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**This document contains information on Native American burials. Images considered to be culturally insensitive, including images and drawings of burials, Ancestors, funerary objects, and other NAGPRA material have been redacted.**

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**UNIVERSITY OF  
GEORGIA**

**Franklin College of  
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*Department of Anthropology*

*Laboratory of Archaeology*

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REPORT NO. 6



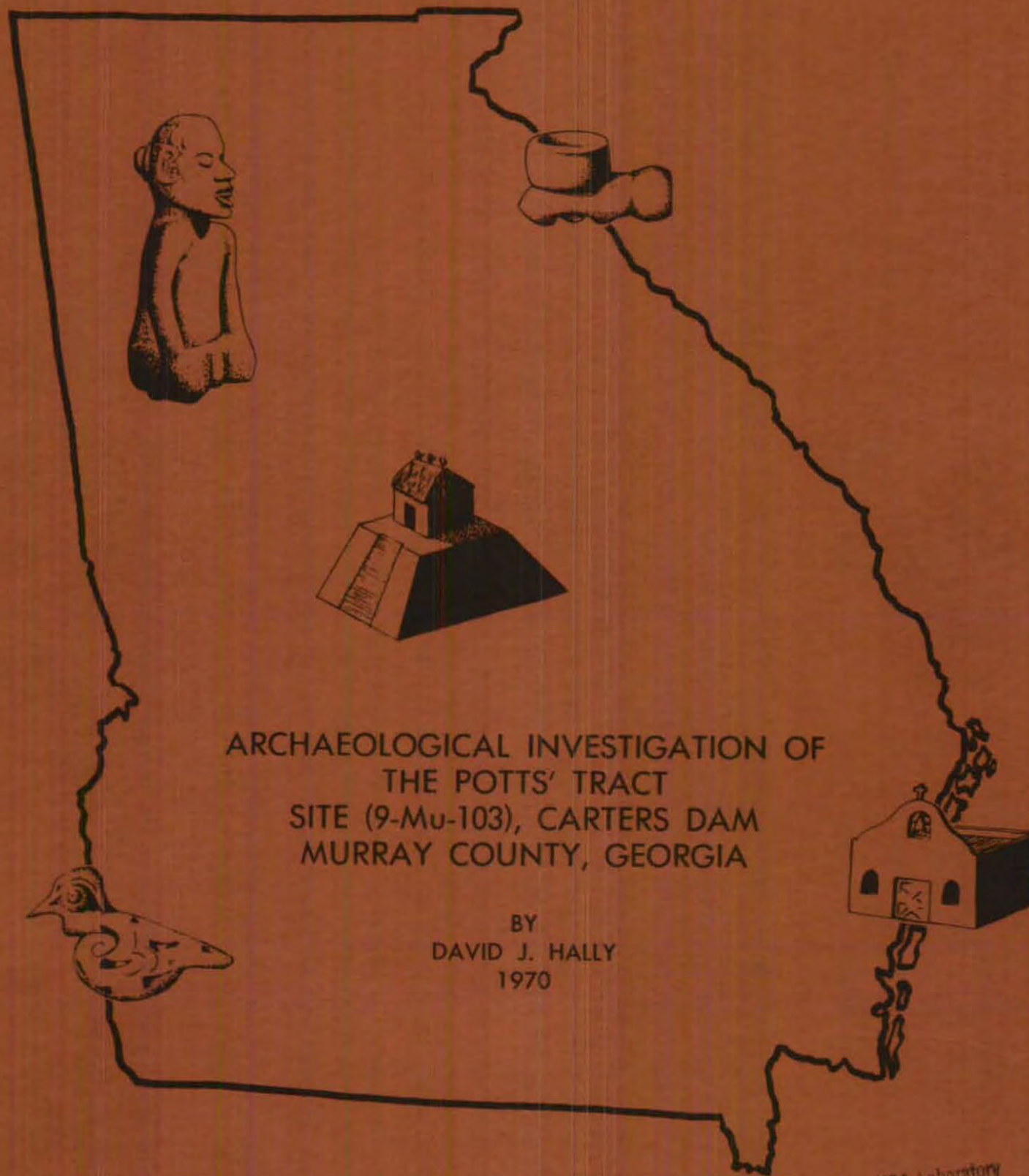
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF  
THE POTTS' TRACT  
SITE (9-Mu-103), CARTERS DAM  
MURRAY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY  
DAVID J. HALLY

1970



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE POTTS' TRACT  
SITE (9-Mu-103), CARTERS DAM,  
MURRAY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY  
DAVID J. HALLY

A report of work carried out under the auspices of the U.S.  
Department of Interior, National Park Service,  
Southeast Region. Contract Number 14-10-7-911-6

Laboratory of Archaeology  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia  
January, 1970





ADDENDUM: RADIOCARBON DATES FROM POTTS' TRACT

Two samples of charcoal from Potts' Tract have been tested for Carbon-14 content by the Geochronology Laboratory, University of Georgia. Results of these tests were not received in time for inclusion in the body of the present report.

	Date
UGA-55 Small fragments of charcoal scattered throughout the fill of Feature 133, a large Woodstock pit in Excavation Unit A.	1022 $\pm$ 40 A. D. 928
UGA-56 Charred timber laying on the floor of Structure 1B beneath a thick layer of fired wall daub. This timber was undoubtedly derived from either roof or walls when the building burned and collapsed.	286 $\pm$ 45 A.D. 1664

UGA-55 dates the earlier component at the site and is consistent with the expected time range of Woodstock culture. UGA-56 dates the Barnett component. It is a little later than anticipated, but not at all unreasonable. No European objects, with the possible exception of a small fragment of copper from Structure 1A, were associated with the Barnett component.

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## PREFACE

The purpose of this report is to describe archaeological investigations undertaken at the Potts' Tract site in 1968. Investigations were carried out under a Memorandum of Agreement between the National Park Service and the University of Georgia and are part of a larger program of salvage archaeology being conducted at Carters Dam by the University in cooperation with the National Park Service and the Corps of Engineers.

A number of people made contributions to the preparation of this report. Dr. Joseph R. Caldwell of the University of Georgia provided valuable suggestions and criticisms and made unpublished manuscript material available for the author's use. Dr. Grace Thomas of the University of Georgia identified mollusk material. Dr. Richard D. Hobson of Emory University aided the author in interpreting site geology. Donald Smith, William Steed and Chester DePratter assisted the author in some phases of artifact analysis. Mrs. Gloria Schroeder made all Figure drawings with the exception of Figures 1 and 14 which are the work of William Steed. Photographs are the work of Mrs. Joyce Hudson. The manuscript has been typed by Mrs. Sharman Everett. To all of these people, the author wishes to express his deep appreciation.





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## INTRODUCTION

The Potts' Tract site, 9-Mu-103, is located in southeast Murray County, Georgia, approximately 1½ miles due south of Carters Dam. The site lies behind a proposed reregulation dam and will be inundated by the impounded waters of Coosawattee River and Talking Rock Creek when that dam is completed in 1972. The site, approximately 1500 feet west of Talking Rock Creek and 1000 feet north of State Highway no. 156, is located on alluvial land formerly owned by Mr. William Potts of Anniston, Alabama (Figure 1).

Surface reconnaissance of the area behind the reregulation dam has been carried out continuously over the past several years by members of University of Georgia field crews excavating at the Sixtoe (9-Mu-100) and Bell Field (9-Mu-101) sites. One such reconnaissance, late in 1967, resulted in the discovery of the Potts' Tract site. At that time, artifacts were encountered over a surface area two acres in extent, and scattered clumps of red clay were noted over a smaller area immediately to the south. Trenches excavated in both locations in February, 1968, showed that the surface artifact concentration was derived from a midden zone buried by upwards of two feet of recently deposited alluvium and that the red clay was derived from a thin layer of clay immediately below plow zone. At the time, the investigators speculated that the latter feature might represent the prepared floor of a late prehistoric town house. Analysis of artifacts obtained by these investigations indicated at least two occupations in the area, a Woodstock component and a later component in which both Lamar and Dallas pottery types occurred<sup>1</sup>.

In 1968, the University of Georgia was to commence salvage investigations at the nearby<sup>2</sup> Little Egypt site, 9-Mu-102, under contract with the National Park Service. By the first of the year, however, it had become evident that access to the site would not be obtained in time to carry out investigations during the summer field season. Federal Government acquisition of the land upon which Little Egypt is located had been delayed, and the owner was reportedly unwilling to allow excavation. Given this situation and the preliminary evaluation of the Potts' Tract site, Dr. A.R. Kelly, principal investigator for the University of Georgia salvage projects at Carters Dam, proposed that the National Park Service transfer funds allocated to Little Egypt to a new, one-year project at Potts' Tract. A contract amendment to this effect was negotiated.

Field investigations at Potts' Tract were commenced on June 17, 1968,

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1. This latter component is assigned to a newly defined phase described in the present report and designated Barnett phase.
  2. Located on the south side of the junction of Coosawattee River and Talking Rock Creek, 1 mile northwest of 9-Mu-103.



and terminated ten weeks later on August 23. The entire excavation was directed by the author with the assistance of Mr. Donald Smith of the Laboratory of Archaeology, University of Georgia. A University of Georgia Summer School course in archaeological field and laboratory techniques was offered by the author in conjunction with site investigations, and the enrolled students comprised the labor force for the project.

Approximately three acres of land, including both the area of scattered red clay and the area of surface artifact concentration were leased from the tenant farmer who was cultivating this section of the Potts' property. This three-acre tract will hence forth be referred to as the site.

A cement property marker south and west of the site was utilized as the site datum. This marker has an elevation of 682.5 feet above sea level, but for ease in calculating site elevations, it was assigned the arbitrary figure of 100 feet. A horizontal grid system, oriented to the cardinal directions, was established, and site datum was chosen to mark the intersection of the grid axes. A contour map with half-foot contour intervals was made of the entire three-acre site (Figure 2).

The basic unit of investigation was the five-foot square. Frequently though much larger areas were excavated as a unit. Artifacts and features were located by reference to the northeast corner stake of the square from which they were recovered. Features were plotted on excavation maps by means of alidade and plane table or through use of a hand tape and the grid system. Excavation was by natural or arbitrary levels depending upon each situation.

Excavation began with three test pits located in the south-west, east-central and northwest portions of the site. The first two pits encountered no occupation features and yielded virtually no artifacts. The third was an enlargement of the pit dug the preceding February for the purpose of determining the source of surface artifacts. This test pit was first expanded into an east-west trench ten feet wide and sixty feet long. Superimposed Woodstock and Barnett phase occupation zones and associated architectural features were encountered throughout. Eventually, portions of the trench were expanded southward a total of sixty-five feet in search of additional occupation features. Here, two Barnett phase houses, Structures 1 and 3, were located and completely excavated. This entire area of investigation, between N415 and N480 and E45 and E110, has been designated Excavation Unit 1 (XU 1).

Toward the end of July, investigations were begun on the red clay feature near the south end of the site. Almost immediately it was apparent that the thin red clay stratum did not represent an aboriginal, man-made feature. Interest shifted, therefore, to the investigation of a fossil stream channel encountered beneath that stratum. Several test trenches were excavated in the vicinity of this channel, and ultimately one such trench encountered a Barnett phase house, Structure 2, south-west of the coordinate N200 E60. All excavations related to the investigation of this structure have been designated as Excavation Unit 2 (XU 2). The various trenches excavated in exploring the stream channel are referred to only by their location on the site grid.



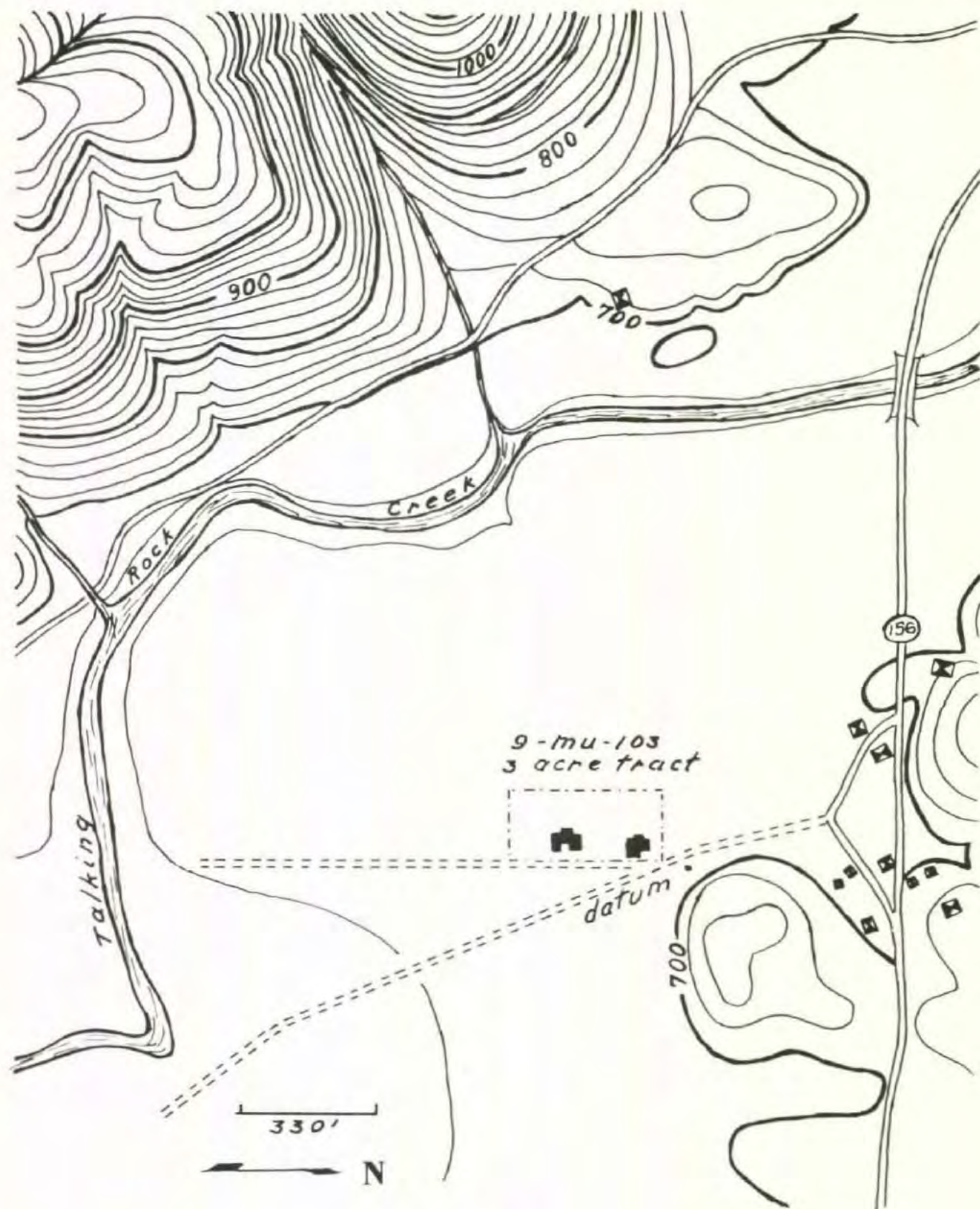
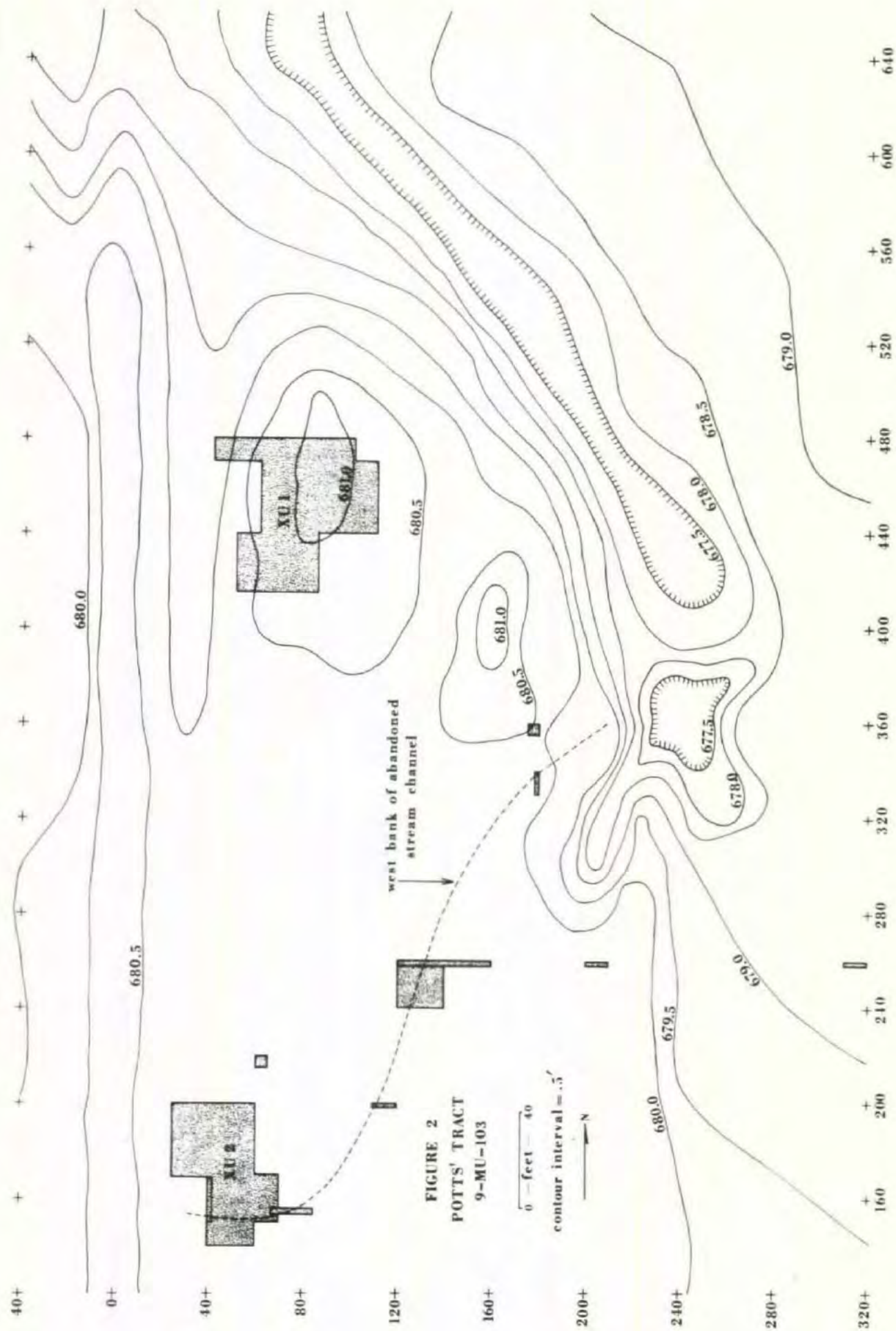


FIGURE 1











## NATURAL STRATIGRAPHY AND SITE GEOLOGY

9-Mu-103 lies on the flood plain of Talking Rock Creek. Excavations have shown that most of the site is underlain by alluvial soils to an undetermined depth. Pre-occupation deposits in XU 1 and XU 2 consist of silt and clay loams, brown in color in the south and yellow in the north (Figures 3 and 4). The upper surface of these soils ranges between 95.0 feet and 96.0 feet. Testing in square M480 E75 showed that the yellow silt loam there continues down to a depth of at least 90.0 feet.

### Excavation Unit 1

Within the limits of XU 1, the surface of sterile silt loam rises approximately 1 foot from northwest to southeast. In square M480 E45 it occurs at 95.0 feet, while in the vicinity of Structure 1 it is found at approximately 96.0 feet. The overlying strata also rise slightly from northwest to southeast.

Overlying yellow silt loam in XU 1 are two superimposed culture-bearing loam strata (Figure 3). The upper one, light brown in color, is well defined by an overlying light gray fine sandy loam and by the underlying midden stratum, a dark brown loam. The boundary between the lower, dark brown loam midden and underlying sterile silt loam, on the other hand, is vague and difficult to determine due to a gradual change in texture and color between the two strata. The line demarcating these two strata in Figure 3 is therefore somewhat arbitrary. Supposedly all artifacts and features belonging to the two major site components originate in these two midden strata.

