degree of plow disturbance noted over the entire site, the lack of more historic features and the low numbers of historic artifacts found, the site is considered to be potentially eligible on the National Register of Historic Places. The site was occupied by very poor tenants--people unlikely to have extensive material culture remains and it is likely that the primary evidence of human occupation at the site will be in structural and activity area related features. Sites of this low socio-economic status are generally poorly preserved and the H. Wilson-Lewis Tenant Farm Site represents a significant opportunity to more closely study the lifeways of an important, but poorly documented group in Delaware history. Thus, avoidance is the recommended alternative. Should avoidance prove impossible due to direct and indirect impacts of proposed construction, data recovery would be the suggested alternative.

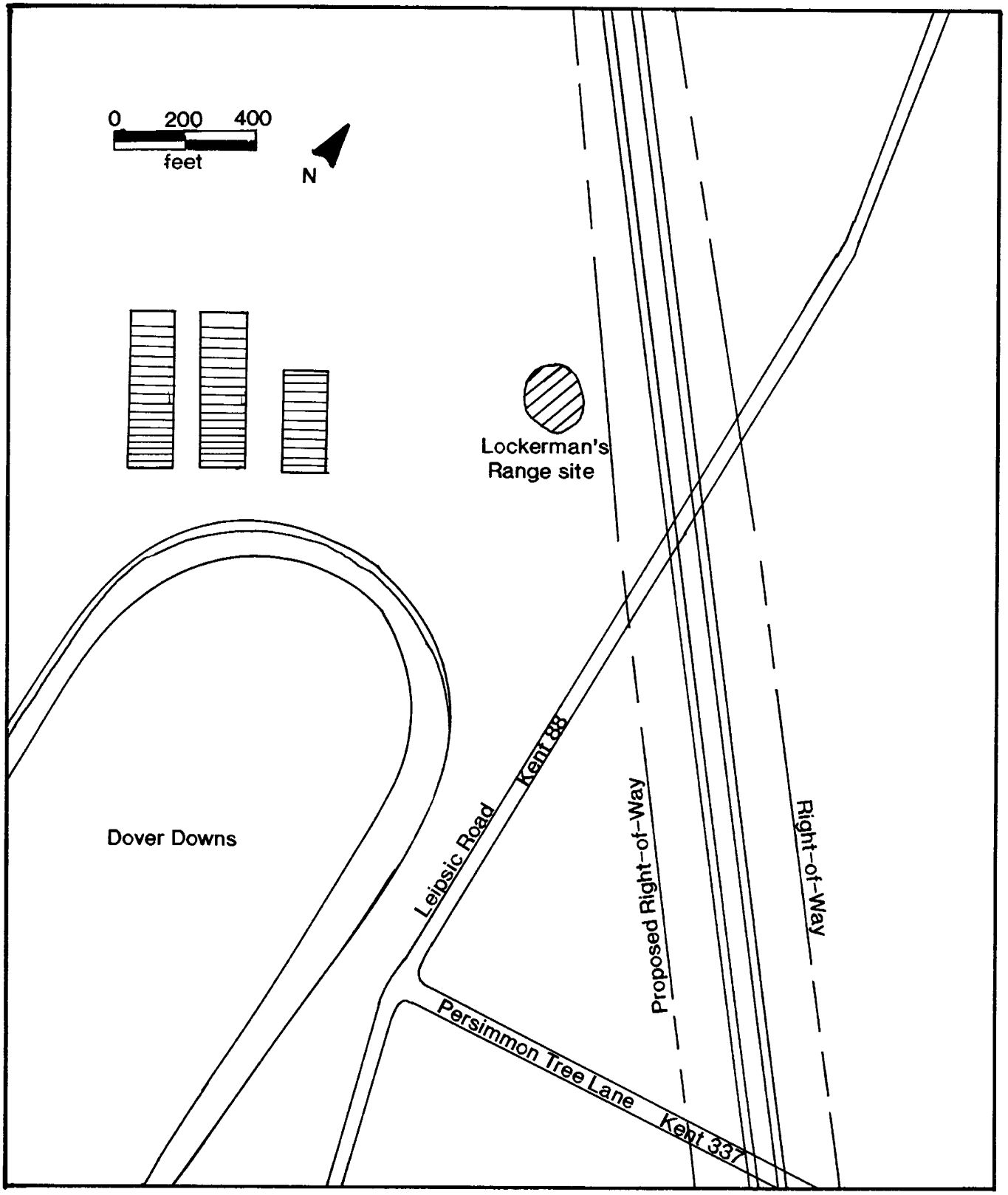
LOOCKERMAN'S RANGE SITE

The Loockerman's Range Site (7K-C-365B; K-6388B) is located on the property of Dover Downs Raceway on the east side of the town of Dover. The site is located approximately one mile east of present Route 13 and approximately 400 feet west of Leipsic Road (Kent 88) south of Muddy Branch (Figure 67). The site is located approximately 100 feet west of the proposed right-of-way of State Route 1 in an unplowed field denuded of trees in early 1987. The site is approximately 200' southwest of the 7K-C-365A site, a nearby Woodland I micro-band and procurement site.

The limits of the Loockerman's Range Site are also shown in Figure 67. The northern, western, and southern boundaries of the

FIGURE 67

Loockerman's Range Site, Location and Site Limits



site were determined by archaeological testing. The eastern limit of the site was a large, inaccessible area of heavy brush and fallen timber--the result of bulldozers clearing the area in preparation for a proposed parking lot (Plate 5). All of the site is outside of the proposed right-of-way and none of it will be affected by proposed construction. Thus, no further work is recommended.

The Loockerman's Range Site is the remains of a mid-eighteenth century agricultural tenancy on a parcel of land owned by Nicholas Loockerman. The site was occupied from ca. 1723-1765 and was located on a 600 acre parcel known as "Loockerman's Range." Nicholas Loockerman was a wealthy local landowner, farmer, merchant, and public official. The site was first identified as a prehistoric site by Phase I testing in September 1987 as summarized in Bachman et al. 1988. The site was potentially part of nearby 7K-C-365A, a prehistoric site located within the proposed right-of-way. Diagnostic mid-eighteenth century ceramics including scratch blue salt-glazed stonewares and slip-decorated, locally made redwares were also recovered from intact contexts. A prehistoric chipping feature of undetermined age containing approximately 8,000 lithic flakes was also identified during Phase I testing. On the basis of the presence of both prehistoric and historic artifacts from intact contexts and the proximity of the site to 7K-C-365A, a known National Register of Historic Places eligible site within the proposed right-of-way, a Phase II excavation was undertaken.

Phase II testing determined the limits of the Loockerman Range Site. These limits were outside of the proposed right-of-

PLATE 5

Loockerman's Range Site, Looking Southeast 1987

way. Intensive archaeological testing was continued, however, because the site was threatened by the planned construction of a parking lot by the present owners of the property, Dover Downs Raceway. Initial clearing of the area began in early 1987 just prior to the Phase I survey. Fortunately, mechanical disturbance to the site was minimal.

Initial Phase II testing identified the remains of two historic graves and an area of early to mid-eighteenth century domestic occupation. Additional salvage excavations identified two more historic graves. The prehistoric component of the site was determined not to be related to the nearby 7K-C-365A site and salvage operations concentrated on the historic component of the site. Salvage operations, however, included the complete excavation of the prehistoric component. The prehistoric component of the 7K-C-365A is discussed in more detail in Riley, Grettler, and Custer (n.d.). A discussion of the site history and the results of Phase II testing and salvage excavations of the historic component of the site follows.

Site History

The Loockerman's Range Site is located on a 600 acre parcel purchased by Nicholas Loockerman in 1723. This parcel became known as "Loockerman's Range" and was located north and east of Dover east of the St. Jones River and included land on both sides of King's Highway from Smyrna to Dover (present Route 13). A chain of title for the site is given in Table 9.

Loockerman purchased the land from Andrew Caldwell, a wealthy local landowner and speculator. Caldwell purchased the land from Benjamin Shurmer. Shurmer purchased the land earlier

TABLE 9

CHAIN OF TITLE FOR THE LOCKERMAN'S RANGE SITE (K-6388B, 7K-D-365B)

Transaction	Acres	Date	Reference
From David P. and Patricia M. Buckson to Dover Downs, Inc.	198	11/1/1968	N-25-282
From Thomas W. Murray, Inc. to David P. and Patricia M. Buckson	115	8/30/1967	W-24-81
From thomas Murray to Murray, Inc.	115	5/10/1967	S-24-374
From Arley B. Magee, trustee for Laura V. Talbot (decd.) to Thomas W. and Elsie G. Murray	115	10/16/1952	U-9-105
From Robert and Lydia Raughley to Laura V. Talbot	101	7/10/1905	B-9-264
From Francis and Eliza Weiss to Robert Raughley	281	12/4/1882	K-6-318
From Farmer's Bank to Francis Weiss	281	5/24/1877	W-5-267
From Peter Cooper, sheriff (estate of Wm. Shakespeare) to Farmer's Bank	281	5/22/1877	W-5-175
From Leontine N. and Ann McWhorter to William M. Shakespeare	281	11/2/1864	Z-4-211
From John and Lydia Robson to Leontine N. McWhorter	281	3/1/1861	L-5-26
From James T. and Susan Bird to James Robson	281	10/2/1856	L-4-127
From Martin W. Bates, trustee for Jesse Burton (decd.) to James Bird	281	3/24/1852	C-4-457
From Caleb H. and Ann Sipple and Robert O. and Elizabeth Pennewill to Jesse Burton	281	12/11/1837	M-3-6

TABLE 9 (cont.)

Transaction	Acres	Date	Reference
From Samuel and Judith Grant and John and Susan Taylor to Caleb Sipple and Robert Pennewill		12/19/1834	H-3-228
From Frederick and Susan Foering to Samual Grant and John Taylor	400	8/7/1822	W-2-34
From Vincent E. and Ann Loockerman to Nathaniel Drew		12/16/1813	O-2-115
From the estate of Vincent Loockerman, the Younger to his son Vincent Loockerman		5/15/1801	KC Orphans Ct. E-123
From Nicholas Loockerman to Vincent Loockerman (the Younger)		10/31/1765	KC Will L-92
From Andrew Caldwell to Nicholas Loockerman	600	3/12/1723	H-1-82
From Benjamin Shurmer to Andrew Caldwell	600	7/6/1723	[H-1-82]
From Simon Irons to Benjamin Shurmer			[H-1-82]
From William Penn to Simon Irons	1,000	6/13/1688	KC W&S H-8-143

in 1723 from Simon Irons [Hirons]. Simon Irons received the land as part of a 1,000 acre known as the Range in 1688 from William Penn. Iron's parcel, the Range, was bordered on the south by Berry's Range, another 1,000 tract warranted in 1680 by William Berry.

Benjamin Shurmer and his partner John Hall purchased other portions of the Range between 1721 and 1723 from Simon Irons and his heir, Francis Irons. Simon Irons died ca. 1723 and his 1723

deed to Nicholas Loockerman carefully established Iron's claim to the land. Competing claims for other areas of the Range led to a re-survey of the tract in 1748 (Figure 68). This re-survey found that the Range, originally laid out and warranted for 1,000 acres, actually contained 1,450 acres. A map produced at the time shows the land owned by Nicholas Loockerman, but, typical of early surveys, no structures are shown at the location of the Loockerman's Range Site (Figure 68).

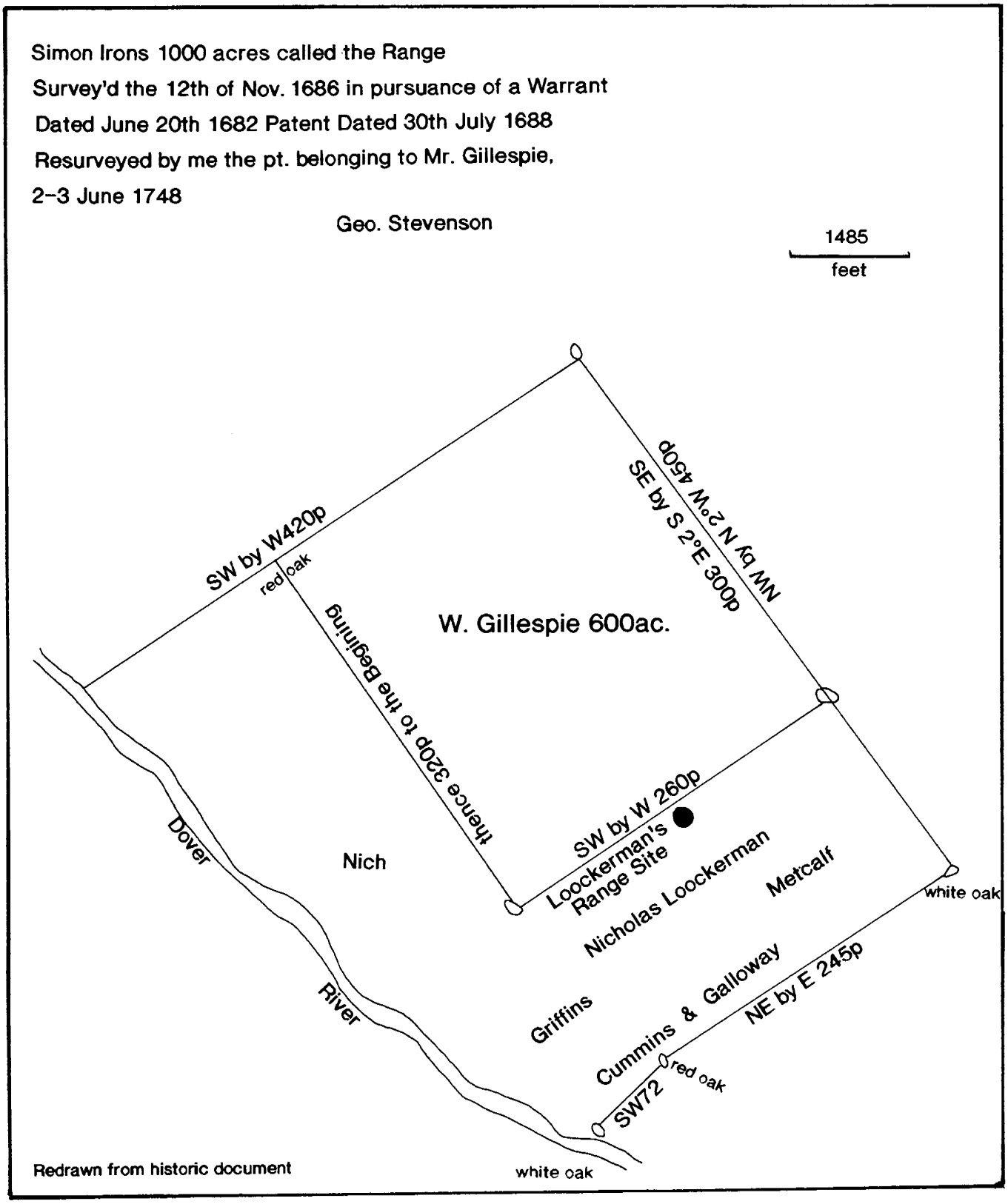
Nicholas Loockerman was the son of Jacob Loockerman, a substantial landowner and merchant in New York. Jacob, however, moved to Maryland after his brother-in-law, Jacob Leisler, was tried for treason and hanged in 1691 after instigating Leisler's Rebellion. Nicholas Loockerman moved to Dover in 1721 (Runk 1899: 93). In that year, Loockerman married Sally Emerson, the daughter of Vincent Emerson who was living on part of the Range. Sally and Nicholas Loockerman had one son, Vincent, who was born the following year in 1722.

