THE OHIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Volume 13, Number 2 October 2001

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

William S. Dancey

This is my last contribution to the Newsletter as the OAC President, and I would like to use the occasion first of all to thank the membership for the privilege of serving as the OAC President over the last two years. I would like also to give special thanks to the members of the Board and others who assumed committee responsibilities in the last two years. I also wish Brian Redmond success as he moves from President-elect to President. I am confident that the Council will continue to make a difference in Ohio archaeology under his leadership.

I spent the entire summer in the field or in the lab and consequently have done little OAC business myself. Board members have been busy, however, as revealed by the following notes from the September Board meeting. Following a second successful Archaeology Week the Board has decided to explore ways to pursue secure funding and to increase participation in years to come. After years of planning, the OAC web page is finally close to completion. It has been constructed in a way that should make it a productive tool for publicizing the Council's goals and accomplishments both for members and interested citizens. Despite attempts to encourage grant submissions, few members have applied. Because of this the Board intends to re-examine the scope of the general grant and the amount of the award in the hopes that more members will take advantage of this opportunity. In an effort to bring the Code of Regulations up to date, Al Tonetti has incorporated membership-approved revisions into a revised draft which will be presented to the membership in the near future. Although a wholesale change in organization and mission is not desirable, this initiative also offers the opportunity to assess other aspects of the Council, such as quorum criteria and membership categories, if members desire.

In the wake of the September 11 terrorist attack on New York City and the Pentagon, it appears clear that many priorities and practices will come under increased scrutiny. Especially if defense spending increases it is natural to expect cuts in "peripheral" investments, such as in heritage protection. We may see antiquities law come under fire, along with environmental protection legislation. Thus, while mourning the tragic loss of life and supporting counter-measures, we need to be alert to challenges to traditional sources of funding for archaeological research and the scope of antiquities law and programs. We need to be ready with alternatives that can adjust to the national emergency while at the same time preserve the progress made to date in cultural resource protection and management. The OAC potentially can provide a venue for addressing challenges to public support of heritage conservation should they occur.

For those members, hopefully none, who lost family or friends in this disaster, the Board and I extend our sincerest sympathy. For members engaged in rescue, recovery, and investigation at the crash sites, we extend our gratitude, support, and encouragement.

The autumn meeting has been scheduled for the Highbanks Metro Park north of Columbus. This is one of the most scenic places in central Ohio, and I hope members will make a special effort to attend. The conference room at the Nature Center is a pleasant space for a meeting. Furthermore, the park contains an earthen enclosure named the Orange Township Works by Squier and Davis. The lunch break will be extended to enable members to view this well-preserved earthwork located on the edge of a 100 foot high bluff overlooking the Olentangy River.

I hope everyone had a productive summer and will have lots of news to share at the November meeting.

IN THIS ISSUE

AD HOC LEGISLATIVE ISSUES COMMITTEE REPORT

Al Tonetti
Committee Chair

State Legislative Issues

House Select Committee to Study the Effectiveness of Ohio's Historical Programs and Partnerships

Eight members of the Ohio House of Representatives have been appointed by House Speaker Larry Householder to a House Select Committee to Study the Effectiveness of Ohio's Historical Programs and Partnerships. The purpose of Select Committees is to ensure that tax-funded programs are administered efficiently and effectively and that the intended objectives of publicly funded programs are achieved. The mission of this Select Committee includes examining how to strengthen the public-private partnership between the State of Ohio and the Ohio Historical Society (OHS), a private, not-for-profit institution that manages historical sites for the State of Ohio; developing long-term funding solutions to protect historic sites; examining how OHS spends funds on historic sites; and examining detailed budget and management plans for each of the historic sites before OHS receives additional state funds. OHS is scheduled to receive approximately $32 million in state funds over the two-year budget that began in July 2001.

The eight appointed Representatives are Chair, Kerry Metzger (R-New Philadelphia), Nancy Hollister (R-Marietta), Larry Flowers (R-Canal Winchester), Tom Raga (R-Mason), James Hoops (R-Napoleon), Dixie Allen (D-Dayton), Sylvester Patton (D-Youngstown), and Ray Miller (D-Columbus). The Committee is to prepare a report for Speaker Householder by February 15, 2002. The Select Committee is scheduled to begin hearings in October. The hearing agenda is being developed. The Ohio Archaeological Council will receive notices about the hearing schedule and other information pertinent to the Select Committee's charge as it becomes available. For further information about the Select Committee contact Representative Metzger's office at 77 South High Street, 11th Floor, Columbus, OH 43266-0603, telephone (614) 466-1695.

Senate Bill 83, Revision of Surface and In-Stream Mining Law

On May 22, 2001, S.B. 83 was passed by the Senate and forwarded to the House for consideration, where it was assigned to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. No hearings on the bill have been scheduled, though it is likely that the bill will receive consideration this session. Existing legislation does not allow the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to consider the presence of archaeological sites when issuing permits to mine non-coal minerals. S.B. 83 does not change this situation. The Ohio Archaeological Council may submit testimony to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee on this issue.

House Concurrent Resolution 5, Recognizing the Saponi Nation

This Resolution, to recognize the efforts of the Saponi (American Indian) Nation to keep their culture alive, was introduced on January 31, 2001 and assigned to the State Government Committee. No action has been taken on the Resolution.

Federal Legislative Issues

Due to the tragic events of September 11, Congress is focusing on responding to these events. Fiscal Year 2002 (October 2001-September 2002) appropriations were to be completed by the end of September, but the events of September 11 have changed Congress' priorities. There are a number of bills in Congress with implications for the archaeological community.

HR 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act, establishes a separate fund to be administered by the Land and Water Conservation Fund for conservation, wildlife, recreation, and historic preservation projects. Each year through 2015, $150 million would be provided to the states for historic preservation projects.

HR 2646, the Farm Bill, includes a provision that would make archaeological sites eligible for the Farmland Protection Program, which promotes good environmental practices on farmland to protect habitat and natural resource protection. The provision allows a voluntary program that would use conservation easements to take land containing important archaeological sites out of production and in turn compensate the farmer for the conservation of the archaeological sites.

HR 2114, the National Monuments Fairness Act, amends the Antiquities Act and curtails the President's ability to designate National Monuments.

HR 2388, establishes criteria and a mechanism for the designation and support of National Heritage Areas.

HR 2420/S 329, the Peopling of America Theme Study Act, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a National Historic Landmark theme study relating to the peopling of America.

HR 1882, the Cultural Heritage Assistance Partnership Act, establishes National Park Service program to provide information, technical assistance, awards, and small grants to states, tribes, local governments, and non-profit groups for projects relating to historic preservation.

Two Parts of the Section 106 Regulations Invalidated

On September 19, the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia invalidated sections 800.4(d)(2) and 800.5(c)(3) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (ACHP) Section 106 regulations. The court upheld the rest of the regulations. The rules had been challenged by the wireless telecommunications and mining industries. Section 800.4(d)(2) requires a federal agency to continue the Section 106 process at the ACHP's request if the ACHP objects to the agency's determination that there are no historic properties present in an undertaking or that historic properties will not be affected by the undertaking. Section 800.5(c)(3) grants the ACHP the authority to review an agency finding of no adverse effects when a State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer or consulting party disagrees with the finding. The court ruled that these two sections violated the plain language of the National Historic Preservation Act in that they were substantive rather than procedural rules. Information about this ruling can be found at the ACHP's web site, http://www.achp.gov.

REPORT ON OHIO'S SECOND ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK

Sandra Lee Yee
Education Committee Chair

Following on the momentum of the First Ohio Archaeology Week in 2000, this year's program, at least in the Dayton area, appeared to grow. Increased programming at SunWatch and Boonshoft Museums was well attended. Reports from other outlying areas or presenters have not been received as of this date (September 27, 2001). Once again, requests were made to OAC, OHS/OHPO for support of personnel and/or finances for the week. Additionally, SunWatch applied to the Ohio Humanities Council for funding to help defray costs of poster printing, mailing, etc. for the week. The OAC donated $500. OHS/OHPO donated $1,000. SunWatch donated the office, computer, staffing time, etc. and the Ohio Humanities grant provided $1,998.

