lower quality domestic meat cuts as those seen at the rural Delaware sites, but had much less reliance on wild species, indicating that domestic meat cuts may be status indicators of site occupants. Additional investigations at domestic sites with adequate faunal collections need to be conducted to more fully explore this possibility.

INTRASITE ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The occupation of the Williams Site from 1791 to circa 1930 can be divided into three separate chronological periods, each with distinctive characteristics that are reflected in the archaeological remains. The first period, the Tenant Occupation, dates from 1791 to 1846. The second period is the Williams Family Occupation, or Stonemason Occupation, which dates from 1846 to 1875. The final period is the Sidney Stump, or Black Laborer Occupation, dating from 1875 to circa 1930. The results of the soils analyses and plowzone artifact distributions will be presented below, followed by overall intra-site interpretations based on the archaeological and historical evidence.

SOILS ANALYSIS

The chemical analysis of the soils from the Williams Site was undertaken because it has been shown that archaeologically-derived patterns or concentrations of certain soil trace elements can be correlated with the occurrence of particular activities which are reflective of site usage or human behavior (Sopko 1983:24-30; McManamon 1984; Custer et al. 1986). Besides providing a more generalized understanding of spatial

utilization of a site, soils analyses can be useful in determining intra-site activity areas, particularly when used in conjunction with artifact distributional patterns. The chemical analyses were conducted by the Soils Laboratory of the University of Delaware College of Agriculture. Soils analyses have been used with favorable results on other recently excavated historic sites in Delaware (Custer et al. 1986; Coleman et al. 1985; Shaffer et al. 1988:132-141).

The soils analysis for the Williams Site consisted of determining the relative frequency levels of soil phosphates, calcium, potassium, magnesium, and soil pH across the site area. The level of phosphates in site soils are probably the most significant of the soils analyses that were conducted, because high phosphate levels are indicative of chemical evidence of human or animal activities. High phosphate accumulation is usually caused by the deposition of urine, excrement, and organic refuse (Sjoberg 1976; Eidt 1977). Abnormal concentrations of calcium could be the result of several possible occurrences: agricultural fertilization (i.e., liming), oyster or clam shell deposition, or the presence of building materials in the soils. Magnesium levels are generally related to the calcium levels. The presence of high potassium levels are the result of the deposition of wood ash through surface burning or from the dumping of fireplace or stove ashes. Soil pH readings of 7.0 or greater are indicative of alkaline soils, and readings below 7.0 are acidic. Delaware soil pH values are naturally acidic (Matthews and Lavoie 1970), and readings above

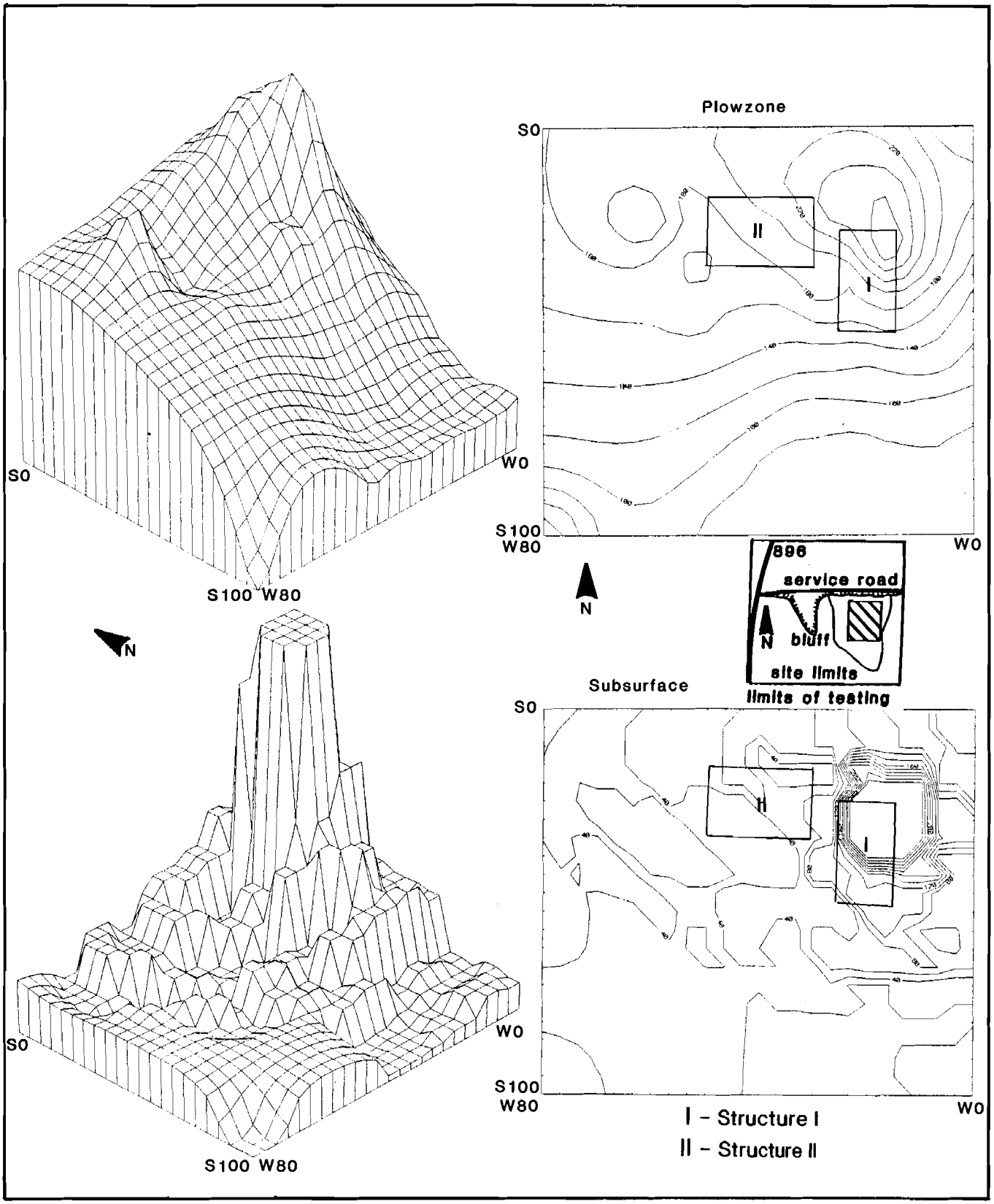
6.0 suggest agricultural fertilization (Sopko 1983; Custer et al. 1986).

At the Williams Site, sets of soil samples were collected from the randomly excavated plowzone test units, and from each of the larger 10' x 10' subsoil units. This sampling method was used to determine the degree to which the chemical patterning of the site had been altered by subsequent agricultural fertilization. It was assumed that the subsoil sample would be less likely than the plowzone sample to have been affected by post-occupational chemical contamination caused by agricultural practices, and therefore more reflective of earlier intra-site soils patterns. A similar sampling scheme was employed with success at the Whitten Road Site (Shaffer et al. 1988) and at the A. Temple Site in Ogletown (Hoseth et al. 1990).

The results of the soils analyses at the Williams Site are presented in a series of frequency distribution maps (Figures 37 through 41) and illustrate both the plowzone and subsoil chemical densities. There are a number of interesting correlations between the plowzone and the subsoils. The phosphate level present in both the plowzone and subsoil forms a plateau in the northeast quarter of the site. Beginning at about S38W60, the plateau extends across all of the northeastern portion of the site; it contains the archaeological evidence for both structures (Figure 37). This high density of phosphates could be associated with two possible spatial functions: 1) the presence of a dwelling or structure, or 2) an animal penning area.

FIGURE 37

Soil chemical Phosphate Densities, Williams Site

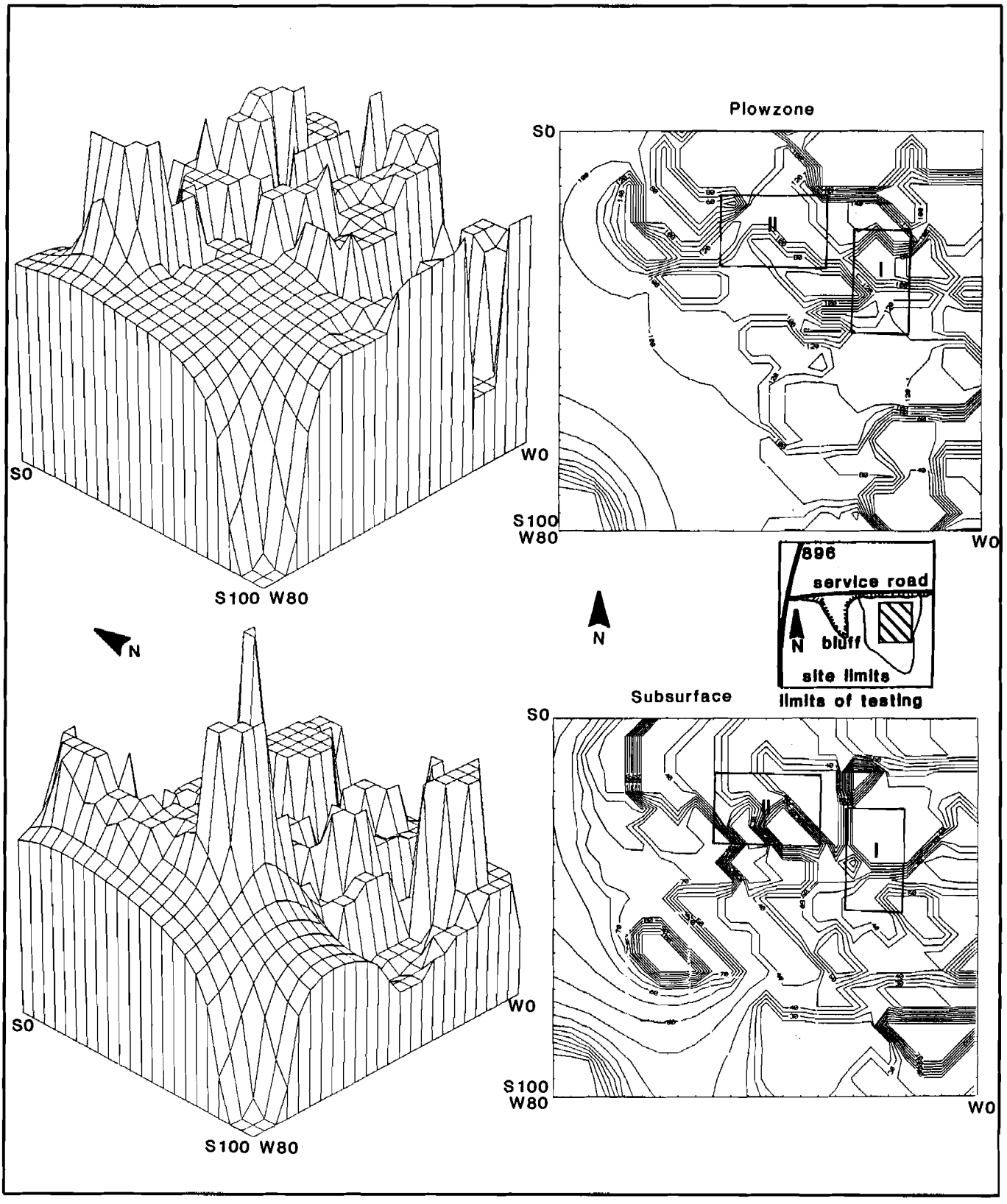


If the first supposition is correct, that the high levels are due to a dwelling, the plateau would include both Structures I and II, and possibly a yard area for them to the north and east. Interestingly, Feature 42, which is associated with Structure I, is not included in this high concentration of phosphorous, suggesting that the rooms of that dwelling may have fulfilled different functions or activities. If the second conclusion about the phosphate readings is true, then this density is probably due to the presence of an animal pen or yard activity area associated with the second structure on the property, the Williams-Stump House. The pen or yard would have been located to the east of the house. The driven-post fenceline located to the east of Feature 2 serves to delimit both this portion of the yard area and the limits of the soil phosphate concentration. Thus, the brick-lined well, would be located within this soil concentration, lending credence to this interpretation.

Potassium levels from the plowzone at the site show a number of peaks and "hot spots," but these are probably due to post-occupational disturbances (Figure 38). The subsoil potassium level, on the other hand, indicates a definite high point located to the immediate west of Feature 2 (the well), and north of Structure I. This density of potassium could be due to the possible presence of an ephemeral shed or structure above or near the well, or to the remains of a hearth area associated with Structure I. Although no architectural evidence of a hearth for Structure I was encountered during the site investigations, other artifact distributional information,

FIGURE 38

Soil Chemical Potassium Densities, Williams Site



notably the presence of a concentration of burned or sooted brick in the same area, suggests that this interpretation may be correct.

Calcium densities also support the possibility of a hearth area or flue for Structure I or Structure II in this area. The plowzone densities for calcium show a steady increase in the chemical's readings beginning about S50W25, in the vicinity of Feature 42, and extending northeasterly to the limits of excavation. This area encompasses the limits of both Structure I and Structure II (Figure 39). Subsoil readings of calcium do not reflect this same northeastern trend, but instead show a significant high point centered approximately on S30W38. This location falls on the western side of Structure I and on the eastern gable end of Structure II, a location between both structures. The presence in this area of such a high density of calcium may be indicative of a flue or hearth area for either of the structures; once again, no architectural evidence of flues or hearths for either of the buildings was discovered during the data recovery excavations. Magnesium frequencies in both the plowzone and subsoil mirror the calcium readings, and show the same general trends and high point (Figure 40). A correspondingly high density of burned brick (see below) associated with the eastern gable end of Structure II would indicate that both the calcium and magnesium readings are related to a chimney flue for Structure II.

