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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, BAKER FIELD,  
MANHATTAN, NEW YORK

12 MARCH 1986

Prepared for:  
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## COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, BAKER FIELD

### INTRODUCTION:

During the second week of February, 1986, Greenhouse Consultants Inc. was notified by Konheim and Ketcham that a deposit containing historic artifacts had been impacted by construction activities. The site is that of the future Community Hospital being built for the Presbyterian Hospital in Baker Field, located at the extreme northern tip of Manhattan Island, New York. Greenhouse Consultants Inc. was consulted because the archaeologist who had performed the preliminary studies (Geismar 1984, a,b and c), on the Baker Field site, Joan H. Geismar, was temporarily unavailable. We were also informed that the reviewing agency would be the Field Services Bureau of the Historic Preservation Office of New York State, and that Konheim and Ketcham would be retained to oversee this work. After preliminary discussions with Caroline Konheim of Konheim and Ketcham, it was determined that an archaeological monitoring program would be carried out to determine the nature and significance of historic deposits encountered, and to ascertain whether any deposits representing potential prehistoric cultural activities were present.

### FIELD ACTIVITIES:

Monitoring of part of the foundation excavations for the planned Community Hospital building in the northeast corner of Baker Field was conducted by Greenhouse Consultants Incorporated personnel on February 20, 1986 (see Figure 1, Location Map). After making two preliminary visits to the site the preceding week to inspect the conditions and make logistical arrangements with the contractors regarding the availability of a suitable excavating machine and operator, the monitoring archaeologist, George J. Myers, Jr., arrived on the morning of the 20th with one assistant and appropriate field equipment. It had been determined on the first site visit that a fairly thick stratum containing historic debris had been cut through by the excavators. A reasonably large sample of artifacts from this historic deposit was collected and the horizontal and vertical location of the deposit was recorded. The edge of the foundation excavation was cleared to provide a relatively vertical cross-section through the various deposits exposed (see Plate 1). This section was photographed and several soil samples were collected. The exposed sections and the bottom of the contractors' excavation were then examined for artifacts or any other evidence of historic and/or prehistoric cultural activities, other than the historic debris noted above. When no evidence was found, it was concluded that the one stratum containing the historic debris represented the only evidence of cultural activity requiring recording in this area of the foundation excavation. Accordingly, the principal investigator, William I. Roberts IV, notified the Field Services Bureau of the Historic Preservation

Office of New York State at 2:00 p.m. that the monitoring archaeologists had completed their work and that construction activities could resume. Charles Florence of the Field Services Bureau concurred and the principal investigator notified Konheim and Ketcham and the project engineers, Woodward Clyde Consultants, Inc., that the contractors could resume their work.

#### SUMMARY OF STRATIGRAPHY:

A total of four strata were encountered during the monitoring of the foundation excavation for the Community Hospital building at Baker Field. They were assigned context numbers 001 through 004 (Context is abbreviated as Cx. hereafter).

Cx. 001: Black, profuse coal and cinders in some silty sand.  
Depth: 0 to 4 feet below surface.

Cx. 002: Mottled grey and black. Profuse coal, cinders and ashes in some silty sand.  
Depth: 4 to 8 feet below surface.

Cx. 003: Strong brown silty sand.  
Depth: 15 feet below surface to bottom of excavation.

Cx. 004: Dark yellowish/brown sandy silt.  
Depth: 15 feet below surface to bottom of excavation.

The only finds collected were from Cx. 001 and Cx. 002. The vast majority were from Cx. 002, while a small group of artifacts collected during the first site visit were assigned to Cx. 001, the uppermost stratum, since it could not be accurately determined whether they originally came from Cx. 001 or Cx. 002.

Both Cx. 003 and Cx. 004 were interpreted as sterile subsoil deposits, probably laid down by glacial action. (See Plate 1 for a section showing Cx. 001-004.)

#### ARTIFACT PROCESSING:

Subsequent to the field work, all recovered cultural materials were washed, marked, stabilized, and catalogued in the Greenhouse Consultants laboratory, according to the National Park Service taxonomy for historic artifacts. All diagnostic materials consisting of glass, ceramics and pipe fragments were dated based on stylistic and technical criteria according to their TPQ (terminus post quem, the beginning date for manufacture of each artifact type identified). This TPQ date provided a time frame for the earliest possible date of the deposit, establishing the initial date after which the fill had to be laid down. The artifacts were then computer inventoried on the in-house microcomputer data base system, which provided sorted catalogues with totals and dates for each excavated group of artifacts by

natural units of stratigraphic association. A select group of bottles were photographed (See plate 2).

