

**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF DATA RECOVERY  
EXCAVATIONS AT TRANQUIL HILL PLANTATION  
(38DR141),  
DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**



**CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 419**

**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF DATA RECOVERY EXCAVATIONS  
AT TRANQUIL HILL PLANTATION (38DR141), DORCHESTER  
COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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**Chicora Research Contribution 419**

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## ABSTRACT

This document provides a brief summary of data recovery excavations conducted by Chicora Foundation for Tranquil Hill, LLC at archaeological site 38DR141, Tranquil Hill Plantation, under an existing Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management (OCRM) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The work was based on a data recovery plan submitted with the National Register assessment of the site conducted by Chicora archaeologists during the spring of 2004.

Historic research conducted prior to the data recovery plan revealed that what became the plantation can be traced back to at least 1683/4, although the first good evidence of a plantation house was the 1732/3 sale ad, by which time the plantation had been settled and the main house constructed. Between that time and 1773 the property went through a variety of owners, eventually being acquired by Richard Waring and his wife Ann. They changed the name of the property from White Hall to Tranquil Hill and it was during their ownership that we have most of the historic documentation of the parcel. Plantation activities probably ceased with the death of Ann Waring in 1826, although there was no effort to partition the property until much later.

Site 38DR141 produced a mean ceramic date of 1780 during the survey and National Register evaluation – a date that is consistent with a mean historic date of 1779. A single plat, from 1800, revealed four distinct plantation areas – a main house, a slave settlement to the southwest, a house servants' settlement to the northeast, and a garden to the east. Consequently, the proposed research at 38DR141 focused data recovery from each of

these areas. In the three settlement areas there would be hand excavations of 500 square feet, followed by mechanical stripping intended to reveal additional architectural or settlement layout details. In the garden area we proposed mechanical stripping in order to expose garden features. These features would then be explored using phytolith and pollen analyses.

Data recovery was conducted by a crew of the Principal Investigator and four archaeologists from September 8 through November 1, 2004, for a total of 1,200 person hours.

The data recovery included close interval (20-foot) 18-inch power auger testing of the three settlement areas. The main house area was defined as 260 feet square (with 196 tests). The house servants' area was defined as 160 feet east-west by 100 feet north south (with 60 tests). The slave settlement was initially defined as 140 feet east-west by 300 feet north-south (with 128 tests) and was later expanded to include an additional area measuring 120 feet east-west by 80 feet north-south (with 35 tests). There were additional, connecting tests, for a total of 455 auger tests.

These tests were used to define areas of high artifact density. The data recovery plan specified that five 10-foot units were to be excavated in each of the three settlement areas. We did excavate 500 square feet in the main house and slave settlement, and 600 square feet in the house servants' area, for a total of 1,600 square feet of hand excavations.

The excavations in the main house area revealed extensive looting or brick robbing – as well as dense, high status remains – but failed to

clearly identify the main structure. In the house servants' area the excavations again identified dense remains, also of a seemingly high status, but failed to clearly identify structural remains. In the slave quarters artifact density was – as might be expected – lower, but the most noticeable difference was the very low incidence of European ceramics and high density of Colono ware pottery. In this area we did identify several partial wall trench structures, suggesting rather intensive occupation of a constrained space.

At the conclusion of the hand excavations, a track hoe with a 5-foot toothless bucket was used to expose broader areas in each of the settlement areas, as well as to examine the garden area.

In the garden we identified trenches that appear to be associated with a parterre, as well as individual planting holes, characterized by very dark and organic soil. Also identified at the western edge of the garden is a wall trench structure, while at the northwestern edge was a brick enclosure, perhaps a garden wall. A total of 5,970 square feet were opened.

In the house servants' area we identified a well that had been heavily impacted by deconstruction activities, as well as a brick pier structure with an end chimney. A total of 2,237 square feet were opened in this area.

The main house was revealed only a few feet south of our hand excavations. A nearly complete floor plan was identified, along with a range of architectural and archaeological materials. In this area we stripped approximately 3,000 square feet.

The slave settlement received the least attention, with only 1,098 square feet of stripping, based on the previous hand excavations which revealed several structures. The mechanical cuts documented additional post holes, probable features, and one additional wall trench structure.

Although artifact analysis is on-going, the research seems to document clear differences (in architecture as well as artifacts) between the slave settlement and the house servants' area. The main house area provided a very large collection of high status remains, including a good assemblage of animal bone, suggesting that the kitchen was either in the basement or nearby. The garden area produced good information on layout and plantings that we hope will encourage additional archaeological research in this topic.

Additional historical research is also on-going, with particular attention to the Waring papers.

All aspects of the field investigation are complete – as documented by this management summary – and we believe it is now appropriate to release the site area to the project sponsor for development activities.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures		iv
List of Tables		v
Introduction		1
<i>Background</i>	1	
<i>Research Questions</i>	3	
<i>Proposed Data Recovery</i>	6	
<i>Curation</i>	6	
Excavations		11
<i>Methods</i>	11	
<i>Results of Close Interval Testing</i>	14	
<i>Results of Excavations and Mechanical Stripping</i>	16	
<i>Results of Mechanical Cuts</i>		
Conclusions		47
<i>Initial Findings</i>	47	
<i>Compliance with Data Recovery Plan</i>	49	
Sources Cited		51

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	
1. Site 38DR141	1
2. Sketch map and soil profile of 38DR141 from Chicora survey	2
3. Portion of the 1800 John Diamond plat of Tranquil Hill Plantation	3
4. Aerial photographs of the study tract	4
5. Map of grid auger points at 38DR141	12
6. Auger testing with 18-inch power auger	13
7. Hand excavation in the slave settlement area	13
8. Track hoe excavating in the garden	14
9. Artifact density from the auger tests	15
10. Screening auger tests in the slave settlement area	16
11. Topographic map of Tranquil Hill	17
12. Plan and profiles of excavations at 840R930-950, 850R930-940 in the house servants' area	18
13. View of Feature 1 exposed by mechanical stripping	19
14. Feature 1 bisected by a mechanical cut	19
15. Stripped areas in the house servants' area	21
16. Structure identified in Trench 15	22
17. Plan and profiles at 390R350-360, 400R360 in the slave area	23
18. Plans and profiles of features in the slave area	24
19. Feature 4, west half excavated	25
20. Plan and profiles of 340R230-240 in the slave area	26
21. Feature 5, clay extraction pit	27
22. Feature 2, wall trench	27
23. Stripped areas in the slave settlement area	28
24. Units 820R660-670	30
25. Units 820R660-670, south profile	30
26. Plan and profiles of 820R660-680 in the main house area	31
27. Feature 11	32
28. Plan and profile views of Features 10 and 11, main house area	32
29. Plan and profiles of 660R410 and 900R550 in the main house area	34
30. Plan of main house area	35
31. Main house area exposed by stripping	36
32. Cleaning one of the basement rooms	36
33. Watercolor of the Tranquil Hill house	38
34. Posited garden area	40
35. Wall trench structure at the northwest corner of the garden	41
36. Brick structure at the northeast corner of the garden	41
37. Features 12, 13, 14, and the wall trench structure in the garden area	42
38. Feature 12 and the brick structure in the garden area	43
39. Trenches 1-5, 10-12 in the garden area	44

## LIST OF TABLES

### Table

1. Brick and shell weights in the house servants' area	20
2. Brick and shell weights in the slave area	25
3. Brick weights in the main house area	33
4. Brick dimensions from the main house	37





## INTRODUCTION

### Background

The data recovery investigations were conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Van Malphrus of Tranquil Hill, LLC of Summerville, South Carolina. The field studies were conducted from September 8 through November 1, 2004 with a crew of four archaeologists (Tom Covington, Virginia Livingstone, Julie Poppell, and Nicole Southerland), plus the Principal Investigator (who was on-site throughout the project). A total of 1,200 person hours were spent on the project. Additional eighteenth century documentary research is being conducted by Charleston historian, Sarah Fick; land use data and limited oral history is being collected by the author.

Site 38DR141 was first encountered during a 1980 survey of the Eagle Run channalization project by the S.C. Institute of Archaeology & Anthropology (Scurry 1980). At that time the site was just outside the project impact area and no additional work was conducted. The site form from this initial visit mentions that, "bricks have reportedly been robbed from the site for chimney construction at [a] new house," so years of collecting surface remains may have affected site integrity. The site form

also revealed that primarily eighteenth century materials were found associated and that the remains were likely that of Tranquil Hill Plantation, situated on the edge of Eagle Creek. The site was again visited in 2002, but was still not tested (Hendrix et al. 2002:54-55). The 2002 reconnaissance noted the "presence of brick, mortar, and ceramics dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth century" (Hendrix et al. 2002:56).

In the spring of 2004 Chicora was requested by the property owner, Mr. Van Malphrus, to conduct a cultural resources survey of the 25-acre Tranquil Hill tract, which contains archaeological site 38DR141. This study incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on transects placed at 100-foot intervals along the western edge of the tract. Selective 50-foot interval testing was also conducted in those

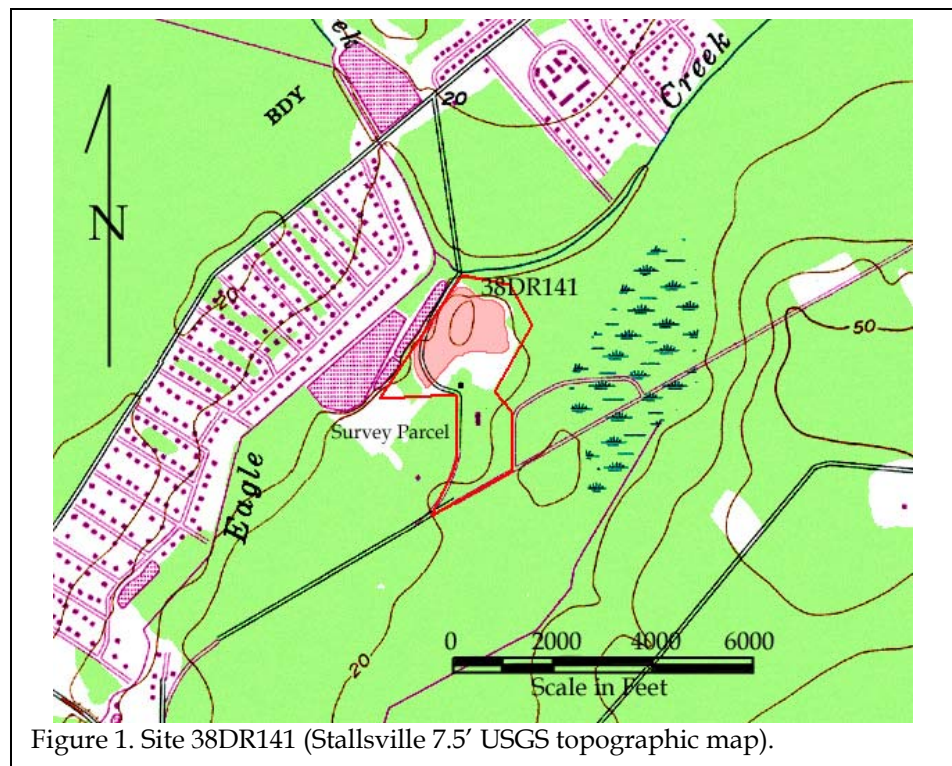
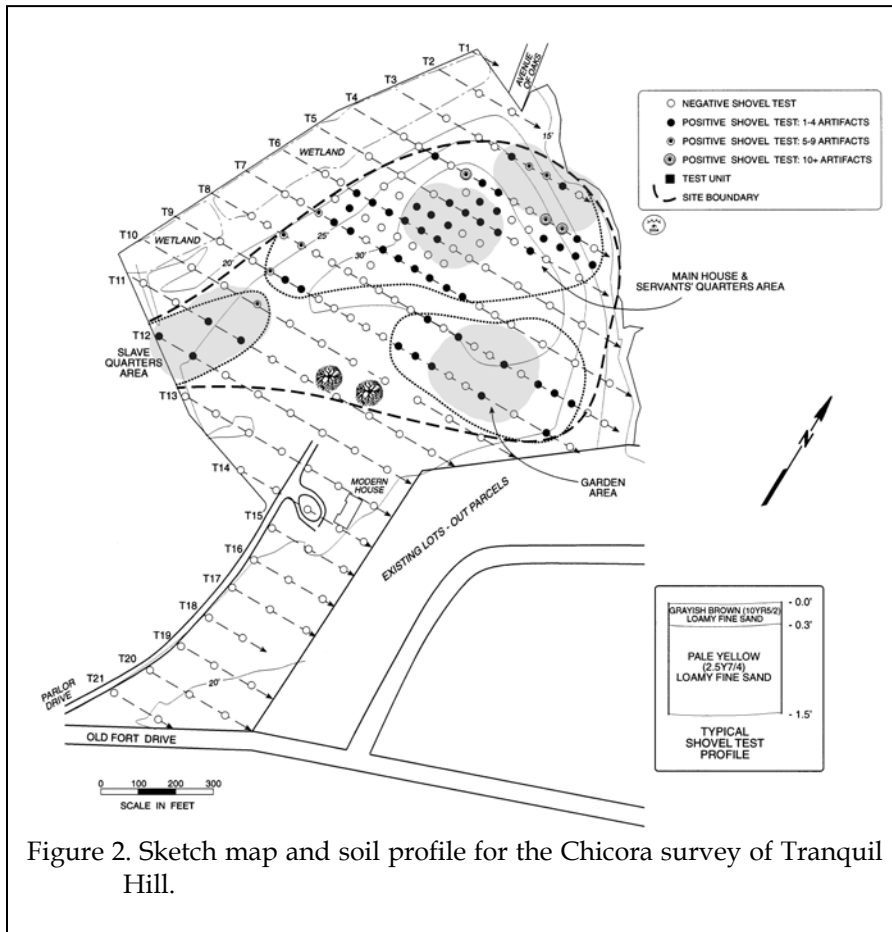


Figure 1. Site 38DR141 (Stallville 7.5' USGS topographic map).

## INTRODUCTION



areas exhibiting a high density of artifacts. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh. A total of 195 shovel tests were excavated along 21 transect lines (Figure 2). Of these 102 (52%) were positive, producing a wide range of Colono ware, European ceramics, and other eighteenth and nineteenth century domestic trash (Trinkley and Southerland 2004). The ceramics recovered from that initial survey yielded a mean ceramic date of 1780 (Trinkley and Southerland 2004:30) and an artifact pattern that very closely resembled the Revised Carolina Artifact Pattern, characteristic of eighteenth and early nineteenth century English settlements.

The preliminary historical research was based largely on H.A.M. Smith (1988:153), a detailed estate sale advertisement from 1732/3 that describes the house, and a single John Diamond plat from 1800. This work, and

particularly the plat, revealed four distinct plantation areas:

- ❖ The main house area, encompassing a T-shaped structure and two subsidiary buildings to the west,
- ❖ A small settlement, consisting of four structures, situated to the northeast of the main settlement,
- ❖ A slave settlement with eight structures, to the northwest of the main house, and
- ❖ Elaborate formal gardens situated down slope to the east-southeast of the main house (Figure 3).

When we examined the location of positive shovel tests (Figure 2) and compare them to Figure 3, we found that the projected areas blur together. This, of course, is to be expected after years of cultivation. Nevertheless, even today the combination of artifact distribution, topography, and drainage features allows us to speculate that the main settlement was situated on the elevation still present in the field. The four structures thought to be the settlement for house slaves is situated on the slope down to Eagle Creek. And the slave settlement is situated at the western edge of the site, perhaps extending off the tract.

Examination 1938, 1966, and 1970 aerial photographs of the tract helped confirm the extent of disturbances. These three aerials are shown in Figure 4. The earliest, from 1938, shows the parcel as an open agricultural field.

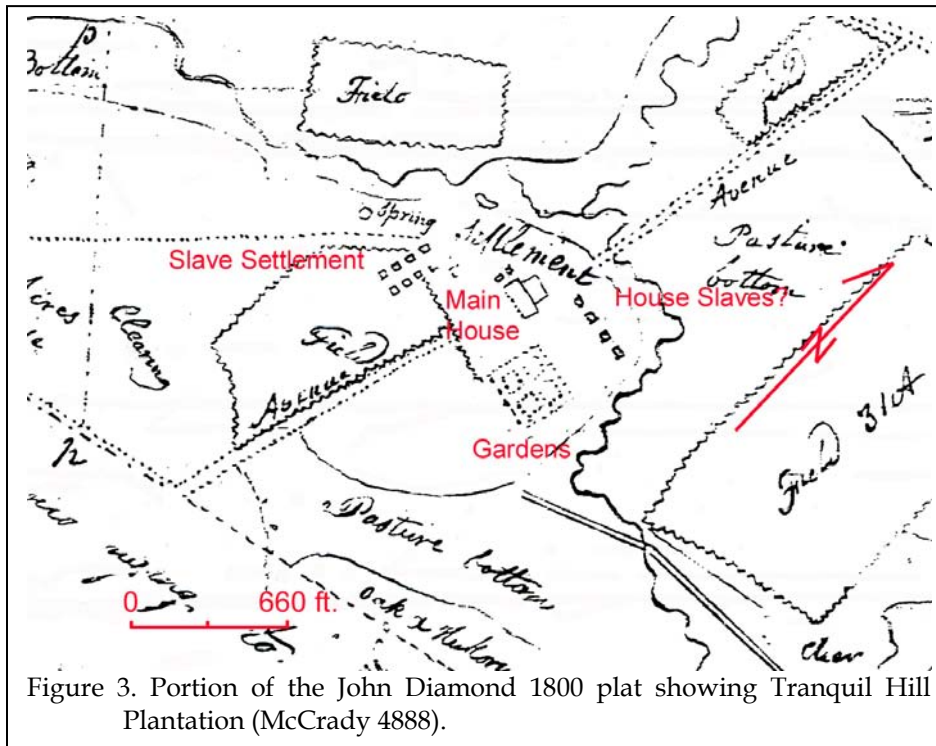


Figure 3. Portion of the John Diamond 1800 plat showing Tranquil Hill Plantation (McCrary 4888).

