

**Archaeological Testing
of Five Lamar Period Farmsteads
in the
B.F. Grant Forest, Putnam County, Georgia**

By
Mark Williams
University of Georgia
Lamar Institute

LAMAR Institute Publication 71
LAMAR Institute
2006

Abstract

This brief report presents the data on five small Late Lamar sites tested in the Whitehead Corner area of northwestern Putnam County, Georgia. All of the sites were shovel tested and then had one or two standard excavation units placed in them. This work is part of a concerted effort to define and better understand a small, short term prehistoric community formed by a large number of farmsteads, as well as probable small special-purpose sites. The collective data from Whitehead Corner, of which this report is simply a part, provides an excellent model for understanding the Late prehistoric and early historic populations throughout the Oconee Valley, and likely far beyond.

Table of Contents

Abstract	ii
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	v
Background and Acknowledgments	1
The Mohone Site, 9PM164	5
The RIP Site, 9PM161	10
The Other Site, 9PM182	18
The Evans Site, 9PM1417	23
The Wood Site, 9PM162	29
Summary and Observations	33
References Cited	34

List of Figures

Figure 1. All Whitehead Corner Lamar Sites	2
Figure 2. Lamar Sites Tested or Excavated in Whitehead Corner	3
Figure 3. Location of the Five Tested Sites	4
Figure 4. 9PM164 Sherd Density Map	6
Figure 5. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1	8
Figure 6. 9PM161, Sherd Density	12
Figure 7. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1	13
Figure 8. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 2	16
Figure 9. 9PM183, Shovel Test Locations and Sherd Density.....	20
Figure 10. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1	21
Figure 11. 9PM1417, Shovel Test Locations	24
Figure 12. 9PM1417, Shovel Test Sherd Data & Square Locations	25
Figure 13. 9PM1417, Excavation Units 1 and 2	26
Figure 14. 9PM162, Shovel Test Locations and Excavation Unit	30
Figure 15. 9PM162, General View of Site and Road.....	31
Figure 16. 9PM162, Excavation Unit 1	32

List of Tables

Table 1. 9PM164, Artifacts from Shovel Tests	5
Table 2. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, All Sherds.....	8
Table 3. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, Rim Sherds	9
Table 4. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, Lithics	9
Table 5. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, Miscellaneous	9
Table 6. 9PM161, Shovel Test Sherd Weight.....	11
Table 7. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1, All Sherds.....	14
Table 8. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1, Rim Sherds	14
Table 9. 9PM161 Excavation Unit 1, Lithics	14
Table 10. 9PM161 Excavation Unit 1, Miscellaneous	15
Table 11. 9PM161 Excavation Unit 2, All Sherds	17
Table 12. 9PM161 Excavation Unit 2, Rim Sherds.....	17
Table 13. 9PM161 Excavation Unit 2, Lithics	17
Table 14. 9PM161 Excavation Unit 2, Miscellaneous	17
Table 15. 9PM183, Shovel Test Data.....	19
Table 16. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, All Sherds.....	21
Table 17. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, Rim Sherds	22
Table 18. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, Lithics	22
Table 19. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, Miscellaneous	22
Table 20. 9PM1417, Shovel Test Artifacts	27
Table 21. 9PM1417, Surface and Excavation Unit Artifacts	27
Table 22. 9PM162, Surface Collection Sherds	29

Background and Acknowledgements

In late July of 2002, as a small part of the University of Georgia's annual archaeology field school, testing was conducted on three Late Mississippian Lamar sites in northwestern Putnam County, Georgia. This area is in the midst of the Piedmont physiographic province. Specifically, the research took place in an area known locally as Whitehead Corner, an intersection between two improved dirt roads in the area. The area is named after the former owner of the area, Mary Whitehead, who sold the land to the U.S. government in 1937. Eventually the land was transferred to the University of Georgia as part of the B.F. Grant forest, a part of the Warnell School of Forestry. A small creek begins here and flows to the southwest toward Big Indian Creek. I have named this small stream Whitehead Creek. This archaeology field work was led by the author, with graduate student Jared Wood acting as my field assistant. The crew for the project included Erin Andrews, Tara Coile, Ryan Duggar, Jacob Estes, James Fitzgerald, Jennifer Funk, Jason Grey, Kate Kruskamp, Nicole Polhill, Christopher Rayle, Emily Reynolds, Phinizy Spaulding, Jr., Bethany Smith, Daye Stewart, and Gail Tomczak. I thank all these people for their efforts.

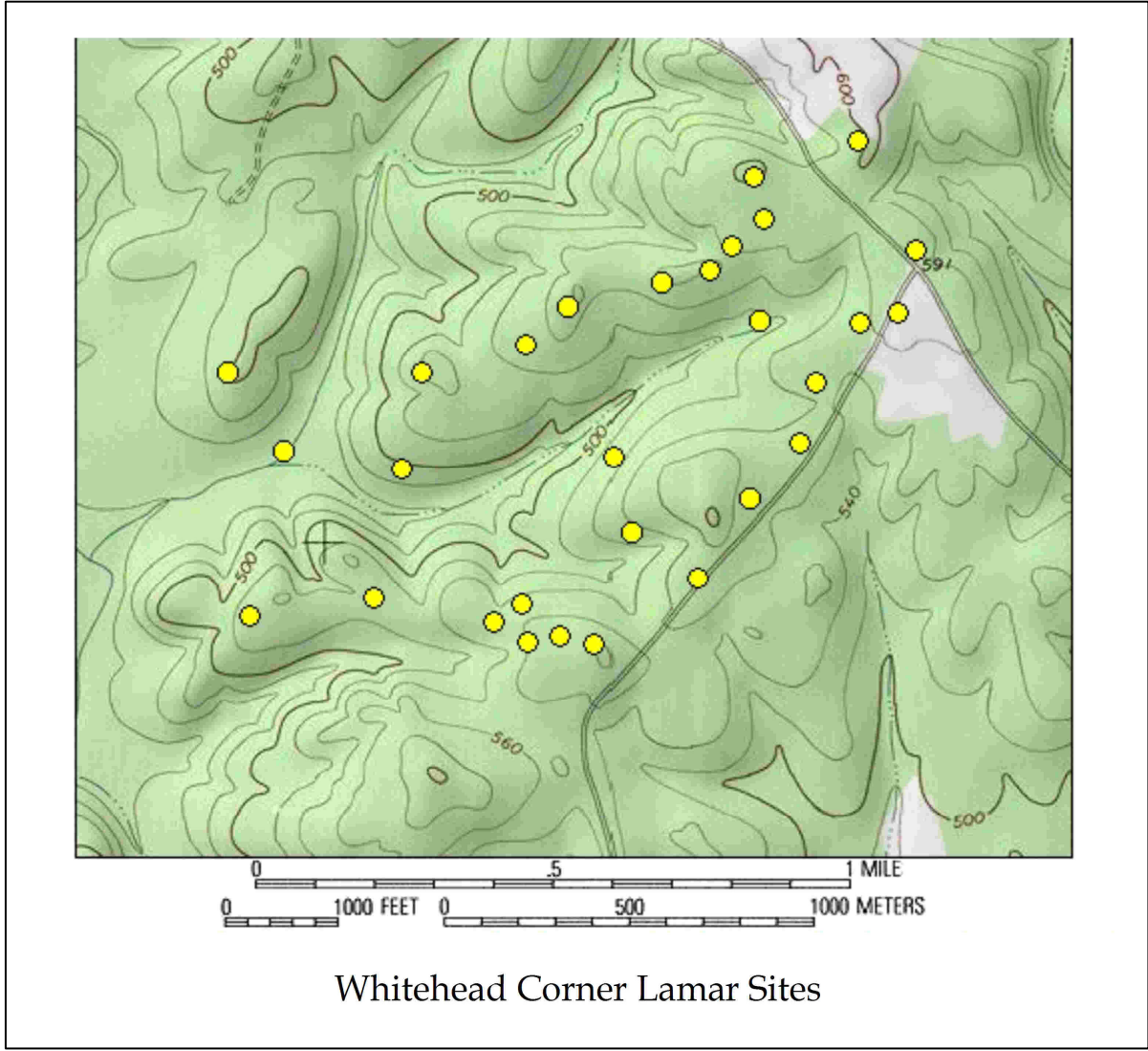
All the work was conducted on the B. F. Grant Forest. I thank John Gallagher (now retired) and Frank Mohone of the B.F. Grant Forest staff for their help in many ways during that summer of 2002. During that summer, the field school conducted new archaeological surveys in the Whitehead Corner area, locating several new sites and relocating a number originally located in 1973. Three sites, Mohone, RIP, and Other were selected for testing in 2002. All the work for these three sites took place between July 17th and July 24th, 2002. These sites had been located and recorded by Dean Wood while he was a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Georgia. Wood had been sent out by the late archaeologist Joe Caldwell from the University to locate as many sites in this area as he could as part of an open-ended survey in northern Putnam County (Wood, personal communication 2002).

