

cranium.

Feature 2 was more fully excavated (Plate 11) and the upper two-thirds of the skeleton were exposed (Figure 11, Plate 12). The graveshaft was excavated in nine arbitrary levels to a depth of 3.0' below surface. A graveshaft outline and the small hexagonal coffin stain were defined. The coffin stain measured 3.0' in length, 1.0' wide at the head, 1.2' wide at the breast, and 0.8' wide at the foot. Nine coffin nails were found in level 7 at 2.8' below surface and were arranged in a pattern of four evenly spaced pairs down the sides and one at the head (Appendix III). These nails are presumed to be coffin lid nails. The skeleton was that of a child who appeared to be 5-7 years of age based upon dentition, and was in fair condition. The ribs and vertebrae were present but deteriorated and the cranium had collapsed into four sections. All of the skeleton above the femora was present; that below the pelvis was not excavated.

In sum, the partial excavation of the skeletal remains in Features 1 and 2 indicated that the state of preservation in the cemetery was good and that all of the remaining graveshafts probably contained undisturbed skeletal remains.

ANALYSES AND INTERPRETATIONS

Previous archaeological analyses of cemeteries have focused primarily on two areas: gravestone architecture and ideology (McGuire 1988; Bartel 1982; Goldstein 1981; Dethlefsen and Deetz 1965, 1967), and human osteology (Dethlefsen et al. 1977; Burnston 1981; Blakely and Beck 1982; Dethlefsen and Demyttenaere 1977; Habenstein and Lamers 1955; Powell 1980; Sargent 1977).

The former are absent at this site and the latter could not be conducted because the skeletal remains were not disinterred for examination. Therefore, the analysis of this cemetery focused on the internal arrangement of the cemetery graveshafts and other features, demographic and topographic considerations of family cemetery placement on the landscape, and genealogical research leading to speculation concerning the identity of those interred within. The approach used in this report thus draws somewhat on graveyard research by historical geographers (Price 1966; Jackson 1967; Kniffen 1967; Francaviglia 1971; Jeane 1969; Stilgoe 1978; French 1975) and applies their results to an archaeological situation.

In her study of Suffield, Connecticut in the eighteenth century, Joanne Bowen (1988:164) has defined the agrarian society as a complex network of farmers, craftsmen, and laborers who formed fluid, ego-centered units that exchanged among themselves agricultural products, goods and services. The community is thus loosely bounded socially and geographically, and may have several focal points, such as individual farmsteads, service-related areas (such as landings, stores, shops, and taverns), institutional locations (such as churches, schools, or government buildings), and family cemeteries. At various times, each of these focal points may be considered more significant than the others, but they are all inter-related, and each is part of the overall agrarian community. For the purposes of this study, the Lafferty Lane cemetery can be viewed as part of an agrarian community consisting of the Brown and associated family groups, their relation to the land, and how these relationships change

over time.

INTRASITE ANALYSES

INTERNAL STRUCTURE

A total of 154 feature numbers were assigned at 7K-D-111 and are listed in Table 2. Because some graves overlapped (presumed unintentional intrusion by original grave diggers), the 116 burial feature numbers probably represent at least 123 interments. Features 14, 58, 103, and 125 can be considered unintentionally overlapping multiple interments, and these four feature numbers represent at least 11 individuals. Table 2 provides the feature type, dimensions, burial outline type, adult/subadult burial differentiation, and the long axis orientation for each of the features, where applicable. The burials ranged as large as 4.0' by 7.9' and as small as 0.9' by 2.1'.

Of the 123 burial features, 109 were classified as either adult or subadult based upon the graveshaft length. Blakely and Beck (1982), in their study of Atlanta's nineteenth century Oakland Cemetery, recommend:

6' x 2' (1.8 x 0.6m) as a size by which to differentiate the graves of subadults and adults. Using this criterion, of the 204 measurable grave pits in the study tract, about 108 held subadults and 96 contained adults. Thus, roughly 53% of the dead were infants, children, and adolescents, and the remaining 47% were adults. (Blakely and Beck 1982:190).

It should be noted that a graveshaft 6.0' in length probably held a coffin of about 5.7' long. The coffin would hold a