

## 7.0 ANALYSIS OF HISTORIC COMPONENT

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### 7.1 Background History

The historic component at Site 7K-F-11 was initially identified during Phase I and II survey, and was further investigated in conjunction with Phase III data recovery of the prehistoric component. The historic occupation at Site 7K-F-11 was identified as a separate occupation from the historic occupation of the Soulie Gray Farmstead (Site 7K-F-169). Much of the property ownership had been traced in the Phase I/II survey (Emory et al. 2007). Supplemental background research was conducted by A&HC. The results indicated that the site had been occupied for a relatively short period, spanning the first half of the nineteenth century.

The historic site is located on a property known historically as the Bridge Lot. This property lies on the east side of SR 12 and the north side of Spring Creek, just upstream from its confluence with the Murderkill River. Since the nineteenth century, this property was included in the southwest corner of the Soulie Gray Property, which was documented in detail during the previous Phase I and II survey for the project. The Bridge Lot was first parceled off from a larger farm tract in 1801, but evidence of a structure on the lot was not documented until the tax lists of 1810, where it was referred to as a small house. The dwelling was last mentioned in the 1852 tax lists, where it was called a "small frame tenant house." There was no subsequent mention of this dwelling in any deeds or tax records, nor does it appear on the county's historic atlas maps from 1859 or 1868. The full history of ownership is presented in Table 7.1. Information relevant to the occupational history of the site is summarized below.

The Bridge Lot was originally part of a 600-acre land grant, which was warranted (1680) and patented (1684) to Thomas Williams (Kent County Deed Book A1:16; Kent County Deed Book B1:37). The warrant described the tract, called "Williams Chance" or "Williams Choice" as being on the ". . . west side of Delaware Bay and on the north side of Murther creek." When Williams sold the tract in 1684, the deed mentioned the presence of a house on the parcel. Over the next forty years, the parcel was owned by a succession of individuals who were prominent in politics and business, including John Walker and Robert Edmondson (representatives in the Pennsylvania Assembly), Peter Bisailon (an infamous French Huguenot fur trader), James Steel (proprietor agent of William Penn and Receiver General of Land Grants in Pennsylvania), and Jehu Curtis (Judge of the Supreme Court, Treasurer of the Loan Office, Speaker of the Assembly, and friend of Benjamin Franklin). Given the number of transactions, and the fact that each of these individuals owned multiple properties, these were likely land speculations. It is assumed that none of them resided here and it is unclear whether the property was occupied, despite early references to a house.

The first division of the large property came during this period of speculation, when the northernmost 200 acres were sold off in 1685. The remaining 440 acres was sold by Jehu Curtis to his brother-in-law John Brinkle in 1725 (Kent County Deed Book I1:9). Brinkle's son Thomas occupied and farmed the parcel until his death in 1741. His residence, described as being a brick house on the west side of the "County Road." was interpreted as being located

**Table 7.1  
History of Ownership, Site 7K-F-11**

<b>Date and Deed Book</b>	<b>Grantor</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
PIN SM00-131.00-01-24.03, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County, Delaware 20-Acre Lot at the South Corner of US 113 and SR 12, Owned by State of Delaware					
1994 Sept 22 D100:232	William Henry Wilson III, Jane Hazzard Gosnell, William R. Hazzard Jr, Sarah Wilson Farmer, Mary Sue Lee Wilson	State of Delaware	3 properties = 473.57 acs 1: <b>175ac + 100ac</b> 2: 20ac (Milford H) 3: 171ac – ¼m from hwy	\$1,557,000	Estate of Soulie Gray
1992 June 29 WB B7:45	Sarah Burt Wilson died; left her ½ share to her husband	William Charles Wilson			WC Wilson died 8-24-1992 and left his share of the property to his children: Sarah Wilson Farmer & Mary Sue Lee Wilson
1987 July 28 WB I6:355	Jane Gray Hazzard died; left her ½ share to her husband	William Robinson Hazzard			WR Hazzard died 1-27-1988 and left his share of the property to his children: William R. Hazzard Jr. & Jane H. Gosnell
1987 March 3 Will Record 90402	Mary Katherine Wilson died; left her ½ share to her sisters and her son	Jane Gray Hazzard Sarah Gray Wilson William H. Wilson III			
1973 Dec 31 WB K4:257 filed 9-29-63	Estate of Soulie Gray	Jane Gray Hazzard Sarah Gray Wilson Mary Katherine Gray Wilson	1) <b>175 +100ac (Home Farm)</b> 2) 20ac (in Milford H) 3) 171ac (Back Farm)		175ac arable land + 100ac cripple (marsh) land on east side of SR 1 and SR 12 to the north of Spring Creek and Murderkill River RE = \$100,000 – PE = \$22,000
1962 July 12 WB Q3:333 filed 10-24-58	Jester Gray	Soulie [Burt] Gray	1) <b>Home Farm of 172ac (arable) + 98ac (marsh)</b> 2) Back Farm of 105ac (arable) + 70ac (marsh) 3) House on Front St in Frederica 4) 8ac of woodland 5) Lot in Frederica		Jester A. Gray was a Delaware State Representative 1928
1962 June 28 X22:156	James Messick	Jester A. & Soulie B. Gray	1) <b>175ac + 100ac</b> 2) 20ac (in Milford H)	\$10	
1962 June 26 X22:155	Jester & Soulie Gray	James Messick	1) <b>175ac + 100ac</b> 2) 20ac (in Milford H)	\$10	Straw man transaction
1936 topo map	<i>Shows the Soulie Gray Farm only; no house near the north side of the bridge over Spring Creek</i>				

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<b>Date and Deed Book</b>	<b>Grantor</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1932 July 27 G14:86	Howard & Emma Wix	Jester A. Gray	<i>175ac 100ac</i>	\$1	on public road leading from Frederica to Dover; mentions Spring Creek
1913 Dec 15 O10:81	William H. & Elmina Wix	Howard Wix	<i>175 ac (arable land) 100 ac (cripple) farm</i>	\$13,000	farm located on north side of Murderkill River and east of SR 12 & SR 1. Wix got this property in 2 deeds: (1)= Samuel Hall (P7:33 – 1894), (2)= John Harrington & Rachel West (H6:306 – 1881)
1894 Feb 20 P7:33	Samuel W. & Annie E. Hall	William Wix	<i>15 acres Bridge Lot</i>	\$1,000	Bounded on N by Wm Wix; on S by Spring Crk & marshlands of David M. Hess; on E by Wm Wix; on W by public road
1892 July 7 L7:23	John W. & Sarah E.M. Hall (of Frederica) and Charles C. & Sarah H. Lister (of Phila) = heirs of John W. Hall	Samuel Hall (of Dover)	Their interests in 15 properties in Murderkill, Mispillion & Milford Hundred and Frederica	\$31,360	<i>No. 8: All that certain tract, piece or parcel of land situated in South Murderkill Hundred, Country and State aforesaid (known as Bridge Lot and marsh back of Reynold's canning factory) adjacent to lands of William Wix and lands of others and said to contain 40 acres of land more or less.</i>
1892 Jan 23	John W. Hall died (b. 1-1-1817)	Estate left to his children: John W. Hall, Sarah Lister & Samuel Hall			
1887 March 19	Caroline Warren Hall died (b. 12-12-1825)	Estate left to John W. Hall, her husband			John W. Hall was governor of Delaware (1879-83) one of state's largest landowners with over 6,000ac
1878 Jan 14 WB V:8	Sarah [Neal Sipple] Warren died (b. 4-14-1801)	Estate left to Caroline & John W. Hall, her daughter & son-in-law (merchant)			John W. Hall & Caroline Warren married in 1842 3 children: Samuel W. (1843-1914), John W. (1846-1907) & Sarah (1848-1936)
1869 June 15 WB T:495	Samuel Warren died (b. 11-7-1800)	Estate left to Sarah, his widow			John W. Hall, executor (son-in-law)
<i>1868 map</i>	<i>No house shown near the north side of bridge over Spring Creek</i>				

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Date and Deed Book	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Value	Notes
1860 census	Samuel Warren household, in Murderkill Hundred [1052/1034]: Samuel Warren (60, farmer, RE \$30,000, PE \$10,000), Sarah (59), Catherine Cruthers (70), James Cullen (9); also owned 3 slaves.  adjacent renting households: [1051/1033] George Hatfield (54, B, laborer), Matilda (52, B), Amanda (18, B), Charles (8, B), Nicy (4mo, B) [1053/1035] John Harman (30, M, laborer), Elizabeth (26, M), Elizabeth (7, M), Sarah J. (5, M), John T (3, M) [1562/1534] Elijah Warren (41, B, laborer), Eliza (36, B), 5 young children				
1859 map	<i>No house shown near the north side of bridge over Spring Creek</i>				
1852 taxes	Samuel Warren	255 acres of land [140 ac improved, 115 ac in timber] with a 2 story frame dwelling, smoke house, carriage barn, stables, etc, all in tolerable repair in tenure of self, <b>also a small frame tenant house in tenure of Elijah Warren, n. @</b> \$15/ac = \$3825 105 acres wild marsh @ \$1/ac = \$105 240 acres of land [200 improved, 40 ac in branch] with a one-story frame dwelling in tolerable repair in tenure of Curtis Deleha @ \$9 = \$2160 5 slaves = \$395; 2 horses \$100, 2 pair mules \$250, 25 head of cattle \$295, 1 sow & shoats \$16			
1850 census	Samuel Warren household, in Murderkill Hundred [170/170]: Samuel Warren (49, farmer, RE \$12,000), Sarah (49), Samuel W. Hall (6); also owned 7 slaves  adjacent renting households: [169/169] John Martin (35, laborer), Ann (25), Mary (9), Ann (7), Susan (5), Sarah (3), Eliza (5mo) [171/171] Robert Wheeler (34, laborer), Margaret A. (22), Samuel (2) [172/172] John Warren (40, farmer, renter), Margaret A (32), Susan E (6), Anna (4), John E (1mo), Susanna (56), Robert Fuller (37, laborer, Irish), Robert Thomas (18, B, laborer), Maria Gross (17, B), Edward Brown (14, B), Elizabeth A. Young (3, B)				
1847	An act to close or replace the drawbridge on Spring Creek.				
1845 taxes	Samuel Warren, Jr.	255 acres [50 acres of which is branch cripple & woodland] with man[t]ion 2 story frame dwelling in good repair frame barn in bad repair farm stable in bad repair @ \$9/ac = \$2295 105 acres of wild marsh @ \$0.50/ac = \$5250 2 horses \$50, 6 mules \$200, 3 pair ste[a]rs \$66, 6 cows \$42, 8 young cattle \$32, 6 calves \$9, 9 sheep \$9, 2 sows & 6 shoats \$22; 8 negro slaves (including mother w/infant) \$705			

