

8 Spatial Analysis

ANALYTICAL UNITS

The site was divided into five analytical units (AUs). These divisions were created to examine any temporal and spatial/functional differences across the site. The five areas are the house and four yard areas (north, south, east, and west). In addition to these areas, three features of significance were singled out for analysis: a small pit numbered Feature 26 in the house interior; another small pit designated Feature 85, situated in the north yard; and Feature 34, an oval-shaped brick-lined shaft feature in the west yard. In general, the AUs are very similar to each other and tend to mimic the overall site in terms of artifact distributions, with architectural and household artifacts dominating each area. It is for this reason that discussion of analytical units will be limited to the differences present between them and the site-wide assemblage, not an overall description of each AU's artifacts. Total artifacts for each AU have been organized by group. In addition, artifacts recovered from the plowzone in each excavation unit (EU) have been separated from the feature artifacts.

House Area

The highest concentration of EUs was placed in the house area. The house area encompasses the section of the site within and immediately adjacent to the brick foundation (Features 15 and 16) of the domicile excavated on the Wilson Farm Tenancy. The 5-x-5-foot units excavated in and around the brick foundation confirmed its dimensions as 26 x 16 feet, with the short axis of the building fronting on Choptank Road. No definitive evidence of a doorway was encountered during this portion of the investigation; however, a 3-foot gap in the foundation (Feature 70), defined along the southern wall of the structure, possibly represented a crawlspace entry. A builder's trench was identified both within (Features 15A, 29, and 47) and outside (Feature 51) the foundation. A linear stain (Feature 50) may have been the footprint of a floor joist.

In addition to the features noted above, a rectangular post (Feature 38) and 13 pits or soil stains were identified within the foundation. Artifact densities in excavated pits ranged from one to 165. The highest artifact densities were from two pits (Features 25 and 26) just inside the opening of the foundation. Feature 15 produced 283 artifacts. Slightly more than half the artifacts from house area features were architectural items.

A few artifact groupings in the house area stand out as unique compared to the site overall (Table 8.1, and see Table 7.5). The percentage of artifacts from the activities group is twice as high for the house ($n=35$, or 0.40%) versus the whole site ($n=82$, or 0.20%). A large number of these house area activity group artifacts are flowerpot sherds; in fact, two thirds of the flowerpot fragments from the site are from this AU. This result is not surprising, since flowerpots are traditionally kept near a house to beautify the vicinity. Other activity artifacts from this AU include four slate pencils, one early graphite pencil, and the only ink bottle fragment, which came out of Feature 35, indicating that educational or perhaps bookkeeping activities were going

on within the house. Finally, the bone die (FS 1227.3) and two of the harmonica fragments also came from this AU, one from Feature 15 and the other from Feature 51.

Table 8.1 House Area by Group

AU Description	Group	Total	EUs	Features	%
House	Architectural	4400	3891	509	50.15%
House	Household	3067	2846	221	34.96%
House	Unknown	423	291	132	4.82%
House	Furniture	285	254	31	3.25%
House	Fauna-Shell	172	120	52	2.09%
House	Fauna-Bone	151	92	59	1.62%
House	Personal	73	64	9	0.83%
House	Hardware	58	52	6	0.66%
House	Activities	35	29	6	0.40%
House	Fuel	20	16	4	0.23%
House	Prehistoric	17	15	2	0.19%
House	Medical	15	15	0	0.17%
House	Arms	13	12	1	0.15%
House	Transportation	12	12	0	0.14%
House	Toy	9	8	1	0.10%
House	Other	7	5	2	0.08%
House	Tack	4	2	2	0.05%
House	Commercial	4	3	1	0.05%
House	Electrical	3	2	1	0.03%
House	Tool	2	1	1	0.02%
House	Flora	1	1	0	0.01%
Total		8771	7731	1040	

A relatively low percentage of arms-related artifacts were recovered from the house area. Bullets make up 0.15% ($n=13$) of the house area collection and 0.53% ($n=219$) of the site-wide collection. It is to be expected that shooting-related activities will not occur close to the house, although the bullet remnants recovered from other analytical units are still relatively close to the dwelling. Those cartridges found in the house assemblage range in type. A small percentage of hardware items were present in the house area; 1.68% site wide ($n=691$) versus 0.66% in the house AU ($n=58$). The majority of this hardware consists of nuts/bolts, wire, screws, and very little household hardware with the exception of a doorknob, small hook, and a bolt latch. A rusted spigot handle may have belonged to an outside hose attachment, while the barn-sized bolt latch and link from a drive chain used for farm machinery (FS 5006.15) would not usually belong in a house context. Aside from an axe recovered from a feature discussed below, the only other tool recovered from this area was a pair of scissors. Out of the 18 tools recovered from the site, only two came from in or around the house. While electrical items would be anticipated inside the house, only three artifacts from this AU were in this group: an insulator (which would likely belong on an electrified fence), a space terminal for a television, and a copper electrical wire. Also, it is surprising that a smaller percentage of personal items and toys were found in the house than the site-wide assemblage. The toys for the house AU are all doll parts with the exception of one marble.

Items recovered from the house area that would be considered out of place include four tack-related artifacts, although these are all horseshoes, which may be of significance. One horseshoe was recovered from Feature 26 and is discussed below; another from Feature 25, a feature located on the interior of the structure; while the last two came from plowzone contexts. Twelve transportation-related artifacts inside the house area may attest to the disturbed nature of the site; these include car safety and headlight glass and two tire valve caps.

Artifacts of note from this context include two possible ceramic gaming pieces or gullet stones (small stones consumed by chickens or other domestic fowl to aid in digestion; the objects in this AU [FS 5050.49 and 5163.46] are small, triangular, and very worn), the Abraham Shenfield patented 1871 decorative suspender buckles (FS 1206.3 and 1212.1), and the Walnut Street Realty aluminum token (FS 5049.5).

Mean ceramic and glass dates for the house area, as with all the analytical units, are consistent site wide. The mean ceramic date for the house AU is 1890, only two years above the site's overall date of 1888, with a mean beginning date of 1833 and a mean end date of 1947. Mean glass dates for the house area are slightly later, and this holds true for the entire site as well, with a mean date of 1911 (compared to a site-wide date of 1913), mean beginning date of 1866, and a mean end date of 1956.

Faunal remains from the house area were composed of dietary refuse, processing waste, and intrusive species. Pig was the most prevalent species, represented by a variety of pork meat cuts. Other identified species included cattle, sheep, horse, mouse, muskrat, rabbit, squirrel, chicken, catfish, and snapping turtle. Pig remains consisted of both processing waste and dietary refuse. The presence of chop marks on one of the mandibles indicated processing for muscle tissues. Most of the meat cuts were butt and shank hams, though there was also a smaller number of Boston butt and picnic hams, and a few trotters and ham hocks. Cattle was the second most abundant species, represented by stew meat from the hind shank and a number of steaks from the loin, rib, arm, and round. In addition, a hoof exhibited heavy canine gnaw marks. Sheep was identified based on a single shed upper incisor aged at 1³/₄ years. Horse was indicated by an extremely worn incisor. Medium mammal bone included skull, rib, and longbone fragments; a few of these exhibited saw or gnaw marks or were burned. Large mammal fragments included a few rib and longbone fragments, one of which was rodent gnawed.

All of the smaller mammals were indicated in very low numbers of elements representing a minimum of one individual each. None of these elements exhibited butcher marks. Chicken was the only identified bird species, consisting of at least two individuals represented by wing and breast elements.

Catfish (a skull element) was the only identified fish species. At least one other fish species was present based on a few more skull fragments, but these could not be identified. Snapping turtle was identified via a carapace fragment. Another species of turtle, possibly Blanding's turtle, was suggested by a shoulder element. Several unidentified turtle carapace and plastron fragments were present, though they were too small in size to identify by species.

