

**Archaeological Excavations
at the
Margaret Ann Bell Site
9MG694**

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Background and Introduction

The Margaret Ann Bell site (9MG694) has been under Lake Oconee in northern Georgia now for 34 years as we write this brief account of the 1977 archaeological excavations at the site. The reasons for the delay in the writing of this site report are several. Before detailing these, however, some context must be provided. The site described here was immediately west of the Joe Bell site, 9Mg28. That site was first located in 1968 and received major archaeological excavations during the summer of 1977 prior to its destruction. All of the work there was presented in the dissertation of the senior author (Williams 1983). In brief, it was determined that the Joe Bell site was the probable location of Busk ceremonial festivals during the early historic period of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

The excavations at the Joe Bell site were an integral part of the archaeological program conducted by the University of Georgia, Department of Anthropology prior to the creation of Lake Oconee on 17,000 acres of land in four counties in northern Georgia. As part of the agreement between the University and the Georgia Power Company, who funded the work and built the dam, a list of some 30 sites was developed that were to receive major archaeological excavations. This list was based upon choosing sites of many time periods and upon the best a priori estimates of which sites would yield the most interesting and useful information. Clearly not all of the thousands of sites in the reservoir could have been completely excavated.

The Joe Bell site was included on that magic list of 30 sites to receive extensive excavation and the field work there was directed by the senior author. The work in the summer of 1977 was also conducted part of the University's summer archaeological field school. Indeed, there were two sites to be investigated that summer by the field school, the Joe Bell site and the Sword's Bridge site (9Mg73) some 3.2 kilometers to the north. The latter excavation was led by

archaeologists Dean and Kay Wood. A report on those excavations was finally completed in 2009 by archaeologist Richard Moss as his University of Georgia Master's thesis (Moss 2009).

One week prior to the commencement of excavation at the Joe Bell site, it was learned that, through miscommunication between UGA, Georgia Power, and one of their construction contractors, McGill Construction Company, that the area of the Joe Bell site was to be destroyed to supply fill dirt for a new higher railroad berm to be built just north of the site. The existing railroad berm and trestle had been in place since the 1840s and both needed to be replaced as part of the preparation for the new lake being constructed. By quick action the immediate destruction of the Joe Bell site was averted. An agreement was reached whereby McGill would obtain the needed fill dirt for the railroad berm from the large field immediately west of the Joe Bell site instead. Happiness returned.

Until the first morning of the field school on Monday, June 15, that is. Williams arrived with students at 8 A.M. and discovered that the McGill land moving operations had started the previous weekend stripping the field west of 9MG28. This was expected and not surprising. The company needed first to remove the topsoil and dispose of it in another field to the south using heavy motorized earthmover pans pushed by bulldozers. The top soil could not be used in the railroad berm as it would weaken it structurally. On arrival at the site a large area approximately 300 meters northeast-southwest by 150 meters northwest-southeast had had its topsoil removed. We had to drive through this area to get to the Joe Bell site which was just to the northeast. As we drove through the stripped area, many large black features were noted immediately in an area near the center of the stripped area. Our hearts sank.

We knew it would be impossible to ask for this location to be preserved, having just obtained a reprieve for the main Joe Bell site itself. We did discuss the situation with Scott

McGill, director of the railroad construction project, and he agreed to give us two days to excavate as many features as we could before all the area would be removed as fill for the new railroad berm. Williams immediately went to the Sword's Bridge site and discussed the situation with Dean and Kay Wood. They and their field school students, plus equipment, joined with the Joe Bell crew to salvage as much information as possible as fast as possible from this new site. This created an odd situation for brand new archaeology students who had been taught in the classroom about the care and time need to excavate properly—we were forced to excavate features much too rapidly.

A plane table (and alidade) was set up to map all the recognized features quickly. English units were used during the field work at this site, but we have converted them to metric for presentation here. We sighted in the mapping station as best we could by angle and distance to a known reference point at 9MG28 some 250 meters away to the northeast. There were many post molds noted once we began shovel scraping the area around the features. Indeed, the cut by the earthmovers was so sharp in several places that post molds were clearly visible without any additional cleaning needed. One large cluster of post molds was recorded, but it was not possible to locate and map all that likely were nearby—we intentionally concentrated our effort on excavating the large features.

Many artifacts were recovered from the features and it quickly noted that most were of the same time period as the Joe Bell site—the early historic Bell phase. Since there was, or had been, a small drainage between the two locations, the new site was deemed to be a separate one from the archaeological perspective of site numbering. This immediately created a problem of politics. The new location was clearly not on the magic list of 30 sites eligible for excavation by the project, and, by rights, should have been completely ignored. At the time we dealt with this

issue by giving the new site the number 9MG28-1. Even at the time we numbered the site this as a somehow logical subset of 9MG28, we knew it was likely a separate site. No name was given to the new site at that time.

Indeed, even until the present time the “name” of the site has continued to be simply the odd number 9MG28-1. The Georgia Archaeological Site File (directed by the senior author), the numbering authority for archaeological sites in Georgia, does not recognize site numbers with dashes. Thus we have obtained the new number 9MG694, for the old 9MG28-1. As for the name of the site, we have chosen to name the site after one of the daughters of Joe Bell, the namesake for the main site.

Joseph Merritt Bell (June 15, 1898-February 18, 1970), dairyman of Buckhead, Georgia, was the owner of all this land at the time it was discovered to be an important archaeological site in the late 1960s. He gave the original permission for its examination, and supported all the early work at site 9MG28 where his name is commemorated. His daughter Margaret Ann Bell was a high school friend of the senior author at Morgan County High School in the 1960s, and her name is now happily added to the “daughter” site 9MG694 reported here.

As for the reasons this report has not been completed until now, the first is that the senior author made the decision in the early 1980s as he was completing his PhD dissertation on the Joe Bell site proper, that he simply did not have time to add this material to his already too large work (nearly 600 pages) work (Williams 1983). Further, in the decades since then, he has spent a career working of more pressing datasets. There is also the issue that the dataset is woefully incomplete, since so little time was able to be devoted to the excavations at 9MG694. This is particularly evident in the lack of the time for recording more of the many post molds seen briefly there. The issue of the site not being on the original magic list of sites or the Lake

Oconee project is certainly no longer a reason not to get this report completed, compromised dataset or not.

Figure 1 shows the location of both the Joe Bell (9MG28) and Margaret Ann Bell (9MG694) sites within the boundaries of Lake Oconee. Both are now flooded under about 1-2 meters of water. Note that they are both about 700 meters north of Interstate 20.

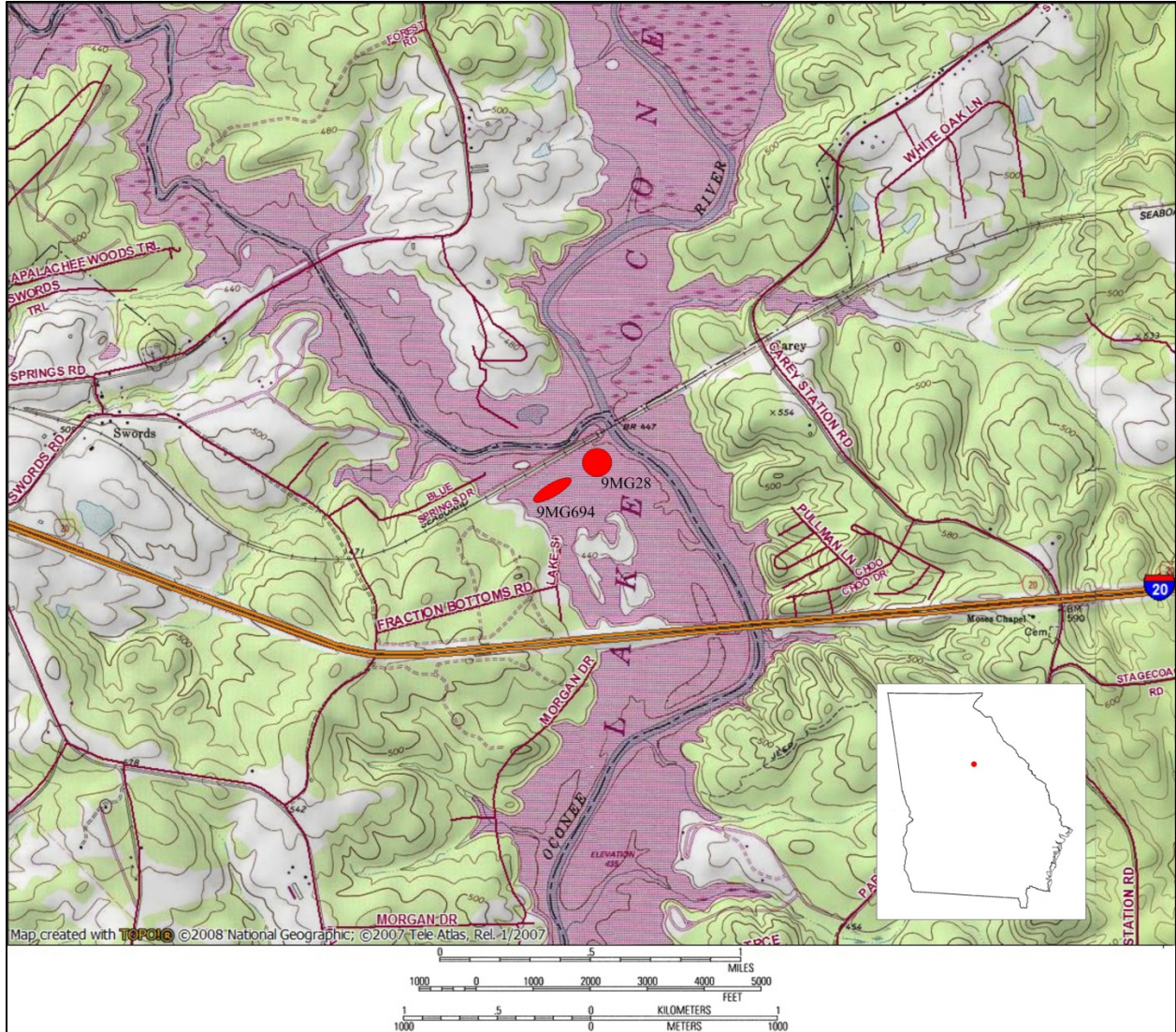


Figure 1. Site Location Map.

Figure 2 shows an aerial photo the same two sites taken in the summer of 1977. The now flooded junction of the Oconee and Apalachee River, and the new railroad trestle and berm under construction just south of the old (1840s) berm and trestle are clearly visible.



Figure 2. Aerial View of Sites Looking Southwest.

Figure 3 was taken from 9MG28 looking to the southwest toward the stripping activities taking place on 9MG694. The tree line in the distance forms the current Lake Oconee boundary.



Figure 3. View of Stripping of 9MG694 from 9MG28.

The artifacts from the site were washed, sorted, and counted in 1978 as part of the Lake Oconee project by the University of Georgia. The analysis work was performed by then students Robbie Ethridge and Karen Walker. Both have since gone on to distinguished careers in archaeology and anthropology. The drawings of Vessel 61 were made at that same time by student Leah Chadderton. All the material is still curated at the UGA Laboratory of Archaeology where we have photographed some specimens for this report.

Excavations

Despite the fact that the entire excavation was incredibly rushed, every effort was made to conform to normal expected professional standards of the late 1970s. Some compromises were certainly essential. Before discussion of these details, however, we wish to recognize the hardworking crew that conducted the work under such intense pressure—certainly no neophyte archaeological crew we know of has ever been thrown into the fire so abruptly and so successfully.

The director of the project was the senior author of this report, but the person without whom this project would have been impossible was his field assistant, Paul Webb. Paul, who has continued a stellar career as an archaeologist since then, kept track of everything on the dig—the features, the maps, and the people. His field notes have certainly been the most important to us in writing this report. Thanks Paul!

We also thank Woody Williams of Madison, Georgia (father of the senior author) for his help in excavating features, teaching students how to excavate features, and generally helping make the project a success. Certainly archaeologists Dean and Kay Wood were vital for the project with their labor, their training of students in excavation techniques, and logistic support.

The main thanks, of course, go to the crew. As stated earlier, there were two separate field school crews during the summer of 1977. The crew working directly under the senior author of this report included undergraduate students Richard Bennett, Leah Chadderton, Robbie Ethridge, George Harmon, Leslie Hill, Lilly Huffman, Denise Hutto, Robin Joyner, Russell McNair, Jean McPherson, Lisa Siegel, and Holger Weiss. The second crew, under the direction of Dean and Kay Wood included graduate students Dan Elliott and Lisa O'Steen, and

undergraduate students Bill Moon, Kathy Sheraton, Stan Van Sant, Karen Walker, Jeanne Ward, Gisela Weiss, Kirsten Weiss, Eli Willcox, and Ted Wimpey. An astute reader will discern that, with a few exceptions, these crews were selected alphabetically from the field school students. Those with last names ending with letters in the first half of the alphabet worked with Williams and those in the second of the alphabet half worked with the Woods.

It is noteworthy that, in addition to Williams, Paul Webb, Dean Wood, Kay Wood, Dan Elliott, and Lisa O'Steen, undergraduates Robbie Ethridge, Denise Hutto, Karen Walker, Jeanne Ward, and Gisela Weiss all eventually had professional careers in archaeology. Ultimately any success this brief excavation had was due to the wonderful crew who worked there.

Site 9MG694 was located at UTM coordinates 3713396 North, 288238 East (Zone 17). This is in the southeastern corner of Morgan County, Georgia, just south of the Central of Georgia Railroad over Lake Oconee. As explained earlier, the features and post molds were mapped using a plane table and alidade. These were mapped from an arbitrarily selected location west of Feature 1, and east of the cluster of recorded post molds. No actual grid was installed during the brief 1977 excavations. For the purposes of mapping during the present project we imposed an arbitrary grid location of 500 North, 500 East (in meters) near the western area of the features. In this system, the plane table mapping point location became 520.69 North and 444.29 East. We used information in the field notes to tie this new grid as closely as possible to the work on 9MG28 to the northeast.

To map the features and post molds for this project we scanned the original plane table maps from 1977 in a large 42 inch Graphtec CS510 scanner, and then digitized the features and posts using the program Didger 4 from Golden Software. The data from Didger were then

exported into an Excel spreadsheet and cleaned before importing them into Surfer 11 from Golden Software to produce the maps for presentation here.

Almost all the fill from the features was screened through ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. Because of time constraints, most features were excavated with pointed shovels rather than trowels. Typically, a profile line was drawn on the surface of a feature, one half would be shoveled out and screened, and a profile of the feature would be cleaned quickly with trowels. The profile was then drawn, and finally the second half of the feature was excavated with a pointed shovel and quickly screened. Photographs were typically taken before excavation, at profile stage, and after the completion of excavation. Certainly some artifacts were broken in this rough procedure, but fewer than might be imagined. In one case the time for excavation for one of the richest features (Feature 13) was so abbreviated that the nearly 1 cubic meter of fill was shoveled directly into the back of a van and trucked to the field house in Greensboro where it was water screened.

Figure 4 shows two features being excavated on the first days of the field project. There is a clear sense of us trying to extract order from the general chaos of the situation. Figure 5 shows the completion of Feature 13 a few days later. The area of this feature was destroyed minutes after this photo was taken.

Figure 6 shows a map of all the features defined and numbered and excavated on the site. The feature sizes are to scale with one another on this drawing. Note the defined oval area with included post molds and the long linear ditch feature located on the site.



Figure 4. View to North on First Day of Salvage.



Figure 5. Completion of Feature 13, Looking West. Jim Shive and Dan Elliott.

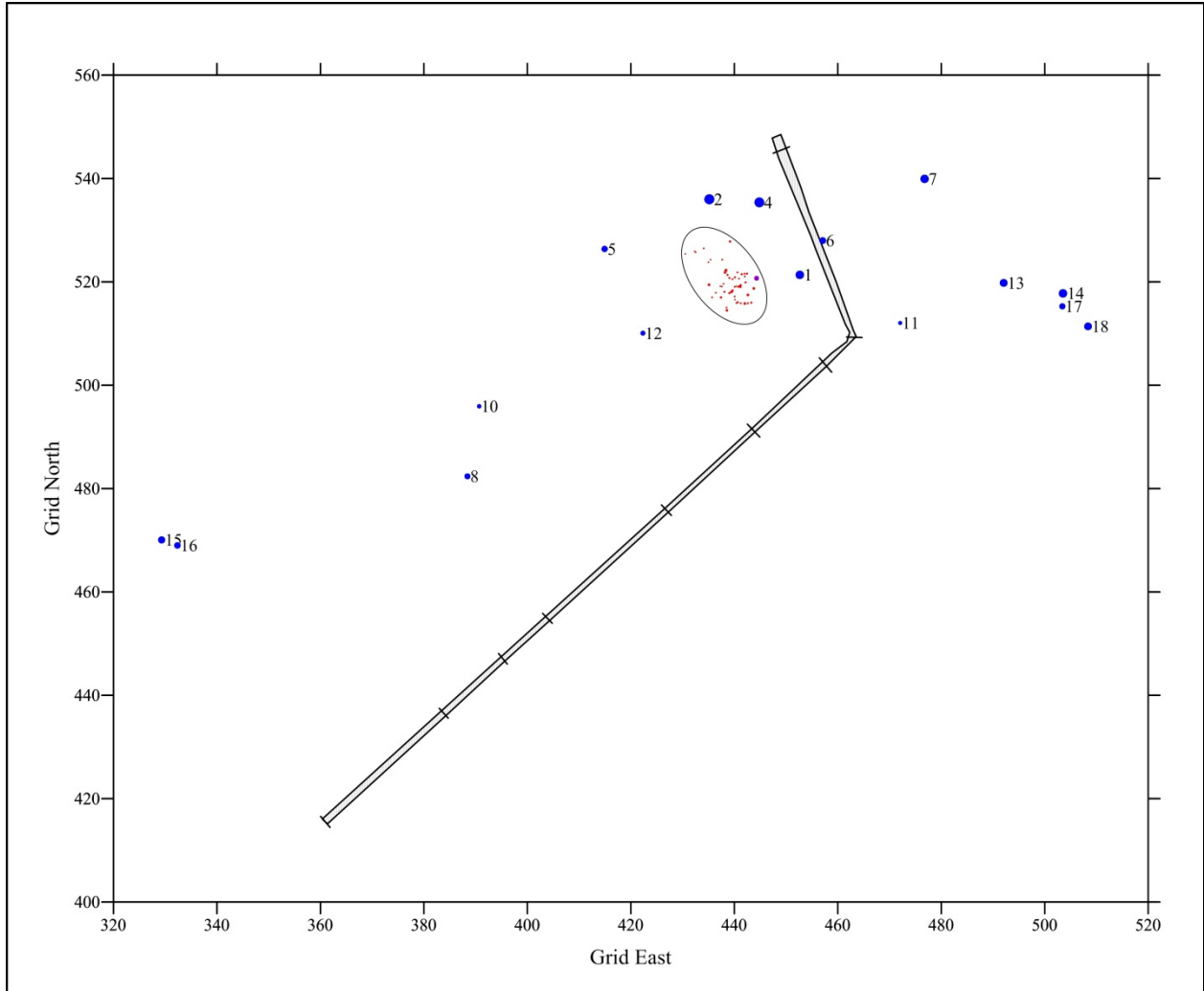


Figure 6. Location of Features.

Figure 7 shows a 1952 aerial photograph of the area of 9MG694 with the map of Feature locations from Figure 6 placed upon it at the proper location. Again, note the junction of the rivers to the top of the photograph and the old Railroad track and trestle over the Oconee.



Figure 7. 1952 Aerial photo with Site Grid Superimposed.

