ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT WALLISVILLE LAKE, CHAMBERS AND LIBERTY COUNTIES, TEXAS

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ABSTRACT

During July and August 1979, the Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio, conducted survey, testing, and historical research on lands to be included in the Wallisville Lake in Liberty and Chambers Counties, Texas. A summary is presented of 21 previously recorded prehistoric sites within the proposed Plan 2A, with recommendations for further treatment of these sites. Test excavations at a newly located prehistoric site are described. A detailed description of the history and archaeological testing of 19 historic sites is included, along with a history and description of the town of Wallisville. Artifacts are illustrated and faunal analysis described and tabulated; numerous maps, photographs, and drawings are included. Appendices include a series of early newspaper articles on brick making and a catalog of artifacts recovered from a test pit at a late 19th-century boarding house.

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Numerous people in Chambers and Liberty Counties contributed to the success of this project. Our profound thanks and respect go to Mrs. Villa Mae Williams, Chairman of the Chambers County Historical Commission, and to her husband, Judge Floyd Williams; and to John Middleton, worthy descendant of E. H. R. Wallis and enthusiastic Wallisville historian. These people provided every conceivable kind of aid and comfort, opened all doors, and arranged interviews. Susan Middleton provided good food and helped in many ways. The painstaking research of Ann Mullins has been of tremendous help, particularly in piecing together the history of the Lake Charlotte area. The research was aided greatly by the kindness of historian John Clay, who shared with us all of his carefully translated Spanish documents and freely gave his time and knowledge to the project, and by Joyce Calhoon, archivist at the Rayburn Library in Liberty. Our landlords, Mr. and Mrs. John Bradley, and our boatman, Ralph Comeley, also deserve special thanks.

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Dr. Barbara Butler and Bonnie Yates of the Institute of Applied Sciences at North Texas State University did a thorough analysis of the faunal remains recovered during the project, using the collections of that institution for reference. Dr. Paul Parmalee of Knoxville aided in identification of a carp spine from 41 CH 62. Mrs. Dora Guerra of The University of Texas at San Antonio Library translated a number of Spanish documents concerning El Orcoquisac, including the inventory in Appendix III. These documents were provided through the kind cooperation of Fr. Benedict Leutenegger of the Mission San José Research Library in San Antonio. Local historian and arms expert Sam Nesmith identified the gun parts and related objects.

Shirley Van der Veer assisted with the artifact identification and tabulation. Figures 3 and 5-13 were drawn by William Goetzmann; all other illustrations were prepared by the Office of Instructional Services, The University of Texas at San Antonio. Editorial assistance was provided by Alice Evett; the report was typed by Frieda Barefield.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Wallisville Lake Project is located at the mouth of the Trinity River about 40 miles east of Houston, Texas. It was designed as a multiple purpose, 19,700-acre reservoir to provide for salinity control, navigation, water supply, fish and wildlife enhancement, and recreation. Construction on the project was begun in 1966, but was halted by a District Court injunction in 1973 because of deficiencies in the environmental impact statement and procedures used by the Corps of Engineers. The U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, reversed the decision in 1974, but left the injunction in force pending revision of the environmental impact statement and a new District Court determination (Corps of Engineers 1977:2).

In 1977, after considering several alternate plans, the Corps of Engineers recommended a smaller project known as Plan 2A. This would reduce the original lake to 5,600 acres, confined by gated diversion structures and overflow dams to an area east of the Trinity River. The plan also includes a park site for recreational purposes on the northeast shore of Lake Charlotte. The level of the water in the lake would be maintained at a maximum elevation of four feet.

Scope of Work

In June 1979, the Center for Archaeological Research, The University of Texas at San Antonio, contracted with the Galveston District, U.S. Corps of Engineers, to perform archaeological and historical investigations of Wallisville Lake, Texas. Although previous archaeological surveys of the project area identified nearly 200 prehistoric sites, as well as an area of French, Spanish, and Anglo occupation which was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, additional survey was needed to record and assess other prehistoric and historic sites within the reservoir area.

Five separate items were included in the scope of work:

1. Historic reconnaissance and survey. "Literature review and field search to identify, locate, and evaluate sites important in National, State, or local history" on all property which has been acquired for the Wallisville Lake project (Corps of Engineers 1979a:2). Reconnaissance-level investigation was to be conducted on lands west of the Trinity River, and survey-level investigations on a 500-foot wide strip on the west bank of the Trinity River and all project lands east of the river. Particular attention was to be paid to stipulated areas where control structures are to be located.

2. Prehistoric survey. Survey-level investigation to locate and identify prehistoric sites in areas within the limits of the proposed reservoir which had not previously been surveyed. This included an area east of the Trinity River and north of the boundary line between Liberty and Chambers Counties.

3. Literature search for historic shipwrecks. A review of literature and interviews of local residents who have knowledge of the location of such shipwrecks. No field work would be required.

4. Determination of boundary of 41 CH 57. A literature review and test excavations where required to delimit the northern boundary of this site and to determine if a wharf and ship once occupied this location.

5. Field reconnaissance of known sites. "A field reconnaissance of known cultural sites in the area with a view to determining the probable effects of the proposed plan and identifying any needed protection or mitigative measures" (*ibid.*:3).

All sites were to be evaluated for cultural significance, educational value, and potential for producing additional archaeological or historical data. Assessments of eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places were to be made and sufficient description and historic background included to allow nominations to be composed.

Potential effects of project construction, operation, and maintenance on cultural resources were to be described as well as the loss of scientific, cultural, or educational value which would result. Recommendations for protection or mitigation measures should be made, including sufficient detail to allow designing and budgeting of cost.

Methodology

The field work was accomplished in July and August 1979 by a crew consisting of Assistant Director Robert Scott and crew members Kenneth Brown, William Day, and Paul Lukowski under the supervision of Anne Fox as project director. Principal investigator for the project was Dr. Thomas R. Hester, with Jack D. Eaton serving as co-principal investigator.

The first portion of the work consisted of historical and archival research in Chambers and Liberty Counties, and a survey-level investigation of the project lands north of the Liberty-Chambers county line and east of the Trinity River. The survey was carried out on foot and by boat and covered 100% of the bluff on the eastern and northern edge of the project as well as the entire shoreline of Mac's Bayou and the eastern shore of the Trinity River. Choice of areas to be examined was dictated partially by terrain and accessibility and partly as a result of study of site locations recorded by previous surveys and interviews with local inhabitants. One new prehistoric site (41 LB 48) was recorded and archaeologically tested. One historic site (41 LB 49) was examined and recorded.

The second portion of the field work consisted of four activities which were carried out simultaneously: additional archival research and interviews, a reconnaissance of historic sites west of the Trinity River, a survey for historic sites in a 500-foot strip west of the river and all project lands east of the river, and a reconnaissance of all known sites to be affected by Plan 2A. This was done in order to most efficiently use the time allotted with the personnel involved, taking into consideration the problems encountered with weather and boat transportation. By working on all phases of the project at the same time, information gleaned from continuing archival research and interviews with local informants could be quickly checked out by survey.

Boat trips to survey historic sites could also be used to examine the condition of previously recorded prehistoric sites. When bad weather precluded one type of work, another type could be successfully undertaken, and comparatively few hours of field time were lost despite the arrival of a tropical storm and subsequent extreme flooding during the project.

Standard archaeological field techniques, as described below, were used in all phases of the project, and complete field notes and records are on file at the Center for Archaeological Research. Test excavations were executed in 10-cm levels unless otherwise dictated by stratification. Records were kept on each level, and the soil was screened through 1/4-inch mesh. Artifacts were placed in properly labeled bags and washed, labelled, and cataloged in the laboratory. Plans and profiles were recorded for later use in analysis.

Newly discovered sites were recorded in detail on site survey forms, plotted on USGS quadrangle maps, and registered with the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory in Austin. Each site was assigned a trinomial number which indicates the state (41), the county (LB, CH), and the individual site number.

While the field work was progressing, Lab Director Janet Stock was processing forms and cataloging artifact collections as they came in from the field. Historical researcher Lynn Highley collected and studied all known published references on the history of the Wallisville area from the time of Spanish contact to the early 20th century. Copies of a group of heretofore unexamined Spanish documents which pertained to the Wallisville area were acquired from the Mission San José Research Library, and summarized translations were prepared by Dora Guerra of The University of Texas at San Antonio Library for use with the project. Highley also carried out extensive research into the technology of 19th-century lumbering, brickmaking, and shipping.

Near the end of the project, particular attention was given to the area within the National Register District on Lake Miller. With the help of a large group from the Houston Archeological Society, testing was done to delimit and examine the northern boundary of site 41 CH 57, the mid-18th century French Trading Post, Spanish Presidio, and Mission. Testing was carried out on the shore of Lake Miller in the vicinity of the second site of the Mission and the Indian site in order to determine what damage will be done to these sites by the reservoir, and the limits of the sites were determined and mapped.

A variety of investigative techniques were used in locating, examining, and assessing the archaeological importance of the sites within the project. In each case the method was chosen to fit the particular site and the types of information desired about the site. Because of the variety of techniques used and the great disparity in time between the earliest and latest sites, there seems no particular point to be gained by an examination of the artifacts from the historic sites as a whole in a separate section of the report. Therefore the artifacts from each historic site are described along with their investigation and utilized for interpreting that particular site. The method of presenting the artifacts is directly related to their relevance to the object of the investigation. Artifacts obtained by random surface collection to be used for general information about the site are dealt with only in general

terms. Artifacts whose provenience is important are presented in provenience tables. Those which are important as a representative sample are listed by category. The prehistoric artifacts are treated in a more traditional manner, with a separate section for description and analysis.

Faunal remains were recovered from each site excavated, and also from a number of the sites where surface collections were made. Sampling was biased only in the size of the 1/4-inch mesh screen and the fact that no water screening was attempted on this project. No doubt the use of finer screening and water washing on site would yield a more representative sample of small rodent, reptile, and fish remains, as well as charred plant remains, from both prehistoric and historic deposits.

The report has been composed in the following manner. Lynn Highley wrote Section III and the portion of Section IV entitled "Shipwreck in Lake Miller." All of Section II was written by William Day, who also wrote "Environment" and "Archaeological Background" in Section I and who provided the analysis of prehistoric components of sites reported in Section IV. Fox coordinated the work and wrote the "Scope of Work" and "Methodology" in Section I, most of Section IV, and all of Section V. The "Vertebrate Remains" sections were written by Dr. Barbara Butler. This was truly a team effort, in which all the members contributed in numerous ways to the overall manuscript.

Environment

The Wallisville Lake area, traversed by the Trinity River, lies within a coastal zone bounded by the Hockley Scarp and the Gulf of Mexico. This zone is part of the West Gulf Coastal Plain Physiographic Province and the Coastal Lowland subdivision (Fenneman 1938:112-114). The eastern and western boundaries of the reservoir are formed by the Beaumont Coastwise Terrace (Ambler 1970:2). The interglacial periods deposited a series of Pleistocene terraces that have been cut by river valleys, such as the Trinity. The alluvial deltaic deposits in these river valleys usually date between 5,000 years and the present (Ambler 1973:2).

The Wallisville Lake area is characterized by a flat floodplain to the south and gently rolling uplands to the north. The floodplain is a marshy lowland cut by meander scars. The area is covered by grasses and isolated stands of bushes, cane, and palmettos. The uplands support dense stands of trees such as cypress, pine, sweet gum, magnolia, and oak. Large impenetrable thickets of thorny brush, briars, and mustang grape vines are common in the uplands (personal observation).

A wide variety of flora and fauna was available in the area as food resources. Roots, berries, and nuts would have been available in the forests of the Austroriparian Biotic Province (Blair 1950:99). Blair (*ibid.*:99-100) notes the large variety of mammal, reptile, and amphibian species that are present in the area. Archaeological data indicate that *Rangia* clams, fish, alligator, turtle, migratory birds, bison, deer, and rodents were the species most often exploited by the area's prehistoric inhabitants (Ambler 1970:29; Aten 1967:69; McGuff and Ford 1974:20; faunal analysis, this report).

Although the Trinity River delta is attractive because of its abundant food sources, it is not without its perils. Mosquitos and poisonous snakes are abundant. Flooding, because of heavy rains and/or hurricanes, can happen as often as two or three times a year. The summer months provide a stifling humidity. However, as demonstrated by more than 200 known archaeological sites in the Wallisville Lake area, human populations were able to adapt to the environment.

Archaeological Background

Archaeological investigations in the Wallisville Lake area began as early as 1932, when A. M. Woolsey (under the direction of J. E. Pearce, Chairman of the Department of Anthropology, The University of Texas) performed excavations at the Lawrence Island site (41 CH 1) and Stubbs Farm (41 CH 6) (Woolsey 1932). The Caplen site, also excavated in 1932 by The University of Texas, has been described by Campbell (1957). This site contained prehistoric burials, as well as one historic burial.

The principal archaeological investigations near the area of the Wallisville Reservoir project were conducted by Wheat (1953). The excavations took place in the Addicks Dam Basin, west of the Wallisville area. Aten (1967:3) reports that additional information about Addicks is available in Walley (1955), Campbell (1957), Ring (1960,1963), and various issues of the *Newsletter of the Houston Archeological Society.*

Shafer (1966) investigated 47 prehistoric sites, primarily *Rangia* clam shell middens, during an extensive archaeological survey by the Texas Archeological Salvage Project (TASP) of the Wallisville Reservoir area. In an additional survey project by TASP, Ambler (1970) reported on nearly 100 additional sites in and around the reservoir. These investigations have demonstrated that the majority of archaeological sites in and around the Wallisville Lake area are composed of shell middens. Also indicated is possible early contact with coastal and inland peoples located farther east.

In 1967, Aten reported on excavations at the Jamison site, 41 LB 2, located north of the Wallisville Reservoir area. Operations at this site were carried out from 1959-1961 by the Houston Archeological Society (Aten 1967).

Tunnell and Ambler (1967) reported on excavations at the second site of Presidio San Agustín de Ahumada. Their report provides information on the historical end of the cultural sequence in the Wallisville area (Ambler 1973:4).

In 1969 and 1970 the Houston Archeological Society did minimal mapping, testing, and surface collecting on the first Presidio site, 41 CH 57. A report of these investigations is in preparation.

Further work in the Wallisville Reservoir area was undertaken by Ambler in 1973. Five previously recorded sites, 41 CH 13, 41 CH 14, 41 CH 16, 41 CH 17, and 41 CH 52, were excavated. This and previous work in the area provided a chronological framework for the area (Ambler 1973).

In 1974, Gilmore reported on excavations at 41 CH 110. The focus of the report was on changes in artifact assemblages and subsistence patterns through time. Artifacts from prehistoric occupations to Spanish Colonial occupation were examined (Gilmore 1974).

Dillehay (1975) examined sites at 41 CH 32, 41 CH 33, 41 CH 46, 41 CH 47, and 41 CH 172. The stated goals of this project were to examine seasonal occupations of distinct population groups.

An extensive survey of the Trinity River basin was done by the Archaeology Research Program of Southern Methodist University in 1976-77 (Richner and Bagot 1978). However, the area within the Wallisville Lake was not examined during this survey.

II. PREHISTORIC SITES INVESTIGATIONS

Since so much archaeological work had previously been done at prehistoric sites within the lower Trinity River valley, the main emphasis of this project was concentrated upon the historic period sites. However, there were several prehistoric concerns which needed to be addressed before any further planning is done for Plan 2A, and these were included in the scope of work as outlined in the Introduction. Within the total area included in Plan 2A, a number of sites had been recorded by various professional and amateur archaeologists over the years. It was necessary that these sites be relocated and examined to determine their present state and to estimate the probable effect of the higher water levels created by the lake construction. Survey was needed in areas immediately surrounding planned control structures to be sure that no archaeological site would be impacted by their construction. There also was an area within the Plan 2A area which had never been systematically surveyed. A survey of this area and testing of any sites located by this survey were therefore made a part of the project. Results of these efforts are reported in this section.

Since the predominant category of artifacts recovered from prehistoric sites was ceramics, an analysis and discussion of the ceramics from all prehistoric sites and components are also included in this section, in order to demonstrate the basis for dating prehistoric components of sites described in later sections.

A total of 22 previously recorded prehistoric sites due to be within the area of Plan 2A was scheduled to be examined for the projected impact of the lake upon the sites (see Fig. 1). Of these, several were nearly submerged, and three were totally inaccessible due to flooding from the tropical storm. However, the impact of the reservoir on these sites could be estimated from studying their location and elevation. Table 1 lists the assessments made of the inspected sites by Ambler in 1970 and adds the 1979 observations and some recommendations for mitigation, based on the revised size and scope of the reservoir and an overview of the resources in the entire area now owned by the United States Government in the river valley (see Section V, Summary and Conclusions).

Since numerous sites of varying ages slightly farther south on the flood plain have been surface collected, tested, and excavated, it would seem that test excavations in one or two similar sites in this area farther north should suffice to determine if they differ in any way. There does appear to be a lack of emphasis on valley wall sites in past excavation strategies, and for this reason we suggest testing of a few of these to determine if there were differences in seasonal occupation and what types of resources were being utilized in these locations.

Survey of Control Structures

As part of the project, a survey was made in the areas specified to be projected sites for control gates and other structures on Old River and the Cutoff (Fig. 15, Section IV). Neither area was found to contain archaeological sites. In the process of surveying, however, two sites were noted nearby.

This page has been redacted because it contains restricted information.

TABLE 1. PREHISTORIC SITES INSPECTED*

Site Number	Elevation (feet)	Size*	Depth (m)	Condition Reported by Ambler 1970	Condition as Observed in 1979	Possible Effects of Reservoir	Ambler 1970 Recommendations	Tentative 1979 Recommendations
41 CH 43	< 5	Medium	1.0	Little disturbed	1/3 > eroded extensively	Will be inundated	Limited excavation	None
41 CH 44	< 5	Medium	0.5	Extensively disturbed	Completely disturbed	Will be inundated	None	None
41 CH 45	< 5	Small	0.25	Somewhat disturbed	No change	Will be inundated	Limited excavation	None
41 CH 63	20	Large	0.5	Somewhat disturbed	Eroded and quarried for shell	Bank erosion and collapse	None	National Register
41 CH 64	< 5	Small	1.0	Extensively disturbed	No change	Will be inundated	None	None
41 CH 65	15-20	Medium	1.0	Somewhat disturbed	Borrow pit and constant erosion	Increased erosion	None	None
41 CH 66	5	Medium	0.5	Little disturbed	No change	Increased erosion	Test	None
41 CH 67	5	Medium	0.5	Somewhat disturbed	No change	Increased erosion	Test	Test
41 CH 68	20	Large	2.0	Extensively disturbed	No change	Increased erosion	Test	Test
41 CH 69	20	Medium	1.0	Extensively disturbed	Nearly gone; borrow extensive	Bank erosion and collapse	None	None
41 CH 70	15-20	Medium	1.0	Somewhat disturbed	No change	Bank erosion and collapse	Limited excavation	Test
41 CH 117	< 5	Small	0.2	Somewhat disturbed	Not inspected	Inundation	None	None
41 CH 118	< 5	Small	0.1	Little disturbed	Not inspected	Inundation	None	None
41 CH 119	< 5	Medium	0.5	Little disturbed	Not inspected	Inundation	Extensive excavation	Test
41 CH 120	< 5	Medium	0.5	Little disturbed	No change	Inundation	None	None
41 CH 175	< 5	Small	Unknown	(not included)	Borrow pit and erosion; badly disturbed	Inundation		None
41 CH 180	< 5	Medium	Unknown	(not included)	Wave erosion. Site largely disturbed	Inundation		None
41 CH 181	< 5	Medium	Unknown	(not included)	Wave erosion, animal burrows; extensive damage	Inundation		None
41 CH 183	15-20	Small	0.1	(not included)	Very little remains	No effect		None
41 CH 200	< 5	Medium	Unknown	(not included)	Erosion and uprooted tree; extensive damage	Inundation		None
41 CH 201	< 5	Unknown	Unknown	(not included)	Large portion of site submerged	Inundation		None
41 LB 10	15	Small	0.1	(not included)	Scattered	No effect		None

* Does not include sites with historic components, which are discussed elsewhere in this report.

** As defined by Ambler 1970.

41 LB 4 is a shell midden exposed in the bank of the Cutoff (Fig. 1). It was first recorded by Ambler in 1968, and is estimated to cover an area of 25 x 25 m. Some testing has been done on this site, and additional testing has been recommended, primarily because a trade bead was found, indicating that it was occupied during historic times. On this basis, it has also been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, in connection with the Orcoquisac Historic District.

41 CH 236 is a newly recorded shell midden located on the southern shore of the Cutoff (Fig. 1). The site is approximately 10 x 25 m and occupies a zone from 50 to 80 cm in depth below the surface. Mixed with the shell is a variety of lithic debris, bones, and ceramics. One distal end of a biface and one bone-tempered sherd were found. Additional artifacts recovered from the surface of the site include one burned chert chunk, one petrified wood chunk, three secondary flakes, two tertiary flakes, eight grog-tempered sherds, two sand-tempered sherds, one clayey- and/or silty-tempered sherd, and 14 sandy paste untempered sherds. Artifacts recovered suggest a late occupation. The site may provide data on aboriginal occupation at or near the time of Spanish contact. Wave action is eroding and undercutting the site. Further testing is recommended before more damage occurs.

Tested Sites

Six prehistoric sites were tested and/or surface-collected during the current project. Three of these sites contained historical components: 41 CH 54, 41 CH 57, and 41 CH 62; and one, 41 CH 22, is directly associated with a historic site. These four sites will be described in the Historic Sites Investigations section. The future of 41 CH 63 is more fully discussed in conjunction with 41 CH 62. Prehistoric site 41 LB 48, the only prehistoric site recorded during the survey of the unexamined area within Plan 2A, is discussed below.

Archaeological Investigations, 41 LB 48

This prehistoric site is located approximately 750 m north of the boundary between Liberty and Chambers Counties and about 625 m east of Mac Lake, on the slope between the marsh and the uplands. It lies about 500 m northeast of the barge docking area for the Texas Gulf Sulphur plant. The site slopes east into a marshy swamp, and is surrounded on the north, south, and west sides by thick underbrush, trees, and vines. The area of the site is relatively clear as compared to its surroundings. Several large trees and numerous saplings are present without the dense stands of thorny brush and vines. A thick vegetation cover of fallen leaves and short grass blankets the site. A cattle path has been worn through the site in a general east-west direction (Fig. 2). In several small areas where the leaves had been washed or blown away, prehistoric ceramic sherds were observed. Additional examination revealed a scatter of *Rangia* clam shells on the east end of the site, near the top of the slope.

A series of shovel tests were employed to determine the extent of the site. A 1-m^2 test pit was excavated to gain additional information about cultural material and to record a stratigraphic profile for study.

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Four shovel tests were performed approximately 15 ft apart on an east-west line across the site. They started at what appeared to be the eastern edge of the site and extended toward the west. Three to four additional shovel tests were excavated on lines perpendicular to shovel tests 1, 2, and 4 in order to establish the probable north-south boundaries of the site. A total of 14 shovel tests was dug. A stable area near the west end of the site was chosen for the test pit. It was excavated in arbitrary 10-cm levels to a depth of 50 cm. Artifacts recovered in the shovel tests and test pit included a large number of prehistoric sherds, lithic chipping debris, and altered bone. Unmodified animal bone and *Rangia* clam shells were also present. The profile of the test pit indicated four basic depositional levels. The first level was composed of approximately 10 cm of grayish brown sandy loam soil covered by several centimeters of pine needles and fallen leaves. The second layer was made up of a dark brown sandy loam. It contained heavy root intrusion at the top and ranged from 10 to 30 cm deep. The third layer consisted of a brown compact sandy loam with a noticeable amount of clay. It appeared to be between 30 and 40 cm deep. The fourth depositional layer was comprised of a medium brown sandy clay mottled with darker and lighter shades and was very moist, ranging from 40 to 50 cm deep. The matrix of the top three layers contained cultural material, with a zone at 10 to 30 cm displaying the greatest concentration.

Shovel tests 9, 10, and 11, placed perpendicular to the original line of tests, yielded no cultural remains, indicating a culturally sterile area near the middle of the site. A large number of *Rangia* clam shells and a small amount of other cultural material were located on the eastern edge of the site, while the western edge produced only a few *Rangia* shells (mostly fragments) and a large amount of additional cultural material.

Ceramics

A total of 847 sherds was recovered from the 14 shovel tests and the 1-m^2 test pit. Many of the sherds (366) were less than 1 cm^2 in size, and their provenience is noted in the table below.

TABLE 2. PROVENIENCE OF UNIDENTIFIABLE SHERDS, 41 LB 48

Location	No. of Sherds	Location	No. of Sherds
Surface	1	Test Pit 1	
Shovel Test 1	4	Level 1	6
Shovel Test 2	1	Level 2	96
Shovel Test 4	2	Level 3	149
Shovel Test 7	3	Level 4	87
Shovel Test 13	2	Level 5	15
	13		353

The remaining 481 prehistoric sherds are represented by grog-tempered, sand-tempered, and sandy paste untempered types. They are described in detail in the "Analysis of Ceramics from All Prehistoric Sites" section. Table 3 indicates the provenience of the identifiable sherds.

TABLE 3. PROVENIENCE OF IDENTIFIABLE SHERDS, 41 LB 48

	Grog Tempered	Sand Tempered	Sandy Paste Untempered	Total
Surface	4		3	7
Shovel Tests				
1	1		1	2
2			2	2
3	2		2	4
4	1		8	9
5	1		4	5
6	2		3	5
7			3	3
8				
9				
10				
11				
12		1		1
13				
14			2	2
Test Pit 1				
Level 1	1		9	10
Level 2	28	1	91	120
Level 3	19	2	167	188
Level 4	11	2	91	104
Level 5	—	—	19	19
TOTAL	70	6	405	481

Lithics

A total of 70 flakes and flake fragments was recovered from site 41 LB 48. The individual flakes have been classified as primary, secondary, or tertiary. Primary flakes are pieces of lithic material that were removed in the initial step of reduction of a cobble or in the manufacture of a stone tool. They exhibit at least 90% cortex on the dorsal surface. Those flakes classified as secondary exhibit 10% or less cortex and evidence of prior flake removals. They result from continued core reduction or the thinning process in the manufacture of the tool. Tertiary flakes have no cortex. They usually represent lithic debitage derived from the final shaping of a stone tool. Table 4 indicates the provenience of the flakes and flake fragments.

One unifacially worked flake and one bifacially worked secondary flake were recovered. The unifacial secondary flake is fashioned into a point. It has flakes removed from the dorsal side and appears to be lacking the base. The bifacially worked flake is the proximal end of a biface. There is no notching on the base; instead it is almost rectangular with rounded corners. The unifacially worked piece is from level 2 of the test pit, and the biface fragment is from level 5. One chert pebble with a single flake scar was also recovered from level 4 of the test pit.

Altered Bone Fragments

Altered bone fragments have been found at other excavations in the Wallisville Lake area. Illustrations of the artifacts excavated from 41 LB 48 are presented in Fig. 3. One specimen appears to be the end of an awl or puncturing tool (Fig. 3,d). It is very polished and, as evidenced by visible charring on the fractured edge, it has been burned. Several flakes have been removed from the distal end, and wear on the sharp linear edge is visible. This particular tool was recovered from level 4 of the test pit.

An interesting bone artifact was found in level 3 of the test pit (Fig. 3,b). The artifact appears to be part of a long thin bone. Incisive marks are etched into the bone perpendicular to the linear edges. The incisions do not cross the entire width of the bone. They are very fine but plainly visible--apparently cut by a sharp tool.

Vertebrate Remains

Site 41 LB 48 yielded 427 osteological fragments from a 1-m^2 unit and various shovel tests. Of this total, 24% (103 fragments) had been burned. Twenty-two percent of the identifiable bone elements (N=54) showed evidence of burning, and most of these were from deer (see Table 5).

The majority of the deer elements (N=29) came from Unit 1-3, where at least two individuals are indicated. A mature lumbar vertebra and first phalanx were recovered along with several sub-adult teeth and an unfused epiphysis of a metapodial condyle fragment. An unfused femur head from Unit 1-4 may also be from the same sub-adult individual, but the wear on permanent teeth from both units indicates the presence of at least one fully mature deer. Since female white-tailed deer generally do not have antlers, an antler fragment recovered from Unit 1-4 indicates at least one individual was a buck.

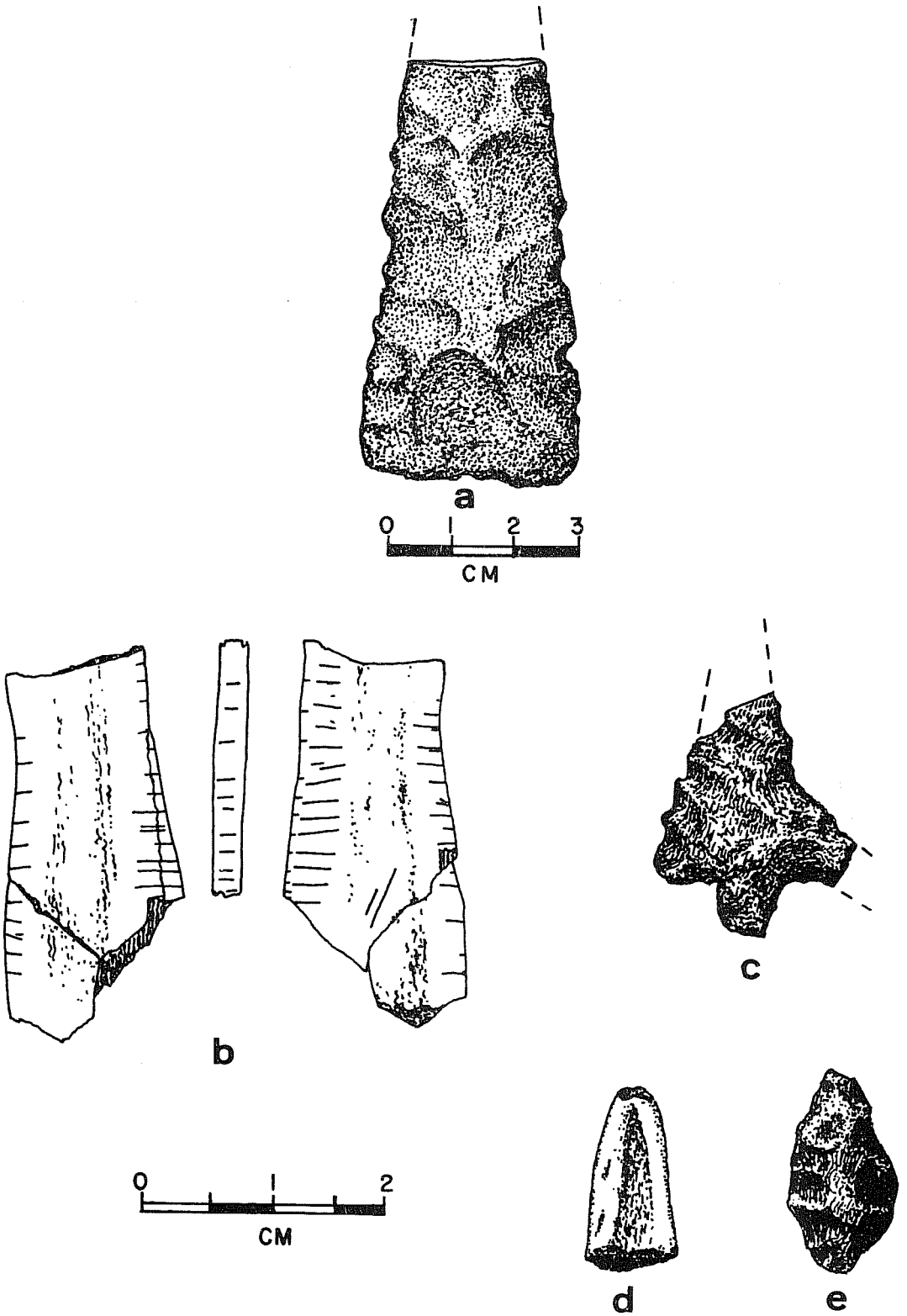

Figure 3. *Prehistoric Artifacts*. a, chert tool, 41 CH 62, surface; b, incised and polished bone, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 3; c, *Perdiz* projectile point, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 1; d, modified bone, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 4; e, projectile point, 41 CH 62, unit 1, level 2.

TABLE 4. PROVENIENCE OF FLAKES AND FLAKE FRAGMENTS

	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Flake Frags.	Burned Frags.	Petrified Wood Frags.	Total
Shovel Tests							
1					1		1
5			2	1			3
Test Pit 1							
Level 2	1	15	4	4	1	3	28
Level 3	5	4	4		11		24
Level 4		1	2		6	1	10
Level 5	—	—	—	1	2	1	4
TOTAL	6	20	12	6	21	5	70

TABLE 5. IDENTIFIED VERTEBRATES FROM 41 LB 48

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
Opposum	*Didelphis virginiana*	1	1	2%
cf. Gray fox	*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*	1	1	2%
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	39	2	79%
Modified fragments		2		4%
Total Mammal		43		80%
Turtle sp.		3		6%
Total Reptile		3		6%
Alligator gar	*Lepisosteus spatula*	4	1	7%
Catfish sp.	cf. *Pylodictus olivaris*	1	1	2%
Fish sp.		3		6%
Total Fish		8		14%

Total Bone Recovered 427 (Total Burned 103 or 24%)

Total ID Bone 54 (Burned ID 12)

% ID 13% (% ID Burned 22%)

Butchering cuts appear on several of the deer elements. A left calcaneum from Unit 1-3 shows two U-shaped grooves on the lateral side about midway down the longitudinal shaft of the heel and continues around to the caudal side where it is obliterated in a fragmented area. The angle of the fragmentations on the back side seems to have been made with a downward stroke. Also, there are two lighter cuts on the lateral side parallel to the two deeper U-shaped cuts. A burned rib fragment from Unit 1-4 also has six light transverse cuts on the proximal end.

