

**Report of Investigations: Field School Excavations North of  
Mound R, Moundville, 1972-1975**

**by**

**The University of Alabama**

**Anthropology 450: Laboratory Methods in Archaeology**

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# **Report of Investigations: Field School Excavations North of Mound R, Moundville, 1972-1975**

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## **Preface**

The University of Alabama Field School Anthropology 119 excavated the locus North of Mound R at Moundville from 1972 to 1975 under the direction of Mr. David DeJarnette. These excavations spanning several years yielded an abundance of artifacts. A section of this locus was analyzed by our class. This task of analysis was undertaken by the University of Alabama's Anthropology 450 class, an undergraduate class focusing on archaeological lab methods. This class consisted of nine students. Research was carefully guided by our instructor Dr. Vernon James Knight. The purpose of this research was to determine if the deposits north of Mound R are elite as previously thought. We take responsibility for the analyses and interpretation presented in this paper, and do not necessarily reflect the views of Dr. Vernon James Knight.

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## **Chapter 1**

### **Documentation and Summary of Excavations North of Mound R**

Klinton J Baggett

From 1972 to 1975, archaeological excavations were undertaken on a ridge north of Mound R at Moundville. The University of Alabama Field School, Ant 119, performed these excavations under the direction of David DeJarnette. DeJarnette taught the class at this locus starting in January of 1972. In addition, a summer session field school took place the same year. In 1973, a fall field school class was also added and this was repeated for 1974. The excavations were finished in the spring of 1975. In all, nine different classes participated in the field school. The class usually averaged about 8 to 10 people, with some repeating the course in subsequent sessions. It is not known for sure why DeJarnette decided to excavate in this area. Charles Moorehead, a graduate student at the time and DeJarnette's assistant for the school in the spring of 1972 said that the graduate students were always discouraging DeJarnette from actually digging inside the park. DeJarnette picked the ridge North of Mound R to have his field school because he thought that the area was disturbed and had possibly been excavated previously. Clarence B. Moore in fact had investigated the area in 1906 (Moore 220). Moore mentions that northwest of Mound R was "an oldtime cemetery for colored persons." Whether he meant that this was a slave cemetery is not known. He reports that when the graves were dug some "relics" were found. Moore had test pits dug around the cemetery without significant artifact recovery. However, east of the cemetery on a mounded

ridge, deposits up to four feet in depth were encountered. Likewise, the field school excavation north of Mound R also found a deep midden deposit. These two excavations yielded some of the deepest, least disturbed deposits at Moundville. It would seem that Mr. DeJarnette was well aware of Moore's previous descriptions north of Mound R. His excavation over four years yielded an abundance of artifacts. An analysis of these artifacts, features, and associations from selected squares follows in the later chapters of this report.

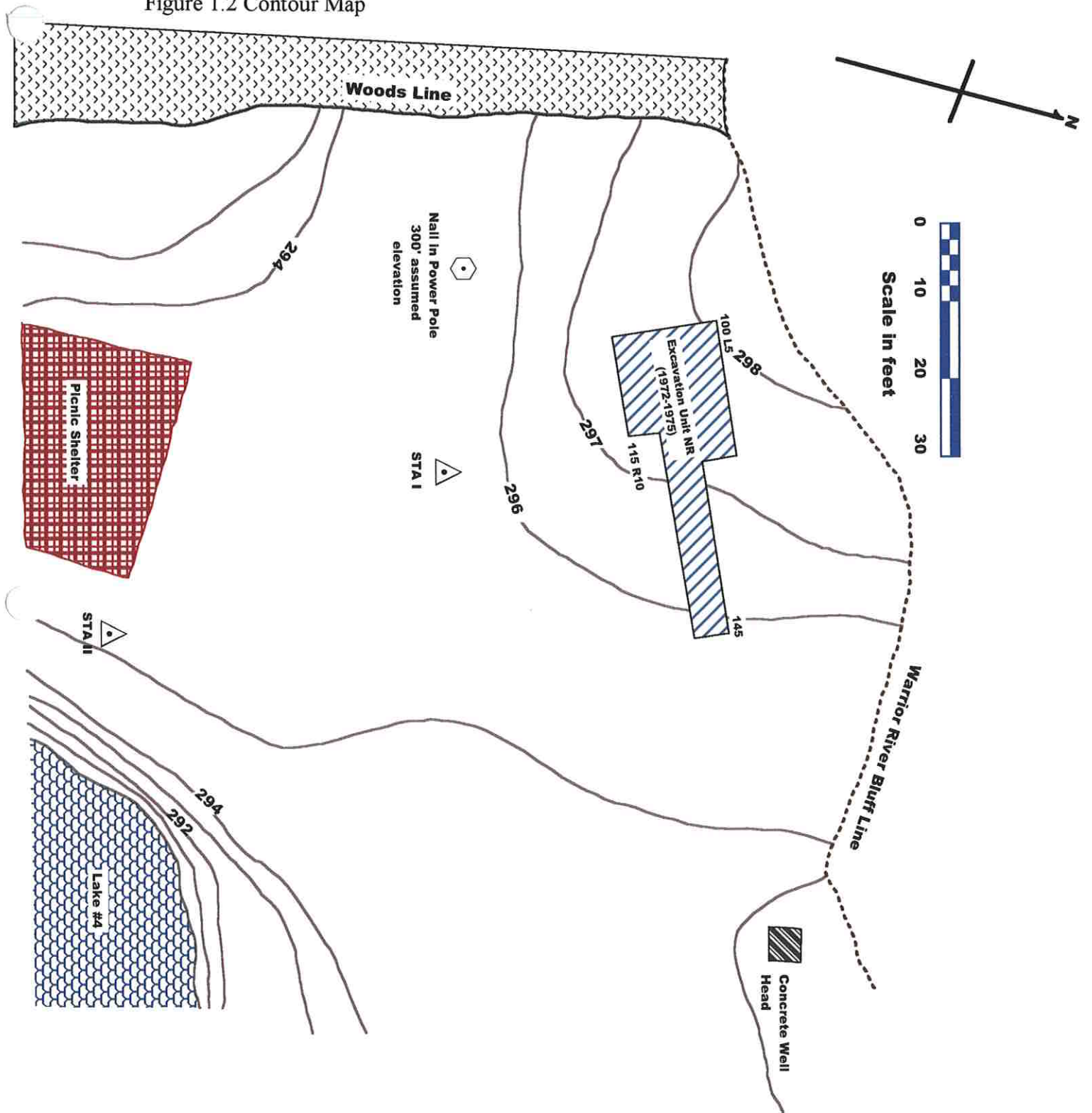
The documentation of this excavation has survived in partial form. This is in contrast to the "conservation of data" that Christopher Peebles cites as one of the "hallmarks of archaeological investigations at Moundville from their beginning in 1840 to the present". A summary of available documentation is shown in Figure 1.1. The most obvious loss of data is each of the student's archaeological field notebooks, a mainstay in any field school excavation. Of the sixty or seventy students that took this field school, only one of their notebooks survive. The originator of this documentation, Steve Clark, excavated during the month long summer session in 1973. His notebook includes his notes on the excavation, mainly on the squares that he excavated. His notes and maps were essential in determining the progress of the work by season. However, the loss of all save one of the notebooks, no doubt will have a detrimental effect on the analysis of the artifacts, features, and associations. Another severe loss in data comes with the missing profiles of DeJarnette's excavation. For the purposes of this report, the University of Michigan's profile maps were used. During their 1978 excavation, the University of Michigan excavated the same ridge north of Mound R directly adjacent to DeJarnette's previous excavation unit. In the course of this work, they removed the

Documentation from Locus North of Mound R, 1972-1975 Field Schools	
Comments	
<b>Maps</b>	
1	Elevation of Mound R
2	Contour map for Locus North of Mound R
3	Contour map around pond North of Mound R
<b>Profile Maps</b>	
1	Profile of West wall, DeJarnette's field school pit, with notes (Michigan 1978)
2	Profile of North wall (2), DeJarnette's field school pit, with notes (Michigan 1978)
<b>Photos</b>	
April 1972	20 photographs, 3 1/2" X 3 1/2" black/white, site/excavation/lab work--0 negatives
Nov. 1973	23 photographs, 4 1/2" X 3 1/2" black/white, site/excavation/lab work--21 negatives
Fall 1973	11 photographs, 3 1/2" X 3 1/2" black/white, site/excavation/lab work--0 negatives
Fall 1973	4 photographs, 9 1/2" X 7 1/2" black/white, site/excavation--2 negatives
<b>Slides</b>	
July 1972	8 slides, color.....nice features, lab work
June 1973	9 slides, color.....people screening, excavating
Summer 1973	40 slides, color.....lab work, people setting up parachute for shade
October 1973	21 slides, color.....views of locus, lab work, features
Summer 1974	12 slides, color.....lab work, excavation
<b>Field Notebooks</b>	
only 1 survives	Steve Clark's Ant. 119 field school notebook (8" X 5") June 6-July 5 1973....maps,notes
<b>Field Specimens</b>	*each field specimen has a corresponding index card listing artifacts
<b>Feature Forms</b>	*each feature form has a corresponding map of feature excavated

Figure 1.1 Summary of Available Documentation

backfill from the old-field school pit and mapped the profiles of the North and West walls. Fortunately, not all of the documentation had the same fate as the original profiles and field books. Three original area maps pertaining to DeJarnette's excavation remain. One of the maps shows the topography of Mound R, another is of the topography around the small pond north of Mound R, and the last map is of the topography of the area directly surrounding the excavated area. A digitized version of this map is shown in Figure 1.2. One good point of the surviving documentation is the visual references to the

Figure 1.2 Contour Map



excavation that exist in photograph and slide form. Nearly 60 black and white photographs of the excavation that show lecture, excavation, screening, washing and so forth (Figures 1.3,1.4). There is nearly an equal quantity of slides that show the same aspects of the work. There are photographs and slides from each year of the excavation except for the final days in 1975. These were also helpful in determining the progress of work by season.



Figure 1.3 Students screening, 1973.



Figure 1.4 Excavation of Squares 105R5 and 105R10, 1973.

Surprisingly, all of the feature forms remain. In all, 268 features were recorded. All of the forms are complete with a map of the feature and associated square. However, it must be mentioned that some of the forms are not correctly filled out, leading to some confusion. The last written documentation that survived is the field specimen list. For each entry, a corresponding 3x5 index card lists the number and variety of artifacts for each field specimen number. In addition to the documentation listed, three interviews were conducted with past participants in the field school. Charles Moorehead, Mary Hill, and Rod Riley were all interviewed via telephone and were extremely helpful on the different aspects of the excavation. At the end of our class project, our professor, Dr. Knight found some more slides pertaining to this excavation. These were from the summer of 1973 and 1974. These slides were not kept with the other information. so there is a good possibility that other documentation remains. However, where is the question.

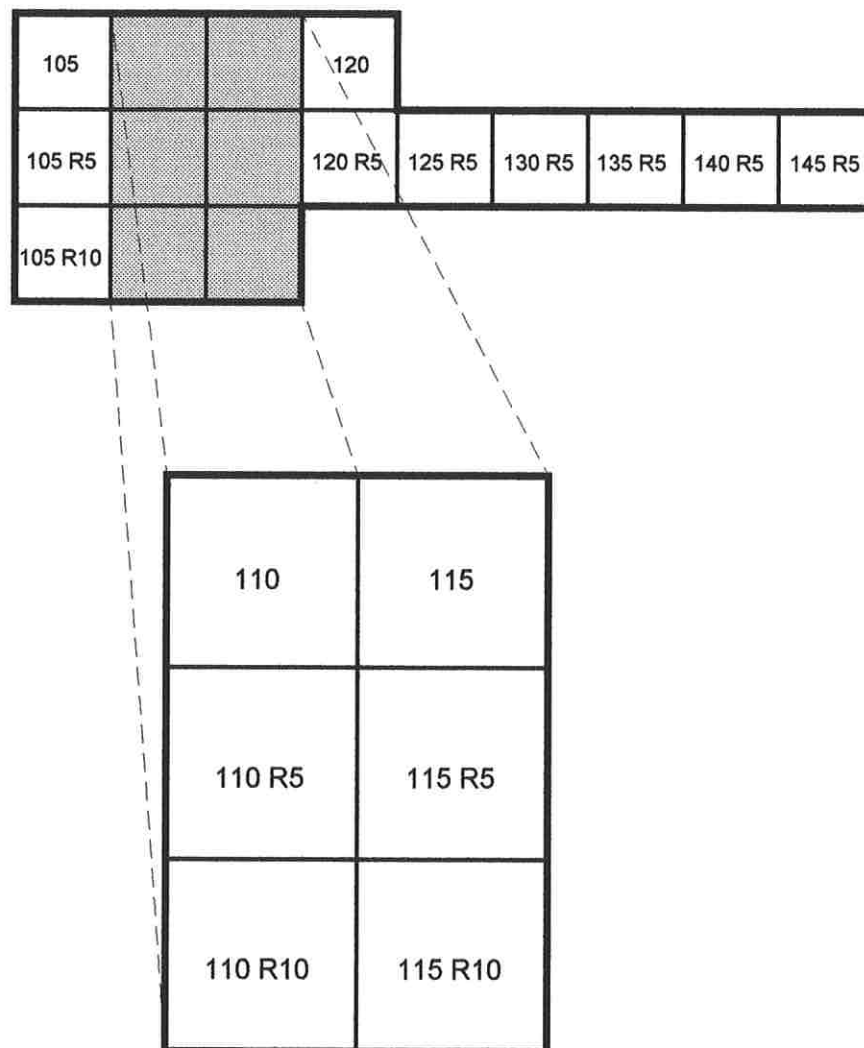
### **Methods of Excavation**

Following DeJarnette's "Uniform Instructions to Apply to Archaeological Investigations in Alabama" the locus north of Mound R was first surveyed and elevations taken. Elevations were taken using an alidade. DeJarnette thought that this was one of the most important preliminary tasks prior to excavating. There are also several slides and

photographs depicting his students learning how to use the alidade. After the survey of the site was complete, the site was then cleared of all brush and debris. Following this, the site was staked out. This was accomplished by putting a stake into the ground and then extending the north and south axis through the center of the site. The axis was staked off using five-foot intervals, which was DeJarnette's standard practice. Next, an east and west axis was staked off perpendicular to the north/south axis past the extremities of the locus. This was to facilitate the need to come back later and extend the axes. The initial squares were staked out in an east/west orientation, perhaps for better lighting in recording profiles. The north and south axes were numbered using multiples of five. The east/west axes were designated using either left or right designation, again in multiples of five. So, for example, a square that started 50 feet away from the datum and ten feet to the right from the datum point would have a designation of 50R10. At the start of the excavation about five or six squares were marked off and others were then added as need. Over the course of four years of excavations, some 16 five foot. squares were excavated. Some of these deposits extend as deep as five feet corresponding to 17, 4-inch levels. A map of the final excavation unit, showing the squares excavated, is given in Figure 1.5.

The methods of excavation followed normal archaeological procedure. Since this was a field school, excavations went extremely slow. DeJarnette's old students in the interviews emphasized that DeJarnette intended the field school to be used as a teaching mechanism. Accordingly, they spent much of their time in lecture and actually only excavated about one day a week. The practice of digging one day a week occurred in the

Figure 1.5 Excavation Unit Showing Squares of Focus





spring and fall sessions but not the summer. In the summer, the class usually excavated four days a week. Most of the actual excavations were supervised by more experienced students, beginning with Mr. Moorehead, though DeJarnette was often present. When a square was first started, the top of the sterile soil was removed by shovel and screened. At this locus, this probably included the first foot or so of soil. After this, excavations were done only by trowel. For the purposes of this field school, levels of four inches were designated. Measurements of the levels were taken by placing a pre-measured stick into the square and then measuring the distance up to the surface. The dirt was screened using a variety of methods. Flotation was never used. By fall of 1973, a motorized power-screen had been brought in, but it worked poorly in the clayed soil (Figure 1.6).



Figure 1.6 Motorized power screen, 1973.

The artifacts, once retrieved, were rough sorted and then placed in paper bag. On the outside of the bag the standard provenience information was recorded. Bones and charcoal would sometimes be placed in aluminum foil. This method of storage and much handling has resulted in the destruction of some of the bone.

### **Progress of the Excavations**

The first excavations started in February of 1972. This was apparently after several weeks of preliminary lectures. The excavations began with the main trench that would become Squares 105R5 to 145R5. After this main trench had been started, three squares to the south of the western end were opened up. These are Squares 105R10, 110R10, and 115R10. By the end of the summer session of 1972, almost all of the squares were down to about level 7, or 28" below the surface. Since the summer session excavated four days a week instead of one, the work progressed much faster. By the end of the 1973 season, the eastern part of the trench, Squares 120R5 through 145R5, had been carried down to sterile soil. This usually occurred at about level 11, or 44" below the surface. During this time, the four Squares 110R5, 110R10, 115R5, and 115R10 were all being worked as one ten foot square to expose certain features fully. Part of this area can be seen in Figure 1.4. Square 105R10 was also started at this time. By the end of the 1973 summer session, Squares 105, 110, and 115 had been started. Therefore, in 1974, the students concentrated on just the western end of the excavation unit, all but finishing. These squares took considerably longer since they were nearly twice as deep in cultural deposits as the eastern end. During the spring of 1975, the students finished

taking the remaining squares down to sterile soil and then recorded the now lost profile drawings. The field school excavation north of Mound R was now complete.

## **Chapter 2**

### **ANALYSIS OF PHYSICAL STRATIGRAPHY AND FEATURES**

James R. Bays

Although excavations were conducted on the area north of Mound R at Moundville in the early to mid 1970s, these excavations were never analyzed. One goal of this project was to examine the physical stratigraphy and features excavated during this period. Throughout the course of this study, it has been a goal to find out what features were present, where exactly they were located and, coupled with stratigraphic information, hope to give an explanation of the area's primary use.

#### **Materials and Methods**

As indicated in Chapter 1, limited information remains regarding to the University of Alabama field school north of Mound R from 1972-1975. A large portion of the fieldwork documentation has been lost or misplaced over the years. Unfortunately, very little information regarding the stratigraphy of the area north of Mound R is available. Roughly detailed feature forms are the only records that have been found to date that give any stratigraphic information of this excavation. However, two wall profiles done in 1978 during excavations conducted by C. Margaret Scarry of the University of Michigan are in our possession. These profiles are based on the north and west walls of the excavation unit under study. Despite this lack of complete records, the archaeological significance of this area can be adequately interpreted.

Overall, the class project of Spring 2000 has focused on six particular squares (Figure 1.5). However, this individual study incorporates the entire excavation unit.

Each square at all levels has been analyzed and the information regarding each feature can be found in spreadsheet format near the end of this chapter (Figure 2.3).

Additionally, all maps and feature layouts can be found in this chapter.

