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THE 1970-71 FIELD SEASONS AT BELL FIELD MOUND, CARTERS DAM

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AT BELL FIELD MOUND, CARTERS DAM

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Introduction

There have been six field seasons of exploration at Bell Field, 9 Mu 101, beginning in 1965 and ending with the summer of 1971. Progress has been slow, uneven, and interrupted, due to restricted budgets, small field crews and short digging sessions. In 1969, although funds were available, the chief investigator spent seven months in salvage archeology at the industrial park site of the Great Southwest Development Company of Atlanta.

In 1970, July-August, 6 weeks excavation, with three laborers and volunteers from Atlanta resulted in some significant but incomplete discoveries at the base of Bell Field mound. The last previous excavations had been in the summer of 1968, and the ensuing two years of site abandonment resulted in grievous erosional scarring of the site. All profiles were badly weathered and slumped beyond recognition, and half-uncovered structures at base of cut battened down under plastic had to be reexposed under two feet or more of silt and muck. Partial construction of the Reregulation Dam and new bridges to carry contract fill by the contractors had raised the water table several feet. The area of lush vegetation around the mound field was a marsh. It was necessary to operate a ferry boat across Talking Rock Creek from the Little Egypt side to gain access to Bell Field. To save time in travel from Chatsworth, Georgia, 11 miles away from Carter's, it was decided to establish a tent camp on the mound field site.

Half the summer in 1970, was spent in reexcavating base of cut to the East-West axis trench, covering 100 feet from the east featheredge of the mound. This entry trench in 1965, continued in 1966, had exposed in profile the terminal downslope elements of five truncated mounds with two structures

showing in the base of the trench representing structures on apron-like extensions of the core mound on which the main concentration occurred. In 1965-66, a complex of four compact connected structures were brought out on the first untruncated occupation level. These were Structure #4 (a council house) and Structures #5, #6, #7, dormitory or satellite units partially connected by covered passageways.

In 1967-68, beneath two feet of dark gumbo mound fill separating them from Structures #4, #5, #6, #7, we found four more collapsed buildings. These were Structures #8, #9, #10, #11. These were rectangular with rounded corners, with central fire basins, and wattle and daub wall construction. Structures #9 and #10 had a clay covered passageway. Structure #8 appeared to have been built in three stages, possibly demolished and rebuilt at intervals, catalogued Structures #8, A, B, C. Subsequently, by 1970-71, we considered cataloguing three related structures unjustified; we should have given each unit a separate and distinct catalogue number. This is particularly true in the hindsight of the results of the present season, since we know that the bottommost Structure #8C was entirely different from the overlying Structure #8B---it was an earth lodge construction, whereas Structure 8B began a whole series of wattle and daub structures on at least six subsequent mound occupations at Bell Field!

Actually, 1971, was hopefully projected as the last field season at Bell Field--a rather sanguine anticipation in the light of the complexity of building activity now being exposed at mound base. By September, in the summer of 1968, we did have some intimation of the shape of things to come--we had uncovered one corner section of a deeply saucered clay platform, with post mould slots on the side of the platform for leaning wall posts. Also, there were indications of a heavy gumbo cover filling the deeply saucered

floor and initial exposure of a bark-like or decomposed matting mantling the corner section of the collapsed building. It was enough to reveal a totally different structure from the typical wattle-daub houses, with upright wall posts, so familiar in previous seasons of exploration at Bell Field and Sixtoe Field. There was little to anticipate that Structure #12 would mushroom into multiple earth lodges--a different genre of structures in contrast to the unbroken final superimposed occupations of wattle and daub houses to follow.

Structure #8 and its three presumed stages of rebuilding lay immediately over Structure #12. At the end of the 1968 season, we were still frustrated in trying to uncover the house pattern and discerned floor section to the deepest structure catalogued at Structure #8C. For five seasons of exploration we had found the prehistoric architects at Bell Field to be very consistent in their use of certain basic building materials. They brought in tons of heavy gumbo as mound fill and platform seats for the buildings; the walls of the wattle and daub houses consisted of a yellow-tan clay stuccoed on both the exterior and interior wattle construction of reeds or cane; the floors were mantled alluvial sand. The concrete intimate knowledge of the specific properties of these different soils used in mound and house construction approached the minute and precise understanding of faunal and floristic materials in nature utilized by primitive tribes as described by Levy-Straus.

In excavating at Bell Field with five consecutive seasons our experience indicated unfailingly in groping through telescoped layers and lenses of the mound, that the dark gumbo was always mound fill interval between different occupations and house unit construction on the summits; the extended lenses of yellow-tan clay were collapsed exterior walls over sanded floors. If the structures had been destroyed by simple demolition, pushing in the walls over

the floors, the daub was unfired clay. If the buildings had burned the clay was fired to a bright orange and the daubs were hardened to the consistency of brick and bore beautiful impressions of the adhering wattle construction.

Reference to the 1968 report to the National Park Service in 1965-68 at Bell Field will show we had found evidences that the ceremonial building units from Structures #4, #5, #6, #7, and subsequent truncated mound levels had been deliberately burned, presumably some sort of cyclical, ritualistic destruction and renewal. Also in 1967-68, we found that the deeper core mound houses appeared not to have been burned; rather as in units #8, #9, #10, #11, and below that, Structure #12--all these appeared to have been demolished by collapsing walls and supporting frames.

The reason we were baffled and frustrated in the 1968 efforts to uncover floor indications and house patterns to Structure #8C, and in exposing the floor and wall collapsed debris of Structure #12, becomes clear. The earth lodges were covered with a sheathing of dark gumbo turf. Their floors were deeply sanded as were those of the later wattle and daub houses. But the dark gumbo we initially regarded as mound fill between the two earliest building stages of Structure #8 was the earth mantle to the last earthlodge construction and the deeply saucered floor dropped down so sharply that this final earth lodge fitted over the collapsed gumbo covering of Structure #12 like a glove. The long sought postmould pattern to Structure #8 showed as the interior vertical supports to an earthlodge with leaning posts around the rim jutting out at angles from the collapsed and traffic-flattened roof of Structure #12 underneath. The corrugations in the convoluted floor were ironed out by sand fill. Details here should become even clearer as more of the floor section of Structure #12 is exposed in the coming field season.

From the preceding it should be apparent why it is logical and advantageous to combine the 1970 and 1971 field reports at Bell Field. On both occasions we were attempting with inadequate workers and time to uncover massive and extremely complex building sequences with a sudden and completely unanticipated change in architectural scheme intervening. We now know that there are at least three superimposed building levels at mound base belonging to the earth lodge period of construction, following which there are between 5 and 6 successive mound constructions and building cycles assignable to wattle and daub structures.

In the narrative of excavations at Bell Field that follows, the main thread of reference will be the profile data from the coordinate trenches made into the mound from 1965, recut in subsequent years. The East entry trench along the East axis, 100 feet long, is the most explicit panel relating all phases of mound exploration, including terminal elements and the core mound building units. Also important is the correlating trench in the south mound grid, made at an angle to the north-south axis, which provides a check on the data of truncate-core mound occupations initially exposed in the East axis trench. The north segment of the north-south axis profile, preserved in a balk which persisted remarkably from 1965 to 1971, is important for relating Structures #9, #10, #11 to the complex in the south median grid section.

So many critical features must be covered over and preserved for careful attention in the next season. One of these is Feature #100, uncovered near the preserved north balk just mentioned. This is a remarkable mound of heaped wood ash, three feet high and at least eight feet in diameter at base, apparently bottomed out on the occupation level which accords with the final earth lodge occupation. Initial profiling of one quadrant indicates pure ash

deposit, with little or no midden showing, but with inclusions of fired clay as if broken fire basins or hearths had been lifted and redeposited in a neat pile in the ashes. Our first extrapolation on viewing this imposing heap was that it represented the ceremonial sweepings of house floors. Now we entertain the notion that perhaps the ashes and rubble from broken hearths are given special ritual care and preservation. There are ethnographic accounts from the 18th century for both Iroquois (Cherokee) and Muskogean groups that they maintained and renewed sacred hearths and fires, moving these when a new village set-up was made. Perhaps similar ideas go back several centuries to the Pre-Dallas occupations at Bell Field. We await with more than ordinary interest the results of research by Kent Schneider and his special equipment for extracting organic remains from soil samples.

In their ethno-history of Coosawattee, Carole Hill and Margaret Clayton have produced evidence that the Cherokees who finally occupied the Coosawattee site in the 18th and 19th centuries referred to Coosawattee Old Town as "an ancient town." Carbon 14 dates at Bell Field at present writing give dates of 1280 A. D. for Structure #8, and 1400 A. D. for Structure #9. As yet we have no dates for the final truncate mounds or for the basal earth lodges, although samples are in process. Across Talking Creek at the Little Egypt sector, initial dates occur in the 1400's to the 1500's. The final phases of occupation at Bell Field, as at Sixtoe Field, explored in 1962-1963-1964, show a Dallas continuum of domestic structures intergrading into a mixed occupation of Dallas and a north Georgia variant of Lamar. There are a few scant items suggesting a protohistoric occupation with implications of culture synchresis. A. R. Kelly has provided the coinage of "Dallamar" to indicate this interval of history at the greater Coosawattee site.

Diagnostic artifacts and pottery from precise archeological context are very scanty. Accessions of catalogued material from horizontal scraping and troweling of floor deposits gave only a handful of sherds from most of the structures, an indication that the premises were regarded as sacrosanct and kept scrupulously clean. A 12-14 inch dark sandy floor layer to Structure #8B yielded around 150 sherds but many of these were suspect as they belonged to Early to Late Woodland categories estimated several centuries before the 1280 A. D. date for Structure #8 as determined from two Carbon 14 samples. Woodstock period pottery and still earlier Cartersville period materials suggest that the floor sand may have been brought from an early village site located along an alluvial ridge to the East of Bell Field mound.

In the upper occupation levels, the most prolific source came from pottery and other artifacts associated with the log-tomb burials. There is a fine collection of Dallas mortuary ware. Burials, incidentally, may prove a significant trait complex in comparing data between the Dallas and Pre-Dallas levels. There is the negative evidence that all the log-tomb interments are perceived to be intrusive from the upper Dallas occupations, whereas no burials of any kind have been found in five seasons of exploration for any core or basal mound context.

It seems clear even from a preliminary, macroscopic overview that there is a close resemblance in mound building, ceremonial structures, and basic cultural complexes between Bell Field mound and the sequence described for Hiwassee Island, Tennessee, by Lewis and Kneberg. A Dallas continuum of several centuries is exhibited for both key sites. It is too early to attempt an appraisal and comparison of the Pre-Dallas as the complete earth lodge basal occupations at Bell Field have only just been unveiled. The scant indications so far imply a stronger complement of sand and grit-tempered

wares at Bell Field, assimilated perhaps to the north Georgia variant of the Savannah Period, as defined initially by Joseph R. Caldwell on the Georgia coast and later in the Smithsonian Institute river basin surveys in north and northeast Georgia. But cord-marked congeries exist in both shell and grit-tempered varieties, and there are diffuse occurrences of pinched and modeled rim varieties which would be allocated to the earlier Mississippian Hiwassee levels in Tennessee.

Conclusions from the piecemeal data and partial context in the 1970-71 season report must thus be rendered in a definitely preliminary fashion.

The earth lodge building complex at the base of Bell Field mound has significant widespread implications for Georgia and the broader southeastern region. Earth lodges have been found at several points in Georgia: at the Tugalo mound in northeast Georgia, at the Ocmulgee site at Macon, at the Brown's Bottom site near Canton, Georgia (Allatoona basin), and at the Singer-Moye mounds on Pataula Creek below Columbus, Georgia. Further afield in neighboring States, current surveys in North Carolina by Joffre Coe reveal some striking parallels. These finds are so hot off the griddle that there has scarcely been time to compare notes. Finally, it is known that earth lodges occurred in the Chickamauga river basin survey undertaken by TVA. These were not described in the Hiwassee Island report. Their geographical location in relation to the north Georgia discoveries, and general indications of archeological overlap in the intervening territory, make cooperative cross-study imperative for investigators in several sub-regions.

In closing introductory remarks, we wish to express our deep appreciation for the generous assistance provided by volunteer workers at Bell Field during the 1970-71 field seasons. These labors of love for archeology by

devoted students have made possible the doubling of results gleaned from intensive troweling of key contextual situations. In particular the contribution of Patrick Garrow and his students from Shorter College, Rome, Georgia, are acknowledged, as well as the work performed by Lawrence Meier and his group from the Cobb County Archeological Survey. During October, several graduate students from the University of Georgia camped on the site and did yeoman service in exposing critical segments of the partially cleared earth lodges.

We have also had valuable commentaries from visiting archeologists and scientists from other disciplines. Note Betty Brandau from the Geochronology Laboratory at the University of Georgia and Kent Schneider with his Mobile Laboratory for extracting Organic Remains; Professor Reines from the Forestry School, University of Georgia; Professor DeVorsey from Geography at Georgia; Dr. Robert Stephenson and Dr. John Combs from the Institute of Anthropology and Archeology, University of South Carolina; Dr. Joseph R. Caldwell from the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Georgia.

Archie C. Smith was assistant field director in 1971, with valuable contributions in draughting and recordation from Richard Gathany, Georgia School of Technology, and Sheila K. Caldwell. The field camp and operation base at Little Egypt was vital to the economy and efficiency of the "dig" in maintaining comfort and morale of the workers, thanks to the devoted performance of Joci and Sheila Caldwell as camp managers.

Another major factor in assessing our gross archeological product comes from the most generous assistance given by the contractors at Carter's Dam. From Kandy's, Inc., the Naolin brothers and Ray Warren, chief engineer; from Ledbetter Company, we acknowledge extensive assistance in the loan of heavy

equipment to clear sterile overburden and tough vegetative cover--Messrs. Brown and Odel Plott were most helpful. Also Supt. Abbot and his staff with the Corps of Engineers assisted in every way possible. A constant problem has to do with site security from poachers and amateur collectors. Our ferry boat was stolen at night from the dock on Talking Rock Creek. We would have been stopped down completely except that an aluminum boat was made available by the Naolin brothers.

The 1970 Field Season.

Early in July, before the holiday, a tent camp was established at Bell Field and the small crew of workers began the herculean task of recovering the site from two years of forced abandonment. The central excavation to uncover mound base structures, currently Structures #8 and #12, was a pond filled with the muck of slumped gumbo from the standing profiles of the balks to unexcavated mound. The 100 foot long East axis trench was a thick hedge of lush vegetation, mostly tough young box elders and sycamores. Inasmuch as the ponded median of the mound was a slough requiring a week or more to dry out, initial work was begun in clearing the entry trench down to the original base of cut in 1968. The first two days of clearing disclosed a den of snakes, highland moccasins. Happily the young crew of workers (the Ditmar brothers, no relation of the famous herpytologist) were amateur reptile collectors; the task was accomplished with enthusiasm and nonchalance while the archeologist-in-charge observed this stage of operations with some trepidation from the rim of the trench some yards away.

Only the north face to the entry trench was dressed as the fresh excavation proceeded from mound reatheredge. Pottery, including some large cruddy plain shell tempered specimens of the Dallas variety, accessioned here were out of archeological context as they could have derived from any one of several downslope deposits of terminal or truncate mounds. Also note that catalogued collections from the first twenty-five feet of the featheredge excavations in the East entry trench, both in 1965 and subsequently, showed a definite increase in the number of sherds exhibiting Lamaroid traits in rim and body decoration. Within the first week we cut down to the vinyl plastic cover over structures preserved in the 1965 beginning excavations.

Here in the beginning approach excavations in 1965, we had uncovered the baked floor section of a burned structure, a 10 feet wide exposure with indicated extension south into the standing profile, first detected at a point about 50 feet in from featheredge. This was catalogued as Structure #3, and was left in place under plastic as the trench was carried toward mound center. A second structure was exposed about the same time as Structure #3, ten feet north at the terminus of one of the truncate mounds, and was catalogued as Structure #1. In this instance we had a much smaller building, some eight by ten feet in size, with a severely burned floor section covered with small cane mats and small piles of charred corn ears--rows of festered kernels were still intact. Structure #1 was tentatively speculated to be some sort of storage place or repository for corn offerings used in rituals in the ceremonial structures on mound summit. Structure #3, partially exposed in the base of the East approach trench was left for more intensive investigation in the 1971 field season.

Another significant find was made in the north profile of the East entry trench, just beyond the ill-defined east floor margins of Structure #3. This had somehow escaped notice in the original digging and only appeared now in the profile cross-section. A saucer-shaped depression, about two feet deep some 12 feet in diameter, with heavy burned clay daub plating the floor, filled with heavy deposits of broken and burned animal bone throughout the fill. This was catalogued as Feature #90. Some of the daub did appear on examination to be fired clay wall daub. The even floor distribution of same was puzzling; the pattern did not fit the picture of collapsed baked walls of structures uncovered on mound summit, i. e. Structures #4 and #5.

The rich deposit of animal bones, mostly broken and splintered, partially burned in cooking, was the heaviest in situ accumulation of animal bone found

then or later at Bell Field. Feature #90 was tentatively interpreted as a huge roasting pit made at an early stage of moundbuilding, representing one of the terminal or truncate occupations. Horizontal troweling by arbitrary levels to the fire-hardened clay floor uncovered no interior wall supports. There was one very puzzling feature; in the middle of the cross-section there was a pit, 20 inches wide and 27 in depth, filled with the same bright orange fired clay found mantling the floor. Somehow it was hard to interpret this as a central cooking pit to the larger "roasting pit." The contents of Feature #90 have not been analyzed to the present writing, including the heavy deposit of burned animal bones. Preliminary study showed no human bones present, only mammalian species in which deer, and possibly bear, bones predominated. A sizeable collection will probably be sent to Parmalee at the Illinois State Museum and soil samples from the saucer fill are available for analysis by Kent Schneider and his special apparatus for organic plant extraction.

A second find of unusual interest was Feature #91, a large, wide bowl-shaped depression in yellow clay base, uncovered at the foot of the north profile, adjoining and confluent with the floor of Structure #3. Mantling and filling the shallow depression was a bed of greyish wood-ash which yielded several localized blobs of a starchy material, seemingly baked in the ashes. Three such isolated, discrete patches of the same gummy, starchy compound were found in the ash bed. The idea that came to mind initially was that this strange mess of pottage might be a prehistoric sample of some starchy root or tuber prepared for baking in the bed of hot ashes. In the ethno-botany of Georgia and the immediate Southeast, during the 18th and 19th centuries, there is reference to "Indian bread" utilizing the yam-like tubers

of a variety of vines belonging to the Morning Glory family. It is dubious whether a botanist can find identifying traits in the gummy residue from the ash beds uncovered at the foot of later mound occupations at Bell Field. A food chemist or technologist might come up with more definitive information.

Another deposit, pedastaled in the middle portion of the ash bed, exhibited a thin stratum of carbonized material in which some small roasted ears of corn appeared. In close association were some baked clay daub nests with preserved round channels in which the pupae of a wasp species occur. In the local vernacular these are called "dirt daubers," distressingly familiar to most owners of modern wooden, frame houses. The author's first experience with roasted pupae in dauber nests was in southern Illinois at the Korondo village site where we found large, clay-lined cooking pits filled with wood ash from which we catalogued a peck or more of the roasted dauber nests.

Altogether it may be that we have here a refreshing picture of what may have been the piece de resistance for an Early Dallas gourmet, consisting of roasted ears of green corn and parched dauber pupae with fresh Indian bread.

We come now to Feature #92, one of the most baffling and frustrating discoveries of the 1970 field season. This feature was exposed at the base of the north profile of the approach trench underneath six feet of unbroken mound building elements representing at least three stages of construction and occupation. The find was made at a point where the east shouldered rim of Structure #8 was indicated in three penciled lenses of terminal yellow clay sand inched between dark gumbo mound fill (see drawing of north profile; east axis trench). Horizontally laid decomposed logs, butt ends exposed in the profile panel, exhibited a down-warped trend into the north grid in initial troweling. It was evident we had missed by a few inches these preliminary indications in the basal trench cut of the axis trench in 1965. The

clearly defined butt ends showed up now, down-warped, enveloped in closely adhering dark gumbo, extending laterally about five feet in profile.

The time of discovery of this new and exciting feature was in late August. Our funds were exhausted, our volunteer workers were about to depart for Atlanta and Athens. First impressions, based on four seasons of exploration at Bell Field, was that we had uncovered the first evidences of another log-tomb burial requiring tedious, meticulous troweling and recordation. We were afraid to leave the telltale indications of a fresh burial in situ at the end of a season--amateur collectors and vandals might come in and wreck the whole feature. It had happened to us before over night. So a five by ten foot slot excavation was cut rapidly into the north profile face for a check.

Immediately new complications arose. New log impressions appeared at a level nearly one foot higher than those initially exposed. The trend of the decomposed logs was diagonally northwest-southeast in the new cut and on into the unexcavated mound section. If we had a collapsed log-tomb, it was obviously much larger and different in several particulars from any previously found. For one thing, the logs were larger, from six to eight inches in diameter whereas only sapling size showed in typical Dallas models, and there was evidence that some logs were split into boards or staves. One sample had been identified as cedar by Forestry experts in Athens. Moreover, the logs here were remarkably preserved, the moulds of the decomposed members revealed the original bark, knots, contours, never before seen in any of the 15 log-tombs found in the upper layers of the mound. Finally some entirely new characteristics were observed. A powdery black substance covered portions of the logs--macroscopic examination led us to speculate these might be relic of prehistoric termite dust! Also, there were occasional patches of a

reddish-brown organic mold which could be decomposed bark. Samples were taken for study by Forestry and entomologists.

Exposure of the individual log moulds was complicated by the fact that there were at least two layers of logs, with evidence of down-warping under the weight of the heavy overburden of dark gumbo clay. The gumbo fitted around and grouted into the interstices of the warped and twisted timbers like a viscous rubber plate.

Continued troweling to the East, downslope, revealed additional log moulds paralleling those initially found. The anticipated "log-tomb" was expanding into all balks of the unexcavated moundfill...we speculated whether this could be one of the few mass burials mentioned in some of the Tennessee accounts.

On August 29, we troweled through the dark gumbo envelope and powdery logs and exposed a stratum of light sandy loam containing scattered midden, badly deteriorated animal bones, pottery, fire-cracked rocks, ash and charcoal. In the corner of the slot-trench we troweled out a cooking fire or hearth and in the surrounding ash appeared more of the lumpy, starchy material first seen in the more extensive ash beds catalogued as Feature #90. The evidence seemed to point to only one conclusion--this had to be some sort of midden accumulation in situ or the sanded floor of a structure. The "log-tomb" which had assumed such exciting proportions was now entirely comprehensible as a collapsed structure. Belatedly the catalogue was changed to show Structure #14 instead of Feature #92. At the end of the season we could only cover the moldy logs with plastic and spoil dirt. Six feet of mound overburden on all sides would have to be removed in 1971 before the true nature and extent of Structure #14 could become known.

Regarding the foregoing, an interesting excerpt from the closing diary of August 29: "...This did explain a number of features which had made this particular "log-tomb" different from all others previously encountered. All the logs had fallen inside, collapsed over the sandy floor section and were completely mantled by the blue gumbo fill. It is still true that this structure must have been on the shallow eastern slope of the yellow clay platform on which Structure #12 was being uncovered. It is still perfectly possible that there are other structures we have not contacted on the same building level. It is the first time we have found the whole deteriorated mesh of collapsed walls in place." As this was written in August, 1970, the hindsight of 1971 explorations makes the words almost prophetic. Structure #12 was to be exposed and recognized as an earth lodge, with indications of other such structures around and under it. And Structure #14 must also be an earth lodge, probably two levels of earth lodges with an intervening dark gumbo roof sod telescoped together at the base of the mound.

One consequence of the new evidence uncovered at Structure #14: it made it possible to entertain again the working hypothesis that all the log-tombs with Dallas mortuary ware were intrusive from upper mound occupations. Thus far we had not found a single exception, although Feature #92 at first regarded as a collapsed, warped log-tomb, most certainly belonged to the same occupation as Structure #12 in the base of the mound. After six seasons in 1971, there is still no clue as to what the Pre-Dallas people did with their dead...not even a scrap of bone, calcined or otherwise.

We leave to the account of the 1971 excavations, picking up where we left off in September, 1970, more precise descriptions of the stratigraphy uncovered by deepening the cut in the East entry trench, and also much better

informed by the knowledge that there were three earth lodge occupations at mound base and a probable change and evolution into wattle and daub structures represented in the sequence of buildings assigned to Structure #8 A, B, C.

For instance, for four seasons of exploration of wattle and daub houses the dark gumbo was used consistently as mound fill and base platform construction for civic or religious structures on the successive mound summits. The gumbo separating the two log layers in Structure #14, however, was not mound fill, it was the roof sod of an earthlodge, which when collapsed naturally fitted the underpinning and meshed leaning wall posts like a glove. More detailed data from excavation of the floors and bases of the earth lodges in the coming season may provide the answer as to why there is so much yellow clay enveloping Structure #14 and streaming downslope for ten feet or more where it is being exposed in the base of cut to the East entry trench, and where it is mantled by the extensive ash beds and cooking indications described for Features #90 and #91. In the wattle and daub construction system such yellow clay was used for plastering both the interior and exterior wattles of split cane. It was not clear to us in 1970, nor for that matter did the explanation occur until well through the 1971 season, but evidently there were some important modifications and adjustments in the use of critical building materials in the shift from earth lodge construction to wattle and daub buildings.

Features #90 and #91 at the foot of an earlier mound, now sealed in and incorporated in subsequent mound constructions, would seem to indicate the use of these cooking arrangements during a period of mound construction. Study of the lines of mound overfill in the north face or profile seem to favor this interpretation. Yet our explanation for Structure #1, the eight by ten structure with floor mats and piles of roasting ears was that this

could have been a small storage place for ritual food used in the ceremonial structures on top....in this case Structures #4 and #5, the first untruncated level at Bell Field. Midden piles and ash beds around the east margin of Structure #3 were to occupy us during 1971, and Structure #3 is covered with 12 inches or more of waterlaid sand which appears to be cascading down a steep gumbo ramp leading to either Structure #6 building level or the first truncate mound occupation. Indications were consistent during the careful troweling of house floors--Structures #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #11--that these premises were kept clean and sacrosanct; this in contrast to the rather heavy deposits of animal bone, corn and beans, plum pits, ash and charcoal at the foot of the mounds. The relation of these structures on apron-like extensions of the main mound and the buildings on the summits is one of the key problems to investigate in future explorations at Bell Field.

In late August final work on Features #90 and #91, the following notes are pertinent: "... Continuing excavation of Feature #91. By noon this large ash bed has been troweled down another five to six inches. Note several large sherds, with some striking examples of cord-marked ware, both shell and grit-tempered. Also several leg bones of a large bird...a few traces of fresh water shell (Unio?). The base of the ash bed at several points seems to expose a downslope trend of yellow loam which forms the base of cut in the west end of the axis trench." And the final observations on the large roasting pit, Feature #90: "... A crew of student volunteers continued work on the large roasting pit, exposing the fired clay base. Several large animal bones uncovered today, some definitely deer bones... others a large mammal, probably bear. The contours of the presumptive roasting pit are uneven and the distribution of the hypothetical clay lining is broken. The function of the central pit, filled with fired clay daub is

not clear. The presence of animal remains, apparently being roasted in situ, still hints that this feature was a large community cooking area being utilized in the interval of mound construction when the mound to Structure #8 was in process of construction."

The relation of Features #90 and #91 to Structure #14, and further upslope Structures #8C and #12 is crucial. The prime determination here came late in 1971, but the following excerpt from the notes of August 26, 1970, are significant: "Returning to Feature #91, basal cut has been deepened on an average of five to six inches throughout the E40-E50 panel. It is apparent now that this large ash pit was present through its west margins....extending east to where the ash pit cut through the red fired floor section of Structure #3, shows for six feet or more underneath a deposit of unfired yellow daub and the overlying west section of the large roasting pit, Feature #90. This extended and deepened excavation through the ash pit indicates that this large cooking area was in situ and functioning at a period of mound history approximately coeval with the east slope of a yellow clay platform which could be an extension some 40 feet eastward of the same building level on which the deeply depressed floor of Structure #12 was inset....It is evident that Structure #14 is intrusive (or set in) this east platform extension of yellow clay...The implication is that the large ash pit and its in place cooking arrangements were episodes occurring during this early period of mound construction. The tapering lens of the gumbo mantles the almost pure wood ash composition for a distance of five feet and this pencil-like extension of mound fill is in turn overlain with waterlaid laminae of wood ash. This would mean that the large wood ash pit with its abundant evidences of cooking was functioning during the actual period of

mound construction." (see north profile, East axis.)

On the last day at the dig in 1970, in troweling the base of cut where a small slot trench had been made through the floor of Structure #3 at the base of the north profile balk, four new postmoulds were brought out...these are 12 by 14 inches below the plastic still covering the baked clay floor of Structure #3. The new post indications run from underneath Structure #3 slightly north, lost under the north profile. This was catalogued as Structure #15. It was brought out on the yellow clay loam. Structure #15, a foot under Structure #3, may well be one of the earliest uncovered at Bell Field. It remains in future mound base exploration to determine its relations with the earth lodges #12, #14, and others. The notes for August 30 close with the following observation. "...The ash bed shows continuous deposition of mixed ash, charcoal, sand, the same midden to base of cut which is an extended sheet of yellow clay loam all the way to station E40. The same yellow clay loam is the floor of Structure #15."

