

SECTION 5.0 PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AT THE WILLIAMS HISTORIC SITE

5.1 Results

The Williams Historic site is situated east of SR 896 and a late twentieth-century drainage ditch, north of the headwaters of a low order tributary. The western edge of the site contained manicured grass and the remainder was characterized by recently removed Russian olive. Prior to the growth of Russian olive during the late twentieth and early twenty-first century, the APE was located in an agricultural field.

Forty-two EUs were excavated within the portion of the Williams Historic site located in the APE (Figure 5.1; Plates 5.1-5.3). The EUs were placed at 7.5-meter intervals throughout the site. The location of some EUs was shifted due to avoid tree stump disturbance. Stratigraphy encountered in all but three EUs (i.e., EUs 1, 2, and 41) consisted of a dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) sandy loam plowzone over a nine centimeter yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam subsoil (B-horizon), which capped a 10 centimeter yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sandy loam second subsoil horizon (Plate 5.4). Deep excavations at EUs 1 and 29 identified a 23 centimeter BC-interface of yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy loam with gravel below the second B-horizon, followed by a (7.5YR 5/6) strong brown loamy sand mottled with brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) loamy sand substratum (Figures 5.2-5.4; Plate 5.5).

Excavations identified Feature 1, a possible post stain in EUs 1 and 41, and one rodent burrow (Feature 2) in EU 41 (Figure 5.5; Plates 5.6-5.9). Feature 2 extended into EU 41's north wall and Feature 1 was bisected by the division between EUs 1 and 41. Feature 1 measured 11 centimeters in diameter, and was composed of a brown (10YR 5/3) silt loam. The feature was present between 71 and 89 centimeters below datum, and had a basin-shaped termination (see Figure 5.4). Artifacts (n=12) recovered from Feature 1 include redware ceramic, shell, mammal bone, brick, and charcoal fragments (see Appendix E). The construction date of the historic feature could not be determined based on the absence of temporally diagnostic cultural material. This historic feature may represent the remains of a structural post associated with a former building or more likely a former fence post. Given the location of the feature to the proximity of the road, the eastern boundary of which has remained relatively unchanged since its construction, it suggests that the feature may represent a post from a former fence line.



Plate 5.1:

Overview of the Williams Historic Site. Note drainage trench in the center.

Photo view: North

Photographer: Michael J. Gall

Date: June 13, 2012



Plate 5.2:

Overview of the Williams Historic Site.

Photo view: West

Photographer: Michael J. Gall

Date: June 13, 2012



Plate 5.3:

Overview of excavations at the Williams Historic Site.

Photo view: West

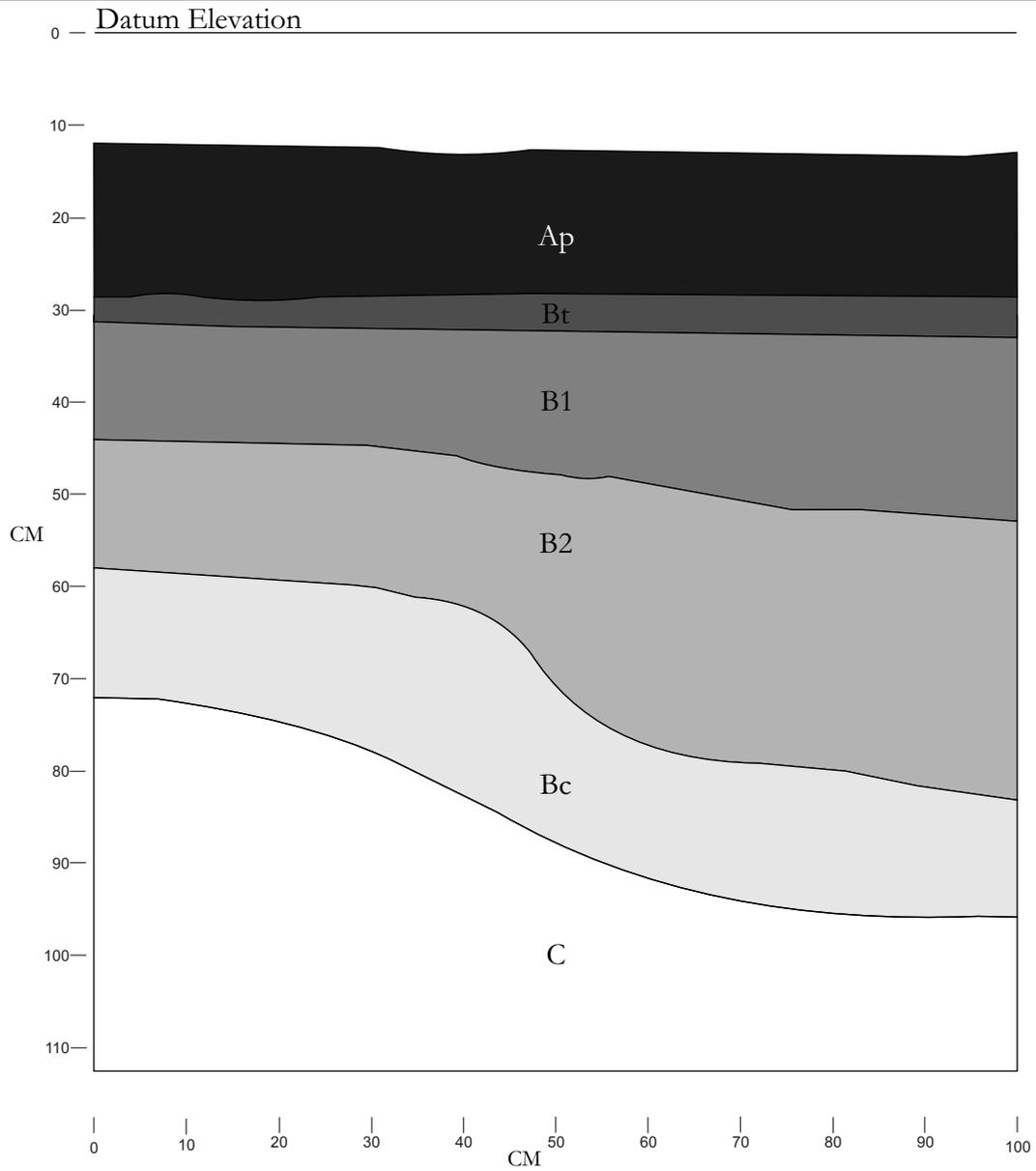
Photographer: Michael J. Gall

Date: June 26, 2012



Plate 5.4:

EU 13 (N52.5/E75) south wall profile.
Photo view: South
Photographer: Adrienne Jarczewski
Date: June 13, 2012



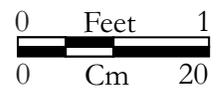
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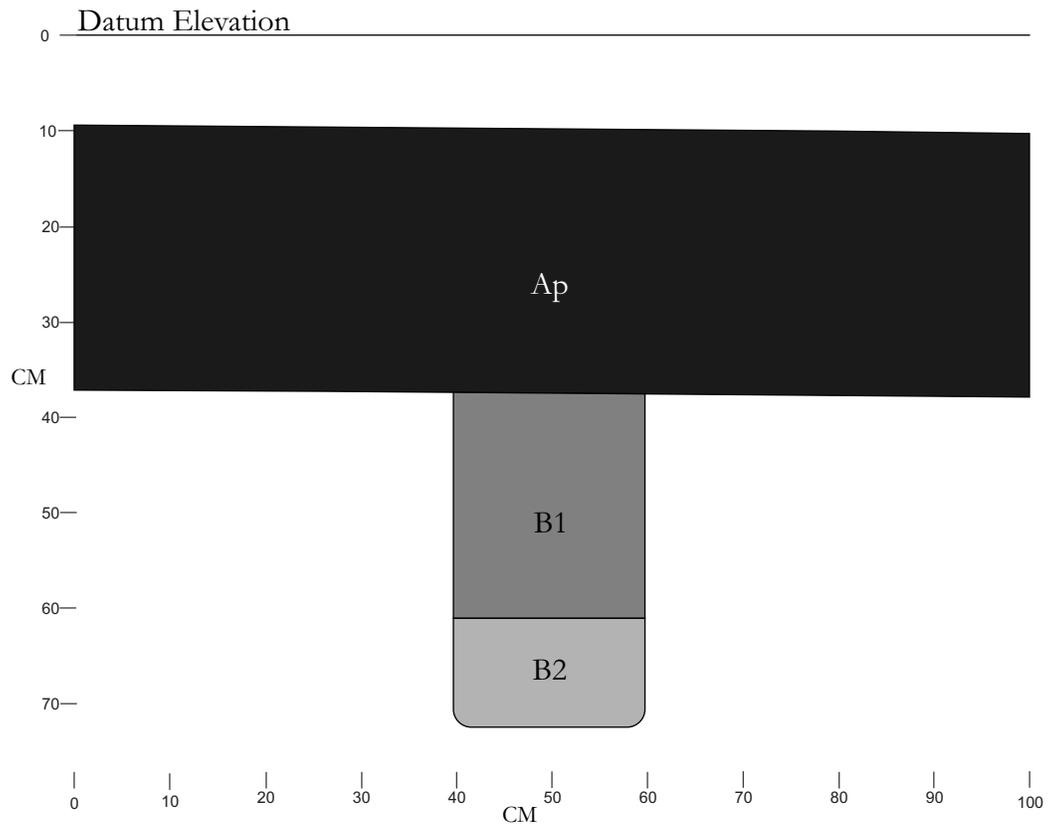
- Ap: 2.5Y 4/4 (Olive Brown) Sandy Loam
- Bt: 7.5YR 5/4 (Brown) Sandy Loam
- B1: 10YR 5/6 (Yellowish Brown) Loamy Sand
- B2: 7.5YR 5/4 (Brown) Loamy Sand
- Bc: 10YR 5/6 (Yellowish Brown) Sandy Loam
- C: 7.5YR 5/6 (Strong Brown) Loamy Sand mottled with 10YR 6/6 (Brownish Yellow) Loamy Sand



Figure 5.2:

EU 29 (N37.5/E82.5) South Wall Profile.





