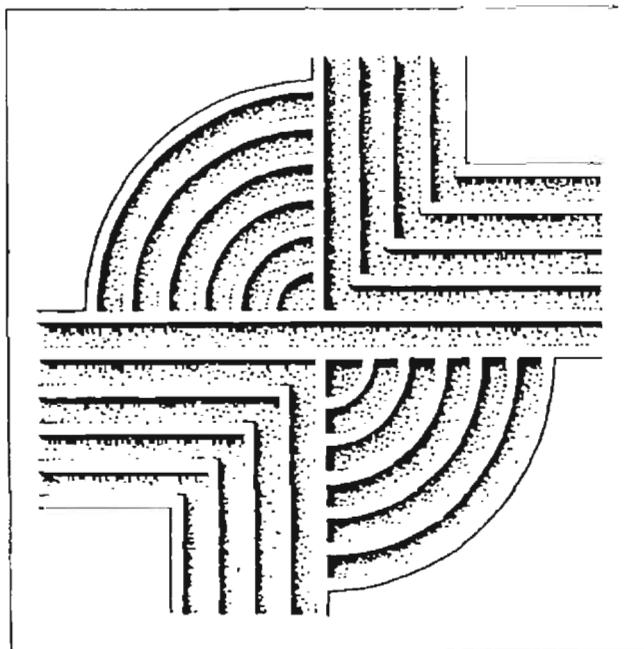


**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA RECOVERY
AT THE CRAWL PLANTATION MAIN HOUSE
AND SLAVE ROW, 38BK1669 AND 38BK1670,
BERKELEY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**



CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 168

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BERKELEY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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Chicora Research Contribution 168

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ABSTRACT

This report provides a management summary for the excavations at 38BK1669 and 38BK1670, also respectively known as Crawl Plantation main house and slave row. It has been prepared upon the completion of the fieldwork and does not contain detailed information on artifact analyses or any detailed site evaluation. It is intended solely to provide a brief statement of the work conducted by Chicora Foundation and to allow the SC SHPO to verify that the proposed work as actually been accomplished.

Both sites were gridded at 20 foot intervals for surface collection for a total of 91 collection squares at 38BK1669 and 387 collection squares at 38BK1670. In addition, both sites were systematically metal detected with each square being examined for number of "hits". Based on the results of these tests, two areas were intensively examined at 38BK1669 and four areas were examined at 38BK1670.

At the main house (38BK1669), two structures were identified including the plantation house and possible early main house/house slaves' quarters. The main house had of a small hall-and-parlor or I-house floor plan with a gabled end chimney. The second structure possibly served as an early main house, based on its size and floor plan, which may have been later converted into house slaves' quarters. This structure had a simple two room floor plan with internal gabled end chimneys. At the slave row two areas believed to be associated with eighteenth century slaves were examined, one utility area, and one middling status (perhaps overseer) were examined. These remains all dated from the early/mid eighteenth century to the early nineteenth century.

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction and Previous Research

These investigations were conducted by Ms. Natalie Adams and Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Marc Hehn with the Berkeley County Water and Sanitation Authority between June 19, 1995 and July 21, 1995. The sites are situated in Berkeley County near the township of Oakley, just south of Molly Branch about 5 miles south of Monck's Corner (Figures 1 and 2).

The sites were originally recorded in September 1993 by Ms. Natalie Adams during a reconnaissance level survey of the proposed landfill extension tract (Adams 1993). Site 38BK1669 was described as consisting of a scatter of mid eighteenth to early nineteenth century remains in a plowed field, while 38BK1670 was a scatter of temporally similar artifacts to 38BK1669, except that the ceramics were primarily colonowares suggesting that the site represented a slave settlement.

Subsequently, the property was subjected to an intensive survey (Adams and Trinkley 1994) to determine if there were additional sites on the tract and to determine if any new or previously identified sites were eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. No new sites were identified, and of the four sites previously identified, 38BK1669 and 38BK1670 were recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

During the survey, work at both the main house and slave row consisted of auger testing at 20 foot intervals in transects spaced 20 feet apart. At the main house (38BK1669), a total of 117 auger tests were excavated in a 160 feet north-south by 240 feet east-west area. Of these 117 tests, 36 (or 30.8%) yielded artifacts. These tests also revealed a lens of moderate brick rubble, suggesting that architectural features associated with the main house may have been somewhat protected from the destructive forces of plowing. As a result, the site was recommended as eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

At the slave row (38BK1670), a total of 176 auger tests were excavation in the northern portion encompassing a 200 foot east-west by 300 foot north-south area. Based on surface collection and metal detection at the site in the southern portion, the entire site was believed to measure approximately 300 feet east-west by 600 feet north-south. Of the 176 auger tests, 56 (or 31.8%) yielded artifacts. Both auger testing and surface collection at the site suggested horizontal integrity based on the presence of a concentration of European ceramics in the southern portion of the site, with the remaining site area containing primarily colonoware. This suggested the possible presence of a white overseer at the site. Although the site had been damaged by plowing, it was believed that architectural and other features would be preserved, based on previous studies at other Berkeley County plantation sites such as Lesesne (Zierden et al. 1986), Vaughan, and Curriboo (Wheaton et al. 1983). In addition, the concentration of European ceramics at the southern end of the site suggested that plowing may not have pulled artifacts very far from where they were deposited. As a result, the site was recommended as eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

Chicora Foundation was requested by Berkeley County Water and Sanitation to prepare a technical and budgetary proposal for data recovery. This proposal was submitted February 16, 1994 and was accepted on April 4, 1994. The Memorandum of Agreement between Berkeley County Water and Sanitation and the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office was signed on March 30, 1995.

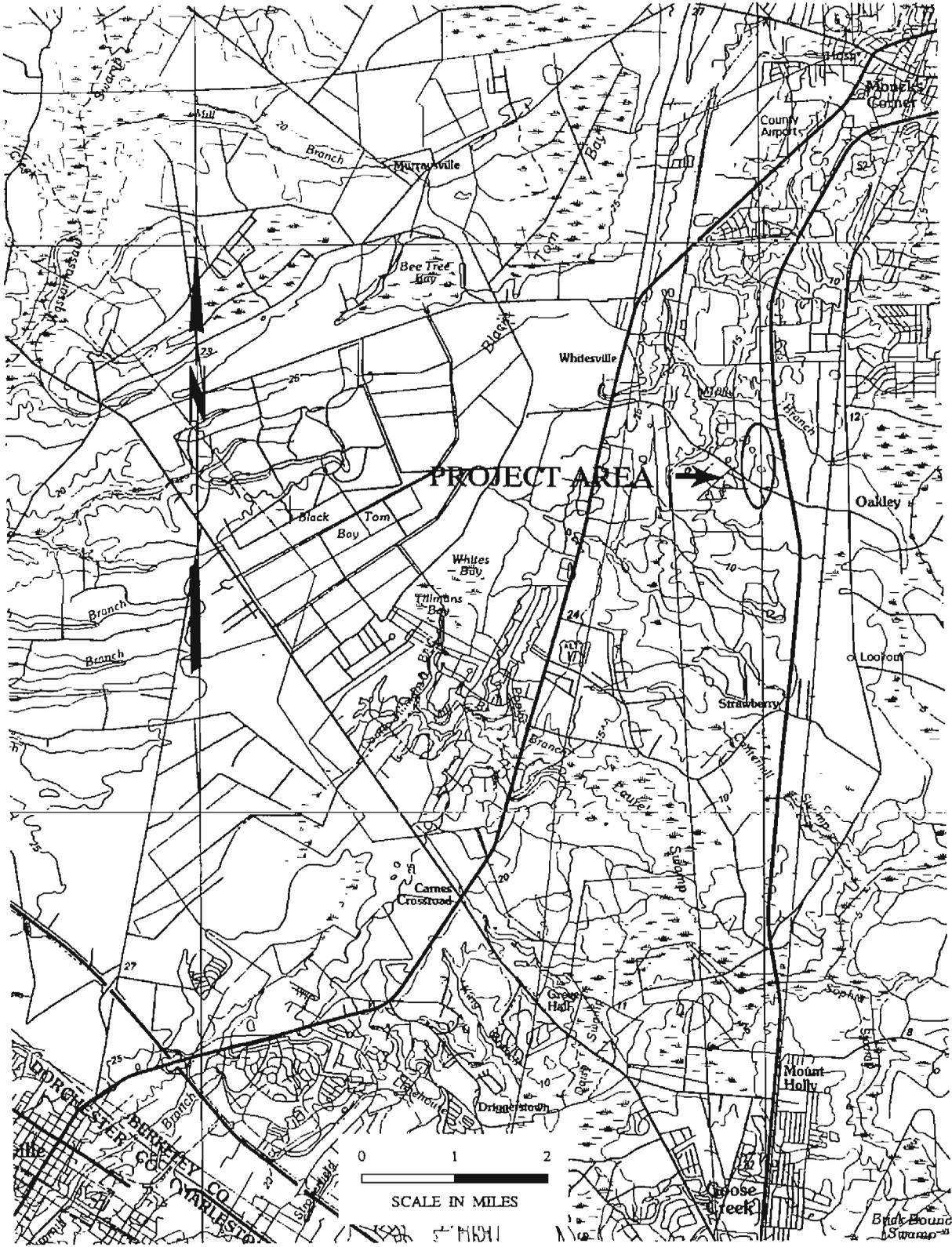


Figure 1. Location of project area on the Saint George 1:100,000 scale topographic map.

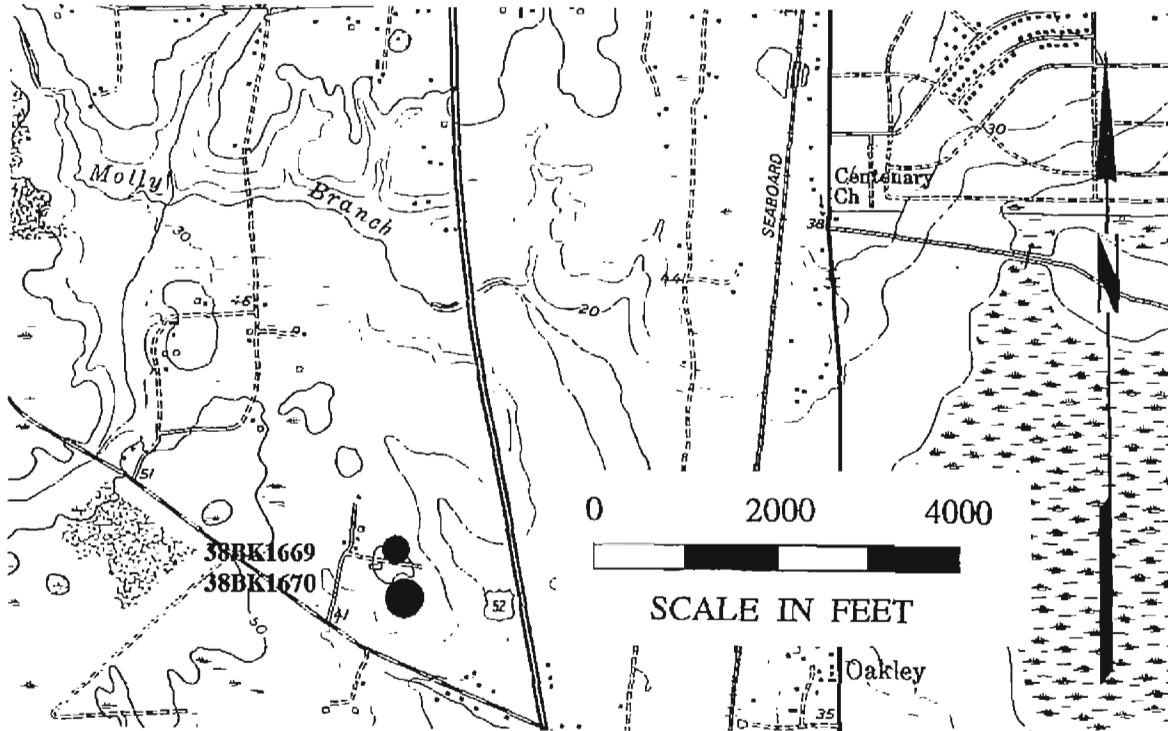


Figure 2. Location of sites on the Monck's Corner USGS topographic map.

This management summary has been prepared upon the completion of the fieldwork at 38BK1669 and 38BK1670, and does not contain detailed information on artifact analyses or any detailed site evaluation. It is intended solely to provide a brief statement of the work conducted by Chicora and to allow the SC SHPO to verify that the proposed work as actually been accomplished.

