

## VI. RESULTS OF PHASE III FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

### A. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The primary focus of the Locust Grove Site, both historically and visually, is, of course, the house. As noted previously, the structure consists of two major and stylistically distinct sections that form an L-shaped plan. The earlier of the two is a rectangular, two-story, five-bay, Greek Revival frame structure set on a brick foundation (Plate 6). It faces east, perpendicular to Middletown Road (present-day SR 299). The earlier section appears to have been built originally to a symmetrical center-passage plan that was subsequently altered by the addition of a second doorway near its northern end. This alteration may be contemporary with the construction of a one-and-one-half-story shed-roofed addition to the northern end of the Greek Revival Block during the late nineteenth century. At some point, an open porch was added to the eastern side of the original house.



PLATE 6: Locust Grove; Greek Revival Section on the Right, Second Empire Section on the Left



PLATE 7: Locust Grove, Second Empire Section

The building's second major section, placed at right angles to the earlier portion of the house, was built in the 1870s, and is a two-and-one-half-story Second Empire-style frame structure, oriented to the south, facing Middletown Road (Plate 7). The 1870s section, which more than doubled the size of the house, is five bays wide and two bays deep, and was built on a brick foundation according to a center-passage plan. A single-story screened porch extends the entire length of the southern facade; a one-story, three-sided bay window extends from each side elevation. A single-story shed-roofed addition was built onto the northwestern corner of the Second Empire section of the house during the mid-twentieth century. A later, two-story, shed-roofed addition extends along the back of the house between the one-story addition and the northwestern junction of the two main blocks.

At the time of the Phase III excavations, all sections of the house were covered by aluminum siding. This material had been removed by the fall of 1996. Also missing by this time were the exterior doors, a number of floorboards, and the handrail for the stairway in the center of the Second Empire block. Most of the windows in the house had been broken, and several had been removed entirely.

The yards surrounding the Locust Grove house consist of lawn to the south (front) and west, a filled-in swimming pool to the north, and a gravel drive and lawn to the east. A number of trees

and ornamental plantings and shrubs are located in the yards around the house. Perhaps most prominent are the mature spruces that screen the house from Middletown Road, and the two parallel lines of horse chestnut and apple trees that extend across the western yard, effectively separating the domestic core of the farmstead from the agricultural fields further to the west.

Outbuildings on the property include a single-story frame smokehouse located about 5 meters northeast of the house. Dating to the first half of the nineteenth century, and thus roughly contemporaneous with the Greek Revival section of the house, the smokehouse is square in plan and is set on a brick foundation; the pyramidal roof is metal. Several recent structures are also present. Adjacent to the house on the northwest, within the crook of the "L", is the swimming pool, set into a concrete patio. A small, one-story modern poolhouse is located just to the northwest of the pool. A small plywood shed, probably a former chicken coop, stands approximately 30 meters (100 feet) northwest of the house. Northeast of the house is a large machine shed with corrugated-metal siding; a mid-twentieth-century pole barn with corrugated-metal siding is located north of the machine shed.

## **B. RESULTS OF FIELDWORK**

### *1. Introduction*

As noted in Chapter III, the data recovery field strategy at the Locust Grove Site entailed the excavation of two large blocks, consisting of 39 test units and Trench 1. The West Block, located in the western side yard of the Locust Grove house, included 13 test units, while the East Block, located in the front yard, included 26 test units and one trench (Trench 1). Nine additional test units were excavated outside of the blocks to completely investigate front yard deposits (Figure 11). Nine archaeological features were identified during the Phase III work, in addition to the three identified during the Phase I and Phase II investigations (Table 4).

### *2. The West Block*

The West Block consisted of 13 1x1-meter test units (3, 4, and 31 through 41), located in the side yard southwest of the house. The majority of the Phase III test units were placed around Test Unit 4 (Plate 8), where an intact late nineteenth-century midden was encountered during the Phase II study (Bedell 1995). Three test units were extended south from the main portion of the block, linking it with Test Unit 3 (see Figure 11).

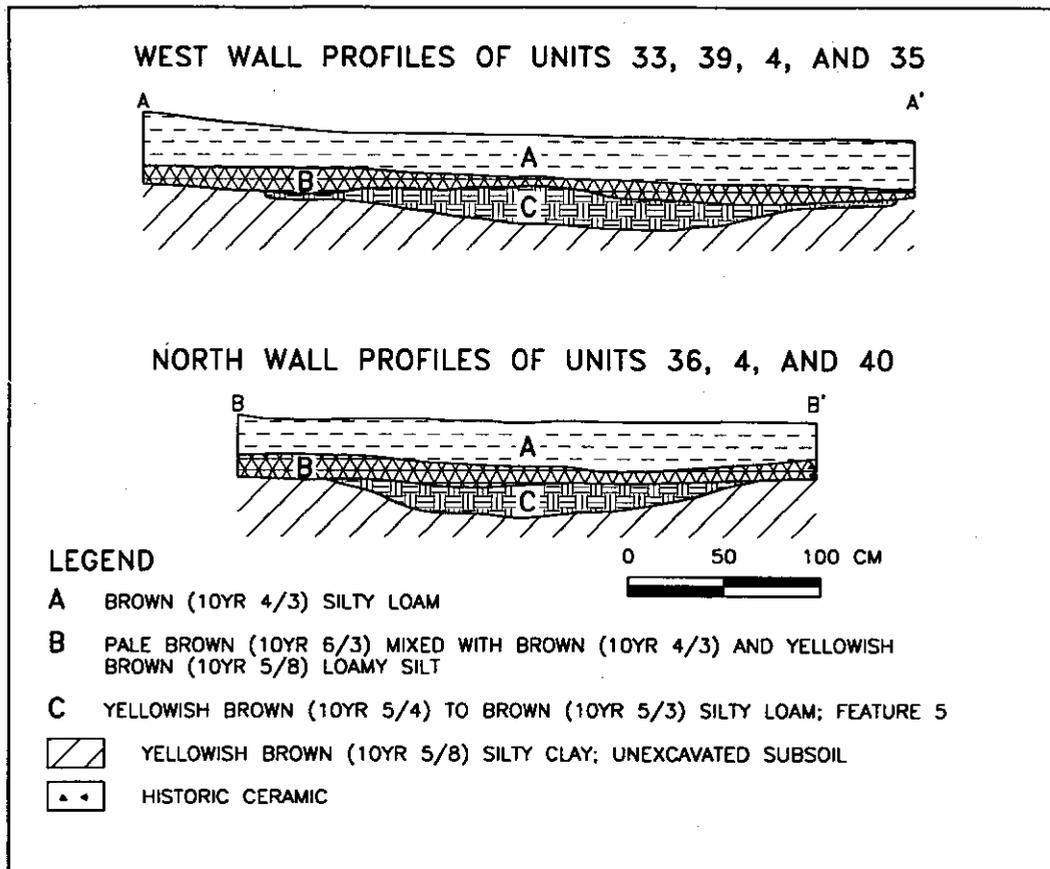
Excavation uncovered four stratigraphic contexts within the West Block. These consisted of the topsoil/fill deposit (Stratum A), a second fill deposit (Stratum B), a refuse deposit or midden (Feature 5), and the subsoil (Stratum C) (Figure 12). Stratum A extended across the entire block, and consisted of brown or yellowish brown loamy silt and silty clay loam that averaged 25 cm (9.8 inches) in thickness. A total of 2,139 artifacts were recovered from Stratum A. These include kitchen items (N=649), most of which are ceramics, together with a smaller number of glass bottle, tumbler, jar, and tableware fragments. The ceramic assemblage is made up largely of whitewares (plain, handpainted, decal-decorated, banded, transfer-printed, and Victorian



PLATE 8: West Block During Initial Stages of Excavation

majolica), along with smaller quantities of pearlware (plain, shell edge, and handpainted), redware (undecorated, slip-trailed, and engine-turned), yellowware (plain and colored glaze), and plain creamware. The 531 architectural items collected from this deposit consist mainly of unidentified nails and broad window glass; machine-cut nails, wrought nails, and fragments of modern window glass were also recovered. Also present in relatively large numbers are fragments of unglazed redware (N=354), brick (N=360), and unidentified glass (N=176). Other items in the assemblage include lamp globe/chimney glass, barbed wire, plastic, battery parts, a tobacco pipe fragment, two cartridge casings, roofing slate, and miscellaneous hardware. A 1965 U.S. dime provides the TPQ for Stratum A, although most of the assemblage appears to date to the nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Floral remains collected from Stratum A include three fragments of unidentifiable wood. The overwhelming majority of the faunal remains from this deposit consist of oyster shell; a total of 9.5 kilograms of oyster shell were collected from this stratigraphic unit. A few elements of pig, cow, and unspciated mammal were also recovered.

