

Backhoe Trench 3 was excavated between the southern end of Trench 2 and the gas pipeline. This trench was 6 meters long. One feature was discovered in this trench, a small posthole designated Feature 2.

Backhoe Trench 4 was excavated between Trench 2 and the antiques store. The artifact density in this trench seemed to be lower than that in Trench 2. A feature was discovered in Trench 4—a large pit with sloping sides, filled with sand, designated Feature 3 (Figure 99). Feature 3 was approximately 3 meters across and 60 centimeters deep. Very few artifacts were noted in the fill, but they appeared to date from the nineteenth century (redware and whiteware). Two intact, handmade bricks were found in the bottom of the feature, but there was no sign that they were in place. The function of this pit is not known, but it does not appear to have been structural. In general, it seems to confirm the disturbed nature of the site.

5. *Summary*

Site 7NC-G-137 represents the remains of two structures shown on the map made for the division of Benedict Doughten's property in 1850 (see Figure 96). The house on the corner lot was occupied from before 1844 until sometime between 1893 and 1906. The structure on the adjacent lot was probably the house mentioned in the 1824 deed. The house had been converted into a store by 1868, and in the 1870s, a new house was constructed, which probably corresponds to Site 7NC-J-209. The store had been destroyed by 1906. Substantial numbers of artifacts suggesting occupation in the 1830 to 1900 period were recovered from plowed contexts on both lots, but apart from the postholes of Feature 1, no foundations or other structural features were found. The locations of both structures have been heavily disturbed by plowing and recent construction, especially the widening of U.S. Route 13 and the installation of utilities.

M. SITE 7NC-J-209, THE LORE FARM SITE

1. *Site Description*

The Lore Farm Site was a historic farm first shown on the 1881 Hopkins map of New Castle County. The name of the site derives from that map, which attributes the farm to C.B. Lore. The site, which was occupied into the 1960s, was located west of U.S. Route 13 midway between Fieldsboro and Pine Tree Corners (see Figures 47 and 93; Figure 100). One structure, a cinderblock barn, was still standing on the site at the time of the evaluation, and a driveway leading from U.S. Route 13 to the barn was still in use. DelDOT aerial photographs from the 1980s show a house and other buildings on the site, so these structures were demolished quite recently. At the time of testing, most of the site was an active agricultural field, but a tree was still standing on the site, showing that part of it had not been plowed. As defined by Phase I shovel testing, the site measured approximately 150 meters north to south and 100 meters east to west (500x330 feet).

The Lore Farm Site was identified during the Phase I survey of the Pine Tree Corners to Drawyer Creek segment of the SR 1 corridor (Bedell 1995a). The location of the site was predicted from