Nicholas Loockerman was a successful farmer and merchant. His connections to Maryland, New York, and Philadelphia (through his in-laws, the Shurmers and Bradfords) profited him handsomely. Grain produced on Loockerman's extensive land holdings in St. Jones (Dover), Little Creek, and Murderkill hundreds was shipped to Philadelphia. Much of this grain was grown by the 21 slaves he owned by 1765 and his tenants, including those on the Loockerman's Range Site.

The Loockerman's Range Site is the remains of one of these agricultural tenancies. The site appears to have been occupied

FIGURE 68

Land of Nicholas Loockerman and Others (1748) and the Location of the Loockerman's Range Site



during the period when Nicholas Loockerman owned the land. The presence of diagnostic ceramics from the second quarter of the eighteenth century such as white salt-glazed and scratch-blue hollowwares, tin-glazed flatware, slip-decorated redware plates, and Buckley, Whieldon, and Staffordshire wares, but the absence of creamwares indicates that the site was occupied from ca. 1723-1765. Creamware ceramics were first introduced to the colonies in 1762 and by the late 1760s were cheap, popular, and widely available. The presence of white-salt glazed hollowware forms, but not the later flatware forms also suggest that the site was occupied over a relatively short span prior to the 1770s. Similarly, the absence of earlier, first quarter of the eighteenth century wares, such as Rhennish stonewares, Devon gravel-tempered, or sgraffitto decorated wares indicates that the site was not occupied prior to the second decade of the eighteenth century. Indeed, the Loockerman Range Site was probably first occupied ca. 1723 when Nicholas Loockerman purchased the land.

Nicholas Loockerman died in 1771, which may correspond to the end of occupation at the Loockerman Range Site. At the time of his death, Loockerman was living near the town of Dover at or near the site of the Loockerman House (K-212) built later by his oldest son Vincent Loockerman. During his lifetime, Nicholas Loockerman was a prominent citizen of Dover and either witnessed or administered a number of local wills between 1730 and 1760.

In a will made in October 1765, Nicholas Loockerman painstakingly distributed his worldly goods. Loockerman named seven heirs: his eldest son Vincent, other son Richard, his

daughter-in-law Susannah who was married to Vincent, his two grandsons by Vincent and Susannah, Nicholas and Vincent. Loockerman's niece Letitia Bell and his two Negroes Reuben and Nancy also received part of his estate.

Loockerman left the bulk of his real estate to his grandson Vincent Loockerman (the Younger). Nicholas Loockerman gave to his grandson the Dover farm on which he then dwelled, all of the land he owned contiguous to the farm in Dover and Little Creek hundreds, a house and lot in Dover in the tenure of James Mills, and a 600 acre parcel, Stone Hive Farm, in Murderkill Hundred. One other tenant farm, the land where Coffee Hilton "now lives" was granted to Loockerman's son, Richard Loockerman.

Nicholas Loockerman, however, excepted thirty acres of land on the home farm near Dover. This thirty acre farm, once tenanted by James Logan, included a house and 15 acres of cleared land (the remainder was wood land and marsh), was granted to Loockerman's two slaves Reuben and his wife Nancy. Reuben and Nancy were to be freed upon Nicholas's death and given the 30 acre farm for the rest of their natural lives. Loockerman also bequeathed to Reuben and Nancy a number of livestock, including one cow and a calf, four sheep, and some pigs.

The precise location of Reuben and Nancy's farm is not known, but it does not appear to be the Loockerman's Range Site. The thirty acre farm was probably located nearer to Loockerman's home farm located just east of the St. Jones River at the site of the present Delaware State Community College. In August 1771, six years after Reuben and Nancy were freed and granted the land,

they sold the farm back to Vincent Loockerman, the Younger (KCD T-1-152). The location of the property is not given and no metes and bounds were recorded.

Nicholas Loockerman's will was executed shortly after his death in early 1771. An inventory made in March that year details Loockerman's extensive personal possessions and describes a well-organized and partly self-sufficient farm. Wheat and corn were the primary crops grown and oxen teams and plows owned by Loockerman were rented or loaned out to neighbors. In addition to extensive home furnishings, Loockerman owned 13 slaves. Most of these slaves lived in a separate "out house" on the home farm. This outbuilding contained six "Negro beds" and a considerable number of cooking utensils. Loockerman's home farm also included a separate blacksmith's shop tenanted by a white blacksmith and another small building where shoes were made.

Only one tenant is listed in Loockerman's 1771 inventory. This tenant, Solomon Mumford, owed a rent of £12 to the estate. Although Loockerman's extensive holdings were worked by more than one tenant, no other tenants are described in the March inventory because land rents were typically due in January after the winter wheat crop was harvested. Thus, most of the rent accounts for Loockerman's tenant farms would have already been settled by March when the inventory was taken.

The identity of the tenant at the Loockerman's Range Site is unknown. Nicholas Loockerman's home farm containing the slave houses and blacksmith shop was located west of the St. Jones River, probably near the location of the later Bradford-Loockerman House (K-112) approximately one and a quarter miles

southwest of the Loockerman Range Site. Thus the structures and goods inventoried in Nicholas Loockerman's 1771 inventory cannot be directly associated with the Loockerman's Range Site which appears to have not been occupied into the 1770s and probably not past 1765 when Nicholas Loockerman died.

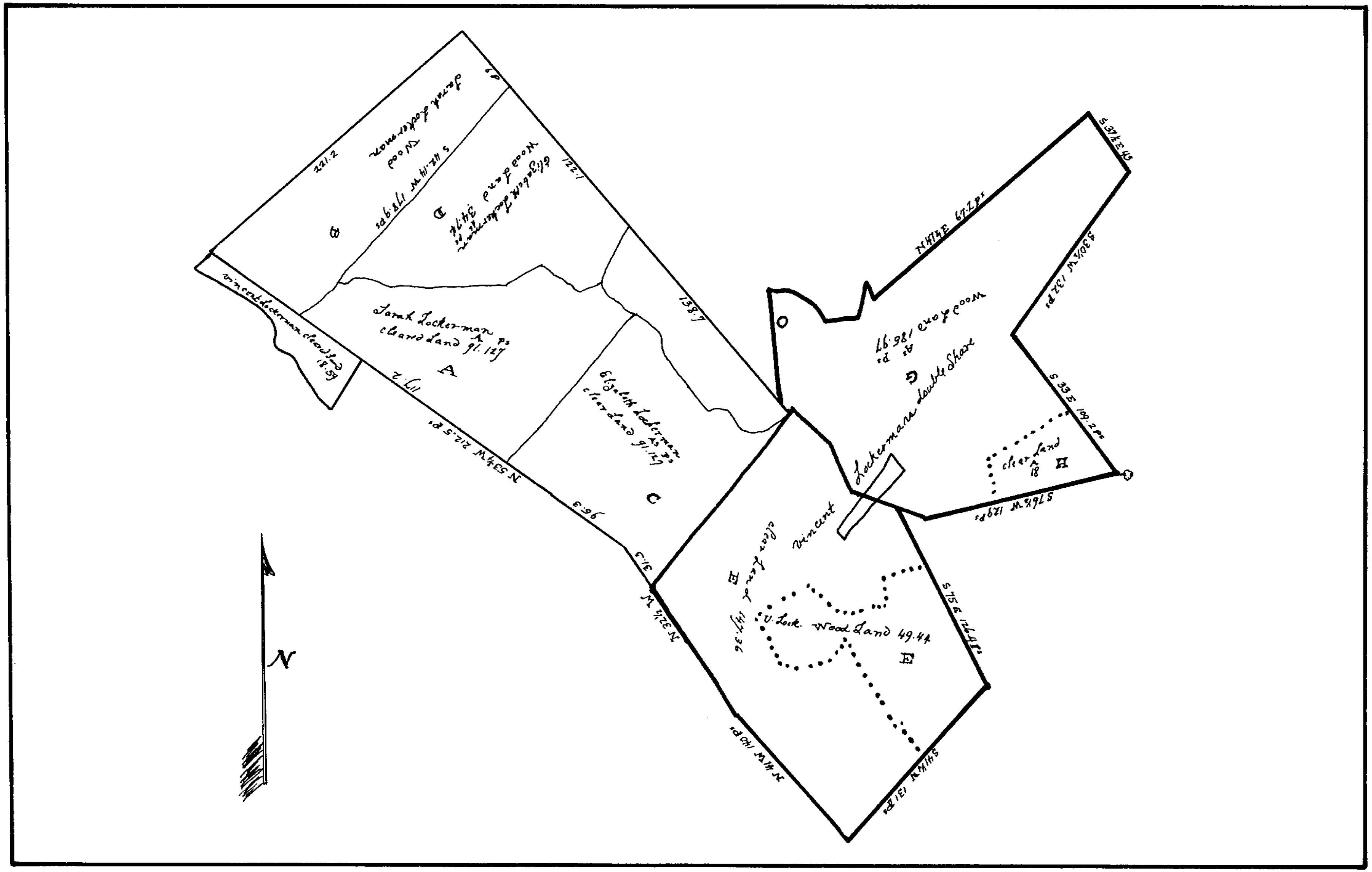
Nicholas Loockerman named his son Vincent Loockerman (the Elder) and his grandson Vincent Loockerman (the Younger) as the executors of his will. The younger Vincent was the son of Vincent Loockerman (the Elder) and his first wife, Susannah Beswick. Susannah and Vincent Loockerman were married before 1765 and it is likely that their son Vincent was at least 21 years old by 1771 when he became one of the executors of his grandfather's will.

After the death of Susannah, Vincent Loockerman (the Elder) married Elizabeth Pryor. Vincent and Elizabeth had two children, Elizabeth and Nicholas (II) Loockerman. Vincent Loockerman (the Elder) died in 1785 by which time he held all of his father's land as his son Vincent (the Younger) was probably not legally of age yet. Vincent Loockerman (the Younger) died shortly after his father ca. 1786, before the estate of his father was settled. Both Nicholas and Elizabeth were minors at the time of their father's and grandfather's death.

An 1801 Orphan's Court plat of the division of the land of Vincent Loockerman (the Younger) provides additional evidence of the occupation the Loockerman's Range Site. The plat (Figure 69) shows no structures at the site indicating that the site was gone by 1801. This evidence is consistent with a ca. 1765 end of

FIGURE 69

Loockerman's Range Site, 1801 Orphan's Court Plat of the Land of Vincent Loockerman, the Younger (decd.)



occupation indicated by archival and archaeological data. In 1801 the site was located on a completely wooded 185 acre parcel, "Vincent Loockerman's Double Share," (Figure 69) south of Muddy Run and east of the road from Dover to Leipsic (present Route 88). This Vincent Loockerman was the son of Vincent the Younger and was also referred to as "Vincent Loockerman, Junior."

The Loockerman's Range Site parcel remained in the Loockerman family until 1813. In that year, Vincent and Ann Loockerman, the two remaining heirs of Vincent Loockerman (the Younger) sold 1,162 acres of land in Dover, Little Creek, and Murderkill hundreds--nearly the entire Loockerman family holdings in Delaware--to Nathaniel Drew. The Loockerman's Range Site was clearly unoccupied by this time and the entire site appears to have still been completely wooded. Subsequent sales of the site (Table 9) as part of a 281 acre property also give no indication of a structure at the site. No structure appears on any later nineteenth century maps, specifically Byles' (1859) and Beers' (1868) historic atlases. Similarly, no diagnostic nineteenth century ceramics such as pearlwares, whitewares, or ironstones were recovered from the site. The absence of these artifacts, which can be found in almost any plowed field in central Delaware, indicates that the site remained uncleared and relatively unutilized through the nineteenth century.

In conclusion, the Loockerman's Range Site is the remains of an agricultural tenancy occupied from ca. 1723-1765. The landowner at the time was Nicholas Loockerman, a noted Dover merchant, farmer, and government officer. Loockerman purchased the property as part of a larger 600 acre tract. The identity of

the tenant is not known. Archival and archaeological evidence indicates that the site was not occupied past 1765, when Nicholas Loockerman died and the property descended to his son Vincent the Elder and his grandson, Vincent the Younger. Both of these heirs died shortly after Nicholas. An Orphans' Court map of the land of Vincent Loockerman (the Younger) in 1801 shows no structure at the site and shows the entire area as a woodland comprising "Vincent Loockerman's Double Share" (Figure 69).

Phase II Survey Results

Phase II testing at the Loockerman's Range Site identified the remains of a small agricultural tenancy occupied from ca. 1723-1765. Phase II testing identified the limits of the site and attempted to recover as much information from the site as possible because the site was threatened by the proposed construction of a parking lot by the present owners, Dover Downs. This parking lot has not been built as of July 1990, but is still slated for construction by Dover Downs Raceway.

A total of 37 shovel test pits and 84 5' x 5' test units were excavated by Phase II testing and salvage operations at the site. A contiguous area of 2,025 square feet was excavated by the 5' x 5' test units. Shovel test pits were excavated on a 10' grid and were placed north west of the core area exposed by the test units to determine the limits of the site. The location of all Phase II tests, the limits of the site and the core area is shown in (Figure 70).

