This document has been checked for information on Native American burials. No images considered to be culturally insensitive, including images and drawings of burials, Ancestors, funerary objects, and other NAGPRA material were found.

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT SITE 9PM212

DAVID J. HALLY AND JAMES L. RANDOLPH

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT SITE 9PM212

by

David J. Hally
University of Georgia

James L. Rudolph
University of Georgia

WALLACE RESERVOIR PROJECT CONTRIBUTION NUMBER 20

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PREFACE

This report represents the final report for site PM212, the excavation of which was provided for in Appendix 9 of the Archaeological Salvage Agreement between the University of Gerogia and the Georgia Power Company.

David J. Hally

Principal Investigator

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Introduction

Site 9PM212 is located in Putnam County in the floodplain of the Oconee River at the upriver end of Riley Shoals (Figures 1 and 2, Plate 1). The Universal Transverse Mercator Grid co-ordinates for the site are N3696720 E296360. The floodplain in the vicinity of the site is about 75 m wide and is composed of sandy soil which extends to a depth of at least 2 m. Only a short distance from the site, there are numerous small islands and boulders stretching across the river.

The Wallace Reservoir lies within the Piedmont physiographic province of north central Georgia. The Piedmont is a strongly dissected highland area which gently slopes toward the Coastal Plain. Lithologically, the Piedmont is made up of metamorphic rocks which are frequently crystalline and quite resistant. It is this resistant nature of the rocks that controls the drainage of the Piedmont and produces a topography that is generally hilly with steep slopes and narrow valleys. Soils are rich in mineral nutrients, although nitrogen and phosphorus levels are low. The narrow valleys and steep gradient of stream beds generally restrict the development of alluvial floodplains throughout most of the province (Larson 1971:23).

The Piedmont province has been divided into several districts by Clark and Zisa (1976). The Washington Slope District, which includes the Wallace Reservoir, is characterized as follows:

> "The Washington Slope District is characterized by a gently undulating surface which descends gradually from about the 700 foot elevation at its northern margin to about the 500 foot elevation at its southern edge. Streams occupy broad, shallow valleys with long, gentle side slopes separated by broad, rounded divides. Relief throughout this district is 50-100 feet" (Clark and Zisa 1976).

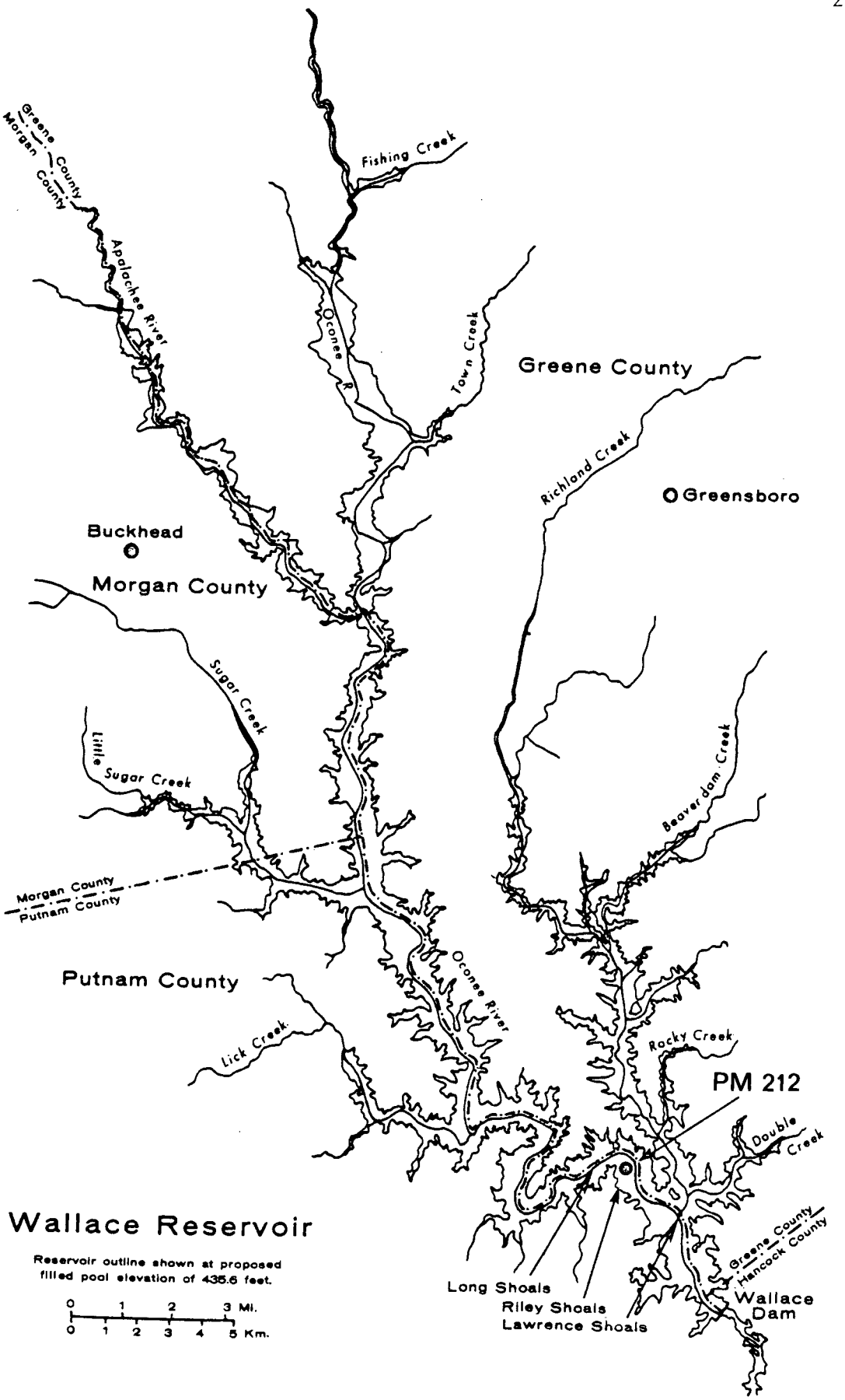

Figure 1. Location of PM212 within the Wallace Reservoir.

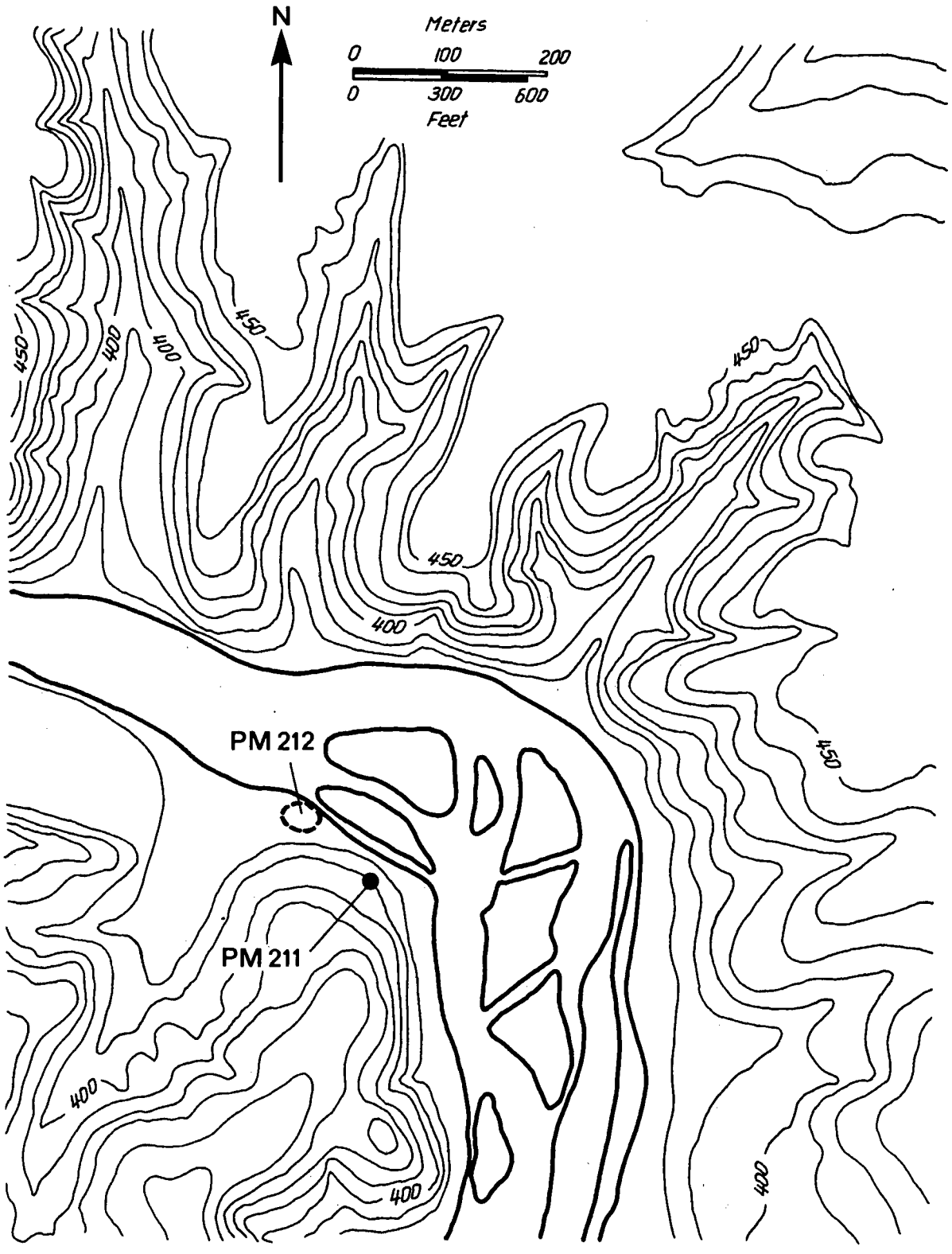

Figure 2. Map of Riley Shoals showing location of PM212.

Forest cover of the Piedmont consists largely of hickory, shortleaf and loblolly pine, and white and post oak species. The climate of the area "is characterized by warm to hot summers and by moderately cold, but highly variable winter weather. The precipitation pattern shows a maximum early in spring, a minimum in fall, and fairly even distribution for the rest of the year" (Soil Conservation Service 1965:2). Rainfall averages about 47.5 inches per year.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

PM212 was first detected in posthole tests conducted by a University of Georgia survey party in 1974. Investigations conducted at the site at that time have been described by DePratter (1976:368-9) as follows:

> Site 9PM212 was located through the excavation of posthole test 76, which was located on the floodplain 14 m fromthe edge of a small river channel to the northeast. Fill of the test was yellow sand to a depth of 150 cm, but 10 small fire cracked rock fragments were encountered between 110 and 125 cm, and a rhyolite Savannah River projectile point was present at 130 cm. Three additional posthole tests (79-81) and a test pit were excavated in the immediate area. Posthole test 80, located 5 m northwest of posthole test 76, encountered a concentration of firecracked rocks (possibly a hearth) at a depth of 125 cm. No associated artifacts were present. Posthole test 79 (located 8 m northwest of 80) and 81 (located 12 m southwest of 80) contained only sterile yellow sand.
>
> A 1 x 2 m test pit was excavated around posthole test 76. Although fill of the pit was unstratified yellow sand to 210 cm, several possible occupation floors were present. The following artifacts were recovered from the excavations:

Aboriginal Artifacts	10-30 cm	90-110 cm	110-115 cm	115-130 cm
Lithic				
Quartz waste flakes		5	1	
Chert waste flakes			1	
Rhyolite waste flakes		34	12	1
Fire-cracked rocks	1	many	6	2
Other rocks	1	many		
Pebbles	2			

The test pit was stopped at 130 cm, but a posthole test was excavated beginning at that depth. Yellow sand was found to continue to a depth of 210 cm where mottled sand and ground water were encountered. No artifacts were found in the posthole test.

The occupation of the site appears to date mainly to the Savannah River Phase (3500-2500 B.C.). The size of the site was not determined, since no tests were excavated to the east of the test pit, but it is over 5 m in diameter. Presence of a possible hearth in posthole test 80 suggests that the test pit may have been excavated on the edge of a habitation area.

RESEARCH DESIGN

At the time the research design for intensive archaeological investigations in the Wallace Reservoir was developed (Hally and Fish 1976:506), PM212 was one of three Savannah River phase sites recommended for excavation. It was the only site of this phase known to exist in a floodplain situation and in the southern portion of the reservoir where shoals are common. Excavation of the site, it was hoped, would provide information on the exploitation of riverine resources during the late Archaic Period.

A basic goal of field investigations at PM212 was to obtain subsistence and settlement data that would be comparable to that from the Late Archaic component at PM205, located a short distance upriver.[1] Particular emphasis was placed on obtaining data suitable for environmental reconstruction, since such information was lacking at PM205. Thus, a considerable number of pollen and flotation samples were collected during excavations.

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[1] PM205 was originally identified as a Middle Archaic site (DePratter 1976:298). Excavation in 1977, however, revealed that the major component was Savannah River phase.

SITE EXCAVATION AND STRATIGRAPHY

Provenience 1

The initial phase of investigation at PM212 involved excavation of 13 posthole tests in order to determine the site boundaries (Figure 3). These tests were located arbitrarily, usually in places where ground cover was not too dense. Generally they were spaced 10- 20 m apart and excavated to a depth of 2 m.

Posthole tests B,G,H and I contained material which was probably associated with PM211, a nearby rockshelter with a Lamar occupation. Posthole test B contained a single Lamar Incised sherd. Posthole tests G, H and I yielded only fragments of charcoal.

Posthole tests C,K and L each produced pebbles or miscellaneous small rocks. Posthole test F yielded some charcoal fragments.

Posthole tests A,D,E,J and M yielded no cultural material and no stone of any kind.

Subsequent to posthole testing, a contour map was made of the site and an arbitrary datum point (100 m) was established for vertical control.