The archaeological investigations were begun at 38BK1669 by a crew of five on June 19, 1995 and continued through July 7, 1995. Before the excavations began, the site was surface collected on a 20 foot grid interval to provide detailed information on intra-site patterning. A total of 91 squares were collected and a field density map was created. A metal detector was also used to examine each collection unit (or square) and the number of "hits" was registered. The placement of excavation units was based on a combination of surface collection and metal detection.

At 38BK1669 a total of 1,118 person hours were spent in the field with an additional 68.5 person hours spent on laboratory analysis and field processing. Of the 1,118 person hours spent in the field 554 hours were contributed by Berkeley County school teachers as part of a summer workshop. As a result of this work, 1,850 square feet and 1,502.5 cubic feet were moved in primary excavations. A total of 7,254 pounds of brick and mortar were recovered. Soils were screened through ¼ inch mesh except during the excavation of feature soils where ⅛ inch mesh was used. In addition to these primary excavations, three areas of the site were mechanically stripped including approximately 1,500 square feet in Area 1, 2,496 square feet in Area 2, and 1,536 in Area 3 (Figure 3).

Proposed investigations at 38BK1670 included disking the site, surface collecting and metal

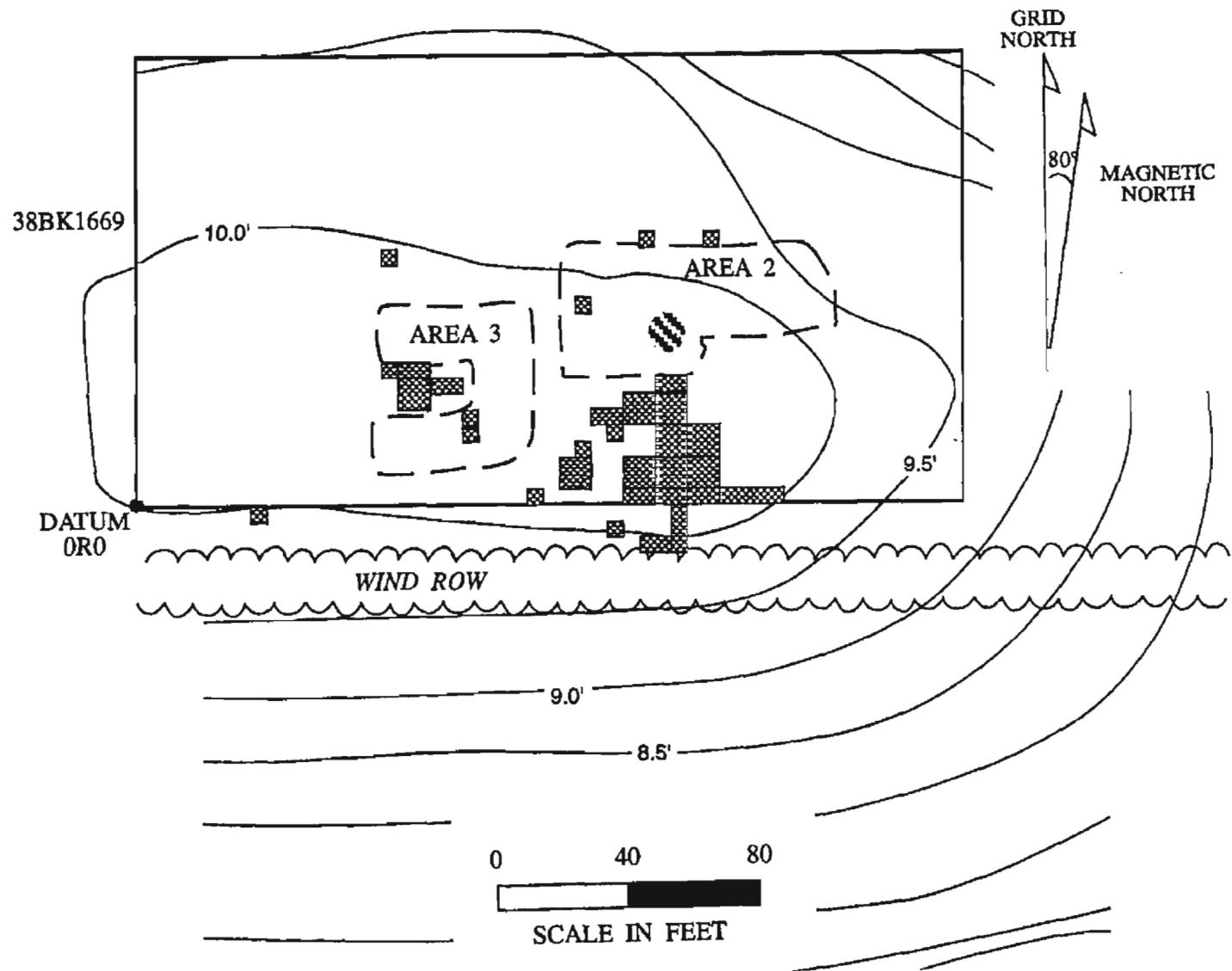


Figure 3. Location of units and stripped areas at 38BK1669.

detecting the site on a 20 foot grid interval, density mapping of artifacts to determine areas of interest, excavation of up to 1350 square feet at the main house and up to 400 square feet in the yard area, and mechanical stripping either to expand the information identified in the controlled excavations or to search for information too ephemeral to be found otherwise (such as staining associated with roadways or paths, fence lines, and similar landscape features). All of these goals were accomplished.

At 38BK1670 archaeological investigations were begun by a crew of five on July 10, 1995 and continued through July 21, 1995. As at 38BK1669, the site was surface collected on a 20 foot grid interval to provide detailed information on intra-site patterning. A total of 387 squares were collected and a field density map was created. A metal detector was also used to examine each collection unit (or square) and the number of "hits" was registered. After examination of the southern-most 140 feet of the site with almost no squares providing "hits", a decision was made to move to areas with dense surface artifacts in the northern portion of the site. Here, several dense areas were examined with only very few squares examined providing any "hits". It is believed that this is due to ephemeral architecture as well as poor nail preservation. Even in these areas, plowing has likely pulled the nails some distance from structure areas. As a result, systematic metal detection was abandoned at 38BK1670. The placement of units was based on artifact density, although in one case a few metal readings guided the placement of the unit within a concentration of artifacts.

At 38BK1670 a total of 327.5 person hours were spent in the field with 90 of those hours being contributed by Berkeley County school teachers. As a result of this work, a total of 600 square feet or 420 cubic feet was moved in primary excavations. A total of 34 pounds of brick and mortar were recovered. Soils were screened through ¼-inch mesh except during the excavation of feature soils where ⅛-inch mesh was used. In addition to these primary excavations, four areas of the site were mechanically stripped including approximately 2,480 square feet in Area 1, 2,620 square feet in Area 2, 3,360 in Area 3, and 3,600 in Area 4 (Figure 4).

The proposed investigations at 38BK1670 consisted of reconstructing the auger test grid used during the intensive survey and expanding it to encompass areas that were not explored during the survey. A density map would then be created and up to 600 square feet would be excavated in various site areas. At the conclusion of this work, four areas of the site would be subjected to mechanical stripping. At the beginning of the fieldwork at 38BK1670, it was decided that instead of expanding the auger test grid, we would surface collect the entire site using the methods employed at 38BK1669. It was believed that this method would allow us to visualize the foot prints of any buildings with a brick foundation and would increase the number of artifacts recovered, providing us with a better idea about the extent and location of the posited overseer's remains. It was believed that the replacement of auger testing with the surface collection methodology did not substantially alter the proposed work.

The work conducted by Chicora Foundation at 38BK1669 and 38BK1670 met the requirements stipulated by the MOA and this management summary will initiate the consultation process with the SC SHPO.

Research Focus

At 38BK1669 (main house) the previous archaeological and historical research suggested that Crawl was a small, inland plantation dating from an early period of South Carolina history. Because so few small eighteenth century plantation complexes have been examined, the following research questions were posed for 38BK1669:

- How does the artifact assemblage of this rather obscure plantation compare to other Goose Creek area plantations, such as Crowfield and Broomhall, which were historically

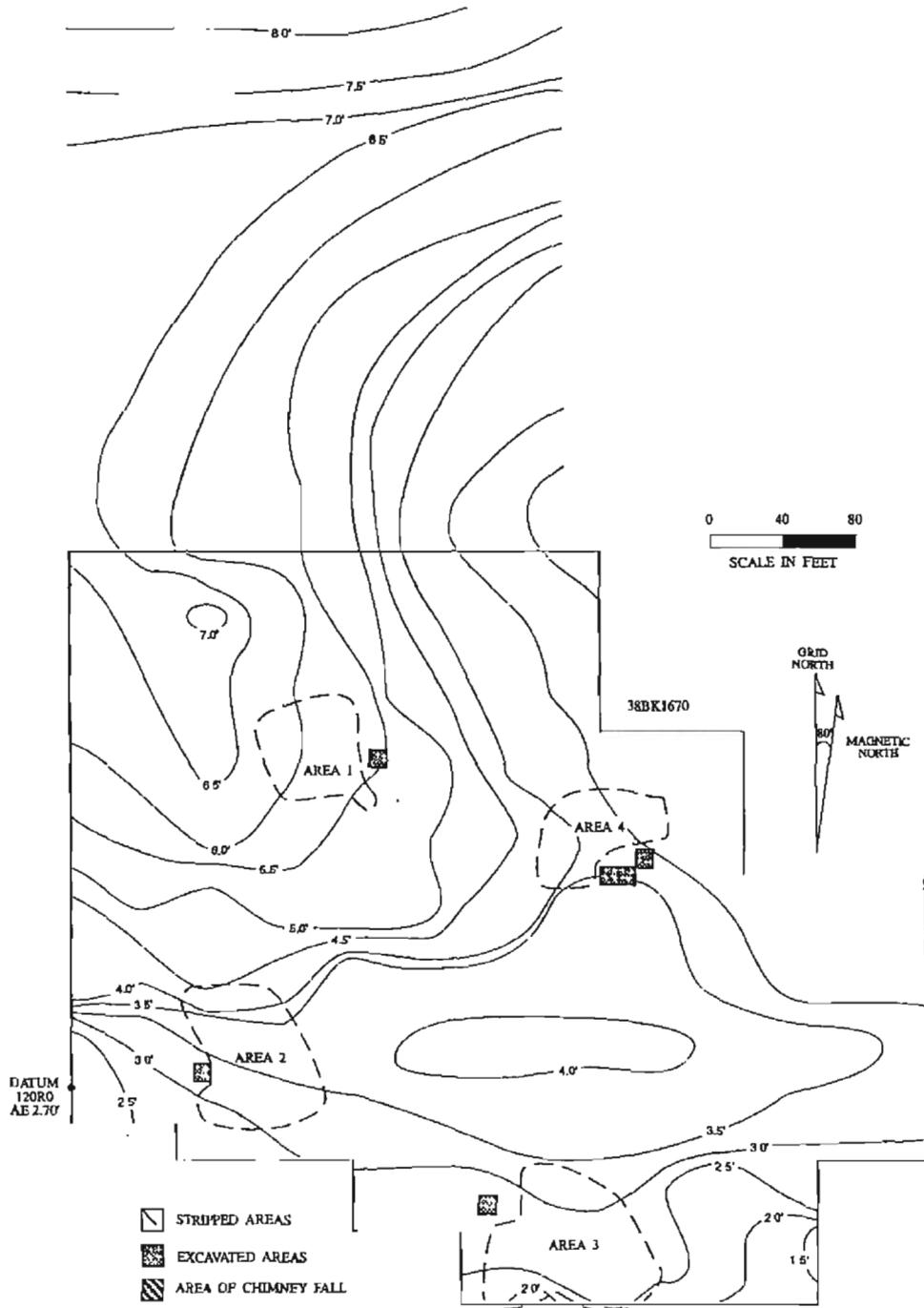


Figure 4. Location of units and stripped areas at 38BK1670.

well known as the exception rather than the rule?

- How do the architectural features at 38BK1669 compare to other excavated Charleston area plantations? Is the house simply constructed or is the house more ornately designed?
- How does the architecture and the layout of the plantation complex reflect current landscape movements? In other words, does the plantation exhibit a Georgian world view? Is there evidence that the plantation was later altered to reflect the late 18th century picturesque landscape movement (see, for example, Brooker and Trinkley 1991)? Is there an initial blending of both landscape types? What does the plantation landscape at 38BK1669 tell us about the view small planters had of their world?

