Analyzed in This Paper.

	Mound	Mound	Mound	Mound	Mound
	A	B	P	R	S
Very Late Moundville III* Moundville III phase Moundville II phase Moundville I phase Early Moundville I	x x x	x x x x	X X X X	X ? X X	X ? X

^{*} particularly Alabama River Appliqué

In keeping with the results previously reported for Mounds H through L, Moundville I phase materials are ubiquitous among the collections reported here. For the most part these materials are conformable to the later portion of that phase as we now understand it, although Mound R, for reasons unknown, appears to possess reasonable evidence of an early Moundville I phase presence. Moundville II phase diagnostics show a more spotty distribution across these collections, which is understandable given the small sample sizes and the fact that potential diagnostics of that phase are rarer than for the preceding or succeeding phases. It is with the Moundville III phase that our results diverge markedly with the pattern obtained previously for Mounds H through L, where evidence of that phase was mostly absent. Here, in contrast, Moundville III phase diagnostic materials are just as ubiquitous, if not as absolutely abundant, as Moundville I phase materials. Moreover, two of the mounds, P and B, have evidence of occupations at the very terminus of Moundville's occupation, at a point probably in the sixteenth century. None of the previously examined mounds have shown such a component, marked most conspicuously by the presence of the type Alabama River Appliqué. În view of this it is noteworthy that the mounds we have examined here are on the northern side of the Moundville site, whereas the mounds previously examined were all on the southern tier of the site.

Having noted that certain mounds seem to have been abandoned by the beginning of the Moundville III phase, we may now add that others may have been abandoned <u>during</u> that phase, leaving only a very few large mounds still occupied at the terminus of the sequence (that is, after about 1500 A.D.). We have already interpreted this progressive abandonment of mounds as an outcome of the differential political viability of kin groups associated with the individual mounds, and their relative stake in the status quo represented by the fixed rank order of the mounds. If true, it seems that the people associated with the higher ranking northern end of the site fared better in this process than those just to the south, and were able to maintain mound-related

ceremonialism for a longer time. These new data, despite problems with exact provenience, are good enough perhaps to shed at least a glimmer of new light on our emerging developmental model for Moundville.

Endnotes

- 1. The name Mound State Park was soon dropped in favor of Mound State Monument. The current name is Moundville Archaeological Park.
- 2. The Mound M field school excavations were conducted by David L. DeJarnette during 1970 and 1971. The collections and records of this work are being analyzed by Robyn L. Astin as her Masters thesis at the University of Alabama.
- 3. The Mound P flank testing was performed during the Fall of 1988, as a field school under the direction of Boyce N. Driskell.
- 4. The original National Park Service map was prepared by P.L. Cox in September of 1938. A digitized copy of this map is listed as Map *92-8, "Mound A," in the series, Alabama Historical Commission/University of Alabama Moundville Mapping Project (1992).
- 5. To date, these vessels have not been relocated for study.
- 6. This result agrees with an informal examination of a much more recent collection obtained from Mound B during erosion stabilization in 1990.
- 7. In this project we have deviated slightly from Steponaitis's definition of <u>var. Moon Lake</u>, in order to differentiate chronologically earlier and later specimens. We reserve <u>var. Moon Lake</u> for interior incised specimens on the flared rim bowl form, which is restricted to the Moundville I phase.
- 8. We have not classified this sherd to the variety level. It possesses an incised lip on the upper surface, an early characteristic for Coles Creek, but the incising is sloppy like later Coles Creek material. Also, the sherd has fine shell in addition to grog as temper. I am grateful to Ian Brown for his comments on this and other specimens of probable Lower Valley origin.
- 9. No named variety applies to this sherd with exactness, but Phillips's definition of $\underline{\text{Togo}}$ comes close. I appreciate the remarks of Steven Williams, John Connaway, James B. Griffin, David Dye, Dan Morse, and Charles McNutt regarding this unusual Mound B find.
- 10. This was a Department of Anthropology field school under the direction of Dr. Boyce Driskell. Accompanying documentation is on file with the archaeological services branch of the Alabama Museum of Natural History.
- 11. Beaded rims may also date to the late Moundville II phase.