A tubular metacarpal shaft from Unit 1-2 has many V-shaped cuts all over the surface of both sides of the bone. The more proximal end is ringed with small cuts, and the opposite end shows a spiral fracture. Directly above the spiral fracture on one side of the shaft are three deep notches each made by a series of downward slanting cuts. Another spirally fractured metacarpal shaft (from Unit 1-5) has three small curved scratches running longitudinally down the front of the bone mid-shaft near the spiral fracture and three light cuts on the inside of the broken shaft at the same end. Some smoothing on the edge of the spiral fracture was noticed under microscopic analysis, but the "wear" is not extensive enough to determine if this bone had been used as a tool.

A metatarsal fragment from Unit 1-4 has five deep-angled cuts on one broken edge and a series of lighter cuts all around one end. The uneven break at that end and the cuts associated with it resemble the cut and snap method described by Semenov (1964).

Two other deer-sized fragments have notable modifications. A small (1 cm) burned triangular fragment from Unit 1-4 has very minute cuts all around one end which have been spirally fractured. These closely spaced V-shaped cuts do not at all resemble gnawing marks, as they vary in depth and spacing. The other fragment is triangular in cross-section and is very smooth and shiny, but the thinner end has old splinter breaks and less shine, possibly indicating loss of the tool's working tip.

The remainder of the mammal assemblage shows no evidence of butchering. The opposum element is a caudal vertebra from an immature individual and shows evidence of weathering. A lumbar vertebra fragment from 1-4 most closely resembles gray fox, which is native to Liberty County.

The turtle shell fragments are unidentifiable to species. The three pieces all came from Unit 1-3 and were all burned.

Alligator gar elements consist only of scales, and none were burned. The catfish element is a fragment of a dorsal spine from a large species, probably of the flathead variety. The remaining fish vertebrae are from a medium-sized fish.

One unidentifiable fragment is noteworthy. It is approximately 3 cm long and roughly shaped like the proximal end of a deer calcaneum, but it has become mineralized and probably water worn. Although smooth, it should not be confused with a bone tool as no striations of wear were observed microscopically.

Other Materials

A few isolated charcoal specimens were collected from the site. No associated features were recognized, and the samples are too small for radiocarbon dating. About 10 small fragments or balls of burned clay, 1 cm^2 and smaller, were present in levels 2 and 3 of the test pit at 41 LB 48. Similar objects have been found in various southeast and south Texas sites (Hester 1971a:15-17; 1971b:101-102; Malone 1969; Shafer 1968). They could be intentional or accidental products of hearths and cooking activities, or daub from a primitive wattle and daub structure which burned.

Summary and Conclusion

A strategy of testing was employed to indicate the horizontal and vertical extent of the site. Large quantities of sherds were recovered and analyzed. The greatest number of sherds present were of the sandy paste untempered type. A fairly large number of grog-tempered sherds were recognized, and a cursory amount of sand-tempered sherds was also found. The grog-tempered sherds appeared in greater numbers in the top levels of the site. The sand-tempered sherds appeared toward the bottom of the cultural deposit. The grog-tempered sherds were present in all levels except the bottom level.

Judging from the ceramics recovered, occupation of the site may have occurred prior to A.D. 1000, but the heaviest use of the site occurred after A.D. 1000 and continued until just before or right at the time of European contact. As evidenced by the lithics found, stone tools may have been more widely used in the later occupations of the site as opposed to the early occupations. No complete diagnostic tools were found.

There are a number of possible explanations for the variations in the spatial distribution of the cultural remains. It may be that within the site there were different occupational areas used at certain seasons of the year for obtaining specific resources. They could also represent occupations from entirely separate time periods which overlapped in the same area. There also is the possibility that the two discrete deposits represent areas where differing activities were being carried out at the same time within one encampment. Further excavations would possibly provide information toward answering these questions.

The site does not appear to be in danger from increased water levels of the proposed reservoir, because of its location between the 10- and 20-foot contour lines. However, it will be endangered by private collectors gaining access to the area due to the higher water level. In the event that damage or destruction of the site becomes evident, appropriate measures should be taken either to protect or to mitigate it. Clearly, additional testing is needed to further understand the spatial and temporal data which the site deposits can provide.

Analysis of Ceramics from All Prehistoric Sites

A thorough examination of previous ceramic analyses was undertaken. Reports by Dillehay (1975) and Ambler (1970,1973) provided information on descriptive analysis techniques that have been employed on ceramic assemblages from the Wallisville Reservoir area. A lengthy attempt to accurately replicate their descriptive classification schemes using the sample of sherds collected from the five prehistoric sites tested in 1979 proved very difficult. An accurate replication was never accomplished. The sample of sherds was sorted into their descriptive categories and then re-sorted several times. Each "re-sort" yielded different results in categories such as *Goose Creek Plain, Wallisville Plain*, and *Lost River Plain*. Variation in the results of the re-sorting occurred at a rate of up to 20%.

Results with this amount of variation did not appear appropriate for an accurate presentation of the ceramic assemblage collected. Aten's *Aboriginal Culture Ecology of the Upper Texas Coast* (1979) was consulted in an attempt to gain a more accurate means of classifying the ceramic assemblage. Aten's work is based on a large sample of ceramic material collected from a wide range of sites and backed by radiocarbon dates and ceramic seriation techniques. He has employed a "type-variety" classification scheme matched with a sequence of periods. The types are defined by the kind of tempering agent and whether or not it occurs naturally in the clay or has been purposefully added. The varieties consider local variations in the ceramics within the type classification. The following is a list of the types and their related varieties as described by Aten (1979).

Untempered Ceramics

Sandy Paste Untempered

Goose Creek Plain

Variety: Unspecified
Variety: Anahuac

Goose Creek Incised

Goose Creek Red Filmed

Goose Creek Stamped

Mandeville Plain

Clayey or Silty Paste Untempered

Tchefuncte Plain

Tchefuncte Incised

Tchefuncte Stamped

Tempered Ceramics

Sand-Tempered

O'Neal Plain

Variety: Conway

Grog-Tempered

Baytown Plain

Variety: San Jacinto
Variety: Phoenix Lake

San Jacinto Incised

Variety: Jamison
Variety: Spindletop

Bone-Tempered--Included both Plain and Incised variations.

Aten's ceramic sequence provides a clear temporal framework for the development of prehistoric ceramics through time. Fig. 4 is a chronological chart developed from Aten's and others' previous work.

The current study relies heavily on Aten's work. Replication of the previously mentioned type categories was accomplished with a 1% to 2% margin of error on the second sort and less than 1% on the third and fourth sorts. Clearly, there are other difficulties to be considered when analyzing a collection of prehistoric ceramics from the Wallisville Reservoir area. Those additional problems are thoroughly discussed by Aten, and further discussion is not warranted here.

It is the intent of this study to provide information on the kinds of ceramics and how they relate to the overall prehistory of the Wallisville Reservoir area. In accordance with the distribution and size of the sample and the classification system employed, this aim is met using the type categories. In certain cases some information on the varieties will be provided. This is not a replication of Aten's work but the formation of a means of analyzing the sherds at hand for the desired information, based on Aten's work.

The first step in the ceramic analysis involved washing and cataloging the sample. Each sherd was carefully washed by hand to insure that no damage was done to the surface by excessive scrubbing. The sample size and provenience were recorded on standardized catalog sheets, including a general description. Labeling of the individual sherds was avoided, since the labels could cover up surface features of the sherds. The collection of sherds was grouped by the site number and provenience from which they had been recovered. All sherds less than 1 cm^2 were eliminated from the sample. Some sherds smaller than 1 cm^2 had a tendency to crumble, making microscopic examination and assessment of surface features nearly impossible. A total of 644 sherds was thus eliminated.

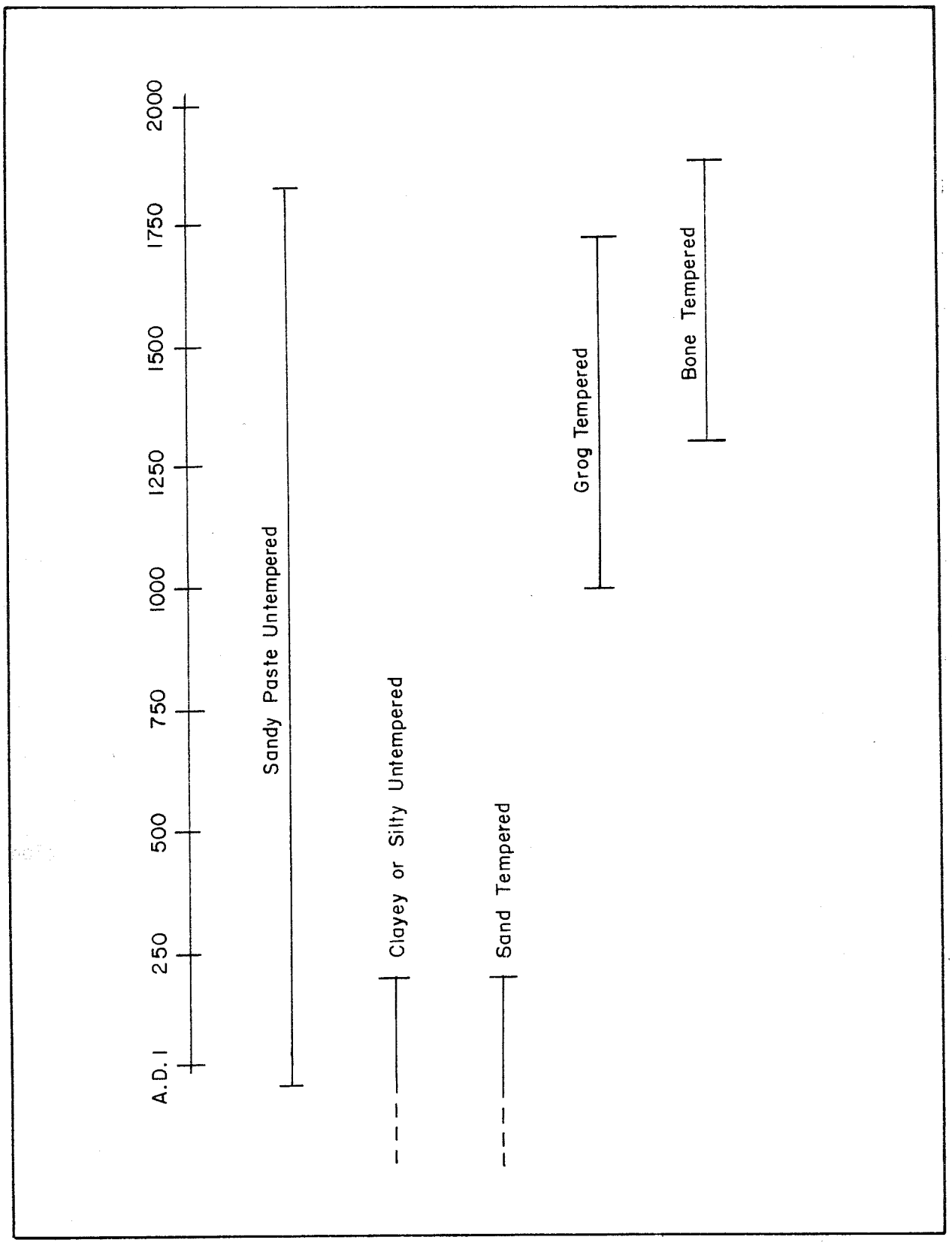

Figure 4. *Ceramic Sequence for Wallisville Reservoir Area.*

A fresh break was performed on each specimen within the remaining sample of sherds, and microscopic examination at 20X power was made of the paste and the surfaces. A determination of the type was made, based on the microscopic examination, and each sherd was placed in a box labeled with the appropriate type according to the site and provenience. On completion of sorting the sample, all sherds were reassembled according to site and provenience and re-sorted into their appropriate types. The process of sorting the sherds into types was carried out four times. The breakdown of the types of ceramics by the site is recorded in Table 6.

The majority of the sample were recovered from 41 CH 62 and 41 LB 48. Grog-tempered sherds are dominant. Bone-tempered sherds were not found on the five prehistoric sites tested. However, one was recovered from a newly recorded site, 41 CH 236. Sand-tempered sherds and clayey or silty paste-tempered sherds were present at 41 CH 62 and 41 LB 48. They make up only a small percentage of the total sample studied. Additional data on the ceramics is presented within the site descriptions in Section IV. Ceramics recovered are illustrated in Figs. 5 through 13.

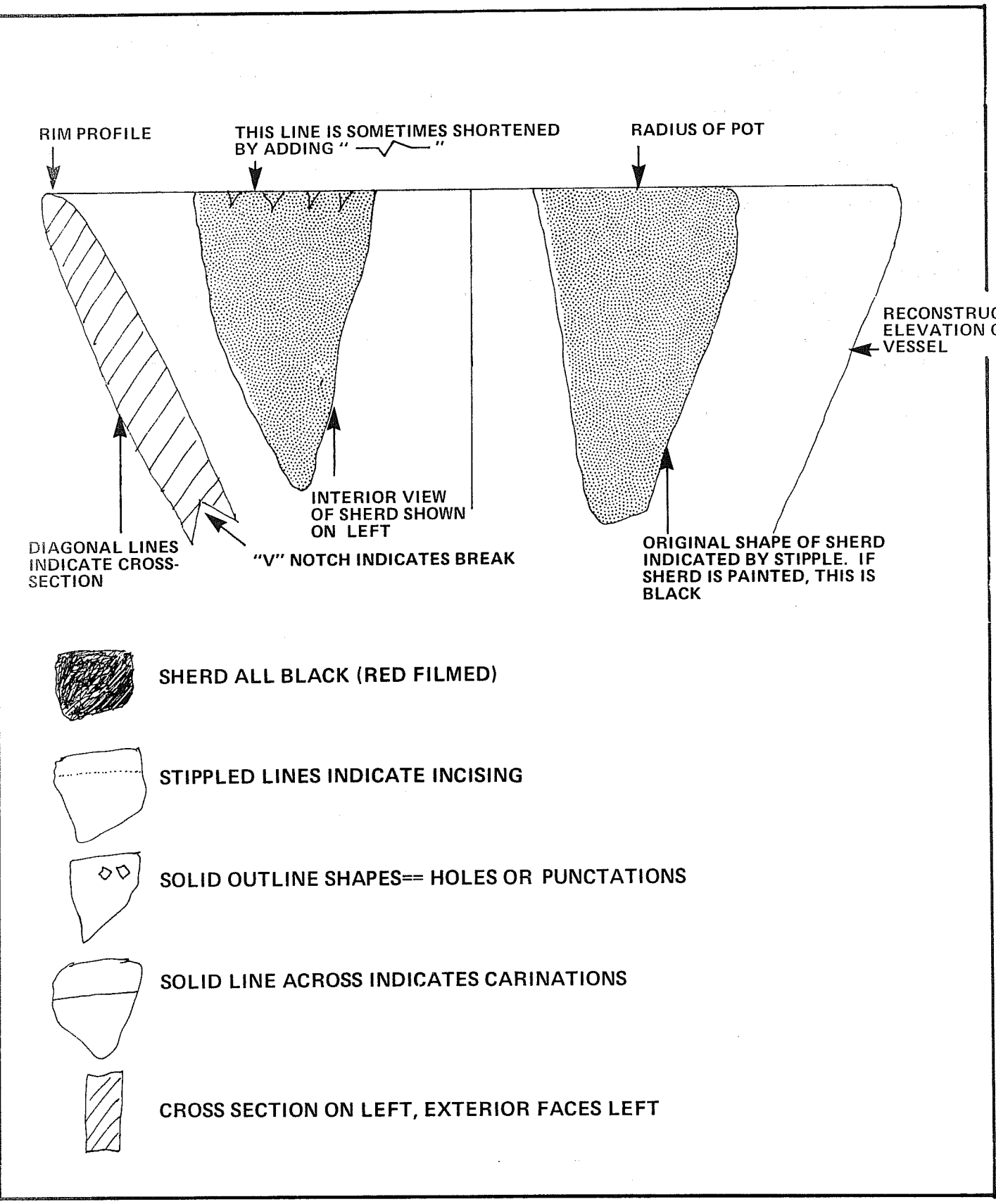

Figure 5. *Key to Ceramic Illustrations.*

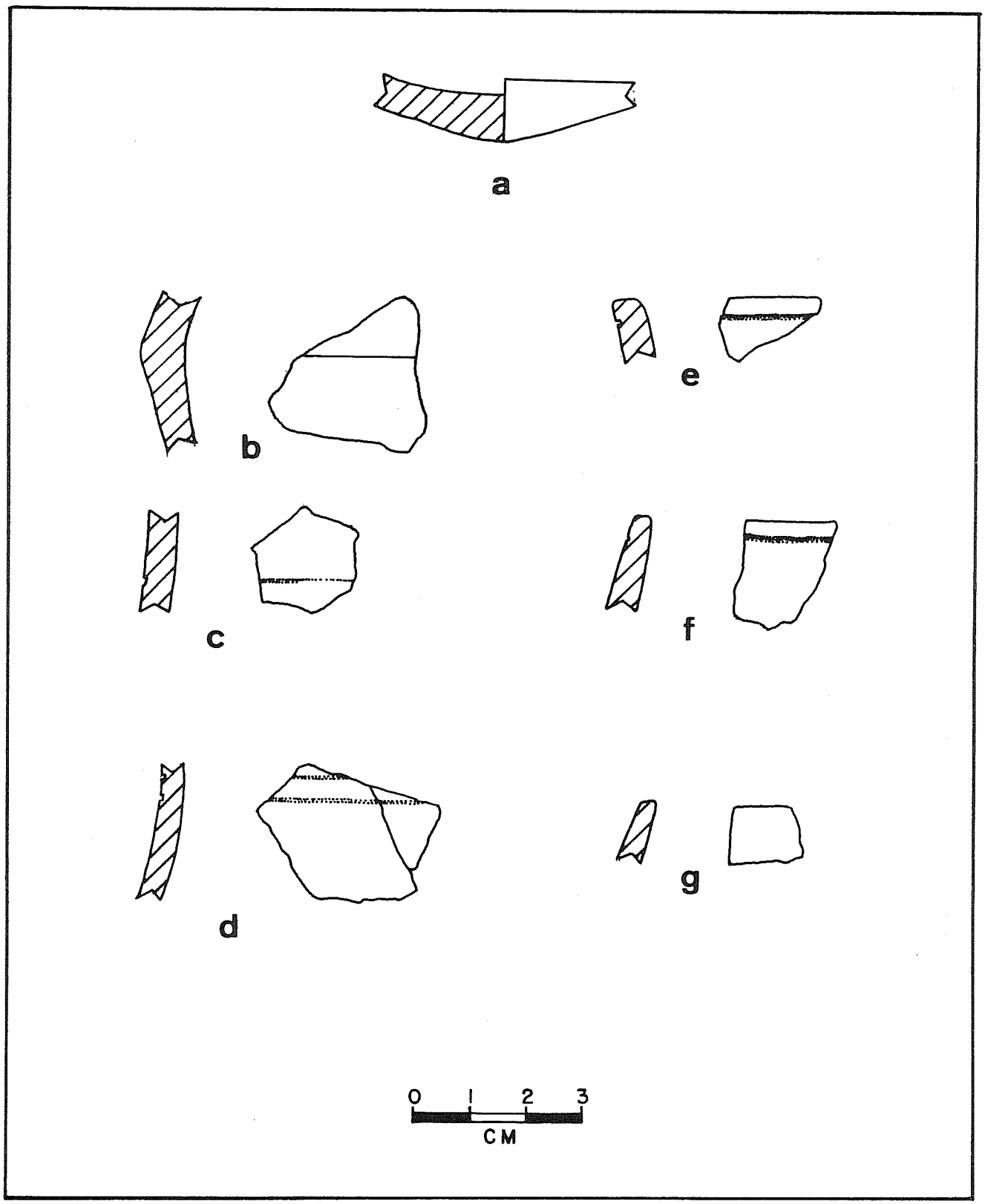

Figure 6. *Grog-Tempered and Untempered Ceramic Sherds.* a, base, clay, or silt, untempered, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 3; b, carinated body, grog temper, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 2; c, incised body, grog temper, 41 CH 62, Test A-3; d, incised body, grog temper, 41 LB 48, Test 5; e, incised rim, grog temper, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 2; f, incised rim, grog temper, unit 1, level 3; g, rim, grog temper, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 4.

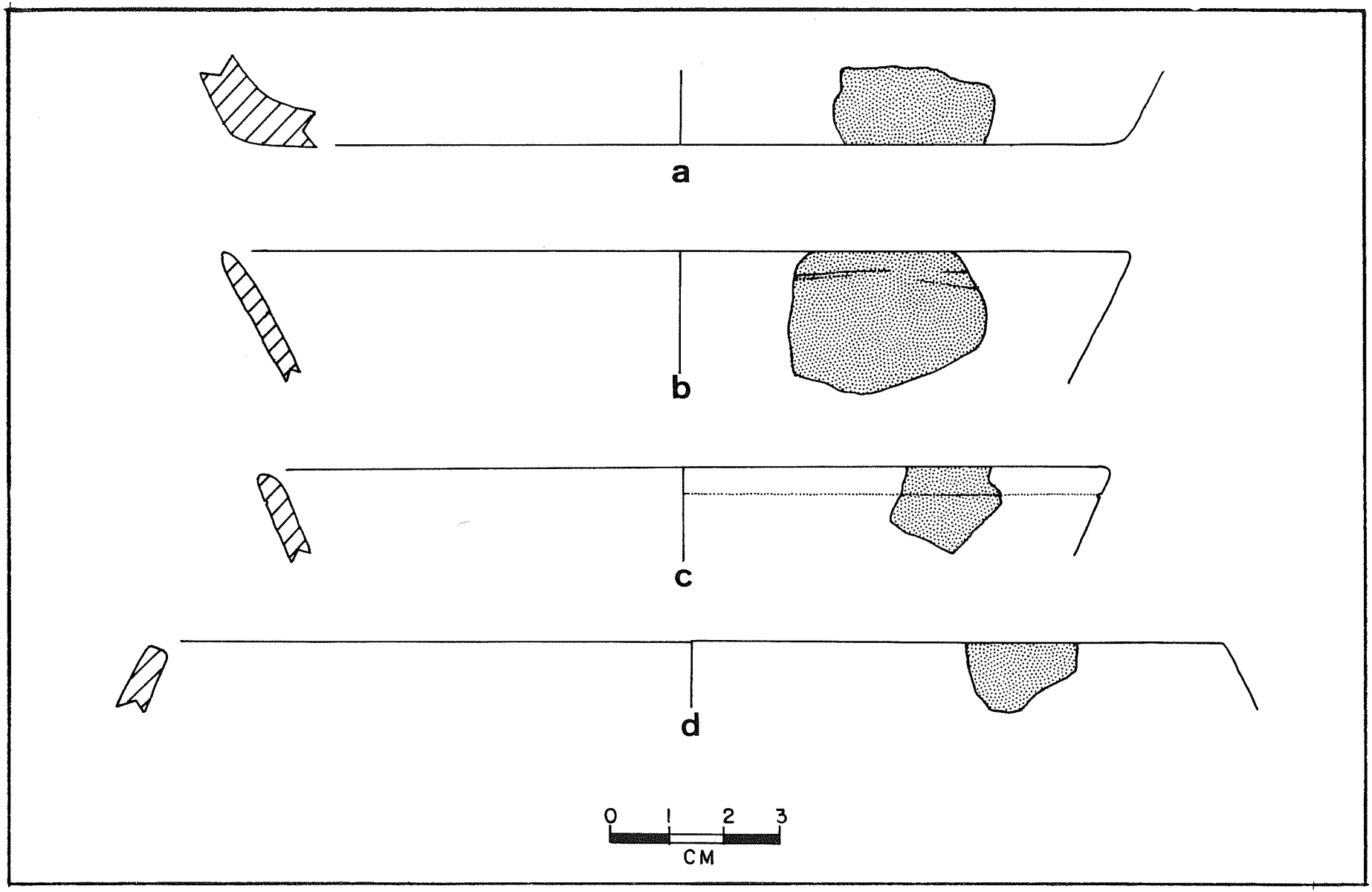

Figure 7. *Grog-Tempered Ceramic Sherds*. a, base, 41 CH 57, shovel test 3; b, rim, 41 CH 62, surface; c, rim, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 2; d, rim, 41 LB 48, unit 1, level 2.

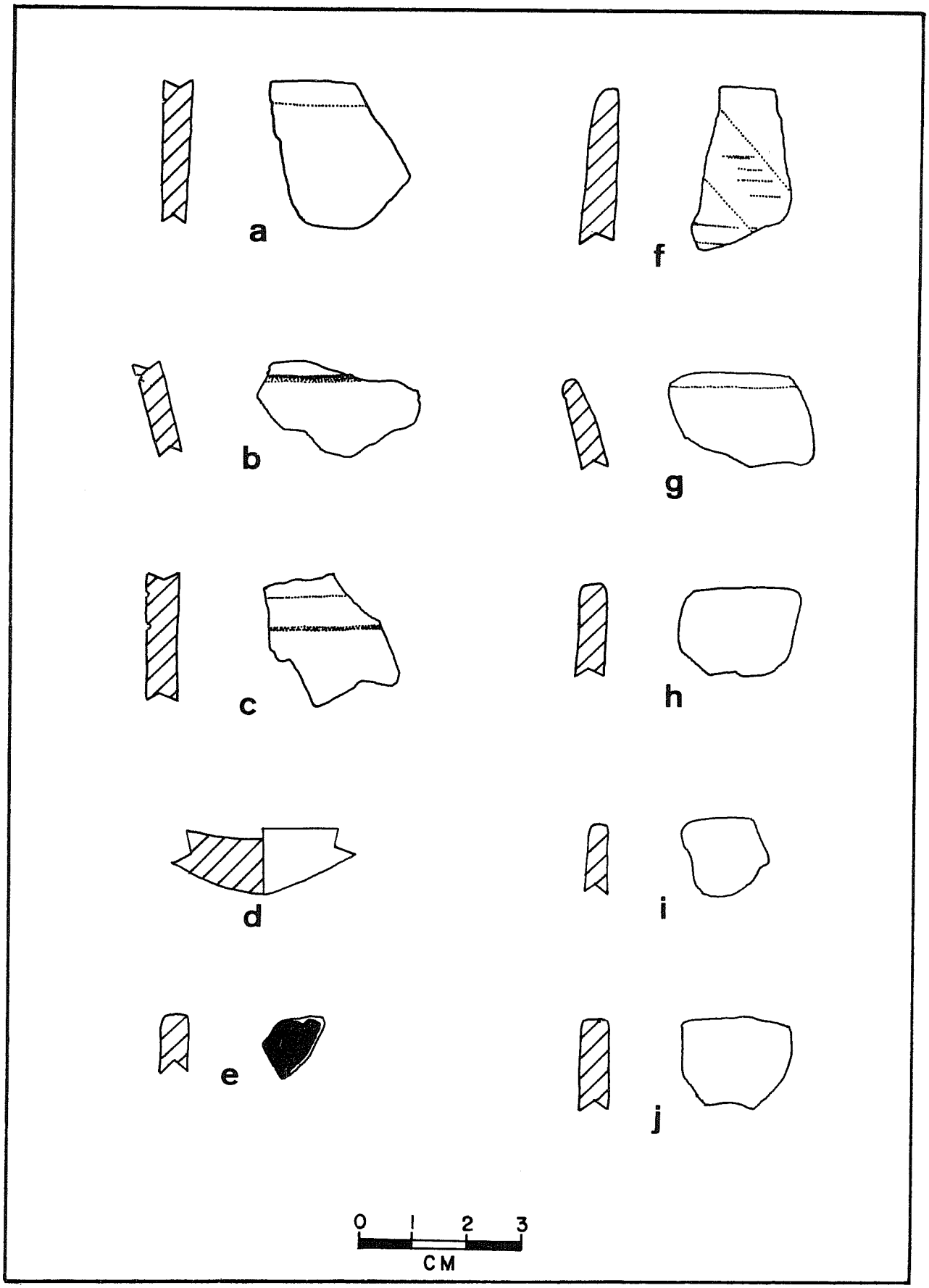

Figure 8. *Sandy Paste Untempered Ceramic Sherds from Surface of 41 CH 62.* a-c, incised body; d, noded base; e, rim, red slipped; f-j, rim.

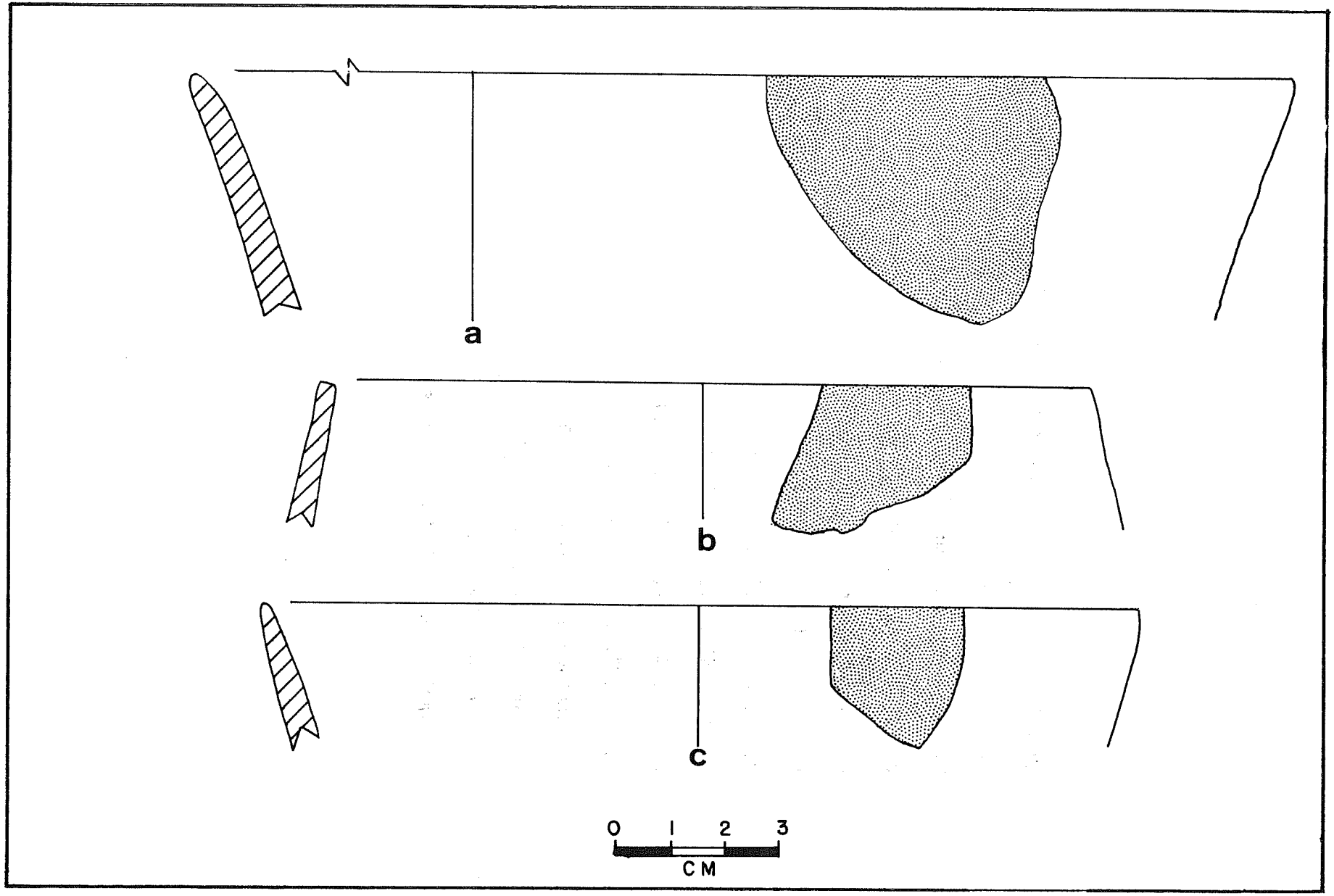

Figure 9. *Sandy Paste Untempered Rim Sherds.* a, 41 CH 62, surface; b, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 2; c, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 3.