Archaeological testing located a total of 11 intact subsurface features. Eight intact historic features (Features 2-

FIGURE 70

Loockerman's Range Site, Location of All Phase II Excavations and the Core Area

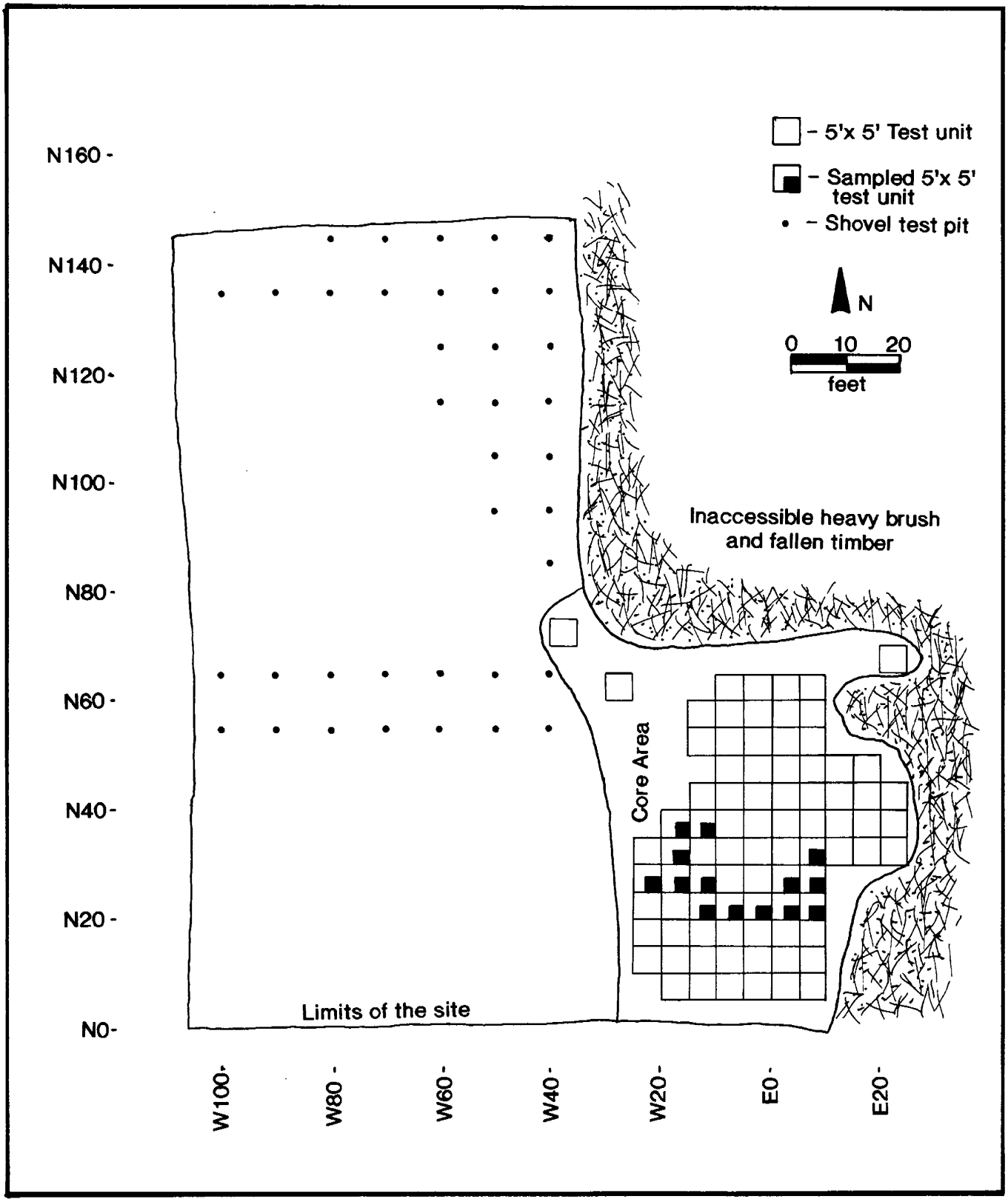


FIGURE 71

Loockerman's Range Site, Location of Features 1-11 and Probable Domestic Structure

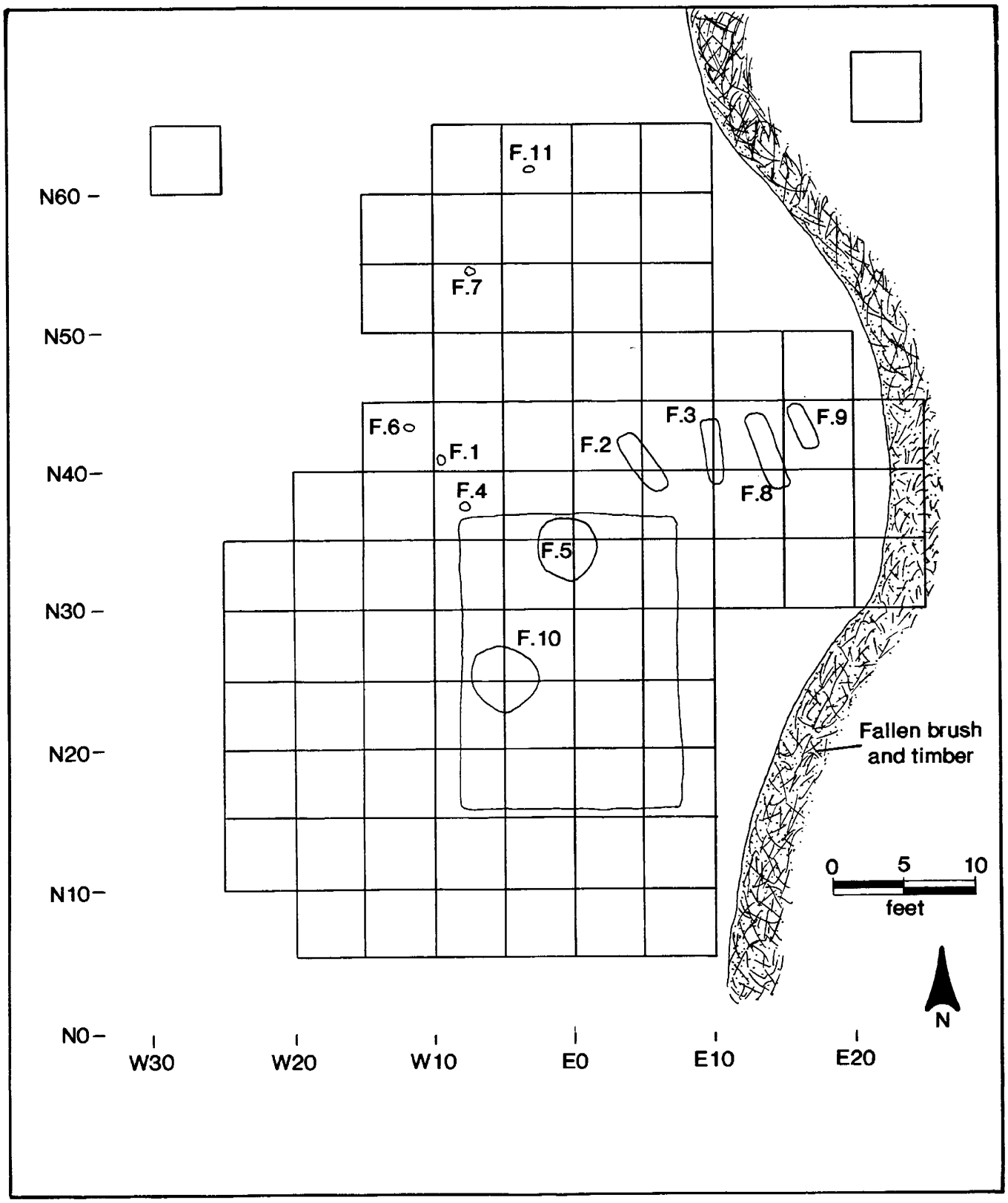


TABLE 10

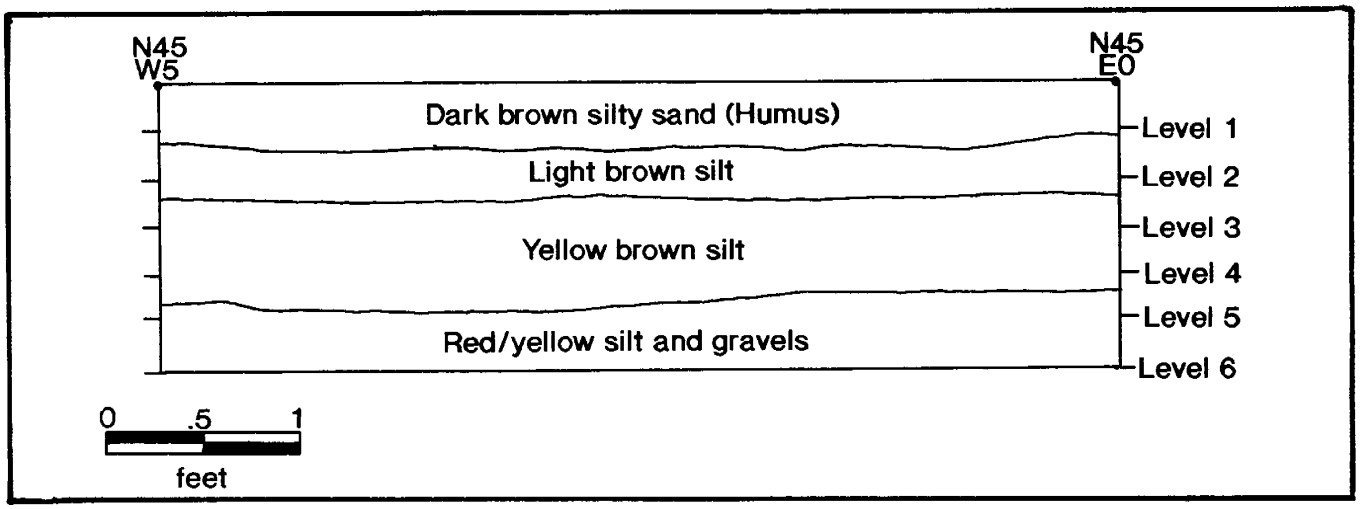
FEATURES IDENTIFIED AT THE LOOCKERMAN'S HOUSE SITE (K-6388B, 7K-C-365B)

Feature	T.U.	Excavation	Cultural Association
1	N40W10	Complete	Non-Cultural; Rodent Borrow
2	N35E5, N35E0	Complete	Historic Grave
3	N35E5	Complete	Historic Grave
4	N35W10	Complete	Historic Postmold
5	N35W5	Complete	Historic Hearth
6	N40W15	Complete	Non-Cultural; Rodent Borrow
7	N50W5	Complete	Prehistoric Hearth
8	N40E10, N45E10	Complete	Historic Grave
9	N40E15, N45E15	Complete	Historic Grave
10	N25W5, N20W5 N20W10, N25W10	Complete	Historic Trash Pit or Root Cellar
11	N60W5	Complete	Historic Postmold
12	13-E(N50W5)	Complete	Prehistoric Chipping Feature

5, 8-11) were identified. Testing also identified one prehistoric feature: Feature 7, a small hearth apparently unrelated to the large chipping feature excavated during Phase I testing. Two non-cultural features (Features 1 and 6) were also identified. All of the historic features were identified in the core area of the site exposed by the test units. The location of one domestic structure was located. The location of Features 1-11 and the domestic structure within the core area is shown in Figure 71. A summary of Features 1-11 is given in Table 10.

FIGURE 72

Loockerman's Range Site, Profile of the North Wall of Test Unit N40W5



All test units were excavated according to arbitrary 0.25" (3 inch) levels that roughly corresponded to the natural stratigraphy of the site (Figure 72). All excavated soils were screened through 1/4" hardware mesh. The soils from Level 1 (humus) from fourteen 5' x 5' test units, however, were not completely screened. These test units (shown in Figure 70) were excavated to expose the limits of known features and only the southeast quadrant of each unit was screened. All of each subsequent level, however, was screened. The decision to screen only part of Level 1 was made during the final salvage phase at the site.

A total of eight historic features were identified at the Loockerman's Range Site. All of these features were located in intact subsoil deposits as the site is unplowed. Four of the features (Features 4, 5, 10, and 11) provide the primary evidence of domestic activity at the site. The most important of these features were Feature 5, a large hearth, and Feature 10, a root

cellar. Feature 5 was located near N35E0 and Feature 10 was located approximately ten feet to the southwest near N25W5 (Figure 71). Both features appear to have been associated with the same structure. The remaining four features (Features 2, 3, 8, and 9) were the remains of four human graves. The historic graves will be discussed separately from the occupation-related features.

The primary evidence of a structure at the Loockerman's Range Site are Features 5 and 10. Feature 5 is the remains of a brick-lined hearth (Plate 6). Feature 5 was first located in N35E0 and was subsequently exposed in Test Units N30E0, N30W5, and N35W5. A plan view of Feature 5 at the bottom of Level 1 at 0.25 inches below ground surface is shown in Figure 73. Feature 5 was identified by a large, roughly circular stain of bright orange brown clay that contained large pieces of burnt brick, charcoal, and carbonized wood fragments. The clay had been burnt to a bright color and a hard consistency. Surrounding the area of most intense heat defined by the clay, brick, and charred wood were areas of yellow brown sand. These areas, the periphery of Feature 5, continued numerous charcoal flecks, small chunks of carbonized wood, and small chinks of fired mud daub chinking. The presence of both brick fragments and burnt daub chinking indicates that the base of the hearth was probably brick-lined with a clay and wood chimney. No such evidence of chinking was found in the central portion of Feature 5 and it is likely that when the structure was destroyed, the wooden chimney collapsed around what remained of the brick portion of the hearth.