PH soil distributions across the Williams Site are generally reflective of post-occupational plowing and agricultural fertilization (Figure 41). This is particularly

FIGURE 39

Soil Chemical Calcium Densities, Williams Site

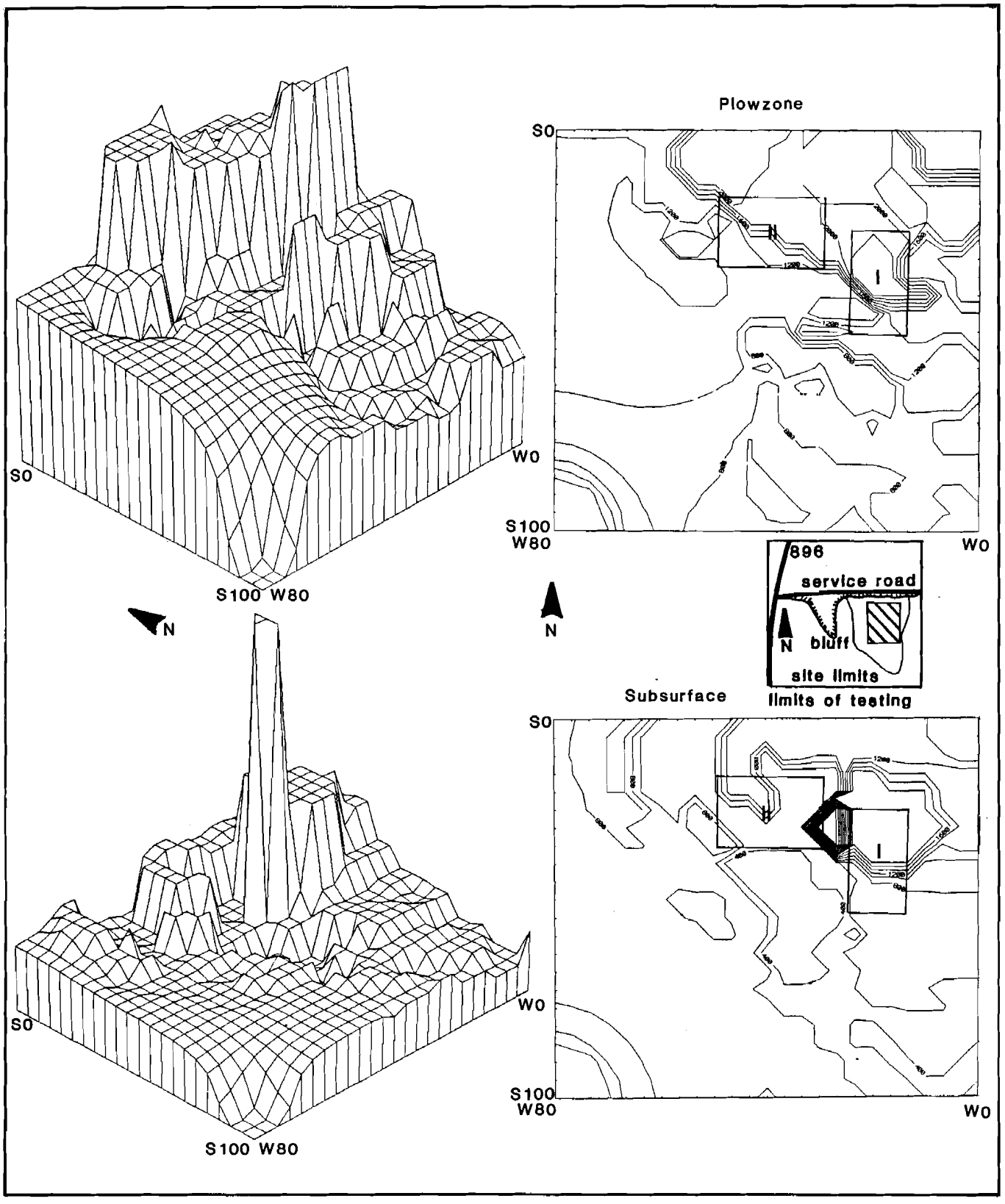


FIGURE 40

Soil Chemical Magnesium Densities, Williams Site

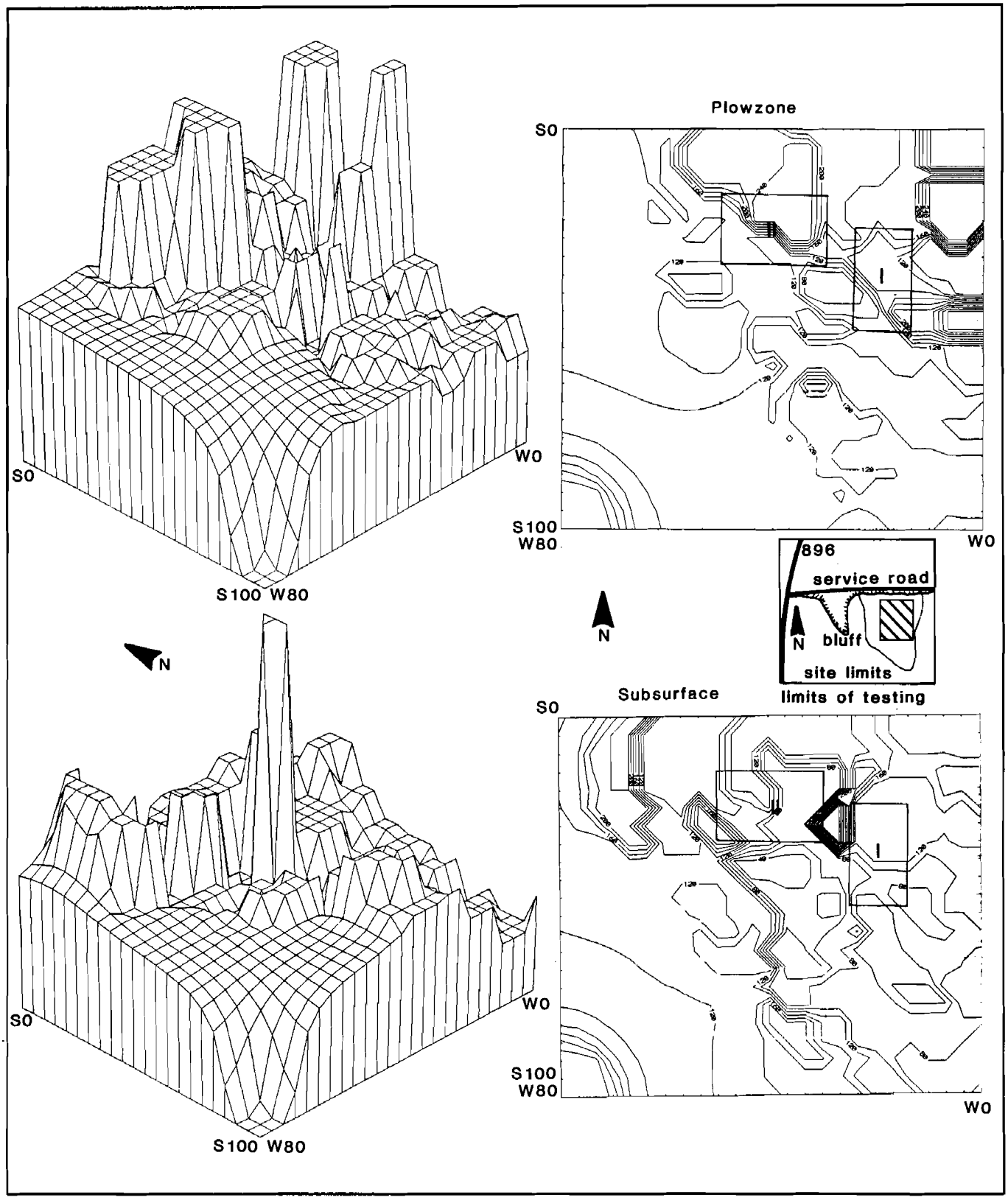
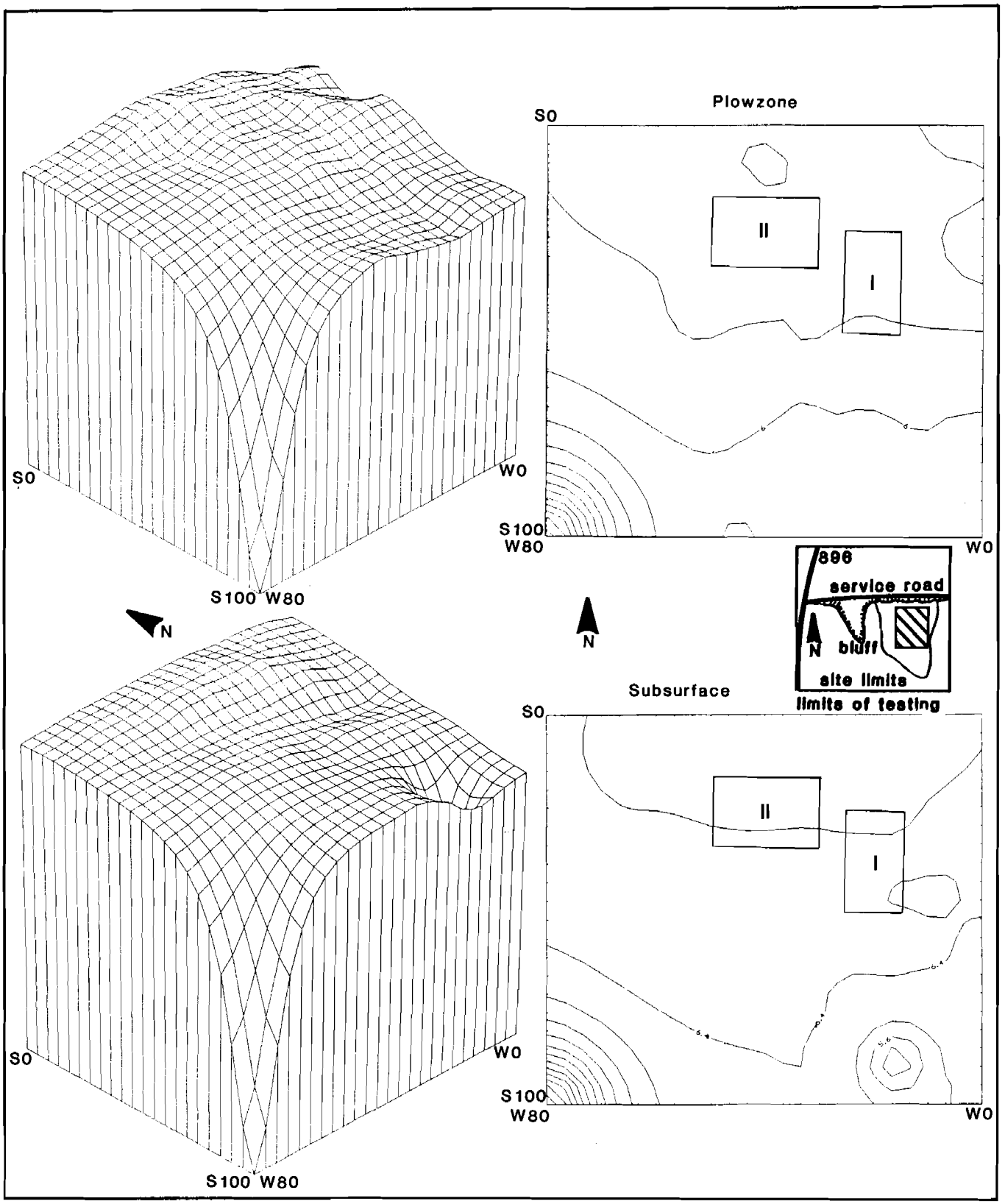


FIGURE 41

Soil Chemical PH Densities, Williams Site



evident in the plowzone soils, but can also be seen in the subsoil readings. Interestingly, the subsoil pH values are highest around both structures, suggesting that pH values may also be indicative in some way of human occupation or landscape alteration.

PLOWZONE ARTIFACT DISTRIBUTIONS

To aid in the determination of any intra-site patterns of yard usage, artifacts collected during the plowzone sampling were plotted according to the frequencies in which they occurred. The discovery of two distinct structures on the site, and the several changes in site function and occupation over its period of habitation, suggested that there could be different artifact densities and distributions associated with the separate site occupations. Therefore, site ceramics were plotted according to their general chronology of manufacture: eighteenth, early nineteenth, and mid-to-late nineteenth centuries. Computer-generated frequency and distribution maps were prepared for six separate ceramic categories: creamware and the small amount of other eighteenth century wares (engine-turned redware, refined red stonewares, whieldon ware, delft ware, "Jackfield", and Westerwald stoneware), pearlwares, whitewares and ironstone and other nineteenth century wares (yellowware, American Rockingham), porcelain, American Blue and Gray stonewares, and all redwares. Window glass and all other container glass (i.e., bottle and jar) was plotted, as were brick and nail frequencies.

The total count of all ceramics recovered from the plowzone of the Williams Site is shown in Figure 42. Figure 43 shows the frequencies and distributions of the eighteenth century ceramic fragments across the Williams Site. Two definite peaks are discernible for this ceramic category, one centered on S40.4W30, within the confines of Structure I, and a second peak centered at S40.5W54, located about 23 feet west of Structure I, and directly south of Structure II. A third oblong-shaped concentration of eighteenth century ceramics was located southwest of Structure II, centered in the vicinity of S36W80. This last concentration may represent the location of an early trash midden associated with the Evans-Black Tenant occupation of the Williams Site.

Figure 44 shows the frequencies and distributions of pearlwares at the site. Like the eighteenth century ceramics, there is a high concentration of pearlware centered on S40.5W54, probably related to the occupation of Structure I. Additionally, there is a ridge of high density running from S40.5W21 westward to the above-mentioned high point. There is also a "hot spot" centered above Feature 17 (Structure II), a clear indication of the secondary refuse deposits utilized in the filling of the cellar hole in the second quarter of the twentieth century. Unlike the eighteenth-century ceramic distribution, which although concentrated around the structures, covers a wide area, the pearlware distribution is definitely more concentrated south and west of Structure II and west of Structure I. This area seems to be triangular in shape and begins at S40.5W21, from which it extends about forty feet to

