

7 Hanover Square, Part 2 of 6
Chapter Three

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CHAPTER THREE

LOTS 11 AND 25

Documentary Research

Lots 11 and 25 may be placed in the same chain of title as Lots 10* and 26*. This parcel (10*, 26*, 11 and 25) originated in William Cox's original 1687 Water Lot Grant (Liber A p40), passed to William and Sarah Kidd, and then to Robert Livingston in 1693 (L21 p55). Livingston obtained a 1697 Water Lot Grant to extend Cox's original parcel (46' X 95') an additional 46'2" X 40'/43' (Liber A p221, see also preceding description of Lot 9). Stokes commentary on the 1717 Burgis View describes Livingston's "palatial residence" and places the structure on a parcel containing Lots 10*, 26* 11 and 25 (Stokes I:246).

Sometime shortly after Livingston's death in 1728 the Lot 25 section of the parcel passed to Cornelius Van Horne, a wealthy merchant and New York County Representative to the General Assembly between 1743 and 1758 (L46 p79; L47 p106; L48 p486; Stokes I:246; Bonomi 1971:296-311).

The 1730 tax records list Cornelius Van Horne on Water Street (Lot 25) and his residence was probably built on landfill made under the provisions of Livingston's 1697 Water Lot Grant. Robert Livingston's house is listed in the tax records until 1734 (occupied by Widow Staat, 1723-1734. The records end at this year.). The continued presence of this

structure is puzzling because Water Lot Grants dating to 1734 place Van Horne in 11 and 25 and Stephen Bayard in Lots 9*, 27*, 10* and 26* (Liber B p125, p154). This subdivision suggests that the structure depicted in 1717 was no longer standing in 1734. Presumably it was replaced with a narrower (23' wide) structure (or structures) since this is the width of the parcel described in the 1734 Water Lot Grant (Liber B p125). Garret Van Horne subdivided the Lot 11/25 in 1793/4, selling Lot 25 to the "ironmongers" Abraham Varick and Peter Elting, who also owned Lot 26* (L50 p484; L48 p484; L94 p294). Elting occupied the structure between 1791 and 1811, according to the city directories. Lot 11 was sold to Thomas Timpson in 1794 (L50 p484) and to James Tuttle (owner of Lots 13 and 14) in 1814 (L105 p452; L107 p110). This 1793-4 subdivision of Van Horne's 23' X 140' (approx.) parcel into two parcels (Lot 25 measured 21' X 69'11"/70'8"; L84 p484) implies that at this time there might have been two structures here, one fronting Pearl Street and one fronting Water Street.

The occupancy history suggests that Van Horne owned two structures prior to the 1793-4 subdivision. In 1790 a mason, Thomas Halloway, is listed in Lot 11 and Peter Elting occupied Lot 25 as early as 1791 (NYD). Lot 11 housed a hairdresser in 1794 and after 1812 a series of merchants appear in the directories. Lot 25 housed Peter Elting until 1811 and in 1795 H. Van Solingen, a physician/druggist is also listed (NYD). From 1810 until 1818 a series of merchants occupied

Lot 25. Mrs. Godoin was here in 1819, the house was vacant in 1820 and from 1821 until 1824 the structure functioned as a boarding house (NYD). The structure returned to commercial use in 1825 when Charles Gordon, merchant, is listed (NYD). The lot was vacant from 1831 to 1836 (tax assessment records). During these years it was assessed as part of the Pearl Street House (Lots 9*, 10*, 26* and 27*). John Peters, owner of the Pearl Street House, bought lots 11 and 25 in 1836 and is probably the builder of the new Lot 25 structure which appears in the tax records in this year (L363 p456; L356 p259).

Lots 11 and 25 were conveyed as a single unit also containing present day Lot 9 (9*,10*,26*, and 27*) from 1839 until 1853 (L653 p57). Throughout this period Lot 11 was occupied continuously by the merchants Marsh and Compton (1827 to 1860) (NYD). The 1860 tax records describe a four story building measuring 21' X 65' in Lot 25 and a four story building measuring 21' X 60' in Lot 11. Prior to 1860, there seem to have been a minimum of two building episodes in Lot 11 and two in Lot 25. The original late 17th century structure built on Lots 10 and 11 was probably gone by 1734 when Stephen Bayard had acquired the Lot 10* half of the parcel on which it sat. It was certainly gone by 1790, at which point Lot 11 was listed separately from Lot 10* in the city directories. There is no indication that this 18th century building placed before the 1860 tax assessment records.

EXCAVATION - LOT 11**TEST CUT C**

Examination of 19th and 20th century maps indicated that a narrow, approximately five foot wide, strip of the backyard area between the buildings fronting on Pearl Street and those fronting on Water Street had never been built upon and had remained as a narrow "alley" between the most recent structures. Since the strip had the potential of containing undisturbed backyard deposits and features, two test cuts (B and C) were placed in this area at the beginning of the project.

Test Cut C was located in Lot 11 and measured two feet north-south and five feet east-west. The test cut was excavated to a depth of approximately 20 inches. A dense concentration of brick and mortar rubble was encountered to that depth. Since a similar result was encountered in TC B, we decided to remove the rubble with the backhoe and resume manual excavation beneath the rubble. Clearing with the backhoe, however, indicated that the rubble extended to a depth below the level of the base of the landfill deposits encountered elsewhere on the site. The rubble was apparently deposited during the construction of the large, 20th century building which had stood on the southern portion of the site east of Lot 27*. The construction of the rear wall of this building had disturbed virtually the entire backyard strip in Lot 11.

LOTS 10* AND 11--THE LIVINGSTON HOUSE

Livingston House--Overview

During the exploratory phase of the project, TC H was placed in Lot 11 in order to test the landfill deposits. This test uncovered the remains of a stone foundation wall. Subsequently, we exposed the entire extent of the east, west and south walls of this structure and a portion of the north wall. Examination of the site map indicates that this foundation differs from those uncovered on the lots east of Lot 11. This structure encompasses two lots rather than one. In addition its rear wall extends some two and a half feet further south than the common rear wall of the structures to the east. Subsequent investigations uncovered a rear extension which also straddled the Lot 10*/11 boundary. These foundation walls, in our opinion, remain from the large house owned by Robert Livingston at this location, shown on the Burgis view, drawn in 1717.

The excavation of TC H showed that the east wall of the Livingston house was overlain in part by the wall of the most recent structure to stand on the lot. Later excavations showed that the south, east and north walls were also overlain by the walls of later structures.

The rear wall of the Livingston House was approximately two and half to three feet wide. A narrower sandstone "cap" rested on this wall and was centered on it. Both the differences in materials used in the "cap" and the Livingston

wall and the stratigraphy discussed below, indicate that the "cap" belonged to a later structure which apparently reused the underlying Livingston foundation walls.

The west wall of the Livingston house also was overlain by the base of a later stone wall. This wall base was, in turn, overlain at intervals with stone slabs which may have served as pier supports for a still later structure.

Tests Within the Main Portion of the Livingston House

During the exploratory phase of the project, in addition to TC H, we placed two small test cuts, TC K and TC L in Lot 10* on either side of the rear wall of the Livingston house, primarily to determine whether a wall trench was associated with the architecture. TC L was placed within the Livingston house extension and will be discussed in a subsequent section. TC K was placed within the main portion of the house.

While clearing the west wall of the foundation, we uncovered a portion of a cobble floor. Test Cut P was excavated to determine whether this floor dates to the period of occupation of the Livingston structure or a later one, and whether there were any significant overlying deposits. We also placed a number of small probes at fixed intervals to determine whether the floor was intact within the entire area bounded by the foundation walls in Lot 10*. The probes suggested that the floor was partially intact in some portions of this area, while other areas had been completely disturbed. The floor was not present in Lot 11. Comparison of elevations

in the two lots suggested that if the floor had originally been present in Lot 11 it would have been removed by subsequent construction.

During the mitigation phase of the project we placed three larger test cuts, AA, AB and AC, in the area in which TC P and the probes indicated that the floor may have been intact. Test cuts were placed in a "checkerboard" pattern so that a continuous profile could be obtained extending northward from the south wall of the foundation. A simplified "composite profile" for test cuts AA, AB, AC, K, L and P is included as Figure 24.

Profiles in the northern portion of Lot 10* were obtained from TC P as well as from a "shovel test" type probe placed in the northwest corner of the foundation. This test uncovered the upper portion of the north wall of the foundation.

Shovel Test 5 was placed in the southwest corner of the foundation. It exposed the upper portion of the west foundation wall and provided a profile in this area.

LOT 11--TEST CUT H

Livingston House Excavations

This test cut was placed one and a half feet west of the Lot 11/12 boundary wall and 28 feet south of the Pearl Street base line (Figures 26, 27). The topmost several inches of the excavated deposits consisted of a brown sandy silt containing rubble. The presence of a light-bulb base indicated that this

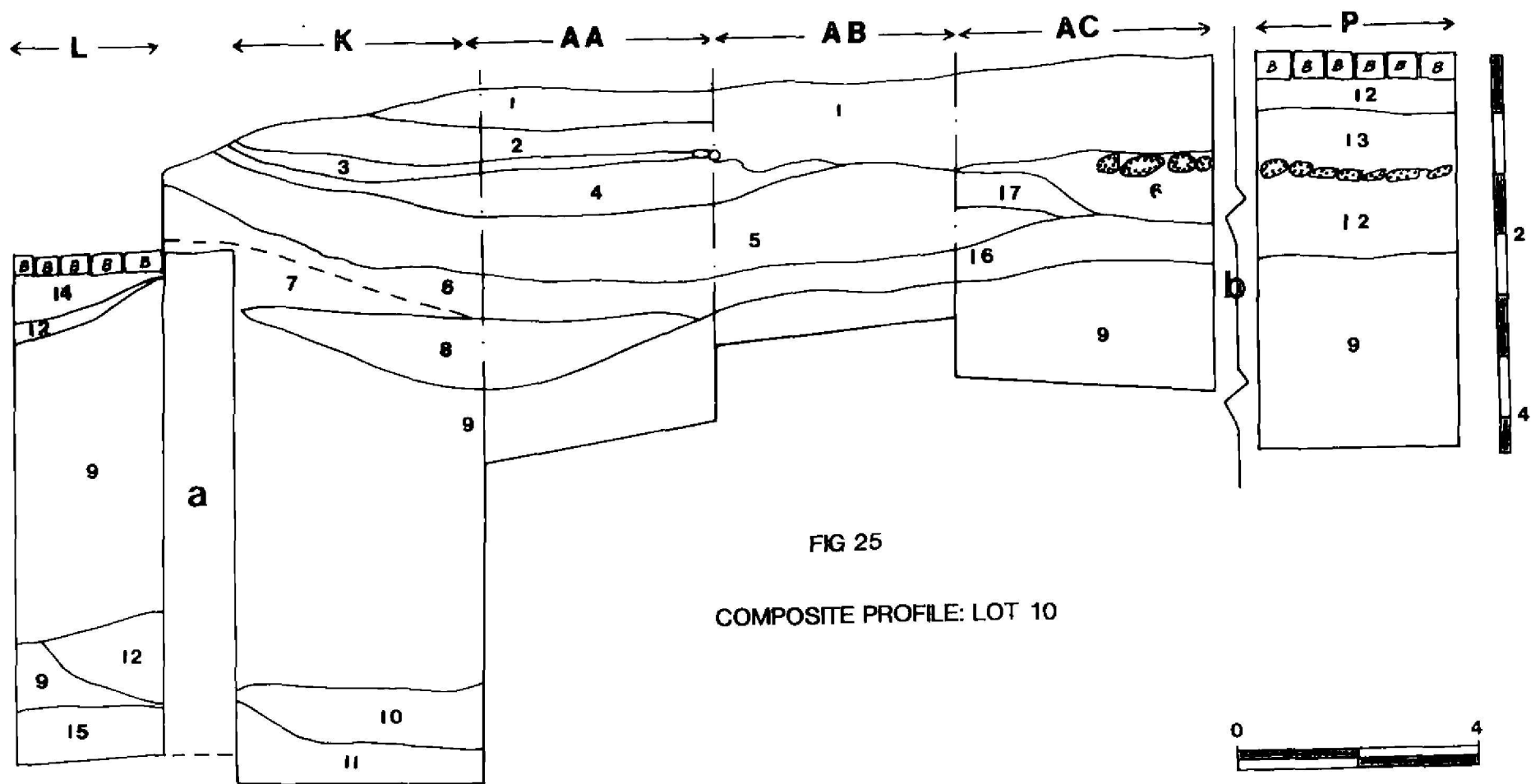


Figure 25. Composite profile Lot 10

1. brick and rubble
2. pinkish sand (AA); bands of variously colored coarse sands (K)
3. pinkish-tan sand (H); medium brown sand (AA)
4. orange-brown coarse sand (K); tan-brown coarse sand (AA)
5. greenish-gray sandy silt
6. browner greenish-gray sandy silt
7. yellowish-gray sandy silt
8. gray and dark gray-black silt
9. greenish-gray sandy silt
10. medium brown sandy silt
11. bands of coarse and fine sands
12. red sand
13. hard-packed brown sand with rubble
14. mottled brown sandy silt
15. coarse gray mottled silty sand
16. reddish-brown sand
17. disturbed area

a = stone wall

b = break in horizontal scale

NORTH WALL

EAST WALL

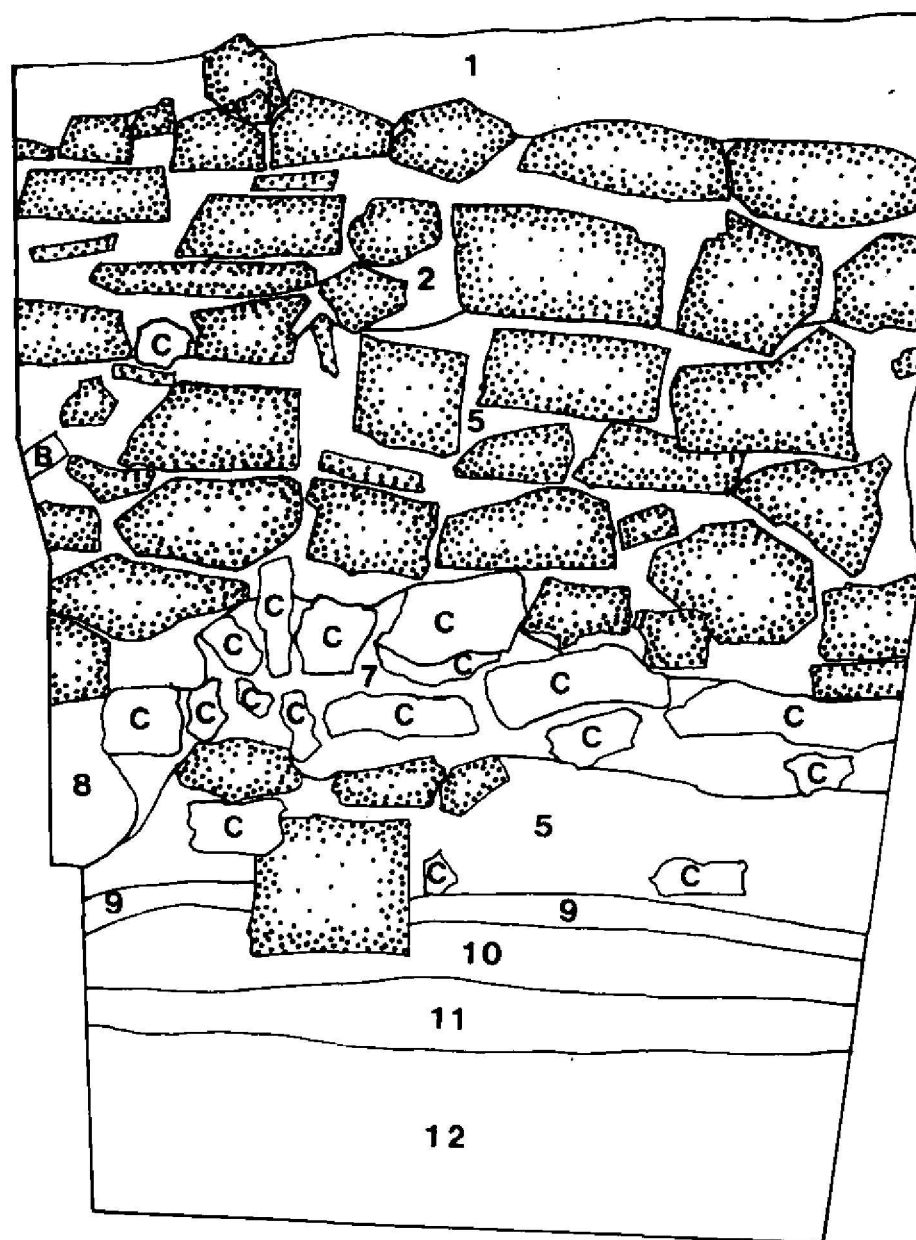
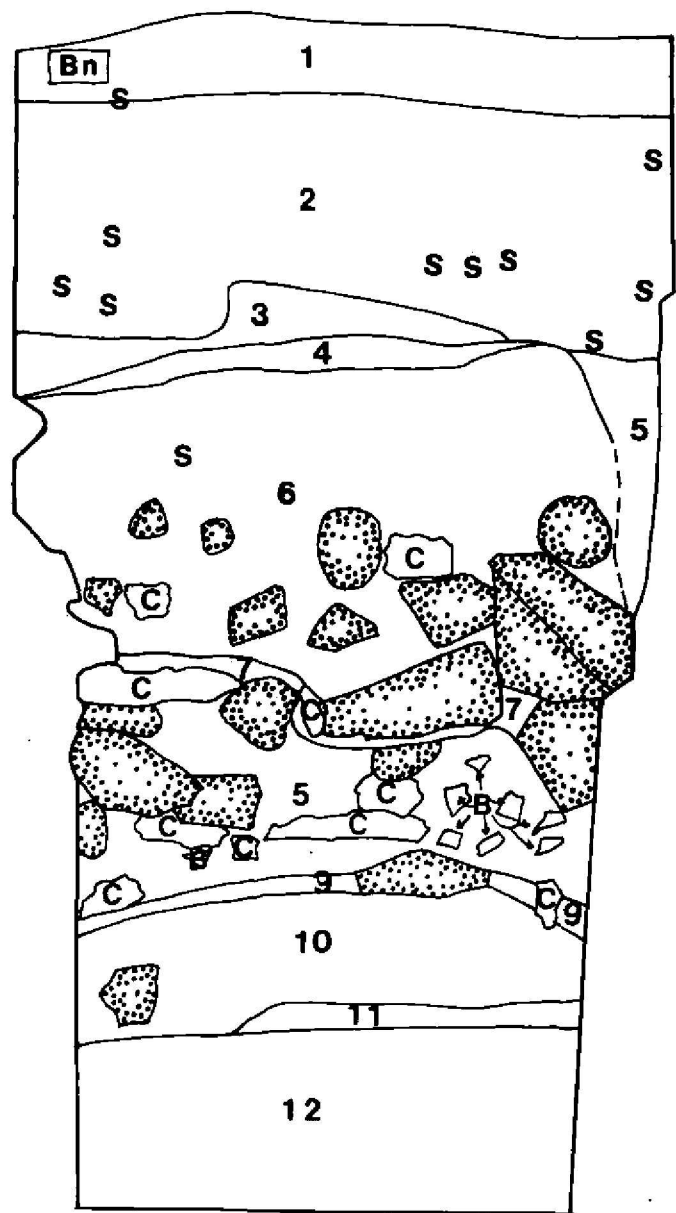


FIG 26-27

TEST CUT H



Figure 26-27. Test Cut H

1. reddish-brown sandy overburden
2. tan-brown sandy silt
3. light brown sand
4. gray-brown silt
5. brown sand
6. tan sand
7. gray-brown clayey silt
8. brown sand
9. wood stain
10. tan sand with shell
11. red silty sand

deposit was modern. The next stratum (stratum II) consisted of brown silty sand which extended to a depth of six to nine inches. During the excavation of this stratum, the top of a dry laid stone wall (the east wall of the Livingston house) was encountered in the eastern part of the test cut.

Beneath the brown silty sand the excavators encountered a layer of greenish brown sandy silt (stratum III) which extended to a depth of 20/24 inches. Immediately underlying this soil was a thin layer of light brown sand (stratum IV) followed by another thin (approximately one inch) layer of dark brown sandy silt (stratum V) containing shell, bone and charcoal. Neither of these two thin strata (IV or V) abutted the stone wall and during the excavation of stratum IV a strip of darker brown sand was noted adjacent to the wall. This strip of darker brown sand (stratum VI) extended approximately five inches west of the stone wall at a depth of 20 inches below the surface and sloped to the east to meet the base of the stone wall 36 inches below the surface of the test cut.

A stratum of tan sand (stratum VII) underlay the layer of dark brown sandy silt (stratum V) and extended to a depth of 40/41 inches. Thus, the brown sand "wall trench" and the wall itself ended within stratum VII. It should be noted that there was a considerable difference in the material recovered from the first excavated level of stratum VII and the two succeeding levels although the soil matrix was uniform. Level VIIa yielded a greater density of artifacts and faunal

material, especially oyster shell, than levels VIIb or VIIc. However, beginning in stratum VIIb (at approximately 32-36 inches), a large quantity of coral and flint nodules were included in the excavated material. This material was not present in level VIIa. The profile drawings show that the top of the coral deposit coincides with the bottom of the wall. However, this coral was not associated with the construction of the wall. This is indicated by the fact that the wall trench ended above the coral deposit and by the fact that the coral was recovered from all portions of TC H, not just the portion adjacent to the wall.

The profile drawings for TC H show a thin layer of gray/brown clayey silt underlying stratum VII. The soil below this was described as brown and tan sand. This sand was excavated as strata VIII and IX. The presence of a large amount of coral and flint nodules was noted throughout. The sand immediately beneath the gray/brown clayey silt had a low density of artifacts and faunal material, in common with the soil overlying the silt. The sand toward the base of these strata had a higher density of materials in all categories.

Below stratum IX a brown wood stain at a depth of 52/55 inches, one to two inches thick, extended across the test cut (stratum IX). Beneath the wood stain, we excavated a layer of tan sand and an underlying lens of mixed tan and gray sand, both of which contained a large quantity of oyster shell. However, the tan sand contained a lower density of coral than

the sand above the wood stain. No coral was recovered from the mixed sand. These strata (XI and XII) extended to a depth of 62 1/2/66 inches.

Red sand (strata XIII) was excavated beneath the tan and gray sand to a depth of 72/77 inches below the surface of TC H. The first excavated level of this sand contained some artifacts and faunal material. The second level was practically sterile. A post hole test at the bottom of the excavation encountered red sand to a depth of 94 inches. The water table was encountered at 86 inches.

Summary

The red sand excavated as stratum XIII probably represents the original river bottom deposits at the location of TC H. It is possible that the tan sand and tan and gray sand (strata XI and XII) immediately overlying this red sand were also natural river bottom deposits. The wood stain overlying stratum XI represents the remains of a large wooden board which may have been deposited on the river bottom prior to the landfilling to prevent the overlying fill material from sinking into the river bottom, or to facilitate access at low tide for carts bearing the landfill material. Similar decayed wooden boards were noted in other test cuts.

The coral and flint nodules which formed a large part of the landfill deposits at this location were probably brought to New York as ballast in ships with previous ports of call in areas of warmer waters. A total of 657.6 pounds of coral

was excavated from TC H. This ships' ballast may have been discarded on land and subsequently redeposited at the location of TC H as part of the landfill. This fill could also have been dredged from the river bottom at another location and used as landfill. The fact that the coral and flint seemed to be distributed throughout the surrounding soil matrix suggests that it is unlikely that the ballast had been originally discarded at this location.

The thin layer of dark brown silty soil excavated as stratum V contained a much higher density of artifacts and faunal material than the underlying landfill, and it is possible that this stratum was deposited after the landfiling had taken place. The overlying sand excavated as stratum IV did not contain this high density of material. Both of these strata were cut through by the wall trench associated with the construction of the east wall of the Livingston house, and thus were deposited before the wall was constructed. This suggests that a period of time had elapsed between the landfiling and the construction of this wall, but we cannot document this. The coral and flint nodules underlying the trench would have provided a firm base for this construction. It is likely that the major portion of the wall trench was located on the outside of the house wall and was therefore situated beneath the more recent Lot 11/12 wall.

It should be noted that three creamware sherds were recovered from the landfill deposits in TC H. One originated

in stratum VII and two in stratum IX. Since creamware was not manufactured before the 1760s, there must have been some type of disturbance within the test cut. Neither the profile drawings or the excavators' notes indicate the presence of an animal burrow, although a pocket of rust stained sand was noted in the center of the test cut in stratum VIIa. A possible source of disturbance in this and other test cuts was the series of bore holes made for engineering purposes before the beginning of the archaeological excavations.

LOT 10*--TEST CUTS AA, AB, AC, P AND K

The lot which we have designated as 10* was one of four lots covered by the last building to stand at this location. After this building was constructed in the late 19th century, the four lots were joined together as the modern Lot 9. We have designated the other three original lots as 9*, 26* and 27*. A common brick floor was present in all four of these lots including Lot 10*. This brick floor was not present in Lot 11 which, as noted above, was the location of the eastern portion of the Livingston house. Since an 1855 map shows a back yard area between the structures fronting on Pearl Street (Lot 9* and 10*) and those fronting on Water Street (Lots 26* and 27*), the common brick floor must have been constructed after this date.

Prior to the excavation of the test cuts in Lot 10*, the brick floor was removed from the vicinity of these test cuts either manually or by power equipment. The brick floor was

underlain by a three to four inch sand bedding. In two of the test cuts, P and AB, the brick floor was removed manually and the underlying undisturbed sand was screened. Four of the six diagnostic sherds recovered were whiteware or Albany slipped stoneware, 19th century ceramic types. This confirms the 19th century construction of the brick floor. In addition, an 1845 penny was recovered from beneath the floor in TC AA. This firmly places the construction of the floor after this date.

The cobble floor mentioned previously was encountered beneath the sand layer, approximately six to nine inches below the top of the brick floor. In the areas excavated, the cobble floor was completely intact only in TC P. The floor was also intact in a major portion of TC AC and a smaller portion of TC AB. In the disturbed portions of the latter two test cuts and in TC AA, cobbles were included among the excavated rubble and were noted in the profiles at the same elevation as the intact cobble floor. The disturbance to the floor most likely occurred during subsequent construction phases on this lot.

In some locations, a thin layer of sand heavily stained with charcoal directly overlay the cobble floor. This may indicate the occurrence of a fire which could have destroyed one of the early structures on the lot, or it could represent the remnant of a basement trash accumulation. Evidence from the southern extension of the Livingston house supports the

former interpretation, as discussed below. This thin charcoal layer was sampled in TC AB and AC. It yielded 17 dated sherds. Ten of these are creamware and four Oriental Export Porcelain. Only one sherd from the deposit was attributable to 17th century manufacture while a second, slipware, sherd could have been manufactured in either the 17th or 18th centuries. The presence of the 10 creamware sherds suggests that the floor was still intact and in use in the latter part of the 18th century.

In TC P (Figure 28) the floor was overlain by a thicker stratum of brown hard packed sand. This may represent fill deposited after the floor was no longer in use. This deposit also had a high proportion of creamware, 14 of 24 dated sherds. However, this brown sand included four pearlware sherds and one whiteware sherd, suggesting that it was in fact later than the thin charcoal deposit and was probably deposited in the early 19th century. A bottle glass fragment from this brown sand was dated to 1780-1810/30, supporting this conclusion, although this interpretation is based on a fairly small sample since the floor was quite "clean."

As noted above, the cobble floor in TC AA, AC and the northeastern portion of TC AB had undergone extensive disturbance. This may have been caused by the installation of a number of large stone slabs which probably served as the base for the supporting piers of a building standing on the lot subsequent to the Livingston house. In TC AA, three

superimposed stones protruded into the square from the north wall (Figures 29, 30). The top of the uppermost slab was eight inches below the brick floor. The slabs were 17-19 inches in width and eight inches thick. In TC AC, a single stone block was uncovered. It measured 14 by 15 inches and was 11 inches thick. The top of this block was approximately 15 inches below the surface of the test cut. It was located above one foot west of the east wall of TC AC (Figures 31, 32) and thus was aligned on a north-south axis with the blocks uncovered in TC AA. The centers of the slabs in TC AA and TC AC were eight and a half feet apart.

