In summary, the excavations at 7K-C-194A and nearby sites can serve as a basis for future excavations in the Leipsic River drainage and for comparisons with sites in other drainages in the region. Excavation at these sites would also address research questions regarding settlement patterns, site chronology, and lithic procurement and utilization, and would greatly enhance our understanding of prehistory in the Leipsic River drainage and on the Delmarva Peninsula. Consequently, four of these sites (7K-C-194, 7K-C-194A, 7K-C-195, and 7K-C-203) are considered to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a district. A completed Determination-of-Eligibility form is included in Appendix IV.

7K-C-360

7K-C-360 is located on an unplowed, well-drained sandy knoll in a wooded area on the north side of Dyke Branch approximately one mile (1.61 km) southeast of the Leipsic River and east of Cheswold in northeastern Kent County, Delaware (Figure 2). The terrain in the nearby vicinity of the site contains intermittent sandy rises interspersed with lower, poorly-drained areas. The knoll on which the site lies is approximately 61m x 23m in size and is aligned in a north-south direction. The site, which measures 30m x 40m in dimension, is situated on the northern half of the knoll. To the east and west, the knoll drops off steeply to seasonally inundated low swampy areas. The entire site is unplowed and all strata are intact. Phase II tests were excavated in all directions around the area of highest artifact density as determined by Phase I testing. The limits of the site were determined by artifact distributions and topographic features. The boundaries of the site are shown in Figure 60 and correspond to the limits of Phase II testing.

Phase I Summary

Phase I testing consisted of a series of shovel test pits placed along the center line of the right-of-way extending from Kent 330 to Kent 345. Shovel Test Pits 19-66 and 19-68, which comprise this site, produced several quartz and cryptocrystalline flakes and a jasper uniface. Because these cultural materials were recovered from a landscape with high predicted site promise, it was believed that this site held still further potential for significance. It was, therefore, determined that Phase II testing was warranted (Bachman et al. 1988).

Phase II Results

Phase II testing consisted of 33 1m x 1m test units. The limits of the site and the locations of all Phase II tests and features are shown in Figure 60. Soil stratigraphy at 7K-C-360 is relatively uniform. Figure 61 shows a typical stratigraphic sequence. This sequence was taken from the north wall of Test Unit N20E90 in the northeastern portion of the site and was excavated to a depth of 70 cm below ground surface. The "A" Horizon consisted of dark organic gray-brown sandy silt and extended to a depth of approximately 6 cm below ground surface. Below this horizon, the "B1" Horizon (arbitrary Levels 2-6) consisted of yellow-brown clayey sands. The site's location on a sandy knoll precludes any source of sediment deposition other than by aeolian processes. For such aeolian deposition, significant denudation of the local vegetation is necessary, implying that there were major episodes of dry climates in the local area during the Holocene. The stratigraphy of 7K-C-360, which can be dated by the presence of artifacts and cultural features, provides data on the timing of the episodes of dry climate and vegetation denudation in the local area.

The "A" Horizon contained a high organic content as would be expected from a surface soil, and the "B1" Horizon contained charcoal flecks and prehistoric artifacts, with the artifacts found to a depth of 60 cm below ground surface (Figure 61). The majority of artifacts, however, were recovered from intact yellow-brown silty sand soil at depths ranging between 20 cm and 40 cm below the modern ground surface. The yellow-brown silty "B1" Horizon soil was underlain by a brown clayey sand with gravels probably of Pleistocene age. In several units, artifacts were found all the way down to this soil change at depths of 90-110 cm below ground surface. The soil stratigraphy indicates that the site has not been disturbed and that the artifact distributions are in good context. More detailed soil and artifact analyses and site interpretations of 7K-C-360 are provided by Riley, Watson and Custer (1993).

FIGURE 60

Site 7K-C-360 - Site Limits and Location of all Phase II Tests

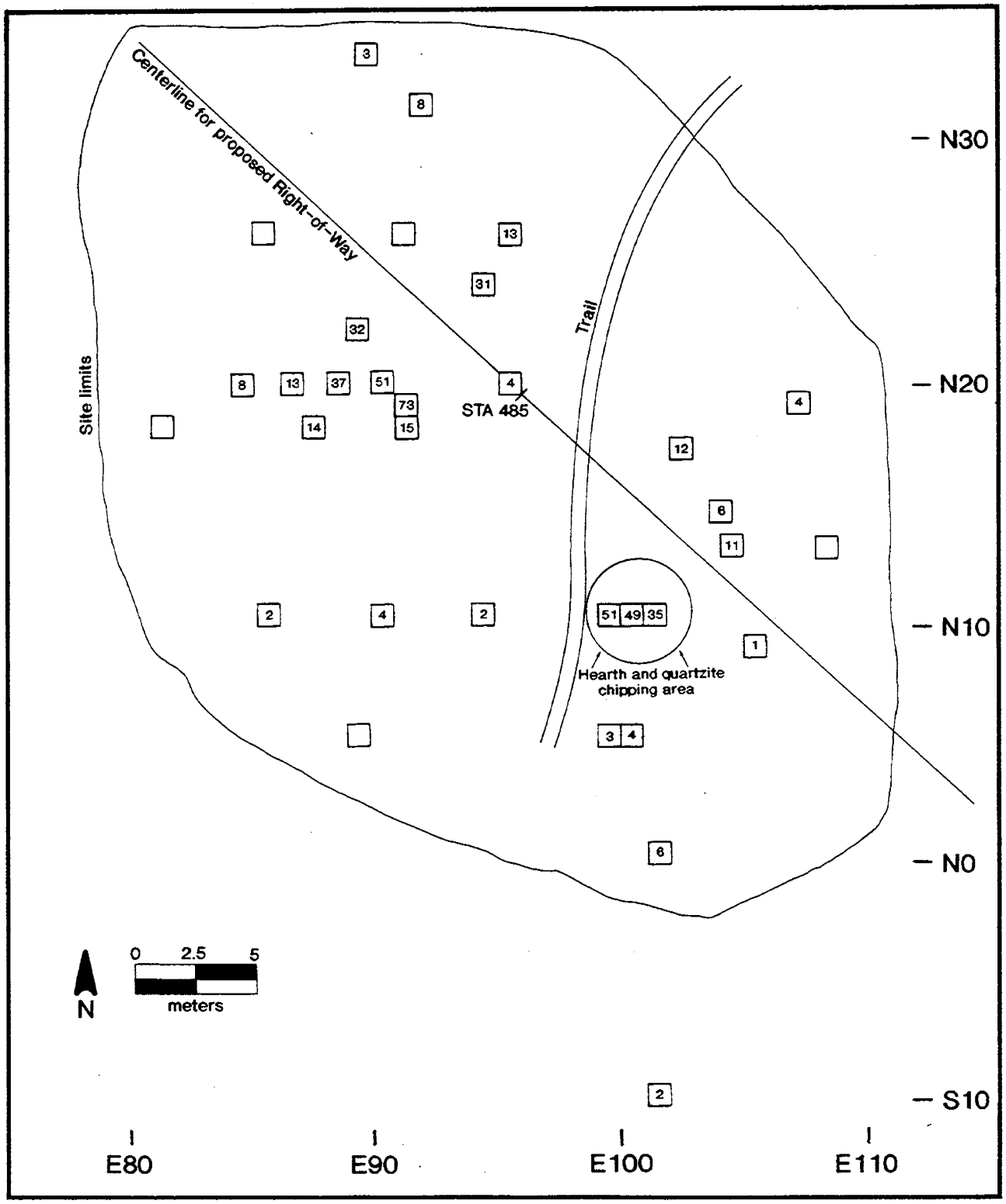


FIGURE 61

Site 7K-C-360 - Stratigraphic Profile from the North Wall of Test Unit N20E90

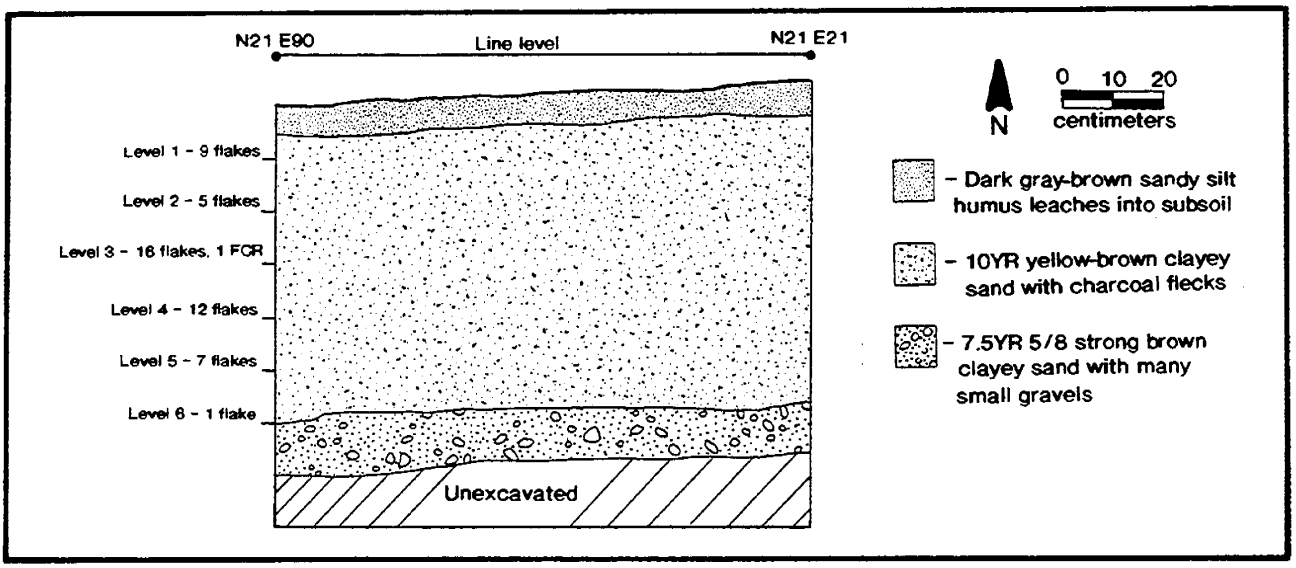
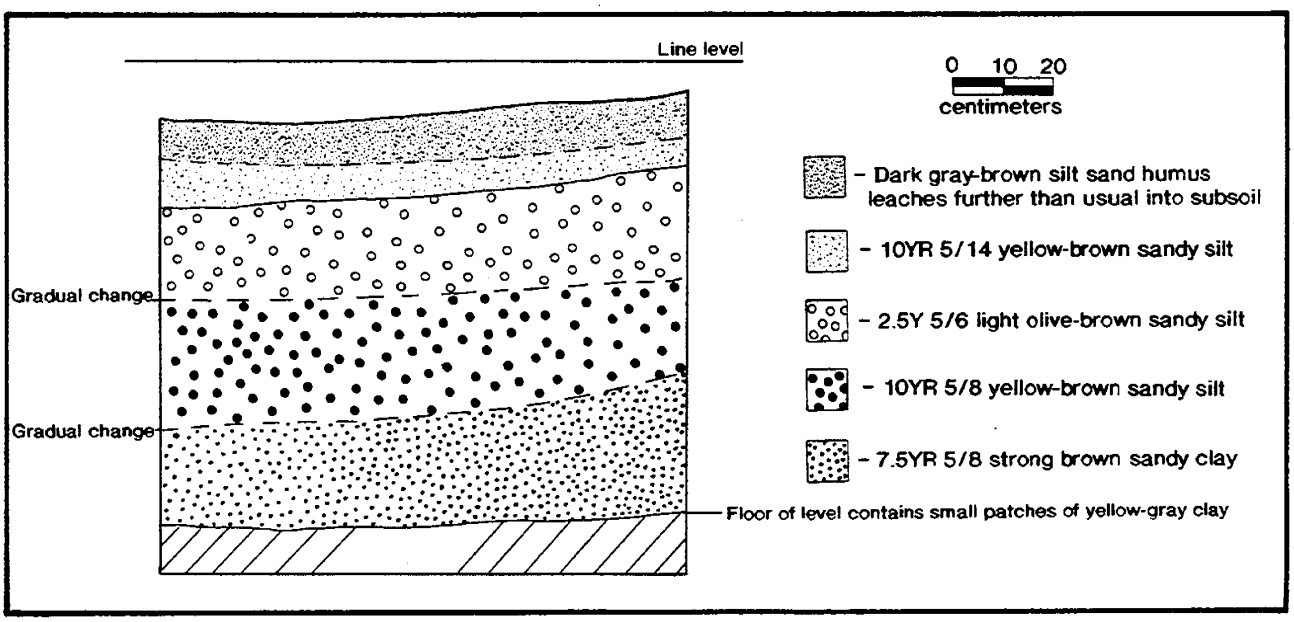


FIGURE 62

Site 7K-C-360 - South Wall Profile from Test Unit N10E100 of Feature Area



Two possible features were located during the Phase II testing in an area of three contiguous test units in the southeastern corner of the site. This area, composed of Test Units N10E99, N10E100, and N10E101, contained concentrations of fire-cracked rocks and quartzite chipping debris (Figure 60). A soil profile taken from the south wall of Test Unit N10E100 shows a shallow humus layer of gray-brown silty sand and a shallow interface zone where humus leached down to mix with a yellow-brown sandy silt subsoil (Figure 62). Beneath this level the subsoil changes gradually down through the next 60 cm from light olive-brown sandy silt to yellow-brown sandy silt to strong brown sandy clay with patches of yellow-gray clay in the floor. Excavation of these three units produced a total of 54 fire-cracked rocks (Figure 63), the majority of which came from Level 3 (30 cm below ground surface). These units also produced 77 flakes, 64 of which (83%) were quartzite (Figure 64). The majority of these quartzite flakes came from Level 4 (40 cm below ground surface), but were also present in all other levels from Level 1 through Level 8 (80 cm below ground surface). Only nine percent of the quartzite flakes recovered from the chipping area had cortex, indicating the possibility of long-distance lithic procurement forays or trade relations and perhaps some supplementary cobble core utilization from a nearby cobble bed. Many of the waste flakes from the lithic reduction activities which are indicated by this potential feature measured from 1.2 cm to 3.5 cm in length. Some of the larger flakes were found in association with smaller flakes of the same material and two quartzite cores were found in association with quartzite flakes and fire-cracked rock in this area (Figure 65).