Feature 26. Feature 26 was a unique pit feature situated immediately inside the structure and adjacent to a previously mentioned gap in the foundation that may represent a doorway. This feature was generally oval in plan and exhibited fairly straight side walls. The feature yielded a total of 140 artifacts. The contents are of interest, consisting of a horseshoe, an axe head, bricks, window and mirror glass, bone, nails, a bottle, a 22-caliber bullet casing, an aluminum bottle cap, and ceramic sherds and household glass, some of which is solarized. Solarized glass begins its life clear but contains manganese, which reacts to the sun over time, and this will turn the glass a faint pink to purple color (Munsey 1970). Although representative of material encountered throughout the site (Table 8.2), the noteworthy aspect is the potential for deliberate placement of the artifacts contained within the feature and their positioning. The bricks were central to the feature, while the horseshoe and axe head appeared to have been placed to either side of them. Additional artifacts may be part of fill from surrounding areas. This feature has a TPQ of 1908 based on the rim sherd of a jelly/packer's tumbler with an anchor cap closure (Jones 2000).

Table 8.2 Artifacts in Pit Feature 26 by Group

Feature	Group	Total	%
26	Architectural	93	66.43%
26	Household	35	25.00%
26	Unknown	5	3.57%
26	Fauna	3	2.14%
26	Arms	1	0.71%
26	Tack	1	0.71%
26	Tool	1	0.71%
26	Furniture	1	0.71%
Total		140	

Assuming the deliberate placement of at least some of these objects, what in fact does it mean? We know, from a number of excavated examples at sites located across the southern United States, that people of African descent often buried objects in caches. These caches have in many instances been convincingly linked to African American religious traditions (specifically conjure or Hoodoo) with their roots in West Africa (Leone and Fry 2001; Fennell 2007). The contents of these deposits usually include pins, nails, pieces of glass, beads, coins, buttons, ceramic fragments, and bones. Caches were consistently uncovered “under chimney bases or hearths, under a room’s northeast corner, and around doorways: under their sills, over the door, and by doorposts (Leone and Fry 2001:147). Feature 26 contained only some of the items Leone and Fry (2001) cite, and we can’t conclusively demonstrate that many of the recovered artifacts were placed in the pit deliberately instead of as fill. In other words, the contents of Feature 26 do not really fit the pattern Leone and Fry describe for African American spirit management (malign conjure, in that case). However, if we expand our perception outward, as DeCunzo (2004) has done, Feature 26 and its contents seem to make a bit more sense.

In her (re)interpretation of the archaeological data from the Williams Site (Catts and Custer 1990), located in Glasgow, New Castle County, DeCunzo (2004:247) discusses the findings resulting from the excavation of a dairy cooler, dating to the occupation of the site by the Stumps, an African American family. The feature fill contained few artifacts; however, on the

floor of the feature the excavators found an iron axe head. Referencing studies by Gundaker (1993, 1998), Izzard (1991), and McCoo (1998), DeCunzo suggests that the axe head may have been placed in the cooler “to protect limited supplies of perishable foods from tainting or pollution by malevolent spirits because we can trace the historical associations of iron, spiritual power [and resilience], and purity in African and African American material culture” (DeCunzo 2004:247). Could Feature 26 be the result of a similar private ritual? Possibly—the inclusion of both the axe head and the horseshoe in the pit may have been intended to protect the house and its occupants. The location of Feature 26 in the middle of the south foundation wall suggests that it may have been dug just inside and beneath a doorway, a location where caches have been found archaeologically, and obviously important as a passageway between inside and outside, yard and dwelling. An interview with a local informant, however, indicates that the main entrance to the house was on the gable end facing the road (although this does not necessarily eliminate the possibility of a south or “side” entrance), so perhaps Feature 26’s location along the south foundation has other significance.

North Yard

Linear features (Features 68, 115, 116, 120, 126, 128, and 129) were identified in the north yard, possibly representing the foundation trenches of outbuildings. Features 88–91 were part of a line of circular posts paralleling the roadway that extended into the south yard. Features 122 and 123 were rectangular postholes with the same orientation and aligned parallel to the road; they may have been part of a fence line. Twelve other posts were found in the north yard, including square, rectangular, and circular types in no apparent pattern. Features 99, 113, 114, 118, 119, and 124 were circular or oval stains. Features 27, 57, 59, and 85 were pit features of unknown function.

The north yard had more EUs placed in it than any of the other yard areas and produced the largest number of artifacts of any analytical unit ($n=13,409$) (Table 8.3). It should be noted that very few of north yard artifacts came from actual surviving features. Artifact densities in features were generally lower than in the house area, ranging from 1 to 124 per feature. As in the house area, however, over half of the artifacts are architectural items.

Table 8.3 North Yard Artifacts by Group

AU Description	Group	Total	EUs	Features	%
North Yard	Architectural	6821	6570	251	50.87%
North Yard	Household	5110	4999	111	38.11%
North Yard	Unknown	543	500	43	4.05%
North Yard	Furniture	342	334	8	2.55%
North Yard	Fauna-Bone	135	113	22	1.01%
North Yard	Hardware	119	117	2	0.89%
North Yard	Personal	95	90	5	0.71%
North Yard	Fauna-Shell	75	67	8	0.56%
North Yard	Fuel	52	50	2	0.39%
North Yard	Medical	25	25	0	0.19%
North Yard	Prehistoric	25	25	0	0.19%
North Yard	Arms	23	22	1	0.17%

Table 8.3 North Yard Artifacts by Group (Cont'd)

AU Description	Group	Total	EUs	Features	%
North Yard	Activities	14	14	0	0.10%
North Yard	Toy	11	11	0	0.08%
North Yard	Electrical	5	4	1	0.04%
North Yard	Transportation	4	4	0	0.03%
North Yard	Tack	3	3	0	0.02%
North Yard	Tool	3	3	0	0.02%
North Yard	Commercial	2	2	0	0.01%
North Yard	Flora	1	1	0	0.01%
North Yard	Other	1	1	0	0.01%
Total		13409	12955	454	

The north yard assemblage essentially mimics the site-wide collection with regards to all the major artifact group percentages. There are, however, a number of smaller artifact groups from this assemblage that contain significantly fewer percentages of artifacts than the site as a whole. As with the house area, the number of bullet components in the north yard is approximately one third ($n=23$, or 0.17%) the percentage of the total site ($n=219$, or 0.53%). Activity-related artifacts equal approximately half the percentage of the entire site ($n=14$, or 0.10% vs. $n=82$, or 0.20%). Nine pencils, all slate but one, make up the majority of these activity group artifacts, with three flowerpot sherds, a harmonica fragment, and the rim of a 78-rpm record. Toys make up 0.14% ($n=58$) of the overall site percentage and only 0.08% ($n=11$) of the north yard artifacts, although there is a wide range of toys, including the lead chick figurine (FS 1196.2), the Bennington marble (FS 1192.34), doll parts, toy ceramics, and the die-shaped carnival cane head (FS 5093.69). Hardly any transportation-related artifacts were recovered in the north yard ($n=4$), with only four fragments of safety glass totaling 0.03% of the yard's artifacts compared to 0.21% for the whole site. Tack, also, was not prevalent in this area, with only a horseshoe, nail, and bridle bit excavated, equaling less than half the percentage (0.02%) of the entire assemblage. Of the 18 tools recovered from the site, only three—a chisel, a scissors, and a spade—(FS 167.1), came from the north yard. While almost half of the medical-related artifacts were recovered from this context, 10 of them belong to just one bitters bottle. Other artifacts from this group include patent medicine bottles, vials, and a glass syringe fragment.

Artifacts of note from the north yard include the Kentucky Maid copper alloy hair straightening comb (FS 1193.9), probable Eveready Christmas bulb fragment (FS 5113.153), the portion of a syringe plunger, a trumpet-shaped blue bead (FS 1169.9), a light blue bead in the shape of an ear of corn (FS 5067.16), a light blue bead likely for braiding into hair, a copper alloy leaf-shaped jewelry component (FS 1198.4), the Bakelite handle for a pocket knife (FS 5104.4), and two watch components.

As mentioned previously, the mean dates for the whole site are consistent. The north yard contained the highest number of ceramic and glass artifacts and has a mean ceramic date of 1888, which is identical to the site-wide date. This AU has a beginning mean date of 1829, while the end date is 1947. The same holds true for the mean glass dates, with a mean date of 1911 (only two years more than the site-wide average), mean beginning date of 1867, and a mean end date of 1955.