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1841 Jan 2 P3:92	James Henry & Margaretta Boone	Samuel Warren, Jr.	5 lots of below (Lots I, L, N, E & T)	\$2,000	Lot 1 = I (190ac) Lot 2 = L (Frederica lot) Lot 3 = N (12 ac on east side of lower road from Frederica to Dover) <b>Lot 5 = E (40 ac, along lower road from Frederica to Dover &amp; Murderkill R at drawbridge)</b> Lot 6 = T (Frederica lot)
post-1837 [no deeds found for transactions, but mentioned in DB P3:92]	Rachel Boone	James Henry Boone (son)	6 properties of below		James Henry Boone purchased Rachel's life estate in Lot 4 (H) and was the reversionary owner of the remaining 5 lots (which he planned to sell to Samuel Warren, Jr.) **Lot 4 was the Frederica "mansion" lot and the property on which Rachel lived
<i>1839</i>	<i>An act to change the drawbridge over Spring Creek in Kent Co. into a pivot bridge to be financed by George Bonwell to ease water travel</i>				
1837 taxes	James Henry Boone [minor]	<p>180 acres of land [no woods] in tenure of Caleb Elliott, framed dwelling in bad repair, barn &amp; stables in middling repair, 2 story framed dwelling in middling repair &amp; lot of ground grist mill with one water wheel, 2 pair of burz mill &amp; mill house in repair, 1 bark mill with 1 water wheel in repair in tenure of John W. Luff &amp; Tomlinson = \$2250 – SPRING MILL -- transferred to Thomas B. Cauxxx in 1840</p> <p>3 acres of lands adjoining Wm Sylvester &amp; others, old house fit to fall down in tenure of W. Sylvester = \$12</p> <p>290 acres of land [90 of which is woods ] small framed dwelling in middling repair, framed stable &amp; log cribs, old log barn in bad repair in tenure of William Mason = \$1160 – transferred to Thomas Brown in 1839</p> <p>1 lot of ground in Frederica in tenure of Hester F. Townsend = \$108.37</p> <p>store house, granary &amp; wharf at Frederica in tenure of Solomon Townsend = \$800</p> <p>2 story framed dwelling in Camden with 1 acre lot in tenure of Parritt Curby = \$250 -- transferred to Thomas Purnell in 1844</p> <p>140 acres of land [30 of which are woods] 1 story framed dwelling, barn &amp; stable in bad repair in tenure of James Wyatt = \$560 -- transferred to Thomas Vickory in 1839</p> <p>1 lot of ground in Frederica in tenure of Elizabeth Young = \$125</p> <p>1 house &amp; lot in Frederica in tenure of Edward Paine = \$200</p> <p>133 acres of land all woods adjoining Jehu Clark [called Owl Nest Tract] = \$399 – transferred to I Baily in 1842</p> <p>150 acres of land [30 of which is wood] 2 story brick dwelling in middling repair, outbuildings in bad repair in tenure of Stringer Finley = \$675 – transferred to Jos Ridgeway 1844</p>			

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Orphans Court Docket M:215 March 1833	Jacob Boone Jr. Estate	Rachel Boone [his widow]  James Henry Boone was a minor at the time of his father's death			Orphan's Court seizes properties and appoints 5 freeholders to lay off a widow's dower (1/3 share) for Rachel in 6 properties: 1) = I, 190 acres 2) = L, Frederica lot at Market & Main St [by Benj Dill lot] & tenanted by Cpt Jms Downs 3) = N, 12 acres on east side of lower road from Frederica to Dover 4) = H, Frederica lot with Boone's "mansion" <b>Lot 5 = E, 40 ac, along lower road from Frederica to Dover &amp; Murderkill R at drawbridge</b> 6) = T, Frederica lot
1832 Dec 6	Jacob Boone Jr. died intestate, Jan 4, 1832 (b. 1779)	Rachel Boone dower request			Jacob Boone Jr. had interest in 19 properties at the time of his death: 1) 187ac farm & mill in Milford H [known as Spring Mill] in tenure of Charles Stidham 2) farm of unspecified acreage in Murderkill H [by Geo Smith & Jms Green] in tenure of Jesse Smith 3) 250ac farm & marsh in neck of Murderkill H [by Andrew Gray] in tenure of Jesse Steel 4) scratched out 5) ½ interest in 308ac farm [known as Owl's Nest] – Boone & Jehu Clark from Isaac Davis 6) ½ interest in 636ac farm [Buckmaster land bought at sheriff sale] in tenure of John Godwin <b>7) 2 lots of ground &amp; marsh = 50ac [by Jehu Clark] in tenure of Jesse Smith</b> 8) 5ac house lot in Sandtown 9) tavern lot in Frederica in tenure of Caleb Mason 10) town lot in Frederica in tenure of Samuel Grace (as office) 11) town lot in Frederica in tenure of Cpt James Downs* 12) town lot in Frederica in tenure of P Anderson 13) mansion house lot in Frederica of <i>Jacob Boone, now occupied by Mrs. Boone, his widow*</i> 14) brick store house in Frederica – formerly Boone & Brown, now in tenure of Joseph Brown 15) granary lot near wharf in Frederica, in tenure of Joseph Brown 16) unimproved lot along creek in Frederica, adj wharfs of Samuel Harrington 17) town lot in Camden in tenure of Absalom Stradley's widow 18) ½ interest in 165ac farm in Dover H, in tenure of Nathan Hall 19) life estate of Alexander M Clyments in 1/3 interest of farm in Milford H, in tenure of unknown
1828 taxes	Jacob Boone Jr.	16 properties, including			<b>Two lots containing 18 acres arable land 13 marsh making 31 acres at \$12 = \$372</b>

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1825 taxes	Jacob Boon Jr.	102 acres land in tenure of T. Robertson @ \$16/ac = \$1632 115 acres salt marsh @ \$2/ac = \$230 brick house in Frederica = \$700 <b>32 acres lot land near Frederica @ \$30/ac = \$960</b> 12 acres fresh marsh near Frederica @ \$3/ac = \$36 house & lot in tenure of self = \$900 lot & 2 grain stores and wharf = \$400		house & lot in tenure of E. Anderson \$400 130 acres land in tenure of Mrs. Harrington @ \$7/ac = \$910 250 acres land in tenure of Aaron Vincent @ \$6/ac = \$1500 1 female slave Mary 11 yr \$49 1 horse \$40, 3 head cattle \$15, 6 pigs \$3 35oz silver \$1.10 pole tax \$200	
1816 taxes	Jacob Boon	102 acres of land in tenure of D. Sxxx @ \$10 = \$1020 30oz of silver plate \$33 & the sloop <i>Frolick</i> \$1000 = \$1033 115 acres salt marsh @ \$4 = \$460 <b>32 acres of land near Frederica @ \$20 = \$640</b> 12 acres of fresh marsh @ \$2 = \$24 1 lot and 2 grain stores = \$1000		1 horse \$60, 2 cows \$30, 2 shoats \$4, pole tax \$200 = \$294 1 negro girl named Mary aged 7 yrs = \$50 1 new frame house on ground rent & store house = \$1500	
1813 Nov 22 Will [11-9-12]	Perry Boone died (b. 7-22-1762)	Estate left to Sarah [widow] and 2 children: Jacob Jr & Sally Anne [minor]	Sarah: 1/3 share of real estate intended to be in full of her widow dower <b>Jacob:</b> 1) all that tract or parcel of land and marsh situate lying and being in Murderkill neck in the said county adjoining lands of Andrew Gray & others which was conveyed to me by and from Govey Emenson 2) lot of ground and dwelling house where I now live situate in the said village of Frederica and the store house opposite, also the xxxxx and all the lots and granaries that I possess in the said village of Frederica which said last mentioned property was conveyed to me by the heirs of John Dill, deceased, subject to an annual ground rent to him of John Emenson deceased and also a wharf at the Frederica landing 3) all that tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in Mispillion Hundred in said county which was devised by xxxxx, late of said county to his son xxxxx and afterwards sold by the sheriff of said county and conveyed to me said to contain about 150 acres <b>4) all that tract or parcel of land and marsh near Frederica xxx being part of the real estate of John Sipple deceased and was conveyed to me by John Bowers Jr. and Sarah his wife and of the daughter of said John Sipple, together with their right in the dower of the widow of said John Sipple after the death of said widow</b> Sally Anne: 1) all that tract or parcel of land and marsh lying and being in Murderkill neck in the county aforesaid thereon L. Bryan now lives being part of a tract of land called William's Choice adjoining lands of the heirs of John Sipple and others and was conveyed to me by Peter Lowber 2) all that tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in Murderkill Hundred aforesaid		

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			adjoining lands of McKimney Smack, Andrew Andrews and other which was conveyed to me by David Lockwood, sheriff		
1810 taxes	Perry Boon	132 acres in tenure of L. Bryan @ \$8 = \$1056 100 acres marsh & cripple @ \$2 = \$200 <b>30 acres w/small house @ \$8 = \$240</b> 14 acres marsh & cripple @ \$2 = \$28 80 acres in tenure of D. Smith @ \$6 = \$480 137 acres of marsh & cripple @ \$2 = \$274 180 acres & the Spring Mills = \$4000 130 acres, the covey land @ \$5 = \$650 store house & lot in Frederica = \$300		brick house & lot in Frederica = \$1200 1 lot & 2 story granary in bad repair = \$200 1 other granary, good = \$300 3 horses \$120, 2 cows \$20, 3 steers \$30 12oz of plate \$13 Sloop <i>Sally Ann</i> (30 ton, old) = \$500 Profits on stock in store = \$500 pole tax = \$200	
1804 taxes	Perry Boon	132 acres (90 cleared) @ \$8 = \$1046 100 acres marsh & cripple = \$200 <b>30 acres land @ \$8 = \$240</b>		14 acres marsh & cripple @ \$2 = \$28 80 acres land @ \$6 = 480 137 acres of marsh = \$342	
1803-04 taxes	Perry Boon	132 acres (90 cleared) @ \$8 = \$1056 100 acres marsh and cripple = \$200 <b>30 acres of land @ \$8 = \$240</b>		14 acres of marsh and cripple @ \$2 = \$28 80 acres of land @ \$6 = \$480 137 acres of marsh = \$362	
1802 taxes	Perry Boon	<b><i>“To be assessed with 31 acres of the land formerly assessed to John Sipples Heirs but later the property of John Bowers – laying on the neck towards Frederica – sold for \$175 = \$108.10”</i></b>			
1801 Jan 26 G2:24	John Jr. & Sarah Bowers (from John Sipple’s estate)	Perry Boone	1/6 interest [their share] of 265 acres, including marsh & cripple [not sure how Boone gets the other 5/6 interest]	£177, 10 shillings	Tract on the north side of Murderkill Creek bounded to the S & W by Murderkill Creek and branches and waters thereof, to the N by lands of Philip Barratt, to the E by lands of the said Perry Boon and Lands in the possession of Vincent Dehorty
Orphans Court Docket F1:45 4-25-1801	John Sipple Estate (died intestate)	Priscilla [his widow] and 6 children: Sarah, Mary, Garrett, Rachel, Hetty, John	Orphan’s Court seizes properties and appoints 5 freeholders to divide acreage between the 7 heirs. Each heir receives a parcel of cleared land, a parcel of woodland, and a parcel of marsh land. Total acreage = 372 acres <b>John &amp; Sarah Bowers receive LOT C = 31 acres (18 of cleared land &amp; 13 of marsh):</b> <b><i>“Beginning at a stake on the west side of the State Road at the foot of a bridge on Mill Creek and running down said creek . . .”</i></b>		
1797 taxes	John Sipple	<b>220 acres of land (110 cleared), middling buildings = \$770</b> 2 horses \$20, 14 grown cattle \$56, 18 2yr cattle \$36, 11 1yr cattle \$11, 12 calves \$9, 37 sheep \$10, 2 sow & 16 shoats \$5			
1785 May 26 X1:272	Thomas & Jamima Sipple	John Sipple [of Mispillion]	220 acres [his 1/8 share]	£150	West of lower county road to draw bridge

