

**Archaeological Testing at
Fort McIntosh,
Laredo Junior College Campus,
Laredo, Texas**

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Archaeological Survey Report, No. 68

1979

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Volunteers from the Webb County Archaeological Society and from Laredo Junior College and Laredo State University donated their time to help with the field work. The Laredo Road Department loaned a maintainer for use in the project.

Jerry Thompson aided greatly with historical research. Sam Nesmith of the Institute of Texan Cultures helped identify some of the military-related artifacts. Becky Halpern of the Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio, made a cursory inspection of the faunal remains and food bone samples. Thomas R. Hester, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Archaeological Research, served as Principal Investigator; Jack D. Eaton, Assistant Director, provided supervision for the project.

INTRODUCTION

From July 6 to 31, 1977, archaeologists from the Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), conducted archaeological investigations at Fort McIntosh (41 WB 11), Laredo, Texas. The purpose of this investigation was to make an assessment of areas to be affected by planned tennis courts and parking facilities on the Laredo Junior College campus.

The archaeological investigation was done under contract between Laredo Junior College (Dr. Domingo Arechiga, President) and the Center for Archaeological Research, UTSA. The field work was accomplished by Thomas Medlin, crew chief, and Jon McClenny, assistant, with the help of interested college students and amateur archaeologists, under the general supervision of Dr. Thomas R. Hester, Director of the Center, and Mr. Jack D. Eaton, Assistant Director.

The following report was prepared from field records, maps and artifacts stored at the Center for Archaeological Research, from information gathered through extended conversations with Medlin and McClenny and from Medlin's (1977b) preliminary report on the investigation.

RELATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

During Spring 1977, an initial archaeological assessment of areas proposed for modification at Fort McIntosh was made by the Center for Archaeological Research (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977). At that time, the development of athletic and parking facilities was planned for an unused open area of the Laredo Junior College campus lying between the college buildings and the Rio Grande (Fig. 1). A surface survey of this area noted concentrations of artifacts relating to early (pre-Civil War) and later (post-1860) periods during which the Fort was occupied. Limited subsurface testing recovered post-1860 artifacts. Structural and artifactual evidence of the early Fort was not recognized. However, the investigators suggested that earlier evidence might be buried beneath layers of flood-deposited silts, and that archaeological traces, if and when they were found, would occur in the form of artifact concentrations, post holes, and possibly stone foundation remains (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:15-19).

Subsequent to this initial assessment, short-term archaeological survey and testing investigations were made of the parade ground and officers' quarters areas of the later Fort, where construction activities were planned by Laredo Junior College and Laredo State University (Fox 1978a, 1978b; Medlin 1977a). The only archaeological evidence encountered in these project areas was the remains of a wire-wound wooden water pipeline which ran north-south across the parade ground of the later Fort.

As a second phase, following the initial archaeological assessment of Fort McIntosh (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977), subsurface testing was carried out (Medlin 1977b) in areas scheduled for the development of tennis courts and parking facilities in the southwestern part of the campus in the area where both early and later forts were located. The following is a report of that investigation.

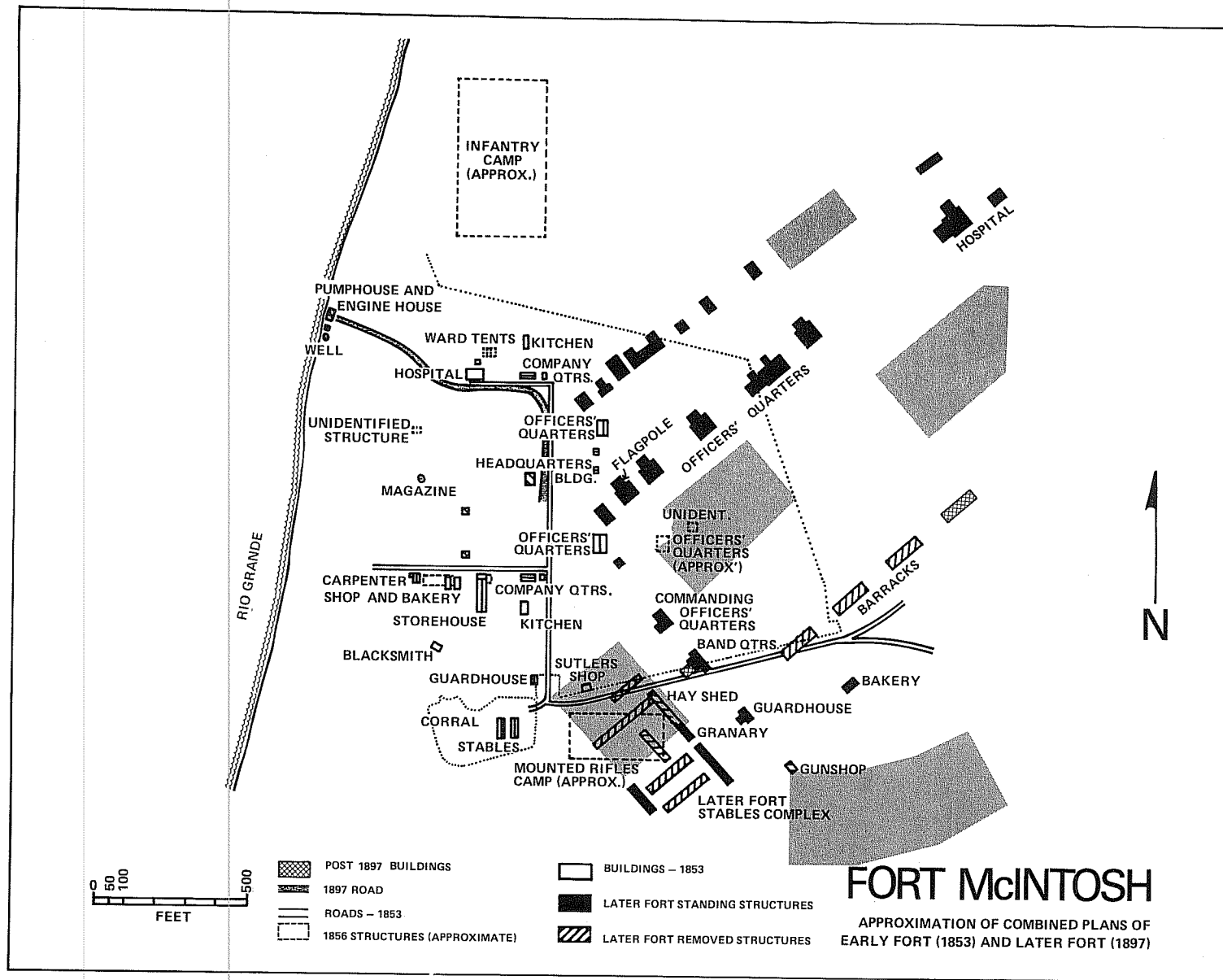


Figure 1. Plan of Fort McIntosh Showing Archaeological Project Areas. Shading indicates the locations of past and current archaeological investigations.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The history of Fort McIntosh has been detailed elsewhere (cf. Thompson 1973, 1974 and Wilkinson 1975). Ivey, Medlin and Eaton (1977:1-3) present a summary of this history as it pertains to archaeological problems. For the purposes of this report, chronology of the occupation of Fort McIntosh and the historic background of the two specific project areas is appropriate.

Pre-Civil War and Post-Civil War Fort McIntosh

Officially established as Camp Crawford on March 3, 1849 and renamed on January 7, 1850 (Thompson 1974:165,166), Fort McIntosh consisted mainly of tents during the first few years. By July 1853, six wooden-frame and two stone structures had been built (Crimmins 1950:204). Fourteen frame structures had been added by November (National Archives 1953). By 1856, the star fort was complete and Fort McIntosh was occupied by four companies of infantry, two companies of mounted rifles and one company of artillery (Crimmins 1939:228-239).

The Fort and cantonment were abandoned in March 1859, and 30 buildings were put up for sale at public auction. In February 1860, during the period of raiding by Juan Cortina, Fort McIntosh was reoccupied and operated until March 12, 1861 (Thompson 1974:187-192). Apparently, there was no construction at the Fort during the Civil War (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:2).

On October 23, 1865, Fort McIntosh was reoccupied (Thompson 1974:216). Tents were used as housing while a new post was constructed. By late 1872, several stone, adobe and frame structures had been built (Conway 1963:571). By 1875, other frame and adobe structures had been added (U.S. Army 1876:202-203). The use of yellow Laredo brick construction apparently began around 1880 (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:3), and in 1897, Fort McIntosh consisted of at least 40 buildings (National Archives 1897).

During the two world wars of the 20th century, there were build-ups of the post and subsequent dismantling of war-period structures. Fort McIntosh was closed officially as an Army post in 1946. Views of some of the presently standing Fort McIntosh buildings are shown in Fig. 2.

Ivey, Medlin and Eaton (1977:3) surmised that much of the early Fort was disturbed or obliterated by the construction of the later Fort and by 20th century land modifications, although they suggested that it is likely that structural remains still survive.

Tennis Courts and Parking Facilities Areas

Ivey, Medlin and Eaton (1977:Fig. 2) have calculated that a sutler's store for the early Fort was located in the northern part of the tennis courts area and an early mounted rifles camp was in the vicinity of the southern part. From about the 1880s until World War II, the northern part was used as a post garden and the southern part was used for a horse stable (Fig. 1).



a



b

Figure 2. *Views of Standing Fort Structures.* a, officer's quarters on north side of old parade ground, now a private residence; b, enlisted men's barracks on south side of old parade ground, now the administrative offices of Laredo Junior College.

Today, in the southern part of the tennis courts area, three buildings remain of eight shown on the 1897 map of the Fort (National Archives 1897; Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:Fig. 2; Medlin 1977b:Figs. 2,3). The northern half is an open field.

There is no documentary evidence to indicate that the parking facility area (Fig. 1) was the site of any building construction during early or later Fort occupations.

METHODOLOGY

The archaeological testing of proposed tennis courts and parking facilities areas was oriented toward determining the nature and condition of subsurface evidence of early and late Fort McIntosh. During the initial survey (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977), it was determined that there were some buried remains (wooden posts and a gravel pavement) of the later Fort stable. It was recommended that this southern ("Granary and Hayshed") part of the tennis courts area should be investigated more thoroughly. In addition, the northern ("Post Garden") part was tested for buried evidence of the early Fort. Subsurface testing of the proposed parking facilities area was also undertaken to verify suspicions that no archaeological evidence of Fort McIntosh would be affected in that project area.

