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PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS  
PROPOSED SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
JAMAICA, QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK

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**Professional Service Industries, Inc.**  
Soil Systems Division

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PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS  
PROPOSED SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
JAMAICA, QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK

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January 1983

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617



## ABSTRACT

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on the proposed site of a Social Security building in the Jamaica section of the Borough of Queens by Soil Systems, Inc., under contract with the General Services Administration. The purpose of those investigations was to determine the nature and extent of archaeological resources that have survived within the study block, and to generate recommendations concerning future archaeological phases on the project. Historical research undertaken by Soil Systems, Inc. during Phase I of this project indicated that the block may have been utilized as early as the 1660s, and that structures were definitely present on the study area by 1782. The Phase I research indicated that there was little likelihood that prehistoric resources would be found.

Archaeological testing began on the block on November 29, 1982, and excavations were completed on January 3, 1983. Thirty seven backhoe trenches were excavated, and those trenches were supplemented with hand dug excavation units in areas where features or artifact concentrations were observed. Artifacts analysis was conducted concurrently with the fieldwork, and was completed within a week and a half after completion of the field phase.

The excavations and analyses conducted on the study tract indicated that the earliest archaeological resources that have survived to the late eighteenth century. The lack of earlier artifacts and features in this case may indicate that development of the block was later than expected, or that the deep basements that lined the northern sections of the block had destroyed all traces of earlier occupations. At any rate, at least one late eighteenth century feature was found, as were a number of features and artifact concentrations spanning the second half of the nineteenth century.

Five areas were identified during the Phase II investigations that will require attention during subsequent archaeological phases. Those areas include what appears to have been a deep basement that may to have been filled during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, as well as features and artifact concentrations that relate to a series of hotels present on the block during the nineteenth century. Each area is described in detail in Chapter V of this report, and recommendations are presented concerning the level of additional work needed for each area.

It was anticipated that archaeological resources would be found within the study block that were encapsulated beneath fairly deep fill layers. That expectation was not fulfilled since the original terrain in that area had not been greatly modified through time. Despite that factor, significant archaeological resources were identified, and it is anticipated that those resources will yield valuable insights into the history of the Jamaica section of Queens from the late eighteenth through the nineteenth centuries.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## I. INTRODUCTION

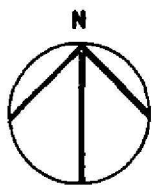
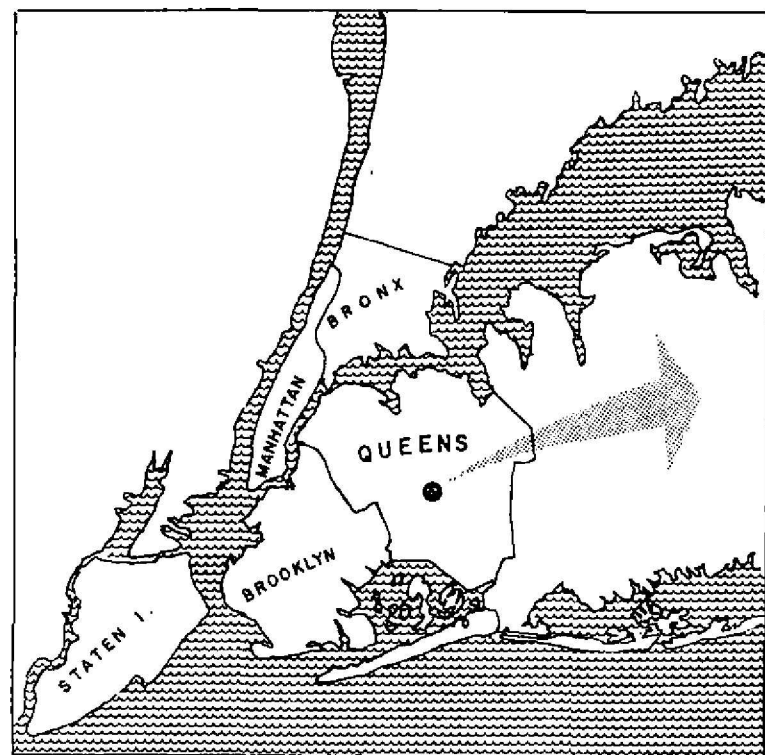
This report presents the results of a cultural resource testing program of the proposed site of the Social Security Administration Center, a Federal Office Building in Jamaica, Queens County, New York. This project was implemented under contract No. GS-02B-2315 between the General Services Administration (GSA) and Soil Systems, Inc. (SSI), under the provisions of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and Executive Order 11593. The goal of the testing program (or pedestrian survey as it is described in the contract), was to verify the results of the historical analysis accomplished in Phase I of this contract. The objective of Phase I was to determine the archaeological potential of the project area, and whether any potential resources would be affected by the proposed construction. A second objective was to design a plan of work for performing subsurface testing. The latter was executed from November 29, 1982 through January 3, 1983 in Phase II, which is discussed in this report.

The project area is located in Jamaica, Queens County, New York, and is bounded by Jamaica Avenue to the north, Parsons Boulevard to the east, Archer Avenue to the south, and the eastern property line of the former Dutch Reformed Church on the west (Figure 1).

As stated above, the objective of Phase II was to verify the results of the historical analysis conducted in Phase I. Machine-aided subsurface testing was to be used in Phase II to confirm or deny the predicted existence of significant, intact, buried cultural resources in the project area. The analysis of trench profiles and recovered archaeological materials would provide the necessary data to determine the integrity and verify the significance of the resources encountered. The General Services Administration's scope of work stated that Phase II should contain, but not be limited to, the performance of subsurface testing in the area delineated by borings numbered 11-12-13-14-16-17-18-19 (Figure 2). These borings were part of the 26 test borings placed in the project area for GSA by W. M. Walsh Co. Inc.

Soil Systems, Inc.'s strategy for the testing program, as presented in the Phase I report (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982), involved the machine excavation of approximately 20 trenches (20 feet by 2.5 feet). Those trenches were used to sample two types of land use in the project area. The first was a strip of land along the property lines at the rear of lots, in order to locate features such as wells or privies which tend to be located in such areas in urban contexts. Within the project area to be tested, trenches were to be placed in a strip running along Archer Avenue, and in a line running east/west in the middle of the main portion of modern Lot 27 (Figure 3), which was the location of a rear property line in the nineteenth century. Other trenches were to be placed in the central portion of the project area in order to locate the remains of earlier (pre-1900) ground surfaces and other features, including deposits associated with outbuildings located in this area of the block. The testing plan included stripping larger areas to look for features if no early ground surface remains or features were found.





SCALE IN FEET (APPROXIMATE)



FIGURE 1  
PROJECT LOCATION MAP

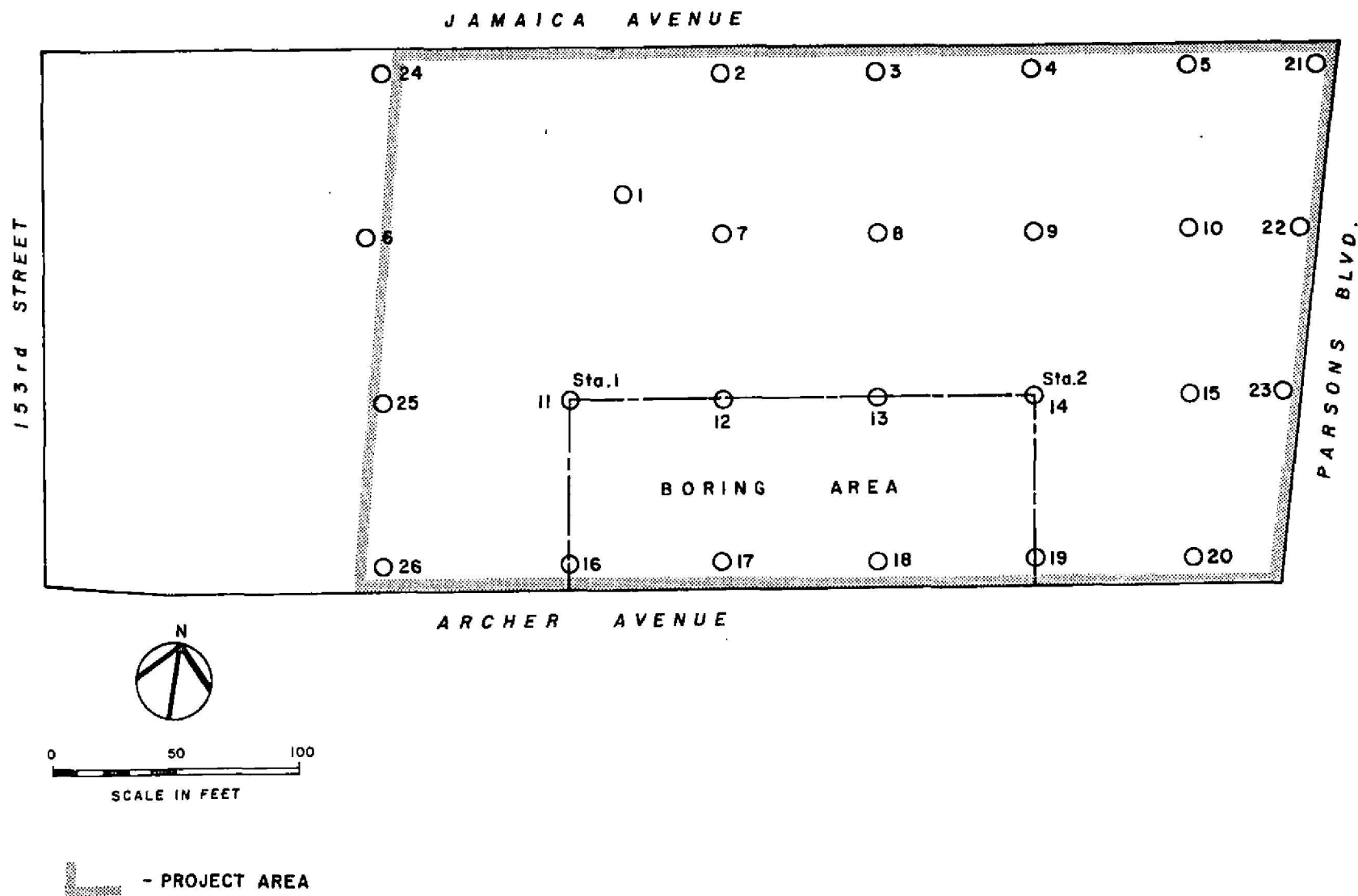


FIGURE 2  
PROJECT AREA WITH SOIL BORINGS  
AND TRANSIT STATIONS 1 AND 2

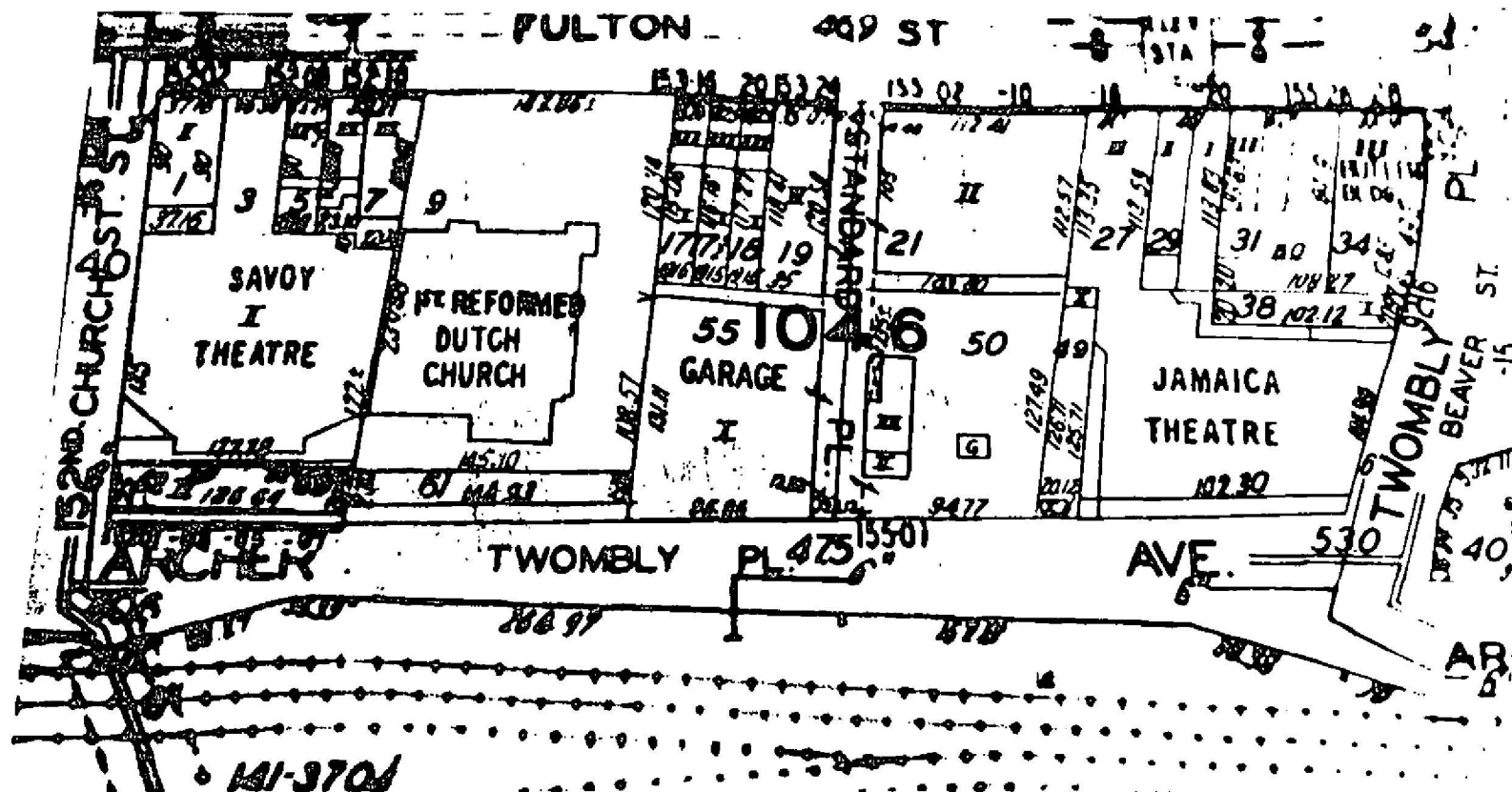


FIGURE 3  
 THE PROJECT AREA IN 1955;  
 A DETAIL FROM HYDE  
 (NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAP ROOM)

The proposed test trench location strategy was followed in the actual testing program with some modifications. A series of five trenches were placed along Archer Avenue at a distance of 20 feet north of the southern project boundary. A second transect of five trenches was excavated at the northernmost extent of the eight borings, approximately 80 feet from the southern project boundary. Trenches were also placed between those two transects to examine deposits in the center of the boring area. This central area fell between early structures and at the rear of properties which fronted on both Jamaica and Archer.

Five trenches were placed outside of the aforementioned boring area to sample the areas which the Phase I study indicated had a high potential for containing intact, buried archaeological deposits. These areas included modern Lot 38, the rear of modern Lots 17, 18, and 19 along Jamaica Avenue (an area of rear yards of middle and late nineteenth century structures), and the northwest quadrant of modern Lot 55 (Figure 3).

Prior to the completion of the original 20 trenches, the contract between GSA and SSI was amended, whereby the field investigation was expanded to include up to 20 additional trenches to test the block in its entirety. The areas covered by these additional trenches included modern Lots 29, 31, and 34; the entrance to the Jamaica Theater on Jamaica Avenue; the alleyway between modern Lots 21 and 50; the front portions of Lots 17 to 19, also on Jamaica Avenue; Standard Place between modern Lots 19 and 21; the southern portion of modern Lot 55, and the main area of modern Lot 27. The majority of these additional trenches focused on the northern portion of the study area, as this was the location of the most intensive areas of historic occupation, especially during the eighteenth century.

A total of 37 trenches were actually placed within the project area, rather than the full 40. The information provided by the 37 trenches was sufficient for testing the predicted resource potential of the block, developed in the Phase I study. In addition, these trenches were adequate in developing an overall plan of the entire project area's stratigraphy, including the location of intact artifact bearing deposits and features. Finally, these trenches provided sufficient information for developing a data retrieval plan for the next investigation phase of the project area.

The excavation of these 37 trenches demonstrated that the eastern central portion of the project area contained the earliest deposits and features possibly dating to the early nineteenth century. The central portion of the block contained many horizontal deposits and shallow trash pits dating to the late nineteenth century. These archaeological contexts in the center of the block may have been related to the various nineteenth century hotels that existed along Jamaica Avenue. The remainder of the block contained only twentieth century deposits and basements filled with very recent demolition debris. However, there were some areas of the block which still have the potential for containing intact, archaeological deposits, given the absence of basements. These areas included (a) the western portion of modern Lot 27, which was the location of a 1836 property line, and (b) the west central portion of the project area, which would have been the rear yard of a middle to late nineteenth century residence fronting Jamaica Avenue.

Given the results of the trench excavations, five areas have been slated for additional work during a data retrieval program. These include the eastern central portion of the block (Lot 38 and vicinity), the very center of the block (northern portion of Lot 50), the western portion of modern Lot 27, the south portion of Lot 29, the rear areas of modern Lots 17 1/2 and 18, and the northern end of Lot 55 (Fig. 3). An outline for this data retrieval program is presented in Chapter V, Summary and Recommendations.

An historical overview of the project area is presented in Chapter II. Chapter III discusses the field and laboratory methods used in this project. The actual results of the field investigation and laboratory, artifact analysis are detailed in Chapter IV.



## II. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The Phase I report presented a detailed discussion of the project area history, and that of Jamaica, Queens County. Since the results of this historical analysis were used in guiding the Phase II archaeological testing, it is necessary to summarize the findings contained in the report.

### Prehistoric

Archaeological investigations of Long Island have shown that the most common sites are shell middens with artifacts, covering about one acre (Smith 1960:103). Protohistoric and historic settlement consisted of permanent villages and defensive sites surrounded by earthworks (Ceci 1977). Smith states that permanent sites are generally restricted to the coastal areas, while the interior of the island was used as a hunting area. Skinner (1915) reported that villages do occur inland, in association with soil suitable for cultivation and a water source.

The area around Beaver Pond located a mile southeast of the project area, was possibly the site of prehistoric occupations (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982). There is a historical reference to a "native settlement" on or near Beaver Pond (Bolton 1934). There is also a reference to Indian trails intersecting just west of the project area (Bolton 1922, Map 1). These are the only citations in the literature for prehistoric settlements in the vicinity of the project area. No state or local site files list prehistoric sites in the area.

Based on these data, the potential for locating a major prehistoric settlement in the project area is low, though it cannot be totally discounted. It is possible that occupations on and near Beaver Pond may have extended into the project area, probably in the form of temporary hunting camps (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982).

### History of Jamaica, Queens County, New York

The following discussion is taken from the Phase I report and presents a brief overview of Jamaica's history.

The town of Jamaica was first settled in the 1650s in what was then the Dutch New Netherlands by 24 British Presbyterian proprietors who emigrated from Hempstead, Long Island. They had obtained a grant for the settlement from Peter Stuyvesant, the Dutch governor in New Amsterdam. The English settlers in Hempstead had moved to Long Island from Watertown, Massachusetts, where they had been persecuted for religious reasons, by way of Stamford, Connecticut (Gritman 1921). Whether Jamaica's first settlers left Hempstead for religious reasons or because of a shortage of land is unknown (Peyer 1974:11). Jamaica, which was originally called Rusdorp by the Dutch, was established as a typical New England town (Reps 1965:124-125). The proprietors divided the town into quarters and assigned each proprietor a six-acre house lot, ten acres of planting land, and 20 acres of meadow (Anonymous 1882:194, Peyer 1974:22-23). The project area is located in what is thought to have been the western quarter of the original town.

After 1664, when the English took over New Netherlands, Jamaica became the administrative, judicial, and religious center for the towns of Newtown, Flushing, Jamaica, and Hempstead. The court and jail, as well as the home churches for the Episcopal and Dutch Reformed Churches (the latter being immediately to the west of the project area), were all located there.

Jamaica's location at the intersections of two of the main east-west and north-south arteries on Long Island (Jamaica Avenue, the road from the Brooklyn ferry to Hempstead and eastern Long Island, and Parsons Boulevard, the road to Flushing and the Rockaways, respectively) has had an extremely important impact on its history. In 1703, Lord Cornbury, the governor of the Province of New York, spent the summer in Jamaica in order to escape a yellow fever epidemic in New York City. After his sojourn, the government began to improve the major east-west routes on Long Island, and Jamaica Avenue was improved and widened by 100 feet. Jamaica's location, at the end of a day's journey from New York, encouraged its use as a stopover for travellers, and a number of inns, taverns, and stores were established. The trade for these establishments came primarily from the Dutch farmers who lived further out on Long Island, and stopped at Jamaica on their way to and from the markets in New York and Brooklyn. The innkeepers and merchants in Jamaica were in fact responsible for establishing the first stages from the ferry into the area (Herndon 1974:12-16). Inns and taverns continued to be an important commercial focus of Jamaica until the twentieth century, and several of these establishments were located in the study area.

During the Revolution, the British realized the strategic importance of Jamaica's location at the crossroads of Long Island and quartered troops there. After the war, Jamaica's importance as a crossroads and as a resort for rich city residents grew. It is in this period that hotels begin to be documented for the project area itself. George Washington stayed at William Warne's hotel, which is thought to have been on the project area (see below), in 1790. Jamaica Avenue (or Fulton Street) became a turnpike in 1809, which it continued to be until 1897 (Herndon 1974:37).

The railroad, which had a very strong impact on the development of Jamaica, was opened in 1836 (Jamaica History File, Queens Borough Public Library). After the introduction of the railroad, Jamaica continued to grow until the 1860s, when its growth levelled off. The economy of the area continued to be based on its position as a market gardening center and as a center for the services which it provided to travellers and visitors from the city. The raising of cattle was important in the area around Jamaica from the seventeenth through the late nineteenth century; as recently as 1875, herds could be seen being driven through Jamaica's streets on their way to market (Jamaica History File, Queens Borough Public Library). Industry tended to be domestic, and included tanneries, blacksmitheries, and mills. In the eighteenth century, wealthy New Yorkers stayed in Jamaica's inns, and in the early nineteenth century they built summer homes there (Herndon 1974:32).

The population growth of the late nineteenth century was primarily residential, and the character of this growth consisted of predominantly middle-class commuters with relatively few ties to the community. In addition, the convenient and relatively inexpensive transportation system attracted poorer residents, who settled south of the railroad tracks.

The introduction of automobile travel and the completion of both the Queensborough Bridge in 1909 and the elevated railway (which was extended to Jamaica in 1903) all contributed to the dramatic growth of Queens County after its incorporation into the City of New York in 1898. After construction of the Triboro Bridge in 1936 and the IND subway line in 1937, Jamaica, which had maintained its suburban character well into the twentieth century, became a part of the metropolis of New York.

### Project Area History

A detailed discussion of the history of the project area, which addressed land use, structure locations, and ownership, has been presented in the Phase I report (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982). These conclusions were based on research in deeds, building department records and various materials housed at the Queens County Public Library and the New York Public Library. As the testing program focused on specific lots, the following discussion will be restricted to the history of these lots and their twentieth century configurations.

The methods of numbering units of land for tax purposes have changed several times since the block and lot system was instituted at the turn of the century. In order to simplify this discussion and to coordinate the results of the historical research with the archaeological testing program, the most recent lot enumeration is used (Figure 3). The modern lots which were within the testing area included Lots 55, 50, 49, and 27 (within the area of the eight borings), and Lots 38, 29, 31, 34, 17 to 19, 55, 27, and Standard Place (outside of the boring area).

For the purpose of this discussion, the lots are grouped into three larger sections of the block. The first section includes those lots west of Standard Place (and east of the early Dutch Reformed Church and Standard Place itself). The area of Standard Place, which was officially designated as a street in the twentieth century, was a dividing line of different sections of land use and properties on the block during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The second area includes those lots east of Standard Place and west of the eastern property line of modern Lots 21 and 50, which has been a property line on the block since the eighteenth century. The third area encompasses those lots east of this property line. These three areas will be designated as the block's western, middle, and eastern sections.

## Western Section

Lots 17, 17 1/2 (117), 18, 19 and 55

Apparently, the first structure within the area of these modern lots was part of the complex of structures associated with Henry Van Cott's Hotel, which appears to have existed since 1842 (Figure 4). The main portions of the hotel, east of modern Standard Place, appear to have been the location of earlier hotels and taverns of the late eighteenth century.

Van Cott's hotel experienced several owners after 1843. By 1856, the property was owned by Howard Pearsall. In October of 1868, Pearsall and his wife Cynthia began to subdivide the property. Conklin's 1868 map shows three narrow lots within the larger parcel owned by the Pearsalls after 1856 (Figure 5). On October 3, 1868, Cornelia and Howard Pearsall legally agreed to sell James Remsen and James Elmore approximately the eastern two-thirds of their lot, retaining a narrow property fronting on Fulton Street and "the privilege of procuring water from the well or pump now upon said premises at all time hereafter . . ." (Liber 283:298). The sale took place the following May 1st (Liber 296:83). Remsen extended his enterprise on the newly acquired property, converting the Van Cott hotel into the Pavillion Hotel, a dance hall associated with his Jamaica Hotel located in the northeast section of the block (W.P.A.:90). Some ten to fifteen feet west of the Pavillion was Oscar Jackson's boarding stable, located near the hotel's sheds (W.P.A.:90). These outbuildings appear to have included a barn associated with Cornelia Pearsall's house, which was cited in the 1868 transaction as then located along the western boundary of the property subsequently conveyed by Pearsall to Elmore and Remsen (Liber 283:298).

The barn described in the Pearsall-Elmore and Remsen transaction (1868), stood on the southwest corner of Jamaica Avenue and Standard Place after Standard Place was laid out in the 1920s (W.P.A.:90). A blacksmith's shop was located in the barn, and a post office was subsequently built over this site (Figure 6). By the 1930s, the building was known as the county clerk's office (W.P.A.:90).

The Pearsalls maintained a dwelling on their lot between the Remsen (subsequently O'Donnell) property and the lot belonging to the Reformed Church (W.P.A.:90). Cornelia and Howard Pearsall sold the property to William Hardenbrook in March 1886 (Figure 7).

The twentieth century structures on Lots 17 and 18 were three similar buildings (Figure 3), all built together in 1916. These buildings measured 18 feet by 18 feet by 55 to 56 feet deep, and had backyard extensions which measured 18 feet by 18 feet by 50 feet deep. There were originally small backyards behind each of these buildings, measuring 18 feet by 11 to 12 feet, but these yards were later covered by additions to the extensions (cf. Hyde 1944). The foundation walls for these buildings were approximately 8 feet below the curb, and cellars which were excavated to unspecified depths were located only under the main structures, and not under the backyard extensions (New York City Department of Buildings NB 4336, 1916; Alt. 441, 1944).