Figure 10. *Sandy Paste Untempered Ceramic Sherds.*

a. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 1, level 1

b. rim, red exterior, 41 CH 62, unit 1, level 2

c. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 2, level 2

d. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 1

e. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 1

f. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 2

g. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 3

h. rim, 41 CH 62, unit 3, level 3

i. rim, 41 CH 62, Test B-3

j. incised body, 41 CH 62, Test A-5

k. rim, 41 CH 62, balk

l. rim, 41 CH 62, balk

m. incised body, 41 CH 57, Shovel Test 1

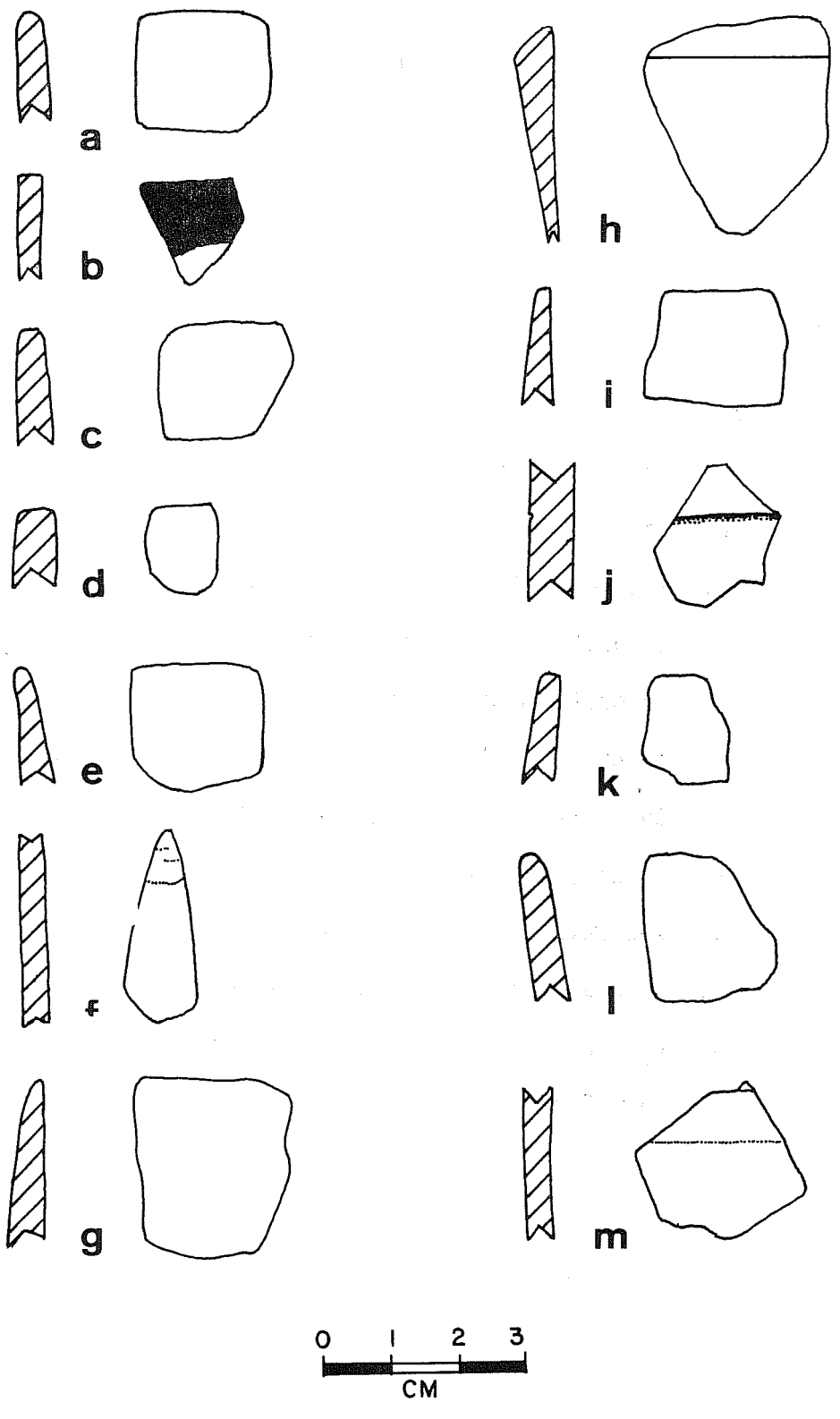
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Figure 11. *Sandy Paste Untempered Sherds from 41 LB 48.*

a. incised body, unit 1, level 2

b. incised body, unit 1, level 2

c. incised body, unit 1, level 2

d. decorated rim, unit 1, level 3

e. decorated body, unit 1, level 3

f. punctated body, unit 1, level 3

g. decorated rim, unit 1, level 3

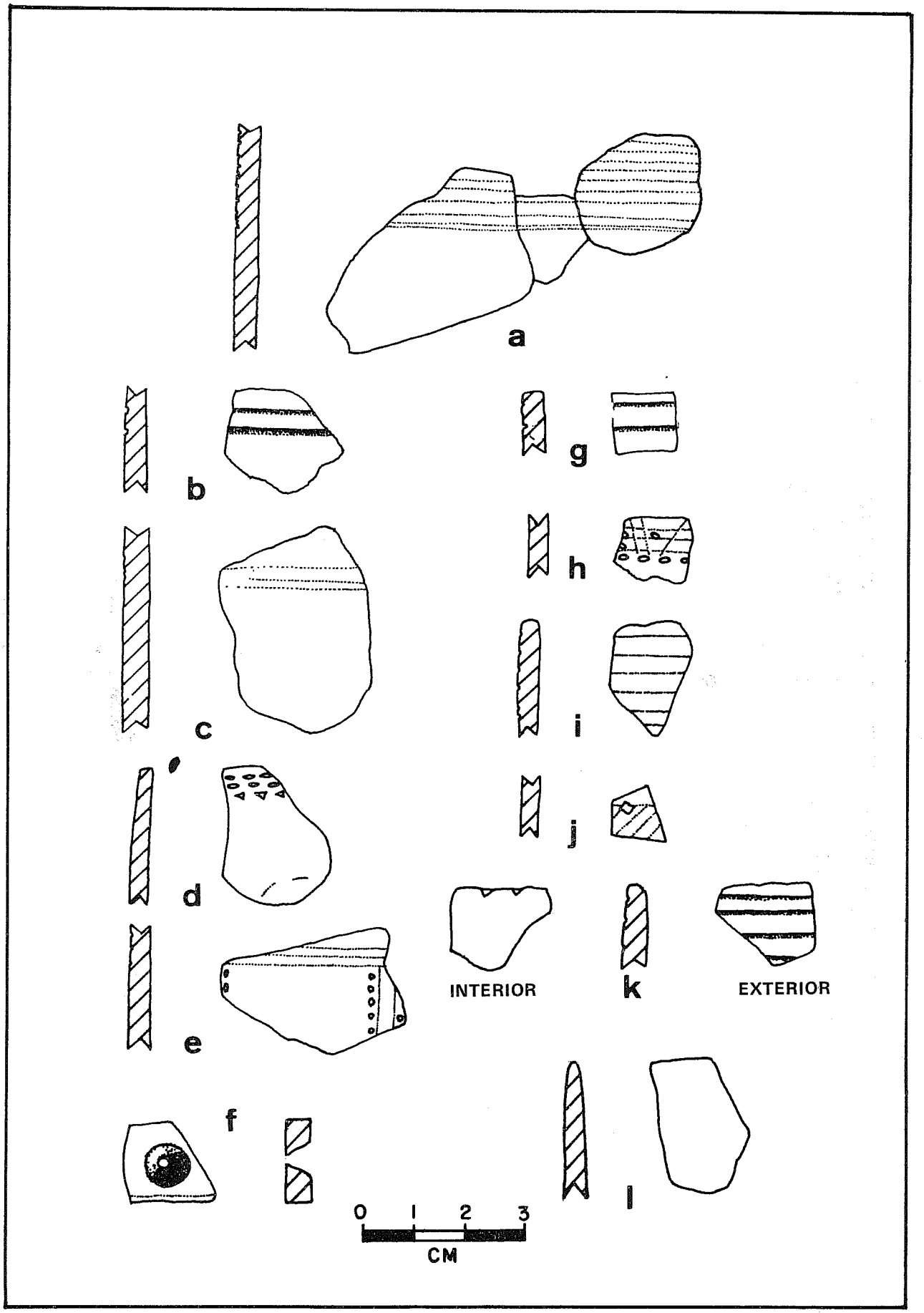
h. decorated body, unit 1, level 4

i. decorated rim, unit 1, level 4

j. decorated body, unit 1, level 4

k. decorated rim (both sides), unit 1, level 4

l. rim, Test 2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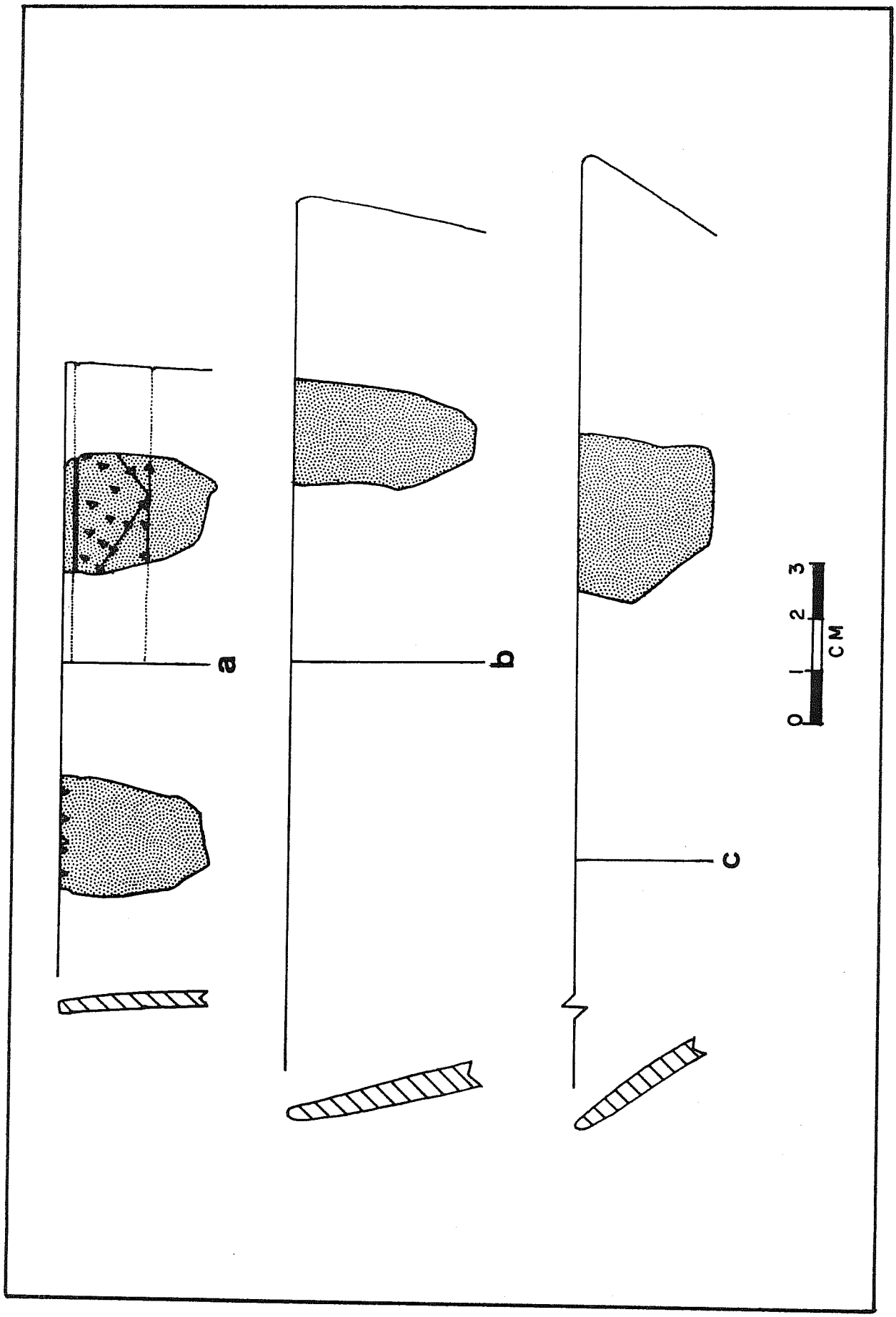


Figure 12. *Sandy Paste Untempered Sherds from 41 LB 48.* a, decorated rim, unit 1, level 3; b, rim, unit 1, level 3; c, rim, unit 1, level 3.

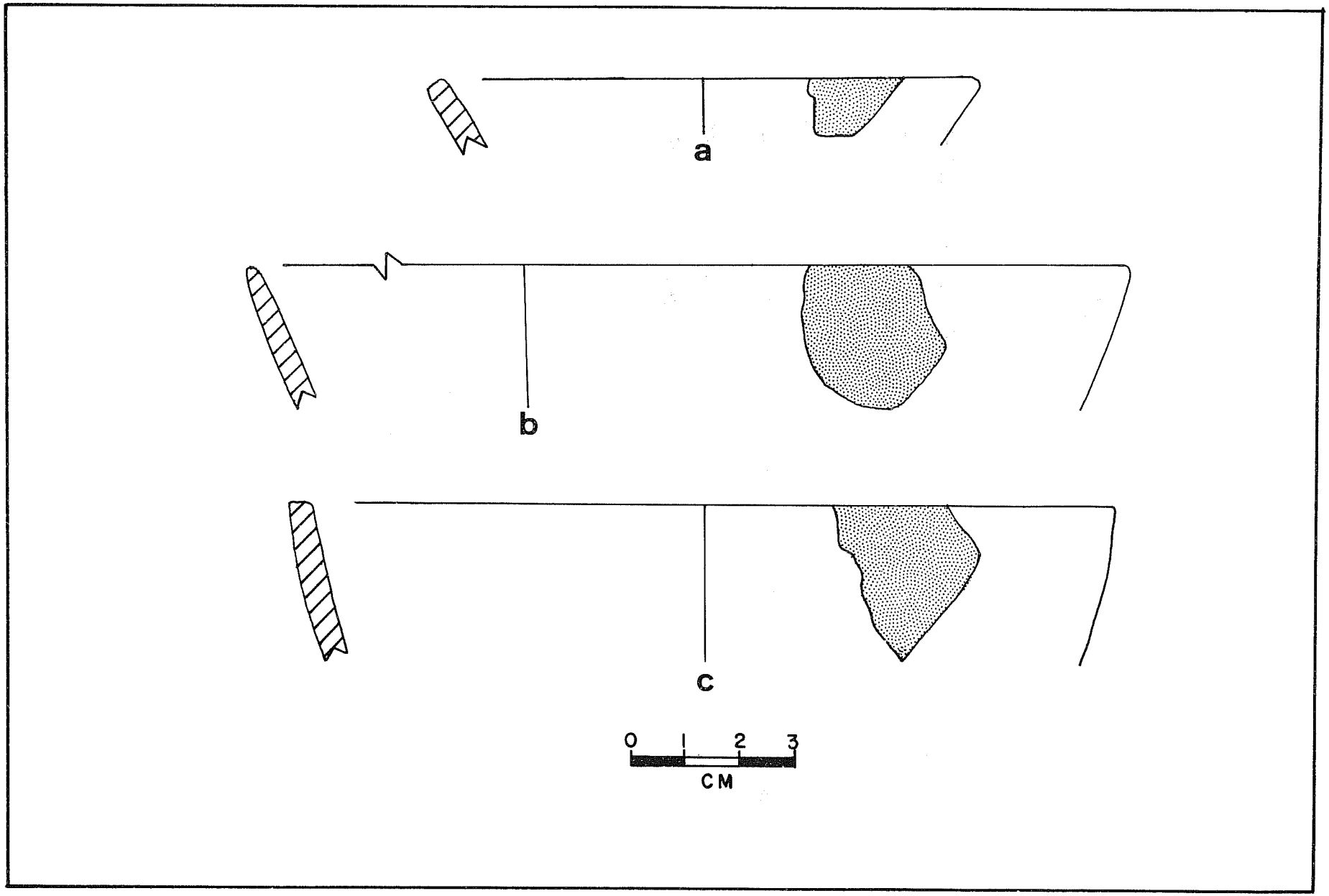


Figure 13. *Sandy Paste Untempered Sherds from 41 LB 48.* a, rim, unit 1, level 5; b, rim, unit 1, level 5; c, rim, unit 1, level 5.

TABLE 6. SITE PROVENIENCE OF PREHISTORIC CERAMICS

	Grog	Bone	Sand	Clayey or Silty	Sandy Paste	Total
41 CH 22	10				31	41
41 CH 54	4				3	7
41 CH 57	4				37	41
41 CH 62	66		10	4	365	445
41 LB 48	70		6	—	405	481
Total	154		16	4	841	1015

III. HISTORY OF THE WALLISVILLE AREA

Introduction

In the middle 18th century, Spanish Texas encompassed the eastern half of present-day Texas and a part of western Louisiana. By 1731 Spain, fearing the threat of French expansion across its eastern border, had established military posts and missions at strategic locations in the province of Texas. The capital of Texas, Los Adaes, was erected on the west bank of the Red River opposite the French settlement at Natchitoches. Other military posts and missions included Nacogdoches, San Antonio, and La Bahía (Fig. 14).

In 1745 rumors concerning active French trading in the lower Trinity River region prompted a sudden interest in a previously ignored portion of Texas. To curb French aggression, Presidio San Agustín de Ahumada was established on the lower Trinity River in 1756, and plans were made for a civil settlement. An accompanying mission, Nuestra Señora de la Luz, was established to serve the Orcoquisac Indians who lived along the lower San Jacinto and Trinity Rivers (Bolton 1970:325-374; Castañeda 1939:46-98).

The presidio and mission were abandoned in 1772 after a brief but stormy existence. The location of the site was an overriding factor in the failure of the project. The military personnel and religious instructors had to contend with a swampy, insect-infested region that caused constant medical problems and promised little in the way of agricultural possibilities. Natural calamities, such as floods and hurricanes, added to the frequent setbacks suffered by the establishment. The extreme isolation of the site resulted in a constant lack of supplies, including food, clothing, arms, and ammunition (Rader 1971:106).

Administrative incompetency created major problems between several governors and presidial commanders and caused dissension among the military personnel at the presidio. Added to this were the conflicting opinions of the missionaries regarding administrative policy (Rader 1971:108; Bolton 1970:364-372).

Because the proposed civil settlement never went beyond the planning stages, the presidio and mission lacked the manpower and skills necessary to maintain a sizable settlement. The failure to successfully institutionalize the Orcoquisacs also resulted in a lack of manpower and severely impeded the economic independence of the establishment (*ibid.*).

Although the presidio and mission were never reestablished, Spanish forces continued to occupy eastern Texas in the closing part of the 18th century. The United States replaced France as a threat to Spanish security, and efforts were made to repel aggressive expansion. While many Anglo-American settlers came to Texas in the early 1800s under authorized land grants, most entered illegally. In 1821 Mexico gained its independence from Spain and inherited the responsibility of repressing illegal immigration into Texas. The flood of immigrants continued, and the resulting political problems led to the Texas Revolution.

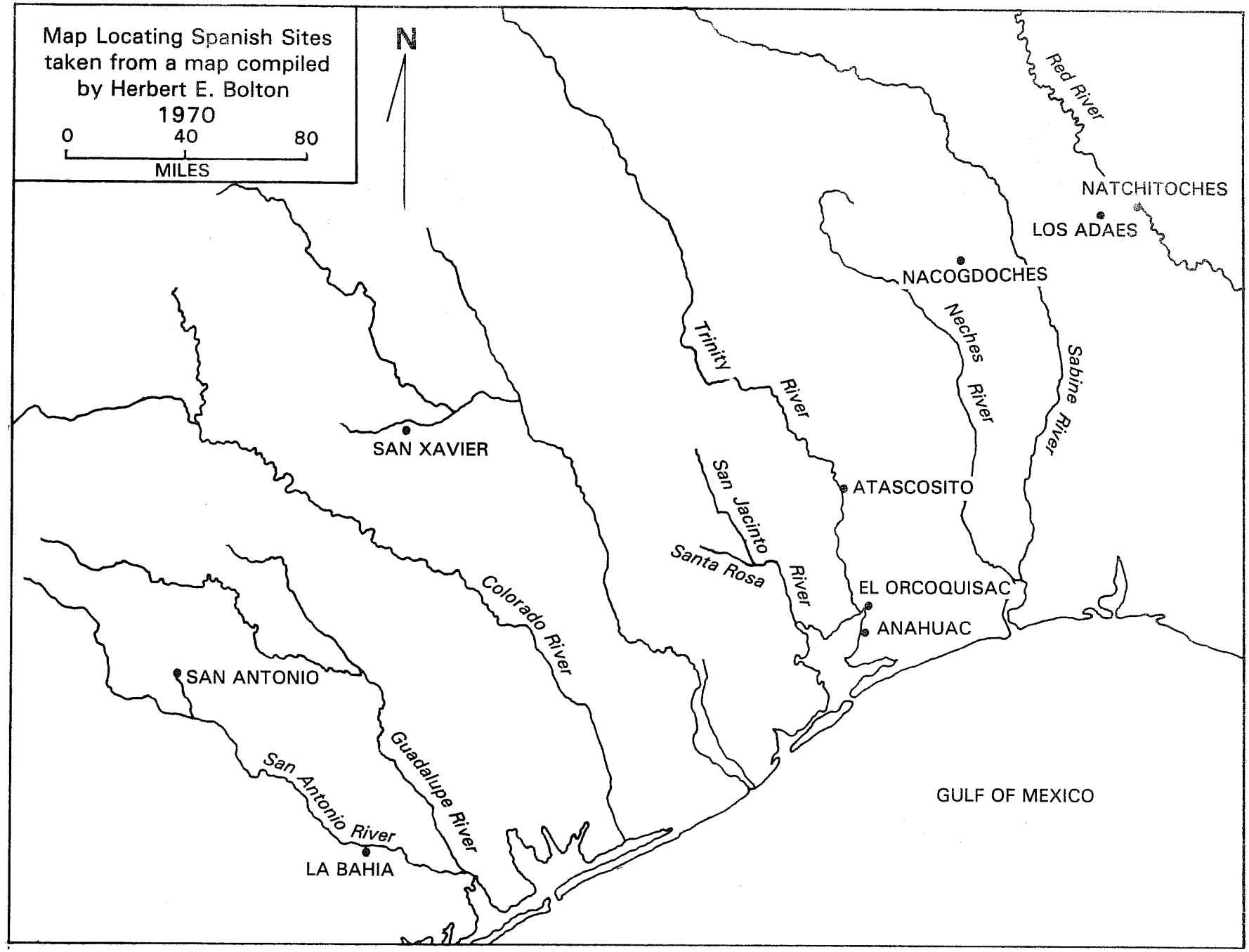


Figure 14. *Map Locating Spanish Sites in 18th Century Texas.*

The Indians

When the Spanish entered the Trinity River region in the mid-1700s, they encountered several groups of Indians who were culturally similar, spoke a common language, and were interrelated by marriage. The Orcoquisac became the most well known of the Atakapans after Presidio San Agustín de Ahumada was established in their territory. Various insights regarding the Orcoquisacs were mentioned in numerous Spanish documents, and collectively they provide valuable information regarding the aboriginal lifestyle of the region.

The Orcoquisacs were related to several other groups of Atakapan-speakers. The Bidais lived north of the Orcoquisacs along the middle Trinity River and the upper San Jacinto River (Mayhall 1939:97). Ethnohistorical accounts suggest strong cultural, social, and political ties to the Orcoquisacs. The Deodoses lived north of the Bidais, while the little-known Patiris lived in the San Jacinto River valley north of the Orcoquisacs (Newcomb 1961:316).

The Orcoquisacs were not agricultural but relied instead on fishing, hunting, and gathering for subsistence. They apparently lived in relatively permanent villages when not engaged in seasonal migration. Because of a better geographic location, the Bidais, Deodoses, and Patiris could practice agriculture. Hunting was also an important activity in their culture (Newcomb 1961:321,324).

The Orcoquisacs were divided into four or five groups, each with a chief. At the time of Spanish contact, the chiefs were Canos, El Gordo, Mateo, and Calzones Colorados. The Bidais were divided into several groups which may have totaled as many as seven separate bands. Antonio and Tomas were the only Bidai chiefs mentioned by the Spaniards (Bolton 1970:332-336,341).

Additional aspects of the culture of the Orcoquisac and Bidai Indians are included in the following sections of this report.

The Spanish Era

In 1745 Don Joaquín de Orobio y Bazterra, captain of the presidio at La Bahía, wrote to the viceroy in Mexico concerning persistent rumors of French activities in Spanish territory along the lower Trinity River. In response, the viceroy ordered Orobio to explore the area to determine the extent of French aggression. If French subjects were encountered, Orobio was to order them out of Spanish territory. He was also ordered to gather information regarding the type and number of Indians along the lower Trinity (Bolton 1970:328). Orobio left La Bahía with 21 men on December 6, but due to the lack of geographical information regarding the eastern part of Texas, it was several months before he finally found a feasible route to the lower Trinity. In early January he arrived at the Spanish presidio at Nacogdoches and approached the lower Trinity from there. While at Nacogdoches, Orobio learned that 15 shipwrecked Frenchmen had recently passed through on their way from the coast to the French settlement at Natchitoches (Bolton 1970:329-330).

Leaving on February 7, Orobio followed the Bidai trail made by the Bidai Indians from their territory to Nacogdoches. On March 6 he arrived at a place near the Trinity River in Bidai territory which he called Santa Rosa de Viterbo. Located at this site were seven Bidai *rancherías*. The Bidai Indians had never before seen Spaniards, but were quite familiar with French intruders. They reported that French traders came every year with trade goods such as guns, cloth, and knives. Some came by sea and entered the interior by way of the Trinity, Neches, or Brazos Rivers. Others came by land, including a group who for six years had been living with the Pachina Indians, whose territory extended from the Sabine River to the Mississippi River. Their trade network extended into Orcoquisac territory (Orobio y Bazterra 1745).

According to the Bidais, the French who came by boat had recently selected a site for a permanent settlement in Orcoquisac territory. An Orcoquisac messenger had been sent to the Bidais to tell them of the impending settlement, and the Bidais had relayed the information to neighboring Indians (*ibid.*).

Orobio then traveled 30 leagues southwest of Santa Rosa de Viterbo, and on March 15 he arrived at a place he called San Raphael which Bolton (1970:330) has identified as present-day Spring Creek. Located here were two Orcoquisac *rancherías*. Orobio presented gifts to the Orcoquisacs and termed them "docile." The Orcoquisacs said they had never before seen Spaniards, although they were familiar with the French (Orobio y Bazterra 1745).

The French had not yet established their settlement, but the Orcoquisacs expected them to return in the summer. The French had asked them to contact the Bidai, Deodoses, and Tejas Indians to urge them to bring their deerskins, buffalo hides, and other items for trade once the post was established. The Orcoquisac chief reported that there were no French settlements among the Cocos, Cujanes, or Karankawas who lived southwest of their territory, but that one of three or four families did exist among the Pachina nation. Several Frenchmen had recently been lost among the Cujane tribe who lived southwest of the Orcoquisacs. Orobio surmised that the shipwrecked Frenchmen who had recently passed through Nacogdoches were probably part of a search party sent to rescue this lost group (*ibid.*).

On March 23 Orobio visited the proposed French site on the Nuestra Señora de Aranzazu (the present-day San Jacinto River). Orobio decided that the site lacked the natural resources necessary to build and maintain a sizable settlement. On April 6 he returned to La Bahía and reported the extent of French encroachment to the viceroy (Orobio y Bazterra 1745).

On May 3, 1747 and again on October 2, 1747, a group of Orcoquisacs journeyed to La Bahía and requested that a mission be established in their territory (Rader 1971:26). In January 1748 the viceroy ordered Orobio to explore the coastal region from the Guadalupe River to the Trinity River and to locate possible sites for a Spanish settlement. Additional information was also to be gathered on the Orcoquisacs (Castañeda 1939:49).

On June 10 Orobio camped on the Trinity River about 15 leagues from its mouth. After the arrival of several Orcoquisac Indians in canoes, Orobio sent a message with them to their chief who was encamped at the mouth of the Trinity. Returning the following day with four canoes and many Indians, the chief insisted on taking Orobio back to his village in his canoe. The Spaniards camped near the village and distributed food, tobacco, and trinkets to the Orcoquisacs (Castañeda 1939:50-51).

Before returning to La Bahía, Orobio led a reconnaissance to the Sabine River. He also explored the coast near the mouth of the Trinity and found an area of recently cut timber. The Orcoquisacs explained that a small group of white men who were not French had come in several large boats, cut the timber, and then departed after several days. Orobio concluded that they were English. He returned to La Bahía on July 4 and reported his findings to the viceroy (*ibid.*).

After Orobio's initial visit to the lower Trinity area, the governor of Texas, Jacinto de Barrios y Jáuregui, devised an illegal trade network which extended into Bidai and Orcoquisac territory from 1751 to 1759. His personal agents included Marcos Ruiz, Domingo del Rio, Juan Antonio Maldonado, and Jacinto de Léon, who were soldiers stationed at Los Adaes (Castañeda 1939:52; Bolton 1970:336). The merchandise, including guns and ammunition, was purchased from the French at Natchitoches in direct violation of the viceroy's orders. In return for the European trade goods, the Indians traded horses, corn, and hides. The governor, using Spanish funds, purchased the corn and horses for the garrison from himself. The hides were either sold illegally at Natchitoches or shipped to Saltillo, Mexico (Castañeda 1939:52-53; Rader 1971:28-29).

On September 20, 1754 Governor Barrios ordered Lieutenant Marcos Ruiz and a company of 25 men to inspect the lower Trinity region. Reliable reports to the governor indicated that four French traders and two Spaniards had come by canoe and were living in huts at the mouth of the Trinity. Ruiz was ordered to arrest the Frenchmen and take them to San Gabriel (Barrios y Jáuregui 1754a).

Ruiz was sent on this mission because of the rapport he had established with the Bidai Indians through his activities as an agent for Barrios' trade operations. Barrios instructed Ruiz to take trade items to the Bidai and Orcoquisac Indians and to turn over to them all items confiscated from the French to insure their continued support of Spanish activities. Lastly, Ruiz was ordered to burn the landing and houses of the French (*ibid.*). The events that followed were later described in sworn statements given by Ruiz and several of his soldiers.

Not until reaching the Bidai village of chief Tomas did Ruiz tell his men the intent of the mission. Guns, ammunition, scissors, bells, and cloth were distributed to the Indians, who in turn eagerly agreed to participate in the proposed endeavor. Tomas asked for a horse that the lieutenant had planned to give to the governor. Because Bidai support was necessary to the success of their mission, he promised to give Tomas the horse if they succeeded in arresting the Frenchmen (Arias 1754; Cordova 1754).

After leaving the Bidai village, they marched into Orcoquisac territory and gained additional support. Ruiz (1754), Cordova (1754), and Arias (1754) reported that they passed through two Orcoquisac villages, while del Rio (1754) mentioned three. Del Rio reported that Tomas persuaded Mateo, chief of the first Orcoquisac village, to join them in the venture. Cordova (1754) reported that the second village was in sight of the mouth of the Trinity. The Orcoquisacs were given gifts, and by the time the combined forces reached the French site, the Spaniards had a total of 31 Indians with them (*ibid.*).

On October 10, 1754 Joseph Blancpain, Elias George, Antonio Dessars, and two Negro slaves, Bernardo and Joseph, were arrested without incident at their camp situated two leagues above the mouth of the Trinity. According to sworn statements by Ruiz and one of his soldiers, all confiscated trade goods were distributed to the Indians (Ruiz 1754; D. del Rio 1754). Most of the accounts reported that Blancpain's canoe or barge was sunk as ordered by the governor, but before the huts and other canoes could be burned, the Indians persuaded the Spaniards that they needed them (Arias 1754; Cordova 1754).

According to the Orcoquisacs, Blancpain had destroyed the commission given to Calzones Colorados by the Spaniards and had given a commission to Canos, one of the other Orcoquisac chiefs. Canos had recently traveled to New Orleans to meet with French officials. The Orcoquisacs also informed the Spanish that Lacreu, a French trader, had recently left Blancpain's camp to return to New Orleans for 50 French families waiting to settle in Texas. Ruiz told the Orcoquisacs to notify him if the settlers arrived and he would return and arrest them (*ibid.*).

After the completion of the campaign, Ruiz gave Tomas the horse he had requested at the onset of the expedition. Del Rio (1754) reported that Tomas and Mateo were responsible for the success of the venture. Del Rio stated that the location of Blancpain's camp would be ideal for a Spanish settlement. The Orcoquisacs had recently visited Spanish officials in Nacogdoches, San Xavier, San Antonio, and La Bahía and had requested that a mission be established for their nation. According to Arias (1754), "The river was of good sounding and very wide for navigation and that the Indians who live in those places are peaceful and very docile although addicted to thievery." Cordova (1754) concurred with this assessment of the Indian's character and stated that Mateo was the most intelligent and most inclined to Spanish endeavors.

After examining the facts presented in the soldiers' testimony, Governor Barrios urged the viceroy to establish a presidio at the mouth of the Trinity River to prevent further French incursions (Barrios y Jáuregui 1754b). He stressed the advantages of the location as a seaport:

> The French are successful with their settlements because they always locate them on the banks of the large rivers. . . . All these (settlements) enjoy the advantages of navigation and can therefore export their products. . . . The only purpose of our (settlement) is to reduce the infidels; but in this (settlement) . . . it is possible to achieve both purposes and it is not too unreasonable to hope to establish a settlement that can be self supporting within a few years without the aid of a presidio (Barrios y Jáuregui 1754c).

On February 19, 1755 Blancpain gave a sworn statement to the officials in Mexico City. Originally from Mons, Flanders, he was currently an Indian interpreter for the Louisiana government. Other enterprises included a mercantile store at Natchitoches and a farm located 22 leagues from New Orleans. Coming by boat from New Orleans, he had arrived at the lower Trinity on about August 1, 1754. Just prior to his arrest several others who had traveled with him had returned to Louisiana (Blancpain 1755).