The relatively high density of quartzite debitage suggests that it was a preferred material for the chipped stone tool needs of the site's occupants and may have been purposely selected and brought to the site for reduction. It is also possible that the quartzite was being used for the manufacture of functionally specific tool types. Quartzite tools have durable edges that are generally not as sharp as cryptocrystalline tools. They make good tools for chopping, gouging, and gross cutting of wood, bone, or animal tissue. It is possible that the quartzite in this feature was used for these purposes. Another quartzite chipping area, though much more intense, was found on "Hill B" at the Dover Downs site (7K-C-365B). No radio-carbon dates are available from Hill B. Although no diagnostic artifacts were found in this particular concentration at 7K-C-360, diagnostic points dating to the Archaic Period were found in other test units at 7K-C-360 in excavation Levels 4 and 5, the same levels--along with Level 3--that produced the majority of quartzite flakes. Data from Archaic sites in the Mid-Atlantic region suggest that there was a reduction in focus on cryptocrystalline materials in the Archaic Period from that in the Paleo-Indian Period. It has been hypothesized that this reduction resulted from the exploitation of newly emerging environments that led to the discovery and utilization of alternative lithic sources (Goodyear 1979; Stewart 1980). Although jasper, chert, and chalcedony are conspicuously present in the debitage from this site, quartzite and quartz are well represented, and lesser quantities of argillite, rhyolite, ironstone, and schist were also recovered.

A third possible feature was located in Test Unit N31E92. This unit contained a concentration of fire-cracked rock largely confined to the southwest corner of the unit in Level 4 (40 cm below ground surface) (Figure 63). Another possible hearth area was located in Test Unit N24E94, which produced a concentration of fire-cracked rocks in Level 3 (30 cm below ground surface) (Figure 63).

Three diagnostic artifacts were found at the site (Figure 66). The first is a jasper bifurcated point base dating to the Early Archaic Period which was found in Level 5 (50 cm below ground surface) of Test Unit N13E104 (Figure 66-A). The second diagnostic artifact is a jasper bifurcated point also dating to the Archaic Period which was found in Level 4 (40 cm below ground surface) of Test Unit N20E88 (Figure 66-B). The third diagnostic artifact was found in Level 3 (30 cm below ground surface) of Test Unit N22E89 and is a chalcedony contracting stem point dating to the Woodland I Period (Figure 66-C). No prehistoric ceramics were identified at the site. Other artifacts recovered at the site include utilized flakes, flake tools, scrapers, cores, and shatter. A summary catalog of prehistoric artifacts recovered in Phase II excavations is shown in Table 11. Since no late stage biface rejects or discards of any kind were found at the site, it does not appear as if depleted tool kits were being replenished with fresh tools. Furthermore, the presence of relatively large flakes indicates the likelihood that core reduction was an important activity at the site.

In sum, the soil stratigraphy at the site indicates that the site has not been disturbed and that the artifact distributions are in good context. Phase II testing located a quartzite chipping concentration, a possible hearth feature, and diagnostic projectile points dating to the Archaic and Woodland I periods. It appears as if the site was revisited from time to time by a small band of people who spent a day or two reducing cores and perhaps finishing tools for use there or at nearby locations.