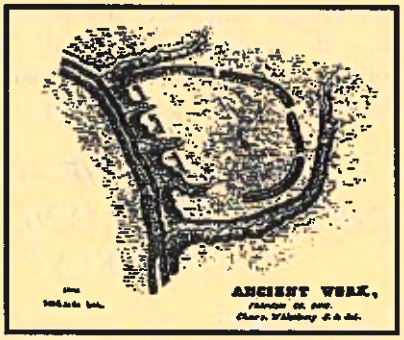
Requests for Participation, and Evaluation forms were once again, as last year, sent to all OAC members and other historians/prehistorians/archaeologists throughout the state. The events were compiled as submitted into a listing by geographic area by Sandy Yee of SunWatch. Brochure and poster designs were generously contributed, once again, by William Patterson. Sr., and these materials were printed at Mazer Corporation in Dayton (however not for free this year). The posters were, once again, a beautiful depiction of the state of Ohio, as an excavated feature/square, with inset photos relating the sites and events highlighted that week statewide. They were mailed out in early May to all contributors, contact persons, and those requesting copies.

The brochures officially listed 11 organizations or sites for a combined total of 22 different programs over the week. At SunWatch alone, attendance for all programs was estimated at 500. Review forms or evaluations filled out and returned (it IS hard to force people to do an evaluation when they are anxious to move on) were all positive, and people were pleased to have had the chance to learn more about Ohio archaeology, history and prehistory.

The week of June that contained the Summer Solstice (in 2001 this fell on June 17-23) was chosen for Ohio's archaeology week. It provides a memorable link for state archaeologists and historians in all upcoming years as the Summer Solstice was recognized historically as well as prehistorically. Additionally, this week is very favorable to families on vacation, for schools are out by then. Furthermore, various sites have opened their summer field work/schools and can incorporate tours or workshops at the sites as one of their Ohio Archaeology Week educational activities for the public. A sincere thank you and congratulations to all who made this year's Ohio Archaeology Week a great success as we endeavor to showcase our sites and our science to the people of Ohio.

ANNOUNCING THE 2001 FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM

The 2001 Fall Membership meeting of the OAC will be held on Saturday, November 17th in the multipurpose room of the Highbanks Metropark, which is located about three miles north of I-270 on Route 23 in Delaware County. Coffee and donuts will be available at 9:30 a.m. The Business Meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. This year's meeting will feature presentations on **Current Research in Ohio Archaeology.** OAC members are encouraged to give a 10 to 15 minute presentation on their current projects in Ohio archaeology. These presentations are meant to be informal, concise, and informative updates of on-going archaeological projects. The use of audio-visual aids such as slides or overheads is encouraged but not required. This program is intended to foster productive interaction and information-sharing among all active archaeologists (professional and nonprofessional) within our state.



The Highbanks Metropark features the Highbanks earthworks, a Woodland semicircular earthen enclosure. A lunchtime tour to view the earthworks will be led by Martha Otto. Anyone interested in taking the tour is encouraged to bring a sack lunch and picnic on the park grounds.

Abstracts of the symposium presentations will be published in the March 2002 issue of the OAC Newsletter.

Any member interested in making a presentation should provide a title and a short (100 word max.) abstract of their presentation to Brian Redmond by November 9, 2001. Presentations will be scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis, so don't delay. Please send or e-mail abstracts to:

Brian Redmond, Dept. of Archaeology
The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
1 Wade Oval Drive, University Circle
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-1767.
E-mail: bredmond@cmnh.org

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE 2002 PUBLIC HISTORY AWARD

Nominations are sought for the Public History Award to be presented at the annual meeting of the Ohio Academy of History 19-20 April 2002 at the Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. The deadline for submission of nominations is 14 December 2001. Nominations must have a postmark not later than that date. To be nominated, a public history project, publication, or program must have been accomplished within Ohio in the previous two years and completed by 14 December 2001. Nomination forms and general rules should be requested from:

Dr. Stuart D. Hobbs
Ohio Historical Society
1982 Velma Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211-2497
Phone: (614) 297-2608
E-mail: shobbs@ohiohistory.org

The awards program covers all public history fields, including exhibits, publications, audio-visual documentaries, oral history, public programs, symposia, archival projects, and historic preservation. Nominations are encouraged which demonstrate meritorious achievement beyond the routine functions of everyday work. All historians, whether employed by an academic or public institutions, are encouraged to apply.

U.S. SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE RECOGNIZES WAYNE NATIONAL FOREST

On June 4, 2001, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman presented an award to Ann Cramer, Wayne NF Archaeologists for her part in a project to research African American history and the Underground Railroad. Cramer and archaeologists from the National Forests in Indiana and Illinois were recognized as one of 15 selected from nationwide nominations. The three archaeologists were recognized "for innovative methods in creating employment opportunities for minority students to research the African American heritage of the Southern Tier forests and the Underground Railroad." The southern tier forests are the Hoosier NF, Indiana; Shawnee NF, Illinois; and Wane NF, Ohio. Team members include Ann Cramer, Wayne NF; Angie Krieger and Sarah Arthur, of the Hoosier NF; Marlene Rivero, Elizabeth Fuller, and team leader Mary McCorvie, Shawnee NF.

Little is known of the African Americans who settled in southern Ohio in the early years of the 19th century, according to Cramer. Even less is known of those seeking freedom who passed through the area. She added that the forest's work at the Payne's Crossing and Poke Patch settlements have uncovered some of the history of these courageous people. "There are currently only about 20 African American archaeologists," Cramer said. "We saw this research as an opportunity to get college students excited about their heritage and perhaps interested in a career in archaeology." Two African American students; Harold Garner and Jason Taylor researched the southeastern Ohio settlements and their role in the Underground Railroad during the summer of 2000. Their work helped increase knowledge about local African American history. Garner has returned this summer and will be working with two additional African American students to compile a data base on the sites found on National Forest land. (From USDA Forest Service News Release dated May 31, 2001)

THE SMITH SITE: A SMALL HOPEWELL SITE OVERLOOKING THE STUBBS EARTHWORKS

Ted S. Sunderhaus[1], Rodney Riggs[2], and Frank L. Cowan[3]

[1]Cincinnati Museum Center
[2]Gray & Pape
[3]University of Cincinnati, Adjunct Assistant Professor

Extensive surveys, conducted in the late 1970s and early 1980s by the Miami Purchase Association for Historic Preservation (Genheimer 1984, 1996, 1997), documented 28 Hopewell sites along the Little Miami River presumed to have been employed by the builders and users of the nearby Stubbs Earthworks complex (Whittlesey 1851). The surveys found 17 discrete artifact concentrations on the south side of the Little Miami River in very close proximity to the former earthworks, while 11 additional artifact concentrations were mapped on more distant terraces on the north side of the river. In aggregate, these sites are referred to as the Stubbs Cluster.

Salvage excavations undertaken by the Cincinnati Museum Center in 1998 and 1999 (Cowan et al. 1998, 1999) focused on portions of four Stubbs Cluster sites (33Wa256, 33Wa257, 33Wa258, and 33Wa260), located within a 35 hectare property on which the Little Miami High School was then being built. Thirty-eight hundred square meters of excavation within and between previously designated artifact concentrations documented 21 Hopewell wooden structures, along with many other features, and provided strong evidence that the earthworks had extended onto that property. As a matter of practical convenience, we employed the generic designation of the Stubbs Earthworks site (33Wa1) to those excavations rather than the more specific site nomenclature used by Genheimer (1984, 1996, 1997).

Until 2001, none of the other Stubbs Cluster sites had been the subject of substantial subsurface investigation. That changed in June 2001 when construction for the Saddlebrook Subdivision began on a high, bluff-like ridge overlooking the Stubbs Earthworks. Like most salvage excavations, the Smith site investigation was undertaken with a minimum of resources under time-constrained circumstances. However, we benefited from lots of help and cooperation. The subdivision developer, John Adams of J. P. S. Development, LLC (and member of the American Institute of Archaeology) generously granted the Cincinnati Museum Center permission to conduct excavations amidst on-going construction work. We received cheerful assistance from Broshear Contractors of Hamilton, Ohio, which scheduled many of its massive excavations around our own small ones and expedited our work with the skillful removal of plow zone sediments from several areas of interest. Many local professional and avocational archaeologists toiled mightily throughout a very hot and humid month of on-and-off-again excavations.

The Smith Site (33Wa362)

The Smith site (33Wa362) is located on a high, early-Wisconsinan Williamsburg terrace overlooking Big Foot Run, a small tributary of the Little Miami River in Hamilton Township, Warren County, Ohio. It also directly overlooks the Stubbs Earthworks, which was situated on a nearly level, late-Wisconsinan Fox outwash terrace some 12 to 14 meters below the Smith site (Figure 1). Genheimer's (1984, 1996, 1997) surface collections and artifact distribution maps provide an important background for these investigations, showing this to be a multi-component site with a predominance of Hopewellian artifacts and debris.