Blancpain declared that he had come to trade on his own initiative, although he had the permission and license of the governor of New Orleans. In answer to the charges against him, he denied trading with the Bidais or Orcoquisacs. His operations concerned the Atakapans only. French trade with this group of Indians had existed for 22 years, and he had been involved in the operation for 25 years. Five or six days prior to his arrest, these Indians warned him that the Spanish were coming. He and his companions did not try to escape because they believed they were in French territory (*ibid.*).

Blancpain was also charged with destroying the Spanish commission of Calzones Colorados. He denied this and claimed that he did not know the chief. He also denied granting a French commission to Canos. When questioned about Lacreu's activities, he denied that he had returned to New Orleans to bring back 50 French families. Blancpain's statement also included an inventory of the seized trade goods, and he claimed that the Spanish officer's inventories included only about one-fourth of the total amount confiscated. He stated that the goods were distributed among both the soldiers and the Indians with the bulk of the material going to the soldiers (Blancpain 1755). Statements by Elias George and Antonio Dessars supported Blancpain's sworn testimony. George added that 2,300 deerskins were seized by the soldiers, and that one of them, Diego Ramon, had sent two mule loads of goods to his brother (Castañeda 1939:60-61). He also testified that Domingo del Rio took 10 packs to Los Adaes, while two pack loads were sent to San Antonio (Rader 1971:33).

Blancpain died in a Mexican prison on February 5, 1756 (Amarillas 1756). His companions were taken to Spain and imprisoned for life. The king of Spain ordered that any other Frenchmen found illegally in Spanish territory be arrested and imprisoned on an island off the coast of South America (Arriaga 1757).

On April 29, 1755 Barrios ordered Domingo del Rio to return to the lower Trinity to determine if Lacreu had returned with the French settlers. Domingo and his brother, Cristobal, were included in the expedition because they, like Ruiz, were agents of Barrios' trade operations and were popular with the Indians of that region. To insure continued cooperation from the Indians, del Rio took with him 25 pounds of red and blue beads, loin cloths, powder, balls, ribbons, cloth, tobacco, and combs. He also carried a commission for Mateo, as well as a gold-trimmed red coat and hat, a shirt, and a cane. According to Barrios, Tomas, the Bidai chief, had previously received a commission and a cane (Barrios y Jáuregui 1755).

The company of Spaniards then marched to the Orcoquisac village, whose chief was El Gordo. From there they sent for Mateo, described as the "Big Chief" of the Orcoquisacs. He arrived after four or five days with 15 Indians from

his village. He was given a commission, coat, hat, and other items. When questioned about French activities in the area following the arrest of Blancpain, the chief reported that several Frenchmen had come by boat and had sailed as far as the Brazos River. Shortly thereafter, four Frenchmen came on horseback with many trade items (D. del Rio 1755).

This French activity caused the Indians along the coast to withdraw to the village of El Gordo "fearing the abuses which (would occur) after Captain Canos came" (*ibid.*). Canos had been appointed "Big Chief" by Blancpain and Lacreu and, as a result, was well dressed and received many gifts from the French. The Orcoquisacs claimed that only Canos and his followers supported the French endeavors. Mateo, probably in an attempt to reassure the Spanish of his loyalty to them and to impress upon them the power he possessed, stated:

> . . . the (French) only have the favor of Captain Canos and his kinsmen but that all (others) are affectionate toward the Spaniards and that they do not abandon their loyalty to Captain Mateo whom they obey absolutely and that with regard to Captain Canos, he renders homage to Mateo because of his great power and esteem among the Orcoquisacs. . . . (C. del Rio 1755).

Tomas and Mateo also requested a meeting with the "Captain Grande of the Spaniards" to express their gratitude for the gifts he had sent them and to again request a mission for their nations. They and 17 other Indians returned to the presidio at Los Adaes with del Rio and his company (Cordova 1755; C. del Rio 1755).

On February 12, 1756 the new viceroy of Mexico, the Marques de las Amarillas, ordered the immediate occupation of the lower Trinity to forestall further French encroachment into Spanish territory. The site of Blancpain's post was to be occupied by a lieutenant with a company of 30 soldiers. The soldiers, whose military service was to last six years, would remain in the settlement as colonists. A mission to serve both the Bidais and Orcoquisacs was to be established concurrently with the presidio. The initial location of the presidio and mission was to be temporary. After an adequate site for the proposed civil settlement was established and functioning, the presidio and mission would be reestablished near the colony (Amarillas 1756).

On July 12, 1756 Governor Barrios wrote to the viceroy regarding the orders to establish the presidio and mission on the lower Trinity. Under the command of Lieutenant Marcos Ruiz, 30 soldiers left Los Adaes on May 16 with horses, cattle, oxen, arms and ammunition, equipment, and supplies. The presidio was established on May 26 on the site of Blancpain's camp and was named San Agustín de Ahumada in honor of the viceroy, Don Agustín de Ahumada Villalon Mendoza y Narvez, Marques de las Amarillas. By July 12 temporary structures were erected and corn had been planted. Barrios reported that he was gathering trade goods to be used by the Spanish to persuade the Indians to enter the mission (Barrios y Jáuregui 1756a).

In the latter part of 1756, Fray Bruno Chavira and Fray Marcos Satereyn arrived at El Orcoquisac and established the mission of Nuestra Señora de la Luz. Barrios did not approve of the two missionaries, stating that Fray Chavira

was too old while Fray Satereyn was too young and inexperienced. Before Barrios could have them removed by royal decree, Chavira died and Satereyn left temporarily due to illness (Castañeda 1939:73).

Barrios ordered Father Fray José Francisco Caro to visit the mission and submit a report. Fray Caro vividly described the unhealthy conditions at El Orcoquisac to his superior, who in turn wrote to Barrios:

> The mosquitos and flies have produced such unutterable hardships that he does not want to live in this state of misery. . . . The place is unhealthy for it is very marshy and without drinking water. . . it does not have hills for protection in winter--living in this climate has resulted in the deaths of the Most Reverend Padre Lector Fray Bruno Chavira and Majordomo Julian Flores of San Miguel and in the sickness of Fray Marcos Satereyn. . . Most of the presidio is saddened by the painful flux of blood which took the said Reverend Lector Minister. These attacks are preceded by much bad water which . . . becomes salty in running from the south. Even without this movement the water of the nearby lake is very bad for it is muddy and stagnant (Vallejo 1758).

Fray Caro asked to be removed from the mission. If this was not possible, he strongly urged that the mission be moved to a more habitable place called El Atascosito several miles north of the present mission location. The move was never authorized, and Fray Caro was replaced by Fray Abad de Jesus Maria (Castañeda 1939:75).

In August 1756 Barrios ordered Lieutenant Domingo del Rio and Don Bernardo de Miranda to conduct a reconnaissance of the surrounding areas and locate a suitable site for the civil colony (Barrios y Jáuregui 1756b). Two and one-half leagues north of the presidio were three arroyos. Del Rio's account states that Calzones Colorado's *rancheria* was located on the middle stream (del Rio 1756). Traveling west by canoe they reached the San Jacinto River, which they judged to be 12 leagues from the Trinity River (Miranda 1756).

Del Rio and Miranda agreed that a western branch of the San Jacinto called the Springs of Santa Rosa (present-day Spring Creek) offered the most suitable location for a colony. Located on the Santa Rosa was the village of Canos, who was described by del Rio as the "Big Chief of the Orcoquisacs." By this time Canos had temporarily revoked his allegiance to the French because he emphasized his desire for a Spanish mission. Miranda reported that Canos' village consisted of 20 warriors with their families. He did not know how many Indians were in Calzones Colorados' band because they had visited only one of the two villages under his command. El Gordo, Mateo, and Antonio had villages nearby (*ibid.*)

In April 1757 Miranda added additional knowledge about the Springs of Santa Rosa. They were located in the center of the Orcoquisac nation, which consisted of five villages or *rancherias*. Miranda, however, had visited only

four of the five villages. Mateo's village was located above the Santa Rosa. El Gordo's village was along the shore of Santa Rosa, while Canos' village was near the junction of the Santa Rosa and the San Jacinto River. The village of Calzones Colorados was on the Trinity River (Miranda 1757).

On January 7, 1757, the authorities in Mexico approved the removal of the presidio and mission, commonly referred to as El Orcoquisac, to the site selected on the Springs of Santa Rosa. The followers of Calzones Colorados, Canos, and "others" were part of the mission system at El Orcoquisac, and they were to be moved to the new site (Amarillas 1757). Bolton (1970:351) and Castañeda (1939:78) both state that the site was near the village of El Gordo. It was hoped that Mateo and his followers and the nearby Bidais could be persuaded to settle in the new mission (Amarillas 1757).

Elaborate plans for the civil settlement had been formulated since the viceroy's initial decree in 1756, but the civil settlement never got beyond the planning stages. Many factors were responsible, but the major one was the inability to find 50 families willing to go to a remote frontier settlement. The inability to select a suitable site for the civil settlement added to the failure of the project (Rader 1971:48-50). Several sites other than Santa Rosa were suggested, but a firm decision was never reached. On February 3, 1758 government officials in Mexico recommended that no further action be taken regarding the establishment of a civil colony at El Orcoquisac (Castañeda 1939:85).

On February 6, 1759 Don Angel Martos y Navarrete replaced Barrios as governor of Texas. Determined to find a new site for the presidio and mission, he traveled to the proposed sites in October. Ruling out Santa Rosa and El Atascosito, he favored both Los Horconsitos and Los Pielagos which were located north of El Orcoquisac. Martos reported that three Orcoquisac chiefs had settled near the mission but had not yet committed themselves to mission life. Tomas, described as the general of the Bidais and Orcoquisacs, had recently told Domingo del Rio that he intended to enter the mission at El Orcoquisac. He and his followers had been delayed because it was their custom to eat "roasting ears" with "El Texas" in August. An Atakapa chief visited with Martos and said that his entire nation and the Apelusa nation were preparing to enter the Orcoquisac mission. The governor also reported that Blancpain's boat had almost rotted away and had no anchor or ropes (Martos y Navarrete 1759). Fray Abad, opposed to the removal of the establishment to either one of the governor-proposed sites, wrote to the viceroy concerning the problems and the advantages of El Orcoquisac (Bolton 1970:355; Castañeda 1939: 86-87). First of all, he suggested that a new commander for the presidio be appointed to replace Domingo del Rio in order to improve the morale and efficiency of the garrison (Clay 1977:13). In defending the location, he reported that the mission had recently been moved a short distance from the presidio and was showing progress. The location, comparable to other suggested sites, was described by the missionary:

> . . . we did not find any place more suitable or nearer the presidio than a hill, something less than a fourth of a league's distance to the east from the latter and on the same bank of the lagoon. This place, Excellent Sir, because of its elevation, commands a view of the whole site of the presidio and of a

> circumference to the west and south, where this River land is a little less elevated . . . the mission was erected on this site. It is made of wood, all hewn, and beaten clay mixed with moss, and has four arched portals (Bolton 1970:349).

Fray Abad added that the Indians would object to such a move, since the nearby bay provided a variety of food sources which they skillfully exploited. The mission settlement was beginning to function with buildings erected and crops planted. Fray Abad also reported rumors of recent French activities in the area. Despite the reasoning of Fray Abad, the governor recommended that the mission and presidio be moved to Los Horconsitos. The viceroy complied and issued the formal decree on March 15, 1759. The move, however, never took place (Bolton 1970:355-356).

On April 29, 1763 Domingo del Rio, commander of the presidio, complained to the viceroy about the deteriorating conditions at El Orcoquisac. The garrison was in dire need of food, clothing, and ammunition. Blaming the governor for the deplorable conditions, del Rio suggested that the presidio be removed from the governor's jurisdiction and that the commander of the post be directly responsible to the viceroy (Castañeda 1939:87; Bolton 1970:367).

On November 23, 1763 Raphael Martínez Pacheco was ordered to replace Domingo del Rio. Pacheco arrived at El Orcoquisac on May 13, 1764. Although limited information is available regarding mission progress between 1759 and 1763, it is apparent that little had been accomplished regarding missionization of the Orcoquisacs. Pacheco, aware of the lack of control over the native population, considered the failure of the Orcoquisacs to accept and support mission life the most urgent problem to be dealt with at El Orcoquisac. On May 14 he gathered 155 Orcoquisacs and urged them to enter the mission. Speaking through the interpreter, Domingo del Rio, he explained to Calzones Colorados and the others the requirements of mission life. The Indians were expected to live within the mission compound and to obey the instructions of the king, his soldiers, and the missionaries. Permission to leave the mission was required, and if they violated any of the rules they would be punished by the commander or by Indians appointed to special positions. They were to attend daily prayer services, work in the fields, and help defend the presidio and mission against the French and hostile Indians. Pacheco, probably at the urgings of the missionaries, told the Indians that they must give up their gourd whistles and other ceremonial items. If they accepted mission life, they would receive adequate clothing and four head of cattle each week. The Indians eagerly agreed to all of the stipulations (Pacheco 1764a).

On May 31 Canos requested permission to enter the presidio with a group of Atakapa Indians. They entered carrying the French flag but promptly turned it over to Pacheco. Canos wanted to talk privately with Calzones Colorados to verify reports that the Orcoquisacs were receiving excellent treatment at the mission (Pacheco 1764b). After observing daily mission activities, Canos was impressed and requested a separate mission for his followers (Pacheco 1764c).

On June 6 Tomas and two other chiefs of the Bidais arrived with 48 Indians. Tomas expressed friendly feelings with regard to the Spanish and requested

that a mission be established in Bidai territory. He also asked for meat, corn, and tobacco "because they had great need" (Pacheco 1764c).

On June 14 Pacheco wrote to the viceroy concerning progress at El Orcoquisac. Additional funds were necessary to rebuild the deteriorating presidio and mission structures and to purchase needed supplies (Bolton 1970:366). Providing for the Indians' well-being was expensive, and Pacheco reported that he had spent 1,000 pesos on clothing and had provided them with two beeves and ten bushels of corn per week (Castañeda 1939:89). Pacheco also recommended that separate missions be established for the villages of Canos and Tomas (Bolton 1970:366).

Governor Martos did not approve of Pacheco's appointment, and in June he journeyed to El Orcoquisac to enforce and supervise the move to Los Horconsitos. The intense situation of the two opposing factions ended when both the missionaries and the Indians supported Pacheco by objecting to the move. The governor's visit lasted a month, and during that time he must have added to the ill feelings that were brewing within the military framework at the presidio (Castañeda 1939:90).

While providing for the Indians in a fatherly fashion, Pacheco was apparently excessively brutal to the soldiers. By August 28 all but five of the soldiers had deserted to Natchitoches. In a letter to Governor Martos concerning the circumstances of their desertion, the soldiers described in detail the physical assaults by Pacheco against several soldiers at San Agustín de Ahumada. They also related previous acts of irrational behavior by Pacheco at San Antonio, San Sabá, Coahuila, and Saltillo. According to the deserters, the missionaries and Indians were also preparing to leave El Orcoquisac (Cordova *et al* 1764).

On September 12 Governor Martos ordered Lieutenant Marcos Ruiz to arrest Pacheco and replace him as commander of the post. Ruiz took 22 soldiers with him, including the deserters who had been exonerated by the governor. As they approached the presidio on October 7, they saw Pacheco standing on the pier (Ruiz 1764). He ran to his quarters, which he had prepared for a possible siege. He had the two cannons from the presidio as well as numerous firearms and large quantities of ammunition (Bustamante 1764). Three soldiers joined him against the forces of Ruiz.

Ruiz read the governor's order but Pacheco refused to submit, claiming he was responsible only to the king. A scuffle ensued and one of Ruiz's men was killed. Pacheco called upon the Orcoquisacs and Atakapas for help, and they attacked the soldiers, although there were no reported injuries or casualties.

Because Domingo del Rio was away from the post and there was no one else to parley with the Indians, Ruiz and his company retreated (Ruiz 1764). After del Rio's return he agreed to try to persuade the Indians to oppose Pacheco. The Indians asked for three days to convince Pacheco to surrender. If after three days Pacheco still refused to surrender, the Indians would then support Ruiz (Bolton 1970:369).

For three days Calzones Colorados, Fray Salvino, Lorenzo Bustamante, and one of the women at the post, Rosa Guerra, tried to persuade Pacheco to surrender (Villa Fuerte 1764). Pacheco refused. Finally, on October 11, Ruiz set fire to Pacheco's quarters. In the resulting confusion Pacheco and Ambrosio Brioso escaped through a secret door in the chimney. Ruiz reported that an empty barracks and part of the church also burned (Ruiz *et al* 1764).

Pacheco and Brioso were given refuge for several nights at La Bahía. Pacheco then traveled to Mission San José at San Antonio, where he was arrested but was allowed to move about freely (Castañeda 1939:92). He eventually traveled to Mexico, where he was imprisoned (Bolton 1970:371).

Marcos Ruiz took charge of San Agustín de Ahumada and investigated the charges against Pacheco. Calzones Colorados admitted that he had been bribed by Pacheco to oppose the removal of the presidio and mission to Los Horconsitos. Del Rio was implicated and subsequently arrested by Afan de Rivera, who was named commander of the post in May 1765. Del Rio was charged with "insubordination, disrespect and poor conduct" (Rivera 1766). In November Ruiz was arrested for burning the presidio. In 1767 charges were filed against Governor Martos for the burning of the presidio. His trial lasted 14 years, and he was assessed a heavy fine (Bolton 1970:372).

The closing years of El Orcoquisac were also plagued with misfortune. On September 4, 1766 a hurricane destroyed all of the supplies and severely damaged most of the buildings. Afan de Rivera asked the viceroy for permission to move the presidio to higher ground. The viceroy replied that such a move had been authorized since December 9, 1762. Rivera reportedly moved the presidio to a low hill a quarter of a league from its original site (Castañeda 1939:94).

In 1767 Marques de Rubi, an officer from Spain, and Don Nicolas de la Fora visited El Orcoquisac while on an inspection of Texas. Rubi's opinion of the importance of Presidio San Agustín de Ahumada and Mission Nuestra Señora de la Luz was not favorable:

> I therefore consider this presidio useless, for it does not serve to support the missions, which are absolved by the slight inclination of those natives to embrace our sacred religion, a fact which has been well experienced since the year 1758, when the only one there is was founded without accomplishing in all this time the reduction of a single Indian . . . for it is a very unhealthful place, in the midst of lagoons which make impossible communication with any other of our settlements. Here, by a bad arrangement, those unfortunates are obliged to sustain themselves the greater part of the year on some roots called *camotes*, on *nísperos*, nuts, cherries, some chestnuts smaller than those of Spain, and other equally wild foods (Rubi 1768).

Rubi also detailed the lack of adequate military equipment (*ibid.*). Louisiana had been ceded to Spain by France in 1762, and Rubi declared that the presidio was no longer needed since the French threat no longer existed (Castañeda 1939: 95).

In September 1769 an exonerated Pacheco replaced Rivera as commander of the post. Pacheco had been tried and found innocent of all charges against him. His administration was marked by reconstruction and reform. Fray Anselmo Garcia and Fray Ignacio Maria Lava praised Pacheco's endeavors. From September 1769 to September 1770 he provided food, clothing, and other supplies at his own expense. He also summoned a doctor for the presidio and paid for his services. In October 1769 he helped transport 125 shipwrecked families to Natchitoches. They signed sworn statements attesting to his kindness (Castañeda 1939:96-98).

In summer 1770 the governor of Texas, Baron de Ripperda, asked Pacheco to send part of his garrison to help defend San Antonio against hostile Indians. In September 1771 he was required to send the remainder of his men to San Antonio. He left three soldiers with the missionaries to guard the mission, but they too left within several weeks of Pacheco's departure (Castañeda 1939:98).

Although the presidio and mission at El Orcoquisac were abandoned in 1772, the lower Trinity River region continued to be the focal point for activities aimed at halting foreign aggression. On November 30, 1803 Spain returned Louisiana to France. Within a month the United States purchased Louisiana from France. The United States was viewed as an imminent threat to Spanish control of Texas, and plans were formulated to establish military posts and colonies in the lower Trinity region and the areas toward the Sabine River to curtail immigration or aggression (Clay 1977:87-91).

In 1805 Governor Antonio Cordero ordered 50 soldiers under the command of Sergeant Urrutia to El Orcoquisac to halt illegal activities in that area. Smuggling was rife, and horse herds were being driven to Louisiana. Urrutia was also ordered to arrest illegal immigrants, seize all vessels carrying settlers or contraband cargo, and to erect a stockade. After inspecting the El Orcoquisac area, Urrutia rejected it as a viable location and established the post at a spring called Atascosito (near present-day Liberty). He reported that the site was a more favorable spot for the horses and more accessible to the road which led to the Atakapa and Apelusa tribes in Louisiana (Salcedo 1805). Within a few months Captain Geronimo Herrera established a garrison at Atascosito. Three other companies were stationed at Trinidad located at Spanish Bluff on the east bank of the Trinity River (Clay 1977:91-92).

During the first decade of the 19th century, numerous requests were made to the Spanish government for permission to settle the area of Nacogdoches, Atascosito, and El Orcoquisac. Texas land was cheap and plentiful compared to that of the United States, and large numbers of settlers were ready to take advantage of the situation. While many permits were granted, few authorized colonies were established. In 1806 the Spanish government officially closed El Orcoquisac and Atascosito to settlement. In 1808 reports reached Spanish officials that despite the 1806 law many English and French colonists had settled in the area (Clay 1977:95-97).

In January 1818, 400 French exiles sought refuge in Texas. Under the command of Charles Lallemand and Antoine Rigaud, the colonists obtained boats and supplies from Jean Laffite, the pirate who controlled the port of Galveston. They established a civil colony and military fort called Champ d'Asile on the lower Trinity River, probably near present-day Liberty (John Clay, personal

communication). During the latter part of 1818, friendly Indians warned the settlers that Spanish forces were en route to remove them from Spanish territory, and the settlers retreated to Galveston Island. A devastating hurricane struck and killed many of the colonists. Laffite, seeking to be rid of the French settlers, gave the survivors a ship so they could escape to New Orleans (Clay 1977:106-111; Webb 1952:378). On October 29, 1818 the Spanish troops arrived at the abandoned French fortress and destroyed it (Castañeda 1818).

The Mexican Era

On September 28, 1820 the Spanish government decreed that New Spain would accept colonists if certain requirements were met. In July 1821 Texas and Mexico became independent of Spain, causing confusion regarding immigration procedures. In 1823 Stephen F. Austin was granted a contract by the Mexican government to bring 300 families into Texas (Webb 1952:82). The Colonization Law of 1824 allowed acquisition of land through an *empresario*, but in 1830 a new law was passed prohibiting American colonization of Texas (Clay 1977:119-125).

Prior to the 1830 law, *empresarios* Joseph Vehlein, David G. Burnett, and Lorenzo de Zavala had received grants of land comprising the area between the San Jacinto River and the Sabine River. Unable to financially support the endeavor, Vehlein transferred his contract, which included the present-day Wallisville area, to the Galveston Bay and Texas Land Company. After the passage of the 1830 immigration law, the Mexican government refused to recognize the land company and the grants it possessed (Burch 1950:109-113). In 1833 the 1830 law was repealed, and the Galveston Bay and Texas Land Company was allowed to proceed with colonization activities (Harry 1940:13).

In 1826 a census was compiled which listed 331 settlers living in the Atascosito area. The census, which included the E. H. R. Wallis family, was sent to Stephen F. Austin with a request that he incorporate the Atascosito district into his colony (Osburn 1963:301). In the eastern part of Texas, an effective judicial system had not yet been established, and the early settlers had not yet received land titles. Austin had been named land commissioner of his colony by the Mexican government, which allowed him to grant land titles to his colonists. He also possessed broad civil, judicial, and military powers. The benefits of an alliance with Austin's colony would provide the Atascosito settlers with legal ownership of land as well as judicial and military protection. The eastern settlement, however, was never authorized to join Austin's colony (Clay 1977:123-124).

Elisha Henry Robert Wallis, originally from Burke County, Georgia, moved to Louisiana, where he married Sarah (Sally) Barrow in 1814 (Fleischman 1976:214). In the latter part of 1824, the Wallis family journeyed to Texas with Sally's three brothers, Solomon, Reuben, and Benjamin Barrow. In the first week of January 1825 the Wallis family settled at a site just east of present-day Wallisville. Originally known as Wallis Hill, the early homesite became a popular way station for travelers. On an 1837 map drawn by Austin, the settlement was identified as "Wallace" (Harry 1940:23-24).

In 1830 a military post and customs house was established at Anahuac to support the law passed on April 6 of that year which prohibited American settlers from colonizing Texas. Colonel Juan Davis Bradburn, the commander of the post, was to use his garrison to control the flow of immigrants into east Texas and to protect the coast from Point Bolivar to the Sabine River. Land titles were to be negotiated through Bradburn (Clay 1977:126).

Bradburn, originally from Kentucky, was viewed by the settlers as a tyrant, and his actions added to the growing resentment against Mexican authority. In January 1831, José Francisco Madero, Land Commissioner for the State of Texas, arrived in Anahuac to grant land titles to the settlers along the lower Trinity River region and in the area between the Nacogdoches and Sabine Rivers. Bradburn, much to the dismay of the colonists, refused to allow Madero to issue the titles and arrested him for violating the law of April 6, 1830. After considerable political squabbling, Madero was finally allowed to issue 66 titles between March 2 and May 12, 1831, and on May 2, 1832 he granted three other titles (Clay 1977:133-134).

Bradburn continued to antagonize the settlers. He pressed supplies for his garrison and used slaves to build military structures without compensating their owners (Barker 1965:112). In 1832 he arrested several colonists, including Patrick C. Jack and William Barret Travis. Texas colonists from Brazoria, San Felipe, and the Neches and Sabine areas joined together to protest the arrests. The men were eventually released, and Bradburn was replaced by Juan Cortina. Bradburn defected to New Orleans to avoid Santa Ana's regime. The garrison abandoned Anahuac and sailed to Vera Cruz to join Santa Ana (Harry 1940:14-17).

In January 1835 Santa Ana began his campaign to control Texas, and Mexican military forces reestablished Fort Anahuac. Once again Texas colonists rebelled against Mexican authority, and the Mexican forces were driven out of the area (*ibid.*).

Several Texans from the lower Trinity River area took an active part in the subsequent Texas Revolution, including Andrew Briscoe, Dr. N. D. Labadie, and E. H. R. Wallis's son-in-law, James Dunman (Harry 1940:11,19). After the Battle of San Jacinto, General Santa Ana was held prisoner for a short time at the home of Wallis.

Recent History

On August 2, 1858 Chambers County was organized, and Wallisville became the county seat. In 1859 it was granted its first post office, and by 1876 had a population of 200. In 1907 the county seat was moved to Anahuac (Partlow 1974: 145).

IV. HISTORIC SITES INVESTIGATIONS

For purposes of clarity, the historic sites are grouped into the original land grants, surveys, or districts in which they lie. In no case should the historical background of a particular site be considered complete and exhaustive, but we believe the facts presented are accurate. The intent here is merely to identify and trace the essential history of site ownership in order that later historical researchers have a place to begin their work. (For location of historic sites see Fig. 15.)

McMANUS SURVEY: 41 LB 49, McMANUS LANDING

History of the McManus Survey

In 1832 Robert Oson William McManus came to Texas with a letter of introduction to Stephen F. Austin. He found work as a surveyor for several early East Texas *empresarios*. In 1836 he joined the Texas Army and was assigned as a spy for Henry W. Karnes' Cavalry Company. After the battle of San Jacinto, he was awarded 320 acres of land for his army service (*La Grange Journal* 1940:6). In 1838 he married Sarah Isabella Spinks and settled on the Trinity River in the vicinity of Moss Bluff. By 1850 he had five children and had added 95 acres to his original grant (U.S. Census 1850). About this time McManus acquired a fleet of boats with which he transported goods and passengers up and down the Trinity River (*La Grange Journal* 1940:6). The following 10 years saw significant gains in the fortune of the McManus family, and by 1860 they owned 30,100 acres of land worth $13,000 (U.S. Census 1860).

Numerous descendants of R. O. W. McManus still live in the area north of Lake Charlotte.

McManus Landing, 41 LB 49 (Old Fisher Place)

This site was first located by studying an old map of the Trinity River which shows steamboat landings and "plantations" as of 1873 (Howell and Adams 1873). Partlow (1974:199), in her history of Liberty County, also mentions McManus Landing as a steamboat stop on the river. A 1928 Corps of Engineers map still refers to the area as the McManus Farm, although in 1930 the actual site is called the "old Fisher Place" (Work 1930). Over the years the latter name has been gradually adopted; the 1961 USGS quadrangle map (Shiloh) refers to the general area as Fisher Bend, and the McManus name is no longer preserved except in the name of Mac Lake and Mac's Bayou which drain the area to the east of the site.

The site is located on a slight rise at a bend in the Trinity River, 4-3/4 miles upstream from the IH-10 bridge. It is in the tract of land originally granted to R. O. W. McManus.

Archaeological Investigation

The area was reached by boat and examined carefully on foot by the crew. At the time of the survey, the site was swampy and overgrown with brush. A slight

This page has been redacted because it contains restricted information.

elevation at the location where the Fisher house is indicated on the map (Work 1930) supports a number of unusually large trees. Animal burrows in the area yielded a collection of late 19th century and early 20th century artifacts. All artifacts visible on the surface were collected, and the area was inspected for traces of a structure. None were found, except for a few scattered, broken fragments of locally made brick.

Observations

Frequent flooding of the area has eliminated or covered all traces of structures, which might have included the McManus dock, sheds, or other supporting buildings as well as the Fisher house and barn and other farm buildings from that occupation. Local residents noted the house in ruins when camping and fishing on the site in the early 1900s (Octavia La Four, personal communication) but apparently no trace was then visible of the McManus steamboat landing.

The artifacts collected (Fig. 16) are all representative of the Fisher occupation at the turn of the century when yellow-ware bowls and Bristol-glazed crocks and jars were popular. The presence of the locally made brick supports a date of approximately 1880 for the construction of the house. (See brick kiln sites below.)

Recommendations

While this is an interesting example of a 19th-century occupation site, there is no particular historical or structural reason to suggest its adequacy for nomination to the National Register. Periodic flooding has already done as much damage as can be done, and further inundation caused by the reservoir will probably serve only to cover what scant evidence is left.

McFADDIN SURVEY: 41 CH 232, BRICK KILN AND 41 CH 233, McFADDIN MARKER

These sites are located near the J. D. McManus home between Lake Charlotte and Lake Charlotte Road on the north shore of the lake. They are within the original James McFaddin survey.

History of the McFaddin Survey

The early history of the north shore of Lake Charlotte is complex and most difficult to unravel due to the burning of courthouses in both Liberty and Chambers Counties in the 1870s. A combination of family interviews, county tax rolls, and U.S. Census reports have been used to produce the following chronology, against which the archaeological sites can be understood and interpreted.

One of the earliest landowners in the area was James McFaddin, who arrived in Atascosito in 1822 (Partlow 1974:65). In 1831 McFaddin was granted a tract of land north of Lake Charlotte (*ibid.*:75). In 1845, upon the death of their father, James, the four McFaddin heirs divided the Lake Charlotte land evenly among them (JCLR 1845:E317).