Figure 8 shows the area of the post molds blown up for examination. There are hints of small structures located in the lower right portion of the drawing, but we have chosen not to attempt specific structure identifications. No time was available to excavate individual post molds.

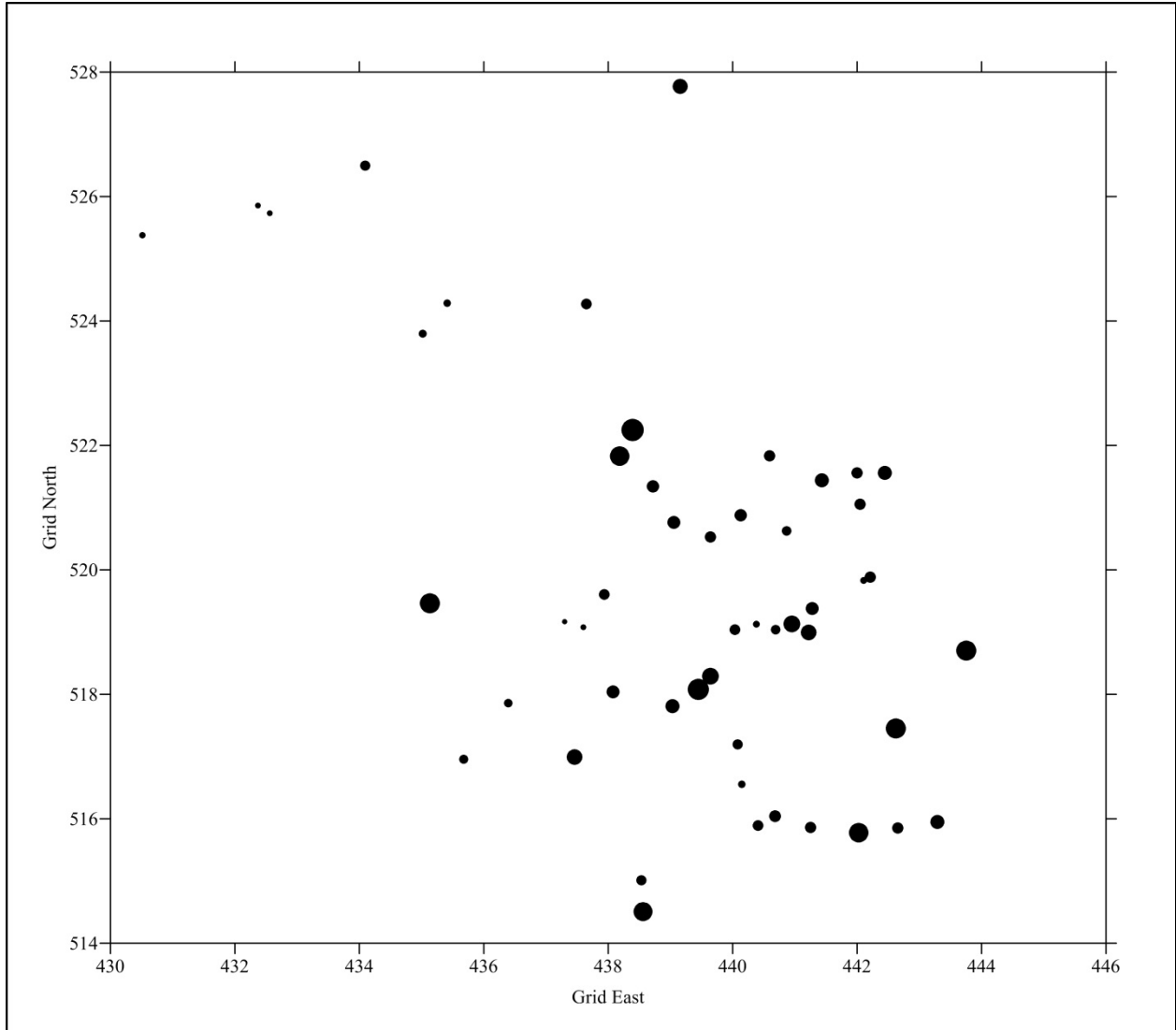


Figure 8. Mapped Post Molds.

Feature Descriptions

This chapter presents the specific information about the 18 features located and excavated on the site. These were written from the field notes available about each feature.

Feature 1

This feature was excavated by Woody Williams, Dan Elliott, and Bill Moon, with additional help from Gisela Weiss, Holger Weis, and Lisa O'Steen. It was located at 521.36 North and 452.67 East and measured 2.5 meters north-south and 2.6 meters east-west. Its maximum depth was 37 centimeters. The feature was discovered as a large nearly circular dark stain in the subsoil, and it was later classified as a pit, with its purpose remaining unknown. It was excavated in halves along a north-south line. After the western half of the feature was excavated, photographs and drawings of the profile were taken. The profile revealed sloping sides, with an asymmetrical bottom. This feature was similar to ones found at 9MG28. The plan view and profile drawings are shown in Figure 9.

After the feature was completely excavated, photographs, carbon samples, pollen samples, and soil samples were taken. The feature was mapped by Dean Wood using a plane table. A large amount of pottery was found in the feature along with charcoal, bone, and shell. It was determined that the charcoal was caused by tree disturbance. Tree root holes found within the feature also supplied evidence of tree growth that disturbed the shape of the feature. Most of the bone fragments found were thought to be from a deer, but the bones were poorly preserved. There were also fresh water clam shells that were successfully removed.

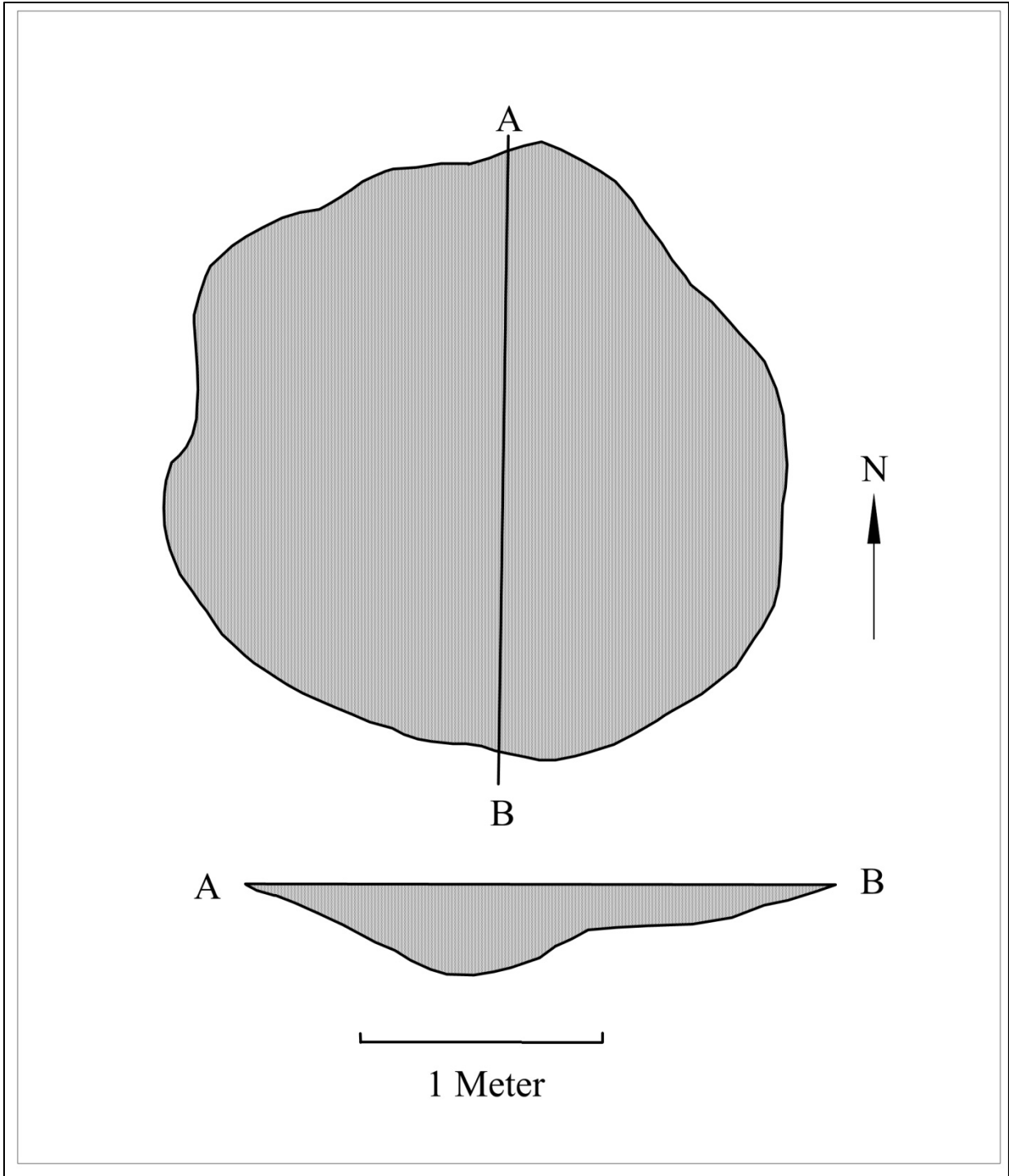


Figure 9. Feature 1, Plan and Profile.



Figure 10. Feature 1 Before Excavation.



Figure 11. Feature 1, Profile.



Figure 12. Feature 1 After Excavation.



Figure 13. Feature 1 During Excavation.

Feature 2

This feature was excavated by Gisela Weiss, Russell McNair, Richard Bennett, Robbie Ethridge, Lilly Huffman, and Ted Wimpey. It was located at 535.97 North and 435.16 East. It measured 3.3 meters north-south and 3.3 meters east-west, with a maximum depth of 37 centimeters. Similar to Feature 1, this feature was discovered as a large nearly circular dark stain in the subsoil. It was excavated in halves along the east-west line. After the southern half of the feature was excavated, photographs and drawings of the profile were taken. The profile reveals gently sloping sides, with a relatively flat bottom. The plan view and profile drawings are shown in Figure 14.

Photographs of the feature after it was completely excavated were not taken due to lack of time. The feature was mapped by Dean Wood using a plane table. Similar to Feature 1, a large amount of pottery was found along with shell, charcoal, and bone. There was a large concentration of ash found in the southwestern corner. The feature was covered with a large layer of shell, and only a small amount of charcoal was seen in the feature. Two small bone tools were found along with the animal bone. While excavating the northern half of the feature, Richard Bennett found a human head effigy pipe fragment.

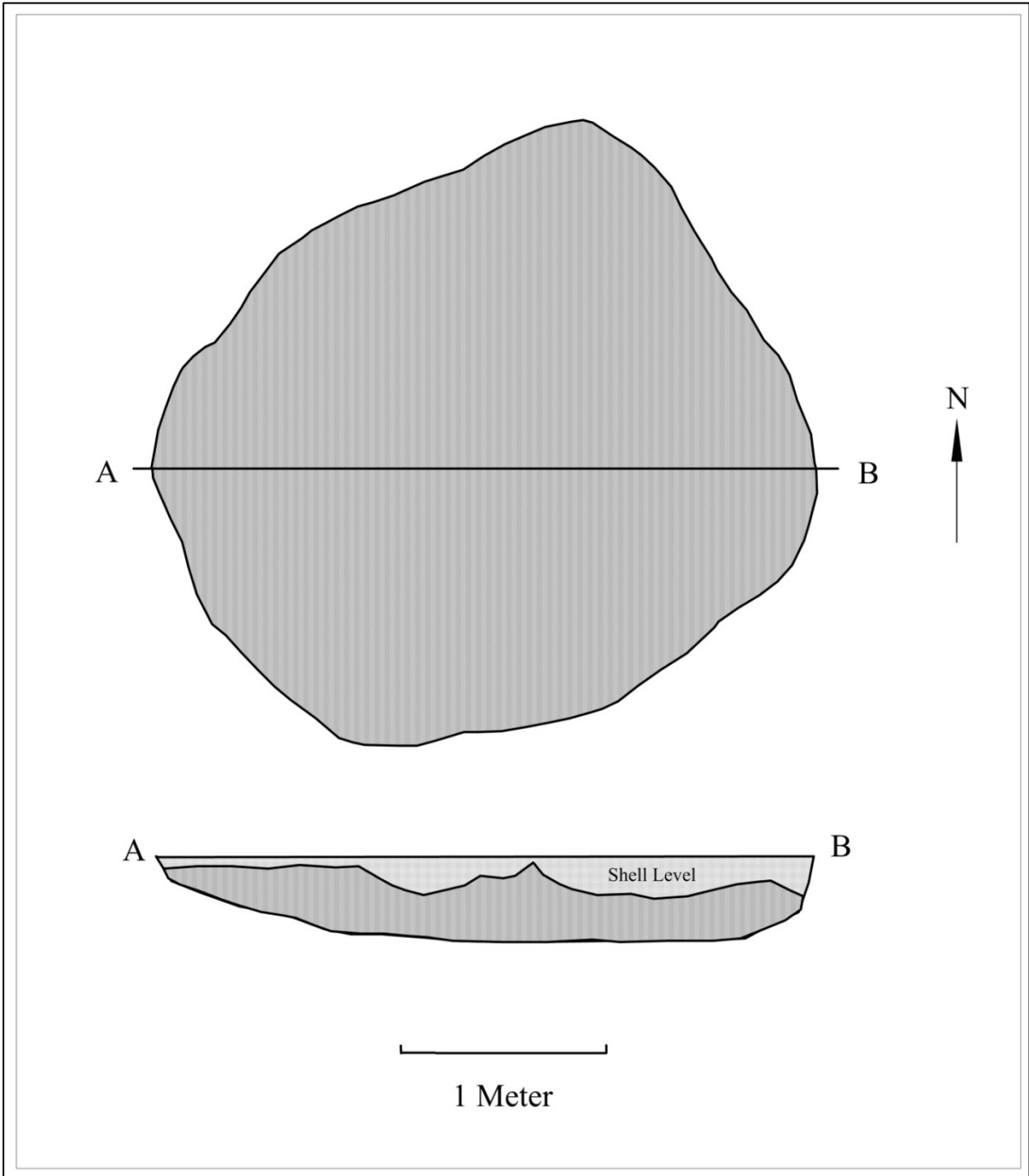


Figure 14. Feature 2, Plan and Profile.



Figure 15. Feature 2, Before Excavation.



Figure 16. Feature 2, Profile.



Figure 17. Feature 2, During Excavation.

Feature 3

Because of the extent of this feature, most of the crew helped during the excavation. When the bulldozers uncovered a portion of this feature, it was believed to be evidence of a palisade, and it appeared to surround the site. The feature ran northwest-southeast, and after making a 90 degree turn, ran east-west. The ditch stretched all the way to a small creek at the edge of the field. Profiles were excavated in 10 places along the ditch, but only 7 of the profiles were drawn, profiled, and completely excavated. Profiles 1 and 4 were drawn along the east wall, and Profiles 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 were drawn along the south wall. The profile drawings are shown in Figures 18-22.

Upon further investigation, it was determined that this feature was not a palisade. It is a 19th century drainage ditch that channeled and straightened the small creek to help drain the area and make cultivation easier. The feature was mapped by Dean Wood using a plane table. At each profile pollen samples were taken, and the profiles only contained a few artifacts.



Figure 18. Feature 3, Profile 1.



Figure 19. Feature 3, Profile 2.



Figure 20. Feature 3, Profile 4.



Figure 21. Feature 3, Profile 5.



Figure 22. Feature 3, Profile 6.

Feature 4

This feature was excavated by Gisela Weiss, Karen Walker, Leslie Hill, Lisa O'Steen, and Richard Bennett. It was located at 535.35 North and 444.82 East. It measured 3.3 meters north-south and 3.1 meters east-west. The maximum depth was 9.1 centimeters. This feature was discovered as a large dark ashy stain in the subsoil. It was excavated in halves along the east-west line. After the southern portion was excavated, photographs and drawings of the profile were taken. The profile revealed a shallow pit, with a relatively flat bottom. The plan view and profile drawings are shown in Figure 23.

After the feature was completely excavated, photographs were taken. The feature was mapped by Dean Wood using a plane table. The pit had little or no charcoal along with a few artifacts. Three pieces of historic ceramics were found and later determined to be pearl ware. Daub was also found during excavation.

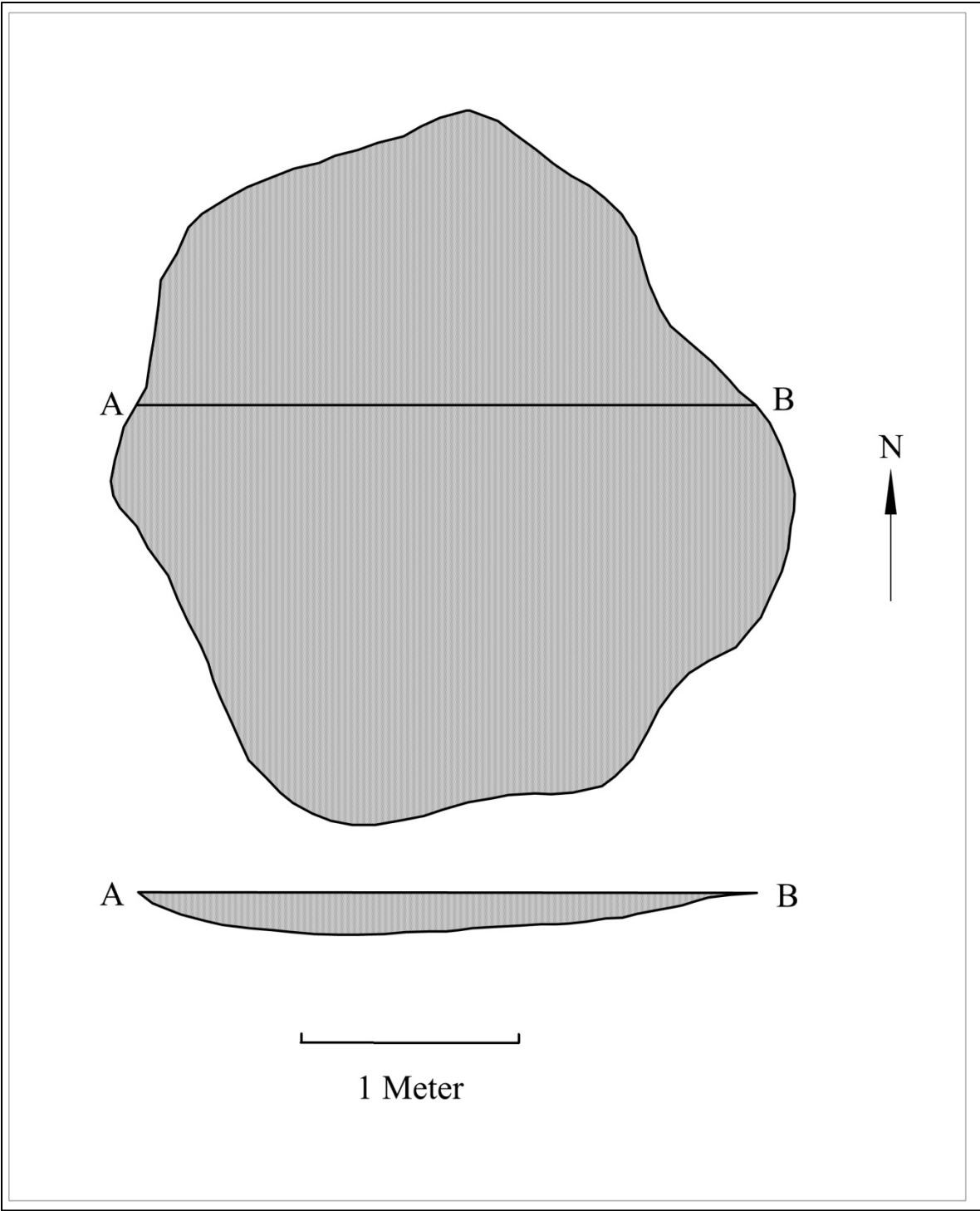


Figure 23. Feature 4, Plan and Profile.