Key:

Ap: 2.5Y 4/4 (Olive Brown) Silt Loam

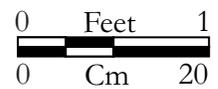
B1: 10YR 5/6 (Yellowish Brown) Loamy Sand

B2: 7.5YR 5/4 (Brown) Loamy Sand



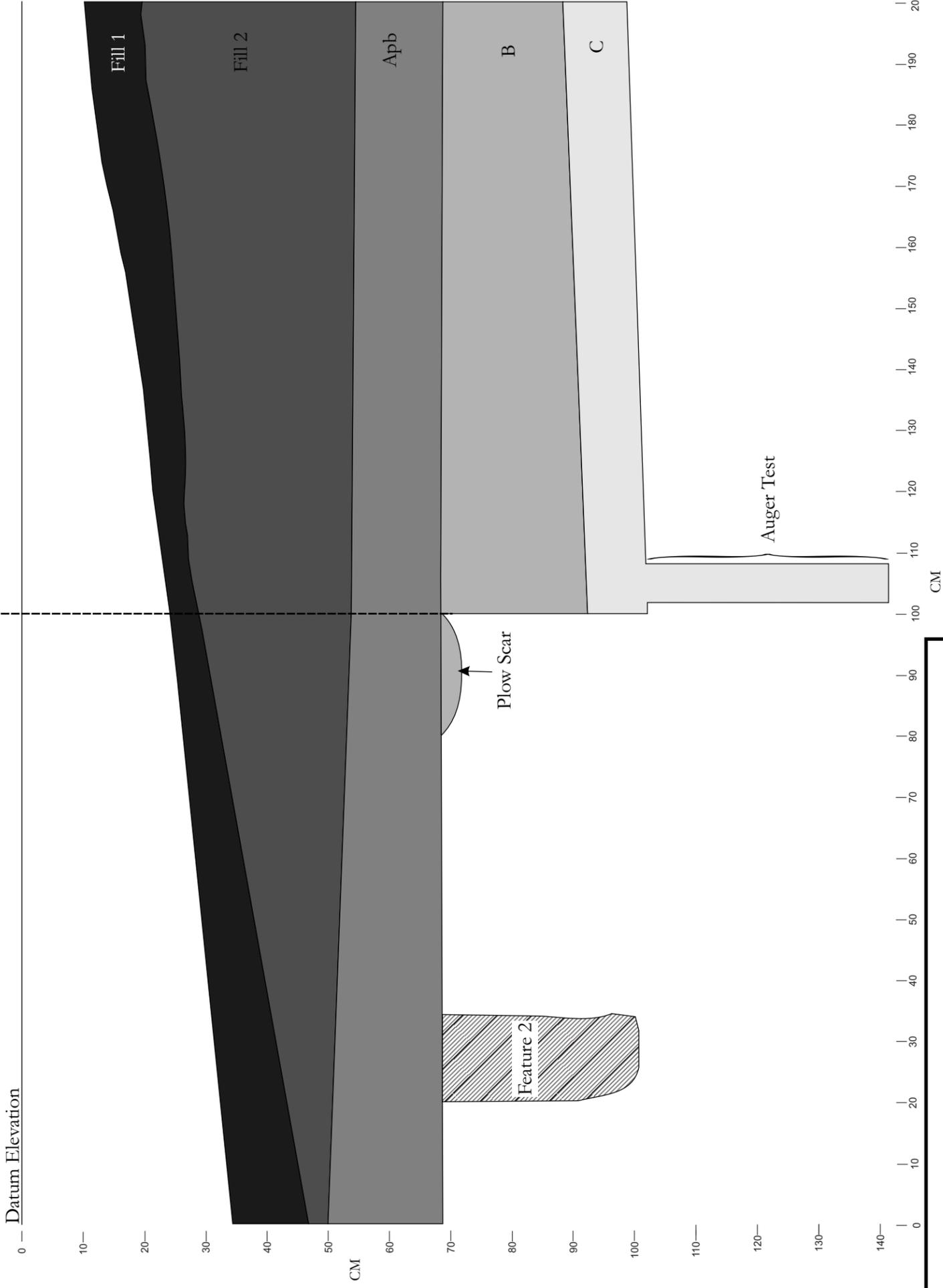
Figure 5.3:

EU 13 (N52.5/E75) South Wall Profile.



EU 41 (N95/E36.5)
North Wall Profile

EU 1 (N95/E37.5)
North Wall Profile



- Key:**
- Fill 1: Mulch and 10YR 3/1 (Very Dark Gray) Loam
 - Fill 2: 10YR 6/6 (Brownish Yellow) Sandy Loam mottled with 2.5Y 8/1 (White) Silt Loam (Redeposited Subsoil)
 - Apb: 10YR 5/3 (Brown) Silt Loam
 - B: 7.5YR 5/4 (Brown) mottled with 7.5YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) Loamy Sand
 - C: 7.5YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) Loamy Sand
 - Feature 2: 10YR 3/3 (Dark Brown) Sandy Loam



Figure 5.4:

EU 1 (N95/E37.5 and EU 41 (N95/E36.5) North Wall Profile.

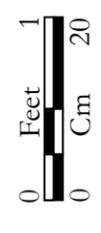




Plate 5.5:

EU 29 (N37.5/E82.5) south wall profile.

Photo view: South

Photographer: Adrienne Jarczewski

Date: June 22, 2012



Key:
 Fill 1: Mulch and 10YR 3/1 (Very Dark Gray) Loam
 Fill 2: 10YR 6/6 (Brownish Yellow) Sandy Loam mottled with 2.5Y 8/1 (White) Silt Loam
 Apb: 10YR 5/3 (Brown) Silt Loam
 B: 7.5YR 5/4 (Brown) mottled with 7.5YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) Loamy Sand
 C: 7.5YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) Loamy Sand
 Feature 1: 10YR 5/3 (Brown) Silt Loam

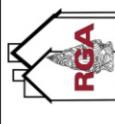


Figure 5.5:
 EU 1 (N95/E37.5) West Wall Profile.

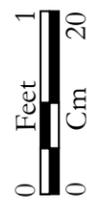




Plate 5.6:

EU 1 (N95/E37.5) west wall profile showing Feature 1.

Photo view: West

Photographer: Adrienne Jarczewski

Date: June 12, 2012



Plate 5.7:

EU 1 (N95/E37.5) and EU 41 (N95/E36.5) opening plan view of Features 1 and 2.

Photo view: North

Photographer: Michael J. Gall

Date: June 21, 2012



Plate 5.8:

EU 1 (N95/E37.5) and EU 41 (N95/E36.5) closing plan view of Features 1 and 2.

Photo view: North

Photographer: Michael J. Gall

Date: June 21, 2012



Plate 5.9:

EU 1 (N95/E37.5) and EU 41 (N95/E36.5) closing north wall profile.

Photo view: North

Photographer: Michael J. Gall

Date: June 21, 2012

Collectively, the site yielded nine prehistoric Native American artifacts and 1,062 historic period artifacts. Prehistoric cultural material was confined to the plowzone and includes one quartz core, one jasper utilized flake, one chert unfinished biface, one quartzite fire cracked rock fragment, two jasper flakes, and three chert flakes (Figure 5.6). The prehistoric material was evenly dispersed in low numbers at the site in EUs 5, 18, 20, 24, 33, 42 (see Appendix D). No evidence of prehistoric cultural features was identified during excavation.

Historic artifacts from the site include architectural, domestic, food remains, fuel, clothing, tobacco, and miscellaneous material (Table 5.1) (Figure 5.7). Architectural artifacts are composed of nails (wrought and cut), brick, and window glass fragments (Table 5.2). Domestic material includes vessel glass, redware, creamware, pearlware, whiteware, stoneware, engine turned red stoneware, agateware, and porcelain (Table 5.3). One possible metal kitchen knife fragment was also recovered in EU 41. Mammal bone, clam shell, and oyster shell fragments comprise recovered food remains (see Table 5.1). One clothing button; fuel in the form of coal, coal ash, and slag; tobacco pipe; and metal fragments, were also recovered (see Table 5.1). Recovered cultural material was markedly crushed pre- and post-deposition and artifact fragments generally measure less than one-half inch in size. Artifact size limited the ability to identify ceramic and glass vessel forms.

Recovered historic artifact deposits represent cultural material manufactured from the mid-eighteenth century to the second quarter of the nineteenth century. One agateware (ca. 1740-1775) vessel fragment and four engine turned red stoneware teapot fragments (ca. 1763-1775) were manufactured during the second or third quarters of the eighteenth century and discarded within the APE as primary or secondary refuse deposits (Miller et al 2000). Additional recovered cultural material, such as creamware (1762-1820), pearlware (1775-1830s) and redware ceramic vessel fragments, and hand wrought nails, were manufactured during both the eighteenth and nineteenth century. Early nineteenth-century cultural material from the site includes polychrome painted whiteware (1830s-1870s); London-shaped vessel fragments (1810-1840); blue, brown and black transfer printed whiteware; and machine cut nails (1810-1890). The presence of this material indicates that the nearby residence was occupied into the 1830s. Later material, like colorless bottle glass manufactured after the 1860s, was recovered in low numbers near SR 896 in EUs 1, 2, and 15 and near the northeast side of the site from EUs 12, 13, 14, and 22. This material may represent bottle glass associated with the occupancy of the mid-nineteenth-century dwelling. Thirty-two historic artifacts (including brick, ceramic, and glass fragments) exhibit evidence of burning, suggesting that some of the material was discarded into a wood or coal burning fire prior to deposition within the APE, or that a portion of the residence was damaged by fire prior to artifact deposition within the APE.



Figure 5.6:

Prehistoric Artifacts Recovered from the Williams Historic Site (7NC-F-164)

Top Row, Left to Right: Chert flake (Cat. # 70); Utilized Jasper flake (Cat. # 83); Chert flake (Cat. # 85); Chert flake (Cat. # 98); Jasper flake (Cat. # 98); Jasper flake (Cat. # 98).