FIGURE 63

Site 7K-C-360 - Concentration of Fire-Cracked Rock

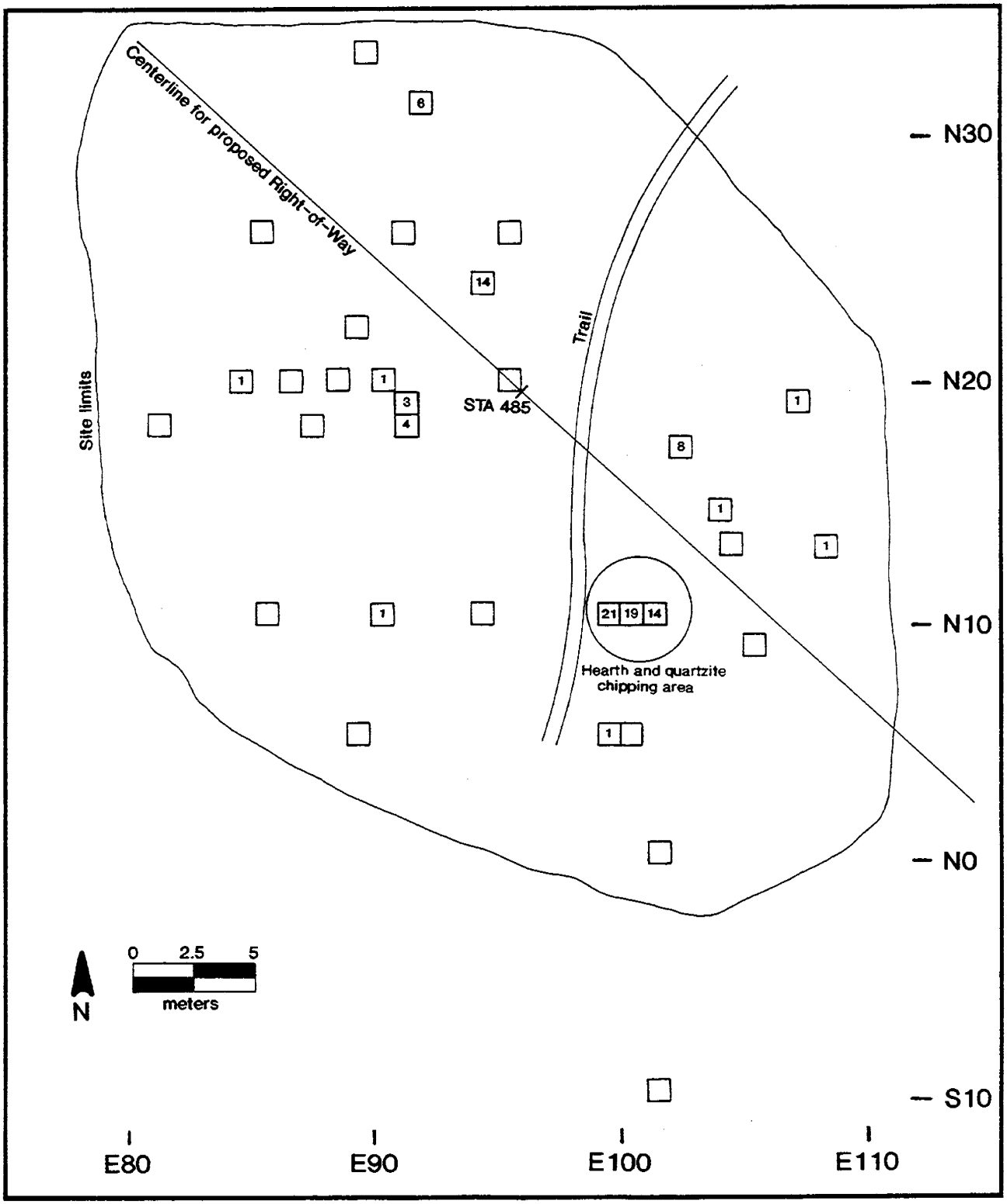


FIGURE 64

Site 7K-C-360 - Concentration of Quartzite Debitage

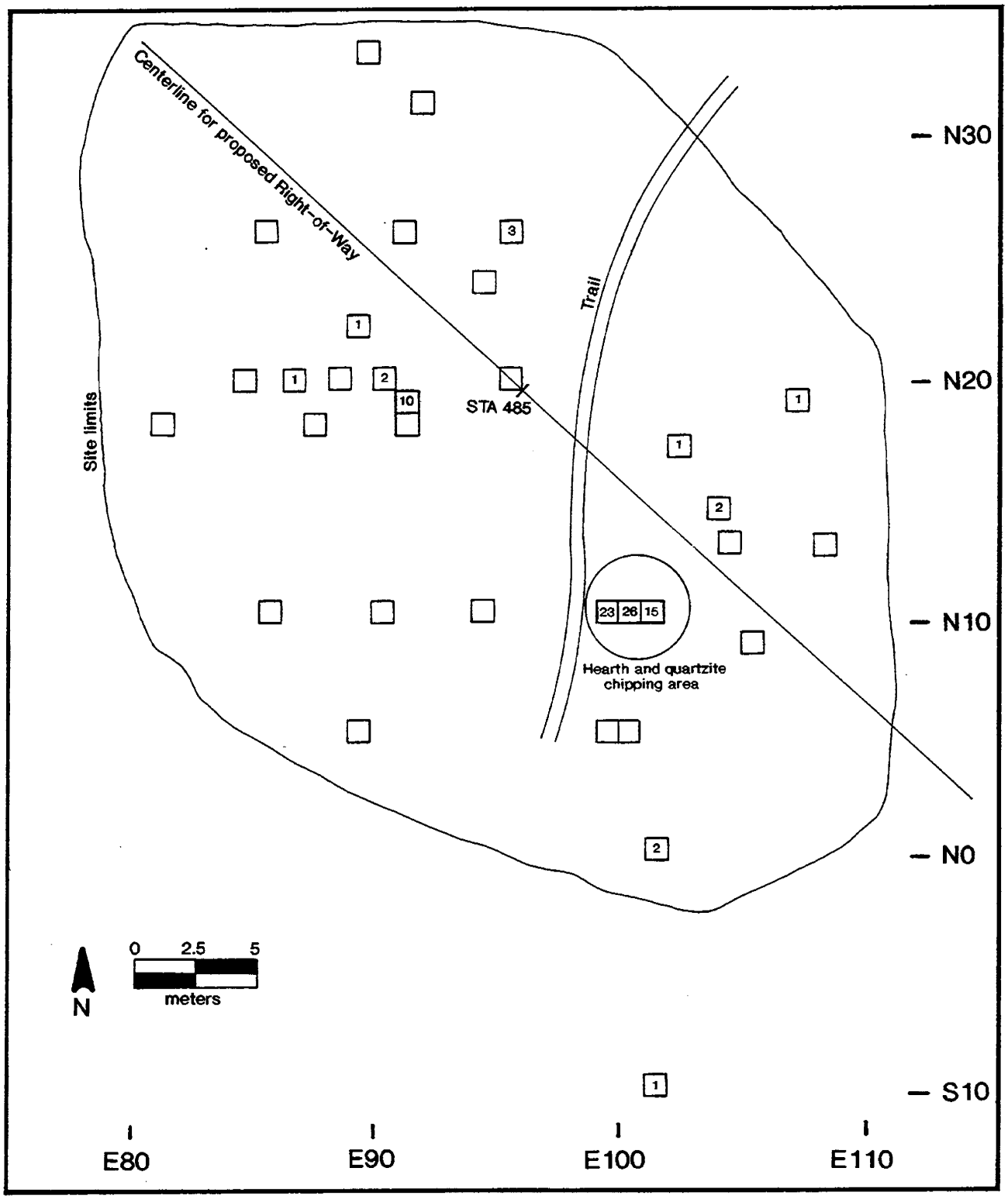


FIGURE 65

Site 7K-C-360 - Quartzite Core and Flakes from Test Unit N10E100

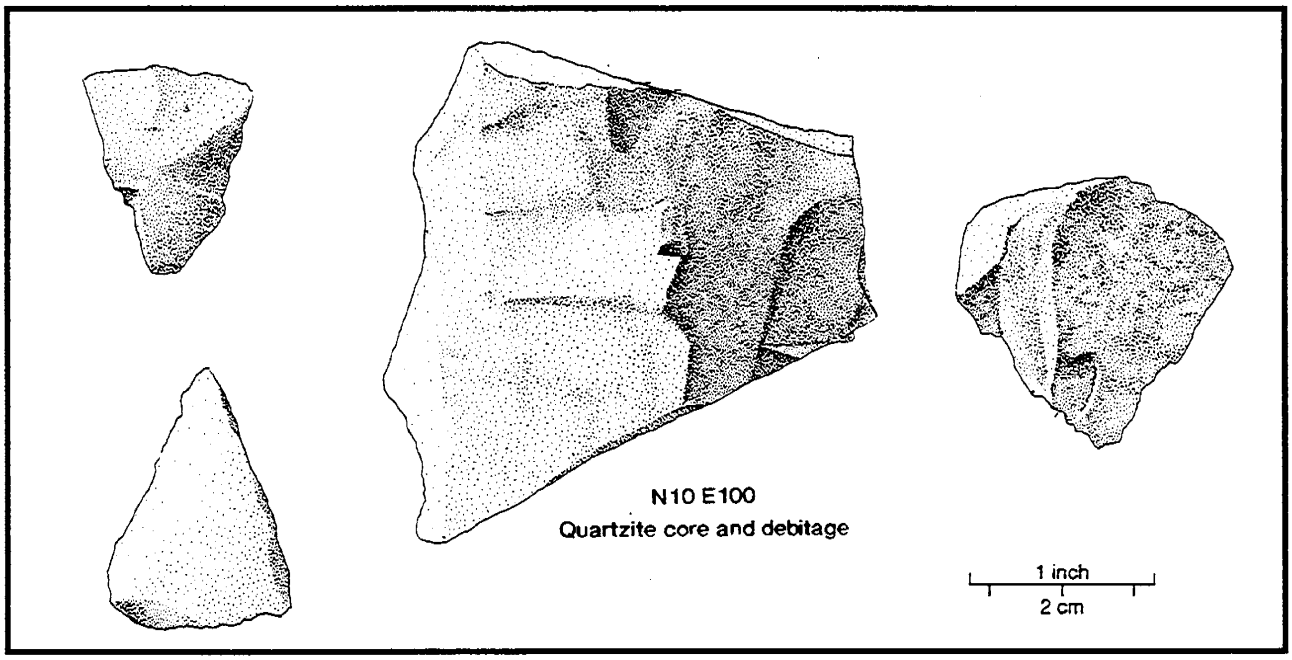


FIGURE 66

Site 7K-C-360 - Diagnostic Projectile Points

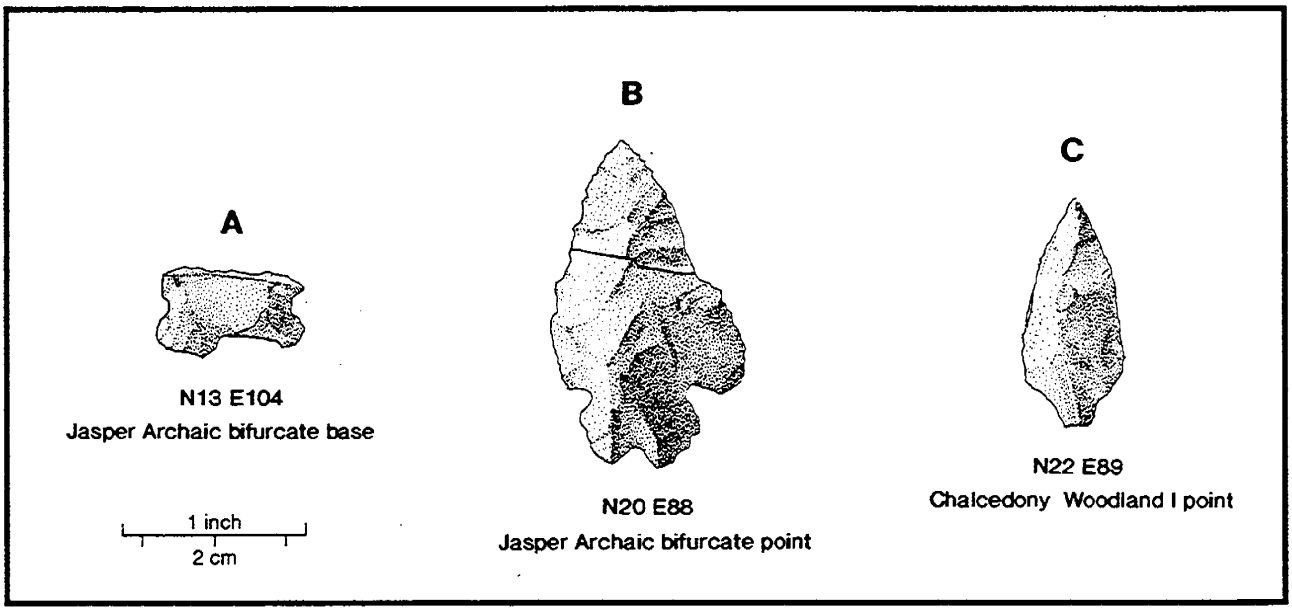


TABLE 11

SITE 7K-C-360 PREHISTORIC ARTIFACT SUMMARY

	Qtzte.	Qtz.	Chert	Jas.	Ir.	Rhy.	Arg.	Chal.	Schist	Total
Flakes	90(7)	66(6)	51(3)	111(35)	1	1	5	48(5)	1	374(56)
Util. Flakes	1	---	---	2(1)	---	---	---	1(1)	---	4(2)
Flake Tools	---	1	2(2)	2(2)	---	---	---	1(1)	---	6(5)
Archaic Points	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2
Woodland I Points	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1
Misc. Stone Tools	---	---	1(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	1(1)
Shatter	1	2(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3(1)
Cores	2	3(3)	---	4(2)	---	---	---	---	---	9(5)
Total	94(7)	72(10)	54(6)	122(40)	1	1	5	50(7)	1	400(70)

	Total Count	%
Quartzite	94(7)	23.50
Quartz	72(10)	18.00
Chert	54(6)	13.50
Jasper	122(40)	30.50
Ironstone	1	.25
Rhyolite	1	.25
Argillite	5	1.25
Chalcedony	50(7)	12.50
Schist	1	.25
Total		100.00

KEY: Qtzte. - Quartzite Ir. - Ironstone Arg. - Argillite

Conclusions and Recommendations

7K-C-360 is located in an unplowed woodlot and has produced artifacts and features from the Archaic and Woodland periods in intact stratigraphic contexts. In addition, the presence of local freshwater wetlands, which are good sources of information on local paleoenvironments, combine with the feature and artifact data to make 7K-C-360 likely to yield important information on the poorly known Early and Middle Archaic periods in Delaware. Few Archaic sites are known for Delaware and this site offers the opportunity to compare Archaic Period sites from compromised contexts in the Churchman's Marsh area of northern Delaware as well as Archaic Period sites in other parts of the Mid-Atlantic region to a site with good stratigraphic integrity. Furthermore, the stratigraphic data of the site are important sources of paleoenvironmental interpretation and may enable a refinement of the chronology of environmental change in the local area. Therefore, this site is considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion "D." Specifically, the site has yielded and is likely to yield further data important to prehistory. A completed Determination-of-Eligibility form is included in Appendix IV.

7K-C-373

7K-C-373 is located north of Dover along the proposed right-of-way approximately one mile (0.621 km) southeast of the Leipsic River and one-third of a mile southeast of 7K-C-360 (Figure 2). The site is situated on a well-drained sandy rise in a wooded lot on the north side of Dyke Branch. The site is surrounded by areas of poorly drained loamy soils of the Fallsington series (Matthews and Ireland 1971) with intermittent sandy rises. The entire site is undisturbed. Phase II tests were excavated in all directions around the area of highest artifact density as determined by Phase I testing. The limits of the site and the location of all Phase II test units appear in Figure 67.

Phase I Summary

Phase I testing consisted of a series of shovel test pits placed along the center line of the proposed right-of-way extending from Kent 330 to Kent 345 (Bachman et al. 1988). Shovel Test Pit 19-17, which comprises this site, produced one quartz flake. Several quartz and cryptocrystalline flakes and a jasper uniface were also recovered from two nearby shovel test pits. Because Phase I testing succeeded in identifying cultural resources at these loci and because previous testing of sites with similar landscape characteristics have proven productive, it was determined that Phase II testing was warranted (Bachman et al. 1988).

Phase II Results

Phase II testing at 7K-C-373 consisted of ten 1m x 1m test units excavated in arbitrary 10 cm levels. The limits of the site and the location of all Phase II test units are shown in Figure 67. Five of the units produced artifacts, most of which came from subsoil contexts to a depth of 40 cm below surface. A representative soil profile taken from the east wall of Test Unit S7E24 shows a dark gray-brown silty sand humus layer underlain by yellow-brown silty clay subsoil with some sand and iron concretions in the floor (Figure 68). Test Unit S2E20 produced one quartz flake tool with cortex from humus; Test Unit S9E26 produced one fire-cracked rock as well as one cut nail from humus; and Test Unit S7E24 produced one chert early stage biface reject with cortex from Level 2. These five units also produced 21 quartz flakes, eight jasper flakes, three chert flakes, and one quartzite flake. No features were located. Because of the low density of artifacts and lack of diagnostic artifacts and features, this site is not considered to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and no further work is recommended.

Conclusions and Recommendations

No cultural features or diagnostic prehistoric artifacts were located by Phase II testing. Furthermore, the density of artifacts across the site was generally low and insufficient for defining the types of activities engaged at the site. Thus, 7K-C-373 is not considered to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and no further work is recommended.

FIGURE 67

Site 7K-C-373 - Site Limits and Location of all Phase II Tests Showing Total Artifact Concentrations

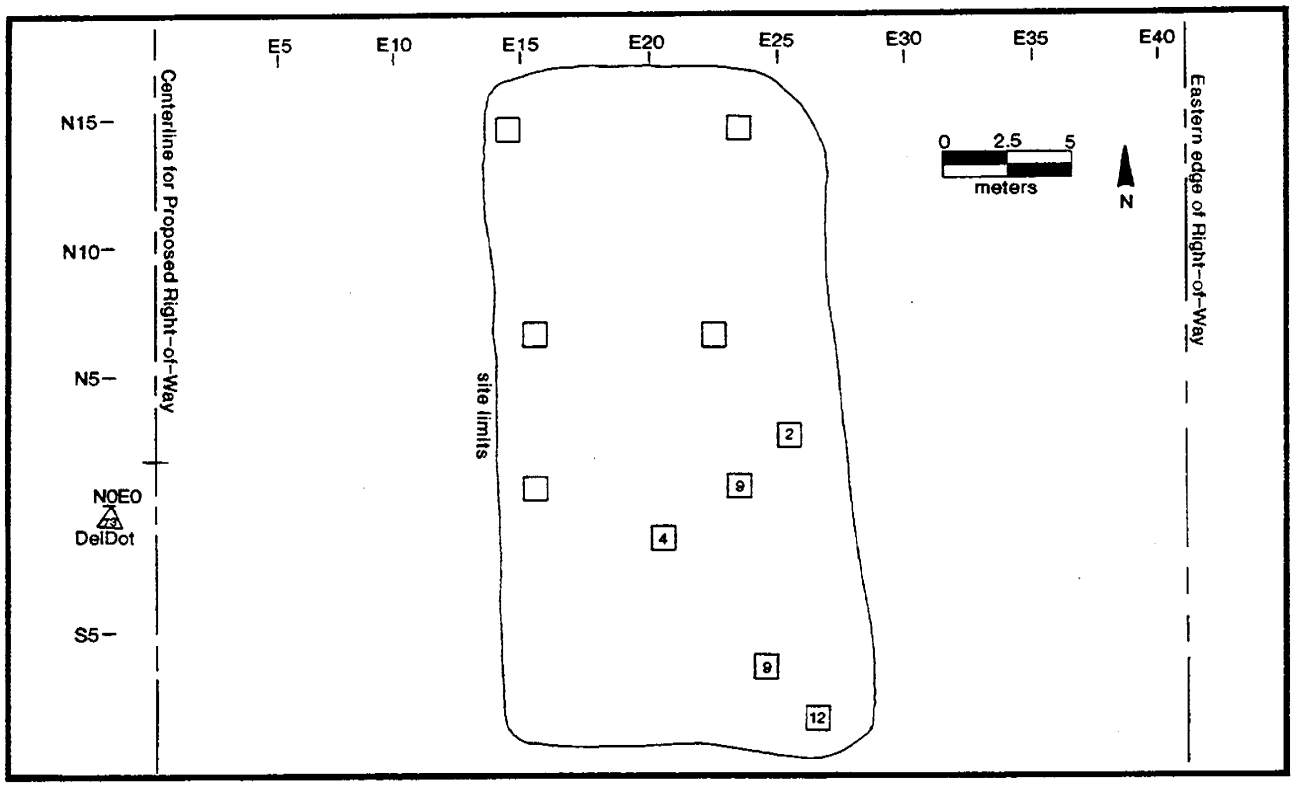
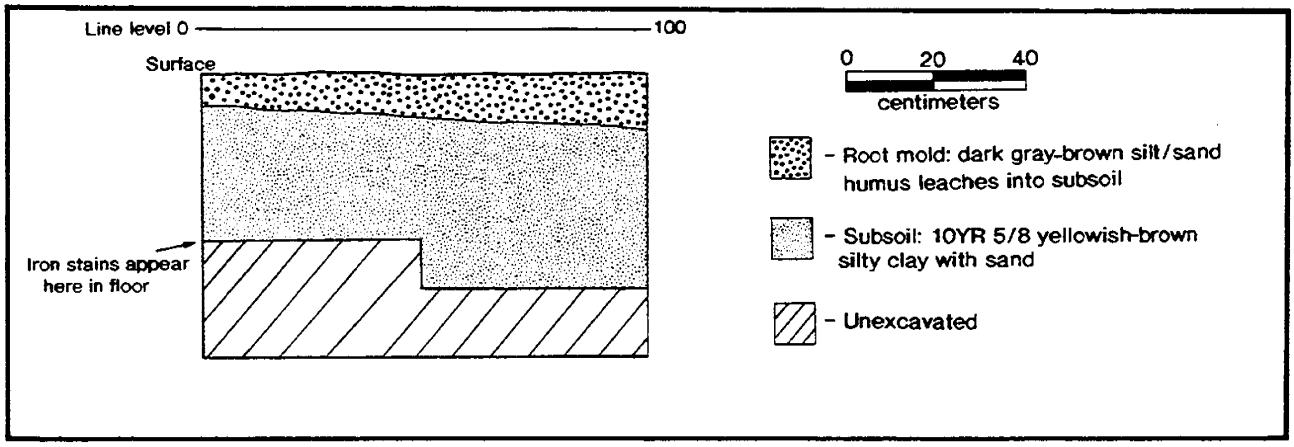


FIGURE 68

Site 7K-C-373 - Representative Soil Profile from the East Wall of Test Unit S7E24



7K-C-359

7K-C-359 is located north of Dover along the proposed right-of-way between Road 330 and Road 331 (Figure 2). The site is situated on a 20-foot rise adjacent to a stream floodplain on the south side of Dyke Branch. Soils in the vicinity of the site consist of moderately well-drained silty clay soils of the Sassafras series (Matthews and Ireland 1971). The entire site has been plowed. Phase II tests were excavated in all directions around the area of highest artifact density as determined by Phase I testing. The limits of the site and the location of all Phase II test units and features identified in relation to the proposed right-of-way appear in Figure 69.