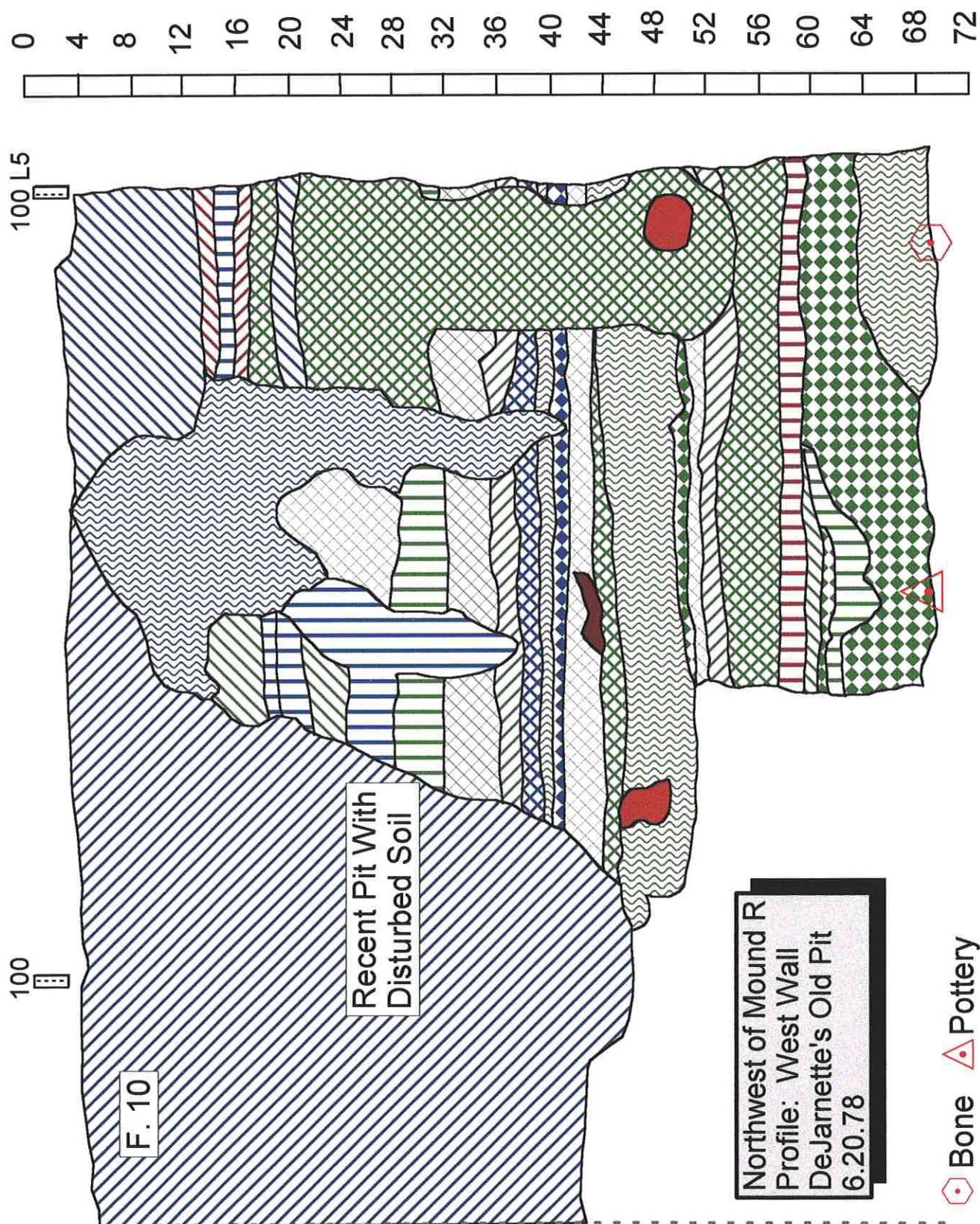
### **Results**

The profile of the west wall of Square 105 and part of Square 105R5 (Figure 2.1) goes approximately 70 inches deep. Part of Feature 10 can be seen in Square 105R5 (See description of Feature 10 following). If the profile had been drawn further to the west, more of this burial would have been visible on the profile. The current profile continues into Square 105R5, but then quits. The plow zone consists of levels 1-3, down to 12 inches, and small amounts of bone & pottery were found at level 17. Also, red clay inclusions were found at levels 10-13. Wall trenches are visible in levels 7-10 on the feature layout diagrams and the corresponding house floors can be seen stratigraphically represented in the west wall profile. Disturbances in the soil can also be seen to the East of Feature 10 in this profile. Conclusions about these disturbances point to rodent burrows as the most likely explanation for the disturbances.

Feature 33A can be seen in the north wall profile (Figure 2.2), appearing first at level 6 (20"-24"). This feature has been noted on the feature form as an infant aboriginal burial, extending down into level 11 (41"). By examining this profile, the feature actually continues down to level 12 (48"). This slight discrepancy may have occurred if those excavating this burial didn't notice the feature beyond level 11. In addition, several pits and possible postholes can be seen by examining the north wall profile. The soil consists of a fairly regular transition from sand near the surface to clay as one descends.



Figure 2.1 West Wall Profile





Scale in Inches

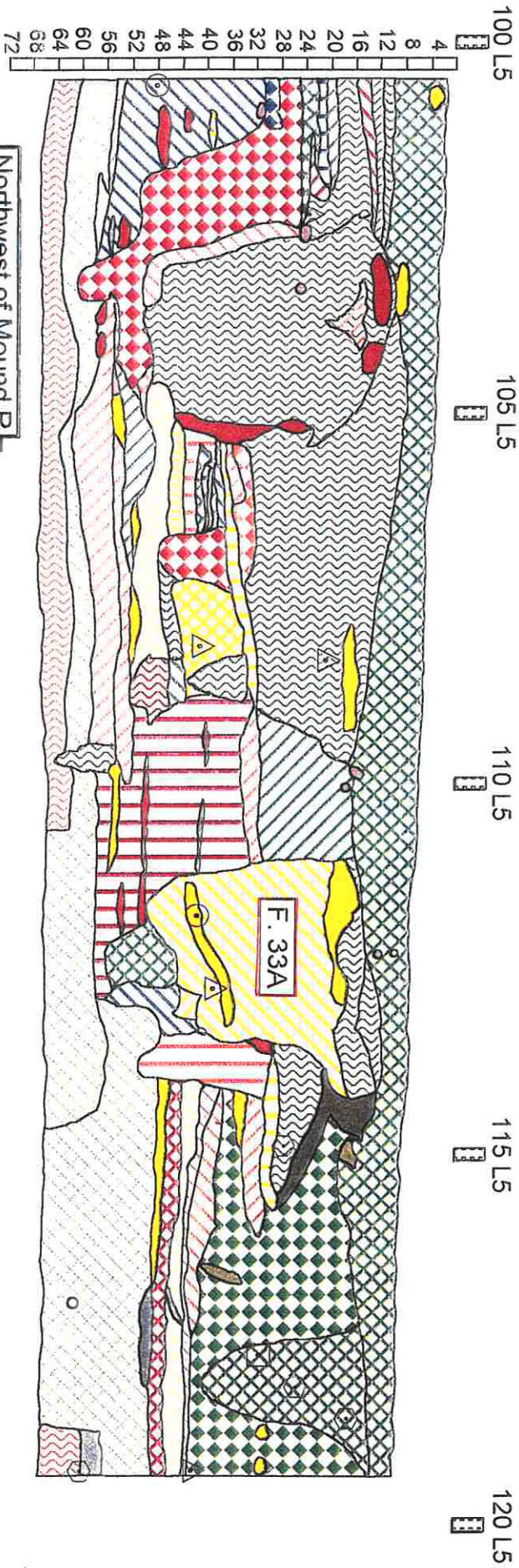


Figure 2.2 North Wall Profile

Northwest of Mound R  
Profile: North Wall  
DeJarnette's Old Pit  
6.19.78

○ Sherd    △ Mica    ◇ Stone    □ Bone

Similar stratigraphic zones are correlated between the two profiles, in both color and fill characteristics. Looking at the contour map (Figure 1.2), one can see clearly that the excavation area north of Mound R is situated on a slight rise. It sits on elevations of 296'-298' above sea level, higher than any surrounding elevations. It is doubtful that this rise is natural, as it is most likely the product of human occupation. The rise that this area rests upon decreases in size as one follows the unit to the east. This explains why fewer features were discovered as the unit extended to the east.

In all, the excavation of this unit encompassed 18 levels (72'') and 268 Mississippian features including 89 pits, 86 post molds, 52 postholes, 3 burials, 3 wall trenches, 2 hearths and 33 other non-specific features. The highest concentration of features comes from levels 5-10 with the peak in levels 7-10. The feature count gradually increases up to this point and similarly decreases after level 10.

Post molds were generally 3 inches to 10.75 inches in diameter with an average diameter of 5.5 inches. Post molds were 3 inches to 20 inches deep with the average post mold measuring 10 inches deep. Postholes ranged from 2.5 inches to 10 inches in diameter, averaging 5.3 inches. They ranged from 2 inches to 11 inches deep, with an average depth of 5.8 inches. Pits had a wide range from 1.5 inches to 28 inches oblong in diameter, averaging 11 inches. Pits ranged from 3 inches to 21 inches deep, the average being 9.3 inches deep. While these measurements do not account for the entire sample, it is probably representative of the whole. Any error comes from the fact that not all features' measurements were recorded on feature forms. In addition, problems can be seen from the measurements taken here. Features measuring 1.5 inches were labeled as pits. Generally, it would be hard to find a pit so small. Another immediate problem is if



this measurement is width or depth. Several times only one measurement was recorded and was referred to neither as width nor depth. These problems stem from students' lack of knowledge of different types of features and how to record and refer to each of them.

C. Margaret Scarry explains that the function of this area north of Mound R was changing throughout time. She suggests the area was residential during the Moundville I phase, based on the evidence of structure floors (1981). This can be seen by looking at the feature layouts from levels 5-14. For a complete layout of features by level, please refer to Figure 2.3 near the end of this chapter. Within these levels, major residential areas are evident. The residential occupation of this site does not begin until level 14, sixteen inches up, and it continues up until 20 inches from the surface. Level 14 contains the highest amounts of faunal remains, and the frequency of features is considerably higher than that in lower levels. It can clearly be seen that features decrease in frequency the further down one looks in the level sequence. By the time we reach levels 15-18, we only have a handful of features, a random scatter of a few pits and post molds.

Burials were found in three different locations. Features 10 and 19A (19A is seen on the feature layout as Feature 22C) are thought to be slave burials. Feature 10 was initially recognized as just a pit. Later, at level 6, it was discovered to be a burial. It is evident that slave burials had to have cut through the plow zone and should have been visible at the very first levels. However, based on the above evidence, we believe those excavating this feature didn't see the burial until later on in the stratigraphic sequence. Similarly, Feature 19A was found to be a slave burial. Skull fragments, along with nails believed to be used in the coffin were found.

Feature 33A first appears at level 6 (20"-24"). Bones were uncovered in the center of this pit, which cuts through the entire square from the southerly end to the northerly end, approximately 1.5 feet wide. This burial is seen again in level 11 (41") and denoted as Feature 42. It appears as a boat hull-shaped pit with several potsherds, various bone and shell, and small amounts of flint and mica. Careful examination of this burial has led us to believe it is an infant aboriginal burial.

Three wall trenches were found, all in levels 7-10. These trenches are running NE-SW with respect to the unit. We have no evidence of where they begin or end; this being one of our problems. We assume that the walls extend out so far, and then complete a square house pattern in a northwesterly manner. Features labeled wall trenches are Features 16A, 18D and 30B. In levels 7-10, a unique pattern of postholes appears at an angle perpendicular to that of the wall trenches. This could possibly be some sort of interior house structure or feature. One hearth (see descriptions following) was found in this area, along with a feature described as a house floor with large amounts of charcoal and burned daub, denoted as Feature 26-27A.

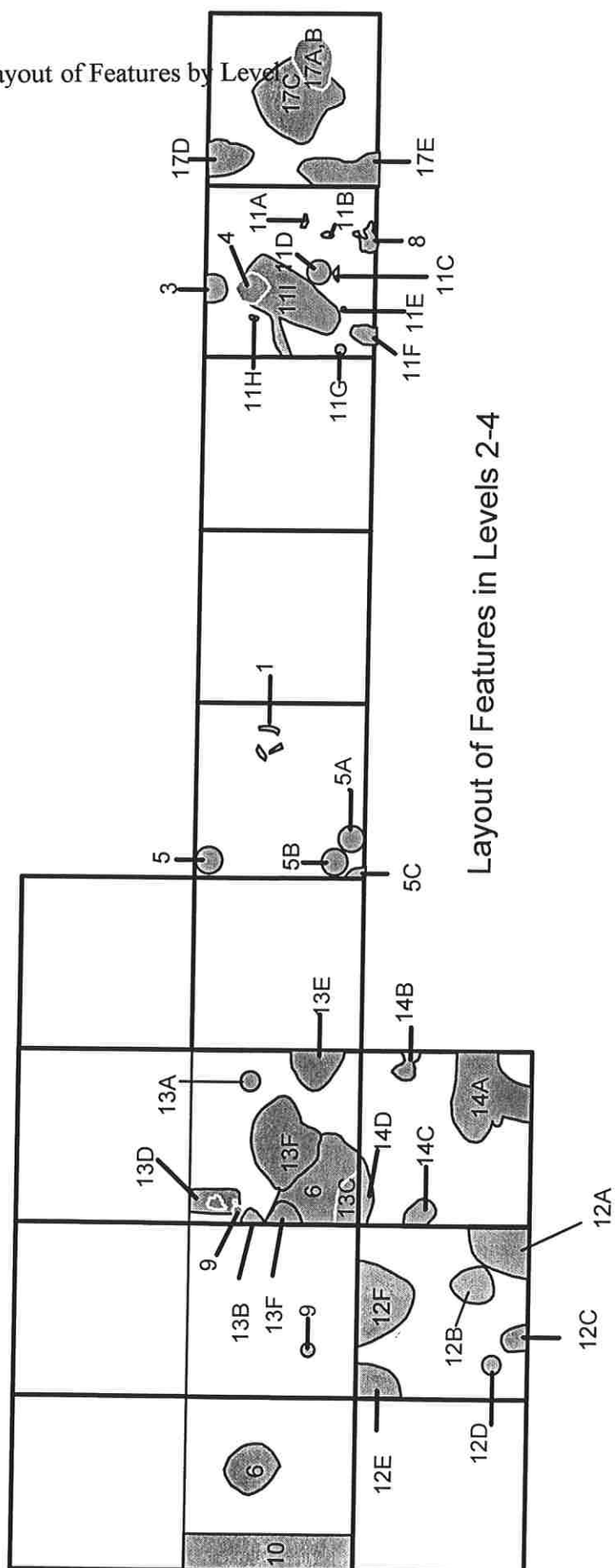
The previously mentioned hearth was actually denoted as three different features, 12F, 13C and 14D. This hearth appeared between levels 2 and 6. In addition, levels 5-6 produced another similar hearth, Feature 15A. This hearth was found in association with the above described floor, Feature 26-27A.

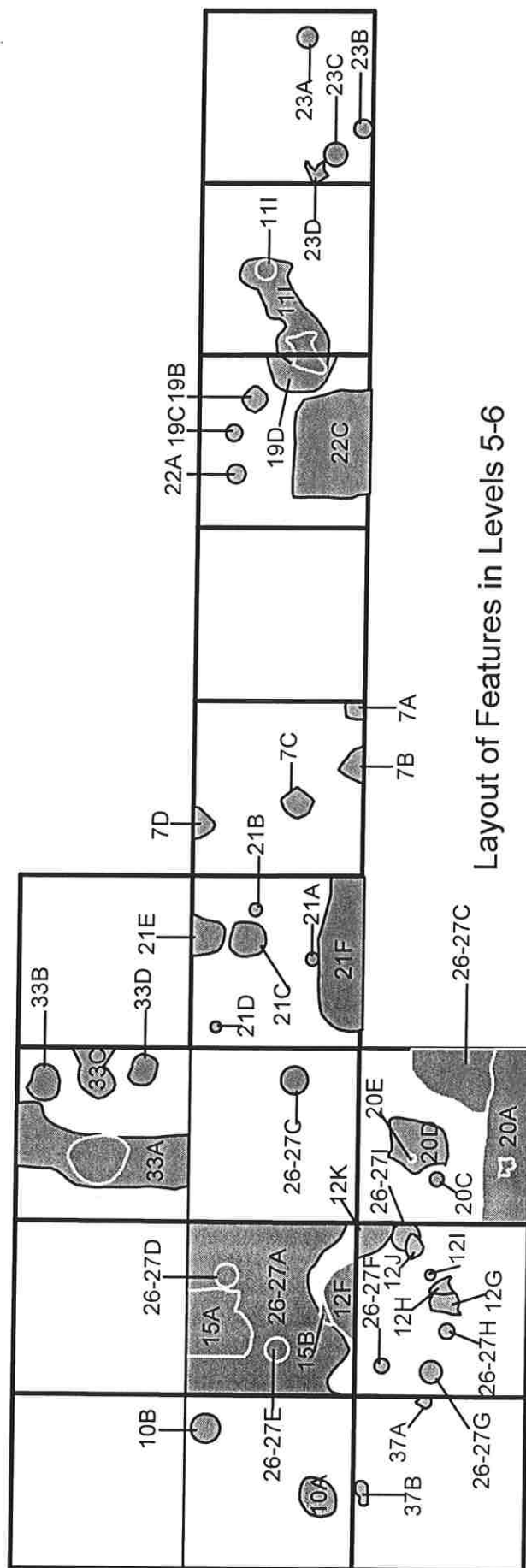
Several problems have arisen during the course of this analysis. Possibly most importantly, we cannot tell where some of the features go. They probably extend into other squares, that were not excavated, so we don't know. One of the most important set of features includes the wall trenches. We only have a limited amount of information

pertaining to the location of these walls and their size. All three burials, additionally were found at unit boundaries. Further excavation around these burials would provide us with more clues as to what type of burial it is, its associations, and the spatial boundaries of the feature. In addition, no profiles from the 1972-1975 excavation survived. The only information we have to study are two profiles drawn by the University of Michigan in 1978. Also, participants in this field school assigned features by whatever they saw in their square at a given time. If they saw four different post molds in the square at a particular level, they would label that, for example, F. 19A, F. 19B, F 19C and F 19D. More properly, one would record each feature individually, with a new feature number. This made it rather challenging to decipher where features were and what level they belonged to.