In 2004, additional surveys were made in the Whitehead Corner area as a part of another UGA archaeology field school. Between July 14th and 20th, two additional Lamar sites in the Whitehead Corner area were tested. These are also included in this report along with those from the 2002 season. One of these sites (Wood) was also one located by Dean Wood, and one (Evans) was located in 2004 by the crew. The student workers for the 2004 work included Andrea Adams, Will Avery, John Blair, Jim Blythe, Shawn Brunner, Jeff Evans, Josh Jones, Noell Lamberth, Marc Mitrano, Tom Oxnard, and Ben Storey. My field assistant that summer was Loren Cohen. I thank this crew for their solid efforts.

During 2005 and 2006 major excavations were made by UGA field schools at the Monroe site and the Lauren site, two additional Late Lamar sites in the

Whitehead Corner area (Williams 2006a, 2006b). Also, additional surveys were made in this area during both of those seasons. The locations of all the Late Lamar sites located in surveys in the Whitehead Corner area to date are shown in Figure 1. Many of these sites had only a very few sherds, but a number had many sherds. All seem to date to the same period. Sites of other periods located in this area are not included on Figure 1. It should also be noted that sites in adjacent valleys, few as they are because of more limited survey, are excluded from these figures. I believe that if comparable surveys were carried out in adjacent valleys, similar site densities would be located. Incidentally, I do not consider the number of sites located in Whitehead Corner to be exhaustive--there are many sub areas where survey has yet to be carried out. Figure 2 shows the locations of the same sites, with those excavated and tested indicated by different colors. This report presents the information from the five sites indicated on this drawing that were tested (the blue sites). As mentioned above, the Monroe and Lauren site received major excavations and have their own excavation reports.

Figure 3 shows just the five sites detailed in this report without the other Lamar sites and at a slightly larger scale. The maximum spacing between these sites is just over a mile, and the area clearly demarks a small late prehistoric community. I currently know of no other small Piedmont valley so thoroughly investigated. Indeed, my interest in the Whitehead Corner area is just that--this area forms a viable model for the late Mississippian settlement system throughout much of the Piedmont Oconee Valley area. There are thousands of small such sites there, but our understanding of their distribution has been somewhat limited until recently. Part of the reason for this is that most areas of Piedmont are currently broken by modern settlements, roads, and development of all sorts to the extent that accomplishing a systematic survey is almost impossible. The 12,000 plus acres of the B.F. Grant forest are essentially undeveloped other than a few dirt roads, and are as loaded with late Lamar sites as is any part of the larger Oconee Valley. The unique research opportunities available for studying Lamar settlement systems in the B.F. Grant Forest provide us our best opportunity for understanding Late Lamar settlement and community organization. This is particularly true in areas that have traditionally been characterized as "upland" Lamar site location areas such as Whitehead Corner (Elliott 1990).



Whitehead Corner Lamar Sites

Figure 1. All Whitehead Corner Lamar Sites.

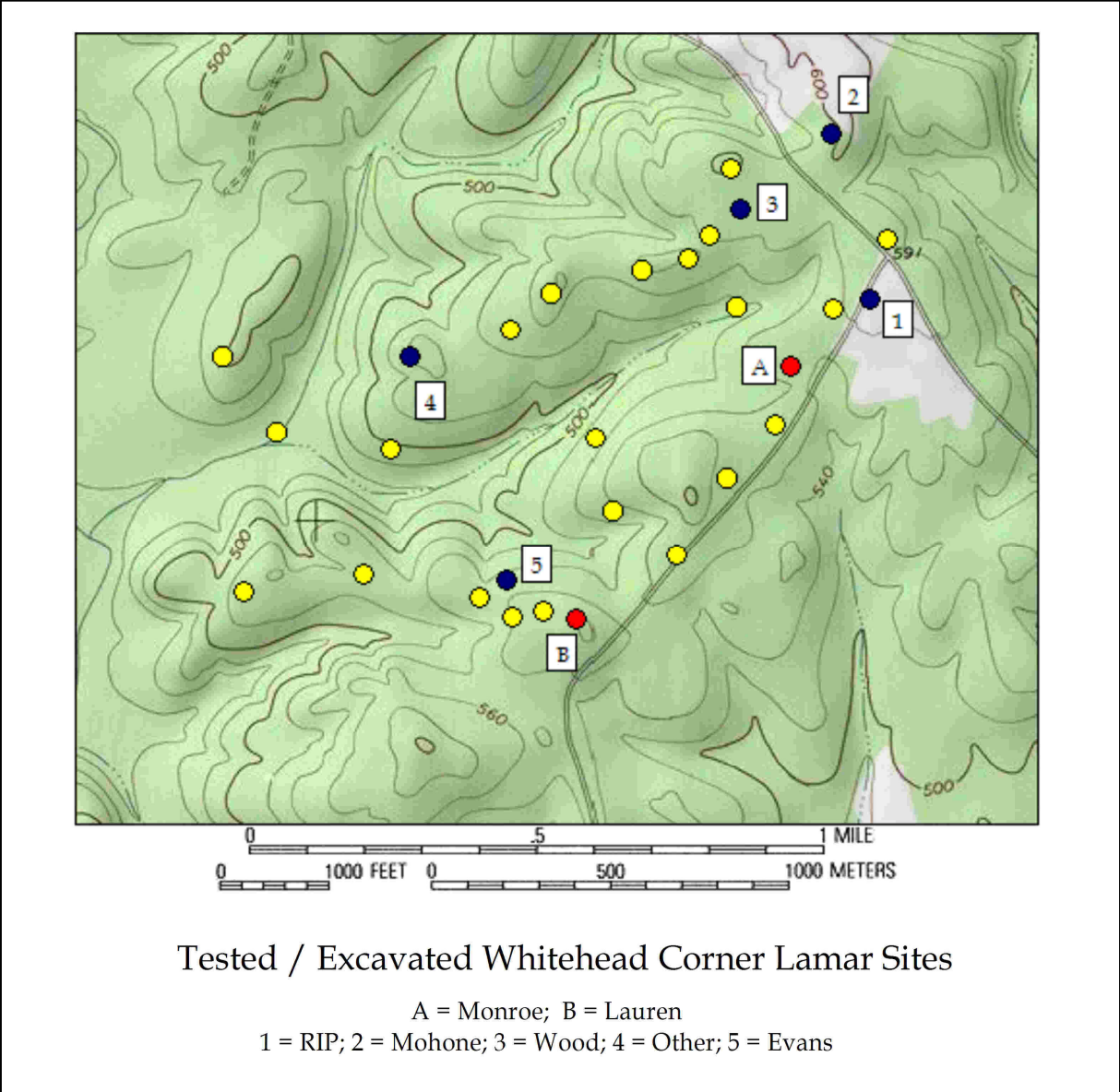


Figure 2. Lamar Sites Tested or Excavated in the Whitehead Corner Area.