- 12. This is the former Carthage Incised <u>var. Moon Lake</u> (Steponaitis 1983:310) in which the incising is found on the exterior of bowls. It is here given separate variety status because of its value as a late Moundville chronological marker. This sherd is also red filmed.
- 13. Some of the grog tempered pottery is finer ware than the local Baytown Plain associated with the West Jefferson phase, and the paste is consistent with Addis Plain. One of two sherds classified as Barton Incised has an Estill-like execution. A single unclassified sherd of incised shell tempered pottery has a design seemingly inspired by the Lower Valley type L'Eau Noire Incised. I am grateful to Ian Brown for giving me his opinion on these sherds.
- 14. The Mound S material, while belonging to the 1937 C.C.C. series that includes Mounds H through L, was not included in my 1989 report because it had not been relocated at that time. Mound T was similarly tested at the same time, but attempts to locate collections from that mound have been so far unsuccessful.

References Cited

- Bense, Judith
 - 1994 <u>Archaeology of the Southeastern United States: Paleo-indian to World War I.</u> Academic Press, Orlando.
- Fagan, Brian M.
 - 1991 <u>Ancient North America: The Archaeology of a Continent.</u>
 Thames and Hudson, London.
- Jones, Walter B.
 - 1941 Mound and Lake Restoration, Mound State Monument, Mound-ville, Alabama (August 6, 1941). Unpublished report on file, Alabama Museum of Natural History.
- Knight, Vernon J., Jr.
 - 1989 Certain Aboriginal Mounds at Moundville: 1937 Excavations in Mounds H, I, J, K, and L. Paper presented at the 46th Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Tampa, Florida.
 - 1992 Preliminary Report on Excavations at Mound Q, Moundville. Paper presented at the 49th Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas.
 - 1993 Moundville as a Diagrammatic Ceremonial Center. Paper presented at the 58th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis, Missouri.
- Moore, Clarence B.
 - 1907 Moundville Revisited. <u>Journal of the Academy of Natural</u>
 <u>Sciences of Philadelphia</u> 13:337-405.
- Peebles, Christopher S.
 - 1971 Moundville and Surrounding Sites: Some Structural Considerations of Mortuary Practices II. In <u>Approaches to the Social Dimensions of Mortuary Practices</u>, edited by James A. Brown, pp. 68-91. Memoir 25. Society for American Archaeology.
 - 1986 Paradise Lost, Strayed, and Stolen: Prehistoric Social Devolution in the Southeast. In <u>The Burden of Being Civilized: An Anthropological Perspective on the Discontents of Civilization</u>, edited by M. Richardson and M. Webb, pp. 24-40. Southern Anthropological Society Proceedings, No. 18. University of Georgia Press, Athens.
 - 1987 The Rise and Fall of the Mississippian in Western Alabama: The Moundville and Summerville Phases, A.D. 1000 to 1600. Mississippi Archaeology 22:1-31.
- Phillips, Philip, and James A. Brown

- 1978 <u>Pre-Columbian Shell Engravings from the Craig Mound at Spiro, Oklahoma, Pt. 1</u>. Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University.
- Scarry, C. Margaret
 - 1993 Archaeological Investigations of the Riverbank Stabilization Project at Moundville. Draft report submitted to the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Mobile District.
- Speck, Frank G.
 - 1907 Notes on Chickasaw Ethnology and Folk-Lore. <u>Journal of American Folk-Lore</u> 20:50-58.
- Steponaitis, Vincas P.
 - 1983 <u>Ceramics, Chronology, and Community Patterns: An Archae-ological Study at Moundville</u>. Academic Press, New York.
 - 1993 Population Trends at Moundville. Paper presented at the 58th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis, Missouri.