Tennis Courts Area

The tennis courts were proposed to be located just west of Ainsworth Road in an open field northwest of the present Audio-Visual Center (Figs. 3,4). This building (P-19), once labeled the "Granary and Hayshed" (National Archives 1897), originally extended to the north. Four hand-dug test trenches (T-1, T-2, T-4 and T-5) and a test pit (TP-1) were placed in the area of this northern extension of Building P-19 (Fig. 3) in the vicinity of earlier, more limited subsurface testing (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:Fig. 2). Another hand-dug test trench (T-3) was placed in the open area west of Building P-19, and another (T-6) was placed north of Benavides Road (Fig. 4) in the northern ("Post Garden") part of the tennis courts area.

In addition, nine backhoe trenches and four maintainer cuts were excavated (Figs. 4,5). Five backhoe trenches were placed in a line running north from Building P-19, paralleling Ainsworth Road and crossing Benavides Road. The maintainer cuts and two backhoe trenches were placed in the vicinity of Test Trench 6 (T-6), north of Benavides Road. The two remaining backhoe trenches were placed north of Buildings P-43, 44 and 45 and south of Benavides Road.

Test Pit 1 (TP-1)

This hand-dug test pit, measuring 39 inches square, was placed in the central part of the area where the north ("Hayshed") extension of Building P-19 once stood (Fig. 3). TP-1 was excavated to a depth of three feet below the ground surface to determine the soil stratigraphy for the southern ("Stables") part

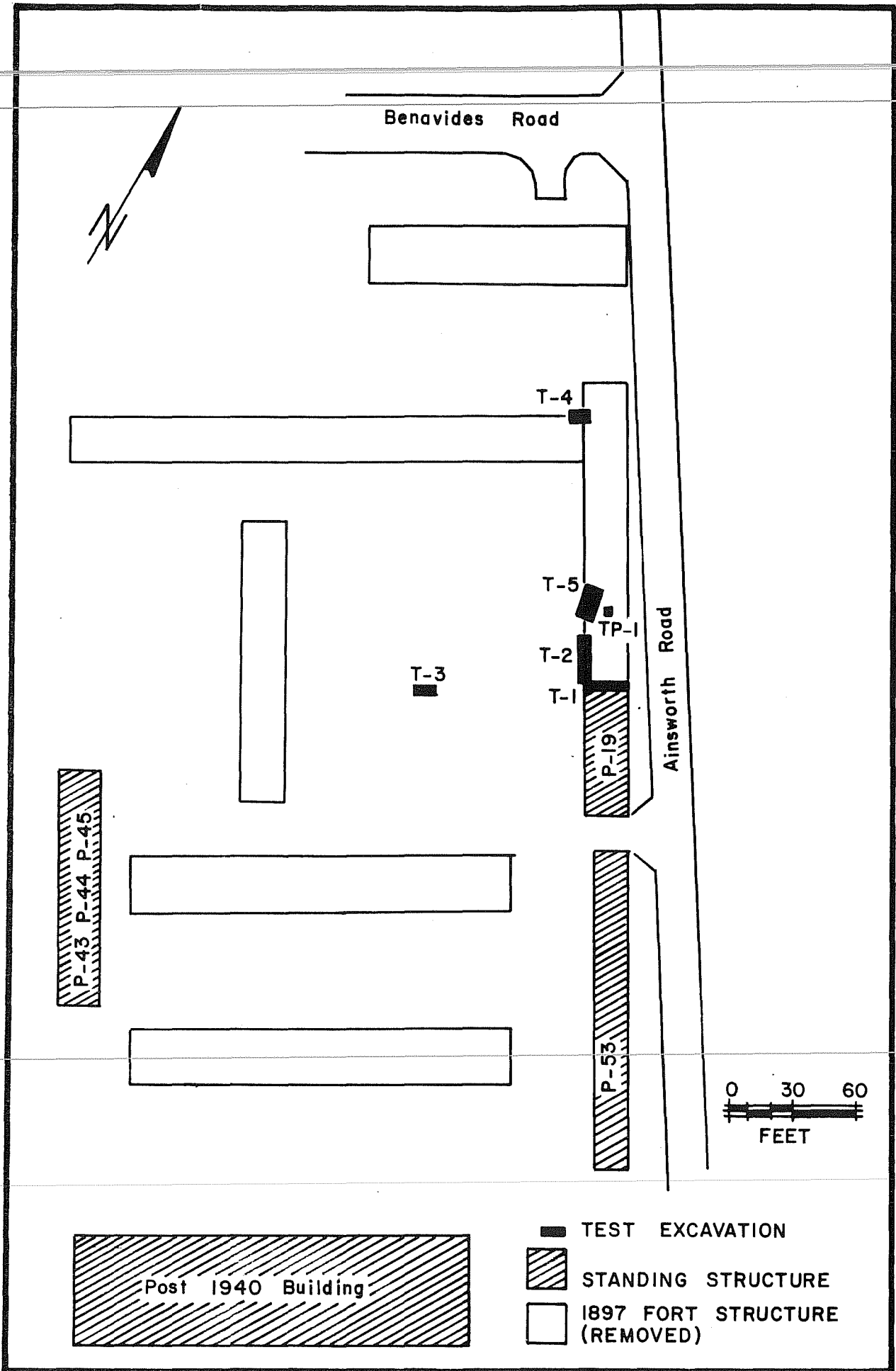


Figure 3. Plan of Southern ("Stables") Part of Tennis Courts Area.

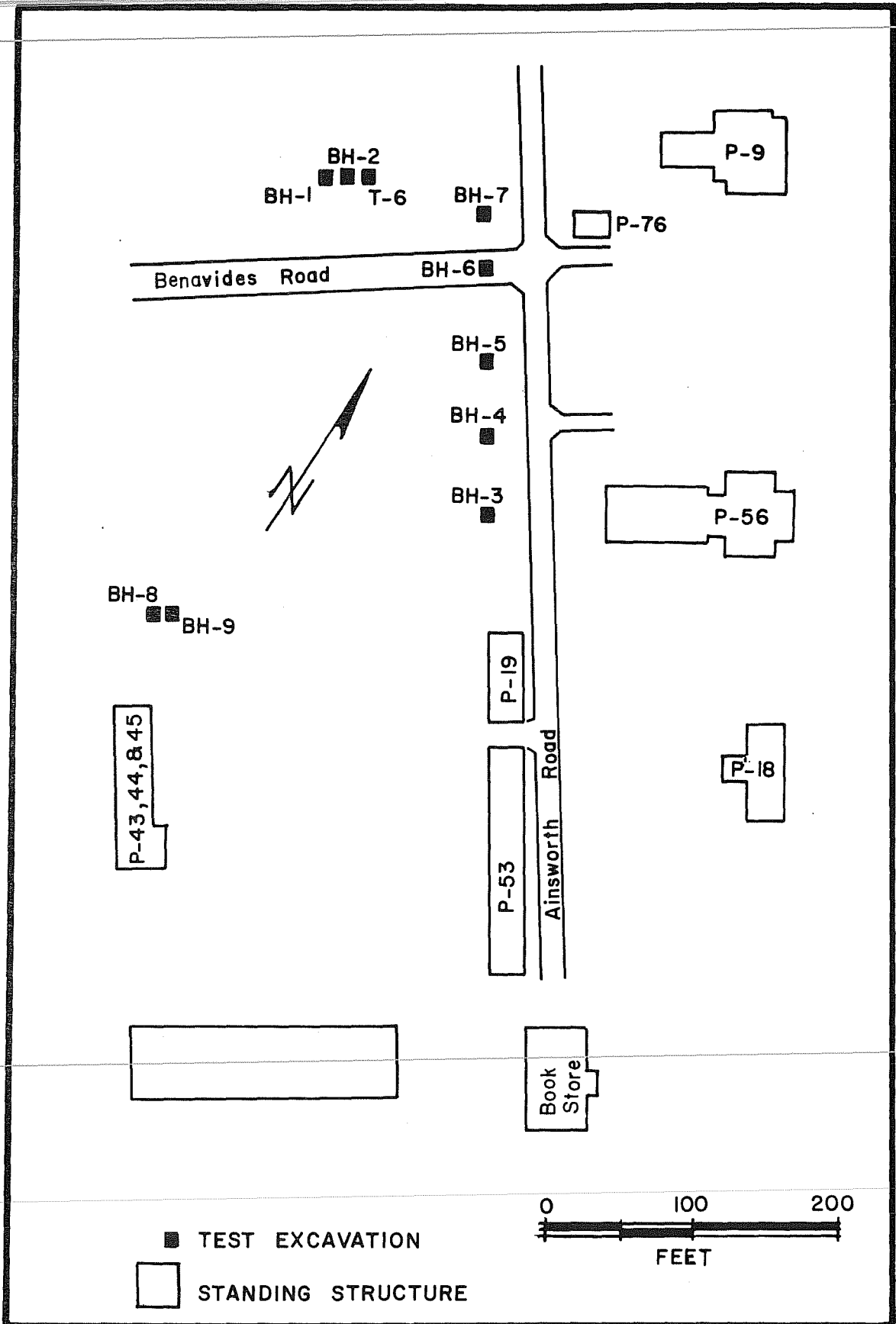


Figure 4. Plan of Tennis Courts Area Showing Locations of Backhoe Trenches and T-6.