The vicinity of the main house is shown as a dark, organic smear in the field. There is no clear evidence of the slave settlement, although to the east of the main house there is an unusual area that may represent some remnant of the original garden.

By 1966 there were significant changes to the property. A series of ponds had been created to the west. The main house area is not only still visible, but so too are a series of trenches, apparently for the purpose of robbing brick. The unusual pasture in the garden area is now gone, although some remnants are found at the very edge of the property. This photograph also clearly shows a structure at the south edge of the property.

Only a few years later, in 1970, the main house area is no longer visible - the trenches have been filled in and the pasture has obliterated all evidence of the darker soil. Likewise there is no indication of the garden areas. The house at the southern edge of the tract, however, is still clearly seen.

As a result of our initial survey, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) found the historic components of the site eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places for its information potential (letter from Ms. Valerie Marcil to Dr. Michael Trinkley dated June 22, 2004). Given the large size of the site, the property owner has determined that green spacing was not an option. Consequently a research plan and associated memorandum of agreement

(MOA) were prepared and approved by both the SHPO and OCRM (letter from Ms. Valerie Marcil to Dr. Michael Trinkley dated August 20, 2004 and from Ms. Shannon Hicks to Dr. Michael Trinkley dated September 15, 2004).

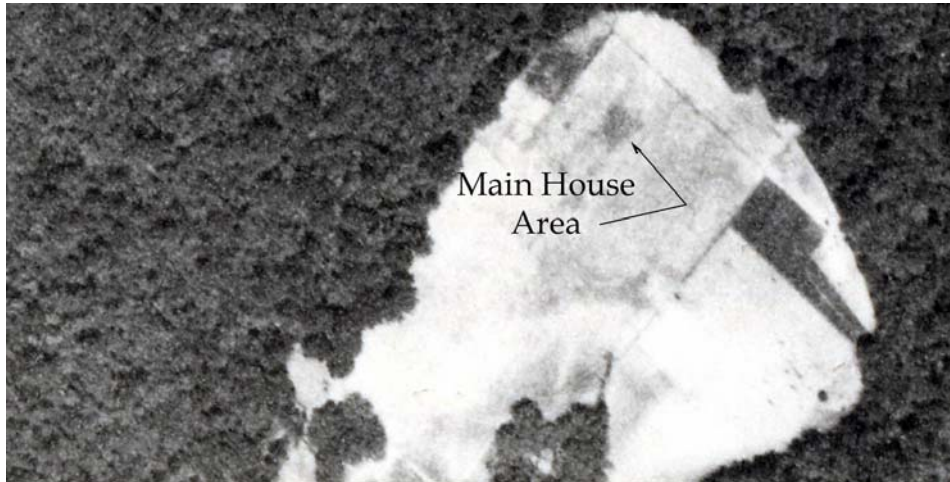
### Research Questions

The data sets that we sought to focus upon include (1) the assemblages from the three different - and distinct - areas of the plantation (main house, slave settlement, and possibly house slave area), (2) the identification of faunal remains from the slave settlement, (3) the potential for structural remains, at least at the main house area where we have historic documentation of at least the early structure, and (4) the possibility of identifying garden remains. Our data recovery plan will incorporate research in these four areas. Each of these will be briefly discussed below.

*Tranquil Hill provides an opportunity to examine the assemblage from three different plantation areas.*



INTRODUCTION



1938, ASN 3A-43



1966, ASN 1GG-43



1970, ASN 1MM-32

Figure 4. Aerial photographs of the study tract.

It is uncommon that there is an opportunity to examine master and slave – and it is even more unusual to be presented with the possibility of examining different social status and lifeways among groups of slaves (such as field and house slaves). Tranquil Hill offers the opportunity to compare and contrast three different settlement areas, examining architecture, material remains, and faunal remains.

The site appears to be a good example of a mid-eighteenth century country settlement, capable of providing data to contrast with other eighteenth century settlements at opposite ends of the spectrum. For example, Tranquil Hill was certainly less prestigious than Crowfield or Broom Hall – both of which have had some degree of main house and/or slave settlement study.

The site also holds the promise of exploring a small settlement, possibly of house slaves – a group of people for whom we have no data. Too often the residences of house slaves are either not shown on plats or else have not survived. While the condition of this site area is not well known, it deserves additional attention.

We consequently proposed to examine architectural remains where they can be identified. In particular we were hopeful of identifying the main house area and comparing it to the historic account. While it is certainly possible that the original structure was modified through time, we believed that the footprint of the original core would still be visible in the archaeological record.

The architecture of slave settlements is surprisingly better understood than that of main houses. Nevertheless, one area of research is whether the ca. 1780 slave structures had been converted to the “better” class of dwellings with piers and brick chimneys or whether, in the country, they were still ground-fast, perhaps of wall-trench construction.

And there is virtually nothing known of architectural techniques used for house servants. Sites such as the Edward’s mansion on Spring Island suggest that house servants were given preferential housing (Trinkley 1990). But whether this one example is typical is uncertain. If structural remains can be found at the area northeast of the main house, this is a question that we can address.

There were a similar range of questions that concern the material remains. While there are few cases where the master didn’t possess not only better, but also more, items than his slaves, we can’t be as certain if differences will be apparent between field and house slaves. Authors such as Dusinger (1996) suggest that privilege was dispensed and taken away as a means of social control. He would argue that there was little that a driver or house slave would accumulate. On the other hand, we have examined at least one site where the remains were so anomalous that special privilege was the only explanation we could find (Trinkley 1993).

We continue to be interested in looking at slave assemblages in new ways. For example, we remain convinced that some items take on different meanings in slave contexts – a few shards of window glass may not represent window glazing but may have been collected and held by African slaves for other reasons, perhaps magical (see, for example, Wilkie 1995, Trinkley and Hacker 1999).

A theme of continued research interest is the documentation of the types of materials found in rural plantations. We believe the examination of the refuse at such sites provides insight on whether the owners were using their plantation as a display of conspicuous consumption or whether the property was a working farm with little emphasis on display. There is some evidence, such as the gardens at Tranquil Hill, that this was intended to represent a country seat – a settlement intended for display and hospitality.

## INTRODUCTION

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The examination of faunal remains is a variation on these themes – exploring intrasite differences (assuming that remains can be identified from the three areas), as well as providing additional documentation for comparison to existing plantation patterns. We are finding that efforts to replicate much of the faunal pattern proposed are difficult, even when the same analytical techniques are used. Of course, some (perhaps even much) of these differences may be the result of small samples and other biases. Nevertheless, we believe that it remains a distinct possibility that there was far more variation in faunal patterns – in foodways and diets – than has previously been realized.

*In addition, Tranquil Hill provides an opportunity explore a late eighteenth century garden area.*

The current site incorporates the garden area, allowing studies that were not possible at Broom Hall (where the garden was already destroyed) and expanding on the initial efforts at Crowfield (where the gardens, preserved, were briefly examined, see Trinkley et al. 1992). H.A.M. Smith, who lived at a time when remnants of many plantation gardens were still recognizable, identified the 18 most outstanding Colonial gardens of the state – and Tranquil Hill was on his list (cited in Shaffer 1939:28).

Although a broad range of research could be conducted here, we have chosen to limit our work to two areas. The first involves an effort to determine if we can identify garden features, such as plantings, terraces, or other artificial areas. The second involves an examination of soil samples for pollen and phytolith evidence that might point to domesticated species. The former approach will require opening several cuts through the gardens, while the latter approach will require identifying non-plowzone strata or features where there is a potential for the recovery of remains.

Strategies for landscape and garden archaeology have been developed over the past decade and a half (see, for example, the seminal work of Kelso and Most 1990, Miller and Gleason 1994), yet the techniques are laborious, and hence expensive. In examining work here in South Carolina, other than our Crowfield efforts (Trinkley et al. 1991), we have found no evidence that researchers have even made an effort to record evidence of early plantings.

### **Proposed Data Recovery**

#### **Historic Research**

We proposed additional historic research to help resolve issues surrounding property ownership and use of the plantation. As previously mentioned, there has been no historical research conducted at the plantation since the very early descriptive work of H.A.M. Smith. This work will not only complete the title search, but will also attempt to reconstruct elements of the tract's social and economic history. We also sought additional information pertinent to garden design and activities in Colonial South Carolina.

#### **Field Research Methods**

##### **Main House Area**

The main house area was thought to cover an area about 260 by 260 feet. We proposed to begin by using an 18-inch auger to conduct additional tests at 20-foot intervals – requiring 196 tests. The soil from these would be screened through ¼-inch mesh. Artifacts would be tabulated; brick and mortar would be quantified and discarded in the field. The two, taken together, would be used to develop density information. This information would be used to determine the placement of five 10-foot units. The goal of this hand excavation would be to collect a large assemblage and, hopefully identify architectural remains. Features identified would be plotted and investigated. The extent of excavation would depend on the

nature of the feature and the materials recovered. Some might be excavated in their entirety, others might only be bisected. Five-gallon flotation samples would be taken of features that have dark, organic soils that indicate the potential for the recovery of floral remains. In addition a similar 5-gallon sample would be taken of all features for water screening for the recovery of small artifacts, such as beads.

At the conclusion of the hand-excavations, we proposed to use a track hoe with a cutting blade bucket in order to strip areas where there was evidence of structural remains. Features identified would be plotted and limited excavation would be conducted in order to identify the nature of the features and provide materials for dating.

If artifact concentrations were encountered in the auger testing that were outside the area of hand excavations or the stripping proposed above, additional stripping or hand excavation would be conducted to explore these concentrations.

#### **House Servants' Area**

In this area we proposed to conduct auger tests over an area measuring 100 by 300 feet, again at 20-foot intervals. This would result in 96 data points and all tests were to be screened through ¼-inch mesh. The artifacts (and quantified information on brick and mortar) would be used to identify high density areas. We then proposed four 10-foot units dispersed in the dense site area to obtain a better sample of remains and also to identify structural features. Features identified would be plotted and investigated. The extent of excavation would depend on the nature of the feature and the materials recovered. Some might be excavated in their entirety, others might be bisected. Five-gallon flotation samples would be taken of features that had dark, organic soils indicative of floral remains. In addition a similar 5-gallon sample would be taken of all

features for water screening for the recovery of small artifacts, such as beads.

At the conclusion of the hand-excavation, we proposed to again use a track hoe to strip areas where there was evidence of structural remains. Features identified would be plotted and limited excavation would be conducted in order to identify the nature of the features and provide materials for dating.

If artifact concentrations were encountered in the auger testing that are outside the area of hand excavations or the stripping proposed above, additional stripping or hand excavation might be conducted to explore these concentrations.

#### **Slave Settlement Area**

In this area we proposed to conduct auger tests over an area measuring 140 by 300 feet, again at 20-foot intervals. This would result in 128 data points and all tests would be screened through ¼-inch mesh. The resulting data would be used to identify high density areas. We then proposed four 10-foot units dispersed in the dense site area to obtain a better sample of remains and also to identify structural features. Features identified would be plotted and investigated. The extent of excavation will depend on the nature of the feature and the materials recovered. As in the case of the other areas, five-gallon samples would be collected for either flotation or water screening, depending on the presence of visible organics.

At the conclusion of the hand-excavation, we anticipated stripping areas using a track hoe to expose additional structural remains.

#### **The Garden Area**

A detailed discussion of garden excavation is offered by Yentsch and Kratzer (1994), who suggest that some "preview" is critical. In other words gardens can be very



large and the probability of recovering significant data based on “cold” excavations is very low. The “preview” is a means of attempting to focus in on those areas most likely to produce garden data.

Yet they then point out that virtually every cost-effective approach has proven to be rather unreliable. Consequently, in this case we relied on the Diamond plat as our “preview” and hoped that we could correlate the garden location using identified structural remains or topographic features (given the cultivation we acknowledge our doubt that any topographic features can be identified).

The use of the plat has some support. Diamond is known anecdotally as a careful and accurate surveyor whose plats are realistic portrayals of the actual place. In addition, similar plan depictions are rather common, suggesting some foundation in reality.

In terms of recovery techniques, it seems that the only successful approach has been stripping or trenching. Both offer the promise of opening relatively large areas quickly – allowing an opportunity to then examine planting beds or features. And it is of course from these areas that we hoped to obtain soil samples suitable for pollen and phytolith studies.

Our approach was to estimate the probable garden area and then to recognize that the Diamond plat shows central walkways north-south and east-west. Since we won't know exactly where these pathways were located, we propose to orient our work at a 45° angle – providing the best chance that garden beds and pathways would be exposed. The stripping, as with other areas, would be conducted by a track hoe.

With the exposure of the garden area we then proposed to clean the area, looking for evidence of plantings. Up to 10 of these planting areas or features would be sampled for pollen and phytolith studies. Photographs will be taken

to document other areas, especially pathways. If other features were identified (such as in situ walkways or steps) they would be drawn and photo-documented.

### Analysis

Once the field investigation was complete the artifacts would be returned to Columbia for laboratory processing. This would include washing, sorting, and cataloging. We proposed to use the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology for the curation of these remains and their cataloging system is therefore being used. As is standard practice, our agreement for this work specifies that the client provides the curatorial facility with fee-simple ownership of the resulting collections.

Analysis of the collections will follow professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains. The temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of the historic remains will follow such authors as Cushion (1976), Godden (1964, 1985), Miller (1980, 1991a, 1991b), Noël Hume (1978), Norman-Wilcox (1965), Peirce (1988), Price (1970), South (1977), and Walton (1976). Glass artifacts will be identified using sources such as Jones (1986), Jones and Sullivan (1985), McKearin and McKearin (1972), McNally (1982), Smith (1981), Vose (1975), and Warren (1970). Additional resources, for example for porcelains and Colono wares, will be used as necessary.

The analysis system will use South's (1977) functional groups as an effort to subdivide historic assemblages into groups which could reflect behavioral categories. Initially developed for eighteenth-century British colonial assemblages, this approach appears to be an excellent choice for the collection and has been used at both Broom Hall and Crowfield. The functional categories of Kitchen, Architecture, Furniture, Personal, Clothing, Arms, Tobacco, and Activities provide not only the range necessary for describing and

characterizing most collections, but also allow typically consistent comparison with other collections.

Another important analytical technique we anticipate using in this study is the minimum vessel count. It is, of course, a prerequisite to the application of Miller's cost indices. The applicability of this approach, however, will depend on the materials found and their context. Although no cross mend analyses will be conducted on the glass artifacts, these materials will be similarly examined to define minimum number of vessel counts, with the number of vessel bases in a given assemblage being used to define the MNV.

Two methods will be used to determine the occupation span of the various excavation areas at 38BK1900. The first method is South's (1977) bracketing technique. Since South's method only uses ceramic types to determine approximate period of occupation, Salwen and Bridges (1977) argue that ceramic types which have high counts are poorly represented in the ceramic assemblage. Because of this valid complaint a second method to be used is a ceramic probability contribution chart (Bartovics 1981).

We proposed to conduct off-site water flotation of those samples collected from contexts that suggest the presence of floral remains. The analysis of these remains will be conducted in-house. Faunal remains are being submitted to Dr. Homes Hogue (Cobb Institute, Mississippi State University) for analysis. The pollen and phytolith samples will be submitted to Paleo Research Laboratory in Golden, Colorado.

### **Curation**

An updated site form reflecting this work has already been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). The field notes and artifacts from Chicora's data recovery at

38CH1278 will be curated at SCIAA. The artifacts have been cleaned and are currently in the process of being cataloged following that institution's provenience system. All original records and duplicate records will be provided to the curatorial facility on pH neutral, alkaline buffered paper. Photographic materials include B/W negatives and color transparencies. The B/W negatives been processed to archival standards.

## INTRODUCTION

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## EXCAVATIONS

### Methods

To provide horizontal control at the site we created a grid covering an area 900 feet north-south by 900 feet east-west. This was a modified Chicago-style grid based on an arbitrary 0R0 point located off the site tract. The most southwestern point that was identified in this grid is 100R100. Although this grid was set out using the general locations of shovel tests and their findings, it was not possible to tie the two grids together since the mowing in the field prior to our field work removed the original transect numbers. Units were designated by their southeast corner and 200R100 indicates a point 200 feet north of the arbitrary 0R0 point and 100 feet right (or east) of that point.

A single vertical control point was used for the excavations at 38DR141 on the top of the hill. Established by Chicora, this point was at 780R740 and the point has an assumed elevation of 30 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). All of the excavations' vertical elevations were tied into this datum and are indicated by AE (assumed elevation).

Using this grid, auger points were established in the three identified settlement areas using a close interval grid of 20 feet (Figure 5). In the slave settlement, at the southwestern edge of the site, the initial grid was 140 feet east-west by 300 feet north-south (with 128 tests) and was later expanded to include an additional area measuring 120 feet east-west by 80 feet north-south (with 35 tests). The main house grid, situated on the highest elevation in the field, was defined as 260 feet square (with 196 tests). The house servants' area to the northeast of the main settlement was defined as 160 feet east-west by 100 feet north-south (with 60 tests). There were additional, auger tests that served to connect each of these

settlement areas, for a total of 455 auger tests site-wide.

The auger tests were excavated using an 18-inch power auger (the equivalent of 1.8 ft<sup>2</sup>) mounted on a Bobcat (Figure 6). After excavation the fill was hand screened through ¼-inch mesh, with brick and shell being quantified in the field and discarded. The results of this auger testing (described below) were then used to direct the placement of hand excavated units.

The minimal excavation unit was a 10 by 10 foot unit. Chicora has adopted engineering measurements (feet and tenths of feet) for consistency in its work, especially on European sites where structural measurements are most often in feet. Formal excavations at the sites were conducted by hand, using mechanical sifters fitted with ¼-inch inserts for standardized recovery of artifacts (Figure 7).