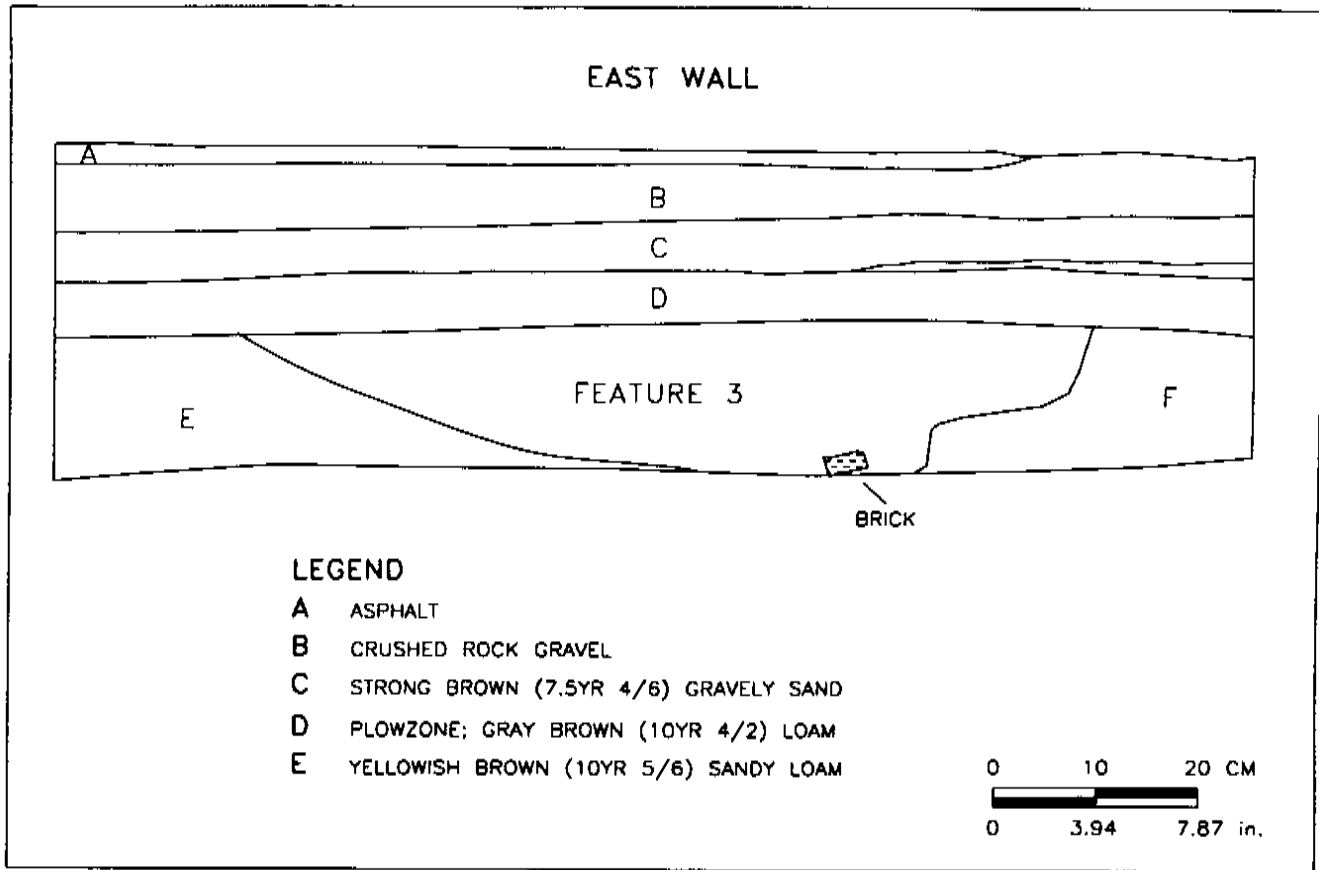


FIGURE 99: Weldin Store Site (7NC-G-137), Stratigraphic Profile of Trench 3

the 1881 Hopkins map and more recent maps, as well as DelDOT aerial photographs showing structures standing on the site in the 1980s. Shovel testing on the site located a concentration of nineteenth- and twentieth-century artifacts, such as whiteware, redware, bottle glass, cut and wire nails, mason jar fragments, and metal pieces. Shovel testing also located the foundations of one of the sheds shown on the DelDOT aerial photographs, which turned out to be concrete, and suggested that despite limited plowing there might be some intact strata present, especially around the former buildings. In the field to the north of the site, selected for testing because it was high ground close to an old road (now U.S. Route 13), shovel testing located a scatter of what appeared to be nineteenth-century material, including redware, whiteware, and a white clay pipe stem. This scatter, about 100 meters north of the main site, was included in Site 7NC-J-209 as the North Locus (see Figure 93). Deed references (see below) indicated that the property on which the Lore Farm Site was located was established as a farm in the early nineteenth century, and investigators suspected that an earlier house might be present on the site, either at the North Locus or beneath the later remains in the core of the site. The site was judged to be potentially significant, and Phase II evaluation was undertaken after consultation with DelDOT and DESHPO staff.

2. Environmental Setting

The Lore Farm Site was located adjacent to U.S. Route 13, known in the nineteenth century as the State Highway, about 500 meters (1,700 feet) south of Fieldsboro and 5 kilometers (3 miles) south of Odessa. The site was situated on a low rise, approximately 400 meters across, surrounded by less well drained areas. To the west, a deep modern ditch had drained a former bay/basin pond, while to the north, a smaller drainage ditch divided the farm from the field that included the North Locus of the site. To the south was a shallower swale, entirely plowed, but holding some standing water after heavy rains. The soils on the site itself were Sassafras sandy loam, but much of the surrounding area consisted of less well drained Falsington and Elkton loams. At the time of the evaluation, the site and the surrounding fields had just been plowed, planted, and rained on, and surface visibility was nearly 100 percent.

