

around the area, including the old Evans farm, and by the end of the 1920s, held over 1600 acres of land (Bowers 1987:82-83). By 1937, according to aerial photographs of the vicinity, the Stump house had been razed, probably by Willis to create more farmland.

The existence of the Williams Site thus ended after having been occupied for about 140 years, from the early 1790s to about 1930. Ironically, the site had come full circle. William Thompson's farm had originally carved out the small house lot from agricultural land in the late eighteenth century. By 1930, the same farm belonged to John Wirt Willis, and Willis demolished the house and reabsorbed the site in order to create more agricultural land. For the initial portion of its history, from the 1790s to the mid-1840s, the Williams Site was occupied as a tenant house, and served in the capacity of a terrestrial pawn, a piece of land that was bartered back and forth between the large farmers on the east, north, and west of the site, like the Thompson family, the Evans and Clark families, and Dr. Samuel H. Black. The second thirty years of site occupation, from 1846 to 1875, saw the site utilized as the landholding of a local mechanic, the stonemason Thomas Williams and his family. The final fifty years of residency at the site witnessed the occupation of a black farm laborer, Sidney Stump, and upon his death the site was abandoned.

#### **WILLIAMS SITE PREHISTORIC OCCUPATION**

Numerous prehistoric artifacts were recovered during the data recovery excavations at the Williams Site. Table 5 shows

TABLE 5

## TOTAL PREHISTORIC ARTIFACTS

	Qtzte	Qtz	Chert	Jasper	Chal	Iron	Rhy	Arg	Other	Total
Flakes	239(43)	466(47)	220(32)	842(121)	60(7)	---	---	---	73(6)	1900(256)
Util. Flakes	2(1)	---	6(1)	14(1)	---	---	---	---	---	22(3)
Flake Tools	2	1	3	11(4)	1	---	---	---	---	18(4)
Paleo-Indian	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Archaic Points	---	1	1	1	---	---	1	---	---	4
Woodland I Points	1	13	1	5	3	3	2	3	---	31
Woodland II Points	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
ESBR	---	8(3)	4(2)	4	1	1	---	---	---	18(5)
LSBR	---	4	---	8	---	---	---	2	---	14
Other Bifaces	3	8	---	7(1)	---	1	---	---	---	19(1)
Misc. Stone Tools	1	---	---	1(1)	---	---	---	---	---	2(1)
Shatter	2(1)	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	8(1)
Cores	1	1	7(3)	5(1)	---	---	---	---	---	14(4)
Total	251 (45)	509 (50)	242 (38)	898 (129)	65 (7)	5 (0)	3 (0)	5 (0)	73 (6)	2051 (275)

FCR - 204(9734 grams)