FIGURE 4  
 THE PROJECT AREA IN 1842;  
 A DETAIL FROM JOHNSON  
 (QUEENS BOROUGH LIBRARY, LONG ISLAND DIVISION)



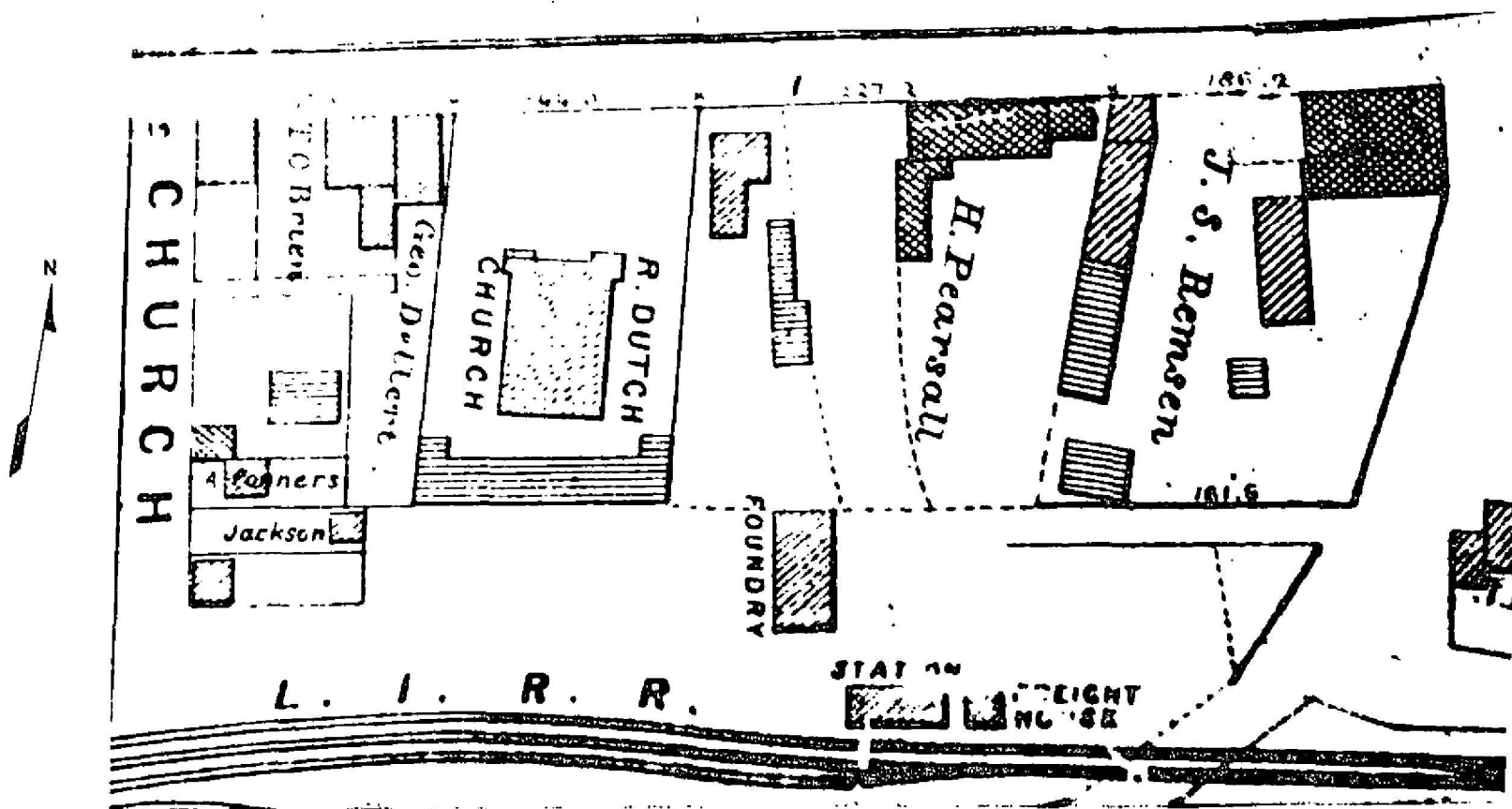


FIGURE 5  
 THE PROJECT AREA IN 1868;  
 A DETAIL FROM CONKLIN  
 (QUEENS BOROUGH LIBRARY, LONG ISLAND DIVISION)

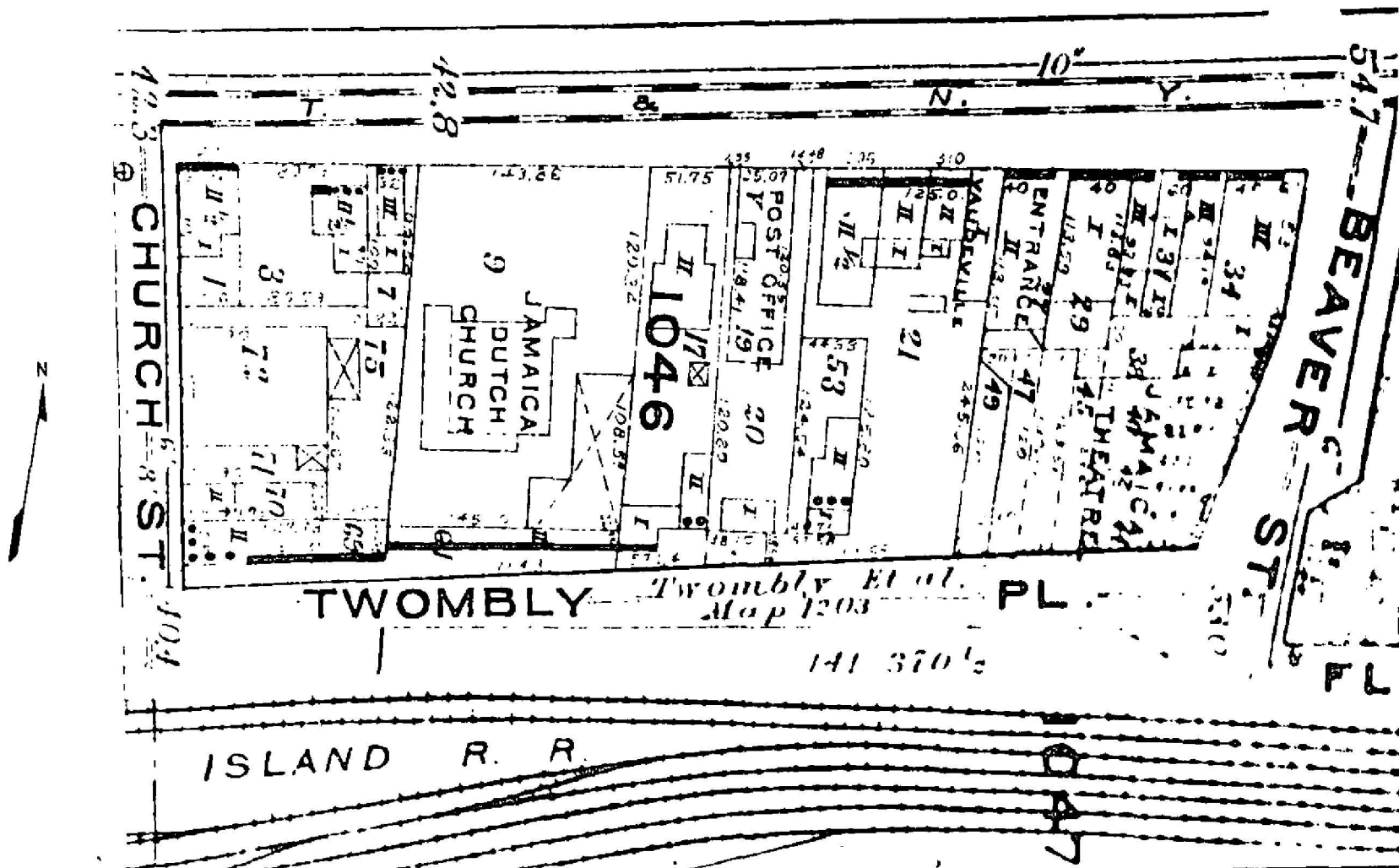


FIGURE 6  
THE PROJECT AREA IN 1913;  
A DETAIL FROM HYDE  
( NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAP ROOM)

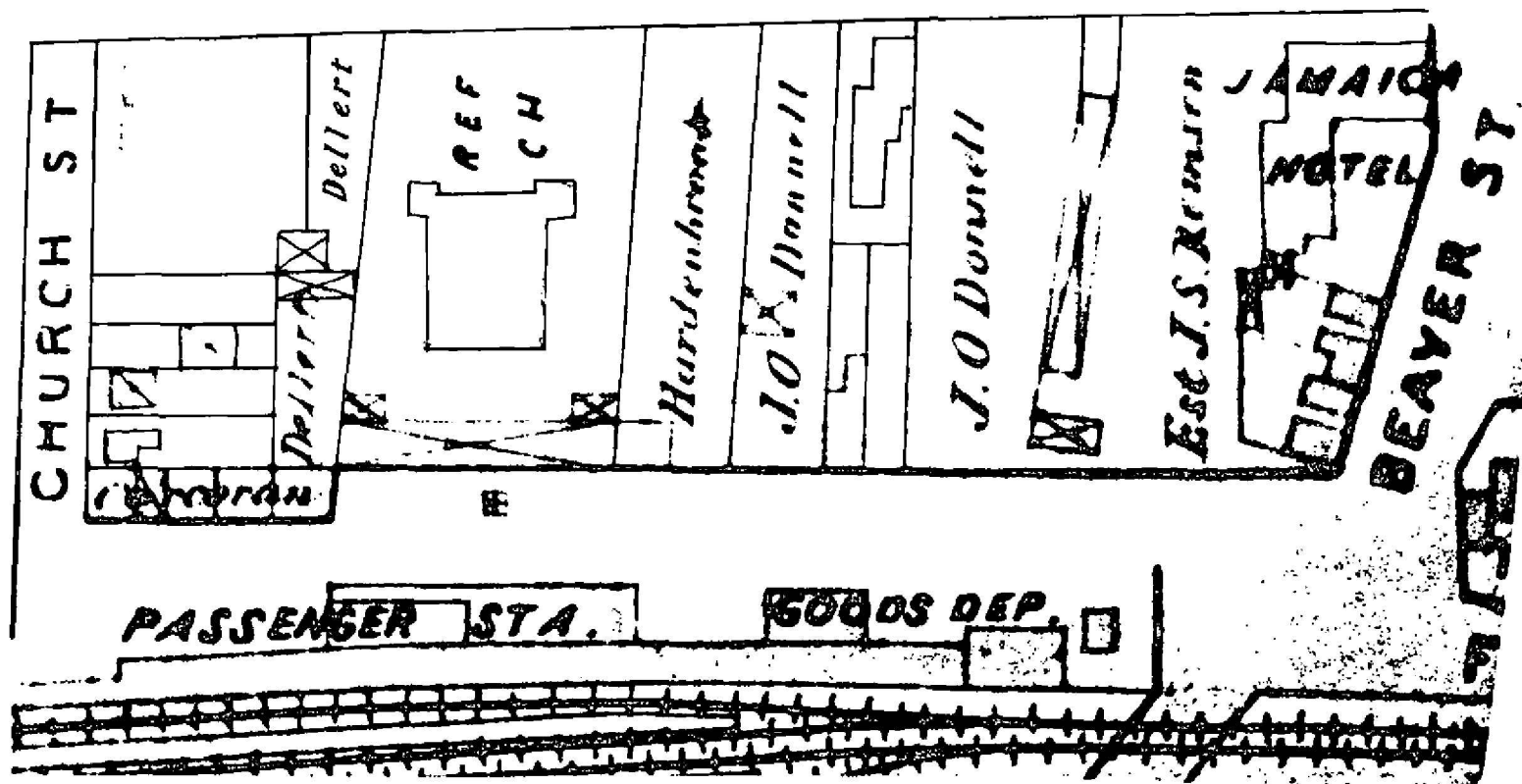


FIGURE 7  
THE PROJECT AREA IN 1891;  
A DETAIL FROM WOLVERTON  
(NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAP ROOM)

These lots, then, have been disturbed to approximate depths of less than eight feet (the depth of the foundation walls) in the area of the main buildings, and have been only minimally disturbed in the areas under the extensions.

The twentieth century structure on Lot 19 was built in 1909. Its foundation walls were laid approximately ten feet deep; a basement was not mentioned in the building plans. Although no backyard is indicated on the maps, there was a small areaway on the western side of the building which was not built upon originally, although it was covered, presumably with an extension, by the mid-twentieth century (New York City Department of Buildings NB 3611, 1909 Hyde 1912, 1913, 1955). The lot, then has been disturbed to a depth of less than ten feet.

#### Lot 55

Lot 55, since the late eighteenth century, functioned as the rear of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue. No structures were present in this area of the block until the late nineteenth century. A structure to the south of what was the Pearsall house in 1868 (Figure 5) does extend into the northern portion of modern Lot 55, but is absent on the 1873 Beers map (Figure 8) of the block. Two structures are present in this area on an 1891 map (Figure 7), one on a lot owned by William Hardenbrook, adjacent to the Reformed Church property, and a second on a property owned by O'Donnell. By the 1900s these structures were no longer standing.

Three small buildings were located in the southwestern portion of the lot in the early twentieth century. These buildings were built after 1891. The depths of the basements, if any, in these buildings are not known, although the borings in this area of the block show fill extending to depths of seven feet, suggesting that they did have basements.

By 1902, Henrietta Hardenbrook had sold the property to William Baker, who had also acquired most of the adjacent O'Donnell property corresponding to Lots 38, 39 1/2 and 40 (Figure 9). He and Elizabeth Scully, the owner of Lot 39, and her tenant, Alexander Prinz, maintained a private walkway running from Fulton Street south to Twombly Place. This corresponds to the location of Standard Place. When the New York and North Shore Railroad showed interest in extending a line along this corridor, Baker, Scully and Prinz, who had an option to buy Lot 39, agreed on a fourteen-foot wide right-of-way to accommodate the single-track railroad and a private, five-foot wide sidewalk for use of the owner, their tenants and guests (Liber 1274:346, Liber 1298:351). It is not clear whether this spur was ever built. By 1911, Baker had bought Lot 39 from Scully and thus owned most of the central portion of the study area on both sides of Standard Place. He leased the area east of Standard Place, approximately the block's middle section, and the instrument defined the western boundary of this parcel as the "centre line of Standard Place." Standard Place, the document continued, was "a private way twenty-five (25) feet wide" (Liber 1747:145).

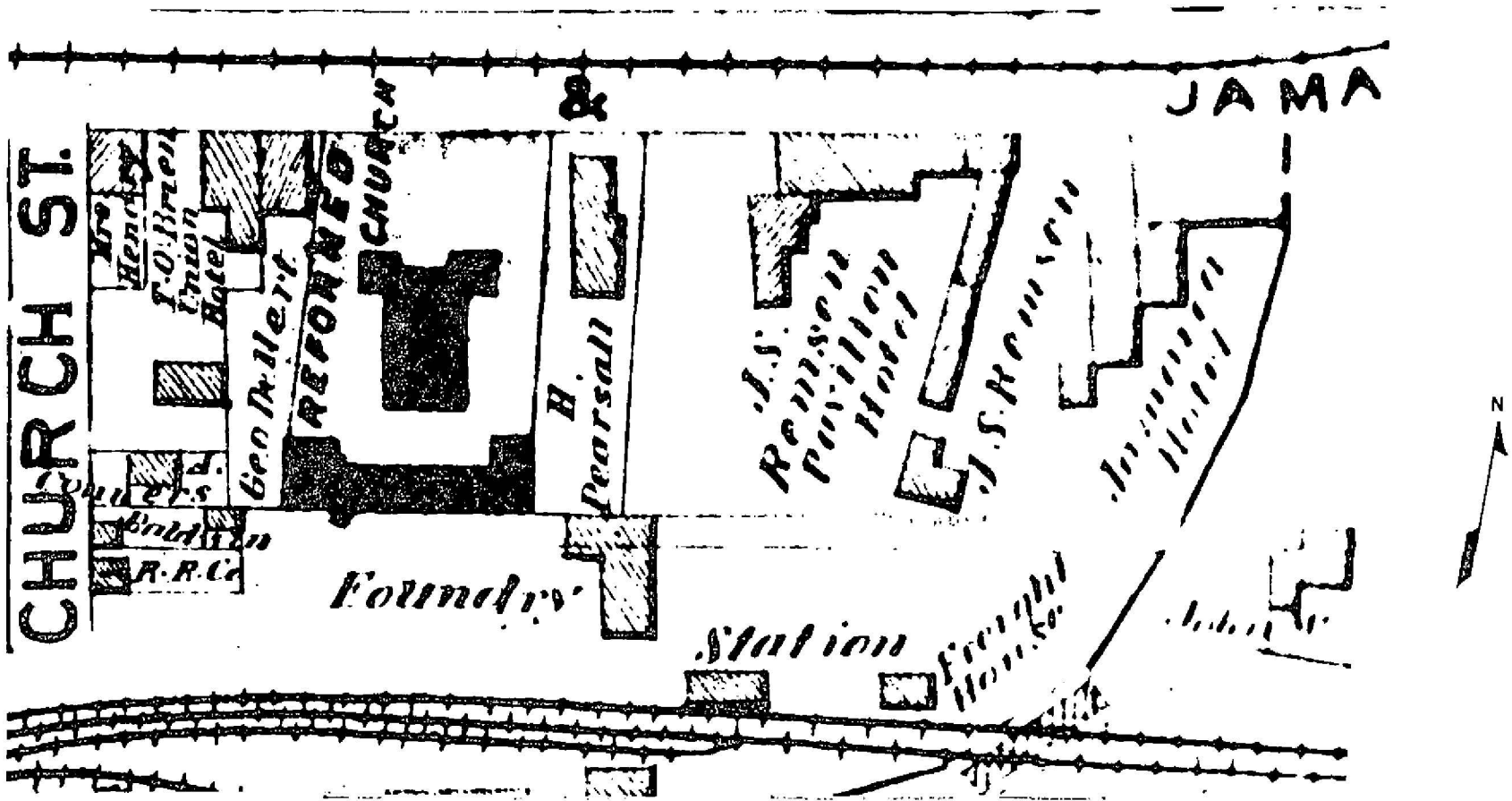


FIGURE 8  
 THE PROJECT AREA IN 1873;  
 A DETAIL FROM BEERS  
 (NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAP ROOM)



Baker sold the property corresponding to Lot 55, east of Standard Place and south of the post office, to Florence Leonardi in September 1918 (Liber 2178:351). This lot was bounded on the east by Standard Place, which had been laid out and turned over to the city, and included a twelve-foot right-of-way on the northern boundary for the post office, which fronted on Fulton Street. This appears to correspond to the alley depicted in Figure 3 (1955 plat). Leonardi, in February 1919, leased the property, which then contained a one-story brick garage, to Charles Marko and Henry Pischa, who set up a "garage and repair shop for repairing automobiles of every description" (Liber 2192:389). The garage covered the entire lot. The depths of the foundation walls of the garage were four feet, and the building plans indicate that this structure did not have a cellar. This lot, then, has only been minimally disturbed, except possibly in the area of the three turn-of-the-century buildings.

#### Middle Section

##### Lot 50

Lot 50 functioned since the late eighteenth century as the rear of properties whose structures fronted on modern Jamaica Avenue. The 1842 Johnson map (Figure 4) does indicate a lone structure in the area of Lot 50, and possibly into later Standard Place. This structure is not recorded on later maps, as these maps show the lot area as void of structures until the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Thus, prior to the 1870s, the area of this lot probably continued to function as the very rear of the long lots running from Jamaica Avenue to Archer.

The history of these lots began in the 1700s. A stagecoach was set up between "Waldron's" and "Bardin's Inn, Jamaica" in 1873, which was also located on the south side of Jamaica Avenue. In 1788, William Warne bought the tavern from Bardin, and although Bardin continued to own the property, the tavern became known as Warne's tavern (Old Long Island Inns file, Queens Borough Public Library). George Washington spent a night at this tavern in 1790. The tavern appears to have been located on what became the southeast corner of Standard Place and Jamaica Avenue; the site was subsequently occupied by Henry Van Cott's Hotel in 1842 (W.P.A.:96). This tavern corresponds to the second structure depicted on Taylor's map (Figure 10). Finally, the deed conveying property from Watson to Bardin directs the surveyor to begin his measurements from a tree "at the Northeast corner of the corner dwelling House where Merian Marsh dec'd formerly resided" (Liber E:543). This reference may correspond to the third structure, which is surrounded by a fence and garden and may possibly reflect a dwelling and its dependencies.



FIGURE 10  
THE PROJECT AREA IN 1782 ;  
A DETAIL OF THE TAYLOR MAP  
(NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAP ROOM)



Information collected during the W.P.A. project in Jamaica states that John Battin, a British soldier during the Revolutionary War, built a hotel east of the Dutch Reformed Church, south of Jamaica Avenue, after the war (W.P.A.:85). Since Bardin sold Battin property in 1796, which included houses and a fence on the southern boundary of the lot, bordering on the east on Bardin's own land and to the north on Jamaica Avenue, Battin presumably built the hotel after this time. In 1800, however, he sold the property back to Bardin, and a list of residents in this area, which was compiled in 1865 but describes the area in 1800, states that Bardin kept a hotel east of the Dutch Church ("South Side Fulton Street in Jamaica, Residents in 1800," April 30, 1865, Jamaica History File, Queens Borough Public Library). Smith Hicks kept a hotel at this location, which was replaced by Van Cott's hotel (W.P.A.:85). It is presently believed that Battin's hotel was located at the northeast corner of Standard Place and Jamaica Avenue, possibly on the site of the Warne tavern.

Van Cott's estate declared bankruptcy and the hotel and lot were sold at public auction to Rem I. Snedeker in 1843 (Liber 60:184). The property changed hands several times between 1843 and 1850, owned during these years by a series of investors who probably leased the hotel to an independent operator. In 1850, Theodorus Snedeker, who had bought the property from Benjamin Nelson less than two years earlier, sold it to Joseph Howard, an innkeeper of Jamaica, who may have both owned and operated the hotel for the next six years (Liber 83:212). Howard sold the property to Howard Pearsall in 1856, who ran the hotel in 1865 ("South Side of Fulton Street, Jamaica, Residents in 1800", April 30, 1864, Jamaica History File, Queens Borough Public Library).

The history of the Pearsall property has been discussed above. This property experienced many different ownerships and land uses up to the twentieth century. As noted above, William Baker bought O'Donnell's property in 1902 (Liber 1274:346) and subsequently acquired Elizabeth Scully's Lot 39. This corresponds to the area defined by Lots 50 and 21, which superseded Lots 38, 39, and 39 1/2 as designated in 1901 and Lot 20 as designated in the 1906 plat of the Pettit Hotel property, which is presented below as Figure 11. In May 1911, he leased this area for fifty years to Washburn Realty Trust, Ltd., a Boston-based company which, in turn, redeveloped and sublet the property. The company rented the property with the intention to demolish standing structures and rebuild. The lease recognized this intention, stipulating that structures could not be removed unless new improvements were made "within a reasonable time, whereby the rental value of the demised estate shall not as a whole be reduced" (Liber 1747:145). Baker died, and his widow Helen Baker sold the property in 1925 (Liber 2720:31). Washburn Realty cancelled their lease in 1924. The cancellation instruction listed the tenants and the duration of their leases (Liber 2618:234). These included the following:

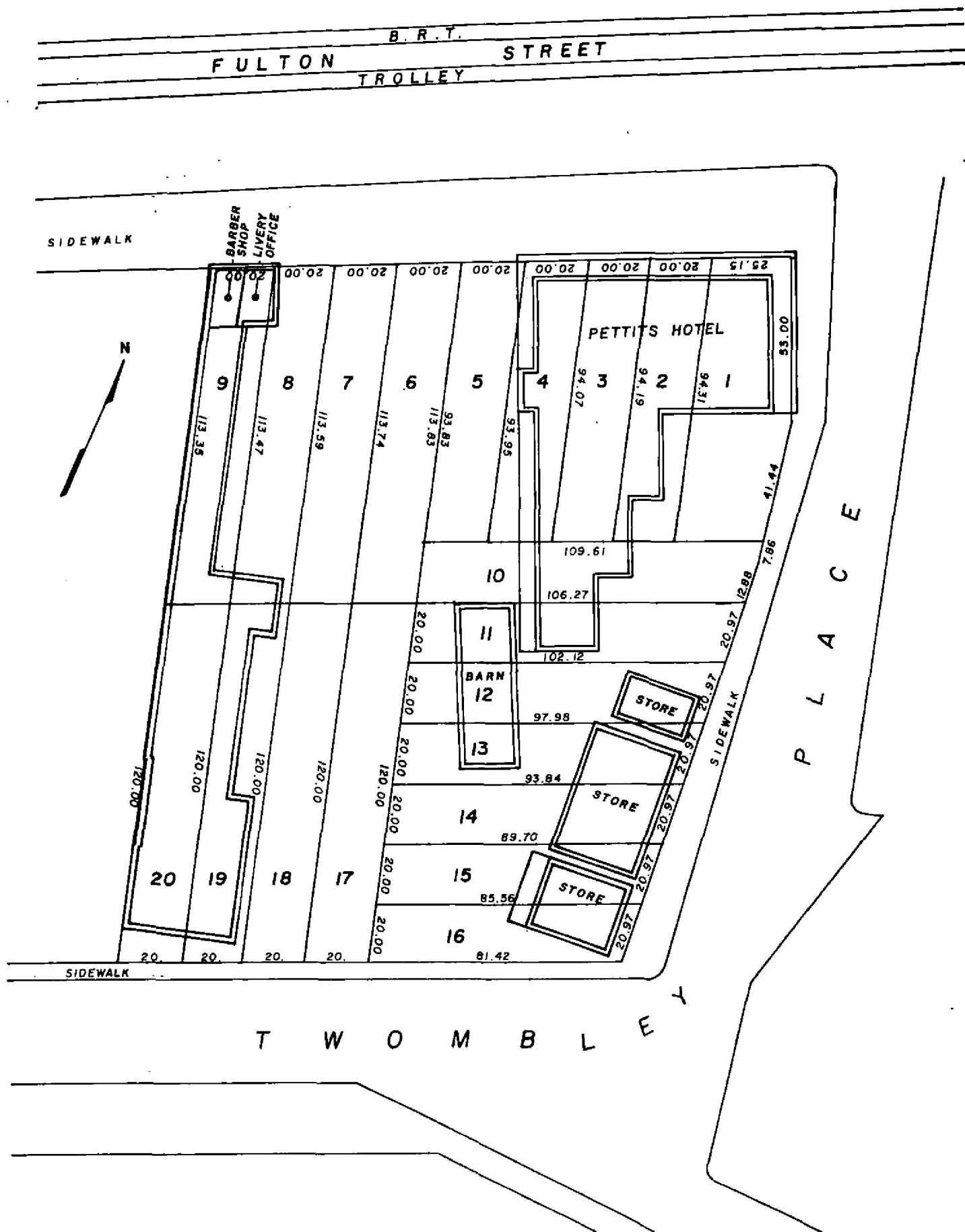


FIGURE II  
1906 PLAT: DETAIL OF  
THE PETTIT HOTEL  
PROPERTY

<u>Tenant</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Date of Lease</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Blackman & Beck	306 Fulton St.	April 1, 1922	March 31, 1925
Abe Cohen	308 Fulton St.	September 1, 1922	August 31, 1925
John Ladelis	310 Fulton St.	March 1, 1922	February 28, 1927
Henry Mehl	Corner of Fulton & Standard Place	June 1, 1923	May 31, 1924
Charles Sommers	Entire building, Standard Place & Twombly Place	November 1, 1921	October 31, 1925
E. Dorn	1 Standard Pl.	At Will	
M. Dorn	3 Standard Pl.	At Will	
Cecilia Sutcliffe	306 Fulton St.	At Will	

This area appears to have experienced two cycles of demolition and construction in the twentieth century. The buildings that would have housed the tenants listed in the document cited above do not appear to correspond to those depicted in the plats and Buildings Department records. Two structures are documented as being on Lot 50 in the twentieth century. One of these was built before 1891, and is shown on the maps dating from 1891 to 1955 (Figures 3, 6, 9 and 12). This building is small, and is located just to the east of Standard Place. It apparently was altered when Standard Place was put through the block. It is not known if this building had a basement. The other structure on this lot was a one story open air theatre, built in 1912 (Figure 12). This building was in the southeast corner of the lot, and measured 73 feet along Archer Avenue and 139 feet on Lot 27 (New York City Department of Buildings NB 2018, 1912). The borings indicated that fill extends only about two feet in this lot, indicating that this structure had no basement.

Consideration of several kinds of data (deeds, plats and Buildings Department records) suggests that the Washburn Realty Company substantially modified this area after May 1911, although the late nineteenth century building on Lot 50 may have continued to stand among newer buildings. After cancellation of the lease in April 1924 and the sale of the property in 1925, the property was redeveloped to the configuration of structures depicted in the 1955 plat (Figure 3). The depth of disturbance on this lot in the area of the late nineteenth century structures cannot be ascertained; throughout the rest of the lot, the area has apparently only been minimally disturbed.