Figure 16. *Artifacts from 41 LB 49, McManus Landing.**

a. flown blue transfer pattern on ironstone plate, probably 1880-1890

b. ironstone pitcher fragment, late 19th century molded design

c. white earthenware cup handle, late 19th century design

d. yellow-ware mixing bowl, late 1800s and early 1900s (Raycraft 1975:Plate 16)

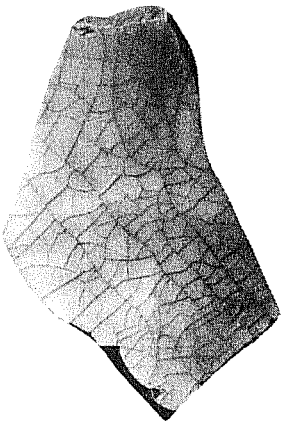
e. lavender bottle base, no marks, snap case device, 1857-1903 (Lorrain 1968:40-43)

f. stoneware crock or churn with Bristol glaze, after 1900

g. olive green wine bottle neck, late 19th century

* All specimens shown actual size

a



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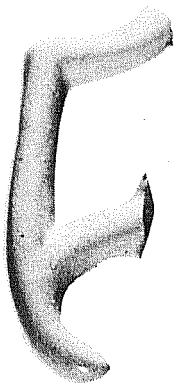

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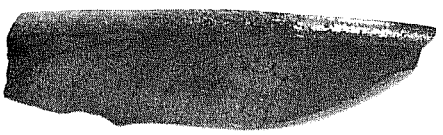

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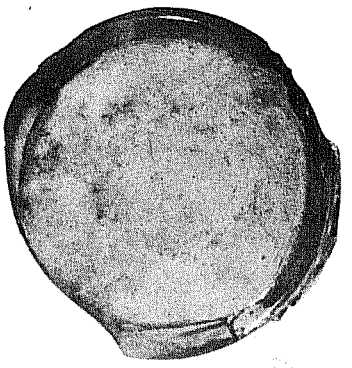

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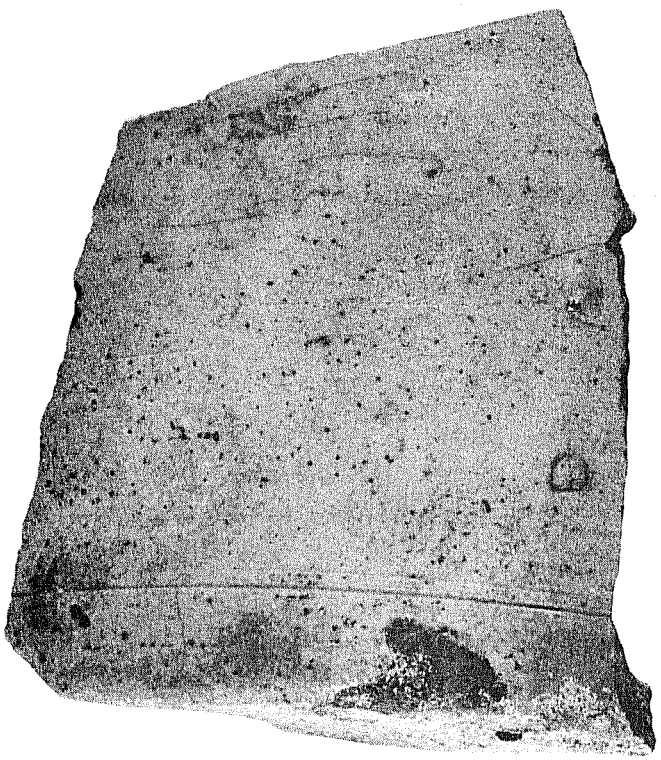

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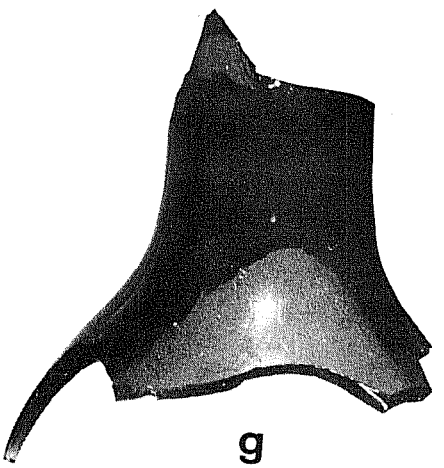

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In 1847 Shadrack Jones and family were first listed on the tax rolls (LCTR 1847) as owning 1,107 acres in the James McFaddin survey. A warranty deed dated February 25, 1848, and filed in 1884 (CCDR 1884:D189), records Jones' purchase of two lots totaling 1,025 acres from David McFaddin and his sister, Eliza Sishon. The 1850 tax rolls (LCTR 1850) list David McFaddin as owning 540 acres in the James McFaddin survey on which he ran stock but did not farm. In this same year, Shadrack Jones is listed as having 1,027 acres in the William McFaddin survey. (The reason for the change in the name of the survey is unclear, but evidently it was changed at this time, and James' name is not mentioned again.)

Shadrack Jones evidently died in 1851 or 1852, as the family property was divided among his three sons, Shadrack, James, and Miller, by 1853. David McFaddin apparently sold out his interest in the survey in 1852 to Shadrack M. Jones (LCTR 1852). By 1860 there are no McFaddins listed in Chambers County, and the Jones' Chambers County property is evenly divided between Miller and James Jones (U.S. Census 1860, Chambers County). At this point, Chambers County had been newly created out of part of Liberty County. The county line ran through the Jones property (the old McFaddin survey), apparently dividing the property of James and Miller on the south from that of Shadrack on the north, since Shadrack was listed from then on in the Liberty County census (U.S. Census 1860, Liberty County).

A portion of the Jones family property in Chambers County was referred to subsequently as the "Old J. J. Jones homestead." Mr. Jones died in 1871 (CCDR 1905:S196). The homestead was sold in 1885 by his daughter to H. C. Carter, who sold it in 1887 to Paul W. Sherman (CCDR 1887:F299-300). Since the Paul Sherman home was located well back from the edge of the lake on the north side of Lake Charlotte Road (Romain Sherman and George Munger, personal communication), it appears that any late 19th-century structures located on Corps of Engineers property on the lake would probably be connected with the Jones family's occupation.

Archaeological Investigation of 41 CH 232, Brick Kiln

The existence of an unidentified "pile of bricks" some distance behind the J. D. McManus residence was called to the survey crew's attention by Dennis and David McManus. The site consisted of a horseshoe-shaped mound of jumbled, broken bricks, slightly higher on the edges and lower in the center. The McManus family told of removing bricks from this pile for road building for a number of years. No one in the family had any idea where the bricks came from or why they were there.

Careful observation of the mound revealed a row of stacked bricks which was cleaned off until it was possible to tell the alignment of the row. Another similar row could be seen, ca. 20 inches to the north of and parallel to the first row. The bricks measured a uniform 4" x 8-3/4" x 2-1/2" and were poorly fired, breaking easily. Color ranged from a pinkish tan to dark gray. Five sides of each brick showed the striations and sharp edges of being pressed in a wooden mold; the sixth was roughly smoothed. There was no mortar between them.

A two-foot wide trench was excavated north-south, perpendicular to these rows. As excavation progressed, an additional row of bricks was uncovered to the south which differed in pattern of arrangement. Further excavation revealed a line of unfired bricks along the south side of this row. A hand-forged nail was found against the base of the south row on the inside of the kiln (Fig. 17). Outside, or south, of the unfired bricks was a mixture of crumbled and broken bricks mixed with soil; this deposit continued to the edge of the mound. No mortar was present in this row. The presence of the unburned brick on the outside of the row confirmed that this was a kiln, rather than merely a stockpile, since Martin (Appendix I) says the local kilns were built of unburned bricks and that the outside layer generally dried but did not burn.

A trench was then excavated to the east, perpendicular to the first trench, to look for remains of the east wall of the kiln (Fig. 18). A machine-cut nail was found while excavating this trench. At the end of a row of stacked brick was found a single row which carried across the openings between the rows and formed a thin barrier or wall. On top of and to the east of this row were groups of bricks which appeared to be collapsed arches. However, the bricks were too jumbled and broken to attempt a reconstruction of this wall.

The bottom layer of bricks rested on dark brown to black sand. Since the natural soil in the area is a tan sandy loam, it appears that the area was merely scraped level and the green bricks stacked on this surface, the walls of the kiln resting on the same surface as the rows of bricks to be fired. From the configuration of the south wall brick pattern, it appears that the walls of the kiln began to arch inward from a point approximately two feet from the bottom of the outer wall. There were not enough courses of brick left on the south wall to determine the arc of the curve.

Observations and Conclusions

This kiln closely resembles those described as in use on Cedar Bayou in the last half of the 19th century. However, its size (ca. 18 feet square with a capacity of perhaps 15,000 to 20,000 bricks) suggests that it was a small-scale undertaking which could have been run by one family for its own use and that of its immediate neighbors. The average mid-19th-century farmhouse in the area had one or two chimneys and sat on brick piers, requiring perhaps a maximum of 5,000 bricks for its construction.

It seems likely that the kiln was built by members of the Jones family sometime around 1852, since at that time they would have been building new homes on their recently acquired property. It would have been more economical to make brick on the place than to haul it in by boat from the kilns on Cedar Bayou.

Recommendations

Located toward the upper end of the proposed reservoir and at an elevation of 20 feet above sea level, the kiln is not threatened by flooding or construction activity. As a rather unique example of an early industry conducted in the

Figure 17. *Artifacts from McFaddin Grant Sites.**

41 CH 232 Brick Kiln:

a. hand wrought nail, probably mid-19th century

b. machine-cut nail, 1830s to ca. 1900

41 CH 233 McFaddin Marker Site:

c. ironstone plate with partial makers mark, not identifiable

d. ironstone plate, probably post-Civil War

e. hand-tooled bottle neck, snap case, 1857-1903 (Lorrain 1968:40-43)

f. hand-tooled bottle neck, see above

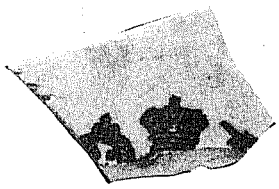
g. cast iron fragment

h. stoneware bowl with Albany slip and salt glaze, ca. 1870-1900

* All specimens shown actual size

a

b



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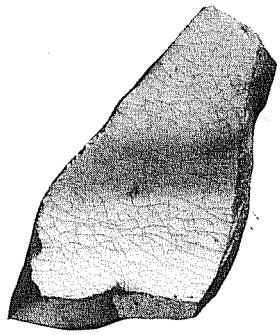

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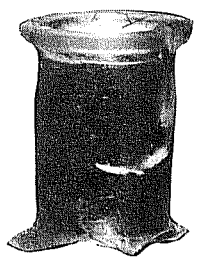

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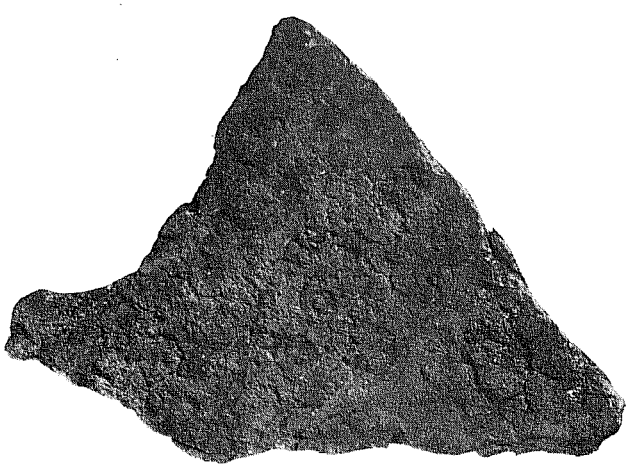

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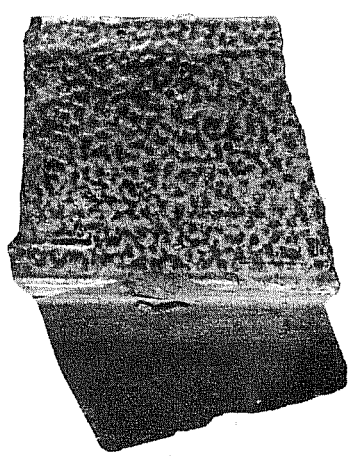

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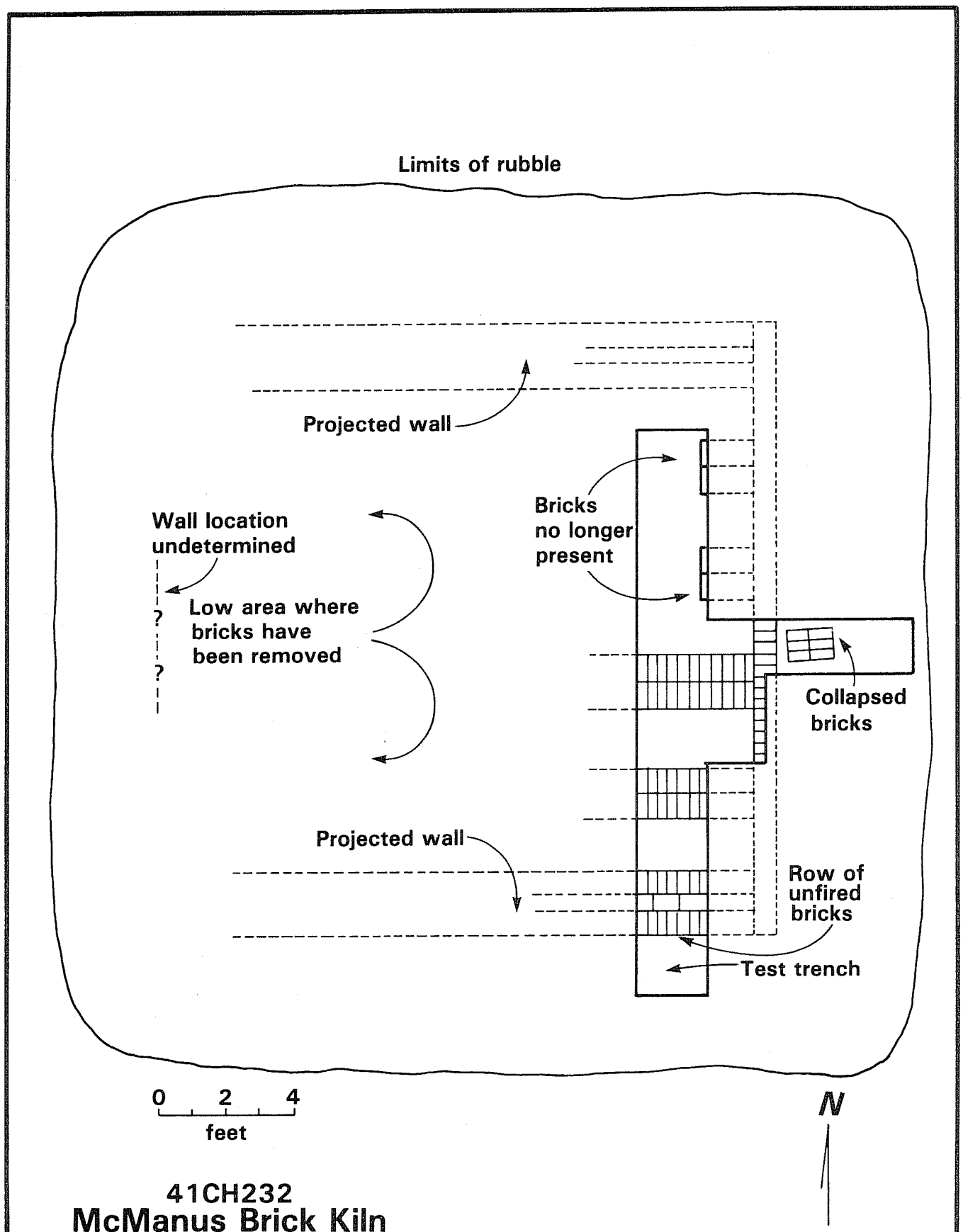


Figure 18. *Map of Site 41 CH 232, McManus Brick Kiln.*

area, it would be of considerable interest to researchers and should be preserved in its present state and protected from further disturbance. Future, more detailed archaeological excavations should be able to establish its exact dimensions and the methods of construction and utilization of the structure. We recommend its nomination to the National Register.

McFaddin Marker, 41 CH 233

Dennis and David McManus guided the crew to the location of a granite marker erected in 1956 on the occasion of the Liberty Bicentennial, commemorating the original homestead of James McFadden (also spelled McFaddin in some places; for the sake of consistency in this report we use the latter spelling). The marker was placed in this particular spot because it was known to be an old house site (Joyce Calhoon, personal communication). The McManus boys reported having found square nails in the vicinity.

Archaeological Investigation

The marker is located ca. 40 meters from the edge of the bluff. The site is overgrown with dense underbrush and trees, and the ground is covered with a thick layer of dead leaves. An intensive surface examination of the area revealed no apparent concentrations of artifacts, nor were there any traces of structural remains anywhere in the vicinity. A thin scattering of *Rangia* shell was observed in the area of the site toward the lake, an indication of the presence of site 41 CH 70 along the edge of the bluff to the southwest (see Fig. 1 and Table 1).

Observations and Conclusions

A number of large trees stand on the site. The few scattered artifacts recovered indicate a date of occupation sometime after the Civil War. Judging from the reconstruction of the ownership of this piece of property, it seems likely that this was the site of the James J. Jones homestead. This would also account for the fact that the location of the house and outbuildings were remembered but the structures were gone by 1956, since the place was probably deserted or only minimally used after 1887 when Paul Sherman bought the property. If this was also the site of the original James McFaddin home, no confirmation is presently visible on the surface. It seems likely that McFaddin would have settled in a more easily accessible spot on the bank of the Trinity River in 1831.

Recommendations

More detailed archival research and intensive archaeology could probably establish whether this site is indeed the spot where James McFaddin built his home. The site is located sufficiently high (20 feet) and far back from the water to protect it from flooding, and it is not endangered by any known construction.

LABADIE SURVEY: 41 CH 62, LABADIE SITE AND 41 CH 234, MUNGER SITE

These sites are located on the N. D. Labadie survey on the northeast shore of Lake Charlotte within an area proposed for a public park. The former site was reported to the crew by W. L. Fullen, who conducted the senior author on a tour of the site previous to the start of the survey. The second site was discovered during a boat survey of Lake Charlotte.

History of the N. D. Labadie Survey

Born in Canada in 1802, Nicolas D. Labadie studied medicine in St. Louis, Missouri while clerking in a store to earn enough to pay his expenses. In 1831 he arrived at Anahuac and was appointed surgeon of the Mexican garrison by Col. Bradburn. He immediately saw the possibilities in the mercantile trade in this rapidly growing town and opened a store in partnership with Charles Wilcox. They continued the business until the start of the Texas Revolution in 1835. Meanwhile, in 1831, Dr. Labadie married Mary Norment, daughter of a local family, and acquired a plantation on Lake Charlotte, which is the property under discussion.

In 1832 Dr. Labadie was appointed, along with Robert N. Williamson ("Three-Legged Willie"), to intervene with Col. Bradburn for the release of the imprisoned colonists, and he later took part in the Anahuac disturbances. He was present at the signing of the Turtle Bayou Resolution in support of the Mexican Constitution of 1824, and volunteered to join the Army of Texan Revolution in 1836. Dr. Labadie was appointed Surgeon, First Regiment of Texas Regulars, accompanying Gen. Sam Houston in the retreat to San Jacinto. During the battle he fought under Gen. Sidney Sherman, at the same time carrying out his duties as Surgeon. After the battle, he also served for a short time as interpreter for Santa Ana.

Returning to Anahuac after the battle of San Jacinto, Dr. Labadie found that his family had fled to the Sabine along with most of the other settlers and had just recently returned. They found their plantation had been pillaged for food by other fleeing citizens, and most of the cattle had been killed. The stock from his store had been supplied to the troops in order to enable them to leave the country, and he never received compensation for it.

Times were bad in Anahuac after the war, and in 1838 Dr. Labadie decided to move his wife and children to Galveston. There in 1839 the family contracted congestive fever, and his wife died, leaving him with three small daughters: Sarah, who was 5; Charlotte, 3; and Mary Cecelia, 5 months old. He took the children to stay with their great-grandmother on his plantation (Labadie 1839), an indication that some of the older members of the family must have remained behind when he and his wife moved to Galveston. (The foregoing information, with one noted exception, was derived from an anonymous, undated summary in the files of the Chambers County Historical Commission.)

The history of the Labadie survey becomes confused at this point. The land continued in Labadie's name until 1848 (LCTR). He is listed as a non-resident

from 1838 to 1847, then in 1848 he was apparently in residence there for a period. The tax rolls for 1849 are not available, and by 1850 Labadie is no longer listed as a landowner on Lake Charlotte. How and when the title reverted to the state is unknown, but the property was acquired in 1869 by J. Coleman Jones through a Letter Patent (CCDR 1903:Q54). Coleman was the son of Miller Jones and the nephew of J. J. Jones, property owners to the north on the McFaddin survey (see above).

Coleman Jones sold the property, including "premises and improvements," to Edward Sherman in 1903 (*ibid.*:Q52-56). According to family tradition (George Munger, personal communication), the Shermans moved into an old house already standing on the property. Soon afterward, in 1905, they built a new house a short distance down the lake shore (41 CH 234), and the land where the old house had stood was eventually put into cultivation. George Munger built a home next to the Sherman house in 1951, and in 1964 he tore down the old house. When the Corps of Engineers purchased the property, the 1951 house and other improvements were removed.

Archaeological Investigation, Labadie Site (41 CH 62) (Fig. 19)

First, a thorough survey of the area was conducted by walking parallel transects across the site east to west and collecting all artifacts on the surface. The sample thus obtained (Table 7) contained prehistoric and historic artifacts from several distinct time periods, suggesting a multicomponent site. No structural remains such as brick piers or rubble were visible. In order to delimit the site deposits, two rows of shovel tests ca. 50 cm in diameter were dug across the terrace, extending to the clay subsoil, which averaged 30 cm below the surface (Fig. 19).

A 1-m^2 test pit was then laid out within the area of heaviest concentration of historic and prehistoric materials. This was excavated in 10-cm levels. The second level of the excavation revealed the outlines of a pit or depression which contained charcoal as well as numerous historic artifacts, many of which appear to have been burned. Finding this deposit was particularly fortunate for obtaining a historic artifact sample from the site, since the rest of the area appears to be sterile of historic materials below the 20-cm level. Since the area where the site is located was plowed and cultivated for many years (George Munger, personal communication), this is probably the depth of the plow zone. As excavation proceeded in Test Pit 1, a second 1-m^2 pit was laid out to the north, leaving a 30-cm balk between. The trash pit appeared to extend through the balk and into the south end of Test Pit 2. Material from the trash pit was removed, screened, and bagged separately. When sterile soil was reached in both pits (see Fig. 20,b), the balk was removed. At this point it was discovered that there were two intersecting pits filled with trash. Careful excavation and separate screening of the contents established that no time difference existed in the filling of the two pits, and that they may have been animal burrows which have accidentally preserved deposits of occupational debris. Other than the noticeable concentration of artifacts in the pit, there was no difference between these materials and those found in the other areas of the first 20 cm of the excavation units.

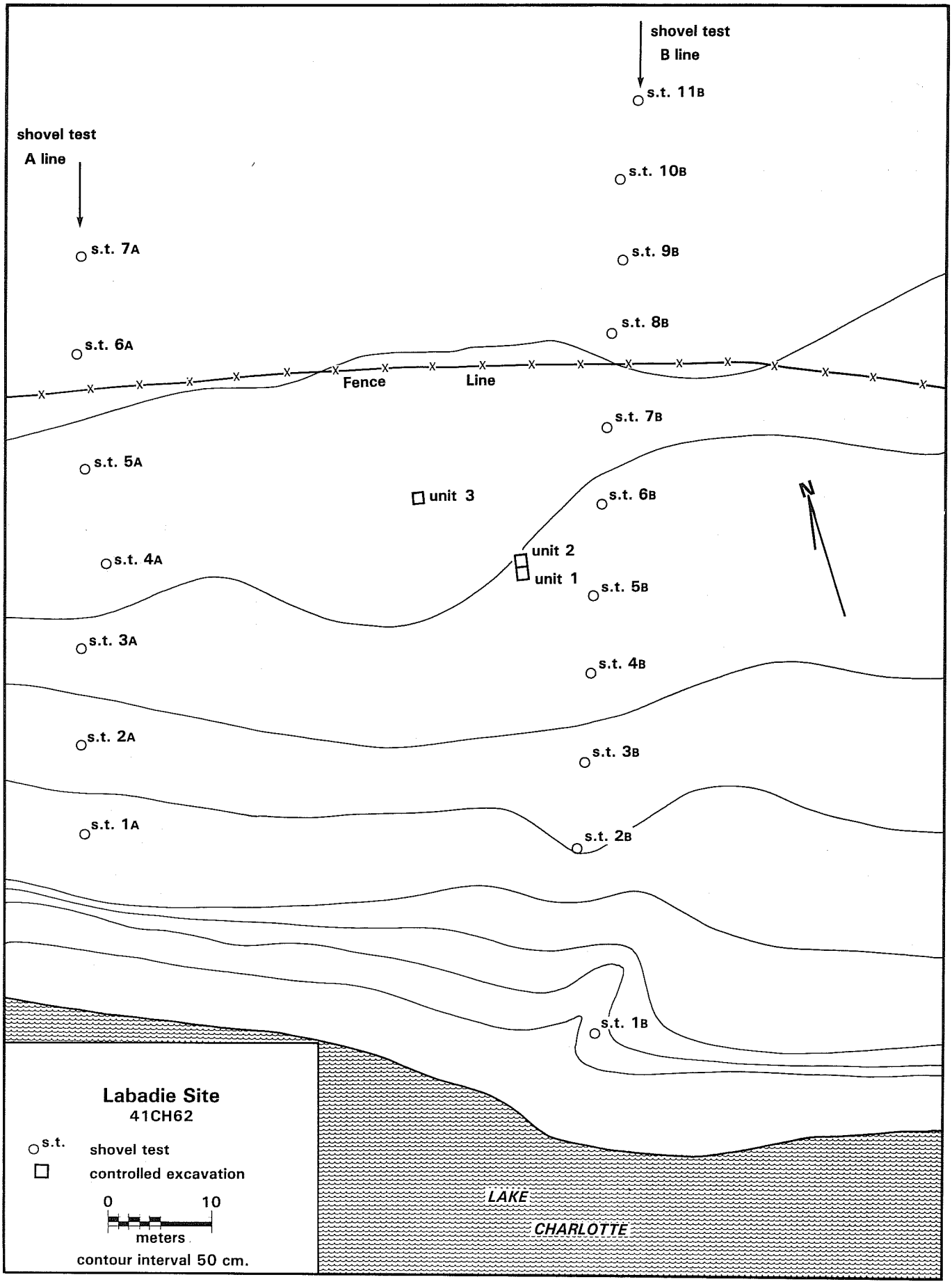
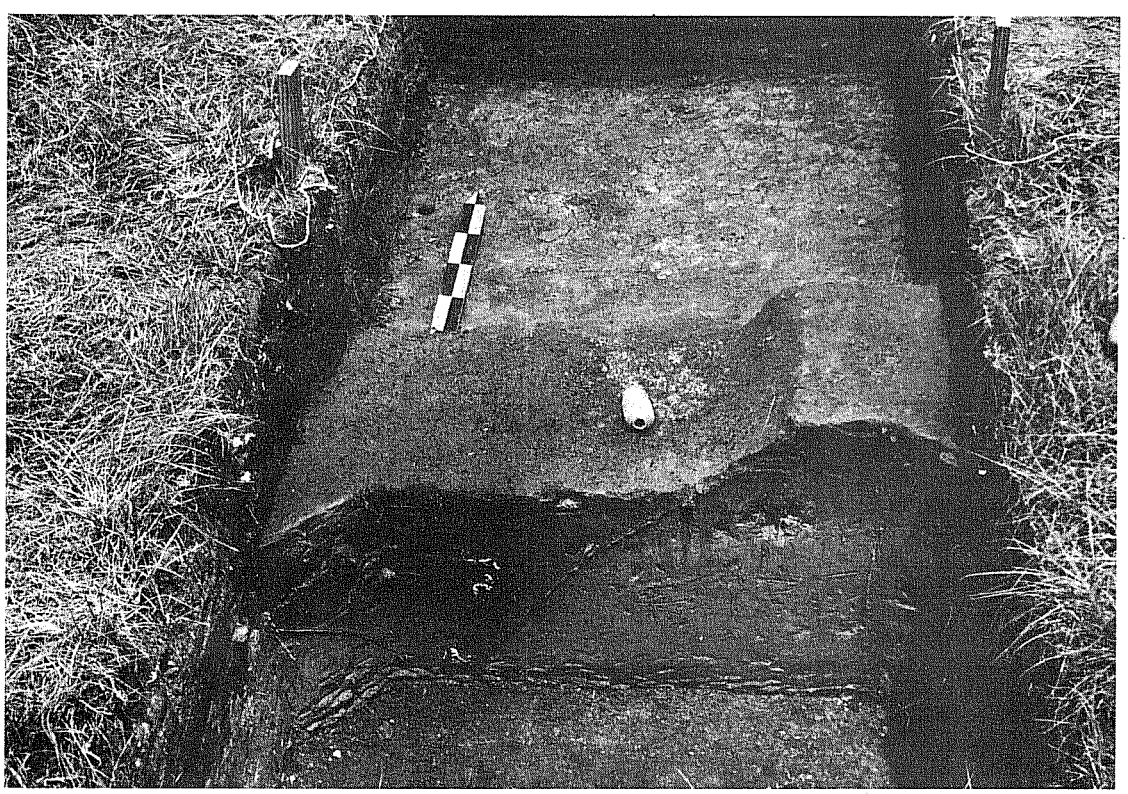


Figure 19. Map of 41CH62, Labadie Site

a



b

Figure 20. *Views of 41 CH 262.* a, view looking west along the top of the terrace. Excavation units 1 and 2 in right center; b, units 1 and 2 from the south, showing outline of trash pit in balk.

TABLE 7. ARTIFACT PROVENIENCE, 41 CH 62

	Historic ceramics											Glass							Metal				Personal objects			
Provenience	Blue hand painted	Polychrome handpainted	Sponged	Transfer	Banded	Flow blue	Molded white	Brown stenciled	Ironstone	Porcelain	Stoneware	Clear to aqua	Brown	Olive green	Dark green	Blue	Pressed	Lamp chimney	Tools	Cast iron	Thin metal	Cutlery	Safety pin	Buckle	Key	Spur rowel
Surface	1		1					1	1	1	2	9		1		1										
Shovel Tests: A-1																					1					
A-2																					1					
A-3									1																	
A-4																										
A-5																										
A-6																										
A-7																										
B-1																					1					
B-2							1																			
B-3												1									1					
B-4																										
B-5									2		1										1					
B-6											1															
B-7											1	1														
B-8																										
B-9																										
B-10																										
B-11																										
Test Pit 1																										
0-10cm						3			27	2	5	50	5	3	3	1		2		2	5					
10-20cm		1		1			1		12	2	5	25	1	3	2	2		1			14					
20-30cm												4														
30-70cm																					STERILE					
Test Pit 2																										
0-10cm	2						1		19	1	3	30	1		1		1	4		1	3		1			
10-20cm	2			2	4				22	2	5	5	10	5				6		1	31				1	
20-30cm																					1					
30-40cm																					2					
Features																										
1 and 2				2	2		3		20	1	3	52		4		2	2	2	1	2	8 3			1		
Test Pit 3																										
0-10cm							1		5		3	2	1	1		1		1			2	1				1
10-20cm				1					5		5	10	2			1	1	5			10					
20-30cm																										
30-40cm																										
	5	1	1	6	6	3	7	1	114	9	34	189	20	17	6	8	4	21	1	6	156	1	1	1	1	1

TABLE 7. (continued)

Personal objects continued														Building materials							Prehistoric ceramics									
																					Temp.		Untemp.							
Harmonica reed	Comb	Doll's tea set	Stick pin	Smoking pipe	Glass buttons	Metal buttons	Shell button	Trigger	Percussion caps	Shotgun shells	Marble	Slate	Brick	Hand forged nails	Machine cut nails	Wire nails	Screws, bolts	Hardware	Window glass	Grog	Sand	Clayey or Silty paste	Sandy paste	Unidentified	Lithics	Conch shell	Burnt clay	Mussel shell (+ = present)	Bone fragments	
																			1	44	8		94	11		1				177
																				3		3			1			+	5	13
																			1	9			13	8	1			+	10	43
																			1	2			1					+		5
																							1	4				+		5
																				1			6	6				+		13
																							4	1					5	10
																							1	1				+		2
																							11	2					11	25
																														1
																							12	22				+	7	43
															1								6	1						8
																		1		1										6
															1	1							1	1						5
																							1							3
																												+		
																												+		
1												3			46				25				23	30	1		12	+	33	282
						2						3		1	7	4			9				15	6	4		32	+	72	225
																							5	1				+	2	12
									1	3		5			24	2			4				5	12	2			+	29	153
			1		2					1					99		2	1	9				39	42	1			+	70	363
													1		2								10	7			2	+	9	32
															5													+		7
	1	2			3			1	1	2		5	3		98			1	5				21				9	+	80	412
				1								1	1		14		1						28	13	1			+	36	117
						1	1				1	9			25	4			5	3			47	25				+	83	244
																			1			1	19	3				+	10	34
																				2								+	1	3
1	1	2	1	1	5	3	1	1	2	6	1	26	5	1	322	11	3	3	61	65	8	4	363	196	11	1	55		463	2243

After careful observation of the terrain and the results of the shovel testing, a third 1-m^2 test pit was located on the top of the rise in an attempt to find traces of the house which stood on the place when Edward Sherman bought the property from Coleman Jones at the turn of the century. Although a number of interesting artifacts were found, including one small fragment of brick, no structural remains were revealed.

The Historic Artifacts (Figs. 21-23)

Since there is no stratification in the historic deposits due to frequent plowing and animal disturbance, other means must be used to determine dates of occupation. The artifactual evidence indicates two discrete time periods (and therefore possibly locations), one in the 1830s and 1840s, and one in the 1870s to early 1900s. The earlier occupation is represented by gaily decorated earthenwares, a bottle base made by the technology of the early 1800s, numerous cut nails and one hand-forged one, and two types of percussion caps from weapons popular at that time but seldom seen in the area after 1870. The later period is represented by a large collection of undecorated ironstone sherds, glassware, a buckle patented in 1881, cut nails and the presence of a few wire nails, and a fragment of a type of tobacco pipe in use in the late 19th century (Table 7).

Vertebrate Remains (Table 8)

A total of 499 fragments of bone was recovered from three test pits and a series of shovel tests at 41 CH 62, a middle to late 19th-century shell midden site. Burned bone comprised 39% of the recovered fragments (194 pieces). Forty-one pieces were recovered from Feature 1, and 11 (27%) of those were burned.

Of the total recovered bone from this site, 75 elements (15%) were identifiable at least to vertebrate class. The majority of the identifiable material (76%) were mammals, with pig being the most common mammal represented. The 26 elements of *Sus scrofa* yield an MNI of only one individual. None of the suid elements had been burned, and they represent the non-meaty parts of the animal, i.e., skull, backbone, and feet. The 12 elements listed as large mammal are too fragmentary to determine species reliably.

Bos taurus is the other domesticate represented in this sample. The nature of an incisor enamel fragment and the size of a tibia shaft again indicate an immature individual. The other element is a broken tooth which is too fragmentary to assess maturity.