At 38BK1670 (slave row) the previous research suggested the presence of a diverse cultural assemblage with a sizeable portion of the collection in excess of what is typically found in plowed contexts. This suggested that portions of the site remained relatively intact and that features would be present below the plow zone. In addition, there appeared to be a discrete concentration of abundant European ceramics possibly associated with an overseer or driver. Because of the late eighteenth century assemblage, the potential for recovery of both slave and overseer or driver assemblages, and the likelihood of intact features, it was believed that the site could address a number of significant research questions including:

- How does the artifact assemblage compare with other slave sites and with the assemblage from the plantation main house? What does it tell us about the similarity or variability found at plantation slave rows?
- How does the architecture compare with what is known archaeologically and historically about eighteenth century Berkeley County slave houses (Wheaton et al. 1983; Zierden et al. 1986; Drucker and Anthony 1979; see Adams 1990 for a synthesis) as well as other areas of the state? Previous research (see Adams 1990) has suggested that historical accounts of slave housing do not coincide with what has been found archaeologically. Although only a few houses have been excavated, more data is needed to better understand diversity and dichotomy between written documents and the archaeological record.
- How does the slave row and the surrounding area fit into the planter's landscape concept? Are houses rigidly aligned or are they unevenly placed? Is there evidence for fences? If yard features are present, what do these features suggest about the use of extramural space by slaves in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century (see Westmacott 1992; Ferguson 1992; Adams 1990)?
- Is there evidence for alienation of the slave population? Some (Terry 1981; Orser 1988) have suggested that this alienation took place in the mid-eighteenth century as planters obtained more and more wealth. They then separated themselves physically and materially from their slaves. In other words, although the planter became richer, the slaves' conditions did not improve much, increasing the gap between planter and slave. Is there evidence that slaves benefited from the plantation owner's wealth? Terry's (1981) historical research and economic model of St. John's Parish (including the study area) provides an opportunity to explore the use and display of wealth and its implications for the slave population. Archaeological investigations to identify type of housing and the artifactual assemblage can address these questions as well as historical research to locate wills and inventories.

EXCAVATIONS AT 38BK1669, CRAWL PLANTATION MAIN HOUSE COMPLEX

Surface Collection and Metal Detection

Approximately three weeks before the project began, the client arranged for the disking of 38BK1669 to allow us good visibility for surface collection. Although some growth had occurred by the time the project began, the visibility was still relatively good throughout most of the site.

Iron rebar was placed in the southwest corner of the site (0R0) and a grid was established oriented N8°E parallel to a wind row located along the southern border of the site. An excavation and surface collection grid was established with points every 20 feet and encompassed an area measuring 260 feet east-west by 140 feet north-south. This provided 91 surface collection units. Both artifacts and brick/mortar rubble were collected. The artifacts were counted and brick from each collection unit was weighed and discarded. A density map was then created for both artifacts and brick. The metal detector survey was performed similarly with the number of "hits" recorded for each collection unit and a density map created. These maps indicated that the majority of the remains were concentrated in a 100 foot north-south by 140 foot east-west area of the site (Figures 5, 6, and 7).

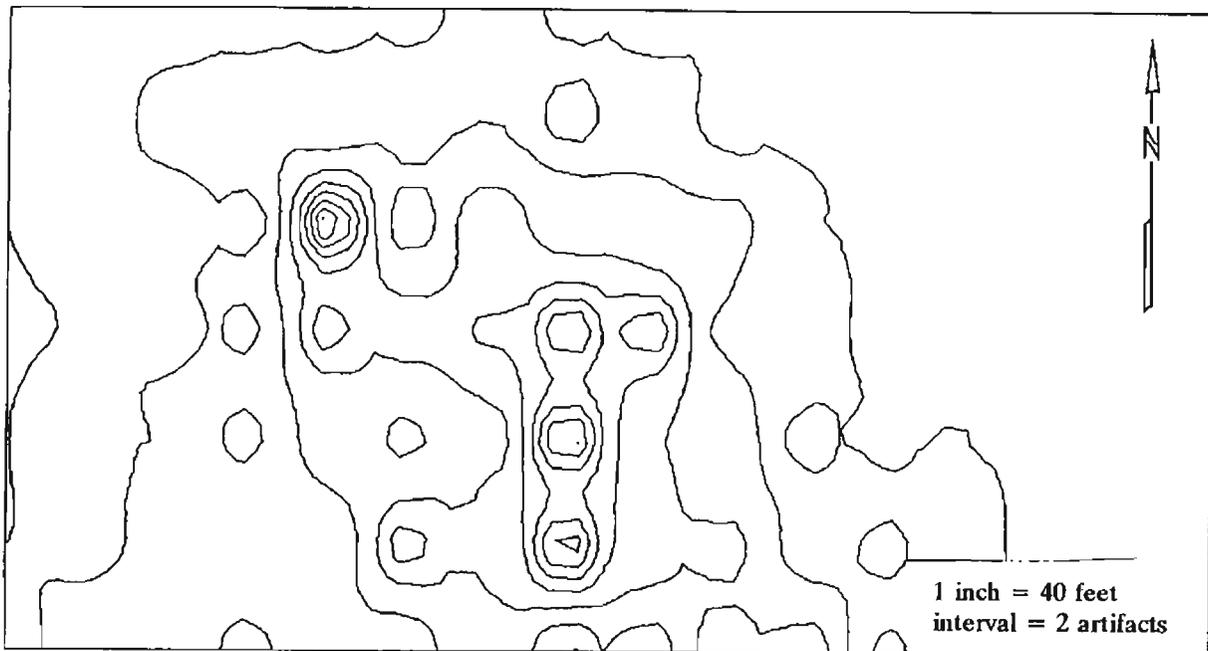


Figure 5. Density map of artifacts at 38BK1669.

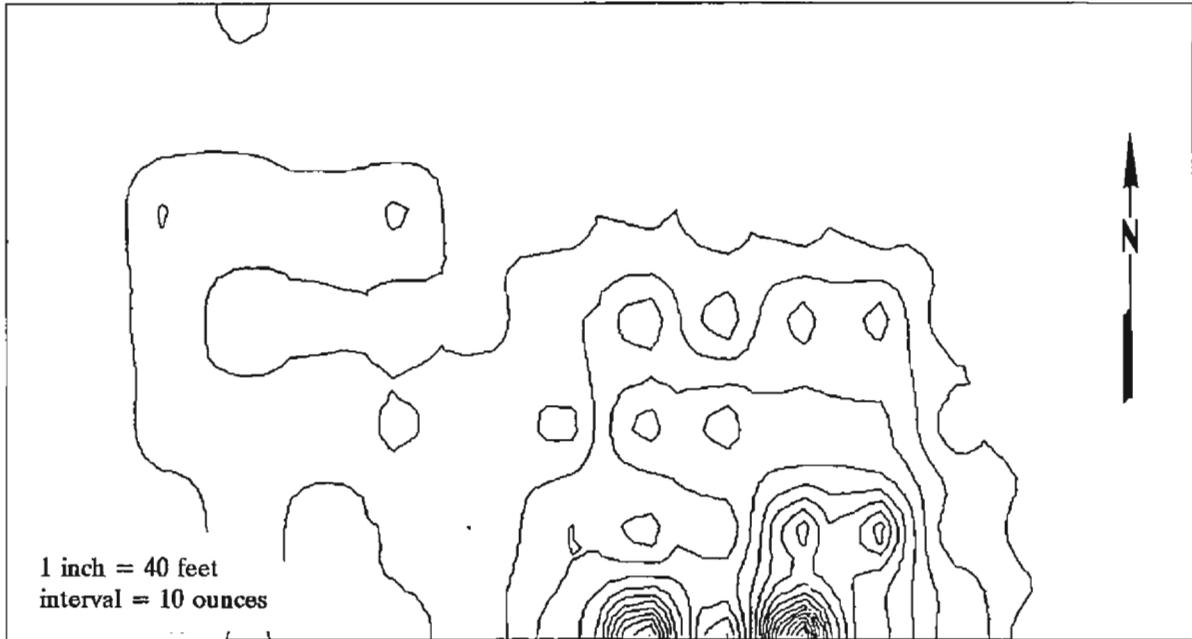


Figure 6. Density map of brick rubble at 38BK1669.

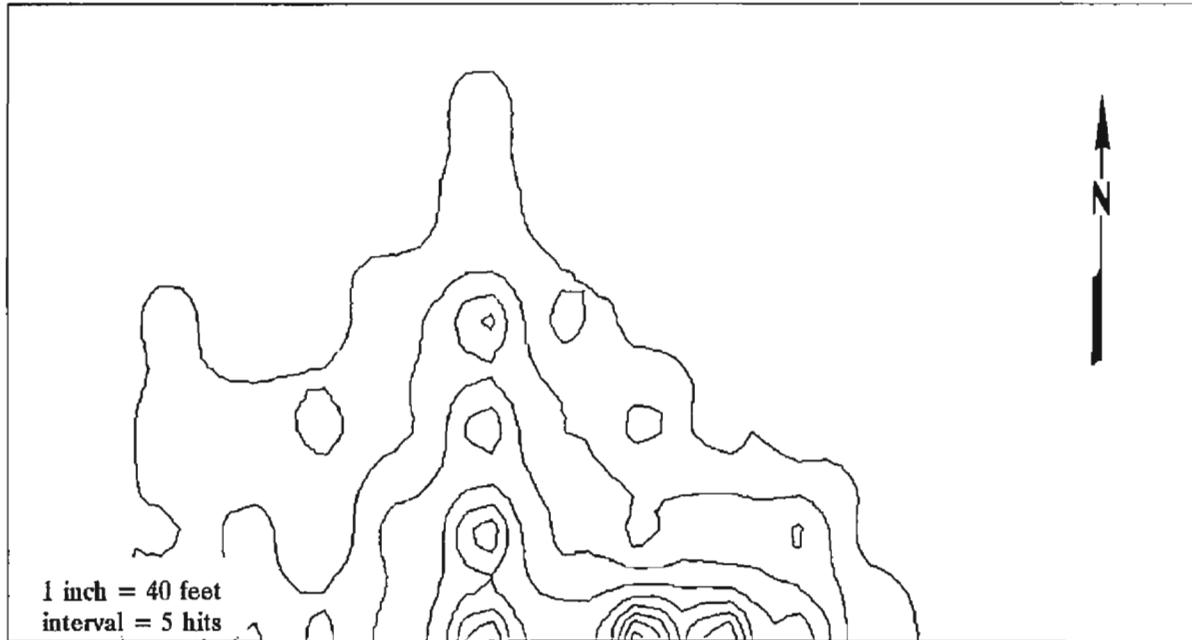


Figure 7. Density map of metal detector "hits" at 38BK1669.

Excavations and Mechanical Stripping

The work at 38BK1669 involved the excavation of 1850 square feet, including twenty-six 5 by 5 foot units, eight 5 by 10 foot units, and eight 10 x 10 foot units. All of these units were taken out in one plow zone level and screened through ¼-inch mesh. In addition to these primary excavations, three areas of the site were mechanically stripped including approximately 1500 square feet in Area 1, 2496 square feet in Area 2, and 1536 in Area 3 (see Figure 3).

The site grid was oriented N8°E. Elevations at the site were tied into an assumed elevation (AE) of 10 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Horizontal control was maintained at the site with a rebar placed at 0R0.

Units were excavated as one zone which consists of the plow zone level. This zone was typically dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy loam ranging from 0.6 feet to 1.0 feet in depth. Subsoil varied across the site, but typically consisted of either yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy loam or strong brown (7.5YR5/8) sandy clay.

Pollen samples were obtained from several sealed feature contexts. Features were profiled and drawn and were screened through ¼-inch mesh. Flotation samples (five gallons of soil) were obtained from all feature contexts for processing in the Chicora laboratories in Columbia.

Field notes were prepared on pH neutral, alkaline buffered paper and photographic materials were processed to archival standards. All original field notes, with archival copies will be curated at the Berkeley County Museum.

Interpretations

Main House Area

A block excavation was opened in the southern portion of the site grid in the suspected area of the main house. A total of 1400 square feet was excavated which uncovered most of a hall-and-parlor or I-house oriented about N10°E (Figure 8). The overall measurements of the house were approximately 22 feet east-west by 38 feet north-south, with a central hall measuring about 7 feet wide and each flanking room measuring 22 feet east-west by 15.5 feet north-south. An end chimney was found centered on the northern wall of the house which measured on the outside 10 feet by 7 feet.