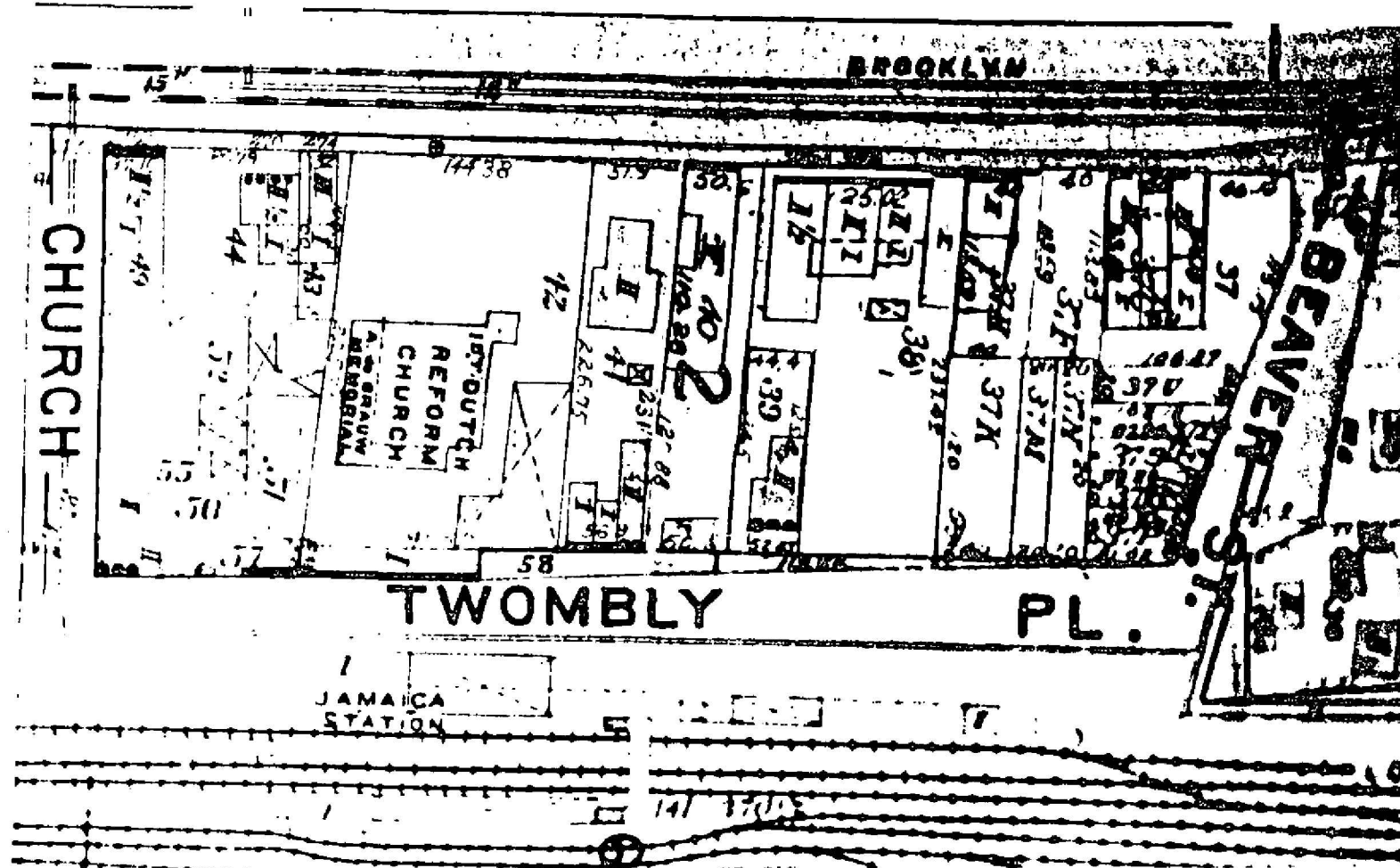


FIGURE 12  
 THE PROJECT AREA IN 1912;  
 A DETAIL FROM HYDE  
 (NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAP ROOM)

## Eastern Section

The northeastern corner of the project area saw early development, possibly as early as the late seventeenth century (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982). Data presented in the Phase I report indicates that the area bounded by the 186 foot frontage along Fulton Street may have been defined by 1796 (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982), and after 1815, this area constituted a single unit of real property (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982) (Figure 4). John Hunter leased the lower portion to William Hunter in 1836 (Figure 4), and the executors of John Hunter's estate sold the property to William Hunter's widow Adaline Hunter in 1844 (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982). Specific information on various lots contained within this area is presented below. However, research conducted during Phase II indicates that the entire area was resurveyed in March 1906 (Figure 11). The plat shows Pettit's (formerly the Jamaica Hotel), associated outbuildings, stores, livery stable and barber shop. These buildings, also documented in nineteenth century sources and the W.P.A. records, are oriented north-south to Fulton Street or to the Twombly Place frontage. The exception is the barber shop-livery stable complex, which conforms to the diagonal defined by the old wall and property line defining this section. The 1906 survey superimposes a northeast/southwest diagonal grid of uniform lots on the earlier configuration. We then can conclude that the rectilinear foundations predate 1906 (except those that can be associated with the stable complex or with Twombly Place frontage); buildings on the diagonal postdate 1906.

### Lots 27 and 49

Lots 27 and 49 were the location of the American Hotel (Figure 4), opened up by Adaline Hunter by 1842. Information collected during the W.P.A. oral history project also states that "Mrs. Hunter kept the AMERICAN HOTEL on Beavery Street, south of James S. Remsen's Jamaica Hotel, in 1842" (W.P.A.:90). "Military Hall was in this building," this entry continues, and in 1859, A. G. Tooker operated this hotel (W.P.A.:90). Drupp's 1852 map (Figure 13) shows a configuration of structures similar to that illustrated in Johnson's 1842 map (Figure 4), although there appear to be more buildings fronting on Beaver Street in 1852 than were indicated in the map done ten years earlier. A fire on March 20, 1860 is said to have destroyed Hunter's hotel.

Oral interviews imply that the hotel was rebuilt (W.P.A.:90), but a structure corresponding to the hotel does not appear in the historic maps located for the period after 1868, and which have been included in this text. Also to have been located near Hunter's hotel was Richard Neail's harness-making shop, which he opened after the Civil War (Ibid.:87). The Jamaica Theatre was later built on the site of Hunter's hotel (Figure 3).

The twentieth century building built on Lot 27 was constructed in 1912, and housed the Jamaica Theatre (Figure 3). This lot includes both a parcel fronting on Jamaica Avenue, which was the theatre's entrance, and the large area at the corner of Archer Avenue and Parson's Boulevard, which held the theatre itself. The foundation walls for this structure were about ten feet deep. This building had a cellar, as one is mentioned in the building records, but its depth and location were not indicated in the building plans (New York City Department of Buildings NB 1132, 1911). It is not clear if



the cellar was confined to the area of the theatre itself or a part thereof, or if it also extended under the entranceway. The evidence from the borings suggests that the basement did not extend under the whole lot. Borings 14 and 19, in the western part of the main structure, show that fill extends to depths of only 2 to 4 feet, whereas borings 4, 9, 15, 20, and 23, in the eastern part of the main structure and in the entranceway, indicated that fill extended to depths ranging from 6 feet to 15 feet, 6 inches. This suggests that this basement did not extend under the whole lot. The extent of disturbance for construction of the basement in Lot 27, then, is not known.

The only twentieth century structures recorded on Lot 49 consisted of two small, one-story buildings located at each end of the lot (Figure 3). The extent of disturbance underneath each of these structures is unknown.

#### Lot 38

Lot 38 lay within the property of the Jamaica Hotel (Figure 4), built between 1829 and 1836. Oral history states that in the late eighteenth century, John Dudley operated a bakery at the location of the later Jamaica Hotel (W.P.A.: 89, Queens Borough Public Library). The hotel was owned by John Hunter. In 1844, the executors of Hunter's estate sold the property to James Remsen, who had operated the hotel since 1840. The hotel continued to operate until the turn of the century.

It is possible that Lot 38 may have been part of a property that contained the residence of Dr. Charles H. Stevens, a dentist, in the 1850s. Notes from the WPA project state that this residence was located between Hunter's hotel and Remsen's hotel. The fire that destroyed Hunter's hotel in 1860 is said to have also destroyed Steven's residence. The lot appears to have been vacant up to 1907, when a blacksmith's shop was built there. This structure was originally 20 feet in front, 20 feet in rear, and 46.5 feet deep, with foundation walls extending to a depth of 4 feet below curb (New York City Department of Buildings NB 2111, 1907). Later, an extension was added to the building so that it filled the whole lot (Figure 3). This building probably had no basement, as none is mentioned in the building records and its foundation walls were too shallow to accommodate one. This lot, then, was probably only minimally disturbed.



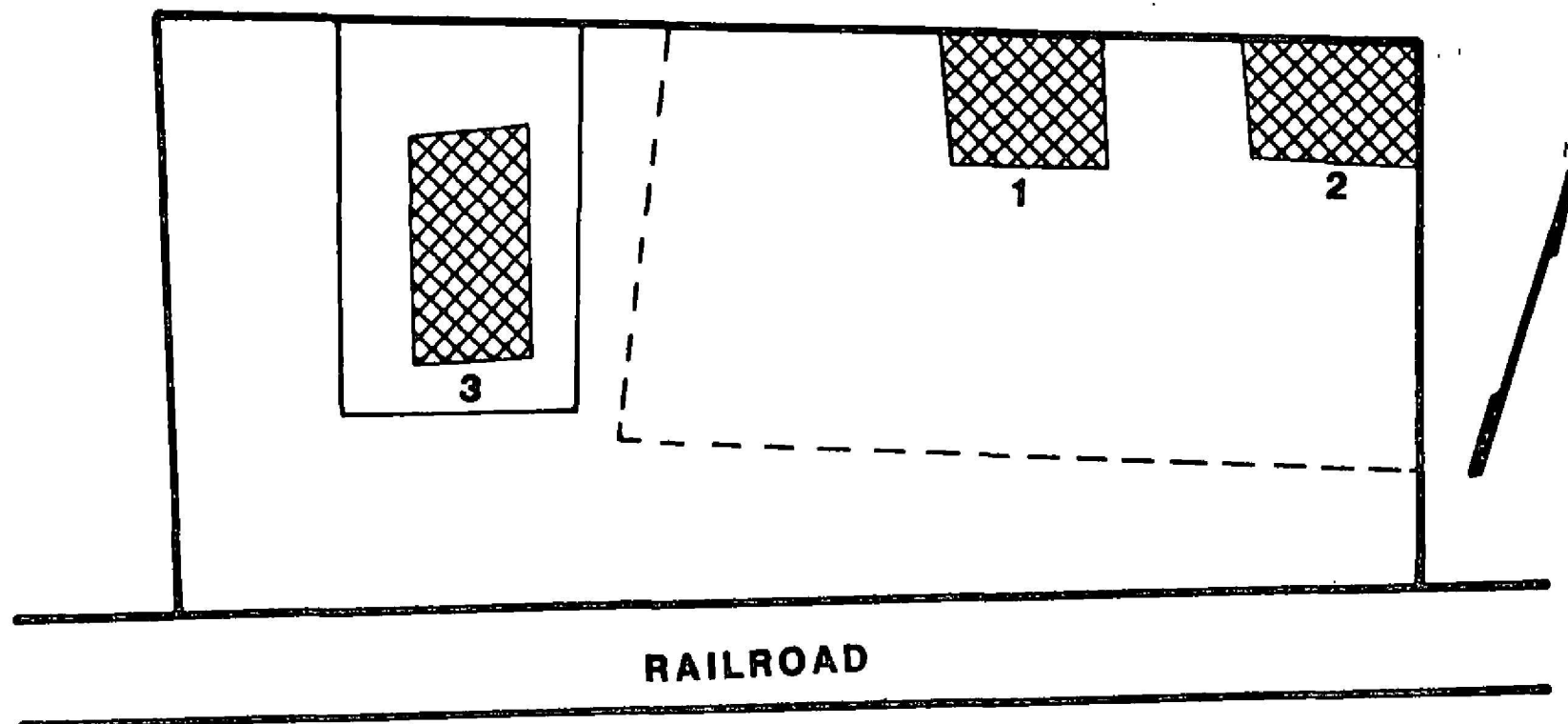
Lots 29, 31, 34, and the entrance to the Jamaica Theatre (northern portion of Lot 27)

The earliest document that we have identified is the 1782 Taylor map (Figure 10). It shows two structures on the south side of Jamaica Avenue west of Beaver Street (modern Parsons Boulevard), which were adjacent to a fenced lot containing one structure, which was adjacent to the Dutch Reformed Church, built in 1715. The standing church, immediately west of the project area, was built in the mid-nineteenth century on the site of the earliest church. Concurrent research in early deeds confirms the information presented in this document. Property in this area, consisting of a house, garden and orchard, was owned in 1704 by Samuel Denton, son of one of the original proprietors of Jamaica (Liber B2:704). The deed of property to the church in 1715 states that Denton owned the property to the east, which Henry Filkin had previously owned (Onderdonk 1884). The church lot was originally much smaller, with dimensions of 87 feet by 95 feet. Nicholas Williamson gave land to the trustees of the church in 1834, thus enlarging it to the dimensions shown in the historic maps subsequently presented (Liber CC:229).

In 1787, Jacob Watson, a merchant of New York City, sold one-half interest in a five acre property on the south side of Jamaica Avenue to Edward Bardin (Liber E:543). Bardin, an innkeeper in Jamaica, bought the second moiety from John Dudley, a local baker, two weeks later (Liber B:546). Dudley kept a half-acre on Jamaica Avenue and Beaver Street (Liber B:546), and information collected during the Works Projects Administration's oral history project in Jamaica states that John Dudley's bakery was at this location, which was subsequently occupied by the Jamaica Hotel and then by Pettit's Hotel (W.P.A.:89, Queens Borough Public Library).

The 1836 Johnson map (Figure 14) shows two hotels, the Village Hotel and the Jamaica Hotel, between the eastern boundary of the Dutch Reformed Church and Beaver Street, on the south side of Fulton Street (now Jamaica Avenue). At this point, Henry Van Cott owned and presumably ran the Village Hotel (Liber CC:229). John Hunter had bought the eastern property and its hotel in 1829 and the executors of his estate sold the property to James Remsen, who had operated the hotel since 1840 (Figure 4), in 1844 (Liber QQ:334, Liber 63:11, W.P.A.:89). From a lease to William Hunter of the southern portion of the lot, which was then occupied by John Hunter, we can infer that this plat shows the configuration of lot boundaries down to 1836 but not later (since Hunter subdivided his property in 1836) and that Hunter himself owned and operated the Jamaica Hotel, which was built between 1829 and 1836. In 1840 he apparently turned its operation over to Remsen, who then bought the property when Hunter's estate was auctioned off after he died. Johnson's map of the area in 1842 (Figure 4) confirms the fact that James Remsen operated a hotel at the corner of Beaver and Fulton Streets, although he did not buy the property until 1844.





structure



project area boundaries



100 feet

1

Village Hotel

2

Jamaica Hotel

3

Dutch Reformed Church

FIGURE 14  
THE PROJECT AREA IN 1836 ;  
DRAWN AFTER JOHNSON

As discussed above, Cornelia and Howard Pearsall legally agreed to sell James Remsen and James Elmore approximately the eastern two-thirds of their lot in 1868. Remsen extended his enterprise onto the newly acquired property, converting the Van Cott hotel into the Pavillion Hotel, a dance hall associated with his Jamaica Hotel (WPA:90; See Figure 8). John O'Donnell bought the properties owned by Remsen and Elmore in 1878, and may have continued to operate a hotel in this location. The publication office of the Standard, a local newspaper, later occupied this location, which corresponds to Van Cott's hotel and then Remsen's dance hall.

The twentieth century buildings located on Lot 29 were built together in 1911. Together, they extended back 100 feet into the lot, leaving a backyard area 13 feet by 40 feet behind them (Figure 6). Later, an extension was added to the easternmost of these buildings. The top of the basement floors of these buildings was at a depth of approximately eight feet below grade, while the foundation walls extended to depths of nine feet and ten feet (New York City Department of Buildings NB 248, 1911; Hyde 1955). This lot, then, has been disturbed to a depth of around eight feet.

Three twentieth century buildings were built on Lot 31 in 1908 (Figure 6). These buildings consisted of a main structure, which measured 20 feet in the front, 19 feet, 9 1/2 inches in the rear, and 67 feet 9 1/2 inches in depth, as well as extensions, which were 22 feet 4 inches deep. The foundation walls of these buildings extended to depths of approximately 10 feet, and the tops of the basement floors were at 8 feet 4 inches below grade. The basement of at least one, and probably all of these structures, was excavated under the backyard extension as well as under the main structure. A small backyard area, measuring 60 feet by 6 1/2 to 7 feet, was located behind these structures (New York City Department of Buildings NB 2936, 1908; Alt. 3127, 1930). The area of the main structures and the backyard extensions, then, have probably been disturbed to depths of more than eight feet, whereas the area of the backyard is only minimally disturbed.

Only the western third of Lot 34 is in the project area. The twentieth century building on this lot was built in 1912, and had an extension which was set to the west of the main structure. The foundation walls were laid to a depth of at least 11 feet below the curb, and the top of the cellar floor was at a depth of 9 feet 4 inches. This basement was only under the main structure, and was not excavated under the extension (New York City Department of Buildings NB 92, 1912). The area of the main structure on this lot, then, was disturbed to a depth of more than 9 feet, 4 inches, while that of the extension was probably only minimally disturbed.

Based on the results of this historical research and the examination of the borings of the project area conducted for GSA, the Phase I report categorized the block into five areas of different archaeological potential (Figure 15). They were as follows:

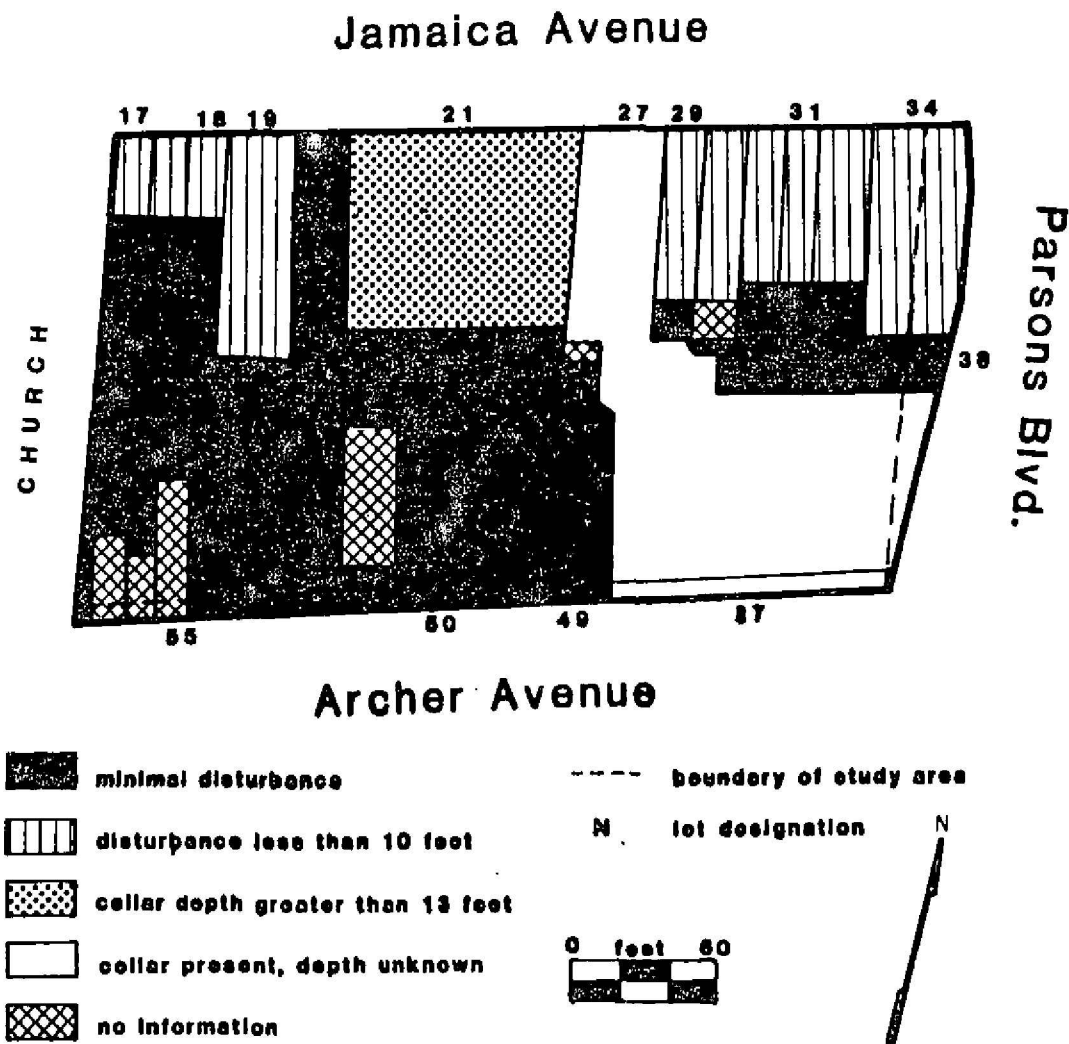


FIGURE 15  
THE DISTURBANCE  
DOCUMENTED FOR THE  
PROJECT AREA,  
DOCUMENTED BY HYDE

- 1) The minimally disturbed areas, which either were not built upon in the twentieth century or which were built on with buildings without basements. These areas include: Lot 38; most of Lots 50 and 55; the backyard areas in the eastern part of the site and behind the main structures in Lots 17-18; the right-of-ways between Lots 21 and 50 and 17-19 and 55; and, possibly, Standard Place.
- 2) Those areas which were recently covered by structures with basement disturbances of less than 10 feet. These areas include the areas under the main structures in Lots 17-19 and 19-34, and the area under the backyard extensions in Lot 31.
- 3) The area where the depth of the disturbance is greater than 13 feet, in Lot 21.
- 4) The area which was most recently covered by a building which had a basement, but the depth of the basement is unknown (Lot 27).
- 5) Those areas for which we have no information, such as the areas of the nineteenth and twentieth century structures in Lots 50, 55, and 49, and the backyard extension behind the easternmost building in Lot 29.

These different areas of archaeological potential guided the field strategy for the Phase II testing program. The proposed field strategy and subsequent modification made in this strategy are discussed in the next chapter.

### III. FIELD INVESTIGATION STRATEGY AND ARTIFACT ANALYSIS

#### Field Strategy

The initial field strategy for the testing program (cf Soil Systems, Inc. 1982) involved the excavation, with heavy machinery, of twenty trenches in the project area. Each trench was to be about 20 feet long. These trenches were to be placed within, but were not restricted to, the area of the eight borings (Numbers 11-12-13-14-16-17-18 and 19 (Figure 2)). This areal focus followed the scope of work developed by the GSA. These trenches were to sample two types of land use on the block: the areas of rear property lines that existed until the end of the nineteenth century, and open areas that contained yard deposits and outbuildings. On urban sites, the rear of properties were often the location of features such as cisterns, wells, and privies. Open yard areas usually exhibited horizontal trash deposits and artifact bearing ground surfaces, in addition to structural remains of outbuildings.

A transect of trenches was to be placed along Archer Avenue within the area to be tested; in addition, a line of trenches was placed running east/west in the middle of the main portion of moder Lot 27, which was the location of a rear property line in the nineteenth century. Other trenches were to be placed in the central portion of the block in order to locate early ground surfaces (or occupation levels) and features, as well as deposits associated with outbuildings. This later land use area included the northern area of the eight borings. If these trenches failed to locate intact, buried ground surfaces or features, large portions of the project area would be stripped with machinery in order to locate any archaeological contexts missed by the trenches.

Trench excavation would be a combination of excavation by machinery (i.e., a backhoe) and by hand. The backhoe would begin excavation by removing surface rubble or the asphalt that covered large sections of the block. Then the trench would be shovel scraped, so that the exposed soil layers could be examined for intact archaeological deposits or features. If none were found, the backhoe would continue excavation of the trench, stopping regularly for shovel scraping of exposed soil layers. This process would continue until either an intact deposit was located, or sterile subsoil was exposed within the trench.

If the trenching exposed an intact cultural deposit, the deposit would be examined by hand excavation. For example, if an early ground surface was exposed in a trench, a nine foot square test unit (i.e., the area of a three ft by three ft unit) would be placed within the confines of the trench to examine the deposit. Then the unit would be hand dug to sterile subsoil. If a feature was located, and exavation unit was placed over the feature and dug by hand, retrieving materials from both within and outside of the feature. If a feature was not observed until the trench walls were profiled, than a three ft by three ft excavation unit would be placed over the feature, alongside the trench, and excavated by hand with the assistance of the backhoe. The feature would then be sampled by hand, excavating a quarter of the exposed section feature. Hand excavation within units and features was to be

done following natural stratigraphy, with all soils screen through a 1/4 inch wire mesh hardware screen. Soil samples were to be collected from features for later analysis. Soil excavated by the backhoe was not screened. However, diagnostic artifacts pulled up by the backhoe was collected, and linked to the soil layers present in the trench.

The types of resources expected in the project area consisted of deep resources such as basement deposits associated with structures as well as deep features such as privies, wells and cisterns. Shallower remains such as earlier ground surfaces, remains of prehistoric occupations, trash pits, and deposits associated with structures with no basements were also expected.

As the lots fronting on Jamaica Avenue contained recent buildings with basements, only deep resources were expected to occur in this area of the block. These resources would include deposits associated with the seventeenth to early nineteenth century structures, which were almost exclusively located along Jamaica Avenue. These deposits would be located under the basements of the twentieth century buildings in this area. As stated in the Phase I report, early deposits have been found below modern basements which were almost ten feet deep (cf Rothschild and Rockman 1982).

Deposits associated with the basements of mid to late nineteenth century structures were also expected to occur along Jamaica Avenue, as well as in the middle and the southeast corner of the block (Figure 15). These deposits could be present under the basements of later buildings. Deep features, such as wells and privies, may have been placed along the rear of properties on the block. Portions of these features have a high probability of existing below the basements of twentieth century structures on the block, with the possible exception of Lot 21, which had a structure with a basement more than 13 feet deep. However, a very deep well on this lot may still exist even under this basement. Two wells have been documented as having been on the block. One was on modern Lots 21 and 50 (Liber 283:298), and the other was located in the northeastern corner of the block.

Naturally, these deep deposits and features may be located in those areas of the block which did not contain basements, and were thus minimally disturbed (see Figure 15). In addition, there would be a high probability that shallower deposits and features would be present, intact, in these areas. In fact, these minimally disturbed areas would be the only section of the block where these shallow features would remain intact. These deposits and features would include trash dumps and ground surfaces of early yard areas.

The actual investigation of the boring area (numbers 11-12-13-14-16-17-18-19) followed the methods just described, with a few modifications. Prior to the excavation of trenches within the area of the eight borings, a grid system at twenty foot increments was established over this boring area. As the focus was to be within the area of the eight borings, the northwest corner of these borings (boring number 11) was used as the site datum, with

the coordinates 0 north/0 east (Figure 2). All trenches were given coordinates within this grid system, using the northwest corner of the trench as its coordinate references. The transects of five trenches each were placed along Archer Avenue and along the northern edge of these borings. Both trench transects ran east/west. The selection of trenches for excavation along these transects was systematic, whereby every other trench was dug by the backhoe. In a few cases, as with trenches 8 and 9, adjacent trenches were excavated to expose a larger area of an intact cultural deposit, providing data on the horizontal extent of the deposit.

The trenches placed along the northern edge of the boring area were to sample the central portion of the block. The transect along Archer Avenue was to sample the very rear of properties that fronted on Jamaica Avenue. In addition, the eastern end of the transect running along Archer would sample the area of Hunter's Hotel, located in the southeast corner of the block during the 1840s and 1850s. The last trenches in this line would fall within the areas of the westernmost structure of the hotel complex and possibly within a yard area. In addition to these ten trenches, five were placed between these two transects in order to more completely sample the area defined by the eight borings, and to investigate the area of a rear property line that existed in what is now the main portion of modern Lot 27.

The remaining five trenches were placed in areas outside the eight borings. These areas had been defined as minimally disturbed in the Phase I report. Specifically, trenches were placed in Lot 38, the northern portion of Lot 55, and into the area of the backyard extensions of Lots 17, 17 1/2, and 18 (Figure 3).

As an organizational and sampling scheme for the testing of the project area, these twenty trenches were classified in terms of their placement within five land use strata that existed on the block. Each of these strata exhibited a different archaeological resource potential. These strata are as follows:

- Stratum 1: areas with early ground surfaces or surficial structures that would contain minimally disturbed archaeological deposits.
- Stratum 2: areas with structures that would contain archaeological deposits that would be disturbed to a depth of no more than ten feet.
- Stratum 3: areas with structures that would contain archaeological deposits that would be disturbed to a depth of greater than thirteen feet.
- Stratum 4: areas with structures that would contain archaeological deposits which were probably disturbed by recent basement construction, but to an unknown depth.
- Stratum 5: areas with no information on extent of disturbance caused by past or recent land use.