Provenience 2

Provenience 2 is the 1 x 2 m test pit excavated in 1974 by the University of Georgia survey party (Figures 3 and 4). The pit was shoveled out to a depth of 145 cm in order to view stratigraphy in this area of the site. Cultural material recovered from the east wall of the test pit preparatory to drawing a profile is as follows:

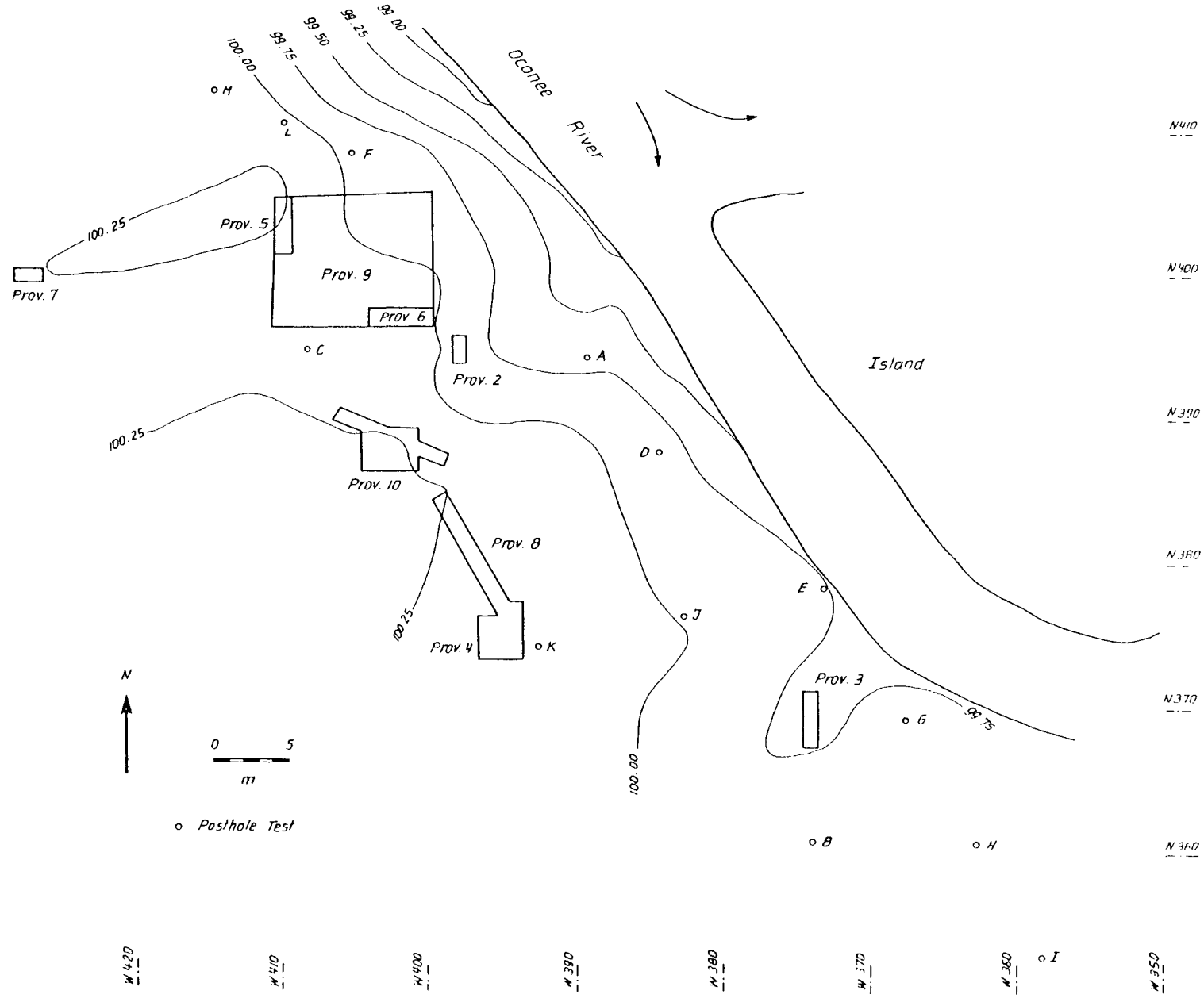

Figure 3. Location of posthole tests and Provenience Units at PM212.

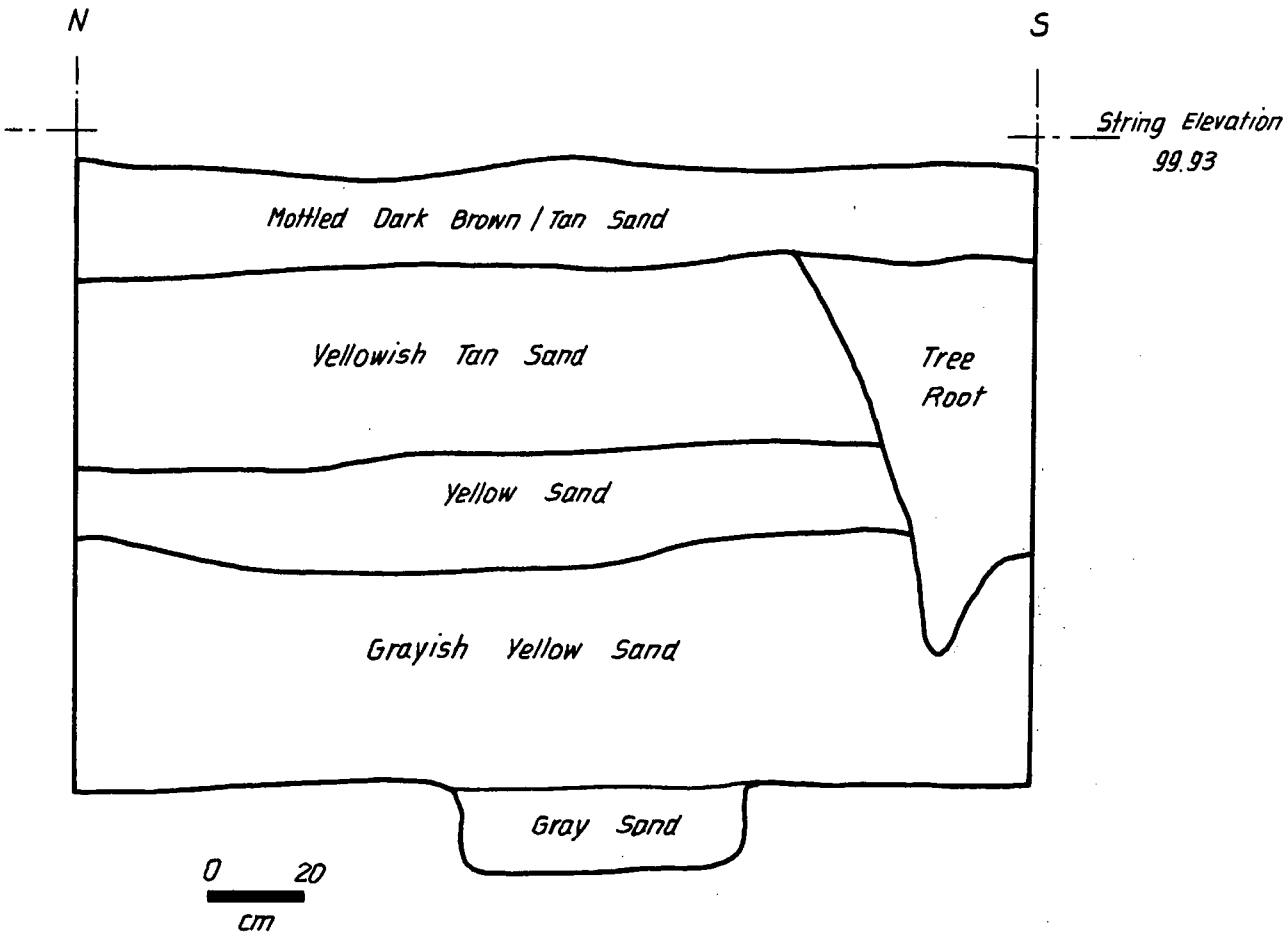

Figure 4. East profile of Provenience 2.

steatite slab	1
unidentified quartz debris	1
unidentified rhyolite debris	3
fire cracked rock	.23 kg
miscellaneous rock	.45 kg

One piece of quartz was found at a depth of about 50 cm (99.34 m) below ground surface, but most material occurred at 100-130 cm (98.85-98.55 m) below ground surface.

Provenience 3

This unit is located 33 m southeast of Provenience 2. It was excavated in order to view stratigraphy in that area and to determine how far the site extended to the southeast. Ground surface at the edge of the unit was 99.74 m. Excavation proceeded by arbitrary 20 cm levels to a depth of 100 cm below ground surface (Figure 5). Level 6 was excavated between 100 cm and 155 cm below ground surface. All soil was dry screened through 1/4 inch wire cloth. The material recovered from Provenience 3 is listed in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Artifacts from Provenience 3 dry screened lots

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
pebbles	.03kg				.03kg	
miscellaneous stone			.23kg	.20kg	.14kg	

Except for the topsoil and possibly the lowest stratum, stratigraphy in Provenience 3 appears radically different from that in Provenience 2. The absence of definite stone artifacts and flake debris suggests that strata below Level 1 were deposited entirely by natural processes.

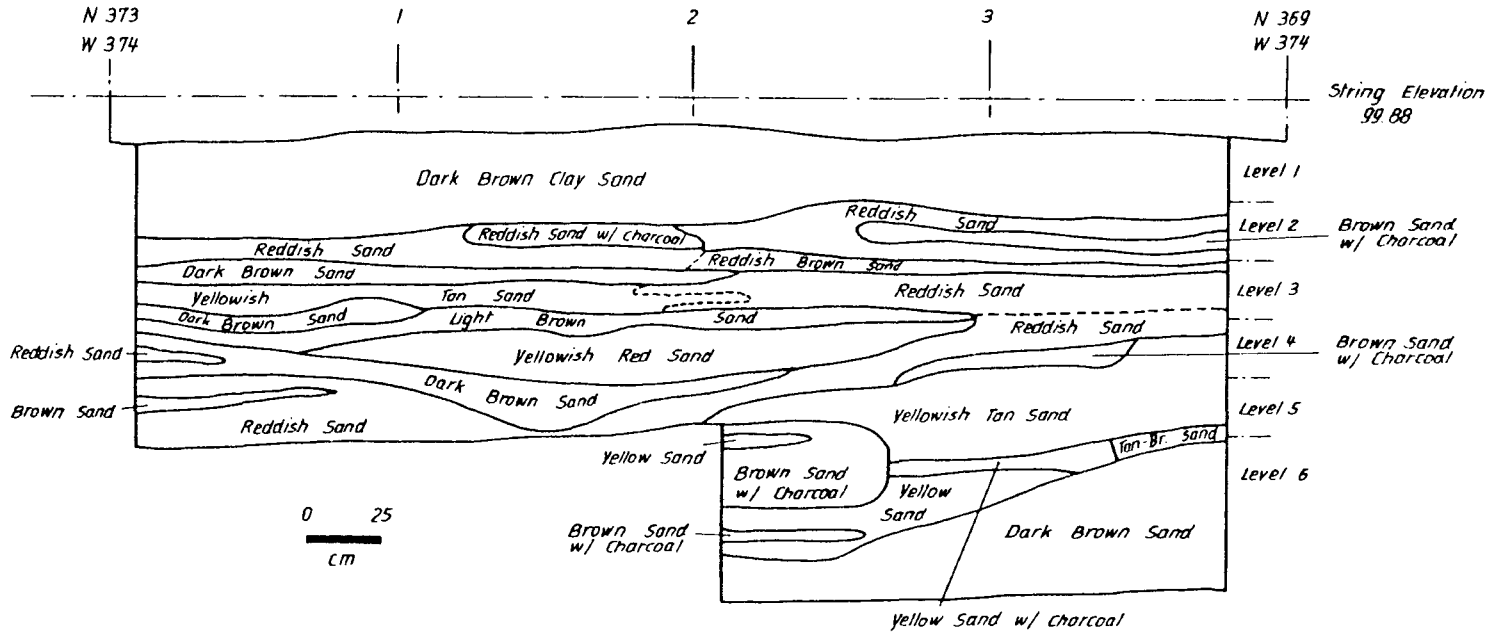

Figure 5. East profile of Provenience 3.

Provenience 4

Excavation in this provenience began as a 1 x 2 m test pit located adjacent to posthole test K which yielded stone suggestive of fire-cracked rock. This test pit proved to be interesting since it yielded Woodland pottery. As a result, two additions--measuring 1 x 4 m and 2 x 2 m--were made to the unit. Ground surface at the edge of the unit was 100.15 m.

Excavation proceeded by arbitrary levels: Level 1, 0-50 cm; Level 2, 50-80 cm; Level 3, 80-100 cm; Level 4, 100-120 cm; Level 5, 120-140 cm (1 x 2 m unit only); Level 6, 140-170 (1 x 2 m unit only). All soil was dry screened through 1/4 inch wire cloth. Pollen and flotation samples were taken from Features 1, 2, 6 and 8. Artifacts recovered from the provenience are listed in Table 2.

Natural stratigraphy in Provenience 4 is illustrated in Figure 6. Stratigraphy consists basically of sands of different shades of red and yellow. Four features were encountered in Provenience 4 (Figure 7). Feature 1 was a cluster of Cartersville Simple Stamped sherds occurring at 80.5 cms (99.39 m) below ground surface. The cluster measured 22 x 17 cm and consisted of 17 sherds, most of which fit together. Hickory shell (0.35 g) was recovered in the flotation sample taken from the feature.

Feature 2 was a deep pit first encountered at 100 cm (99.20) below ground surface. It measured 22 x 26 cm at this elevation and extended to a depth of 180 cm (98.60 m). Fill was a dark brown sand containing some charcoal. No flotation sample was taken.

Feature 6 was a pit with gray sand fill, measuring 41 cm by 48 cm and 20 cm deep. Charcoal was abundant near the center of the feature. The feature was first encountered at 87 cm (99.38 m) below ground surface.