In TC AA, another single slab was uncovered approximately two and a half feet south of the three slabs in the north wall. The top of this slab was $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches below the surface. It was two and a half inches thick. The test cut stratigraphy and alignment of the slabs indicate that they constituted the pier supports for a single building. The intrusive pits or trenches in which these slabs were installed originated in the rubblely sand immediately underlying the brick floor and disturbed the underlying cobble floor. The building associated with these slabs was thus the structure which immediately preceded the construction of the single large structure which jointly occupied Lots 9*, 10*, 26* and 27*. The soil excavated in TC AC in association with the pier supports yielded 20 sherds with a mean ceramic date of 1767.7. However, five of the sherds were 19th century ceramic types,

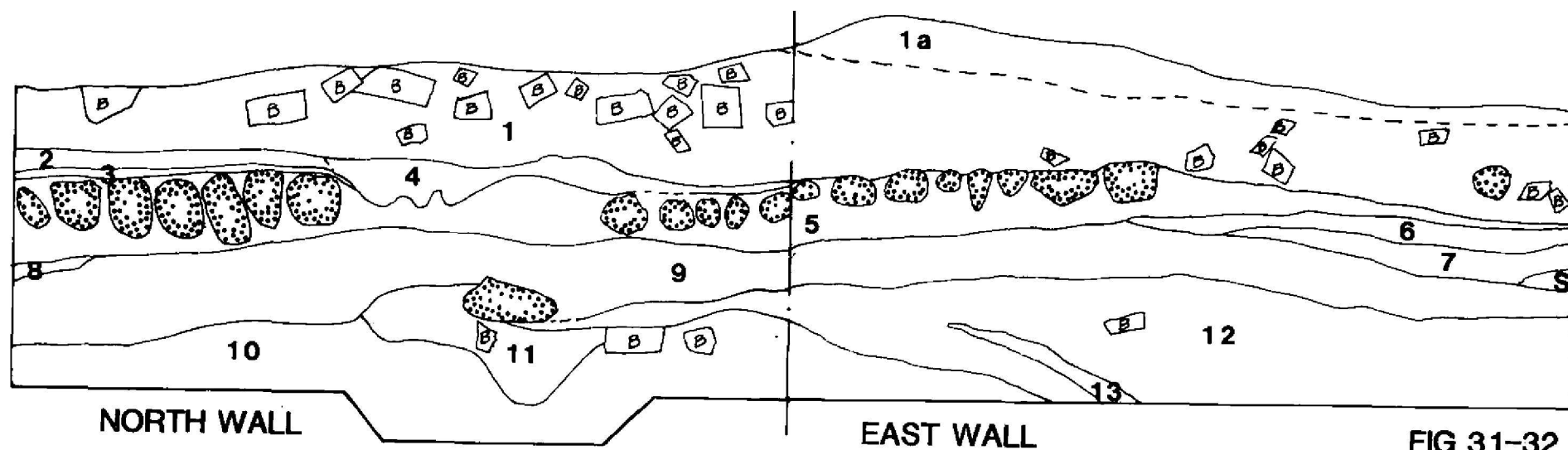


FIG 31-32

TEST CUT AC

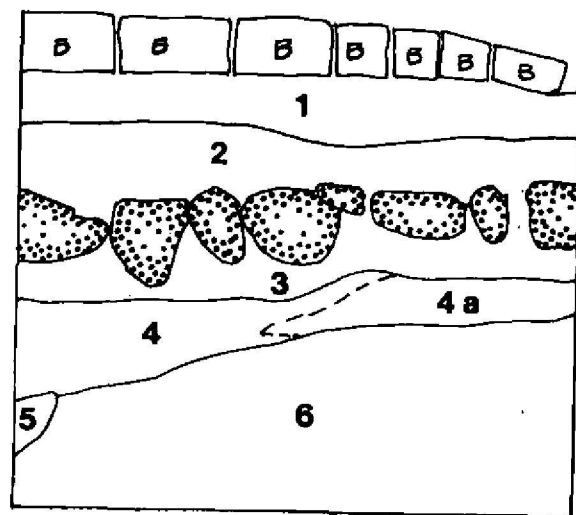


FIG 27

TEST CUT P

NORTH WALL



Figure 28. Test Cut P

1. reddish sand
2. hard-packed brown sandy rubble with brick and mortar
3. reddish-brown sand with flecks of yellow silt
4. greenish-gray sandy silt with charcoal, brick, patches of clay, and reddish silty sand
- 4a. grayish-green sandy silt with charcoal, brick, patches of clay, and reddish silty sand
5. shell
6. grayish-green sandy silt with shell and clay, some charcoal and brick

Figures 31-32. Test Cut AC

1. brick rubble
2. dark brown sand mottled with charcoal and fire-cracked rock
3. mottled brown sand
4. dark brown sand
5. brown silty sand
6. red-gray sandy silt
7. green-yellow mottled silt
8. green silt
9. brown silty sand
10. brown-green silty sand
11. gray silty sand
12. green-yellow mottled silt
13. red-gray silty sand

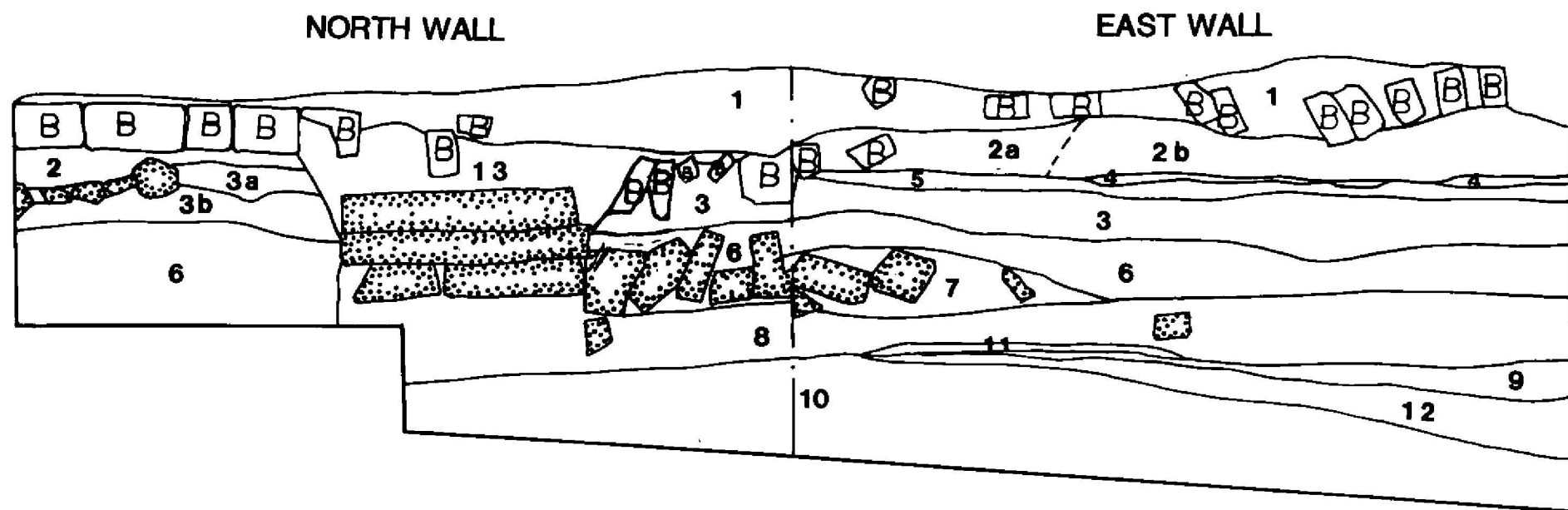


FIG 29-30

TEST CUT AA



Figure 29-30. Test Cut AA

1. brown sand with brick and rubble
2. pinkish fine/medium sand
- 2a. medium to light brown sand with rubble
3. tan-brown coarse sand with mortar and pebbles
- 3a. similar to stratum 3 but with dark brown stains (wood?)
- 3b. similar to stratum 3 but slightly darker and with less mortar
4. hard-packed gray sand with mortar
5. light brown coarse sand
- 5a. rust colored sand
- 5b. medium brown coarse sand
6. heavily mottled green and yellow silt with brick and charcoal
7. similar to stratum 6 but lighter in color and finer textured and without charcoal
8. grayish-brown sandy silt with brick
9. dark grayish-brown sandy silt with charcoal
10. mottled green silt with brick and charcoal
11. light gray and tan medium sand
12. brown sandy silt with charcoal
13. hard-packed brown sand with mortar and brick

two whiteware and three yellowware. This reinforces the conclusion that the supports were part of a 19th century structure. The presence of one purple transfer printed whiteware sherd suggests that this building was constructed after 1830. No ceramics were recovered from the soil excavated in association with the pier supports in TC AA.

The elevation of the cobble floor was approximately six to eight inches above the elevation of the rear wall of the Livingston house. The floor was laid in a matrix of reddish brown sand. Remains of this deposit were also present in some areas where the cobbles themselves had been removed.

The sand in which the cobbles were laid was sampled in TC P, AA and AB. Dating of this deposit would give a date for the construction of the cobble floor. Unfortunately only five dated sherds, one slipware and four plain white delftware, were recovered from this deposit. These ceramics are not incompatible with the date of the known existence of the Livingston house, but would also not be incompatible with a somewhat later date for the floor. One bottle glass fragment recovered from this deposit was dated to 1680-1730/40.

In TC K, a number of thin soil strata were present between the surface of the test cut and the top of the Livingston wall. In general, these strata sloped upward slightly from north to south. It was difficult to keep these strata separate from one another during excavation. It is, therefore, difficult to determine whether one of these strata

represented the sand bedding for the cobble floor. It is likely that the deposition of these multiple thin strata close to the rear wall of the house occurred after the construction of the foundation and may have been associated with the construction of the sandstone "cap" above the Livingston wall.

In TC AA, red/brown and yellow/brown sand underlay a red sand stratum which probably represented the remains of the red sand bedding for the cobble floor. This deposit yielded six dated sherds, three slipware, two 17th-century red earthenware and one sherd of Jackfield type earthenware (1740-1780). However, this deposit was overlain in part by the intrusive pit dug for installation of the pillar support. Therefore, all of this material may not have been associated with the construction of the cobble floor.

Landfill Deposits

The artifacts recovered from the soil underlying the bedding of the cobble floor indicate that this material represents the late 17th century landfill. The data suggest that the landfill on Lot 10* may have been deposited in several distinct episodes. The deposits consist primarily of a greenish gray sandy silt. In TC P, this soil began immediately beneath the red sand bedding for the cobble floor and continued to the base of the excavation at a depth of 32 inches below the brick floor. A similar soil was encountered beneath the red sand cobble floor bedding in Test Cuts K (Figure 33), AA, AB (Figure 34) and a portion of TC AC. This

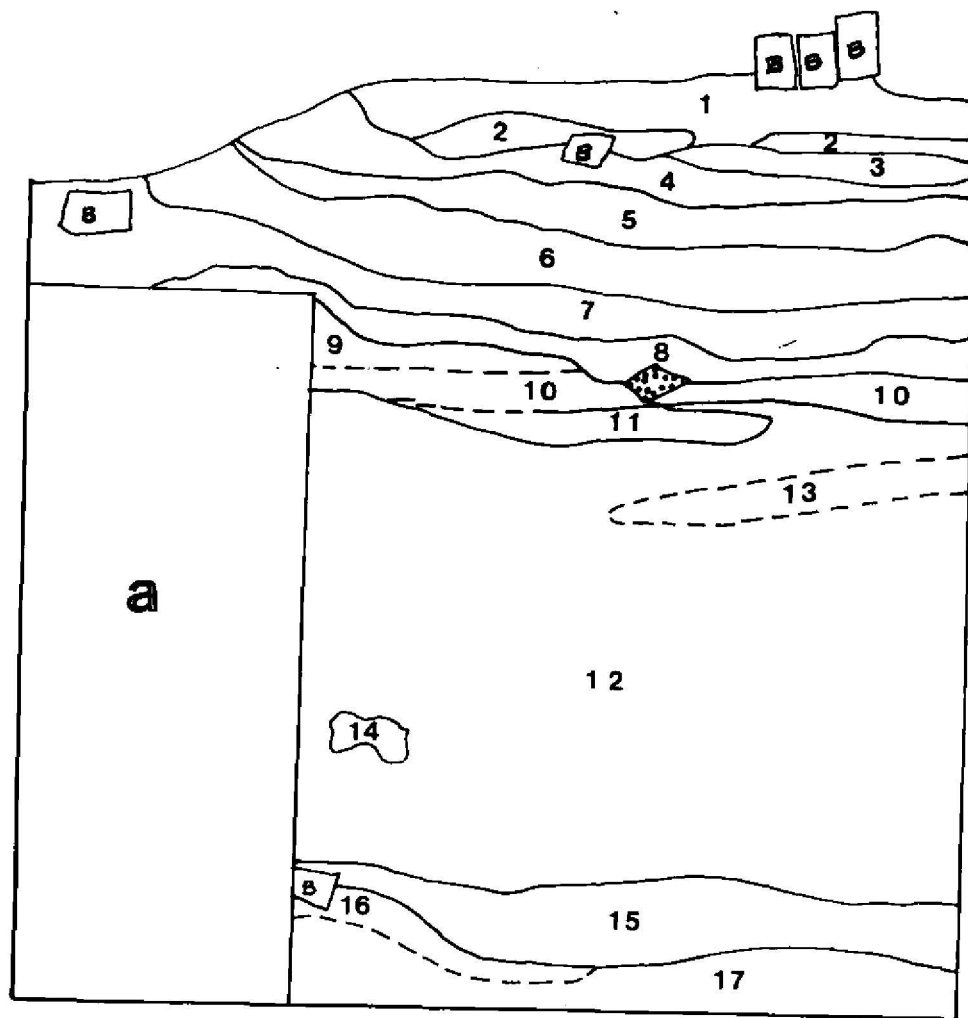


FIG 33
TEST CUT K
WEST WALL

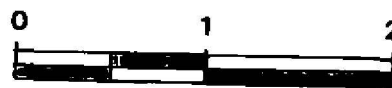


Figure 33. Test Cut K

1. reddish-brown sand
2. tan sand with heavy black charcoal
3. orange-brown coarse sand
4. pinkish-tan and white coarse sand
5. light orange-brown coarse sand
6. medium brown sandy silt with flecks of brick and charcoal
7. reddish-brown sandy silt
8. yellowish-gray sandy silt
9. reddish-tan coarse sand
10. brown and gray silty sand
11. red coarse sand with pebbles
12. yellowish-brown silt
13. very fine red sand
14. bright bluish-green silt
15. medium brown sandy silt with charcoal
16. very coarse rusty brown sand with heavy concentrations of shell
17. very fine tan sand

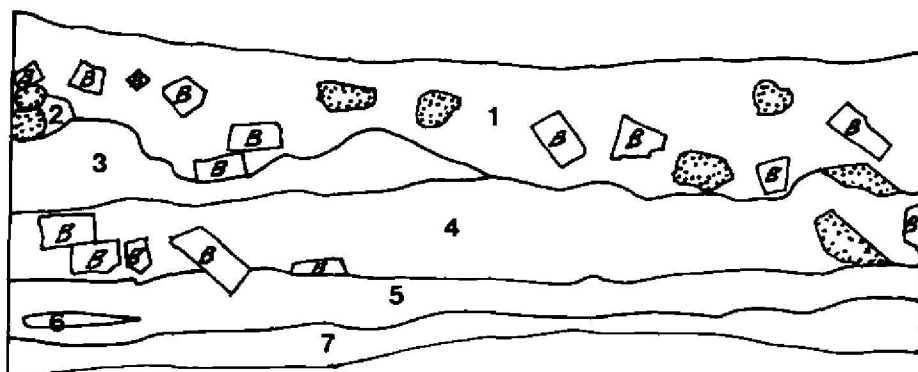


FIG 34
TEST CUT AB
WEST WALL



Figure 34. Test Cut AB

1. brown sand with brick and stone rubble
2. charcoal above cobbles
3. cobbles sitting on hard-packed coarse brown sand
4. green silt mottled with lighter silt, brick, charcoal, and mortar
5. brown sandy silt
6. light tan sand
7. green silt mottled with lighter silt and charcoal

stratum has been referred to as GS1 in figure 13-1. In these test cuts a band of soil with a similar texture but a browner color was encountered beneath the greener soil. This stratum will be referred to as BS. In Test Cuts K and AA this soil was underlain, in turn, by a deposit of gray and dark gray/black silty soil (stratum GBS). Another deposit of the greener silty soil (labelled as stratum GS2) was encountered below stratum GBS in Test Cuts K and AA and immediately beneath stratum BS in Test Cuts AB and AC. The composite profile (fig. 1) indicates that the greenish gray sandy silt in TC P is part of this deposit.

The deposits called GS1 sloped upward to the south in TC K above the top of the rear wall of the Livingston house. If the sandstone cap on top of the foundation wall was added after the original construction of the foundation, GS1 would have been deposited subsequent to the original foundation construction. There is no indication of a trench dug through the fill to install the cap. Rather, it appears that the cap was constructed and stratum GS1 then deposited.

The gray black soil excavated in TC AA and TC K (stratum GBS) began approximately five inches below the top of the south Livingston wall and extended approximately nine feet north of the wall. The maximum thickness of this deposit (about four to five inches) occurred at the intersection of TC K and AA.

The ceramics and smoking pipe fragments recovered from

strata GS1, BS, GBS and GS2 are consistent with those recovered from the late 17th century landfill deposits elsewhere on the site. (The green silt in TC P yielded one sherd of debased Rouen faience, not manufactured until 1775. However this sherd is probably intrusive, since an animal burrow was noted in this test cut.) All identifiable pipe maker's marks from these deposits, including HG, EB, WE and IW belong to 17th century pipe makers.

The following table summarizes the mean ceramic dates. Binford pipe-bore dates and non-architectural/architectural artifact ratios for strata GS 1, BS, GBS and GS2 excavated in Test Cuts K, AA, AB and AC:

| Deposit | MCD | (n) | Binford Date | (n) | NA/A | (n) |
|---------|--------|-----|--------------|-----|------|-----|
| GS1 | 1685.8 | 37 | 1644.4 | 29 | 3.8 | 116 |
| BS | 1697.5 | 26 | 1683.9 | 75 | 4.9 | 196 |
| GBS | 1696.7 | 50 | 1691.9 | 44 | 0.7 | 392 |
| GS2 | 1688.5 | 51 | 1676.5 | 388 | 6.0 | 703 |

It should be noted that none of the sample sizes are large, except the pipe sample for GS2, and therefore dates derived may be easily distorted.

The later mean ceramic dates for strata BS and GBS are largely due to a greater percentage of slipware sherds and correspondingly smaller percentages of 17th century earthenware sherds in these deposits. It is possible that the deposition of strata BS and GBS took place subsequent to the deposition of stratum GS2, with GS1 being deposited still

later (even though its dates are earlier). The similarity between GS1 and GS2 could be accounted for by the fact that GS1 may consist of the same material as GS2, redeposited from another location on the lot or derived from the same source as the earlier fill. GS1 seems to have been deposited after construction of the sandstone cap atop the foundation wall.

The nature of stratum GBS remains uncertain. The color of this deposit suggested that it may have represented a domestic midden. However, the NA/A ratio of 0.7 does not support this inference. The deposit also does not have a particularly high density of bone or shell, with a lower density of bone than the other three deposits. It is probably significant that of the 229 artifacts in the architectural category recovered from GBS, 189 were building stone fragments, while few fragments were recovered from the other deposits discussed. Without the building stone, the NA/A ratio for GBS would be 4.08, similar to the other deposits.

The data suggest that GS2 was deposited as the initial landfill at the time the south foundation wall of the Livingston house was constructed. GBS may have accumulated while the surface of the Lot was exposed prior to the construction of the superstructure of the house, possibly during the construction of the sandstone cap atop the foundation wall. This is suggested by the presence of the building stone and by the fact that the deposit was present only in the area closest to the wall. It should be noted that

a dark layer immediately above the landfill was also present adjoining the east foundation wall of the Livingston house which was exposed in TC H (see above). This deposit was approximately 16 inches below the top of the east wall, while the TC K/TC AA deposit began five inches below the top of the south wall.

TC K was excavated below the base of the south wall of the Livingston house, which was approximately 42 inches in height (not including the sandstone cap). A band of medium brown silty sand was noted near the base of the wall and deposits of gray and tan fine and coarse sands began at the same depth as the base of the wall. At this depth, a layer of black silty sand was noted, possibly stained with burnt or decaying wood. Stratigraphic excavation continued to a depth of 65 inches. However, we shoveled out a small area below this depth, to 75 inches, to determine the stratigraphy. From 69 to 72 inches we encountered wood. Silty sand with heavy concentrations of shell was encountered beneath the wood.

The excavated strata below the green silt in TC K yielded 26 datable sherds, all but one of which were delftware and 17th-century earthenwares. Twenty measurable pipe bores yielded Binford dates consistent with the other landfill deposits excavated.

→ ? reference

Livingston House "Shovel Tests"

As noted above, we recorded profiles of the upper portions of the stratigraphic sequence in the southwest and

northwest corner of the Livingston house. In the southwest corner (ST 5) we recorded the profile extending eastward from the west wall. The cobble floor appeared to have been disturbed in this area but cobbles were noted in the wall of ST 5. The green silt deposits began at approximately the same elevation in this test as in TC K. At the top of the Livingston house wall several bands of orange and red sand were noted sloping slightly upwards toward the wall. This was a similar situation as in TC K although the soil descriptions varied. The gray and gray/black deposits (stratum GBS) did not appear to be present at this location.

In the northwest corner of the Livingston house a profile was drawn extending south from the north wall of the foundation. This was uncovered beneath the footing stones of the north wall of the most recent building to stand on the lot and was situated roughly beneath the Pearl Street baseline. There was no indication that the cobble floor had been present at this location. While a band of orange sand was noted six inches below the top of the brick floor, this stratum was at too high an elevation to have represented the sand bedding of the cobble floor. Green silt with rust colored banding was encountered beneath the orange sand to a depth of 32 inches. Because the purpose of this test was to determine the location of the north wall of the Livingston house, artifacts were not retained. However, photographs suggest that the green silt at this location probably contained much less brick, mortar

and shell than the green silt excavated in the test cuts. At a depth of 32 inches a stratum of reddish sand was encountered immediately beneath the green silt. This sand may have been naturally deposited. As discussed elsewhere in this report, the river bottom surface in this part of the site sloped steeply upwards near the Pearl Street baseline.

The top of the north wall of the Livingston house appears to have been approximately four inches below the elevation of the south and east walls. The builder's trench for the installation of the footing stones of the most recent building to stand on the lot was noted beneath the brick floor and it extended beneath the base of the footing stones which overlay the top of the Livingston wall. The topmost portion of the latter wall may have been removed during the installation of the footing stones.

Shovel Test 17 was placed in Lot 11 at the intersection of the Livingston house rear wall and the most recent Lot 10*/11 boundary wall. ST 11 uncovered another stone wall extending northward from the Livingston rear wall underneath the Lot 10*/11 boundary wall. This wall also extended southward into the Livingston house extension. The base of this wall was at the same elevation as the south wall of the main portion of the Livingston foundation. The presence of this wall is consistent with some of unusual features of the east wall of the Livingston house excavated in TC H. First, the east wall was the only one of the foundation walls of the

Livingston house or of any of the other early foundations exposed on the site which showed any indication of an associated wall trench. The other walls were apparently constructed and landfill deposited around them. In addition, the top of the east wall of the Livingston house was at approximately the same elevation as the top of the south wall uncovered in TC K while the elevation of the base of the east wall was approximately 28 inches above that of the south wall.

A likely explanation is, therefore, that a structure was built on Lot 10* prior to the construction of the larger Livingston house. The wall uncovered in ST 17 would have been the east wall of this house. This structure may have been built by Livingston or by one of the prior owners of the lot at the time the lot was filled. The house would have been subsequently enlarged or reconstructed by Livingston using the earlier foundation walls. This would have involved the construction of a new east wall in Lot 11, and since the lot had already been filled, the wall trench was necessary.

Summary

The documentary research conducted prior to our excavations indicated that both Lots 10* and 11 were included within the 1687 water lot grant to William Cox and that ownership was subsequently transferred to William Kidd, who had married Cox's widow after the latter man's death, and then to Robert Livingston. Subsequent to our excavation, additional data pertaining to this lot was uncovered in the

Livingston papers in the Columbia County Historical Society by Ruth Piwonka. A bibliography of Robert Livingston included evidence that Livingston purchased a house from William and Sara Kidd in June 1693. On the other hand there is clear evidence that in 1696 Livingston contracted with Captain Teunis DeKay to fill up the Livingston water lot and in addition there are records pertaining to the construction of Livingston's New York house in 1697.

The above data together with the results of the excavations suggest a possible interpretation of the events on this lot. It is likely that Lot 10* was filled-in before Lot 11, and before Livingston owned the lot. Kidd or Cox may have constructed the foundation walls uncovered on Lot 10* and deposited the landfill within the house walls. After Livingston acquired the land, he contracted for the remainder of Lot 10 and Lot 11 to be filled-in, and for the walls of the larger house to be constructed. It should be noted that if this were the case, Teunis DeKay must have undertaken the landfilling prior to the construction of the house, as the east wall of the house was constructed within a trench excavated into the landfill.

It should be noted that the differing soil types which constituted the landfill in Lots 10* and 11 support the inference that they were filled by different owners. In addition, the level of the landfill was apparently a foot higher in Lot 10* than in Lot 11.

It is likely that some time elapsed between the filling of Lot 11, and the construction of the Livingston house, during which a thin deposit (represented by stratum V in TC H) accumulated. A deposit (stratum GBS) also accumulated in a portion of Lot 10* adjacent to the south wall of the house prior or during the construction of a superstructure on the foundation walls.

After the east wall of the foundation was constructed in such a manner that the top of this wall was at the same elevation as the existing walls, the ground level inside the structure was raised by the deposition of additional fill. This interpretation is supported by the fact that the fill in TC H above the level of stratum V was of a similar type as the uppermost fill stratum (stratum GS1) in the lot. This filling episode probably occurred either immediately prior to or after the construction of the superstructure of the house.

After the ground surface on the two lots had been equalized by deposition of the additional fill, the cobble basement floor may have been constructed.

Remains of two additional structures were encountered during the excavations on Lot 10*. One of these structures utilized supporting piers which rested on stone slabs. This building most likely was constructed in the early 19th century. Subsequent to 1845, and probably after 1855, a single large structure was built on the land which included Lot 10*. This building represented the latest building

episode on this lot.

The documentary research suggests that at least one structure was built between the demolition of the Livingston house in and the construction of the pillar supports. However, no remains of this structure could be identified.

Further, the documentary research suggests that Robert Livingston constructed two houses in this area. One of these would have been located within the bounds of 1697 water lot grant which extended his property southward to the present location of Water Street. The foundation walls encountered by the excavations in Lot 28*, discussed elsewhere in this report, may constitute a portion of this house.

Tests within the Livingston House Extension (Lot 10*)

Two test cuts were placed in Lot 10* within the walls of the Livingston house extension. The portion of the extension in Lot 11 was not testable because of more recent construction in the western portion of this lot. The basement floor of the latest building phase in Lot 11 contained a thick concrete floor, with a concrete lined "trench" in the western portion. This trench appeared to be of the type sometimes found in garages to allow access to automobile underbodies.

The Livingston extension ran south 25 feet from the rear wall of the main portion of the house. Test Cut L was placed immediately south of the wall, aligned with TC K on the north side of the wall. These test cuts were aimed at determining whether a construction trench was associated with the rear

wall of the house. No such trench was found, indicating that the wall was constructed before the landfill was deposited.

Test Cut X was placed 13 feet south of the rear wall of the Livingston house. The base of a wall associated with a later (probably 19th century) structure ran in an east-west direction across the Livingston extension just north of this test cut.

Excavation of both test cuts began at the common brick floor which covered Lots 9*, 10*, 26* and 27* as discussed above.