Deer, probably white-tailed deer, is native to Chambers County and was undoubtedly an abundant game animal along tree-lined creeks in the area. Both forequarters and hindquarters are evident in the recovered material, although there is a minimum of one individual present. Two forequarter elements (a left radius and a right humerus) were burned. Only two fragmentary deer teeth were recovered, both from Unit 3-2. At least one mature individual (e.g., fused distal radius) and one sub-adult (e.g., unfused calcaneum) are represented.

Figure 21. *Ceramics from 41 CH 62, Labadie Site.**

a. blue transfer pattern on pearlware plate, before Civil War in Texas

b. black transfer pattern on pearlware plate, before Civil War

c. red transfer pattern on pearlware plate, before Civil War

d. red sponged design on pearlware plate, before Civil War

e. blue hand-painted design on pearlware bowl, early 19th century

f. brown bands on pearlware mug, early 19th century

g. ironstone plate, probably post Civil War

h. gold-banded porcelain cup, late 19th century

i. flown blue design on pearlware plate, 1825-1860 (Ray 1974:69)

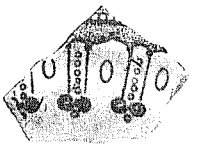
j. brown stenciled design on earthenware plate

k. stoneware with green hand-painted design

l. porcelain fragment of doll's tea pot

* All specimens shown actual size

a



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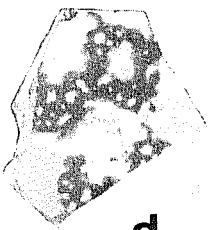

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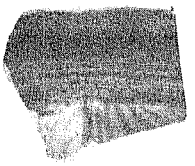

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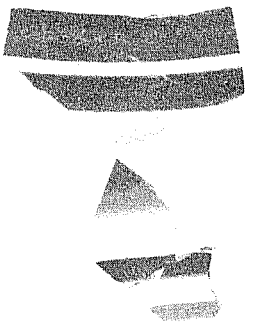

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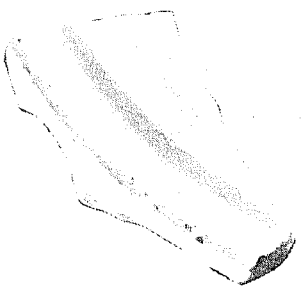

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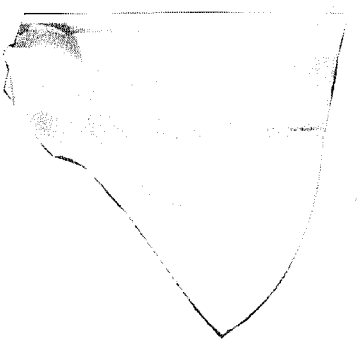

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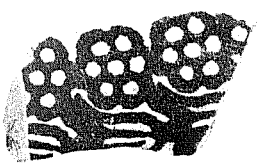

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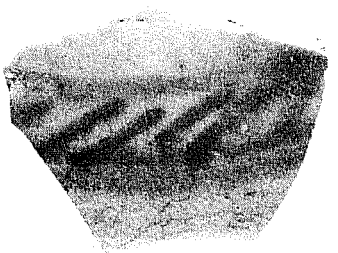

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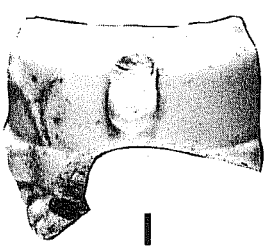


l

Figure 22. *Artifacts from 41 CH 62, Labadie Site.*

a. piecrust button, 1840-1880 (Schuetz 1969:40)

b. plain white porcelain button, post-1840 (*ibid.*)

c. percussion cap for pistol in use ca. 1840-1860 (Sam Nesmith, personal communication)

d. percussion cap for musket in use ca. 1840-1860 (*ibid.*)

e. copper-headed tack with iron shaft

f. gold-washed stick pin or scarf pin, popular ca. 1890-1910

g. ceramic marble, 1884-ca. 1918 (Randall 1971: 103)

h. ceramic pipe fragment, salt glaze, post-Civil War (Wilson 1966:Figure 5H)

i. metal button

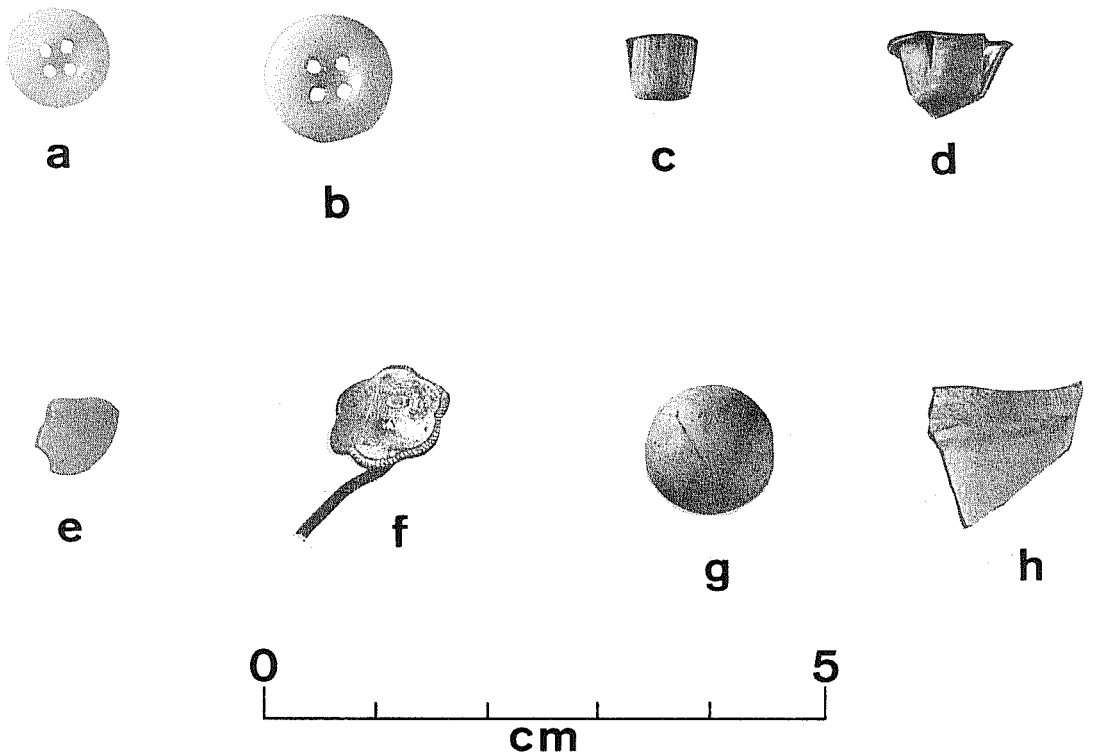
j. patented buckle, dated 1881

k. composition comb fragment

l. key fragment

m. spur rowel

n. trigger


a
b
c
d
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f
g
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5
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i
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Figure 23. *Glass and Metal Artifacts from 41 CH 62, Labadie Site.**

a. pale blue molded glass vessel

b. pale aqua bottle base, free blown, early 19th century (Lorrain 1968:36)

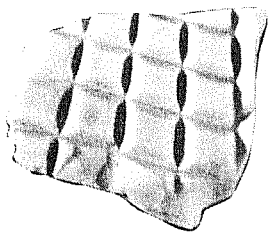
c. clear glass bottle neck, hand tooled, ca. 1850-1880 (*ibid.*:40)

d. aqua condiment bottle, mold made, ca. 1880-1900

e. metal fork

f. hand-wrought iron hinge

* All specimens shown actual size



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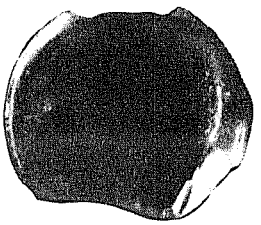

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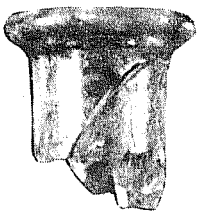

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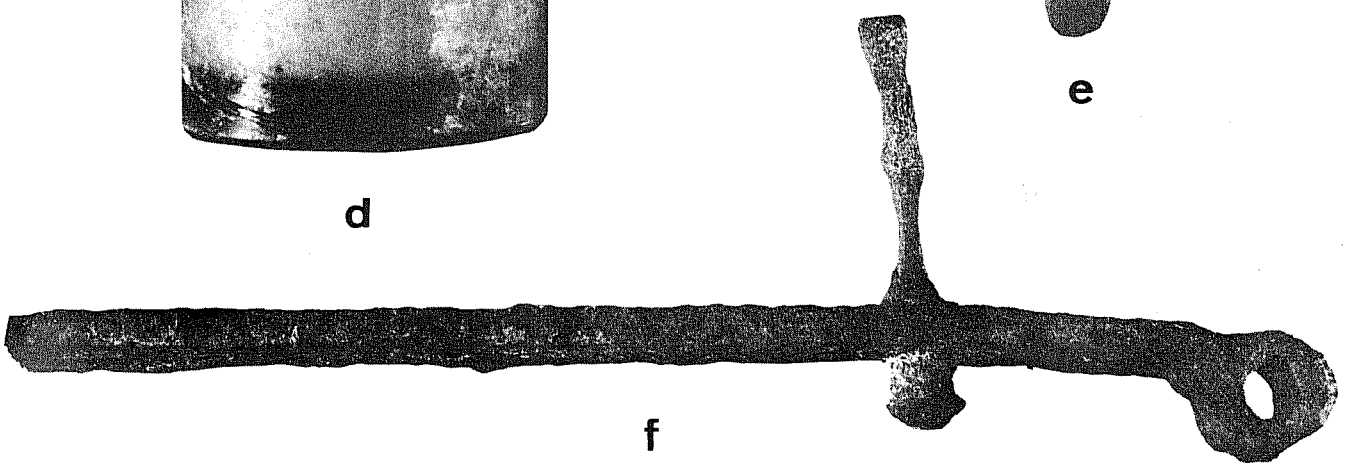

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TABLE 8. IDENTIFIED VERTEBRATES FROM 41 CH 62

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
Black-tailed jackrabbit	*Lepus californicus*	3	1	4%
Plains pocket gopher	*Geomys bursarius*	1	1	1%
Pig	*Sus scrofa*	26	1	35%
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	13	2	17.5%
Bovid	*Bos taurus*	3	1	4%
Large mammal		10		13.5%
Total Mammal		56		76%
Duck sp.	cf. *Anas* sp.	2	1	2.7%
Total Bird		2		2.7%
Box turtle	*Terrapene* sp.	1	1	1%
cf. Red-eared turtle	*Chrysemys scripta*	2	1	2.7%
Turtle sp.		2	1	2.7%
Total Reptile		5		7%
Alligator gar	*Lepisosteus spatula*	2	1	2.7%
Gar sp.	*Lepisosteus* sp.	4	1	5%

TABLE 8. (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
Catfish sp.	*Ictaluridae*	1	1	1%
Drum sp.	*Sciaenidae*	1	1	1%
cf. Eel sp.	*Anguilliform*	1	1	1%
Fish sp.		2		2.7%
Total Fish		11		15%

Total Bone Recovered 499

Total ID Bone 74

% ID 15%

(Total Burned 194 or 39%)

(ID Burned 7)

(% ID Burned 9 %)

Feature 1 contained only two identifiable elements: a metapodial condyle from a deer and a third phalanx of a pig.

Chambers County is beyond the current distribution boundary for black-tailed jackrabbit according to Davis (1974), although Burt (1952) and Olsen (1964) include Chambers County within range in their publications. These elements (a broken scapula, a molar, and a burned calcaneum) are too big to be swamp rabbit.

Pocket gopher is also indigenous to this area and should probably be considered intrusive in this case.

Birds are represented by two elements best identified as belonging to the surface-feeding ducks, *Anatinae*, which prefer shallow waters such as marshes and ponds (Peterson 1960). Most of these ducks frequent Texas in the winter as migrants except for the mottled duck (*Anas fulvigula*), which is a year round resident along the coast (*ibid.*).

Turtles are the only reptiles from this sample and consist of one carapace fragment from a box turtle (either *Terrapene ornata* or *T. carolina*) and a long bone and marginal bone from a large turtle of the *Chrysemys* family, probably the common red-eared turtle. Both species are prevalent in Chambers County.

The identified species of fish are freshwater types that can tolerate brackish waters. At least two species of gar are identified as alligator gar and probably a large longnose gar. A drum otolith from Unit 3-1 could be from either the black drum, a marine species, or the common freshwater drum; however, the relatively small size of the otolith would favor the smaller freshwater species. A large vertebra centrum most closely resembles the flathead catfish, but large blue catfish are also native to this area (Hubbs 1976).

A fin spine from a large carp (identified by Dr. Paul Parmalee) was recovered from the surface. This species was introduced from Asia via Europe to North America in the 1870s or 80s (Zim and Shoemaker 1956) and quickly spread throughout U.S. waterways.

Of the identified mammals, only one element of deer (a left humerus) and the tibia shaft of the immature bovine showed butchering marks. The deer humerus had four light cuts (V-shaped in cross-section) and two deeper notches cut towards the distal end at an angle. These two groups of cuts were made just above the elbow joint, possibly in order to cut the strong tendons at that junction. These cuts resemble those found on deer bone from prehistoric sites, but the instrument used to make the cuts is indeterminable. By contrast the tibia shaft was cut by a saw which smoothly removed both articular ends.

Unit 3-2 yielded four large mammal fragments bearing alteration marks. One triangular fragment has a notch resulting from three to four V-shaped cuts made obliquely into the bone. Two fragments have worn spiral fractures with light cuts near the tip of one and deeper cuts on the tip of the other. One other fragment shows much gnawing and/or notching at one end and a smooth, shiny flattened point at the other end. This piece is oblong in cross-section,

and part of the tip is missing due to an old break. The opposite end is more round in cross-section and has an overall smaller circumference than the point. It is difficult to determine whether the gnaw/notch marks at this end were made by animals after the bone was used as a tool or whether the notches were made for hafting the point.

Observations and Conclusions

The overwhelming predominance of sandy paste untempered ceramics and a few examples of clayey or silty untempered sherds in the site suggests that there may have been periodic occupations over quite a period of time before the Spanish arrived. The red-filmed variety has been dated by Gilmore (1974:5) and Aten (1979) at A.D. 600 to 1400, and the grog-tempered ware was in use from about A.D. 1000 to European contact (*ibid.*). The only diagnostic lithic artifact present was a *Perdiz* arrow point (Fig. 3), which is consistent with the ceramic dates at ca. A.D. 1000 to 1500 (Suhm, Krieger, and Jelks 1954:504).

There are several possible explanations for the lumps of burned clay which were found. The fragments range from 50 cm to 1 cm in diameter, and no clear impressions of sticks or grass could be detected which would suggest jacal-type structures of sticks and mud. They could be merely remnants of burned hearth areas where fires were built on the natural sandy-clay surface. Two small stone fragments, one of quartzite 5 to 6 cm in diameter, and one of sandstone 1.5 x 2.5 cm, have smoothed faces suggesting that they may have been parts of grinding stones, but the pieces are too small to make a positive identification.

Although no artifacts such as glass trade beads or gun parts were found on the site, it is possible that this was one of the camp sites of the Orcoquisac in the 17th and 18th centuries. More intensive excavations over a larger area would help to confirm or reject this supposition.

The analysis of the historic artifacts indicates the brief occupation of the site in the 1830s and 1840s, probably by the Labadie family. This was followed by a period of abandonment, a longer occupation in the late 19th century by the Coleman Jones family, and the brief Sherman occupation while they were building a new home nearby.

Recommendations

This site, along with 41 CH 63, which appears to be actually a continuation of the site to the north along the lake shore, is one of the largest and most promising sites within the reservoir for yielding information on the aboriginal inhabitants of the area.

The historical importance of the site lies not so much in remaining structures, for there may well be none left, but in its connection with a man of historical importance and its early date. We recommend, therefore, that 41 CH 62 and 41 CH 63 be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. When plans are drawn to make the area into a public park, care should be taken to leave

the sites as undisturbed as possible, and where disturbances are necessary, mitigation should be done to recover both prehistoric and historic information.

The rise in the water level due to the proposed reservoir will undoubtedly increase erosion in this area, as natural wave action is intense on this shore of the lake. The water will extend to the base of the bank, causing undercutting and collapse. The results of occasional flooding from storms are evident in collapsing areas of bank and shells strewn along the beach above the present water level. It is essential that action be taken to protect the bank from this erosion or the site will be badly damaged.

Archaeological Investigation, Munger Site (41 CH 234)

Survey was limited to surface examination of the area, noting the concrete block piers which had held the George Munger house, a cattle guard, concrete slabs, and other 20th-century improvements. Also present are numerous other trees and shrubs in the vicinity of the Sherman house built in 1905, although there are no structural remains of the house visible today.

Recommendations

Since this site contains no structures of particular historical or architectural significance, no further investigations are recommended. If the area is to be developed into a public park, we suggest marking the site with an appropriate sign indicating the Sherman and Munger family ownership.

ORCOQUISAC HISTORIC DISTRICT

In July 1971 a Historic District was officially designated by the National Register of Historic Places. This District includes the site of Blancpain's trading post and the first presidio-mission complex, the second site of the mission, and the second site of the presidio, along with a number of historic and prehistoric Indian campsites located in the same area (National Register 1971). The prehistoric sites which are not directly related to the historic Spanish sites are reported by Day in Section II.

The area is densely overgrown except where cattle keep the growth grazed down. The land is fairly low and level for a considerable distance at the western end of the south shore of the lake, then slopes upward about 10 feet to a low hill upon which the second site of the mission was built. The land continues at this elevation around the balance of the south and southeast shores of the lake to where the second site of the presidio was located. The area is crossed east-west by a number of pipeline easements, one of which crosses 41 CH 57 and runs between 41 CH 54 and the lake.

The intent of the investigations has been to establish as accurately as possible the northern boundary of each of the sites in the District, and to determine what possible effects the proposed reservoir would have on each. In order to do this, intensive research in primary archival sources and other materials has

been imperative. In addition to archival materials made available to us by John Clay, copies of recently discovered Spanish documents in the San José Mission Research Library have been obtained and utilized. These include a series of letters and reports concerning the maintenance of the presidio and its personnel from 1760 to 1763, part of which is an interesting inventory of goods being delivered to the presidio. Also included is a detailed inventory of the remaining goods belonging to the mission eight days after it had been badly damaged by a hurricane on September 4, 1766. Not only have these new documents helped in recreating the history of the Spanish complex; they also provide important information on the material culture of the times and aid in interpretation of evidence found in the archaeological investigations.

Later archival documents and reputable secondary sources have helped to trace the 19th-century history of the District and to explain some of the evidences of later occupation which are present. However, a great deal more can be done along these lines by future researchers. For instance, a large part of the Historic District lies within the Thomas Rankin survey. An early map (Thompson 1828) and the Atascosito Census of 1826 (Osburn 1963:314) locate James Miller and his family (for whom the lake was first named Miller's Lake) on the south shore of Lake Miller in the early 19th century. This is confirmed by early land records (General Land Office 1964:86), which further locate Miller in what would become the Rankin survey by 1844. So far, the site of the Miller homestead has not been identified. For the purposes of delimiting the areas of occupation and assessing the need for protection for the sites, primary emphasis was placed on the portions of the sites which are closest to the reservoir.

Presidio San Agustín de Ahumada, 41 CH 57

History

The early history of this site is covered in detail in Section III. Although the site is generally referred to by the name of the presidio, it is actually composed of a number of sites in one location. When Joseph Blancpain built his trading post there, he probably chose the shell mound because it would afford good drainage in wet weather, not realizing that it had been a prehistoric camp site. Lt. Marcos Ruiz dutifully established the presidio "on the site of" the trading post, in the same manner as Presidio Nuestra Señora de Loreto had been built on the site of La Salle's Fort St. Louis in 1722 (Peña 1935:64-65). The missionaries' house and church were apparently located nearby, perhaps on the slightly elevated area 30 m to the east of the presidio (Fig. 24). Judging from artifacts recovered during testing of the site in 1970 (author's personal observation), an early Anglo-American settler also found the spot a likely place to live. Ceramics similar to those found on the Labadie site point to an early 19th-century occupation. There are also late 19th-century artifacts on the surface, probably left by the William Cooper family who lived in the area at the turn of the century (Octavia La Four, personal communication).

This page has been redacted because it contains restricted information.

Archaeological Investigations

The site is located on a low mound on what was once the southwest shore of Lake Miller. The mound contains a prehistoric shell midden. The lake has silted-in rapidly in recent years; according to local informants it once had a clean, sandy bottom in this area. In the 18th century the site was actually on the lake shore. The area is overgrown with a tangle of weeds, trees, vines, and undergrowth which is relieved only where several pipeline easements are cleared and mowed regularly.

In order to establish the northern limits of the site, documentary evidence was examined for information as to the general size and plan of the Spanish presidio and mission as they were first built. No drawings of the layout of this site have so far been located, nor do any complete descriptions or inventories exist. Certain clues can be found, however, in the reports and correspondence of the period, which help toward a theoretical reconstruction.

The accounts of the confrontation between Pacheco and Ruiz in 1764 mention the plaza, the captain's quarters, the presidial church (possibly the first mission church), the store, and the barracks adjoining the captain's quarters (Bolton 1970:370-371). This sounds very similar to the plan of the second presidio as seen on the Urrutia map (Fig. 25). Therefore, it seems reasonable to presume that the first presidio may have occupied a site of the same general size as the second, which was approximately 8,000 square meters (Tunnell and Ambler 1967:Fig. 2).

During the winter of 1969-70, members of the Houston Archeological Society, under the direction of W. L. Fullen, conducted extensive surface collecting and limited subsurface testing on 41 CH 57. The area was mapped and a grid laid out so that the entire site lies in the southeast quadrant (that is, each point within the site bears a south and an east designation), with the zero point some 30 m to the northwest of the edge of the bank (Fig. 24).

The testing in 1970 located what appears to be a prepared shell layer into which postholes had been dug about 55 m south of the lake shore. Surface collections carried out in 1967 and 1970 revealed Spanish and French ceramics concentrated primarily in an area 10 to 60 m south of the shore line (W. L. Fullen, personal communication). Since this area contains some noticeable elevations on the topographic map, it seems likely that the Spanish presidio/mission and, therefore, the French trading post were located there.

With the above information in mind, it became apparent that the embankment at the edge of the old lake and the swampy area to the north might yield information useful in determining the location of the wharf and the French ship which were located somewhere adjacent to the presidio, as related in Section III of this report. The following concerted program of testing was then carried out, with the help of a number of members of the Houston Archeological Society and interested local volunteers.

A series of six 30-cm diameter shovel tests were dug along the top of the bank. Each test was excavated through or deeply into the shell midden deposit which covers this part of the site. All soil removed was screened through 1/4-inch

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mesh; observations were recorded on soil color, texture, and content, and artifacts were bagged for analysis.

A total of 37 unidentifiable prehistoric sherds, 4 grog-tempered sherds, and 37 sandy paste sherds was recovered from the shovel tests. One flake fragment and one primary flake were the only lithics found. One small lump of burned clay was also recovered. Faunal remains recovered are described below.

The only Spanish artifacts found were two sherds of blue-on-white majolica, four fragments of a heavily patinated green bottle, and part of a metal buckle (Fig. 26). The sherds were collected from the surface in the general area of the core testing; the bottle came from Shovel Test 3 and an animal burrow nearby, and the buckle was 10 cm below the surface of the swamp between and to the north of Shovel Tests 3 and 4.

Systematic corings ca. 4 inches in diameter were taken on north-south grid lines 10 m apart through the swamp just north of the bank, in order to determine the make-up of the deposits located there and the depth of the original sandy lake bottom (see Fig. 24). A search was also conducted for remains of the Blancpain sloop and the presidio wharf mentioned in the Spanish documents. The depth of corings varied, averaging 60 cm. Sand was found beneath dark-gray-to-brown silty clay deposits at approximately 60 to 100 cm below the ground level at the top of the bank. No evidence was found of sloop and/or wharf in these corings.

A test survey was conducted with a magnetometer in the low-lying area at the north side of site 41 CH 57 where it is thought that some remains of Joseph Blancpain's boat may exist. The purpose of the test survey was to assess the feasibility of conducting a full-scale magnetometer survey of the area.

The instrument used was a cesium alkali vapor magnetometer with an accuracy of ±0.1 gamma, or, in other words, with the capability of measuring the earth's magnetic field with an error of only two parts in a million. This is about 10 times more accurate than the commonly used proton precession magnetometer.

Using the grid described above, eight lines with marks every meter were positioned at 10-m intervals. The lines, normally 10-m long, extended from the old river bank north into the low-lying area. At each grid mark a "low" (20 cm above surface) and a "high" (160 cm above surface) magnetometer reading were taken. "Low" readings provide better resolution of buried ferromagnetic objects, but they are more sensitive to surface trash.

Specific questions addressed in the test survey were:

1. Is the resolution of the magnetometer sufficient?

2. Is magnetic interference a problem?

3. What field procedures would be appropriate for a full-scale survey?

Answers to these three questions, in light of the test survey results, are given below.

Figure 26. *Spanish and Indian Artifacts.**

a. bead, blue, Harris No. 13 (Harris and Harris 1967:140) from 41 CH 103

b. bead, blue, Harris No. 11 (*ibid.*) from 41 CH 22 area

c. blue-on-white majolica from 41 CH 57

d. blue-on-white majolica from 41 CH 57

e. green glass bottle with heavy gold patina from 41 CH 57

f. green glass bottle with heavy gold patina from 41 CH 57

g. molded brass buckle from 41 CH 57

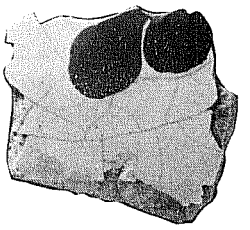
h. modified conch shell tool from 41 CH 62

* All specimens shown actual size

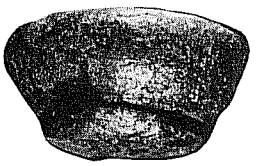
a

b

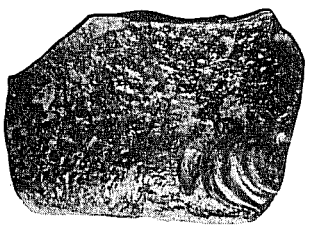
c



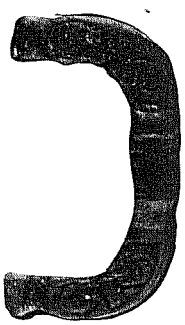
d



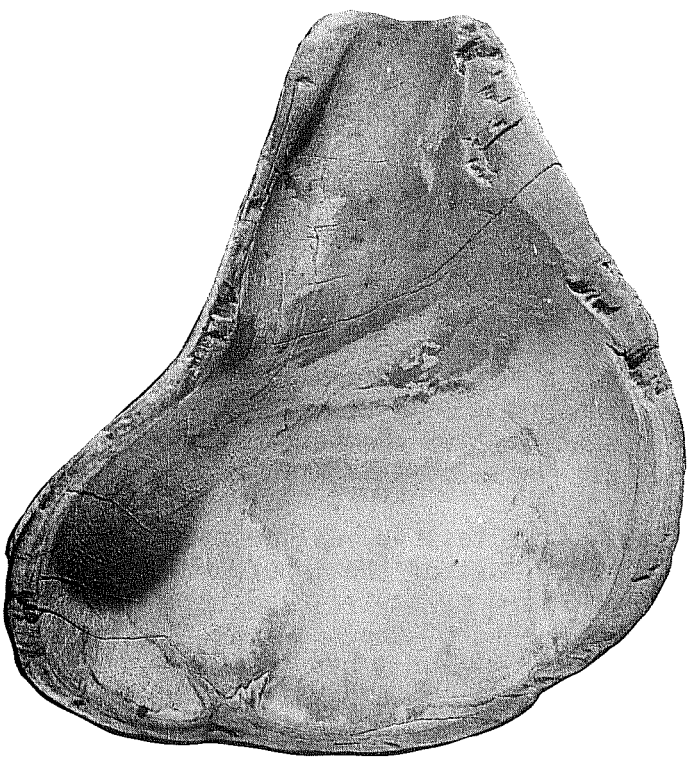
e



f



g



h

Resolution. Whether an object can be detected depends upon its depth of burial, size, and ferromagnetic content. In this case, it is difficult to draw any substantive conclusions as to detectability because the level of the water bottom during the French/Spanish period has not been ascertained. Large and/or massive iron objects such as a cannon or cannon ball would certainly be detectable at the expected level (a depth of 1 m or so). Also, a concentration of small items, such as nails, might be detectable. The detectability of small individual items is questionable.

The following gives an example of the capability of the magnetometer used. An iron stake, several centimeters in diameter and standing approximately vertical (the most difficult position for detection), was discovered at grid position S4.7/E50.5 (see Fig. 24). The top of the stake was 35 cm below the surface, and metal locators produced no indication of it at all. The magnetometer, however, measured an anomaly which in size was more than a meter in diameter at the surface and whose peak value of almost 500 gamma is about 5000 times the resolution of the instrument.

Interference. There was considerable interference caused by modern junk scattered on the surface in the western third of the area surveyed. Few meaningful results were obtained for that area. There also may be some buried modern objects such as the stake mentioned above.

Another problem is the nearby pipelines, which distort the magnetic field over the entire area surveyed. In particular, the magnetic contours are aligned east-west, parallel to the pipelines. However, this distortion is fairly predictable, varies smoothly and is not extremely large except in the immediate vicinity of the pipelines. If properly taken into account, it should not be a hindrance.

No interference was noticed from power lines, antennas, or magnetic soil components.

Recommendations for field procedures. The modern junk must be removed from the surface prior to survey; a metal detector can aid in this task. Magnetometer readings should be taken on a grid of no larger than 1 m^2, with anomalies, when discovered, being located precisely. The grid should be laid out ahead of time to make maximum use of the magnetometer. Readings should be taken at a fixed "low" distance above the surface; the "high" readings, as taken in the test survey, are not needed if all the surface trash is removed.

In summary, the test survey has indicated that a full-scale magnetometer survey is feasible. Most of the interference problems encountered in the test survey can be minimized or neutralized by proper preparation of the survey area and proper processing of the readings. A relatively fine grid spacing is recommended for the measurements in order to obtain desired details; this can, with adequate planning, be accomplished quite efficiently.

Using the grid laid out for the other testing, a metal locator survey was conducted over the area. The locators used were a Heath Kit Metal Locator and a Coinmaster 5000/D GEB Metal Detector. Readings were plotted on charts, using a graduated scale of dots which corresponded to intensity. Metal artifacts thus located were recovered for analysis. These were, with one exception, nails, tin cans, and barbed wire recently deposited by local fishermen. One

Spanish artifact, a buckle fragment (Fig. 26,g), was recovered by this method near the location of a previous test trench and probably from the backdirt of this effort. The range of the detectors probably did not extend deeply enough to respond to articles on the 18th-century lake bottom.

Vertebrate Remains (Table 9)

A total of 371 bone fragments was recovered from shovel tests and core samples made at 41 CH 57, a Spanish presidio on a shell midden. Forty-eight percent (179 elements) were identified at least to vertebrate class. A small percentage (6%) of the recovered bone was burned; only 8 fragments from the identified materials were burned. Of these identified burned bone, all but one fragment were fish.

Fish remains constitute 89% of the total identifiable sample. This high frequency is due to the presence of 110 alligator gar scales. Evidence of alligator gar was recovered from every testing unit except E89/S20 and E99/S20. Four of these large scales had been burned, and one sculptured cranial element was charred. Other gar scales were too fragmentary to be identified as *L. spatula*; however, several scales from E40/S13 were decidedly too small for alligator gar and probably represent at least one individual of a smaller gar species, i.e., longnose gar or spotted gar, which are native to Gulf drainage areas (Eddy 1957).

Other identified fish included a cranial element (quadrate) resembling the type found in the sheepshead, a marine relative of the drum known to be "a common inshore sports fish" (Hoese and Moore 1977:200). The other quadrate is much larger and probably belongs to one of the large Sciaenids, i.e., black drum, spotted weakfish, or "channel base." Each of these large fish (3 to 5 feet) often enter shallow bays of the Gulf (Hoese and Moore 1977).

One turtle shell fragment out of seven had been burned. It is a thick fragment from an unidentified species. At least two individual turtles are represented by two neural bones of different thicknesses.

Only 13 mammal bones were identified, comprising 7% of the total identified sample. Eight elements from at least one deer accounted for most of the mammalian remains, and these elements are from non-meaty portions, i.e., feet, skull, and spine. Only one deer tooth fragment was recovered, and the amount of wear on this fragment suggests a deer approximately 1.5 years old at death. One of two fragments from a deer axis (second cervical vertebra) had two cuts in roughly an X-shape.

A mandibular premolar fragment from E99/S20 is from a cow, and two teeth fragments from E59/S20 are very fragmentary; however, the thickness of the enamel and size of the root suggest *Bos taurus* as well. Two vertebrae fragments are smaller than deer or cow, but species is indeterminable.