Excavation was conducted by natural soil zone. Most of the site area exhibited a plowzone, generally 0.6 to 1.1 foot in depth, overlying a subsoil with occasional plow scars and plow ridges. Based on previous testing and shovel testing, we identified that all cultural remains were found in this plowzone. Consequently excavations were terminated at the subsoil. Munsell soil color notations were made during the course of excavations, typically on moist soils freshly exposed. A few of the units, especially on the toe of the slope to the north and west, revealed much deeper soils - generally 1.5 to 2.3 feet in depth. This documents considerable erosion from the upper portion of the site with soils deposited on the lower, less steeply sloping elevations.

All materials except brick, mortar, and shell were retained by provenience. Rubble and

EXCAVATIONS

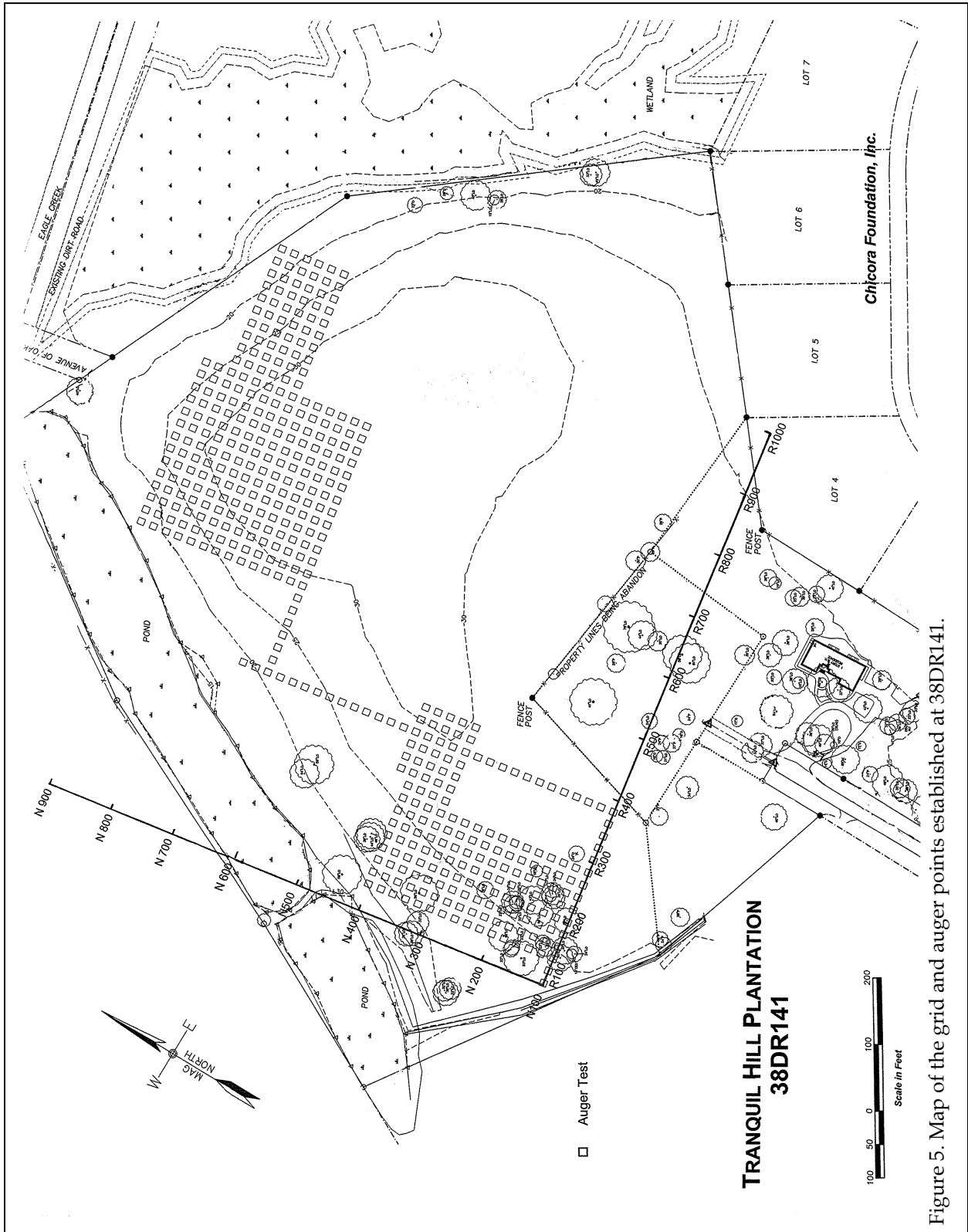


Figure 5. Map of the grid and auger points established at 38DR141.



Figure 6. Auger testing with 18-inch power auger.

shell were weighed and discarded on-site. A one-ounce soil sample was retained from each zone. We have previously retained much larger samples, allowing the luxury of a variety of soil studies. With the current curation issues at SCIAA, this is no longer practical and we have abandoned the retention of large samples.

Units were troweled and photographed using black and white negative and color transparency film at the base of the excavations. Each unit was drawn at a scale of 1 inch to 2 feet. Features were designated by consecutive numbers (beginning with Feature 1). Postholes were consecutively numbered by specific unit. Features, depending on the evaluation of the field director, were either completely excavated, or bisected (i.e., partially excavated). Feature fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and features, upon completion of their excavation, were also photographed using black and white negative film and color transparencies. One ounce soil samples were obtained from all features. A 5-gallon sample

was also retained from each feature – those with dark organic fill for flotation using mechanically assisted water float equipment, those with a lighter sandy fill for low pressure water screening through 1/16-inch mesh.

As a result of this work, 1,600 ft<sup>2</sup> were opened in the three occupation areas. At the slave settlement two areas (one 200 ft<sup>2</sup>, the other 300 ft<sup>2</sup>) were investigated. In the main house one primary area (300 ft<sup>2</sup>) was investigated, as well as two other areas to the west at the toe of the slope (each was 100 ft<sup>2</sup>). At the northeastern house servants’ area two excavation areas were explored – one was 500 ft<sup>2</sup>, the other was 100 ft<sup>2</sup>. A total of 1,941 ft<sup>3</sup> were excavated in primary work.

We also proposed, at the conclusion of



Figure 7. Hand excavation in the slave settlement area.

the hand excavations, to mechanically strip areas of the garden, and occupational areas that might produce structural remains. Consequently, a track hoe with a 5-foot toothless bucket was used to strip areas in the garden, the slave settlement, the main house, and the house servants’ area.



## EXCAVATIONS



Figure 8. Track hoe excavating in the garden

A total of 5,970 ft<sup>2</sup> were opened in the garden area. A total of 2,237 ft<sup>2</sup> were opened in the house servants' area. Approximately 3,000 ft<sup>2</sup> were opened in the main house area. In the slave settlement area an additional 1,098 ft<sup>2</sup> were opened. In each case the stripped areas were flat shoveled looking for features. Identified features were plotted and further evaluated with some being excavated.

### **Results of Close Interval Testing**

Figure 9 illustrates the results of the auger testing.

At the southwest edge of the site grid, in the area of the slave settlement, we found very spotty remains south of about the N300 line. Oral history, combined with evidence of modern brick piles, revealed that this was a structural area from the twentieth century. North of the N300 line, however, we began identifying dense remains thought to be associated with the Tranquil Hill slave settlement. We expanded the original grid to the east, taking in the extension

seen in Figure 9 from R300 to R420, finding that the dense remains continued north and eastward, but had disappeared by about the R400 line. This left us with dense remains in the north central portion of the auger testing area.

In the vicinity of the main settlement we found very dense remains in the vicinity of about N760 to N880 and from R640 to R700 - situated about in the middle of the testing area. Another dense area was identified at the northwest corner of this block, centered around about 900R540. Otherwise we noticed the artifact density thinning noticeably to the west and south.

In the vicinity of the house servants' area - east of the main settlement - we noted particularly dense remains from about N800 to N880 and from R880 to R980. Artifact density seemed to thin to the south, but remain relatively heavy northward.

When the density map is examined as a whole, we note that each settlement area - slave area, main house, and house servants' - is very clearly defined. Elsewhere the density drops to a thin wash or is entirely absent. What this seems to suggest is that refuse, in spite of the rural setting, was not spread around the settlement, but was relatively tightly confined to the three identified domestic areas.

Other researchers (e.g., Zierden et al. 1986:7-2) note that most plantation settlements in the low country of South Carolina have extensive sheet middens (sometimes coupled with marsh or slough deposits) and a lack of subsurface pits.

Consequently, the pattern found at Tranquil Hill is entirely expected, although the proximity of the trash deposits to the various structures is perhaps even closer than at some other sites. In addition, we did not examine the low, wet areas outside the field, so we cannot make statements regarding trash disposal in these areas. We did note, however, that there

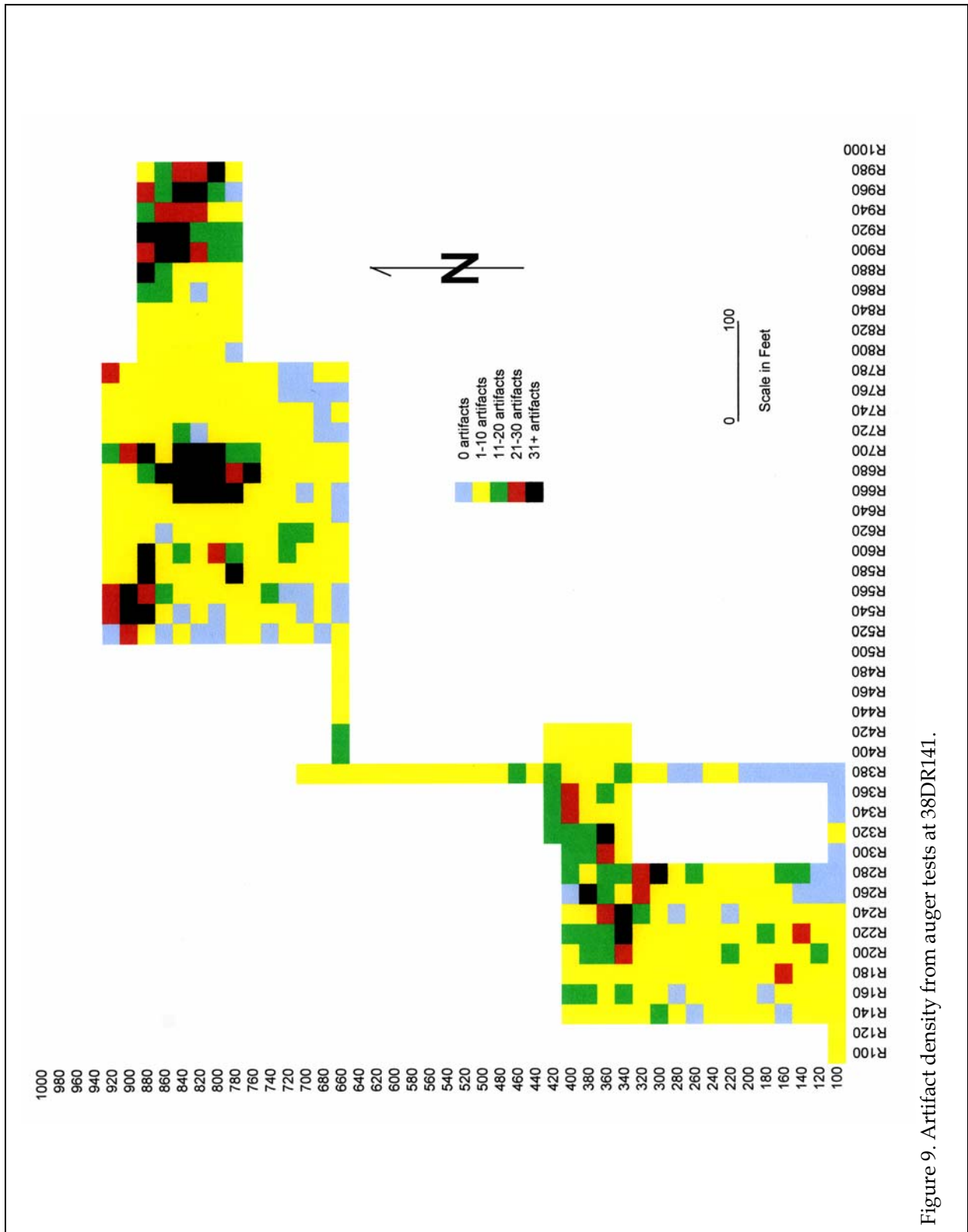


Figure 9. Artifact density from auger tests at 38DR141.



## EXCAVATIONS



Figure 10. Screening auger tests in the slave settlement area.

quantities of phosphate rock, along with partially fossilized sharks' teeth. Brick density increased from the northwest to the southeast (Table 1) and consisted entirely of fragmentary remains. Shell was sparse throughout, consisting only of oyster. Artifacts consisted of a range of eighteenth and very early nineteenth century European ceramics, Colono wares, nails, and clothing items.

Although there was much mottling in the units, only a single feature (Feature 1) and two distinct post holes were identified (Figure 12).

was very little trash disposal on the toe of the slopes, suggesting that little deposition would be found further into the wetlands.

As at Lesesne and Fairbank (Zierden et al. 1986:7-5), we found that plowing caused relatively little horizontal dispersion of artifacts. Of course, plowing at Tranquil Hill was relatively light, being associated with only occasional disking for the establishment of pasturage.

### Results of Excavations and Mechanical Stripping

#### **House Servants' Area**

##### **840R930-950, 850R930-940**

Based on the auger study five units - 840R930-950, 850R930-940 - were laid out and excavated in the area of dense remains. To provide some idea of variability an additional 10-foot unit was laid out at 820R970, slightly upslope.

These units reveals about a foot of very dark gray (7.5YR3/1) loamy sand overlying a subsoil ranging from dark yellowish brown (10YR4/1) clayey sand to a very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sand. The clayey sand subsoil was interesting in that it produced small

Feature 1 was partially exposed in units 840R940-950 at the base of Level 1 and bisected by the N840 wall. This initial exposure revealed a vaguely circular stain measuring about 17 feet east-west and 6.2 feet north-south. It evidenced a border of very dark gray (10YR3/1) loamy sand around an interior consisting of mottled yellowish brown (10YR5/6) loamy sand, very dark gray (10YR3/1) sand, and dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) sandy clay. The western 5 feet of this feature was excavated, revealing a steeply sloping side wall and a total depth of 3.4 feet. The feature fill consisted of lensed zones of fill, including clays, loams, and loamy sands. Artifacts, while present, were sparse. Occasional bricks - highly fragmented - were found.

The feature was interpreted to represent the collar or excavation pit for a well and further work was delayed until mechanical stripping exposed the remainder of the feature outline to the south.

The mechanical stripping (shown in Figure 12), revealed the remainder of the feature, which took on a roughly parallelogram form measuring about 15 feet north-northwest by south-southeast and 17.5 feet east-west (Figure 13). Given the size of the feature and the very low artifact density identified during hand excavation, we opted for a mechanical cut to

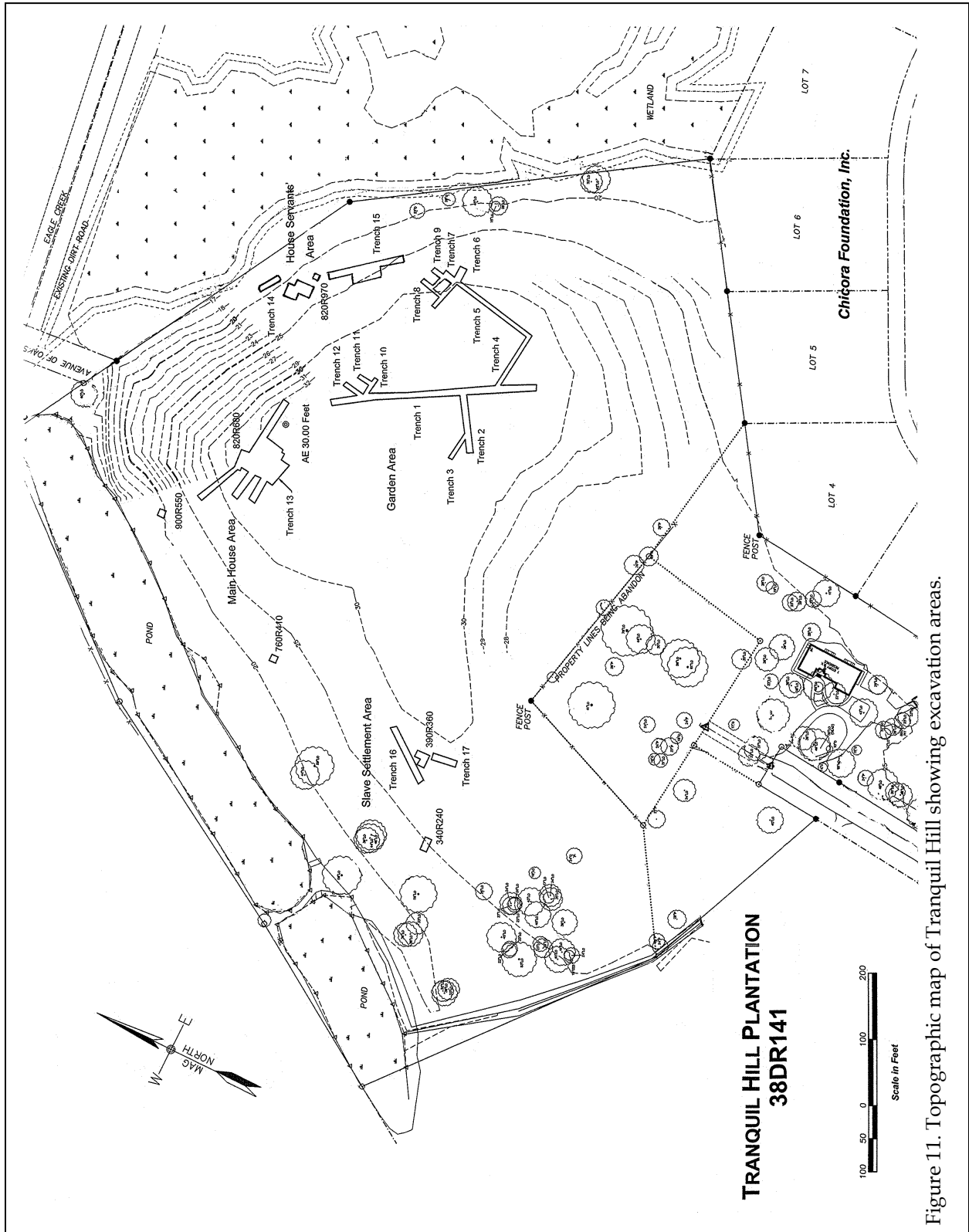


Figure 11. Topographic map of Tranquil Hill showing excavation areas.