The north yard deposits yielded a fair amount of bone, the largest concentrations of which appeared in EUs 2 and 16. The faunal remains consisted mainly of domesticated mammal and bird, though wild mammal, wild bird, fish, and turtle bone were also present. Cattle and pig were the most abundant species and were represented by processing waste and dietary refuse. Beef cuts included a loin steak, short rib, and foreshank. A large portion of the bone could not be identified beyond the level of medium mammal, including several longbone fragments. Some of the longbone fragments were actually steaks or ring bones that had been sawed. Small mammals included muskrat and rabbit. Most of the bird bone was not identified by species or skeletal element; however, those that could be identified included a chicken leg, a duck breastbone, and a mourning dove foot. One unidentified fish element was recovered—a dorsal ray. A few small fragments of unidentified turtle carapace and plastron were also recovered. Bone modifications included several sawed, chopped, and cleaved bones, a few calcined bones, and a small number of weathered specimens. While some of the bone clearly constituted dietary refuse, the majority of the remains were processing waste.

Feature 85. Feature 85 was a pit located approximately 15 feet north of the dwelling foundation's northwestern corner. The feature was roughly circular, measuring 1.9 x 1.8 feet, and was bowl-shaped in profile. A total of 127 artifacts was recovered from the feature (Table 8.4); these largely consist of architectural items ($n=44$), household-related artifacts ($n=37$), and functionally unidentifiable items, mostly metal ($n=27$). The architectural materials include the usual brick fragments, pieces of window glass, and nails, the latter consisting of cut and wire varieties, as well as unidentifiable specimens. Household-related artifacts from the feature include glass and ceramics—white granite, whiteware, Rockingham, ironstone, and sponge decorated stoneware with a Bristol-type slip glaze. The latter supplied the TPQ of 1880 for the feature. Other household artifacts include mold-blown container glass and a milk glass canning jar lid. Three personal items (a Prosser button, a spherical light blue glass bead, and a very small white glass bead recovered from flotation [FS 5255.704]); two sherds of lamp glass, comprising the furniture group; and bone and shell faunal remains were also collected from the feature.

Table 8.4 Artifacts from Pit Feature 85 by Group

Feature	Group	Total	%
85	Architectural	44	34.65%
85	Household	37	29.13%
85	Unknown	27	21.26%
85	Fauna	14	11.02%
85	Personal	3	2.36%
85	Furniture	2	1.57%
Total		127	

South Yard

Six excavation units were placed in the area directly south of the house and one unit was placed 30 feet south of the house. These units yielded a relatively small concentration of artifacts ($n=5,041$) (Table 8.5). As with the north yard, very few of these artifacts came from feature contexts ($n=93$). Features consisted primarily of postholes, including the fence row extending from the north yard (Features 92–97) and scattered posts. Feature 63 was at the same orientation and aligned with Features 122 and 123 in the north yard. Three small pits (Features 82, 83, and

84) were found immediately to the south of the foundation, but only Feature 82 contained artifacts, namely three pieces of window glass and five copper alloy lamp parts. Features 98 and 104 were soil stains found at the southern end of the yard, but were not excavated. Two areas of modern disturbance and possible plow scars (Feature 86) were also found.

The hardware, commerce, and toy groups within the south yard assemblage had a significantly higher percentage of artifacts than the overall site. Hardware represented less than 2.6% of the south yard artifacts, but only 1.68% of the overall assemblage. Aside from the ever-present bolts, screws, and wire hardware, a decorative hinge, radiator spigot, two bolt latches, and a door knob were recovered from the south yard. Although only three coins were recovered (two wheatback pennies and an Indian Head penny), this represented a greater concentration than the north yard area, which had almost three times as many artifacts overall. A higher percentage of toys were also excavated from the south yard ($n=11$, or 0.22%) as opposed to the whole site ($n=58$ or 0.14%). These items consist almost exclusively of doll parts and marbles with one possible BB (FS 5185.7). Although the tools appear to be present in greater concentrations in this area, there are actually only two tools represented in four fragments, one of which is a Craftsman wrench in three pieces (FS 5149.73).

The south yard contained fewer concentrations of transportation-, activity-, and medical-related artifacts. Transportation-related artifacts, also in lower concentrations, consist of safety glass only. Only three activity-related objects (a modern fragment of a “weed whacker,” a possible gaming token, and a very worn slate pencil) ($n=0.06\%$) were present in the south yard, compared to 82 for the whole site, at 0.2%. Of the 55 medical-related objects from the Wilson Farm Tenancy, only two occur in the south yard—a base and rim sherd of a vial, both from the same context, indicating that they may represent one vessel.

Artifacts of note include a horseshoe nail possibly bent into a ring (FS 5196.7), an oyster shell with two possible holes drilled into it (FS 1179.1), two identical ovoid faceted beads (one red, one green) (FS 5192.71 and 5221.9), a D-shaped green bead (FS 5192.71), a porcelain collar stud (FS 5185.67), and a shoe heel fragment (FS 5253.4).

Table 8.5 South Yard by Group

AU Description	Group	Total	EU/STP	Features	%
South Yard	Architectural	2816	2777	39	55.86%
South Yard	Household	1607	1594	13	31.88%
South Yard	Unknown	154	128	26	3.05%
South Yard	Hardware	128	125	3	2.54%
South Yard	Furniture	119	113	6	2.36%
South Yard	Fauna-Bone	63	63	0	1.25%
South Yard	Personal	40	39	1	0.79%
South Yard	Arms	37	36	1	0.73%
South Yard	Fauna-Shell	25	24	1	0.50%
South Yard	Toy	11	10	1	0.22%
South Yard	Prehistoric	9	9	0	0.18%
South Yard	Fuel	9	7	2	0.18%
South Yard	Transportation	5	5	0	0.10%

Table 8.5 South Yard by Group (Cont'd)

AU Description	Group	Total	EU/STP	Features	%
South Yard	Tack	4	4	0	0.08%
South Yard	Tool	4	4	0	0.08%
South Yard	Activities	3	3	0	0.06%
South Yard	Commercial	3	3	0	0.06%
South Yard	Medical	2	2	0	0.04%
South Yard	Flora	1	1	0	0.02%
South Yard	Other	1	1	0	0.02%
Total		5041	4948	93	

This area's mean ceramic dates differed from the rest of the Wilson Farm's AU dates by only a couple of years, a noteworthy uniformity in artifact distribution. The south yard area is the only AU without a glass mean date of 1911, although its date of 1921 is not significantly later than the rest of the site, with a mean beginning date of 1885 and a mean end date of 1957.

The south yard yielded very little faunal refuse, most of which was pig and cattle, but the remains of a snapping turtle were present. Pig was represented by a skull and mandible, along with several loose teeth. Cattle consisted of a small number of meat cuts from the neck, short rib, arm, and foreshank. At least one other upper forearm cut was also present, but its species could not be determined. Snapping turtle was indicated in a partial upper forearm element. This material was a mix of dietary refuse and processing refuse.

East Yard

The area located to the east of the structure is closest to Choptank Road and had two EUs placed in it. These EUs produced a relatively small number of artifacts compared to the other areas of the site ($n=2,098$) (Table 8.6). As with the previous yard areas, very few of the artifacts came from feature contexts ($n=24$). Only three features were identified, consisting of two shallow pits (Features 76 and 77) and a square posthole (Feature 81).

In general, the east yard contained a higher percentage of architectural artifacts than the site overall and a lower percentage of household artifacts. Additionally, there is a larger percentage of hardware for this area ($n=58$, or 2.7% vs. 1.6% site wide). Hardware from this area consists of non-descript washers, nut/bolts, staples, screws, wires, and one probable house key. The activities group also contains a higher percentage than the overall site, with nine artifacts representing 0.43% of the east yard assemblage—twice the percentage of the whole site. Items from the activity group include a portion of a probable writing slate, four pencil fragments (two graphite, two of the earlier slate pencils), a Gold Coin Flour thimble (FS 5206.6), and a fragment of a guitar pick (FS 5214.42). With only one artifact, the mouth of a medicine bottle, the medical group is less well represented in this area than in the other AUs and site wide.