In the account of Bell Field explorations in 1970 thus far most of the discussion relates to finds made incident to reopening and deepening the original cut to the East axis trench. Efforts to work on the Structure #12 excavation were most frustrating due to continued heavy rains during July and part of August. Actually we probably lost nearly half of the six week digging period due to flooding. Structure #12 was either pumped out or bailed out at least three times, a painful process as each operation must result in some erosion and damage to the partially exposed saucer and rim of the exposed southwest corner of the structure. Also we were precluded from expanding the excavation to uncover Structure #12 because the whole east section still had mound fill and floor deposits of Structures #8B and #8C to

consider. The southeast quadrant of the mound had been stopped down on the Structure #8B level at the end of the 1968 season and still remained in status quo. A profile balk from the southwest correlation trench (Correlation Trench #1) still stood athwart the Structure #8 platform for referencing the ambiguous stratigraphy of Structure #8. This was recut to expose key strata and the platform west toward Structure #12 was troweled down. This profile panel revealed charcoal, ash, and evidences of some localized burning in the southeast quadrant of Structure #8B. We obtained two carbon samples from charcoal located some ten feet apart. These provided two carbon dates of 1280 A. D. for Structure #8B a few months later when analyzed by the Geochronology Laboratory at the University of Georgia. The floor sand to Structure #8B, as shown in the balk profile, was deep, between 12 to 14 inches of brownish sand with whiter sand appearing in narrow lenses in the deeper middle zone. The evidences of burning were confined to a strip about 10 feet wide in the west end of profile; no widespread occurrence indicated a total conflagration such as had consumed the council house (Structure #4).

The floor deposit to Structure #8B was also troweled down along the base of the East axis profile, toward the point where all mound strata dipped down where the log-profile burial pit #13 had cut through Structure #6, as well as Structure #8, really all the way down to the southwest rim platform of Structure #12 as later observed. Along the southwest rim from the original corner exposure, log slots were revealed for the leaning wall posts, and a narrow ditch separating Structure #12 from Structure #13 to the west. Structure #13 rose sharply in the corner where the west axis balk joined the East axis profile.

Structure #13 emerged as a dome-like rise lost in the balk of the East-West axis profile and the backdrop of unexcavated mound to the south and west. A pie-shaped segment about eight feet in diameter, deeply mantled in heavily impregnated sand with iron precipitates, over an underlying dark gumbo. The sandy leached layer yielded a few scattered sherds, mostly plain grit or shell tempered, but with one or two stamped and a red on buff reminiscent of the Hiwassee series. The sand layer swept sharply down, waterlaid and laminated, toward the juncture with Structure #12. Five postmoulds, six to eight inches in diameter, and averaging 12 to 14 inches apart, were exposed running south or slightly WSW from the East profile balk, hugging the lower slope of the sandy slope. Two postmoulds came out in basal troweling of the East balk, indicating the trend of a structure north and northwest through the balk into the north grid, converging on the southwest corner section of Structure #9. So much critical building layers are sealed in the East balk, four feet wide at base at least, that we could only conjecture the stratigraphic relations of Structure #13 to Structure #9. We may add a posthumous note from the 1971 excavations at this point to remark that another structure, Structure 18, a companion earthlodge to the west of Structure #12, was partially exposed under dark gumbo under Structure #13. Also the 1971 exploration incident to cutting down the balk between #13 and #9 would disclose some interesting information on the relation of these two structures.

Toward the end of the digging season, when both Structure #12 excavation and the East axis approach trench were flooded, our small crew troweled the area of Structures #9, #10, and #11 in the north grid. The house patterns previously exposed in 1967-68 were opened up, with little additional data. The connecting passage between Structure #9 and #10 came out quite plainly; the connection, if any, between Structures #10 and #11 was as elusive as ever.

In summary of results for the 1970 field season, so limited in terms of personnel and time, some progress was achieved, particularly in revealing more features and structures in the 100 foot East-Axis approach trench. The earthlodges were beginning to obtrude into the picture of early mound history, although the full implications were still vaguely perceived.

The 1971 Field Season at Bell Field.

We arrived at Little Egypt Monday; July 5, after the holiday with an aluminum boat to negotiate the crossing of Talking Rock Creek to Bell Field. A heavy rainstorm necessitated parking the boat at the headquarters and staging area of the dam contractors. With clear weather in the morning the tent camp and cook shack were stabilized. We negotiated a permit with the Corps of Engineers to install a ferry across Talking Rock Creek; private boats, including fishermen's dugouts, had been excluded from the river. A temporary dock on Talking Rock was constructed with the aid of student volunteers and their supervisor, Larry Meier, from Atlanta. A new path through the heavy bamboo thicket approach to Bell Field was macheted, referred to by our student workers as our "Ho Chi Minh" trail.

It was July 7 before we could venture onto the mound site at Bell Field and inspect the revages of profiles and balks since the last field season in 1970. Rainfall of cloudburst proportions had filled all house site excavations. We began by trying to drain off the ponded water from the excavation to Structure #12. This was done by cutting a narrow ditch south to permit seepage into Correlation Trench #1. The operation got out all but about one foot of water, at which point the water level in Structure #12 excavation equalled that in the correlation trench and in the surrounding marsh around the mound periphery. This not only provided indication of the extent to which the mound field had silted up in recent centuries but also indicated that the water table had risen several feet due to the construction of a bridge dam providing access to Little Egypt from Sixtoe Field at the junction of the Coosawattee and Talking Rock. We also drained a ponded area in the

base of cut of the East axis entry trench, allowing water to run east to our deepest 1970 excavations at mound featheredge. This uncovered the soaked floors of Structures #3 and #15, exposed in 1970 and preserved under plastic covers.

A third key operation was to remove slump dirt from the seven by ten excavation, made in 1970, to uncover Structure #14. The north face of the sondage was recut to expose downslope elements of Structure #8, sandwiched between dark gumbo masses of moundfill. This should enable us to follow the outwash portions from upstage out onto the situs of Structures #3 and #15, and the strange occurrence of cooking pits and ash beds at the east feather-edge, described in 1970 field operations.

Across the platformed building area of Structure #8 A, B, C, the north face of the East-West axis profile was recut to expose all structural elements of Structure #8 in its three consecutive building stages. Also the remnant balk running SW-NE from Correlation Trench #1 was scraped again. This last operation exposed what were regarded as two parallel wall trenches to the two final stages of Structure #8. Indications regarding the earliest building were still obscured.

There were three alternate banded arrangements of yellow-tan daubing clay; dark sandy midden impregnated sandy floor deposit; dark, tough, stiff gumbo still present in most of the standing profile panels. A difficulty in consistent interpretation arose from the fact that the yellow clay lenses theoretically representing the collapsed walls of structures show broken and discontinuous, with floating lenses dispersed in the matrix of dark sand. The beds of sandy floor deposit varied enormously in thickness from thin penciled lenses to solid, homogeneous spreads 13 to 14 inches thick. The occupational

zone tentatively assigned to the intermediate building stage, Structure #8B, appeared to be three times thicker than that assigned to the beginning or final stages.

Another critical operation begun early in July was to reopen and recut a fresh profile along the south face to the East-West entry trench. This would provide a check on downslope features noted in the 1970 field study in studying the north face to the entry trench. Actually as a result of successive refacing of these profiles by now the entry trench was between fifteen and twenty feet wide instead of the original ten feet. The profile faces were irregular and sinuous due to slumpages at intervals of the 60 foot cut.

All in all the south face to entry trench provided a somewhat less ambiguous picture of the downslope indications of aprons and terminal mound features than did the north face. In following the description of 1971 exploration in the East-West axis trench frequent reference to the draught of the south profile will be necessary.

Re afternoon, July 13, the south panel exhibited downslope sand, burned cane, fired briquettes, et. al., representing no less than four truncated or terminal mounds. The lowest occurrence consisted of waterlaid sand which converged onto and enveloped the fired floor section of Structure #3. Above that the next downslope element consisted of a mantle of charred reeds. Then a third level shows orange fired clay, daub, some sand, and animal bone in profile confluent with the layer of fired briquettes. The fourth and uppermost profile level is the charcoal laden strip with a series of postmoulds and pits intruding into the lower levels. One of the intrusive postmoulds was filled with a mass of charred beans and corn, showing up in cross-section. From these indications Structure #3 was early regarded as belonging to the

first of the terminal or truncate mounds at Bell Field--possibly to the mound summit occupation to which the house unit series, Structures #6, #7, #4 and #5 belonged.

The finding of two heavily fired cooking areas in the floor section of Structure #3 plus the fact of heavy midden accumulation enveloping these features soon implied we had two burned structures overlapping within the limits assigned to Structure #3. In clearing the west margin in base of cut to the axis trench, the heavily fired, brightly colored hardpan was observed to drop off to a softer, marbelized soil zone containing fragments of burned daub and some local deposits probably dumped from the adjoining residence. The south profile panel exhibits 12 to 14 inches of waterlaid sand adhering closely to the burned floor section. The situation seemed explicable on the view that the burned floor section had hardly cooled when there was a heavy flood with storm waters coursing down the nearby mound slope onto the conflagration area.

In troweling the midden mantle over and around the first hearth uncovered in Structure #3, partially covered by the standing south profile, two or three large potsherds were exposed belonging to a shell tempered cord-marked vessel, possibly restorable. A well-preserved charred ear of corn with festered kernel rows intact was nearby. Also a fine polished bone awl made from the cannon bone of a deer was recovered. Bone tools have been a rarity at Bell Field even in the later Dallas occupation.

In late July, we began removing soil samples from the floor midden of Structure #3 for analysis by Kent Schneider. The area was gridded in two foot squares with large spalled sections of midden removed to minimize damage to seeds and plant remains. Most of the most heavily impregnated remains came from around the second hearth area enveloped in about two inches of midden.

Efforts to expose the west wall continuity were frustrated by evidences of erosion and redistributed midden, possibly accruing from more than one residence. By August, another extensive ash bed was uncovered extending over the whole base of cut from north to south profiles. Archie Smith made a plane table recordation of all postmoulds exposed to date, plus hearths and intrusive pit features. The evidence of two overlapping structures, possibly utilizing some of the same postmoulds in rebuilding, increased. At the end of the 1971 season, Structure #3 was still confused in interpretation; complete resolution might come with the final uncovering of the remaining half of the structure or structures extending back under the south profile. Structure #3 is important, indicated to be a large house site either on the east mound feather-edge or on an apron to one of the earlier terminal or truncate mounds. The congested remains of domestic cooking and activity here are in sharp contrast to the comparative sparseness of materials found with structures located on the summit of the mound.

We return to the complex problem of clearing the stratified floors of consecutive building activity of Structure #8. By July 15, the rainy weather had subsided permitting resumption of work. We began horizontal stripping of the "apron" extending southeast from Structure #8, following the lensed indications exposed in the southwest balk that runs across the dark sand floor to join with the balk along the East-West coordinate. This 12 by 14 inches of dark sandy floor deposit came out under partially layered yellow loam daubing clay collapsed over the floor and assigned to Structure #8B. Actually, the profile suggested there might be a fusion of floor elements belonging to two stages of Structure #8 in places where the collapsed yellow daub did not cover but was broken off and discontinuous. On indications of perceived

depth of floor deposits exhibited in the standing profile Structure #8B floor accumulation appeared two to three times thicker and would thus represent a considerably longer occupation than the appraised beginning and ending of this building succession. Until the 12-14 inch floor deposit of the intermediate Structure #8B could be removed no precise data were available on Structure #8C. The upper stratified panel showed consistently that after the final occupation of Structure #8 building succession dark gumbo intervened as moundfill before Structure #6 was built--this phase was exposed in the 4 unit building construction of Structure #6, #7, #4 and #5 in field seasons of 1965, 1966, and 1967. The two or more feet of gumbo mound fill had been truncated by modern cultivation and high stage flooding and erosion. John Wear, a local collector at Fairmount, Georgia, recovered pottery and other Dallas mortuary objects washed out of 22 burials exposed by a heavy flood some years before the University of Georgia exploration began in 1965. The shells of some of these burial features with disturbed and redeposited bones were found in the initial horizontal summit excavations. These burials were intrusive through dark gumbo mound fill, and must have been inserted from one of the truncated or "terminal" mound occupations.

By Monday, July 19, considerable progress had been made in clearing the floor of Structure #8B. A well defined pattern or large postmoulds was exposed along the East or SSE margin of the platform area, extending from the confluence with the east axis balk where another cornering showed the northeast wall continuity trending across the axis balk into the north grid. The postmoulds to the wall continuities were eight inches wide. A partial wall trench was associated with the wall pattern in the southwest side but could not be followed along the southeast and was not to be defined in the eventual uncovering of the wall pattern in the north grid. These vertical post

supports appeared more substantial than those found in most early core-mound structures, although some of the well-preserved collapsed logs in Structure #14 were comparable.

The southwest balk was finally removed and the whole floor section of Structure #8B between the exposed wall lines was removed to a depth varying between 12 to 14 inches. The floor sand was dark with organic stain with considerably more midden and potsherds contained than had been encountered in troweling floor sections of Structures #9, #10, and #11. The contextual collection was yielding by August over 120 sherds. Along with some shell-tempered plain and cord-marked ware was a marked complement of grit-tempered pottery. Individual sherds showed frequent occurrences of Woodstock Complicated along with check stamped and simple stamped specimens attributable to a Cartersville horizon. This anomaly was tentatively explained on the assumption that the floor sand had been brought in from the known village area located on a ridge toward the West in Bell Field, which had been test-pitted in 1967, and was further pen-pointed by cuts made by heavy machinery provided by Messrs. Brown and Volk of the Ledbetter contracting firm of Rome, Georgia.

The presence of a number of sizeable lenses of dark gumbo clay interlarding brown sand and yellow daub clay in the profile record of collapsed structures was another aberrant feature opposed to our general theory of special use of clays for specific building purposes--heretofore this dark gumbo was the material for moundfill and house platforms. In the lower balk panels across Structure #8, a heavy and broken disposition of this clay was becoming unaccountable under the theory. Also noted throughout about 20 feet of the southeast wall to Structure #8B showed the line of large posts, around 18 to 20 inches apart, to be encased in dark gumbo at base. This collar or ridge

was about three to five inches thick and entirely surrounded each of the posts. The postmoulds averaged 12 inches in diameter; a varie-colored core representing the decomposed post insert averaged eight inches. These substantial supports might have required additional strengthening in the friable brown sand filling the saucered floor and the clay collar or mantle on the saucer rim would serve very well.

A significant note in the diary of July 19 was to take on great importance in discoveries to be made in August and early September: "...However, there are other dendritic, floating masses of this same gumbo in the middle floor section not seen to be associated with any interior post arrangement, mantling the dark brown sand in part and also in turn partly enveloped by the same dark sand on the slopes."

Another observation that relates to the recurring problem of cause and method of destruction of structures is found in this note from the diary of July 19: "Noteworthy is the frequent presence of small, discrete masses of unfired clay daub scattered throughout the dark brown sand. Actually fired daub is almost absent except in small particles and fingers in the south grid section of the collapsed Structure #8B. Charcoal of finger size, some of it is definitely charred split reeds, occurs in fair abundance but is diffusely spread throughout the sandy matrix. Nowhere does the brown sand appear to be baked or fire-clouded by local effects of conflagration. To sum up; the evidence for deliberate or ceremonial burning of Structure #8 is incomplete or inadequate...The constructional elements exhibited everywhere in profile, and exposed by horizontal clearing of the platformed building area, are all harmonious with the general supposition that this structure was ritually demolished rather than burned." However, a *nolle contendere* might be inserted here; the observed phenomenon could also be explainable as the result of an

accidental fire or perhaps even if ritual burning was attempted the performance was not very efficient. Some of the charcoal and ash were sufficiently concentrated to permit a good Carbon 14 sample to be catalogued from this provenience. Two Carbon 14 dates came from two distinct sections of the 12 to 14 inch brown sand floor deposit to Structure #8B; both gave 1280 years A. D.

In continued troweling and shaving operations in the immediate north grid beyond the East-West balk standing the workers encountered another red-fired hearth, partially under the standing balk. This would make at least four such hearths high-lighted by brilliant fire-clouding uncovered in the total floor area assignable to Structure #8.

The difficulties of interpreting stratigraphy in the deepening soil removal to seek for the hypothetical Structure #8C are indicated by the following observation recorded for July 23: ".....This morning we concentrated on the house platform area of Structure #8 between the SW balk and the 1970 excavation for Structure #12. This troweling removed a light colored tan sand and basal elements of the dark brown sand which may represent some mixing of levels attributed to Structure #8B and #8C. The mound fill of gumbo at completion of this stage of mound building just prior to the episode related to consecutive buildings catalogued as Structure #8 was very uneven, undulatory, with shallows and pockets at frequent intervals. These inequalities in the primary floor level seem to have been filled with the light sand, considered to be derived from a local sandbar in the river, with much heavier sand fill brought in later from the nearby village. We have theorized this represents the first building stage of Structure #8, but actually have found no postmoulds associated with this light sand fill. Structure #8 may really have had only two building stages, although lenses of the yellow clay at the base of the dark brown organic sand and downslope streamers for fifteen feet argue for a more substantial structure."

Our fumbling efforts to uncover the floor section of the structure catalogued as Structure #8C were to be frustrated throughout August into September. In hind view the trouble was that we were still looking for another typical wattle and daub house with vertical wall posts and daubing and a moderately saucered or depressed floor. Beneath the brown sand floor mantle of Structure #8B, the dark gumbo dipped disconcertingly toward the west and the exposed section of Structure #12. As more work was done to uncover Structure #12, the radical difference in architectural scheme for this basic structure became more apparent and eventually we found evidences that Structure #8C was also a deeply saucered earthlodged athwart the collapsed and compacted debris of Structure #12.

The last week in July was a continuous downpour and it was August before we could pump and bail out the ponded water in the Structure #8-#12 excavation. Because of the rising water table in the mound field and in Correlation Trench #1 in the south grid, we changed our hydraulics and diked up the correlation trench with spoil dirt. A sump pump was found much quicker and more efficient to get the water out. As soon as the humped corner of Structure #12 emerged again, some important observations were made. The following from notes of August 5 give a note on the site description: "...The wall timbers are socketed into the exterior slope of the house platform and were subsequently sealed or locked in by packing clay around them. This much had been seen in 1968 when this same corner section of Structure #12 was first opened. The rim to the bowl shaped structure is two to three feet wide. The floor drops away and down at a sharp angle. Oxidized black deposit covers the interior of the building from the rim to the median exposed portions of the floor section. Thick slabs of decomposed bark, with some attenuated brownish fingerings of the same

material show throughout the jumbled mass of the collapsed building debris, over all a mantle of yellow clay loam of varying thickness, in some places a foot or more. The implication is that we have a totally different kind of structure from the wattle and daub constructions found in the latter mound building phase. Here we have indicated a bark-and-earth covered lodge, with leaning wall posts and roof supports, and a more deeply saucered floor. A strong interior system of posts and horizontal templets would be needed to support the heavy roof of dark gumbo turf."

Continued thunderstorms, inclement weather for north Georgia usually fairly dry during July and August, delayed work on uncovering Structure #12, but by mid-August much of the structure which lay in the south mound grid had been exposed. Initially it appeared the long axis would extend northeast into the north grid across the standing balk of the East-West axis; also it was clear the structure must be large, between 35 to 40 feet, and more work to remove this huge mass from its wrapping of moundfill than seemed possible with a small field crew and a constricted work season. Our friendly contractors, one of them an artist with a back hoe, appeared and peeled off most of the enveloping dark gumbo in the north grid, an enormous saving in man hours clearing sterile soil.

The relation of Structure #12 platform to the newly emerging platform of Structure #13 was cleared somewhat by the new work in exposing the southwest wall of Structure #12. Inasmuch as the bulk of Structure #13 manifestly extended back under the west mound excavation profile, a mass of stiff tough moundfill gumbo at least five feet high and extending back into the west half of the mound toward the natural levee of the river, we were definitely stopped from any ambitious plans of exposing Structure #13. By now our major priority

was the uncovering of the core mound base structures with Structure #12 as the central piece. The prospects were well stated in the conclusion of August 12 diary: "...Also it appears now that #13 mound fill base overlaps and grouts into the log slots of the earth lodge to Structure #12, fitting like a glove. Structure #13 also corners in the upslope beyond #12, extends into the west mound profile, runs through the East balk profile and evidently is overlain by Structure #9 in the north grid...We are beginning to wonder how much diagnostic material can be recovered from Structure #9 and #10, which overlie the large trashpile in the north grid (Feature #100 to be described). Since #13 is intermediate between #9 and #12 and is within the occupation range and probable carbon date of Structure #8, it will be interesting to see what material and date is obtained from the mobile extraction analysis of the Feature #100. We simply do not have time to contemplate any further exposure of Structure #13, as important as this building unit is seen to be in the constructional history at Bell Field."

A startling new development on August 15 was the initial discovery of what appeared to be an entire fresh collapsed earthlodge in place to the south of Structure #12, practically parallel with a two foot ditch between them. Unfortunately, the new structure was being exposed just underneath the highest remaining profile of the unexcavated mound in the south grid, selected as a datum point in current plane table recordation.

This most recent uncovered earth lodge will be Structure #17. Early troweling to expose the narrow ditch continuity separating Structure #12 and #17 was dead-ended at a median point in the southwest wall of Structure #12 where the intervening area between the two lodges was solidly sealed with yellow clay loam, with four eight to ten inch postmoulds strongly indicating some sort of passage or connection between the two lodges. The situation here

at the end of the 1971 season was reminiscent of the connecting passageway found between Structures #9 and #10. In troweling out the ditch fill and in preliminary shaving of the mantling dark gumbo over the yellow loam, several sherds were catalogued which were catalogued as contextual with the new building unit. These exhibited large, shell tempered, cord-marked specimens. Also noted one fine rim and body sherd of a shallow bowl painted red—a Hiwassee type?

As of August 21, the new developments appeared as follows: "...The exposed expanse of Structure #12 within the angle between standing balks is now entirely cleared exhibiting full detail of collapsed timbers and sod covering of the large earth lodge. The major development this week was the uncovering of another earth lodge catalogued as Structure #17 immediately to the south or southwest of Structure #12. A connecting passage with three or four large postmoulds marks the connector, along with the lining of yellow plastic clay in the passage floor extending out three feet on either side confluent with the twenty to twenty-four inch ditch which separated the two abutting structures. The slots for the encased wall leaning logs appear slanting in the north and south sides of the platforms for Structures #12 and #17 respectively. The concentration of impervious yellow clay around the connecting passage makes sense in the functional necessity for strengthening this critical area against storm water erosion down the steep slopes of the adjacent sod covered lodges. Vis a vis Structure #12, Structure #17 appears across the narrow dividing fissure showing similar constructional features except for the presence of the presumptive spread of floor mats (or bark)."

Another important discovery coming out about the same time as the initial exposure of #17 had to do with the uncovering of a narrow segment of what appeared to be another yellow loam matrix with decomposed logs showing under

dark gumbo fill beneath the cornered slope section of Structure #13. A ten foot square sector above the southeast corner portion of Structure #13 was cut down along this extension of the East-West coordinate profile to uncover evidences of another earth lodge abutting Structure #12 to the west and extending back under the standing profile of the unexcavated mound. This structure was catalogued as Structure #18. Only enough of it could be exhibited in the narrowing field season to identify it as a new earth lodge entity separated from Structure #12 by a narrow ditch.

A summary observation on the three juxtaposed earth lodges--Structures #12, #17, and #18--is provided in the description of August 24 diary: "...Saturday was relatively quiet spent in digging the two feet or more of domed gumbo fill from over the collapsed logs and clay sod of Structure #18. Also recordation of the southwest balk over Structure #8 now cut down to junction with the collapsed roof debris of Structure #8C. At this writing, the exposed corner section of Structure #18 is seen to be separated from Structure #12 by a small ditch, 12 to 14 inches wide, with some of the small post slots showing in the side of the house platform. The corresponding ditch between Structure #18 and #17 is not as sharply defined in the eroded clay, but is present, extending back under the southwest mound profile still standing. Some interesting observations on the exposed portion of Structure #18: a curious divide between the contrasting dark log mould and decayed bark mantling the lower platform slope to the post slots in the side and the yellow clay massed above. Noted also the remarkable heavy precipitation of iron oxides over the decomposed logs and bark....reminds one of the mantle of "red paint" covering burials in various archeological contexts going back to the Paleolithic. Also two small limestone geodes or concretions imbedded in the collapsed clay of the roof and

walls to Structure #18...a phenomenon observed before at Bell Field--raises the question as to whether these were brought in and accidentally included with subsequent coating of iron precipitates to form a concretion.

"One marvels at the compacted earthlodges in the basal and core section of the mound. Here Structures #12, #18 and #17 are squashed down together so compactly as if they had collided head on and settled down together in a completely bashed condition on their platform seats, with only the narrow ditch platform between them. Structures #12 and #17 seem to have a definite connecting passage between them--none such as yet demonstrated between #12 and #18.

"Another query has to do with the drainage downslope from the obliquely slanted sod roofs so close together, with only the narrow ditch between to carry off storm water. One could begin to understand why the adjacent corner sections of Structures #12 and #17 are higher than the rest of the external wall with a marked slump in the middle--this would facilitate accelerated downslope drainage, but would seem to create erosion problems."

One also wonders about the durability and relative stability of the earth lodges due to termites and wood decay. Where the log moulds are beautifully preserved under solid gumbo which seals them in and grouts into the smallest contours and interstices we observe termite action and what appears to be the coprolites of earthworms in profusion. Here we have some problems for the biologists and forestry research.

Archeological folklore asserts that some of the most important discoveries are made in the fading hours of a scheduled field season. Removal of overburden mound fill gumbo in the northeast quadrant of the mound to facilitate search for extension of earth lodge Structures #12 and #8C brought new indications of

possible satellites. One of these was a saucered floor with at least one orange-fired hearth and an eroded rim, exposed in the path of the northeast extension or projection of Structures #12 and #8C. This was only partially exposed and left for another field season as our main concern and priority remained the central structures, #8C and #12 underneath. It was catalogued as Structure #20.

To add to the confusion and the enormous problem of completing the survey of mounds at Bell Field toward the end of August, further evidence was found indicating the presence of an earth lodge immediately beneath Structure #12. That #12 overlaid an earlier structure had been ascertained in 1970 when a small test was put down along the East-West profile where the log tomb Burial #13 was intrusive. The new indication came in deepening a narrow slot cut in front of Structure #14, exposing a yellow clay rim and saucer with compressed bank in penciled downsweep. This structure has been catalogued as Structure #21. The stratigraphic succession now shows three superimposed and highly compressed collapsed lodges represented by Structures #8C and #12, and now #21. Only one rimsherd was found in the narrow cut into Structure #21—an interesting specimen reminiscent of Macon Plateau pottery exhibiting a strap handle with nodal protuberances.

Constructional history at Bell Field now indicates a mound base occurrence of at least three earth lodge occupations, with evidence of satellite structures on all sides. The presence of earth lodges extending out into the northeast quadrant increases the likelihood that still more of these lie under the unexcavated northwest and southwest quadrants. Structures #13 and #18 are already indicative of their presence. Speculation arises as to whether the presently exhibited multiple occurrences represent a special ceremonial group enveloped in the expanding mound, or whether perhaps there

was a settlement of people who lived at the junction of the Coosawatee and Talking Rock with most of the village erased or eroded beyond archeological recognition in recent years.

By September the discovery of multiple and successive earth lodge levels at the base of the Bell Field mound led to the decision to continue exploration even though this meant drawing more heavily on laboratory funds usually preserved for analysis and laboratory operations during the balance of the fiscal year. With the extension of the work and the arrival of four graduate students plus the valuable assistance of volunteers from Shorter College, led by their Anthropology instructor, Pat Garrow, the job of exposing the full extent of Structures #12 and #8C was resumed. Messrs. Odell Plott and Brown, our contractor friends, used a bulldozer and backhoe to clear away more of the overburden of gumbo mound fill in the north grid and on both east and south approaches to the mound. Particularly to the south of the mound toward the trail which led to Talking Rock Creek the newly exposed terrain freed from heavy vegetative cover made possible some valuable new profiles through the village area. The strongest village concentration from profile indications appeared to be confluent with the south grid of the mound, extending from the 1967-68 XUA dig where Late Dallas and mixed Lamaroid materials predominated for fifty yards. As one moves south down the higher ground and studies the bulldozer cuts into the deep alluvial deposits the impression grows that most of the occupation was confined to the high ridge area bordering on the natural levees. Approaching the ferry at Talking Rock the fluvial deposits were nine to ten feet deep without any evidence of occupation. Talking Rock Creek must have moved steadily south from the Bell Field mound and village concentration toward the high ground and natural levee of Little Egypt.

Another exposure of village midden over heavy dark gumbo and yellow clay occurs in a bulldozed clearing about 100 yards east of the mound, made just off the field road across Bell Field. Initial examination shows an early village concentration with Middle to Late Woodland diagnostics. This could be the approximate source of the older pottery brought in with building materials in house construction on Bell Field mound. Emphasis in the text has been on the specificity of soil character in dark gumbo moundfill--and earlier as sod roofing to the earth lodges--the consistent application of a distinctive yellow clay for plastering over cane wattles, and the sand used in building and maintaining floors. Among other things we need careful studies of the chemical and physical properties of these key soils.

The first week in September was spent in clearing the apron area extending southeast from Structure #8 excavation. Some preliminary horizontal troweling had uncovered scattered postmoulds in this sector in prior survey and the notion was entertained that there might be a "porch" extension toward the East or Southeast similar to those described for Dallas structures in the Hiwassee Is. report. For several days tedious troweling operations did uncover a confused conglomeration of both dark gumbo and sandy loam patches with occasional inclusions of broken and fragmented clay daub, charcoal and ash, and infrequently potsherds. Postmoulds were few and scattered and formed no discernible pattern except for two or three in line with the two V-shaped wall trenches previously noted in the Southwest Balk profile over Structure #8, theoretically assigned to either another building episode of Structure A, B, C, or interior wall supports for Structure #8B. In reconciling piecemeal recordations for attenuated house patterns, we had never succeeded in recovering anything substantial except for Structure #8B. The hypothetical basal structure, Structure #8C, a will o' the wisp that eluded us for three seasons,

finally materialized in September and October as a deeply saucered, tightly telescoped, deep sandy floor hugging the severely corrugated and wrinkled dark clay roof sod of Structure #12.

The daub and charcoal and scattered midden in the apron-like extension immediately southeast of Structure 8 excavation appeared definitely redistributed and not in situ material from a burned structure--recall that earlier work in removing dark brown sandy floor deposits to #8B had disclosed evidence of localized burning. This general southeastern corner of Structure #8B was the conjectured source of the burned material in the "apron" extension. Also the relatively thin gumbo patches over sandy loam midden seemed to deepen as one progressed toward the mound escarpment and upper slope.