PLATE 6

Feature 5, A Brick Hearth at the Loockerman's Range Site

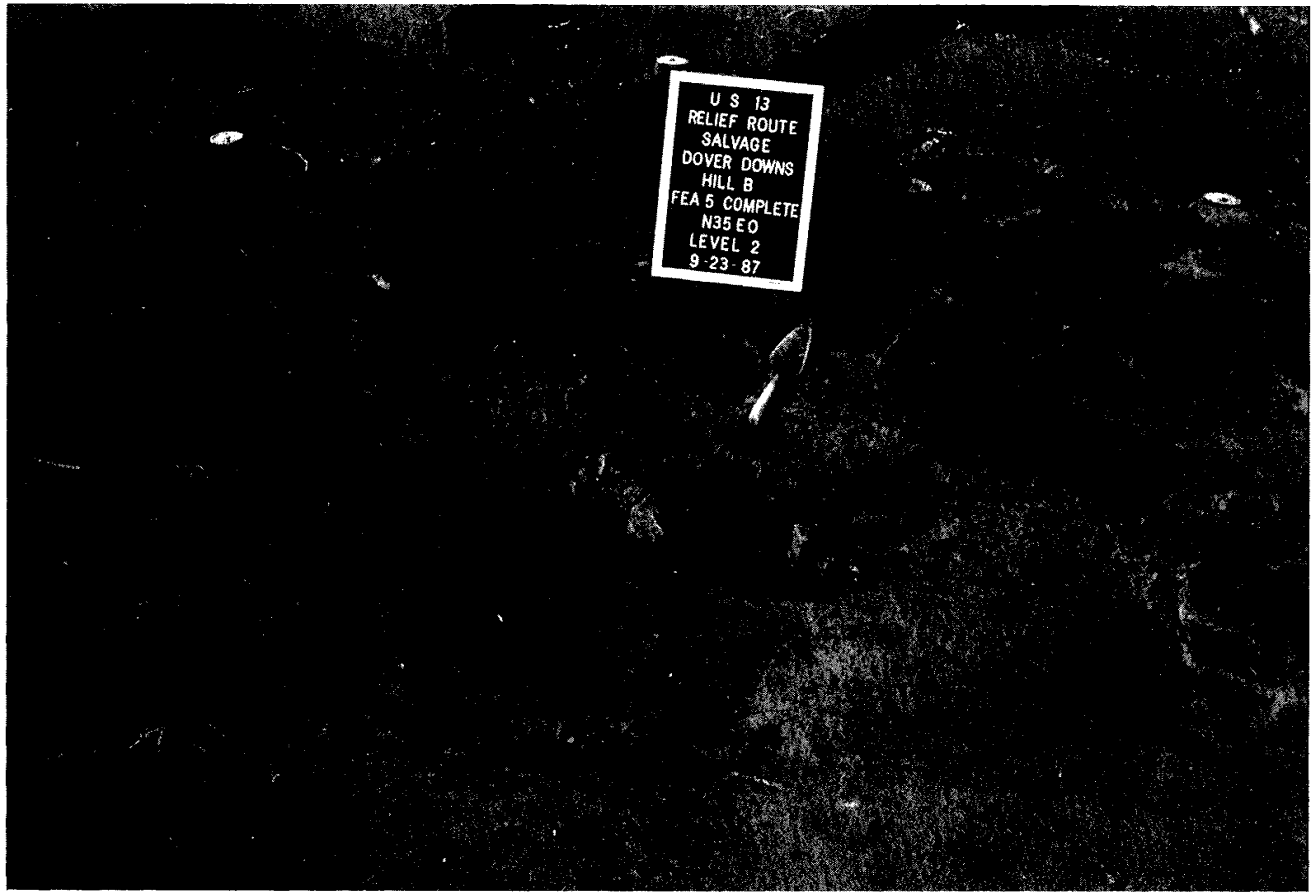
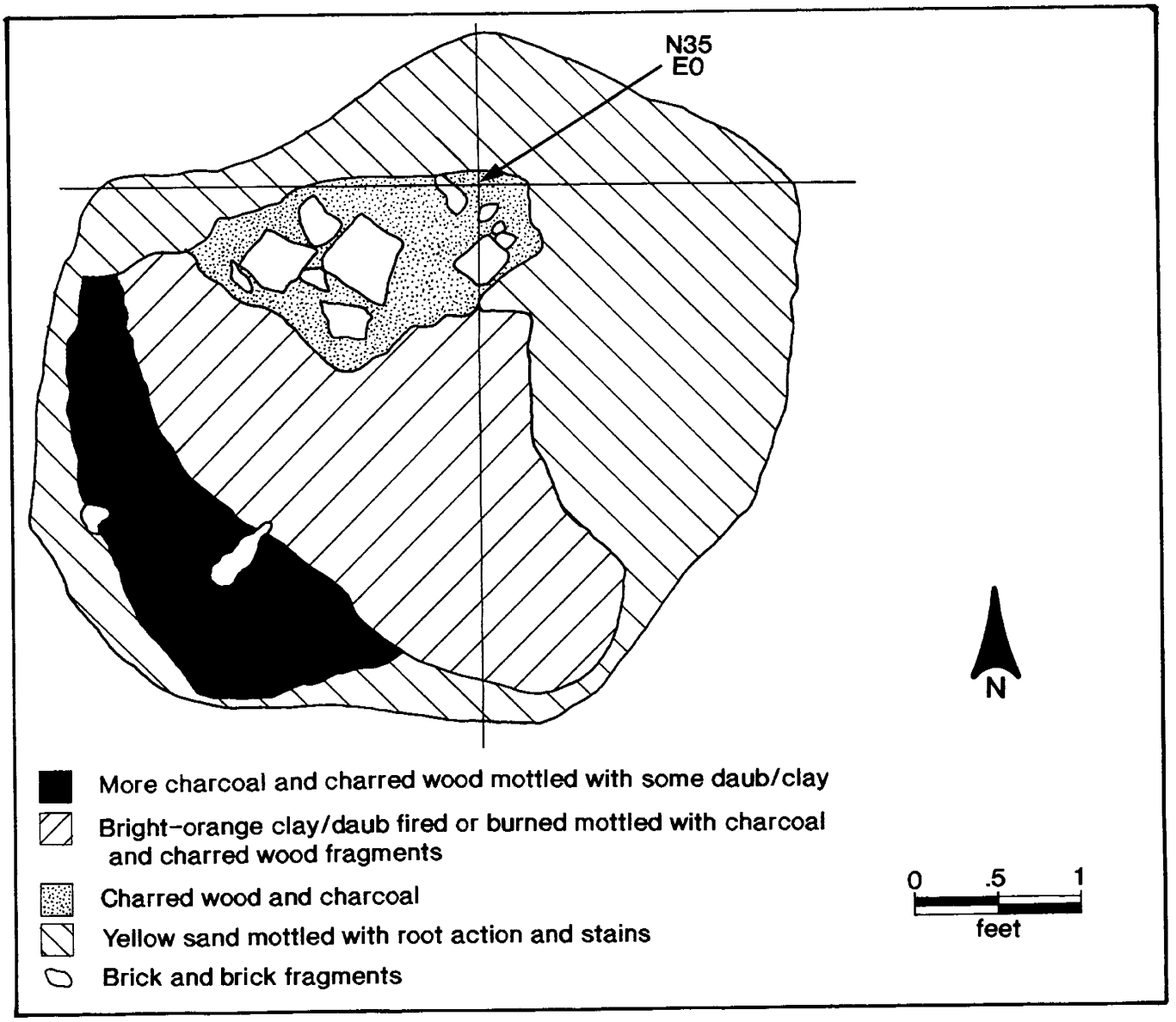


FIGURE 73

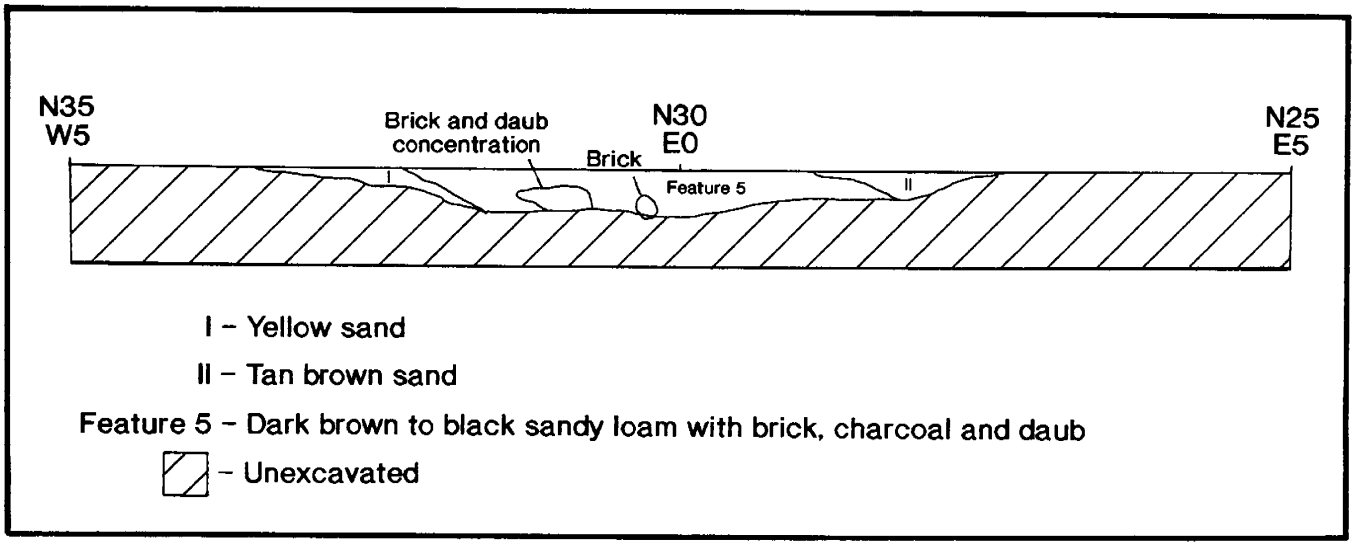
Loockerman's Range Site, Plan View of Feature 5



Feature 5 was completely excavated and was found to be less than 0.3' deep. A profile of Feature 5 appears in Figure 74. The feature was unstratified. No complete bricks were found suggesting that the hearth was robbed. Beneath the burnt clay cap of the hearth, a dark brown-black, highly organic, sandy loam was encountered. This soil extended over most of Feature 5,

FIGURE 74

Loockerman's Range Site, Profile of Feature 5 (Hearth)



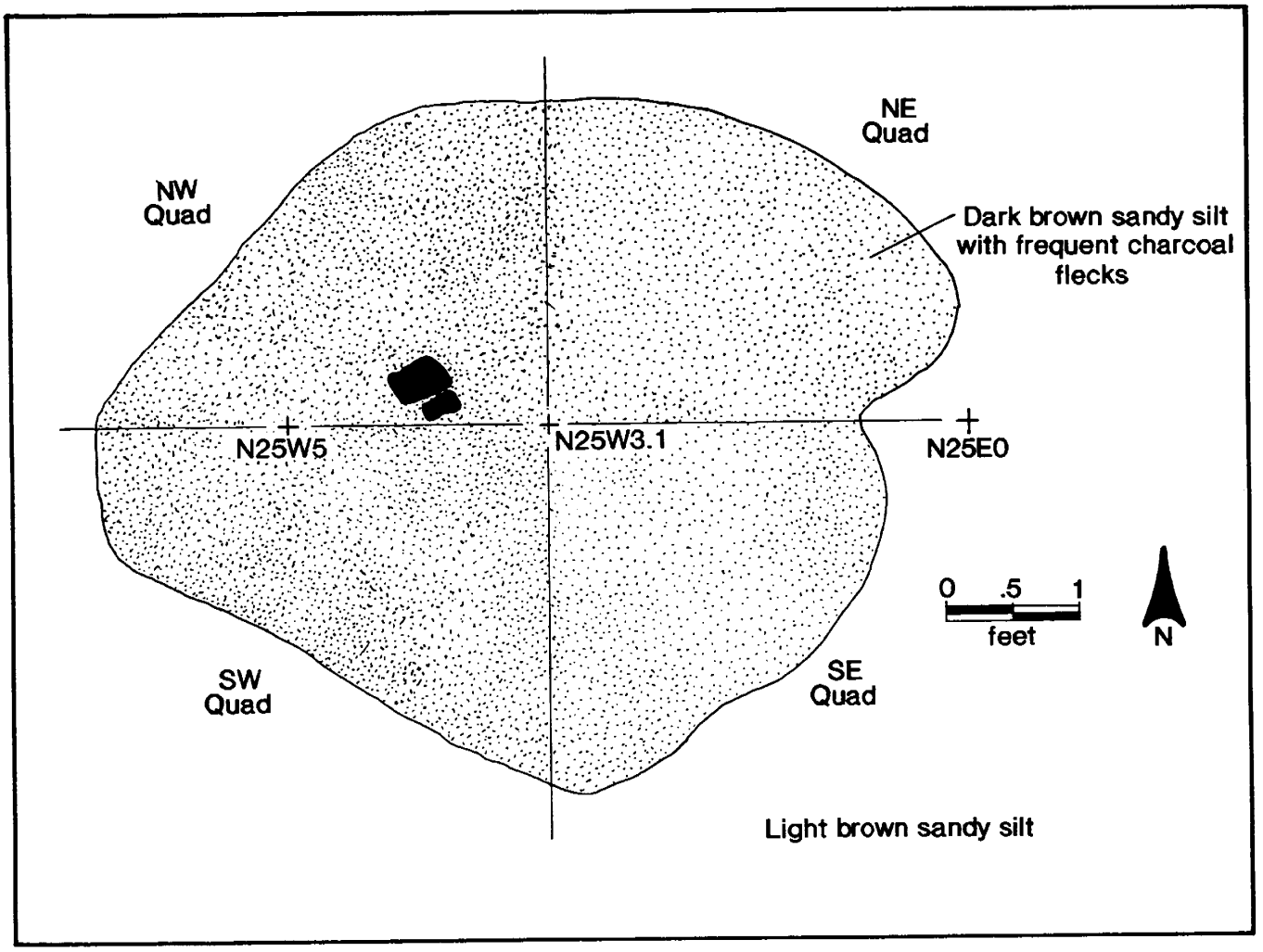
except along the periphery of the feature where yellow and tan-brown sands were encountered (Figure 74). Embedded in the dark brown feature fill were numerous small brick fragments and isolated concentrations of burnt brick, bright orange clay, and fired mud daub.

Feature 5 was excavated by quarters and the soil screened separately. Relatively few historic artifacts, however, were recovered. In addition to approximately four dozen brick fragments, four non-diagnostic nail fragments, and one small redware body sherd were recovered from the feature fill. Three carbonized nut hull fragments, probably walnut shells, and seven small pieces of fired sandstone were also recovered. The sandstone fragments are further evidence of the relatively substantial construction of the hearth.

No evidence of any postmolds or other structural supports were found near Feature 5. The only other evidence of a

FIGURE 75

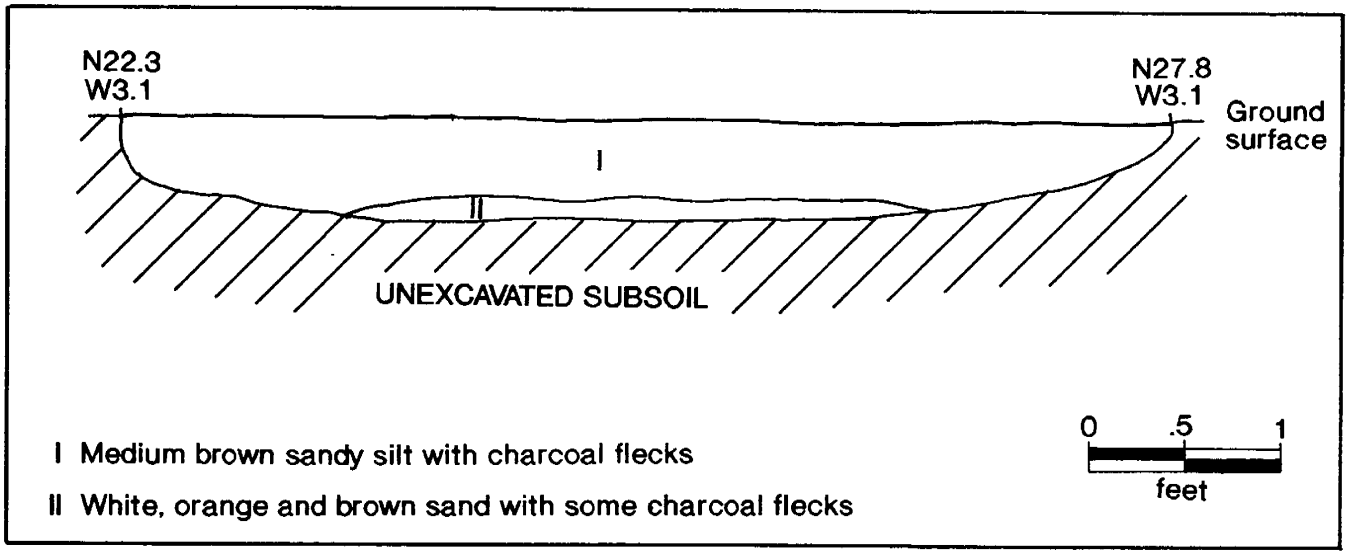
Loockerman's Range Site, Floor Plan of Feature 10 (Root Cellar)



structure was Feature 10, the remains of a small root cellar approximately six feet southwest of Feature 5. Feature 10 was defined by a roughly circular, amorphous stain approximately 5.5' in diameter (Figure 75). The soil of Feature 10 was a medium to dark brown silty clay that was slightly darker than the surrounding brown silty clay subsoil. Numerous small flecks of charcoal also defined the feature.