TEST CUT L

In TC L a second brick floor was encountered approximately 18/19 inches below the surface of the first one (Figures 35, 36). This second floor was at about the same level as the top of the main portion of the rear wall of the Livingston house below the sandstone "cap." The surface of this second floor showed evidence of burning, similar to the charring noted above the cobble floor excavated within the main portion of the building. However, unlike the situation above the cobble floor, 19th century ceramic sherds were found in the thin (two to four inch) layer of reddish brown sand which underlay this second floor. A deposit of rubble-filled soil was deposited between the two brick floors.

The landfill deposits were encountered immediately beneath the red sand which underlay the lower floor. The topmost fill deposit consisted of a gray/green silty soil

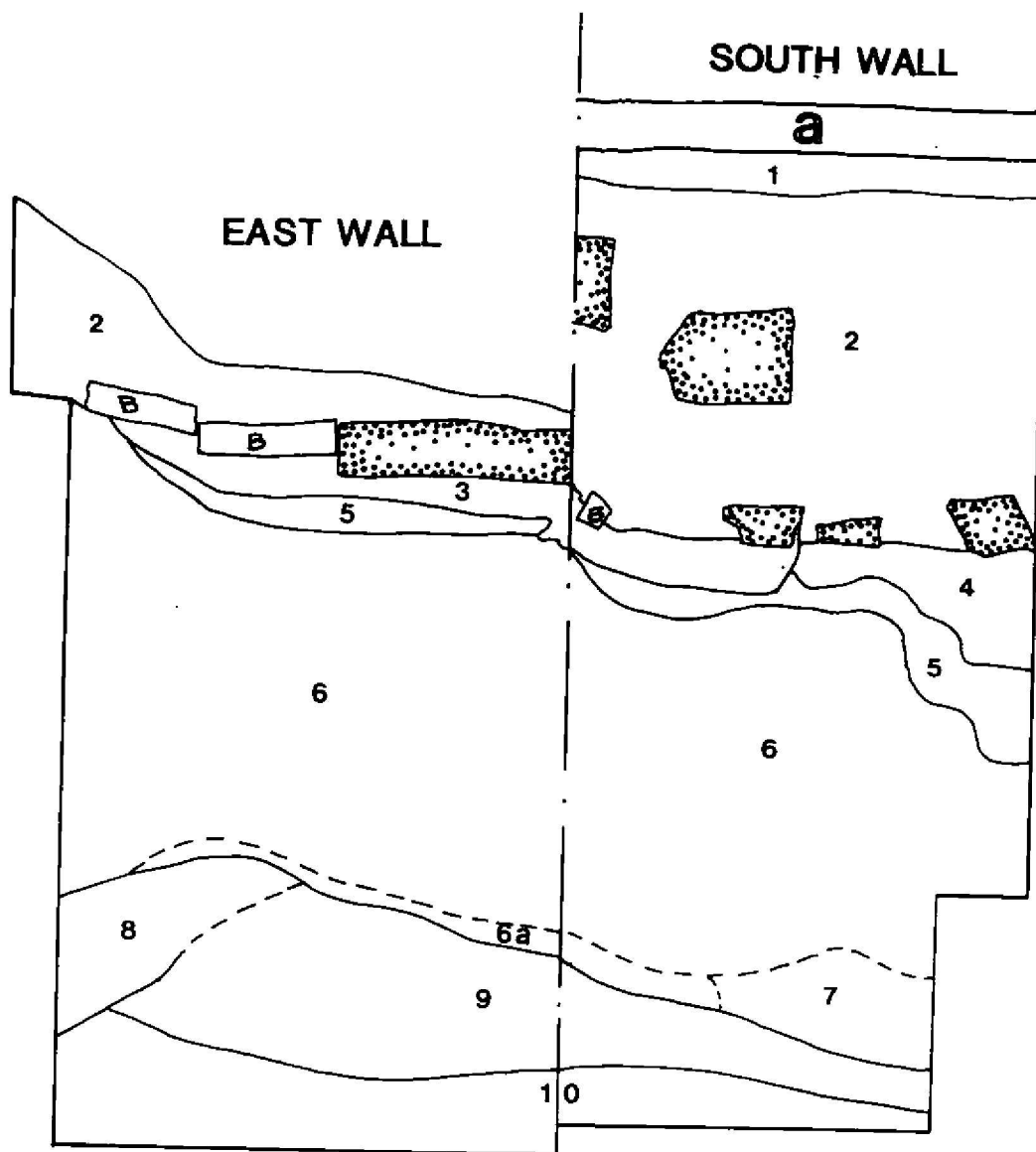


FIG 35-36

TEST CUT L



Figures 35-36. Test Cut L

1. red sand
2. brown silty sand with rubble
3. gray silty sand with mortar
4. mottled brown sandy silt
5. red sand
6. gray-green silt
- 6a. mixed red sand and gray-green silt
7. light gray sandy silt with orange and brown mottling
8. dark gray sandy silt
9. dark gray sandy silt
10. mixed orange and gray silty sand

similar to that encountered north of the rear Livingston wall.

The top of the west wall of the Livingston house extension was revealed in the extreme western portion TC L at a depth of approximately 50 inches. The top of this wall was about 20 inches lower at this location than the other portions of the Livingston extension wall. The base of the extension wall was at the same depth as the base of the rear wall of the main portion of the Livingston house.

A stratum of red sand was encountered at a depth of 54/56 inches. This deposit extended to the base of the rear wall of the main portion of the Livingston house, which was exposed in the north portion of TC L. The deposit ended at a slightly lower depth in the southern portion of the test cut. Additional gray/green silt underlay the red sand followed by a deposit of orange/gray mottled silty sand.

Excavation of TC L terminated at about 67/68 inches. The stratigraphy was tested for 14 inches below this depth using a post hole digger. The orange/gray mottled sand continued and at the bottom of the post hole test a deposit of dark brown silt containing decayed vegetation and large cobbles was encountered.

The stratigraphy at the base of the rear wall of the Livingston house suggests the possibility that the land surface was filled to the approximately level of the base of the wall prior to its construction. The red sand at the base of this wall may have been deposited during construction of

the wall and the remainder of the green silt landfill then laid down.

Ceramics and Pipe Dating--Test Cut L

The soil between the two brick floors in TC L yielded only three ceramic sherds, one creamware, one pearlware and one yellowware. This latter sherd supports a 19th century deposition for the uppermost brick floor. As noted previously, the recovery of an 1845 coin from TC AA indicates this as the earliest date of construction for this floor.

The soil immediately beneath the second brick floor yielded 12 datable sherds among which were three whiteware sherds, indicating that this floor also was constructed during the 19th century. In addition, one transfer printed whiteware sherd was probably manufactured after 1830. Therefore, this second brick floor was apparently built shortly before the upper floor was laid down over the entire extent of Lot 9. The other sherds in this deposit indicate that the soil immediately underlying the lower brick floor may consist of redeposited earlier landfill.

The green silt landfill deposit in TC L yielded 44 sherds with a mean ceramic date of 1691.5 and 56 measurable pipe bores with a Binford date of 1689.3. A 17th-century glass prunt was also recovered. The deposits beneath the green silt yielded 21 dated sherds. The mean ceramic date for these sherds (1683.0) is also consistent with landfill deposits. This deposit included one sherd of British brown stoneware,

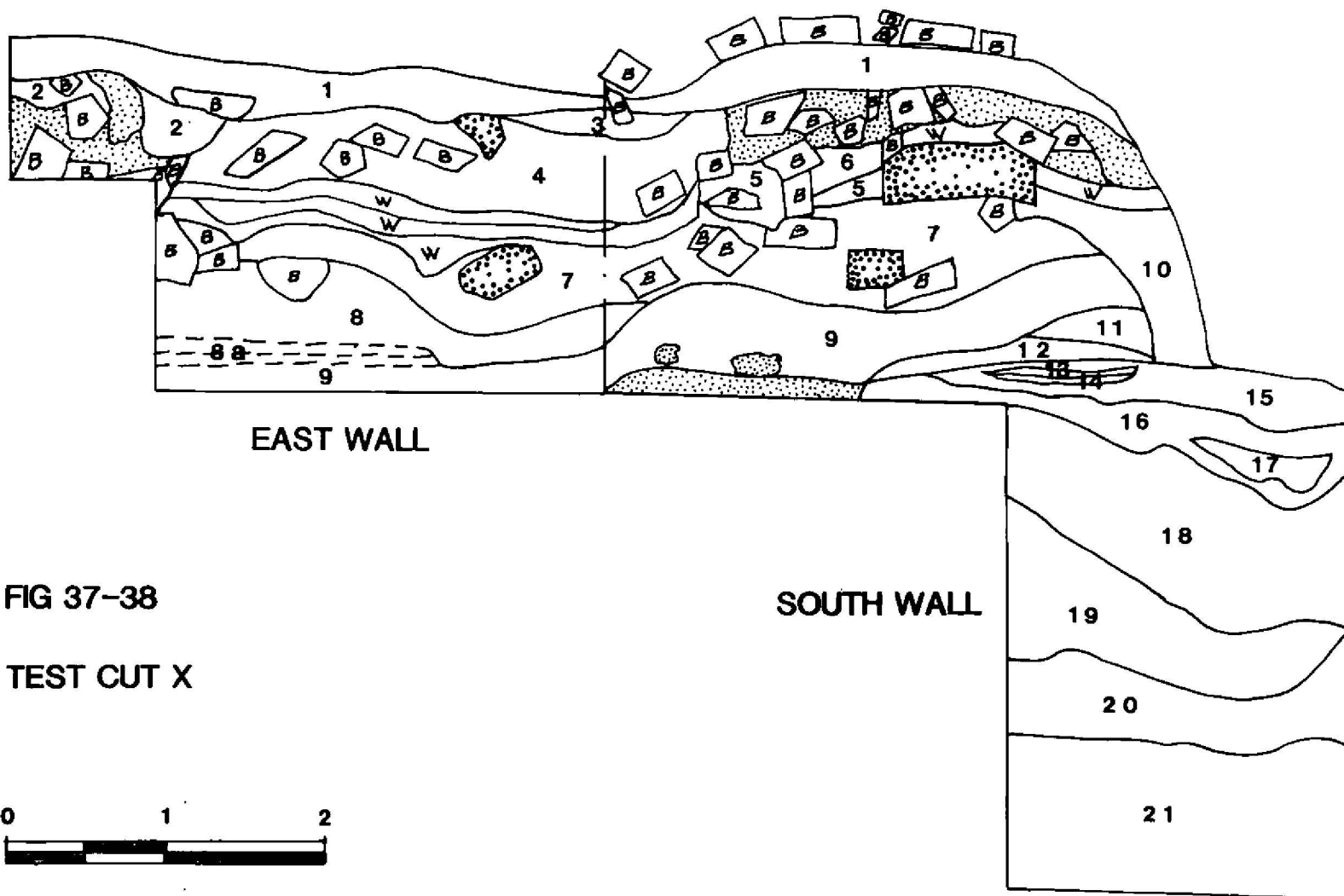
usually found in 18th-century contexts. However, the initial date of manufacture for this type (1690) suggests that it could be present in small quantities in landfill deposits. The Binford date for 23 measurable bores is compatible with the landfill dates.

TEST CUT X

The second brick floor encountered in TC L was not present at the location of TC X. However, a layer of wood was encountered in TC X approximately 15/19 inches below the surface of the upper brick floor (Figures 37, 38). This is slightly above the elevation of the lower brick floor encountered in TC L. A rubble deposit was excavated between the brick floor and the wood. The wooden floor appeared to be several inches thicker in the middle of the test cut than on the east and west sides. At approximately the same level as the top of the wooden floor we encountered the top of a stone block in the north wall of the test cut. The block rested on a second stone slab.

The soil beneath the wooden floor in the eastern portion of the test cut consisted mainly of a brown silty sand with rubble, while the west side consisted of a dark gray/black siltier soil. The presence of whiteware sherds in these sub-floor deposits indicates a 19th-century construction date for the wooden floor.

At a depth of 34/35 inches below the surface of the test cut, excavation reached the level of the western stone wall



Figures 37-38. Test Cut X

1. light red-brown silty sand
2. light brown silty sand
3. rust sand
4. light brown silty sand with rubble
5. dark brown silty sand
6. decayed wood (?)
7. brown silty sand with mortar and brick
8. brown silty sand with rubble
9. gray-brown sand
10. dark grayish-brown silty sand with charcoal
11. brick
12. gray silty sand
13. orange silt
14. tan medium-coarse sand
15. mottled gray silty sand
16. reddish-brown sand
17. gray silty sand with charcoal
18. yellowish-tan and gray silt
19. reddish-brown sand
20. grayish-brown sandy silt with shell
21. brown and rust silty sand

of the Livingston house extension, which had been exposed prior to the excavation of TC X. Beneath this depth, the boundaries of TC X were enlarged to expose the stone wall and to sample the landfill deposits, which began just below the top of the wall.

The landfill deposits consisted of reddish brown sand, yellowish tan and gray silt, a second reddish brown sand layer, a layer of grayish brown sandy silt with shell and a stratum of brown and rust colored silty sand. These deposits were tested to the depth of the base of the west wall of the Livingston extension.

It should be noted that a lens of brown silty sand with a heavy concentration of charcoal, brick, and mortar was found immediately above the landfill deposits in the western portion of the test cut. The ceramics from this deposit differ from those excavated from the other deposits at and above this level, and consist of delftware (13 sherds), slipware and 17th-century earthenware (two sherds each), with no later types. It also contained a fragment of 17th-century bottle glass. The other deposits overlying the landfill contained mostly whiteware with a few creamware, pearlware and earlier sherds. Six pieces of bottle glass datable to the 19th century were also recovered from these deposits. The brown silty sand lens may represent the remains of an early post-landfill deposit which was distributed by later construction activities.

Summary--Livingston House Extension

The available evidence permits only a tentative reconstruction of the events occurring within the boundaries of the Livingston house extension.

The stone slabs excavated in TC X may be pier supports for the same structure as the supports excavated north of the rear wall of the Livingston house. However, the TC X support is not aligned with the others, being approximately six feet further to the east. The wooden floor in TC X may be the basement floor of the structure associated with the pier supports. And the brick floor in TC L may be associated with the same structure, with the stone wall north of TC X serving as an internal dividing wall. The deposits underlying the wooden floor may have been associated with the construction of this building while the deposits between the lower brick and wooden floors and the uppermost brick floor may have been deposited during the demolition of the earlier structure and construction of the building associated with the later brick floor. The indications of burning at the top of the earlier floors indicate that the first of these 19th century buildings may have been destroyed by fire, perhaps the large fire of 1835.

There is no indication that any of the excavated levels were associated with the period of use of the Livingston house extension. Those deposits were probably removed or destroyed during the construction of the later structures on the site.

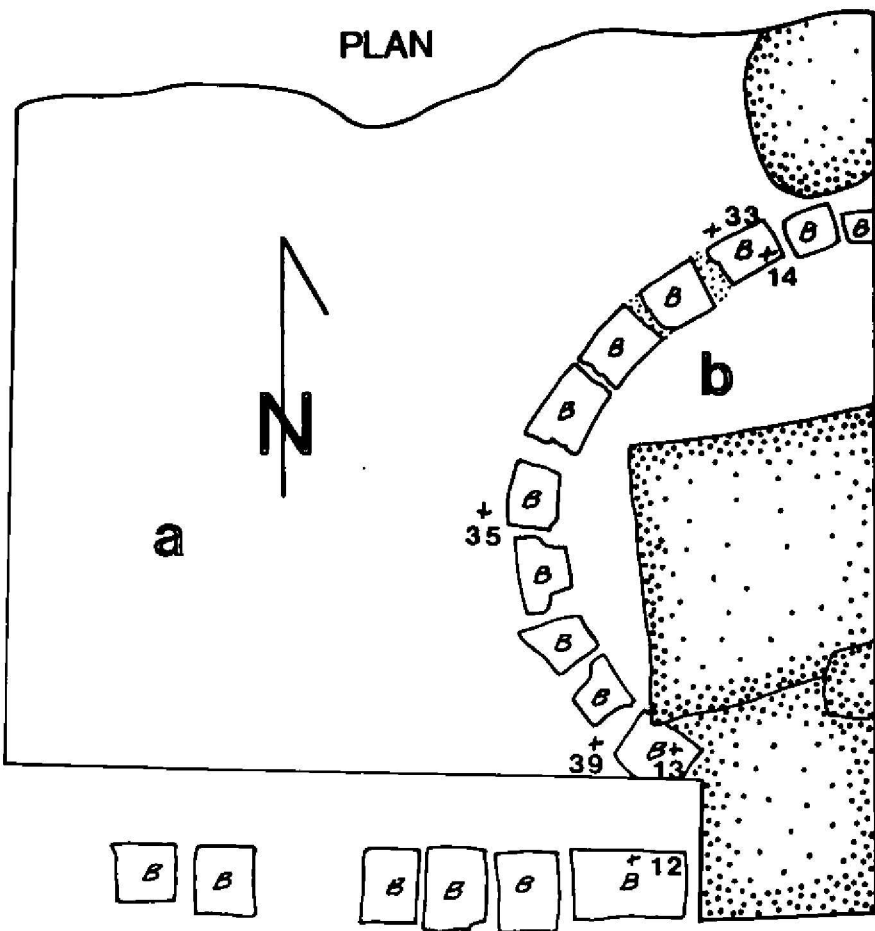
Livingston House--Possible Domestic Midden (Lot 11)

During the exploratory phase of the project, Backhoe Trench 5 was excavated in Lot 11, approximately 51½ feet south of the Pearl Street baseline and two and a half feet north of the south face of the rear wall of the Livingston extension. This east-west trench encountered the eastern wall of the Livingston house extension. It also encountered the northern edge of a dark organic-appearing stratum which began slightly below the top of the Livingston extension wall. The deposit became thinner toward the north and ended at the north wall of the three and a half foot wide backhoe trench.

During the mitigation phase of the project, TC AF was excavated to sample this deposit (Figures 39, 40). The test cut extended four feet south of the south wall of Backhoe Trench 5. The south wall of TC AF was only two feet north of the brick wall which formed the northern boundary of the disturbed backyard area in which TCs B and C were placed (see discussion of Lot 12).

The topmost stratum in TC AF consisted of the concrete basement floor of the most recent building to stand on the lot and an underlying deposit of sandy soil containing brick and mortar rubble. This deposit was removed prior to excavation. The top of a circular brick feature was uncovered beneath this rubble in the southeastern portion of the test cut. This feature, discussed further below, extended beneath the most recent Lot 11/12 boundary wall. The footing stones for this

PLAN



SOUTH WALL

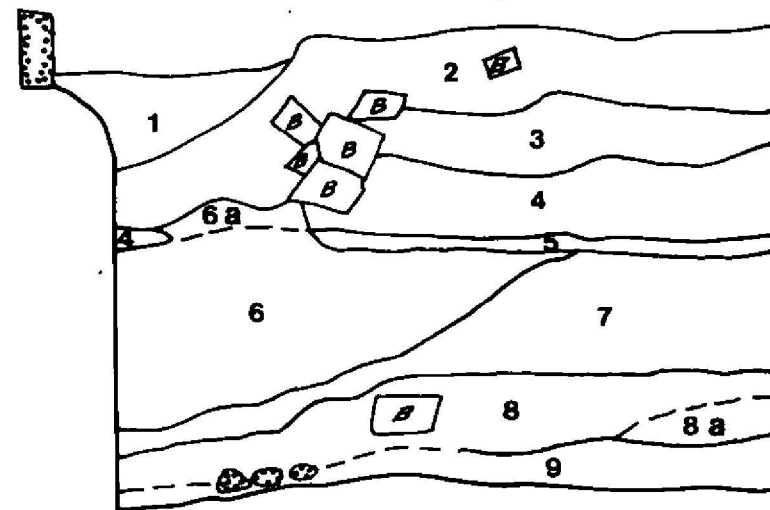


FIG 39-40

TEST CUT AF



Figure 39. Test Cut AF

1. loose reddish-brown sand
2. compact gray and yellow sandy silt mottled with rust
3. mixed pink sand, reddish-brown and yellow sandy silt with
brick and mortar
4. pale yellow mortar
5. gray-brown sandy silt
6. mixed pink, gray, and tan sand
7. gray sandy silt with flecks of charcoal
8. black with charcoal, mortar, and shell and some tan sand
9. similar to stratum 8, but with more mortar and less
charcoal

Figure 40. Test Cut AF: Plan view

- a = reddish-pink sand with rust stains
b = brown-tan sand with some fragments of brick and mortar

elevations measured in inches below unit datum

wall directly overlay the feature.

A band of reddish brown sandy silt, representing the pit excavated in order to install the feature, immediately abutted it. A layer of rocks was uncovered at the same level as the top of the feature. However, the fact that the stones did not cover the band of soil representing this "pit" indicates that the stones were deposited before the feature was installed.

A five to eight inch thick deposit of decaying mortar and shell was encountered beneath the layer of stones. More than 220 kg. of oyster shell was recovered from the excavated area. The elevation of this deposit was above that of the top of the Livingston house extension wall. It may represent the remains of a shell mortar floor or pavement, or the base for a stone pavement which covered a portion of a backyard area. This pavement may have been subsequently disturbed, with the remnants of the pavement represented by the stones excavated immediately above the mortar layer.

The midden deposit began directly beneath the shell mortar layer. It was approximately one foot thick in the southern portion of the test cut and ten inches thick in the northern portion. As noted above, the top of this deposit tapered downward and ended within the area exposed by Backhoe Trench 5. The topmost portion of this deposit consisted of gray silty soil with patches of charcoal. The base of the deposit consisted of darker black and gray silty soil, the darker color probably resulting from a higher charcoal

content. The base of the midden deposit was fairly level and was at the approximate elevation of the top of the Livingston extension wall.

Immediately below the midden was what appeared to be a thin transitional layer between the midden deposit and the underlying reddish brown sand. The latter soil probably represents the 17th-century landfill deposits in this area. The landfill was not tested at this location.

The ceramics recovered from the midden could represent deposition during the occupation of the Livingston house. Twenty nine of the 35 dated sherds were delftware, with four being 17th-century earthenware and two slipware. The mean ceramic date for these sherds is 1694.4. However, two bottle glass fragments from this deposit were dated to the period 1730-1760. The early portion of this period may have overlapped with the end of the period of occupation of the Livingston house. Of the 34 measurable pipe bores recovered, 23 had #6 bores: seven, #5 bores; and four #7 and #8 bores, the calculated Binford date is 1704.5. The smoking pipe fragments had no recognizable makers' marks.

Other artifacts attesting to the domestic origin of this deposit include four gunflints and two clothing buckles in addition to 18 bottle glass and four table glass fragments. The deposit also contained high densities of bone and shell, as well as comparatively heavy concentrations of slag and charcoal. However, in addition to the domestic debris, the

deposit also contained architectural debris including window glass, nails and two delft tile and 19 pantile fragments. The NA/A ratio of 1.1 for this deposit is not particularly high, nor is the density of brick and mortar (1055 grams/cu. ft.) very high compared to other deposits. This deposit probably represents an accumulation of domestic refuse which includes debris from building repairs, rather than representing demolition debris.

The transitional stratum below the midden deposit yielded three dated sherds, two Rhenish and one Hohn type stoneware. The latter has dates of manufacture between 1690 and 1710, consistent with both the period of landfilling and occupation of the Livingston house. The deposit of mortar and overlying stones which immediately overlay the midden contained few artifacts which could permit dating. Only one ceramic sherd, slipware, was recovered.

Evidence of several intrusive events is present in the southeastern portion of TC AF. The first such event is represented by a pit, a portion of which intruded into the southeastern portion of TC AF. This pit (or trench) extended approximately two feet west of the eastern wall of TC AF and one foot north of the southern wall. It was filled with semisterile sandy soil. This pit was dug part way through the midden deposit and was partly overlain by the mortar deposit, indicating that it was dug between the end of the period of midden deposition and the deposition of the mortar layer. The

top of the pit is also partially beneath the feature and its position indicates that it was not associated with the construction of this feature.

The southern portion of TC AF also appears to contain two superimposed trenches which were dug after the deposition of the shell/mortar layer. The first trench extends approximately four inches below the lowest of the three courses of brick which constituted the wall of the feature. It was filled with sand and yellow silty soil which abutted an east-west running, one course-thick brick "wall" four inches south of TC AF, possibly associated with an outbuilding which may have stood on the lot. This first trench may have been associated with the construction of this wall. The second "trench" or pit was apparently circular and was dug to the level at which the bottom of the feature wall was encountered. This later pit was the one referred to above which was apparently dug to install the feature.

The function of the feature is uncertain. It may have represented a small (approximately three ft. diameter) cistern. However this feature did not have a floor although it is possible that the floor existed at a higher level than that which was disturbed by the construction of the Lot 11/12 boundary wall. If the feature had functioned as a privy, it would have to have been thoroughly cleaned out prior to its demolition, as the deposits within the feature were not the organic soils often associated with privy deposits, but

contained mostly brick and mortar.

The fact that only three courses of brick remained suggests that the feature was built in an earlier backyard area, the elevation of which would have been substantially higher than that at which the excavation of TC AF commenced.

This would have been the backyard area associated with a structure whose rear wall would have been located north of Backhoe Trench 5. The backyard surface would have been cut down when the larger building associated with the Lot 11/12 boundary wall was constructed. The position of the feature directly below the Lot 11/12 boundary wall suggests that it may have been shared by the occupants of Lot 11 and 12. It is possible, therefore, that one of the structures associated with this feature is the late 18th-century building whose rear wall was uncovered in TC F (Lot 12). We did not locate the rear wall of a possible contemporary building on Lot 11. However, we did not test the portion of this lot which was aligned with TC F, and it is likely such a wall, if present, would have been located in this untested area.

BACKHOE TRENCH 5 (LOT 11)

Backhoe Trench 5 exposed the east wall of the Livingston house extension to its base. The deposit of red sand which was encountered beneath the midden deposit in TC AF continued to this depth.

A photograph of the south wall of BH trench shows a thin "line" of darker soil immediately adjacent to the stone

extension wall. This line was not noted in the field notes or profile drawings and may be caused by increased moisture next to the wall or by the photographic process. However, it may also indicate that a trench had been dug through the fill to install the wall. The major portion of such a trench would have been located west of the wall. It should be noted that the east wall of the main area of the Livingston house also appeared to have been built after the land had been filled. It would be consistent for the eastern portion of the extension also to have been constructed after the land filling. This is supported by the fact that the base of the extension wall appeared to be at approximately the same elevation as the base of the eastern wall of the main portion of the house. As noted previously this was approximately two feet above the bottom of the rear wall of the main portion of the house and the western wall of the extension which were excavated in Lot 10*.

Stone Ring--Lot 10*

During preliminary clearing operations we encountered the upper portion of a small circular dry laid stone construction located approximately 10 feet south of the rear wall of the Livingston house extension and 2 feet west of the eastern wall of the extension. The outer diameter of the ring was approximately three feet while the circular opening in the center of the ring was only one and one third feet in diameter. One of the stones was missing from the top course

on the southwestern site of the feature and one of the stones comprising this top course showed traces of adhering metal.

During the mitigation phase of the project, ST 20 was excavated to expose the southern half of the outer surface of the feature and to provide a profile of the surrounding stratigraphy. The only soil which was screened was that removed from the lower portion of the interior of the feature and an approximately two square foot area on the west side of the feature which extended southward from the north profile of ST 20.

The soil within the feature and surrounding it consisted of reddish brown sandy soil with lenses of darker sandy and silty soil. There was no evidence that a pit or trench had been excavated to install this feature, unless this pit extended beyond the boundary of ST 20. Thus it is likely that, in common with most of the early building foundation walls, the feature was constructed in the late 17th century and the landfill deposited around it.

The total height of the feature was approximately 32 inches. The elevation of the top of the feature was approximately the same as that of the west wall of the Livingston house extension which was exposed in TC X. It should be kept in mind, however, that both this wall and the feature were probably truncated by later construction events. The soil below the base of the feature was gray clayey silt, with lenses of coarse orange-red sand.

The stratigraphy of the north wall of ST 20 shows evidence of two 18th and/or 19th-century events. A creamware sherd, dating to this period, was noted in the profile in a stratum deposited above the level of the top of the feature. An intrusive pit was dug down into this stratum and what appears to have been a wooden pail was placed in the pit. It is also possible that this wooden feature represented the cross section of a drainage trough rather than a pail. However, no indication of such a trough was noted south or north of the ST 20 profile. The excavator noted that most of the late 18th-19th century ceramics recovered from ST 20 appeared to come from the area of this intrusive event.