Observations and Conclusions

Despite the disturbance of the pipelines, it appears that a large percentage of the site may still be relatively intact. The 1979 testing established that the

TABLE 9. IDENTIFIED VERTEBRATES FROM 41 CH 57

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	8	1	4%
Bovid	cf. *Bos taurus*	1	1	.5%
Medium-sized mammal		2		1%
Large mammal		2		1%
Total Mammal		13		7%
Turtle sp.		7	2	4%
Total Reptile		7		4%
Alligator gar	*Lepisosteus spatula*	114 (110 scales)	1	64%
Gar sp.	*Lepisosteus* sp.	40		22%
Sheepshead	*Archosargus probatocephalus*	1		.5%
Drum sp.	*Sciaenidae*	3		2%
Fish sp.		1		.5%
Total Fish		159		89%

Total Bone Recovered 371 (Total Burned 23 or 6%)

Total ID Bone 179 (Burned ID 8)

% ID 48% (% ID Burned 4%)

prehistoric shell midden extends to the edge of the bank, but the historic site probably sits back somewhat from the edge, perhaps as much as 10 m at its closest point (Fig. 24). No trace of Blancpain's dock or boat was found along the shore line, but it seems likely that both are present somewhere in the area. It may be that testing farther to the east would be more productive. The main concentration of the prehistoric sites appears to be near the water, perhaps at the high knoll on the northwest end of the site. The artifact sample obtained was too small to date the occupation with any certainty.

Recommendations

The importance of this site has already been confirmed by its admission to the National Register. The effect of a 4-foot water level on this area will be to bring the water up to the bank and cause both undercutting through wave action and more frequent flooding of the entire site. The higher water level will cut off the site from easy access and will therefore serve to protect it somewhat from trespassers, but it will add to the problems of future archaeological work in the area. A method should be designed to stabilize or in some other way protect the portions of the site on the north and west sides which will be exposed to wave action and erosion when the water reaches the 4-foot elevation.

Orcoquisac Camp and Prehistoric Site, 41 CH 22

History

This site was first occupied in prehistoric times. It is also thought to be the site of the Orcoquisac encampment when the Spanish mission and presidio were in operation (see Fig. 25).

Archaeological Investigation

The shell midden site was first reported by Shafer (1966); it consists of a high shell mound surrounded by a widespread scatter of shell over a large area. A bank along Lake Miller forms the northern boundary of the site. This bank ranges in height from approximately 0.5 to 2.0 m. A stand of oak trees forms a canopy which provides shade over a short grass carpet on the mounded area (Fig. 27,a). The majority of the rest of the site is covered with grass, occasional bushes, and trees. Two pipelines traverse through or near the site from east to west. One cuts through the approximate center of the site; the other touches the southern border. Small backpiles of dirt from animal burrows and some erosion have exposed *Rangia* clam shells, prehistoric pottery sherds, a small amount of lithic chipping debris, and bone.

The investigation was begun with a random surface collection and determination of the extent of the site. Exposed *Rangia* shells and other cultural remains were used to determine the extent of the site. Since the second site of the mission is located nearby, and since there was no noticeable break in the surface indications of shell and artifacts, the entire area was mapped as one site.

a

b

Figure 27. *Views of 41 CH 22 and 41 CH 54.* a, Indian camp site (41 CH 22) viewed from mission site; b, site of Mission La Luz (41 CH 54) from northwest.

Flagging tape was employed to mark the perimeter of the exposed cultural remains. The entire surface of the sites was examined to insure that there were no gaps in the exposed cultural material that might suggest two distinct sites or a sterile area. No gaps were found. The boundary of the occupation area was then mapped (Fig. 28).

Information on cultural remains and depth of 41 CH 22 was sought with a shovel test in the approximate center of the shell mound, about 50 m south of the lake shore. It soon became apparent that shovel testing in the area chosen was extremely difficult and time-consuming. A compact layer of solid *Rangia* clam shells, 91 bone fragments, 27 prehistoric ceramic sherds (all but 9 were too small for analysis), and 2 chert flakes were recovered (see Prehistoric Sites Investigations section for further data). The shovel test yielded important data needed on cultural content of the site. However, the expenditure of time for this information seemed wasteful. Two crew members worked diligently for four hours and were able to excavate and screen the matrix from one test 30 cm in diameter and 50 cm deep. The large quantity of cultural material and density of the shell in the midden, therefore, prompted an experiment.

The depth of the cultural deposit was not determined in the shovel test. Also, further testing was needed in order to confirm the extent of the site, which had been tentatively determined from the exposed surface materials. A coring tool consisting of a long straight tube of automobile exhaust pipe ca. 3 inches in diameter crimped and sharpened at one end was loaned to the project by W. L. Fullen. At 10 m intervals on a north-south line, coring was substituted for the proposed shovel tests. (See Fig. 28 for approximate location of the line of the shovel test and core tube tests.) Nine core tube samples were extracted and examined for changes in soil and cultural remains. As the coring progressed southward, the midden deposit became thinner, until in Test 7 the shell layer was from surface to 8 cm. In tests 8 and 9, no *Rangia* shell and no cultural material were found. The results of the testing agree with the exposed surface material used first to indicate the extent of site. The midden deposit appears to be more than 50 cm thick toward the lake shore and thins out progressively toward the south. A layer of sterile clay underlies the site.

A random surface collection and a 30-cm diameter x 50-cm deep shovel test provided a sample of 62 prehistoric sherds. Nine of the sherds collected from the surface and 12 of the sherds from the shovel test were less than 1 cm^2 and thus eliminated from the total sample. Ten grog-tempered and 31 sandy paste untempered sherds were found. Eight chert flakes were also collected. One fragment of a blue glass bead was found on the surface in the pipeline right-of-way.

Vertebrate Remains (Table 10)

Shovel tests from prehistoric site 41 CH 22 yielded 70 bone fragments, of which 27 (39%) are identifiable. Fourteen percent of the total bone recovered had been burned, and 11% of the identifiable bone had been burned.

Three vertebrate classes are represented in the identifiable sample: mammal, reptile, and fish. One deer element (left calcaneum) showed no signs of charring

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TABLE 10. IDENTIFIED VERTEBRATES FROM 41 CH 22

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	1	1	4%
Total Mammal		1		4%
Turtle sp.		1	1	4%
Total Reptile		1		4%
Alligator gar	*Lepisosteus spatula*	7	1	26%
Gar sp.	*Lepisosteus* sp.	11		41%
Catfish sp.	*Ictaluridae*	2	1	7%
cf. Striped mullet	*Mugil cephalus*	2	1	7%
Fish sp.		3		11%
Total Fish		25		92%

Total Bone Recovered 70 (Total Burned 10 or 14%)

Total ID Bone 27 (Burned ID 4)

% ID 39% (% ID Burned 15%)

or butchering. One carapace fragment had no diagnostic characteristics for species designation. The fish elements, however, represented at least five varieties.

Seven large ganoid scales indicate the presence of an alligator gar, but 10 other scales are either too fragmentary or too small to be identified as alligator gar. All species of gar are found in the waters of Chambers County (Hubbs 1976). One vertebra must belong to a smaller species of gar, i.e., spotted gar, based on its small size. Another vertebra, although very large (ℓ=1.5 cm), does not have gar characteristics. The deep concavity of the centrum resembles vertebrae of large mullet; striped mullet can attain a size of 76 cm and are known to inhabit Texas rivers and lakes far inland from the Gulf (Hoese and Moore 1977). A large dorsal spine fragment also compares well with a mullet of the same size as the vertebra. A smaller vertebra indicates another individual fish, but species is indeterminable. Catfish is represented by dorsal and pectoral spine fragments. The species of catfish cannot be determined, but a small individual is indicated by the size of these fragments.

Observations and Conclusions

As evidenced by the presence of grog-tempered and sandy paste untempered sherds, the occupation of the site may have begun as early as A.D. 1000 and extended to Spanish contact. The glass bead, coming as it did from a spot halfway between the shell mound and the mission in an area which has been undisturbed, cannot tell us anything about 41 CH 22. No surface evidence has so far been found to delineate the area where the historic Orcoquisac encampment would have been located.

The effect of the 4-foot water elevation in this area will be to bring the water to the foot of the bank, where undercutting by wave action will cause gradual collapse of the shell mound site into the lake.

Recommendations

The slope of the bank at this point is more gentle than that along site 41 CH 62, and the erosion will be more gradual but no less destructive in the long run. Some form of protection for this site from such erosion should be undertaken before the water level rises in the reservoir.

Mission Nuestra Señora de la Luz (second site), 41 CH 54 (Fig. 27,b)

History

The general history of Mission La Luz in connection with the rest of the Spanish/Indian complex has been related in Section III. In order to determine the impact that the proposed reservoir would leave on the mission site, it was imperative that the extent of the compound be known. A search was therefore conducted in archival sources for maps, plans, and descriptions of the mission during the time it was located on this site, from 1759 until 1772.

The earliest description found is that of Fray Abad in 1759, when he noted that the new mission was made of hewn wood and beaten clay, with four arched portals (see pgs. 46,47). The only information available on the buildings constructed is that which can be inferred from an inventory made eight days after the mission was totally destroyed by a hurricane (Rivera 1768). The furnishings and articles recovered from each of the buildings are listed. From this we see that there was a church, a "house" (for the padres), and a kitchen.

The buildings were probably rebuilt on their original foundations after the storm. A map of El Orcoquisac done in 1767 (Fig. 25) shows three buildings, of which one is identified as the church. In 1768 Padre José Marenti reported the following buildings: one church, 12 x 7 varas, covered (roofed?) with shingles and plastered mortar, and whitewashed; a sacristy of the same materials; a cemetery; a house, 23 varas long with a hall and two cells, a porch, also plastered and whitewashed inside and out, and covered with shingles; and a kitchen. The mission square was 21 varas (ca. 57 feet or 17 m) wide (Marenti 1766). Apparently a few modifications and additions had been accomplished, but there were still three basic buildings. No mention is made of structures on or near the lake shore.

Evidently since the mission was built near an established camp, no attempt was made to build dwellings for the Indians or to bring them into a communal life, as was done in the missions on the San Antonio River. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why so little progress was made in converting the Indians to the Spanish way of life.

Archaeological Investigations

The surface survey described above failed to find any Spanish Colonial artifacts on the mission site. This was surprising, since a survey done in 1966 yielded numerous sherds of majolica and other Spanish artifacts from a limited area on the top of the hill where the mission was located (Fullen 1966).

In order to determine the northern boundary of the mission and to assess what effect the reservoir would have on the site, a row of shovel tests was dug from the high water mark on the edge of the lake south through the pipeline easement and onto the mission site (Fig. 28). The average depth of these tests was 60 cm. In each case, *Rangia* shell was encountered near the surface and continued to ca. 60 cm deep on the slope, tapering off to 20 cm in the mission area.

Historic artifacts recovered were limited to one sherd of ironstone, two fragments of olive green bottle glass, one square nail, and a concentration of red, burned clay fragments which resemble brick. Similar late 19th-century artifacts were found in this area during the surface survey. Prehistoric sherds recovered from the tests included four unidentified, four grog-tempered, and three sandy paste untempered sherds. Two chert flakes were also found.

Vertebrate Remains (Table 11)

Only 60 bones were recovered from nine shovel tests at 41 CH 54, a historic Spanish mission site. Of this total, 10 were identifiable to vertebrate class and/or species. Only large mammal and large fish elements were recovered.

Large mammals are represented by one tooth enamel fragment from an immature deer, which may not be associated with the human occupation, and a right ulna from a cow. Both ends of the ulna have recent breaks and show some indication of recent gnaw marks along the radial scar; however, the lateral side has three pitted areas characterized by old, short, V-shaped cuts hatched several times in one spot. Three small crescent-shaped cuts also lie nearby. Other isolated marks are indistinguishable from gnawing marks.

One of the alligator gar scales has at least two tiny angled cuts at one end. This scale was recovered from shovel test (ST) 7 along with a vertebra fragment from the same species. Three gar scales from ST-3 are too fragmentary to determine species. A large vertebra also from ST-7 is from another large fish species, most likely the flathead catfish or a large blue catfish, both of which are found in the waters of southeast Texas (Hubbs 1976).

Observations and Conclusions

Apparently the lake shore between the mission site and Lake Miller was not used for any particular purpose during Spanish times, although it was involved in some way with a late 19th-century occupation. As at 41 CH 57, the entire area appears to contain a layer of shell and cultural material connected with the prehistoric occupation of the shell mound nearby.

The rise in the water level from the proposed reservoir will not directly affect the mission site. However, the increased use of the area may bring problems with looting if the history of the site becomes well known. Some method of controlling access to this site should be considered, or a plan should be formulated for monitoring the use of the area.

Davis Farm Site, 41 CH 245

History

Located within the Thomas Rankin survey, this site was acquired by William J. Alston in 1858. His daughter married G. C. Davis (Chambers County Sheriff from 1872 to 1890), and they eventually inherited the property. Davis built a house, a barn, and other outbuildings on the south shore of the lake some time in the 1870s. The family moved into a new home on the south end of the property ca. 1890, and the old homestead gradually fell into ruin (Octavia La Four, personal communication).

TABLE 11. IDENTIFIED VERTEBRATES FROM 41 CH 54

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	1	1	10%
Bovid	cf. *Bos taurus*	1	1	10%
Total Mammal		2		20%
Alligator gar	*Lepisosteus spatula*	3	1	30%
Gar sp.	*Lepisosteus* sp.	4	1	40%
cf. Flathead catfish	*Pylodictus olivaris*	1	1	10%
Total Fish		8		80%

Total Bone Recovered 60

Total ID Bone 10

% ID 17%

(Total Burned 1 or 2%)

(Burned ID 0)

Archaeological Investigation

The house and barn were located on a high point just east of 41 CH 22 in a mott of very large, old trees. A surface examination was not able to find any structural remains in place, although an occasional brick can be found on the surface.

Recommendations

The slope of the lake bank at this point is gradual, and the higher elevation of the water will not affect the site. Since this site is already protected through its location within a Historic District, no further designation is necessary. While the site is of importance to the immediate family, it has no particular historic significance; and we recommend no further work.

Presidio San Agustín de Ahumada (second site), 41 CH 53

The history of the site has been covered in Section III and in Tunnell and Ambler (1967:5-16).

Archaeological Investigation

Investigation was limited to an inspection of the site in order to determine the possible effects which the proposed reservoir will have upon it, and to assess how much of the original site may remain. The hill upon which the presidio was built was almost completely removed to be used as fill for the construction of Interstate Highway 10 in the 1950s. In 1966 archaeological testing was carried out at the site under the direction of Curtis Tunnell and Richard Ambler, and its tentative identification as the second location of the presidio was confirmed (Tunnell and Ambler 1967). No Spanish or Indian artifacts were found on the surface.

Observations and Conclusions

The elevation of the remains of this site (over 15 ft.) will preclude its being endangered by intensified flooding or erosion from the reservoir. However, there is constant traffic by local fishermen across the site and public dumping of trash in the area. No recent potholes were observed.

Recommendations

Despite the fact that most of this site has been eliminated, the 1966 excavations showed that there is still much to be learned from the site. The creation of the reservoir will attract more people to the area. Access to the water through this site should be controlled or prohibited by a locked gate. This should also put an end to the dumping in the area.

SHIPWRECK IN LAKE MILLER

In the early 1800s Jean Laffite and his brother Pierre were engaged in a variety of illegal activities, including smuggling and piracy, in and around New Orleans. In 1812 they fought beside Andrew Jackson in the Battle of New Orleans and, as a result, were pardoned by President James Madison for previous crimes against the United States. In 1817 Laffite left Louisiana and established a town he called Campeachy on Galveston Island (Wooten 1898:108; Fehrenbach 1969:127-128).

Within a few months, more than 1,000 men joined Laffite, and for the next four years copious smuggling and piratical endeavors sustained the settlement. Laffite also engaged in the slave trade, a highly successful venture in the early 1800s. In less than a year a lucrative maritime trade network was established with New Orleans and other ports, including Boston (Hayes 1974:46).

Laffite's acts of piracy eventually led to his forced abandonment of Galveston Island. He reportedly permitted his men to seize and plunder Spanish ships only, but in 1821 the United States government requested that Laffite abandon and destroy Campeachy. An American vessel was plundered and sunk in Matagorda Bay, and Laffite's men were held accountable (*ibid.*:60). Lieutenant Kearney of the United States Navy was sent to Galveston Island on the brig-of-war *Enterprize* to enforce the withdrawal from Campeachy. Laffite entertained Kearney in royal fashion and attempted to persuade the naval officer of his allegiance to the United States. But Kearney carried out his orders, and in May 1821 Laffite burned Campeachy and left on the *Pride* with a crew of 60 men (Hayes 1974:62).

It is believed that, during the four years of Laffite's reign of piracy along the coast of Texas, many millions of dollars in gold and silver and other valuables were seized by his men. Numerous legends recount that some of the loot lies buried in the sands of coastal Texas. One of the most intriguing tales concerns the submerged remains of a ship in Lake Miller in Chambers County (see Fig. 15). For more than a century local history has purported that the ship is one of Laffite's treasure-laden vessels.

One of the earliest published accounts of the ship concerns the life of Josephine Joseph and her reflections of the Galveston area in the last half of the 19th century (Mouton 1900). On July 4, 1859, the Joseph family planned a picnic along the banks of Lake Miller. Prior to the picnic the family members discussed various legends concerning the pirate Laffite. Local history suggested that Laffite often eluded pursuers by sailing up Galveston Bay to the Trinity River and then into Lake Miller. "He found here so secure a shelter that it became a kind of rendezvous till at length it was discovered, and being hotly pursued he was forced to sink his treasure-laden ship and escape as best he could . . ." (Mouton 1900:137-138). Upon arrival at Lake Miller, Josephine and the others located a tree which bore three man-made notches. This tree supposedly marked the location of the sunken treasure (*ibid.*:140-141).

In the 1890s Edward H. Sherman walked on the deck of the ship when it was only 1-1/2 to 2 feet under the silt. Sherman determined that the ship was about 60 feet long and had a flat deck. Because he had heard that Laffite's ships

were sheathed in metal, he checked for a seam but found none (sworn testimony, W. N. Sherman, February 2, 1978). W. N. Sherman, son of E. H. Sherman, testified in 1978 at the age of 89 that he could locate the site of the submerged vessel "using for bearings a shell bank on each side of Lake Miller." Partlow (1974:51) recounts that W. N. Sherman's great-grandfather, Jacob Havens Sherman, Sr., discovered the ship in 1850 slightly covered with silt and marked the location by driving a spike into a nearby oak tree.

Several sources attribute the ship to Laffite's departure from Galveston Island. According to Mrs. Julia Duncan Welder, the vessel was scuttled after the pirates abandoned Campeachy and was chased by a United States revenue cutter (Julia Duncan Welder Collection, Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center, Liberty, Texas). According to Mrs. Welder, "The pirates had many friends along the Trinity, there was an *entente cordiale* between they and the settlers, where they often came to exchange goods, and 'pieces of eight,' for bear meat, venison, beef, hides, tallow, honey, skins and furs, and other commodities." Mrs. Welder also stated that she had visited E. H. Sherman, who told her that his grandfather, Jacob Havens Sherman, Sr., had walked upon the deck of the slightly submerged ship.

Carroll Lewis has suggested that the sunken ship is the *Pride*, the vessel on which Laffite departed Galveston. According to Lewis (1977:32), Laffite carried five bearskins of gold onto the *Pride* and planned to bury the gold near Galveston Bay, but the ship sprang a leak and sunk near the mouth of Lake Miller before the treasure could be removed (*ibid.*).

In 1938 the ship was just below the surface of the water and the entire length was visible. Since then the lake has silted in and covered the vessel with mud (John Howells, personal communication).

In 1940 G. C. Chambless, Jr., and B. F. Williams requested a permit from the General Land Office of Texas to salvage the vessel, but the request was denied (Partlow 1974:51). The bow on the northwest end was approximately six feet deep, while the opposite end was 10 to 12 feet deep (G. C. Chambless, Jr., personal communication).

In 1949 B. J. Krigar and Leo T. Behne, with the aid of E. H. Sherman and his sister, Mrs. E. H. Clark, located the ship with a metal detector about 200 feet from the bank of a narrow channel that connected Lake Miller with the Trinity River (Partlow 1974:51). The project was abandoned because of legal problems.

Referring to *The Journal of Jean Laffite* (Laffite 1954), John Howells reports that in 1818 Laffite sent workmen to repair storm damage to his fort near the mouth of the Trinity. The fort was probably established to protect vessels and crewmen and was a base for repair and maintenance of vessels. Howells, citing *The Journal of Jean Laffite* (*ibid.*), states that the fort was 20 km from the Trinity River and 45 km from Galveston. Recently, structural remains have been found on Cedar Point, 13 miles west of the mouth of the Trinity and 28 miles north of Galveston. The walls, made of logs, mud, and shell, are eight feet thick. Howells is conducting investigations to determine if the site can be linked to Laffite. If this was indeed one of Laffite's forts, it increases the possibility that his vessels would have occasionally sailed up the Trinity, or that a hurricane could have blown one that far inland.

It seems to be an indisputable fact that there is a sunken ship in Lake Miller. There is a distinct possibility that it might have been one of Laffite's ships, but no proof has so far been found for this allegation.

The construction of the proposed lake will have little if any impact on the site of the submerged vessel, except to bury it gradually deeper in silt. If a magnetometer survey is conducted on site 41 CH 57, it might be interesting to also attempt to locate the exact site of the wreck for future reference.

THE TOWN OF WALLISVILLE

In the early 1850s the settlement of Wallis Hill consisted of a few scattered houses, a wharf, and the Union Saw Mill operated by Clarke and Kilgore (*Galveston Weekly News* 1853:1). About 1854 Solomon and Daniel Wallis, sons of early settler E. H. R. Wallis, began planning a town on their property (Fig. 29) and hired Hugh Jackson, local lawyer and surveyor, to lay out a formal plan (John Middleton, personal communication). This was to become Wallisville.

In 1858 Chambers County was created from parts of Liberty and Jefferson Counties, and the new town of Wallisville was named the county seat (Partlow 1974:143). In 1859 a wooden courthouse was built on the courthouse square, and Wallisville got a post office (*ibid.*:145). A school was built in 1860 (John Middleton, personal communication).

Civil War times were hard in Chambers County, since the people were completely dependent upon shipping for the basic necessities of life, and trade through Galveston was cut off. There was enough food, for they grew what they needed, but commodities like wheat flour and coffee were rare and expensive. The women went back to carding, spinning, and weaving as their grandmothers had done, and inventiveness and resourcefulness were the order of the day (Harry 1940:26).

The recovery after the war was slow and difficult. In 1875 the courthouse burned, destroying all the county records. The top floor of the La Four Hotel was used for a courthouse and district courtroom for about a year, until a new courthouse could be built (*ibid.*:23). By 1876 Wallisville had a population of 200, a good school, 50 homes, and three stores (Harry 1940:54).

As the town became more prosperous, in 1886 a contract was let to build a stone, brick, and cement courthouse (CCCCM:A,458), and a brick jail in 1896. By 1898 the town consisted of numerous fine homes, the McManus Cotton Gin (*Wallisville Age*, December 22, 1897), Stephens and Kilgore Store (*ibid.*), the Wallis and Murphy Store and another merchandise store, two hotels, a newspaper, the C. R. Cummings Export Lumber Company, the Wallisville Lumber Company, and two lawyers' offices; it had a population of 728 (*Texas Almanac* 1904:43). By 1903 Wallisville also had a shipyard large enough to build ocean-going barges, and two artesian wells had been dug (*ibid.*:232-233).

The big social event of 1906 was the opening of the new roller-skating rink (*Liberty Vindicator*, August 24, 1906). Despite the new prosperity, livestock still ran loose in Chambers County and hogs were becoming a nuisance in town. Wallisville voted a hog control law, which incensed many county residents. As a result, an election was held to remove the county seat to Anahuac. Wallisville

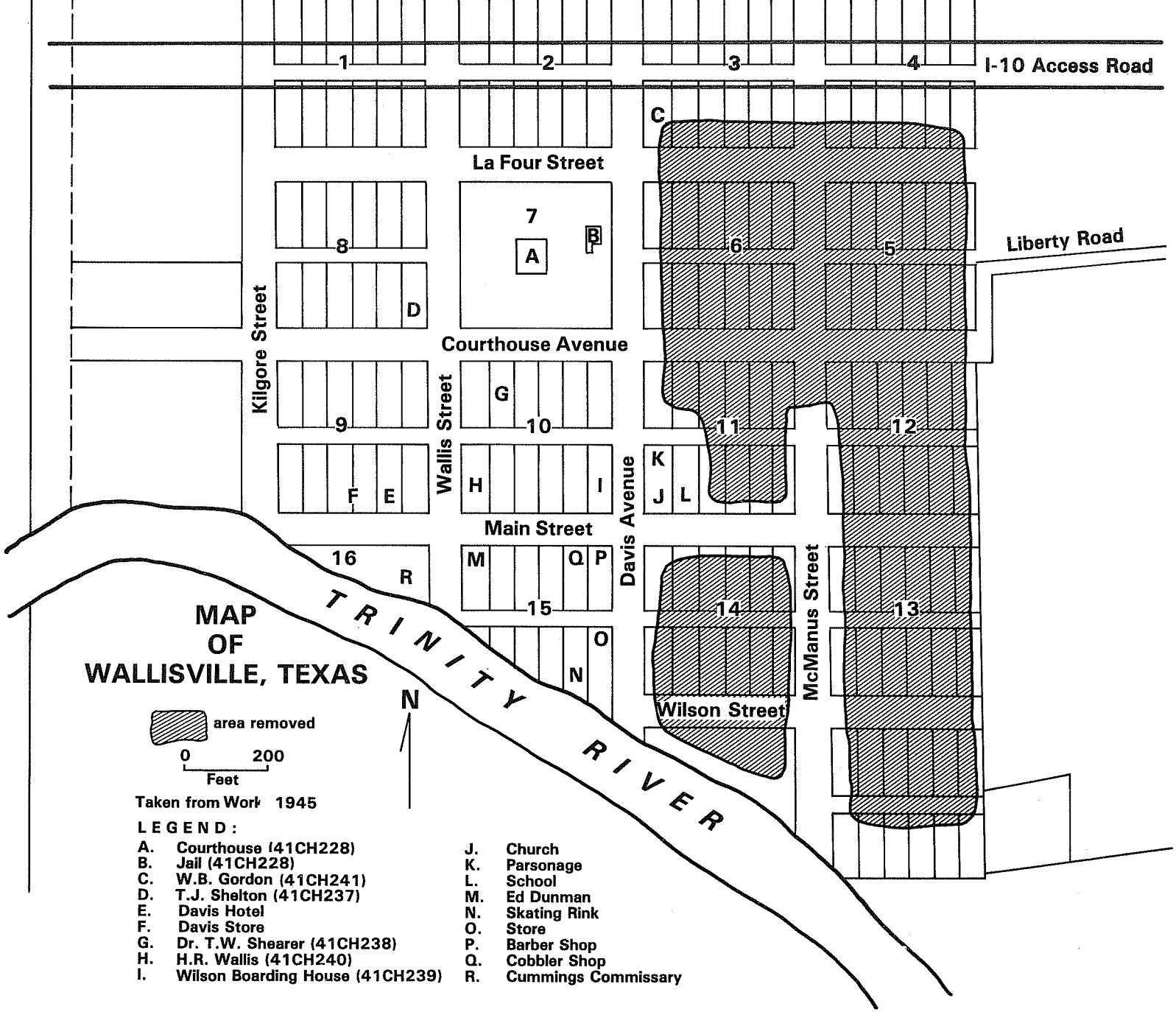

Figure 29. Map of the Town of Wallisville at the Turn of the Century.

lost the election, and the county seat was moved in 1908. Just seven years later, in 1915, a tremendous tropical hurricane inundated the town of Wallisville, swept away numerous homes and business establishments, and permanently damaged others. Eight feet of water stood on the ground for a week, and 100 mph winds buffeted the area for several days (Harry 1940:55).

Although the town gradually repaired and rebuilt the damaged structures, it never fully recovered from the storm. The commercial emphasis in the county by this time had transferred to Anahuac. In 1935 oil was discovered across the valley at Mont Belvieu (Webb 1952:327), which brought new prosperity to that area but did little to help Wallisville. By the late 1950s the town had two churches, two stores, a filling station, a post office, a fish market, a wharf and shell company, and 25 homes (John Middleton, personal communication).

In 1966 and 1967 the land on which the town of Wallisville was located was purchased by the U.S. Government for the Wallisville Lake. Most of the buildings were moved to other locations, and the rest of the town was dismantled and removed. A large portion of the town site was excavated in order to build a dike at the eastern end of the site (Fig. 29).

Courthouse and Jail, 41 CH 228

Built in 1886 in the center of Block 7, the impressive brick courthouse was a local landmark for many years (Fig. 30). The land was donated to the county by D. B. Wallis with the stipulation that it return to his heirs when it ceased to be used for this purpose (CCDR 69:280,281,283). The second-floor courtroom was not only used for county business, but regular dances were also held there (Wooten Sisters 1973). In 1896 a brick jail with a hanging tower was constructed just east of the courthouse. The jail was partially dismantled in 1908. The courthouse was torn down and the bricks sold in 1948 (John Middleton, personal communication). From that time to the present the site has been exposed to the ravages of time and local scavengers and curiosity seekers who have carried off most of the bricks and the other artifacts which once remained. Vandalism has been especially bad since the abandonment of the rest of the town site and the rapid growth of trees and brush in the area.

Archaeological Investigation

The courthouse square has recently been cleared of trees and underbrush under the direction of John Middleton in an attempt to limit vandalism and to aid in further research on the site toward the aim of reconstructing the courthouse and jail.

Other than a surface inspection of the ruins of the buildings, no work was done at this site, since the University of Houston plans to conduct test excavations and contour mapping on this block in the near future (Brown 1979). At that time a search will also be made to determine if traces remain of an earlier courthouse which may have stood on the block.

Observations

It appears that the foundations of both the courthouse and the jail and hanging tower are still present and in good condition. Careful clearing of the wall

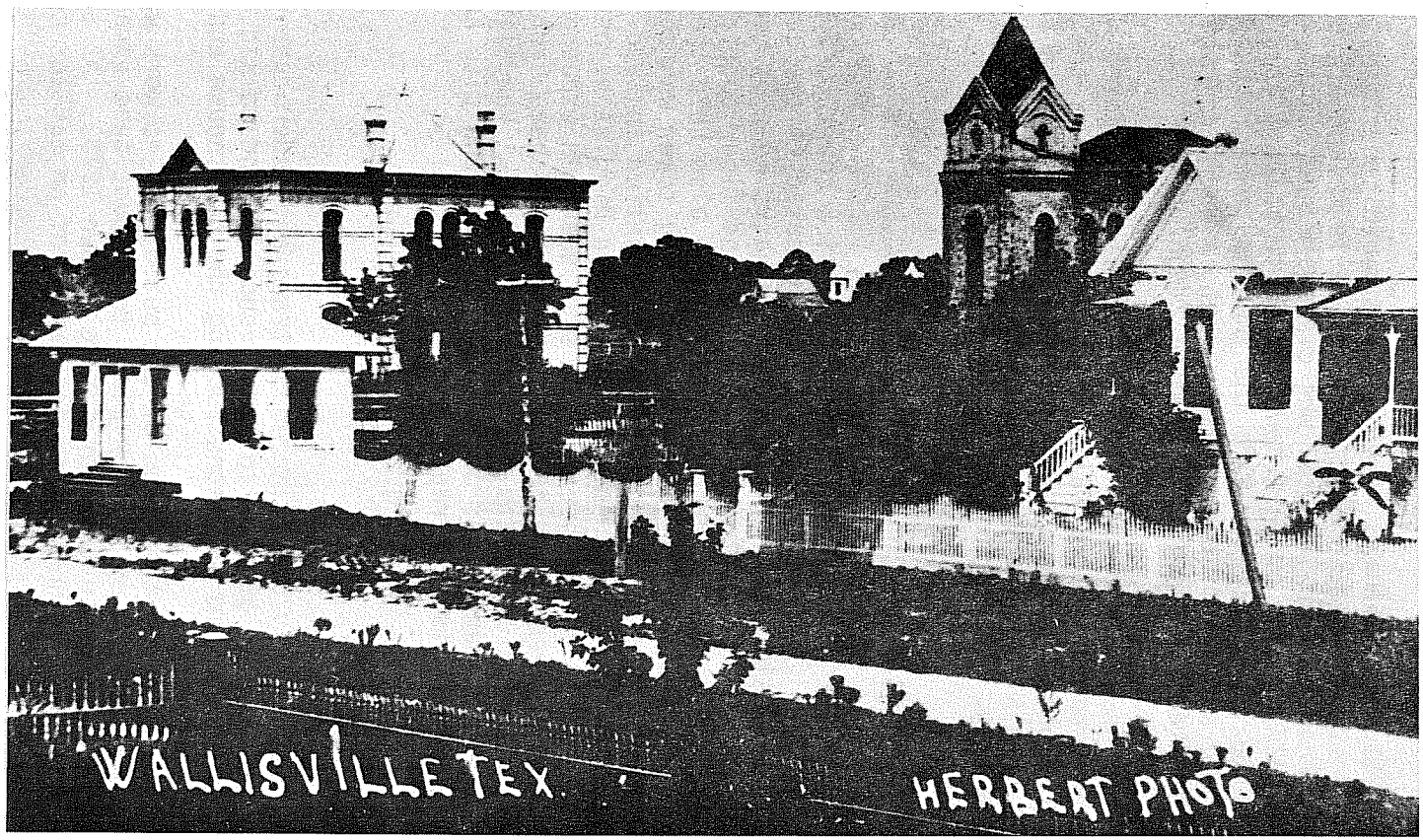

Figure 30. *View of Courthouse and Jail with Hanging Tower from Northeast on Courthouse Avenue.*

rubble should allow measured drawings to be made of the structures in preparation for the planned reconstruction of the buildings.