Phase I Summary

Phase I testing consisted of a pedestrian survey of the site which located a single three-inch long quartz uniface within the proposed right-of-way. A shovel test pit grid of 19 holes was then set out along the crest of the rise parallel to the stream bank. Shovel Test Pit 18-12 (placed within the right-of-way) located a chert flake, and STPs 18-17 and 18-18 (placed outside of the right-of-way, just east of its boundary), located flakes, a jasper uniface, and fire-cracked rock. An additional seven shovel test pits placed in a grid around STPs 18-17 and 18-18 located additional flakes, fire-cracked rocks, and a cobble core. Because of the density and variety of artifacts recovered from shovel test pits and the physical character of the site location, it was determined that Phase II testing was warranted (Bachman et al. 1988).

Phase II Results

Phase II testing consisted of 42 1m x 1m test units and additional units were opened up in order to define features. The limits of the site and the location of all Phase II test units and features in relation to the proposed right-of-way are shown in Figure 69. Site limits at 7K-C-359 extended north from the N30 line to N60 along a treeline on the south side of Dyke Branch and east from that curving treeline at E20 to the E120 line. A representative soil profile taken from the south wall of Test Unit N40E40 (Figure 70) shows a light olive-brown sandy loam plow zone underlain by a strong brown sandy clay subsoil. Gravels were present in soils beneath the plow zone of a few units but were not common throughout the profiles. The majority of artifacts from the site (76%) were located in the plow zone. The artifacts found in subsoil contexts were largely located within the eight features that were identified by Phase II testing.

In the course of excavation, one historic and seven prehistoric features were encountered, a sample of which was excavated. Feature 1 was a roughly oval stain, approximately 75 cm in diameter, located in Test Units N40E30 and N40E31 (Figures 71 and 72). Feature soil consisted of a light brown sand and contained heavy concentrations of carbon and burned clay (Figure 72; Plate 6). Burned materials were confined to the fill and were not apparent in the walls or floors. Artifacts recovered from feature fill consisted of oyster shells and one fire-cracked rock.

Feature 2 was a circular stain approximately 70 cm in diameter located in the northeast corner of Test Unit N40E29, the northwest corner of Test Unit N40E30, the southeast corner of N41E29, and the southwest corner of N41E30 (Figure 71; Plate 7). A plan view of Feature 2 appears in Figure 73. Burned wood carbon and fragments of burned earth were also observed in Feature 2, which was not excavated.

Feature 3 was a circular stain approximately 20 cm in diameter located in Test Unit N41E29 (Figures 71 and 73; Plate 7). This feature was excavated to 4 cm below subsoil. No carbon was observed and no artifacts were located. Feature 4 was a rectangular shaped stain located in the southwest corner of Test Unit N40E30 and extended into the south and west walls of that unit (Figures 71 and 73; Plate 7). Feature 4 shared the soil matrix of Features 1 and 2 and similarly contained wood carbon and burned earth. In order to define the southwestern limits of Feature 4, a trench (Trench A) was dug from the southeastern quadrant of Test Unit N40E29 and extended south 9 meters (Figure 71). Approximately one meter south of Test Unit N40E29 within Trench A, a carbon scatter was observed extending approximately one meter south to a scatter of oyster shells which extended another meter to the south (Figure 71; Plate 8). The only other artifact recovered was an antler tip fragment located at the plow zone/subsoil interface in the southeast corner of the carbon scatter. The shallowness of Feature 4 and the paucity of artifacts recovered preclude further identification of the cultural association of the feature.

FIGURE 69

Site 7K-C-359 - Site Limits and Location of all Phase II Tests and Features

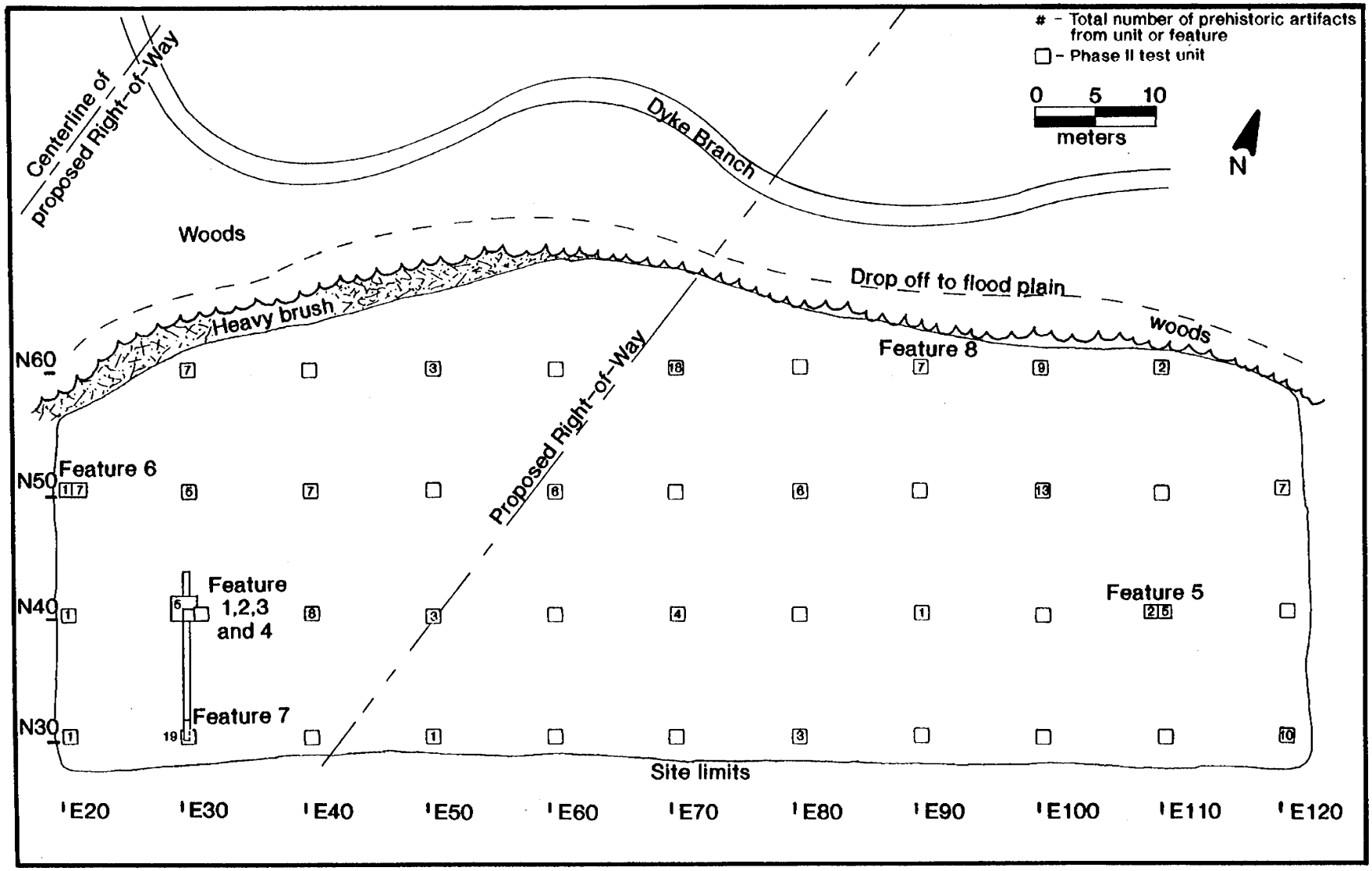
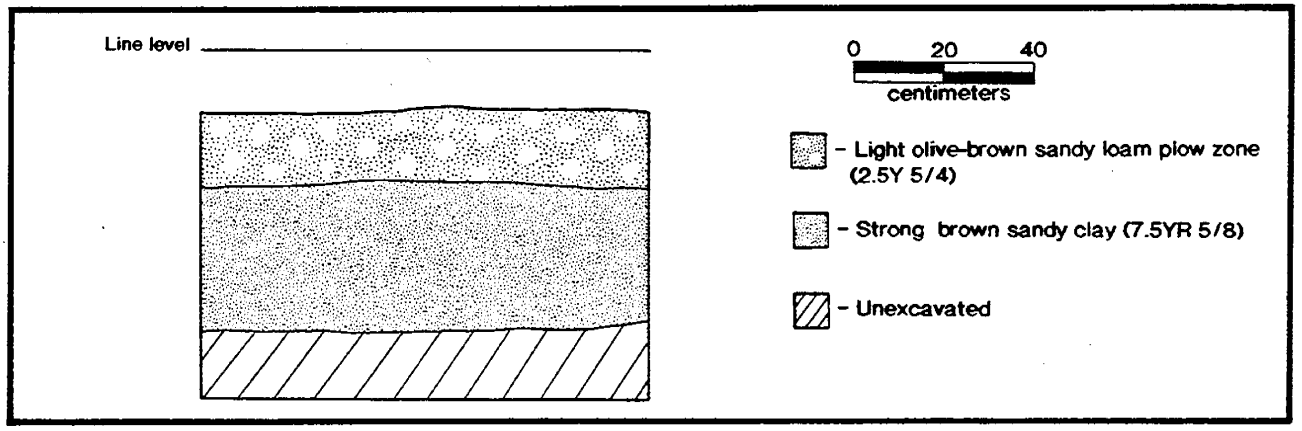


FIGURE 70

Site 7K-C-359 - Representative Soil Profile from the South Wall of Test Unit N40E40



Feature 5, located in the far eastern end of the site outside of the right-of-way, was a large soil pit feature encompassing nearly all of Test Unit N40E110 (Figure 74; Plate 9). Feature 5 continued west into Test Unit N40E109 which was opened up in order to expose the feature's limits. Feature fill consisted of dark moist sticky olive-brown sandy soil with carbon flecks and fire-cracked rocks. A large rock standing on its end was situated in the middle of Test Unit N40E110 and a total of nine fire-cracked rocks were found in the feature fill. Additional cultural materials recovered from Feature 5 include chert, jasper, quartz, and quartzite flakes, a majority of which exhibit cortex, miscellaneous tools manufactured from the same materials also with cortex, one piece of quartz shatter, one jasper core with cortex, and one hammerstone. The red-brown floor of the feature was reached 45 cm into subsoil. A profile of Feature 5 is shown in Figure 74. The dimensions of the feature suggest the possibility of a semi-subterranean house structure or shelter.

Feature 6 was an oval shaped stain encountered below the plow zone at approximately 30 cm below ground surface in Test Unit N50E20 (Figure 75; Plate 10). The fill of Feature 6 was defined by numerous charcoal flecks and a dark organic clayey soil (Figure 76). Test Unit N50E21 was opened up in an attempt to expose the feature limits. It was apparent that the feature continued to the north and the south, but only the center portion lying in these two units was tested further. Feature fill contained light olive-brown, sticky, silty clay soil with carbon flecks visible throughout. Recovered artifacts include quartzite, quartz, chert, and jasper flakes. One red argillite flake was recovered at approximately 20 cm into Feature 6. None of the flakes exhibit cortex. Also recovered were quartz shatter, four pieces of clay, and one fire-cracked rock. The feature was excavated to a depth of approximately 80 cm below the plow zone/subsoil interface (Plate 11), but further excavation was precluded by water seepage onto the floor. Again, as in the case of Feature 5, a semi-subterranean house or shelter structure is indicated, but a more definitive conclusion would necessitate further investigation.

Feature 7 was located at approximately 23 cm below ground surface at the plow zone/subsoil interface in Test Unit N30E30 (Figures 71 and 77; Plate 12). Feature soil in the western one-half of Test Unit N30E30 (labeled Feature 7A) was dark yellow-brown loosely packed moist sandy silt with carbon flecks visible throughout (Figure 78). The feature extended west into Test Unit N30E29, and the eastern one-half (labeled Feature 7C) of that unit was opened in order to determine the feature's limits. The feature fill in this section was the same color as that in the original portion but was harder in texture and more tightly packed. Feature fill in the eastern one-half of Test Unit N30E30 (labeled Feature 7B) was a hard-packed orange soil flecked with carbon and burned earth. Feature 7A appeared to extend north into Test Unit N31E30 and that unit's southwestern quadrant was opened in order to determine the feature's limits (Plate 12). At approximately 28 cm below the plow zone, the orange sandy subsoil with iron stains and clay smears was encountered. It was determined at this point that Features 7A and 7C were one and the same feature. The majority of artifacts recovered from Feature 7 were located in the portion originally

FIGURE 71

Site 7K-C-359 - Plan View of Feature 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7

