

**New Philadelphia Archaeology**  
**Report on the 2004 and 2005 Excavations**

Sponsored by:  
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University of Maryland  
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## **Chapter 1: Introduction**

*Paul Shackel*

### ***Archaeological Excavations 2004 and 2005***

New Philadelphia in Pike County, Illinois is situated between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. It is the first known town established and platted by an African American, Frank McWorter. In 1836, McWorter subdivided 42 acres to form the town. He then used revenue from the sale of the lots to purchase his family's freedom (Walker 1983). African Americans as well as those of European descent moved to New Philadelphia and created a bi-racial community. New Philadelphia serves as an important example of a farming community on the nation's Midwestern frontier.

The town's population peaked at about 160 people after the American Civil War, a size comparable to many Pike County communities today. By the end of the century, however, racial and corporate politics of America's gilded age resulted in the death knell for the settlement. The new railroad line bypassed the town. Many of New Philadelphia's residents moved away and, by the early twentieth century, only a few families remained.

Today, most of the original 42 acres have been returned to agricultural use, are planted in prairie grass, or lay fallow. Only a few scattered house foundations are visible in the fields. In the summer of 2002, Vibert White, then from the University of Illinois–Springfield (now with University of Central Florida [UCF]), initiated a long-term research project to study and celebrate the history of New Philadelphia with the support of the New Philadelphia Association (NPA). The University of Maryland (UM) gathered census data, deeds, and tax records (all posted on the web page [www.heritage.umd.edu](http://www.heritage.umd.edu) and follow the links to New Philadelphia), as well as other primary and secondary sources. A collaborative project between the UM, Illinois State Museum (ISM), University of Illinois–Springfield (UI–S), and the New Philadelphia Association helped to initiate an archaeological pedestrian survey in 2002 and 2003 (Gwaltney 2004, also see the above web page).

Our initial archaeological survey work, along with GIS overlays, identified several areas with discrete archeological deposits associated with known house lots (see below and Gwaltney 2004). This information along with the collection of census, deed, and tax information provided the research team with a good idea about the general settlement of the site.

During the summers of 2004 and 2005, UM served as the host institution, along with the University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign (UIUC), ISM, and NPA, for a three-year National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (NSF–REU) program. In 2005 UIUC also held their summer field school at the New Philadelphia town site. Undergraduate students from around the United States participated in this 10-week project. They worked for five weeks conducting archaeological excavations and

for five weeks performing laboratory analyses at ISM. Students worked with professionals to excavate portions of several town lots for which archaeological and geophysical evidence indicated the likely remains of past domestic sites. Students learned to excavate, catalogue artifacts, identify macrofloral remains, and perform faunal analysis.

Prior to excavations Michael Hargrave (U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory [CERL]) conducted a magnetometer and an electrical resistivity survey along with the NSF-REU students in 2004 and 2005. This work, coupled with the archaeological survey data and the historical records, provided additional information that located potential archaeological features. All of these data helped develop an excavation strategy.

The primary goals of this research project are to *1) understand the town's founding and spatial development as a bi-racial town; 2) explore and contrast dietary patterns between different households of different ethnic and/or regional backgrounds by examining faunal and botanical remains; 3) to understand the townscape and town lot uses of different households using botanical data and archaeological landscape features; 4) elucidate the different consumer choices residents of different ethnic backgrounds made on a frontier situation and understand how household choices changed with the increased connection to distant markets and changing perceptions of racism.*

New Philadelphia had a varied and wide ethnic diversity and we believe that by focusing on this initiative we can highlight many of these research questions. The New Philadelphia story is about the quest for freedom, life on the frontier, facing racism, and the struggle of a small rural town to survive. As the project develops we will immediately make our conclusions available to the public. Our goal is to be as democratic and transparent as possible and allow professionals and the public to see how we develop and create our conclusions about New Philadelphia. This research will elucidate how individual members and families of this bi-racial community made choices to create their immediate environment, diet, agricultural practices, and consumer choices. While we do not pretend to be the last word on the history of the town, our efforts, with input from the larger community, will build a better understanding of this town. We hope to make the stories connected with this place part of the American story and the national public memory.

Completion of the project's ongoing work will allow the collaborative research team to explore other avenues for funding future work centering on issues of race and group boundaries. It is important to understand that ethnic boundaries are fluid and it is necessary to see what forces have transformed these boundaries over time (McGuire 1982:161; Rodman 1992). In a place like New Philadelphia that developed as a bi-racial town, defining these boundaries becomes increasingly difficult since it appears to be a small community in which neighbors supported and traded with each other. However, it is probable that some form of local hierarchy may have existed that was based in part on racial categories. Placing future archaeological work within the context of the changing meaning of race is essential to knowing how groups in this community became racially

identified and how racial conflicts have shaped American society (see Omi and Winant 1994).

Many studies in African–American archaeology and material culture have dealt with the pre–emancipation era (Epperson 1999; Ferguson 1992; Kelso 1986; Upton 1988; Vlach 1993). An archaeological study of New Philadelphia allows archaeologists the opportunity to examine the development of a bi–racial community on the western frontier during the pre– and post–emancipation eras. New Philadelphia provides a unique case study since it survived as a bi–racial community for about a century. Anthropologist Mary Douglas (Douglas and Isherwood 1979) notes that on a periphery, such as a frontier situation, differences and deviations from the norm are acceptable. However, once those frontier situations become part of the core or semi–peripheral area, material culture and behavior often becomes standardized. The same may be true for the frontier situation of New Philadelphia. The town developed as a bi–racial town from the 1840s onward, a situation that was not the norm in the core area of the eastern states. But when the Illinois frontier closed, racism set its limits to the town’s growth. Racism probably influenced the social and economic interactions between residents within the community as well as with residents outside the town. It is important to examine both the material culture record and the social history of the town in order to look and look for variability in the archaeological record as a way to see how the material culture may have changed as racism influenced the development and everyday lives of New Philadelphia’s inhabitants.

Understanding the role of consumerism and consumer behavior in an inter–racial community will be a key issue for this study. Several scholars have examined how ideals of consumerism filtered into rural and frontier communities (McMurry 1988; Purser 1992; Schlereth 1989). Consumption practices varied across regional boundaries as well as through ethnic, class, and gendered groups. Mullins (1999) shows how an urban African–American community chose to participate in consumer society as a way to avoid local racism and confront class inequalities. An analysis of rural consumption in New Philadelphia will reveal the complexities of how mass–produced and mass–advertised products infiltrated the rural community, and it will show how consumption patterns changed as the concept of racism changed.

While the current archaeological work at New Philadelphia has further defined the boundaries of the town and occupation areas within the town, an in–depth study of artifacts using GIS and the recovery of additional archaeological materials will contribute to the town’s social history. The research team’s goal is to develop a material and social context for the site in order to raise the visibility of the site and make it part of our national public memory.

The New Philadelphia archaeology program is sponsored by the National Science Foundation’s Research Experiences for Undergraduates program. In 2005 the UIUC archaeology field school also participated in excavations and laboratory work. The 2004 and 2005 field seasons received tremendous support from the New Philadelphia Association and various other individuals and organizations. These people and organizations include:

2004 and 2005

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Terrance Martin

Carol McCartney

Terry Ransom

Sprague's Kinderhook Lodge

Vibert White

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Woods

Harry and Helen Wright

Gary Andrashko

Marjorie Schroeder

2004

Carnes & Sons Trailer World

Fat Boys Restaurant

Terrell Dempsey

Tony Goodwin

Cheryl LaRoche

Robert Newnham

Oitker, Ford Sales

Charles E. Orser, Jr.

Red Dome Inn

Robin Whitt

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Christopher Valvano copy-edited this report and photographed the archeological assemblages.

## **Chapter 2: Background History**

*Paul Shackel*

### ***Introduction***

Juliet Walker's (1983) study provides significant information about Free Frank McWorter and his experience related to the founding and early development of New Philadelphia until his death in 1854. Other monographs also provide overviews of the McWorter family and/or the community's past. These include Grace Matteson (1964) "*Free Frank*" *McWorter and the "Ghost Town" of New Philadelphia, Pike County, Illinois*; Helen McWorter Simpson's (1981) *Makers of History*; and Larry Burdick's (1992) *New Philadelphia: Where I Lived*.

The goal of the current New Philadelphia Archaeology Project is to supplement the story unfolding about the town by providing additional information about the social history of the entire community, and documenting the rise of the town from 1836 through its demise during the Jim Crow era. Using historical information, oral histories, and archaeological information, the project explores the physical and social development of the town and explores some of the social relations in the community through the early twentieth century. This work also shows how individuals, both of African–American and European–American heritage, view this community's past. The archaeological, historical, and oral history data contribute information related to an important episode of past social and racial relations that are a vital component of our national public memory.

### ***Early Settlement of Illinois***

Most of the early European settlers of Illinois came from states south of the Ohio River, and they established communities by waterways where they had easy access to transportation, power sources, and food. The French originally viewed the Illinois region with great promise. By the 1720s France had constructed a ring of forts, posts, and missions from Quebec to the Gulf of Mexico. Illinois served as a strategic midpoint in this ring. Fort de Chartres, constructed in the region of the Mississippi River Valley known as the American Bottom, served as one of the most impressive fortifications in North America. During this era, the American Bottom became the largest producer of grain for all of New France (Davis 1998: 48–51; Ekberg 1998; Simeone 2000: 19).

In 1749, Britain's Ohio Company granted lands on both sides of the Ohio, thus contesting France's territorial claims. Tensions increased in the early 1750s, and in 1756 the situation erupted into the French and Indian War. The French were overwhelmed by the British since; at the beginning of this war France had about 100,000 nationalists in America, while Britain had over 1.3 million. The French had also imported about 1,000 enslaved Native Americans and Africans to work on the fertile American Bottom (Davis 1998:48–51; Simeone 2000: 19).

After expelling the French from North America, as a result of the 1763 treaty to end the French and Indian War, the British viewed Illinois as a remote and distant region. During the American Revolution, George Rogers Clark, along with a company of 175 frontiersmen, captured the principal town of the Illinois Country, the old French village of Kaskaskia. With little resistance from the British, he annexed the territory to Virginia in 1778 and it became known as the Illinois County of the Commonwealth of Virginia (Alvord 1920: 324–328). For the British, Illinois served as a buffer from American encroachment. Some American settlers moved to the western frontier, although the British encouraged and equipped Native Americans north of the Ohio River to resist their advancements. When Virginia ceded the territory to the United States in 1783, the federal government recognized the “ancient laws and customs” of the region. The 1787 Northwest Ordinance protected the private contracts previously formed, including the existence of slavery (Simeone 2000: 19).

Visiting the Old Northwest Territory (comprised of present-day Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois) after 1783, James Monroe appeared skeptical about the growth and development of the new territory. Instead, he favored dividing the lands into three to five new states. Borrowing a similar system found in New England, the Land Ordinance of 1785 created townships six miles square and aligned to the cardinal directions. Each township contained 36 sections, each one mile square and containing 640 acres. As a result, roadways often developed along section lines and crossed each other at right angles (Davis 1998: 93–94). This new, ordered grid system helped to tame the western frontier by making it regular, measurable, and standardized. In July 1787, state delegates meeting in Philadelphia crafted the new Constitution and also developed the Northwest Ordinance. “Not surprisingly, the ordinance reflected fundamental constitutional principles: the people are sovereign; legitimate governmental powers spring from the people; self-government is preferred; [and] government should be limited” (Davis 198: 95). While encouraging self-government, the ordinance also ensured the same protections found in the Bill of Rights. While the ordinance proclaimed that three to five states should be developed from the Old Northwest Territory, it also stated that each territory needed 60,000 free people in order to seek statehood. Article 6 of the ordinance banned slavery and involuntary servitude, although there was an exception for French and Canadian settlers, as well as those who had sworn allegiance to Virginia (Davis 1998:96).

Many of the early American settlements in Illinois developed around the established communities in the Bottom such as Kaskaskia, Prairie du Rocher, and Cahokia (Alvord 1920). The Illini, consisting of the Cahokia, Kaskaskia, Michigamea, Peoria, and Tamaroa, occupied present day Illinois, eastern Missouri, southern Iowa, and northeastern Arkansas since at least the middle of the sixteenth century (Warren and Walthall 1998). Disease, warfare, and dislocation impacted the native populations. In 1660, the American Indian population located in present day Illinois numbered 33,000. By 1680, just under one-third of that number remained. The population dropped to 6,000 by 1700, and again to 2,500 by 1736. By 1763 only 500 survived and by 1783 the number had plummeted to fewer than 100. By 1800 about 80 American Indians resided in one village (Davis 1998: 42).

The European settlement of present-day Illinois began at a relatively slow pace and access to familiar consumer goods was difficult. Material goods came to the western frontier from manufacturers in Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Cincinnati, and Louisville and they came down the Ohio River. James Davis (1998: 133) describes the material culture of early European settlers:

In southern Illinois and in other wooded regions log cabins were the norm for settlers. These pioneers ate at rough tables, some fashioned from bottom and side boards of discarded wagons. Benches and stools persisted for years. Chairs appeared only over time, and were reserved for esteemed household members and guests. Eating utensils were wooden or, at most, pewter. Few early households had silver or plate. Window glass, metal door hinges and locks, and even nails were expensive and rare. Weapons, axes, and fireplace implements were the most common metallic objects.

Settlers arrived with few clothes and imported even fewer, unlike eighteenth-century French Illinoisans, who enjoyed imported European clothes and fabrics. Hunting and trapping yielded hides, pelts, and skins for moccasins, boots, gloves, and britches, dresses, and other garments, much production occurred during winter's slack hours. Predators, though, continued to suppress wool production for decades after statehood.

In 1800, France won the Spanish Louisiana territory and three years later sold it to the United States. This new acquisition allowed settlers on the American western frontier to have unimpeded access to the Mississippi River, New Orleans, and the Gulf of Mexico. New frontiers opened in terms of trade and migration and the large, mostly French trading town of St. Louis became a principal market for goods imported from the east coast. After 1800, the steamboat greatly reduced shipping prices from the Gulf and along upriver routes (Davis 1998: 118; Troen and Holt 1977: 211). Trade with Native Americans also played a significant role in the exchange of goods (Mazrim 2002: 13).

On February 3, 1809, Congress established the Territory of Illinois, which included modern day Illinois, Wisconsin, northern Minnesota, and the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan. At the same time, Native Americans from the territory continued raiding new European settlements (Davis 1998: 135). After the War of 1812, immigrants began a steady migration into the area. Many of the new residents were poorer European Americans from the southeastern and southwestern states. They hoped to become full citizens of a future state with the goal of shedding their old identity of poor persons subordinated by the wealthy (Simeone 2000: 4).

In 1817, Congress set aside 3.5 million acres known as the "Military Tract," and allotted 160-acre tracts to veterans in an area between the lower Illinois River and the Mississippi River. Veterans also received back pay to help them move to the new region. The public could also purchase tracts of land at \$2.00 per acre with only a small down payment. In 1820, the credit system was dismantled and the minimum parcel was reduced to 80 acres

at a price of \$1.25 per acre. The government later reduced the minimum purchase to 40 acres (Mazrim 2002: 25).

The territory soon became a battleground between proslavery southerners and abolitionist northerners (Davis 1998:19). Six of the first seven governors of Illinois came from slave states and they influenced the abolitionist issue. According to James Davis (1998: 20), no other state north of the Ohio River had as many slaves nor came as close as Illinois for providing constitutional protection for slavery. Many of the new settlers from the south supported the existing institution of slavery (Davis 1998: 161).

When Illinois became a state in 1818 it had about 40,000 residents, with over one third of them living in the greater American Bottom. Some of the early nineteenth-century immigrants brought enslaved persons with them into Illinois. In one instance, the West brothers had very different approaches to dealing with the slavery issue. One brother emancipated his enslaved laborers after being convinced by a Methodist minister. The other brother registered his enslaved African Americans as indentured servants (Simeone 2000:153). In 1818, most of the slaves north of the Ohio River resided in Illinois in the American Bottom as well as another area known as the “salines.” The salines, or saltwater springs, produced salt for harvest and export. Enslaved laborers retrieved the water and boiled it down to extract the salt. By the early 1820s, the salines produced \$11,000 a year in tax revenue, or about one fourth of the state’s expenses. The 1818 Constitution allowed slaves to be imported into Gallatin and Jackson Counties for one year in order to work in these facilities. The enterprise was required to cease operations by 1825 (Simeone 2000: 25).

Political leaders reached a compromise in order to minimize the debate on slavery influenced by the likelihood that Congress would reject a proslavery constitution. While the majority of the early settlers came from the South, Illinois’ Constitution came from articles used in the constitutions of New York, Ohio, and Kentucky. The new Constitution stated that enslaved persons owned by French citizens could be retained in bondage. Indentured servitude, whereby African Americans were contracted to work for decades, was acceptable for the state’s Constitution. The offspring of indentured servants had to serve until they became 21 years of age for males, and 18 years of age for females. Enslaved persons could also be brought into the salines until 1825 (Davis 1998: 165). Slavery proponents called for a constitutional convention to revise Illinois’ constitution in order to allow chattel slavery. In 1818 through the early 1820s Illinoisans faced an economic depression and many believed that they suffered because Missouri now gained a steady flow of southern immigrants because it was admitted as a slave state as a result of the 1820 Missouri Compromise. James Simeone (2000: 49) notes that “beginning in the fall of 1819 and continuing through 1822, everything stopped. The money stopped, and immigration stopped. In the summer of 1821 the rain stopped.” In addition, an epidemic of yellow fever had hit most of the American Bottom. Over half the population died in Atlas, the county seat of Pike County (Simeone 2000: 50).

Illinois was a northern state with a majority of its citizens from the upland south area which included Kentucky and Tennessee as the principal sources of immigrants.

However, by the early 1820s northerners began their steady influx into the new state, thereby beginning to sway the majority of public opinion against the idea of chattel slavery. One woman from Tennessee who resided in Illinois wrote in 1822, “I am getting skeery about them ‘ere Yankees; there is such a power of them coming in that them and the Injuns will squatch out all the white folks” (quoted in Simeone 2000: 6: see also Tillson 1995: 24–25). The influx of northerners brought new customs to the area. Previously, business deals were typically sealed with a handshake. As one former Tennessean wrote, once the “Yankees” infiltrated the area they introduced a “system of accounts and obligations” which was looked upon by the southern community with great distrust. The Yankees used words and writing that intimidated “the white folks” (Buck 1917: 291). It is interesting to note that she constructed whiteness as including southerners, while others, including European American northerners, were not included in that category.

Many of the early settlers flocked to the American Bottom, but periodic flooding meant that it was susceptible to outbreaks of malaria. This problem, many of the American Bottom settlers believed, could be solved by introducing slave labor, much like their French predecessors had done. Plans arose for a limited slavery system whereby the Illinois General Assembly would allow the importation of enslaved persons to clear the land and build drainage canals. After a 10-year period these enslaved persons would be shipped down the Mississippi River and sent to Africa. This proposal met stiff resistance and new debates arose about the future of slavery in Illinois.

Generally, the new residents of Illinois, who were typically poor, white, and from the South, felt threatened by the invasion of northerners, as well as feeling threatened by free African Americans who would compete for similar resources. In a letter to the *Illinois Intelligencer*, an individual named Spartacus (25 June 1824) wrote about an encounter with his poor white neighbor in a grog shop as they discussed the issue of slavery in Illinois. He noted that the man advocated slavery. “He swore we had as good a right to have slaves as the people of Missouri or any other state; that a white man could not stand it to work here – then negroes were made for slaves; that white people ought not to be obliged to work &c.” Then Spartacus questioned whether slaves would raise the status of poor white farmers. He thought that a “poor man in a slave state is not as much respected as in a free one” (Spartacus 25 June 1824; from Simeone 2000: 154).

On August 2, 1824, in a referendum regarding the legalization of slavery, the proposal fell to defeat by a vote of 6,640 to 4,972. Eleven of the 18 abolitionist state legislators came from the South. Pike County overwhelming voted against the referendum (23 for and 261 against) (Davis 1998: 167). Generally, southern settlers joined northerners to voice their opinion against slavery. However, the proslavery faction gained many seats and the control of the General Assembly. Illinoisans created a society that hampered the introduction of slavery, but nevertheless contained an implicit white supremacy. Black Codes passed in 1819 and 1829 restricted the rights of African Americans and discouraged their settlement in the state (Simeone 2000: 157).

The 1830s served as one of the most speculative eras in Illinois land sales. The Blackhawk Wars ended in 1833, thus forfeiting the last Native American lands in Illinois. The era is characterized by wild speculation in the incorporation of towns that were platted from 1835 to 1837. Some town plans remained only on paper, and others barely developed before they folded (Davis 1998: 236). James Davis believes that the prevailing winds often dictated the layout of towns. Residents often lived west of the town's business and industrial centers to avoid the stench of industry. Also, by building westward, residents could avoid fires and great conflagrations caused by the prevailing west winds. Along with this wild speculation came the Panic of 1837 and land sales dropped perceptibly. Supplies of materials and labor also decreased significantly (Davis 1998: 272–273).

### ***Race and the Western Frontier During the Settlement of New Philadelphia***

New Philadelphia is significant because of the story of the founder's persistence for freedom as well as its dimension as a bi-racial settlement from the 1830s through the 1930s. Before the American Civil War, most free African Americans lived in urban areas and suffered deteriorating social and economic conditions. Laws restricted their opportunities, and they often had irregular or seasonal employment. "They had a low incidence of property ownership in most cities, and were universally described by contemporary observers as in large part poverty stricken" (Curry 1981: 122). African Americans in urban areas increasingly called for reforms. At the same time, the *American Colonization Society* aggressively promoted the relocation of free African Americans to Liberia.

In response to the promotion of resettlement in Africa, during the 1830s the *Organized Negro Communities Movement* proposed that separate agricultural settlements should be established for free African Americans in undeveloped rural areas. The organization also encouraged the migration of such families to the western frontiers. Both of these proposals would allow African Americans the opportunity to develop new economic opportunities for themselves (Pease and Pease 1962: 19–34).

In 1814 Thomas Jefferson received a letter from James Madison's private Secretary Edward Coles, who requested Jefferson to use his stature and influence to support the gradual emancipation of slaves. Coles wrote that he found slavery so repugnant that he decided to leave the state and free his slaves. Jefferson replied that he believed the day of emancipation was approaching and he implored him to stay in Virginia, and labor to resolve the question. Coles left Virginia in 1819 and emancipated his slaves after he crossed the Ohio River (Mausur 2001: 58).

In 1819, the first manumission colony in Edwardsville, Illinois, stood as one of the most prominent settlements of the *Organized Negro Communities Movement*. The Edwardsville Settlement operated as a paternalistic endeavor by Edward Coles on land he purchased for his freed thirteen enslaved persons so that they could develop farms. Other paternalistic settlements developed following Coles' lead, although many of these settlements failed,



including Edwardsville. These planned agricultural communities usually consisted of farms too small or with insufficient capital to be self-sufficient (Pease and Pease 1963: 23). Illinoisans elected Coles governor in 1822, and he successfully defeated attempts to move the new state to accept slavery.

Other African-American settlements did succeed. Sundiata Keita Cha-Jua (2000) describes the settlement of Brooklyn, Illinois, founded in 1830 by several black families adjacent to St. Louis, Missouri. Five white settlers platted the area in 1837, and citizens incorporated the town after the Civil War. Because of racism and industrialists' unwillingness to establish businesses in the town, Brooklyn struggled financially through the beginning of the twentieth century. In another settlement, Reverend Lewis Woodson believed that African Americans should establish separate communities, separate businesses, and separate churches. His father's settlement in Jackson County, Ohio in 1830 served as a prime example to show that separate African-American communities could survive and prosper. By 1838, this settlement in Jackson County was "socially independent" (Miller 1975: 315).

When the McWorters came to Pike County in 1831 there were over 2 million enslaved people living in the South. Southern whites and many northerners convinced themselves that slaves were content in their situation and it was a righteous institution. However, on August 22, 1831, Nat Turner led an insurrection that led to the death of his master and his family. Many other plantation owners were killed. The revolt had ended two days later. By the beginning of September the executions had begun and Nat Turner was found. Following his capture many slave owners feared a larger slave revolt, although many southern newspapers reported that the incident was local and slaves were generally content with their situation. Thomas Gray interviewed Turner before he was executed and published *The Confessions of Nat Turner*. In an attempt to quell southern fears, Gray declared that the insurrection was "entirely local." He wrote that the origins of the revolt were created by "the operations of a mind like his, endeavoring to grapple with things beyond its reach" (quoted in Mausur 2001: 18). Gray continued his analysis of the case and stated that Turner's rebellion was "the first instance in our history of an open rebellion of the slave" (quoted in Mausur 2001: 19). When Gray asked Turner if the conspiracy spread beyond Southampton County, Turner replied "Can you not think the same ideas, and strange appearances about this time in the heavens might prompt others, as well as myself, to this undertaking" (quoted in Mausur 2001: 20).

Alex de Tocqueville visited the United States in 1831 and wrote *Democracy in America* (1835) published several years later. His volume discussed his observations of race relations in the United States. One essay he titled, "The Present and Probable Future Condition of the Three Races that Inhabit the Present Territory of the United States." He explained that race is one of the most important issues that face the new nation. He noticed that while slavery was receding (probably because of the ban on the importation of African slaves) that prejudice appeared to be very strong, especially in the states that have abolished slavery. The north maintained a segregated society. Tocqueville claimed that it was not enlightenment ideals that helped to abolish slavery in the north, but rather

their nonessential role in the northern economy. He wrote that abolition, “does not set the slave free, but merely transfers him to other master...” (quoted in Mausur 2001: 43).

The American Colonization Society, founded in 1816, was an attempt to address the issue of what to do with freed African Americans. President James Monroe, representative Henry Clay, and Chief Justice John Marshall, all supported the plan to settle free African Americans on the west coast of Africa, a territory that became known as Liberia. The goal of the organization was not to settle the issue of slavery, but rather to bring freed Africans from the United States. They believed that African Americans could not rise above their current condition. By 1830 the American Colonization Society resettled nearly two thousand people. However, by 1831 the movement lost steam and Lloyd Garrison criticized the movement. He condemned the society for not opposing slavery and supporting immediate abolition (Mausur 2001: 48).

State laws in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi weakened the strength and power of the American Indians and encouraged white settlers to move to these new territories. The Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw lost millions of acres. At the same time the Cherokee reinvented themselves in order to be perceived as civilized. They became farmers and Christians and learned the English language. They established a printing press and ratified a constitution. They did everything that the whites expected of a civilized group of people. However, in 1830 Congress introduced the Indian Removal Act and President Andrew Jackson signed it into law on May 28, 1830 (Mausur 2001: 117–119).

The legality of the Indian removal made it to the Supreme Court in 1832. The Court decided in favor of the Cherokee and Chief Justice Marshall announced the decision. He ruled that the Cherokee are a distinct community, “occupying its own territory, with boundaries accordingly described, in which the laws of Georgia can have no force, and which the citizens of Georgia have no right to enter, but with the assent of the Cherokee themselves, or with conformity with treaties and acts of Congress” (quoted in Mausur 2001: 126–127). However, there was little agreement with the Supreme Court decision and the Cherokee’s support slowly eroded. Finally in 1835, they signed the Treaty of New Echota and the Senate ratified it by one vote. While the majority of the Cherokee did not favor the treaty, they made a slow exodus across the Mississippi. Finally in 1837, President Van Buren enforced the removal (Mausur 2001: 127).

While the Cherokee petitioned the Supreme Court, members of the Sauk tribe crossed over to the east side of the Mississippi River to their traditional homelands in Illinois at Rock Island. Europeans believed that treaties signed in 1804, 1816, and 1825 meant that the Sauk relinquished rights to their ancestral lands. Blackhawk signed a treaty and moved his people across the river. However, rumors that Europeans were desecrating ancestral Indian burials outraged the Indians and they crossed the river again. Raids and skirmishes occurred for several months in the summer of 1832, until Black Hawk suffered a major defeat at the Battle of Bad Axe on August 2, 1832. The settlers pushed the Indians across the Mississippi and accounts of the retreat describe the river being tinged with red (Mausur 2001: 128–131).

By 1830 the first major railroad line was in operation for twelve miles from Baltimore to Ellicotts Mills, and in 1831 Cyrus McCormick tested his reaping machine. His invention promised to cut grain in a six-foot swath. McCormick made improvements to his invention and patented it in 1834. The invention transformed agricultural production, freeing many hands from the field for other work, like clearing more land (Mausur 2001:180).

Black Codes established before the Civil War often restricted the freedoms of African-Americans and they frequently were left with no choice but to work on farms or perform menial tasks. Although a vacuum created by the expanding frontier allowed people to take risks on entrepreneurial activities, African Americans were not on equal footing with white settlers. Being a free African American in southern and central Illinois met some resistance from the local populations. For instance, about 50 miles south of New Philadelphia in Alton, Elijah Lovejoy ran his abolitionist newspaper and founded the *Illinois Anti-Slavery Society*. An angry mob attacked his newspaper in 1837, one year after the founding of New Philadelphia. They killed Lovejoy while he tried to protect his press. The mayor could have asked for military troops to quell the uprising, much as the mayor of Norfolk, Virginia did in 1831 after the Nat Turner uprising. Instead, he saw Lovejoy's activities as creating disorder and he allowed the mobs to take control of the situation (Beecher 1838; Dillon 1961; Tanner 1881).

Only thirteen miles east of New Philadelphia in the town of Griggsville, violence broke out after an 1838 anti-slavery meeting. People at the meeting signed a petition calling for the abolition of slavery in Washington, D.C. and for rejecting the admission of Texas into the Union as a slave state. While many attending the meeting signed the petition, many pro-slavery citizens were agitated by this resolution. They met at the local grocery and passed a resolution "that the parties who signed this obnoxious petition should be compelled to erase their signatures from it" (Chapman 1880: 516). The pro-slavery men seized the document and "then waited upon those parties and demanded of them that they should immediately erase their names" (Chapman 1880: 516). Hearing this news, the people of Griggsville and the surrounding area, came to town that evening armed in order to defend their petition. They informed the pro-slavery contingent that they "must disband, or else they would be dealt with harshly, and that the first man who dared to intimidate another petitioner would receive a 'fresh supply of ammunition'" (Chapman 1880: 516).

The Underground Railroad thrived in places like Quincy, Pittsfield, and Jacksonville. The 1845 Illinois Supreme Court decision of *Jarrot v. Jarrot* terminated the institution of slavery in Illinois for all time. However, this decision did not stop slave trackers from dragging away suspected bystanders and at times capturing innocent and free bystanders to transport them down south for sale into bondage. Illinois did not resist the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 like other northern states by passing personal liberties laws (Davis 198: 289). Free African Americans were not on equal footing with whites.

By 1840 the steamboat served all navigable waters. Soon thereafter, the national road and railroads were constructed through the area of Illinois. Illinois' population became very diverse as a result of these transportation routes. William Oliver (1924: 68) wrote that

many of the new immigrants included “Dutch, Germans, Swiss, Yankees, Irish, Scotch, a few English, and a number from more southern states.” The growing diversity in frontier Illinois also meant that no single interest group could dominate the social and political scene. People had to work with each other for consensus, although the Black Codes also meant that African Americans were often left out of this consensus building. While Illinois was considered a free state and all forms of legal slavery had died by 1845, state delegates voted 137 to 7 to deny suffrage to blacks. In addition, Article XIV directed the General Assembly to pass laws prohibiting the immigration of blacks to Illinois. While Illinois opposed slavery, it refused equality to African Americans (Davis 1998: 413). For instance, Stephen Douglas debated Abraham Lincoln in the late 1850s and one of the main issues included slavery. Douglas, representing the state of Illinois in Congress, believed that “Government was made on the white basis, by white men, for the benefit of white men and their posterity forever, and should be administered by white men and none others. I do not believe that the Almighty made the negro capable of self-government” (quoted in Simeone 2000: 10).

### ***The Settlement of New Philadelphia***

The founding of the town of New Philadelphia in west-central Illinois by Frank McWorter, a freed African American, in 1836 is both a compelling and heroic story. Frank was born near the Pacolet River in South Carolina. In 1795, when he was about 18 years old, his master George McWhorter relocated him to the Kentucky frontier in Pulaski County. George McWhorter later purchased additional properties in Kentucky and Tennessee and left Frank behind to manage the farm. Historian Juliet Walker’s (1983) biography of Free Frank describes that while he was enslaved he also established a saltpeter mining operation in Kentucky.

While enslaved, Frank married Lucy in 1799, who was also enslaved in Pulaski County. He became father of four children: Judy, Sallie, Frank and Solomon. In 1815 George McWhorter died without making any provisions for Frank’s manumission. In 1817 Frank had saved enough money to purchase his wife’s freedom for \$800. Since Lucy was pregnant at the time, this action ensured that their son Squire would be born free. Two years later Frank was able to purchase his freedom from George McWhorter’s heirs for the same sum. The document that declared his freedom stated that, “a certain Negro man named Frank, a yellow man,” was to be liberated. His former owners signed the document on September 13, 1819, in Pulaski County, Kentucky (Matteson 1964: 2). In the 1820 Federal Census, Frank had his name listed as “Free Frank.” He continued to live in Pulaski County while he speculated on and expanded his salt peter operations near the town of Danville. After he and his wife were free, they had three additional children: Squire, Commodore, and Lucy Ann (Matteson 1964: 1; Walker 1983: 28–48).

In 1829 Frank traded his saltpeter enterprise for the freedom of his son, Frank, Jr. In 1830 Free Frank decided to leave Kentucky and he acquired a quarter section (160 acres) of land from Dr. Eliot, sight unseen, in Pike County, Illinois. Free Frank, Lucy and their freed children arrived in Hadley Township in the spring of 1831 after spending the preceding

winter in Greene County, Illinois. The McWorters were the first settlers in that township, and other settlers finally joined them two years later (Chapman 1880: 216–217). An early history of Pike County explained that, “the first white man in Hadley Township was a colored man” (Thomas 1967:151). Frank left three children behind, along with their spouses and children. Over the next 25 years he succeeded in purchasing their freedom (Walker 1983). During his tenure in Illinois, McWorter acquired over 500 more acres. He grew wheat, corn, and oats, and on his farm he raised cattle, hogs, horses, mules, and a mixed variety of poultry (Matteson 1964:5).

By 1835 Free Frank purchased his son, Solomon’s freedom for \$550 (Walker 1983: 89). Several citizens from Kentucky and Illinois vouched for Free Frank’s character in order to pass a legislative act to change his name to Frank McWorter, taking the surname of his former owner while changing the spelling of that name. The act also gave him the right to “sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, purchase and convey both real and personal property in said last mentioned name” (Laws of the State of Illinois 1837: 175). The law also stated that his children shall take the name of their father.

The Illinois legislative act made note that Frank had laid out the town in 1836 “which he calls Philadelphia, and understanding and believing that the said Frank has laid out the town intending to apply the proceeds of the sales for the purchase of his children yet remaining slaves, two young women about twenty years of age – The said town is in handsome country, undoubtedly healthy” (General Assembly Records, Illinois State Archives Enrolled Laws 1837).

New Philadelphia was platted with 144 lots, each measuring 60 x 120 ft. It is the earliest known town legally founded by a free African American. Each block contained 8 lots, and the two main thoroughfares, Broad Way and Main Street were platted as 80 ft. wide, secondary streets were 60 ft. wide, and alleys measured 15 ft. wide.

While African Americans developed towns before 1836 (see Cha–Jua 2000), New Philadelphia is the earliest known town founded and platted by an African American. Both European Americans and African Americans purchased property in New Philadelphia and moved to the community. Thomas (1967: 151) described the mail route of LeGrange Wilson who started to carry mail at age 12 between the early post towns of Griggsville and Kinderhook. Wilson once described the town of New Philadelphia as a “bustling metropolis of the early day and the largest town on Wilson’s mail rout. There were three houses in Philadelphia” (Thomas 1967: 151). While the date of Wilson’s description for the town is unknown and not specified in the oral history, it is probably an account from the 1840s.

In the 1850s the railroad line was laid out and its planned route appears on the 1860 map of Pike County. Its construction and completion occurred only after the end of the Civil War. The Hannibal & Naples Railroad was routed north of New Philadelphia by about 1 mile (Chapman 1880: 904; Matteson 1964: 9).

Frank died in 1854 at 77 years of age. Frank McWorter not only purchased the freedom

of himself, his wife, his four children, and two of his grandchildren before he died, but, also his will he provided for the purchase of the six of his grandchildren who were then in slavery. His two sons Solomon and Commodore carried out the provisions of his will (Matteson 1964:10; Walker 1983).