Overlying the culture-bearing deposits in XU 1 are .4 to .5 feet of light gray fine sandy loam representing a buried plow zone. The bottom of plow furrows, running northeast-southwest, and at least two sets of wagon tracks could be detected in the top of the underlying light brown loam midden. This plow zone may antedate the "Whitestone Freshet", a disastrous flood in 1937, or it may have been buried by more recent flood activity.

The last stratum to be deposited in the area of XU 1 is a homogenous layer of tan loamy sand which, as it overlies a relict plow zone, is necessarily of recent origin. The entire site is covered by at least one foot of this material. In the vicinity of XU 1, upwards of two feet are present, a situation that is reflected in the slight rise in surface elevation at that point (see Figure 2). Local inhabitants attribute the deposit to the "Whitestone Freshet." Extensive erosion and deposition of coarse-grained sediments are occurring today just southeast of the site, however, and it seems not impossible that this loamy sand could be even more recent than 1937. Artifacts of both components are plentiful in it at the north end of the site.

The contour map indicates a large pothole in the vicinity of N360 E240 and a channel-like depression leading away from it to the northwest. This latter continues for a considerable distance and carries off surface water to Talking Rock Creek. A similar channel leads into the pothole from the southeast. Pothole and channels alike cut through the buried occupation strata at this end of the site, and it is probable that their formation and the heavy occurrence of artifacts in the tan loamy sand of XU 1 are directly



related. The fields along the south side of Talking Rock Creek are covered with ridges and swales which are apparently formed by flood waters scouring out channels and throwing up material along their margins.

#### Excavation Unit 2

In XU 2, sterile clay loam is overlain at 96.0 feet by one and one-half to two feet of loam containing cultural material and architectural features (Figure 4). In texture and color, this material is basically similar to the two midden strata present at the north end of the site, and it is probable that all were deposited at the same time and under similar conditions. Throughout most of XU 2, however, only a single uniform stratum is visible, and cultural material is restricted to its upper half. Only at the south end of the unit can two separate zones be detected as in XU 1. These are a brown loam with cultural material and an underlying sterile tan loam (Figure 5).

Above the Culture-bearing stratum, lies the tan loamy sand of reputed Whitestone flood origin. There are only .6 to .8 feet of this material and no underlying relict plow zone. Apparently this latter stratum has been destroyed by cultivation as plow furrows can be seen at the junction of tan loamy sand and brown loam midden.

#### Channel Feature

In the southeast portion of the site, the stratigraphic situation differs considerably from that described above. Instead of sterile silt and clay loams overlain by cultural and recent flood deposits, there is below plow zone a series of stratified, fine-grained sediments which extend downward to an undetermined depth (Figure 4). These were first encountered in a 20 foot square excavation (N260 E140) which had been undertaken for the purpose of investigating the thin red clay layer, tentatively identified in earlier investigations as a prepared floor. In a narrow trench excavated between N260 E120 and N260 E160, these strata could be seen rising from east to west. In the western end of the trench, they either lensed out or were truncated by plow zone<sup>3</sup>.

Given the size and configuration of the feature as indicated in this first trench, it was eventually concluded that an abandoned channel of Talking Rock Creek had been found. Operating on this assumption, several additional trenches<sup>4</sup> and small test pits<sup>5</sup> were excavated in order to determine the path of the channel within the site area (Figure 2). As in the initial test, three of these trenches succeeded in locating what is interpreted as the western bank of the channel. Brown clay loam at the left of Figure 4 is earlier floodplain soil like that encountered in XU 1 and XU 2. The various deposits of fine-grained sediments lying on top of and to the east of the brown

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3. Figure 4 is the profile for a trench located at N156 E85, but it depicts a situation similar to that encountered at N260 E140.

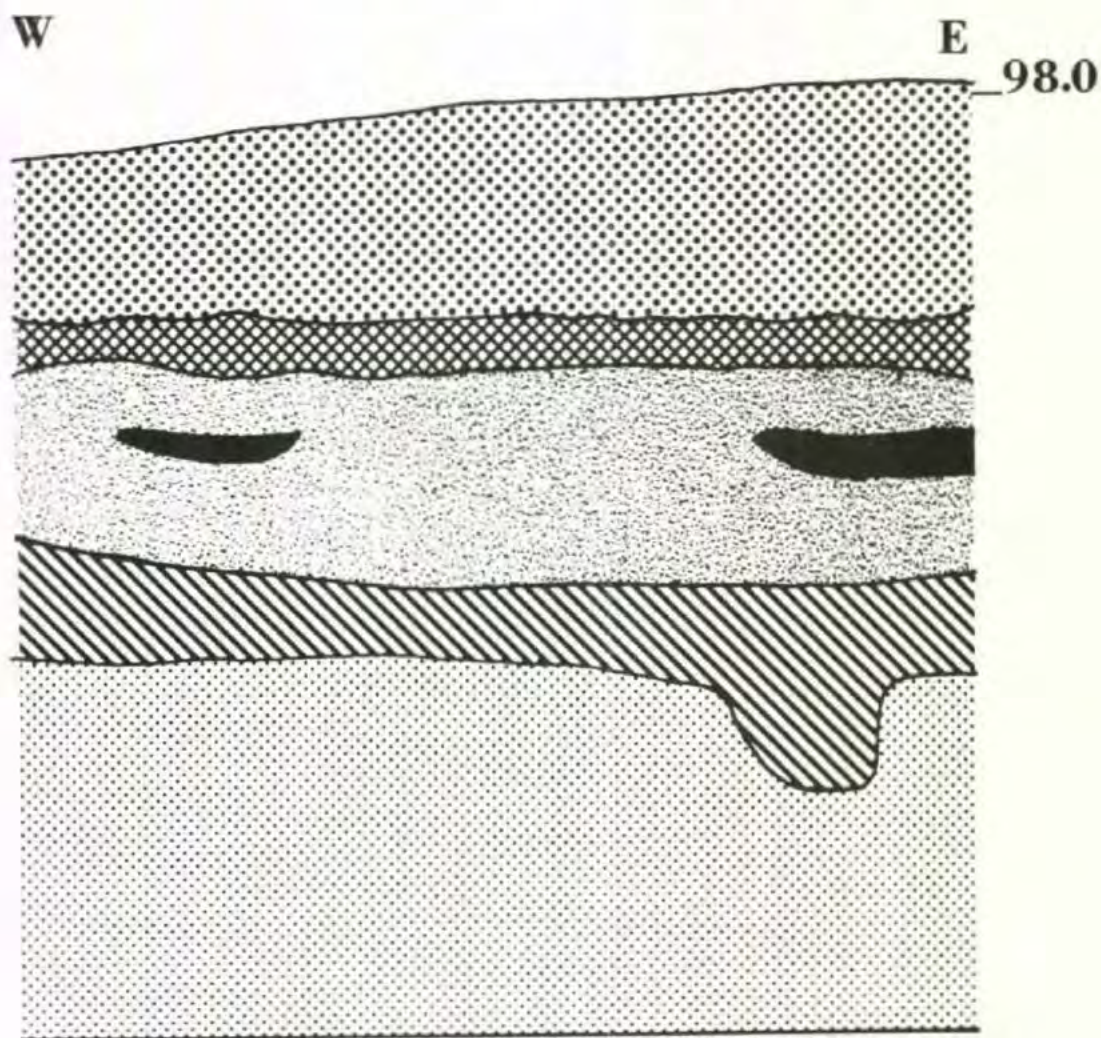
4. N156 E84, N200 E120, N340 E180, N260 E110, N260 E320.




5. These are not shown on the site map, Figure 2.






# SQUARE N480 E60

north wall



-  *tan loamy sand*
-  *light gray fine sandy loam*
-  *light brown loam*

-  *yellow sand*
-  *dark brown loam*
-  *yellow silt loam*

0 feet 1

FIGURE 3

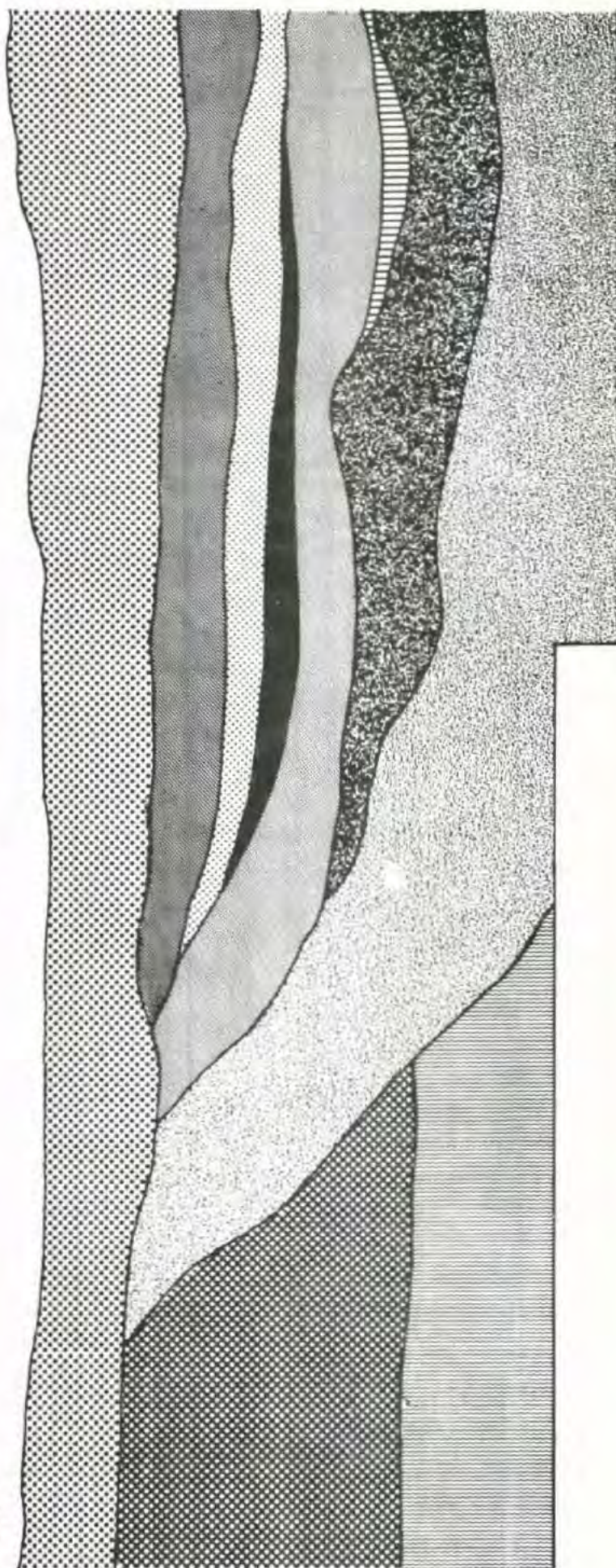




# TRENCH N156 E85

north profile

- 98.0



0 feet 1

plow zone  
brown fine sandy loam  
brown clay loam

channel fill

FIGURE 4

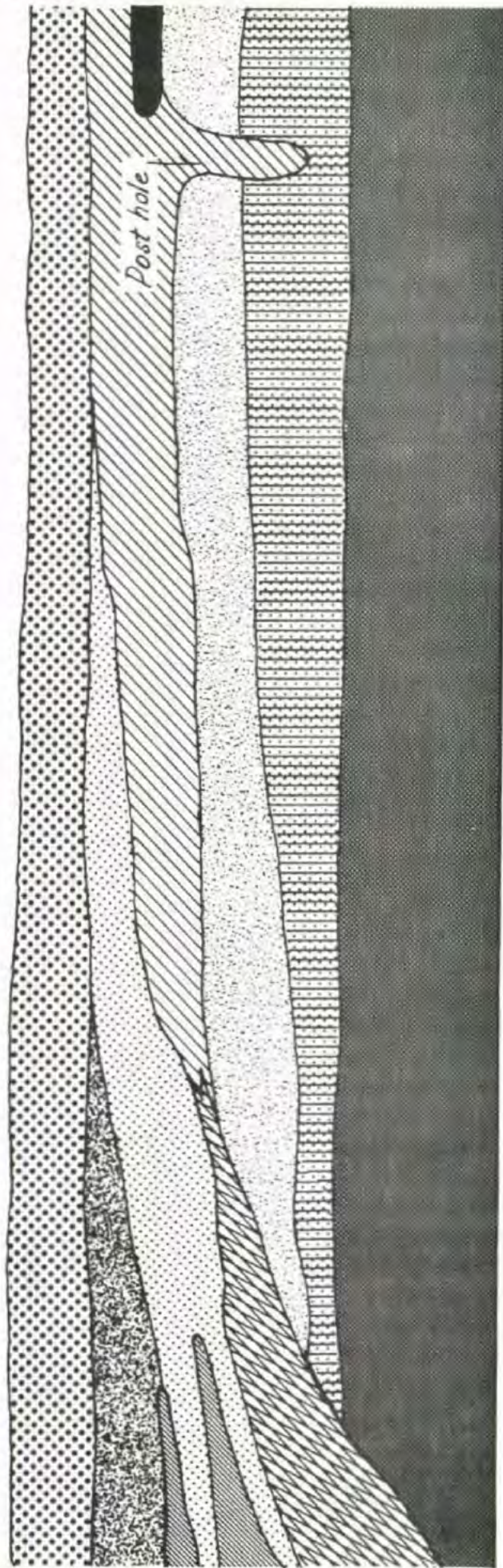






# TRENCH N 170 E 44 west profile

99.0 ft. —



- plow zone
- brown loam
- tan loam
- mottled yellow and brown silt loam
- brown clay loam

- midden - Structure 2
- Channel fill

0 feet 2

FIGURE 5





clay loam are interpreted as channel fill. The uppermost layer within the channel fill is a light tan sand with dark varve-like horizontal striations. Below are found layers of clay and loam. Flecks of what appear to be decayed organic matter occurred throughout these deposits as did occasional Barnett phase potsherds. All indications are that the majority of the sediments filling the channel were deposited by water with little or no current. The depth to which these deposits extend was not determined, although the trench at N200 E120 traced them down to 6.5 feet below local ground surface. By way of comparison, it may be noted that on July 26, 1968, water level in Talking Rock Creek at a point due north of the site was 17 feet below the adjacent banks.

The opposite bank of the channel was not located. Trenches N260 E320 and N260 E110 were placed some distance to the east, but they both yielded the stratified sediments indicative of channel fill.

Dr. Richard D. Hobson, a sedimentologist at Emory University, was taken to the site in late autumn to look at the exposed trench profiles. He concurred with the author that the feature in question was quite likely an abandoned stream channel. Additional evidence for this interpretation can be found in the United States Department of Agriculture aerial photographs of the valley below Carters Dam. One or possibly two meander loops, apparently produced by Talking Rock Creek can be seen very clearly in Bell Field near the junction of Coosawattee River and the present creek bed. These indicate that the course of Talking Rock Creek has changed recently, and no doubt has likewise changed in remote times. The feature under discussion here may represent one such former meander path. Our inability to find an opposite bank for the channel would then be due to disturbance of the entire area to the east by the stream as it moved laterally northwestward to the point determined by our test trenches.

A plausible alternative interpretation of this feature is that it represents a channel cut under flood conditions and never carried the active stream. The fact that no levee ridge seems to have formed along the bank supports this interpretation. Whatever the actual mechanism of formation was, the fact remains that a depression of considerable size did exist adjacent to the site. The question is, when.

As can be seen in Figure 5, the culture bearing loam stratum and the floor of Structure 2 appear to underly several lenses of channel fill, indicating that the Barnett phase occupation here antedates at least some of the period of channel filling. The channel can not be too recent in origin, however, as there is no sign of it in the aerial photographs. The fact that pottery of the Barnett phase occupation occurred in small quantities throughout the fill deposits excavated indicates that the channel was filling in during site occupation. In short, Structure 2 may have been erected adjacent to a body of water, perhaps the active channel of Talking Rock Creek.

There are numerous references in the early European accounts of the Southeast that describe Indian fields and settlements located on the banks of active streams. Perhaps we have an archeological example of this situation at Potts' Tract.

No satisfactory explanation exists for the red clay layer located at the south end of the site. It occurs at the top of the last deposit in the channel fill series, a varved sand. It is about .2 feet thick and has been greatly disturbed by recent plowing. No artifacts were found associated with it.



The tenant farmer from whom the site was leased reported that it it soil brought in to fill a low place in the field. Because of the thinness of the deposit however, this is not a completely adequate explanation.

#### COMPONENT IDENTIFICATION AND CULTURAL STRATIGRAPHY

Cultural material representing three identifiable components-Barnett, Woodstock and Cartersville-was recovered during excavations at Potts' Tract<sup>6</sup>. The earliest component, Cartersville, consists of a few dozen check stamped, fabric marked and plain sherds found scattered throughout the site. No architectural features can be identified with the component. Given this absence of features and the small quantity of Cartersville artifacts, it is probable that the occupation itself was either of brief duration or located beyond the areas of excavation. Some Cartersville sherds occurred in the clay and silt loams indicating temporal priority over the two other components. The majority however were found in the overlying midden strata in association with Woodstock and Barnett material.

The Woodstock component as revealed in the 1968 excavations consisted of pottery, a limited inventory of stone and bone artifacts and architectural features. Pottery conforms closely to published Woodstock type descriptions (J.R. Caldwell N.D. and Vauchope 1966:60-63) with the result that the component's cultural affiliation is apparent. Woodstock pottery was found throughout the investigated portions of the site, but occurred in only minor amounts in XU 2. A distinct Woodstock midden zone with habitation features occurred in XU 1, but was absent in XU 2. Intensive occupation at this time apparently centered at the north end of the site.

The Barnett component is represented by pottery, stone artifacts and a number of architectural features including three domestic structures. This occupation has been assigned to a newly defined phase, designated Barnett phase after one of the owners of property in the valley below Carters Dam. Barnett phase artifacts and features were encountered in both excavation units.

The stratigraphic relationship of the Woodstock and Barnett components is to be seen only in XU 1. Here, as described in the previous section, two midden strata could be distinguished: a light brown loam and an underlying dark brown loam. On the basis of artifact distributions, these may be assigned respectively to the Barnett and Woodstock components. Ceramic samples from the upper stratum invariably contained a mixture of sherds from both components. Pottery from the lower midden stratum was often pure or at least predominantly Woodstock. Due to the spatial proximity of the two strata (Figure 3) and the large number of postholes and pits intrusive into the lower midden from above, some mixture is to be expected in most excavated collections.

While cultural stratigraphy was clear cut and easily distinguished, it is unfortunate that the two middens were not separated by an intervening sterile stratum. As it was, postholes and to some extent other architectural features could not be readily assigned to one or the other occupation. The few features

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6. A small number of archaic projectile points and steatite bowl fragments were also found in excavating, but their cultural affiliation can not be determined.



that were identifiable as Woodstock on the basis of associated artifacts could usually be determined to originate in the lower midden or near the junction of the two strata. Structure 3, a Barnett phase house, lay within the upper midden, while the earlier floor of Structure 1, also Barnett phase, was intrusive into the lower midden and lay just above sterile silt loam. Structure 2, at the south end of the site, lay at the junction of Barnett midden and sterile sub-soil. No actual Woodstock occupation zone could be detected in XU 2.

The Potts' Tract site as defined by the three acres leased for excavation is a completely arbitrary unit relative to the spatial configuration of the actual prehistoric occupations. Since the site is buried beneath one to two feet of recent alluvium and excavations were confined to a three acre tract of land, there is no way of knowing the true spatial limits of the two major components.

Limited data on Woodstock (S. Caldwell 1950, J.R. Caldwell N.D.) indicates that this culture has a settlement pattern characterized in part by compact palisaded villages. Had investigations at Potts' Tract extended over a larger area, such a bounded settlement might have been defined. Barnett phase settlement pattern is probably characterized by a combination of compact villages and dispersed hamlets as described for southeastern Indians in early European accounts. Given the nature of investigations at Potts' Tract, however, we have no way of knowing whether Structures 1, 2 and 3 represent portions of a single compact and bounded village or a series of isolated and probably non-contemporaneous hamlets.

It is unfortunate that such information could not be obtained during the 1968 investigations. Since it was not, the site, as described in this report, is nothing more than an arbitrary unit of investigation which has yielded data on only limited portions of two intensive and probably extensive prehistoric settlements.