By the weekend, the situation began to clear and we were confronted with a new development of obvious importance. We were exposing successively at least three series of horizontal stringers of decomposed logs, varying from five to eight inches in diameter, disposed horizontally in three cribbed sets proceeding from the first perceptible dip to the "apron" of Structure #8. The first of these sets was the rim escarpment and downslope of Structure #8 building platform; the second, more completely exposed in the initial troweling, uncovered a beautiful array of well preserved, horizontally placed logs; the third tier of horizontal logs, only partially exposed, came out lower down slope, about five feet below the second series. These last were not so well preserved with more evidence of erosion or attrition. Our initial reaction to these exhibits of horizontal logs disposed in a broad arc of fifteen feet or more--the phenomenon may spread laterally to the SSE downslope in this quadrant of the mound as the survey unit is extended--was to identify them as log treads in a clay moulded stairway up the southeast approach to Bell Field mound.

However, there were some discrepancies with this hypothesis. The situation was somehow different from the author's experience years before at Ocmulgee, Mound C, where a striking clay enveloped, worn set of logs ascended from the mound base to the summit of the first mound. The arrangement of the logs on the southeast slope to Bell Field mound was not uniform; some overlapped and were set at an angle to other parallel members. Also the whole exposure exhibited a faceted arc, a cribiform aspect, with a much wider stairway than might have been expected leading to the summit of a Mississippian pyramid. When Joseph R. Caldwell visited the site his summation of the situation provided a totally different hypothesis. His view was that the overlapping horizontal log moulds was very similar to the extensive log cribbing he had found enveloping the slopes of the Tugalo mound. In the Tugalo situation the cribbed logs mantling the slopes of the mound, extending to the summit where a council house was found, evidently constituted an immense erosional control.... passage or access to the mound summit was not a factor.

It seems fairly evident that the three separate tiers of horizontal log emplacements belong to three different mound summit occupations. Also the surface stratigraphy would imply that these related to terminal or truncate occupations. The determination will be made in tracing the discrete log appearances north into the standing south profile of the East-West axis trench where we have described the downslope indications of truncated mound intervals. At present a large clay balk is maintained between the slot cuts exposing the logs and the East axis profile. Our prior commitment to the central earth lodge excavation unit will necessitate postponement of further exposure of the tiers of logs and determination of their chronological position in mound history.

Under this prime condition the most urgent need was to remove the balk which had stood since the 1970 season when the seven by ten slot cut was

made offset from the East axis trench to uncover Structure #14. A ten foot square area contained within this balk, as indicated by the panel profile, would provide data on several superimposed structures, i. e., Structure #6, Structure #8A, B, C, Structure #12, Structure #21, Structure #19, and Structure #14. In the backhoe scrapping of gumbo moundfill to remove overburden to the north and northeast of Structure #14, kept swaddled in plastic all during the 1970 season, we had partially uncovered indications of another earth lodge (Structure #20)...the location is about thirty feet immediately north of the exposed portions of Structure #12. Structure #20 exhibited fire-clouded red-orange shoulders to the saucered interior. The rim section appeared to be partially exposed in the north extension and is separated by a two foot ditch from what is presently figured to be the north continuity of Structure #14. This is very tentative, however, as Structure #14 has received little attention this field season. It is really two overlapping structures and the relation of these to Structures #12 and #8C, and #21 is still obscured. If a V-shaped ditch is confirmed between #14 and #20, similar to that between #12, #17, and #18, then we have a seeming congestion of earthlodges in the northeast quadrant of the mound. The pattern of a building complex of four conjoined or nucleated houses has begun to emerge from the uncovering of structures on successive mound summits--but earth lodges appear to be mushrooming all over the place.

Note some new catalogue numbers for features in the south profile to the East entry trench. Features 97 and 98 are intrusive pits from the upper building level and occupation zone (Structure #16). This floor section (Structure #16) partially troweled by a group of Shorter College students exhibits a mantled distribution of charred beans and corn, including one unusual posthole

cross-sectioned in the standing profile filled with charred plant material. Feature #101 refers to the mantle of charred reeds showing in the south profile, deposited on a sharply dipping shoulder probably correlated with a log cribiform series on the southeast apron belonging to a truncate mound. Bright red-fired clay daub shows over 12 to 14 inches of water-laid sand deposited over the baked floor hard pan of Structure #3. Possibly this uniform rubble of fired clay briquettes should also have a catalogue number, but we are still uncertain whether we have here a burned building on an apron extension of a truncate mound, or whether the burned debris was transported or shoved downslope from a ritual conflagration on the summit of the mound. The problem can only be resolved after Structure #16 is explored, and after the cribbed logs are dealt with.

By the weekend of September 11, progress was being made in exposing more of Structure #12, although persistent difficulty was experienced in distinguishing elements of the telescoped floor of #8C. The south or southeast corner section, some 32 feet east of the initial corner exposed, was the center of attention. Graduate students working in this area made a spectacular find--an immense, presumptively, human coprolite embedded in sandy loam floor. The deposit specimen was five inches long and about one and one-half inches wide, preserved in the gumbo close to the yellow loam. Whether the coprolite was deposited before or after the collapse of the sod roof was a question. In aftermath, the question becomes more problematical: did this uncouth individual defecate on the sod roof of Structure #12 or on the sandy floor of Structure #8C? In any event, the specimen should help to evaluate the kind of food ingested by the earth lodge people. So far in peeling the gumbo clay from the sandy floor very little midden of any kind has been catalogued. Note two large

potsherds of sand or small grit tempered pottery with sharp cord impressions from clearing operations. Both sand and grit-tempered cordmarked have shown at intervals....the grit-tempered cordmarked is very similar to type sherds of early Savannah found on the Georgia coast. A finely burnished plain sherd, both grit and shell tempered again, could belong to corresponding Savannah or Hiwassee Island series.

September ended with an equinoctial storm that nearly blew our camp into Talking Rock Creek. Work was resumed with a small crew, October 1. Stevenson and Combs were visitors to the dig from South Carolina. Stevenson, with years of experience in Missouri Basin archeology, knows Plains type lodges, and the occurrence of southeastern types, as at Ocmulgee so similar to Pawnee models, has intrigued him. They assisted in the removal of a foot square pedestaled section of the compressed black carbonized material from an exposed floor section near the northwest rim of Structure #12. Also another square cut out exhibiting yellow clay daubing enveloping a wide net of split cane....this latter presumably from its position would be a section of interior wall daubing that collapsed before the sod roof fell in and enveloped it.

At different times as particularly well-preserved sections were exposed, note reference is to what appears quite definitely to be floor mats or matting. On other occasions the compressed black material seems to be decomposed bark. As more of the floor section is cleared the impression grows that both bark and some woven material are present. It is quite plausible, for instance, that the bark sheathing supports the heavy gumbo roof sod, which falls down in patches in the collapsed lodge onto a sandy, mat-covered floor.

It was the first week in October when we finally accepted the conclusion that the sandy loam with many scattered small interior postmoulds was really

the floor of the long sought Structure #8C pressed down skin tight onto the collapsed gumbo roof of Structure #12. In places along the west corner and side first discovered, we had really uncovered portions of Structure #12, and had partially uncovered the floor section in 1970 and 1971. Various telltale clues help to make the decision. Along the northwest rim to the saucered floor, for example, two sharply angled postmoulds obtruded from the floor of Structure #12 clearly inside the rim section of that structure. The solidified matrix within the original post slots contained the pebbly excretions of earthworms. We had found prehistoric termite dust among the fallen decomposed logs, but this phenomenon was even more startling. Dr. Reines from Forestry at the University visited the site to observe the decomposed logs, but the earthworm phenomenon will require a biological specialist. A few sherds catalogued from the sand mantle and ascribed to Structure #12 are now regarded as belonging to Structure #8C. Again observed the occurrence of a characteristic grit or sand tempered ware with fine cord-marking, strikingly like collections made by the University field party at St. Catherine's Island in 1970. Burnished or smoothed plain occurs with both sand, grit or shell. A roughened type is reminiscent of a variety occurring in north Georgia chronologically all the way from Etowah to Lamar.

A special slot trench, two feet wide, was cut as a traverse from southeast to northwest across the median section of the telescoped, collapsed structures #8C and #12 to record in detail the confusing maze of interlarded building soils compressed in this zone. Discussion of this profile detail and other illustrations in the following section on "Structures" will summarize our conclusions.

Also in late October, we exposed a large refuse heap in the north grid just inside the west wall of Structure #10. Dark Gumbo mound fill supporting

Structure #10 completely mantled and enveloped the huge refuse heap to a depth of over two feet. This large refuse pile, around eight feet in diameter at base and at least three feet high, was catalogued as Feature #100.

Feature #100 is really an important find from several points of view. First, the magnitude of the refuse pile, its shape and disposition, the nature of its contents and the cultural implications. Second, it should provide another valuable Carbon 14 sample possibly assignable to the earth lodge occupation. The apex of this magnificent heap first appeared during troweling operations on the sandy floor of Structure #10, exposed just within the west wall and corner section with two eight inch postmoulds intrusive into the west flank. On the crown were catalogued some small potsherds, some plain poorly fired ware, with diffuse calcined bone, ash and charcoal. The first idea was that the impressive conical pile was some sort of neat, ordered refuse accumulation and the hypothesis was entertained that ceremonial preservation of sweepings from religious structures was indicated. When the pile--one might say mound--was divided into quadrants, and one quadrant was troweled down in two inch arbitrary layers, some interesting details were exhibited. The profiles showed clearly that the refuse pile was not the usual midden accumulation, but was almost totally composed of wood ash. Small fragments of charcoal, flecks of a whitish substance possibly calcined bone, but rather minute and strangely fragmented, with very scant remains of bone or shell or other organic remains that could be detected macroscopically. About a foot down from the top enveloped in the wood ash a conical heap of fired red clay, definitely not daub clay or briquettes, tentatively identified as the broken rubble from a hearth or fire basin such as had been found in structures, Structures #8 and #9. This interpretation would favor the notion of ritual

disposal of sacred ashes and hearths rather than the scrupulous ceremonial sweeping of sacrosanct floors. Fifteen soil samples were taken from one top quadrant and will be analyzed by Kent Schneider in his organic extractor in the Archeology Laboratory. If the theory is right, then Feature #100 should provide some contrasting data with the rich midden accessions from the large widespread ash beds around the east wall margins of Structure #3 in the East entry trench. One is reminded that southeastern ethnography documents the custom of both Cherokees and Muskogean tribes to move their sacred fires when resettling and to maintain perpetual fires.

An anomalous feature of the huge ash heap deserves attention. This is best described from the on the scene account of October 30-31, one of the last days of the 1971 field season manned by volunteer student workers: ". We are giving some final attention to the remarkable ash heap, Feature #100. On Saturday three members of the group scraped and cleared the north flank of the conical pile to uncover details of the stone uprights partially buried in the edge of the heap. These stones are pedestaled under supporting gumbo at the northeast margin of the huge ash pile. An additional flat spatulate stone about two by eight inches leans against the slope of the ash pile two feet from the other stones. The stones are bottomed out on the floor level on which the large conical heap was made. As stated the several stones are placed one upon another to give the impression of a monument of some sort. Their position immediately adjacent to, and partially enveloped by, the heap of wood ash is very strange...no plausible explanation offers at the moment."

The occurrence of stone at Bell Field has been noted on several occasions. These instances are localized and discontinuous with nothing resembling the remarkable stone mantle or sheathing found at the Sixtoe mound completely flanking a large ceremonial structure on the summit and serving as a revetment

against the erosional sweep of the river on the exposed vulnerable side. The Andover expedition to Carter's Quarters in the late 1920's, according to a surviving member, Moorehead's waterboy now a senior citizen of Chatsworth, encountered massed stone in their test pits which discouraged further exploration. The University of Georgia field party in the summer 1968, in deepening base of cut in the west extension of the East-West coordinate from Structure #7, found a dike of large boulders at mound featheredge close to the natural levee and alluvial masking of mound slope. Elsewhere in the main concentration of mound clearance to expose critical structures in the southeast and northeast grid quadrants individual flat boulders have been found in and around house units. Two such occurrences were noted in exposing the sand floor of Structure #8C, tentatively explained as capstones or sockets for large posts inserted from a higher occupation level.

In regard to the major emphasis put on earth lodge exploration in the 1970-71 field seasons a pertinent question might be asked: why is the unusual huge pile of wood ash, regarded as a ritual cache, related to the earth lodge occupation rather than to the supervening wattle and daub phase? The answer at present involves an appraisal of key stratigraphic succession of occupational and building levels so far as this can be gleaned from the implications of current data. Recall that this impressive and ceremoniously piled heap of wood ash came out of a matrix of enveloping dark clay gumbo obviously mound fill providing a building level on which Structures #9 and #10 were located. At least two feet of this mound fill intervenes between Structures #9, #10, and #11 occupation and the underlying level. Furthermore in six seasons of exploration at Bell Field to the present there has been a persistent suggestion that ceremonial building arrangements tend to exhibit a nuclear pattern of four structures contemporaneously ranged on a particular summit

occupation. This was clearly shown in the initial uncovering of Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 in 1965 and 1966. Structures #9, #10, and #11 and probably another structure in the southeast quadrant would be indicated at the next lower occupation. This fourth unit logistically must be one of the stages of successive building or rebuilding represented in the Structure #8A, B, C, series. By September, 1971, the earliest occupation here is identified as Structure #8C, and is determined to be a large earth lodge sprawled out and pancaked onto the collapsed sod roof of Structure #12. It is to this final earth lodge occupation, transitional to beginning wattle and daub construction, that Feature #100 is presently ascribed. Only about a ten foot square excavation through the two feet of mound fill to expose Feature #100 has been made thus far and the confluence with Structure #B or #8C to the southeast has not been exposed. The usual sandy floor base with a few scattered postmoulds do indicate an occupation level still masked by gumbo overburden. More to the south, extending through the still standing balk of the East-West coordinate line, Structure #13 and #18 are located. Structure #13 in profile extends into the north grid and narrowly underlies Structure #9 north rim or shoulder. Three-fourths or more of Structure #13 still remain to be explored under several feet of unexcavated mound immediately to the west.

Whether Structure #13 belongs to the initial wattle and daub series, as Structure #8B is now perceived to be, remains to be seen. Certainly Structure #18 identified as an earth lodge construction underneath Structure 13, is a satellite separated by a narrow V-shaped trench from Structure #12, and from Structure #17, another satellite earth lodge extending back into the unexcavated mound on the south of Structure #12. The welter of compacted and congested earth lodges, with the indications of connected building units, probably in sequence of four building units, is so complicated that a clearer presentation is

offered in connection with illustrations and profile recordations and cross-sectional analysis given in the next section of the text entitled "Structures: From Earth Lodges to Wattle and Daub."

Here in narrative summary of excavations made in the 1971 field season note that all the student workers had returned to the University by October, and we were reduced to weekly excursions by volunteer workers from Shorter College in Rome, Atlanta, and from the University of Georgia. The final days of intensive troweling provided some of the most crucial data recording architectural features of the telescoped rubble of Structure #8C and Structure #12 underneath. Practically all of Structure #8C was now exposed, a large earth lodge, oriented southeast-northeast, with approximate dimensions of 40 feet, lying athwart and almost completely mantling the extremely corrugated and undulatory compacted gumbo roof of Structure #12. Structure #12 had the southwest and southeast corners exposed, with portions of the northwest corner indicated along with the northeast rim section coming out under heavy sand in the north grid. A large segment of the east rim was exposed but excavations were limited in this direction by the discovery of the three overlapping cribiform log constructions extending downslope in the southeast grid, a formidable masking of any possible earth lodge satellite or apron construction. Each of these cribbed log constructions must be stripped down successively, in relations to aprons of mound construction with buildings indicated, as demonstrated in the profiles of the south face of the East entry trench.

Structure #12 appears to be slightly larger than Structure #8C, estimated 40 by 42 feet; more compactly squared with rounded corners. The pattern of the roof supporting framework for Structure #8C and #12 appears differently arranged or oriented, with a different alignment of vertical, interior post supports. Although three-fourths of Structure #12 still mantled by the sandy

floor of Structure #8C, sufficient architectural details appear to indicate contrasting features in structural models. Structure #8C has interior roof supports arranged in two or three rows, a gabled or stepped sod roof; Structure #12 seems to have laterally converging roof supports or rafters giving a conical aspect, probably with four large anchor posts in the main floor area. Discussion of these two contrasting models will be facilitated along with the floor plans so far as these can be reconstructed from present available recordation.

Thus far there is evidence of partial identification of no less than eight earth lodges. Structure #8C and Structure #12 are likely central or "mother" lodges to other structures set closely about on three or four sides as satellite structures. Connections between specific units are not specifically demonstrated by current exposure, but the pattern of four related and connected house units remains a possibility. Also there is a good possibility, if not probability, that some partially uncovered units may turn out to be more than one unit--there may be superimposed buildings as seems clearly shown for Structure #14. A few more days of troweling might have solved the problem of a porch-like extension of Structure #8C in the northeast corner, converging on superimposed log layers of Structure #14.

On November 7, the excavations at Bell Field were sealed in plastic and the site was battened down for the winter. An interim report on 1970-71 progress was to be prepared. The most formidable task was the matter of obtaining funds to subsidize a final season to uncover the still unexposed earth lodge occupations at the base of the mound.

Structures: From Earth Lodges to Wattle and Daub.

The most significant discoveries at Bell Field as a result of six seasons of exploration have to do with the consecutive, stratified record of combined mound building and sequential architectural development. Also the grouping of related structures on top of the superimposed mound units, and the relation of these to other buildings uncovered on apron-like extensions from the main mound. These evidences show some interesting correlations, and some critical divergencies, from characteristic features recorded by Tennessee archeologists at the comparable site of Hiwassee Island in the TVA archeology of the early 1930's. The exposed portions of at least six closely compacted or nucleated typical earth lodges at the base of Bell Field Mound in 1970-71 field seasons poses the problem of a remarkable cultural continuum from Pre-Dallas to Late Dallas or Lamaroid times, covering an interval of five centuries or more, perhaps justifying the extensive purview of history contemplated in the caption to this chapter of the current report on Bell Field explorations.

The first two structures encountered were uncovered in the beginning cut made into the mound in the east-west axis trench in 1965. Structure #1 was troweled out at the featheredge where water-laid sand containing charcoal and fired daub from a truncate mound was confluent with the floor section. At this early stage we could not be sure just which truncate mound was represented-- it could not have been an earlier provenance than the summit building level of Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. The complex reconstruction of stratigraphy on the east approach to the mound did not emerge with any clarity until the end of the sixth field season in October, 1971, and still requires exhaustive restudy of all critical profiles exposed in previous work.

Structure #1 was a small building of wattle and daub, roughly rectangular about eight by ten feet in dimensions, with charred cane mats on the floor and charred maize ears piled on the mats. Structure #1 was aligned parallel to the mound, and was located at the base of a sharp downslope of dark gumbo mound fill. A localized mantle or collar of yellow clay fitted around the wall base on the mound side hypothetically as a buttress or reinforcement to prevent erosion of storm waters cascading from mound summit. Just how severe this torrent could be and disruptive of structures on aprons or at featheredge of the mound could be seen from the appearance of Structure #3, to be described subsequently. As uncovered in season, 1971, Structure #3 exhibited the same heavy deposit of water-laid sand, laminated sand with strong inclusions of scattered charcoal, charred cane, comminuted fragments of fired daub, which overlaid and fitted snugly onto the deeply pitted and scarred floor of the burned structure. These features are recorded for the south profile to the East entry trench exhibited in the last profile clearance for this situs. Structure #3 is now determined to be located on an east apron to the mound at the time Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 were functioning on the summit. The conjunction of a fierce local conflagration of buildings on summit and apron extensions, followed by a torrentous cascade of storm waters, may indicate the impact of the same event on both structures (Structures #1 and #3).

In this context, the finding of charred maize ears on broken carbonized, black cane mats on the floor of Structure #1 might be connected with the troweling out of several finely preserved, large maize ears from the trodden midden around the central hearth of Structure #3, and another from an intrusive storage pit. The small size, too cramped for ordinary domestic requirements of residence, and the presence of the small piles of maize ears on small mats, 10 to 12 inches or so in diameter, in Structure #1, led to the interpretation

of this building unit as a satellite structure at the east base of the mound at that functional interval as some sort of storage for green maize being used in ceremonials on top of the mound. Structure #3 was much larger with the heaviest midden accumulations over the floor and around the orange-fired central hearth yet seen in Bell Field investigations. Cultural activity here in reconstruction appears better normalized around the circumstances of domestic residence, food preparation and cooking arrangements. Note the contrast in regard to the occurrence of midden, pottery, et. al., between both Structures #1 and #3, and the relatively bare and presumably sacrosanct premises of Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7.

Structure #2 was partially uncovered in a 10 foot lateral extension of the original axis trench to the south. Exact dimensions were not determined in the 1965-66 seasons, as the floor was seen to continue into the south profile standing. Actually the standing profile remained intact to the end of the 1971 seasons, and still stands as a balk over a portion of Structure #3. Moreover the cornered section first uncovered had been badly potholed by relic hunters who had made at least five small pits into the floor section. The excavation into the entry trench at this expanded point was covered over with vinyl polyethylene plastic, and was not reexposed until the summer of 1971, when Structure #2 and Structure #3, which now seem to be coextensive and probably piecemeal with multiple structures superimposed or rebuilt, catalogued as Structure #3. Doubtless the true relations here will be clarified when the huge balk still standing in the East entry trench profile is removed.

The confusion in regard to Structure #3, and the failure to follow through and complete recordation, was the result of almost compulsive preoccupation with the uncovering of four correlated structures in their initial exposure on

the summit of the mound--Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. There was no field season at Bell Field in 1969, and by 1970, we were barely able to reopen and freshen profiles to the East entry trench. The bulk of work in 1971 was still concentrated on the earth lodge exhibits, and Structure #3 was attended largely as a side excavation when we had volunteer student workers.

Even when the East entry trench was cut back another ten feet to the south to expose more of Structure #3, it is apparent at the end of the 1971 season that at least half, possibly more, of the building still extends back under the south profile. Although the compacted floor midden had been baked hard, a telescoped mass of orange-fired sand and yellow clay, water cascading down the east mound fill slope had deeply pitted the floor and redistributed materials. Previously we have observed the possibility this event may be correlated with the description of conditions at Structure #1.

Furthermore, it is apparent now that Structure #3 consisted of at least two closely telescoped debris matrices belonging to an original and rebuilt structure. There are buried hearths scattered at intervals and in depth in the midden accumulation. Thick ash beds containing pottery and organic refuse mantle the east and northeast perimeters of the building area. There are intrusive postmoulds and pits from other, as yet uncatalogued, structures from apron-like extensions downslope from the mound, and assignable to later truncate occupations. Archie Smith's plane table recordation and Sheila Caldwell's drawing provide all the house pattern data available at the present writing.

Pottery and artifacts from Structure #3 will be reviewed in the following report section. The entire exposed floor section was gridded in two foot squares in connection with removal of numerous soil samples analyzed by Kent Schneider and his mobile organic extracting machine. Identification of animal

and plant remains is not complete, but Schneider has remarked on the very rich midden content and the relative ease with which the mound-sealed floor samples of Structure #3 were analyzed in comparison with soil samples with heavy clay sediments from the open village areas.

Begun in 1966, and continuing into the 1967 field season, was a special unit of excavation located near the natural levee of the Coosawatee to the southwest of the main mound. Building and other occupational features partially exposed by modern cultivation and test pitting indicated a concentration in this sector. It was uncertain whether this area represented a later, possibly final mound occupation, an apron extending to the south, or whether there was a Late Dallas and proto-historic Lamar settlement obtruding onto the earlier mound at this juncture. In 1971, the terrain was scraped by bulldozer for sixty yards or more removing several feet of recent alluvium, and exposing a buried land surface with several building sites disclosed. These extend out from mound featheredge to the unbulldozed cane brake, proof of village concentration south of the mound and confirming the belief that the late occupation was concentrated on the high ground toward Talking Rock Creek junction with the Coosawatee. For this reason, structures exposed immediately south and southwest of the mound grid have been given a separate excavation designation. The only structure catalogued here to date was brought out in 1967. It was located in the lower limits of the southwest mound quadrant, and was found when test excavations were being made to expose disturbed burials showing up in plowed ground and plow-scarred gumbo.

A corner section and about half of a house platform, similar to Lamar structures at the type site in Macon, was uncovered under a thin sheathing of dark gumbo extending out from the main mound in this sector. Two or three

burials in very poor state of preservation, partly disturbed and scattered by plowing or river flooding, occurred in and around the house platform. Two interments, undisturbed, but badly deteriorated, were troweled out in the base of the ditch around the platform. Tedious troweling of the platform summit did not suffice to expose a discernible house pattern, only enough to indicate a rectangular structure, probably not wattle and daub, with a bright orange central hearth or cooking area. Pottery found in this immediate context showed a mixture of Dallas and Lamar sherds, collections resembling materials found by David Hally in the Little Egypt village across Talking Rock Creek from Bell Field.

In the same survey, about twenty feet east of the Lamar or Dalamar house platform, we subsequently exposed a Dallas log tomb containing an adult burial with two Dallas pottery vessels as burial accompaniment. A half dozen poorly preserved burials in shallow graves in and around the Dallas log tomb, were similar to those found disturbed around the Lamar house platform. Broken, partially exposed house patterns and scattered pit indications remained to be exposed when the 1968 field season ended. Further exploration of what is probably the locus of a late village, proto-historic since no historic or trade objects have been catalogued in six years, is most desirable, but may not be possible under the priority given to earth lodge exploration at the base of the mound.

Evidence of a late village occupation south and southwest of the main mound has been stressed because on scraping disturbed soils and the eroded remnant of dark gumbo mound fill, an operation which led to the uncovering of the first untruncated building level belonging to Structures #4, #5, and #6, a number of postmoulds were recorded on mound summit some of which suggested

house patterns. Of particular interest in studying the plane table recordation of the initially scraped mound summit are some very large postholes, a foot or more wide, which appear to represent portions of the circuits of two large round buildings, structures more than twice the size of Dallas structures. Wall supports of this bulk and size would require very deep inserts; these exposed on mound summit could well have been intrusive from four or five feet, and might even belong to a very different order of building from typical Dallas structures found at Sixtoe or Bell Fields. Such rotundas or tchofas have been found at a number of proto-historic and historic sites in Georgia. Harold Huscher found a well preserved pattern of such a council house at a late 18th century Creek Indian village (Burnt Village, destroyed 1795), on the Chattahoochee river near West Point, Georgia. At the New Echota site, Calhoun, Georgia, a circular posthole pattern of the historic council house had an estimated diameter of 90 feet. This structure had been described in historic accounts as a frame building, but the shape and general arrangements revealed the persistence of key aboriginal features.

Two years of tedious troweling were required to uncover four key structures uncovered beneath two feet of dark gumbo moundfill truncated by more than a hundred years of modern cultivation. The mound summit was pock marked by intrusive burial pits only the basal portions of which remained. John Wear, an amateur archeologist from Fairmount, Georgia, had excavated a trench through the gumbo from the west side, recovering a large collection of Dallas material associated that had washed out in a heavy freshet about 10 years before the University of Georgia field party arrived. It was truly remarkable that we were able to recover any meaningful patterns from the badly scarred and disjumbled remnant of the present mound surface.

Truncation of the remaining mantle of black gumbo by modern plowing would probably have destroyed the four unit structures, #4, #5, #6, and #7 in another year or so. Structure #4 was still intact with plow scars showing across the compacted rubble of red fired clay daub. The lower eastern half of Structure #5 had been partially cut away and wall continuity was incompletely recorded. Fortunately the narrow passage connection between the council house, Structure #4, and the companion Structure #5 was still intact. Structures #6 and #7 were still sealed beneath the clay gumbo moundfill. These structure units were exposed in the 1966 field season.

The 1966-67, Report on Explorations at Bell Field Mound, written soon after the completion of the seasons work on Structure #4 and #5 provides a fresh, detailed description: "...Structure #4 appears as a rectangular, wattle and daub construction, built compartmentally in shed-like arrangement over a small central span or court in which a six foot basin or bowl of fired puddled clay indicated a substantial hearth or central fire. The walls were plastered clay daubing over a well-knit wattle framestrung between vertical posts and showed evidence of having been replastered and stabilized at intervals. Basal sections of wall construction still showed in sections, erect under fallen debris of the burned building, occasionally as much as a foot in total thickness. The daub was baked to a brilliant orange of brick-like consistency, and exhibited the internal plaster impressions of supporting wattle with smoothing of the interior wall. The daubed clay contained heavy tempering of stems and leafy parts of bamboo, along with some unidentified local grass.

The overall dimensions of the nearly square structure were close to 25 feet. The open section above the central fire might have been ten to twelve feet. The sandy floor dipped sharply, a drop of around two feet to the central fire section. Smaller supporting posts extended out from the wall and probably

indicated compartmentalized seating arrangement on three sides. Very little midden or pottery was found within Structure #4. One charred basket with a mess of burned *Unio* shells was exposed in situ in one of the shed-like compartments. The supporting timbers to one small side entrance on the northeast had been encased in clay daub. This was the only entrance except for a specially constructed, daubed, narrow covered way, two and one-half feet wide, leading off to the east or rather southeast, connecting with Structure #5. Flattened, apparently split timbers, or boards, three to four inches wide, formed part of the uprights to this narrow entry way between the two structures. The floor to the entry way was hard, compacted yellow clay, and there appeared to have been some sort of matting hung along the inner sides."

Structure #4 thus exhibits several unique features not exactly reproduced in any comparable council house described in Southeastern archeological literature. The Wilbanks council house found by A. R. Kelly at the foot of Mound B at Etowah was a six sided structure with cane matted sides and roof extending out to a wide smoke hole and a heavily fired central hearth area. There was no imposing modeled deep bowl of puddled clay compared to the central hearth in Structure #4, only a severely burned and baked locus of repeated firing in the central area. The floor section in the Wilbanks council house at Etowah had only a slightly depressed level. It was a single, unitary functional building unit, contrasting with the nucleated four building complex on the Bell Field mound. The Wilbanks floor midden, accumulated to a depth of average 12 inches, yielded over 12,000 sherds and rich organic remains implying a definitely "lived on" aspect; this in contrast to Structure #4 and other ceremonial buildings at Bell Field which had very sparse pottery, and almost no animal or plant remains, with the idea that the premises were kept scrupulously clean and sacrosanct. The Wilbanks structure was rounded and larger, with a diameter

of 35 feet. There was evidence of seat supports and some sort of compartments around the circumference which accords with Structure #4 at Bell Field. In summary the two structures were quite distinct in most architectural details and internal arrangements. There are no carbon dates for either the Etowah or Structure #4 situations; theoretically Wilbanks or epigonal Etowah would be earlier by several centuries.