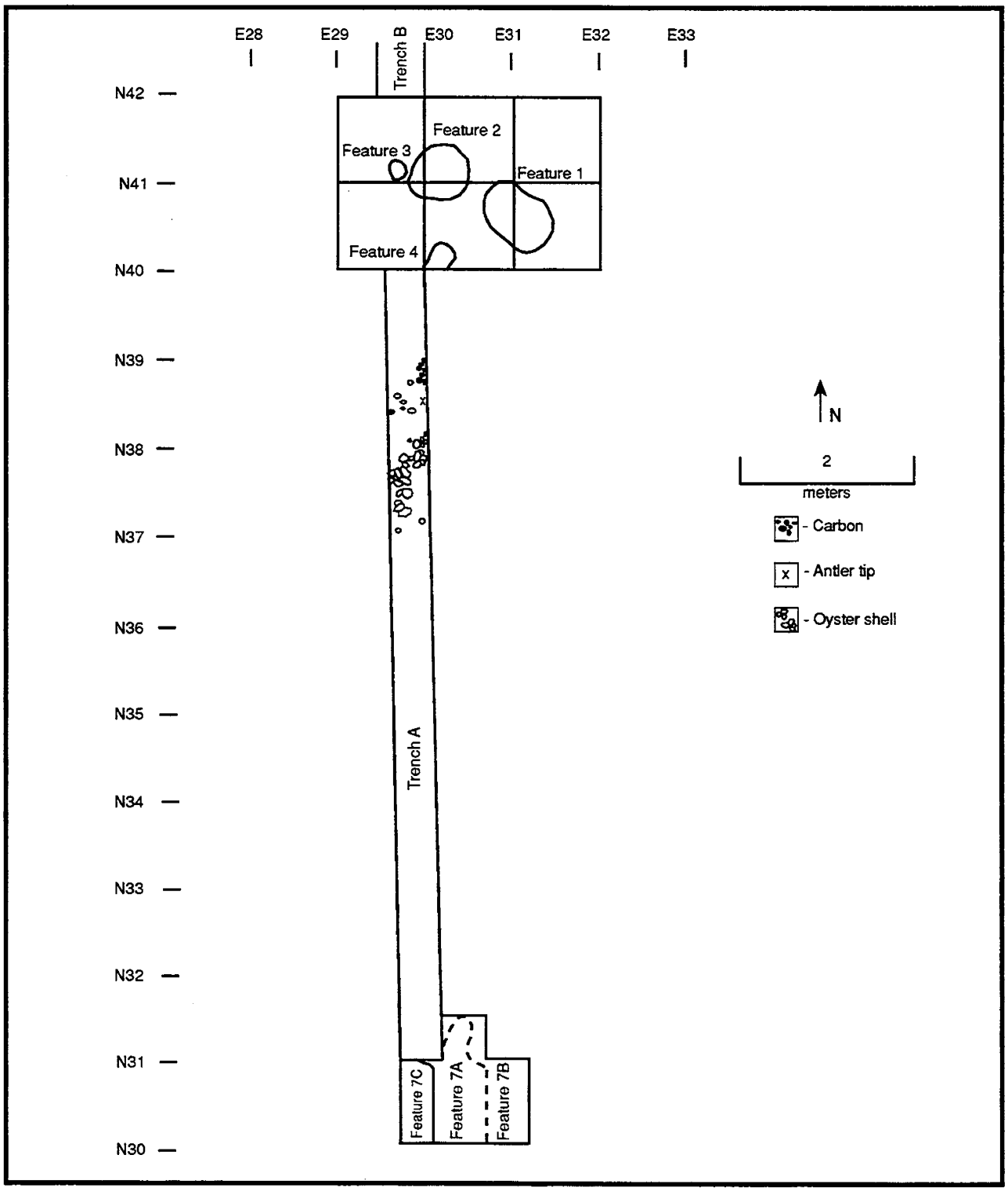
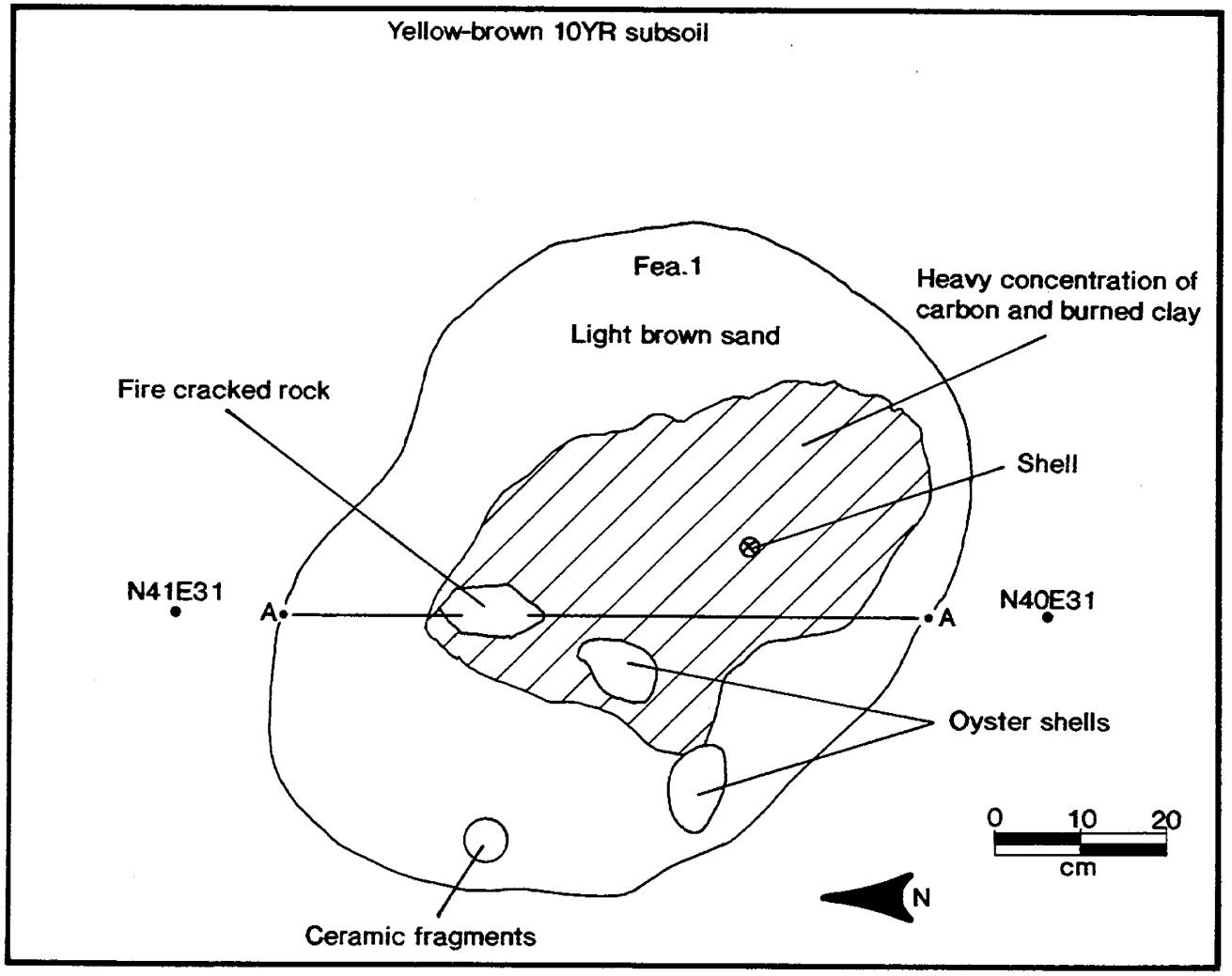