TABLE 2

Artifacts From Provenience 4 Dry Screened Lots

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Feature 1	Feature 2	Feature 6
Cartersville Simple Stamped		26	13	1			10	9	
Cartersville Plain		7	3	3		2	7	9	1
Chert Retouch Flakes		1							
Unidentified quartz debris				1					
Unidentified chert debris		2	4				1		
Unidentified rhyolite debris		1	1						
Miscellaneous stone		.25kg	.29kg	.74kg					.03kg
Cracked rock	.09kg		.43kg	.09kg	.09kg	.03kg			
Pebbles			.23kg						

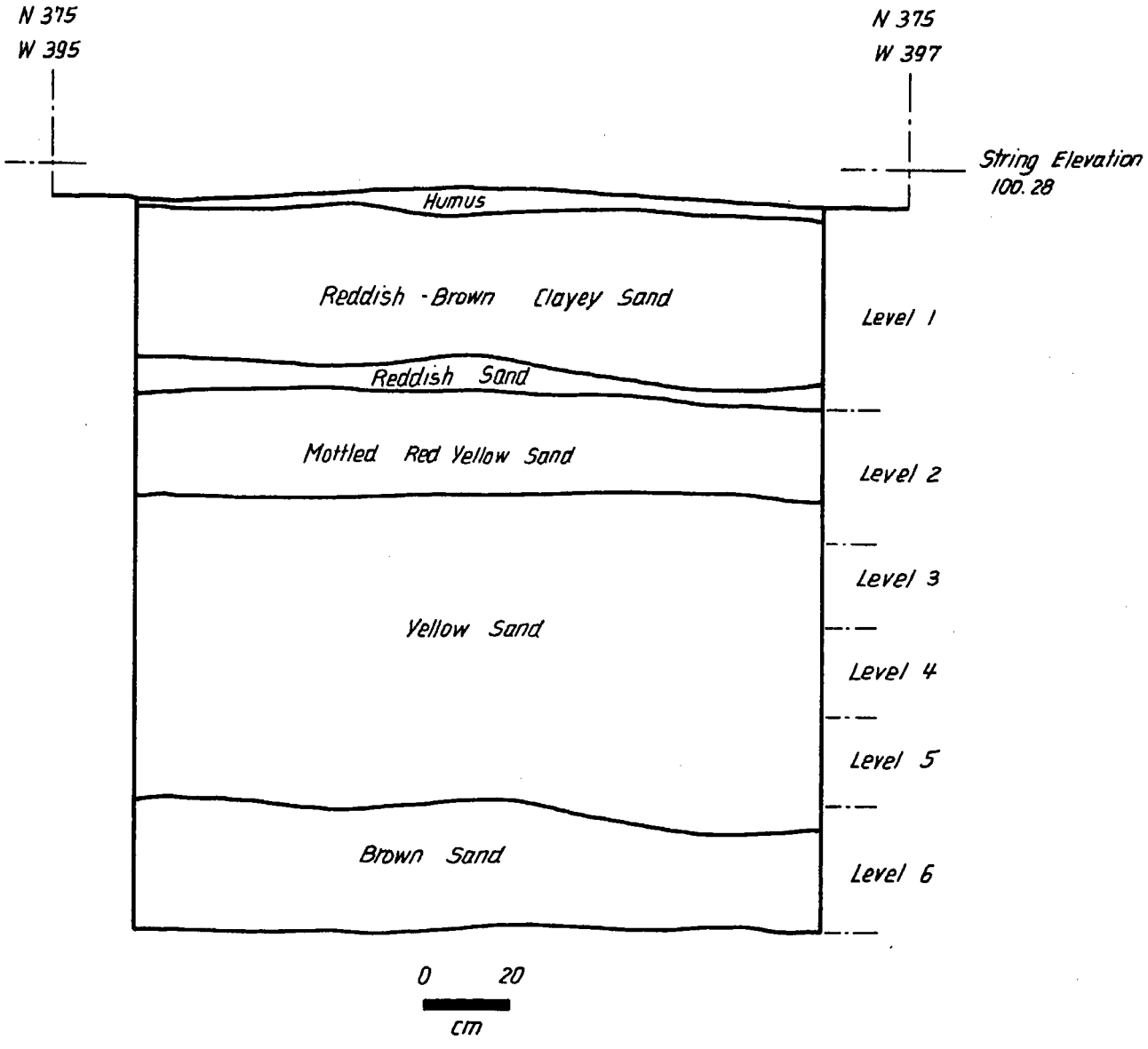

Figure 6. South profile of Provenience 4.

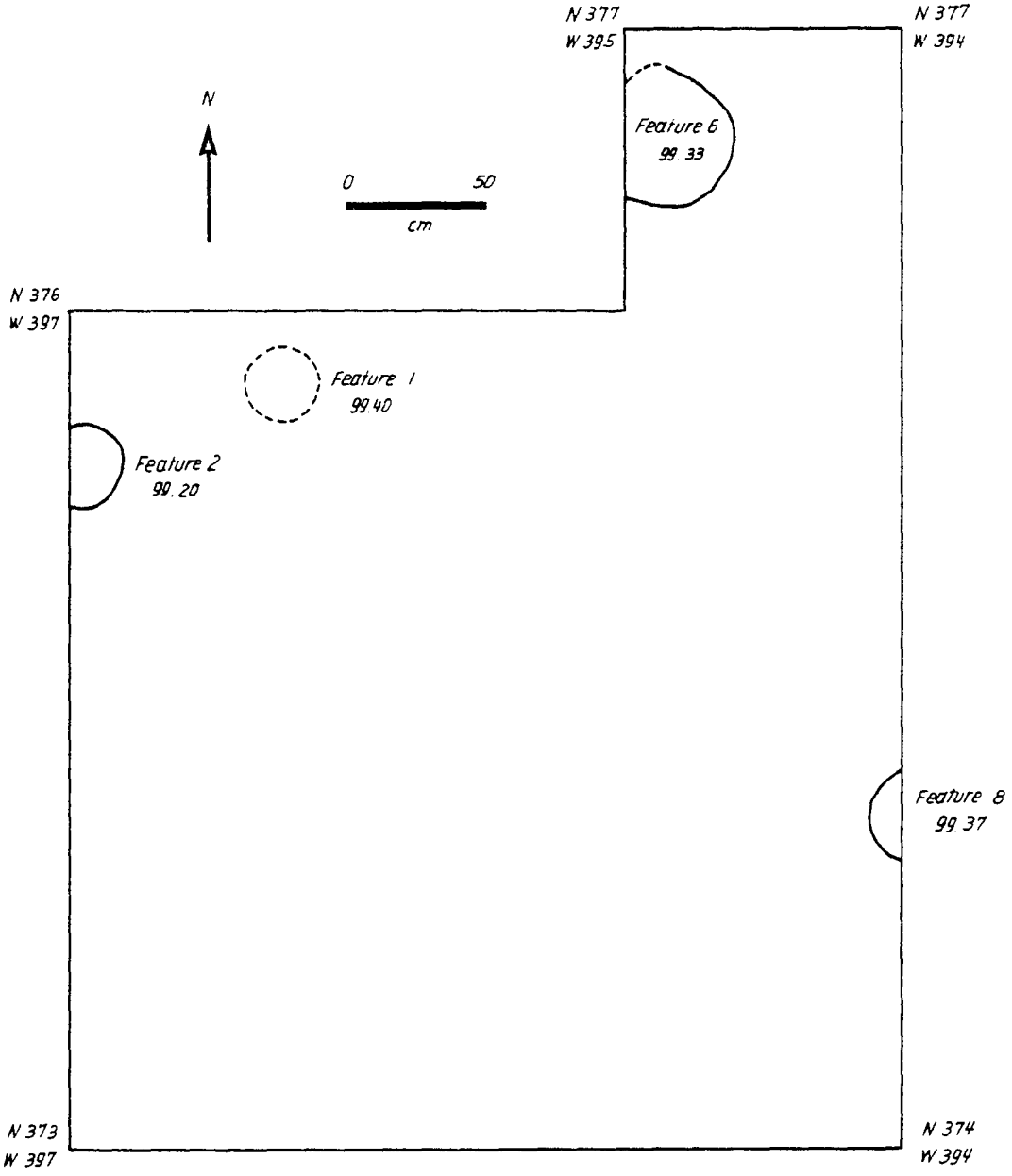

Figure 7. Plan view of features in Provenience 4.

The flotation sample from this feature yielded 2 seeds of bedstraw (Galium sp.), 1 fragment of possible squash rind (Cucurbita sp.) and 8.85 g of pine charcoal.

Feature 8 was a small pit first encountered at 125 cm (99.0 m) below ground surface. It measured 21 cm by 30 cm by 34 cm deep and contained dark brown sand. No cultural material was recovered in dry screening. The flotation sample from this feature yielded 0.1 g of wood charcoal.

Provenience 5

This 1 x 4 m test trench was located 13 m northwest of Provenience 2, close to what was believed to be the northwestern limits of the site as determined by posthole testing. Excavation proceeded by arbitrary levels to a depth of 130 cm (98.90 m) below ground surface (Figure 8). Levels 1 and 2 were 40 cm deep, while Levels 3 and 4 were 25 cm deep. All soil was dry screened through 1/4 inch wire cloth. Material recovered from the unit is listed in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Artifacts Recovered From Provenience 5 Dry Screened Lots

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Stallings Island Plain	1	1		1
Rhyolite Savannah River Point		1		
chert stemmed biface		1		
chert retouch flakes		4		
unidentified chert debris		2		
unidentified quartz debris	1	1		3
unworked steatite				1
cracked rock		.14kg		
miscellaneous rock	.19kg	.40kg	.54kg	1.36kg
pebbles		.90kg		

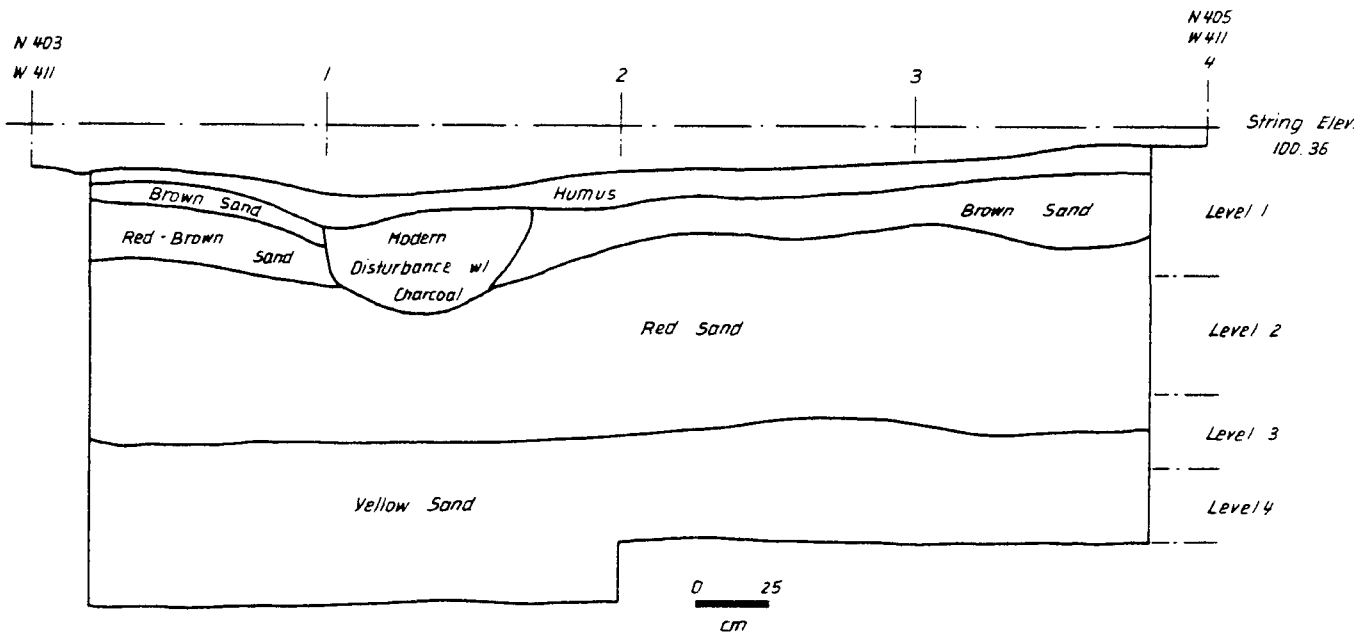

Figure 8. West profile of Provenience 5.

A number of artifacts of recent Euro-American origin were recovered in Level 1. There was also considerable stratigraphic evidence in this zone of disturbance from the modern ground surface.

Feature 3, a small pit measuring 36 x 34 cm and 24 cm deep was encountered at 98.88 m. Fill was a dark brown sand with charcoal flecks. Flotation and pollen samples were taken from feature fill. A one liter flotation sample from the feature yielded 0.1 g of identifiable hardwood charcoal.

The quantity of cultural material recovered in Level 2 indicates that an occupation level occurs in the red sand stratum between 40 and 80 cm (99.8-99.4 m) below ground surface. The Stallings Island Fiber Tempered sherd and the small, stemmed rhyolite biface fragment indicate that the component dates to the Stallings Island phase of the Late Archaic period. A second occupation zone between 114 cm and 140 cm below ground surface (99.5-98.8 m) is indicated by cultural material recovered in Level 4. The flotation sample from Level 1 yielded .7 g of hickory nut shell, .1 g of acorn shell and 1 gum (Nyssa sp.) seed.

Provenience 6

This 1 x 4 m test unit was located 2 m northwest of Provenience 2 and was intended to provide additional information on cultural stratigraphy in this portion of the site. The unit was excavated in 6 arbitrary levels to a depth of 165 cm (98.47 m) below ground surface (Figure 9). All levels were 25 cm deep except Level 1 which extended from ground surface to a depth of 40 cm. Dry screening of excavated soil began in Level 2 (40-65 cm below ground surface). Material recovered from the unit is listed in Table 4.