Bottom Row, Left to Right: Chert biface (Cat. # 89); Fire Cracked Rock (Cat. # 86); Quartz core (Cat. # 112).





Figure 5.7:

Representative Historic Artifacts Recovered from the Williams
Historic Site (7NC-F-164)

Top Row, Left to Right: Pearlware fragment (Cat. # 83); Pearlware fragment (Cat. # 83); Redware fragment (Cat. # 83); Redware fragment (Cat. # 83); Agateware fragment (Cat. # 108).

Bottom Row, Left to Right: Window glass (Cat. # 83); Cut/Wrought nail (Cat. # 86); Pipe stem (Cat. # 68); Button (Cat. # 84).



Table 5.1: Historic cultural material recovered from the Williams Historic site.

Unit	Architecture	Domestic	Food	Fuel	Clothing	Tobacco	Miscellaneous	Total
1	23	38	1					62
2	34	39	3					76
3	51	49	3			1		109
4	14	10		1			5	27
5	2	5					2	7
6	7	18	1	1				31
7	14	11		2			4	28
8	11	3					1	14
9	5	13	2	1				21
10	5	19					2	26
11	1	2						3
12	6	21						27
13	2	10		5				17
14	9	6		3			1	19
15	13	16					1	30
16	4	14		1		1		20
17	7	12		2				21
18	7	23		4				34
19	1	11		1	1			14
20	3	7		1				11
21	10	11		7				28
22	9	9		3				20
23	10	11		14				34
24	4	4						8
25	3	7						10
26	1	5		2				8
27	6	4		1				11
28	3	6						9
29	2	7					1	10
30	2	10		1		1		14
31	1	3					2	6
32		1						1
33	3	10		4			1	18
34	5	2		3			1	11
35		8		2				10
36		7		2				9
37		1		1				2
38	5	2		3			1	11
39	4			6				10
40	8	1		8				15
41	75	90	24	4			5	198
42	10	11	1					22
Total	376	537	35	83	1	3	27	1,062
%	35.4	50.6	3.3	7.8	0.1	0.3	2.5	100

Table 5.2: Architectural material recovered from the Williams Historic site.

Unit	Wrought Nail	Cut Nail	Undefined. Nail	Brick	Window Glass	Total
1				22	1	23
2		5		21	8	34
3	2		6	37	6	51
4			2	12		14
5				2		2
6			1	4	2	7
7	1			12	1	14
8		1	1	7	2	11
9				5		5
10			1	2	2	5
11			1			1
12	1		2	2	1	6
13				2		2
14				9		9
15				13		13
16				2	2	4
17			1	4	2	7
18	1			5	1	7
19				1		1
20				3		3
21			1 (W/C)*	9		10
22			1 (W/C)	4	3	9
23			1 (W/C)	6	2	10
24				3	1	4
25			1 (W/C)	2		3
26				1		1
27				4	2	6
28	1		1 (W/C)		1	3
29				2		2
30	1			1		2
31				1		1
32						0
33				3		3
34				5		5
35						0
36						0
37						0
38			5 (W/C)			5
39				4		4
40				6		8
41		6	5 (W/C)	61	3	75
42		1		8	1	10
Total	7	13	30	285	41	376
%	1.9	3.5	8	75.8	10.9	100

*W/C=Wrought or Cut

Table 5.3: Domestic material recovered from the Williams Historic site.

Unit	Glass	Redware	Creamware	Pearlware	Whiteware	Stoneware	Agate	Porc.	Mis.	Total
1	12	21			4			1		38
2	5	27	1	1	5					39
3	11	24	2	2	9			1		49
4	1	6		1	2					10
5		3			2					5
6	4	6	1	2	5					18
7	1	7		3						11
8	1	2								3
9	1	9		1	1			1		13
10	1	8		3	6	1 (Red)				19
11		1			1					2
12	3	10	1	4	1			2		21
13	1	7	2							10
14	2	2			1	1 (Red)				6
15	3	9		2	2					16
16	4	9		1						14
17	2	6		2	1	1				12
18	2	7	3	3	6	1		1		23
19	1	8		1	1					11
20	2	4				1 (Red)				7
21	1	7		1	2					11
22	1	8								9
23	1	9	1							11
24		3		1						4
25	1	4		1	1					7
26		2		2	1					5
27		3		1						4
28	1	3		2						6
29	1	5		1						7
30	1	8		1						10
31		2		1						3
32						1 (Red)				1
33		7		1	2					10
34	1	1								2
35		7			1					8
36		6		1						7
37		1								1
38		2								2
39										
40				1						1
41	7	57		9	14		1	2		90
42	1	7		1	1				1	11
Total	73	318	11	50	69	6	1	8	1	537
%	13.6	59.2	2	9.3	12.8	1.1	0.2	1.5	0.2	100

*Por.=Porcelain; Mis.=Miscellaneous, (Red)=Red bodied engine turned stoneware.

Artifact distribution analysis indicates that the highest artifact densities were present in the northwest corner of the APE between a recently constructed drainage ditch and the edge of the APE (Figure 5.8). An artifact anomaly was also present at EU 18 in the center of the Williams Historic site; however, no cultural features were identified in this EU or in this portion of the site. The high number of artifacts recovered suggests that the northwest corner of the APE is situated in proximity to the former log and frame dwellings. The artifact concentration in the northwest corner of the APE is also situated 50 feet south of the division line between land Abel Williams sold to Catherine Biddle in 1826 (southern lot) and the parcel Williams sold to William Brown in 1827 (northern lot) (see Figure 3.9). The lot division line ran adjacent to the north side of a former frame dwelling and nearby log dwelling. Analysis of artifact distribution patterning by artifact type for ceramic and glass reveals patterning similar to total artifact distribution (Figures 5.9-5.20). Miscellaneous metal, fuel, and architectural material distribution, however, did not mimic the total artifact distribution pattern. Collectively, archaeological evidence suggests that the aforementioned dwellings and associated outbuildings were situated outside the APE. With the exception of the possible post hole in EUs 1 and 41, no other cultural features were identified within the APE.

5.2 Interpretation and Evaluation of Site Significance

Prehistoric

Nine prehistoric Native American artifacts were recovered from and found scattered in the central portion of the Williams Historic site. The recovered cultural material consists of one quartz core, one jasper utilized flake, one chert unfinished biface, one quartzite fire cracked rock fragment, two jasper flakes, and three chert flake fragments. No temporally diagnostic cultural material was identified, but the unfinished biface exhibits characteristics of a corner notched biface. Site occupation was likely ephemeral based on the lack of prehistoric artifacts and the paucity of prehistoric cultural material recovered. The artifacts suggest that late stage chipped stone tool production, food processing, and cooking took place at the site. Lithic raw material was likely locally gathered in cobble form from river beds. The prehistoric component of this site does not represent a significant archaeological resource due to the lack of intact prehistoric cultural deposits and absence of prehistoric cultural features.

Historic

Excavation results strongly indicate the identified portion of the Williams Historic site is situated south of but in proximity to the frame and log dwelling that formerly stood north/northeast of the APE prior to the mid-nineteenth century. One of these dwellings was occupied by Catherine and William Biddle in 1826, but it is unclear who resided in the homes prior to and after their tenure. It is also unclear when each house was constructed, though the frame building may have been erected

Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

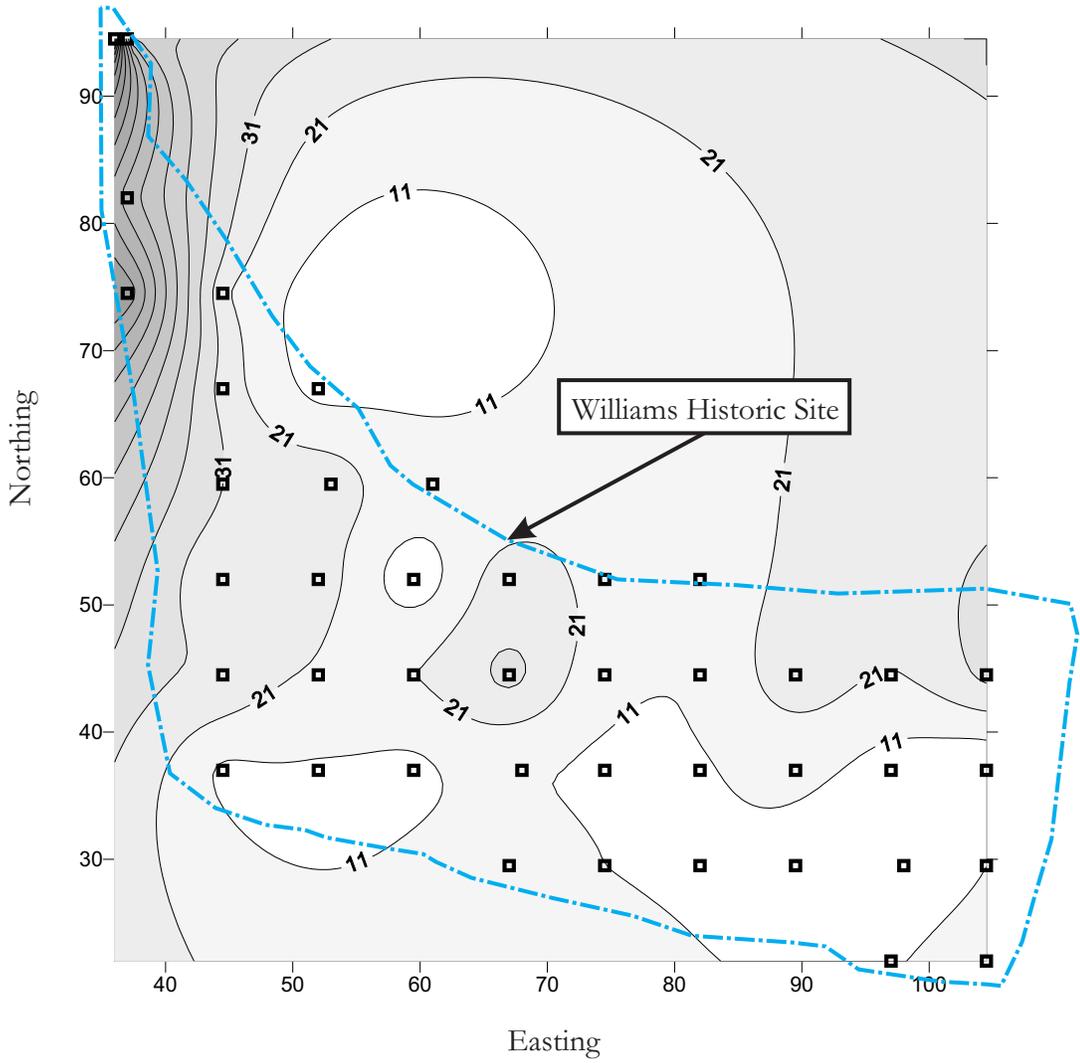
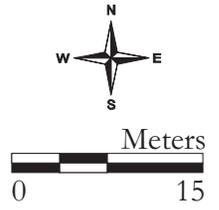