### *Description of the Town*

A grocery was established in New Philadelphia in 1839 and by 1850 the town had a post office, stagecoach stand, blacksmith shop, wheelwright, two shoemakers, and two cabinet makers. A rural market town like New Philadelphia, existing in a context of widespread racial tensions, could offer African Americans an alternative to isolated rural farmsteads and the hostile environment of urban enclaves. However, once the Illinois frontier closed, racism set limits to New Philadelphia's expansion (see Davis 1998). In 1853 the Pike County Rail Road Company, made up of prominent farmers and businessmen in the area, met to create a route for a new railroad line. The interests of New Philadelphia were not represented on the board. The route for the Hannibal & Naples Railroad came from the east and if it continued in a direct westerly direction it would have intersected New Philadelphia. Instead, the railroad company routed the line to New Salem about one mile north of New Philadelphia. In order to reach New Salem the line looped north and around New Philadelphia. When the line reached a point west of New Philadelphia it swung south to a point directly west of the town and it again ran in an east to west direction until it reached the town of Barry (Chapman 1880: 904; Matteson 1964:9; Pike County Railroad 1853).

New Philadelphia existed as a small rural town through the 1850s. The 1850 federal census indicates that the town had 58 residents living in 11 households. The town had a Baptist preacher, a cabinet maker, a laborer, two merchants, two shoemakers, a wheelwright and four farmers. About one quarter of the town's residents were born in Illinois. The federal census listed racial categories, including "white," "black," and "mulatto." The 1850 census lists 20 residents as black or mulatto, while the majority (38 individuals, 62%) was categorized as white. Some of the prominent town residents included McWorter, Burdick, Clark, and Hadsell. Five years later, the 1855 state census lists 81 town residents. The 18 African-American residents accounted for only 22% of the town's population, and the rest were listed as white. The 1860 census shows an increase of the town to 114 individuals. A blacksmith, a carpenter, a physician, a schoolteacher along with 13 farmers resided in the town proper. Ninety-three (82%) of the residents were listed as white and 21 individuals were recorded as black or mulatto. A large proportion (43.9%) of the town came from other Illinois communities (King 2004) (Figure 2.1).



**Figure 2.1** An 1860 Atlas details the layout of “New” Philadelphia and the owners of land surrounding the town.

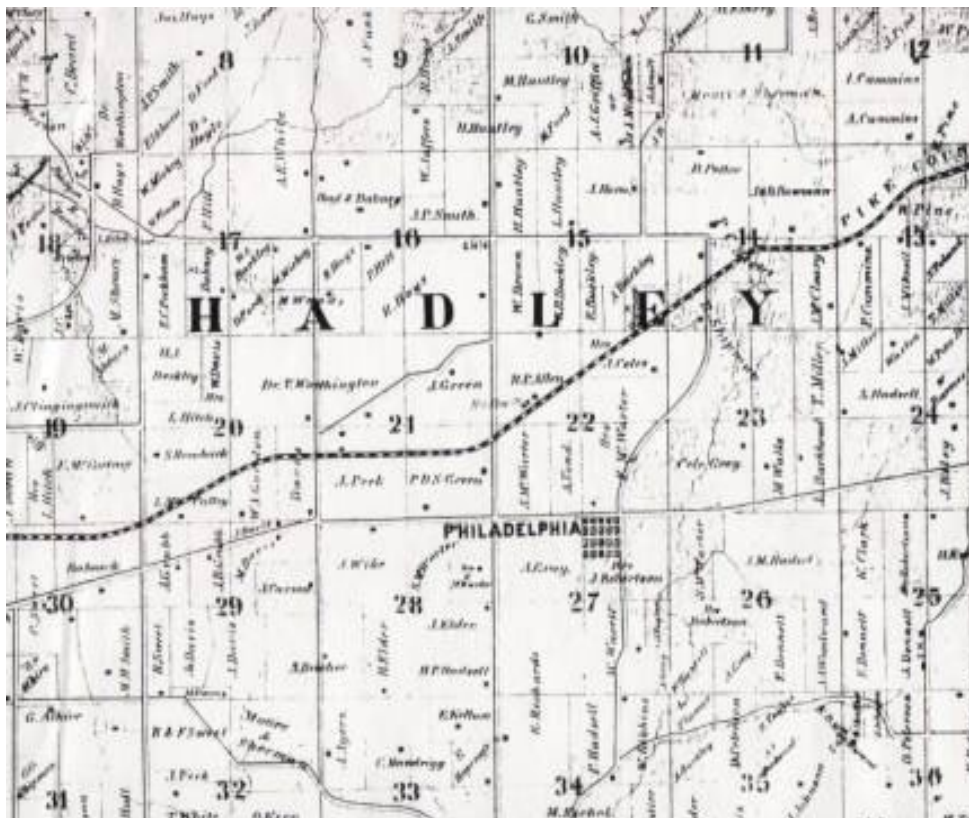
New Philadelphia peaked by 1865 with a total of 160 individuals residing in 31 households. The census indicates that 104 (65%) individuals were categorized as white and 56 (35%) were of African American descent, indicating a threefold increase in the number of African American residents over that recorded on the census just five years earlier. The influx of African Americans may be a result of the northern migration of formerly enslaved persons leaving plantations. Prominent families included the Burdick, Hadsell, Clark, Cartwright (Kirtwright), and McWorter households. The Bower, Kellum, Vaughn (Vond), Baker, Johnson, and Shipman families also lived in the area (King 2004). As a commitment to educating all of the citizens of the community, the town supported an integrated one-room schoolhouse from 1874 until it closed in the 1940s (Matteson 1964:19–20; Pike County Illinois Schools 1996:153). Some recent oral histories recall hearing about a “negro schoolhouse” on Block 9, lot 4 in the town of New Philadelphia.

Throughout the history of the town all of the lots were sold, and many were sold up to a dozen times. The high turn-over rate of lot ownership is noticeable especially in the early settlement of the town. This trend may indicate that while the town survived as a small rural community serving the immediate hinterlands, many others prospected on town land with the hope of making significant amounts of money if the railroad line was laid adjacent to the town. There are many cases of small-town speculations in Illinois in the 1850s where properties adjacent to the railroad doubled in value, and in some cases

the values increased by as much nine times the original price (Davis 1998).

The construction of the railroad across Pike County, from Valley City on the west bank of the Illinois River to Hannibal, Missouri meant that the purchasing of consumer goods became more convenient and farmers had more outlets for their agricultural products. However, the Hannibal and Naples Railroad bypassed New Philadelphia by one mile and in 1869 the town's population began a steady decline (Figure 2.2). The railroad needed a booster engine to push the cars on its route that bypassed the town. In the twentieth century the railroad realigned the rail line about ½ mile south where cars and engines could traverse a more even grade in the topography.

While the railroad bypassed New Philadelphia, other towns like Exeter and Florence were also severely impacted. Meanwhile, other small towns flourished for a while, like Meredosia, Hull, Kinderhook, Barry, New Salem, and Griggsville. The northern county route meant that this section of the county prospered compared to the more southern parts. The railroad constructed a spur to Pittsfield, the county seat, the following year. Other railroad lines in subsequent years eventually connected the other sections of Pike County to larger regional markets.



**Figure 2.2.** An 1872 Pike County Atlas showing the location of “New” Philadelphia, the surrounding landowners, and the route of the railroad.

By 1880, the number of residents in New Philadelphia fell to about 93 individuals. The town included 14 farmers as well as a blacksmith, a schoolteacher, a storekeeper, 2 house servants, 8 farmhands and 9 general laborers. The majority of the residents (54, or



58.1%), were Illinois natives, and 13 individuals (13.97%) came from Ohio. The federal census listed 68 (73.1%) people as white; 22 (23.7%) as mulatto, and 3 residents (3.2%) were noted to be black. The routing of two main transportation arteries away from New Philadelphia severely hindered its growth. In 1880, Chapman (1880:740–41) wrote, “At one time it had great promise, but the railroad passing it a mile distant, and other towns springing up, has killed it. At present there is not even a post office at the place.”

The depopulation of New Philadelphia follows the trend for the rest of Pike County. While the county experienced rapid growth before the Civil War, the growth slowed in the 1870s, and by the end of the century urban areas and western lands drew people away from Pike County (Smith and Bonath 1982:74–76). In 1885, the size and layout of New Philadelphia changed dramatically. Blocks 1, 10, 11, and 20, as well as the eastern half of Blocks 2, 9, 12, and 19, were declared vacant and no longer part of the town as the property was returned to agriculture. Canton Street and Maiden Lane were removed, and Queen Street became known as Stone Street. The platted land of the former town had shrunk from 42 acres to about 27.5 acres (Walker 1983).

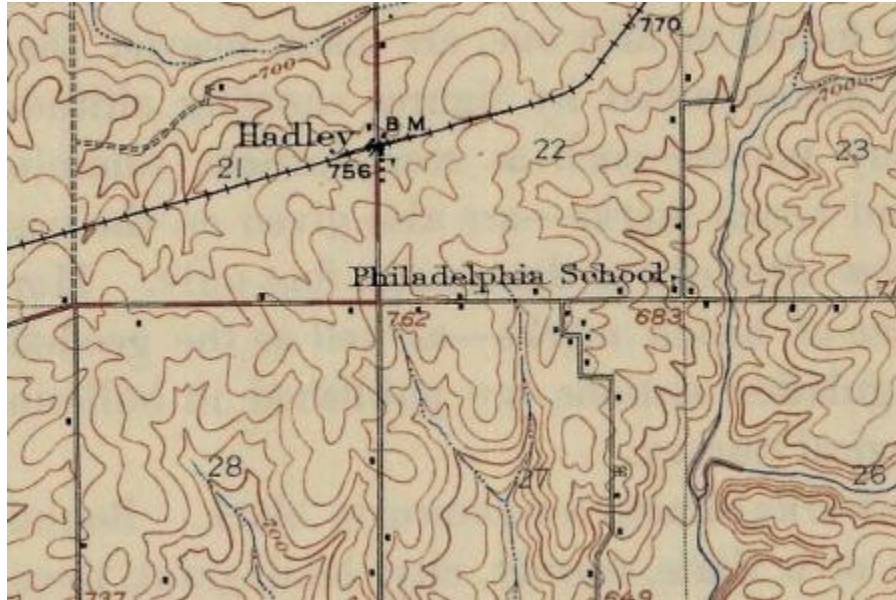
### ***New Philadelphia in the Early Twentieth Century***

Farm values and farm sizes increased significantly during the first several decades of the twentieth century in Pike County. At the same time the rural population declined significantly. From 1900 to 1910 the average farm size increased from about 123 acres to 134 acres and the number of individually owned farms decreased from 4,000 to 3,500, although the total number of improved acreage declined slightly from 388,000 to 385,000 acres. Pike County experienced a greater rural decline when compared to the other counties in the state. On the whole, people did not move to the larger villages of the county, but rather they moved to larger metropolitan areas like Chicago, St. Louis, and Springfield (Main 1915).

Floyd Dell, a well known writer at the turn of the twentieth century, lived in Barry, Illinois; several miles from New Philadelphia, for a large portion of his childhood. He described Pike County as being, “vaguely permeated by Southern influences – a touch of laziness, quite a lot of mud, and like the scent of honeysuckle, a whiff of the romantic attitude toward life” (Dell 1933: 3).

While citizens may have had a romantic attitude toward life, they also may have a romantic attitude toward the past. While many Americans experienced prosperity during the 1920s, farm income decreased dramatically. Dell wrote: “The Pike County farmer believed that land was gold; they could not imagine that in a few years it might be as worthless as those abandoned New England farms... sweated over generation after generation, only to be sold for taxes” (Dell 1933: 354). For many farmers it appears that the Great Depression actually started a decade earlier. The Rural Electrification Program and the hard road program helped to modernize rural communities, although river traffic still remained the main form of transportation for farm products (Smith and Bonath 1982: 73).

By the early twentieth century about a half dozen households remained in what was once called New Philadelphia (Figure 2.3 and 2.4). Throughout the twentieth century, several maps still designated the area of the former town site as Philadelphia or New Philadelphia. Oral histories of several former residents performed in the early 1960s indicated that a bi-racial community survived into the 1930s (Matteson 1964). The land was virtually abandoned by the 1940s.



**Figure 2.3.** *The location of the New Philadelphia School House and a few remaining houses in a 1926 topographic map. The former town is located beneath the letter S.*

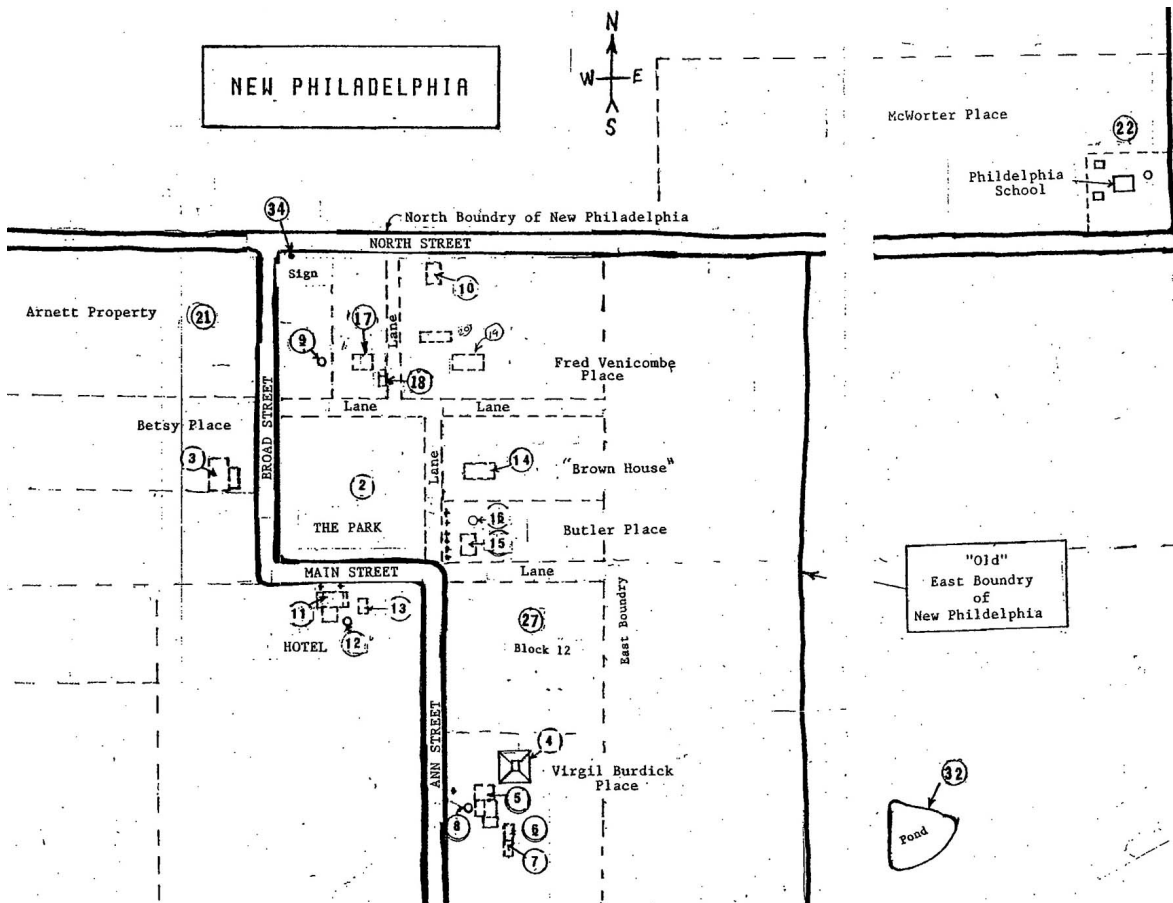
Helen McWorter Simpson, granddaughter of Solomon McWorter described going back to the family home in Hadley Township. “We finally reached the farm in the early evening just as the shadows were falling. Here at last was the family home. This was the house that my grandfather, Solomon McWorter, had built as soon as he could when the growing family had become too large for the log cabin in which my father, the oldest child, had been born” (Simpson 1981: 40). From this account it appears that a new McWorter residence was established probably in the 1860s, soon after Solomon married Francis Coleman. Therefore, according to Simpson’s account, the stone foundation located on the north side of the blacktop road and across from the town traditionally called the McWorter residence is likely the remains of the new house that Solomon built when his family became too large for the log cabin. If this is the case, then the site of the original cabin is currently not known.



**Figure 2.4.** 1936 Aerial Photograph of the former town of New Philadelphia. Note the few remaining houses along the roadway running south of the Baylis Road (running east–west in the middle of the image).

In 1964, Grace Matteson compiled a history of the McWorters based on personal interviews with residents and former residents of the settlement. She also used personal records loaned by Mrs. Thelma Kirkpatrick of Chicago – great granddaughter of Free Frank. Matteson (1964: 18–19) also recorded several histories from the former residents of the community. Mrs. Irene Butler Brown, born in 1881, lived in New Philadelphia until 1906, when she moved to Jacksonville, Illinois. Brown recalled the remaining families living in the town surrounding a square. Besides her own family, the Butlers, who lived on the east side of the square, were the Kimbrews; “Squire McWorter’s family lived on the north side of the square; and the family of Jim McKinney (who had come from Oklahoma) on the south side, all of whom were colored; and the Venicombe on the west side, and the Sylvester ‘Fet’ Baker family, Caucasians” (Matteson 1964: 18–19)

A store building stood south of the present day highway. Mrs. Irene Brown remembered the grocery as the only remaining business in town and was operated by Mr. Kellum (Matteson 1964: Postscript). To the east stood a blacksmith shop operated by Squire McWorter. He later moved his operations to the state road. The foundations of the blacksmith shop still remain, although the shop itself has been torn down, the last of the original business buildings in New Philadelphia. Later, Fred Venicombe erected a buggy shed on the property, although that building no longer exists today (Matteson 1964:19) (see Figure 2.5).



**Figure 2.5.** *The Burdick Map of New Philadelphia drawn in the 1970s as he remembered it in the early twentieth century. On file at the Pike County Historical Society (from Burdick 1992).*

### **The Square or the Park**

According to Larry Burdick's manuscript and map "the Park" (no. 2 in Figure 2.5), also referred to by others as "the square," consisted of Block 8, Lots 1–8. Burdick and others also note that the square contained a school attended by children of both African American and European American families (Burdick 1992:np). Archaeology and a geophysical survey show that while the twentieth-century residents referred to the area as the park, some of the earliest town settlement occurred on this block and had disappeared by the first available tax assessment in 1867 (see Chapter 3 and the description of Block 8, Lot 4).

### **"Negro Schoolhouse" and Kimbrew**

Irene Brown noted that the schoolhouse was on the east side of the square. Some people remember the one-story building as the "black schoolhouse," or the "negro schoolhouse," although at present no historical or archaeological evidence can confirm this statement. Matteson (1964: 19) notes that this structure stood on Lot 12. Little surface finds from the archeological survey in Block 12 indicates that this location may be unlikely. Also, the deed records show that Kimbrew owned Block 9, Lot 4, and in all likelihood this served as the school lot. Recent oral histories also indicate that Block 9, Lot 4 served as the location of the "negro schoolhouse."

After the building fell into disuse, and since a new integrated schoolhouse existed across the road, two brothers, George and Martin Kimbrew purchased the old building. They performed some renovations, installed a partition in the interior and added a small room. They used the building as their residence. According to Brown it was torn down in the 1950s (Matteson 1964: Postscript). Much of the lot has eroded, although there is a chance that one pier for the building's foundation was found in the 2005 excavation (see Chapter 3 and the description of Block 9, Lot 4).

### **The Betsey Place**

The Betsy Place (no. 3 in Figure 2.5), located on the west side of “the Park” (Block 7) contained a small house with a front room addition. Nancy Venicombe (Fred's wife) owned the property. The back portion of the house was in disrepair in the 1930s, a section of the house that Larry Burdick believes was built in the mid–nineteenth century. No one lived in the house in the 1930s, although the front part of the house (the newer section) was used for storage. They used the grounds to raise chickens and operate a truck garden. A small granary stood behind the house, probably built in the early 1900s (Burdick 1992: np). A local farmer recalled that as a boy he aided with the removal of a house foundation after it was destroyed to clear and return the land back to agriculture. Archaeologists found the remains of a portion of this foundation (see Chapter 3 and the description of Block 7, Lot 1).

### **Burdick Place**

The Burdick family owned property in New Philadelphia as early as 1846, and in 1941 the family decided to stay in the town and build a new home (no. 5 in Figure 2.5) (Burdick 1992: np). The old Burdick house stood on limestone foundations. “In the winter the winds sifted between the rocks, chilled the floors enough to make your teeth chatter. The walls were not boxed in. My mother used to say that the only thing between us and the outside was a little bit of weatherboard” (Burdick 1992: np). A large stone lined well (no. 8 in Figure 2.6) is in the front of the new house and served the family into the 1990s. A shed (no. 6 in Figure 2.5) stands behind the house, and it may date to the mid–nineteenth century. The Burdicks walled off a section and used it for a smokehouse. “It had an old rusty tank heater in it and ‘gooey stuff’ dripped from the beams as a result of smoking meat. When my cousins and I played cops–and–robbers this was the jail since the door couldn't be opened from the inside” (Burdick 1992: np). The woodshed (no. 7) also served as a good place for dogs to have pups and cats to have kittens. They removed the woodshed in the early 1930s (Burdick 1992:np). Larry Burdick wrote, “The property passed from my father who died in 1974 to me (Virgil). I sold it to my brother's youngest son, a Vietnam veteran, who needed a home for his family. He was killed in a tragic accident in December of 1980. The property went to his wife who later remarried. I believe the house is still in her ownership” (Burdick 1992: np). In 2005, the property was sold to the New Philadelphia Association with their goal of buying all of the land that once comprised the historic town and preserving it. The New Philadelphia Land Trust also owns a large portion of the town.

### **Venicombe Place**

The house (no. 17 in Figure 2.5) was probably built about 1900. “No reason to believe it was part of the original town. A well existed in the field west of the house and it is likely part of the original part of the town” (Burdick 1992: np). The blacksmith shop stood in their hog lot along the north edge of their property and the northeast corner of the reduced town. It measured about 20 x 15ft. (no. 10 in Figure 2.5) (Burdick 1992: np). It consisted of pole construction with a centered gable roof. The structure faced north and had a dirt floor. Burdick remembered walking past the structure when going to the New Philadelphia grade school from 1934 to 1942. By that time the structure had deteriorated significantly (Burdick 1992: np).

### **The Hotel Lot / Squire and Louisa McWorter’s House**

The hotel (no. 11 in Figure 2.5), a large two-story house with multi-pane windows, stood south of “the Park” near the intersection of Broad Way and Main Streets. The house had a full basement, and a large single-story structure attached to the rear of the house served as the kitchen. Porches stood on the front and rear of the house. A barn and a well also existed on the property (Burdick 1992: np). The house burned to the ground on December 7, 1937. “The man who rented the house at the time set a metal can of cylinder oil on the stove to heat to pour into his old car to get it started. The oil overheated and exploded and set the building ablaze. Not enough water was available to stop the fire” (Burdick 1992:np). Excavations in 2005 located the ash layer in several places of Block 13, Lots 3 and 4 about 2.5 ft. below the current surface (See Chapter 3 and the description of Block 13).

The barn (no. 13 in Figure 2.5) appeared to be smaller than most barns measuring only about 18 x 24 ft. and 20 ft. to the peak of the roof. It faced the park and consisted of a framed structure with large square timbers secured with wood pins. The barn sat on timbers that lay directly on the ground. The building had vertical siding, as much as 18 inches wide with square cut nails. “It was probably built to store the feed for the traveler’s horses.” The barn was torn down after the house (hotel) burned (Burdick 1992:np).

The well (no. 12 in Figure 2.5) on the hotel property had a wooden platform and a pulley arrangement for drawing water. After the house burned the well was filled with rocks from the surrounding fields (Burdick 1992:np). A privy stood about 30 ft. behind the kitchen (Burdick 1992:np). Larry Burdick wrote that, “my father owned the property in the 1930s. I purchased the land from my father in May 1971” (Burdick 1992:np).

### **Brown House**

The Brown house (no. 14 in Figure 2.5) had a single story with wood frame construction and a gabled roof on the east and west ends. “It was across the street (lane) from the middle of the east side of the park. It sat only about twenty feet back from the lane. It was about 18 feet wide and 20 feet deep and stood on a lot of about 1 acre” (Burdick 1992: np). Fred Venicombe owned the property in the 1930s and the building served to store grain. “It was later owned by my brother,” wrote Larry Burdick. “The house decayed and fell in. The structure was removed and the land was converted to farmland

in the late 1940s or early 1950s” (Burdick 1992: np).

### **Butler Place**

William Butler (no. 15 in Figure 2.5), an African American from Louisville, Kentucky, served as an orderly for a Confederate general during the Civil War. He came to New Philadelphia when he was 19 years old, probably in about 1865 or 1866, after migrating from Marion County, Missouri. One rainy night, while traveling through Pike County he stopped at Solomon McWorter’s home, where they invited him to stay overnight. Apparently McWorter and Butler hit it off, since McWorter offered him a job and an invitation to live with the family. When Solomon died, Butler remained with the family to help Francis with the farm and supervising the children (Matteson 1964: Postscript).

William married “a lovely young full-blooded Caucasian woman” named Catherine Wright (Matteson 1964:Postscript). Catherine originally came from Missouri and settled in the New Philadelphia area and she stayed with a European American family called Wagoner (Matteson 1964: Postscript).

Irene Brown, one of William Butler’s daughters, recalled that Butler owned the entire public square and that the Butlers lived on the east side of it (Block 9, Lots 5 and 6). Irene attended the New Philadelphia school located north of the Baylis Road and northeast of New Philadelphia. On October 14, 1906 when she turned 25 years old, Irene married Ollie D. Brown who was employed as a bus boy at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois (Matteson 1964: Postscript).

The Butler house was a one-story, wood framed house that stood across the street (east) from the southeast corner of the park, and was located on about one acre of land. “It had plastered walls over wood lathe. It had a door in the floor of the kitchen. The foundation was limestone,” remarked Burdick. “A row of cedar trees lined the front. It had its own well (no. 16 in Figure 2.5) ... situated on the north side of the house, although only a few feet deep. It was, however, a strong well and it continued to furnish water through the drought of 1934.... It had garden space behind the house (east)” (Burdick 1992: np).

The house was apparently well built, although it stood vacant in the 1930s and began to deteriorate. “The house was respectable looking, not a shack,” explained Burdick. (1992: np). “Old man Butler, the owner, died in the late 1920s or early 30s. My father took him to the hospital in Jacksonville, Ill, where he died. His daughter Irene inherited the property. She sold it to my father in the late 1930s or early 1940s” (Burdick 1992: np). The Butler buildings are visible on the 1939 aerial photograph. One of these structures may be the same building the Kasiah Clark sold Butler in the 1880s (see Chapter 3 and the description of Block 9).

### **New Philadelphia Schoolhouse**

According to several oral accounts recorded by Matteson (1964: 19), New Philadelphia had separate schools for African Americans and whites in the town before 1874. “A schoolhouse for colored people [stood] near the center of the town of Philadelphia on Block 12. It was vacated some time before 1881” (Matteson 1964: 19). The New

Philadelphia school is not shown on the 1872 Pike County Atlas. Although many people believe it was built in 1874 (no. 22 in Figure 2.5). No person interviewed by Matteson could be certain about the exact date of its erection, although it stood on about one acre of land on the southeast corner “of the Art McWorter Farmstead” (Burdick 1992: np). One informant claimed that he heard Arthur McWorter tell the story that it was constructed the year he was born, 1874 (Matteson 1964: 19–20). The new schoolhouse stood north of the present blacktop road, east of New Philadelphia, on land once owned by Oron Campbell and later by Virgil and Ellsworth Burdick in the 1960s (Matteson 1964: 20). In 1884, the school had an enrollment of 36 students with Alice Benis as its teacher (Pike County Illinois Schools 1996: 153).

An obituary in July 1925 in *The Pike County Republican* (7 October 1925) noted the death of Mrs. Francis Jane McWorter who died with an estate valued at \$3,000 and some personal property. The column stated, “At no time in the past 90 or 95 years has there been a time when the children were not attending school from the old McWorter home. Children of Arthur McWorter are now in attendance” (Matteson 1964: 15).

John McWorter, son of Solomon, finished eighth grade in the New Philadelphia school. He went to high school in Springfield, finishing two years of a three-year program in one year, but left for financial reasons. He returned to the farm and taught for a year in New Philadelphia, but he could not survive on the teacher’s salary. He became a porter on the railroad (Simpson 1981: 39).

People remember the many annual fairs at the schoolhouse as it served as a community center. Events included contests, races, exhibitions of home arts, “and all the things that go with a fair” (Matteson 1964: 21). One thing that stands out in Eleanor Kelly Lightle’s memory is the school float that the students decorated under the direction of their teacher, Mrs. Hazel Blake. The float was entered in the “Fall Festival Parade” held in the village of Baylis in the fall of 1942, and won first prize (Pike County Illinois Schools 1996: 153).

Rev. Mason, a Baptist minister, frequently held church services at the schoolhouse (Matteson 1964: Postscript). Larry Burdick remembers attending, “all eight years of grade school in this building. It was closed in 1947 when the county consolidated the area’s rural schools” (Burdick 1992: np) (Figure 2.6). Children who once attended the one-room schoolhouse before the consolidation, afterwards attended a larger central school built in Barry. In 1949, the land of the old schoolhouse was sold and the building torn down. There were some school reunions held in the 1950s, with many of the former students, teachers, and families attending (Pike County Illinois Schools 1996:153).





**Figure 2.6.** *A class at the New Philadelphia School House in the 1920s. Students are from the surrounding community.*

## ***Today***

No original structures remain of the former community except a few foundations and a graveyard containing the headstones of the former residents. The town has all but disappeared from the landscape. New Philadelphia is an archaeological site covered by agricultural fields and prairie grass. The few exposed foundations serve as a reminder of a great achievement in African–American history, a sojourn toward self–determinism, freedom and the will to exist. The history of the *entire* town, both “black,” and “white,” from the 1830s through 1930s, is an important component of the region’s history and our national heritage.

Those writing the early histories of Pike County’s communities quickly forgot about New Philadelphia. For instance, in an 1876 centennial address at the county seat in Pittsfield William Grimshaw provided an overview of the history of Pike County. In his address Grimshaw listed the townships and towns and villages in Pike County, but he did not mention New Philadelphia (Grimshaw 1876: 31). In 1906, William Maissie’s county history has a section titled, “The first White Men in Pike County.” However, there is no mention of Frank McWorter or any of the white residents of New Philadelphia – the first settlement in Hadley Township (Maissie 1906: 52). In a speech delivered by Judge Harry Higbee at the Old Settlers’ Meeting in 1907, he recollected the early settlement and development of Pike County. He mentioned some of the early settlers and visitors, like

Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas, but he did not mention Frank McWorter or New Philadelphia (Higbee 1907: 7).

The story of New Philadelphia has never completely vanished from the memory of the local community. The New Philadelphia School House operated into the 1940s with both white and black students and the memory of the place by older members of the community has not faded. A historic marker stood on the town site from the 1940s. In the 1960s Grace Matteson began to gather stories of the town. She described a bi-racial town and noted that many of the families, “were a mixed race: some of them were part French, some part Indian, some Irish, and many of them part Caucasian. It will be recalled that Free Frank himself was described as ‘a yellow man’” (Matteson 1964: 20–21). She also wrote that the whites and the black families lived in harmony with each other in the community (Matteson 1964: 21).

Less than two decades later Helen McWorter Simpson (1981), great granddaughter of Frank McWorter, wrote about her family members and described life in New Philadelphia. Soon after Juliet Walker (1983) wrote a compelling biography of Frank McWorter, from his early days of enslavement in the Carolinas and in Kentucky, to his founding of the town of New Philadelphia. Walker successfully placed McWorter’s gravesite on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), one of only three gravesites in Illinois placed on the Register. The other two gravesites are those belonging to Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas.

In 1996 Pike County citizens incorporated the New Philadelphia Association (NPA) a non-profit group, for the preservation of the New Philadelphia community. In 2001 they invited the University of Illinois–Springfield (UIS), led by Vibert White, chair of the African American Studies Program, to provide scholarly oversight into the study of the community. In turn, UIS and NPA invited the University of Maryland (UM) and the Illinois State Museum (ISM) to lead an archaeological survey to find and document the town in order to help broaden the scope of research for the town of New Philadelphia. The University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign is also part of the archaeological efforts to study the town.

Prior to the archaeological survey, members and students from UM performed a background history of the place, developing a general context for the development of the New Philadelphia research project. Background research was conducted at: Illinois Historical Society, Illinois State Library, Pike County Court House, Pike County Historical Society, City of Barry Library, Barry Historical Society, Hull Historical Society, Western Illinois University Library, and the Library of Congress. This initiative has begun to develop a social history of the entire town, from 1836 through the 1940s. Deed research (Whitt), census data (King), and tax records (Martin) have been compiled and is listed on our web page ([www.heritage.umd.edu](http://www.heritage.umd.edu)). This information provides evidence of the town’s population, which peaked in 1865, and included craftsmen, farmers, and laborers who lived there until the early twentieth century. A collection of oral histories by the NPA furnishes some insight into issues of race relations in the town and the surrounding community during the early twentieth century. The archaeology

provides a more in–depth view of the development of the town.

This archaeology program has helped to make the town site part of the national public memory. In June, 2005 the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council unanimously voted to recommend to the National Register of Historic Places that the town site of New Philadelphia be placed on the Register as nationally significant for its archaeological integrity. The nomination received a letter of support from U.S. Senators Durbin and Obama, as well as Governor Blagojevich. As of September 2005, the town site is officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In June 2005 the McWorter family held their family reunion in Springfield, Illinois. On June 25, 2005, a bus of McWorter descendants visited the New Philadelphia townsite. About 50 family members, 32 archeologists, and 15 members of the New Philadelphia Association participated in the event. The McWorter family viewed the archeological excavation, visited the family cemetery, and enjoyed a barbeque sponsored by the New Philadelphia Association (Figure 2.7 and 2.8).



**Figure 2.7.** *McWorter family descendants held part of their family reunion at the New Philadelphia site. Here, a few family members view some of the artifacts from the archaeological excavation (Photograph by Elizabeth Davis).*





**Figure 2.8.** *McWorter descendants at the New Philadelphia townsite (Photograph by Elizabeth Davis).*

## Chapter 3: The Archaeological Excavations

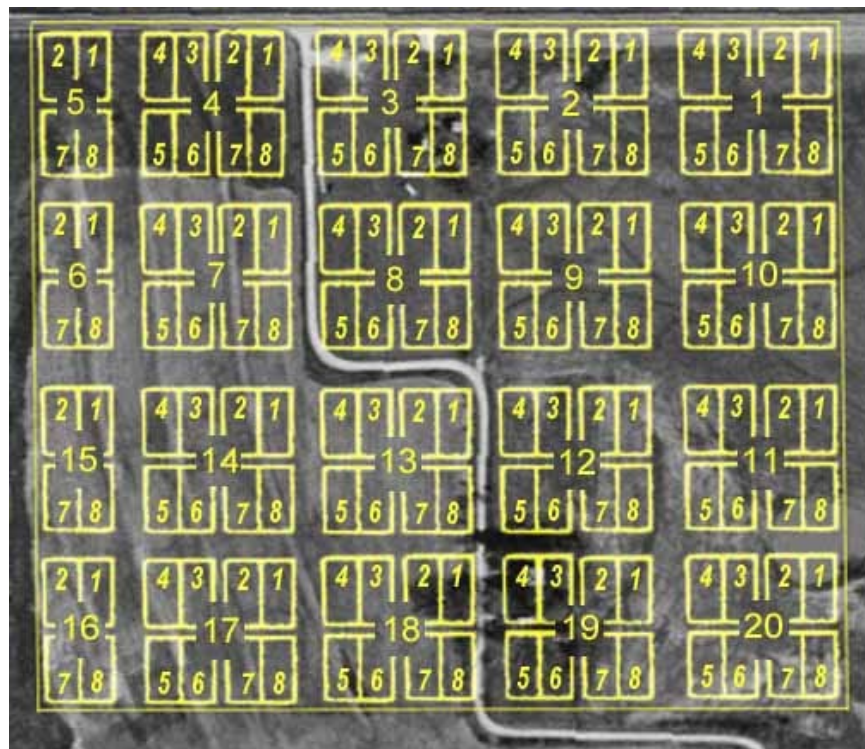
*Paul Shackel*

### *Introduction*

The following is an overview of the archaeology performed in the summers of 2004 and 2005. A large proportion of the archaeological data comes from the plow zone and is descriptive in nature, although we did discover several sub-plow zone contexts that reveal clues about the town's growth and development. These features provide an opportunity to create a more detailed analysis of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century lifeways in New Philadelphia, and they also helped us to move forward in listing the town site on the National Register of Historic Places.

### *Methods*

Likes Land Surveyors, Inc. of Barry, Illinois assisted greatly in the exploration of New Philadelphia. They located the original plat and imposed the town plan over the existing topography, marking the boundaries of the town, blocks, and lots. Likes Land Surveyors, Inc. then produced a map, which was overlain on an existing aerial photograph (similar to Figure 3.1), which then guided our initial archaeological survey in the fall of 2002 and the spring of 2003 (Gwaltney 2004).