Artifacts of note from this context include a possible gaming piece or gullet stone (like the others, it is a small, worn, triangular ceramic sherd), a bone handled table knife with three notches carved into it (FS 5206.2), a light blue hair braiding or "pony" bead, a large faceted black oval bead, and a Prosser button with a floral decoration in the center.

Table 8.6 East Yard Artifacts by Group

AU Description	Group	Total	EUs	Features	%
East Yard	Architectural	1284	1278	6	61.20%
East Yard	Household	566	564	2	26.98%
East Yard	Hardware	58	57	1	2.76%
East Yard	Unknown	51	51	0	2.43%
East Yard	Furniture	48	48	0	2.29%
East Yard	Personal	30	29	1	1.43%
East Yard	Fauna-Bone	23	10	13	1.10%
East Yard	Arms	13	13	0	0.62%
East Yard	Activities	9	9	0	0.43%
East Yard	Transportation	4	4	0	0.19%
East Yard	Toy	3	3	0	0.14%
East Yard	Fauna-Shell	3	2	1	0.14%
East Yard	Prehistoric	2	2	0	0.10%
East Yard	Fuel	1	1	0	0.05%
East Yard	Flora	1	1	0	0.05%
East Yard	Other	1	1	0	0.05%
East Yard	Medical	1	1	0	0.05%
Total		2098	2074	24	

With only 57 sherds, the east yard AU still produced a consistent mean ceramic date of 1890, only two years above the site-wide average. As with the rest of the site, the mean glass date is 1911.

The east yard, which represented the front of the house, yielded the smallest amount of bone. It consisted of mammal and bird remains. Identified species include cattle, pig, and mouse, of which pig was the most abundant species. Bird was present, but its species could not be identified. A few pieces were burned, another was chopped. This material was composed of processing waste.

West Yard

EUs in the west yard were placed on the western edge of the structure, with some portion of the units extending into the interior of the house. Four square postholes (Features 39, 41, 46, and 62) and a drainage channel (Feature 40) extending out from the foundation were found here. Two of the postholes were aligned parallel to the foundation wall and the other two were clustered near the drainage channel. Feature 39 produced 126 artifacts, more than half of which are architectural. Features 40, 41, and 46 produced from one to three artifacts each, and Feature 62 was devoid of artifacts.

This area also contained Feature 34, the largest feature of the excavation, which produced a wealth of artifacts from the upper disturbed portion, but not as many from the actual shaft. For this reason, the EU percentage totals have been separated from the overall percentage totals for the west yard in order to meaningfully discuss the assemblage from the units as opposed to the feature, which will be elaborated upon below.

Overall, there was a slightly greater percentage of artifacts in the west yard area compared to the whole site in the following groups: hardware, furniture, personal, arms, and electrical (Table 8.7, and see Table 7.5). Categories where the percentage of artifacts was twice as high as the site-wide percentages are transportation, toys, and tools. This area has a dense concentration of artifacts ($n=7,067$ artifacts in three units) (Table 8.7); therefore, increased percentages in many artifact groups is not unexpected.

Table 8.7 West Yard Artifacts by Group

AU Description	Group	Total	EUs	Features	%
West Yard	Architectural	5722	3151	2571	41.96%
West Yard	Household	3250	2275	975	23.83%
West Yard	Unknown	1942	305	1637	14.24%
West Yard	Fauna-Bone	1497	621	876	10.98%
West Yard	Hardware	326	156	170	2.39%
West Yard	Furniture	279	218	61	2.05%
West Yard	Personal	191	120	71	1.40%
West Yard	Arms	132	64	68	0.97%
West Yard	Fuel	79	26	53	0.58%
West Yard	Transportation	60	32	28	0.44%
West Yard	Fauna-Shell	37	22	15	0.27%
West Yard	Toy	24	18	6	0.18%
West Yard	Activities	20	14	6	0.15%
West Yard	Prehistoric	20	9	11	0.15%
West Yard	Electrical	18	10	8	0.13%
West Yard	Medical	12	9	3	0.09%
West Yard	Tack	9	4	5	0.07%
West Yard	Tool	8	6	2	0.06%
West Yard	Other	6	3	3	0.04%
West Yard	Flora	3	2	1	0.02%
West Yard	Commercial	3	2	1	0.02%
Total		13638	7067	6571	

In all, 156 items of hardware were recovered, including a number of house-related items, such as two porcelain doorknobs, three small cabinet-sized hooks, a small decorative copper drawer handle and a window handle, and a small cabinet hinge. The furniture group yielded a higher percentage in the west yard than the site overall, due mostly to high concentrations of lamp glass from EUs 6 and 9. Lamp glass, a lamp wick winder and fountain, some of the fragments of a feline-shaped figurine/possible lawn ornament, the head of a porcelain figurine of a boy sitting on a fence with a cat at his feet, a furniture caster wheel, and mirror glass were excavated. The west yard had the highest concentration of personal items of the entire site, with 120 items from the EUs. Of these items, buttons ($n=41$) were the most numerous, followed by rivets ($n=10$), including the Jacob Reed's Sons rivet (FS 5001.16). Other personal items include a clothing fastener, grommet, eye hook, three safety pins, comb and jewelry fragments, a number of white ball clay pipe fragments, a shaving razor with Bakelite handle (FS 5342.9), and the lid of a plated copper alloy compact case with etched Art Deco design (FS 5321.126). More than half of the arms-related artifacts from the site came from the west yard and Feature 34. The yard area EUs contained 64 bullet components, mostly 22-caliber shells, with some 38-caliber and at least three

different brands of 12-gauge shotgun caps. This portion of the yard also contained the majority of the transportation-related artifacts. Thirty-two artifacts in this group came from the excavation units of the west yard, but the majority ($n=25$) are fragments of one headlight embossed with the lettering "Sealed Beam." Other artifacts from this context and group include two spark plugs, an automobile ashtray, safety glass, and a tire valve cap. Toys occur in twice the concentration in the west yard as opposed to the whole site. More than half of the marbles from the Wilson Farm Tenancy are out of these EUs, six of which are unglazed clay marbles. The majority of the miniature teawares are also from this context, along with many fragments from a pink doll head, sherds of which were also scattered across the entire site. Many of the tools are concentrated in this area, as well, including a pair of scissors, an axe, two chisels, and what appears to be a blade from farm equipment. Lastly, almost three times the concentration of electrical-related artifacts was found in the west yard as in the site as a whole. These artifacts included a large carbon battery core (fragments of which were also found in other contexts), a porcelain insulator for electric fences, a spade terminal for televisions, and electrical wire.

Other artifacts of note from this context include many wood and graphite pencil fragments (but no slate pencils), harmonica fragments, and the "JOS S. BENNETT & CO./ PHILAD" patent medicine bottle (FS 5021.12).

The mean ceramic date for the west yard is identical to the Wilson Farm's overall ceramic date of 1888, with a mean beginning date of 1832 and a mean end date of 1943. The same is true for the mean glass date of 1911, with a mean beginning date of 1868 and a mean end of 1955.

The west yard, at the rear of the house, yielded the largest and most diversified faunal material, consisting of mammal, bird, fish, reptile, and amphibian species. Most of this material was recovered from Feature 34, the brick shaft feature, whereas the rest was found in EUs. Identified mammal species were pig, cattle, horse, cat, dog, black rat, mouse, muskrat, opossum, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, and woodchuck. Pig was the most abundant of all identified species. These remains were composed of both processing waste and dietary refuse. Dietary refuse included hams from the Boston butt, picnic ham, butt ham, and shank ham. A small number of trotters were also present. Cattle remains included processing waste and dietary refuse. Dietary refuse consisted of beef cuts that included stews from the chuck and hindshank, roasts from the arm, sirloin and rump, and steaks from the loin and chuck. Horse was indicated by a single incisor from an old individual. A fair number of medium and large mammal specimens were present, including skull, mandible, rib, and longbone fragments. One longbone shaft may have been a butchered deer femur, though it was too fragmented to be certain. Many of the larger mammal remains exhibited butcher marks—either chop or saw marks—a few fragments bore canine or rodent gnaw marks and a few others were burned.