The foundation (Feature 4) consisted of a shallowly placed construction trench which generally extended only about 0.2 feet into the subsoil where still present. The width of the foundation trench varied greatly, but where in situ brick foundation was located, the width was 1.2 feet. It likely held a wooden superstructure and may have had a loft or perhaps a second story. In the vicinity of the chimney, the foundation extended to a depth of 0.9 feet below subsoil. In addition, mechanical stripping just north of the chimney located an area of disarticulated brick rubble chimney fall. Brick from the fall was found as far as 30 feet away from the chimney base. This suggests a fairly massive brick chimney and argues strongly for a second floor. The central hall was visible by four sets of matching posts in the interior of the house. A number of these posts still had remnants of wood and burned wood still in them.

The foundation for a stoop was centered on the east wall of the house and measures 8 feet north-south by 7 feet east-west. West of the house, several posts were identified which may be associated with a covered walkway to another structure or perhaps more likely, a lean-to addition. The orientation of the house was N10°E.

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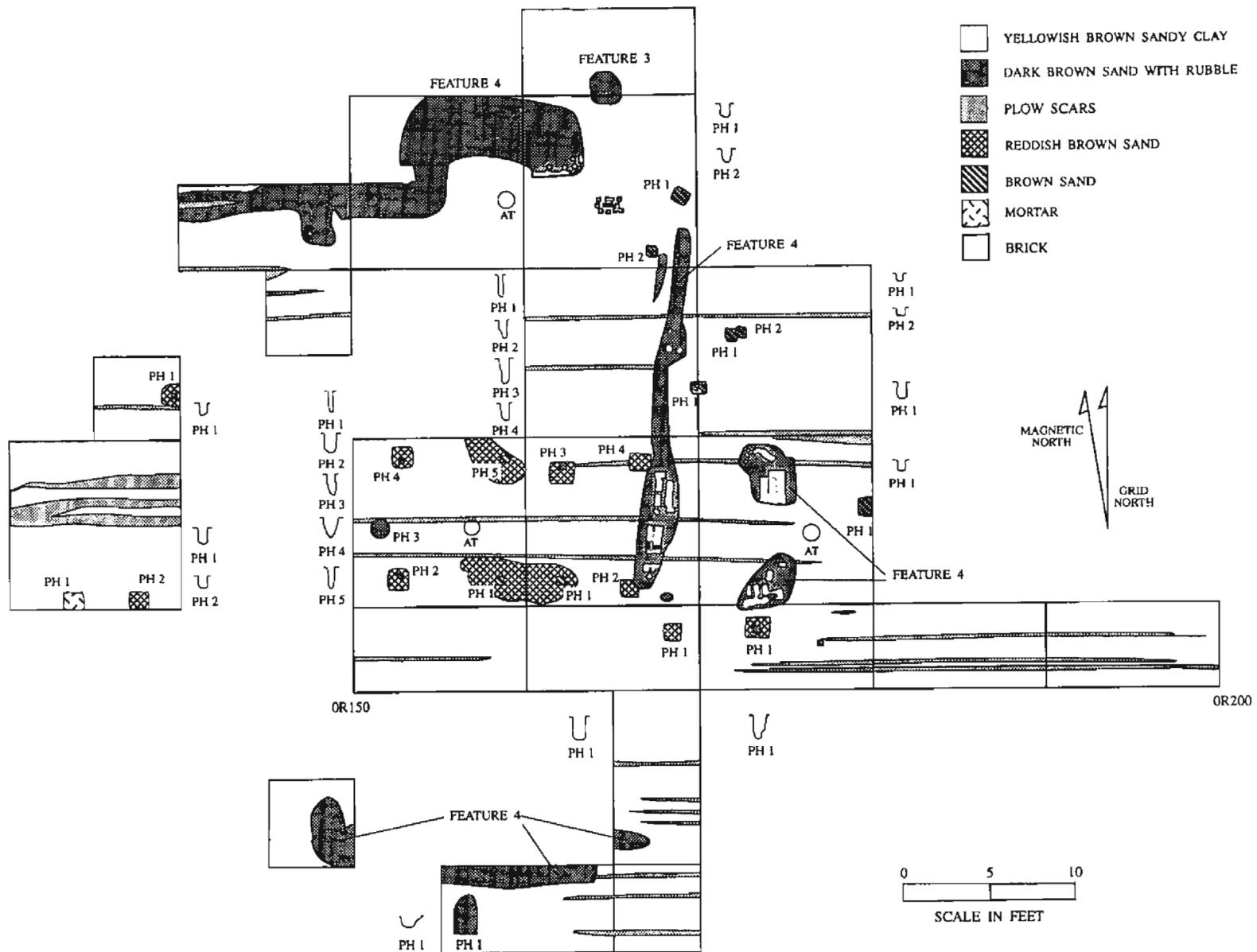


Figure 8. Excavations at the main house area.

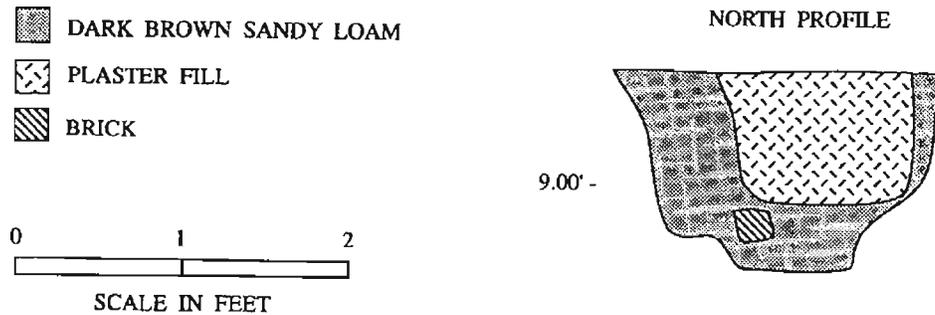


Figure 9. Feature 3, north profile.

Only one feature, in addition to the foundation trench, was identified at the main house. This feature (Feature 3) consisted of a circular bowl shaped pit at the northeast corner of the house. This pit was filled with large chunks of plaster with lath impressions. This plaster may have been dumped here during a renovation episode (Figure 9).

Mechanical stripping just north of the main house revealed a cluster of disarticulated brick rubble which is interpreted to represent chimney fall since the cluster is centered along the north-south axis of the chimney. A total of 2496 square feet were stripped in this area.

The house appears to have been dismantled with the brick robbed and useful architectural hardware taken, since very little hardware was recovered. There is no evidence of the house being burnt down, and it is likely that it was abandoned and its useful components possibly incorporated into the 1858 house built for Nathan Guyton in an adjacent area.

Early Main House/House Slaves' Quarters

A second structure was identified which is interpreted to be a possible early main house later converted to house slaves' quarters (Figure 10). The structure was located approximately 50 feet west of the main house. At this structure 325 square feet were excavated by hand, with an additional 1536 square feet mechanically stripped in the structure area.

The structure was initially identified during hand excavation and consisted of a foundation trench (Feature 1) measuring about 1.5 feet in width and running in an east-west direction. The trench was very

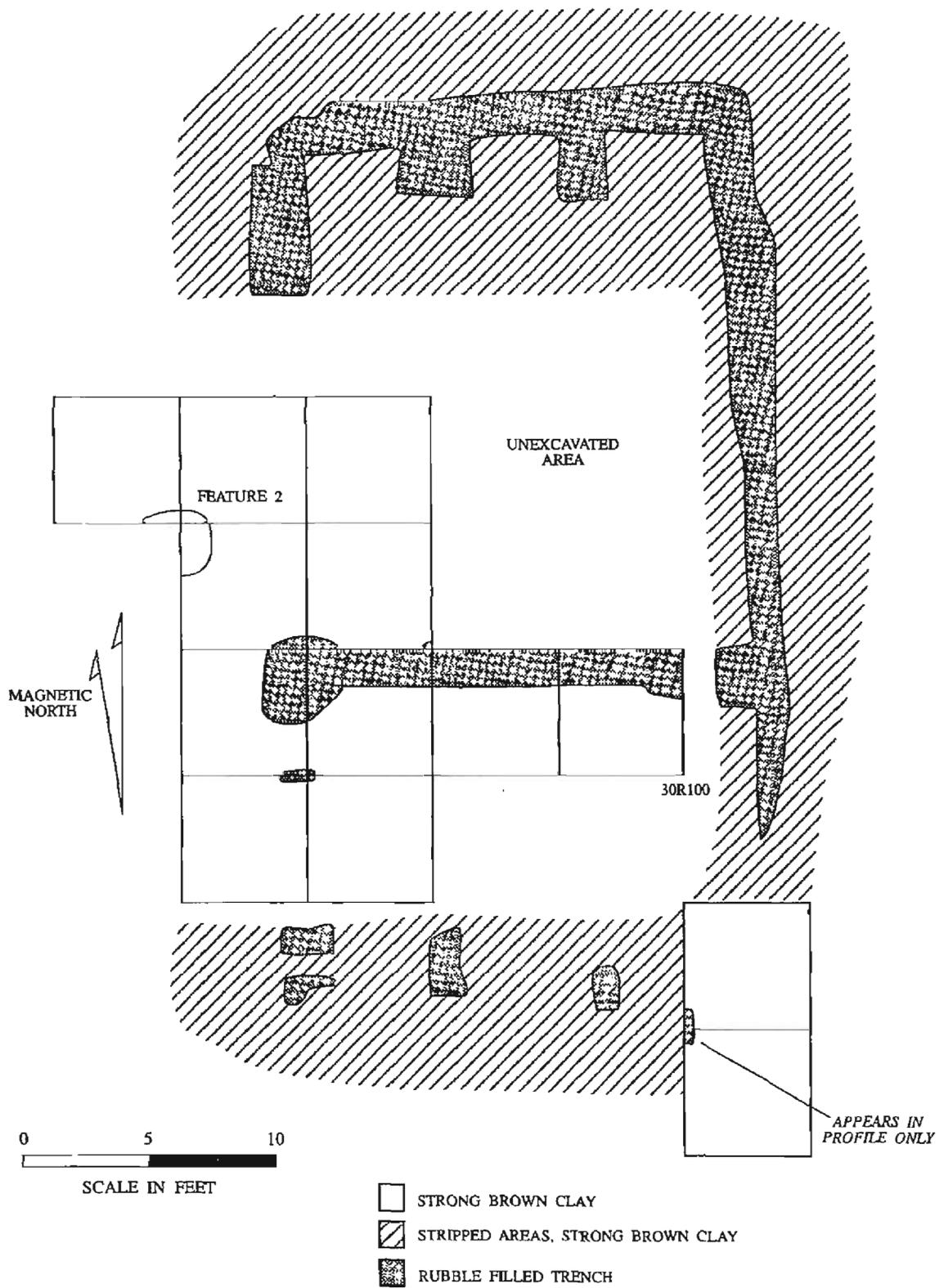


Figure 10. Excavations at the early main house/house slaves' quarters.

shallow, like at the main house, and ranged from 0.1 to 0.4 feet in depth. In situ brick was found in only one small area of the trench. In this area, the foundation measured 1.2 feet, suggesting that the building was probably only one story tall, although it may have had a second story loft room.

Because we had not uncovered the entire foundation, we decided strip the surrounding area to find additional walls. The mechanical stripping uncovered a building oriented N6°E with an overall measurement of approximately 20 feet east-west by 38 feet north-south. The structure was divided into two rooms by an interior wall, with the southern room measuring about 15 by 20 feet and the northern room measuring 23 by 20 feet. An interior gabled end chimney was found centered along the northern wall with a possible remnant chimney also centered in the southern wall. The firebox on the northern end measured about 7 by 4 feet. The possible southern chimney is estimated to be the same size. Like the main house, the house slaves' quarters/early main house probably had a wooden superstructure. The structure is oriented N3°E.

One reason that the structure is believed to have functioned as an early main house is its size and floor plan. No house slaves' quarters has been found with a similar plan. However, the house is identical in layout and size to the Newbold-White house near Hertford, North Carolina (Figure 11) which dates to circa 1700 (Lane 1985:14). Comparison of the artifacts from this postulated earlier house with the I-house found at the Crawl will help us better understand how the two structures relate.

In addition to the foundation trench was one other feature (Feature 2). This feature was a circular bowl shaped pit filled with brick rubble and the broken pieces of a single blue hand painted pearlware plate. This feature probably represented a low spot in the yard which was filled in with trash and brick rubble (Figure 12).

Like the main house, this structure showed no evidence of having been burned down. Most likely it was also robbed for useful architectural items.