FIGURE 72

Site 7K-C-359 - Feature 1, Plan View and Profile

Plan View



Profile

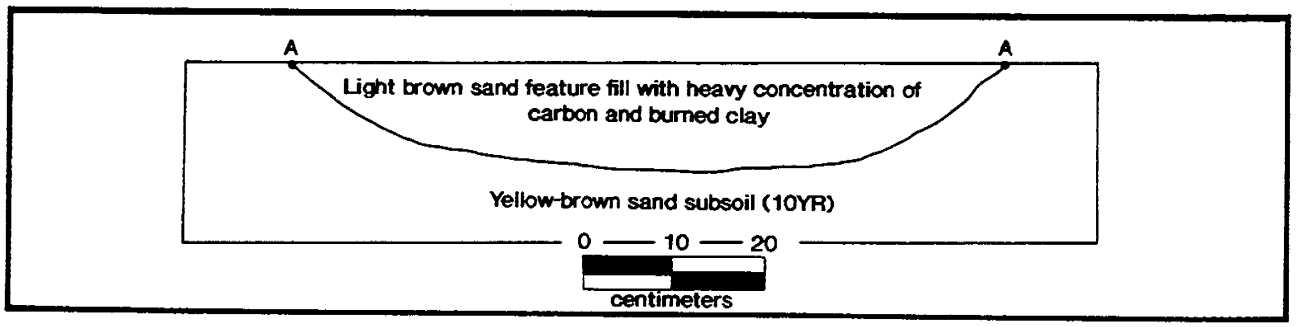


PLATE 6

Site 7K-C-359, Feature 1 Plan View

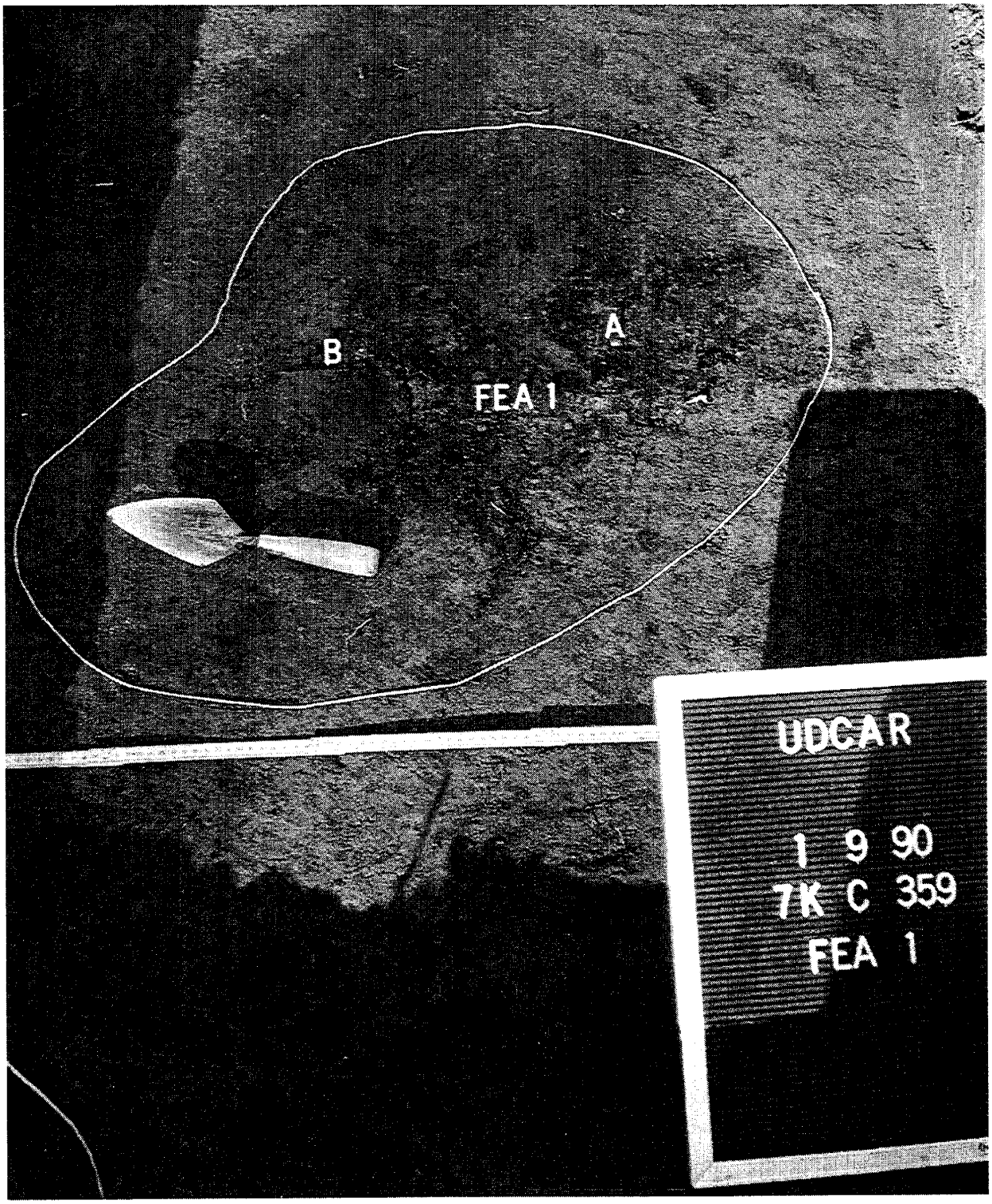


PLATE 7

Site 7K-C-359, Features 2, 3 and 4 Plan View

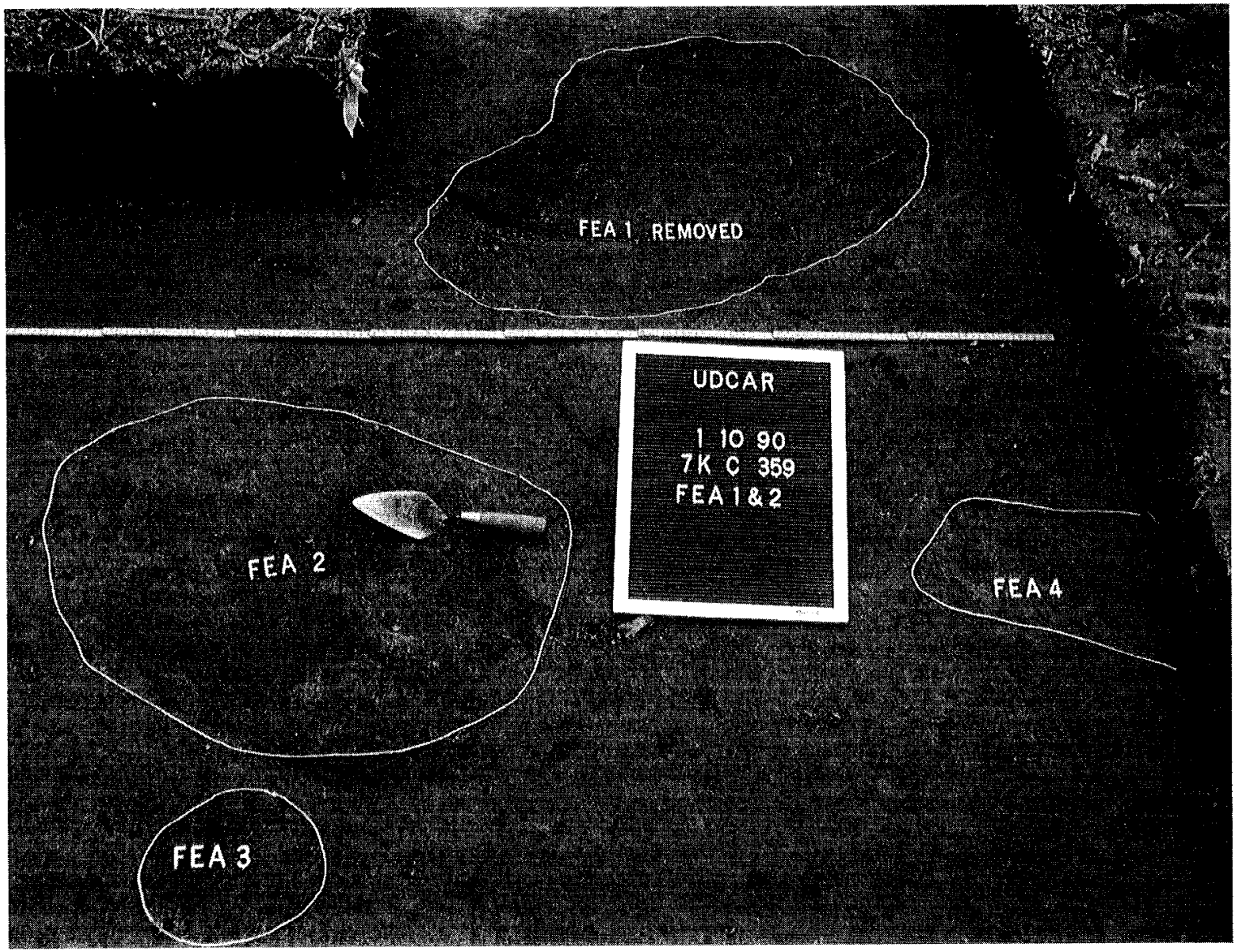
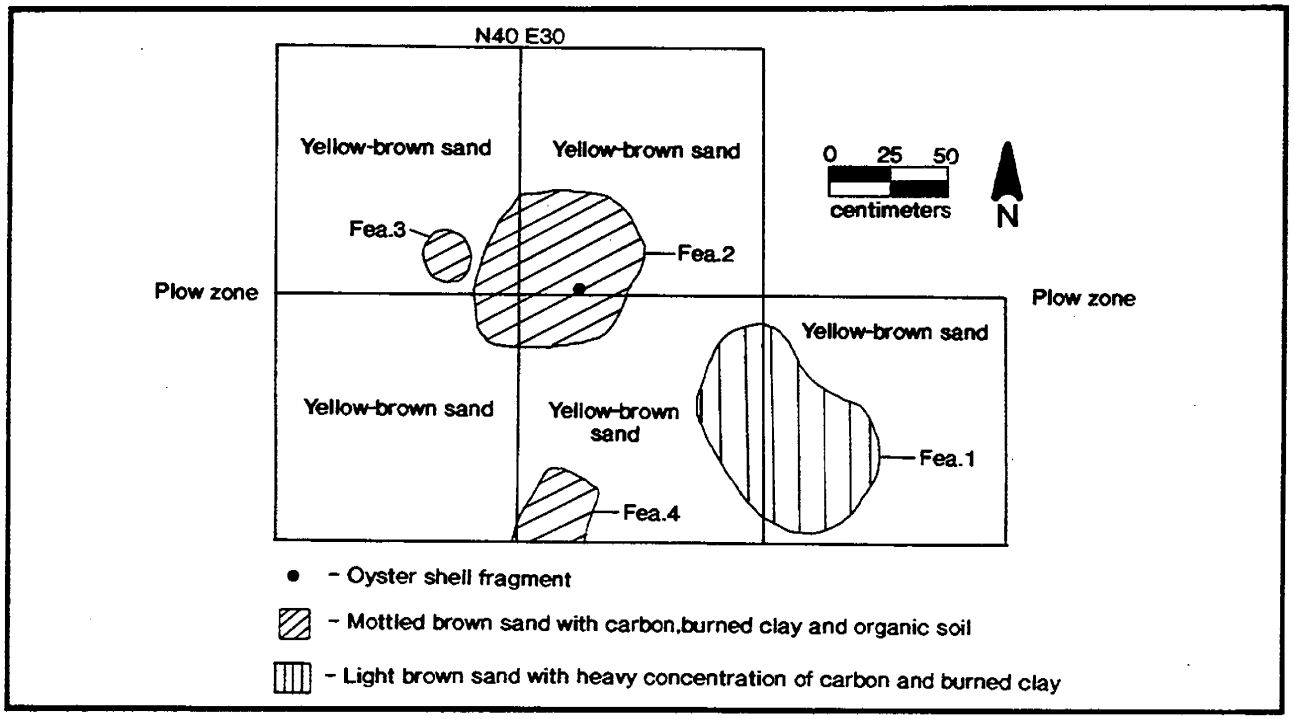


FIGURE 73

Site 7K-C-359 - Plan View of Features 1, 2, 3, and 4 after Plow Zone Removed



designated Feature 7C and included quartzite, quartz, and jasper flakes with minimal cortex present. One jasper flake was recovered from the intact subsoil portion of Feature 7A. The remaining artifacts, all flakes, were recovered from the plow zone levels of Test Unit N30E30.

Feature 7 was defined by characteristic flecks of charcoal and oyster shell fragments. Feature 7, apparently smaller in diameter than Features 5 and 6 and shallower in depth, appears to be too small to have been a habitation feature but provides too little information to infer its function without exposing larger portions of the site in order to more fully consider spatial relationships.

Feature 8 was a square stain, approximately 20 cm x 20 cm, encountered 20 cm below ground surface at the plow zone/subsoil interface in Test Unit N60E90 (Figure 69). The first 20 cm of the feature consisted of dark rust stained soil. Soil beneath that level became lighter pale yellow and more sandy. This feature was determined to be an historic post mold and no further excavation was undertaken. Prehistoric artifacts recovered from this feature include quartz, chert, and jasper flakes without cortex, two pieces of quartz shatter, and one fire-cracked rock.

No diagnostic projectile points or ceramics were located during Phase II testing. Therefore, dating the site to a specific occupation or occupations is not possible. However, the presence of several pit features, possibly for habitation and storage, suggests some degree of sedentism. There is no evidence to suggest this type of pattern in the region before the Woodland I Period when such features would have been prominent at base camps. Nevertheless, any attempt at a definitive interpretation regarding the site's chronology at this point would be premature.