The earth lodge at Ocmulgee, Macon, Georgia, is even more specialized and divergent. The elaborate seating arrangement and clay eagle platform are hardly comparable to the seating compartments at Bell Field. The impressive deep fire bowl or central hearth, the more severely depressed floor, the interior anchor posts to support the heavy sod roof and cane mesh are comparable to some degree if one allows for the fundamental difference between basic earth lodge and wattle and daub construction. Carbon dates for Ocmulgee should be around 1000 A. D., for Structure #4 they should be after 1400 A. D.; the date for Structures #9 and #10, belonging to the central building complex underneath Structure #4, and separated from it by gumbo moundfill.

One of the structures sealed or enveloped in the Plant Hammond Mound, on the Coosa River, Rome, Georgia, discovered in 1968, exemplified some interesting parallel data with the council house; Structure #4, at Bell Field. The Plant Hammond structure was rectangular with a depressed, but not saucer-shaped floor, an interior wall ledge, well-defined wattle and daub exterior and interior walls, and evidence of a floor covering of woven cane mats. The structure had been burned (deliberately?), and a large number of unfired pottery vessels of the Savannah Period were severely baked in the conflagration. North Georgia chronology at present would estimate the Plant Hammond structure to be probably several centuries earlier than Structure #4 at Bell Field.

The closest parallel to Structure #4, known to the writer at present, would be the council house uncovered by Joseph R. Caldwell on the summit of the Tugalo mound, Stephens County, Georgia. This is true despite the fact that the Tugalo structure is also clearly representative of earth lodge construction, contrasting with the definite wattle and daub of Structure #4. Also the Tugalo exemplar is a separate, distinct, unitary functional unit, not connected in any way with auxiliary structures. But it was rectangular, saucered, with a well marked central hearth, and compartmentalized seating arrangements around the sides.

Unfortunately funds and time did not allow for completion of the excavation on a complex mound stratigraphy at Tugalo with indications of superimposed ceremonial core structures, and exploration at Bell Field, herein reported, is in an interim stage with more definitive data forthcoming when the full stratigraphic context is exposed at the base of the mound. The Tugalo report is being readied for publication. I am indebted to the principal investigator for information used here. There are other pertinent parallels between Tugalo and Bell Field only adumbrated in the present stage of investigations. The implication that Bell Field has extensive log cribiform mantling of mound slopes to prevent slope erosion may be an important architectural feature. Only the initial log maze was partially exposed in the 1971 field season, and the first speculation was that these belonged to a logged stairway approach from the southeast village floor to mound summit. This notion may have to be revised as more of the critical area is uncovered.

Structure #5 was brought out by intensive horizontal troweling approximately six feet east of Structure #4, in the southeast quadrant of the mound grid. The remarkable covered passageway connecting with Structure #4 has been described.

The wall pattern of this rectangular, dormitory-like structure was exposed with some difficulty, each postmould identified only after meticulous troweling and cross-sectioning. Burned daub and charred timbers and collapsed debris were peeled off the hard baked floor, but standing wall basal residues and neatly preserved details were limited and localized. There was no discernible central fire or hearth. There was evidence of a covered entry way to Structure #6, brought out in extension into the south mound grid in the form of split timbers encased in clay sheathing. The fires that consumed Structures #4 and #5 appeared not to have spread to Structure #6 in the southeast, stopping short of the entry way. The rectangular dimensions were very nearly the same as for Structure #4. Estimates are imprecise because of erosion and truncation of the northeast wall pattern. Plow scars were more numerous, and debris mantle was thinner and more dispersed than was the case with the deeply saucered council house. By extrapolation from the observable details of both clearly connected structures, the theory is entertained that Structure #5 was some sort of domiciliary structure with the specially constructed, narrow passageway leading into the assembly room or ceremonial "council house". By extension the same hypothesis would apply to Structure #6.

In final restudy of the draughts of Structures #4 and #5 another important detail emerges, suspected during the process of troweling and early recordation--there is evidence of more than one wall line in both instances with the implication that both may have been rebuilt or stabilized. It is certain that the huge puddled clay hearth to Structure #4 was replastered. The final daubing and modeling tended to exfoliate.

By 1968, the hypothesis developed that the Dallas house units on the last four or five mound occupations were ceremonially burned with complete sealing of the collapsed debris under tons of dark gumbo mound fill, and that new

structural assemblages were made on the freshly prepared summits. If so the simple rebuilding or stabilizing of the same structure on the same situs could be regarded as routine preservation and maintenance of a functional group of ceremonial buildings.

The burning of structures helped to preserve intimate details that would otherwise be lost to the archeologist. This must account for the fact that we have much more precise information about Structures #4 and #5 than we do for #6 and #7. The house patterns for Structures #6 and #7 were brought out in initial troweling in 1965, with the bulk of clearing performed in the 1966 season. The combined layout drawing reveals considerable more damage to pattern due to a large pothunter's excavation, and the intrusion of many pits. Dimensions are problematical, but would seem to indicate a somewhat larger structure than Structures #4 and #5. Over a foot and a half of gumbo mound fill and top humus helped to insulate the house level, leaving collapsed wall and roof debris intact on the sandy floor. Samples of individual lenses of the wall daub exhibited grass tempering and a consistency like that of kaolinitic clay. The floor sand yielded virtually no pottery or artifacts, and no organic remains. Strangely enough there were hardly any traces of logs or supporting framework, possibly because these decayed in place without trace. The evidence implied that this large dormitory-like building had been demolished at the time Structure #4 and #5 burned or the conflagration simply did not reach this far.

Structure #7, as reconstructed from combined recordations of 1965-66 excavations, shows a large structure, probably two overlapping structures, located for the most part in the northwest grid quadrant with a corner extending southeast where the north-south, east-west coordinates intersect. No certain

connecting passage between Structures #6 and #7 was found, rather an open area or court of from ten to fifteen feet seems indicated between the two buildings. There is evidence of burning on the side nearest Structure #4.

Gumbo moundfill was very thin over most of Structure #7 area. Plow scars on the hardpan floor were abundant and river erosion during high freshets in recent years had scrubbed portions of the collapsed building clean. The building level on which Structure #7 stood was around three feet higher than the council house situs immediately to the northeast. This fits the evidence from the downslope deposits which exhibit materials from at least five truncate mounds surmounting building level on which Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 were located. The ribbon-like scars of these truncated layers are exposed, and are depicted clearly in the overall top mound drawing after the 1965 clearing. Additional features and better definitions of structures came out after the 1966 excavations. It became assured that the mound sector where Structures #6 and #7 were situated had been built up to a higher elevation; that structures on higher mound seats overlooked contemporaneous building units on apron extensions. The final mound appearance as it stood before modern cultivation and erosion took its toll must have looked something like the architectural scheme reconstructed for the Hiwassee Island mound by Kneberg and Lewis.

The house pattern drawing for Structure #7 shows rather clearly that Structure #7 had two overlapping buildings, so that the 50 feet or more of wall continuity on the northwest side does not mean that a structure of that size existed functionally at one stage. The final drafting also brings out a feature not observed or noted during the actual troweling operations--there appears to be some evidence of an entrance or door opening out onto the

northwest escarpment of the mound. Structures #4, #5, and #6 were definitely connected by covered passageways, six feet or more in length. Spilt log sections, really planks or boards four to six inches wide, plastered over with yellow daub clay formed part of the wall structure. One specimen of this wood was submitted to the School of Forestry at the University of Georgia, and was identified as cedar. Other samples looked more like pine. John Wear, local collector at Fairmount, Georgia, had several striking pieces of hewn wood which came from another Dallas site several miles away from Bell Field. In exposing the down warped small sapling logs across the top of Dallas log tomb burials, several individual supports were noted which appeared to have been split. Slender stone celts, battered on both the poll and blade ends, found as burial furniture with Dallas burials in and around Dallas domestic structures in Sixtoe Field across the Coosawattee from Bell Field, might well have been used in splitting soft wood of saplings six to eight inches in diameter.

In the foregoing description of architectural features and interrelations of the building complex comprising Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7, the basic assumption is that this group constitutes a religious and possibly civic center, and that each of the four structures had a significant functional relation to the others. The finding of fifteen log tomb burials with burial associations of Dallas mortuary ware implies interment in a sanctum sanctorum of an elite group, as contrasted with the burial of the ordinary village folk in pits or shallow graves made in and around the domestic residences or in the communal garbage heaps filling the upper levels of midden refuse in the quarry dugouts at Sixtoe Field. The cataloguing of at least twenty graves and burial pits, many dismembered by cultivation, in the village area to the southwest of the mound may represent a Bell Field component of Late Dallas or "Dallamar period."

At this point, before taking up the next building complex in order of stratigraphic succession, the working hypothesis is set forth that archeological data from each of the lower and earlier mound occupations, with implications for the pre-Dallas and earth lodge component, exhibit in each instance multiple, interconnected, integrated structures suggesting the persistence of a basic architectural schema throughout several centuries. Important cultural changes are evidenced; in architecture with development from earth lodge assemblages to later wattle and daub; in ceramic and other diagnostic artifacts; even in usually conservative burial practice. But evidence of cultural persistence is equally important, and the working hypothesis proffered may be held in mind as succeeding structural groups are examined in context.

The next critical group of related buildings to be considered consists of Structures #9, #10, and #11. In keeping with our hypothesis a fourth building unit might be anticipated. Spatial considerations would focus toward the southeast of the new configuration, toward the complicated overlap of structures catalogued as Structures 8A, 8B, and 8C. Just which is the most likely candidate is a difficult problem, not easily solved. For the present, we regard the other three whose juxtaposition and connections provide a more cogent presentation.

Excavations to uncover Structures #9, #10, and #11 were carried out from March through August, 1968. Some idea of the stratigraphic relations can be had by reference to the north axis profile which runs across the median portion of Structure #9. The bright-orange fired central hearth of Structure #9 was troweled out at the base of the profile and extends partially back under the standing profile. Structure #7 floor hardpan was still preserved under top

plowed ground and mantles two to two and one-half feet of dark gumbo moundfill overlaying the exposed floor section of Structure #9. There can be no doubt that a major mound building interval, leading to the eventual construction of the Structure #4, #5, #6, and #7 group, intervenes.

The point is emphasized because Structure #9 was later seen to be not one, but two superimposed, rebuilt structures which were then catalogued as Structures #9A and #9B. These rebuilding episodes show successive construction in which sometimes even the same postmoulds of a previous structure may be used as post inserts for the new building. With regard to building continuity and elapsed time, these rebuilding incidents are seen as different from situations where whole new mounds and a new set of functional structures constituting a complete new religious and civic center are involved. We are concerned here with another basic interpretative assumption that at Bell Field we have evidence in stratified sequence that there were cyclical periods of renewal or rejuvenation in which a totally new mound seat and a cluster of ceremonial buildings were provided. The preceding structures would be ceremonially demolished or burned as a prelude. In fact, the hypothesis extends to the proposition that not only the mound religious center, but the associated village were destroyed at the same time. The evidence from Sixtoe Field village, explored 1962-1964, seems to support this view.

The upper and final house construction, #9A, was troweled out to yield a good house pattern of essential architectural features. Several unusual features were observed. First, the entire floor area appeared to have been covered with split cane floor mats, tightly compacted under a mantle of three to four inches of tan clay daubing from the collapsed walls. Careful examination on troweling demonstrated this black organic mass to be the result of

of bacteriological oxidation rather than actual burning. The same tan clay used as daub over the wattles in the case of the burned structures #4 and #5 was baked brick hard and fired a bright orange-red color. Also in collapsing the fired daub fractures into rubble; unfired clay daub tends to consolidate in a homogenous lens particularly under tons of pressure from the overburden of gumbo moundfill. In the north axis profile which traverses the house site one sees a cross-section of the floor sand under heavy dark gumbo moundfill, and a continuous banding of tan clay mantling the sandy floor, unbroken from south to north wall. The floor sand is not hardened or discolored by intense heat. However, despite the evidence that the total structure did not burn, there were indications of fire in the northeast corner of the building where a charred log was found in a wall trench. This charcoal was the source of the carbon sample which later gave a Carbon 14 date of 1400 A. D. One can only speculate whether there was an accidental burning at Structure #9A, or whether there was a token burning with the remainder of the structure demolished by pushing the walls onto the floor. This latter was the pattern of destruction exemplified with other core mound structures of earlier occupation.

A key factor in architectural comparisons has to do with depressed and saucered floor sections. Structures #9A and #9B had moderately depressed floors, leveling toward the central hearth. The impression of floor depth is heightened by the heavy buttress or banquette of dark gumbo outside the wattle and daub walls, particularly noticeable along the west wall of Structure #9 (see profile sketch north axis balk still standing in 1971). Toward the north, this same profile panel shows Structures #9 and #10 impacting on a sand mound about 20 feet in cross section, and four feet high. This is puzzling, intuitively explained as part of a natural levee deposit near the river, tailing

off from the mound to the north. At the end of the 1971 field season, this large sand pile still remains due to our prior commitment to excavate as much as possible the earth lodge complex.

Another significant feature relates to passageways connecting buildings. Such a connector appeared between Structure #9 and #10 late in the 1968 season. The west or rather the southwest wall of Structure #10, one of the better marked postmould sequences of this structure, parallels the wall trench of Structure #9, defined by five to eight inch postmoulds instead of a hardpan clay floor, and possible boarded walls as in the case of the later Structure #4 -- #5 connection.

Structure #9A also revealed an inner wall of tan clay four inches thick, contrasting with the blackened mould of the decayed floor mats, extending from south to north wall trenches. This thin partition sealed off a narrow compartment at the southeast end of Structure #9A, puzzling as to function since the feature was unbroken across the floor span.

Structure #9B, exposed from beneath the carbonized black floor mats, was very similar in shape, size, and other architectural arrangements except for the inner wall and evidence of mats. It also appeared to have a connector to the earlier Structure #10B. Both structures were nearly square, two or three feet longer in the southeast-northwest axis, around 22 by 18 feet dimensions. Very little midden or pottery was catalogued in tedious floor troweling. The small collection yielded both grit and shell tempered wares, with a few painted specimens. Structure #9B produced two rectangular, elbow pipes similar to Tennessee types.

The companion structures, Structures #10 and #11, situated to the north and northeast on a lower level, were troweled out with great difficulty. Although contemporary and functionally related to Structure #9 as key members

of the same building complex, and, however, similarly sealed in and insulated by two feet or more of tough dark gumbo moundfill as was Structure #9, post-mould patterns to define walls and interior arrangements were not nearly as well preserved. In both Structures #10 and #11, the wall trenches came out piecemeal in segments, broken by irregular splotches of mottled, disturbed, sandy loam where it was conjectured demarcating lines were disrupted when walls were pushed in or individual posts were waggled out and reused. The final recordation draught shows the final #10A construction was a little larger than #10B. Both were nearly square, and Structure #10 was definitely saucer-shaped with the central hearth or fire basin located at the bottom of the saucer. It also had a well-defined raised shoulder at the top of the saucer extending to the wall line. The central hearth was smaller, and not so solidly constructed as the fine example uncovered in Structure #4. Supernumerary post inserts, somewhat smaller diameter, inside the walls, might have been bench or platform supports, with vague implication of interior seating reminiscent of the council chamber, Structure #4. Although additional work was carried out in 1970-71, to check on results of the 1968 season--no field season in 1969--it was still impossible to find any trace of a connecting passage between Structure #10 and Structure #11 such as had existed between Structures #4 and #5. The walls of these two structures were less than five feet apart. Both were in a very disturbed condition. During the winter of 1968, vandals visited the site, and dug into the plastic covered excavation. Also the saucered configuration of #10 led to severe ponding and damage in the long interval of abandonment between 1968 and 1970. In studying the drawings of Structures #9, #10, and #11 the basic similarity of the building layout to that which was obtained between Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 impresses the observer. It seems likely that Structure #10 was the "council" or assembly of

this functional group, with #9 and #11 as some sort of auxiliary, possibly dormitory structures. Observe that Structure #9 came out about 24 to 30 inches below the locus of Structure #7 (the relations here still were revealed in the 1971 north axis profile); Structure #10 approximately under Structure #4, and Structure #5 was located over Structure #11 position. The following remark from the March, 1968, field diary is quoted in this connection: "...In north grid in 1965 season, we uncovered Structures #4 and #5 just under plow-line. Today the standing profile shows some fired clay daub from Structure #5 two feet or more above lensed floor gumbo covering the slopes to Structure #11." By 1970-71, the top elements of profiles were melted away by two years of erosion--no trace of the Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 occupation remained for reference.

In the narrative section of Excavations attention has already been drawn to the problem of identification of three presumptive structures built consecutively upon one another, catalogued as Structures #8A, #8B, and #8C. There will be no rehash of this confusing detail, but there is compelling necessity to deal with the probable relationship of one phase of Structure #8 history to the building complex constituted by Structures #9, #10, and #11. A pertinent note from the 1968 diary bears on this point: "...Now currently exposed on slope from Structure #11 is a yellow clay ramp (in northeast mound quadrant) covered with black gumbo moundfill. The ramp dips down sharply. The yellow clay under the black moundfill gives good contrast--it appears that Structure #8 and Structure #11 occupied the same building platform contemporaneously. Remnants of Structure #5 and Structure #6 were still to be seen as clay streamers in the standing East-West profile."

Before the earth lodge complex, Structure #12, et. al., could be attacked, it was necessary first to excavate remaining portions of Structure #8B, and

presumptively Structure #8C, from the overburden which completely mantled the basal occupations. In this endeavor to obtain final clarification on Structure #8 rebuilding and successive occupations, Structure #8A, the theoretical final occupation shows poorly defined as a house pattern, smaller and constricted. Inasmuch as the downward dip to Structure #6 came within a foot or more of Structure #8 situs, we even consider that the piecemeal pattern attributed to #8A might be terminal intrusive postmoulds from Structure #6.

Structure #8B was demonstrably a much longer occupation span, with 12 to 14 inches of dark brown sandy midden floor represented, with inclusive broken lenses of yellow clay wall daub, localized evidences of charred timbers, and collapsed house debris particularly in the southeast corner of the building. In summary, after fresh study of the field notes and profile and floor draughts, the conclusion seems substantiated that Structure #8B was either rebuilt or stabilized with partial wall and roof reconstruction. Of the three distinct fire basins or hearths for Structure #8 found in 1968, we now consider that at least two of these belonged to succeeding occupations of Structure #8B with its deep midden and evidences of localized burning. Moreover, it was this occupation bearing the three fire basins that was horizontally traced into the north grid and found confluent with Structure #11.

Finally, consider the working hypothesis advanced earlier in text that functionally interrelated buildings tend to revolve around a configuration of four unit structures. Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 were some such occupational grouping. We now have Structures #9, #10, and #11 which archeological data suggest to be related or similar phenomenon but lack a fourth member in the southeastern quadrant to complete the picture. Recordation and field observations from the 1968 season indicate Structure #8 as the likely candidate

for the missing element and substantiating information derives from the 1970-71 recordation. Throughout the procedure has been to trace the wall pattern of Structures #8A and #8B into the north mound grid where confluence or contact with Structure #11 might be anticipated, and toward the northwest where the approach is toward the southeast wall trench and cornering sector of Structures #9A and #9B.

The intervening survey area between Structure #8 and Structures #9A and #9B, a critical zone of 10 to 15 square feet, shows the overlap of downslope gumbo house platforms mantled with thick outwash sandy sediments highly impregnated with iron precipitates. A complicating factor was that this was the precise spot where a large and deeply excavated burial pit for a log tomb burial, Burial #13, was inserted. This extensive dislocation severely marred the north extension of Structure #8, with profile indications that floor deposits and collapsed lenses of unfired tan clay wall daub sagged into the log tomb after the log covering collapsed under pressure of heavy mound overburden.

The notes of July, 1968, state that Structure #8 then being horizontally cleared toward the northeast was approximately one and one-half to two feet lower than the occupation level of Structure #9, and that the slope of Structure #9 overlapped the terminal northeast extension of Structure #8. As finally reconstructed, an open area of court of less than 10 feet seems indicated, very nearly the same situation eventually determined for the spatial relations of Structures #6 and #7 in the stratigraphic succession of mound building. Too great a reliance on Carbon 14 dates is not encouraged, but it is noteworthy that the one date we have for Structure #9 is 1400 A. D., and there are two carbons for Structure #8B which give exactly 1280 A. D. The time

lapse of over 100 years may not be considerable when it is recalled that Structure #9 had two building phases, and Structure #8B has indications of a long occupation with two or more rebuildings. Comparisons from diagnostic culture material, especially ceramics, will be considered in the following report section. It suffices presently to observe that the 12 to 14 inches of brown sandy midden from Structure #8B yielded a strong minority complement of Woodstock Complicated Stamped ware not found in Structures #9A and #9B. However, this floor sand may have been brought in from an older village site in the vicinity.

At this juncture it is noteworthy that Structures #9, #10, and #11, with two building periods for each, are all definitely wattle and daub with indications of defined wall trenches. Structure #8B was also a large wattle and daub with some internal broken segments of wall trenches on the southwest side. On the other hand, Structure #8C, the deepest structure, was finally determined to be an earth lodge with satellite structures indicated on at least three sides.

As herein reconstructed then, a new building complex consisting of Structures #9, #10, #11, and #8B is presented as a prototype for Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. Recall that Structures #4, #5, and #6 had evidences of connecting passageways. Structures #9 and #10 were definitely connected in both building phases, and some field observations from March, 1968, suggest a possible connection between Structures #8 and #11: "...We noticed two mottled areas, hummocks of dark soil in the standing profile northeast of the floor section of Structure #8 on which we were working. These small rises were less than five feet in diameter, and rose dome-like above the floor level. On troweling we exposed the carbonized, but still recognizable fragments of warped planks or boards of split pine." This was catalogued as Feature #79

which was later characterized in the field notes, as follows: "we are convinced we are dealing with some intentional construction, probably related to Structure #8 and #11, but the usual Dallas type covered passage is not clearly indicated, although some fragments of board-like charred pine were encountered in the fill." Later in the afternoon, an added note: "...Not clear, but now seems related to mound conformation between Structures #8 and #11." Contradictory is the fact that Structure #11 showed no signs of burning; only localized evidence in Structure #8B. Also a connector between Structure #8B and #11 would need to extend at least six feet, not impossible when comparison is made to the passage between Structures #4 and #5.

A climax situation in fundamental architectural development arrives at the mound occupation stage immediately prior to the building complex represented by Structures #9, #10, #11 and #8B. Recall that each of this four fold functional unit exhibits rebuilding with superimposed and telescoped structures with partial overlap of wall trenches and probable reuse of some of the same postholes. The house patterns of #10 and #11 were ill-defined probably due to the manner in which these were demolished or destroyed and details were marred by relic hunter vandalism in the off season of 1968. Also at the present writing there is incomplete data on house patterns of the earlier units. So far as information is available, a basic wattle and daub structure is indicated in each case, but critical transitional features from earth lodge to initial wattle and daub need to be clarified.

A clearer explication of this transition may be facilitated by fresh reference to the specificity of primary soil materials persistently used by the aboriginal architects of earth lodges and wattle and daub structures. Also the application of several working hypotheses correlating building activity might have heuristic value at this point of discussion. The rationale

given in previous text recognizes eight or nine discrete mound summit occupations each representing a distinct cultural entity in the continuum. Four, possibly five, of these were truncated by modern cultivation and erosion. Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 constituted the first untruncated, preserved core mound building complex, preceded by Structures #9, #10, #11, and #8B. Before that stage in the basal mound at present, we have three superimposed and tightly compacted earth lodge occupations, of which the first to be recovered with any detail is Structure #8C. The collapsed debris adheres like a shin plaster to underlying Structure #12, and Structure #12 fits snugly over Structure #21 at the base.

POTTERY AND OTHER CULTURAL DIAGNOSTICS.

Pottery remains the primary diagnostic trait complex in the analysis of most archeological reports despite the current emphasis on data designed to extrapolate factors on subsistence and settlement patterns and to relate total community systems in sub-regional and regional areal contexts. Structures have received major attention at Bell Field, because of the remarkable preservation of stratified house remains and the evidence of architectural succession and change through several centuries. Other factors, including burials, will be considered. However, pottery is still indispensable in identifying a site, and fixing its place in local chronology.

At Bell Field we are fortunate in having significant prior investigations at key centers removed less than a hundred miles which afford a prime basis of comparison. Hiwassee Island in Tennessee is the most immediate and clear referant. The Plant Hammond mound on the Coosa river in Rome, and site data provided in the Allatoona river basin survey are also important. Etowah, 50 miles to the south, particularly in its epigonal Wilbanks stage and subsequent Lamar development, is another parallel.

At Bell Field practically all data derive from a complex stratified mound with little information available from the surrounding village due to limited time and funds as well as project commitment to high priority goals. Bell Field mound appears to represent the religious and ceremonial center for an expanded community in the Coosawattee cove during the earlier centuries of the Dallas and Pre-Dallas cultural continuum. It may well prove out that in subsequent developments leading to proto-historic phases the religious and civic center shifted across Talking Rock Creek to the large village component presently under investigation by another University of Georgia field party led

by David Hally. The coming summer of 1972, when work shifts to the mounds at Little Egypt sector, could yield decisive data on this point. Three field seasons at Sixtoe Field, across the Coosawattee from Bell Field, in 1962-1964, gave information on a large Dallas and late Dallas transition to Lamar settlement, which helps to explicate the final badly disrupted and truncated portions of mound history at Bell Field.

Sherd and artifact collections from satisfactory archeological context are small due to the extremely scanty finds from the floors of key structures built on the successive mound summits. Also even the restricted materials from floor sand deposits are suspect inasmuch as the sand was frequently brought in from nearby village middens which contained pottery and other diagnostics belonging to still earlier occupations. For the Dallas continuum in later mound building stages, the ideal situation occurs where whole vessels are found as burial furniture in the log tomb interments. Fifteen such instances, all intrusive onto the first untruncated building level, provided a fine collection of Dallas mortuary ware with practically all of the types described by Kneberg and Lewis in their "Dallas Decorated" group, (Hiwassee Island report). These include Dallas Incised, Dallas Modeled, Dallas Punctate, Dallas Filleted, Dallas Notched Rims, Dallas Noded Rims. Dallas Plain, the major component, has distinguishing paste morphology due to shell tempering, easily separable from such grit and sand tempered types as Lamar Plain and Overhill Cherokee ware. More difficulty is experienced in trying to decide between Overhill Cherokee types and what we refer to as "a north Georgia variant of Lamar."

Another complicating factor has to do with the theoretical cyclical(?) ceremonial destruction of individual mound seats and building units with subsequent rebuilding, and the truncation of at least four occupations by modern cultivation and river erosion. Very limited samples survived in downslope debris

accumulations from these intervals--the so called "Terminal" or "Truncate" contexts referred to in text and illustrations at T_1 , T_2 , and T_3 . Some of these truncated occupations do have structures on apron-like extensions, uncovered in the initial entering trenches and exposed in the Correlation trenches. Structures #1 and #3 in the East coordinate entry trench are examples. Again, such features as Feature #90, exposed in the East entry trench, contained rich stores of burned animal bone in a large roasting pit; the profiles indicate a downslope identification with the mound summit to which Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 belong. Extensive ashbeds around the East wall of Structure #3 have yielded a more generous complement of pottery and other domestic artifacts. The comparative richness of midden on aprons and mound featheredge, a relatively small remove from the key structures on mound summit, may be a measure of ritual intensification in space. Similar observations were recorded by the Tennessee archeologists at Hiwassee Island; they had to shift about to find good context in aprons, contiguous village remains, or basal, core mound situations, i. e., Unit #37, very similar to the untruncated core mound at Bell Field.

The scant pottery gleaned from the initial horizontal clearing of mound summit in 1965-66 to expose the first untruncated occupation of Structures #4, #5, #6 and #7 constitute a valid context, even though most of the material was redistributed by the 1956 freshet that blasted the mound fill and exposed scores of disrupted burial pits. John West of Fairmount catalogued 22 fragmented burials, and recovered a typical Dallas assemblage on that occasion. At least this small increment can be assigned to a "truncate" mound level, although it is impossible to designate which particular final stage is represented.

Similarly with the special excavation unit, XUA, exposed in 1966-67 in the southwest grid sector of the mound, extended beyond the original mound survey

along the lower slope of the natural levee of the river at that point. Recent plowing had dislodged an undetermined number of superficial burials here and telltale bright orange hearths and plow scarred clay floors led to the eventual exposure of a partially preserved structure on a clay platform. A dozen or more badly deteriorated burials were subsequently troweled out just below plow-line, some in the ditch or lowerslope of the house platform, others in intrusive pits, and one typical Dallas log tomb was found with two Dallas vessels associated. There was not sufficient time to do justice to this badly disrupted situation in the 1966-67 seasons, but collections in situ provide what is probably one of the most reliable contexts for the final occupation at Bell Field. The intriguing suggestion of some sort of charnel house, such as occurred at Irene Mound, Savannah, still remains as a conjecture. In line with the present discussion, it should be remarked that even the surface collections indicated a mixture of potsherds and artifacts belonging to both Dallas and Lamar. This was the occasion on which the idea of a final cultural synchresis at Bell Field emerged, leading to the coinage "Dallamar."

In untruncated, core-mound context, Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7, a four structure functional unit, provide a combined assemblage of sherds and artifacts, scanty, but with some defining characteristics despite the small sample. The intrusion of the fifteen log tombs with their distinctive mortuary ware adds to the implications at this juncture.

The next building level, under two feet of intervening gumbo mound fill, consists of Structure #8B, Structure #9, Structure #10, and Structure #11; another four unit functional group with passageway connections identified between at least three of the structures. As formerly, while catalogued diagnostic material is scanty, what there is is interesting in showing some new elements.