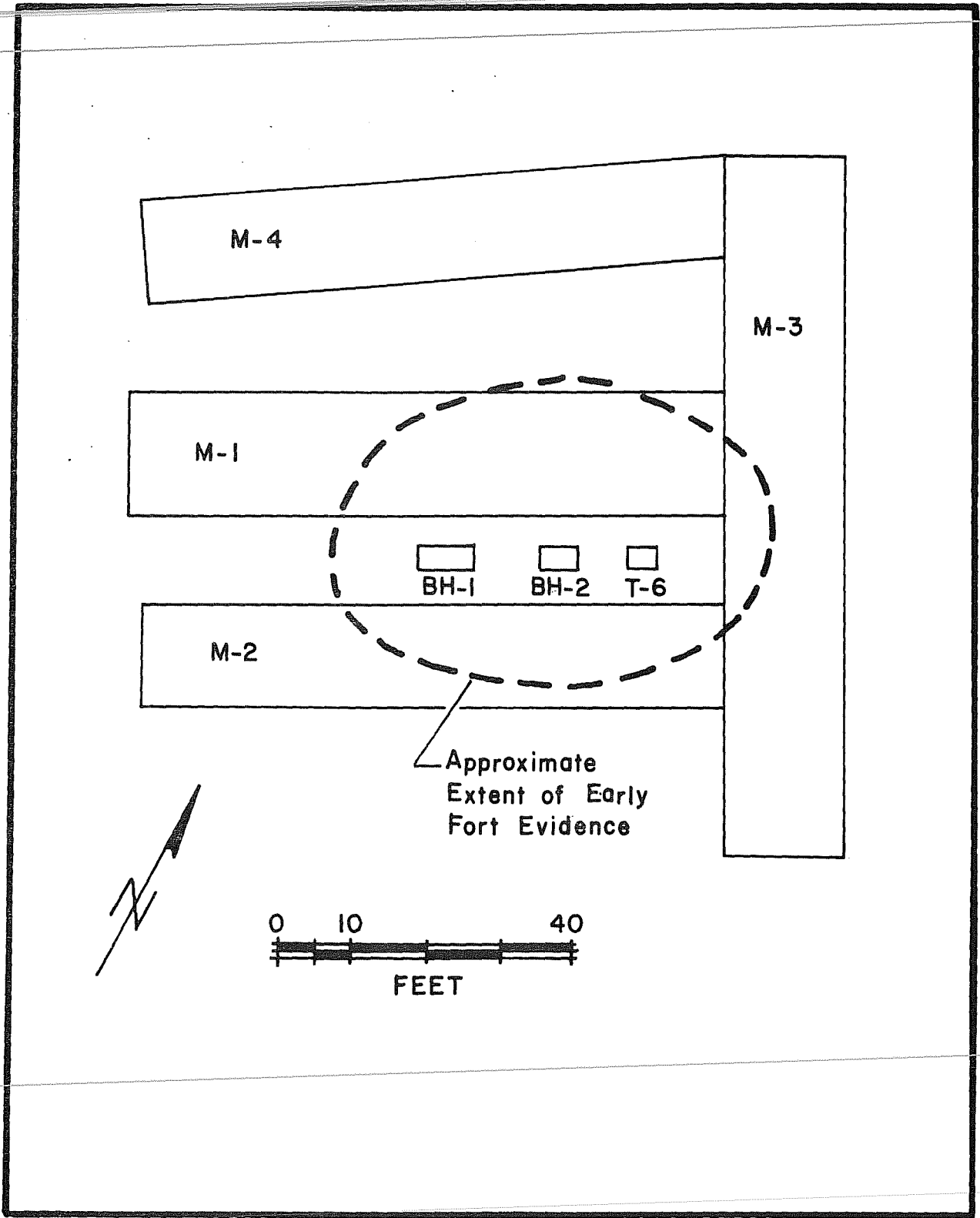


Figure 5. Plan of Northern ("Post Garden") Part of Tennis Courts Area. Shown here are locations of maintainer cuts, backhoe trenches and test pit.

of the tennis courts area. As noted in other excavations, the soil is flood-deposited tan-gray sandy silt. In TP-1, intermittent hard-packed soil layers were observed which appear to be a series of old ground surfaces, each packed and baked hard during past exposures. In other parts of the later Fort stables area, soils apparently have been disturbed by mechanical clearing activities.

Test Trenches

Trench 1 (T-1), 22 ft 8 in long and 2 ft wide, was dug along the north wall of Building P-19 to a depth of approximately 1 ft 8 in below the ground surface (Fig. 3). Two posts, a post mold, a footing trench, a stone wall footing and a large amount of construction debris were encountered in T-1.

Trench 2 (T-2), 16 ft long, 4 ft wide and 1 ft 7 in deep, extended north from the west end of T-1 (Fig. 3) for a distance of 18 ft from the north end wall of Building P-19 and was oriented parallel with the west face of that building. T-2 traversed a shallow subsurface layer of packed gravel.

Trench 3 (T-3), 10 ft long, 2 ft wide and 1 ft deep, was located 75 ft west of Building P-19 and in line with the north wall of that building (Fig. 3). The soil stratigraphy was notably confused in this area, apparently due to recent bulldozing. No structural evidence was found in T-3.

Trench 4 (T-4), 10 ft long and 4 ft wide, was located 130 ft north of Building P-19 and in line with the west wall of that building (Fig. 3). This is the approximate position of an intersection of the northern end of the west wall of Building P-19 ("Granary and Hayshed") and the northwest corner of another structure as shown on the 1897 map of the Fort. This linear structure was oriented perpendicular to Building P-19. T-4 was excavated to a depth of 2 ft, but no structural remains were found.

Trench 5 (T-5), 16 ft long, 8 ft wide and 1 ft 6 in deep, was located 32 ft north of Building P-19 (Fig. 3) and overlapped the line of the west wall of that building. Several hard-packed soil surfaces were noted, but no structural evidence or cultural material was found.

Trench 6 (T-6), 4 ft long and about 3 ft wide, was located 6 ft 7 in east of Backhoe Trench 1 (BH-1) (Fig. 4), north of Benavides Road. Correlating relatively closely with the soil profiles of Backhoe Trenches 1 and 2 (BH-1 and BH-2), T-6 encountered considerable quantities of charcoal and pre-Civil War period cultural material in a layer 10 in thick, lying 26 in below the ground surface in this northern ("Post Garden") part of the tennis courts area.

Maintainer Cuts

A maintainer was used to cut broad, shallow strips from the surface of the open field in the northern ("Post Garden") part of the tennis courts area (Fig. 5). Averaging approximately 80 ft long and 16 ft wide, three maintainer cuts (M-1, M-2 and M-4) were situated about 12 ft apart and extended west from (roughly perpendicular to) another maintainer cut (M-3) which paralleled Ainsworth

Road (Fig. 6,a). Soils encountered in these open excavations appeared to be disturbed to an average depth of 22 in. A scatter of 19th century cultural material was encountered in maintainer cuts M-1, M-2 and M-3.

Backhoe Trenches

Backhoe Trenches 1 and 2 (BH-1 and BH-2) were placed north of Benavides Road between maintainer cuts 1 and 2 (M-1 and M-2) approximately in the center of the open field west of Ainsworth Road (Fig. 5). When the backhoe encountered artifacts at a depth of about 25 in below the ground surface in BH-1, machine excavation was stopped and the floor of the trench was cleaned by hand, exposing a concentration of pre-Civil War period cultural material. Test BH-2, located 9 ft east of BH-1, also was excavated with a backhoe to a depth of about 24 in, where a similar concentration of artifacts was exposed. Excavation of both backhoe trenches was continued by hand and penetrated a 3 in layer of hard-packed gravel overlain by a dense deposit of charcoal and ash intermixed with cut and burned bone.

Backhoe Trenches 3-7 (BH-3 to BH-7) were dug as a series of tests approximately 50 ft apart, running north of Building P-19 in line with the west wall of that building (Fig. 4). The northernmost in this series, BH-7, extended to about 35 ft north of Benavides Road. The average depth of these backhoe trenches was 3 ft 6 in. None encountered structural evidence. BH-6, placed in Benavides Road, indicated that the gravel road surface was 12 in thick. Below this, soils were found to be the typical tan-gray sandy silt found in the other backhoe trenches.

Parking Facilities Area

Five backhoe trenches were excavated in the parking facilities area, located on the southern edge of the Laredo Junior College campus (Fig. 1). Arranged in a north-south line across the project area, the trenches were dug to a depth of 4 to 5 ft, but no archaeological evidence was encountered. Soils in this area consist of about 4 ft of tan-gray sandy silt overlying a yellowish-tan sandy clay.

FEATURES

~~Archaeological features found during subsurface testing of the tennis courts area include structural and artifactual evidence of early and later Fort McIntosh.~~

Posts and Postmold

~~Two cedar posts and a postmold were encountered during the excavation of Test Trench 1 (T-1), placed along the north wall of Building P-19 (Fig. 7). The same two stumps of posts had been located by subsurface testing during the initial assessment of the Fort (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:6). One was situated at the northwest corner of the standing brick structure (P-19), and the other at the~~

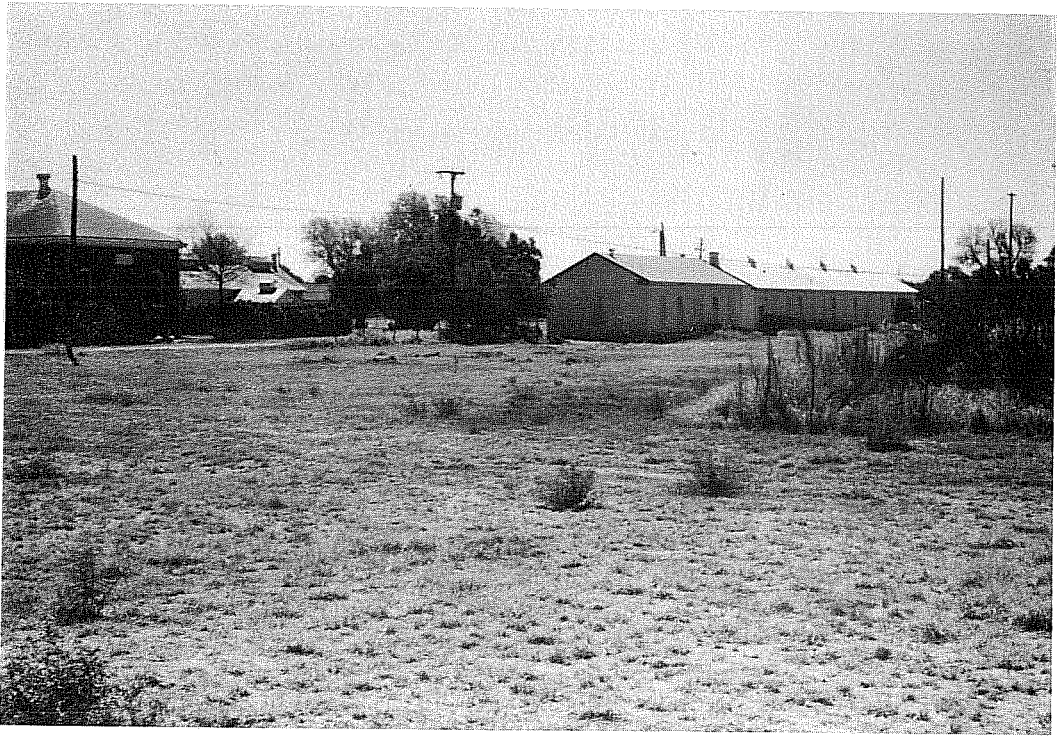
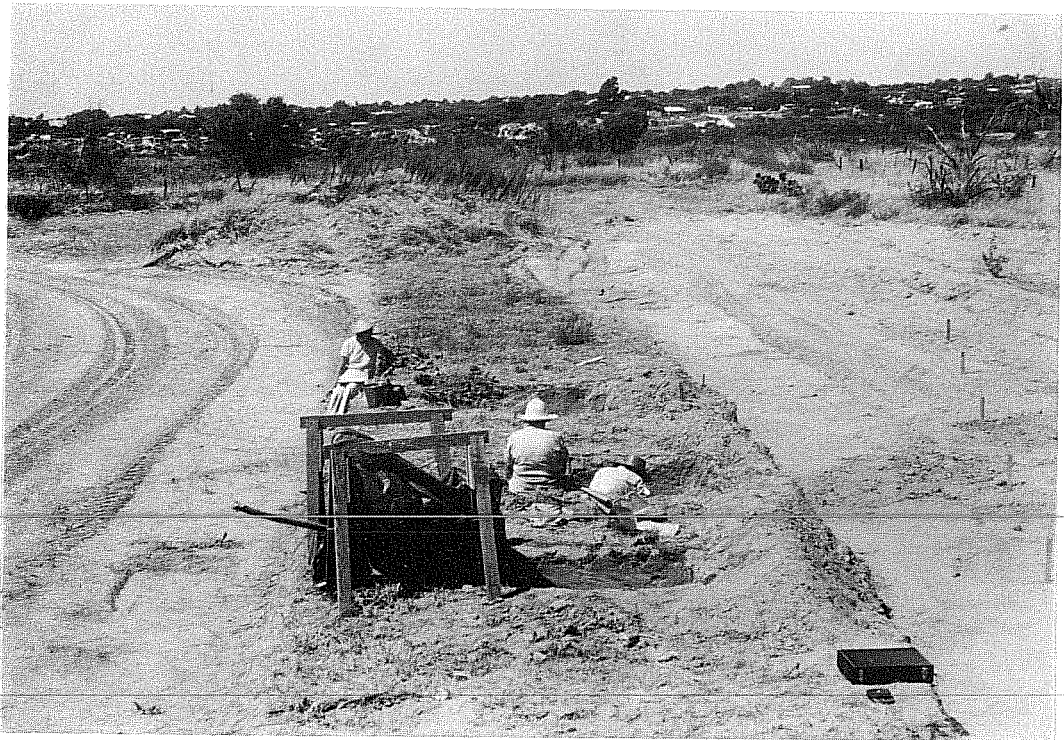
**a****b**