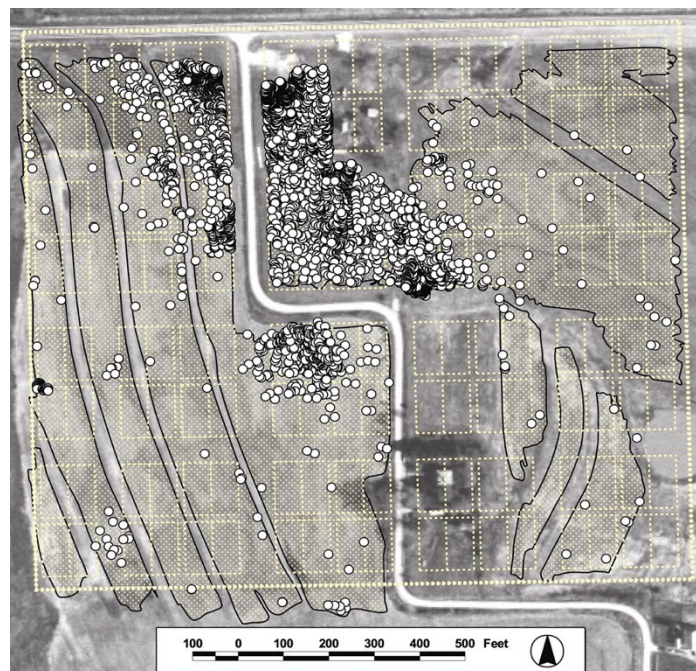


**Figure 3.1.** 1998 Aerial Photograph of New Philadelphia site with an overlay of the block, lot and street boundaries. The large numbers are the Blocks and the smaller numbers are the lots. (Image courtesy, Natalie Armistead and overlay by Christopher Fennell.)



In order to create an excavation and research strategy, the archaeology team decided that a pedestrian survey should be the initial phase of work. The survey helped locate and identify artifacts on the surface and allowed the team to determine which areas were settled within the town proper. New Philadelphia is approximately 42–acres, and prior to this survey the archaeology team asked the New Philadelphia Association to plow the fields that have already been disturbed by prior agricultural activities. They plowed on the average of 0.25 ft. to 0.5 ft. deep and covered about 26½ acres. This plowing allowed for greater than 75% ground visibility in the fields. The archaeology team did not survey about 2¼ acres of protective prairie grasses that surrounded the several remnant foundations. About 3¾ acres of privately owned land were surveyed. An additional 9½ acres was not surveyed because of terracing for soil conservation, existing historic roads, tree cover, or coverage by part of an artificial pond. The walkover survey was conducted over the newly plowed fields (Gwaltney 2004).

The walk over survey under the field supervision of Joy Beasley and Tom Gwaltney (see Gwaltney 2004) provides important information that furnishes artifact distributions over the site. The clustering of artifacts shows distinct patterns that are highly informative for understanding the town's settlement (Figure 3.2). The analysis of the plow zone data indicates that there are large concentrations of artifacts found within the lots bordering Broad Way and Main Street in Blocks 3 (Lots 3–6), 4 (Lots 1, 2, and 8), 7 (Lot 1), 8 (Lots 1–8), 9 (Lot 5), and 13 (Lots 3–4). Blocks 4 (1856), 8 (1844), and 7 (1854) have the earliest mean ceramic dates and Block 9 has a mean ceramic date of 1858. Very little work–related materials, like tools associated with blacksmithing, are present in the assemblage (Gwaltney 2004).



**Figure 3.2.** Distribution of historic artifacts found at New Philadelphia (from Gwaltney 2004).

Kitchen wares tend to have the higher proportion of artifacts in each of these blocks and indicate that each of these blocks included domestic structures. A 1939 aerial photograph shows a domestic structure on Block 7, although the relatively larger proportion of architectural versus kitchen artifacts may indicate that the structure was occupied for a relatively shorter time than the other houses. An oral history by one of the town's neighbors suggests that the house was abandoned in the early twentieth century (Burdick 1992: n.p.) and it was dismantled in the 1930s because of its derelict condition and the desire to transform the land into agricultural use.

While the archaeological data from the walk over survey are from a plowed context, the artifacts provide some very important information that guided our excavation strategies. This information indicates that there is a high probability of locating the past, domestic occupations of the town.

After determining the areas of highest artifact concentrations, a geophysical survey was performed by Michael Hargrave (U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory [CERL]). This work indicates the presence of subsurface anomalies and allowed the archaeology team to concentrate excavation units on more specific areas of the town site (see Hargrave report).

In general we have a very good sense of land ownership (based on deed research) and the general population of the town (based on census data). Based on the historical documentary evidence, archeological survey, and geophysical survey, the archaeology team chose to work in several areas of the town site, including: Block 3, Lots 3–6; Block 4, Lot 1; Block 7, Lot 1; Block 8, Lot 4; Block 9, Lots 4–5; and Block 13, Lots 3–4.

The archaeology team used engineers scale since it is the most commonly used form of measurement in historical archaeology. The archaeology work then proceeded in two steps. First, a form of sampling using 5 x 5 ft. excavation units retrieved data from the town lot and gave us a sense of the plow zone, subsurface features, and artifact concentrations. Once we established a sense of subsurface artifact concentrations and feature locations, students proceeded with a larger block excavation using 5 x 5ft. excavation units. Since the area was mostly plowed, these excavations proceeded quickly until the archaeology team encountered subsurface features and/or undisturbed sub-plow zone stratigraphy. Features, such as pits, were bisected and excavated according to stratigraphy, and the team systematically collected samples for flotation in order to retrieve archaeobiological data.

The artifacts were analyzed and grouped into several megastrata. Megastrata I is a mixed context that includes the plowzone. Megastrata II is an undisturbed late nineteenth century context and megastrata III is a mid-nineteenth century context. The subsoil, where no cultural activities occurred is designated megastrata B.

## ***Lab Work and Analysis***

During each season, five weeks of fieldwork at New Philadelphia was followed by five weeks of laboratory work and analysis at the Illinois State Museum (ISM) with museum staff members serving as mentors. Students cleaned, labeled, and identified archaeologically retrieved data. The data were entered into a computer database. Students then performed a minimum vessel analysis for the archaeological materials found in undisturbed contexts. Students also learned stabilization procedures for archaeobiological specimens. Marjorie Schroeder (ISM) mentored students during the macrofloral analysis. The students processed soil samples through a flotation device in order to recover archaeobotanical remains, small-scale animal remains, and very small artifacts such as glass beads.

Terrance Martin mentored the NSF-REU students with the identification of animal remains and demonstrated various ways of categorizing anatomical elements as cultural entities (skeletal portions and butchering units), recognizing natural modifications (e.g., carnivore and rodent-gnawing) and cultural modifications (burning, sawed or chopped margins, and knife-cuts), and quantifying faunal assemblages in terms of specimen counts, minimum numbers of individuals, and biomass (Figure 3.3).



**Figure 3.3.** *Dr. Terrance Martin, Curator, Illinois State Museum, Instructs students in faunal identification (Courtesy, Paul A. Shackel).*

The development of collegial relationships and interactions is an important part of this NSF-REU project. For 10 weeks students worked together in a collaborative fashion, using scientific methods to collect data and analyze it. While we encouraged a sense of team work, mentors were always present showing students how to develop and change methods when necessary, analyze data, and think about the results of their work. This



relationship ensured the development of student–faculty interaction and student–student communication.

### ***The Regional Archaeological Record***

While we know a tremendous amount about the McWorters and their association with the development of New Philadelphia, the archaeology provides a voice to the many other occupants about whom we know very little. The archaeology helps contribute to the social history of the town and provides clues related to health, diet, social interaction, and consumer behavior. For a more detailed description of the archaeology, see the Unit Summaries set forth in Appendix A. The following section provides an overview for some of the features and artifacts found on the lots in which excavations were conducted over the past two summers. This section is then followed by subchapters which provide an overview of the archeology in each lot along with a list of deed, tax, and census data. This description helps us form a preliminary understanding of the use and development of these portions of the New Philadelphia town site.

### ***An Overview of Features and Artifacts – 2004 and 2005***

Robert Mazrim’s (2002:161–172) synthesis of historic sites found on the Illinois frontier provides a comparison for understanding the archaeology in New Philadelphia. His work focuses on the identification of features and artifacts found on Illinois frontier sites. While his work is helpful for understanding the earliest settlement of New Philadelphia, it also serves as a baseline for the later archeological materials found at the site. Useful for this project is Mazrim’s (2002) identification of three types of feature pits that could be found in a rural frontier site. This information is used here as a guideline for the New Philadelphia site.

In frontier Illinois there may have been little need for refuse pits, but as towns developed refuse disposal became more prominent. Hogs and other wild animals, like dogs, raccoons and small rodents, may have roamed the grounds of New Philadelphia, devouring food remains. A preliminary review of the recovered faunal assemblage shows a considerable amount of rodent gnawing. Other materials, such as ceramics, bottles, and architectural remains were probably disposed in areas farthest from the house and probably close to property boundaries. Whether a frontier, a developing rural community, or an urban area, pits such as cellars, storage areas, or privy vaults, would eventually be filled after their primary functional uses were no longer needed. This fill would still consist of surrounding soils and debris. Sometimes this filling occurred before abandonment of the original function, although in rural contexts it probably occurred more often after abandonment. For instance, a cellar pit may function as a place to store goods under the floor of a cabin, but after the building is abandoned and the cabin torn down or salvaged for materials, the cellar would be filled with either the remaining architectural debris, or with trash from the surrounding area. The identification of artifacts and their known manufacturing dates provides a good indication of the feature’s secondary use.

## **Houses**

The early settlement houses on the Illinois frontier tended to be log cabins. For instance, John Woods, an English immigrant who settled the area after the War of 1812, described in detail the 16 x 18 ft. log structure built by one of his neighbors. These early houses were generally one story. Two doors were placed on opposite sides of the house and the chimney placed at the end. The chimney was constructed of wood and plastered on the inside with either clay or loam. Stone or clay lined the hearth. Another cabin built in 1817 in the Wabash Valley was described as being 12 x 14 ft. with an earthen floor. A chimney did not exist, but rather there was a space between the clapboards so that the smoke could escape. Some cabins also had a loft or attic space for storage (from Mazrim 2002:18–19).

## **Subfloor Pit Cellars**

Cellar pits tend to be geometric in plan and usually one to three feet below the plow zone. Phillippee and Walters (1986) note that some mid–nineteenth century subfloor features measured 5 x 7 ft., and most measuring 8 x 12 ft. Charles Faulkner (1986) observed pit cellars measuring 6.5 x 5 ft., 8 x 8 ft., and 10 x 15 ft. Mazrim (2000:163) notes that several frontier–era pit cellars in Illinois measured from 3 ft. to 9 ft. wide by 6 ft. to 11.5 ft. long. These features tend to have flat bases and straight walls, although the sides may have slumped to provide a concave shape. The pit cellars tend to fall into two categories. The first type is wide and shallow and could have been used for crawl space. The second type tends to be smaller and more regular in dimension, but deeper. Remains of such pits tend to extend from 1.0 to 2.0 ft. below the base of the plow zone.

In the 2004 excavations at New Philadelphia, archaeologists located two subfloor features in Block 8, Lot 4 and another in Block 9, Lot 5. The Block 8 feature (Feature 4) measures about 12.5 x 12.0 ft. and is at least 2.5 ft. below the plow zone. Few artifacts, faunal, or botanical remains came from this feature, although the filling episode dates to the 1850s.

The Block 9 feature (Feature 1) measures about 5.0 x 5.0 ft. and it at least 0.5 ft. below the plow one. This cellar pit may be shallower than the ones identified by Mazrim since the plow zone may be a bit deeper than most sites (see below for more detail). The feature materials date to about the 1850s to 1870. According to the tax records the building was dismantled before 1870 and another one was constructed over the filled cellar. It stood until the 1940s. The feature fill is associated with Casiah Clark's occupation of the lot.

## **Exterior Crop–Storage Pits**

Exterior crop–storage pits served to store fruits and vegetables during the winter months. A shallow hole would be excavated, then stacked with crops, and finally covered with straw, branches, and soil to insulate it from frost. When the family needed food, the covering would be pulled back in one section and vegetables could be retrieved. These pits are often found near wells or near fence lines and they tend to be more oval and/or

oblong in shape when compared to pit cellars and can be up to 1.0 ft. deeper than the base of the plow zone (Mazrim 202:163–165).

### **Privy Vaults**

Mazrim (2002:168) has identified several features that he describes as privy vaults. While these features are difficult to identify it appears that many located in a rural setting may have been shallow and periodically shoveled out through a rear trap door. While they tend to be geometric in shape, they are also smaller in size when compared to pit cellars and they are no more than 1.0 ft. deeper than the base of the plow zone. While expecting to find fecally-deposited seeds such as blackberry and raspberry, Mazrim suggests that these seeds are non-staple foods and are not a significant part of the frontier diet of the 1830s and 1840s.

### **Material Goods**

St. Louis served as a major port of entry for consumer goods for the region. Ceramics from Great Britain and redware and stoneware vessels from places like Louisville, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh found their way to the inland regions via St. Louis (Davis 1998).

By the 1830s the markets expanded considerably. In 1832 steamboats connected Chicago and the Midwest to eastern ports via the Erie Canal and the city of Buffalo. Work on the Erie Canal in New York State eventually spurred canal projects in Illinois and eventually bound Illinois to northeastern markets (Davis 1998).

By the 1850s the increased transportation and communications development effectively closed the Illinois frontier. For instance, in 1834 about 230 steamboats traveled through the Mississippi and its tributaries and by 1848 about 1,300 navigated through the waters (Davis 1998).

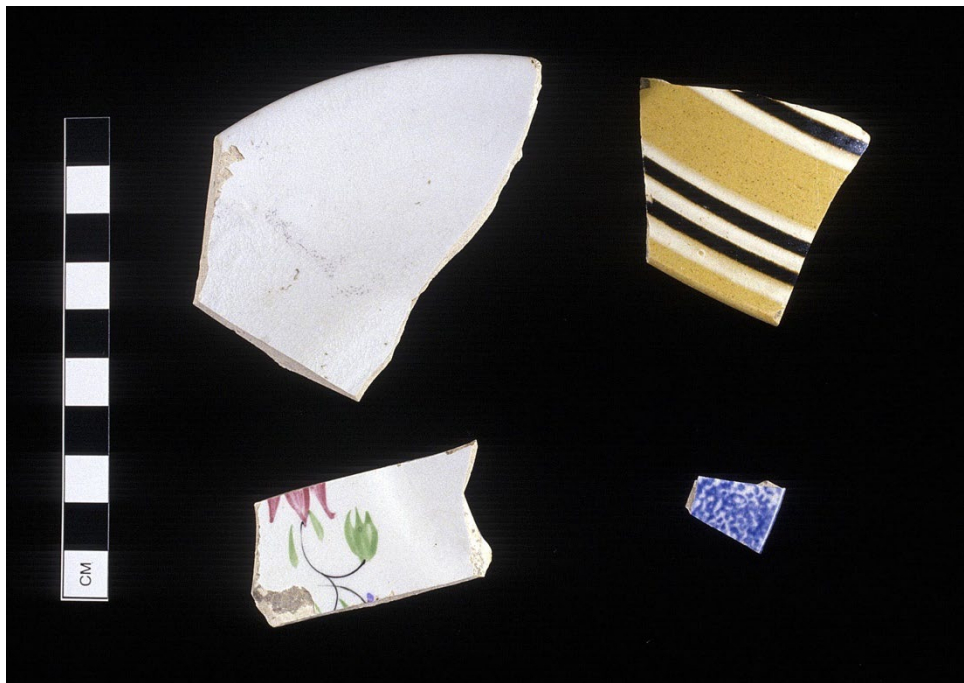
In 1851, for example, Chicago shipped nearly 40 percent of the corn entering Buffalo, over 42 percent of the oat, over half the wheat, nearly 54 percent of the bacon and hams, nearly 57 percent of the beef, nearly two-thirds of the corn. Chicago, moreover, shipped over 22 percent of the furs, nearly half the hides, and over 99 percent of the buffalo robes (Davis 1998:358).

By the end of the decade Chicago shipped over 18 million bushels of grain. The Midwest economy became a major player in developing the American capitalist economy. The Illinois and Midwest region was no longer isolated and other regions depended on its products (Davis 1998).

### **Ceramics**

Stoneware and redware vessels are rare on Illinois sites that predate 1835 and their presence does not increase until steamboats commerce increases. “Food storage vessels consist of small to medium-capacity pots and jugs. Food preparation vessels consist primarily of multipurpose, deep kitchen bowls” (Mazrim 2002:217). Milk pans can also

be found at sites, although their quantities are low. The lack of regional potters in the first quarter of the nineteenth century meant that crockery vessels are almost non-existent on these early sites. Many of these vessels do not appear in the archaeological record until about the 1830s (Smith and Bonath 1982:937). Illinois redware potters primarily made utilitarian kitchenwares, such as pots, bowls, and jugs, prior to the 1840s. Local potters in the German communities of Quincy's post-frontier era provided the area with an array of objects for cooking such as pipkins, mush mugs, porringers, herb pots, or bean pots (Mazrim 2002:245, 265). The available redware assemblages became much more elaborate. Stoneware was not made in any quantity in Illinois until the mid-1830s (Mounce 1989). Food service vessels, such as table plates and bowls are prevalent on early nineteenth-century domestic sites. Chamber pots and apothecary vessels are also common, while yellowware vessels tend to be rare (Mazrim 2002).



**Figure 3.4.** *Ceramics from the New Philadelphia site. Clockwise from top left: undecorated whiteware, banded yellowware, sponge-decorated whiteware, and hand painted whiteware (Courtesy, Gary Andrashko, Illinois State Museum).*

Yellowware is a simple hollowware form that was first manufactured in England in the late eighteenth century and by the 1830s potters in New Jersey and Vermont manufactured this type of ceramic. By the 1840s potters in Ohio and Indiana produced it, and by the 1850s potters manufactured it in Illinois (Ramsey 1939). By the mid- to late-nineteenth century, yellowware (1830–1900) became a popular ceramic used as a container in the area of New Philadelphia. Several of these vessel types have a banded design. The largest quantity of utilitarian wares (used for food storage) found is buff pasted stonewares (1840–1900). Most of the refined earthenware ceramics (used for dining and serving) found at New Philadelphia tended to be undecorated whitewares (1820–1900) and a few transfer prints have been identified. The most common print design is blue, while pieces of brown, black, cranberry and green transfer prints are also

present throughout the town. Most of the shell edge pieces are painted with molding (Figure 3.4).

Generally, the proportion of refined earthenware shards (and vessels from the features) is much higher than course earthenwares found at New Philadelphia. In the sites examined by Mazrim (2002:248) he finds that the ratio of refined earthenwares to utilitarian wares is no less than 5:1. While this ration might be surprising for sites established in a frontier context and counter our beliefs about life on the frontier, it is really the norm since these places were well connected to eastern ports. On the other hand, several sites in western Pennsylvania, dating to about 1790–1840 and closer to the eastern ports, have a much higher proportion of course earthenwares (Mazrim 2002). This phenomenon may be attributed to members of the German communities relying more heavily on established local redware potters for their tableware ceramics.

### **Glass**

Container glass is rare on pre–1835 rural sites in Illinois. The archaeological assemblages tend to be small, unidentifiable, and aqua shards. They are most probably medicine bottles or glass vessels used for household chemical products (Mazrim 2002:219). Olive green glass containers tended to hold wine and other spirits.

During the late nineteenth century occupation at New Philadelphia most of the container glass is highly fragmented from being part of the plow zone, and the original function is difficult to discern. There is a portion of an aqua–green scroll flask container that would have come from a pear–shaped vessel with an oblong base. There are a wide range of scroll flasks manufactured in the middle of the nineteenth century, all with pear–shaped bodies and stylized designs. Some were made as early as the beginning of the 1830s and most were manufactured from 1840 to 1855 and were produced in the Midwest (Spillman 1883:38). At New Philadelphia the scroll flask shard was found in a late nineteenth–century context in Block 9, Lot 5. Since it was manufactured in the mid–nineteenth century and disposed of at a much later date it may have been a family possession for several decades before being discarded (Figure 3.5).



**Figure 3.5.** *The remains of a scroll flask found in Block 9, Lot 5 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

Glass lid liners are found throughout the entire town. Most are fragmented, although archeologists found a complete liner in Block 9, Lot 5 (Figure 3.6). The lid liners are an indication of the wax seal technology that developed by the mid–nineteenth century. Glass jars were covered with matching glass or tin lids and a wax or grease element formed an airtight seal. John Landis Mason, a New York tinsmith, developed a process of pressing zinc lids for threaded canning jars. By 1868 the first glass inserts were developed by Salmon B. Rowley. They tended to be opaque milk glass. The screw lids with lid liners decreased the chances of spoilage and facilitated the canning process (Munsey 1970:146).



**Figure 3.6.** Complete lid liner found in Block 9, Lot 5  
(Photograph by Christopher Valvano).

### **Ink Bottle**

In Block 8, Lot 4 archaeologists recovered fragments of a container glass immediately above a subterranean feature (Feature 4) (Figure 3.7). When mended the container has an embossed maker's mark – "J.J. Butler/Cin." The J.J. Butler Company was a Cincinnati based manufacturer of inks. The square bottle was manufactured between 1854 and 1860. More information and photos can be found at [www.ottlebooks.com/Butler/butlerbottles.htm](http://www.ottlebooks.com/Butler/butlerbottles.htm).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Research on the J.J. Butler Company compiled by Jordan Bush.



**Figure 3.7.** *J.J. Butler bottle manufactured in Cincinnati between 1854 and 1860 found above Feature 4 in Block 8, Lot 4 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

### **Activity Related Artifacts**

Activity related artifacts are found in relatively low frequencies during the frontier era, although the most common artifacts found are related to sewing, writing, grooming and leisure activities. Sewing related artifacts include straight pins, thimbles, small scissors, and spindle wheels. Straight pins often dominate the sewing assemblage and writing slate and slate pencils represents the writing category. Grooming related artifacts found at sites include fine-toothed combs (Mazrim 2002:221).

Many of these activity-related artifacts dating from the late nineteenth-century occupation of New Philadelphia were more common in the archaeological record. Feature 1, related to the 1850s–1870 occupation of Casiah Clark’s household on Block 9, Lot 5, contains six thimbles, a scissor handle, and milk glass, bone, and shell buttons. There is one shell button platform that appears to have been broken during the manufacture of the button. A fine-tooth comb, also known as a lice comb, was also found. All of these artifacts are related to specific domestic and grooming activities (Figure 3.8 and 3.9).





**Figure 3.8.** *Thimbles found in Feature 1, Block 9, Lot 5 (Courtesy, Gary Andrashko, Illinois State Museum).*



**Figure 3.9.** *Lice comb found on Block 9, Lot 5 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

### **Leisure Activities**

Leisure activity artifacts generally include smoking pipes, gaming pieces, and jaw harps. Smoking pipes are the most regionally diverse product. For instance, in the American Bottom the redware Moravian-type forms are common. These tend to have anthropomorphic figures, much like those found in the South Carolina region (Bivan 1972). In the Sangamon region the pipes tend to be undecorated redware elbow pipes. Mazrim (2002:221) believes that a local potter John Elby may manufacture these. The

English long stem white kaolin pipe is also present in the region. White kaolin pipes are also found in the Wabash Valley region (Mazrim 2002:221).

New Philadelphia has a mix of both terracotta (described above as redware) and kaolin pipes. While the assemblage was fragmented, the four terracotta bowl fragments are from different individual pipes (Figure 3.10). There are two kaolin pipe fragments. It appears that finding a mix of kaolin and terracotta pipes is common for this region of Illinois (Smith and Bonath 1982:954).



**Figure 3.10.** Redware pipe bowl fragments from the New Philadelphia site (Courtesy, Gary Andrashko, Illinois State Museum).

Very few jewelry pieces are part of the New Philadelphia assemblage and they are mostly beads, and only two are black, while another is milk glass. A crinoid (fossil) found in a historic context may have been used as a bead. The surface collection yielded two Job's Tear beads.

Archeologists found several toy objects throughout the site. In Feature 1 of Block 9, Lot 5, archaeologists found a miniature pewter toy set that included a pitcher and an urn. In Block 3, Lot 3, they uncovered a glazed multi-colored large marble and one whole and one fragment of an unglazed kaolin marble.

Mancala pieces have been found in almost every area excavated in 2005 (Figure 3.11). Mancala refers to a large family of games based on distributing seeds, pebbles, or shells into holes or cups. Mathematicians who study games often call the Mancala family "sowing games." Mancala, derived from the Arabic word *manqala* meaning, "to move." Also called *Adi*, *Adji*, *Awale*, *Awele*, *Awari*, *Ayo*, *Ayo-ayo*, *Gepeta*, *Ourin*, *Ourri*, *Oware*, *Wari*, *Warra*, or *Warri*, the game is played by distributing gaming pieces into holes or cups. The game developed about 4000 years ago in the Middle East and is also played widely in Africa (Cullin 1894). African people often played with pebbles or cowry shells, using hollows scooped into the earth or pecked into stone. They brought

their variations of mancala with them to the United States during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Different versions of the game have been found in the Near East, Egypt, West Africa, and the Caribbean (NPS 2005a; Samford 1994; also see Galke 2000; Patten 1992).

In 1919 Felix von Luschan mentioned warra as played in southern states and communities with large populations of African Americans (Luschan 1919). Mancala has been identified at a variety of eighteenth and nineteenth-century plantation sites as well as at a free African-American site. The mancala pieces are typically small, diamond-shaped objects fashioned out of broken ceramic and glass shards. These ceramic shards are smoothed and worn around the edges from years of play (NPS 2005b).



**Figure 3.11.** Possible gaming pieces from a game known as mancala were found throughout the New Philadelphia site (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).



## Chapter 4: Block 3

### *Block 3, Lot 3 – Historical Background*

The deed and census data indicates that Frank McWorter sold Block 3, Lot 4 to Spaulding Burdick in 1852. There are 13 deed transactions for this lot throughout the following century. While detailed information exists on the life of Frank McWorter (see Walker 1983), little information survives for the subsequent occupants of the lot. Using the deed, census and tax records (see below) we can infer that the Cobb family made some improvement on the property from at least 1867. Buildings occupied the lot until about 1875. In subsequent tax records (1883 and 1888) this parcel is grouped with other lots and it is unclear if a building existed on the lot at the end of the nineteenth century when M. Kellum and later Sylvester Baker owned the property.

In the 1860 Federal Census Alexander Clark is listed as a blacksmith. Clark, his wife Harley, and their four children are classified as mulatto. In the 1865 State Census he is still listed as the head of household with 6 family members. A.B. Cobb purchased the lot from Clark in 1865, and is classified in the same census as white with a household of six individuals. In the 1870 Federal Census A. B. Cobb is listed as a physician with his wife Laura and their four children living in his household. In the 1880 Federal Census, Z. Kellum is listed as a farmer with his wife Lydia and their three male offspring, (all listed as farm laborers) and their 5 year old daughter. The deed, census, and tax data related to Block 3, Lot 3 follow. The names italicized are those who may have occupied the lot since they appear in both the deed and the census data.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1852	Frank McWorter	<i>Spaulding Burdick</i>	47, 6
1859	<i>Spaulding Burdick</i>	<i>Alexander Clark</i>	47, 9
1865	<i>Alexander Clark</i>	<i>A. B. Cobb</i>	47, 16
1874	<i>Alexander Clark</i>	William Bowers	47, 24
1873	Sheriff	Richard Atkinson	47, 25
1878	Jesse Hadsell	<i>Marcus Kellum</i>	47, 27
1904	Mary Baker	Squire McWorter	47, 35
1905	Fannie West	William Hyde	47, 27
1916	William Welbourne	W. H. Hyde	47, 42
1917	W. H. Hyde	Martha McWorter	47, 43
1918	Martha McWorter	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	47, 44
1938	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	W. H. Struheker	47, 47
1938	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	W. H. Struheker	47, 48

HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

Year	Name Assessed	Value of Lot	Improvements
1867	A. B. Cobb	\$3.00	\$47.00
1868	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$80.00
1869	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$85.00
1870	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$85.00
1871	R. M. Atkinson	\$5.00	\$80.00
1872	R. M. Atkinson	\$5.00	\$80.00
1875	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$0.00
1878	Sarah Emerson	--	\$8.00
1883	M. Kellum (Lots 3, 4, 5, & 6)	--	\$175.00
1888	Sylvester Baker (Lots 3, 4, 5 & 6)	--	\$80.00

1855 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>Burdick</i>	Spaulding	W	2

1860 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Clark</i>	Alexander	32	M	M	Blacksmith
	Harley	27	F	M	Housework
	Mary	9	F	M	not given
	Charlie	5	M	M	not given
	Lucy	3	F	M	not given
	Eliza Ann	1	F	M	not given

1865 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>Clark</i>	A.	B	6
<i>Cobb</i>	A. B.	W	6

1870 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Cobb</i>	A. B.	38	M	W	Physician
	Laura	35	F	W	Keeping house
	Wilber	15	M	W	At home
	Laura	13	F	W	not given
	Albert	9	M	W	not given
	Francis	6	F	W	not given

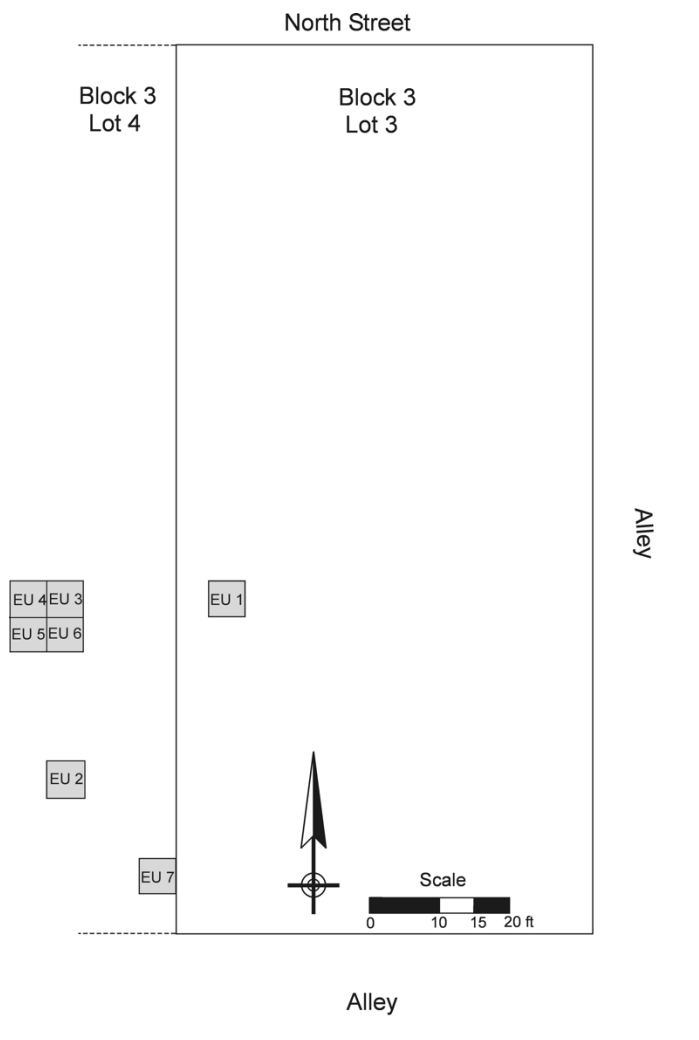
1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Kellum</i>	Z.	47	M	W	Farmer
	Lydia	43	F	W	Keeping house

Wm.	22	M	W	Farm laborer
Cameron	19	M	W	Farm laborer
Delos	17	M	W	Farm laborer
Jennie	5	F	W	At home

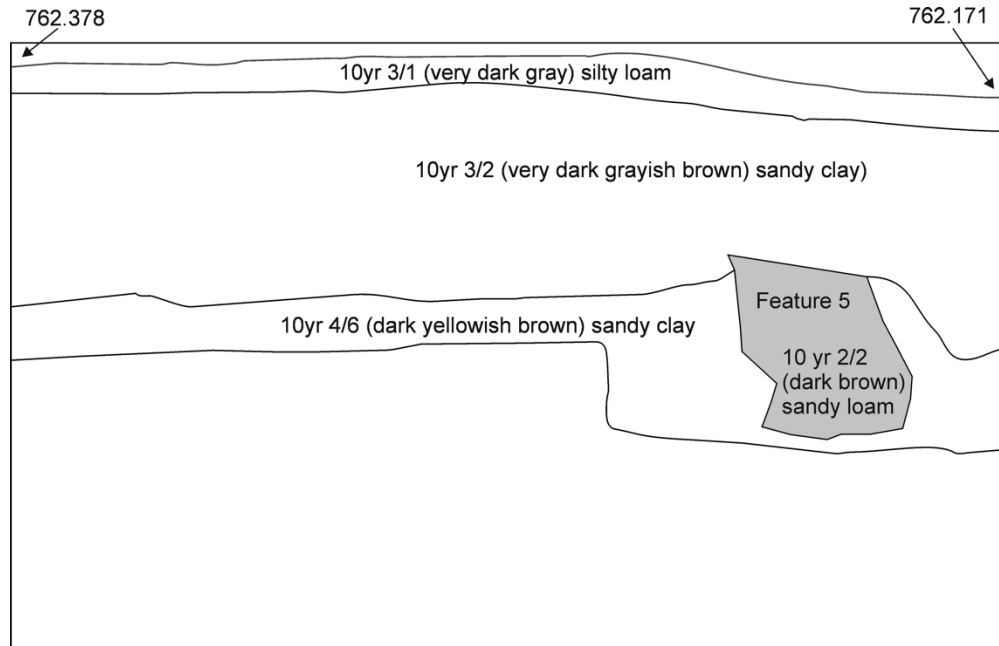
***Block 3, Lot 3 – Archaeology***

Excavation Unit 1 in Block 3, Lot 3 was the first unit explored by the 2005 NSF–REU field school (Figure 4.1). The archaeologists excavated a 5.0 x 5.0 ft. unit in arbitrary 0.5ft. levels until they reached a noticeable stratigraphic layer. (For a more detailed technical overview see the Unit Summaries in the appendix.) These arbitrary layers are designated Levels A1 and A2. The plow zone in this area tended to be about 1.0 ft. below the surface. It generally consisted of a 10YR 3/1 (very dark gray) and 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and the subsoil tended to be mottled with a 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown). Most of the artifacts recovered came from the plow zone. The subsoils, consists of a mottled 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) and a 10YR 3/4 (dark yellowish brown) clayey loam. Archaeologists found an 1876 coin in the plow zone layer along with a large quantity of machine cut nails.

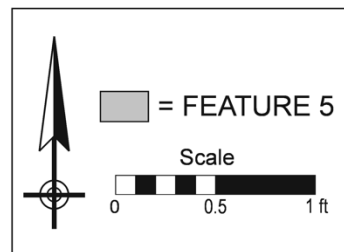


**Figure 4.1.** Location of Excavation Unit in Block 3, Lot 3 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

Feature 5 appears at the base of the plow zone and at the top of the subsoil. It is also noticeable in the north wall profile of EU 3. It is a dark oval feature that consists of a 10YR 4/3 (brown) sandy loam and is slightly mottled. While there are many rodent burrows in the proximity archaeologists believe that this feature is a post remnant because it had a defined flat bottom (Figure 4.2). The feature soil has charcoal, small brick fragments, and a small clear glass fragment.



BLOCK 3 LOT 3  
NORTH PROFILE  
EU 1  
FEATURE 5



**Figure 4.2.** North wall profile of Excavation Unit 3 with Feature 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).