FIGURE 42

Distribution of Ceramics in the Plowzone

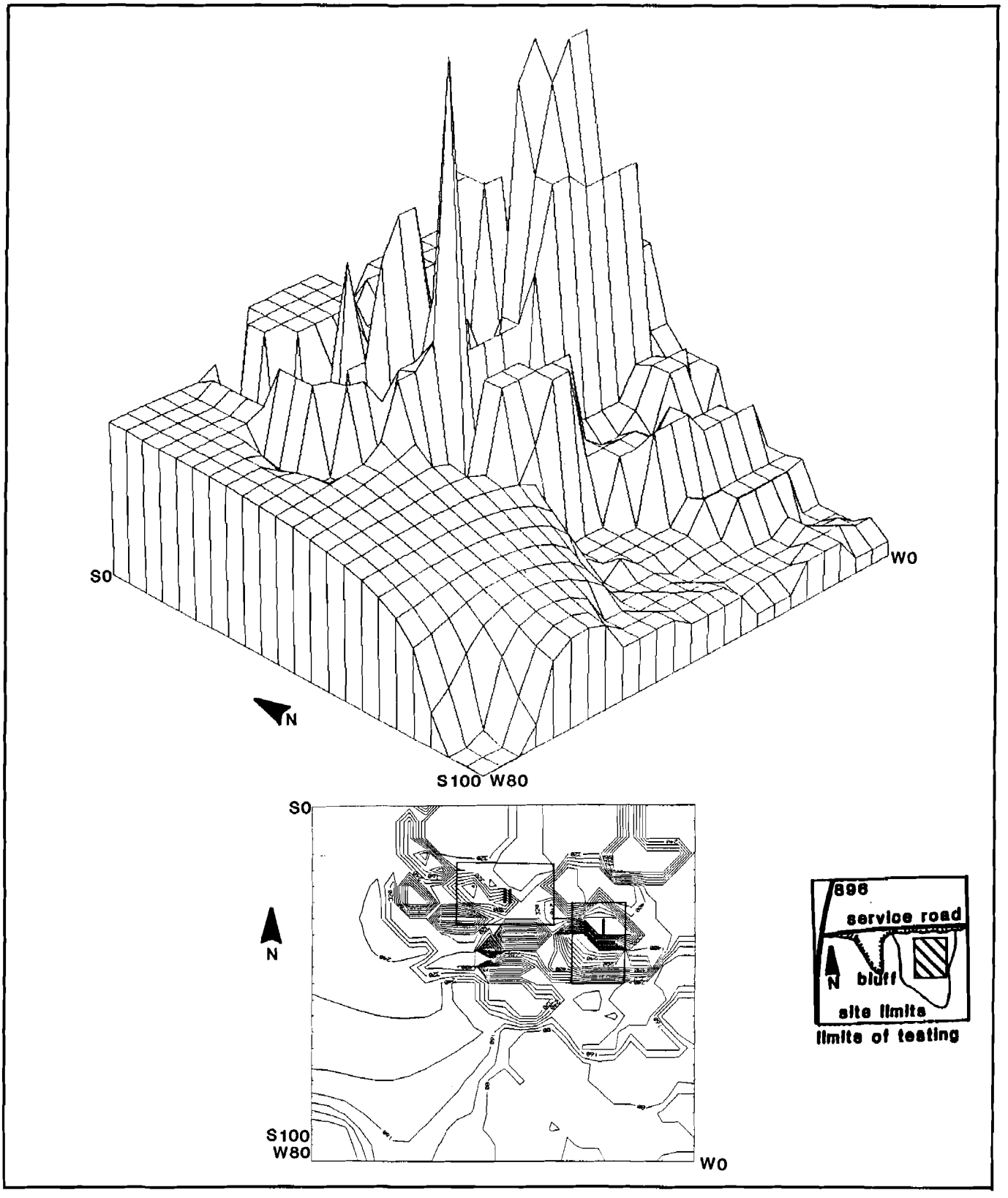
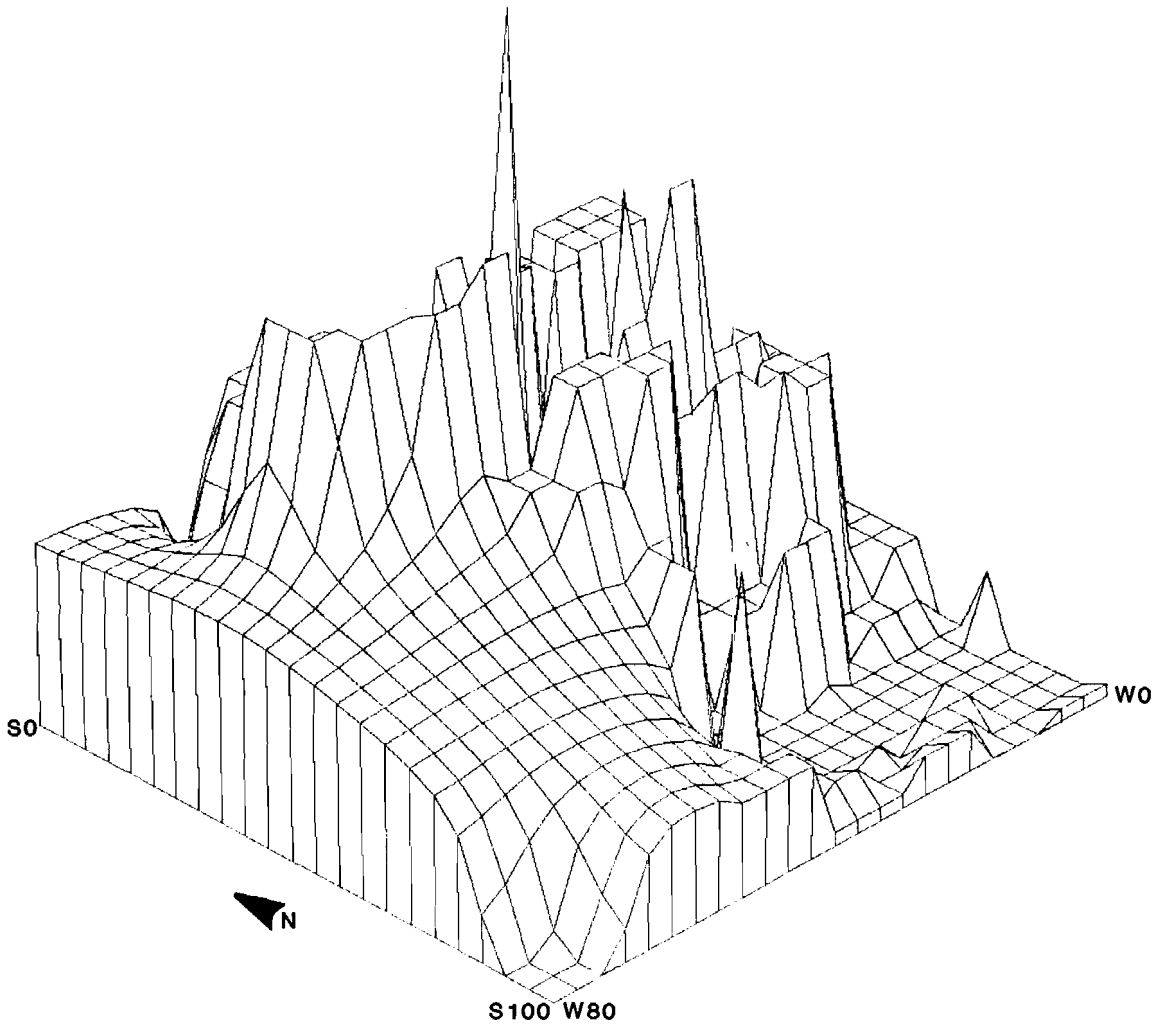
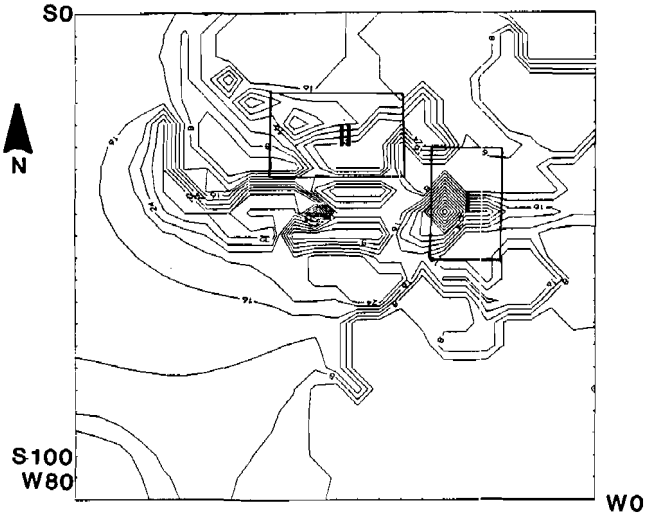


FIGURE 43

Distribution of Eighteenth Century Ceramics in the Plowzone





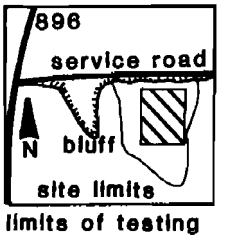
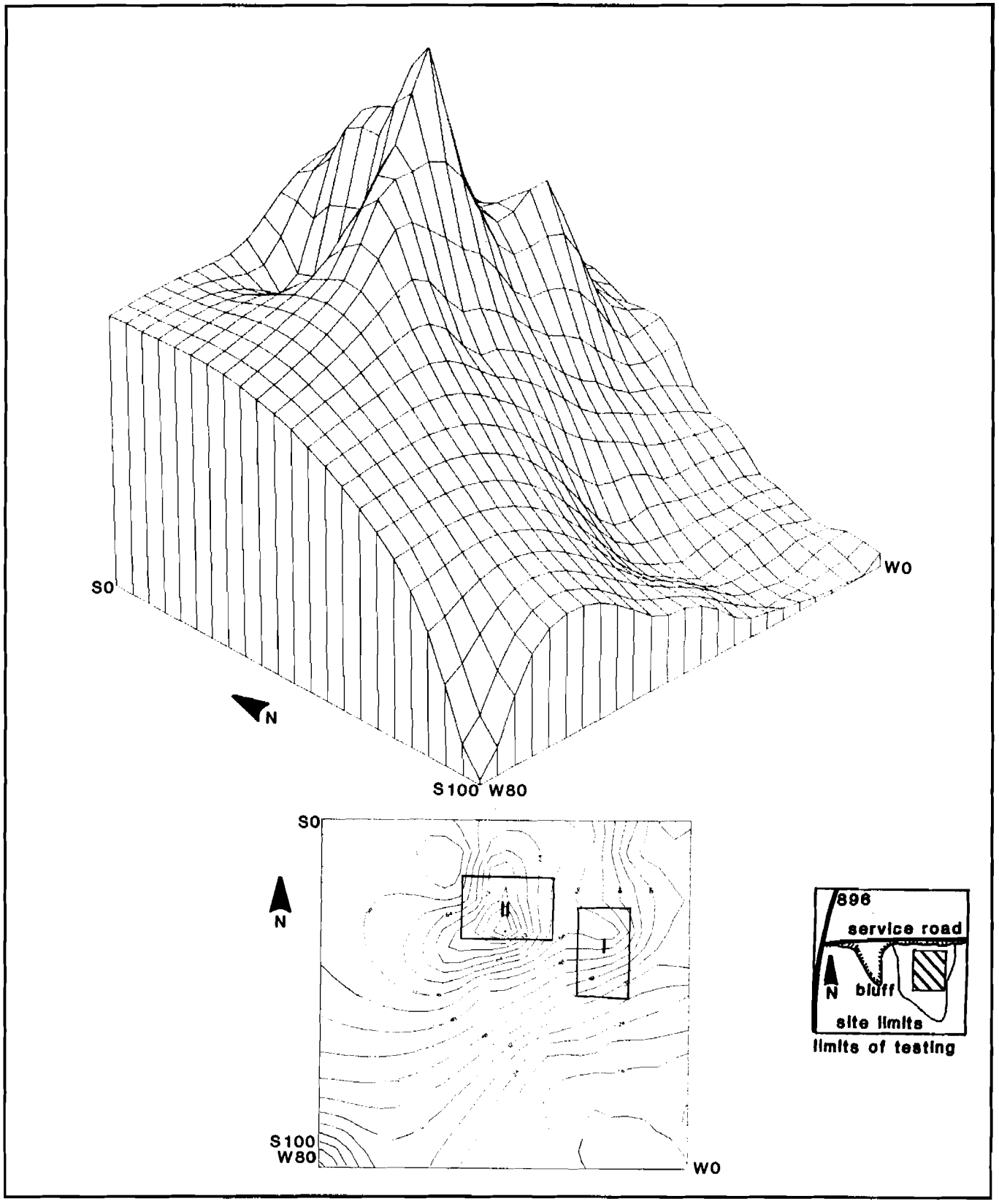


FIGURE 44

Distribution of Pearlware in the Plowzone



the W80 transect, running from S0W80 to S50W80.

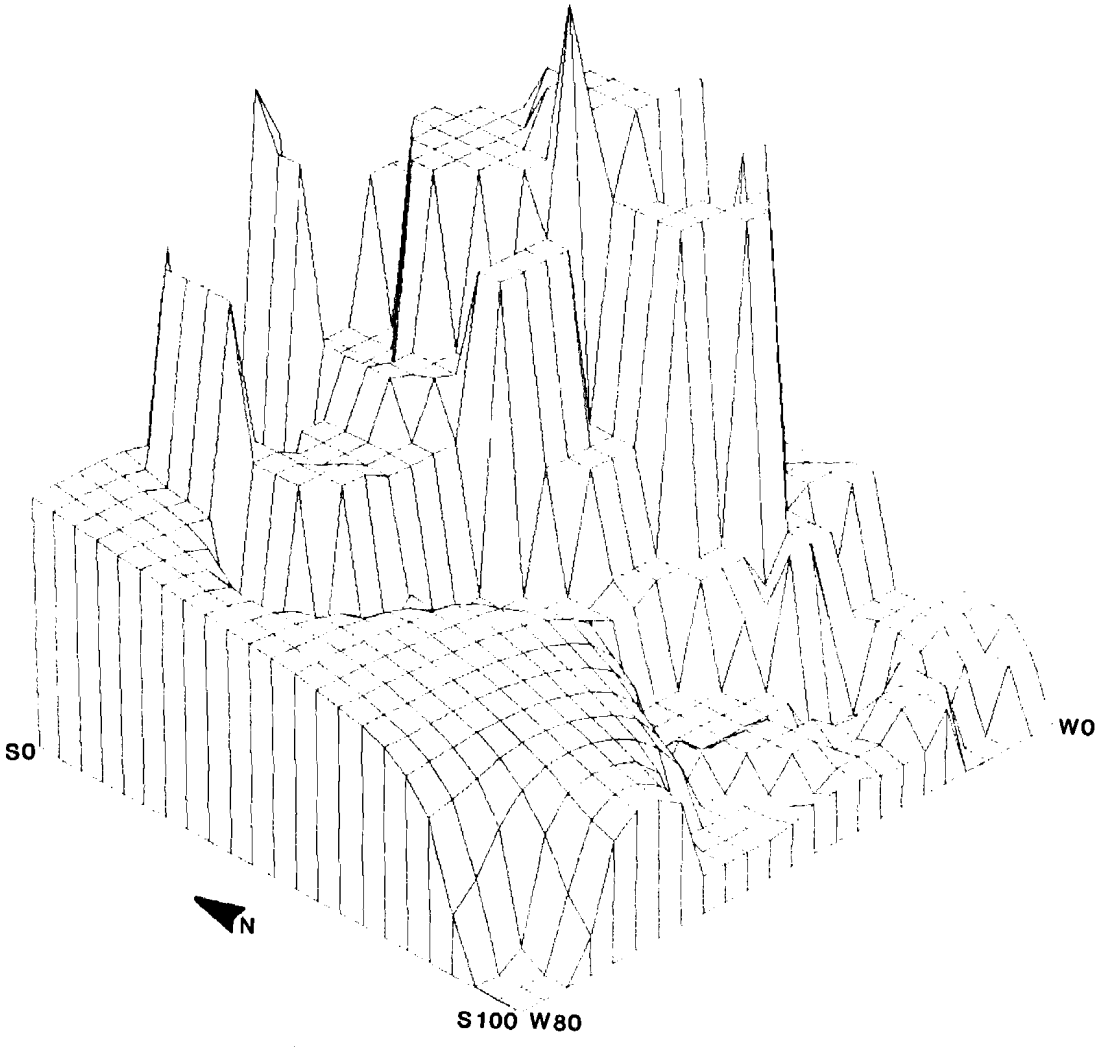
The distribution and density of whitewares and other later nineteenth century ceramics is illustrated in Figure 45. Concentrations of these ceramics appear to be related mostly to the post-occupational deposition of debris. There is a high plateau of ceramics centered above Feature 2, the well, and in a broad area north of Structure II, both indications of the demolition of the house and filling of the well. Like the two preceding ceramic distributions, the whiteware group has a peak at S40.5W54, and an obvious peak over Feature 17. There were two other peaks of nineteenth-century ceramics, perhaps related to the locations of outbuildings or activity areas from the Stonemason or Black Laborer occupations. One was centered over Feature 12, at S33W23, and the other was a little south and west of that point, at S40.5W30. The later point may be associated with Outbuilding II, or another ephemeral shed, while the former concentration could be related to the secondary trash fill in Feature 12.