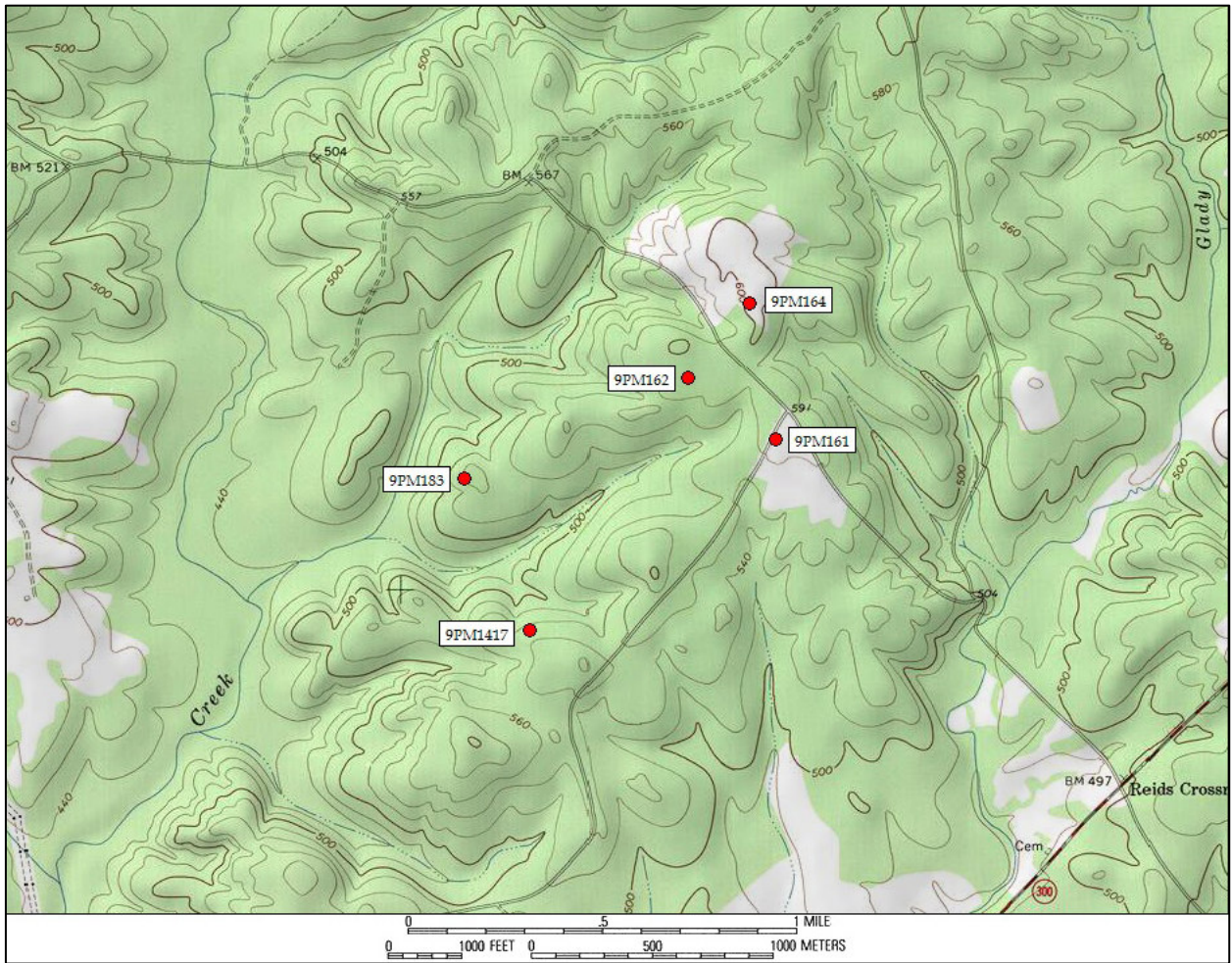


Figure 3. Location of the Five Tested Sites.

The Mohone Site, 9PM164

This site was named in 2002 after Frank Mohone, a worker at the B. F. Grant Forest. It is a small, but rich concentration of Lamar period sherds located near the top of a very broad ridge, and the most northerly of these five sites. Currently, the site is in and at the edge of an experimental field of longleaf pine trees planted by a UGA forestry research scientist. The central location of the site is 3701140 North and 272875 East (UTM Zone 17, NAD 1927). There were a fairly large number of sherds recovered in our initial surface collection of the area. The location had been plowed for well over 100 years prior to its planting in the pine trees sometime in the early 1990s. As part of our work we excavated 17 shovel tests, the locations of which were recorded using a GPS unit (Garmin GPS V). This work was accomplished on July 17, 2002. Upon mapping, the points did not align exactly as they were on the ground, presumably because they were made under tree cover, and some minor adjustments of UTM locations were necessary. The artifacts recovered from these shovel tests are presented here in Table 1.

ST #	Plain	Medium Incised	Bold Incised	UID Stamped	Vining Simple Stamped	Folded Pinched Rim	UID Stamped Rim	Sherd Weight grams	Daub	Quartz Flake
1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
2	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	14	0	0
3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	23	0	0
10	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0
11	10	0	0	1	0	0	1	40	5	1
12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
13	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
14	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
15	10	0	1	1	0	0	0	18	0	0
16	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
17	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0

Table 1. 9PM164, Artifacts from Shovel Tests.

All of the sherds with the single exception of a Vining Simple Stamped sherd, date to the Late Mississippian Lamar period. The UID Stamped sherds are almost certainly Lamar Complicated Stamped. Figure 2 on the next page

shows a density map made using the weight of sherds listed in the table above. It also shows the locations of the shovel tests and Excavation Unit 1.

As shown in Figure 2, the sherds are concentrated in an irregular area about 40 meters across. The area of highest concentration is oriented northwest-northeast and is about 30 by 20 meters in size. This is similar in size to many other small farmsteads in the Oconee Valley.

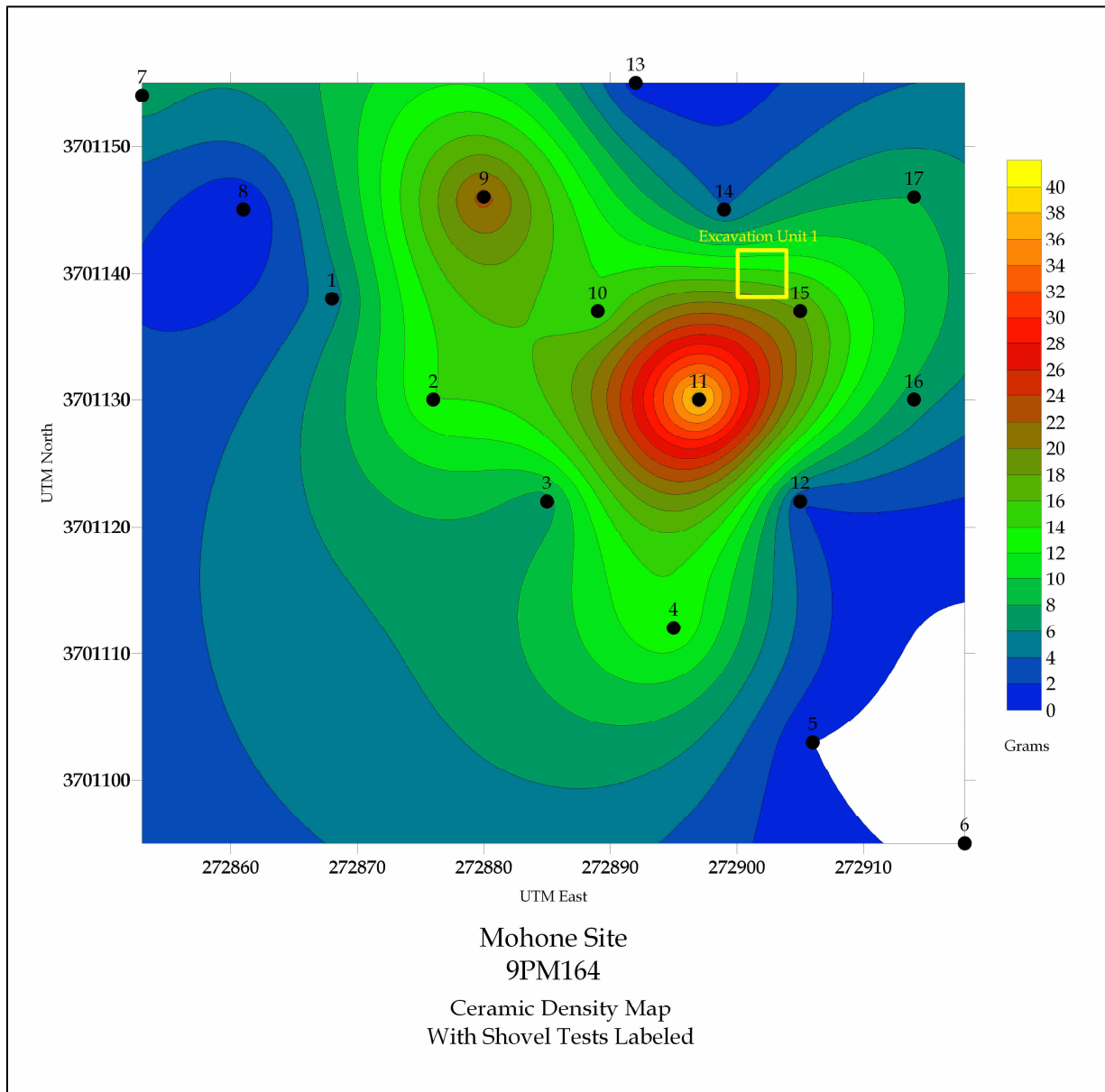


Figure 4. 9PM164 Sherd Density Map.

A single excavation unit, 3 by 3 meters in size, was placed in the site just north of the highest concentration of artifacts. Its location is marked on Figure 4. A photograph of this unit upon completion is presented as Figure 5 below. All of the soil from the unit was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. The depth of the soil to the sterile red clay was only 10-12 centimeters. There were a few small stains in the floor that might have been post molds from some structure. It would be necessary to cut the trees (in the research area) and strip a large area to identify the structure or structures located here. No large features were noted in the floor of the unit.

The artifacts from the unit are presented in Tables 2-5. Table 2 lists all the sherds from the square, a quite large number-723. Fine Incised sherds were very rare in the collection. In general, this collection is a very clear Lamar Dyar phase occupation. The rim sherds listed by style in Table 3 shows both cazuela bowl and excurvate rim jar forms--all perfectly expected vessel forms. The few lithics recovered are presented in Table 4. These may date to an earlier Archaic period occupation, but this is uncertain. Table 5 lists a few additional items, including tobacco pipe fragments and a possible ceramic bead. All in all, the collection from the Mohone site indicates one from a small late Lamar farmstead with much pottery. If the trees were removed from the area this might be an excellent site to excavate to define the probably structure or structures at the site.



Figure 5. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1.

	Body	Rim	Total
Plain	449	28	477
Lamar Bold Incised	41	3	44
Lamar Medium Incised	50	15	65
Lamar Fine Incised	1	0	1
Lamar Complicated Stamped	127	0	127
Lamar Punctated	5	0	5
Lamar Punctated / Incised	3	1	4
Total	676	47	723

Table 2. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, All Sherds.