Figure 6. *Views of Tennis Courts Area.* a, view of granary building (Bldg. P-19) in southern ("Stables") area of tennis courts, looking southeast; b, northern ("Post Garden"), tennis courts area, looking west at BH-1, BH-2 and T-6.

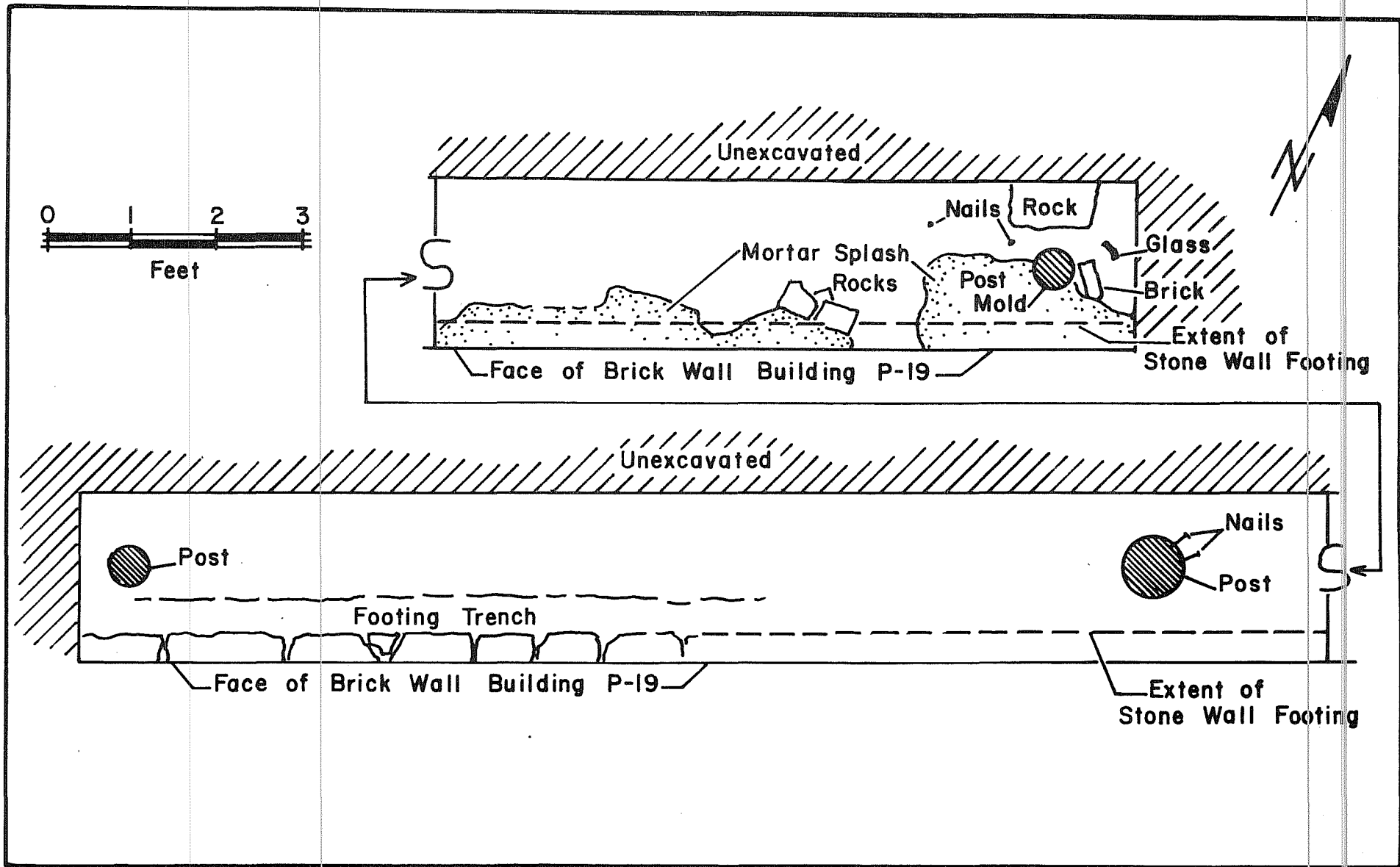


Figure 7. Plan of Trench 1 (T-1) Showing Archaeological Features.

center of the north end wall. This central post, with three square nails in the east side, measured 7 inches in diameter and penetrated to a depth of 2 ft 3 in below the ground surface. The northwest corner post was 5 inches in diameter and extended 1 ft 5 in below the ground surface.

Evidence of an earlier post was visible in the form of a post hole filled with a dark-colored soil. This postmold (Fig. 8) was about 5 inches in diameter and extended from beneath 6 in of overburden to a depth of 1 ft 7 in below the ground surface. It can be suggested that these posts represent the foundation of the northern ("Hayshed") extension of the standing brick ("Granary") Building P-19 of the later Fort stables.

Gravel Pavement

Limited subsurface testing during the initial assessment of Fort McIntosh (Ivey, Medlin and Eaton 1977:6) recorded a hard, thin layer of gravel at a depth of about 4 inches below the ground surface. This gravel pavement, encountered again in Test Trench 2 (T-2) of Phase II investigations, was found to extend about 10 ft north of Building P-19. It was about 3 ft wide and averaged about 2-1/2 inches in thickness. Containing a few artifacts, this gravel pavement probably was a structural element (possibly a floor surface) of the northern frame ("Hayshed") extension of the standing brick ("Granary") Building P-19.

Footing Trench and Stone Wall Footing

A footing trench for the north wall of Building P-19 was encountered in Test Trench 1 (T-1). Filled with bricks and mortar, this footing trench ran the length of the wall, was 4 to 6 inches wide (Fig. 7) and extended below the bottom of T-1 (1 ft 8 in below the ground surface). It had been disturbed by the construction of a barbed wire fence at the northwest corner of Building P-19. Standing in this trench is a stone wall footing which supports the northern brick wall of Building P-19.

Pre-Civil War Evidence

Layers of occupational evidence of pre-Civil War Fort McIntosh were encountered in Backhoe Trenches 1 and 2 (BH-1 and BH-2) and in Test Trench 6 (T-6), located in the open field north of Benavides Road in the northern ("Post Garden") part of the tennis courts area. In BH-1 and BH-2, artifacts were found above and upon a compact gravel surface which lay 24 to 27 in below the ground surface. Artifacts also were found directly beneath this gravel layer. In BH-1 the gravel surface was covered by a dense deposit of charcoal and ash intermixed with cut and burned animal bones (Fig. 9). In T-6 the gravel layer was not encountered. Instead, considerable quantities of charcoal and artifacts were found in a layer about 10 in thick capped by 26 in of flood-deposited sandy silt (Fig. 10).

According to Ivey, Medlin and Eaton (1977:Fig. 2), a "Sutler's Shop" (or store) of the early Fort was located in this northern ("Post Garden") part of the