Figure 13. Feature 1 exposed by mechanical stripping, view to the northwest; hand excavated section shown in the upper left hand corner of the feature.

base of the excavations – and what we thought was the construction pit actually seems to be demolition of the well, with lensed fill of the demolition hole.

While this might be interpreted as looting, we believe that the damage is far greater than would be present through simple looting. In addition, elsewhere on the site we have found that looting holes were subsequently used for modern trash disposal. No such trash disposal was found in this feature – in fact no modern artifacts were

identified in either the hand excavation or the

bisect the feature, allowing us to examine the profile and determine in more detailed excavations were necessary (Figure 14).

The revealed profile is similar to the hand excavated section, except of course that it extends to the base of the feature. The excavation revealed lensed fill, occasional brick bats, and at the base a 3-foot square excavation that extended

below the water table. The overall depth of the feature was 6.5 feet, with the portion under water consisting of about 0.9 foot.

This feature appears to represent a well, as originally suspected. Typically, however, there is a steeply sloping well construction pit and, in the center, the well shaft, often bricked (see, for example, Zierden et al. 1986:Figure 4-17). In this case, however, there was no well shaft – except for a small remnant at the very



Figure 14. Feature 1 bisected by mechanical cut, profile, looking to the west.

mechanical work. Instead, we believe that the well was intentionally removed from the landscape – perhaps for safety or some other reason. Regardless, it was excavated through and the fill was then placed back in the excavation hole. The only portion of the feature that remains intact is the very base, which indicated a shaft about 3-feet square.

The intact portion of this feature indicates a well very similar to one identified by



EXCAVATIONS

Table 1.  
Brick and Shell Recovered in the House  
Servants' Area (weight in pounds)

Unit	Brick Wt.	Shell Wt.
840R930	150	1
840R940	154	1
840R950	181	<1
850R930	140	1
850R940	100	1

Chicora archaeologists on Seabrook Plantation (38BU323; Campo et al. 1998:51-53). There we found a well 6.5 feet in depth with intact posts below the water level, creating a 2.5 foot square column. The post apparently served to support planks placed between them and the clay wall. With spaces between the boards, water would be allowed to seep into the well, while the clay would be held back and not allowed to erode into the well pit. We envision something similar at 38DR141.

**820R930**

This unit was excavated to the south and east of the initial house servants' block (somewhat up slope), with the intention to provide a sample of artifacts from a slightly different area. We found that the soils in this area were not as deep (Level 1 was about 0.85 foot), although otherwise the profile was very similar to a very dark gray (7.5YR3/1) loamy sand overlying a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) sand and clay subsoil.

Artifact density is very similar to the original block and the collection is dominated by European ceramics and Colono wares. Brick density, however, increases to 152 pounds - consistent with the increase in density to the southeast. Shell density remained constant at about 1 pound, with oyster being the only species identified. Small quantities of phosphate rock and an occasional shark's tooth - likely originating in the subsoil - were found in the excavations.

While the brick density increased (suggesting that we were getting closer to a structure), no features were identified in this unit.

**Stripped Areas**

As revealed by Figure 11, there were two stripped areas in the vicinity of the house servants' locale (as well as the previously discussed stripped area that extended the excavation block south to expose Feature 1).

One stripped area, identified as Trench 14, measured 9 feet in width and 32 feet in length and was situated north of the 840R930-950, 850R930-940 excavation block at the toe of the slope. In this area we found the subsoil was covered by about 3 feet of deposited soil, apparently erosional materials from the higher elevations of the hill. Much of this erosion, however, appears to have taken place prior to the occupation of the plantations since artifacts were sparse and, at the base of the trench, we identified only two post holes (Figure 15).

The other stripped area was designated Trench 15 and consists of a 33 by 9 foot trench at the west end, a 44 by 26 foot block in the middle, and a 34 by 9 foot trench at the east end (Figure 15).

Occupation in this area was far denser, with the artifacts being consistent with the materials recovered from the six hand-excavated units. In the western arm, we identified four post holes and one basin-like pit. In the eastern arm there were an additional five post holes and a large pit, probably for clay extraction. The central stripped block, however, was the most interesting. There we were able to reveal and document all of a structure associated with the house servants' area.

The structure (Figure 16) measures 17 feet by 16 feet, with an exterior end chimney measuring 7 by 3.5 feet (the fire box was 4 by 2.5 feet). The structure was supported on brick piers

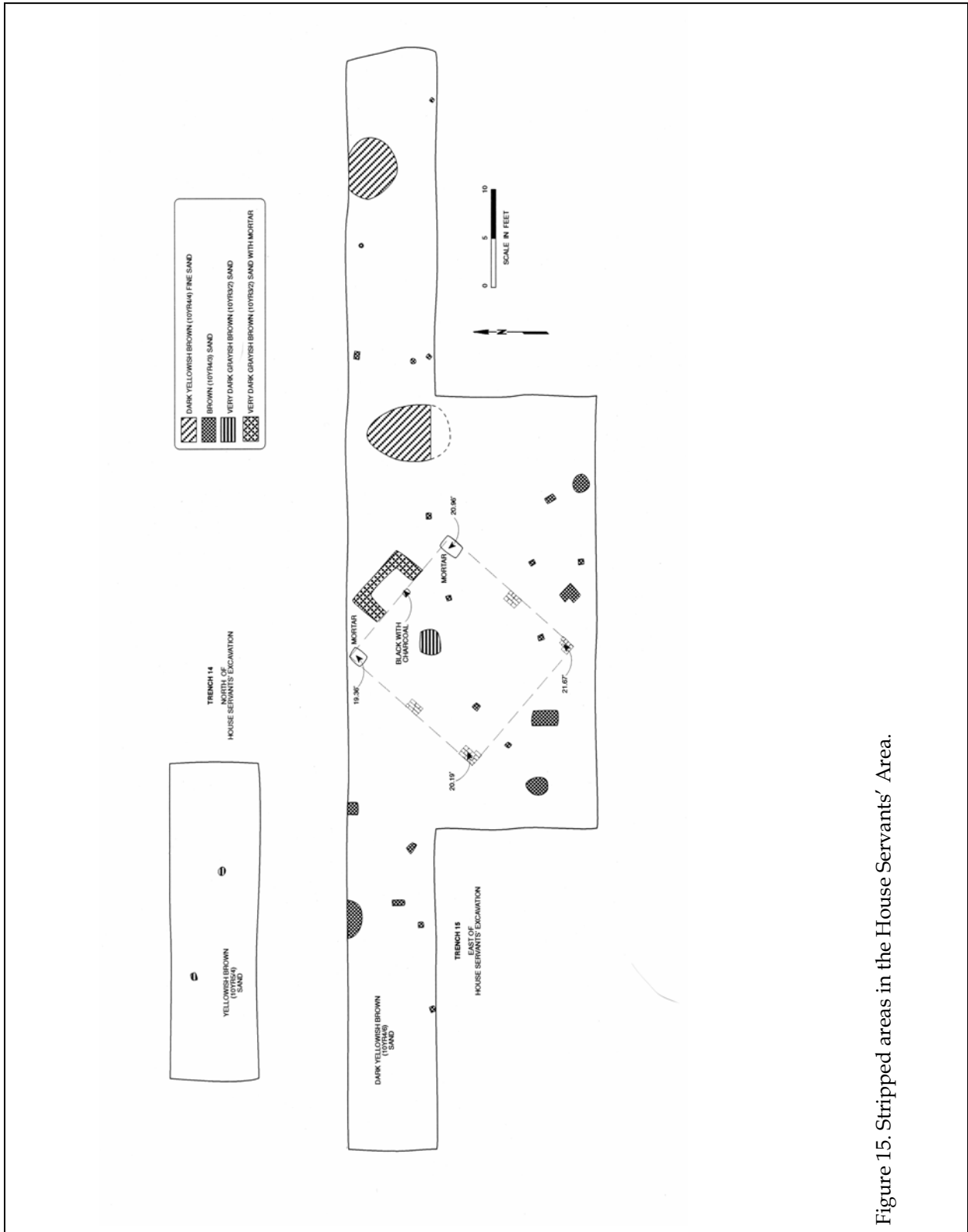


Figure 15. Stripped areas in the House Servants' Area.

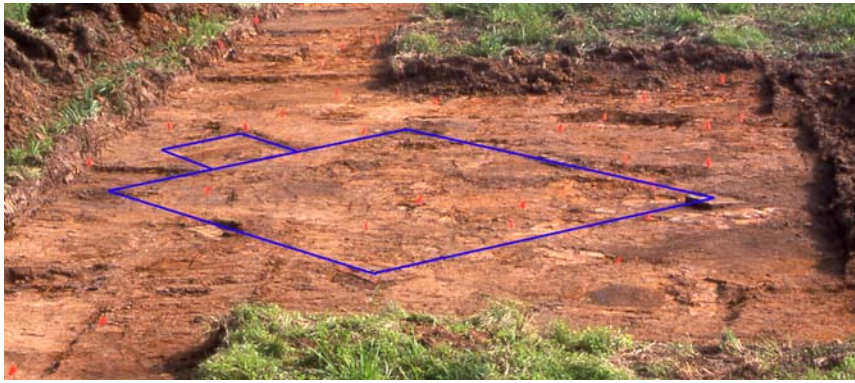


Figure 16. Structure identified in Trench 15, view to the northeast. Structure is outlined in blue.

- three to a side. These piers were constructed using fragmentary brick and a coarse oyster shell lime mortar. The individual piers were not deeply set and the structure itself was built on a 1:11 slope. The sill beam at the fireplace appears to also have been supported by a wood post, probably to help carry the weight of the hearth.

Providing about 272 ft<sup>2</sup>, set on brick piers, and having a defined fireplace, this is a very “classic” plantation structure. It is a far better constructed house than the wall trench structures found elsewhere on the plantation, yet it appears to date to about the same period. We believe that this architecture helped to distinguish the house servants from the field slaves.

### Slave Settlement Area

Two areas were examined in the slave settlement - one with three 10-foot units (390R350-360, 400R360), the other with two (340R230-240) - both based on the findings of the auger density study.

#### 390R350-360, 400R360

The first area revealed level 1 soils of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) clayey sand from 0.6 to 1.3 feet in depth overlying a subsoil of yellowish brown (10YR5/6) clayey sand with heavy mottling. Artifacts were abundant, but consisted almost entirely of Colono ware.

European ceramics were uncommon, as were clothing items - creating a striking contrast to the excavations in the house servants' area. Other contrasts noted were the absence of shell and the low density of brick (see Table 2). Features, on the other hand, were very common, suggesting that the excavations had been placed in the vicinity of intensive occupation

(Figure 17). These features included two partial wall trench structures, situated in such a manner that it appears there were multiple building or rebuilding episodes in this vicinity. Four isolated, but very substantial, post holes were also identified in 390R360, also suggestive of significant building episodes.

Feature 3 was found in the northeast quadrant of 390R360, bisected by the R360 wall. Upon exposure there were multiple, seemingly articulated, brick that suggested a possible pier. Upon excavation, however, no mortar was found and there were no underlying brick. We believe these were fortuitously clustered and represent only discard. The feature was found to be basin shaped with homogeneous very dark gray (10YR3/1) sand fill. The exposed portion measured about 3.2 by 3.5 feet in diameter and was 0.52 foot in depth. There was no lensing to suggest gradual filling. Nor was there dense charcoal or reddening of the sand to suggest use as a hearth. Artifacts were sparse and small.

Feature 4 was found in units 390R350-360, bisected by the R350 line. Identified at the base of Level 1, the feature had very dark gray (10YR3/1) sand fill, similar to Feature 3. The pit was again basin shaped, measuring about 2.7 by 2.6 feet and 0.97 feet in depth.

Feature 5 was found at the base of Level 1 in 390R350 and was bisected by the N390 line.

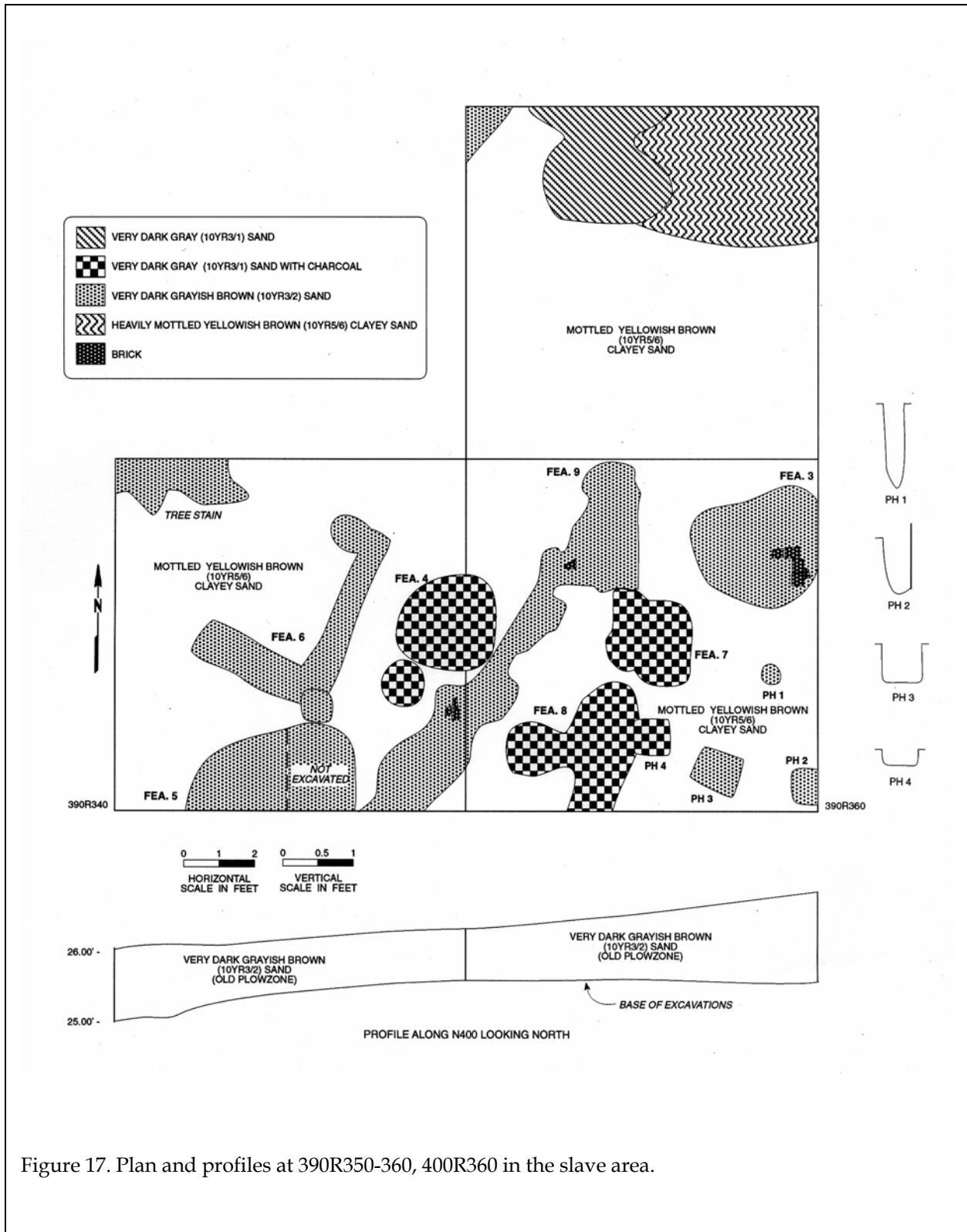


Figure 17. Plan and profiles at 390R350-360, 400R360 in the slave area.



