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Pickman

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD TESTING
THE NEHEMIAH PROJECT
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX, NEW YORK
CEQR 93-HPD-015X

by
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Submitted to
South Bronx Churches

June 1995

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background

The Nehemiah project includes construction of one and two bedroom low income condominiums in the Morrisania section of the Bronx. The project site encompasses one square block; designated as block 2537, lots 1 and 10, which is bounded on the east and west by Trinity and Jackson Avenues and on the north and south by East 158th and East 160th Streets (see Figures 1a and 1b). An archaeological documentary study of the Nehemiah project site (Pickman 1994) was completed in April 1994.

The results of the documentary study indicated that "the archaeological sensitivity of the project site derives primarily from the possible presence of archaeological 'features' associated with the occupation of the area in the latter portion of the 19th century" (Pickman 1994:23). Such features would have been located in the backyard areas of houses constructed between 1860 and 1882, prior to the installation of water mains in any of the streets bordering the project site.

The report recommended that archaeological testing be conducted on portions of the site where such features could remain intact. These areas consisted of the lots designated as 6, 9, and 11-18 according to the lot numbering system in use during the last two decades of the nineteenth century.

A large public school building was constructed ca. 1915 on the southern portion of the site, now designated as lot 1. The school building site included the late 19th century lot designated as lot 6 and a part of the lot designated as lot 9. This school building was razed prior to the preparation of the archaeological documentary study.

Some of the nineteenth century structures on the northern portion of the site (now designated as lot 10), as well as others constructed during the early 20th century, remained standing through the mid-20th century. Between 1952 and 1969, these structures were demolished and the area was used as a playground for the public school.

A scope of work and a plan for archaeological testing were submitted to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in July 1994 and subsequently approved. This plan included testing of two small portions of lot 6 (see Figure 2). The northernmost of these two areas was located between the school building and the Trinity Avenue pavement. According to an environmental review assessment dated March 7, 1995, the Landmarks Preservation Commission deleted this area from the testing plan, and construction was begun on this portion of the site, as well as other portions not encompassing the areas to be tested. The other portion of lot 6 which was included in the

original testing plan was located in an area which provided access to a building under construction at the time of the testing. In addition, the reconnaissance conducted during the archaeological documentary study suggested that this area may have been disturbed during the demolition of the public school building. For these reasons, field testing was not conducted in this area.

B. Procedures

Field testing of the Nehemiah project site was conducted on April 10-20, 1995. Backhoe trenching was conducted in the areas shown on the archaeological site map included here as Figure 3. These trenches were expanded to clear as much of the backyard areas of the 19th century structures as was feasible to the level at which features could be detected (see below). Due to the amount of overlying fill/demolition debris present, as well as the disturbances noted in many areas, it was not possible to completely clear all of the backyard areas.

The backhoe trenching and clearing exposed four features which could contain possibly significant artifact deposits. These features were tested in the field by units designated as shovel tests 1-3 and unit A. Two of the features, designated as Features 1 and 2, were found to contain "significant" archaeological deposits (see Chapters III and IV).

After completion of field testing an interim report summarizing the results was submitted for review by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Department of Housing Preservation and Development. A copy of this interim report, which includes recommendations for data recovery excavations of Features 1 and 2, is included here as Appendix C.

The locations of the various features, walls excavated areas are shown on the archaeological site map (Figure 3) Elevations taken using the level line method are included on this map. The elevations are given in inches relative to a datum point located on the Trinity Avenue curb. The elevation of this point relative to the Bronx datum as given on the Nehemiah project site plan is 64.35 feet. The pre-excitation surface of the public school playground, as measured in lot 14, was also at this same approximate elevation.

The stratigraphy encountered in the four test units and the artifacts recovered, as well as additional artifacts recovered during the excavation of the backhoe trenches, are listed in Appendix A to this report.

To facilitate reference, many of the 19th and early 20th century maps included in the documentary research study have been reproduced and included in the present report as Appendix B.

II. BACKHOE TRENCHING AND CLEARING

A. Lots 13 and 14 - Backhoe Trench 1

The documentary research indicated that the first structures on lots 13 and 14, which fronted on Trinity Avenue (then known as Delmonico Place), were constructed, together with those on lots 15-17, in 1877. This land had previously been designated as lot 104 within a mid-19th century subdivision known as Grove Hill. Peter Decker purchased the land included within Grove Hill lot 104 in 1876. He proceeded to further subdivide the property into five smaller lots referenced in this report as lots 13-17. Decker constructed a house on each lot with the apparent intention of re-selling them. The houses on lots 13 and 14 were purchased in 1878 and 1877, respectively. Both of the new owners were German immigrants.

The maps reviewed for the documentary research study and included in Appendix B indicate that lots 13 and 14 extended southward from Trinity Avenue for slightly more than 30 feet. A narrow "backyard area," approximately five feet in width, is shown behind the two houses on these maps.

Backhoe trench 1 was excavated to examine this "backyard" area. A trench (designated as BHTR 1a) was first placed within the foundation of building 14 in order to locate the rear wall of this structure (in this discussion the buildings constructed on the various lots will be referenced according to the lot number - e.g. the building on lot 14 is referenced as building 14).. Backhoe trench 1 was then excavated southward from the location of trench 1a. Comparison of the test results with the documentary data indicates that the present eastern edge of the Trinity Avenue sidewalk is approximately nine feet west of the building line as shown on the 19th and early 20th century maps. This nine foot wide area is covered by the concrete slab noted in BHTR 7 (see discussion of Lot 12, below).

Backhoe trench 1 exposed the rear walls of buildings 13 and 14 (designated as W13 and W14 respectively on the site map - Figure 3; see also Plate 1). The 19th century maps (see Appendix B) indicate that as constructed in 1877, buildings 13 and 14 were separated by an alley located in the northern portion of lot 13. Between 1909 and 1923, a one story extension was added to the north side of building 13, covering the former alleyway. The rear wall of this extension (wall W13ext) was noted in the west profile of the backhoe trench (see Plate 1). It extended to the same depth as the walls of buildings 13 and 14, suggesting that the basement of building 13 was also extended across the former alleyway.

The 20th century razing of these structures resulted in the demolition of wall W14 to a depth of approximately 1 1/2 feet below the surface of the school yard. The remaining portion of

this stone foundation wall is approximately six feet high, with its base some 7 1/2 feet beneath the playground surface.

The upper portion of the foundation wall of building 13 consisted of brick to a depth of some three feet below the playground surface, with the lowest ca. 4 1/2 feet being constructed of stone. Demolition resulted in removal of the upper portion of the wall to a depth of ca. 1 - 1 1/2 feet below the playground surface. The remaining portion of the foundation wall of the building 13 extension (W13ext) does not include the brick upper portion.

As shown on the 19th and early 20th century maps the original construction of building 15, which adjoins lots 13 and 14 on the south, resulted in an alley, some 8 feet wide, remaining between the western wall of building 15 and the lot 13/14 boundary line. Between 1909 and 1923 a one story extension was added to the west side of building 15, covering the alley and extending the building to the boundary line with lots 13 and 14. As with the building 13 extension, this westward extension to building 15 apparently also had a basement. The west wall of the foundation for this extension (indicated on the site map as W15ext) was exposed in the east profile of BHTR 1 (see Plate 2). It extended to approximately the same depth as the eastern foundation walls of buildings 13 and 14.

Observation of the excavation of backhoe trench 1 indicated that no features such as cisterns, privies etc. remained intact in the area between walls W13, W13ext and W14, and wall W15ext. What appeared to be rubble or fill deposits were encountered to the approximate depth of the base of these walls. It is possible that the construction of W15ext, as well as W13ext and W12 (see below) in the early 20th century resulted in disturbance to the original "backyard" area of buildings 13 and 14.

The stone wall, designated as W12, encountered at the southern end of southern end of BHTR 1 represents the northern foundation wall of the early 20th century building constructed on lot 12 (see below). A concentration of artifacts was noted immediately north of this wall during the excavation of the backhoe trench excavation. A sample of artifacts from this area was collected and tabulated (see Appendix A, catalog #26). Examination of the area failed to indicate the presence of a feature. The artifacts appeared to be associated with wall W12 and probably derived from the fill deposited in the outer portion of the foundation excavation after construction of the building. It is possible that a feature was once located in this area and destroyed by the excavation of the building 12 foundation.

At the base of BHTR 1, at a depth of ca. 83-87" below datum we encountered the top of two "rock features", designated on the site map (Figure 3) as R1 and R2 (see Plates 2 and 3). These rock features appeared to extend westward beneath the base of foundation walls W13 and W14, and R2 also extended eastward beneath the later extension wall W15ext. Because of the depth of

these features beneath the surface only limited examination was possible. They will be discussed further in Chapter III of this report.

B. Lots 15-17 - Backhoe Trenches 2 and 3

The structures erected on Lots 15 -17 were part of the group of five built by Peter Decker in 1877 for resale. Those on lots 15 and 16 were both purchased in 1877. As with lots 13 and 14 (see above) the purchasers were German immigrants. Lot 17 was purchased in 1878 by a Danish immigrant.

The testing plan called for two backhoe trenches to be excavated in the backyard areas of these lots; one near the back walls of these houses, the most likely locations to find cisterns, and one near the lot line, the most likely location of privies.

1. Backhoe Trench 3

BHTR 3 was placed immediately adjacent to the rear (southern) walls of the houses built on these three lots. These walls were exposed in the north profile of the backhoe trench. The rear wall of building 15 (labelled W15 on Figure 3) extended to the western boundary of the lot, reflecting the extension of this structure ca. 1909 - 1923 (see above).

Excavation of BHTR 3 encountered the northern edge of the lower portion of Feature 1, a brick cistern. A large stone with a circular opening rested on top of the cistern's collar and was fully exposed by subsequent clearing (see Plates 9 and 10). The surface of this stone, which was approximately 3 1/2 feet below the schoolyard surface (datum elevation) apparently marked the original surface of the lot 15 backyard area and provided access to the cistern. A further description of the cistern and the deposits within it is given in the following Chapter.

As noted in the documentary research report (Pickman 1994:14), analysis of 20th century maps suggested that building 16 might have been extended to the south between 1923 and 1952. The field testing indicated that the building had, in fact, undergone reconstruction and extension. BHTR 3 encountered a concrete wall immediately east of the gap which separated walls W15 and W16a. This gap marks the location of the alleyway shown on the maps between buildings 15 and 16.

A portion the surface of this concrete wall (W16ext) was exposed. Further examination indicated that it represents the foundation wall of the building 16 extension. The modifications to the building apparently involved the extension of the basement of this structure southward to within ca. six feet of the rear (southern) lot boundary. The original rear wall of building 16 was cut through ca. eight feet east of the western wall of the building to provide access from the original basement to the

basement of the extension. This is represented on the site plan by the gap between walls W16a and W16b.

The cement floor of the building 16 extension was noted on the floor of BHTR 1 and in the profile of the subsequently excavated BHTR 4, discussed below, at a depth of some six feet below datum. This is approximately 2 1/2 feet below the assumed original backyard surface as indicated by the elevation of the features uncovered in the adjacent lot 15.

The eastern wall of the building 16 extension appeared to have been disturbed. Blocks of concrete were encountered at the approximate location of the eastern end of wall W16b, apparently representing the remains of the east wall of the extension. The disturbance of this eastern extension wall may have occurred during the demolition of the building.

East of building 16, the excavation of BHTR 3 continued at the approximate elevation of the backyard surface, exposing the rear wall of building 17 (W17a). The gap between walls W16b and W17a represents the alley between the two structures shown on the 19th and early 20th century maps (see Appendix B). The eastern portion of W17a appeared to have been cut down below the depth of our excavations at this location, most likely during demolition of this building. Subsequent excavation of BHTR 5, on lot 18 (see below) exposed a portion of the east wall of building 17 (W17b).

2. Backhoe Trench 2

Backhoe trench 2 was excavated across the rear portion of lots 15 and 16. This trench was initially some 4 - 4 1/2 feet in width. Its western portion was subsequently widened to further expose rock feature 1. The north wall (W12) of the one-story structure constructed on lot 12 between 1909 and 1923 was exposed in the southern profile of the western portion of BHTR 2 (see Plate 4).

After excavation of BHTR 2, examination of its north profile indicated the presence of Feature 2 in the southeastern portion of the Lot 15 backyard area (see Figure 3). Domestic artifacts and faunal remains were noted in the wall of the trench and some of these were removed for examination (see Appendix A, catalog #23). Additional artifacts (catalog #29), most likely deriving from this feature, were noted on the floor of the backhoe trench. Examination of the south profile of the trench indicated the presence of stones and cinder deposits similar to those within the feature. This may have marked the original southern extent of the feature. Unfortunately, partial collapse of the south wall of the backhoe trench prevented further examination.

Since the feature walls were not solidly constructed (see Chapter III), Feature 2 was not noted during the process of excavation of BHTR 2, and its excavation may have resulted in the inadvertent removal of the southern portion of the feature. However, the southwestern corner of the feature was located only some 1 1/2

feet east of the northeastern corner of building 12 (see Figure 3 and Plate 4). Thus, some disturbance of the feature may have occurred during the construction of the latter building. This may also account for failure to note the feature during the course of the backhoe trench excavation.

Examination of the north profile of BHTR 2 indicated that the Feature 2 deposits began some 3 1/2 feet below datum. This is the same approximate elevation as the surface of Feature 1, as noted above, and apparently represents the approximate elevation of the surface of the lot 15 backyard during the occupation of the structure. The deposits overlying the surface of the feature appeared to represent demolition debris. The backhoe subsequently removed this overlying debris, exposing the surface of the feature. A large portion of the Lot 15 backyard area was also cleared to this approximate depth.

The eastern portion of BHTR 2 was located within the boundaries of lot 16. A large number of loose stones were noted in the floor of the trench in this area. The results of the subsequent excavation of BHTR 4 suggests that these stones were associated with rock feature 1 and or Feature 4 (see below). Both of these features would have been impacted by the construction of the Lot 16 building extension.

C. Lot 17 - Backhoe Trench 6

A large portion of the backyard area of lot 17 was cleared to the backyard elevation or below. This clearing exposed the surface of Feature 3, a brick and stone feature which is discussed in the following Chapter. The clearing also exposed the surface of a grouping of stones south of the location of Feature 3. Further manual clearing did not indicate that these stones represented an intact wall. A deeper trench, indicated on the archaeological site plan as BHTR 6, was excavated through the location of the stones. Observations during the backhoe trench excavation as well as examination of the trench profiles (see Chapter III) indicated that these stones did not form a structural pattern above a depth of ca. six feet below datum. At this approximate depth large stones were encountered which represented a "rock feature" (designated R3 on Figure 3 - see also Plate 23), similar to those encountered in BHTR 1.

D. Lot 16 - Backhoe Trench 4

Backhoe trench 4 was excavated in a north-south direction in the backyard area of Lot 16, connecting BHTR 3 with the eastern end of BHTR 2. BHTR 4 was initially excavated to a depth of some 6 - 6 1/2 feet below datum. This excavation encountered an area of loose rocks in the southern portion of the backhoe trench. To further explore these rocks, the southern portion of BHTR 4 was excavated to greater depths.

Manual clearing at the base of the trench exposed the remains of a truncated, dry-laid stone feature, the eastern portion of which was exposed in the backhoe trench (see Plates 18 and 19). The top of the intact portion of the feature was some nine feet below the pre-excavation surface. Subsequent examination of the feature indicated that only its lowermost 21 inches remained intact.

Examination of the western profile of BHTR 4 suggested that this feature had been truncated by the construction of the building 16 extension, the rear wall of which was noted in the profile. Feature 4 is discussed further in Chapter III.

A rock-filled trench was also noted in the eastern profile of BHTR 4 (see Plate 26). This trench appeared to be aligned with rock feature R3 as exposed in lot 17. However this trench did not appear to contain large stones similar to those exposed at the base of R1 and R3. The trench contents appeared to be more like the loose stones noted at the top of the exposed portions of the rock features (see further discussion in Chapter III). A stratum of gray/black sandy silt noted adjacent to the upper portion of this trench (see Plate 26) may correspond to the stratum noted in other backhoe trenches which is interpreted as representing the pre-construction ground surface on this site (see also discussion in Chapter III).

E. Lot 18 - Backhoe Trench 5

The first structure on lot 18 was built by Peter Decker in 1882, after the structures discussed above. It was sold in the same year to its first occupant, Henry Hoffman. Examination of the maps indicates that any associated features would most likely have been located in an open area along the western boundary of the lot. Backhoe trench 5 was excavated to test this area.

The base of BHTR 5 was some four feet below the ground surface. No features associated with the 19th/early 20th century occupation of this lot were noted. A concrete wall was encountered at the southern end of the trench, along the southern boundary of the lot. This is apparently the wall of a one story extension which, as indicated on the maps, was built between 1923 and 1952.

F. Lots 11 and 12 - Backhoe Trenches 7, 8 and 9

Lots 11 and 12 together represent the land included within a 50 foot wide lot numbered 105 in the mid-19th century Grove Hill subdivision. It was purchased by Steven Rogers in 1860 and two structures owned by John and Steven Rogers, who were African-Americans, stood on each of these lots in the same year. The houses were situated north of the project site at locations beneath the present bed of Trinity Avenue.

In 1882 a portion of lot 12 was sold by John Rogers and

subsequently incorporated into the extended backyard areas of lots 15-17.

A one-story building was constructed on the western portion of lot 12 between 1909 and 1923. In 1952 it functioned as a synagogue but it is uncertain if this was its function when constructed. Prior to field testing it was uncertain whether this building would have had a basement.

Lot 11 was the site of the eastern portion of an apartment building constructed between 1909 and 1923 on the former lots 10 and 11. The maps show an alleyway between the rear wall of the apartment building and the eastern boundary of the lot. It was considered that excavation of the basement of this building would have removed any features associated with the Rogers occupation but that features located at the rear of the lot could remain at least partially intact in the alley area.

The testing plan called for trenching along the eastern boundary of lots 11 and 12 and also along the western portion of lot 11, which is the closest portion of the project site to the Rogers house location. In addition, the plan included trenching in an east-west direction within lot 12 to the extent feasible.

1. Backhoe Trench 7

Backhoe trench 7 was excavated across the front (western) part of lot 12. It was originally planned to place this trench close to the property fence which adjoined the Trinity Avenue sidewalk. However, attempts to trench in this area were thwarted due to the presence of a thick concrete slab extending some nine feet south of the present sidewalk. Since the backhoe was unable to break through this slab, BHTR 7 was placed immediately adjacent to its eastern edge. After excavation, the western wall of building 12 was exposed in the western profile of the backhoe trench. The top of this wall was some 3 1/2 feet below the top of the concrete slab. A series of large concrete wedge-shaped blocks were seated on top of this wall, supporting the concrete slab (see Plate 5).

In the northern portion of the eastern profile of BHTR 7 the brick upper portion of the southern foundation wall of building 13 and the stone northern foundation wall of building 12 were visible. The backhoe removed the upper portion of these walls in the northern end of the backhoe trench. The southern wall of the building 12 foundation was noted at the southern end of BHTR 7.

Excavation of BHTR 7 as well as the southern portion of BHTR 1 indicated that building 12 did, in fact, have a basement. Its cement floor was noted in BHTR 7 at a depth of approximately 6 1/2 feet below the surface of the school playground. The backhoe trench excavation reached depths of 1 - 1 1/2 feet below this floor. No truncated features were noted.

2. Backhoe Trench 9

Backhoe trench 9 was excavated across the rear portion of lots 11 and 12. The excavation covered an area extending some 15 feet west of the rear (eastern) boundary of lot 12 and 12 feet west of the eastern boundary of lot 11. The northern portion of BHTR 9 represented an extension of the cleared backyard area of lot 17. However, excavation here reached a greater depth than in lot 17, as much as ca. six feet below datum.

In lot 11, twelve feet west of the eastern boundary of the lot, BHTR 9 encountered the rear (eastern) wall of the stone foundation of the apartment building which was constructed on lots 10 and 11 between 1909 and 1923 (see Plate 6). As indicated on the site map (Figure 3), the northern end of this wall was aligned with the boundary line between lots 11 and 12. The base of this wall was approximately eight feet below datum.

The width of the alleyway behind the apartment building as exposed in BHTR 9 is approximately the same as shown on the early 20th century maps. This alleyway had a cement pavement, the elevation of which was approximately five feet below datum. BHTR 9 cut through this floor. However, no truncated features were noted.

BHTR 9 also encountered a low stone wall (see Plate 6) which appeared to be at the northern end of the alleyway pavement. The top of the remaining portion of this wall was approximately one foot below the level of the cement floor. The western extent of the stone wall was not fully exposed. Probing indicated that there were no additional wall courses below the single course exposed and no artifact deposits were noted in association with this wall.

The cement alley floor and the stone wall which appeared to mark its northern edge extended some five feet north of the lot 11/12 boundary line.

3. Backhoe Trench 8

Backhoe Trench 8 was excavated in an east-west direction in the southern portion of lot 12. The western end of the trench was located immediately east of the location of the rear wall of building 12 as noted in the south profile of BHTR 2. The concrete wall exposed near the the western end of BHTR 8 was most likely associated with an extension to building 12 shown on the 1952 Sanborn map. However this extension wall was not noted in the south profile of BHTR 2.

The stratigraphy in the western end of the north profile of BHTR 8 is shown in Plates 7 and 8. The uppermost ca. four feet of the exposed deposits consisted of rubble which was apparently deposited during structural demolition prior to construction of the school playground on this portion of the block. This rubble

deposit was followed by 13 inches of dark gray/brown sandy silt with pieces of coal, rocks and other debris; six inches of brown sandy silt with some gray clay mottling; and 12 1/2 inches of brown sandy silt mixed with rust/orange sand, tan sand and gray clay. These strata apparently represent fill. These fill deposits, in turn, overlay a seven inch thick stratum of gray/brown loam with some yellow mottling. The latter stratum appears to represent the remains of a former topsoil layer, which may have been cultivated. The surface of this stratum was at a depth of approximately six feet below datum. This stratum apparently corresponds with the black clayey stratum noted in other backhoe trenches as discussed below and in the following Chapter. Some three inches of yellow/tan silty sand, which apparently represents naturally deposited subsoil, underlay this former ground surface, continuing to the floor of the backhoe trench.

Approximately 12 1/2 feet east of the western end of BHTR 8 a large boulder was encountered (see Plate 7), the top of which was at an elevation of approximately 68 inches below datum. It appeared that a trench or pit had been excavated through the overlying deposits to install this boulder, but a detailed examination was not undertaken. During the excavation of BHTR 2 similar boulders were noted at the base of the trench. However, these latter boulders were not mapped prior to removal. It is possible that these boulders were installed to mark lot boundaries at the time of the subdivision of the land in the mid-19th century.

G. Lot 9 - Backhoe Trench 10

The first building was constructed on lot 9 in 1882, the same year that the first water mains were installed in Trinity Avenue. The maps indicate that the northern portion of lot 9 represented an alleyway immediately north of the school building constructed in 1915. The width of this alley varies as shown on the various maps. It was considered that any deposits at the location of the school building would have been destroyed by excavation for the deep basement of this building (see Pickman 1994).

Backhoe trench 10 extended some 9-10 feet north of the lot 9/10 boundary line and continued southward into the northern portion of lot 9. A concrete wall extended across the backhoe trench some four feet from its northern end. This wall was located in lot 10 near the southern end of the apartment house rear alley.

Brick walls of the school building were encountered 15 - 21 feet from the northern end of BHTR 10 (some 6-12 feet south of the lot 9/10 boundary line). Excavation of BHTR 10 ended at the school building walls. It should be noted that the wall configuration noted in the trench does not correspond with that shown on the 20th century maps.

A dark brown/black stratum was noted in the western profile of

backhoe trench 10 at a depth of approximately 4 1/2-5 feet below datum. This stratum apparently corresponds to strata noted in backhoe trenches 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 which are interpreted as representing the original ground surface prior to late 19th century filling and/or construction (see Chapter III).

III. FEATURES AND TEST EXCAVATIONS

As noted in the previous Chapter, four features which could contain possibly significant artifact deposits were encountered during the backhoe trenching and clearing. A small test excavation was placed in each of these in order to determine whether it contained such deposits.

A. Lot 15 - Features 1 and 2

1. Feature 1 and Shovel Test 3

Feature 1 is a brick cistern located immediately behind building 15 (see Plates 9 and 10). When encountered during the clearing operations, the cistern was completely intact. A split stone slab had been installed above the "collar" of the cistern. A semi-circular opening had been cut in the center of each half of the slab and the halves had been joined together to create a circular opening above the cistern. The 2 1/2 inch thick stone slab was oriented northwest - southeast and measured 35 by 25 inches. The central circular opening was 14 inches in diameter. This slab was apparently incorporated into the backyard surface of lot 15.

When the cistern was encountered during the backhoe trenching and clearing, an empty space was noted below the cistern opening, with loose dirt and debris falling into the cistern during the clearing operation.

The vertical "collar" portion of the cistern structure, which underlay the stone slab, was seven inches high, with an internal diameter of 21 inches and an outer diameter of 32 inches. Two pipes entered the cistern collar. A large gap had been cut in the side of the collar facing the house and a ceramic pipe entered the cistern through it. This pipe, removed during the clearing and archaeological testing of the feature, appeared to angle downward toward the house. It may have served as an overflow drain. Several courses of brick mortared to the northwestern side of the cistern shoulder (see Plate 11) apparently served as a support for a metal pipe which entered the cistern. This possibly served as an intake pipe. The pipe support was not completely exposed.