Ceramics - 9

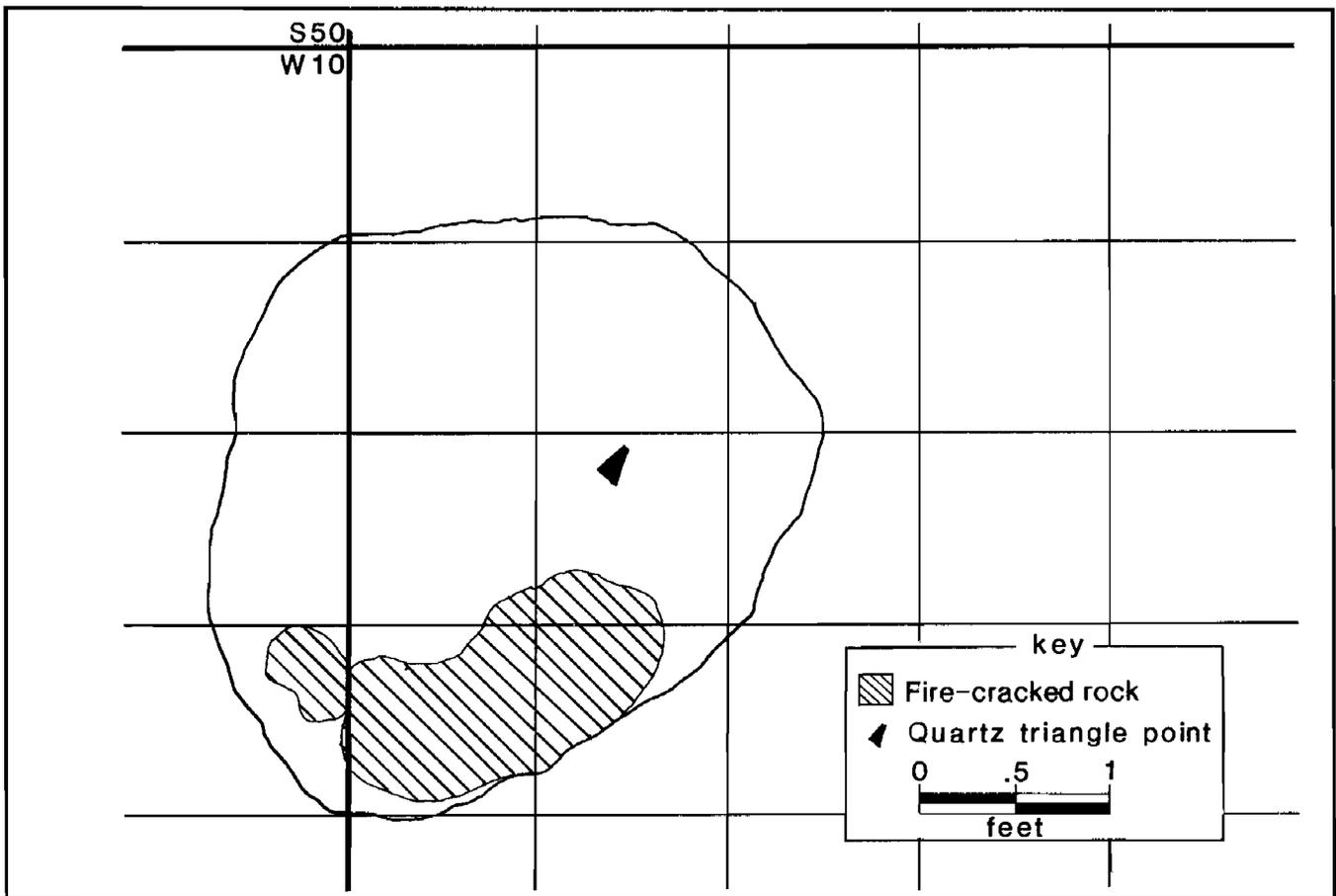
**Key:**

Qtzte	-	quartzite	FRC	-	fire-cracked rock
Qtz	-	quartz	Util.	-	utilized
Chal	-	chalcedony	ESBR	-	Early Stage Biface Reject
Iron	-	ironstone	LSBR	-	Late Stage Biface Reject
Rhy	-	rhyolite	Misc.	-	miscellaneous
Arg	-	argillite			

the summary catalogue of all prehistoric artifacts recovered from the site. Almost all of the prehistoric artifacts were recovered from disturbed surface, plowzone, or historic feature contexts. The only exceptions are a series of artifacts recovered from Feature 91.

Feature 91 was a concentration of fire-cracked rock (FCR) located at the interface between the plowzone and level 2, in units S55W5 and S55W10. It was originally identified following the grade-all scraping of the plowzone, and the subsequent trowelling of the exposed ground surface. Feature 91 soils consisted of a medium brown sandy loam with yellow brown sand loam mottling and small amounts of charcoal flecking. The feature was roughly circular and measured approximately 3.2' in diameter. The FCR was concentrated in the southern portion of the feature (Figure 13). Feature 91 was very shallow and extended to a depth of only .15' below the bottom of the plowzone. Artifacts recovered from the feature consisted of a nail fragment, a bone fragment, and two glass fragments, one chert, four jasper, and two quartzite flakes, a quartz Woodland II triangular point, and 23 fire-cracked rocks, weighing approximately 1,920 grams. The projectile point was recovered from beneath the FCR, at the bottom of the hearth. Historic artifacts, including small brick, glass and nail fragments, were recovered from the margins of the feature in the surrounding level 2 soils, indicating that the feature had been disturbed and truncated by subsequent plowing. Feature 91 is interpreted as the remains of a disturbed Woodland II hearth associated with the prehistoric occupation of the Williams Site.