EXCAVATIONS

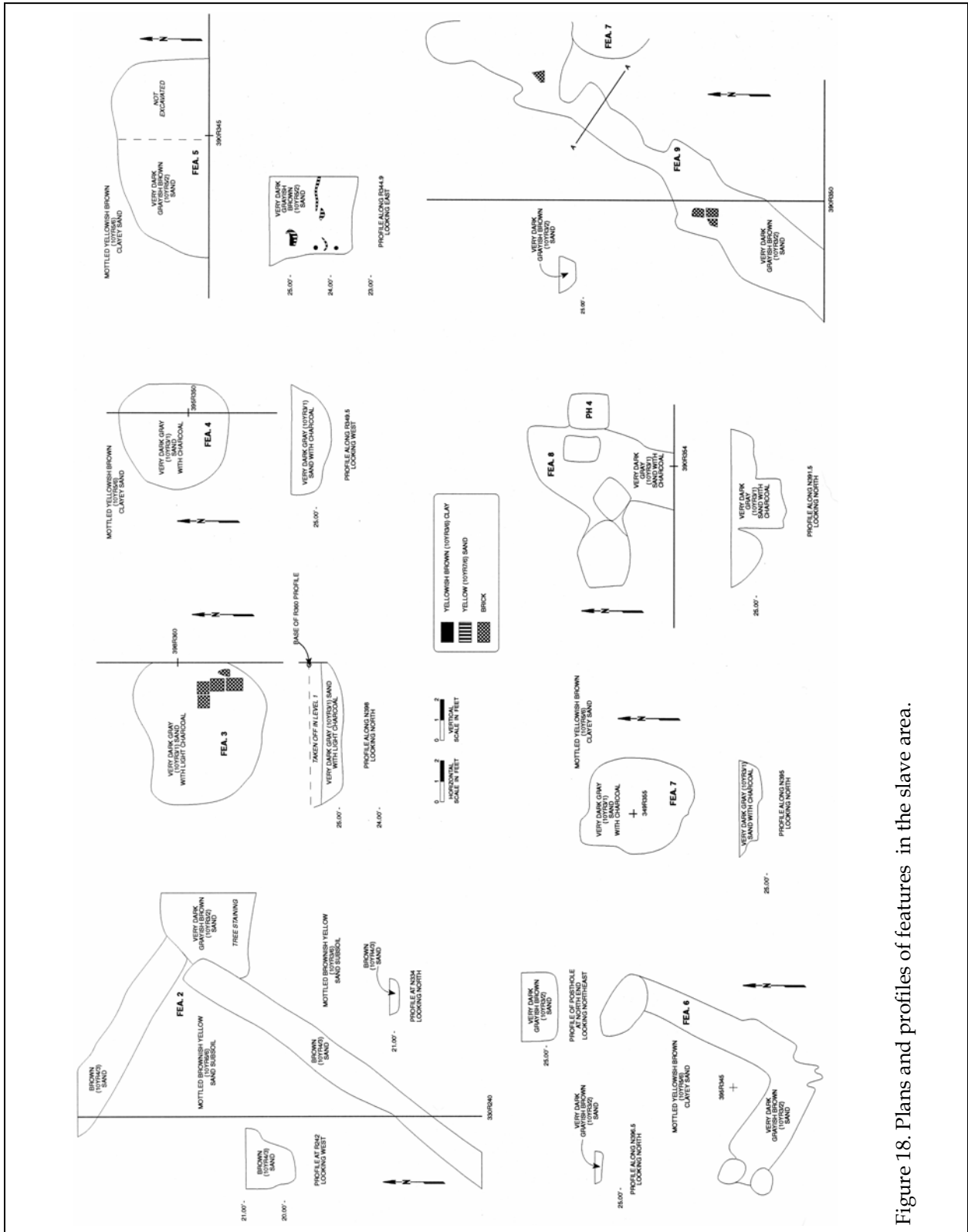


Figure 18. Plans and profiles of features in the slave area.

Table 2.  
Brick and Shell Recovered in the Slave  
Area (weight in pounds)

Unit	Brick Wt.
390R350	50
390R360	76
400R360	49
340R230	55
340R240	54
Feature 3	16
Feature 7	2
Feature 9	4

Only the western half of the pit was excavated, exposing a depth of 2.19 feet. The exposed portion of the feature measures about 4.8 by 2.4 feet and consisted of very dark grayish brown



Figure 19. Feature 4, west half excavated, looking east. This feature is typical of the shallow basins.

(10YR3/2) sand with occasional lenses of yellowish brown (10YR5/6) clay and yellow (10YR7/6) sand. The pit penetrated a dense pocket of clay and appears to have been for clay extraction, possibly for the production of Colono ware pottery. Artifacts were sparse and appeared to be yard debris.

Feature 6 was found in the center of 390R350 and consists of the lower right hand corner of a wall trench structure. The northeast

arm measured 5.5 feet in length before disappearing and the northwest arm measured 3.5 feet. The trench varied from 0.7 to 1.2 feet in width and from 0.11 to 0.22 feet in depth, exclusive of three identified post holes within the trench that had greater depths (up to 1 foot). The trench profiles were consistently straight sided with flat bottoms. Artifacts were more abundant in this feature, given the small volume of soil than in the other pits found in these excavations.

Feature 7 is another shallow basin pit, similar to Features 3 and 4. It was found in the center of 390R360 and consisted of very dark gray (10YR3/1) sand with some light charcoal. The pit measured 2.4 feet in diameter and had a depth of 0.47 foot. The profile is somewhat irregular, but is in general basin-shaped with sloping sides and a flat bottom. Like Features 2 and 4 there is no evidence of in situ burning and artifacts are sparse.

Feature 8 was found at the base of Level 1 in the southwest quadrant of 390R360. It has an amorphous shape and measures about 3.8 feet east-west by 3.5 feet north-south. The interior depth is variable from 0.5 to 1.4 feet. Upon excavation we interpreted the feature to actually represent multiple post holes that had partially blurred together. Three of these post holes were still very distinct at the base of the pit and a fourth (identified as Post Hole 4) was clearly defined at the edge of the pit.

Feature 9 is also somewhat usual. It was identified in the southeast quadrant of 390R350 exiting northeast into 390R360. It has been interpreted as a wall trench segment, measuring about 11.2 feet in length and 0.5 to 1.8 feet in width. The somewhat amorphous shape is attributed to extensive rodent damage, evidenced during excavation has tunnels of darker and lighter soil, and runs through the feature. We believe that the loose soil in the vicinity of the wall trench permitted easier

EXCAVATIONS

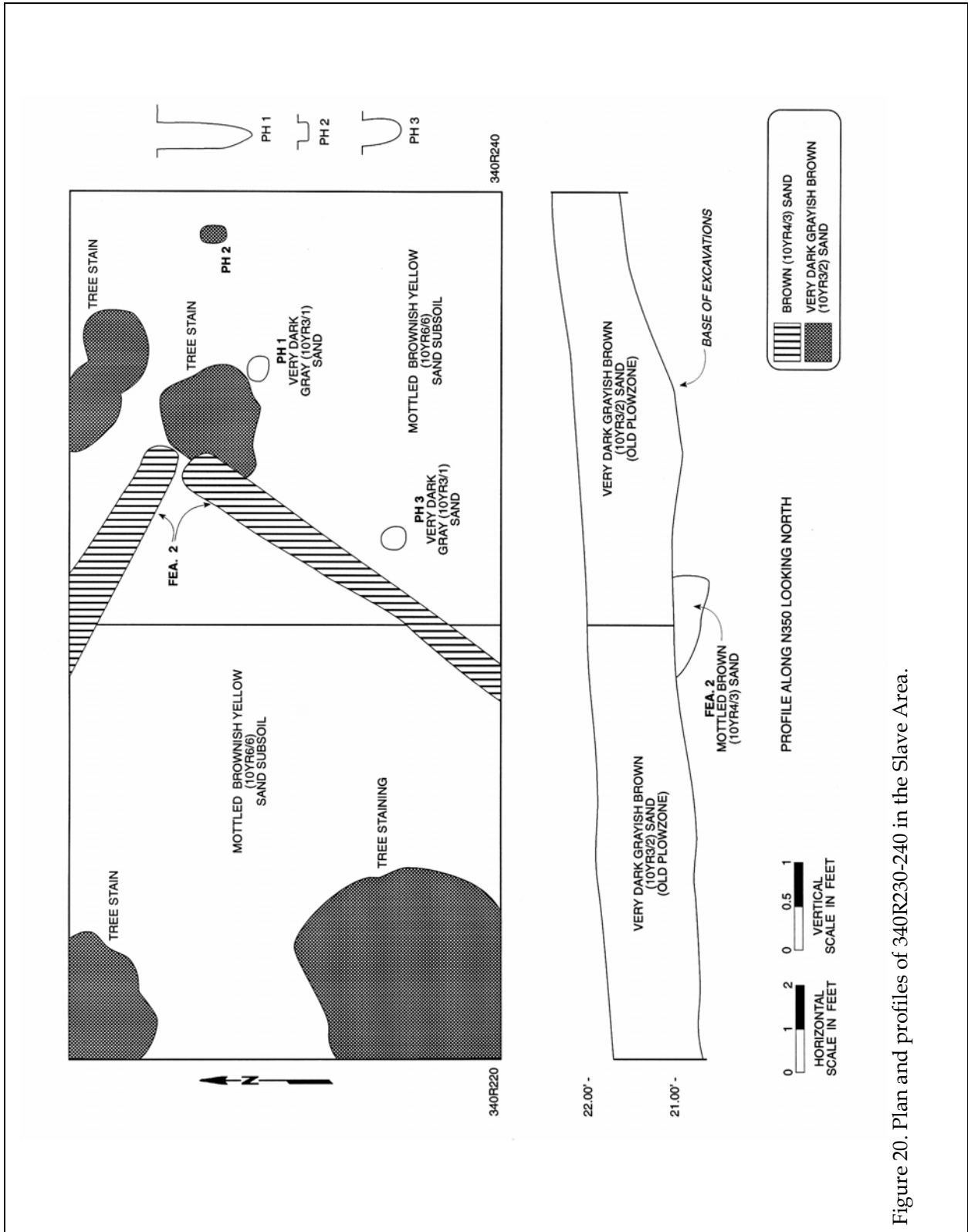


Figure 20. Plan and profiles of 340R230-240 in the Slave Area.



Figure 21. Feature 5, clay extraction pit, west half excavated, view to the east.

movement by rodents – perhaps the structure was even infested with rodents prior to its abandonment.

The features identified in the slave settlement can be compared to those reported from a number of slave settlements, such as Yaughan and Curriboo, two Colonial slave settlements in nearby Berkeley County (Wheaton et al. 1983).

There the authors report identifying a number of features in the slave quarters, identified mainly as clay extraction pits (14), hearths (3), garden areas (3), and trash pits (9). When the clay extraction pits are examined, they seem to have little to distinguish themselves from the trash pits (in fact some of the features are identified as “clay extraction/trash” pits) except that the clay extraction pits tend to penetrate

into the clay subsoil, while the trash pits tend not to. The extraction pits range in size from about 5.5 by 6 feet to upwards of 14 by 19 feet. In general, however, they are very shallow, with depths typically no greater than about a foot (one is as shallow as 0.5 foot and another is as deep as 3.5 feet, but these represent the extremes).

The clay extraction pit from Tranquil Hill is much more like Feature 8 at the Crowfield slave settlement (Trinkley et al. 2003:61) – a pit perhaps 6 or 7 feet in diameter and about 3 feet in depth. The shallow pits from Yaughan and Curriboo, if intended for clay extraction, are very different from those identified at Tranquil Hill and Crowfield.



Figure 22. Feature 2, wall trench structure looking north.

We found no hearths, which seemed at Yaughan and Curriboo to be defined by ashy soils – although none evidenced burning or especially high densities of charcoal. On the other hand, this is a feature type that was



EXCAVATIONS

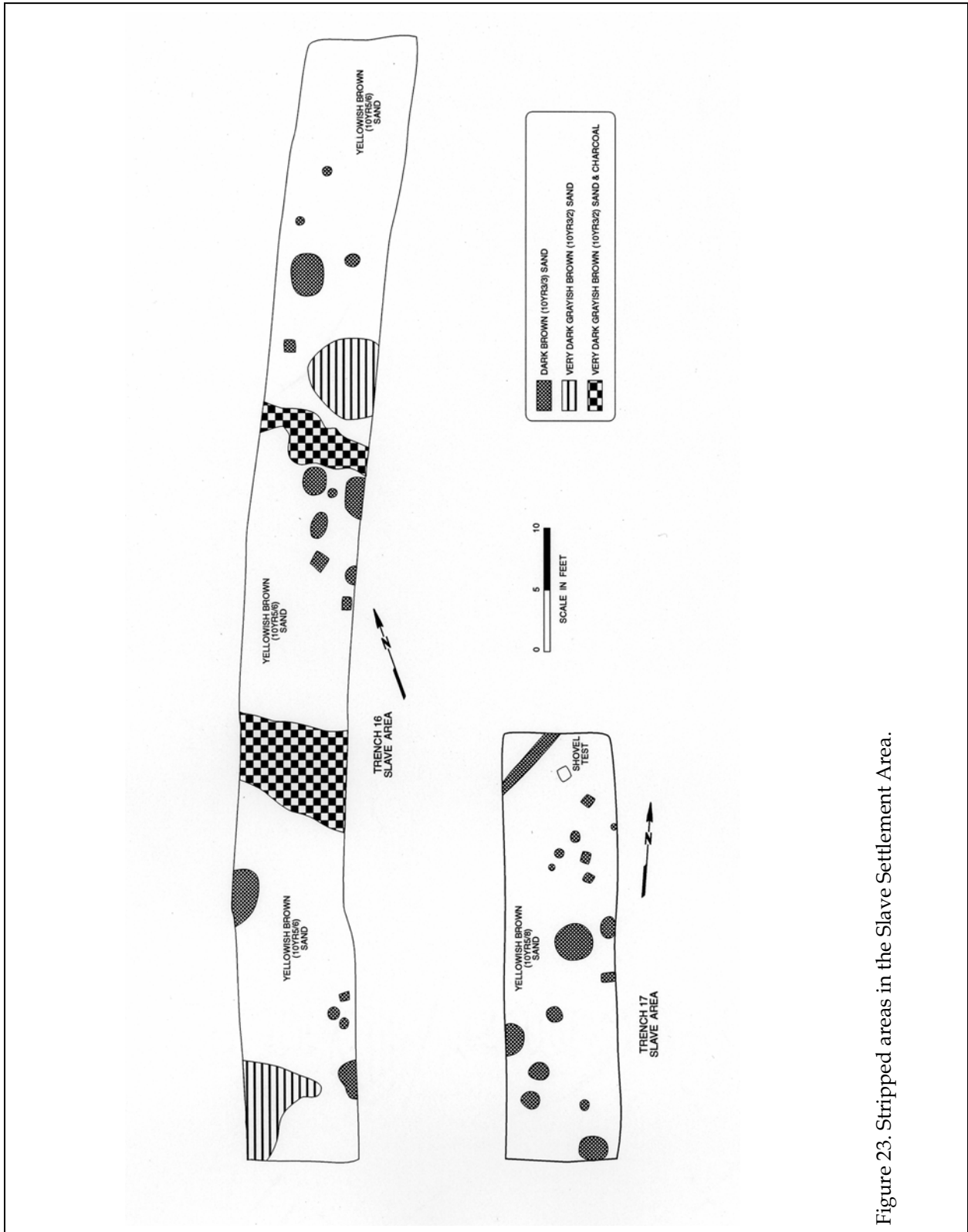


Figure 23. Stripped areas in the Slave Settlement Area.

actually rather uncommon, even at Yaughan and Curriboo.

This leaves us with a number of features for which the best “conventional” archaeological explanation is to call them “trash pits,” in spite of the fact that they contain relatively small quantities of trash and in spite of the fact that it makes no sense to dig a hole in which to deposit what amounts to yard sweepings, when there were fields and swamps in which to dump trash close-by. Perhaps we should be looking at these features as Wilkie (1994) has examined artifacts, looking for alternative meanings? Perhaps these pits represent trash that was of some importance and therefore needed to be hidden or protected from others?

#### **340R230-240**

These units revealed Level 1 soils of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sand about a foot in depth over a brownish yellow (10YR6/6) sand subsoil. The most noticeable difference between this area and the 390R350-360, 400R360 block is that the soils here contained far less clay. There was otherwise little difference in artifact or brick density and the artifacts recovered were similar – dominated by Colono ware pottery.

The units contained multiple tree stains, identified on the basis of vague definition and occasional root lines; three post holes; and a single feature. Feature 2 is the upper right hand corner of a well defined wall trench structure.

Feature 2 was found in 340R230-240 at the base of level 1, extending southwest and northwest. The trench was filled with a brown (10YR4/3) sand and a large tree was partially intrusive at the corner of the structure. Profiles in areas lacking defined post holes revealed a shallow trench about 0.25 foot in depth and typically about 0.7 foot in width. Three post holes were distinct along the northern wall segment, with depths of about 1.3 feet. Artifacts were very sparse.

#### **Stripped Areas**

As previously explained, we conducted relatively little stripping in the slave settlement area since the hand excavations had documented the presence of multiple structures and we chose to focus efforts elsewhere (primarily on the main settlement and the garden area). Nevertheless, two trenches (Trenches 16 and 17) were placed in the vicinity of the initial block excavation.

Trench 16 was 90 feet in length and 9 feet in width. The subsoils in this area were mottled, with several broad areas of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sand and charcoal. There were distinct clusters or concentrations of features and post holes in the trench – one at the south end and the other at the north end. None of these features were excavated.

Trench 17 measured only 35 feet in length and 9 feet in width. The density of remains was greater in this area and, at the north end, we identified another wall trench segment.

#### **Main House Area**

#### **820R660-680**

These units were laid in based on the dense remains identified by the auger survey. In addition, the units were placed to bisect a partially visible trench that we thought might represent a brick robber’s trench and might therefore place us on one of the structure walls.

As it turned out, the main house area was more complex than initially thought. In 820R660 we identified Level 1 soils about a foot in depth consisting of a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) sand. At the very base of Level 1 (and incorporated with it during excavations) was about 0.1 to 0.3 foot of brown (10YR4/3) sand. The subsoil was a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) sand, although we did find rubble pressed down into this layer. In the east central

## EXCAVATIONS

portion of the unit we identified additional rubble, but this was discounted as an isolated -



Figure 24. Units 820R660-670 showing the trench cutting northwest-southeast, as well as the dense rubble deposits in 820R670 (background).

and modern - disturbance. We also identified a very clearly defined trench crossing the unit from the northwest to the southeast. Upon further examination this trench was found to be about 2.5 feet in depth and based on stripping (see below) extended an unknown distance to the northwest. The trench appears to have been excavated and then immediately backfilled - all by hand. We surmised, based on the archaeological, aerial imagery (this trench is visible in the 1966 aerial photograph), and oral history evidence that this trench was intended to find any additional brick structures that could be robbed of brick.

In unit 820R670 and extending eastward into 820R680 the complexity of the units increased. Level 1, while still present, was underlain by additional rubble (instead of subsoil) and Level 2 - a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) sand to a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) clay - was identified and removed. We were not, however, to identify subsoil except in a few areas of the two units. Elsewhere we found pockets of dense brick, mortar, and variously lensed sands and clays. These two units appears to be heavily disturbed.