3. Historical Background

In the early nineteenth century, the Lore Farm Site was part of the same Fieldsboro lot, Lot Number 7, as Site 7NC-G-137 (above) (Table 28). In 1824, this lot, a 40-acre farm, was said to include a dwelling house, a kitchen, a stable, and other outbuildings. It is now believed that these structures were located on the northeastern corner of the 40-acre parcel and that their remains are part of Site 7NC-G-137. The location of Site 7NC-J-209 was presumably farmland at that time. However, the deed references to structures at this early date was one of the factors leading to a recommendation of Phase II work at the Lore Farm Site.

The property, which by then had grown to 100 acres, was purchased by Benedict Doughten in 1844. Doughten died in 1848, and in 1850, his children petitioned to have his property divided (NCC Orphans' Court Record U-148:151, 155-6). The farm in Fieldsboro was split, with Sarah Conlyn and her husband, William, receiving a two-story dwelling and storehouse which were

valued at \$1,300, and referred to as Parcel D. James Doughten received the remainder of the farm, said to include 97 acres with a two-story dwelling, a storehouse, a one-story tenant house, a kitchen, and a stable, which were valued at \$3,000, and referred to as Parcel C (see Figure 96).

TABLE 28 **LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS**
SITE 7NC-J-209

| DATE | TRANSACTION |
|------|--|
| 1988 | Robert J. Smith, Jr., and Deborah Z. Smith, from James Knotts, Jr., and Cheryl Knotts (NCC Deed Book 677:100) |
| 1982 | James Knotts, Jr., and Cheryl Knotts, from Milton S. and Gail R. Wahl (NCC Deed Book I-117:252) |
| 1973 | Milton S. Wahl, from Rosalind, Inc. (NCC Deed Book I-87:434) |
| 1972 | Rosalind, Inc., from Ralph and Rosalind Paul (NCC Deed Book Z-86:798). Ralph Paul and Milton S. Wahl, from Franklin Paul Butler and Bette Butler (NCC Deed Book D-86:694) |
| 1947 | Franklin Paul Butler and Bette Butler, from Arthur and Helen Butler (NCC Deed Book M-47:447) |
| 1939 | Federal Farm Mortgage Company, from Samuel M. Ford, Sheriff, property of Wilbur S. Waters (NCC Deed Book E-41:598) |
| 1908 | Wilbur S. Waters, from Joseph J. and Sallie L. Marker (NCC Deed Book V-21:564) |
| 1903 | Joseph J. Marker, from John M.C. and Hannah Prince (NCC Deed Book R-19:188) |
| 1896 | John M.C. Prince from Paul Gillis, Sheriff, property of William Maree (NCC Deed Book A-17:13) |
| 1886 | Mary Maree, wife of William Maree, from Charles B. and Rebecca Lore (NCC Deed Book U-13:81) |
| 1874 | Charles B. Lore, from William H. Lambson, Sheriff, property of James and Elizabeth Doughten (NCC Deed Book H-10:455) |
| 1850 | James Doughten, inherited from Benedict Doughten, one of four parcels into which his estate was divided (NCC Orphans' Court Record U-1:156) |
| 1844 | Benedict Doughten, from James and Eliza Fountain (NCC Deed Book E-6:457) |
| 1840 | James Fountain, from William and Margaret Polk (NCC Deed Book F-5:201) |
| 1810 | William Polk, from David Wilson, Sheriff, Fieldsboro lots 1-11, 14, 16, estate of William Fields (NCC Deed Book A-4:395) |

The Lore Farm Site was located on James Doughten's parcel, but all of the structures named in the deed are believed to have been located in the northeastern corner, in the area defined as Site 7NC-G-137. Doughten retained the farm until 1870, and he must have enlarged it, because in the agricultural census of that year he was said to own a 150-acre farm, 100 acres of which were improved. That year the farm produced \$1,300 in orchard products and \$800 worth of livestock (U.S., Bureau of the Census, Agricultural Schedule 1870:1).

In 1874, Adam Price won a suit against James and Elizabeth Doughten for a debt of \$1,500, to be levied out of the 150-acre farm. On July 9 of that year, the sheriff sold the farm to Charles B. Lore for \$3,400 (NCC Deed Book H-10:455).