FIGURE 13  
Feature 91, Woodland II Hearth

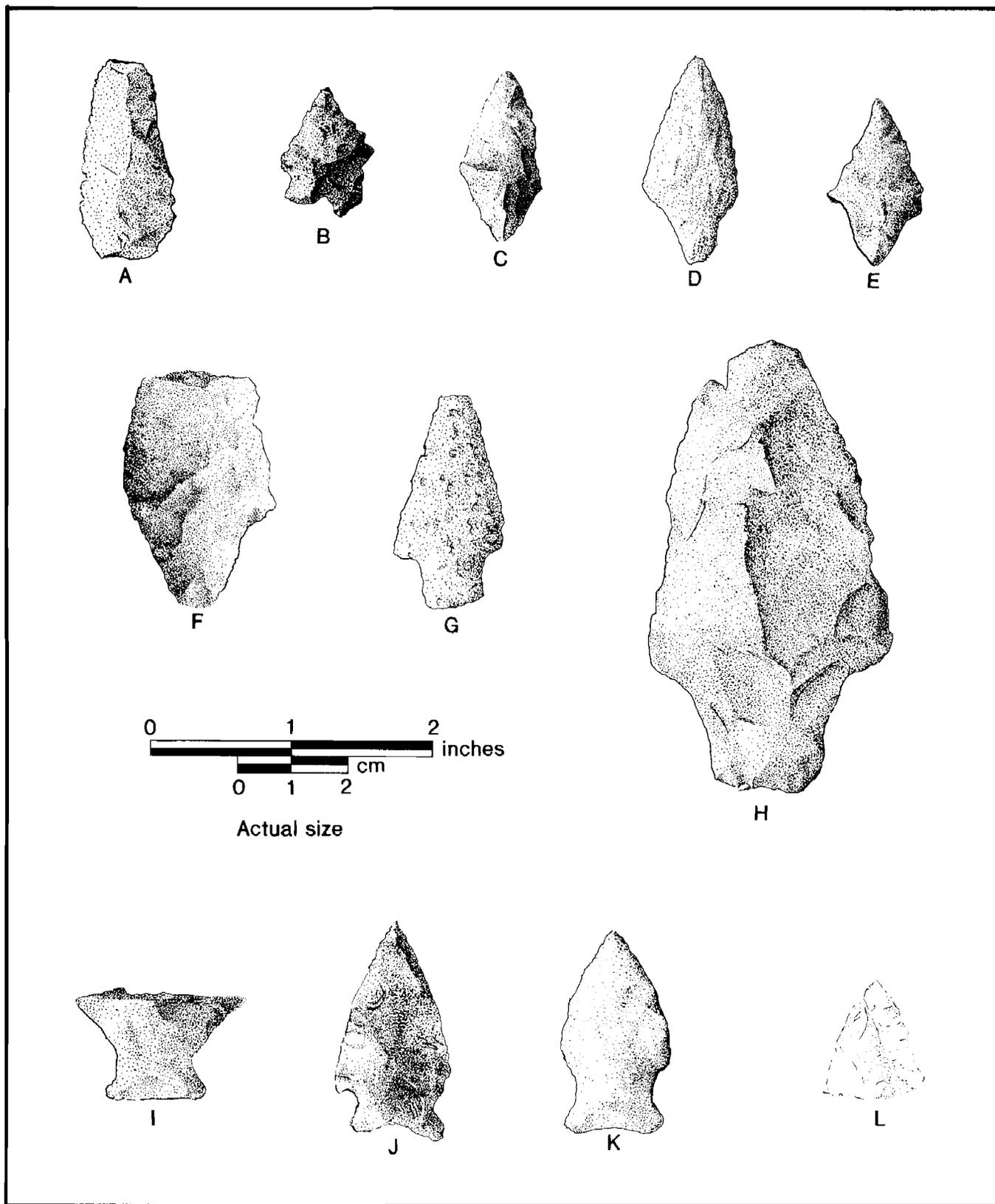


Diagnostic ceramics and projectile points show a variety of occupation periods for the Williams Site. Of the nine ceramic sherds recovered from the site, eight are Woodland II Minguannan body sherds with a wiped-over corded body surface treatment. One of the Minguannan body sherds has intact corded impressions from an s-twist cordage. The remaining ceramic sherd is a Woodland I, cord-marked Hell Island body sherd with impressions of s-twist cordage. These ceramics indicate that the site was occupied during Delaware Park Complex times (ca. A.D. 500 - A.D. 1000) and Minguannan Complex times (ca. A.D. 1000 - A.D. 1600).