Figure 5.8:
 Total Artifact Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

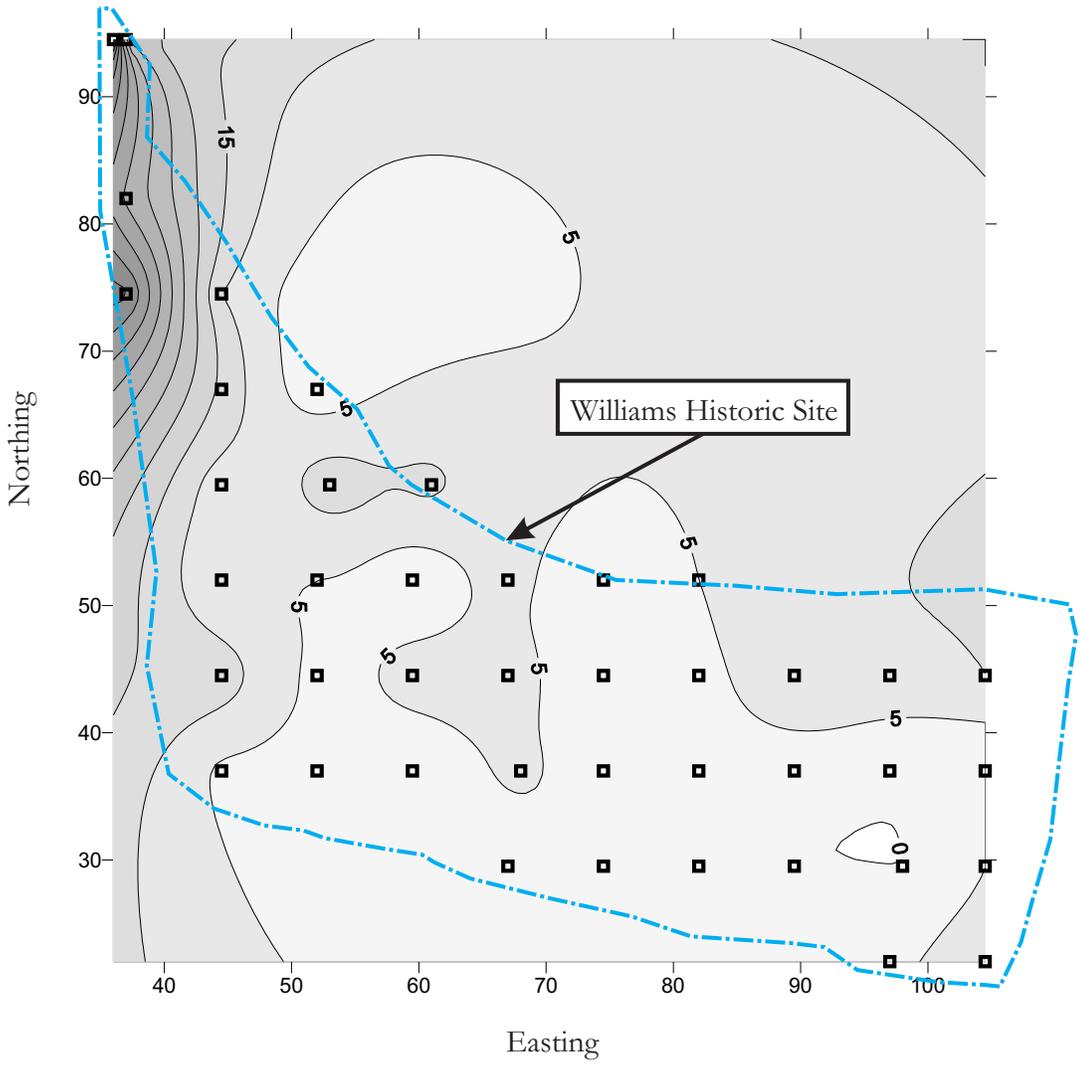
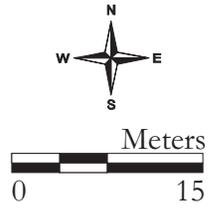


Figure 5.9:
 Architectural Material Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

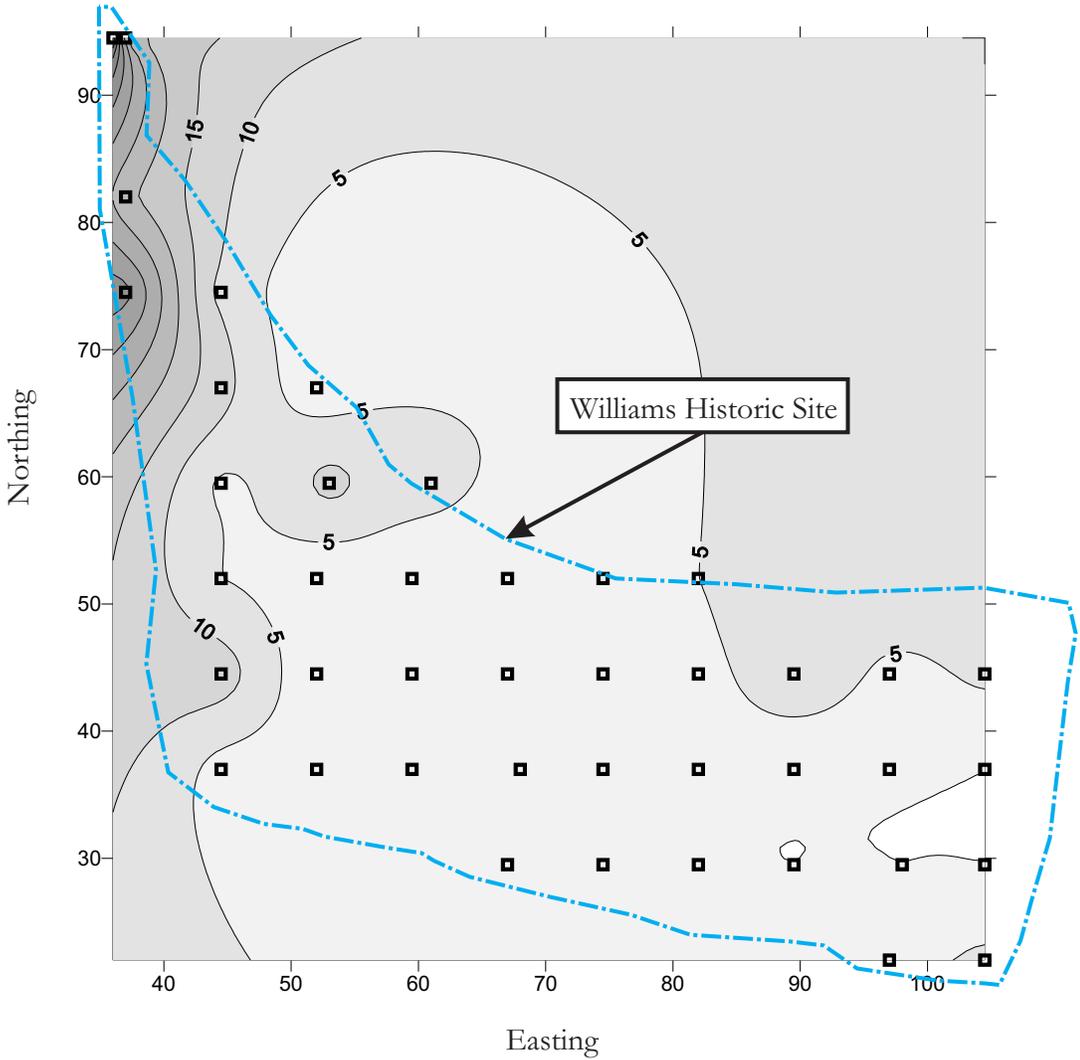
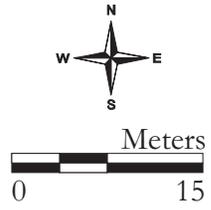