Figure 24. Feature 4, Before Excavation.



Figure 25. Feature 4, Profile.



Figure 26. Feature 4, After Excavation.

Feature 5

This feature was excavated by George Harmon and Dan Elliott. It was located at 526.35 North and 414.96 East. It measured 1.6 meters north-south and 1.3 meters east-west. The feature was discovered as an oval stain in the subsoil, but the surface stain made it seem larger. The edges were not well defined and even intermittent in places. Only a few sherds were found, and after the feature was completely excavated, photographs and pollen samples were taken. The feature was mapped by Dean Wood using a plane table. The plan view and profile drawings are shown in Figure 27.

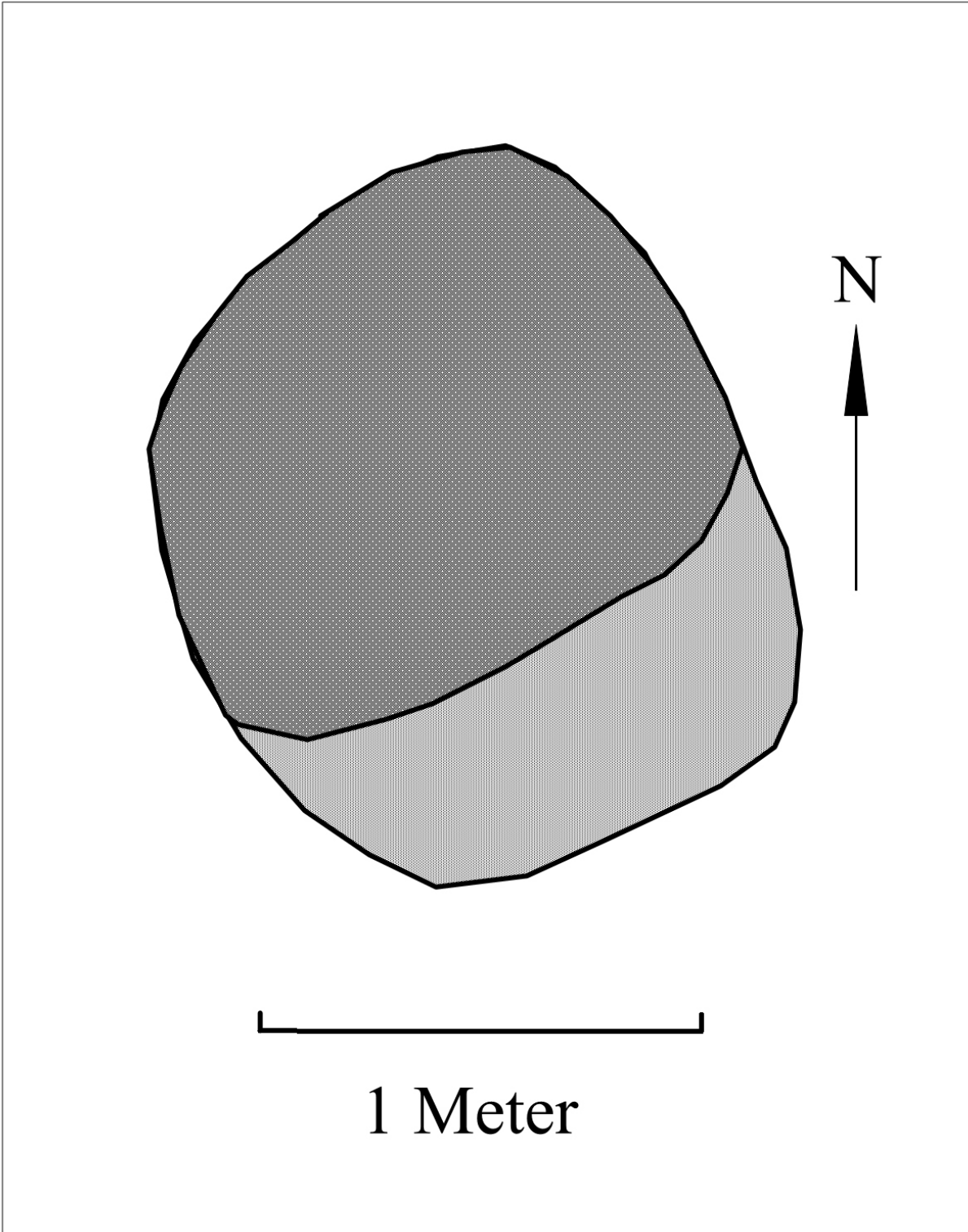


Figure 27. Feature 5, Plan.

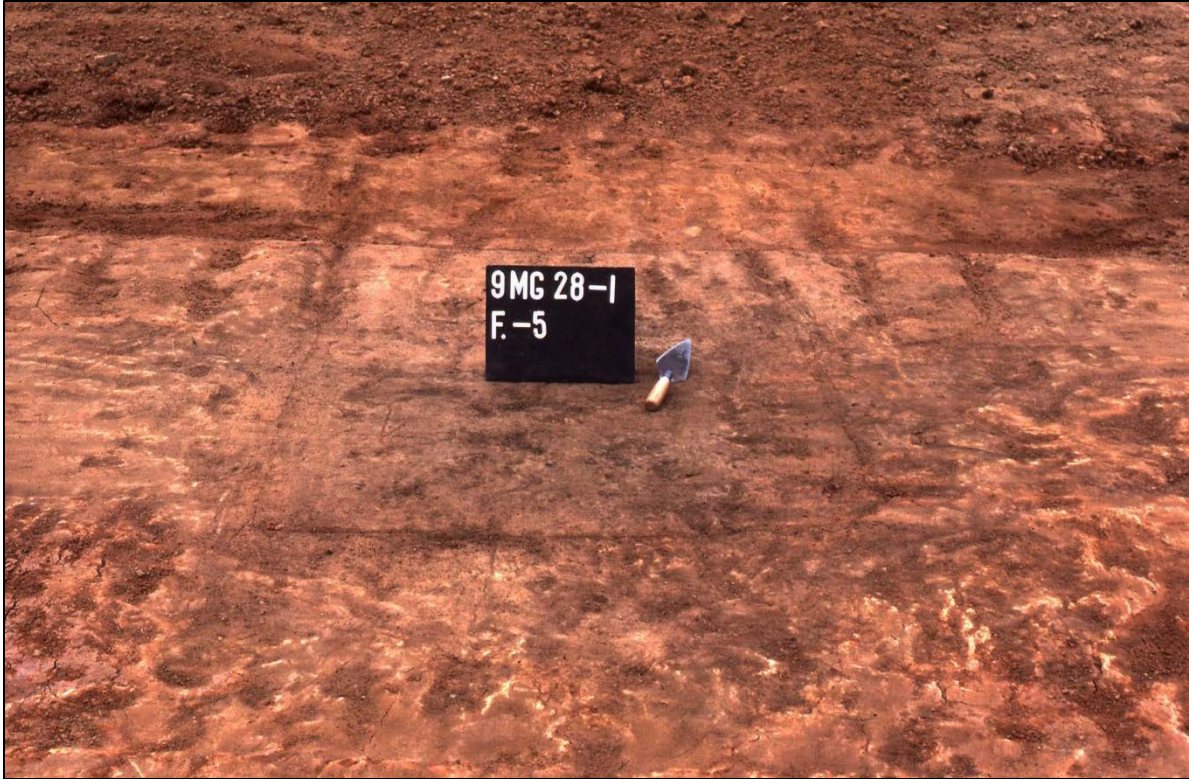


Figure 28. Feature 5, Before Excavation.

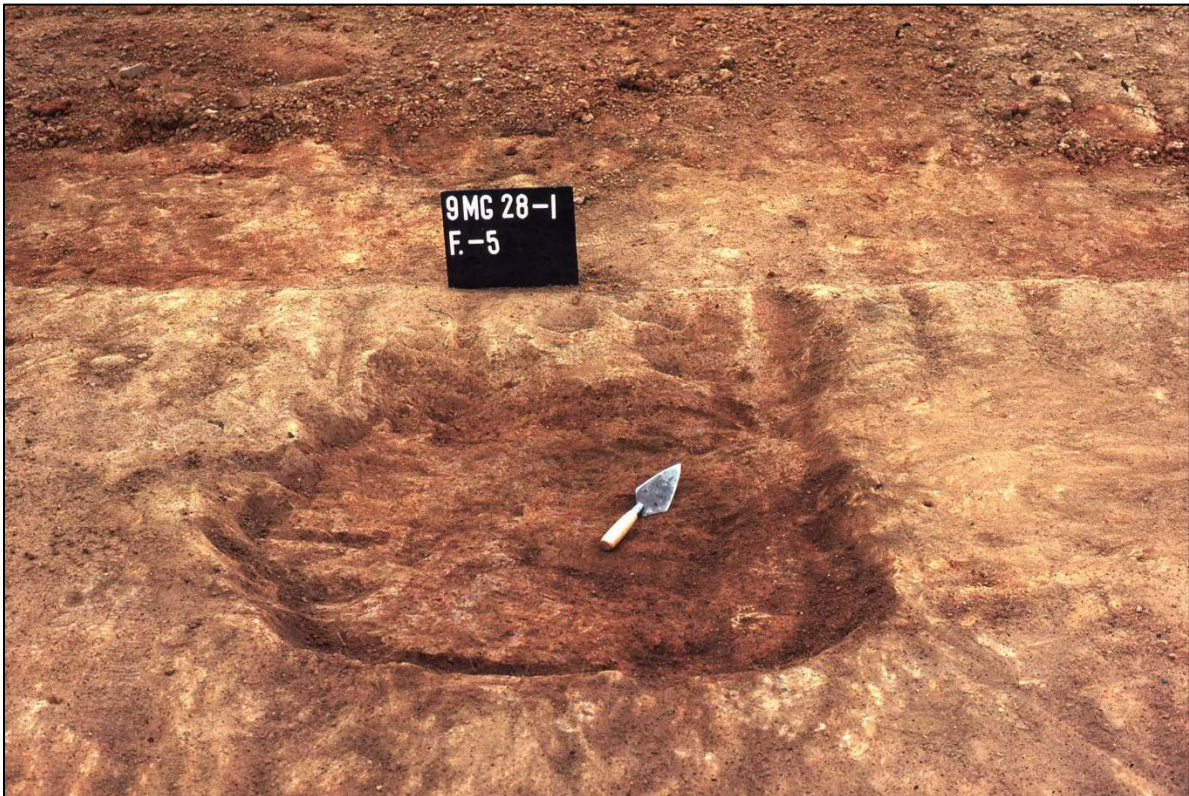


Figure 29. Feature 5, After Excavation.

Feature 6

This feature was excavated by Eli Willcox and Jeanne Ward. It was a dark stain in the subsoil with well-defined edges. Feature 6 was located at 527.99 North and 457.10 East. It measured 1.9 meters north-south and 1.5 meters east-west. Artifacts collected included a few sherds.

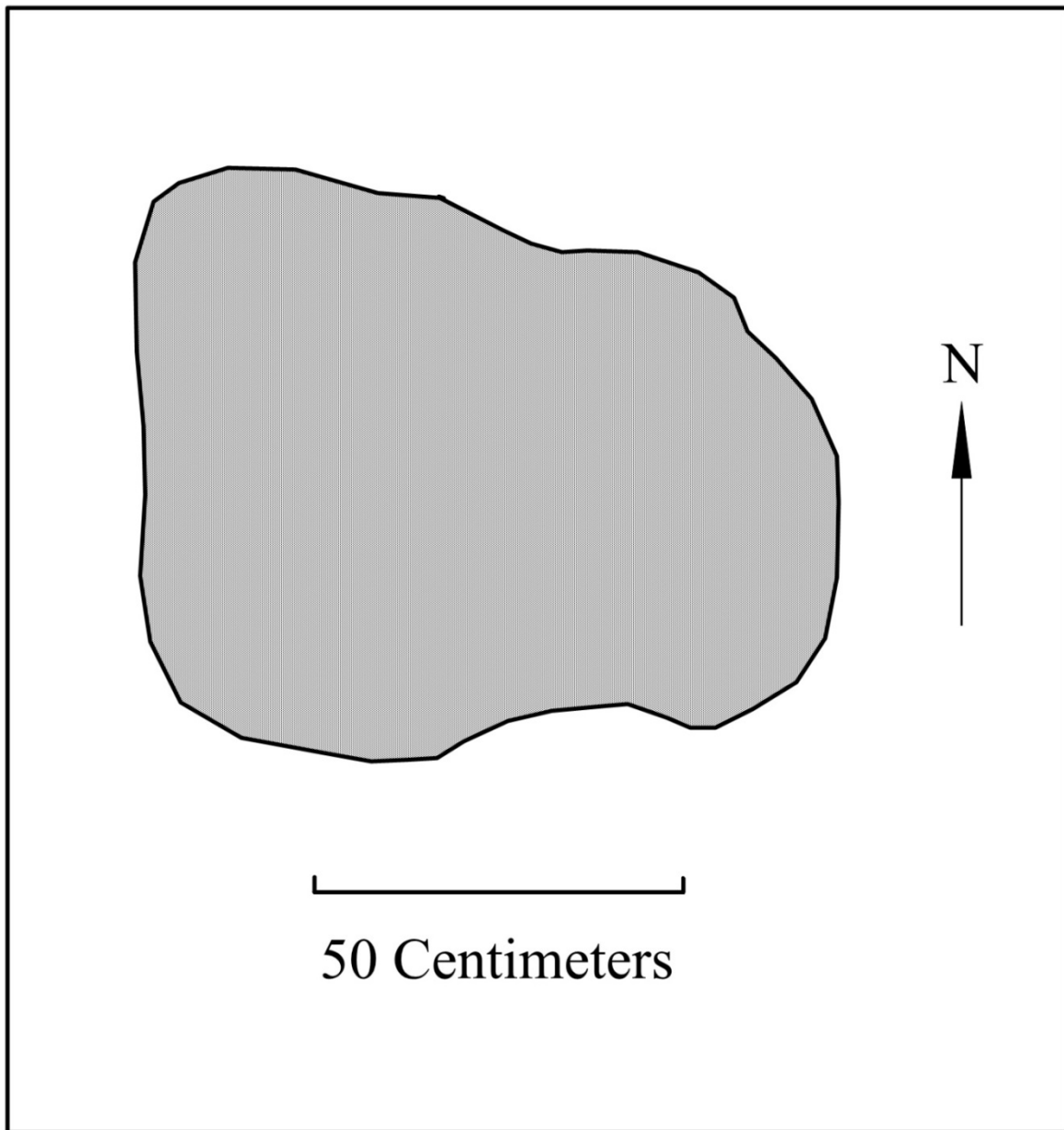


Figure 30. Feature 6, Plan.



Figure 31. Feature 6, Before Excavation.



Figure 32. Feature 6, After Excavation.

Feature 7

This feature was excavated by Denise Hutto, Eli Willcox, Leslie Hill, Lisa O'Steen, Robbie Ethridge, and Ted Wimpey. It was located at 539.93 North and 476.76 East. It was a large stain in the subsoil with well-defined edges. It measured 2.8 meters north-south and 2.2 meters east-west, with a maximum depth of 24 centimeters. The feature was excavated in halves with the south half excavated first. Located within the northern half of the feature was a large dark stain later labeled Feature 7-1, and a single post mold was found within the southern half of the feature. After the feature was completely excavated, photographs were taken.

The plan view and profile drawings are shown in Figure 33. Feature 7-1 contained a large amount of charcoal, ash, pipe fragments, shell, and pottery. A large amount of charcoal and ash was found in the feature, with a large concentration in the southeast end. The post mold had a depth of 37 centimeter and was intrusive into the feature. It contained some burned material.

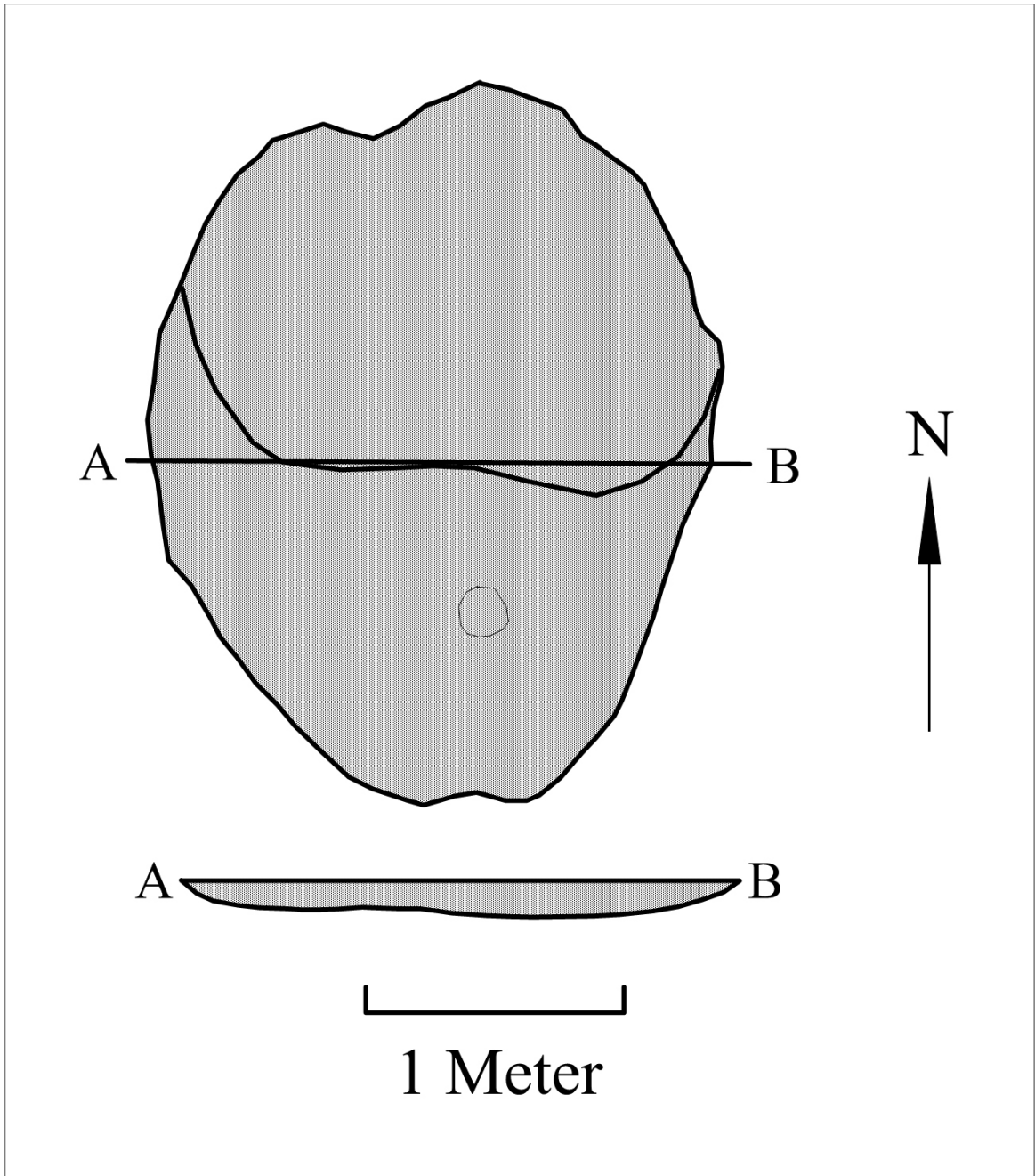


Figure 33. Feature 7, Plan and Profile.