A variety of projectile points of various types were recovered from the Williams Site and the diagnostic types are shown in Figure 14. One serrated point fragment (Figure 14-A) is probably a Kirk stemmed point fragment of jasper dating to terminal Paleo-Indian times (ca. 7000 B.C.). A bifurcate point of chert (Figure 14-B) indicates an initial Archaic adaptation ca. 6500 B.C. Three small stem points (Figures 14-C, D, E) with contracting bases are also present in the assemblage. Although these points are not particularly diagnostic, they may date to the later portions of the Archaic. All three points are made on flakes as is the bifurcate point noted above. These points are made of varied materials (14-C - chert, 14-D - rhyolite, 14-E - jasper) and even if they are not diagnostic of a particular time period, their distinctive shape and flake technology are worthy of note.

The projectile point assemblage also includes a large contracting stem point of ironstone (Figure 14-F) which probably dates to initial Woodland I times (ca. 3000 - 2000 B.C.). The quartz stem point depicted in Figure 14-G is typical of many points from the assemblage and could date to any time from the Archaic and Woodland I periods. A large rhyolite Koens-Crispin broadspear (Figure 14-H) and the base of a jasper Susquehanna broadspear (Figure 14-I) were also found at the site and indicate a Clyde Farm Complex occupation ca. 3000 B.C. - 1000 B.C. Two fishtail points, one of jasper (Figure 14-J) and one of argillite (Figure 14-K) also indicate a Clyde Farm Complex occupation. A quartz triangular point (Figure 14-L) indicates a Woodland II occupation. Combining the diagnostic points and

FIGURE 14  
Diagnostic Projectile Points



ceramic data, the occupation of the Williams Site seems to have included intermittent occupations beginning in late Paleo-Indian times (ca. 7000 B.C.) and lasting through Woodland II times (ca. A.D. 1000 - 1600).

Because the excavations at the Williams Site covered a fairly broad area, the spatial distribution of artifacts at the site was analyzed. Figure 15 shows a contour map and surface plot of the total prehistoric artifact distribution. The major concentration of prehistoric artifacts is located over the filled historic cellar hole. This concentration is due to the filling of the cellar hole with artifact-bearing plowzone soils, not any prehistoric activity patterning. The historic disturbance of the site precludes any further analysis of the prehistoric artifact distributions.

Analysis of lithic utilization patterns at the Williams Site is of special interest because a variety of different lithic resources are available at the site. The immediate area around the site contains extensive cobble and gravel deposits which include many lithic materials of sufficiently high quality for stone tool manufacture including quartz, quartzite, and chert (Custer and Galasso 1980). Also, the Williams Site is located within 5 km of the extensive cryptocrystalline outcrops of the Delaware Chalcedony Complex at Iron Hill (Custer, Ward, and Watson 1986).

Reduction of bifaces was an important activity at the Williams Site. Figure 16 shows a sample of the bifaces from the site, and the jasper bifaces with no signs of cortex (Figures 16-B, C, D, E) are probably local Iron Hill materials. The