The height of the sloping "dome" of the cistern was approximately one foot, at which point the cylindrical basal portion was encountered. The test excavation within the cistern indicated that its mortar floor was approximately 3 1/2 feet below the top of the brick collar. The estimated diameter of the cistern, which was not fully exposed, is approximately 6 1/2 feet.

In order to test the deposits within the cistern, we manually removed a section of its "collar" and "dome" portions located in the northeastern portion of the feature. A test unit, designated

as shovel test 3, was placed in this portion of the feature. It measured approximately 26 inches along the interior of the cistern wall and extended outward from the wall a maximum of 13 inches.

Examination of the deposits within the cistern indicated that the material within the dome and collar portions most likely had been introduced during our clearing of the feature. This material was removed from the portion to be tested prior to the excavation of shovel test 3. The deposits excavated in this shovel test began some 2 - 6 inches below the top of the vertical, cylindrical portion of the feature (the test unit datum), at an elevation of approximately 60 inches below the site datum. The first stratum excavated consisted of some 2 - 5 inches of mortar mixed with brown sandy silt, brick rubble and pebbles. The mortar recovered from this deposit apparently derived from the facing which lined the interior of the cistern wall.

Stratum II, which constituted the major portion of the feature deposits, extended to the cistern's mortar floor, except in an approximately six to seven inch band extending outward some 6-7 inches from the cistern wall, where it was underlain by stratum III (see below). Stratum II consisted of lenses of gray/brown sandy silt mixed with wood and corroded metal, with a pocket of cinder also noted in a portion of the test. This stratum contained a substantial density of domestic and personal artifacts, including ceramics, bottles and bottle glass, buttons, shoe parts, and fabric. A substantial density of faunal material was also recovered (see Appendix A, catalog #3 and #4).

Stratum III, which underlay stratum II only around the circumference of the cistern floor, as noted above, was a thin (generally less than one inch thick) layer of gray clayey silt. A similar band of silt has been noted overlying the outermost portion of cistern floors at other archaeological sites. It apparently represents silt which accumulated at the base of the feature during its period of use. A slightly downward slope of the cistern floor from its center to its circumference could account for the presence of the silt band only around the outer portion of the feature.

The mortar floor of the cistern was encountered at 21/22 inches below the test unit datum, underlying strata II and III. It is uncertain if brick underlies this mortar.

A whole bottle recovered from the upper portion of stratum I includes the embossed trade mark and address of Bruckner Brothers, a local dealer in bottled waters located at 664-670 East 161st Street. The New York City directories beginning in 1894 and continuing through 1905 include a listing for "Bruckner Bros., waters" at 668 E 161st St. The New York City directory for 1911 has a listing for "Bruckner Bros., waters", but at a different address (410 East 161st Street) than that embossed on the bottle recovered from stratum I and listed in the earlier directories. These data indicate that the bottle recovered from

Stratum I was manufactured between 1894 and the latter portion of the first decade of the 20th century.

A bottle fragment recovered from Stratum I included a portion of the trade mark of Curtice Brothers in Rochester New York. A advertisement in the Rochester directories for 1900 and 1910 indicates that the company, which packaged canned goods, preserves, soup and tomato ketchup, was in business since 1868 and was incorporated in 1887. These data are consistent with deposition of this artifact in the cistern during the turn-of-the-century period.

The different nature of the stratum I soil matrix than that which constitutes stratum II suggests the possibility that the former stratum was deposited after Stratum II. The latter stratum may represent a primary refuse deposit, with stratum I being additional fill deposited at a later date. The artifacts recovered from stratum II did not include any precisely dateable artifacts. However, the general appearance of the artifacts recovered, including an entire unembossed bottle and another bottle neck fragment, both of which have a hand-finished neck, is consistent with deposition in the same general turn-of-the century period as the artifacts recovered from stratum I.

The results of the archaeological documentary study (Pickman 1994:24) indicate that the first water main was laid in Grove Hill Place (the present 160th Street) between 1900 and 1905. The artifacts recovered from Feature 1 would appear to be consistent with deposition during this period, after the cistern was no longer needed to provide a water supply to the residents of lot 15.

2. Feature 2 and Test Unit A

As noted in the discussion of BHTR 2, an intact portion of a second feature, designated as Feature 2, was noted in the northern profile of this backhoe trench. The feature was located in the southeastern corner of the Lot 15 backyard area. A profile drawing of the feature as it appeared in the backhoe trench wall is shown in Figure 4.

After the rubble overlying the feature was removed, it appeared to be rectangular in plan (see Plate 12), with an east-west inner diameter of approximately two feet. However, its exact shape is uncertain without further examination since the upper portion of the feature may have been disturbed.

The upper surface of the feature was only slightly lower than the elevation of the stone slab overlying Feature 1. This suggests that the feature had not been substantially truncated and its existing surface apparently represents the approximate level of the backyard area during the period of occupation of building 15. This backyard surface may be represented by the stratum of dark brown sandy silt noted west of the pit dug to install the

feature. This possible backyard surface is indicated as stratum 9 on Figure 4. This stratum also was noted at other locations in the north profile of BHTR 2 and the southern portion of the east profile of BHTR 1.

Feature 2 appeared to represent a shallow pit (approximately three feet deep) lined with a single thickness of stones laid in a matrix of the same dark brown sandy silt which represents the "backyard surface."

The feature deposits were tested by the excavation of a small test unit, designated as unit A, adjacent to the backhoe trench wall. The unit extended some sixteen inches north of the BHTR 2 profile. The profile of the feature after excavation of this unit is shown in Plate 14. The test was planned as a one foot square unit. However, because of the collapse of the loose cinder which constituted the major portion of the matrix within the feature it was necessary to expand the upper portion of the test to extend across the full two foot width of the feature deposit. After excavation of the upper portion of the test, the walls of the test unit were sufficiently stable so that the width of the test could be reduced to one foot for the excavation of the two lower strata within the Feature.

The first excavated stratum within the feature (catalog #17) extended to a depth of some 4 1/2 - 7 inches below the feature surface. It consisted of a matrix of dark brown silty sand with pebbles and gravel. Examination of the feature profile (Figure 4) suggests that this upper portion of the feature had undergone some disturbance, most likely during structural demolition on this lot. This disturbance appears to have resulted in the displacement of a portion of the feature wall as noted in the profile. However, most of the artifacts recovered from stratum I were probably present within the feature prior to any such disturbance. Several glass and ceramic sherds appear to derive from the same vessels as those recovered from the lower strata.

The second excavated stratum (catalog #18) appears only as a lens in the profile. However, when excavated, this lens was seen to cover the full extent of the feature interior north of the location of BHTR 2. The matrix of this stratum, which was some 3-7 inches in thickness, consisted of light brown/tan sandy silt with cinder. This stratum is considered to represent the upper portion of the undisturbed primary refuse deposits placed within the feature during the occupation of building 15. It was followed by stratum III (catalog #19), 2 1/2 - 7 inches thick, which consisted of a dark brown sandy silt matrix, also containing a large amount of cinder.

The following 8 - 9 inch thick stratum, designated as stratum IV (catalog #20), contained the highest density of cinder. The matrix consisted mostly of the latter material, mixed with some dark gray/brown sandy silt.

The material excavated as stratum V (catalog #21), which was 5 -

8 inches in thickness, also consisted mainly of cinder and ash, mixed with medium brown sandy silt.

The profile drawing (see also Plate 13) suggests that there was a layer of rocks at the base of stratum V, and these were initially thought to represent a purposely laid "floor" at the feature base. However, after excavation of unit A, the rocks were found not to extend across the floor of the feature. It is likely that during its period of use, the feature was open. After it was no longer needed for its original function, stones from the upper portion of the feature wall may have fallen to the bottom prior to the filling of the pit with refuse. This would account for the presence of the stones at its base.

The material excavated as stratum VI (catalog #22) consisted of a thin (1/2 - 2 inch thick) band of brown sandy silt with reddish brown sandy silt mottling. This most likely represents the soil at the base of the pit, with the artifacts recovered actually being deposited with the overlying cinder deposits. Three seeds (wild grape) were recovered from soil adhering to the artifacts recovered from stratum VI. These seeds possibly derived from plants present in the environment while the feature was open.

The unexcavated stratum underlying the feature wall, indicated in the profile drawing (Figure 4) as stratum 7, consisted of similar soil as excavated stratum VI, but was sandier than the matrix of the latter stratum.

The primary refuse deposits deposited in Feature 2 after its period of use apparently consisted of furnace debris (coal/cinder/slag) mixed with a high density of domestic and personal artifacts, including clothing and shoe parts, as well as faunal remains (see Appendix A, catalog #18-21). The recovery of several artifacts representing toys (e.g. marble, doll leg, saucer/cup from doll's tea set) indicates the presence of children within the family whose refuse is represented in the deposit. What appear to be doll's tea set ceramic sherds were also recovered from Feature 1 (see Appendix A, catalog #3).

While there are differences in the soil matrices representing the four strata which constitute the Feature 2 primary refuse deposits, the presence of what appear to be fragments of the same artifacts in the various strata indicate that the material was most likely deposited within the feature during the same time period.

Several artifacts recovered from the deposit provide an indication of its date of deposition. Fragments of an entire saucer recovered from stratum IV (catalog #20) include a maker's mark of the Cartwright Brothers of East Liverpool, Ohio. This mark is illustrated by Barber (1904), Lehner (1988) and Kovel (1986). Although the factory was in operation between 1880 and 1927, the use of the particular mark present on this vessel is dated by Kovel (1986:64) to ca. 1888.

A porcelain beer bottle stopper, also recovered from stratum IV, has the trade mark of the John Kress Brewing Co. of New York City. According to Bull et al. (1984:200) the brewery was in operation under this name between 1884 and 1904. The brewery is listed in the 1895 New York City directory but is not listed in the 1911 directory. These data are consistent with the dates given by Bull. The stopper itself was manufactured by Karl Hutter of New York City. The patent date of April 1, 1893 impressed on this artifact provides a terminus post quem for its manufacture and deposition. Other Hutter stoppers have been recovered from archaeological excavations at the Queens County Farm Museum (Pickman and Boesch 1994).

Fragments of an entire ironstone bowl were recovered from stratum V (catalog #21). This vessel bears a maker's mark which includes a version of the British Royal Arms (used by American as well as British potters), with the initials "D.R." underneath the seal. Kovel (1896:26) illustrates a different mark which also includes the initials D.R.. This latter mark is attributed by Kovel to the East Morrisania China Works of New York City and is dated ca. 1893. Since this is a local pottery it is considered likely that the mark on the bowl recovered from Feature 2 was also used by this pottery. Barber (1904:83), who illustrates the same mark as Kovel, states that the East Morrisania China Works was started on 150th Street by Mr. D. Robitzek. The initials "D.R." apparently are those of Robitzek. The New York City directory for 1895 lists "David Robitzek, potter," with a business address on Kelly Avenue at the corner of Walter Avenue and home address at 759 Forrest Avenue. Both addresses are in the vicinity of the Nehemiah site, with Robitzek's home address only several blocks away. Lehner (1988), who also gives a date of ca. 1893 for the East Morrisania pottery, states that it was no longer in operation in 1913.

The dates noted above indicate deposition of the domestic deposits in Feature 2 during the turn-of-the century period. This is also consistent with the general characteristics of most of the artifacts recovered. Bisque porcelain dolls, for example (leg recovered from stratum IV) were popular in the 1890's and the early decades of the 20th century (Fawcett 1947). Decal decoration on ceramics (stratum II) was used in the 1890's and into the 20th century (Janowitz 1990).

Three pieces of flexible material were recovered from strata III and IV. This material could be hard rubber or, more likely, some sort of synthetic material. The first synthetic plastic material, celluloid, was in general use by the end of the 19th century. Plastic material manufactured from casein, invented in 1897, was used to imitate tortoise shell (Dubois 1972). Both of these materials would have been available during the turn-of-the century period.

The function of Feature 2 during the occupation of lot 15 is uncertain. It is apparently too shallow to have functioned as a privy. One possibility is that it was used for cold storage. However, its structure is different from features encountered on

other New York City cities dating to the 18th and 19th centuries to which this function has been attributed (e.g. see Pickman and Boesch 1995, Rothshild and Pickman 1990). It is possible that Feature 2 functioned as a drainage sump. Its probable long, narrow shape is similar to that of Feature 3 (see below), to which this function is attributed.

The artifacts recovered from the domestic deposits in Feature 2 would appear to date to the same general period as those in Feature 1.

B. Lot 17 - Feature 3 and Shovel Test 1

Feature 3 was located approximately five feet south of the rear wall of building 17. Its surface (see Plate 15) was encountered some four feet below datum; a comparable, although slightly lower elevation than that of the features and backyard surface in lot 15, discussed above. At the top of the feature, its inner diameter measured some two feet north-south and four feet east-west.

After the archaeological examination of Feature 3 was completed (see Plates 16-17) its north wall was found to consist of brick, with dressed stone underlying the its eastern portion. The west and south walls of the feature, however, consisted of loosely laid rocks and the east side of the feature did not have a wall. This portion of the feature consisted merely of the side of the pit dug to install the brick and stone walls noted above.

The deposits within Feature 3 were tested by the excavation of a small test, designated as shovel test 1, which was placed in the northeastern corner of the feature. At its upper surface the test measured some 25 by 19 inches.

Three soil strata were recognized during excavation of shovel test 1. Strata I and II consisted of medium brown sandy silt mixed with gray brown sandy silt and cinder, while stratum II had a similar matrix but included brown clayey silt in addition to the other soil types and cinder. These first two strata extended to a depth of 21/22 inches below the top of the brick northern wall of the feature. The third stratum consisted of grayish/yellow/brown silty sand, also mixed with cinder and slag, which extended to a depth of thirty inches. At the base of stratum III, what appeared to be a layer of cobbles was noted which initially was considered to possibly represent a purposely laid "floor".

Assessment of the soil matrices and the artifacts recovered indicate that the material within Feature 3 was deposited during demolition activities on lot 17. Unlike Features 1 and 2, encountered in lot 15, Feature 3 did not appear to contain primary refuse deposits associated with the 19th - early 20th century occupation of building 17. The material excavated contained a considerable amount of brick fragments and

coal/cinder/slag, most of which was discarded in the field, and only a low density of domestic artifacts and faunal material (see Appendix A, catalog #6-8). Therefore it was decided to remove the remaining deposits within Feature 3 to the level of the cobbles exposed at the base of stratum III in order to further explore the structure of the feature and to determine whether the feature walls and deposits extended to greater depths.

After removal of the overlying deposits, the material at the base of stratum III appeared to consist of cobbles as well as brick fragments impressed into the underlying soil, rather than a laid floor. In addition, it was noted that the southern and western rock walls of the feature sloped inward, so that the inner dimensions of the feature at the base of stratum III measured only some 19 by 32 inches.

A shovel test, designated as shovel test Ia, was continued downward through the brick and cobble deposit into the underlying tan/rust slightly silty sand (designated as Stratum IV). This stratum was tested to a depth of 44 inches below the top of the north wall of the Feature. With the exception of a single piece of corroded metal from the top of the stratum, no artifacts were recovered. Probing of the walls of shovel test Ia, as well as the base of stratum III elsewhere within the feature, indicated that the feature walls ended at the base of stratum III.

Examination of the north wall of the feature indicated what appeared to be a "plug" of concrete within a hole in this wall (see Plate 17). It is considered likely that a pipe originally entered the feature at this location, and that the feature may have functioned as a drainage sump. After the pipe was removed, the feature may have remained open and continued to provide drainage for the backyard surface.

The recovery of a "modern" electrical outlet from the uppermost deposits of the feature suggests that it may not have been filled in until the building demolition which preceded the construction of the school playground in the mid-20th century.

At least one artifact recovered from Feature 3 may have been associated with the building constructed on lot 17 in the latter portion of the 19th century. This is a large decorated glazed ceramic tile which contains the names of both the manufacturer and the importer (see Appendix A, catalog #9). Decorated colored clay "encaustic tiles" were manufactured by the Minton Company in Stoke-on-Trent, England at as early as the mid-20th century. The collection of the New York Public Library contains a pattern book of these tiles dating to 1845. The importer, T. Aspinwall, is listed in the 1890 New York City directory. However, Aspinwall is not listed in directories dating to 1895 and later.

C. Lot 16 - Feature 4 and Shovel Test 2

As noted in the previous chapter, a feature was uncovered in the backyard area of lot 16 which had been truncated by the construction of a ca. 1923 -1952 extension to the building 16 basement. This feature (Feature 4) was located in the rear portion of the lot 16 backyard area. The surface of the remaining portion of the feature was encountered some nine feet below the site datum (elevation of Trinity Avenue curb and school playground). The material overlying approximately half of this truncated feature was removed during the excavation of BHTR 4.

Feature 4 appeared to be circular, with dry-laid stone walls. Its estimated outer diameter was some five feet with an estimated inner diameter of some three feet (see Plate 18).

The deposits within Feature 4 were tested by the excavation of a unit designated as shovel test 2. This test measured approximately one by 1 1/2 feet and adjoined the stone wall of the feature. Excavation of the test, as well as a test hole excavated adjacent to the exterior of the feature wall indicated that only the lowermost 21 inches of this feature remained intact (see Plate 19).

The uppermost fourteen inches of the deposits within the truncated feature consisted of gray clayey silt mottled between 3-14 inches with tan/rust colored sand (stratum I). This material was nearly culturally sterile. The only artifacts recovered were a fragment of a slate pencil and a small piece of glass. This stratum was followed by three inches of tan sand mottled with gray clayey silt and rust sand, with lenses of tan clayey silt (stratum II). Stratum III, which represented the basal portion of the feature deposits consisted of some four inches of light tan very sandy silt with some rust mottling and containing pieces of schist. No artifacts were recovered from strata II or III.

The base of the stone wall of Feature 4 was encountered at the base of stratum III. The underlying tan fine-medium sand was noted both inside the feature in shovel test 2 and in the test hole exterior to the feature. This represents the naturally occurring subsoil at this location and depth.

The base of Feature 4, at nearly 11 feet below the present surface, would have been some 7 1/2 feet beneath the assumed 19th and early 20th century backyard surface (see discussion of lot 15 and associated features). It is possible that Feature 4 represents the remains of a well. Water was noted seeping into the test hole exterior to the feature at a depth slightly below the base of the feature wall. However, it is possible that the water table may have been higher during the latter portion of the 19th century.

D. Rock Features and Associated Stratigraphy

1. Features R1, R1a and R2

Two "rock features" (designated R1 and R2 on Figure 3 - see also Plates 2 and 3) were encountered during the course of the excavation of BHTR 1. The two features were some 20 feet apart and traversed the trench in an east-west direction.

At the elevation at which these two features were first encountered, approximately seven feet below datum, they appeared to be some 3 - 3 1/2 feet in width. However, the uppermost rocks of these features were loose and easily dislodged by the backhoe. These upper portions appeared to consist of a loose "jumble" of rocks, rather than a dry-laid wall. Both features (R1 and R2) appeared to continue westward beneath the base of foundation walls W13 and W14, respectively. Feature R2 also appeared to extend eastward beneath the base of the foundation wall of the building 15 extension (W15ext).

Some additional examination of feature R1 was conducted and the profile of the feature in the west wall of BHTR 1, beneath the base of W13, was examined (see Plate 20). Removal of the uppermost loose rocks in this feature revealed a lower course of large rocks at an elevation of some 8 1/2 feet below datum (ca. 1 1/2 feet below the top of the feature). The feature at this point was narrower (21 inches at the point measured) than the looser rocks at the top of the feature. The basal stones of the feature appeared to have been installed within a shallow trench dug through a stratum of black/brown silty clay which apparently represents the remains of a former ground surface, and an underlying stratum of yellow and gray silty clay which probably represents a natural subsoil deposit. It should be noted that the "surficial stratum" was also noted in the profiles of BHTR 8 (although it appeared to have a slightly lower clay content in the latter location) as well as in the profiles of backhoe trenches 4, 6 and 10 (see below).

The trench dug to install the rocks of Feature R1 appears to have been backfilled with a mixture of the overlying black brown silty clay and dark gray silty clay (see Plate 20). A second trench, filled with lighter gray silty clay mottled with rust/orange silty clay, appears to have been cut through the deposits representing the original surface and the trench dug to install the feature. This second trench appears to have been excavated to remove the upper portion of the rock feature. The black/brown "surficial" layer, as well as the trench deposits, are overlain by approximately two inches of coarse tan/orange sand. This represents fill deposited prior to, or in association with, the construction of wall W13. A similar stratigraphic sequence, although not formally recorded, was observed in association with Feature R2.

It is possible that the upper portion of Features R1 and R2 were removed at the time that buildings 13 and 14 were constructed and

the trench excavated to remove the feature rocks backfilled with loose stones and the mottled gray silty clay.

Feature R1 continued eastward into the eastern profile of BHTR1. Several artifacts were found in association with the upper portion of the feature while exploring the rocks in BHTR 1 and its eastern profile. One of these is a ceramic sherd which includes a portion of a maker's mark which appears to be similar to one attributed to Frederick Christian Greiner and Sons and dated to the period 1894 - 1936 (Kovel 1986: 132 - mark I). If the attribution of this mark is correct it may suggest that at least some of the artifacts recovered during the clearing of features R1 and R2 (see Appendix A, catalog #24 and #25) were associated with further disturbances to these features subsequent to the initial removal of their upper portions. Such later disturbances could have been associated with the construction of walls W15ext and W12.

To further explore R1 we subsequently enlarged the western portion of BHTR 2 several feet to the north. This exposed R1 for a distance of some 18 feet east of wall W13, and the feature appeared to continue east of this point (see Plates 21 and 22). At approximately 13 feet north of W13 a large rock "slab" (Feature R1a) adjoined the eastern side of Feature R1, extending beneath the stone foundation wall (W12) of building 12 (see Plate 22).

2. Feature R3

A third "rock feature", designated R3, was encountered at the base of BHTR 6 in lot 17. Loose stones, similar to those in the upper portions of R1 and R2 were removed by the backhoe, exposing the lowest course of the feature, which consisted of large stones (see Plate 23) such as those noted at the base of R1. The basal portion of Feature R3, however, was at a higher elevation, approximately six feet below datum, than that of R1, which was some 8 1/2 feet below datum. The basal portion of R3 also appeared to be wider (some three feet in width) than the corresponding portion of R1.

Profiles of BHTR 6 in the vicinity of R3 are shown in Plates 24 and 25. As with Feature R1, discussed above, Feature R3 appears to have been constructed within a trench excavated through a stratum of dark brown silt, possibly representing a former ground surface. The stratum would appear to correspond to the surficial stratum noted in the discussion of R1, although it is at a higher elevation at the location of BHTR 6. The disturbance visible above the feature apparently represents a second trench, similar to that associated with Feature R1, which was excavated through the adjacent fill to remove the upper portion of Feature R3.

It should be noted that in the east profile of BHTR 4, aligned with R3 (see Plate 26), we noted the outline of a trench excavated through fill deposits (see Plate 26). The location of

this trench was approximately aligned with feature R3 as exposed in BHTR 6. This trench was filled with rocks, analogous to the loose rocks overlying the base of R1, R2 and R3. However, the base of the trench did not contain large rocks such as those found at the base of the rock features. The base of the trench noted in the east wall of BHTR 4 was some eight feet below datum, however, lower than the elevation of the remaining portion of R3. Thus if the trench was, in fact, excavated to remove a westward extension of R3, it would have resulted in the disturbance of the entire feature, including its lowest portion, at the location of BHTR 4.

3. Discussion of Stratigraphy and Rock Features

The interpretation of the stratigraphic sequence on the portion of the Nehemiah project site which was subjected to archaeological testing should be considered tentative. This is due to the limited amount of examination possible given the depth at which the deposits were encountered and the primary test objective of locating artifact-bearing features, as well as time constraints.

It would appear that prior to the construction of the buildings on lots 13-15 in 1877, the ground surface was represented by the dark brown/black clayey silt layers noted at a depth of approximately seven feet below the site datum in backhoe trench 1 and the western portion of backhoe trench 2, at 6 - 6 1/2 feet in backhoe trenches 4 and 8 and at some five feet in backhoe trenches 6 and 10. These elevations indicate that the land within the project site generally sloped upward to the east and south.

Shallow trenches were dug through this "surficial" layer into the underlying subsoil, and the base of rock features R1 - R3 were installed. These features were probably at least partially demolished by the construction of the 1877 buildings. However, portions of the rock features may have remained intact after construction of the building walls. In lots 15-17, some 1 - 3 1/2 feet of fill was then deposited over the remains of the original ground surface and around the remains of the rock features. A trench subsequently was dug through this fill to remove the remaining upper portions of the rock features, most likely prior to the occupation of the 1877 buildings.

The surface of the backyards of the ca. 1877 buildings developed at the top of the underlying fill deposits. The deposits overlying the backyard surface, constituting the uppermost ca. 3 1/2 feet of the stratigraphic sequence, represent demolition debris deposited when the buildings were razed and the school playground constructed in the middle portion of the 20th century.

Some of the rocks removed from features R1 - R3 were apparently backfilled into the trenches dug to remove the features, accounting for the loose rocks encountered during the backhoe

trenching and clearing. Thus the upper portions of R1 - R3 as encountered in the field probably actually represents material within the intrusive trenches excavated to remove the original features.