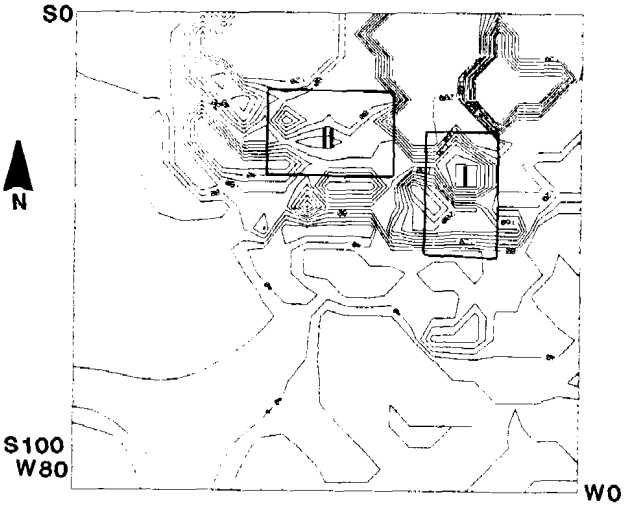
Porcelain distributions are shown in Figure 46. A small peak is located above Feature 12, on the southern edge of Structure II, and north of Structure II, probably associated with the post-occupational demolition located there. Generally, porcelain densities across the Williams Site were extremely low, suggesting the economic and social position of the site's inhabitants.

Figure 47 shows the frequencies and distributions of nineteenth-century American blue and gray stonewares. Like porcelains at the site, the stoneware densities are for the most

FIGURE 45

Distribution of Nineteenth Century Ceramics in the Plowzone





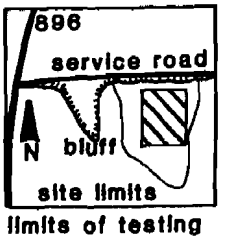


FIGURE 46

Distribution of Porcelain in the Plowzone

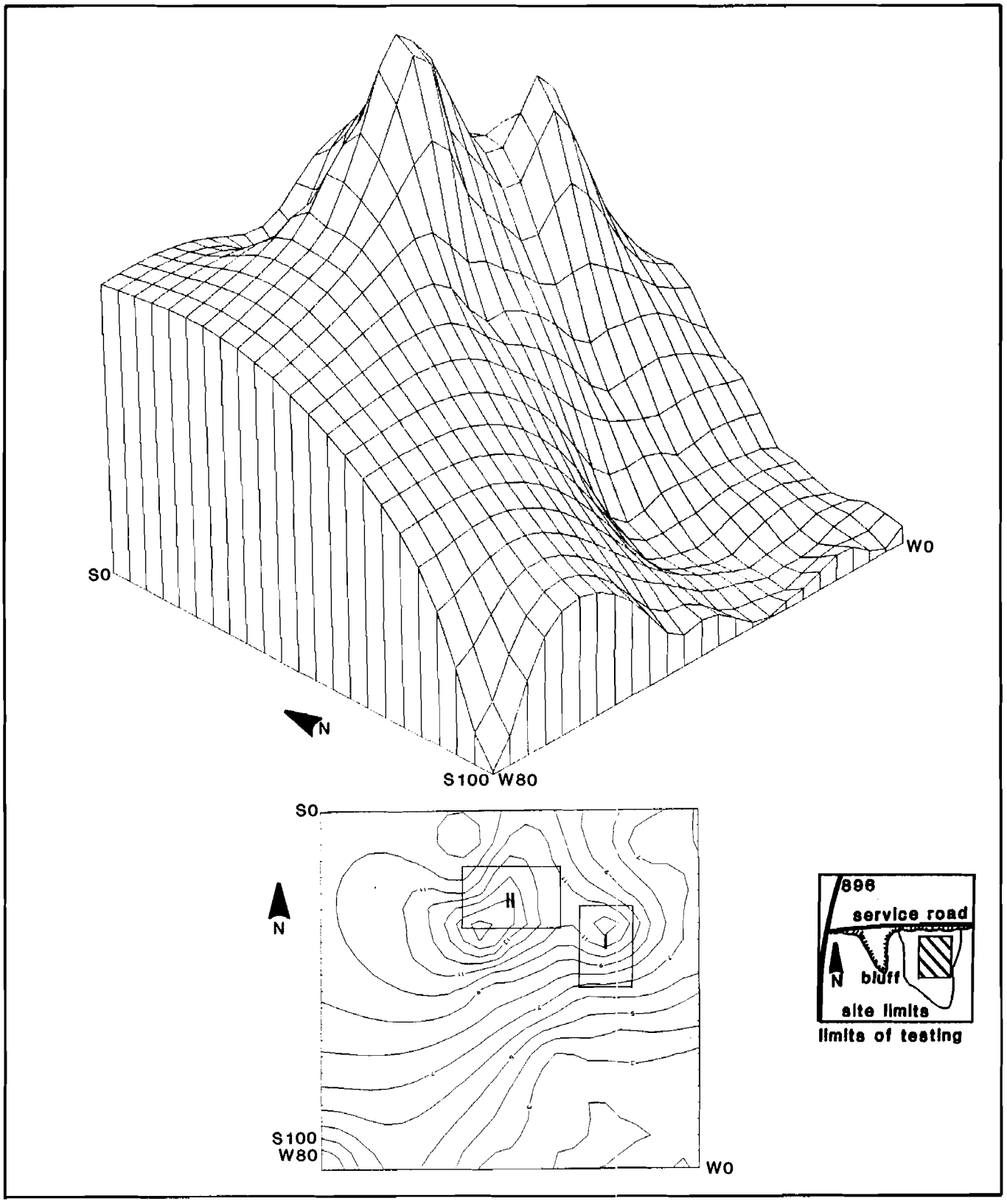
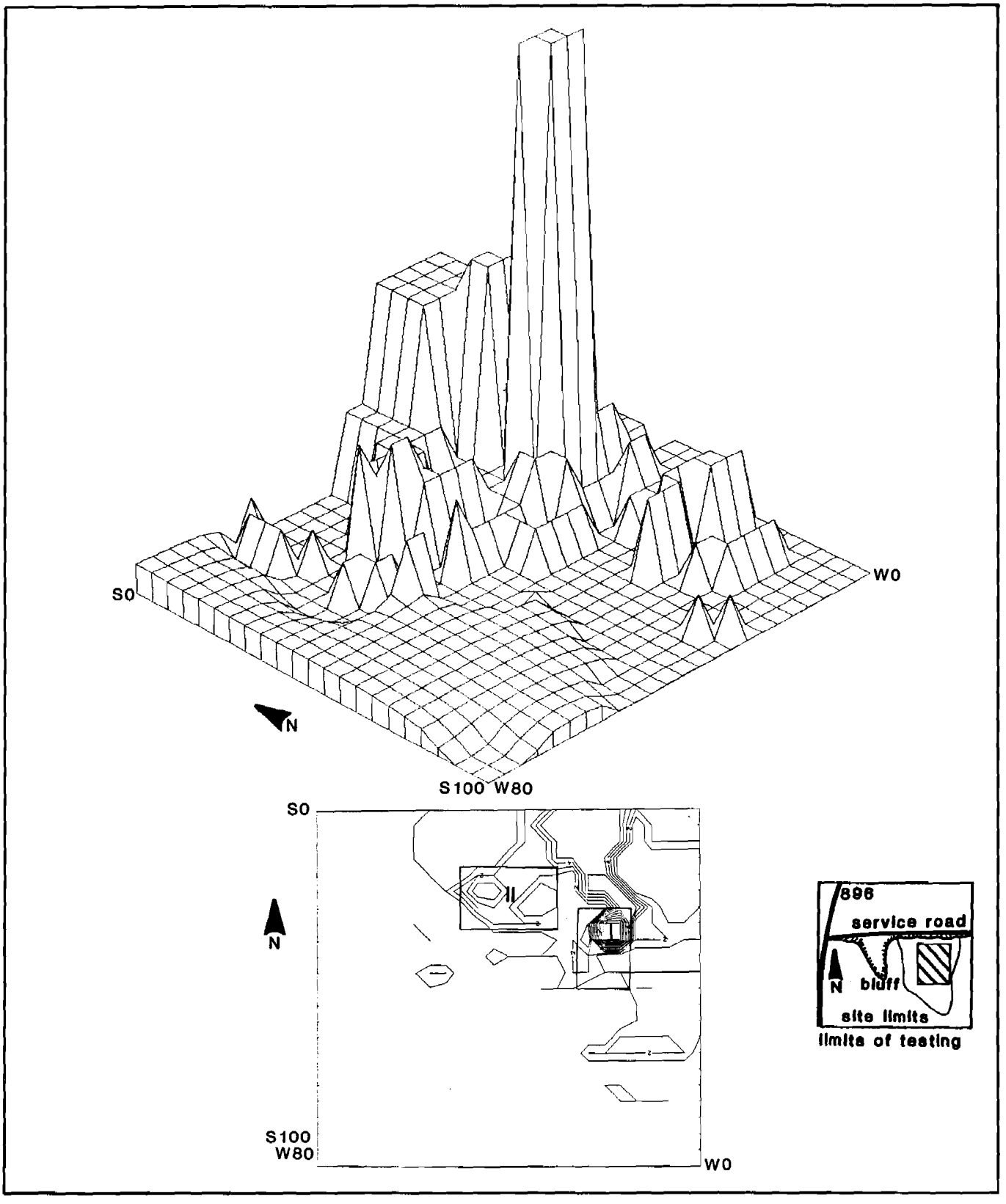


FIGURE 47

Distribution of American Blue and Gray Stoneware in the Plowzone



part extremely low, but a high point is located over Feature 12 in Structure I. Smaller concentrations were identified in the plowzone above Feature 17.

Figure 48 shows the distributions of redwares across the Williams Site. The only peak present is above Feature 12, reflecting the large number of reconstructed redware vessels recovered from this feature. Generally, redware densities are higher on the eastern portion of the site, indicating the earlier structure and occupation of that part of the Williams Site.

The densities and distributions of window glass and bottle glass are shown in Figures 49 and 50. There is a high plateau of window glass located north and east of both structures, which drops off close to the well (Feature 2). A second high concentration of window glass also occurred around S10W80 in the vicinity of Features 97 and 98, the privy pits. Generally, the window glass is fairly regularly distributed around both structures, and concentrates in a triangular area situated in the eastern portion of the site. A similar northeast trend is seen in the distribution of bottle glass at the site. There is a definite high point centered at S16W30, east of Structure II, and smaller concentrations east of Feature 2 (Well), above Feature 17, and north of Structure II associated with the demolition debris (Feature 18). Like the window glass, bottle glass density in the plowzone is generally high around both Structures I and II.

Figure 51 shows the distributions and frequencies of all nails recovered from the plowzone of the Williams Site. This