Stratum B directly underlay Stratum A, except in Test Units 3 and 31 at the southern end of the block, where the removal of the uppermost soil layer had exposed the sterile subsoil. Stratum B ranged from 7 to 19 centimeters in thickness. It consisted variously of clayey silt, silty clay, and loamy silt that ranged in color from olive brown to pale brown, in some cases with considerable mottling, as shown in Figure 12. The artifacts recovered from Stratum B are smaller



**FIGURE 12: West and North Wall Profiles, West Block**

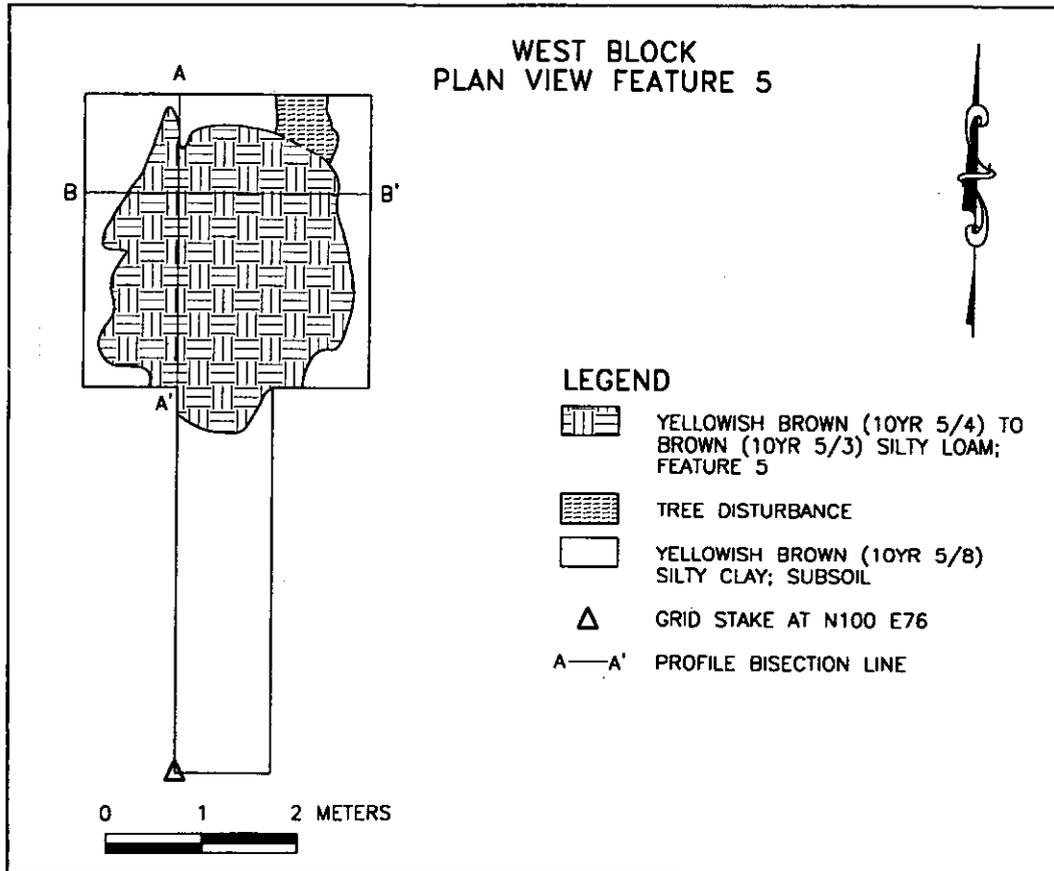
in number (a total of 973 artifacts and 20 faunal specimens) compared to those from Stratum A, and are more limited in variety. For example, no arms, clothing, or furnishing-related artifacts were collected from this deposit, nor were any tobacco pipe fragments recovered. Over half of the assemblage consists of brick fragments (N=269) and unglazed redware sherds (N=279); most of the remainder are kitchen items (N=160) and architecture-related artifacts (N=175). The kitchen artifacts are mainly ceramics, which include whiteware (plain, sponged, transfer-printed, and Victorian majolica), pearlware (transfer-printed, shell edge, banded, and handpainted), creamware (plain and feather-edge), ironstone (plain), and redware (undecorated and slip-trailed). Other kitchen items include fragments of bottle and container glass. The presence of solarized glass provides a TPQ of 1880 for the deposit. Like the assemblage from Stratum A, the material from Stratum B included a considerable quantity of faunal remains, nearly all of which were oyster shell, weighing 9.16 kilograms.

The removal of Stratum B exposed the upper surface of Feature 5 in Test Units 4, and 33 through 41. As shown in Figure 13, Feature 5 was a somewhat irregularly-shaped deposit that measured 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) east to west and 3.2 meters (10.5 feet) north to south (Plate 9). The feature was lenticular in cross section, with a maximum thickness of 20 cm (7.8 inches), and was underlain by subsoil. The soil matrix of Feature 5 consisted of silty clay and silty loam and ranged in color from olive brown to yellowish brown, with some mottling (see Figure 12).

TABLE 4  
LIST OF FEATURES  
LOCUST GROVE SITE (7NC-F-73)

FEATURE	PHASE	LOCATION	TYPE	TEMPORAL AFFILIATION	FUNCTION
1	1	Front Yard	Architectural	19th Century	Brick Walkway
2	2 and 3	Front Yard/Test Unit 5	Pit	19th Century	Refuse Deposit
3	2	Rear Yard	Architectural	20th Century	Barn Foundation
4	3	Front Yard/East Block	Filled Depression	19th Century	Refuse Deposit
5	2 and 3	Side Yard/West Block	Filled Depression	19th/20th Century	Refuse Deposit
6	3	Front Yard/East Block	Square Mold	Historic	Posthole: fence or outbuilding
7	3	Front Yard/East Block	Pit	19th Century	Refuse Deposit
8	3	Front Yard/East Block	Square Mold	Historic	Posthole: Fence or Outbuilding
9	3	Front Yard/East Block	Filled Depression	Unknown Prehistoric/Non-Cultural	Pit House/ Treefall
10	3	Front Yard/East Block	Pit	19th Century	Refuse Deposit
11 (Stratum C, Level 3)	3	Front Yard/East Block	Brick and Stone Rubble	19th Century	Remains of Chimney or Fire Bed
12	3	Front Yard/Test Unit 63	Pit	19th Century	Refuse Deposit

Feature 5 produced a total of 764 historic artifacts and eight faunal specimens (not including oyster shell). The artifact assemblage recovered from the feature is dominated by kitchen-related items (N=270), brick fragments (N=165), and non-brick architectural-related artifacts (N=114). Also present in substantial quantities are unidentified glass (N=93), unglazed redware (N=62), and unidentified metal (N=44). Fragments of lamp globe/chimney glass (TPQ=1883), a pressed-glass button, a plastic comb, roofing slate, and miscellaneous hardware round out the assemblage. The 201 ceramic fragments (excluding the unglazed redwares) recovered make up the bulk of the kitchen-related artifacts from Feature 5. While whitewares dominate the ceramic assemblage,



**FIGURE 13: Plan View of Feature 5**

their variety is rather limited (plain, embossed, and black transfer-printed), and other, earlier, ceramic types are also present in significant quantities. These include pearlware (plain, embossed, handpainted, and transfer-printed), creamware (plain and overglaze handpainted), slip-trailed redware, engine-turned red-bodied earthenware, oriental porcelain, and a fragment of buff-bodied slipware. Several fragments of plain ironstone were also recovered, and represent the ceramic type with the latest (1840) beginning date of manufacture present in Feature 5. The remainder of the kitchen items consist of bottle glass sherds, and fragments of glass drinking vessels (including tumbler and stemware sherds), jars, and tableware. In contrast to the ceramics from the feature, the diagnostic kitchen glass dates to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As noted above, the TPQ for the feature is 1883.

The non-brick architectural artifacts from the feature consist almost entirely of unidentified nails (N=100). Two hand-wrought nails, two cut nails, and 10 fragments of broad window glass were also collected.