One possibility which has been considered was that the the rock features represent low "walls" built to mark the boundaries between the Grove Hill subdivision lots. However the patterning of the walls would not appear to support this as they do not appear to follow these lot boundaries. However, it is possible that they mark the boundaries between earlier divisions of agricultural fields.

It is also possible that the "rock features" represent hitherto undocumented structures. In this regard it is interesting to note that the 1879 Bromley map appears to show a different configuration of structures on lots 13-17 than that shown on the ca. 1880's and later maps (see Appendix B). These later maps are consistent with the data contained in the deeds and tax records which reflect the 1876 acquisition of the property by Peter Decker, the 1877 construction of buildings by Decker and the subsequent subdivision of the property. At the time the documentary research was conducted it was assumed that the 1879 Bromley map was in error. This conclusion appeared to be supported by the fact that one of the Grove Hill subdivision lots appears to have been omitted from the latter map. However, it is possible that the 1879 map reflects the presence of a configuration of structures present on the site prior to Peter Decker's 1876 acquisition of the property, rather than those actually present when the map was drawn.

Although the configuration of the rock features and their locations with respect to the lot boundaries do not exactly correspond with the location of the structures shown on the Bromley map, the lower portions of rock features R1 - R3 may represent the bases of the supporting walls for these structures. The shallow depth of the bases of R1-R3 beneath the original surface would suggest that such structures may have been open or semi-open "sheds" with wooden sides supported on bases formed by R1 - R3. The fact that the Bromley map appears to be inaccurate in other respects would be consistent with the differences between the location of the structures shown on this map and the observed configuration of Features R1 - R3.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

At the conclusion of the archaeological field testing of the Nehemiah project site, an interim report was prepared and submitted to the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. A copy of the interim report is included here as Appendix C.

The interim report, based on field observations, concluded that

The deposits encountered within Features 1 and 2, located in lot 15 would appear to represent significant deposits according to ...[the National Register of Historical Places eligibility criteria]....The preliminary testing indicates that they contain material which would permit research questions to be addressed which pertain to local daily life in the turn-of-the-century period, as well as contributing to a research base which permits comparisons among deposits recovered from various sites in the New York City area.

The interim report discussed several research areas which could be addressed by an analysis of material contained within Features 1 and 2 (see Appendix C).

The interim report recommended that

the adverse impacts of construction on the significant archaeological deposits contained within Features 1 and 2 be mitigated through the conduct of data recovery excavations, analysis of excavated material, and preparation of a data recovery report.

The more complete analysis included in the present report supports the conclusions and recommendations presented in the interim report. We therefore recommend that data recovery excavations be conducted according to the scope-of-work included in the interim report (see Appendix C).

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FIGURES

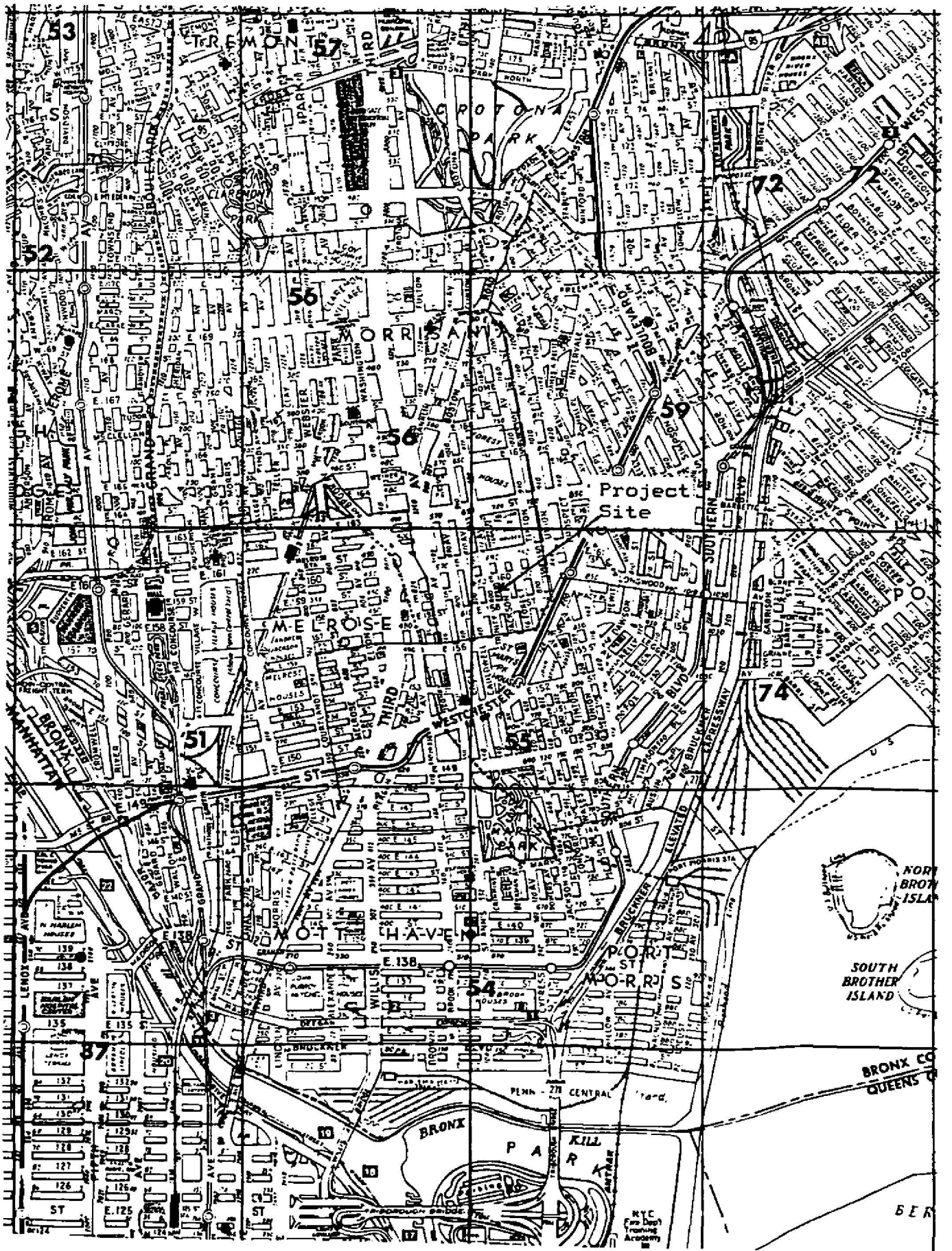


Figure 1a
 Location of Project Site
 Base Map: Hagstrom 1989
 Scale: 1" = ca. 2200'

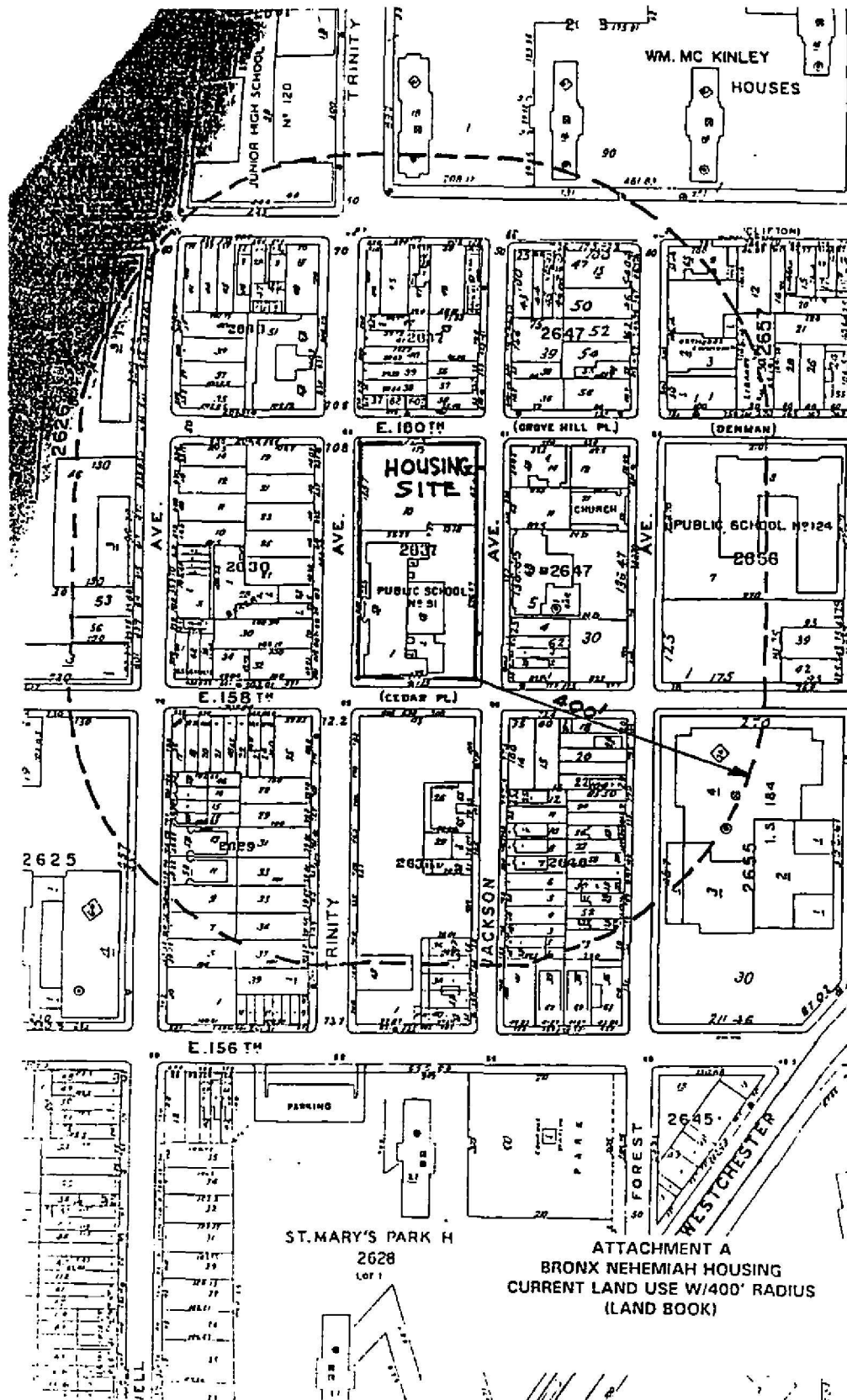


Figure 1b
 Project Site - Block 2637, Lots 1 and 10

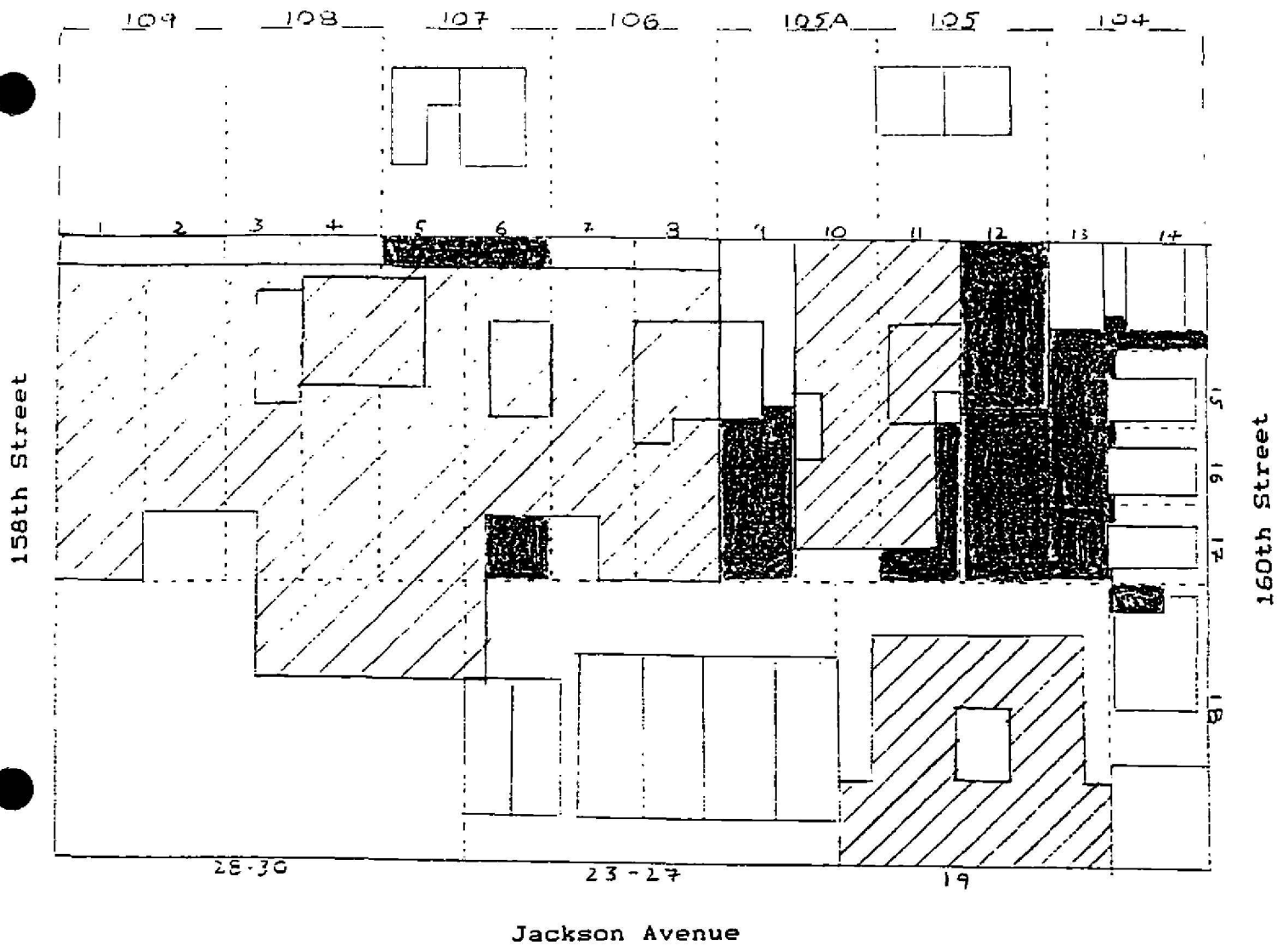






Figure 2

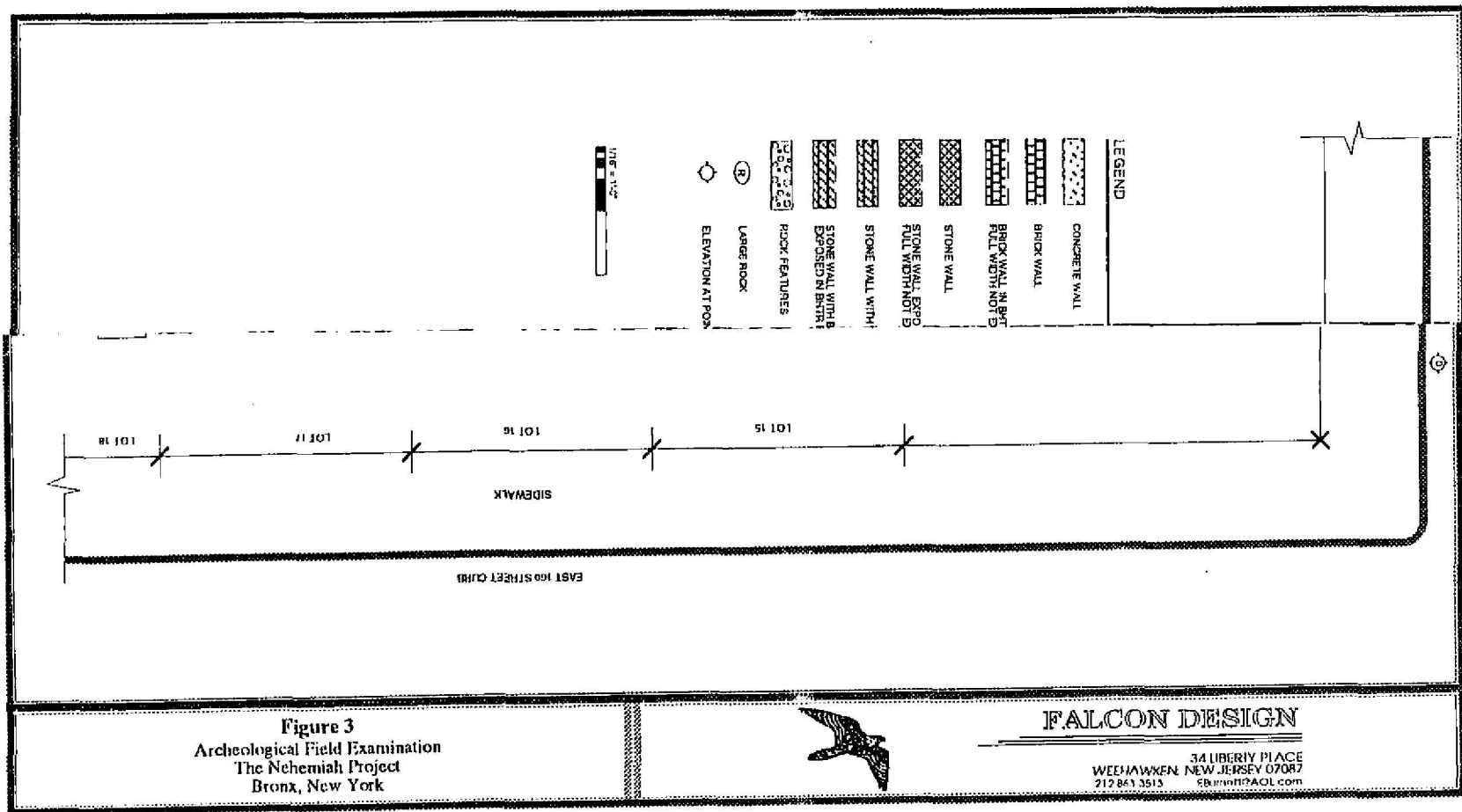
Block 2637, Lots 1 and 10 - Archaeological Sensitivity

-  19th Century Domestic Structures
-  Multi-story 20th Century Structures with Basements
-  Open Backyard Areas of Structures Built 1882 or Earlier - Sensitive for Presence of Archaeological Features - Testing Recommended
-  Lot Boundaries

104-109 Grove Hill Lot Numbers

1-30 Late 19th Century Lot Numbers

Note: Area Shown with Dashed Lines Is West of Project Site



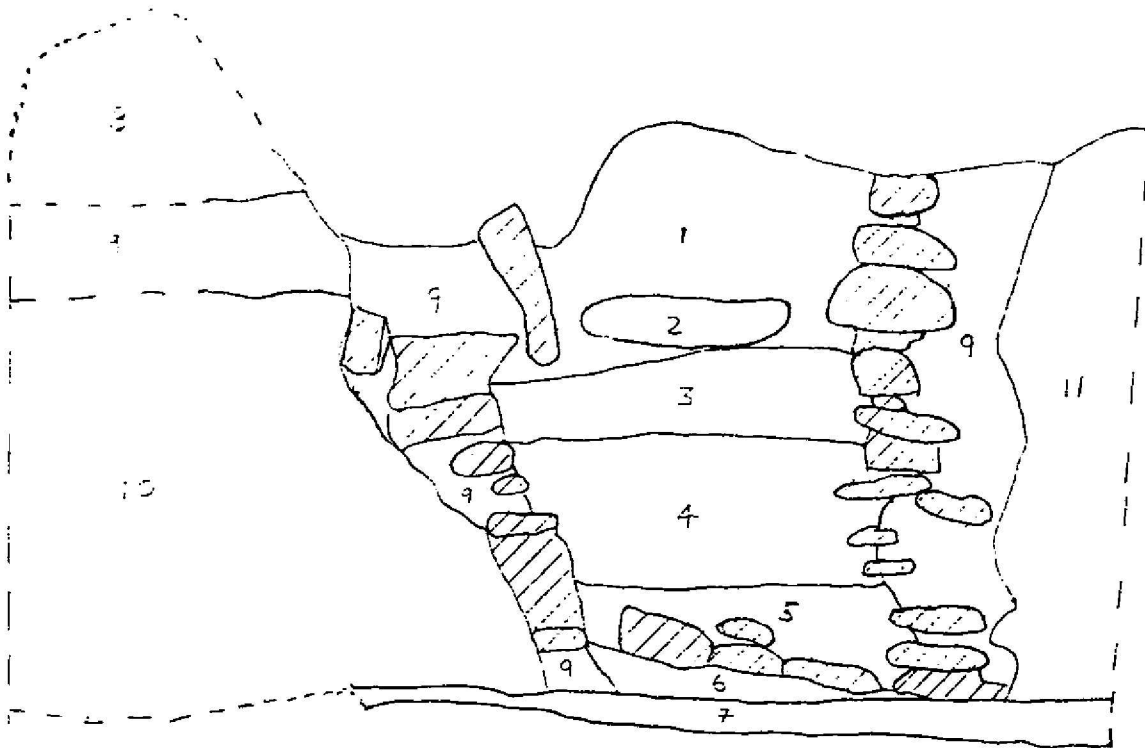


Figure 4
 North Profile Backhoe Trench 2 - Feature 2
 Scale: 1" = 1'

Key:

1. Dark Brown Silty Sand with Pebbles and Gravel
2. Light Tan/Brown Sandy Silt with Cinder and Gravel
3. Black/Brown Sandy Silt with Cinder and Gravel
4. Cinder, Coal and Ash Mixed with Small Amount of Dark Gray/Brown Sandy Silt
5. Ash, Cinder and Slag Mixed with Medium Brown Sandy Silt
6. Gray/Brown Sandy Silt with Reddish Brown Sandy Silt Mottled with Reddish Brown Sandy Silt
7. Gray/Brown Sandy Silt with Reddish Brown Silty Sand Mottled with Reddish Brown Sandy Silt
8. Miscellaneous Fill Deposits (Brown Sandy Silt with Ash and Cinder, Yellow/Brown Sand, etc.)
9. Dark Brown Sandy Silt
10. Light Brown Sandy Silt
11. Dark Brown Sandy Silt with Red/Brown and Gray/Brown Sandy Silt Mottling



Rock

PLATES



Plate 1
Backhoe Trench 1
View Southwest Showing Walls W13,
W13ext, and W14 (in Foreground)



Plate 2
Backhoe Trench 1
View South Showing Walls W13, W13ext, and W14 (at right),
W13ext (left foreground),
and top of R2 at Base of Trench (center foreground).