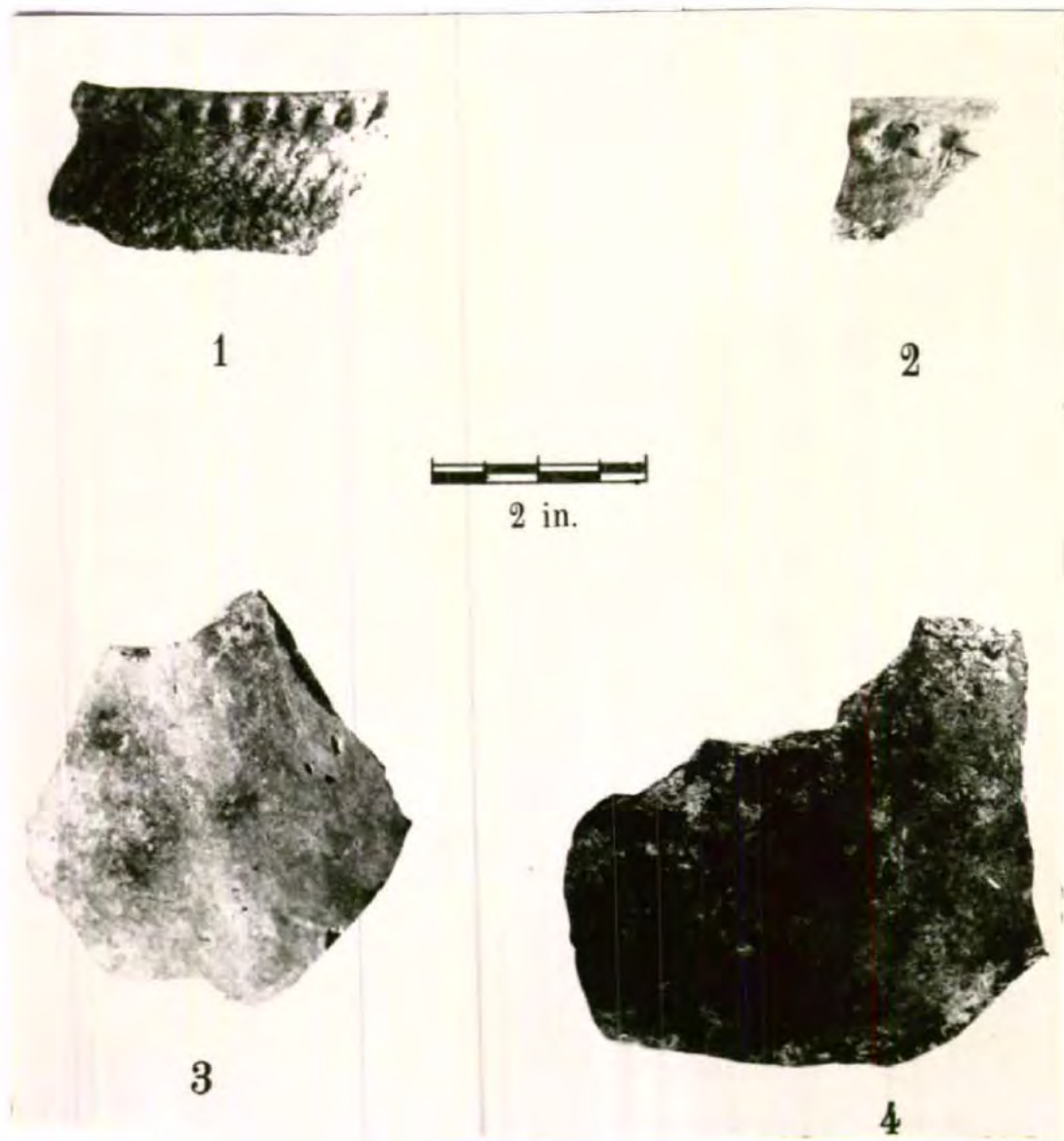


Plate I

Pottery from Terminal Mounds, downslope detritus.

1. and 2. Two rim sherds, both grit tempered, notched fillets.
3. Plain burnished grit tempered.
4. Smoothed shell tempered.

The Hiwassee component, as described by Kneberg and Lewis, has some distinctive pottery landmarks and Savannah Complicated ware in north Georgia, as in nearby Plant Hammond, and in the Allatoona survey, has become a familiar.

Until the encumbering collapsed wall and roof sod is peeled from all of the sandy floor areas of the earth lodges, we can hardly expect to recover much diagnostic material in place. The little evidence at hand is presented in this interim report. Carbon 14 dates indicate a time span of some 200 years between the last earth lodge and the first transitional wattle and daub structure (Structure #8B). As stated in the section dealing with structures, this seems an unconscionably long interval for a significant cultural change in architectural mode--earth lodges had a life expectancy of around 30 years in the dry Plains country, and could hardly improve with age when located on the edge of a southeastern rain forest. Structure #8B was rebuilt possibly twice, with evidences of a partial burning, and had a deep sandy floor, 12 to 14 inches, yielding our largest pottery sample from a structure at Bell Field. Some of the pottery in the floor midden definitely predates the perceived chronological set of the earth lodge, and implies that the sand was brought in from an older village provenance. All in all, our data here is incomplete at the present writing.

The huge ash heap, Feature #100, described in the Excavation section, has only begun to be troweled and sifted. A handful of small potsherds from the top of the heap was not indicative of the deeper deposits. Theoretically conceived as ritual cleaning and refurbishing of hearths in the nearby lodges and ceremonial deposition of same, analysis of the contents could be very significant and interesting, but the diagnostics are likely to come from chemical and organic separation processes not yet completed and ready for report at this time.

The small pottery catalogue from horizontal clearing of mound surface to expose the first untruncated occupation and building level yielded 54 potsherds and seven artifacts. Most of the cleared soil was stiff dark gumbo moundfill which still mantled the occupation level with gumbo thickness varying from around two feet to a redistributed and disturbed envelop over localized plow-scarred patches of the original building occupation. Dozens of residual pit bases pockmarked the mound surface, most of which proved to be sterile on troweling. Several of these intrusive scars were later determined to be large postmoulds (20 inches or more in diameter) which were initially regarded as potential storage pits. Probably the potsherds came from original whole vessels associated with burials broken by torrentuous flood waters and recent plowing. John West visited the site soon after the storm and collected several whole and restorable vessels as well as artifacts. He recorded 22 partial or disturbed burials in place. His collection at Fairmount was studied and photographed. He observed no recognizable log tombs like those found intrusive into the mound summit by the University of Georgia field party in seasons 1965-1966. The University party found dismembered and scattered remains in basal pit residues. Burial data so far as recoverable suggested pit or regular grave interments with implications of flexed burials in most instances. No Dallas burials of this type were found in subsequent excavations after the first untruncated occupation level was uncovered.

The pottery analysis of the 54 sherds gives the following:

Plain shell tempered	29
Complicated stamp grit	10
Cordmarked grit	1
Plain grit	5
Roughened grit	5

Note two notched rim strips of plain grit tempered pottery, and one pottery chunky made from a shell tempered pot. Notched rims are frequent in Dallas at Hiwassee, and are widespread in the Southeast at a comparable period.

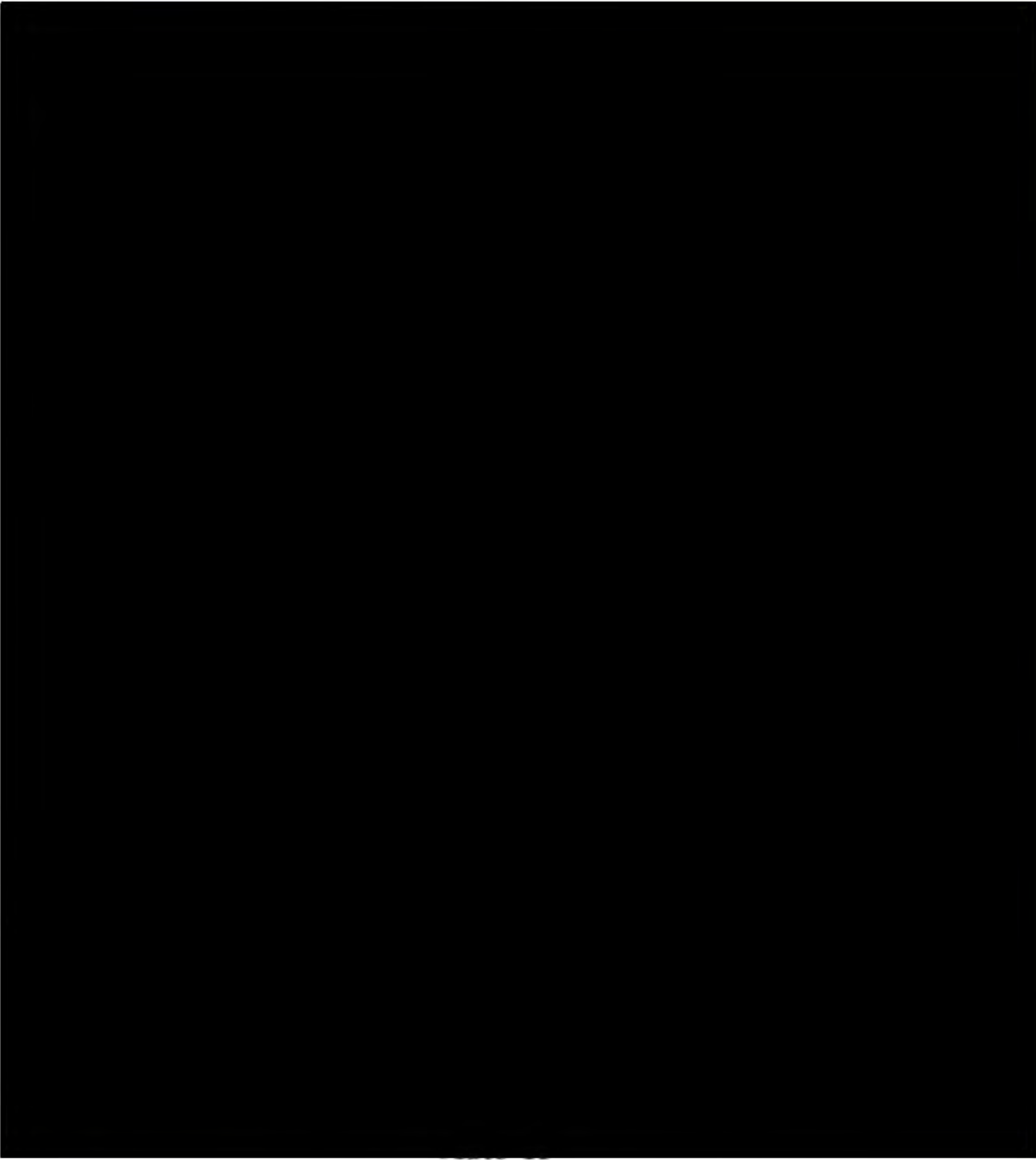
The largest component (56%) is thus a plain shell tempered ware with paste and morphological features similar to those described by Kneberg and Lewis as Dallas Plain. At Hiwassee Island from top to bottom in the Dallas levels this type formed the largest contingent, decreasing toward the core and submound where a transition from Pre-Dallas to Dallas was observed. No Dallas Decorated varieties occur in this small collection.

Grit tempered pottery is only slightly less abundant (44%), mostly plain grit with both smoothed and roughened surfaces. Two pottery rims are notched with plain surfaces beneath the rims. Complicated stamps are the largest category (10 in all). Linear stamps appear indicated in most instances. The totality looks more like the Overhill Cherokee ware described in the Hiwassee report, although as stated in this report much difficulty was experienced in distinguishing Tennessee grit from north Georgia Lamar.

After all the pottery types are constructs in the minds of the archeologists involved in the study of localized site collections from points removed from one another a hundred miles or so. The Hiwassee heads up in Georgia, and wends a tortuous passage through the Blue Ridge to the junction with the Tennessee. And the Indian Potters were happily unconscious of subsequent political boundaries and state sovereignty.

The artifact series, while small, provides some interesting specimens, and are chronologically diagnostic in the sub-regional area. They are as follows:

- 1 checker sized chunky made from plain shell tempered pottery
- 1 pottery ear pendant, grit tempered paste.



Artifacts from XUA, "Dalamar unit," southwest quadrant
extension from Bell Field Mound.

1. Flat celt.
2. Embossed elbow pipe.
3. Stone disc.
4. Pottery ear pin.
- 5., 6., 7., and 8. Pottery, all grit tempered: cordmarked, complicated stamped, two plain.
- 9., 10., and 11. Three projectile points.

3 projectile points

1 flat stone celt

1 elbow pipe with seven bosses impressed around circumference

The pottery chunky is small and neatly formed from smooth shell tempered pottery. Pottery chunkies are not abundant at Bell Field in contrast to other north and northeast Georgia sites. The same is true of stone chunkies, only one of which was found at Bell Field in the special excavation unit beyond the southwest quadrant of the mound.

The pottery ear pendant is also a rare find. Only one specimen of this kind was found in the large field accession at Hiwassee.

The three projectile points are thinner and slightly variant from the "Dallas burial points" found with Dallas burials at Sixtoe Field in seasons 1962-64. Generalized specimens have been found in most Mississippian contexts back to Woodstock times.

The flat greenstone celt is similar to others found with Dallas burials in and around Dallas domestic structures in Sixtoe Field.

The embossed elbow pipe came from the mound fill over Structure #5. There are seven bosses, probably reed impressed, ringed around the pipe bowl. The rim is short excurvate with flattened lip. The pottery paste appears temperless. Embossed pottery pipes occur in a variety of forms, some of the trumpet class, in various Late Mississippian situations in South Carolina, north and northeast Georgia. Their extension in Tennessee needs to be checked with the Tennessee archeologists.

The catalogued material from the special excavation in southwest mound extension (XUA) gave 53 sherds from the troweling of floor deposits and platform of structure partially uncovered in the 1966 season. In addition a cemetery area

immediately east of the structure yielded a Dallas log-tomb burial with two whole Dallas Decorated vessels. Over and around the typical Dallas tomb were strewn badly deteriorated Lamar type burials, 13 in all, mostly flexed to fit narrow pits or shallow graves. Less than six inches of dark gumbo separated the two occupations at the point where the Dallas burial was overlain with concentrated Lamar interments. Despite disruption and scattering of the upper Lamar level in modern cultivation it is probable the hardpan floors and narrowly truncated gumbo seal would preserve pits and burials in patches of the late Dallas or "Dallamar" village. This would require a separate excavation project not feasible at present.

In laboratory cleaning and repair on the Dallas burial vessels, note find of beautiful shell spoon inside of one pot. Residual "Southern Cult" traits are rare at Bell Field. Practically all have been associated with Dallas log-tomb burials for the presumptively elite interments on the mound.

Also note presence of a fine stone chunky with Burial #13, a flexed burial located just above and on the ledges of the pit which contained the Dallas log tomb. A dark organic stain around the compressed and flexed bones suggested a shroud of skin or textile similar to others in log tombs and around regular grave interments attributed to Lamar occupation. A pocket concentration of small pebbles three inches from the calvarium of the skull to Burial #13 could well be the remnant of a rattle. If so this small individual, adolescent or small female, recalls the circumstances of several Dallas log tomb interments, although Burial #13 would seem to belong to a dozen other late graves in the cemetery area mantling the log tomb.

At other sites in north and northeast Georgia, A. R. Kelly has observed a tendency for stone chunkies to antedate pottery chunkies. This was true in the late Wilbanks-Lamar transitional levels at Mound B, Etowah, and was remarked 35

years earlier in exploration of the Macon Plateau village where Lamar overlies an earlier Mississippian component. Chunkies of both kinds are relatively rare at Bell Field.

Returning to the study of the pottery from XUA (53 sherds), we have the following:

Plain shell tempered	20
Complicated stamped shell	1
Check stamped grit	7
Complicated stamped grit	10
Plain grit	12
Cordmarked grit	3

Observe that grit tempered pottery (60%) preponderates over shell in the XUA situation which substantiates the impression recorded in the field diary covering early survey of this area southwest of Bell Field mound to the effect that Lamar was strongly indicated for this sector. Unfortunately, we have no carbon dates for this excavation unit regarded as probably terminal at Bell Field and possibly coterminous with the extensive village under current investigation by David Hally across Talking Rock Creek.

In addition to the pottery shift there is strong evidence of marked cultural change in burial customs, i. e., a Lamar-like cemetery or possible charnel house overlying a Dallas log tomb emplacement.

The grit tempered check stamped pottery accords with a late occurrence found in the Allatoona river basin survey by J. R. Caldwell. Reference is made to two components in Allatoona denominated as Galt and Brewster by Caldwell. A late Lamar check also is a strong minority ware in Cherokee landmark sites in north-east Georgia, i. e., Chauga, Estatoe and Tugalo. The grit tempered complicated stamped ware (10) is more deeply impressed, mostly linear like much of the north Georgia Lamar on the sub-regional sites.

The plain grit has generally a smoothed exterior similar in paste and general

morphology with the type from late Mississippian provenance known as Lamar Plain.

In text and in reference to profile panels of the correlation trenches heavy downslope materials of sheet wash extension of sand, charcoal, burned cane, clay daub, and other debris were seen to occur. These presumably accumulated incident to contemporary occupation on respective mound summits, and as a result of pushing some of the collapsed structures away from the area of rebuilding. In profile inspection of these deposits only scanty pottery, bone, and midden detritus was observed. A measure of the actual occurrence in this context is provided by the catalogued pottery from three exposed downslope terminals in the west coordinate trench cut, i. e., the west extension of the East entry trench made in 1965-66 to which more frequent reference has been made. By definition and clearly demonstrated stratigraphy, T₁, T₂, T₃, must refer to three of the truncated mound occupations subsequent to the first untruncated level which carried structures #4, #5, #6, and #7.

Only 25 sherds were collected from the standing profile in the west axis trench. Even less came from Correlation trench #1 in the south grid. However, this is enough to suggest that horizontal stripping of the downslope deposits for 10 to 20 feet would give a more adequate random sample. Unfortunately, this would have required another excavation unit impossible due to the high priority given to the intensive exploration of the superimposed building activity in the median mound sector.

From T₁ we have three sherds, two were plain shell tempered, with one grit tempered plain. From T₂ there are five sherds, all shell tempered, three with roughened exteriors, one with a striking notched fillet rim. The other two were plain shell. All five could be Dallas Plain, although the notched fillet is put into a Dallas Decorated category by the Tennessee writers.

T₃ yielded a total of 17 sherds of which six were shell tempered and 11 were grit. Note on incised shell tempered rim, with incised designs reminiscent of Broad Lined Incised as originally described at the Macon type Lamar site.

The complicated stamp grit tempered would be normally identified as a north Georgia Lamar characterized by more linear stamps. Further south to the Fall Line and below Lamar components tend to exhibit more curvilinear elements where decorative elements can be studied in the heavily over stamped surfaces. From an analysis of rich pottery midden in Wilbanks context at Mound B, Etowah, obtained mostly from floor deposits of recorded structures, Kelly thought he could demonstrate a secular trend in subsequent occupations toward a north Georgia Lamar variant. For some years the notion has been entertained that this variant recurred on ethnographically fixed proto-historic and proto-historic Cherokee sites in north and northeast Georgia. Tennessee archeologist emphasize that Overhill Cherokee at the Fort Loudon site demonstrates the Cherokee were making such pottery in 1751.

So far as they indicate anything these small collections from the down-slope deposits attributed to the later truncated building intervals show the same mixture of Dallas and Lamar materials found on the original mound summit clearing operations and in the special excavations (XUA) considered the latest occupation at Bell Field. There seem to be indications in each case for increasing increments of Lamar as time approaches the proto-historic occupation.

Another context for accessions of material related to the truncate occupations is found on the floors of structures located on apron-like extensions from the mound. Structure #3, first encountered in the initial trenching into Bell Field mound in 1965 season and returned to in the 1970-71 seasons when the East entry trench was widened, is the source of an important collection. At least half of the structure is still uncovered, extending back under the south grid face of the standing profile.

Animal bones and other organic remains were much more in evidence at this location at the featheredge of one of the truncate mounds, in contrast to the condition in the summit structures. The exposed floor section was gridded in two foot squares as a prelude to sacking a truck load of soil samples for organic extraction by Kent Schneider. Whole maize ears charred were found embedded in the floor midden around a bright orange fired central hearth. One shell tempered cordmarked vessel had evidently been dropped and broken near the hearth, left in place, and trampled in ordinary domestic traffic. The lived-on aspect and sloppy housekeeping are unusual at Bell Field mound. Structure #3 appears to have been a satellite at the foot of the mound, a sort of domestic cooking establishment perhaps for the supply of the elite group maintained in the buildings on the mound summit. The same picture is reconstructed for Structure #1, a few feet away in the north grid, where a structure too small for sleeping quarters was found with floor mats and charred green corn ears in place. The large roasting pit cross-sectional in the north face of the East entry trench, positioned ten feet to the southeast of Structure #3, contained the burned and broken bones of numerous mammals and turtles, and may have been utilized to feed the workers engaged in mound construction. To these observations one might add the evidence from the extensive ashbeds which accumulated outside the walls of Structure #3 which provided well preserved animal and plant remains. The ashbeds extend back into the standing profile of the East entry trench and should give additional information on the domestic activities at the foot of the mound.

The following tabulation on pottery for the Structure #3 combines all collections from this structure to date:

Plain shell	20
Cordmarked shell	10
Fabric marked shell	2
Plain grit	10
Complicated stamp grit	13

Note three rims, two with notched fillets, one from a jar with high collared neck at approximately right angle to the body of the vessel.

Of the 55 sherds, 32 (58%) are shell tempered and are classified as Dallas Plain and Dallas Decorated.

The grit tempered sample is comparable to others found in late deposits on and around Bell Field mound. A plate of representative sherds is illustrated in this report.

The final sample attributed to truncate mound provenance comes from Feature #90, the large roasting pit on the east featheredge of what probably was the mound building interval for Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. The tabulation is as follows:

Plain shell	9
Cordmarked shell	7
Plain grit	17
Complicated stamp grit	12

One large thick cordmarked shell sherd may be part of a "salt pan," a vessel form which was discussed in some detail in the Hiwassee report. Salt pans were a prominent class of Macon Plateau also, and in size and shape and general morphology were similar to the Hiwassee examples. This may be significant although the Macon dates in Georgia chronology should be several centuries earlier than Hiwassee where salt pans are Dallas. Their function in Georgia sites is hypothetical. De Soto commentators saw them utilized by the Quapaw in connection with native production of salt. At Bell Field large thick sherds

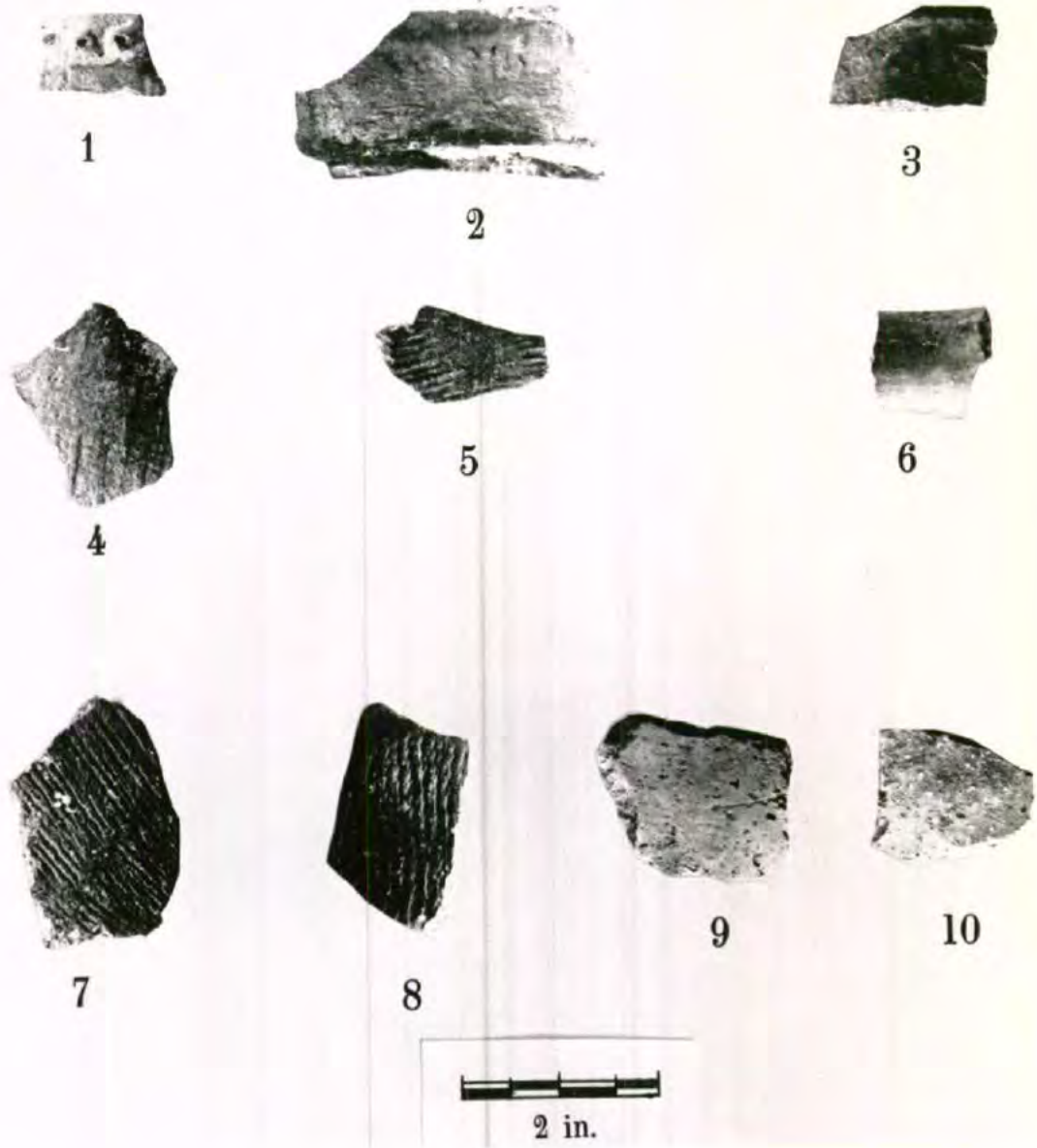


Plate III

Pottery from Structure #3, East entry trench.

- 1., 2., and 3. Three contrasting rim sherds, all grit tempered, complicated stamped.
- 4. and 5. Two complicated stamped sherds, grit tempered.
- 6. Interior of complicated stamped, grit tempered sherd.
- 7. and 8. Cordmarked, both shell tempered.
- 9. and 10. Plain, shell tempered.

have been found, but only pieces five to six inches wide, preferably rims, are recognizable as "salt pans."

Grit tempered pottery (64%) bulks large in this roasting pit feature (Feature #90) than in any other site situation representing the late occupations, even XUA village unit where strong Lamar component was evidenced by several diagnostic factors. The roasting pit was 12 to 15 feet wide and two feet deep, and was unusually rich in burned animal bones. Something on the order of communal or group cookery seems indicated. The complicated stamps again are mostly linear, some roughened and smeared over, and the few rims could fit into the general Lamar morphology. The larger grit tempered contingent here is hard to account for, but after all the sample is small and even one large broken pot scattered in the midden could easily spell the difference. Not all of Feature #90 has been troweled out. Several perplexing questions arise in present interpretation which could have fresh data available with further investigation in the 1972 field season.

The combined data from contexts related to the truncate mound occupations gives well over 200 study sherds, and allows some indication of the ceramic diagnostics for the final mound history. Over all a fairly even distribution of Dallas and Lamaroid assemblages is shown. The justification for a mixing of these contrasting types, implying some sort of culture synchresis, whatever the tribal implications as between Cherokee and Upper Creek (Muskogean) population centers might have been, seems to borne out.

The point of discussion now shifts to the first untruncated mound occupation, that which belongs to Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. Collections here will be the daily gleanings from the meticulous troweling of the floor debris for the different structures. The catalogued material is again very scanty. The implicit assumption is that all four buildings constitute a functional unit

intensely bound up in ceremonial activity, and that the premises were kept ritually clean from ordinary domestic accumulations. Some sort of elite priestly group lived apart, and were maintained in their quarters by servitors from the village or from satellite preparatory bases at the foot of the mound. The central hearths were part of the religious setting, with no such sprawling household midden accumulations as were witnessed in Structure #3. There are some exceptional situations, as in the case of the large collection of charred acorns catalogued from the fill to the huge central fire basin in the council house, Structure #4. But even that might have been a "burnt offering," a ritual observance, judging from several caches of charred beans and maize found in small prepared caches on the southwest ramp slope below Structure #7--the caches of charred vegetable matter had not been burned in place, but elsewhere later carefully packaged and buried in a specially prepared niche outside the ceremonial building units. In this connection we may recall the small piles of green maize ears found on woven mats on the floor of Structure #1 located on the east approach to the mound. The evidence is circumstantial, but additively plausible in support of the ethnographic extrapolation.