	N
Simple, Plain	12
Simple, Bold Incised	3
Simple, Medium Incised	15
Simple, Fine Incised	0
Simple, Punctated / Incised	1
Folded Pinched, Plain	13
Rolled, Plain	3
Total	47

Table 3. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, Rim Sherds.

	N
Quartz Tertiary Flakes	24
Quartz Shatter	19
Coastal Plain Tertiary Flake	3
Coastal Plain Heat Treated Tertiary Flake	1

Table 4. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, Lithics.

	N	Grams
Charcoal		1
Daub		454
Sherds < 1/2 inch		1090
Pipe Fragment	3	
Bead?	1	
Limonite		36
Red Pebble	1	
Bone	1	

Table 5. 9PM164, Excavation Unit 1, Miscellaneous.

The RIP Site, 9PM161

This site was also originally located by Dean Wood. It is in the area immediately southeast of the road intersection known locally as Whitehead Corner. The name for the site was supplied by the 2002 summer field school when they saw an upright abandoned lawn chair through the woods and mistakenly thought it was a tombstone. The odd name stuck with the crew and I have not modified it here. At the time of our testing in 2002 the site was in densely planted pine trees of medium age. The area had been an open field when Dean Wood located it originally in 1973. Its UTM location is 3700570 North and 272970 East (Zone 17, NAD 1927).

Many sherds were located initially in the cleared area along the edge of the road just south of Whitehead Corner. Most of these were from the eastern side of the road, almost none being present on the western side. It is clear from this that the road cuts into the western edge of the site—how much we were uncertain at first. As with the other sites, the first thing we accomplished was the excavation of a series of shovel tests in the woods just east of the road. Ultimately we made 36 shovel tests in this area. These were excavated on July 22, 2002. They were spaced 10 meters apart in three north-south rows parallel to the road, and beginning about 10 meters east of it. The final six tests were placed further to the east in the center of this area. We recorded GPS coordinates for all these tests as they were excavated. Unfortunately, even with an external powered antenna, the dense pine forest currently on the site caused the accuracy of the recorded UTM locations for the tests to be too inaccurate for direct digital mapping. This is the only site where we had a problem of this sort. The plotted locations of the 36 shovel tests in Figure 6 are close estimates, but unfortunately are not exact. The sherds from these tests were all quite small and eroded as a result of the many years of plowing to which the site had been subjected. All the fill from each test was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. Table 6 below shows the weight in grams of the pottery from all 36 of the shovel tests.

Figure 6 also shows a Surfer generated density map based upon the shovel test sherd weight data. As can be seen, the densest part of the site is in the center to northwestern part of the area that was tested. The densest area is about 30 meters across, but is not exactly circular. Instead, it is elongated to both the southeast and the northwest, where it intersects with the road. The densest area, however, is actually quite restricted. A second area of higher sherd density was located in the extreme southwestern part of the area that was shovel tested. It is also noteworthy that all of the shovel tests except one recovered some pottery.

ST #	Sherd Weight	ST #	Sherd Weight
1	3	19	0
2	38	20	20
3	32	21	1
4	40	22	26
5	38	23	14
6	27	24	32
7	8	25	47
8	7	26	31
9	25	27	10
10	29	28	13
11	2	29	9
12	5	30	16
13	26	31	11
14	48	32	19
15	45	33	29
16	36	34	23
17	7	35	30
18	8	36	22

Table 6. 9PM161, Shovel Test Sherd Weight.

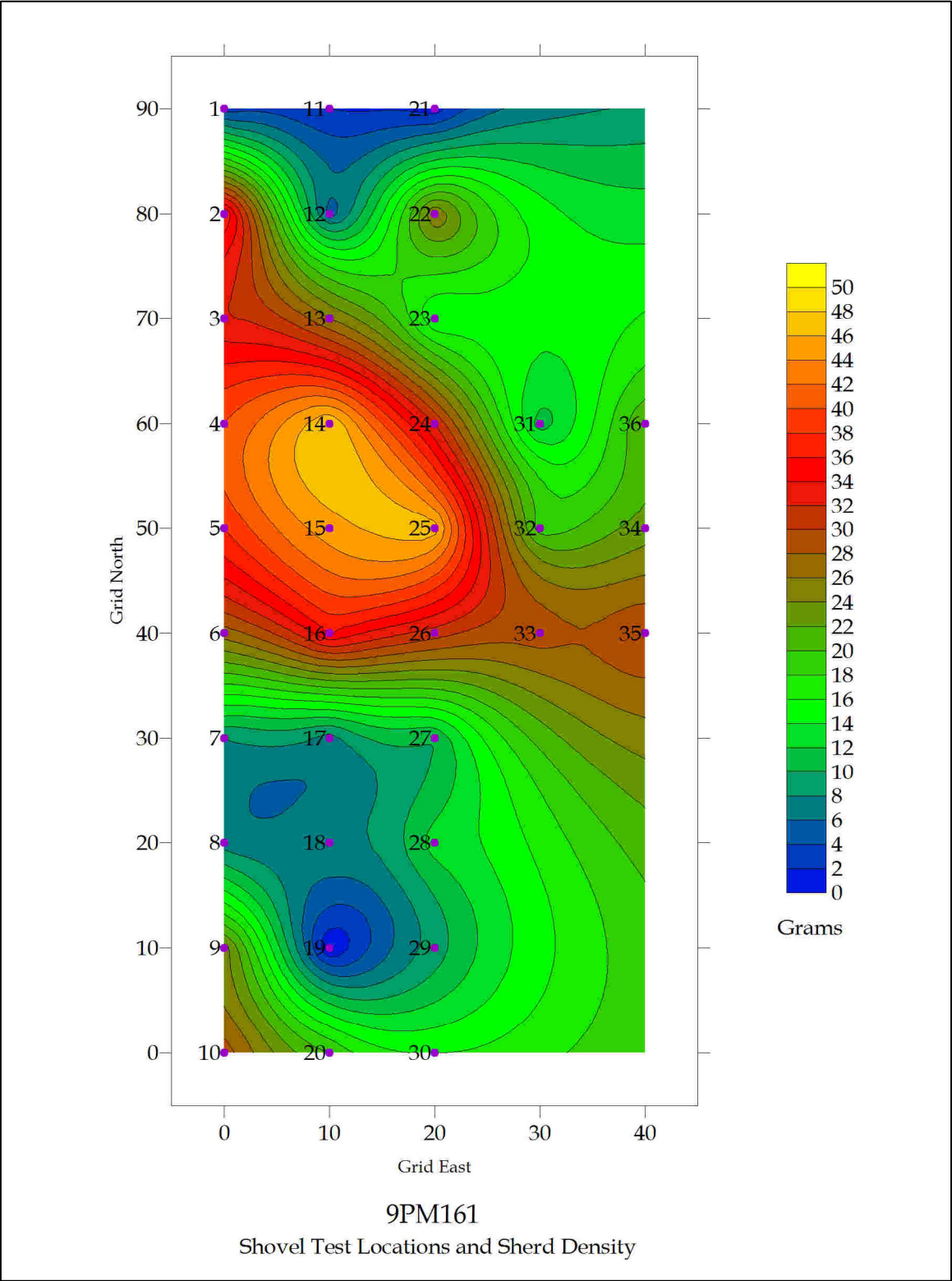


Figure 6. 9PM161, Sherd Density.

Excavation Unit 1

This unit was 3 by 3 meters in size, oriented magnetic north-south, and was excavated on July 23-24, 2002. It was located ca. 2 meters north of Shovel Test 25, the one with the most pottery based upon the shovel tests. The total depth for the excavation was 30 centimeters. Because the fill had been plowed to the sterile soil, the artifacts from the unit are treated here as a single level. There were no features or post stains noted in the floor of the unit. The fill was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. The completed unit is shown here in Figure 7.

The artifacts from Excavation Unit 1 are presented in Tables 7-10. Plain pottery predominates, but the most surprising revelation from this chart is that not all of the sherds date to the Late Lamar period. There is a substantial Late Woodland Vining period occupation at the RIP site, and, further, also a Middle Woodland Swift Creek occupation. Still, the Lamar occupation is clearly the largest one represented by the ceramic collection from Excavation Unit 1. Both jars and bowls are represented in the rims sherds analysis presented in Table 8.



Figure 7. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1.

The lithics as shown in Table 9 are more variable than from the other Lamar sites in the area, presumably because of the earlier components found in the unit. Finally, Table 10 presents a variety of additional items found in the unit, the most noteworthy of which are the 16 tobacco pipe fragments--all dating to the Lamar period.

	Body	Rim	Total
Plain	1319	47	1366
Lamar Bold Incised	32	10	42
Lamar Medium Incised	51	3	54
Lamar Fine Incised	1	0	1
UID Stamped	6	0	6
Vining Simple Stamped	35	0	35
Swift Creek Stamped	3	0	3
Lamar Complicated Stamped	1	0	1
Lamar Punctated	3	0	3
Lamar Punctated / Incised	3	0	3
Total	1454	60	1514

Table 7. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1, All Sherds.