FIGURE 48

Distribution of Redware in the Plowzone

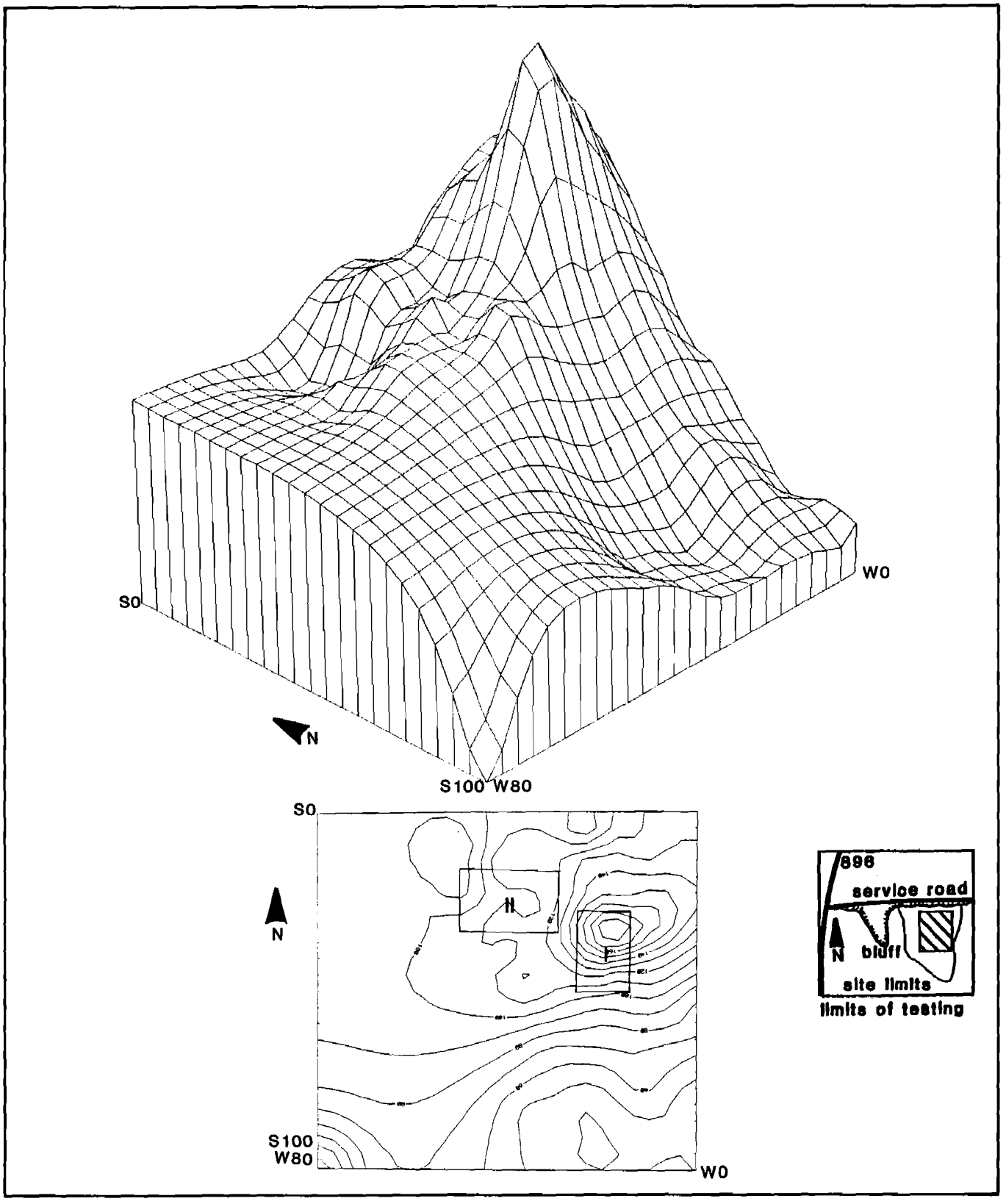
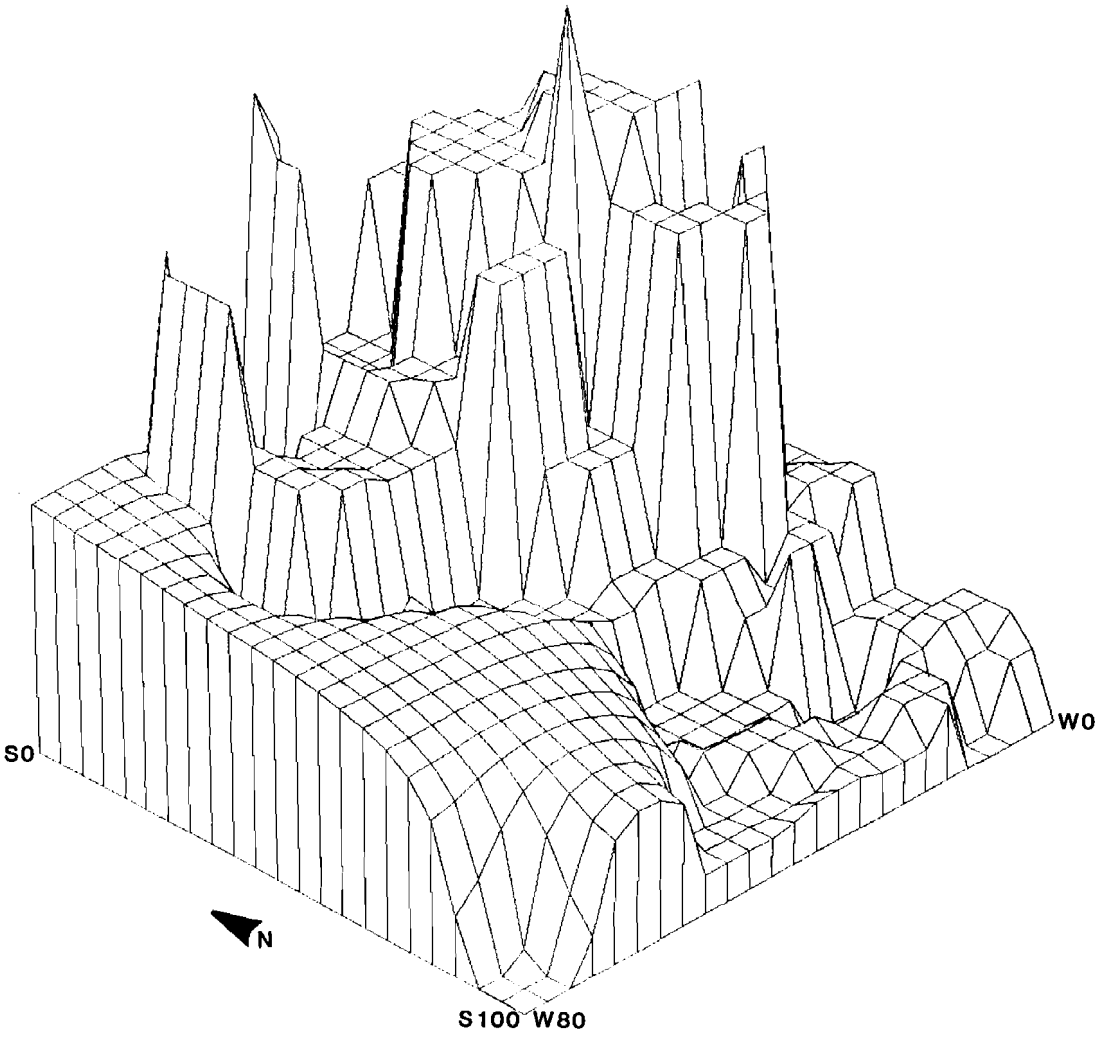
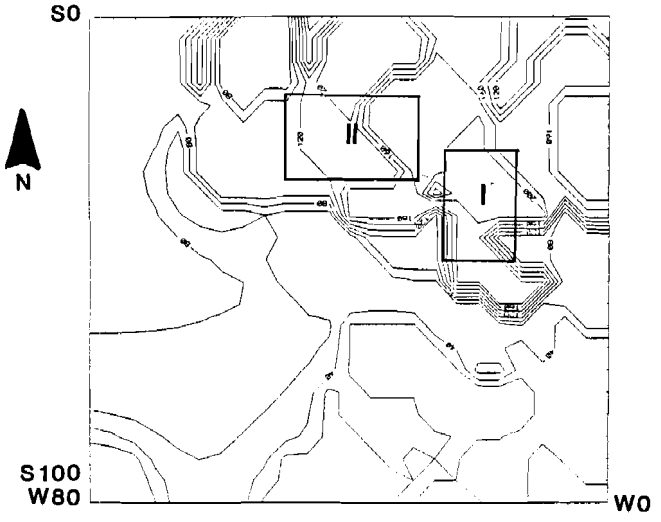


FIGURE 49

Distribution of Window Glass in the Plowzone





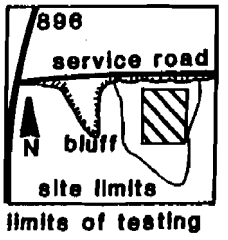
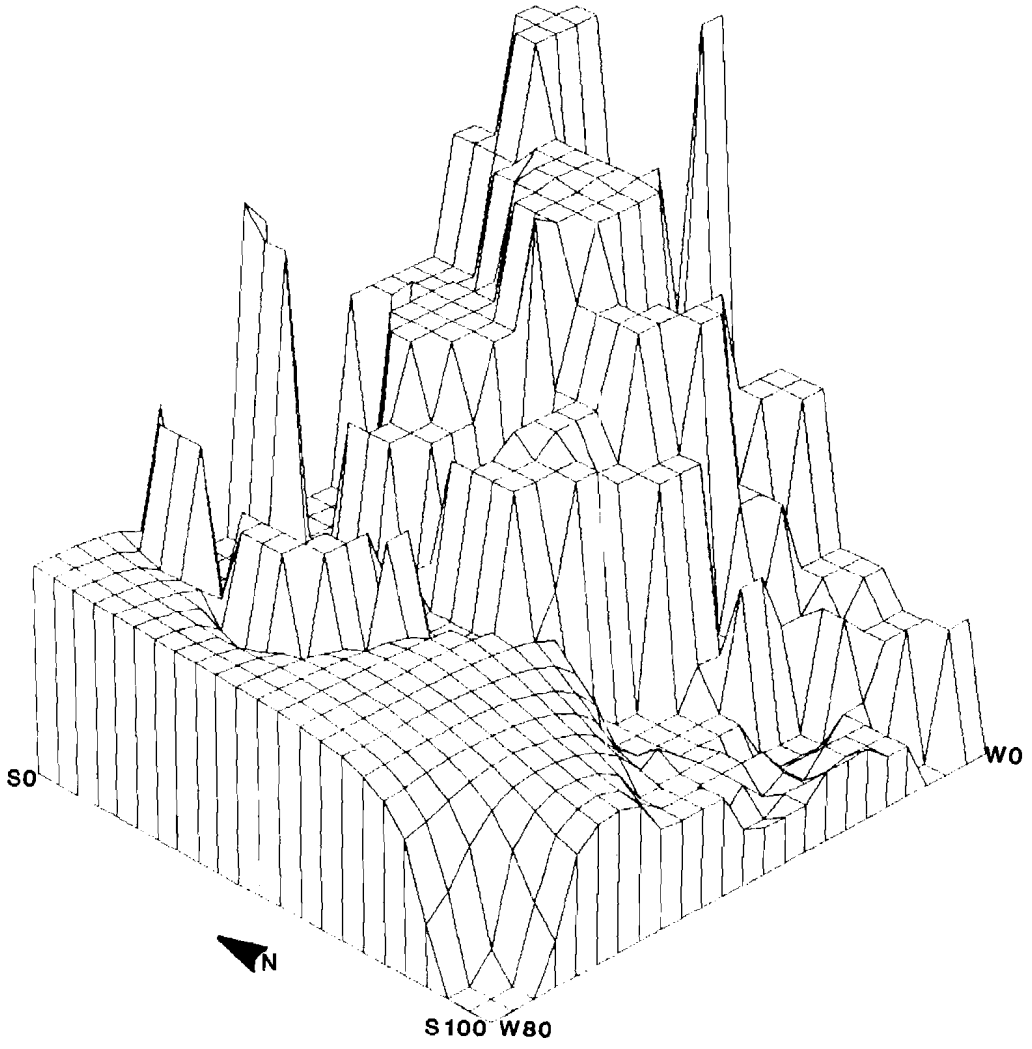
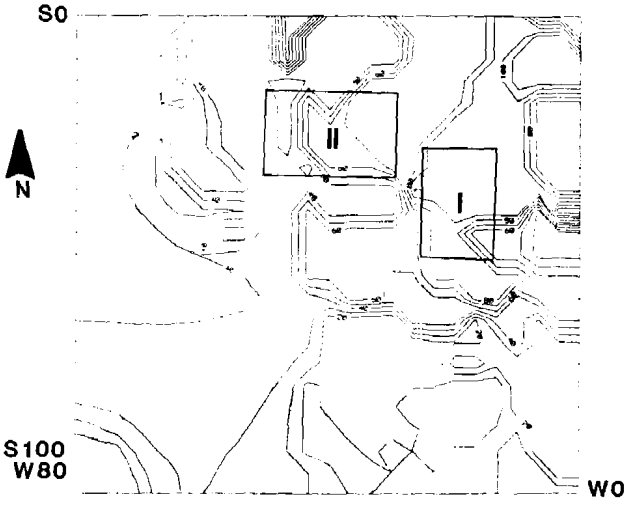


FIGURE 50

Distribution of Bottle Glass in the Plowzone





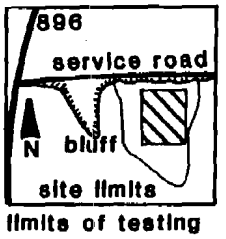


FIGURE 51

Distribution of Total Nails in the Plowzone

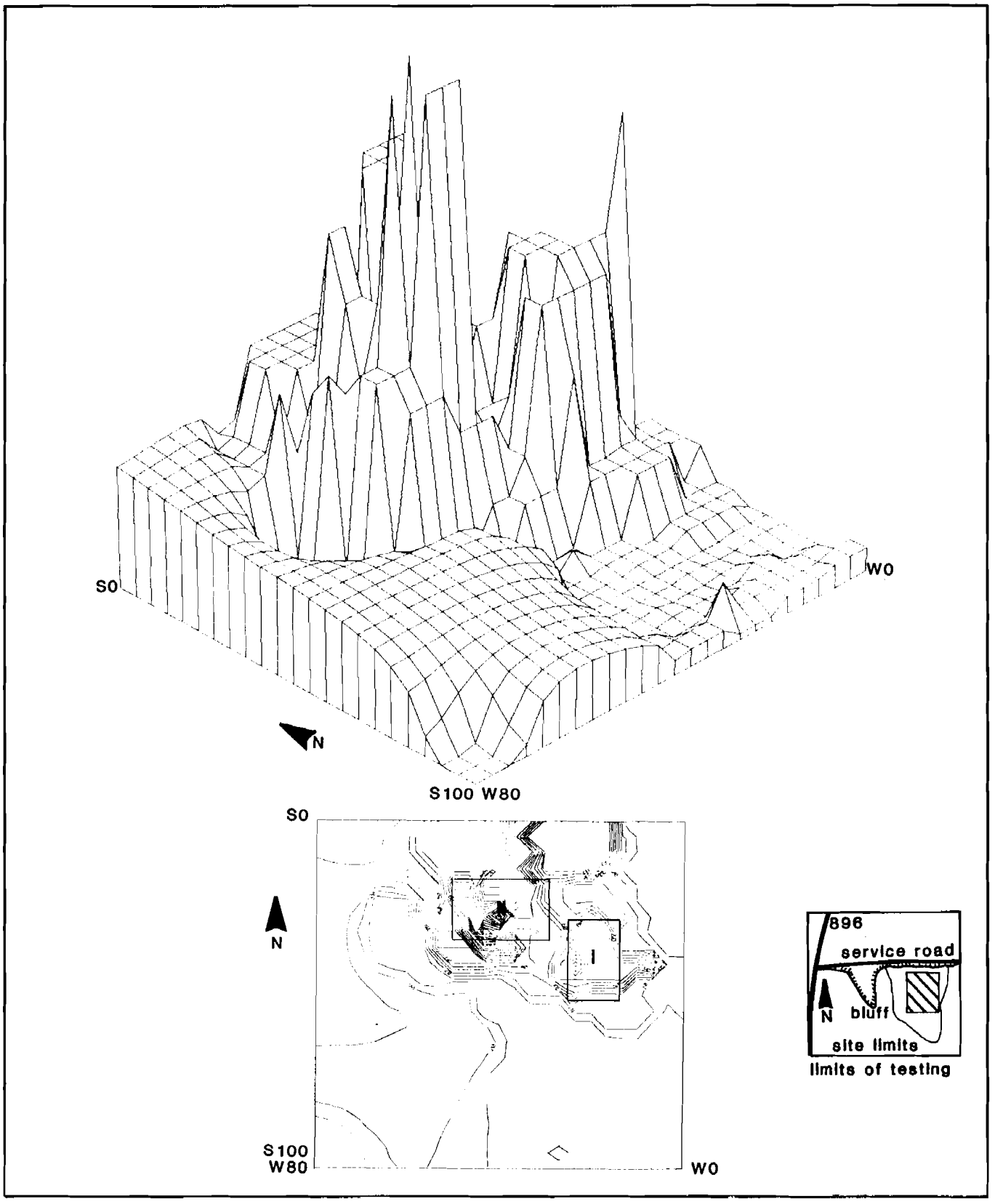


figure indicates high concentrations centered over Feature 17 and directly south of Structure II, and two slightly lower densities northeast of the well (Feature 2) and north of Structure II. A further break-down of the nails into the chronological divisions of wrought, cut, and wire nails is shown in Figures 52-54. These series of figures show that the concentration of wrought nails is highest east of Structure I (centered on S36W0), with a smaller concentration south of Structure I. Cut nails are seen to be densest in two distinct concentrations, one centered on Structure I, and one around Structure II. Wire nail densities were centered over Feature 17, behind Structure II, and in the area northeast of the well, all related to demolition activities associated with Structure II. These separate concentrations indicate the rough chronology of the two structures, and suggests that the earlier Structure I was constructed with both wrought and cut nails, and that Structure II probably utilized re-used cut nails from the first building, along with later wire nails.