There was a great range of small mammals, some of which were probably intrusive to the deposits. Cat and dog consisted of a single element each, an upper forearm and a molar, respectively. Black rat, mouse, muskrat, opossum, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, and woodchuck were represented by skull, mandible, and longbone fragments. None of the small mammal bones exhibited butcher marks. However, the large number of small mammals suggested they were deliberately hunted or trapped.

Identified bird bones included wing and breast elements of chicken, duck, and goose, each represented by a minimum of one individual. A fair number of unidentified bird specimens were

also present. Some of the unidentified longbone fragments contained medullary bone, indicating the presence of egg-laying hens. Most of the bird bone did not exhibit clear modifications; however, a few bones were burned.

A small number of fish bones were recovered, most of which were skull fragments of catfish. Turtle carapace, plastron, and longbone fragments were identified, most of which could not be assigned to species. One hip element with slice marks was identified as snapping turtle. At least one plastron fragment was chopped and four other specimens were slightly burned. Toad was indicated by a lower forearm.

Feature 34. Feature 34 is located at the southwestern corner of the foundation. This is an oval brick shaft with the long axis (and therefore the narrow end) oriented toward the foundation. Dimensions of the brick shaft are 4.2 x 3 feet. Excavation of the shaft fill was terminated at 6.9 feet below ground surface due to inundation. The shaft fill was comprised primarily of variably sized plaster pieces, which were sampled, although over 700 other artifacts were also recovered. Feature 34 exhibits a “builder’s trench,” 3.2 feet in diameter, on the exterior of the brick shaft; however, few artifacts were collected from the fill of this element of the feature, and the trench artifacts are not included here. The majority of the artifacts from this context were recovered from the disturbed area above the actual shaft. However, only the actual shaft portion of this feature will be discussed here.

For the purpose of this analysis, the shaft portion of Feature 34 has been divided into three sections according to how it was excavated and each will be described separately. The first subdivision, 34J, was the interior fill stratum of the feature. It contained 406 artifacts (Table 8.8), the vast majority of which are architectural in nature ($n=248$, or 61.08%). Unknown artifacts consist primarily of metal pieces with one jasper fragment, which may be prehistoric. A porcelain sherd and a small amount of refined earthenware, including a large portion of a white granite coffee cup (FS 5221.1), comprise the household ceramics. Most of the household assemblage from this context is composed of glass. Two intact flasks were found in the shaft, including the specimen previously mentioned, embossed with the lettering: “Hambro Distilling Co Balto. MD. U.S.A” (FS 5278.1). A whetstone (FS 5247.20) was also excavated from this context. The transportation-related artifacts consist entirely of headlight fragments from a Chevrolet, giving this context a TPQ of 1940. The hardware items are primarily wire. Personal items are comprised of two beads (one red, one orange, and both spherical) and a variety of buttons (shell, copper alloy, Bakelite, and Prosser). In addition, 34J contained lamp glass, one 32-caliber shell casing, a probable trigger guard, and the whole patent medicine bottle embossed with “HOLMES’ FRAGRANT/FROSTILLA” mentioned previously (FS 5248.4). The faunal remains include only bone, no shell. Species identified consist of rabbit, muskrat, pig, and the only identified cat bone from the site.

Table 8.8 Feature 34J by Group

Group	Artifact Total	%
Architectural	248	61.08%
Fauna-Bone	47	11.58%
Unknown	40	9.85%
Household	36	8.87%
Transportation	11	2.71%

Table 8.8 Feature 34J by Group (Cont'd)

Group	Artifact Total	%
Hardware	8	1.97%
Personal	7	1.72%
Furniture	4	0.99%
Arms	2	0.49%
Activities	1	0.25%
Flora	1	0.25%
Medical	1	0.25%
Total	406	

The next context related to Feature 34 consists of artifacts recovered from the interior well fill in both EUs 35 and 36. Relatively few artifacts were recovered from this context ($n=113$) (Table 8.9); however, once again the majority are architecturally related (nails, window glass, brick fragments, and concrete). One white granite hollowware sherd, a redware hollowware sherd, and one fragment of porcelain are the only household ceramics recovered. Three sherds of container glass make up the remainder of the household artifacts. One of these sherds is not of lead glass, which supplies a tentative TPQ of 1864—although there are few artifacts from this context and only four of them are datable, therefore the date is likely later. Other artifacts include lamp glass and one fragment of mirror glass, a bolt, a coal fragment, and a bone button. The only identifiable faunal remains from this area were pig.

Table 8.9 Feature 34, Units 35/36

Group	Artifact Total	%
Architectural	61	53.98%
Fauna-Bone	29	25.66%
Unknown	10	8.85%
Household	6	5.31%
Furniture	3	2.65%
Hardware	2	1.77%
Fuel	1	0.88%
Personal	1	0.88%
Total	113	

The last portion of the feature was entirely within EU 36 (Strata IV, V, and VI), which produced a total of 315 artifacts (Table 8.10). It contained a lesser percentage of architectural materials than the remainder of the feature and a higher percentage of unknown artifacts, although these percentages are likely skewed due to the fragmentary nature of the corroded unidentified metal recovered from this area, which increased the artifact count of the unknown group. Household artifact percentages remain the same, with 35 artifacts represented primarily by mold-blown glass bottles. The few ceramic sherds from this context include mostly white granite, one sherd of yellowware with a green glaze and banding, and the rim sherd of a porcelain saucer with an orange glaze and scalloping, which lends this area of the feature a TPQ of 1920.

Table 8.10 Feature 34, Unit 36

Group	Artifact Total	%
Architectural	139	44.13%
Unknown	97	30.79%
Household	35	11.11%
Fauna-Bone	14	4.44%
Personal	9	2.86%
Fuel	6	1.90%
Hardware	4	1.27%
Fauna-Shell	4	1.27%
Furniture	2	0.63%
Arms	2	0.63%
Toy	1	0.32%
Electrical	1	0.32%
Activities	1	0.32%
Total	315	

Personal items include one suspender buckle, likely matching the other two from the site patented by Abraham Shenfield, a green enameled jewelry component (FS 5317.9), and three shell buttons. It should be noted that all of the shell buttons from the Wilson Farm Tenancy were recovered from the shaft portion of Feature 34, possibly indicating that a garment was discarded with buttons attached. Four fragments of a barrel hoop represent the hardware group. Faunal species include oyster, clam, and snail shell, while the bone represents fish, unidentified bird, rat, and rabbit. Other artifacts from this area of the feature consist of lamp glass, two 22-caliber shell casings, a fragment of the pink-hued doll head (parts of which are found throughout the site, and which is the only toy from the shaft portion of the feature), a porcelain insulator, and a flower pot sherd.

The majority of this feature is architectural debris with a scattering of household, unknown, and other minor groups of artifacts, representing—for the most part—items found across the site. Items of interest include the whole whiskey flasks and patent medicine bottle, in addition to the concentration of shell buttons.

SITE-WIDE ARTIFACT DISTRIBUTION

Distribution maps of various artifact types were generated using *Surfer*, a commercial software package, to provide information on the use of space around the house.

Prehistoric artifacts were found in both plowzone and subplowzone contexts (Figures 8.1 and 8.2). Distributions differed somewhat, although the artifacts were generally concentrated in the vicinity of the house. The point preform was found in the plowzone of the west yard. Fire-cracked rock (FCR) fragments were found in scattered locations. Three pieces of FCR, a core, a projectile point, and six pieces of debitage were found in Feature 34 contexts.