Plate 3
Feature R1
View from Surface Showing Top of R1 at Base of 38TR1
East Wall of Backhoe Trench at Top of Photograph



Plate 4
Backhoe Trench 2
View Southwest Showing Wall W.C. at Left
Feature C (covered with plastic sheeting) in Right Foreground



Plate 5
Backhoe Trench 7
View Southwest Showing West Foundation Wall of
Building 12 and Overlying Concrete Supports and Slab

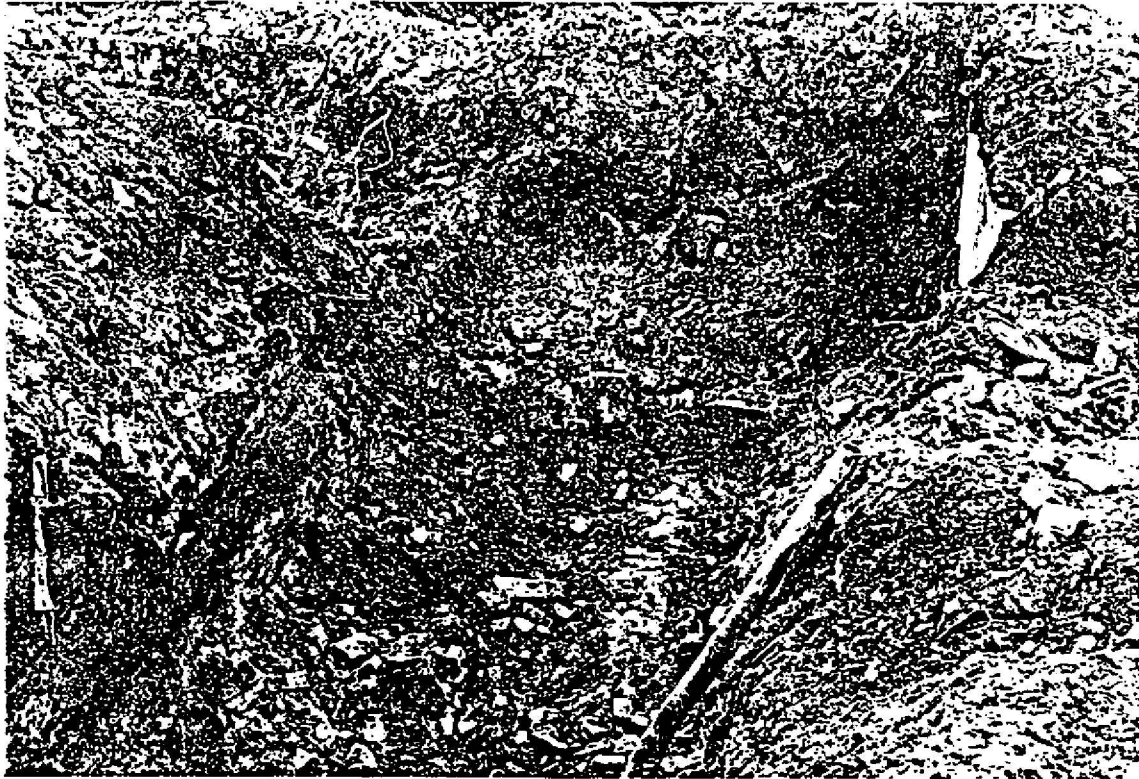


Plate 6
Backhoe Trench 6
View North Showing Eastern Wall of Apartment Building Foundation
on Lot 11 (Left Foreground) and Low Stone Wall at
Northern End of Alley (Center of Photograph)



Plate 7
Backhoe Trench B
View Northeast Showing North Profile at Western End of BHTR B
and Boulder at Base of Trench at Upper Right

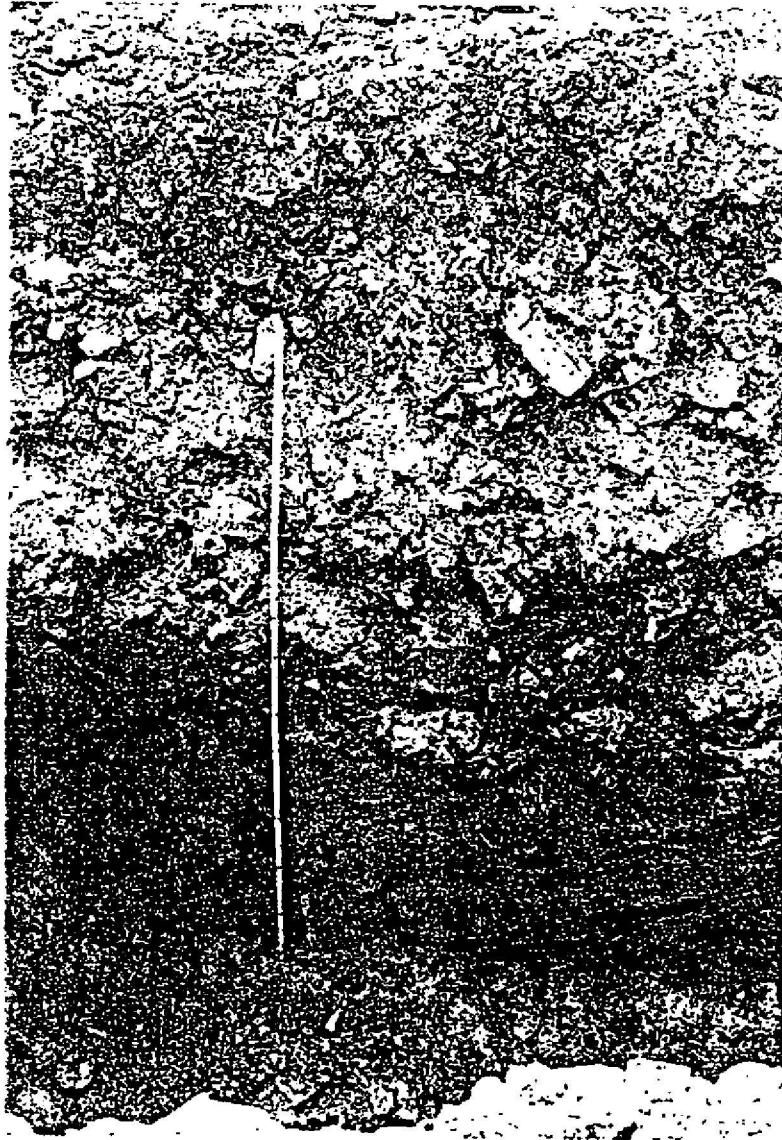


Plate B
Backhoe Trench B
Detail of North Profile at Western End of Backhoe Trench

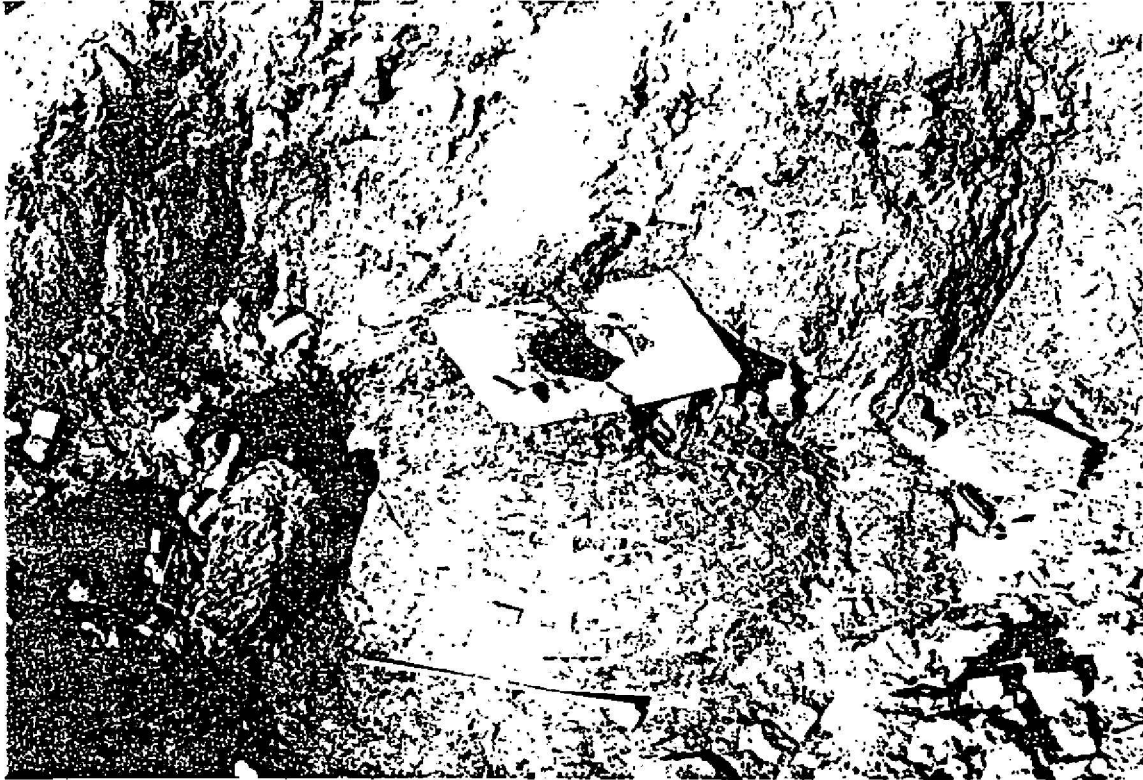


Plate 9
Feature 1

View South Looking Downward From Overburden Above Building 15 Site

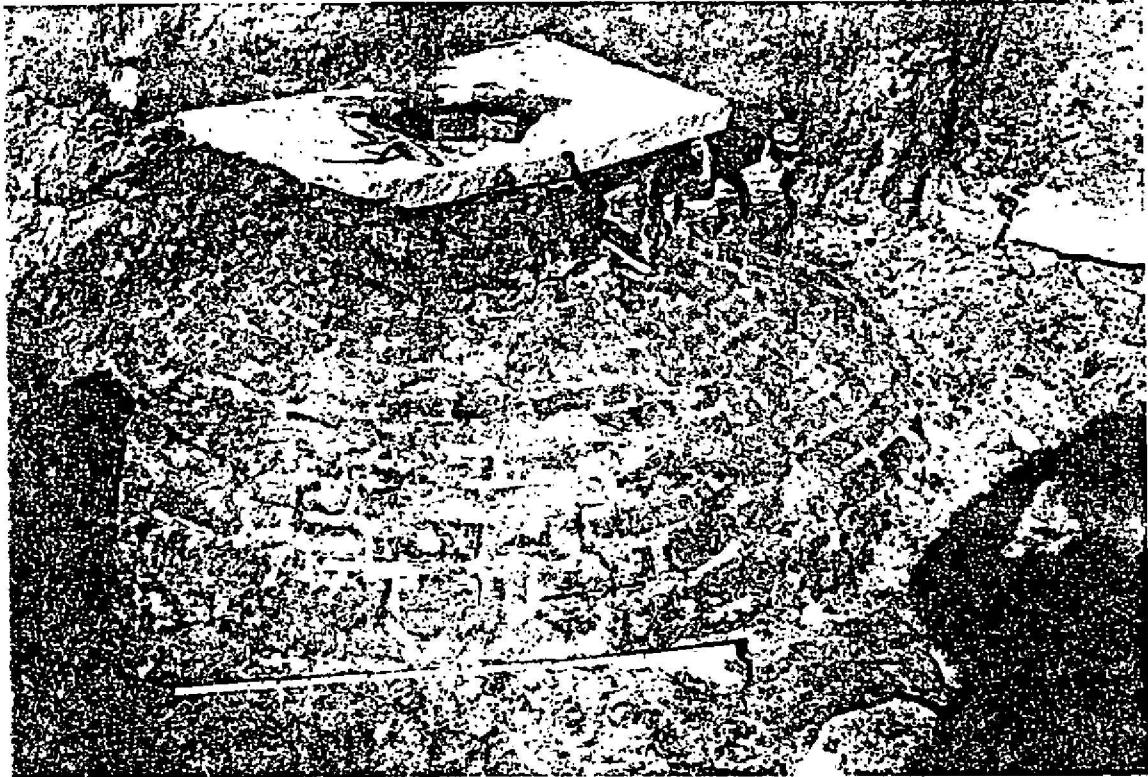


Plate 10
Feature 1
View Southeast

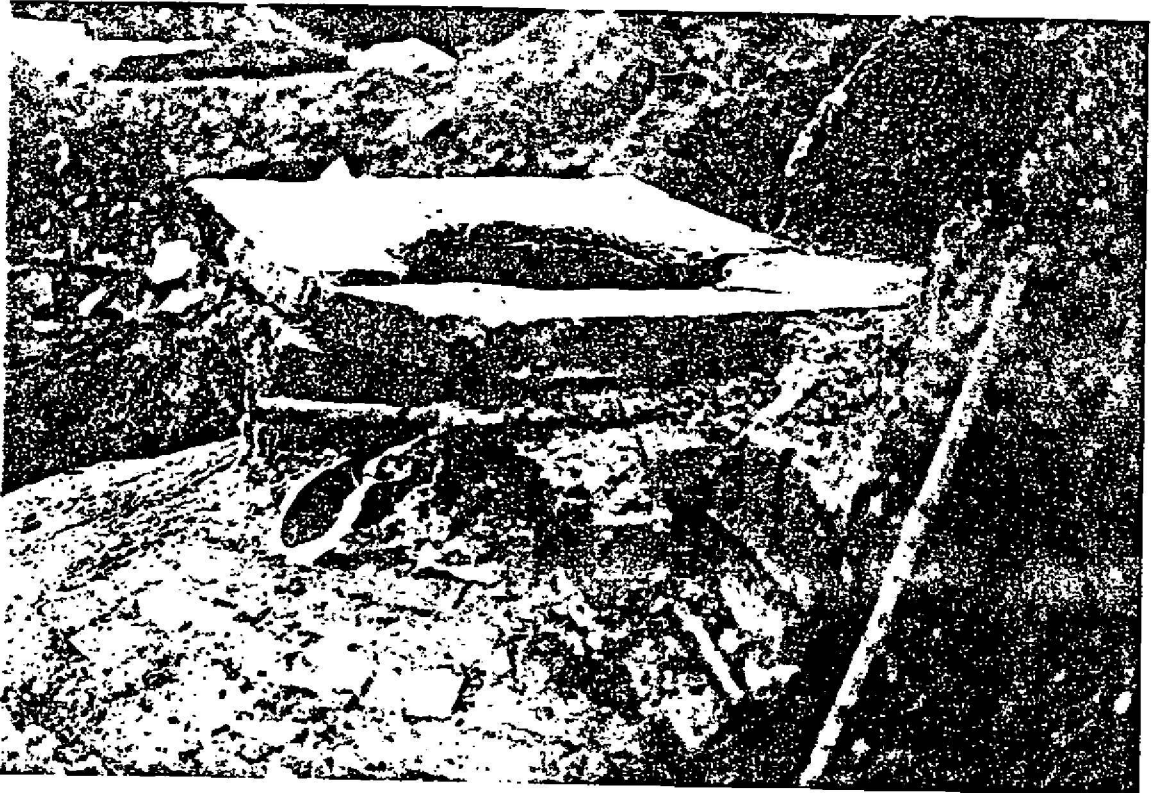


Plate 11

Feature 1

View Southeast: Showing Detail of Brick Support for Metal Pipe
(Foreground) and Remains of Ceramic Overflow Pipe (Left Center)



Plate 10
Feature 2
View Southwest Showing Surface of Feature
After Removal of Overlying Fill



Plate 10
Feature 2
Feature Exposed in North Profile of Backhoe Trench 2
Prior to Excavation of Unit A

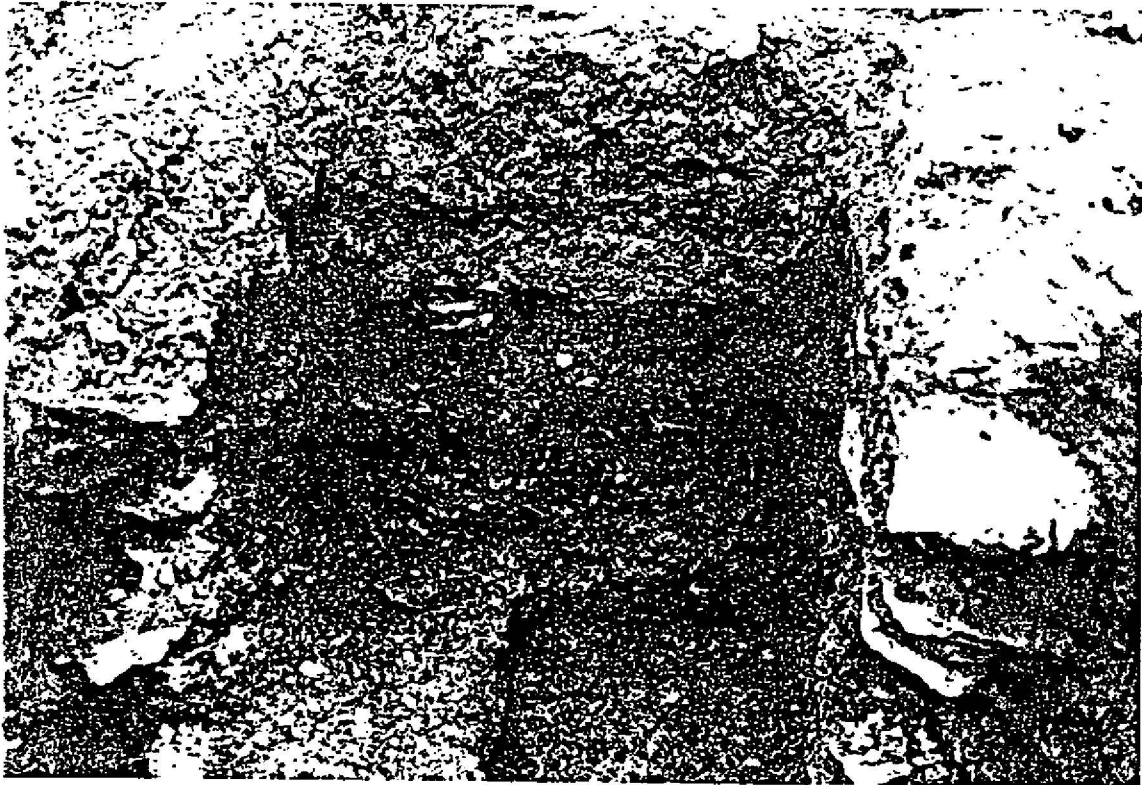


Plate 14
Feature 2
North Profile of Unit A after Excavation



Plate 15
Feature 3
View West
Surface of Feature After Exposure



Plate 15
Feature 3
View West

Feature 3 After Excavation of Material in Feature

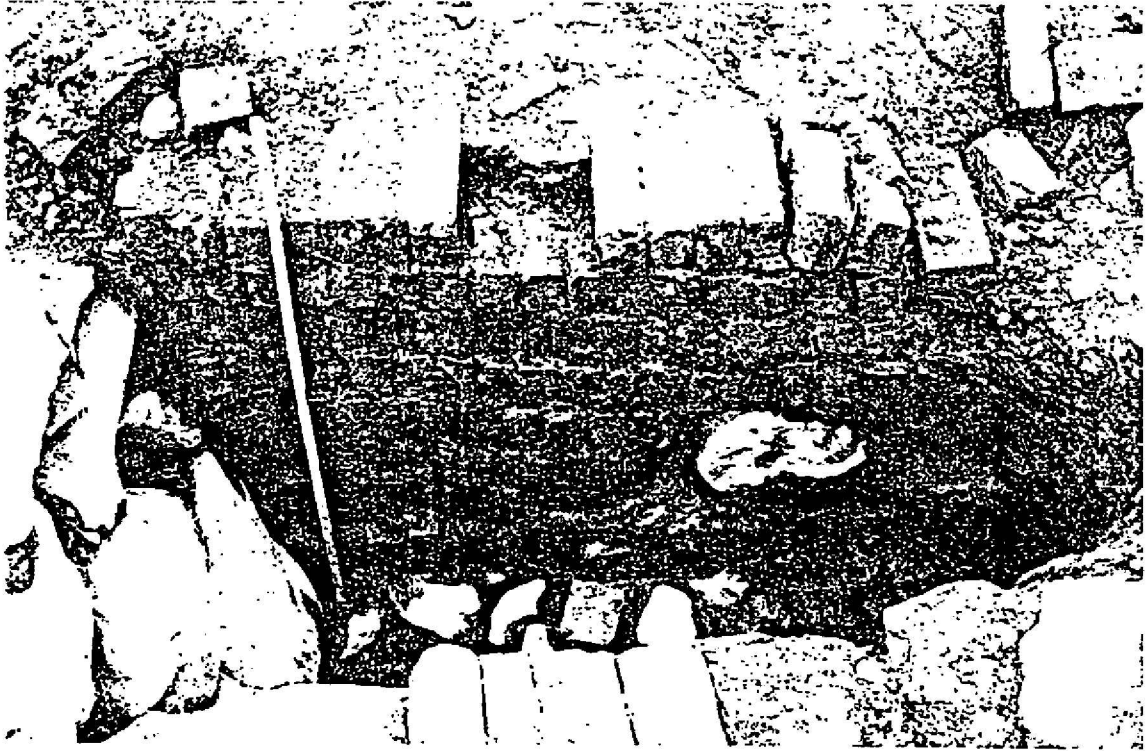


Plate 17
Feature 3
View North
North Wall of Feature After Excavation

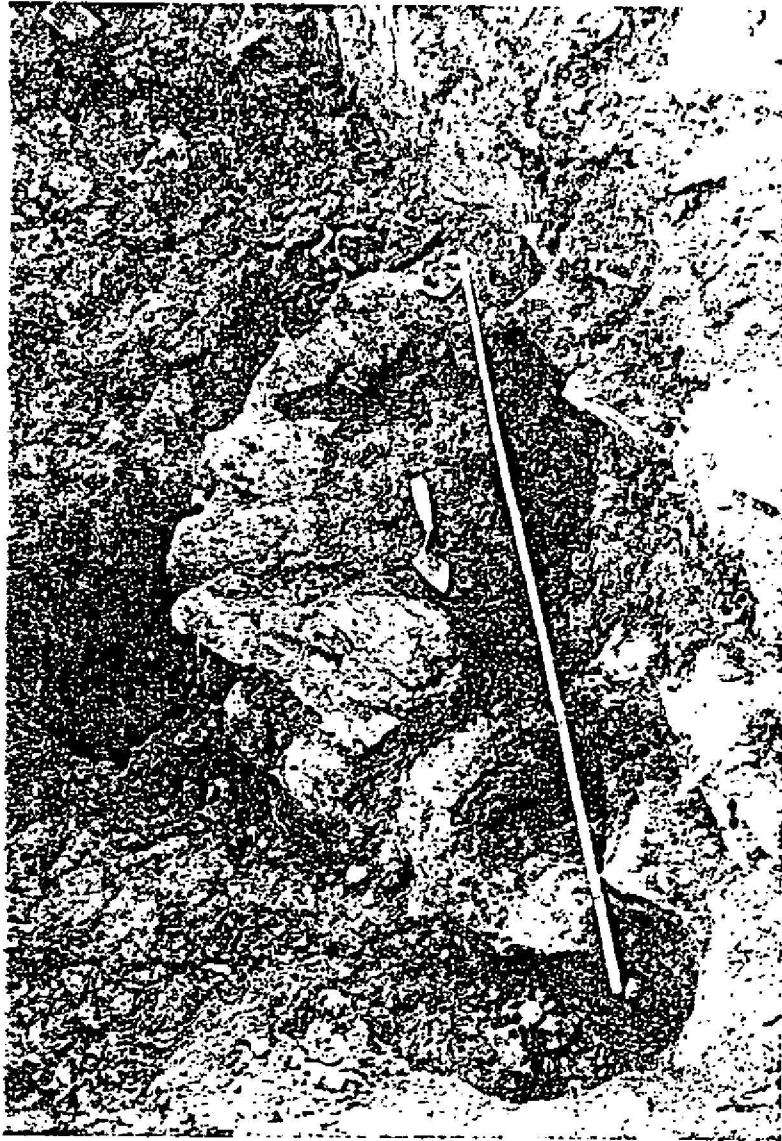


Plate 13
Feature 1
View South



Plate 19
Feature 4
View Southwest
Detail Showing Base of Feature Wall Exposed in External Test Hole



Plate 20
Profile of West Wall of BHTR 1 Showing
Rock Feature R1 and Associated Stratigraphy



Plate 21
Rock Feature R1
View West from East End of Exposed Portion of Feature
Feature R1a at Bottom Left

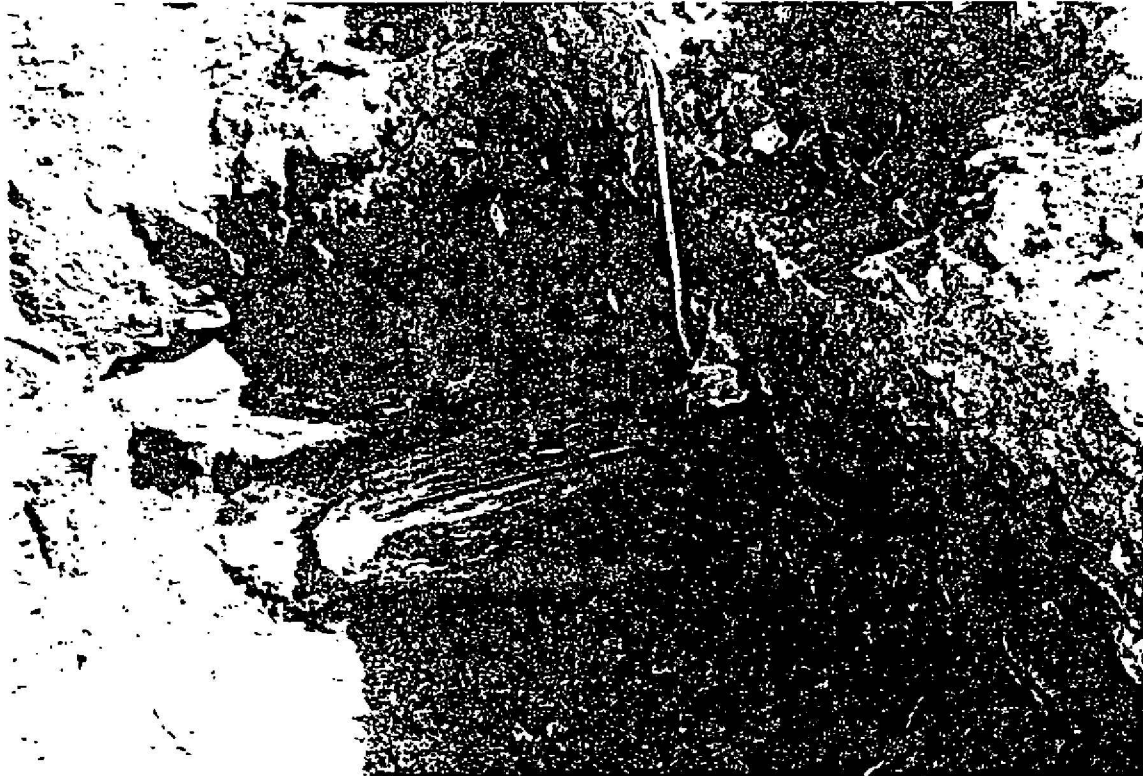


Plate 22
Rock Feature R1a
View Southeast Showing R1a Running Underneath Wall W12
Feature R1 Continues Eastward into Wall of Backhoe Trench
at Left Center of Photograph



Plate 23
Rock Feature RB Exposed at Base of North End of Backhoe Trench 5
View North