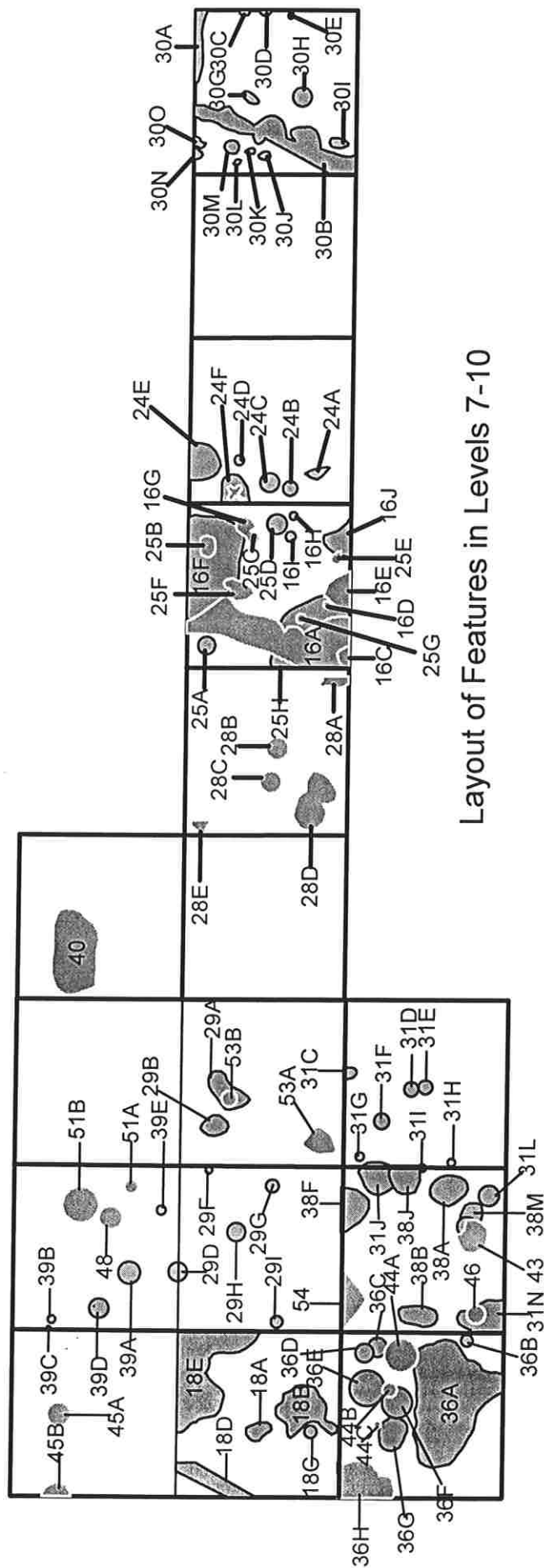
Upon examination of the feature layouts and stratigraphic information, it was found that this area north of Mound R was not largely active. The evidence suggests a small residential population not engaged in much production or work outside of cooking and minimal manufacture.

Figure 2.3 Layout of Features by Level

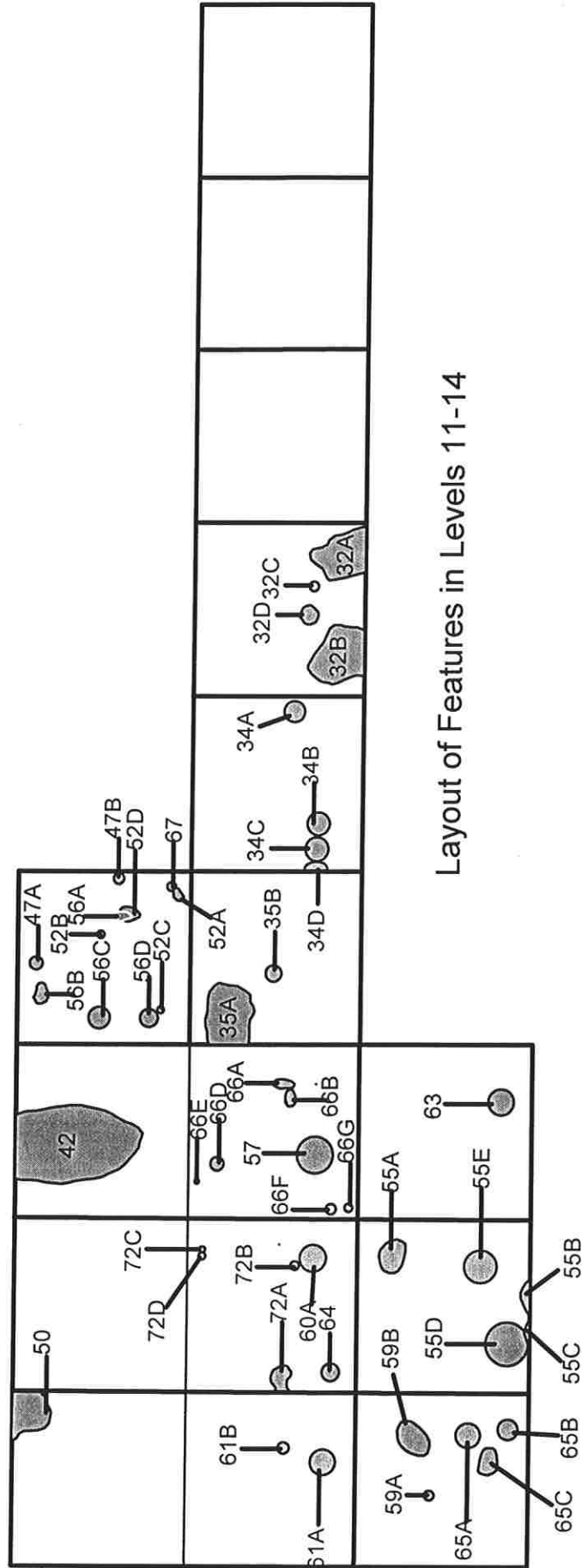




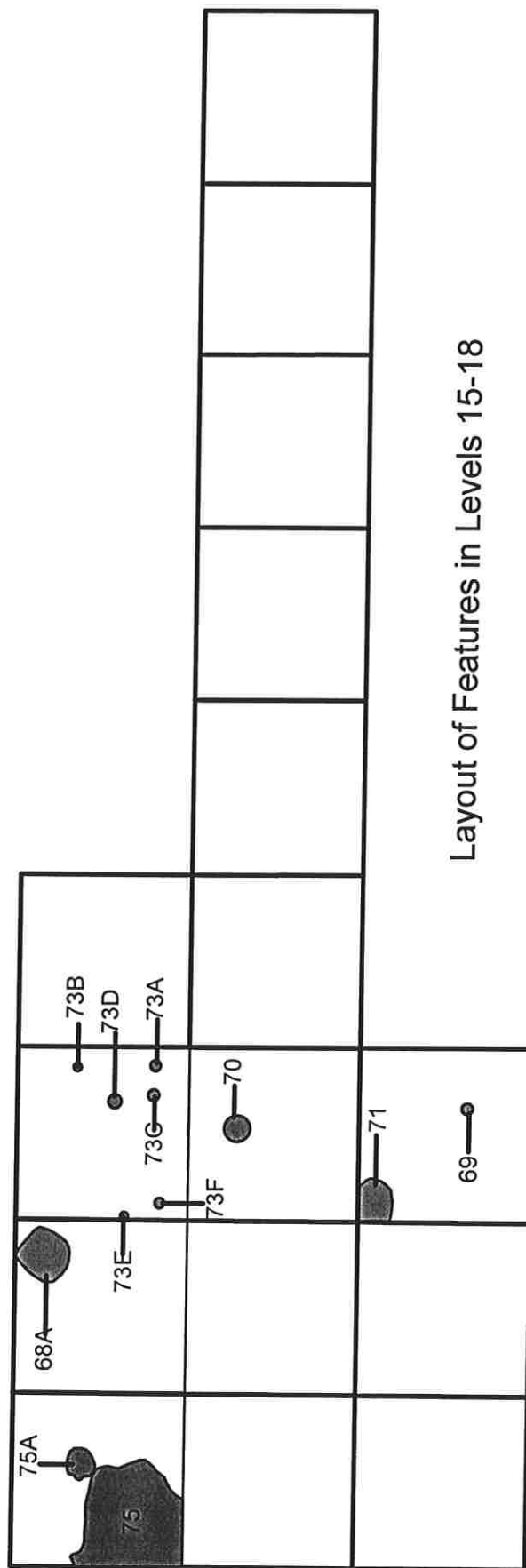
Layout of Features in Levels 5-6



Layout of Features in Levels 7-10



Layout of Features in Levels 11-14



Layout of Features in Levels 15-18



Figure 2.4 Feature Form Analysis

# Feature Form Analysis

DeJarnette Field School (1972-1975)

Compiled by Ryan Bays

Feature	Square	Level	Depth	Definition	Description	Observer	Date
2	115 R5	3	9"	Fired floor	Possibly burned, with red clay; no associations.	Charles Moorehead -Grad	2/15/72
1	125 R5	2	6"	Large pot sherds.	Bright orange area; charcoal pot sherds; grey mottled clay.	Albright, Burleson, Unger	3/7/72
3	140 R5	3	10"	Oval pit	Mottled light yellow-dark brown sand; single incidence of soil discoloration.	Herrin, Hill, Huffstutler	3/14/72
4	140 R5	3	10"	Oval pit	Dark brown-black sand. Dug 2" below Feature 3, believe this feature to be a tree branching off.	Herrin, Hill, Huffstutler	3/14/72
5	125 R5	4	16"	6" Circular area	Dark area; shell tempered pottery; 50 grams sand.	Brian M. Powell	N/A
5A	125 R5	4	16"	10" Deep post mold	2 pieces pottery.	Brian M. Powell	N/A
5B	125 R5	4	16"	10" Deep post mold	3 pieces pottery.	Brian M. Powell	N/A
5C	125 R5	4	16"	9" Deep area	2 pieces shell tempered pottery; 1 piece flint.	Brian M. Powell	N/A
6	105 R5	4	12"-16"	1.5x1.5x10" Pit	Heavy concentration burned corn in top 6". Below = several pieces Mville Black Film & 1 piece deer bone.	Don Russell	4/18/72
7	125 R5	6	24"	See Following	See Following.	N/A	N/A
7A	125 R5	6	24"	10" Deep pit; 5"x7"		N/A	N/A
7B	125 R5	6	24"	8" Deep pit; 1.1'x.8'		N/A	N/A
7C	125 R5	6	24"	11" Deep pit; 1'x.9'		N/A	N/A
7D	125 R5	6	24"	14" Deep pit; .9'x.6'	Concentration of Mville Black Film Pottery.	N/A	N/A
8	140 R5	3	10"-13"	Deer bone, 8"x5"	In possible pit which was not dug.	Charles L. Herrin	4/25/72
9	110 R5	3	8"-12"	Post holes	Red fire hardened area.	Don Russell	6/8/72
9	115 R5	3	8"-12"	Post holes	Red fire hardened area.	Don Russell	6/8/72
9	115 R10	3	8"-12"	Pot sherds	Red fire hardened area.	Don Russell	6/8/72
10	105 R5	6	24"-28"	Pit	Probably comes to the surface		
10A	105 R5	6	24"-28"	11"x11"x4" Pit	Light concentration burned corn in top 2".	Don Russell	6/8/72
10B	105 R5	6	24"-28"	10"x10"x10.5" Pit	Dark area in square, possibly a burial.	Don Russell	6/8/72
11	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Large pit w/possible post holes or small pits around	2 Post molds are yellow/tan; others are black.	Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11	140 R5	5	16"-20"	3' 7.5" Post mold	Corn 1' 10.5"; 111 = larger than earlier thought.	Howell Davis	6/12/72
11A	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Bone		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11B	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Post mold		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11C	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Post mold		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11D	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Post mold		Charles Herrin	6/8/72

11E	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Not sure		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11F	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Post mold		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11G	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Post mold		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11H	140 R5	4	0"-16"	Not sure		Charles Herrin	6/8/72
11I	140 R5	4	0"-16"	6"x8" Pit	Concentration of corn.	Charles Herrin	6/8/72
12A	110 R10	4	0"-16"	1'x1.5' Pit	Dark earth.	Steve Clark & Eddie Hails	6/9/72
12B	110 R10	4	0"-16"	1'x1' Pit	Dark earth.	Steve Clark & Eddie Hails	6/9/72
12C	110 R10	4	0"-16"	8"x9" Post hole	Surrounded by Yellow Clay.	Steve Clark & Eddie Hails	6/9/72
12D	110 R10	4	0"-16"	6"x6" Post hole	Surrounded by Yellow Clay.	Steve Clark & Eddie Hails	6/9/72
12E	110 R10	4	0"-16"	1'x1.5' Pit	Maybe small corn concentration.	Steve Clark & Eddie Hails	6/9/72
12E	110 R10	5	20"	gone after 1.5" into L 4	Probably not corn, then!	Eddie Hails & Zee Collier	6/13/72
12F	110 R10	4	0"-16"	2'x1.5' Area	Large area of concentrated burnt-wood charcoal.	Steve Clark & Eddie Hails	6/9/72
12G	110 R10	5	20"	6"x10" Post hole	Surrounded by Tan and Yellow Clay.	Eddie Hails & Zee Collier	6/13/72
12H	110 R10	5	20"	5"x7" Post hole	Surrounded by Tan and Yellow Clay.	Eddie Hails & Zee Collier	6/13/72
12I	110 R10	5	20"	4"x4" Post hole	Yellow, Tan.	Eddie Hails & Zee Collier	6/13/72
12J	110 R10	5	20"	5"x8" Pit	Fire hardened orange clay.	Eddie Hails & Zee Collier	6/13/72
12K	110 R10	5	20"	1'x1' Pit or Post hole	Soft, caved in.	Eddie Hails & Zee Collier	6/13/72
12F	110 R10	5	16"-20"	Charcoal seen into 110 R5	2 ears burnt corn; post hole? 16"x17"; maybe corner or house? 6"-8" deep.	Eddie Hails	6/15/72
12A	110 R10	5	20"	Pit down to L9	Small Mville Black film; dark rich soil.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12B	110 R10	5	20"	Pit down to L10	More artifacts & bone than any other pit; several large pieces of deer bone.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12C	110 R10	5	20"	Post hole	After digging for 2 levels, nothing found.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12D	110 R10	5	20"	Post hole	Revealed nothing.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12E	110 R10	5	20"	Charcoal area	Revealed nothing.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12F	110 R10	5	20"	Charcoal area, into 110 R5	1'x1' area, maybe large burnt post hole.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12G	110 R10	5	20"	N/A	Revealed nothing.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12H	110 R10	5	20"	N/A	Revealed nothing.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12I	110 R10	5	20"	N/A	Full of sand.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12J	110 R10	5	20"	N/A; dug for 3 levels	Revealed nothing.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
12K	110 R10	5	20"	Maybe a fireplace	Large concentration fire burnt clay; went into 110 R5, 115 R5, 115 R10; taken down to L 7; only a few small pot sherds found.	Eddie Hails	7/8/72
13A	115 R5	3,4,5	0"-12"	6"x6", found at 12"	Burned corn & other material; charcoal.	Steve Clark	6/13/72
13B	115 R5	3,4,5	0"-12"	7"x5" Post hole at 12"	Darker dirt.	Steve Clark	6/13/72
13	115 R5	3,4,5	0"-12"	N/A	Fragments of water bottle indented & engraved; Black film. (Location of this unknown!).	Steve Clark	6/13/72



13C	115 R5	5	0"-20"	Fireplace, maybe 1.7'x6"	Ring of charcoal around orange clay fired; may continue into 115 R10, 110 R5, 110 R10.	Steve Clark	6/19/72
13D	115 R5	5	0"-20"	Broken pot	M'ville black film, incised & crushed maybe due to breaking of surface ground; soil is disturbed.	Walt Simmons	6/19/72
13E	115 R5	5	0"-20"	16'x1.1' Possible Pit	Fired clay area, covers all sq.; yellow/orange clay.	Steve Clark	6/21/72
13F	115 R5	5	16"-20"	20'x deep area	Yellow/orange fired color; large amounts of shell.	Gene Renfroe	6/21/72
14A	115 R10	3	8"-12"	Pit	Small amounts of pot sherds.	Gene Renfroe	6/14/72
14B	115 R10	3	8"-12"	10'x8" area	Hard yellow/tan clay; possible pit or post hole.	Woody Baily &	6/16/72
14C	115 R10	3	8"-12"	10'x10" area	Hard yellow clay; possible pit or post hole.	Virginia L. Faulkner	6/16/72
14D	115 R10	3	8"-12"	2'x.4" Fireplace	Ring of charcoal around orange clay area.	Woody Baily	6/20/72
15A	110 R5	5	20"-24"	1.3'x3' Fireplace	Pot sherds in post mold; yellow/red clay.	Ronnie Bedsole	6/16/72
15B	110 R5	5	20"-24"	1.1'x9" Pit	N/A	Ronnie Bedsole	6/16/72
16A	130 R5	7	24"-28"	Large area	Could be wall of house; sandy.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16B	130 R5	7	24"-28"	7"x7" Post hole	Dark colored earth.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16C	130 R5	7	24"-28"	7"x7" Post hole	Dark colored earth.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16D	130 R5	7	24"-28"	3"x3" Hole	Filled with pure sand.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16E	130 R5	7	24"-28"	1'x1'x1' Possible pit	Maybe Post hole or fireplace; large conc. charcoal.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16F	130 R5	7	24"-28"	Large Pit	Small conc. Charcoal; dark colored earth.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16G	130 R5	7	24"-28"	5'x6" Post hole	Contains dark colored earth.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16H	130 R5	7	24"-28"	4'x4" Post hole	Contains dark colored earth.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16I	130 R5	7	24"-28"	3"x3" Post hole	Contains dark colored earth.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
16J	130 R5	7	24"-28"	3"x3" Hole or pit/tree hole	Entire area is soft.	Glenda Allen & Eddie Hails	6/19/72
17A	145 R5	3	8"-12"	Area	Basket fragments.	Charles L. Hening	6/20/72
17B	145 R5	3	8"-12"	Area	Acorn concentration.	Bleine Ensor	6/20/72
17C	145 R5	3	8"-12"	Area	Charcoal concentration.	Bleine Ensor	6/20/72
17D	145 R5	3	8"-12"	Area	Charcoal concentration.	Bleine Ensor	6/20/72
17E	145 R5	3	8"-12"	Area	Charcoal concentration.	Bleine Ensor	6/20/72
18A	105 R5	7	24"-28"	Area	Heavy isolation of charcoal.	Richard Cohen	6/24/72
18B	105 R5	7	24"-28"	Area	Heavy concentration of charcoal & fired clay.	Richard Cohen	6/24/72
18C	105 R5	7	24"-28"	Post hole	Bits of charcoal.	Richard Cohen	6/24/72
18D	105 R5	7	24"-28"	Possibly a house wall	Very dark area.	Richard Cohen	6/24/72
18E	105 R5	7	24"-28"	Area	Heavy conc. of very hard chunks of clay & charcoal.	Richard Cohen	6/24/72
18F	105 R5	7	24"-28"	Area dug to 35"	Human & animal bone, lots of pottery.	Richard Cohen	6/24/72
19A	135 R5	6	20"-24"	Rectangular pit	Large amounts of bone.	Karen Holton &	7/5/72
19A	135 R5	9,10	N/A	Possible slave burial	Nails, small fragments skull bone; black film pot sherds.	Ronnie Bedsole	7/7/72
19B	135 R5	6	20"-24"	Post mold	N/A	Harwell Davis	7/5/72