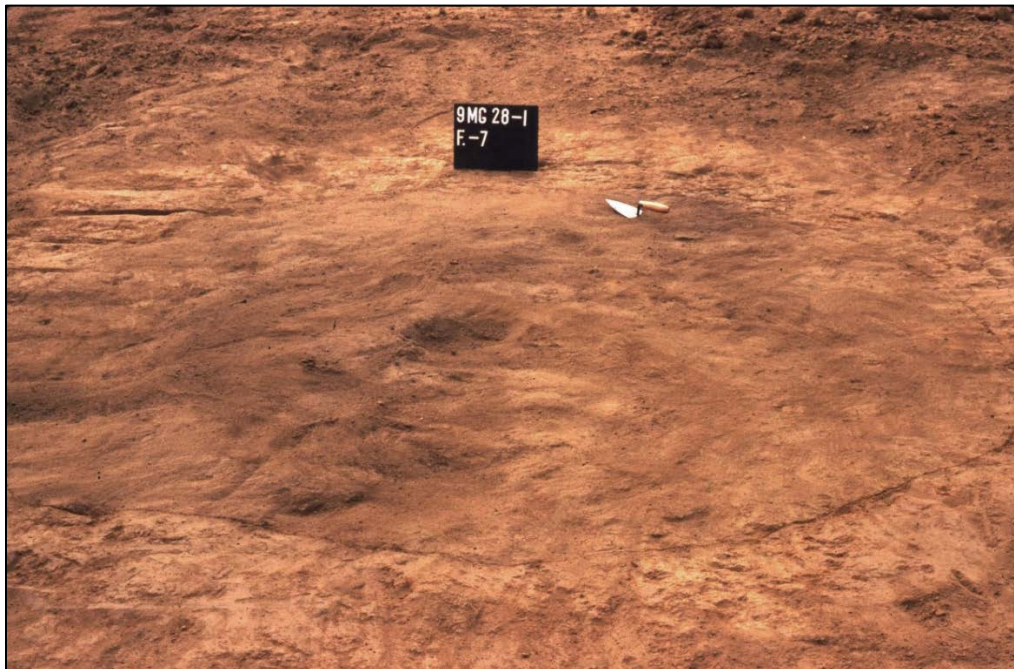


Figure 34. Feature 7, Before Excavation.



Figure 35. Feature 7, Profile.

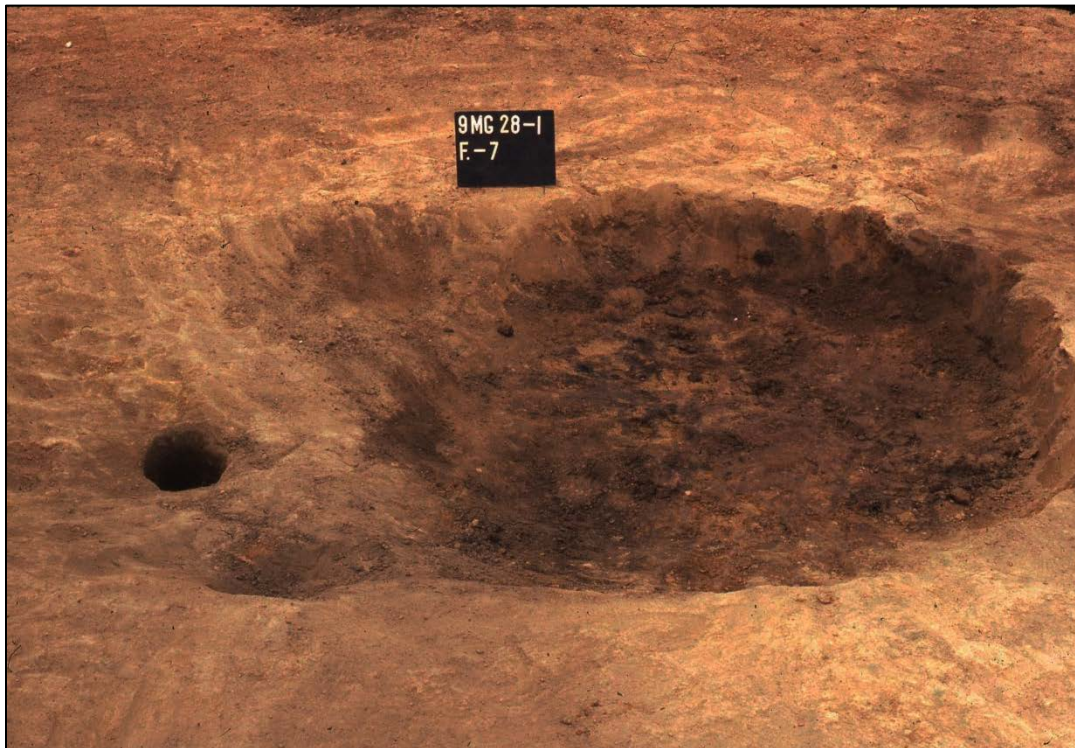


Figure 36. Feature 7, After Excavation.

Feature 8

This feature was excavated by Eli Willcox and Lilly Huffman. It was located at 482.38 North and 388.44 East. The feature was discovered as a small irregular shape in the subsoil. It measured 1.5 meters east-west and 1.2 meters north-south. After excavation it appeared to be a charred pine tree stump, and no artifacts were collected. The feature was mapped using a plane table, and the plan view is shown in Figure 37.

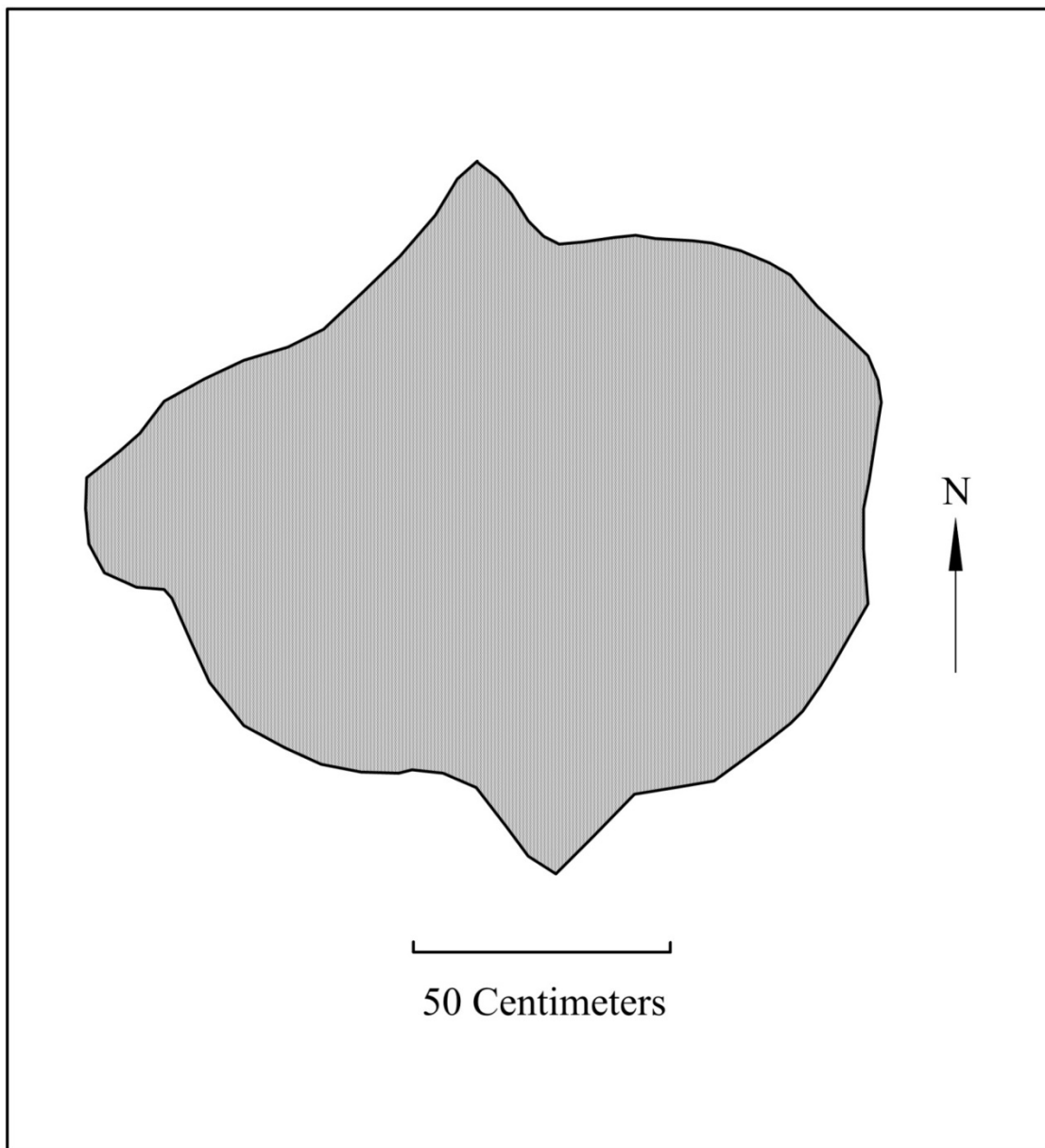


Figure 37. Feature 8, Plan.

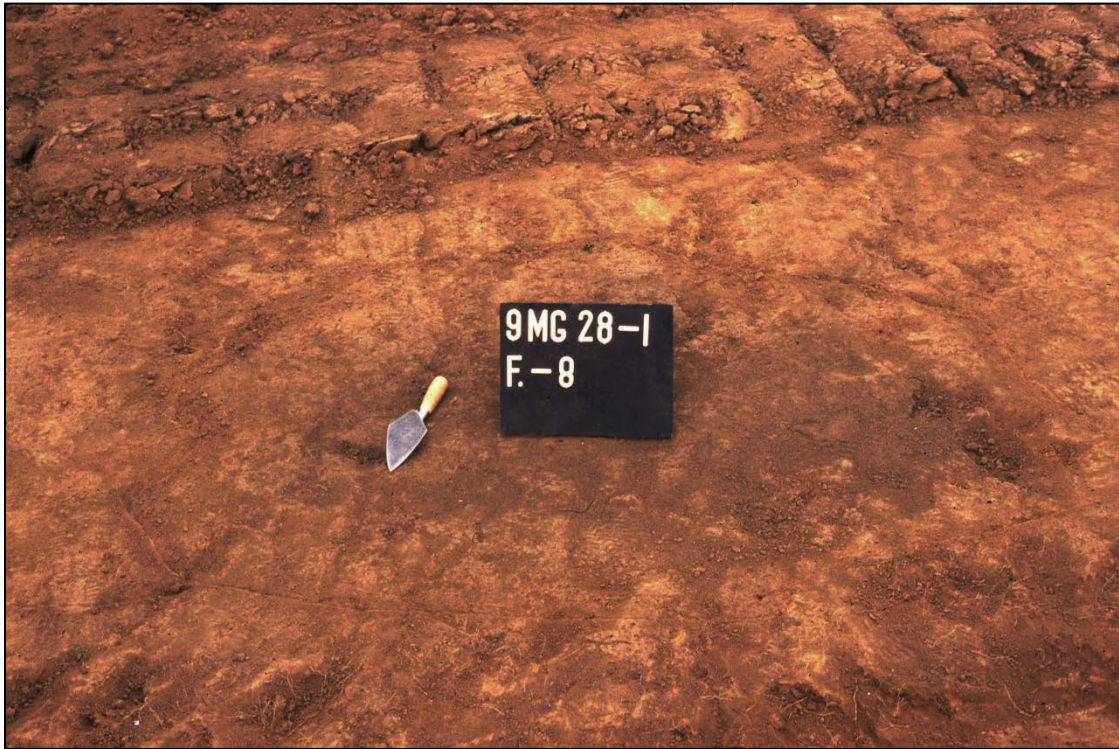


Figure 38. Feature 8, Before Excavation.

Feature 9

This feature is a group of 51 post molds. There was no visible pattern apparent, and only a limited number of posts were recorded due to lack of time. They were mapped using a plane table. Post Mold 51 was the only one completely excavated. It measured 27 centimeters in diameter, and had a depth of 40 centimeters. The feature had a large amount of acorns but few artifacts. See Figure 8 earlier in this report.

Feature 10

This feature was excavated by Lilly Huffman and Eli Willcox. It was located near Feature 8 at 495.92 North and 390.67 East. It appeared to be another tree stump since the feature branched out at the bottom, with no artifacts found. Upon complete excavation, it was mapped using a plane table and photographs were taken. The plan view is shown in Figure 39.

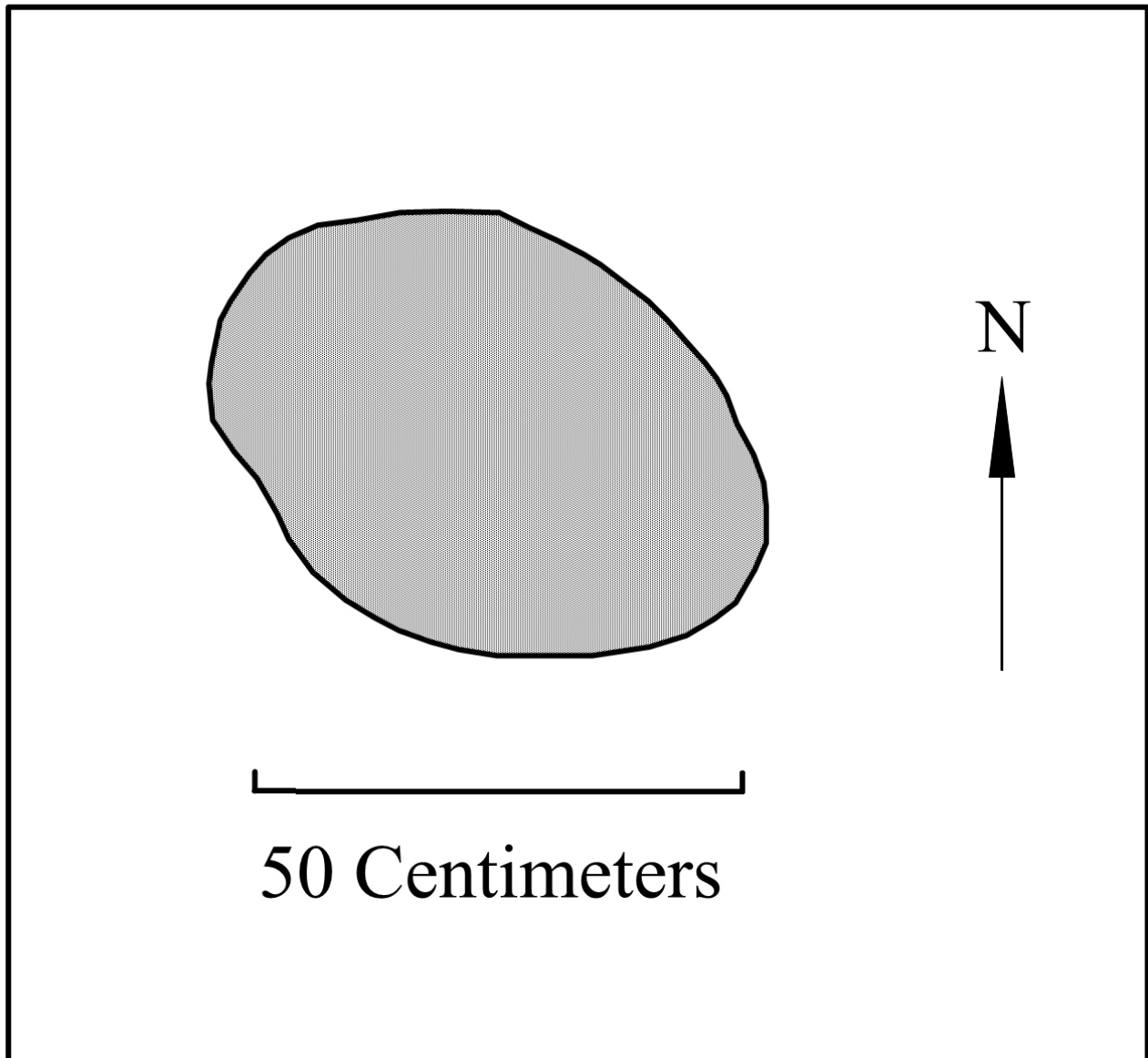


Figure 39. Feature 10, Plan.



Figure 40. Feature 10, Before Excavation.

Feature 11

This feature was excavated by Holger Weis and Stan Van Sant. Feature 11 was located at 512.05 North and 472.08 East. It was a small circular stain in the subsoil. It measured 39.6 centimeters north-south and 33.5 centimeters east-west. Soft dirt was reached at 22.9 centimeters. The feature was mapped using a plane table, but photographs were not taken. Upon excavation, it was determined that this feature could possibly be a tree. Found within the feature was a small amount of charcoal and sherds. The plan view is shown in Figure 41.

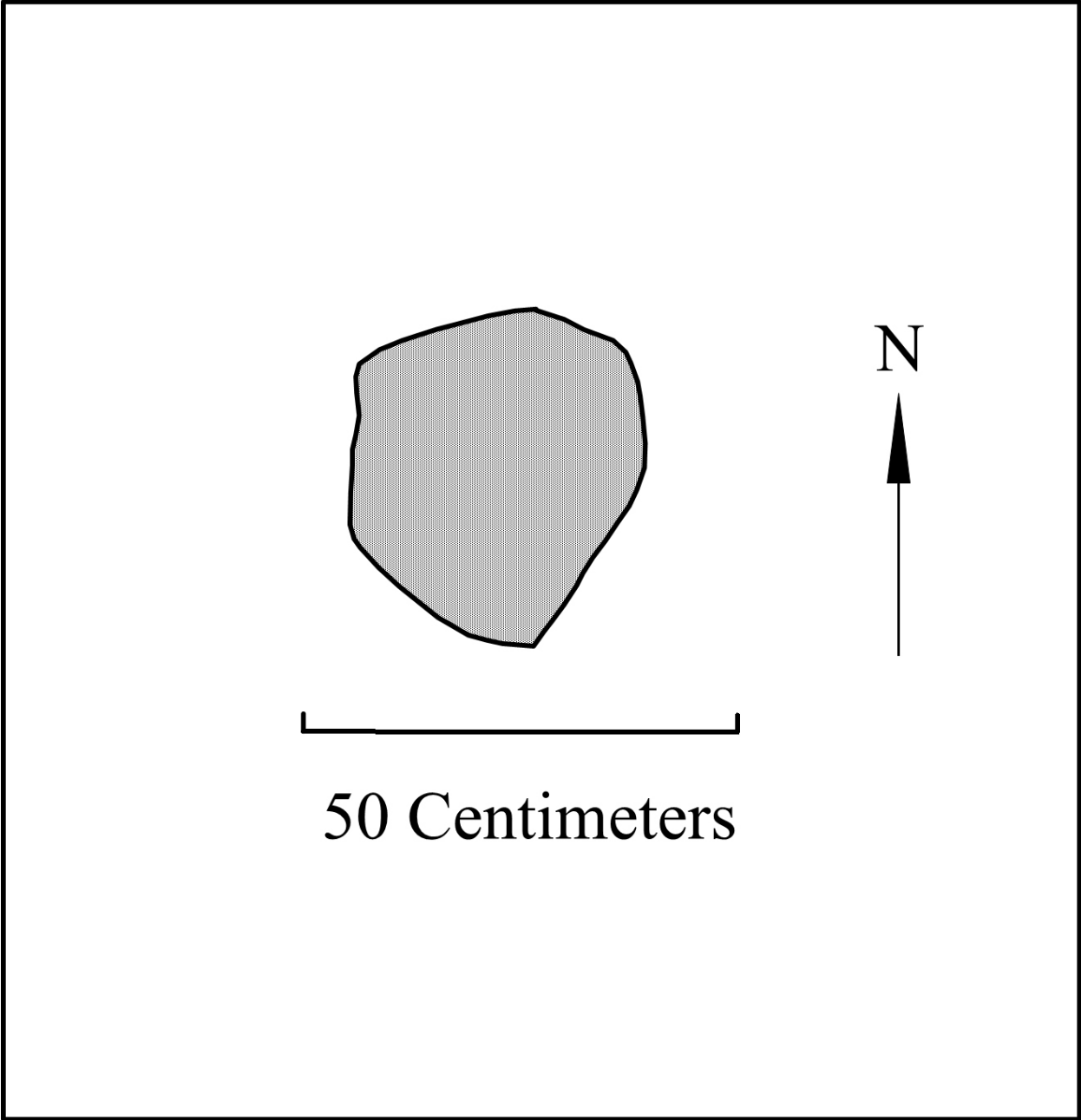


Figure 41. Feature 11, Plan.