The largest single collection from any of the four functionally related structures, #4, #5, #6, and #7, comes from Structure #7, a total of 30 which break down as follows:

Plain shell	16
Cordmarked shell	8
Fabric or net shell	3
Roughened grit	3
Red filmed grit	1

Shell tempered as compared with grit in this small sample comes to 86% of which the largest single category is Plain shell, followed by cordmarked shell. One small checker-sized chunky was made from cordmarked pottery. Of particular

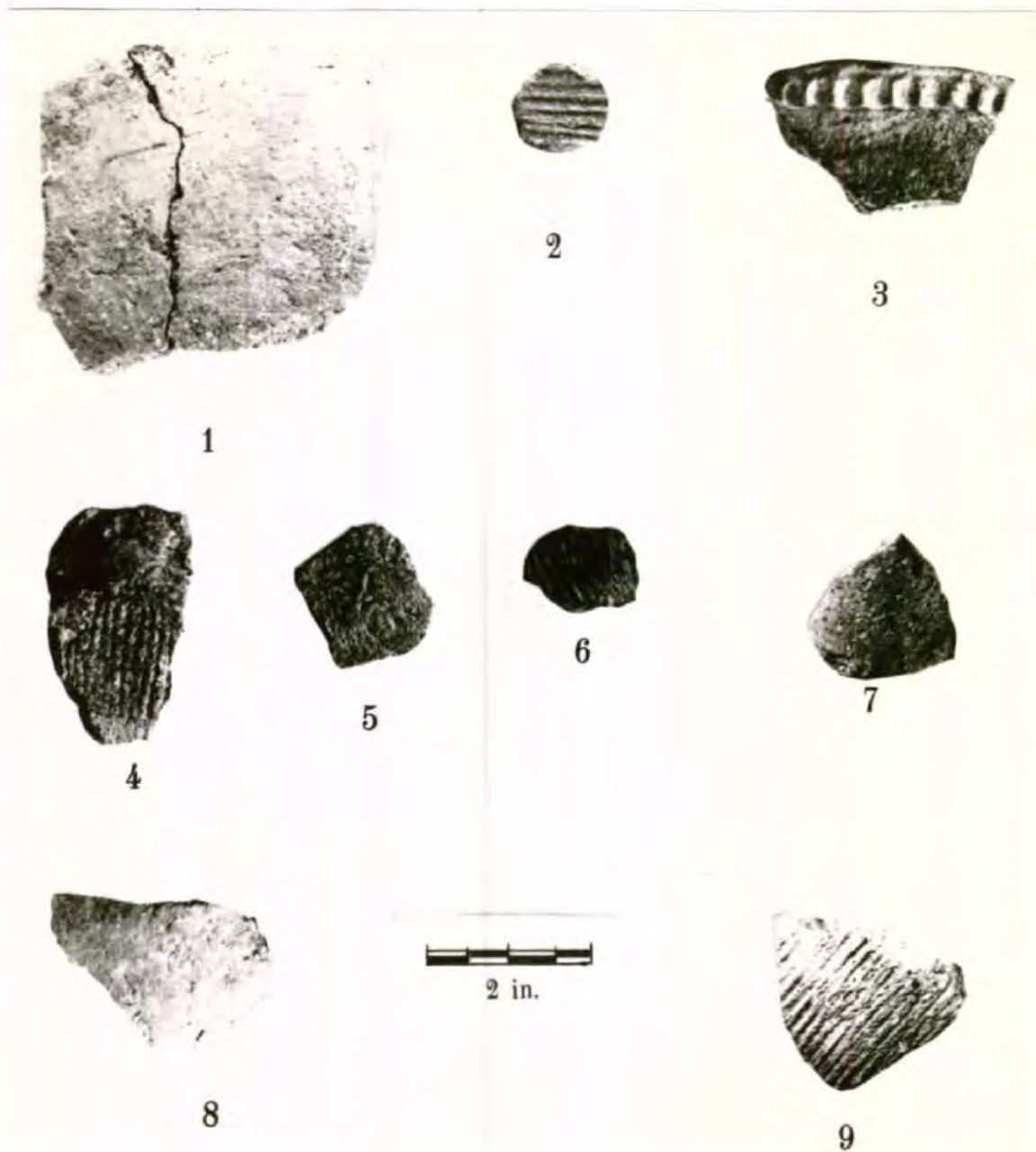


Plate IV

Pottery from Structure #7

1. Large rim sherd of large bowl or "salt pan"; plain, shell tempered.
2. Pottery disc from fabric or textile impressed sherd.
3. Rim sherd with notched fillet; roughened exterior, grit tempered.
4. Thick shell tempered, cordmarked, "salt pan"?
5. Roughened stamped, grit tempered.
6. Simple stamped, grit tempered.
7. Excurvate rim, plain.
8. Plain smoothed, shell tempered.
9. Heavy cord-wrapped paddle, shell tempered.

interest is one large rim and body sherd of plain thick shell tempered variety which indicates a very large shallow bowl or "salt pan." Several other very thick smaller sherds could have come from a large vessel of the salt pan type.

Only four grit tempered, three of which were smeared or "roughened" beyond recognition. The other is a hard, medium tempered grit exhibiting a red paint exterior. If this were shell tempered it would have been classified as Hiwassee Red Filmed in the Tennessee typology.

Note one fine notched filleted rim with the "roughened" texture on body below the rim. It is hard to conjecture whether this effect was deliberate or simply sloppy handling of the wet paste before firing.

The field accessions from horizontal troweling of the floor to Structure #7 show much more animal bone, with preponderance of deer and turtle, and some burned shell. Also, one baked "dauber nest." Question: Does the fired dauber nest come from a natural attachment to the roof of the burned structure, or is this further evidence of the roasting of daubers to obtain the parched larvae? Recall several such specimens recovered from the ashbeds around Structure #3 in the East entry trench where the intention to cook and eat seemed more apparent. A. R. Kelly recovered scores of such roasted "dauber nests" from clay-lined cooking pits at the Korondo Village site in southern Illinois, and there are fairly wide ethnographic accounts of their being dietary among various tribes. Some nests bear cane impressions, but this does not signify anything as the householders might have gathered their food from off their own roofs. Consultation with entomologists at the University of Georgia confirms the probability of the genus of dauber concerned, but there are at least five local species, and further examination is needed for specific identification.

A still smaller collection from off the floor of Structure #6 gives a

total of 21 sherds. The analysis breaks down as follows:

Plain shell	6
Cordmarked shell	5 (with one chunky)
Net or fabric shell	1
Complicated stamp grit	4
Cordmarked grit	1
Plain grit	4

The shell tempered here is very similar to that for Structure #7. What is interesting is the showing of the nine grit tempered sherds which collectively appear strange bedfellows for an otherwise typical Dallas assemblage, i. e., of the four Complicated stamps, one is clearly Etowah Complicated, two resemble Woodstock, and one may be Line Block. They are certainly not congruent with the Lamaroid materials which figure in the upper stratigraphic layers at Bell Field.

From Structure #4 and Structure #5, we have only 10 sherds. These all come from Structure #4, since a small field catalogue of less than 20 sherds for Structure #5, made in 1966 season, has been mislaid in the laboratory, possibly in moving from the basement of Candler Hall to the new Laboratory at Baldwin Hall. The collections at this writing are still being sorted and stored in their new location--the missing data may turn up yet, but are not available for present study. Such a tiny increment could hardly be significant in overall results.

Of the 10, only three are shell tempered (two are cordmarked, one check). Of the seven grit tempered, we have six plain grit and one chevron incised. The six Plain grit are smoothed or burnished. The chevron incised is a very thin, knife-like incision not at all like the broad line incised associated with Lamar. The hard compact, granular paste and high gloss on the plain sherds resembles Savannah Burnished more than Lamar Plain, but in all candor, Lamar Plain, where smooth textured might be hard to distinguish from the Savannah



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



2 in.



8

Plate V

Pottery from Structure #4, Council House.

1. Straight rim, shell tempered, rim area plain, with cordmarked body.
2. Straight rim, grit tempered, plain.
3. Rim with node, plain shell tempered.
4. Straight rim, shell tempered.
5. Stamped, line block or Woodstock Complicated Stamped?, grit tempered.
6. Cordmarked, grit tempered.
7. Simple stamped, grit tempered.
8. Burnished incised, grit tempered.

counterpart out of context--that is, where other key marker sherds define the total assemblage.

Inasmuch as Structure #4 and Structure #5 had a well defined covered passageway connector, and Structure #5 was conjoined to Structure #6-- a possible connector between #7 and #4 shows up in the final draughting of these structures, but is not as certain as the other connections--the total pottery count (61) may be studied for comparable results. Of the 61, forty are shell tempered and twenty-one are grit, giving 67% shell as against grit. This is a much stronger showing of shell tempering than occurred in the later occupations at the Bell Field mound. Also some of the grit tempered belongs to pottery types that are too early for a developed Dallas Period situation, i. e., Woodstock, Etowah, or Savannah. This mingling of early-late pottery is an anomaly that crops up in other contexts at Bell Field as will be seen when the next series of unit structures #8B, #9, #10, and #11 are considered. The explanation given in text is that the mound builders were bringing in sand for floors from nearby village sites where the remains of earlier occupations were accidentally included with the transported construction material.

Charred acorns and other charcoal samples are available, but have not been analyzed for carbon dating in the Geochronology Laboratory. It is pertinent to observe that the most recent date for any level at Bell Field mound is 1400 A. D. for Structure #9 which belongs to the stratigraphically lower structure grouping, with two feet or more of dark gumbo moundfill intervening. If carbon dates continue to give the same spread indicated thus far, Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 should fall close to the beginning of the 16th century. If so, this point in time would mark the advent of a fully developed Dallas culture which had not yet been influenced by the widespread Lamar focus.

With Structures #8B, #9, #10, and #11, Bell Field mound exhibits a completely new set of buildings, with indications of passage connectors and functional contemporaneity, a situation paralleling that described for Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. In certain sections of the superimposed soil mantles the two building levels were separated by 24 to 30 inches of dark gumbo moundfill. In median distribution, allowing for depressed floors, the gumbo shrinks to narrower limits. The thickening on the shoulders and rims to saucers seen in the cross-sections is very marked, amounting to an embankment or exterior collar around the exterior wall bases. Consideration must be given to the degree of "saucering" or floor depression. Structure #4, the "council house" or assembly unit was much more deeply saucered than its companion structures, and the same is true for Structure #10 in the #8B, #9, #10, and #11 building sequence. Structure #10 appears definitely in architectural arrangement and in implied function to be the counterpart of Structure #4; Structure #11 occupies the same relative position with regard to Structure #5; Structure #8B is comparable to Structure #6; and Structure #9 relates to Structure #7. In the chapter on "Structures" the idea was extrapolated that the auxiliary or satellite buildings in each of the two contrasted building complexes were "dormitory-like" constructions appended to the main assembly chamber. Some plausibility may attach to this speculation, but the embroidered theme that notitiates were quartered in the appended structures, foregathering on ritual occasions in the "council" or assembly for priestly instruction by senior members of the elite establishment may well be regarded as an unwarranted extrapolation from the archeological data. Howbeit the recurring phenomenon of functional building complexes and architectural modes, and the contextual material associated with the stratified entities, elicits a strong compulsion to query who were the

people concerned with these tangible relics, and what were their conceivable roles? The contemporary archeologist is abjured to extract the maximum blood from his turnip in the form of reconstructed social organization and functional community, under the implicit assumption that there were people as well as pots. The resulting product of these feverish endeavors may rouse sharp criticism from his colleagues in the ethnographic fraternity. A perusal of current literature leads to some doubt as to the ultimate contribution to "the unity of Anthropology." Having entered this *nol contendere* we proceed to the examination of unit collections from Structures #9, #10, #11, and #8B, a pedestrian stint less subject to controversy.

The largest collection troweled from floor sand deposits came from Structures #9 and #8B. Accessioned material in these instances were combined from two or more seasons of field work. In the section on "Structures," and in study of the house patterns provided in the final draughting, the fact emerges that all four units in this complex were rebuilt--there were successive and overlapping wall continuities, with implication of probable reuse of some postmoulds. The accumulated deposits of sand, several inches in depth, showed no perceptible demarcation of intervals of occupation or human traffic. The "wall to wall" black carbonized matting in Structure #9 may have separated detritus above and below, but this circumstance in our interpretation has about the same significance as examination of material swept under the rug has with the untended litter on top.

From Structure #9, we have a total of 48 sherds of which 13 are shell tempered, and 35 are grit. The grit tempered category thus is nearly three times as large as the shell (72%), a complete reversal of proportions in Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. The small shell series gives 10 Plain shell, and two Cordmarked.

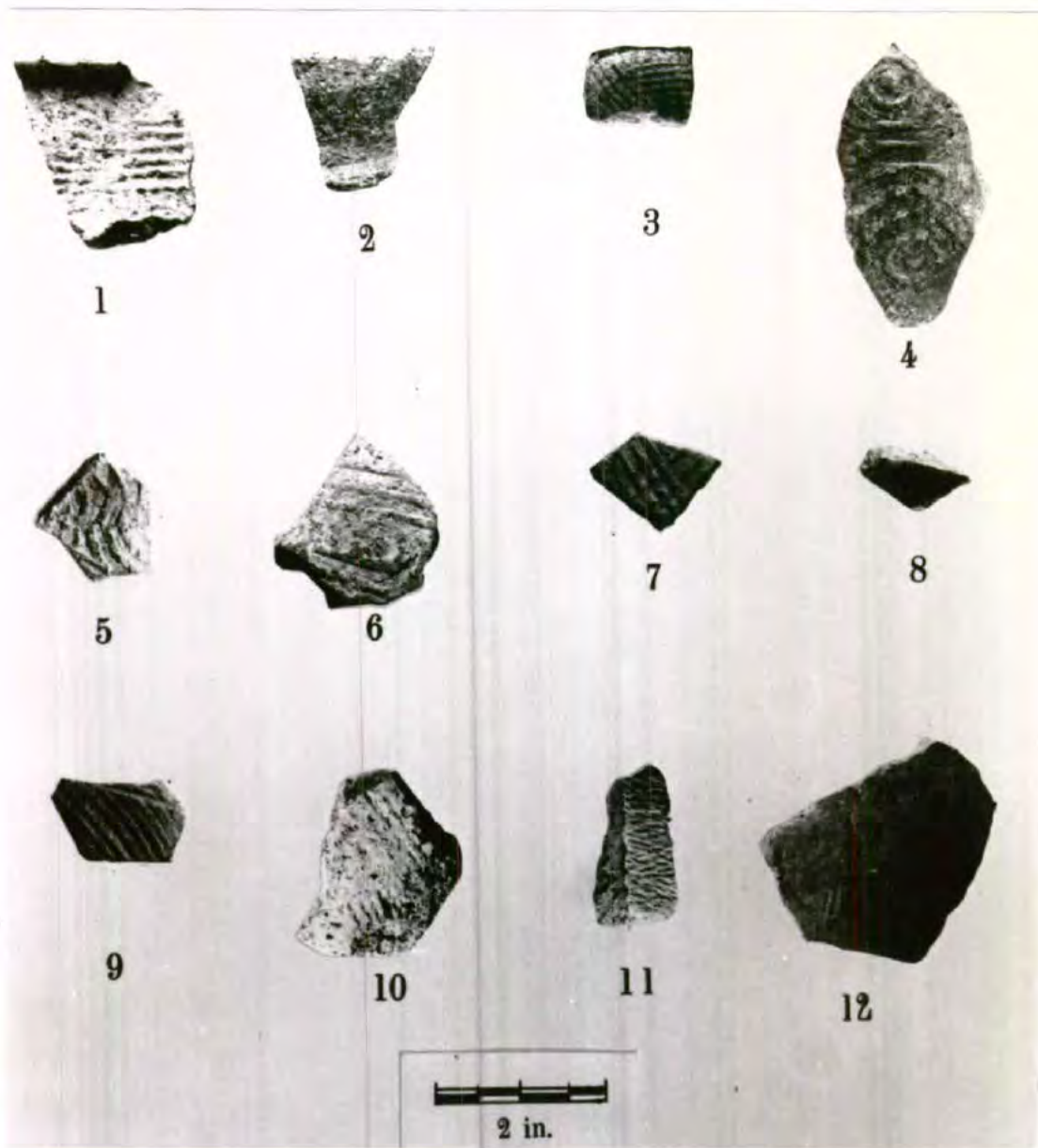


Plate VI

Pottery from Structures #9 and #10, 2nd core level (untruncated).

- 1., 2., and 3. Three rim sherds; line block, shell tempered; thin, straight rim, shell tempered; excurvate rim, complicated stamped (line block?), grit tempered.
- 4., 5., and 6. Three complicated stamped, all grit tempered, probably Savannah Complicated.
7. Overstamped simple stamped, grit tempered.
8. Hiwassee Red Filmed.
9. Simple stamped, grit tempered.
10. Thick cordmarked, shell tempered.
11. Fabric impressed, limestone tempered (?)
12. Plain smoothed, grit tempered.

The breakdown on the grit tempered group reveals some interesting details.

Plain grit	15 (3 rims, 1 excurvate, 2 straight)
Savannah Complicated	4
Woodstock Complicated	3 (1 excurvate rim)
Linear Complicated	8 (Some could be Simple Stamp)
Fabric Impressed	3 (1 folded rim)
Line Block	1 (short excurvate rim)
Check Stamp	1

If we accept the Plain and Savannah Complicated Stamps and the lone check stamp as congeners, the balance of the grit-tempered ware appears too early for the chronology indicated for Structure #9 with Carbon Date of 1400 A. D., plus or minus 60. Savannah Period dates at the nearby Rome, Georgia, site, Plant Hammond mound, are 1120 and 1290, and a general 12th century time interval would fit most north and central Georgia carbon samples analyzed thus far. On the other hand, the carbon dates for Structure #8B, considered the fourth member of the building complex, are both at 1280 A. D. Since all four structures are considered contemporary as connected functional units, there seems to be some discrepancy with a 120 year span. The 1280 date could fit into the Savannah chronology according to present conceptions. As for the linear stamps, Line Block, and the Fabric impressed, all would be too early. At any rate, there is definitely no Lamaroid pottery present. Even though the sample is small, the implication seems clear that there was a shift in ceramic typology from the #9, #10, #11, and #8B level to that of Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7. The sharp drop in the cordmarked and Plain shell percentages was not so great in the submound at Hiwassee Island, but the trend was similar. There is a strong Woodland contingent, assimilated to Caldwell's Cartersville period in north Georgia.

In the artifact class the most important finds were two rectangular, elbow pottery pipes, with punctate designs attributable to Dallas. One small projectile, a short lanceolate with concave base, is very similar to others figured

from upper mound levels. Also one crude stone adz or digging tool and one piece of limestone. Small tabular limestone specimens occur in various Dallas contexts, including grave goods.

Structure #10 as the "council assembly" unit comparable to Structure #4 in the subsequent occupation has special interest in relation to the functional interpretation given in text. As anticipated, the collection of pottery from the saucer and rim sections of this structure were again quite small (15 sherds in all garnered from two field seasons of exploration, 1965-1966). These were identified as follows:

Plain grit	9
Red on Buff	3
Complicated stamp, grit	3

The Complicated stamp includes one folded rim with notched lip. Not a single shell tempered sherd came from Structure #10. This circumstance could well be accidental in such a small catalogue, but for the fact that eventual analysis of all pottery collections from Structures #9, #10, #11, and #8B would reveal a marked decrease in shell tempered pottery and a corresponding, overwhelming preponderance of grit tempered. Also the sherds are so eroded that positive identification is impossible--refracted light shows that some sort of complicated stamp was present, but it was impossible to determine whether a Woodstock, Savannah, or Cartersville Period is indicated. This roughened texture results from simple soil wear and attrition, and could be a clue to the problem of deciding which sherds were transported from an old village site to the mound during construction, and which were accumulated in situ by the residents of the structure.

The Red on Buff is a minority type in the Hiwassee Island series, and accordingly is an indicator in the key Unit #37 context there, critical where distinctions had to be made between Pre-Dallas and Dallas. Another such site

marker is Hiwassee Red Filmed, several sherds of which turned up in the floor sand of Structure #8B. Presence of even these few sherds in Structures #9, #10, #11, and #8B levels would be sufficient to reveal some Hiwassee influence on Bell Field.

Only one artifact was found, a Fort Payne chert knife or side scraper. Chips of the same chert were catalogued from several house floors, and the implication is that this source (Fort Payne cherty limestone) was favored over quartz which abound in the Cartersville fault zone.

After three seasons of persistent horizontal troweling of deep sandy floor deposit, 12 to 14 inches in the level ascribed to Structure #8B, 1966-67-68, it was finally decided in appraising all house pattern data, that #8B was the particular unit that belonged to Structures #9, #10, and #11 building complex. There had been continuing frustration in trying to segregate the final building episode assigned to Structure #8A. As stated in the Section on excavations, Structure #8C dipped so sharply with its marked saucering that this structure was eventually identified as an earth lodge construction that had collapsed onto the previously sunken gumbo roof sod of Structure #12. At the end of the 1971 field season, we were still groping to peel the sand floor of Structure #8C where it adhered to the compacted debris of the underlying earth lodge.

In 1968, in following the sandy floor of Structure #8B from the south grid into the north grid, just beyond the three central fire basins indications were uncovered suggesting a possible passage connector to Structure #11. Although this connector was never completely exposed to produce good postmould sequence the evidence seemed sufficient to tie Structure #8B with Structure #11 to the northeast.

There was never any doubt about the passage connecting Structure #9 with the "council house", Structure #10 to the north. Structure #10 and Structure #11

were separated by only a few feet, practically cheek by jowl, and another passage connection was anticipated. This was never demonstrated because of the disturbed wall trenches incident to the original demolition of the structure. Structure #11 in its entirety had been so warped and distorted that only enough postmould continuity was exposed to provide a perceived outline of the house pattern. Another anomaly is that despite many hours of troweling on this stubborn unit, no pottery or artifacts were recorded or catalogued. Note that Structure #11 occupied the same relative position relative to the "assembly or council" chamber, Structure #10, that Structure #5 had to Structure #4 in the superimposed structure complex. Some few potsherds were recovered from #5, but were mislaid incident to moving collections from one laboratory to another in 1972.

Returning to Structure #8B, the catalogued material from 12 to 14 inches of sandy floor in this comparatively large unit, yielded a total of 136 sherds, the largest catalogue from any structure on Bell Field mound. Any gratification from this largess, however, was short-lived in contemplating the analysis of the pottery. A tabulation for the Structure #8B collection follows:

Plain shell	11	(1 pottery chunky)
Cordmarked shell	4	
Fabric or net impressed shell	1	
Plain grit	43	(1 rim with large
Complicated stamp grit	19	node)
Etowah Complicated Stamp	14	
Check stamped	7	
Hiwassee Red Filmed	11	
Hiwassee Red on Bluff	2	
Woodstock Complicated Stamp	14	
Line Block	3	
Roughened	13	
Cordmarked exterior (with red painted interior?)	1	
Punctated (rouletted?)	1	
Criss-cross fine line incised	1	
Plain tetrapod	1	

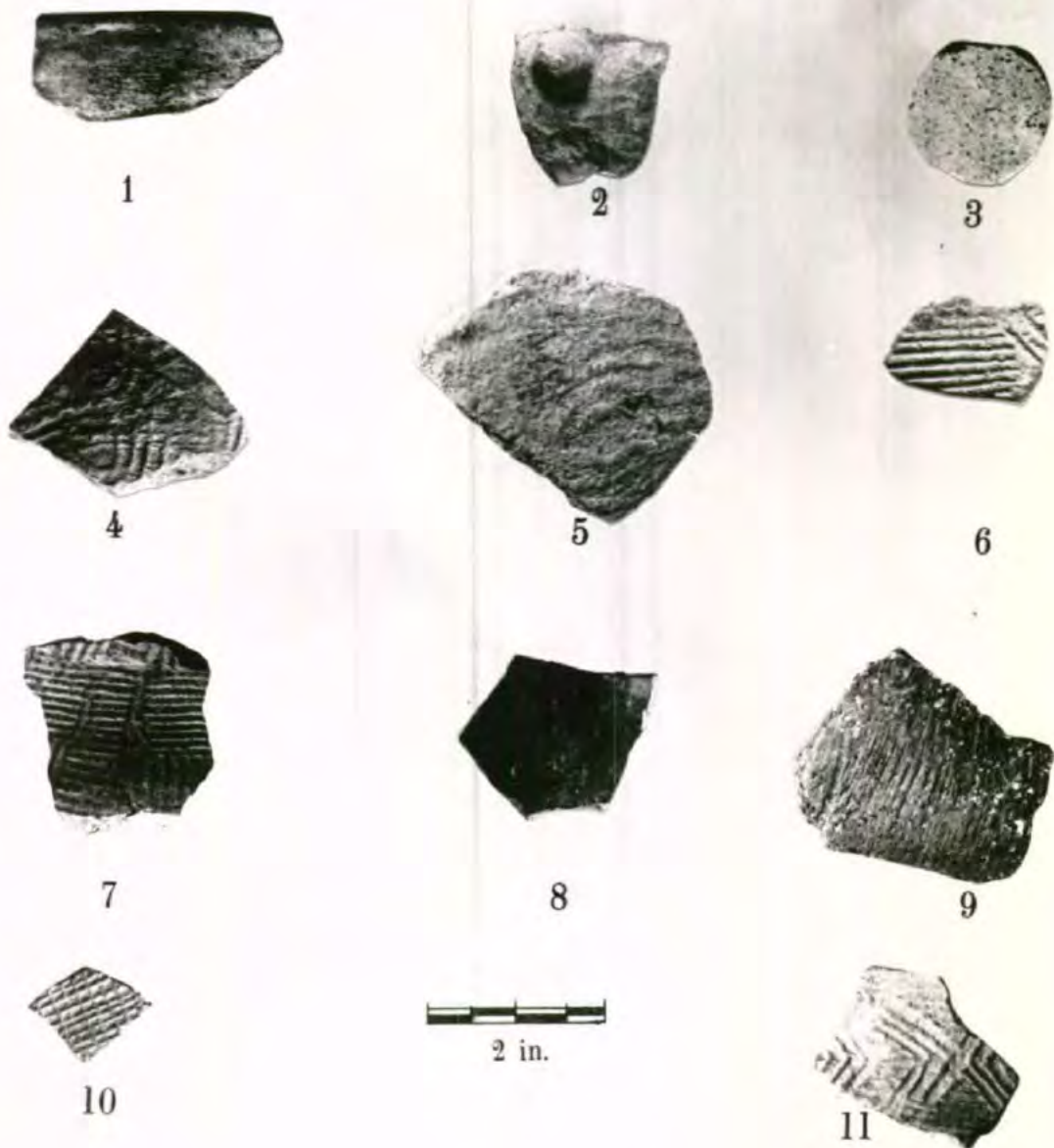


Plate VII

Pottery from Structure #SB, 12 to 14 inches of sandy floor deposit; mixed assemblage.

1. Plain rim, smoothed, shell and grit tempered.
2. Rim with button node, red painted interior, sand tempered.
3. Pottery disc, shell tempered, plain smoothed.
4. and 5. Complicated stamped, Savannah or Wilbanks, grit tempered.
6. Etowah or Woodstock Complicated Stamp.
7. Line Block, sand tempered.
8. Hiwassee Red Filmed.
9. Cordmarked, shell tempered
10. Savannah or Cartersville Check Stamped.
11. Woodstock Diamond Stamped.

The total gives 136 in all with 120 in the grit tempered group. A more motley assortment could hardly be imagined to come from the accumulated sandy matrix of one house floor! Just about every type ever described for north Georgia in 30 years of survey is represented, along with a few weird specimens that are unique to this observer.

The grit tempered contingent amounts to 88% of all pottery at Structure #8B, and thus exhibits a radical reversal of the condition observed for Structures #4, #5, #6, and #7 building complex where shell tempered ware was definitely predominant, or with the log tombs where mortuary ware is all Dallas, except perhaps for such exotics as the dog pot and the zoomorphic pipe which is more Meso-American than anything else.

Dog effigy pots have occurred at two other scattered sites in Georgia. At the Bull Creek cemetery site, on the Chattahoochee bordering the Fort Benning military reservation, Columbus, Georgia, in 1936 a field party from the Ocmulgee expedition at Macon, uncovered and removed intact a complete "dog pot burial" of an adult male, now exhibited at the Columbus Museum of Arts and Crafts. Except that interment was in a grave or oval pit instead of a typical Dallas log tomb, the two assemblages are very similar. It should be remarked that the Bull Creek dog pot was found in a firm Lamar association, whereas the Bell Field counterpart is clearly Dallas. Also in the 1930's there was another effigy dog pot in the Neisler mound collection from a site on the Middle Flint River, near Roberta, Georgia. Again the Neisler mound chronology fits into the middle Georgia Lamaroid occupation. In Tennessee, dog effigy vessels are illustrated from private collections, but the writer knows of no qualified archeological record from specified sites.

Further removed territorially are the Mexican distributions. In northwestern Mexico, Sonora, strikingly close parallels of effigy dog pots are well

known. In east coastal Huastecan archeology smaller and less flamboyant examples occur. Some sort of southeastern United State and Mexican split diffusion seems indicated with broad intervening blank areas--the old uncertainty with rival proponents of a Texas corridor, trans-Gulf, and Caribbean transfer zones.

The small Dallas component, 16 total, is indubitably Dallas, even the noded rim (Kneberg and Lewis included fillets and nodes in their "Dallas Decorated").

The Plain grit includes all residual undecorated sherds. Frankly, it is impossible to distinguish plainware as between Savannah and Lamar without the specialized rim morphology to help.

The Complicated Stamp class has some good Savannah Complicated which will go into the pottery illustration for this occupation level. Others are more linear, small sherds that just miss being identified with Simple Stamp or Woodstock. The Woodstock Complicated is quite well substantiated, and was remarked continuously while troweling in the floor sand. The question arose: Could Woodstock have an in situ cultural presence assignable to the occupants of Structure #8B? Two carbon dates for Structure #8B gave precisely the same result, 1280 A. D., and the prevailing opinion among experienced Southeasternists was that this is a bit late for Woodstock, if the carbon dating is to be taken seriously. However this point may be resolved, Etowah Complicated is an exotic out of time; this even though the ladder based sherds (7) are large and sprawling of the late variety.

Hiwassee Red Filmed (11) and Hiwassee Red on Buff (2) would appear to be true increments showing the influence of the Hiwassee component on the Bell Field community. Line Block antecedents in the so-called late Woodland-Mississippian transition of north Georgia are still rather unsettled. Roughened again

marks erosional wear or sloppy workmanship. The tetrapod would have to belong to the Cartersville Period, of middle Woodland vintage over most of Georgia.

In summary, the 200 total study sherds from Structures #9, #10, #11, and #8B exhibit combined characteristics of a mixed assemblage of Savannah period as exemplified at Plant Hammond mound, Rome, Georgia, and in the Allatoona Basin series, along with a clear representation of earlier wares. One outstanding pottery type that is absent is Swift Creek, and this is remarked because there is a good Swift Creek site just across the Coosawattee from Bell Field. The dirt movers also missed the extensive Morrow Mountain component of Archaic, which also is situated across the river, but this is understandable as the old land surface on which the early hunters left their campsite remains was buried under five to six feet of alluvium several thousand years before Bell Field times.