The faunal remains (not including oyster shell) from Feature 5 are few in number and consist of two pig molar fragments, five unspciated medium mammal bone fragments, and one bone fragment assignable only to the large mammal category. All of the medium and large mammal bone fragments showed signs of having been sawed. While oyster shell constitutes the bulk of

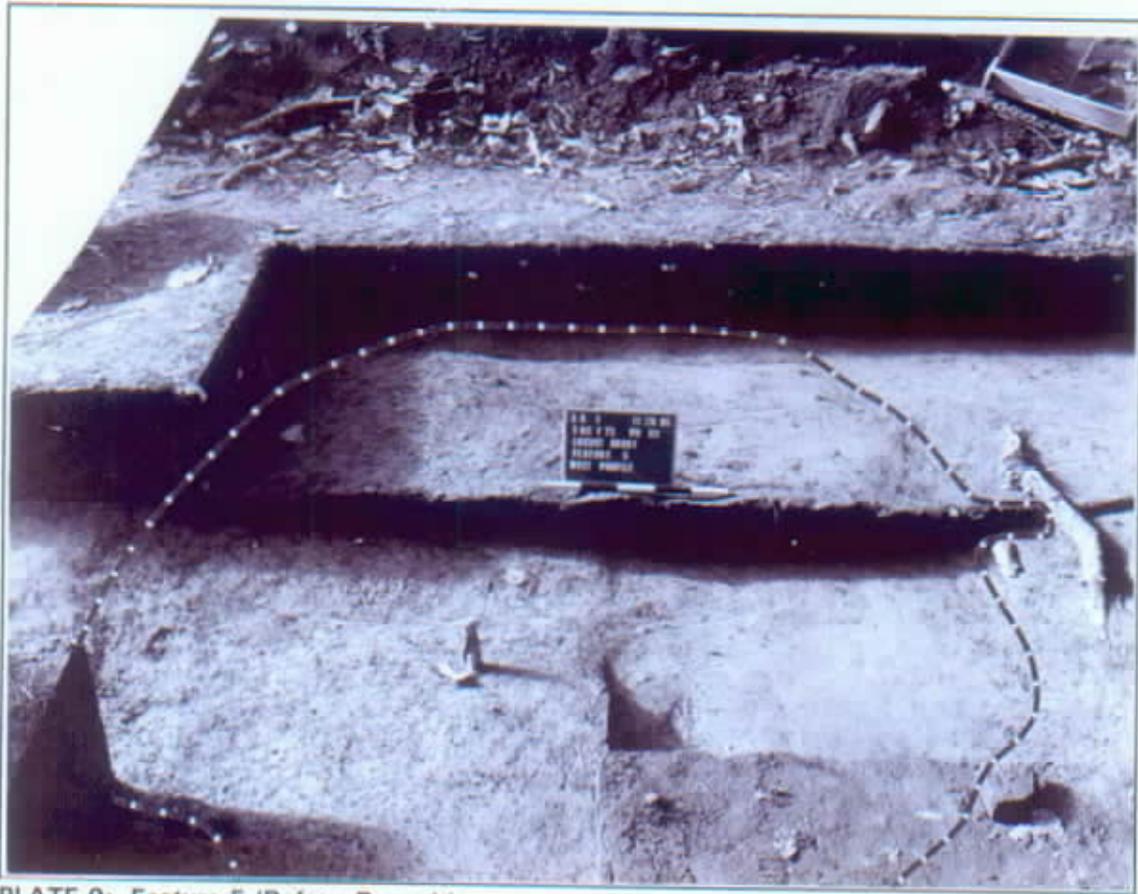


PLATE 9: Feature 5 (Refuse Deposit)

the faunal remains collected from this deposit, the 0.24 kilograms of this material that was recovered is extremely low compared to the shell weights for the overlying strata.

Stratum C, underlying Feature 5 and, in places, Strata A and B, represents the interface between the subsoil and the artifact-bearing deposits above. This stratum consisted of silty clay and clay loam that ranged in color from light yellowish brown to brownish yellow. Only five artifacts were recovered from Stratum C, including a fragment of plain pearlware (TPQ=1775), a sherd of redware, two fragments of glass, and a piece of brick. An unidentified shell was also collected.

### 3. *The East Block*

The East Block was laid out directly in front of the house, surrounding Test Unit 5 (see Figure 11; Plate 10). During the Phase II investigation, a trash pit (Feature 2) and an artifact-rich midden layer, both sealed by a layer of fill, were identified in Test Unit 5 (Bedell et al. 1997). The fill was thought to date from some substantial building or landscaping episode, possibly the building of the front section of the house in the 1870s.

The East Block consisted of 26 contiguous test units (20 through 30, and 49 through 62) and one trench (Trench 1) adjoining the eastern side of the block. Although outside the block, Test Units



PLATE 10: East Block During Excavation

8, 46, 63, and 64 are all close enough (less than two meters [6.5 feet]) that stratigraphic deposits exposed in these test units can be reliably correlated to those uncovered in the block excavation; therefore, these four test units are included in the following discussion of the East Block.

Excavation of the East Block encountered seven strata and seven features (Features 4, and 6 through 11). An eighth feature (Feature 12) was identified during the excavation of Test Unit 63 just to the south of the block.

Stratum A, representing a combination of landscaping fill and modern topsoil, extended across the entire block as well as across the four test units immediately adjacent. This deposit consisted of dark grayish brown to brown silty loam or clay loam that ranged from 17 to 23 cm (6.7 to 9.1 inches) in thickness. Stratum A contained 1,815 artifacts, consisting mainly of kitchen (N=739) and architectural (N=419) items, brick fragments (N=403), and sherds of unglazed redware (N=100). The kitchen artifacts are made up largely of ceramics, together with smaller numbers of bottle, jar, tableware, and drinking vessel sherds. The ceramics collected from Stratum A consist, for the most part, of whiteware fragments, the majority of which are undecorated. Decorated whitewares include embossed, handpainted, dipped, shell edge, transfer-printed, sponged, banded, and decal-decorated varieties. Pearlware (plain, dipped, blue handpainted, polychrome handpainted, and transfer-printed), redware (glazed and slip-trailed), yellowware

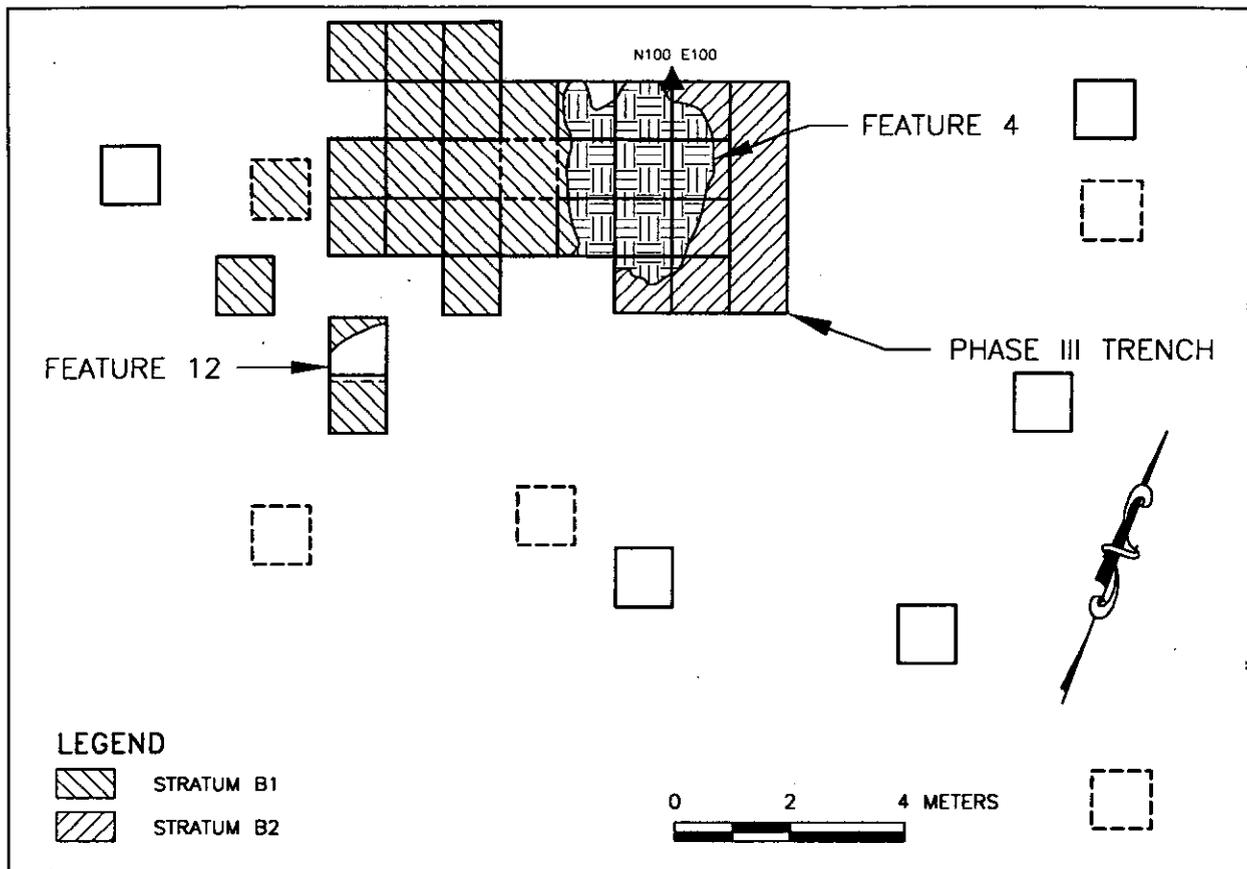
(plain and embossed), creamware (plain and embossed), and stoneware (including a single fragment of scratch-blue white salt-glazed stoneware [1744-1775]) were also recovered. The architectural items from Stratum A include 202 fragments of window glass (mainly broad glass, with a few examples of crown and modern window glass), 177 nails (wrought, cut, wire, and unidentifiable), and three examples of plumbing/electrical hardware. Among the other artifacts recovered were buttons, tobacco pipe fragments, pharmaceutical bottle/vial fragments, unidentified metal, miscellaneous hardware, unidentified glass, plastic, and roofing slate. The 36 faunal specimens recovered from Stratum A include oyster shell, pig, cow, medium mammal, and unidentified mammal.