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		Hundred]			
1780 Feb 2 W1:232	Caleb & Alee Sipple and John & Elizabeth Edmonds	John Sipple [of Mispillion Hundred]	220 acres [their 2/8 shares]	£450	part of a larger tract formerly belonging to "John Brinkley". Described below:  <i>"beginning at the mouth of the first small branch below the main county road leading from Dover to the drawbridge by the marshes of said creek and extending up said small branch binding on the several courses thereof to a corner hickory standing at the head of said branch then south 63d west, 9p to the road aforesaid, then with the said road north 41d west 130p to the end of a lane, then north 6d west 9p to a corner black oak standing near the meeting of the Kings Road aforesaid and the road leading from thence to Jonecake Bridge then north 49d west 144p to a corner black oak standing in a line of the whole tract of 440 acres, then by said line southwest and by west 164p to a corner Spanish oak of the said whole tract standing by a large maple swamp then down said swamp and the branches of Murderkill creek binding on the several course thereof to the place of beginning – contain in the whole 220 acres of land"</i>
1765 Feb R1:19	Joseph Brinkle	Heirs of Caleb Sipple	220 acres [from the 1759 MOA]	£450	
1762 Feb 10	Caleb Sipple died intestate	Estate left to his heirs: Sarah [widow], Caleb, Elizabeth, Garrett, John, Mary, Nancy & Thomas			
prior to 1759 Q1:76 memorandum of agreement	Joseph Brinkle	Caleb Sipple	220 acres	£450	<i>"Witnesseth that the said Joseph Brinkle hath sold all that Plantation and the land thereunto belonging which was left to him the said Joseph Brinkle and his Father John Brinkle by his Grandfather John Brinkle deceased, lying and being in Murderkill Hundred and near the Draw Bridge, unto the said Caleb Sipple . . ."</i>
1754 Aug 1 P1:210	Daniel Brinkle [of Murderkill Hundred]	John Brinkle [of Little Creek Hundred]	220 acres		Daniel's release his claim of the 220 acres to John Brinkle & Joseph Brinkle (grandson), including west portion of parcel . . . <i>"to include Loftis's Pond and dwelling house and plantation on the west side of the County Road namely the house and plantation where Thomas Brinkle, dec'd, formerly dwelt"</i> [Thomas Brinkle, planter, was son of John Sr. and brother of John Jr & Daniel. He died in 1741 preceding his father. <a href="http://files.usgarchives.net/de/kent/court/etal33gwl.txt">http://files.usgarchives.net/de/kent/court/etal33gwl.txt</a> ]

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1748 will	John Brinkle, Sr. died: Ruth [widow], John, Daniel, Benjamin, Hannah [Fisher], Elizabeth [D] grandchildren: Joseph Brinkle, Hester Brinkle	A portion of his estate left to his sons: Daniel & John, Jr. and grandson Joseph (son of John)	440 acres in Murderkill Hundred: <i>70ac plantation w/brick house to John</i> <i>150ac of land in Murderkill Neck at N end of tract including Loftis's Point to Joseph</i> 220ac (remainder) of tract in Murderkill Neck, including houses, to Daniel [This was the Bowers Furbee property; Furbee's wife Anna was a sister of John and Waitman Sipple]		
1725 July 1 I1:9	Jehu & Mary [Brinckle] Curtis (of New Castle County)	John Brinkle (Kent County)	440 acres	£220	no mention of county road or bridge
1720 May 6 F1:102	James & Martha Steel (of Philadelphia)	Jehu Curtis	440 acres	10 shillings	no mention of county road or bridge. Nominal cost.
1717 March Pat Bk A5:216 as cited in DB F:102	Peter Bisaillon's title claim by Penn's commissioners of property: Richard Hill, James Logan, Isaac Norris	James Steel	440 acres		Re-patent, previous claim void
1695 February C:104	John Walker	Peter Bisaillon	400 acres	£18 silver	Fur trader operating in Pennsylvania
1686 B:110	Robert Edmonston (his moiety in property)	John Walker	400 acres	6000lb of merchantable tobacco	"... beinge the lower Part of a dividend of land of six hundred ackers called as aforesaid ... where the house and plantation is scituated ... " (ibid.)
1685 December B:56	Thomas & Alice Williams	John Walker and Robert Edmonston (both reps in PA Assembly)	400 acres	8000lb of merchantable tobacco	property already has a dwelling on it; legal description in deed mentioned "... where the house standeth ... "
1684 Jan 26 B:37 (patent)	William Penn	Thomas Williams	600 acres		Called " <i>Williams Choice</i> "
1684 January A:6 (warrant)	William Penn	Thomas Williams	600 acres		west of the Delaware Bay and north of the Murderkill River, called " <i>Williams Chance</i> "

outside the current project APE, on the west side of SR 12. His father, John Brinckle died in 1748. Following his will, the property was divided into three parcels (Kent County Register of Wills, probate records). The western half was divided between his son John, Jr., who received 70 acres with the brick house formerly occupied by Thomas (deceased), and his grandson Joseph, who received 150 acres. The eastern half (220 acres) was left to his son Daniel. Daniel's portion passed down through other owners and contained the site known as the Bowers Furbee House (Emory et al. 2007).

In 1761, Joseph Brinckle drafted an agreement to sell the entire 220-acre plantation to Caleb Sipple (Kent County Deed Book Q1:76). Sipple died in 1762 prior to completion of the sale. His heirs fulfilled the requirements of the memorandum and received ownership of the plantation in 1865. John Sipple acquired full ownership of the tract after the other heirs released their shares to him. The 1780 deed from his brother and sister and their respective spouses described the 220-acre tract in detail. It was bordered to the northeast by "the main county road leading from Dover to the drawbridge by the marshes" and extended west across a junction with "the road leading from thence to Jonecake Bridge" (Kent County Deed Book W1:232). The drawbridge over the Murderkill River was on the old route of the Kings Road, or lower county road, lying east of modern Route 1. Jonecake or Johnnycake Landing was the original name for Frederica, so the second road was most likely the precursor of SR 12, leading south into the town.

In the Kent County tax lists for 1797, John Sipple was taxed for 220 acres, 110 of which were cleared (Murderkill Hundred Tax Rolls 1797:6). The assessment listed the condition of the buildings on his property as "middling," indicating that they were of moderate size and condition. Sipple died intestate soon thereafter. His estate was divided among his widow and six children by the Orphans Court, with each to receive parcels of cleared land, woodland, and marsh. It is in this 1801 court division that the Bridge Lot was separated from the acreage that became the Soulie Gray Farmstead (Site 7K-F-169).

Sipple's widow received the largest portion, including the house in which she and John lived (the house formerly occupied by Thomas Brinckle, located on the west side of SR 12). His eldest daughter (Sarah, wife of John Bower) received 31 Lot C (containing 18 acres of cleared land and 13 acres of marsh) and Lot D (12 acres of woodland). Lot C was described as "Beginning at a Stake on the west side of the State Road at the foot of a bridge on Mill Creek and running Down said Creek" (Orphans Court Docket F1:45). This confirmed the presence of a road to Frederica, with a bridge over Spring Creek, then known as Mill Creek because of the number of mill seats. The document did not mention the presence of buildings on any of the lots, including the brick house known to be present on the widow's allotment.

Sarah and John Bowers sold their share in the inheritance to Perry Boon in January 1801, before the division of the property had been completed by the court (Kent County Deed Book G2:24). Boon was a prominent landowner in Murderkill and Mispillion Hundreds. Tax lists for 1802 and 1803-1804 showed that he owned several farms under the tenancy of others. He also owned several properties and businesses in Frederica, including a brick dwelling, a tavern, a storehouse and granary at the Frederica wharf, and a trading vessel (Kent County Tax Rolls). The Bridge Lot was listed among his properties as 30 acres of land, but no tenant was listed.. The 1810 tax

rolls provided the first evidence of a structure on the property, described as a “small house,” but again no tenant was listed. It could not be determined whether the house had existed before the division of John Sipple's estate, or had been built after it was acquired by Boon. Since no tenant was listed, one could speculate that the property was occupied and farmed by a member of the family or indentured servant, rather than through a formal tenant agreement.

Also in 1810, the General Assembly passed an act authorizing “to build and erect, or to cause to be built or erected, a drawbridge across Spring creek aforesaid, where the State road leading from Dover to Frederica crosses the said creek, and where the old bridge now stands” (General Assembly 1829:624). The conversion of the old bridge at this site to a drawbridge indicates the presence of shipping traffic along this route. Boon and others owned grist mills along Spring Creek and the Murderkill River. Grain was shipped from Frederica downriver to the Delaware Bay and on to the markets in Christiana, Wilmington, and Philadelphia.

Perry Boone died young in 1813, and his will divided his many properties between his widow and two children. His son Jacob Boone received the dwelling and businesses in Frederica, as well as the Bridge Lot and a farm of 150 acres in Mispillion Hundred (Kent County Register of Wills probate records). In the 1816 and 1825 tax lists, the Bridge Lot was described as “32 acres of land near Frederica” (Kent County Tax Rolls 1816 and 1822). Boone's other farms were listed under tenancy, but the Bridge Lot was again listed without a tenant, suggesting that it was farmed through some other arrangement.

Jacob Boone died young and intestate in January 1832. In December 1832, his widow Rachel filed a petition for dower in his 19 properties. The Bridge Lot was described as “two lots of ground and marsh . . . now in the tenure of Jesse Smith” (Kent County Orphans Court Case Files, Boon 1832). The identity of Jesse Smith remains unknown. No listing could be found for him in the 1830 or 1840 census records for Murderkill Hundred. A search of later records identified two Jesse Smiths, both white, both born in Delaware. In 1850, one was a farmer in Fairfield County, Ohio, and the other was a farmer in Cass County, Michigan. Boone's estate was divided the following year, with Rachael receiving the house in Frederica, four other properties, and the Bridge Lot (Kent County Orphans Court Docket M1:215). The Bridge Lot was referred to as Allotment No. 5, Letter E on a plot that accompanied the docket (Figure 7.1). It was described as “Beginning at the West side of the road and near the foot of the Drawbridge over Spring Creek.” The plot clearly shows a small dwelling on the east side of the road, north of the drawbridge over Spring Creek. South of the mouth of Spring Creek, the sketch also showed the location of “Federica Wharf and landing formerly called and known by the name of Jonacake landing.”

Rachel's son James H. Boone was still a minor in 1837, when he was taxed for other properties, not including the Bridge Lot. Rachael released her properties to him when he came of age. In 1841, Boon sold her properties, with the exception of the mansion lot in Frederica, to Samuel Warren, Jr. (Kent County Deed Book P3:92). Warren already owned a farm along the county road to the north of the Bridge Lot. He was taxed on the combined property, described as 255 acres with a two-story frame mansion dwelling and outbuildings, in 1845 and 1852 (Kent County Tax Rolls 1845 and 1852). In the 1852 tax listing, the 255-acre property included “a small frame tenant house in the tenure of Elijah Warren, n.” as well as the main residence and farm



outbuildings. The notation after his name indicated that Elijah Warren was a negro. In the 1850 census, there was no listing for Elijah Warren. Samuel Warren (white) was listed as owning seven slaves, and his two adjacent neighbors were listed as laborers (also white). In the 1860 census, Samuel Warren was listed as owning three slaves, and his neighbors were listed as black and mulatto laborers. Elijah Warren was listed elsewhere in Murderkill Hundred in the same census, as a black laborer with a wife and family.