The function of the stone feature excavated in ST 20 is unclear. It appears to be too small to have functioned as a cistern or privy. It may have served to support a metal or wooden pole which was subsequently removed, although the similarity of the soil within and without the feature does not support this interpretation. The most likely explanation is that the feature served as a drainage sump.

CHAPTER FOUR

EXCAVATION--LOT 12

Documentary Research--Lots 12 and 24

Lots 12 and 24 fall within an area created by two successive Water Lot Grants, the first, granted to Engell Burgers in 1687, measured 2(2)' X 95' and contained all of Lot 12 (23'1" X 70'5"/9") and the northern end of Lot 24 within its bounds (Liber A p42). This original parcel then passed to Abraham Lackerman, who in 1697 obtained a grant to fill an additional 22' X 45'4"/6" beyond Burgers 1687 grant (Liber A p209; L21 p155). Tax assessment records from 1703 to 1709 list Lackerman's house also appears in the 1717 Burgis View (Stokes I:247). He subdivided the lot ca 1727 (L203 p123) and at this time the two new parcels (Lots 12 and 24) assumed dimensions approximating those of the 19th and 20th centuries.

LOT 12

Simeon Soumaine is the first of the post subdivision owners to appear in deeds describing (although not conveying) Lot 12 (L33 p252,254; L203 p123). Deeds from 1739 to 1748 place Soumaine in Lot 112 and earlier, from 1721-24, he had lived on Lot 14 (tax assessment records). By 1789, Lot 12 was owned by and served as the residence of Julian Verplanck (NYD). Verplanck also owned Lot 13 at some point prior to 1796 (L51 p394,401; L53 p123). In 1795 he sold Lot 12 to Ezra L'Hommidieli (L53 p1234), who in 1802 sold it to John

Swartwout, Marshal of the NY District and owner of Lots 13 (L60 p38) and 15 (L61 p337; L20 p258; NYD). Swartwout sold Lot 12 to David Dunham in 1809 (the Lot 15 stable owner), who converted the building into a boarding house (NYD, L84 p249). After 1816 the building housed a series of "merchants" and "dry goods" stores. The 1860 tax assessment records describe a four story building measuring 23' X 66' with a backyard area 4'9" in depth.

There have been a minimum of two building episodes in Lot 12. The four story building described in the 1860 tax records is clearly not the original 17th century structure. It is also possible that an additional undocumented structure replaced the 17th century structure prior to the building described in 1860.

LOT 24

Abraham Lackerman subdivided his original parcel (22' X approximately 140') in 1727 and sold Lot 24 (23' X 70') to John Van Devanter, a shipwright (L203 p123). However, tax records from 1727 to 1734 indicate that the structure (presumably a residence) was occupied by Archibald Fisher. In 1740, Van Devanter sold his property to Abraham Huisman, a merchant (L32 p160) who in turn sold the lot to Humphrey Jones in 1748 (L33 p252,254). Tax records place cutler John Bailey here from at least 1789 to 1797 and by 1793 Bailey had purchased the lot (L48 p484). Bailey was replaced by grocers and wine merchants George Bement and John Gale who appear in

tax records and directories from 1797 to 1816. Deeds place them here from 1807 until Bement's widow sold the property in 1845 (L461 p40). Gale also conducted business next door in Lot 25 from 1810 to 1816 (tax assessment records).

The lot was vacant by 1831 (tax assessment records). However, an 1832 party wall agreement between Bement and his Lot 25 neighbors suggests that a building is under construction at this date (L287 p543). A merchant, Edward L. Mathews, moved in only to be forced out by the 1835 fire (NYD, tax assessment records). When the building was either repaired or rebuilt in 1836, its occupants were the merchants Oakford and Kip (NYD and tax records). Grocers H. and R. Yelverton occupied the lot from 1841 to 1844 (NYD and tax records). The 1860 tax records for Lot 24 describe a four story building measuring 24'4" X 65' with a backyard area measuring 6' across the breadth of the lot.

There have been a minimum of three building episodes in this lot. It is unknown if Lackerman constructed a building on the Water Street side of his 22' X 140' lot prior to its subdivision in 1727 after which a structure fronting Water Street is clearly documented in the city directories. The 1706 tax assessment records list Water Street structures and place Lackerman at this address. However, it is unclear whether the building assessed is Lackerman's Pearl Street House or an additional building in the rear of his lot. In 1832 a new building replaced an earlier structure and this ca

1832 building was then destroyed by the fire which swept the Water Street side of the block in 1835. The building which was built here in 1836 seems to be the one described in the 1860 tax assessment records.

TEST CUT B

Test Cut B was, like TC C, a two by five foot test cut placed in an approximately five foot wide strip which, according to the documentary research might contain undisturbed deposits associated with the backyards of earlier buildings on Lots 11 and 12. Test Cut B encountered brick and mortar rubble to a depth of some 20 inches. As noted in the discussion of TC C (Lot 11) backhoe clearing subsequently established that this area had been largely disturbed by construction of the rear wall of a 20th century building (on Lots 19, 24 and 25) fronting on Water Street. However, some four feet east of TC B the wall was set back to the south, leaving a portion of this "backyard strip" undisturbed. Test Cut G tested the intact portion of a brick/stone feature encountered in this area.

TEST CUT G

Test Cut G was placed in the backyard area of Lot 12 just described. As noted above, after TCs C and B indicated that this backyard area had been disturbed, the area was probed further using the backhoe to determine the extent of disturbance, revealing that the disturbance ended six to eight feet west of the Lot 12/13 boundary wall.

The undisturbed area generally coincided with the part of the backyard strip which was slightly wider. While shovelling away the loose surface soil disturbed by the backhoe, we uncovered the topmost three courses of what appeared to be a curving brick wall, with the concave portion of the arc facing west. There was only a space of two to four inches between the outside of this brick arc and the Lot 12-13 brick boundary wall. Test Cut G was placed to explore this feature. The test cut extended three feet west from the Lot 12/13 boundary wall and four feet along the wall (Figures 41, 42).

The backyard area in the vicinity of TC G had apparently been covered by a number of cut sandstone slabs. One of the remaining slabs covered the area between TC G and the brick rear wall of the most recent Lot 12 building, located approximately 16 inches north of TC G. The top of this slab was used as the datum elevation for TC G measurements. Another cut stone slab was present in the northeast corner of TC G, some two and a half to five inches below the reference elevation. This was removed before work began in the test unit.

It should be noted that some of the soil in the backyard area was removed by backhoe and shovel prior to archaeological excavation. Thus excavation in the portion of TC G lying outside of the feature began at four to nine and a half inches below the reference elevation. The top of the brick feature wall in the east part of the test cut occurred at

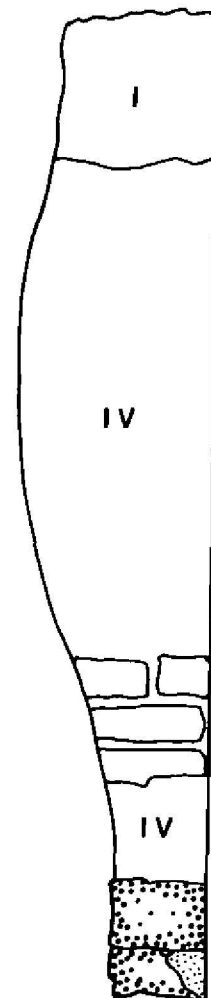
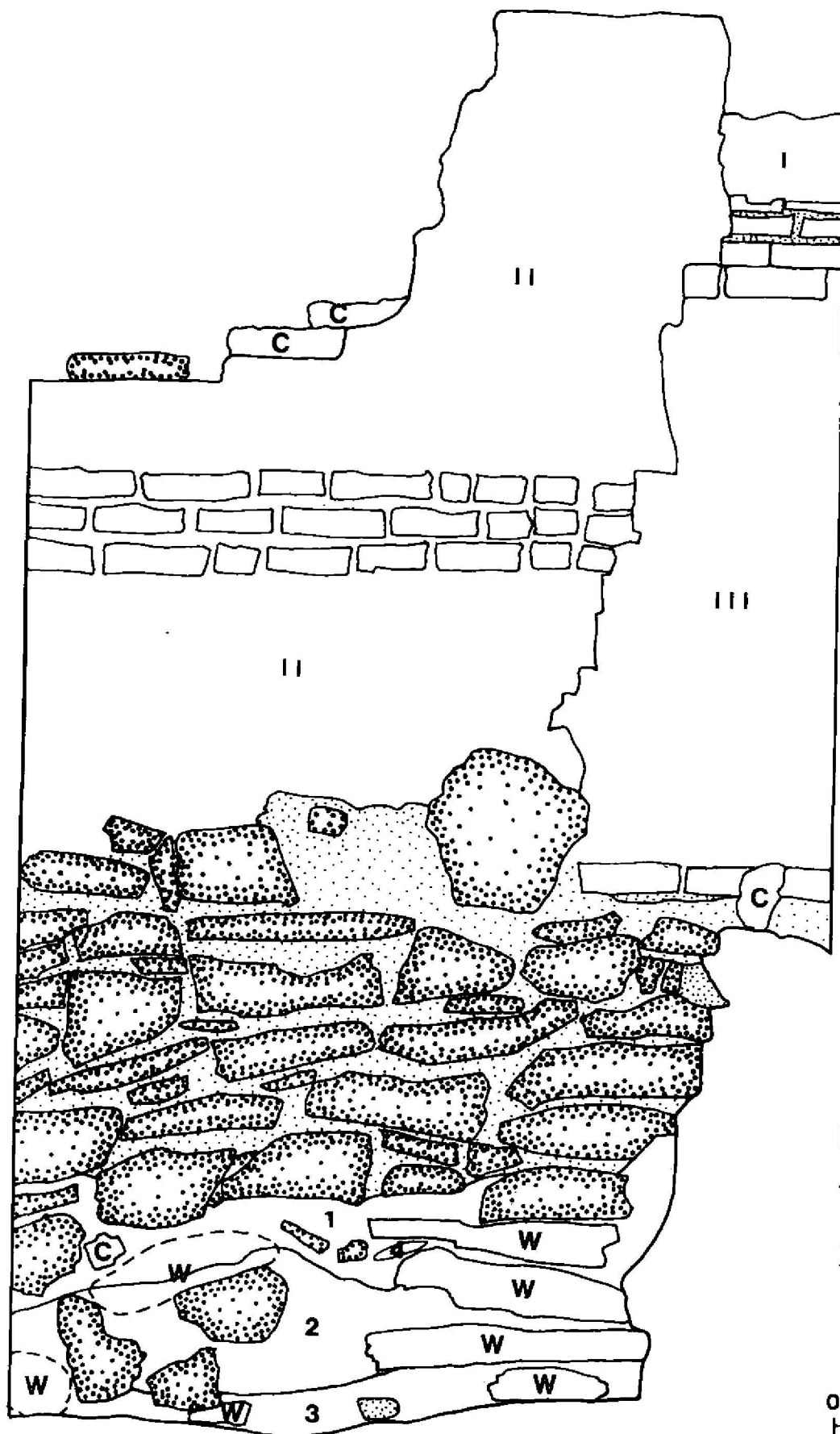
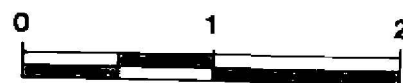


FIG 41-42
TEST CUT G
EAST WALL



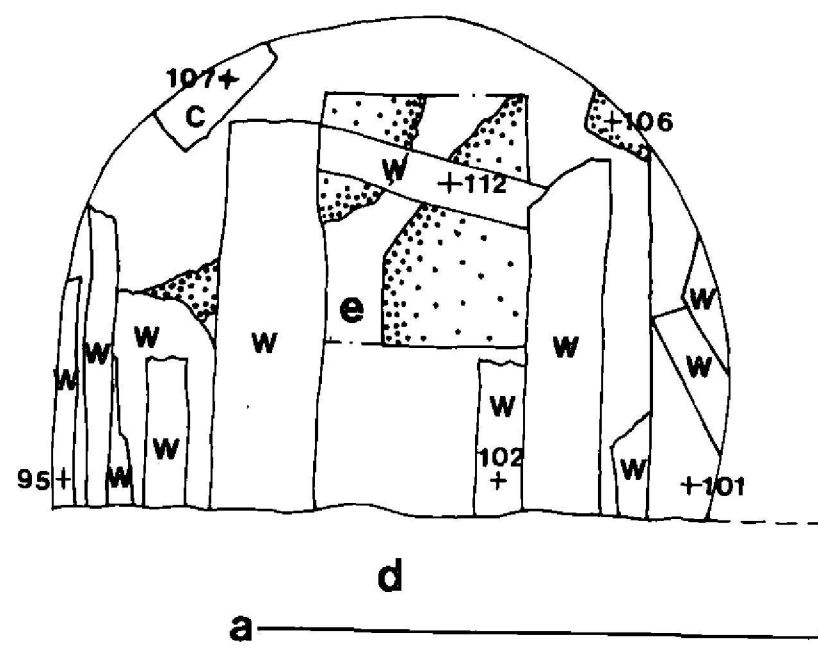
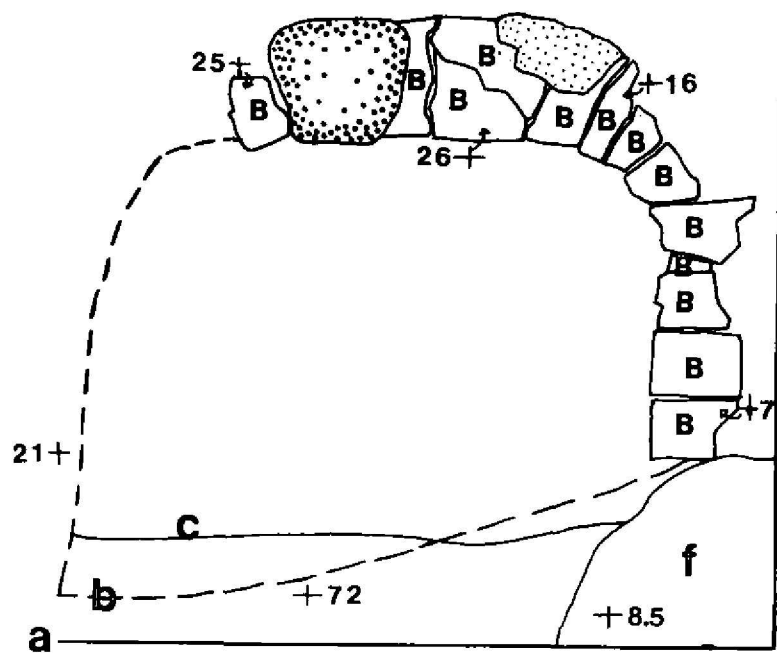


FIG 43-44
TEST CUTG

PLANS



TEST CUT G, G'

WEST WALL

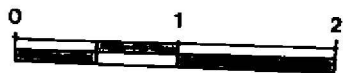
FIG 45-46

LOG

W

The diagram is a geological cross-section of a test cut. It features 24 numbered units. Units 1 through 13 are on the left side, while units 14 through 24 are on the right. Various symbols are used to denote specific features: 'B' appears in several units (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24); 'C' appears in units 19 and 20; 'W' appears in unit 21; and 'LOG' appears in unit 22. The units are separated by wavy lines, and some units contain stippled patterns. A dashed line runs horizontally across the middle of the diagram, separating units 13-14 from units 15-16. A solid line runs horizontally across the bottom of the diagram, separating units 22-23 from unit 24.

FIG 45-46



Figures 41-46. Test Cut G,'

1. coarse brown sandy silt mixed with construction rubble
2. blackish-brown sandy silt mixed with construction rubble
3. dark brown sandy silt
4. reddish-brown sand
5. mixed ash, mortar, and rubble
6. dark brown sandy silt mixed with ash, mortar, and rubble
7. coarse brown sandy silt mixed with construction rubble
8. dark brown silty sand mixed with blackish-gray clayey silt
9. mixed coarse brown sandy silt and blackish-gray sandy silt with construction rubble
10. mixed blackish-gray clayey silt and coarse brown sandy silt
11. blackish-gray clayey silt
12. blackish-gray clayey silt mixed with light brown sand
13. blackish-gray clayey silt mixed with light brown sand and gray-white ash
14. mixed black, brown, and gray sands
15. reddish-brown sand mixed with gray sandy silt and construction rubble
16. gray sandy silt with construction rubble
17. gray sandy silt with construction rubble and gray-white ash
18. gray-brown sandy silt with construction rubble
19. gray-brown sandy with brick rubble
20. gray-brown sandy silt mixed with tan sand and brick
21. dark brown silty sand
22. dark gray-brown silty sand
23. wood
24. gray silt

seven to seven and a half inches below the reference elevation, and the soil directly west of this part of the brick wall (within the feature) began at $17\frac{1}{2}$ - $24\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

As we excavated TC G, more of the brick arc was exposed with increasing depth and the entire top of the brick structure was exposed at 21-26 inches (Figure 43). It should be noted that the destruction of the top of this feature was not caused by our backhoe operations, as undisturbed soil was excavated above a portion of the brick arc, as discussed below.

Our excavations revealed that the southern portion of the feature had been removed to a depth of 73-75 inches by the construction of the brick rear wall of the 20th century structure fronting on Water Street (Figure 44). The "trench" from the construction of this wall extended approximately 6-14 inches into the southern part of TC G, with a deposit of mortar at the bottom of the trench. The archaeological deposits inside the feature extended to the south beneath the trench. This material was not excavated.

At the point where the brick arc at the top of the feature was fully exposed, the shape of the feature was that of a somewhat flattened ellipse, measuring approximately 36 inches east-west, and 20-28 inches from the northern rim to the point at which the feature was destroyed by the southern wall trench. At a depth of some 44 inches, the side walls of the feature widened, revealing a "bell-like" shape for the structure. At the base of the structure its greatest

east/west extent measured about 43 inches. At approximately 70 inches below the reference elevation, the brick wall of the feature ended and from this point the feature was constructed of stone which had apparently been laid in mortar, much of which had decayed. The base of this stone wall occurred at approximately 97 inches. At this depth, logs and pieces of wood protruded from the south wall of the test cut into the excavated area and logs were also found beneath the feature walls on the east and west side. The structure was apparently supported on these logs, presumably to prevent it from settling into the underlying river bottom deposits. The excavation of this feature did not encounter a floor. However, at a depth of approximately 96 inches, the same level as the base of the stone wall, a number of broken sandstone slabs were encountered with a large quantity of brick beneath these slabs. Some of the bricks appeared to have been purposefully laid, with indications of two courses in some area. It is possible that this represents the original feature floor, disturbed after the feature's period of use.

The feature in TC G extended beyond the boundaries of the test cut by an additional eight inches to the west at the top and 12-13 inches at the bottom. The west wall of TC G therefore provided us with a profile of the deposits within the feature. After the interior of the feature was fully excavated, this profile was drawn and the remaining soil within the feature was removed so that the details of

construction could be recorded (Figures 45, 46). Because of time constraints this soil was not screened, although large artifacts encountered during excavation were saved.

Time limitations also meant that the soil outside the feature but within the boundaries of TC G, could only be excavated to a depth of some 38 inches. The soil north of the feature to about 17 inches in depth consisted of a dark brown sandy silt and reddish brown sand. According to the profile drawings, the soil outside the feature between 17 and 33 inches was similar to that inside the feature to a depth of 39 inches. However, differences in soil were noted during excavation, and the soil outside the feature between 17 and 30 inches had a high density of artifacts and bone. Very high densities of brick were noted from most of the soil excavated outside the feature.

East of the feature, a space of approximately two to six inches between the feature and the Lot 12/13 wall was disturbed when the latter wall was constructed. This "trench" contained a large quantity of gravel. The Lot 12/13 wall was apparently constructed after the feature but did not disturb it because the depth at which the feature widens is below the bottom of the wall trench.

The soil within the feature consisted of several strata. To a depth of 39 inches the soil was a brown sandy silt (stratum VII) which contained high artifact, building material and faunal densities but less brick than the soil outside the

feature.

Between 39 and 55/57 inches the soil was a blackish gray clayey silt (strata XII-XIV) which had lower artifact, building material, and faunal densities than the overlying soil. From 55/57 inches to 65/70 inches the soil became much sandier (strata XV-XVI) with generally lower densities of artifacts and faunal material. Between 65/70 inches and approximately 96 inches the soil consisted of a grey brown sandy silt (strata XVII and XVIII). The major difference between the contents of the overlying sand and these strata was the presence of much higher brick and mortar densities and lower bone densities in the latter. At the base of stratum XVIII (level C), the feature wall ended and the sandstone slabs and brick noted above were encountered.

The material above the sandstone slabs yielded a number of clothing and personal items. These include 11 buttons, six straight pins and several pieces of fabric. Only 38 smoking pipe fragments were recovered from these deposits, a small number compared to earlier deposits excavated elsewhere on the site.

The soil in stratum XIXa, immediately below the slabs, was similar to that overlying them but had a higher artifact density than stratum XVIII, probably due to the inclusion of some material from the underlying stratum, which was excavated as levels XIXb and c.

The soil between approximately 100 and 108 inches (strata

XIXb and XIXc) consisted of a dark brown silty sand. This deposit had an extremely high density of crockery (477 sherds) and bottle glass (approximately 2,800 pieces). Much of the glass (about 1,200 pieces) was melted and fused by high heat, and some of the crockery also showed evidence of burning. This deposit contained very few architectural artifacts (NA/A = 36.4). However, it did contain a high density of brick. Since the lowest level of the deposit (XIXc) had a much lower density of brick than XIXa or b, it is possible that the brick originated in the overlying deposit. While a moderate density of bone and fish scale was recovered from this stratum, higher densities occurred in the overlying strata VII, XII, XV and XVI. In addition to the burned ceramics and glass, this deposit also yielded a glass bottle ownership seal (discussed below). Only three smoking pipe fragments were recovered. In addition to the burned artifacts, the stratum yielded an unusually high amount of charcoal and other burned material.

Between 108 and 111 inches, the soil consisted of a darker brown sandy silt (stratum XX) with a lower density of artifacts but a higher bone density. The deposit also yielded a fragment of a brush handle. Underlying this soil was a gray silt (stratum XXI), which probably represents the river bottom deposit. The presence of the logs which supported the feature walls prevented any extensive excavation of this stratum. A small area (13 x 16 inches) between the logs was excavated to a maximum depth of 118 inches. However, much of this small

area could only be excavated to 115 inches because of the presence of two sizeable rocks at this depth. Only a few artifacts and faunal remains were recovered from the excavated soil.

It should be noted that the elevation at which stratum XXI began is only some two inches below the elevation of the river bottom silt deposit encountered in TC F, located in Lot 12 approximately $22\frac{1}{2}$ feet north of TC G.

Ceramics recovered from strata excavated outside of the feature gave mean dates ranging from 1791.4 years to 1796.7 years. The lowest excavated stratum outside the feature yielded an earlier date, 1779.8 years. However this material contained only nine datable sherds, one of which was delftware. Because of its long period of manufacture, the presence of this ceramic type has an inordinate effect on the mean ceramic date. Without this delftware sherd the mean ceramic date for the stratum would be 1789.9 years.

The mean date for all sherds outside of the feature is 1795.2 based on 410 dateable sherds. However, the actual date of deposition may be slightly later than this since 40 of these sherds are transfer printed pearlware and four are underglaze polychrome pearlware, types which were not manufactured until 1795. The percentage of total sherds recovered represented by these types becomes lower with increasing depth, suggesting that the soil outside the feature may have been deposited over a period of time.

As shown in Table 1, the sherds excavated from strata VII and XII-XVI within the feature yield consistent mean ceramic dates, with an overall mean ceramic date of 1795.3 for these strata, based on 527 dated sherds. However, 51 of these sherds (9.8%) were of the two pearlware types, transfer printed and underglaze polychrome, not manufactured before 1795. This suggests that the actual date of deposition may have been slightly later than the mean ceramic date. As shown in Table 1, the percentage of these two later types of ceramic decreases with increasing depth, which suggests that deposition inside the feature may have occurred over a period of time. Only three sherds from these strata (including two identified as whiteware) have initial dates of manufacture of 1800 or later. These sherds could have been deposited after the disturbance of the feature.

It is possible that deposition of this material may have continued into the first decade of the 19th century. However, more whiteware sherds would be expected if deposition had continued past approximately 1810. Only six of the sherds from strata VII and XII-XVI had final dates of manufacture prior to 1790. All of these sherds were recovered from stratum VII. The presence of these sherds suggests the possibility that deposition may have begun slightly before the mean ceramic date. Dated bottle glass from the above deposits includes two fragments dated to 1740-1790, one to 1750-1780, and one to the post-1800 period.

Table 1

Summary of Ceramic Dates From Upper Strata of Feature

| Stratum | N | Mean Ceramic Date | %Transfer Printed & Polychrome Underglaze Pearlware |
|------------|-----|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| | | | N % |
| VII | 312 | 1795.5 | 36 11.5 |
| XII | 13 | 1791.9 | 1 7.6 |
| XIII & XIV | 109 | 1796.1 | 9 8.2 |
| XV & XVI | 93 | 1794.4 | 6 6.4 |
| Total | 527 | 1795.3 | 52 9.8 |

The mean ceramic date for strata XVII and XVIIIa and b, which immediately overlay the sandstone and brick, is 1783.6 years, based on 31 dated sherds. However, three of these are delftware, and excluding these sherds the mean date is 1792.6. One of these sherds is transfer printed pearlware, not manufactured until 1795 while two sherds, one polychrome delftware and the other Whieldon-type yellow ware, had final manufacture dates of 1780 and 1770 respectively. Two bottle glass fragments were dated to 1780-1810/30.

All of the feature deposits among and below the sandstone slabs (strata XVIIIc, XIX, and XX) yielded a total of only 16 dated sherds. The six dated sherds recovered from the soil among and immediately below the slabs and brick (strata XVIIIc and XIXa) were creamware (two sherds) and pearlware (four sherds). The latter level yielded two pieces of bottle glass dated to 1780-1820/30. Strata XIXb and c yielded 477 ceramic

sherds. However, only two of these, both creamware, were dated. Another burned sherd from the deposits was coded as whiteware. However reexamination suggests it was more probably creamware. Since identification of this sherd was uncertain, it was not considered as a diagnostic sherd. The other sherds from this deposit were non-diagnostic stoneware. Many of these sherds were mended to form a large jug-type vessel.

The soil underlying the above material (stratum XX) yielded eight diagnostic sherds with a mean ceramic date of 1755.6. These sherds include two creamware, two white salt glaze stoneware, one British brown stoneware and three slipware.

The combined mean ceramic date from strata XIX b and c and XX is 1762.7. Stratum XIX b yielded 20 pieces of bottle glass dated to 1780-1810/30 and eight pieces dated to 1740-1790. Thus there is some evidence that the material beneath the stone slabs was deposited somewhat earlier than the overlying strata. A glass bottle ownership seal recovered from stratum XIXb contained the embossed name "H. V(an) Vleck ..78." If this date is in fact 1778, it would be consistent with the ceramic evidence.

Summary and Interpretation

The material within the feature above the sandstone slabs accumulated after its period of use. The ceramic evidence indicates that deposition took place during the last decade

of the 18th century and/or the beginning of the following decade.

Although the ceramic data suggest that the filling of the feature took place over a short period of time, the presence of distinct strata, the variations in the excavated material among these strata and some of the ceramic data suggest that several loads of fill were deposited at different times.

It should be noted that the mean ceramic date for the deposits within the feature and outside the feature are similar. It is possible that the destruction of the top part of the feature caused material from inside it to be spread over a wider area. Alternatively, the ground level outside the feature could have been raised by filling during the same period that the feature was filled.

The earlier dates for the material below stratum XIXa, although based on a small sample, could have several explanations (if not due solely to sampling error). If the brick and sandstone located at the base of stratum XVIII and in stratum XIX represents the original floor of the feature, the material below this floor could be associated with the construction of the feature rather than its filling. The feature would have been constructed by excavating through all of the earlier landfill to the original river bottom deposits, the supporting logs laid down and the burned glass, ceramics and other refuse deposited to level off the surface prior to the construction of the brick and sandstone floor.

Strata XVII-XIXa could be associated with the destruction of the feature floor and immediate filling. The overlying strata may have been deposited later. This would account for the fact that mean ceramic dates for strata XVIII-XIX fall between the dates for the overlying and underlying material. Alternatively, all of the material within the feature could have accumulated gradually after its period of use had ended.