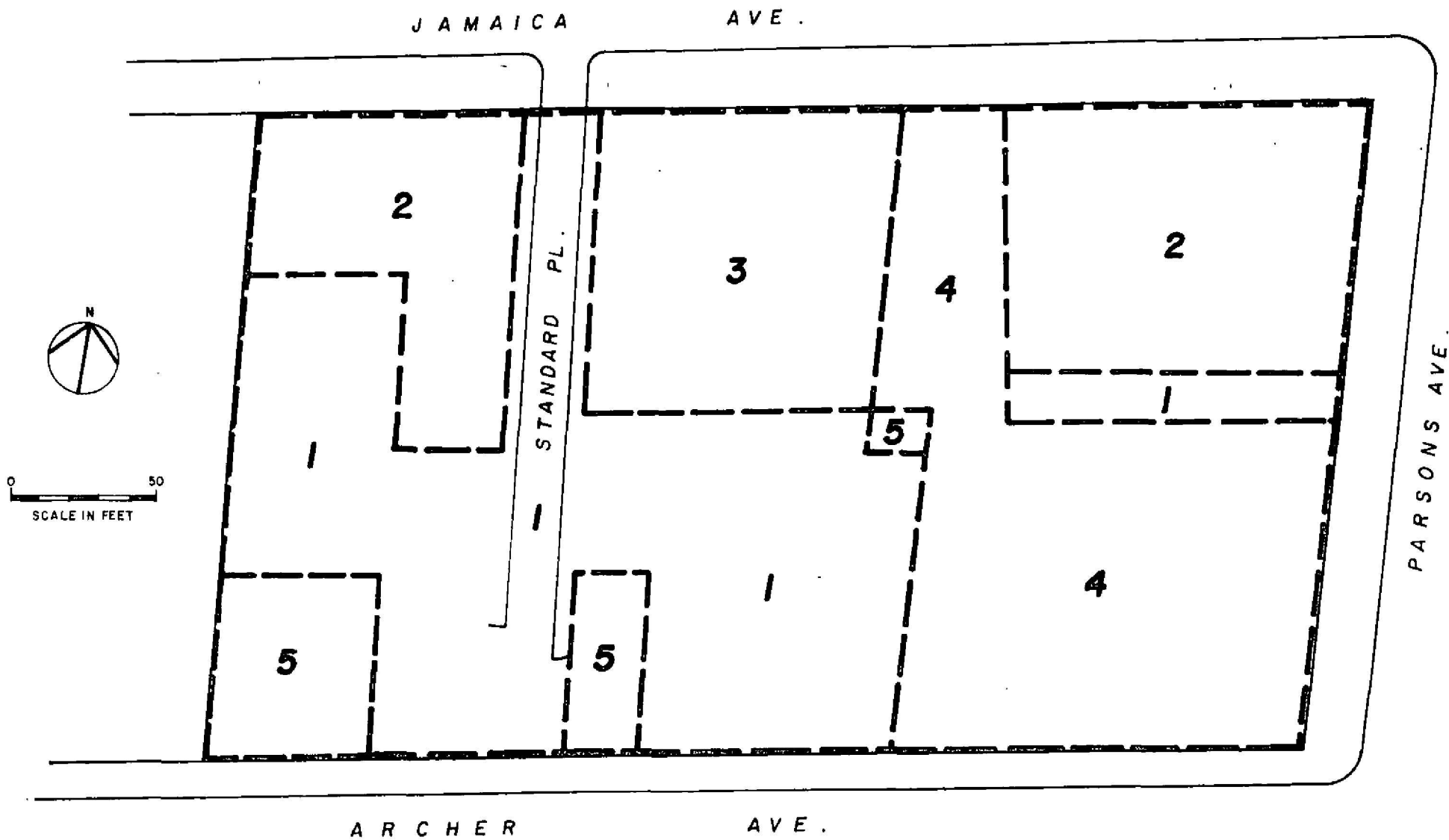
The identification of these strata was based on the results of the Phase I study. This study provided data on the nature of historic and recent land use on the block, and on the archaeological potential of each of these land use areas. As shown in Figure 16, the majority of the twenty trenches fell within the first stratum and the remainder were within Strata 3 and 4.

These strata not only divided the site into sampling areas, but also permitted a direct reference for testing predictions of resource potential presented in the Phase I report. As stated above, this was of the objectives of Phase II.

As the excavation of these twenty trenches was nearing completion, the extent of the block testing program was expanded by the GSA. The expanded testing program involved the excavation of twenty additional trenches so as to investigate the entire impact area and not just the area of the eight borings. The provenience of these additional trenches was tied into the grid system established for the first twenty trenches. Thus, the grid system was expanded to cover the entire project area. The placement of these additional trenches also followed the same strategy used for the first twenty trenches. The strata locations were plotted on a map of the entire project area (Figure 16), and the additional trenches were placed within each, to provide an adequate sample of each strata. Determination of an adequate sample was judgementally based on the size of each strata and its archaeological potential, as predicted in the Phase I study. As with the first twenty trenches, the additional trenches were generally placed across the strata in a series of east/west running transects. As in the area of the eight borings, trenches along the transect were systematically selected for excavation (i.e., every other trench). There were situations in which additional data were necessary to investigate a particular area or deposit within a stratum. In these cases, a trench would often be placed outside of the trench transect.

Figures 17a, b, and c show the location of the additional trenches. Twenty trenches were marked for excavation, but only seventeen were actually excavated. Given the nature of the deposits and extent of disturbance by twentieth century basements, it was determined that only seventeen additional trenches were necessary to adequately cover the entire project area. The three remaining trenches were to be placed within modern Lot 21, the southwest corner of Lot 55, and in the main portion of Lot 27. All of these areas contained deep basements filled with demolition rubble dating to the last two decades. Additional trenches in these areas would only produce redundant information. Placing these three remaining trenches within other areas of the block was determined unsuitable, as the 37 trenches already excavated provided an adequate sample of the block, and any additional trenches would damage the integrity of the limited intact resources that were present on the block as indicated by the already excavated trenches.





NOTE: FOR EXPLANATION OF STRATA NUMBERS, REFER TO TEXT.

FIGURE 16  
LAND USE STRATA AND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

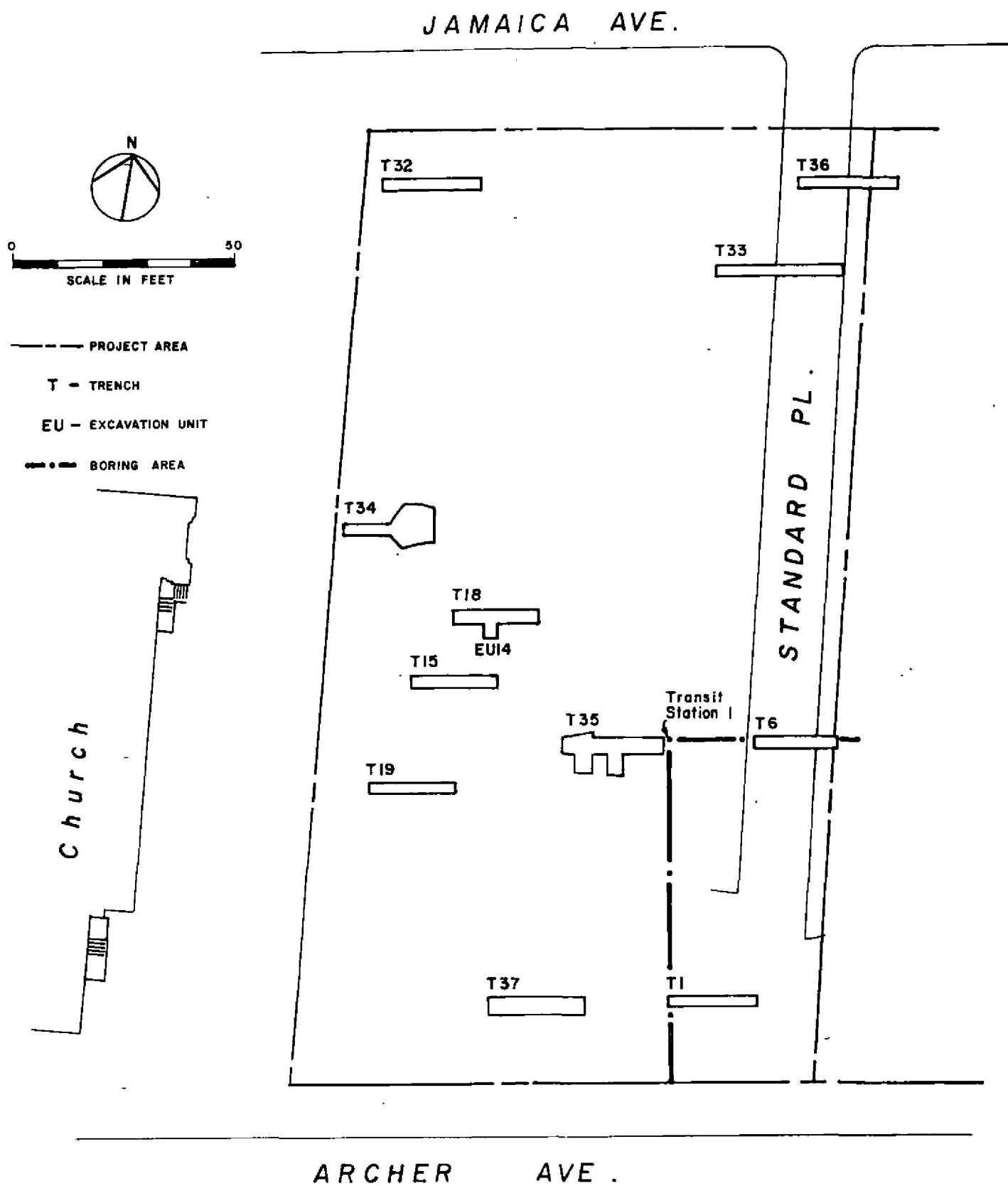
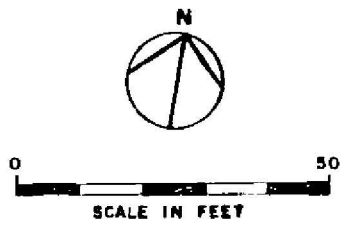
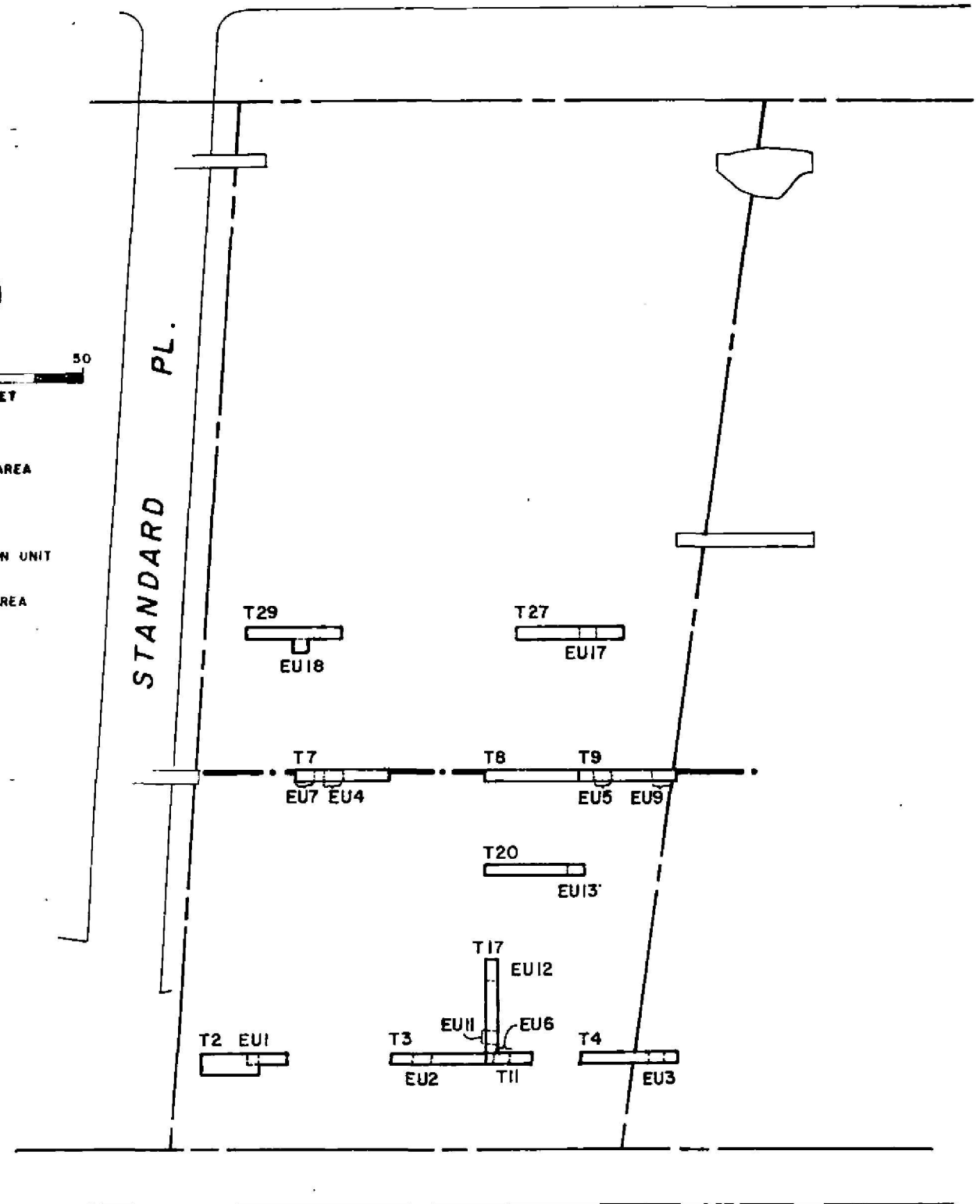


FIGURE 17a  
WESTERN SECTION OF THE PROJECT AREA  
SHOWING LOCATION AND ORIENTATION  
OF TRENCHES AND EXCAVATION UNITS

JAMAICA AVE.



- PROJECT AREA
- T - TRENCH
- EU - EXCAVATION UNIT
- .-.- BORING AREA



ARCHER AVE.

FIGURE 17b  
MIDDLE SECTION OF THE PROJECT AREA  
SHOWING LOCATION AND ORIENTATION  
OF TRENCHES AND EXCAVATION UNITS

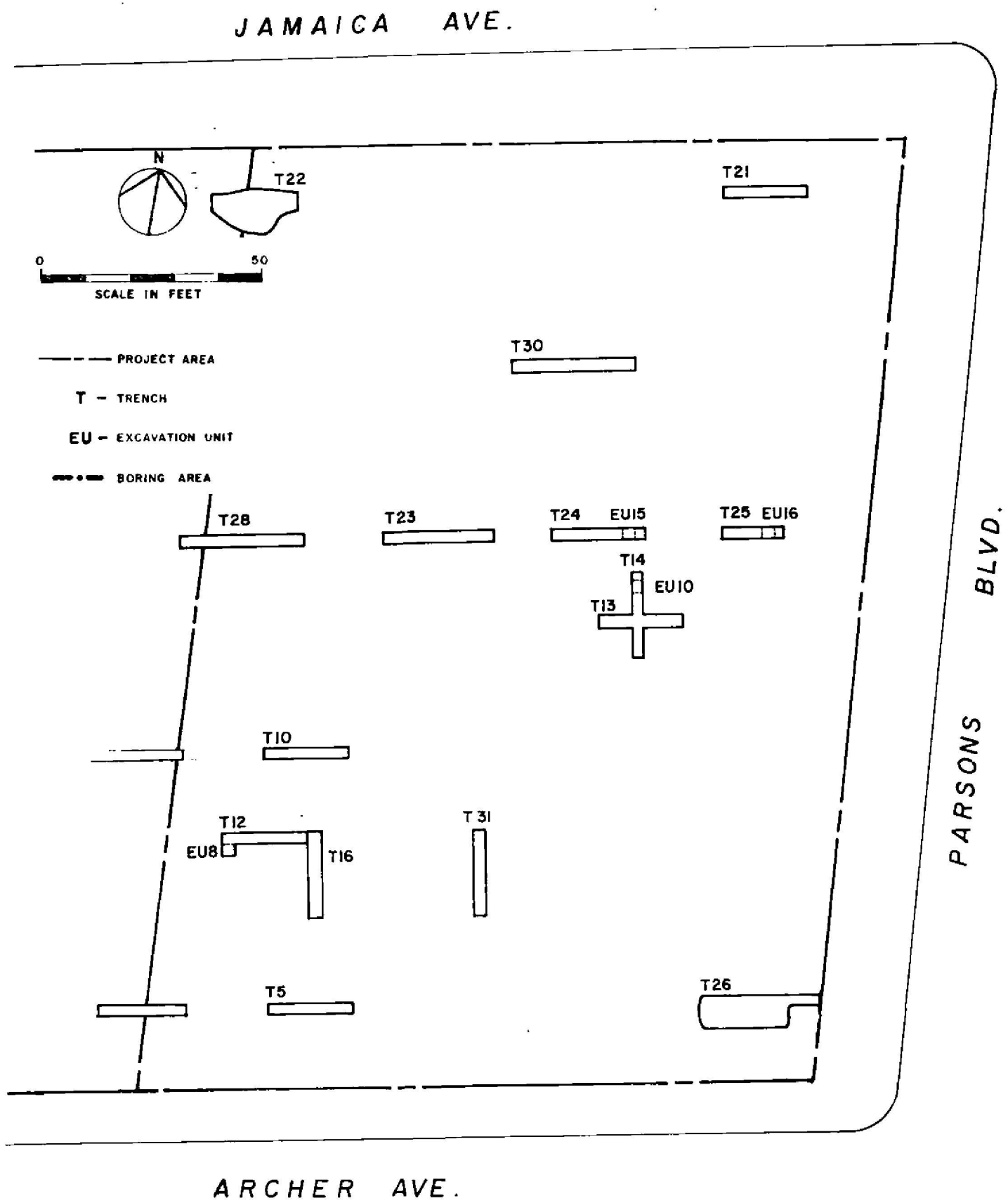


FIGURE 17c  
 EASTERN SECTION OF THE PROJECT AREA  
 SHOWING LOCATION AND ORIENTATION  
 OF TRENCHES AND EXCAVATION UNITS

## Artifact Analyses

The laboratory process and recording method employed on this project have been adopted and modified from a system used on recent New York City urban sites (personal communication Nancy Stehling, 1982). As artifact bags were brought into the laboratory, they were placed in ascending catalog number order. The date they were received and the number of bags within each catalog number were recorded.

All ceramics (except for those with overglaze), glass and miscellaneous artifacts were washed, brushed clean and left to dry. Bone, metal, shell, wood and delicate materials were dry brushed. As this was a testing phase, only the more readily diagnostic cultural remains such as ceramics, non-window glass and special small finds (i.e., buttons and coins) were numbered.

Artifacts were analyzed and tabulated by catalog number. They were divided into material groups, such as metal, bone, glass, ceramic, etc. A count was taken on all artifacts except in the cases of building materials, shell and unidentifiable metal. Samples were collected of these latter materials, with the remainder being weighed and then discarded. All diagnostic attributes aiding in the temporal and functional analysis were also recorded. As an example, ceramic descriptions included ware type, decoration and function.

Analysis of the cultural material proceeded by stratum within each trench, excavation unit and feature. The dating of strata and features was based on a combination of mean ceramic dates (MCDs) (South 1977), diagnostic glass attributes and identification of ceramic makers marks.

Researchers have encountered problems in using South's ceramic date ranges for nineteenth century ceramics (Lofstrom 1976, Garrow 1982). Garrow (1982) has attempted to solve the problem of dating nineteenth century ceramics by using Miller's (1980) ceramic type descriptions. Miller uses the ceramic terminology found in price fixing lists of the nineteenth century in his development of a ceramic economic scaling index. This terminology ignores the concept of "ware" (description of body type such as pearlware, whiteware) and uses the type of ceramic decoration, such as transfer printed, flow blue, hand painted polychrome, and others. Miller (1980) views the large ware groups (creamware, pearlware, whiteware) as a continuum that can only provide very gross dates. Garrow uses the general date ranges of Miller's decorative types, and date ranges obtained from other sources (Lofstrom 1976, Herskovitz 1978) for determining MCDs for the nineteenth century. Garrow continues to use the creamware and pearlware distinctions, and adds a "late ware" category for ceramics post-dating the 1830s and 1840s (cf Klein and Garrow n.d.).

Other dating techniques employed in this analysis included diagnostic glass attributes, such as pontil marks, finishes, mold types, and glass embossments as well as ceramic makers marks. Godden (1964) and Kovel and Kovel (1953) are used in dating ceramic marks.

The following chapter presents the results of the field investigation. Each trench and excavation unit will be discussed in the context of the block section in which it was located (i.e., western, middle, and eastern). The archaeological deposits, features, structural remains and artifactual material within each block section, exposed through the unit and trench excavation, will be compared in order to present an overall site stratigraphy, which can then be related to the block's various historical occupations and land uses. In addition, the results of the unit and trench excavations will be used in comparing the archaeological data yield of the block's five land use strata. Through this comparison, the expectations of resource potential for different areas of the block, as presented in the Phase I report, can be tested, thus fulfilling one of the objectives of this Phase II study.

#### IV. FIELD INVESTIGATION RESULTS

The field investigation was conducted from November 29, 1982 to January 3, 1983 (Plate 1). A total of 37 trenches were excavated within the project area (Plate 2) (Figures 17a, b, and c). These trenches were dug through the combined use of both backhoe and hand excavations. In addition to these trenches, 18 excavation units were dug by hand. These units were placed either within the confines of a trench or immediately adjacent to a trench. Through the excavation of these trenches and units, many different deposits, features and structural elements were identified within the project area (Plates 3 and 4). For the purpose of the following discussion, these archaeological contexts will be examined by block section (western, middle, and eastern). The discussion of each block section will include a brief history of the section's historic land use and the types of archaeological resources that would be expected within the section based on this past land use. Then, the results of the field investigation of the block section is detailed. Each trench within the block section will be examined in terms of the deposits, features and structural remains exposed during excavation of that trench.

Profiles and maps of the trenches and excavation units are provided. All measurements on these maps and profiles are in tenths of feet. It should be noted that profiles are not presented for all trench. Only profiles of those trenches with intact cultural deposits and features, significant structural remains, and those which typify a type of deposit or stratigraphy that was found in the project area are included. Information on the trenches not meeting these criteria is presented in the trench discussions and in tabular form. Also, in examining the trench location maps (Figures 17a, b, and c), it will be noted that trench size and shape vary. In many cases, the presence of sand deposits or loose brick rubble within a trench required that the trench be widened during excavation, thus minimizing slumping. Trenches were also expanded in order to investigate potentially significant deposits that appeared in the very ends of the trenches. Expansion also occurred when a structural feature, such as a wall, was located near the end of a trench. By expanding the trench, both sides of a the structural feature could be examined. There were cases when a trench was not extended to its full twenty feet, especially if a significant deposit was exposed across the trench during its initial excavation and it was felt that a full length trench would impact the significant deposit. Every attempt was made to collect sufficient data on deposits without affecting their integrity.

For the purpose of this report, deposits are classified as follows: fill, horizontal yard deposits, trash middens within yards, and trash deposits within features. Fill is a deposit placed within a man-made or natural depression in order to level an area; a deposit placed to raise a ground surface is also considered fill. The latter deposits are usually thicker and contain either displaced refuse (cf South 1977) or sterile soil. Horizontal yard deposits are thin layers of trash, including ash and cinder, which cover a yard-area. A trash midden would be a much thicker deposit, containing a dense concentration of secondary refuse (cf South 1977). The size of artifacts within the latter would be larger than those found in a horizontal yard deposit. Also, those in a horizontal yard deposit would often have evidence of weathering. Trash deposits within a feature, such as a well, cistern, or



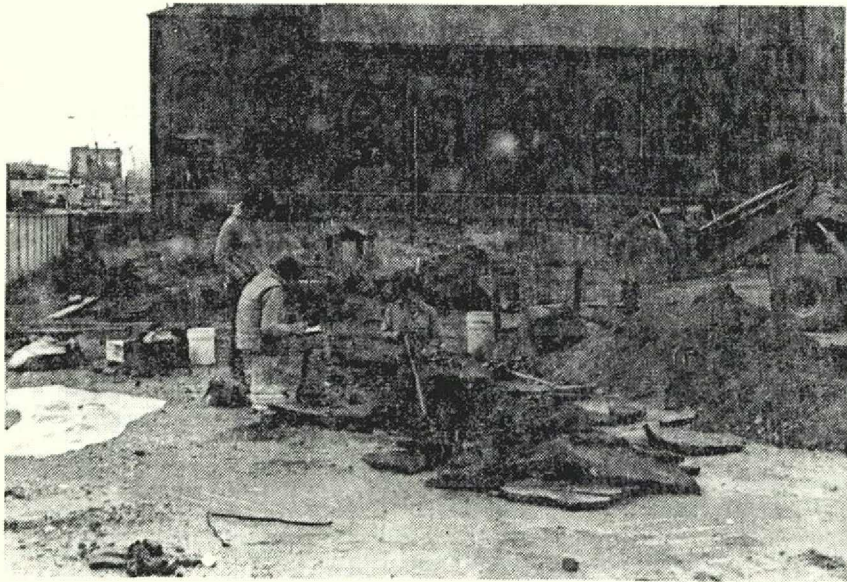


PLATE 1 VIEW OF PROJECT AREA LOOKING WEST

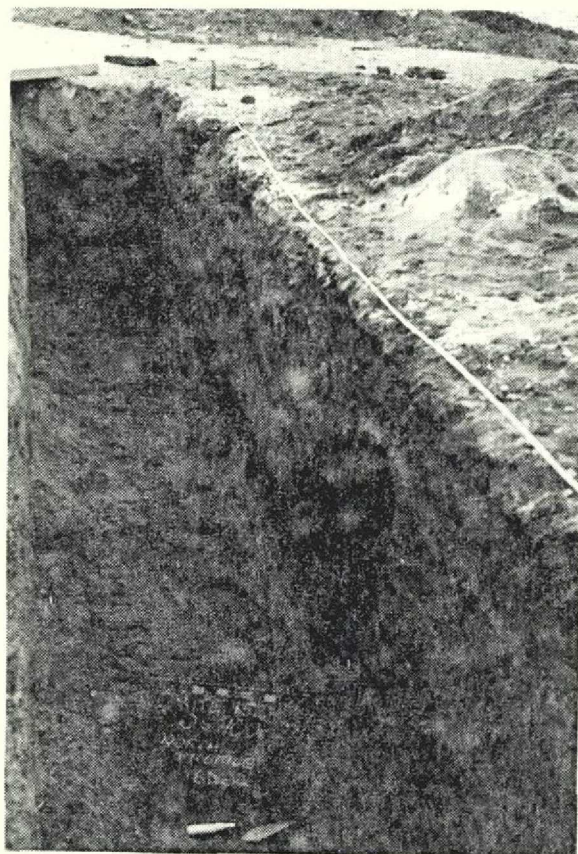


PLATE 2 VIEW OF TYPICAL TRENCH



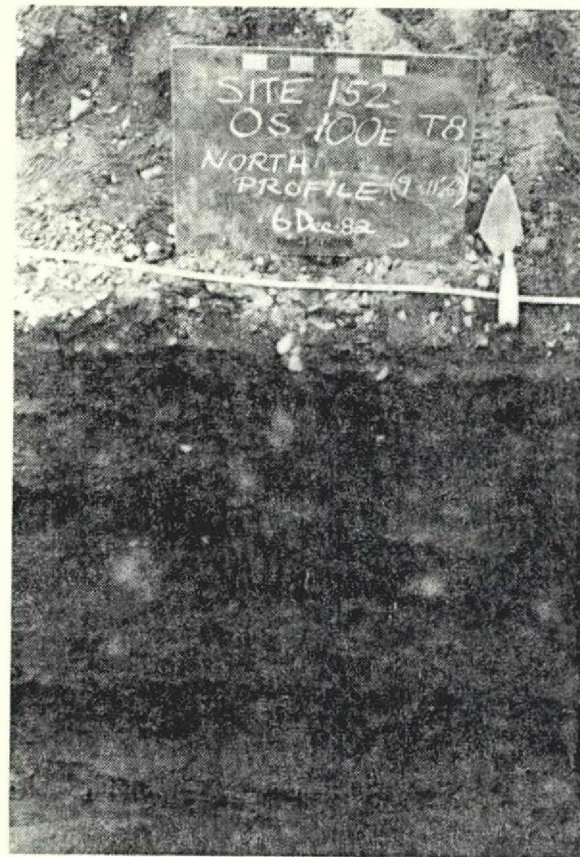


PLATE 3 TRENCH PROFILE WITH HORIZONTAL TRASH DEPOSITS



PLATE 4 TRENCH PROFILE WITH DEMOLITION DEBRIS OVERLYING STERILE SAND

pit, include deposits with secondary refuse rather than displaced refuse. If displaced refuse is present, the deposit is defined as fill.

