

## V. ARCHAEOLOGY

A total of twenty-three shovel test pits (STPs) were excavated within the APE. They were located within two distinct areas, Locus A and Locus B (Figure 5). Five shovel tests, in two transects, were excavated in Locus A, which is situated in a grassy area adjacent the eastern side of Route 41, about seventy-five meters south of the intersection of Brackenville Road (Plate 3). This area is relatively flat, but it is bounded to the east by a steep rise that appears to contain colluvial sediment related to heavy landscaping for a recently constructed development. Directly adjacent to the road there is evidence of a utility cut, possibly a conduit for a storm. The shovel tests exhibited thick layers of fill on top of a buried Ap horizon soil (Figure 6). The Ap soil consisted of a 10 YR 3/3 dark brown sandy loam that overlaid a well-developed B horizon. The B horizon soil was a 10 YR 5/8 yellowish brown clay loam that showed evidence of weak structural development, suggesting long term in place weathering. Artifacts recovered from Locus A included coal, a piece of plastic from the Ap soil in STP 3, and 2 pieces of a refillable Pepsi bottle (Appendix C).

Locus B is located on the northeast corner of the intersection with Route 41 and Brackenville road and consists of an overgrown yard (Plate 4). A total of thirty-one (31) shovel tests, in six transects, was placed within this area (see Figure 5). Of this total, only eighteen (18) shovel tests were excavated in Locus B. A paved section located in the southwestern area of Locus B prevented the excavation of the thirteen (13) shovel tests. The southern edge of the area is a flat bench that sits above a small first order drainage that runs into Mill Creek, indicating a potential for prehistoric occupation. There is visible surface evidence that the majority of Locus B has been previously disturbed by heavy machine activity. There are a number of deep ruts from heavy equipment, the remnants of two demolished cinder block foundations, piles of cinder blocks and pushed up soil and structural debris scattered about the area (Plate 5). In addition, a large portion of the ground surface fronting Route 41 is paved and appears to have once been a driveway for the two ruined structures on the property, which are located outside the project APE. Overall the ground surface beyond the paving is differentially covered with light colored silty clay and small pebbles indicative of cut and fill activity. Other disturbances include the road edge along Brackenville Road where the bank has been cut for drainage, and along Route 41, where storm drain improvements and other utility excavations have disturbed the soil.

The foundation located within the Locus B was constructed of cinderblocks and measured ten meters square. It appears to have been demolished recently by means of heavy machinery. Much of the cinderblock that litters the area is crushed into fragments. About five meters to the west of the foundation was a set of poured concrete stairs that were inverted and looked as though they had been ripped off their footing adjacent the foundation. It is difficult to determine the use of this structure, however, the artifacts recovered near the foundation remains indicate that it was probably a residence.