The feature probably functioned as a cistern. This interpretation requires the identification of the brick and sandstone at the base of stratum XVIII as the feature floor, since a cistern would need to have such a floor. The alternate explanation, that the feature functioned as a privy would imply that no floor was required and that all of the material within the feature was deposited after the period of use. While this is a possible explanation, it would imply that the privy was cleaned out thoroughly before filling, since we did not encounter the highly organic deposits associated with privies.

Outside of the large concentration of brick and mortar in the deeper strata, much of which may have been associated with the disturbance of the floor, most of the feature fill appears to consist of domestic refuse. Densities of non-architectural artifacts, bone and fish scale, were moderate to high while those of architectural artifacts were low. Also, there were rather low densities of shell recovered from the feature fill. Artifacts included a number of buttons and

fabric pieces, suggesting that clothing may have been discarded along with the more prevalent bottle and drinking glass and ceramics. A musket ball and an eight pound cannon ball were also recovered from the material in the western part of the feature which was excavated as a single unit. It is also notable that relatively few smoking pipe fragments were recovered.

The material from below the floor consisted mostly of burned bottle glass and stoneware jug fragments. This could be the residue from a commercial, rather than a domestic context, although moderate densities of bone and fish scale were also recovered from this deposit. Some vegetal remains were recovered from strata XIXc and XX as well as stratum XIV in the feature fill.

Additional Documentary Research and Interpretation

Documentary research into the ownership of Lot 12 has provided additional data for the interpretation of the construction sequence.

The pre-excavation documentary research contains a gap in the chain of ownership of Lot 12 between 1734 and 1789, when the recorded owner is Julien Verplanck. The excavation of the glass van Vleck bottle ownership seal in stratum XIX, however, prompted further research on the van Vleck family. A family history (Jane van Vleck 1955) provides important data pertaining to the ownership history and interpretation of TC G. The H. van Vleck whose name was embossed on the excavated

bottle seal was undoubtedly Henry van Vleck, a merchant who was born in 1722 and died in 1785. (One of his sons, born in 1753 was also named Henry.) Several sources quoted by Jane van Vleck indicate that the senior Henry van Vleck had both a residence and a store in Pearl Street. The family had two other houses, in Broad and Wall streets. The reference to the Pearl Street residence came from a description of the street in 1767 contained in an 1861 account, while the reference to the store was contained in a 1772 newspaper advertisement (van *not in*
Vleck 1955).- *bibliography*

Records of the Moravian Church cited by J. van Vleck note the fire in New York City on August 3, 1778, destroyed Henry van Vleck's 'best house.' J. van Vleck then goes on to state that

Apparently this was the house on Dock Street (Pearl Street) just mentioned. Henry bought this property, with its dwelling, kitchen, well, pumps and gardens in January, 1759 from the executors of Abraham Lockerman's estate for 600 pounds, and he sold it after the Revolution, then minus its buildings [apparently because of their destruction by the fire], to Gulian ver Planck for 1,000 pounds 'in silver and gold'....The lot had a frontage of about twenty-three feet on Dock Street and extended back about seventy feet.

The sale to Verplanck, indicated by the pre-excavation documentary research to have been the owner of Lot 12 in 1789, indicates strongly that the lot owned by van Vleck was, in fact, our Lot 12. Several interesting facts about the ownership history of the lot emerge from the preceding. *fr* first, it is apparent that the lot may have remained in the Lockerman family (spelled Lacherman or Lakerman in the

documentary records) from the late 1690s when it was bought by Abraham Lockerman until its sale to Henry van Vleck in 1759. If Lockerman had sold or leased the lot in the early 18th century, as suggested by the preliminary research, he would have reacquired it before 1759.

Secondly, the post-mortem transfer of ownership of the house of Tielman van Vleck, the mid-17th century Dutch settler from whom the van Vleck family is descended, was witnessed by Gulian Verplanck, apparently the ancestor of the Gulian Verplanck who bought Henry's house in 1789. This suggests a long commercial and/or personal relationship between the two families.

If we assume that the bottle seal containing the data ".78" dates to the period of occupation of the house by Henry van Vleck then the seal must have been manufactured between January 1, 1778 and August 1778, when the house was destroyed by fire. It is possible that the cistern fell into disuse just before the fire, that debris had just begun to accumulate in it, and that there was a gap between this time and the time that the new owner, Verplank, deposited his trash in the unused cistern. However, the weight of evidence supports an interpretation of the lower strata as being associated with the construction of the cistern. If the construction were undertaken by van Vleck, the cistern would have had to have been built just before the fire. Although this is possible, it should be noted that a large quantity of burnt glass,

ceramics and other materials was associated with the glass seal. The most likely interpretation, then, is that the cistern was constructed after the new owner, Verplank, built a new structure on the lot. The debris from the fire was probably still present on the lot, and was used as fill to support the floor of the cistern. The ceramic evidence then, would indicate that this cistern was in use for a period of only 10-15 years, since deposition of debris in the unused cistern apparently began in the 1790s.

It should be noted that J. van Vleck (1955) mentions the presence of a well on the van Vleck property. This is not likely to have been for drinking water because of the location of the property on landfill and the saline content of the water, but could have been a fire well. The firewell or cistern may have been rebuilt and/or relocated after the change of ownership.

TEST CUT E

The location of TC E was chosen according to our random sampling plan for testing the landfill deposits. However, several inches below the surface rubble, we encountered a dense mass of melted and fused metal rivets. We removed a portion of this deposit using a backhoe. This mass extended approximately four feet below the surface of the test cut. Beneath the rivets we noted the presence of a black tarry material. Since it was apparent that 19th-20th century industrial activity had disturbed the earlier deposits at this

location to a substantial depth, we decided to terminate the excavation at this location. Further testing on Lot 12, discussed below, indicated that this disturbance affected much of the north portion of Lot 12.

TEST CUT AG

Our probing and backhoe excavations failed to locate the eastern wall of the early house which we knew had been built on this lot. We located the western wall which was apparently a party wall with the western wall of the Livingston house. The western portion of the rear extension of this house was also found. It is possible that the construction of the 19th-century Lot 12/13 boundary wall resulted in the removal of the earlier eastern house wall and the eastern portion of the extension wall. In our attempt to locate the eastern wall of the early structure we excavated a trench just west of the Lot 12/13 boundary wall. The western profile of this trench indicated a line of mortar which we believed could represent the basement floor of an early structure. We therefore placed TC AG, which measured four by four feet, just north of wall #1 (the common rear wall for several early structures, see map) and one foot west of the Lot 12/13 boundary wall (Figure 47). It was dug so that the west wall of the trench became the east wall of the test cut. The east profile of the test cut was drawn before the test cut was excavated and represents the view looking westward towards the eventual location of the test cut.

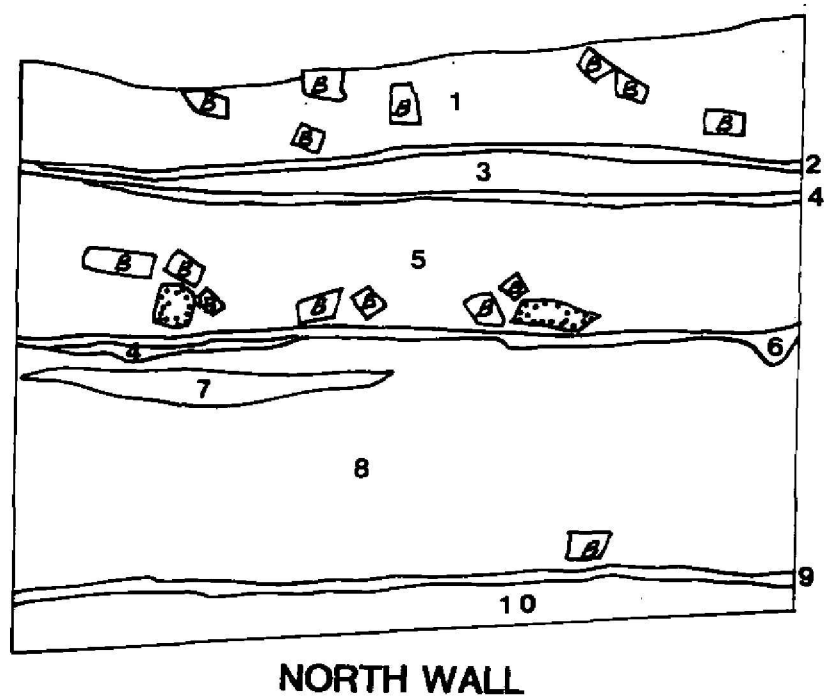


FIG 47

TEST CUT AG



Figure 47. Test Cut AG

1. construction rubble
2. charred wood
3. gray sand with ash, brick, and mortar
4. yellow-tan silty sand with mortar
5. light brown silty sand with brick and mortar
6. charred wood
7. mixed orange and brown sandy silt
8. brown silty sand

Beneath the surface rubble, approximately six to eight inches below the TC AG datum, we encountered what appeared to be a basement floor (Floor #2) represented by a layer of plaster and mortar. This is likely to remain from the basement floor of the structure which stood on the lot before the most recent one, which was observed to have a wooden basement floor (Floor #1). This wooden floor was encountered after the clearing of demolition rubble. The five ceramic sherds recovered immediately above the mortar floor consisted of three pearlware, one creamware and one whiteware sherd. This suggests the demolition of a building in the early 19th century, probably between 1810 and 1840, prior to the construction of the last building to stand on this lot.

At a depth of approximately 13/19 inches below the test cut datum, we encountered a third "floor." Most of the test cut was covered with charred wood at this elevation, with the northern portion of the "floor" being slightly lower. The demolition of the building which contained this floor can be dated by the deposit of rubble excavated between the first two floors, which represents the debris from the demolition of the building associated with Floor #3. The mean ceramic date from this deposit (46 dated sherds) is 1785.7. The modal type was creamware (32 sherds), while only five sherds were pearlware. One sherd was Jackfield-type red earthenware, with a terminal manufacturing date of 1780. The ceramic evidence indicates that basement floor #2, which had been burned, may have been

associated with a structure demolished in the late 1770s or 1780s (after the introduction of pearlware). This was most likely the structure owned by Henry van Vleck which was destroyed by the fire of 1778 (see discussion of TC G).

The relatively high density of architectural debris and the non-architectural/architectural artifact ratio of .96 supports the identification of this deposit as debris from structural demolition. The presence of 15 pieces of burned glass lends some support to the connection of this debris with the 1778 fire. Only three smoking pipe fragments with measurable bores and none with makers' marks were recovered from this deposit.

At a depth of approximately 30/31 inches below the test cut datum we encountered a fourth (mortar) floor (Floor #4). This was the mortar layer originally noted in the profile of the trench dug prior to TC AG. Five ceramic sherds, two delftware and three 17th-century type earthenware, appeared to be lying on this floor. The material deposited between Floors 3 and 4 could represent material from the demolition of the early structure or fill which was purposely deposited to raise the level of the basement floor. The low density of architectural artifacts and building materials and the higher NA/A ratio (4.8) compared with the deposit above floor #3 indicates that the latter explanation is more likely.

Most of the material between Floors #3 and #4 consisted of a light brown fine sand. It should be noted that the

material at the top of this stratum included pockets of what may be crumbling mortar, perhaps associated with floor #3. The excavators also noted that the density of artifacts seemed to be greatest at the top of this stratum. This deposit included 10 dated sherds, nine delftware and one 17th-century earthenware, as well as 23 un-dated sherds. One sherd was cataloged as "creamware." This sherd may have been intrusive from the overlying floor, or may have been incorrectly identified.

The material between floors #3 and #4 also included a lens of gray ashy silt with shell which contained a higher density of artifacts than the surrounding soil. The higher non-architectural/architectural artifact ratio for this deposit suggests a different source of the fill than that of the surrounding soil. The ashy deposit also contained 19 pieces of bottle glass dated to 1680-1730/40. This supports an association of floor #4 with the first structure built on the lot at the end of the 17th century. The 18 dated ceramic sherds consisted of 14 17th-century earthenware and four delftware sherds.

Only five measurable pipe stem bores were recovered from the material between floors #3 and #4. The evidence suggests that the period of occupation of the first structure built on this lot, associated with floor #4, was relatively brief, lasting no later than the first portion of the 18th century.

Several inches of the mottled dark brown sandy silt

underlying floor number three were excavated. The artifacts recovered from this deposit are consistent with those generally present in the landfill. A mean ceramic date of 1690.5 was calculated from 75 dated sherds. A pipe fragment with an H.G. maker's mark (1668-1688) was also recovered. The deposit was characterized by a high density of bone (54.3 pcs/cu. ft) and marine shell 3223.7 gms/cu. ft). It should be noted that the western profile of the trench dug between TC AG and the Lot 12/13 boundary wall indicated that the deposit of rivets representing the industrial period intrusion began approximately two feet north of TC AG. Field notes suggest that the bottom of this intrusive industrial deposit was slightly above the level of floor #4.

SHOVEL TEST 18

The eastern profile of a backhoe trench dug east of the Lot 11/12 boundary wall indicated the presence of a regular pattern of stones with burnt material overlying them. We excavated the soil above these stones to determine their nature and their relationship to the other Lot 12 deposits. However, because of a lack of time, we were not able to screen all the excavated material; therefore, only the larger artifacts were recovered. ✓

ST 18 extended eastward 33" from the east side of the backhoe trench. This shovel test uncovered a dry laid flagstone floor which extended through the whole shovel test. The elevation of this floor was approximately one and a half

feet below that of the lowest floor (Floor #4) excavated in TC AG. The flagstone floor was bordered to the south by a one course thick brick wall with an interior mortar facing. This wall was located approximately four feet north of the back wall of the early structure (wall #1). A few courses of dry laid stones, possibly the remains of a wall, bordered the flagstone area on the west immediately north of the brick wall, but did not extend for the entire north-south extent of the shovel test.

Excavation of the shovel test began at an elevation approximately 18 inches below the opening elevation of TC AG due to prior removal of the uppermost material during clearing operations. The topmost 21 inches consisted of sandy soil containing a large amount of brick and rubble. From this depth to the flagstone floor at approximately 27-30 inches, the rubble included a large amount of charred material, with what appeared to be several layers of planking overlying the flagstone floor. The interior of the brick wall also showed signs of charring.

The stratigraphy of this test appeared to be very different from that of TC AG. Our impression in the field was that the flagstone floor may have been part of the same construction phase that produced the industrial debris (melted rivets) in the front part of the lot. While we did not follow the extent of the brick wall at the southern boundary of the flagstone floor, it did not extend across the lot, as it would

have intersected TC AG if it had done so.

TEST CUT F

Test Cut F was placed according to our sampling plan for the testing of the landfill deposits (see Chapter One). Subsequent exposure of the stone walls of the late 17th-century building on Lot 12 indicated that its location was west of the building's rear extension and therefore on the outside of the early structure built on the lot. TC F was located 40 feet south of the Pearl Street base line and 11½ feet east of the Lot 11/12 boundary wall (Figures 48, 49). Immediately below the surface rubble, the excavators encountered the remains of the wooden basement floor of the last building to stand on the lot prior to the recent demolition. Beneath this floor was an 8-14 inch thick stratum (stratum IV) of light brown sand containing a large amount of brick, including many large pieces. Excavation of this stratum exposed two large stones set on top of one another in the south part of the square. Profile drawings indicate a thin charcoal lens in the east wall of the test cut beneath stratum IV. At the same level, a thick gray line extended across the north wall of the test cut. Excavation of the next stratum (V), a medium brown silty sand with rubble, exposed the top of a stone wall in the south part of TC F beneath the two stones mentioned above. The wall consisted of three courses of stones set in mortar. It began approximately 14 inches below the surface of TC F and extended to a depth of

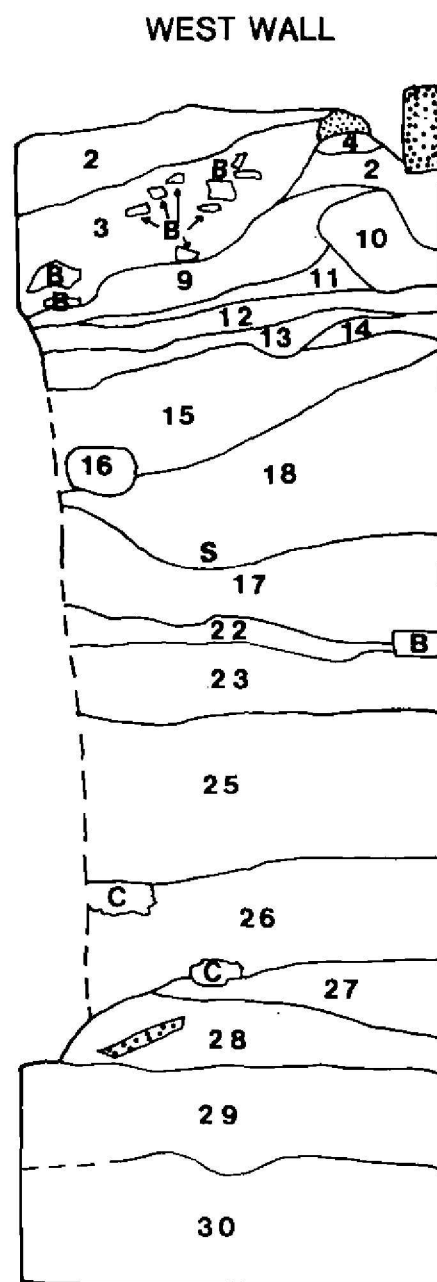
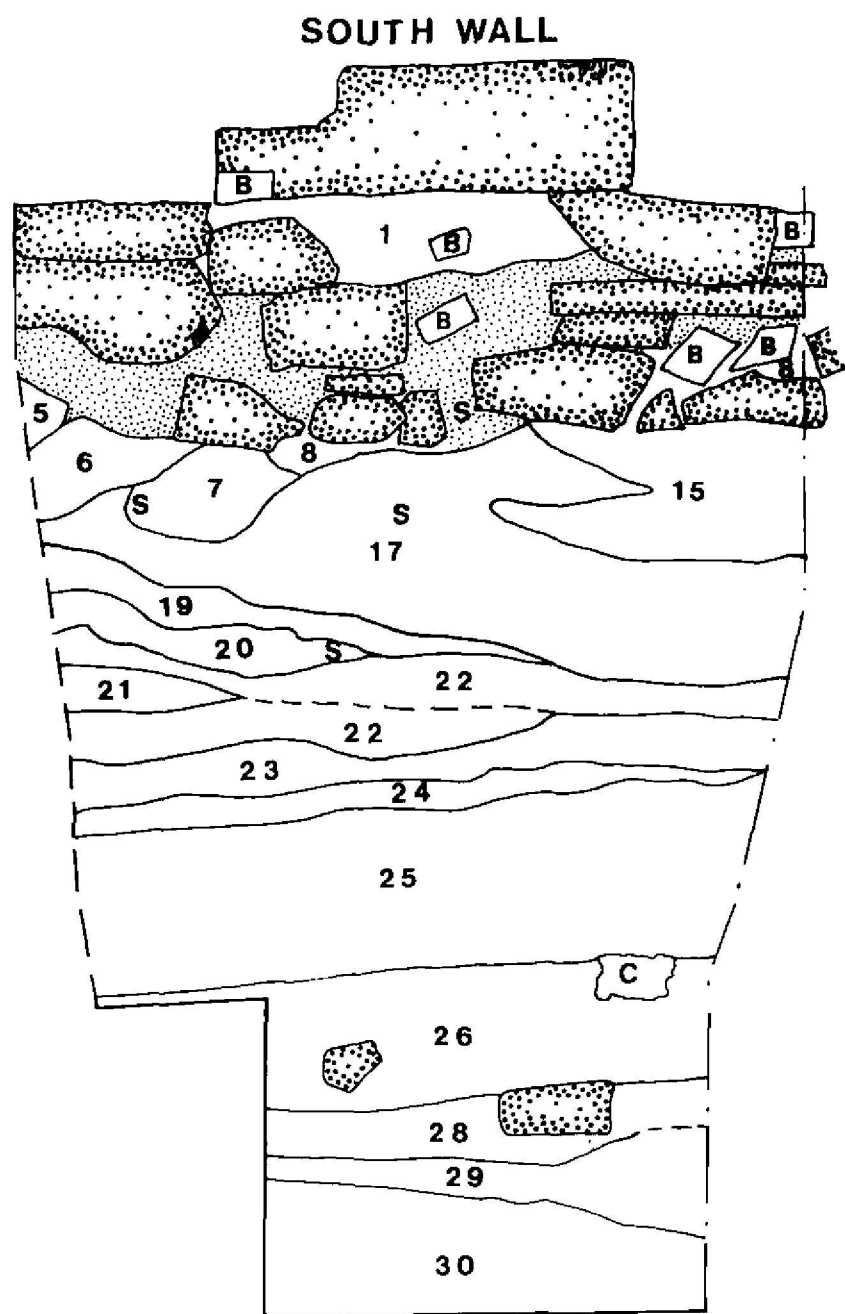


FIG 8-9

TEST CUT F



Figures 48-49. Test Cut F

1. red sandstone with mortar
2. reddish-brown sand
3. mustard colored silt
4. grayish-brown silty sand with charcoal, brick, and mortar
5. tan sand, stained orange in center of wall
6. gritty orange sand
7. ash
8. brown-gray sandy silt with charcoal
9. light brown sand with heavy concentrations of crushed shell
10. orange brown sand with shell, mortar, and brick
11. tan sand with heavy concentrations of charcoal
12. reddish-brown sand with shell and charcoal
13. mustard colored silt
14. brown sandy silt with crushed brick and clay
15. brown sandy silt with crushed brick and clay
16. tan to medium brown silty sand with flecks of yellow clay
17. reddish-brown sand with shell, charcoal, brick, and clay
18. brown silty sand with heavy concentrations of shell
19. fine reddish-brown silt
20. coarse reddish-brown sandy silt
21. fine reddish-brown silt
22. gray sandy silt with charcoal, shell, and brick
23. light brown coarse sand with shell flecks and orange staining
24. tannish-gray sandy silt
25. light brown coarse sand with shell
26. gray and tan sand with shell
27. gray silty sand with rust staining
28. dark gray clayey silt
29. gray and red silty sand with shell
30. reddish-gray silty sand

approximately 28/32 inches. Stratum V also contained a high density of brick, although not as high as stratum IV.

At the same level as stratum V, a dark grayish-brown sandy silt (stratum VII) appeared immediately adjacent to the stone wall and extending approximately 22 inches north of it. Dark staining from this deposit was visible on the stones of the wall. The deposit contained a high density of brick and mortar as well as moderate densities of both architectural and non-architectural artifacts. The deposit appeared to be a trench associated with construction of the stone wall. Although the profile drawings do not indicate the presence of this "trench" in the east wall of the test cut, photographs indicate an area of the east profile of TC F which was probably disturbed by the construction of the stone wall.

Some dark staining is also visible in photographs of the east wall of the test cut at the base of stratum V, but this does not appear as dark as material in the "trench," which yielded 22 grams of charcoal. This "stained" soil was apparently excavated with stratum V.

The trench in the east wall of TC F was also dug through a deposit of tan fine sand as well as through stratum V. The tan sand was approximately seven inches thick in the northwest corner of TC F and was excavated as stratum VI in this part of the test cut. This deposit yielded very low densities of cultural material in all categories. Although this deposit was only recognized in the northwest corner of the test cut

during excavation, profile drawings and photographs indicate that it was also present in thin lenses in the north and west walls of the test cut.

Thin lenses of reddish brown sand, mustard colored silt, and light brown sand with crushed shell were present beneath the tan fine sand. These strata (excavated as strata VIII and IX) yielded moderate densities of brick, mortar and shell, but few artifacts. Neither the tan fine sand nor the underlying lenses were present beneath the stone wall in the south part of the test cut. The 17th-century landfill deposits, which will be discussed below, were encountered beneath the thin lenses at a depth of 27/28 inches.

Ten ceramic sherds were recovered from stratum IV. None of these, eight creamware and one pearlware, were dated. The sherds indicate a late 18th-early 19th century deposition of this stratum. Stratum V yielded 25 dated sherds with a mean ceramic date of 1731.1. Five of the sherds were creamware, indicating a deposition after 1765. The other dated sherds were "earlier" types, delftware, slipware, white salt-glazed stoneware and 18th century "midlands" type yellowware. No pearlware was present, indicating probable deposition before the 1780s. The "trench" deposit (stratum VII) yielded one buff slipware and eight creamware sherds, giving a mean ceramic date of 1771.2. Since the trench was dug through stratum V, but began beneath stratum IV, the excavation of the trench and construction of the stone wall took place after

the deposition of the former stratum and before the latter. Although relatively few ceramic sherds were recovered from these deposits, the available evidence is consistent with the stratigraphic evidence. The tan sand (stratum VII) and the underlying lenses (strata VIII and IX) yielded no datable artifacts.

Interpretation of Construction Sequence

The ceramic data together with the stratigraphic considerations suggest the following interpretation. The lenses immediately above the landfill deposits were probably deposited in the early-mid 18th century. One of these lenses, the mustard colored silt, may have represented the basement floor of a house constructed in the mid-18th century (see below). This building was demolished, probably c. 1760-1780, leading to the deposition of stratum V. This deposit may contain debris from the burned van Vleck house (see TC G). Debris from this structure was also excavated from the base of the cistern in TC G. Domestic artifacts from stratum V include a thimble and a fragment of a buckle, and several pieces of vitrified glass. Subsequent to the demolition of the structure, but during the same general time period, a trench was dug through the demolition rubble (stratum V) and the underlying tan sand (stratum VI) and other lenses (strata VII and IX) and the stone wall was constructed in this trench. This may have been part of the Verplank house, constructed after the Revolution (see discussion of TC G). The major part

of the trench may have been on the south side of the wall. The stones on top of the wall may have served as the base for a structural support for this building.

The charcoal lens in the east wall and gray stain in the north wall shown on the profile drawings occurred at approximately the same elevation as the top of the wall and may have accumulated in the basement of the structure during its occupation. At some later date, probably during the early years of the 19th century, the building associated with the TC F wall was demolished and the rubble from this building (stratum IV) covered the wall and the structural support base. The last building to stand on the lot was subsequently constructed and the wooden basement floor laid over the rubble of the preceding structure.

Landfill Deposits

As noted above, the deposits beginning at approximately 27/28 inches below the surface of TC F represent the 17th-century landfill. These deposits consist of numerous strata and lenses of various soil types which can be divided into several groups for purposes of discussion. Between approximately 27/28 and 40/44 inches below the surface of the test cut, the fill consisted of several strata of brown and reddish brown sand and silty sand which were excavated as strata X and XI. This soil did not have a high artifact density but did contain a high shell density, most of which was concentrated in a lens in the north and west parts of the

square which was present toward the top of these deposits. Lenses of reddish brown silt occupied much of the southwest corner of the test cut.

The next group of strata consisted largely of a gray sandy silt containing shell, charcoal and brick. A lens of fine reddish brown silt occurred in the eastern part of the test cut with the gray silt occurring above and below this lens. The gray silt began at approximately 40 inches in the northeastern part of the square, where it was approximately 13 inches thick, and sloped downward to approximately 49 inches in the south and east, where it was only two to four inches thick. This material was excavated as strata XII-XIV. It was followed by a three to eight inch thick stratum (XV) of light brown coarse sand containing shell.

Between a depth of 54/59 inches and 68 inches, the excavators encountered a series of four wood stains which covered most of the square with traces of additional wood stains in the south profile. The soil between the first two wood stains was described as a tan gray silty sand (stratum XVI) with the soil between the second and third, and third and fourth wood stains consisting of a light brown coarse sand with shell and orange staining (stratum XVII). Below the last of the four wood stains a number of large rocks were encountered in the east part of the square between 68 and 72/73 inches. These rocks were included in a stratum of gray and tan sand with shell which was excavated as stratum XVIII.

The profiles show a thin line of dark silt beneath the rocks which may represent another wood stain. Stratum XVIII had the highest artifact density of any of the strata in this test cut, especially in the "non-architectural" category. It also had a high density of shell and bone. This stratum also contained the highest density of coral in this test cut.