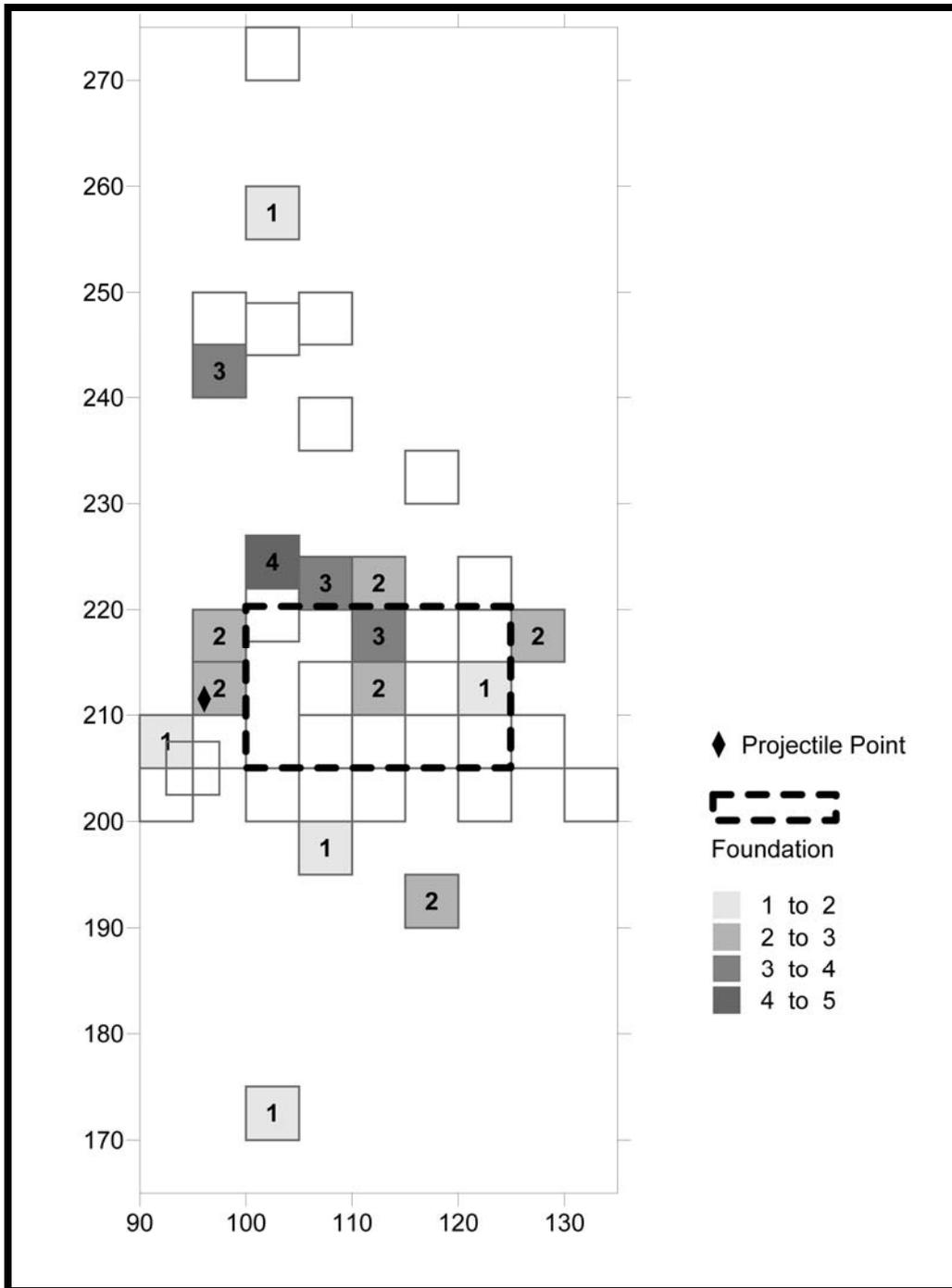


Figure 8.1 Distribution of pre-Contact artifacts in Stratum I.

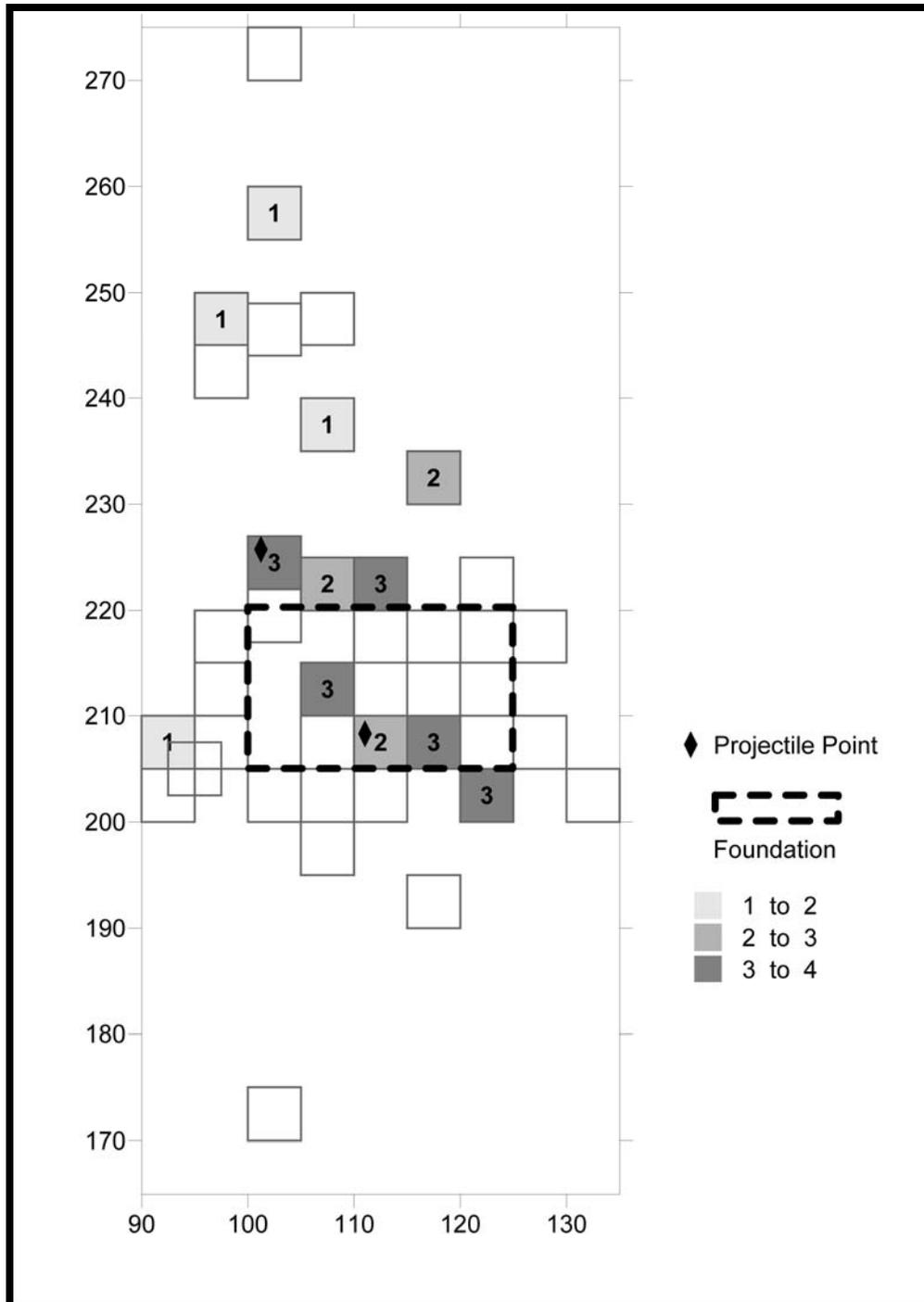


Figure 8.2 Distribution of pre-Contact artifacts in Strata II and III.

Architectural items formed the largest group of artifacts found at the site. The distribution map shows the highest concentration immediately to the west and northwest of the residence (Figure 8.3). Most of these materials are window glass (over 1,900 sherds) and nails (over 1,300). These items likely resulted from demolition of the structure. Feature 39, a square posthole, was located to the rear of the house and had one of the highest artifact densities of all site features ($n=126$); 63 of these artifacts are architectural items. The posthole was likely also filled during structure demolition. A high density of architectural items, mostly window glass and nails, was also present in the unit excavated just inside the foundation opening. Two features immediately inside the foundation opening (Features 25 and 26) also contained a high density of predominantly architectural items. Moderate densities of architectural items were found in the north yard, over 99% of which are nails and window glass.

Nails and window glass had somewhat different distributions (Figures 8.4 and 8.5). Highest densities of window glass were in the unit just inside the foundation opening and in one unit at the northwest corner of the foundation. The densities of nails were highest to the west of the foundation. Burned nails were also found and were distributed in a pattern similar to nails overall. With the exception of the northwest corner, no burned nails were found inside the house foundation.