Three widely separated portions of the site were investigated in June and July 2001. All investigations were necessarily opportunistic in location, extent, and thoroughness, depending largely on the fortuitous exposure of subsurface features by heavy construction equipment and varied opportunities to conduct systematic excavation before the landform was forever changed and its archaeological deposits lost. All recovered artifacts and flotation samples and the field notes are curated at the Cincinnati Museum Center and will be the subject of more thorough analysis and reportage in the near future. This very preliminary report is intended to alert OAC members and other Hopewell scholars to the highlights of a new body of data concerning Ohio Hopewell.

Structure 1

The most striking result of the 2001 excavations was the exposure of the complete floor plan of a Middle Woodland house-like structure. The structure was located at the southern extremity of the site; in fact it was actually just south of the site boundary as originally defined by surface artifact densities. A shallow road cut initially exposed several post molds; considerable plow zone removal with a tractor-drawn drag-scraper, shovels, and trowels was necessary to expose the complete structure, its interior, and its immediate surroundings.

The wooden post structure (Figure 2) was 8-by-8 meters in its interior dimensions and nearly square with rounded corners. The structure was single-posted, except for the northwestern and northeastern corners, which were closely double-posted. No evidence for use of the wall-trench construction technique was detected, although that building method characterized all of the Stubbs Hopewell structures excavated on the lower terrace during the 1999 field season. Structure 1 had an unusually wide (3.16 meters) entryway centered on the south wall and what appears to have been a second, smaller (1.5 meters) entryway in the north wall at the northeast corner. The exterior post molds were quite regularly spaced with a mean center-to-center distance

(excepting the two presumed doorways) of 84.7 +/- 8.3 cm. Interior post molds included a large, 45 cm diameter center post hole, two post molds along the southern interior, flanking the entryway, and four post molds along the north wall. The post molds of the exterior walls contained relatively large quantities of wood charcoal, although the interior post molds did not. It appears likely that the structure may have been destroyed by fire. In addition to its distinctively "Hopewellian" form, scraps of mica in the fills of several post molds confirm the Middle Woodland age of the structure.

A small, very shallow basin-shaped pit feature was found on the interior, very near the structure's west wall. Two pit features were located outside the structure. One small, very shallow pit was situated about a meter east of the southeastern corner of the structure. A much larger and somewhat deeper pit lay south of the southwestern corner of the structure. None of the excavated pit features yielded culturally diagnostic artifacts.

Although the "floor" of Structure 1 had been lost to plowing, there were no subsoil indications of an interior hearth. The apparent absence of such a feature, the unusually wide entryway of the structure, and the exposed ridge-top location of the structure all suggest that it was not designed or situated for cold weather use.

"Sandy Knoll" Excavations

Approximately 30 meters north of Structure 1 was a slightly higher ridge-crest composed of a narrow band of reddish-brown very fine sand with clayey silt which abruptly changed to very fine white sand at a depth of approximately one-meter. A deeply graded road cut across the sand ridge provided a singular opportunity to clear an expedient profile, and two features were immediately exposed. Surface shovel-shaving along the edge of the road cut exposed more features. Eventually, with the assistance of the contractor's front-end loader and lots more shovel-shaving, an irregularly shaped surface of approximately 12-by-7 meters was fully exposed and found to contain nearly 100 features. Figure 3 illustrates the irregular excavation transect, the confirmed cultural features, and those features we did not have time to excavate. Absent from the map are many "features" that, upon excavation, turned out to be natural disturbances.

Although not all of the features in this area were excavated and confirmed to be cultural, it is clear that, in prehistory, this was a repetitively used area. Bounded on the east by a steep slope down to the Big Foot Run valley and on the north and south by lesser slopes, we suspect we exposed most of the cultural features lying along those margins of the sand ridge. However, the bulldozed truncation on the western side of the block excavation prevented any clear resolution to the chaotic array of post molds, and we did not have the opportunity to excavate systematic exposures on the sand ridge to the west of the road cut.

We estimate that the many post molds represent four or more overlapping post structures. Pit features, too, were numerous, and many of those also overlapped one another. Although fire-cracked rocks were relatively common, other artifact classes were notably sparse, and identifiable hearths were absent. Very few temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered from the excavated features, but all of those artifacts (a few bladelets and sherds) are characteristic of the Middle Woodland period. It must be acknowledged, however, that Genheimer's early 1980s surface collections did recover projectile points from earlier periods from this as well as from other portions of the site.

Feature 37

Approximately 70 meters north of Structure 1 and some 30 or more meters north of the sandy knoll, the elevated Williamsburg terrace narrows to a point nearly surrounded by steep slopes that descend to the valley of Big Foot Run. On level ground atop this point, a very large, artifact-rich Middle Woodland pit was partially exposed by heavy earthmoving equipment. Two or three probable post molds were observed very nearby, but time-constraints and severe construction damage precluded the search for associated structures. Nonetheless, and despite the circumstances of its discovery and necessarily hasty excavation methods, Feature 37 merits special mention.

Feature 37 was approximately 1.5 meters in diameter, about 90 cm deep, and had nearly straight-sided walls and a rounded, basin-shaped bottom. The feature's fill was stratified with three primary cultural strata.

The uppermost stratum contained large quantities of Middle Woodland lithics, consisting primarily of several score kilograms of fire-cracked rocks and many chert artifacts, including 60 - 70 bladelets and fragments. The chipped stone assemblage included two obsidian bladelet fragments, as well as a small obsidian flake. Several fragments of very thin, heat-fractured bifacial tools were also recovered from this stratum. Flint Ridge (central Ohio) chert accounts for the vast majority of the bladelets, but Knox (eastern Tennessee) and Wyandotte/Harrison County (southern Indiana) cherts also occur among the other chert varieties. Tools and flakes of locally available gravel cherts were sparse to non-existent.

The second major stratum consisted of a dense mixture of cultural debris, including impressive quantities of pottery, mica, fire-cracked rock, charcoal, and burnt soil, with lesser amounts of calcined bone. About a dozen large and small pieces of cut mica were recovered from this stratum, including one complete lozenge-shaped cut-mica artifact. Thousands of additional mica scrap fragments without shaped edges were also present.

The third stratum contained relatively few artifacts. These consisted of a few pottery sherds, a very few pieces of chert

and fire-cracked rock, and only moderate amounts of wood charcoal.

The pottery recovered from Feature 37 is estimated to represent only about 30 percent of that originally present in the pit. The remainder were reduced to crumbs by the weight of heavy earthmoving equipment (earthworms at the very base of the pit were crushed flat by that weight). Nonetheless, at least 369 ceramic sherds, weighing more than 1.6 kilograms, were recovered. The ceramic content of this feature is particularly notable when one considers that no more than 174 sherds were recovered from all 28 Stubbs Cluster sites, combined, during the late 1970s and early 1980s surface collecting and test pitting.

The Feature 37 sherds represent a minimum of twenty-three vessels (Table 1). McGraw Plain and McGraw Cordmarked types predominate, accounting for about 57 percent of the identified vessels. Southeastern series vessels amount to 26 percent of the ceramic assemblage. Among the five Turner Simple Stamped vessels, two are tetrapod forms, and one of the tetrapodal vessels has a Brangenberg-like rim with a single row of upwardly projecting hemiconical punctates just below the sharply everted rim. Hopewell series vessels constitute 17 percent of the assemblage.

Hopewell series and Southeastern series vessels are often interpreted as "ritual" fine-wares. These fine-wares account for 43 percent of the ceramic assemblage, which seems to be a very high proportion for a residential locality. In contrast, McGraw Plain and Cordmarked, generally considered to be the more prosaic "utilitarian" wares associated with the Ohio Middle Woodland period, account for only 57 percent of the total assemblage.

Grit-tempered ceramics predominate, amounting to about 71 percent of the assemblage by weight (Table 2). Sherds with combinations of both grit and grog account for another 21 percent of the sample. Limestone-tempered ceramics, sand-tempered ceramics, and sherds with combinations of tempering agents also occur, if only in very small quantities.

The quite varied mix of ceramic tempering materials and other production details within a contemporaneous assemblage may reflect design alternatives to facilitate the production of functionally differentiated vessel forms. On the other hand, varied production habits may also suggest that not all the pottery vessels were the products of a local, indigenous population. Instead, it might suggest that some vessels were brought to the site or were produced there by visitors of different pottery-making traditions who came from more distant regions.

Compared with the previously investigated Stubbs Cluster sites, Feature 37 surpasses all other known features in the abundance of its artifact content. In fact, Feature 37 has undoubtedly yielded more Middle Woodland ceramics than all previous Stubbs Cluster excavations combined, despite the excavation of nearly a thousand features on the lower terrace in 1998 and 1999.

Concluding Observations

The physical setting of the Smith site is quite striking. Situated high atop a steep-sided, ridge-like terrace above the Stubbs Earthworks complex, it must have offered a commanding view of the ceremonial facilities below as well as a good view of a stretch of the Little Miami River valley.