### ***Block 3, Lot 4 – Historical Background***

The deed and census data indicates that Frank McWorter sold Block 3, Lot 4 to Henry Brown in 1838. There are ten transactions involving the lot throughout the following century. While detailed information exists on the life of Frank McWorter (see Walker 1983), little information survives for the subsequent occupants of the lot. Using the deed, census, and tax records (see below) we can infer that the Cobb family made some



improvements to the property before 1867, but by 1868 buildings no longer exist on the lot. The Clark family owned the site before the earliest known tax record. The Hadsell families owned the lot and lived in New Philadelphia for most of the 1870s. William Welbourne purchased the lot in the twentieth century and he and his family appear in the 1880 Federal Census. Welbourne, his wife Josephine and their three children are classified as white. The deed, tax, and census data related to Block 3, Lot 4 follow. The names italicized are those who may have occupied the lot since they both appear in the deed and census data.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1838	Frank McWorter	Henry Brown	47,1
1854	Frank McWorter	Elick Clark	47,8
1865	<i>Alexander Clark</i>	A. B. Cobb	47,16
1866	A. B. Cobb	<i>Jesse Hadsell</i>	47,14
1878	<i>Jesse Hadsell</i>	Marcus Kellum	47,27
1905	Fanie West	William Hyde	47,36
1916	<i>William Welbourne</i>	W.H. Hyde	47,42
1917	W. H. Hyde	Martha McWorter	47,43
1918	Martha McWorter	F & N Venicombe	47,44
1938	F.& N. Venicombe	W.H. Struheker	47,47

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP TAX RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	A.B. Cobb	\$3.00	\$22.00
1868	A.B. Cobb	\$5.00	\$0.00
1869	A.B. Cobb	\$5.00	\$0.00
1870	J.P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1871	J.P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1872	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1875	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$20.00
1878	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$8.00
1883	M. Kellum (Lots 3,4,5 & 6)		\$175.00
1888	Sylvester Baker (Lots 3,4,5 & 6)		\$80 (lot 4 listed improved)

#### 1850 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Clark</i> (NO 412)	Casiah	44	F	M	not given
	Simeon	24	M	M	not given
	Alexander	13	M	M	not given
	Mary A.	16	F	M	not given
	James	19	M	M	not given
	Thomas	11	M	M	not given
	Alex	18	F	B	not given
	John S	80	M	B	not given

1855 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	no. in household
<i>Clark</i>	Alexander	B	3

1860 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Clark</i>	Alexander	32	M	M	Blacksmith
	Harley	27	F	M	Housework
	Mary	9	F	M	not given
	Charlie	5	M	M	not given
	Lucy	3	F	M	not given
	Eliza Ann	1	F	M	not given

1865 STATE CENSUS\*

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>Hadsell</i>	J. P.	W	8
<i>Hadsell</i>	James	W	7
<i>Clark</i>	A.	B	6

(\*the name Jesse Hadsell in the deed transaction can be either J.P Hadsell or James Hadsell. Both are listed here)

1870 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
(Clark and Hadsell appear in the census data, but the first names do not correspond exactly with the deed records.)					

1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELATION
<i>Welburn</i>	Wm.	28	M	W	Head
	Josephine	28	F	W	Wife
	Melvin	4	M	W	son
	Mary	2	F	W	daughter
	Baby	0.08	F	W	daughter

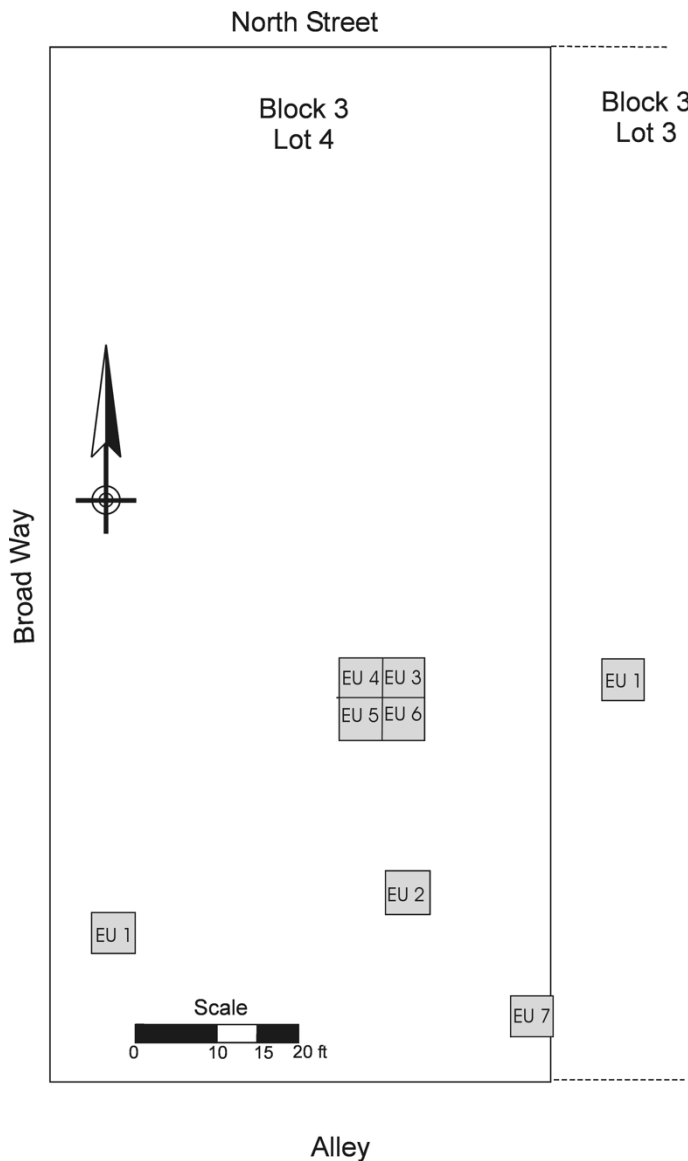
Note:

Kasih Clark, probable mother of Alexander Clark (in the 1850 census), is classified as mulatto, 76 years of age, and living in the Louisa McWorter household in the 1870 and 1880 Federal Census.

***Block 3, Lot 4 – Archaeology***

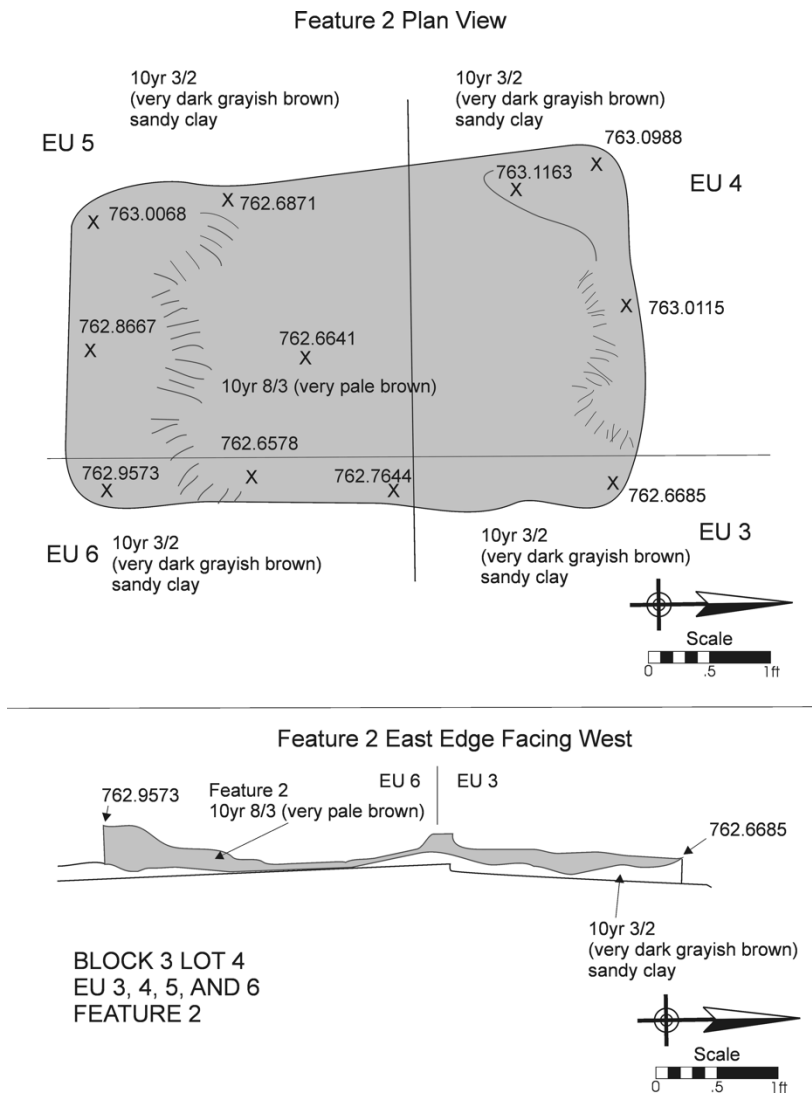
The following is a summary of the archaeology for Block 3, Lot 4. (For a more detailed technical overview see the Unit Summaries in the appendix.) The archaeology team excavated a total of six units in this lot (Figure 4.3). Four of the units (EU 3, 4, 5, and 6), formed a larger block that measure 10.0 x 10.0ft. and enabled the team to fully expose Feature 2. EU 7 is located in the southeastern corner of the lot. The surface grade of the

site slopes from the center of the town (adjacent to Broad Way) to the east. Generally the topsoil of the plow zone ranges from a 10YR 2/1 (black) to a 10YR3/2 (very dark grayish brown) sandy loam. The depth of the plow zone averages about 1.0 ft. to 1.2 ft. below the surface. Artifacts, from the plowzone, designated megastratum I, are small, most no larger than 0.5 in. in diameter. The uniform small size of the artifacts is a result of continuous plowing. Diagnostic artifacts from the plow zone include cut nails (with dates ranging from 1790–1880) and ceramic whitewares (1820–1940). In this mixed context archaeologists found a 1903 Illinois State Fair pin, demonstrating that this site was occupied into the early twentieth century. Also of interest, archeologists found a brooch clasp about 2.0 in. long and in the shape of a human arm and hand. This object probably dates to the Victorian era.



**Figure 4.3.** Location of excavation units in Block 3, Lot 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

Archaeologists uncovered a lime slacking pit (Feature 2) in Excavation Units 3, 4, 5, and 6, below the plow zone (Figure 4.4). This feature measures 2.8 x 4.4ft. and was dug into the soil and subsoil and served as a basin for mixing lime and other materials to create an aggregate for plastering interior walls. The edge and top of the feature are about 0.4 ft. higher than the deepest part of the basin. Artifacts in close proximity to the lime pit are from the plow zone and have a mean ceramic date that ranges from 1805 through 1870. The earliest dated artifacts are pearlwares, and date to the earliest settlement era, and the later dated artifacts are whitewares, and are probably related the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century occupation of the site. While the excavation units are located in a plowed field, the existence of the lime pit indicates that a structure with plastered walls once existed nearby (Figure 4.5). Additional excavations in the area may uncover sealed contexts and the remains of an associated structure. These investigations will provide information about the use of the lot and the lifeways of the site's former inhabitants of Block 3, Lot 4.



**Figure 4.4.** Planview and profile of the lime pit in Excavation Units 3, 4, 5, and 6 in Block 3, Lot 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).



**Figure 4.5.** *Mapping in the remains of the lime pit (Courtesy, Paul A. Shackel).*

### ***Block 3, Lot 5 – Historical Background***

The first land transaction for this lot occurred in 1854 when David Kettle sold it to James Taylor. At some point before this transaction the lot should have been sold by Frank McWorter. The 1867 tax assessment indicates that Arden Cobb possessed the lot although no improvements appear in the tax records. Cobb also owned Lots 3 and 4 in Block 3 and he had improvements on the former lot. The 1860 Federal Census lists Cobb as a 31 year old white male physician from New York with a 20 year old wife. She is listed as a housewife from Illinois with three children. The 1865 Census lists six people in the Cobb household with livestock valued at \$100. The Cobbs also appear on the 1870 Federal Census with real estate valued at \$300. By 1870 Hadsell is being taxed on this lot. No major improvements appear until some time between 1875 and 1878 during Hadsell’s ownership. Kellum and Baker are taxed on this lot in the 1880s. William Welbourne owned the lot in the early twentieth century. The Welbournes appear in the 1880 Federal Census, although he does not own the land until the early twentieth century. In 1880 Welbourne is listed as married to Josephine and they are classified as white with three children. The deed, tax, and census data related to Block 3, Lot 5 follow. The names italicized are those who may have occupied the lot since they both appear in the deed and census data.

#### **DEED TRANSACTIONS**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1854	David Kettle	James Taylor	47, 5
1858	James Taylor	<i>John Sidner</i>	47, 10
1860	<i>John Sidner</i>	James Taylor	47, 30
1863	<i>Augustus Sidner</i>	<i>A. B. Cobb</i>	47, 18

1863	<i>A. B. Cobb</i>	Augustus Sidner	47, 32
1866	<i>A. B. Cobb</i>	<i>Jesse Hadsell</i>	47, 14
1878	<i>Jesse Hadsell</i>	Marcus Kellum	47, 27
1905	Fannie West	William Hyde	47, 36
1916	<i>William Welbourne</i>	W. H. Hyde	47, 42
1917	W. H. Hyde	Martha McWorter	47, 43
1918	Martha McWorter	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	47, 44
1938	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	W. H. Struheker	47, 47
1938	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	W. H. Struheker	47, 48

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	A. B. Cobb	\$3.00	\$0.00
1868	A. B. Cobb	\$0.00	\$0.00
1869	A. B. Cobb	\$0.00	\$0.00
1870	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1871	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1872	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1875	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$20.00
1878	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$150.00
1883	M. Kellum (Lots 3, 4, 5, & 6)	--	\$175.00
1888	Sylvester Baker (Lots 3, 4, 5 & 6)	--	\$80.00

#### 1865 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>Sidner</i>	A.	W	3

#### 1870 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Hadsell</i>	Potter	44	M	W	Farmer
	Harry	32	F	W	Keeping house
	Eugene	19	M	W	Work on farm
	Mary	17	F	W	At home
	Pela	11	F	W	not given
	Helen	8	F	W	not given
	Emma	6	F	W	not given
	Lavina	3	F	W	not given

#### 1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Kellum</i>	Z.	47	M	W	Farmer
	Lydia	43	F	W	Keeping house
	Wm.	22	M	W	Farm laborer

Cameron	19	M	W	Farm laborer
Delos	17	M	W	Farm laborer
Jennie	5	F	W	At home

1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

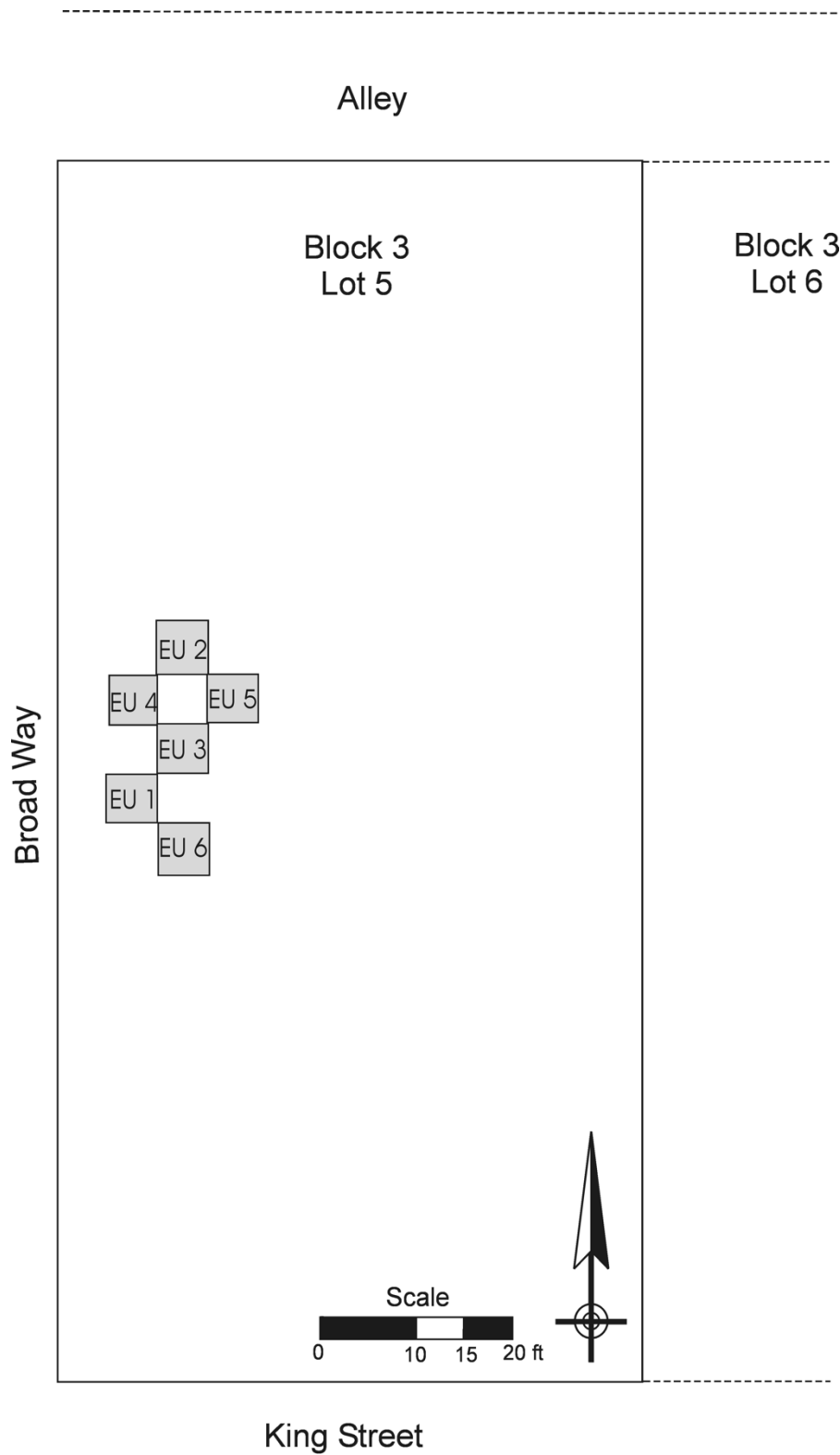
NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELATION
<i>Welburn</i>	Wm	28	M	W	Head
	Josephine	28	F	W	Wife
	Melvin	4	M	W	son
	Mary	2	F	W	daughter
	Baby	0.08	F	W	daughter

***Block 3, Lot 5 – Archaeology***

The Geophysical survey indicates that an anomaly exists toward the middle of the western end of the lot, close to Broad Way Street. An examination of the 1939 aerial photograph of New Philadelphia shows no visible landscape features. Therefore, archaeologists decided to ground truth the anomaly. Since no improvements appear on the 1867 tax assessment, there is a chance that the anomaly could be associated with an earlier occupation or activity. The spring and summer of 2005 was one of the driest summers on record and it was difficult to core the area before testing. Cores could not penetrate deep into the soil anywhere in the town site. Therefore, archaeologists proceeded with systematic testing with 5 x 5 ft. units in the area of the anomaly (Figure 4.6 and 4.7).



**Figure 4.6.** Systematic excavations, Block 3, Lot 5 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).

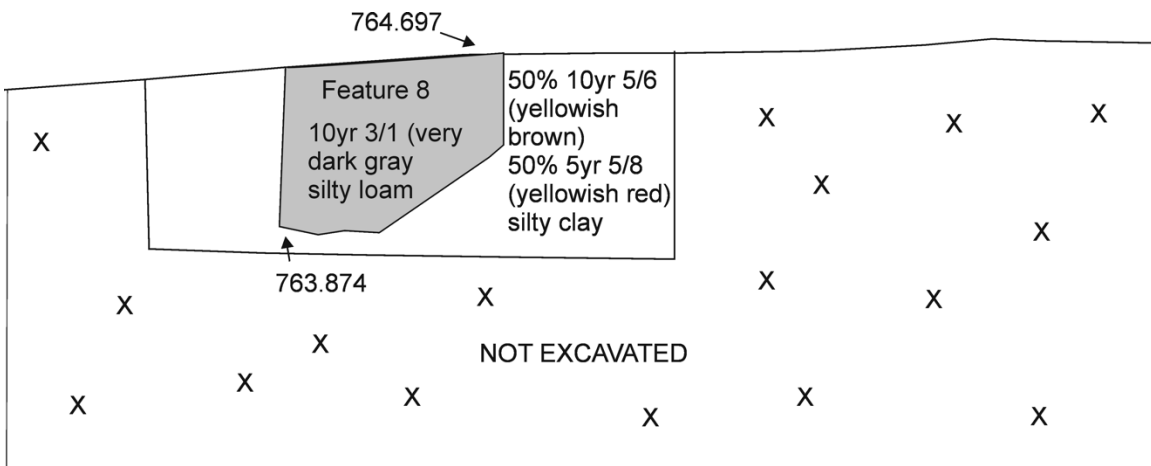


**Figure 4.7.** Location of excavation units in Block 3, Lot 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

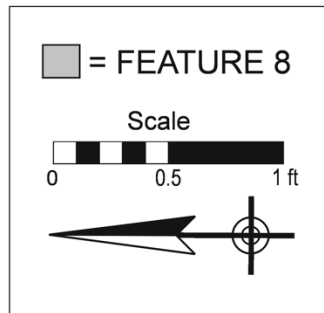


In this area of the site archaeologists removed the soil in 0.5 ft. levels until a different stratigraphic layer could be detected. The plow zone tended to be about 1.3 ft. below the surface. It consisted of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and the subsoil tended to be mottled with a 10YR 4/3 (brown) and 10YR 4/4 (dark yellowish brown) clay with loam. Generally, most of the artifacts recovered came from the plow zone, in levels designated A1, A2, and A3. Features 8 and 10 are present at the base of the plow zone.

Feature 8, found in EU 3 is a post mold that measures about 0.9 x 0.9 ft. and is located toward the center of the excavation unit. The feature consists of the 10YR 3/1 (very dark grey) loam. Archaeologists bisected the feature and it extended 0.8ft. below the floor of A3. The post mold tapered toward the bottom. It is surrounded by a clayey moist soil. The profile below is of the portion still remaining, the eastern wall (Figure 4.8).



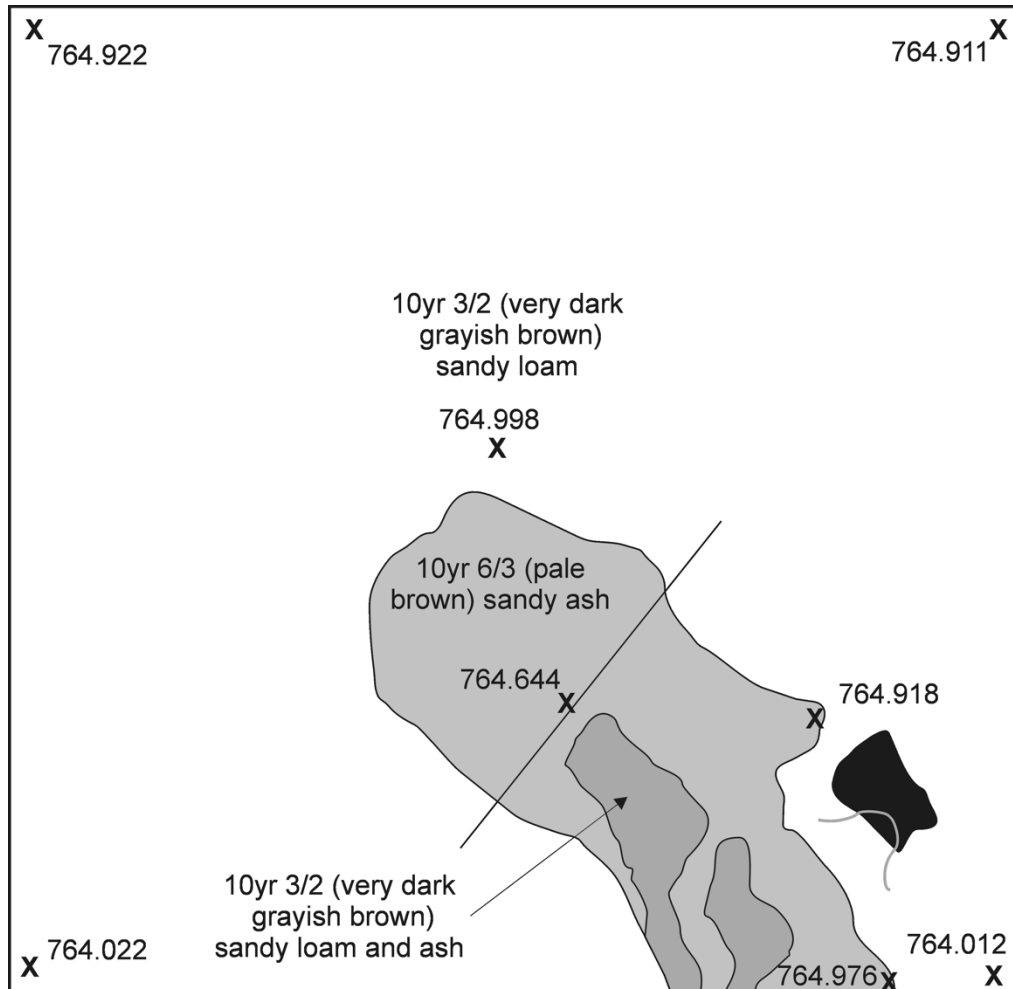
BLOCK 3 LOT 5  
EAST PROFILE  
EU 3  
FEATURE 8



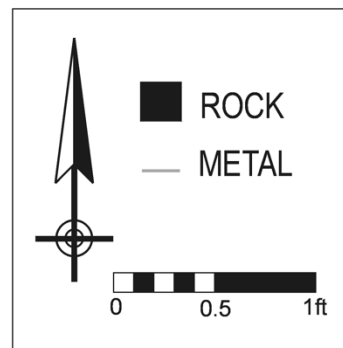
**Figure 4.8.** East profile of Feature 8 in Block 3, Lot 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).

Feature 10 is located about 1.3 ft. below the plow zone in the southeastern quadrant of EU 6. It measures about 3.4 x 1.3 ft. in a southwest to northeast direction. It contains ash and bits of charcoal with a few metal fragments and consists of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and a 10YR 6/3 (pale brown) sandy loam soil. The surrounding matrix is a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) sandy loam (Figures 4.9 and 4.10). The archaeology team retrieved a 10 liter soil sample for floatation. Several rocks are located in the southeast corner of the unit and the soil appeared a bit darker and softer. This

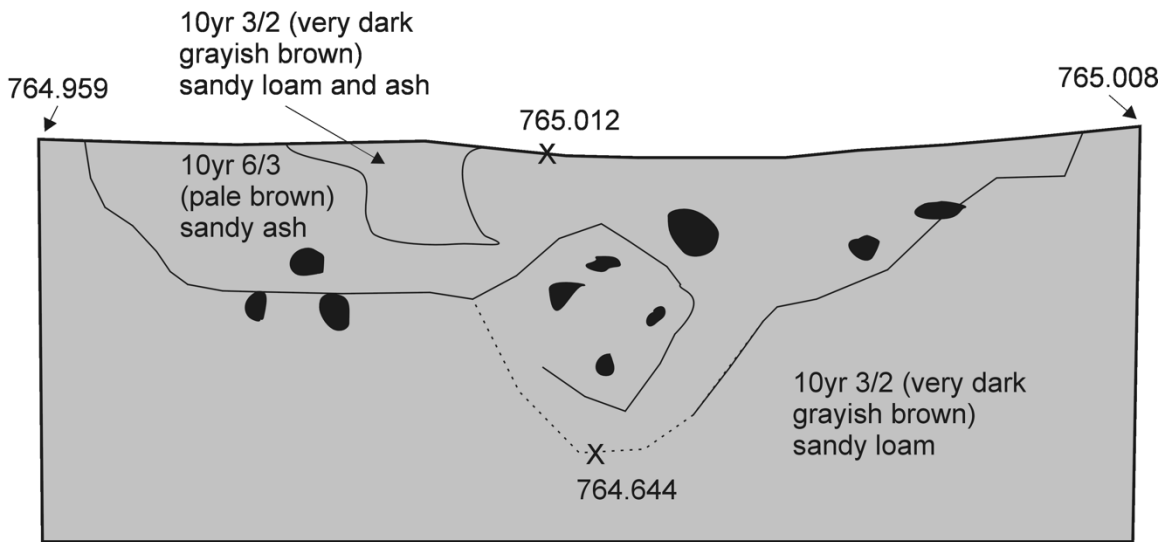
material may be associated with the feature, or it may be related to a larger undetected feature located adjacent to and southeast of the unit.



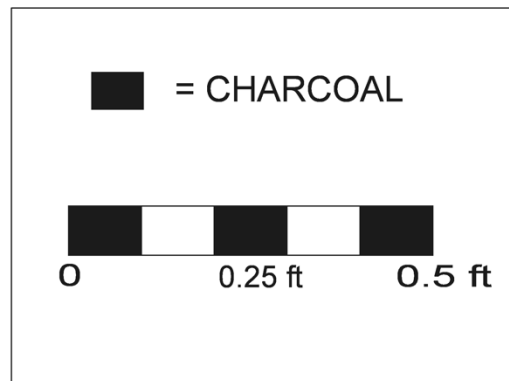
BLOCK 3 LOT5  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 6  
 FEATURE 10



**Figure 4.9.** Plan view of Feature 10 in Block 3, Lot 5. The feature is an ash layer. The diagonal line shows the location of the bisection and profile. The northwest portion was removed (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



BLOCK 3 LOT 5  
SOUTHEAST PROFILE  
EU 6  
FEATURE 10



**Figure 4.10.** Southeast profile of Feature 10 in Excavation Unit 6 in Block 3, Lot 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

### ***Block 3, Lot 6 – Historical Background***

Frank McWorter sold this lot to John Bixler in 1845. Later Kisiah Clark (also Kesiah and Casiah) sold the lot to S. Brown in 1859. In the 1855 State Census Kisiah, Clark is classified as black with four members in her household. The 1860 Federal Census classifies Staten (also Stauton) Brown as mulatto, 61 years of age and married to Penelope, 43 years of age. They have eight other members in their household and their oldest son is listed as a laborer. Potter Hadsell (in the 1870 Federal Census) may be J. P. Hadsell (listed in the 1870 Tax Records). Potter is classified as white and a farmer with a total of eight members in his household. His oldest son is a laborer. Based on the tax records Hadsell made major improvements to the lot between 1875 and 1878. Marcus Kellum purchased the lot in 1883 and also owned Lot 3, 4, and 5. In 1888 Sylvester

Baker was taxed on this lot, along with several other lots and the value decreased significantly. The deed, tax and census data related to Block 3, Lot 6 follow. The names italicized are those who may have occupied the lot since they both appear in the deed and census data.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1845	Frank McWorter	John Bixler	47, 2
1859	<i>Kisiah Clark</i>	<i>S. Brown</i>	47, 11
1864	<i>Staunton Brown</i>	F. Ball/ R. F. Turley	47, 15
1864	F. Ball/ R. F. Turley	John Walker	47, 31
1867	Frederick Ball et al.	<i>Jesse Hadsell</i>	47, 19
1878	<i>Jesse Hadsell</i>	<i>Marcus Kellum</i>	47, 27
1904	Mary Baker	Squire McWorter	47, 35
1905	Fannie West	William Hyde	47, 36
1916	<i>William Welbourne</i>	W. H. Hyde	47, 42
1917	W. H. Hyde	Martha McWorter	47, 43
1918	Martha McWorter	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	47, 44
1938	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	W. H. Struheker	47, 47
1938	Frederick Venicombe/ Nancy Venicombe	W. H. Struheker	47, 48

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Turley and Ball	\$3.00	\$0.00
1868	J. P. Hadsell	\$0.00	\$0.00
1869	J. P. Hadsell	\$0.00	\$0.00
1870	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1871	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1872	J. P. Hadsell	\$5.00	\$0.00
1875	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$20.00
1878	J. P. Hadsell	--	\$150.00
1883	M. Kellum (Lots 3, 4, 5, & 6)	--	\$175.00
1888	Sylvester Baker (Lots 3, 4, 5 & 6)	--	\$80.00

#### 1855 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>Clark</i>	Keziah	B	4

#### 1860 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Brown</i>	Staten	61	M	M	Carpenter
	Penelope	43	F	M	Housework
	Hanson	20	M	M	Laborer

Casius	13	M	M	not given
John Q.	11	M	M	not given
Sarah	39	F	M	Housework
Jesse	10	M	M	not given
Henry	5	M	M	not given
Henryetta	5	F	M	not given
Allen	4	M	M	not given

#### 1870 FEDERAL CENSUS

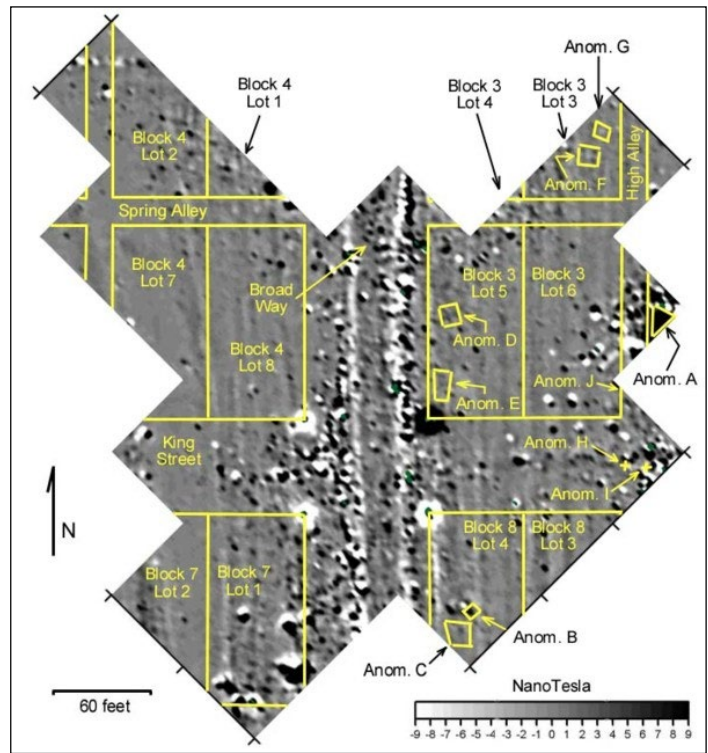
NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Hadsell</i>	Potter	44	M	W	Farmer
	Harry	32	F	W	Keeping house
	Eugene	19	M	W	Work on farm
	Mary	17	F	W	At home
	Pela	11	F	W	not given
	Helen	8	F	W	not given
	Emma	6	F	W	not given
	Lavina	3	F	W	not given

#### 1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

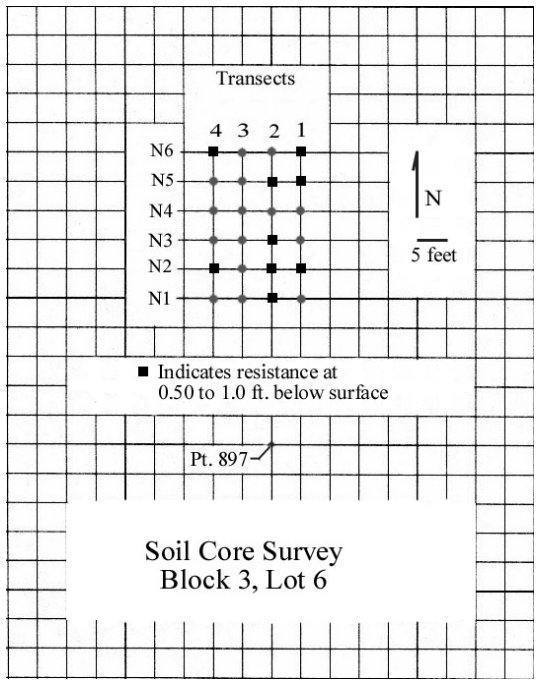
NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Kellum</i>	Z.	47	M	W	Farmer
	Lydia	43	F	W	Keeping house
	Wm.	22	M	W	Farm laborer
	Cameron	19	M	W	Farm laborer
	Delos	17	M	W	Farm laborer
	Jennie	5	F	W	At home

### ***Block 3, Lot 6 – Archaeology***

The geophysical survey located several anomalies throughout the site (Figure 4.11). Using a 1 in. diameter core, archaeologists sampled the area in a systematic fashion. Each soil core probe was labeled by transect and core number (i.e. T1N1, T1N2, T2N1, T2N2). Transects 2 through 4 were placed in 5 ft. intervals west of transect 1 (Figure 4.12). Soil color, depth of stratigraphy, and any physical resistance to the core probe were noted for each sample.