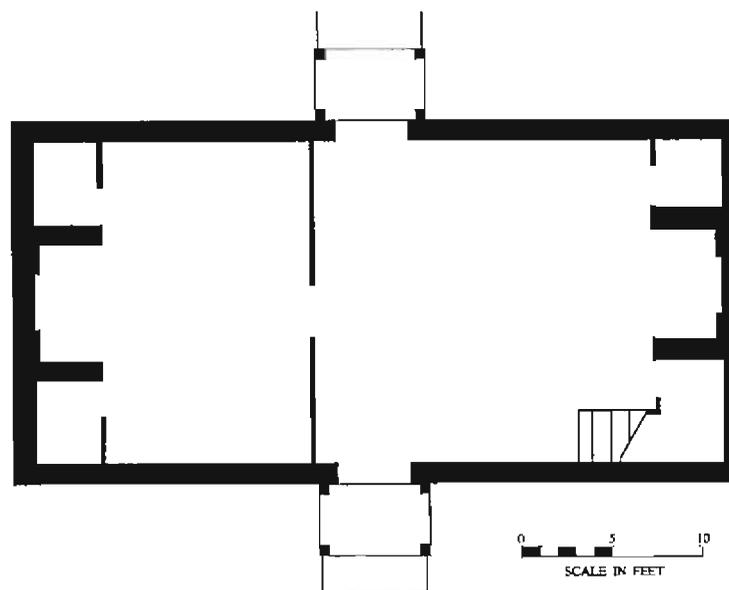


Figure 11. Floor plan of the Newbold-White House (adapted from Lane 1985).

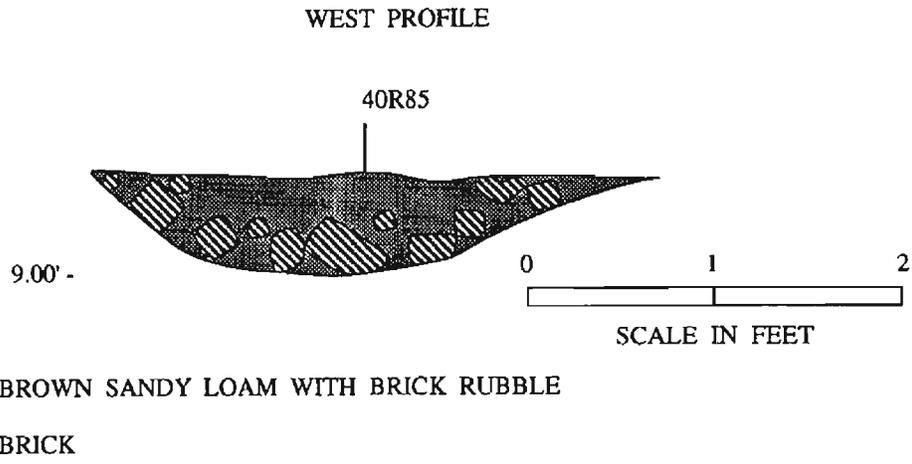


Figure 12. Feature 2, west profile.

Yard Excavations

An additional 125 square feet (five 5 foot squares) was devoted to examining yard refuse. These units were placed to examine either artifact concentrations or possible nail scatters determined through metal detecting. None of these units yielded features.

In addition, approximately 1500 feet of yard area was mechanically stripped to the east of our grid in order to locate ditch features associated with a possible road. This area, located approximately 110 feet east of the grid, revealed no evidence for a road. Only plow scars were evident in the subsoil.

Summary and Conclusions

At 38BK1669, the Crawl Plantation main house, two structures were investigated which consist of a main house and early main house/house slaves' quarters. The main house is hall-and-parlor or perhaps I-type in style, measuring 22 feet east-west by 38 feet north-south, with a gabled end brick chimney. It had a continuous sill brick foundation and probably supported a wooden superstructure. Given the size of the chimney base and the location of the chimney fall, the house may have had either a loft or a second story. An entrance stoop was found centered on the east wall, and evidence for a lean-to addition or possible breezeway connecting the main house to the house slaves' quarters was found on the west side of the house.

The early main house/house slaves' quarters has a different floor plan, but is not significantly

smaller than the hall-and-parlor house. The structure has an asymmetrical internal layout with interior gabled end chimneys, identical to the Newbold-White house near Hertford, North Carolina built circa 1700 (Mills 1985). The house slaves' quarters/early main house measures 20 feet east-west by 38 feet north-south, with at least one, but probably two, gabled end interior chimneys. It is hoped that the artifact analysis will help us better understand the relationship of the two houses.

EXCAVATIONS AT 38BK1670, CRAWL PLANTATION SLAVE ROW

Surface Collection and Metal Detection

Approximately three weeks before the project began, the client arranged for the discing of 38BK1670 to allow us good visibility for surface collection. Although some growth had occurred by the time the project began, the visibility still allowed us to adequately surface collect the site.

Iron rebar was placed near the southwest corner of the site at 120R0 and a grid was established oriented N8°E. An excavation and surface collection grid was established with points every 20 feet and encompassing an area measuring 420 feet north-south by 440 feet east-west. This grid was then tied into the grid at 38BK1670 both horizontally and vertically to better allow spatial comparison. This provided 387 collection units. Both artifacts and brick/mortar rubble were collected. The artifacts were counted and the brick/mortar rubble was weighed and discarded. A density map was then created for both artifacts and brick. The metal detector survey was to be performed similarly with the number of "hits" recorded for each collection unit and a density map created. Because we received so few hits in the southern portion of the site, only dense portions of the northern site area were examined. In these areas only an occasional "hit" was found, and the use of the metal detector was abandoned, since plowing had probably displaced the few metal artifacts encountered.

The density map for artifacts and brick revealed that there was an east-west linear pattern of dense artifacts encompassing 380 feet east-west by 140 feet north-south. The vast majority of the artifacts consisted of colonoware, with some pipe stems and bottle glass. An area on the south edge of the site contained a great deal of European ceramics and it was suspected that the area might represent an overseer's residence. In addition, there was a concentration of brick rubble in the southeastern portion of the grid, with few artifacts. This area was believed to be associated with some sort of barn or stable. There were a few other minor artifact concentrations, but it was decided to concentrate on the slave row, the posited overseer's, and the posited barn/stable (Figures 13 and 14).

Excavations and Mechanical Stripping

The work at 38BK1670 involved the excavation of 600 square feet consisting of six 10 foot squares located in four different areas of the site. All of these units were taken out in one plow zone level and screened through ¼-inch mesh. In addition to these primary excavations, four areas of the site were mechanically stripped including approximately 2,480 square feet in Area 1, 2,620 square feet in Area 2, 3,360 square feet in Area 3, and 3,600 square feet in Area 4 (see Figure 4).

The site grid was oriented N8°E. Elevations at the site were tied into the rebar at 38BK1669 with an assumed elevation (AE) of 10 above mean sea level (MSL). Rebar was placed at 120R0 at 38BK1670 with an AE of 2.70 feet (MSL). Horizontal control at the site was maintained with the rebar placed at 120R0. While the two sites were tied into one another, they were both originally laid in independently, to better take advantage of the lay of the agricultural fields and the location of surface artifacts.

Units were excavated as one zone which consists of the plow zone level. This zone was typically brown (10YR4/3) sandy loam ranging from 0.5 to 1.0 feet in depth. Subsoil varied across the site, but typically consisted of either yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy loam or strong brown (7.5YR5/8) sandy clay.

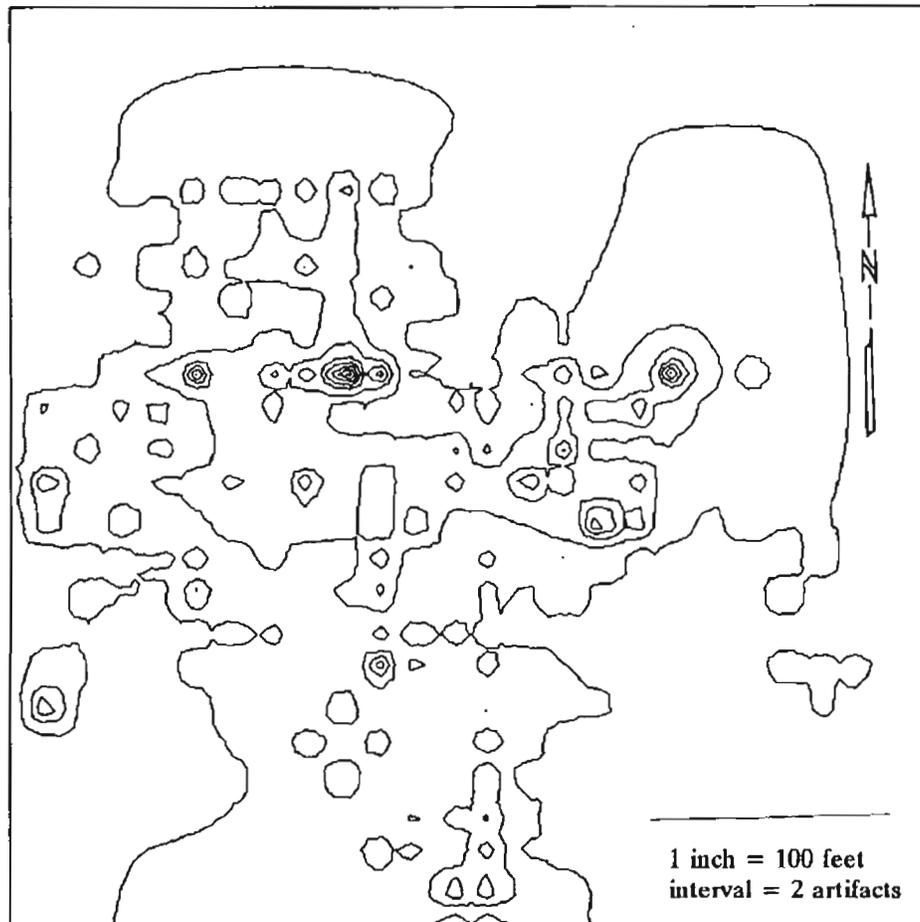


Figure 13. Artifact Density at 38BK1670.

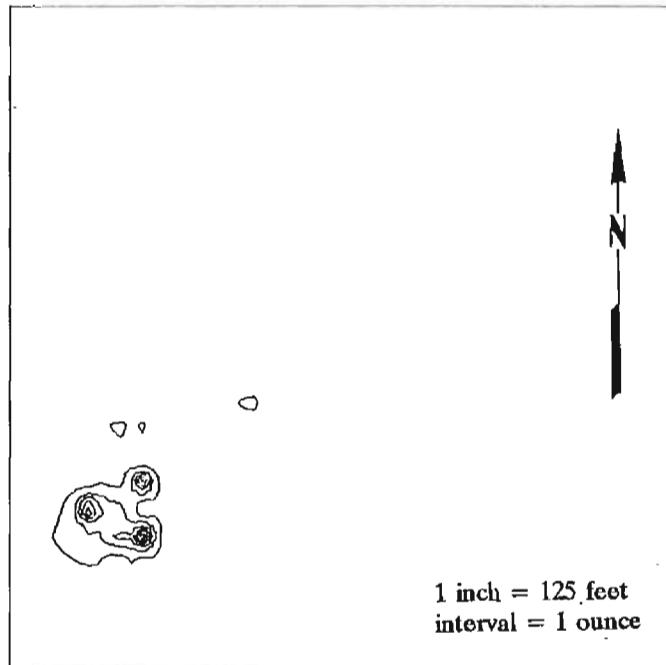


Figure 14. Brick density at 38BK1670.

Pollen samples were obtained from several sealed feature contexts. Features were profiled, when possible, drawn, and screened through 1/8-inch mesh. Flotation samples (five gallons of soil) were obtained from feature contexts for processing in the Chicora laboratories in Columbia.

Field notes were prepared on pH neutral, alkaline buffered paper and photographic materials are being processed to archival standards. All original field notes, with archival copies will be curated at the Berkeley County Museum.

Interpretations

Area 1

One 10-foot square was opened in Area 1. This area contained dense artifactual remains associated with the slave row. No features, other than plow scars, were identified. However, since the remains were dense in this area, approximately 2,480 square feet were mechanically stripped. This stripping revealed 13 stains (Figure 15) including five tree stains, four posts, one auger test, storage pit (Feature 4), one trash pit/clay extraction pit (Feature 5), and one foundation trench (Feature 6).