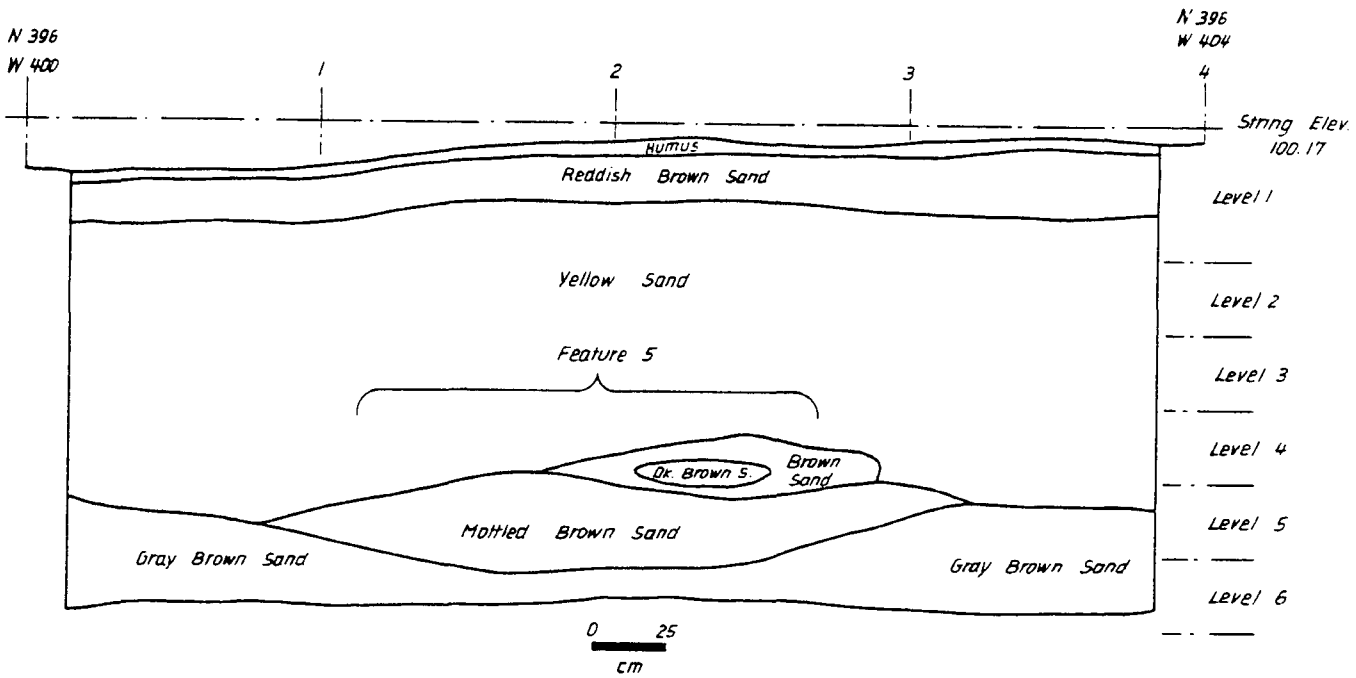

Figure 9. South profile of Provenience 6.

TABLE 4

Artifacts Recovered From Provenience 6 Dry Screened Lots

	Level 2	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Feature 5
rhyolite percussion flakes			2		
chert retouch flakes					1
rhyolite retouch flakes		2	4		1
rhyolite unidentified debris		9	9		
cracked rock		2.01kg	3.35kg		2.27kg
Miscellaneous rock		.45kg	.34kg		.40kg
pebbles	.03kg		.11kg		.09kg

Natural stratigraphy in Provenience 6 conforms to that recorded in Provenience 2, with a yellow sand stratum underlying the humus zone and a gray-brown sand stratum occurring at approximately 98.87 m. Cultural material occurred with greatest frequency in Levels 4 and 5 at the junction of the yellow sand and gray-brown sand strata. Feature 5, a possible hearth, was also encountered at this level.

Feature 5 is a semicircular deposit of brown sand, extending into the south wall of the unit. The exposed portion of the feature measures 115 cm by 35 cm and is 20 cm deep (Figure 9). A zone of black sand and fire cracked rock occurred near the center of the feature. Cultural contents of the feature are listed in Table 4. A 1 liter flotation sample from the feature yielded 1 fragment of hickory shell and 1 fragment of acorn shell.

Provenience 7

Provenience 7 is a 1 x 2 m test pit located 28 m west of Provenience 2. It was excavated in order to determine how far the site extended to the west. The unit was excavated in 5 arbitrary levels: Level 1, being

40 cm deep; the remaining levels being 20 cm deep (Figure 10). All soil, except that from Level 1, was screened through 1/4 inch wire cloth.

Material recovered from the unit is listed in Table 5. Levels 2 and 3 yielded definite cultural material in the form of quartz and rhyolite debris, but human occupation in the area of the test seems to have been light.

TABLE 5

Artifacts From Provenience 7 Dry Screened Lots

	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
unidentified quartz debris	2	1		
unidentified rhyolite debris		1		
cracked rock		.25kg		.11kg
miscellaneous rock	.06kg		.03kg	

Provenience 8

This provenience is a trench extending 8 m northwestward from the northwest corner of Provenience 4. It was excavated in order to investigate the distribution of the Woodland component that was encountered in Provenience 4. Excavation began with the removal of approximately 80 cm of soil with a backhoe. The trench was then dug in two 20 cm levels to a depth of 120 cm by hand. Material recovered in Levels 1 and 2 by dry screening through 1/4 inch wire cloth is listed in Table 6.

Stratification within the trench is illustrated in Figure 11.

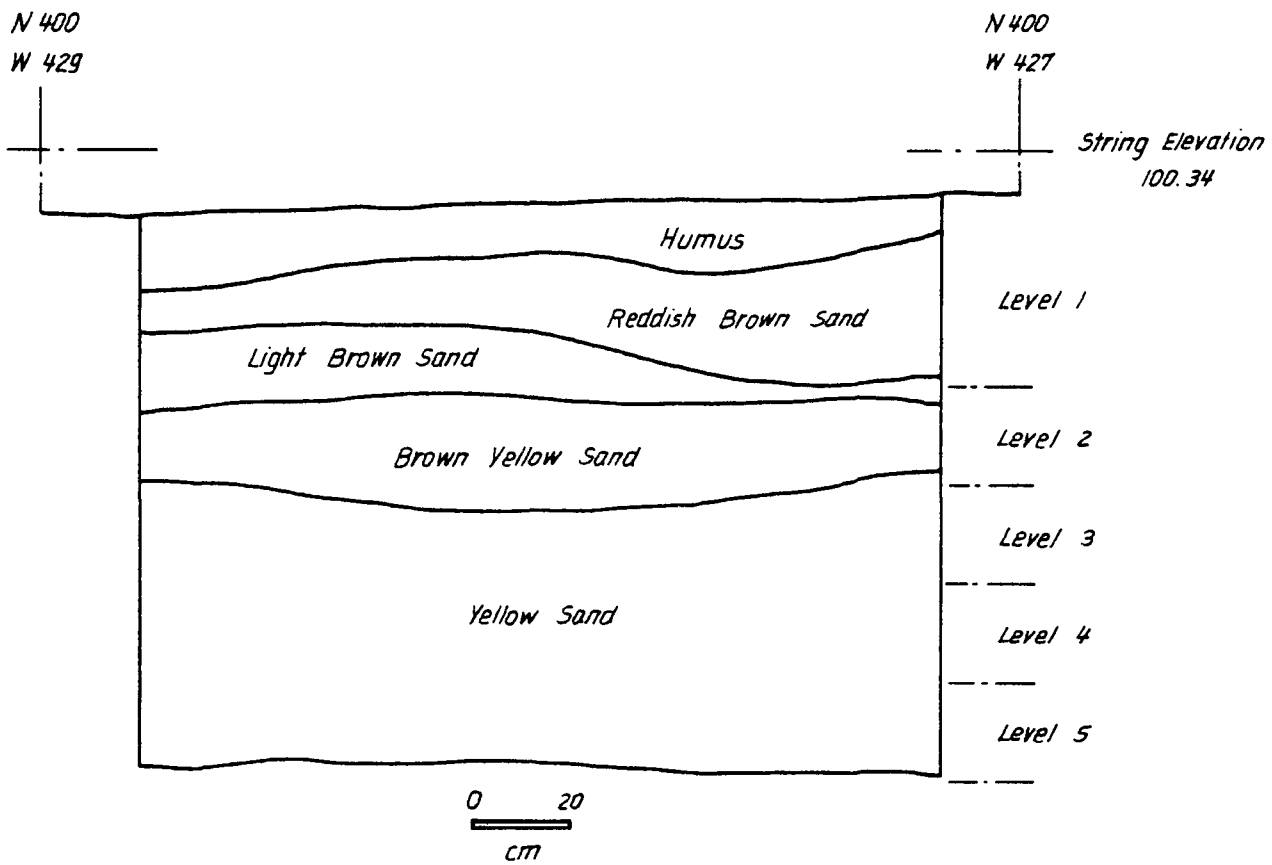

Figure 10. North profile of Provenience 7.

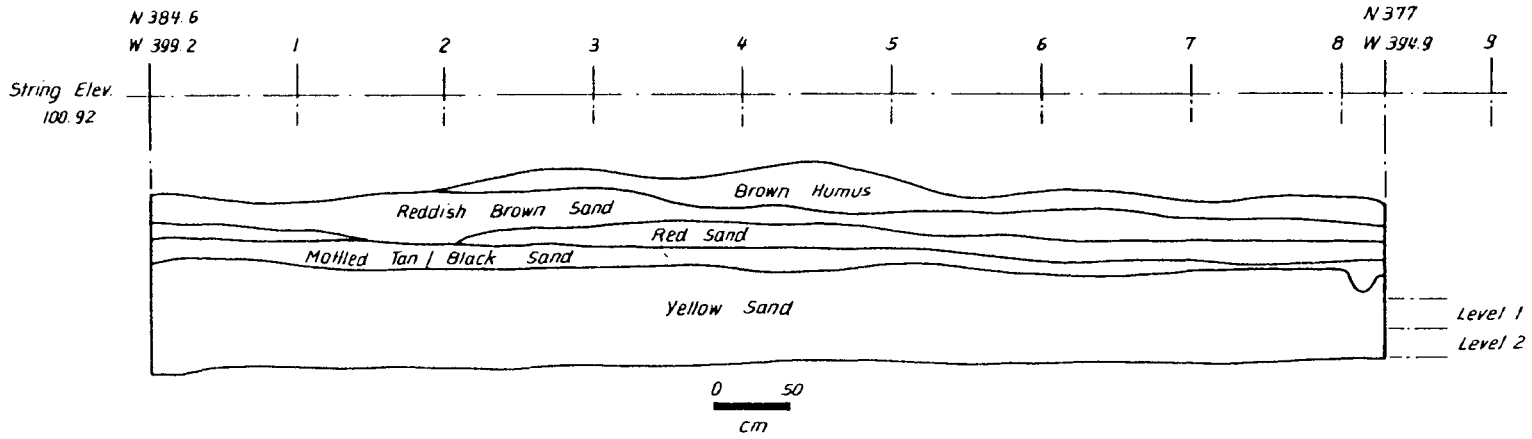

Figure 11. Northeast profile of Provenience 8.

TABLE 6

Artifacts Recovered From Provenience 8 Dry Screened Lots

	Level 1	Level 2
Cartersville Simple Stamped	1	1
chert drill		1
chert bifact tip		1
chert retouch flakes		1
quartz retouch flakes		3
unidentified quartz debris	2	4
unidentified rhyolite debris		1
cracked rock	.17kg	
miscellaneous rock		.34kg
pebbles	.09kg	.09kg

Provenience 9

Proveniences 2, 5 and 6 all yielded a fairly large amount of cultural material at a depth of approximately 99.00 m. Two features were also found at this elevation: Feature 3, a small pit, at 98.88 m in Provenience 5; and Feature 5, a possible hearth, at 99.12 m in Provenience 6.

On the strength of this evidence for an occupation stratum at approximately 99.00 m, it was decided to open up a large excavation unit in the area. Provenience 9, as it was designated, measures 9 x 11 m and encompasses Provenience 5 in its northwest corner and Provenience 6 in its southeast corner (Figure 3, Plate 1).

A backhoe was used to remove soil down to a depth of approximately 99.40 m over the entire unit. Excavation proceeded from this elevation down to 99.00 m by shovel shaving. The unit was divided into 4 sections and artifacts were recovered separately from each. All soil was dry screened through 1/4 inch wire cloth.

Fifteen features were recorded in Provenience 9 (Figure 12). These are described below in order of the elevation at which they were first encountered. Cultural material recovered by dry screening from the 40 cm "midden" and the features is listed in Table 7.

Feature 14. This feature was first seen as a circular stain at 99.42 m at the bottom of the backhoe excavation. At this elevation, it was 99 cm by 35 cm and 28 cm deep. The Feature was bowl shaped in profile. Fill varied from brown sand near the feature's margin to black sand and charcoal near its center. Fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample, a pollen sample and a C14 sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.1 g of hickory, shell, 0.1 g of acorn shell and 6.0 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 10. This feature was first seen as a circular stain at 99.30 m. At this elevation it measured 50 cm in diameter and 75 cm deep. In profile, the feature had straight sides and a rounded bottom. Fill varied from dark brown sand with charcoal in the upper portion of the feature to black sand with abundant charcoal in the lower portion. All fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample, a pollen sample and a C14 sample taken from both the upper and lower portions of the pit. The flotation sample yielded 8.4 g of pine charcoal and 47.2 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 9. This feature was first seen at 99.40 m. At this elevation, it measured 17 x 10 cm and 16 cm deep. The pit was rounded in profile. Fill was brown sand. All fill was floated except for a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.05 g of pine charcoal.