Plate 3      Locus A, North Side of Route 41 Looking Northeast

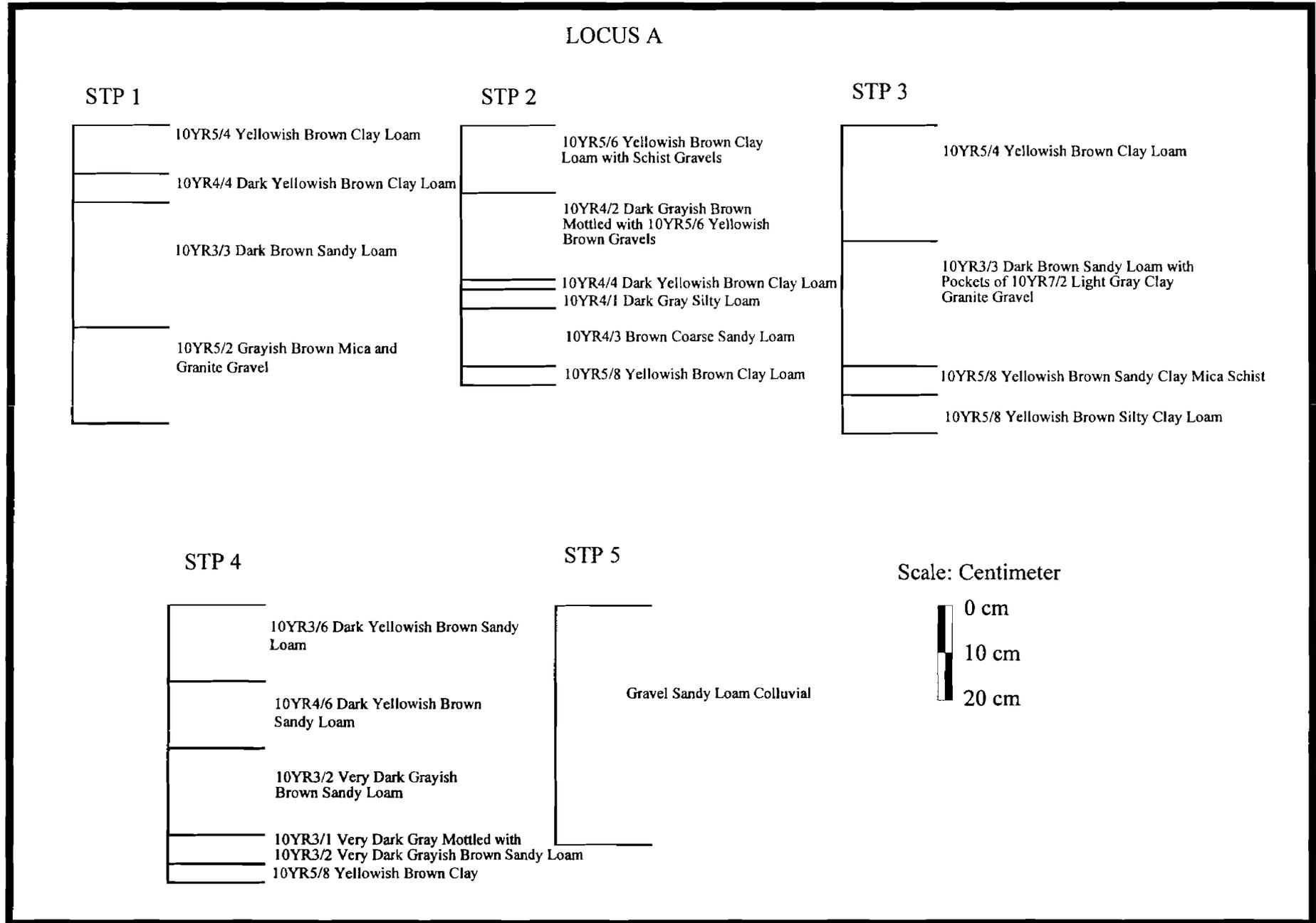


Figure 6 Locus A, Shovel Test Pit Profiles



Plate 4 Locus B, Northeast Corner of Route 41 and Brackenville Road



Plate 5 Locus B, Surface Showing Structural Debris Looking South

The shovel test profiles in Locus B exhibit differential levels of disturbance that indicate cutting and filling activities (Figure 7). Profiles from the STPs adjacent to Route 41 show that deep layers of fill extend beyond a depth of three feet. In STPs excavated five meters to the east, B Horizon soils were encountered. In STP 31 a B horizon soil that is 7.5 YR 5/6 strong brown was encountered at a depth of 2 feet below the surface. In STP 17 over two (2) feet of fill cover a B horizon soil that is 10 YR 5/6 yellowish brown in color (Plate 6). It seems that the A horizon was scoured away across much of the site, probably from the demolition activities. Where it is present, it appears as a plow zone remnant indicating that at one time Locus B was part of an agricultural field. The scouring of the area is not only the result of the structure demolition, but also from paving activities for the driveway as indicated in STP 10. The profile shows that a layer of asphalt was encountered under a fill deposit (see Figure 7). This asphalt layer is part of the driveway that provided access to the property and sits directly on top of intact B horizon soil. In STP 14 the profile revealed construction debris to a depth of three and a half feet below the surface.

The artifact assemblage from Locus B consisted of wire nails, glass and porcelain toilet fragments, and structural debris (brick, cement, cinder blocks and asbestos tiles). The only piece of ceramic recovered was a single whiteware sherd. Overall the majority of the collection dates from after the turn of the twentieth century. All of the artifacts were from disturbed contexts (see Appendix C).

### **Summary and Recommendations**

This study identified a sparse scatter of materials in Locus A, all within twentieth-century landscaped contexts, with no clear association with the historic use of the property. Soils and artifacts recovered from Locus B also suggest modern disturbed contexts. Given these findings, the project APE does not contain intact archaeological resources associated with the historic use of this property. Therefore, no further archaeological work is recommended within the project area.