Distributions of household ceramics and glass were also examined. The highest densities of ceramics were in units excavated at the northwest corner of the foundation and in three contiguous units in the north yard. Whiteware and white granite were the predominant ware types in the high-density areas. Salt-glazed and slip-glazed stoneware and Rockingham ware were present in small numbers. Densities inside the foundation were relatively low.

The distribution of household glass was more similar to that of architectural items than to ceramics. Densities were high at the northwest corner of the house and just inside the foundation opening. Moderate densities were found inside the foundation and in the north yard. One significant difference was that the second highest count of household glass was in EU 33, excavated in the east (front) yard. Mold-blown and machine-made glass was present in similar proportions. The mold-blown glass consisted primarily of container glass, whereas the machine-made glass was predominantly bottle glass. Machine-made glass was largely absent from EU 18 and 20, excavated along the east wall of the foundation, as well as from other units with high household glass densities. This pattern suggests that the unusually high glass density in EU 33 results from a dump or accumulation of twentieth-century bottle glass. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, bottles were often reused, but from 1933 to 1964 federal law prohibited sale or commercial reuse of bottles; this law, combined with the increasing cheapness of glass, led to accumulations of bottle glass (Miller et al. 2000).

Although densities may have differed, the distribution of artifacts across the site was consistent in regard to mean ceramic and glass dates. The mean ceramic dates for all of the AUs ranged from 1888–1890, while all of the mean glass dates were 1911, with the exception of the south yard, which had a date of 1921.

Hardware densities were highest around the outside of the foundation and in EU 23 in the north yard. The items from EU 23 include bolts/nuts, screws, wire, staples, a stopcock, a D-shaped fastener, and unidentifiable metal. A similar assemblage was found in the east yard, where wire

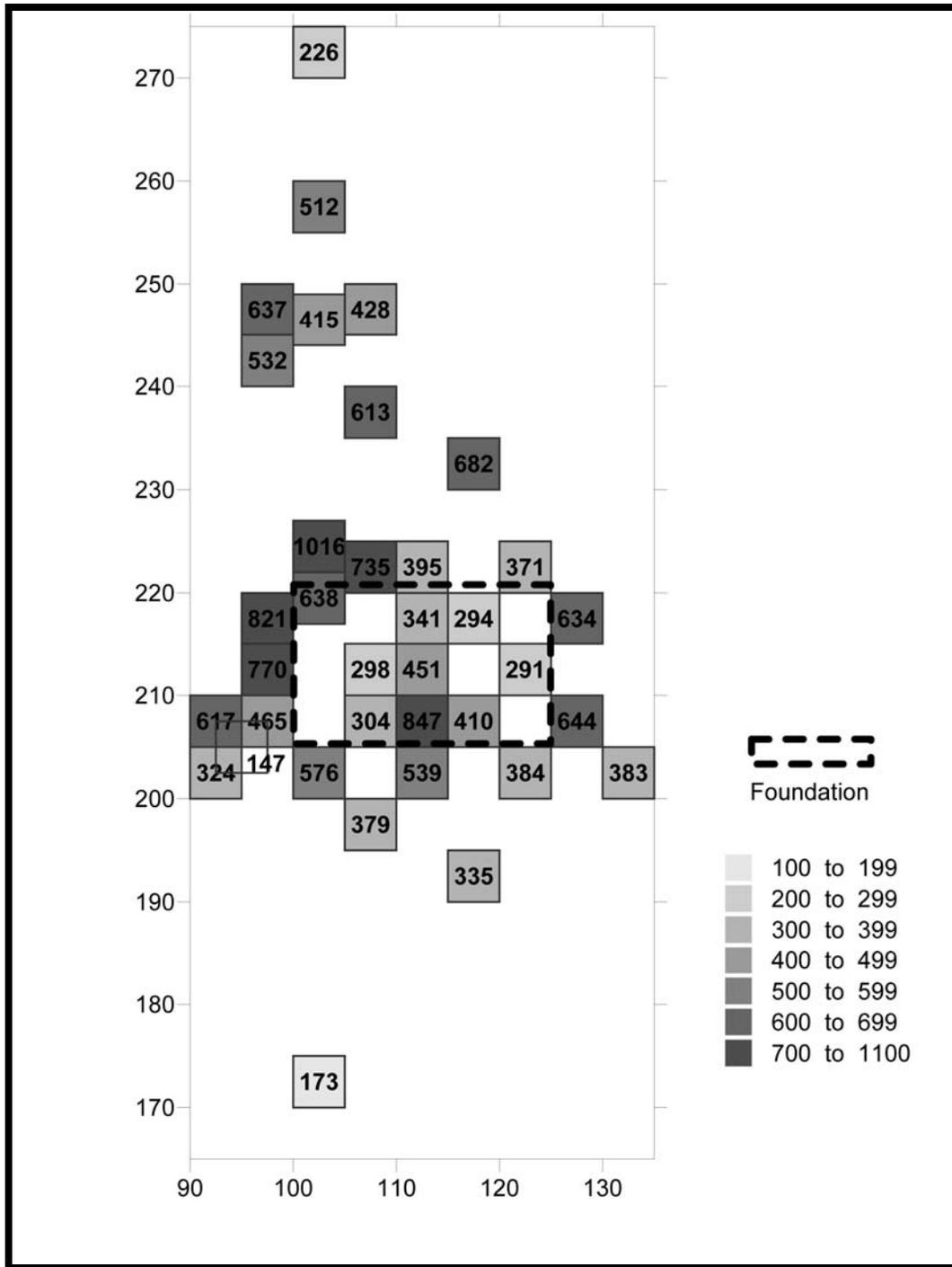


Figure 8.3 Distribution of architectural debris in excavation units.