In spite of the disturbances, artifact density in the units was very high, with a large quantity of high status

items being recovered, along with a relatively large quantity of faunal remains. Many, unfortunately, were associated with the dense deposits of robbed materials or previous trench cuts. No walls or evidence of walls (other than



Figure 25. Units 820R660-670, south profile showing old trench and extensive disturbances.

the various trench cuts) could be identified



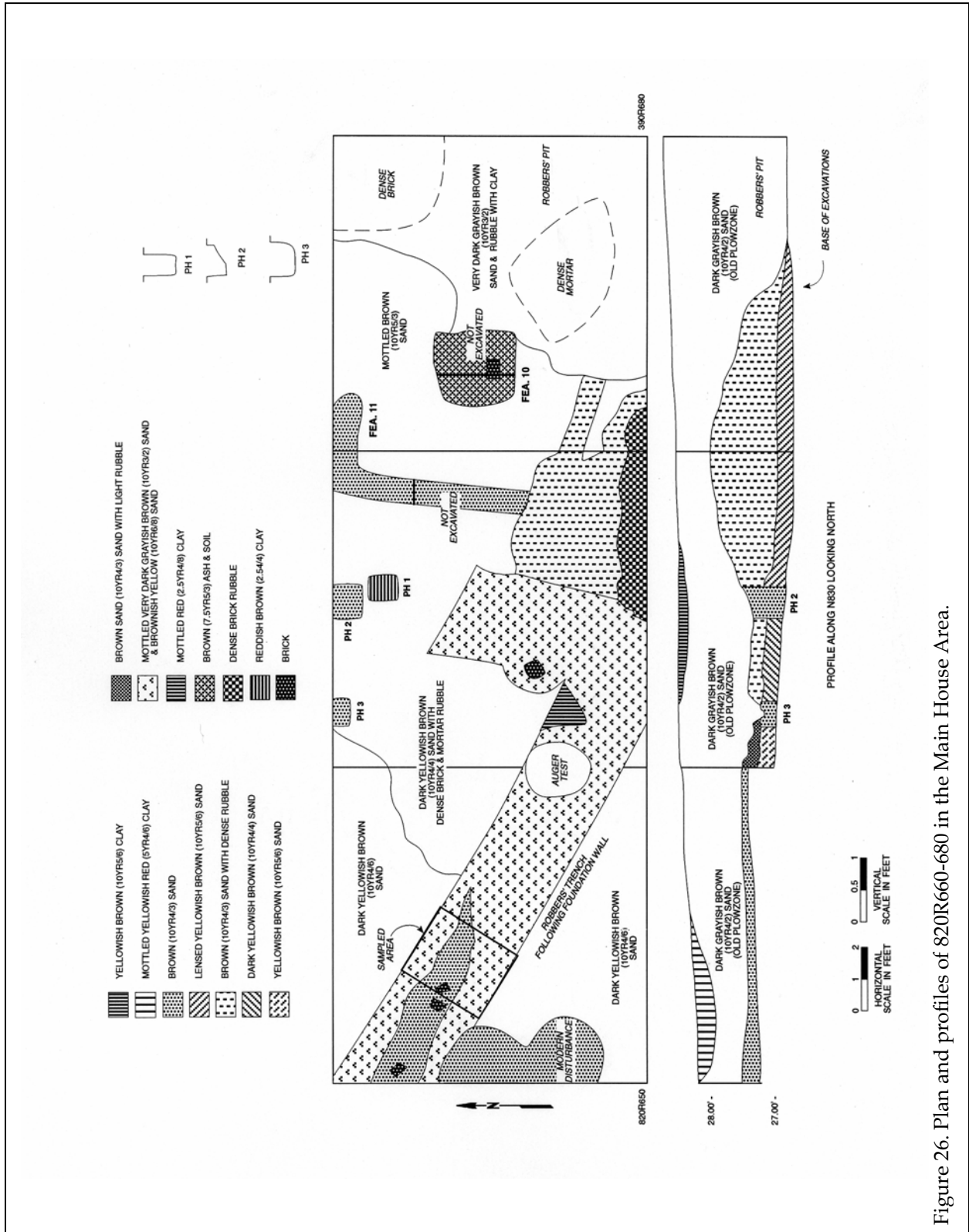


Figure 26. Plan and profiles of 820R660-680 in the Main House Area.



EXCAVATIONS



Figure 27. Feature 11, north half excavated, view to the north.

architectural remains.

Although three post holes were found in 820R670, only two features could be discerned in the three excavation units.

Feature 10 is a vaguely circular stain consisting of brown (7.5YR5/3) ash and sand situated in the west central area of 820R680 at the base of Level 2. Upon excavation of the west half, the feature was found to be a shallow, basin-shaped pit with no obvious function. The pit is about 2.5 feet in diameter, but the depth was only 0.25 foot. We believe that this represents a low spot where ash (from the destruction of the main house) collected.

and we were uncertain - based on these three units - exactly where the main house was situated. Based on the available auger testing information, however, we began stripping southward in the hopes of finding intact

of the main house)

Feature 11 is situated in the northeast quadrant of 820R670 and northwest corner of

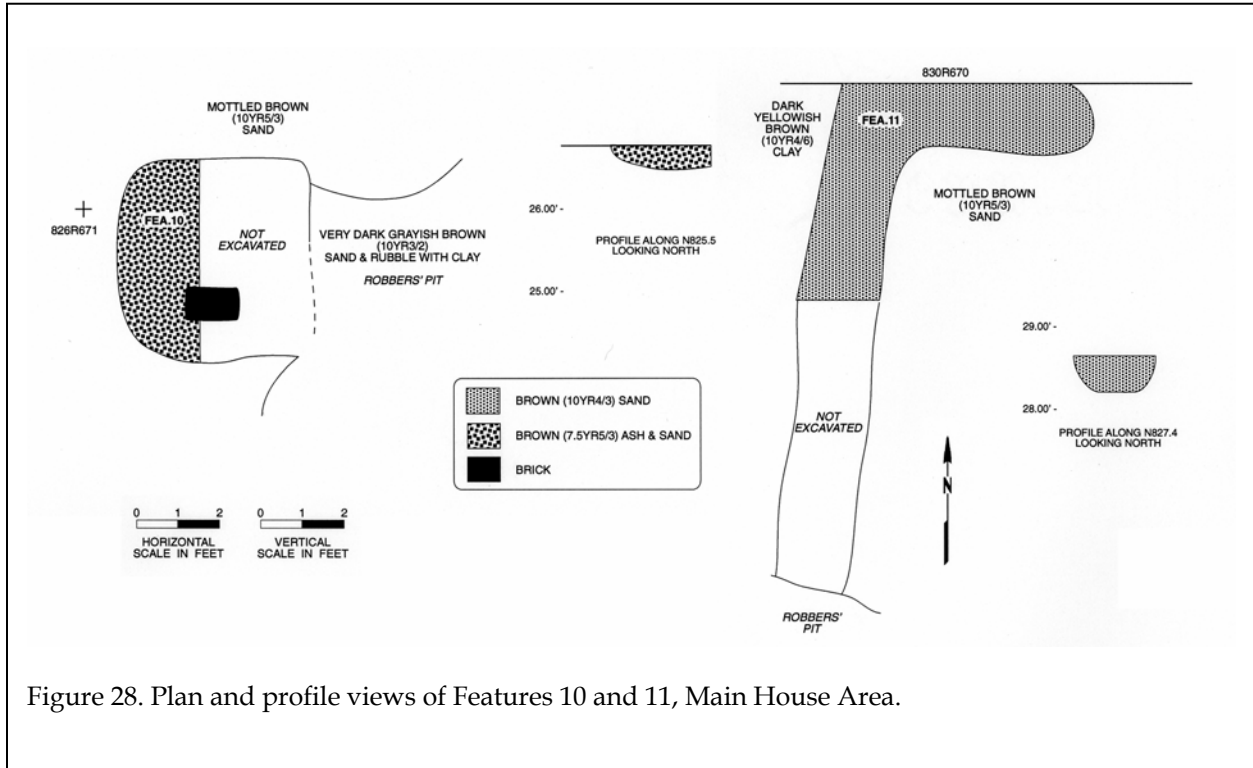


Figure 28. Plan and profile views of Features 10 and 11, Main House Area.

820R680 at the base of Level 2. Initially it was thought to represent a wall trench structure and when a sample was removed it was found to have a maximum width of 0.9 foot and to be about 0.46 foot in depth. It is truncated to the south by a robber's pit and to the east by elevational changes.

The feature is distinct from other wall trenches on the site primarily because of its consistency and the absence of any post holes. As the main house was initially identified, it appears that this feature may actually represent a robbed trench for a single brick porch wall.

Table 3.  
Brick Recovered in the Slave Area  
(weight in pounds)

Unit	Brick Wt.
820R660	705
820R670, Lv. 1	1967
820R670, Lv. 2	695
820R680, Lv. 1	2043
820R680, Lv. 2	474
660R410	34
900R550, Lv. 1	163

**660R410**

This unit, situated southwest of the other main house block, on the toe of the slope before Eagle Creek (now dammed to create two ponds), was placed to investigate a slightly higher artifact density revealed by the auger testing. The investigations revealed a 1.5 foot deep Level 1 of dark brown (10YR3/3) sand over a mottled dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) sand subsoil. No features were identified at the base of the excavations and artifact density was considerably lower than the main house area. We believe the higher density found in the auger test is the result of down slope erosion and soils building up to greater depths.

**900R500**

This unit, situated northwest of the main house block, was placed to explore a

second higher density area identified by the auger testing. This area, unlike 660R410, covered a much larger area and gave us greater hope that a structure would be encountered.

Excavations revealed a Level 1 of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sand with light brick rubble 1.1 foot in depth over a Level 2 of dark brown (10YR3/3) fine sand about 0.5 foot in depth. Below this was a mottled black (10YR2/1) sand varying from 0.3 to 0.8 foot in depth. The excavations terminated on a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) sand subsoil. Artifacts were very dense in Level 1. Levels 2 and 3, however, produced only very low densities and after screening 25% of the unit's Levels 2 and 3, the remainder of these two zones was removed without screening. At the base of the excavations we found only one stain, at the north edge of the unit going into the N910 wall. This was determined to be a tree stain and no artifacts were recovered.

We believe that the lowest zone represents reduced soils associated with the wetlands of Eagle Creek, prior to the channalization and impoundment projects. The Level 2 soils above appear to be erosional, but since they contain few artifacts, they presumably collected very early in the site's history. Level 1, while cultivated, appears to represent not only the recent plowzone, but also the historic A horizon.

The presence of brick rubble and abundant nails suggests that one or more structures may have been in this area, but no clear evidence was identified and no additional stripping took place in this area.

**Stripped Areas**

Our initial stripping at the main house involved expanding southward from the hand excavated units. These cuts almost immediately identified a wall corner and stripping continued to the south and east as shown in Figure 29 to reveal much of the original floor plan of the

EXCAVATIONS

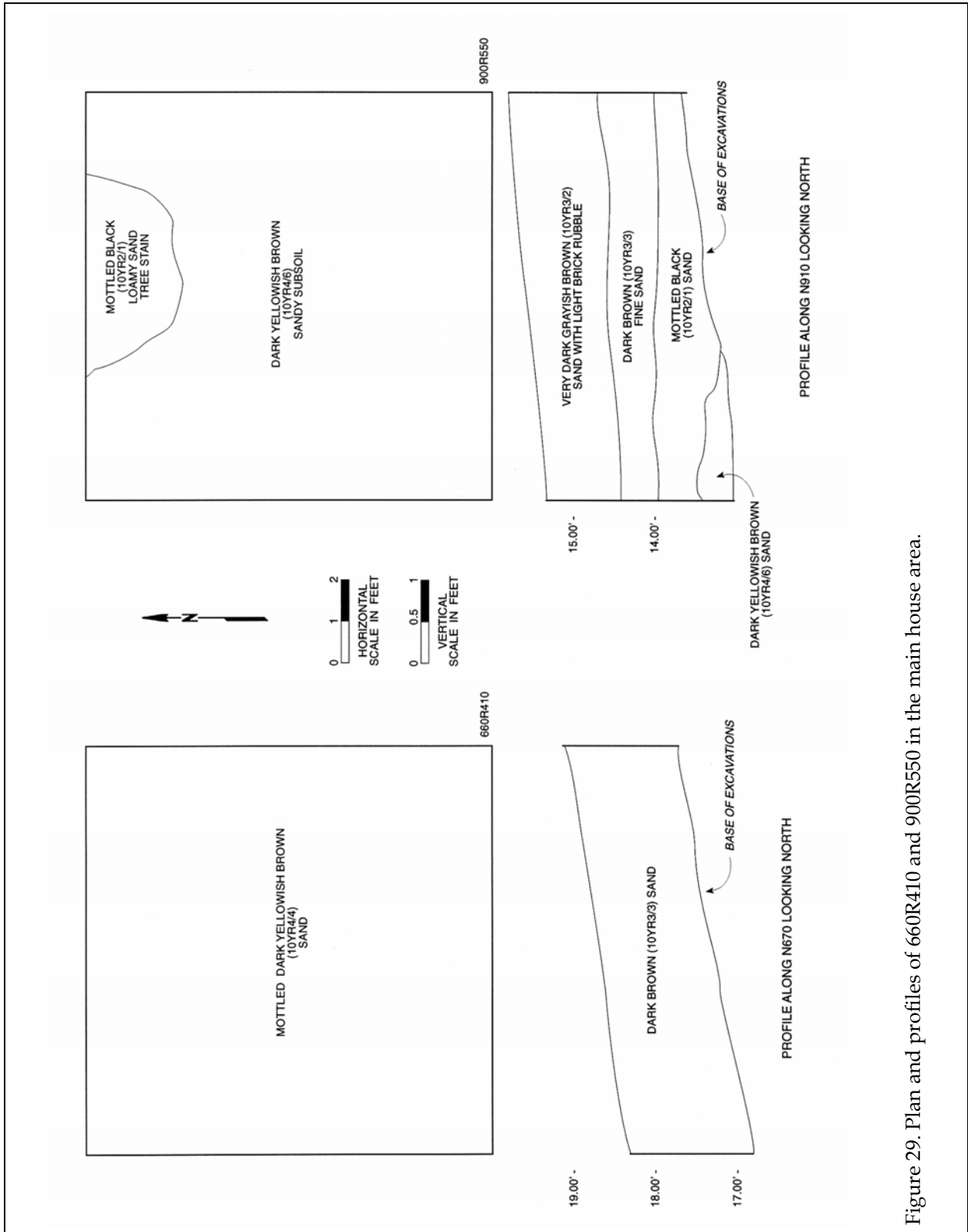


Figure 29. Plan and profiles of 660R410 and 900R550 in the main house area.

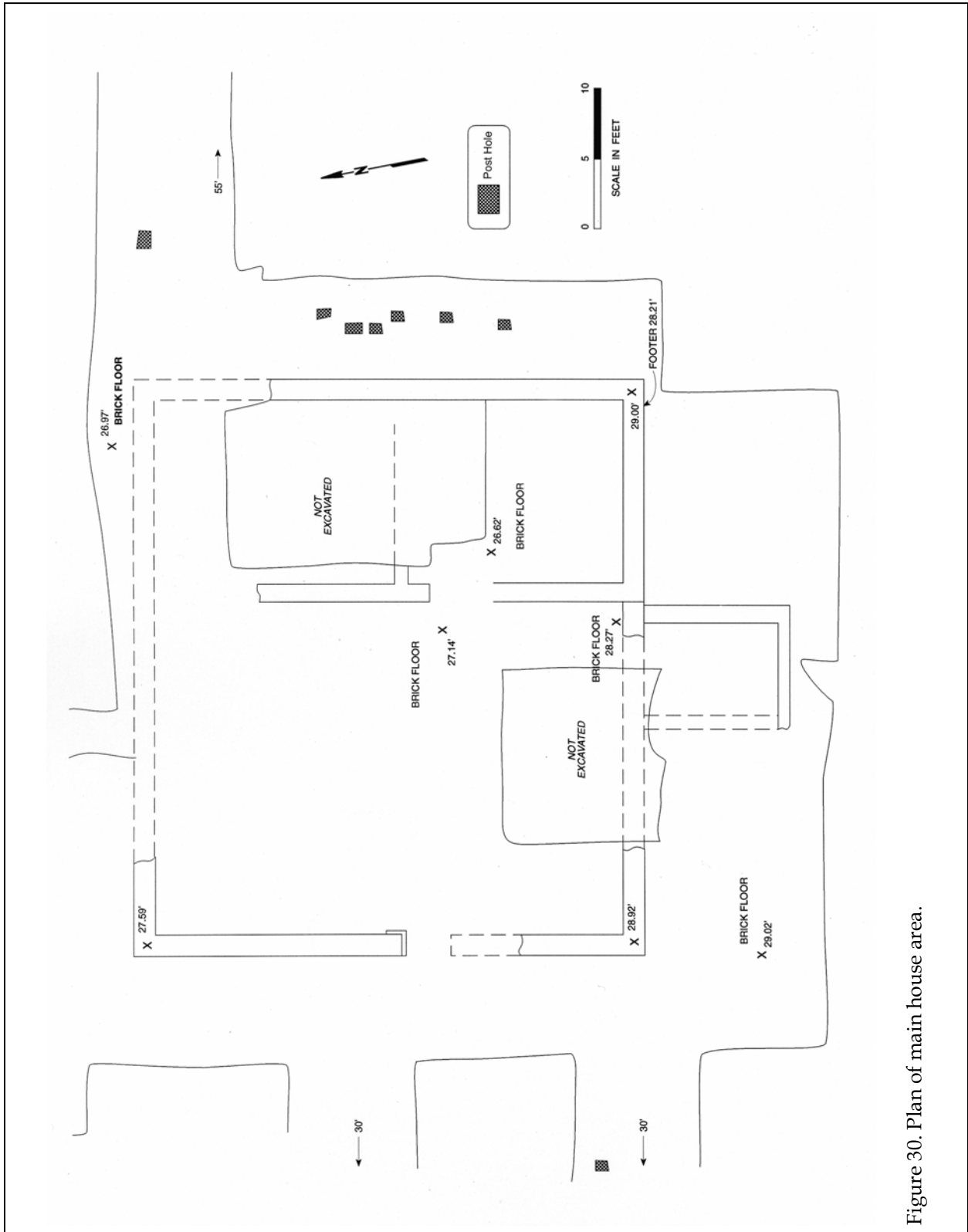


Figure 30. Plan of main house area.