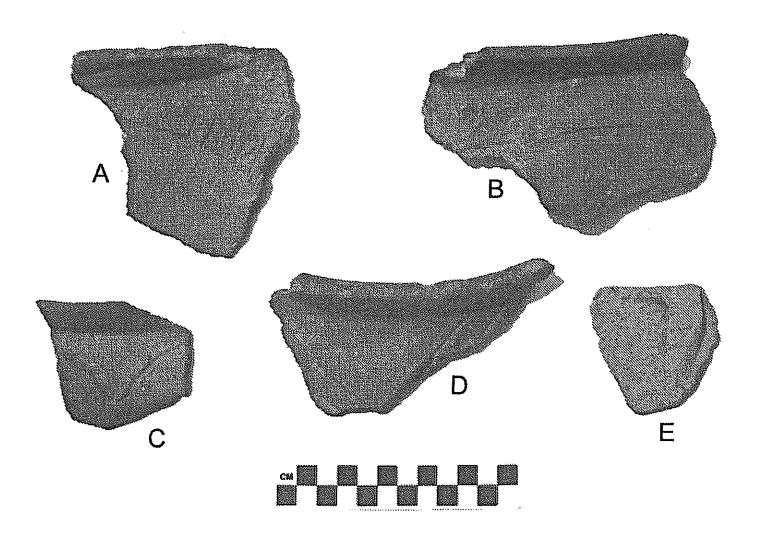


Figure 1. Jar Rims from Mound A, C.C.C. Collections. A, Moundville Incised var. Moundville; B, C, Moundville Incised var. Carrollton; D, Moundville Incised var. Unspecified (probably Oliver); E, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior.

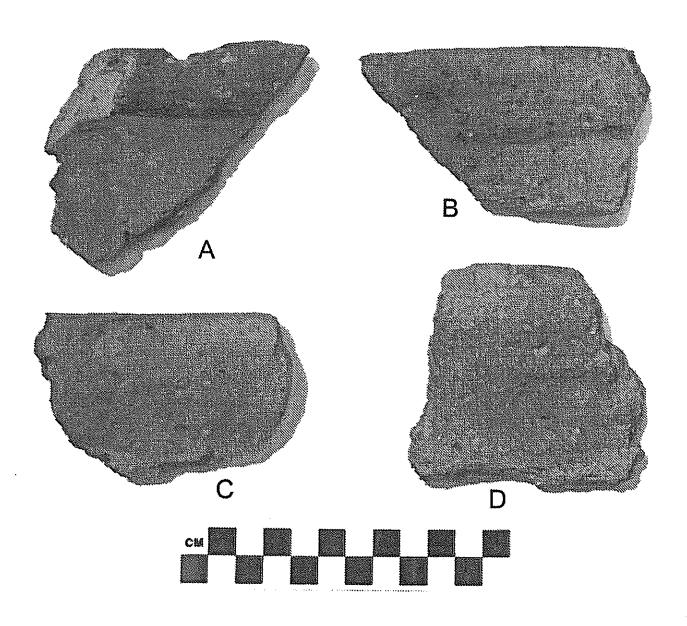


Figure 2. Oversize Jar Rims from Mound A, C.C.C. Collections. A-D, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior.

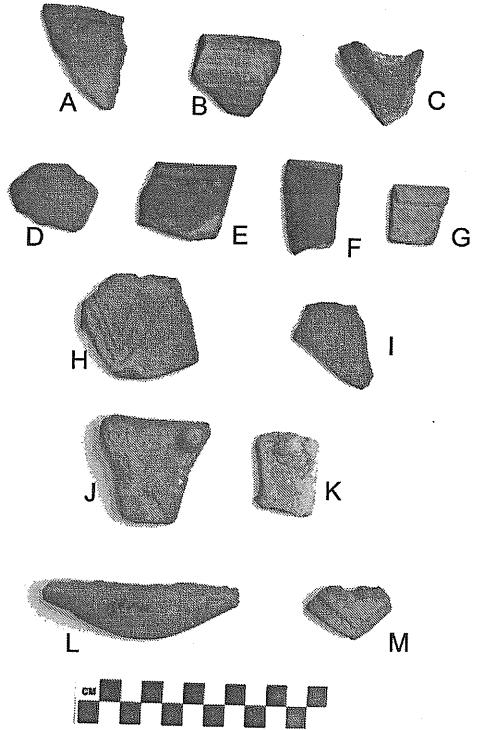


Figure 3. Miscellaneous Sherds from Mound A, C.C.C. Collections. A-C, Carthage Incised var. Akron; D, Carthage Incised var. Summerville (bowl rim); E, Carthage Incised var. Unspecified (Fosters? With rolled lip); F, Bell Plain var. Hale (wide-mouth bottle neck); G, Bell Plain var. Hale (bowl rim, rolled lip); H, Moundville Engraved var. Stewart (? unusual sandy paste); I, Moundville Engraved var. Tuscaloosa; J, K, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (strap handles with nodes); L, M, Bell Plain var. Hale (lug tails).



Figure 4. Jar Rim from Mound B, C.C.C. Collections. Barton Incised, <u>Togo</u>-like decoration.