Figure 55 shows the distribution of the total number of brick fragments (by weight) collected at the Williams Site. The densest concentration of brick is seen north of Structure II, in the vicinity of the demolition debris associated with the removal of the building. Figure 56 is more useful, and provides the distribution and frequency of burnt brick at the site. This figure reveals two "hot spots" of burnt brick, one associated with Feature 17, and the other located outside the eastern end of Structure II, off of the building's northeast corner. Since no chimney pile of any kind was located during the cellar hole

FIGURE 52

Distribution of Wrought Nails in the Plowzone

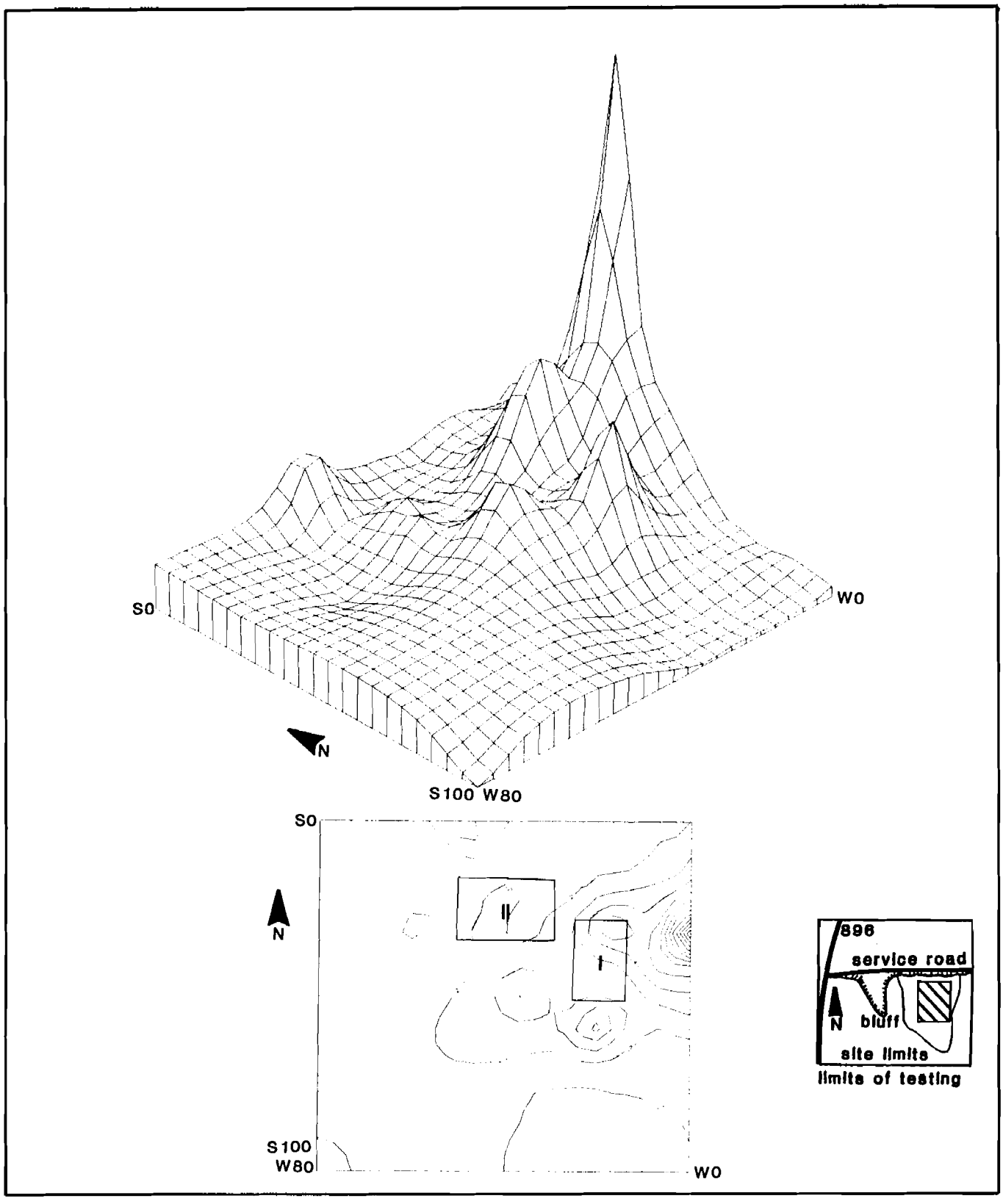


FIGURE 53

Distribution of Cut Nails in the Plowzone

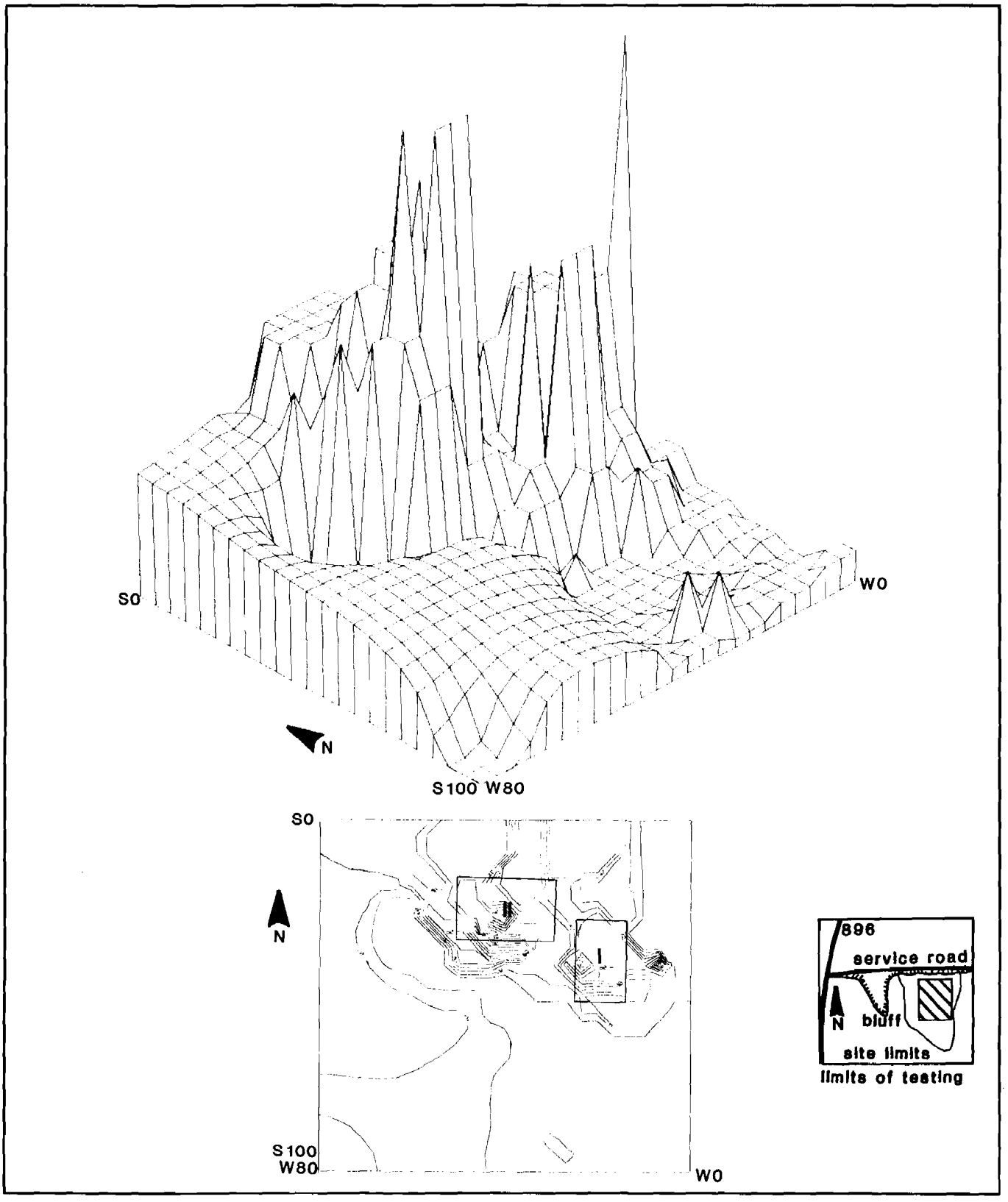


FIGURE 54

Distribution of Wire Nails in the Plowzone

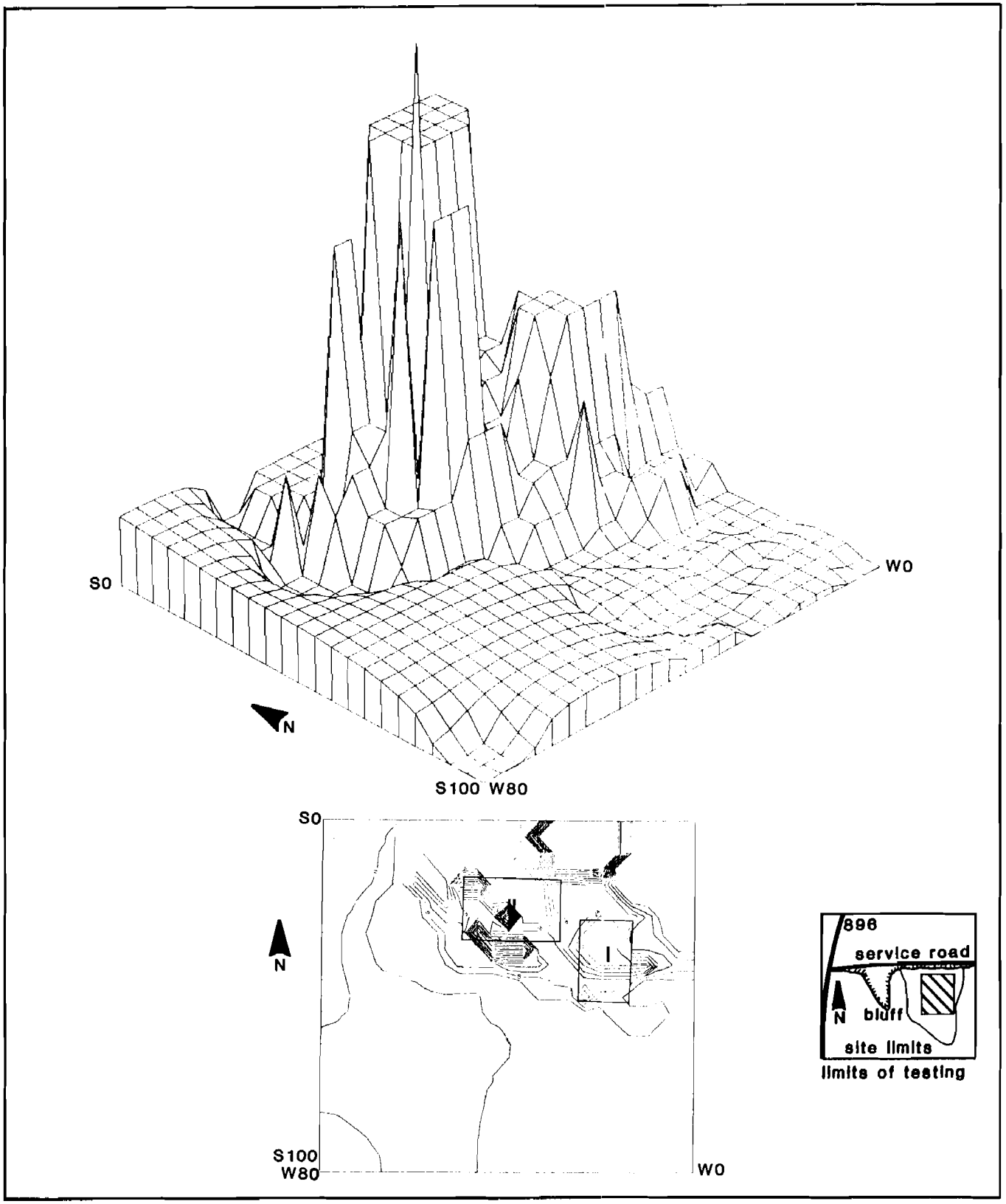


FIGURE 55

Distribution of Total Brick Fragments (by weight) in the Plowzone

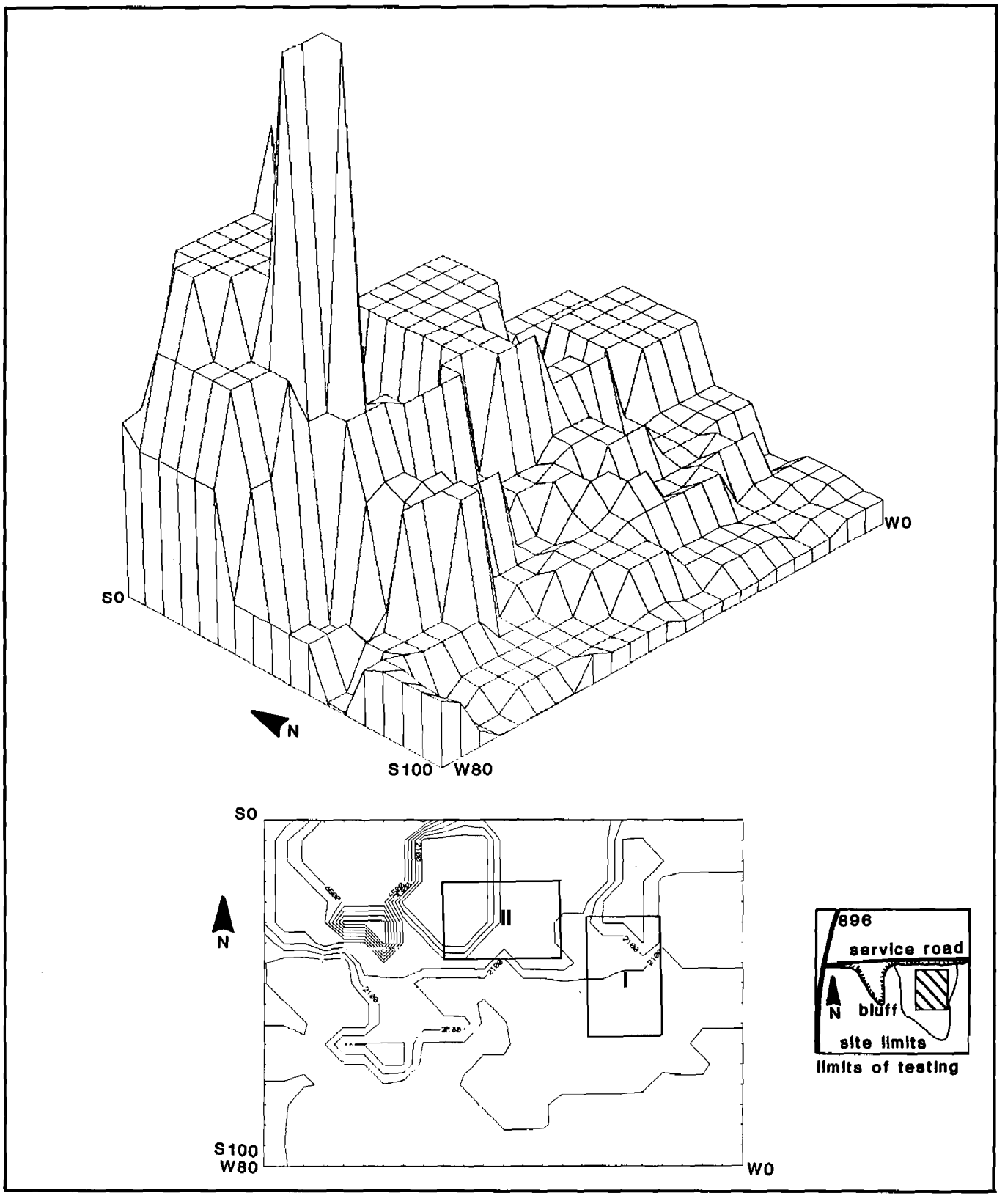
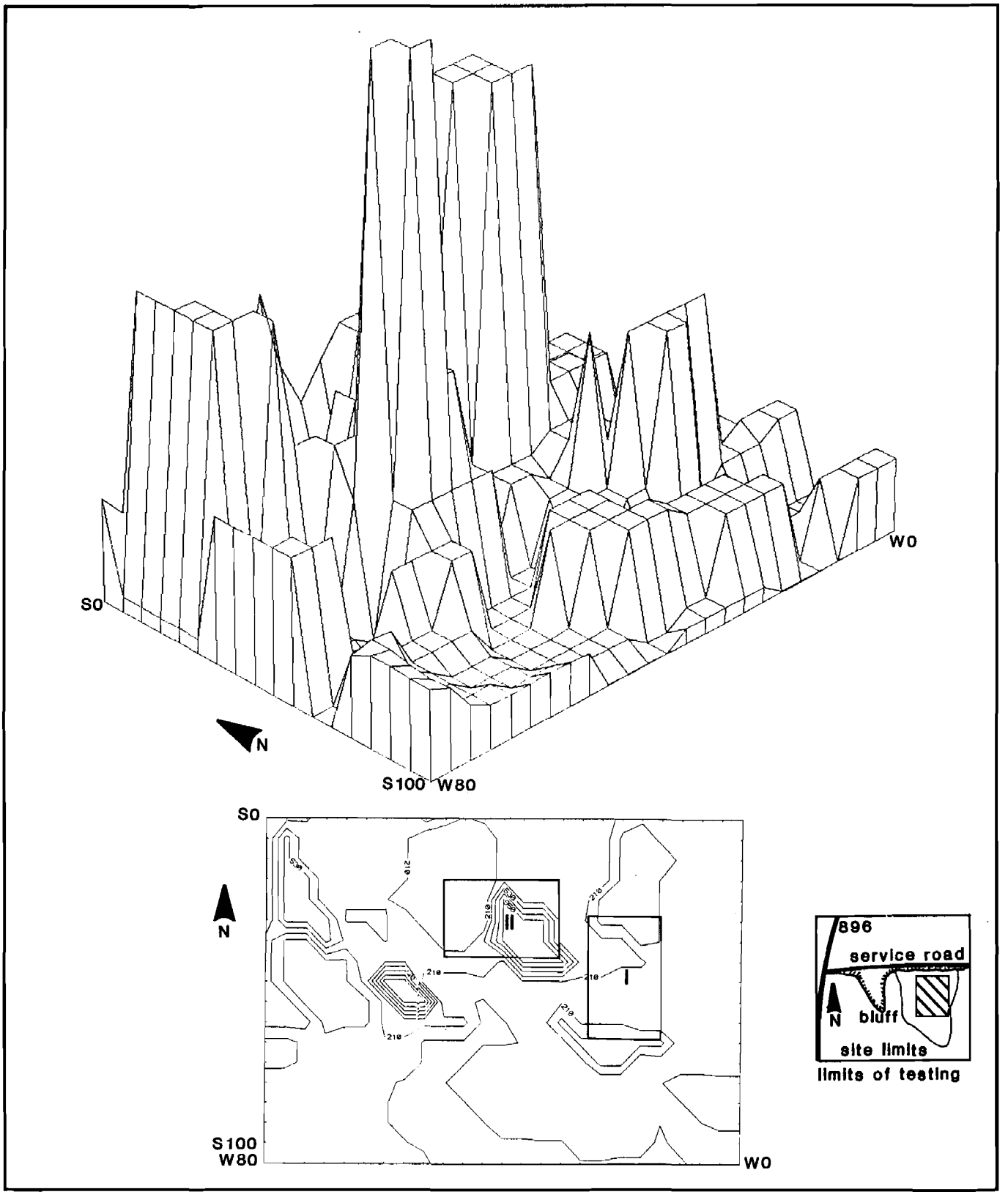


FIGURE 56

Distribution of Burned Brick in the Plowzone



excavations, the bricks outside of the east gable end of Structure II may represent the remains of the chimney flue for that dwelling. Buildings constructed in the mid-nineteenth century often had stoves for heating and cooking, and a full chimney pile would therefore not have been necessary.

SITE INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

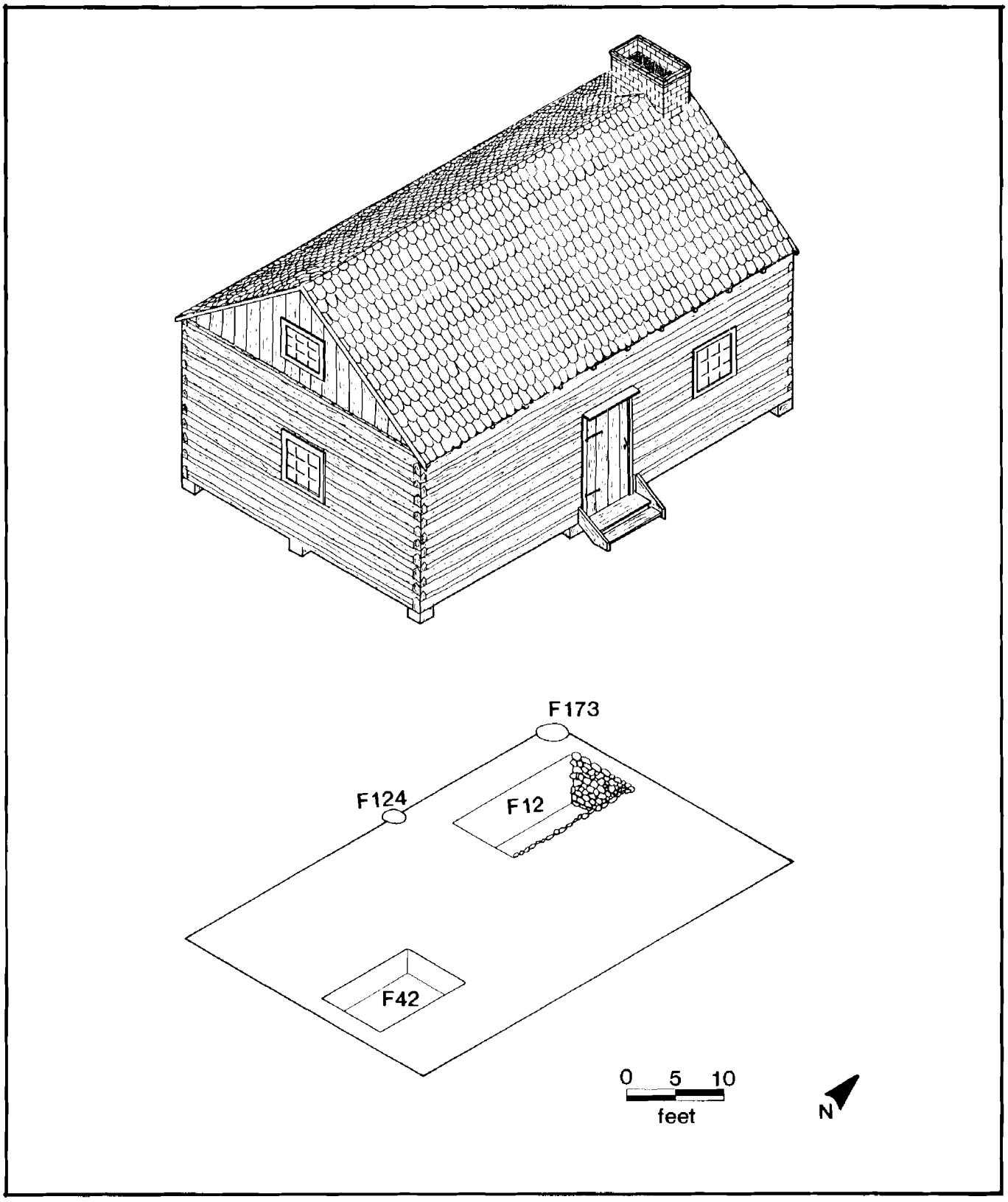
The majority of archaeological evidence recovered during the data recovery excavations at the Williams Site is associated with the Structure II, or Stonemason and Black Laborer occupations (1846-1930). With the exception of the features related to Structure I, and the presence of creamwares and pearlwares in abundance in the plowzone soils, little evidence of the early nineteenth century tenant occupation of the Williams Site was reliably identified. Additionally, for the later occupation, no features or remains could be found that can be interpreted as relating exclusively to the Stonemason Occupation. Therefore, the final Black Occupation period is the one best represented in the archaeological record. It should be noted here, however, that features such as the fencelines showed signs of having continuous use and replacement, indicating their presence around Structure II for a considerable time. These fencelines therefore could have been originally emplaced during the Stonemason Occupation and simply maintained throughout the Black Laborer Occupation.