Charles B. Lore was born in Odessa in 1831, the son of Eldad and Priscilla Lore. His family had emigrated to Pennsylvania in the seventeenth century. Lore became a lawyer, and in 1862, the governor appointed him Commissioner of the Draft for New Castle County, a job which obliged him to raise troops for the Union army. In the same year he married Rebecca Bates. In 1869, he was appointed Attorney General of Delaware. Lore owned property in several parts of the state, including Wilmington. Since he is not listed in the 1880 census for Appoquinimink Hundred, the Fieldsboro farm was probably leased to tenants. The house at the Lore Farm Site is first shown on the 1881 Hopkins map (see Figure 95), and it was probably constructed by Lore between 1874 and 1881. That map also shows a store on the northeastern corner of the property, probably the same structure, or on the same spot, as the house inherited by James Doughten.

Lore owned the farm until 1886, when he sold it to Mary Maree, wife of William Maree of Smyrna, for \$8,000 (NCC Deed Book U-13:81). Ten years later, Lore's attorney sued to recover a debt of \$6,000 owed by Mary Maree. Because she had died, her husband and children assumed responsibility for the debt. On November 20, 1895, the sheriff conveyed the 150-acre farm, as well as another tract of nine acres, to John M. Prince for \$4,200 (NCC Deed Book A-17:13). The house is not shown on the 1893 Baist atlas, but since there is no evidence for more than one house on the site, this is probably just an omission.

John and Hannah Prince of Brandywine Hundred owned the farm for seven years, selling it in 1903 to Joseph J. Marker of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, for \$5,500 (NCC Deed Book R-19:188). Joseph and Sallie Marker held the farm for only five years, conveying it on August 13, 1908, to Wilbur S. Waters for \$5,200 (NCC Deed Book V-21:564). It is probable that by this date, the old house on the northeastern corner of the property, which had been a store since 1868, had been destroyed, because no structures are shown in this location on the 1906 USGS Dover quadrangle. In 1939, Waters defaulted on his debt to the Federal Farm Mortgage Company, and sometime between 1939 and 1947, the Federal Farm Mortgage Company sold what was then referred to as a 158.86-acre farm to Arthur and Helen Butler (NCC Deed Book E-41:598). On October 17, 1947, the Butlers conveyed the farm, with the exception of five acres, to Franklin Paul Butler and Bette Butler for \$12,000 (NCC Deed Book M-47:447). The farm was resurveyed at that time and found to measure 149.255 acres.

In 1972, Franklin Paul Butler and Bette Butler sold the farm to Ralph Paul and Milton S. Wahl for \$149,255 (NCC Deed Book D-86:694). In the same year, Ralph and Rosalind Paul conveyed

their one-half interest to Rosalind, Inc., for \$1 (NCC Deed Book X-86:798), and in 1973 Rosalind, Inc., conveyed their interest to Wahl, making him sole owner of the farm (NCC Deed Book I-87:434). In 1982, Milton and Gail Wahl sold the farm to James and Cheryl Knotts for \$243,000 (NCC Deed Book I-117:252), and in 1988, the Knotts sold the farm to Robert and Deborah Smith, the current owners, for \$358,225 (NCC Deed Book 677:100).

4. Phase II Testing

Phase II Testing of the Lore Farm Site consisted of the excavation of 14 test units in the core of the site and the surface inspection of the surrounding fields, including the North Locus (see Figure 100). A metal probe was used to locate foundations. Most of the test units were placed on a regular 10-meter grid across the center of the site, while others were placed to investigate anomalies visible on the surface or located with the probe.

The test units showed that almost all of the site had been plowed, and intact strata were noted only in one unit, adjacent to the tree. The plowzone had a peculiar, mottled appearance, presumably because it has been plowed for less than 15 years and has not had time to completely homogenize. Large numbers of artifacts were recovered from the plowzone, up to 300 per unit, averaging 90 per unit. The artifacts were typical of a twentieth-century farm, with glass of various kinds the largest constituent of the assemblage (Table 29). The common finds included bottle and jar glass, some identifiable as machine made (post-1903); window glass; cut and wire nails; screws, bolts and other fasteners; numerous unidentified metal bits; ironstone and whiteware; porcelain; bathroom tile; aluminum foil; and plastic. Fewer than 50 pieces of redware were recovered, which, since redware was very common on nineteenth-century farms, is a good indication that the deposits excavated dated predominantly from the twentieth century. (At the Locust Grove Site [Site 7NC-F-73], a nineteenth-century farm discussed above, more than 50 pieces of redware were recovered from some individual test units.) Quantities of shattered construction rubble were found in several units, especially Test Units 11 and 14. A pile of concrete rubble was visible on the surface between Test Units 4 and 13. Test Unit 9 located part of a septic drain field. The foundations of all the sheds shown on the DelDOT aerial photographs were discovered by probing and subsequently uncovered. All of the foundations were composed of poured concrete.