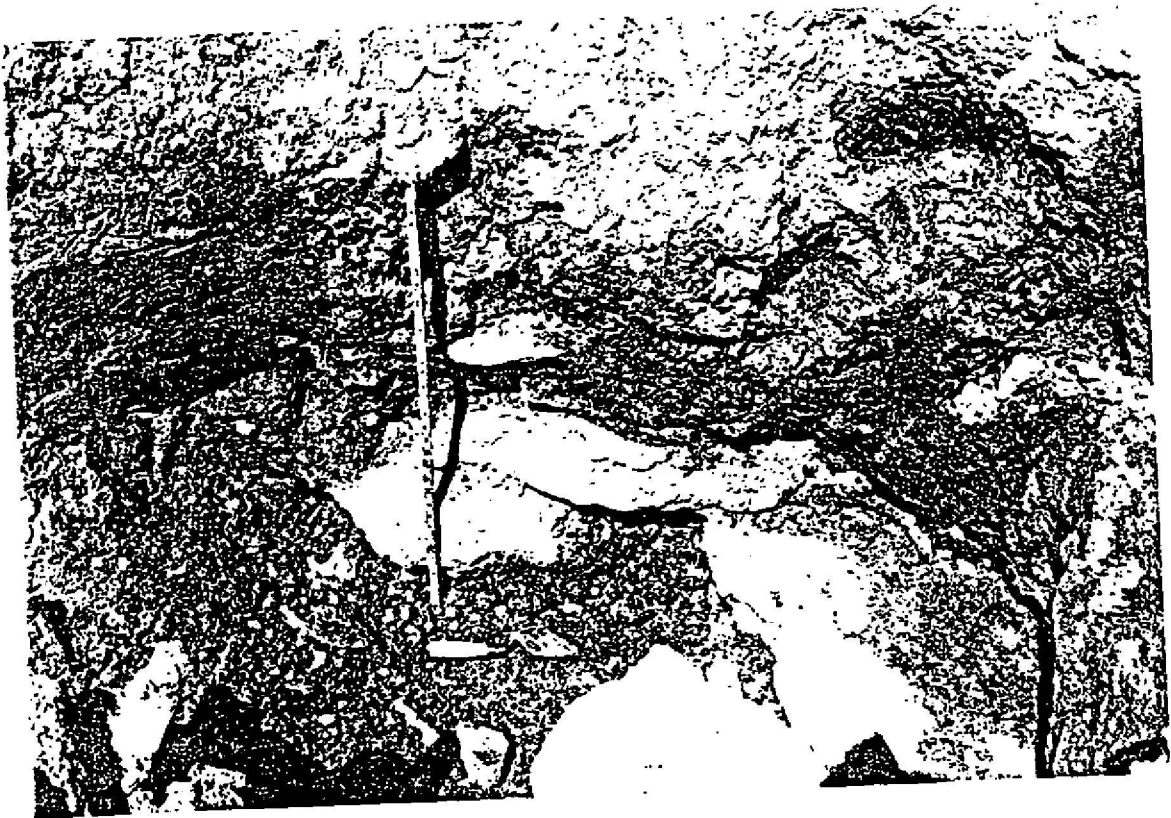


Plate 24
East Profile of Backhoe Trench 5
Showing Rock Feature RB and Associated Stratigraphy



Plate 25
West Profile of Backhoe Trench 6
Showing Rock Feature R3 and Associated Stratigraphy



Plate 26
East Profile of Backhoe Trench 4
Showing Rock-Filled Trench

APPENDIX A

TEST STRATIGRAPHY AND ARTIFACT INVENTORY

FEATURE 1

Catalog Number: 1

Feature: 1

Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Rubble Overlying Feature Deposit

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	includes side, rim and part of base of bowl, trace of molded design
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
1 sherd	porcelain	wavy rim, white with molded decoration interior
1 sherd	porcelain	trace blue underglaze painted decoration
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed
1 pc	bottle base	aqua, part of side and base, mold seam up sides and around circumference above base
1 pc	bottle base	clear, portion of base and side, mold seam around circumference above base, trace embossed lettering
1 pc	bottle neck	clear, mold seam visible, probably from large soda/beer type bottle
1 pc	bottle neck	neck and lip from medicine bottle, mold seam ends 1/2" below lip, lip separately applied
2 pcs	bottle glass	1 clear with mold seam, 1 aqua
1 pc	burned glass	clear, partially melted
1 pc	metal (iron) rod	1/4 diameter, pc. 5" long (possibly fragment of large nail)
1	nail fragment	wire
2 pcs	mortar	4.0 gms
1 pc	hard shell clam	(with adhering pc corroded metal), total wt. 14.0 gms
1 pc	bird bone	3.7 gms
3 pcs	mammal bone	19.1 gms

Catalog Number: 2

Feature: 1

Stratum: I

Unit: Shovel Test 3

Opening Depths (in.): 2.0/6.0

Closing Depths (in.): 7.0/8.0

Stratum Description: Crumbly Mortar Mixed with Brown Sandy Silt, with Stones, Brick Rubble and Pebbles

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1	whole bottle	clear glass, height 7 3/16", base diameter 2 3/8", rim diameter 1", metal ring around base of lip for attachment of porcelain stopper, mold seam to base of ring, not on 3/4" high lip. Embossed on side of bottle "BRUCKNER BROS./664 TO 670/E. 161st St. N.Y./REGISTERED". Intertwined "BB" (trade mark) on neck of bottle.
1 pc	bottle glass	clear, possibly from neck of large, flat topped container, possibly with pouring spout (broken off)
1 pc	bottle glass	from side of milk bottle, embossed figure of cow and portion of trade mark "...EECK/LEONIA, N.J."
1 pc	bottle glass	embossed vertical lines and trade mark in circular medallion "CURTICE BRO(S?)/ROCHEST..."
3 sm pcs	bottle glass	1 aqua, 1 amber, 1 clear
1 pc	bottle glass	from neck and lip of narrow neck bottle
1 sherd	porcelain	undecorated, from rim of cup, handle broken off
2 sherds	porcelain	1 with trace overglaze painted polychrome floral decoration, 1 with trace exterior molded grooves
2 sherds	salt glazed stoneware	gray body, clear salt glaze exterior, dark brown slip interior
1 sherd	ironstone	brown glaze interior and exterior, trace of additional mottled brown and white glazed applique piece added exterior
2 pcs	flat glass	1 clear, 1 green tinted
2 pcs	mammal bone	cut, 40.2 gms
1 pc	corroded metal	with pc. adhering fabric and cinder, total wt. 40.1 gm
7 pcs	mortar	79.5 gms (sample), probably from interior facing of cistern, additional pieces discarded in field
5 pcs	red brick	124.1 gms (sample), additional small pieces discarded in field
10	nails/fragments	6 wire, 1 cut, 3 unidentified
9 pcs	coal/cinder/slag	101.6 gms
2 pcs	mammal bone	9.0 gms
2 pcs	bird bone	0.3 gms
1 pc	wire	copper alloy, 1/32" diameter, approximately 2 1/2" length
1 pc	stone	apparently cut stone (schist?), 354.7 gms
2 pcs	stone	schist, unmodified, with adhering pcs corroded metal

1 pc corroded metal with adhering pc wood (3.8 gms),
 additional pcs corroded metal discarded
 in field
 12 pcs wood 25.5 gms, 1 with traces adhering paint,
 (sample) additional pieces wood
 discarded in field.

Catalog Number: 3

Feature: 1

Stratum: IIa

Unit: Shovel Test 3

Opening Depths (in.): 7.0/8.0

Closing Depths (in.): 18.0/21.0

Stratum Description: Lenses of Gray/Brown Sandy Silt Mixed with Wood
 and Corroded Metal (Pocket of Cinder in Northwest
 Portion of Test at 16 1/2")

Quantity	Artifact	Description
5 sherds	porcelain	3 with molded decoration, 2 of these with gold line painted overglaze around rim, 2 undecorated
4 sherds	porcelain	2 with molded decoration (1 of these from small cup, possibly from child's toy (doll's tea set)
1 sherd	porcelain	bisque (possibly burned)
6 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	1 with trace green painted decoration; 5 undecorated, 1 of these from plate with wavy rim
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	base from jar or "urn", ring base, black line painted u.g. around circumference of indentation above base; base diameter 2 3/4", wear marks on base, no maker's mark
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	mustard colored glaze exterior
3 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated (1 burned)
1 sherd	salt glazed stoneware	gray body, brown slip interior
4 sherds	red earthenware	unglazed and undecorated (from flowerpot)
5 sherds	red earthenware	unglazed, 2 sherds mend, exterior has molded decoration and traces of green and white paint (probably from decorative flowerpot), 1 sherd from base, estimated diameter ca. 4 1/2 - 5 inches
1	bottle	clear glass, 1 9/16" square, height 4 5/8", rim diameter 1 3/16"; mold seam ends 3/16" below lip, cork in bottle neck, metal rod through cork, broken off pc of rod with attached fabric?

1	bottle neck	"applicator" remains in bottle, black residue within bottle, apparently bottle for shoe polish or dye clear, narrow neck, 1/2" diameter, rectangular portion of neck begins 1/2" below lip, mold seam on this portion but not on round portion of neck, separately applied lip, molded horizontal grooves around neck below rectangular portion, possibly from a sauce or condiment bottle
7	pcs bottle glass	amber, includes base from soda/beer bottle, 2 5/8" diameter, 3 pcs with traces embossed lettering
1 lg pc	bottle glass	dark green from side of bottle
2 pcs	bottle glass	aqua, 1 from portion of base and side of beer/soda bottle, portion of embossed trade mark and address "....4 W. 16(6?)/...N.Y.", 1 pc w. trace embossed lettering "...MAN..."
1 pc	bottle glass	clear, trace of embossed lettering
20 sm pcs	curved glass	8 aqua, 2 dark green, 10 clear,
1 pc	lamp glass	clear
1 pc	table glass	clear, base and part of sides of drinking glass (tumbler), base diameter 2 5/16"
1 pc	table glass	green tinted, rim of large tumbler, est. diameter 3"
10 pcs	flat glass	2 clear, 8 green tinted
3	buttons	white glass, four holes; diameters 7/16", 1/2", 9/16"
1 pc	bone disk	fragment of disk with central hole, probably decorative disk to be sewn on clothing, estimated diameter 1 1/4"
5 pcs	shoe leather	from woman's shoe, length 8 1/4", 1" high heel; total weight 191.5 gms portion of uppers with grommets and also four metal "hooks" to hold laces at top
3 pcs	shoe leather	32.6 gms; includes 1 pc from heel and 1 from tongue
1 pc	leather	4.6 gms, 6 1/2" long, width 1 7/16", with three holes, probably from leather belt
10 sm pcs	leather	11.1 gms
13 pcs	fabric	40.6 gms
9 sm pcs	leather/fabric	1.6 gms (dried)
2	wooden knobs	diameter 7/8", probably furniture part 1 with decorative grooves around circumference
1	wooden knob	oval, 1 1/4 x 3/4", vertical wooden peg or metal shaft, probably furniture part
1	wood/metal "knob"	pc. wood around metal shaft, possibly furniture part, diameter ca. 1/2"
1 pc	wood	possible furniture part, rectangular, rectanguloid,

1 pc	wood	ca. 1 1/8" wide, hole in end with small nail (hole for attachment of small "knob"?) trace copper staining on end
2 pcs	lead strips	"bowling pin" shaped, possibly decorative post from furniture, width of top 9/16", body ca. 1/2" x 3/8" possibly window casing, 1 pc ca. 1/16" wide, total wt. 2.3 gms.
1 pc	cut stone	possibly marble, 7/8" thick x 3 1/2" x 3" (broken), 423.2 gms
6 pcs	red brick	275.7 gm
3 pcs	mortar	54.5 gms, probably from inner facing of cistern
7 sm pcs	mortar/plaster	31.6 gms (1 pc with brick impression)
102 pcs	coal/cinder/slag	308.2 gms (sample) additional small pieces and all pcs. from cinder pocket discarded in field
Pcs	corroded metal	601.0 gms, includes other material imbedded in corrosion products (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
4 pcs	copper alloy	1 with traces stamped decoration, 1 round with hole in center
3 pcs	wire	copper or copper alloy, 1/32" diameter, bent, largest pc estimated 20" long diameter
16	nails/fragments	7 cut, 8 wire, 1 unidentified
2 pcs	corroded metal tube	ca 1/4" diameter
85 pcs	wood	247.8 gms (lgst pc 3/4" x 3/4" x 7"; 1 pc with trace blue dye adhering, 2 pcs with traces white paint) (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
3 pcs	charred wood	4.3 gms
1 pc	wood	cut with 2 embedded nails (18.0 gms)
1 whole	hard shell clam	both valves present, 104.7 gms
3 sm pcs	hard shell clam	6.6 gms
4 pcs	oyster shell	inc. 1 whole valve, total wt. 89.9 gms
18 pcs	mammal bone	159.9 gms, 6 pcs with cut marks, 1 pc calcined (inc. rib, vertebra, and long bone fragments, 3 from large mammal)
5 pcs	bird bone	3.6 gms (2 possibly rodent bone)
3 pcs	mica	probably of natural origin
1 mass	blue dye	mass of bright blue substance (probably dye) and adhering soil (total wt. 51.0 gms)

 Catalog Number: 4
 Feature: 1
 Stratum: IIb

Unit: Shovel Test 3
 Opening Depths (in.): 18.0/21.0
 Closing Depths (in.): 20.0/21.0

Stratum Description: Same as IIa

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 pc	table glass	from large tumbler, green tinted, bubbles in glass
2 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated, from side and base of saucer (sherds mend)
3	buttons	white, glass, four holes, 3/8" diameter
1 pc	bird bone	from large bird (possibly turkey) 21.0 gms
1 pc	mortar	20.6 gms, probably from cistern facing or floor
4	nail fragments	1 cut, 1 wire, 2 unidentified type
25 sm pcs	coal/cinder/slag	35.3 gms.
15 pcs	wood	1 lg and 14 smaller pcs (total wt. 18.4 gms)
1 pc	ferrous metal container	from corroded base of can? estimated diameter ca. 4", adhering to metal by corrosion products is glass button, white, four holes, 1/2" diameter (total wt. 193.0 gms)
2 pcs	corroded metal	adhering to metal is blue substance (dye?), total wt 193.8 gms.
2 pcs	mortar	flat, possibly from facing or floor of cistern, with adhering blue dye similar to above (total wt. 50.7 gms)
Pcs	corroded metal	total wt. 222.9 gms

Catalog Number: 5

Feature: 1

Stratum: III

Unit: Shovel Test 3

Opening Depths (in.): 20.0/21.0

Closing Depths (in.): 21.0/22.0

Stratum Description: Gray Clayey Silt (Only Adjacent to Feature Wall)

Quantity	Artifact	Description
2 pcs	fabric	20.9 gms (includes adhering soil)

FEATURE 3

Catalog Number: 6
Feature: 3
Stratum: I

Unit: Shovel Test 1
Opening Depths (in.): 0.0/0.0
Closing Depths (in.): 8.0/12.0

Stratum Description: Medium Brown Sandy Silt Mixed with Gray/Brown
Sandy Silt and Cinder

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1	electrical outlet	plastic, metal and copper, 2 sockets
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed (from flowerpot rim)
2 pcs	flat glass	clear
1 pc	leather	1.5 gms, with attached copper alloy (brass?) hook for lace fastening
1	hook	copper alloy, for lace fastening, similar to above
2 sm pcs	leather	0.2 gms
5 pcs	red brick	11.5 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
3	nail fragments	corroded, unidentified type
2 pcs	corroded metal	17.2 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
2 pcs	unidentified material	1.3 gms (possibly burnt marine shell)
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	206.0 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)

Catalog Number: 7
Feature: 3
Stratum: II

Unit: Shovel Test 1
Opening Depths (in.): 8.0/12.0
Closing Depths (in.): 21.0/22.0

Stratum Description: Medium Brown Sandy Silt Mixed with Gray/Brown
Sandy Silt, Brown Sandy Silt and Cinder

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1	drawer pull	porcelain, large drawer pull or possibly a small door knob, diameter 1 3/4"
1	lead bar	curved into roughly an "S" shape,

		approximately 5" long if straight. Possibly a handle, but "dents" on bar suggest it was used to strike another object.
1	comb tooth	hard rubber, ca. 15/16" long
1 sm pc	white porcelain	small chip
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed
5 sm pcs	brick	44.2 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
1 sm pc	mortar	4.7 gms
2	nail fragments	unidentified type
1 pc	iron rod	4 3/4" long, possibly fragment of lg nail
1 pc	schist	possibly pc of cut building stone, 7/8" thick, 260 gms.
5 pcs	corroded iron	1 lg and 4 sm pcs, total wt. 158.2 gms. (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
1 pc	unidentified material	probably burnt clam shell, wt. 0.7 gms
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	256.7 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
11 sm pcs	mammal bone	18.3 gms, 1 pc from rib with cut marks, 2 pcs calcined

 Catalog Number: 8

Feature: 3

Stratum: III

Unit: Shovel Test 1

Opening Depths (in.): 21.0/22.0

Closing Depths (in.): 30.0/30.0

Stratum Description: Gray/Yellow/Brown Silty Sand Mixed with Cinder/Slag

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	porcelain	probably from drawer pull similar to cat. #7
2 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
1 sherd	red earthenware	basal sherd from crock/jar brown glaze interior, brown slip exterior
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed
1 sherd	flat glass	clear
7	nails/fragments	unidentified type
4 sm pcs	corroded metal	11.6 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
2 sm pcs	brick	31.8 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)
5 sm pcs	mammal bone	9.4 gms, 3 pcs calcined
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	284.4 gms (sample, additional pcs. discarded in field)

Catalog Number: 9
Feature: 3
Stratum: I and II

Opening Depths (in.): 0.0
Closing Depths (in.): 21.0/22.0

Stratum Description: Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Deposit from
Western Portion of Feature

Quantity	Artifact	Description
2	pcs ceramic tile	mend to form most of decorated earthenware ceramic tile, decorated side with blue glaze and black and brown slips "ENCAUSTIC TILE PAVEMENTS/ROBERT MINTON TAYLOR/AGENT/T. ASPINWALL/NEW YORK". On undecorated back of tile, impressed "ROBERT MINTON TAYLOR/TILE WORKS/FENTON/NEAR/STOKE-ON-TRENT
1	door knob	white porcelain door knob or large drawer pull, 1 3/4" diameter
2 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	plain white
1	collar stud	grooved face (1/2" diameter), synthetic material (plastic?)
1 pc	glass	clear, possibly table glass
1 pc	flat (window) glass	green tint
1	iron spike	6" long, corroded
2	nails	unidentified, corroded (1 probably cut, 1 probably wire)
1	lg mass	corroded iron/cinder 196.1 gms
3 pcs	mammal bone	27.1 gms (1 pc calcined; 1 lg pc [22.9 gms] cut)

Catalog Number: 10
Feature: 3
Stratum: III

Opening Depths (in.): 21.0/22.0
Closing Depths (in.): 30.0/30.0

Stratum Description: Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Deposit from
Western Portion of Feature

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	whiteware	undecorated
4 pcs	wood	2 lg pcs and 2 smaller fragments (total wt. 1028.6 gms) wood does not appear to have been worked, probably

tree branch or trunk fragments

Catalog Number: 11
Feature: 3
Stratum: IV

Unit: Shovel Test 1a
Opening Depths (in.): 30.0
Closing Depths (in.): 44.0

Stratum Description: Tan/Rust Slightly Silty Sand (Cobbles at Top of Stratum)

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 pc	corroded metal	from surface of stratum

FEATURE 4

Catalog Number: 12
Feature: 4

Stratum Description: Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Surface of
Truncated Feature

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 pc	bird bone	1.4 gms (fractured during processing)
1 pc	oyster shell	38.3 gms

Catalog Number: 13
Feature: 4
Stratum: I

Unit: Shovel Test 2
Opening Depths (in.): 0.0
Closing Depths (in.): 14.0

Stratum Description: Gray Clayey Silt (0.0/3.0") and Gray Clayey Silt
Mottled with Tan/Rust Sand (3.0/14.0")

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 pc	slate pencil	pointed, diameter 3/16", length of fragment 1 3/16"
1 pc	curved glass	aqua
1 pc	cinder	0.5 gms

Catalog Number: 14
Feature: 4
Stratum: II

Unit: Shovel Test 2
Opening Depths (in.): 14.0
Closing Depths (in.): 17.0

Stratum Description: Tan Sand with Gray Clayey Silt Mottling, Some
Tan/Rust Sand Mottling and Lenses of Tan Clayey
Silt

No Cultural Materials Recovered

Catalog Number: 15
Feature: 4
Stratum: III

Unit: Shovel Test 2
Opening Depths (in.): 17.0
Closing Depths (in.): 21.0

Stratum Description: Tan Very Sandy Silt with Some Rust Mottling with
Rocks and Pieces of Schist

No Cultural Materials Recovered

Catalog Number: 16
Feature: 4
Stratum: IV

Unit: Shovel Test 2
Opening Depths (in.): 21.0
Closing Depths (in.): 24.0

Stratum Description: Tan Fine-Medium Sand with Some Silt Pockets

No Cultural Materials Recovered

FEATURE 2

Catalog Number: 17
 Feature: 2
 Stratum: I

Unit: A
 Opening Depths (in.): 4.0/7.5
 Closing Depths (in.): 12.0/13.0

Stratum Description: Dark Brown Silty Sand with Pebbles and Gravel

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	porcelain	rim of small plate or saucer, gold bands painted overglaze circumferentially, trace underglaze purple sponged decoration
1 sherd	porcelain	handle from small cup, molded decoration
1 sherd	porcelain	red and gold painted overglaze
2 sherds	porcelain	burned
1 sherd	earthenware	white/buff bodied, decorated interior with tortoiseshell glaze, exterior with brown, black, green and light brown polychrome and molded decoration
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
3 sherds	red earthenware	unglazed
1 pc	bottle glass	clear, from base of large soda or possibly milk bottle, maker's mark on base "B"; in upper loop of B "T"; in lower loop "1/2"; below B, "3"
1 pc	bottle glass	aqua, trace embossed lettering "...ING/...YORK/....S.A."
1	bottle neck	clear, from medicine bottle, mold seam ends 1/4" below 3/16" high flat lip, rim diameter 11/16"
7 pcs	bottle glass	clear, one from neck and one from base of medicine bottle(s).
5 pcs	bottle glass	amber, 2 with traces of embossed lettering
6 pcs	bottle glass	4 aqua, 1 dark green, 1 lime green
2 pcs	medicine dropper	clear, curved glass apparently from small tube, probably medicine dropper
1 pc	table glass	from rim of tumbler, decorated with fine vertical grooves in circumferential band 1" below rim
6 pcs	curved glass	clear
1 pc	curved glass	light green, coated with white material, possibly fused to glass by burning
1 pc	flat glass	green tinted
2 pcs	leather	22.0 gms., 1 pc from shoe sole with nails

1	sm pc leather	0.3 gms
1	mosaic floor tile	porcelain, round, diameter 3/4"; 1/4" thick
2 pcs	copper alloy	bent pieces, from decorative strip or fastener, cross section 1/8" x 1/16", each piece approximately 1 1/2" long
1	pc metal	non ferrous, copper alloy, adhering corroded iron (3.0 gms)
1	wood screw	copper alloy (brass?), length 2"
1 pc	ferrous metal	tubing, 7/16" inner diameter, wire nail attached to interior by corrosion products
34	nails/fragments	2 cut, 10 wire, 22 unidentified
2 pcs	misc. fastener	ferrous metal (galvanized iron?) 1 pc has one end flattened, 1/8" x 5/16" with 1/16" diameter hole, round cross section below flattened part, 2nd piece with round cross section probably from same artifact (total wt. 8.0 gms)
1 lg pc	brick	manufacturer's mark in panel "(BR)IGHAM", pc 2 1/4" x 3 1/4"; 641.9 gms; factory in operation 1899; 1904 (Denoyelles 1982)
5 sm pcs	brick	15.4 gms
3 pcs	shingle?	2.4 gms
3 pcs	mammal bone	weight 10.0 gms, 1 pc calcined
2 pcs	bird bone	22.3 gms (1 from large bird)
3 pcs	bone	bird/rodent, 1 pc calcined (1.4 gms)
10 sm pcs	bone	1.3 gms, 3 pcs calcined (small mammal, rodent, bird)
3 sm pcs	hard shell clam	1.9 gms
Pcs.	corroded metal masses	793.4 gms (sample) additional pcs. discarded in field
Pcs.	coal/cinder/slag	579.8 gms (sample), most pcs discarded in field
3 sm pcs	wood	0.1 gm

 Catalog Number: 18

Feature: 2

Stratum: II

Unit: A

Opening Depths (in.): 12.0/13.0

Closing Depths (in.): 16.0/19.0

Stratum Description: Light Brown/Tan Sandy Silt with Cinder and Gravel

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	salt glazed stoneware	gray body, clear salt glaze exterior, dark brown slip interior, from rim of crock
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	bowl rim, green and purple polychrome