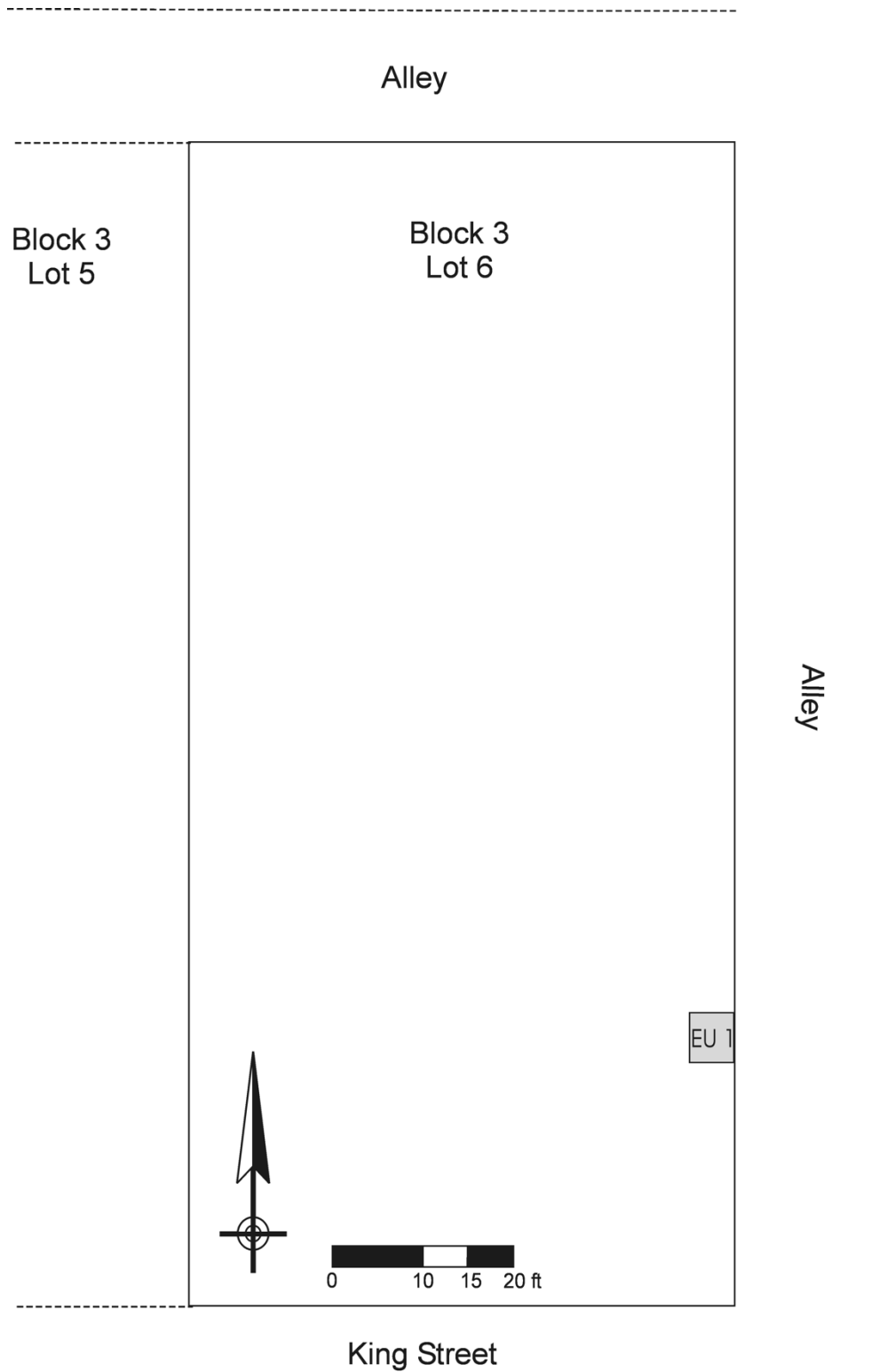
**Figure 4.11.** Electromagnetic survey indicating several soil anomalies. (From Hargrave 2004. Grid overlay by Christopher Fennell.)



**Figure 4.12.** Soil core survey of Block 3, Lot 6 in the area of Anomaly J. Pt. 897 marks the southeast corner of the lot (Drawn by Christopher Fennell).

Anomaly A is located on the west portion of the Block 3, Lot 7, and related elements of this anomaly appear to extend across the area once covered by High Alley and into the eastern edge of Block 3, Lot 6. Four transects of six cores ran in a north–south direction at 5 ft. intervals. The southern-most part of T1 is 25 ft. north and 5 ft. east of the southeast corner of Block 3, Lot 6. Core sampling hit resistance in two clustered areas: one in the north section of transects 2 and 3, and one along the southern most part of transect 2.

Generally, each core sample reached a depth of about 1.8 ft. below the surface. The uppermost layer consists of a 10YR3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and is located to an average depth of 0.9ft. to 1.0ft. below the surface. This soil is the plow zone. The subsoil underlies the plow zone and it consists of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) mottled 10YR 4/3 (brown). Some resistance occurred at the northern and southern portions of areas, T1N5 and T1N6 resistance occurs at 0.65 ft. below the surface. This resistance may have been part of the anomaly area detected by the geophysical survey. In the southern section, which includes T2N1 through T2N3, the top soil layer consists of a 10YR3/2 (very dark grayish brown). Resistance to the probe occurred at an average depth of 0.6ft. below the surface. Archaeologists placed one excavation unit that encompassed T1N2; T1N3; T2N2; T2N3. The unit was not completed by the end of the field season (Figure 4.13).



**Figure 4.13.** Location of Excavation Unit 1 in Block 3, Lot 6 in the area of Anomaly J (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



## Chapter 5: Block 4

### *Block 4, Lot 1–Historical Background*

Frank McWorter sold the southern half of lot 1 to Spaulding Burdick in 1846 and the northern half of the lot to D. A. Kittle in 1848. The 1850 Federal Census lists Spaulding Burdick as a 63 year old male shoemaker. His household includes Ann (22 yrs old) John (14 yrs old), and Benj. (9 yrs old). (The Burdicks were the last remaining land holding family in New Philadelphia until they sold portions of Block 12 and 19 to the New Philadelphia Association in 2005.) D. A. Kittle is listed in the 1850 Federal Census as a 29 year old merchant, living with Sophia who is recorded as 29 years old. The 1867 Tax Assessment shows that William Spicer had no improvements on the lot and prior to 1883 the southern half of lot 4 was not improved. In 1883 A. B. Johnson had a total of \$150 in improvements on lots 1, 2, and 3; however, it is difficult to determine which lots were improved. Later owners of the lot include John Kellum and Frederick Venicombe. The families listed on the deed, tax, and census records associated with this property from 1855 through 1880 are white and the male occupations are listed as farmers. This lot was sold 29 times in 90 years. The deed, census, and tax data related to Block 4, Lot 1 follow. The names italicized are those who may have occupied the lot since they appear in both the deed and the census data.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1846	Frank McWorter	Spaulding Burdick	48, 2-S 1/2
1848	Frank McWorter	D. A. Kettle	50, 3-N 1/2
1854	David Kettle	James Taylor	48, 3-N 1/2
1858	James Taylor	<i>John Sidner</i>	48, 6-N 1/2
1864	Charles Spicer	William Spicer	50, 8
1864	Charles Spicer	William Spicer	48, 7
1864	John Spicer	William Spicer	48, 8
1866	William Spicer	<i>John Kellum</i>	48, 10-S 1/2
1869	<i>John Kellum</i>	<i>Philander Hadsell</i>	48, 11-S 1/2
1869	<i>Augusta Sidner</i>	Augustus B. Johnson	48, 13-N 1/2
1869	<i>Philander Hadsell</i>	Augustus Johnson	48, 14
1879	Augustus Johnson	James Taylor	48, 18
1880	John Sidner	James Taylor	48, 19
1881	James Taylor	Garrett Bailey	48, 22
1882	Garrett Bailey	James Taylor	48, 23
1883	Garrett Bailey	George McWorter/ Squire McWorter	48, 24
1885	Squire McWorter	Arch Campbell	48, 25
1886	Arch Campbell	William Gray	48, 26
1892	William Gray	Garrett Bailey	48, 27
1906	Garrett Bailey	A. C. Butler	48, 28

1912	Sarah Cannon	Frederick Venicombe	48, 29
1913	Frederick Venicombe	George Grammar	48, 30
1918	Frederick Venicombe	James McKinney	48, 31
1918	James McKinney	Roy Arnett	48, 32
1933	Roy Arnett	Gerald Arnett	48, 33
1934	Gerald Arnett	Roy Arnett	48, 34

HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	John Sinder [sic] (North half)	\$3.00	\$0.00
1867	William Spicer (South half)	\$3.00	\$3.00
1868	John Sinder (North half)	\$5.00	\$2.00
1868	John Kellum (South half)	\$5.00	\$2.00
1869	John Sinder (North half)	\$5.00	\$2.00
1869	John Kellum (South half)	\$5.00	\$7.00
1870	John Sinder (North half)	\$5.00	\$0.00
1870	John Kellum (South half)	\$5.00	\$0.00
1871	A. B. Johnson (North half)	\$5.00	\$0.00
1871	A. B. Johnson (South half)	\$5.00	\$0.00
1872	A. B. Johnson (North half)	\$5.00	\$0.00
1872	A. B. Johnson (South half)	\$5.00	\$0.00
1875	A. B. Johnson (North half)	--	\$10.00
1875	A. B. Johnson (South half)	--	\$10.00
1878	A. B. Johnson (North half)	--	\$125.00
1878	A. B. Johnson (South half)	--	\$4.00
1883	A. B. Johnson (Lots 1, 2, & 3)	--	\$125.00
1888	A. B. Johnson (Lots 1, 2, & 3)	--	\$100.00

1855 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
Kellum	John	W	3

1860 FEDERAL CENSUS (Block 13, Lots 3 and 4)

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
Hadsell	Philadner	38	M	W	Farmer
	Sarah	36	F	W	Housework
	Daniel	10	M	W	Not given
	Alvira	10	F	W	Not given
	James	7	M	W	Not given
	Mary	5	F	W	Not given
	Philander	7	M	W	Not given

1865 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
Hadsell	P.	W	8

1870 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
Kellum	Jo	37	M	W	Farmer
	Melinda	33	F	W	Keeping House
	William	12	M	W	Not given
	Emory	10	M	W	Not given
	Delors	7	M	W	Not given
	Anna	2	F	W	Not given

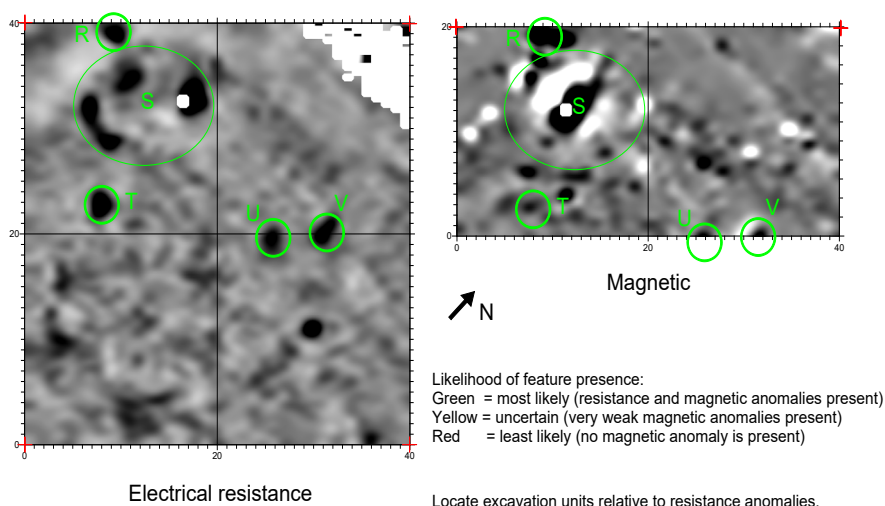
1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
Hadsell	Philander	62	M	W	Head
	Sara	54	F	W	Wife
	Philander	23	M	W	Son
	John	20	M	W	Son
McKiney	Emma	7	F	W	Granddaughter

***Block 4, Lot 1 – Archaeology***

In 2002 and 2003 archeologists performed a walkover survey of this property that identified a large amount of artifacts on Lot 1, with a heavy concentration in the southeast corner (Gwaltney 2004). The remains of a well exist on the northeastern portion of the lot. There was also a large concentration of nails identified on the surface, suggesting the remains of a building. In 2005 Michael Hargrave (CERL) performed a geophysical survey of this lot and identified several anomalies on the northern and eastern portion of the lot (Figure 5.1).

## New Philadelphia West of Trailer

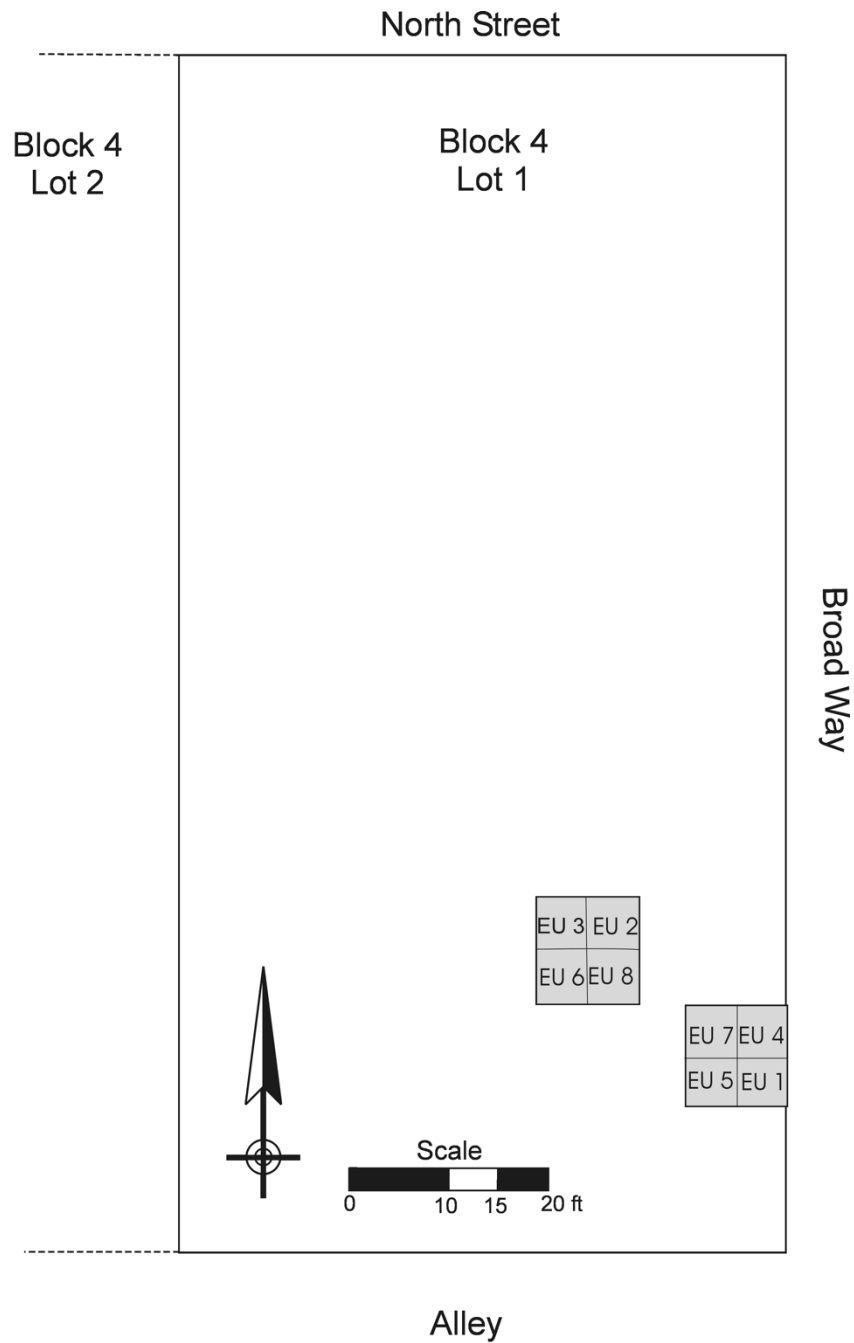


Note: these magnetic data also appear on the primary area map.

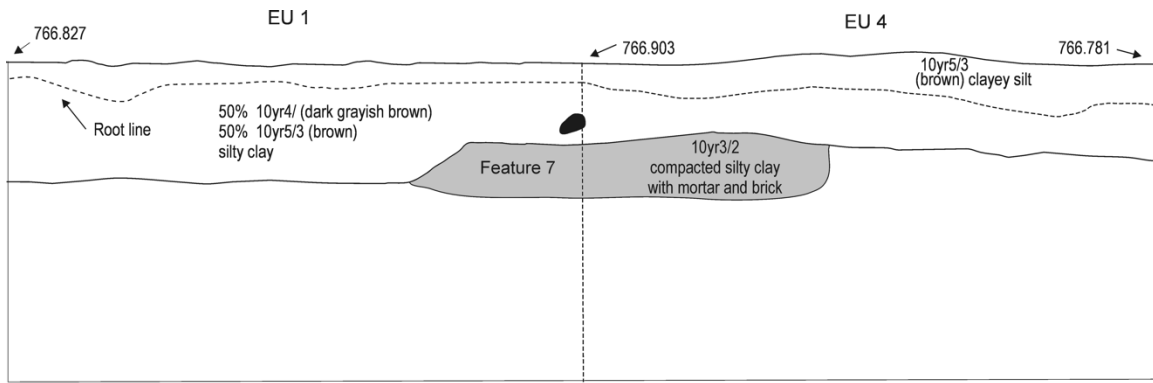
**Figure 5.1.** *Electrical Resistance and Magnetic survey of Block 4, Lot 1. Anomaly V is Feature 7 and Anomaly U is Feature 13 (see below) (Courtesy of Michael Hargrave).*

Oral histories indicate that a dwelling and/or a store sat on this lot in the early twentieth century and the identified anomalies may be a signature of a possible house, and/or outbuildings. No structures are noticeable in the 1939 aerial photograph. The goal of the archaeology is to ground truth the anomalies on the eastern portion of the lot. Verification of the anomalies may provide information related to the town's early settlement and subsequent building, rebuilding, and eventual abandonment. This work helps to develop a general idea about the settlement pattern in New Philadelphia.

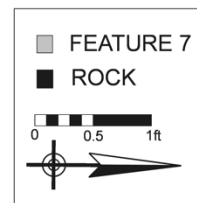
Archaeologists worked on eight Excavation Units in this lot (Figure 5.2). The team worked on EU 1, 4, 5, and 7 to ground truth one of the anomalies. The plow zone soil was removed in arbitrary levels and the soil tended to be a 10YR 3/1 (very dark gray) silt to a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty-clay. Clinker, mortar, and brick were found along with a relatively large quantity of glass, ceramics and iron fragments. At the bottom of A2, about 1.0 to 1.2 ft. below the surface, the team located Feature 7 in all four excavation units (Figure 5.3 and 5.4). The top measures 766.20 ft. to 766.33 ft. amsl. The feature contains a large quantity of brick and stone and is rectangular in shape and measures about 6.0ft. east-west and by 3.5 ft. north-south (Figure 5.5). Archaeologists did not have a chance to bisect this feature before the end of the field season, and at this point we cannot clearly define this feature. Several ceramic shards dating to the 1830s/1840s are on the top of the feature and it provides some evidence that the associated context may date to the early settlement of the town. There is a good chance that the feature was created before 1867 since the deed records do not show any improvements on the southern part of the lot. Excavation of the feature will occur next field season.



**Figure 5.2.** Location of excavation units in Block 4, Lot 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



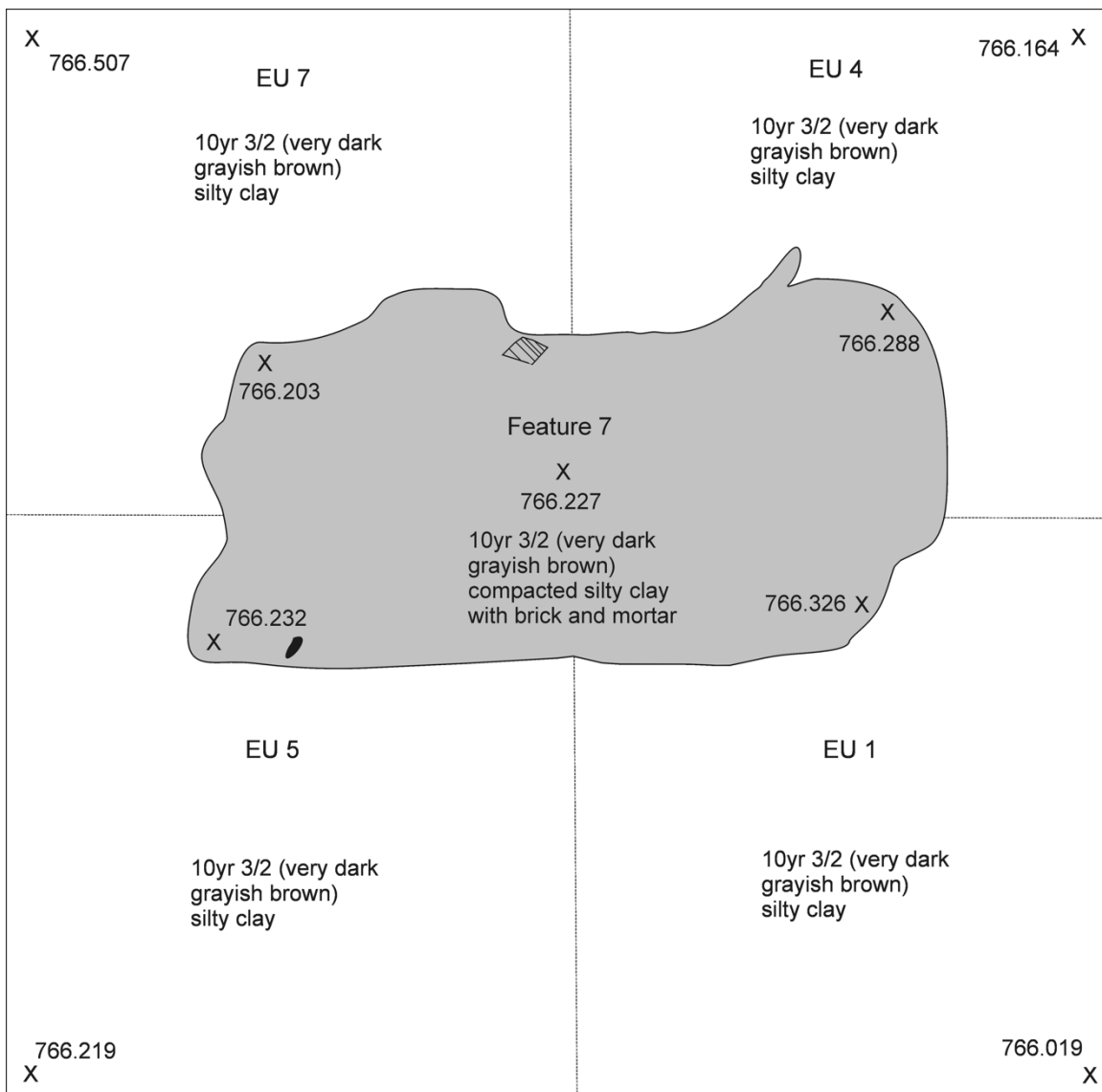
BLOCK 4 LOT 1  
EU 1 & 4  
WEST PROFILE



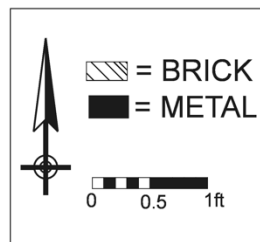
**Figure 5.3.** Profile of block excavations that located Feature 7 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



**Figure 5.4.** 2005 NSF-REU students (Andrea Torvinen and Kimberly Eppler) excavate Feature 7 (Photograph by Paul Shackel).



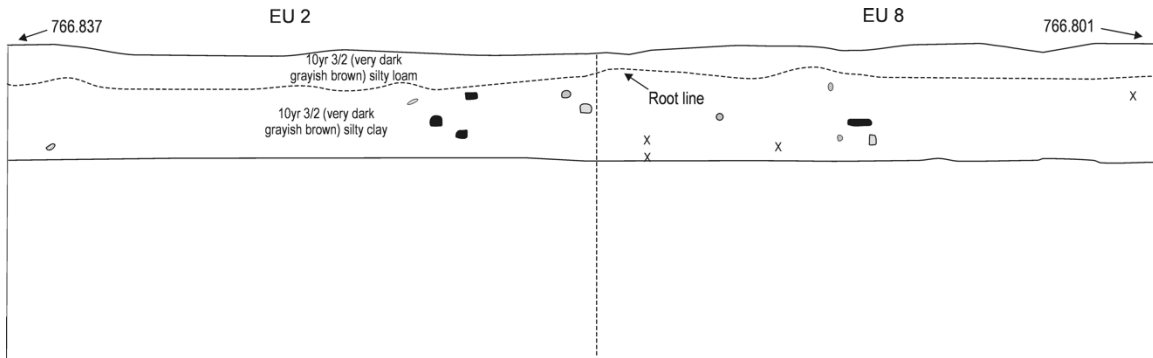
BLOCK 4 LOT 1  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 1, 4, 5, & 7  
 FEATURE 7



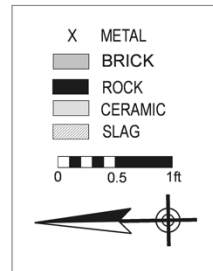
**Figure 5.5.** Plan view of Feature 7 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

Archaeologists also placed four Excavation Units – 2, 3, 6 and 8 – in order to ground truth another anomaly. The plow zone existed to a depth of 1.0 ft. below the surface and archaeologists removed it in two arbitrary levels (A1 and A2). The soil consists of a 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown) silt. The team recovered a large quantity of unidentified

metal pieces, glass fragments and ceramic shards (Figure 5.4). At the bottom of A2 archaeologists defined a scatter of mortar, brick, stone, cinder and ceramics. It is just below the plow zone, and it is designated Feature 13, and it is located in all excavation units (EU 2, 3, 6, and 8). It measures about 4.5 ft. north–south and 6.0ft. east–west (Figure 5.6 and 5.7). Archaeologists uncovered this feature at the end of the field season and further investigation will continue during the next field season.

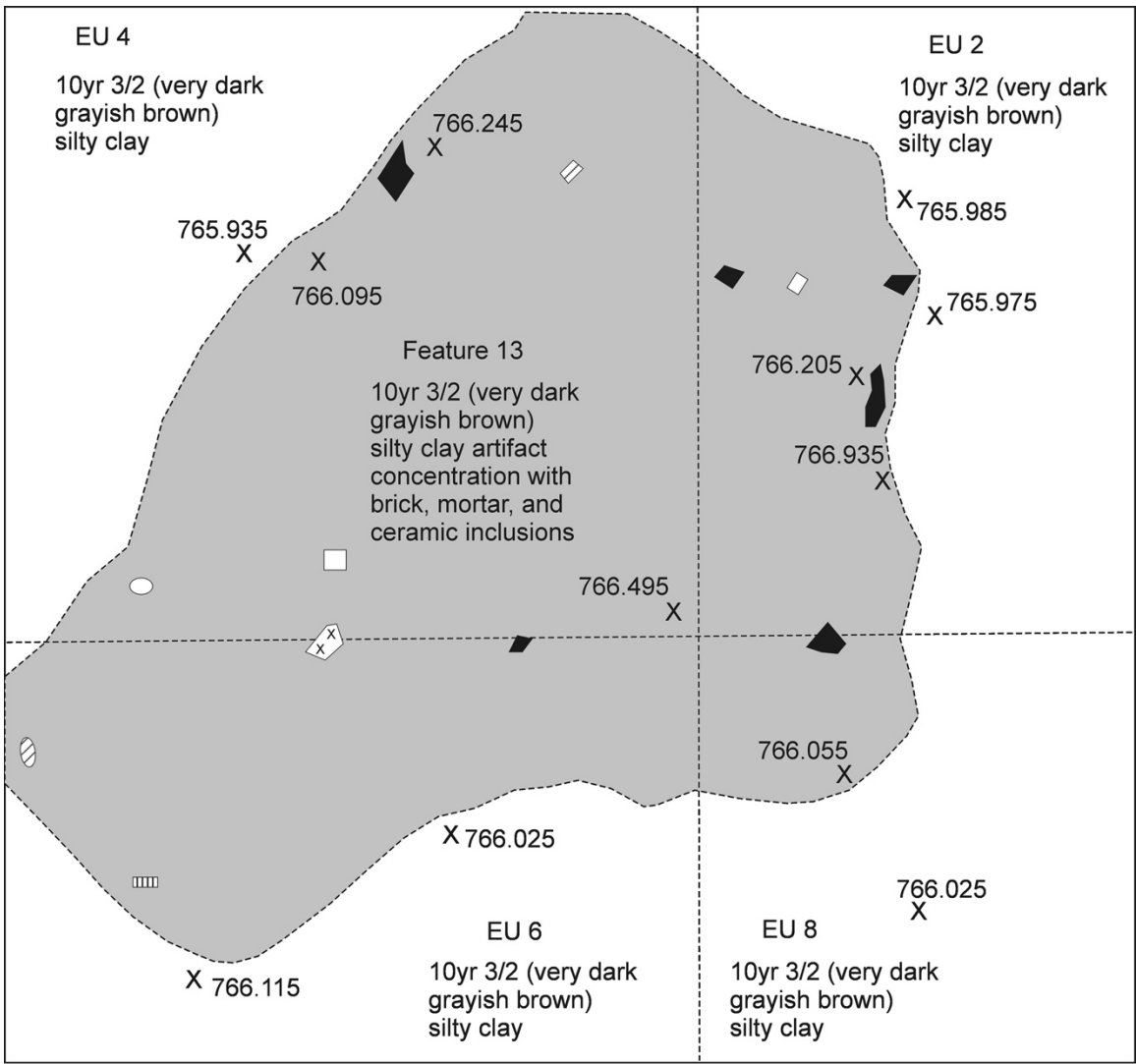


BLOCK 4 LOT 1  
EU 2 & 8  
EAST PROFILE



**Figure 5.6.** Profile of block excavations that located Feature 13 in Block 4, Lot 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).





BLOCK 4 LOT 1  
PLAN VIEW  
EU 2, 3, 6, AND 8  
FEATURE 13

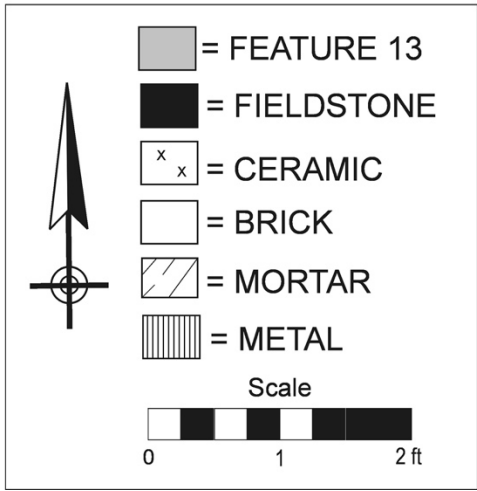


Figure 5.7. Plan view of Feature 13 in Block 4, Lot 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).



## Chapter 6: Block 7

### *Block 7, Lot 1–Historical Background*

The earliest recorded sale of Block 7, Lot 1, occurred in 1848 when Frank McWorter sold the property to James Pottle. In total there are over 20 transactions involving this property until 1930. The purchasers also found in the census data include: James Pottle, Christopher Luce, Squire McWorter, and William Hadsell. There is strong likelihood that at least some of these families lived on this lot. The tax records indicate that some improvements existed on the lot until 1867. After this date the value of improvements decrease significantly. However, in 1878 W. S. Cowder was assessed for \$114 in improvements, although this assessment also includes Lots 1 and 2. In 1883 and 1888 J. O. Smith was assessed for \$125 and \$60 respectively, for Lots 1–4 on Block 7. The deed, tax, and census data follow and the italicized names are those that may have resided on the lot, since they appear in both the deed and census records.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1848	Frank McWorter	<i>James Pottle</i>	53,1
1850	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	G. W. Berrian	53,4
1852	<i>James Pottle</i>	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	53,2
1852	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	<i>James Pottle</i>	53,5 S1/2
1853	G. W. Bowman	<i>Squire McWorter</i>	53,9
1853	William Wadsell	<i>Squire McWorter</i>	53,10
1855	<i>Squire McWorter</i>	Eliza Brown	53,8
1859	Eliza Brown	Perry Smith	53,11
1866	W. Perry Smith	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,18
1866	John O. Smith	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,20
1867	W. Perry Smith	John Cornwell	53,12
1867	John Cornwell	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,19
1868	John Cornwell	Benjamin Grey	53,13
1877	Benjamin Grey	W.S. Cowden	53,15
1877	W. S. Cowden	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,16
1878	<i>William Hadsell</i>	John O. Smith	53,17
1884	John O. Smith	A.R. Burdick	53,22
1888	J. B. Smith	William Gem	53,23
1902	James McKinney	William Butler	53,24
1930	Charles Venicombe	F. W. Vencombe	53,36
1934	County Clerk	John Seigle	53,37

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Perry Smith	\$2	\$25
1868	Perry Smith	\$5	\$4
1869	Benjamin Gray	\$5	\$4

1870	Benjamin Gray	\$3	\$0
1871	B. Gray	\$3	\$0
1872	B. Gray	\$3	\$0
1875	Undocumented	--	--
1878	W. S. Cowder (Lots 1-3)	--	\$114
1883	J. O. Smith (Lots 1-4)	--	\$125
1888	J. O. Smith (Lots 1-4)	--	\$60

#### 1850 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Pottle</i>	James	38	M	M	Cabinet Maker
	Ruby	28	F	M	not given
	James	3	M	M	not given
<i>Luce</i>	C. S.	45	M	W	Bapt. Preacher
	Sally	41	F	W	not given
	George	15	M	W	Farmer
<i>McWorter</i>	Moses	8	M	M	not given
	Squire	33	M	M	Farmer
	Louisa	26	F	M	not given
	Lucy	5	F	M	not given
	Squire	3	M	M	not given
	George	1	M	M	not given
	Mary A.	22	F	W	not given
	Mary A.	3	F	M	not given
Lucy	0.4	F	M	not given	

#### 1855 STATE CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>McWorter</i>	Squire	B	11

#### 1860 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Hadsell</i>	Wm.	29	M	W	Farmer
	Jane	31	F	W	Housework
	Wm.	11	M	W	not given
	Nancy	8	F	W	not given
	John	6	M	W	not given

#### 1865 STATE CENSUS

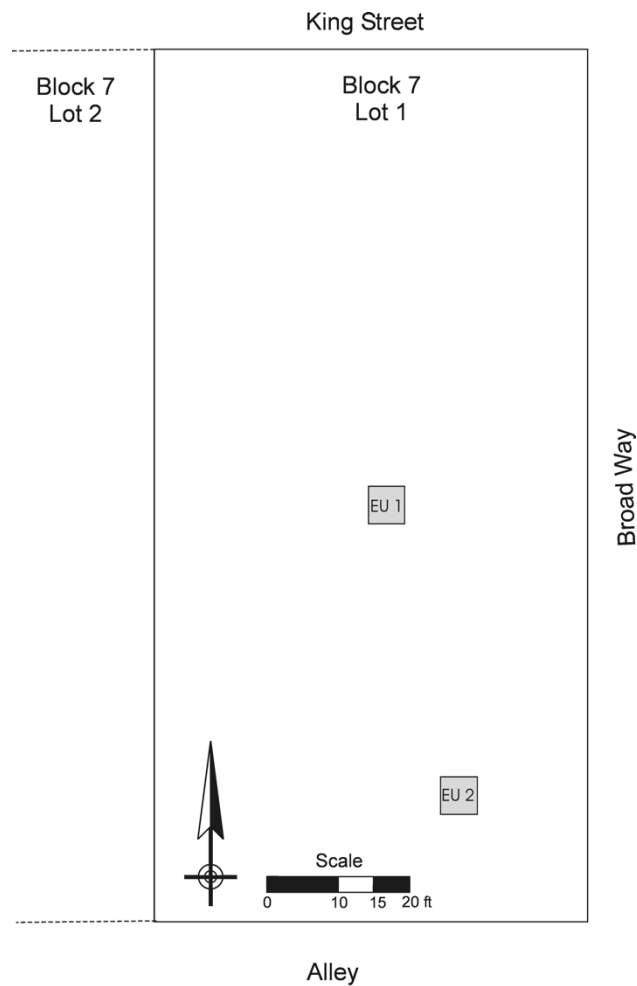
NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>Hadsell</i>	Wm.	W	5
<i>McWorter</i>	S.	B	5

#### 1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELATION
<i>Hadsell</i>	Wm.	57	M	W	Head

### *Archaeology for Block 7, Lot 1*

The structure identified on Block 7, Lot 1, on the 1939 aerial photograph and described by Burdick (1992) (see Background History Chapter) was known as the Betsy house. The area has a heavy concentration of artifacts and the walkover survey indicates the presence of a small amount of early nineteenth-century ceramics and a significant number of artifacts dating to the late nineteenth century. Archaeologists worked on two excavation units in Block 7, Lot 1, in order to locate the structure and find features that may provide clues about nineteenth-century lifeways and the landscape (Figure 6.1 and 6.2). Excavation Unit 1, placed on the edge of the artifact concentration revealed by the walkover survey had very few artifacts (Gwaltney 2004). The plow zone extended to a depth of 1.1 ft. below the surface. This soil tended to be a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty loam and silty clay. Subsoil exists below the plow zone.