After examining the types of deposits, features and structural remains within a trench, there is a discussion of the artifacts collected from these archaeological contexts within the trench. This discussion includes the types of artifacts present, their temporal affiliation, and possible origin. Appendix A provides a complete listing of collected artifacts from each trench and excavation unit. It should be noted that some trenches did not contain cultural material. In addition, some only contained modern structural debris mixed with post 1950 artifacts. In the latter case, no artifact collection was made.

The results of the trench and unit excavations within the section will then be summarized, comparing the various archaeological contexts within the trenches and units. After each block section is discussed, the investigation results for all sections will be compared, in order to present an overall site stratigraphy and its relationship to the historical occupations of the blocks.

#### Western Section

The modern lots falling within the western section of the block included Lots 17, 17 1/2, 18, 19, and 55, in addition to Standard Place (Figure 3). Historical research had indicated that the area along Jamaica Avenue was the location of taverns and hotels until the middle of the nineteenth century. In the mid to late nineteenth century, at least one residential property existed in the area, which was eventually replaced at the turn of the century by commercial establishments.

In the late eighteenth century, a tavern, and subsequently a hotel, may have been located within the vicinity of modern Standard Place. The area surrounding what became Standard Place was occupied by Van Cott's hotel in 1842 (Figure 4). The main portion of the hotel appears to have been located in the middle section of the project area. However, structures related to the hotel complex did exist within the northern portions of modern Lots 17 and 19.

Most of the structures relating to the hotel were no longer extant by the middle of the nineteenth century. The area of modern Lots 17 and 19 was then occupied by a residential property with an associated outbuilding (Figure 5). In the 1860s, this residence was occupied by Cornelia and Harold Pearsall. The historic documents and maps indicate that the Pearsall property contained a barn which housed a blacksmith's shop. This barn occupied the site of a post office built in modern Lot 19 in 1909. The Pearsalls continued to live within the residence fronting on Jamaica Avenue until 1886. The house remained standing until sometime after 1913, when it was replaced by three row structures, probably commercial in nature (Figure 6).

The central and southern portions of the block's western section (i.e., the area of modern Lot 55), was devoid of structures until the late nineteenth century. Prior to this time, the area probably functioned as the rear of properties fronting on Fulton Street (modern Jamaica Avenue). There is a structure on the 1886 Conklin Map to the south of the Pearsall house that extends into the northern portion of modern Lot 55. This may be the barn referenced earlier. This structure is absent on the 1873 Beers map of the block (Figure 8). Two structures are present in this area of the western section on an 1891 map (Figure 7), one on a lot owned by William Hardenbrook and a second on property owned by O'Donnell. The function of these two structures is not known. These structures were no longer standing by the 1900s. In the early twentieth century, three small buildings which were probably constructed after 1891 were present in the southwest corner of this block section (Figure 9). They remained standing until a garage was built over the entire area of modern Lot 55 in 1918 (Figure 3).

Based on the available historic documentation, it was anticipated that the trenches and units excavated in this section of the block would produce artifactual assemblages and structural remains associated with:

1. late eighteenth century commercial establishments, specifically taverns and hotels.
2. early to middle nineteenth century commercial properties, again taverns and hotels.
3. middle to late nineteenth century residential properties.
4. early twentieth century commercial properties.

It should be noted that there is a possibility that residences were associated with most of the commercial establishments that existed within this block section. These residences may have been located above a business at street level. This was often the case for small businesses throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth century. This situation probably existed in the other two sections of the block as well. However, confirmation of the presence of mixed commercial and residential buildings requires historical research beyond that conducted during a testing phase. Tax records, census records, and business directories are necessary to obtain this type of information.

#### Western Section Field Results

Eleven trenches were excavated in the western section of the project area (Figure 17a). They will be discussed below, beginning with the trenches in the northern portion of the block section, and then those to the south.

#### Trench 32 (130N/65W)

This trench was dug in order to investigate the depth of basements in the northwestern corner of the block, and to determine if remains of Van Cott's hotel and the Pearsall residence were extant below the surface. Excavation of the trench exposed two basements sharing a common stone wall (Figure 18). The basements had concrete floors at a depth of 7.9 feet below the present ground surface.

The shared wall continued to a depth of 8.4 feet and sat upon a concrete footing, which extended to a depth of 9 feet below the surface. Sterile yellowish brown sand subsoil was encountered beneath both concrete floors and the concrete footing of the shared wall. Both basements were filled with brick and building rubble (Table 1), probably resulting from demolition of the structures associated with these basements. No artifacts were recovered from the basements, as the demolition rubble contained only building material and artifacts postdating the 1950s.

The exposed basements were probably below the two structures that were present in the northern ends of modern Lots 17 and 17 1/2 (Figure 3). Both of these structures were built in 1916. The trench did not expose deposits or structural remains of any earlier period.

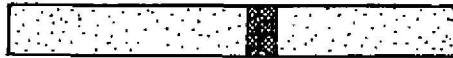
#### Trench 36 (136N/35E)

Trench 36 crossed the eastern portion of Standard Place and the northwestern corner of modern Lot 21 (Figures 17a and 3). This area, based on available historical documentation, may have been the location of a late eighteenth century tavern, and then a hotel (see Chapter II). Given the assumption that Standard Place should have been only minimally disturbed by land use activities on the block (Figure 15), it was expected that the remains of these early structures, in addition to remains of Van Cott's hotel, built in the 1840s, would still be extant below the ground surface.

Excavation of Trench 36 exposed a very large concrete wall near the eastern edge of Standard Place (Figure 19). The wall extended ten feet below the surface. At the base of the wall was a concrete floor. The fill above the floor was a dark brown silty sand with no demolition rubble (Table 1). Below the concrete floor was sterile subsoil. To the west of the concrete wall, under Standard Place, were fill deposits within utility trenches dug into the sterile subsoil. No intact deposits with cultural material were present within this trench.

The basement in the eastern end of the trench was probably beneath the large structure that covered modern Lot 21 in its entirety (Figure 3). This structure was built in 1929. The fill within the basement thus dates to the demolition of the structure after 1955. It should be noted that this basement fill is one of the few within the block that did not contain demolition debris and brick rubble.

T 32



— PROJECT AREA

T - TRENCH



CONCRETE



STONE

FIGURE 18  
DETAIL OF THE WESTERN SECTION  
OF THE PROJECT AREA

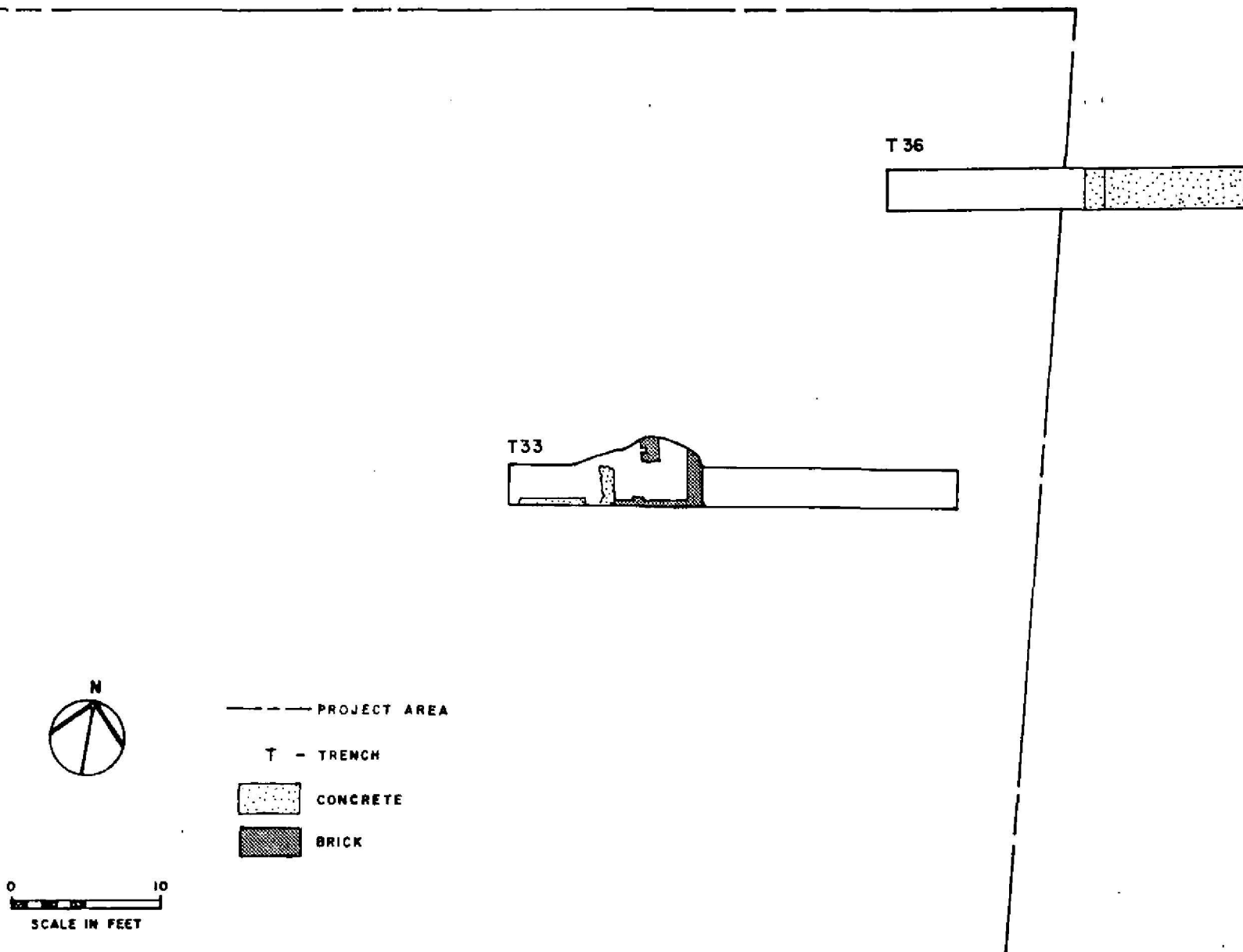


FIGURE 19  
DETAIL OF THE WESTERN SECTION  
OF THE PROJECT AREA



TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 32 (130N/65W)			
Stratum 1	Brick rubble	Surface demolition debris	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Building rubble	Demolition debris above concrete floor	Post 1955
Stratum 3	Yellowish-brown sand	Sterile subsoil under concrete floor	No date
Trench 36 (130N/35E)			
Stratum 1	Dark brown silty sand	Basement fill in cast section of trench, east of concrete foundation well	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Yellowish-brown sand	Sterile subsoil under concrete basement floor	No date
Strata 3,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,12	Deposits of dark brown sand, very dark gray brown silty sand, ash, reddish yellow brown clay, sand, and silty sand, and yellowish brown sand	Fill within utility trenches below Standard Place, west of concrete wall	Probably 20th century
Stratum 5	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil around and below utility trenches	No date

The utility trenches beneath Standard Place probably date to the twentieth century, as they were for telephone and electrical lines as indicated on the block plan provided by GSA. These trenches did not extend more than four feet below the surface of Standard Place, which was paved with concrete.

#### Trench 33 (20E/110N)

The criteria for the placement of Trench 36 were also applied to the placement of Trench 33 (Figure 17a). In addition, Trench 33 would extend into modern Lot 19, providing information on the extent of disturbance within this lot (Figure 15). The portion of Trench 33 below Standard Place exposed the same twentieth century deposits that were exposed in Trench 36, i.e., utility trenches for electrical and telephone lines dug into sterile subsoil (Table 2). However, one utility trench in Trench 33 extended to a depth of six feet below the street surface, deeper than the utility trenches exposed in Trench 36. The pipe located in the eastern end of the trench (Figure 20) was made of wood, probably for an early electrical line.

The area of the trench to the west of Standard Place exposed a series of brick basement walls and the basement's concrete floor. The fill within the basement was demolition rubble. As shown on Figure 20, there was a window frame about four feet west of the street curb, with rubble filling the area between the frames (only the southern frame to the window is visible in the profile in Figure 20). This window, which is below the street level, was probably used for ventilating the basement.

No pre-1950 artifacts were present in the trench's deposits except for structural debris. No artifact collection was made.

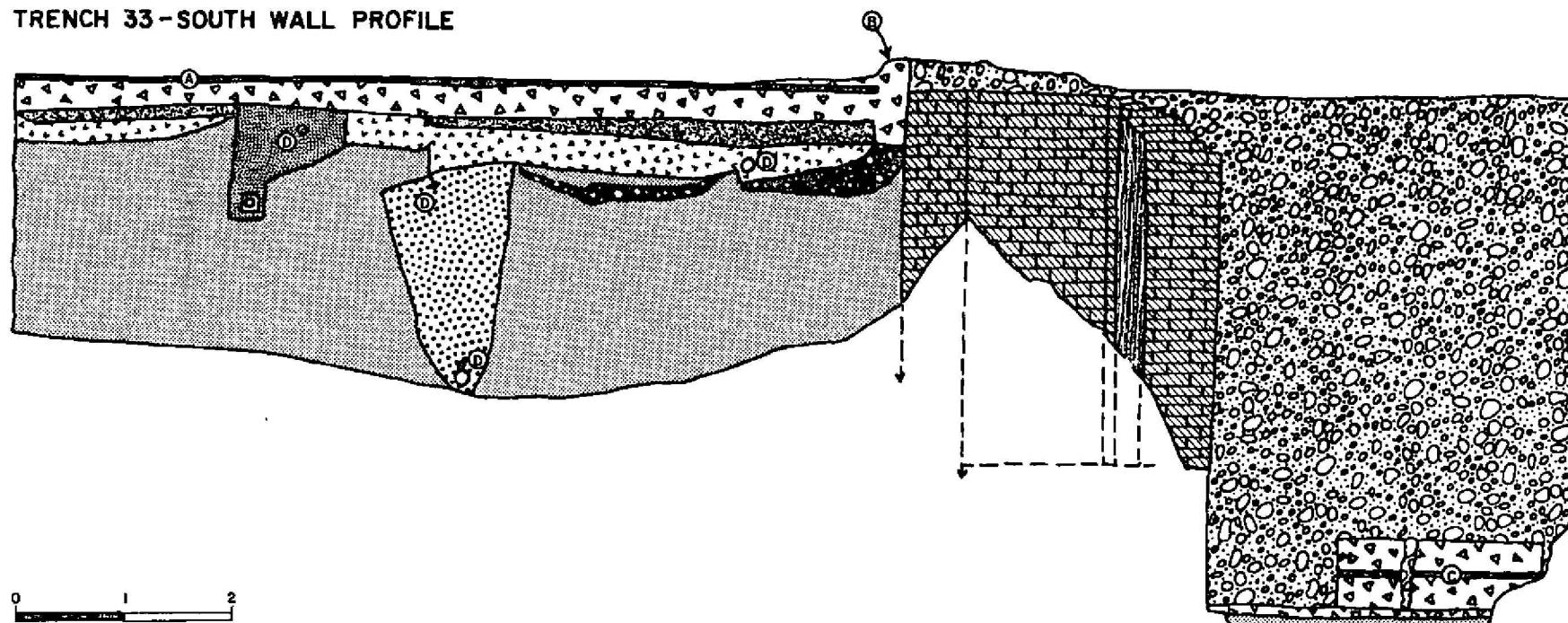
The wall exposed in the western portion of Trench 33 was the western basement wall to the post office that occupied modern Lot 19 since 1909. The rubble within the basement relates to the demolition of the post office, building which occupied by Martin's Paint after 1955.

#### Trench 34 (50N/75W)

The Phase I historical study of the block indicated that the rear yards of modern Lots 17, 17 1/2, and 18 would probably be minimally disturbed (Figure 15). These rear yard areas appeared to have been covered by building extensions without basements. There was a good probability, then, that the remains of the Pearsall house and associated outbuildings and features would be extant below the surface. In addition, this area of the block contained structures and possibly yard deposits and features associated with Van Cott's hotel. As discussed above, the hotel was built in the 1840s, and extended into the entire northwestern portion of the project area, at least until the 1860s. Structural remains and trash deposits associated with the hotel may also be extant, in this area. For these reasons, Trench 34 was placed in the area of what would have been the backyards of Lots 17 and 17 1/2 (Figures 21 and 3).



# TRENCH 33-SOUTH WALL PROFILE



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

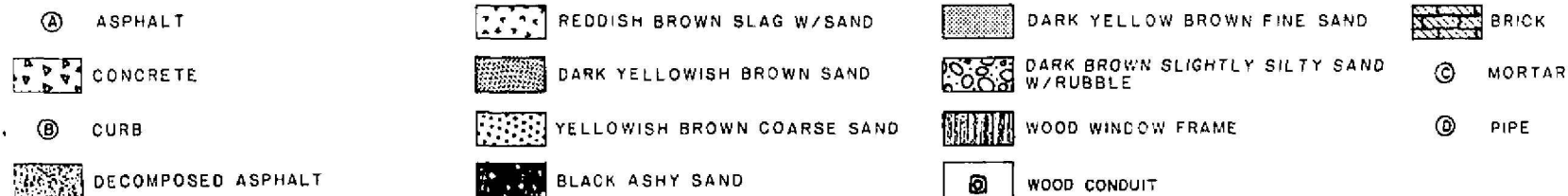


FIGURE 20  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 33 110N/20E

TABLE 2 SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 33 - 20E/110N			
Stratum 1	Asphalt and concrete	Street paving	Post 1902
Strata 2 & 3	Reddish brown sand with slag and black ashy sand	Fill, possibly for street bed	Post 1902
Strata 4	Dark yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
Strata 5 & 6	Dark yellowish brown and yellowish brown sand	Fill within utility trenches	Probably 20th century
Stratum 7	Dark brown silty sand with rubble	Demolition debris with- in basement of struc- ture west of Standard Place (modern Lot 19), above concrete floor and sterile sand sub- soil	Post 1955

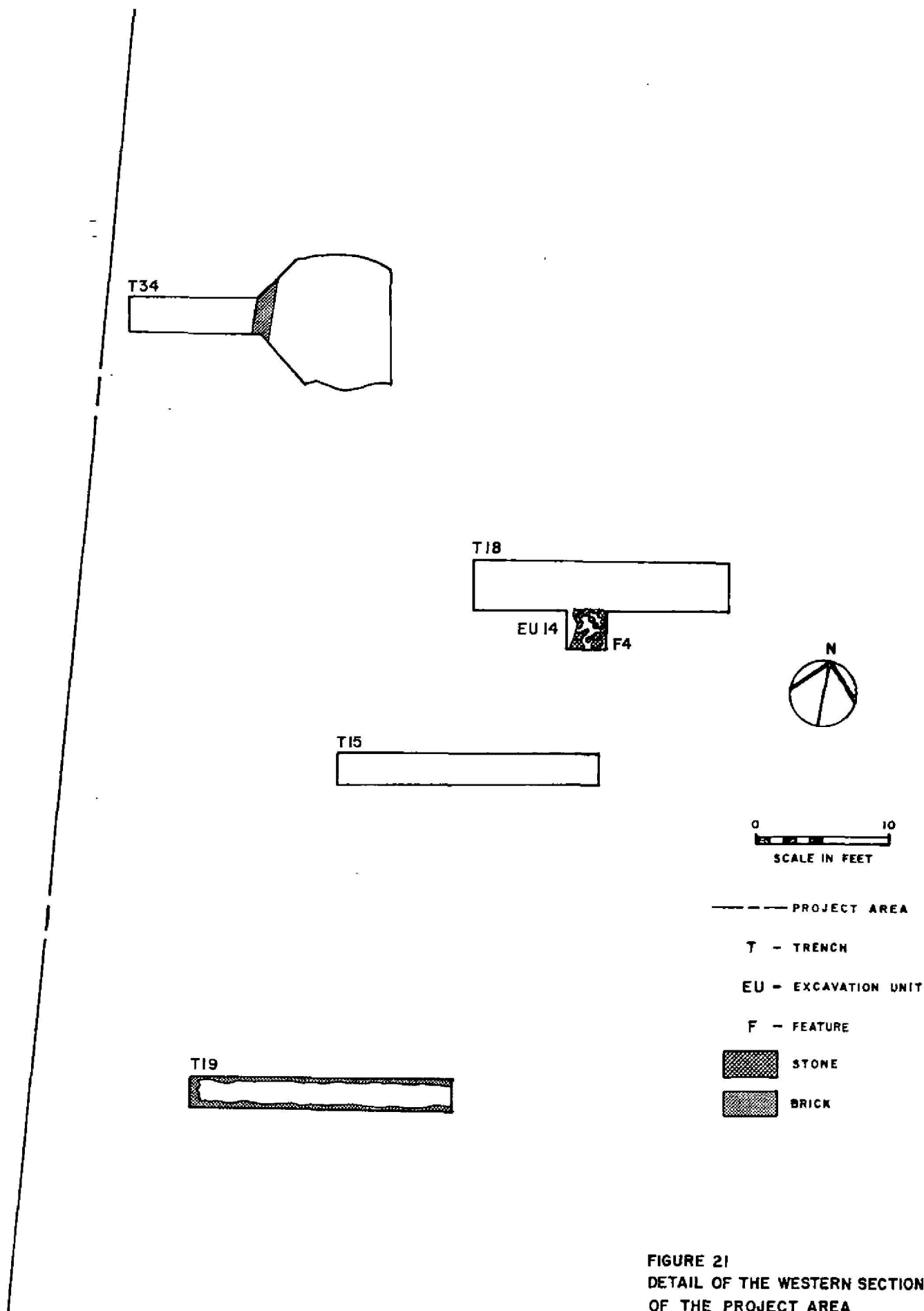


FIGURE 21  
DETAIL OF THE WESTERN SECTION  
OF THE PROJECT AREA

Trench 34 contained a single brick wall near its center. The wall extended below the surface to a depth of 10.7 feet. A builder's trench, dug into sterile subsoil, was present along the eastern side of the wall (Figure 22, Table 3). The builder's trench contained no artifacts. East of the wall was a basement with a cement floor, which was located 10.5 feet below the ground surface. Below the floor was sterile subsoil. As with the basement fill in the trenches to the north, the debris in Trench 34 contained only structural materials. No artifact collection was made.

The basement in the western portion of the trench would fall within the rear of modern Lot 17. The area to the east of the wall would be Lot 17 1/2. Thus, the building extension in Lot 17 did have a basement, which is contrary to information provided by historical documents. Lot 17 1/2's extension was surficial, as expected.

#### Trench 18 (30N/50S)

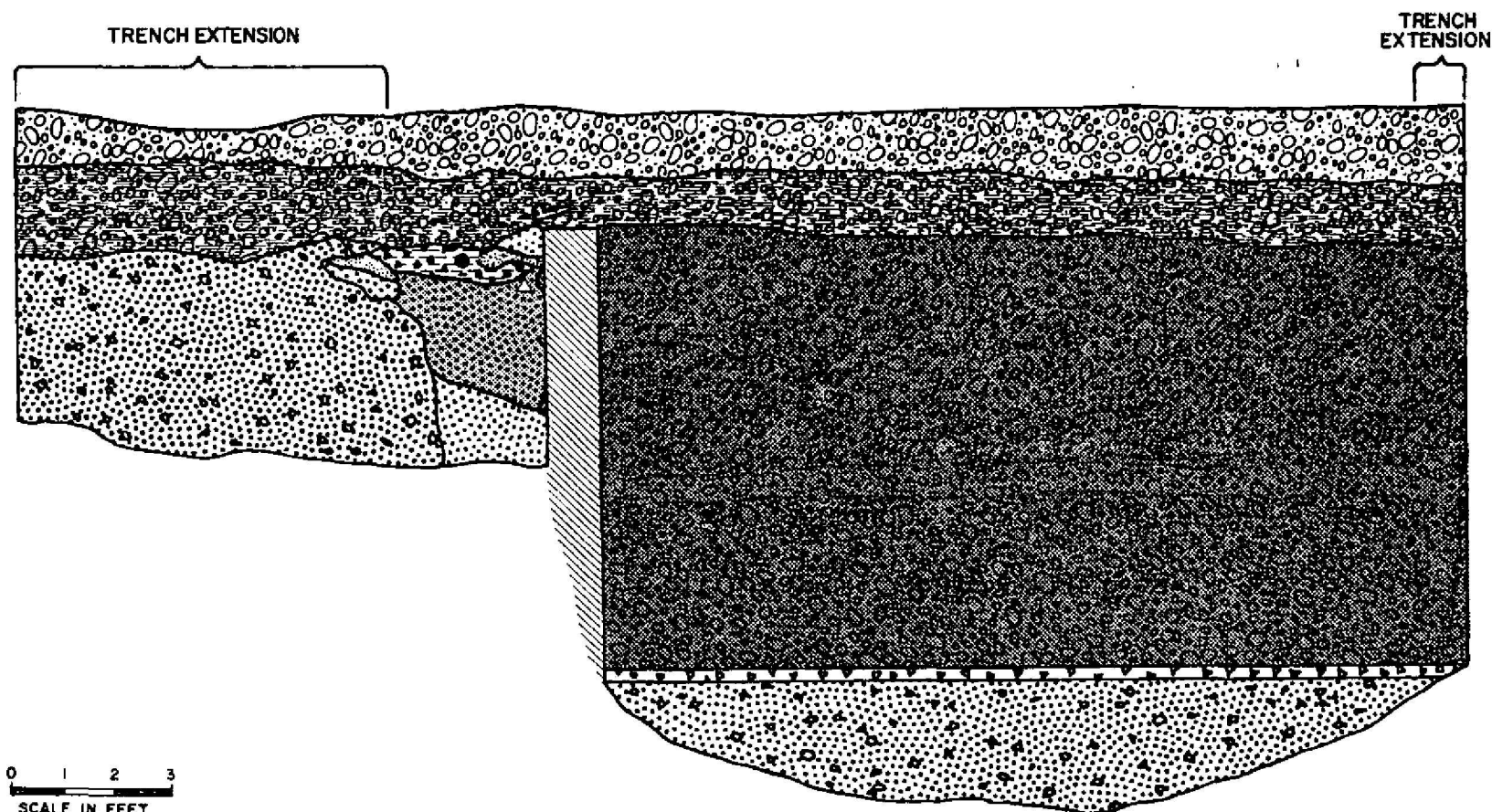
As with Trench 34, Trench 18 was placed in order to investigate the areas behind the Pearsall house (Figures 17a and 5). In addition, this area of the block contained structures and possible rear yard areas of Van Cott's hotel in the 1840s and 50s.

The trench excavation exposed four deposits of demolition debris overlying sterile subsoil (Figure 23, Table 4). Near the south center area of the trench was a pit filled with rubble, cinder, and burnt cobbles. The pit, which was beneath the demolition layers, was dug into sterile subsoil. The trench excavation cut through the extreme northern end of the pit and thus provided a profile of the feature (designated as Feature 4). An excavation unit designated Unit 14 was then placed over half of the feature, immediately south of the southern wall of the trench (Figure 21). The unit contained eight strata (Table 4, Figure 24). The top three were removed by the backhoe, as they contained demolition debris. This was observed in the excavation of the trench proper. A sample of material was collected from these top deposits in the unit during the backhoe excavation. Strata 6 and 7 were within Feature 4. These deposits contained a large number of blackened and fire cracked cobbles and cinder. Yellow brick, usually associated with chimneys and furnaces, was also present in Stratum 7. As noted in the southern wall of the trench, the portion of the pit exposed in the unit intruded into the sterile, sandy subsoil.

In Stratum 2 of Trench 18, one artifact was recovered, a fragment of molded plastic with hexagon facets. Stratum 5, within Feature 4 also yielded a single artifact, a clear bottle fragment. Stratum 9, also within the feature, contained one ironstone sherd, four pieces of terracotta, and four glass fragments.

Strata 1, 2 and 3 excavated as a single deposit within Unit 14 produced an ironstone bowl sherd, a porcelain cup sherd, possibly Tiffany glass, and bottle fragments including a finish with a seam to the lip indicating a late nineteenth century date (Stewart 1976:27).