In addition to the concrete foundations, two features were discovered during the excavations. Feature 1 was a posthole, approximately 50 centimeters across, discovered in Test Unit 5. A round post mold 12 centimeters in diameter was present, and the feature was approximately 40 centimeters deep. The post was probably part of a fence.

Feature 2 was the cellar of the farm house. The house was located by probing in the location indicated on DelDOT aerial photographs of the site, north of the farm road, quite close to U.S. Route 13. The house foundations are outside the SR 1 right-of-way. A small slit trench was excavated to locate the outside wall of the cellar, and Test Unit 10 was placed over the wall and the area immediately inside. Test Unit 10 was enlarged to 2x2 meters to enable excavators to work in the cellar area (Figure 101; Plate 20). The foundation was constructed of modern,

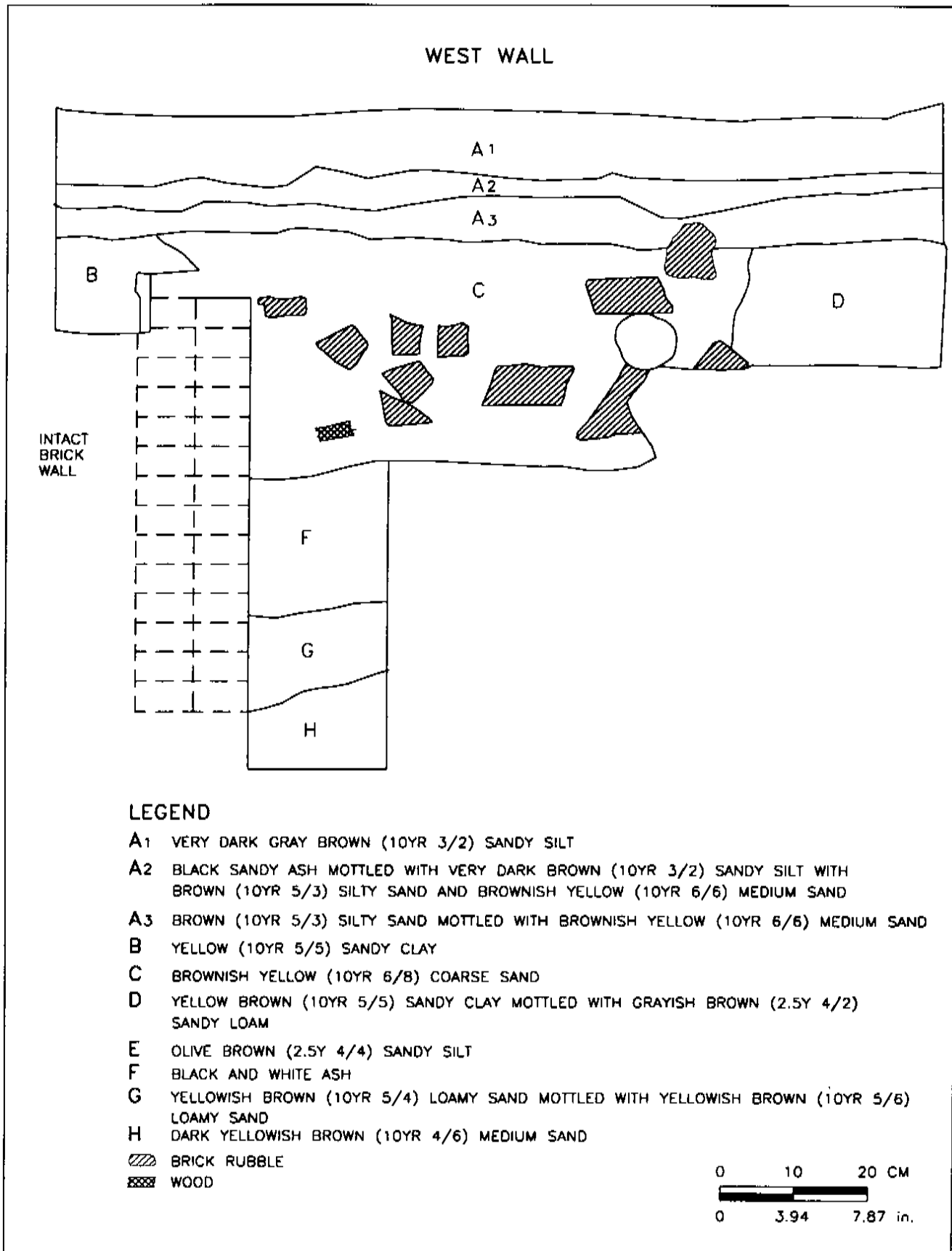


FIGURE 101: Lore Farm (7NC-G-137) Site, Stratigraphic Profile of Test Unit 10



PLATE 20: Exposing House Foundations at the Lore Farm Site, 7NC-J-209

TABLE 29

ARTIFACT PATTERN ANALYSIS
SITE 7NC-J-209

| ARTIFACT GROUP/CLASS | COUNT | PERCENTAGE |
|---|-------|------------|
| KITCHEN | | |
| Ceramics | 228 | 13.6% |
| Bottles | 273 | 16.3% |
| Tumblers/Wine Glasses | 11 | 0.7% |
| Kitchenware (other utensils, bowls, pots, etc.) | 1 | 0.1% |
| Misc. Glassware | 4 | 0.2% |
| Tableware | 1 | 0.1% |
| Kitchen - Other | 353 | 21.1% |
| <i>Kitchen Subtotal</i> | 871 | 52.0% |
| ARCHITECTURAL | | |
| Window Glass | 237 | 14.1% |
| Nails, Spikes, etc. | 458 | 27.3% |