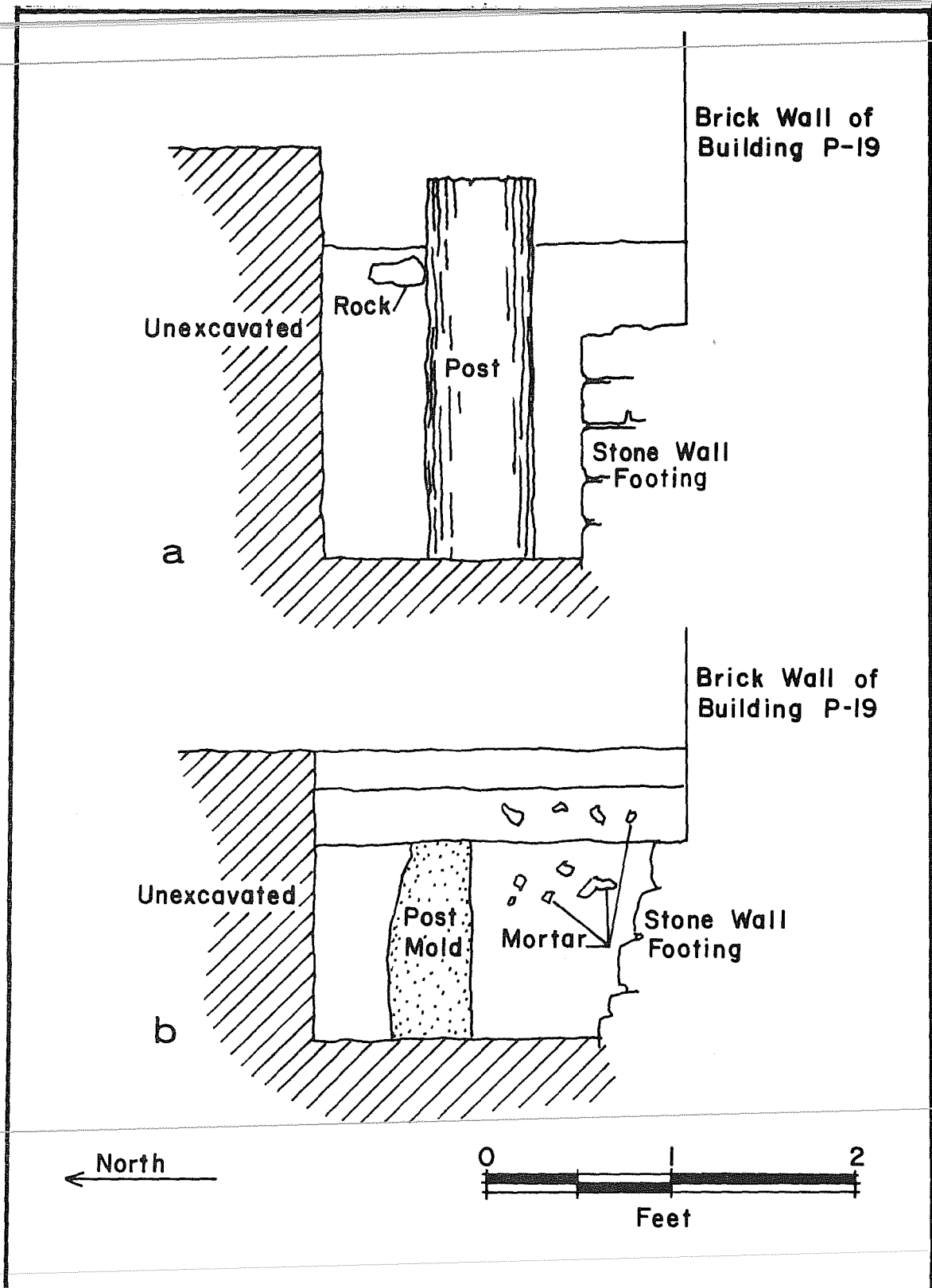


Figure 8. Cross Sections Through Trench 1 (T-1). a, centerline post and stone wall footing; b, postmold and stone wall footing.

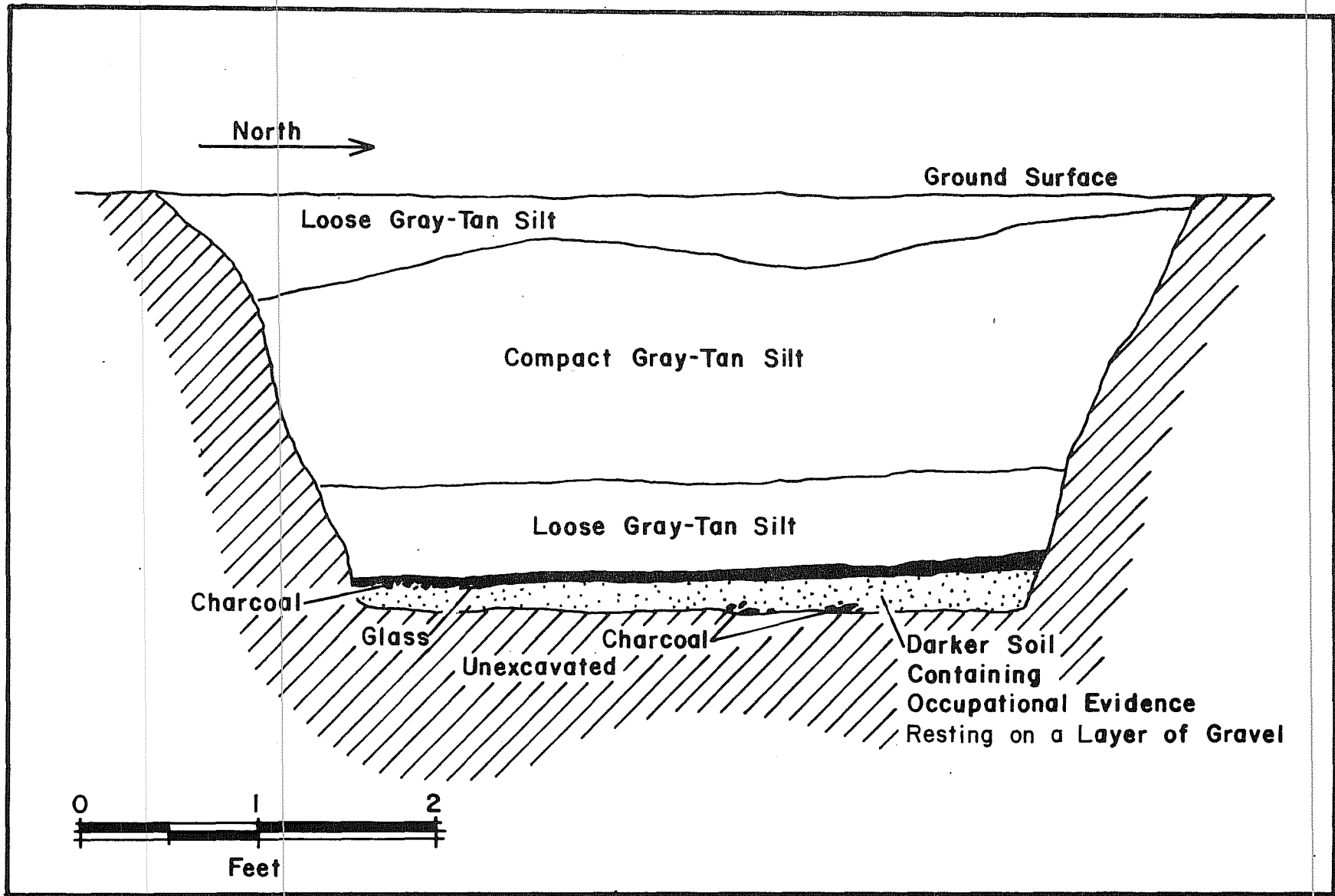


Figure 9. West (Northwest) Profile of Backhoe Trench 1 (BH-1).

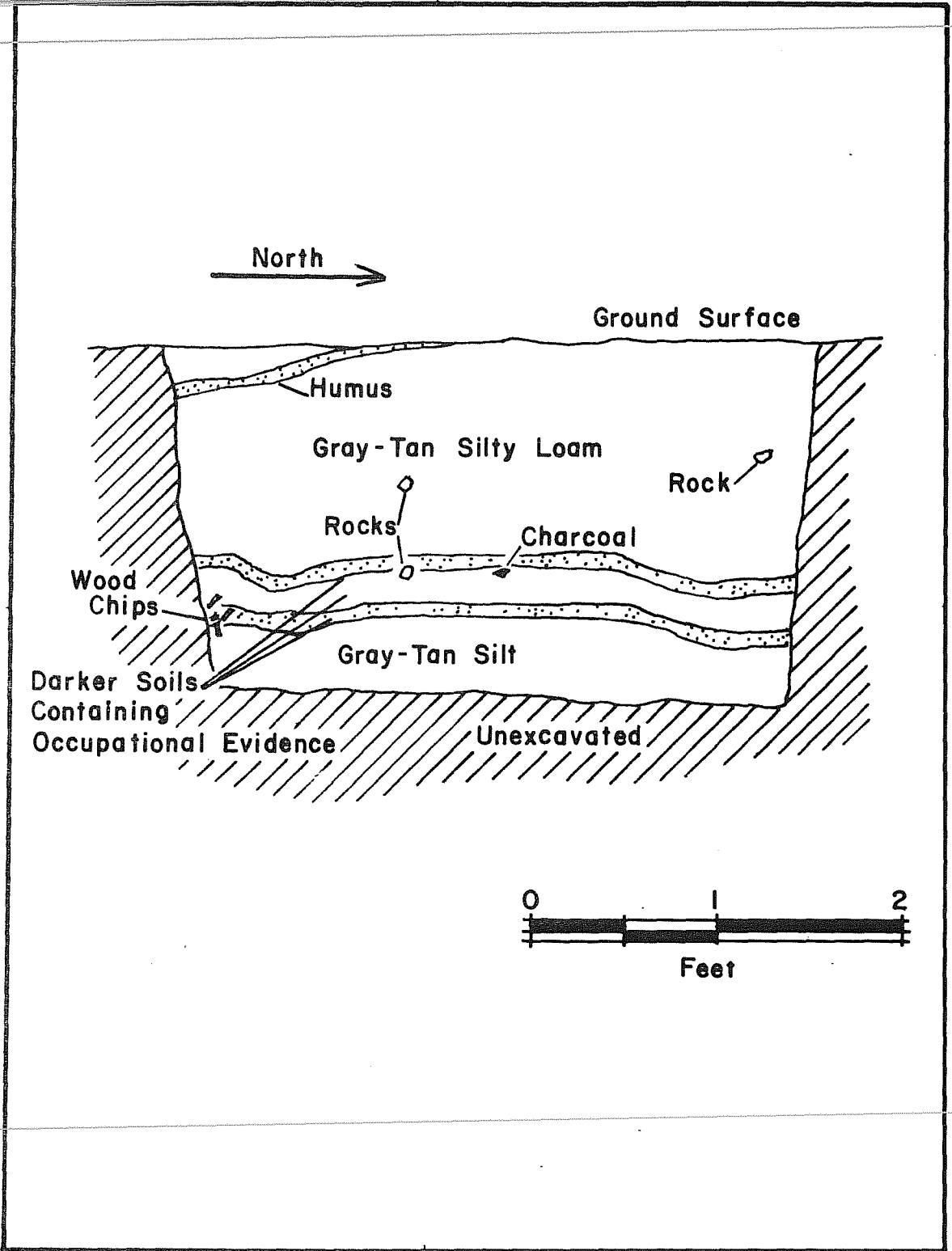


Figure 10. West (Northwest) Profile of Trench 6 (T-6).

later Fort. Perhaps the compact gravel surface found in BH-1 and BH-2 is a floor of this pre-Civil War structure. T-6 may have penetrated refuse deposits which accumulated outside the building. Cultural material turned up by Main-tainer Cuts 1, 2 and 3 may be the scatter of garbage associated with the occupation of this structure, although occupational debris could have been scattered about by cultivation of the later Fort "Post Garden" located in this area.