FIGURE 76

Loockerman's Range Site, Profile of the West Wall of Feature 10



Like the hearth, Feature 10 was shallow. Feature 10 was completely excavated and found to extend to only 0.5' below ground surface (Figure 76). Unlike the hearth, however, Feature 10 was stratified. Underlying the medium brown sandy silt feature fill of Feature 10 was a thin layer of mottled white, orange, and brown sands. These sands contained similar historic artifacts (including fragments of slip-decorated redwares and Staffordshire earthenwares) as the first level of Feature 10, but were different from the surrounding brown silty clay subsoil. These sands were probably deposited when the root cellar was dug to line the depression and improve drainage.

Both strata of Feature 10 contained similar diagnostic mid-eighteenth century artifacts representing a range of domestic and structural types. A total of 26 historic ceramics sherds were recovered: two sherds of slip-decorated redwares, twelve redware sherds, eight Whieldonware, and four Staffordshire earthenware sherds. The presence of Whieldon and Staffordshire wares (mean

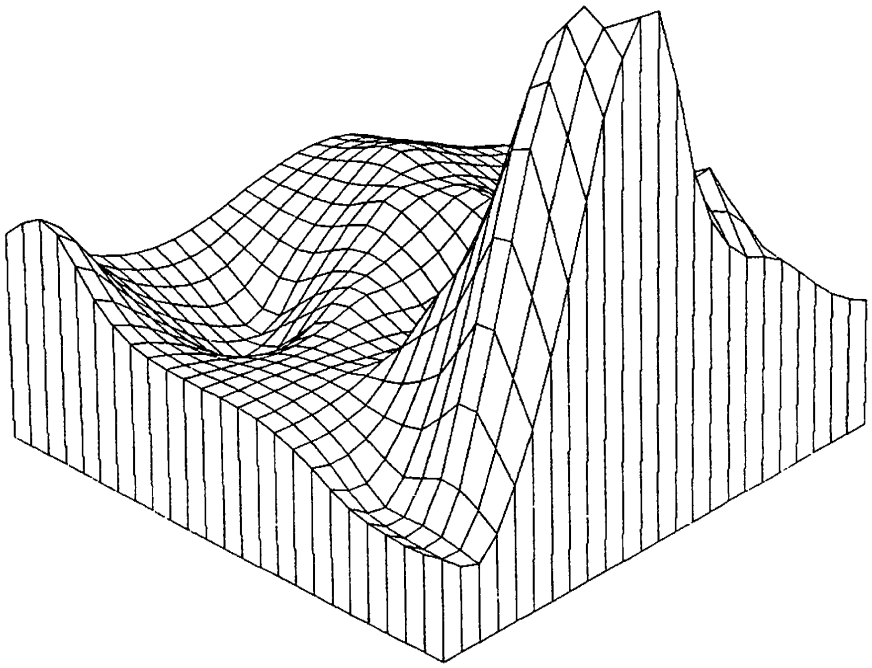
ceramic dates of 1733 and 1760 respectively) clearly date Feature 10 to ca. the second quarter of the eighteenth century, the same period indicated by archival research. All of these sherds, however, were small, relatively non-diagnostic body sherds and no closer analysis of form or decoration was possible. In addition to historic ceramics, Feature 10 also contained three kaolin pipe bowl fragments, four olive bottle glass fragments, and one unidentifiable animal bone fragment. Structurally-related artifacts consisted of two badly corroded and unidentifiable nail fragments and approximately two dozen small brick fragments.

No other clearly identifiable structural features, such as large, paired postmolds or evidence of a foundation, were located at the Loockerman's Range Site. The lack of any such features in an unplowed context suggest that all of the structures at the site were set upon wooden blocks. Such construction was common in the mid-eighteenth century, particularly among tenant buildings, and leaves little archaeological evidence of a structure (Herman 1987a:84-85).

The distribution of total historic artifacts over the site clearly identifies the areas of Features 5 and 10 as the primary locus of domestic activity at the site. As shown in Figure 77, total historic artifact density around features 5 and 10 was very high--above 100 artifacts per 5' x 5' test unit. Artifact density surrounding these two features was generally medium to high at between 50 and 85 artifacts per test unit. One other area of medium to high artifact density, 51 to 117 artifacts per test unit, was located north of Features 5 and 10 and the graves in the vicinity of Test Unit N45E5.

FIGURE 77

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Total Historic Artifacts



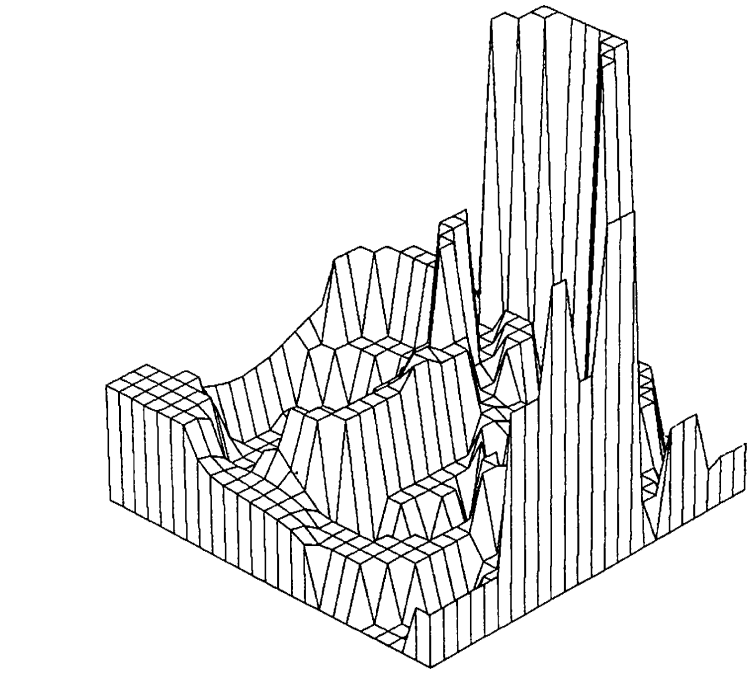
The distribution of historic ceramics shows a similar locus of domestic activity associated with Features 5 and 10. Figure 78 shows the distribution of historic ceramics at the Loockerman's Range Site. The density of historic ceramics near Features 5 and 10 ranged from 20 to an estimated 300 (i.e. 78 artifacts in one quarter of the unit) artifacts per test unit. The upper limit of the density of historic ceramics is not precisely known as not all of the soil from each test unit was screened. For approximately half of the test units near Features 5 and 10, only one quarter of the soil from the southeast quadrant of each 5' X 5' test unit was screened. The location of these sampled units is noted on all of the artifact density maps, including the distribution of historic ceramics in Figure 78.

One other area of high ceramic density was located near the northern limit of excavation. A density of greater than 40 artifacts per test unit was noted near N45E0. This density corresponds to an overall high density of historic artifacts noted in Figure 77. This density does not appear to be associated with any structure and probably relates to yard scatter and trash disposal patterns associated with a possible fence line represented by the two fence post features, Features 4 and 11, located to the west in test units N35E0 and N60W5 respectively. Both areas of high historic ceramic density at the site are reflected in the distribution of all redwares (Figure 79) and non-redware ceramics (Figure 80).

The density of architecturally-related artifacts (nails, window glass, and brick fragments) provides further evidence of a structure associated with Features 5 and 10. The distribution of

FIGURE 78

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Historic Ceramics



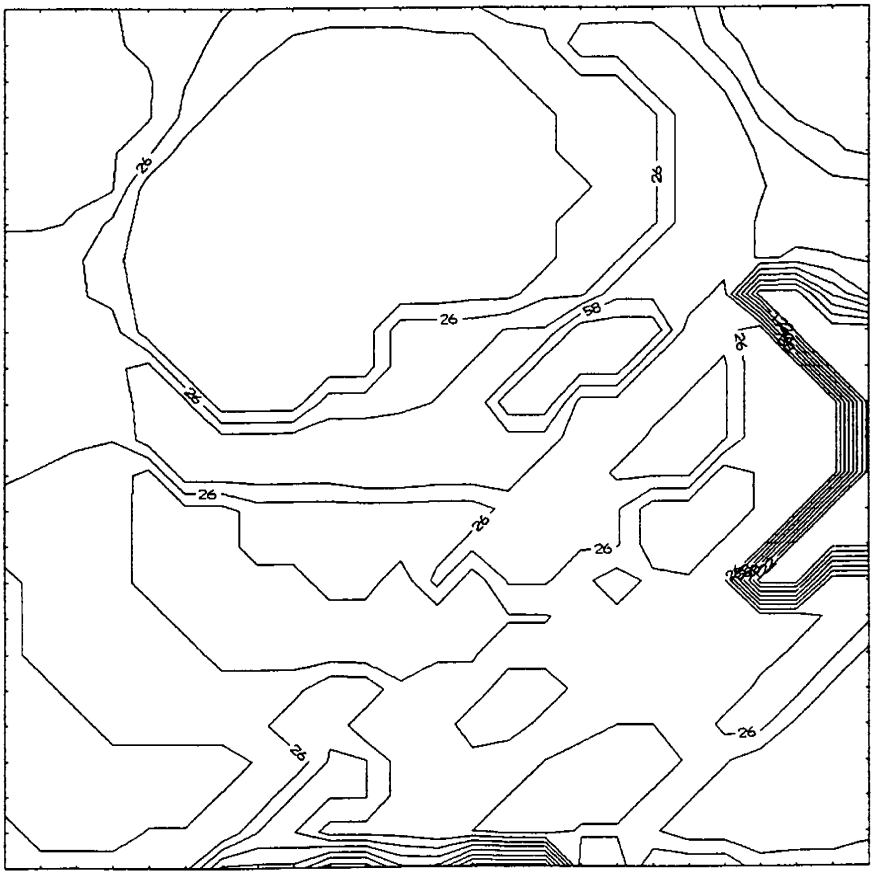


FIGURE 79

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Redwares

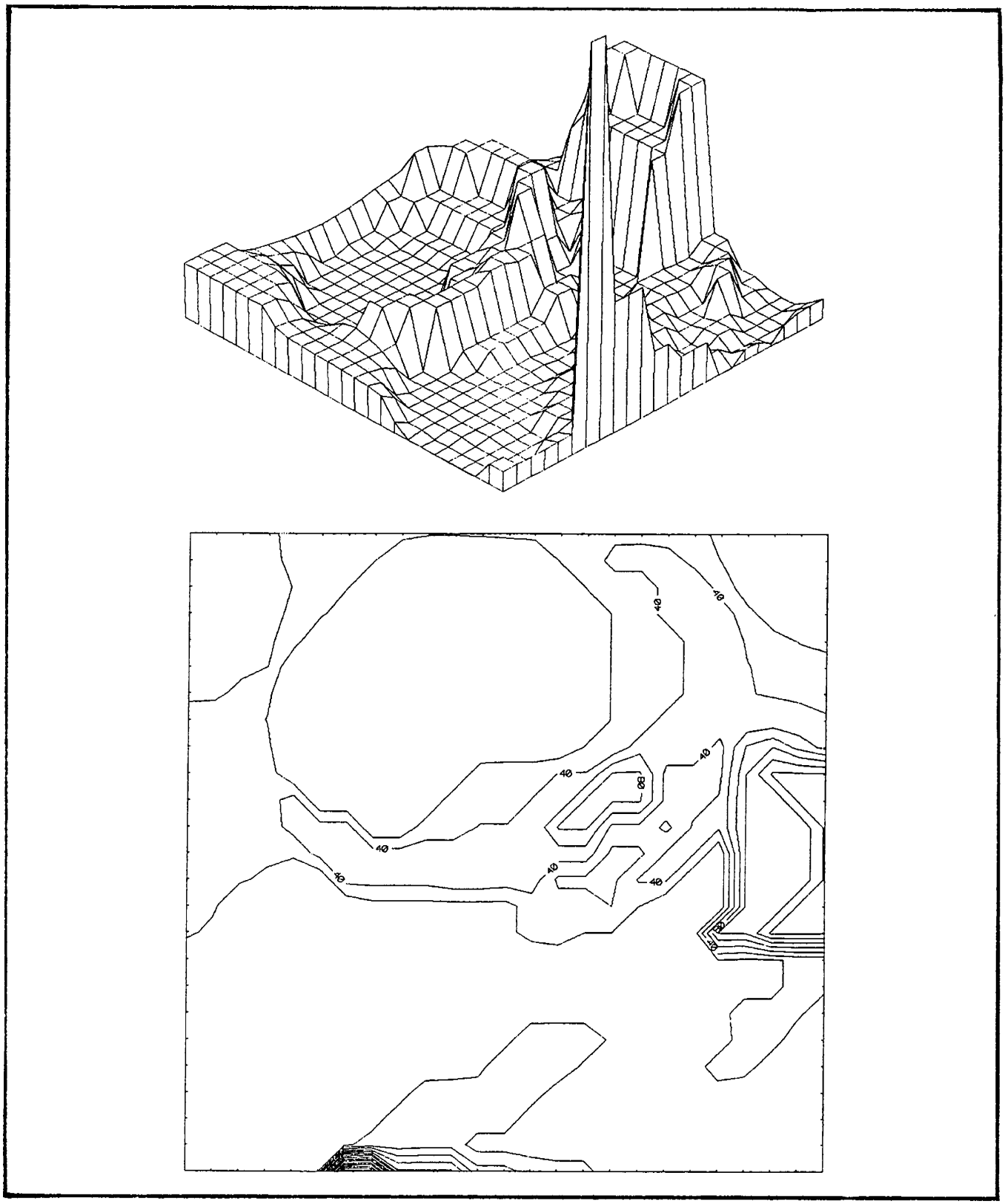
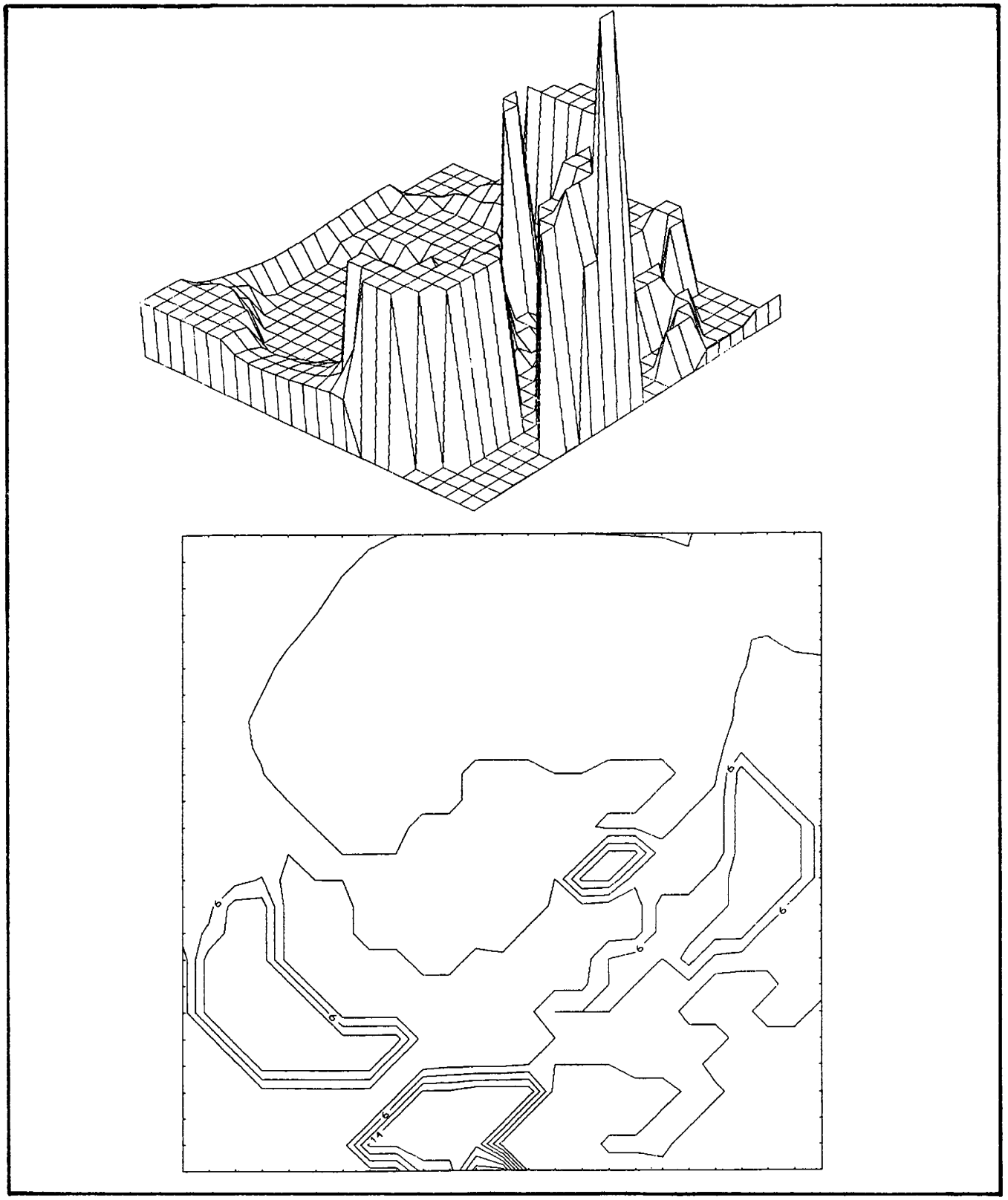