The stones in the eastern part of the square extended approximately 18 inches into the square from the east wall and were only one course thick. Although these stones gave the appearance of being purposefully laid, there is no stratigraphic indication that they were part of the base of a wall which was later removed. It is possible that the stones were deposited during the filling process. It should be noted however that subsequent to the excavation of TC F, a stone wall which was the west wall of the extension of the early house on Lot 12 was exposed just to the east of TC F. The stones in TC F could have been deposited in connection with the construction of the base of this wall. It should be noted also that in Lot 14 the excavations encountered a low stone wall at the bottom of the landfill. These walls could represent initial attempts to construct foundation walls (or temporary landfill retaining walls) which were abandoned before the landfilling process was completed.

The same soil type excavated as stratum XVIII (gray and tan sand with shell) continued below the rocks and the underlying wood stain to a depth of 72/80 inches, with a lens

of gray silty sand occurring in the northwest corner of the test cut between 72-78 inches. This material was excavated as strata XIX and XX. In common with stratum XVIII it contained substantial quantities of coral, shell and bone, although artifact densities were lower.

A two to six inch thick layer of dark gray clayey silt (stratum XXIa) underlay the gray and tan sand beginning at approximately 80 inches. This stratum yielded substantial densities of coral, high densities of bone, and a moderate density of vegetal remains.

The clayey silt was followed by a two to four inch transitional layer of gray and red silty sand and a layer of reddish gray silty sand which was excavated to a depth of 91/92 inches (strata XXIb and XXII). This material contained a decreasing density of artifacts, bone, shell and coral, although substantial density of vegetal remains were recovered from the last excavated level of the reddish sand.

The gray clayey silt (XXX stratum XXIa) most probably marks the beginning of the river bottom deposits in TC F. The artifacts and vegetal material in the underlying sand probably penetrated into the sand from the overlying river bottom silt. The filling process in Lot 12 probably involved the use of boards between successive layers of fill. The boards may have been placed so that cartloads of fill could be dumped away from the original shoreline without sinking into the loose fill material which had already been deposited.

It should be noted that the only substantial recorded quantities of yellow brick in TC F (800 grams) originated in the gray clayey silt and underlying deposits which represent the pre-landfilling river bottom, a pattern which appears to characterize the basal deposits in many of the test cuts excavated to river bottom depths. There were no other salient differences between the artifacts recovered from the river bottom and the landfill deposits.

The mean ceramic date calculated for all TC F landfill and river bottom deposits (237 dated sherds) is 1685.4 while the pipe stem date (182 measurable bores) is 1674.3).

SHOVEL TEST 11

Shovel Test 11 was placed east of TC F and it was probably located within the boundaries of the extension to the late 17th-century house which was built on Lot 12. Comparison of the ST 11 and TC F profiles suggests that the TC F strata represented by the narrow bands immediately above the landfill strata may continue to the east and appear in ST 11. These strata yielded no dateable artifacts in TC F. However, in ST 11, a band of yellow brown sandy silt with mortar which underlay what appeared to be a band of decayed mortar yielded two dated sherds: molded white salt glazed stoneware (1740-1805) and Nottingham stoneware (1700-1810). This suggests that these lenses were probably not associated with the extension to the earliest structure built on Lot 12. They may have been deposited within a later and larger structure and

may have represented a basement floor. Since the wall trench excavated in TC F cut through this layer, it was deposited before the construction of the building associated with this wall. The artifactual evidence suggests that this floor may have been associated with the same building as floor #3 excavated in TC AG. This would have been the van Vleck house. However, the TC AG floor was wooden, and there was no indication of charred wood associated with the mortar floor in TC F or ST 11. The mortar floor, however, could have been associated with an extension to the van Vleck house, with the wooden floor confined to the main portion of the structure.

Summary of Construction Sequence--Lot 12

An early structure was constructed on this lot contemporaneously with the land filling, either by the water lot grantee, Engell Bergers or by Abraham Lackerman, who owned the lot by 1697. Lackerman is known to have had a house on this lot by 1717. Floor #4 (TC AG) may represent the basement floor of the main portion of this structure. Sometime prior to the mid-18th century this structure was demolished. This may have occurred in 1727, when Lots 12/24 were subdivided.

The next structure to be constructed was probably the one occupied by the van Vleck family. Floor #3 (TC AG) and the mortar band in TC F and ST 11 probably represent the basement floor of this structure, which was destroyed by fire in 1778.

After the Revolution, a new structure was built by Julian Verplack. The rear wall of this structure was uncovered in

TC F, and the TC G cistern was associated with it. Two brick walls oriented in a north-south direction and located south of the east-west wall uncovered in TC F also may have been associated with an extension or outbuilding of this structure.

The Verplank house was probably razed at the end of the 18th century or the beginning of the 19th. The brick wall immediately north of the cistern was probably the rear wall of the next structure to be built on the lot. A succeeding structure was the most recent one to stand on Lot 12. One of the 19th century structures was apparently used for some type of industrial activity.

CHAPTER FIVEDocumentary Research--Lot 13

Lot 13 originated in the western section of Lucan Van Theinhoven's 1687 Water Lot Grant. By 1697 the original 32' X 95' lot (Liber A p53) had been subdivided and a 20'6" X 95' parcel now belonged to Lawrence Wessels, a mariner. Wessels residence is mentioned in the 1703 tax records and depicted in the 1717 Burgis View. A residence occupied by Francis Garrabrandts is noted in the tax records from 1721 to 1724. A series of 1796/8 indicate that Lot 13 had belonged to Julian Verplanck at some earlier date (L51 p394,401,409; L53 p123; L70 p258). Verplanck maintained a residence immediately next door in Lot 12 which he sold in 1795 (L53 p123). There are no tax records available between 1789 and 1795, when the lot belonged to Garret Ketteltas. Ketteltas sold Lot 13 in 1801 to John Swaztwait and Peter Dumaut, the owners of Lots 12 and 14 (L60 p380).

Lot 13 was vacant between 1807 and 1817 (tax assessment records). There is no indication in the documents whether or not the building which was destroyed at this point was the original 17th century building. The lot belonged to Thomas Snell, Peter Stagg and Thomas Stagg and in 1814 it was sold to John Johnson, William Halstead, George Sharp and James Tuttle (L106 p446; L107 p110). This latter group were also the owner/occupants of Lot 14 and 15 (L105 p426,428; L115

p149P. A new building was erected in 1817 (tax assessment records).

Lot 13 measured 20' X 140' at this time and in 1818 when the lot was sold to John Oothout it was also subdivided so that the parcel conveyed measured 19' X 70' (L126 p116). The Oothout family owned the lot until 1882 (L1640 p165) and the building remained in commercial use from 1817 onwards. The New York Directories show a progression of merchants and dry goods stores between 1817 and 1844.

The 1860 tax assessment records describe a four story building measuring 19' X 70'. Prior to this time there were two documented building episodes on the lot. The first structures were built in the late 17th or early 18th centuries and there is no record that they were destroyed prior to 1807 when the lot became vacant. A new structure was put on the lot in 1817. This building is probably the same one which is described in the 1860 tax assessment records.

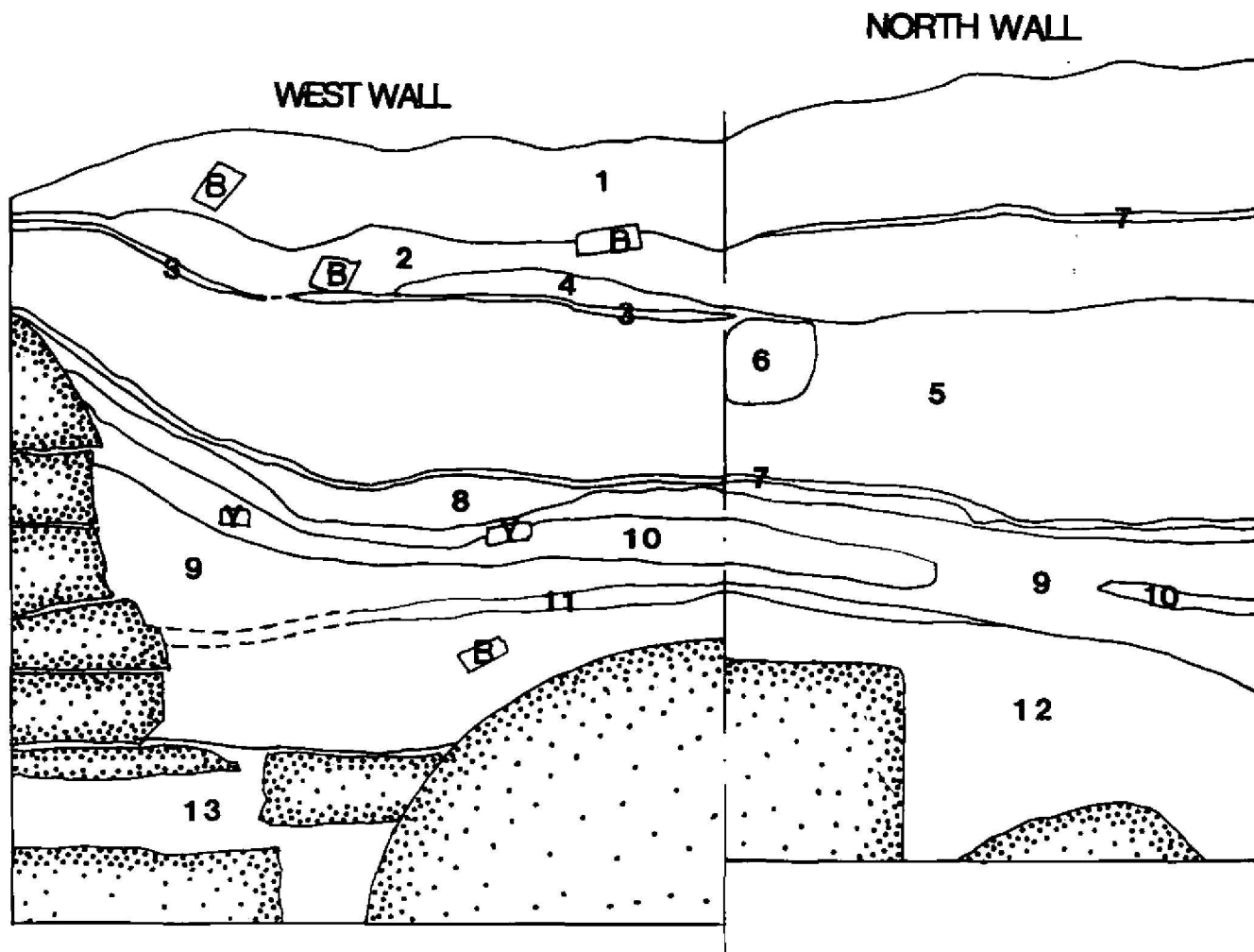
Excavation--Lot 13

During the exploratory phase of the project, and after the common stone near wall (wall #1) of the 17th century houses fronting on Pearl street had been uncovered, we placed several probes to determine whether there was a common early house wall separating Lots 13 and 14. ST #6 was placed at the intersection of wall #1 and the later Lot 13/14 boundary wall. Since the results of this test were inconclusive, Backhoe

Trench #9 was dug alongside the Lot 13/14 boundary wall, extending approximately 18 feet south of the Pearl Street base line.

Although these tests did not encounter an early dividing wall, for reasons which will be discussed below, they did suggest the presence of a mortar floor at an elevation of approximately two feet below the top of wall #1. The results of ST #12, placed in the west wall of Backhoe Trench #9 suggested that this floor dated to an early period, perhaps the late 17th century, and thus may have been associated with the first building to be constructed on Lot 13. We therefore excavated TC V (Figures 50, 51, 52, 53), abutting the north side of wall #1 and just west of ST 6. The results of this test cut suggested that artifacts were present on this early floor. Therefore, during the mitigation phase, five additional test cuts, AI (Figure 54), AM (Figure 55), AE (Figure 56), AJ (Figures 57, 58) and AK (Figures 59, 60) were excavated in the front part of Lot 13. Since the primary objective of these test cuts was to expose the early floor and record the patterning of artifacts on it, excavation terminated immediately below the floor. The underlying fill deposits were sampled only in TC V and the shovel tests noted above. The deposits overlying the floor were completely screened only in TC V and TC AE.

In TC AI, AM, AJ, and AK the deposits were not screened and only the larger artifacts were saved. Nevertheless,



FG 50-51

TEST CUT V



Figures 50-51. Test Cut V

1. overburden
2. mottled sand with brick
3. beige sand with charcoal
4. light brown sandy silt mottled with black
5. light brown clayey silt mottled with green and orange
6. white sand
7. mortar
8. red sand
9. light brown medium sand with shell
10. green-yellow clayey silt
11. gray sand with silt
12. light brown sand
13. pinkish-tan sand

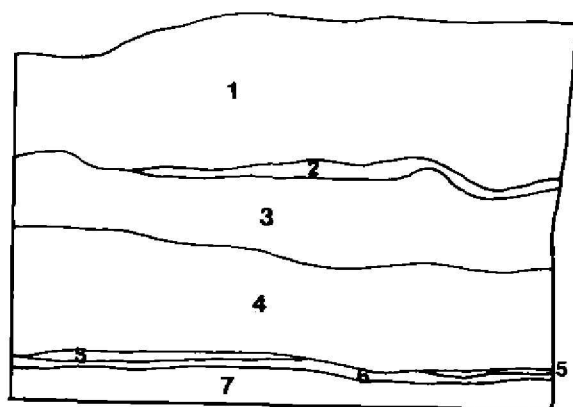


FIG 55

TEST CUT AM

WEST WALL

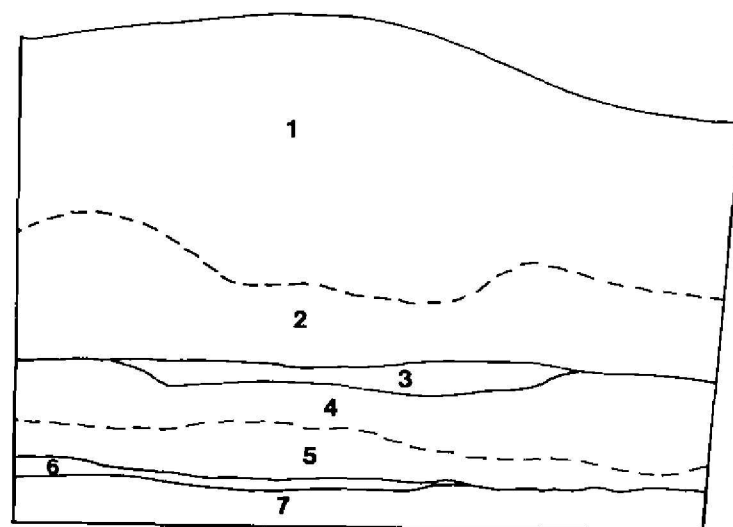


FIG 56

TEST CUT AE

EAST WALL

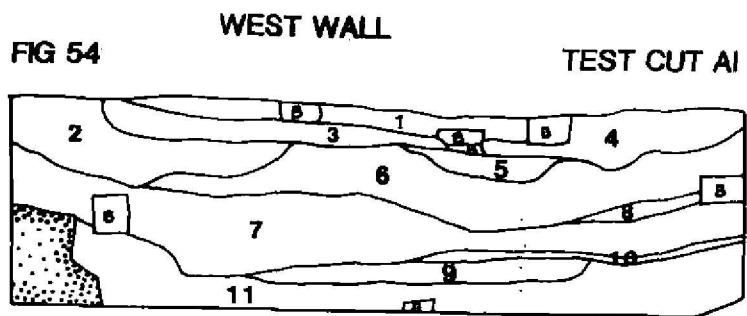


FIG 54

WEST WALL

TEST CUT AI

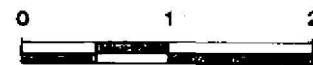


Figure 54. Test Cut AI

1. brown sandy overburden
2. red clay
3. crushed brick
4. reddish-brown silty sand
5. gray-black sand mottled with orange
6. green clay
7. crushed shell with mortar
8. light brown sand
9. red sand
10. white mortar
11. brown silty sand with charcoal and green silt

Figure 55. Test Cut AM

1. overburden
2. charcoal
3. brick and rubble
4. brown silt mottled with tan and green
5. red gritty sand
6. white mortar
7. brown sand mottled with yellow

Figure 56. Test Cut AE

1. rubble overburden
2. medium brown silty sand with heavy brick rubble
3. light brown sand with mortar and charcoal
4. medium brown mottled silt
5. shell and mortar with light brown sand
6. hard-packed mortar shell floor
7. medium brown sand with chunks of tan and green silt and charcoal

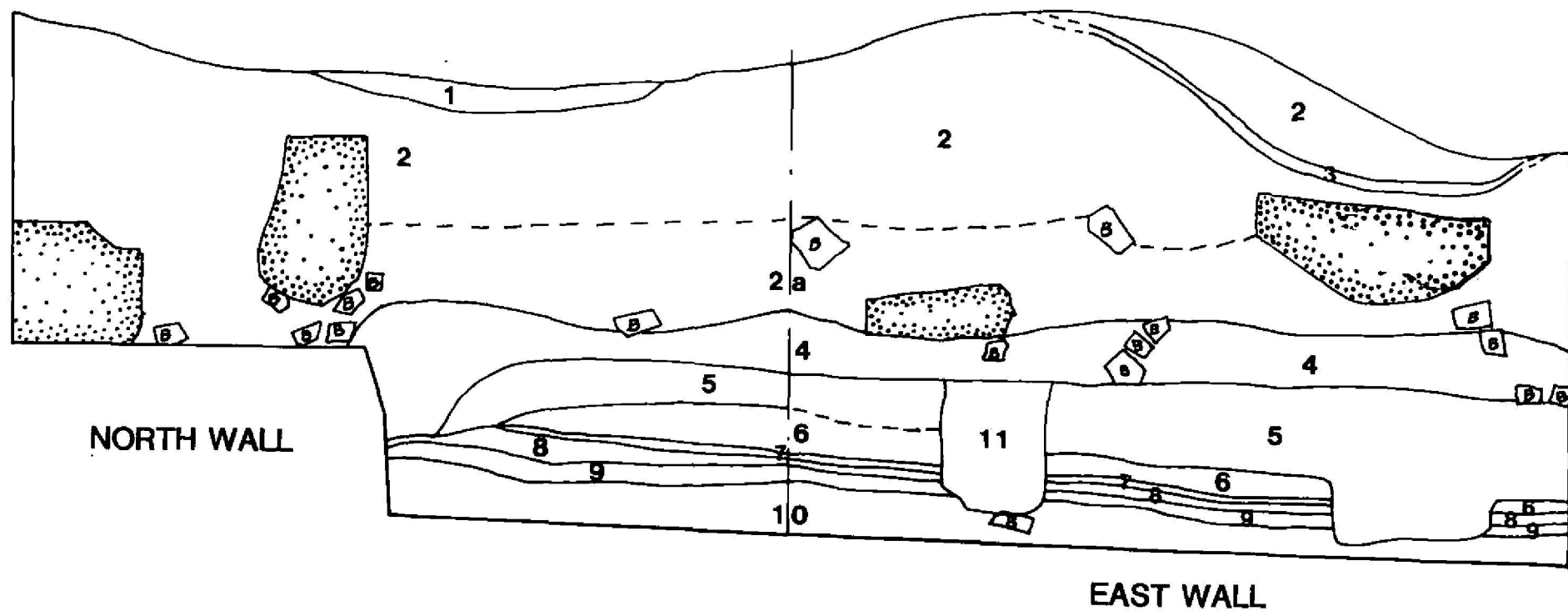


FIG 57-58

TEST CUT AJ



Figure 57-58. Test Cut AJ

1. tan sand
2. brown sandy silt with stone and brick
3. light tan sand with crushed mortar
4. brick, mortar, and charcoal
5. greenish-brown silt mottled with orange
6. greenish-brown sand mottled with orange silt
7. thin line of fine sand
8. golden-tan fine sandy silt
9. brown sand mottled with golden-tan fine sandy silt
10. grayish-brown sandy silt mottled with charcoal, brick,
and green silt
11. greenish-brown silt mixed with coarse brown sand

SOUTH WALL

WEST WALL

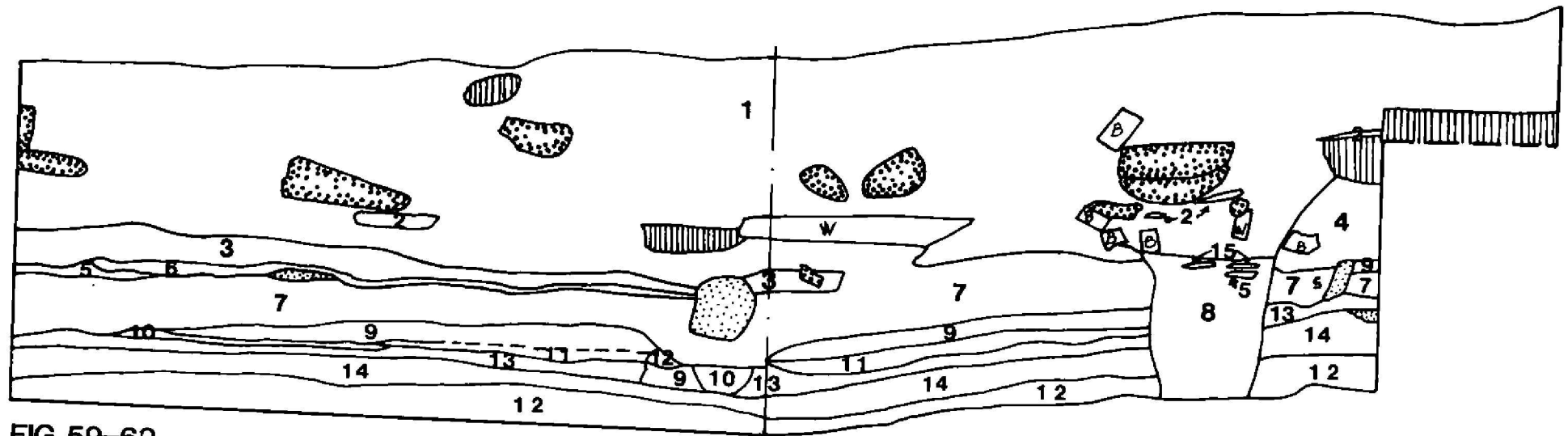


FIG 59-60

TEST CUT AK



Figure 59-60. Test Cut AK

1. hard-packed brown sandy silt with brick, mortar, and charcoal
2. tar
3. hard-packed gray sandy silt with pockets of yellow silt, charcoal, brick, and mortar
5. red-brown sand
6. burned area
7. brown silt mottled with yellow silt
8. intrusive area of medium brown sandy silt with patches of yellow clay and rust stains
9. yellow-gray sandy silt with pockets of reddish-brown sand
10. white sand
11. gray-brown sandy silt
12. red silt with patches of gray silt
13. yellow silt with mortar
14. dark gray sandy silt mottled with charcoal, shell, and mortar
15. dark brown silt

stratigraphic data and the provenienced artifacts recovered from TC V and TC AE enabled us to reconstruct the history of the lot subsequent to the construction of the early floor, referred to below as floor #1. A total of 139 square feet of this floor was excavated, approximately 30% of its estimated extent.

Excavations in the Northern Portion of Lot 13

For purposes of discussion, the stratigraphy in the northern front part of Lot 13 can be divided into three parts, the early mortar floor, the underlying landfill deposits and the overlying deposits. The floor itself appeared to be composed of one or more layers of decaying mortar. According to the excavators' descriptions of the deposit and the profile drawings, a layer of white mortar was overlain in some places by a thin layer of reddish gritty sand or golden tan sand. This could represent decayed brick or mortar. In other places, the hard packed white mortar was overlain or replaced by a layer of crushed shell mixed with mortar. This occurred most noticeably in the eastern portion of TC AE, the southwest corner of TC AI and the northeast corner of TC AK. The presence of these various thin bands may represent attempts to repair the floor. It is also possible that some of the lenses represent the differential process of decay of a single mortar floor.

Seventeen of the 79 ceramic sherds recovered from the floor were dated. Nine green/yellow glazed buff earthenware

and three redware sherds are typical 17th-century ceramics. The other five sherds are delftware, with three being polychrome decorated. The ceramic data suggest the deposition of artifacts on the mortar floor shortly after landfilling. None of the nine pipe fragments from the floor contained maker's marks. Seven measurable bores include five $5/64$ inch and two $7/64$ inch bores. One dated bottle glass fragment was manufactured between 1680 and 1730/40.

In TCs V and AK, a thin layer of red sand was noted immediately beneath the lowest layer of the mortar floor. In TC AJ a similar layer was described as brown sand and in TC AM and AI lenses of red sand were noted beneath the floor. This sand may have been deposited as a bedding for the floor at the time of its construction.

Twenty three of the 35 ceramic sherds recovered from this sub-floor deposit were dated and yielded a mean ceramic date of 1692.0. The ceramics recovered include 17th-century earthenwares, delftwares, German stonewares and two combed slipware sherds. One sherd of Oriental Export Porcelain with an underglaze painted brown line on the rim had an initial date of manufacture of about 1700, which supports the above conclusion that the floor dates to immediately after the landfilling. The preceding figures exclude the ceramics from TC V, stratum XIIa, which included artifacts from the surface of the floor as well as beneath it. A Binford date of 1680.2 was calculated from 27 measured pipe bores from this deposit.

None of the pipe fragments had maker's marks. This deposit had a low (9.3/cu.ft.) artifact density.

The slope of the mortar floor is worth nothing. The stone rear wall of the early structure (wall #1) stepped outward about one foot below its top to protrude some six inches northward into TC V. From a point some 22 inches north of the wall, at which point the floor was approximately 24 inches below the elevation of the top of the stone rear wall of the house, the floor sloped sharply upward to the south so as to cover the top of the inward stepped portion of the stone wall. North of this point (22 inches north of the stone wall) the floor remained approximately level in TC AM and AE, some 14 feet north of the stone wall #1. However, in the southern portion of TC AJ, the elevation of the floor had risen two inches above this level and it continued to rise so that it was six inches above this level in the southern portion of TC AK and 10 inches in the northern portion of TC AK, with an additional three inch increase in elevation occurring in the northernmost six inches of TC AK. This suggests that the front wall of a building associated with the floor was located immediately north of the north wall of TC AK, with the sharp rise in the floor elevation being similar to that noted next to the rear stone wall.

It should be noted that our original excavation plan called for TC AK to be placed beneath the Pearl Street base line (beneath the southern edge of the pre-construction Pearl

Street sidewalk). However, the presence of a steeply sloping pile of unexcavated rubble beneath and immediately south of the baseline made excavation in that location extremely hazardous.

Deposits Above the Floor

Immediately above the floor (Floor #1) was a stratum of fill. This deposit consisted mainly of a yellowish brown silt mottled with green and orange silt. In TC AJ there was a lens of sandier fill between the silty fill and the floor. The thickness of the fill stratum was greater in the southern part of the excavated area than the northern, decreasing from twelve inches in TC V to four inches in TC AK. As noted above, floor #1 sloped upward from south to north. Therefore, the effect of the fill was to make the top of the fill more nearly level than the underlying floor. The difference between the elevation of the floor in TC V and TC AK was approximately 10 inches while the difference at the top of the fill stratum was approximately two inches.

Because of time constraints this fill deposit was screened only in TC V and TC AE. Only 22 ceramic sherds were recovered, 10 of which were dated. Eight of these were delftware and two were 17th-century ceramic types. The mean ceramic date was 1692. Fifteen smoking pipe fragments were recovered, none of which had maker's marks. The bore diameters (2-#8, 3-#7, 3-#6) were consistent with those of the pipe fragments recovered from the landfill deposits. This

silty fill contained a low density of artifacts and faunal materials. The admittedly scanty evidence supports the inference that the mortar floor underlying the fill was exposed for a relatively short period.

In the east wall of TC AJ we noted what appeared to be two post impressions approximately 22 inches apart. Both had a rectangular cross-section and ended just below the level of the mortar floor. In neither case did the posts appear to have rotted away in situ. Rather, they were apparently removed and the resulting holes filled-in. The southernmost of the two impressions measured 12 inches across. It was not seen above the level of the mortar floor and appeared to be filled with the same silty fill which immediately overlay the floor. Therefore this post would have been removed after the period of use of the mortar floor and before the deposition of the overlying fill.