19C	135 R5	6	20"-24"	Post mold	N/A	Karen Holton &	7/5/72
19D	135 R5	6	20"-24"	"See Feature 11"	N/A	Harwell Davis	7/5/72
20A	115 R10	6	24"	Pit	Darkened area; extends into 110 R10 & 120 R10.	Carol Watson&	2/6/73
20B	115 R10	6	24"	N/A	Deer vertebrae.	Richey Parsons&	2/6/73
20C	115 R10	6	24"	7.25" deep Post mold	N/A	Nick Sherman	2/6/73
20D	115 R10	6	24"	1.5" Irregular pit	Large amounts charcoal, bone fragments, large black film & pot sherds.	Carol Watson&	2/6/73
20E	115 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	Nick Sherman	2/6/73
21A	120 R5	6	24"	8.5" Post mold	Small amts pottery; large amts charcoal; few animal bones, large pieces of daub.	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
21B	120 R5	6	24"	5.5" Post mold	See 21A	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
21C	120 R5	6	24"	7" Post mold	See 21A	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
21D	120 R5	6	24"	4" Post mold	See 21A	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
21F	120 R5	6	24"	Pit	See 21A	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
22A	135 R5	6	24"	14" deep Post mold	Small amounts pottery, charcoal & animal bones.	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
22B	135 R5	6	24"	20" deep Post mold	Small amounts pottery, charcoal & animal bones.	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
22C	135 R5	6	24"	Large irregular pit	N/A	Watson Sherman	2/6/73
23A	145 R5	6	20"-24"	13" deep Post mold	Small bone, pot sherds; shell tempered & fired clay with large concentration of charcoal.	Steven Sims	2/6/73
23B	145 R5	6	20"-24"	8" deep Post mold	Pot sherds, shell tempered; some charcoal, many bone fragments.	Steven Sims	2/6/73
23C	145 R5	6	20"-24"	8" deep Post mold	Charcoal & clay; one shell tempered pot sherd.	Steven Sims	2/6/73
23D	145 R5	6	20"-24"	Large pelvic bone	Large concentration of animal bone in pit.	Steven Sims	2/6/73
24A	135 R5	7	28"	5.25" deep Post mold	Small amounts of charcoal & pottery.	Carol Watson	2/27/73
24B	135 R5	7	28"	11.5" deep Post mold	Small amounts of charcoal & pottery.	Carol Watson	2/27/73
24C	135 R5	7	28"	11.5" deep Post mold	Small amounts of charcoal & pottery.	Carol Watson	2/27/73
24D	135 R5	7	28"	16.25" deep Post mold	Small amounts of charcoal & pottery.	Carol Watson	2/27/73
24E	135 R5	7	28"	11.5" deep Post mold	Small amounts of charcoal & pottery.	Carol Watson	2/27/73
24F	135 R5	7	28"	Animal Bones	Probably not a pit due to lack of discoloration of soil.	Carol Watson	2/27/73
25A	130 R5	8	32"	7.5" Post mold	Few pot sherds & charcoal.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25B	130 R5	8	32"	7.25" Post mold	Few pot sherds & charcoal.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25C	130 R5	8	32"	10" Post mold	Few pot sherds & charcoal.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25D	130 R5	8	32"	10.75" Post mold	Few pot sherds & charcoal.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25E	130 R5	8	32"	5" Post mold	Few pot sherds & charcoal.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25F	130 R5	8	32"	5.5" Post mold	Large hinge joint of bone found.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25F	130 R5	8	32"	8.75" Post mold	N/A	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
25G	130 R5	8	32"	8.5" Post mold	N/A	Nick Sherman	3/13/73



25H	130 R5	8	32"	Area	Large area of discolored soil.	Nick Sherman	3/13/73
26-27A	115-105 R10	6	24"	N/A	10'x10' sq appears to be a house floor w/ large	N/A	N/A
26-27B	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	amounts of charcoal & burned daub.	N/A	N/A
26-27C	115-105 R10	6	24"	Large irregular pit	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27D	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27E	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27F	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27G	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27H	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27I	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
26-27J	115-105 R10	6	24"	Post mold	N/A	N/A	N/A
28A	125 R5	9	32"-36"	9"x4" Post mold	Almost black color.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
28B	125 R5	9	32"-36"	7" diam Post mold	N/A	Steve Clark	6/20/73
28C	125 R5	9	32"-36"	8"x9" Post mold	Dark color.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
28D	125 R5	9	32"-36"	Large pit, maybe two.	Almost black c color; 1'11" long x 11" wide.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
28E	125 R5	9	32"-36"	5"x6" Post mold	Mushroom shaped.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
29A	110-115 R5	8	32"	10"x9" pit	Slightly concave on one side; maybe two adjacent	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
					pits; abundant yellow sandy soil; numerous small	Steve Clark	6/20/73
					pebbles.	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
29B	110-115 R5	8	32"	7"x8" Pit	Numerous small pebbles.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
29C	110-115 R5	8	32"	9"x8" Pit	Square shaped with edges slightly rounded;	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
					numerous small pebbles.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
29D	110-115 R5	8	32"	6"x3" Semi-Circle	Numerous small pebbles.	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
29E	110-115 R5	8	32"	7"x6" Pit	Numerous small pebbles.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
29F	110-115 R5	8	32"	3"x3" Post mold	Numerous small pebbles.	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
29G	110-115 R5	8	32"	6"x4" Post mold	Numerous small pebbles.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
29H	110-115 R5	8	32"	6"x5" Post mold	Square shaped with edges slightly rounded;	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
					numerous small pebbles.	Steve Clark	6/20/73
29I	110-115 R5	8	32"	4.5"x5" Post mold	Numerous small pebbles.	Caroline Albright &	6/20/73
						Steve Clark	6/20/73
30A	145 R5	8	28"-32"	Wall	Deep mottled red color & dark colored daub.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30B	145 R5	8	28"-32"	Wall	Deep mottled red color & dark colored daub;	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
					contains several post molds & pot sherds.		
30C	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3.5"x3.5" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30D	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3.3"x2.7" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30E	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3.5"x2.5" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30F	145 R5	8	28"-32"	5.5"x5" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73

30G	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3.75"x2.5" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30H	145 R5	8	28"-32"	5.5"x5.5" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30I	145 R5	8	28"-32"	5.5"x4" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30J	145 R5	8	28"-32"	4.5"x2.75" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30K	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3.5"x3" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30L	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3"x2.75" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30M	145 R5	8	28"-32"	5"x4.5" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30N	145 R5	8	28"-32"	5"x2" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
30O	145 R5	8	28"-32"	3.5"x3" Post mold	Yellow/red sand.	Larry Barnett	6/26/73
31A	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	1/2 of Pit	Soil at surface is dark.	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31B	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	1' Rectangular anomaly	dark humus mottled with red clay.	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31C	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	6"x4" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31D	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	6"x4" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31E	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	6"x4" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31F	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	6"x7" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31G	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	4"x3" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31H	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	4"x3" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31I	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	4"x3" Post mold	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31J	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	1' Irregular anomaly	humus mottled with pockets of sand.	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31K	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	Anomaly	includes two Post holes; humus.	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31L	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	7"x7" Post hole	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
31M	115-110 R10	8	28"-32"	7"x7" Post hole	N/A	Joe Washington	6/27/73
32A	130 R5	11	40"-44"	Pit	Dark brown soil; light yellow clay; charcoal & bone fragments.	Charles Collins	6/28/73
32B	130 R5	11	40"-44"	Pit	Dark brown soil; heavier charcoal deposits.	Charles Collins	6/28/73
32C	130 R5	11	40"-44"	3"x3" Post mold	Brown clay with small charcoal deposits.	Charles Collins	6/28/73
32D	130 R5	11	40"-44"	7"x7" Post hole	Brown clay with small amounts red & yellow clay.	Charles Collins	6/28/73
33A	115	6	20"-24"	Burial	Found across Sq 115; 1.5' wide; bones uncovered in center of pit; brown clay, light brown sandy soil; included is a possible tibia.	Steve Clark, Joe Washington, John Reese	6/28/73 6/28/73 6/28/73
33B	115	6	20"-24"	1'x1.2' Pit	Brown clay, light brown sandy soil, Pit is circular.	Steve Clark,	6/28/73
33C	115	6	20"-24"	1.5'x1' Pit	Brown clay, light brown sandy soil, Pit is circular.	Joe Washington,	6/28/73
33D	115	6	20"-24"	1'x.7' Pit	Brown clay, light brown sandy soil, Pit is circular.	John Reese	6/28/73
34A	125 R5	11	40"-44"	5"x5.5" Post mold	High charcoal concentration.	Connie Adams,	6/29/73
34B	125 R5	11	40"-44"	6"x6.5" Post mold	Dark brown clay; traces of pale yellow clay; charcoal deposits.	Jeannie Bear, Jim Finley	6/29/73 6/29/73
34C	125 R5	11	40"-44"	7.25"x7" Post mold	Dark brown clay; charcoal deposits.	Connie Adams,	6/29/73



34D	125 R5	11	40"-44"	6.75"x3" Post mold	Charcoal deposits.	Jeannie Bear,	6/29/73
34E	125 R5	11	40"-44"	Area	Grey clay area; charcoal deposits.	Jim Finley	6/29/73
35A	120 R5	11	40"-45"	Pit	Dark brown clay/sandy soil; small concentration gravel; charcoal fragments.	Nana Cherry, C. Collins, Larry Barnett	7/2/73 7/2/73
35B	120 R5	11	40"-45"	6"x6" Post mold	Red/brown clay; pottery fragments; pieces of charcoal, bone and gravel.	Nana Cherry, C. Collins, Larry Barnett	7/2/73 7/2/73
36A	105 R10	7	N/A	Two separate pits	Deepest pit is 9"; contained small amounts pottery.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36B	105 R10	7	N/A	4" diam Post hole	Soft black dirt & high charcoal concentration.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36C	105 R10	7	N/A	5.5" Post hole	Dark sandy soil.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36D	105 R10	7	N/A	4" Post hole	Dark sandy soil.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36E	105 R10	7	N/A	7" Post hole	Dark sandy soil.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36F	105 R10	7	N/A	6.5" Post hole	Hard packed earth; 2 pieces bone.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36G	105 R10	7	N/A	6.5" Post hole	Hard packed earth; 2 large clam shells.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
36H	105 R10	7	N/A	3" deep Pit	Bits of pottery and bone.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
37A	105 R10	6	N/A	Post mold	Grain of charred wood post still evident, surrounded by a ring of burned clay.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
37B	105 R10	6	N/A	Charred area	Abundance of charcoal & burned clay.	V.J. Knight	Fall 73
38A	110 R10	8	28"-32"	13.5" diam; 21.5" deep Pit	Charcoal, bone fragments, pieces of pottery; dark brown color.	Roy Robinson, Art Baldasari	2/12/74 2/12/74
38B	110 R10	8	28"-32"	7"x10"; 6" deep Pit	Charcoal, bone fragments; dark brown color.	Roy Robinson,	2/12/74
38C	110 R10	8	28"-32"	22"x18"; 4" deep Pit	Large amounts pottery: Black film, Warrior Plain, incised; several charcoal, bone fragments.	Art Baldasari " "	2/12/74 2/12/74
39A	110	7	24"-28"	7" diam Post mold	Dark concentrations in soil.	N/A	2/26/74
39B	110	7	24"-28"	3" diam Post mold	Dark concentrations in soil.	N/A	2/26/74
39C	110	7	24"-28"	2" diam Post mold	Dark concentrations in soil.	N/A	2/26/74
39D	110	7	24"-28"	4" diam Post mold	Dark concentrations in soil.	N/A	2/26/74
39E	110	7	24"-28"	1.5" diam Post mold	Dark concentrations in soil.	N/A	2/26/74
40	120	9	38"	28"x16" oblong Pit	Depth undetermined; bone, pottery.	L.B. Herring& WW Adams	Summer 74
41	115 10	8	32"	28"x8" oblong Pit	2 Black film & 1 Red film pot fragments.	Lyle B. Herring	6/7/74
42	115	11	41"	boat hull-shaped Pit	Black film, Warrior Plain, Red film, various bones, shells, daub, 1 flint chip, some mica.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
43	110 R10	9	33"	12"x3.75" Round pit	3 Pieces pottery; one shell.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
44A	105 R10	9	35"	11" wide; 12" deep pit	Charcoal.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
44B	105 R10	9	35"	6.5" wide; 9" deep pit	May be a post hole; 4 sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
44C	105 R10	9	35"	4" wide; 2" deep pit	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
44D	105 R10	9	35"	22" wide; 13" deep pit	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
45A	105	9	35.5"	8" diam; 9" deep pit	May be a post hole; no associations.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74



45B	105	9	35.5"	10" diam area	Pottery, bone, shell.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
46	110 R10	9	35"	5" wide; 11" deep Post hole	Bone, 20 potsherds, mica.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
47A	120	11	42"	4" wide; 3" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
47B	120	11	42"	4" wide; 5" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
48	110	9	34"	7" wide; 8" deep Post hole	Soil extremely yellow & sandy.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
49	110 R10	10	38"	6" wide; 9" deep Pit	bone, 3 Black film, 3 sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
50	105	11	40.5"	12" wide; 8.5" deep Pit	N/A	Ann Rutherford	Summer 74
51A	110	10	38"	6" wide; 7" deep Pit	3 sherds, possibly Warrior Plain.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
51B	110	10	38"	12" wide; 7" deep Pit	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
51C	110	10	38"	N/A	2 sherds	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
52A	120	11	41"	4" diam; 2" deep Post hole	1 Warrior Plain.	J.D. McCarry &	Summer 74
52B	120	11	41"	3"x2"; 2" deep Post hole	N/A	J. Howard	Summer 74
52C	120	11	41"	2.5"x4"; 2" deep Post hole	N/A	J.D. McCarry &	Summer 74
52D	120	11	41"	7"x4.5"; 5" deep Pit	3 Warrior Plain.	J. Howard	Summer 74
53A	115 R5	9	35"	10"x10.5"; 9.75" deep Pit	Several large pieces pottery; bones, many shells, one bone awl.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
53B	115 R5	9	35"	9" diam; 10" deep Post hole	5 Warrior Plain.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
54	110 R10	10	39"	9" wide; 4" deep Pit	7 sherds; bone, 2 Mville Black film incised.	Ken Brown	Summer 74
55A	110 R10	12	45"	13"x11"; 9" deep Pit	3 Sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
55B	110 R10	12	45"	10"x6"; 4.25" deep Pit	Half-moon shaped.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
55C	110 R10	12	45"	10"x4.5" Pit	Half-moon shaped.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
55D	110 R10	12	45"	15" diam; 21" deep Pit	Bone, 1 Mville White film; 1 Mville Black film; 2 Mville pointed; 4 other sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
55E	110 R10	12	45"	11" diam; 9" deep Pit	Bone, 3 sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
56A	120	12	46"	5.5"x6" Pit	N/A	Joe Howard	Summer 74
56B	120	12	46"	1"x1.5" Pit	N/A	Joe Howard	Summer 74
56C	120	12	46"	7"x8" Pit	N/A	Joe Howard	Summer 74
56D	120	12	46"	6.5"x5.5" Pit	N/A	Joe Howard	Summer 74
57	115 R5	12	45"	12" diam Pit	Bone, flint, 5 Mville Black film; 4 sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
58	105	12	46"	5.5"x5" oblong Post hole	2 Mville Black film; 4 sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
59A	105 R10	11	42"	4.5" diam; 6.5" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring &	Summer 74
59B	105 R10	11	42"	13" diam; 9 3/8" deep Pit	Bone, 8 sherds.	W.S. Ring	Summer 74
60	110 R5	11	40"	11.25" diam; 4" deep Pit	Bone, shell, mica, 1 Mville Black film; 5 sherds.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
61A	105 R5	11	43"	10" diam; 9" deep Pit	4 Warrior Plain.	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
61B				5" diam; 6" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	Summer 74
62	115 R5	12	46"	5" diam; 6" deep Post hole	N/A	J.D. McCarry	Summer 74
63	115 R10	12	45"	10"x8" diam oblong Pit	N/A	J.D. Brigman	Summer 74



64	110 R5	13	50"	8" diam; 9.5" deep Pit	Charcoal.	L. Hooker, K. Hanks & J. Hutchinson	Summer 74 Summer 74
65A	105 R10	12	47"	9.5" diam; 9" deep Pit	N/A	Bill Adams	6/26/74
65B	105 R10	12	47"	7"x8"; 7" deep Post mold	N/A	Bill Adams	6/26/74
65C	105 R10	12	47"	10"x6.5"; 3" deep Post mold	N/A	Bill Adams	6/26/74
66A	115 R5	14	56"	7"x5" oblong Pit	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
66B	115 R5	14	56"	4"x5.5" oblong Pit	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
66C	115 R5	14	56"	13" diam Pit	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
66D	115 R5	14	56"	6" diam Post hole	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
66E	115 R5	14	56"	2" diam Post hole	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
66F	115 R5	14	56"	4" diam Post hole	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
66G	115 R5	14	56"	4" diam Post hole	N/A	Ken Tippen	Summer 74
67	120	14	56"	3" diam; 4" deep Post mold	Circular; No associations.	Janice Hutchinson	Summer 74
68A	110	17	71"	18" diam circular Pit	N/A	D. Mills	6/28/74
68B	110	17	71"	8" diam circular Pit	N/A	D. Mills	6/28/74
69	115 R10	15	60"	4"x5"; 4" deep Post hole	N/A	Janice Hutchinson	Summer 74
70	115 R5	15	59"	7" diam; 9" deep Pit	Circular; No associations.	Gary Lou	Summer 74
71	115 R10	16	60"-64"	16" long Pit	Grayish daub; charred material; could be a tree stump due to hard area of char in middle. 2 pieces Mville Black film, 1 brownish film sherd, 2 shells & bone. 1 piece flint, 3 Mville Black film, 1 Warrior Plain, 1 Brown film.	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
71A	115 R10	18	74"	1.1'x8' wide Post mold	Oblong; no associations.	CM Foehee	10/22/74
72A	110 R5	14	55"	8"x14"; 8" deep Pit	Oblong; 3 bones, several Warrior plain sherds.	Ken Hanks	Summer 74
72B	110 R5	14	55"	5" diam; 3" deep Post hole	N/A	Ken Hanks	Summer 74
72C	110 R5	14	55"	3" diam; 2.5" deep Post hole	N/A	Ken Hanks	Summer 74
72D	110 R5	14	55"	3.5" diam; 6.5" deep Post hole	N/A	Ken Hanks	Summer 74
73A	115	16	60"-64"	5" diam; 3" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
73B	115	16	60"-64"	5"x4" diam; 6" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
73C	115	16	60"-64"	6" diam; 3.5" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
73D	115	16	60"-64"	5" diam; 7.5" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
73E	115	16	60"-64"	4" diam; 8" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
73F	115	16	60"-64"	4.5" diam; 4" deep Post hole	N/A	Lyle B. Herring	7/3/74
74	110 R10	15	60"	Pit, size unknown	Multi-colored clay. Refer to form for specifics.	Lynn Wood	10/8/74
75	105	18	72"	3' diam irregular Area	N/A	CM Foehee	10/29/74
75A	105	18	72"	9" diam circular Post hole	N/A	CM Foehee	10/29/74

## **Chapter 3**

### **Analysis of Pottery Types**

Katherine Ausmus and Kareen Hawsey

The purpose of our research dealing with diagnostic pottery types was to determine if there was a relationship between pottery types found in certain levels and the chronological order (Figure 1). Further, we endeavored to determine if this relationship could give us a time period for the occupation of the locus north of Mound R. By addressing this issue, we hope to shed some light on who occupied Squares 110, 110R5, and 110R10, North of Mound R - elite or non-elite. Among the questions we will seek to answer are: (a) what was the peak occupation period North of Mound R, and (b) how long did this occupation last.

#### **Materials and Methods**

We began our research by removing all the bags of pottery sherds from squares 110, 110R5, 110R10, North of Mound R. The bags collected represented 160 lots, levels 1-18, with the highest concentration coming from levels 5-10. Through the process of rough sorting, we divided the pottery sherds into two distinctive groups: utility ware and service ware. We examined the decorated and undecorated sherd characteristics from each category to determine types and varieties. This will help us determine the chronological stratigraphy of the levels of Square 110, 110R5, and 110R10.