FIGURE 80

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Non-Redwares



such artifacts also indicates the orientation of the building and suggests some of its major architectural features.

The distribution of brick (Figure 81) shows clearly the location of the hearth (Feature 5) and thus one of the gable ends of the building. With the northern end of the structure a gable end with a brick hearth and wooden chimney, the structure was oriented north to south with an entrance on the east side of the building, orienting it to the Dover to Leipsic road approximately 400 feet to the east. Such an orientation would place the root cellar, Feature 10, slightly off-center of the middle of the building where it could have been accessible to two rooms if the interior of the tenant house was divided. Such a division of interior space was typical of small tenant and owner-occupied buildings of the period (Herman 1987a:15).

The distribution of window glass (Figure 82) and nails (Figure 83) over the site also indicates clearly the presence of a structure over Features 5 and 10. The distribution of window glass along the W5 and W10 lines indicates the location of the western, non-gable wall of the structure. It is likely that this wall had a window in it. Such a window, located probably near the middle of the wall, would have been opposite the doorway located along the east wall, another typical feature of mid-eighteenth century tenant structures in central Delaware (Herman 1987a:15).

The overall dimensions of the tenant structure at the Loockerman's Range Site is approximately 15' by 20'. More precise dimensions are impossible because of the lack of any

FIGURE 81

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Brick

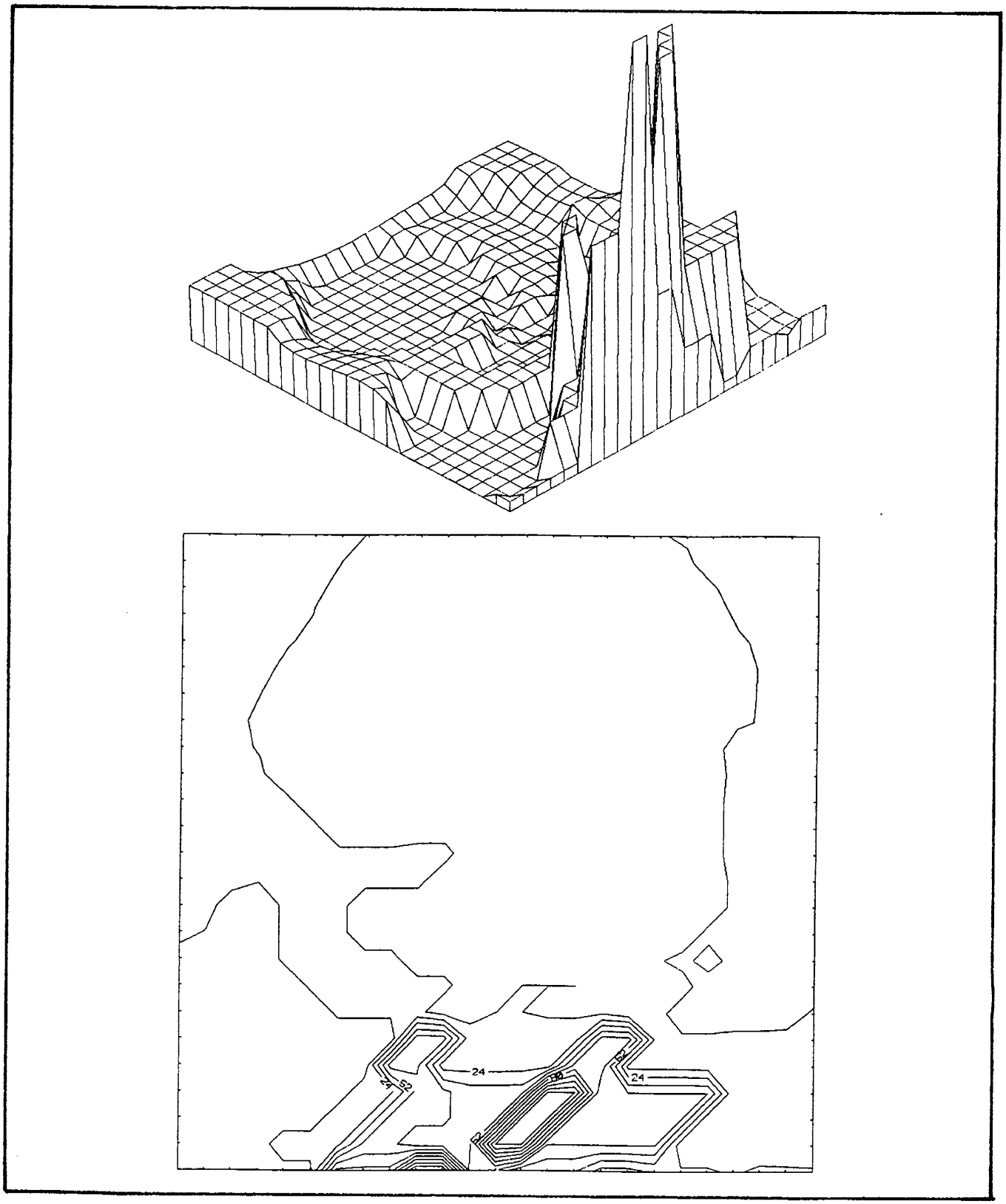


FIGURE 82

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Window Glass

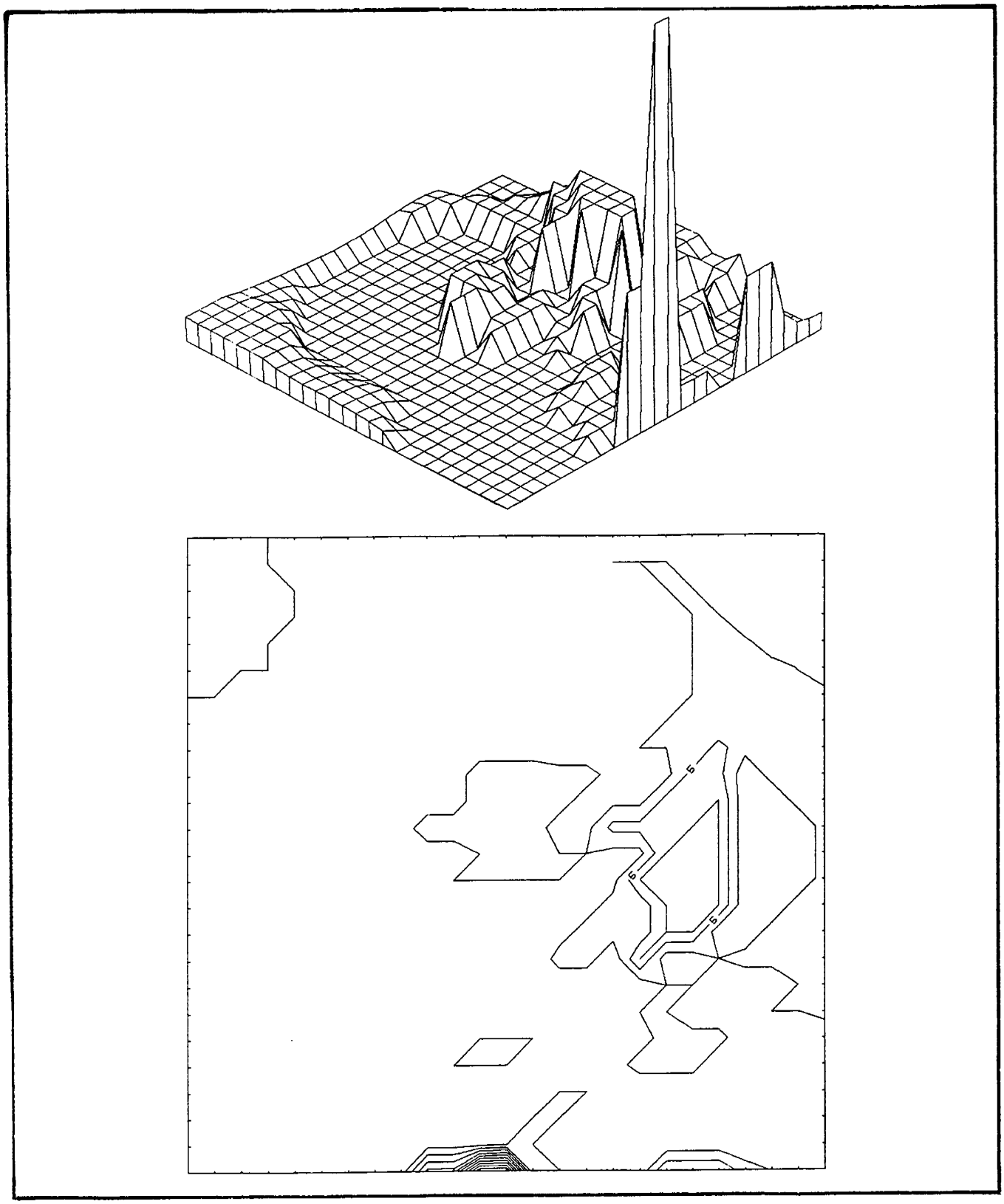
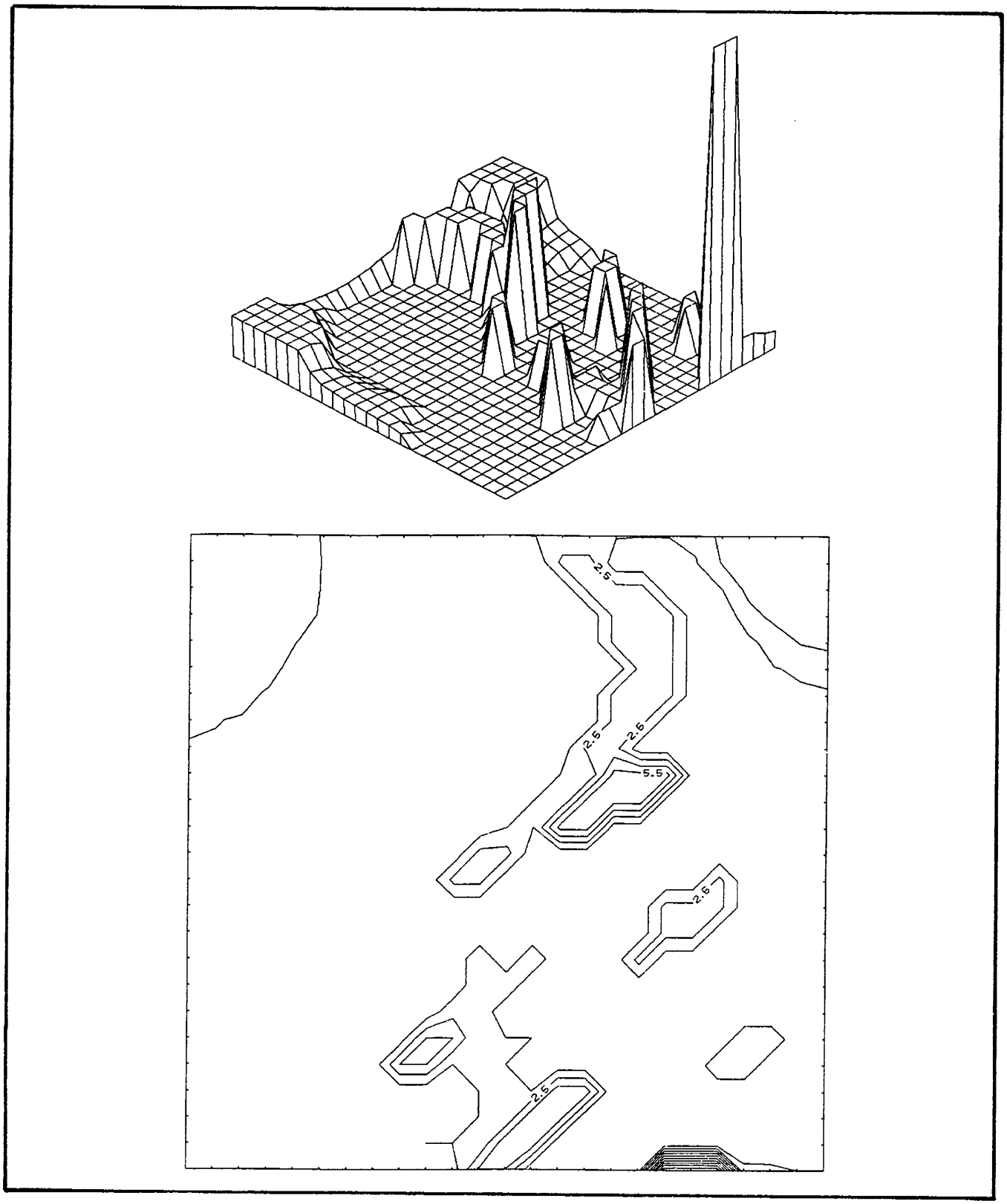


FIGURE 83

Loockerman's Range Site, Distribution of Nails



other structural features such as paired postmolds or evidence of piers or wooden blocks. The total square area of the structure, assuming dimensions of 15' by 20', would have been approximately 300 square feet--well within the range of 288 to 488 square feet identified by Herman (1987b:6-8) as typical of mid-eighteenth century tenant structures in Delaware.