Today, the view from the Smith site is largely blocked by dense, second-growth forest growing along the steep terrace slopes. However, archaeobotanical evidence from previously excavated features at the Stubbs Earthworks site indicates that oaks and hickories dominate the wood charcoal assemblage. Understory species and tree species that favor mesic slopes, such as maples, are notably under-represented in the Stubbs flotation samples thus far analyzed. We infer, on the basis of the "Firewood Indifference Hypothesis" (Asch and Asch 1986:497-498), that the landscape surrounding the Stubbs Earthworks was dominated during Middle Woodland times by an open oak-hickory forest. It might be further suggested that Middle Woodland populations purposefully managed the local forests, probably by controlled burning, to thin undergrowth and economically unimportant tree species to favor the canopy-spread of select, fire-tolerant mast producers (e.g., Asch and Asch 1986:438-446). Such a strategy for promoting edible nut production would have been particularly useful in a location where large numbers of people would have congregated on a periodic basis. In addition, that sort of forest management would have ensured a very impressive overview of the huge geometric earthwork complex below; such an outcome just doesn't seem unintentional for Ohio Hopewell populations.

As is the case with other excavated portions of the Stubbs Cluster, the Smith site yielded abundant evidence for wooden architecture. The only clearly interpretable structure was located in an area so depauperate in artifacts and other cultural debris that it was previously considered to be outside the defined site limits. The extraordinary sparseness of artifacts and debris, both within the plow zone and within subsurface features, suggest that this was not a structure occupied on a regular basis for a long period of time.

The "sandy knoll" excavations also revealed an abundance of wooden architecture, although there were so many episodes of structure-building that we can't make sense of individual structures within the limited space we were able to excavate. Examination of Genheimer's artifact distribution maps suggest that there were many plow zone artifacts in this general area, and we noted many fire-cracked rocks (but few other artifacts) in the plow zone as we shoveled it away. Nonetheless, the evidence suggests many episodes of use rather than long-term use. Identifiable hearths were non-existent, and excavated feature and post

mold fills contained very little charcoal or burnt soil and very few lithic or ceramic artifacts.

The only Smith site feature to yield large quantities of artifacts and cultural debris was Feature 37, a feature of such artifact-richness that it figures as something of an anomaly in our experiences with Ohio Hopewell. The large pit contained extraordinary numbers of bladelets, fire-fractured biface fragments, fire-cracked rocks, small chert flakes, sherds from many vessels of varied production technologies, and scraps from the production of shaped mica artifacts. It also contained unusually large quantities of redeposited wood charcoal (including many very large wood charcoal fragments), burnt soil, and calcined bone fragments. Feature 37 clearly was refilled with materials cleaned up from one or more surrounding areas, but it does not exhibit an assemblage that could remotely be considered characteristic of normal residential debris. Rather, the contents suggest the results of ritual cleaning of adjacent, special-purpose activity areas.

Dancey and Pacheco (1997:Table 1.1) include the Smith site in their tabulation of long-occupied residential "hamlets." On the basis of available evidence, that interpretation now seems very unlikely. Detailed analyses of all classes of artifacts and cultural debris from the Smith site are still in the offing, but initial impressions indicate that the site was used frequently during the Middle Woodland period, but only for relatively brief periods of time and only for a limited range of purposes. It seems likely that the Smith site was an earthwork-focused site with "ritual" overtones, rather than a place of long-term residence.

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NOTICE TO ALL OAC MEMBERS

Please keep the OAC Secretary informed of any address change or change in contact information that might occur between our annual requests for information updates. Recent attempts to reach some of you with news and Council information have failed due to inaccurate or obsolete e-mail addresses. Prior to the November 17th meeting, such changes can be forwarded directly to Al Tonetti at atonetti@ascgroup.net. As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated. (ed.)

Table 1. Minimum Numbers and Percentages of Vessels by Type and Series.

Ceramic Series and Types	Minimum Number of Vessels	Ceramic Type Percentages	Ceramic Series Percentages
Scioto Series			57
McGraw Plain	8	35	
McGraw Cordmarked	5	22	
Southeastern Series			26
Turner Simple Stamped	5	22	
untyped Simple Stamped	1	4	
Hopewell Series			17
untyped Brushed (Chillicothe Brushed?)	2	9	
untyped Hopewell Incised	1	4	
untyped Roughened	1	4	
Total	23	100	100

Table 2. Ceramic Weights by Temper Type.

Temper Type	Weight in Grams	Weight (%)
Grit	1,153.18	71
Grit/Grog	338.92	21
Limestone	95.59	6
Grit/Limestone	25.27	2
Grit/Grog/Limestone	3.51	<1
Limestone/Grit	1.00	<<1
Sand	0.95	<<1
Total	1,618.42	100

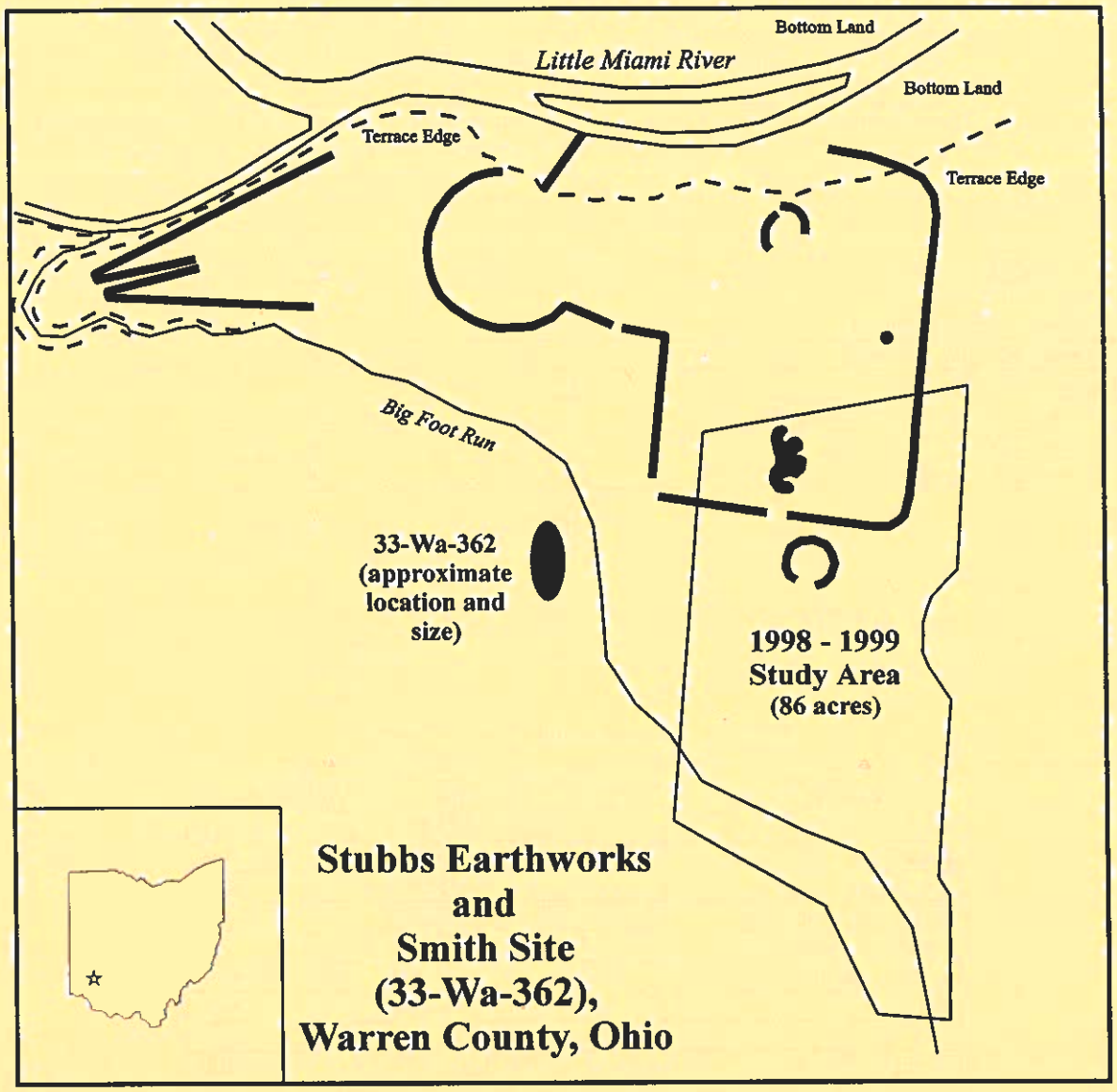

Figure 1. Location of the Smith Site Relative to the Stubbs Earthworks.