Two distinct structures were identified at the Williams Site during the data recovery excavations, Structures I and II. Based on the results of the archaeological investigations and on

the evidence provided by documentary research, Structure I is interpreted as the location of the Tenant Occupation (1791-1846) dwelling, which will be called the Evans-Black Tenant House (Figure 57). The precise measurements of the dwelling are not now evident, but the two root cellar features (Features 12 and 42) and the evidence of a shoring or replacement pier (Feature 124) give rough approximations for the north, south and west walls of the structure. The presence of two cellars, one stone-lined and the other probably wood-lined, suggests that the floor plan of the dwelling was a hall-parlor plan (Herman 1987a:27), with a cellar located in each room. The larger, deeper stone-lined cellar (Feature 12) may have been located close to the hearth. Thomas Evans' account book indicated that Christopher Jones, a nephew and tenant, had constructed a log house and stable on the lot between 1791 and 1795, but gave no more detailed architectural data. Based on the archaeological data, the Evans-Black Tenant House was probably a two-room plan log house constructed on ground-laid sills or on wooden blocks; these were common domestic building techniques in the Lower Delaware Valley throughout the eighteenth and into the nineteenth centuries, and have been identified both historically and archaeologically (Herman 1987a, 1987b; Thomas 1983; and Shaffer et al. 1988). The lack of substantial corner supports for Structure I suggests that the building was probably a story-and-a-half in height. Measuring approximately 22 x 14 feet, or 308 square feet, the Evans-Black Tenant House falls below the range prescribed by Herman (1987b) for three-quarters of the building stock of rural Delaware at the beginning of the

FIGURE 57

Archaeological Plan and Reconstruction of the Evans-Black Tenant House

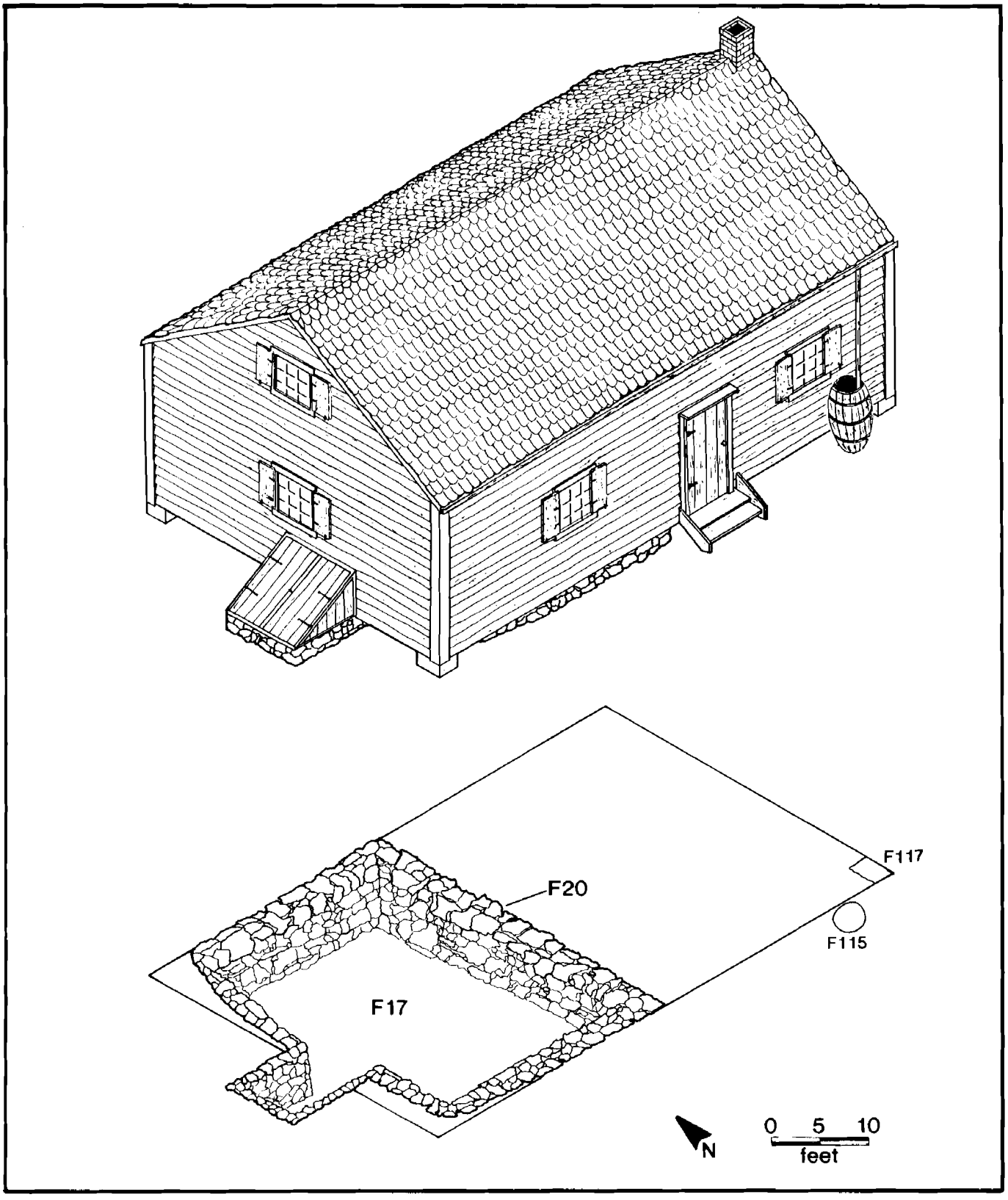


nineteenth century. The majority of these buildings were tenant buildings averaging 360 square feet (about 18 x 20 feet), and were virtually indistinguishable from the housing of poor to moderately well-off farmers.