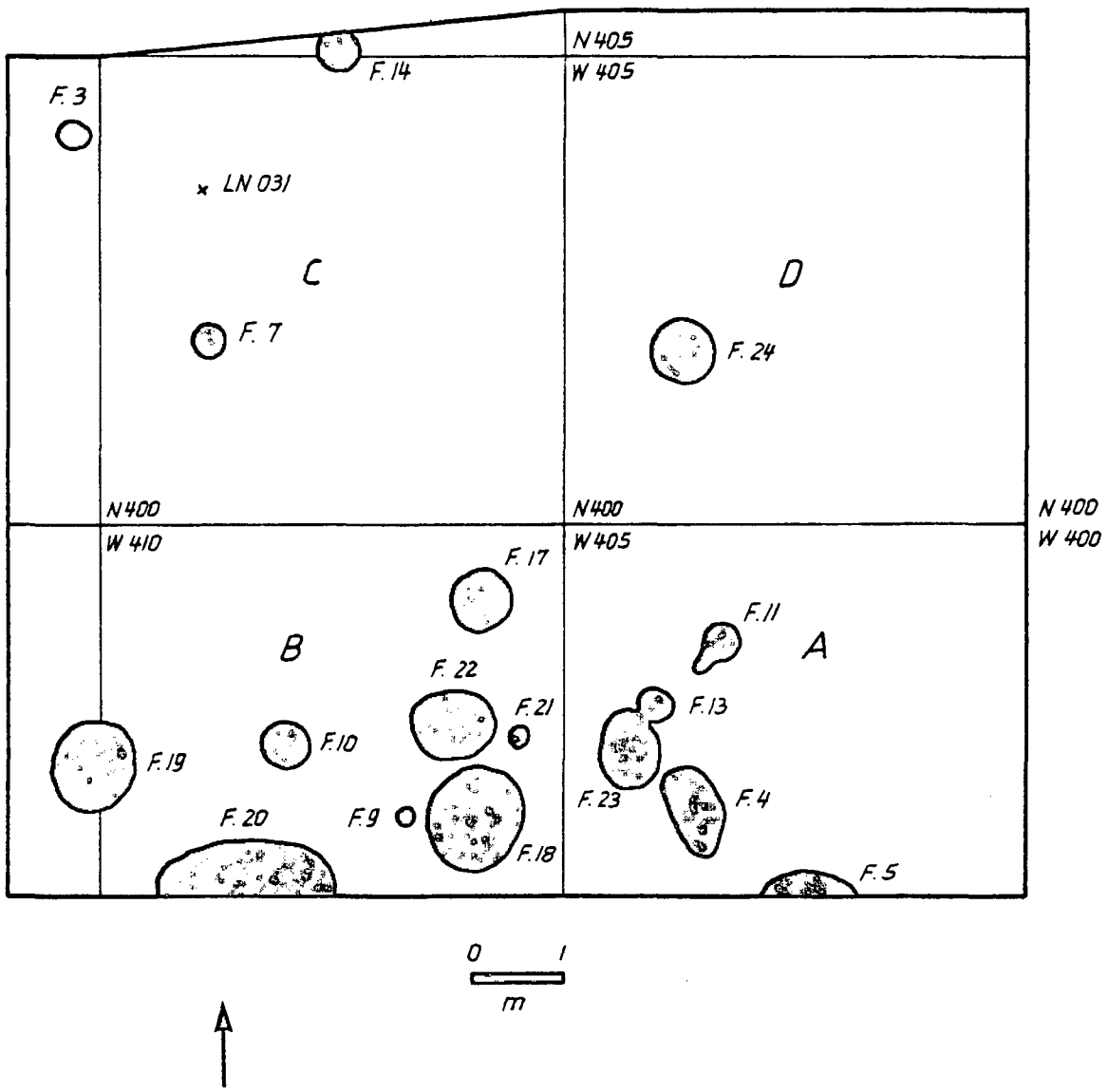

Figure 12. Plan view of features in Proveniences 5, 6 and 9.

TABLE 7

Artifacts From Provenience 9 Dry Screened Lots

	midden	F-4	F-5	F-7*	F-10	F-17	F-18	F-19	F-20	F-21	F-22	F-23	F-24
Stallings Island Plain	4			1									
rhyolite Savannah River point	1												
rhyolite biface tip		1											
rhyolite biface fragment													1
Quartz unifacial tool	1												
quartz percussion flakes	1												
rhyolite percussion flakes	9											2	
chert retouch flakes			1										
quartz retouch flakes	1												
rhyolite retouch flakes	28		1				3						9
chert unidentified debris	2												
quartz unidentified debris	3						1						
rhyolite unidentified debris	51	3	3			2	5		3		3	3	26
steatite slab	3												
grinding stone	1												
steatite pitted stone												1	
quartz hammerstone	1					1			1				
unworked steatite							3				1		
cracked rock	8.01kg	8.88kg	2.27kg			5.14kg	3.66kg	3.04kg	3.27kg	1.11kg	3.38kg	.94kg	16.55kg
pebbles	.88kg	.60kg	.09kg			.08kg	.06kg	.17kg	.45kg				1.62kg
miscellaneous stone	2.59kg	1.68kg	.40kg		.09kg	.17kg	.45kg	.34kg			1.36kg	.26kg	.17kg

*Flotation sample only

Feature 7. This feature was first seen at 99.33 m. At this elevation it measured 30 x 23 cm and 48 cm deep. Pit walls were straight and the bottom was rounded. Fill was brown sand. All fill was floated except for a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.15 g of pine charcoal.

Feature 11. This feature was first seen at 99.31 m. At this elevation, it measured 39 x 23 cm and was 17 cm deep. The pit was bowl shaped in profile. Fill was black sand with abundant charcoal. All soil was dry screened except for a 2 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 8.3 g of pine charcoal.

Feature 13. This feature was first seen at 99.30 m. At this elevation, it measured 30 cm in diameter and 49 cm deep. Fill was a dark brown sand. All soil was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.75 g of pine charcoal.

Feature 19. This feature was first seen at 99.26 m. At this elevation, it measured 97 x 84 cm by 33 cm deep. The Feature was bowl shaped in profile. Within the pit, most of the fill was a mottled brown and black sand. There was a central core of black sand and charcoal, however, and a large number of cracked rocks. All soil was dry screened, except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.1 g of acorn shell and 3.4 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 20. Feature 20 was first encountered at 99.20 m. It intruded into the south profile of Provenience 9, and as a result, its full dimensions are not known. The exposed portion of the feature measures

90 cm x 45 cm and 20 cm deep. The feature consists of a concentration of cracked rocks surrounded by a brown sand and partially underlain by a layer of black sand and charcoal. Soil was dry screened and a 1 liter flotation sample was taken. Only a sample of cracked rock was recovered. The flotation sample yielded 0.95 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 18. This feature was first seen as a circular stain at 99.20 m. At this elevation it measured 85 cm by 66 cm and 36 cm deep. The feature was lens shaped in profile. Fill consisted of alternating layers of black sand with rocks, gray sand and yellow sand. Charcoal was present throughout the feature. All fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.7 g of pine charcoal and 0.5 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 22. This feature was first seen as a circular stain at 99.16 m. At this elevation it measured 69 cm by 66 cm and 28 cm deep. The Feature was lens shaped in profile. Fill was brown sand except at the bottom of the feature where black sand and cracked rocks occurred (Plate 2). All fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 2.7 g of pine charcoal and 2.7 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 21. This feature was first seen at 99.06 m. At this elevation, it measured 30 cm by 33 cm by 15 cm deep. The Feature was lens shaped in profile. The pit contained dark brown sand and a large rock fragment. All fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.5 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 17. This feature was first seen at 99.04 m. At this elevation it measured 55 cm by 40 cm and 10 cm deep. The Feature consists of a concentration of cracked rocks. There was no associated soil discoloration or charcoal. Soil immediately surrounding the rocks was dry screened.

Feature 23. This feature was first seen at 99.01 m. At this elevation, it measured 56 cm by 40 cm and was 22 cm deep. The Feature was lens shaped in profile. Fill was a gray sand with flecks of charcoal and a small amount of cracked rock. All soil was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.55 g of hardwood charcoal.

Feature 14. This feature was first encountered at 99.00 m. At this elevation, it measured 120 cm by 77 cm and 60 cm deep. The feature was bowl shaped and filled with dark brown sand except in the lowest 25 cm where black sand and cracked rocks occurred. All fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 3.5 g of pine and hardwood charcoal.

Feature 24. This feature was first encountered at 99.00 m. At this elevation, it measured 115 cm in diameter and 39 cm deep. In profile, the feature appeared to be bell-shaped, but the presence of ground water at the base of the feature made shape determination difficult. Fill varied from light brown sand at the top of the pit to dark gray sand in the mid-section to black sand in the bottom. Cracked rocks lay on the bottom of the pit. All fill was dry screened except for a 1 liter flotation sample and a pollen sample. The flotation sample yielded 0.15 g of hardwood charcoal.

Provenience 10

Provenience 10 was begun as an exploratory trench measuring 1 x 8 m. It was excavated by backhoe to a depth of 70 cm (99.51 m) below ground surface. Below this elevation, excavation was continued by hand in three arbitrary levels (Level 1, 70-80 cm; Level 2, 80-100 cm; Level 3, 100-120 cm) to a depth of 120 cm below ground surface. At a depth of 100 cm (99.21 m) below ground surface, a dark brown stain (Feature 16) was encountered extending across the center of the trench. In order to investigate the full extent of this stain, a 3 x 4 m area centering on the feature was opened up. Excavation was by backhoe to a depth of approximately 99.41 m, and below that by hand in two arbitrary levels corresponding to Levels 2 and 3 in the exploratory trench. Except for a portion lying within the exploratory trench, Feature 16 was excavated as a separate unit.

All soil excavated by hand in Provenience 10 was dry screened through 1/4 inch wire cloth. A two liter flotation sample and a pollen sample were taken from Feature 16.

Stratification in Provenience 10 is illustrated in Figure 13. Two features were found and excavated in the provenience. Feature 15 is a cluster of cracked rock and rhyolite flakes encountered at 99.10 m and measuring 19 cm in diameter. It was located at the same elevation as Feature 16 and approximately 50 cm to the east (Figure 14). There was no soil discoloration associated with this feature. Cultural contents of the feature were not kept separate from those of excavation Level 2. Feature 16 is a large shallow basin measuring 200 x 230 cm and 14 cm deep (Figure 15). It was first encountered at 99.17 m and resembled a

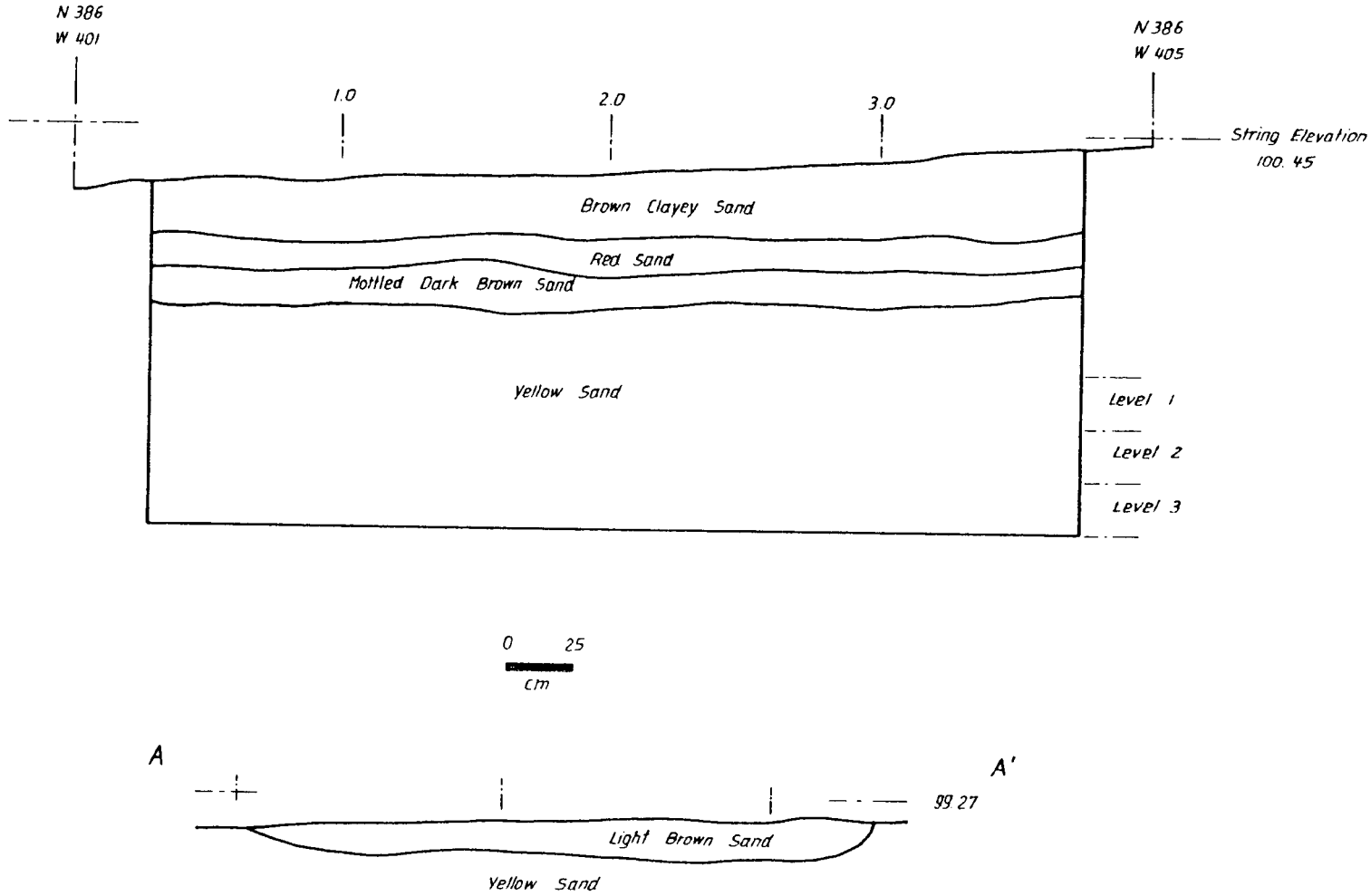

Figure 13. South profile of Provenience 10 and Feature 16.