1 sherd	porcelain	base of tea cup, gold painted lines overglaze around base, base diameter 1 5/8"; base of handle present, gold painted (see handle, cat. #19)
1 sherd	porcelain	rim sherd, decal decorated overglaze (possibly hand painted), polychrome leaf and flower design
1 sherd	porcelain	rim sherd with trace overglaze painted and molded design
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed
2 pcs	bottle glass	amber, one with embossed lettering "...SON'S/...3rd AVE./...YORK/...RED"
1 pc	bottle glass	green tinted, embossed lettering "...THIS 80.../...TO..."
2 pcs	bottle glass	1 bright green, 1 clear
7 pcs	flat glass	3 clear, 4 green tinted
1 pc	flat glass	green tinted with trace silver backing (from mirror)
1	button	glass, cream-colored, 4 holes, 7/16" diameter
5	grommets	brass with outer portion coated with unidentified material, outer diameter 5/16"; inner diameter 1/8"
24 pcs	leather	shoe parts including heel, sole fragments, upper fragments with eyelets and grommets (total weight 223.2 gms including adhering soil)
4 pcs	leather	1 with tack through it (from shoe), weight 11.4 gms
1 sm pc	leather	0.2 gms (dried)
1	mosaic floor tile	porcelain, round, 13/16" diameter
1 pc	coarse earthenware	white bodied, brown glaze exterior, probably from sewer or drain pipe, piece of corroded metal adhering
25	nails/fragments	2 cut, 7 wire, 16 unidentified type
1	whole brick	8" x 3 1/2" x 2 3/8"; no manufacturer's mark in panel
1 pc	brick	37.0 gms
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	304.1 gms (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)
Pcs	corroded metal	139.3 gms, includes masses of corrosion products (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)
2 pcs	mammal bone	13.2 gms
3 sm pcs	bone	0.1 gms. (1 pc calcined)

 Catalog Number: 19
 Feature: 2
 Stratum: III

Unit: A
 Opening Depths (in.): 16.0/19.0
 Closing Depths (in.): 21.0/23.0

Stratum Description: Dark Brown Sandy Silt with Cinder and Gravel

Quantity	Artifact	Description
5 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	mend, from large cup, diameter 3/38", height 3 1/4", body undecorated, molded decoration on handle
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	polychrome (green and purple) painted floral decoration underglaze; with black line bordering painted zone (see also cat. #18 and #20)
5 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
1 sherd	porcelain	undecorated, from base of child's toy saucer (doll's tea set)
1 sherd	porcelain	trace of green line painted overglaze (possibly from base of small toy saucer listed above)
1 sherd	porcelain	handle from tea cup, gold painted
1 sherd	porcelain	from rim of small cup?, gold line painted overglaze on rim
3 sherds	porcelain	small undecorated sherds
3 sherds	red earthenware	unglazed
2 pcs	bottle glass	clear, 1 pc from base/side and 1 from lip/neck/shoulder, probably from same (medicine) bottle, oval base 2 1/8" x 1 1/8", height 6 1/2", mold seam on side and around circumference above base, mold seam ends 3/16" below 1/2" high lip with circumferential mold seam at base of lip, rim diameter 5/8"
1	bottle neck	clear, from beer/soda bottle, lip and part of neck, mold seam ends 1/2" below 7/8" high lip, rim diameter 7/8"
2 pcs	bottle glass	clear, from bottle rims
1 pc	bottle glass	clear, from side of bottle, trace embossed lettering
14 pcs	curved glass	clear
5 pcs	bottle glass	amber (inc. 1 neck fragment)
2 pcs	bottle glass	aqua
9 pcs	bottle glass	light green, inc. 1 lg pc from soda bottle w. embossed lettering "...CO/...YORK/(U).S.A./...IS NEVER SOLD/...TERED"
1 pc	table glass	clear, base of beer stein, octagonal sides, diameter ca. 2 3/4", 7/8" high. "kick up" in base
3 pcs	table glass	base and 2 small fragments from tumbler with molded flutes on sides (5 sets of 5 flutes separated by unmolded panels), base diameter 2 3/8"
2 pcs	lamp glass	clear

1	wind-up clock?	corroded iron case with copper alloy gears inside, stem and knob on top for winding (spring also visible in interior), height 2 1/4", case 1" x 3/4" (total wt. 66.0 gms)
1	button	glass, white, 4 holes 13/32" diameter
1	button	black glass (jet?), 9/16" diameter, plano-convex cross section, area in center of convex back where metal loop broken off, flat face with beveled edge, incised design, six lines cross-hatched
10 pcs	flat glass	1 clear, 9 green tinted
1 pc	unidentified material	plastic or hard rubber, flexible (ca. 1/64" thick), folded over, white with rust-colored staining? (another pc in cat. # 20)
1 pc	wood	with copper alloy (brass?) ferrule on end, diameter of ferrule 5/8", width 3/8"; total length of piece 2" (possibly part of a handle or from furniture)
1 pc	wood	ca. 3/8" x 3/4"; piece 3 1/2" long with adhering corrosion products; 2 thin non-ferrous metal (lead alloy?) bands 3/32" wide encircle wood 5/8" and 2 7/8" from end (appears to be a handle - possibly from knife or other utensil)
1 pc	unidentified material	0.4 gms
13 pcs	leather	shoe parts including tacks and uppers with eyelets and hooks, wt. 49.0 gms
1 pc	leather (dried)	probably shoe leather (2 small tacks through leather)
3 pcs	fabric	0.5 gms
1 pc	non-ferrous metal	(lead?) 5/16" x 5/16" x 1/4" triangular cross section, 3 7/8" long piece, one end tapered to point, weight 30.9 gms (undetermined function)
2 sm pcs	iron rings	9/16" diameter (1 is 3/16" wide and the other 5/16" wide)
1 pc	corroded iron tubing	9/16" diameter; ca. 1 1/2" long
1 pc	threaded plug	copper alloy, threaded plug; wider flat part 3/4" diameter; threaded portion 1/2" diameter and 3/16" long (similar but larger plug in cat #20)
61	nail fragments	25 wire, 2 cut, 34 unidentified
1 sm pc	brick	3.3 gms
4 pcs	mortar	15.0 gms
5 sm pcs	wood	0.7 gms
2 pcs	charcoal	0.2 gms
2 pcs	hard shell clam	65.6 gms
13 pcs	mammal bone	includes 1 vertebra and 2 rib fragments, 1 cut; 2 pcs calcined, total wt. 38.5 gms
10 pcs	bird bone	includes 1 lg bird (turkey?), total wt.

Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	41.8 gms 1764.6 gms, many pieces (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)
Pcs	corroded metal	542.1 gms., includes masses of corrosion products (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)

Catalog Number: 20
Feature: 2
Stratum: IV

Unit: A
Opening Depths (in.): 21.0/23.0
Closing Depths (in.): 27.0/32.0

Stratum Description: Cinder, Slag and Coal Mixed with Small Amount of
Dark Gray/Brown Sandy Silt

Quantity	Artifact	Description
4 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated, mend to form most of 6" diameter saucer, makers mark on base "CARTWRIGHT BROS." in oval cartouche with letters S.G. (see text and Kovel 1986:64)
3 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	from bowl (2 sherds mend) with green and purple painted polychrome decoration below between black lines below rim, additional pieces in cat #18 and #19
4 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	from bowl, annular decoration underglaze, two sets of green lines with wider purple band between
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	from jar or urn with ring base (2 7/8" diameter), blue puddling inside base suggests cobalt in glaze (not pearlware)
3 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
2 sherds	porcelain	from plate rim, gold lines painted overglaze circumferentially below rim, purple tinted sponged decoration underglaze between gold lines, additional sherd in cat. # 19
1 sherd	porcelain	undecorated, from plate with ring base (estimated base diameter approximately 5")
1 sherd	porcelain	hard paste, oriental type porcelain, small sherd blue painted decoration underglaze
2 sm sherds	porcelain	undecorated (1 from rim)
4 sherds	earthenware	white/buff bodied, mottled brown glaze also with molded decoration exterior (possibly from same vessel as

1 sherd	red earthenware	polychrome decorated sherd from cat #17 unglazed (part of side and base from flowerpot)
1 sherd	red earthenware	dark brown glaze, from sewer/drain pipe
4 sherds	porcelain	from very small saucer, from child's doll tea set
2 pcs	unidentified material	flexible, thin (ca. 1/64"), white with rust colored staining, probably from metal corrosion. One piece with folded over edge (same material as cat. #19. Early plastic or hard rubber
1	beer bottle stopper	porcelain, 15/16" diameter on top, 1/2" on base, 1 1/16" long. On top of stopper is stamped "THE JOHN KRESS BREWING CO/TRADE MARK/(Eagle on urn?)/LAGER BEER/N.Y." On base "PAT'D/K. HUTTER/APR 1 1893"
13 pcs	bottle glass	amber
5 pcs	bottle glass	aqua, 1 with embossed script letter "T"
8 pcs	bottle glass	clear
1 pc	table glass	green tinted, base and sides from glass tumbler, base diameter 2 3/8"
1 pc	table glass	rim from clear glass tumbler, vertical grooved decoration ca 1" below rim, possibly from same glass as cat #17 and #21
1 pc	table glass	possibly from bowl, clear glass, wavy out-flaring rim, molded (pressed) "waffle" pattern on body
1 pc	table glass	clear pressed glass, "rayed" pattern
1 pc	table glass	clear, trace incised lines
6 sm pcs	lamp glass	clear
20 pcs	copper alloy	probably brass, fragments of small strainer, perhaps from teapot
1 pc	bisque porcelain doll	doll's leg (1" long), small hole thru top of leg for attachment
1	marble	diameter 5/8", ceramic (porcelain) decorated underglaze (also trace of burning)
1	hollow disk	ferrous metal alloy (possibly galvanized iron), outer diameter 1", central hole 1/8", possibly wheel from child's toy (possibly two pieces of metal joined to form hollow disk), ca. 3/16" thick
1	button	glass, cream-colored, four holes, 9/16" diameter
1	button	copper alloy (probably brass), face part of hollow button, back missing; pc. of copper alloy wire attached may have been part of loop attachment. Stamped decoration, nautical motif - anchor with rope? and oars?
5 pcs	leather	probably shoe leather, with attached grommets (eyelets), wt 8.1 gms with

5 pcs	fabric	adhering soil
1 pc	fabric	wt 13.6 gms with adhering soil
1	rivet	dried, < 0.1 gms
1	drawer pull	copper alloy (probably brass), probably from clothing
		porcelain, burned, top outer diameter 7/8", bottom flat with outer diameter 3/4", central hole (diameter 1/4") through pull for bolt for attachment to drawer
4 pcs	flat glass	clear
1 pc	mortar	67.9 gms
1 lg pc	brick	235.1 gms
4 pcs	brick	56.9 gms
9 sm pcs	wood	7.2 gms
2	wood screws	corroded, one embedded in mass of corrosion products cinder etc.
1 pc	metal rod	corroded, 5/16" diameter, possibly large nail
28	nail fragments	16 wire, 3 cut, 9 unidentified
1	threaded plug	copper alloy (brass), diameter of top flat portion 1 1/8", imbedded in mass of corroded metal and corrosion products (similar to plug from cat. # 19 but larger)
1 pc	unidentified hardware	iron rod with flat pc metal at base and round top of unidentified non-ferrous substance (graphite?), overall length 1 3/4"
1 pc	corroded iron	round piece, diameter approximately 2"
44 pcs	mammal bone	inc 1 vertebral piece, 1 cut long bone, 11 pcs cut rib, total wt 172.2 gms
8 pcs	bird bone	29.2 gms
21 sm pcs	bone	19 mammal (4 pcs calcined), 2 bird/rodent; total wt. 12.1 gms
Pcs	corroded metal	938.0 gms, includes masses of corrosion products with embedded pcs coal/cinder/slag (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	3016.8 gms, many pieces (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)

 Catalog Number: 21

Feature: 2

Stratum: V

Unit: A

Opening Depths (in.): 27.0/32.0

Closing Depths (in.): 37.0/37.0

Stratum Description: Cinder, Slag and Ash Mixed with Medium Brown Sandy Silt

Quantity	Artifact	Description
7 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	mend to form entire bowl, rim diameter 9 1/2", base diameter 4", makers mark on base "IRON STONE CHINA/version of British royal arms with 2 lions rampant facing crown and seal/D.R."
2 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated, 1 partially burned
2 pcs	table glass	from tumbler rims, 1 with decoration (bands of fine vertical grooves) below rim (possibly same glass as cat #17 and #20)
1 pc	lamp glass	clear
2 pcs	curved glass	clear
2 pcs	flat glass	green tinted
2	buttons	glass, 4 holes, 1 white 5/8" diameter; 1 cream colored 9/16" diameter, edge chipped
1	bone disk	diameter 1 3/16", thickness ca. 1/16", central hole 5/16" diameter, polished, probably decorative disk or button to be attached to clothing?
1	bone knob	probably small drawer pull 1" length, max diameter 5/16, two knobs on end, one with perforation, probably for attachment of metal ring, outer knob with indentations, probably for insertion of decorative elements
13 pcs	mammal bone	total wt 133.2 gms, 4 from large mammal
1	nail fragment	wire, copper alloy (brass)
15	nails/fragments	10 wire, 5 unidentified
1 pc	brick	39.4 gms
1 pc	mortar	86.7 gms
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	1162.4 gms, many pieces (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)
Pcs	corroded metal	103.9 gms, includes masses of corrosion products (sample, additional pcs discarded in field)
6 sm pcs	mammal bone	1.0 gms
1 sm pc	rodent? bone	<0.1 gms

Catalog Number: 22

Feature: 2

Stratum: VI

Unit: A

Opening Depths (in.): 37.0/37.0

Closing Depths (in.): 37.5/38.0

Stratum Description: Hard Packed Gray/Brown Sandy Silt Mottled with Reddish Brown Sandy Silt

Quantity	Artifact	Description
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1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	rim sherd with molded decoration exterior
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed, rim sherd
1 pc	bottle glass	aqua
1 pc	curved glass	clear
1 pc	flat glass	clear
1	nail fragment	wire
1 pc	brick	4.0 gms
Pcs	corroded metal	60.9 gms
Pcs	coal/cinder/slag	46.7 gms
8 pcs	mammal bone	1 pc cut, total wt. 46.5 gms includes 1 pc. with adhering corroded metal
3 pcs	bird bone	from large bird (possibly turkey), weight 38.8 gms
3	seeds	wild grape?

Catalog Number: 23
 Feature: 2
 Backhoe Trench 2

Artifacts from Feature 2 - Removed from North Profile of Backhoe Trench 2 Prior to Excavation of Unit A

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 lg pc	table glass	includes base and part of rim from small tumbler, green tinted, base diameter 2 5/16"; height 3 3/4"
1 pc	curved glass	clear
15 pcs	shoe leather	includes 2 pcs from uppers with eyelets and hooks for laces (total wt. 48.6 gms)
1 pc	curved glass	clear
2 sm pcs	copper alloy (brass?)	from clothing snap fastener
2 pcs	mammal bone	26.5 gms (incl. 1 rib)
1 pc	bird bone	2.7 gms

ARTIFACTS FROM BACKHOE TRENCHES AND MISCELLANEOUS

Catalog Number: 24
Backhoe Trench 1

Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Feature R2

Quantity	Artifact	Description
8 sherds	stoneware	gray body, light brown slip interior and exterior, sherds mend to form base and portion of sides of stoneware bottle (3 1/2" diameter)
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed
1 sherd	ironstone?	from basal portion of shallow bowl or plate; undecorated hard bodied white earthenware, but shows pearlware-like blue puddling in glaze (possibly early whiteware/ironstone)
1 pc	bottle glass	aqua, from neck/rim of bottle, separately applied rim
6 pcs	curved (bottle) glass	2 clear (1 with molded stippling; 1 with trace decal decoration); 1 dark green; 3 amber
1 pc	red brick	0.7 gms
2 pcs	mortar	1.6 gms
3 pcs	asphalt	2.1 gms
1 pc	leather?	0.1 gm
2 pcs	charcoal	0.1 gm

Catalog Number: 25
Backhoe Trench 1

Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Feature R1

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	porcelain	blue underglaze decoration, portion of makers mark (appears to be similar to mark used on blue underglaze porcelain by Frederick Christian Greiner & Sons (Germany), shown by Kovel (1986:132); mark used 1894-ca. 1936,
1 sherd	porcelain	plain white, hard paste
1 sm pc	glass	<0.1 gm, robbin's egg blue, most

1 pc	ceramic	likely table glass or other decorative glass unidentified ceramic object, burnt, cylindrical, 1 1/2" length; ca 1/2" diameter; one end flares out to ca. 3/4" diameter, possibly kiln support?
1 pc	burnt ceramic?	similar to above, but probably not from same object
12 pcs	coal/cinder	12.2 gms

 Catalog Number: 26
 Backhoe Trench 1

Artifacts Recovered During Excavation of Southern End BHTR 1 Near North side of Wall W12

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1	jar	porcelain cosmetic (e.g. cold cream) jar, height 2 1/8", rim diameter 2", base diameter 1 13/16"
18 sherds	earthenware	cream colored earthenware from ceramic jar or jar-shaped vessel
4 sherds	porcelain	2 with overglaze painted polychrome decoration, 1 plain white, 1 plain with bluish glaze
5 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	2 from rim of plate or shallow bowl, with overglaze painted rose border around rim, 3 (2 mend) from vessel base, portion of maker's mark; intertwined letters/"Porcelain"
1 pc	porcelain tile	underfired porcelain, "bathroom" tile, undecorated, 3" wide, small embossed letter "B" on unglazed back
2 sherds	red earthenware	unglazed
1 pc	tile	underfired porcelain, robbins egg blue glaze, bevelled edge, unglazed back
2	tile	small "mosaic" 3/4" floor tile squares
1 pc	glass vial	from basal portion, aqua, 1" diameter
1 pc	bottle base	clear glass, probably from large soda or possibly milk bottle, trace of embossed mark on base,
4 pcs	bottle glass	aqua, 2 mend w. portion embossed trade mark "The E (1?)...."
1 pc	curved glass	clear, trace embossed lettering/design
3 pcs	flat glass	2 clear, 1 green tinted
5 pcs	sewer/drain pipe	stoneware pipe, dark brown glaze, 1 pc with adhering mortar
1	nail	wire
1 pc	corroded metal	corroded mass with metal tube, metal

1 pc	coal	wire and nail? fragments
1 pc	wood	1.3 gms
		with embedded (wire) nail fragments, 1 brass

 Catalog Number: 27
 Backhoe Trench 1

Artifacts Recovered From Black Clay Stratum Near Rock Feature R1

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	salt glazed stoneware	gray body, from rim of crock, light brown glaze exterior, dark brown glaze interior

 Catalog Number: 28
 Backhoe Trench 2

North Profile of Northern Extension of West End of BHTR 2
 Artifacts Recovered From Black Clayey Stratum North of Feature R2

Quantity	Artifact	Description
6 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
5 sherds	whiteware/ironstone?	paste only, glaze broken off?
1 sherd	whiteware	undecorated

 Catalog Number: 29
 Backhoe Trench 2

Artifacts Recovered From Floor of BHTR 2 Near Feature 2

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	underglaze polychrome decoration, green and purple, with black lines bounding decorated zone (similar sherds from Feature 2, cat. #18, #19 and #20)

1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated
1 pc	milk bottle	fragment from neck and lip of clear glass milk bottle, mold seam ends ca. 3/8" below lip, horizontal mold seam around lip 1/4" below rim, portion of embossed trade mark on side
1 pc	milk glass	
1 pc	flat (window) glass	clear
1 pc	bird bone	0.3 gms

 Catalog Number: 30
 Lot 15

Artifact Recovered From Fill Immediately West of Feature 1 at
 Approximate Level of "Collar" Portion of Feature

Quantity	Artifact	Description
3 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	sherds mend, from plate, base with makers mark/version of British Royal Arms with lion on left and unicorn on right of shield/MELLOR & CO. Mark used by Cook Pottery Co., Trenton, New Jersey, 1893-ca. 1926 (Kovel 1986:15).

 Catalog Number: 31
 Backhoe Trench 5

Artifacts Recovered from Northern Profile of BHTR 2, Lot 15

Quantity	Artifact	Description
1	bottle fragment	dark green, neck, lip and portion of shoulder, no mold seam visible, separately applied lip, 1 2/8 diameter,
1 pc	mammal bone	49.3 gms, from large mammal, cut
1 pc	hard shell clam	84.6 gms, whole valve

Catalog Number: 32
Backhoe Trench 6

Artifacts Recovered While Clearing Feature R3, Lot 17

Quantity	Artifact	Description
8 sherds	whiteware/ironstone	undecorated, include 5 sherds from rim of plate or shallow bowl
3 pcs	mammal bone	calcined, 5.6 gms

Catalog Number: 33

Miscellaneous Artifacts Recovered During Backhoe Clearing of Lots 15-17

Quantity	Artifact	Description
3 sherds	stoneware	2 sherds mend, from sides and base of stoneware bottle, gray bodied, brown slip exterior, orange brown slip interior, base diameter 3 3/8". Portion of impressed trade mark exterior, "...SE?.../NAS...". Non-mended sherd has impressed script "Num..."
2 sherds	red earthenware	unglazed, from base of large (approximately 6" base diameter) "saucer" which probably served as base for flower pot
1	door knob	white porcelain door knob or large drawer pull (2" diameter)
1 pc	bottle glass	lip and part of neck from aqua beer/soda bottle, metal ring around base of lip for attachment of porcelain stopper, mold seam ends below ring, rim diameter 1"
1 pc	decorative metal	non-ferrous metal (brass?) with vertical stamped flutes, hollow, 4 1/2" high, "conical" shaped, max diameter 2", possibly metal base for furniture leg

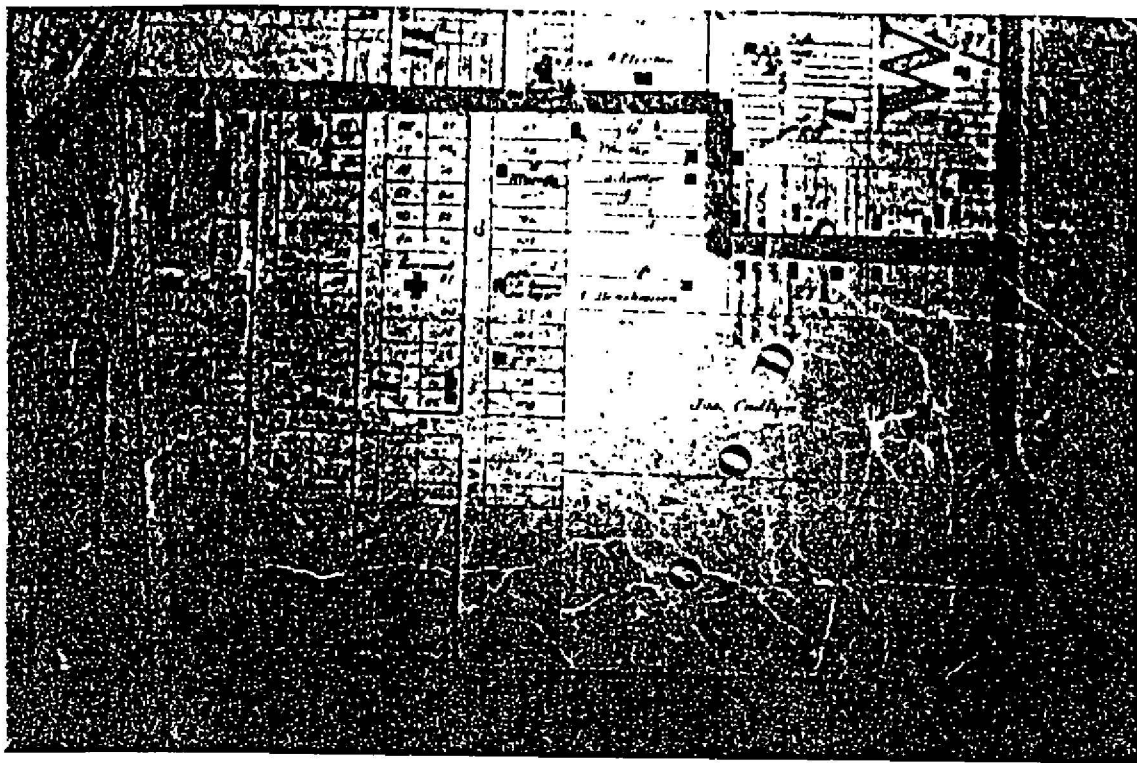
Catalog Number: 34

Artifacts Recovered from Fill in Wall of Excavation for Foundation of New Building, Lot 25/27 (Eastern Portion of Site)