The 1852 tax listing provided the last reference to the presence of a house on the Bridge Lot. Neither the 1859 nor the 1868 maps of Kent County showed a house at this location (Byles 1859; Beers 1868). This may indicate that it was already gone, or that it was uninhabited and did not warrant illustration.

In 1847, the Delaware General Assembly passed an act authorizing the Levy Court of Kent County to convert the drawbridge over Spring Creek to a permanent bridge by keeping the draw closed at all times, or to dispose of the draw altogether by building a new bridge at that location (General Assembly 1845:142). Closing the drawbridge suggests that it was no longer necessary for water traffic on the creek.

Samuel Warren died in 1869 and his widow was listed in the 1870 census as living in Frederica with her daughter and son-in-law, John Hall. His combined properties passed down through the Hall family to his grandson Samuel Hall in 1892. In the deed of release by his siblings, it was described as a 40-acre lot “the Bridge Lot and marsh back of Reynold’s canning factory,” but makes no mention of any buildings on the parcel (Kent County Deed Book L7:23). There were several canning factories in the vicinity of Frederica in the late nineteenth century, but the location of this one could not be identified.

In 1894, Hall sold 15 of the 40 acres comprising the Bridge Lot to William Wix, who already owned adjacent lands to the north and east (Kent County Deed Book P7:33). Thereafter, the Bridge Lot was no longer a separate parcel. It was combined with Wix’s other acreage as part of a 275-acre farm, which passed from Wix's son Jester and Soulie Gray in 1932 (Kent County Deed Book G14:86). The property subsequently passed through the Gray family until it was purchased by the State of Delaware in 1994 (Kent County Deed Book D100:232).

The historical documents suggest that there was a house on the original 600-acre patent as early as 1684, but its location within the property could not be identified. There was a house on the parcel next to the Spring Creek bridge in the first half of the nineteenth century. It was first specifically mentioned in the 1810 tax list, where no tenant was given. In the 1833 Orphans Court record of Boon's estate, it was identified as 40 acres in the tenure of Jesse Smith (race unknown). In the 1852 tax listing, it was a small house in the tenure of Elijah Warren (negro). Taken together, these scanty references to the site showed that it was one of several properties owned by large landowners. It may first have been occupied by members of the Boone family, was then occupied by a white tenant, and was finally occupied by a black tenant. Thereafter, it was no longer occupied and was incorporated into a larger adjacent farm.

## 7.2 Archaeological Excavations

Archaeological sampling of the historic component at the site was undertaken in conjunction with the Phase III data recovery of the prehistoric component. Relatively little evidence of the historic occupation was identified during excavations. No historic period features were identified during the excavation of test units on grid across the site nor during the block excavations. The only historic features were seven post molds that were identified during the examination of features and soil anomalies exposed in the five mechanically excavated trenches. No other cultural features were identified as dating to the historic occupation and therefore did not influence the placement of Phase III excavation blocks and trenches. Historic artifacts in the Ap horizon were observed to occur in higher frequencies in the southwestern part of the site. Trench 5 provided extensive coverage of this area, but yielded little subsurface evidence of the historic occupation.

Four post molds were found to form a rough rectangle in the southwest corner of Trench 5 (Figure 5.14). Together, Features 372, 375, 381, and 384 formed a slightly skewed rectangle measuring approximately 15 x 22 ft (4.6 x 6.7 m). This size suggests that it could have been the footprint of either a dwelling or an outbuilding. There was no evidence of a foundation or floor, suggesting that it was not a substantial structure and may not have been the principal structure on the property.

Three other post molds were found in isolation, forming no distinct patterns and not associated with other features. These were assumed to be historic in origin. Feature 422 was a single post mold identified among several root molds adjacent to a large tree throw in the northern half of Trench 5 (Figure 5.14). Feature 145 was a post mold located in the northern part of Trench 4, also adjacent to a tree throw (Figure 5.13). Feature 81 was a single post mold in Trench 1, with no other features nearby (Figure 5.10). Local informants had indicated that the project area had been fenced as a cattle paddock in the mid-twentieth century. It is possible that one or more of these post molds dated to that era. There was no additional evidence of historic structures within the project area.

Most of the historic artifacts were recovered from the Ap horizon, in both the test units on grid and the block excavations. Fewer historic artifacts were found in lower deposits, including E and B horizon soils and non-cultural disturbances such as tree throws. A few historic artifacts were also found mixed into the tops of prehistoric features. However, none of the cultural features contained substantial numbers of historic artifacts and were not attributed to the historic occupation.

## 7.3 Artifact Analysis

Excavations yielded a total of 8170 historical and recent artifacts from Site 7K-F-11 (Table 7.2). The artifacts were classified by material, function, and period of manufacture. Artifact types were grouped into functional classes. These classes were based on, but modified from, the pattern recognition classes developed by South (1977). The major classes represented in the artifact assemblage were domestic ceramics (36% of artifacts), architectural materials (32%), and heating materials (24%). Other domestic artifacts, including container glass, were relatively

**Table 7.2**  
**Site 7K-F-11 Phase III-Summary of Historic Artifacts**

Artifact Description	Date	Count	Weight (g)
<b>DOMESTIC CERAMICS</b>			
Creamware	-Plain	(1750-1820)	475
	-Embossed, unidentifiable	(1750-1820)	2
	-Hand-Painted	(1762-1820)	13
	-Annular	(1780-1815)	8
White-Saltglazed Stoneware	-Overglaze Enameled		2
Other Stonewares	-Scratch Blue	(1750-1775)	3
	-Rhenish Gray-bodied		1
Tin-enameled Earthenware	-Indeterminate	(1660-1800)	3
Tin-enameled Earthenware, Delft	-Floral	(1660-1700)	1
Red & Yellow Refined Earthenwares	-Jackfield	(1745-1790)	7
	-Lead Glazed Engine Turned	(1763-1820)	3
	-Plain	(1780-1840)	574
Pearlware	-Shell-Edged, Green	(1780-1840)	13
	-Shell-Edged, Blue	(1780-1840)	18
	-Modified Edged, Green	(1820-1835)	14
	-Modified Edged, Blue	(1820-1835)	3
	-Annular	(1790-1840)	20
	-Sponge/Spatter	(1820-1840)	4
	-Mocha	(1790-1840)	6
	-Hand-Painted, Floral	(1780-1840)	28
	-Hand-Painted, Chinese	(1780-1810)	2
	-Blue Monochrome Transfer	(1780-1840)	127
	-Other Monochrome Transfer	(1830-1840)	1
	-Hand-Painted, Other	(1780-1840)	16
	-Other Glaze	(1775-1840)	9
	-Embossed	(1775-1840)	6
	-Indeterminate	(1775-1840)	15
	-Red, Green, or Purple Transfer	(1825-1840)	2
	-Even Scalloped	(1810-1835)	1
	-Hand-Painted, Earthtone Floral	(1795-1820s)	21
	-Hand-Painted, Bright Floral	(1828-1840s)	4
	Whiteware	-Plain	(1820+)
-Shell-Edged, Green		(1820-1840)	6
-Shell-Edged, Blue		(1820-1860)	6
-Annular		(1820+)	9

**Table 7.2**  
**Site 7K-F-11 Phase III-Summary of Historic Artifacts**

<b>Artifact Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Whiteware	-Sponge/Spatter	(1820+)	1
	-Mocha	(1820+)	1
	-Hand-Painted, Floral	(1820+)	10
	-Blue Monochrome Transfer	(1820+)	53
	-Other Monochrome Transfer	(1830+)	10
	-Polychrome Transfer	(1840+)	2
	-Other Glaze	(1820+)	11
	-Hand-Painted, Other	(1820+)	1
	-Indeterminate	(1820+)	4
	-Embossed	(1820+)	3
	-Red, Green, or Purple Transfer	(1825+)	2
	-Hand-Painted, Earthtone Floral	(1820-1828)	1
	Ironstone	-Plain	(1840+)
-Annular		(1840+)	1
-Hand-Painted, Floral		(1840+)	2
-Blue Monochrome Transfer		(1840+)	7
-Other Glaze		(1840+)	2
Semi-porcelain	-Plain	(1885+)	22
	-Rim Treated	(1885+)	1
Porcelain	-Plain	(1700+)	21
	-Hand-Painted, Floral	(1700+)	2
	-Hand-Painted, Other	(1700+)	3
Yellow Ware	-Plain	(1827-1930)	3
Redware	-Lead Glaze	(1770+)	165
	-Unglazed	(1770+)	318
	-Slipped	(1770-1820)	89
	-Indeterminate	(1770+)	8
	-Manganese Glaze	(1770+)	341
	-Lead Glaze, with Copper	(1770+)	3
	-Lead Glaze, with Manganese	(1770+)	64
	Stoneware	-Salt Glazed	(1700+)
-Cobalt Blue Glaze		(1790-1900)	1
-Manganese Glaze			8
-Indeterminate			3
-Embossed			1
-Monochrome Glaze			2

**Table 7.2**  
**Site 7K-F-11 Phase III-Summary of Historic Artifacts**

<b>Artifact Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
20th Century Ceramics	-Vitreous, (ie Corelle ware)	(1900+)	2
Unidentified Earthenware	-Unglazed		1
	-Paste only		66
	-Burned		11
	-Buff paste, leadglazed		1
<b>SubTotal DOMESTIC CERAMICS</b>			<b>2908</b>
<b>DOMESTIC OTHER</b>			
Top/Neck Glass Container, narrow mouth	-Seamed Lip, Threaded		2
	-Rim Fragment		5
	-Crown Finish	(1912+)	1
	-Double Oil or Mineral	1820's-1880's	2
Base Glass Container, scarring	-Pontil		1
	-No Scars		7
	-Machine Cutoff		1
	-Cup Bottom Mold	(1890s-late 1900's)	1
Indeterminate Container Glass			51
	-Embossed		3
Tableware Glass Bowl	-Rim		1
Tableware Glass Tumbler	-Rim		4
Tableware Glass	Indeterminate		2
Painted Glass			1
Etched Glass			1
Fork			1
Tin Can	-Undiagnostic fragments		1
Cutlery Handle			1
Kettle Fragment	-Cast Iron		1
Pull Top/Pop Top		(1962-1980's)	1
Unidentified Curved Glass			489
Unidentifiable Melted Glass			4
Unidentified Flat Glass	-Non-Architectural		1
<b>SubTotal DOMESTIC OTHER</b>			<b>582</b>
<b>ARCHITECTURE</b>			
Unidentified Flat Glass	-Bubbles/Patina		16
	-No Bubbles/Patina		337
Nail	-Wrought	(pre-1820)	4
	-Cut	(1790+)	255

**Table 7.2**  
**Site 7K-F-11 Phase III-Summary of Historic Artifacts**

<b>Artifact Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Nail	-Wire (1850+)	2	
	-Unidentifiable	172	
Spike		1	
Staple	-Large	1	
Brick		1807	10729.33
	-Glazed	7	418.72
Pipe fittings		1	
Door Hinge		1	
<b>SubTotal ARCHITECTURE</b>		2604	11148.05
<b>HARDWARE</b>			
Screw		1	
Bolt		1	
Rivet		1	
Bracket		1	
Barbed Wire	(1873+)	10	
Shoeing Nail		1	
Machine Part	-Indeterminate	2	
<b>SubTotal HARDWARE</b>		17	
<b>CLOTHING</b>			
Button	-Brass	4	
	-Copper	2	
	-Other metal	1	
	-Metal	1	
<b>SubTotal CLOTHING</b>		8	
<b>PERSONAL</b>			
Windup Key	-Metal	1	
Coin	1807 Half Penny	1	
Thimble		1	
Comb	-Plastic (1915+)	1	
<b>SubTotal PERSONAL</b>		4	
<b>SMOKING PIPES</b>			
Ball Clay Pipe	-Stem or Stem Fragment	4/64	4
	-Stem or Stem Fragment	5/64	3
	-Stem or Stem Fragment	6/64	1
	-Stem or Stem Fragment		7
	-Bowl or Bowl Fragment		6
<b>SubTotal SMOKING PIPES</b>		21	

**Table 7.2**  
**Site 7K-F-11 Phase III-Summary of Historic Artifacts**

Artifact Description	Date	Count	Weight (g)
<b>HEATING</b>			
Coal Fragment		1880	16832.66
Cinder Fragment		3	3.15
Slag Fragment	-Glassy	6	80.65
	-Bubblely	44	486.90
<b>SubTotal HEATING</b>		1933	17403.36
<b>OTHER</b>			
Strap	-Iron	1	
Hook		1	
Metal Trim		1	
Unidentifiable Leather		1	
Safety Glass	-laminated or tempored	2	(1928+)
Unidentified Mechanical Piece		2	
Plastic Fragment		3	(1915+)
Sheet	-Iron	2	
Wire	-Iron	3	
Unidentified Iron		34	
Unidentified Lead		1	1.70
Unidentifiable Metal		42	
<b>SubTotal OTHER</b>		93	1.70
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		8170	28553.11

scarce (7% of artifacts). There were also low frequencies of smoking pipes, personal items, clothing, and hardware, as well as a scattering of miscellaneous and modern materials. There was relatively little evidence of the admixture of recent artifacts from casual roadside discard, although fragments of safety glass, plastic materials, and a pull tab were recovered.