Structure II at the Williams Site is interpreted as the remains of the frame dwelling house constructed by David Ball, the Wilmington house carpenter, in 1845 (Figure 58). This structure represents the below-ground architectural evidence for the Stonemason and Black Laborer occupations of the Williams Site and will be referred to as the Williams-Stump House. The most obvious of the features related to this house are those associated with the stone cellar hole and foundation (Features 14, 17, and 20). The cellar hole measured approximately 14 x 10 feet, or 140 square feet. A building of this size would have been extremely small, far smaller than the average for small landowners dwellings noted by Herman (1987b). Thus, it is probable that the cellar was located under only the west half of the house; a lack of archaeological features in the area immediately to the east of the foundation supports this contention. It is probable that the entire Williams-Stump House sat on wooden blocks or piers. Only one corner pier, the remains of a wooden block at the southeastern corner of the house (Feature 117), was discovered archaeologically; the others were probably destroyed by post-occupational plowing or during the razing process. The interpretation of Feature 117 as a corner pier is further supported by the presence and association of Feature 115, the remains of a metal barrel band, sunk into the subsoil at the corner. Feature 115 is interpreted as the

FIGURE 58

Archaeological Plan and Reconstruction of the Williams-Stump House



archaeological remains of a rain barrel, placed at the southeastern corner of Structure II.

Archaeological evidence suggests that this cellar hole was constructed after the dwelling (built by Ball in 1845) was erected. The unusual curved characteristics of the northwest and southwest corners of the foundation lend further support to this determination. It is hypothesized here that this curving of the walls is the result of a desire on the part of the occupant or builder not to undermine the corner piers or blocks which supported Structure II (Henry Miller, personal communication 1988). Lending credence to this hypothesis is the lack of curving on the southeast and northeast corners of the stone foundation, suggesting that these corners were located beneath the center portion of the dwelling, and were in no danger of undermining the supports for Structure II. It is probable that the cellar was constructed from the west end of the building, starting first with the excavation of the bulkhead entrance and progressing eastward. The fill in the builder's trench contained several artifacts which indicate that the Williams-Stump House was definitely constructed in the 1840-50s. Included in the feature fill were yellowware fragments and fragments of an aqua glass flask with figures of a shallop and star impressed on its obverse and reverse sides. This flask is attributed to the Bridgetown (or Bridgeton), New Jersey Glass Works, and was a decorative type which was manufactured there by Joel Bodine between 1846 and 1855 (McKearin and Wilson 1978:132,631).

From the above evidence, it follows that the sequence of housing of the Williams Site developed first with the construction of a log house by Thomas Evans' tenant, Christopher Jones. This building, the Evans-Black Tenant House (Structure I), was occupied by Jones and perhaps other, un-named farm tenants until about 1844. At that time, the lot was purchased by David Ball, and a new building, Structure II, was erected. This frame building, containing no cellar, was completed by 1846, when Thomas Williams moved in. Consequently, soon after he purchased it, Williams constructed a well-built stone foundation beneath half of his house, thus adding both value and storage space to his home. The Williams-Stump House would have been about 17 x 27 feet, or contained about 459 square feet of first floor living space. Judging by its size, this house was constructed on a two-room plan, with the eastern end heated (Bernard L. Herman, personal communication 1988). Dimensions of this size for Structure II are an increase of about 150 square feet over the Evans-Black Tenant House, and compare favorably with other small, owner-occupied and tenant structures of the time period. The large amount of burned, melted, and annealed objects in the cellar fill, and the reddened sand lenses on the floor of the cellar suggest that the Williams-Stump House was destroyed in a fire. It is not known whether the fire was deliberate or accidental. After the fire, the cellar hole was back-filled with house debris and with soil which came from beneath the eastern portion of the house. This soil contained artifacts dating to the earlier Tenant Occupation of the site, as evidenced by the presence of ceramic cross-mends between

Feature 17 and Feature 12, features which were not contemporary. Much of the house debris was not deposited in the cellar hole, but was placed to the north of the structure in a midden (Feature 18), or in the brick-lined well (Feature 2).

Based on the archaeological and documentary evidence, the Evans-Black Tenant House was probably removed or razed prior to or during the construction of Structure II, the Williams-Stump House. Although the artifacts contained in Feature 12 were mixed, there was no ironstone, very little whiteware, and no clear bottle glass recovered from that feature, suggesting that Feature 12, and by implication Structure I, was no longer extant by the time Structure II was destroyed. Features 12 and 42 contained higher proportions of late eighteenth-early nineteenth century ceramics than were present in the other house features (Features 2 and 17), thus indicating an earlier date of filling and abandonment for Structure I than for Structure II. Nails found in the fill of Feature 17 included wrought, cut, and wire types, indicating the reuse of older nails probably salvaged from the Evans-Black Tenant House. Feature 12, however, contained only wrought and cut nails, and an unpointed screw, a type known to have been made prior to 1846 (Mercer 1976:25). Additionally, later period intrusive fenceposts were apparent in the feature fill of both Features 12 and 42. However, a discarded iron stonemason's point used to remove the outer material from rock (McKee 1980:24) was recovered from the southwest quarter of Feature 12, indicating that this feature was still open after 1846, the date that Thomas Williams

acquired the lot.

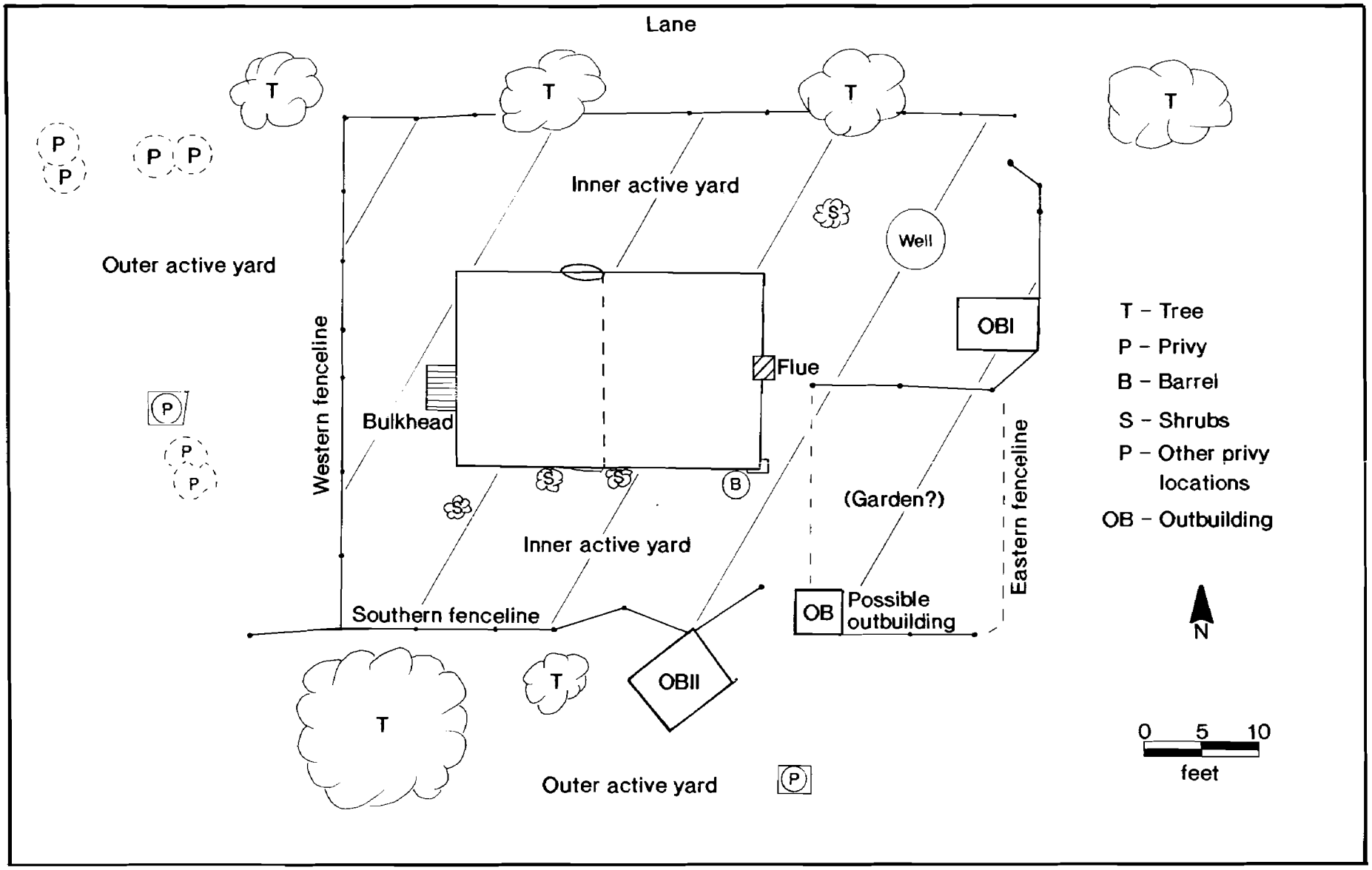
The final evidence is afforded by the deed records for the site, which indicate that the lot was purchased by David Ball, a Wilmington house carpenter in 1843 for $100, and sold eighteen months later for $200, a tremendous price increase for only one and one-half acres of land. This documentary evidence suggests that Ball, an absentee owner, bought the lot as an investment property, made improvements on the lot (i.e., removed the old log house and erected a new frame dwelling), and sold the lot for a considerable profit to Cantwell Clark, a local landholder. The Evans-Black Tenant House would have been nearly 50 years old by the time Ball purchased the lot, an age considered by historical archaeologists to be about the limit for the lifespan of earthfast structures (Alice Guerrant, personal communication 1988).

By combining the architectural data, artifact frequencies, and soil analyses results, a picture of temporal yard usage and proxemics for the Williams Site occupants emerges (Figure 59). Yard proxemics is defined as the interpretations of the patterns of the yardscape around typical dwellings over time; in particular, the term refers to the "nature, degree, and effect of spatial separation between support structures, features, gardens, flowerbeds, fences, paths, and activity areas, around a primary structure" (Moir and Jurney 1987:230).

Besides privy pits, two definite outbuildings and a brick-lined well were found during the data recovery investigations. One of these outbuildings (Outbuilding I) was identified solely on the remains of a dug pit (Feature 1), and was tentatively

FIGURE 59

Yard Proxemics for the Williams-Stump House



interpreted as a cold storage shed. The other Outbuilding was also ephemeral, consisting of a roughly polygonal pattern of posthole/molds located about fifteen feet from the southeast corner of the Williams-Stump House (Structure II). Additionally, a third outbuilding or shed may have been located in the area between Features 154 and 157. There was no positive archaeological evidence (such as posthole patterns) to lend credence to this interpretation, but the unusual lack of any features, the distance between Features 154 and 157 (over 10 feet), and the presence in the plowzone of a concentration of nineteenth century ceramics centered on S40.4W30, supports this hypothesis.

Soil phosphate levels peaked in the area immediately to the south and east of the Williams-Stump house, in the area that contained Outbuilding I (Feature 1). This "hot spot" was bounded by the well and the fence around it on the east, and the fenceline to the south of the house. This high chemical level suggests the presence of the main, or Active Yard, of the site in this location. Basically the Active Yard (consisting of both the Inner and Outer Active Yards), which formed the nucleus of the farmstead proper, is made up of the "dwelling, well, smokehouse or shed, and privy" (Moir and Jurney 1987:230-233). On sites dating to the second half of the nineteenth century which Moir and Jurney investigated in east Texas, the Inner Yard was generally less-used and better maintained, while the Outer Yard showed signs of more intensive usage and was not as well maintained. On these sites, the locations of privies and wells often served to mark the border between the Outer Yard and the

rest of the property. The Williams Site appears to have had well-defined Inner and Outer Active yards. The former was defined and delineated by the eastern, western and southern fencelines around Structure II and included the well and Outbuilding I. The Outer Active Yard was located beyond the fencelines in the space between these and the privies. Outbuilding II was also located in the Outer Yard. Beyond the west fenceline, and spaced 25 to 30 feet from the western gable end of the house, were located seven of the eight privy pits (Features 98, 99, 100, 101, 111, 112, and 113) identified at the site. These were downslope from and on an opposite side from the site's water supply, suggesting at least a rudimentary knowledge on the part of the Williams and Stump families of contemporary hygiene and health practices (Catts 1984). The eighth privy pit (Feature 46), though placed south of the dwelling and beyond the south fenceline, also conformed to the distance of 25 to 30 feet. The placement of all of these pits 25 to 30 feet from the house seems to have been a fairly standard distance for the privy to be located from the dwelling. Similar placement has been discerned for historic sites dating to the late nineteenth century in east Texas (Moir and Jurney 1987:231-233) and on other local rural sites in Delaware and Maryland (Hoseth et al. 1990; McDaniel 1982).

The high calcium concentration in the soils on the eastern gable end of Structure II may be indicative of the presence of a chimney flue for a stove located in this section of the house. This conclusion is supported by the concentration of burned

brick fragments in the plowzone soils in the same vicinity.

The artifact distribution patterns derived from the plowzone are mostly related to the Williams-Stump Occupation of the site. The mixing of wares throughout the site, in particular in Features 2 and 17, indicates that ceramics from the entire range of site occupation were present in the soils around Structure II at the time of its demolition, and this is reflected in the ceramic distributions in the plowzone deposits. The whiteware (and other nineteenth-century ceramics), window glass, and pearlware distributions all suggest that the Inner Active Yard associated with the late nineteenth century occupation was located in the area bounded by the well and fenceline on the east, south from about W20 to the S50 transect, west along this transect (bounded by the southern fenceline) to the W80 transect. Thus, the Inner Yard consisted of an area of about 3000 square feet (50 x 60 feet), including Structure II, the well, Outbuilding I, and the possible ephemeral outbuilding discussed above. Outbuilding II and all of the privy features would have been located beyond this Inner Yard, though the plowzone artifact distributions on the west side of the site do not conform necessarily well to the western fenceline location, perhaps as a result of slopewash and erosion.

The earlier ceramic distribution at the site, consisting of the eighteenth-century creamwares and related wares, are spread out over a much wider area than the 50 x 60 feet Inner Yard area postulated for the Williams-Stump House. This may be indicative of changing disposal practices between the different site occupations, with a more "broad cast" pattern being utilized in

the late-eighteenth to early-nineteenth centuries. Two high points of eighteenth-century ceramics in the plowzone (one at S40.5W54, the other at S36W80) may represent specific trash midden areas for the earlier site occupation. The fact that the S40.5W54 high point occurs with the later ceramics (pearlwares and whitewares) could indicate that the location may have functioned as a trash midden for most of the site's occupation, but the S36W80 area contains little of these later ceramics, not even pearlwares, suggesting that this area was not utilized for deposition for a very long period.

INTERSITE ANALYSES AND INTERPRETATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The archaeological remains that were found during the data recovery excavations of the Thomas Williams Site can be used in inter-site comparisons to examine the regional research issues posited by the research design governing the site investigations, including questions concerned with housing dimensions, dietary patterns, and consumption patterns (i.e., economic scaling using the ceramic index [Miller 1980, 1988], and vessel function comparisons between sites). The results of these archaeological comparisons can in turn be related to questions in historical archaeology concerned with explicating and describing the patterns and processes of social and cultural change.

The Thomas Williams Site contained two distinct archaeological deposits which can be utilized in these comparisons. The Tenant Occupation, represented by the remains