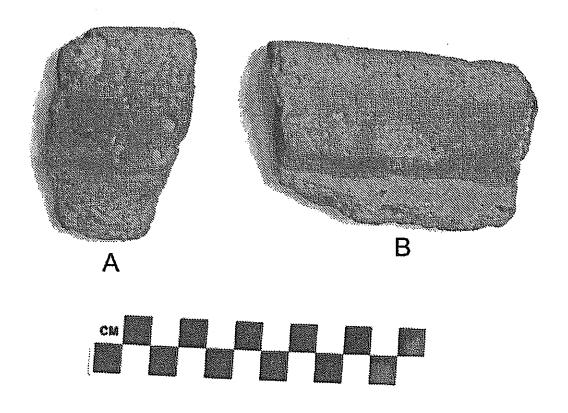


Figure 5. Oversize Jar Rims from Mound B, C.C.C. Collections. A, B, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior.

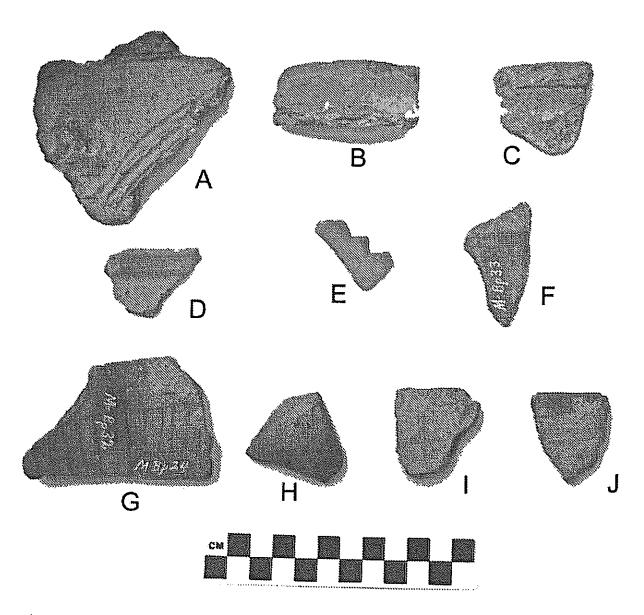


Figure 6. Miscellaneous Sherds from Mound B, C.C.C. Collections. A, Moundville Incised var. Carrollton; B, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (folded jar rim); C, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (folded-flattened jar rim); D, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (strongly everted jar collar); E, Bell Plain var. Hale (rim of terraced bowl); F, Carthage Incised var. Moon Lake; G, Moundville Engraved var. Middleton; H, Moundville Engraved var. Unspecified (hemagraved); I, Grog Tempered Plain, chalky paste; J. Coles Creek Incised var. Unspecified (incised on top of flat lip, notched).

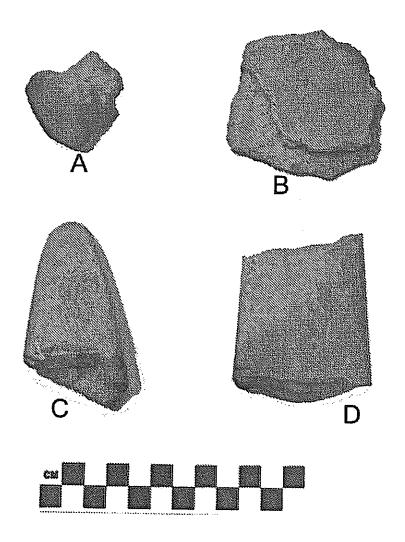


Figure 7. Other Artifacts from Mound B, C.C.C. Collections. A, pottery trowel, handle; **B**, flat griddle-like object of pottery; **C**, **D**, celt fragments (D is finely made, rectangular in cross-section).