| Door Parts | 1 | 0.1% |
| Electrical Related | 5 | 0.3% |
| Plumbing, Toilet, Sink Fixtures | 0 | 0.0% |
| Architectural - Other | 2 | 0.1% |
| <i>Architectural Subtotal</i> | 703 | 42.0% |
| FURNISHINGS | | |
| Lighting Related | 3 | 0.2% |
| Furniture Hardware and Pieces | 1 | 0.1% |
| Furniture - Decorative | 1 | 0.1% |
| <i>Furnishings Subtotal</i> | 5 | 0.3% |
| ARMS | | |
| Ammunition | 4 | 0.2% |
| <i>Arms Subtotal</i> | 4 | 0.2% |
| CLOTHING | | |
| Clothing Fasteners | 8 | 0.5% |
| Miscellaneous Clothing | 2 | 0.1% |
| Belts, Straps, Etc, | 2 | 0.1% |
| <i>Clothing Subtotal</i> | 12 | 0.7% |
| PERSONAL | | |
| Coins | 1 | 0.1% |
| Hygiene/Personal Care | 1 | 0.1% |
| Pharmaceutical/Medicine | 11 | 0.7% |
| Personal - Other | 1 | 0.1% |
| <i>Personal Subtotal</i> | 14 | 0.8% |

Table 29 (continued)

| ARTIFACT GROUP/CLASS | COUNT | PERCENTAGE |
|----------------------------|-------|------------|
| ACTIVITIES | | |
| Household Related | 13 | 0.8% |
| Machine Parts/Hardware | 1 | 0.1% |
| Toys | 5 | 0.3% |
| Hand Tools | 1 | 0.1% |
| Sewing Related | 1 | 0.1% |
| Livestock/Pet Related | 1 | 0.1% |
| Recreation | 10 | 0.6% |
| Transportation | 2 | 0.1% |
| Activities, Other | 32 | 1.9% |
| <i>Activities Subtotal</i> | 66 | 3.9% |
| SITE TOTAL* | 1,675 | 100.0% |

* Does not include twentieth-century artifacts (3), faunal/floral material (14), unidentified (81), or misc. building material (64)

machine-made bricks, bound with Portland mortar. The modern appearance of the foundation suggests that it was a twentieth-century addition to the house shown on the 1881 Hopkins map.