#### WOODSTOCK CERAMICS

The Woodstock component at Potts' Tract consists of the following pottery types: Woodstock Complicated Stamped<sup>7</sup>, Woodstock Check Stamped, Etowah

- 
7. In conformity with the published descriptions of Fears (1958) and Wauchope (1966), diamonds and line blocks are treated here as two design motifs within the type, Woodstock Complicated Stamped.





Wauchope (1966:61) the outer border line is occasionally crossed by the horizontal background lines and occasionally, the diamond is bisected by a single vertical line.

TABLE 2

Relative frequencies of Woodstock Complicated Stamped designs

Concentric circles	1%
Line block	18%
Diamond	81%

The line block design (Figure 6c) is similar to published descriptions and requires no further description here. A small number of sherds with a stamped design consisting of concentric circles on a background of horizontal parallel lines is represented in the Potts' Tract collections. In many examples, stamping is crude, producing a rough, blurred design not at all like the usual Woodstock Complicated Stamped pottery from the site (Figure 6g). In paste however, these sherds are similar to Woodstock pottery, and since examples with Woodstock-like execution do occur (Figure 6f), it seems safe to assign them to that component.

J.R. Caldwell (N.D.) found similar material at 9-Ck-85 and designated it Variant of Swift Creek Complicated Stamped, while noting its similarities in paste, surface finish and form to the other Woodstock pottery at the site. He points out that stylistically the pottery is "intermediate between some classic Swift Creek sherds and later Savannah Complicated Stamped sherds with the concentric circle motif." In most respects, the design conforms to the Woodstock pattern of decoration and should be seen as merely an additional, if minor, design variation within the type, Woodstock Complicated Stamped.

Woodstock Check Stamped

A few sherds in the Potts' Tract collections have been identified as check stamped. Check size is 2-3 cm (Figure 6d), somewhat smaller than that found by J.R. Caldwell at the Woodstock Fort site, 9-Ck-85 (N.D.). Paste and temper are similar to Woodstock Complicated Stamped.

The fact that check stamping is so rare, at Potts' Tract certainly sets the site off from 9-Ck-85 where the type apparently accounts for at least 10%<sup>9</sup> of all pottery.

Woodstock Incised

As with check stamping, incised pottery is extremely rare at Potts' Tract (Figure 6 h,i). Paste resembles Woodstock Complicated Stamped. In the one example with recognizable design, line filled triangles are represented. Incised pottery is also a rare type at 9-Ck-85 (Caldwell N.D.)

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9. Based on author's own observations of 9-Ck-85 collection.



### Etowah Complicated Stamped

A number of sherds bearing a ladder base diamond design<sup>10</sup> (Figure 6 j,k), but in other characteristics similar to Woodstock Complicated Stamped, are represented in the collections from Potts' Tract. Both Sears (1958:151-190) and J.R. Caldwell (N.D.) distinguish this design from the 2-bar or interrupted diamond design in which there is no background of horizontal lines and the diamond motif is horizontally bisected by two or three lines (bars). Sears and Caldwell agree in identifying the Line block and ladder base diamond as the sole Etowah Complicated Stamped designs in Etowah I phase. The later 2-bar diamond appears initially in Etowah II phase and is not present at Potts' Tract.

At 9-Ck-85, the one site where Woodstock material has been previously found in stratigraphically isolated context (J.R. Caldwell N.D.) only three complicated stamped designs were represented, the diamond, line block and concentric circles. How is the presence of ladder base diamond design at Potts' Tract to be interpreted? Were there two separate occupations of Woodstock and Etowah I affiliation, or was there only a single occupation of a transitional nature?

Two large pits, Features 122 and 133, contained 372 sherds assignable to Woodstock phase and 4 ladder base diamond stamped sherds. This association in apparently undisturbed pits strongly suggests that Etowah Complicated Stamped pottery with the ladder base diamond design was an integral part of the Woodstock ceramic inventory at Potts' Tract. If as many Southeastern archaeologists believe, Woodstock Complicated Stamped and Etowah Complicated Stamped constitute a developmental continuum, it is to be expected that transitional components containing both types will be found. This is evidently the situation at Potts' Tract. Despite this transitional nature of the component, however, the overwhelming preponderance of Woodstock material necessitates designating it as Woodstock phase.

### Woodstock Plain

At 9-Ck-85, there is a great deal of smooth surfaced plain pottery which J.R. Caldwell (N.D.) has distinguished as Woodstock Plain. Identical in paste and vessel shape to Woodstock Stamped, the diagnostic feature of the pottery according to Caldwell is its well smoothed exterior and interior surfaces. J.R. Caldwell presents pottery counts only for architectural features, but these together with observations made by the present author on the collection stored at the University of Georgia suggest that Woodstock Plain accounts for at least 10% of all pottery from 9-Ck-85.

The figures for Woodstock Plain in Table 1 do not reflect the true frequency of this type at Potts' Tract. When the counts for Table 1 were made, the author was not aware of the existence of Caldwell's type, and he used the category mainly as a catchall for pottery without visible decoration.

Reanalysis of some of the lots used in compiling Table 1, with the aim of identifying Woodstock Plain as defined by Caldwell, indicates that only about one-third of the pottery listed as plain actually belongs to the type. The remainder apparently is weathered, smoothed over and lightly stamped pottery from decorated vessels. Woodstock Plain then is not nearly as common at Potts' Tract as at 9-Ck-85.

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10. This terminology, ladder base diamond, is derived from Sears (1958:151).



### Comparisons

Caldwell (N.D.) has distinguished two foci of Woodstock culture: Woodstock focus and Proctor's Bend focus. The Woodstock site, 9-Ck-2, (Wauchope 1948: 203-4) is type site for the former, while the Woodstock Fort site, 9-Ck-85, is type site for the latter. Proctor's Bend focus differs from Woodstock focus in its lack of Woodstock Incised and its possession of Woodstock Check Stamped. The Potts' Tract component differs from both foci in possessing only a minute quantity of both supposedly diagnostic types. Further divergences from the two defined foci are presented in Table 3.

TABLE 3<sup>11</sup>

Comparison of selected Woodstock ceramic traits

	9-Ck-85 (Proctor's Bend focus)	9-Ck-2 (Woodstock focus)	9-Wu-103
abundant plain pottery	+	-	-
simple stamping	+	-	-
stamped herringbone design	-	+	-
stamped concentric circles design	+	-	+

Despite a general uniformity in types, it is obvious that the three pottery complexes are different in several respects. Whether this reflects regional or chronological differences, or perhaps even sampling error, is difficult to say given present information. The occurrence of Etowah Complicated Stamped at Potts' Tract however does indicate that this site at least may be slightly later in date than the two foci distinguished by Caldwell.

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11. Data obtained from J.R. Caldwell (N.D.) and Wauchope (1966:272-5).

TABLE 4

Relative Frequencies of Barnett phase types at Potts' Tract

	Structure I 101	Structure 2 92	Structure 3 30	Total 223	Percentages 8.6%
<u>Lamar Bold Incised</u>	141	99	41	281	10.9%
<u>Lamar Complicated Stamped</u>					
<u>Lamar Coarse Plain</u>	234	358	87	679	26.3%
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	369	225	134	724	28.2%
<u>Dallas Incised</u>	38	11	7	56	2.2%
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	330	114	141	585	22.7%
<u>Dallas Filleted</u>	5	3	3	11	0.4%
<u>Dallas Modeled</u>	2	0	0	2	0.08%
<u>Grit Tempered Cordmarked</u>	19	0	0	19	0.7%
<u>Shell Tempered Cordmarked</u>	2	0	0	2	0.08%



The 1968 excavations at Potts' Tract yielded a large collection of Barnett phase pottery. Laboratory analysis however has been largely restricted to the pottery obtained from the three houses, Structures 1, 2 and 3. The following discussion is based primarily on this limited ceramic sample.

The Barnett phase component at Potts' Tract is characterized by the types, Dallas Incised, Dallas Plain, Lamar Coarse Plain, Lamar Bold Incised, Lamar Complicated Stamped and Lamar Plain. Frequencies and percentages of these are presented in Table 4. Additional ceramic variants present include a shell tempered cordmarked type, a grit tempered cordmarked type and a fine, shell tempered ware with applique strips and modeled effigies, equivalent to Lewis and Kneberg's Dallas Filleted and Dallas Modeled.

#### Dallas Incised

As defined in the Hiwassee Island report (Lewis and Kneberg 1946:105), Dallas Incised includes all shell tempered pottery with incised decoration belonging to the Dallas component. Within this "Decorative sub-type", Lewis and Kneberg noted two distinct combinations of vessel shape and design:

1. Incised, hachured triangles or angular guilloche placed on rims of jars with strap handles; and
2. Bowls with interlocking scrolls or various "south appalachian motifs" incised on the rim area.

In the present report these two variations are recognized as entirely separate types: Dallas Incised and Lamar Bold Incised respectively. Tempering, which is usually cited as a diagnostic attribute of these types, will be ignored. Thus all pottery with incised, hachured triangles and related rectilinear designs, whether shell or grit tempered, is included in the type, Dallas Incised. Likewise, all pottery with incised, interlocking scrolls and related curvilinear designs, whether shell or grit tempered, is included in the type, Lamar Bold Incised.

At Potts' Tract, Dallas Incised occurs on both a coarse, shell tempered ware (Figure 7 c) and a grit tempered ware (Figure 7 a,b) of the kind usually associated with the types Lamar Bold Incised and Lamar Complicated Stamped. Shell tempering greatly predominates, but the other accounts for roughly 7% of the type.

Vessel shape is that of the globular jar with constricted neck and straight or slightly insloping rim. Strap handles (Figure 7 a) occur with sufficient frequency to indicate that they are a normal accompaniment of the vessel. Decoration is almost entirely the line-filled triangle, although diagonal bands of parallel lines (Figure 7 a) and nested chevrons (Figure 7 b) also occur. Decoration is normally confined to the rim-neck area, but in a few cases occurs on jar shoulders with the surface area above being plain. Strap handles may be plain or decorated with vertical lines.

#### Dallas Plain

There are a sufficient number of plain rim and neck sherds in the Barnett phase collections to indicate that many shell tempered vessels are entirely without decoration. In contrast to the Dallas phase components at Sixtoe Field (9-Mu-100) and Little Egypt (9-Mu-102<sup>12</sup>), however, undecorated, shell

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12. Field work is currently being conducted at Little Egypt.



tempered vessels are relatively uncommon<sup>13</sup>.

Jars are similar in form to those bearing Dallas Incised decoration and are the predominant vessel shape. Strap handles occur as do flange-like lugs. The latter are placed just below the rim in a manner similar to vessels illustrated in the Hiwassee Island report (Lewis and Kneberg 1946: Plate 60,I). The simple, rounded bowl is also represented.

#### Dallas Modeled-Dallas Filleted

A small proportion of the plain, shell tempered pottery is characterized by very fine textured paste, minute temper particles and well smoothed surfaces. Rims invariably have a narrow applique strip which is usually notched but may be plain (Figure 7 e). Crude effigy heads occur in association with such applique strips (Figure 7 d). In one instance, the modeled legs of an animal effigy are present on a bowl fragment. This pottery would qualify as Dallas Filleted and Dallas Modeled as described by Lewis and Kneberg (1946:105). Eleven rims of the former type have been counted in the collections from the three Barnett phase structures<sup>14</sup>.

#### Lamar Coarse Plain

During initial analysis of the Potts' Tract pottery, the author classified a large quantity of sherds with a rough exterior surface, but without distinguishable design, as Lamar Complicated Stamped. It was felt that such pottery merely represented the cruder end of the Lamar Complicated Stamped spectrum. Further consideration and subsequent reanalysis of the Barnett phase material however has led the author to conclude that this rough surfaced pottery should be distinguished as a separate type. In the present report it is referred to as Lamar Coarse Plain. The description that follows is not intended as a formal type definition.

Lamar Coarse Plain occurs on a grit tempered paste similar to other Lamar types at Potts' Tract. Its distinguishing characteristic is a rough exterior surface that is cracked, bumpy and dotted with protruding temper particles. The technique whereby this finish is produced is not known, although a likely guess is that it is the result of not modifying surfaces in any way beyond the tooling necessary in shaping vessels. Instead of smoothing and polishing or stamping with a carved paddle, the craftsman simply left the vessel surface unaltered<sup>15</sup>. No tooling marks can be recognized on this pottery, and one

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13. This statement is based on impression only as complete counts have not been made of the collections from Sixtoe and Little Egypt.

14. No attempt was made to sort out body sherds of these types as without the diagnostic rim and effigy features they can be difficult to distinguish from the coarse, shell tempered ware.

15. Involved here is the question of whether Lamar Complicated Stamped is malleated into shape with a carved paddle or formed in some other fashion and subsequently decorated with a stamp.



wonders what technique was utilized in fashioning the clay into final vessel form.

Whatever the technique was, it is clear that the end result was intentional. Lamar Bold Incised vessels with this surface finish below the decorative zone are well smoothed on their interior surface and in some cases have also been smoothed on the exterior in the basal region.

Lamar Coarse Plain occurs with four vessel forms: the typical Lamar Jar with pinched rim, globular jars with handles, simple rounded bowls and carinated bowls. In the first case, it is normally an all-over surface finish, an exception being those jars with Lamar Bold Incised decoration in the neck region and a roughened surface on the body below (Figure 8 c). Rounded jars with handles appear to be roughened on the shoulder and lower body surface and smoothed on the rim and neck. Carinated bowls bear this surface finish on their underside below a smoothed rim area that is decorated with Lamar Bold Incised designs (Figure 8 a).

Perhaps Lamar Coarse Plain is best seen as a ceramic mode rather than a type. Although it most frequently occurs as the all-over surface finish on bowls and jars, it also served as an alternative to polishing below the zone of decoration on Lamar Bold Incised vessels.

Considerable difficulty has been encountered in working with Lamar Coarse Plain pottery as there are several distinct pottery types that can be included in the category on the basis of gross similarity. Crudely executed Lamar Complicated Stamped sherds are nearly indistinguishable from it. So also are sherds with weathered and eroded surfaces. Finally, some pottery resembling Lamar Coarse Plain is apparently cordmarked (Figure 9 b). This latter material is grit tempered, crudely stamped and possibly smoothed over lightly. A few definite examples have been identified (Table 4), but a much greater number have probably been mistakenly included in the Lamar Coarse Plain category. Since these three types can resemble Lamar Coarse Plain under the conditions described, an accurate sorting of the type is difficult, if not impossible. The frequency of Lamar Coarse Plain presented in Table 4 is most certainly too large a figure.

For the Wilbanks Site (9-Ck-5), Sears (1958:177) reports that nearly half of the Lamar Plain pottery had a 'deliberately roughened surface' and frequently occurred on jars with pinched rims. He concludes that this surface finish was deliberately produced, but he is unable to determine the technique employed in achieving it. This is the only published reference the author has found to pottery resembling Lamar Coarse Plain.

Until the type is better understood, little more can be said about it. As classified for this report, Lamar Coarse Plain is the second most popular pottery type in the Barnett ceramic complex. Its distinctive characteristic, the rough surface, is most likely the result of a lack of surface modification rather than the application of some specialized decorative technique. It occurs most frequently on typical Lamar jars and beneath the decorative zone on Lamar Bold Incised vessels.

#### Lamar Bold Incised

Pottery of this type normally occurs on coarse grit tempered paste. Occasionally though vessels are tempered with shell (Figure 8 b) as demonstrated in Table 5. Vessel shape is almost exclusively the carinated bowl



TABLE 5

Frequency of Shell and Grit Tempering with Lamar Bold Incised

	<u>Structure 1</u>	<u>Structure 2</u>	<u>Structure 3</u>
Grit temper	30	73	29
Shell temper	5	3	0

with rounded bottom, straight or slightly convex sides and plain rim (Figure 8 a). A few examples of jars with incised decoration on the neck do occur and these normally have the outflaring, pinched rim characteristic of Lamar Complicated Stamped (Figure 8 c). A third vessel shape of infrequent occurrence is apparently a bowl with outflaring rim, decoration being confined to the interior surface of the rim (Figure 8 e). A fourth form is a bowl with 'L'-shape rim and decoration confined to the upper, horizontal rim surface (Figure 8 d). None of these shapes are new, having been reported for the area in Wauchope (1966:85, Fig. 39) and Moorehead (1932: Fig. 36).

Decoration conforms closely to published descriptions (Jennings and Fairbanks 1939:4 and Wauchope 1966:86). Incising for the most part is crisp and distinct, consisting of broad and deep lines. Designs are those typical of the type as described elsewhere. The zone of decoration is frequently bordered below by cane or dash punctates. The remainder of the vessel surface is either plain and polished, or roughened as previously noted.

#### Lamar Complicated Stamped

Lamar Complicated Stamped occurs exclusively on coarse, grit tempered paste. Vessel shape is predominantly the deep, conoidal jar with slightly constricted neck; the only other recognizable shape being an open bowl. Rims are normally outflaring and decorated with a notched or pinched band on the exterior in typical Lamar fashion. Cane punctates and applique nodes do not occur.

The distinctive feature of Lamar Complicated Stamped pottery at Potts' Tract is the poor quality of stamping. Designs are lightly impressed, overlap extensively and apparently were smoothed over subsequent to stamping. Wauchope (1966:80) reports that approximately 40% of the Lamar Complicated Stamped pottery from sites in north Georgia bears designs that are recognizable only as either rectilinear or curvilinear. At Potts' Tract, an even greater proportion of the type bears designs that can be recognized only at this level of distinction. Specific designs that can be identified include most commonly nested frets or rectangles (Figure 9 c) and in smaller number, concentric circles and the filfor cross (Figure 9 a). Many sherds bear only parallel, straight lines, and sufficiently large examples have been seen as to suggest





FIGURE 8



FIGURE 9





that this constitutes the entire design<sup>16</sup>.

A large proportion of Lamar Complicated Stamped pottery is so poorly executed that it is difficult to distinguish from Lamar Coarse Plain. Because of this sorting difficulty, it is probable that a substantial number of Lamar Complicated Stamped sherds have been classified as Lamar Coarse Plain in the present report, and that the type is actually more abundant than indicated in Table 4.

#### Lamar Plain

As defined here, Lamar Plain includes only smooth or polished plain pottery with coarse grit tempered pastel<sup>17</sup>. A large proportion of Lamar Plain sherds doubtless derive from the lower portion of Lamar Bold Incised bowls, but the simple, rounded bowl is also a common form. The latter frequently has a square lip bearing small notches on the exterior edge (Figure 7 f). Portions of a single globular jar with constricted neck, straight rim and strap handles from structure 2 represent the sole recognized occurrence of this vessel form in the three house structures.

#### Miscellaneous Types

Shell tempered pottery with cord impressed exterior surfaces occurs in minor amounts throughout the site. Only three sherds are included in the combined collections from structures 1, 2 and 3. Sherds are never large enough to show more than the particular surface treatment, and therefore vessel shape and the placement of cord impressions are not known.

As previously noted, there are a few grit tempered, cord marked sherds in the collections from Potts' Tract. In all examples, the cord impressions are not distinct, having been obliterated apparently by subsequent smoothing of the vessel surface. It is probable that this type is more abundant than indicated, and that additional sherds have been wrongly classified as Lamar Coarse Plain. An interesting variation was noted in one instance in which a sherd of Lamar Bold Incised appeared to have cord impressions below the zone of decoration.

#### Observations and Conclusions

In 1963, Dr. A.R. Kelly excavated two house structures at Sixtoe Field (9-Mu-100) which yielded pottery of both Dallas and Lamar affiliation (Kelly N.D.A.). Stratigraphic context indicated that the pottery belonged to a single component and not two as the cultural affiliations of the various types present would suggest. In subsequent investigations at the nearby Bell Field Mound (9-Mu-101), Kelly (N.D.B.) uncovered nine stages of mound

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16. J.R. Caldwell (1955:279, Fig. 83) illustrates a partial vessel bearing a straight line stamped design from an historic Cherokee site in Buford reservoir, Forsyth County. Straight line motifs were common on the stamped pottery from protohistoric and historic Cherokee sites that Caldwell excavated along the Tugalo River in northeast Georgia (1955:279, personal communication).