The ceramic assemblage was indicative of a late eighteenth through mid-nineteenth century occupation at the site. Sherd mending and minimum vessel studies were not undertaken as part of the current analysis. Based on raw sherd counts, redware was the predominant ceramic ware, representing 34% of all ceramics. Most of the redwares had plain manganese or lead glazes. Less frequent were examples with slip-trailed decorations (9% of redwares). While most redwares were produced over a long period and are not chronologically diagnostic, the slip-decorated wares were limited to the late eighteenth through early nineteenth century. Stoneware ceramics were relatively scarce (less than 1% of ceramics), reflecting a strong preference for redware in utilitarian ceramic vessels.

Refined white earthenware ceramics were well represented in the historic assemblage. Pearlware was the dominant ware at the site, representing 30% of ceramics. Creamware, which tends to be somewhat earlier in date, was less common (17% of ceramics), followed by whiteware (11%), which tends to date somewhat later than pearlware. Together, these wares are indicative of a late eighteenth through mid-nineteenth century occupation. Types that are chronologically later, such as ironstone, semi-porcelain, and Yellowware, all occurred in low frequencies within the assemblage (each 1% or less of ceramics).

Examination of the decorations on pearlware ceramic sherds showed a strong preference for blue monochrome transfer printed wares (41% of decorated pearlware). Other transfer prints were only represented by three sherds. Hand-painted decorations were the second most common style, representing 23% of decorated pearlware sherds. Edged and dipped decorations were less common (16% and 10%, respectively). Similar preferences were seen among the whiteware sherds, where transfer printing was the most common decoration, and the creamware sherds, where transfer prints were absent but hand painting was most common.

Porcelain sherds were relatively scarce in the assemblage, including only 21 plain and 5 hand-painted sherds. Porcelain was the most expensive type of ceramics, and its use was reserved for tea wares in most households. Among white earthenware ceramics, transfer-printing was the most expensive form of decoration when it was first introduced. The relative cost of these wares came down over time, and their popularity increased, until transfer-printed wares became the most common decoration in the mid-nineteenth century (Miller 1991). The predominance of transfer printing over other forms of decoration, together with the relative scarcity of porcelain sherds, suggests that the tenants who occupied the site in the first half of the nineteenth century could afford to purchase good quality wares, but not the most expensive ones.

The artifact assemblage included relatively few artifacts in the class of other domestic artifacts. Most of these were container glass (13% of other domestic) and unidentified curved glass (84% of other domestic), which was also likely from containers. Most of this glass appears to have been the result of roadside discard (see discussion of spatial patterning below). Few of the artifacts in the domestic category can be attributed to the early nineteenth century occupation.

The fragments of painted glass and etched glass, however, are indicative of the presence of decorated glass wares. Like the transfer-printed ceramics, this suggests that the occupants were purchasing better quality wares. The fragment of a cast iron kettle may also date to this period.

Architectural materials consisted of brick, flat glass and nails. Brick was not present in great quantities, indicating that structures on the site had not been built of brick. Instead, brick likely represented the remains of a chimney or foundation corners. Structures were most likely of frame construction with nails, and had windows represented by the scatter of flat glass. Most of the identifiable nails were of cut manufacture, which would be expected of a site constructed in the early nineteenth century. Only two nails were identified as wire, which like barbed wire, were indicative of later additions to the site. Four nails were identified as wrought and may have been associated with the earliest construction on the site.

Small finds included eight assorted buttons and one thimble. One coin was found, a British half penny dating to 1807. Smoking pipes were all of white ball clay and included six bowl fragments and 15 stem fragments. The measurements of pipe stem diameter fell in the range of 4/64th to 6/64th, as would be expected of a site dating to 1800 or later (Harrington 1954; Noel Hume 1969).

#### **7.4 Spatial Distribution of Artifacts**

Since most of the historic artifacts were recovered from the Ap horizon, the use of spatial distribution mapping was suitable for examining patterns in the distribution of artifacts. The initial stage of Phase III testing, in which test units were excavated at regular intervals across the site, provided evidence of the distribution of artifacts in the plowzone. Surfer© software was used to generate maps of the distribution of various artifact types. Data was limited to the grid test units and did not include the block excavations, because the latter tended to create a disproportional weighting of results toward the block locations.

The distribution of historic artifacts was mapped across the entire Phase II and Phase III project area (Figure 7.2). The highest densities of artifacts were found at the northern end of the project area. This location was identified with the Soulie Gray Site (7K-F-169), a mid-nineteenth through twentieth century farmstead that has been determined not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. A lower-density cluster of historic artifacts was also observed in the southwestern part of the project area, in Area 1. This area was the focus of further analysis, which was limited to the Phase III data from Site 7K-F-11, excluding the materials associated with Site 7K-F-169.

Container glass and curved glass fragments were considered to represent post-occupational deposition at the site. The distribution of these materials confirmed that they were concentrated in test units closest to the two roads that framed the project area, and were therefore likely derived from roadside discard (Figure 7.3). Few of the glass containers represented by these artifacts would have dated to the historic occupation.