Feature 12

This feature was discovered as a small oval pit with humus and charcoal. It measured .91 meters east-west and .67 meters north-south. It was located at 510.04 North and 422.32 East. There was a concentration of humus and charcoal near the center of the feature, with the surrounding subsoil containing some charcoal and a few artifacts. This was probably representing a rodent run or root occurrence. After excavation, only a few artifacts were discovered. The feature was mapped using a plane table. The plan view is shown in Figure 42.

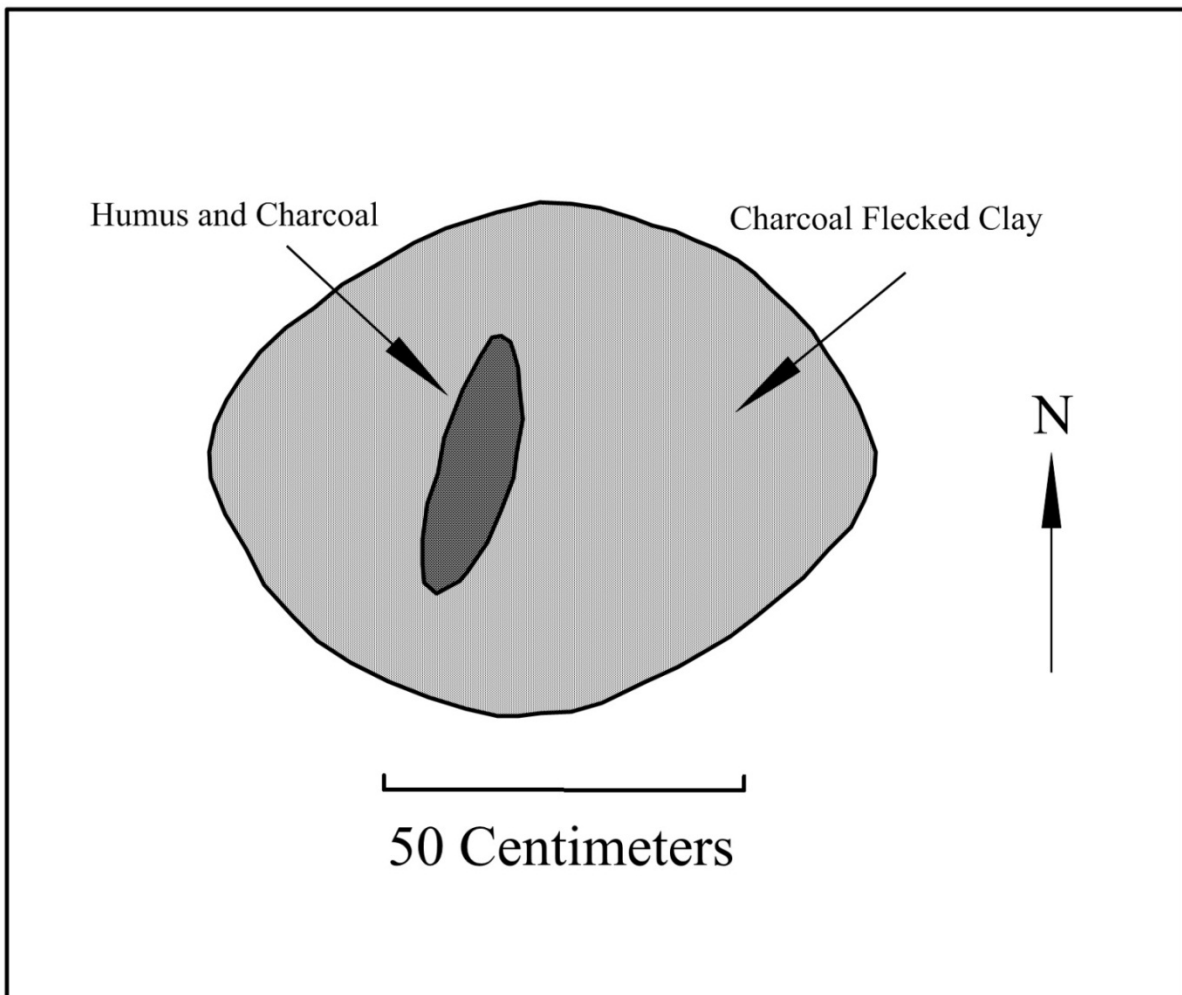


Figure 42. Feature 12, Plan.

Feature 13

This feature was discovered by the construction crew who notified Jim Shive on June 17, one day after work on the site was thought to be finished. It was excavated the same day by Mark Williams, Paul Webb, Dan Elliott, Robbie Ethridge, Robin Joyner, and Russell McNair. The feature was a large midden pit. The location of Feature 13 was at 519.79 North and 503.55 East. It measured 2.41 meters north-south and 2.04 meters east-west, with a maximum depth of 30.5 centimeters. Although this feature was excavated very rapidly, it was excavated in halves and the profile and photographs were taken. The profile is off center to the east because it was originally thought to be smaller. The profile and plan view is shown in Figure 43.

Upon excavation, a large amount of artifacts was discovered. Every layer of soil contained pottery. A large amount of pottery was collected along with a historic peach pit, numerous small nut fragments, pipe fragments, animal bone, and a large amount of shell. Soil samples were taken from every level.

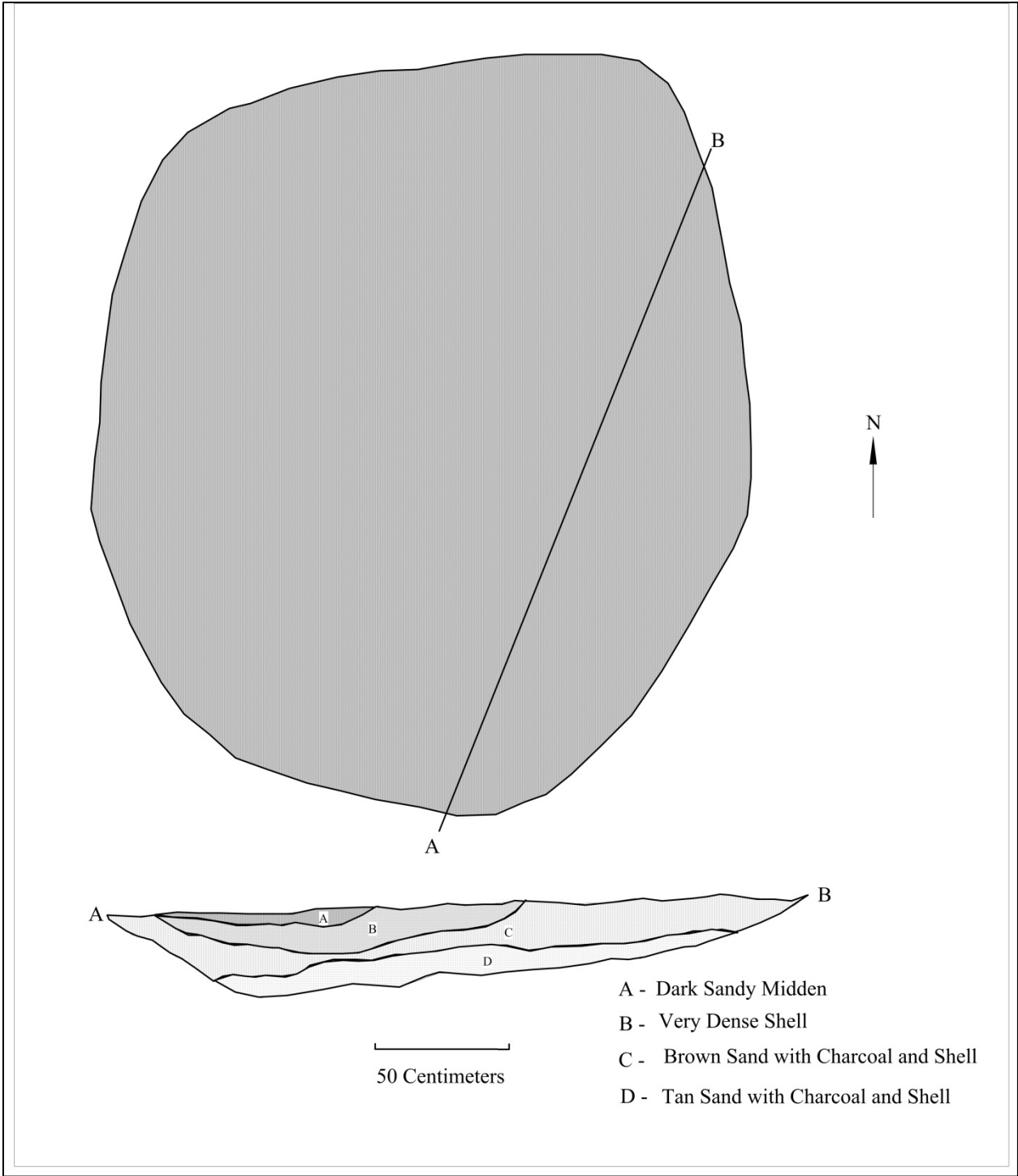


Figure 43. Feature 13, Plan and Profile.



Figure 44. Feature 13, After Excavation.

Feature 14

This feature was discovered and excavated on June 22 as a large irregular dark stain in the subsoil. It appeared on the surface as a midden stain with charcoal and shell. It was located near Feature 13 at 517.79 North and 503.55 East. It measured 2.77 meters north-south and 2.38 meters east-west, with a maximum depth of 61 centimeters. Due to lack of time, the feature was not excavated completely. A profile was cut and drawn. The plan and profile view is shown in Figure 45. Artifacts collected included pottery, bone, shell, and a possible acorn. A dense shell concentration was visible in the southeastern corner of the feature.

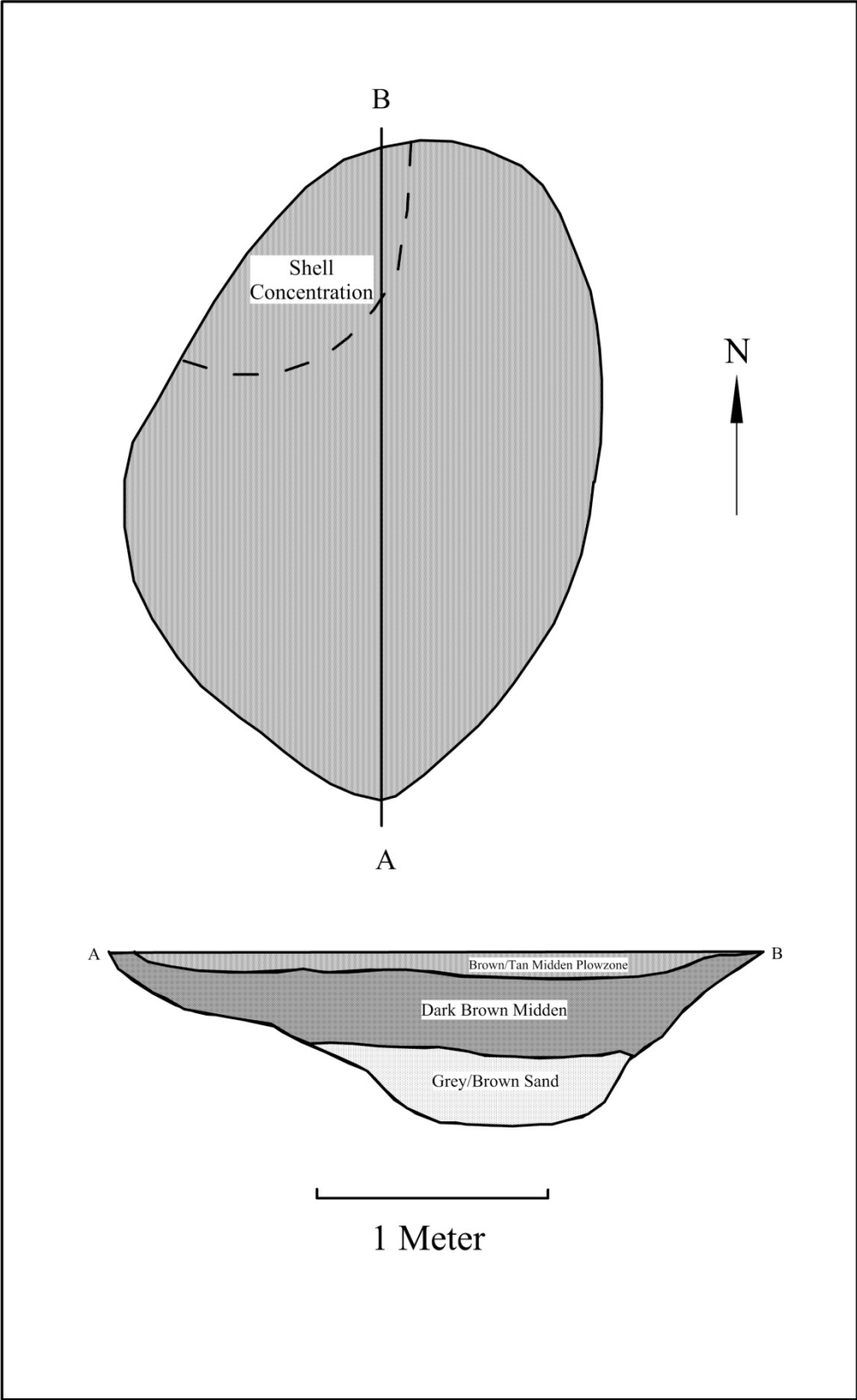


Figure 45. Feature 14, Plan and Profile.

Feature 15

The feature was excavated by Mark Williams, Paul Fish, Leslie Hill, Denise Hutto, Robbie Ethridge, Lilly Huffman, and Paul Webb immediately after it was discovered on June 22. This feature was discovered as a dark circular stain in the subsoil at location 470.08 North and 329.30 East. It measured 1.83 meters north-south and 1.95 meters east-west, with a maximum depth of 27.4 centimeters. Upon excavation, the plan and profile views were taken, and they are shown in Figure 46. The bottom of the feature was lined with large sherds that constituted large portions of ceramic vessels.

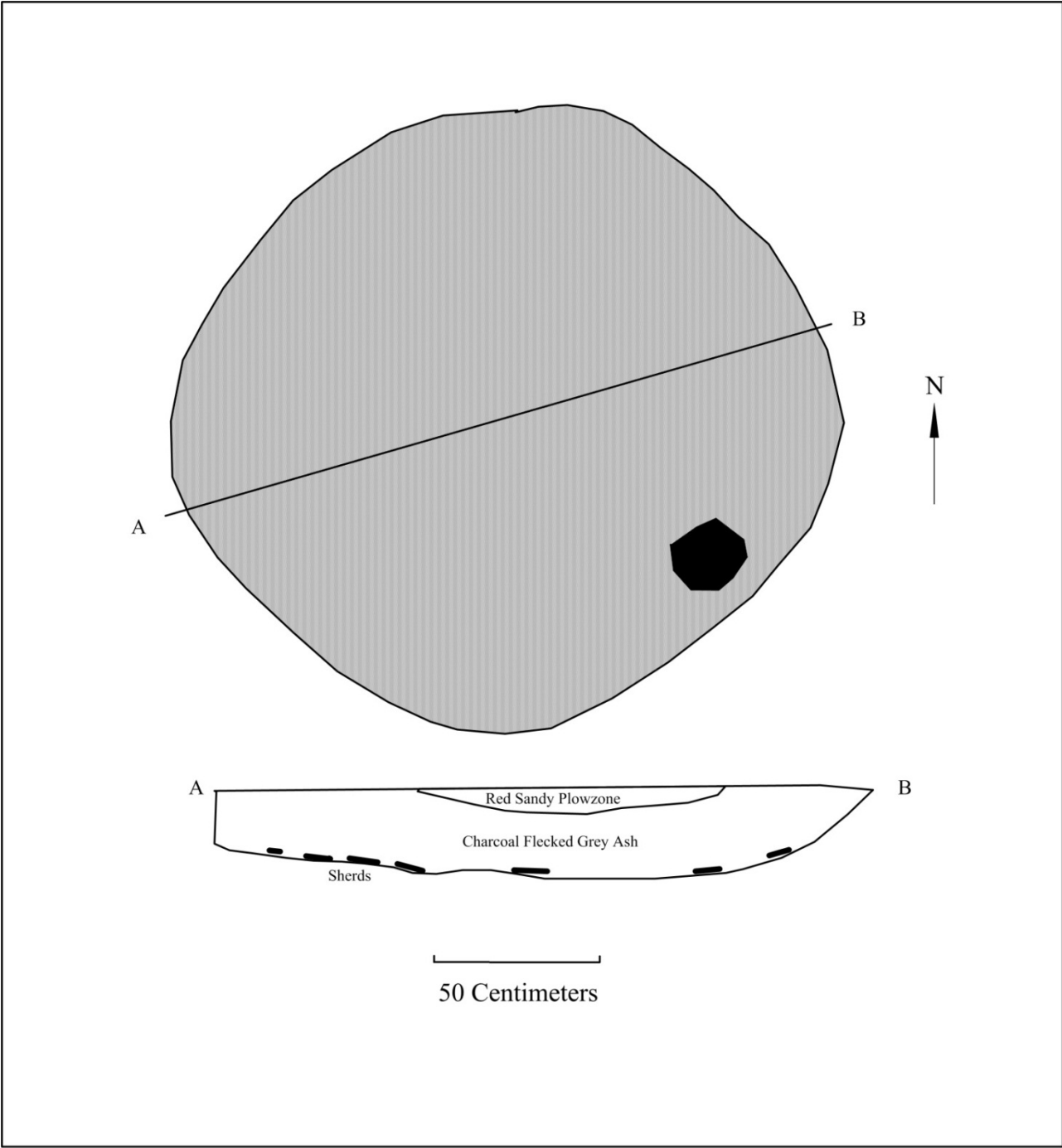


Figure 46. Feature 15, Plan and Profile

Feature 16

This feature was discovered as a dark circular stain in red subsoil on June 22 and excavated the same day. It measured 1.62 meters north-south and 1.42 meters east-west with a maximum depth of 12.2 centimeters. The location of Feature 16 was at 469.00 North and 332.25 East. A trench was excavated east-west through the center of the pit, and a profile was drawn of the north wall of the trench. Excavation of the north and south halves of the feature followed, and a small part of the south halve of the feature was not excavated. Artifacts found during excavation included large sherds. The plan and profile view is shown in Figure 47.