	N
Simple, Plain	35
Simple, Bold Incised	10
Simple, Medium Incised	3
Flattened, Extruded Lip	5
Simple, Notched Lip	1
Folded Pinched, Plain	6

Table 8. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1, Rim Sherds.

	N
Quartz Flakes	56
Quartz Shatter	30
Clear Quartz Flake	4
Little River Chalcedony	39
Quartz Core	1
Coastal Plain Tertiary Flake	2
Coastal Plain Heat Treated Tertiary Flake	6
Ridge / Valley Tertiary Flake	4
Metavolcanic Flake	2

Table 9. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1, All Lithics.

	N	Grams
Charcoal	3	1
Daub		140
Sherds < 1/2 inch		2019
Tobacco Pipe Fragment	16	16
Bead?	1	
Limonite		23
Red Pebble	4	
Animal Bone		10
Unmodified Rock		551
Shell		5
Soapstone	5	1
Hickory Nut Fragment	1	1
Belt Buckle	1	1

Table 10. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 1, Miscellaneous.

Excavation Unit 2

This was a 2 meter square unit placed in the lower density hot spot at the extreme southwestern end of the shovel tested area on the site (See Figure 4). It was oriented magnetic north-south and the fill was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. It was excavated to sterile soil in a single level on July 24, 2002. The maximum depth of this plowed area was 20 centimeters. There were no features or post molds located in the floor of the excavation unit. The unit upon completion is shown in Figure 8. The artifacts from the unit are presented in Tables 11-14. The sherds shown in Table 11 are plentiful, and include both Lamar period materials and Vining materials, just like Excavation Unit 1. Table 12 lists the few rim sherds, Table 13 list the lithic artifacts, and Table 14 lists additional miscellaneous artifacts.

Summary

Clearly this site has a large component of the Late Lamar period, but also has a significant occupation during the Late Woodland Vining period. There are other likely occupations here also. The site is located at the very top of the intersection of several ridges in this area, and the fact that the Whitehead Corner has been located here throughout most of the historic period shows that this location has been a crossroads for a long time. On the other hand, the presence of so many components, and its location in a maturing pine forest makes this an unlikely site for future excavations. It is unclear to me if RIP should be considered as just a Lamar farmstead or, perhaps, a larger assemblage of homes.

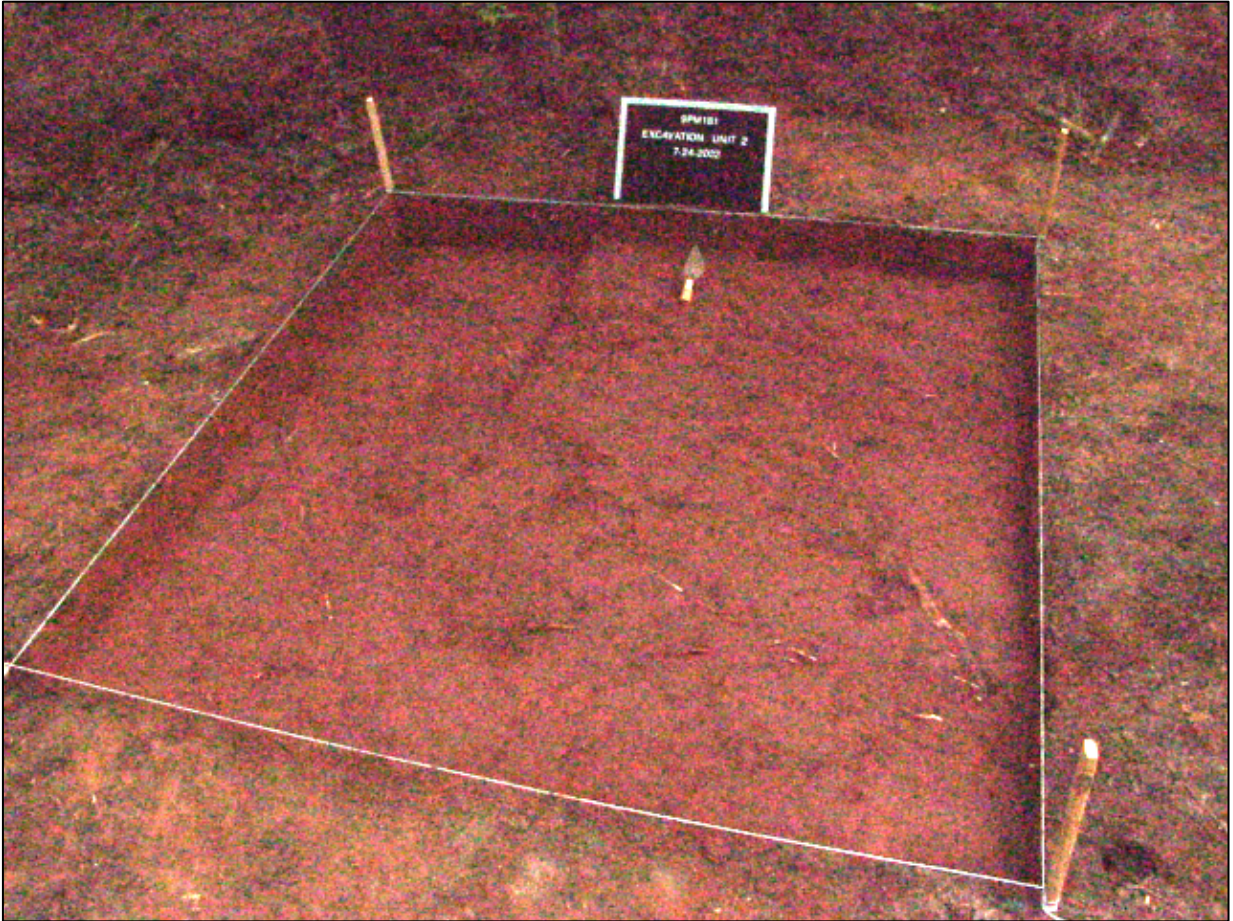


Figure 8. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 2.

	Body	Rim	Total
Plain	129	8	137
Lamar Bold Incised	5	1	6
Lamar Fine Incised	1	0	1
UID Complicated Stamped	47	1	48
Vining Simple Stamped	21	0	21
Total	203	10	213

Table 11. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 2, All Sherds.

	N
Simple, Plain Rim	8
Simple, Bold Incised Rim	1
Simple, UID Stamped Rim	1

Table 12. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 2, Rim Sherds.

	N
Quartz Flakes	10
Quartz Shatter	3
Clear Quartz Flake	1
Clear Quartz Shatter	1
Quartz Biface	2
Metavolcanic Flake	1
Coastal Plain Secondary Flake	1
Coastal Plain Heat Treated Tertiary Flake	1

Table 13. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 2, Lithics.

	N	Grams
Daub		5
Sherds < 1/2 inch		343
Limonite		13
Red Pebble	4	
Bone	1	
Unmodified Rock		2119
Clear Glass	1	

Table 14. 9PM161, Excavation Unit 2, Miscellaneous.

The Other Site, 9PM183

This small late Lamar farmstead was located in 1973 by Dean Wood. Its rather catchy name was given by an exhausted crew near the end of a long hot summer in 2002. It was located down a logging road near the nose of a ridge between Whitehead Creek and a small unnamed creek. It is about 1300 meters west-southwest from the RIP site and about 1400 meters southwest of the Mohone site. The site was completely bisected by the logging road here, and indeed, the site was originally located because sherds occur in the road bed at this location. The area is currently in a mature pine forest. Its UTM location is 3700440 North and 271680 East (UTM Zone 17, NAD 1927).

The first work conducted at this site was the excavation of a series of 15 shovel tests, placed in parallel lines in the woods on either side of the logging road bed. These were excavated on July 17, 2002. As with the other two sites, the soil from these tests was screened through 1/4 inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. The locations of the 15 shovel tests are presented in Figure 9. The artifacts from these same tests are presented in Table 15. The sherd density map made in Surfer is also presented on Figure 9. As can be seen, the densest area of sherds is quite small and primarily in the east-center part of the area that was shovel tested. This is on the crest of a small knoll at this location. The logging road that cuts through the site had a number of sherds that, with 20-20 hindsight, caused us to think the site extended down hill to the west from the knoll. It now appears likely that these sherds in the road had simply washed down it to the west from the knoll. The highest density area of sherds is only about 20 meters in diameter.

The lone excavation unit at the Other site was excavated on July 19, 2002. The unit was 3 by 3 meters in size and was laid out with magnetic north. The location was selected to include Shovel Test 1, the richest of all the shovel tests. The woods here were very thick and it was difficult to locate a 3 by 3 meter area without having to remove trees. The unit was excavated to sterile soil at 20 centimeters. This site had been thoroughly plowed in the past, so the 20 centimeter plow zone is essentially a single analytical unit for artifacts. There were no features or post molds seen in the sterile red clay in the bottom of the unit. Figure 10 below shows the unit after it was completed.