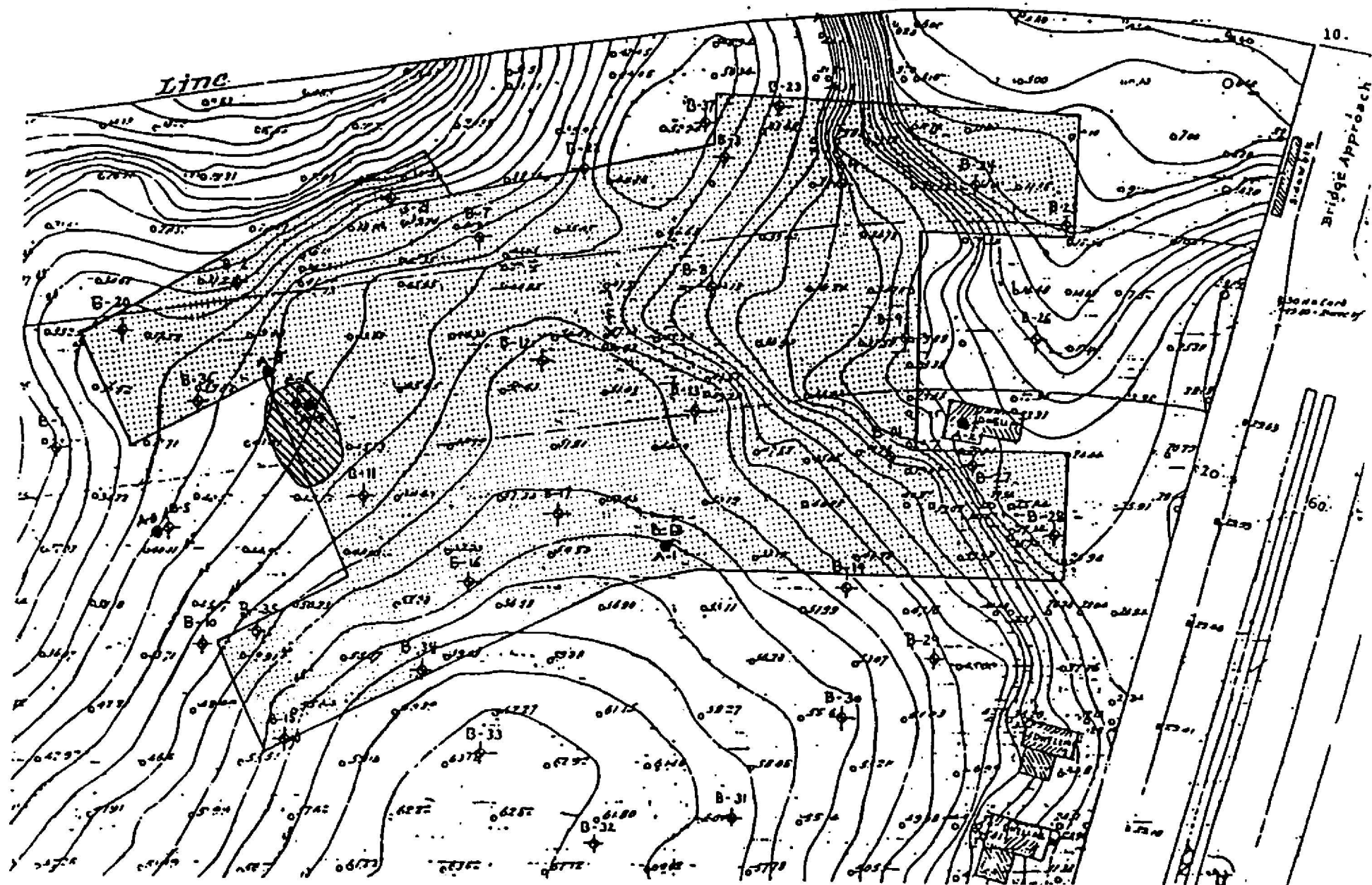
#### ARTIFACT RESULTS:

Eighty-four artifacts were recovered from the foundation excavation. These include glass, ceramic, shoe leather, mammal bone, iron and plastic. Roughly 2/3 of the sample is composed of whole or nearly whole glass bottles. The types of bottles in the sample represent a wide array of household related activities (see Plate 2). Types include liquor, beer, wine, soda, milk, condiment, cleaning fluid, hair tonic, patent medicine, fruit, ink, cosmetic jars and other food containers (see Inventory). The TPQ of this deposit is 1906, based on an embossed patent date on the base of a food bottle. Many of the bottles were made by a fully automatic machine (TPQ 1903) and several were made by a semi-automatic machine (TPQ 1881). The ceramic sherds were primarily decorated whitewares, whose range of manufacture dates support the glass data. This deposit seems to represent a household refuse dump from the very late 19th and first decade of the 20th century.