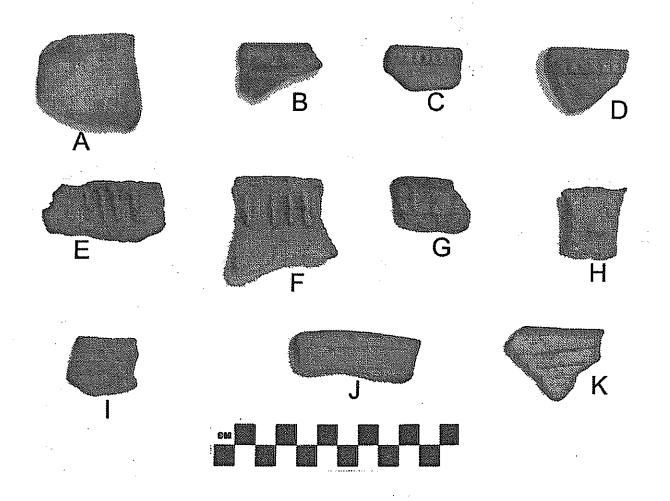


Figure 8. Sherds from Late Moundville III Phase Component, Mound P, C.C.C. Collections and 1988 Field School. A, Bell Plain var. Hale (short-necked bowl rim); B-D, Bell Plain var. Hale (beaded rims); E-G, Alabama River Appliqué jar rims; H, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (noded strap handle); I, Carthage Incised var. Lupton (exterior red filmed); J, Carthage Incised var. Unspecified (possibly var. Fosters, interior white filmed); K, Carthage Incised var. Akron (red lip over white filmed).

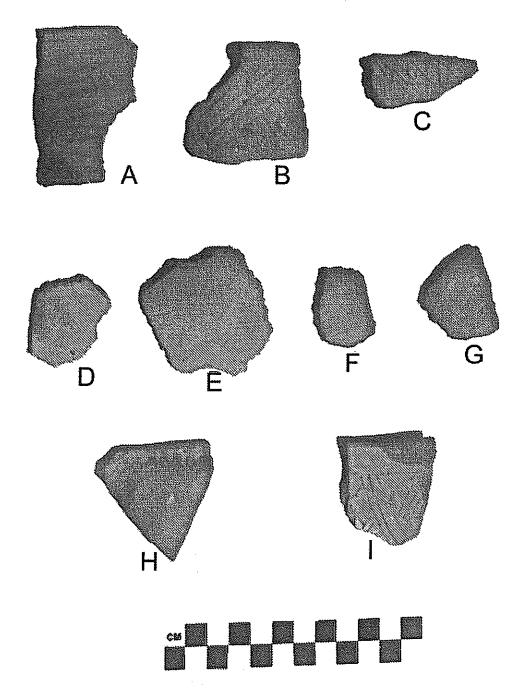


Figure 9. Non-Local Sherds from Mound P, C.C.C. Collections. A, unclassified shell tempered incised (flared beaker with L'Eau Noire-like motif); B, Barton Incised var. Unspecified (Estill-like motif); C, Barton Incised var Unspecified; D, Grog Tempered Plain; E, Plaquemine Brushed var. Unspecified; F, Addis Plain var. Addis; G, Addis Plain var. Unspecified (black burnished); H, fine shell and sand tempered burnished plain, punctated rim, with spout; I, chalky, temperless incised, straight-sided bowl with slightly flared lip.

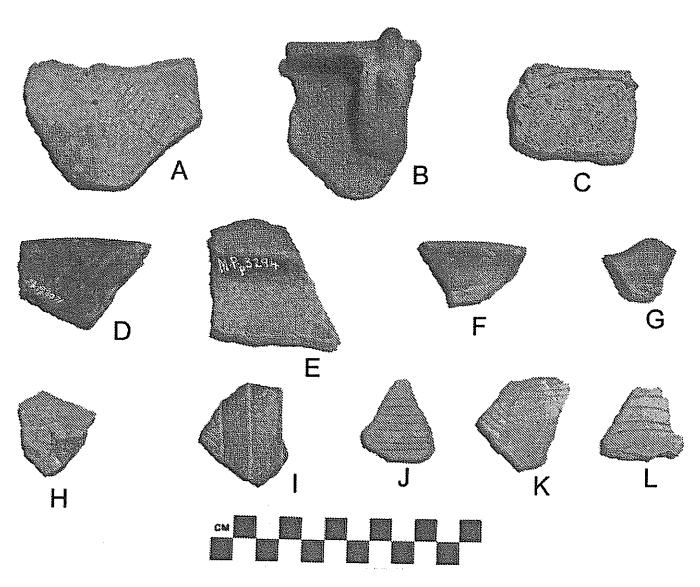


Figure 10. Miscellaneous Sherds from Mound P, C.C.C. Collections. A, B, Moundville Incised var. Moundville; C, Moundville Incised var. Carrollton; D, E, Carthage Incised var. Moon Lake; F, Bell Plain var. Hale (burnished jar rim); G, Bell Plain var. Hale (castellated rim); H, Bell Plain var. Hale (beaded shoulder); I, Moundville Engraved var. Taylorville; J, K, Moundville Engraved var. Havana; L, Moundville Engraved var. Unspecified (slab base of bottle).