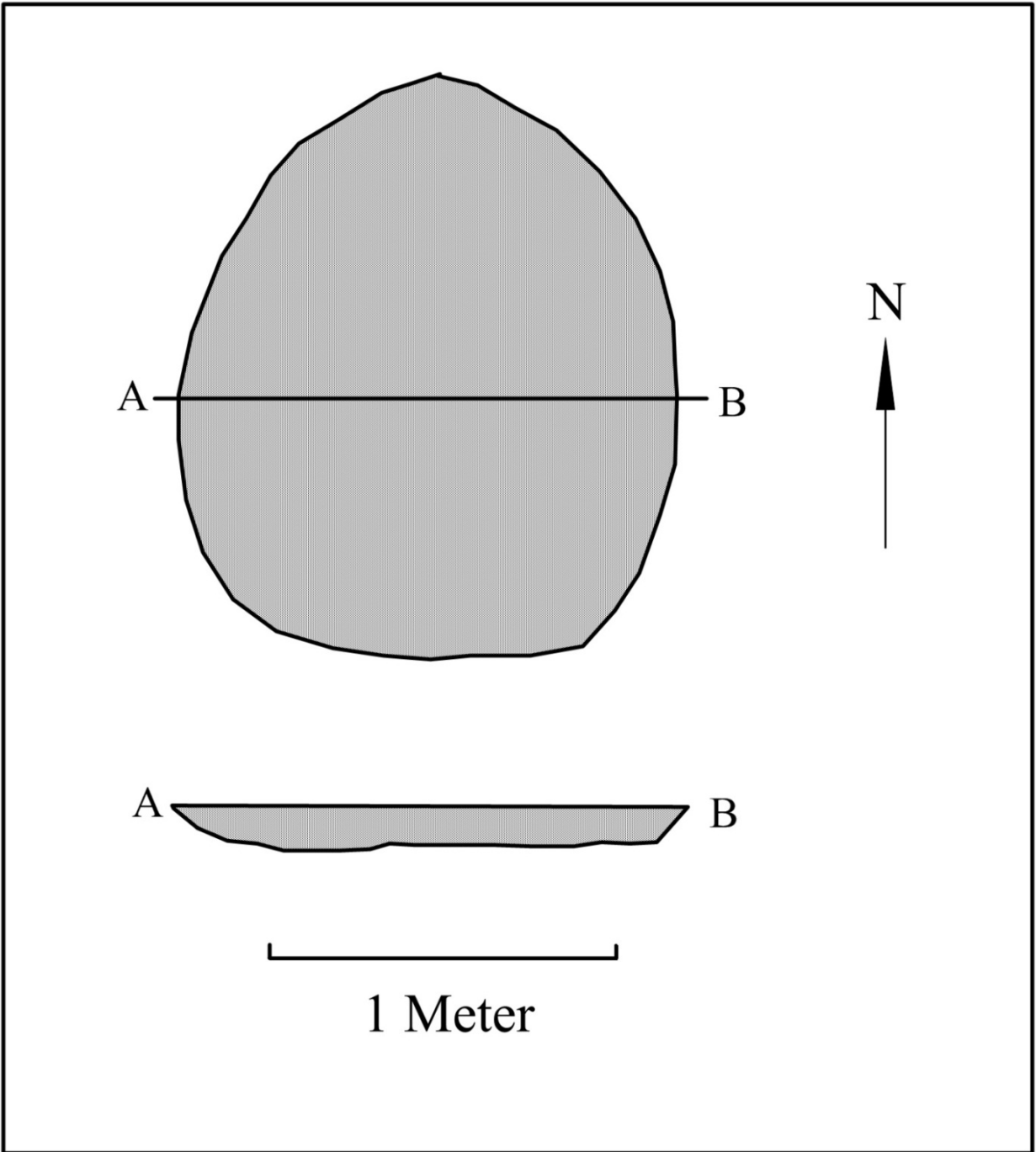


Figure 47. Feature 16, Plan and Profile.

Feature 17

This feature was discovered and excavated by Woody Williams on June 24. It was discovered as a dark oval stain in the subsoil at location 515.27 North and 503.37 East. It measured 1.65 meters northeast-southwest and 1.10 meters northwest-southeast, with a maximum depth of 42.7 centimeters. The feature had a virtually solid shell deposit lining the top layer of soil. Artifacts found included pottery, nut fragments, and charcoal. A portion of the bottom of the feature was lined with sherds, and some vessels were able to be partially reconstructed. The feature was mapped using a plane table, and profile drawings were taken. The plan and profile view is shown in Figure 48.

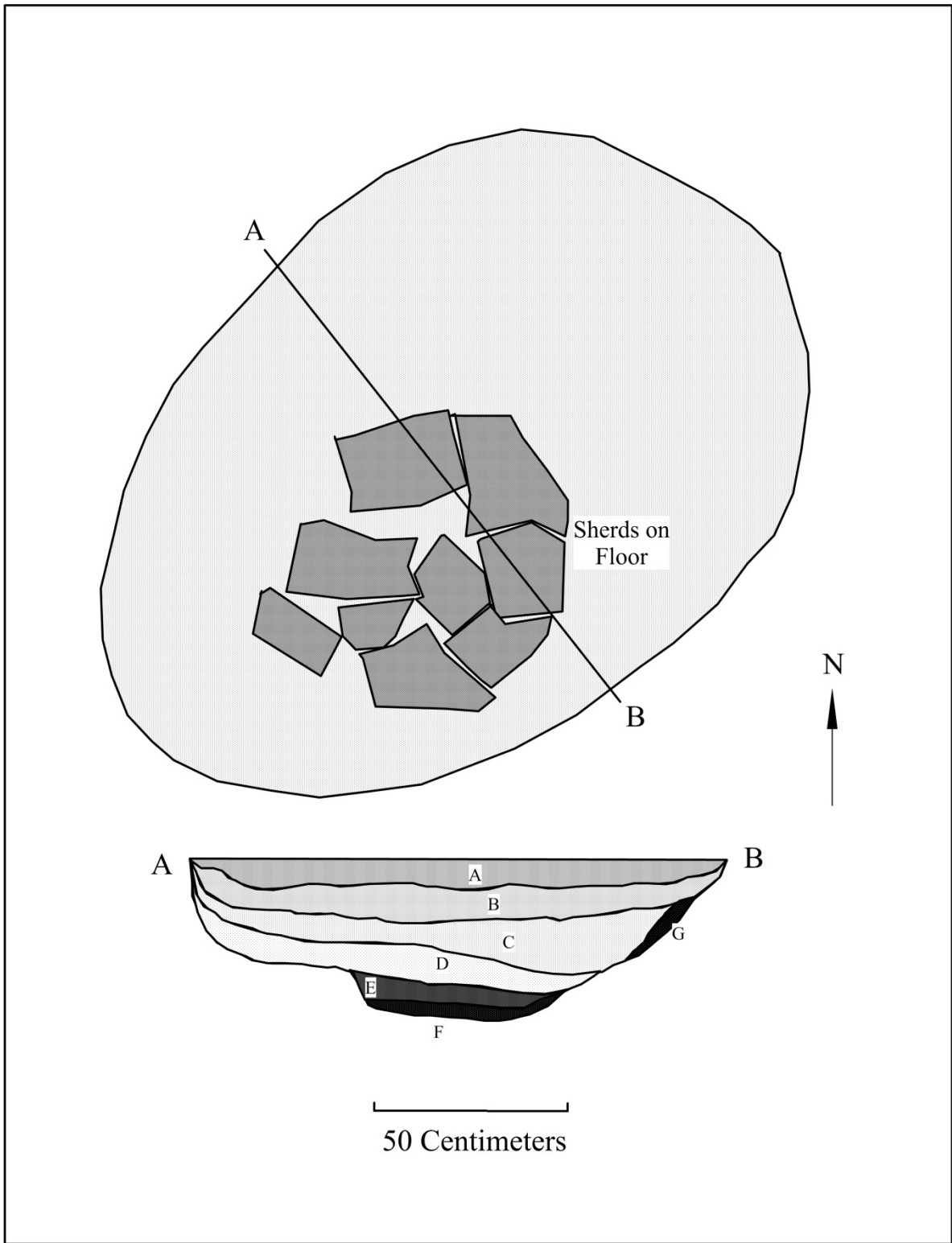


Figure 48. Feature 17, Plan and Profile.

Feature 18

The final feature was discovered and excavated on June 24 as a dark midden stain in the subsoil. It measured 2.23 meters north-south and 2.13 meters east-west, with a maximum depth of 39.6 centimeters. The location of Feature 18 was at 511.39 North and 508.37 East. It was a typical shallow basin garbage pit. Artifacts found included predominantly pottery and shell along with small amounts of bone. A concentration of shell was visible in the northwest section of the feature. The feature was mapped using a plane table, and profile drawings were taken. The plan and profile view is shown in Figure 49.

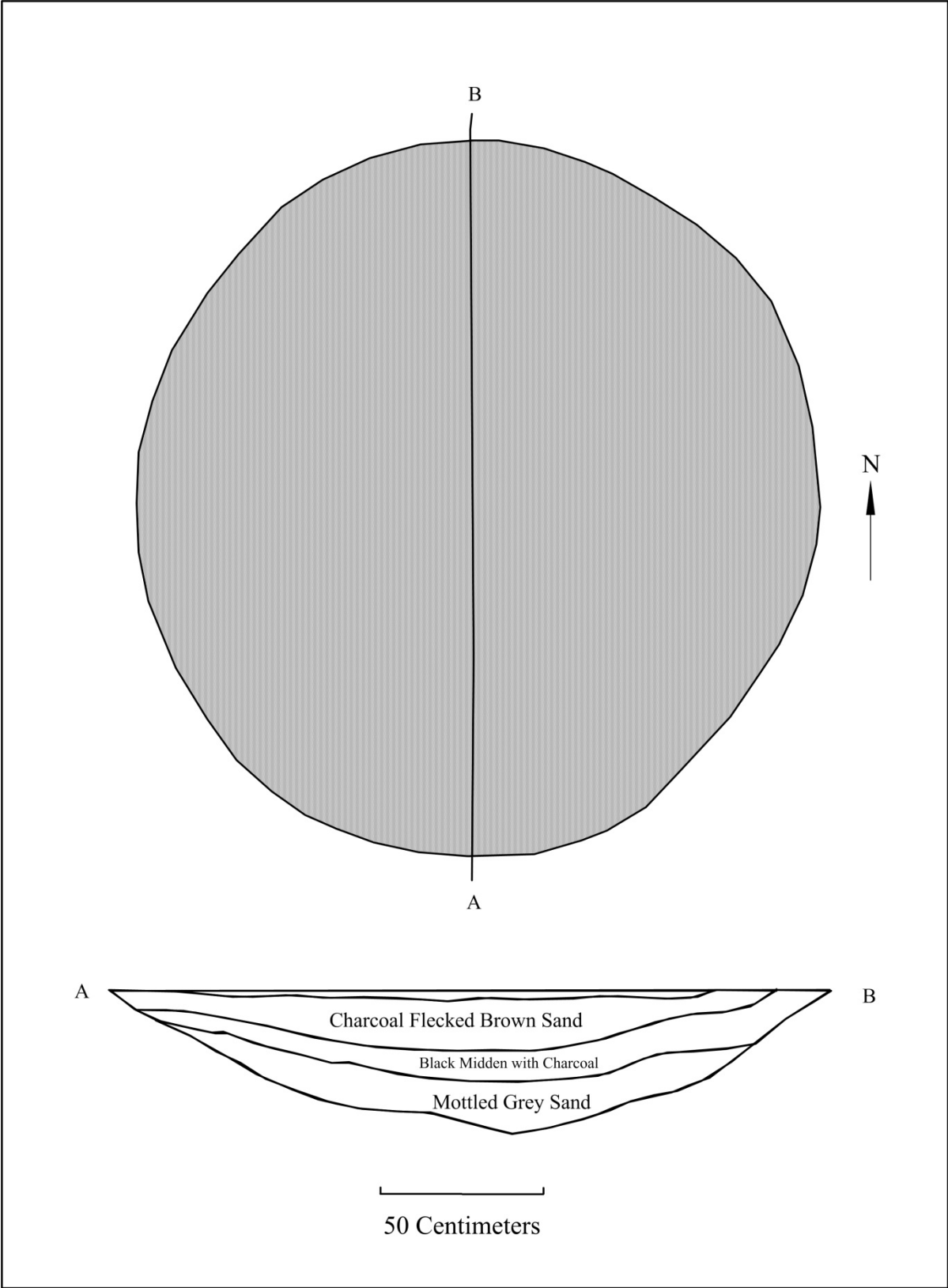


Figure 49. Feature 18, Plan and Profile.

Artifacts

This section is a rather straightforward compilation of the artifacts recovered from the 18 features at the Margaret Ann Bell site. The primary artifact recovered was ceramic sherds. No intact ceramic vessels were recovered. We were able to do a moderate amount of reconstruction of vessel fragments, however, and began defining a list of distinct vessels from larger rim sherds. Ultimately 61 separate vessel fragments were identified. Before discussing those fragments, however, we present a general discussion of all the sherds by decoration type and rim form. All of the sherds recovered from the features were grit tempered sherds, and all dated to the Bell phase (A.D. 1580-1650) of the Lamar period of the late Mississippian. This early historic phase has been documented elsewhere (Williams 1983).

Ceramics

The sherds from the site are presented here in Tables 1-7 and will be discussed in sequence. All of the tables present the data sequentially by feature number. Table 1 presents a summary of all the sherds from the features by broad decoration class. The total number of sherds was 14,596, a huge amount of pottery for what was basically a two day project. Not too surprisingly, 82.5 percent of the pottery was plain, undecorated pottery. Incised pottery was by far the most common decorated type, accounting for 14.0 percent. Stamped pottery accounted for only 0.4 percent, and everything else was less common. It is interesting that a small amount of punctated pottery was present in the features. These numbers are perfectly in accord with percentages expected from Bell phase sites in the Oconee Valley.

Feature 13 contained the most pottery, accounting for 31.3 percent of all the pottery. Feature 2 accounted for 19.4 percent and Feature 1 accounted for 17.6 percent of all the pottery. Feature 15 was the only other feature with over 1000 sherds, and accounted for 8.4 percent of the collection. Features 8 and 10 contained no pottery whatsoever, and the 21 sherds from Feature 3 were clearly intrusive since this was a historic period drainage ditch. Features 6, 9, 11, and 12 also contained almost no pottery.

Feature	All Plain	All Incised	All Punctated	All Stamped	Miscellaneous	Totals
1	1948	498	1	10	107	2564
2	2311	396	1	16	113	2837
3	11	3	0	0	7	21
4	488	83	8	4	26	609
5	218	25	0	0	0	243
6	26	5	0	0	0	31
7	362	85	2	5	31	485
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	18	3	0	0	5	26
10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	11	4	0	0	0	15
12	23	1	0	0	1	25
13	3965	514	4	19	70	4572
14	466	93	0	1	4	564
15	1020	165	3	6	27	1221
16	379	60	0	2	10	451
17	329	54	0	0	15	398
18	472	57	0	0	5	534
Totals	12047	2046	19	63	421	14596

Table 1. Ceramics Summary.

Table 2 shows a breakdown of the plain sherds from the site, particularly by rim style. The most common rim form was a simple rim, associated usually with incurvate rim bowls. Almost exactly as common were the folded pinched rims associated with the excurvate rim jars. These forms are useful quick indicators of vessel variation within a feature. Features 2 and 13, for example, show almost an equal number of both rim forms, while Features 1, 4, 7, and 16 have more simple rims. Features 14, 15, and 17 show the opposite pattern, with more folded pinched rims present. All of the other rim forms present from the site are quite limited in number.

Feature	Plain	Simple	Folded Pinched	Folded Notched	Folded Punctated	Unmodified Folded	Punctated	Rolled	All Plain
	Body	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	
1	1841	74	22	0	4	3	2	2	1948
2	2173	68	60	0	8	0	1	1	2311
3	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
4	470	15	3	0	0	0	0	0	488
5	211	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	218
6	25	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	26
7	333	21	8	0	0	0	0	0	362
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	11
12	20	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	23
13	3649	147	151	0	10	3	1	4	3965
14	431	6	28	0	1	0	0	0	466
15	938	22	53	0	2	0	2	3	1020
16	358	15	4	0	0	0	0	2	379
17	305	5	18	1	0	0	0	0	329
18	435	10	18	0	0	9	0	0	472
Totals	11226	389	372	1	26	15	6	12	12047

Table 2. Plain Sherds.

Table 3 on the following page shows a breakdown of the incised sherds by line width and rim form. Within the Oconee Valley it has been apparent for many years that the width of the incised lines is a useful chronometric variable. That is, the width of incised lines decreased from the beginning to the end of the late Mississippian Lamar period. For many years, it has been convenient to divided incised sherds into three groups-Bold, Medium, and Fine based upon incised line width. Bold includes lines that are 2 millimeters or wider, Fine includes lines less than 1 millimeter, while Medium includes lines with widths of 1-2 millimeters. The Fine sherds appear only during the historic bell phase, and they eventually replaced the Bold sherds. Medium width lines are present through most of the late prehistoric period. For this site Fine Incised sherds account for 13.7 percent, Bold accounts for 7.9 percent, and Medium accounts for 78.4 percent of the incised sherds. Although they are generally rare, incising on vessel fragments with folded rims does occur in this collection as shown in Table 2. The single Morgan Incised sherd is a type from ca. A.D. 1400, perhaps 200 years earlier than the rest of the collection.

Table 5 presents the limited data on sherds with punctated surfaces. Only a single rim sherd of this form of decoration was recovered. The punctates on the body sherds are usually quite small, less than 1 millimeter in diameter. They were typically created by a tool with a pointed end, not too dissimilar to a modern toothpick.

Feature	Fine Incised	Fine Incised, Simple	Medium Incised	Medium Incised, Simple	Bold Incised	Bold Incised, Simple	Incised, Rolled	UD Incised	UD Incised	Incised, Flaring	Incised, Folded, Unmodified	Incised, Folded, Punctated	Incised, Folded, Pinched	Morgan Incised	All Incised
	Body	Rim	Body	Rim	Body	Rim	Rim	Body	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Body	
1	74	7	190	86	1	1	0	91	12	0	34	2	0	0	498
2	8	4	222	64	19	10	1	48	3	0	15	1	1	0	396
3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
4	5	0	44	5	0	1	0	25	0	0	3	0	0	0	83
5	0	2	10	1	1	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
7	3	0	45	14	2	1	0	19	1	0	0	0	0	0	85
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
13	34	14	297	71	3	0	0	91	4	0	0	0	0	0	514
14	13	5	41	18	5	1	0	8	1	0	0	0	0	1	93
15	5	7	39	37	35	16	0	23	2	1	0	0	0	0	165
16	1	2	28	1	13	6	0	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	60
17	12	5	13	15	0	3	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	54
18	16	3	24	1	7	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	57
Totals	174	49	957	316	86	42	1	334	26	2	53	3	2	1	2046

Table3. Incised Sherds.

Feature	Punctated	Punctated, Simple	All Punctated
	Body	Rim	
1	1	0	1
2	1	0	1
3	0	0	0
4	8	0	8
5	0	0	0
6	0	0	0
7	2	0	2
8	0	0	0
9	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	0	0
13	3	1	4
14	0	0	0
15	3	0	3
16	0	0	0
17	0	0	0
18	0	0	0
Totals	18	1	19

Table 4. Punctated Sherds.

Table 5 presents the data on the paddle stamped sherds from the site. These are quite rare—only 63 sherds total were recovered. This almost complete absence of stamped pottery is a recognized characteristic of the Bell phase. Complicated stamped pottery in one form or another had been a key part of the pottery assemblage from 1000 B.C until the historic period. While stamping continued into the historic period in extreme northern Georgia, it became essentially absent from central and western Georgia by A.D. 1600.