Figure 5.10:
 Brick Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

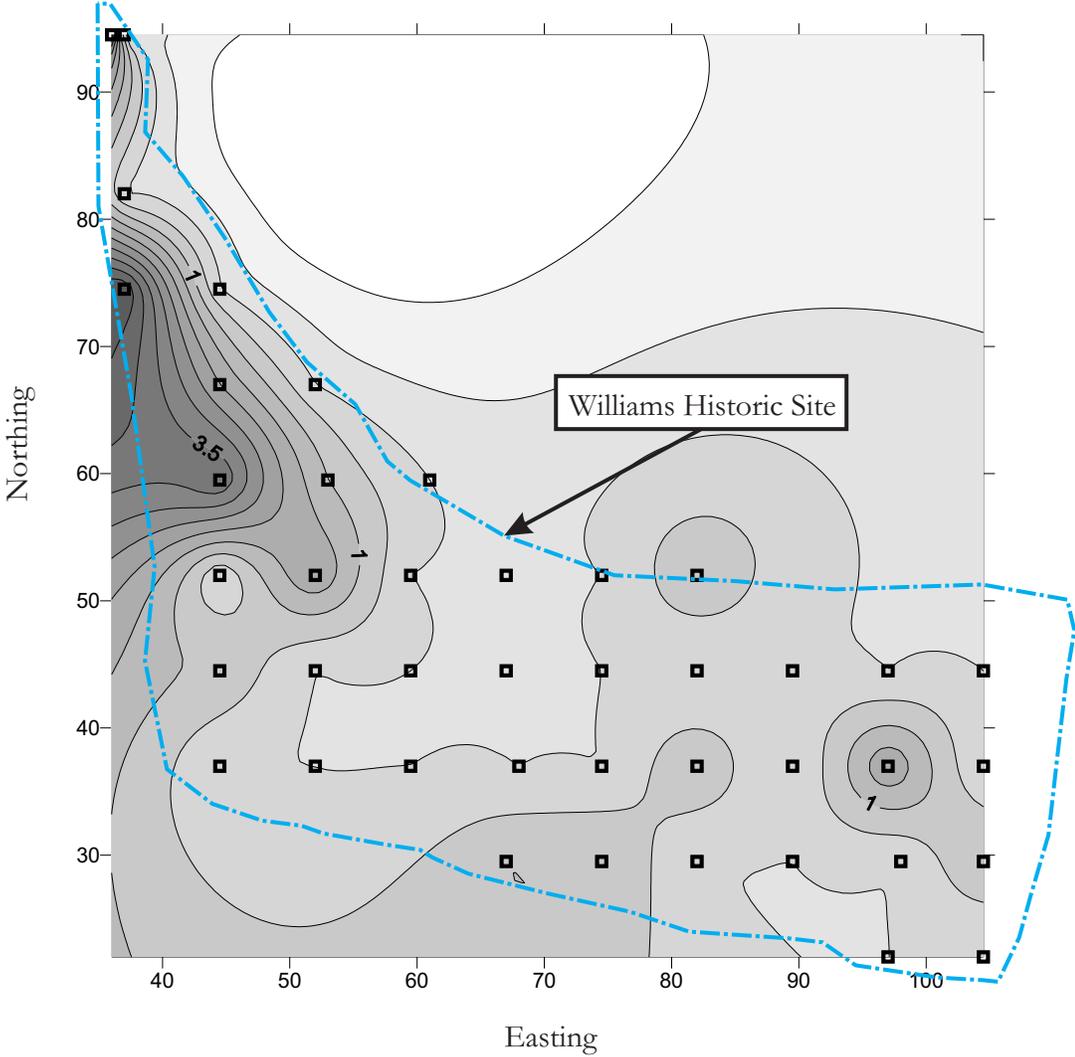
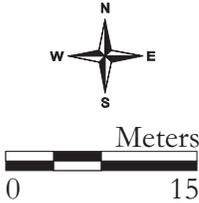


Figure 5.11:
 Nail Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

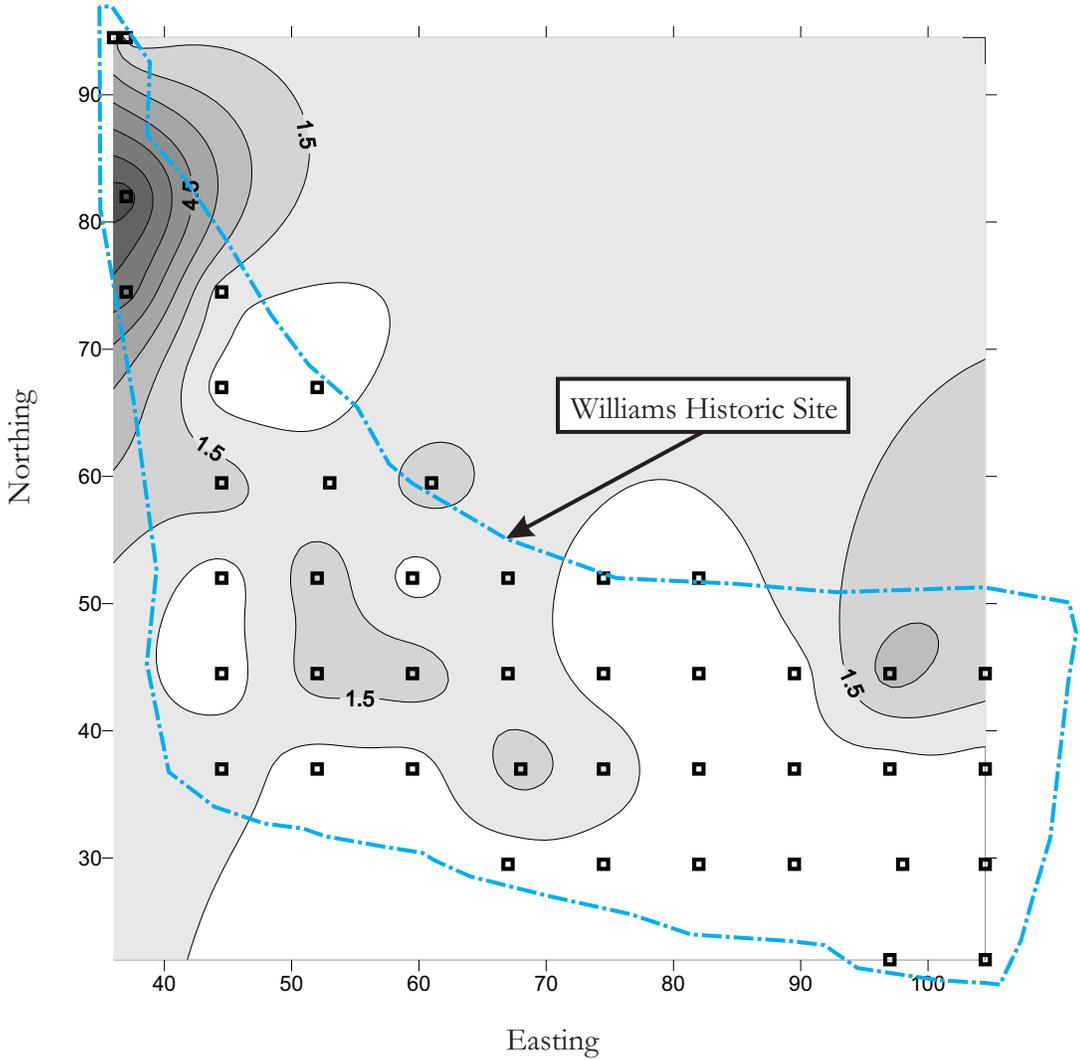
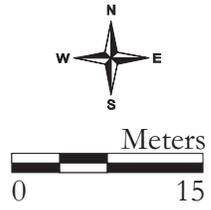


Figure 5.12:
 Window Glass Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

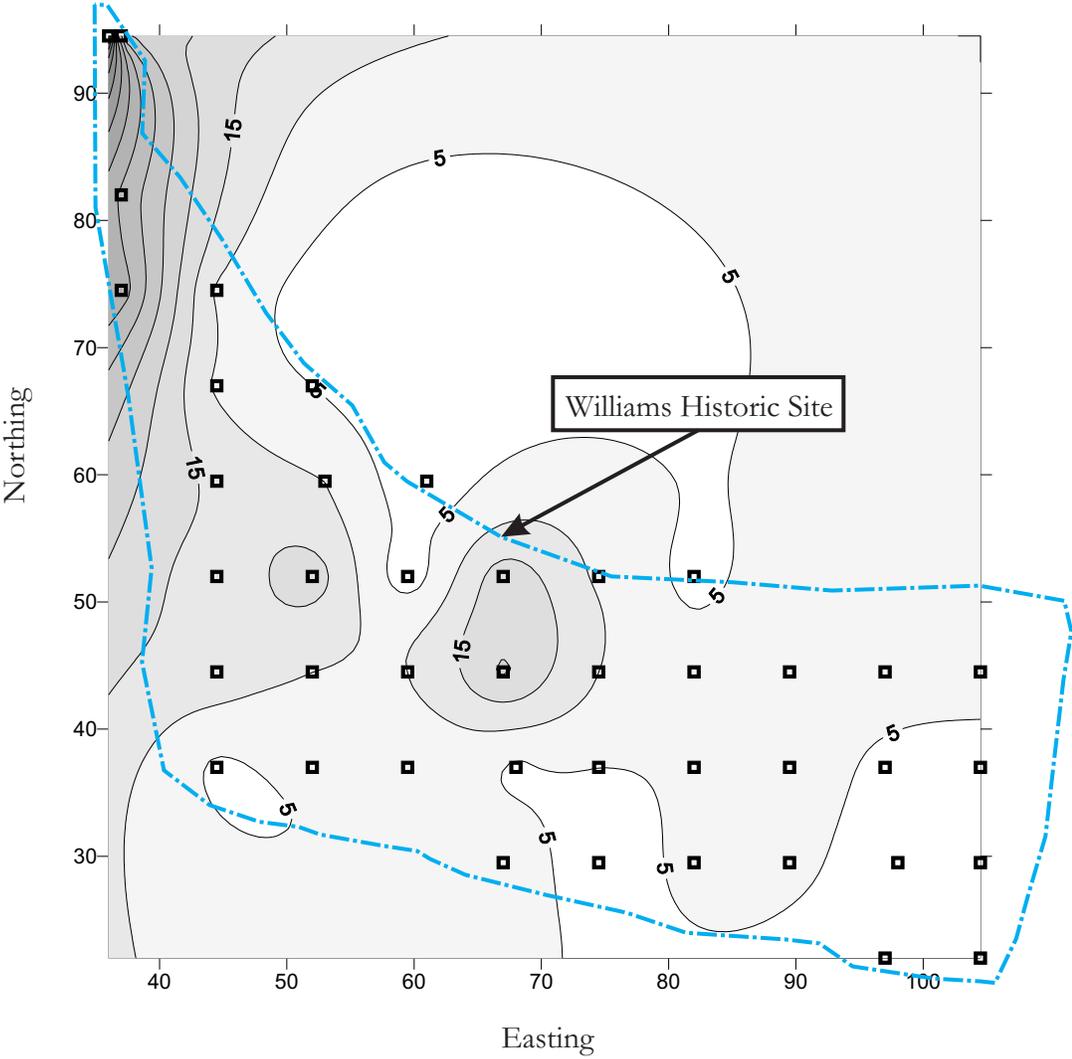
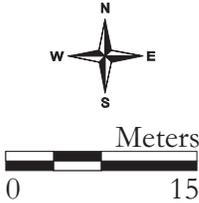