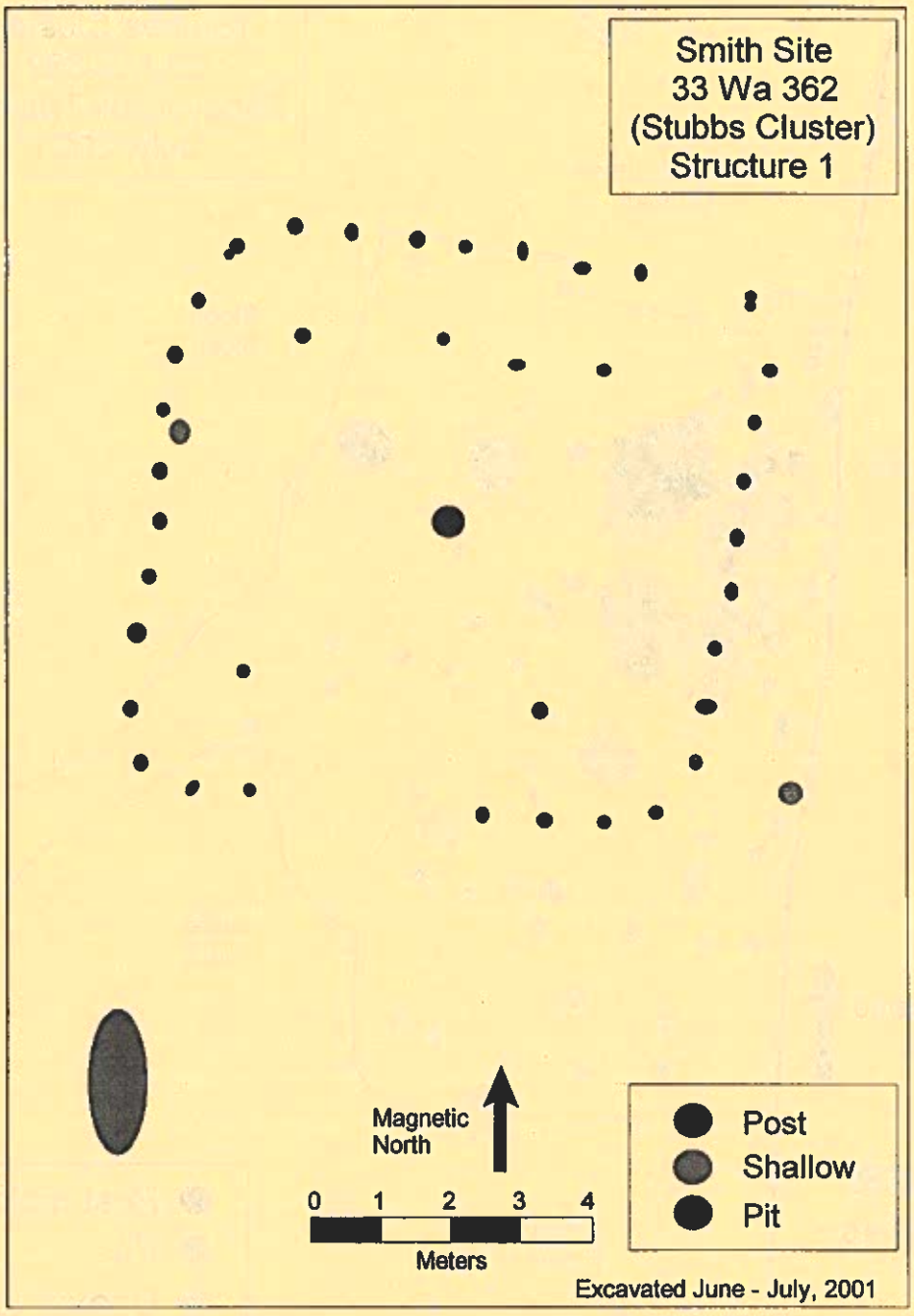

Figure 2. Smith Site Structure 1.

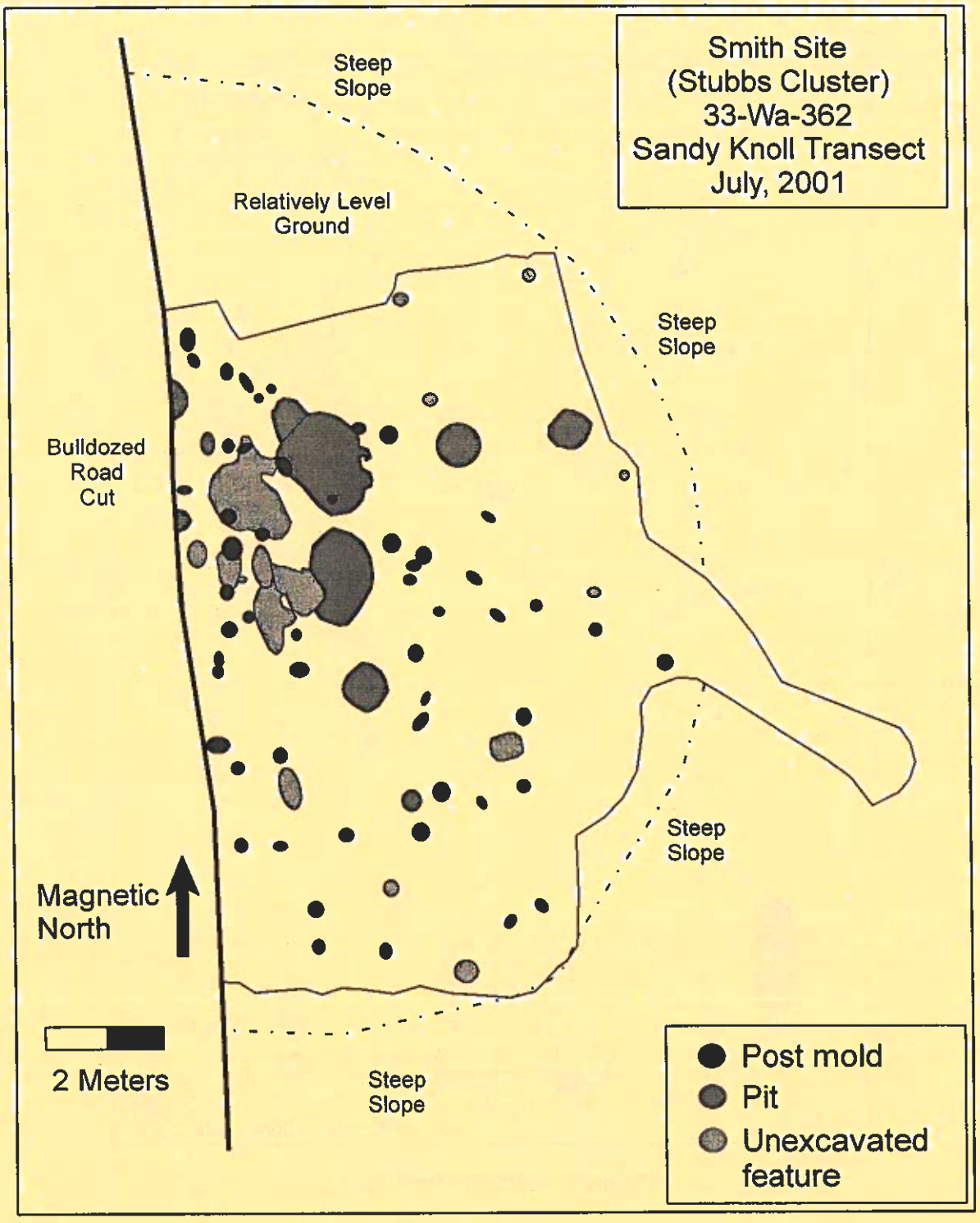

Figure 3. Smith Site Sandy Knoll Excavations.

UNDERGROUND AT THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD: TESTING AT JOHN P. PARKER'S HOUSE AND FOUNDRY SITE IN RIPLEY, OHIO

Bob Genheimer
Cincinnati Museum Center

The corroded and delicate cast iron angel (Figure 1) was found on the very first day of excavations, just below the side door of the Parker House in a context that suggests it had been placed beneath a porch floor. Did Parker cast this nearly two pound angel? Was it hidden there by one of Parker's six children and then forgotten? Archaeology will not answer these questions, but the angel has become the icon for archaeology at the site. And, archaeology could unearth no more fitting symbol to the memory of this great man. For, John Parker was simply that—an "angel of mercy" to hundreds of runaway slaves whom he rescued from the South before the Civil War. For more than a decade Parker led a dual life, operating an iron foundry during the day and helping slaves cross to the North into Ohio during the night. His courage and determination to fight the injustice of slavery, and his talents and success as an African-American businessman in the face of much discrimination, make his life one of America's great stories.