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

This report documents the procedures and results of the archaeological monitoring program of the foundation excavation for the Community Hospital building in the northeast corner of Baker Field, Manhattan, N.Y. Analysis of the artifacts recovered during the archaeological monitoring indicates that the historic deposit impacted by the construction activities was a refuse dump dating to the very end of the 19th century and the first decade of the 20th century.

Based on these results, it is now possible to conclude that no potentially significant archaeological or historical resources exist within the boundaries of this foundation excavation. We therefore recommend that no further archaeological testing or mitigation is necessary.



Base map: a detail of Isaac Michael Dyckman Estate Map (1904), Office of the Borough President, Borough of Manhattan Topographic Bureau

Configuration of the proposed  
Community Hospital (1984)



Area of Archaeological Monitoring  
and location of Context 002.

Figure 1: Community Hospital Site, Baker Field, Manhattan  
Taken from Geismar 1984b, Fig.3.

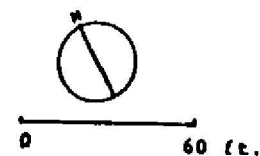




Plate 1: Section of foundation trench showing Contexts 001-004, note the form for foundation in foreground.



Plate 2: Range of variation of bottle types recovered from Context 002, including semi-automatic machine made (TPQ 1881) and fully automatic machine made (TPQ 1903).

#### LIST OF PERSONNEL

William I. Roberts IV	- Principal Investigator/Co-Author
Nancy A. Stehling	- Laboratory Director/Co-Author
George J. Myers Jr.	- Monitoring Archaeologist
Jesse Ponz	- Assistant Monitoring Archaeologist/Lab Technician
Mindy H. Washington	- Word Processor/Lab Technician
Joshua Nefsky	- Artifact Photographer



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CXND	SR	CL	MAT	COMMENTS	TECH	TPQ	REF	COUNT
001.	01	01	004	HOTEL CHINA PLATE	IMPRSD MARK GRNWOOD TRNTN	1876		1
001.	01	01	136	ENAMELWARE PITCHER	WHITE ENAML/BLUE SPECKS	1860	LIFSEY 1973:153	1
001.	01	01	002	TAN STONEWARE JUG	90%, SALTGLAZED, FINE			1
001.	02	01	017	MAMMAL BONE				1
001.	06	01	015	SHOE LEATHER	STITCHED			1
001.	09	11	026	IRON ROD W/ WOOD TIP	19" LONG			1
002.	01	02	078	PROB FOOD JAR	EMBED PATENT NO'S/DATES	1906		1
002.	01	02	078	MEDICINE BOTTLE BLUE	EMBED 6 (OR 9) ON BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	FOOD/CONDIMENT JAR	EMBED ON BASE/AQUA	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	FOOD JAR-AQUA-EMBED	EMBED EUREKA HRSERDSH	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	FOOD/CONDIMENT JAR	EMBED ON BASE/AQUA	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	BEVERAGE/CONDIMENT CLEAR	EMBED:ONE FULL PINT/BODY	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	FOOD BOTTLE-CLEAR	EMBED ON BODY & BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	FOOD BOTTLE CLEAR	EMBED:GULDENS MUSTARD	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	MEDICINE BOTTLE CLEAR	EMBED LISTERINE ON BODY	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	FRUIT JAR CLEAR	EMBED ON BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	MED/FOOD BTLE CLR W/CORK	EMBOSSSED	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	MED/FOOD BTLE CLEAR	EMBOSSSED CAP. 1 OZ. /BOD	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	MED/FOOD BTLE CLR W/CORK	EMBED R.R.R. RADWAY & CO	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	SODA/MINRL/BEVG CLEAR BTL	EMBED 2 ON BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	SODA/MINRL/BEVG CLEAR BTL	FRAG:FINISH NECK	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	BEER BTLE AMBER	EMBED ON BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	WINE BTLE DARK GREEN	EMBED ON BASE: VE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	WINE BTLE DARK GREEN		1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	LITTLEMORE NIP BOTTLE	EMBOSSSED/CORK/ABM	1903	MUNSEY:1970	1
002.	07	04	078	HAIR TONIC BOTTLE-CLEAR	EMBED ON BOD & BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	09	06	078	BTLE AQUA/SNUFF DR PILLS	EMBED ON BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	09	14	078	CARBONA BOTTLE AQUA	EMBED CARBONA ON BASE	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	09	14	078	LYSOL BOTTLE CLEAR	EMBED LYSOL ON BOD	1903	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	02	078	MLK BTLE CLR-EMBED		1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	MEDICINE BTLE-AMBER	EMBOSSSED 430 ON BASE	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	MEDICINE BTLE-CLEAR	EMBED W CO/8/USA ON BASE	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	FOOD BOTTLE-CLEAR	EMBOSSSED 500 ON BASE	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	CLEAR BOTTLE W/CORK	PROB 20TH C.	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	JAR-CLEAR	PROB 20TH C.	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	MILK BOTTLE CLEAR	EMBED CLOVER FARMS 1QT.	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	BEER BOTTLE/AQUA	EMBED WELZ & ZERWECK	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	02	078	BOTTLE BASE-AQUA	S.A.M.	1881	LORRAIN 1968	1
002.	01	02	078	MLK BTLE CLR-EMBED		1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	07	03	078	INK BOTTLE-CLEAR	EMBED "IDEAL INK"/BASE	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	07	04	013	COSMETIC JAR MILK GLASS	PROB 20TH C.	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	07	04	013	COSMETIC JAR MILK GLASS	PROB 20TH C.	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	07	04	078	HAIR TONIC BTLE-CLEAR	EMBOSSSED	1881	LORRAIN 1968:42	1
002.	01	01	004	HOTEL CHINA	IRONSTONE W/GREEN	1860	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	UNDEC WHITEWARE	THICK SQ. HOLLOWWARE	1858	PRICE 1979	4
002.	01	02	078	FOOD BTLE-GREEN	POSSIBLE SNAP CASE	1855	LORRAIN 1968:43	1
002.	01	01	004	HAND DEC WHITEWARE	LUSTER DEC	1846	JOHN 1951	1
002.	01	01	003	UNDEC YELLOWWARE	BOWL BASE	1830	RAMSAY 1939	2
002.	01	01	004	TRANSFER PR WHITEWARE	FLORAL POLYCHROME/GILT	1830	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	GILT DEC WHITEWARE	FLORAL PATTERN	1830	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	HAND PAINTED WHITEWARE	DEEP BLUE FLORAL PATTERN	1830	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	TRANSFER PRNTD WHITEWARE	PURPLE FLORAL MOTIF	1830	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	TRANSFER PRNTD WHITEWARE	BRIGHT POLYCHROME	1830	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	TRANSFER PRNTS WHITEWARE	PROB. WILLOW	1830	PRICE 1979	1
002.	01	01	004	DEC WHITEWARE	LUSTER/GILT RIM	1830	SOUTH:1972 N HUME:1976	1