As for the small Dallas component, the pertinent consideration is that the shell tempered had considerable representation in the earlier occupation at Unit #37, Hiwassee Island. Kneberg and Lewis opined that Dallas was an invading culture into the Great Valley of the Tennessee. At Bell Field cultural diagnostics indicate that Dallas is invading north Georgia some centuries before the Lamar synchresis, and that the indigenous group were defined primarily by a north Georgia variant of the Savannah Period. For this reason a panel illustration of Savannah pottery vessels, some 20 of which were catalogued from a burned structure sealed in the Plant Hammond mound, is borrowed from the Plant Hammond report which is being readied for mimeographing at this writing of the Bell Field seasons 1970-71.

Finally we arrive at the crucial stage of the early lodge basal structures-- crucial in the sense that there are partially exposed no less than seven such constructions, and these are seen to be transitional to later wattle and daub

type buildings. From the dimensions of the uppermost central lodges, Structure #8C and #12, a total interior floor space is estimated to approximate 1500 to 1600 square feet. The sandy floor is not yet completely freed from its mantle of roof sod and remains largely intact so the major collections of materials including pottery must still be made. Structure #12, immediately underneath Structure #8C, has three corners exposed and narrow floor sand exposed for about 20 square feet in the corner sections. Considerable portions of Structure #12 extend back under unexcavated moundfill on the southeast, north, and northeast.

The present pottery accessions are thus only a very small sample of what may be anticipated when all the floor areas are exposed. Already some animal bone, ash, and scattered pottery, with six hearths arranged along the long axis of Structure #8C, give promise of a more lived-on aspect in the earth lodges, with less circumspect housekeeping and more midden accumulation in contrast to the general conditions observed for the later building complexes. One hearth with accumulated ash bed in the sandy floor section of Structure #14-- a possible satellite to Structure #12 to the northeast--yielded a handful of potsherds, some animal bone including recognizable deer and turtle remains, and another sample of the unidentified starchy compound found in the ashbeds in the base of cut of the East entry trench. The suggestion was made that this might be a tuber of a native Morning Glory plant which local folklore in Georgia still calls "Indian bread." The expertise of ethno-botany, and possibly food technology, may be required before this problem is solved.

More blue chert fragments implying some tool preparation and a triangular point similar to finds made in the two upper wattle and daub complexes indicate little cultural change. Actually, in north Georgia a basic lanceolate isocelous triangle point, with minor modifications, extends back to Woodstock, and in

nearby Tennessee to Hamilton. We have not yet seen any stemmed points such as are figured in the Hiwassee Island report for the Hiwassee component.

Inasmuch as the total sherd collection is so small, the complete assortment from earth lodge context will be presented with indication of the individual structure source.

Structure #12	3 thin grit plain 2 roughened grit 1 Complicated Stamp, grit 2 Cordmarked (grit and shell)
Structure #15	3 Complicated Stamp (2, grit and shell; 1, grit) 5 Plain grit (2, grit and shell; 3, grit)
Structure #14	8 Plain, both grit and shell tempered
Structure #21	1 sherd, grit and shell, cordmarked rim
Ditch between Structure #17 and Structure #18	7 Plain grit 4 Plain, both grit and shell 3 Complicated Stamp, both grit and shell

Of the total 39 from the earth lodges, 28 are plain, 11 with both shell and grit temper, and 17 grit tempered. Of the eight Complicated Stamps, six exhibit evidence of both shell and grit temper; and of the three Cordmarked, all are both shell and grit. Four or five of the Plain sherds have heavy grit, almost pebbly, from crushed white quartzite; extrusion from the paste gives a contorted effect, as does the mixture of grit and shell. The shell is flat, lenticular, burned black to brown, suggesting possible burning of the shell before mixing of the paste. Frequent lumps of some dark brown organic matter are also conjectural. When a larger collection of earth lodge pottery is available a more sophisticated x-ray and chemical study will be needed. Just now the observation is recorded that the Plain ware obtained so far resembles the Bibb Plain and Halstead Plain types described for Macon Plateau, Ocmulgee,

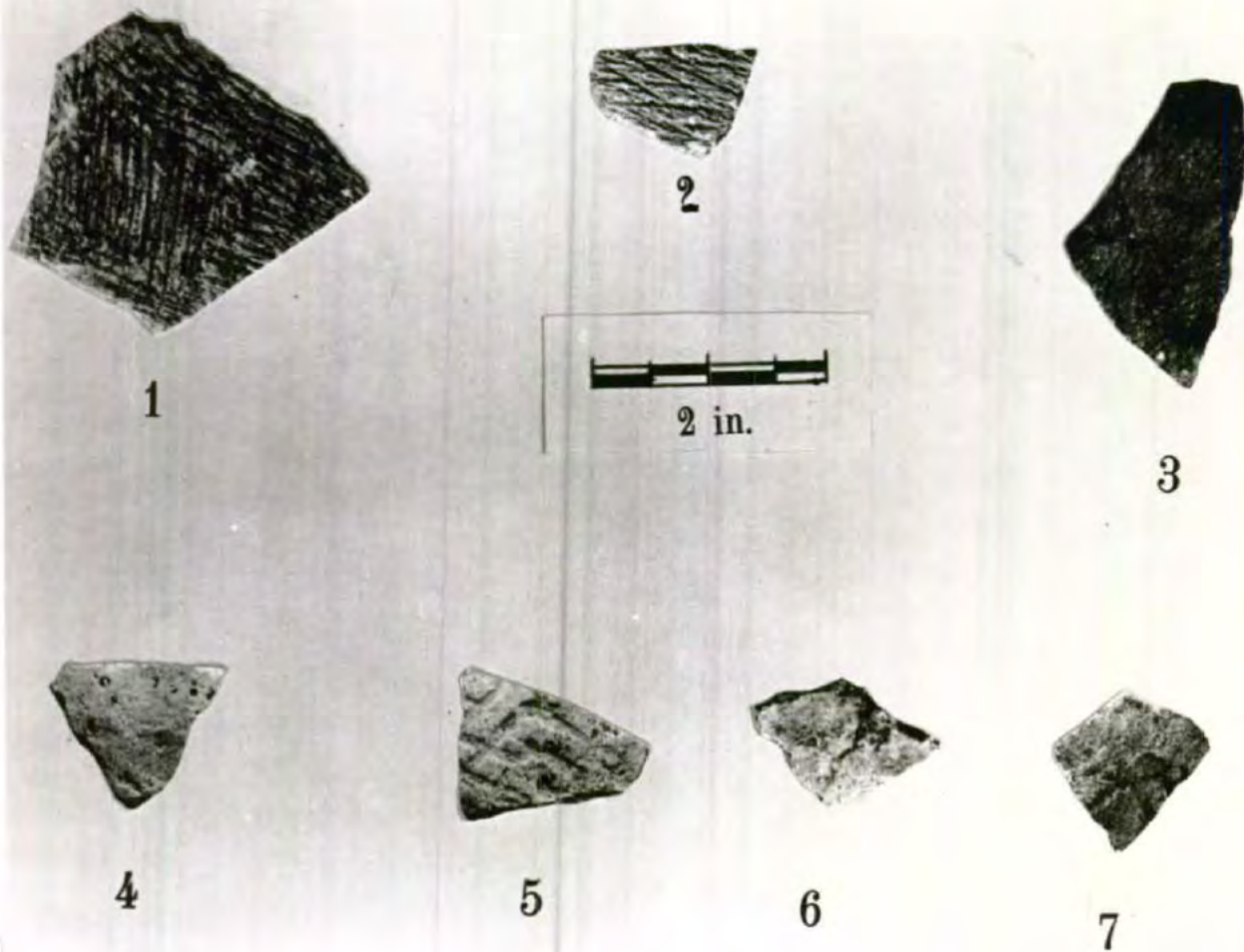


Plate VIII

Pottery from Earth Lodges.

1. Cordmarked, shell and grit tempered, Structure #12.
2. Cordmarked, shell tempered, Structure #12.
3. and 4. Plain, grit tempered, Structure #12.
5. Broad incised, shell tempered, Structure #12.
6. and 7. Plain grit, Structures #17 and #18 (ditch), respectively.

where a mixture of grit and shell was recurrent in much of the pottery studied by Fairbanks, and the museum project operated to analyze the large Ocmulgee collections during WPA days. Again one recalls the "salt pans" found in both site situations, and in Tennessee-Hiwassee. Also the occurrence of thick strap handles surmounted by rim nodes, many variations of which were illustrated in the Hiwassee Island report and in the Macon series. Loop handles are more diagnostic for both Macon and Hiwassee, but the large strap handles can occur in fairly early provenance as Kelly found them in the "trash heaps" of late Etowah-Wilbanks times at the foot of Mound B, Etowah.

The Complicated Stamps are weakly impressed, and not as forthright Savannah as later wares in the upper levels. The Cordmarked is tight and strongly marked, very similar to Hiwassee component-types illustrated by Kneberg and Lewis. Again these also show a mixture of shell and grit.

The collection as a whole is thinner and exhibits a stronger fabric than do the later Dallas models. Perhaps the most obvious feature is the absence of the profusion of stamped varieties found in Structures #9, #10, #11 and #8B level. This could mean simply that the floor sand was obtained from pure fluvial deposits unadulterated by village midden. Certainly the earth lodge pottery assemblage does impress as a much more homogeneous ware.

Soil samples from floor deposits in the earth lodges will be made during the summer 1972 field season. Tentative arrangements are being made with Kent Schneider to operate his Mobile Organic Extractor at Bell Field. The results obtained from the organic extraction from soil samples taken from Structure #3 should provide excellent comparisons with the earth lodge data. There are some interesting differences between Structure #3, and the results obtained from investigation of village materials taken from house floors in Little Egypt settlement across Talking Rock. If several centuries, five or more, span the

cultural continuum at Bell Field mound, from submound and three pancaked earth lodges to the late occupation at XUA, some significant adaptations in subsistence patterns might well be revealed. Note one large coprolite from the floor of Structure #8C, six inches long and over an inch thick, a magnificent specimen, which if determined to be human, could give valuable information on the dietary of the earth lodge people. Also plant extraction and palynology may combine to throw light on the kind of vegetative cover that grew on the sod roofs of the earth lodges. The collapsed sod over the decomposed log supports still exhibits root trails which have filled with iron precipitates. Such vegetation would have anchored the soil on the steeply pitched roofs, and should be an important factor in minimizing erosion. Plants springing up on the spoil banks of the excavation during the last eight years might provide a clue here. The earth lodges are set only a few feet apart, with V-shaped drainage ditches between, which theoretically acted as natural catch basins for organic detritus.

At present no soil samples for organic extraction have been taken from earth lodge floors, but a full program to that end is scheduled for this summer. Some interesting results have been obtained from the analysis of seeds extracted from Structure #3, from the apron extension in the East axis trench. Two unusual findings have to do with the presence of pokeweed (*Phytolacca*, honey locust), and sumach (*Rhus*). Both are given by authorities as edible plants in the eastern U. S. as having been used by eastern Indians. Poke itself is an edible plant prized by southern Appalachian mountaineers. Sumach seed are said to be the base for an "acid drink" and were stored for that purpose. One species, staghorn sumach, is less bitter and produces a drink like pink lemonade.

Kent Schneider advises that two varieties of corn, both dent and flint corn, are present. Distortion due to charring is a factor, and the contrasting grains may be due to a single set of genes. The taxonomic problem remains for a

specialist. A similar situation exists regarding beans and lentils--at present we are cautiously informed we have a "wild legume." Plum seed abound, and possibly persimmon. Oddly enough no chaenopodium occurs in present analysis.

The fossil soils sealed in Bell Field mound, largely without any alluvial clay to make an unmanageable colloid, are run through analysis in about one third the time required for village samples at Little Egypt. But the Bell Field materials are still largely unanalyzed, and the key earth lodge samples remain to be made this summer when the lodge floors are available.

An important diagnostic has to do with the time factor and dating. At present we have five carbon 14 dates available for Bell Field. The uppermost is 1400 A. D. for structure #9, a charred log section from near the passage connection to Structure #10. Structure #8B with its 12 to 14 inches of midden gave two samples, both came out at 1280 A. D. The sigmas, plus add minus, were 60 and 70. Carbon dates for the earth lodges were announced late this Spring, 1972. They are 860 A. D. for Structure #12 and 1060 A. D. for the uppermost lodge, Structure #8C. As stated before, the 200 year interval between successive earth lodge constructions is inexplicable, even allowing for one or more rebuildings of Structure #8C, discussed in the text on excavations. Discussion with Robert Stephenson, who has wide experience with earth lodge explorations in the Plains, and with other colleagues, strengthens the calculation of about 30 to 35 years for the lifetime of a typical earth lodge in the Plains area, where conditions were certainly more favorable than in north Georgia where these structures were built and maintained on the fringe of a rain forest.

In this connection the comparable dates for Macon Plateau are of particular concern. John W. Walker, Research Archeologist at the Southeastern Archeological Center, Macon, Georgia, provides the essential information. There are two

radiocarbon dates for the Macon Plateau period. The first comes from a clay hearth in a rectangular structure at the Brown's Mount site, a component of the main occupation nine miles away, and gives A. D. 980 (970 #150 BP). The second sample is from charcoal taken from the floor of the restored earthlodge at the main Macon Plateau site and is A. D. 1015 (935 #110 BP). Charles Fairbanks and other archeologists at Ocmulgee have favored a date of around 900-1000 A. D. for the general Macon Plateau period. There is evidence of a total occupation of several centuries so that the end date might well come to around 1200 A. D.

A. R. Kelly found both round and rectangular lodges at the Ocmulgee sites, with some evidence of superimposition in the constricted area between Mounds A and B. Fairbanks thought the round structures may have evolved from the rectangular prototypes. Kelly regarded both kinds of structures as probably contemporaneous. The real problem was why Macon Plateau should exhibit both "temple mounds" and ceremonial earth lodges. The Ocmulgee earthlodges were spatially removed and not sealed and monumentally preserved in mound envelopes as at Bell Field and at the Tugalo mound, Stephens County, Georgia, investigated by J. R. Caldwell.

There are no carbon dates for Tugalo, or Allatoona survey, or the earth lodge uncovered in recent survey of the Singer-Moye mounds by Frank Schnell and Don Gordy for the Columbus Museum, Columbus, Georgia. But pottery and other diagnostics at these sites place them in a comparable early Mississippian context to Macon Plateau and Bell Field. It seems clear that earthlodges as an architectural phenomenon in Georgia must tend to fall in a time span of around 900-1200 A. D. After thirty years of archeological survey, Macon Plateau and Brown's Mount appear as the only two distinct site situations recognized for this particular Mississippian manifestation. In the broad piedmont (above the

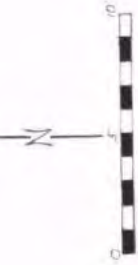
Fall line) sector of Georgia, from the northeast, north, and northwest, the dominant or prevailing archeological culture during the 900-1200 A. D. time span would be some sort of variant of the Savannah Period, and this chronological interval as indicated from several widespread sites falls around 1000-1100 A. D. A cultural continuum from Woodstock, through Etowah-Wilbanks-Savannah to Dallas, is indicated from combined Sixtoe and Bell Field contexts at Carter's Dam. The pervasive idea behind all these discrete archeological entities recognizes after thirty-five years a construct in the archeological mind labelled "Mississippian" which is intrusive and superimposed in the several sub-regional situations on an earlier and persisting southern Appalachian horizon whose chief diagnostic has long been seen as complicated stamped pottery. Macon Plateau was a mile square, heavily fortified site, located on the high-bluffs of the east Ocmulgee River, and Brown's Mount was strongly entrenched nine miles downstream. The surrounding tribal groups were the descendants of autochthonous elements going back to the formative early pottery occupations.

At this point another curious coincidence is remarked. Robert Stephenson advises he considers the critical interval for the early earth lodge development in the Plains area to have occurred between 800-1200 A. D. These early exemplars of the earth lodge were either rectangular or nearly square with rounded corners and demonstrate a startling resemblance to the structures presently being uncovered at the base of the Bell Field mound. Waldo Wedel and other Plains archeologist have for years surveyed the broad expanse of North America archeology for potential prototypes, examining in panorama the Northwest coast, the American Southwest (round and rectangular pit houses), and the Southeast. It has taken the Southeast 40 years to produce comparable archeological data in good site context, and most of the crucial information is still unpublished or too recent to be fully available.

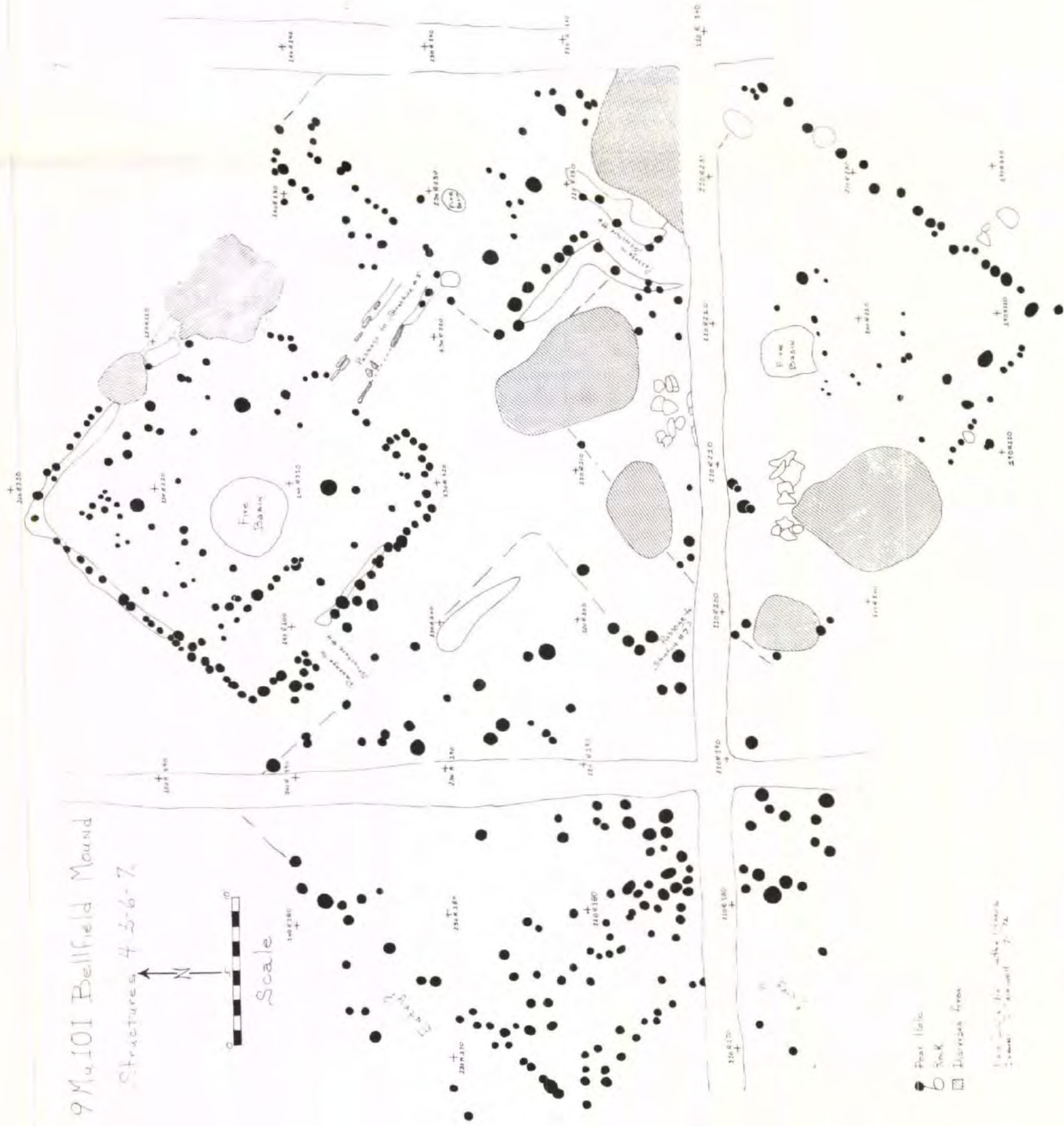
Earthlodges were found in the early WPA days in the TVA archeology in the Chicamauga Basin (Fairbanks communication and others), and were not reported by the chief investigators in subsequent publication. Joffre Coe in recent North Carolina surveys on Cherokee landmark sites of great cultural depth communicates he has found earth lodges which exhibit strong parallel architectural features with the Carter's Dam structures. On the Coosawattee exploration of earth lodges is still at an early and critical stage. There are three superimposed levels of tightly telescoped occupations with only preliminary indications from the two upper central structures. Satellite, connected structures are still sealed under unexcavated moundfill. In this interim report the author is performing a repertorial stint with only a preliminary purview of the broader spectrum. With a background of experience at Cahokia in western Illinois, on the Ocmulgee at Macon, and now at Carter's Dam in north Georgia, the compulsion to remark the broad implications of the site data in a preliminary statement is inescapable. Final conclusive remarks are postponed pending the results of the 1972 forthcoming field season, and opportunity to compare notes with Tennessee and North Carolina colleagues.

9M_u101 Bellfield Mound

Structures 4-5-6-7



Scale

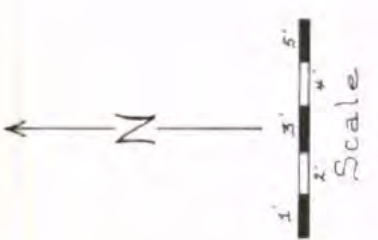
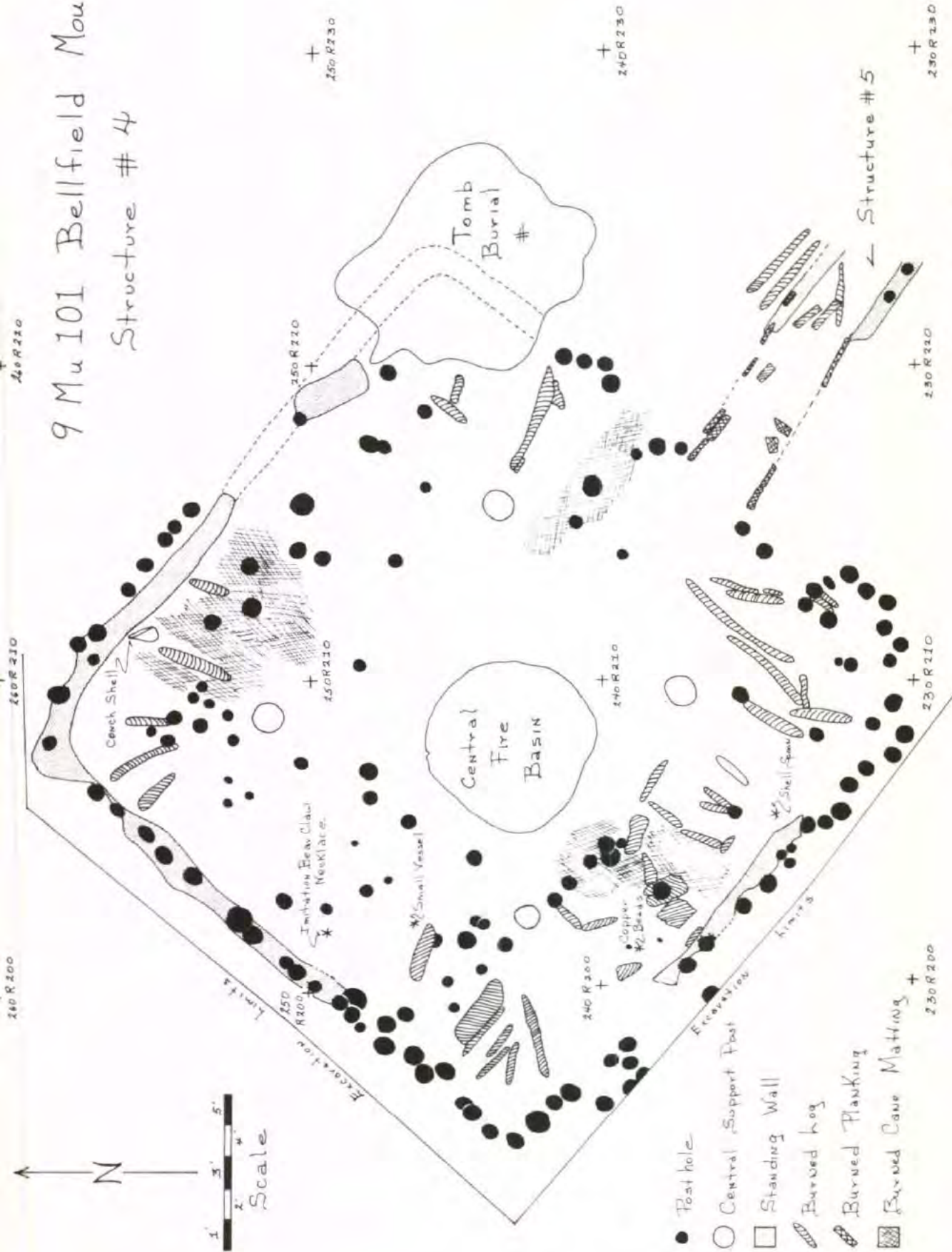


- Pit (100-200)
- Pit (100-200)
- Pit (100-200)

Pit 100-200 are the same as the ones in the plan of the mound 9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200

9 Mu 101 Bellfield Mound

Structure # 4

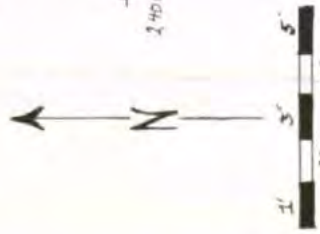


- Post hole
- Central Support Post
- Standing Wall
- ▨ Burned log
- ▩ Burned Planking
- ▧ Burned Cane Matting

Field Data : A. D. Smith + Others
 Drawn: S. Caldwell - 7-72

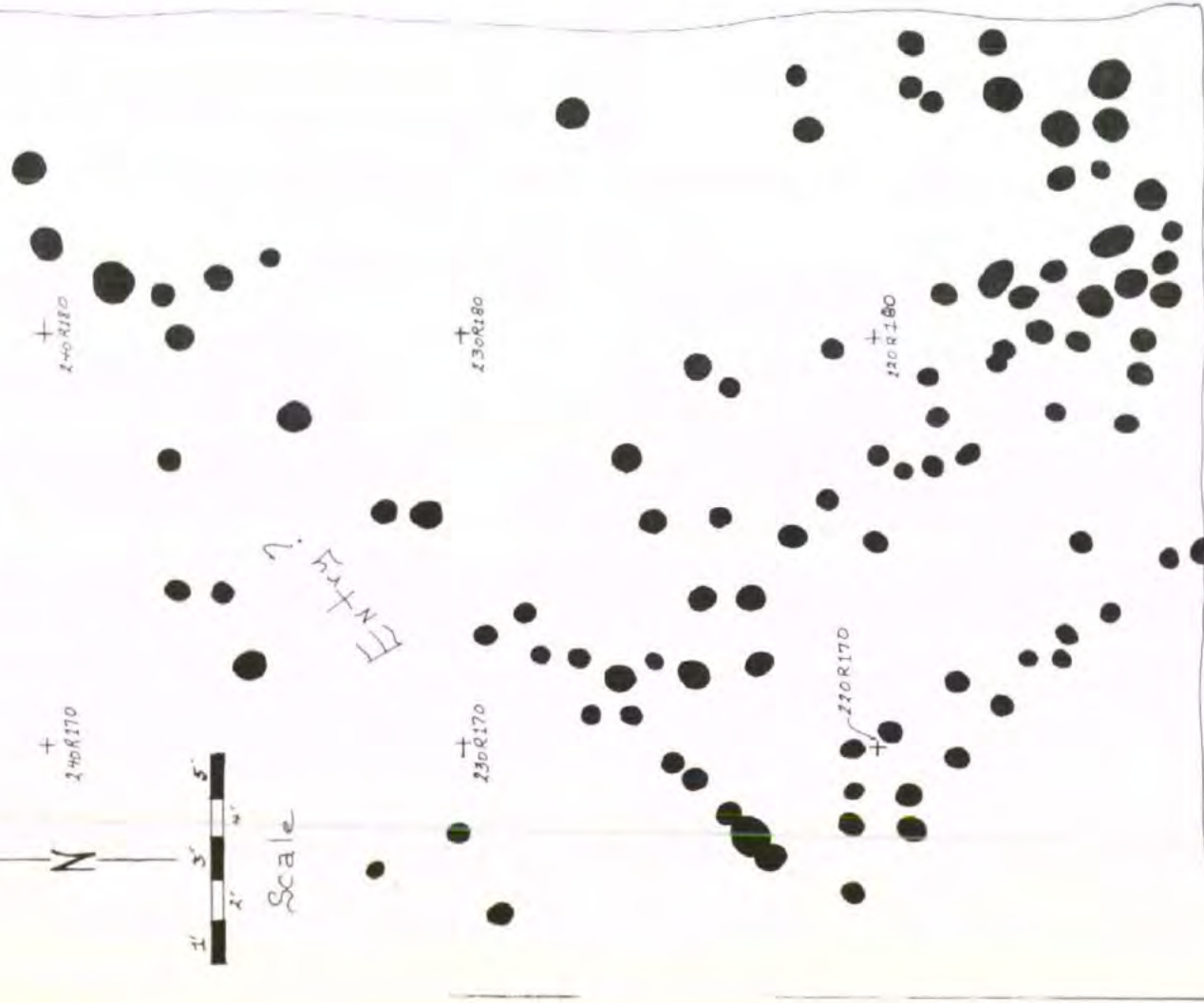
9 M_u 101 Bellfield Mound

Structure # 7



Scale

Entry?