**Sites 7K-F-11 and 7K-F-169  
All Historic Artifacts (Ap Horizon)**

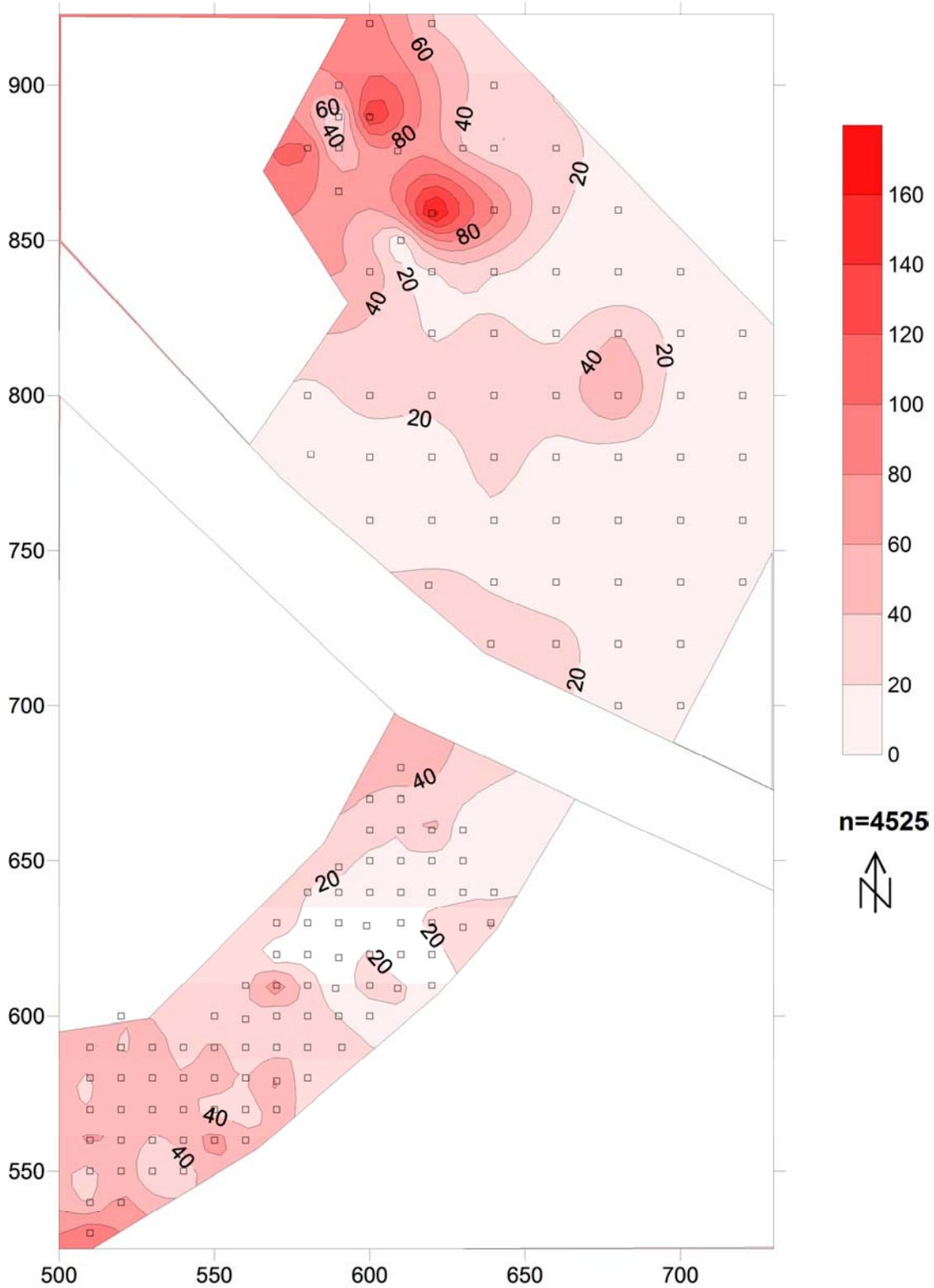


Figure 7.2 Spatial Distribution of Historic Artifacts

**Site 7K-F-11  
Container and Curved Glass (Ap Horizon)**

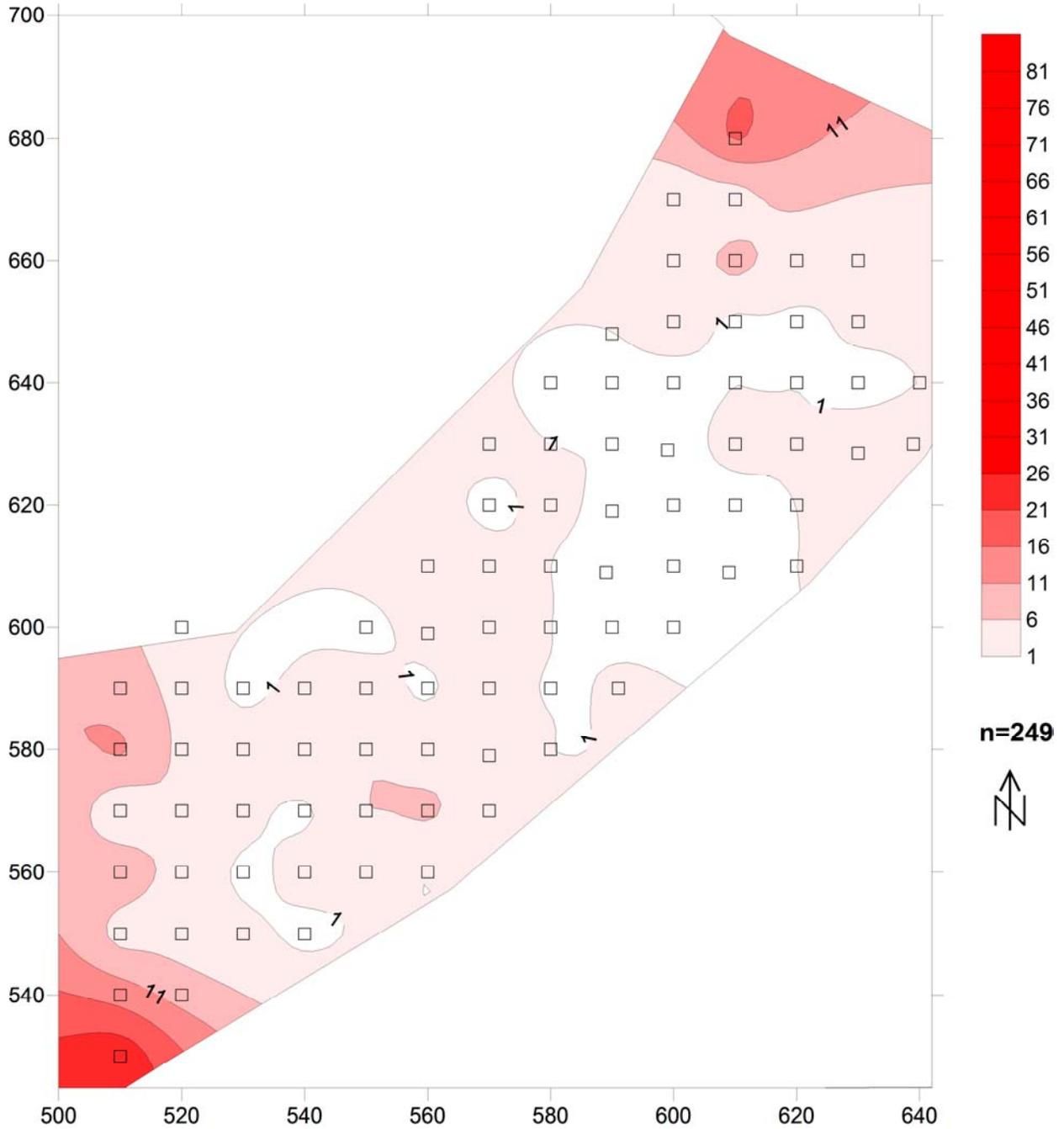


Figure 7.3 Spatial Distribution of Container and Curved Glass

The distributions of brick (Figure 7.4) and flat window glass (Figure 7.5) can be indicators of the location of historic structures. Both brick and flat glass occurred in high frequencies in Test Unit 37, located along the southeastern edge of the APE. Brick was also concentrated to the southwest in Test Unit 25, while flat glass was to the north, in Test Units 34 and 40. Areas west of Test Unit 37 and north in Trench 4 were uncovered in Trench 5, but no evidence of a historic residential structure was found. The residence on the property could have been located in the vicinity of Test Unit 37 or outside the APE to the southeast. Interestingly, brick was not concentrated in the vicinity of what may have been an outbuilding defined by the four post molds in the southwest corner of Trench 5. Since chimneys were usually constructed of brick, this outbuilding was unlikely to have been a kitchen or smokehouse. There was a second location with an elevated frequency of flat glass, in Test Unit 60 near the northern end of the APE. This location was near an isolated post mold found in Trench 1, Feature 81. Perhaps there was an outlying building on this part of the property.

The distribution of nails can be indicative of the location of either a residence or outbuildings. The highest frequency of nails was in Test Units 9 and 10, in the southwestern end of the project area (Figure 7.6). The outbuilding defined by four post molds in Trench 5 was located just west of these two test units. The nails could have derived from the structure, or could have been in lumber stockpiled near the outbuilding for future use, as is sometimes seen around a barn or shed. A second cluster of nails was found in Test Unit 30, along the southeast side of the APE. This was near the brick concentrations in Test Units 37 and 25, further indicating that a structure may have been located in this vicinity, possibly outside the APE. Plotting the individual locations of four wrought nails identified in the assemblage showed that they were recovered from excavation Blocks 2, 6, and 7, in the area extending between the two mapped concentrations of nails. If they suggest the presence of an earlier structure, it would have been located in the same area as the nineteenth century structures.

To examine the distribution of ceramics, the three most common ceramic wares were mapped separately. The distribution of redware sherds showed that the highest frequency was centered in Test Unit 25 and extended out to Test Units 21, 22, and 30 (Figure 7.7). This area in the southeast corner of Trench 5 had also been marked by high frequencies of brick and nails, suggesting that a structure had been located nearby.

The distribution of pearlware sherds showed two broad areas of high frequency (Figure 7.8). One area included Test Units 5, 11, 12, and 19, located in the northwest part of Trench 5. A second area included Test Units 22 and 27, located in the eastern part of Trench 5. Together, these clusters suggested a large yard or activity area in which artifacts were deposited. There were lower frequencies in the zone between these two areas (in Test Units 16, 17, and 18). There may have been a garden or outbuilding at this location, which prevented the accumulation of historic debris there.

Creamware sherds were less common on the site and showed a more scattered distribution (Figure 7.9). There were light concentrations in several test units in the southwestern area (Test Units 12, 24, and 32). Taken together, these form a broad ring. Like the distribution of pearlware, this pattern suggested a large activity area in which artifacts were deposited, around a building or other obstruction that kept the center relatively clear. There was also a relatively

**7K-F-11**  
**Brick, by weight (Ap Horizon)**

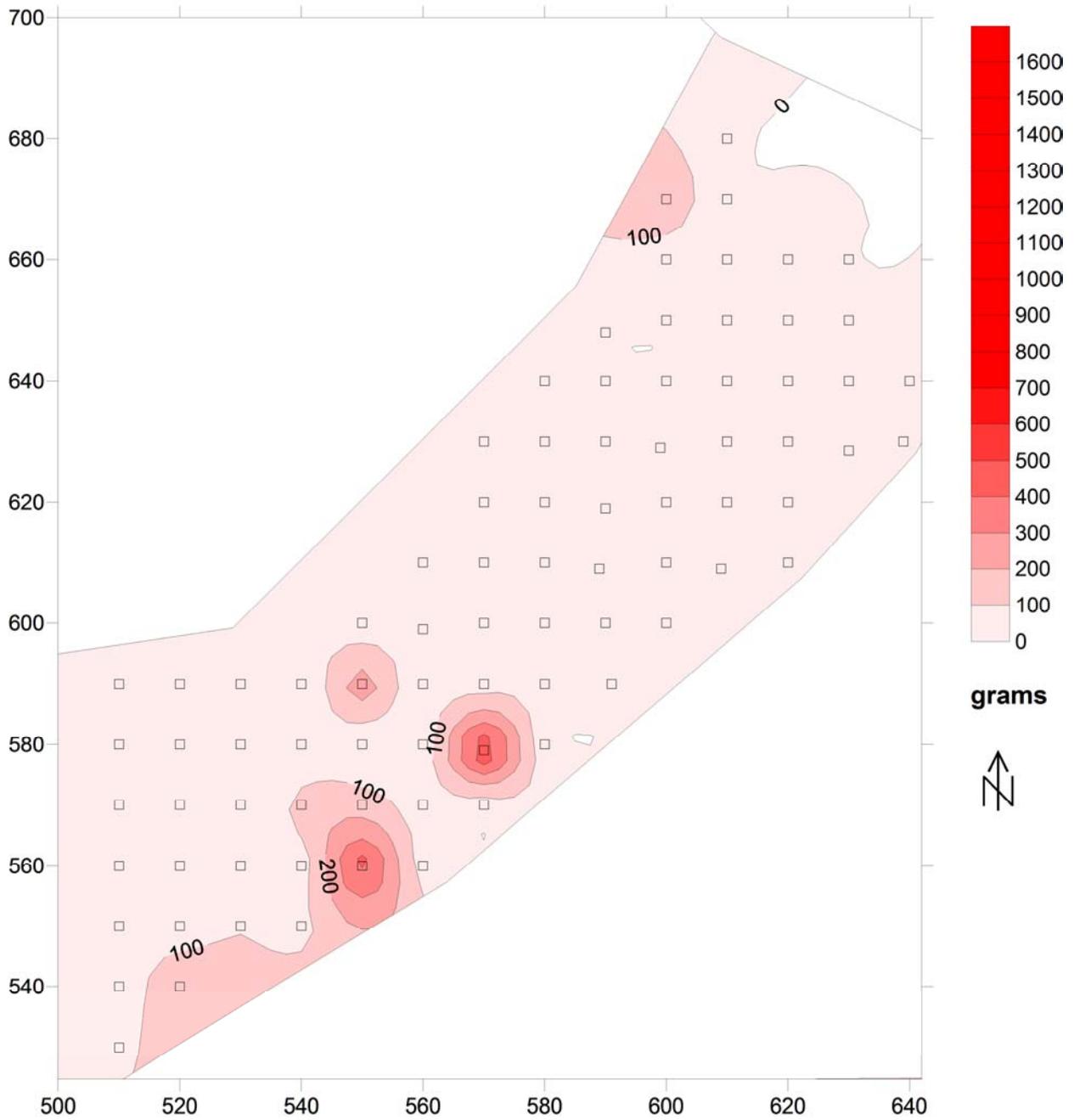


Figure 7.4 Spatial Distribution of Brick

7K-F-11  
Flat Glass (Ap Horizon)