17. This conforms to Vauchope's type, Lamar Plain Smooth (1966:86-7).



construction, the earliest of which were overwhelmingly Dallas in ceramic affiliation and the latest, predominantly Lamar. A gradual transition from one ceramic complex to the other was manifested in the intermediate mound stages. Kelly has used the term "Dallamar" to refer to this process of replacement of Dallas ceramics by Lamar ceramics in the Carters Dam area (N.D.A., N.D.B.).

In an attempt to identify the late occupations at Carters Dam with ethnographic tribes, Kelly has proposed that Dallas culture represents prehistoric Coosa and the local variant of Lamar culture represents Cherokee. The mixture of pottery from the two distinct ceramic traditions at Sixtoe Field and Bell Field sites according to this interpretation represents the commingling of Coosa and Cherokee during the period of gradual replacement of the former by the latter (N.D.A., N.D.B.). Recent ethnohistoric research by Carol Hill, a graduate student at the University of Georgia, has indicated that such a progressive replacement of Creek by Cherokee was occurring in the Carters Dam area at least during the historic period prior to Removal<sup>18</sup>.

The 1968 investigations at Potts' Tract have substantiated Kelly's finding of a ceramic complex containing pottery types of both Dallas and Lamar affiliation. As can be seen in Table 4, roughly three-fourths of the pottery sample from Structures 1, 2 and 3 is identifiable as Lamar. The entire Lamar ceramic inventory as described by Mauchope (1966) for north Georgia is represented. All but a few of the minor Dallas types (Lewis and Kneberg 1946) are also represented and together account for approximately one-fourth of the pottery sample from the three structures.

In the preceeding pages, a discription has been given of this pottery assemblage at Potts' Tract. It is intended that the assemblage serve as the type collection for a new phase, designated Barnett phase. At the present time, phase definition is based on pottery alone. In future reports concerning University of Georgia investigations at Carters Dam, however, this definition will be broadened to include a greater variety of artifactual data.

Barnett phase is clearly related to the larger phenomenon, Lamar, a fact that can be expressed taxinomically by identifying Barnett as a phase of Lamar culture<sup>19</sup>. The nature of this relationship, however, will not be clear until Lamar itself has been broken down into well documented regional and temporal variants and the relationship between these has been worked out.

Other components have been investigated in the vicinity of Carters Dam that possess more Dallas ceramic elements than Potts' Tract. The Little Egypt site (9-Jlu-102) located less than one mile to the west has yielded ceramic samples that are 75% shell tempered and have in addition to the Dallas elements present at Potts' Tract, plain surface salt pans. A similar ceramic inventory was found in association with the earliest of two superimposed

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18. Paper read at 1969 meeting of the Southern Anthropological Society, New Orleans.

19. The terms, phase and culture, are used here as defined by Willey and Phillips (1955).



domestic structures<sup>20</sup> at Sixtoe Field and at 9-Go-120, a site located several miles down river from Carters Dam. Table 6 presents the pottery counts for a surface collection made at 9-GO-120 in 1968.

TABLE 6

9-Go-120 Surface Collection

<u>Lamar Bold Incised</u>	9
<u>Lamar Complicated Stamped</u>	25
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	31
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	261
<u>Dallas Incised</u>	7
<u>Dallas Modeled</u>	2
<u>Dallas Filleted</u>	6
Shell tempered cord marked	1
fabric marked salt pans	5
plain salt pans	7

It seems clear that Dallas culture, as defined by Lewis and Kneberg (1946) occurs in the Carters Dam area. Components at Sixtoe Field, Little Egypt, Bell Field and 9-Go-120 can best be classified as Dallas or at least regional expressions of it. In the terminology of Willey and Phillips, these components could be classified as a phase of Dallas culture. Except for the fact that Dallas was first recognized in the Upper Tennessee River valley and the fact that more sites of this affiliation may have been excavated there, there is no evidence to suggest that the Carters Dam components represent an intrusive or geographically marginal expression of Dallas culture.

According to the Bell Field Mound stratigraphy, which shows Lamar pottery types replacing Dallas pottery types through time, the Barnett phase post-dates the local Dallas manifestation. Whether pottery of Dallas affiliation ever completely disappears from the Carters Dam area leaving behind a

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20. Structure 1 in Excavation Unit A (Kelly N.D.A.). The latest of the two superimposed structures has produced a Barnett phase pottery collection.



"pure" Lamar ceramic complex is not known at present. Presumably this question will be resolved when the historic occupations at Carters Dam have been identified archaeologically<sup>21</sup>.

The only adequate published description of Dallas culture is contained in the Hiwassee Island report (Lewis and Kneberg 1946). The ceramic inventory of that component is actually quite similar to Barnett phase, as it contains pottery of Lamar affiliation: specifically Dallas Incised with "Curvilinear guilloche" designs and "Southern Appalachian motifs"<sup>22</sup> and Overhill Complicated Stamped. These can be seen as shell tempered variants of Lamar Bold Incised and Lamar Complicated Stamped. At Potts' Tract, the only types of Dallas affiliation not present are Overhill Check Stamped, Dallas Negative Painted and salt pans, the former two being minority types at Hiwassee Island. A more complete comparison of the pottery complexes at the two sites is presented in Table 7. It is evident that the difference between them is largely quantitative: proportion of grit to shell tempering and relative frequency of specific pottery types.

Several sites in north Georgia (Nacoochee, Etowah, Potts' Tract) and farther south along the Georgia-Alabama border (Neisler, Bull Creek, Abercrombee) manifest pottery assemblages that are predominantly Lamar but contain some "Mississippian" elements. The Dallas component at Hiwassee Island fits into this same picture, but lies at the other end of the spectrum. How are these sites with "mixed" pottery assemblages to be interpreted? Is the shift through time from Dallas to Lamar pottery types that apparently occurs at Carters Dam actually a widespread phenomenon in northwest Georgia and eastern Tennessee? The answer to this question will certainly have a bearing on the manner in which the shift at Carters Dam is interpreted.

Today most southeastern archaeologists deplore generalizations concerning the relationship between Lamar, Dallas, Cherokee and Creek. Nevertheless, many still attempt to link Dallas and Lamar or local variants of these with specific tribal groups as though there was invariable a one-to-one relationship between pottery and people. In some instances this equation no doubt is correct. The apparently complete replacement of Dallas pottery by Lamar at Carters Dam may actually represent Cherokee groups penetrating what was at one time Coosa territory. It may on the other hand actually reflect only the ebb and flow of ceramic styles independently of social and political boundaries. The possibility that ceramic shifts at Carters Dam are of this nature can not be ignored.

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21. The historically documented Cherokee settlement of Coosawattee Old Town has yet to be located. Various types of evidence had indicated that the Little Egypt site (9-lu-102) was Coosawattee Old Town, but investigations there in 1969 have failed to substantiate this.
  22. Together these designs account for 35% of the Dallas Incised pottery with identifiable design from Unit 37 (Lewis and Kneberg 1966: Table 22).



TABLE 7

TYPOLOGICAL COMPARISON OF POTTS' TRACT (BARNETT PHASE)  
AND HIWASSEE ISLAND (DALLAS CULTURE) POTTERY

<u>Potts' Tract site</u>		<u>Hiwassee Island site</u>	
<u>Lamar Bold Incised</u> grit and shell	9.0%	<u>Dallas Incised (curvilinear designs)</u> shell	1%
<u>Lamar Complicated Stamped</u> grit	11.0%	<u>Overhill Complicated Stamped</u> shell and <u>Lamar Complicated Stamped</u> grit	1%
<u>Dallas Plain</u> shell	23.0%	<u>Dallas Plain</u> shell	approx. 75%
<u>Dallas Incised</u> shell and grit	2.0%	<u>Dallas Incised (rectilinear designs)</u> shell	1-2%
<u>Cordmarked</u> shell and grit	1.0%	<u>Dallas Cordmarked</u> shell	25%
<u>Dallas Modeled</u> shell	1.0%	<u>Dallas Modeled</u> shell	approx. 1%
<u>Dallas Filleted</u> shell	1.0%	<u>Dallas Filleted</u> shell	approx. 1%
<u>Lamar Coarse Plain</u> grit	26.0%	absent	
<u>Lamar Plain</u> grit	28.0	absent	
absent		<u>Overhill Check Stamped</u> shell	<1%
absent		<u>Dallas Negative Painted</u> shell	<1%
absent		Salt pans shell	approx. 5-6%

23. Type designations in the Potts' Tract column are those defined in the present study. Type designations in the Hiwassee Island column are those used by Lewis and Kneberg (1946).

24. Frequencies of types listed below were derived from Tables 19 and 20 (Lewis and Kneberg 1946:101).



### ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

Numerous features were encountered during the 1968 excavations at Potts' Tract. These include postholes, segments of prepared house floors, hearths, pits and burials.

Remains of three structures were fully investigated. All belong to the Barnett component and were apparently domestic in nature. Structures 1 and 3 lay within XU 1 while structure 2 occurred in XU 2.

#### Structure 1

Structure 1 actually consists of two superimposed buildings which are designated IA (earliest) and IB (Latest). The major architectural features of both buildings are shown in Figure 10, a ground plan for the southernmost portion of XU 1<sup>25</sup>. As can be seen, a large number of postholes were recorded in the vicinity of Structure 1, with the result that exact definition of walls and other structural members has been difficult. Two definite Woodstock features occur below the houses, and it is probable that a number of the recorded postholes belong to that component. Feature 64 is definitely later than Structure 1, and it can be concluded that some of the postholes plotted in Figure 10 also postdate it. 26

According to the interpretation of recovered architectural data followed in this report both Structures IA and IB were between twenty-two and twenty-four feet square. Outer walls are clearly delimited only on the southwest side where the base of the wattle and daub wall of Structure IB is marked by a strip of yellow clay with inclusive postholes and the wall of Structure IA appears as a regular alignment of post immediately to the east. These walls are respectively twelve and eleven feet distance from the central hearth, Feature 136 and they indicate that both buildings were oriented twenty degrees west of north. Utilizing the southwest "walls" as a starting point probable wall alignments for both structures have been worked out and are indicated on figure 10 by the two sets of lines: solid for Structure IB and broken for Structure IA. Fairly good post alignments exist along the southeast side of the structures, but most of the northeast and northwest walls are poorly defined. According to these alignments Structure IA lies slightly to the south and east of the later structure, and its southeast corner is apparently beyond the limits of excavation.

Wall posts were set in individually dug holes and occurred at probable intervals of one to two feet. Postholes averaged .6 to .8 feet in diameter.

Structure IB was apparently destroyed by fire as a thick layer of fired daub

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25. For the sake of clarity, several minor features have been omitted from this plan. All features are noted in the text.
  26. Postholes lying within the perimeter of Features 128, 133, 137; and 138 postdate those features. Postholes lying within the perimeter of Feature 64; predate that pit. Some postholes situated within the perimeter of the yellow sand floor segments originated above these features, but most were earlier in date.



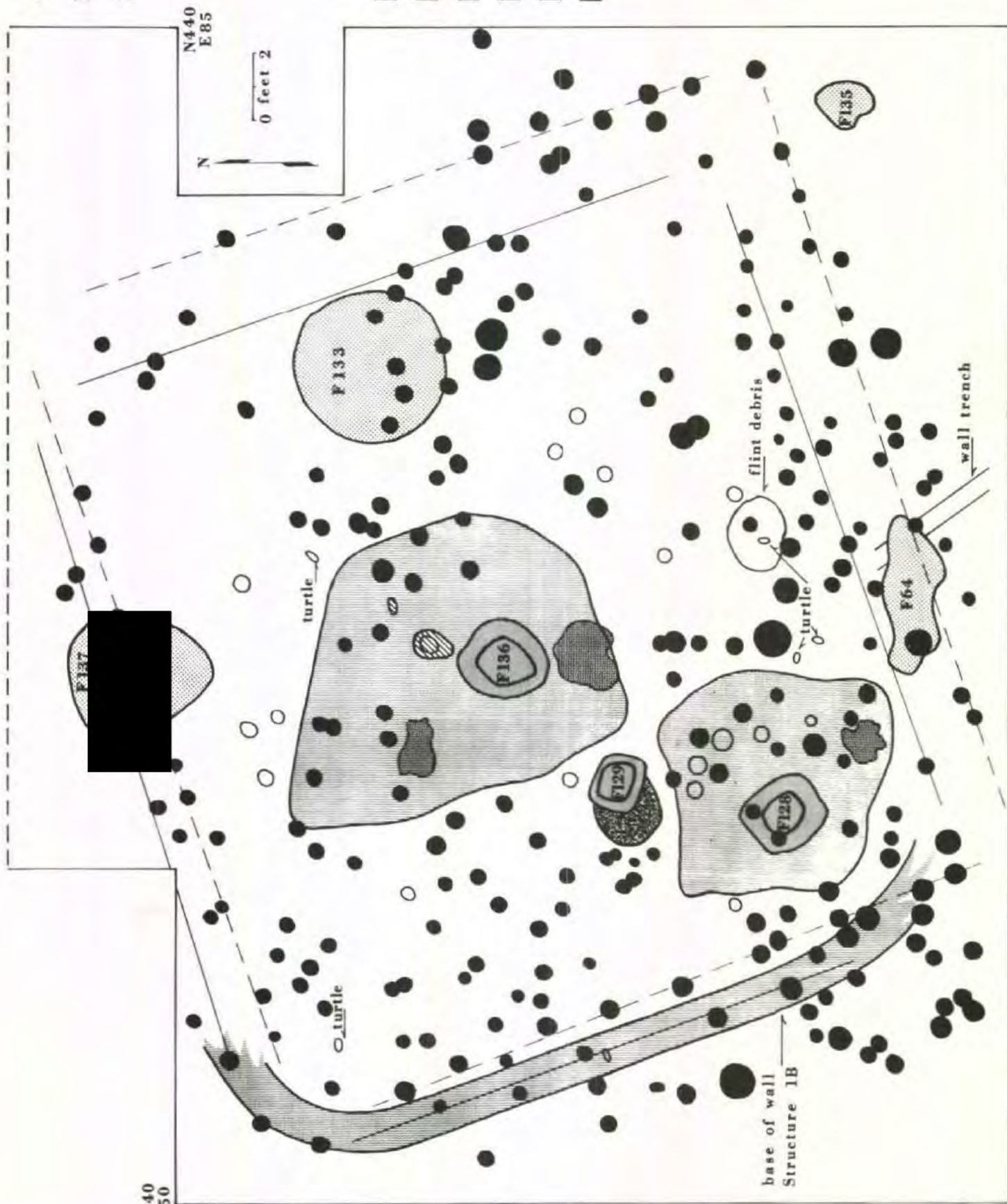
9MU 103

XU 1

STRUCTURE no.1

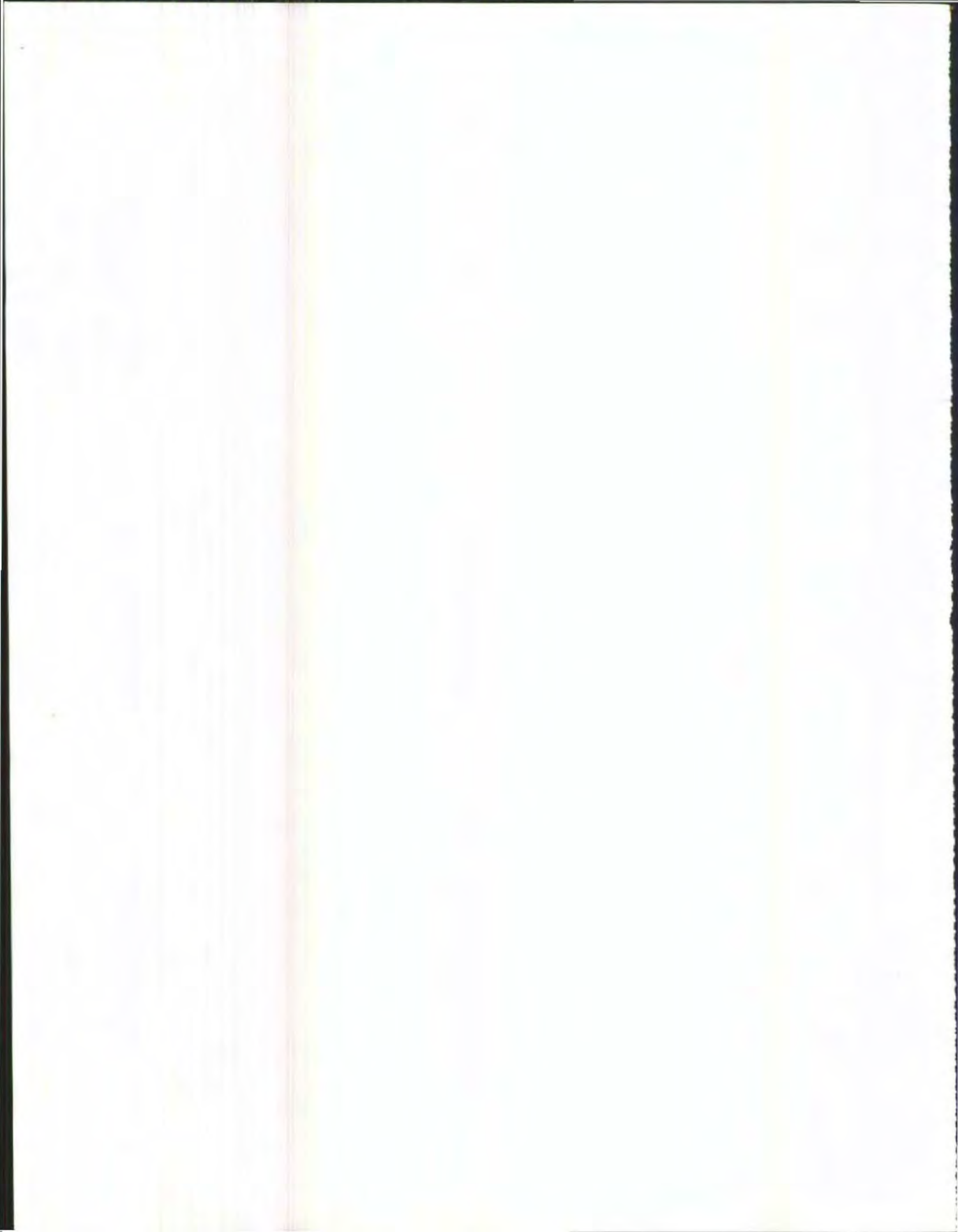
- house floor
- hearth
- pits
- grinding stone
- ash
- charred vegetable material

FIGURE 10



N415  
E85

N415  
E50





and charred timbers overlay the occupation floor. Immediately above the floor was a thin layer of charred debris, and the floor itself was fired in places. Daub was tempered with grass and bore the impressions of round and split timbers. No cane impressions were found in the fired wall daub, but evidence of what can be interpreted as charred, split cane matting occurred at three locations on the floor. Several burned posts were found inside the structure protruding above floor IB into the daub layer. These are shown on figure 10 as open circles. The location of many along the diagonals of the structure at a distance of 7.5 to 8 feet from the central hearth suggests that they may have served as interior roof supports. Burned timbers lying on floor IB tended to radiate out from the central hearth.

Structure IA was apparently not burned. The floor was not fired, and no charred timbers or posts were associated with it. Unlike the overlying structure, few features and artifacts were encountered directly on this floor. Figure 11, a north-south profile through the center of the structure, shows the stratigraphic relationship of the two house floors and the central hearth. Floor IB was separated by .2 to .5 feet of soil from the underlying floor IA. This soil showed no evidence of water sorting, and it can only be concluded that deposition was by the site inhabitants. Occupation debris occurred throughout indicating that the soil was derived from the surrounding village area. Architectural continuity between the two buildings is evidenced by their nearly identical location, size, compass orientation and utilization of a common central hearth. Apparently Structure IA was torn down and covered by a thin layer of midden soil with construction of the later building following soon afterwards.

In the immediate vicinity of Structure I, the Barnett phase midden lies between 96.6 and 97.0 feet, and the underlying Woodstock occupation stratum occurs between 95.5-96.0 and 96.6 feet. Feature 135, a small Woodstock pit located just beyond the southeast corner of Structure I, occurs at 96.6 feet. Since Floor IA lies directly on sterile silt loam at a depth of 95.8 feet, it can be definitely concluded that Structure IA was constructed in a shallow depression with a depth of at least .8 feet. Unfortunately no recorded profiles show this depression in cross section.