PLATE 8

Site 7K-C-359, Trench A, Oyster Shell Scatter

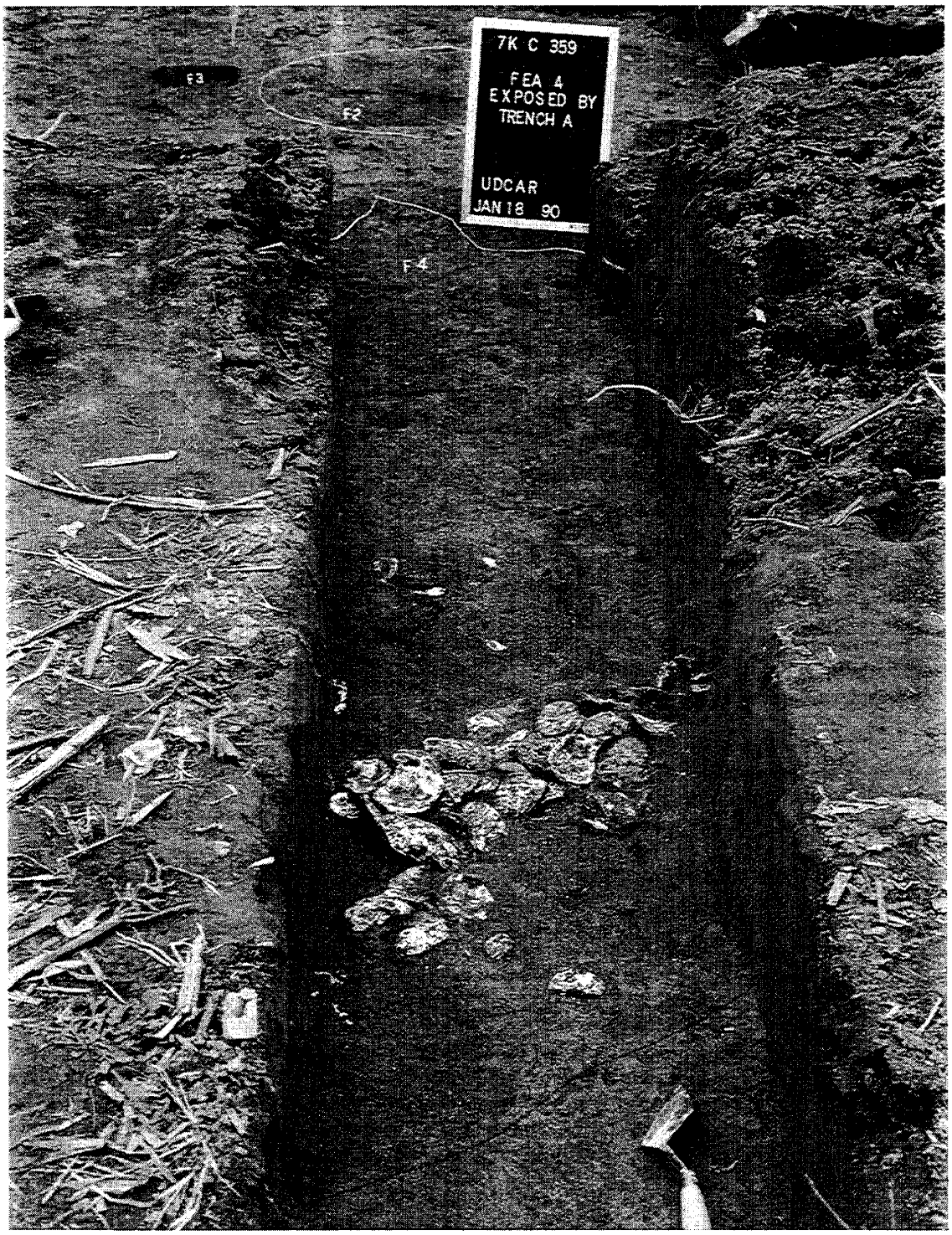


FIGURE 74

Site 7K-C-359 - Feature 5 Plan View and Profile

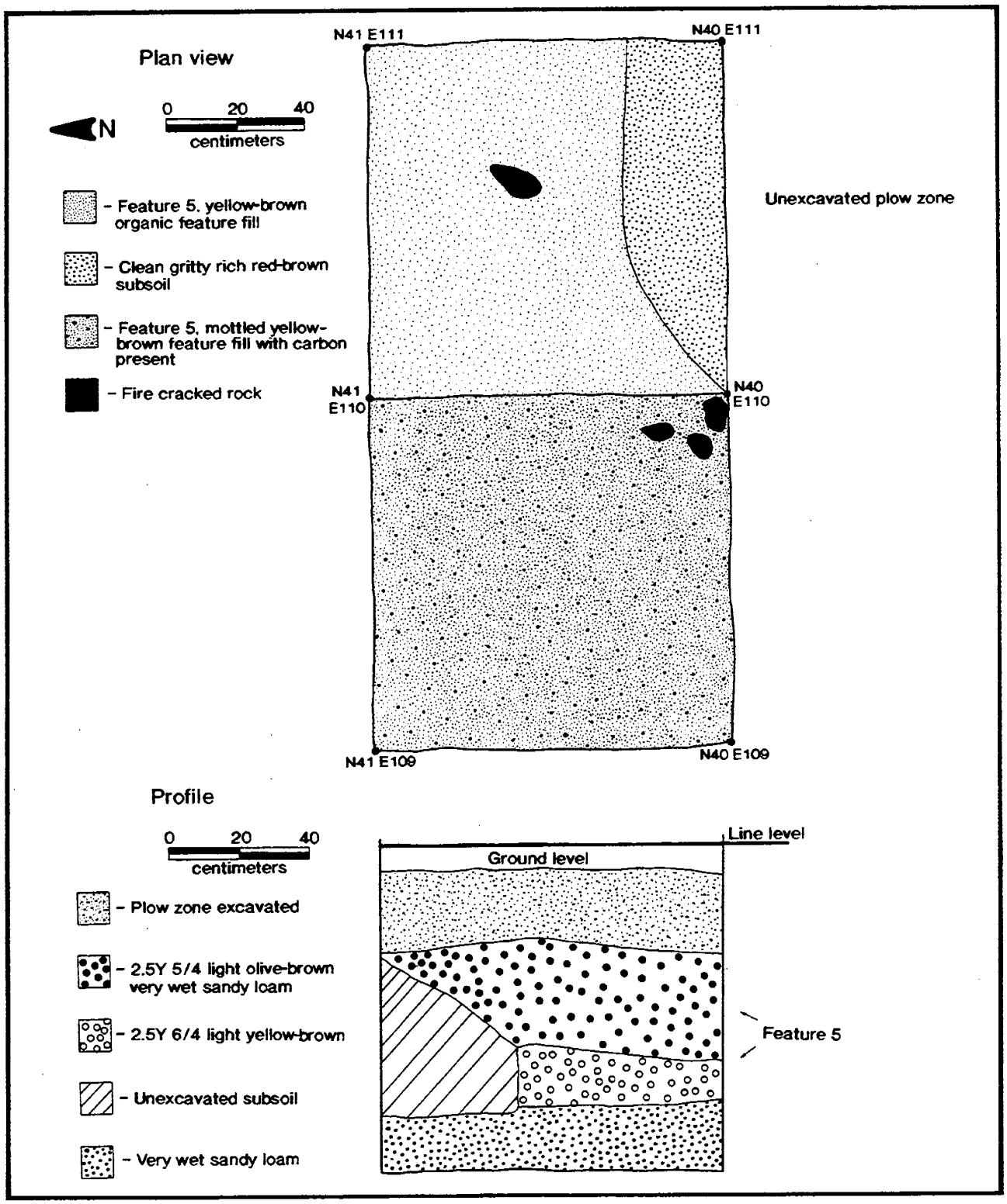


PLATE 9

Site 7K-C-359, Feature 5 Plan View

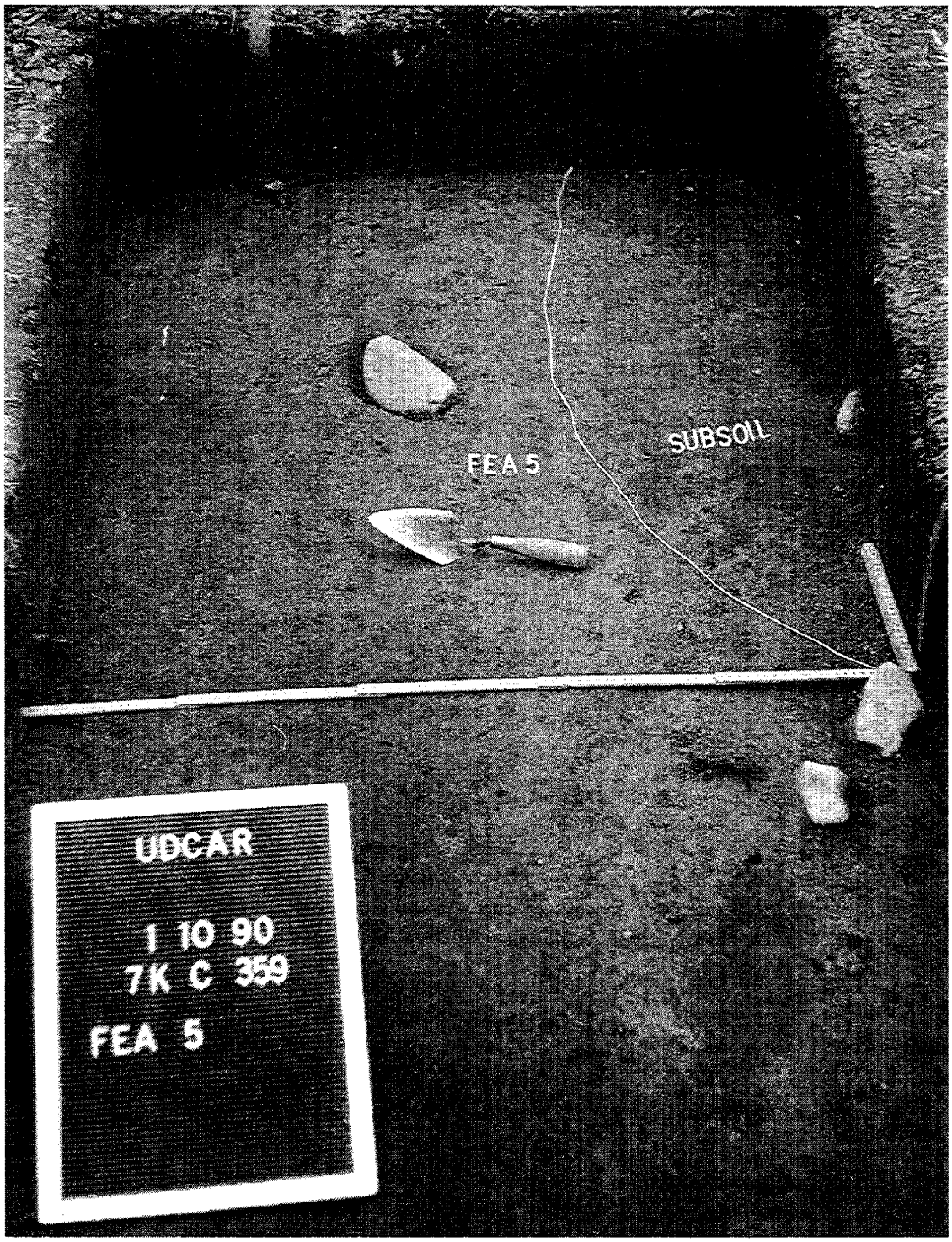
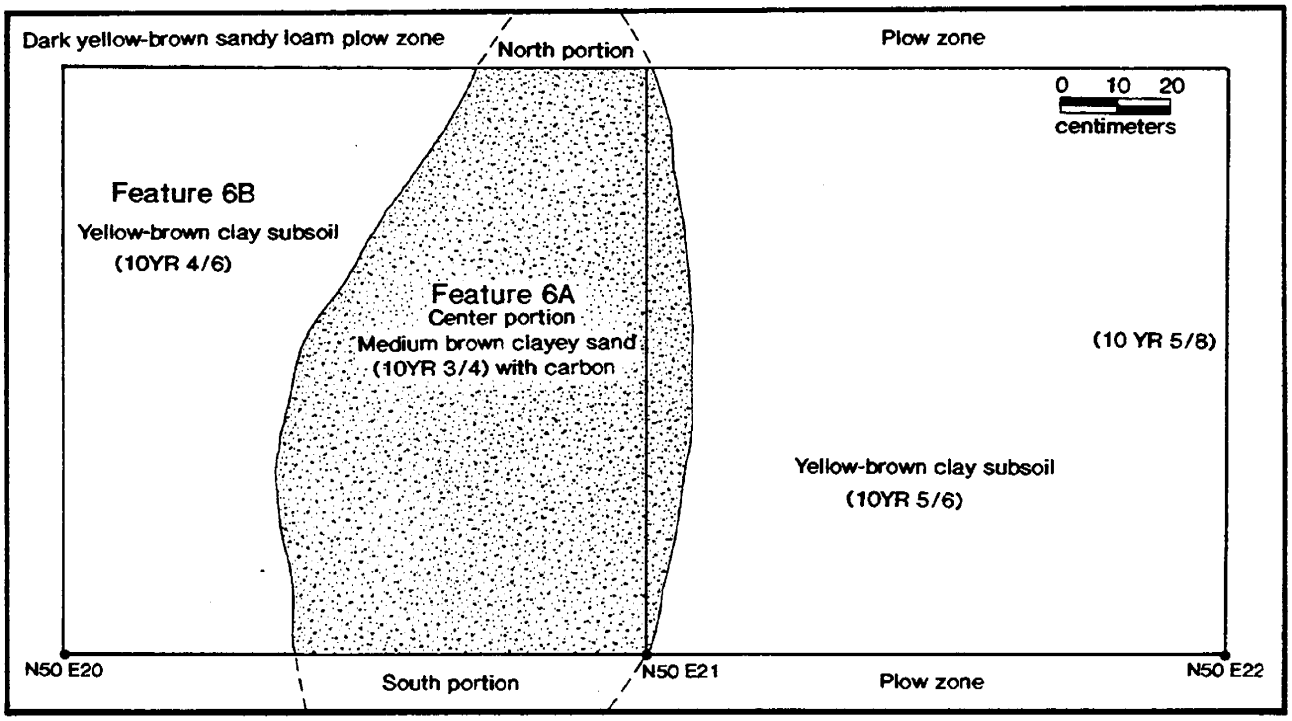


FIGURE 75

Site 7K-C-359 - Plan View of Feature 6 in Test Units N50E20 and N50E21 at 30cm Below Plow Zone



In addition to artifacts found within the features, other artifacts include flakes, tools, cores, a hammerstone, and fire-cracked rocks. A summary catalog of artifacts appears in Table 12. An attribute test conducted on cryptocrystalline debitage at the site (Appendix II) indicated that prepared tool kits of bifaces and cores were utilized by the occupants of the site. In addition, evidence suggests a significant reliance on local cobbles to supplement the mixed tool kits. The evidence for supplementing prepared tool kits with local cobbles is a relatively high presence of cortex (47%) on the debitage from the assemblage.

Table 13 shows the distribution of the attributes for the sample of 60 cryptocrystalline flakes from this site. The attribute test at 7K-C-359 produced the following results. In terms of flake type, the overall trend at 7K-C-359 was toward complete flakes, which Custer and Lowery (1990) have observed to be an indicator of core reduction. It was further observed that remnant biface edges, which would indicate biface utilization, were largely absent at the site. With regard to flake size, the majority of flakes measure less than 2 cm, a size which is characteristic of bifacial reduction but which could also be expected from small cobbles or pebbles. There is a greater than average number of medium size flakes (2-5 cm) from this site indicating that the site's occupants were being moderately conservative in their manufacturing practices, most likely due to their relatively remote location from primary lithic sources. The number and complexity of flake scars is relatively high at this site, indicating that bifaces were indeed being reduced or refurbished. In terms of platform shape, there is a slightly higher incidence of triangular shapes over flat shapes which also points to a practice of biface reduction. On the other hand, the largest percentage of platform shapes from the site appear to be round, and given the trend established by the other attributes at the site, it would be reasonable to infer that round platforms in the present case reflect the activity of decortication rather than early stages of biface reduction. With regard to platform preparation, although evidence of preparation is largely absent at this site, there is a greater presence of such evidence here than at other sampled sites in the project area indicating again that biface reduction occurred, and again supporting a theory of mixed utilization.

PLATE 10

Site 7K-C-359, Feature 6 Plan View

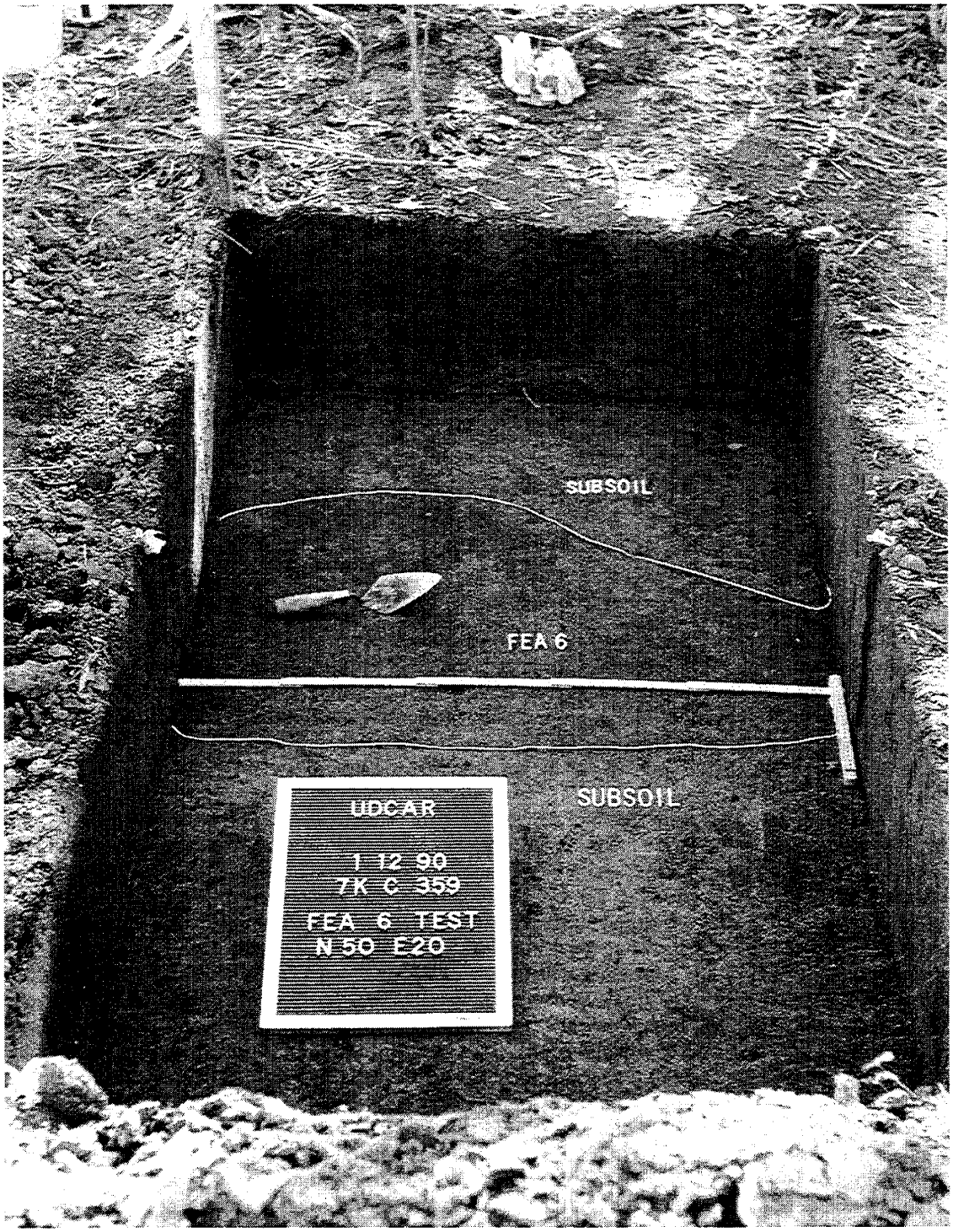
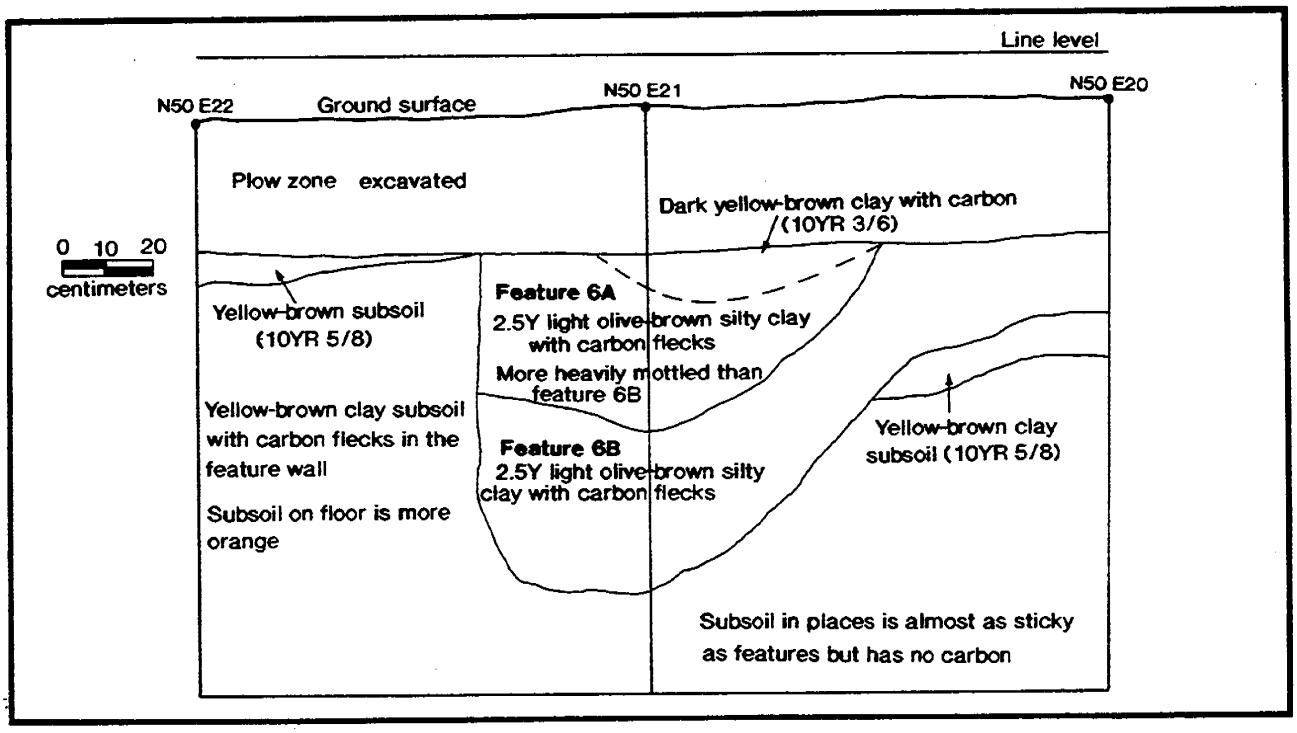