Bauk

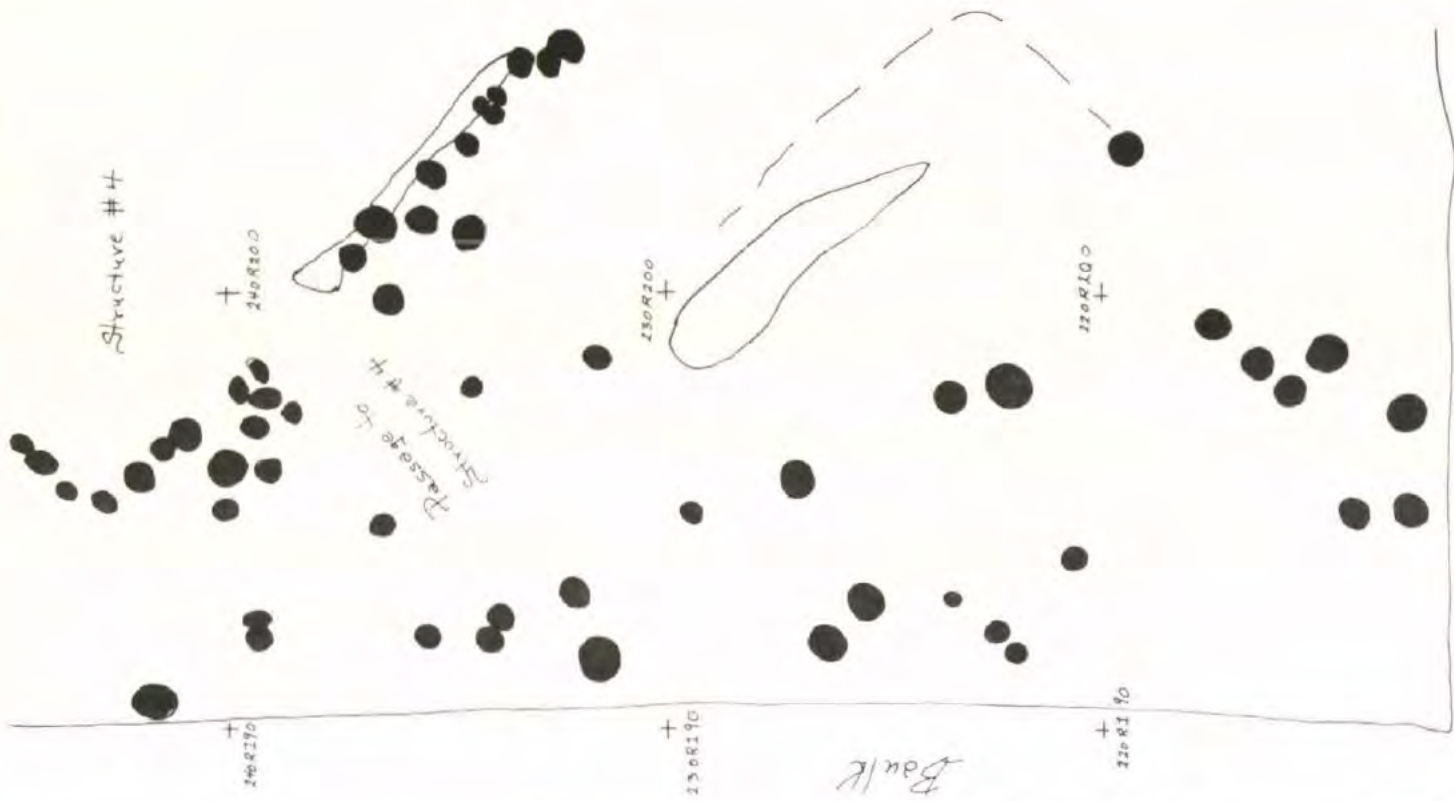
240R170

240R180

220R170

220R180

Entry?



Structure # 4

Entry?

Bauk

240R170

240R200

230R190

230R200

220R190

220R200

Bauk

240R190

240R200

Field Data: W.D. Beasley '66
Drawn: S. Caldwell 7-'72

9Mu101 Bellfield Mound

Structure # 5

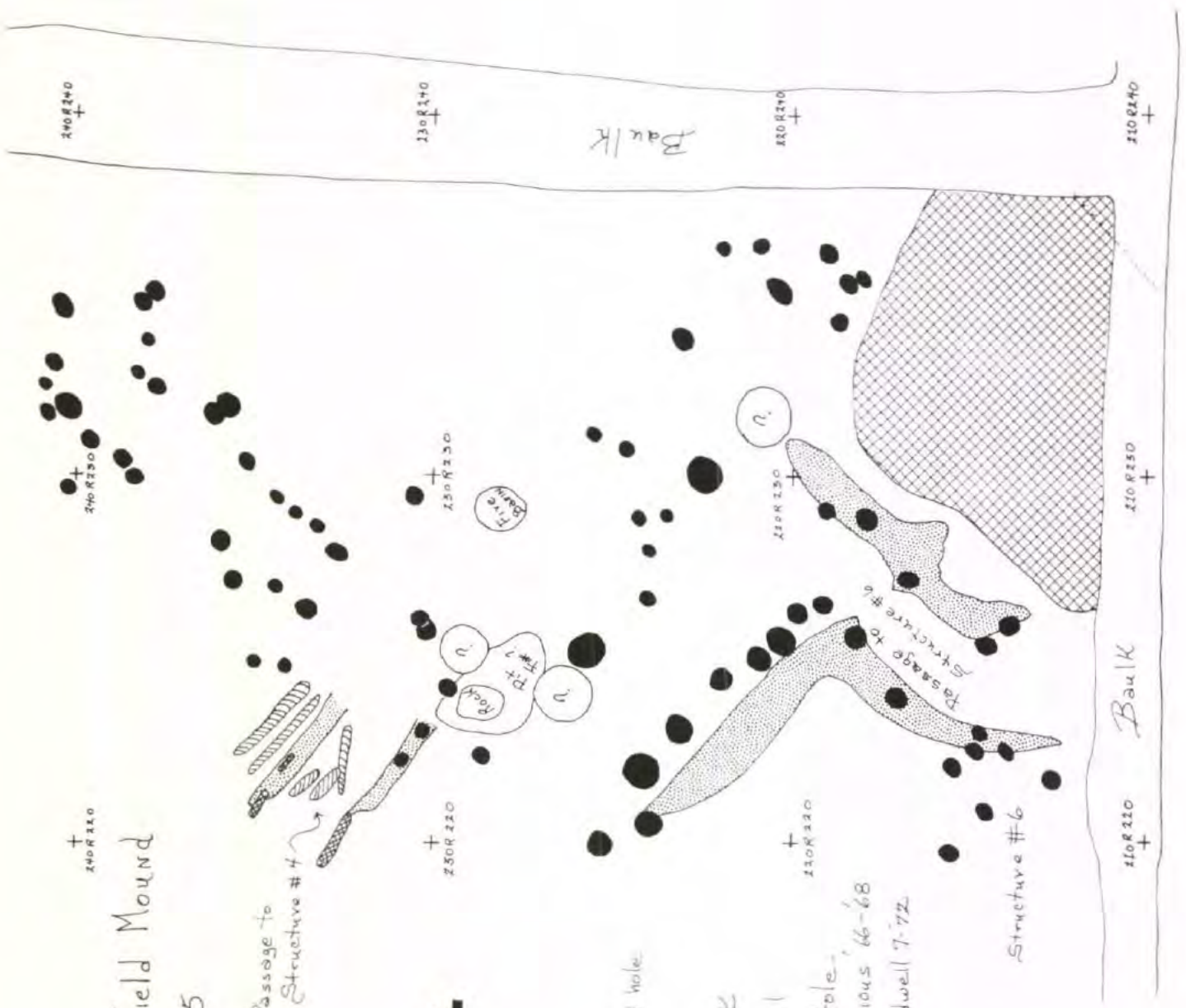
N






- Posthole
- ⊙ Extraneous post hole
- ▨ Buried log
- ▨ Buried plank
- ▨ Standing wall
- ▨ Pot hunter's Hole

Field Data: Various '66-'68

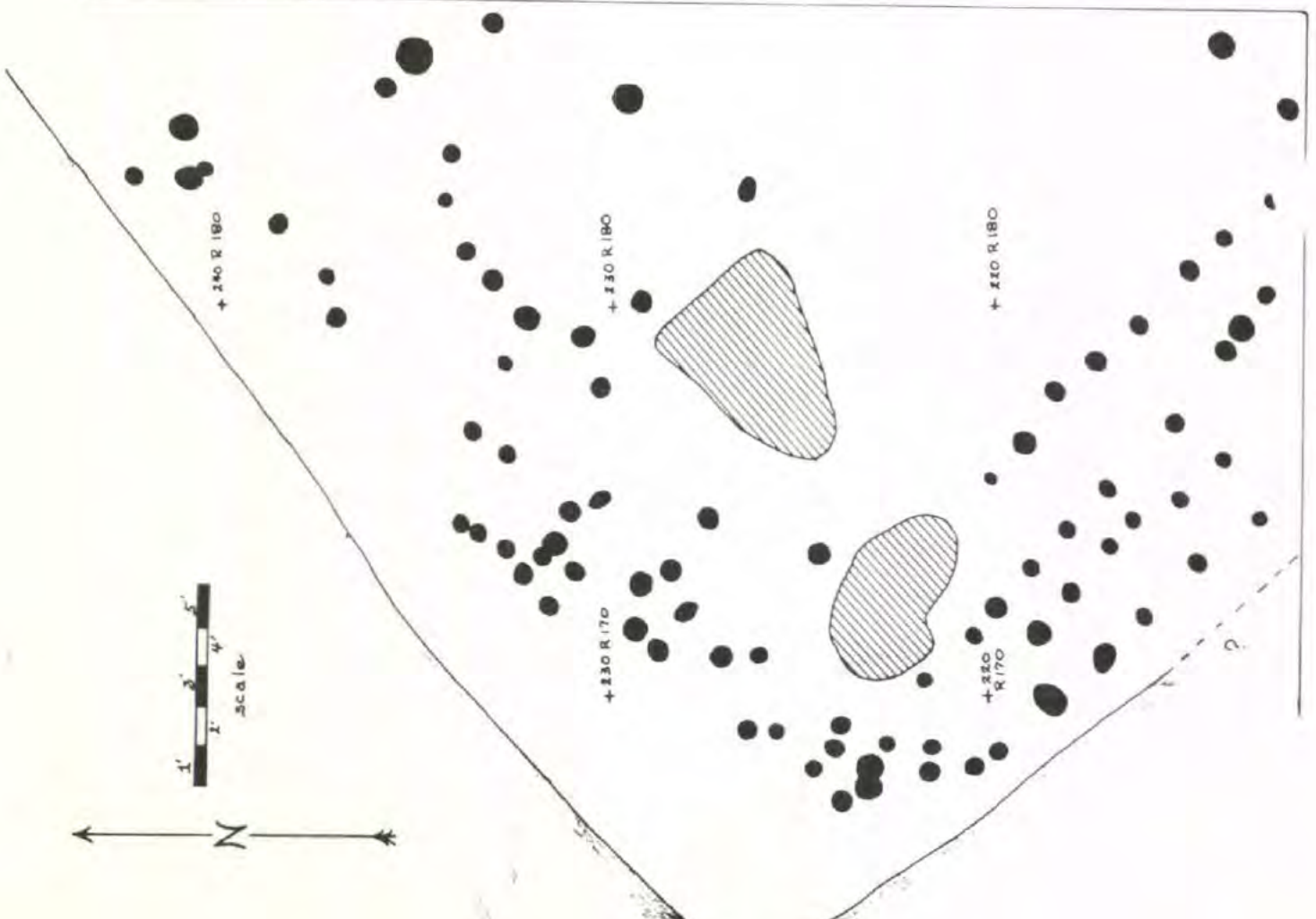
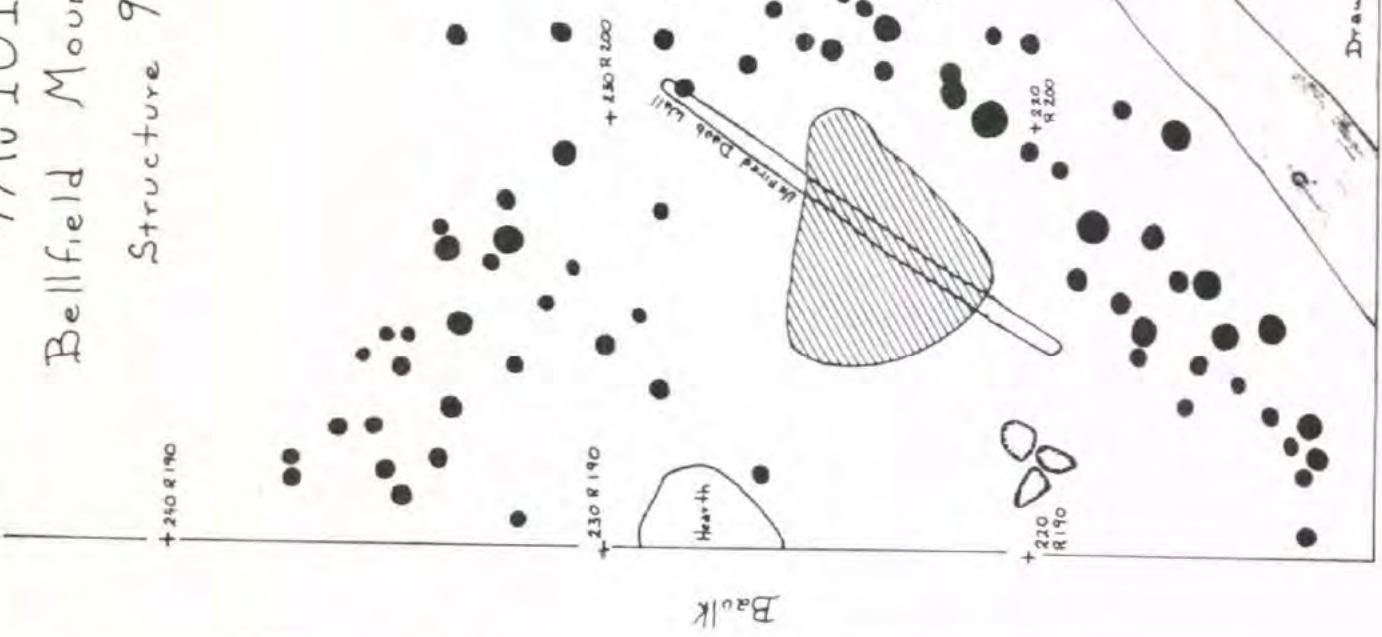
Drawn: S. Caldwell 7-72

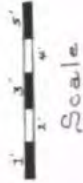


9Mu 101
Bellfield Mound
Structure 9

-  Mound Cap
-  Rock
-  Disturbed

Drawn: S. Caldwell 5-72





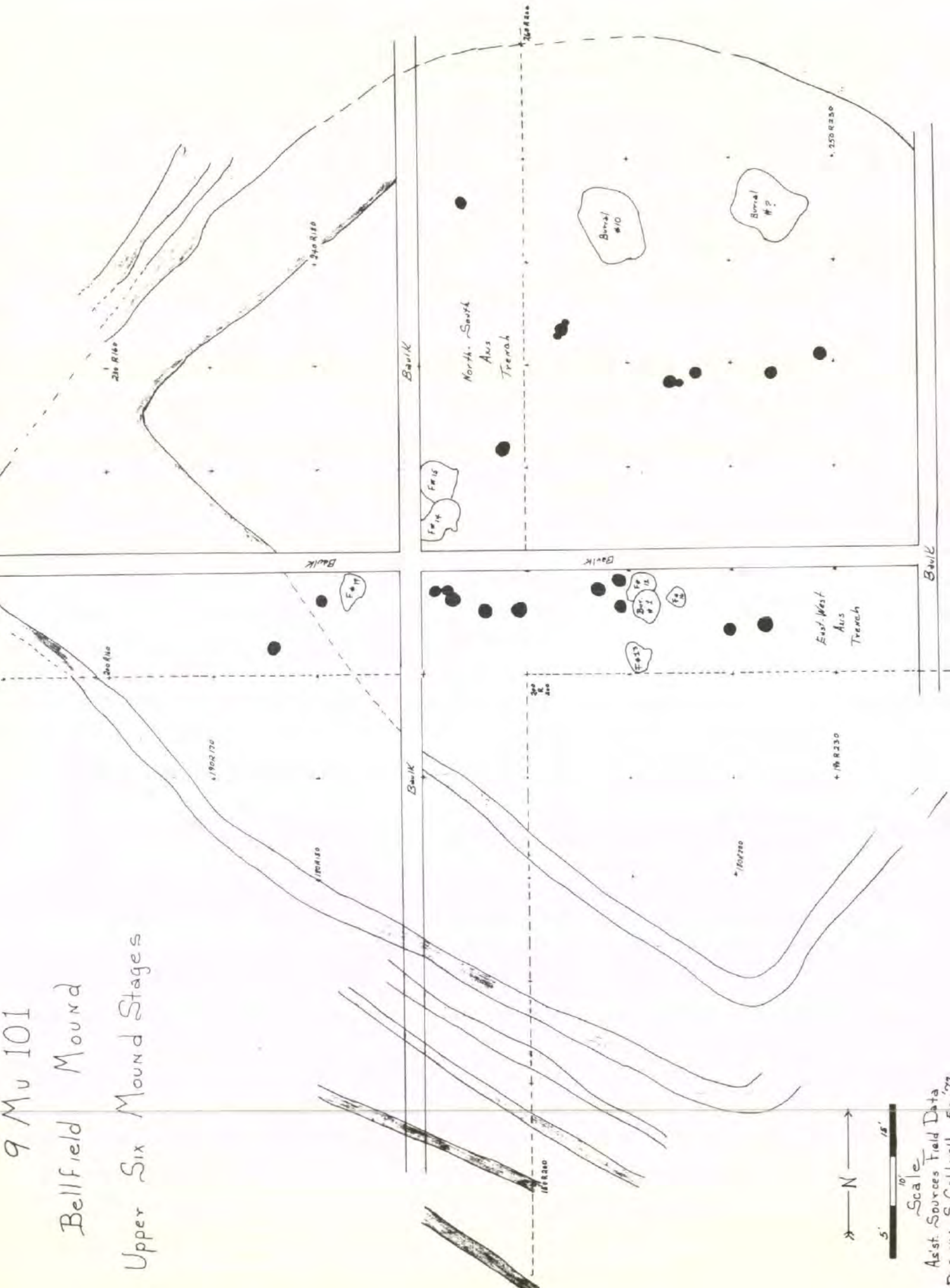
9Mu 101
 Bellfield Mound
 Structure 8-B

Field Data: A. Smith 9-71
 Drawn: S. Caldwell 9-72

9 Mu 101

Bellfield Mound

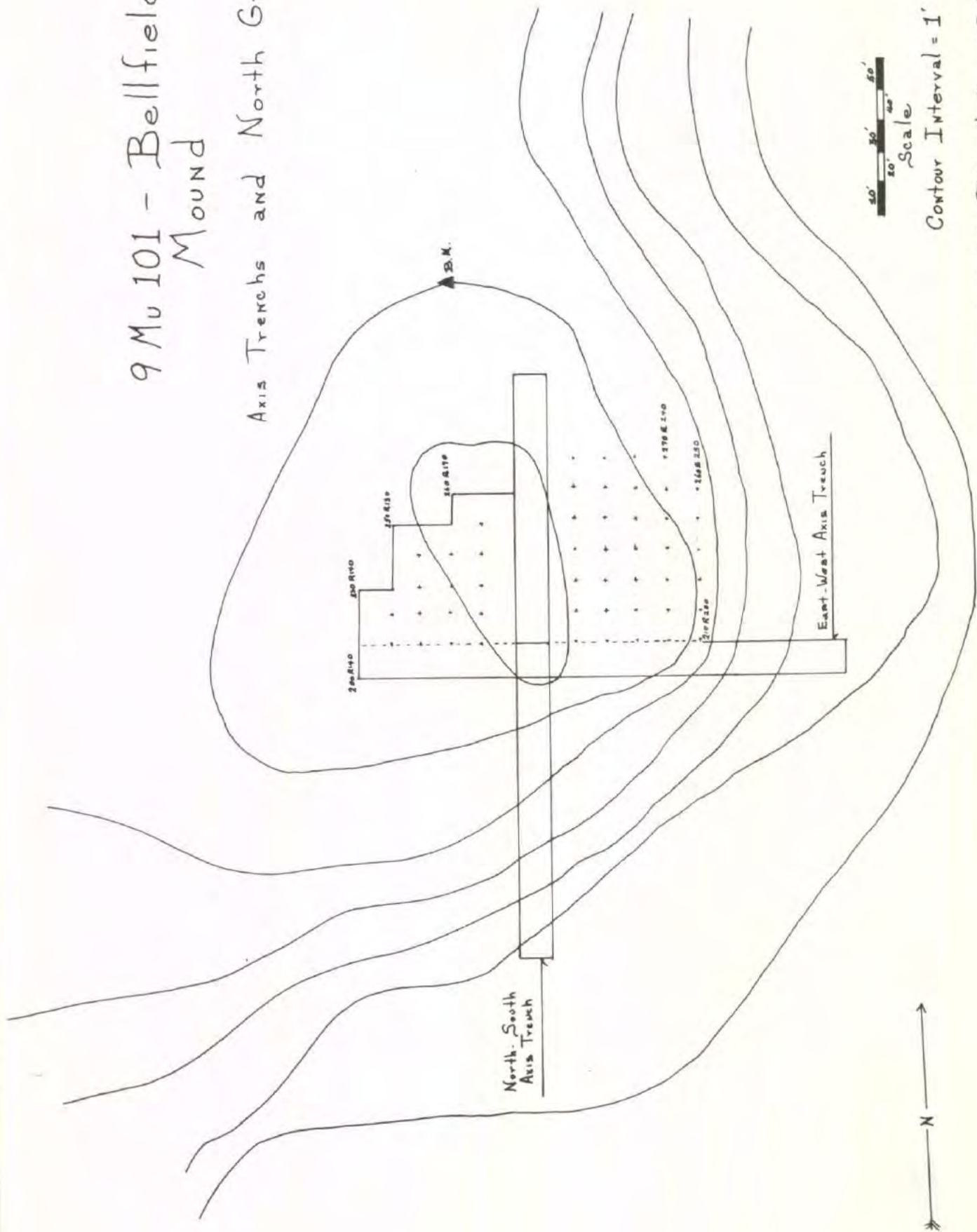
Upper Six Mound Stages



Scale
 5' 10' 15'
 Asst. Sources Field Data
 S. C. ...

9 Mu 101 - Bellfield Mound

Axis Trenches and North Grid

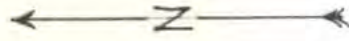


Contour Interval = 1'

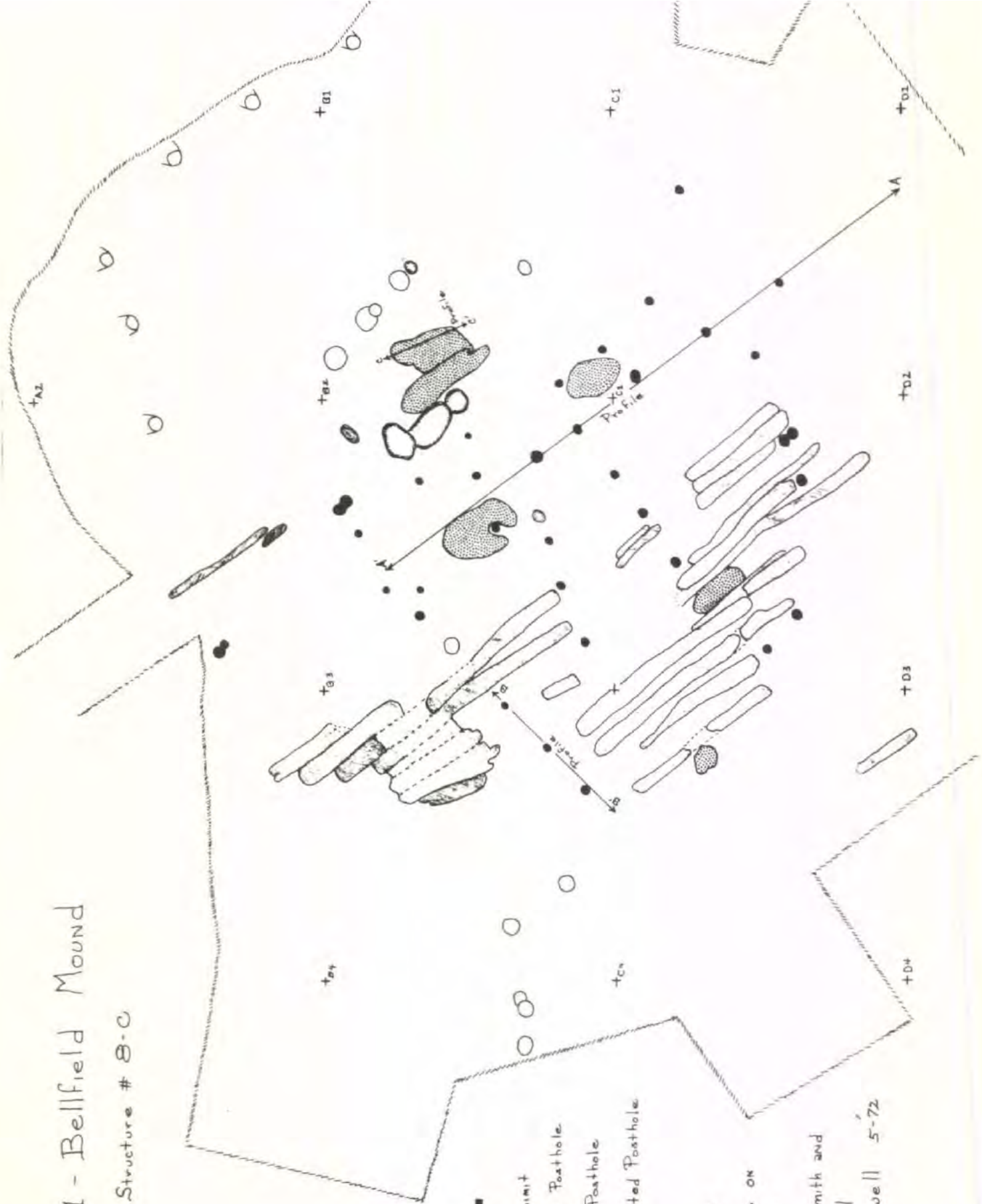
Field data: F. Schuell Drawn: S. Caldwell 5-

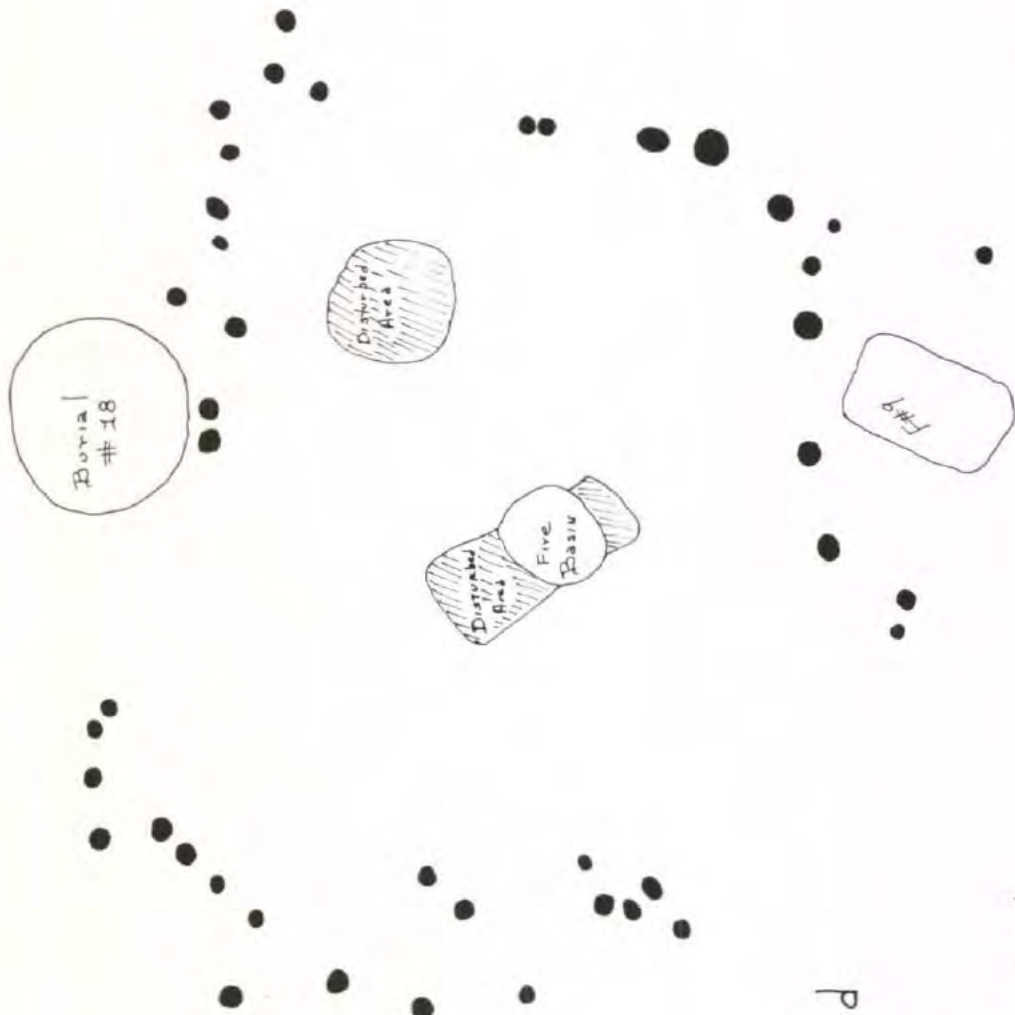
9Mu 101 - Bellfield Mound

Structure # 8-C



- Scale
- Excavation limit
- Roof Support Posthole
- Leaning Wall Posthole
- Possibly unrelated Posthole
- Rock
- Fired Area
- Log Traces on Sand Floor
- Field data: A. Smith and S. Caldwell
- Drawn: S. Caldwell 5-72

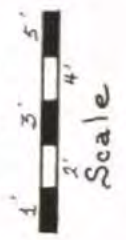




9 Mu 101
Bellfield Mound

Structure # 11

Field Data: D. & A. Smith '68-71
Drawn: S. Caldwell 8-72



North Face - East-West Axis Trench