CXND	GR	CL	MAT	COMMENTS	TECH	TPQ	REF	COUNT
002.	01	01	004	POLYCHROME WHITEWARE	FLORAL PATTERN	1830	SOUTH:1972/WDEL HUME:1976	1
002.	01	01	004	UNDEC WHITEWARE	BOWL BASE SHERD	1820	SOUTH:1972/N HUME:1976	1
002.	01	01	001	HARD PASTE PORCELAIN	BLUE FLORAL DEC			2
002.	01	01	001	OVERGLAZED SDFTPST PORCLN	WITH GILT/ORANGE			2
002.	01	01	002	BROWN STONE JUG	MOTTLED BROWN GLAZE			1
002.	01	01	003	PLAIN RED EARTHENWARE				1
002.	01	02	002	GRAY SALTGLZD STONEWARE	BROWN SLIP INTERIOR			2
002.	01	02	013	UNIDENT MILK GLASS	EMBOSSSED FLORAL DESIGN			1
002.	01	02	013	UNIDENT MILK GLASS BURNT				1
002.	01	02	07B	BTLE BASE/BODY FRAG/AQUA	EMBOSSSED ON BODY & BASE			1
002.	01	02	07B	BEER BOTTLE GREEN BASE FR	EMBOSSSED/R MANN/BREWERIES			1
002.	01	02	07B	PROB MED BTLE BASE/BOD FR	BLUE			1
002.	01	02	07B	PROB MED BTLE BASE/BOD FR	EMBOSSSED BASE/VICKS; BLUE			2
002.	01	02	07B	MED BTLE BLUE EMBSD	PHILLIPS MLK OF MAGNESIA			1
002.	01	02	07B	MED BTLE BLUE EMBSD	PHILLIPS MLK OF MAGNESIA			1
002.	04	04	013	LUSTER DEC MILK GLASS	PROB A VASE			4
002.	07	04	008	PLASTIC TOOTHBRUSH	20TH CENTURY			1
002.	09	11	001	BISQUE PORC HARDWARE	20C. PROB ELEC RELATED			1