Three of the 10 prehistoric artifacts recovered during the Phase III investigations were collected from Stratum A in the East Block. These include two pieces of cracked rock and a chert uniface fragment.

The removal of Stratum A uncovered four different stratigraphic deposits (Figure 14). The western half of the block contained a combination of dark grayish brown to dark yellowish brown silty loam, clay, and clay loam. Designated Stratum B1 (to differentiate it from a similar, yet noncontiguous deposit in the eastern half of the block that was designated B2), this deposit was 10 to 15 cm (3.9 to 5.9 inches) thick, and yielded a total of 2,178 artifacts and 91 faunal specimens. The majority of the artifacts consist of kitchen-related items (N=1,543), dominated by ceramics (N=1,473). Bottle glass sherds, glass drinking vessel fragments, and pieces of glass tableware were also recovered. The 203 architectural artifacts from Stratum B mainly consist of nails (wrought, cut, and unidentifiable) and window glass (primarily broad glass). Brick fragments (N=225), unglazed redware (N=95), unidentified metal (N=54), and miscellaneous hardware (N=30) dominate the remainder of the assemblage. Present in minor quantities are items such as lamp globe/chimney glass, tobacco pipe fragments, pharmaceutical bottle/vial fragments, roofing slate, and unidentifiable glass. Fragments of solarized glass provide an 1880 TPQ for this stratum. The faunal remains from Stratum B consist mainly of oyster shell, together with clam shell, and bone fragments from pig, sheep/goat, medium mammal, unidentified mammal, and large mammal.

One prehistoric artifact was also recovered from Stratum B. This item is a piece of mica collected from this deposit in Test Unit 55.

Beneath Stratum A in the eastern half of the block were two deposits: Feature 4, and a layer of landscaping fill designated Stratum B2 (see Figure 14). Feature 4 was an irregularly-shaped deposit of dark yellowish brown loamy silt that partially overlies the brown to yellowish brown clay loam of Stratum B2 in this part of the East Block. The precise stratigraphic relationship between Feature 4, and Stratum B1 to the west, on the other hand, is unclear, at least according to the profile shown in Figure 15, where rodent disturbance has obscured the boundary between these two deposits. Field records, however, seem to indicate that Feature 4 was cut by Stratum B1.



**FIGURE 14: East Block after Removal of Stratum A**

Over 2,400 artifacts were recovered during the excavation of Feature 4. Like the other deposits discussed previously, the majority of the Feature 4 artifacts are kitchen related (N=1,551) and include 1,459 ceramic fragments; the remainder of the kitchen items consist largely of bottle glass fragments (which provide a TPQ of 1857), along with drinking vessel, jar, and tableware sherds. The 277 artifacts related to architecture consist exclusively of nails (mostly unidentifiable, with smaller numbers of cut, wrought, and wire varieties) and window glass (primarily broad glass, together with a few fragments of crown glass). Also present in sizeable quantities are unglazed redware fragments (N=251) and pieces of brick (N=215). Buttons, furniture hardware, pharmaceutical bottle/vial fragments, unidentified metal and glass, pieces of lime, and miscellaneous hardware round out the assemblage. The faunal remains from Feature 4 primarily consist of oyster shell (and one specimen of clam); indeed, the 3.3 kilograms of oyster shell from the feature represent one of the densest concentrations of this material in the East Block. The 68 bone fragments recovered are mostly unidentifiable as to species, although pig and cow are represented.

Feature 4 was partially underlain by Stratum B2, a deposit of landscaping fill present in the extreme eastern part of the block (see Figure 14). This layer of dark yellowish brown to brown clayey loam ranged from 3 to 13 cm (1.2 to 5.1 inches) in thickness and yielded 492 artifacts and 78 faunal specimens. Over half of the assemblage consists of kitchen items (N=276), including



263 ceramic fragments, 12 bottle glass sherds, and part of a glass tumbler. Whitewares and redwares constitute the majority of the ceramics assemblage from Stratum B2; also present are examples of pearlware, creamware, oriental porcelain, yellowware, and ironstone. An embossed ironstone rim sherd provides a TPQ of 1840 for this stratum. As in Feature 4, the non-brick architectural artifacts recovered (N=85) consist only of nails (wrought, cut, but mostly unidentifiable) and window glass (primarily broad glass). The remainder of the Stratum B2 historic artifact assemblage includes a button, tobacco pipe fragments, a slate pencil, brick fragments, unglazed redware, unidentified metal and glass, plaster, and pieces of lime. One prehistoric artifact, a quartz flake fragment, was also collected from Stratum B2. The faunal remains recovered from this deposit include oyster shell, and elements of pig, cow, medium mammal, large mammal, and unidentified mammal.

Feature 12, the fourth deposit exposed by the removal of Stratum A, was uncovered in Test Unit 63 (see Figure 14). Feature 12 was a 30-cm (11.8-inch)-deep pit dug through Stratum B1, the two cultural strata beneath B1, and into the sterile subsoil. The feature fill was mixed, and consisted of very dark grayish brown and dark yellowish brown silty loam. The 222 artifacts collected from Feature 12 are predominately kitchen related, including 144 ceramic fragments, seven bottle sherds, two drinking vessel fragments, and two jar/container sherds. Typical of the East Block, the ceramics present in Feature 12 consist mainly of whitewares (plain, shell edge, dipped, handpainted, transfer-printed, and embossed) and redwares, together with a few fragments of pearlware, creamware, ironstone, and yellowware. A variety of blue shell edge whiteware provides a TPQ of 1840 for the feature fill. The 21 architectural items from the feature consist of 17 nails (wrought, cut, and unidentified) and four broad glass fragments. Unidentified metal (N=20), unglazed redware (N=8), brick (N=15), and unidentified glass (N=3) constitute the rest of the Feature 12 assemblage.

Eighty-eight faunal specimens were also recovered from Feature 12. Of these, 86 are oyster shell; the remaining two specimens include clam shell and a bone fragment that could only be identified as medium mammal.

The removal of Stratum B1 in the western half of the block exposed yet another fill deposit, a heavily mixed layer composed of silty loam, sandy silt, silty sand, and sand; the different soil matrices ranged in color from reddish yellow to dark yellowish brown. Designated Stratum C (Figure 16), this deposit also included a thin layer of glauconite (sometimes referred to as greensand marl) encountered at a minimum depth of 38 centimeters (15 inches) below grade. Consulting geomorphologist Dr. Daniel Wagner confirmed that this glauconite deposit had originated in deposits of much greater depth (Wagner, personal communication 1995), suggesting that it may be spoil from a deep excavation, perhaps for a well. A concentration of rubble and brick was encountered immediately below the redeposited glauconite layer in most of the test units in the western half of the block (see Figure 16). Although designated Feature 11, it, and the glauconite layer, were excavated as part of Stratum C.

The rubble comprising the bulk of Feature 11 consisted almost exclusively of fire-cracked and fire-reddened quartz and quartzite cobbles (Plate 11), together with a number of whole bricks and

large quantities of fragmentary brick. Interspersed among the rubble were faunal materials, large whiteware and black-glazed red earthenware sherds, and metal sheeting. Feature 11 contained only one layer or course of the cobbles and brick rubble.