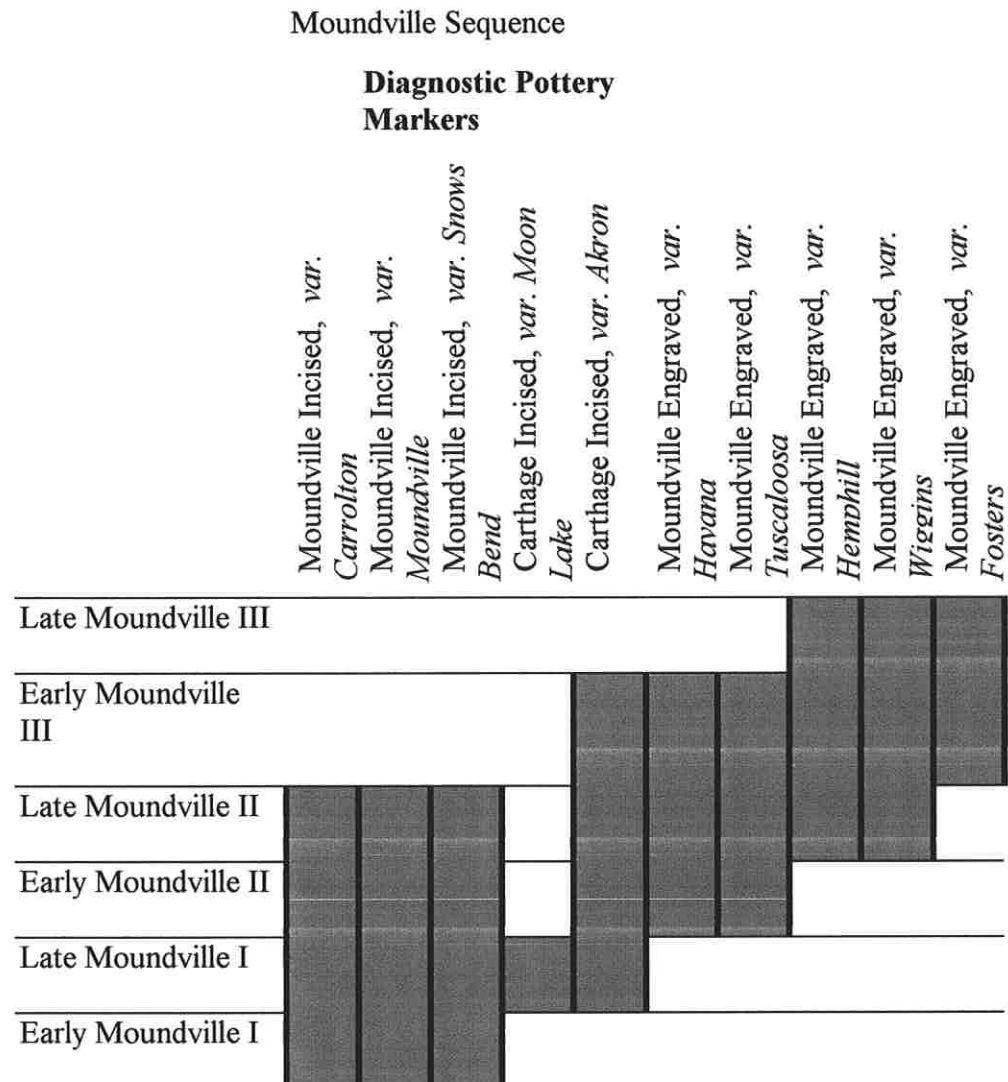


Figure 3.1 Moundville Sequence

Once all of the bags were sorted and typed, we then counted the number of Mississippi Plain, Bell Plain and the decorated sherds to get the numerical data needed to give us this information, pre-existing pottery type forms for Moundville were used as each bag of pottery was examined. Vincas P. Steponaitis' *Ceramics, Chronology, and Community*

*Patterns* (1983) was used as a reference to determine pottery types. The data on these forms would later be added into the computer as our nominal data.

The following is a short description of types and varieties found North of Mound R.

### Utility Ware

Utility ware is unburnished coarse-tempered pottery, usually used to prepare food, and for storage. The most common kinds of utility ware are jars and bowls. Utility ware is the predominant kind of pottery found at Moundville, with a higher proportion at less elite sites. The following types and varieties are utility ware.

Mississippi Plain can be defined as coarse, shell-tempered pottery that is not burnished and lacks decoration. The primary vessel forms for this type are jars and bowls. The Moundville Incised varieties are typically shell tempered jars with smoothed surfaces. They have designs around the top portion of the vessels that consist of arches arranged end to end. The incisions are made when the vessels are leather hard before the firing process. There are three local varieties that were found North of Mound R.

Moundville Incised, *var. Carrolton* has one or more parallel arches that occur



Figure 3.2 Moundville Incised, *var. Snows Bend*



alone and are not embellished. Moundville Incised, *var. Moundville* is marked by incisions that radiate upward from the arch to the top of the vessel. Moundville Incised, *var. Snows Bend* is marked by punctations that are situated above the arch (Figure 3.2).

### Service Ware

Service ware is fine shell-tempered pottery used for serving foodstuffs. The most common kinds of service ware are bottles and bowls. High frequencies of this kind of pottery are usually associated with more elite sites. The following types and varieties are service ware.

The Bell Plain type (Figure 3.3) is shell-tempered though not as coarse as Mississippi Plain. They are burnished vessels that lack decoration and are typically



Figure 3.3 Bell Plain



Figure 3.4 Carthage Incised

bowls and bottles used in serving foodstuff. The Carthage Incised vessels are shell-tempered and burnished with bold incisions that tend to be u-shaped (Figure 3.4). The incisions are made when the vessel is leather hard with the most common vessels being bottles and bowls. There are six local varieties of Carthage Incised with three of them found north of Mound R.

Carthage Incised, *var. Akron* has a horizontal band with two or more lines that are embellished with loops and/or folds. The bands of lines run parallel just below the lip of the vessel. Carthage Incised, *var. Fosters* is usually found on flaring rim or short neck bowls. The design is characterized by “free-standing representational motifs,” usually depicting hands and forearms. Carthage Incised, *var. Moon Lake* designs can be found on either the interior of flaring-rim bowls or exterior shoulder of short-neck bowls (Figure 3.5).



Figure 3.5 Carthage Incised, *var. Moon Lake*

The decorations consist of parallel, usually oblique, line segments that are arranged in zones of “chevronlike” patterns.

Moundville Engraved types are fine shell-tempered, burnished vessels that are decorated with a fine incision that is made before the firing process. This type most commonly occurs on bowls and bottles. There are twelve local varieties of this type with five of these uncovered north of Mound R.

Moundville Engraved, *var. Havana* occurs just below the lip on bowls and long neck bottles. The design is made up of a horizontal band of two or more lines that run parallel to the lip and are usually decorated with loops and/or folds. Moundville Engraved, *var. Hemphill* is characterized by free standing and representational motifs. Most of these motifs are considered to be religious art and are part of the iconography of the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex. These motifs are commonly found on bowls and “subglobular” bottles that can have simple, slab, or pedestal bases. Moundville Engraved, *var. Tuscaloosa* (Figure 3.6) is characterized by a “curvilinear scroll” made up of closely spaced lines, 15 to 40, that encircle the vessel and take up almost the entire



Figure 3.6 . Moundville Engraved, *var. Tuscaloosa*

design field. This type of decoration is always found on “subglobular” bottles with simple, slab, or pedestal bases. Indentations in the wall of the vessel are almost always found with this type of design. Moundville Engraved, *var. Wiggins* is characterized by a scroll-like design that consists of two to five lines that encircle the vessel’s circumference. The scroll is often filled in with a “cross- hatching or cross-hatched triangular projections” and is commonly found on “subglobular” bottles with a simple base.



### **Moundville I Phase**

The Moundville I phase dates from AD1050 to AD 1250. During the early part of the Moundville I phase, Moundville as a large established political center did not exist. The initial centralization of Moundville as a community occurred during this period (see Figure 2). The people living at the Moundville site did not live atop mounds, which were built in the latter part of the Moundville I phase, but on the terrace by the Black Warrior. During the late Moundville I phase, the regional consolidation of Moundville occurred. It was beginning to be a political center, but had not yet achieved the high level of political organization which came later. During this late part of the phase is when almost all of the mounds were started and the design of the plaza realized. It is believed that the lower levels of the excavation units (levels 12-18, or 52 to 72 inches below surface) are part of the Moundville I phase. There are also small amounts of Moundville Engraved and other Carthage Incised types, mostly unspecified.

	Ceramic Phase (Subphase)	Developmental Stage
AD 1600	<b>Moundville IV</b>	<b>Collapse And Reorganization</b>
AD 1500	<b>(late) Moundville III (early)</b>	
AD 1400	<b>(late) Moundville II (early)</b>	<b>The Paramountcy Entrenched</b>
AD 1300		<b>Regional Consolidation</b>
AD 1200	<b>Initial Centralization</b>	
AD 1100		

Figure 3.7. Ceramic chronology and developmental stages. From Knight and Steponaitis (1996).

There was a small amount of sherds found that can be classified as other (see Table 3.1). There were three sand tempered and one grog tempered sherds found in the

lower levels (12-13) and are consistent with this time period. The small percentage of these found in the lower levels is evidence that these types of tempers were being used less and that shell was the more prominent temper of choice.

Phase	Percent Types by Phase															
	Mississippi Plain	Carrollton	Moundville	Snows Bend	Mdville Inc, <i>unspec</i>	Bell Plain	Akron	Fosters	Moon Lake	Carthage Inc, <i>unspec</i>	Havana	Hemphill	Tuscaloosa	Wiggins	Mdville Eng, <i>unspec</i>	Other
Moundville III	49%	44%	9%	0%	26%	32%	43%	100%	0%	63%	100%	50%	100%	0%	37%	0%
Moundville II	38%	44%	47%	100%	58%	47%	43%	0%	0%	26%	0%	50%	0%	100%	35%	50%
Moundville I	14%	11%	44%	0%	16%	21%	14%	0%	100%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	27%	50%

Table 3.1 Percent Types by Phase

### Moundville II Phase

The Moundville II phase, which dates from AD 1250 to ca. AD 1400, is characterized by a high degree of activity in the early part of the phase, and an increase in the political hierarchy. The early part of the Moundville II phase is considered to be the most populated and active period. Life was structured and agriculture was very organized. Moundville as a political center was well-established, administering surrounding and outlying areas along the Black Warrior valley. Because of this enhanced power, the importance of elites grew. This is evident in the number of lavish burials during this time. Toward the end of the Moundville II phase, the population of

Moundville began to disperse, possibly to farmsteads along the Black Warrior River valley. The palisade wall was not rebuilt, and Moundville became the important mortuary center in the region. The amount of burials during this time is very high, while evidence of a large population is lacking.

The Moundville II phase is believed to encompass levels 6-11 (20-44 in). The large concentration of pottery found in these levels suggests that the area north of Mound R was used extensively during this time. This is likely even though the population was moving away from Moundville, because the elites utilized the best land, which would have been the nearest the Black Warrior River. As the feature drawings from these levels suggest, there is evidence of residence (post holes, hearths, pits, and floors).

The most common types of pottery during this time, according to Knight and Steponaitis, are Carthage Incised and Moundville Engraved, with Carthage Incised being more popular as time went by. Representative motifs also emerged during this time. Our findings fit this pattern of chronology. There are high amounts of both types in these levels, with Carthage Incised gaining prominence in the later levels and Moundville Engraved more popular during the early part of the phase. Moundville Incised, *var. Carrollton*, which died out at the end of this period, was also found in these levels. Another variety, which, according to accepted chronology, died out at the end of

					Percent Types by Level											
Level	Mississippi Plain	Carrollton	Moundville	Snows Bend	Mdville Inc, unspec	Bell Plain	Akron	Fosters	Moon Lake	Carthage Inc, unspec	Havana	Hemphill	Tuscaloosa	Wiggins	Mdvlle Eng, unspec	Other
1	14%		5%		11%	12%	14%			28%		17%			8%	
2	12%					7%	14%			11%		17%			11%	
3	11%		2%		11%	6%		100%		8%		17%			5%	
4	3%					2%							9%		5%	
5	8%	44%	3%		5%	4%	14%			15%	100%		91%		8%	
6	7%	11%			21%	4%	29%			13%					1%	
7	10%	33%	5%		11%	9%	14%			4%					5%	13%
8	8%		14%		11%	9%				6%				100%	5%	
9	2%		5%	100%	5%	11%						50%			3%	13%
10	5%		19%			8%				3%					2%	
11	4%		5%		11%	7%				1%					18%	25%
12	4%		13%			6%	14%			1%					5%	13%
13	4%	11%	14%			8%			100%	7%					14%	38%
14	2%		3%		5%	1%				1%						
15	3%		11%		11%	4%				1%					7%	
16			2%			1%									1%	
17	1%		2%													
18																

Table 3.2 Percent Types by Level

this phase, was Moundville Incised, *var. Moundville*. Most sherds of this type were at the lower levels of the Moundville II phase, although some were found up until the end of the phase. Moundville Incised, *var. Snows Bend* was very rare, with only two sherds found, both in level 9. The only sherd of Moundville Engraved, *var. Wiggins* was found in level 8, which was presumably part of the late Moundville II subphase. Moundville Engraved, *var. Hemphill*, which also emerged during late Moundville II, was found in level 9. All

of the evidence from this phase north of Mound R reinforces the accepted pottery chronology.

The sherds that can be classified as other found in the Moundville II levels (7,9,and 11) were one sand tempered, two Barton Incised, *var. Barton* and one Evansville Punctated, *var. Braxton* (Figure3.8).



Figure 3.8 Evansville Punctated, *var. Braxton*

The Barton Incised, *var. Barton* is a very rare local type and characterized by multiple parallel line that have a rectilinear pattern. Other examples of *Barton* have been found in the lower levels of the Moundville I and II phases and are consistent with our pottery sequence. The Evansville Punctated, *var. Braxton* is characterized by hemiconical reed punctations along the rim of the vessel. This type of ware is grog tempered and unburnished. It is not a local type and is believed to be a trade piece that is commonly found in the Lower Mississippi River basin.

### Moundville III

The Moundville III phase, dating from ca. AD 1400 to AD 1550, started off with a smaller population with a high degree of political hierarchy, and proceeded to decline and eventually to collapse. Many of the mounds had been abandoned before this phase began, with only the more prominent mounds near the river being occupied. The Moundville site was still a mortuary site, but it had lost much of its prominence. Very small communities and farmsteads outside of the Moundville site were gaining popularity over the large-scale community life provided by Moundville.

The Moundville III phase north of Mound R is represented by levels 1-5 (0-20 in). According to Knight and Steponaitis (1998), the predominant decorated pottery types for this phase are Moundville Engraved and Carthage Incised. This is true of our findings as well. 63% of Carthage Incised and 37% of Moundville Engraved were found in this phase. As seen in the feature drawings for these top levels, there is no evidence for residential occupation of the area north of Mound R until 16 inches below surface (level 4). The data from the top three levels may be inaccurate because the plow zone, as shown on the profile of the north wall, disturbed as far down as, and possibly further than, twelve inches (level 3). Almost half (49%) of Mississippi Plain sherds were in these top levels. This may suggest that the area north of Mound R was gradually becoming less elite over time. The burnished decorated sherds in these levels fit what was previously assumed. There are many examples of Carthage Incised, mostly *unspecified*, with some *varieties Akron* and *Fosters*. Most of the Carthage Incised were *unspecified*, usually too small to identify. There were three varieties of Moundville Engraved found: *Havana*, *Hemphill*, and *Tuscaloosa*. There were eleven sherds of *var.*

*Tuscaloosa*, from levels 4 and 5, most of which I fit together into one piece. These sherds from the Moundville III phase reinforce the existing chronology.

There were a few sherds which did not fit in with the accepted chronology. Some sherds of Moundville Incised, *var. Carrollton*, which supposedly faded at the end of the Moundville II phase, were found in level 5. Since these sherds were found so close to the dividing line between Moundville I and II phases, it can be assumed that they belong to the late Moundville subphase. Also not conforming to the chronology are sherds of Moundville Incised, *var. Moundville*, which were found in levels 1, 3, and 5. This could possibly be due to disruption of the plow zone or other disturbances. Also found were five sherds of Moundville Incised, *var. unspecified*. All forms of Moundville Incised, according to the chronology, disappeared before the Moundville III phase, so the presence of them in these top layers is not understood. During this later period of the phase is when almost all of the mounds were started and the design of the plaza realized. Presence of the sherds in these top layers is not understood.

### Utility vs. Service Ware Ratio

It is believed that the area north of Mound R was an elite area, as evidenced by the large utility ware to service ware ratio (see Table 3.3). This ratio is based on the

	Utility ware	Service ware	Utility to service ware ratio
Moundville III	1914	750	2.55
Moundville II	1520	1027	1.48
Moundville I	538	464	1.16
Total	3972	2241	1.77

Table 3.3 Utility to Service Ware Ratio

idea that elite peoples would not be cooking as much themselves, and therefore the utility wares will not be as abundant as the service wares. This suggests that all



throughout the Moundville phases, the area north of Mound R was an elite area. Since there is evidence of residential occupation during the Moundville I, II, and III phases, we can assume that the area was either, used less by elites, or that there were fewer elites at this area north of Mound R.

### **Conclusion**

It is believed that the evidence north of Mound R coincides well with existing models of chronology. To the best of our ability we have divided up the levels into the proposed phases of Moundville, and what we found reinforces what was already proposed. The area north of Mound R was a elite area, occupied throughout the entire Mississippian period (ca. AD to AD 1650). The few sherds that did not conform to the chronology could be explained by intrusions, modern (plow zone) or aboriginal (postholes or pits).

## Chapter 4

### Diagnostic Decorative Modes of Pottery

Steve A. Katz

The excavations North of Mound R at Moundville revealed that the area was occupied during every stage of the Moundville sequence. Analysis of decorative modes shows evidence of elite occupation at this area. For this study, we selected six, five foot-squares. They were numbered 115, 115R5, 115R10, 110, 110R5, and 110R10. To the best of our knowledge, the boxes were complete and contained all the material, which was available.

#### Quantity of Material

The excavation squares that were chosen for this study contained 298 individual lots. Of those lots, only 96 ( 32%) of them yielded material that was relevant to this study. The total number of specimens that were identified as diagnostic indicators within the chosen lots came to 201, with the bulk of the material exhibiting various types of painted decoration (see Table 4.1).

<b>Mode Category</b>	<b>Number of Specimens</b>	<b>% of Specimens examined</b>
Painted Decoration	162	81%
Secondary Shape Feature	39	19%

Table 4.1 Number of Applicable Specimens

For the purpose of clarity as well as documentation, the diagnostic modes have been broken down into two categories: Painted decoration and Secondary shape feature (Steponaitis, 1983).

### **Painted Decoration**

According to Steponaitis, painted decoration is the deliberate manipulation of a vessel's surface color by smudging, adding a clay slip, rubbing on pigment, or directly painting on the vessel. Within our excavation squares, eight different types of painting were observed (Table 4.2).