The central hearth, Feature 136, consists of three separate, superimposed fire basins. The lowest, hearth A, is associated with the floor of structure IA. The remaining two, hearths B and C, are associated with the floor of Structure IB. The floor of Structure IB was definable by a thin layer of occupation debris and charred material immediately below the daub layer. Evidence of a prepared floor was encountered only in the vicinity of the central hearth where a thin layer of yellow sand lay immediately below occupation debris and abutted hearth C (Figure 11). Hearth B was also associated with a thin layer of yellow sand. This prepared floor underlies that associated with Hearth C and merges with it at a distance of one to four feet out from the hearth (Figure 11).

The floor of Structure IA was defined primarily by the presence of sterile soil immediately below its presumed location. Prepared floor was in evidence however as a thin layer of yellow sand surrounding hearth A to a distance of two feet. A yellow sand layer surrounding feature 128, a second hearth associated with Structure IA, can also be interpreted as a segment of this floor (Figure 10).

Hearths were encountered in three separate place within Structure I.



The central hearth, Feature 136, as noted above consisted of three superimposed basins. Complete investigation could not be made of the two lowest basins as it was necessary to leave a portion of this entire feature undisturbed for future archaeomagnetic dating. It has been established however that both have well formed shallow basins. Hearth C has a square basin with rounded sides and a depth of .2 feet. Compass orientation of this last hearth is twenty degrees west of north, similar to that of the structure itself. Hearth C was modified at some point in time by the addition of clay to the north, east and south portions of its rim. Whether the other two fire basins were similarly modified could not be determined with the limited excavation. Charcoal occurred in and around all three basins. A layer of ash compressed into floor IB just to the northeast of the hearth probably represents sweepings from the basin of hearth C.

The remaining hearths, Features 128 and 129, were situated in the southwest quadrant of the house and had only a single construction stage. The southwestern-most, Feature 128, is definitely associated with Structure IA. The other, Feature 129, probably also belongs to Structure IA, but the stratigraphic context does not allow of a certain association. It could pertain to the earlier Woodstock occupation in this area.

Both hearths had square basins and outer perimeters. Feature 128 was well formed having a basin .5 feet deep with nearly vertical walls. The basin of Feature 129 was .2-.3 feet deep and rounded in cross section. Feature 128 is oriented like the central hearth. Feature 129 however is oriented sixteen degrees east of north indicating that it may not be an integral part of Structure 1.

Considering the bewildering array of postholes encountered in and around Structure 1, it is not surprising that definite evidence of an entrance is lacking. The only indication of such is a single, four-foot long, shallow trench stratigraphically associated with floor IB and located near the center of the southeast wall. There was no indication that posts had been set into this trench. Careful search was made for a companion trench, forming the opposite side of the entry way, but none was found. Except for its location in relationship to the presumed exterior walls of Structure 1, there is no evidence that this trench does indeed represent part of an entrance way.

At least three pits were found within the limits of Structure 1, but none appear to be associated with its occupation. Feature 133, a large pit 8 feet northeast of the central hearth, definitely belongs to the Woodstock component and stratigraphically precedes the construction of Structure 1. Feature 138, a burial with later intrusive pit (Feature 137) lies beneath the walls of Structure 1. Artifact association was inconclusive for component identification, but the fact that postholes belonging to both Structures IA and IB occurred in pit fill indicates that they at least precede house construction.

Feature 64, lies outside the presumed wall of Structure IB but inside of Structure IA. It is stratigraphically later than the two structures, as it cuts through both Floor IB and the midden stratum overlying portions of that floor (Figure 11). In addition, it cuts through the feature that has been identified as a wall trench and part of an entry passage for Structure IB.



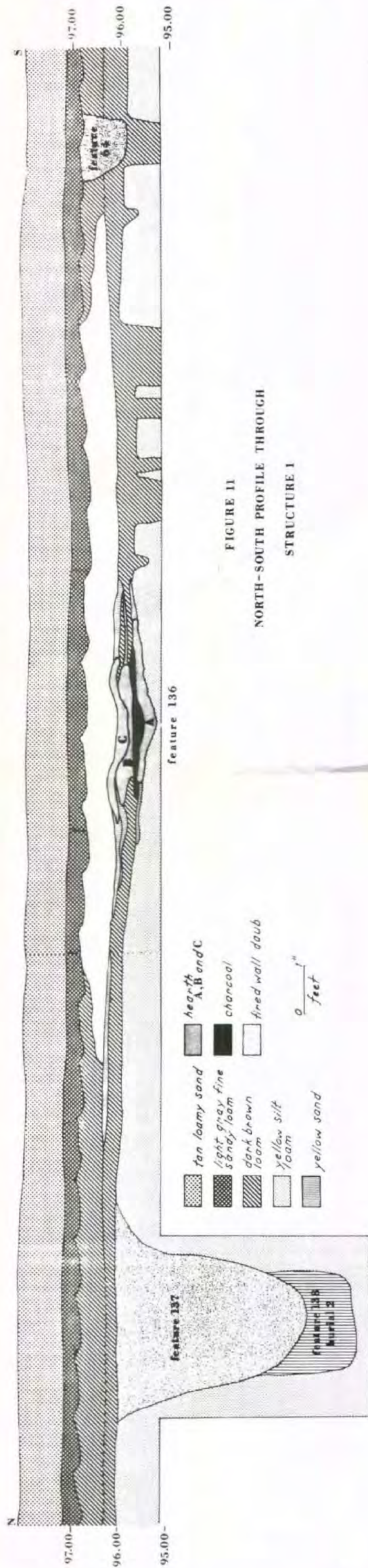


FIGURE II  
NORTH-SOUTH PROFILE THROUGH  
STRUCTURE I



A number of items lay directly on floor IB and presumably can be attributed to domestic activities carried on within the structure.

1) A red sandstone slab with grinding surfaces on both sides was situated immediately to the northeast of the central hearth.

2) Less than one foot to the northeast of the grinding slab lay an oblong river pebble showing some evidence of wear. It may have been used with the grinding slab.

3) Several irregular slabs of limestone were distributed throughout the floor area except for the northwest quadrant. Two were rather large, measuring approximately one foot in width and one-and-one-half feet in length. These may have been used on the roof of Structure IB and would have fallen to the ground before the collapse of walls when the building burned.

4) Several turtle shells, seemingly whole in all cases, were distributed throughout the house. They occurred in squares N425 E65, N440 E70 and N435 E55.

5) No complete pottery vessels were found, but a large portion of a single shell tempered plain jar occurred on floor IB above the hearth, Feature 128.

6) Concentrations of charred vegetal material, including hickory nut, acorns and corn kernels, were found at three points: Squares N420 E65, N430 E70 and E435 E65. Undoubtedly if all soil from floor IB had been processed by the flotation technique a considerable amount of such material would have been obtained.

7) A concentration of flint debris occurred just inside the presumed entrance to Structure IB in square N425 E70. Kelly has reported (N.D.A.) a similar occurrence of flint debris just inside the entrance way to a "Dallamar" house, Structure 1, at Sixtoe Field. In testing at the Little Egypt site in 1969, a similar feature has been found in association with a structure of Dallas affiliation. Its exact relationship to the architectural plan of the house will not be known until intensive investigations are conducted in 1970.

In trowelling down to the floor of Structure IA, abundant artifacts and animal bones were encountered. With the exception of the hearths already noted and a single concentration of mussel shell, no features were associated with this earlier floor. The mussel shells occurred in square N425 E80 just inside the southeast wall.

## Structure 2

Architectural information on structure 2 is of a limited nature. The building was apparently not destroyed by fire with the result that relatively durable items such as fired daub and floors and charred posts were not present to aid investigation.

Unlike Structures 1 and 3, this building is spatially isolated from other occupation features. It lies at the bottom of the brown loam midden immediately above sterile loam and clay loam strata (Figure 5). Only one other architectural feature was encountered in XU 2. This was an east-west line of post holes lying seven feet south of the presumed southeast corner of Structure 2 and parallel to the edge of the abandoned channel which lies six feet further south. These posts may be part of a palisade.

Considerable difficulty was encountered in distinguishing postholes as is evident in the sparse pattern illustrated in Figure 12. Postholes do form a cluster measuring about 25 feet square and oriented approximately forty-five



degrees east of north, but individual wall alignments can not be discerned. The number and arrangement of recorded postholes indicate that perhaps two different structures were erected on this location.

No evidence of a prepared floor was discovered during excavation. Indeed floor level was indicated only by a thin layer of sandy soil overlying sterile tan loam. Artifacts and features occurred in the former and along the line of separation between the two strata. This thin sandy stratum probably represents occupation debris accumulated during the existence of the structure. Postholes were detected in the tan loam below.

The central hearth, Feature 139, is best characterized as an amorphous mass of fired clay in which occur four recognizable fire basins. These were poorly formed, being generally circular in outline and rounded in cross section. Rims were not prominent. As can be seen in Figure 12, the basins are paired and appear to constitute two separate hearth areas. In each pair, basins overlap slightly, and this together with the fact that the southern pair occurs at a slightly higher elevation suggests a sequential order of construction and use beginning with basin A and terminating with basin D. These four basins suggest that Structure 2, like Structure 1, may have been rebuilt one or more times. As indicated above, the number and arrangement of recorded postholes suggest that the external walls may have been rebuilt at least one time. Unfortunately, since there is no evidence of multiple floor levels and individual wall alignments can not be distinguished, the possibility of multiple structures must remain unproven.

In addition to the central hearth area, only four features of interest occurred within Structure 2. Eleven feet to the northeast of Feature 139, a partially destroyed hearth, Feature 140, occurred at the general house floor level. Although the east and west sides had been destroyed in prehistoric times, enough of the central portion remained intact to allow identification. Unlike Feature 139, this hearth was well made. The basin is circular and is bounded by a distinct elevated rim. The location of the hearth would seem to place it beneath or very close to the outer house walls suggesting that it may be unrelated to Structure 2. It will be recalled however that a hearth, Feature 128, was similarly situated in Structure 1A.

Six feet southeast of the central hearth, a posthole of slightly larger than average diameter was found with the two parts of a stone hoe standing on end within its perimeter (Figure 17 b). Apparently these hoe fragments were used as chocks to reinforce an unstable post. Six feet south of the central hearth, two fine, greenstone celts were found lying parallel to one another on the house floor (Figure 17 a). The fish effigy, illustrated in Figure 14, was found lying on the house floor just north of the central hearth. It is carved on a soft slate-like stone.

No complete pottery vessels were associated with Structure 2. Charred vegetal matter was absent and animal bone, scarce. Bone preservation here was very poor, accounting perhaps for the scarcity of this material.

Despite the limited information available, Structure 2, conforms in general to the characteristics of other domestic buildings at Potts' Tract. There is a central fire hearth, wall posts were individually set and the presumed size of the structure is similar to that of other structures.



N 200  
E 25

N 200  
E 60

N 170  
E 25

N 175  
E 60

9 MU 103  
XU 2  
STRUCTURE no. 2

0 feet 2

hearth

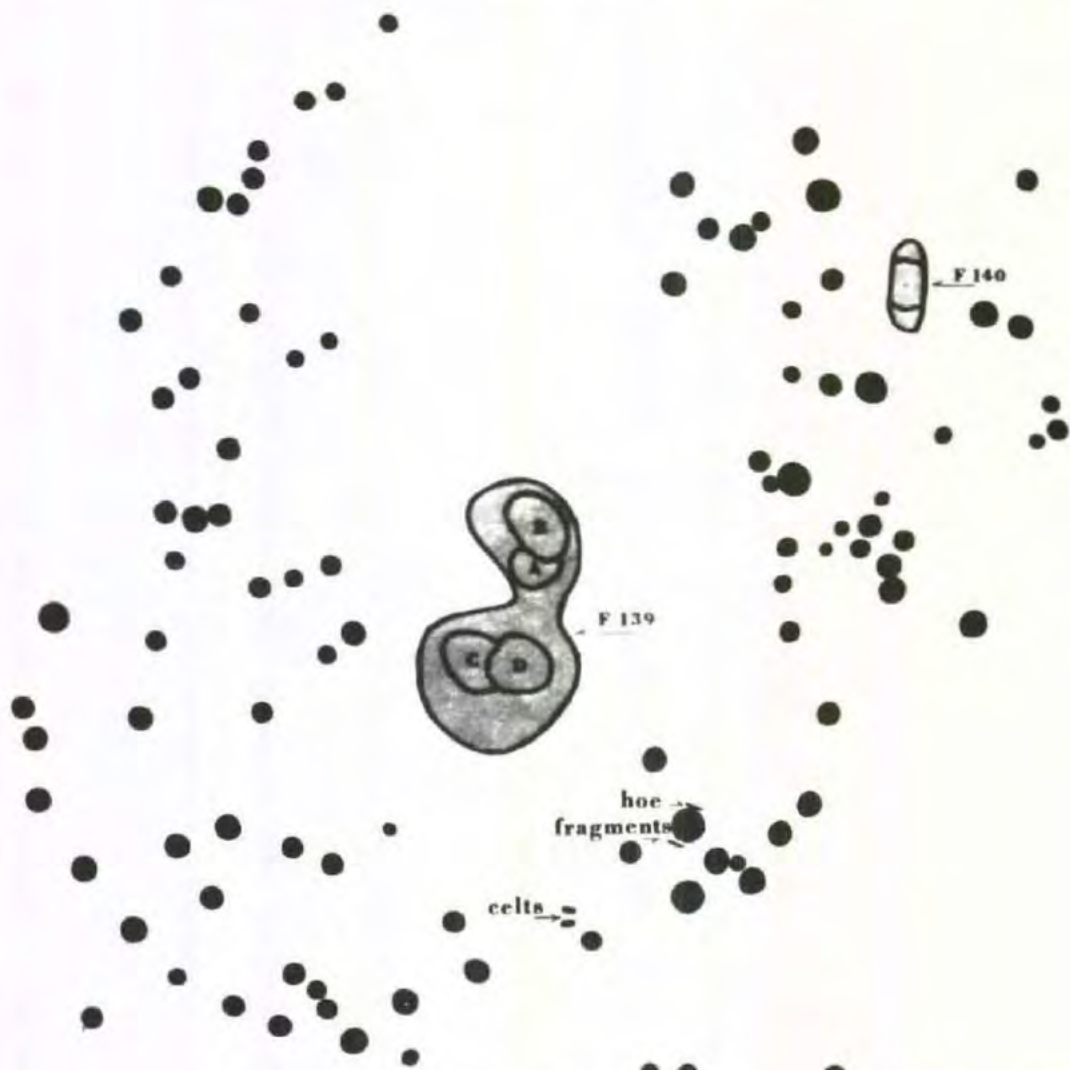
FIGURE 12

trench  
N 170  
E 44

bank of  
abandoned channel

N 150  
E 40

N 150  
E 50







### Structure 3

Structure 3 is a rectangular building measuring 20 feet by 22 feet with central hearth, prepared floor and possible entrance passage on the southwest side. As was the case with Structure 1, this building is situated in an area where occupational activity was intense. Architectural features were well preserved, but the abundant remains of earlier and perhaps later construction activity tends to obscure the details of this structure (Figure 13)<sup>27</sup>. The floor of the structure occurs at an elevation of 96.7 feet, less than .3 feet below the buried plow zone. It in turn overlies a minimum of .5 feet of midden soil, most of which is attributable to the Woodstock occupation. One large pit (Feature 122) and an undetermined number of postholes date to this earlier component.

A further difficulty in interpreting Structure 3 arises from the manner in which it was excavated. Approximately one-fourth of the structure, the area along the northwest wall, was dug through to sterile soil before the first solid indications of its existence were encountered. Postholes defining the northwest wall and part of the northeast and southwest walls were consequently not recorded until identified in sterile soil below. The remainder of the structure however was excavated as a unit, utilizing its well preserved sand floor as a guide in recognizing related features.

Once Structure 3 had been recognized, its configuration was readily apparent during excavation. Approximately two-thirds of the area within the building was covered by a prepared floor of yellow sand. A distinct line of postholes was observed during excavation at the same level as the floor and coinciding almost exactly with its south east perimeter. Despite the plethora of postholes eventually recorded in this area, identification of the southeast wall is certain. The southwest and northeast walls are equally certain of identification although portions of each were not recognized until sterile soil had been reached. The northwest wall is not as readily identifiable. The prepared floor was largely absent here and postholes were seemingly spotty in occurrence. The alignments indicated in Figure 13 by solid lines however represent a probable interpretation of the building's configuration.

From these posthole alignments, the dimensions of Structure 3 are calculated to be 20 feet east/west and 22 feet north/south. The compass orientation of the building is twenty-five degrees east of north.

A possible entrance passage is indicated by two lines of posts lying perpendicular to and centered in the southwest wall. A single posthole situated in the center of this entrance and in line with the southwest wall may be unrelated to Structure 3. On the otherhand, it may be seen as evidence that no entrance passage exists at this location.

Inside the structure, three large postholes<sup>28</sup> occur in the northwest,

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27. Postholes lying within the perimeter of Features 33, 76, 89 and 119 postdate these features. The majority of postholes situated along the southeast margin of the sand floor of Structure 3 originated above that layer. The remaining postholes within the perimeter of Structure 3 were first detected below the level of the sand floor.

28. Represented by open circles.



northeast and southeast quadrants at a distance of 6 to 6.5 feet from the central hearth. The latter two were observed to originate from the sand floor. The size of these postholes-diameters slightly in excess of one foot-and their location with respect to the central hearth and the structure's compass orientation indicate that they served as interior support posts. Unfortunately the fourth member was not found during excavation. Its expected location places it within the perimeter of Feature 141, and it was not detected during the investigation of that feature.

There is some indication that Structure 3 was destroyed by fire. While no blanket of fired daub and charred timbers overlay the floor as in the case of Structure 1B, large patches of charcoal and fired daub did occur above floor level in three places: near the southeast corner, immediately north of the hearth, and above the central portion of the northeast wall. Considering the fact that a buried plow zone exists less than .3 feet above the house floor, it is possible that more extensive burned material once overlay the floor and has been obliterated by plowing. The impression of the author however is that these burned patches do not relate to Structure 3. The concentration of charcoal and daub is not very heavy in any of the areas, and there is no evidence that plow zone ever extended down close enough to the house floor to have destroyed fallen wall material lying directly on it. It is more likely that these features are remnants of later occupation activity in the area.

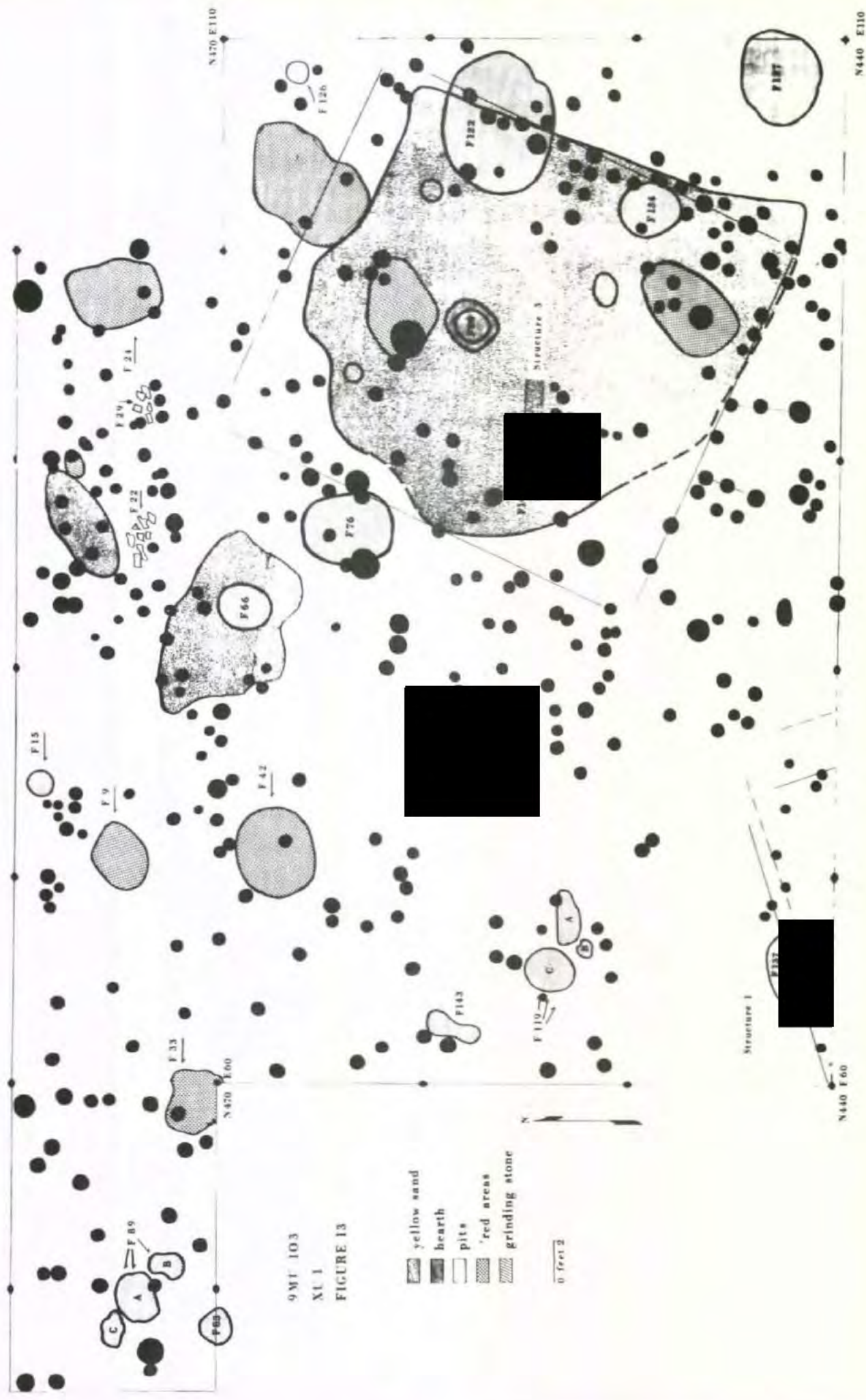
The central hearth, Feature 80, is offset slightly toward the northeast wall. It consists of a square area of fired clay, 2.2 feet on a side, with a square basin, 1.5 feet across. The rim of the hearth was flush with floor level. The basin had nearly vertical sides and a flat bottom .5 feet below rim level. The compass orientation of the basin is similar to that of the structure.