The overall small size of the Loockerman's Range Site structure suggests that it could have been either a dwelling or a detached kitchen. Both such structures would have had both a hearth and root cellar; indeed the re-use of dwellings as kitchens later in the eighteenth century and into the nineteenth century has been noted for a number of sites in northern and central Delaware (Herman 1987a:63-64).

Although the dimensions are not known for any of Nicholas Loockerman's other mid-eighteenth century agricultural tenancies, such information is known for five tenant farms owned by Elizabeth and Nicholas L. Loockerman in 1787. Nicholas L. and Elizabeth Loockerman were the heirs of Vincent Loockerman (the Younger) and as minors in 1787, owned estates under the care of the Kent County Orphan's Court. The dimensions of the structures on each of the five tenant farms owned by the two Loockerman heirs were described by the Orphan's Court assessors. These dimensions are summarized in Table 11.

Although the structures described in 1787 significantly postdate the Loockerman's Range structure, it is possible to draw some comparisons. The 15' x 20' dimensions of the Loockerman's Range Site appear to match most closely the size of the kitchens.

TABLE 11

DIMENSIONS (IN FEET) OF THE TENANT FARMS OWNED BY NICHOLAS L. AND ELIZABETH LOOCKERMAN, THE HEIRS OF VINCENT LOOCKERMAN, THE YOUNGER, DECD. (1787)

Tenant	Dwelling	Kitchen	Smokehouse	Barn	Corn Crib
David Harper	20 x 30	16 x 14	10 x 10		
___ Taylor	unspec.	16 x 14	12 x 12	25 x 20	16 x 7
"Betsy Place"	20 x 30	16 x 14	10 x 10	25 x 20	16 x 7
___ Bennett	20 x 30	16 x 14	10 x 10		16 x 7
Henry Rinch	20 x 30			25 x 20	

Source: Kent County Orphan's Court, D-1-147

Each kitchen was 16' x 14'. The typical size of the dwellings, at 20' x 30', is too large and the smokehouses, typically 10' x 10', are too small. The consistently larger dwelling size noted in 1787, however, may reflect rebuilding at each of these farms and may not be comparable to the Loockerman's Range Site occupied more than twenty years earlier. Furthermore, the size of different function structures is known to have varied greatly in the eighteenth century. Thus, although it is possible to identify the Loockerman' Range Site structure as a domestic structure--either a dwelling or a kitchen--it is difficult to determine which function archaeologically.

The distribution of historic ceramics and architecturally-related artifacts over the site (Figures 77-83) suggests the presence of another structure near the northeastern limit of excavation. This area was obscured by heavy brush and fallen timber deposited during the clearing of the site by bulldozer by

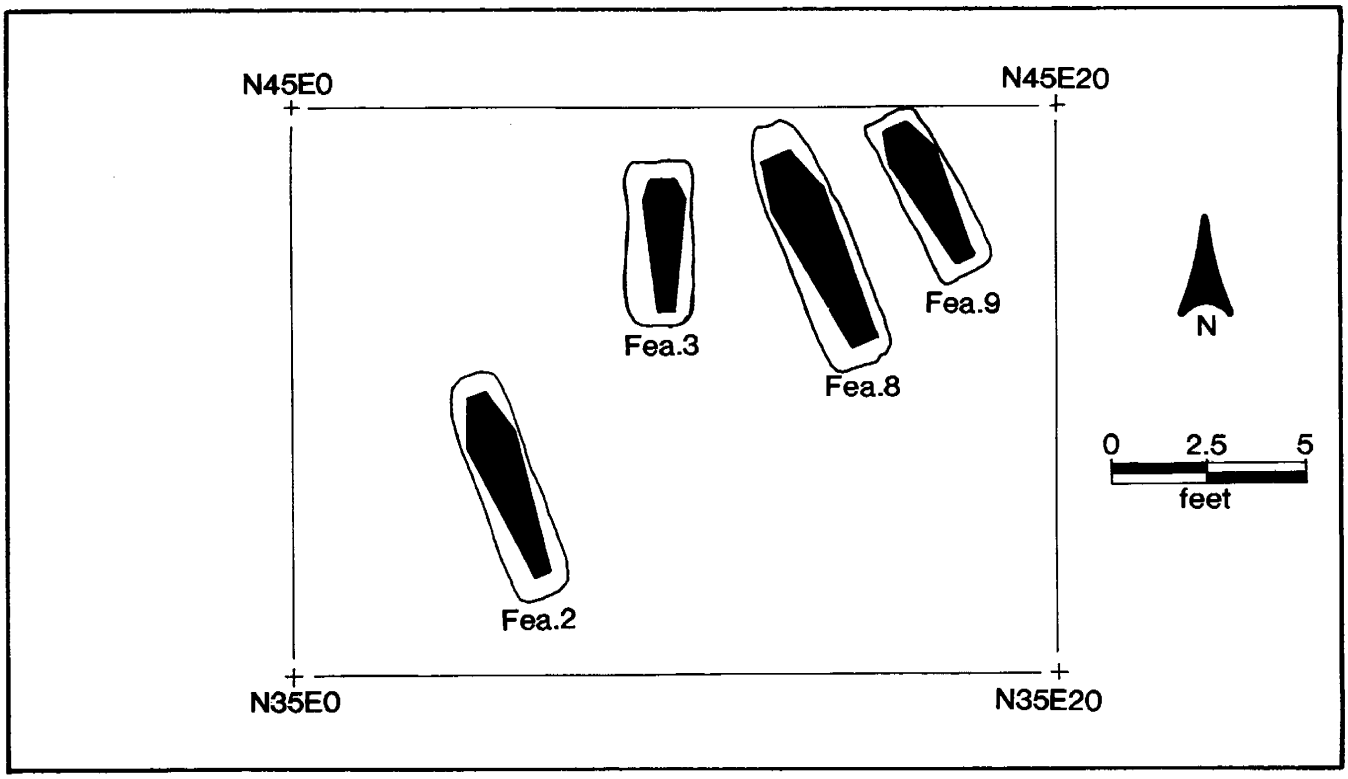
Dover Downs prior to the proposed construction of a parking lot. This area was impenetrable and, except for one test unit (N70E15), no archaeological testing was possible. Although medium to high densities of historic artifacts, particularly historic ceramics, brick, window glass, and nails fragments, were noted, no evidence of a structure was located by test unit N70E15. In addition, no significant artifact densities were noted in Test Unit N70E15. The possibility that another structure, probably a domestic structure exists.

The remaining historic features identified at the Loockerman's Range Site were four unmarked human graves. These graves (Features 2, 3, 8, and 9) were located in a single 20' by 10' area located in test units N35E0-N35E20 and N40E0-N40E15 (Figure 84). The area of the graves was located approximately ten feet northeast of the hearth and the north wall of the structure represented by Features 5 and 10. All of the graves were oriented along a similar northwest to southeast axis, although the westernmost grave, Feature 2, is located slightly apart from the other graves. The similar orientation and proximity of all the graves indicates that the graves are all contemporary and were excavated over a relatively short period of time.

Each of the graves was located during the excavation of the first level (0.25' feet below ground surface). Each grave was defined by a rectangular stain of mottled yellow, tan, and red sands surrounded by an undisturbed yellow brown silty sand subsoil. These soils represented subsoil disturbed during the excavation of each grave.

FIGURE 84

Loockerman's Range Site, Location of All Historic Graves (Features 2, 3, 8 and 9)



All of the soils within each grave were removed according to arbitrary 0.25' levels. All soils were screened through 1/4" screen. As expected, no internal stratigraphy was evident in any of the grave shafts. Historic artifacts, including small fragments of redwares and one sherd each of delft and Staffordshire wares were recovered from the grave shafts. Small flecks of charcoal and small amounts of carbonized wood recovered from the fill of each grave. The homogeneity of the different grave shaft soils and of the artifacts recovered from each indicates that the graves are all roughly contemporary and were all excavated over a relatively short period of time.

Each grave was completely excavated, but human remains were located in only one of the graves, Feature 9. Feature 9

contained six molars and three cuspids from a juvenile approximately six years old. The age of the individual in Feature 9 is supported by the small size (4.3' long) of the coffin. A slightly smaller grave, Feature 3, contained a coffin stain measuring 4.0 feet long and is assumed to have contained another subadult (Bachman and Catts 1990:54 and Blakely and Beck 1982:190). No human remains, however were recovered from Feature 3 or from either of the other two graves. In contrast to the two subadult coffin stains, the two adult graves were significantly larger. Feature 2, the westernmost grave, measured 5.8' long. Feature 8, the other adult grave, contained a coffin 5.6' long (Plate 7). All of the graveshafts were a uniform 1.5 feet wide.

The remains of a coffin was identified for each grave. The outline of each coffin was clearly visible within each graveshaft (Figure 84). While no intact pieces of coffin were found for any of the graves, dark gray brown organic stains left by the wood of the coffins were readily visible. Stains of individual boards were sometimes visible in each grave. Coffin nails were also visible in the top of the coffin stains. Coffin remains were identified at between 1.75' (Feature 2, an adult) and 2.6' feet below ground surface (Feature 8, an adult). The two subadult coffins were located at an identical depth of 2.5 feet below ground surface. Figure 85, shows a plan view of Feature 3, one of the subadult graves, at the top of the coffin stain at 2.5' below surface. The configuration of the coffin stain and grave shaft and the location of the coffin nails are typical of the other three graves at the site. The profile of the coffin and

PLATE 7

Feature 8, Loockerman's Range Site

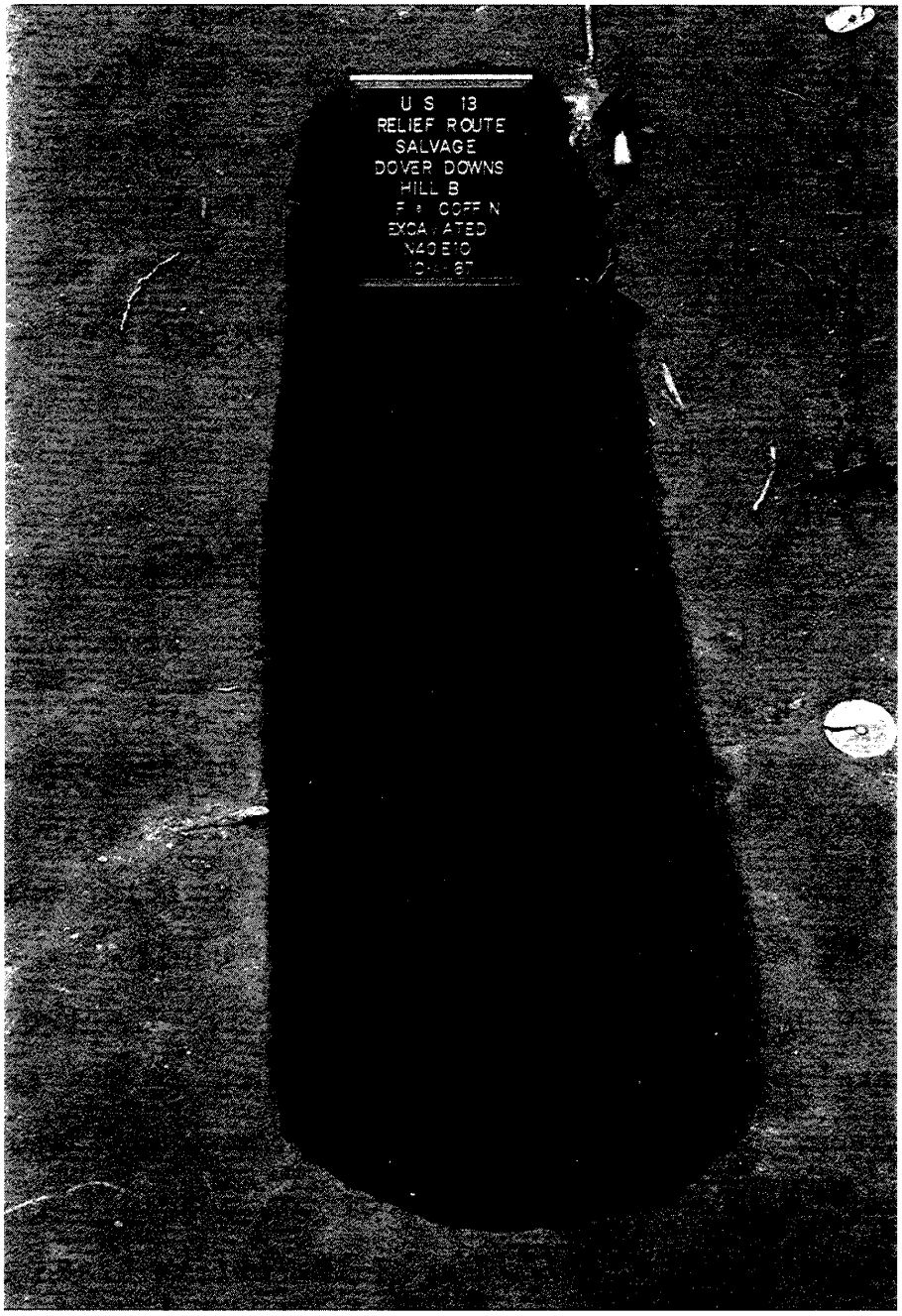
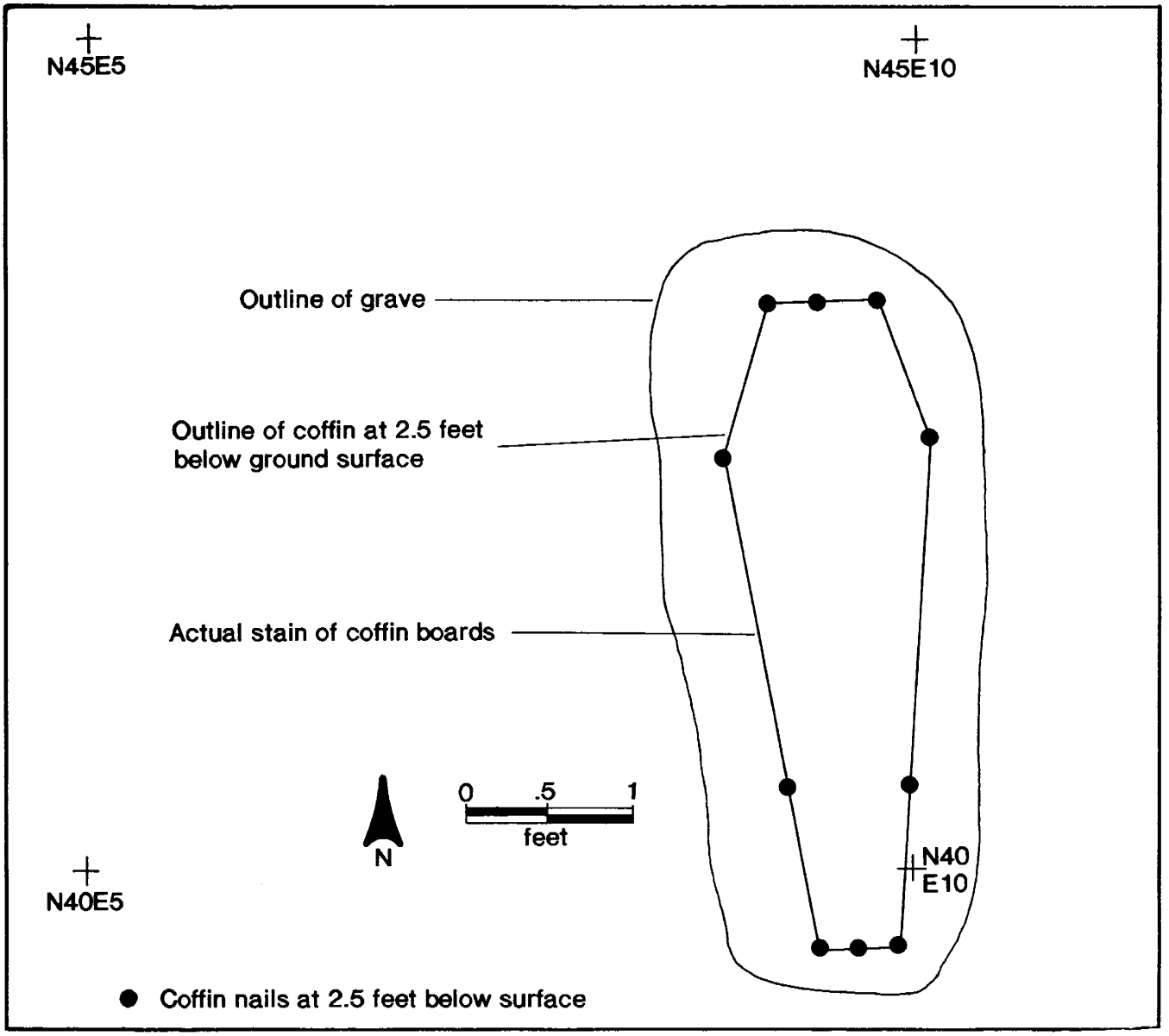