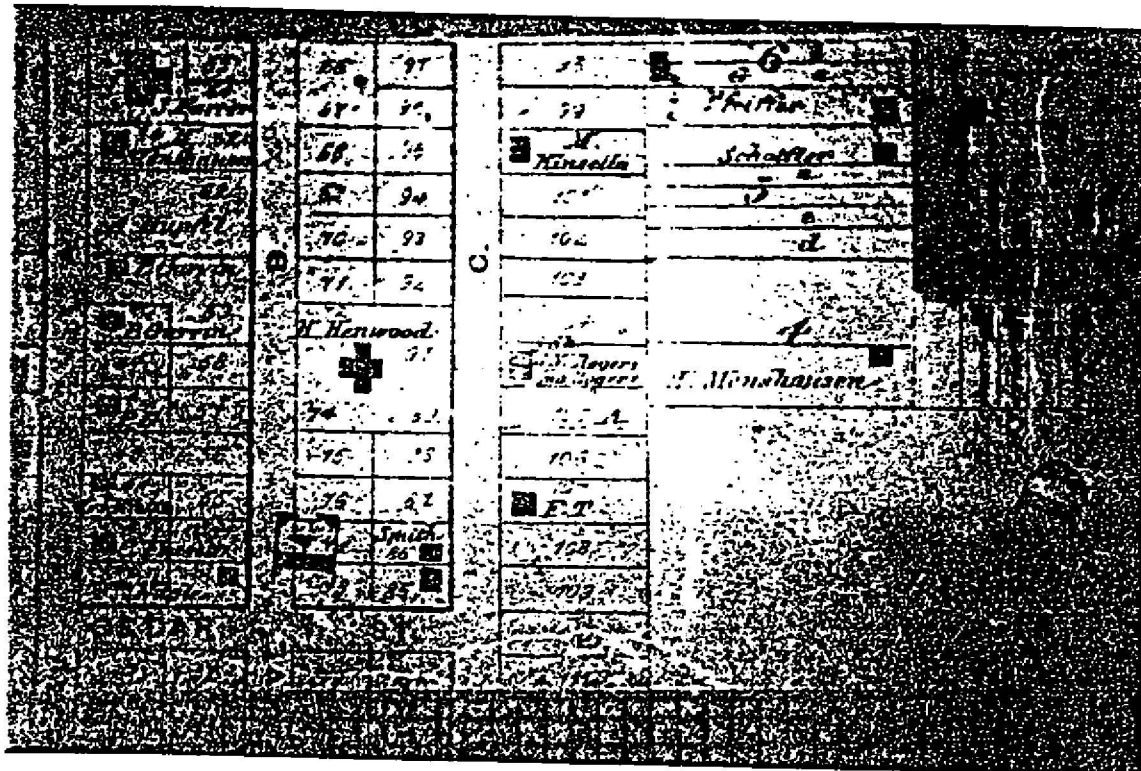
Quantity	Artifact	Description
1	medicine bottle	clear glass, mold seam ends 3/16" below flat lip (15/16" lip diameter); height 4 3/8", oval base 1 3/8 x 1 15/16, basal seam around base of sides, embossed on one side "CHEMIST/GILDS/NEW YORK"
1	bottle fragment	lip and portion of neck, amber glass, no mold seams visible, flat lip 1 3/8 diameter, probably from large medicine bottle.
1 pc	bottle glass	fragment of neck, shoulder and part of lip from large clear glass bottle
1 pc	bottle glass	portion of bottle base, dark green
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	fragment from base of plate or shallow bowl, portion of makers mark with British Royal Arms (no name present on fragment)
1 sherd	salt glazed stoneware	gray body; clear salt glaze with cobalt blue decoration exterior, "chocolate" brown slip interior
1 sherd	stoneware	mottled brown glaze exterior
1 sherd	whiteware/ironstone	fragment with portion of makers mark, "...INA/portion of british royal arms/....M.(?)C.W."
1 sherd	red earthenware	unglazed (from flowerpot)
1 pc	hard shell clam	5.3 gms

APPENDIX B

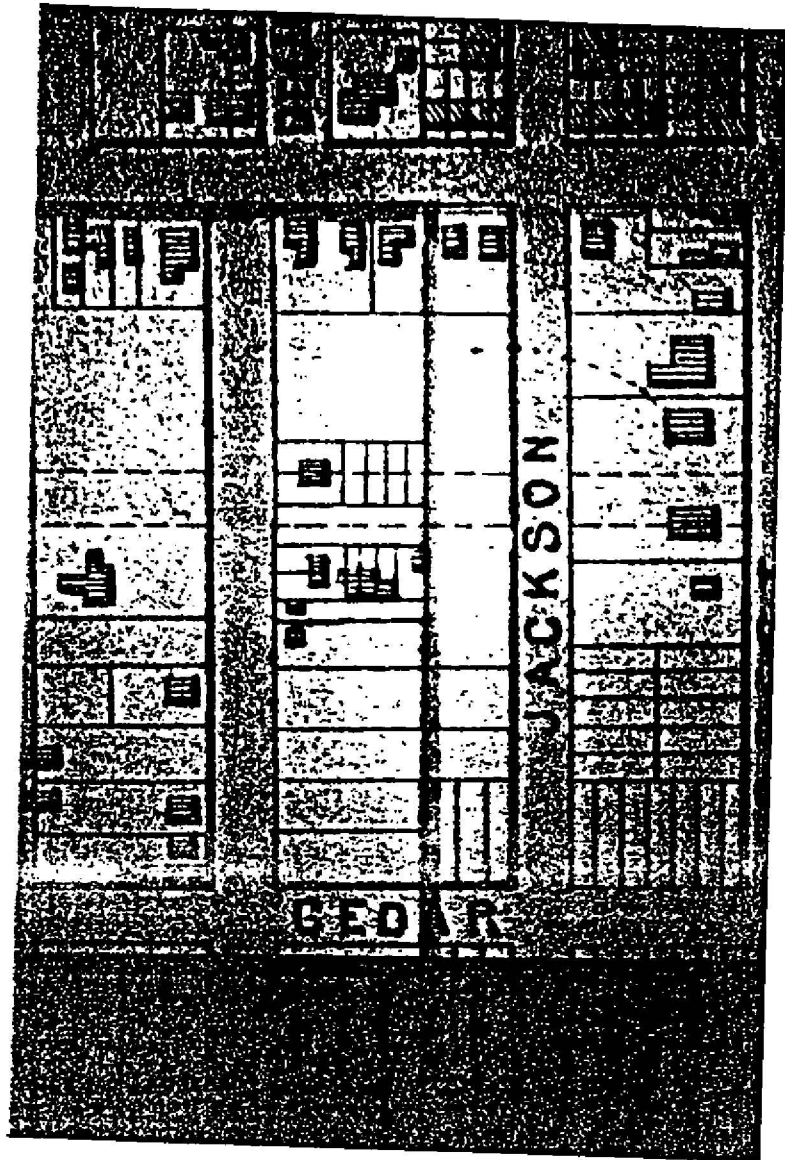
COPIES OF SELECTED 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY MAPS



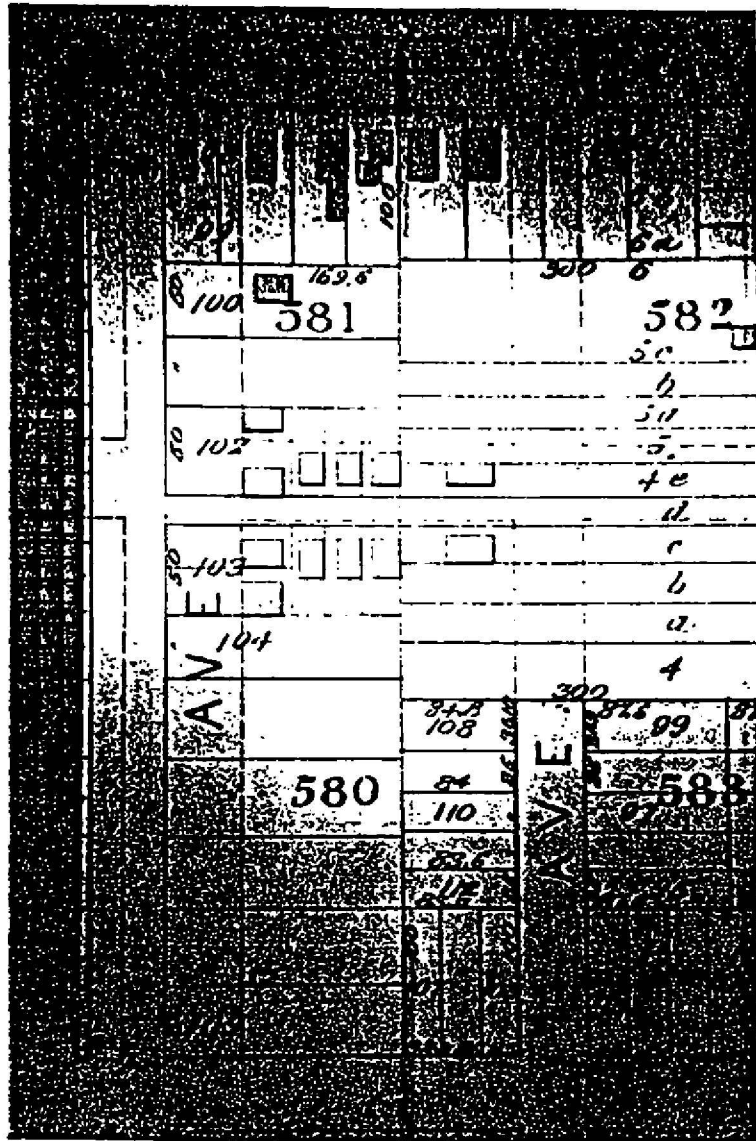
Source: Beers 1860
 Scale of Original: 1" = 300'



Source: Beers 1860
 Detail Showing Project Site (East of Avenue C)
 Scale of Original: 1" = 300'



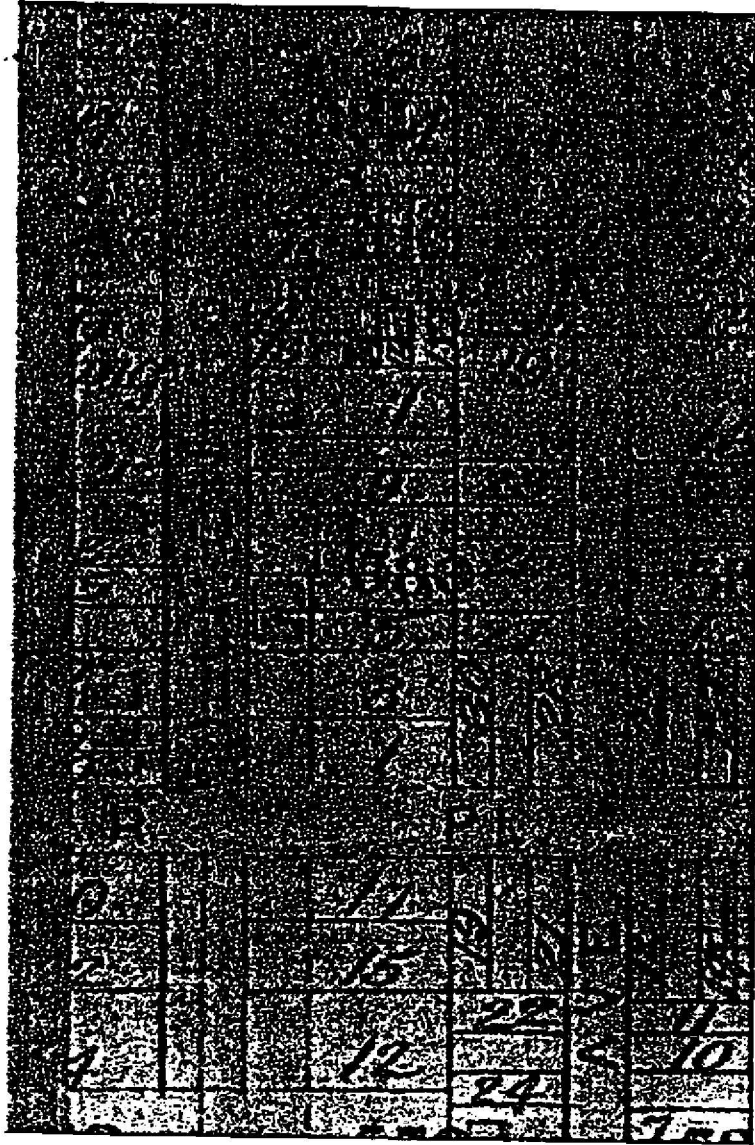
Source: Bromley 1879:35
Scale of Original: 1" = 400'
Note: Dashed Lines Indicate Approximate Future
Location of Grove Hill Place (160th Street)



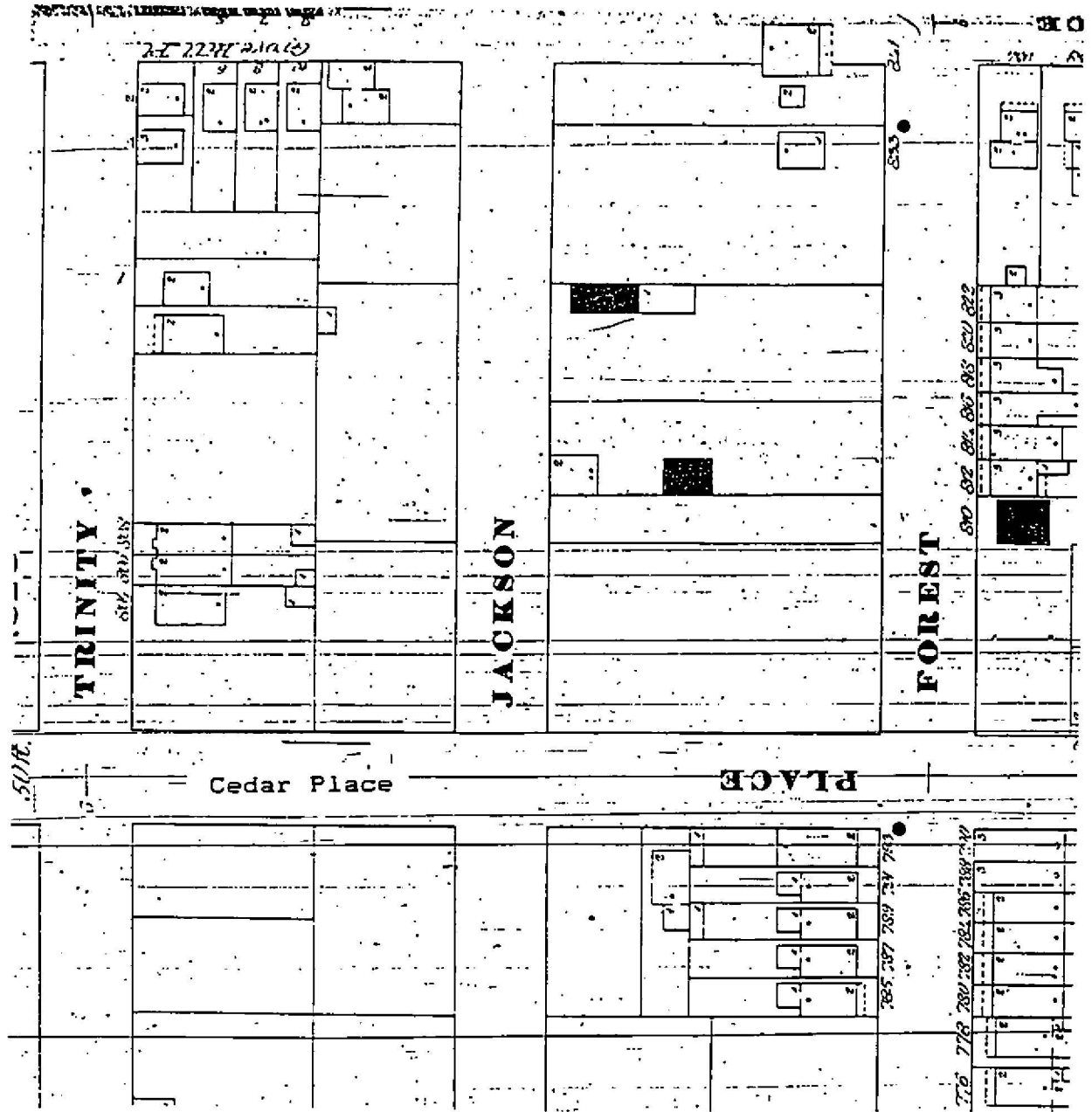
Source: Bromley 1882:5

Scale of Original: 1" = 150'

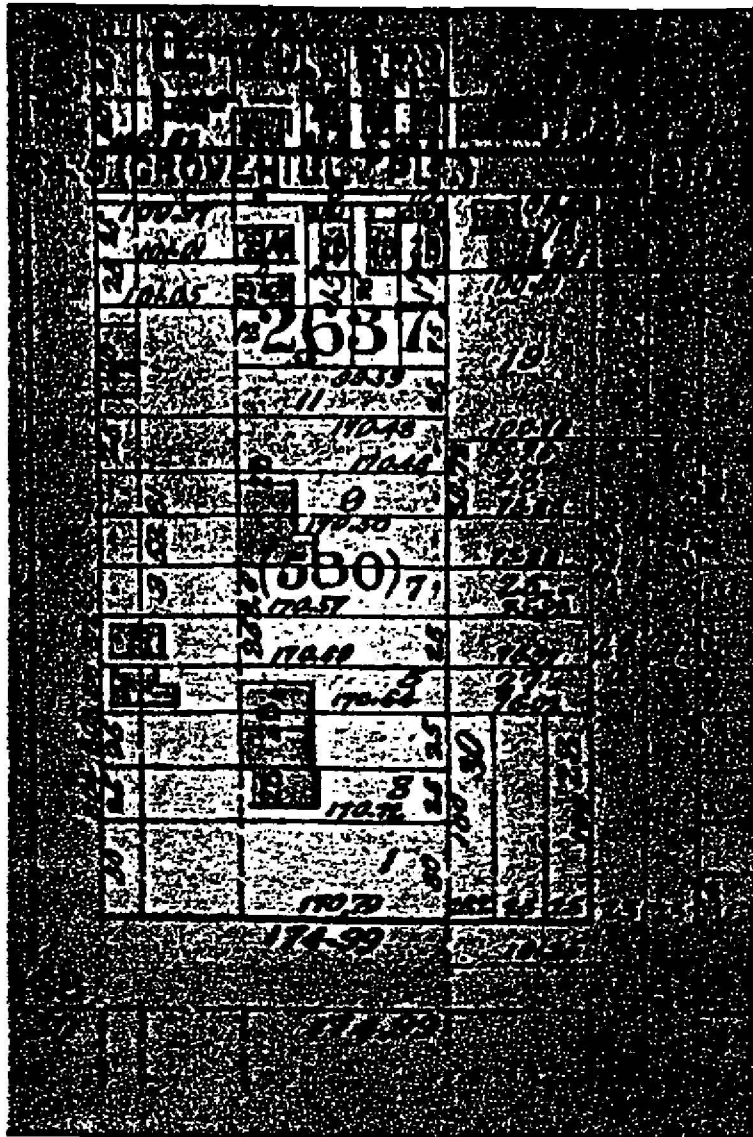
Note: Lots Numbered 103 and 104 Are Actually Lots 104 and 105



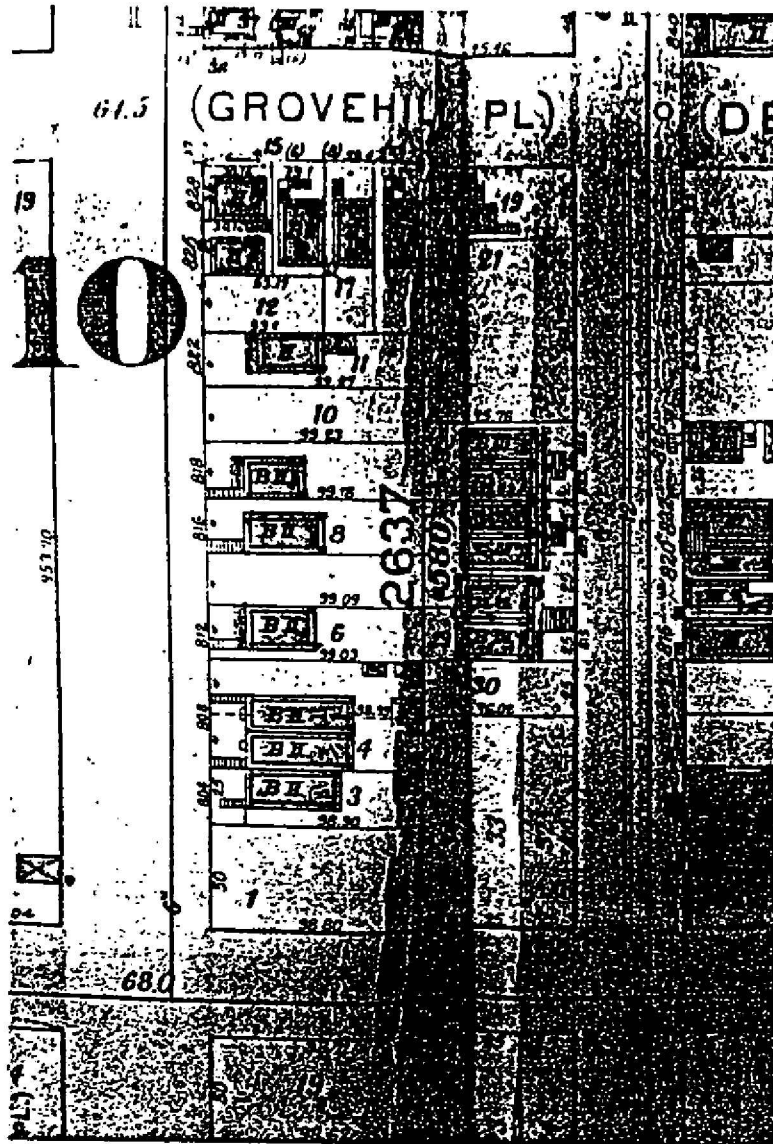
Source: Robinson and Pidgeon 1885:34
Scale of Original: 1" = 200'



Source: Sanborn 1891
 Scale of Original: 1.1" = 100'



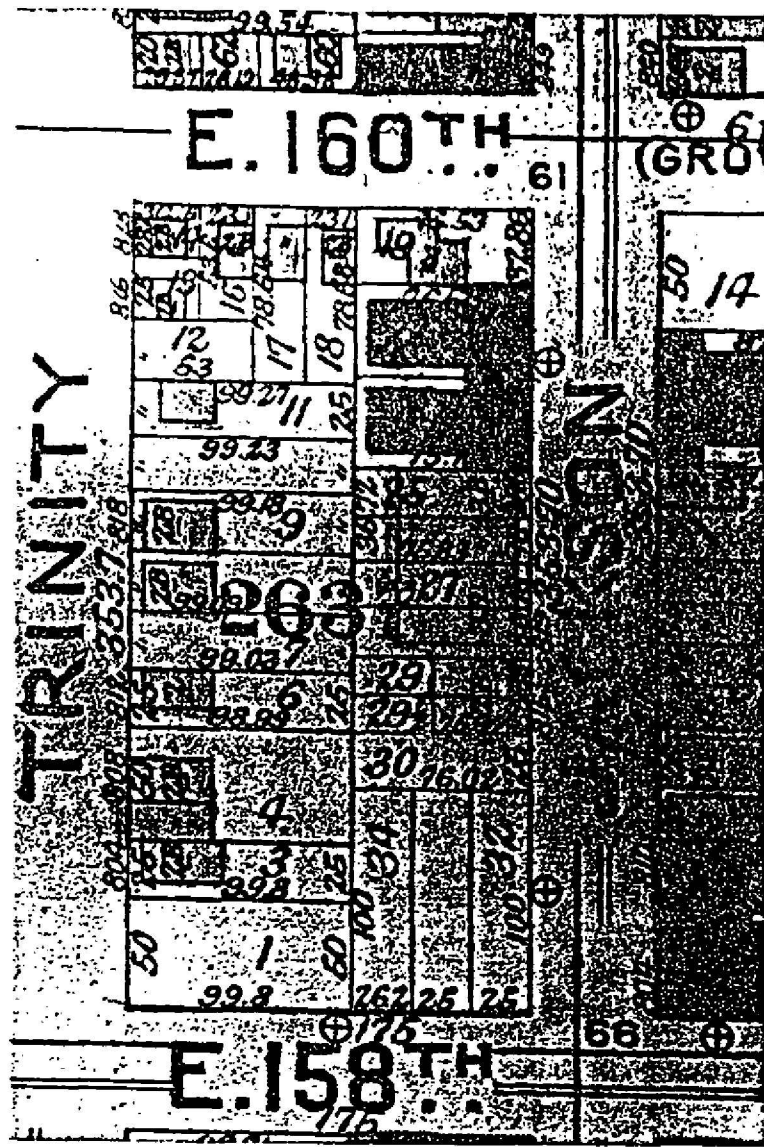
Source: Bromley 1893:8
Scale of Original: 1" = 150'