# TRENCH 34 - SOUTH WALL PROFILE



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SCALE IN FEET

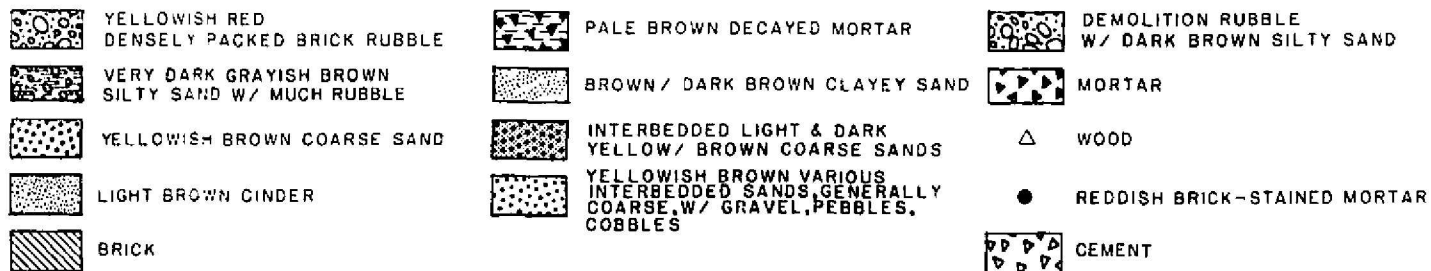


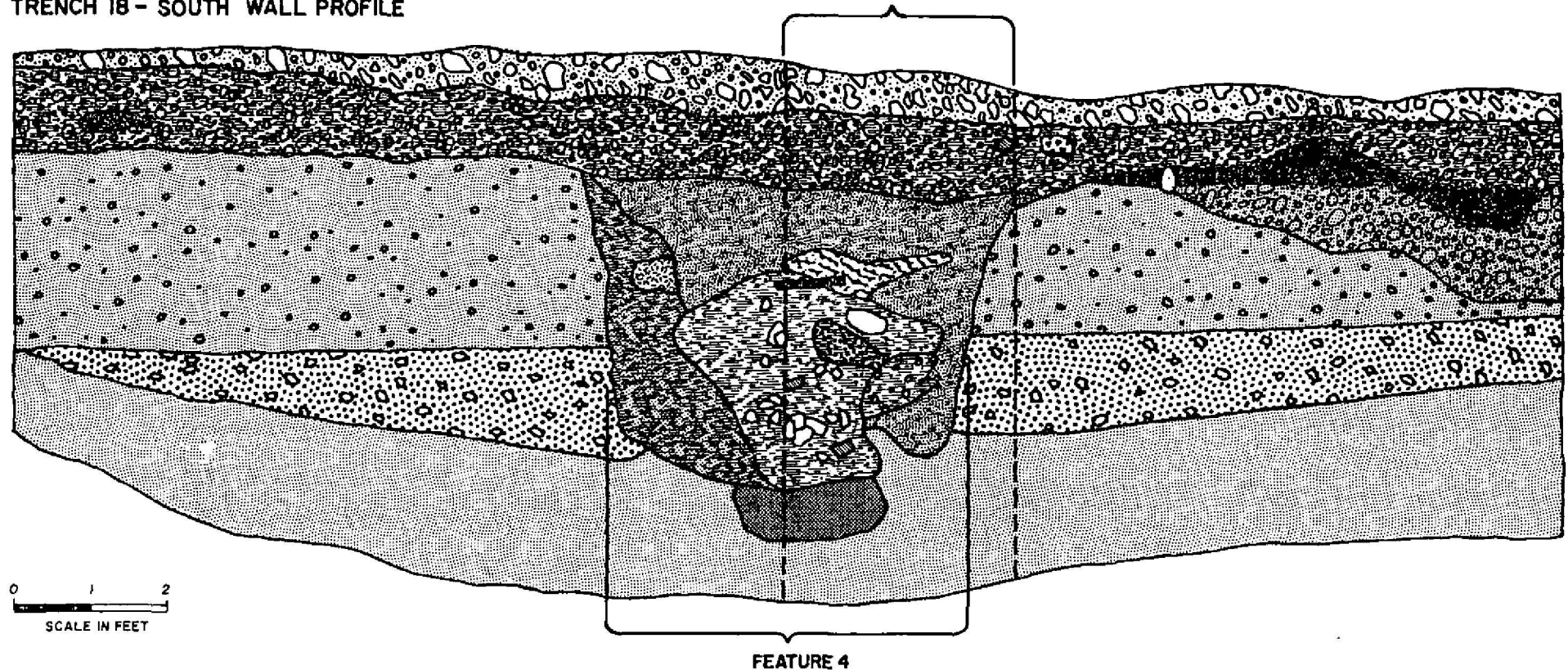
FIGURE 22  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 34 50N/75W

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 34- 50N/75W			
Strata 1 & 2	Deposits of yellowish red and very dark grayish brown sand and silty sand with brick rubble.	Fill and demolition debris	20th century
Strata 3,4,5, 6,7,8, & 9	Deposits of yellowish brown sand, light, brown sand, brown/dark brown clayey sand, brownish sand, yellow and light yellowish brown sand, with top stratum of decaying mortar.	Fill to builder's trench east of wall	Early 20th century
Strata 11	Dark brown silty sand with rubble	Demolition debris within basement above concrete floor	20th century possibly post-1916
Stratum 10	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil below floor and below builders trench	No date

# TRENCH 18 - SOUTH WALL PROFILE

EXCAVATION UNIT 14



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

FEATURE 4

-  LIGHT REDDISH BROWN  
BRICK RUBBLE
-  DARK GRAYISH BROWN  
SILTY SAND W/ RUBBLE
-  DARK YELLOWISH BROWN  
SILTY SAND W/ RUBBLE
-  BLACK/SALT & PEPPER  
ASPHALT RUBBLE
-  YELLOWISH BROWN MIXED  
SILTY SAND & CLAY W/ CINDER
-  VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN  
CINDER W/ RUBBLE

-  VERY DARK GRAY  
SILTY SAND W/ CINDER
-  VERY DARK GRAY SILTY SAND  
W/ CINDER (LESS COMPACT)
-  VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN  
SILTY SAND W/ GRAVEL
-  DARK YELLOWISH BROWN  
SILTY SAND
-  DARK YELLOWISH BROWN  
CLAY
-  DARK GRAYISH BROWN  
SAND
-  VERY DARK GRAY  
ASPHALT RUBBLE







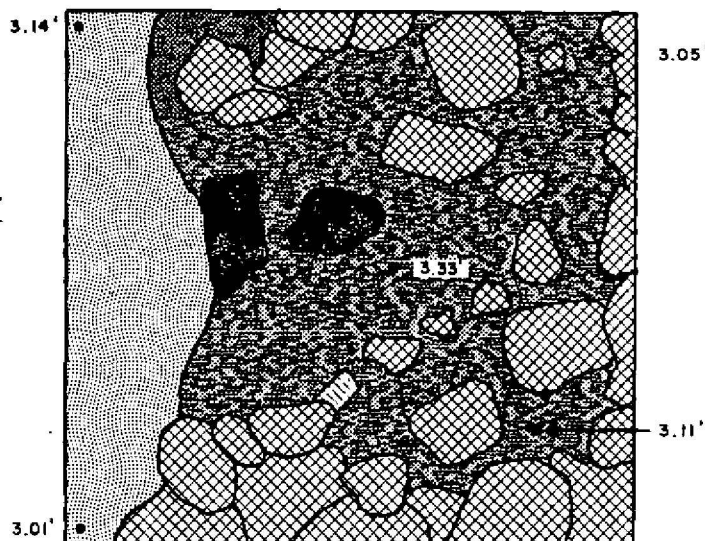
-  YELLOWISH BROWN  
SAND W/ FINE GRAVEL
-  YELLOWISH BROWN  
COARSE SAND W/ COARSE GRAVEL
-  YELLOWISH BROWN  
SAND
-  MORTAR
-  BRICK
-  COBBLES / STONES
-  ASPHALT

FIGURE 23  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 18 30N/50W  
EXCAVATION UNIT 14

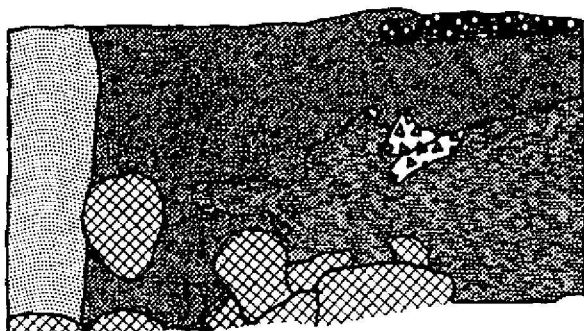


# EXCAVATION UNIT 14 - PLAN VIEW

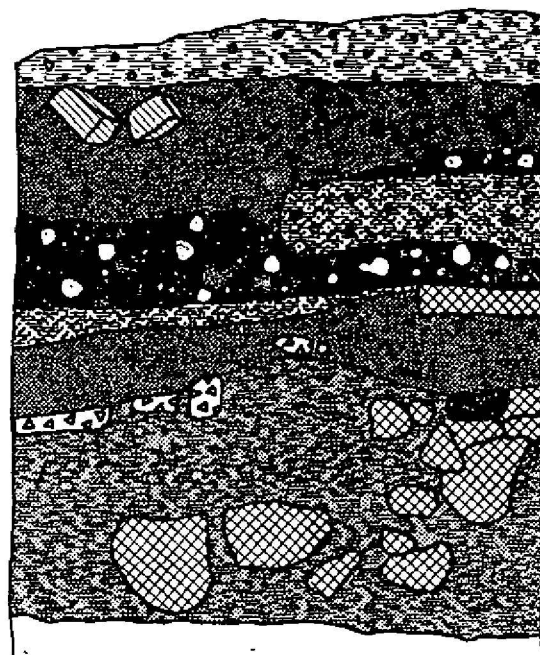


0  
SCALE IN FEET

## NORTH WALL PROFILE



## EAST WALL PROFILE



- REDDISH BROWN SANDY SILT W/ BRICK
- DARK BROWN SANDY SILT
- BROWN / DARK BROWN SILTY SAND W/ BRICK & CINDER
- BLACK SAND W/ CINDER & RUBBLE
- BROWN / DARK BROWN SILTY SAND
- DARK BROWN SANDY SILT MOTTLED W/ VERY COMPACT CLAY
- DARK BROWN MEDIUM SAND MIXED W/ SILT, LARGE COBBLES

- BLACK SILTY SAND
- YELLOWISH BROWN MEDIUM SAND
- COBBLES / STONES
- CEMENT / MORTAR
- BRICK
- ASPHALT

3.14 • ELEVATIONS BELOW TRENCH DATUM

FIGURE 24  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 18 30N/50W  
EXCAVATION UNIT 14

TABLE 4. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 18- 30N/50W			
Stratum 1	Light reddish brown sand brick rubble	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 2	Dark greyish brown silty sand with rubble and asphalt fragments	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 3	Asphalt rubble present only in eastern edge of trench	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 4	Dark yellowish brown silty sand with rubble	Demolition debris	20th century
Feature 4 Strata 5-12	Deposits of yellowish brown silty sand, very dark grey silty sand, very dark greyish brown sandy dark yellowish brown silty sand and clay, with rubble, cinder, gravel, burnt and firecracked cobbles	Pit intruding into Strata 14, begins at base of Stratum 2	Possibly middle to late 19th century
Strata 14	Yellowish brown sand and sand with gravel	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU 14 of Trench 18			
Strata 1-4	Deposits of dark brown, reddish brown sandy silty brown, dark brown silty sand, and black sand with cinder, rubble, brick	Demolition debris	Post 1955

TABLE 4 (continued)

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Stratum 5	Brown to dark brown silty sand	Possibly related to upper demolition debris	No date available
Stratum 6	Dark brown sandy silt with clay and black silty sand	Within Feature 4	Possibly middle to late 19th century
Stratum 7	Dark brown sand with silt and large cobbles (fire cracked and burnt)	Within Feature 4	Possibly middle to late 19th century
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand, present in north west area of unit.	Sterile subsoil, intruded by Strata 6 and 7	

An undecorated ironstone sherd was the only diagnostic artifact recovered from Stratum 4. Other artifacts included two redware sherds, glassware, which was excavated in two arbitrary levels and bottle fragments as well as window glass, brick, mortar, and coal.

Stratum 5 also yielded only one diagnostic artifact, an undecorated ironstone sherd. The only other ceramics collected were sewer pipe fragments and an unidentifiable burnt manganese decorated sherd. The glass assemblage consisted of fragments of bottle glass, milk glass, and window glass. Also found were building materials including nails, brick and mortar.

Stratum 6, excavated in five arbitrary levels, produced a total of 16 ceramic sherds: 5 undecorated ironstone, 4 burnt polychrome ironstone, 5 decorated porcelain, and 2 plain redware. Even though the glass recovered was of a substantial amount, none was diagnostic. All of the glass fragments were from bottles and windows except for a single glassware fragment. Brick, mortar, and iron concretions were also collected.

Six sherds of gray salt glazed stoneware and two sherds of undecorated ironstone were the only ceramics recovered from Stratum 7, which was excavated in two arbitrary levels. The stratum yielded no diagnostic glass, but included bottle fragments, window glass, and fragments of a scalloped edged milk glass bowl. Other artifacts collected were a 2 hole shell button, a porcelain fisque fragment of a doll's head, and a number of ceramic pan tiles.

Stratum 9 excavated in two arbitrary levels, yielded one green bottle fragment and one white Tiffany glass fragments. All artifacts recovered from Trench 18, Feature 4 and excavation Unit 14 are listed in Appendix A.

#### Trench 15 (15N/60W)

As with Trenches 34 and 18, Trench 15 would hopefully contain deposits, features, and structural remains associated with Van Cott's hotel and the house occupied by the Pearsalls (Figures 17a, 4, and 5). No such archaeological contexts were exposed in Trench 15. The deposits within the trench were layers of fill above sterile subsoil (Figure 25, Table 5). Two of the fill deposits, Strata 4 and 5, intruded into the sterile subsoil at about 7.7 feet to 16.7 feet from the east end of the trench, filling a depression within the sub soil. This depression was about 1.4 deep into the subsoil. No artifacts were observed in this trench.

TABLE 5. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 15 - 15N/60W			
Stratum 1	Reddish brown sand with brick rubble	Fill and demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 2	Brown silty sand with pocket of ash	Fill	No date
Stratum 4	Yellowish brown clay with pocket of very dark gray brown clay	Fill intrudes into Stratum 3	No date
Stratum 5	Dark yellowish brown sand	Fill intrudes into Stratum 3	No date
Strata 6 & 7	Dark yellowish brown, dark yellow, yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

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#### Trench 35 (ON/25W)

Trench 35, placed in the south-central portion of the western project area (Figure 17a) also failed to produce any archaeological deposits that could be linked to the nineteenth century occupations within the block. Almost the entire trench contained the remains of a large cinderblock structure capped by a layer of concrete (Figure 25). The concrete capping which first appeared at a depth of 1.1 feet below surface was overlain by the fill and demolition debris of Stratum 1 (Table 6). The subsurface structure, except for one area, was filled with sand, clay and stone rubble. One area of the structure, which extended from 8.6 feet to 13.7 feet from the east end of the trench, was empty, like a vault. This vault contained electrical fixtures in its ceiling. The eastern portion of the trench below the layer of concrete was sterile subsoil. Between the subsoil and the eastern wall of the vault was a possible builder's trench to the cinder block wall.

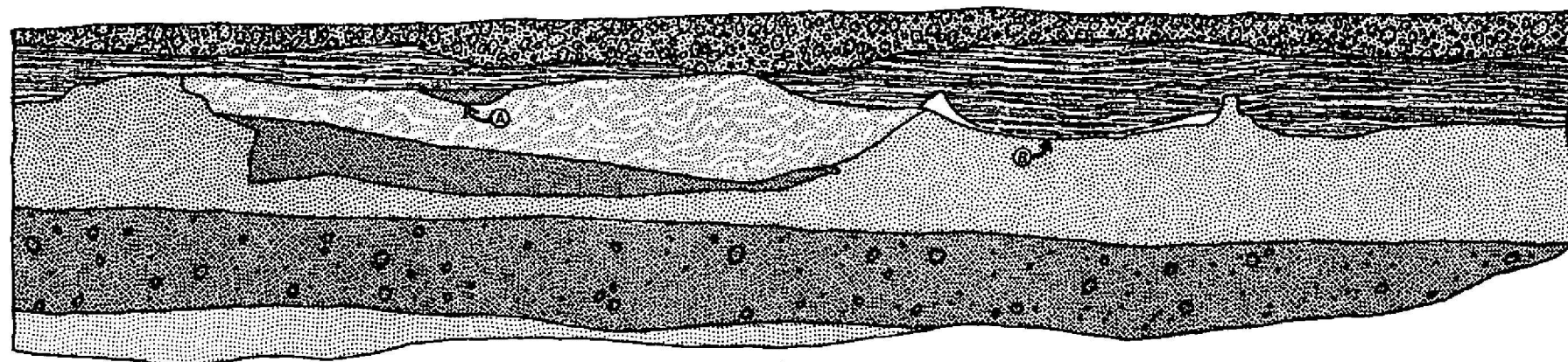
As seen in Figure 26, the trench was expanded in several directions in order to determine the extent and nature of this subsurface structure. The backhoe was unable to work within the confines of a normal sized trench due to the narrow spaces within the cinder block walls. Expansion was also necessary to break through the concrete floor of the structure in order to investigate lower deposits. When the floor was removed, sterile subsoil was exposed.

Given the location of this structure and the lack of nineteenth century artifacts within or below it, this was probably a subsurface storage area or a small basement holding utilities for the garage that covered modern Lot 50 in its entirety. The garage was built in 1918.

#### Trench 6 (OS/20E)

This trench was the first within the transect of trenches investigating the northern end of the area with eight borings (Figure 17a). It was expected that this trench would uncover rear yard deposits relating to the properties once fronting on Jamaica Avenue in the nineteenth century. However, no such deposits were found. As in the other trenches crossing Standard Place, Trench 6 contained twentieth century fill or yard deposits overlying sterile subsoil. Also, intruding into the subsoil was a single utility trench. This trench contained the same line of wooden pipe as exposed in Trench 33 to the north. The utility trench was directly beneath Stratum 1, the paving for Standard Place (Table 7), and extended to a depth of 3.2 feet below the street surface. No artifacts were recovered from the trench, as those that were present were within the utility trench, and were all twentieth century.

# TRENCH 15 - NORTH WALL PROFILE



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

REDDISH BROWN SAND  
W/ BRICK RUBBLE

BROWN SANDY SILT

YELLOWISH BROWN CLAY

Ⓐ VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN CLAY

YELLOWISH BROWN SAND

DARK YELLOWISH BROWN SAND

Ⓑ GRAY POSSIBLE ASH

DARK YELLOWISH BROWN SAND  
W/ PEBBLES

DARK YELLOWISH SAND

FIGURE 25  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 15 15N/60W





0 10  
SCALE IN FEET

--- PROJECT AREA

T - TRENCH

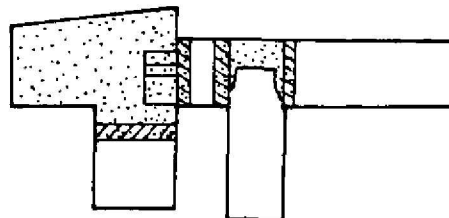
CONCRETE

STONE

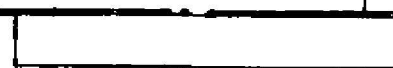
CINDER BLOCK

--- BORING AREA

T35



T6



T37



T1



FEATURE 26  
DETAIL OF THE WESTERN SECTION  
OF THE PROJECT AREA

TABLE 6. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 35 - 0N/25W			
Stratum 1	Very dark gray sand with rubble with a lense of yellowish brown sand	Fill and demolition debris above concrete layer	Post 1955
Strata 2-5	Deposits of dark yellow with brown, brownish yellow, and yellowish brown sand present only in eastern end of trench	Sterile subsoil	No date
Stratum 6	Yellowish brown sand with cobbles and gravel, against easternmost cinderblock wall in trench	Possible builder's trench	Post 1918
Strata 7 & 8	Yellowish brown sand and dark yellowish brown sand with clay and rubble, above concrete floor; Floor above sterile sand subsoil	Fill within concrete and cinderblock sub-surface structure	Post 1918

#### Trench 19 (10S/70W)

Trench 19 was located in the south-west portion of the western section of the project area (Figure 17a). The trench was oriented east/west. Excavation began with the backhoe by removing Stratum 1, a yellowish brown overburden sand (Table 7) which extended to a depth from 1.0 to 1.4 feet below surface. Underlying the sand was a deposit of very dark grayish brown sand with brick rubble, conduit pipes and steal "I" beams, Stratum 2. Stratum 2 continued to depth of from 5.2 to 6.0 feet below surface. Underlying the rubble layer was a sterile yellowish brown sand with pebbles.

The Phase I report (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982) has identified this area of the site (central west end of modern Lot 55) as minimally disturbed. Although the borings done in this area did indicate approximately 4.0 feet of fill. Prior to excavation Trench 19 it was anticipated that intact yard deposits and feature may exist in this area of the site because of its close proximity to the Pearsall house fronting on Jamacia Ave. and the three early twentieth century structures fronting on Twombly Place. This was not the case as the excavation of Trench 19 has indicated this area was disturbed to 7.0 feet below surface and postdates 1918, the construction of a later structure.

#### Trench 1 (60S/0E)

This was the westernmost trench of a line of trenches running along the southern area of the eight borings (Figure 17a). The trench exposed two architectural features. One was a possible brick wall, one course thick above, and area of mortar. This possible wall was located in the north profile of the trench, within Strata 3 and 4. The second was a brick wall with a cement foundation 7.0 feet from the trench's northwest corner. The foundation extended 4.5 feet below the ground surface into sterile subsoil and was 1.4 feet thick.

The top of the brick wall began in Stratum 3, 1.0 feet below the surface. As seen in Table 8, the upper deposits within the trench, including Stratum 3, contained demolition debris. It is possible that the "wall" with only one course may be a displaced wall from demolition activities. Below the demolition layers at about 2.0 feet below the surface, was the sterile yellowish brown subsoil. No artifacts were found within the trench, nor was there a builder's trench for the brick wall with the concrete foundation. If a builder's trench was backfilled with sterile subsoil, it would not be visible in Trench 1's walls.

The wall with the concrete foundation may be related to the one story structure at the south end of Lot 20 on the 1913 map of the block (Figure 6). The function of this building is unknown.

TABLE 7. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 6 (S/20E)			
Stratum 1	Concrete	Paving for Standard Place	Post 1902
Stratum 2	Black ash with sand, stones and rubble	Fill or horizontal yard deposit	20th century
Stratum 3	Brown sand	Utility trench	Probably 20th century
Stratum 5	Dark brown sand	Fill or horizontal yard deposit	20th century
Stratum 4	Stong brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
Trench 19 (10S/70W)			
Strata 1 & 2	Yellowish brown sand and very dark grayish brown sand with brick rubble, conduits, pipes, rubble, steel "I" beams	Fill and demolition debris	Pre-1918
Stratum 3	Yellowish brown sand with pebbles	Sterile subsoil	No date

TABLE 8. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 1 (60S/0E)			
Strata 1,2,3, 4,10,11, & 12	Deposits of black, dark brown silty sand dark yellowish brown sand with concrete, cinder, asphalt frag- ments, mortar	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 5	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

## Trench 37 (60S/40W)

The extreme southwest corner of the project area had experienced very little activity during the block's history. It probably functioned as the rear yard area of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue. A structure was present in this area, however, by the 1890s (Figure 7). Trench 37 (Figure 17a) was expected to contain the remains of this late nineteenth century structure, and probably portions of the three later structures that occupied this corner of the project area (Figure 9).

Excavation of the trench exposed a large stone wall oriented north/south (Figure 26 and 27). The wall's top was overlain with fill and demolition debris (Table 9, Figure 27). To the east of the wall, below the layer of demolition debris, was sterile subsoil. A builder's trench intruded into the subsoil adjacent to the wall's eastern side. The builder's trench contained a relatively large amount of artifactual material. These materials will be discussed below.

West of the stone wall were deposits of fill above a possible basement floor. However, this "floor" was not visible in the north profile of the trench. Below this "floor" was sterile subsoil. The fill within this possible basement appeared to have been deposited gradually rather than during a single depositional episode. The fill contained several horizontal layers of ash and sand with a high frequency of artifactual material. Thus, the basement must have been opened and used for trash disposal.

At the interface of Strata 2 and 3 one pearlware sherd w/pink luster decoration was recovered. Stratum 3, the first deposit within the builder's trench, contained a total of 11 ironstone ceramic sherds, eight of which were white saucer sherds which were probably from the same vessel, with Ott and Brewer maker's mark from Trenton, New Jersey, circa 1875 (Lovel 1953:156c). Two additional plain white body ironstone sherds (Vessel 29) exhibited a Bridgwood and Son makers mark from Longton, Great Britain and suggest a date in the nineteenth century (Kovel 1953:156c). An additional two body sherds, one from a plain bowl and another of blue ironstone, were also collected. A single pearlware sherd with scratched pink luster design on the exterior, a bisque fired basal sherd and a buff body, salt glazed stoneware crock lid measuring 10.5 in. in diameter complete the ceramic collection of Stratum 3, suggesting a mean ceramic date of 1861.7.

A total of 14 glass fragments and three complete vessels were collected from Stratum 3. Of the glass fragments, three clear window fragments and two were clear bottle fragments (one of which was embossed with a diamond). The remaining glass fragments were from aqua bottles. Two were embossed with "LOWEL" and "MASS", one was a chamfer fragment and one was a neck fragment with a blob top dating from the mid to late nineteenth century (McKearin 1978:237). Two fragments were from a three piece mold with a dip body. This type of mold was used from the 1820s and its popularity declined by the 1870s (Baugher-Perlin 1982:263).

TABLE 9. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 37- 60N/40E			
Stratum 1	Dark brown sand	Fill	20th century
Stratum 2	Dark reddish brown to very dark grayish brown silty sand with brick rubble, and lenses of shell and organic material	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 6	Dark brown silty sand	Fill	20th century
Stratum 5	Yellowish brown to dark yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
Stratum 3 & 4	Dark yellowish brown sand with lenses of dark grayish brown ash and cinder	Fill in builder's trench	Probably late 19th century
Strata 7,8, and 9	Dark yellow brown sand and dark brown silty sand with lenses of ash	Basement fill above possible floor; floor above Stratum 5, Sterile sand subsoil	20th century



# TRENCH 37 - SOUTH WALL PROFILE

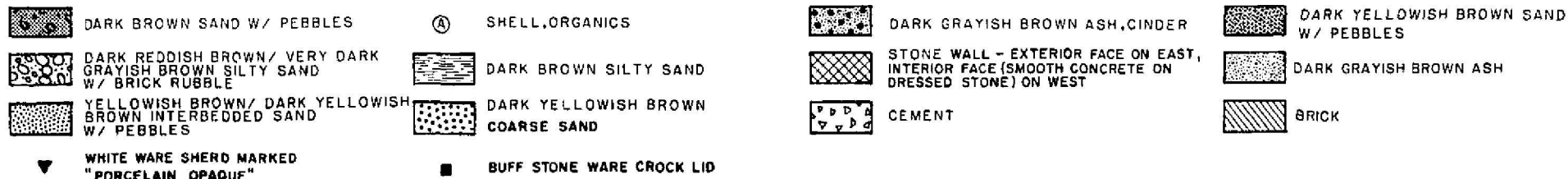
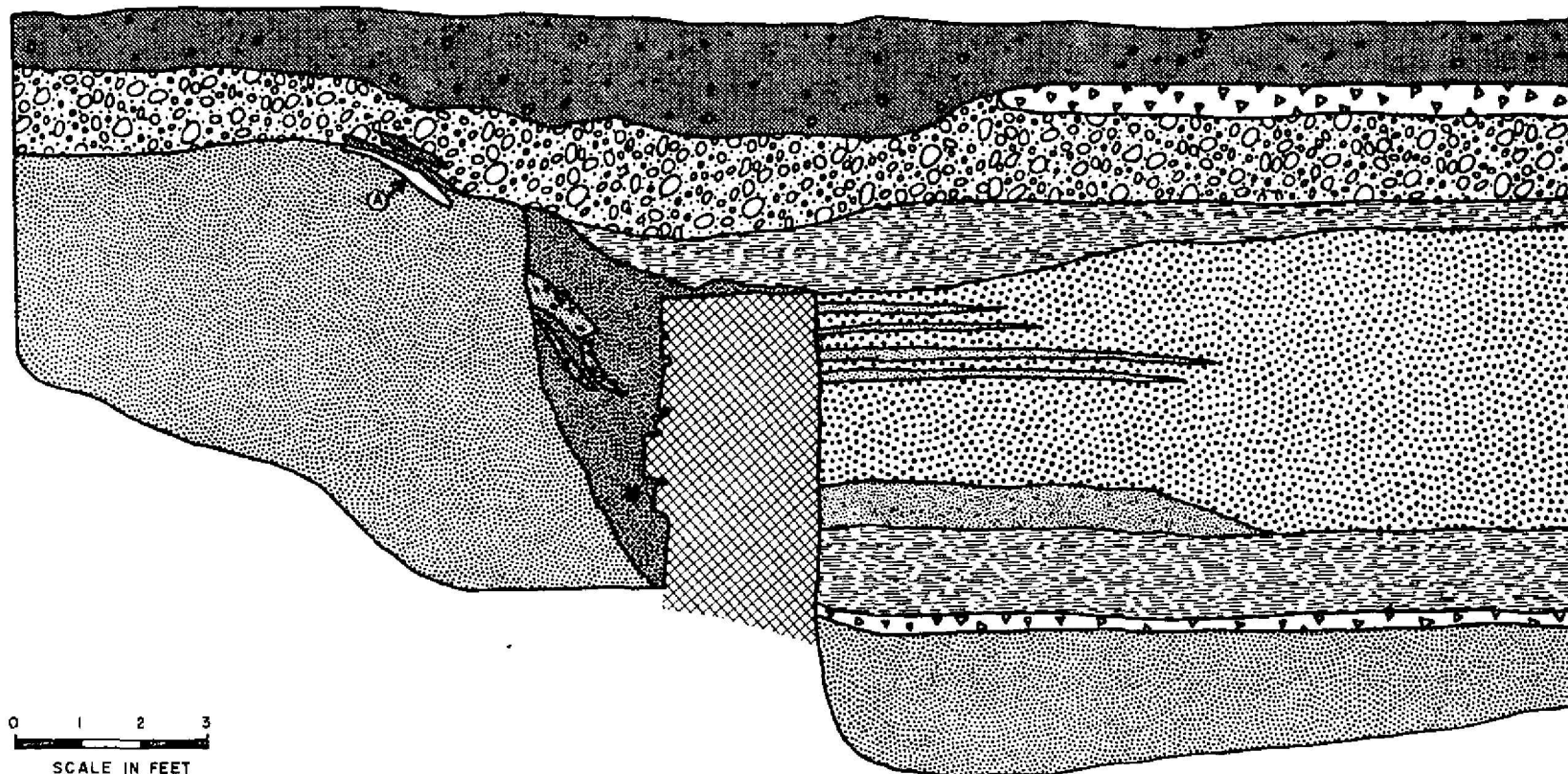


FIGURE 27  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 37 60N/40E

A complete clear bottle with a single panel, prescription lip, and mold seam that extends partially up the neck probably dates from before 1880 (Stewart 1976:27). Two complete aqua panel bottles were recovered, both with mold seams extending to the neck, predating 1880 (Stewart 1976:27); one was embossed with "DOCT' MARSHALL'S - SNUFF" and the second was embossed with "PISO'S CURE - FOR CONSUMPTION - HAZELTIME & CO."