Very few objects other than pottery and stone debris were recovered from the floor of Structure 3. No complete pottery vessels were present. Near the presumed entrance passage in the southwest wall, a shale gorget (Figure 20 f) was found lying directly on the prepared floor. A second shale gorget (Figure 20 e) occurred adjacent to the northwest wall immediately below the floor. Finally, a single charred corn cob lay on the house floor four feet southeast of the hearth.

Several features were situated within the perimeter of Structure 3 that apparently predate it. Feature 122 is a large pit that underlies the southeast wall. Artifact content identifies it certainly as Woodstock. Feature 134 is an oval shaped pit situated just inside the southeast wall. Its contents were accidentally mixed with another artifact lot with the result that no definite cultural identification can be made. The pit was not visible in the prepared floor of Structure 3, and its walls could be traced only up to 96.3 feet - nearly one-half foot below the floor. On stratigraphic grounds therefore it appears that Feature 134 predates Structure 3.

A burial pit, Burial 4 - Feature 141, occurred eight feet southwest of the central hearth. It too was not visible in the prepared floor, but was detected immediately below in midden soil. No grave goods accompanied the burial. Pottery sherds in the pit fill were exclusively Woodstock. Quite possibly Burial 4 was excavated through the floor of Structure 3 by the building's occupants. If the floor were subsequently repaired,





9MT 103

XU 1

FIGURE 13





no trace of the burial pit would be visible in it.

Structure 3 is similar to Structures 1 and 2 in most details. It is distinctive however by virtue of its single stage hearth and construction.

#### Additional Structures

Architectural features occurred throughout XU 1 at various depths within the two midden strata. In the area, bounded by the grid lines N465, N480, E75 and E100, there was however a slightly greater concentration of features, and these occurred at approximately the same depth, 96.1 to 96.5 feet. During excavation, thin strata of yellow sand were encountered in squares N470-475 E85 and N480 E90 at a depth of 96.2 - 96.3 feet. Apparently larger areas of this material were not detected during excavation as a similar stratum could be observed at the same depth in profiles left standing along the N470 line between E75 and E90. A shallow pit, Feature 66, definitely originated from the yellow sand layer in square N470 E85.

In Square N480 E100, a large oval area of charcoal, charred logs, fire cracked rocks and pottery sherds (Feature 24) occurred between 96.5 and 96.1 feet. Two other concentrations of fire cracked rock and pot sherds (Features 22 and 29) occurred at depths of 96.4 and 96.1 feet in squares N475 E90 and N475 E95. These were not accompanied by great amounts of charred material as was the case in Feature 24. Finally, a sandstone grinding slab occurred in Square N480 E90 in association with one of the yellow sand lenses. Artifact content indicates that all these features are Barnett phase in affiliation.

Several lines of postholes can be discerned in this general area. These do not however form larger recognizable patterns such as house outlines.

There is no definite evidence that the features described above are contemporaneous and associated in a single structure despite the fact that their spatial proximity indicates this. They may be part of a Barnett phase domestic structure situated in this area of XU 1; on the other hand, they may be due to separate and unrelated activities taking place at different times.

#### Discussion of House Structures

In a posthumously published report, Charles H. Nash (1968) describes excavation of seven house mounds located on the Duck River in Humphreys County, Tennessee. Six of these mounds contained two superimposed buildings while the seventh contained only a single structure. The nature of the six multi-structure mounds may be summarized as follows:

1. The first building was erected on ground surface.
2. When this structure was destroyed (presumably intentionally) all debris was cleaned away and the area covered with a layer of soil.
3. A second structure was then erected directly over and several inches above the first.
4. This later building was eventually destroyed by fire: The collapse of wattle and daub walls around the structure's periphery being responsible for the characteristic shape of the mounds-depressed in the center with highest elevation near the edges.
5. Artifacts are found on the floor of the later structure but do not occur on the earlier house floor.



Structure 1 at Potts' Tract is characterized by a number of these same features. It was erected, destroyed, covered by a layer of soil and rebuilt with almost identical dimensions and orientation. Occupation and architectural debris were abundant on the later house floor, but absent from the first. Nash found evidence of superimposed central hearths in two of the Humphrey's county mounds. In Structure 1, the central hearth was rebuilt twice and repaired at least once.

There are also differences. Initial houses in Nash's sample were erected on ground surface, while the floor of Structure 1A was depressed approximately one foot below ground surface. Fallen wall debris was distributed evenly over most of Structure 1B and did not form a low ring-shaped mound as was invariably the case with the Humphrey's county houses.

There can be no doubt that at both sites, the superimposition of dwelling structures was an intentional practice. In Structures 1A and 1B, the near identity of wall dimensions and orientations and the exact superimposition of hearths A, B and C suggest that the entire sequence of destruction and construction took place over a short period of time and that the intention was to recreate or duplicate the original structure in the later one.

This practice of erecting two or more domestic structures successively on the same location has been reported for late prehistoric cultures throughout much of the southeast. It is very definitely characteristic of Dallas and related cultures in eastern Tennessee and northwest Georgia as shown by the tabulation of house structures in Table 8. It is curious therefore that the phenomenon has received so little attention in the literature. Even Nash, in the publication cited above, is primarily concerned with demonstrating that his houses are typologically intermediate between Small Log and Large Log type buildings. In regard to the significance of superimposition of houses he offers only the following comment:

One might surmise that once the locus for a house had been selected it continued to serve as a house-plot for a long time, often throughout the life span of the village. A similar tenaciousness is indicated time after time in the Chucalissa excavations near Memphis (personal data) and has been noted in other Tennessee excavations by the author. (1968:4)

If it is recognized that this phenomenon is common throughout much of the Southeast in late prehistoric times, some effort should be made to account for it. A satisfying and verifiable explanation may never be found, but hypotheses should be formulated and tested. As far as the author knows, no field or library research has been directed toward this problem.

The hypothesis is here offered that domestic structures were destroyed and reconstructed in conjunction with the new year-world renewal element of the green corn ceremony that is so widespread in the Southeast. Waring (1968: 30-69) has made a similar proposal concerning the practice of constructing temple mounds in multiple stages. His argument runs as follows:

1. The historically known Creek square ground may have developed from a prehistoric prototype consisting of a single, rectangular building situated on top of a platform mound.

2. During the Temple Mound Period in the Southeast, platform mounds are constructed in several stages, each stage consisting of a platform surmounted by one or more buildings of perishable materials, one of



the latter being the square ground prototype.

3. Much of the historically described Creek Busk ceremonial consists of the ritual renewal of important paraphenilia: the fire pit in the square ground is destroyed and rebuilt; the red and white cabins surrounding the square ground are replastered; seats in the cabins are recovered; and the arbor above the fire pit is rebuilt.

4. These activities may be the survival of earlier more elaborate practices associated with the Busk: namely destruction of the square ground, covering it with a mantle of earth and subsequently rebuilding it.

In Creek society, the Busk ceremony was not merely a concern of the square ground and the adult males participating in rituals held there. The renewal element of the Busk was apparently acted out in every household in the town. Cooking fires were extinguished and the hearth cleaned out. At least some pottery vessels used during the preceding year were broken and discarded at this time (Swanton 1928 pp. 580-581). If Waring is correct that the periodic destruction and rebuilding of temple structures represents prehistoric elaboration of the Busk, then it is possible that performance of renewal rituals in the household may also have been more elaborate in earlier times, involving destruction and rebuilding of the entire dwelling. This practice seems a bit extreme for an annual rite. Perhaps complete renewal of the dwelling was called for at less frequent intervals, perhaps every four years. Rebuilding and repairing the the cooking hearth may have taken place at more frequent intervals or may represent merely the zealously of certain individuals at the annual celebration. Table 8 indicates that multiple and single stage houses occur with about equal frequency at those sites tabulated. Houses with only a single stage of construction may have been abandoned prior to the time at which their renewal was called for. Abandonment of course could have resulted from any number of causes: a death in the family and movement of the entire settlement being two that come to mind. It is equally possible that the category of so called "houses" actually includes several functionally different types of domestic structures and that only certain of these were renewed. Archaeologists seem to assume that domestic structures of the late prehistoric period in the southeast are all of a single type. Yet Bartram (1853:55-56) describes Upper Creek households as being composed of up to four functionally different buildings. Perhaps the variable occurrence of multiple, superimposed structures has significance in this regard.

The above discussion is intended to be suggestive only. There is certainly insufficient evidence at present to support the hypothesis that has been offered.



TABLE 8

Single and Multiple Stage Domestic Structures from  
Dallas Culture and Baruett Phase

<u>Site</u>	<u>Multiple Structures</u>	<u>Single Structure</u>
Potts' Tract	Str. 1	Str. 3
	Str. 2	
Sixtoe <sup>29</sup>	Str. 1 (XUA)	Str. 2 (XUA)
		Str. 1 (XUJ)
		Str. 2 (XUJ)
Hiwassee Island <sup>30</sup>		Str. 11
		Str. 19
		Str. 22
Walter's Farm <sup>31</sup>	Feat. 9 <sup>32</sup>	Feat. 4
	Feat. 13	
	Feat. 15	
	Feat. 16	
	Feat. 18	

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29. Kelly, N.D.A.

30. Lewis and Kneberg, 1946:75

31. Webb, 1938:115-121

32. Webb describes only 1 structure (F9) as having multiple stages, the remaining houses were identified as single or multiple structures solely on the basis of photographs (Plates 73 and 74). F10, a rectangular structure 41 by 43 feet, was not included in the above tabulations as its great size indicates it may not have been a domestic structure.

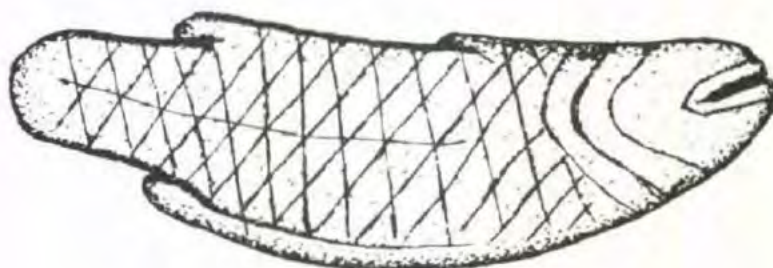
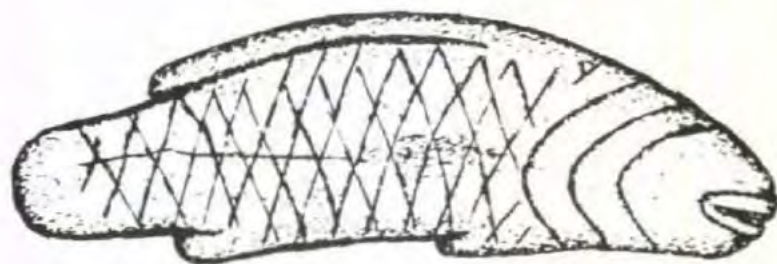


FIGURE 14





FEATURESFeature 15 (Figures 13 and 15)

Location: Square N480 E75

Elevation: 95.7 feet

Size: Diameter 1.1 feet, depth .8 feet.

Ceramic contents:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	1
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	1

The upper half of this feature contained abundant charcoal and daub flecks, while the remainder contained only scattered charcoal. Stratigraphic situation and pottery content indicate a Woodstock affiliation.

The small size and irregular configuration of this feature suggests that it may be a posthole or even an animal burrow.

Feature 33 (Figure 13)

Location: Square N475 E60

Elevation: 95.4 feet

Size: Diameter 3.0 feet, depth .2 feet.

Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	1
--------------------------------------	---

As observed this feature consisted of a thin horizontal layer of fairly concentrated charcoal three feet in diameter and .2 feet thick. It occurred at 95.4 feet near the lower limit of the Woodstock midden. No pit outline was detected, and there were no associated features which might aid in interpreting the deposit. Stratigraphically the feature is Woodstock in affiliation.

Charred vegetal material obtained by floatation consisted almost exclusively of acorn shells.

Feature 64 (Figures 10,11,15)

Location: Square N420 E70

Elevation: 96.8 feet

Size: Length 4.7 feet, width 1.9 feet, depth 1.0 feet

Ceramic contents:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	12
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	2
<u>Lamar Complicated Stamped</u>	4
<u>Lamar Incised</u>	1
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	2
<u>Dallas Filleted</u>	1
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	7



Fill of this pit was a mottled, yellow and tan sandy soil. Pieces of limestone, the largest measuring over one foot in diameter were abundant and occupied a large proportion of the area within the pit. Animal bone was abundant, but in poor condition. Deer accounted for the great majority of recognizable pieces. A portion of fill soil was floated, but the yield of charred begetal material was very small.

In the vicinity of Structure 1, the boundary between Barnett phase midden and the relict plow zone above occurs at 96.8 feet (Figure 11). Fired wall daub overlies Structure 1B to this height and was scarred by plow furrows. Feature 64 was first encountered at this same elevation. While it was not noted whether the feature was likewise scarred by plow furrows, it is likely that some portion of it has been destroyed by plowing.

There can be no doubt that this feature was constructed subsequent to the destruction of Structure 1B by fire. The feature lies beyond the limits of the fired daub stratum and is therefore not directly associated with it. However it does penetrate both Structure 1B and the overlying midden soil. This latter is stratigraphically later than the stratum of fired wall daub.

#### Feature 66 (Figure 13 and 15)

Location: Square N470 E85

Elevation: 96.0 feet

Size: Length 2.6 feet, width 2.2 feet, depth .6 feet

Ceramic content:

Woodstock Complicated Stamped	2
Etowah Complicated Stamped	1
Lamar Complicated Stamped	2
Lamar Plain	1
Dallas Plain	1

This pit is oval in outline with a flat bottom and sloping sides. Fill was a brown loam with fairly abundant daub and charcoal and a light scattering of pottery, bone and stone pieces. The pit was dug from a yellow sand floor situated at 96.2 feet. As noted elsewhere, lenses of yellow sand are scattered throughout an approximately 15 by 20 foot area in the northeast corner or XU 1 at this same depth. All may belong to a single structure or occupation surface.

Ceramic content indicates that this feature is Barnett in affiliation. In terms of absolute depth, however, the pit and associated yellow sand layer fall within the Woodstock stratum. It is possible that both represent the depressed floor of a Barnett phase Structure.

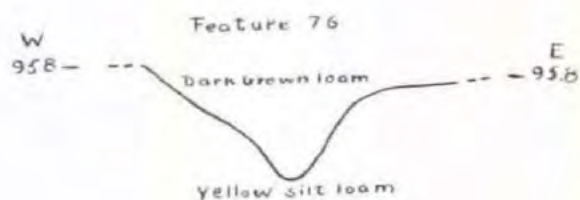
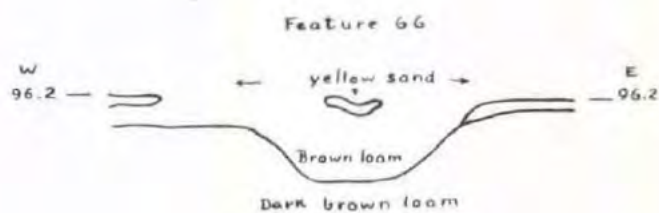
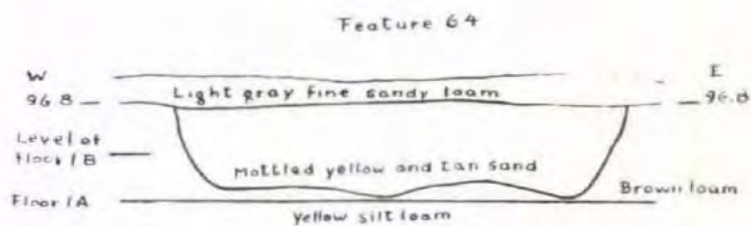
#### Feature 76 (Figure 13 and 15)

Location: Square N465 E90

Elevation: 95.8 feet

Size: Length 4.2 feet, Width 3.4 feet, depth 1.2 feet

Ceramic content:



0 feet 1

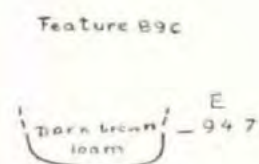
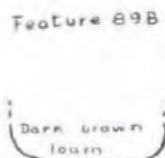


FIGURE 15





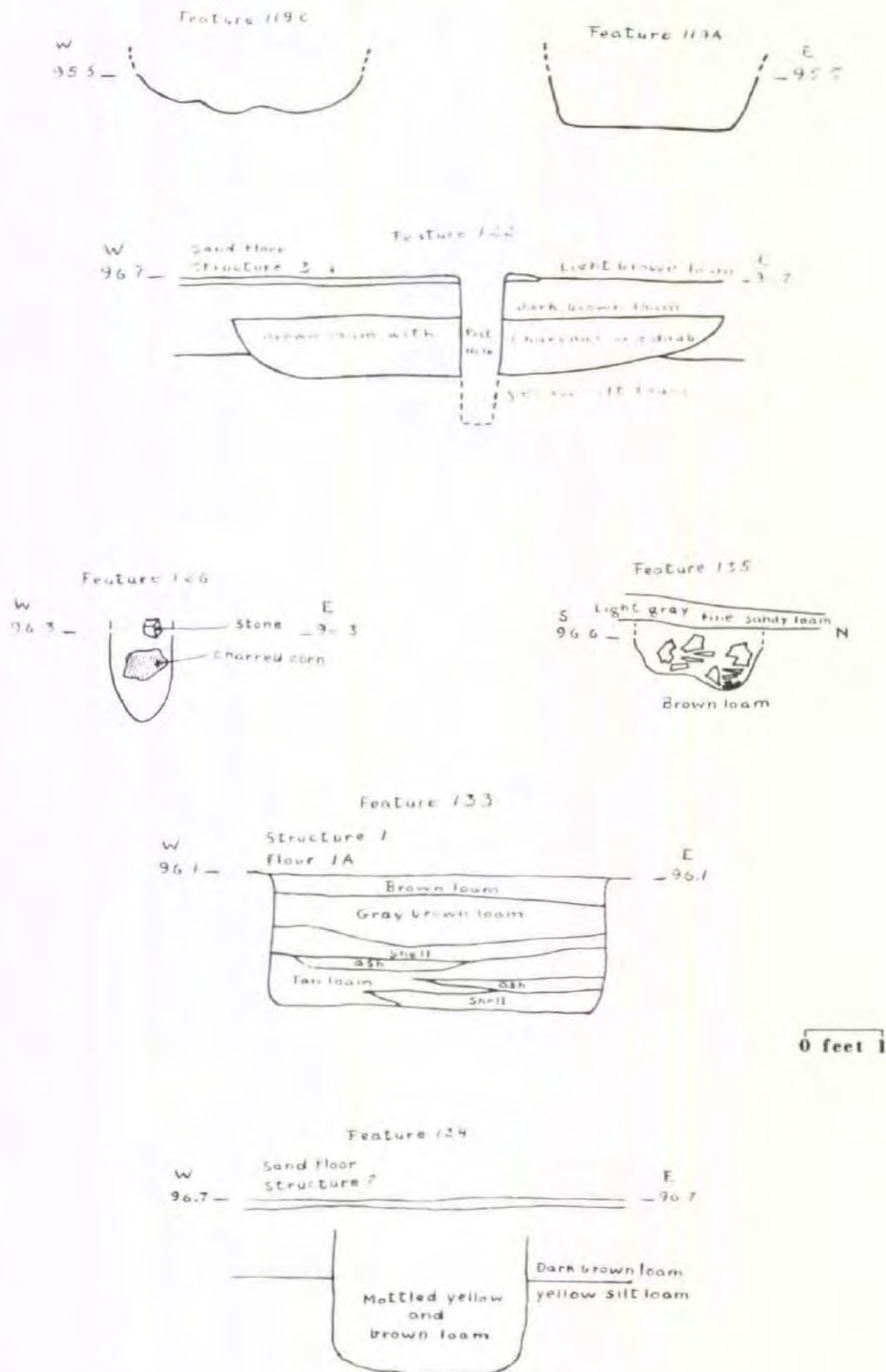


FIGURE 16





<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	12
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	3
<u>Lamar Incised</u>	1
<u>Lamar Roughened</u>	1
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	3
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	6

This feature differs from other pits encountered at Potts' Tract in having an irregular conical shape. Pit fill was a dark brown loam with charcoal and daub flecks and scattered fragments of pottery, stone and bone. Fill was floated, and a small amount of charred material obtained.