Since the posts did not form any recognizable pattern, they were not excavated. The three features (Features 4, 5, and 6) were either bisected or vertically sampled. Feature 4 (Figure 16) was a roughly rectangular stain measuring 4.8 feet east-west by 2.75 north-south. The long axis was oriented E11°S with

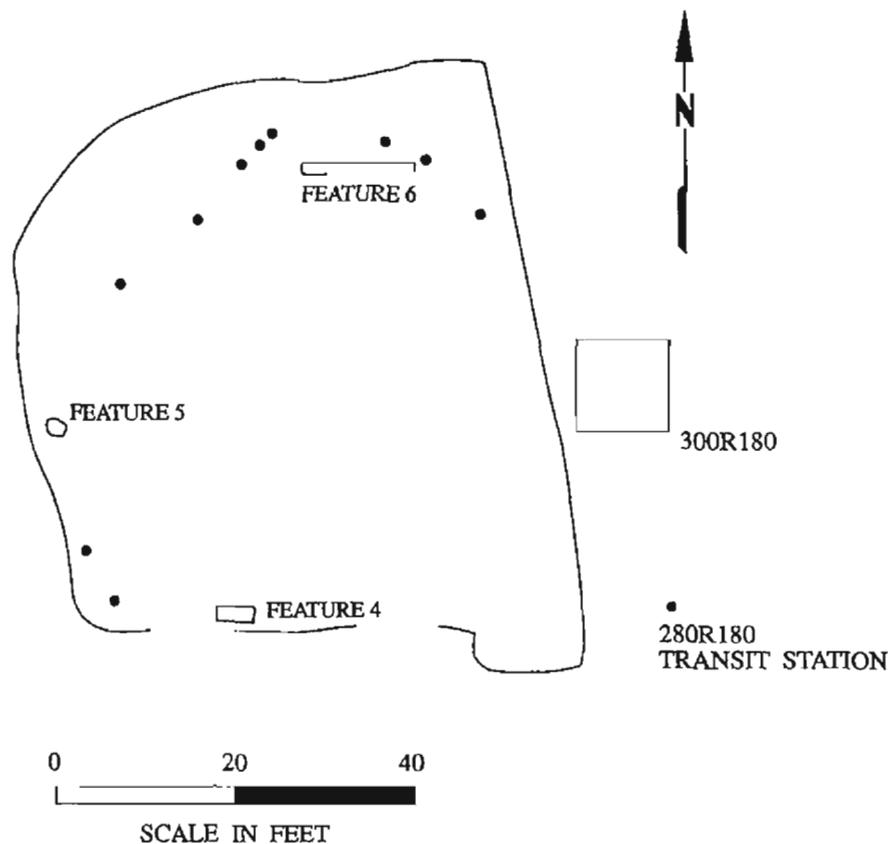


Figure 15. Stripped Area 1, 38BK1670.

the perpendicular axis being N11°E, only 1° east of the orientation of the main house and roughly the same projected orientation of the slave settlement. A number of artifacts were retrieved including colonoware, bottle glass, pipe stems, small nails, and heavily corroded unidentifiable iron. The stain extended 1.5 feet into the subsoil. Several large fragments of very fragile, unidentifiable bone were identified during excavation and were pedestalled. Given the rectangular configuration of the stain, its orientation roughly east-west, and the presence of relatively large bone fragments, the feature was treated as a possible human burial until the bones could be examined by Dr. Ted Rathbun, a board certified forensic anthropologist (Diplomate #29, ABFA).

Dr. Rathbun visited the site on August 8, 1995 and determined that the bone was not human. The bone was then removed from the feature to be examined by a zooarchaeologist. Given the sparsity of artifacts, the feature probably functioned as an outdoor storage pit.

Feature 5 consists of a deep bowl shaped pit which contained a large quantity of artifacts. The pit measures 5 feet north-south by 3.2 feet east-west and extended to a depth of 1.4 feet below subsoil (Figure 17). The pit may have been initially excavated to retrieve clay for pottery making, and later was filled with domestic garbage.

Feature 6 is a foundation trench for a probable slave house. The trench, like Feature 4, is oriented E11°S with the perpendicular orientation being N11°E. It measures 11.1 feet in length and is 1.5 feet wide. The west half was removed, revealing that the feature extended 0.4 feet below subsoil. Four irregularly placed posts were found at the base, each measuring only about 0.4 feet in diameter (Figure 18). They

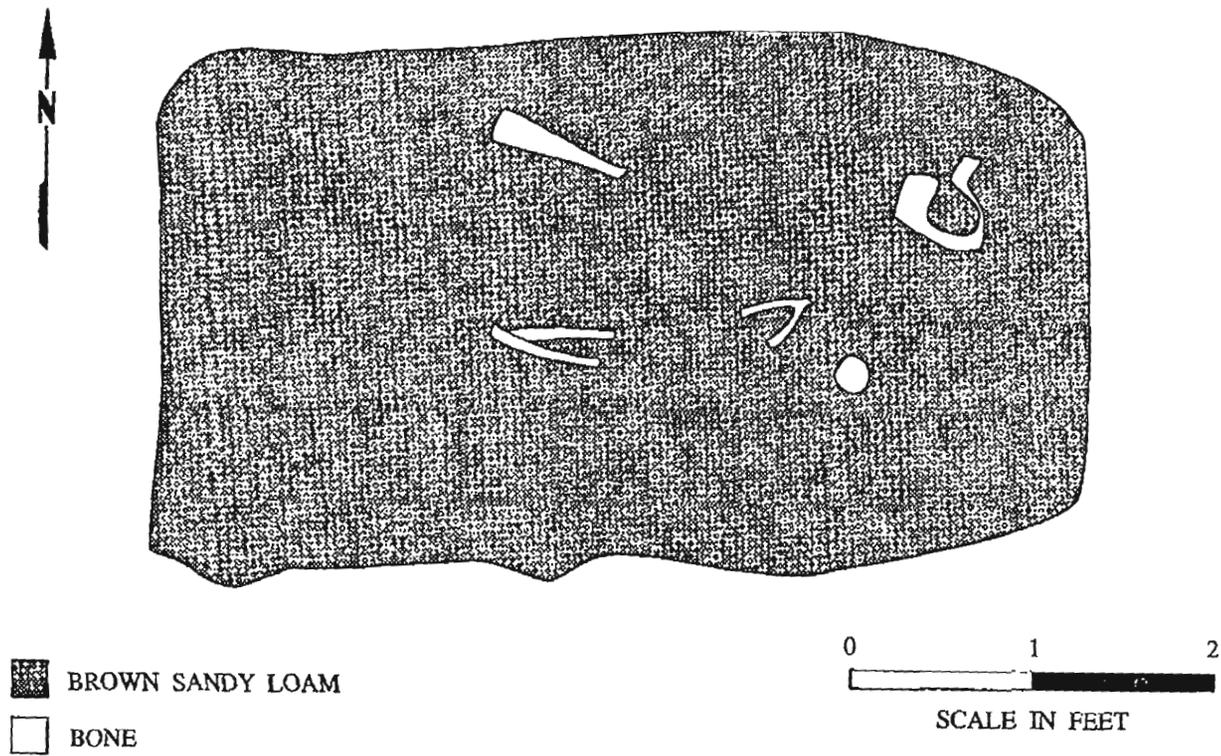


Figure 16. Feature 4, plan view.

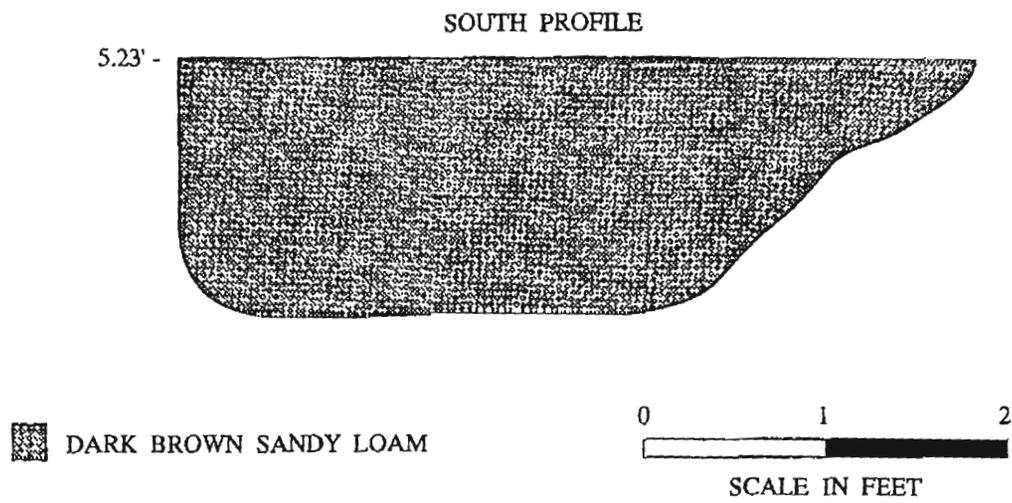


Figure 17. Feature 5, south profile.

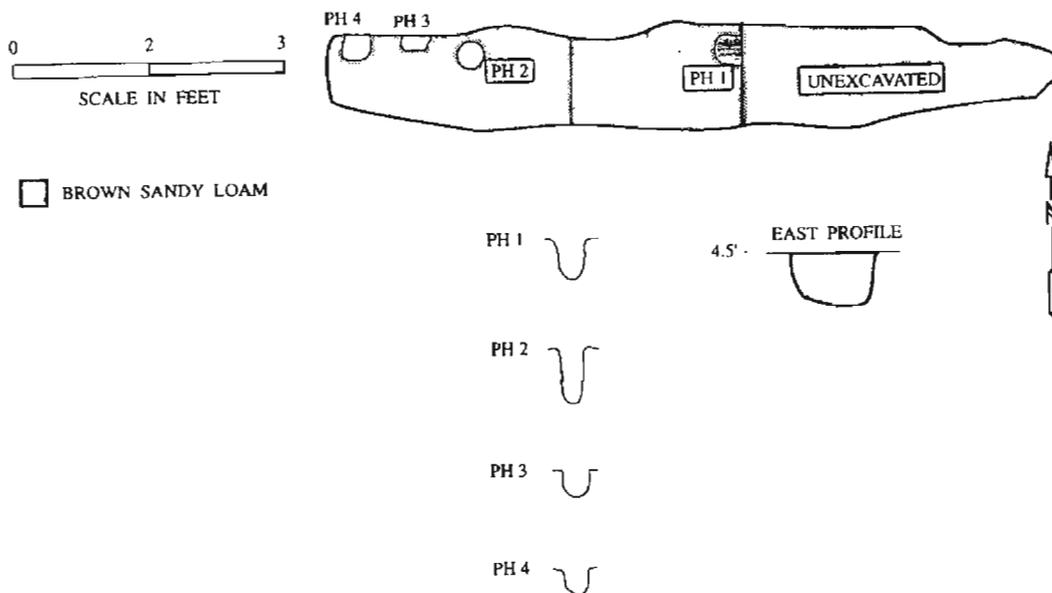


Figure 18. Feature 6, plan view.

extended anywhere from 0.2 to 0.4 feet below the base of the trench. Interestingly, this feature contained no artifacts, suggesting that it was one of the first things constructed at the site.

Area 2

Area 2 was located in the vicinity of the dense brick rubble located in the south east corner of the site grid. One 10 foot square was excavated yielding a sparse amount of artifacts. The excavation revealed only plow scars and a concentration of rubble in a portion of the east wall. As a result, the area east of the unit was mechanically stripped and 2620 square feet of area was removed. In this area only four stains were identified (Figure 19). These stains consisted of four posts of similar size and shape, forming the corner of a large building. Despite an intensive search, no additional posts could be located. When the four posts were excavated they ranged in depth from only 0.1 to 0.4 feet. It is likely that additional posts were plowed out. These posts reveal a structure that minimally measures 20 feet east-west by 26 north-south oriented N13°E. At Richmond Hill Plantation in Georgetown County, Jim Michie uncovered a rice barn measuring 34 feet wide and 80 feet long (Michie 1987:101). Given the minimal size of the structure at Crawl and the sparsity of artifacts, the building is quite likely a rice barn.