John Parker was born nearly 600 miles from Ripley, Ohio in Norfolk, Virginia in 1827. The son of a black man and a white woman, he was placed into slavery early in life. As a boy, he first went to Richmond, Virginia, and then was placed in a chain of slaves for a grueling walk to Mobile, Alabama. Parker hated the institution of slavery. And, his experience with this forced march forged his determination to obtain his own freedom. While still a young teenager, Parker was purchased by a widower in Mobile, with the understanding that he would pay back his purchase price of $1,800 to obtain his freedom. He did so by apprenticing in an iron foundry, and in 1845 at the age of 18, left the South as a free man, and traveled to New Albany, Indiana, where he had been told of a number of iron foundries. After a short time he departed for Cincinnati, where he found work as an iron molder. It was in Cincinnati that he got his first taste at rescuing slaves, helping a barber to bring his family north. He also started his own family in Cincinnati, marrying Miranda Boulden, a native of that large metropolis, in 1848.

He came to Ripley, a bustling Ohio River town in 1849, but may have been there as early 1845 or 1846 (see Sprague 1996:74). It is not clear when Parker entered into the foundry business in Ripley, but most probably by the early 1850s he became proprietor of an iron foundry along the Ohio River. He lived in a home next to his place of business, undoubtedly the same home that stands on the Parker lot today. An 1856 fire at the site destroyed much of the foundry and damaged the nearby house. The house was restored, and the foundry was rebuilt almost immediately. Its new name, Phoenix Foundry, is undoubtedly a testament to its rise from the ashes of the former manufactory. Parker later purchased the house and foundry.

Between about 1845 and 1865, Parker became deeply involved with the rescue of slaves from Kentucky. He describes this stretch of the Ohio River as the "Borderland"—the land between the North and the South where the most critical part of a runaway's journey took place. It was here that Parker found his niche. At night he would cross into Kentucky, connect up with slave parties, and lead them secretly across the Ohio River to safe hands. Parker excelled at this "game," and is credited with hundreds of rescues during the two decades prior to the end of the Civil War. At least one source suggests he plucked more than a thousand slaves from the South (see Siebert in Weeks 1971:156).

After the Civil War, and the general emancipation of slaves, Parker devoted his energies to the successful operation of his iron molding business. Either as sole proprietor, or with a partner, Parker operated the Phoenix Foundry at the Front Street address until 1889. In August of that year, another severe fire destroyed much of the foundry, leaving only his machine shop and his badly damaged home. Parker restored the home, but moved the foundry portions of his operation a block and a half to the north, just opposite Sycamore. This was known as the J. P. Parker Foundry. He operated that foundry until his death in 1900.

Parker held several patents associated with the iron industry. He is perhaps best known for his tobacco press (Figure 2), patented on May 19, 1885 as a "Portable Screw Press" (U. S. Patent No. 318,215). Tobacco was big business in that part of southern Ohio and the nearby area of northern Kentucky, and Parker capitalized on this product by developing a portable press that would pack tobacco into barrels or hogsheads. The press was made of wood and iron, and could be moved easily between locations. Several of these presses, still with Parker's name attached, can be seen in the Ripley and Maysville areas today. He also patented a follower screw for the press in 1884 (U. S. Patent No. 304,552), and a "soil pulverizer" in 1890 (U. S. Patent No. 442,538). According to W. E. B. DuBois (Weeks 1971:155), only 55 black inventors held more than one patent in the year 1901. And, Parker had three of the seventy-seven issued to African Americans before 1886.

The John P. Parker Historical Society acquired the house and roughly 1,750 square meter lot in 1995 and immediately embarked upon a campaign of raising funds to stabilize and renovate the deteriorating structure. As part of the stabilization efforts, it was proposed that a former side porch area be enclosed, as it had been in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Subgrade impacts included

concrete footers and an elevator shaft. The Society was rightfully concerned about the impacts of this work to existing archaeological resources and in 1997 approached the Cincinnati Museum Center to assess their interest in conducting preliminary testing within the impact area.

Interest in the archaeology of the Parker site was immediate. And, of particular interest was Parker's story. Two things–freedom and iron–defined his adult life. As an African American, Parker managed a successful iron foundry in the face of much discrimination. And in his nocturnal rescues, he operated with his life and personal liberty at peril. It is this story of freedom and determination that we knew would make the archaeology special. The archaeological "situation" was equally compelling. Nearly unheard of in an urban setting, the Parker lot had remained relatively unchanged since the disastrous 1889 fire. With the exception of a small coal scales shed, no new buildings had been constructed. Much of the former industrial portions of the lot had been covered with aggregate rock and asphalt – in effect, sealing any subsurface deposits. And, perhaps most fortunate, the morphology and decline of the Phoenix foundry were documented in great detail by a series of Sanborn insurance maps. In a nutshell, the Parker lot was a virtual gold mine for the recovery of materials and information on John P. Parker, his family, and his industry.

The 1998 testing began with a pair of test units, each placed against the stone foundation of the Parker House (Figure 3). The first of these units, Test Unit 1, revealed considerable evidence for a serious fire or fires affecting the Parker House. Burned timbers lay where they had fallen, their heat turning the clay soil to a soft red. And, hundreds of scorched nails, freed from their boards, littered that surface. But the true heat of the fire is attested to by the large quantities of window glass melted into blobs and drips. This zone of fire and destruction was clearly delineated on the house foundation by a linear band of oxidation and ash (between 23 and 26 cm below surface). Each of the units produced domestic items, although only in low to moderate numbers. The greatest number of Kitchen-related items was recovered from Test Unit 2 in a thin, sealed deposit. Datable ceramics within this zone suggest a deposit no later than the end of the Civil War. In general, the 1998 testing revealed that there was considerable evidence on the extent of the nineteenth century fires, and a general indication that domestic materials associated with the Parker family were present.

More systematic excavations at the Parker lot were conducted in the summer of 2000. In May of 2000, the John P. Parker Historical Society was awarded a Challenge Cost Share Program Grant from the National Park Service to conduct more preliminary excavations at the Parker site. The goals of the 2000 excavations were to identify both domestic and industrial features at the site, evaluate their integrity and archaeological potential, and to prepare an archaeological development plan for the JPPHS. Accessible areas of the site (i.e., those without asphalt or rock cover) were probed and cored, three hand-excavated test units were dug, and five mechanically stripped test trenches were opened. These excavations exposed only slightly less than 80 square meters, or less than 5% of the total lot. Nevertheless, they led to the identification of 51 historic features. More than 10,100 items were recovered, weighing nearly 208 kg (458 lbs). Of this total, nearly 85% by count, and more than 60% by weight were discarded after processing and analysis.

The three hand-excavated test units (Test Units 3, 4/6, and 5) in the front and side of the Parker House were essentially designed to gather information on Parker and his family. Each of the units exhibited considerable fill placement. Much of this fill consists of architectural items, combustion byproducts (of which Parker had many), and locally available soils. It is hypothesized that this fill placement was an attempt to "raise the grade" of the Parker lot above persistent Ohio River flood levels. The depth of historic fill varied from as little as 25 cm near the Parker House to as much as 1.35 meters near Front Street. Unfortunately, domestic debris was only a minor constituent of the fill, and lacked the context and density necessary to address questions on the Parker Family. These low levels of domestic debris are in contrast to the more moderate recovery at Test Units 1 and 2 beneath the side porch.

The precise age of front yard fill deposits is difficult to determine. The few temporal diagnostics present within the fill are indicative of a general nineteenth century origin, a fact that can be established through a cursory review of historic documentation for the lot. One clue to the age of the front yard fill is the buried A horizon near the base of Test Unit 6. This sealed, former land surface contains a small assemblage of temporally diagnostic sherds that indicate a mid-nineteenth century occupation, most likely prior to the Civil War. The 70 to 87 cm of fill above this surface was deposited in the last 140 years, and most between the 1860s and 1910.

The most significant feature uncovered during the front yard excavations is a cast iron walk found in Test Unit 4. This unique feature, consisting of blocks 60 cm in width and between 3 and 8 cm in thickness, is buried up to a third of a meter beneath the present lot surface. The blocks were undoubtedly poured and cast on site.

The majority of archeological features were uncovered in the rear of the lot during investigations into the industrial remains of the Phoenix Foundry. These excavations were guided, in part, by a series of Sanborn Insurance maps, beginning with the 1884 edition and ending with a 1920 (corrected) version. The foundry complex is clearly delineated on the earliest of the maps, prepared approximately five years before the destructive fire. The backhoe trenches reveal that foundry features, including foundations, piers/footers, post molds, wooden floors, structure floors, and a portion of the oven/furnace floor are still there beneath a rock and asphalt cover (see Figure 4).