On stratigraphic grounds this pit is a Woodstock feature. Pottery content however is mixed, and we must conclude that it pertains to the Barnett occupation. It is quite conceivable that the actual upper perimeter of the pit was missed during excavation and that the pit originates from a higher elevation than that recorded. No other features were associated to indicate that contemporary ground surface was 95.8 feet.

#### Feature 83 (Figures 13 and 15)

Location: Squares N470 E45 and N475 E45

Elevation: 95.2 feet

Size: Diameter 1.6 feet, depth .5 feet

Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	62
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	10
<u>Unidentified</u>	1

Considering the depth at which this feature was first encountered (95.2 feet) and its small size and rounded profile, it is probable that only the bottom portion of the pit has been recorded.

A large quantity of charred vegetal material has been obtained from pit fill by the floatation technique. This material has not been analyzed, but it is known that walnut predominates and that acorn and hickory nut are present.

Three other pits, Features 89A, 89B and 89C, occurred within a radius of three feet of Feature 83. Sherds belonging to the same Woodstock Complicated Stamped jar have been found in both Features 83 and 89A.

Stratigraphic and artifactual evidence indicate that the pit is Woodstock in affiliation.

#### Features 89A, 89B and 89C (Figures 13 and 15)

Location: Squares N475 E45, N475 E50, N480 E45, and N480 E50

Elevation: 94.7 feet

Size: Various - see Figures 13 and 15.

Ceramic content: (Feature 89A only)

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	61
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	3
<u>Woodstock Unidentified</u>	6

These three pits were first observed at a depth of 94.7 feet, slightly below the level at which Feature 83 was recorded. All are small in size.



Doubtless all had greater vertical dimensions than has been recorded. It is probable that all four pits (Features 83, 89A, 89B and 89C) in this restricted area originated from a common occupation floor lying at 95.2 feet or above. Features 89B and 89C may be simply large post holes.

Fill of all three was a dark brown loam. That of Feature 89A was floated and a small quantity of vegetal material obtained. No artifacts were present within the observed perimeter of any of these pits. Above feature 89A, at an elevation of 95.2 feet however, a section of charred log and a cluster of sherds occurred that in all likelihood were located within the undetected upper portion of that feature. The majority of these sherds belong to a single Woodstock Complicated Stamped jar, portions of which were found in Feature 83 also.

Absolute depth of these features suggests they are Woodstock in affiliation. With seventy Woodstock sherds occurring above its defined position, Feature 89 A is almost certainly Woodstock.

#### Features 119A, 119B and 119C (Figures 13 and 16)

Three small pit-like features were encountered in a small area centering on the grid coordinate N455 E65 at a depth of 95.5 feet. During excavation these were felt to be segments of a single large feature and were given the designation, Feature 119. Analysis of the ceramic content of each however indicates that at least two separate pits may be represented. These three features are therefore now designated Features 119A, 119B and 119C and are described separately below.

#### Feature 119A

Location: Square N455 E70

Elevation: 95.5 feet

Size: Length 2.2 feet, width 1.0 feet, depth .5 feet

Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	8
<u>Lamar Complicated Stamped</u>	4
<u>Dallas Incised</u>	1
<u>Dallas Filleted</u>	1
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	2

Fill was a dark brown loam. Ceramic content indicates a Barnett affiliation. Given this fact, it is certain that only the lower portion of this pit has been recognized and recorded.

#### Feature 119B (not profiled)

Location: Square N455 E70

Elevation: 95.5 feet

Size: Diameter 1.0 foot, depth .5 feet.



## Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	14
<u>Etowah Complicated Stamped</u>	9
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	2

Pit fill is a dark brown loam. Cultural affiliation is again uncertain with the presence of two shell tempered sherds in the collection. The small size of this feature suggests that it may be a posthole. The occurrence of fragments of large segments of a Woodstock Complicated Stamped jar and an Etowah Complicated Stamped jar argue against this interpretation.

Feature 119C

Location: Square N455 E70

Elevation: 95.5 feet

Size: Diameter 2.6 feet, depth .5 feet

## Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	21
<u>Etowah Complicated Stamped</u>	1
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	7
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	1
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	1

Pit fill was a dark brown loam with flecks of charcoal. Cultural affiliation is questionable.

Feature 122 (Figures 13 and 16)

Location: Squares N460 E105 and N460 E110

Elevation: 96.3 feet

Size: Length 6.4 feet, width 5.4 feet, depth .8 feet

## Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	74
<u>Etowah Complicated Stamped</u>	1
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	5
<u>Woodstock Unidentified</u>	8
<u>Lamar Plain</u>	1
<u>Dallas Plain</u>	4

Pit fill was a brown loam with scattered flecks of charcoal and daub. Bone preservation was poor, and only fragments of large mammal bone remained. Much of pit fill was floated but the yield of charred vegetal material other than wood was small. No whole or fragmentary stone tools were contained in pit fill.

Feature 122 partially underlies the prepared floor and southeast wall of Structure 3 which occurs at 96.7. In profile, the upper limit of Feature 122 was observed to lie at 96.3. It is fairly certain then that the pit was not disturbed by the construction of Structure 3 with the exception



of intrusive postholes.

Several postholes were intrusive into pit fill from the overlying Barnett structure, and considerable care was taken during excavation to isolate them and segregate their contents. As can be seen in the pottery count above, a fairly pure collection was obtained indicating the pit is of Woodstock affiliation. It is unfortunate from the standpoint of defining Woodstock material culture that stone tools and other cultural material were not present in pit fill.

#### Feature 126 (Figures 13 and 16)

Location: Square N470 E110  
 Elevation: 96.3 feet  
 Size: Diameter .8 feet, depth 1.1 feet  
 Ceramic content: none

In size and shape this feature resembles a posthole. It is being considered as a pit feature because of its contents: charred corn kernels scattered throughout fill and one solid mass of kernels near the center of the pit. There was no evidence that burning had occurred in the pit itself. Three similar deposits of charred maize, involving either cobs or kernels or both were found at the Little Egypt site (9-Mu-102) by the author during the 1969 field season.

Cultural affiliation of the feature is uncertain.

#### Feature 127 (Figure 13)

Location: Square N450 E110  
 Elevation: 96.9 feet  
 Size: Diameter 4.5 feet, thickness .8 feet  
 Ceramic content: none

This feature consists of a circular area of fired soil. Firing must have been intense as the deposit is .8 feet thick and changes color from red to white near the center of its upper surface. Its upper surface is slightly convex with no indication of a prepared basin. This peculiar shape and the evident extreme temperature to which the feature has been subjected suggest that it had a function not associated with hearths normally found within domestic structures.

The occurrence of Feature 127 at 96.9 feet places it well within the Barnett midden stratum and allows us to assign it to that component with certainty despite the absence of diagnostic artifacts.

#### Feature 133 (Figures 10 and 16)

Location: Squares N440 E75, N440 E80, N435 E75 and N435 E80  
 Elevation: 96.1 feet  
 Size: Diameter 4.3 feet depth 1.7 feet  
 Ceramic Content:



Woodstock Complicated Stamped	195
Etowah Complicated Stamped	3
Woodstock Incised	1
Woodstock Plain	3
Woodstock Unidentified	24
Lamar Plain	2

Feature 133 is a large, carefully constructed pit lying immediately below the floor of Structure IA. Its shape is that of an almost perfect circle with vertical walls and flat bottom. It is probable that some of the upper portion of the pit has been destroyed as Structure IA was depressed approximately one foot below its contemporary ground surface resulting in the removal of all Woodstock midden below.

Feature 133 was filled with layers of brown and gray loam, lenses of ash and two lenses of mollusk shell. The latter occurred near the bottom of the pit and were each .2 to .4 feet thick. There was no evidence that pit walls and floor had been subjected directly to intense heat, despite the presence of ash lenses in the fill. In excavating Feature 133, considerable care was taken to identify and segregate postholes intrusive from the overlying structure. The result was a large, pure collection of Woodstock material including the only definitely unmixed collection of flaked stone implements, the only worked bone and the largest collection of animal bone and charred vegetal material attributable to that component.

Unlike the situation elsewhere At Potts' Tract, bone preservation was excellent in Feature 133. Species identification has not been undertaken, but the following rough count is of value in showing the diversity of fauna present.

Fish	15
Turtle	31
Bird	68
Deer	68
Unidentified mammal	114
Unidentified	415

Nearly the entire contents of feature 133 were floated resulting in the recovery of a large quantity of charred seeds. A portion of the mollusk layers were floated resulting in the recovery of the shell sample tabulated below<sup>33</sup>. It should be noted that *Goniobasis* is a very small mollusk. To derive any significant amount of nourishment from it, great quantities would have to be eaten.

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33. Identifications were made by Dr. Grace Thomas, Dept. of Zoology, University of Georgia. Frequencies were determined by the author.



TABLE 9

Mollusks Present in Feature 133

<u>Mollusk Type</u>	<u>Number of Individuals</u>
Fresh Water Snails	
Genus Goniobasis	approx. 600
Genus Campeloma	15
Fresh Water Clams <sup>34</sup>	approx. 10
Land Snails	
Genus Triodopsis	approx. 8

The only worked bone found at Potts' Tract came from Feature 133. This Material has been identified as to function as follows:

Awl	1
Fish hooks	3
Fish hook blanks	22

All pieces except the awl are apparently bird bone.

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34. Genus identification was not possible due to the erroded character of the shell.

Feature 134 (Figures 13 and 16)

Location: Square N45 E105

Elevation: 96.3 feet

Size: Length 3.0 feet, width 2.5 feet, depth 1.9 feet

Ceramic content: Collection not available for classification as it was accidentally mixed with another ceramic lot.

Pit fill consists of a mottled yellow and brown loam with flecks of charcoal. Other than scattered fragments of pottery, stone and animal bone, no cultural material occurred within the pit to indicate its possible function.

Feature 134 is located beneath the floor of Structure 3 and apparently predates its construction. It did not appear in the prepared floor of the structure, and in profile could be traced up to only 96.3 feet, whereas the floor of Structure 3 occurs at roughly 96.7 feet. Without diagnostic artifacts, the cultural affiliation of this feature can not be definitely established.

Feature 135 (Figures 10 and 16)

Location: Squares N420 E85 and N425 E85

Elevation: 96.6 feet

Size: Diameter 1.6 feet, depth .6 feet

Ceramic content:

<u>Etowah Complicated Stamped</u>	19
<u>Dallas Filleted</u>	1

Feature 135 is a small rounded depression containing several fragments of limestone and sherds of an Etowah Stamped jar. It is located just beyond the southeast corner of Structure 1 at a depth of 96.6 feet and as such is .8 feet above the floor of Structure 1A. Woodstock midden lies between 96.0 feet and 96.6 feet in this area of XU 1 so that the elevation of Feature 135 is to be expected. It occurs at a higher elevation than the floor of Structure 1A because that building was erected in a shallow depression at least .8 feet deep.

Given the elevation of Feature 135, the question arises whether it, like Feature 64, has been truncated by the relic plow zone. When plow zone was removed from the layer of fired daub and undisturbed midden soil overlying and surrounding Structure 1, Feature 135 was not in evidence. Given its Woodstock affiliation and the general level of the Woodstock midden in this area, it seems unlikely that this feature has been disturbed by plowing.

Feature 137 (Figures 5 and 10)

Location: Squares N445 E65 and N445 E70

Elevation: 96.0 feet

Size: Length 4.4 feet, width 3.6 feet,

Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	1
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The nature of this feature is not too well understood. It was not fully investigated until after the close of the 1968 field season and then under wet soil conditions. Pit fill consisted of mottled yellow and gray clay which was virtually devoid of cultural material: only 1 sherd and 1 fragment of deer scapula were found. The fact that the pit extended into clay sub-soil and had a clay fill made tracing its outline difficult.

Feature 137 has a pear-shaped outline at 96.0 feet, the floor level of Structure IA, and appears to taper down to a rounded base at a depth of 92.0 feet. Below this point however a burial (Feature 138, Burial 3) was encountered lightly flexed on its back and lying in a rectangular pit. This latter appeared at the time of excavation to be partly within the perimeter of Feature 137 and partly outside it to the west. It was concluded that the pit, Feature 137, had been accidentally dug into an earlier burial.

An alternative interpretation is that Feature 137 represents the shaft of Burial 3 and that either its true outline was not discovered during excavation or the bottom of the pit was undercut to the west to accommodate the burial. Unfortunately the conditions under which Feature 137 and Burial 3 were investigated prohibited more exact information, and as a result the true relationship between the two features can not be determined.

Feature 137 lies across the presumed northwest walls of Structures IA and IB. Postholes of both walls were visible in the fill and the brown loam midden overlying it. Pit outline was not visible at the floor level of Structure IB, and it definitely predates that structure. Pit outline was first encountered in troweling down to the floor of Structure IA. This floor is poorly defined in the vicinity of Feature 137 and the exact stratigraphic relationship between the two could not be established. The fact that the northwest wall of Structure IA presumably also cuts across the feature though indicates that it too postdates Feature 137.

Given the lack of grave goods and the absence of artifacts in pit fill, Feature 137 can not be definitely assigned to either component. All that can be said is that on stratigraphic grounds the feature does seem to predate the construction of Structures IA and IB.

#### Feature 143 (not profiled)

Location: Square N460 E65

Elevation: 95.5 feet

Size: Length 2.1 feet, width .8 feet, depth .3 feet.

Ceramic content:

<u>Woodstock Complicated Stamped</u>	20
<u>Etowah Complicated Stamped</u>	1
<u>Woodstock Plain</u>	2

Fill of this pit was a dark brown loam. Cultural affiliation is probably Woodstock.

#### Discussion of Features

At least some portion of the fill from all of the above described pits was subjected to floatation. This was done in the field using a slight modification of the technique described by Struever (1968). The results



were quite encouraging with some features (nos. 33, 83, and 133) yielding large samples of identifiable plant remains. Unfortunately analysis of this material has not been completed.

As a whole, the architectural context of the 18 pits recorded at Potts' Tract was very poor. Given the thickness of the two midden deposits and the great number of post holes encountered in XU 1, it is probable that both Woodstock and Barnett occupations had some time depth and that during each a succession of houses and other structures were erected and used in the area. Seventeen of the 18 pits are essentially free floating within the midden deposits. The spatial relationships of pits and other features tell us nothing about their relationships at the time they were constructed and used. Only one, Feature 66, was associated with an occupation surface. With the possible exceptions of Features 83 and 89, none of the pits can be shown to be contemporaneous or associated with one another.

There is good evidence that Features 64, 83, 89, 119, 133 and 137 were all either partially destroyed by later construction activities or incompletely observed and recorded during investigations. Features 15, 76, 122, 126, 134, and 135 may have been recorded in their entirety, but it is difficult to tie them into any larger patterns of features. Feature 134 could be an exception if its cultural affiliation were known definitely. If it is a Barnett phase feature, it might be a subfloor pit belonging to Structure 3. Feature 76 lies just beyond the northwest wall of Structure 3, and since it is known to be Barnett could be associated with the occupation of that building. Feature 127 may likewise be associated with the occupation of Structure 3. The point though is that this type of relationship can not be demonstrated with the available evidence.

A second largely negative point can be made regarding the pit features described above: almost nothing is known of the functions for which they were originally constructed. Thirteen pits contained nothing that would distinguish their fill from general midden soil. It is possible that these contained organic material that has completely decomposed, but an alternative explanation - that at the termination of their use, these pits were filled with midden soil either intentionally or through natural processes - is equally plausible.

Only Features 64, 83, 126, 133 and 135 contained items that seem to have been intentionally placed. Each feature deserves comment.

1. Feature 126. Three small deposits of charred maize, measuring less than 1 foot in diameter and .2-.4 feet thick were found by the author at the Little Egypt site in 1969. In two instances, charred maize occurred within small, recognizable pits. In no case was there evidence that pit walls had been fired. With three known occurrences at two different sites, it is likely that this combination of charred maize and small pit is not fortuitous but rather the result of intentional human activity. The pits themselves may have been specially constructed to receive their charred contents or they may be merely postholes that have received this special treatment.

2. Feature 83. This pit contained abundant charred vegetal matter - predominately walnuts, but with acorns and hickory nuts also plentiful. Despite the charred state of this material, the pit itself seems not to have been subjected directly to fire. Since only the shell portion of nuts was present, it is likely that this fill represents refuse material placed in a pit originally intended for other purposes.



3. Features 64 and 135. Potts' Tract is located in alluvial bottom land. As a result nearly all stone occurring on the site has been brought in by humans. A fair amount of limestone in various shapes and sizes occurs on the site and is probably derived from the surrounding hills. Large slabs occurred on the floor of Structure IB, but cobble-sized pieces are most frequent. Shape is usually amorphous due to some extent at least to weathering. No recognizable tools made from this material have been recovered. The abundance of this stone however suggests that it had a definite use or uses for the prehistoric inhabitants. These are not known, but considering the concentration of limestone in Features 64 and 135, it is probable that these pits were somehow related to activities involving use of the material.

4. Feature 133. The distinct layering of Mollusk shells and ash within Feature 133 indicates that this pit was intentionally filled by the site inhabitants. The bulk of the shell layers consists of *Goniobasis* shell. It is conceivable that these shells were being stored for future use either as food or in bead manufacturing, but more likely they represent refuse. The presence of other mollusks in these layers and the presence of ash lenses elsewhere in the fill support the interpretation that Feature 133 was last used for refuse disposal.

Considering the small amount of fish bone in pit fill, the quantity of worked bone present presumably related to the manufacture of fish hooks is surprising. Feature 133 is the only pit at Potts' Tract in which bone preservation was at all good. As a result, we have no way of knowing whether its bone content is representative of Woodstock refuse in general. The ratio of fish bone to fish hooks indicates that it is not.

No pit features contemporaneous with building occupation were found within the walls of the three Barnett phase structures. The only possible exception is Feature 134 for which artifactual evidence as to cultural affiliation is lacking. On stratigraphic grounds however this pit seems to clearly predate Structure 3.