## EXCAVATIONS



Figure 31. Main house area as exposed by stripping, view to the north.

Tranquil Hill mains house. An additional cut was made to the east in order to identify what features might be associated with the second trench seen in the field. We found that there were no walls or other structures to the east,

both of these structure had a very large area been stripped, time did not allow this luxury and we felt that other research goals were more significant.



Figure 32. Cleaning one of the basement rooms with a brick floor. View to the northeast.

suggesting that the robbers - unfamiliar with Colonial architecture or the site plan - were

made and varied considerably in size (see Table 4). Interior walls were 1.1 foot in width laid up

simply making cuts in the hope of finding other structures. We also placed two cuts to the west, in the hope of identifying the two structures flanking the main house, shown in 1800 plat. While both cuts produced a few post holes, none seem to form a distinctive pattern. While it might have been possible to identify one or

The main house was found to measure 40.5 feet east-west (across its front) and 36 feet north-south (representing its depth). The exterior walls were 1.5 feet in width, laid up in common bond with five rows of stretchers and one row of headers. There was a footer course, spreading the wall out an additional 0.3 foot on the exterior. Mortar was oyster shell lime with abundant sand. Abundant salmon bricks were incorporated into the interior wall construction; very few glazed bricks were noted. All bricks were hand



in English common with alternating rows of headers and stretchers.

Table 4.  
Brick dimensions (in inches) from the main house.

Length	Width	Height	Notes
7-5/8	4-5/8	2-1/2 - 2-5/8	Salmon - red 2.5YR5/8
8-1/4	3-7/8	2-1/2	Salmon - red 2.5YR5/8
8-1/8	4	2-3/8	Hard - dark reddish brown 2.5YR3/4
8	3-3/4	2-3/8	Hard - dark reddish brown 2.5YR3/4
8-5/8	4-3/8	2 - 2-1/8	Hard - dark reddish brown 2.5YR3/4

The internal plan of the structure revealed a central hall, probably 8.5 feet in width, with two rooms on either side. The rooms on the east side of the structure were 13 feet in width and approximately 15 and 17 feet in length.

The central hall was laid in brick and we identified two elevations - at the south end of the hall the brick floor was at 28.27 feet, while in the mid-section we identified intact flooring at 27.14 feet - 1.13 feet lower. This difference in elevation may have been associated with the need to provide greater headroom clearance in the main work/storage areas of the basement, or it may have been necessary to provide stair access to the upper floors.

The floor of at least one of the rooms, in the southeast corner of the structure, was recessed even lower - with a floor elevation of 26.62 feet, or a step down from the hall of 0.52 foot. In this case it seems likely that the lower elevation was the result of providing additional headroom.

The interior walls were all finished in sand and oyster shell lime stucco applied directly to the bricks. It was not sufficiently intact to allow any floor joining details to be discerned.

The basement suggests a through-hall plan with two rooms each side off a central hall. The basement walls are sufficiently wide to support a two story - possibly even a three story

- structure above. The archaeological evidence suggests that this was a frame house, with only the basement level in brick. We recovered examples of both red and gray clay flooring tiles, measuring about 8 to 9 inches square. Based on their recovery, we believe that they were originally used on the north porch.

Shelley Smith (1999:199) notes that stone pavers of contrasting colors were commonly used in Carolina plantation houses, with advertisements generally identifying pairs of contrasting colors, such as "red and black." She also mentions that terra cotta tiles, probably of local manufacture, were also used (Smith 1999:200).

We did not, however, find evidence of fireplaces - no arched supports were found along the west wall on the interior and no footing was found on the exterior. Although the interior was not exposed on the east side, no evidence of a footing was found on the exterior. However, we must note that many of the places that evidence for a fireplace would have been found had been heavily damaged by robbing efforts.

We did identify what appears to be an opening in the west wall. The south edge of this opening is missing, having been robbed out. The north edge, however, appears intact and terminates in a slightly expanded column.

At the south façade we identified a wall forming a portico 12 feet in length (north-south) and 10.5 feet in width (east-west). The side walls are 1.1 feet in width, set in English Common Bond, while the front wall is only 0.9 foot in width, also set in English Common Bond. It is probable that the side walls were heavier support the loading of joists running east-west. At the north façade there was very heavy robbing damage. We have previously, however, mentioned that we believe Feature 11 may represent the remnants of a porch. If so, it would

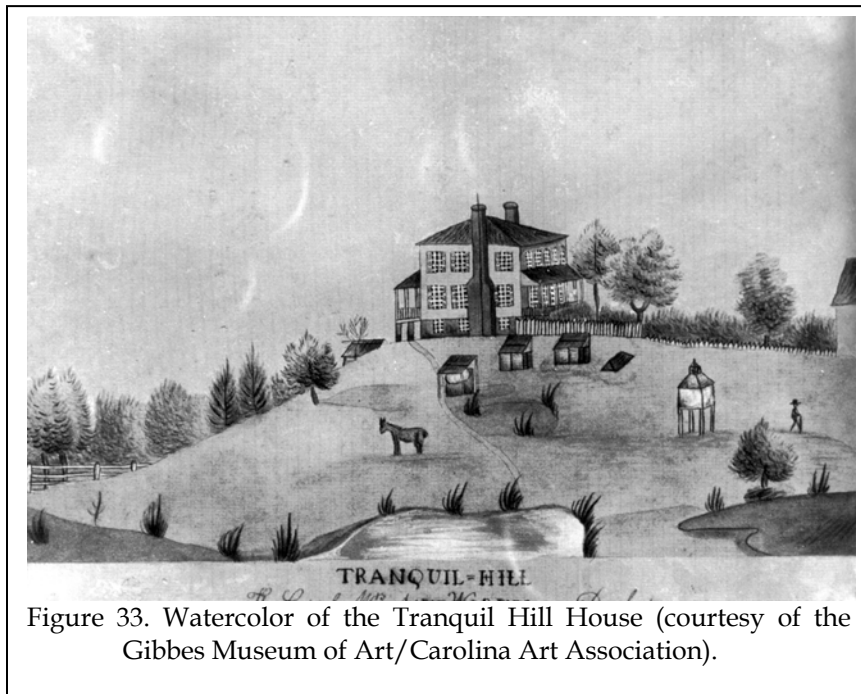


Figure 33. Watercolor of the Tranquil Hill House (courtesy of the Gibbes Museum of Art/Carolina Art Association).

have measured about 13.5 feet north-south and 12.5 feet east-west. Neither of these projected porches would have covered the entire façade.

In most regards this house matches well with the 1732/3 ad:

A beautiful dwelling house 45 Foot long and 35 Foot wide 2 floors 4 rooms on a Floor with Buffets Closets &c a dry cellar underneath with several and Convenient Rooms pleasantly Scituated (*South Carolina Gazette*, February 17, 1732/3).

The house measurements are about 5 feet shy in length and are about 0.5 foot over in width. There is ample evidence to support the dry cellar, with “several and Convenient” rooms, and the floor plan is certainly consistent with four rooms on a floor.

We are also fortunate to have a watercolor of the settlement, painted by Ann Waring – the life of the plantation’s last owner (Figure 33). The view is most likely from the

spring shown in the 1800 plat (see Figure 3) based on the water feature in the foreground and the pathway leading up the hill to the main house. Consequently, we would be looking at the south and west facades of the main house.

While clearly in a rustic style, the watercolor does show a hipped roof, suggestive of a squarish structure; two floors above a basement floor, and a five bay façade on the south elevation. The shape of the house and its elevation are consistent with both the advertisement and the archaeological findings. In

addition, five bay façade suggests a through-hall plan.

What is shown that we have not been able to document are the two exterior end chimneys, placed somewhat to the front of the house. This design, if assumed accurate, is vaguely reminiscent of early structures such as Hanover (ca. 1720), where only the front two of the four rooms per floor were heated. Nevertheless, we have been unable to locate any evidence of these chimneys – likely because the areas where evidence would be identified had been damaged by robbing efforts.

The early antebellum watercolor also reveals that the south porch covered a single story of the entire façade, having a shed roof. Yet our archaeological floor plan reveals a small portico at this point. We may be misinterpreting the brick walls in this area – or more likely there may have been modifications to the structure late in its history and these changes, like the end chimneys, have been destroyed by robbers’ trenches.

The north porch is indistinct in the painting – it may, in fact, represent what we see archaeologically, with the trench excavated for the placement of individual piers (depicted in the watercolor) or there may have been changes on this elevation as well. The 1800 plat does seem to show a relatively large, almost full façade, porch on the north elevation, probably set on piers. It does not, however, show any details of the south façade.

Although we do have some unanswered questions, there is significant congruence of the different lines of evidence, with the archaeological footprint largely matching both the early newspaper account and the much later watercolor illustration.

It is more difficult to place this structure in a developmental context. We know that it was constructed (and probably relatively new) in 1732/3. Assuming a construction date of ca. 1720, this would place the structure in a very early period of plantation architecture. Shelley Smith (1999) believe this was a period dominated by tremendous variety, although most structures had high basements (perhaps the “dry basement” of the advertisement) intended to keep “living quarters safe from the dampness of frequent semi-tropical thunder storms and from the general humidity, experiences perhaps brought by settlers from the Caribbean” (Smith 1999:84). There was a tremendous emphasis on Georgian symmetry and an increasing tendency to see compact massing and double pile plans. In all regards the Tranquil Hill house seems consistent with the early architecture of the Carolina colony.

Smith believes that between 1725 and 1750 there were changes brought about by increasing wealth, such as increased massing and compactness of the plan, expansion in size (with the success of rice and indigo plantations, the cost of labor no longer exerted a significant downward pressure on the size), a greater acceptance of wood as the primary building material for smaller houses, and increasing

formality with symmetrical flankers and formal gardens.

She notes that while pre-1725 houses were might range from less than 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup> to nearly 2,000 ft<sup>2</sup>, size increases up to nearly 3,000 ft<sup>2</sup> and no structures under 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup> after 1725. By the 1750s, few or no structures under 1,500 ft<sup>2</sup> were being constructed. While only 19% of the identified structures pre-dating 1725 were constructed of wood, fully 54% after that date used wood in the upper stories and this increases to 75% after 1750. In addition, the hipped roof became the preferred style (Smith 1999:128).

Smith may also help interpret the porches. She notes that the acceptance of piazzas or full façade porches was a very gradual process, testifying to the deep conservatism of a society retaining its English heritage (and small porches) (Smith 1999:256). She observes that there are contemporary accounts of otherwise “genteel” houses “encumbered with piazzas. Tranquil Hill, dating from the first several decades of the eighteenth century, most likely did not possess piazzas, although they might well have been added after ca. 1740 (Smith 1999:258-262).

We should also point out that while we believe the basement offers support for a through-hall plan, according to Smith (1999:273) this form was actually rather uncommon. More prevalent was a double pile plan with entry into the larger of two rooms on one side and into a separate stair hall between two smaller rooms on the other side. There is some suggestion that the narrow through-halls (8.5 feet at Tranquil Hill) were found to be narrow and dark.

In most respects the Tranquil Hill property spans these two periods, easily fitting into either. While we can't – based on the architecture – tighten the construction date, we can say that the house was consistent with the general period and represented a coalescing colonial style.



Figure 34. Posited garden area from the main house. Note the level surface - essentially an extension of the main house elevation to the east.

A few final comments are appropriate concerning the extensive disturbance found throughout the main house area. There was extensive robbing of brick. This conforms to the oral history that indicates in the early 1950s much brick was removed for the construction of a new house. But we also found extensive excavations even where brick was not removed. These excavations tended to carefully follow the structure walls, with the pit extending out about 3 to 4 feet. In addition, as previously noted, we documented trenches in areas lacking brick. We believe these excavations were for the expressed purpose of looting the site - the practice of following walls is common in looting since a large number of artifacts tend to accumulate along the interior and exterior edges of demolished structures. Many of these loot holes were filled with modern domestic trash - plastic bags, glass jars, automobile headlights, and similar items, some dating as late as ca. 1980.

These loot holes not only removed wall segments, but also the builder's trenches that might have allowed more precise dating of Tranquil Hill. The loss of this critical information provides a very clear indication of why archaeologists have such distain for looters. There were a very few areas where the looting

did not extend out so far as to obliterate a series of post holes about four feet from the exterior wall. These almost certainly represent a scaffold erected to construct the walls of the structure.

### The Gardens

The gardens were explored entirely through mechanical stripping - a procedure that while time and cost effective, tends not to allow especially precise control. Nevertheless, this work allowed the opening of 5,970 ft<sup>2</sup> - an area which would otherwise have proven

impossible to explore.

The initial trench, designated Trench 1, was excavated northwest-southeast in an effort to bisect the garden, any walkways, and planting beds. Toward the southeast end of the trench we identified a narrow (0.8 to 1.5 feet) stain that crossed the trench running approximately east-west. Trench 2 was therefore placed to extend southwest from the center of Trench 1. This would determine if the stain continued to the southwest. When it did, Trench 3 was excavated to the west in order to follow the stain to its terminus. Trench 4 was placed to follow the stain eastward, and it was found to turn 90° to the north. It was followed in this direction by Trench 5. We determined its terminus in Trench 5, but also encountered remnants of the eastern section of a brick wall, having the same approximate orientation as the stain. Trench 6 was placed to follow the south wall of this structure and Trench 7 was laid in to identify the north structure wall. Trench 8 followed the west wall.

We also determined that Trench 1 exposed the southwestern corner of a wall





Figure 35. Wall trench structure at the northwest corner of the garden.

trench structure, so Trenches 10, 11, and 12 were laid in to follow this structure.

As these trenches were plotted (see Figure 11), we found that the stain identified in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 measured about 220 on the south and 120 on the east, creating a garden space of about 0.6 acre. But does this represent the total garden or only a portion, perhaps one parterre?

The 1800 plat of the plantation does reveal a garden area located east and south of the main house. In other words, the garden does not appear to extend north past the main house. This is consistent with the identified stain, suggesting that it represents at least the north edge of the garden. The plat also reveals a

garden (divided into four parterres) measuring about 260 feet on a side, or 1.6 acres.

The identified 220 foot east-west length is roughly consistent with the plat, but we are short between 100 and 120 feet on the north-south distance. Extending the garden 100 feet further to the north would not only place it on a significant slope (that shows no evidence of terracing), but it would place the gardens in close proximity to the house servants' quarters. Both seem unlikely. Instead, we believe that the garden extended an additional 100 to 120 feet to the south - beyond any of our trenches.



Figure 36. Brick structure at the northeast corner of the garden.

We also believe that the brick wall and the posited wall trench structure are matching



EXCAVATIONS

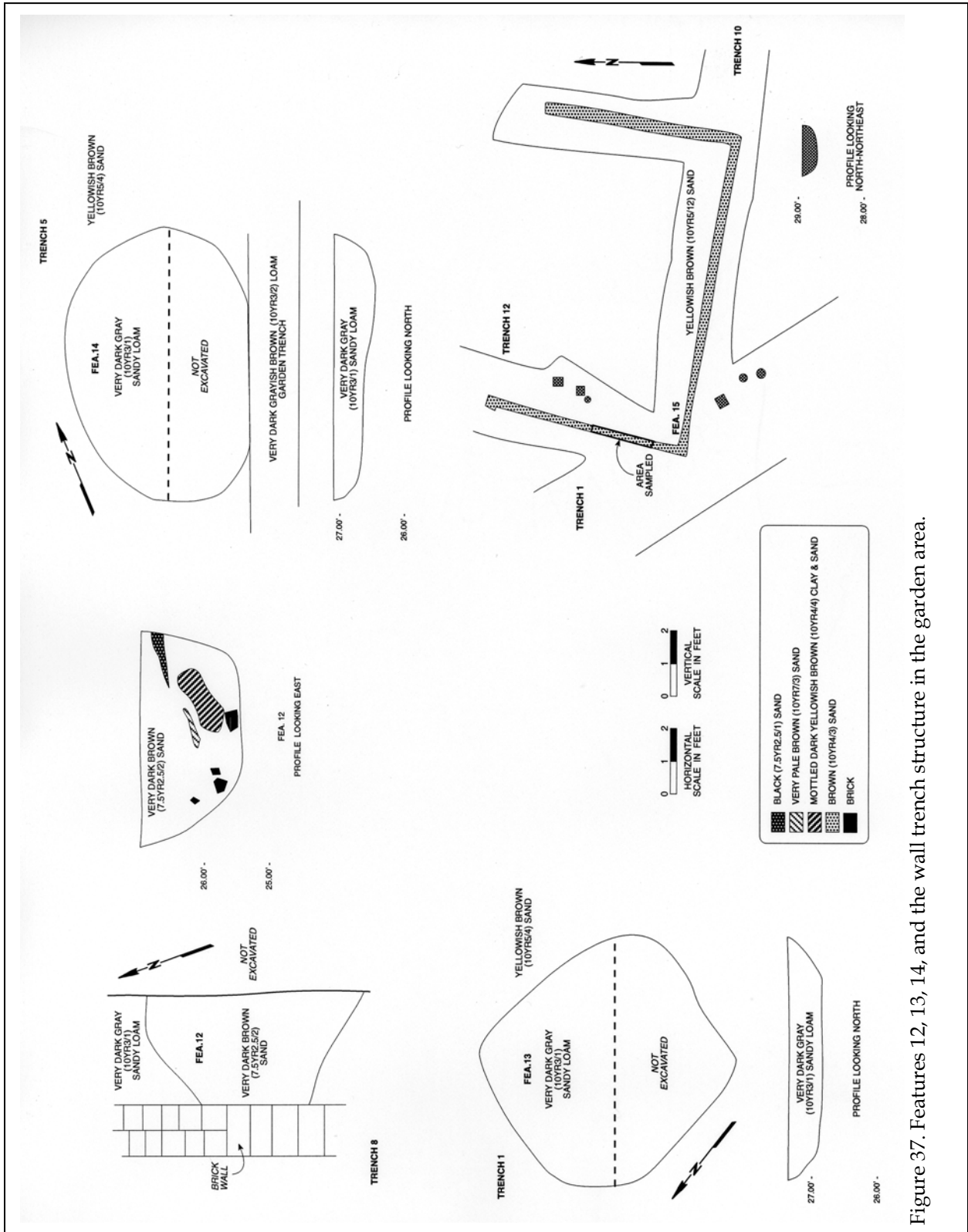


Figure 37. Features 12, 13, 14, and the wall trench structure in the garden area.