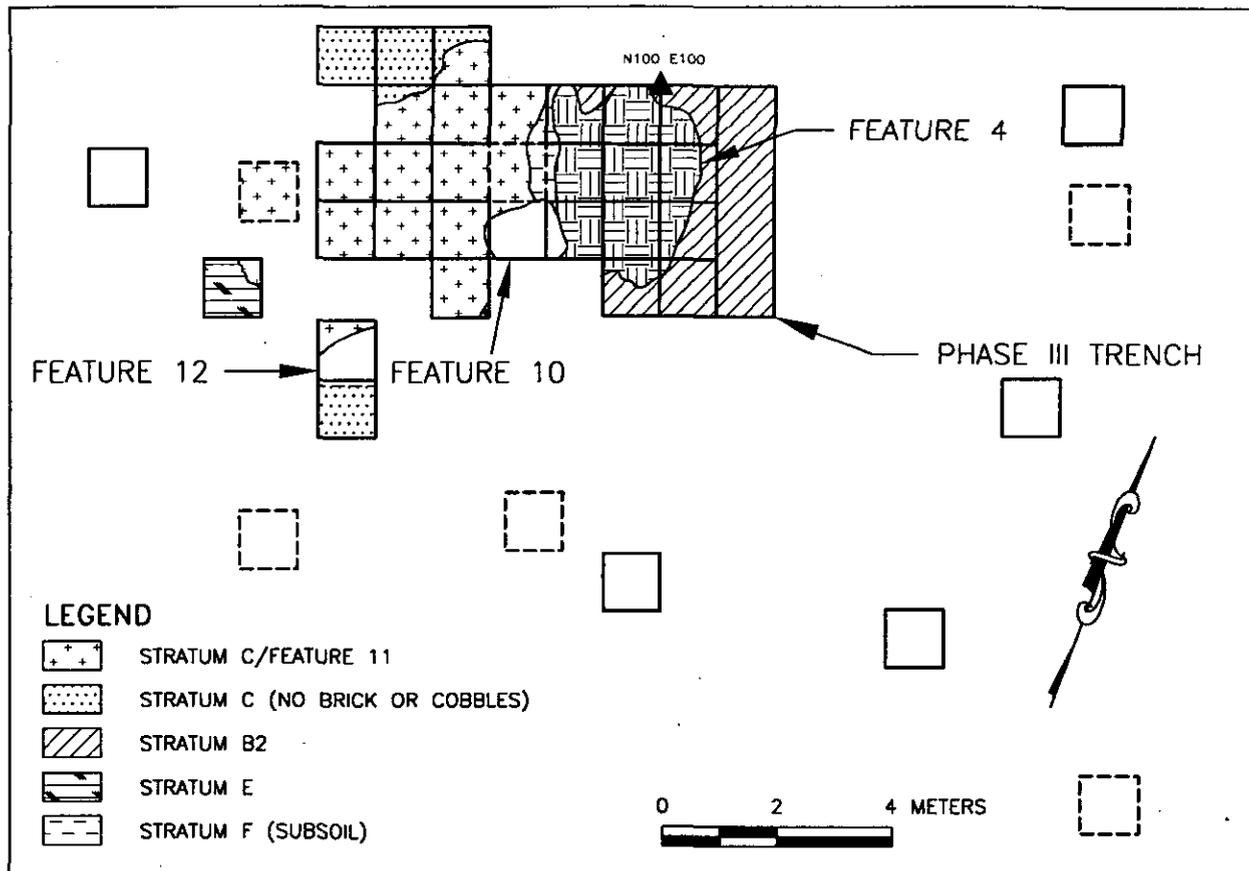
The horizontally restricted extent of the feature and its lack of great thickness, along with the fact that 95 percent of the cobbles exhibited evidence of thermal exposure, suggest that these cobbles were once part of a fireplace or firebed, rather than a building foundation; the soil beneath the feature did not show any evidence of having been exposed to intense heat. Such a feature from the Locust Grove house may have been dismantled and disposed of during the building additions and renovations of the 1870s. Alternatively, it was thought that Feature 11 might be associated with a still earlier structure which was located in what is now the front yard of the Locust Grove house. As will be seen, the former notion is more likely.



PLATE 11: Feature 11 (Demolition Fill)

A total of 2,664 artifacts were recovered from Stratum C, the vast majority of which are kitchen related. Ceramic fragments (not including unglazed redware) are, by far, the most numerous artifact type present in this deposit, accounting for 1,859 of the items recovered. The predominant ware types are redware (several with slip-trailed decoration) and whiteware, the latter including a range of decorative varieties—shell edge, polychrome handpainted, transfer-printed, banded, dipped, and sponged. Fragments of soft- and hard-paste porcelain, pearlware (handpainted, transfer-printed, and sponged), creamware (plain), yellowware (mocha and Rockingham), and gray salt-glazed stoneware were also recovered. Bottle glass and other kitchen artifacts are present in relatively small numbers, as are architecture-related items such as nails (wrought, cut, and unidentified) and window glass (broad and crown varieties). Other artifacts recovered from Stratum C include a gunflint, buttons (one bone and one wood), a tobacco pipe fragment, pharmaceutical bottle/vial sherds, miscellaneous hardware; unidentified metal and glass, and pieces of lime. Brick fragments (N=243) and unglazed redware sherds (N=143) were also present. A complete patent medicine bottle ("Radway's Ready Relief"), the only intact glass container recovered from the site, is datable to 1877-1880, and provides the TPQ for Stratum C.

The faunal remains from Stratum C, like the faunal assemblages from other deposits at the site, consist mainly of oyster shell (1.5 kilograms). Clam shell was also recovered, as were a few examples of pig and cow bone and the remains of unspiciated mammal.



**FIGURE 16: East Block after Removal of Stratum B1**

Lying beneath Stratum B1 and adjacent to the western side of Feature 4 was Feature 10, a small, shallow, basin-shaped pit that cut into Stratum C (see Figure 16; Figure 17). The soil matrix of Feature 10 consisted of dark grayish brown silty loam with flecks of charcoal and large quantities of oyster shell. This deposit yielded 211 historic artifacts, including ceramics (redwares and whitewares), fragments of bottle and tableware glass, nails (cut, wrought, and unidentified), crown window glass, unidentified metal, brick, mortar, and unidentified glass. The TPQ for the feature is provided by a variety of shell edge whiteware first manufactured in 1840. Except for shell, the faunal remains recovered from Feature 10 were few in number, and include a pig molar and two fragments each from unidentified bird and unidentified mammal. The 3.2 kilograms of oyster shell collected from this relatively small deposit represent the densest concentration of this material encountered at Locust Grove.

The excavation of Stratum C/Feature 11 uncovered one additional artifact-bearing layer in the western half of the block. Designated Stratum E (Figure 18), this was a thin (7.5 to 10 centimeters [3 to 4 inches]) layer of light olive brown silty clay; excavation indicated that Feature 2, uncovered during the Phase II investigations, is an extension of Stratum E.

Stratum E contained a very dense concentration of historic kitchen-related refuse—in Test Unit 51 alone, for example, this deposit produced 344 historic artifacts and 59 mammal bone