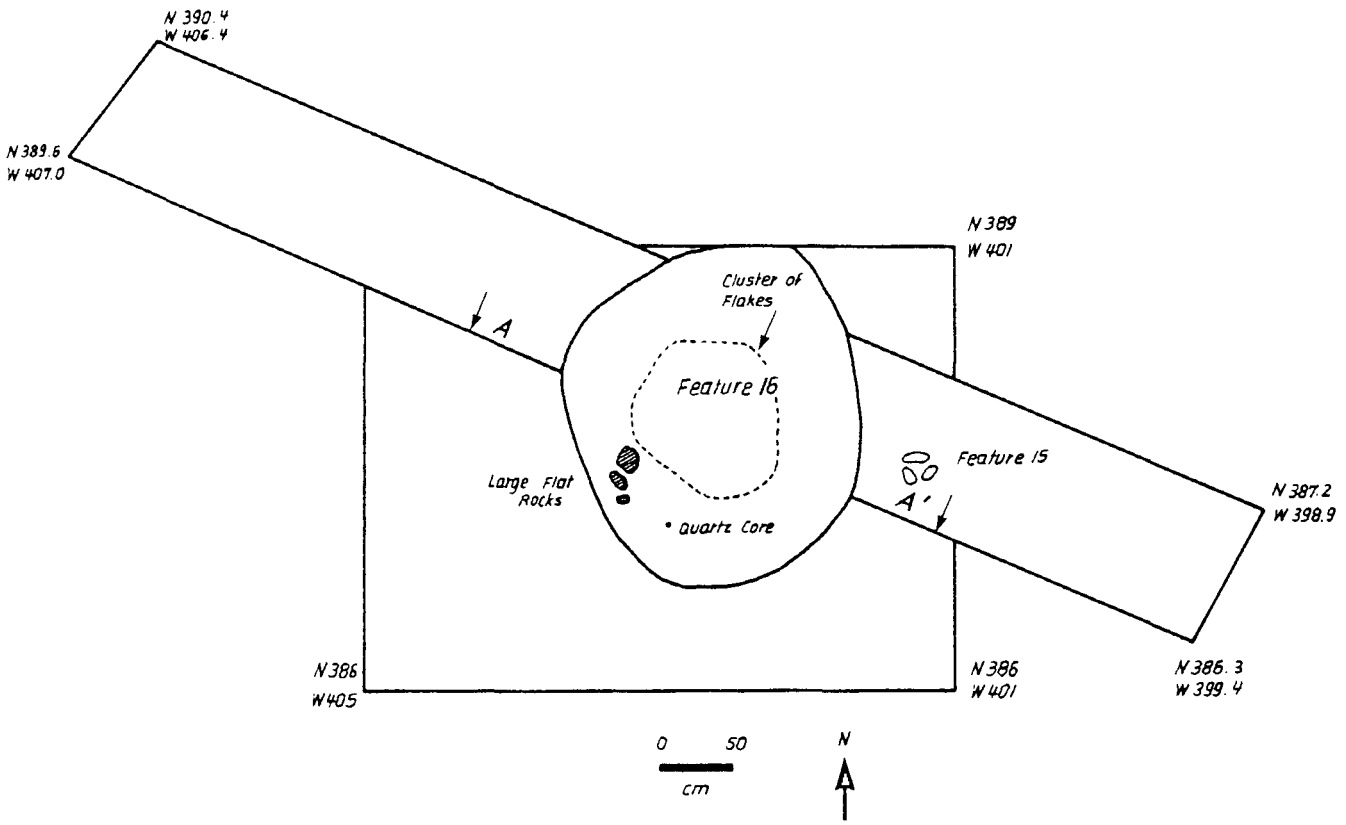

Figure 14. Plan view of features in Provenience 10.

shallow, flat bottomed pit in profile. The feature contained a large quantity of lithic debris, mostly rhyolite flakes, several Savannah River point fragments and several large quartzite rocks. The flotation sample from the feature yielded only 0.20 g of hickory shell and 0.3 g of pine charcoal.

Cultural material recovered from Provenience 10 is listed in Table 8.

TABLE 8

Artifacts From Provenience 10 Dry Screened Lots

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Feature 16
rhyolite Savannah River points	2			1
rhyolite biface	1			
chert biface tip		1		
rhyolite biface tip				2
rhyolite biface haft				1
rhyolite biface fragment				1
quartz core				1
quartz percussion flakes		1		
rhyolite percussion flakes		5	1	4
chert retouch flakes			3	1
rhyolite retouch flakes		19	42	46
chert unidentified debris		1		3
quartz unidentified debris			4	1
rhyolite unidentified debris	4	181	125	134
unworked steatite			3	
cracked rock	.26kg	3.21kg	2.15kg	1.40kg
pebbles		.09kg		
miscellaneous stone		1.48kg	.06kg	1.05kg

NATURAL STRATIGRAPHY

With the exception of Provenience 3, natural stratigraphy is quite uniform throughout the excavated area of the site. Beneath a humus zone, there is 40-60 cm of reddish brown sand and/or mottled red and yellow sand. This stratum overlies 60-100 cm of yellow sand which is the major

occupation stratum at the site. The upper surface of yellos sand varies in elevation between 99.40 and 99.90 m, while the bottom of the stratum occurs at approximately 98.80 m. The low elevation of the yellow sand surface in Provenience 5 (99.40 m) is probably due to the location of the unit with respect to the river. This provenience is closest to the river bank and has the lowest ground surface elevation of any unit except Provenience 3. In those provenience units excavated below 99.0 m, the yellow sand stratum was found to be underlain by a gray or brown sand. This stratum appears to be sterile.

Natural stratigraphy in Provenience 3 differs considerably from that described above. Numerous narrow lenses of different colored sands interspersed with lenses of what appeared to be charcoal or decayed vegetation occurred above a thick stratum of brown sand. This latter occurred at 98.75 m and is probably the same stratum as that encountered in the bottom of several other provenience units. Provenience 3 is located immediately adjacent to the river in a low area. Stratigraphy in the unit suggests that the bank here has been subject to erosion and alluvial deposition which has destroyed the yellow sand stratum and overlying red sand stratum encountered elsewhere on the site. This erosion apparently extended down to the brown sand stratum, but not into it.

CULTURAL STRATIGRAPHY

Artifacts recovered in excavations at PM212 indicate that the site had at least two components: a late Archaic Stallings Island component and a middle Woodland Cartersville component. A single Lamar Incised sherd (Plate 3, Row 1,a) recovered in Posthole B can probably be attributed

to the Lamar occupation at the nearby site of PM211.

The Cartersville component is represented in three provenience units. Ninty-one Cartersville Plain and Cartersville Simple Stamped sherds were recovered from Provenience 4. Most of these sherds were in excavation Levels 2 and 3 which occur between 99.60 m and 99.20 m. Several sherds were also recovered from Features 1, 2 and 6 which originated between 99.20 m and 99.40 m.

In Provenience 8, adjacent to Provenience 4, two Cartersville Simple Stamped sherds were recovered from Levels 1 and 2 between 99.50 m and 99.10 m. The only other diagnostic artifact which may be attributed to the Cartersville component is a narrow stemmed chert point (Plate 4, Row 2,c) which was recovered from Level 2 (99.85-99.45 m) in Provenience 5.

Levels 2 and 3 in Provenience 4 include the upper portion of the yellow sand stratum and the lower portion of the overlying red sand stratum. In most of the provenience units at the site, this portion of the stratigraphic column was removed by backhoe with no attempt to recover artifacts. This may explain why the Cartersville component, which is strongly represented in Provenience 4, is not found elsewhere on the site: it was simply shoveled away. Alternatively, the component may have actually had a restricted distribution in the southern portion of the site.

The late Archaic component is represented by diagnostic artifacts (Stallings Island Plain pottery, Savannah River points and steatite slabs) in Provenience Units 2, 5, 8, 9 and 10. With two exceptions--a small stemmed Woodland point in Provenience Unit 5 and a drill-like Savannah River point in Provenience Unit 8, diagnostic artifacts of the Cartersville and Stallings Island components have mutually exclusively distributions

across the excavated portion of the site: the Woodland occupation being located south of the Archaic occupation.

In Provenience 5, 8, 9 and 10, diagnostic Stallings Island artifacts occur most commonly in the lower portion of the yellow sand stratum at elevations ranging between 99.40 and 99.00 m. Features associated with this component are also found below 99.40 m. The sole exception to this stratigraphic situation occurs in Provenience 5 where Stallings Island sherds and a Savannah River point fragment occurred in excavation Levels 1 and 2 above 99.40 m. With this one exception, the diagnostic Stallings Island artifacts tend to occur 20 cm to 40 cm deeper than those associated with the Cartersville component.

THE WOODLAND COMPONENT

The Woodland component at PM212 (Cartersville Plain) is represented by 61 grit tempered simple stamped sherds (Cartersville Simple Stamped) and 32 grit tempered plain sherds (Table 9). All sherds have a coarse gritty paste and are somewhat weathered. There is one plain rounded rim (Plate III, Row 2,a), but no tetrapods or other diagnostic vessel shape modes. Stamping is rather heavy and characterized by broad (2-3 mm) lines (Plate III, Row 3,a and b). Stamping is oriented horizontal to the vessel axis. There is no stamping on the single rim sherd.

Cultural affiliation of the component is difficult to identify precisely because of the small sherd sample and its weathered condition. It is similar to the component at PM260 (Manning 1982) in having both simple stamped and plain pottery, but it differs in several important respects. To begin with, there is no Swift Creek Complicated Stamped.

TABLE 9

Artifacts Recovered From All Proveniences at PM212

Cartersville Simple Stamped	61
Cartersville Plain	32
Stallings Island Plain	8
Savannah River point	5
chert stemmed point	1
chert drill	1
chert biface tip	1
rhyolite biface	1
rhyolite biface fragment	6
quartz unifacial tool	1
quartz core	1
quartz percussion flake	2
rhyolite percussion flake	23
chert retouch flake	12
quartz retouch flake	4
rhyolite retouch flake	157
chert unidentified debris	15
quartz unidentified debris	25
rhyolite unidentified debris	573
steatite slab	4
steatite pitted stone	1
unworked steatite	8
quartz hammerstone	3
grinding stone	1

This type is not common at PM260, however, and its absence at PM212 could be due to sampling error. Plain pottery is considerably more common at PM260 (77.5%) than at PM212 (34.5%). However, a substantial portion of the plain pottery at PM260 belongs to a later Lamar component. Finally, a sizable portion of the simple stamped pottery at PM260 is finely stamped or brushed. The absence of such pottery at PM212 could be due to sampling error or to the effect of weathering on sherd surfaces.

There are greater ceramic differences between PM212 and PM209 (Wood 1981a). The latter site yielded a small sample of simple stamped pottery

in its upper levels. Check stamped and fabric marked pottery was also present in these levels but was more common in lower levels. The stratigraphic association of these types with simple stamped pottery may thus be due to mixing.

Middle Woodland sites in North Carolina (Keel 1976) and Tennessee (Chapman 1973) yield a variety of pottery types: simple stamped, check stamped, fabric marked, cord marked, complicated stamped and plain. Manning (1982:34) has observed that the lack of ceramic diversity at PM260 may reflect the specialized short term nature of site occupation rather than chronological or cultural differences. PM212 has even fewer Woodland pottery types. Whether this condition reflects sampling error, site function or cultural/chronological differences can not, unfortunately, be determined with the available evidence.

Stratigraphy at PM209 (Wood 1981:25-28) indicates that simple stamping post-dates check stamping and fabric marking in the Wallace Reservoir. This being the case, it is probable that the PM212 component dates to the Middle Woodland period (100 B.C. to A.D. 400). It is also probable that the component is more or less contemporary with that at PM260.

One other artifact recovered at PM212 can be tentatively attributed to the Woodland component. This is a small, straight stemmed chert point (Plate 4, Row 2,c) recovered from Provenience 5. The point measures 44.5 mm x 18.7 mm x 8.2 mm and is similar in size and configuration to two quartz points recovered from PM260. Similar points have been recovered from a late Swift Creek site in the Russell Reservoir (Wood 1981b:27).

Four features were encountered in Provenience 4 that probably date to the Cartersville component. Feature 8 occurred at 99.0 m and contained no artifacts. It could belong to either component. Feature 1, a small cluster of Cartersville Simple Stamped sherds, represents the shattered remains of a single large vessel fragment. Feature 2, a straight walled pit measuring 26 x 22 x 80 cm, could be a posthole. It contained 18 Cartersville sherds. Feature 6, a small pit, contained a single Cartersville sherd. It is of interest because of the possible squash rind fragment recovered in a flotation sample. No functional identification can be made for this feature.

STALLINGS ISLAND COMPONENT

The Stallings Island component at PM212 is represented by four diagnostic artifact types: Stallings Island Plain pottery, Savannah River points, a constricted base drill and steatite slabs. The great majority of the lithic debitage and all of the non-flaked stone tools recovered in excavations can be assigned to this component on the basis of stratigraphic position within the site and on the basis of raw material. Most, if not all, of the features identified in Proveniences 5, 6, 9 and 10 can also be assigned to the component on the basis of stratigraphic position.

Stallings Island Plain pottery

Eight sherds of fiber tempered pottery, representing at least two different vessels, were recovered from Provenience Units 5 and 9. All are undecorated and characterized by carefully smoothed exterior and interior surfaces. One vessel shape--a deep bowl with straight sides and rounded lip--is identifiable in the sample (Plate 3, Row 1,b). Fiber channels

are abundant throughout the sherd cross-sections. Small grains of quartz are also present in small quantities. The pottery is similar in all respects to Stallings Island Plain as described by Fairbanks (1942) and Bullen and Greene (1970).