In most places, the features lie buried within and below foundry waste. At Test Trench 2, as much as 1.5 meters (nearly 5 feet) of historic fill was noted. Although the lowest level of fill in that trench consists of imported "dirty clay", the majority of fill is comprised of combustion byproducts or slag from foundry operations. This fill is not rich in artifacts, but may provide information on the type of melt from which it was produced.

A number of significant features were exposed: these include the remains of a structure at the south end of Test Trench 1; a crucible floor within that structure; a large wood-lined box containing combustion byproducts and corroded product elements; a large structure or room floor near the intersection of Test Trenches 2 and 3; a large section of a floor of an oven/furnace feature; two deep limestone-lined wells; and, a prepared clay floor, which apparently lies beneath the entire foundry complex. In addition, numerous structural elements were uncovered. These include substantial foundations, simple piers or footers, and post molds.

Two industrial features are worthy of further note. Feature 8 is a compacted floor of a large number of flint-tempered, fired clay ladle or crucible fragments. The fragments range from very small pieces less than 5 cm in length, to large segments measuring 25 by 30 cm. All exhibit a slight, but marked, curvature, indicating a vessel of significant size. And, although no attempt was made to reconstruct or mend fragments, the curvature suggests a basin or basins 56 to 60 cm in diameter could be constructed. Based on these tentative dimensions, equally tentative volumes of 46,000 to 56,500 cc, or 12 to 15 gallons, can be calculated.

Feature 12, a large rectangular, wood-lined box filled with foundry waste and products, was located nearly three-quarters of a meter below present lot surface. The box measures 1.75 meters in length, 80 cm in width, and was originally as much as 1.54 meters in depth. A sample of box fill produced a number of foundry products, including many badly corroded cast machine parts. A number have been machined (e.g., drilled or cut), indicating that they were not direct casting rejects, but they were deemed unsuitable only after additional processing. More than 90% of this feature remains.

Prehistoric material was noted in nearly all test units and test trenches, reminding us that this landform was utilized by cultural groups long before Parker poured his first ladle of iron. Most, consisting of fire-cracked rock fragments, was recovered from within disturbed fill, although some undisturbed, or only marginally disturbed horizons contained prehistoric material. At Test Unit 6, temporal/cultural diagnostics were recovered that give us some idea as to both the age of one prehistoric occupation, and the stability of this Ohio River terrace. A flint bladelet segment and the base of a Middle Woodland-age spear point from Zone E, indicate that Native Americans utilized this former land surface sometime from approximately the B.C./A.D. boundary to A.D. 400. The artifacts also tell us that this former land surface, now some 70 to 87 cm below present lot surface, remained relatively stable from the beginning of the first Millennium to the middle of the nineteenth century when the "raise-to-grade" policy went into effect.

The Archaeological Development Plan recommends that further archaeological work be conducted at the Parker site (Genheimer 2001). The recorded features are relatively intact, and are directly associated with either Parker or his nineteenth century iron industry. Each of the features is rated for its archaeological potential. General recommendations for further archaeological work include the development of historic contexts, consultation with experts in the foundry industry, formulation of research questions, a continuation of preliminary work, and the preparation of iron conservation plans. A number of specific archaeological features are also recommended for further investigations. And, finally, it is recommended that an archaeology management plan be adopted by the JPPHS to ensure that archaeological resources are not unduly impacted by any proposed development plans at the Parker lot.

References Cited

Genheimer, R. A.
2001 A Report on Preliminary Archaeological Testing and an Archaeological Development Plan for the John P. Parker House and Foundry Site, Ripley, Ohio. Submitted to the John P. Parker Historical Society and the National Park Service. Prepared by the Cincinnati Museum Center.

Sprague, S. S. (editor)
1996 *His Promised Land.* W. W. Norton & Co., New York and London.

Weeks, L.
1971 John P. Parker: Black Abolitionist Entrepreneur, 1827-1900. *Ohio History* 80(2):155-162.

Figure 1. Cast iron angel, obverse.

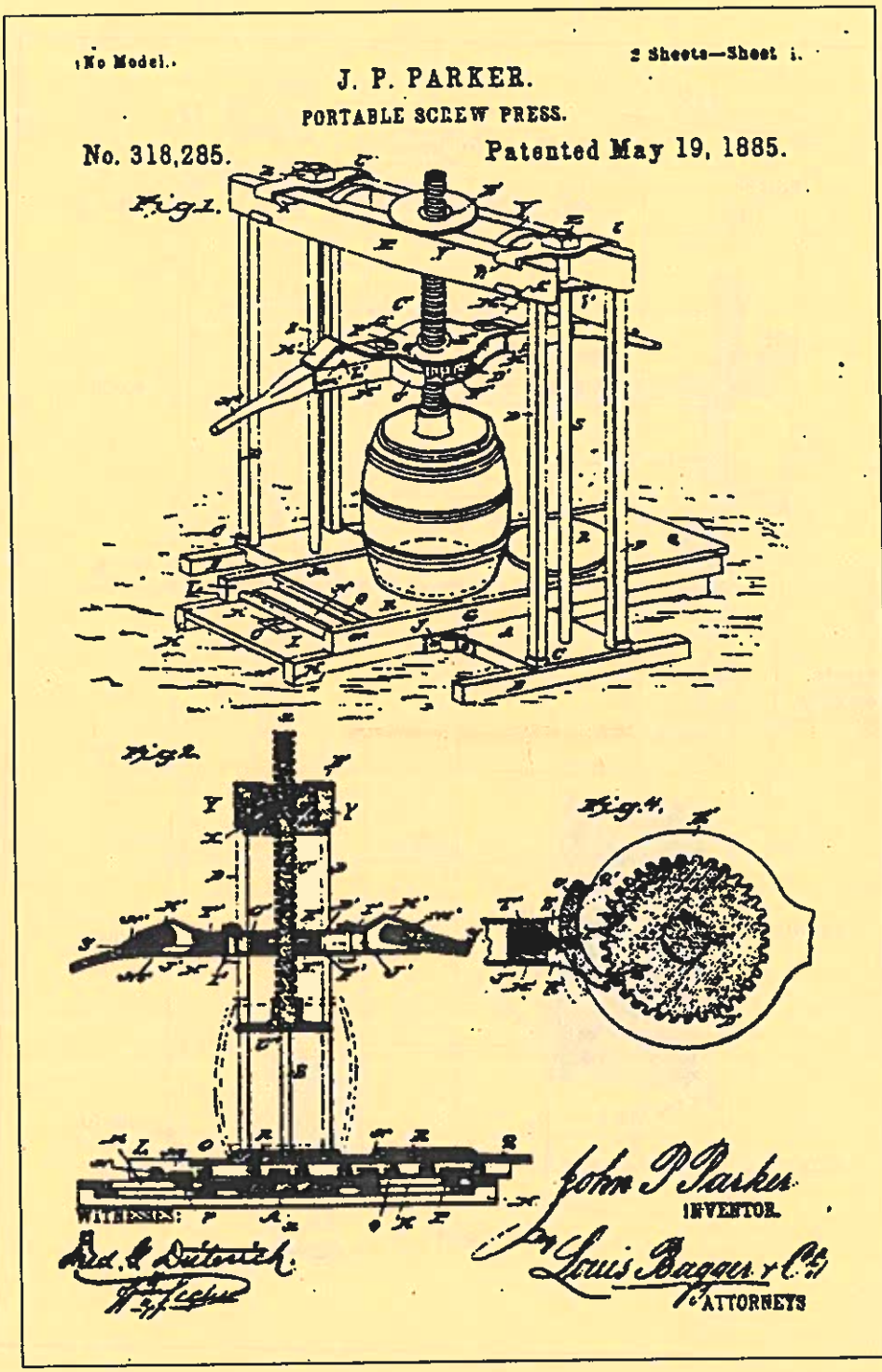

Figure 2. Patent drawing for Parker's Portable Screw Press, 1885.