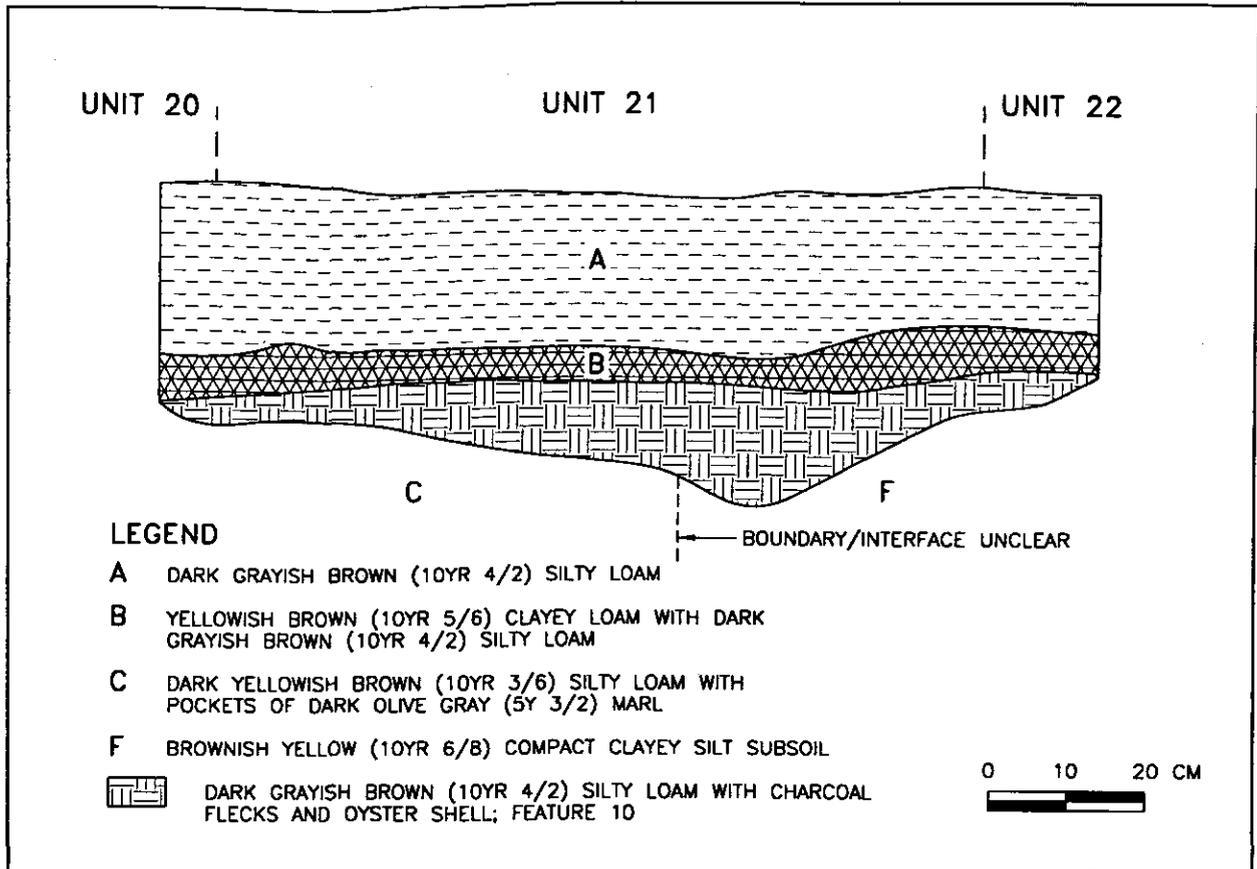
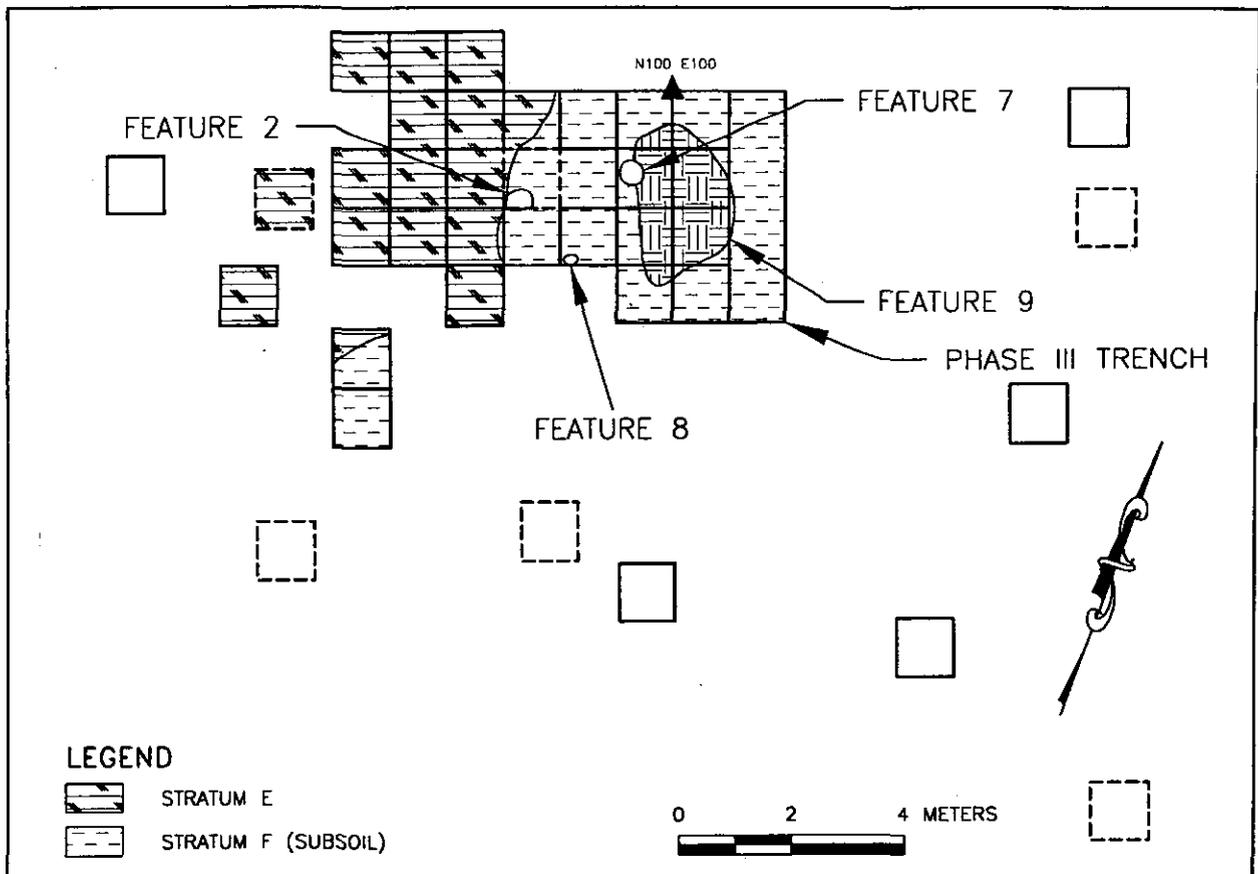


FIGURE 17: Feature 10, North Profile

fragments, while the entire stratum yielded 1,868 historic artifacts and 109 faunal specimens (not including oyster and clam shell). Like other depositional contexts in the East Block, Stratum E produced an artifact assemblage made up primarily of kitchen-related items. The 1,340 kitchen artifacts include 1,305 ceramic fragments, 22 glass bottle sherds, 12 tumbler/stemware fragments, and one example of glass tableware. The ceramic assemblage is made up primarily of whitewares and redwares; the former includes plain, shell edge, sponged, transfer-printed, handpainted, and embossed varieties, while most of the latter, except for a few slip-trailed sherds, are undecorated. Other ceramic types present in this deposit include pearlware, creamware, hard- and soft-paste porcelain, yellowware, and gray salt-glazed stoneware. A TPQ of 1846 for Stratum E is provided by fragments of a blue transfer-printed whiteware vessel with the "Texian Campaign" design, that was produced until about 1860.

Brick, unglazed redware fragments, and pieces of unidentified metal were present in fairly substantial quantities (205, 112, and 80 examples, respectively). The 80 non-brick architectural items recovered from this deposit include wrought and unidentifiable nails, broad window glass, and a plumbing fixture. The remaining artifacts in the assemblage include glass pharmaceutical bottle/vial fragments, a gilt one-piece button, miscellaneous hardware, and unidentified glass.



**FIGURE 18: East Block after Removal of Feature 4 and Stratum C**

The faunal assemblage from Stratum E consists mainly of oyster shell (2.57 kilograms); a small amount of clam shell was also recovered. The remainder of the assemblage includes elements of medium mammal (N=77), pig (N=23), cow (N=3), unidentified mammal (N=2), and chicken (N=1).

Returning to the eastern half of the block, the excavation of Feature 4 and the removal of Stratum B2 uncovered several features (Features 6, 7, 8, and 9) that extended into the subsoil (see Figure 18). Feature 6 was a small, square feature in Test Unit 25 that was identified as a post mold. It measured 10.16 cm (4 inches) on each side and extended to a depth of 6 to 7 cm (2.4 to 2.7 inches). No discernible surrounding posthole was identified, and no artifacts were recovered.

Feature 7, a small circular pit measuring 40 cm (15.7 inches) in diameter, was confined to Test Unit 26, and had apparently been truncated by Feature 4 (Figure 19). The feature fill consisted of a dark yellowish brown clayey loam with ash, and was differentiated from Feature 4 on the basis of soil texture (the latter being characterized by a dark yellowish brown loamy silt). Feature 7 proved to be 10 cm (3.9 inches) deep and produced a total of 16 historic artifacts and one faunal specimen. Ceramics account for eight of the artifacts recovered, and include plain and dipped pearlware, glazed redware, and plain whiteware; the latter type provides a TPQ of 1815

for the feature. An unidentified nail and seven brick fragments make up the rest of the assemblage. The faunal specimen recovered consists of an oyster shell fragment.

Feature 8, identified as a posthole, was uncovered in Test Unit 22 (see Figure 18). The feature measured 24 cm (9.4 inches) in diameter and 36 cm (14.1 inches) in depth; it was roughly cylindrical in cross section, tapering slightly inward near the bottom (see Figure 19). The feature fill consisted of dark yellowish brown clayey loam with ash (similar to the fill in Feature 7); there was no evidence of a post mold. Thirteen historic artifacts were recovered, including ceramics (plain pearlware and glazed redware), nails (wrought, cut, and wire—the latter providing a TPQ of 1850), and a fragment of unglazed redware. The feature also produced five faunal specimens, consisting of four bone fragments assignable only to medium mammal and one bone fragment assignable to unidentified mammal.