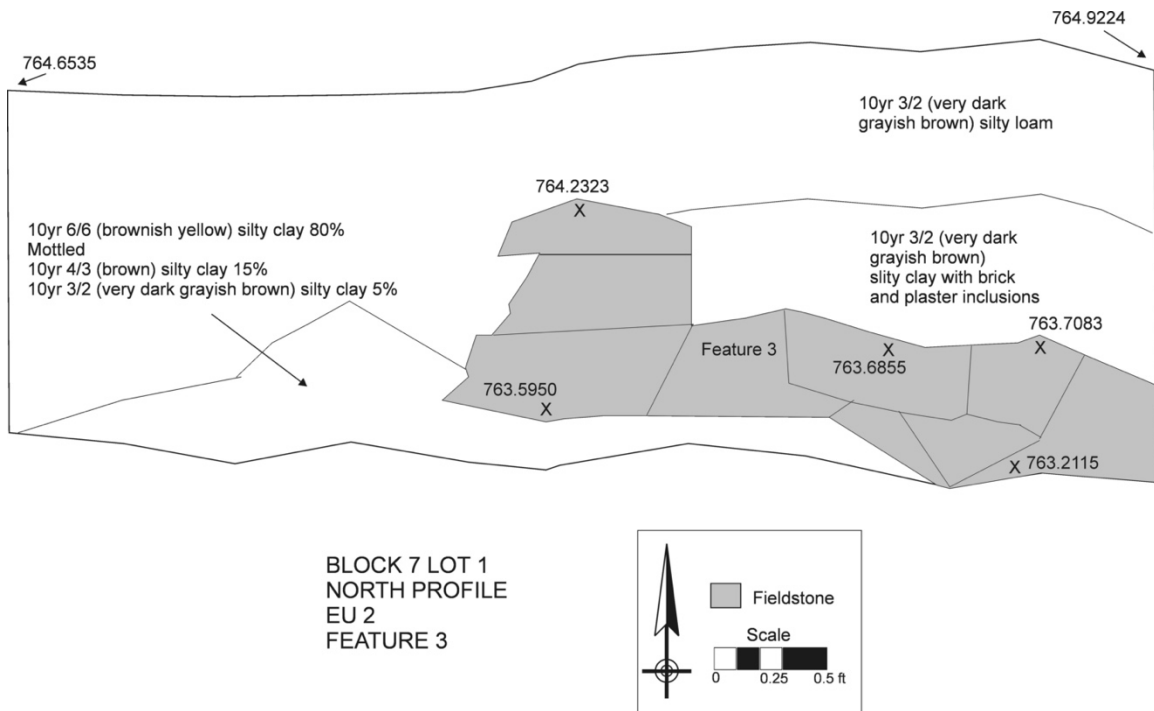


**Figure 6.1.** Location of Excavation Units 1 and 2 in Block 7, Lot 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

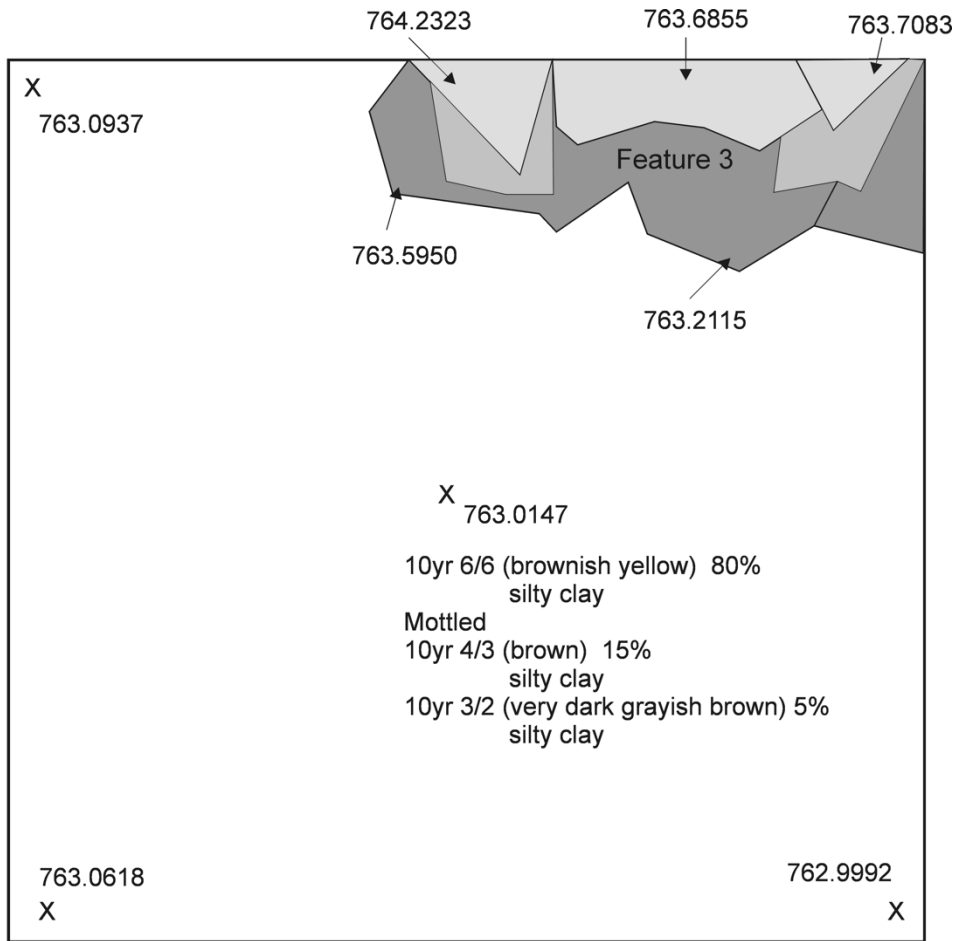


**Figure 6.2.** Screening for artifacts at Block 7, Lot 1 (Carrie Christman and Dana Blount, foreground; Cecilia Ayala, background (Courtesy, Gary Andrashko, Illinois State Museum.)

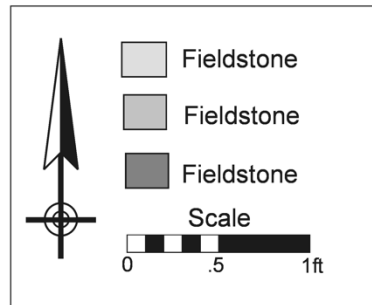
In Excavation Unit 2, artifact density increased significantly and the plow zone exists to a depth of about 1.3 ft. below the surface. The soil tended to be a 10YR3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and archeologists located the remains of a fieldstone foundation, designated as Feature 3 (Figures 6.3 and 6.4). The soils next to the fieldstone foundation appear to be in an undisturbed cultural layer and many of the artifacts from this context date to the late nineteenth century. While Burdick (1992) observed that the earliest portion of the Betsy House dated to the mid–nineteenth century, the foundation remains located by archeologists may be the result of a late nineteenth–century addition. A local resident remembers tearing down a derelict house in the late 1930s or early 1940s and removing the fieldstone foundations (see oral history section). The foundation stones are below the plow zone and may not have been removed because they were below the plow zone. Because this foundation was probably substantial and deeper than a foundation that would have supported a cabin, the foundation is probably related to a late nineteenth–century substantial addition to the earlier structure. A mid–nineteenth century foundation likely would not have been as deep or as substantial as this foundation.



**Figure 6.3.** North Wall profile of Excavation Unit 2 in Block 7, Lot 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).



BLOCK 7 LOT 1  
PLAN VIEW  
EU 2  
FEATURE 3



**Figure 6.4.** Planview of Feature 3 in Excavation Unit 2, Block 7, Lot 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).



## Chapter 7: Block 8

### *Block 8, Lot 4 – Historical Background*

The earliest known deed transaction identified for Block 8, Lot 4, is an 1871 sale from James Vokes to Solomon McWorter. However, an 1867 tax assessment shows Solomon McWorter being taxed on this lot, although it had no improvements. No improvements existed on the lot through the early 1880s. A small structure may have been built on the property between 1878 and 1883 since the improvements are listed as \$30 in 1883 and \$25 in 1888. The 1865 State Census classifies Solomon McWorter as black with five people in his household, and with livestock valued at \$500. However, he does not live in the town in 1870. There are 18 transactions for this piece of property from 1871 to 1930 and the owners included Solomon McWorter and Frederick Shipman (appears on the 1880 Federal Census). The deed, tax, and census data follow. The italicized names are those who may have resided on the lot, since they appear in both the deed and census records.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1871	James Vokes	<i>Solomon McWorter</i>	54,9
1876	Sarah McWorter	<i>Solomon McWorter</i>	54,10
1876	Judith Armistead	<i>Solomon McWorter</i>	54,14
1876	Lucy Vond	<i>Solomon McWorter</i>	54,17
1876	John Johnson	<i>Solomon McWorter</i>	54,18
1878	<i>Solomon McWorter</i>	William Bower	54,15
1879	James Bower	<i>Frederick Shipman</i>	54,19
1880	<i>Frederick Shipman</i>	Francis McWorter	54,20
1883	George McWorter	Lucy McWorter	54,22
1915	Thomas McWorter	Alonzo Leonard	54,27
1915	Thomas McWorter	Siegle & Strauss	54,28
1915	Christina Watts	Siegle & Strauss	54,29
1915	Eliza Brown	Siegle & Strauss	54,30
1915	Siegle & Strauss	Aaron Malone	54,31
1916	Shelby McWorter	A. E. Malone	54,32
1919	George McWorter	John Siegle	54,35
1930	William Strauss	Emma Siegle	54,38
1930	Emma Siegle	Virgil Burdick	54,39

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$16	\$0
1868	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0	\$0
1869	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0	\$0
1870	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0	\$0

1871	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0	\$0
1872	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0	\$0
1875	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	--	\$0
1878	Solomon McWorter (Lots 1–8)	--	\$0
1883	Solomon McWorter (Lots 3–6)	--	\$30
1888	L. J. McKinney	--	\$25

1865 STATE CENSUS

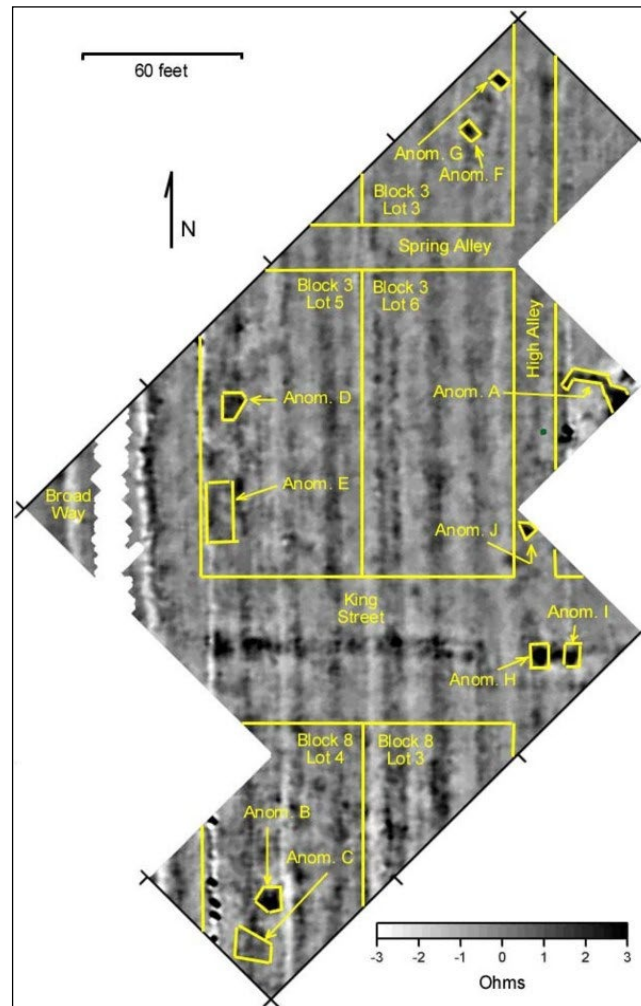
NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>McWorter</i>	S.	B	5

1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELATION
<i>Shipman</i>	F.	31	M	W	Head
	Lucy	26	F	W	Wife
	Henry	5	M	W	Son
	Wm	3	M	W	Son
	Cora	1	F	W	daughter

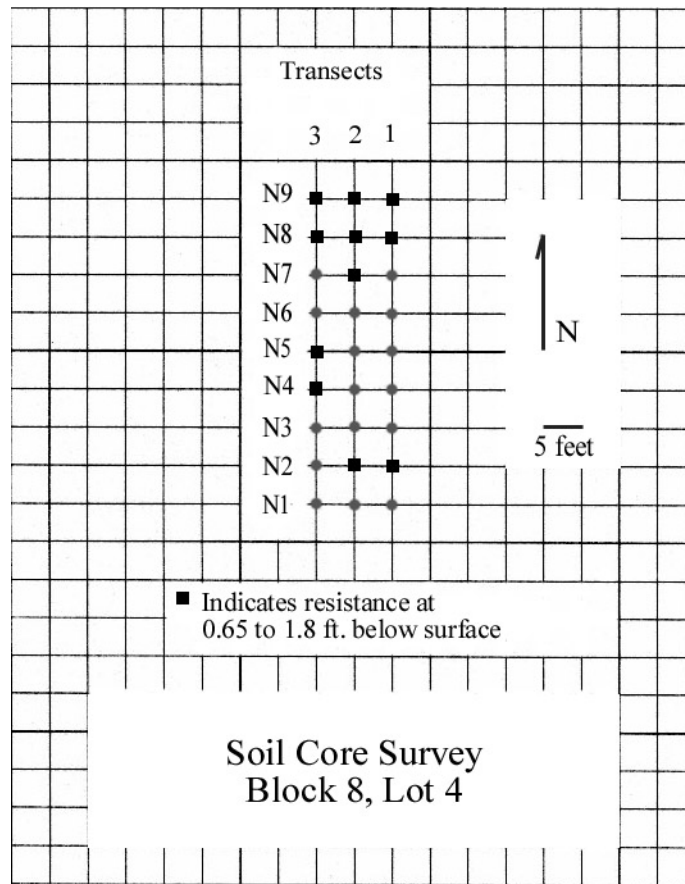
***Block 8, Lot 4 – Archaeology***

In 2002 and 2003 archeologists preformed a walkover survey of this property, along with the rest of New Philadelphia, and they identified a large concentration of artifacts on this lot. Block 8 had one of the largest concentrations of artifacts when compared to the entire town site. Based on the surface survey finds, the ceramic artifacts have a mean date of occupation of 1864 (Gwaltney 2004). In 2004, Michael Hargrave (2004, this report) of the U.S. Army Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory performed a geophysical survey of this area and identified several anomalies on the western portion of the lot while performing an electrical resistance survey (Figure 7.1).



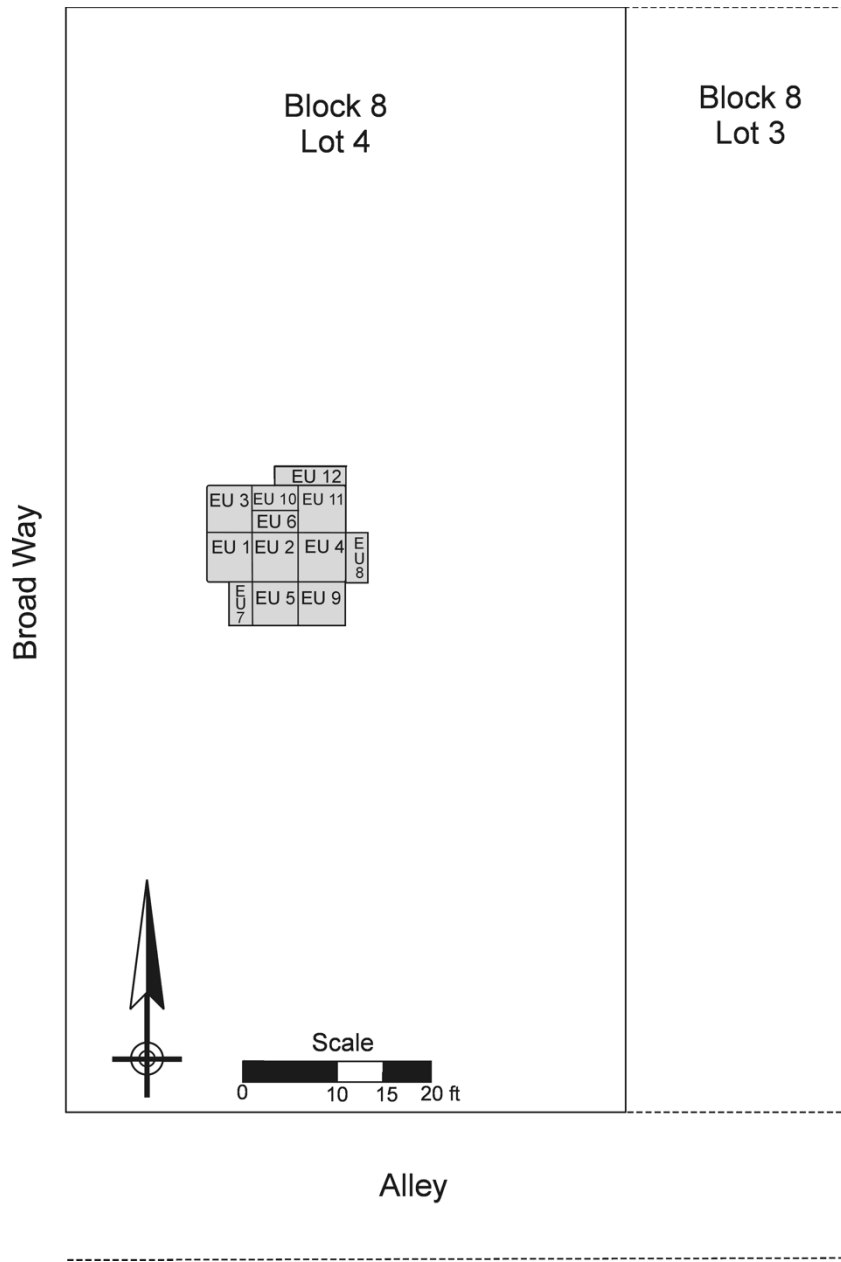
**Figure 7.1.** Resistivity Survey locating several soil anomalies found in Block 8, Lot 4. (From Hargrave 2004. Grid overlay by Christopher Fennell.)

Anomaly C identified in the geophysical survey is located in the central – western portion of Block 8, Lot 4. The archaeology team performed a core sample survey to ground truth anomaly C. They placed three transects of nine core samples in a north–south direction at 5 ft. intervals. The southern most part of transect 1 (T1) is 20 ft. north and 25 ft. west of the southwest corner of Block 8, Lot 4. Of the 27 core samples, physical resistance to the core probe occurred in 10 places, detecting brick and rock fragments (T1N8, T1N9, T2N7, T2N8, T2N9, T3N8, T3N9) (Figure 7.2). The majority of these are located in the northern portion of the tested area. Generally, each core sample reached a depth of 1.8 ft. to 2.1 ft. below the surface. However, archaeologists hit resistance at a depth that ranges from an average of 0.65 ft. to 1.5 ft. below the surface. The upper most layer consists of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and is located to an average depth of 1.0 ft. to 1.1 ft. below the surface. This soil is the plow zone. The soils under the plow zone generally consist of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) mottled 10YR 4/3 (brown).

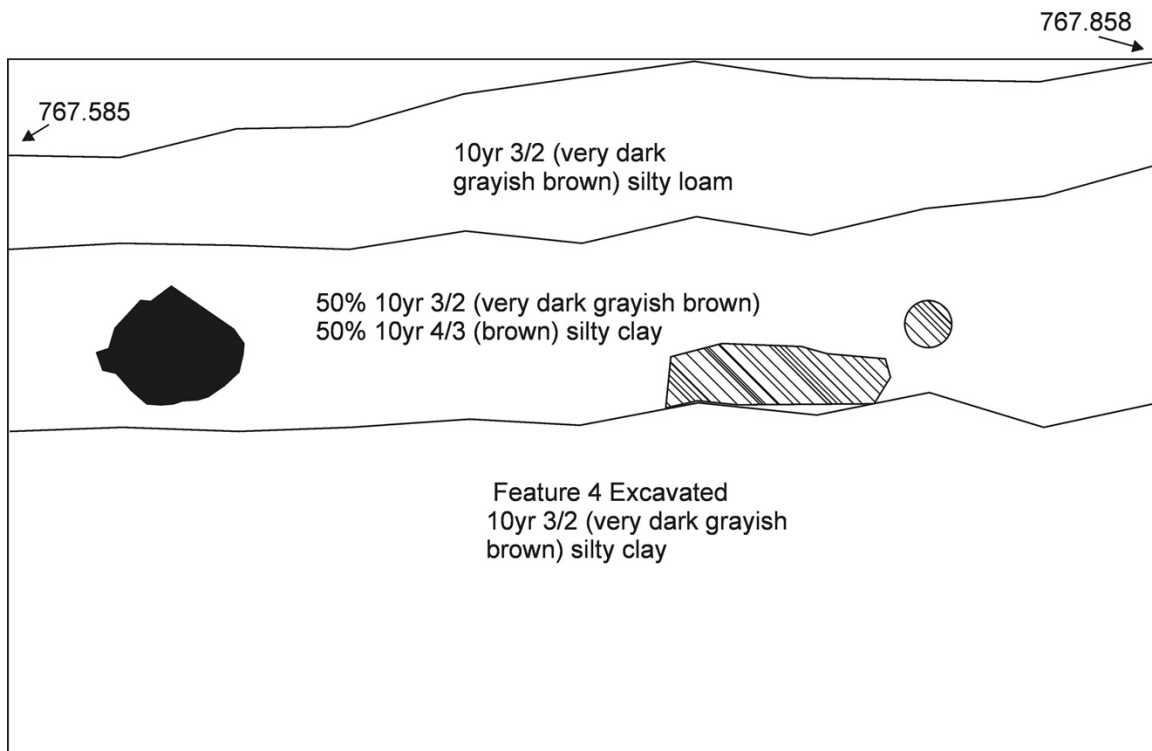


**Figure 7.2.** Coring performed near Anomaly C (Drawn by Christopher Fennell).

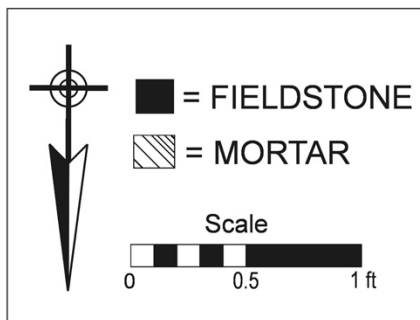
As a result of the geophysical survey and the positive results of the coring, archaeologists opened three excavation units (EU 1, 2, and 3) in Block 8, Lot 4 in the 2004 season (Figure 7.3). Generally, in all three excavation units the plow zone exists to a depth of about 0.8 ft. to 1.2 ft. below the surface. It consists of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty loam (Figure 7.4). The mean date of the artifacts ranged from the earliest settlement to the post-bellum era. Underneath this layer is a buried horizon of soil that consists of a 10YR4/3 (brown), silty clay. Archaeologists located a large concentration of brick fragments and stones that measured 0.25 ft. to 0.5 ft. in diameter. This large concentration of debris is Anomaly C detected in the geophysical survey. This buried, undisturbed layer with debris contains artifacts that date to about the 1850s. The quantity of artifacts dramatically increased in the lower part of the layer as archaeologists came closer to the top of Feature 4. The western portion of Feature 4 was exposed in 2004, although the full extent of the feature could not be determined during the field season.



**Figure 7.3.** Location of units excavated in Block 8, Lot 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



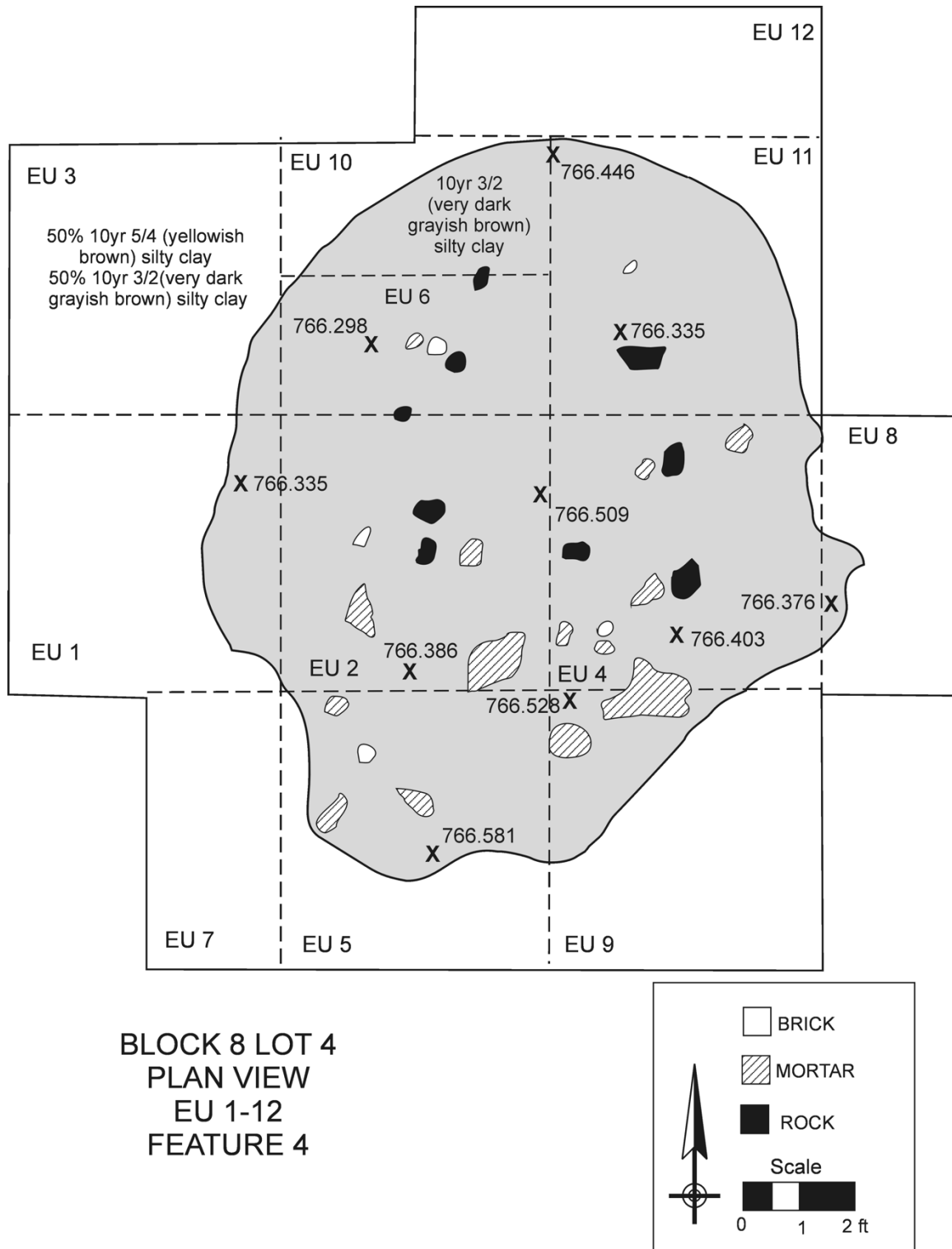
BLOCK 8 LOT 4  
SOUTH PROFILE  
EU 4  
TOP OF FEATURE 4



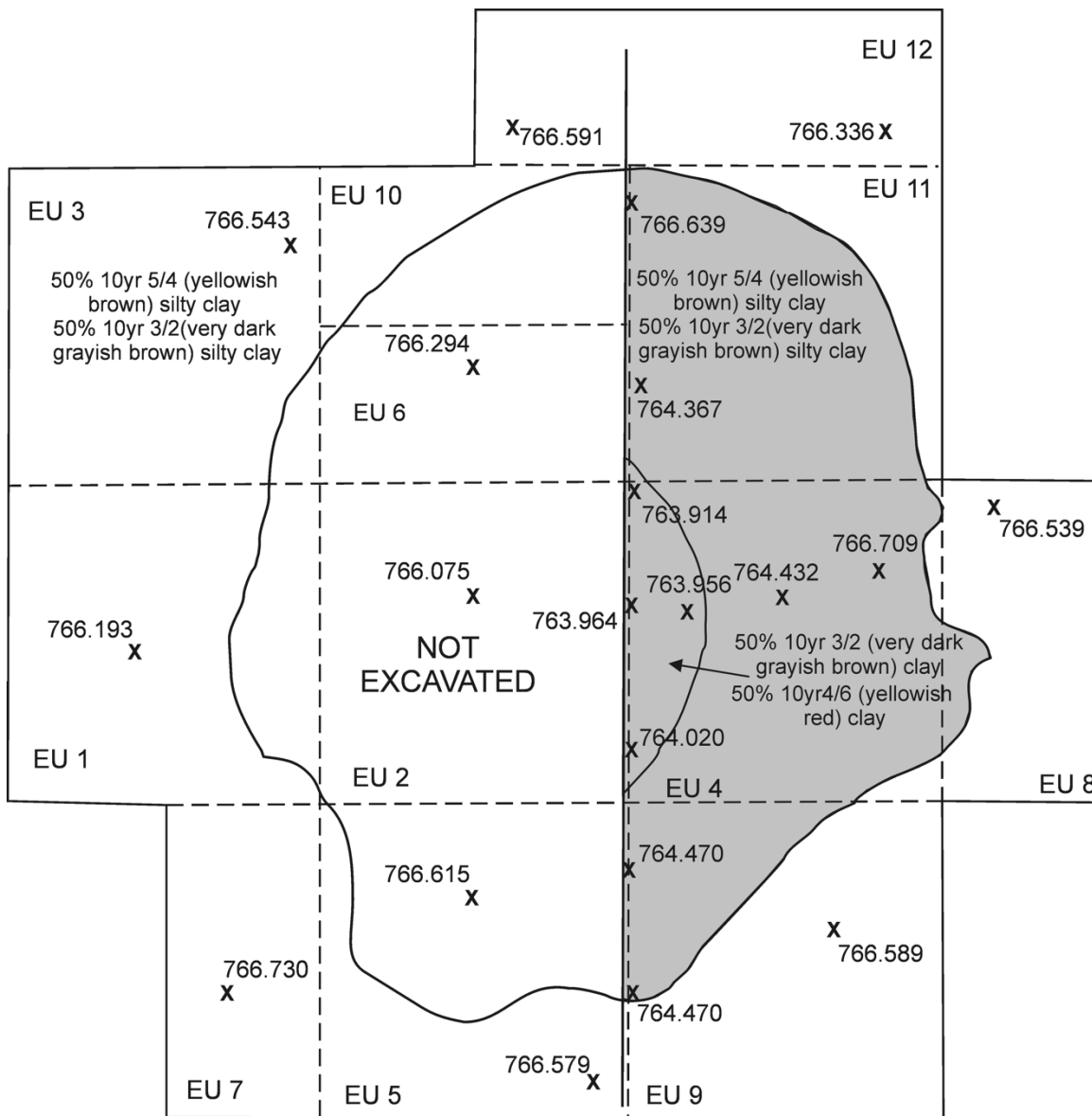
**Figure 7.4.** North wall profile of Excavation Unit 1, Block 8, Lot 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).

In 2005 the archaeology team continued to expose Feature 4, excavating EUs 4–12. Generally, the upper layers of the plow zone continued to be a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown). The soils tend to get more mottled closer to the top of Feature 4 with a 10YR 4/3 (brown) silty clay, mottled 10YR 5/4 (yellow brown) and 10YR 4/3 (brown) clay. Feature 4 is about 1.2 ft. to 1.5 ft. below the surface. It measures about 12.0 ft. east–west and 12.5 ft. north–south (Figures 7.5 and 7.6). The feature soil is a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty clay. The team bisected the feature and removed the eastern portion in 0.5 ft. arbitrary levels (designated as a1, a2, a3), or until they detected a natural stratigraphic layer. At about 1.5 ft. from the top of the feature archaeologists detected a soil color change. At this point the soil tended to be a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) clay that was mottled 5YR 4/6 (yellowish brown). Excavations ceased at the end of layer a5 because the field season ended. Generally the feature sloped down

toward the middle, much like a soup bowl (Figure 7.7). However the bottom of Feature 4 has not been reached, and in 2006 archeologists will continue to work on this feature.



**Figure 7.5.** Plan of Feature 4 in Block 8, Lot 4 found in the location of Anatoly C (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



BLOCK 8 LOT 4  
FEATURE 4 BISECTED  
LEVEL a5

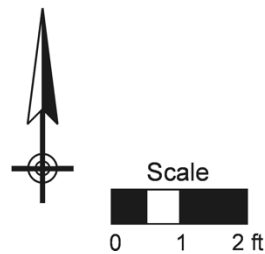
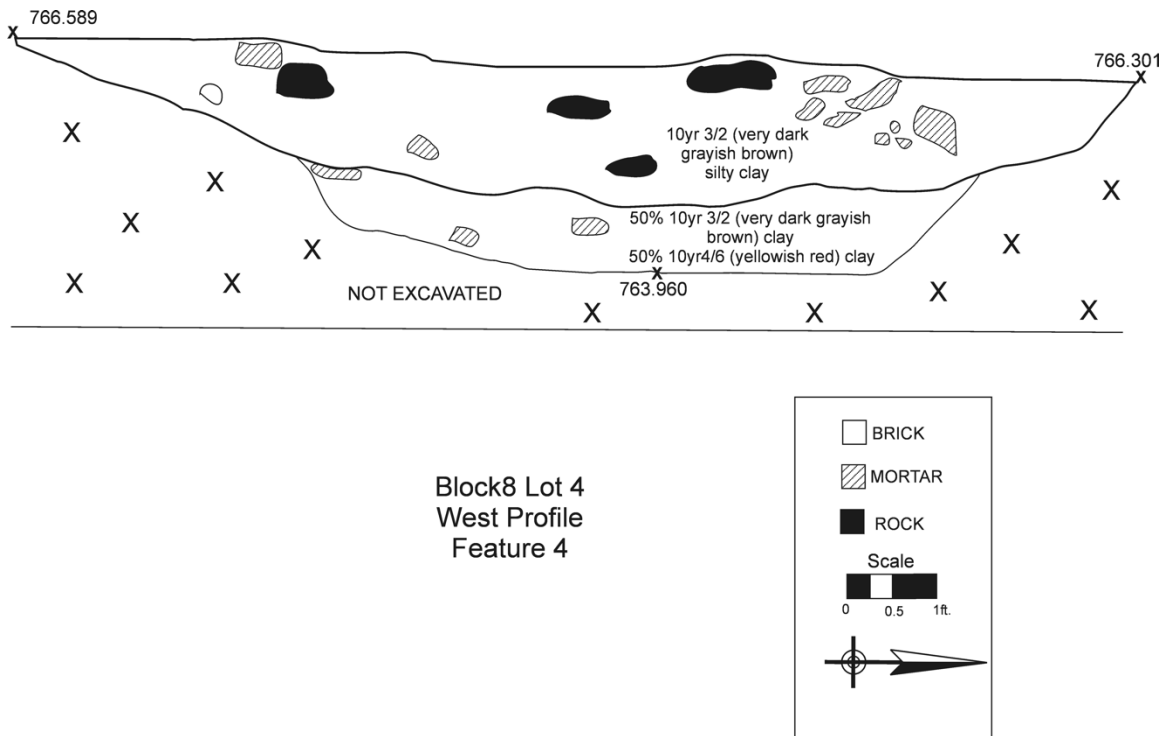


Figure 7.6. Feature 4 in Block 8, Lot 4, Bisection Level a5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).





**Figure 7.7.** Profile of the western wall of Feature 4 in Block 8, Lot 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).

The team collected soil samples and floated them at the ISM–RCC facilities under the direction of Marjorie Schroeder. Few organic materials were detected. There was also lower than expected frequency of faunal material and domestic trash identified in the feature. Rock, mortar, and brick are located throughout the feature fill. These findings indicate that the feature was not open for a long enough period of time to accumulate much trash. Rather, after it was no longer in use community members rapidly filled the feature.

The artifacts found in and on top of the feature date to the 1850s. Therefore, it is probable that the original function of the pit feature is related to the early development of the town. Even though the earliest known deeds for Block 8, Lot 4 date to 1871, and the tax records from 1867 show that the lot was not improved, the archaeological evidence shows that the area was probably used as a domestic space several decades earlier. The structure was dismantled by the 1850s. Additional excavations to complete the work on Feature 4 will help determine the function of the feature and provide more information about the early lifeways in New Philadelphia.

The findings are intriguing since Mr. Burdick (1992) recalls this block as being unoccupied through the twentieth century and he referred to the area as “The Park.” The impression that some former twentieth century residents have of the area is that the Block 8 may have never been occupied. A review of the earliest surviving Hadley Township records dating to 1867 also confirms this impression and shows that Block 8, Lot 4 was not improved. However, after the archaeological survey, the electrical resistivity survey,

the coring, and the excavation, there is substantial evidence that this area was occupied during the town's early settlement.