Area 3

Area 3 was located in the vicinity of a concentration of artifacts containing a large quantity of European ceramics, leading us to believe that this area may possess an overseer's house. One 10 foot square was excavated in this vicinity revealing only plow scars. An area just south and east of this unit was mechanically stripped revealing only three stains (Figure 20). These stains included two post holes that appeared to be unrelated to one another, two posts that appeared to be part of the same structure, and a

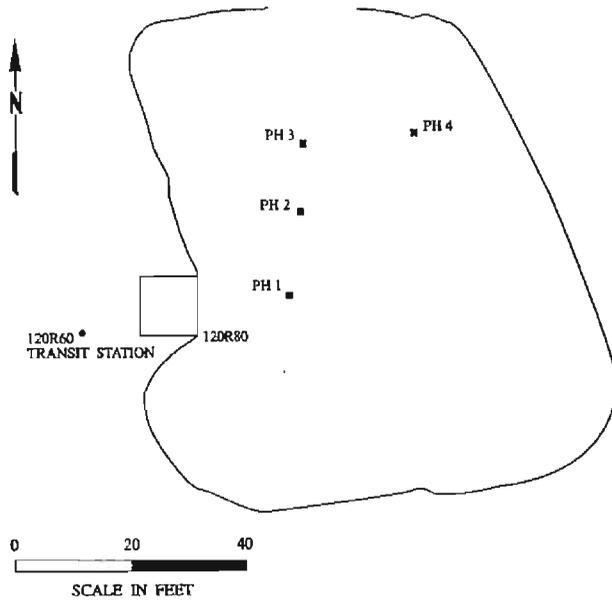


Figure 19. Stripped Area 2, 38BK1670.

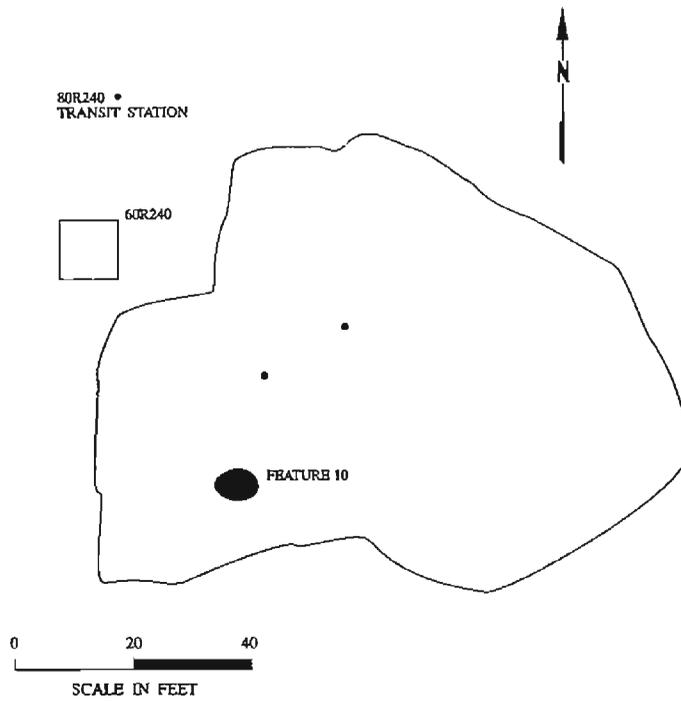


Figure 20. Stripped at Area 3, 38BK1670.

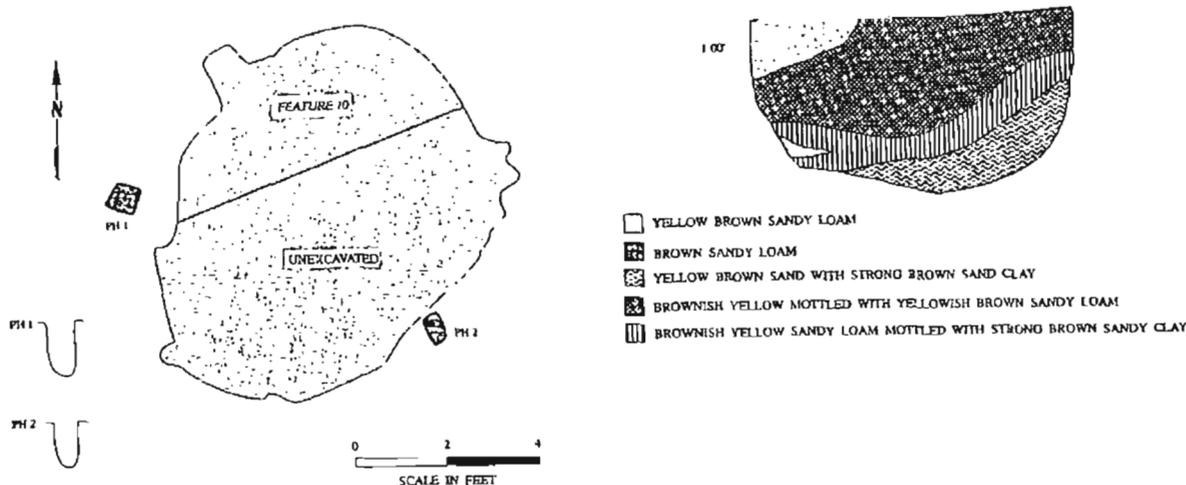


Figure 21. Plan view of Feature 10.

large pit feature (Feature 10). The related posts were excavated and Feature 10 was bisected. Since the fill of Feature 10 was very wet, arrangements were made to water screen the contents.

Feature 10 is an oval stain measuring 5.3 feet east-west by 3.8 feet north-south. After cleaning the feature off, two small rectangular posts were identified; one on the southeast edge and one on the northwest edge of the stain. These were assumed to be associated with Feature 10 given their position on either side of the feature (Figure 21). The contents of the bowl shaped feature consisted of a sparse assemblage of mid-18th century domestic materials. The profile of the bisected feature exhibited lensing, suggesting that the feature was filled in over a long period of time. The posts on either side of the feature contained only charred wood. While the placement of the posts on either side of the feature may be coincidental and perhaps unrelated, it seems quite possible that the posts supported some type of small superstructure. However, no similar features with this kind of superstructure have ever been identified in the South Carolina lowcountry.

Area 4

Three 10 foot squares were placed in Area 4 which is in the vicinity of the slave row. All three units yielded either posts or features including a cob pit (Feature 1), a hearth (Feature 2), and a dog burial (Feature 3). In addition three posts were identified and excavated (Figure 22).

The cob pit (Feature 1) was initially believed to be a post and, therefore, was not bisected. During excavation the stain contained a large quantity of charcoal, believed to be burnt wood, and several colonoware sherds. Upon closer examination of the charcoal, it was determined to be burnt corn cob. Pits

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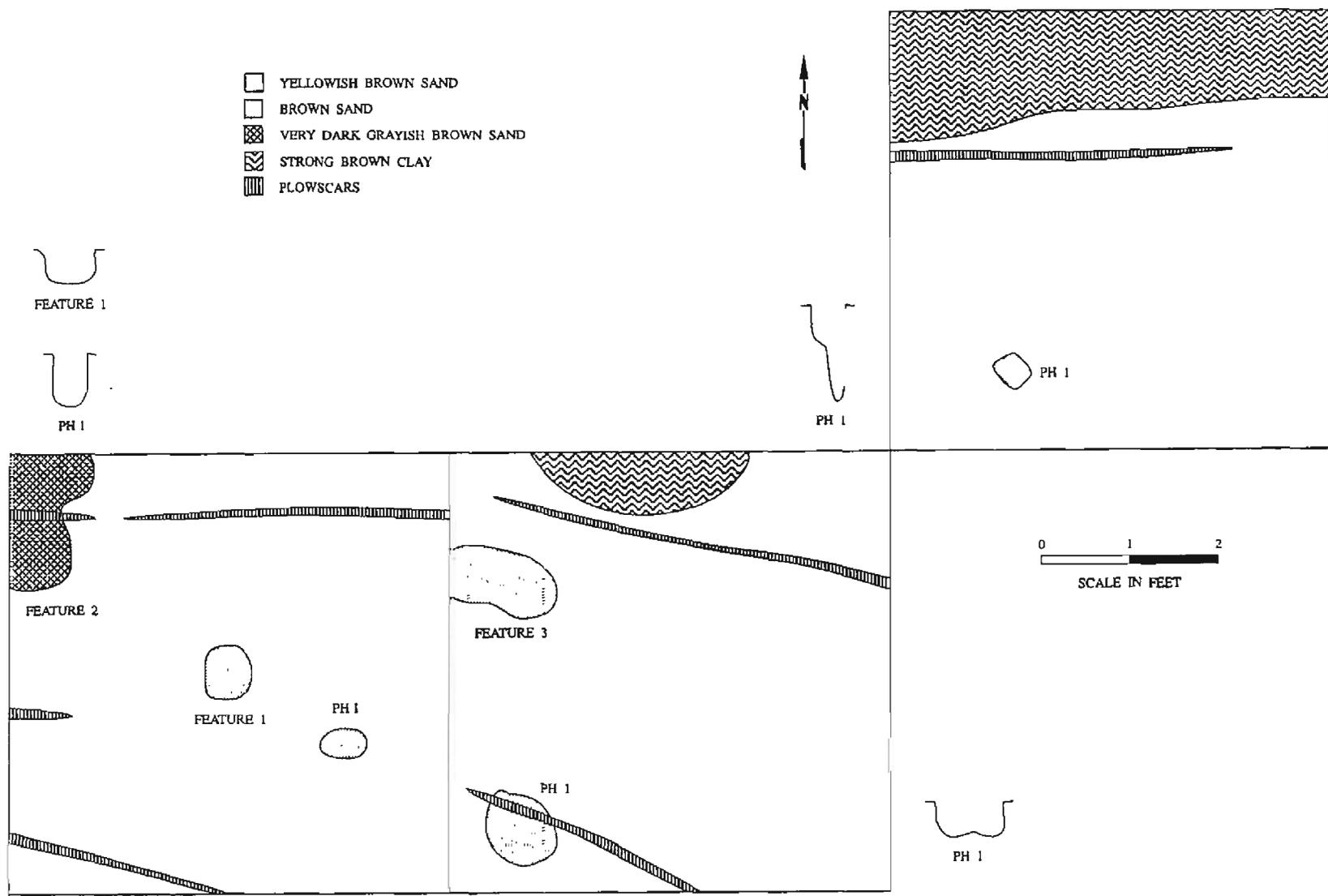


Figure 22. Excavations at Area 4, 38BK1670.

like this have been found at the Middleburg Plantation slave row (Adams 1990) and are believed to have been used to drive away insects because of the heavy smoke the cobs created when burned.

Feature 2 was an outdoor hearth located in the northwestern corner of a unit. Measurements could not be determined since only about one quarter of the hearth was exposed. However, extrapolation suggests that it is approximately 2.4 by 2.4 feet in size. It extended to a depth of 0.6 feet below subsoil. Just south of the feature, interrupted by a plowscar was an extension of the hearth and may have been an area where excess ash and debris was deposited when the hearth needed to be cleaned out (Figure 23). The hearth contained some charcoal, one fragment of burnt bone, colonoware, mid-eighteenth century ceramics, and several large fragments of badly deteriorated iron which probably represent a cooking vessel such as a kettle or pot. The soil in the feature was distinctly darker in color (10YR3/2 very dark grayish brown) than the surrounding plowzone matrix (10YR4/3 brown).

Feature 3 was an oblong stain containing a few ceramics and very fragile bone believed to be dog (Figure 24). The stain measured 2.4 feet east-west by 1.2 feet north-south and extended 0.3 feet into the subsoil. The burial contained a mandible and several long bones.

An area measuring approximately 3,600 square feet north and west of the three excavation units was mechanically stripped at Area 4 (Figure 25). In this area 15 stains were recorded including four trees, seven posts, three trash pits (Features 7, 9, and 11), and one hearth (Feature 8).

Six of the seven posts were excavated since they clustered in one location of the stripped area. Although no discernable pattern was present, it was felt that by examining their morphology and content, it could at least be determined whether or not they were related. While their diameter and contents were similar, their depth ranged from 0.3 to 1.1 feet. Their profile at the base was rounded and may represent the rebuilding of slave houses using similar building techniques.

Feature 7 was a roughly circular stain measuring 3.3 feet north-south by 3.6 feet east-west and extended 1.0 foot into the subsoil. The feature, interpreted to be a trash pit, was bisected with the east half removed, and contained small bits of charcoal, bottle glass, colonoware, and brick. In addition, a large unidentified iron object was found near the base of the feature. It is possible that the feature may have later functioned as a temporary hearth since charcoal was found to be concentrated in the top central portion of the feature (Figure 26).

Feature 8 was a circular stain measuring 2.5 feet north-south by 2.5 feet east-west. The east half of the feature was removed revealing that the stain extended 1.0 foot into the subsoil. The stain was interpreted to be a hearth based on the presence of a colonoware pot bust which to contain a thick coating of charred food remains on the interior. In addition to the colonoware, fragments of bottle glass, brick, and animal bone were recovered (Figure 27).

Feature 9 was an oblong stain measuring 2.9 feet east-west by 1.7 feet north-south. This feature had been damaged by a tire rut produced during grading and was taken out in its entirety. The bowl shaped feature extended 1.1 feet into the subsoil and is interpreted to represent a trash pit. The feature contained colonoware, bottle glass, pipe stems, and a few small fragments of animal bone.