The artifacts from this unit are presented in Tables 16-19 that follow. The number of sherds from the units, as shown in Table 16, is a large 736 sherds. The presence of a single Etowah Complicated Stamped sherd might indicate an earlier Mississippian occupation at the site, but the identification might be erroneous. All of the other sherds are perfectly representative of a Late Lamar occupation similar to the other sites presented in this report. Table 17 lists the rim styles, and the presence of bowl and jar forms is just as expected. The few

lithic materials listed in Table 18 might date to an Archaic occupation, but this is uncertain.

This site is not a good candidate for more excavation since the eroded logging road bisects the site, and the mature pine forest on either side of the road would require major tree removal. This site, however, is a good example of the many small Late Lamar farmsteads in the Whitehead Corner area.

ST	Lamar Plain	Lamar Bold Incised	Lamar Medium Incised	Lamar Complicated Stamped	Simple, Plain Rim	Sherd Weight	Daub	Quartz Flake	Coastal Plain Secondary Flake
1	34	0	1	3	1	71.3	2	1	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	1	0	9.6	4	3	0
5	0	0	0	1	0	4.5	0	1	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
7	3	0	0	3	0	6.5	0	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
9	0	1	0	0	0	2.0	0	0	0
10	0	1	0	0	0	4.0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
13	3	0	0	2	0	14.2	0	0	0
14	8	0	0	5	0	30.8	0	0	0
15	4	1	0	0	0	17.0	0	0	0
Totals	52	4	1	15	1	159.9	6	5	1

Table 15. 9PM183, Shovel Test Data.

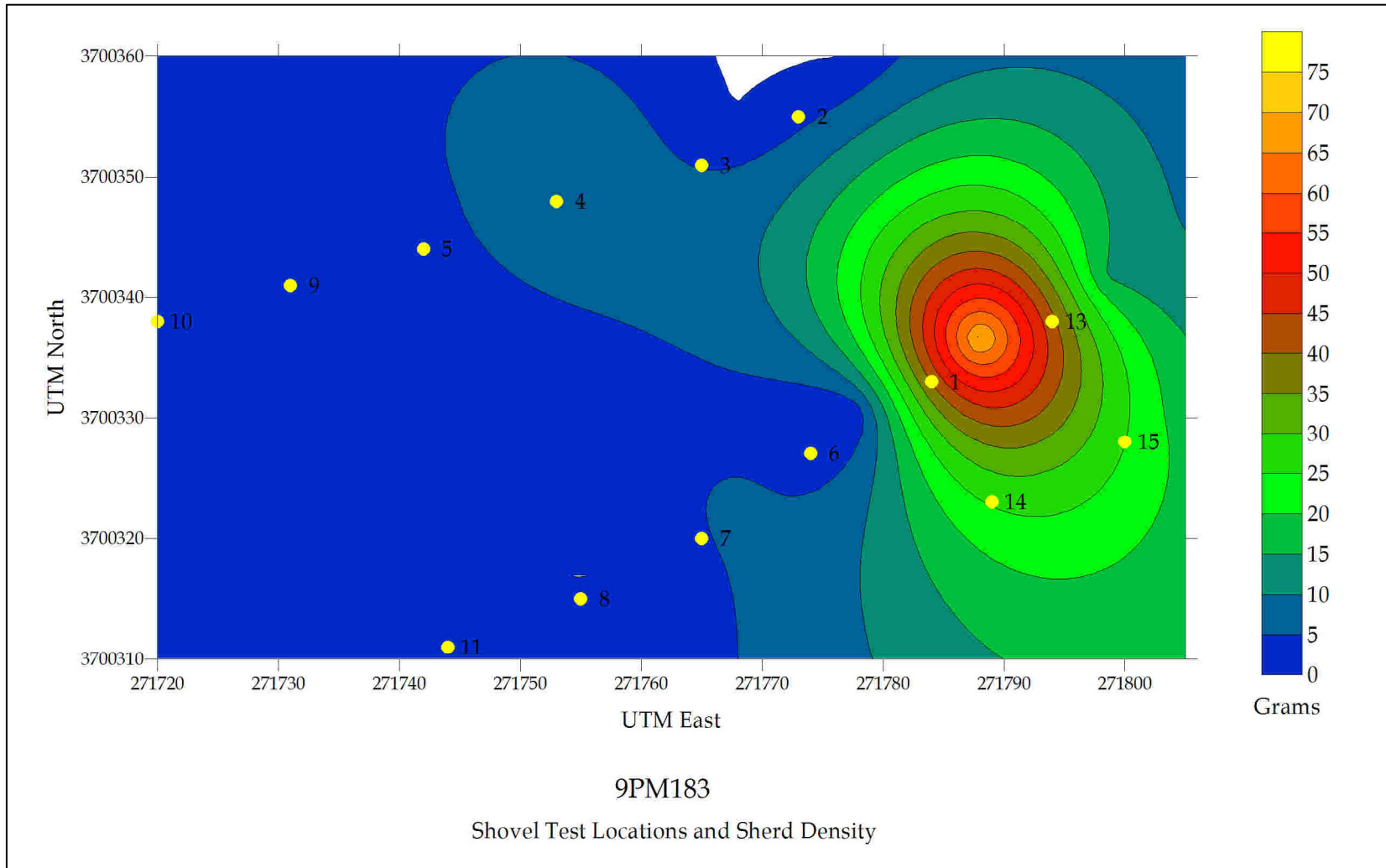


Figure 9. 9PM183, Shovel Test Locations and Sherd Density.



Figure 10. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1.

	Body	Rim	Total
Plain	398	39	437
Lamar Bold Incised	73	17	90
Lamar Medium Incised	56	10	66
Lamar Fine Incised	1	0	1
Lamar Complicated Stamped	136	1	137
Cane Punctated	2	0	2
Etowah Complicated Stamped?	1	0	1
Unknown Incised	2	0	2
Total	669	67	736

Table 16. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, All Sherds.

	N
Simple, Plain	13
Simple, Bold Incised	17
Simple, Medium Incised	10
Notched Rim, Plain	3
Narrow Fold, Stamped	1
Folded Pinched, Plain	23

Table 17. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, Rim Sherds.

	N
Quartz Tertiary Flakes	15
Quartz Shatter	2
Crystal Quartz Tertiary Flake	5
Coastal Plain Tertiary Flake	1
Coastal Plain Secondary Flake	1

Table 18. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, Lithics.

	N	Grams
Charcoal	4	
Daub		270
Sherds < 1/2 inch		800
Pipe Fragment	10	
Limonite	1	
Red Pebble	1	
Bone	5	2
Ceramic Blob	1	

Table 19. 9PM183, Excavation Unit 1, Miscellaneous.

The Evans Site, 9PM1417

This site was located on July 13, 2004, as part of a survey of logging roads in the Whitehead Corner area. It was discovered when a few sherds were noticed a few meters north down a side logging road, off of the main road that coursed southwest along a ridge top. The site was named after student Jeff Evans who located the first sherds from the site. The center location of this small scatter of sherds was 3699807 North, 271932 East (UTM Zone 17, NAD 1927). The site is located in a young pine forest, probably no more than 10 years old (Figure 11).

A series of 20 shovel tests were made at the site on either side of the small logging road. The locations of these are shown in Figure 11. The road goes slightly east of north at this point and bisects the site ceramic distribution. The overall size of the site seems to be between 30 and 40 meters in diameter, the same as most of the other Late Lamar farmsteads in the area. The number of sherds from each shovel test is shown on the following drawing, Figure 12. As can be seen, none of the shovel tests produced a great number of sherds, but test number 3 did yield 8 sherds. The actual data from the shovel tests is presented here in Table 20.

I decided to place an excavation unit near shovel test 3 to recover a larger number of sherds to aid in site identification. However, there was not enough room between the many small trees on the site to put in a 2 by 2 meter unit, so I decided to place two 1 by 2 meter units in the area instead. The location of these units, excavated on July 15, 2004, is shown on Figure 12. Both were oriented with the adjacent road rather than with north, and the soil from both was screened with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. The depth of both units was only 10-12 centimeters before sterile red clay was reached. No features or post molds were revealed in the floors of either of the two excavation units. The completed units are shown in Figure 13.

The artifacts from the excavation units are presented in Table 21. I also include the analysis of the two separate surface collections made at the site in the same table. The total number of sherds recovered was thus 164, and all date to the Late Lamar period--the same as most of the other sites investigated in this report. The presence of tobacco pipe fragments and pottery disks is noted here, as in almost all of these sites. The very few flakes from the site may date to the Archaic period, but this is uncertain.

Thus, the Evans site is yet another small farmstead in the Whitehead Corner area. The young age of the pine forest there, plus the presence of the eroded logging road through the center of the site does not make it a good candidate for larger scale excavation, certainly at the present time.