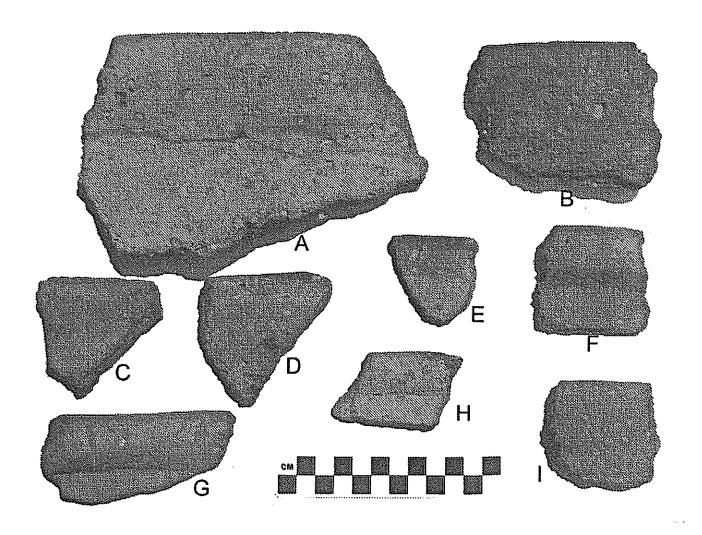


Figure 11. Oversize Jar Rims from Mound R, C.C.C. Collections, Illustrating Variation of Rim Form. A-I, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior.

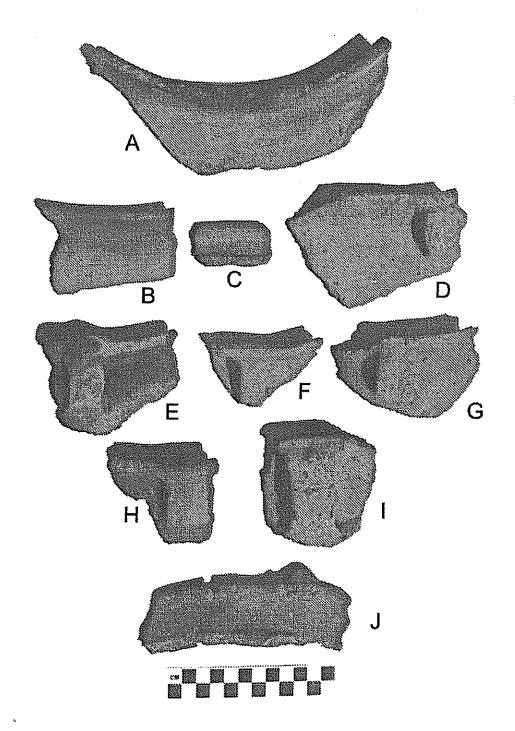


Figure 12. Jar Rims from Mound R, C.C.C. Collections. A-J, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior.

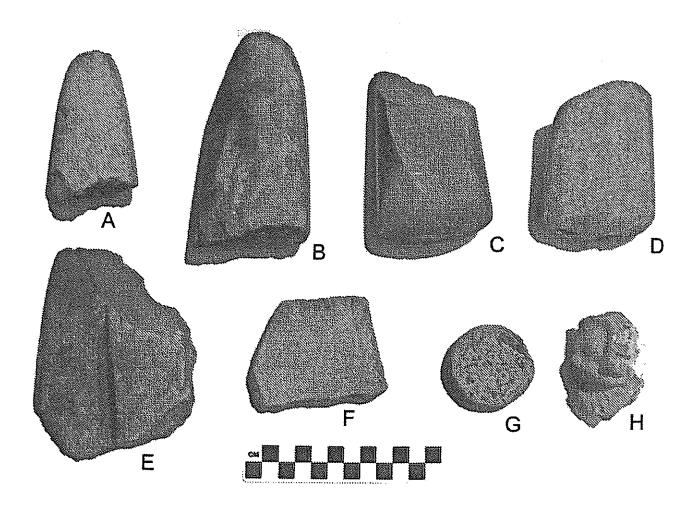
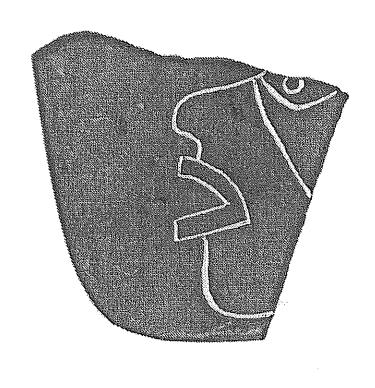