FIGURE 76

Site 7K-C-359 - South Wall Profile of Feature 6 in Test Units N50E20 and N50E21



The presence of numerous pit features at the site suggests that the site may have functioned as a base camp. When a list of attributes characteristic of macro-band base camps was considered, the data suggested that this level of occupation was unlikely at 7K-C-359 (Table 14). These attributes were applied to the Hawthorn prehistoric site (7NC-E-46) and were determined to be meaningful by Custer and Bachman (1984). Although living structures and storage pits as well as multiple hearth areas were indicated--as would be expected at a macro-band base camp--there are no caches apparent, no ceramics evident, and no late stage bifaces present in the assemblage nor is there any other evidence of a macro-band base camp occupation (Custer and Bachman 1984). The discarded tools and lithic debitage scattered throughout the site are also uncharacteristic of a macro-band base camp. Furthermore, the overall quantity of artifacts is relatively low. Thus, despite the presence of house pits (Feature 5 and 6) and storage pits, 7K-C-359 does not appear to be a macro-band base camp.

The types of tools present (utilized flakes, flake tools, and other miscellaneous tools), however, do not suggest specialized varieties that might be expected at a staging/processing camp or even a small procurement site, although the site's location on a low-order floodplain would favor such a likelihood. It seems more probable that 7K-C-359 may have been a micro-band base camp dating to the Woodland I period, although more intensive excavation would be necessary to support this proposition.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The location of the site on a rise adjacent to a stream floodplain would have been an appealing location for a base camp, and the presence of several pit features at the site suggests that this site may have been so utilized. However, since the site has been plowed and the majority of artifacts were confined to the plow zone, and since no diagnostic artifacts were found in the excavation, the temporal and functional relationships of the site are left in doubt. Furthermore, the majority of the site is located outside the right-of-way (Figure 69) and will not be affected by the proposed construction. Finally, the Phase II excavations gathered most of the available data on the section of the site within the right-of-way. The site, therefore, is not considered to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. No further work is recommended.

PLATE 11

Site 7K-C-359, Feature 6 Profile

FIGURE 77

Site 7K-C-359 - Plan View of Feature 7 in Test Units N30E30, N30E29.5, and N31E30 After Plow Zone Removed

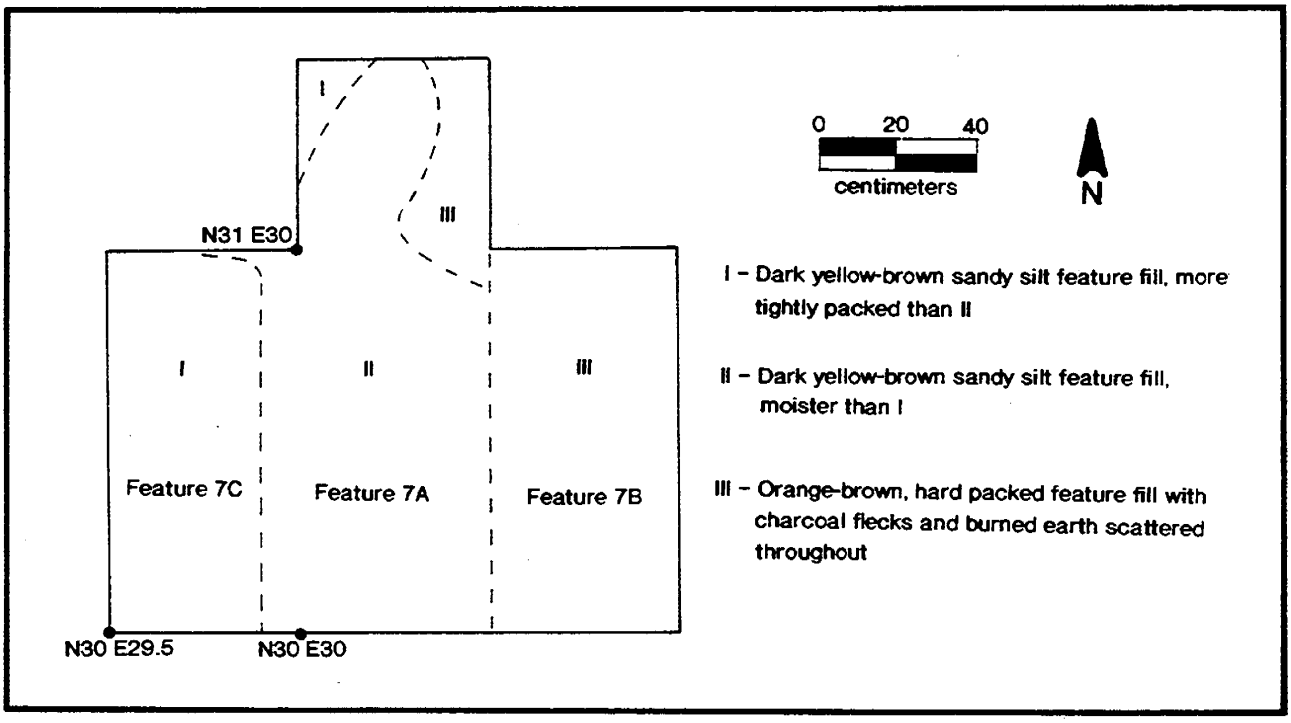


FIGURE 78

Site 7K-C-359 - Profile of the South Wall of Test Unit N30E30 Showing Feature 7

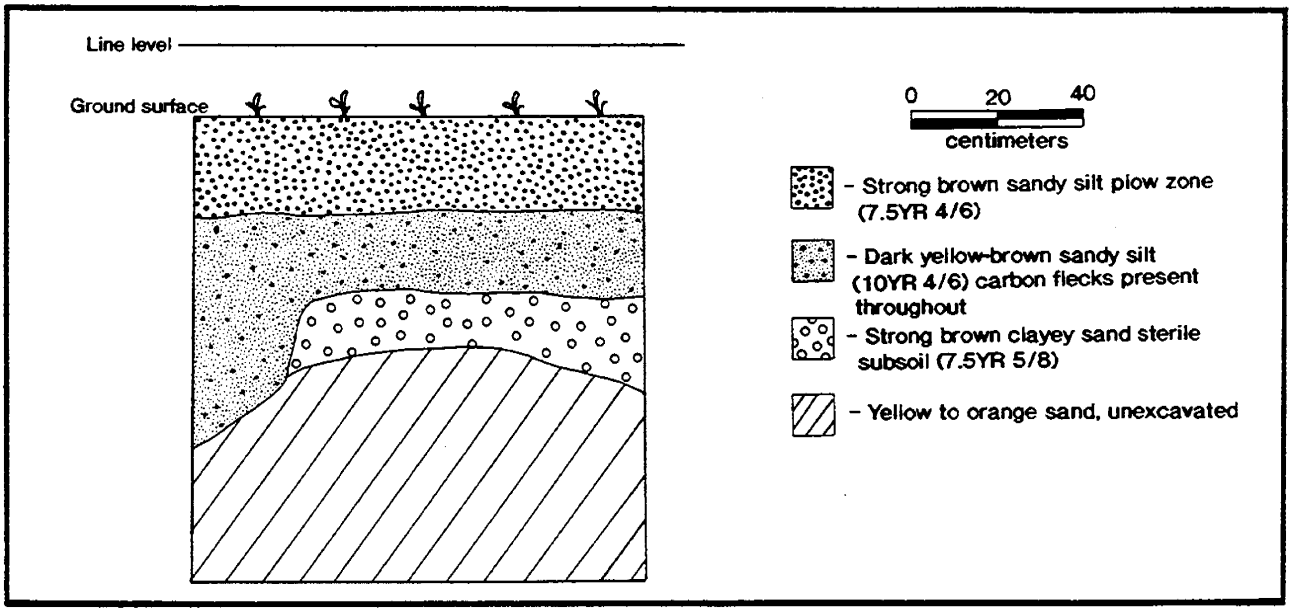
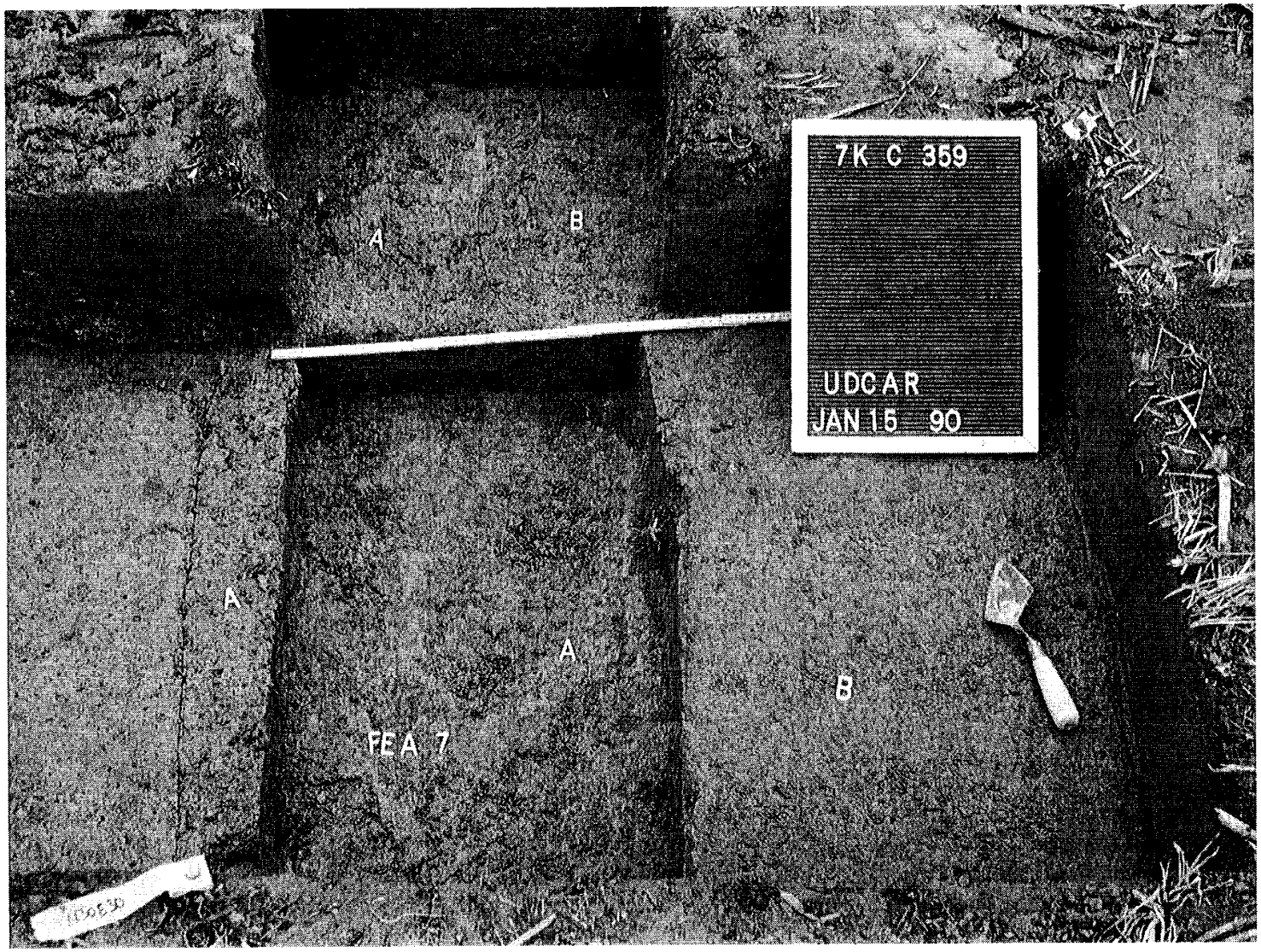


PLATE 12

Site 7K-C-359, Feature 7 Plan View