Kelly (N.D.A.) reports only one interior pit for four "Dallamar" houses excavated at Sixtoe Field between 1962 and 1964. That pit contained three burials when excavated and may actually have been originally intended for internments. No pits are reported to occur in five Dallas houses at Hiwassee Island (Lewis and Kneberg 1946). At Walker Farm, a Dallas site, in Norris Basin, interior pits are mentioned as occurring in only one of six domestic structures (Webb 1938: 115-121). The obvious conclusion to be drawn is that pit features are seldom located inside domestic structures of Dallas and Lamar affiliation.

#### BURIALS

##### Burial 1 - Feature 123 (Figure 13)

Location: Squares N460 E75 and N460 E80

Burial 1, an adult of undetermined sex, lay in a lightly flexed position on its left side with head to the southeast. The burial pit, first encountered at 96.0 feet, was roughly circular in outline and five feet in diameter. Walls of the pit were vertical and the bottom, occurring at 94.9 feet, was flat.



Traces of decayed bone occurred about 1 foot southeast of the chest cavity and were partially overlain by the right elbow. On the basis of the apparent size and orientation of these decayed bones, it is probable that they belong to an infant, Burial 2.

A single Lamar Roughened jar was situated on pit floor immediately against the back of Burial 1. This vessel appears to have been partially smoothed by scraping. Its shape consists of a globular body with slight shoulder and tall, straight, insloping rim. No other burial furniture was found. On the basis of this single vessel, Burial 1 can be dated to the Barnett occupation.

#### Burial 2 - Feature 123 (Figure 13)

Location: Squares N460 E75 and N460 E80.

Burial 2 is identified as an infant. Preservation was extremely poor with only traces of bone remaining. It occurred in direct association with Burial 1. Further information is provided above in the description of Burial 1.

#### Burial 3 - Feature 137 (Figures 10 and 11)

Location: Squares N445 E65 and N445 E70.

Burial 3, an adult of undetermined sex, lay on its back in a lightly flexed position with head to the west. Hands were folded across the chest. The burial pit was rectangular, four feet long and 2.2 feet wide. Pit bottom occurred at 91.1 feet and the body lay directly upon it.

As described in the preceeding section, there is a problem interpreting the exact nature of this pit and its relationship with Feature 137. Feature 137 was observed to be pear-shaped in outline at 96.0 feet where it was first encountered. It appeared to terminate at 92.5 feet and to be intrusive into the rectangular pit of Burial 3. The latter extends westward nearly one foot beyond the perimeter of Feature 137, but otherwise falls within its circumference. There are two possible interpretations of the relationship of these two features.

1. Burial 3 preceeds Feature 137 in time. When Feature 137 was constructed, the upper portion of the Burial 3 pit was destroyed.

2. Feature 137 is actually the shaft for Burial 3, and either its true configuration was not noted during investigation, or the lower portion containing the burial was excavated so as to undercut the upper pit wall.

The latter interpretation is favored. Fill of Feature 137 was a mottled gray and yellow clay, virtually devoid of cultural material. The pit appeared to terminate at 92.0 feet but was of course underlain by the burial. A nearly similar situation was encountered in Burial 4. Apparently a specific burial type is represented by these two examples.

No burial furniture accompanied Burial 3, with the result that cultural affiliation is difficult to ascertain. Fill of Feature 137 contained a single Woodstock sherd. The only certain fact of a chronological nature is that Feature 137 and hence Burial 3, predates the erection of Structure 1.



### Burial 4 - Feature 141 (Figure 13)

Location: N455 E90 and N455 E95.

Bone preservation in the case of Burial 4 was poor. General skeletal size indicated full adult stature had been attained, but sex was indeterminate. The body was rather tightly flexed, laying on its left side with head to the east. There was no burial furniture.

The burial pit was rectangular in outline, measuring 3.2 feet in length and 2.3 feet in width. Pit outline was first detected at 96.2 feet. Pit bottom occurred at 93.6 feet. Pit walls were straight and vertical, and the bottom, flat.

Without diagnostic grave goods, dating Burial 4 is difficult. Several sherds, all Woodstock types, were obtained from pit fill, but stratigraphic context favors a Barnett phase identification. The burial pit was first detected immediately below the yellow sand floor of Structure 3. It was not visible in this floor despite a careful search of the area for evidence of interior roof supports. Quite possibly the burial was made through the floor by the building's inhabitants, and the floor, subsequently repaired.

This burial is similar in some respects to Burial 3. Neither had burial furniture. Both burial pits were rectangular, well formed and of nearly equal dimensions. Pit fill in both cases was distinctive being composed of clays which were nearly devoid of cultural material. In both cases, .5 feet above the body a layer of sterile clay was encountered that was initially interpreted as pit bottom. Sterile clays seem to have been preferred as burial pit fill over the more readily available midden soils.

Since nothing is known of Woodstock burial practices, it would be easy and satisfying to assign burials 3 and 4 to that component. There is no evidence in support of this however, and the stratigraphic context of Burial 4 indicates it could very well be associated with the Barnett phase Structure 3.

## ARTIFACTS

### WORKED STONE

The predominant material utilized in the flaked stone industries of the Woodstock and Barnett components is a black chert that occurs locally in the form of river pebbles. These are generally of small size and may account in part for the diminutive character of the Woodstock and Barnett industries.

The numerically largest category of flaked stone artifacts consists of worked flakes. Out of 5078 flakes observed in two-thirds of the site's artifact lots, 709 or 14%, possess one or more edges that had been blunted by the removal of minute chips. Chips have been removed from one side only, usually the ventral side. Limited experimentation has shown that similar



appearing edges can be produced by using flakes as scrapers on a variety of materials. Worked edges of the archaeological specimens are usually straight or slightly concave, rarely convex. What is distinctive of these tools is their small size. Flakes range in diameter from 1 cm to 5 cm, while their worked edges vary between .5 cm & 3.5 cm with an average of slightly less than 2 cm. Worked flakes of a similar diminutive nature have been reported by Kelly (N.D.A. from structures 1 and 2, XU-A, Sixtoe Field).

Stratigraphic evidence indicates that these worked flakes were definitely being produced by the Woodstock occupants. Worked flakes were found in Woodstock Features 15 and 33 as well as several artifact lots derived from the Woodstock midden. Whether they are also a Barnett phase trait is uncertain. Several lots from the three Barnett structures yielded worked flakes, but since in all cases Woodstock pottery was also present this does not conclusively demonstrate their Barnett affiliation. The fact that they have been found at Sixtoe Field in association with Barnett and Dallas Structures however indicates that they are characteristic of the late component at Potts' Tract also.

A total of 144 triangular projectile points, both whole and fragmentary, were recovered from XU 1 and XU 2. These can be divided into two classes on the basis of form and workmanship. In one (Type A, Figure 18 a), bases are straight to slightly concave, and sides are straight or occasionally slightly concave. Workmanship is very fine. Average dimensions are given in Table 10 below. The second class (Type B, Figure 18 b) consists of points that are slightly larger (Table 10), less regular in form and less skillfully made. Bases are straight, occasionally slightly concave. Sides are straight or slightly convex and frequently of different length, causing the point to be asymmetrical.

TABLE 10

Average Dimensions of Difacially Flaked Artifacts  
In Centimeters

Sample Size	Average Width	Sample Size	Average Length	Sample Size	Average Thickness
29	1.19	16	2.15	30	.31
24	1.60	12	2.68	21	.45
8	1.22	8	3.55	8	.63

Out of the sample of 144 points, 55 have been classified as Type A and 63, classified as Type B. The remaining 26 were either aberrant or too incomplete for identification. Attempts to determine the cultural affiliation of these types stratigraphically have not been completely successful. Only two well dated pit features yielded points: Feature 64, Barnett phase, contained one Type B point; Feature 133, Woodstock phase, yielded seven points of Type A and one incomplete specimen that could qualify as Type B.



Three Type A points and nine Type B points were associated with Structure 1, while two of each point type were obtained from Structure 2. No points were found during the excavation of Structure 3. As noted above, artifact lots from these structures normally contain some Woodstock pottery so that it is to be expected that projectile points of Woodstock affiliation would also be present. The stratigraphic distribution of the remaining ninety-three identifiable points was completely inconclusive. At Sixtoe Field, projectile points from the Dallas and Barnett phase houses, Structures 1 and 2, XU-A, conform to the characteristics of Type B. Points from the concentration of flint debris at Little Egypt described in the previous chapter are also similar to Type B. There is then some evidence that Type A is of Woodstock affiliation and Type B, of Barnett affiliation.

The bifacially flaked artifacts illustrated in Figure 18c are distinctive by virtue of their elongated, tear-drop shape and relatively great thickness (Table 10). Only 8 examples were recovered during excavations, but their uniformity in shape and size is such as to indicate typological validity. Four of these were associated with Structure 1, indicating their probable cultural affiliation.

Two sandstone grinding slabs were recovered during the course of excavation. One of these, situated immediately northeast of the central hearth in Structure IB measures 33.0 cm X 26.7 cm X 6.9 cm. It possess a single oval depression (22.8 cm X 14.0 cm X 1.9 cm) on one side and two smaller basins (14.0 cm X 11.4 cm X 0.6 cm and 11.4 cm X 11.4 cm X 0.4 cm) on the other. The former is rough surfaced and appears to have been little used, while the surface of the paired depressions are smooth, presumably from wear. The entire slab was cracked in several places, as a result no doubt of the intense heat generated by the fire that destroyed Structure IB.

The second grinding stone, situated in Square N480 E90, lay just above and to the east of a layer of yellow sand at 96.3 feet. Sand layer and grinding stone are two of several features in the northeast corner of XU 1 that are interpreted as belonging to a single occupation surface and activity area. The stone measures 28.5 cm by 35.0 cm by 6.5 cm and has one rough-surfaced basin on either side. These measure 15 cm in diameter and 1.1 cm deep and 16 cm in diameter and 1.8 cm deep.

Nineteen pieces of graphite were found during the course of excavations. All show signs of having been worked in at least one of the four ways. One of the larger pieces (7.6 cm X 5.7 cm X 2.8 cm) has been flaked into a roughly tabular shape. Two pieces bear heavy striation over much of their surfaces (Figure 20 g). Similar striations can be produced by scratching the graphite with a chert flake. This also produces a fine graphite powder. All pieces show evidence of having been ground. The resulting surfaces are usually flat (Figure 20 h), but convex and, in one case concave surfaces also occur. Fine striations can be detected on all ground surfaces. Finally, two pieces bear faceted surfaces that are highly polished. Presumably graphite was being used as a coloring agent and was applied either directly by rubbing or in the form of a powder.

One graphite piece (Figure 20 g) occurred in Feature 133 and four others were obtained from the Woodstock midden in XU 1. One piece was found in Feature 24, a concentration of charcoal and fire cracked rock in Square N475 F100 that is assigned to the Barnett phase. Five additional pieces were derived from the three Barnett phase structures. It would appear from this evidence that the material was being utilized in both components.





FIGURE 17



FIGURE 18





There are three whole and two fragmentary celts in the collections from Potts' Tract. Two of the whole specimens were found on the floor of Structure 2 (Figures 12 and 17 a). They measure 13.3 cm X 7.0 cm X 3.8 cm and 13.1 cm X 5.4 cm X 3.2 cm. All surfaces are polished and evidence no signs of usage. The third whole specimen is considerably smaller, measuring 8.3 cm X 2.4 cm X 1.6 cm. It too is polished all over and shows no signs of wear. Unlike those above however, it is nearly rectangular in cross section and has a broad, squared-off butt. It was obtained from the general midden excavations in XU 1.

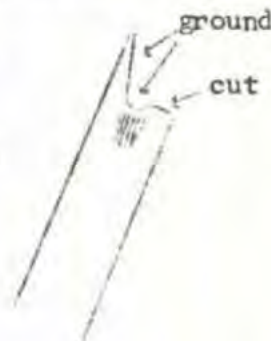
The hoe associated with Structure 2 (Figures 12 and 17 b) is made of a soft, blue and white banded schist and measures 29.0 cm X 8.7 cm X 1.7 cm. It is flaked along the sides and butt, while the blade is ground to a blunt edge. The blade has been chipped in several places, apparently through use. There is no evidence to indicate hafting technique. The nature of the stone from which this tool is manufactured would seem to restrict its use to cutting only the softest material. Considering the location of the Potts' Tract site in an alluvial flood plain, identification of the tool as a hoe is most likely correct.

Four chunky stones ranging in diameter from 13.3 cm to 5.5 cm were found in the course of site investigations. Only one, associated with Structure 2, had a significant provenience.

#### Worked Bone

As has been noted elsewhere, bone preservation was very poor at Potts' Tract. Normally only large fragments were found and these were so weathered and soft as to be unsalvageable. The only exception to this general condition was Feature 133 which fortunately did contain worked bone. Identifiable objects from this Woodstock pit include one small needle (Figure 19 c) and one whole and two partial fishhooks (Figure 19 a, b). The complete hook is barbless and has a constriction in its shaft below the butt apparently for securing a line. All three hooks were made from the shaft portion of bird bones.

The most abundant artifacts are splints from the shaft of bird bones (Figure 19 d) which have been ground along their edges and cut and ground at one end in the manner shown below. The configuration of the worked ends indicates that these splints are blanks for the manufacture of fishhooks (Figure 19 a). The point and adjacent ground surface on the worked ends were produced as a result of shaping the point of the hook. The adjacent cut surface was produced when the butt of the hook was cut free. In all there are fourteen of these blanks from Feature 133. Eight other pieces of bird bone were recovered that are similar to the above described blanks except that they lack the particular characteristics of the worked ends. These pieces may represent unused fish hook blanks. If this identification is correct, it is interesting that with so much evidence of fish-hook manufacturing, so little fish bone was found in the pit.





### Pipes

Fragments of one stone and eleven pottery pipes were recovered in the excavation at Potts' Tract. All but one are comparable with pipes that have been obtained from "Lamar" sites elsewhere in Georgia. The exception, Figure 20 b, is a human head effigy found during the excavation of Floor 1 in Structure 1. Because of the ill-defined nature of this floor, the pipe's exact association with the Structure is in doubt. It may actually have lain in Woodstock midden. All features of the face and hair are appliqued. Eyes, nose and mouth are easily recognizable in the photograph. Fars are represented by the two crescent-shaped ridges at the side of each eye. The hair portion of the head is covered with small rounded knobs such as are visible above the nose. As it is oriented in the photograph, the pipe is upside down, and the pipe stem opening is behind the ear to the left.

The pipe shown in Figure 20 d is apparently a fish effigy. The upper portion of the face is broken away, but the mouth, in the form of a deep round hole, is present as are two nostrils (not visible in the photograph). The bowl, a corner of which is visible in the upper right hand corner, is placed in the body of the fish. The pipe has broken in half at this weak point. J.R. Caldwell (personal communication) found an almost identical pipe fragment in the historic levels of a pottery dump at Tugalo. The Potts' Tract specimen is from midden soil overlying Structure 1B. Figure 20a represents the bowl portion of what was probably a monolithic axe effigy. No pipe fragments can be identified as Woodstock on stratigraphic or typological grounds.

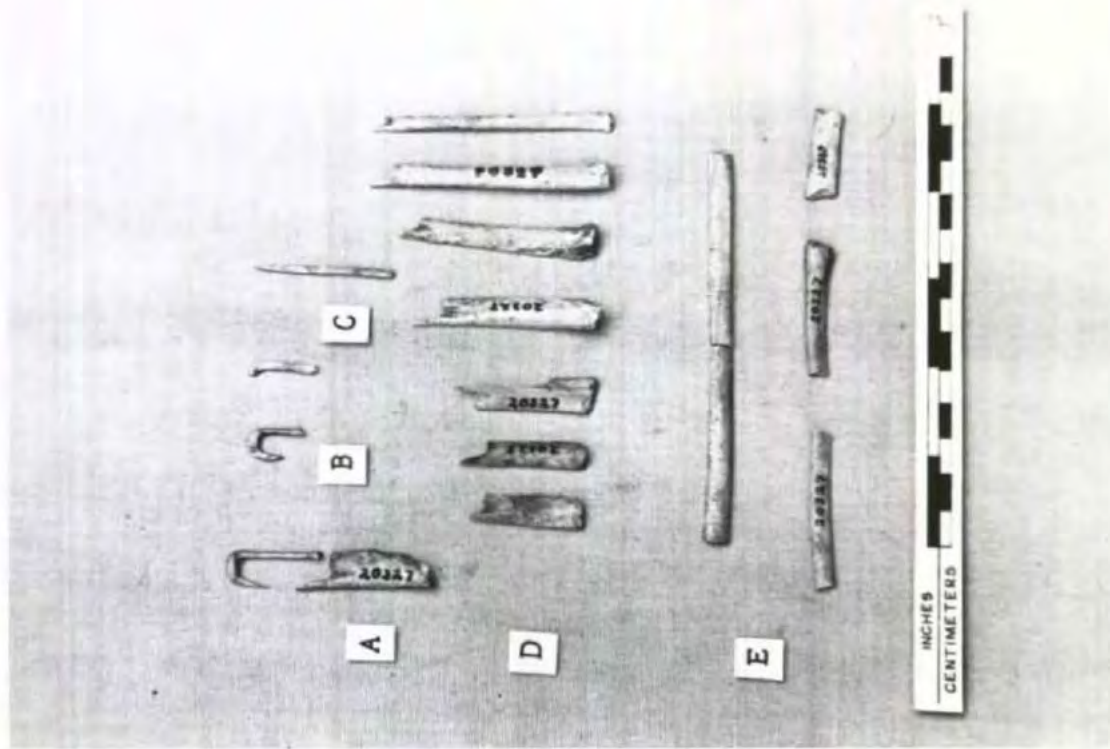


FIGURE 19



FIGURE 20





SUMMARY

The earliest of two major occupations at Potts' Tract is identifiable as Woodstock. Pottery of this component conforms closely to published descriptions of Woodstock ceramics with one exception. The type, Etowah Complicated Stamped, bearing ladder base diamond designs, occurs in small quantities in artifact lots from the early midden and can be shown to be an integral part of the component's pottery inventory. Since this type is diagnostic of Etowah I phase, the Potts' Tract component is no doubt relatively late in the period of Woodstock culture.

The Woodstock occupation is restricted to XU I, where it is represented by a midden deposit containing abundant stone and pottery artifacts. Several pit features are attributable to the occupation, but evidence of domestic structures in the form of posthole patterns, prepared floors and hearths, is lacking. The richness of the midden and the presence of large pits such as Features 122 and 133 indicate that site occupation was more than sporadic. Permanent dwelling structures should be present. Apparently no structures were erected within the area covered by XU 1, or evidence of them has been obscured by the later Barnett phase occupation.

The second component at Potts' Tract has been designated Barnett phase in recognition of the distinctive character of its ceramics. Elements of both the Dallas and Lamar ceramic complexes compose the ceramic inventory, and, rather than obscure this fact by assigning the component to one or the other of those entities, the author has established a new phase for it. Excavations at Sixtoe Field, Bell Field Mound, Little Egypt and Potts' Tract indicate that in the late prehistoric period at Carters Dam, there is a gradual shift from pottery assemblages which are predominantly Dallas in nature to ones that are predominantly Lamar. Barnett phase represents a late stage - perhaps the latest - in this development. This ceramic shift may represent actual population movement - replacement of Coosa by Cherokee - or merely a change in preference for pottery styles.

There is no evidence of European contact in the Barnett phase component at Potts' Tract.

Investigations at 9-Mu-103 were limited to a three-acre tract, with the result that the horizontal extent of the Barnett phase occupation is not known. Barnett phase features investigated include three domestic structures, at least two burials, several fired areas and a variety of pits. All evidence indicates that the site was residential in nature. Quite probably it was a satellite hamlet of the Bell Field or Little Egypt mound sites.

There is some evidence of time depth to the Barnett component. Structure 1 was rebuilt one time and subsequent to its final destruction a pit, Feature 64, was excavated into it. Patches of fired soil overlying Structure 3 may be attributed to activities subsequent to the destruction of that building. Some portion of the Barnett phase midden has been destroyed by recent cultivation as artifacts are relatively abundant in the relict plow zone. It follows, that all Barnett phase features are not necessarily contemporaneous. The three structures may represent an equal number of chronologically separate occupations of the area by single households rather than three contemporaneous houses in a single hamlet.



Structure 1 is of interest because of its multiple stages of construction. While it is not known how or why Structure IA was destroyed, there is evidence that Structure IB was erected soon afterwards and with the intention of duplicating the floor plan of the earlier building. Structure 2 may also have been rebuilt one time.

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