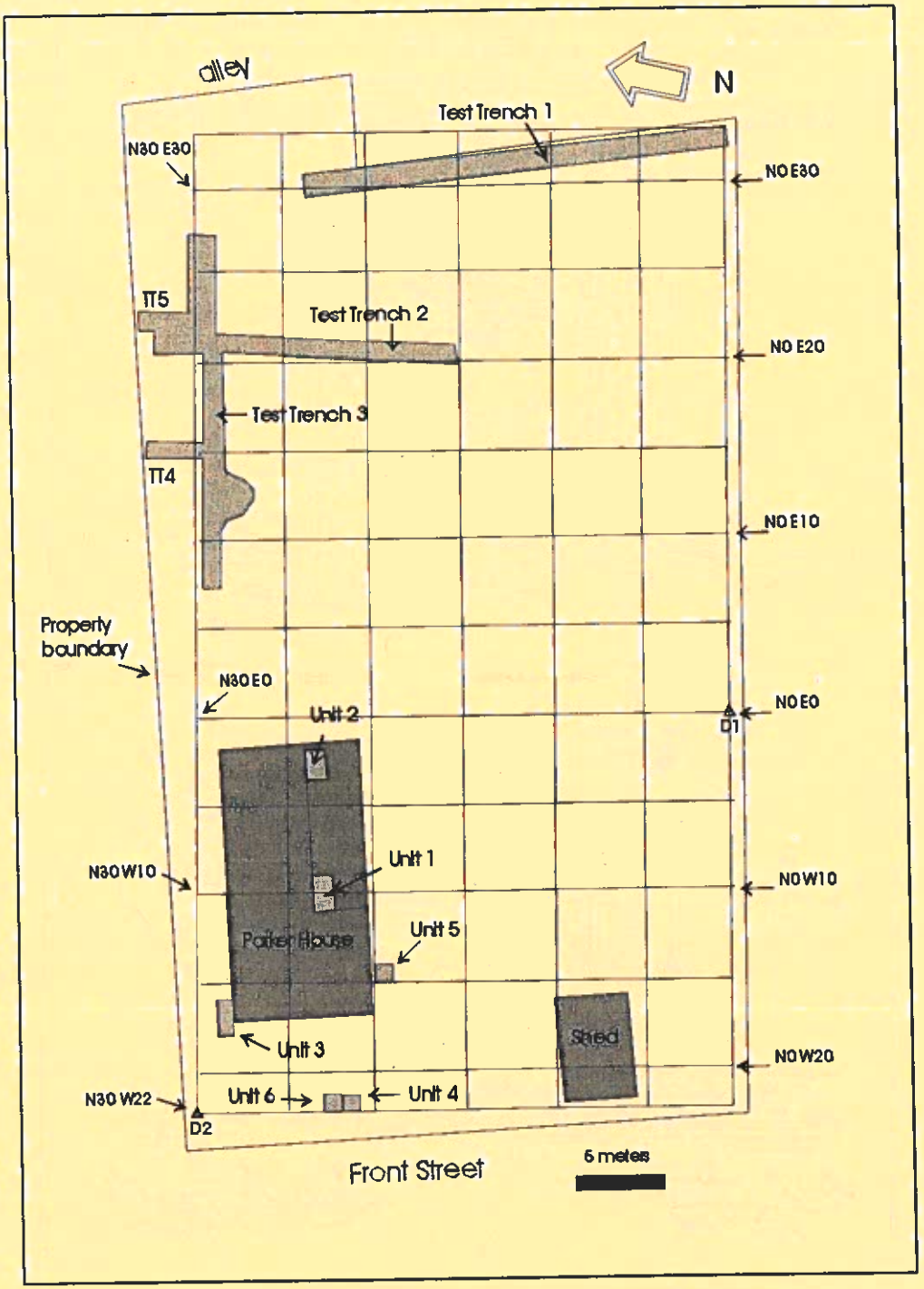

Figure 3. Plan view of Parker lot showing structures, test units and trenches, datums, and grid system.

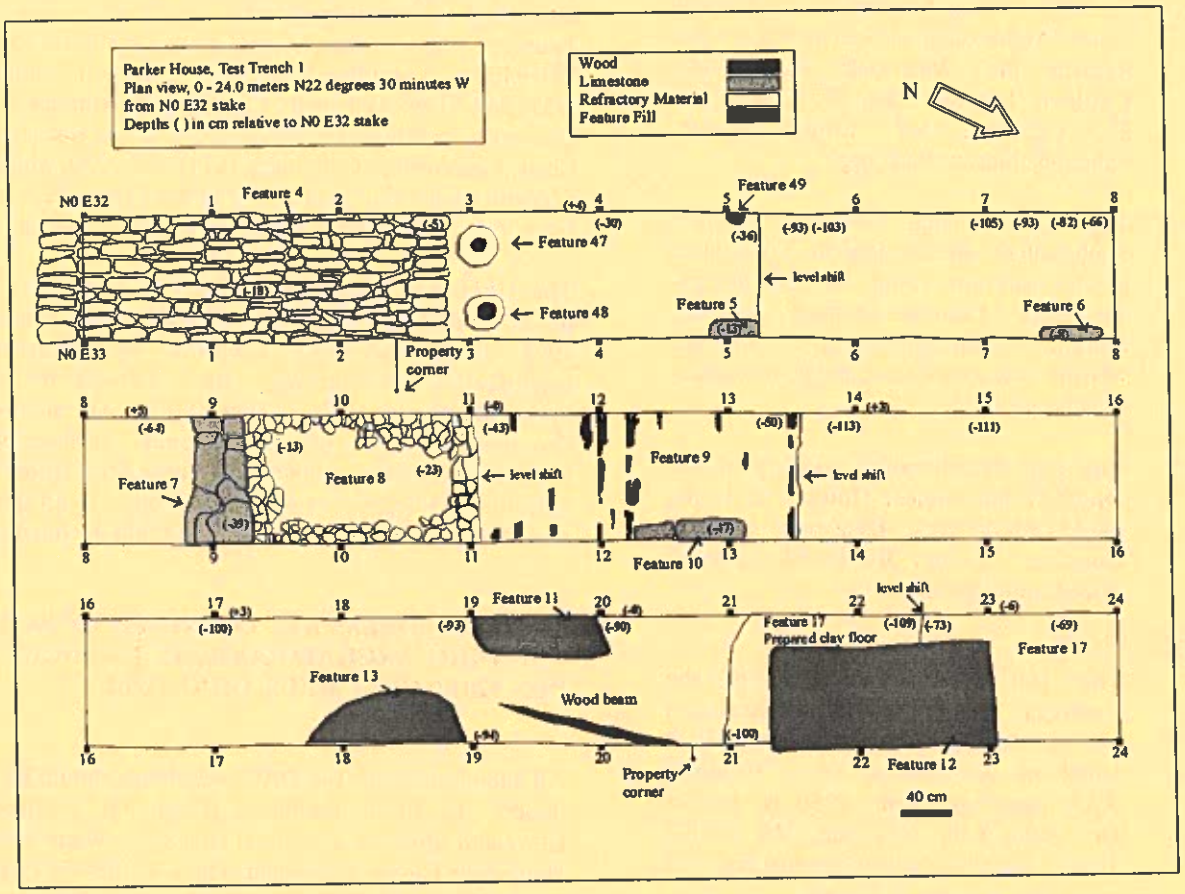

Figure 4. Segmented plan view of Test Trench 1.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2001

November 8-11 The 68th Annual Meeting of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation at the Ramada Inn, Watertown, New York. **Contact:** Timothy Abel, 33512 NYS Rrt 26, Carthage, NY 13691; **e-mail:** <abeltj@aldus.northnet.org>

November 14-17 The 58th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference at the Marriott Hotel in Chattanooga, Tennessee. **Contact:** Lynne P. Sullivan; **e-mail:** <lsulliv2@utk.edu> or see website www.uark.edu/campus-resources-/seac/index.html.

November 17 **The Fall Membership Meeting of the Ohio Archaeological Council at Highbanks Metropark, Delaware County. Contact: Brian Redmond, e-mail: <bredmond@cmnh.org>**

November 28-December 2 The 100th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. **Contact:** AAA Meetings Dept., 4350 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203-1620; **e-mail:** <jmeier@aaanet.org> or see website: www.aaanet.org.

2002

January 9-12 The 35th Annual Society for Historical Archaeology Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Mobile, Alabama. **Contact:** Amy Young, Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, P.O. Box 5074, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS 39406; **e-mail:** <amy.young@usm.edu>

March 20-24 The 67th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology will be held at the Adams Mark Hotel, Denver, Colorado. **Contact:** SAA Headquarters, 900 Second St. N.E. #12 Washington, DC 200002; **e-mail:** <meetings@saa.org> or see website: www.saa.org.

All submissions for the OAC Newsletter should be made directly to Brian Redmond (Dept. Of Archaeology, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval Dr., University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio 44106-1767; Phone: (216) 231-4600 x301; E-mail: <bredmond@cmnh.org>; FAX: 216-231-5919.

Schedule for Submissions

Issue	Deadline
March	February 1st.
October	September 1st.

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