## Chapter 8: Block 9

### *Block 9, Lot 4–Historical Background*

The earliest records associated with this lot indicate that Anson Gray had no improvements on the lot in 1867. In 1875 Benjamin Gray was taxed for this lot and he officially acquired the deed in 1884. One year earlier he was taxed for \$20 worth of improvements on the lot. The 1870 and 1880 Federal Census lists Gray as a blacksmith. In 1880 he was married to Lizzie, and they had three daughters. In all likelihood, Gray's blacksmith shop was located on another property. In 1884 Gray sold the lot to George Kimbrew and M. Kimbrew. They held the land until 1909. Oral histories indicate that the "negro schoolhouse" was located on this lot until about 1872. When the Kimbrews acquired the lot and the schoolhouse they partitioned the house, creating a duplex, with each brother living in one section. The deed, tax, and census information follow. The italicized names are those who may have resided on the lot, since they appear in both the deed and census records.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1884	Benjamin Gray	George Kimbrew/ Matt Kimbrew	55, 17
1909	Laura Allen	W. D. Watts	55, 20
1910	Laura Allen	W. D. Watts	55, 21
1915	William Watts	Martha McWorter	55, 23

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Anson Gray	\$3.00	\$0.00
1868	Anson Gray	\$0.00	\$0.00
1869	Anson Gray	\$0.00	\$0.00
1870	Anson Gray	\$0.00	\$1.50
1871	Anson Gray	\$0.00	\$0.00
1872	Anson Gray	\$0.00	\$0.00
1875	Anson Gray/Benjamin Gray	--	\$10.00 (Anson Gray's name crossed out)
1878	Benjamin Gray	--	\$0.00
1883	Benjamin Gray	--	\$20.00
1888	Martin Kinebra	--	\$15.00

#### 1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

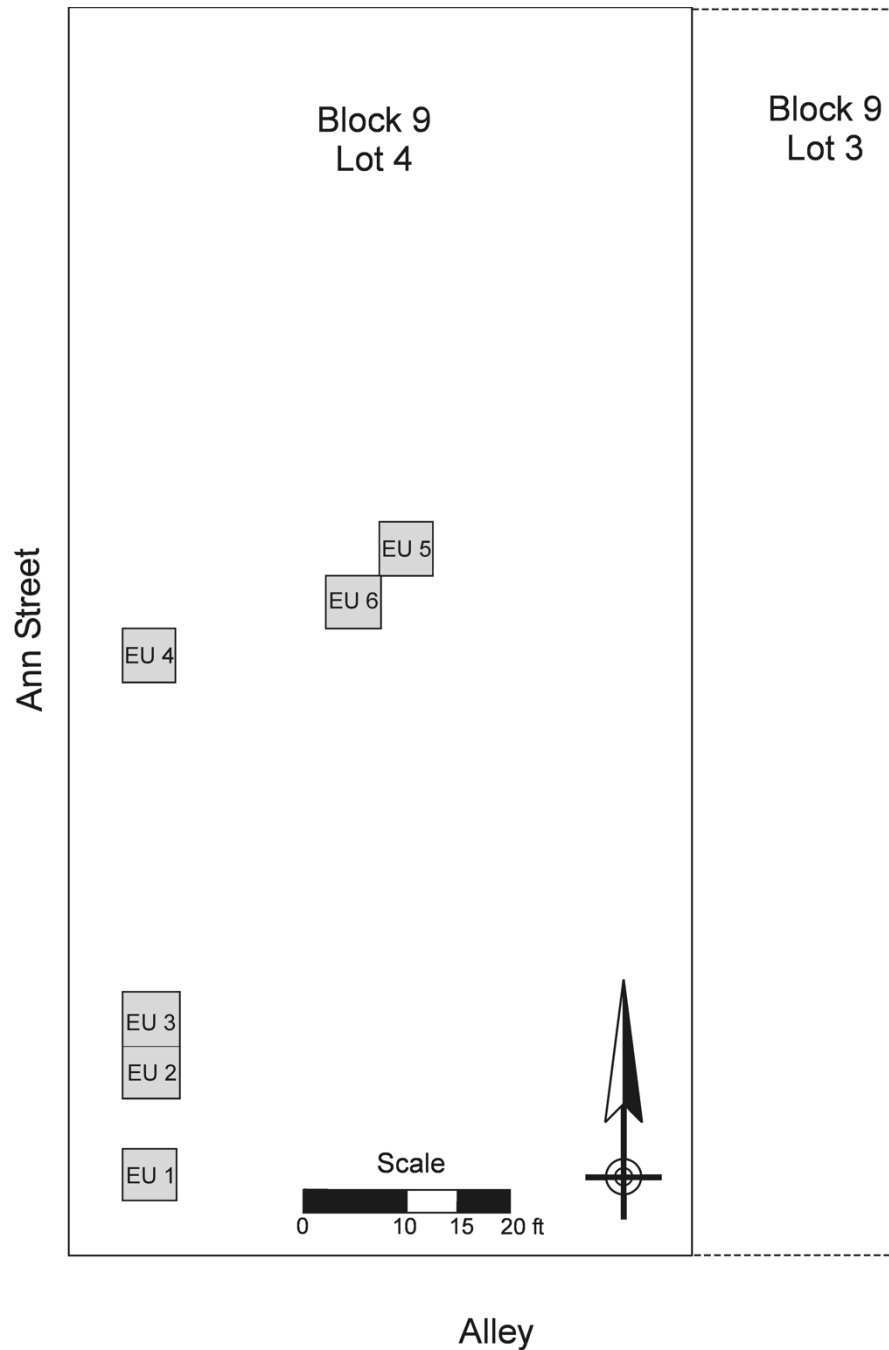
NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Gray</i>	Benj.	41	M	W	Blacksmith
	Eliz.	32	F	W	Keeping house
	Lena	10	F	W	At home

Gerta	8	F	W	At home
Nina	1	F	W	At home

### ***Block 9, Lot 4 – Archaeology***

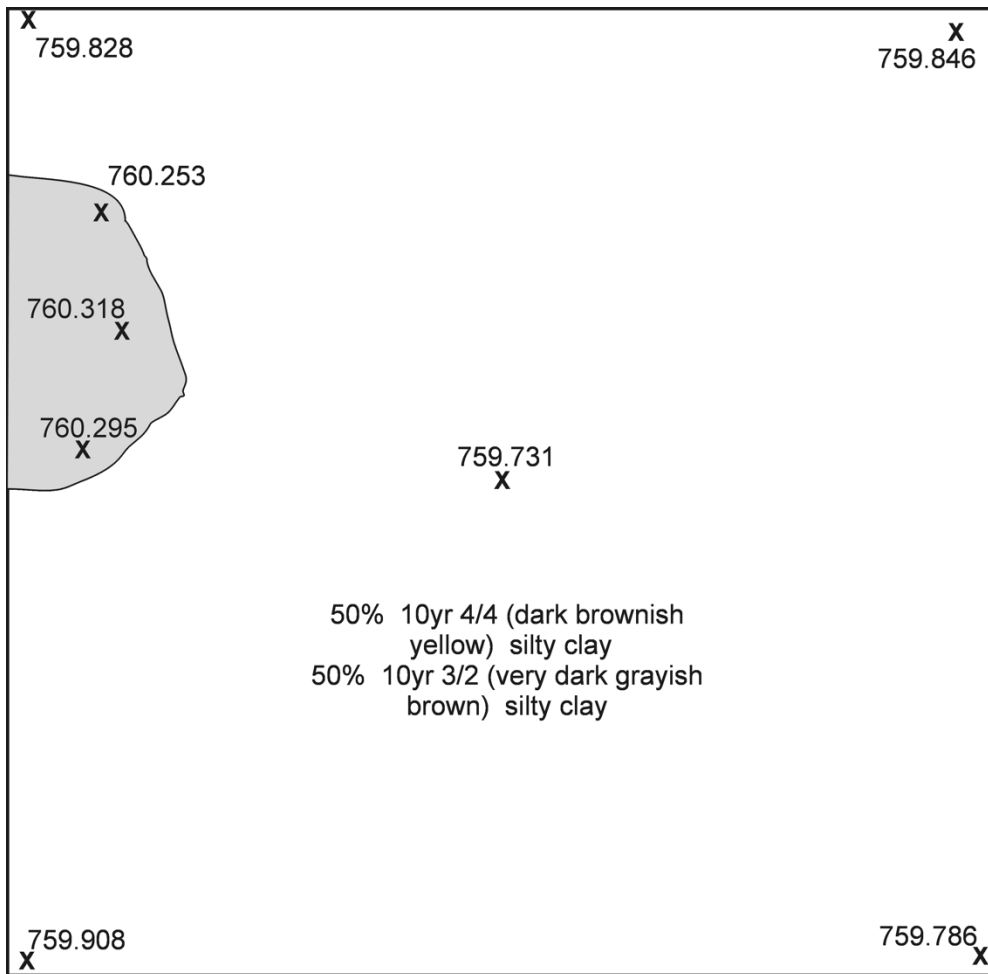
Archaeologists identified a large concentration of artifacts on the western edge of this lot during the 2002/2003 walkover survey. A heavy concentration of nails in the southwest corner also exists, and suggests the presence of structural remains. The 1939 aerial photograph also shows a structure in the southwest corner of the lot. The geophysical survey also identified two anomalies in the southwest corner and the center of the lot. Based on the above information the archaeology team decided to ground truth these two anomalies. This work provides information about the earliest uses of the lot (the school house), the Kimbew occupation, and a possible unknown habitation in the west–central portion of the lot.

Excavation Units 1, 2, and 3 were placed in the southwest corner of Lot 4 with the goal of ground truthing an anomaly (Excavation Unit 2) and finding the remains of the schoolhouse that later served as the Kimbrew residence (Figure 8.1). The archaeologists excavated in 0.5 ft. arbitrary levels until they encountered natural stratigraphy. At that point they excavated in natural stratigraphy. Generally the plow zone tended to be a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silt and it contained a large quantity of nineteenth– and twentieth– century materials. The subsoil tended to be a 10YR 4/4 (dark yellowish brown) fine grain clay. Generally the subsoil is deeper in the southwestern portion of the lot and archeologists reached it at an average depth of about 0.5 ft. below the surface. In Excavation Unit 4, which is located 60 ft. north of the southwest boundary of the lot, the soil tended to be a 10YR 5/3 (brown) silty clay. The subsoil is about 0.2 ft. to 0.3 ft. below the surface.

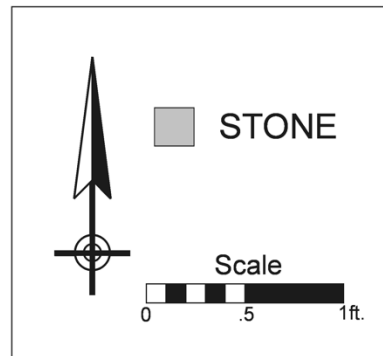


**Figure 8.1.** Location of excavation units in Block 9, Lot 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

Feature 6 is located in the northwest portion of Excavation Unit 1 (Figure 8.2 and 8.3). It is probably a stone pier that supported a building. The base of the pier rests upon the subsoil and it measures 1.5 ft. north–south. Its western portion is in an unexcavated portion of the site, directly to the west of Excavation Unit 1.



BLOCK 9 LOT4  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 1  
 FEATURE 6



**Figure 8.2.** Plan view of Feature 6 in Excavation Unit 1 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).



**Figure 8.3.** *Fieldstone Pier in Block 9, Lot 4 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

Excavation Units 5 and 6 were placed in the center of Lot 4 in order to ground truth an identified anomaly. The soil tended to be a 10YR 5/3 (brown) fine grained silt. The subsoil is about 0.2 ft. below the surface. Few artifacts dating to the nineteenth and twentieth century were found in these units. The disking scars are still visible on the top of the subsoil.

It appears that while a large proportion of topsoil remains in the southwest portion of this lot, erosion has impacted the rest of the lot. Subsoil is only 0.2 ft. below the surface in the central portion of the lot. The stone pier is likely to be associated with the Kimbrew residence that may have previously served as the “negro schoolhouse.”

### ***Block 9, Lot 5 – Historical Background***

Frank McWorter sold Block 9, Lot 5 to Kizie (also known as Kessiah and Casiah) Clark in 1854. While Kizie Clark does not show up in the 1855 State Census records, Kizie is most likely Casiah Clark, who is noted in the 1850 federal census. The Hadley township records indicate that Kessiah owned lot 5 until her death in 1888. The lot had \$25 in improvements in 1867, although in 1868 the improvements decrease to \$3. In 1871 the improvements were again assessed at \$25. Casiah’s son, Thomas, listed as 11 years old in the 1850 federal census, sold the lot to William Butler in 1888 with a small structure or

some other type of improvement on the lot. Both the Clarks and the Butlers appear in the census records and based on oral histories we are certain that the Butlers resided in New Philadelphia on Block 9, Lot 5. The following are the deed, tax and census information. The italicized names are those who may have resided on the lot, since they appear in both the deed and census records.

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1854	Frank McWorter	Kizie Clark	55,2
1888	Thomas Clark	<i>William Butler</i>	55,18
1911	<i>William Butler</i>	Alonzo Leonard	55,22

#### HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Kessiah Clark	\$3.00	\$25.00
1868	Kessiah Clark	\$5.00	\$3.00
1869	Kessiah Clark	\$5.00	\$3.00
1870	Kessiah Clark	\$0.00	\$12.00
1871	Kessiah Clark	\$0.00	\$25.00
1872	Kessiah Clark	\$0.00	\$25.00
1875	Kessiah Clark	--	\$0.00
1878	Kessiah Clark	--	\$25.00
1883	Kessiah Clark	--	\$25.00
1888	Kessiah Clark/William Butler	--	\$25.00

#### 1850 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>Clark</i>	Casih	44	F	M	not given
	Simeon	24	M	M	not given
	Alexander	13	M	M	not given
	Mary A.	16	F	M	not given
	James	19	M	M	not given
	Thomas	11	M	M	not given
	Alex	18	F	B	not given
	John S.	80	M	B	not given

(\*\*Note: Kizie Clark is probably Casiah Clark. She is living with Louisa McWorter in the 1870 and 1880 Federal Census)

#### 1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

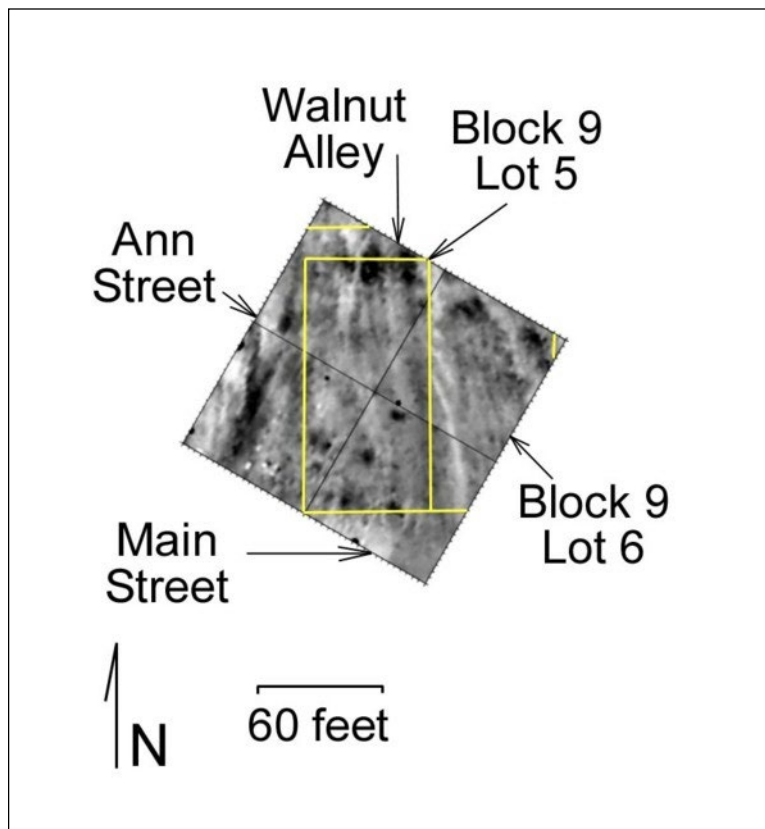
NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELATION
<i>Butler</i>	Wm.	27	M		Head
	Katie	22	F		Wife
	Mary	1	F		Daughter



## ***Block 9, Lot 5 – Archaeology***

### **Excavation Units 1, 2, and 3**

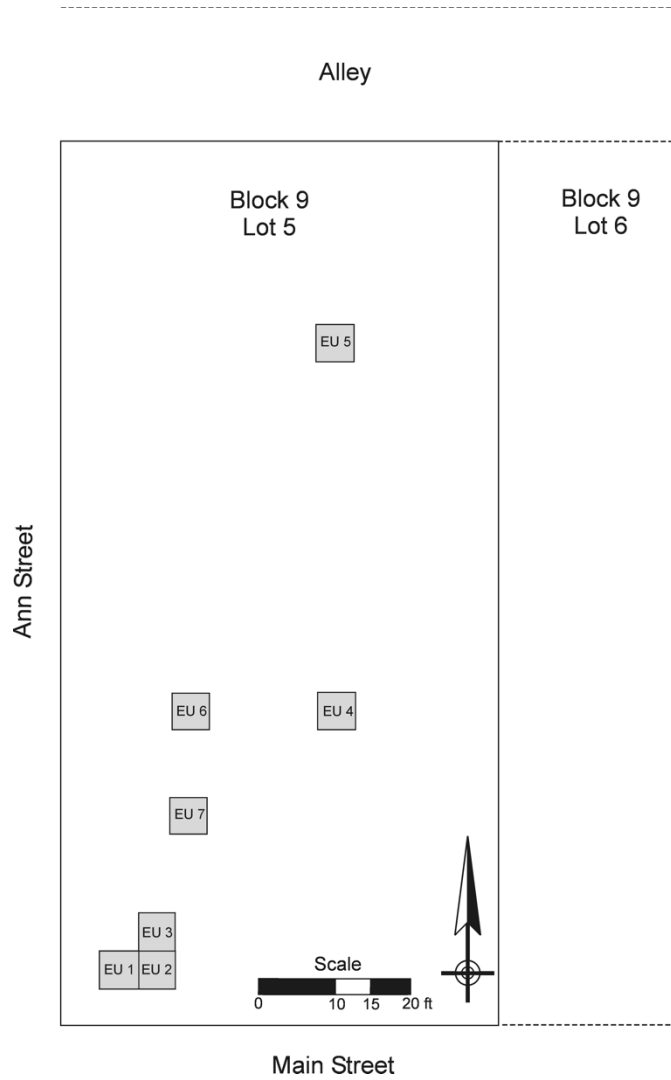
The walkover survey indicates that Block 9, Lot 5, had a very large concentration of artifacts with a mean ceramic date of 1859. The 1939 aerial photograph shows a structure in the southwestern edge of Block 9, Lot 5. By this time the structure served as a storage place; the main domestic dwelling inhabited by the Butlers no longer survived on the landscape. Because of the high density of artifacts, and the probability of finding a domestic structure in the area, a geophysical survey was performed on Block 9, Lots 4 and 5 by Hargrave (2004) in April 2004 (Figure 8.4).



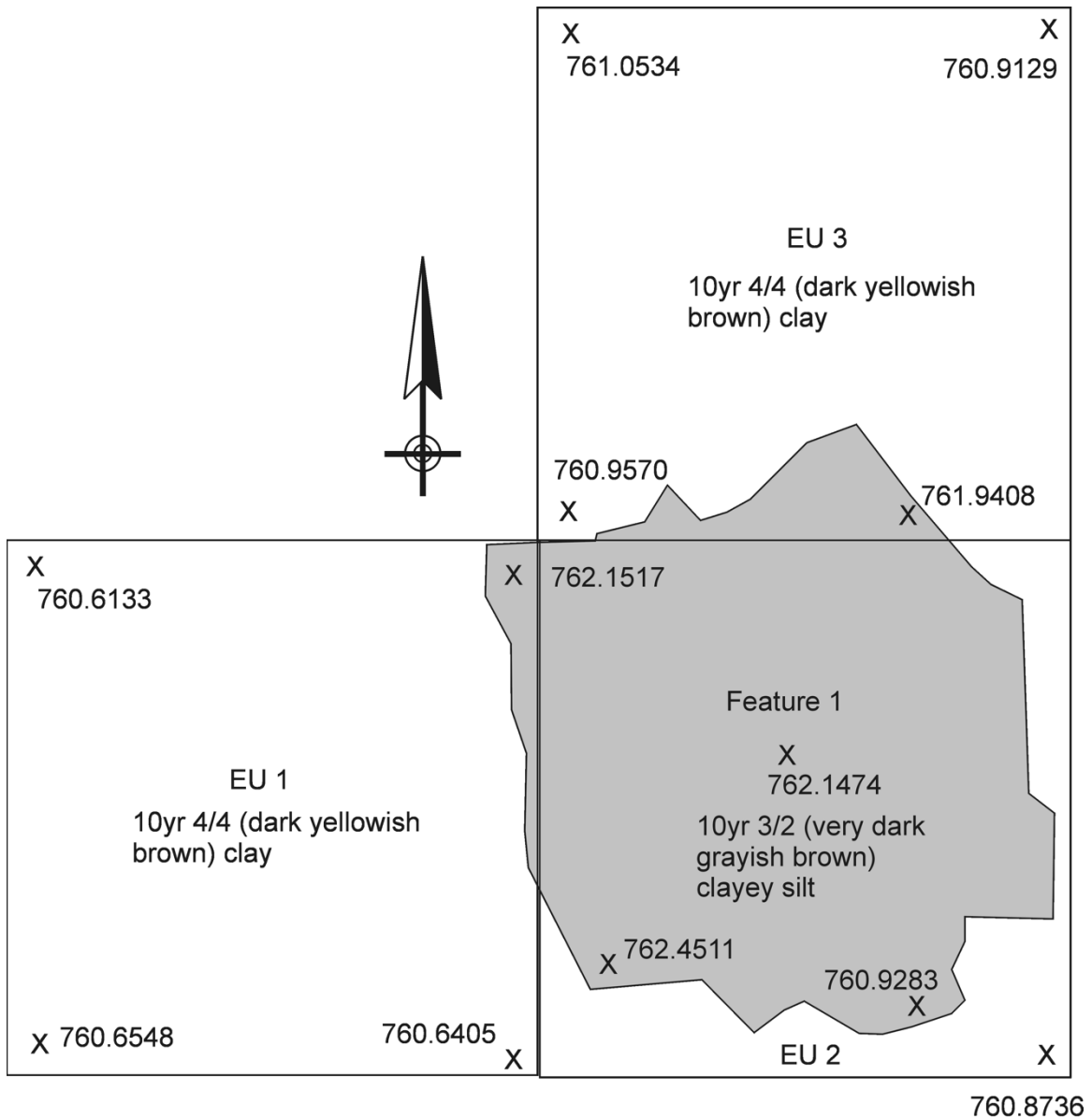
**Figure 8.4.** Resistivity survey of Block 9, Lot 5. (From Hargrave 2004. Grid overlay by Christopher Fennell.)

While a strong anomaly could not be detected in the southwest corner of Lot 5, Excavation Units 1, 2 and 3 were placed in the approximate location of the structure identified on the aerial photograph (Figure 8.5). Generally, the plow zone exists to a depth of about 0.8 ft. to 0.9 ft. below the surface. The soil tends to be a 10YR3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty loam and clayey silt. Large quantities of brick and mortar as well as household goods are present. Under the plowzone archaeologists noticed a darker colored (10YR3/2 – very dark grayish brown) soil when compared to the surrounding (10YR4/4 – dark yellowish brown) subsoil and designated this area as Feature 1. Most of the feature lies in Excavation Unit 2. The western boundary is in the eastern half of

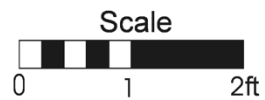
Excavation Unit 1 and the northern portion of the feature is in the southern part of Excavation Unit 3 (Figures 8.6, 8.7, and 8.8). The entire feature measures about 5.0 x 5.0 ft. and it extends to a depth of about 0.5 ft. below the plow zone. It has a concave shape and is probably a cellar. The archaeology team bisected the feature on a north–south axis and excavated the western portion. Soil samples were also retrieved for flotation. The materials from the feature date from the 1850s until about 1870 and are probably associated with Casiah Clark’s occupation of this lot. Casiah acquired the deed to the lot in 1854, but by 1870 Casiah and her family lived with Louisa McWorter in Block 13. The earliest tax records indicate that a small structure sat on this lot valued at \$25, and in 1875 the value of improvements is listed as \$0. This devaluation may coincide when a structure was dismantled and the cellar filled. Subsequent tax records (1878, 1883, and 1888) show a small structure on the lot. The material objects from the feature include miniature pewter toys, a large quantity of buttons and thimbles, as well as ceramics, glassware, and iron hardware. The faunal assemblage has a large quantity of pig and wild game. Most notable are a few passenger pigeon bones (Figure 8.9). While passenger pigeon is found in nineteenth–century archaeological assemblages, their presence decreases after the middle of the century and they are extinct in Illinois by about 1900 (Schorger 1973).



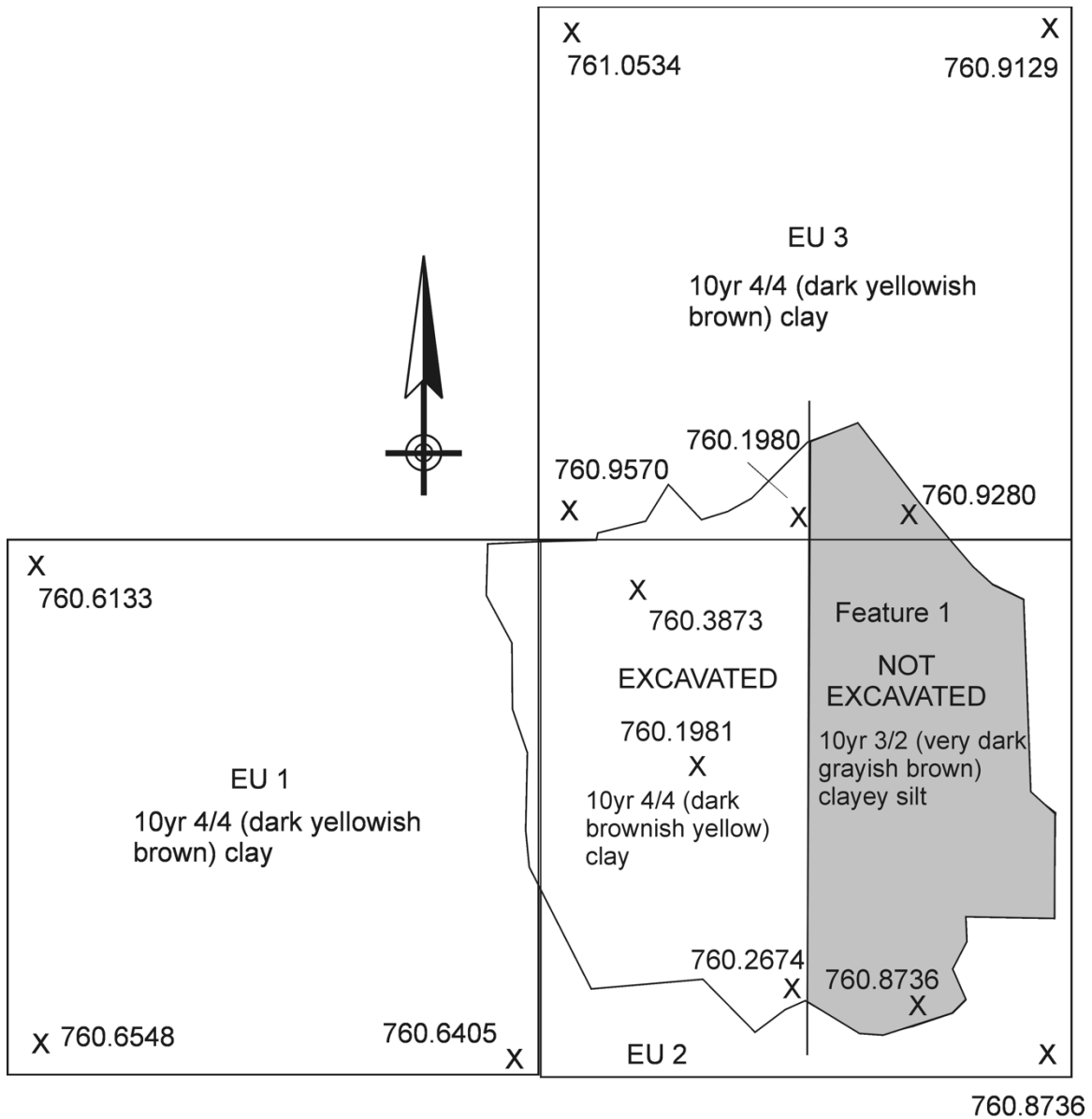
**Figure 8.5.** Location of units excavated in Block 9, Lot 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



BLOCK 9 LOT 5  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 1, 2, & 3  
 FEATURE 1

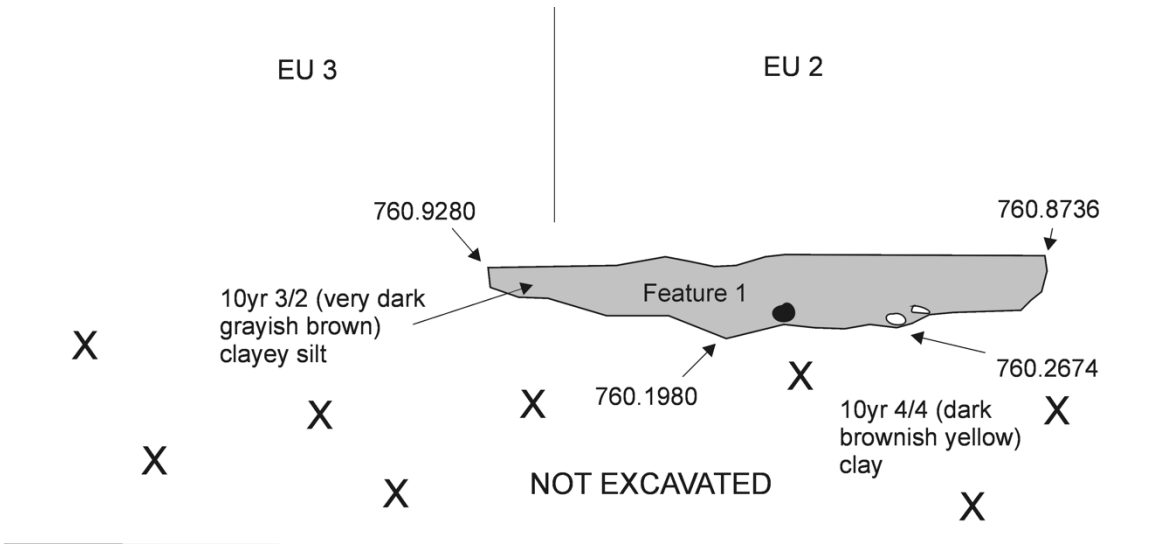


**Figure 8.6.** Plan view of Feature 1 in Excavation Units 1, 2, and 3, in Block 9, Lot 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).

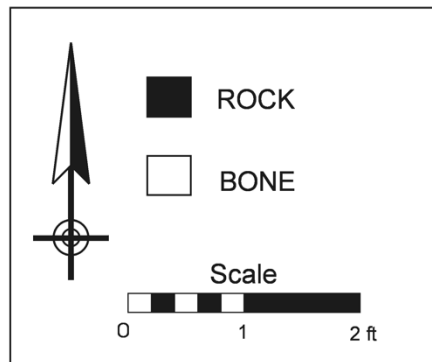


**BLOCK 9 LOT 5  
EU 1, 2, & 3  
FEATURE 1 BISECTED**

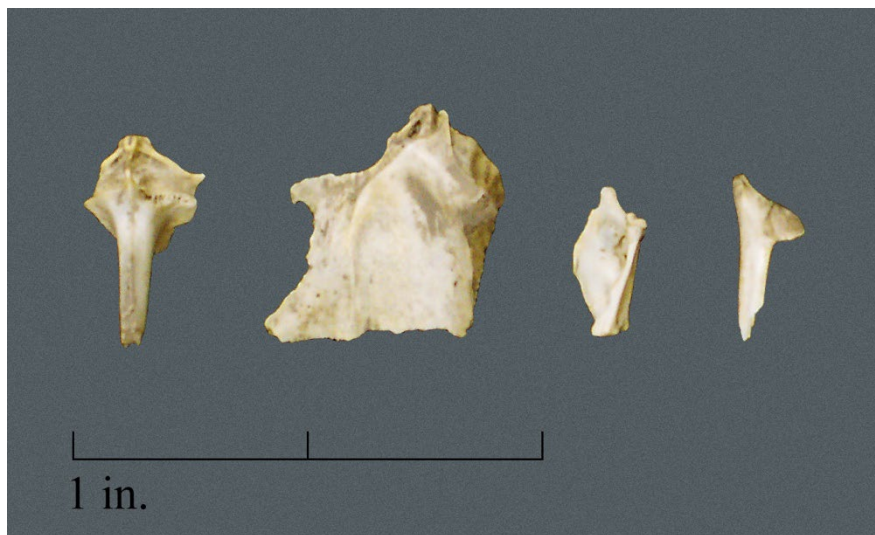
**Figure 8.7.** *Feature 1 bisected (Drawn by Carrie Christman).*



BLOCK 9 LOT 5  
WEST PROFILE  
FEATURE 1



**Figure 8.8.** West profile of Feature 1 in Block 9, Lot 5 (Drawn by Carrie Christman).



**Figure 8.9.** Passenger pigeon bone identified in Feature 1, Block 9, Lot 5 and associated with Cassiah Clark's occupation of the site (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).

During the excavation of the pit feature a local resident visited the site and remembered walking past the structure daily in order to attend the New Philadelphia schoolhouse in the 1930s (Figure 8.10). He described the structure in the location of Excavation Units 1–3 as small and very old with a metal roof and an overhang on the north side. He remembered the structure as dilapidated and in poor repair (personal communications, William White). It may have been the building constructed after the 1875 tax assessment.



**Figure 8.10.** *Identifying the boundaries of Feature 1, Block 9, Lot 5 (Courtesy, Paul A. Shackel).*

At present we know that the artifacts from Feature 1 date from the 1850s through the 1860s. While the lot is best known for the Butler occupation, the refuse from the pit feature is associated with the Clark family ownership of the lot. A building, which appears to be relatively smaller than other structures found in New Philadelphia, may date to the mid-nineteenth-century and is probably related to Casiah Clark's ownership of the lot. She acquired it from Frank McWorter in 1854. The tax records show improvements on the lot from at least 1867 until 1875. Casiah Clark was head of her household in the 1850 Federal Census, and she probably lived on the lot until the late 1860s. The 1870 and 1880 Federal Census shows that she and several of her children lived with Louisa McWorter in Block 13. There is a good chance that her dwelling was dismantled by 1875 since the materials identified in the feature date to about this era. When the structure was dismantled refuse was deposited into the feature and there are no improvements listed on the 1875 tax records.

Since the excavations in Block 9, Lot 5 produced a significant number of artifacts from a pit feature, archaeologists conducted soil core sampling in order to locate additional features and possibly define foundations associated with the structure. Two transects of 19 cores each ran in a north-south direction at 5 ft. intervals (Figure 8.11). The

southernmost portion of transect 1 (T1) is 20 ft. north and 20 ft. east of the southwest corner of Block 9, Lot 5. The southernmost portion of transect 2 (T2) began 20 ft. east of T1, and T2N1 is located 20 ft. north and 40 ft. east of the southwest corner of Block 9, Lot 5.

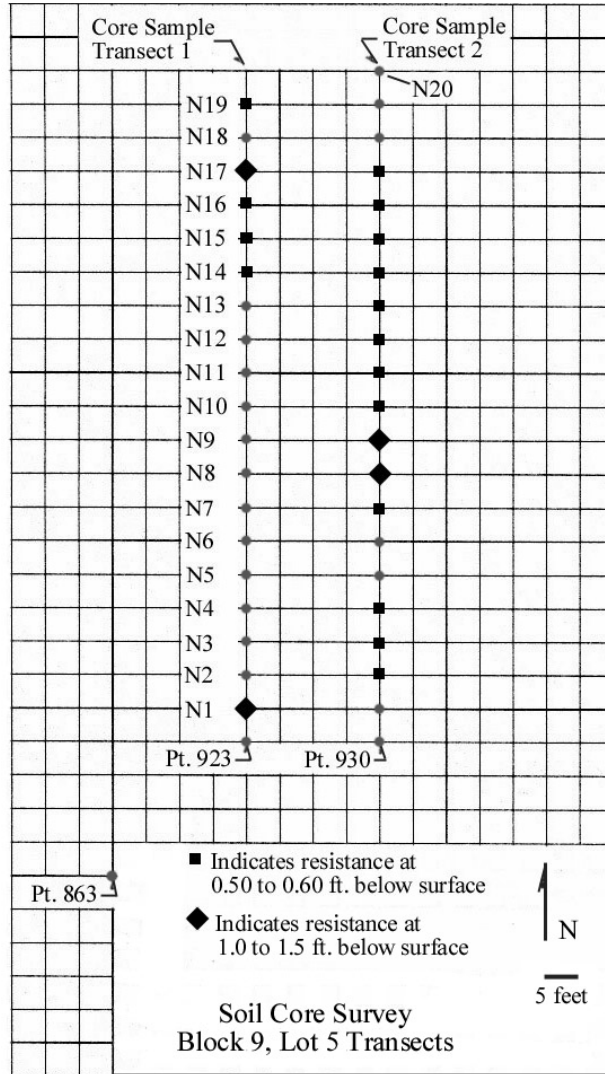


Figure 8.11. Coring transects in Block 9, Lot 5 (Drawn by Christopher Fennell).