<b>Decorative Mode</b>	<b>Percent of Total</b>
Red Filmed Fineware	39%
White Filmed Fineware	15%
Red on White Filmware	4%
White on Red Fineware	1%
Negative Painted	1%
Red Filmed Coarseware	28%
White Filmed Coarseware	9%
Hemagraved	3%

Table 4.2 Percent Totals of Decorative Modes

The painting itself does not constitute a different type and variety. Instead, it is independently counted as a mode that crosscuts one or more types and varieties. The overwhelming majority of the sherds recovered (60%) were burnished and considered fineware. This lends itself to the notion that this particular locus was occupied by elites who had their food brought to them from another location as opposed to having to prepare it themselves. If the food was actually being prepared at this specific location, we would see more evidence to substantiate this, in the form of more coarseware.

The way in which a particular film is produced varies but is generally based upon clay composition and firing technique. The red film is created by using an rich

(hematitic) clay, which is fired under oxygenizing conditions. Using iron deficient clays and then firing them under oxygenizing conditions creates the white film ( Steponaitis, 1983).

There was one negative painted sherd recovered during excavation. It was white on black, with a small motif present (Figure 4.1). This sherd was found in level 8, at a depth of approximately 24 inches (Table 4.4 ).



Figure 4.1 Negative painted sherd

The original vessel that this particular sherd came from was covered in a white slip and fired in an oxygen rich environment (Steponaitis, 1983). When the vessel had cooled enough to be handled, a design was placed on it using a resist material. Then the surface was covered with a carbon black material, and briefly reheated. After reheating, the resist material was removed. All the surface areas that were covered retained their original appearance and hence created a white against black background. Several hemagraved specimens were found within levels 4, 8 and 13. Typically, hemagraving is indicative of the Moundville I sequence.



Figure 4.2 Hemagraved sherd

### Secondary Shape Features

According to Steponaitis, secondary shape features are used to describe simple elaborations of form which appear on Moundville vessels. These elaborations serve as discrete temporal indicators, which are distinctive and can be very useful in developing comparisons with similar assemblages elsewhere.

Within the confines of our excavation squares, we identified ten different secondary shape features (see Table 4.3). The most abundant of those shape features was the simple handle. Simple handles accounted for 38% of the specimens that were identified. This is consistent with previous research since handles appear as common appendages on the necks of jars, and are well represented throughout the Moundville sequence. Typically, the number of handles, as well as their shape, is useful as a temporal indicator. Unfortunately, none of the handles we found were complete enough to serve in that capacity.

<b>Decorative Mode</b>	<b>Percentage of Total</b>
Beaded Rim	3%
Beaded Shoulder	5%
Cutout Rim	3%
Folded Rim	10%
Folded Flattened Rim	26%
Scalloped Rim	3%
Handle	38%
Indentation	3%
Horizontal Lug	3%
Rim Adorno	5%
Pottery Discoidal	3%

Table 4.3 Percentage of Secondary Shape Features

The next largest secondary shape feature we found was the folded flattened rim. The folded flattened rim made up 26% of the specimens we examined. This particular rim is formed by folding or adding a coil to the exterior of the rim, and is distinctively flattened at the lip. The flattened surface can be horizontal or beveled toward the interior. All the specimens classified as having folded, flattened rims came from levels 7-13, with 50% of this rim mode appearing in level 12 (Table 4.3). According to Steponaitis, the type of rim occurs only in the Moundville I phase (1050-1250 AD).

Several effigies adornos were discovered among the potsherds, and more than likely were attached to a rim at one time. The effigies were that of an owl and the head of a humanoid figure. The effigies were recovered from level five and level eight. These are indicative of all the Moundville phases and are not considered diagnostic (Figure 4.3).





Figure 4.3 Owl Effigy Adorno

In levels 1, 8 and 14 we identified several sherds that have either beaded shoulders or beaded rims. Both of these features are quite common and appear to be part of fish, turtle or alligator effigies. The timeline for this decorative mode is Moundville I (Steponaitis 1983).

We identified one specimen as being a cutout rim (Figure 4.4): it was recovered from level 4, and by all accounts is very rare. We were unable to ascertain where this specimen fit in the Moundville sequence. A small section of a horizontal lug was found in level 8. This type of lug is very common and is associated with cylindrical bowls and simple bowls, at various stages of the Moundville sequence.





Figure 4.4 Cutout Rim

The final two decorative modes identified were a potsherd with an indentation (Figure 4.5) in Level 4, and a scalloped rim (Figure 4.6), which came from level 3. The timeline for the indentation is from the Moundville II to III phase. According to Steponaitis, the scalloped rim is quite frequent but no timeline is cited.



Figure 4.5 Indentation on sherd

Based upon the secondary shape features presented, it would be safe to assume that levels 7-15 of the excavation units belong to the Moundville I Phase , and levels 1-7 constitute more recent phases. Furthermore, the data that was collected is consistent with previous research efforts and is useful as a diagnostic tool.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **Pottery Vessel Shapes and Functions**

Shannon C. James

In this chapter, we are turning our investigation toward pottery vessel shapes and functions that were utilized in the field north of Mound R. This analysis of potsherds recovered by the University of Alabama field school has four main objectives. The first objective is to determine various pottery vessel shapes, their uses, and the quantity of each discernable shape recovered from the specified squares. The second objective is to determine at what level any concentrations may have occurred that could indicate the introduction of a certain vessel shape or a constant rise in the utilization of a shape giving a clue to the rate of residential use at the various levels. The third objective is to understand the location and level where the less common vessel shapes were encountered and determine if there are aberrant reasons for their position. Lastly, the fourth objective is to draw a conclusion from the ratio of service ware to utility ware and offer a hypothesized social class of those who resided in the field north of Mound R.

#### **Materials and Methods**

The data presented within this chapter was gathered from Squares 110, 110R5, 110R10, 115, 115R5, 115R10, and the top level of Square 120. From these squares, 301 lots were examined. Each square, with the exception of the noted Square 120 was examined in full from level one to its deepest level of excavation.

The vessel shape assemblage was determined by defining shape classes and the qualifying characteristics of a potsherd that would confirm the vessel shape. Knowledge

of the shape classes was gained through instruction from Dr. V. J. Knight and exposure to the diagnostic examples of vessel shape classification from the collections on loan in the Anthropology Department. Each potsherd was examined for any such characteristics. Grouped by lot numbers, the shapes were recorded on a working notepad and then transferred to a standard form. Potsherds recorded could have been classified in any of the following categories: jar collar, jar handle, flaring rim bowl, short-neck bowl rim, other bowl rim, bottle corner point, pedestal base bottle, slab base bottle, bottle neck, or other. Information regarding the ratio of utility ware to service ware was gathered and is presented in Chapter 3.

### Results

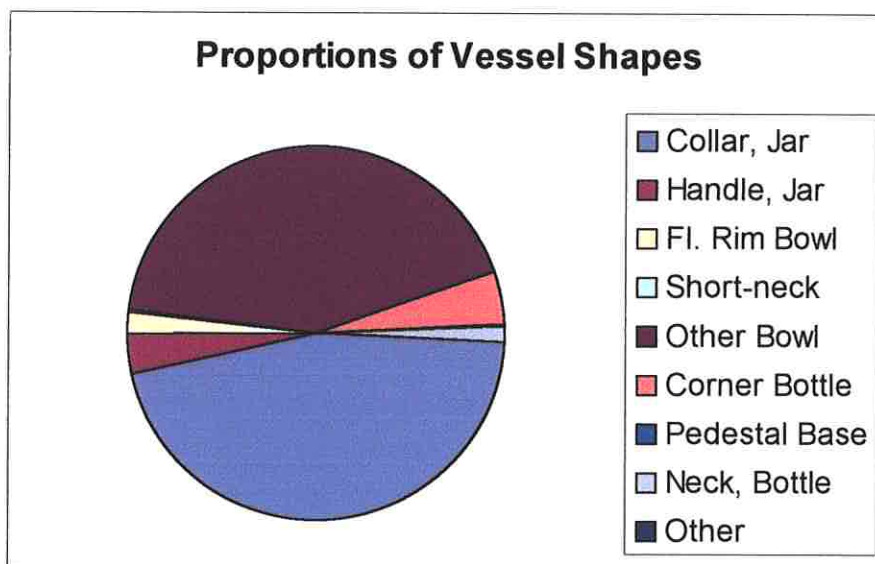


Figure 5.1 Proportions of Vessel Shapes

	<b>TOTALS</b>
Collar, Jar	369
Handle, Jar	25
Fl. Rim Bowl	16
Short-neck	4
Other Bowl	345
Corner Bottle	35
Pedestal Base	2
Slab Base	0
Neck, Bottle	11
Other	1

Table 6.1 Totals of Vessel Shapes

Concerning the assemblage in its entirety, it is easy to see that the majority of potsherds were classified as jar collars or other bowl rims in almost equal proportions. Slab base bottles were not found in the data collection and from this point forward, will not be included as an option for shape classification. The one potsherd recorded as “other” was determined to be from a terraced-rim bowl.

Each shape at Moundville served a different function. Jars were more widely used for storage and cooking. A flaring rim bowl was more likely to be used for serving or presentation. Other bowls were utilized for mixing preparations or serving. Bottles were typically used for storing liquids as opposed to cooking or heating. Terraced-rim bowls were most likely used in rituals or ceremonies (Taft 1996). Based on the figures above, one can see the comparable proportions of the service and utility wares.

The Percentage Reference Table for the next two graphs can be found at the end of this chapter.



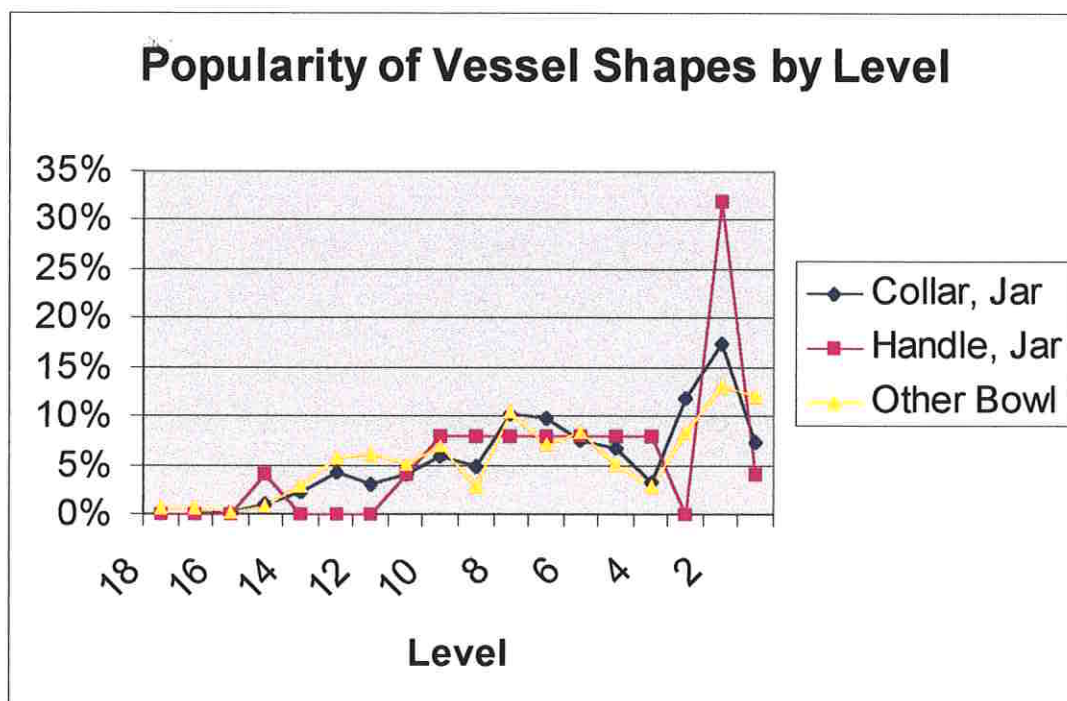


Figure 5.2 Popularity of Vessel Shapes by Level

The line graph above simulates the timeline of the three most common diagnostics recovered from the squares. We can see from the sherds that occupancy as early as level 14 existed and from there, with the exception of some possible sampling error, one can see that there is a steady constant rise within the jar collar and other bowl rim shapes. Both shapes have a .80 correlation showing more activity as time passes. The irregularity towards the upper two to three levels could be attributed to plow zone disturbance. These more common or basic sherd diagnostics can be good indicators of initial residency and the escalation from there on. By charting the less common diagnostics, we can observe that variations in pottery vessel shapes become more prevalent at level eight. From these graphs, one can conclude that residency can be detected as deep as the sixteenth level with a slight jump in the amount of residential activity occurring just after level 9.

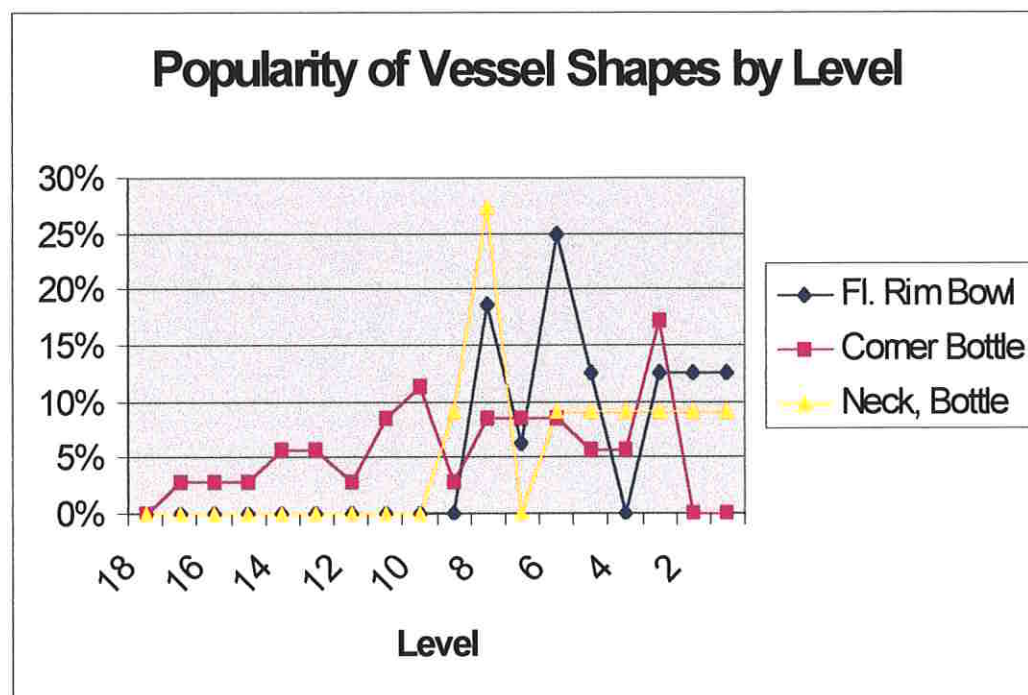


Figure 5.3 Popularity of Vessel Shapes by Level

To further understand the growth rate of residency in the locus north of Mound R, one can think of the levels in terms of Moundville phases. The Moundville I phase dates from 1050 A.D. to 1250 A.D. and its depth corresponds with levels 12-18. Moundville II phase dates from 1250 A.D. to 1400 A.D. with a depth corresponding to levels 6-11. The Moundville III phase occurred from 1400 A.D. to 1550 A.D. with the upper levels 1-5 corresponding to its depth. To identify the beginning of a prominent residential use of the locus north of Mound R, one can conclude that this began during the Moundville II phase, placing it in the 1250 A.D. to 1400 A.D. time period.

The following chart can be used to take a closer look at the pottery vessel shapes that were not included in either of the above graphs due to their scarcity. Starting with the four short-neck bowl potsherds, we can see from the Percentage Reference Chart that

two of the sherds were collected from levels 6 and 13 while the other two were collected from level one. The sherds from level 1 were in Squares 115R5 and 115R10 at levels characteristic of their time periods. According to Dr. V. J. Knight, Department Head of Anthropology at the University of Alabama, the sherds excavated from level 6 and 13 came from squares 115 and 110 respectively are erratic, indicating the possibility of deeper disturbance.

The terraced-rim bowl sherd from the category "other" was excavated from Square 115 at level 4. This depth is just below the plow zone, levels 1-3, but falls into the Moundville III phase time period, which is not unlikely since the shape was in use during the Moundville II phase. The two sherds from the pedestal base bottle were collected from level 10, Square 110R5, placing them in the Moundville II phase. Again, this finding is not peculiar because this shape too was in use during that phase (Taft 1996). The only conclusion that can be made from our scarcer vessel shapes is the possibly deeper disturbance in Squares 115R5 and 115R10.

	Collar, Jar		Handle, Jar		Fl. Rim Bowl		Short- neck		Other Bowl		Corner Bottle		Pedest al Base		Neck, Bottle		Other		TOTAL
Square	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	
110	25%	91	24%	6	13%	2	25%	1	23%	79	34%	12	0%	0	27%	3	0%	0	194
115	15%	67	12%	4	13%	2	25%	1	16%	59	9%	4	0%	0	18%	2	100%	1	140
120	1%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	4
110R10	14%	51	4%	1	0%	0	0%	0	19%	64	3%	1	100%	2	18%	2	0%	0	121
110R5	18%	65	12%	3	13%	2	0%	0	13%	46	17%	6	0%	0	18%	2	0%	0	124
115R10	9%	33	12%	3	44%	7	25%	1	12%	41	9%	3	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0	89
115R5	16%	60	32%	8	19%	3	25%	1	19%	64	26%	9	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0	146
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>369</b>		<b>25</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>345</b>		<b>35</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>808</b>

Figure 5.4 Percentage of Vessel Shapes by Square



On the matter of utility ware versus service ware, we can take the overall ratio offered by Chapter 3, 1.77 and the proportions of vessel shapes and functions given in this chapter to conclude that the locus north of Mound R was an elite residence.

Residence in the area was existent during the Moundville I phase, but became more prevalent during the Moundville II phase. Finally, there is reason to suspect a deep soil disturbance within squares 115 and 110.

Level	Collar, Jar		Handle, Jar		Fl. Rim Bowl		Short-neck		Other Bowl		Corner Bottle		Pedestal Base		Neck, Bottle		Other	
	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
1	7%	27	4%	1	13%	2	25%	1	12%	42	0%	0	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0
2	17%	64	32%	8	13%	2	25%	1	13%	45	0%	0	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0
3	12%	44	0%	0	13%	2	0%	0	8%	29	17%	6	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0
4	3%	12	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	3%	10	6%	2	0%	0	9%	1	100%	1
5	7%	25	8%	2	13%	2	0%	0	5%	18	6%	2	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0
6	8%	28	8%	2	25%	4	25%	1	8%	29	9%	3	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0
7	10%	36	8%	2	6%	1	0%	0	7%	25	9%	3	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
8	10%	38	8%	2	19%	3	0%	0	10%	36	9%	3	0%	0	27%	3	0%	0
9	5%	18	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	3%	10	3%	1	0%	0	9%	1	0%	0
10	6%	22	8%	2	0%	0	0%	0	7%	24	11%	4	100%	2	0%	0	0%	0
11	4%	15	4%	1	0%	0	0%	0	5%	18	9%	3	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
12	3%	11	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	6%	21	3%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
13	4%	16	0%	0	0%	0	25%	1	6%	20	6%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
14	2%	8	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	3%	10	6%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
15	1%	4	4%	1	0%	0	0%	0	1%	3	3%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
16	0%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
17	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	1%	2	3%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
18	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	1%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Totals		369		25		16		4		345		35		2		11		1

Figure 5.4 Percentage of Vessel Shapes by Level

## **Chapter 6**

### **The Analysis of Flaked Stone and Ground Stone**

Jennifer Keeling

The primary focus of this report is the categorization of lithic material into the following groups: (a) flaked stone material, (b) ground stone material, and (c) unmodified material. With these three basic groups established, different issues started to surface and some areas of the analysis received a more in-depth look.