Figure 5.13:
 Ceramic Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

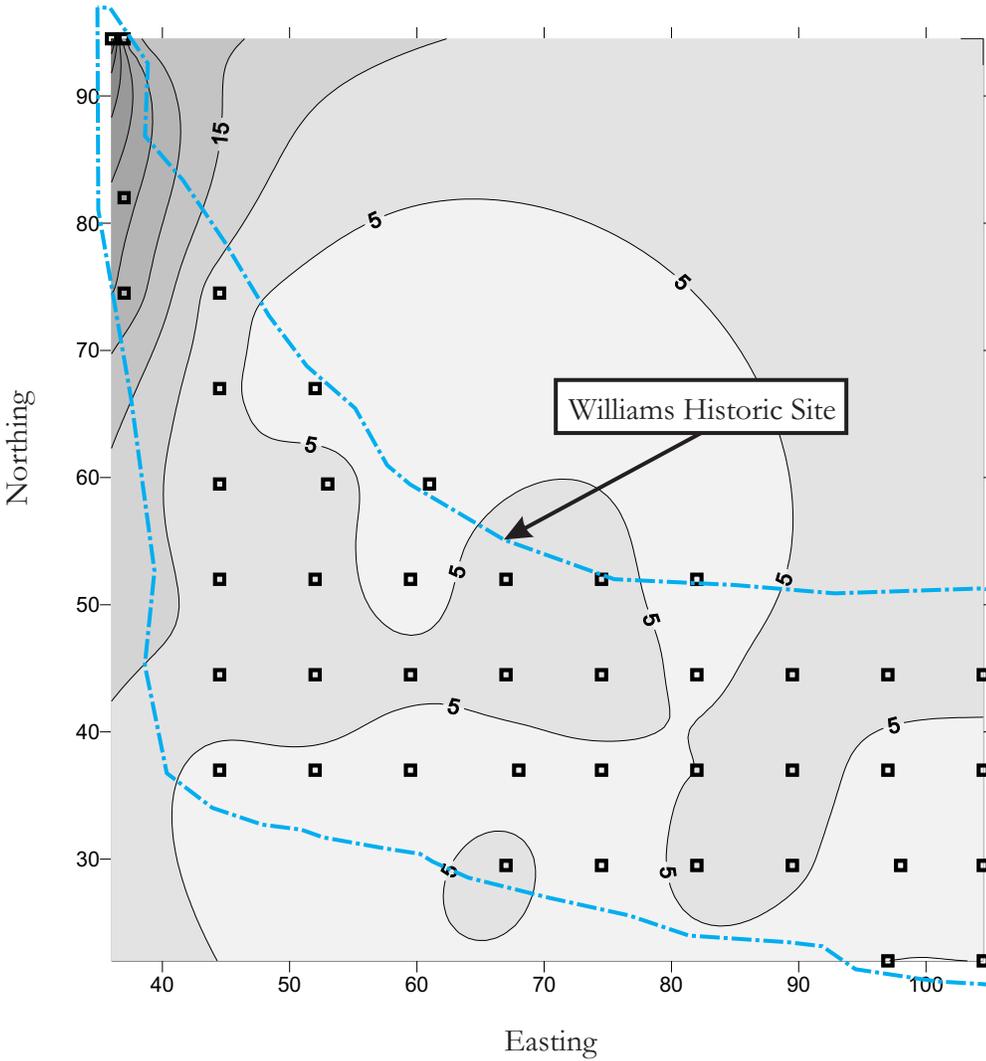
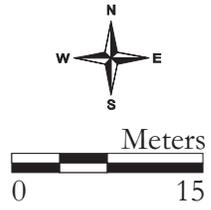


Figure 5.14:
 Redware Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

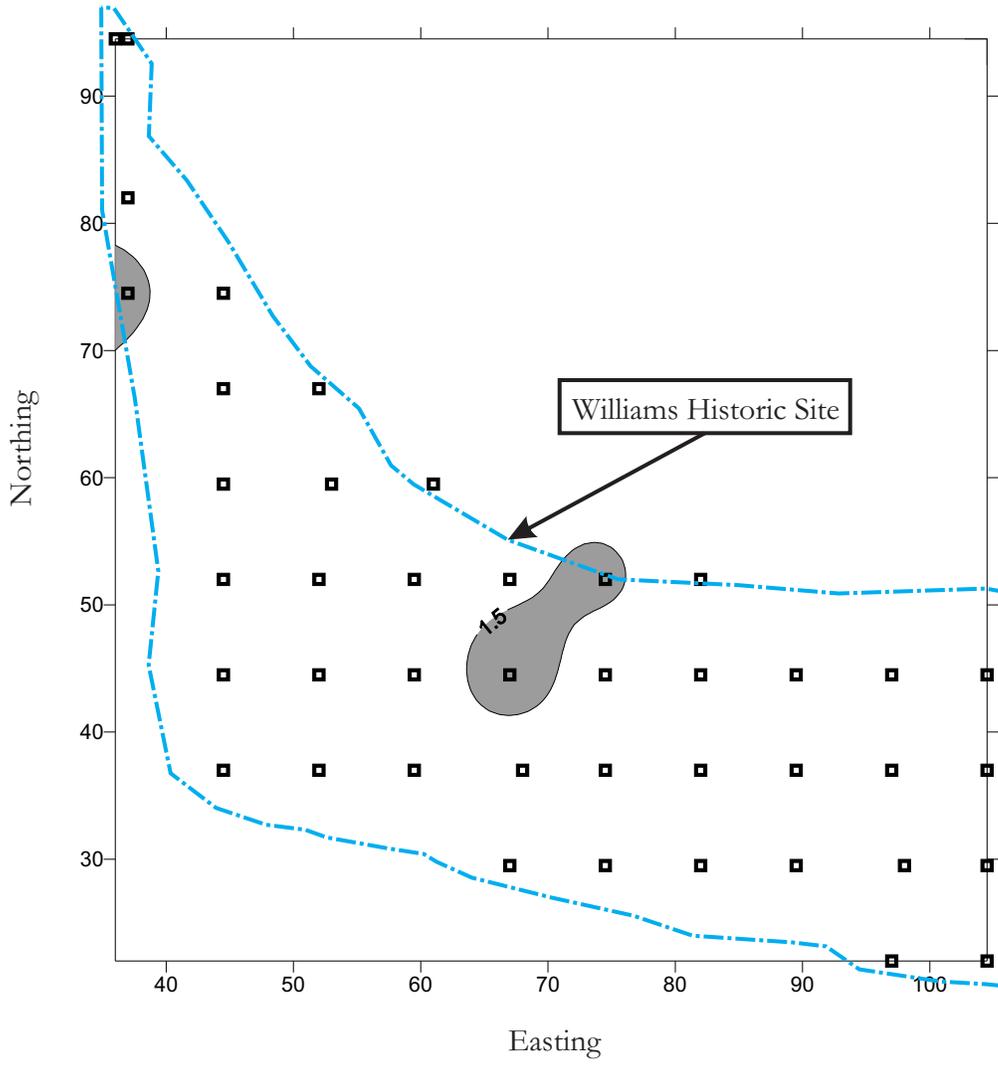
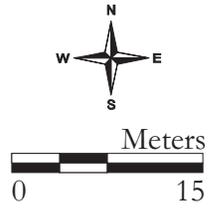


Figure 5.15:
 Creamware Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

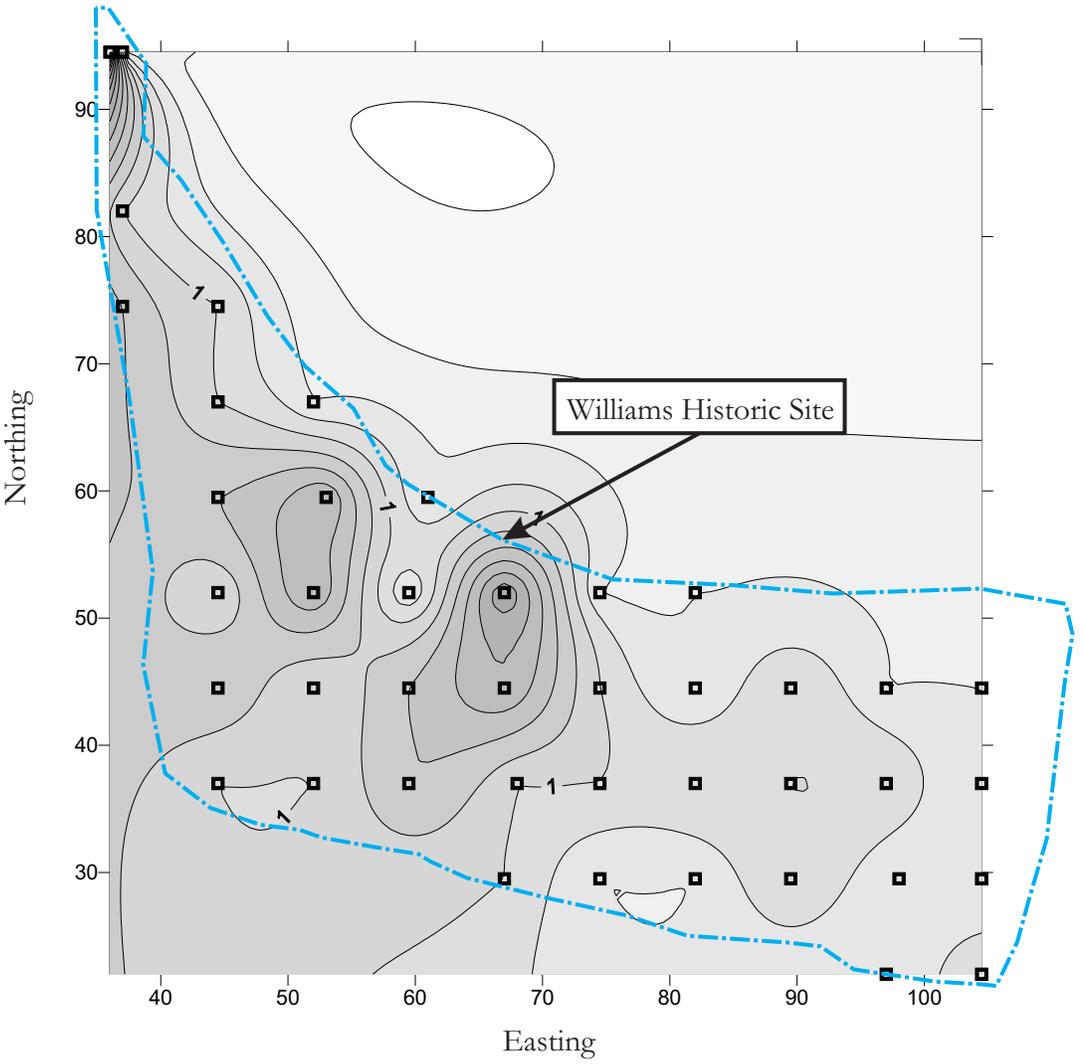
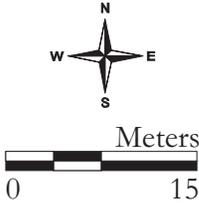