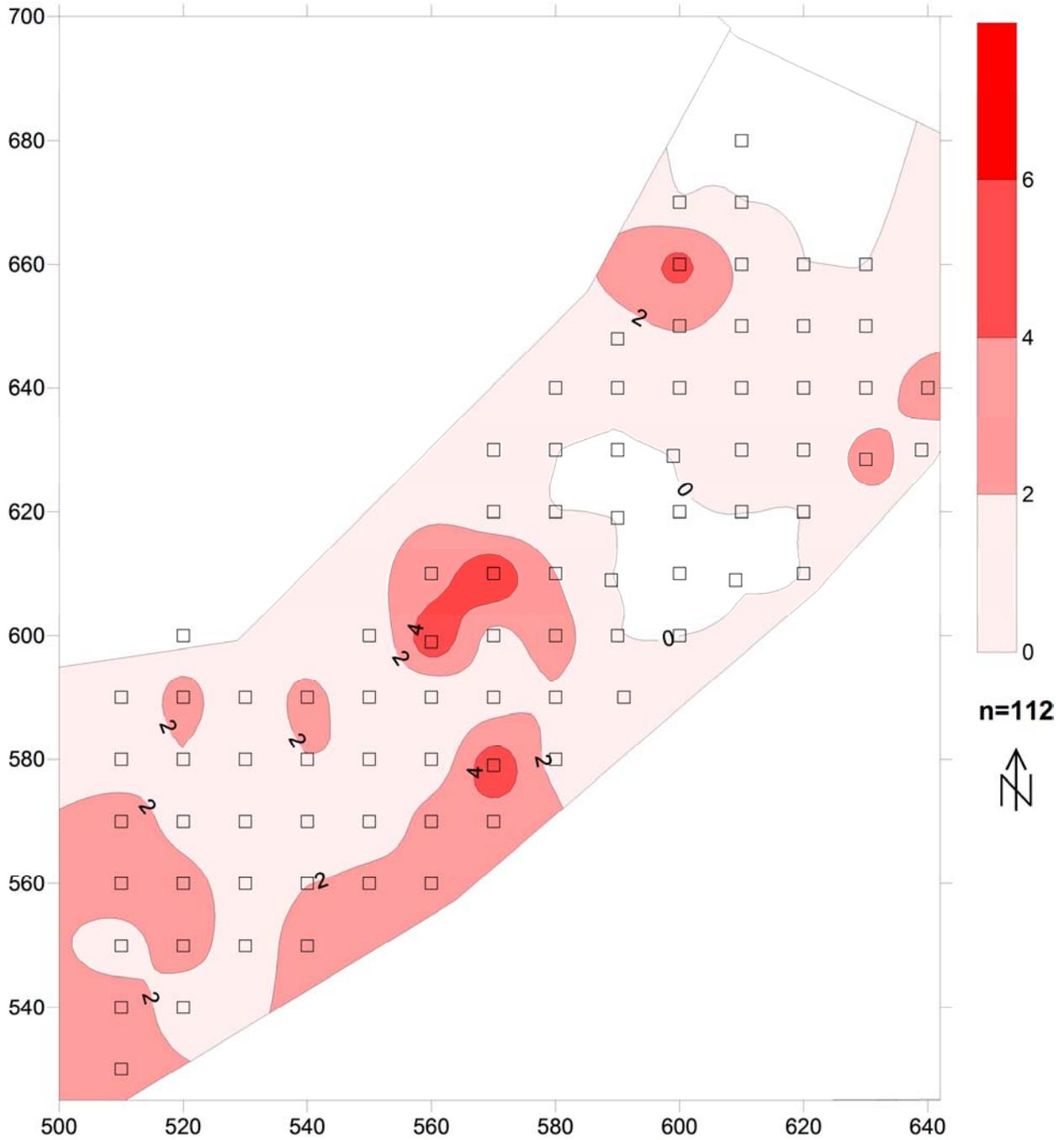


Figure 7.5 Spatial Distribution of Flat Glass

Site 7K-F-11  
Nails (Ap Horizon)

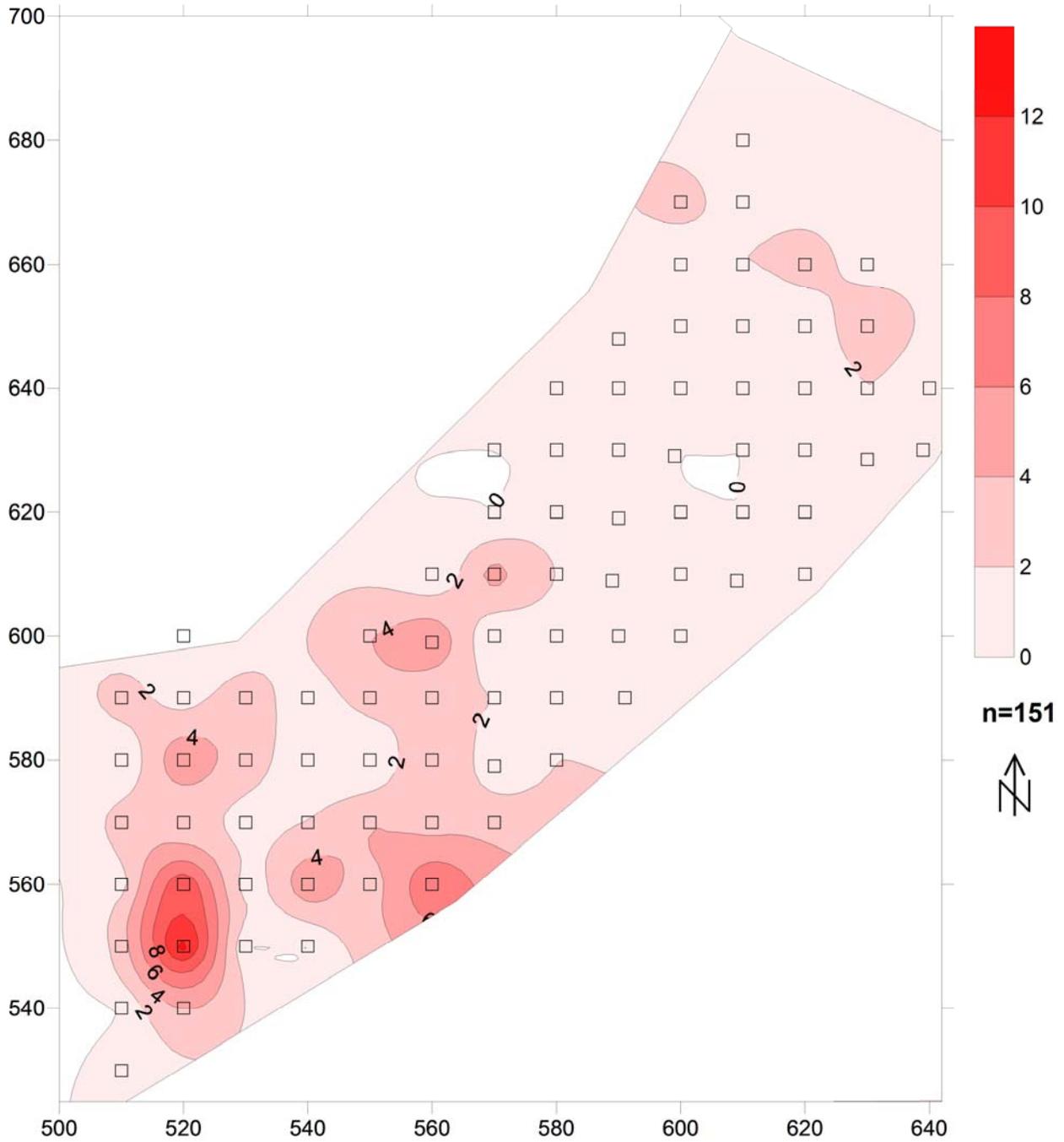


Figure 7.6 Spatial Distribution of Nails

Site 7K-F-11  
Redware (Ap Horizon)

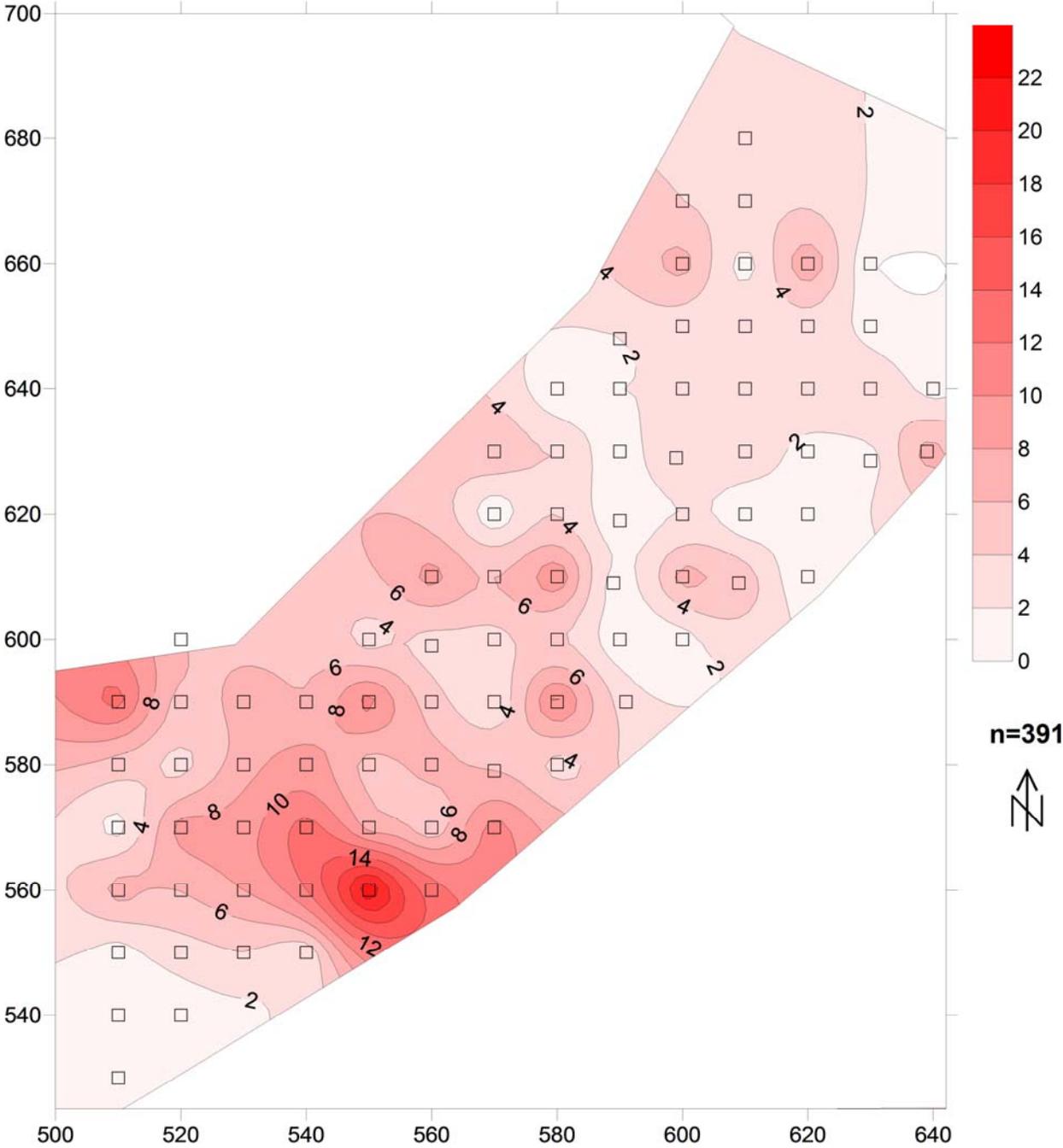


Figure 7.7 Spatial Distribution of Redware

Site 7K-F-11  
Pearlware (Ap Horizon)