The fill inside the cellar consisted largely of brick rubble and other construction debris, including several burned boards. The evidence of burning supported the statement of the current farmer of the site that the house burned down in the 1980s. The domestic artifacts in the fill were all recent. The jumbled appearance of the cellar fill, and the rubble strewn generously around the house, indicate that the house was demolished using heavy machinery.

During the surface inspection of the surrounding fields, visibility was nearly 100 percent. Despite the ideal conditions, only a few artifacts were recovered, and no concentrations of material indicating separate activity areas or an earlier farm were discovered. Less than 10 artifacts were recovered from the field where the North Locus was situated. The artifacts found there (whiteware, redware, and clear bottle glass) were considered part of the broad scatter found around all nineteenth-century farms, and no excavations were carried out in the field. The earlier artifacts found in the North Locus during the Phase I survey, especially the white clay pipe stem, probably derived from Site 7NC-G-137 (see above), approximately 210 meters (700 feet) to the northeast.

The artifact collection from the Lore Farm Site included 173 sherds of datable ceramics, with a mean ceramic date of 1904. The most common types were plain ironstone, with a date range of 1840 to the present (N=65), and plain whiteware, with a date range of 1815 to the present (N=54). Other types recovered included white salt-glazed stoneware with scratch-blue decoration

(1744-1775, N=1); plain creamware (1762 to 1820, N=3); plain pearlware (1775-1840, N=1); green shell-edge pearlware (1800-1850, N=1); hand-painted pearlware (1795-1825, N=1); blue shell-edge whiteware (1815-1850, N=1); hand-painted whiteware (1820-1860, N=5); transfer-printed ironstone (1900-1995, N=2); decal-decorated ironstone (1880-1995, N=18); plain yellowware (1827-1940, N=1); Rockingham-type yellowware (1812-1920, N=2); stoneware with Albany slip (1800-1940, N=2); stoneware with Bristol slip (1835-1995, N=1); hard-paste porcelain (1900-1995, N=4); and various twentieth-century ironstones (N=4). The sherds were almost all recovered from plowzone contexts, and most were quite small.

Most of the kitchen glass recovered could only be classified, if at all, as unidentified bottle glass. However, the collection included fragments of 7-Up, Pepsi, and Coca-Cola bottles, and others with the Prohibition-era embossment, "federal law forbids sale or reuse of this bottle." More than 20 fragments of canning jars or lidliners, a ubiquitous part of farm life in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century America, were recovered. The architectural artifacts included 145 fragments of modern window glass and 23 of broad glass (1820-1926). One hand-wrought nail was recovered, as were 113 machine cut nails (post-1790), 290 wire nails (post-1850), and 54 unidentified nails. Other household objects recovered included three fragments of lamp glass, pieces of metal and plastic toys, glass marbles, a watch gear, suspender parts, china and plastic buttons, and a 1985 nickel. The other objects comprised the usual remains of a modern farm, including a spark plug; various screws, bolts, washers, and other small metal parts; a pair of pliers; fragments of paint cans; and 37 pieces of unidentified metal.

5. *Summary*

The Lore Farm Site was a farm established in the 1870s and occupied until the 1980s. No evidence of earlier occupation on the site was found during the Phase II testing or documentary research. One building, a cinderblock barn, was still standing on the site at the time of the testing. The remainder of the site has been plowed, and only a few patches of intact soil survive, protected by foundations and a tree. Phase II testing located the cellar hole of the farm house, which was filled with demolition debris. The vast majority of the artifacts recovered from the site date to the twentieth century.

N. SITE 7NC-J-210, THE OSBORNE WETLAND NO. 1 SITE

1. *Site Description*

Site 7NC-J-210 (the Osborne Wetland No. 1 Site) was a prehistoric lithic scatter located in the Osborne Wetland Replacement Area, about 2 miles north of Smyrna on the western side of U.S. Route 13 (see Figures 53 and 54; Figure 102). The wetland area comprised approximately 160 acres, mostly plowed fields. The topography was gently rolling. Site 7NC-J-210 was selected for Phase II evaluation as part of a sample of the smaller sites in the Osborne Wetland Replacement Area.

When the Phase I fieldwork was carried out, this area had just been plowed and rained on, and surface visibility was excellent, so the survey was carried out by surface inspection (Bedell