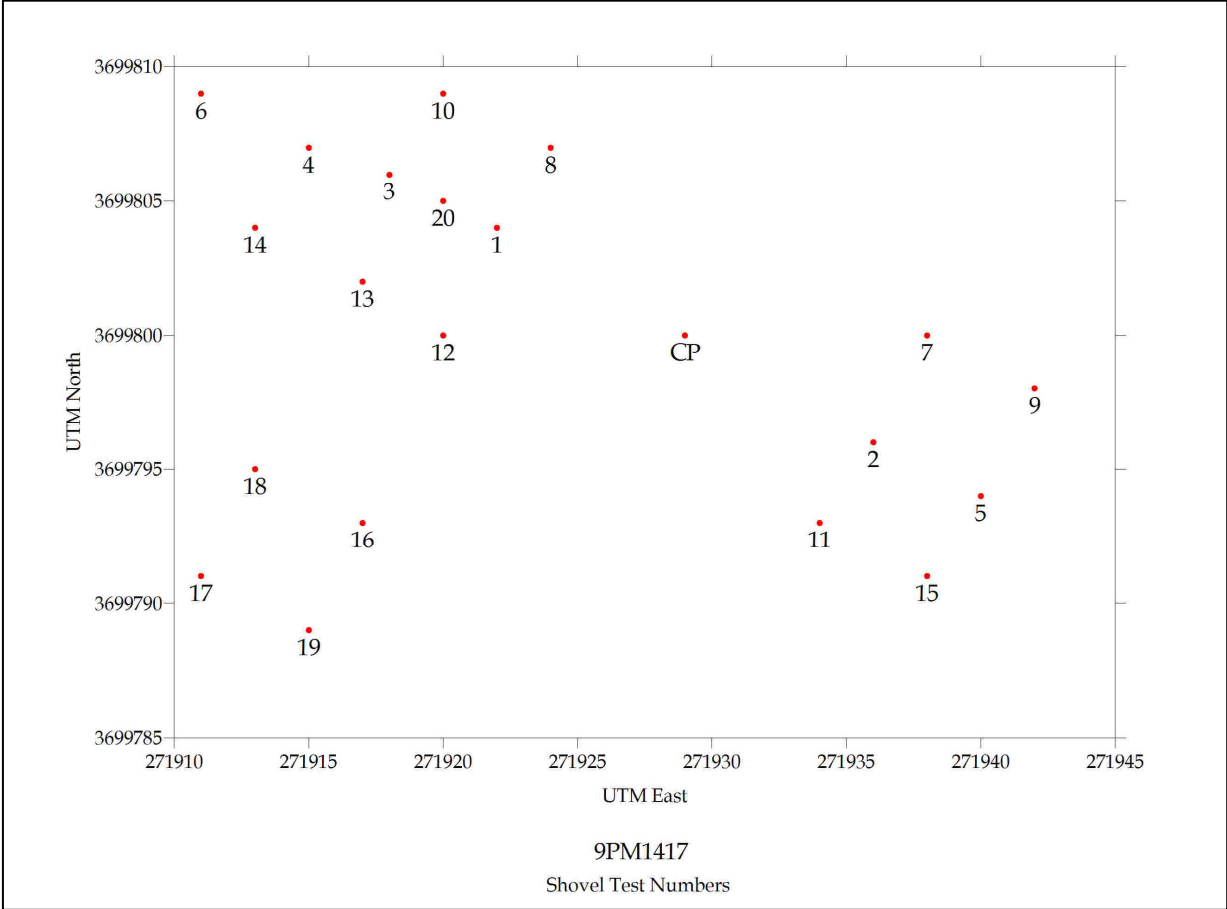


Figure 11. 9PM1417, Shovel Test Locations.

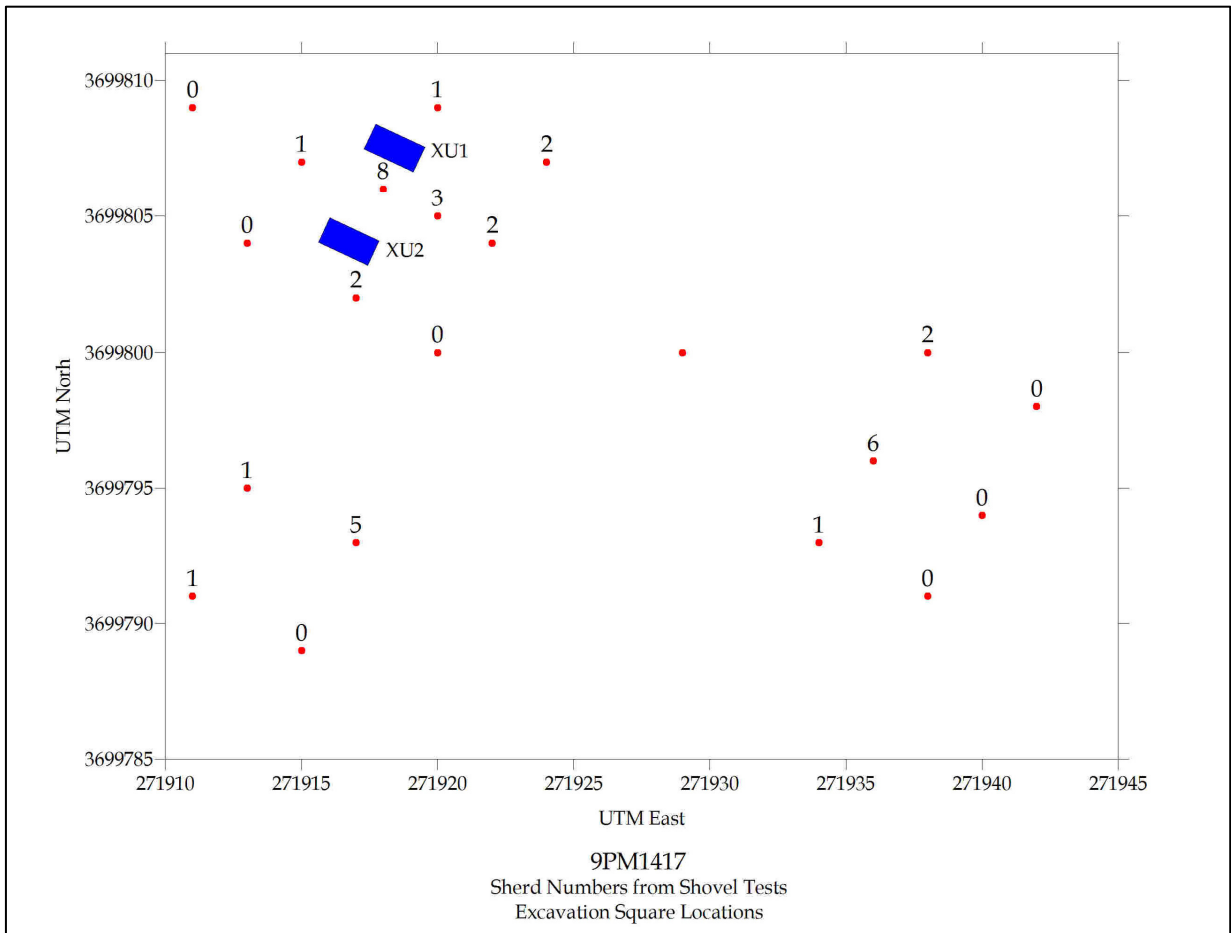


Figure 12. 9PM1417, Shovel Test Sherd Data & Excavation Square Locations.



Figure 13. 9PM1417, Excavation Units 1 (Foreground) and 2 (Background).

ST Number	Lamar Plain	Lamar Bold Incised	Lamar Medium Incised	Quartz Flake
1	2	0	0	0
2	6	0	0	0
3	8	0	0	0
4	1	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0
7	2	0	0	0
8	1	0	1	0
9	0	0	0	0
10	1	0	0	0
11	1	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
13	1	1	0	0
14	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0
16	5	0	0	2
17	1	0	0	0
18	1	0	0	0
19	0	0	0	0
20	3	0	0	1
Totals	33	1	1	3

Table 20. 9PM1417, Shovel Test Artifacts.

Location	Lamar Plain	Lamar Complicated Stamped	Lamar Bold Incised	Lamar Medium Incised	Simple, Plain Rim	Folded Pinched Rim	Simple, Medium Incised Rim	Tobacco Pipe Fragment	Pottery Disc	Sherd Totals	Quartz Flake	Quartz Shatter	Ridge and Valley Flake
Surface Collection 1	20	8	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	33	0	0	0
Surface Collection 2	10	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	13	0	0	0
XU 1	42	6	7	0	3	0	0	1	0	59	0	0	0
XU 2	46	2	3	3	0	2	2	0	1	59	4	6	1
Totals	118	18	12	4	3	5	2	1	1	164	4	6	1

Table 21. 9PM1417, Surface and Excavation Unit Artifacts.