W. B. Gordon House Site, 41 CH 241

History

William B. Gordon spent his youth on the family's plantation on the Trinity River, just south of Liberty (Gordon 1873-1879). In 1884 he married Lura Shelton and moved to Turtle Bayou (Gordon Family Record). Sometime between 1881 and 1893 the Gordons moved to Wallisville. Mrs. Gordon died in 1897, after which Gordon married Mary Hawkins in 1902 (*ibid.*). It was during this marriage that Gordon built a large, two-story frame house on Lots 11 and 12 in Block 3. Gordon was an influential man in the community, serving as county judge and tax assessor (Williams *et al* 1976). In 1910 he sold the property to Mrs. T. E. Calhoun (CCDR 2:671), and she in turn sold it to Dale La Four in 1916 (CCDR 7:176). The house burned in 1961 (V. M. Williams, personal communication).

Archaeological Investigations

Approximately half of the area included in Lots 11 and 12 has been eliminated or seriously disturbed by borrow operations in connection with the construction of the dike across the west edge of the town. The area is now densely overgrown with small trees and shrubs. A collection was made of some of the more diagnostic artifacts among the heaps of trash which appear to have been dumped in the remaining part of the site (Table 12). Although there are a few fragments of objects which may have been connected with the occupation of the house, such as a porcelain doll's head, some pressed glass, and a few sherds of ironstone and porcelain tableware, the majority of this collection is recent and reflects the dumping which has been going on in the area since the town has been deserted.

Observations

Evidently there is a layer of recently dumped material which overlays whatever may be left of the Gordon house site. However, there appear to be some earlier artifacts present on the site, and it may be that traces of the original house foundation remain in the ground.

T. J. Shelton House Site, 41 CH 237

History

The lot where this house stood was acquired by Charcilla Van Pradelles Chambers (Mrs. Sandon) from her father in 1873 (CCDR:A,96). By 1876 she and her husband owned all of Block 8 (CCDR:A,100; A,350). During this time, Chambers built a two-story frame house (Fig. 31) on Lot 7, facing south onto Courthouse Avenue.

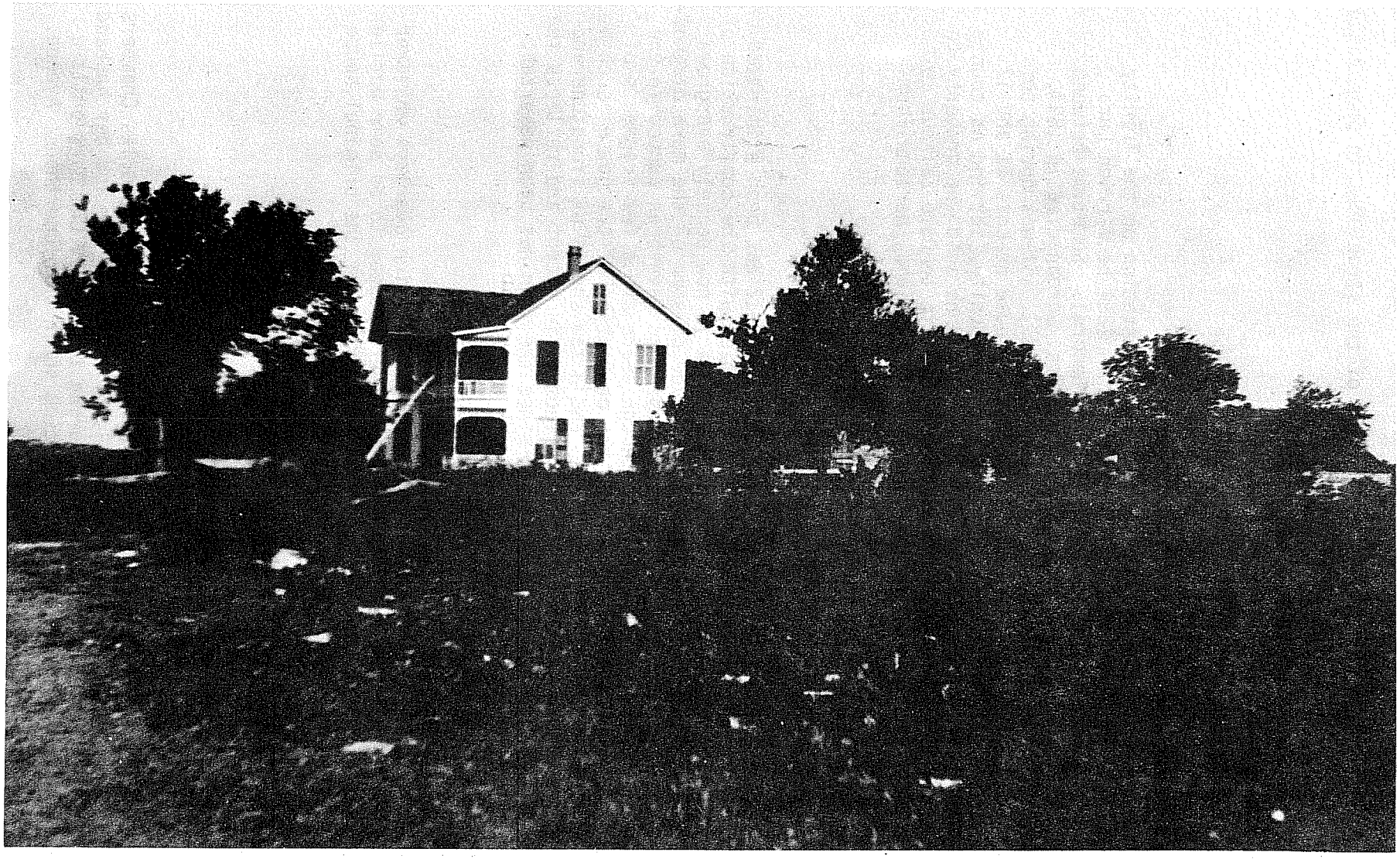

Figure 31. *View of Shelton House from Courthouse Square.*

TABLE 12
ARTIFACT PROVENIENCES
WALLISVILLE PROJECT

	Site Number	CH237-A	CH237-B	CH237-C	CH238-A	CH238-B	CH238-C	CH241	Total
	Artifacts								
CERAMICS	Porcelain								
	Tableware	2		1	1	4	14	3	25
	Bisque							1	1
	Insulator							1	1
	Plumbing Fixture					1	1	2	4
	Earthenware								
	Hand painted						1		1
	Ironstone	6	6	11	2	4	56	8	93
	Plain	1		2			13		16
	Transferware			1		1	11		13
	Gilded	1					1		2
	Decalcomania	7	1		1		3		12
	Solid Color Glaze	2	1		1			1	5
	Decorated (rim line)	1		1			1		3
	Utility Wares								
	Stoneware	4		2		8	10	9	33
	Yellow Ware						5		5
	Door Knob						1		1
	Unglazed						4	1	5
	Total	24	8	18	5	18	121	26	220
GLASS	Window/Plate	4	1		3		30	3	41
	Canning Jar								
	Jar			2		1	4	1	8
	Lid/Liner			8	2	1	5		16
	Bottle								
	Soda		1	1		1	6		9
	Milk Bottle						1		1
	Miscellaneous								
	Aqua/Green	1	2	1		5	23	3	35
	Amber/Brown	3		5		4	16	5	33
	Blue	2				1	4	2	9
	Clear	4	5	7	2	6	48	19	91
	Stopper	1							1
	Tableware								
	Tumbler			1		1	2	2	6
	Pressed	1	1	1		1	6	3	13
	"Milk"	2	2	3	1			3	11
	Total	18	12	29	8	21	145	41	274
METAL	Can Fragments		1				2		3
	Fruit Jar Lid			1			1		2
	Hardware		1	1					2
	Machinery			2			5		7
	Nails (cut)						1		1
	Sad Iron				1				1
	Stove Parts	1					2	1	4
	Wire						1		1
	Total	1	2	4	1		12	1	21
MISC.	Brick							3	3
	Floor Tile							5	5
	Marble Tile Fragment						1		1
	Slate				1		3		4
	Shoe/Boot	1					4		5
	Music Record							1	1
	Marine Shell						2		2
	Bone (Sawcut)	1				1	4		6
	Total	2			1	1	14	9	27
	TOTAL	45	22	51	15	40	292	77	542

The entire block was sold to R. D. White in 1888 (CCDR:E,401), then by White to Lizzie Mayes ((Mrs. T. J.) Shelton in 1897 (CCDR:J,148). The Sheltons leased the house to Jesse Remick in 1905 (CCDR:S,92). Remick worked at the Cummings Mill. In 1912 they leased it to William A. Robertson, father of the treasurer at the mill. The house was finally dismantled in 1948 and the pieces taken to the town of Louise, where it was rebuilt (John Middleton, personal communication).

Archaeological Investigation

The site on which the house was located is now completely overgrown. It still contains numerous brick piers, and several large trees mark the corners and fence lines. The investigation consisted of clearing the surface enough to reveal the location and patterning of the piers and other debris, then making a measured sketch map of the house site (Fig. 32) and the immediate surroundings. Location of lot lines was accomplished by estimating the edges and then the center of the roads, shown on the maps to be 80 feet wide (Work 1945; Hall 1949), then measuring from the center line. A rather large area of scattered, broken bricks was found at the center of each end of the foundation, probably the remains of the two chimneys visible in the photograph. No doubt most of the bricks which once remained on the site have fallen prey to scavengers.

A thorough search was carried out to discover the location of trash dumping areas. A row of small saplings across the rear of what was probably the cultivated backyard of the house indicated where a fence once stood. The most intense trash dumping area was found to be just outside of this fence (Area A), with others (Areas B and C) to the east and west. In each case it appeared that trash had been dumped over a fence, spilling back into the yard in the process or spreading out later as the pile deteriorated and weathered. The area in the vicinity of the foundation was comparatively free of artifacts except for modern bottle fragments which have accumulated since the house was removed.

Vertebrate Remains (Table 13)

Surface collection at the site of a late 19th century home (41 CH 237) resulted in the recovery of 11 bone fragments of which 6 were identifiable. Two of three burned bones were identified as deer metatarsal fragments. One of these was burned black, but the other was only charred at one end. Faint scratches are noticeable in the middle of the latter, and these scratches are diagonal to the length and just outside the anterior groove of the metatarsal.

Reptile remains comprise 67% of the total identified bone collected. Two very large (6.3 mm and 7.8 mm thick) fragments were identified as softshell turtle. Two subspecies common to Chambers County are the midland smooth softshell and the pallid spiny softshell, both of which can attain a size of over 30 cm (Conant 1975). They are common in Gulf Coast drainage areas.

Evidence of American alligator was also collected from the site. Two distinctive scutes (spine-bearing dermal bones) were recovered. These large reptiles are native to this Gulf Coast county.

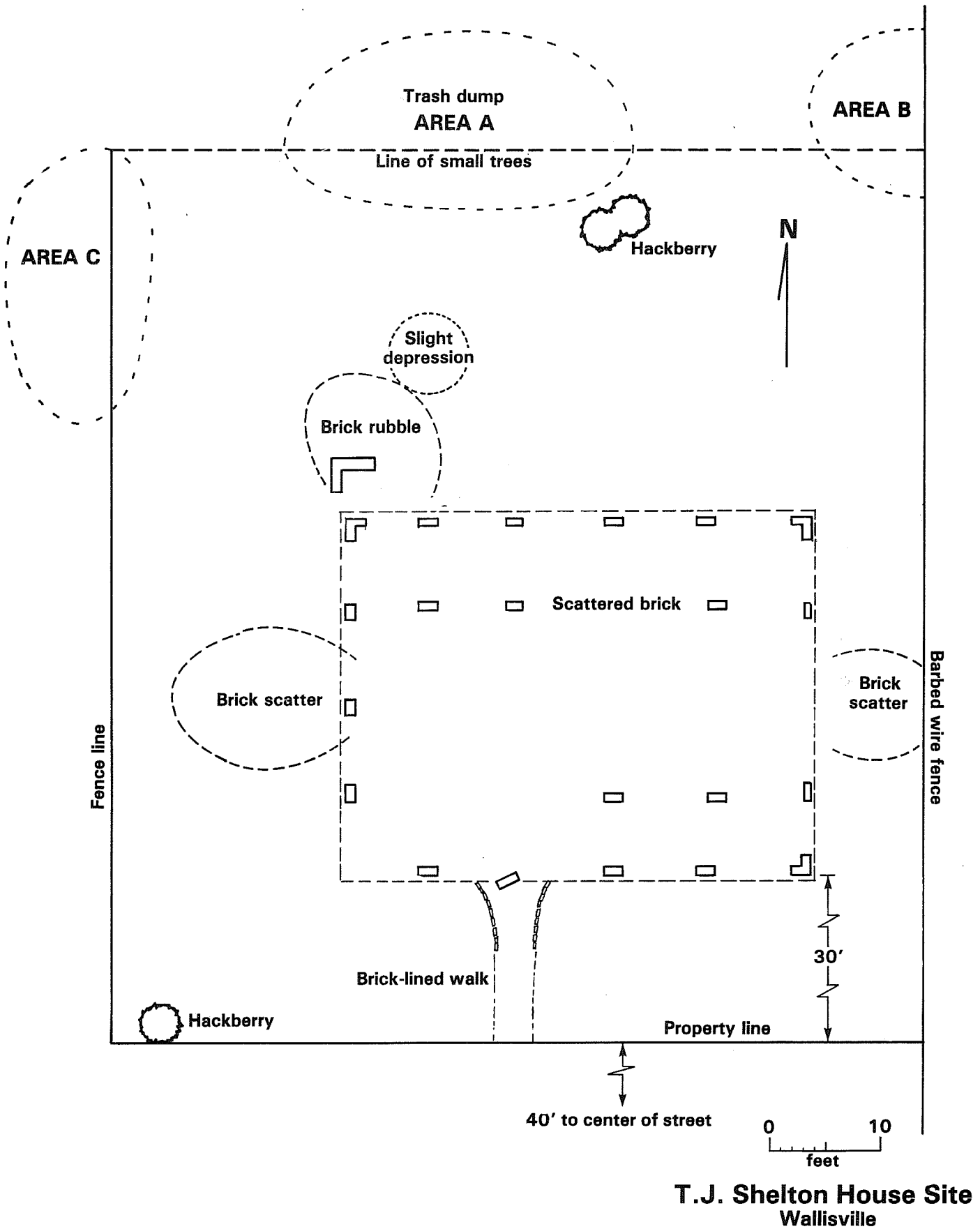

Figure 32. *Map of Shelton House Site.*

TABLE 13. IDENTIFIED VERTEBRATES FROM 41 CH 237

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. of Elements	MNI	% of Total ID
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	2	1	33%
Total Mammal		2		33%
American alligator	*Alligator mississippiensis*	2	1	33%
Softshell turtle sp.	*Trionyx* sp.	2	1	33%
Total Reptile		4		67%

Total Bone Recovered 11 (Total Burned 3 or 27%)

Total ID Bone 6 (Burned ID 2)

% ID 55% (ID Burned 33%)

Observations

A comparison of the artifacts recovered from the various dump locations indicates that they were probably all in use within the same time period; at least there are no clear differences between them in terms of dating of materials (Table 12). The ceramics consist of plain white ironstone and molded earthenware of the late 19th century along with decal-decorated and plain-colored glazes of the early 20th century. Glass bottles are all machine-made and date to the post-1900 period. What stoneware is present bears late finishes such as Bristol and cobalt-colored glazes. Other artifacts found include a zinc lid, several "porcelain" liners and a glass lid for canning jars, a simple door hinge, fragments from a cast iron stove, and a threaded iron pipe coupling. Fragments of fine porcelain plates and a pressed glass salt dish suggest a fine table service befitting a socially prominent family around the turn of the century. More intensive archaeological and historical investigations would yield a great deal of information from this virtually undisturbed site on location of walkways and outbuildings, as well as additional artifacts representative of the late 19th century.

Block 9

History

This entire block was originally acquired by Joseph La Four (CCDR 1872:A,61). The southern half was deeded to Seth Davis, his son-in-law, in 1888 (CCDR 1888:E,455).

The southeast corner is important to the town because it was the site of the La Four Hotel, which later became the Davis Hotel. To the west on Lots 11 and 12 stood the Davis store, dealing primarily in clothing and drugs (*Chambers County Herald* 1900). There was an orange grove directly behind the hotel (Wooten Sisters 1973).

Archaeological Investigation and Observations

A surface survey was attempted, but thick ground cover and dense underbrush on the south half of the lot made it impossible to see the surface of the ground. The northern half of the lot is open under large trees, but no early structural or artifactual remains were present. A series of concrete slabs facing onto Wallis Street from Lot 7 indicate later use of the area, and there has been recent trash dumping near the road.

The southern half of this block should be one of the most interesting and important archaeological sites in the town. Unfortunately, in order to even begin to assess what remains there, it would be necessary to completely clear the surface of a dense growth of ground cover. The hotel site should yield important artifactual evidence about the life style of people who stayed in the hotel as well as of the family who ran it over a period of 40 years or more. The store and its surrounding area should also yield important artifactual and structural evidence concerning the arrangement, management, and stocking of such a store at the turn of the century.

Dr. T. W. Shearer House Site, 41 CH 238

Lots 1 and 2 in Block 10, on which this house was located, have changed hands numerous times since it was acquired by John U. Raymond in 1881 (CCDR:C,347). In 1887 P. B. Plotts acquired them (CCDR:E,159) and built on Lot 1 the following structure:

> one Gin house and steam Gin comprising one ten horse power Baxter Engine, one Sixty Saw Gillette Gin Stand, with one Condenser and an iron Screen press, together with all belts, fixtures, attachments to the same (CCDR:E,259).

Evidently the business was not successful, since he returned the property to the original owner in 1889 (CCDR:E,470).

In 1887 Dr. Thomas W. Shearer from Des Moines, Iowa, bought the drugs and medical equipment of the local doctor (Shearer 1944:4), Dr. John Raymond, who moved to Washington, D.C. (John Middleton, personal communication). In 1889 he bought "a three room cottage with a leanto kitchen" which was located in the center of a 120 x 160 foot lot. This would have been Lots 1 and 2, for they acquired Lots 3, 4, 5 and 6 in 1898 (CCDR:J,153). Mrs. Shearer's (1944) interesting description of the house and grounds follows:

> Our cottage was what they called a box house, but at odd times during our first spring in it, he battened it all inside and we painted side walls and ceilings. Also he made double doors between living room and dining room and an arch to the bedroom where we hung heavy portieres. Later, as our family increased, carpenters tore down the leanto kitchen and added two bedrooms, a pantry and kitchen; so you see he made us as comfortable as he could and we all loved HOME.
>
> We beautified the yard and it was the admiration of all who saw it. A flowering pomegranite [sic] was already in the front yard. Pipes were laid from the windmill tank all through the yard and into the latticed porch, where we installed a bath tub, the only one in town. Walks were laid and shelled from the front gate to the front porch, from there around the house to the south porch, out to the west gate and down to the wee house at the back end of the lot. A wide flower bed bordered the shell walks. We enjoyed studying the seed catalogue, ordering and planting annuals, bi-ennials, perennials, shrubsets, etc. We built a large grape arbor near the west gate on which grew luxuriously Delaware Black July Concord and white grapes. A rose arbor in front of the "wee" house was covered with pink bouquet climbers and the wild, shiny leaved Cherokee rose. These were monthlies and bloomed almost constantly.
>
> Doctor brought in many wild plants from the woods and open country when returning from professional visits. In one corner of the yard we planted Spanish Dagger, cactus pear, etc. This we called our tropical corner.

> A hedge of wild peach was planted all along our 120 foot front and a hedge of Yupon along the west 160 foot border kept neatly trimmed. We had red, pink and white oleander, flowering quince, a couple of ponderosa lemons, a couple of loquates [sic], some kumquats also which bore well. In the southwest corner of the yard we planted sixteen oriental plum trees of several different varieties, and yum, yum, were they good! He had a small hothouse built for me in the back yard, so that many plants that might have died in winter actually thrived and grew under the glass roof of the hothouse. Seedlings could be started early this way.
>
> The yard in which the pecan trees grew, he made into a vegetable garden. Here he experimented in alfalfa, onions, cow beets and other plants. . . .
>
> Before enlarging our house, he had a neat two room office, a frame building, built in the NE corner of our yard facing the street and the courthouse. A large rose garden was planted between house and office. We had roses all the year except January. . . .
>
> The barn was in an adjacent lot which also contained several large bearing, paper shell pecan trees. This and three other lots facing Courthouse Avenue we later purchased. A year or so later we bought the two lots back of the house lot, and then the NE corner of the block as a small pasture for the calves of the milk cows, thus giving us about three-quarters of the entire block. . . .
>
> The lots back of the house lot faced Main Street. We planted them in pear trees, and on the NE corner, built a large barn on which we erected a windmill. We enclosed the alley separating the north from the two south lots. The windmill supplied water to a trough for the horses and cows.

In 1907 the Shearers moved to Houston (Shearer 1944:16). Afterwards the house gradually deteriorated. The storm of 1915 swept it off its piers but the building survived. Later it became a cafe and barber shop run by Kit Carson Payne (John Middleton, personal communication). By 1941 there was no trace of a structure on the lot (U.S. Government Survey 1941). The property ownership, however, stayed in the Shearer family until the government acquired it in 1967 (CCDR:Z,881).

Archaeological Investigation

The Shearer house site today is overgrown with trees, but the area beneath is fairly open, making it possible to see most of the original yard area from the spot where the house once stood. The ground is covered with fallen leaves, but no grass cover is present.

A careful examination of Lots 1, 2, and 3 failed to locate any architectural remains of the house. However, numerous shell pathways are still visible, and by mapping their location and referring to Mrs. Shearer's description it is possible to project where the house would have been located (Fig. 33). The

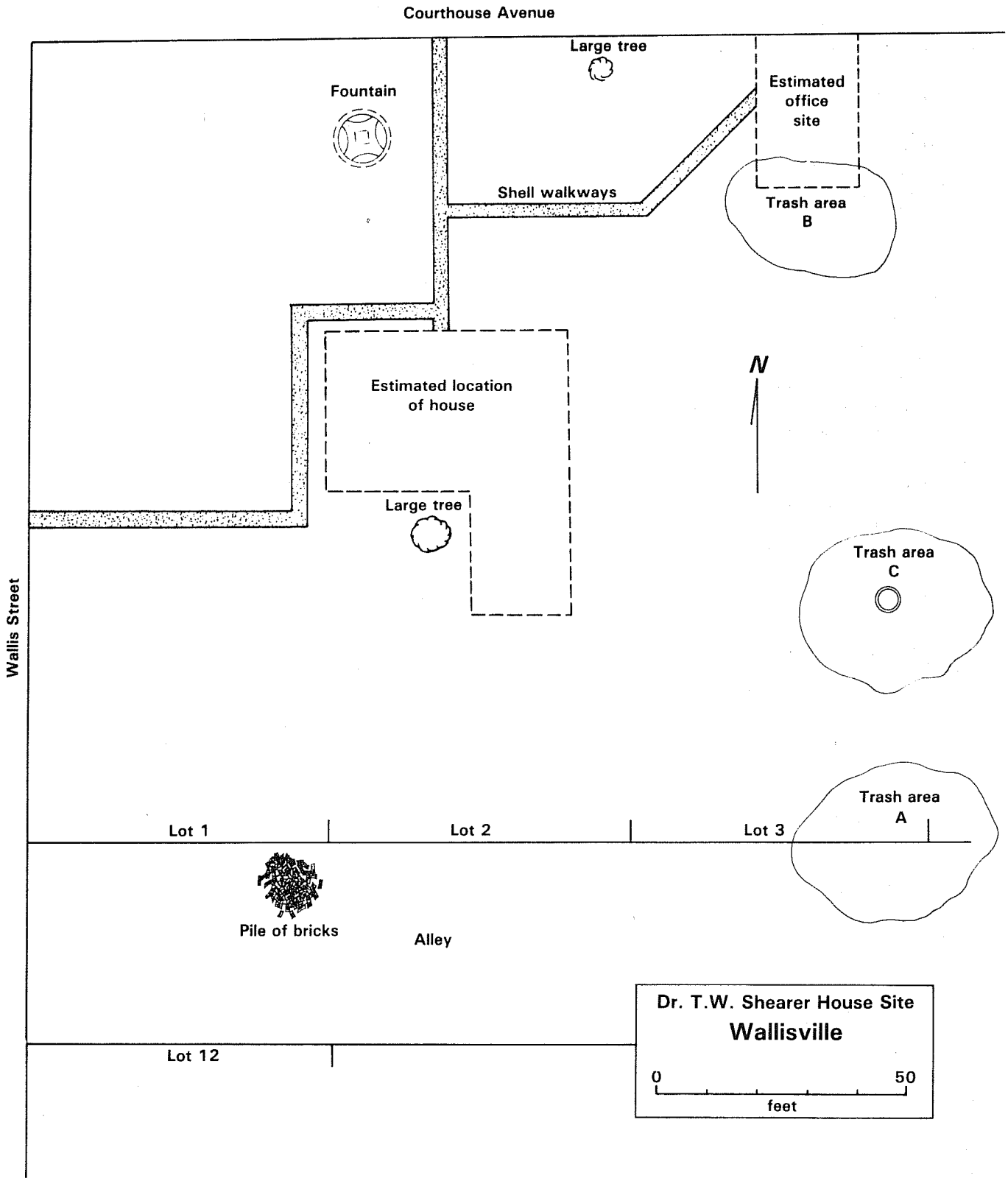

Figure 33. *Map of Shearer House Site.*

presence of a very large tree with a low-hanging branch on the southwest side also helps to delineate the area where the house had to stand. Local informants still remember the brick fountain, the ruins of which are visible in the front yard.

The surface survey located a number of features in the area surrounding the house. An open area ca. 20 x 30 feet facing on Courthouse Avenue and east of the house site may be the location of the office Mrs. Shearer describes. The fact that one of the shell pathways leads to this site confirms that it was probably contemporary with the house.

Behind the house, within the area where the alley would have been, is an enigmatic pile of bricks. This could be the remains of the "wee house at the end of the lot" mentioned by Mrs. Shearer, although no shell pathway could be seen leading between this area and the house. It could also have been the watering trough mentioned by Mrs. Shearer.

To the southeast of the house site was located a deep, brick-lined hole approximately four feet across which was probably a well. Around this, trash was scattered in all directions. There was another area of trash dumping at the southeast corner of the lot. Each of these areas, as well as the "office" area, was selectively surface collected for diagnostic artifacts.

Observations

Although there were some minor variations in the assortment of artifacts collected from the different areas (Table 12), the differences do not appear to be meaningful for interpretation of the site. The bottles and ceramics are all typical of those found on sites occupied in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The slabs of slate suggest that the house had a slate roof. The cast-iron stove and doorknob fragments are also typical of this period. It is interesting that more bottle fragments and part of a stoneware ink bottle were found near the proposed office. While this distribution may be partly a product of the method of surface collection, it does suggest that the office could have been located there.

It appears that the artifacts around the "well" are primarily kitchen-type materials, suggesting the location of the kitchen in the wing which projected to the south. This is confirmed by Mrs. Shearer's description of the later addition.

The presence of a well in this spot is confusing, since Mrs. Shearer describes a windmill and water system in operation from the barn on Lot 11. Since it does not seem likely that the doctor would have tolerated an open and unused well in his yard, this may have been constructed after 1900 when Lot 11 was no longer part of Shearer's property. As of 1960 there was still no community water supply in Wallisville. The area was serviced by individual wells (Neyland 1960).

No trace was found on the surface of the steam gin operated on Lot 1 by Mr. Plotts in 1887-1888. The area was undoubtedly cleaned off and turned

into a lawn by the Shearers as part of their landscaping efforts. This area may contain subsurface remains and should be further examined in the future.

H. R. Wallis House Site, 41 CH 240

History

Lots 11 and 12 changed hands a number of times in the early history of the town and were finally bought by Dr. Shearer sometime in the early 1900s. At this time he built a barn on the north end of Lot 11 and planted an orchard on Lot 12. No mention is made by Mrs. Shearer of any structure standing on Lot 12 during their ownership. Dr. Shearer sold the two lots to H. R. and S. A. Wallis in 1913 (CCDR:4,218). The Wallises moved their large, two-story home from Deelyville to Lot 12 and set it up facing south onto Main Street (Fig. 34). The Wallis family eventually leased the house to others but retained ownership until the government bought the town site. The house was moved away in 1964.

Archaeological Investigation

Lots 11 and 12 are completely overgrown with trees and underbrush. Several large trees remain along the fencelines. Surface examination was conducted over the area, and a pattern of brick piers was cleared and their location mapped (Fig. 35). No trace of artifactual evidence was found anywhere on the lots during the survey. However, the ground cover was dense, and it was not possible to clear a sufficient area to efficiently examine the surface. This could be more profitably done in the winter when the ground cover is sparse.

Observations

The majority of the piers are constructed of locally-made brick, but in a number of cases this foundation appears to have been supplemented and/or reinforced by the addition of a course or an entire pier of a more recent, red brick marked "FERRIS." A few of this same type were found scattered around the Shelton house foundation. The latter were never found in a structural situation and were thought to be a late intrusion. However, in the case of the Wallis house, these bricks were unquestionably used to shore up or reinforce an older foundation, perhaps as a result of the 1915 storm.

It is evident from the location of the piers and from the photograph that the house was built on Lot 12, and barns and outbuildings on Lot 11. Probably the barn on Lot 11 is the one built by the Shearers at the turn of the century. There is no surface evidence of a structure on Lot 12 before the Wallis home was moved there ca. 1913.

Figure 34. *View of Wallis House.*

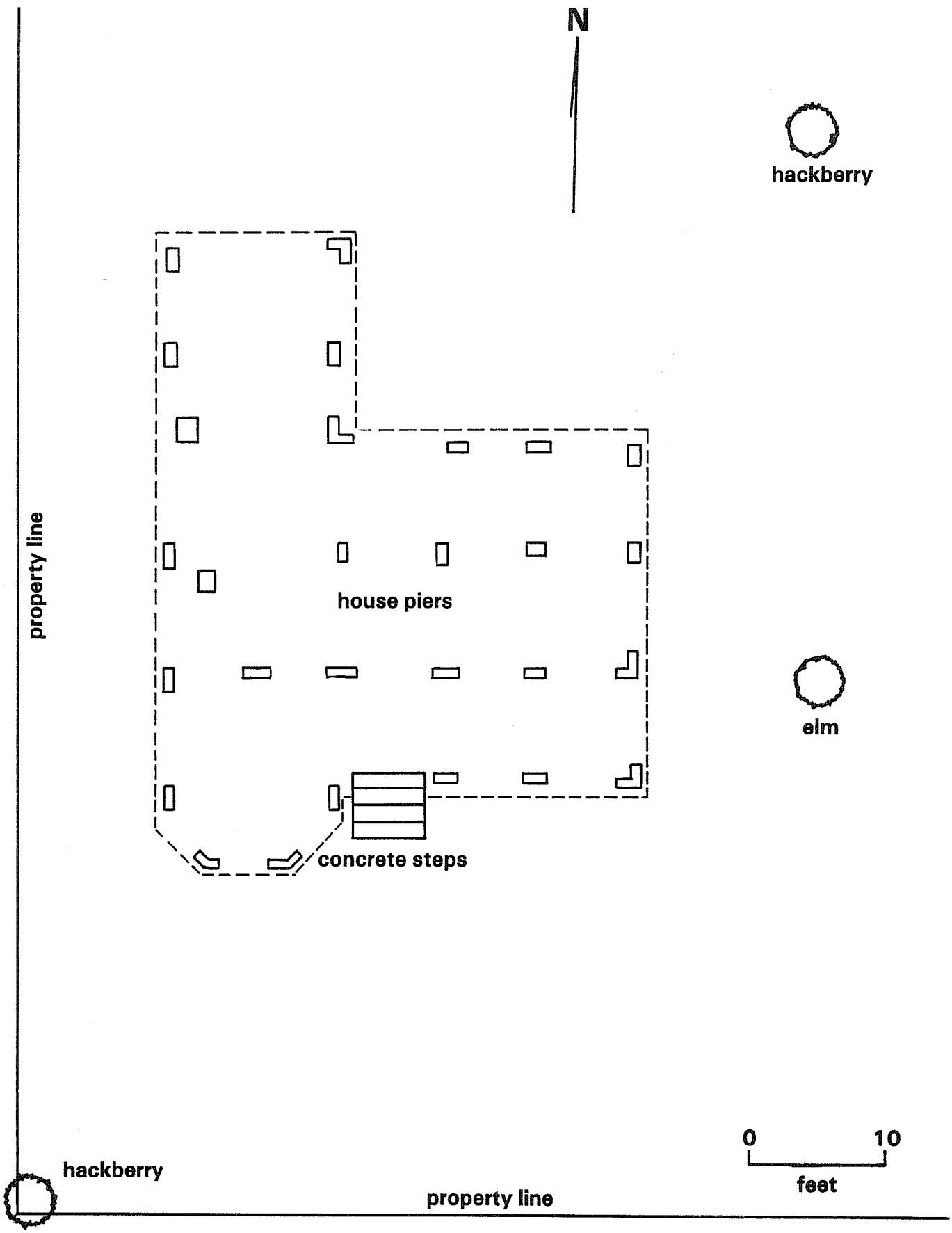

Figure 35. *Map of Wallis House Site.*