The first issue was the reduction pattern represented within the flaked stone sample and the ratio between local vs. non-local raw materials. One often overlooked recovered raw material was sandstone. Variables considered when analyzing the material were the different types of sandstone, signs of being ground or worked, and its stratigraphic distribution within the deposit. Greenstone celt fragments and greenstone debris could suggest the locus north of Mound R as a possible celt manufacturing area (Welch 1991), or alternatively, simply the use of celts in the area. Lastly, one of the more interesting materials analyzed was muscovite mica. Limited research has been done on mica and this analysis proposes possible geologic sources, the usage of mica in a suggested elite context, and the evidence of it being utilized for craft production.

The main problem of this report is the inadequate sample size. In addition, it does not attempt to fully answer the points raised in this chapter, but is intended to address issues that need to be further tested and studied. Additional methods of analysis should



be employed (i.e., microscopic analysis) and material from the total of excavated squares at the excavation unit north of Mound R incorporated to further answer such questions.

### **Materials and Methods**

Lithic materials were analyzed in a lab setting using, accordingly, electronic scales, manual calipers, and a binocular microscope. Artifacts pulled for study were weighed and counted. Items of particular interest were measured and all flakes were viewed under the binocular microscope. Analysis was hampered by the initial sorting categories used in the 1970s. Most of the bags containing lithic material were not so noted in the accession list, nor on the provenience information on the outside of each bag. Thus, each lot from the area of study had to be examined for lithic material. The material analyzed for this report came from levels one through eighteen in the excavation squares 110, 110R5, 110 R10, 115, 115R5, 115R10 (only one feature was included in this study). Also, some additional material from excavation squares 120, 120R5, 125, 130R5, 135R5, 140R5, and 145R5 were analyzed for the purpose of expanding the sample size.

The total sample for this report included 274 lots. Each lot was recorded separately on analysis forms, based on a previously developed form for Moundville stone, to be entered into Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. The form to analyze data was divided into four sections, (a) flaked stone debitage, (b) flaked stone tools, (c) unmodified stone, and (d) ground stone. A raw material key provided a list of the different types of chert and sandstone that could be present within the sample. For the flaked stone debitage a separate section was added to record the number of facets on the platform of each flake. The reason for counting the number of facets was to aid in the effort to try and determine the stage of reduction in which it was produced. A broad idea of facet

count is that the greater the number of facets on a striking platform, the later in the stage of the reduction sequence it occurred (Andrefsky1998).

## Results

All lithic material analyzed for this study was done in the spring semester of 2000 under the guidance of Dr. V.J. Knight. Shown in Figure 6.1 are the distribution of artifacts. Most material analyzed was sandstone and pebbles (including cobbles and cobble fragments).

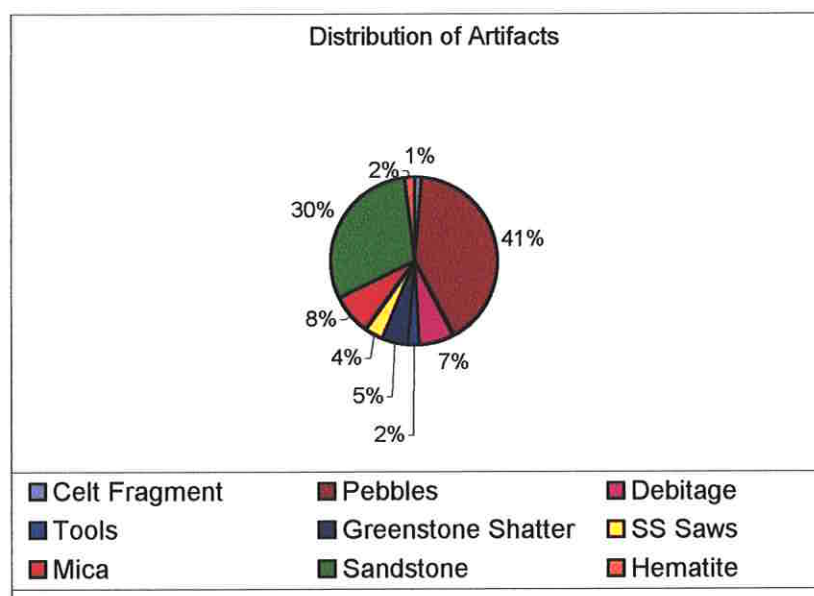


Figure 6.1 Distribution of Artifacts

The flaked stone debitage category included all flakes and shatter (angular fragments). Most of the flaked stone debitage was from a local raw material (Table 6.1).

Raw Material Percentages of Debitage		
	Local	Non- Local
Decortication Flake	33%	67%
Other Flake	67%	33%
Shatter	83%	17%
Total	56%	44%
<b>Total # in Debitage</b>		<b>18</b>

Table 6.1 Raw Material Percentages of Debitage

Only two types of flakes were found in the sample, decortication flakes and other flakes. The other flake category includes all flakes that could not be identified as a result of a specific stage in the reduction sequence or the platform was not present on the flake. Flakes with cortex were labeled decortication flakes and probably represent the primary reduction stage (Andrefsky 1998). Seventy-eight percent of the flakes were less than twenty millimeters in size and had only one facet on the platform, which did not help in classifying the flake.

Points, scrapers, and utilized flakes were classified as flaked stone tools (Figure 6.2).

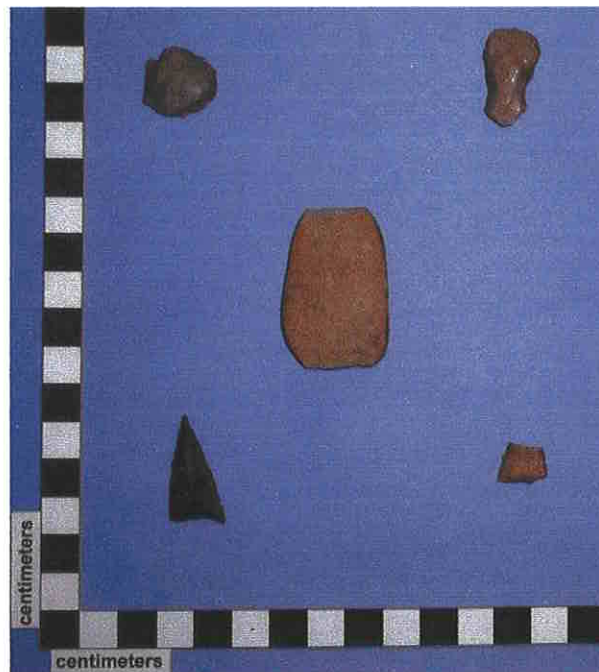


Figure 6.2 Flaked Stone Tools

From the squares analyzed only two points were recovered. One of the points is a small triangular point made from blue gray Fort Payne chert with pot lid fractures (due to excessive heat) and a beveled edge on one of the blade edges. Also recovered was the proximal end of a probable small Mississippian triangular point made from Tuscaloosa gravel. The utilized flakes found possess a worked edge and two of them have two facets on their platform. One quartzite end scraper had usage marks on both ends of the scraper (Figure 6.2).

The second largest group found in the sample was sandstone (Figure 6.3). Sandstone from this area has been sourced to the Pottsville formation that runs into north central Alabama to the northern Pennsylvania Pottsville basin (Mitchum 1960). Thin sections of sandstone palettes studied by Cynthia Armendariz show that this sandstone contains mica, quartz and matrix (mostly a very fine mixture of clay, iron oxide, and fine sediment) (1999). For this report the sandstone assemblage was divided into sandstone categories. Hematitic/ brown sandstone comprised 40 percent of the total lithic assemblage. Of this category, 27 percent of material showed evidence of being ground. Tabular hematitic (pigment quality) and limonitic sandstone composed 30 percent of the sandstone sample. Pigment quality limonite has a yellowish color patina (Scarry 1995). Only 7 percent of this category of sandstone was found to be ground. Another category of sandstone is fine gray micaceous. This form represents 20 percent of the assemblage and is the material from which most of the palettes were made at Moundville (Scarry 1995). Fifty-five percent of the pieces of fine gray micaceous sandstone were found to be ground or modified. Included was one large piece that maintains a polished texture on

one surface. One piece of hematitic conglomerate was found (Figure 6.3). At one end of the specimen, signs of it being ground were present. This conglomerate contains nodules of hematite, limonite, and other pebbles. It does occur locally at the Tuscaloosa formation terrace deposits (Scarry 1995).

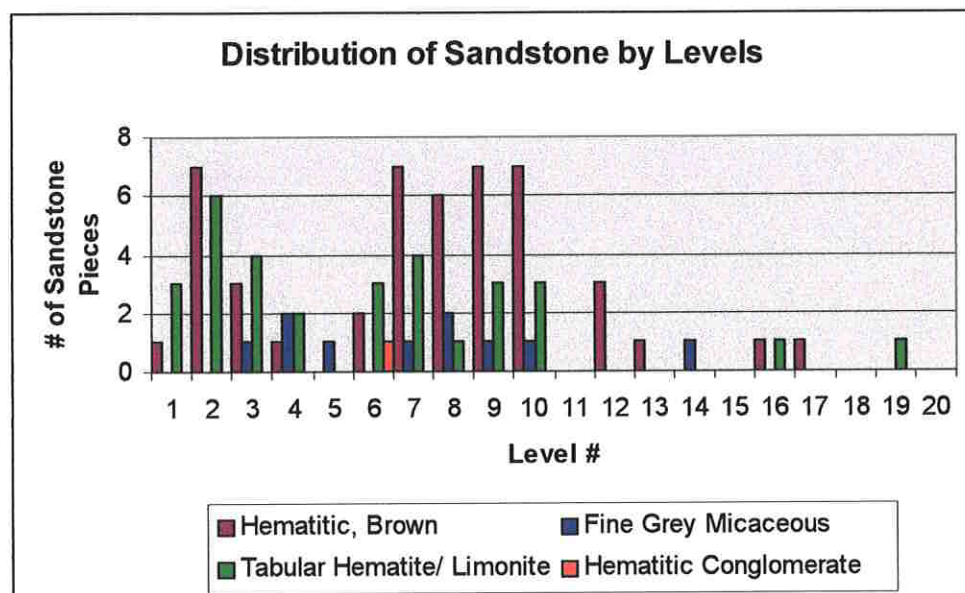


Figure 6.3 Distribution of Sandstone by Levels

Figure 6.3 shows the distribution of sandstone throughout the levels excavated and analyzed for this report. According to Figure 6.3 most of the sandstone occurs in the upper levels of the deposit. (Note: Level 0 is material found in the profile) Also, in Figure 6.3 is a bimodal distribution of sandstone in the deposit. This indicates the importance of sandstone changed throughout the distribution.

Within the sandstone group, nine fragments of sandstone saws were recovered (Figure 6.4).





Figure 6.4 Sandstone Saws

These saws are characterized by being made of hematitic sandstone and have a smooth worked edge due to a back and forth sawing movement from usage. In previous research, sandstone saws have been linked to palette making within the elite craft production areas and in context with greenstone adze blades, pottery trowels, and microblades made from non-local chert (Knight and Steponaitis 1998). None of these other tools except the saws were found in this study of north of Mound R. All of the sandstone saws were found in the upper levels of the deposit (levels 1-10) (Figure 6.5).

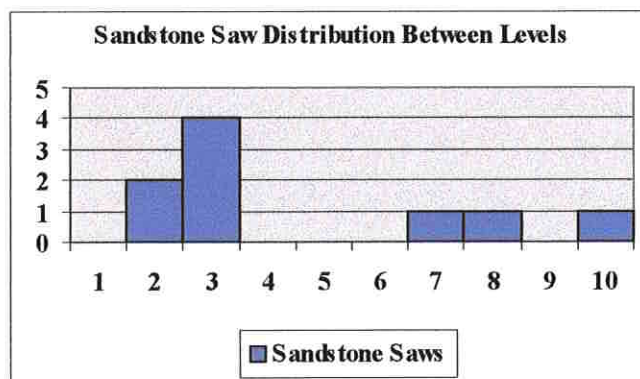


Figure 6.5 Sandstone Saw Distribution Between Levels

Only 2 percent of the entire assemblage was composed of hematite (Figure 6.1). Out of this group, one piece of hematite has evidence of being of a possible anvil or nutting stone. The majority of hematite analyzed for this report was pigment quality, which Scarry (1995) states because of its soft texture and red color.

In the Moundville polity, greenstone is one of the most common non-local materials (Michals 1998). In this sample, eighteen greenstone artifacts were recovered which include greenstone celt fragments and greenstone shatter (Figure 6.6 and 6.7). In addition to the before-mentioned excavation squares, additional squares were examined for this material. Four fragments of greenstone celts were found. The greenstone shatter studied was broken down into three categories according to their evidence of being polished and having a bit edge (Table 6.2) (Figure 6.6). Of the greenstone examined, 71% (a ratio of 5:2) of the shatter is polished. Theoretically, polished greenstone shatter would result from the use of a celt.



Figure 6.6 Greenstone Celt Fragments

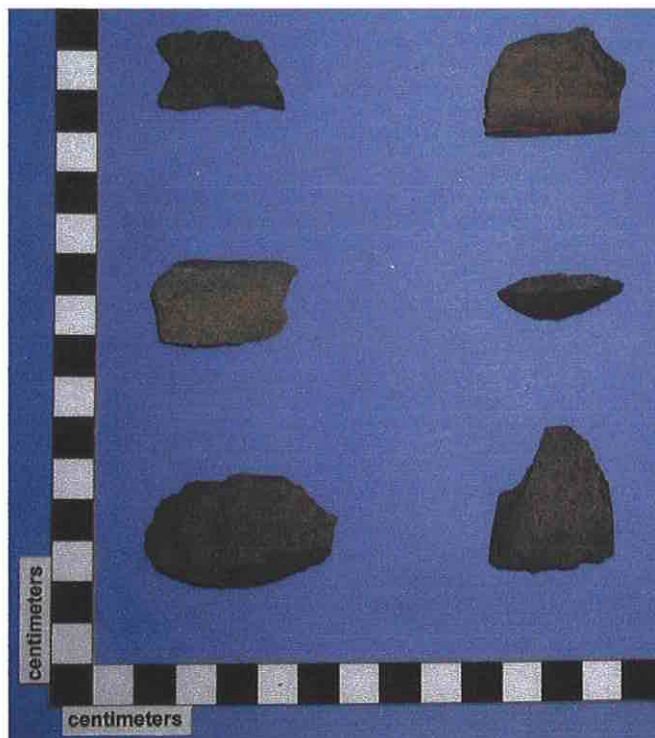


Figure 6.7 Greenstone Shatter

<b>Table of Greenstone Shatter</b>	
Not Polished	4
Polished	6
Polished with a part of a bit edge	4
	1
<i>Total</i>	4

Table 6.2 Greenstone Shatter

In the 1978-1979 excavations at north of Mound R, 25 percent of the entire lithic assemblage was greenstone or other metamorphic rock. Welch notes that C.B. Moore found forty to fifty celt fragments in the vicinity of north of Mound R. Different locations within the chiefdom display a wide-ranging distribution of greenstone material. This leads Welch to conclude that north of Mound R is the primary area within the Moundville site where greenstone axe production is thought to be occurring (Welch 1991). Based on this study, no determination can be made of whether or not north of Mound R conforms to the model of it being classified as a greenstone craft production area.

One of the more intriguing materials found north of Mound R is muscovite mica. A pendent piece made from mica was recovered from this same area (Figure 6.8). This rare decorative piece was also found by one piece of mica that had evidence of being worked. The line of evidence for classifying mica as being worked was it having a straight edge.



Figure 6.8 Mica Pendant

At the beginning of this study only scrap mica (small fragments of irregular shaped mica with no worked edges) was recovered, but approximately seven grams of mica appeared to have a definite straight edge (Figure 6.9).



Figure 6.9 Worked Mica

This edge was usually found on thick books of mica. The average thickness of the worked mica was 1.88 millimeters thick (standard deviation= 1.13mm). The average



length of the entire mica sample was 18.5mm (standard deviation= 13.9mm) and the average width was 13.6mm (standard deviation= 9.4mm).

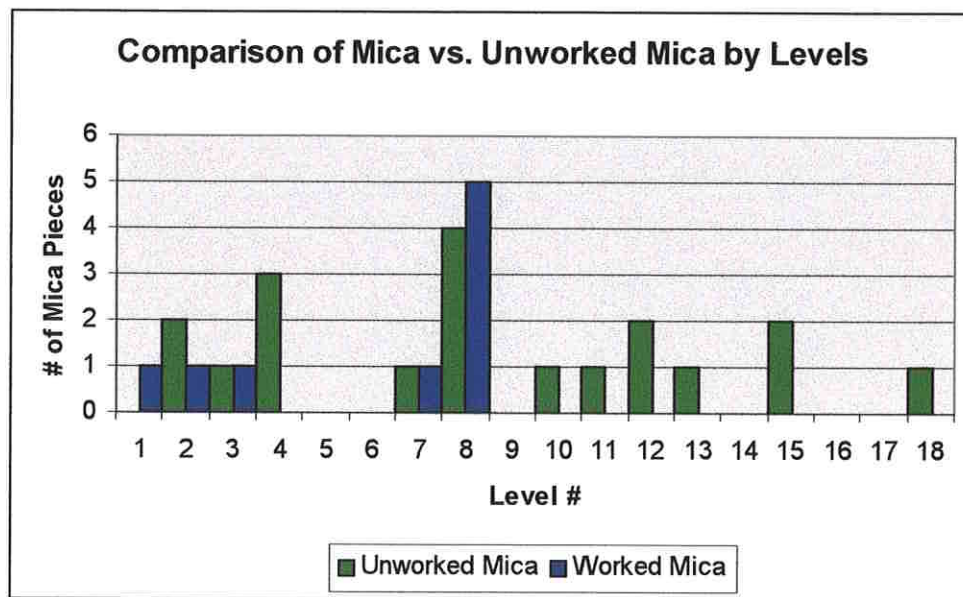


Figure 6.10 Comparison of Mica vs. Unworked Mica by Levels

Figure 6.10 illustrates the distribution of mica throughout the sample and showing that the worked mica occurred primarily in the upper deposit of the excavations. Possible sources for mica could be in east central Alabama and north central Georgia. The Piedmont formation, situated in eastern central Alabama is the largest source of mica within this state (Epperson and Rheams 1994). However, north central Georgia contains large mica deposits mica as well (Galpin 1915). Further research must be conducted in order to ascertain the true source of mica found at the Moundville site. No specific mica working tools have yet to be associated with the material (Scarry 1998). But with the complete pendent and numerous examples of cut mica, its association with craft production at Moundville seems reasonable. However, it has been suggested that mica was used to make a glitter-like pigment (Scarry: 1992).