FIGURE 15

Distribution of Total Prehistoric Artifacts

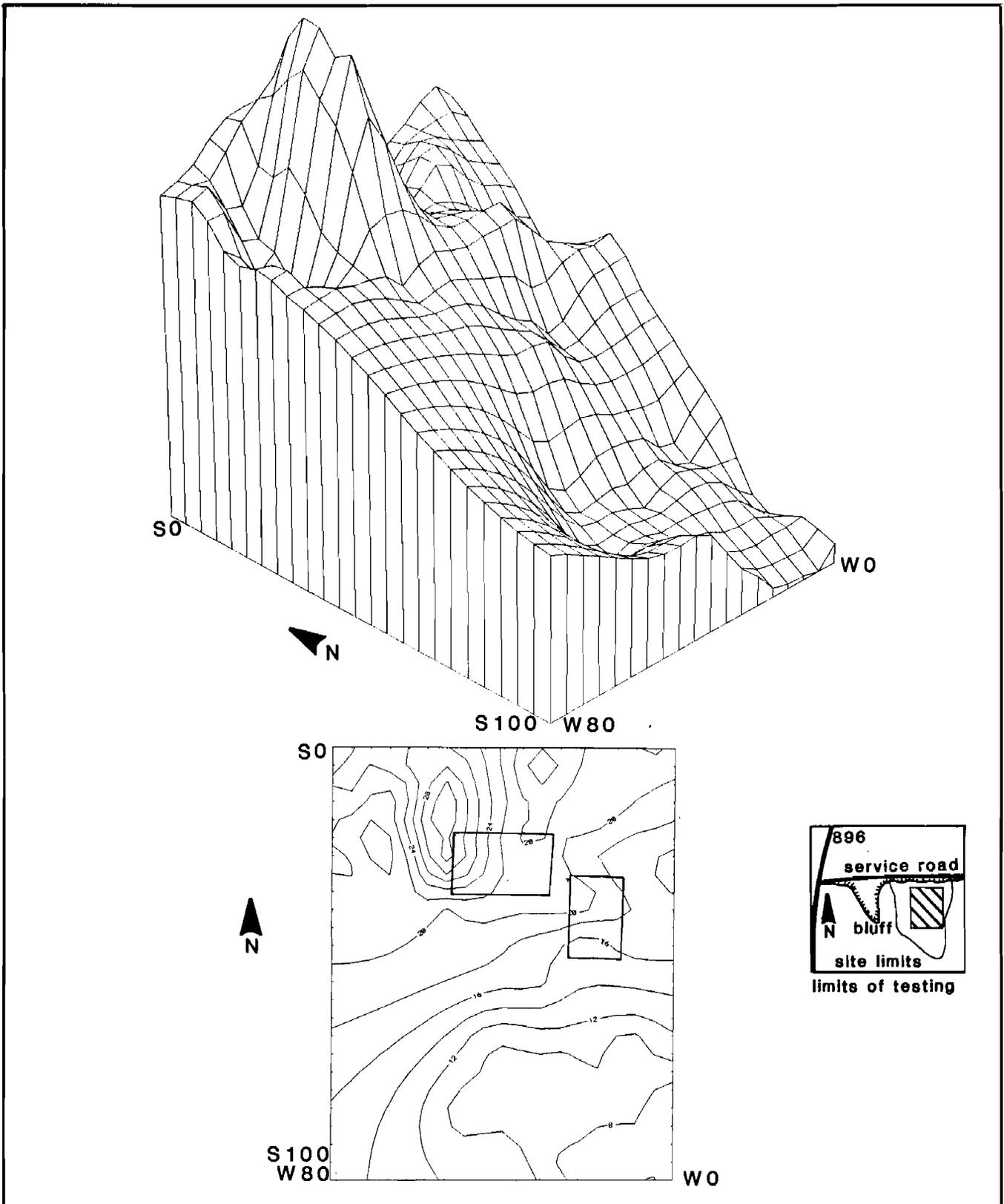
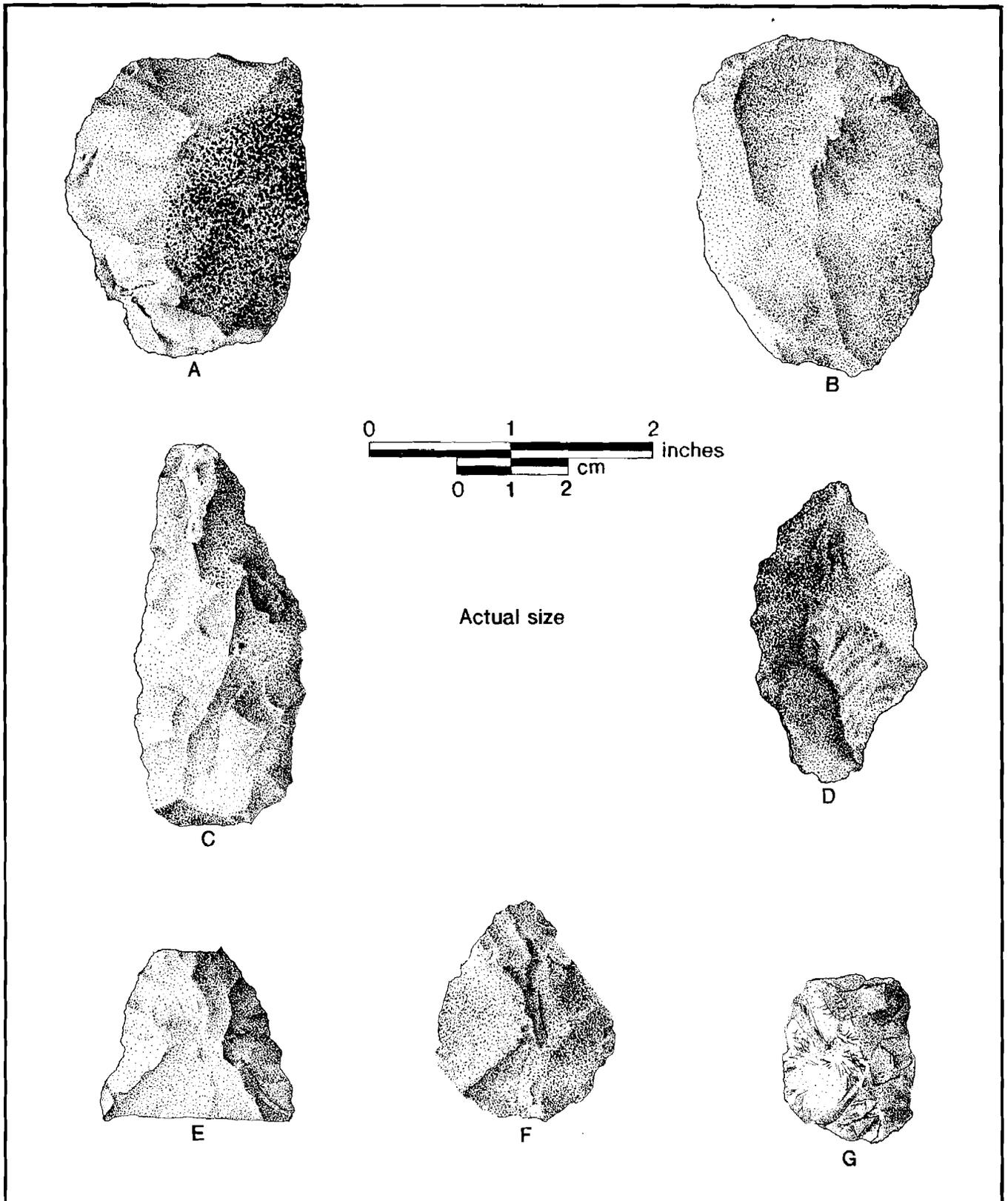