Savannah River point

Five whole and fragmentary specimens of Savannah River points were recovered from Proveniences 5, 9 and 10. All are rhyolite and are heavily weathered. All conform to Bullen and Greene's Type 1 variety (1970:13) in that they tend to be large, wide shouldered and have parallel sided stems (Plate 4, Row 1,a-c, Row 2,a and c). Dimensions are as follows:

Plate 4, Row 1,a: 108.7 mm x 56.8 mm x 11.1 mm

Plate 4, Row 1,b: 89.5 mm x 52.5 mm x 13.6 mm

Plate 4, Row 1,c: 92.0 mm x 42.1 mm x 11.6 mm

Plate 4, Row 2,a: 62.2 mm x 40.0 mm x 10.8 mm

Plate 4, Row 2,c: -- x 32.4 mm x 6.0 mm

Bullen and Greene (Ibid) report that this variety of Savannah River point was most common in preceramic levels at the Stallings Island site. There is no stratigraphic evidence at PM212 to indicate that they are not contemporary with the fiber tempered pottery.

Projectile points characteristic of the late Archaic component at PM205 located 1 mile up river from PM212 are somewhat distinct. They conform more closely to Bullen and Greene's Type 4 (Ibid). They are made almost exclusively of quartz and chert, are smaller in overall dimensions and have smaller stems (Rogers 1982:112, Table 4). No fiber tempered pottery was found in the rather large excavation at PM205. It is probable, therefore, that that component is earlier than the component

at PM212 and that the difference in projectile point form reflects change through time. Bullen and Greene (Ibid), however, found stratigraphic evidence that Type 4 was later than Type 1 at the Stallings Island site. A similar type of point was recovered from MG90, a small, non-ceramic, late Archaic, levee ridge site located several miles up river from PM212 (Smith and Hally 1981:14, Plate 4).

Chert Drill

One specimen of a contracting stemmed drill, made of dark gray chert, was found in Provenience 8 (Plate 4, Row 3,a). The specimen measures 54.8 mm x 25.6 mm x 8.1 mm. It exhibits step flaking along its blade edges. The proximal tip has been heavily ground and grinding extends for 15 mm along each edge of the blade. The specimen resembles Bullen and Greene's (Ibid) Type 3 point and on stratigraphic grounds can be associated with the Stallings Island component at PM212.

Rhyolite Biface

This is a large percussion flaked rhyolite biface (Plate 4, Row 3,b). There is no evidence of edge retouching or bifacial thinning. The specimen is probably a preform. It occurred in Provenience 10 in association with Savannah River points and probably dates to the Stallings Island component.

Unifacial Tool

One quartz flake has been unifacially retouched along one edge (Plate 4, Row 3,d). The specimen measures 37.9 mm x 32.8 mm x 11.7 mm. Retouching extends for 17.7 mm along the upper edge of the specimen as illustrated. The specimen occurred in Provenience 9 in association with Stallings Island pottery and Savannah River points, and probably dates

to the Stallings Island component.

Steatite Slabs

Four fragments of ground steatite slabs were recovered from Proveniences 2 and 9 (Plate 5, Row 1,b). Two had rounded edges and one of these appears to be from the corner of a rectangular shaped slab. No specimens had perforations, but it is probable that all are fragments of perforated "net sinkers" (Claflin 1931:32), an artifact characteristic of late Archaic Stallings Island and Savannah River components in piedmont Georgia. All specimens were derived from stratigraphic contexts suggesting that they date to the Stallings Island component.

Pitted Stone

This is a fragment of steatite with a pit in one surface (Plate 5, Row 1,a). It was recovered from Provenience 9. The original complete tool appears to have been tabular in shape and measuring approximately 75 mm square and at least 40 mm thick. The most intact surface is relatively flat and is rather smooth compared to the other surfaces. A rounded pit measuring 34 mm in diameter and approximately 8 mm deep is located in what was probably the center of this surface. The surface of the pit is smooth and quite regular. Similar artifacts are reported by Claflin (1931:31) for the Stallings Island site. This specimen occurred in stratigraphic contexts suggesting that it dates to the Stallings Island component.

Hammerstone

Three quartzite river cobbles with abraded edges were recovered from Provenience 9. The specimen illustrated in Plate 5 (Row 2,b) is typical

in that it is pyramidal in shape and has abrasion restricted to the edges formed where flat surfaces meet. Stratigraphic evidence indicates that these artifacts date to the Stallings Island component.

Grinding Slab

This specimen was recovered from Provenience 9 and is a fragment of what must have been a much larger artifact. The rock material has not been identified but it is metamorphic in nature. The only intact surface is that illustrated in Plate 5 (Row 2,a). This surface may have been ground, but the evidence is equivocal. Stratigraphic evidence indicates that the specimen dates to the Stallings Island component.

Flaked Stone Debitage

Table 10 compares the material composition of flaked stone debitage from provenience units with diagnostic Woodland artifacts and provenience units with diagnostic Stallings Island artifacts. Although the "Woodland" sample is small, the difference in lithic material between the two sets of units is striking. Almost all debitage in the units with Stallings Island artifacts is rhyolite, while quartz and Chert predominate in the small sample of debitage from units with Woodland artifacts.

TABLE 10

Lithic Material Represented in Debitage From Woodland (Proveniences 4 and 8) and Stallings Island (Proveniences 2,5,6,9 and 10) Contexts

	Provenience Units 4 and 8		Provenience Units 2,5,6,9,10	
	N	%	N	%
Chert	9	41	19	2.4
Quartz	10	45	22	2.9
Rhyolite	3	14	750	94.7

Whether or not this difference is real, it is clear that the great majority of debitage from PM212 is rhyolite. This contrasts sharply with the situation at PM205 where Rogers (1982:96, Appendix III) reports a complete absence of rhyolite debitage. At PM205, 86% of the flake debitage is quartz; the remainder being chert. A similar situation is encountered at MG90 (Smith and Hally 1981:Table 2), where quartz accounts for 47.5% of the debitage; chert, 50.9%; and rhyolite, only 1.6%.

Although specific pieces of debitage can not be assigned to one component or the other, it is probable that the great majority of flaked stone debitage at PM212 belongs to the Stallings Island component. All debitage was classified into categories reflecting the stage of lithic reduction from core to tool and tool maintenance. These categories are cortical, part cortical and noncortical pieces; and percussion flakes, thinning/retouch flakes, and unidentified debris. Percussion flakes are complete flakes that are relatively thick with a bulb of force or swelling on the inner surface beneath the platform. Thinning/retouch flakes are defined as complete flakes that are relatively thin and have a platform that is small relative to overall flake size. Unidentified debris is any broken flake, chunk, or fragment of stone. The results of the analysis of 812 flakes are shown in Table 11. Most flakes were classified in the debris category (76%) and most (98%) were noncortical. Both cortical flakes (2%) and percussion flakes (2%) were rare, indicating that tools were probably not manufactured from cores at the site. Most lithic activity seems instead to have been of the tool maintenance type, which would produce an abundance of small, noncortical thinning/retouch and debris flakes. A similar situation exists at MG90 where

8.8% of the debitage is percussion flakes and 68.9% is debris and 87.4% of the debitage is noncortical (Smith and Hally 1981:Table 3).

TABLE 11

Frequency of Cortical, Part Cortical and Noncortical Flakes by Debitage Class

	Cortical Flakes	Part Cortical Flakes	Noncortical Flakes	Total	Percent
percussion	1	-	17	18	2%
retouch	-	-	175	175	22%
debris	16	3	600	619	76%
Total	17	3	792		
Percent	2%	-	98%		

Features

Nineteen features were recorded and excavated in Provenience Units that yielded Stallings Island artifacts: Proveniences 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10. All but two were found below 99.40 m while 11 were found below 99.20. The absence of Woodland artifacts in these units and the depth at which features occurred suggest that most of the features belong to the Stallings Island component.

Eight features--Features 4, 5, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, and 24--contain abundant cracked rock. All but two of these are large, measuring in the neighborhood of 1 m across. All but one of these appear to be rounded pits filled with dark soil and having a deposit of black sand and cracked rock located in the center or the bottom of the feature. The exception, Feature 17, was described in the field as a cluster of cracked rocks with no associated soil discoloration. Most of these features contained 2-3 kg of cracked rock; Feature 24 having the most with 16.5 kg.

The most reasonable interpretation of these features is that they represent cooking pits or hearths. This interpretation is supported by the presence of cracked rock which may have functioned as heating stones and charcoal. Three kinds of evidence argue against this interpretation. There was no indication that the walls of any of the pits were fired. The quantity of cracked rock in most features is rather small if it represents heating stones. Finally, wood charcoal was recovered in flotation samples from almost all features at the site.

With one exception, all cracked rock features occur in the southern portion of Provenience 9. None were present in Provenience 10 located 5 m to the south. Whatever activity these features represent seems to have been concentrated in a rather small area.

No similar features are reported for other Stallings Island sites: Stallings Island (Claflin 1931), Lake Springs (Miller 1949) or Rabbit Mount (Stoltman 1974). Several kinds of pits with distinct ash and charcoal layers in the fill and with burned walls were encountered at Stallings Island (Claflin 1931:8-11), but they have no analogue at PM212 and can not be dated to the Stallings Island component with certainty.

The remaining 10 features have few common characteristics which allow recognition of feature types. Three features--Features 7, 9 and 13--are straight sided pits with relatively small diameters and relatively great depths. They may represent postholes.

Feature 10 is distinctive in configuration, it being a straight sided pit measuring 50 cm in diameter and 75 cm deep. No definite artifacts were recovered from its fill, however, and it is therefore not definitely a cultural feature.

Feature 16 is distinctive in both configuration and fill. It is a shallow, flat bottom depression of circular outline measuring 2 m x 2.3 m and 14 cm deep. Abundant lithic debitage and five bifaces and biface fragments were recovered from its fill. The feature is too small to have been a structure floor, although its configuration and artifact content do suggest a living surface.

Site Size

Site size during the Stallings Island occupation can not be accurately determined with the available evidence. Posthole tests excavated in 1974 and 1977 are of little help in defining site limits due to their low yield of identifiable cultural material. Provenience 7 indicates that the site does not extend more than 30 m inland from the river. The absence of diagnostic Stallings Island material in Provenience 3, 4 and 8 indicates that the southeast boundary of the site is in the vicinity of Provenience 8. How far to the northwest it extends along the river is not known. At a minimum, the site extends across the area covered by Proveniences 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10, a distance of approximately 25 m.

SITE COMPARISONS: THE STALLINGS ISLAND COMPONENT

Two sites in the Wallace Reservoir--MG90 and PM205--and three sites in the Savannah River--Stallings Island, Lake Springs, and Rabbit Mount--have components that can be usefully compared with the Archaic component at PM212. The Wallace Reservoir sites contained no fiber tempered pottery and may therefore be somewhat older than PM212. The other sites have yielded decorated as well as plain fiber tempered pottery and therefore may be somewhat younger than PM212. It is unlikely, however, that any

of the sites are separated in time by more than 500 years.

None of the three Wallace Reservoir sites yielded evidence of shellfish. Those on the Savannah River all have dense shell middens. Accurate site size data is unavailable for the three Wallace Reservoir sites, but it is probable that they are all considerably smaller than the Savannah River sites. Lake Springs covers an area measuring approximately 125 m x 50 m (Miller 1949:38); Stallings Island, 150 m x 90 m (Bullen and Greene 1970:8); and Rabbit Mount, 80 m x 40 m (Stoltman 1974: Fig. 2).

No features are reported for PM205 (Rogers 1981). MG90 (Smith and Hally 1981:26-29) and PM212 have at least three kinds of features in common. Both sites have cracked rock concentrations, pits with dark soil and cracked rock and small pits containing charcoal.

The Savannah River sites contained a different array of features. Claflin (1931:8-11) describes fire pits, burned areas and storage pits as occurring at Stallings Island. With the exception of the smaller "storage pits", none of these resemble features found at PM212 or MG90. Miller (1949:42) states that rock was scattered throughout the excavated shell midden at Lake Springs, but there is no mention of cracked rock concentrations or pits containing cracked rock. Miller also reports finding a fire basin measuring 1 ft 4 in in diameter. This is probably a shallow depression with fired walls similar to the fire pits reported by Claflin for Stallings Island. Stoltman (1974:50-57) reports finding a clay floor covering approximately 1 m^2 and two pits measuring more than 1 m in diameter. There are no comparable features at PM212 or MG90.

Table 12 lists the frequency and density of flaked stone debitage, Savannah River points and cracked rock at PM212, PM205 and MG90. As is the case with features, MG90 and PM212 evidence great similarity. The quantity of flaked stone debitage and cracked rock per square meter of excavated midden is almost identical for both sides. Only in the case of Savannah River points do the two sites differ greatly. Since this artifact type is so infrequent, however, the apparent difference may reflect sampling error. PM205 greatly exceeds PM212 and MG90 in density of all three artifact classes.

TABLE 12

Density of Selected Artifact Categories at MG90, PM212 and PM205

	MG90		PM212		PM205	
	Total Number	Number per m^2	Total Number	Number per m^2	Total Number	Number per m^2
Flaked Stone debitage	354	8.9	750	9.7	26,999	227
Savannah River points	1	0.03	13	0.17	117	1.0
Cracked Rock	45.3kg	1.1kg	71.3kg	0.93kg	742kg	6.2kg

Excavations in the three sites located on the Savannah River involved neither screening of soil nor plotting of individual artifacts. As a result, the information on artifact density and distribution for these sites is minimal and generally not comparable to that available from the Wallace Reservoir sites. Stoltman (1974:95-98) recovered 20 Savannah River points from approximately 46 m^2 of shell midden. These artifacts were recovered by troweling and it is therefore unlikely that any were missed during excavation. Per meter density of these points is

approximately 2.3, meaning that they are considerably more common at this site than they are at any of the Wallace Dam sites.

Artifact counts for flaked stone and ground stone artifacts are available for Lake Springs and Rabbit Mount on the Savannah River and PM212 and MG90 on the Oconee River. Excluding flake tools, which are exceedingly difficult to identify with reliability, the two Savannah River sites have yielded a greater variety and quantity of flaked and ground stone artifacts than have PM212 and MG90. Ten artifact types are represented in the shell midden strata at Rabbit Mount and Lake Springs while only seven and five types were recovered at PM212 and MG90 respectively.