Feature	Rectilinear Complicated Stamped	Curvilinear Complicated Stamped	UD Simple Stamped		Check Stamped	All Stamped
	Body	Body	Body	Rim	Body	
1	0	0	8	1	1	10
2	0	0	16	0	0	16
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	4	0	0	4
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1	0	3	0	1	5
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	4	5	9	1	0	19
14	0	0	1	0	0	1
15	2	0	4	0	0	6
16	1	0	1	0	0	2
17	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	8	5	46	2	2	63

Table 5. Stamped Sherds.

Table 6 presents the ceramic data from a variety of other very minor ceramic categories. There are no particular patterns of note in these data and in many cases the identifications are perhaps suspect.

Feature	UD Cord	UD	Scalloped	Unidentified		UD	Unidentified		Other	All
	Marked	Notched		Body	Rim	Engraved	Body	Rim		
1	2	0	0	44	4	1	1	1	54	107
2	0	0	0	52	4	0	0	0	57	113
3	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	7
4	0	0	0	20	1	0	0	0	5	26
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	13	31
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	5
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
13	0	11	2	28	12	0	0	0	17	70
14	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	4
15	0	0	0	26	1	0	0	0	0	27
16	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	4	10
17	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	6	15
18	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	5
Totals	2	11	2	219	24	1	1	1	160	421

Table 6. Miscellaneous Sherds.

Finally, Table 7 presents the data on ceramic tobacco pipe fragments. Clearly, tobacco pipes were fairly common artifacts at this site. Feature 1 in particular had 39 fragments that accounted for 51.5 percent of all the pipe fragments from the site. Features 2, 7, and 13 also had a moderate number of tobacco pipe fragments.

Feature	Stem Frag.	Loop Handle	Plain Bowl Frag.	Large Pyramid Bowl Dec.	Medium Pyramid Bowl Dec.	Small Pyramid Bowl Dec.	Incised Bowl Dec.	Tiny Linear Punctates on Bowl	Bowl Bump	"Dimples"	Face Bowl	Spider Bowl	Total
1	5	4	17	1	3	5	1	1	0	2	0	0	39
2	2	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	9
3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	14
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	6	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
17	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	6
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	15	5	42	2	4	8	3	1	4	2	1	1	88

Table 7. Pipe Fragments.

Figure 50 shows a ceramic pipe bowl fragment recovered from Feature 2. It presents a human face, a rare sort of pipe decoration in Georgia. The eyes are deeply sunken, and the lips have incised vertical lines, perhaps representing tattoo marks. There is a raised strap-like area that apparently went around the bowl to the left of the face. Its association with this face is

unknown and confusing. The overall effect of the small face is a bit scary to us and reminds us of the famous painting *The Scream* by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch.



Figure 50. Pipe Fragment with Human Face from Feature 2.

Another unusual ceramic tobacco pipe fragment is presented in Figures 51 and 52. These show a pair of creatures on the opposite sides of the bowl of a pipe, with two connecting raised bands (arms?). The creatures are clearly represented in two bulbous parts, one bigger than the other. A groove is present in the bottom of the smaller bulbous part of both creatures (See Figure 52). The stem is broken away from the base of the bowl. We do not know what the creature is. The bulbous parts seem spider-like, but the lack of eight legs seems to be a conspicuous problem with such an identification. If it were a spider, the groove might represent the spinneret—the organ of silk production. The form with the groove might also be an unusual representation of a human female. James Mooney reports in his *Myths of the Cherokee* that a water spider was the creature that first acquired fire for humans, bringing it from an island to humans in a tiny “tusti” bowl made of silk mounted on her back (Mooney 1982:240-242). The association of a spider and a tobacco pipe bowl might therefore have some historical validity, although the people living at this site were very likely not Cherokee people.



Figure 51. Pipe Fragment with Unknown Adornos from Feature 7.



Figure 52. Pipe Fragment with Unknown Adornos, Bottom View.

Pottery Disks

Round ceramic disks were present, but generally rare at the Margaret Ann Bell site. The total of four disks is considered to be low by comparison with many other early historic sites. Their function has been much debated for years. Most researchers believe they were game pieces, but this is unproven. They may also have served as some sort of tool, perhaps for woodworking. There was one each from Features 2, 4, 12, and 14.

Identified Ceramic Vessel Fragments

We have identified a minimum of 61 ceramic vessel fragments from the site's features. This is an admittedly high number, but as a glance at the photographs of these fragments (Figure 53-118) will show, we assigned numbers to many small individual rim sherds. The data for all 61 of these fragments is presented in Table 8 below.

Table 8. Ceramic Vessel Fragments.

Vessel Number	Feature	Vessel Form	Diameter	Rim Form	Folded Rim Width	Surface
1	1	Open Bowl	33	Rolled		Plain
2	1	Excurvate Jar	45	Folded Pinched	23	Plain
3	1	Incurvate Bowl	16	Folded Pinched	11	Incised
4	1	Excurvate Jar	29	Folded Pinched	17	Incised
5	1	Excurvate Jar	16	Folded Pinched	15	Incised
6	1	Incurvate Bowl	24	Simple		Incised
7	1	Excurvate Jar	43	Simple		Incised
8	1	Incurvate Bowl	22	Simple		Incised
9	1	Incurvate Bowl	36	Simple		Incised
10	1	Incurvate Bowl	28	Simple		Incised
11	1	Incurvate Bowl	17	Simple		Incised
12	1	Incurvate Bowl	27	Simple		Incised
13	1	Incurvate Bowl	31	Simple		Incised
14	1	Incurvate Bowl	31	Simple		Incised
15	1	Incurvate Bowl	29	Simple		Incised

Vessel Number	Feature	Vessel Form	Diameter	Rim Form	Folded Rim Width	Surface
16	1	Incurvate Bowl	41	Simple		Incised
17	1	Incurvate Bowl	33	Simple		Incised
18	1	Incurvate Bowl	34	Simple		Incised
19	1	Incurvate Bowl	29	Simple		Incised
20	1	Incurvate Bowl	32	Simple		Incised
21	1	Excurvate Jar	40	Simple		Plain
22	2	Excurvate Jar	27	Folded Pinched	21	Plain
23	2	Excurvate Jar	34	Folded Pinched	16	Plain
24	2	Excurvate Jar	32	Folded Pinched	19	Stamped
25	2	Excurvate Jar	36	Folded Pinched	15	Plain
26	2	Excurvate Jar	52	Folded Pinched	31	Plain
27	2	Excurvate Jar	29	Folded Pinched	22	Plain
28	2	Excurvate Jar	31	Folded Pinched	20	Plain
29	2	Incurvate Bowl	24	Folded Pinched	23	Plain
30	2	Excurvate Jar	32	Folded Pinched	25	Plain
31	2	Excurvate Jar	27	Folded Pinched	23	Plain
32	2	Incurvate Bowl	33	Folded Pinched	13	Plain
33	2	Excurvate Jar	32	Folded Pinched	19	Plain
34	2	Incurvate Bowl	25	Folded Punctated	18	Plain
35	2	Incurvate Bowl	28	Folded Pinched	12	Incised
36	2	Incurvate Bowl	24	Folded Pinched	12	Incised
37	2	Excurvate Jar	19	Folded Pinched	13	Incised
38	2	Excurvate Jar	12	L-Shaped		Incised
39	2	Incurvate Bowl	30	Simple		Incised
40	2	Incurvate Bowl	44	Simple		Incised
41	2	Incurvate Bowl	35	Simple		Incised
42	2	Incurvate Bowl	27	Simple		Incised
43	2	Incurvate Bowl	30	Simple		Incised
44	2	Incurvate Bowl	26	Simple		Incised
45	2	Incurvate Bowl	23	Simple		Incised
46	2	Incurvate Bowl	23	Simple		Incised
47	2	Incurvate Bowl	22	Simple		Incised
48	4	Excurvate Jar	29	Folded Pinched	28	Plain
49	4	Incurvate Bowl	21	Simple		Incised
50	4	Incurvate Bowl	32	Simple		Incised
51	5	Excurvate Jar	35	Folded Pinched	25	Plain
52	5	Incurvate Bowl	12	Simple		Incised

Vessel Number	Feature	Vessel Form	Diameter	Rim Form	Folded Rim Width	Surface
53	5	Excurvate Jar	42	Folded Pinched	33	Plain
54	5	Excurvate Jar	51	Folded Pinched	14	Plain
55	5	Incurvate Bowl	22	Simple		Incised
56	5	Incurvate Bowl	30	Simple		Incised
57	5	Incurvate Bowl	36	Simple		Incised
58	1	Incurvate Bowl	26	Simple		Incised
59	1	Incurvate Bowl	30	Simple (w/ rim tick)		Incised
60	2	Incurvate Bowl	33	Simple		Incised
61	15	Open Bowl	13.5 x 8.5	Flaring		Incised

The predominate form of surface treatment for the vessel fragments was incising. Of the 61 identified fragments 41 (67.2 percent) were incised. Nineteen (31.1 percent) were plain, while only a single vessel fragment was stamped. The proportion of vessel fragments with incising is significantly higher than the proportion of plain sherds from the site as shown in Table 1. This is because incised vessels are only incised in the upper parts, and the lower, larger parts are plain.

Excurvate rim jars, usually associated with cooking and storage, numbered 21, while incurved rim bowls numbered 39. The mean rim diameter for the jars was 33 centimeters, while the mean rim diameter for the bowls was 28 centimeters. Given the differences in shape, the volume of the two classes was likely comparable at this site.

Feature 1 had 23 vessel fragments, while Feature 2 had 27 vessel fragments, almost identical. Feature 2 had 15 bowl-shaped vessels and 12 jar-shaped vessels, again almost the same. Feature 1, however, shows a very different pattern of vessel forms. In it there were 18 bowls and only 4 jars—a ratio of 4.5 to 1. The pattern seems too large to have been simply

random or accidental. It implies that more serving vessels were being used nearby—although both features are physically close together, and presumably very close in time also.



Figure 53. Vessel Fragment 1.



Figure 54. Vessel Fragment 2.



Figure 55. Vessel Fragment 3.



Figure 56. Vessel Fragment 4.



Figure 57. Vessel Fragment 5.



Figure 58. Vessel Fragment 6.



Figure 59. Vessel Fragment 7.



Figure 60. Vessel Fragment 8.



Figure 61. Vessel Fragment 9.



Figure 62. Vessel Fragment 10.



Figure 63. Vessel Fragment 11.



Figure 64. Vessel Fragment 12.



Figure 65. Vessel Fragment 13.



Figure 66. Vessel Fragment 14.



Figure 67. Vessel Fragment 15.



Figure 68. Vessel Fragment 16.



Figure 69. Vessel Fragment 17.



Figure 70. Vessel Fragment 18.



Figure 71. Vessel Fragment 19.



Figure 72. Vessel Fragment 20.



Figure 73. Vessel Fragment 21.



Figure 74. Vessel Fragment 22.



Figure 75. Vessel Fragment 23.



Figure 76. Vessel Fragment 24.



Figure 77. Vessel Fragment 25.



Figure 78. Vessel Fragment 26.



Figure 79. Vessel Fragment 27.



Figure 80. Vessel Fragment 28.



Figure 81. Vessel Fragment 29.



Figure 82. Vessel Fragment 30.



Figure 83. Vessel Fragment 31.



Figure 84. Vessel Fragment 32.



Figure 85. Vessel Fragment 33.



Figure 86. Vessel Fragment 34.



Figure 87. Vessel Fragment 35.



Figure 88. Vessel Fragment 36.



Figure 89. Vessel Fragment 37.



Figure 90. Vessel Fragment 38.



Figure 91. Vessel Fragment 39.



Figure 92. Vessel Fragment 40.



Figure 93. Vessel Fragment 41.



Figure 94. Vessel Fragment 42.



Figure 95. Vessel Fragment 43.



Figure 96. Vessel Fragment 44.



Figure 97. Vessel Fragment 45.



Figure 98. Vessel Fragment 46.



Figure 99. Vessel Fragment 47.



Figure 100. Vessel Fragment 48.



Figure 101. Vessel Fragment 49.



Figure 102. Vessel Fragment 50.



Figure 103. Vessel Fragment 51.



Figure 104. Vessel Fragment 52.



Figure 105. Vessel Fragment 53.



Figure 106. Vessel Fragment 54.



Figure 107. Vessel Fragment 55.



Figure 108. Vessel Fragment 56.



Figure 109. Vessel Fragment 57.



Figure 110. Vessel Fragment 58.



Figure 111. Vessel Fragment 59.



Figure 112. Vessel Fragment 60.

Vessel 61 shown in the following six figures is a very unusual Indian ceramic vessel, unlike any other known from the Oconee Valley. It is a small open bowl with flaring rim handles on either end of the rectangular shaped vessel. The size is 13.5 by 8.5 centimeters. The vessel has a small foot ring, and incising and punctuating over all the outside of the vessel, as well as on the top of the flaring rim.

This vessel seems in all likelihood to be a historically made copy of some European vessel form. It is very similar in shape to what is called a *porringer*, a vessel typically used to feed a baby its first solid food. Many of these in Europe were made of silver or pewter, and the incised decoration on Vessel 61 may be an attempt to replicate some such engraved design on a silver porringer seen by an Indian. There were late 16th-early 17th Spanish artifacts (beads) from the adjacent Joe Bell site, so it is possible that such a vessel was observed by someone in the Oconee Valley. In any event, this likely represents one of the earliest copy vessels in the interior of Georgia—we know of no others identified at the present time.



Figure 113. Vessel Fragment 61, Side View.



Figure 114. Vessel Fragment 61, Bottom View.



Figure 115. Vessel Fragment 61, Top View.

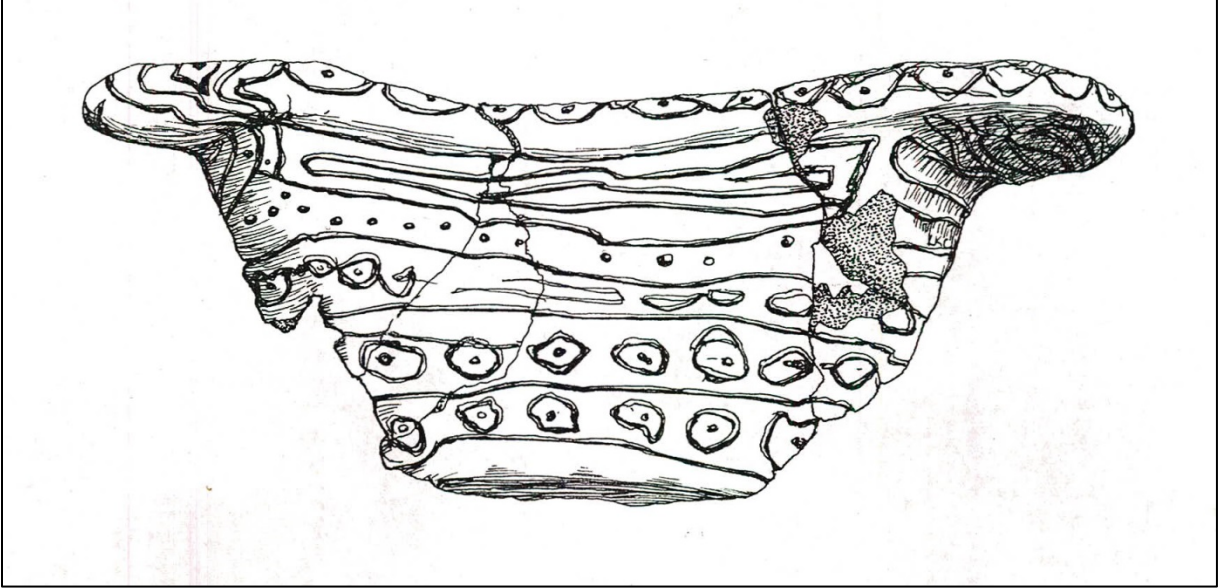


Figure 116. Vessel Fragment 61, Side View Drawing.

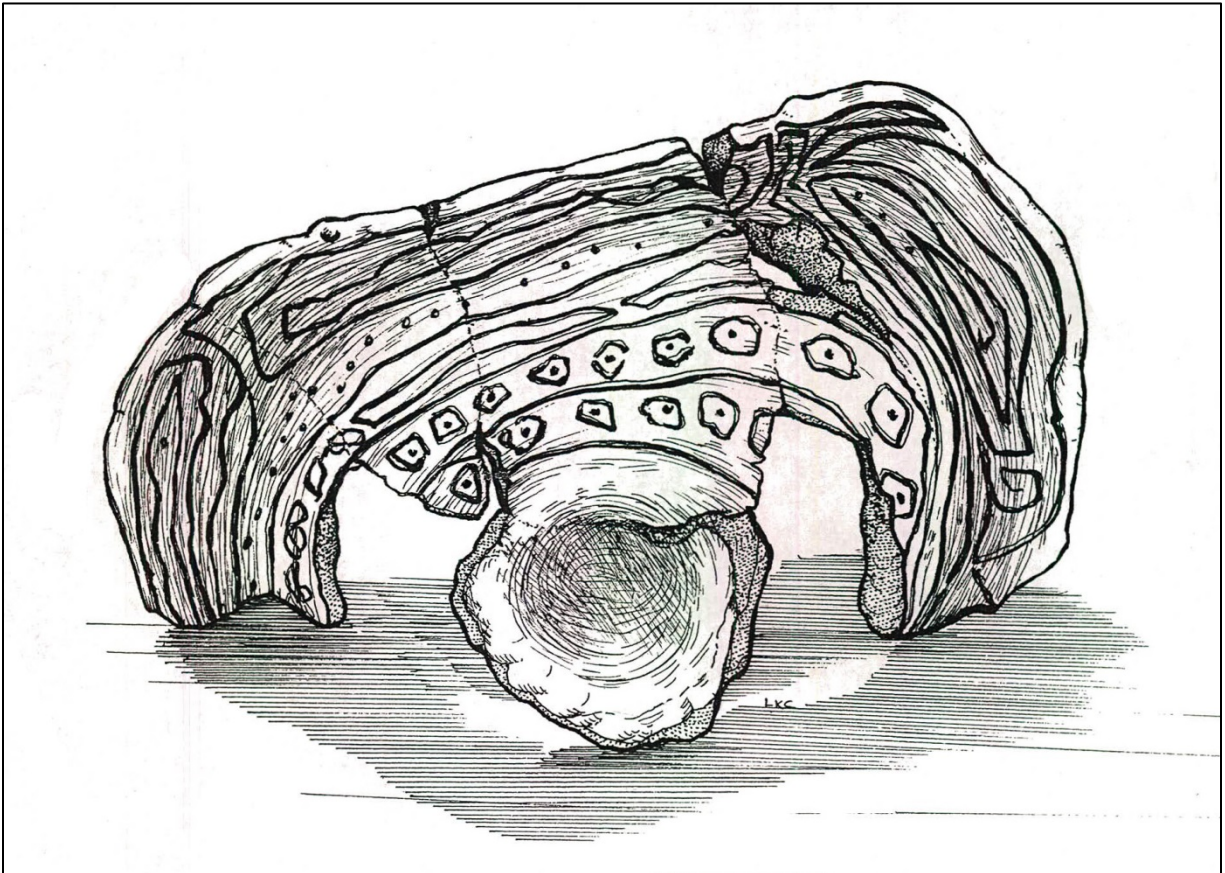


Figure 117. Vessel Fragment 61, bottom View Drawing.