Figure 13. Miscellaneous Artifacts from Mound R, C.C.C. Collections. A-D, celt fragments (A is reddish metamorphic rock. B-D are greenstone); E, grooved abrader, greenstone; F, grooved abrader, gray micaceous sandstone; G, pottery biconcave discoidal; H, pottery owl adorno.



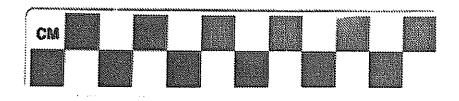


Figure 14. Engraved Palette Fragment from Mound R, Gray Micaceous Sandstone. (engraving is enhanced for illustration).

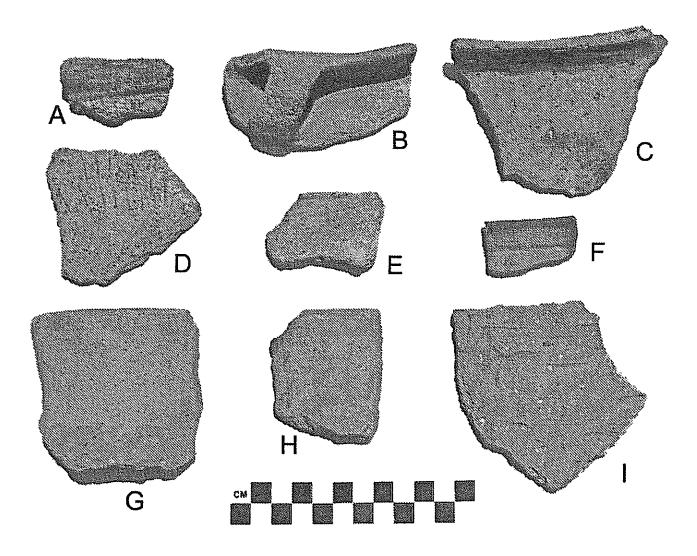


Figure 15. Sherds from Mound S, C.C.C. Collections. A, D, Moundville Incised var. Moundville (A is a folded-flattened rim); B, C, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (strongly everted jar collars); E, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (gently flared jar collar); F, Carthage Incised var. Unspecified (possibly var. Poole. Short-necked bowl rim); G, H, Mississippi Plain var. Warrior (neck sherds from large unburnished bottles); I, flat, basketry-impressed sherd.

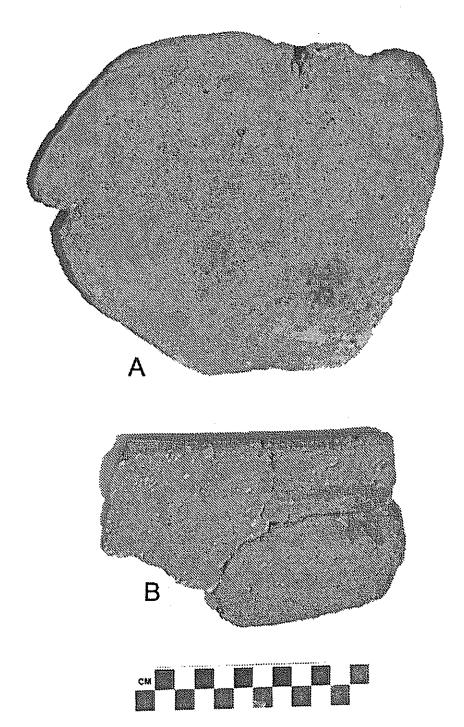


Figure 16. Miscellaneous Sherds from Mound S, C.C.C. Collections. A, Moundville Incised <u>var. Carrollton</u> (showing sooting on lower vessel); B, Mississippi Plain <u>var. Warrior</u> (oversize jar rim).