Feature 11 was also an oblong stain that was badly damaged by tire rutting. No attempt was made to excavate this feature because the rutting had badly distorted its form. Originally, the stain may have measured 3.7 feet east-west by 2.8 feet north-south. It also probably represented a trash pit.

Summary and Conclusions

At 38BK1670, Crawl Plantation slave row, four areas were investigated which consisted of two

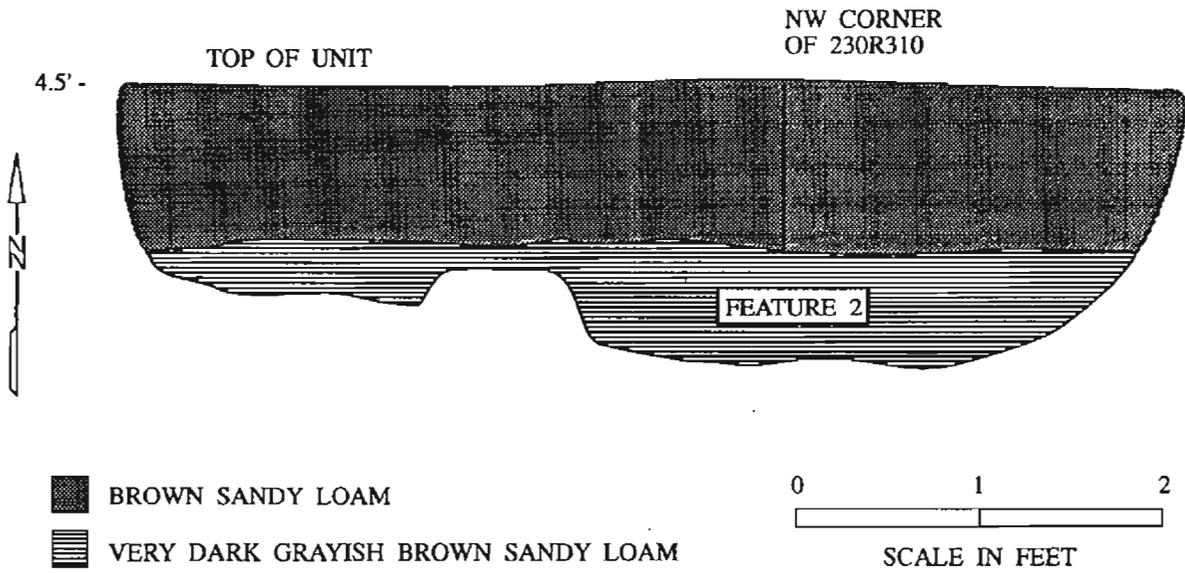


Figure 23. Feature 2, north and west profiles.

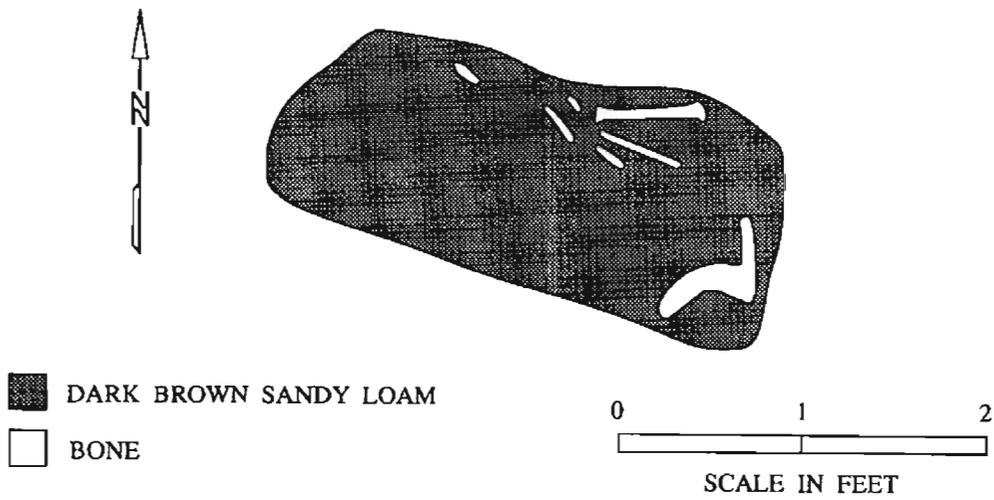


Figure 24. Feature 3, plan view.

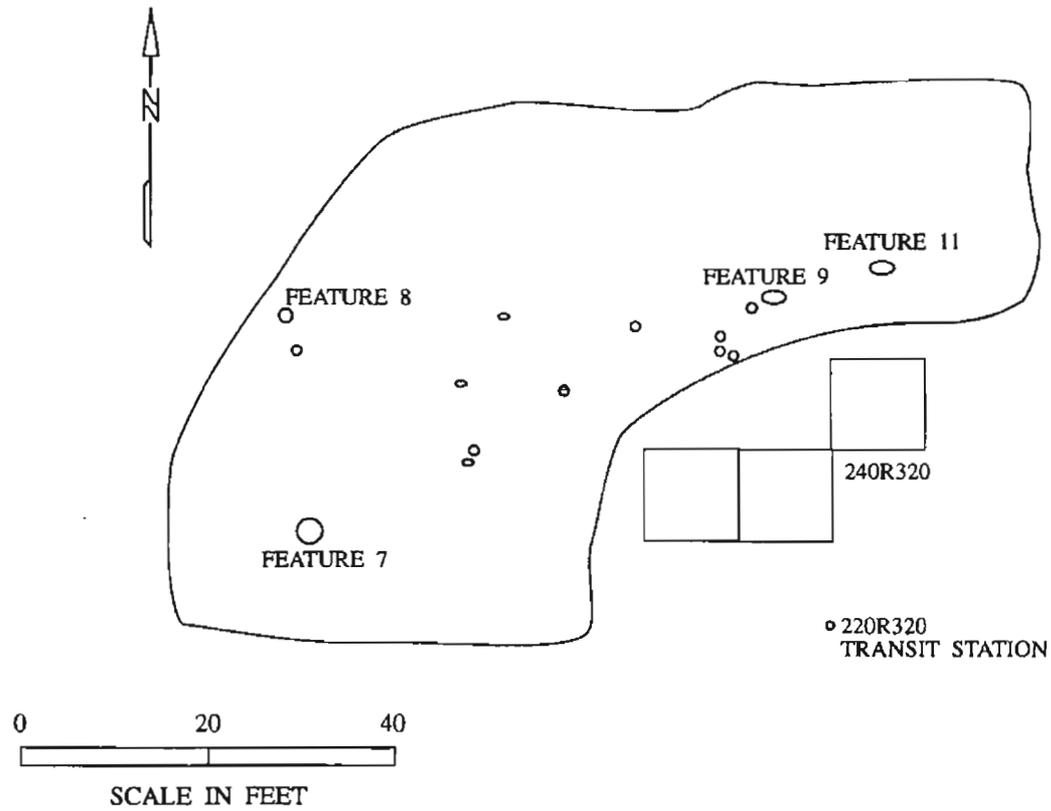


Figure 25. Stripped Area 4, 38BK1670.

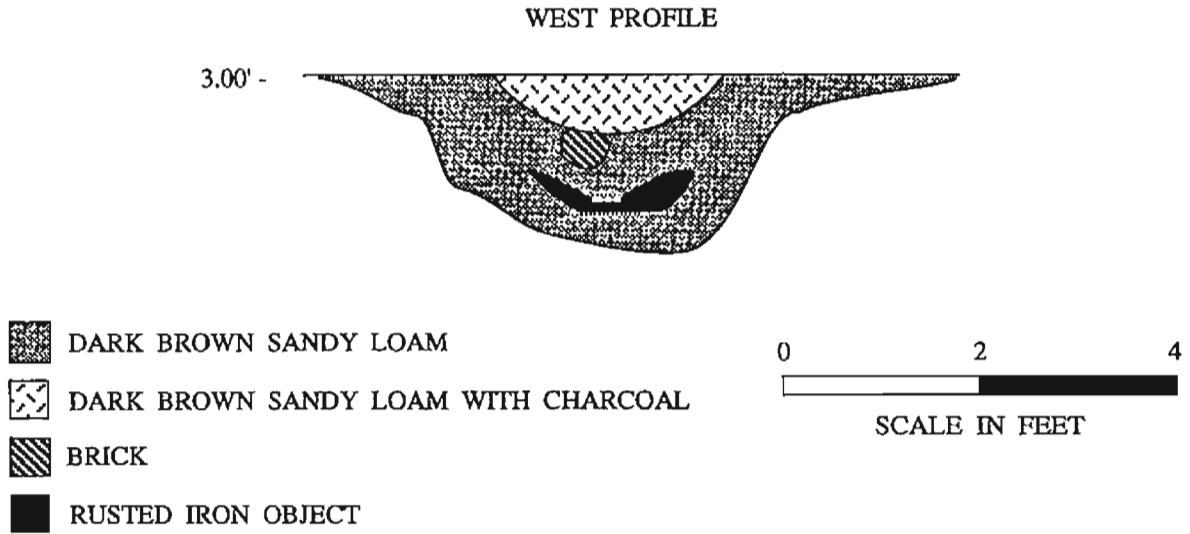


Figure 26. Feature 7, east profile.

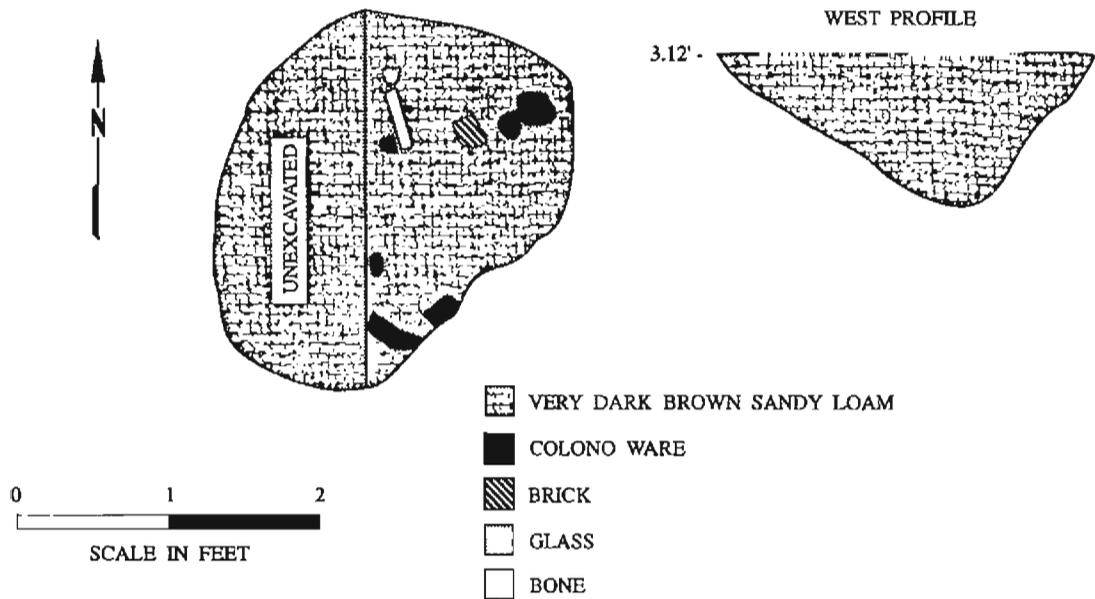


Figure 27. Feature 8, plan and east profile.

slave areas (Areas 1 and 4), one posited overseer area (Area 3), and a utility area (Area 2).

The slave areas contained the most numerous and varied features including hearths, trash pits, a cob pit, a dog burial, a foundation trench, and a number of posts. The foundation trench measured about 11 feet long and no matching walls could be found. It is likely that the slave houses were very ephemeral structures, given the early date of the artifacts in the area. The foundation wall is similar to those found at Yaughan and Curriboo Plantations and given the lack of architectural artifacts in the fill, the lack of daub or large clay extraction pits, the construction at Crawl may have been wattle.

At the posited overseer's area only two posts were identified in the stripped area. In addition, a large pit feature was located, with the contents dating to the eighteenth century. It is possible that the overseer's house was as ephemeral as the slave houses, given that no substantial amount of brick was identified there. As a result, evidence of the house may have been plowed away.

Four morphologically similar posts were identified at the area believed to contain utility buildings. Although only one corner was identified, the structure appears to have been large, measuring at least 20 feet east-west by 28 feet north-south oriented N13°E.

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