The remainder of the cultural material collected from this deposit consisted of 22 metal can fragments, another unidentifiable metal fragment, one leather shoe sole with wood pegs and stacked heel, and four felt fragments. Mollusks consisted of oysters and soft shell clams, and bird and mammal bone completed the material collected.

Stratum 4, also within the builder's trench, consisted of 11 plain ironstone sherds. Two rim and foot plate sherds mended with a vessel from Stratum 3. Nine ironstone plate sherds also mended with sherds from Stratum 3. One red transfer printed saucer sherd, and one butchered bone complete the cultural material collected from Stratum 4.

The cultural material collected from Stratum 7 consisted of glass, ceramics, one mammal bone and one slate roofing fragment. The glass of Stratum 7 consisted of 21 aqua and seven clear bottle fragments. The clear fragments mended, forming an embossed vessel, approximately 70% with DR. C. BOUVIER'S - BUCHU CIN on two panels. Two aqua colored neck fragments with a blob top also mended, dating the vessel from the mid- to late nineteenth century (McKearin 1978:237). Another three aqua neck fragments mended, forming enough of the vessel to date it between 1880 and 1903 (Stewart 1976:27). The remaining 16 aqua colored fragments were base and body fragments, all embossed. There was one additional olive green colored body fragment also collected from Stratum 7.

As the fill deposits within this possible basement date from the late nineteenth century and very early twentieth century, the wall exposed in the trench probably relates to the single structure that occupied this area in the 1890s (Figure 7, lot owned by Hardenbrook). It may also be related to one of the three buildings (Figure 9) that subsequently replaced this single structure sometime between 1891 and 1901. No earlier deposits or features were present in Trench 37.

### Middle Section

The modern lots falling within the middle section of the block included lots 50 and 21 (Figure 3). The tavern and hotel referenced in the proceeding discussion of the western section's history may have stood within the middle section of the block, east of modern Standard Place, and south along Jamaica Avenue. The exact location of this early tavern and hotel is unclear in the available historic records. There is a reference to a residence with out-buildings east of the tavern and hotel in available late eighteenth century documents. This residence may have been located within both the middle and eastern sections of the block.

By the 1840s, this area of the middle section was the site of Van Cott's hotel (Figure 4). The hotel changed hands several times during the nineteenth century, but it continued to function as a hotel. The name of the hotel was changed to the Pavillion Hotel after 1868 (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982) when it was converted to a dance hall, and was associated with the Jamaica Hotel located in the northeast corner of the block (Figure 8). Turn of the century maps of the block indicate that the hotel building may have been sectioned, possibly for commercial use (Figure 9). A local newspaper office occupied the site of the hotel during this time. In 1929, a structure, possibly commercial was built over the entire area of modern Lot 21 (Figure 3).

The southern area of the middle section probably functioned as the rear of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue, until the early nineteenth century. The 1842 Johnson map (Figure 4) indicates a lone structure in the area of modern Lot 50. This structure is not recorded on later maps. The function of this structure is unknown. The historic record does not indicate another structure in this area of the block until the late nineteenth century. One structure was built sometime before 1891 (Figure 7), just east of modern Standard Place. A second one was built to the east of the first in 1912 (Figure 12). This later building functioned as an open air theater.

Based on the history of the middle block section, it was anticipated that trenches and excavation units in this area would yield archaeological deposits and structural remains associated with:

1. late eighteenth century commercial properties and possibly a residence.
2. early to middle nineteenth century commercial properties, specifically a hotel.
3. middle to late nineteenth century commercial properties, again a hotel and possible other types of businesses at the turn of the century.
4. early twentieth century commercial establishments.

## Middle Section Field Results

A total of eleven trenches were excavated in the middle section of the block (Figure 17b). These trenches will be discussed beginning with those south of modern Lot 21, to those paralleling Archer Avenue.

### Trench 29 (30N/50E)

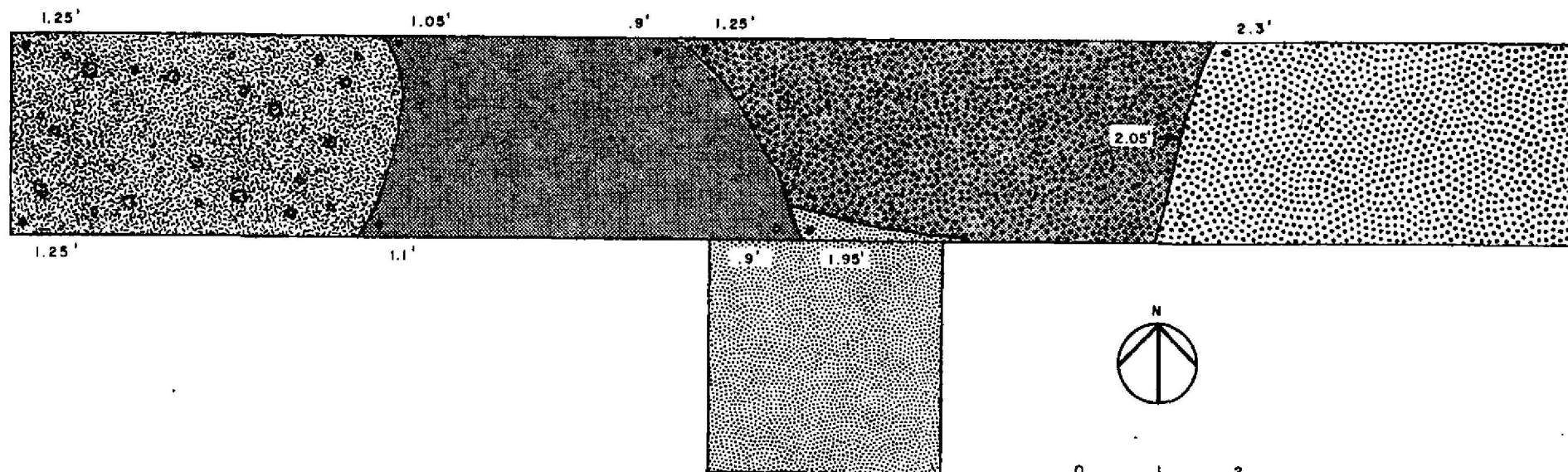
Trench 29 was one of a line of east/west running trenches for investigating the central portion of the project area (Figure 17b). It was expected that the trench would uncover yard deposits that could be linked to the properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue during the late eighteenth and nineteenth century. These properties would include Van Cott's hotel, and possibly the late eighteenth century hotel and tavern that may have been located at the southeast corner of modern Standard Place and Jamaica Avenue (see Chapter II).

The excavation of Trench 29 did produce several horizontal yard deposits, possible midden deposits, and a trash pit. However, all date to the late nineteenth century. The entire trench was capped by a layer of demolition debris (Table 10). Below this layer was a thin horizontal yard deposit with cinder and coal, which in the western portion of the trench lay between two layers of demolition debris (Fig. 28). This suggests that there may have been two demolition episodes in this area of the block with the first sealed by this thin yard deposit. The historical research on this area of the block suggested that two such episodes did occur in the twentieth century.

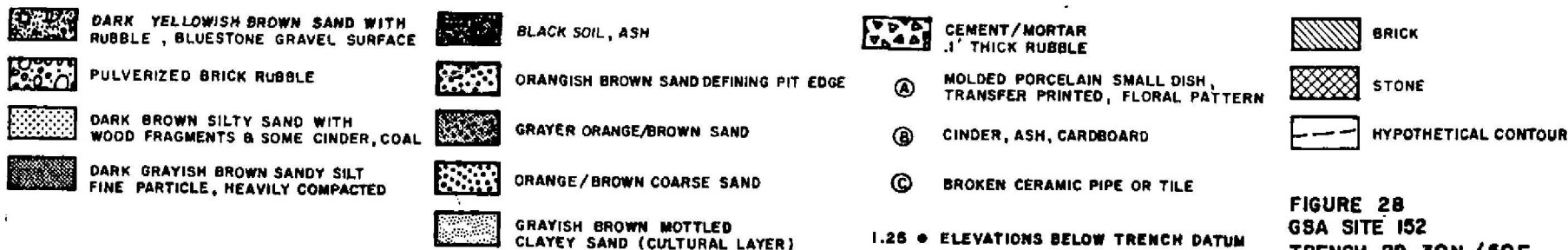
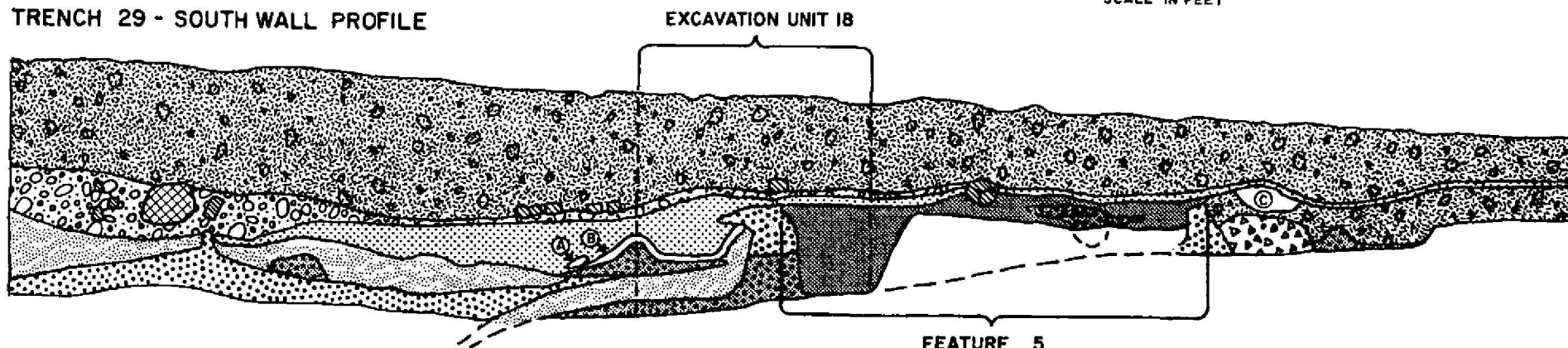
Below this horizontal yard deposit, which becomes thicker in the eastern half of the trench, was Stratum 6, a layer of clayey sand with cultural material, such as shell and bottles. This may have been a trash midden, as could the portion of Stratum 3 above it. Below the demolition layers, yard deposits, and possible middens was sterile subsoil. Intruding the subsoil, near the center of the trench was a pit filled with silt and ash (Feature #5). The feature was capped by Stratum 3, and appeared to intrude into, at its western extremity, the lower demolition layer. This suggests that the pit was dug out after the first demolition episode, and before the second.

Of the 6 strata observed in Trench 29 only two yielded cultural material. The first, Stratum 3, produced bottle fragments, including a flash finish without a seam which predates the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27). Two complete bottles, both embossed with Brooklyn company names, were also recovered. One had a blob top, which McKearin dates to the mid- to late nineteenth century (McKearin 1978:237). The other has a crown lip not manufactured on the automatic bottle machine. This can be dated from 1891 (Munsey 1970:105) to 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43).

# TRENCH 29 & EXCAVATION UNIT 18 - PLAN VIEW



## TRENCH 29 - SOUTH WALL PROFILE



1.25 • ELEVATIONS BELOW TRENCH DATUM

FIGURE 28  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 29 30N/50E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 18



The ceramics collected consist of sherds of a redware bowl, an overglazed porcelain plate, a porcelain teabowl, and ironstone plates, cups, and bowls. A bone and a four-holed glass button were also recovered.

The other stratum within Trench 29 to yield artifacts was Stratum 6. Sherds of redware brown salt-glazed stoneware, porcelain, and cc ware, as well as undecorated and transfer printed ironstone were collected from this stratum. The glass assemblage consisted entirely of bottle fragments. The diagnostic pieces indicate a mid- to late nineteenth century deposit. Two essence bottle, both embossed with the company name, "LAZELL'S", probably date to this same period. On the base of one is embossed "BOTTLE PATENTED AUGUST 2, 1881". Neither bottle was produced on the automatic bottle machine and therefore can be given an end date of 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43). A blob top bottle finish, dated to the mid- to late nineteenth century (McKerlin 1978:237), and a patent medicine lipped finish, dated prior to the 1880s by the absence of mold seams were also recovered. Other artifacts collected included shell, bone and iron concretions.

An excavation unit was placed over Feature #5, immediately south of the southern wall of the trench. This unit, #18 (Figure 28 and 29) provided a sample of materials from the feature. The majority of the feature however, remained intact to the west, south and east of the unit. Seven strata were present in the excavation unit (Table 10, Figure 29). The top stratum was removed from the unit by the backhoe. This top level was only recent demolition debris, as indicated in the south wall of Trench 29. Hand excavations began at Stratum 2. Strata 3, 4, 6, and possibly 7, were trash deposits within the feature. During excavation, the feature seemed to contain both late nineteenth and twentieth century material. For example, the upper portion of Stratum 3 yielded a piece of plastic, along with porcelain, ironstone, and redware sherds.

The feature appeared to have been dug into sterile subsoil. In excavating the feature and unit, artifacts were found in the upper portions of the yellowish brown subsoil, Stratum 5 in Figure 29 and Table 10. These artifacts were probably displaced from the feature into the unconsolidated sandy subsoil. No artifactual materials were recovered from the lower portions of Stratum 5.

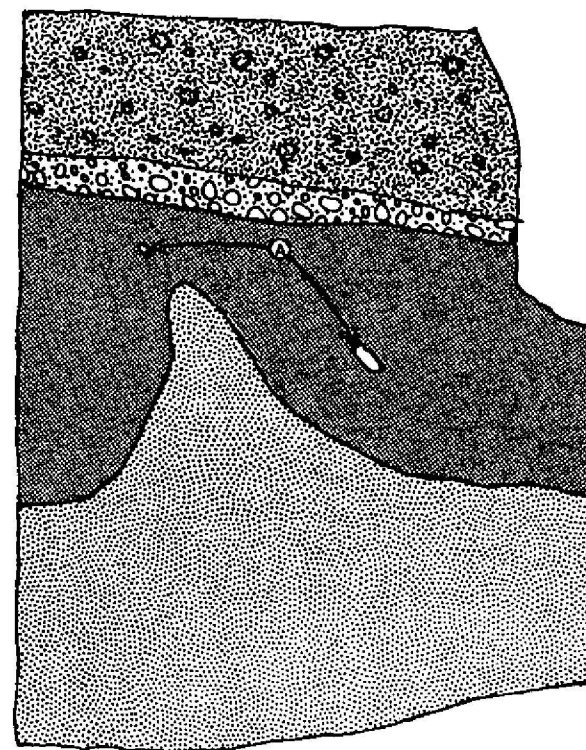
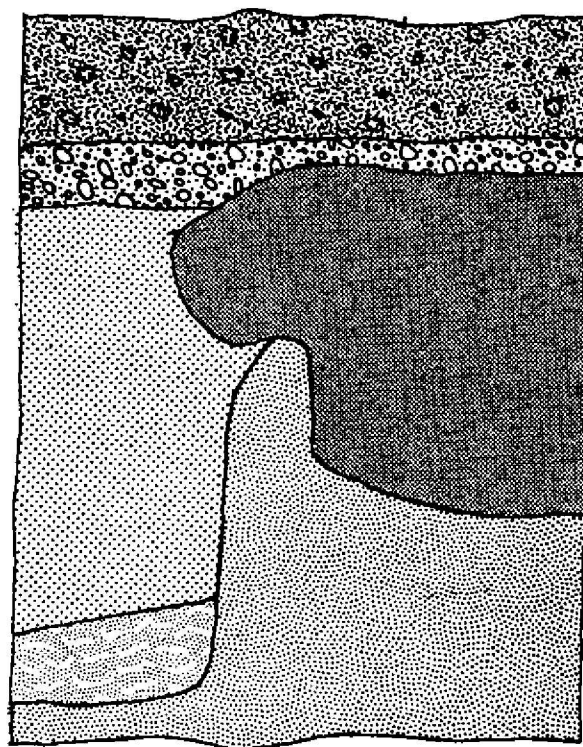
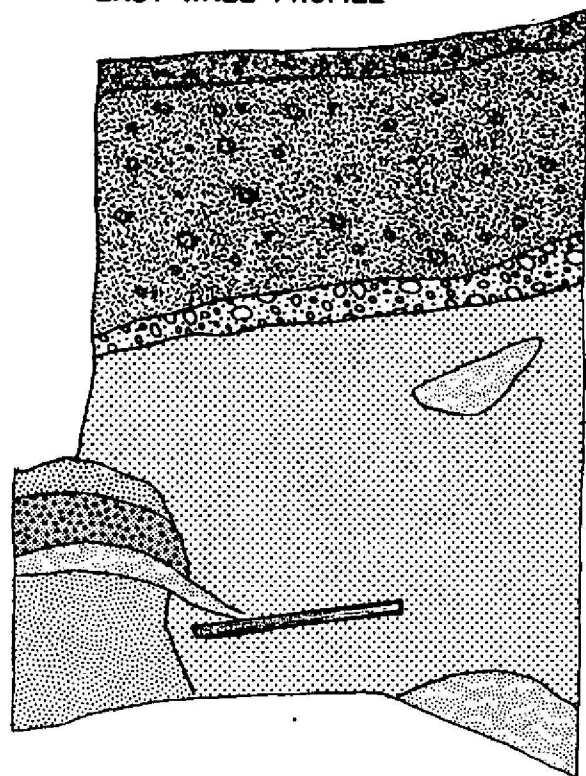
In examining the profiles of Excavation Unit 18, it appears as if more than one pit was present in this area. One pit would be represented by Stratum 3 in the east and south wall profiles, and a second would be represented by Stratum 4 in the south and west wall profiles. As Stratum 4 appeared to intrude into Stratum 3, the pit relating to #3 would be the earlier. In the west wall profile, a portion of Stratum 5, sterile subsoil, extended into Stratum 4. During excavation of the unit, this area of yellowish brown sand flanked by Stratum 4, appeared to be a rodent borrow.

Stratum 2 of Unit 18 yielded very few artifacts of which none were diagnostic. The artifacts collected were brick, a roofing shingle fragment, a metal handle from a screen or closet door, a nail and glass fragments.

EXCAVATION UNIT 18  
EAST WALL PROFILE

SOUTH WALL PROFILE

WEST WALL PROFILE



0  
SCALE IN FEET

ASPHALT/GRAVEL

DARK YELLOWISH BROWN  
SAND W/ RUBBLE

PULVERIZED BRICK RUBBLE

DARK BROWN SILTY SAND W/  
WOOD FRAGMENTS,CINDER,COAL

DARK GRAYISH BROWN SANDY SILT  
FINE PARTICLE,HEAVILY COMPACTED

STRONG BROWN/YELLOWISH BROWN  
SAND W/ GRAVEL BANDS

(A) BRICK FRAGMENTS

VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN CLAYEY SAND

GRAY ORANGE/BROWN SAND

SLATE TILE

FIGURE 29  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 29 30 N/50 E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 18



TABLE 10. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 29 30N/50E			
Stratum 1 & 2	Yellowish brown sand with rubble, gravel, brick, mortar	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 3	Dark brown silty sand with wood fragments and some cinder & coal	Horizontal yard deposit	Probably 20th century or late nineteenth
Stratum 6	Greyish brown mottled clayey sand	Horizontal yard deposit or midden	
Stratum 5	Strong brown to yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
Feature 5			
Stratum 4	Dark grayish brown sandy silt with pocket of ash	Trash pit and lens below Stratum 3 and intrudes into Stratum 5	
EU #18 of Trench 29			
Strata 1 & 2	Dark yellowish brown sand and reddish brown sand with brick, mortar and rubble	Demolition debris	
Stratum 3	Very dark gray silty sand with charcoal, cinder, wood, and shell	Trash deposit within Feature 5	
Stratum 4	Dark grayish brown sandy silt with charcoal and ash	Trash deposit within Feature 5	

TABLE 10 (continued)

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Stratum 6	Very dark grayish clayey sand	Fill within Feature 5	
Stratum 7	Yellowish brown sand pocket	Possibly within Feature 5	
Stratum 5	Strong brown to yellowish brown sand with gravel	Sterile subsoil	No date

The first strata to be excavated in Feature 5 was Stratum 3, which was excavated in six arbitrary levels. Because of the large amount of cultural material recovered from this stratum, the levels will be discussed separately and then as a single deposit.

The first level's ceramics consisted of five undecorated ironstone sherds, a sherd of porcelain and a piece of an electrical insulator. Using the mold seam as a temporal indicator for glass bottles, three finishes were dated to before the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27) and one post-dated 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43). A Borden's milk bottle post-dating 1880, was also found (Baughner-Perlin 1982:275).

The diagnostic ceramics recovered from Level 1 were three undecorated ironstone sherds. The ceramic assemblage consisted of redware, porcelain and hotel china. Even though there were many glass fragments found, mostly from bottles, the only diagnostic fragments were a crown top finish, post-dating the introduction of the automatic bottle machine in 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43), and a Borden's milk bottle first produced in the 1880s (Baughner-Perlin 1982:275). A plastic pipe stem was also collected.

Level 3 yielded no ceramics. Fragments of a Mason jar, postdating 1858 (Baughner-Perlin 1982:276), and a milk glass fruit jar lid, postdating 1869 (Baughner-Perlin 1982:276, Munsey 1970:146), are among the diagnostic glass artifacts recovered from this level. Other diagnostics included a post-1904 bottle base with a suction cut off scar, a clear bottle finish produced by the automatic bottle machine patented in 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43), and another finish which predates the machine (Lorrain 1968:43). Also recovered were fragments of numerous bottles, milk glass, window glass, brick and metal.

Undecorated and transfer printed ironstone, as well as porcelain were the only ceramics in Level 4. Of the hundreds of glass fragments retrieved from this level, the only diagnostic pieces were two lips without mold seams indicating a pre-1880s date (Stewart 1976:27) and a crown top finish from after 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43). Four fragments with a continuous thread at the top were also recovered. Other artifacts collected included bone, shell, and a metal toilet paper holder.

The cultural material recovered from Level 5 indicates a substantial increase over Level 4, in the amount of ceramic and glass. The ceramic assemblage contained sherds of unglazed and glazed redware, brown salt glazed stoneware, decorated porcelain, transfer printed and undecorated ironstone.

Again, using the mold seam as a temporal indicator for bottles, a number of fragments proved to be diagnostic. Eight lips had been manufactured by the automatic bottle machine, therefore postdating 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43). Two crown top finishes dating between 1891 (Munsey 1970:105) and 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43), a clear finish indicating a pre-1880s date (Stewart 1976:27), and a milk bottle, postdating 1880 (Baughner-Perlin 1982:275) were found as well.

Also recovered were a slate pencil, a light bulb post and wire, and metal, including parts of hinges, nails, a shock absorber, and a purse closure.

Level 6 contained many diagnostic glass fragments including five bases with suction cut off scars post-dating 1904 (Toulouse 1969:582), seven finishes, mostly crown tops, post-dating 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43), two crown tops not produced on the automatic bottle machine dating between 1891 (Munsey 1970:105) and 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43), three finishes with seams which end part way up the neck, indicating a pre-1880s date (Stewart 1976:27), and a milk bottle which was first produced in the 1880s (Baughner-Perlin 1982:276). Other glass artifacts collected were fragments of molded milk glass, window glass, and bottle glass.

Diagnostic ceramics recovered from this level include 41 undecorated ironstone sherds of cups and plates and six transfer printed ironstone sherds. The ceramic assemblage included porcelain and unglazed redware as well

Level 6 also yielded fragments of nitrite based 35 mm movie film dating from 1910 to 1930 (Personal communication Carl Mydans), a light bulb base, two-thirds of a "D" cell battery and unidentifiable metal concretions as well as bone and shell.

Over 2,000 glass fragments and hundreds of ceramic sherds were retrieved from stratum 3. The stratum appears to be a deposit dating to the first quarter of the twentieth century, and therefore could still be of historic significance.

Stratum 4 was excavated in three arbitrary levels. Approximately 100 glass fragments were collected. All the glass was either bottle body fragments or window glass, none of which were diagnostic.

The stratum yielded 54 undecorated ironstone sherds, single sherds of Nottingham, creamware and hand painted ware, as well as three transfer and two edged ironstone sherds. A mean ceramic date of 1898.4 was established. Other artifacts recovered included brick, mortar, shell, bone and metal.

Stratum 5 was also excavated in four arbitrary levels. The first three yielded cultural material with the frequency of artifacts decreasing greatly by the third. The fourth level was sterile. Five undecorated ironstone sherds and two porcelain sherds were the only ceramics collected. There was no diagnostic glass. Shell, brick, and metal were also recovered. For a complete list of artifacts collected from Trench 29 and Unit 18 consult Appendix A.

The deposits and feature in Trench 29, and Excavation Unit 18, probably relate to trash disposal activities that took place within the lot in the south, central portion of the block in 1891 (Figure 7). This lot contained a single structure from at least 1891 and into the 1950s. This may be the same building occupied by Charles Sommers in the 1920s and owned by William Baker, who bought the property from O'Donnell in 1902 (Figure 7 for location of O'Donnell's property). The property, and others in the area, were bought by a realty company, which appeared to have demolished structures in the middle section of the block. Some of the deposits in Trench 29 may be linked to this particular demolition event. It does not appear, based on the 1891, 1913 and 1955 maps, that the single structure discussed above had been demolished and rebuilt.