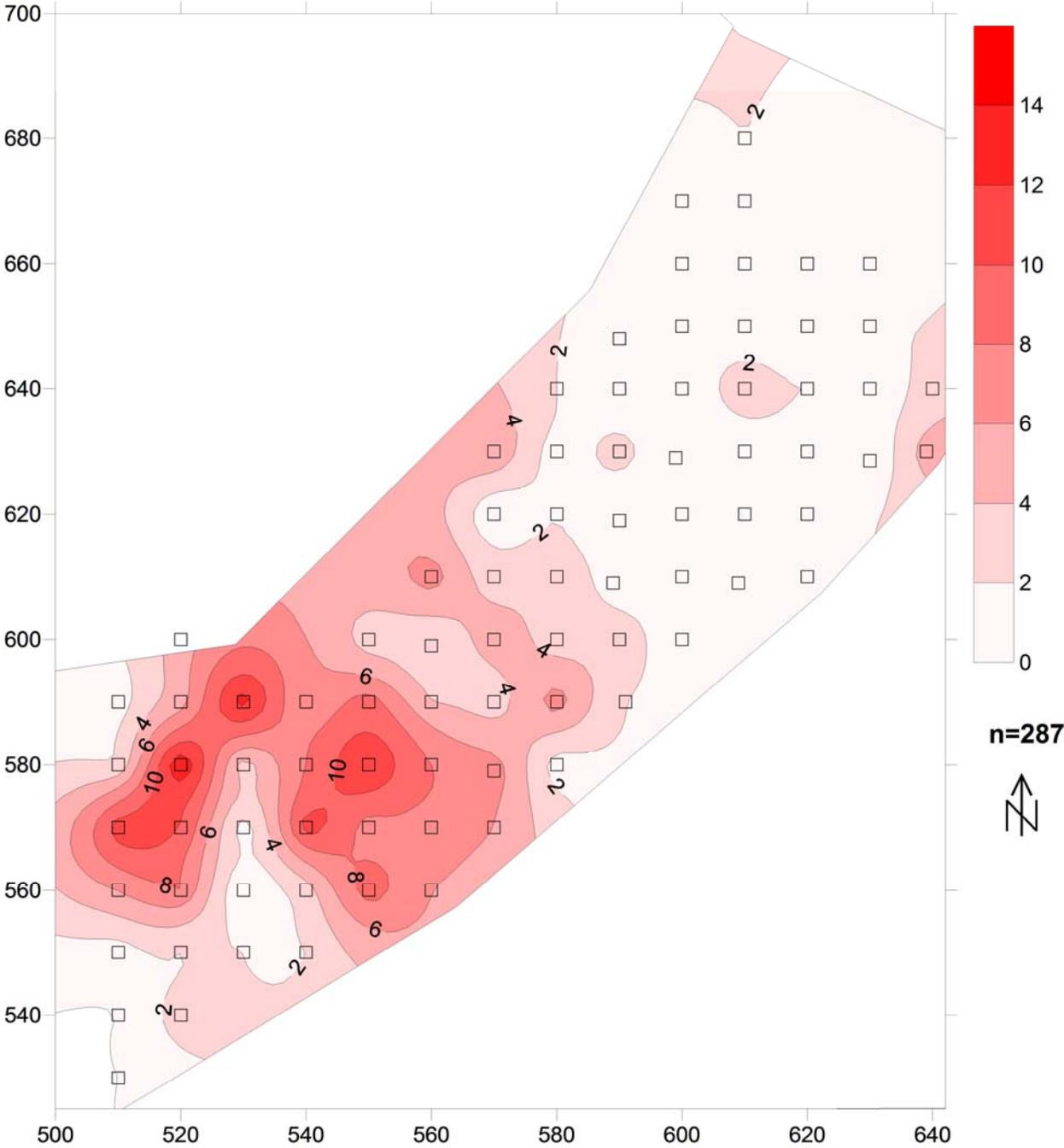


Figure 7.8 Spatial Distribution of Pearlware

Site 7K-F-11  
Creamware (Ap Horizon)

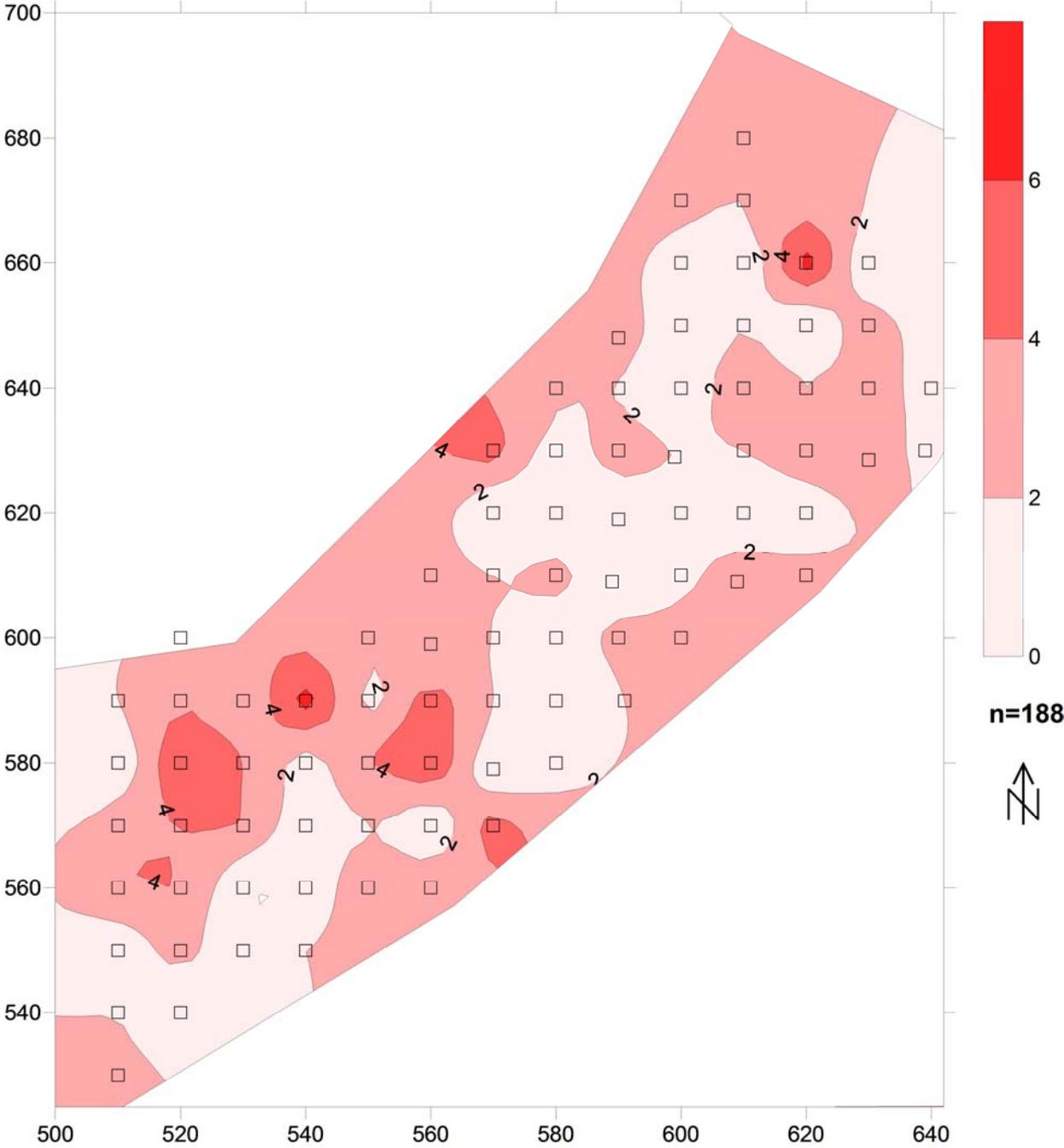


Figure 7.9 Spatial Distribution of Creamware

high density of creamware sherds in Test Unit 75, located in the northeast end of the APE. This was near an isolated post mold in Trench 1 (Feature 81). A concentration of flat glass was also noted in this vicinity, suggesting a possible structure location. A structure associated with creamware ceramics would have predated the later nineteenth century structures at the Soulie Gray farmstead (7K-F-169), and would be associated instead with the historic occupation to the southwest, at Site 7K-F-11.

The artifact assemblage included 20 sherds of types that predated the assumed early nineteenth century occupation of the site (Table 7.2). This included salt-glazed and other early stonewares, tin-enameled wares, and red and yellow refined earthenwares. Since these were too few for distribution mapping, their individual locations were examined. It was found that these early sherds occurred in low frequencies across the entire APE, extending from Test Unit 3 in the southwest to Test Units 75 and 78 in the northeast. There were no concentrations, with no more than two early sherds being found in any one test unit. Their distribution did not provide evidence of a location for an earlier occupation within the APE.

## **7.5 Interpretation and Evaluation**

Several lines of research presented conflicting information about the historic occupation at Site 7K-F-11. The documentary research indicated that the site had been occupied, at a minimum, between 1810 and 1852. The occupation may have begun as early as 1801 and continued a few years after 1852, but appears to have ended by 1859. The small property was described as containing a single small house; no outbuildings were listed. The last known tenant of the property was a free black family. The identity of earlier tenants could not be determined.

Excavations at the site revealed the presence of a structure defined by four post molds, measuring approximately 15 x 22 ft. This would be large enough to represent a small house. It was located close to the road that led to the bridge over Spring Creek, but was not aligned with the road (like the house depicted in the 1833 property plot). Yet the patterns of artifact distribution provided contradictory evidence. Concentrations of brick and flat glass were found elsewhere in the project area, but were not associated with this structure, suggesting that there had been a dwelling further to the east, either within an unexposed portion of the project area or outside the APE. The distribution of ceramic artifacts also suggested that the four-post structure was not a dwelling. The patterns of ceramic distribution did not cluster near this structure, but instead extended across a large area to the east, again suggesting that the dwelling was located to the east, either within or outside the APE.

If the property contained a single structure, as described in documents, the data suggest that it was not the structure identified by the four post molds. The distribution of artifacts suggests that it was located to the east or southeast. The four-post structure could have been a contemporaneous outbuilding that was not listed, or a later structure, post-dating the historic house. It is also possible that the four post molds represented a twentieth century cattle enclosure, rather than a structure.

The artifact assemblage was considered chronologically representative of a late eighteenth through mid-nineteenth century occupation, with an admixture of later materials. The

predominance of pearlware ceramics would fit with an early nineteenth century occupation. The preference for more expensive transfer-printed wares during this period suggests that early tenants of the property were not poor. Later tenants, occupying the site during the 1840s and 1850s, might be expected to have had a higher proportion of whitewares and ironstone ceramics. Since these later types were not well represented in the assemblage, the later tenants may have been poor. They could have relied more on utilitarian wares such as redware, or may have owned used or outdated ceramics, which would have been relatively inexpensive. Since there were no feature deposits other than post molds potentially associated with the historic occupation, there was no opportunity to separate the material culture of earlier and later tenants of the site. Thus, no distinctions could be identified between the late occupancy by free blacks and the likely earlier occupation by what may have been white tenants.

Site 7K-F-11 has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D, for its potential to yield significant information relating to the history or prehistory of the region. The historic occupation dated to the first half of the nineteenth century, and consisted of an assemblage of artifacts recovered from plowzone and disturbed contexts such as tree throws. No house foundation, cellar, or other cultural features could be reliably attributed to this historic occupation. Therefore the site does not have the potential to address research issues through the analysis of discrete occupation components. Artifact distributions in a plowzone context were insufficient to provide significant information, without associated information on the location of structures and use of space (Bedell 2002). Given these considerations, the historic component at the site did not have the potential to yield significant information.

The historic component also yielded little information from documentary research. Therefore, it did not contribute to the eligibility of the site under Criteria A, B, or C. The site was one of many farmsteads in Delaware that were occupied under a tenancy system in the nineteenth century. But it could not be considered to contribute to this broad historic trend under Criterion A, because of the paucity of documentary and archaeological information. Nor could the site be associated under Criterion B with any persons of historical significance. Under Criterion C, neither the house nor the historic landscape of the nineteenth century tenant farm have been preserved. On the whole, the historic component did not contribute to the historic significance of the site.