The northernmost post impression measured eight inches across. Unlike the other impression, this one began at the top of the silty fill deposit overlying the floor and continued through the mortar floor. It contained a mixture of the silty fill and brown sand. This post probably remained in situ after the filling episode and was removed prior to the next construction episode, discussed below.

A possible third post impression was noted in the west wall of TC AK, approximately 54 inches north of the northernmost of the two impressions in TC AJ. The west wall

of TC AK was located on a line one and a half feet west of the east wall of TC AJ, in which the first two impressions were noted. Like the northernmost of the two AC AJ impressions, this one began at the top of the fill stratum and penetrated the mortar floor. However, unlike the former impressions, which were rectangular in cross-section, the TC AK "impression" tapered from about nine inches at the top to seven inches at the bottom of this disturbance and determine its basal profile. It is likely that this intrusion was the result of rodent activity, rather than being a post impression. It should be noted that the northern profile of TC AI also indicates the presence of animal burrowing.

A stratum of light brown sand containing a very heavy concentration of brick and mortar immediately overlay the silty fill deposit. In some of the test cuts there were indications that a second floor (floor #2) was present at the base of this brick and rubble deposit and immediately on top of the silty fill. A thin line of burnt material was clearly visible in this position in TC V. In TC AE this "floor" was present as a thin lens of light brown sand containing mortar and charcoal. The profiles of TC AK also show a thin line of burnt material in some locations and at one place a thicker piece of burnt wood was noted between the silty fill and the rubble.

The rubble stratum was screened only in TC V and TC AE. This material yielded 382 ceramic sherds, 288 of which were

dated: 56.6% of the dated sherds were creamware and 21.7% delftware. The mean ceramic date was calculated at 1766.8. The cumulative frequency curve indicates that only some four percent of the ceramics were of types manufactured after the introduction of pearlware. Of these, the latest initial date of manufacture, 1795, is associated with one sherd of underglaze polychrome painted pearlware. The only "19th century" ceramic type present was "Rockingham"-type yellowware (two sherds). However, manufacture of this ceramic type actually began in approximately 1780.

The presence of the large quantity of construction rubble in this deposit suggests that it was the result of demolition of a structure which stood on the lot. The tax records (see documentary research section) suggest that a structure was demolished on Lot 13 shortly before 1807. The ceramic evidence is not inconsistent with an association of the excavated rubble with this depositional event, although somewhat more pearlware could be expected to be present, given this association.

The date of construction of this building is more uncertain. Except for two sherds of 17th-century type red earthenwares and one bellarmine type sherd, all of the ceramic types represented in the rubble deposit were still being manufactured at the time of the introduction of creamware in the 1760s. Thus the structure represented by the rubble deposit could have been constructed as late as c. 1770, after

the introduction of creamware. If the structure were constructed at this time, however, it is likely that there would not be a large number of artifacts in the deposit associated with the occupation of the lot during the early 18th century. But 35% of the ceramic sherds in the rubble deposit could have been manufactured before the introduction of creamware, suggesting the possibility of an earlier construction date.

The data suggest two possibilities. First, there may have been only one structure built on this lot between the early 18th and early 19th centuries, with the ceramic types in the deposit representing this entire time period. Alternatively, there may have been two structures built during this period, one standing until the mid 18th century and the other constructed later. If this were the situation, there would have been two separate depositions of rubble, each associated with one of the structures. In this case, the demolition of the later of the two structures would have had to result in the removal of the basement floor of the earlier structure, since no such floor was noted in the rubble deposit. Only one possible floor associated with this deposit (floor #2, noted above) was encountered immediately overlying the silty fill. It should be noted that the shape of the ceramic cumulative frequency curve tends to support the "two structure" interpretation.

In contrast with the large quantity of ceramics, only 43

smoking pipe fragments were recovered from the rubble deposit. This paucity of smoking pipe fragments was noted in other late 18th century deposits on the site. Only 25 of these 43 fragments had measurable bores, yielding a Binford date of 1743.6. However, 32% of the bores were #4, indicating a late 18th-century primary deposition for at least a portion of the deposit. Two pipe fragments, from TC V, had identifiable maker's marks: TD and IW. The latter mark dates to the 17th century. The dating of the former mark is uncertain.

A George II coin, dating from 1744-1757, was recovered from the rubble deposit in TC AE. This could suggest a date of construction earlier than the introduction of creamware. On the other hand, it is not unusual for coins to be lost well after their date of manufacture. Four glass vial fragments dating to 1800-1880 were also recovered from the rubble deposit in TC V. This date would not be inconsistent with the 1807 date of structural demolition noted above.

Another mortar floor (floor #3) is visible above the rubble stratum in photographs and/or profile drawings for TC V, AM and AE. It is possible that disturbance by the backhoe removed this floor in the other test cuts prior to excavation. This mortar floor was excavated separately only in TC V. Of the six dated ceramic sherds recovered, five were 19th-century European-American hard paste porcelain, the sixth was white salt glazed stoneware. No measurable pipe stem bores or fragments with maker's marks were recovered. The ceramic

evidence would be consistent with the documentary research, which indicates that demolition of the preceding structure took place in 1807, as indicated above, with the building associated with floor #3 being constructed in 1817. The mortar floor (floor #3) was probably the basement floor of this structure.

The concrete basement floor (floor #4) of the latest building to stand on Lot 13 was removed by the backhoe prior to excavation, but was still present in the north wall of TC AK. Approximately five inches of gravel bedding and tar underlay this floor.

Landfill Deposits

The landfill deposits which underlay the early mortar floor (floor #1) were exposed and sampled by TC V, ST 6 and 12, and Backhoe Trench 12. The fill deposit below the floor was described as a brown to grayish brown silty sand containing light to moderate concentrations of shell with some inclusions of a green/yellow silt. This fill deposit was eight to 16 inches thick, and was thinner in the southern portion of the lot, corresponding with the lower floor elevation.

The base of wall #1 was exposed to its full depth in TC V and was found to end approximately at the base of this landfill deposit. The total height of the wall was 32 inches, with an additional narrower "cap," approximately six inches thick set on top of this. The mortar floor was approximately

18 inches below the top of this cap.

The ceramics recovered from the four excavated landfill levels consisted mainly of 17th-century earthenware types and delftware. Eight to fourteen percent of the sherds were slipwares and northern European stonewares. The four excavated levels yielded mean ceramic dates of 1696.5 (48 dated sherds from five test cuts), 1693.4 (eight dated sherds from three test cuts, 1684.5 (70 dated sherds from TC V) and 1678.1 (57 dated sherds from TC V). The increasingly earlier dates are due to an increasing proportion of 17th century earthenwares. The decrease in mean dates with depth are not significant, however, due to the relatively small number of sherds, especially from the second level, and the fact that the two lower levels were only sampled in one test cut.

It should be noted that the first excavated landfill level contained one creamware sherd and one sherd of soft paste porcelain, which are almost certainly intrusive. These sherds were recovered from TC J, in which the post impressions (discussed above) were noted. These intrusive sherds could have been associated with these post impressions.

No pipe fragments bearing maker's marks were recovered from the landfill strata. The Binford dates calculated for the 112 total measurable pipe bores recovered from the four landfill levels (1677.4, 1686.6, 1683.1) do not exhibit the same pattern of decreasing dates as do the ceramic sherds. This tends to support the conclusion that the results of the

ceramic date calculations are not significant in terms of indicating temporally distinct land-filling episodes.

Below the landfill deposits, we encountered a stratum of tan/brown sand which became redder with increasing depth. At the top of this deposit there was a substantial number of rocks with some large boulders. The top of this rock and boulder deposit was exposed in TC V, ST 6 and Backhoe Trench 9. About 12 feet south of the Pearl Street base line, at the approximate location of ST 12, the deposit of rocks appeared to terminate in a clearly defined east-west line. There were relatively few rocks for a distance of some four feet north of this line. However, at this point, two very large boulders were uncovered in Backhoe Trench 9. The largest of these measured more than three by four feet and was more than a foot thick. One of these boulders had what at first appeared to be a man-made beveled cut approximately four inches in length along one of its top edges. However, in the opinion of our geological consultant, Dr. Steven Selwyn (see Appendix C) this was probably produced by natural fracturing of the rock.

Considerations of stratigraphy both within this lot and for the site as a whole (see Chapter Nine) indicate that the rocks and boulders and the associated sand, were most likely deposited by natural processes and probably represent a "beach type" environment which was covered by the East River only during a portion of the tidal cycle.

The deposit of tan/brown sand was sampled in TC V. Only

nine dated sherds were recovered. Seven of these were delftware and two seventeenth century earthenware types. Only four measurable pipe stems were recovered, one of which had a #9 bore. The landfill deposits contained no stems with this size bore, supposedly manufactured only between 1620 and 1650. One pipe fragment had the partial maker's mark "W..." on the heel. This deposit yielded an artifact density of only 4.1 artifacts per cubic foot and also had very low densities of bone, shell and building materials. This is consistent with the interpretation of this deposit as a pre-landfill deposit. Unlike pre-landfill deposits from elsewhere on the site, however, the red/yellow brick ratio was greater than one (1.0).

Lot 13 East Stone Wall

Test Cut AM was extended eastward to intersect the Lot 13/14 boundary wall, which represented the east wall of the most recent building to have stood on Lot 13. The builder's trench for this cut stone wall appears to have cut through mortar floor #3, indicating that the construction of the wall belongs to a later building phase than the floor. This firmly associates the Lot 13/14 boundary wall with the latest basement floor (floor #4). The wall trench penetrated into both the rubble deposit which underlay floor #3 and the lower green silt deposit. However, it did not reach the bottom of the latter deposit. The base of the builder's trench and of the cut stone wall was reached at a depth of 20 inches below

the northwest corner elevation of TC M. The elevation of the base of this wall is just below that of the "cap" which overlay the early fieldstone wall exposed in TC V and TC AI.

At the base of the cut stone wall, we encountered larger footing stones for the wall. The silty fill which overlay the early mortar floor (floor #1) was immediately beneath these footing stones. At this point, we extended TC AM further to the east, undercutting the cut stone Lot 13/14 boundary wall. Ten inches to the east we encountered the west side of an earlier wall. This was apparently the east wall of the structure associated with the stone rear wall (wall #1) and the mortar floor #1. There appeared to have been some disturbance of mortar floor #1 adjacent to this east wall. This disturbance may have occurred at the time that the silty fill was deposited over floor #1, an event which was probably associated with the construction of the second building on Lot 13.

Lot 13 West Stone Wall

The Lot 12/13 boundary wall, which represented the west wall of the most recent structure to have stood on Lot 13, was encountered in TC AJ. This cut stone wall was of similar construction to that of the Lot 13/14 boundary wall. The builder's trench for this wall began at approximately the same elevation as the trench for the east wall and also penetrated the rubble and silty fill strata. The footing stones for the west wall were encountered at about the same elevation as

those of the east wall. However, because of the higher elevation of mortar floor #1 at the location of TC AJ than at the location of TC AM, the installation of the wall and footing stones appears to have disturbed mortar floor #1 at the former location.

Due to a lack of time we were not able to undercut the later wall in TC AJ to determine whether an earlier wall was present beneath the later wall, as was the case in TC AM.

Summary of Lot 13 Construction Sequence

The fieldstone foundation walls laid in Lot 13 preceded the late 17th century landfill which was deposited around these walls, as was true in other lots with early stone walls. Floor #1 was constructed above the landfill deposits. The presence of this floor over the entire portion of Lot 12 within the early house walls, and the presence of artifacts on this floor suggests that this was probably the basement floor of an early structure rather than an exposed surface related to the landfiling or wall construction process.

At a time not too much later than the construction of floor #1 the level of the basement was raised by the deposition of the silty fill, and another floor, perhaps wooden, was laid over this fill. The deposition of fill may have been an attempt to correct the downward slope in the earlier floor. This filling and floor construction may have been associated with the reconstruction of the early building, apparently built of brick. It is possible that this structure

was demolished and another brick building constructed c. 1770, and whichever building was standing at that time (the first or a possible second one) was torn down in 1807. The demolition of this structure or structures led to the deposition of the rubble stratum. Artifacts associated with the period of occupation of the structure or structures were incorporated in the deposit. A new structure was built on the lot in 1817, and mortar floor #3 was apparently the basement floor of this building. Later, the most recent building to stand on the lot was constructed. The concrete basement floor of this structure represents floor #4.

Analysis of Floor #1

A total of 50 artifacts were recovered from the early mortar floor (floor #1). These mostly represent domestic refuse, with the deposit having an NA/A ratio of 9.0. The non-architectural artifacts include 29 ceramic sherds, two bottle glass fragments, nine smoking pipe fragments, and four pieces of thin hollow curved tubing (which fit together) manufactured from an alloy of copper. These could conceivably represent a portion of a handle, or some sort of ornament. One lithic fragment was also recovered, probably associated with gunflint manufacture. The architectural artifacts consisted of one piece of window glass, one nail, and one fragment each of delft tile and pantile. A total of 40 bone fragments, 2,858 grams of oyster shell, and 12 grams of clam shell, 12,954 grams of red brick, 268 grams of yellow brick,

601 grams of mortar, and 152 grams of miscellaneous metal were also recovered from floor #1.

Analysis of the patterning of artifacts recovered from the floor suggests that the heaviest concentration occurred in the southeast corner of the basement area. This area yielded major portions of a yellow glazed/buff paste earthenware vessel (TC V and AI) and a red earthenware pipkin (TC AI). Fifteen of the 29 ceramic sherds (51.7%) and the copper "tubing" were recovered from TC AI. The artifacts from TC V which were not on the floor are not included in this analysis unless otherwise stated. The artifact density appears to have been fairly consistently low in the other test cuts. However, 31 of the 40 bone fragments (77.5%) were recovered from TC AK, in the northeast portion of the lot.

The floor in TC AM was covered with a large number of brick fragments and stones. The patterning of brick and mortar debris in the other test cuts indicates a greater concentration on the east side of the floor, especially in the southeast corner. 67.3% of the red brick fragments were recovered from TC AM, and 98.3% originated in TC AM, AE or AI. All of the yellow brick was recovered from TC AE.

The concentration of artifacts is probably related to refuse disposal practices, while the deposition of the brick and mortar debris probably occurred during repair or demolition work prior to the deposition of the silty fill deposit over floor #1. Despite the presence of artifacts and

faunal remains on the floor, the density of the deposit does not suggest that the basement of this structure served as a major locus of waste disposal. At least some of the artifacts recovered may represent primary deposition, especially the earthenware vessel sherds mentioned above, which were found adjacent to one another.

Excavations in the Southern Portion of Lot 13

Two test cuts, D and W, were placed in the portion of Lot 13 south of the rear wall (wall #1) of the main portion of the early house to stand on the lot. TC D was placed according to our random sampling plan for testing the landfill deposits. As it happened, this test cut encountered the western stone wall of the extension of the early house and a wooden feature located just west of the southwest corner of this extension. TC W was subsequently placed immediately south of TC D to more fully excavate this feature.

TEST CUT D

TC D was located $46\frac{1}{2}$ feet south of the Pearl Street base line and eight and a half feet east of the Lot 12/13 boundary wall (Figures 61, 62). The first excavated stratum, two to six inches thick, consisted of sandy soil containing the crumbling remains of the cement basement floor of the most recent Lot 13 structure. This floor had been removed by backhoe prior to the excavation of TC D.

At approximately 55 inches below the surface of TC D a series of strata were encountered which covered the entire

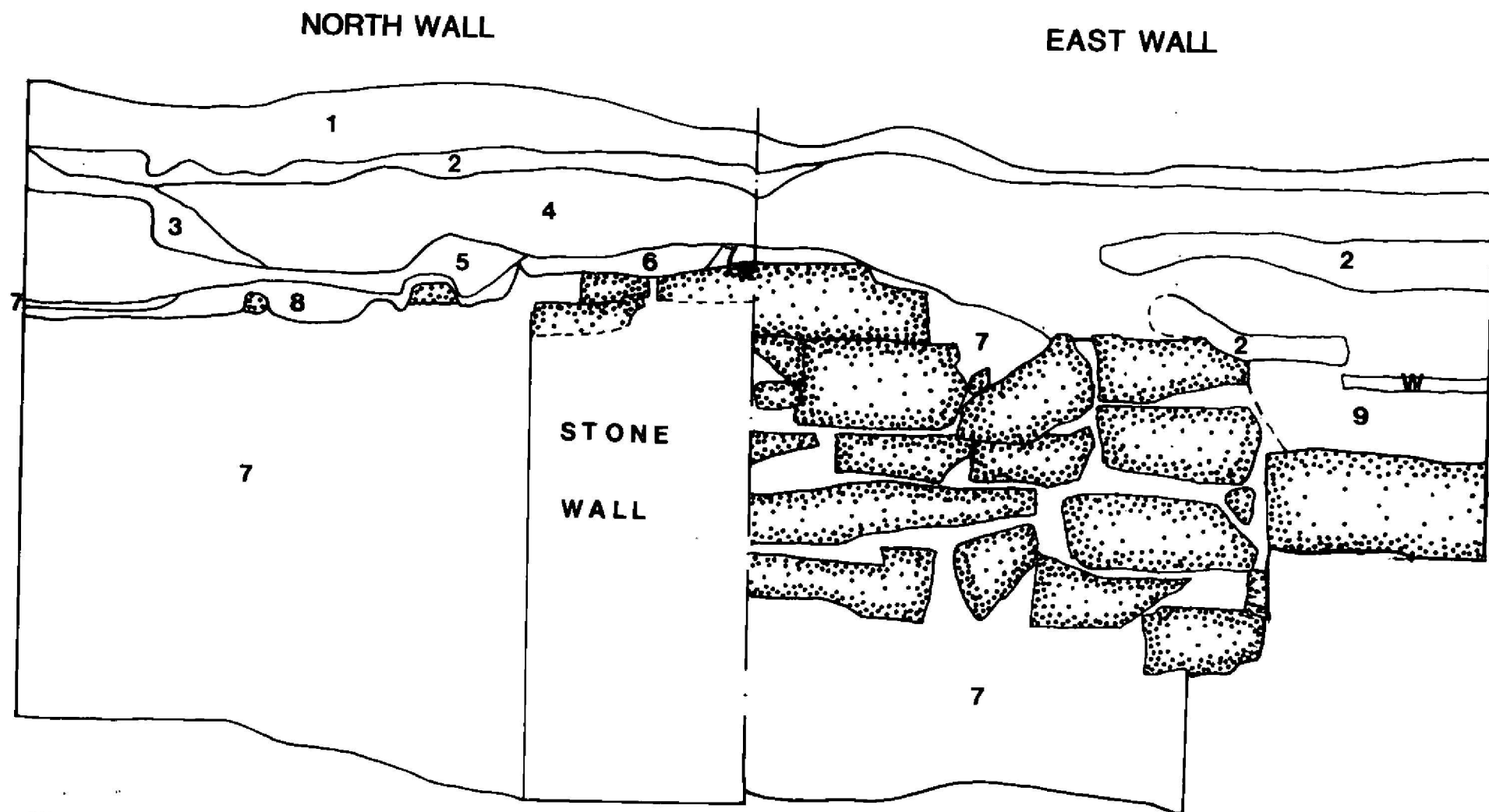


FIG 61-62

TEST CUT D

Figures 61-62. Test Cut D

1. light brown sandy silt with mortar and rubble
2. dark gray sandy silt with charcoal and rubble
3. mottled brown and green sandy silt
4. mottled brown and red-brown sandy silt with rubble and clay lenses
5. tan sand
6. yellow-brown sandy silt
7. red silt
8. dark brown and black sandy silt
9. gray silty sand

area of the cut and, as discussed below, probably represent the pre-landfilling bottom of the East River. Between stratum I and this depth the test cut revealed a complex series of strata associated with the stone wall and the wooden feature which were partially contained within this excavation unit. The stone wall was encountered in the eastern part of the cut, and it extended 18 inches west of the east wall of TC D. The top of the stone wall was encountered at a depth of 13 inches in the northern part of the test cut and 29-30 inches in the southern portion. The slope of the top of the wall is of significance in the interpretation of TC D as discussed below.

The wooden feature was a rectangular "box" a portion of which extended into the southwest corner of TC D. The northern portion of the box protruded 20-22 inches from the south wall of TC D and 26-27 inches from the west wall. The top of the wooden sides of the box were encountered at a depth of 28-32 inches, the same depth at which the stone wall was encountered in the southeast corner of the test cut. The wooden floor of the box was encountered at a depth of 50-51 inches with the wooden sides ending slightly below the floor. Wooden wales which provided structural support were encountered on the north and east sides of the feature at a depth of 37 inches. A more extensive description of the feature, and of TC W which more fully exposed it, is given below.

For the most part, the landfill deposits in TC D were confined to the northern portion of the square. These

deposits had been disturbed by the installation of the wooden feature in the remainder of the test cut. The landfill began at a depth of 18 inches. It extended across TC D from east to west, but only extended some 14 inches south of the north wall of the test cut at the top of the deposit. It extended 20 inches south of the north wall at the base of the deposit at a depth of 52-56 inches. The landfill deposit was also present beneath the stone wall on the east side of the test cut: the lowest course of the wall ended at 40-42 inches. Thus, the disturbance associated with the installation of the wooden box did not extend beneath the stone wall. This indicates that the wall was constructed before the wooden feature, and this interpretation is supported by the artifacts recovered from these deposits, as discussed below.

The landfill deposits in TC D, excavated as stratum VIb-e, consisted of a red sandy silt containing a low density of cultural materials. Only seven dated ceramic sherds and four pipe stem fragments were recovered. The sherds recovered are consistent with the content of the landfill strata excavated in other test cuts.

Immediately above the landfill deposit in the northern portion of TC D was a very thin (one to two inch thick) deposit of brown and orange mottled sandy silt containing charcoal (stratum VIII). The fourteen datable ceramic sherds recovered from this deposit were all delftware. These include five blue-glazed delft sherds, not introduced until c. 1690.

Although this is a small sample, the ratio of blue to white glazed delft, higher than that encountered in the landfill strata in this and other test cuts, suggests a deposition shortly after the landfill. The calculated mean ceramic date is 1712.5. The date calculated from the 17 measurable pipe bores from this stratum is 1691.7. A total of 41 ceramic and smoking pipe fragments were recovered from stratum VIII. The only architectural artifact recovered was one window glass fragment. The number of artifacts is not great, but the artifact density from this thin deposit is high (420 artifacts/cu.ft.). Although 1000 grams of red brick fragments were also recovered, the high NA/A ratio (41) and the fact that a total of 151 pieces of bone (a density of 1,510 pieces/cu.ft.) were recovered, suggests that this deposit may represent the remains of a domestic midden. Stratum VIII was located above the elevation of the top of the stone foundation wall exposed in the eastern portion of TC D. The stratigraphy and the ceramic data suggest that this stratum dates to the period of occupation of the structure associated with the stone wall, accumulating outside of the house extension.

In the northwest corner of TC D, a layer of tan sand (stratum VII) was excavated immediately overlying the possible domestic midden (stratum VIII). Profile drawings indicate that this stratum was nine inches thick in the extreme northwest corner and only one to four inches thick in the center of the north wall. Only the lower two inches of this

deposit was excavated separately. The upper portion was included in stratum IVb. This stratum may have originally been thicker, with a later disturbance removing the upper portion in the middle of the north wall of TC D. This deposit contained a very low density of cultural material and only one ceramic sherd (polychrome delftware). The stratigraphy indicates that this stratum was deposited before the installation of the wooden feature.

The wooden feature was installed by means of a "pit" which was dug through the earlier tan sand, brown silt/charcoal, and red sand landfill strata which were discussed above. Since the east wall of TC D was formed by the earlier stone wall, the profile of the pit is shown only on the west wall profile.

The intrusive pit began six to eight inches below the test cut surface. However, it is likely that the ground surface at the time the pit was dug was at a higher elevation and was lowered by subsequent construction episodes. A number of soil strata were excavated within the pit, with the two major strata being differentiated horizontally rather than vertically. These two strata were recognized by the excavators at a depth of 20-25 inches although they actually began above this depth. At the 20-25 inch depth the two strata located at the same depth extended approximately 0-10 inches and 10-26 inches, respectively north of the wooden feature. The outer (northernmost) stratum consisted of a

mottled brown and green sandy silt. The inner stratum consisted of a red silty clay. The same silty clay was packed between the wooden feature and the stone wall on the eastern side of the test cut.

The base of the clay and silt deposits was reached at the same elevation as the base of the wooden feature. Both of these deposits extended above the top of the wooden sides of the feature, which suggests that the top of the feature may have once been higher than at the time of excavation.

In addition to the above two strata, a third, thin layer of mottled gray and brown silt was present at the bottom of the pit, underlying both the clay and the green silt. The morphology of the clay and green silt strata within the pit and the relatively narrow width of the clay stratum suggests that these soil deposits represent two types of fill placed within the pit after the construction of the wooden feature, rather than superimposed pits. The most likely explanation was that the pit was dug through the landfill and early post-landfill deposits and the wooden feature installed. The gray/brown silt layer probably accumulated at the base of the pit during the installation process. Then the clay was packed around the feature for some reason probably related to its function. The remainder of the pit was then backfilled with the mottled green sandy silt.

Since, as noted above, the material at the top of the pit was not excavated separately, the number of artifacts

available for dating these events was reduced. However, the artifacts recovered from the gray/brown silt at the base of the pit (stratum XI) and green silty fill (stratum IVc-e) suggest that the wooden feature was installed in the early part of the eighteenth century, which is in accord with the stratigraphic evidence. In addition to the delftware, slipware, and buff, salmon, and red bodied earthenwares which characterize the earlier landfill deposits, the silt deposits within the pit yielded one sherd of white salt glazed stoneware (stratum IVc), two sherds of mottled glaze, "Midlands"-type yellowware (strata IVe and XI) and one sherd of Nottingham-like stoneware (stratum XI). In addition stratum VIa, which contained material from both the mottled green silt and the landfill deposits, yielded three additional sherds of mottled glaze yellowware and one sherd of white salt glazed stoneware. These predominately 18th century ceramics most likely originated in the earlier deposit (stratum IV). The mottled glaze yellowware has manufacturing dates between 1660-1750: the Nottingham stoneware, 1700-1810; and the white salt glazed stoneware, 1720-1805. Creamware and pearlware, ceramic types characteristic of the latter half of the 18th century are absent from these deposits. The mean ceramic date calculated for the 24 dated sherds recovered from strata IVc-e and XI is 1711.5. The pipe stem date for these strata (20 measurable bores) is 1707.1. A pipe bowl fragment recovered from stratum IVd had the maker's mark "CH," attributed to

Charles Hickes, who manufactured pipes between 1700 and 1740. The artifacts from these strata suggest that the wooden feature was installed after 1700 and before the introduction of creamware in the 1760s. Few datable artifacts were recovered from the clay deposit (stratum V), the only ceramics being two delfware sherds.

The deposits inside the wooden feature were excavated as stratum IXd-g. This deposit was characterized by a high density of red brick and mortar and a low density of other types of cultural material. While the soil immediately overlying the feature also contained a high brick and mortar density, the TC D profile drawings and photographs indicate that the deposit below the top of the wooden sides of the feature was different than that which overlay the feature.

Few ceramic sherds were recovered from the feature deposit in TC D. Level IXd yielded one creamware and one soft paste porcelain sherd, suggesting deposition in the latter part of the 18th century. This level, however, probably was a mixed deposit containing material both from within the feature and from the deposit immediately above it. Only two datable sherds were recovered from levels IXe-g. One was Astbury stoneware, dating to the second quarter of the 18th century and the other sherd was 17th century Bellarmine-type stoneware. Thus, the scanty artifactual evidence supports the conclusion based on stratigraphic analysis that the material within the feature is a separate and earlier deposit than the

overlying strata.

A number of strata were present in the southern part of TC D above the wooden feature. Stratigraphic analysis indicates that these were deposited subsequent to the removal of the uppermost portion of the feature. The fact that the clay which is packed around the feature extends above the present height of the wooden sides of the feature suggests that the sides originally were higher than when excavated. The absence of wood stains in the south and west profiles indicates that the topmost portion of the wooden sides did not decay naturally but were deliberately removed.