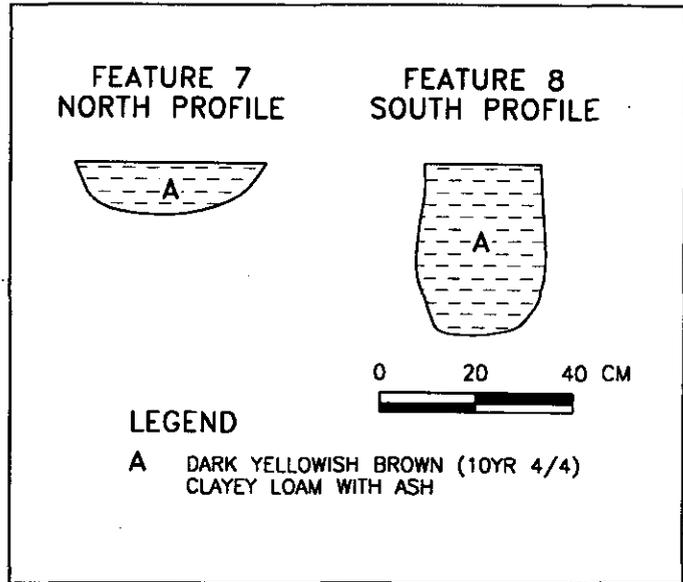


FIGURE 19: Features 7 and 8, Profiles

The last feature to be discussed is a possible prehistoric feature uncovered in the East Block (Feature 9). Feature 9 was encountered intruding into the natural subsoils below the historic deposits (Features 4 and 7 and Stratum B2) in the eastern section of the block (Test Units 59 through 62), and was distinguished from the natural subsoil on the basis of differences in texture and color. Feature 9 soils consisted of a brown loamy clay with charcoal flecks that intruded into natural subsoils of yellowish brown clay. Trench 1, measuring 1x4 meters, was excavated adjacent to the eastern side of the block in order to fully investigate Feature 9. As shown in Figure 20, Feature 9 was oval in plan and measured 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) north to south and 1.5 meters (4.9 feet) east to west. The east-to-west bisection profile of the feature (Figure 21) is shallow (5 centimeters [2 inches]) at its eastern edge, dropping down moderately steeply to form a deep pit (125 centimeters [49 inches] deep and 130 centimeters [51 inches] wide) in its western half (Plate 12). The plan view and bisection profiles of Feature 9 suggest a similarity to the Type 2A prehistoric pit house, as described in the Woodland I, Delaware State Plan (Custer 1994). However, the absence of any prehistoric artifacts of any kind within or surrounding this feature prohibits the delineation of any temporal and cultural affiliation. Historic artifacts were, on the other hand, recovered from the two excavated levels of the feature fill. Fifteen brick fragments were collected from Level 1 (the first 10 cm [3.9 inches] of fill), together with five unidentified mammal bone fragments. A single broad glass fragment (TPQ=1826) was recovered from Level 2 (10 to 54 cm [3.9 to 21.3 inches] below the top of the feature) in the southwestern portion of Feature 9.

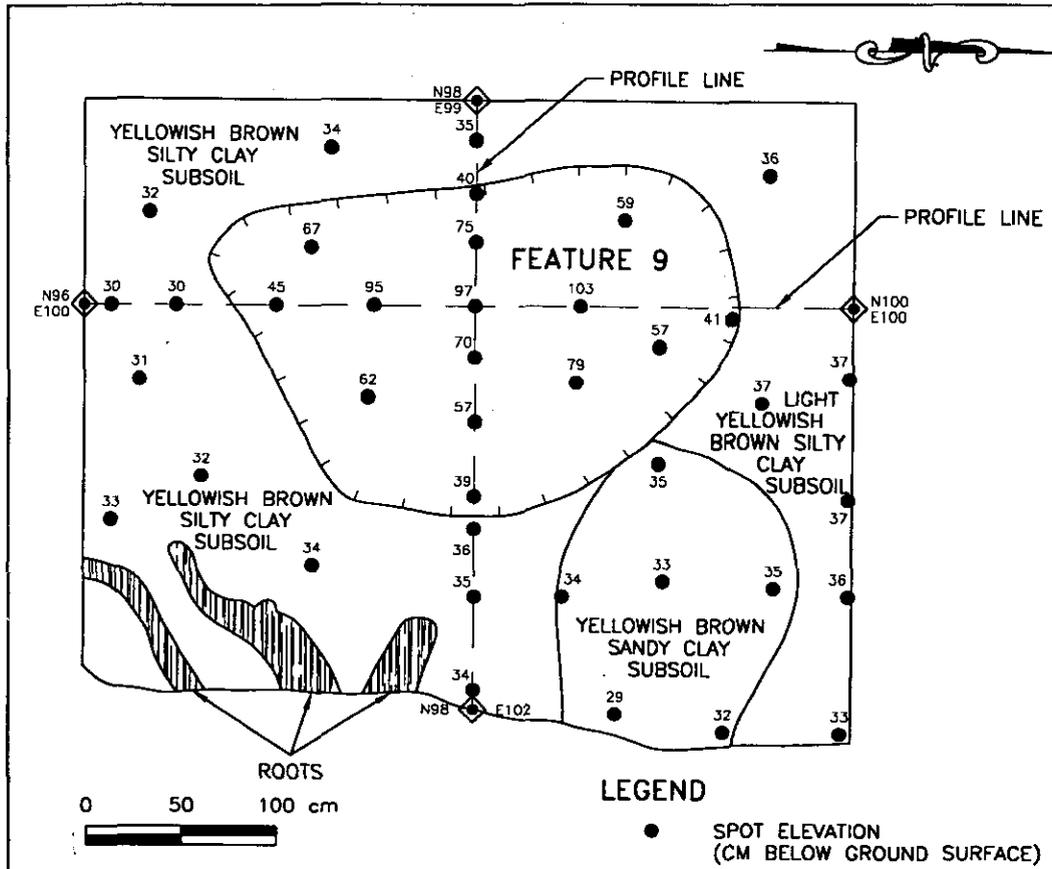


FIGURE 20: Plan View of Feature 9

To help in determining the age of the feature, several samples were taken for OCR dating. Once the fieldwork was complete, four samples—three from the feature fill and one control sample—were submitted to the Archaeological Consulting Team, Inc., in Essex Junction, Vermont. The control sample (ACT #2154), taken from the sterile subsoil outside the feature, yielded a calculated OCR date of 5,569 BP. One sample (ACT #2153), collected from the base of Level 1, was dated to 3,700 ± 110 years BP. The two earliest dates came from the top of Level 2 (ACT #2155), 5,915 ± 177 years BP, and from the base of Level 2 (ACT #2156), 6,100 ± 182 years BP.

#### 4. Non-Block Excavations

An additional nine 1x1-meter test units were excavated in the front yard to search for and investigate additional features and cultural deposits. These test units (42 through 48, and 63 and 64) were oriented according to the grid established across the yard (see Figure 11). Three of these test units (46, 63, and 64) have already been discussed in connection with the East Block and will not be covered here.

Generally speaking, the stratigraphy uncovered in the non-block test units, as well as in the Phase II test units excavated in the front and side yards, consisted of one or more landscaping deposits