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, “based on the distribution of non-local materials and Southern Cult items, Peebles postulates that the northern portions of the site were high status precincts” (Scarry:1978). This includes the area north of Mound R situated on the bank of the Black Warrior River (Scarry 1986). This chapter is based on excavations of the same locus north of Mound R at Moundville and supports this model of elite status craft activity. This assumption is based on the recovered non-local items such as greenstone and muscovite mica. Evidence for elite craft production hinge on the greenstone celt fragments, fine gray micaceous sandstone (used for making palettes), and sandstone saws (used for palette making) found in the area of study. It has been stated by Scarry that residents of the locus had access to non-local raw materials that were not attainable by the common population (1986). Further testing of the area through cultural material is imperative to understand and test the models suggested in this report.

## Chapter 7

### Faunal Remains From North of Mound R at Moundville

Jeannine Windham

The residential deposit north of Mound R excavated by the University of Alabama field school shows the typical faunal assemblage of Moundville and surrounding areas during Mississippian times. Though the material used for this study is only a portion of the sample (squares 110, 110R5, 110R10, and 115) and the analyst had no previous experience analyzing faunal remains, findings (using N.I.S.P.) are in accord with previous analysis by Lauren Michals (1981). The most highly represented species in descending order are white tail deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), and western gray squirrel (*Sciurus griseus*) with a significantly smaller percentage of fish and turtle. The purpose of this discussion is to determine the distributions of this primary faunal subsistence and present evidence for cooking practices and marrow consumption.

As stated previously, white tail deer represents the primary kinds of meat at this locus, comprising eighty percent of the faunal remains. Presumably, the exceptional numbers of unidentifiable large mammal remains are also primarily deer fragments broken up by processing, which will be addressed later. It is obvious that small mammals and birds are also strong elements of the diet. Of the small mammals, there is a higher frequency of western gray squirrel (23% by N.I.S.P) than any other species. Likewise, wild turkey represents the majority of bird remains (52% by N.I.S.P). Turtle and fish are not as prevalent in the remains, as shown in Figure 7.1, but are still part of the diet. The most frequently observed species are the box turtle and freshwater drum.

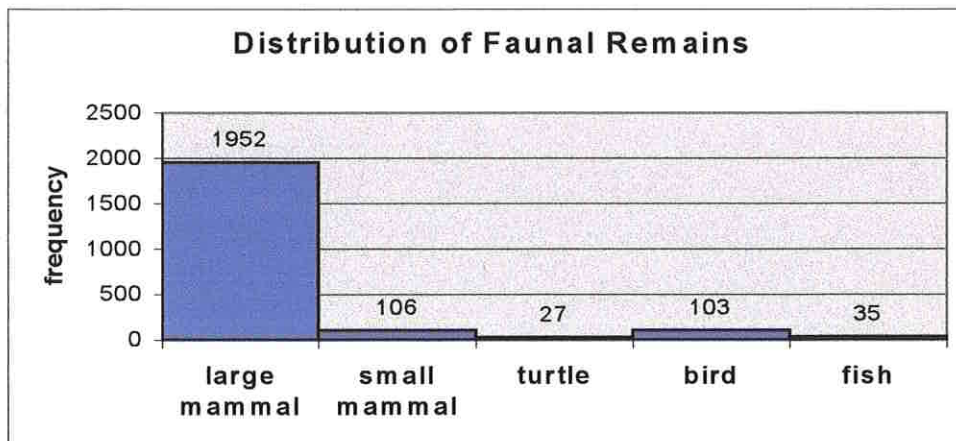


Figure 7.1 Distribution of Faunal Remains

It is worth noting that at the north of Mound R locality there appears to have been a major occupation in its use as a midden for Mound R during the Late Moundville I phase as evident by "patches suggestive of basketloads of trash" (Welch and Scarry 1995:401.)

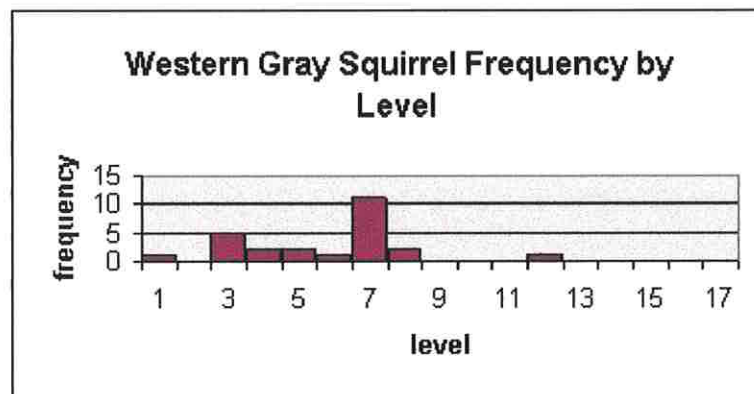


Figure 7.2 Western Gray Squirrel Frequency by Level

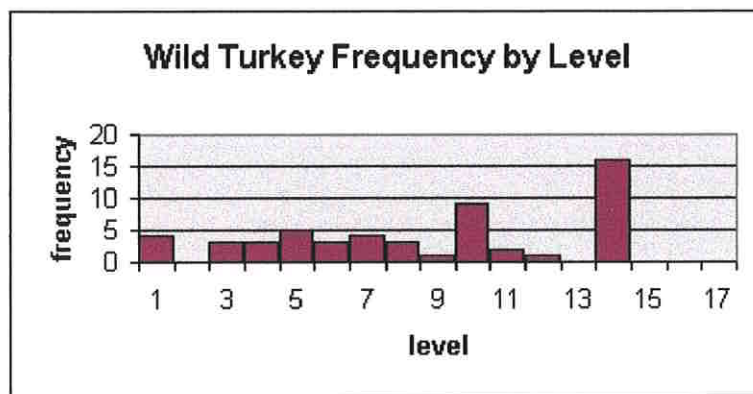


Figure 7.3 Wild Turkey Frequency by Level

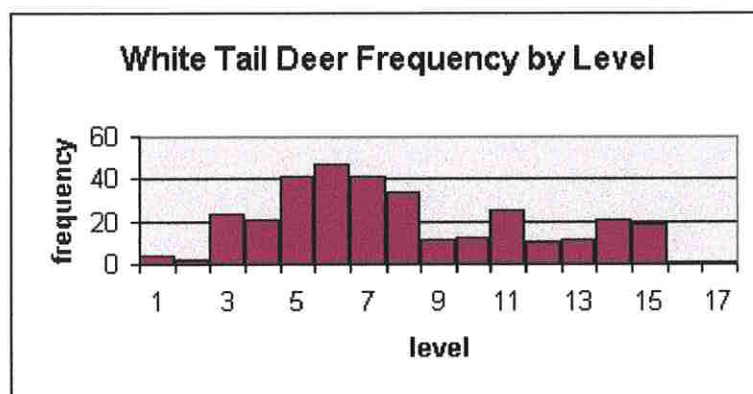


Figure 7.4 White Tail Deer Frequency by Level

The increase of faunal remains in levels 3 to 11 of the primary species (Figures 7.2 -7.4), and evidence of Structure-walls and postholes in levels 5 to 10 (see Chapter 2) indicate a greater need for food and shelter. In other words, one could hypothesize that at these times there was an increase in the population of the Mound R and north of Mound R loci. Hearths are also evident (Feature 12K and 13C pertain to this sample), but there is no concentration of burned bone in these areas. This may be due to the cooking techniques of the women, which will be addressed later.



Based on the current theories of Moundville political organization, it is believed that the residents north of Mound R were of high social standing and would receive choice cuts of meat. Figure 7.5 illustrates the high frequency of ribs versus any other element; however, this is probably due to the frequency of ribs in the skeleton itself. Therefore, choosing other elements for comparison is more enlightening. The distribution of anterior limb bones to posterior is 30:43, indicating a higher frequency of those parts with the highest meat yield. Michals claims that this distribution is the consequence of elite residence (1981), yet one cannot ignore the substantial amount

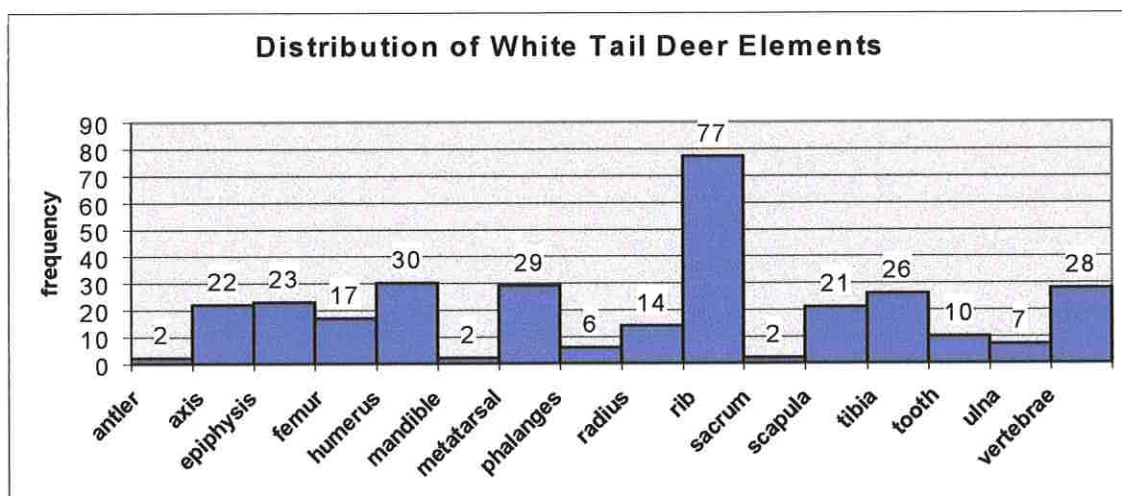


Figure 7.5 Distribution of White Tail Deer Elements

of all deer elements in this sample. From these findings, one can only assume that choice cuts were preferentially received, but the general diet made use of all deer elements. Unfortunately, there is no way to prove this, other than by spatial comparison of posterior limb bones to domestic dog elements (documented as having ceremonial use), which shows no temporal link in this sample.

There are many ethnographic analogies that could account for the oddities in this sample, particularly the lack of burned bone in the hearth features (Features 12K and

13C), and the large number of splintered large mammal fragments. Lyman's (1978:22) description of one butchering procedure in southeastern Washington State is to (a) smash through the limbs separating the distal and proximal ends from the joints and (b) roast the meat as one unit over the fire with the meat overlapping the bone completely. Though an amateur analyst can not be certain of such evidence, this procedure is relatively simple and appears to account for the lack of burned bone in the hearths, and indeed overall. In addition, Sadek-Kooros (1972:369-371), in her research of foodways at Jaguar Cave, Idaho, used a replicative experiment to remove bone marrow. After the bone (with the distal end remaining) had been heated and cooled she (a) smashed the shaft near the midpoint then (b) twisted the distal end free creating splintered fragments and a jagged edge on the epiphysis. It appears that a similar activity was happening north of Mound R during its occupation (Figure 7.6)



Figure 7.6 Faunal Remains

Though the examples given are not directly from the Southeastern United States region, one would presume that such simple techniques would be widespread, with minor variations for the butchering and roasting of large animals such as the white tail deer.

Also, bone marrow is a known source of protein and oil for many cultures; therefore, it is likely that marrow consumption took place north of Mound R. In general, these findings indicate more of a dependence on personal hunting success than dependence on provisioning from commoners. Provisioning of choice cuts probably only happened during ceremony and accounts for the variation of deer elements present. These findings are preliminary and need further study using a larger sample including, differing residential faunal remains within this multi-tiered system to determine more accurately the differential subsistence of elite versus commoners.

## **Chapter 8**

### **Analysis of Human Skeletal Remains**

Paxton Johanson

The analysis of the human skeletal remains from the University of Alabama field school north of Mound R was necessary in order to perform a complete archaeological report on the excavation. The analysis of the human remains included recording, identifying, and interpreting the bones collected by means of osteological research. During the analysis the issues that were addressed were the number of individuals, aboriginal versus slave, and whether the remains were from a formal burial. The evidence used to address these issues came from the relation of remains to features, distribution of the remains, stratigraphy, and field school records.

The analysis began with the process of research. First, we reviewed the last remaining student notebook. This notebook mentioned a possible burial in the entry on June 27, 1973; however, the notebook did not provide adequate information on the feature number, square, or level information to be certain of the location. Since the notebook did not reveal any useful evidence, the field school's feature forms were repeatedly studied for any evidence of human remains or burials. After recording the feature form's notes on human remains or burials, this information was compared with the collection's accession log. The log was analyzed for any indication of bone within a feature. Once these lots were pulled from their boxes the contents inside were sorted through for any human remains. Many of the bags had been missing from the boxes. Some had been transported to the UA Laboratory of Human Osteology, while some had

been misplaced or lost due to error in the process of collection and storage of the material by the field school students.

The comparison of the feature forms, accession log, and materials in the UA Laboratory of Human Osteology yielded the data that was needed to perform the analysis. In order to record the data, a system had to be devised. This data recording system consisted of sheets that were printed with spaces for the provenience, square number, element name and side, number of fragments, and comments. Once these sheets were printed the identification of the skeletal remains began. During the identification process Dr. Keith Jacobi and graduate assistant Stacey McGrath assisted the analyzer by acting as sources of reference due to their expertise in the area of identifying excavated remains. The textbook *Human Osteology*, by Tim D. White (1991) was also used as a pictorial reference.

The first problem encountered was incorrect identification of the bone on the bags by previous students. Another problem was that some of the bone that was mentioned in the feature forms turned up missing. This was attributed again to errors in collection and storage during the field school. One of the main concentrations of remains housed in the UA Laboratory of Human Osteology and labeled as north of Mound R had the designation 8N2E in the provenience, which was not a University of Alabama provenience. After consulting with Dr. Knight, he stated that the designation was from a University of Michigan excavation in the same locus in 1978. He later discovered that the 8N2E designation was a square just north of squares 110 and 115 of the University of Alabama field school excavation.



After reevaluation of the data collected, it was determined that there were three main areas of bone distribution. One of the areas of distribution was located along the west wall of Square 105R5. Another area of distribution was in the southern portion of Square 135R5. The last main area of distribution was in the 8N2E section that was reported to be just north of Squares 100 and 115. The feature forms revealed that there were burials in Squares 105R5 and 135R5. These features were numbered Feature 10 and Feature 19, respectively. These features corresponded with the areas of bone concentration, indicating that they were actually burials. In the feature forms there was also mention of a burial in Square 115 with a mention of a tibia present. However, there was not any bone found within the collection that was labeled from Square 115.

Feature 19 in Square 135R5 contained four fragments of a small child or infant's parietal bones. These bones were distinguished by a hallmark feature of the parietals, the parietal striae. However, the fragments were too small to determine the side from which they came from. These parietal fragments were the only bones found in the feature. There was not any way to determine the sex of the individual. The parietal bones were so small that it was obvious that they were from a small child or infant. The feature itself was a rectangular pit beginning in level 6 (20-24 inches) and extending to level 10 (36-40 inches). There was not enough stratigraphic information recorded on the feature forms to determine whether or not the burial intruded through the plow zone, indicating a slave burial. However, twelve rectangular headed iron nails were found within the feature. This was the definitive proof that it was not an aboriginal burial. The nails were probably from a coffin that had decomposed because there was no mention of any wood found within the feature. It was determined that the burial was that of a child or infant slave.

Feature 10 in Square 105R5 was a rectangular pit that went down to level 6 (20-24 inches). The feature directly abutted the west wall of the square and contained remains including the first metacarpal, a fragmented sacrum, three phalanges, two rib fragments, and a patella. The individual buried in this pit was determined to be an adult evident from the fragmented sacrum. In all, there were twenty sacral fragments. However, the largest piece was that of the main body of the sacrum. On the main body, the transverse lines were present. These transverse lines mark points of fusion between adjacent vertebrae. The sacrum is composed of vertebrae that fuse around the age of fourteen. Since these lines were present and the sacrum was fully fused, the individual was at least fourteen years old. There were no bones present that could have been used to sex the individual. Upon investigation of the west wall profile of Square 105R5, it was evident that this was not an aboriginal burial. The vertical stratigraphy shows that the feature was a pit intruding through the plow zone. This intrusion sequence indicates construction of the pit and placement of the body after the ground had been plowed. It was determined that this burial was that of a slave related to plantation activity in the early 1800s.

The only other bones found from the University of Alabama field school excavation were two incomplete tibias. These two tibias, one right and one left, were not indicated to be from a feature, but had the word "debris" on the provenience. Since the word debris had been placed in the provenience instead of a square number it could not be linked to any square within the excavation unit. However, upon review of the feature forms, the note on Feature 33 indicated the presence of a possible tibia. This feature 33 was reported to be a burial pit that was in Square 115 and went down to level 6 (20-24

inches). The pit was an oval shaped pit oriented north and south, with the northern end of the pit extending into the north wall of the square. The 8N2E excavation unit of the University of Michigan was reported to be on the other side of the north walls of 110 and 115. The bones contained within Unit 8N2E were an ulna, right humerus, left acromial end of a clavicle, right sternal end of a clavicle, two spinous processes of vertebrae, thirteen rib fragments, a left acromial process, a right fifth metacarpal, a left navicular, two left scapular fragments, fragmented right scapula, right first rib, and right acromial process. All of these bones are that of the upper body. They are confined to the hands, arms, shoulders, and spine, whereas the two tibias found are that of the lower leg. It was determined that the Unit 8N2E burial could be the upper portion of the same individual from the burial in Feature 33, since the pit extends into the north wall and Unit 8N2E was directly north of Squares 110 and 115.

Upon analysis of the profile of the squares, it is evident that there was a plow zone that was not intruded by the pit. This indicates that the construction of the pit took place before the plowing of the field. Since the pit was constructed before the plowing, it was evident that the pit was an aboriginal burial. Upon analysis of the bone it was determined that the individual was an adult due to the size of the bones found; the humerus was too large to be that of a child or infant. The tibia probably came from Feature 33 and thus from the same adult aboriginal burial as the one recovered from Unit 8N2E by the University of Michigan.

The ultimate conclusion that can be made from the human skeletal analysis of the excavated squares north of Mound R is that there were three burials. The burial located in Feature 19 in square 135R5 was that of a small child or infant slave burial, with the

major evidence being the iron nails found in association with it. The burial in Feature 10 in square 105R5 was that of an adult slave, with the major evidence being the intrusion through the plow zone. The burial in Feature 33 in Square 115 and Unit 8N2E was an adult aboriginal burial, based upon the intact plow zone.

## **Chapter 9**

### **Conclusions**

Klinton J. Baggett

Based on the preceding analyses, it is apparent that the area north of Mound R had several roles in prehistory. It seems that during the Late Moundville I and Early Moundville II phases the area was mainly residential. This is supported by the physical stratigraphy that shows evidence of occupation starting in level 14 where possible postholes are prevalent. This is also where most of the faunal remains occurred. Peak occupation of the area occurs in levels 5-10. This is based on three separate wall trenches that were uncovered and the large amounts of pottery found in these levels. It is also in these levels that most of the sandstone and greenstone were found. By the Moundville III phase it seems that the area was mainly used as a midden, though it is hard to tell because of plow zone intrusion.

It also seems that the locus north of Mound R was an elite area throughout the Moundville sequence. This is in part based on decorative modes of pottery showing diagnostically elite pottery. Certain modes includes cut-out rims, negative painted sherds, and effigy adornos. Analysis of stone indicates likely elite manufacturing taking place. Greenstone celt fragments, sandstone saws, and a mica pendant lend support to this idea.

These conclusions are based on a relatively small sample size. Thus, a more thorough analysis of the area north of Mound R is needed to substantiate these claims.



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