Figure 5.16:
 Pearlware Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

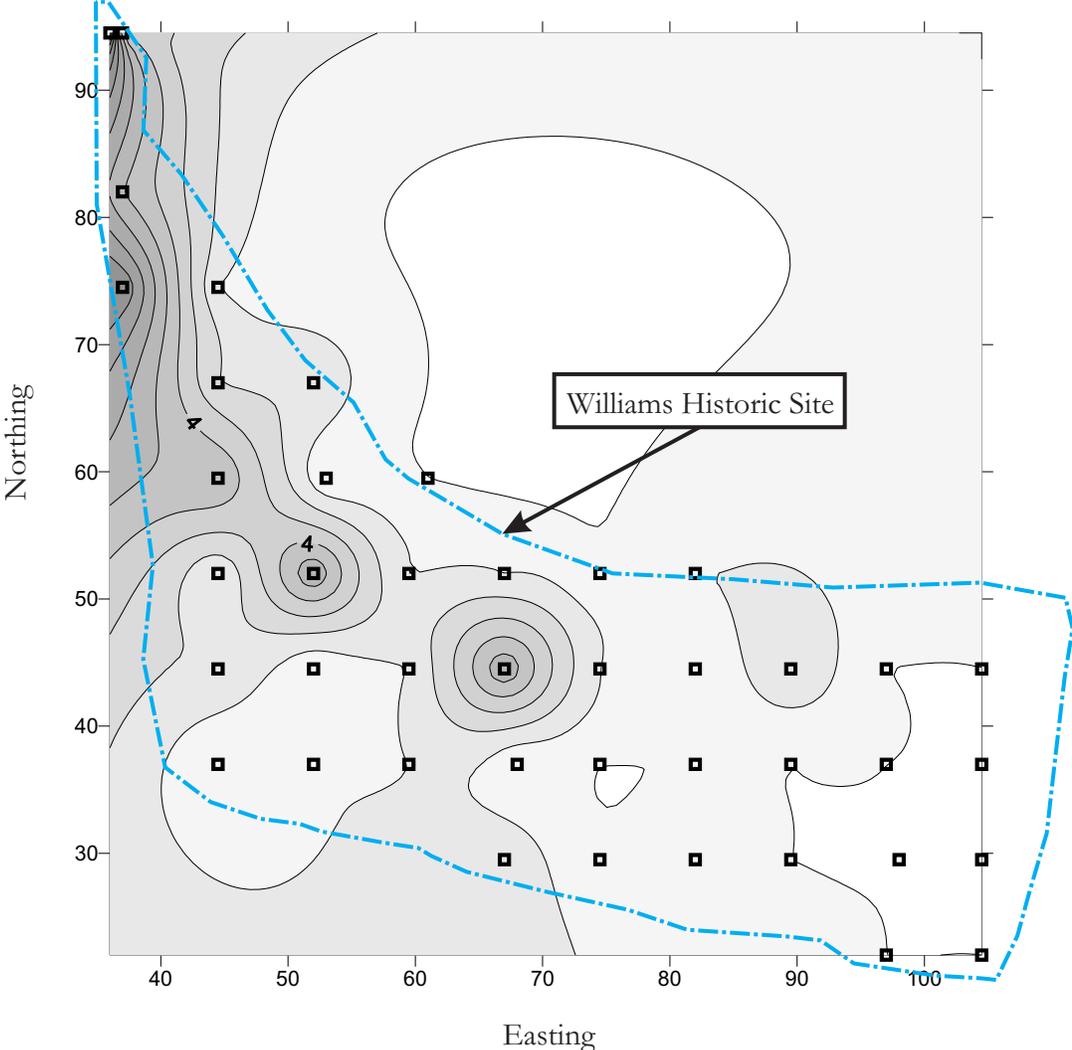
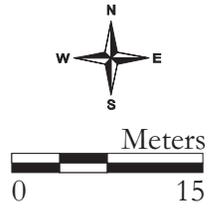


Figure 5.17:
 Whiteware Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

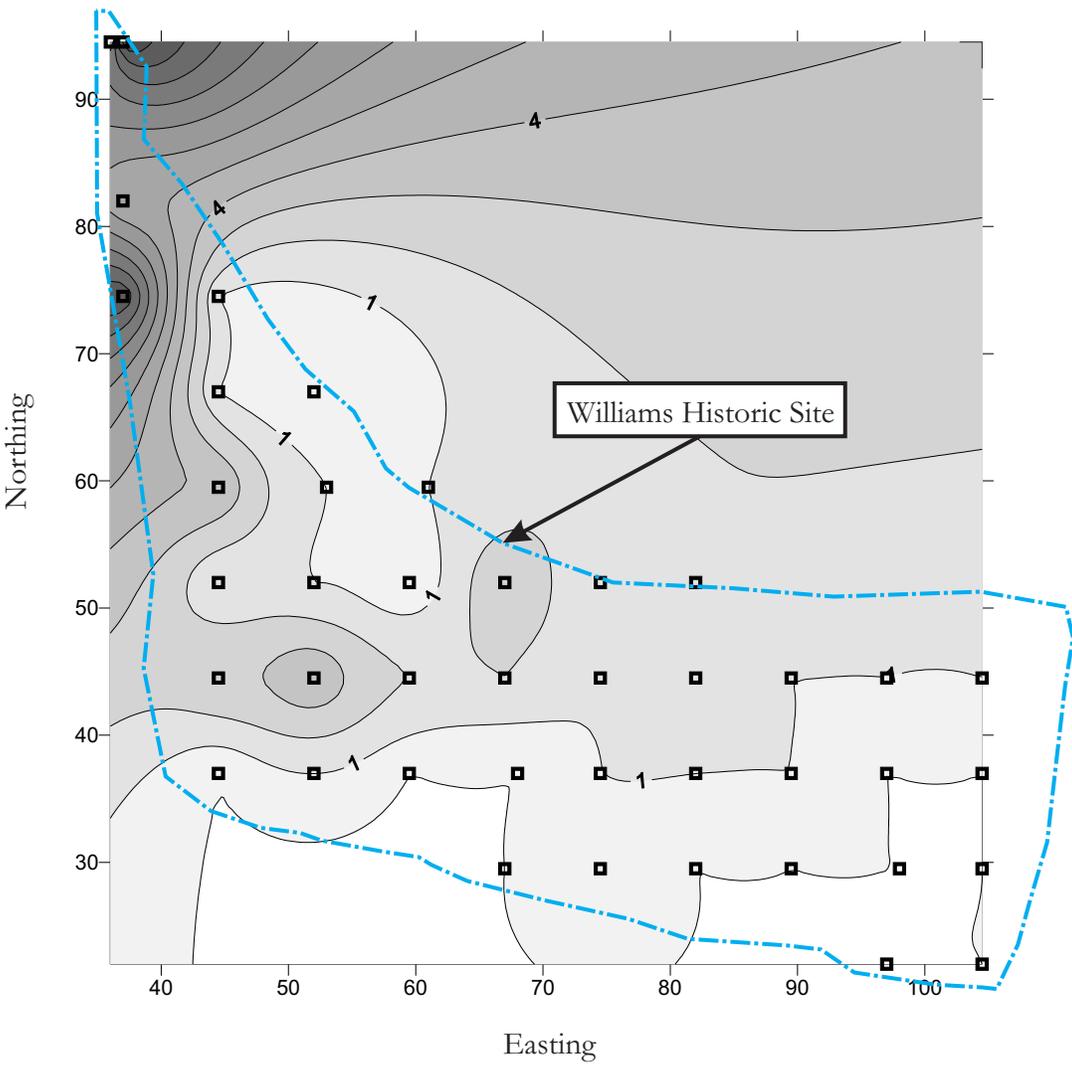
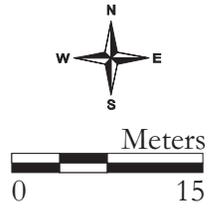


Figure 5.18:

Vessel Glass Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

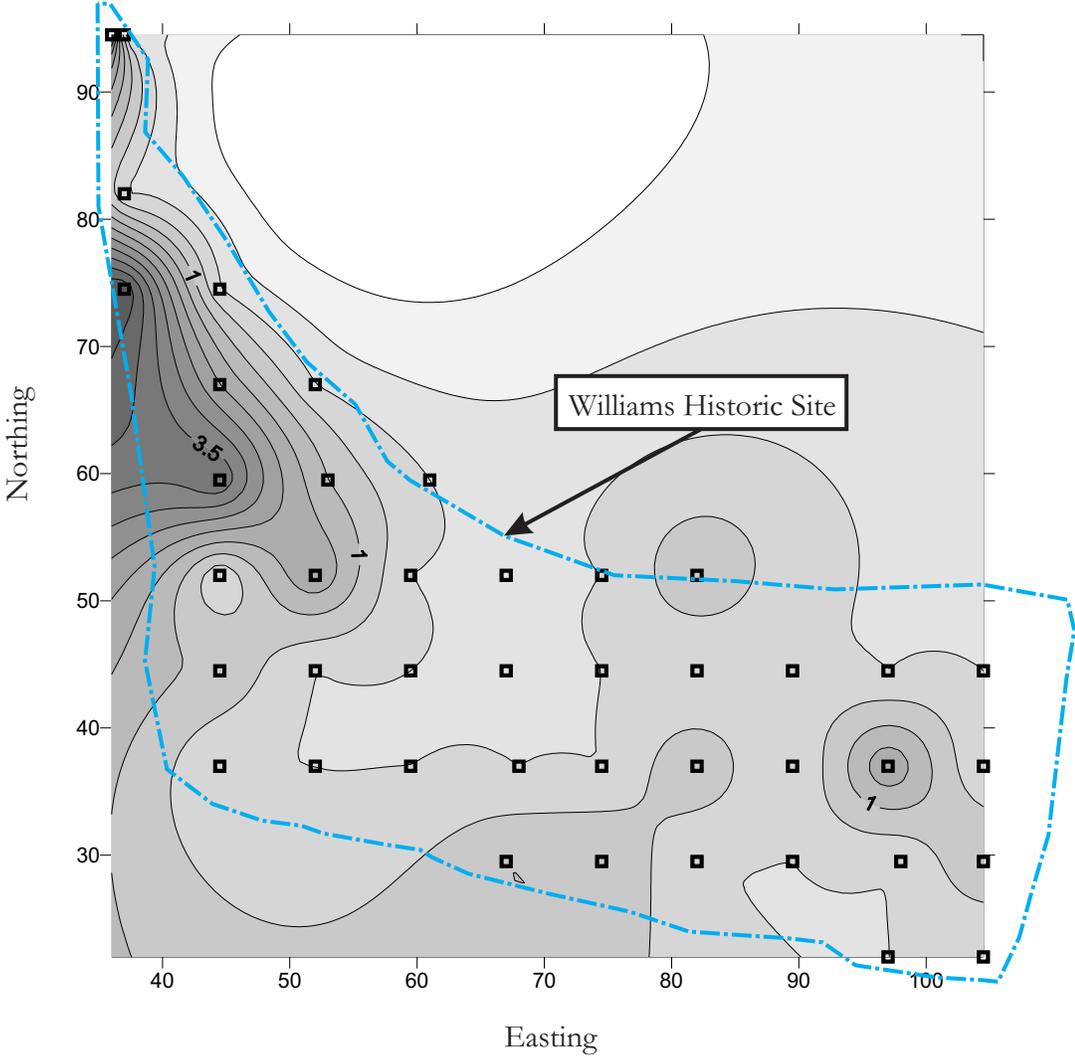
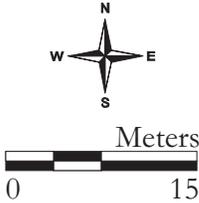


Figure 5.19:
 Metal Distribution Map.



Key:
 □ -Excavation Unit
 Dark areas indicate higher artifact densities

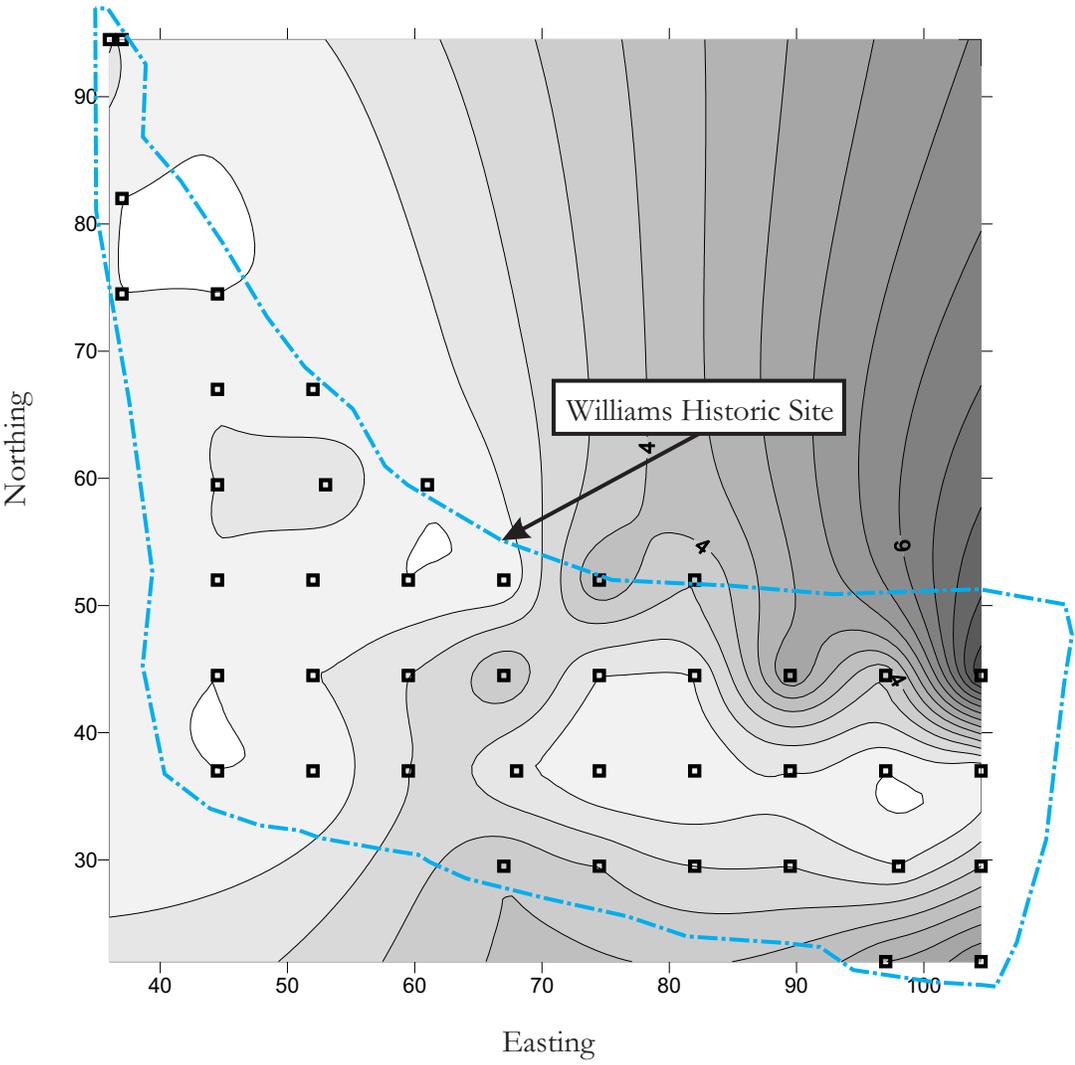
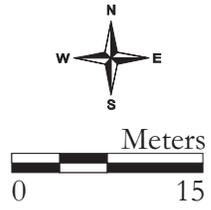


Figure 5.20:
 Fuel Distribution Map.



between 1825 and 1827. It is likely that following Thomas McMullen's death around 1835, buildings near the Williams Historic site were abandoned and/or razed.

Historic cultural material at the site suggests artifact deposition began during the eighteenth century at a time when the property was under the ownership of Roger Williams. The presence of a single agateware (1740-1775) and four engine turned red stoneware vessel fragments (1763-1775) suggests occupation of the nearby log dwelling may have started during the third quarter of the eighteenth century. The absence of rococo style and china glaze pearlware and slip decorated buff earthenware, however, suggests that the eighteenth-century vessel fragments may also have represented heirloom vessels or that refuse disposal by the site occupants during the eighteenth-century largely took place outside the APE. The APE only encompasses a portion of the Williams Historic site, and thus the extent of refuse disposal practices throughout the entire site cannot be determined. For this reason, the beginning and end dates of the historic occupation cannot be assigned with any certainty. The recovery of material dating from the second quarter of the nineteenth century, including polychrome painted whiteware vessel fragments, however, does indicate historic occupation nearby and refuse disposal within the APE continued into the 1830s. The absence of ceramic types like white granite suggests historic occupation of the nearby dwelling did not continue into the 1840s. This time frame coincides with the Thomas McMullen's death around 1835 and the possible redevelopment of the property soon after Deshane's purchase of the property in 1848.

With the exception of one post feature (Feature 1), possibly representing a fence line, the former occupation was only represented by refuse material, quantities of which notably decreased south of EUs 3 and 42 located on the N75 transect line. These two EUs, along with EUs 1, 2, and 41 may have been excavated in proximity to the former dwelling based on the recovery of relatively high artifact counts (e.g., N=81 to 200 artifacts). The remainder of the site within the APE is situated south of the former dwelling in a location where historic refuse disposal was sparse (i.e., N=average of 16 artifacts per unit). All of the recovered cultural material, except that present in Features 1 and 2 (Feature 2 represents a rodent burrow), were from plowzone contexts, making it impossible to separate cultural material assemblages by occupant family. The inability to identify the former occupants in the historic record, with the exception of Catherine and William Biddle's short tenure, further reduces the site's ability to provide significant, new information. Further, the mixture of several decades of refuse disposal in the plowzone prevents an accurate analysis of consumer behavior, domestic economy, and landscape use by separate family occupants and tenants. This analysis is further prevented by the inability to identify all of the former residents in the historic record. No intact historic refuse or structural features, with the exception of a possible post feature, were identified within the portion of the site situated in the APE. Consequently, the historic component of the Williams Historic site lacks integrity as an archaeological resource and is not recommended eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