Although artifacts in the collections from Rabbit Mount and Lake Springs have been classified somewhat differently than those from PM212 and MG90, it is clear that the two Savannah River sites yielded greater numbers of specimens in those cases where artifact types are comparable. There are, for example, 27 net sinker fragments recovered in the shell midden collection at Rabbit Mount; 39 in the Lake Springs collection; 4 in the PM212 collection and none in the MG90 collection. Likewise, there are 6 drills represented in the shell midden collection at Rabbit Mount; 7 in the Lake Springs collection; one in the PM212 collection; and none in the MG90 collection.

In almost all respects, the Savannah River sites differ markedly from the Oconee River sites. They contain extensive shell strata, they appear to be several times larger, they contain different kinds of features and they contain a greater variety and quantity of artifacts. The presence of shellfish remains and the variety of artifact types

indicates that the Savannah River sites were the scene of several kinds of activities not found at the Oconee River sites. Site size and artifact density, furthermore, suggests that the Savannah River sites were occupied either by more people or for longer periods of time than were those located on the Oconee River.

The similarities existing between PM212 and MG90 indicate that both sites played a similar role in the late Archaic settlement/subsistence system characteristic of the Wallace Reservoir area. Low artifact and debitage frequency indicate short term occupation, and restricted artifact variety indicates that activities were limited in variety. Although site size is difficult to calculate, it is probable that occupation was restricted to river banks or levee crests and covered areas smaller than 30 m in diameter. In comparison to the Savannah River sites, PM212 and MG90 resemble short term, limited activity sites.

As currently reported (Rogers 1981), it is difficult to place PM205 in a larger settlement/subsistence context. Artifact density suggests more intense human occupation than PM212 and MG90, yet the site does not seem to be appreciably larger than PM212 and MG90. In the absence of detailed description and quantification of features and non-flaked stone tools, it is impossible to determine whether different activities and a greater variety of activities were taking place at PM205.

There are no known late Archaic sites in the Wallace Reservoir that are comparable to Stallings Island, Rabbit Mount and Lake Springs in terms of size, midden composition, artifact variety or artifact yield. One implication of this contrast is that shellfish gathering was unimportant along the Oconee River during Late Archaic times. It is tempting to

attribute this apparent difference to a lower availability of shellfish in the Oconee River, but there is no evidence that shellfish were not common in the area.

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Plate 1. View from west across Provenience 9 toward river.

Plate 2. View of Feature 22, Provenience 9 from the west.

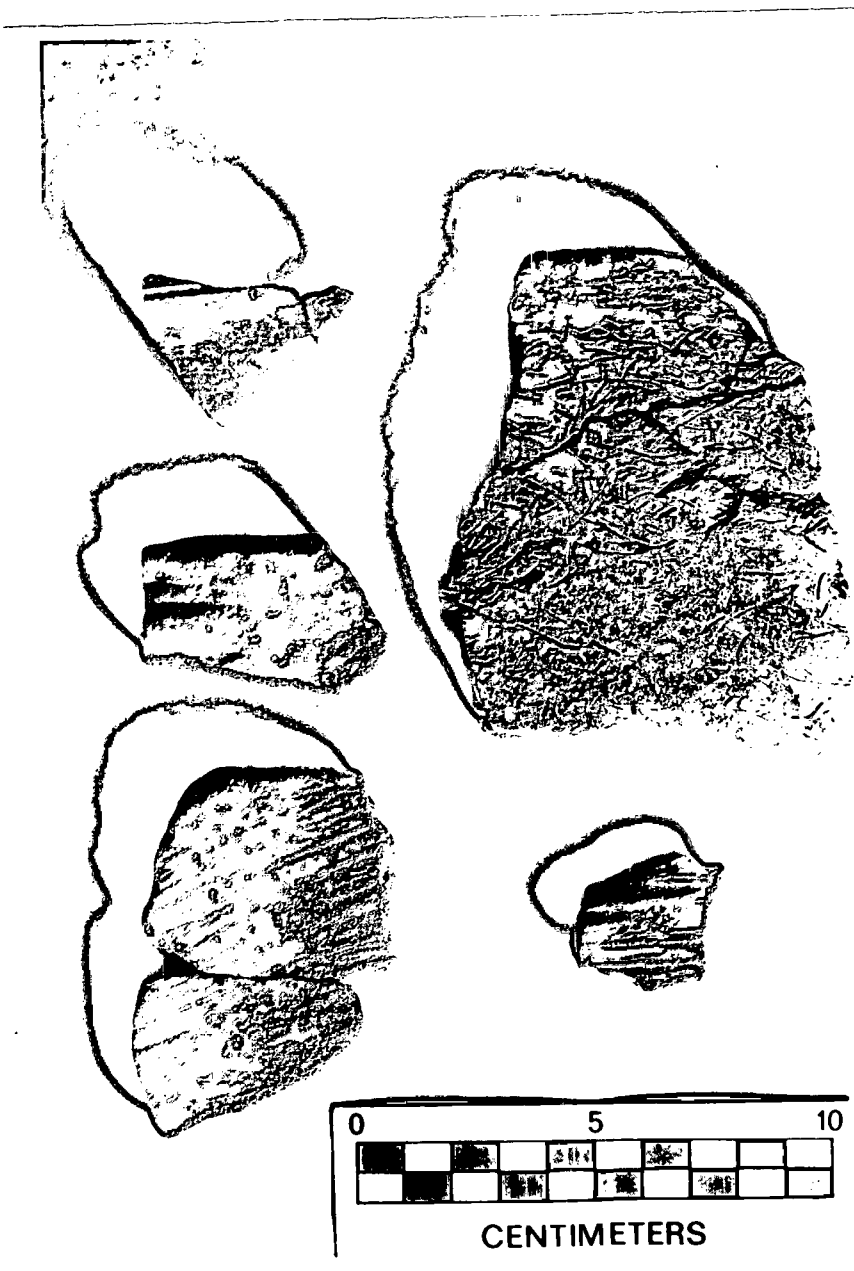

Plate 3. Pottery from PM212. Row 1, a, Lamar Incised; Row 1, b, Stallings Island Plain rim; Row 2, Cartersville Plain rim; Row 3, Cartersville Simple Stamped.

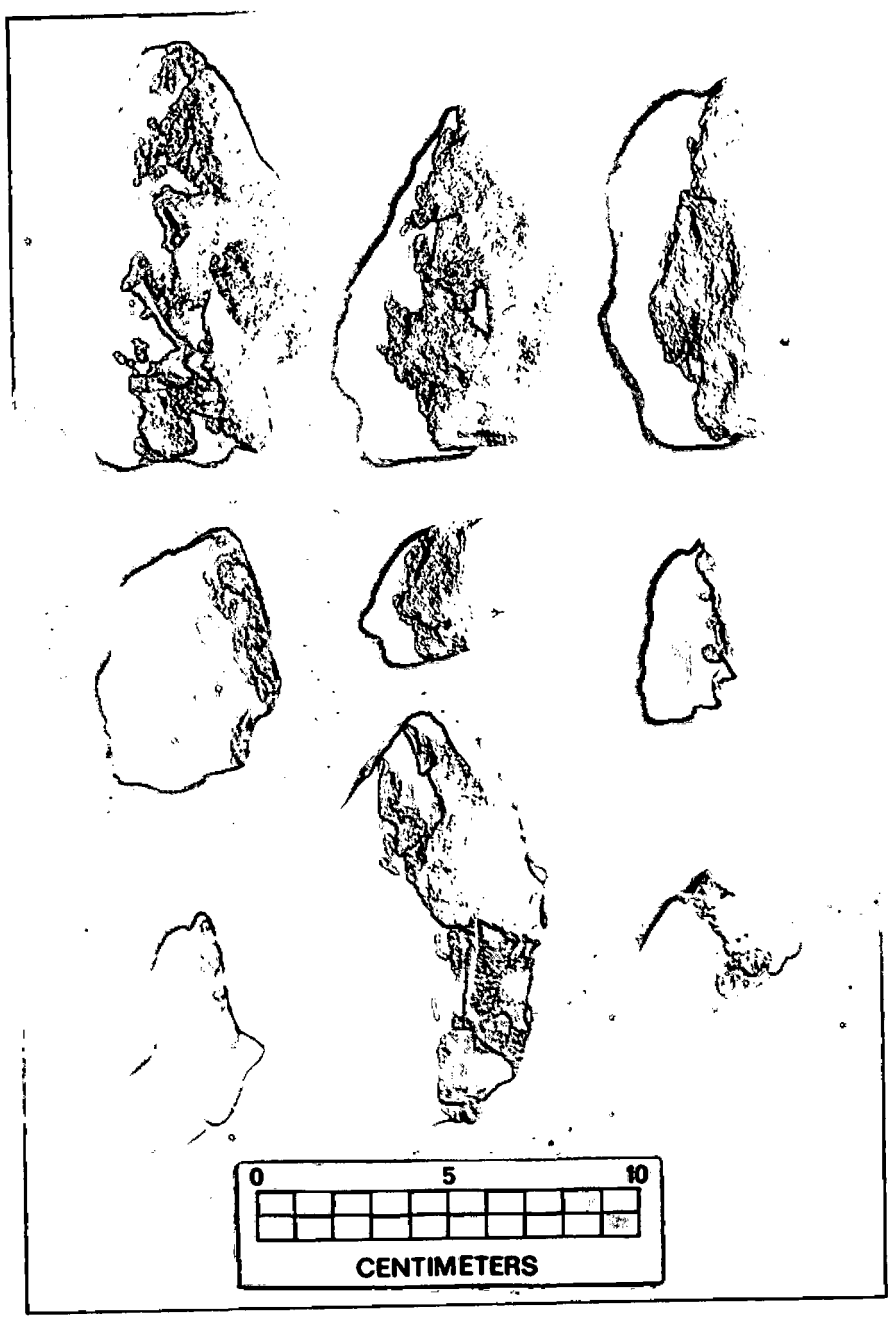

Plate 4. Flaked stone artifacts from PM212. Row 1, Savannah River points from Provenience 10; Row 2, a, Savannah River point from Provenience 9; Row 2, b, Savannah River point from Provenience 5; Row 2, c, chert stemmed point from Provenience 5; Row 3, a, Savannah River drill from Provenience 8; Row 3, b, rhyolite biface from Provenience 10; Row 3, c, quartz unifacial tool from Provenience 9

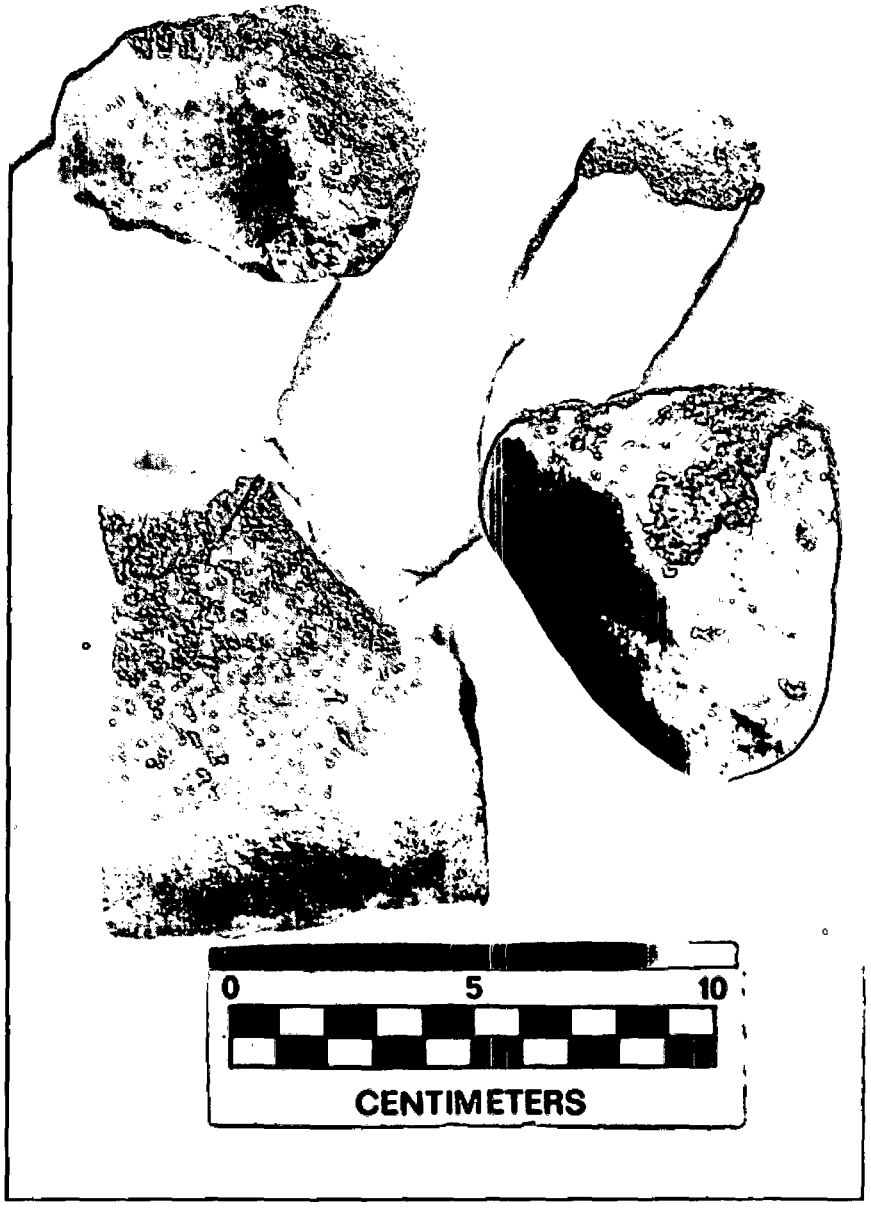

Plate 5. Non-flaked stone tools from PM212. Row 1,a, pitted stone from Provenience 9; Row 1, b, steatite slab fragment from Provenience 9; Row 2,a, grinding slab from Provenience 9; Row 2,b, hammerstone from Provenience 9.