FIGURE 85

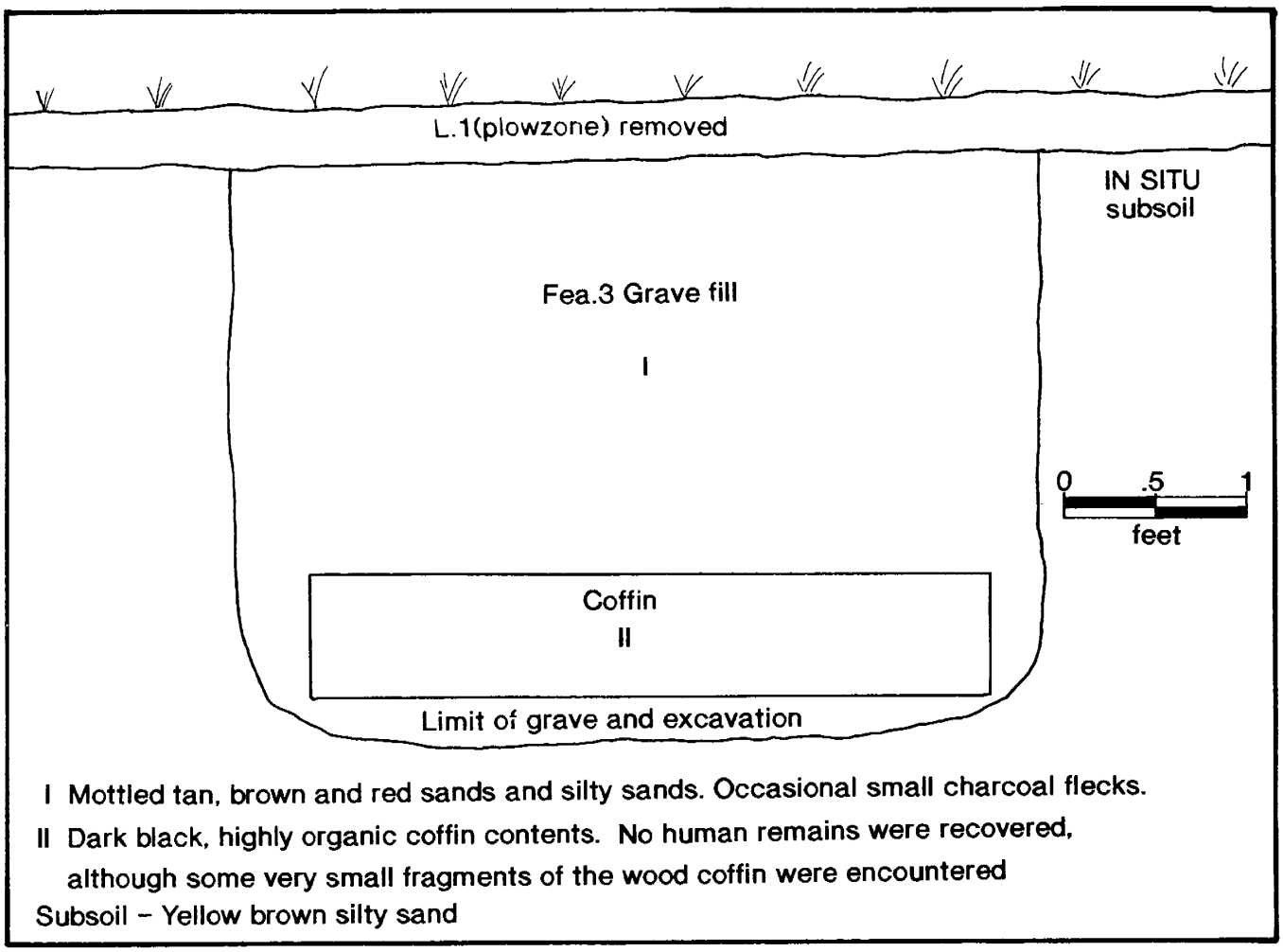
Loockerman's Range Site, Plan View of Feature 3 Showing Coffin Stain and Graveshaft



grave shaft of Feature 3 shown in Figure 86 and Feature 8 in Plate 7 are typical of the grave shafts seen at the Loockerman's Range Site. All of the diagnostic nails were cut rather than wrought. Cut nails postdate wrought nails and their presence further indicates that the graves were excavated at the end of the occupation of the site.

FIGURE 86

Loockerman's Range Site, Profile of Feature 3



The identity of the four people buried in the Loockerman's Range graves is unknown. No evidence of any headstones or other markers was located. They are presumably the remains of a tenant family, either black or white, who inhabited this tenancy on Nicholas Loockerman's land. The graves are situated, from west to east, in an adult-subadult-adult-subadult pattern (Figure 84). This pattern suggests that the graves belong to family members. Similar orientations between known family members was identified at the Lafferty Lane Cemetery (7K-D-111), a later

eighteenth to mid-nineteenth century family cemetery approximately four miles to the southeast (see Bachman and Catts 1990:55-58).

The proximity of the graves to the domestic structure indicates that the graves were dug very near to the end of occupation of the site. The graves are located less than ten feet from where the structure would have stood. Graves are not usually dug so close to occupied structures in Delaware where the average distance of family cemeteries from inhabited farmhouses in the nineteenth century was 832 feet (Bachman and Catts 1990: 85). The similar orientation and construction of each grave indicates that the graves were all dug over a very short period of time, perhaps after the tenant family occupying the site died of a single illness or epidemic. Together with the proximity of the graves to the structure, the similar orientation and construction of each grave suggests that the tenant family at the site died over a relatively short period, were buried, and the site abandoned. Archaeological evidence indicates that these three events happened ca. 1765, a date supported by archival evidence.

A total of 4,348 historic artifacts were recovered from Phase II testing and salvage operations at the Loockerman's Range Site. A summary of all the artifacts recovered at the site, including 7,857 prehistoric artifacts, is given in Appendix II. The majority (51%) of historic artifacts recovered were domestically-related ceramics, bottle glass, tableware, and faunal remains. Of these artifacts, ceramics constituted 46% of

all artifacts recovered. Bottle glass fragments, all from hand-blown olive bottles, and table glassware constituted only 2% of all artifacts. The scarcity of bottle glass indicates that ceramics were the drinking, serving, and storage containers. The scarcity of bottles on the site may also relate to the tenant status of the occupants. Throughout the eighteenth century, glass bottles remained relatively expensive and were reserved for small quantities of more valuable beverages, particularly imported liquors. Cheaper beverages, such as rum, small beer, and cider, were typically consumed in much larger quantities and were thus stored in wooden barrels, casks, or ceramic jugs.

Almost half (46%) of all historic artifacts recovered were architecturally-related brick, nail, and window glass fragments. Of the 1,572 brick fragments, only 13% were from glazed bricks. No whole bricks were located, indicating that the site had been robbed of its bricks. similarly, all of the brick fragments recovered were small and heavily worn. Many of the brick fragments were from a very soft, brick typical of local, rather poorly fired bricks. The softness of the bricks and the subsequent robbing of any re-usable bricks is typical of other sites in central Delaware utilizing locally-made bricks.

Of the total of 246 nails and nail fragments recovered, only 16 were diagnostic as to method of manufacture. Of these diagnostic nails, most (81%) were cut rather than wrought nails which composed only 12% of the diagnostic sample. The poor preservation of iron artifacts at the site is probably related to the extremely poor preservation of human bone seen in the four

historic graves where only one grave contained osteological remains.

A total of 1,994 historic ceramic fragments were recovered from the Loockerman's Range Site. Ceramic fragments were typically small and no reconstructable vessels were identified. Locally-produced redwares were by far the most common ceramic type found. Approximately 87% of all ceramics recovered were redwares. The majority of these redwares were from locally-produced, utilitarian wares, probably storage vessels. The most common redware glaze was a clear, lead glaze applied to the both the interior and exterior. Brown manganese and green-tinted copper oxide glazes were encountered less frequently. Less than 5% of the redwares recovered at the site were diagnostic white trailed slip decorated wares. These diagnostic wares were identified most commonly in plate forms, although a mug handle and part of the base of a basin were recovered from feature contexts. No sgraffito decorated redwares, indicative of an occupation before 1740 were found.

The mean ceramic date of the 264 fragments of diagnostic non-redware ceramics is 1748.9. The mean ceramic date of the site including redwares (mean ceramic value 1750) is 1742.0. Both of these dates are consistent with the ca. 1723-1765 occupation indicated by archival research. The most common diagnostic non-redware ceramic type were Staffordshire earthenwares, a soft, buff-pasted, lead-glazed earthenware. Approximately 34% of the 264 non-redwares were fragments of Staffordshire earthenware hollow forms, probably mugs and chamber pots. As with the other non-redwares, the small size of the

Staffordshire sample (N=89) and the small size of the fragments make any further analysis of vessel form or decoration impossible.

The second most common non-redware were white salt-glazed stonewares (mean ceramic date 1753). The primary vessel form of the white salt-glazed stonewares (N=44) were hollowwares, probably mugs and jugs. No later flatware forms, such as plates, were recovered which indicates that the site was not occupied into the 1770s when such forms became popular.

Whieldon wares were the third most common non-redware type at the Loockerman's Range Site. A total of 42 fragments were recovered (16% of all non-redwares). Whieldon ware has a soft, cream colored paste with diagnostic mottled yellow and brown underglaze decorations. Also called "clouded" or "tortoise-shell" ware, the mean ceramic date of Whieldon wares at the site was 1760.

Other diagnostic wares recovered at the site included scratch-blue stonewares (N=25), Buckley redwares (N=23), tin-glazed earthenwares ((N=22), blue and gray, Westerwald-like molded stonewares (N=17), and Chinese porcelains (N=2). The low number of porcelains, traditionally an expensive, high-status wares, is consistent with the known tenant occupation of the site. In keeping with the known occupation of the site between ca. 1723-1765, no early eighteenth century wares such as Rhennish stonewares, Devon gravel-tempered, or sgraffito decorated wares were identified at the site. Similarly, no creamwares or pearlwares--ceramic types common after 1770--were recovered from the site.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In conclusion, archaeological testing and archival research have identified the Loockerman's Range Site as the remains of an agricultural tenancy occupied from ca. 1723-1765. The tenant farm at the site was located on land owned by Nicholas Loockerman, a wealthy and influential landowner and merchant in the Dover area. The Loockerman's Range Site constitutes one of the earliest known agricultural tenancies in central Delaware and Phase II testing determined the site to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion "D"--that the site has and is likely to yield further data important in history.

Intact subsurface features, including four unmarked human graves, and artifact deposits were located and excavated. Evidence of one domestic structure, and probably another, was identified. The site is threatened by construction of a parking lot by the present owners of the property, Dover Downs. Salvage operations were undertaken to recover as much significant archaeological data as possible. The entire site, however, is located outside of the proposed right-of-way and will not be impacted by construction. Thus, no further work is required to fulfill section 106 requirements.

C. KIMMEY TENANT FARM SITE

The C. Kimmey Tenant Farm Site (K-6440, 7K-D-119) is located approximately 2 miles south of Dover west of present Route 113 (Figure 87). The site is located approximately 2,000 feet north of the Izat-Dyer Site (K-493, 7K-D-3) in a plowed field that was