FIGURE 16  
Bifaces from 7NC-D-130

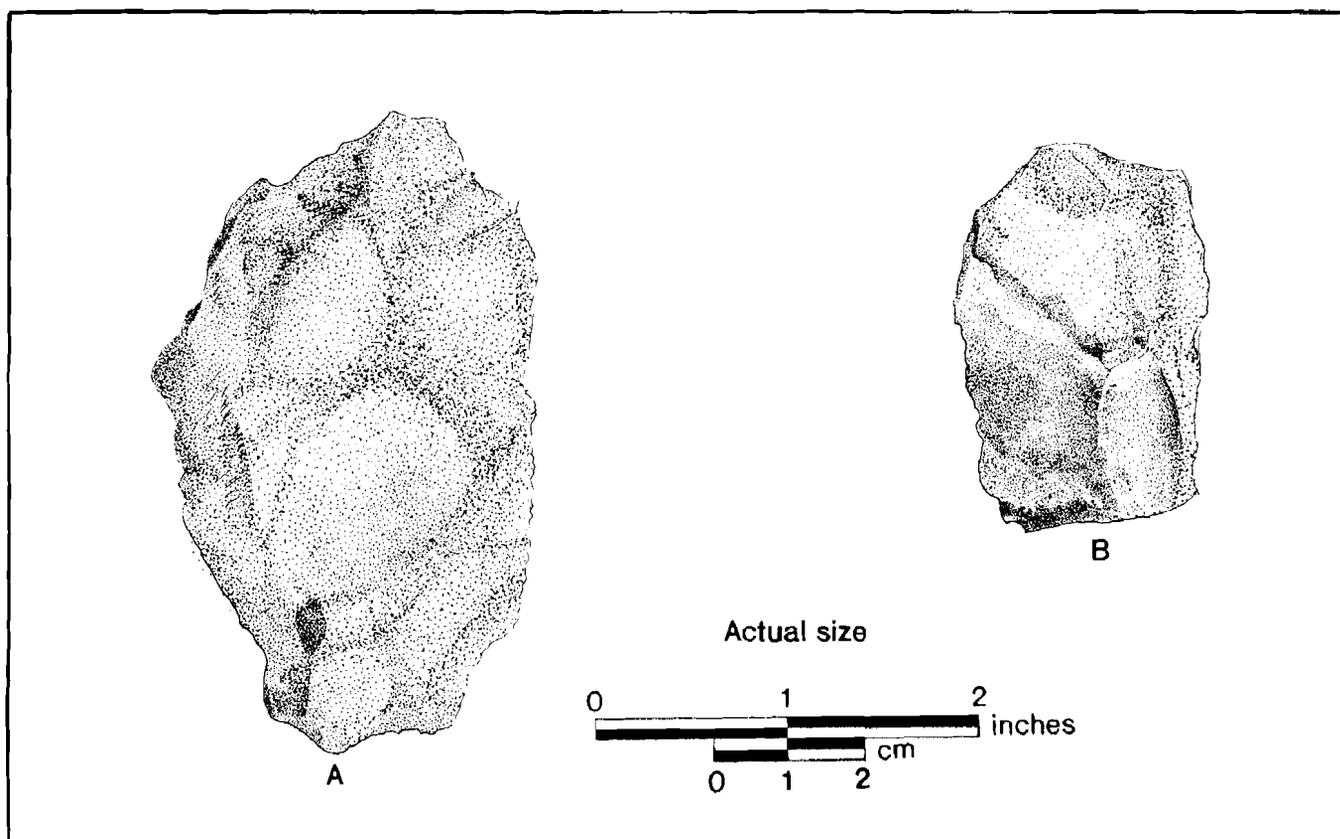


entire range of biface reduction stages is represented in primary jasper material ranging from early stage bifaces, which are merely large flakes with some limited bifacial edging (Figures 16-A, B), to secondary thinned bifaces (Figure 16-C), some with hafting elements added (Figure 16-D), to finally thinned bifaces broken in manufacture (Figure 16-E). Bifaces reduced from chert (Figure 16-F) and quartz (Figure 16-G) cobbles are also present. At the site, jasper and quartz bifaces are present in roughly equal numbers indicating that both primary and secondary materials were reduced at the site.

The presence of cores at the site and large amounts of blocky flakes indicates that production of flakes for use in retouched or unretouched forms was also undertaken at the site. Most of the cores are manufactured from cryptocrystalline materials, primarily chert and jasper. Approximately 28 percent of the cores show signs of cortex indicating their cobble source. Both tabular (Figure 17-A) and blocky (Figure 17-B) cores are present and it is likely that the production of flakes from cores was an expedient tool production activity at the site (Custer 1987).

The widest range of raw materials is seen in the projectile point assemblage, as is often the case at prehistoric sites in the Delaware Fall Line (Custer and Bachman 1986). Most likely, these points were made elsewhere and brought to the site where they were either lost or discarded as replacement bifaces were manufactured from locally available primary and secondary materials.

FIGURE 17  
Cores from 7NC-D-130



Based on the limited variety of tool types, the paucity of features, the relatively small artifact assemblage, and the expedient core technology, the prehistoric occupation of the Williams Site represents a small transient camp occupied intermittently from late Paleo-Indian through Woodland II times.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL PREHISTORY**

The lithic resource use at the Williams Site can be compared to use patterns seen at other sites in the Delaware Fall Line and High Coastal Plain. Table 6 shows the percentage of cortex and raw material use among a variety of Woodland I lithic assemblages, and Figure 18 shows the locations of the