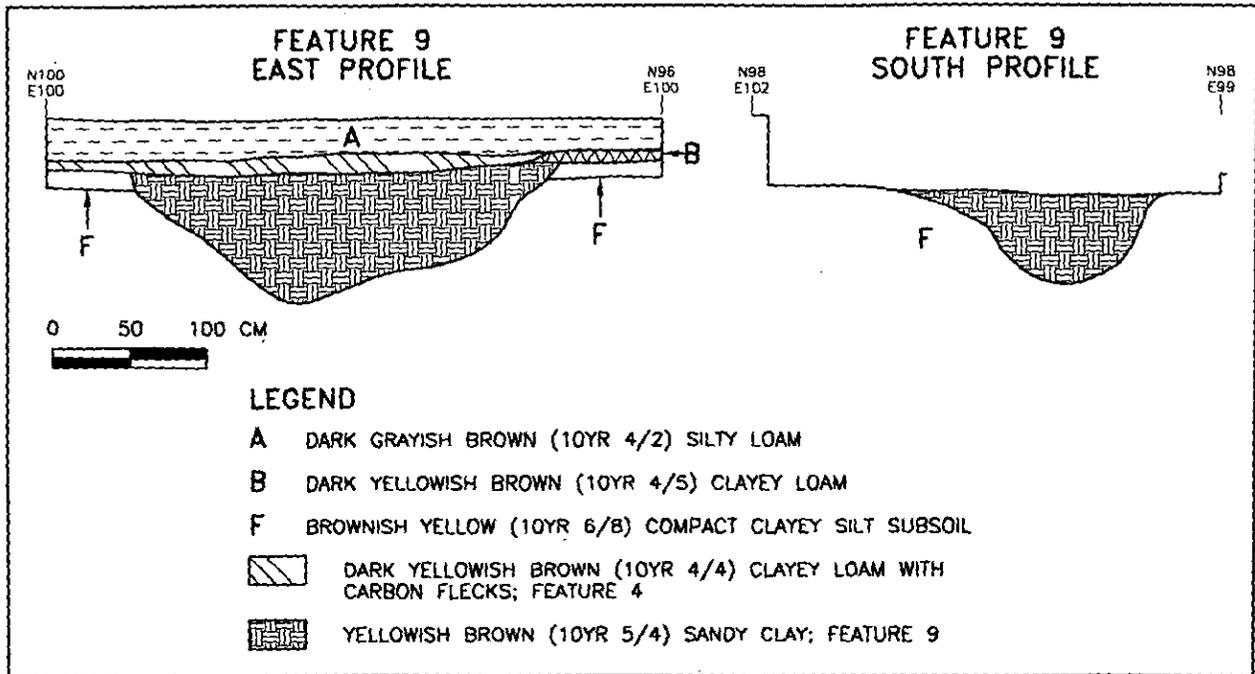


FIGURE 21: Feature 9, Profiles

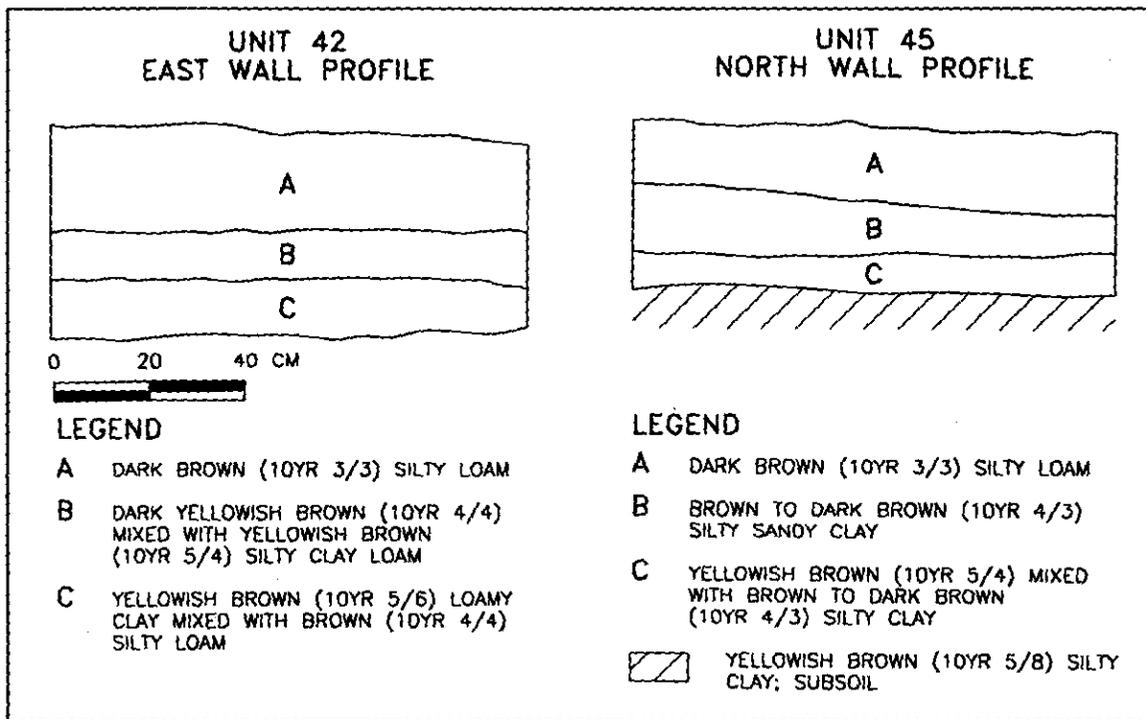


FIGURE 22: Units 42 and 45, Profiles

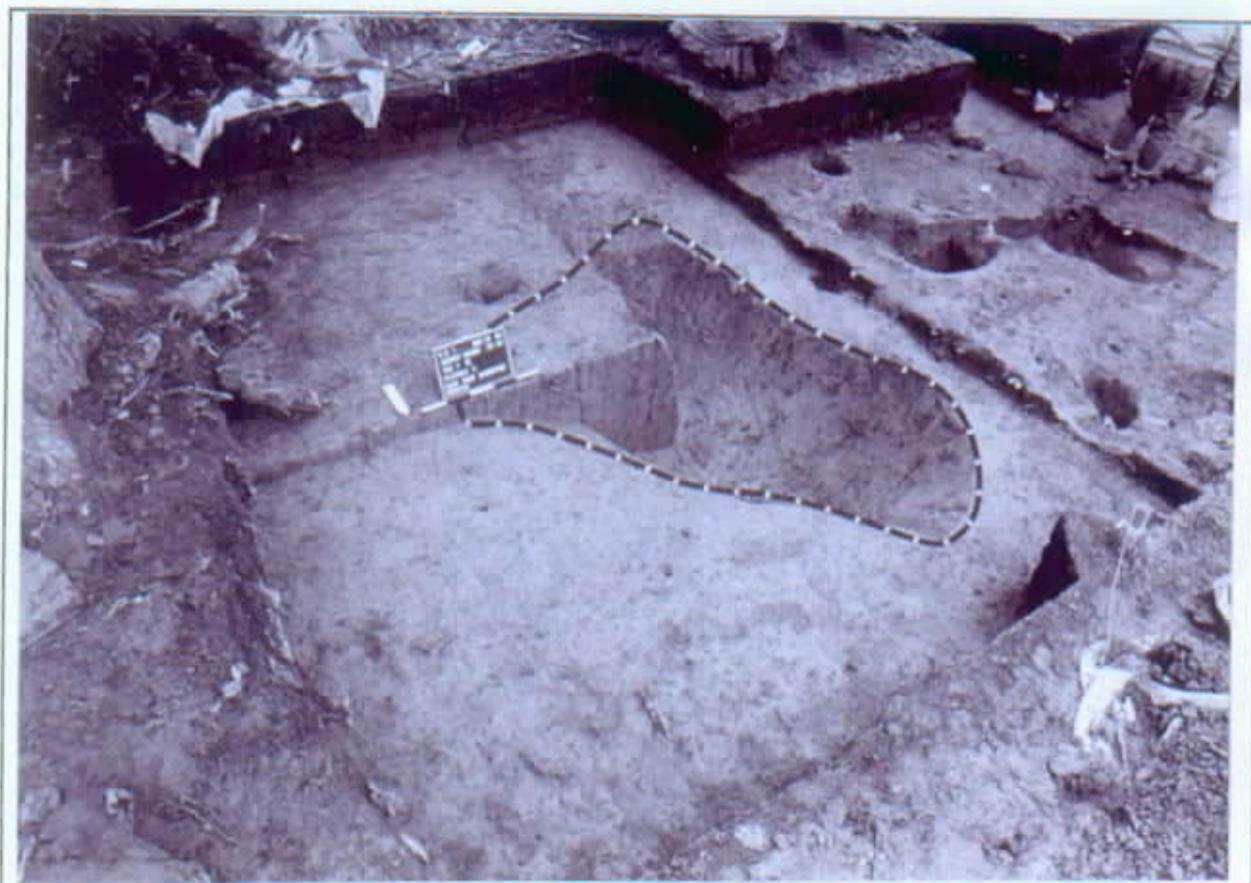


PLATE 12: Feature 9 (Treefall/Possible Pit House) Prior to Excavation of Southeast Quadrant

overlying the natural subsoil (Figure 22). The profiles of Test Units 42 and 45 are, perhaps, typical. In Test Unit 42, located in the front yard 12 meters south of the house, the silty loam topsoil—actually a combination of landscaping fill and sheet refuse—was underlain by a second landscaping deposit of mixed silty clay loam. The third stratum, a mottled loamy clay, represents the natural subsoil. Test Unit 45, placed 15 meters east of the East Block, likewise revealed three separate strata. Stratum A consisted of dark brown silty loam underlain by a mixed silty sandy clay fill deposit. The lowermost stratum in Test Unit 45 was a mottled silty clay that also appeared to be fill.

All of the non-block Phase III test units yielded historic artifacts that were, for the most part, similar in number and type to those recovered from the landscaping deposits in the two block excavations. As in the blocks, kitchen-related artifacts predominate and consist mainly of ceramics, with whitewares and redwares being the most heavily represented. Pearlware, ironstone, creamware, porcelain, and stoneware are also present. Other kitchen-related items include fragments of bottle, tumbler, and jar glass. Architectural materials include large numbers of brick fragments, together with the usual assortment of cut, wrought, and unidentified nails, broad and crown glass, a few miscellaneous fasteners (tacks and staples), and bits of plaster and mortar. Also scattered across the yard were a few buttons, a shoelace, a number of clay tobacco

pipe fragments, unidentified glass and metal, oyster shell, mammal bone, barbed wire, and miscellaneous hardware.

Two prehistoric artifacts were recovered from the non-block units: a piece of mica collected from the second landscaping deposit (Stratum B) in Test Unit 42, and the only diagnostic prehistoric artifact found at Locust Grove, a quartz Piney Island projectile point recovered from Stratum A in Test Unit 48, along with a number of historic artifacts.