The Wood Site, 9PM162

This site was located originally by Dean Wood in 1973. He did not give it a name, and I have taken the liberty of naming it after him for this report. He located it along a logging road, and that road is still used now over 30 years later. Sherds are still plentiful in this road. The center location of the site is 3700838 North and 272613 East (UTM Zone 17, NAD 1927). The site is located in an eroded logging road and a mature and thinned planted pine forest just to the east of the road (to left on Figure 15, which is looking to the south). This pine forest has been present since at least the early 1970s. The area to the west of the north-south running logging road was clear cut about 6 years ago, and was a recently planted in pine trees.

In 2002 the crew made two separate surface collections in the logging road at the site. The data from these collections is presented here in Table 22. Based upon these collections, this is a single component Late Lamar period site. On July 17, 2002, we put in a series of 27 shovel tests at 10 meter intervals. These tests were all placed in the forested area just east of the road. The shovel tests were placed at 10 meter intervals in a grid as shown in Figure 14. The grid of tests was oriented 30 degrees east of magnetic north to orient it with the edge of the woods edge just to the northwest. The number of sherds recovered from the shovel tests are also presented by location on Figure 14. As can be seen, the sherd density everywhere is quite low. The maximum number of sherds in two of the tests was 3. This was a disappointing result and no further work was conducted at the site in 2002.

In 2004, as part of the testing of several other sites, I decided to place a single excavation unit in the woods at the site, to check for possible features and to attempt to recover more sherds. This unit was excavated on July 20, 2004. The location selected for this 2 by 2 meter square was near the area of higher density as revealed by the shovel tests. The location is shown on Figure 14. The soil from the unit was screened through ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth to recover artifacts. The depth to sterile soil was only about 5 centimeters in this unit, and the number of artifacts recovered was very disappointing. Indeed, only 15 pottery sherds were recovered from the entire unit. These included 12 Lamar Plain, 2 Lamar Complicated Stamped, and a single Lamar folded pinched rim sherd. There were no post molds or features located in the floor of this heavily eroded area. The completed square is shown in Figure 16.

I now believe that the area of the center of the site sherd distribution is in and just east of the logging road. All of the sherds recovered are from the Late Lamar period, and the site likely represents the remains of a farmstead. Given the apparent large amount of erosion and the damage to the site by the wide logging road, this site does not seem to be one that is a good candidate for future additional excavation, although there probably is still limited evidence of

the house at the site.

Sherds	Surface (July 9, 2002)	Surface (July 17, 2002)	Total
Lamar Plain	242	85	327
Lamar Bold Incised	0	4	4
Lamar Medium Incised	8	1	9
Lamar Fine Incised	2	1	3
Lamar Complicated Stamped	32	13	45
Simple, Plain Rim	0	3	3
Simple, Stamped Rim	1	0	1
Notched Rim	0	1	1
Folded Pinched Rim	1	1	2
Folded Notched Rim	0	1	1
Bold Incised Rim	0	1	1
Unidentified Rim Sherd	1	0	1
Simple Incised Rim	2	0	2

Table 22. 9PM162, Surface Collection Sherds.

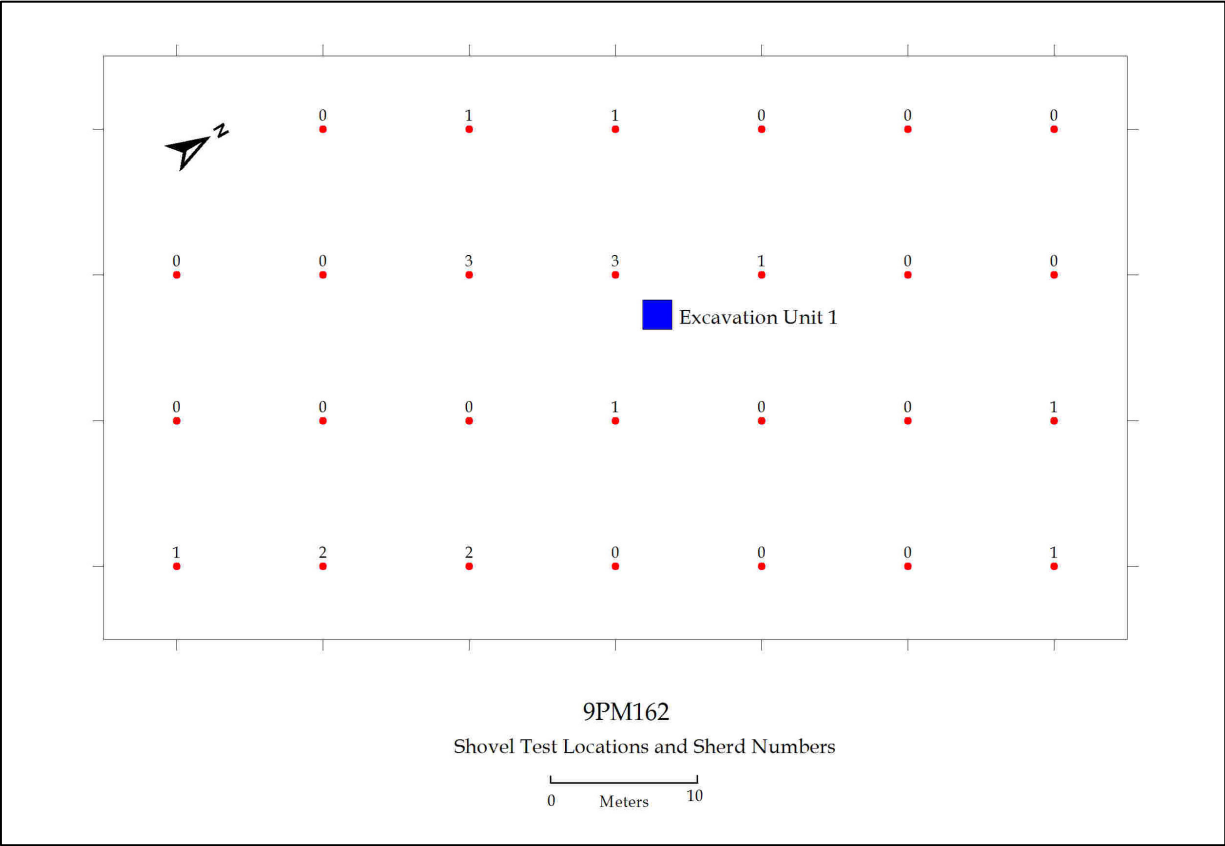


Figure 14. 9PM162, Shovel Test Locations and Excavation Unit.



Figure 15. 9PM162, General View of Site and Road.



Figure 16. 9PM162, Excavation Unit 1.

Summary and Observations

The five sites discussed here do not present us with any major revelations about past human life in the area. There were no features or post molds located in the (very limited) excavations shown here. None of them seem good candidates for future large scale excavations. The value of the work presented is more subtle. The shovel test data shows a consistent pattern of small sites in the range of 30-40 meters in diameter. Excavation at such sites has shown these to be the locations of individual farmsteads (Hatch 1995), and I strongly believe that is the case for all five of the sites presented here. Another thing gleaned from this data and from larger scale excavations at such sites is that features and post molds are not plentiful at these sites. This implies, among other things, that the farmsteads in this area were only occupied for a short period of time. In fact, it would surprise me if the occupation in the Whitehead Corner area lasted much over 10 years. This begs the question, however, of whether there was growth in population and/or internal movement around the Whitehead Corner area during the period of occupation.

Another goal of the project presented here was to gather larger quantities of sherds from these small sites than could be located otherwise. This permitted better identification of the ceramic periods for the sites in terms of the known ceramic sequence for the entire Oconee Valley (Williams and Shapiro 1990). In general, they are all the same. I am in the midst of more detailed examination of the sherd data from these, and other local sites, and hope to present that data in another paper in the near future.

Finally, I strongly believe that the kind of long term, small area project, of which this brief report is a part, presents us with the best possibility for gaining additional insight into the working of the dispersed settlement system so obviously present in the Piedmont Oconee Valley of central Georgia (Williams 1995). This dispersed settlement system is an important part of an overall very high population density area in Georgia, but is quite different from the primarily nucleated Mississippian systems over most of the rest of the late prehistoric southeastern United States.

References Cited

Elliott, Daniel T.

1990 Two Late Lamar Sites Near Ray's Corner, Oconee County, Georgia.
In *Lamar Archaeology: Mississippian Chiefdoms in the Deep South*, edited
by Mark Williams and Gary Shapiro, pp 117-124. University of
Alabama press, Tuscaloosa.

Hatch, James W.

1995 Lamar Period Upland Farmsteads of the Oconee River Valley, Georgia.
In *Mississippian Communities and Households*, edited by J. Daniel Rogers and
Bruce D. Smith. pp 35-155. University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

Williams, Mark

1995 Chiefly Compounds. In *Mississippian Communities and Households*,
edited by J. Daniel Rogers and Bruce D. Smith. pp 124-134. University
of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

2006a Archaeological Excavations at the Monroe Site. *Lamar Institute
Publication 120*. Lamar Institute, Savannah, Georgia.

2006b Archaeological Excavations at the Lauren Site. *Lamar Institute
Publication 121*. Lamar Institute, Savannah, Georgia.

Wood, Dean

2002 Personal Communication.