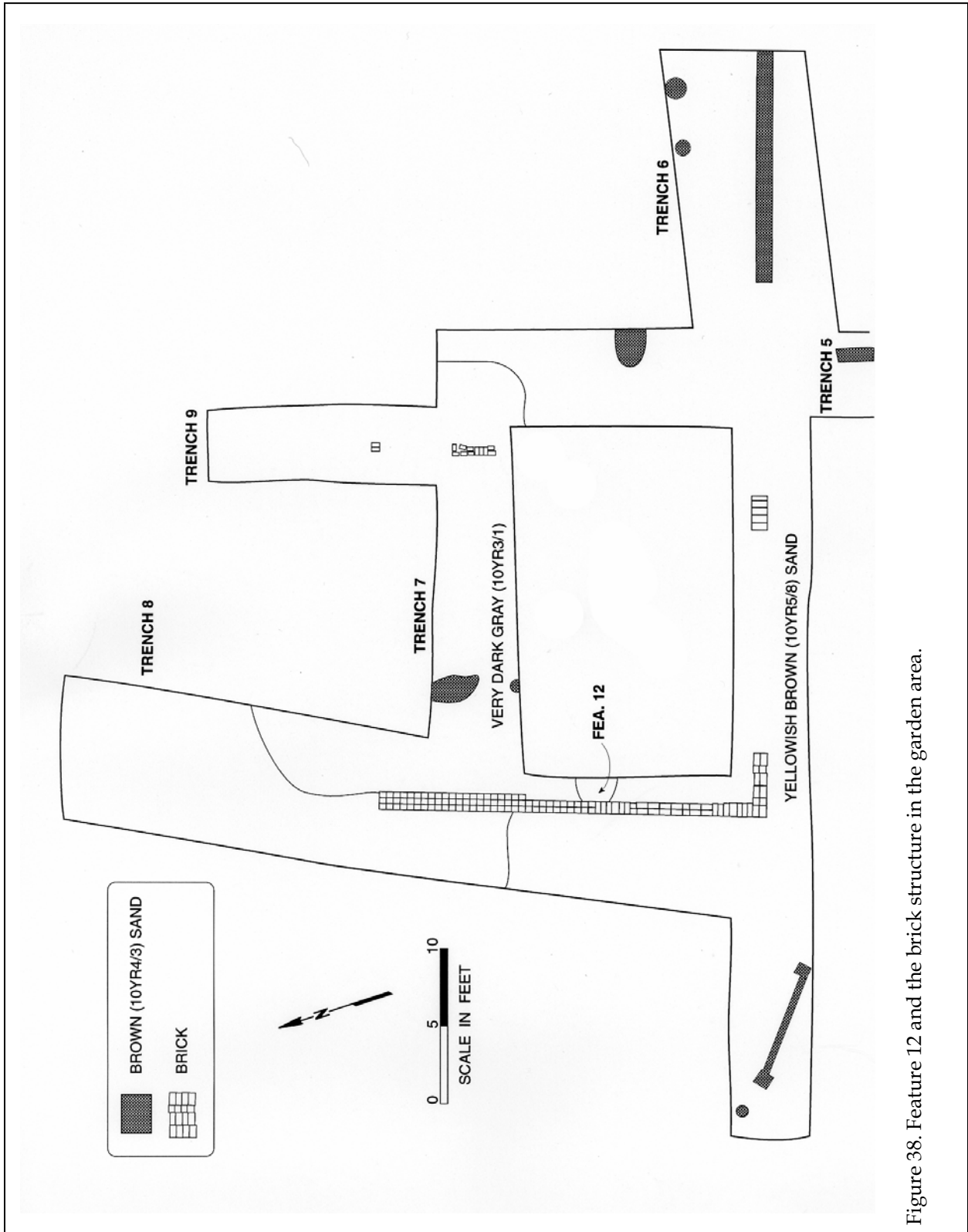


Figure 38. Feature 12 and the brick structure in the garden area.

EXCAVATIONS

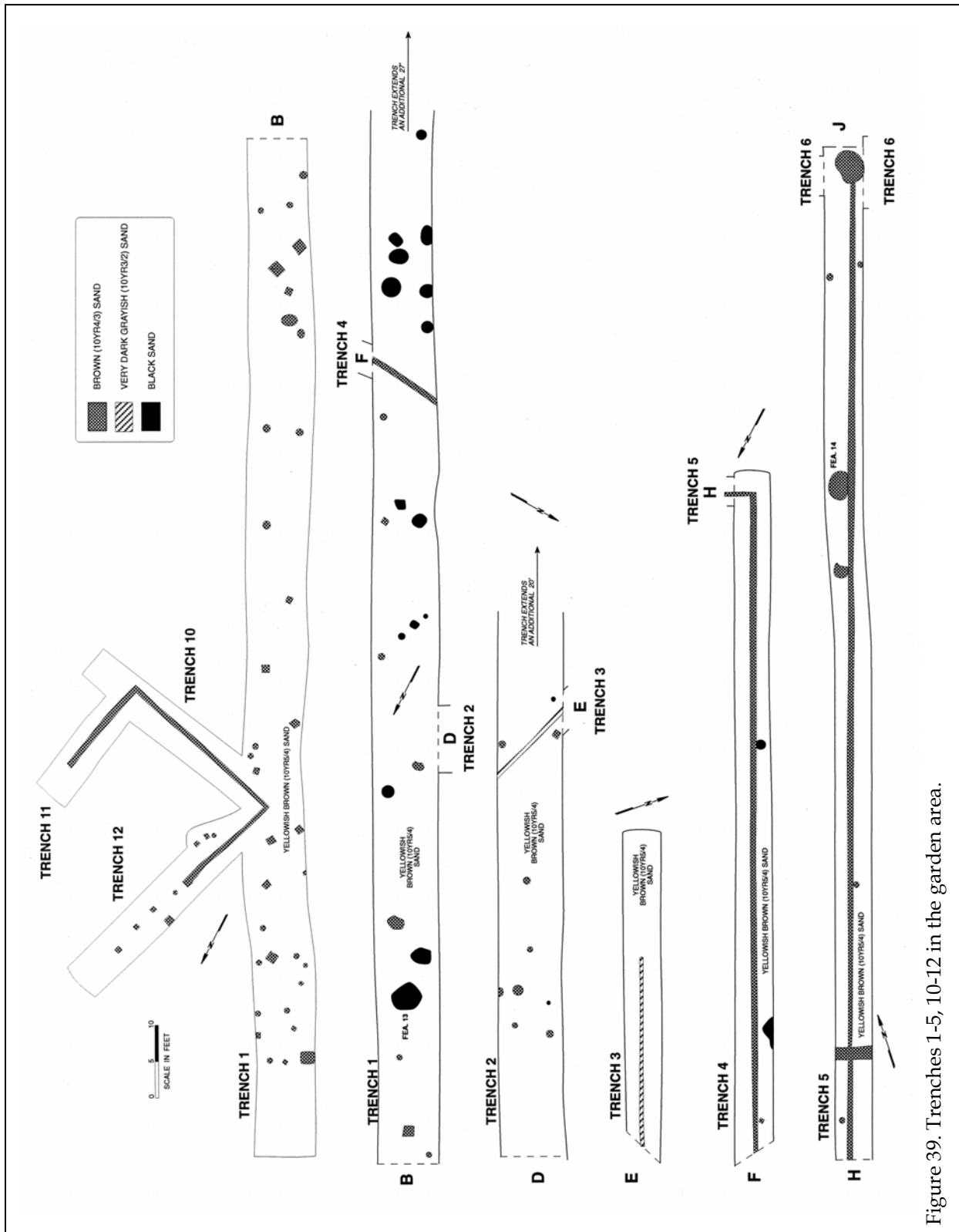


Figure 39. Trenches 1-5, 10-12 in the garden area.

devices located at the northwest and northeast corners of the garden (inspection of Figure 11 reveals that both have the same orientation and both are located across from one another

The wall trench structure is only three sided (the north face lacks any evidence of a similar wall trench) and measures 15 feet north-south by 24 feet east-west. This wall trench was identified as Feature 15 and a portion was excavated. No artifacts were found in the trench or immediately associated with the feature.

The brick wall is also three-sided, lacking its north face, and measures 24 feet square, although the brick work suggests two different building episodes with the initial structure measuring only 15 by 24 feet – the same size as the wall trench structure. The initial brick work reveals a wall only two bricks in width; the addition is three bricks in width.

The stain itself was found to vary in width from 0.8 to 1.5 feet and in depth from about 0.4 to 1.0 foot (some depth variations are no doubt the result of stripping). These figures suggest a rather significant trench, measuring about 2.0 to 2.5 feet in width at the surface and about 2 feet in depth – suitable for the planting of box or similar hedging material found in a formal garden setting.

Nevertheless, we must concede that the stain seems only to enclose the northern portion of the garden and no evidence of a similar southern enclosure is found at either the southeast end of Trench 1 or in Trench 2. It is, however, possible that the north and south portions of the garden were laid out differently – formality does not imply identically matched elements.

It is also difficult to interpret these two devices – the wall trench may represent an arbor alcove for seating prior to entry into the garden. The brick walled device was likely a low garden wall, probably also an alcove (although with a different construction). The soils in it suggest

artificial fertilization, perhaps to support a particular type of planting.

Plotting of the mechanically stripped trenches revealed a number of distinct post holes (square, some with clay fill, indicating rather deep excavation, and a few with evidence of a post mold in the hole), as well as circular stains that we are interpreting to represent individual plantings. Two of the larger plantings, designated Features 13 and 14 were partially excavated. Artifacts were either absent (in the case of Feature 13) or very uncommon (in the case of Feature 14). Both measured about 4.0 feet in diameter (4 by 3.7 feet and 3.8 by 4.1 feet) and about 0.5 foot in depth (0.47 foot and 0.57 foot). They were distinctly basin shaped, with sloping sides and very flat bottoms. Fill in both cases was a very dark gray (10YR3/1) sandy loam.

Also found and investigated in this area was Feature 12, exposed in Trench 8, within the posited structure. The fill was a very dark brown (7.5YR2.5/2) sand. Upon excavation the feature was found to measure about 3.3 feet in exposed diameter and to have a depth of about 1.5 feet. Unlike the plantings, however, the fill was lensed, suggesting that the feature was filled in several episodes. A large number of artifacts were encountered, including the only hoe found on the site, and a fair amount of brick rubble. This is the only feature found at Tranquil Hill that actually appears to have functioned as a “trash” pit. Its purposed in the garden area is unclear, but it may have served as a convenient means to dispose of trash that accumulated during the installation of the garden.

Although results will take several months, samples from posited garden plantings, a wall trench structure from the slave settlement, and a control from a non-occupied area of the field outside the garden have been sent to Paleo Research Laboratory for pollen and phytolith studies. Samples have also been submitted to Hahn Laboratories for macronutrient analysis.

## EXCAVATIONS

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## CONCLUSIONS

### Initial Findings

Historical research is still on-going, so we are hesitant to offer any conclusions at this time. We can, however point out some of the resources that we have identified, including a watercolor of the Tranquil Hill settlement painted by the owner's wife, Ann Waring; at least one plat, from 1800, that reveals the settlement's organization; at least one early eighteenth century advertisement for the sale of the house and plantation; oral history that helps us better understand activities at the site from the 1950s through the 1980s; and aerial photographs that also help document early twentieth century land use activities. Moreover, we have found that there is strong agreement between the watercolor, the 1800 plat, the early ad, and the archaeological data.

We are still in the process of conducting historical research in Charleston, focusing on the eighteenth and nineteenth century history of the plantation. Initial deed research has been completed in Dorchester County, so we have a good context for the late nineteenth and early twentieth century activities at the site. We will also be examining other newspaper accounts associated with various owners of the property, as well as the Waring Papers at the South Carolina Historical Society.

Another line of research will be the garden history of Charleston during the eighteenth century. In particular we will look for any accounts that might link Charleston's burgeoning sale of plants and seeds to the early garden activities at Tranquil Hill. This will be incorporated with the archaeological research at the site, as well as period accounts of the garden.

As mentioned, we have been able to document all of the settlement areas identified

on the 1800 plat, including the main house, the slave settlement to the southwest, the house servants' area to the northeast, and the garden to the east. Each of these areas has been examined using both controlled hand excavations for the recovery of stratigraphic and artifactual data, as well as mechanical cuts for the opening of much larger areas in the search for features and structures.

At the main house we have an exceptional collection of period artifacts, as well as being able to document the floor plan of the house. These data will allow comparisons and contrasts with both other eighteenth century plantations, such as Broom Hall, as well as intrasite comparisons. Another plantation in the immediate vicinity that might be suitable for comparative study is Newington. This plantation was to some degree excavated by Richard Polhemus (1972) of the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. While some settlement occurred prior to the Yemassee War of 1715, most of the plantation dates from ca. 1726 to ca. 1780 - the period of early settlement at Tranquil Hill. Work appears to have focused on the main settlement and while unpublished (like most of the work from this time period), there may be useful drawings or other documents in the SCIAA files.

The floor plan of Tranquil Hill's main house also adds considerable information to the very small data base of early eighteenth century plantation houses. According to the data compiled by Smith, the Tranquil Hill mansion is both similar - and different - from what would be expected as the norm for the time period.

All of our research at the main house was successful, with the exception of identifying the two flakers on the west side of the main house, shown on the 1800 plat. These were not

## CONCLUSIONS

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recovered and likely represented wood frame structures set on brick piers, rather than continuous brick foundations like the main house.

Turning to the house servants' area we identified one structure about 16 feet square set on brick piers with an end chimney. Artifacts in this area suggest materials salvaged from the main house and include some relatively high status remains. Also present in this area was a well, found to be completely destroyed.

The combination of architectural and artifactual data from the house servants' area is of particular importance in providing comparisons to the field slave settlement. Our immediate reaction is that at Tranquil Hill there was a tremendous status difference between the two groups, evidenced by better architecture and a far more elaborate and diverse cultural assemblage.

This stands in contrast to observations by historian William DusiBerre. He notes that one theory shaping the understanding of slavery is this distinction between the privileged slaves - house servants, drivers, artisans, preachers, conjurers - and those who worked in the fields, with the former part of a "slave elite." DusiBerre cautions that his research at Gowrie, an early nineteenth century Savannah River rice plantation, suggests not only that privilege was dispersed with families consisting of both privileged slaves and field slaves, and that privilege could be easily lost (DusiBerre 1996:178-179).

Of course, we need to add our own caution - that perhaps by the nineteenth century ideas of slave management had changed and it may be inappropriate to compare an eighteenth century interior swamp rice plantation and its management to a nineteenth century river rice plantation and its management. Nevertheless, we are curious about the level of distinction between the two groups at Tranquil Hill and

believe that it will be useful to explore the subject for future researchers.

At the slave settlement we identified at least three wall trench structures, along with evidence of extensive rebuilding - likely necessitated by the inherently short-lived nature of ground fast slave dwellings. No evidence exists for either brick pier structures, much less brick chimneys. An in fact, this seems consistent with an comment by Henry Laurens, who noted in 1766 to one of his overseers, "I do not think it practicable to send up Bricks for the Negro Chimneys. Therefore Wooden ones *as usual* [emphasis added] must serve & Sam will be with you very soon & assist about the management of Clay to serve instead of Bricks" (Rogers et al. 1976:62).

The artifacts present are almost exclusively Colono ware pottery, with very little European ceramics - presenting a very clear distinction between this settlement and the house servants' settlement. Again, Henry Laurens in 1766 offers a brief comment to his overseer at Mepkin:

The pipes [1 Box, 10 Gross Short pipes] you must take Account of & also the Yellow Porrhingers & Muggs that are given to the Negroes that they may be paid for, according to the Planter's custom or remitted as I shall think proper (Rogers et al. 1976:57).

The reference to "Yellow Porrhingers and Muggs" almost certainly mean slipware - one of the more common European ceramics found in the slave settlement. And tobacco pipes are commonly associated with African American slaves well into the nineteenth century. What is more curious is the comment that the items "may be paid for, according the Planter's custom or remitted as I shall think proper" - which seems to imply that these items might be purchased by the slaves or given by Laurens as special incentives. This is a potentially new way

to interpret such findings at eighteenth century sites.

The final area of our investigations was the Tranquil Hill garden. There we believe that stripping has revealed half of the garden area, as well as two arbors or devices – one of wood and the other of brick. We found ample evidence of plantings – in spite of abandonment and subsequent cultivation. We did not, however, find evidence of the reported graveled walks (at least in the stripping efforts).

We have selected seven planting areas for pollen and phytolith analysis, as well as two controls – one from outside the garden and the area of cultural deposits to provide data on background “noise” and another from a wall trench structure in the slave settlement to provide data on general settlement background. We hope that these nine samples will provide information on period plantings. We have also submitted three samples for macronutrient analysis, including two plantings and one control.

We are combining the archaeological investigations with an overview of eighteenth century gardens, previous garden archaeology, and suggestions for future research.

#### **Compliance with the Data Recovery Plan**

All field investigations, consisting of auger testing, hand excavations, and mechanical stripping stipulated by the data recovery plan have been completed. In fact, in several areas the square footage excavated has exceeded that which was proposed. Historical research is ongoing, and cataloging of the collections is beginning. Consequently, we recommend that the property be released for issuance of an OCRM land disturbance permit.

In spite of the data recovery excavations, it remains possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. **Contractors**

**should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation** (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

## CONCLUSIONS

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