MATERIAL CULTURE

A total of 2,186 individual artifacts and 24 samples of other evidence of 19th century and 20th century occupation of Fort McIntosh were recovered during testing of the tennis courts area of the Laredo Junior College campus. Because most of this collection of historic cultural material is identifiable as to function, the following discussion is organized into the general headings: Construction Materials; Food-, Medicine-, and Beverage-Related Materials; Household Garbage; Personal Items; Harness Trappings; and Firearm-Related Items. The descriptive classification of material culture within each of these general groups is presented along with provenience data in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

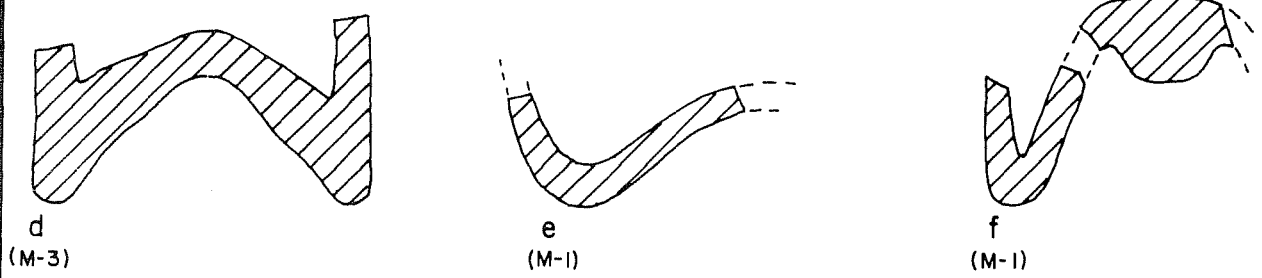
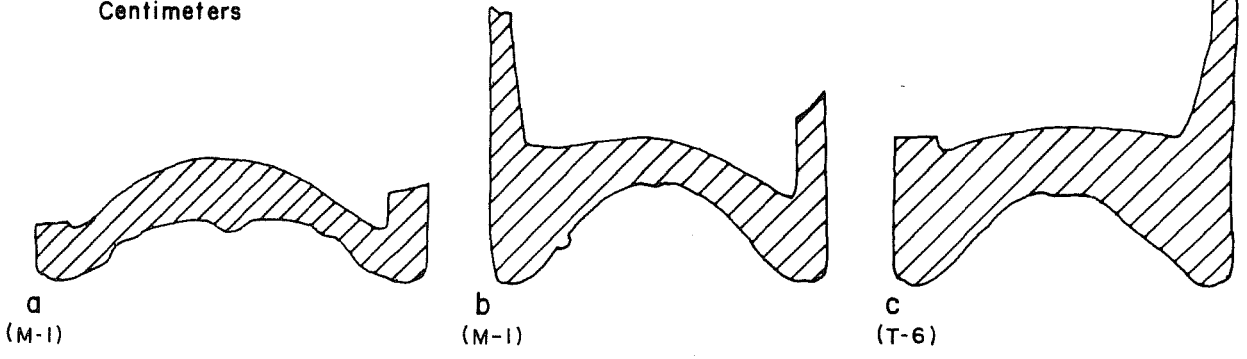
Construction Materials

Carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work at early and late Fort McIntosh is represented by a variety of construction debris (Table 1). Although some categories of these artifacts can be dated generally to the 20th century (e.g., wire nails, window screen, asbestos shingles, expanded metal lath and light bulb parts), a few can be assigned specifically to the 19th century (e.g., square nails). Many construction materials could have been employed at any time during the past 125 years (e.g., sawn wood, brick, mortar, plaster and sandstone). Generally speaking, most of the sample of construction materials seems to be representative of brick, stone and frame construction done during the later (post-Civil War) Fort period. It is possible that some square nails, brick fragments and pieces of window pane are evidence of an early (pre-Civil War) structure located in the northern (late Fort "Post Garden") part of the tennis courts area of the Laredo Junior College campus.

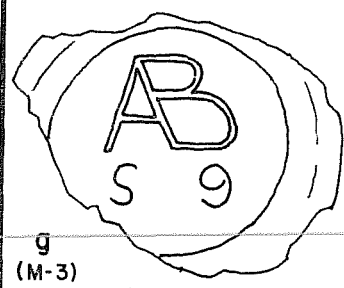
Food-, Medicine-, and Beverage-Related Materials

This assortment of artifacts includes the remains of storage and serving containers and other materials representative of foods, medicines and beverages consumed by occupants of early and late Fort McIntosh. Most of the bottle glass is from alcoholic beverage containers, although containers for medicines, soda water, milk and other products also are represented. There is only limited evidence of the use of food canning or storage jars.

The relatively large proportion of olive (dark) green bottle glass in the sample (Table 2) reflects the consumption of wines and other alcoholic beverages. All bases of olive green bottles (Fig. 11) have kick-ups with improved pontil scars, and all olive green bottle necks and rims (Fig. 12) are hand-made,



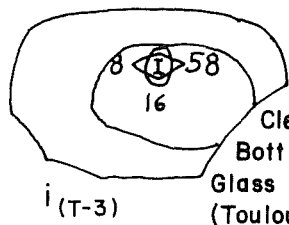
a-f: Olive Green Wine Bottles, Before 1870
(Newman 1970: 72)



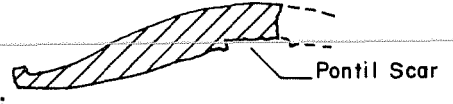
g
(M-3)
Aquamarine Beer Bottle,
Adolphus Busch Glass Manufacturing Co.,
1904-1907 (Toulouse 1971: 26-27)



h (M-1)
Aquamarine Medicine Bottle,
Before 1870 (Newman
1970: 73)



i (T-3)
Clear Medicine
Bottle, Owens-Illinois
Glass Co., After 1929
(Toulouse 1971: 403)



j (M-1)
Clear Cylindrical Bottle,
Before 1870 (Newman 1970: 73)

Figure 11. Glass Artifacts.

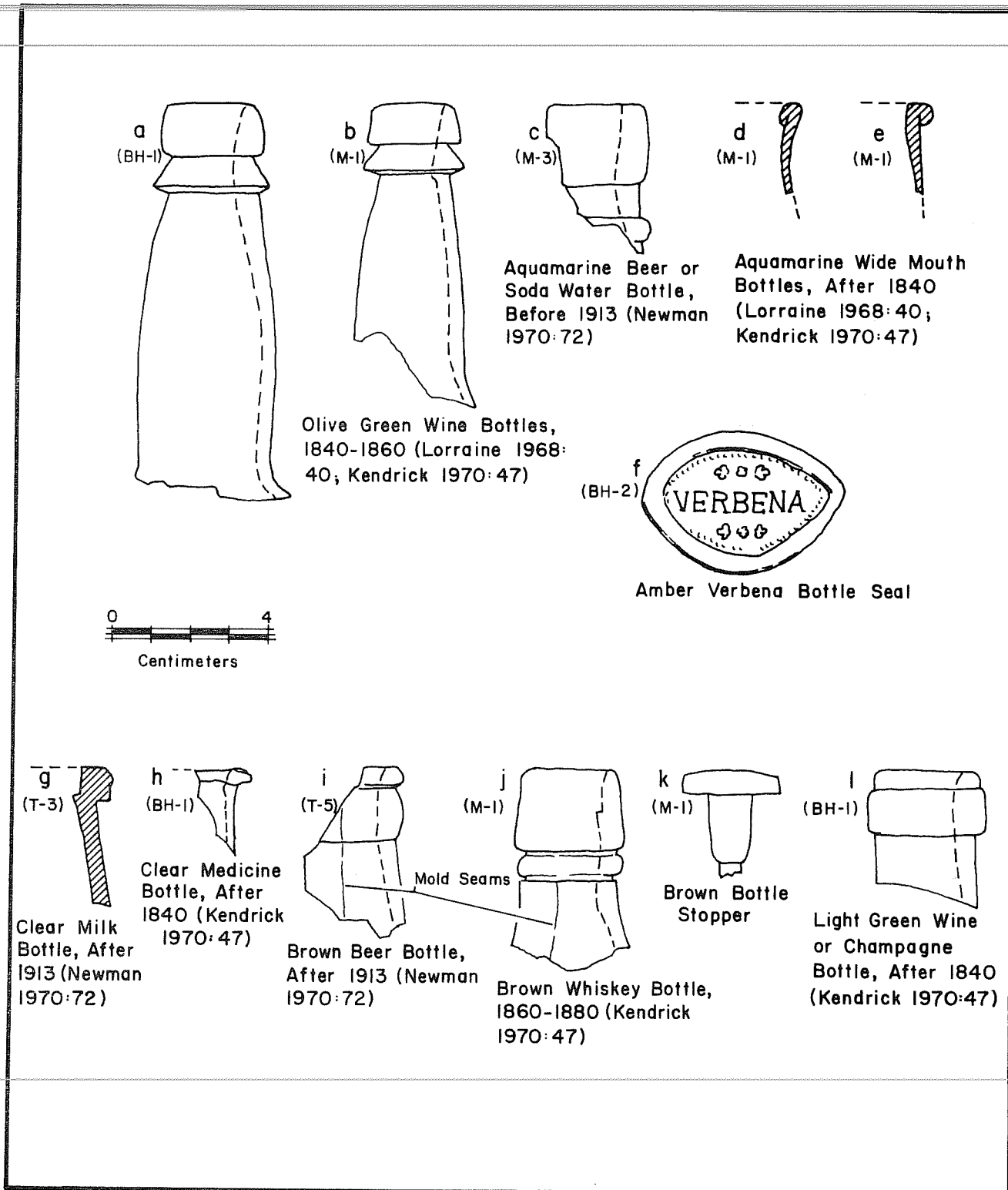


Figure 12. Glass Artifacts.

TABLE 1. FORT McINTOSH (41 WB 11) ATHLETIC AREA CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5("20590")	TP-1("TP")	M-1	M-2	M-3	BH-1("BT 2")	BH-2("BT 1")	T-6("BT 3")	SURFACE	TOTAL
<u>Carpentry</u>														
Square Nails	28	6		1	18	5	2			30	14	5		109
Wire Nails	77	35	5	1	6	14	1		11	1				151
Fence Staples	1	2												3
Wood Screw	1													1
Square Nut (1/2")	1													1
Window Screen		1												1
Window Pane Fragments	422			4		3	6	2	4	9	28			478
Asbestos Shingle Fragments							1		1					2
Sawn Wood Fragments	X	X												2X
Corrugated Screen Door Fasteners	5													5
<u>Masonry</u>														
Brick Fragments	1		2				2	1		5				11
Mortar Fragments	X	X												2X
Plaster Fragments	X	X												2X
Sandstone	X			X								X		3X
Lead Flashing								1						1
Expanded Metal Lath	1													1
<u>Plumbing and Electrical</u>														
Copper Wire	1													1
Porcelain Insulators	1												1	2
Light Bulb Parts		3												3
Washers	1	1			1									3
Lead Splash		1												1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>														
Strap Iron									1					1
Wire Fragments (iron)	9	1	1	1						4				16
Wire Fragment (copper)		1												1
Brass Brad or Rivet					1									1
Iron Spikes								1					1	2
TOTALS	549	51	8	7	26	22	12	5	17	45	46	5	2	795 (+9X)

X = Occurrence

TABLE 2. FORT McINTOSH (41 WB 11) ATHLETIC AREA FOOD-, MEDICINE- AND BEVERAGE-RELATED MATERIALS, AND HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE

FOOD-, MEDICINE-, AND BEVERAGE-RELATED MATERIALS	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	TP-1	M-1	M-2	M-3	BH-1	BH-2	T-6	TOTAL
<u>Glass Containers</u>													
Olive (Dark) Green	2	7			1		123	58	40	5	13	61	310
Aquamarine	2	6		16	11		41	1	26	15	12	4	134
Clear	72	40	109	7	21	4	14	2	6	31	38		344
Brown	55	14	3	1	6	1	6	1	5	7			99
Light Green	46	18	4		14							9	91
Blue								1		13	2		16
Milk Glass	16									2	5		23
Verbena Bottle										5			5
Laminated Green/White	1												1
Glass Bottle Stoppers							1					1	2
Bottle Cork								1					1
Crown Bottle Caps	1	1	2									2	6
Sardine Can												1	1
Tin Can Fragments	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	X		8X
Food Bone Refuse	13	7			21		5			32	39	13	130
TOTALS	208	93	118	24	74	5	190	64	77	110	120	80	1163 (+8X)
X = Occurrence													
<u>HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE</u>													
<u>Ceramic Vessels</u>													
<i>Earthenware</i>													
Edgeware							2	1					3
Hand-painted							1					1	2
Mocha		1					1						2
Transfer-printed							1					1	2
Blue Flown					1				1				2
Sponged							3						3
Plain White Paste	2	4		3	3		1		1	1	26	2	43
Plain Gray Paste		1			1								2
Tin Enameled							1						1
Lead Glazed										1			1
<i>Stoneware</i>													
												1	1
<i>Porcelain</i>													
Decorated Mug												1	1
Plain							2	1				5	8
Lamp Chimney Fragments	73									14	13		100
Drinking Glass Fragments					1		1		1	2		1	6
Brad (Paper Clasp)	1												1
Paper Clip			1										1
Pencil Eraser	1												1
Mirror Fragments										2			2
TOTALS	77	6	1	3	6	0	13	2	3	20	46	5	182

TABLE 3. FORT McINTOSH (41 WB 11) ATHLETIC AREA PERSONAL ITEMS, HARNESS TRAPPINGS, FIREARMS AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

PERSONAL ITEMS	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	TP-1	M-1	M-2	M-3	BH-1	BH-2	T-6	SURFACE	TOTAL
Pocket Knife	1													1
Razor Blade Fragments	3													3
Safety Pin	1													1
Thimble		1												1
Clay Tobacco Pipe Frags.							4					1		5
Black Glass Ring (Bead)					1									1
Faceted White Glass Bead												1		1
Brass Snap Fragments	2													2
Buttons														
Glass		1			1					2		1		5
Bone	1													1
Metal				1								1		2
TOTALS	8	2	0	1	2	0	4	0	0	2	0	4	0	23
<u>HARNESS TRAPPINGS</u>														
U.S. Military Copper Bridle Rosette					1									1
Chain Links					2				1					3
Iron Rings					1						1			2
Mule Shoe								1						1
TOTALS	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	7
<u>FIREARM-RELATED ITEMS</u>														
Bullet (44-40 cal.)										1				1
Cartridges														
22 cal. U.M.C.	1													1
38 cal. Blank	5													5
TOTALS	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
<u>MISCELLANEOUS CULTURAL MATERIAL</u>														
Charcoal	X	X	X	X	X						X	X		(7X)
Slate Fragments				1				1						2
Golf Ball													1	1
Unidentified Metal		3							1		2			6
TOTALS	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	9 (+7X)

X = Occurrence

indicating that most, if not all, of the sample of olive (dark) green bottle glass is diagnostic of the 1850s and 1860s occupations of the Fort (Lorraine 1968:40; Kendrick 1970:47; Newman 1970:72).

Aquamarine and clear bottle glass appears to represent a greater time span. Aquamarine and clear bottle bases with rough pontil scars (Fig. 11) and aquamarine bottle necks with hand-finished rims (Fig. 12) may date to the 1850s and 1860s (Newman 1970:72). Some aquamarine bottle glass could have been used during the late 19th and early 20th centuries (Fig. 12). Clear, brown, light green, blue and other bottle glass probably represents both early and late occupations of Fort McIntosh (Fig. 12).

In addition to glass container fragments, tin can fragments indicate the consumption of sardines and other canned foods. Cow, sheep and/or goat, fish and fowl are among the foods represented by animal bones, many of which have been cut or sawn.

Household Garbage

In addition to food-, medicine-, and beverage-related materials, a variety of other household garbage was recovered during testing. Sherds of ceramic vessels (71 specimens) comprise the majority of this cultural material (Table 2). A classification of ceramic vessel sherds is associated with time and place of manufacture in Table 4.

Six typical mid-19th century types of British-made decorated white paste earthenware are represented (Fig. 13,b-e,g,h). Some of the 43 sherds of plain white paste earthenware probably are from the undecorated portions of decorated vessels. One maker's mark, "Davenport" over an anchor symbol with the numbers 4 and 8 on either side, is impressed in a plain basal sherd from a shallow bowl produced by Davenport in England in 1848 (Godden 1964:189). Many undecorated white paste earthenware sherds may represent the influx of plain wares from Britain after 1860 (Davis and Corbin 1967:26). A basal sherd from a large pitcher or bowl bears a portion of the mark "Q.M.D.," which stands for Quarter Master Department. Other vessel forms represented include cups, saucers, plates and bowls.

The use of Mexican-made pottery is indicated by the occurrence of a green-on-white tin-enamelled (majolica) sherd (Fig. 13,f) and a lead-glazed sherd. A crock or churn is represented by one stoneware sherd with an Albany slip. A decorated porcelain mug bears a transfer-printed picture of a young boy wearing a hat and jacket (Fig. 13,a).

Other household garbage includes lamp chimney fragments, drinking glass rim fragments, paper clasps, a pencil eraser and mirror fragments, all of which probably were lost or discarded by 19th and 20th century occupants of Fort McIntosh.

Personal Items

Twenty-two artifacts can be classified as things that were worn, or carried, or used more or less as personal possessions by individual occupants of Fort

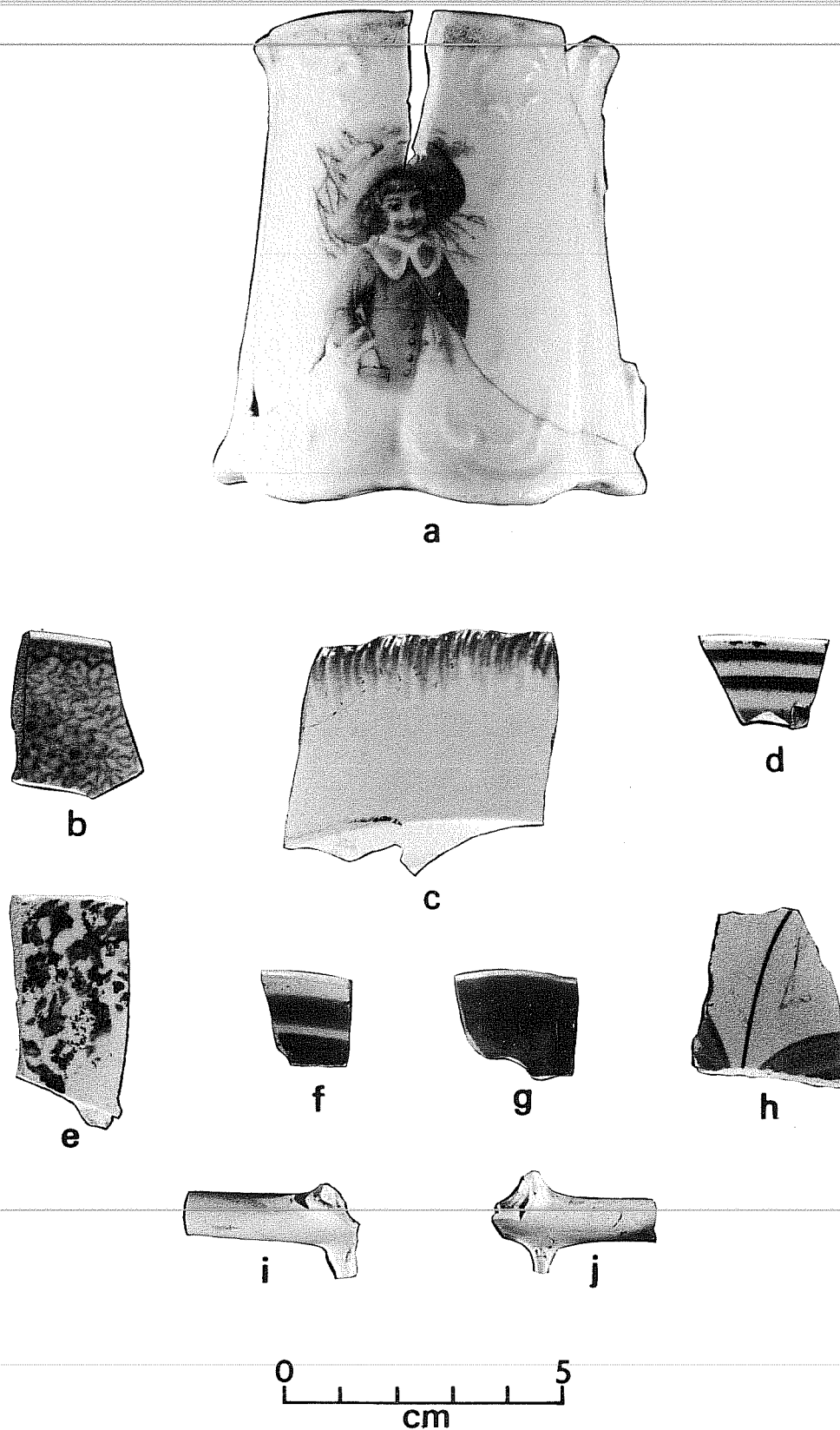


Figure 13. *Ceramic Sherds and Pipe Fragments.* a, decorated porcelain mug; b, transfer printed; c, edgeware; d, mocha ware; e, sponge ware; f, green-on-white tin-enamelled (majolica); g, blue flawn; h, hand-painted floral; i,j, pipe stem fragments.