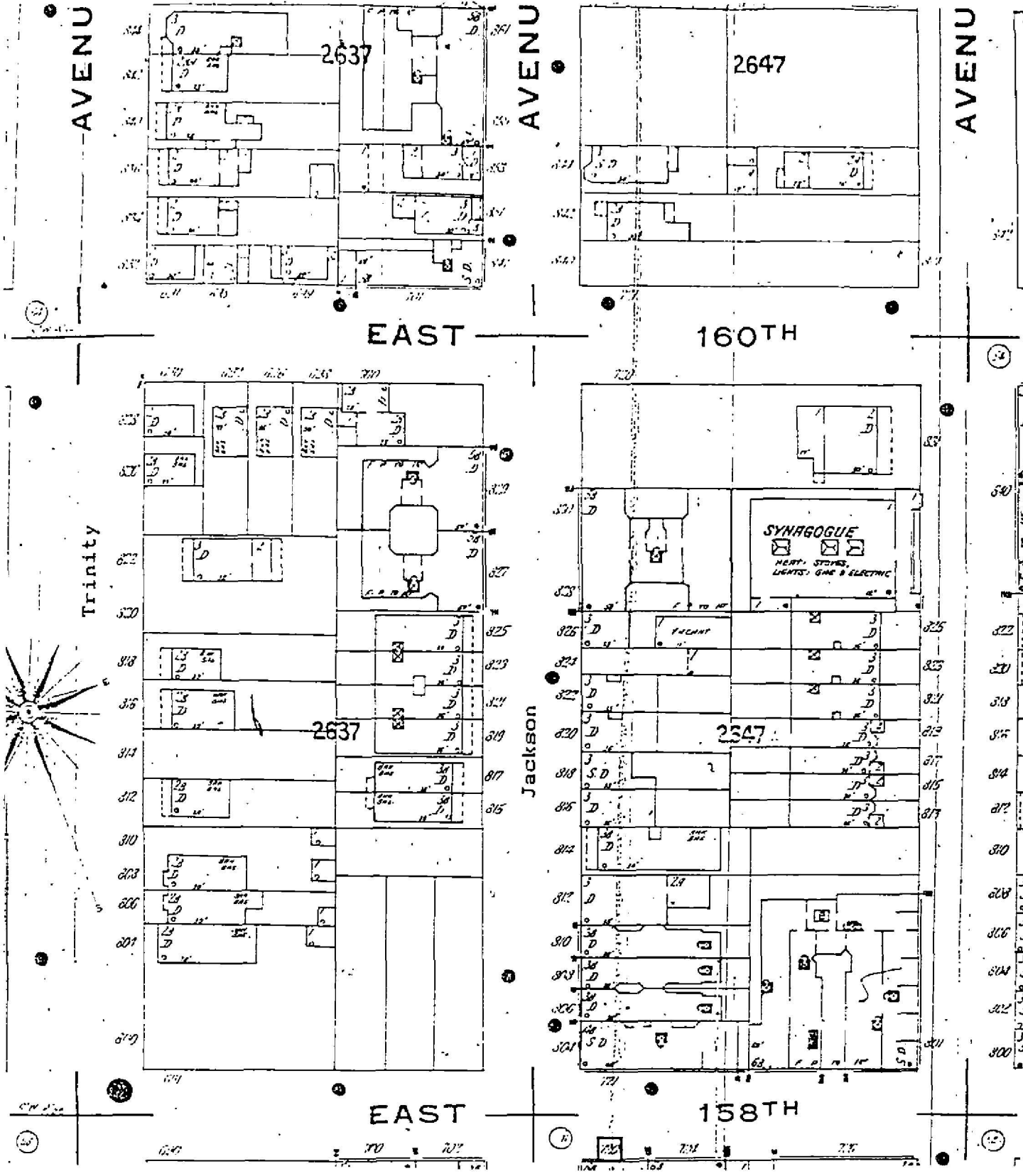
Source: Ullitz 1900 Vol. I:18
 Scale of Original: 1" = 80'



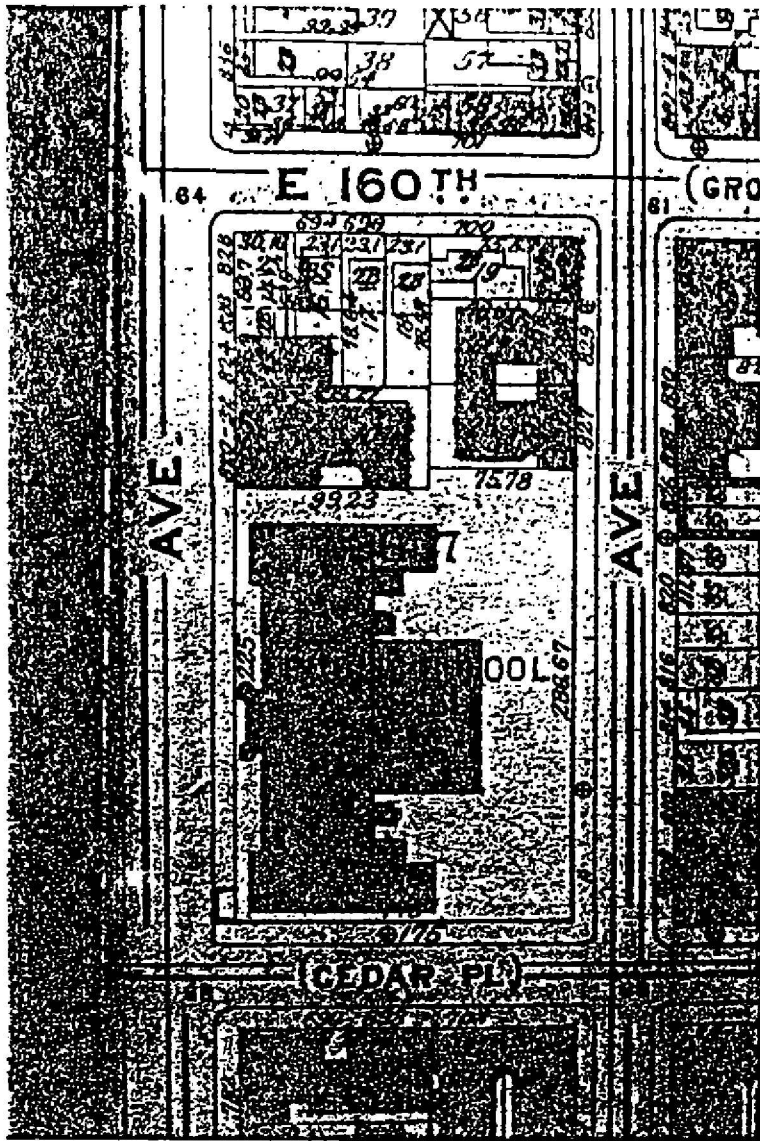
Source: Bromley 1905a:14
Scale of Original: 1" = 150'



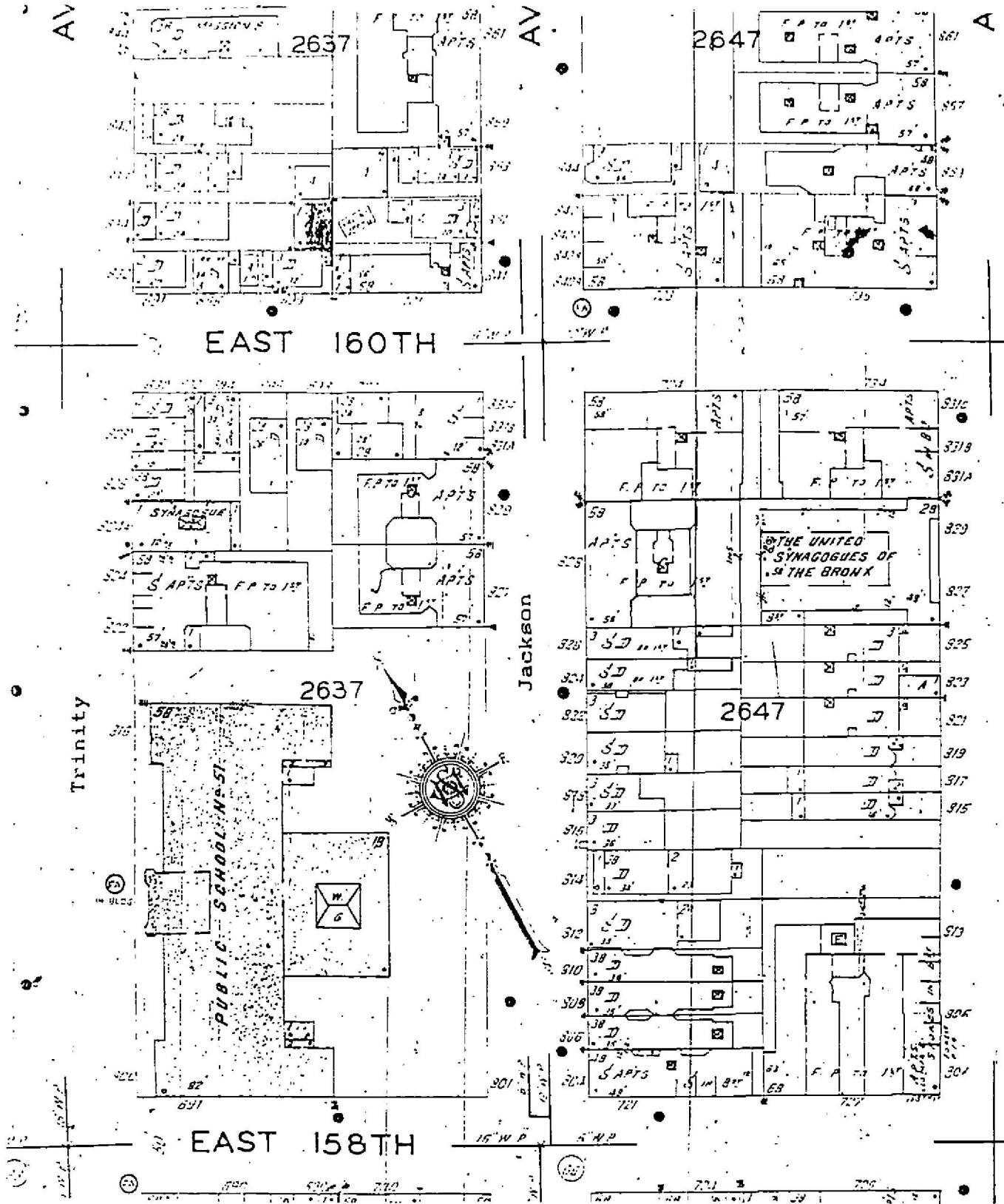
Source: Bromley 1907:14
 Scale of Original: 1" = 150'



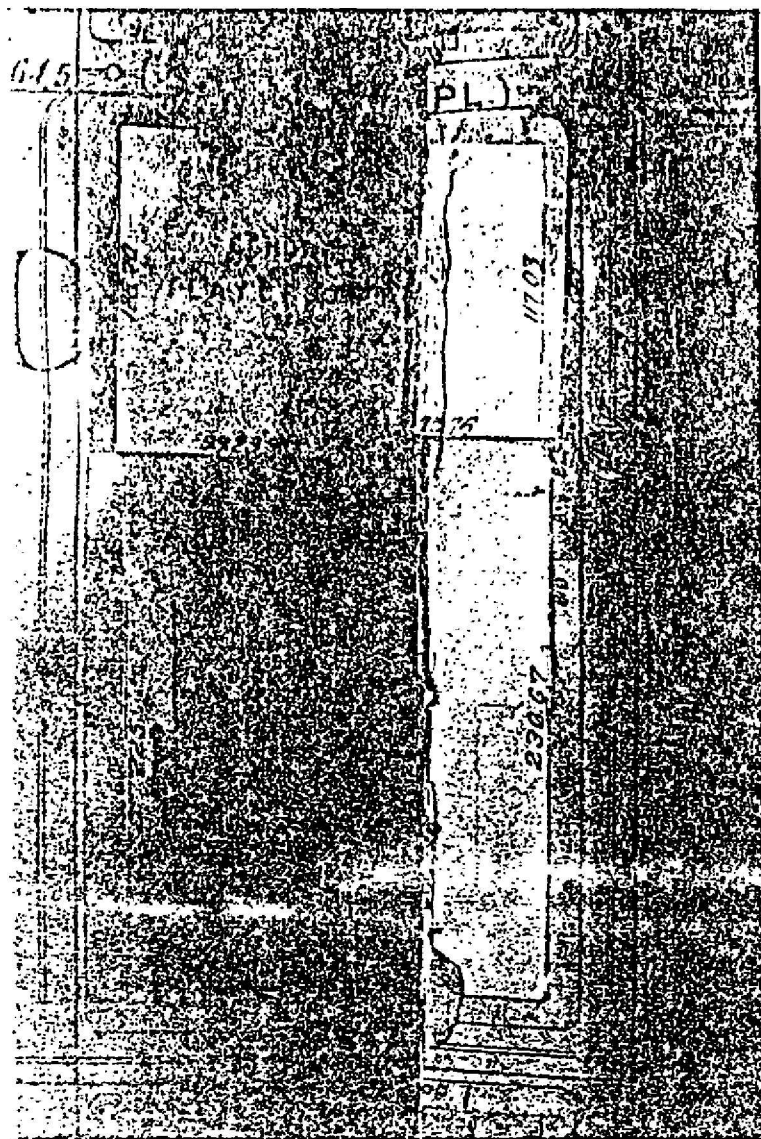
Source: Sanborn 1909:14
 Scale of Original: 1.4" = 100'



Source: Bromley 1923:23
Scale of Original: 1" = 100'



Source: Sanborn 1952:14
 Scale of Original: 1.4" = 100'



Source: Hyde and Co. 1868 Vol. I

APPENDIX C
INTERIM REPORT

INTERIM REPORT
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD TESTING
THE NEHEMIAH PROJECT
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX, NEW YORK
CEQR 93-HPD-015X

by
Arnold Pickman

Submitted to
South Bronx Churches

April 1995

A. Introduction

Archaeological field testing was conducted on the site of the Nehemiah project, located in the Morrisania section of the Bronx, between April 10 - 20, 1995. The testing was conducted in accord with the scope-of-work submitted in June 1994 as modified according to the Environmental Review Assessment dated March 7, 1995 and by conditions encountered in the field.

The testing program included backhoe trenching and clearing on those lots designated as 9 and 11-18 on the testing plan included in the scope-of-work. The primary objective was to locate and test any archaeological features associated with the occupation of the initial structures built between 1860 and 1877 on these lots. The backhoe trenching included the removal of at least some 3 1/2 feet of overburden to the level of the backyards associated with these occupations. In many areas deeper trenching was conducted. This deeper trenching was necessary in order to test for the presence of features truncated by disturbance caused by the construction of buildings erected in the early 20th century as well as 20th century extensions to the late 19th century buildings. In addition, analysis of stratigraphy indicated that in at least some portions of the site fill had been deposited prior to the construction of the ca. 1877 structures, and the deep trenching also had the objective of exposing any features underlying this fill.

B. Features

The backhoe trenching exposed the rear walls of the houses constructed on lots 13-17 in 1877. Four archaeological features located in the backyard areas of lots 15-17 were also exposed. Two of these features, both located on lot 15, contain deposits which include quantities of domestic and personal artifacts as well as faunal remains.

1. Feature 1

Feature 1 is a cistern located some three feet south of the rear wall of the house constructed on lot 15 in 1877. This cistern was intact. A large stone with a circular hole was atop the "collar" of the cistern. This stone marked the level of the ground surface at the time of the use of this feature. The cistern measures approximately six feet in diameter below its dome shaped upper portion, and is some 3 1/2 feet deep from the top of the "collar" to the base of the feature.

A shovel test, measuring approximately 1 by 2 feet was excavated into the cistern deposit, which extended for a depth of approximately 20 inches to the cement floor of the cistern. Thus the deposit in the cistern consists of a total of some 47 cubic feet of material. Immediately above the floor of the cistern, and restricted to its outer edge, there was a thin deposit of silt.

Such deposits are often present in cisterns, and appear to represent siltation which occurred during the period of use of the feature.

The soil matrix in which the artifact deposit is contained consists of gray/brown sandy silt containing quantities of decayed wood and pockets of corroded metal, as well as the artifacts and faunal material noted above. The wood does not appear to have derived from structural demolition, since such pieces would have been too small to fit through the small (ca. 14 inch diameter) opening in the stone overlying the cistern. It should also be noted that only small amounts of brick and mortar were recovered from the deposit, apart from the mortar recovered from the upper portion of the deposit which derived from the interior facing of the cistern wall. The wood may represent additional domestic material (e.g. furniture pieces - drawer pulls were also recovered from the deposit).

2. Feature 2

Feature 2 is located at the rear of lot 15. A backhoe trench placed along the lot line intersected the feature, resulting in removal of approximately half of it, and the feature deposits were noted in the northern profile of the backhoe trench. However, the southern portion of the feature may have been previously disturbed by the construction of a twentieth century structure on lot 12. This may account for the failure to note the presence of the feature during the backhoe trench excavation.

The existing portion of the feature measures some three feet in an east-west direction, with an inner diameter of approximately two feet and appears to extend approximately 3 feet north of the backhoe trench. The walls of the feature appear to be constructed of dry laid stones. If the feature originally extended to the lot line its original dimensions would have been approximately 2 1/2 by 7 feet. The feature extends to a depth of some three feet below the level of the backyard surface. Thus the total deposits within the portion of the feature north of the backhoe trench included an estimated 18 cubic feet of material.

Feature 2 appears to be too shallow to have functioned as a privy. It may represent a drainage sump or a cold storage pit, although its construction is different from features encountered on other New York City sites to which this latter function has been attributed.

The backhoe was used to clear off the overburden from above the feature, the top of which was at approximately the same elevation as the top of the cistern. A small test unit was excavated extending northward from the edge of the backhoe trench. The test unit involved the excavation of approximately 40% of the deposits in the upper portion of the feature and 20% of those in the lower portion.

The matrix from which the faunal material and domestic artifacts were recovered consisted of brown and gray/brown sandy silt containing dense concentrations of cinder and ash. The deposits probably represent furnace debris as well as unburned domestic refuse. As with Feature 1, the artifacts recovered from this feature included items of clothing (shoe parts, fabric, buttons), as well as domestic artifacts (bottle and table glass, ceramics, drawer pulls etc.) and substantial amounts of faunal refuse.

3. Features 1 and 2: Preliminary Dating and Lot Occupation Summary

Dating of the deposits in Features 1 and 2 can be more reliable accomplished after processing of all artifacts. However, during excavation ceramic sherds from Feature 1 were noted which have a maker's mark dateable to ca. 1888. Another maker's mark noted could not be definitively identified without additional research. However, the preliminary research suggests affinities of this mark with one used by the East Morrisania pottery, suggesting the possibility of local procurement. This pottery was in operation ca. 1893. A bottle recovered from Feature 1 also has an embossed trade mark of a local merchant. Dating of this bottle and other artifacts noted during excavation should be possible with further research.

The preliminary research suggests possible deposition of the feature deposits during the turn-of-the-century period.

The documentary research conducted in 1994 indicates that lot 15 was purchased in 1877 by Carl and Pauline Dalmar from Peter Decker. Decker had purchased this lot as well as lots 13, 14, 16 and 17 in 1876 and constructed a house on each lot. Carl Dalmar was a working class immigrant to the United states from Wirtemberg in Germany. The 1880 census indicates his occupation as a "moulding maker." His household at that time included his wife and two children.

The deed research for the documentary study did not follow the history of the property in detail after its initial occupation by the Dalmar family. The tax records indicate that Dalmar continued to own the property through 1891. However, a list of property owners indicates that by 1905 lot 15 was owned by John Townshend.

The artifact dates noted above and the prior documentary research indicates the possibility that the artifacts present in the feature may have been deposited by the Dalmar family prior to their departure from this property.

4. Other Features

Two other features apparently associated with the late 19th century occupation of the site were encountered during the site examination. The material within these features were tested by means of shovel tests. Neither contained significant deposits of

artifacts.

a. Feature 3

Feature 3 was a narrow (ca. 2 by 4 1/2) feature located in the lot 17 backyard area. One wall of the feature was brick lined and the others stone-lined. This feature most likely functioned as a drainage sump. The deposit within the feature consisted of soil containing mostly brick, mortar and other demolition debris. Although some domestic artifacts were recovered, the nature of the material recovered indicates that it was probably deposited at the time of the demolition of the lot 17 structure.

b. Feature 4

The remaining portion of a circular dry laid stone feature (Feature 4), approximately five feet in diameter, was encountered in the backyard area of lot 17. Only the bottom-most 21 inches of this feature remained. It had apparently been truncated by the extension of the lot 17 building which occurred during the 20th century. The deposits tested within the feature were largely culturally sterile. Few artifacts were recovered.

c. Rock Features

Deep trenching indicated the presence of several "rock features" located in lots 13-17. These appeared to represent rocks loosely deposited at the base of a shallow trench which appeared to have been excavated through a ground surface located some six feet below the present surface. Two of these features appeared to extend beneath the walls of the 1877 structures, indicating prior construction. It is uncertain if these features represent the remains of structural walls. Because of the amount of overlying material and the amount of subsequent disturbance, only limited exploration and analysis of these features was possible. Although some artifacts were recovered in association with these walls, we did not encounter any significant associated artifact deposits. These features will be discussed in further detail in the final report on the archaeological field testing.

C. Features 1 and 2 - Significance

According to the criteria for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places as set forth in 36 CFR 800 significant properties include:

districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects of State and local importance that possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling and association and...that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory, or history.

The deposits encountered within Features 1 and 2, located in lot 15 would appear to represent significant deposits according to these criteria. The preliminary testing indicates that they contain material which would permit research questions to be addressed which pertain to local daily life in the turn-of-the-century period, as well as contributing to a research base which permits comparisons among deposits recovered from various sites in the New York City area. Representative research areas which could be addressed by an analysis of material contained within Features 1 and 2 are:

Reconstruction of dietary preferences and procurement - The preliminary testing indicates that Features 1 and 2 contain substantial densities of faunal material. The faunal material noted during the field testing includes large fragments of bone, which may suggest purchase of large cuts and subsequent home butchering. Both the nature of the cuts and the relative frequencies of various species of mammal, bird and fish would not only make possible dietary reconstruction for the occupants of lot 15, but also would permit comparison with similar reconstructions based on material from other New York City sites. One interesting comparison would be with sites of the same period excavated in the outer boroughs of New York City (for example, a turn-of-the-century feature excavated by the author in Staten Island). Comparison would also be possible with material recovered from somewhat earlier sites excavated in other New York City boroughs. In addition to the faunal material, vegetal material should be recoverable by subjecting samples of the matrix from Features 1 and 2 to flotation procedures and subsequent analysis.

Comparison of procurement practices in various portions of New York City - Identification of the sources of some of the artifacts recovered from Features 1 and 2 should be possible. Artifacts noted during the field testing, for example, include a bottle with a local store trade mark, and the ceramic noted above which may have derived from a local pottery. Comparison could be made with procurement practices reflected in material recovered from sites of the same general period in the outer boroughs, including the Staten Island site noted above, and material recovered from the Stattel farm in Queens.

Class and ethnic comparisons - Research should be able to confirm the affiliations of the artifacts contained within the feature with the Dalmar family, or to identify the subsequent occupants of the site who may also have been affiliated with these deposits. The types of ceramics and other artifacts, as well as the dietary remains deposited by these occupants can then be compared with those recovered from other New York City sites from the late 19th - early 20th century period whose occupants have the same and/or different ethnic and class affiliations.

1. Impacts

Features 1 and 2 are both located within the area to be impacted by the excavation of the foundation for one of the structures to be built on the site. This would result in the destruction of these features.

D. Recommendations

It is recommended that the adverse impacts of construction on the significant archaeological deposits contained within Features 1 and 2 be mitigated through the conduct of data recovery excavations, analysis of excavated material, and preparation of a data recovery report. A budget for the data recovery project accompanies this report. The tasks to be performed as part of the proposed project are as follows:

Field Excavations - The deposits within Nehemiah Features 1 and 2 should be completely excavated. All material removed from the features should be screened in the field through 1/4 inch mesh. All artifacts noted should be retained with the following exceptions. In Feature 1, all deposits contain large amounts of cinder, slag and coal. This material should not be retained from the soil screened in the field. In Feature 2, large amounts of wood and corroded metal were present. Small pieces of wood and corroded metal (a size criteria to be determined in the field) without recognizable structure/function would not be retained. From each excavated context, a bulk sample consisting of at least one gallon-size plastic bag would be taken. Analysis of these samples should permit the identification of the density of bulk materials in each context. In addition, soil passed through the screen should be collected on a plastic sheet placed under the screen. At least one gallon size plastic bag of this soil should be retained from each excavated context and subjected to flotation procedures. This would enable recovery of a representative sample of vegetal material and small pieces of bone which may pass through the 1/4 inch mesh screen used in the field.

Half of Feature 1 will be initially excavated and a profile of the deposits drawn prior to excavation of the second half of the feature. This procedure will not be necessary for the Feature 2 excavation, since a profile of the deposits was drawn during the site examination phase of investigation.

Washing, Numbering and Tabulation - All artifacts recovered in the field will be returned to the laboratory, where they will be washed, identified and tabulated according to accepted analytical categories. Artifacts of particular diagnostic significance, as well as fragments which can be mended to form larger identifiable artifacts (i.e. ceramic vessels, bottles) should be directly numbered with provenience information. Other artifacts should be placed in clean plastic bags which are so labelled.

Processing of Bulk and Flotation Samples - Bulk samples will be initially weighed and measured as to volume. The samples will then be screened in the laboratory and any artifacts identified and weighed. Bulk materials included in the samples will also be weighed. This will enable the characterization of the deposits as to density of various types of materials.

Flotation samples will be subjected to water flotation procedures, involving separation of the flot residues into heavy and light fractions. These residues will then be examined under magnification, and the vegetal and other materials removed.

Faunal and Floral Analysis - All animal bone recovered will be examined by an archaeologist specializing in faunal analysis. Bone will be identified according to the lowest taxonomic classification possible. Butchering marks and other characteristics of the bone will be noted. Floral material recovered from the flotation samples will be examined by a qualified horticulturalist and identified as to species.

Documentary Research - Research should be conducted as part of the data recovery project on the history of occupation of Lot 15 subsequent to 1880. This will involve examination of primary sources such as deeds, tax records, birth and death records, and directories. In addition, research on artifacts should be conducted to identify dates of manufacture. This will involve a review of reference sources and directories as well as patent and/or trade mark research.

Conservation - The field testing indicated the presence of quantities of fabric (clothing parts) and shoe leather in both Features. This material should be stabilized and conserved.

Curation - Arrangements should be made for transportation of the collection to an appropriate repository which would provide for permanent curation.

Report - A complete report providing a description of the excavations, tabulations of material and discussion of the artifacts recovered, and a discussion of research questions such as those noted above, should be prepared for submission to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.