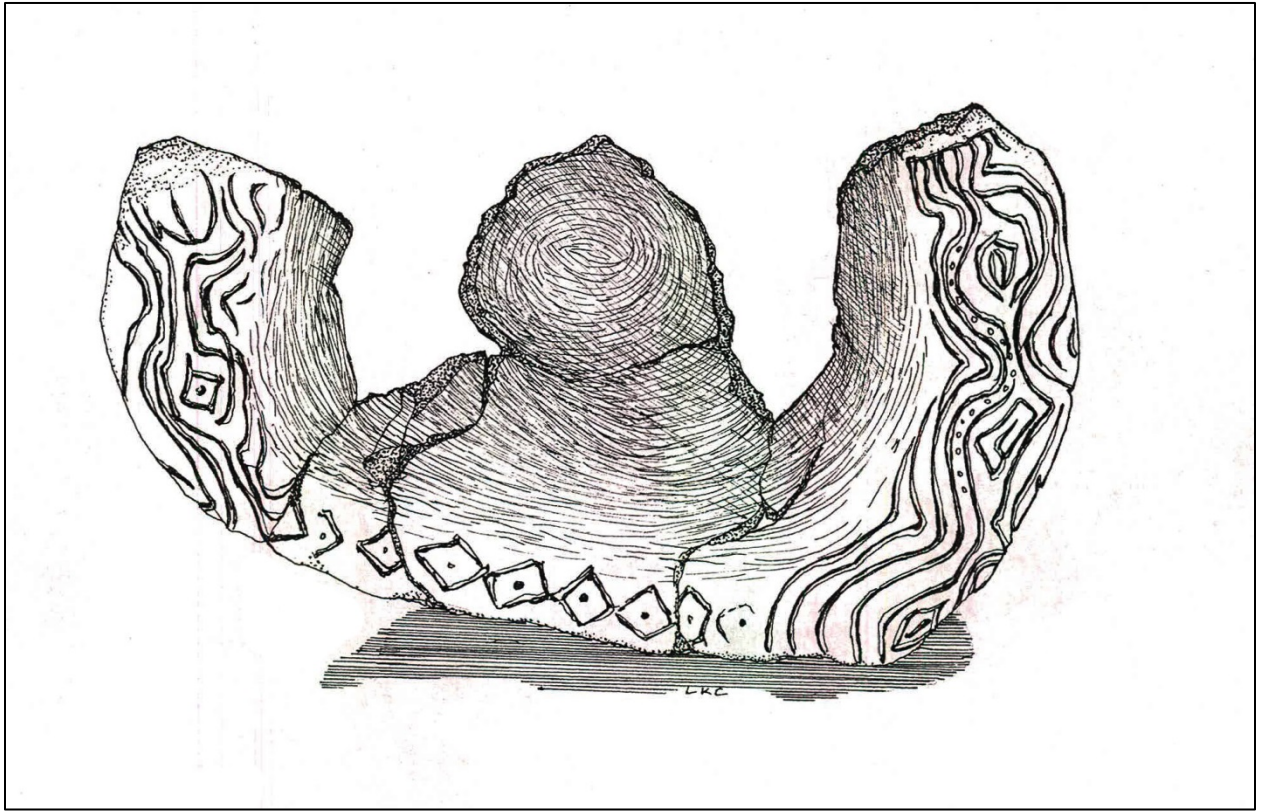


Figure 118. Vessel Fragment 61, Top View Drawing.

Lithics

There was only a small amount of lithic artifacts from the site. The vast majority of this was quartz flakes, with an even smaller amount of non-local chert flakes. It has been known for some time that the people of the Bell phase, Late Lamar period used little or no lithic material for tools. Therefore, the minimal amount of lithic material recovered from the Margaret Ann Bell site dated to much earlier periods—probably from the Archaic. The analysis of this material was performed in 1978 using a now dated classification scheme. We have not reanalyzed the material for this report. Table 9 gives a summary of the lithic data by feature. Table 10 breaks down the chert material and Table 11 breaks down the quartz material. Finally Table 12 breaks down the miscellaneous lithic material. None of these produce patterns worth of comment.

Feature	Total Chert	Total Quartz	Total Miscellaneous	Grand Total	Pebble Weight (Grams)
1	2	19	42	63	63
2	12	54	9	75	474
3	0	3	45	48	0
4	4	17	1	22	170
5	0	10	0	10	28
6	1	2	0	3	0
7	2	27	1	30	454
8	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	57
10	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	30
13	4	27	5	36	340
14	2	8	3	13	1020
15	1	5	0	6	28
16	0	6	1	7	28
17	0	3	0	3	0
18	0	2	1	3	57
Totals	28	183	108	319	2749

Table 9. Lithic Summary.

Feature	CP Chert Debris	CP Chert Retouch Flake	CP Chert PPK	RV Chert Debris	UD Chalcedony Debris	Total Chert
1	2	0	0	0	0	2
2	9	2	0	0	1	12
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	3	0	1	0	0	4
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	1	0	1
7	0	2	0	0	0	2
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	2	0	2	0	4
14	2	0	0	0	0	2
15	0	0	0	0	1	1
16	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	16	6	1	3	2	28

Table 10. Chert Summary.

Feature	Quartz PPK	Quartz Biface Fragment	Quartz Lanceolate Biface	Other Quartz Biface	Quartz Discoid Biface	Quartz Unifacial Tool	Quartz Debris	Quartz Retouch Flake	Quartz Percussion Flake	Quartz Core	Total Quartz
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	1	0	0	19
2	0	0	0	0	0	1	42	10	1	0	54
3	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	1	0	17
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	10
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
7	0	0	0	0	0	2	18	3	2	2	27
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	2	1	0	27
14	1	1	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	8
15	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	5
16	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	0	6
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Totals	2	3	0	0	0	5	145	20	6	2	183

Table 11. Quartz Summary.

Feature	Diabase Celt	Other Ground Stone	Stone Disk	Pebble Hammerstone	Formal Grinding Stone	Fire Cracked Rock	Other Debris	Total Miscellaneous Lithic
1	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	42
2	0	2	0	0	0	7	0	9
3	1	0	1	0	0	43	0	45
4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	5
14	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	1	10	2	1	0	92	2	108

Table 12. Other Lithics Summary.

Faunal Remains

Table 13 on the following page presents a summary of the faunal material recovered from the features at the Margaret Ann Bell site. These were identified by the late Barbara Ruff who conducted most of the zooarchaeological work on the Lake Oconee project for the University of Georgia. For all the features, 2954 bone fragments were recovered. These are summarized by feature in Table 13 below. While the largest category was, as is normal, unidentified, all major groups of vertebrates were represented. In decreasing number of identified bones these are mammals, turtles, fish, snakes, and birds. Within any given feature there was rarely more than a single individual of a species identified. Mammals identified to the species level included whitetail deer, grey squirrel, fox squirrel, raccoon, opossum, dog, chipmunk, cottontail rabbit, field mouse, and beaver. Turtles included soft shell turtles, painted river turtles, mud or musk turtles, and box turtles. Fish include largemouth bass and suckers. The only bird identified was a crow.

None of the freshwater mollusks recovered have been identified for this report. They included a moderate number of bivalve clams (*Elliptio*) in many features, and a huge number of these (many hundred) from Feature 13. Freshwater rock snails (*Goniobasis*) were also present in many of the features.

The range of animals present in the collection shows a broad and diverse wild food gathering strategy by the local people. This seems to be common in the early historic period in the Oconee Valley. A similar pattern was seen at the Lindsey site (Hatch, et al. 2013) and at the nearby Joe Bell site (Williams 1983).

Feature	UD Bone	UD Mammal	Mammal Tooth Fragment	ID Mammals	UD Turtle Shell	ID Turtles	UD Fish	Fish Scale	Fish Spine	Fish Vertebrae	ID Fish	ID Snakes	UD Bird	ID Bird	Totals	Percent
1	724	246	1	69	40	6	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1090	36.90
2	291	158	0	19	84	6	15	39	22	3	2	5	5	0	649	21.97
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.03
5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.07
6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.10
7	63	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	2.27
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
9	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.10
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.03
13	278	66	1	51	86	5	5	9	2	3	0	4	1	0	511	17.30
14	37	16	0	8	38	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	106	3.59
15	83	15	0	7	230	20	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	362	12.25
16	7	3	0	1	11	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0.85
17	38	64	0	12	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	4.06
18	10	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0.47
Totals	1536	575	3	169	498	40	22	55	25	6	2	12	9	2	2954	100.00

Table 13. Faunal Material Summary.

Discussion

So what can be said about this excavation at this long gone archaeological site? Certainly the excavation was not very exciting compared to those many other locations. This is likely because so little time was permitted to be spent at the site. We were not able to record but a fraction of the post molds that were certainly present. We know nothing really of the exact size or shape of the occupation there. All we really have is a moderate sized sample of the material culture from the occupation recovered from 18 defined features.

The occupation was apparently all during the Bell phase of the late 16th into the early 17th centuries A.D. It clearly was associated with the nearby Joe Bell site and perhaps should be thought of as just an extension of that site. It does appear that there was a slight decrease in artifacts between the two sites, but this is not completely certain. There was a low area between them that was likely originally a small drainage. Indeed, the Apalachee River may have run between the two sites at one time. All this begs the question of the nature of the Joe Bell site. It is currently interpreted as a focal center for Busk ceremonies by the people throughout this part of the Oconee Valley. If this is true, the Margaret Ann Bell site would indeed have been an outlying area for people to camp during the time that the entire 1-2 week festival. The facts that there were post molds and features from which wall daub was obtained (then filled in with trash) certainly implies that there was some permanent structures constructed at the site. On the other hand, the same pattern has been found at other sites interpreted as possible Busk festival grounds. The alternative possibility that the occupation at Margaret Ann Bell represents the remains of a simple farmstead seems unlikely at this point. In any event, we are happy that the

basic data from this site are now available for others to use in attempts to understand the complex and fascinating history of people living in the Oconee Valley.

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- Moss, Richard A.
2010 9MG73: The Swords Bridge Site. *University of Georgia Laboratory of Archaeology Series Publication* 60.
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Appendix Artifact Catalog

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
1	1	1	6/15/1977	C14 / Charcoal Sample
1	2	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	3	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	4	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	5	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	6	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	7	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	8	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics
1	9	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	10	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics, Bone, Shell, Pipe Bowl
1	11	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
1	12	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
1	13	1	6/15/1977	Bone and Shell
1	14	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	15	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics
1	16	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Bone
1	17	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Bone
1	18	1	6/15/1977	Soil Sample
1	19	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	20	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	21	1	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
1	22	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	23	1	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
1	24	1	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
1	25	1	6/15/1977	Soil Sample
1	26	1	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
1	27	1	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
1	28	1	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
1	29	1	6/15/1977	Faunal Remains
1	30	1	6/15/1977	Faunal Remains
1	31	1	6/15/1977	Pipe Fragment
1	32	1	6/15/1977	Decorated Ceramics
1	33	1	6/15/1977	Rim Ceramics
2	1	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Bone
2	3	2	6/15/1977	Soil Sample
2	4	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
2	5	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	6	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	7	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
2	8	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	9	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	10	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	11	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	12	2	6/15/1977	Shell
2	13	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics, Bone, Shell
2	14	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	15	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
2	16	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
2	17	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	18	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	19	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	20	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	21	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	22	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	23	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	24	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
2	25	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	26	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics
2	27	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	28	2	6/15/1977	Soil Sample
2	29	2	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
2	30	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
2	31	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
2	32	2	6/15/1977	Pipe Bow Fragment--Face
2	33	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics
2	34	2	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
2	35	2	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
2	36	2	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
2	37	2	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
2	38	2	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
2	39	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics
2	40	2	6/15/1977	Faunal Remains
2	41	2	6/15/1977	Bones and Nuts
2	42	2	6/15/1977	Faunal Remains
2	43	2	6/15/1977	Peach Pits

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
2	44	2	6/15/1977	Pipe Fragments
2	45	2	6/15/1977	Ceramics
2	46	2	6/15/1977	Flotation Sample 1
2	47	2	6/15/1977	Flotation Sample 3
2	48	2	7/8/1977	Flotation Sample 2
3	1	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	2	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	3	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	4	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	5	3	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
3	6	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	7	3	6/15/1977	Ceramics and rock
3	8	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	9	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	10	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	11	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	12	3	6/15/1977	Rocks
3	13	3	6/15/1977	Pollen Sample
3	14	3	6/15/1977	Ceramics
3	15	3	6/15/1977	Discoidal
3	16	3	6/15/1977	Pipe Fragment
3	17	3	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
4	18	3	6/16/1977	Manganese Nodules
4	1	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	2	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	3	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	4	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	5	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	6	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	7	4	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Rock
4	8	4	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
4	9	4	6/15/1977	PPK
4	10	4	6/15/1977	Ceramics and Shell
4	11	4	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
4	12	4	6/15/1977	Pipe Fragments
4	13	4	6/15/1977	Pearlware Fragment?
5	1	5	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
5	2	5	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
5	3	5	6/15/1977	Ceramics

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
5	4	5	6/15/1977	Soil for Water Screening
5	5	5	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
6	1	6	6/15/1977	Ceramics
6	2	6	6/15/1977	Lithic Material
6	3	6	6/15/1977	Faunal Remains
7	1	7	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
7	2	7	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
7	3	7	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
7	4	7	6/16/1977	Ceramics, Charcoal
7	5	7	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
7	6	7	6/16/1977	C14 / Charcoal Sample
7	7	7	6/16/1977	Pipe Fragment-Spider
7	8	7	6/16/1977	Ceramics and Shell Plus Soil for Water Screening
7	9	7	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
7	10	7	6/16/1977	Lithic Material
7	11	7	6/16/1977	Lithic Material
7	12	7	6/16/1977	Faunal Remains
7	13	7	6/16/1977	Faunal Remains
7	14	7	6/16/1977	Copper??
7	15	7	6/16/1977	Pipe Fragments
8		8		No Artifacts
9	1	9	6/16/1977	Ceramics and Rock
9	2	9	6/16/1977	C14 / Charcoal Sample
9	3	9	6/16/1977	Shell and Bone
9	4	9	6/16/1977	Ceramics
9	5	9	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
9	6	9	6/16/1977	C14 / Charcoal Sample
9	7	9	6/16/1977	Soil for Water Screening
9	8	9	6/16/1977	Ceramics
9	9	9	6/16/1977	Lithic Material
9	10	9	6/16/1977	Lithic Material
9	11	9	6/16/1977	Lithic Material
9	12	9	6/16/1977	Faunal Remains
10		10		No Artifacts
11	1	11	6/16/1977	Ceramics
12	1	12	6/16/1977	Ceramics and Shell
12	2	12	6/16/1977	Lithic Material
12	3	12	7/22/1977	Flotation Sample
13	1	13	6/17/1977	Shell and Rock

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
13	2	13	6/17/1977	Shell and Rock
13	3	13	6/17/1977	Ceramics, Shell, and Rock
13	4	13	6/17/1977	Ceramics, Bones, and Rock
13	5	13	6/17/1977	Corn Cob Fragment and Charcoal
13	6	13	6/17/1977	Soil Sample
13	7	13	6/17/1977	Soil Sample
13	8	13	6/17/1977	Soil Sample
13	9	13	6/17/1977	Soil and Charred Material
13	10	13	6/17/1977	Soil Sample
13	11	13	6/17/1977	Soil for Water Screening
13	12	13	6/17/1977	Soil for Water Screening
13	13	13	6/21/1977	Rocks
13	14	13	6/21/1977	Rocks
13	15	13	6/21/1977	Lithic Material
13	16	13	6/23/1977	Shell
13	17	13	6/23/1977	Shell
13	18	13	6/23/1977	Shell
13	19	13	6/23/1977	Shell
13	20	13	6/23/1977	Shell
13	21	13	6/23/1977	Shell
13	22	13	6/21/1977	Shell
13	23	13	6/21/1977	Shell
13	24	13	6/21/1977	Shell
13	25	13	6/21/1977	Shell
13	26	13	6/21/1977	Shell
13	27	13	6/24/1977	Ceramics
13	28	13	6/24/1977	Ceramics
13	29	13	6/24/1977	Ceramics
13	30	13	6/21/1977	Ceramics
13	31	13	6/21/1977	Ceramics
13	32	13	6/21/1977	Charcoal
13	33	13	6/24/1977	Sheds
13	34	13	6/24/1977	Ceramics
13	35	13	6/24/1977	Ceramics
13	36	13	6/21/1977	Peach Pits, Nuts
13	37	13	6/21/1977	Ceramics
13	38	13	6/21/1977	Faunal Remains
13	39	13	6/21/1977	Faunal Remains
13	40	13	6/21/1977	Green Glass, Shell Beads

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
13	41	13	6/21/1977	Special Ceramics
13	42	13	6/21/1977	Pipe Fragments
13	43	13	6/21/1977	Ceramics for Type Collection
14	1	14	6/22/1977	Ceramics
14	2	14	6/21/1977	Ceramics and Shell
14	3	14	6/24/1977	Ceramics, Shell, and Bone
14	4	14	6/22/1977	PPK
14	5	14	6/24/1977	Ceramics, Shell, Rock
14	6	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	7	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	8	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	9	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	10	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	11	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	12	14	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
14	13	14	6/22/1977	Faunal Remains
14	14	14	6/22/1977	Ceramics
14	15	14	6/22/1977	Shell
14	16	14	6/22/1977	Lithic Material
15	1	15	6/22/1977	Shell
15	2	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics
15	3	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics
15	4	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics
15	5	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics, Shell
15	6	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics, Shell, Rocks
15	7	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics
15	8	15	6/22/1977	Faunal Remains
15	9	15	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
15	10	15	6/24/1977	Ceramics
15	11	15	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
15	12	15	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
15	13	15	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
15	14	15	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
15	15	15	6/22/1977	PPK
15	16	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics
15	17	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics
15	18	15	6/22/1977	Ceramics and Charcoal
15	19	15		Ceramics
15	20	15		Ceramics

Provenience	Lot	Feature	Date	Description
15	21	15		Charcoal
15	22	15		Ceramics
15	23	15		Ceramics
16	1	16	6/22/1977	Ceramics
16	2	16	6/24/1977	Ceramics and Rocks
16	3	16	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
16	4	16	6/22/1977	Ceramics, Shell, Rock
16	5	16	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
16	6	16	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
16	7	16	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
16	8	16	6/24/1977	Lithic Material
16	9	16	6/24/1977	Faunal Remains
16	10	16	6/24/1977	Pipe Fragments
17	1	17	6/24/1977	Ceramics
17	2	17	6/24/1977	Ceramics and Rock
17	3	17	6/24/1977	Charcoal
17	4	17	6/24/1977	Ceramics
17	5	17	6/24/1977	Lithic Material
17	6	17	6/24/1977	Faunal Remains
17	7	17	6/24/1977	Pipe Fragments
17	8	17	6/24/1977	Pipe Fragments
17	9	17	6/24/1977	Ceramics
17	10	17	6/24/1977	Ceramics
18	1	18	6/29/1977	Ricks
18	2	18	6/29/1977	Shell
18	3	18	6/26/1977	Ceramics
18	4	18	6/24/1977	Shell and Rock
18	5	18	6/24/1977	Flotation Sample
18	6	18	6/23/1977	Ceramics
18	7	18	6/24/1977	Nut Shells
18	8	18	6/24/1977	Lithic Material
18	9	18	6/24/1977	Faunal Remains
18	10	18	6/24/1977	Pipe Fragment
19	1	Surface	6/15/1977	Ceramics, Glass, PPK
19	2	Surface	6/21/1977	Ceramics and Lithics
19	3	Surface	6/15/1977	Pipe Fragments