TABLE 4. CERAMIC DATES AND ORIGINS

Ceramic	No. of Specimens	Dates of Manufacture	Place of Manufacture	References
Earthenware				
Edgeware	3	Pre-Civil War	Britain	Roberson 1972:207; Davis and Corbin 1967:25
Hand Painted Floral	2	Pre-Civil War	Britain	Lynn, Fox and O'Malley 1977:187
Mocha	2	19th Century	Britain	McClinton 1951:1-7
Transfer Printed	2	Pre-Civil War	Britain	Davis and Corbin 1967:17
Blue Flown	2	19th Century	Britain	McClinton 1951:27
Sponged	3	1850s-1870s	Britain	Jensen 1970:27; Greaser and Greaser 1967:115
Plain White Paste	43	19th and 20th Centuries	Europe (and America?)	
Plain Gray Paste	2	?	?	
Tin Enameled	1	19th Century	Mexico	
Lead Glazed	1	19th Century	Mexico	Fox 1974:56
Stoneware	1	19th Century	Texas?	Steinfeldt and Stover 1973:157
Porcelain				
Decorated Mug	1	19th and 20th Centuries	Europe?	
Plain	8	19th and 20th Centuries	Europe?	

McIntosh (Table 3). A small pen knife (Fig. 14,e), razor blade fragments, clothing fasteners (including brass snaps, buttons and a small safety pin) (Fig. 14,a,g-j), a sewing thimble (Fig. 14,c), pre-Civil War clay tobacco pipe fragments (Fig. 13,i,j) (Noel Hume 1970:Fig. 97) and glass beads (Fig. 14,b,f) comprise the sample of personal items recovered during archaeological testing.

Harness Trappings

Related to the use of horses and wagons for work and transportation, this relatively small sample of harness trappings includes an early 20th century U.S. military bridle rosette (U.S. Government 1930:375, Plate 120; Steffen 1973:127, Fig. 60) (Fig. 14,d), three broken chain links, two iron cinch rings and a heavy mule shoe (Table 3).

Firearm-Related Items

Remains of small arms ammunition recovered (Table 3) include a 44-40 caliber bullet for the 1873 Winchester rifle (Logan 1959:137), a post-World War II U.M.C. 22 caliber rimfire cartridge (Logan 1959:191) and five 38 caliber blank cartridges made for the 1896 Colt revolver by the Frankfort Arsenal in 1904 and 1908 (Sam Nesmith, personal communication).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

As a result of archaeological testing of areas to be affected by the construction of tennis courts and parking facilities on the southwestern part of the Laredo Junior College campus, an assessment can be made of the archaeological potential of those areas. During July 1977, Thomas Medlin and Jon McClenny of the Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio, uncovered structural and artifactual remains of early (pre-Civil War) and later (post-1860) Fort McIntosh in the planned tennis courts area. No archaeological evidence was encountered during testing of the planned parking facilities area.

In the southern (later Fort "Stables") part of the tennis courts area, the excavation of four hand-dug test trenches and a test pit exposed the stone wall footing and footing trench of the standing brick "Granary" building (P-19) and encountered the remains of posts and a gravel pavement of the "Hayshed" which extended north of the "Granary" building during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. A hand-dug test trench and seven backhoe trenches revealed that open areas west, northwest and north of Building P-19 had been disturbed by recent earthmoving activities. No definite evidence of pre-Civil War occupation was found in these areas.

A hand-dug test trench, two backhoe trenches and four maintainer cuts placed in the northern (later Fort "Post Garden") part of the tennis courts area encountered a possible gravel pavement and a refuse accumulation representative of early and later occupations of Fort McIntosh. Buried beneath about two feet of flood silt, this archaeological deposit could be the manifestation of an

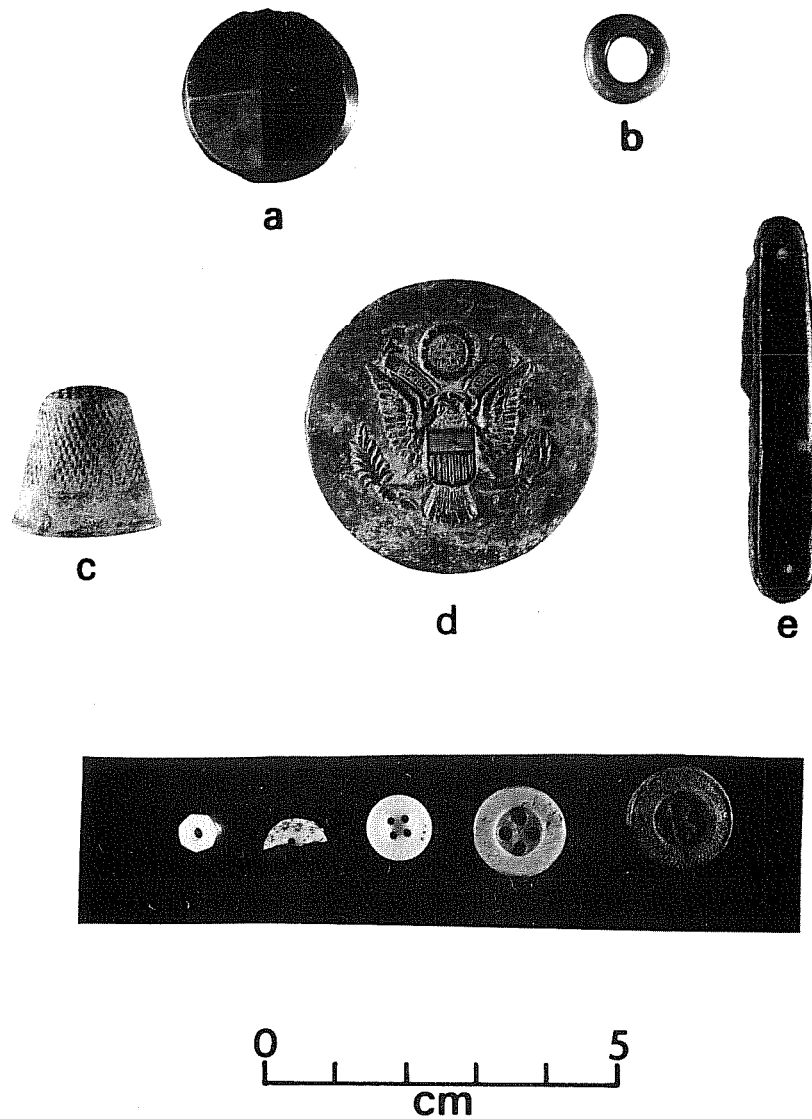


Figure 14. *Personal Items*. a, button; b, glass bead; c, thimble; d, bridle rosette; e, pen knife; f, glass bead; g, decorated button; h, porcelain button; i, bone button; j, metal button.

1850s "Sutler's Shop" (or store) which stood in the location of the late 19th century and early 20th century "Post Garden." The distribution of chronologically diagnostic artifacts between northern ("Post Garden") and southern ("Stables") parts of the tennis courts area suggests that occupation of the southern part occurred during the late 19th and 20th centuries, and that the northern part was occupied before and after the Civil War (Table 5).

Although the potential for error accumulated during sampling prohibits the quantitative analysis of site function as represented by specific artifact categories, in general similar kinds of artifacts were recovered from both northern and southern parts of the tennis courts area (Table 6). Construction debris occurred most frequently in the southern ("Stables") part, while food-, medicine-, and beverage-related materials occurred most frequently in the northern ("Post Garden") part. However, when construction materials and miscellaneous and unidentifiable cultural material are removed from the sample (see Table 6), the remaining kinds of artifacts occur in similar proportions at both parts of the tennis courts area. Apparently at different times during the 19th century, evidence of household occupations was deposited in both parts.

The large quantity of olive (dark) green wine bottle glass indicates that the sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages was a common activity during the 1850s occupation of the early Fort "Sutler's Shop" area. In 1856, Colonel J. K. F. Mansfield noted (Crimmins 1939:237):

There is a sutler at this post, and as at other posts is permitted to sell ardent spirits. The regulations forbid the sutler to sell ardent apirits, but the disregard of it, is excused on the ground that others would hover around in the vicinity of a post and sell liquor to the men, and that it was better for them to obtain it of the sutler. The regulation should either be rescinded or enforced. Beer, cheap wine or cider would be a very good substitute for strong drink and no doubt satisfy all the wants of the men who have been brought up to drink habitually.

A comparatively greater range of activities and a greater time span of occupations seem to be represented by the variety of artifacts recovered from the later Fort "Stables" area.

Of greatest archaeological potential within the proposed tennis courts and parking facilities areas are structural remains and artifact concentrations which are preserved beneath about two feet of flood silt in the northern part of the tennis courts area. Other manifestations of early Fort McIntosh could be buried in surrounding areas and earthmoving activities there should be preceded by archaeological investigation. The southern part of the tennis courts area is disturbed, apparently, except for deposits adjacent to and underlying standing Fort structures. Earthmoving activities in the parking facilities area probably will not encounter archaeological evidence.

TABLE 5. DISTRIBUTION OF CHRONOLOGICAL DIAGNOSTICS IN TENNIS COURTS AREA.

Artifact Category	Approximate Chronological Affiliation	Southern ("Granary and Hay Shed")		Northern ("Post Garden")		Total
		#	%	#	%	
Clay Tobacco Pipe Fragments	Pre-Civil War	0	0.0	5	1.1	5
Olive (Dark) Green Bottle Glass	Particularly 1850s-1860s	10	4.1	300	62.5	310
Decorated British-Made Earthenware	Generally Before 1870	2	0.8	12	2.5	14
Square Nails	19th Century	58	23.9	51	10.6	109
Aquamarine Bottle Glass	19th and Early 20th Centuries	35	14.4	99	20.6	134
Wire Nails	20th Century	138	56.8	13	2.7	151
Totals		243	100.0	480	100.0	723

TABLE 6. DISTRIBUTION OF KINDS AND AMOUNTS OF HISTORIC CULTURAL MATERIAL IN TENNIS COURTS AREA*

Artifact	Southern ("Granary and Hay Shed")		Northern ("Post Garden")		Total
	#	%	#	%	
Construction Materials	663	50.8	130	14.9	793
Food-, Medicine-, and Beverage- Related Materials	522	40.0	641	72.9	1163
Household Garbage	93	7.1	89	10.1	182
Personal Items	13	1.0	10	1.1	23
Harness Trappings	4	0.3	3	0.3	7
Firearm-Related Items	6	0.5	1	0.1	7
Miscellaneous and Unidentified Cultural Material	4	0.3	5	0.6	9
TOTALS	1305	100.0	879	100.0	2184

Artifact	Southern ("Granary and Hay Shed")		Northern ("Post Garden")		Total
	#	%	#	%	
Food-, Medicine-, and Beverage- Related Materials	522	81.8	641	86.2	1163
Household Garbage	93	14.6	89	12.0	182
Personal Items	13	2.0	10	1.3	23
Harness Trappings	4	0.6	3	0.4	7
Firearm-Related Items	6	1.0	1	0.1	7
TOTALS	638	100.0	744	100.0	1382

*Upper table includes all materials recovered from tennis courts area. Lower table indicates proportions of remaining artifacts if *Construction Materials* and *Miscellaneous and Unidentified Cultural Material* are removed from the calculations.

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