Generally, each core sample reached a depth of 1.8 ft. below the surface. The uppermost layer consists of a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) soil and is located to an average depth of 0.9 ft. below the surface. The soil is the plow zone. The subsoil underlies this layer and generally consists of a 10YR 4/4 (dark yellowish brown) or 10YR 4/3 (brown) mottle 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown).

Resistance to the core probe generally occurred in the northern portion of T1 and through the majority of T2. At T1N14, T1N15, T1N16, and T1N19, and T2N2, T2N3, T2N4, T2N7, T2N10–T2N17 resistance occurred at an average depth of 0.5 ft. below the surface. At T1N1, T1N17, T2N18, T2N9 resistance occurred at a depth that ranged from



1.0 ft. to 1.5 ft. below the surface. Because of this resistance, the archaeology team placed several excavation units along the two transects in order to determine the nature of this coring anomaly (see Excavation Unit Summaries). Originally, the archeology team believed that this resistance may be a stone feature, like a fieldstone foundation. The archaeological investigations revealed that hard-packed clay caused the resistance.

#### **Other Excavation Units – 4,5,6, and 7**

Because of the coring results and the resistance found in several cores, archaeologists decided to work and decipher the meaning of these anomalies. Excavation Units 4, 5, 6, and 7 were placed in areas where the 1 in. diameter core met resistance. The plow zone varied considerably in this area and subsoil exists anywhere from 0.5 ft. to 1.0 ft. below the surface. The soil tends to be a 10YR3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty loam, and the subsoil is a 10YR4/4 (dark yellowish brown). The area where the subsoil is closer to the surface may have occurred because of erosion. After excavating these units, archaeologists determined that hard packed clay caused the high resistance during the coring. This area had significantly fewer artifacts than found in the area of Feature 1.



## Chapter 9: Block 13

### *Block 13, Lots 3 & 4 – Historical Background*

Squire McWorter acquired the deed to Block 13, Lots 3 and 4 in 1854. He built a substantial house with cellar and a fieldstone foundation (see archaeology description below) in 1854. Squire died in 1855 and his wife Louisa continued to live in the house until her death in 1883 (see tax records below). The 1850 Federal Census classifies Squire and Louisa as mulatto with five children. Marry A. (no last name), classified as white, 22 years old, and English, lived in their household. In the 1855 State Census, Squire is classified black with 11 household members, and livestock valued at \$165. This McWorter family is not listed in the 1860 Federal Census, although in the 1865 State Census Louisa is classified as black with a total of four members in the household and livestock valued at \$300. (Squire died in 1855). In 1870 Louisa is classified as mulatto (45 years old) with her children Lucy and George. Kessiah Clark, (who's estate sold Block 9, Lot 5 to William Butler in 1888) lived in Louisa's house. She is noted as 70 years old and mulatto. Her 30-year-old son Thomas is classified as white and also living in the household. Willie Jones, a six year old mulatto boy from Illinois resided in the house. In 1880 Louisa is noted as the head of the household with her son George (28), and daughter Lucy J. (34). They are all described as mulatto. Kessiah Clark (76 yrs old) is noted as boarding in the house along with Charles Jones, a 15 year old mulatto boy who is listed as an abandoned child, and a laborer from Illinois.

The earliest tax assessments in 1867 indicate that Louisa McWorter owned Lots 1–8 in Block 13 and they were valued at \$16 with \$150 of improvements, which is probably includes a house and associated outbuildings. The value of the lots and improvements increased substantially in the following year (\$40 and \$200, respectively). After Louisa died in 1883, the deed was transferred to her son George, who then transferred the property in 1883 to Lucy McKinney, Louisa's daughter. Lucy and her family lived in the house until the early twentieth century.

Virgil Burdick owned the house by 1930 and rented the house and outbuildings. According to Larry Burdick's late twentieth-century written account of the town, he described the house having a full basement, and a large single story structure on the rear of the house that served as the kitchen. A barn and a well also existed on the property. The house burned on December 7, 1937 (Burdick 1992:np).

#### DEED TRANSACTIONS

Block 13 Lots 3 – 4\*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1854	Frank McWorter	Squire McWorter	58, 1
1883	George McWorter	Lucy McKinney	58, 2
1915	Thomas McWorter	Alonzo Leonard	58, 3
1915	Thomas McWorter	Siegle	58, 4
1915	Christena Watts	Siegle	58, 5

1915	Eliza Brown	Siegle	58, 6
1915	Siegle/Strauss	Aaron Malone	58, 7
1916	Shelby McWorter	A. E. Malone	58, 8
1919	George McWorter	John Siegle	58, 10
1924	George McWorter	John Siegle	58, 11
1925	Shelby McWorter	John Siegle	58, 9
1925	George McWorter	John Siegle	58, 12
1927	Master in Chancery	John Siegle	58, 13
1930	Emma Siegle	Virgil Burdick	58, 14

(\*note: both lots 3 & 4 are sold together from 1854 – 1930)

HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS (note: Lots 3 – 4 are assessed together from 1867–1888).

Block 13, Lots 3–4\*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$16.00	\$150.00
1868	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$40.00	\$200.00
1869	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$40.00	\$200.00
1870	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0.00	\$200.00
1871	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0.00	\$ 50.00
1872	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	\$0.00	\$200.00
1875	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	--	\$200.00
1878	Louisa McWorter (Lots 1–8)	--	\$350.00
1883	Louisa McWorter/		

**Lucy J. McKinney (Lots 1–8)** -- **\$375 (Louisa**  
 McWorter's name crossed out)

1888 Lucy J. McKinney (Lots 1–8) -- \$350.00

(\*note: Lots 3 – 4 are assessed together from 1867–1888).

1850 FEDERAL CENSUS (Block 13, Lots 3–4)

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>McWorter</i>	Squire	33	M	M	Farmer
	Louisa	26	F	M	not given
	Lucy	5	F	M	not given
	Squire	3	M	M	not given
	George	1	M	M	not given
	Mary A.	22	F	W	not given
	Mary A.	3	F	M	not given
	Lucy	0.4	F	M	not given

1855 STATE CENSUS (Block 13, Lots 3–4)

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>McWorter</i>	S.	B	11

1865 STATE CENSUS (Block 13, Lots 3–4)

NAME	FIRST NAME	RACE	NO. IN HOUSEHOLD
<i>McWorter</i>	Louisa	B	4

1870 FEDERAL CENSUS (Block 13, Lots 3–4)

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>McWorter</i>	Louisa	45	F	M	Keeping house
	Lucy	22	F	M	At home
	George	21	M	M	Farmer
<i>Clark</i>	Thomas	30	M	W	Farmer
	Kezia	70	F	M	Not Given

1880 FEDERAL CENSUS (Block 13, Lots 3 and 4)

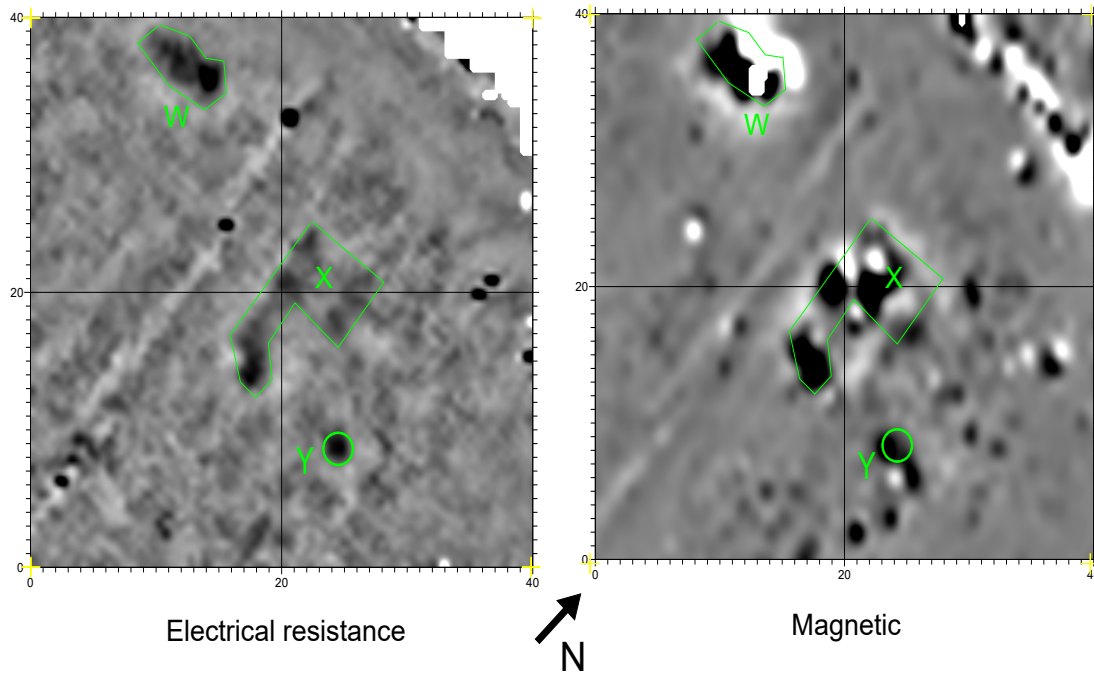
NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	OCCUPATION
<i>McWorter</i>	Louisa	54	F	M	Keeping house
	Lucy J.	34	F	M	At home
	George	28	M	M	Farm laborer
<i>Clark</i>	Kasiah	76	F	M	Mother
<i>Jones</i>	Charles	15	M	M	abandoned child

***Block 13, Lots 3-4: Goals of the Archaeology***

During the walkover survey the archaeology team found a large concentration of artifacts in Lots 3 and 4. Most of these are domestic artifacts, although there is a heavy concentration of cut nails, all suggesting the presence of a domestic structure in the vicinity. The lot and buildings were owned by McWorter family members from the mid nineteenth century into the early twentieth century. Louisa took in boarders and this tradition may have continued into the twentieth century since oral and written accounts refer to the building as the “hotel.” We know that the domestic building and a barn burned to the ground in 1937 and there is no signature of any structures on the lot in the 1939 aerial photograph.

The geophysical survey identified many anomalies throughout Block 13, Lots 3 and 4. Some may be the signature of the McWorter house and associated outbuildings, including a barn and a well. The archaeology team concentrated on Anomaly W in Lot 4 and Anomalies X in Lot 3. The latter group of anomalies cluster and form a square shape. The archaeological investigations set out to ground truth these anomalies (Figures 9.1 and 9.2).

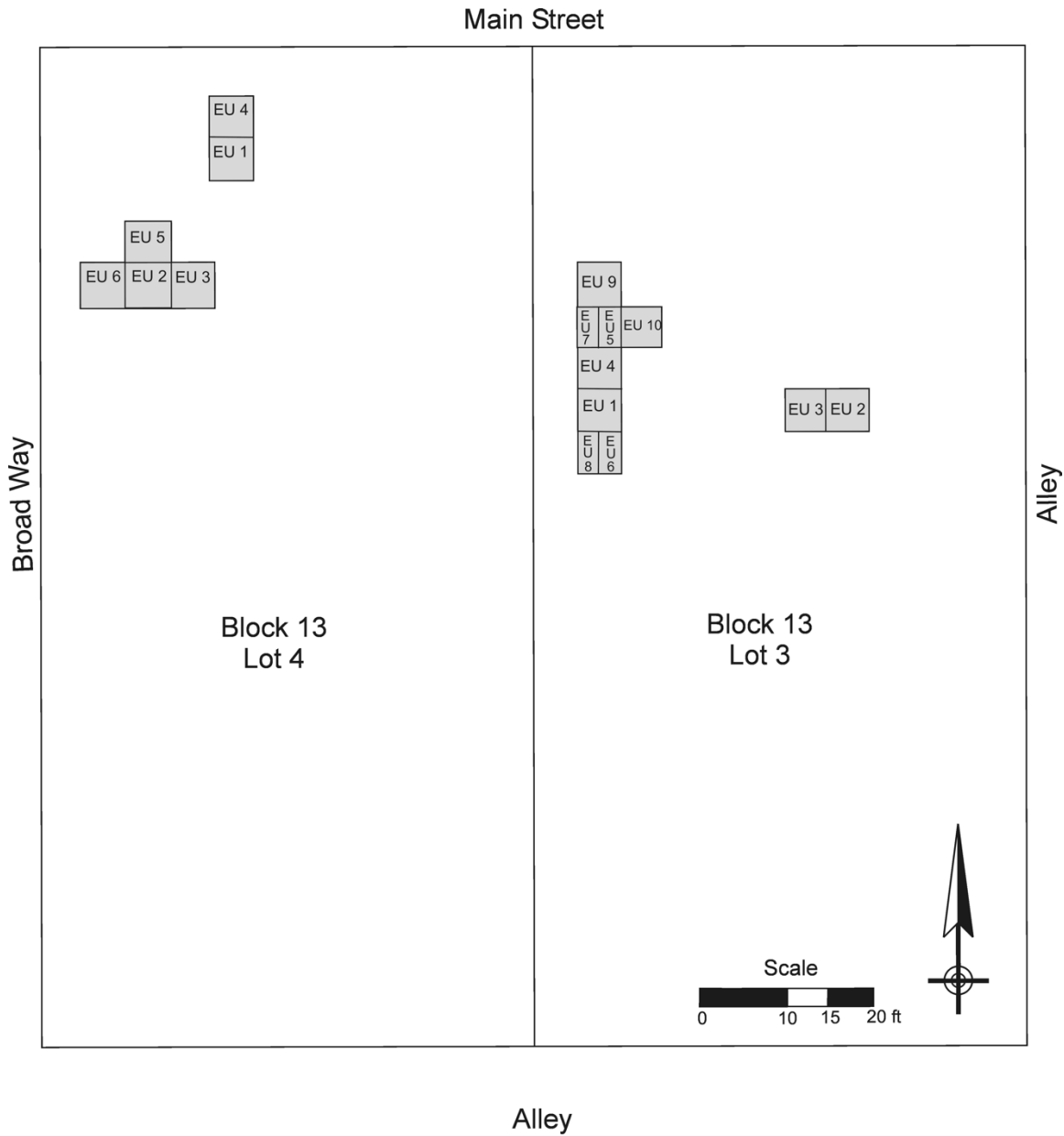
# New Philadelphia Hotel



Likelihood of feature presence:  
Green = most likely (resistance and magnetic anomalies present)  
Yellow = uncertain (very weak magnetic anomalies present)  
Red = least likely (no magnetic anomaly is present)

Locate excavation units relative to resistance anomalies.

**Figure 9.1.** Geophysical survey of Block 13, Lots 3 and 4 (Courtesy, Michael Hargrave).



**Figure 9.2.** Location of excavation units in Block 13, Lots 3 and 4 (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

### ***Archaeology of Block 13, Lot 3***

Excavation Units 2 and 3 were placed on the eastern edge of the cluster of Anomaly X. Generally, the upper plow zone was a 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown) and 10YR 4/3 (brown) silty clay. Large quantities of nineteenth and twentieth-century ceramics and glass were found throughout the top 1.5 ft. of soil. Metal was also found throughout this

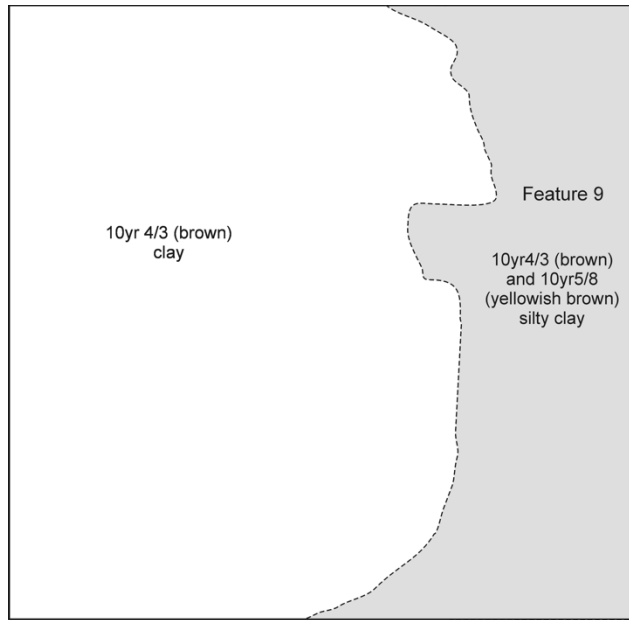
zone. A Union officer's uniform button was recovered from the lower part of A3 (Figure 9.3). At the bottom of level A3 and into level A4 (1.5 ft. through 2.0 ft. below the surface) the soil tended to be 10YR 4/3 (brown) and 10YR 7/6 (yellow) and 10YR 5/4 (yellowish brown). At 2.0 ft. below the ground surface, archaeologists retrieved additional artifacts, although the density decreased significantly and the soil continued to be mottled. Excavations ceased at this point in both units. At the bottom of A4 the team used a one inch soil core and probed two areas. The cores showed that the soil continues to be a silty 10YR 4/2 dark grayish brown for at least another foot below the surface of A4. No artifacts were detected, but these results do not preclude the idea that cultural material may be located below A4.



**Figure 9.3.** Union uniform button from the Civil War era found in Block 13, Lot 3 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).

Archaeologists placed Excavation Units 1, 4–10 in a north–south direction in order to define the western edge of the anomaly cluster. The top layers of soil tended to be a 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown) and 10YR 4/3 (brown) silty clay. The soil had small gravel inclusions. At the bottom of the modern plow zone there is a change in the soil in the eastern portion of these units. The soil is slightly darker and a mottled 10YR 5/8 (yellowish brown) silty clay with some charcoal and mortar. The team identified this eastern portion as Feature 9. The yellowish soils tend to have a higher concentration of clay. Excavations stopped at the bottom of A2 in many of the excavation units in order to define the extent of Feature 9 (Figures 9.4 and 9.5). Feature 9 continued into the northern wall of Excavation Unit 9 and into the southern wall of Excavation Unit 6.

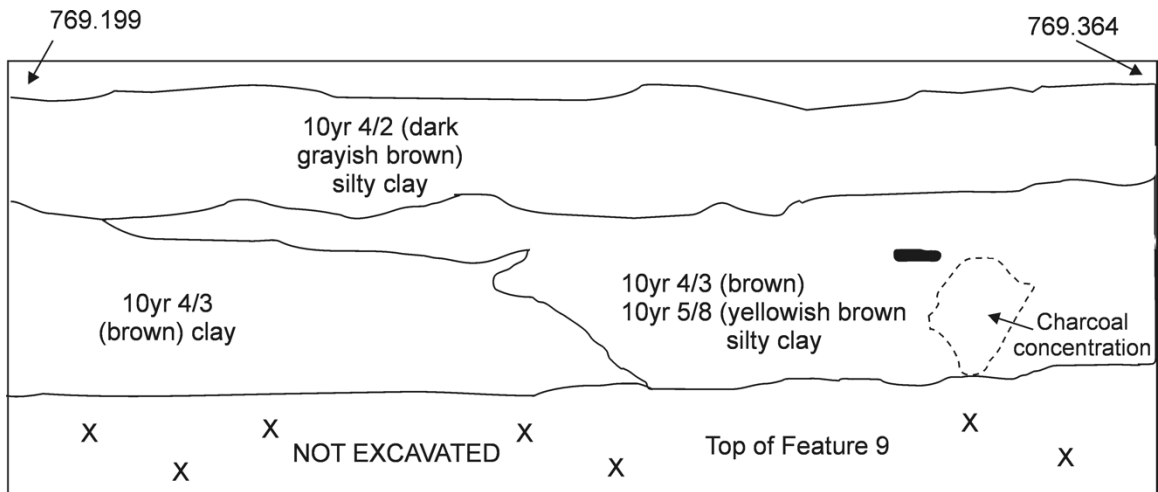




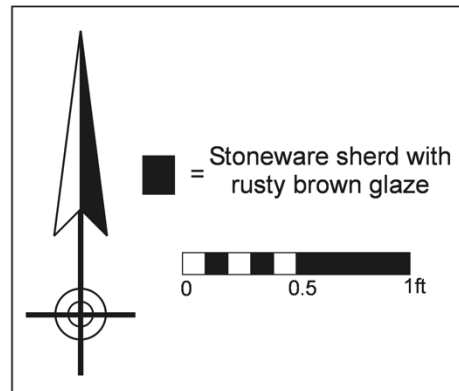
BLOCK 13 LOT 3  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 1  
 FEATURE 9



**Figure 9.4.** Feature 9 is on the eastern edge of several excavation units in Block 13, Lot 3. The feature is a fill layer and is on top of a buried structure. The fill came from the excavation of a pond about 500 feet east of the lot (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).



BLOCK 13 LOT 3  
NORTH PROFILE  
EU 1  
TOP OF FEATURE 9



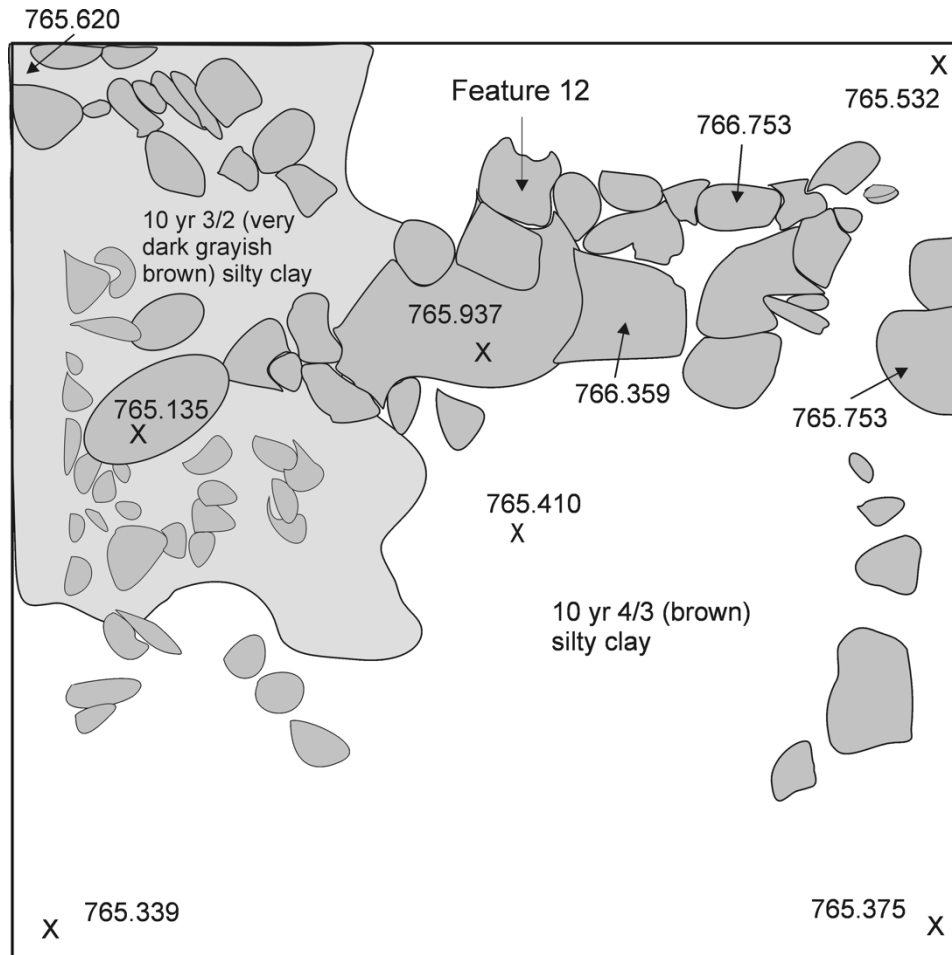
**Figure 9.5.** Profile of Excavation Unit 1. Excavations ceased on the top of Feature 9. The Feature was later cored and charred materials were located beneath the feature (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

At the end of the field season the archaeology team placed two soil cores in Excavation Unit 10 at the base of the plow zone, about 1.0 ft. below the surface. Both samples were cored to about 7.0 ft. below the plow zone. The soil tended to be mottled for the first 2.5 ft., while the second 2.5ft. contained charcoal and ash. Below this point the soil tended to be 10YR 3/1 (very dark gray) and 10YR 7/4 (very pale brown) mottled with 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown). This core sample demonstrates that the top of a burned structure is at least 2.5 ft. below the plow zone (and 3.5 ft. below the surface). It appears that after the structure burned to the ground in 1937 the Burdicks placed a large amount of fill over the remains. The soil probably came from the pond located about 500 ft. to the east of Block 13. Therefore, Feature 9, described above is a fill layer.

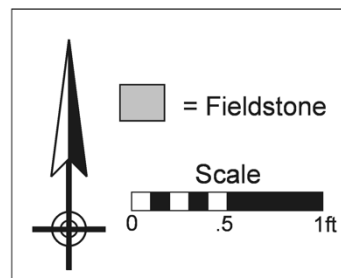
### ***Archaeology of Block 13, Lot 4***

Excavation Units 1 and 4 were placed on the northern boundary of Anomaly W in Block 13, Lot 4. In this area the plow zone tends to be 10YR4/3 (brown) and 10YR 3/3 (dark brown) silty clay. At about 1.5 ft. below the plow zone several large pieces of stone lay scattered throughout the northern edge of Excavation Unit 1. After removing soil to a depth of about 4.0 ft. below the surface, archaeologists defined the foundation wall for a cellar running in an east–west direction in the northern most portion of the EU 1. (Figures 9.6 and 9.7) It was designated Feature 12. Excavations ceased at this point and the team placed one core probe in the bottom of the unit. Archaeologists found charcoal and ash from 2.2ft. to 8.0 ft. from the top of the core (or 6.2 ft. to 12.0 ft. below the surface). Sterile soil exists at a depth of 8.5 ft. below the bottom of the excavation unit (or 12.5 ft. below the surface).





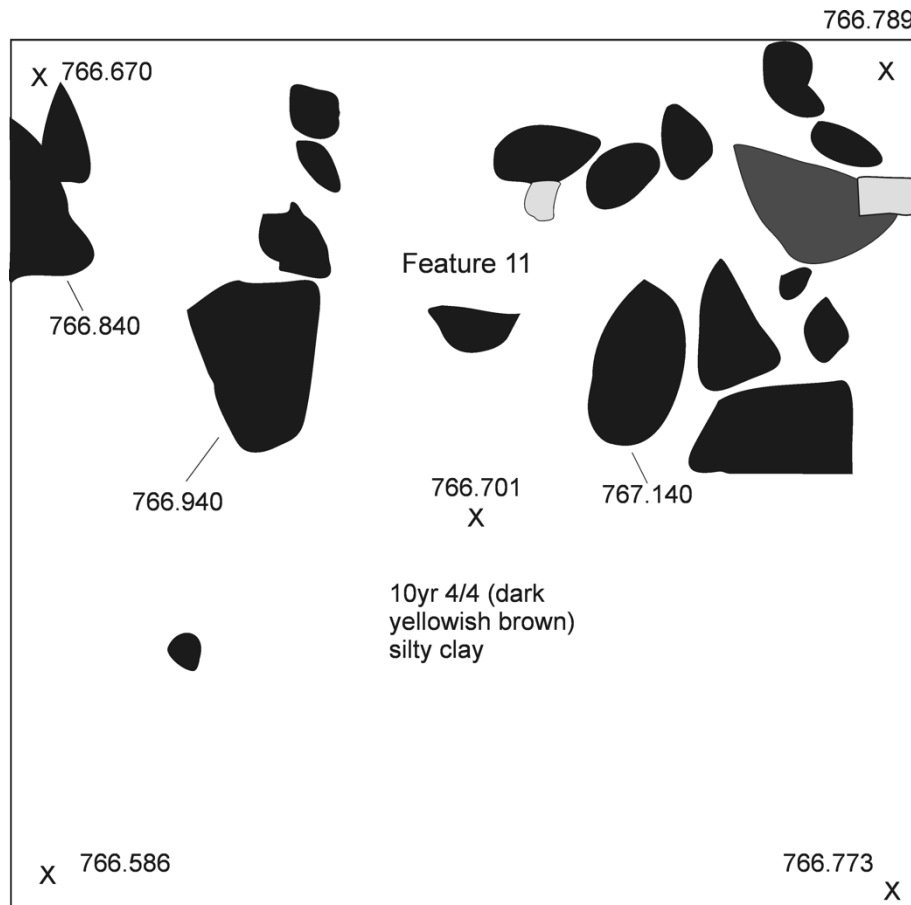
BLOCK 13 LOT 4  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 1  
 FEATURE 12



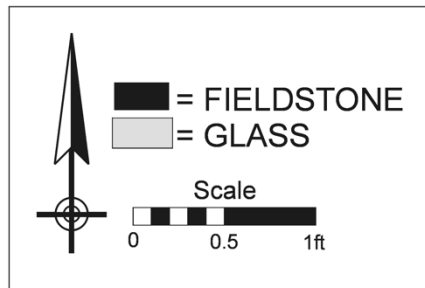
**Figure 9.7.** The top of Feature 12 in Block 13, Lot 4. The feature is a cellar foundation for the Squire and Louisa McWorter residence (Drawn by Carrie Christman, Eva Pajuelo and Alison Azzarello).

Archaeologists placed Excavation Units 2, 3, 5, and 6 on the southern boundary of Anomaly L in Block 13, Lot 4. The team removed the plow zone to a depth of about 1.2 ft. below the surface. They found large quantities of ceramic and glass throughout this zone. The soil tended to be a 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and 10YR 3/3 (dark brown) silty clay. At the base of the plow zone is a fieldstone foundation (Feature 11) that runs in an east–west direction in the northern portion of Excavation Units 2, 3, and 6 (Figure 9.8). The foundation appears to be impacted by plowing since gaps appear in places along the wall and some of the field stones appear to be scatters, although adjacent

to the foundation. Work in all of the excavation units ceased when the top of the fieldstone foundation was completely uncovered in each unit.



BLOCK 13 LOT 4  
 PLAN VIEW  
 EU 3  
 FEATURE 11



**Figure 9.8.** Feature 11 is the remains of a stone foundation that has been impacted by plowing (Drawn by Carrie Christman).

## Chapter 10: Summary and Suggestions from the 2004 and 2005 Seasons

The original archeological survey in 2002 and 2003 (Gwaltney 2004) and the geophysical surveys in 2004 and 2005 (Hargrave 2004) helped guide the archaeological strategies in both field seasons. Concentrations of artifacts in the blocks along the northern portion of Broad Way (north of Main Street) and at the intersection of Broad Way and Main Street provides some clues about where people settled in New Philadelphia. Most of the town's residential occupations occurred along this corridor.

According to the census data for Pike County, there is a significant change in the number of occupants per dwelling from the early to late nineteenth century. From 1850 through 1890 the average number of persons per dwelling dropped by one person, from 5.97 to 4.78, and the mean family size decreased from 5.89 to 4.68 (Smith and Bonath 1982: 79–80). The change in the average size per household occurred because of the drop in family size and the decrease of households with extended families under one roof. Therefore, there is a good chance that while the population for New Philadelphia dwindled, and the average size of the households also decreased, the number of dwellings would not have declined in relative proportion. Over the next several years archaeology will reveal many of these dwellings and associated outbuildings.

Excavations indicate that the plow zone is about 1.0 ft. to 1.2 ft. deep throughout New Philadelphia and it is a bit shallower in the northern and western portions of Block 9, Lots 4 and 5. The archaeology of the town demonstrates that undisturbed archaeological features exist below the plow zone in the areas tested. Archaeological deposits span the entire time period of the town's occupation. One 12.0 x 12.0 ft. subterranean feature (Feature 4) associated with a domestic site was abandoned and filled in the 1850s. The earliest tax records indicate that the lot was unimproved from 1867, and the area was later referred to as "the park." This feature is associated with an undocumented resident of New Philadelphia and is from the earliest settlement of the town. Another pit feature (Feature 1) measures 5.0 x 5.0 ft. and is related to the Casiah Clark's ownership of the lot. She owned the property from 1854 when McWorter sold her the property, and she was taxed on the land from at least 1867 until her death in 1888. The materials from the cellar pit date to the 1850s–1860s, and in the 1870 Federal Census Casiah and her family lived with Louisa McWorter.

A lime slacking pit (for the mixing of lime for the plastering of interior walls) is located in Block 3, Lot 4, and is associated with a yet to be discovered nineteenth-century building. A stone foundation also exists in Block 7, Lot 1 and is probably a late nineteenth-century addition to a mid-nineteenth century building. The precise dating of these two latter features is tentative, but they are both related to the nineteenth-century town (Figure 10.1).



**Figure 10.1.** *Team Z– NSF–REU and University of Illinois Students (Megan Volkel, Michael Collart, LaShara Morris) (Photograph by Charlotte King).*

Two features were uncovered in Block 4. One (Feature 7) is hard compact clay with brick and mortar measuring 6.0 x 3.5 ft. The other (Feature 13) has a large concentration of mortar and some brick fragments and measures 4.5 x 6.0 ft. The plow zone above these features has a large proportion of ceramics that date to the 1840s. There is a good chance that these features date to the earliest settlement period of the town. While excavations in Block 3 produced few artifacts and a relatively larger proportion of clinker and slag, the archaeology team located a square post mold (Feature 8) and the edge of an ash and cinder deposit. This ash pit (Feature 10) may be related to a yet undetected domestic activity.

Excavations in Block 13, Lots 3 and 4 located the basement foundation for the house constructed by Squire McWorter. While Squire died in 1855, Louisa continued to live in the house and take in boarders until her death in 1883. The features related to this house are buried deep, and it appears that the Burdicks placed soil from the excavation of a



pond (about 500 ft. east of the block) on top of the remains of structure after it burned to the ground in 1937 (Figure 10.2).



**Figure 10.2.** *Excavations in Units 1 and 2 in Block 13 (Gail Kirk and Charles Williams) (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

Almost all of the nails found at the houselot sites are machine cut nails. They were generally manufactured from about 1790 to about 1880. In the 1880s wire nails become popular and they are still manufactured today. The lack of wire cut nails provides some perspective about the growth and eventual demise of the town. Little building and very few repairs were made on existing buildings in New Philadelphia after the 1880s. While the residents of the former town left, people apparently did not build or renovate existing structures. The town suffered a slow decay as families moved away and buildings disappeared from the landscape.

The artifact assemblages found at the different parts of the town also help to paint a different picture of the end of frontier Illinois. While there is a common perception of frontier life with little amenities, this is not the case as the town developed in the 1840s, 1850s, and after the American Civil War. Very early in the town's existence the residents were well connected with regional and national markets. Refined earthenware ceramics from Great Britain found in contexts that date to the 1840s/1850s provide notable evidence of the purchasing networks necessary to provision material items to this town located over 20 miles from the Mississippi River. Agents from St. Louis traveled to

eastern ports and ordered large quantities of ceramics to be shipped to St. Louis for eventual distribution to the city's hinterlands. By the 1850s goods easily flowed from Chicago.

The presence of an aqua green scroll flask container fragment that dates to about 1850 is also an intriguing object. It was made in the Midwest and while the object may suggest the opening of regional trade routes during this era to places like Louisville and Cincinnati, its presence may also be attributed to the strong local connection that residents maintained during the town's early settlement (Figure 10.3).



**Figure 10.3.** *Screening at Block 8, Lot 4 at New Philadelphia (Emily Helton) (Photograph by Paul Shackel).*

The sewing assemblage from the Casiah Clark's occupation furnishes a context for domestic life of an African-American family, with a female head of household in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The identification of slate pencils (found in Block 9, Lot 5) close to the area where local accounts locate the site of a past, segregated school house that served African-American residents (on Block 9, Lot 4) provides notable evidence of the presence of this institution and the use of this structure by members of the community. Excavations on this "negro schoolhouse lot" (Block 9, Lot 4) produced the remains a stone pier foundation that may be related to the building. Additional archaeology may locate other architectural features, although since most the topsoil has

eroded from this area there is a good chance that the other remaining architectural features may have eroded away, or would have been impacted by plowing.

It becomes clear when comparing sites from the early nineteenth century in Illinois that many forms of material culture become homogenized and earlier cultural differences become indistinguishable (Mazrim 2002:268). While “Yankee” and “Upland South” traditions are noticeable in the faunal assemblage (see Martin, this report), a review of the material goods uncovered to date shows that the types of material culture found at sites inhabited by different ethnic groups show little or no differences. All of the residents of New Philadelphia have the same types of material culture and could access local merchants for goods, such as refined earthenwares. What distinguishes the different households from each other may be their dietary habits. Lack of access to some markets, because of economics, transportation, and/or racial discrimination may have encouraged some families to continue the tradition of relying on foraging and hunting for a substantial amount of their protein intake (see Mullins 1999). A closer and more detailed examination of house construction techniques may also provide some clues about household and ethnic differences.

Additional archaeology and a more detailed analysis of artifacts and features will help provide a foundation for additional interpretations of the lifeways of the residents of New Philadelphia.



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