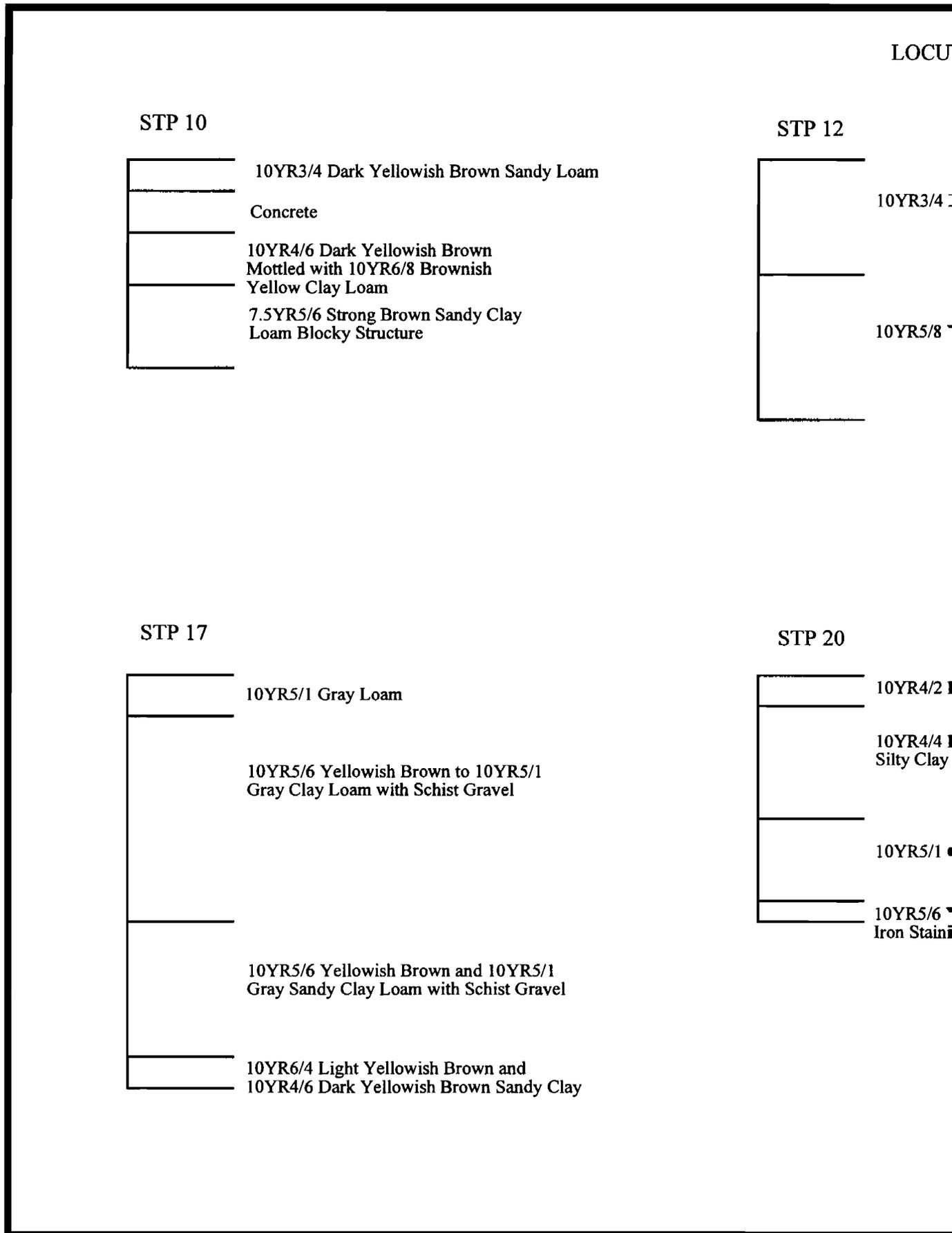


Figure 7 Locus B, Shovel Test Pit Profiles

STP 14

Dark Yellowish Brown Silty Loam

10YR3/4 Dark Yellowish Brown  
Sandy Loam

Cinder Blocks and Concrete

Yellowish Brown Clay Loam

Burned Wood Beam

Cinder Blocks and Concrete

STP 31

Dark Grayish Brown Loam

10YR3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown  
Road Gravel Sand and Fill Ap Horizon

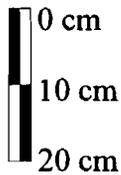
Dark Yellowish Brown

10YR4/3 Brown Silty Loam

Gray Clay Loam

10YR5/4 Yellowish Brown Mottled with  
7.5YR5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay

Yellowish Brown Clay with  
Iron and Manganese



Scale: Centimeter



Plate 6      Locus B, Demolition Fill Deposit from STP 17