The west wall profile suggests that a pit was dug downward beginning about two feet south of the north wall of TC D, cutting through the silt and clay fill of the earlier pit associated with the installation of the feature. The top of this later intrusion sloped downward gradually and then appears to have been dug down more steeply over the feature itself. The profile of the east wall of TC D shows that the stone foundation wall was removed to a greater depth in the southern part of TC D than in the northern part. This suggests that the stone foundation wall was demolished at the same time that the topmost portion of the feature was removed, with the wall being demolished to a greater depth in the south part of TC D in order to permit the demolition of the feature.

Another possible interpretation of the above events is that there were two separate disturbances. The first would

have been dug straight down to remove the feature, with the second more gradually sloping disturbance removing the stone wall in the northern part of the test cut and erasing the indications of the earlier disturbance. This interpretation is less plausible than the above, however, because it would require the southern part of the wall to have been demolished by the digging of an almost vertical trench while the northern part of the stone wall remained intact. The most likely explanation is that the wall and the feature were removed at the same time.

Reconstruction of the events which occurred subsequent to the demolition of the stone wall and removal of the upper portion of the feature is more difficult. The excavators encountered the remains of a number of wooden boards, oriented east-west, at a depth of 21-22 inches. A dark brown stain of decayed wood was noted beneath the boards. These boards were present in the south wall of the test cut and extended only a foot further to the north, not as far as the northern extent of the wooden feature. The boards extended across the test cut from east to west. This suggests that there was no structural relationship between the feature and the boards. The soil below the wood and above the deposits within the feature was excavated as strata IXb-c. The soil immediately above the wood was excavated as stratum IXa. All three levels were described as consisting of brown and reddish brown mottled sandy silt. However, the soil above the wood was

described as having clay inclusions, while the soil below contained more rubble. Both deposits had a high density of brick and mortar, with the deposit beneath the wood having the highest density. It is possible that the material within the feature which was removed with the top portion of the feature was mixed with other soil and backfilled into the trench which removed the top of the stone wall and the feature prior to the installation of the wooden boards.

The mean ceramic date calculated for strata IXb-c, beneath the boards, was 1771.2 based on 18 dated sherds. The date from stratum IXa, based on 12 dated sherds, is 1762.6. This difference is probably not significant, and there may have been little or no time lag between the deposition of the material above and below the boards. The presence of a large percentage of creamware sherds in both deposits suggests that they derive from the second half of the 18th century after the introduction of this ceramic type in the 1760s. Each deposit also yielded two pearlware sherds, one of which was annular decorated. This further narrows the probable date of deposition to approximately the last decade of the 18th century. Stratum IXa yielded a fragment of a Tippet pipe manufactured prior to 1720. It is likely that this pipe fragment was redeposited when the pit which removed the top part of the feature was backfilled.

In the southern part of TC D, a deposit of dark gray sandy silt with charcoal and rubble overlay the brown and

reddish brown mottled sandy silt deposits. This stratum appeared to be limited to the area which was excavated to remove the tops of the stone wall and wooden feature and which was subsequently backfilled. Stratum III contained this material. However, it should be noted that above stratum IXa, the excavated strata contain material from more than one deposit. This mixing occurred because the excavators were not able to distinguish among the sloping strata and lenses and the square was consequently excavated as a single unit with a resultant mixing of artifacts from the various strata. Stratum III yielded creamware and pearlware ceramic sherds in proportions which suggest deposition in the latter decades of the 18th century, the same period as the underlying strata IXa, b and c. Stratigraphy indicates that the dark gray silt was probably additional fill deposited to level the ground surface, rather than being an accretional deposit. Although the fact that this material was excavated as part of a mixed stratum makes further analysis difficult, artifacts recovered from stratum III suggest that this soil may contain material from a domestic midden which was redeposited as fill. These artifacts include four buttons and an unusual lead bale seal. It should also be noted that this material contains a significant proportion of clam shell. This contrasts with the shell from the 17th-century landfill and earlier 18th-century deposits which yielded nearly all oyster shell.

Additional mottled rubbly soil was deposited between the

dark gray silt and the remains of the cement floor of the most recent building on Lot 13. This material probably overlay most of TC D, although there was a disturbance in the northern part of the square as indicated by photographs of the north wall. The mottled rubbly soil contained 150 burned European-American soft paste porcelain sherds which could date to the latter part of the 18th or the 19th century. Additional sherds of this type were excavated with the overlying and underlying material. The presence of creamware and Nottingham-like stoneware in this soil suggests deposition within the same general period as the deposits discussed above.

Sub-landfill Deposits

The base of the red sand which probably represented the late 17th century landfill ended at a depth of 52/56 inches, approximately the same depth as the base of the pit dug to install the wooden feature. Between 52/56 inches and 88/90 inches a number of strata described as gray, light gray and dark gray sandy silt were excavated. The strata varied in the amounts of silt and clay components in the soil matrix. Some of these strata yielded a large amount of wood and a high density of vegetal remains. Most of the latter consisted of peach pits, hickory huts, acorns or hazelnuts, and cherry pits. Squash and watermelon seeds, chestnuts, walnuts, and beach plum seeds were also recovered, with some seaweed also present. Some coconut fragments were also recovered as well

as a small amount of coral. Moderate densities of shell, bone and artifacts were present in these strata.

At 88/90 inches red sand was encountered. The topmost two to four inches of this sand was excavated and proved to be culturally sterile. The water table was encountered at the bottom of this excavated level, at approximately 93/94 inches.

The mean ceramic date calculated from the 47 dated sherds from the silt deposits is 1675.5. The pipe stem date, based on 119 measurable bores is 1691.4. Two "WE" maker's marks and one "HG" were present on smoking pipe fragments. Both marks date to the second half of the 17th century.

The gray silt deposits were most likely the result of river bottom silting. It is also possible that the area was once marshy, accounting for the build-up of two and a half feet of deposits and their high organic content. By the 17th century the marsh was probably covered by the river and the cultural materials in it were most likely thrown into the river from the shore or boats and settled into the silt.

TEST CUT D

The excavation unit designated as TC D' was placed just to the east of TC D, on the east side of the stone wall uncovered in TC D. TC D' extended four feet from east to west and three feet from north to south, with the north wall aligned with the north wall of TC D. The major purpose of this test cut was to examine the stratigraphy inside the extension of the early post-landfill house built on Lot 13 in

order to determine if any floors of basement deposits remained intact. An additional objective was to determine whether there was a wall trench associated with the stone west wall of the extension, uncovered in TC D. Since the objective was to examine the stratigraphy, the soil removed was not screened. However, the larger artifacts encountered during excavation were saved for diagnostic purposes.

The west wall profile of TC D' was located just east of the stone wall. The red sandy silt landfill deposit which was noted in the northern part of TC D and beneath the stone wall was also present in TC D'. This deposit started at approximately 10-12 inches below the surface in the north part of TC D' and at 16/20 inches in the south part. It was excavated to a depth of 26/28 inches.

The west wall profile of TC D' above the landfill deposit shows two strata of gray black clayey silt with orange mottling separated by lenses of tan/brown sand and reddish silt. These strata began at higher elevations in the northwest corner of TC D' and sloped downward to the east and south. These strata were present in the south wall of TC D' but were not present in the east wall. The base of the lowest of these strata as seen in the west wall of the test cut generally followed the elevation of the top of the stone wall as recorded in TC D.

The TC D' east wall profile drawing shows two lenses of dark gray sandy silt which do not extend across the entire

profile. Examination of photographs, however, suggest that the two lenses did, in fact extend across most of the profile and were separated horizontally by an area of reddish soil. This lens may have represented the eastern edge of the gray black silt present elsewhere in TC D'.

The above stratigraphy suggests that the excavation which removed the top of the stone wall and the wooden feature began at the location of the north wall of TC D and sloped downward both to the southwest, to remove the wooden feature, and to the southeast, to remove the rear stone wall of the building extension, which was located approximately six and a half feet south of the north wall of TC D and TC D'. Several large rocks were present in the south part of TC D' at a depth of approximately 14 inches. These may have been removed from the stone wall and incorporated into the excavation backfill.

It appears that a thin layer of gray black clayey silt extended across the north wall of TC D'. This may represent the same material incorporated into the backfill of the excavation which removed the stone wall and the wooden feature which was spread across a wider area than that directly affected by the excavation during the backfilling process.

A thin (two to three inch) stratum of mottled sandy silt with some rocks and cobbles was present below the rubble associated with the cement floor of the latest building to stand on Lot 13, and immediately above the topmost gray black silt stratum. This material accumulated or was deposited at

some time after the removal of the feature and stone wall. It is not certain if this is the same stratum shown beneath the topmost rubble in the east wall of TC D.

The TC D' excavation did not detect a wall trench associated with the stone wall, indicating that the wall was constructed on the pre-existing river bottom silt, and the landfill deposited around it.

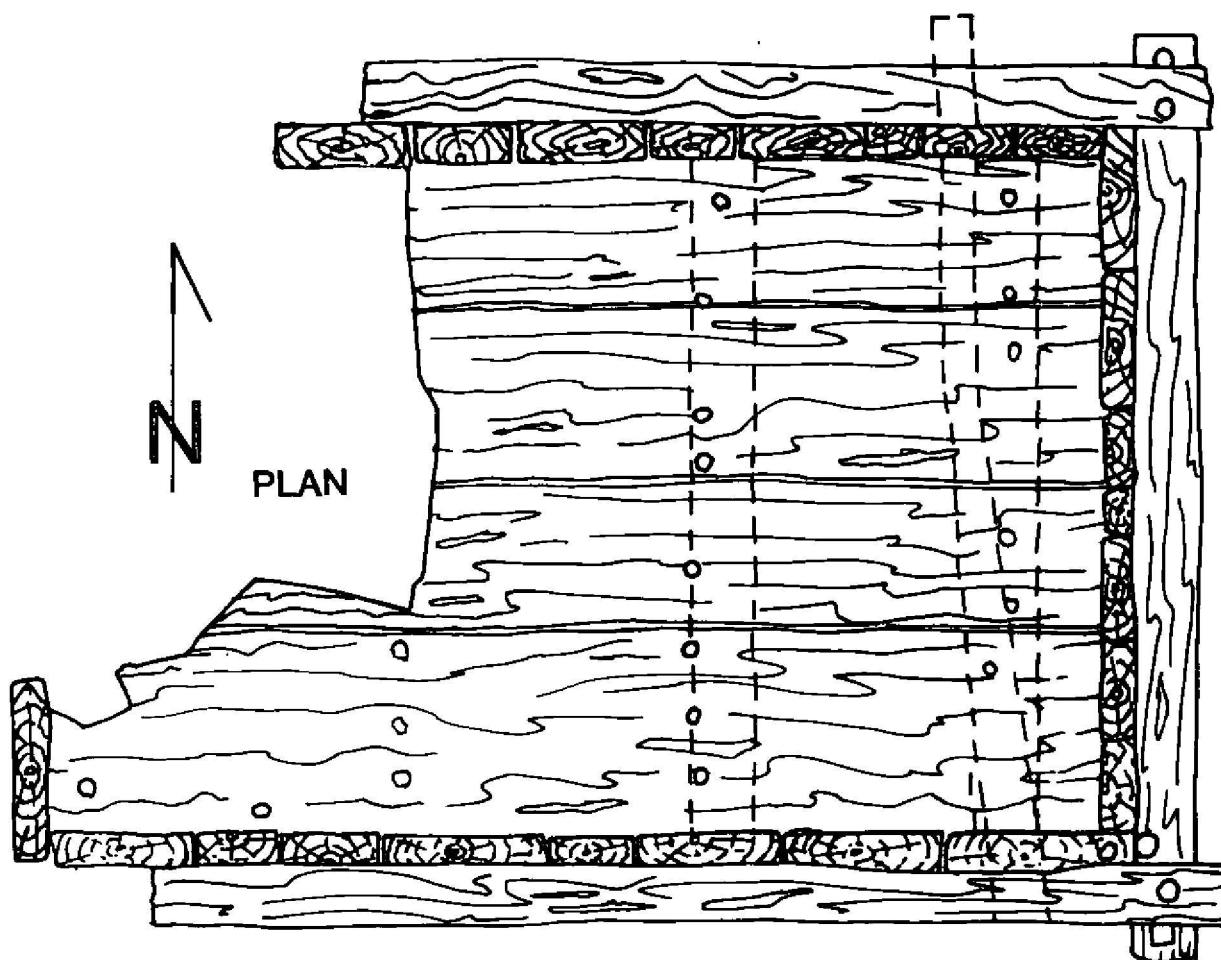
It should be noted that a very thin lens of gray silt was recorded on the north and west wall profiles of TC D' at a depth of 16", and was also noted by the excavator on the floor of the test cut. The lens was not present in the south portion of the test cut due to the intrusive event which removed the top of the stone wall and the feature. The red sandy silt landfill deposits were present above and below this thin silt lens.

The north wall profile shows this lens ending approximately six inches east of the west wall of TC D'. This lens was very compacted and peeled away from the underlying red sandy silt rather easily during excavation. One possible interpretation of the presence of this lens is that there was a pause in the landfiling process during which a surface was walked on, and created this lens. This may have occurred during the construction of the stone wall, accounting for the absence of the lens immediately adjacent to it. Additional fill was subsequently deposited above the lens.

TEST CUT W

TC W was located so as to further expose the wooden feature encountered in TC D (Figure 63). Initially it extended three feet south of TC D and slightly more than four feet west of the fieldstone wall encountered in the latter test cut. After TC W had been excavated to a depth sufficient to expose the sides of the wooden feature, it became apparent that the feature extended still further to the west. Therefore, TC W was extended in this direction. The soil above the feature in this extension was not screened.

The western end of the wooden feature turned out to be located beneath the Lot 12/13 boundary wall. By slightly undercutting this wall, we were able to expose the entire southwest corner of the feature. However, the portion of the Lot 12/13 boundary wall overlying the northwest corner of the feature was wider than the remainder of the boundary wall. Therefore, it was not possible to excavate the northwest corner of the feature. The results of the TC W excavation enable us to expand upon the conclusions reached as a result of our analysis of TC D. Thirteen dated ceramic sherds were recovered from the deposits within the wooden feature in TC W, compared with only two sherds from TC D. The calculated mean ceramic date for these 13 sherds is 1719.6. However, the presence of a scratch blue white salt glaze stoneware sherd, with an initial date of manufacture of 1744, suggests deposition of material after the mean date. Eight of the



WOOD
CROSS GRAIN

WOOD
END GRAIN

○ DOWEL

EAST WALL

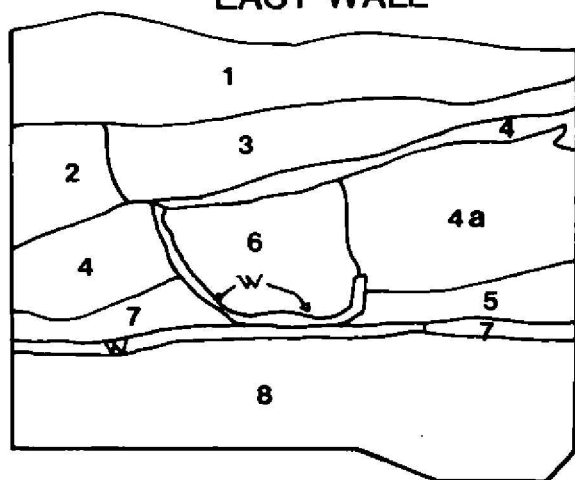


FIG 63

TEST CUT W



Figure 63. Test Cut W

1. overburden
2. mottled brown sandy silt
3. mortar
4. dark gray sandy silt with charcoal and rubble
- 4a. mottled medium brown and orange brown sandy silt with mortar
5. mottled reddish-brown and dark brown silt with charcoal
6. brown silty sand with rubble
7. wood with gray-brown silt
8. medium brown silt mottled with red silt and brick

other 12 dated sherds were delftware, three slipware, and one plain white salt glazed stoneware. A pipe bowl with a "CH" maker's mark was also recovered from the feature deposit. This mark dates to c. 1700-1740 (Charles Hicks--Bristol). It should be recalled that the same mark was present on a pipe fragment recovered in TC D from the backfill of the pit dug during the installation of the feature. Ten measurable pipe bores recovered from the TC W deposit yielded a Binford date of 1732.9. In addition to ceramics and smoking pipe fragments, several other domestic and personal artifacts were recovered, including five bottle and drinking glass fragments, a (pewter?) teaspoon and a coin. Unfortunately, preservation of the coin was not good enough to permit dating. In addition, an artifact which appears to be a lead weight, weighing almost exactly one ounce, was recovered. Since one of the bottle glass fragments was from a medicine vial, the artifactual evidence, although admittedly scanty, suggests the possibility of an apothecary being located on this lot.

The artifact density from the feature deposit in TC W, while still low (9.5/cu.ft.) was greater than in TC D (1.2/cu.ft.). The deposit in TC W yielded 64 pieces of bone (8.1/cu.ft.) and 1007 grams of marine shell (127/cu.ft.). The deposit also yielded 32 architectural artifacts ($NA/A = 1.3$). It should be noted that the brick and mortar density from TC W (308 gms/cu.ft.) was much lower than for the feature deposit excavated in TC D.

The evidence suggests that the feature was installed during the early 18th century and its period of use did not extend much beyond the first half of that century. The material within the feature probably was deposited after its period of use. It consists of both domestic refuse and architectural debris, probably deposited during structural demolition or repair on Lot 13.

The red clayey silt which was packed around the box was excavated in the area immediately east of the box and a portion of the area to the west. The topmost portion of the excavated red clay yielded one pearlware and one annular decorated whiteware sherd and two sherds of burned refined earthenware. If these sherds had actually originated in the clay deposit, a reinterpretation of the sequence of events previously discussed would be required since these ceramics would indicate that the installation of the feature could not have occurred before the late 18th-early 19th century. However, it is likely that these sherds were intrusive. The excavators noted that there was a two inch-thick intrusion of brown sand near the top of the red clayey silt stratum. This could have been caused by burrowing animals. In addition, the shape of the cumulative frequency curve indicates that the red clay stratum contains intrusive ceramics. The bottom portion of the clay deposit yielded only one dated sherd, which was mottled brown yellowware (1660-1750). Another sherd of this type was recovered from the soil immediately below the wooden

floor of the feature, a mottled brown, gray and orange sand, which was probably deposited during the installation of the feature. Two additional mottled brown yellowware sherds were recovered in TC D from the bottom of the pit dug to install the feature and seven additional sherds of this type originated in mixed strata which included a portion of the pit fill. The soil beneath the feature floor in TC W also yielded a complete smoking pipe with a maker's mark (RC/PW) dated to 1690-1710. The clay deposit around the feature yielded a pipe fragment with the mark IR/Tip/et and RT marks on the bowl. The evidence from TC W is not inconsistent with that from TC D which suggests that the feature was installed and used during the early-mid 18th century.

The layer of wood which overlay the feature in the extreme southern portion of TC D continued across TC W. The deposit of rubble which was excavated in TC D between the top of the feature and this wood layer also continued into TC W. As discussed previously, this material was probably deposited in connection with the excavation which removed the stone extension wall and the top of the feature. The portion of this deposit excavated in TC W yielded creamware and pearlware, as did the portion excavated in TC D. The TC W excavations also yielded one sherd of white ironstone from the top of the deposit (stratum XVIIa). It is likely that this sherd is intrusive. The mean ceramic date for the 57 dated sherds excavated from this deposit in TC W is 1768.7, compared

with a mean date of 1771.2 from the 18 dated sherds from TC D. The mean date for both deposits is 1769.3. The presence of pearlware indicates a somewhat later deposition date, however.

The wooden floor, which was partially decayed, was approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick and was encountered at approximately 23-25 inches below the surface of TC W. A wooden plank, about nine and a half inches wide and three and three fourths inches thick and oriented north-south immediately overlay the floor one and a half to two and a half feet west of the stone wall which marked the eastern boundary of TC W. (This stone wall was the west wall of the early building extension on Lot 13.) This plank protruded into TC D.

Also overlying the wooden floor was what appeared to be a wooden "trough" which was oriented east-west and located approximately half way between the north and south walls of TC W. In the eastern part of TC W this trough had a clearly rounded profile and was burnt. In the western portion of the test cut, the trough appeared to be more in the form of a plank with a slight indentation. It appears that the north-south oriented plank, referred to above, separated the two halves of the trough.

The western profile of TC W does not show the trough. However, it does show a pit in the shape of a trough, which is aligned with, and has the same basal profile as, the wooden

trough shown in the eastern profile. The sandy soil within this pit appeared to be similar to the soil within the trough in the eastern portion of TC W. The most likely explanation is that the wood constituting the sides of the trough had decayed in the western portion of TC W. The trough was probably installed at the same time as the wooden floor, with fill deposited on either side of it. It should be noted that similar wooden floors and overlying trough-like construction were present in Lots 14 and 15 (see discussion of TC U and TC S). These appear to have had a common alignment and may have served to provide drainage in those lots. The soil within the trough probably accumulated after its period of use had ended. It should be noted that 13 of the 20 ceramic sherds recovered from the trough fill (65%) were European-American soft paste porcelain. As noted below, a high proportion of this ceramic type was characteristic of the overlying deposits, probably associated with early 19th century mortar floor. This suggests the possibility that the trough was filled during this early 19th century construction episode.

Construction of the Wooden Feature

The overall size of the wooden feature exposed in TC D and W, measuring from the inside of the wooden sides, was 43 inches north-south and 65 inches east-west. The wooden floor boards, oriented east-west, were attached by iron bolts to rectangular floor joists which ran in a north-south direction under the floor. Two such joists were exposed when the

eastern portion of the floor was removed. The patterning of bolts in the floor suggests that two others underlay the western part of the floor. The vertically aligned boards constituting the sides of the feature extended approximately four inches below the floor boards. The edges of the floor boards were set in grooves cut in the side boards. The side boards were attached to each other by a tongue-in-groove technique. The wales which braced the side boards measured approximately four by four by four inches. The wales were connected at each corner of the box by means of a tongue and groove and attached by two wooden pegs. One peg was driven into a hole drilled through the grooved board and the interconnecting tongue. The other was inserted into a hole in the tongue beyond its intersection with the grooved board (see sketch, figure 64).

It should be noted that the northern side of the feature, exposed in TC D, showed what appeared to be a large "dowel" immediately underneath the feature. Excavation of TC W indicated that this dowel was actually an irregularly shaped board with a narrowed end, placed in the bottom of the pit dug to install the feature, with bolts or nails apparently driven through this board. However, this piece of wood did not appear to have been attached to the feature itself.

Extension to Early House

As noted above, TC D and TC W encountered the western wall of the extension to the early (late 17th century) house

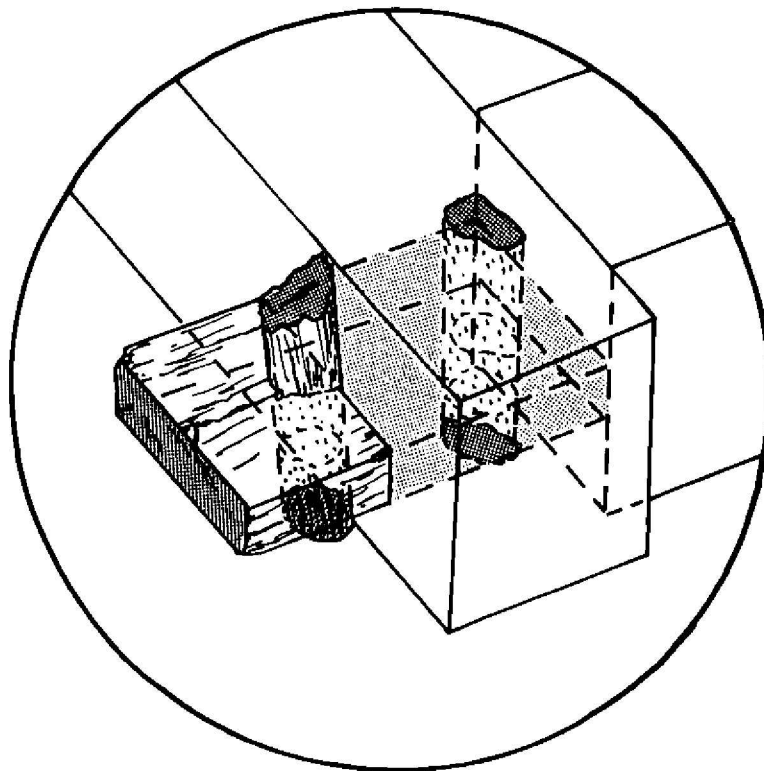
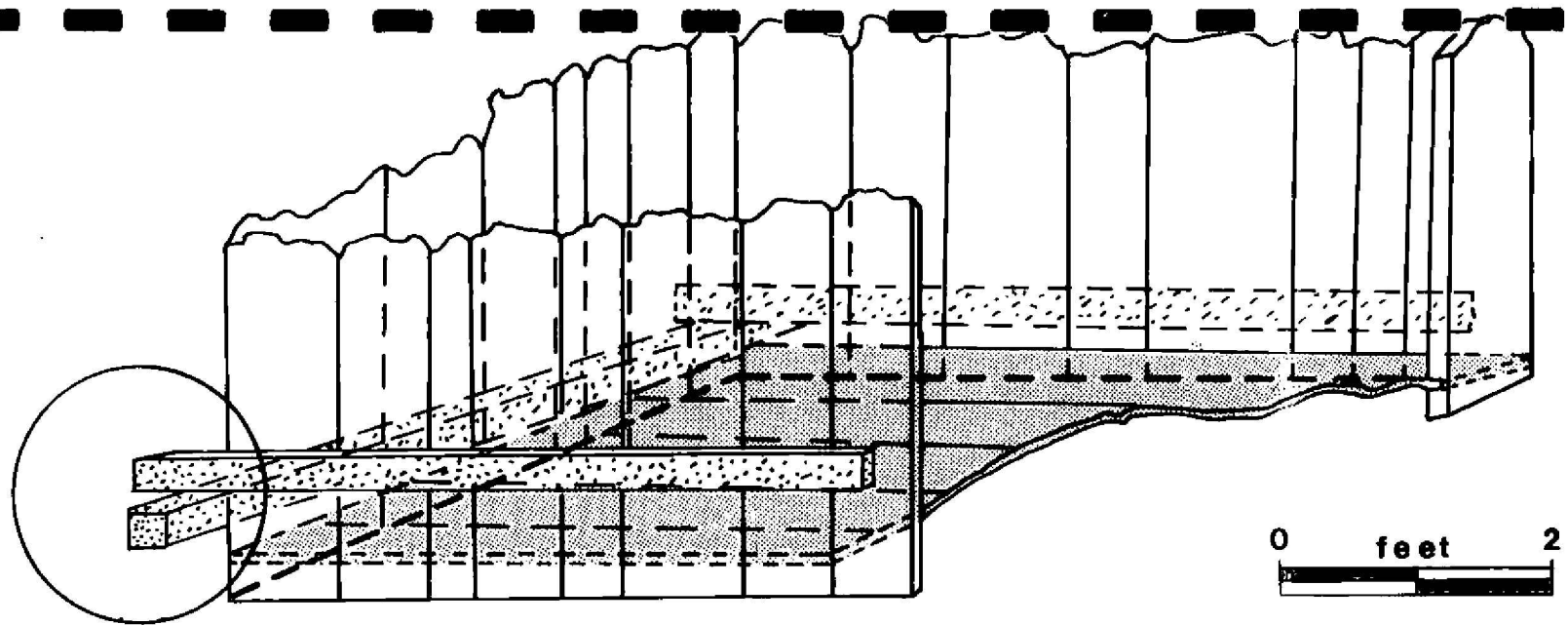


FIG 64

WOODEN BOX: T.C. D/W

constructed on Lot 13. This wall intersected the rear wall of the main portion of the house (wall #1) approximately seven feet east of the Lot 12/13 boundary wall. The rear wall of this extension was encountered approximately 19 feet south of wall #1. The rear wall of the extension ended approximately 10½ feet east of the west wall of the extension. As noted in the discussion of TC D and W, the same event which resulted in the removal of the top of the wooden feature also removed the top of the west wall of the extension. It is possible that further to the east, the portion of the rear extension wall was completely removed by this event. Unfortunately, a lack of time prevented us from completely probing for the remains of the eastern part of the rear extension wall.

It should be noted that the wooden feature exposed in TC D and TC W was located at the southwest corner of the early house extension. This location may have served to provide ready access from the house extension. If it functioned as a privy, this would have been convenient but atypical, since the latter were mostly placed as far from the house as the lot allowed.