

APPENDIX VI
GLOSSARY

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Activity/Function Area - A section of an archaeological site where a definable activity took place, like a butchering, nut processing, or tool refurbishing area; characterized by specific tools and other artifacts resultant from the activity.

Artifact - Any object shaped or modified by man, or as a result of human activity.

Archaeology - The study of the people of the past through the recovery and analysis of the artifacts they left behind.

Biface - A general term for a flaked stone tool worked on two opposite sides and which possesses a lenticular cross-section; may include arrowheads, knives, spear points, and other tools.

Cache - A collection of artifacts and/or ecofacts which has been deliberately stored for future use.

Colluvial - refers to weathered rock material transported by gravity.

Culture - A uniquely human system of habits and customs acquired by man through an extrasomatic process, carried by his society, and used as his primary means of adapting to his environment.

Debitage - Waste material from the manufacture of stone tools.

Diachronic - Referring to two or more reference points in time.

Feature - Any soil disturbance or discoloration that reflects human activity. Also, an artifact that, being too large to remove from a site, normally is recorded only; for example, house, storage pits, etc.

Flake - A piece of waste material from the manufacture of stone tools, caused by percussion or pressure applied to the object by an external agent (e.g. hammerstone, antler pressure flaker); flake itself may be further utilized as a tool (see "Debitage").

Hundred - A subdivision of some English and American counties.

Hypothesis - A tentative assumption made in order to draw out and test its logical or empirical consequences.

Intersite - Between sites; often used in the context of comparison.

Intestate - Without making a will; a person who dies without making a will.

Intra-site - Within a site.

Kinship - socially recognized relationships based on real or imagined descent and marriage patterns.

Manumission - To release from slavery; to liberate from personal bondage or servitude.

Micro-band - A component of macroband, perhaps one or two extended families, which periodically operates independently of the macroband group.

Orphans Court Records - The County Court responsible for the welfare of orphans when a father died without a will. Orphans Court watched over the estate until children (if any) reached majority. A guardian was appointed by the Court, who was to make periodic returns of the estate to the Court. When the youngest heir came of age, then the property could be divided among the heirs. These court records are filled with information regarding income property, education, repairs of houses and outbuildings, contracts, and other useful material about eighteenth and nineteenth century life.

Pennsylvania Bank Barn - A two-level barn style attributed to colonial Southeastern Pennsylvania. The main features of this structure are a lower level for stock and an upper level for grain storage. The "bank" is constructed by building the barn in the side of a hill, or by constructing a ram- or bridge to the side of the building opposite the forebay. Also known as a "forebay", "overshot", or "foreshoot" barn.

Projectile Point - Strictly speaking, a biface attached to the head of an airborne item of weaponry, like an arrow or a thrown dart; frequently used indiscriminately when referring to any biface.

Ranked Society - A society in which there is unequal access to the higher status categories; many people who are qualified for high status positions are unable to achieve them.

Research Design - A strategy developed at the beginning of a project to guide the researchers.

Socio-economic - This adjective applies to the inter-relationship between economic wealth (or poverty) and social position or status.

Staging/Processing Site - A site away from a base camp which was used for a single activity such as a collecting or hunting stay of a few days (example: specific activity camp -

partial butchering of animals before returning to base camp).

Stratigraphy - The examination of the soil layering on an archaeological site; the characteristics of each individual stratum and its relationship to others in the sequence is critical to understanding the temporal and spatial characteristics of the site.

Synchronic - Referring to a single period in time.