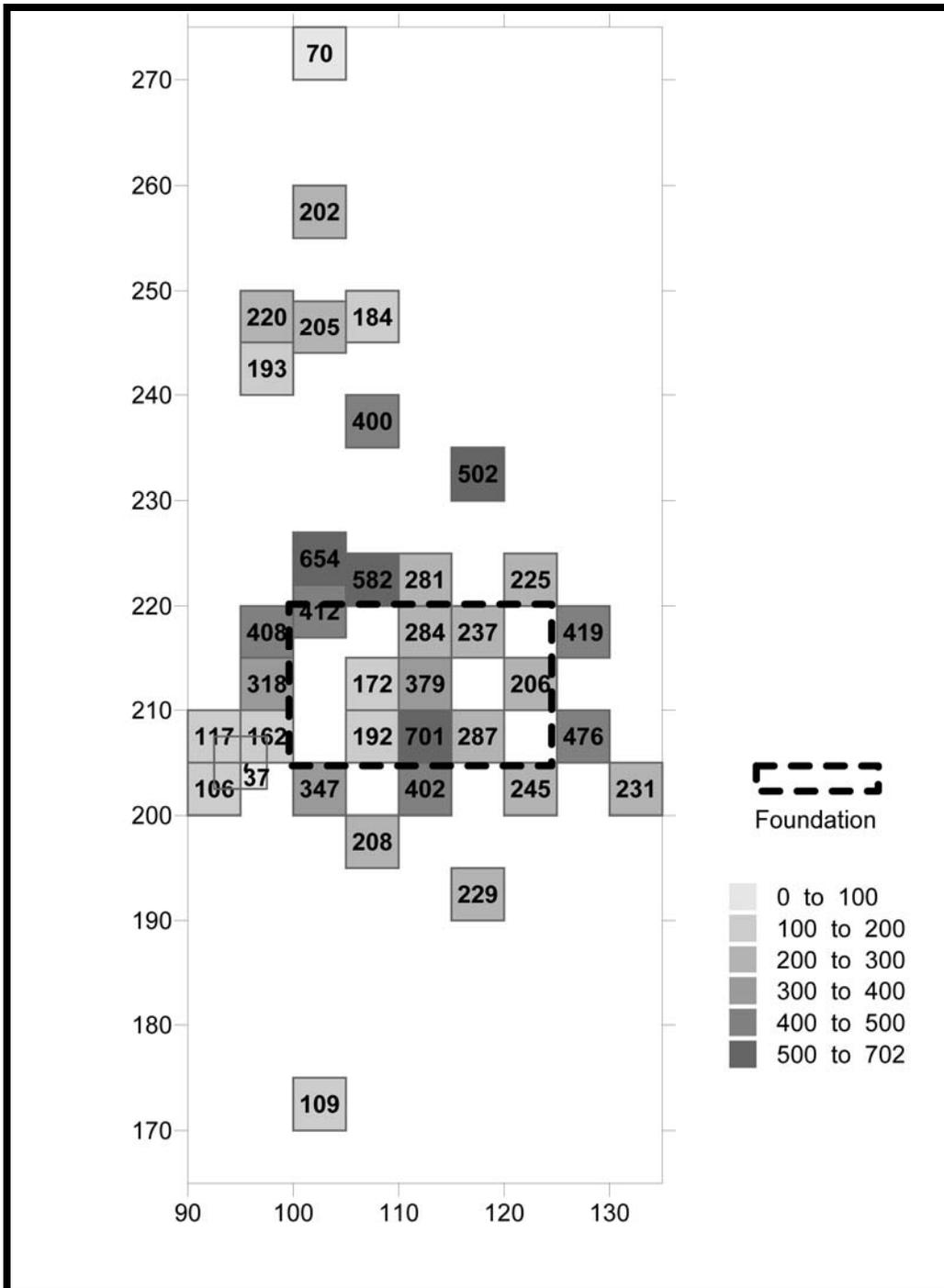


Figure 8.4 Distribution of window glass in excavation units.

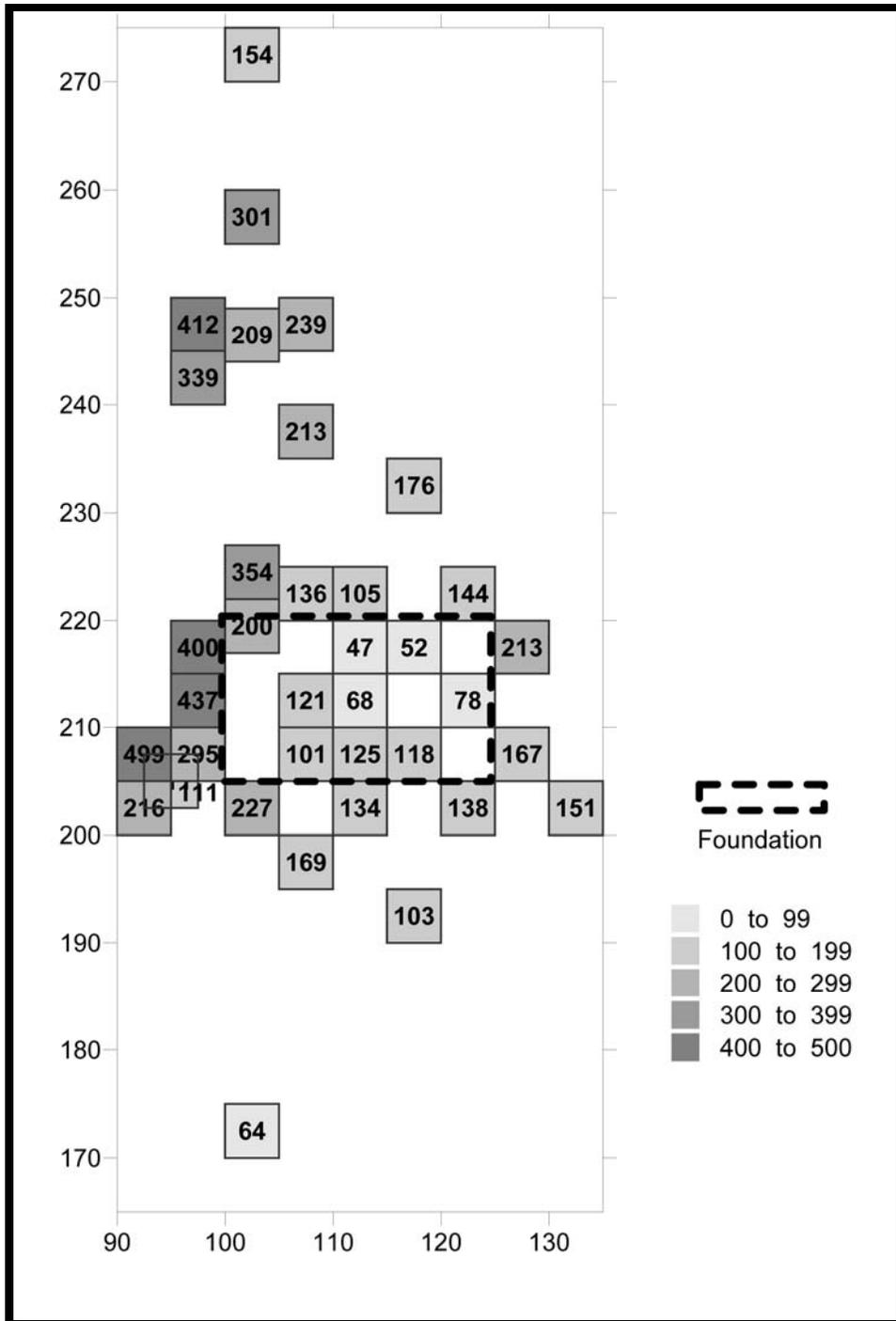


Figure 8.5 Distribution of nails in excavation units.

fragments, bolts, and staples were the predominant hardware types. The west yard had the same predominant types, but also a variety of other items, including door knobs, handles, an S-shaped hook, two keys, a wrought iron ring, a wrought axle clip, a pintle, and a heart-shaped finial.

Most of the furniture items found at the site consist of lamp parts, found in highest densities along the northern portion of the west foundation wall. Mirror glass, ceramic figurines, a caster wheel, and an iron foot comprise the rest of the furniture items. Mirror glass was scattered across the site area. Fragments of ceramic figurines were found primarily in the north and west yards and in the house area. Mending pieces of the figurine illustrated in Figure 7.14 were found in the plowzone in EU 11 (the west yard, $n=1$) and EU 14 (the north yard, $n=14$); these units were separated by over 40 feet. The single sherd found in EU 11 is the head of the figurine.

Artifacts classified as related to activities were found in low densities across the site area. The highest densities were in EUs 5 and 8, excavated just inside the foundation opening, where 21 redware flower pot fragments and three pieces of a pencil were found. The flower pot or pots may have been stored in the crawlspace. Other materials, such as pencils and pencil lead, thimbles, harmonica fragments, an ink bottle, and a burned record (rpm unknown) were scattered but in generally close proximity to the house.

Personal items were distributed within and around the foundation, with highest densities in the west yard. Items from the west yard include glass beads, bone and plastic buttons, plastic combs, jewelry, white ball clay smoking pipe fragments, and rivets. Generally, the same types of personal items were found in the front yard and house, although jewelry was absent.

Faunal remains were deposited in the northwest corner of the house (EUs 2 and 4). Faunal remains in this location encompassed the full range of items found at the site, including bird, fish, turtle, and mammal bones, as well as oyster shell. However, teeth and bones from mammals predominated. Faunal remains were also recovered from Features 15 and 15B, identified in EU 4. EUs 5 and 14 within the foundation produced a moderate density of faunal remains, consisting primarily of oyster shell, mammal teeth, and mammal bones. As might be expected, given its position at the front of the house, very few faunal items were found in the east yard.

Artifacts classified in the arms category consist of shell casings and were concentrated to the rear of the house (west yard) and in EU 33 in the east yard. A large number of bullet casings were also found in Feature 34 contexts and three were found in Feature 39. Both features were in the west yard.

Medical items are all made of glass and include medicine bottles and vials—most found in the west and north yards and within the house foundation. Tack items were also found primarily in those three contexts and consisted primarily of horseshoes, horseshoe nails, and buckles. Tools, including scissors, chisels, spades, and wrenches, were found primarily in the west yard.

Toys include dishes, doll parts, and marbles. The highest densities were found to the west and south of the house foundation and in EU 22 in the north yard.

Coal fragments and clinkers were found in the west yard and the western margin of the north yard. The greatest density, however, was in Feature 34 contexts.