#### Trench 27 (30N/130E)

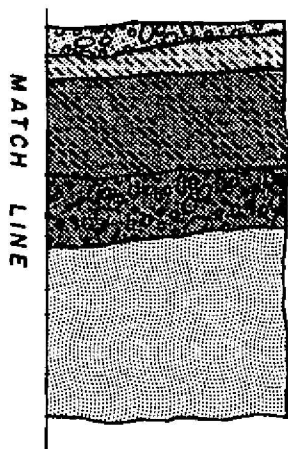
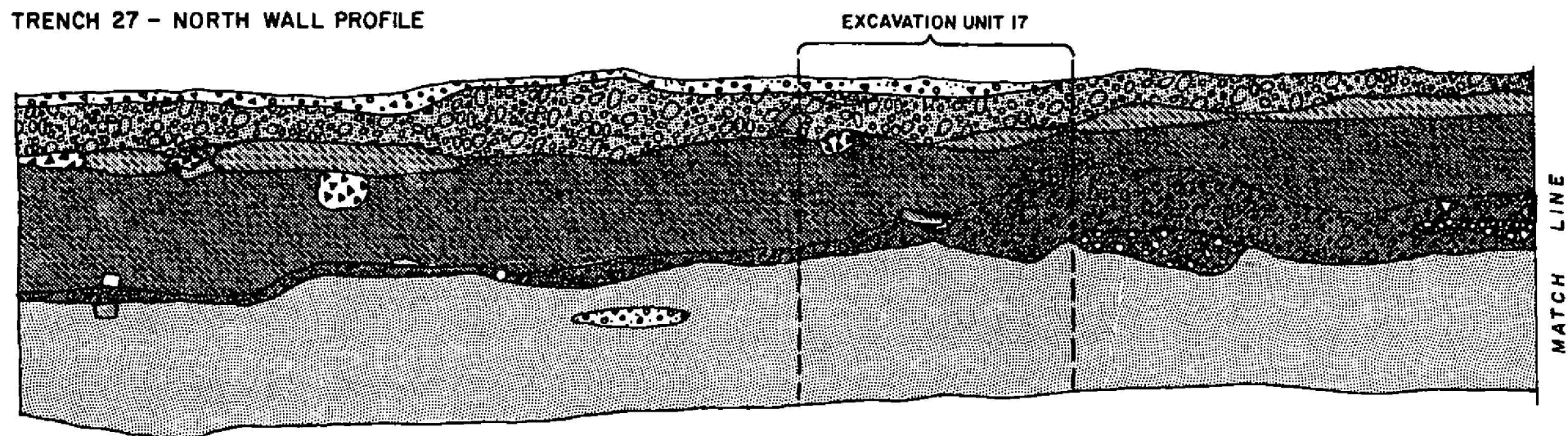
Trench 27 was excavated in order to investigate the central portion of the block, as was Trench 29 to the west (Figure 17b). The predominant deposits exposed during the excavation of Trench 27 were demolition layers (Figure 30 and Table 11). These layers overlaid sterile subsoil. During the excavation of Stratum 7 with backhoe and shovel shaving, a brown stoneware sherd was recovered. This was the only possible pre-1950 artifact seen within the trench. An excavation unit, #17, was placed in the area of the sherd, to sample the stratum and those below it. Stratum 7 contained twentieth century material. The next stratum below 7 was sterile subsoil. A second stoneware sherd was recovered from the upper portion of Stratum 8, in the unit. However, this sherd probably originated within an upper layer, such as Stratum 7, and had moved down into the unconsolidated sandy subsoil. Consult Appendix A for artifacts recovered from Trench 27.





The various demolition layers within this trench probably related to one of the demolition episodes which, based on the historical record, took place in this area of the block in the twentieth century.





#### Trench 7 (0S?60E)






The initial phase of the testing program involved the investigation of the area of eight borings in the southern portion of the block (Figure 17b). Trench 7, in addition to Trenches 8 and 9, were excavated in order to investigate the northern edge of the boring area (Figure 31), and thus the central area of the block. This portion of the block was expected to contain subsurface features, deposits, and structural remains associated with properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. These properties, as discussed above were the locations of several taverns and hotels.

# TRENCH 27 - NORTH WALL PROFILE



-  GRAVEL W/FINE CEMENT
-  BROWN / DARK BROWN SILTY SAND W/BRICK RUBBLE
-  DARK YELLOWISH BROWN SAND W/BRICK RUBBLE
-  DARK BROWN DECOMPOSING BRICK W/SAND

-  DARK BROWN/VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN DECOMPOSING BRICK W/SILTY SAND
-  VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SILTY SAND W/RUBBLE (WOOD FRAGMENTS IN WEST END)
-  VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SILTY SAND W/RUBBLE (CONTAINS CINDER AND POSSIBLE ORGANICS)
-  YELLOWISH BROWN VARIOUS INTERBEDDED SANDS (PRESUMED NATURAL OUTWASH DEPOSIT)

-  GRAVEL LENSE
-  MORTAR
-  BRICK
-  BUDWEISER CAN W/ POP TOP
-  LIGHT BULB FILAMENT

0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

FIGURE 30  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 27 30N/130E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 17

TABLE 11. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 27 30N/130E			
Stratum 1	Gravel and fine cement with dark brown silt	Fill and demolition debris	20th century
Strata 2 & 3	Pocket of brown/dark brown silty sand with brick rubble in layer of dark yellowish brown sand with rubble	Demolition debris	20th century
Strata 4,5, 6 & 7	Dark brown sand, very dark grayish brown silty sand, with brick rubble, decomposed brick and cinder	Demolition debris fill	Possibly 20th century
Strata 8 & 9	Yellowish brown sand with gravel lense	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU #17 of Trench 27			
Stratum 7	Very dark grayish brown silty sand with rubble	Demolition debris	Possibly 20th century
Stratum 8	Same as in trench discussed above; No artifacts recovered		



The backhoe excavation of Trench 7 exposed eight strata. These included fill deposits and horizontal yard deposits, below a top layer of asphalt (Table 12, Figure 32). A large pit was exposed during excavation in the trench's north wall profile. This pit, Feature 3, contained layers of sand with ash and charcoal. No diagnostic material was present to date the feature.

Two excavation units were dug in Trench 7. Unit 7 was in the western end of the trench, placed over a possible feature; and Unit 4 was placed in the central portion of the trench to sample the possible horizontal yard deposits that run almost the entire length of the trench. Unit 4 began at the top of Stratum 6, with the upper deposits having been removed during backhoe excavation of the trench. Stratum 6, and the three strata below it, appeared to lay within a pit or depression within the sterile subsoil. The dates of these deposits, based on field observation, could have been early to late nineteenth century, but predominantly middle to late nineteenth century. It should be noted that Stratum 12 in Figure 33 was excavated with Stratum 8, as they were very similar in texture and color.

One of the boring holes that was placed within the block by GSA was found in this unit. The hole was located in the unit's south, central section.

The artifact analysis of excavation unit #4 provided firmer dating of the exposed deposits. Of the eleven strata observed in Unit 4, three yielded artifacts. The first, Stratum 6, contained 43 sherds of transfer printed ware, including two cups and a plate of different patterns. Undecorated ironstone plate and cup sherds numbered 56. A yellowware sherd was also recovered. A mean ceramic date of 1855 was established for Stratum 6. Porcelain bowl and plate sherds, undecorated and overglazed, as well as molded cup and vase sherds were retrieved. The cup had a Union Porcelain Works maker's mark on the bottom. This company was established in Brooklyn in 1874 (Kovel 1953: 160F).

All glass diagnoses were based on the mold seams of bottle finishes and the absence of mold seams on bottle lips. A collection of six appears to predate the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27). Many body fragments, mostly belonging to bottles, were also recovered.

TABLE 12. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 7 0S/60E			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Black sandy, gravelly ash, and asphalt	Fill	20th century
Stratum 3	Dark yellowish brown sand	Fill or horizontal yard deposit	Possibly 20th century
Stratum 4	Iron stained, very dark greyish brown sand	Horizontal yard deposit	Possibly 20th century
Stratum 5	Dark brown sand	Horizontal yard deposit	Possibly 20th century
Stratum 6	Very dark gray-brown compact clayey sand	Possible horizontal yard trash deposit	Unknown
Stratum 7	Strong brown sterile sand	Possibly fill	Unknown
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand with pebble	Sterile subsoil	No date
Feature 3 in Trench 7, north wall			
Stratum 2	Black sandy, gravelly ash, with asphalt	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 7	Strong brown sand	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 8	Ash	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 13	Charcoal	Fill	Unknown

TABLE 12 (continued)

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
EU #4 of Trench 7			
Stratum 6	Dark grayish brown clayey sand	Possible horizontal yard deposit or deposit in pit	Middle to late 19th century (MCD 1855)
Stratum 7	Strong brown sand, sterile	Possible fill with a possible pit	19th century
Stratum 8	Dark yellowish brown clay and sand	Trash deposit with possible pit	Early to late 19th century (MCD 1858)
Stratum 12	Dark brown clay	Deposit within possible pit	Unknown
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand	Fill or sterile sand with intrusive materials	Possibly 19th century
Stratum 11	Brown yellow sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU #7 of Trench 7			
Stratum 6	Very dark grayish brown clayey sand	Possible horizontal yard deposit	Unknown
Stratum 10	Very dark gray sand in south half of unit	Trash deposit, possibly in pit (Feature 6)	19th century
Stratum 8	Dark yellowish brown clay and sand in south half of unit	Trash deposit, possibly in pit (Feature 6)	19th century
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil with intrusive material	Unknown

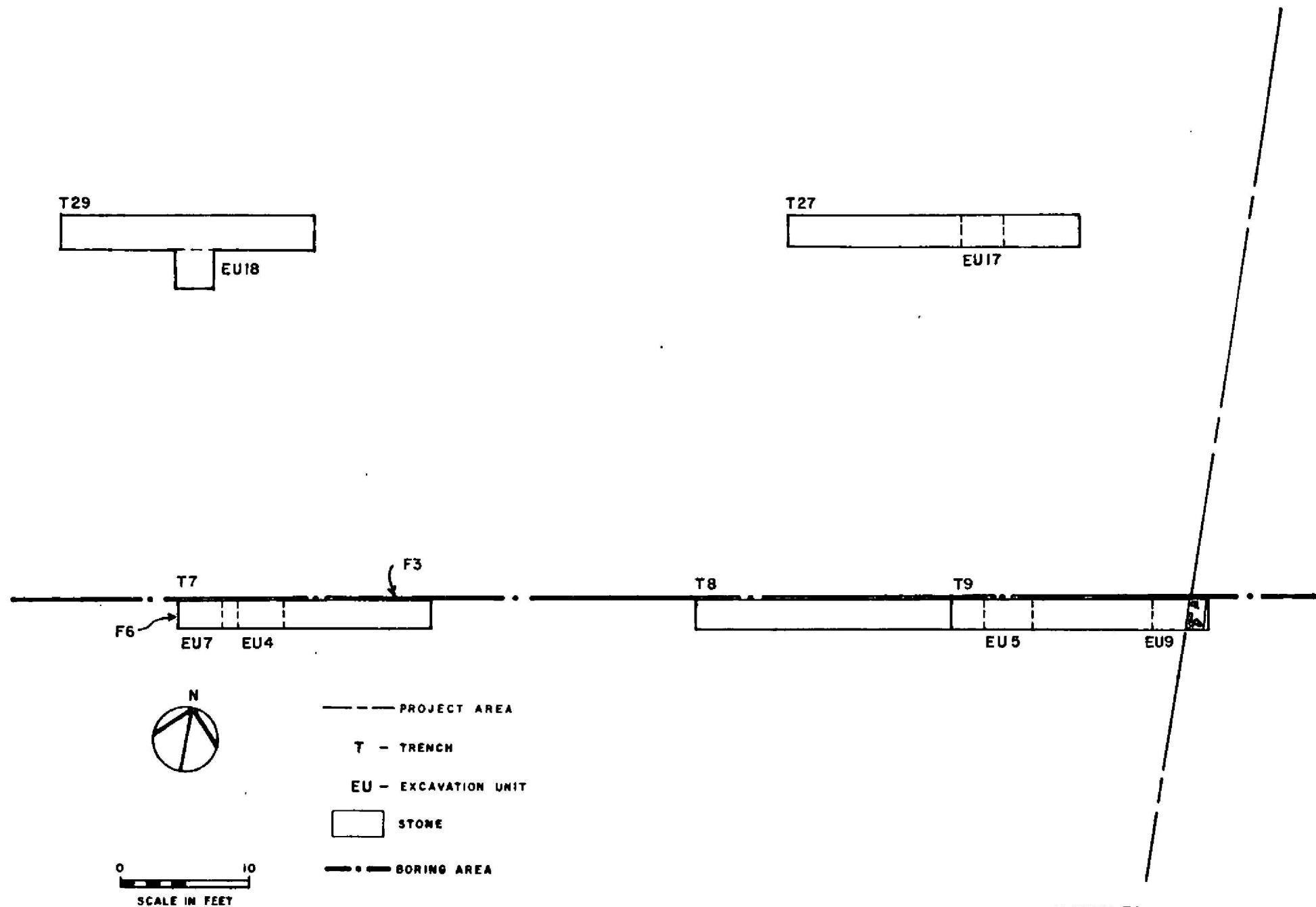


FIGURE 31  
DETAIL OF THE MIDDLE SECTION  
OF THE PROJECT AREA

# TRENCH 7 - NORTH WALL PROFILE

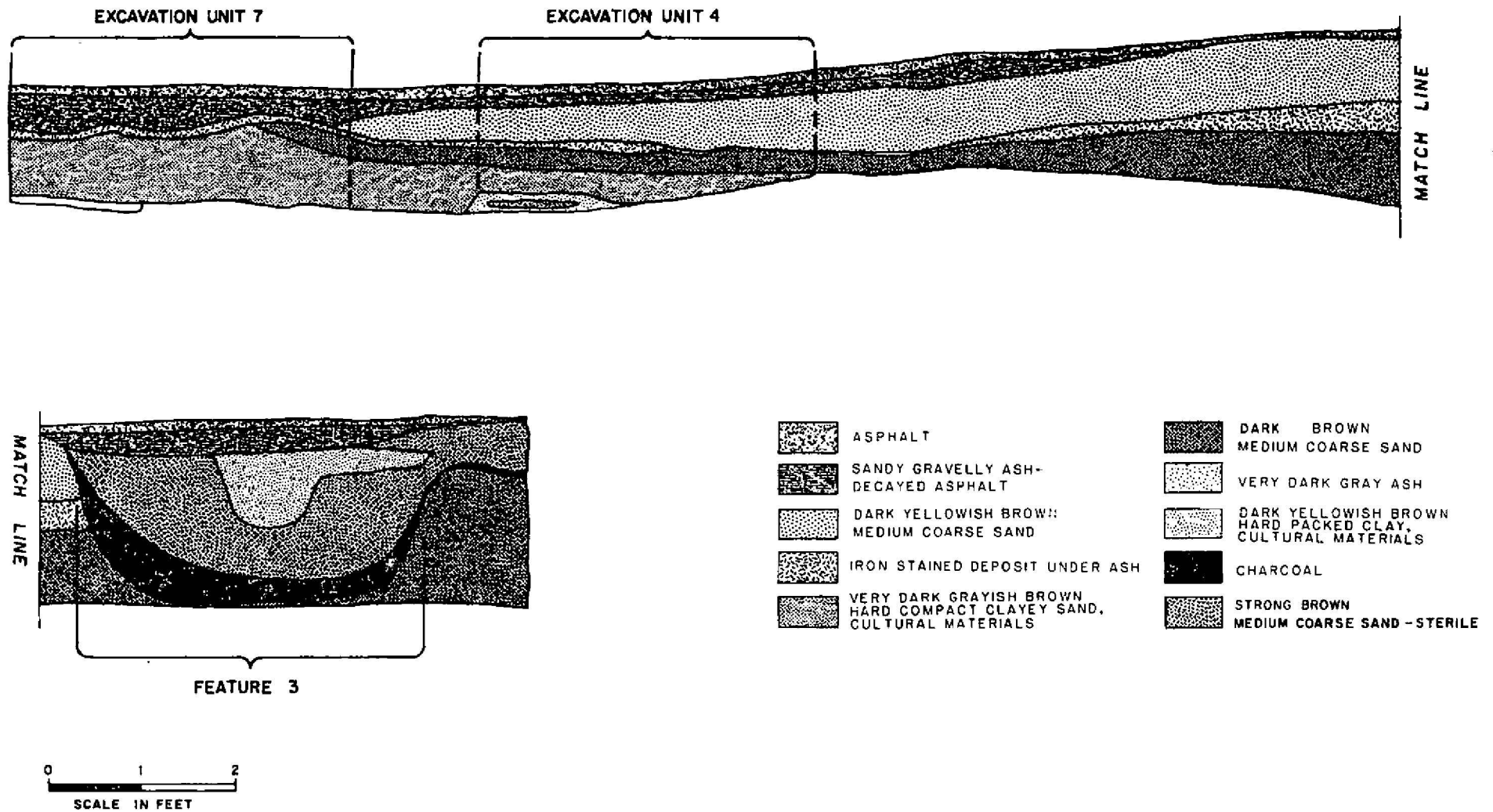
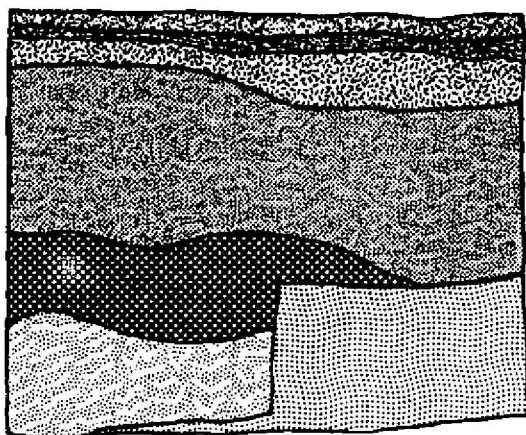
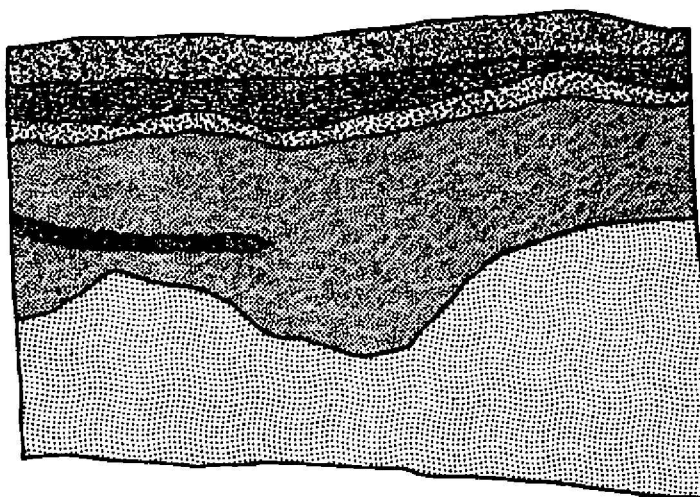


FIGURE 32  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 7 OS/60E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 7  
EXCAVATION UNIT 4

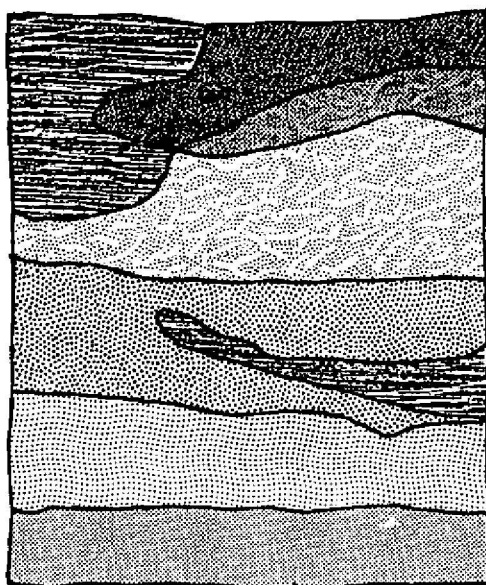
**EXCAVATION UNIT 7  
WEST WALL PROFILE**



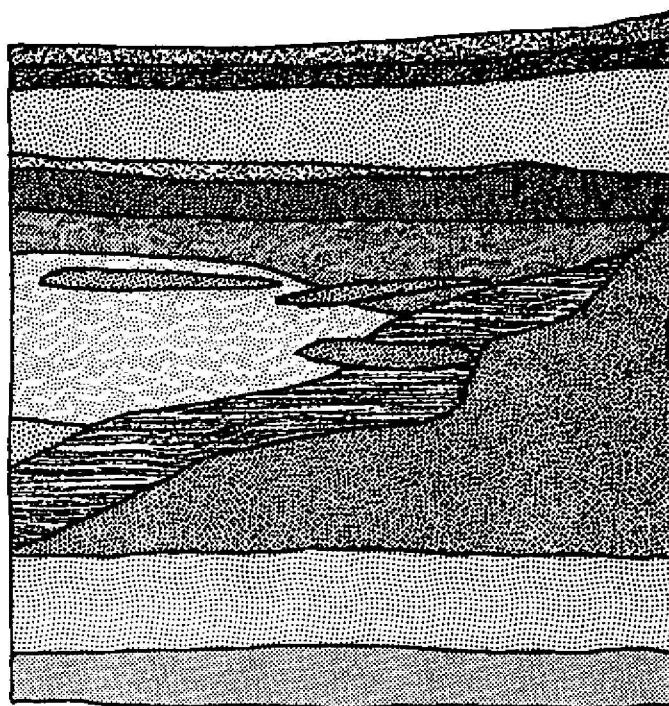
**NORTH WALL PROFILE**



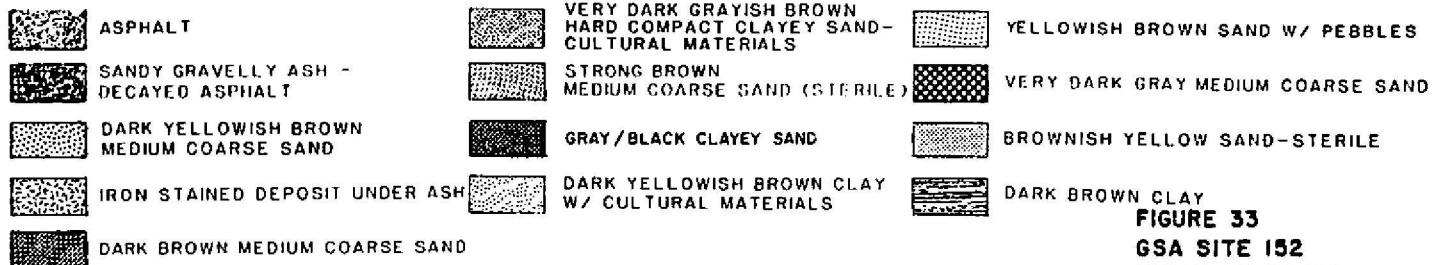
**EXCAVATION UNIT 4  
WEST WALL PROFILE**



**NORTH WALL PROFILE**



0 1  
SCALE IN FEET



**FIGURE 33**  
**GSA SITE 152**  
**TRENCH 7 OS/60E**  
**EXCAVATION UNIT 7**  
**EXCAVATION UNIT 4**

Stratum 8 also yielded a great many artifacts. This stratum appeared to be a temporally mixed deposit. Artifacts range from a piece of slipware, to sherds of undecorated ironstone and yellowware, which were produced into the 20th century. Other diagnostic ceramics included sherds of transfer printed ironstone and pearlware. A mean ceramic date of 1858 was established for Stratum 8. A complete black glazed refined redware teapot lid was also recovered. This particular ware could not be dated.

Many glass artifacts were recovered from Stratum 8 including a bottle with the seams stopping below the lip, thus pre-dating the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27). This was the only diagnostic glass item collected. Green, aqua, amber, and clear bottle body fragments, including those of a patent medicine bottle, were also found.

A ceramic marble, which might have been made as early as the 1840s and pre-dates World War I (Randall 1971:103-104), was also recovered from Stratum 8.

Strata 9 yielded only five undecorated ironstone sherds, a clear glass fragment and a pieces of coal.

Unit 7, in the western end of the trench, began at Stratum 6 (Figure 33, Table 12). This stratum, a possible horizontal yard deposit, overlaid two clay and sand deposits, Strata 10 and 18, intruding into sterile subsoil. This intrusion into the subsoil was probably another pit, designated as Feature 6. Stratum 6 could not be as accurately dated in this unit as it could in Unit 4 to the east, given the paucity of material. However, the two deposits within the possible pit seemed to date, based on field observations, to the nineteenth century. Stratum 9, adjacent to and underlying the pit, appeared to be a sterile subsoil, as characterized across the site. However, a few artifacts, which were probably intrusions from an upper stratum, were recovered.

In the Unit 7 artifact analysis, Stratum 10 produced few artifacts. These include sherds of porcelain, possibly salt glazed stoneware, plain ironstone, and transfer printed wares. All glass artifacts were bottle body fragments.

Stratum 8, underlying Stratum 10, yielded no glass and only two ceramics sherds: one of undecorated ironstone and one of a transfer printed ware.

The cultural material recovered from Stratum 9 consisted of two bottle body fragments, a sherd of undecorated ironstone, two fragments of window glass, and a piece of coal. All artifacts recovered from excavation units 4 and 7 within Trench 7 are cataloged in Appendix A.



Given their possible dating, the deposits in Trench 7, may have been associated with the structure present in modern Lot 50, (in Figure 3). This structure was extant in the 1890s. Trench 7 was located in what would have been the rear yard for this building. It is also possible that these deposits and features were related to properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue. The early and middle nineteenth century materials in Trench 7 would most likely relate to the hotel at the corner of Jamaica Avenue and modern Standard Place. This hotel was, in 1842, Van Cott's hotel (Figure 4). Also, in 1842, there was a lone structure in the southern portion of modern Lot 50. This structure and the activities associated with it, may have also been a source for the early materials in some of the deposits, exposed in Trench 7.

#### Trench 8 (0S/100E)

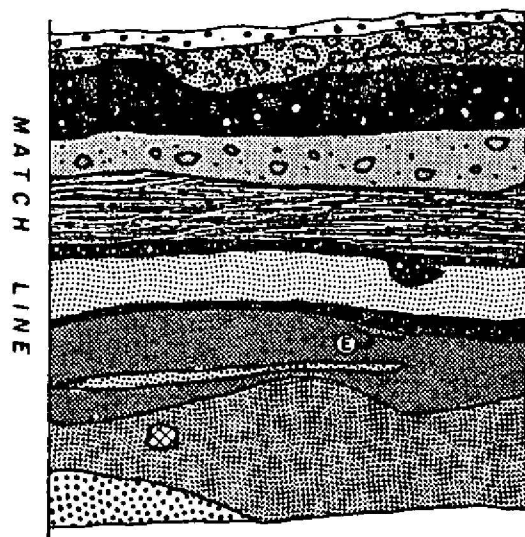
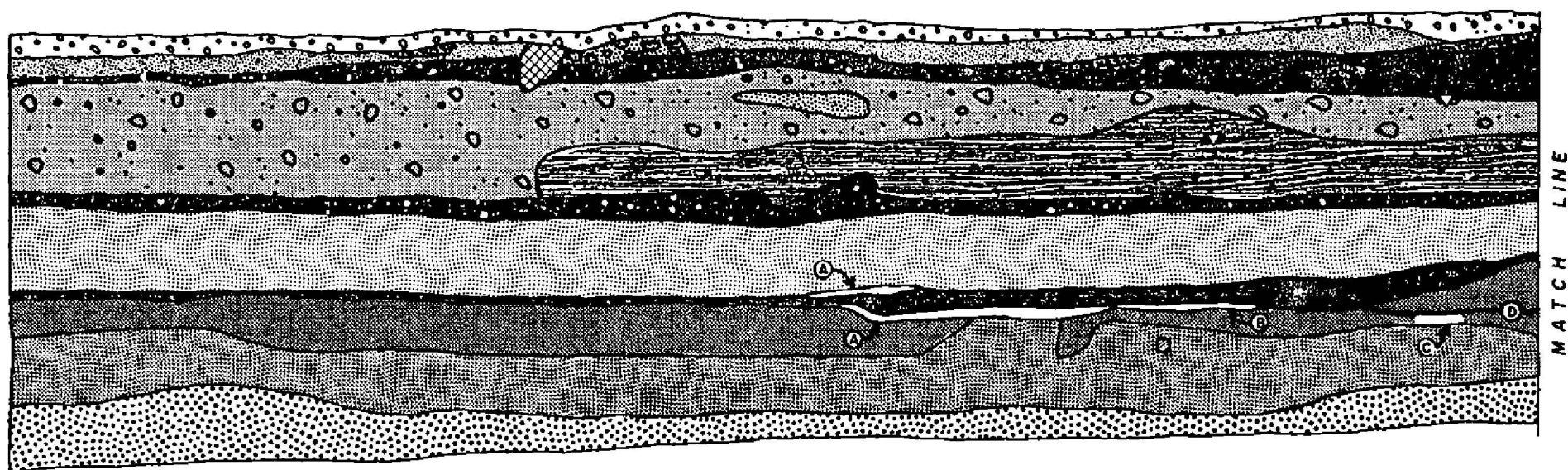
Trench 8 was located in the eastern portion of the middle section of the project area along the northern extent of the eight borings (Figures 17b and 31). This trench contained many horizontal trash and fill deposits running the entire length of the trench (Figure 34). Field observations suggested that some of these deposits, particularly Strata 2, 6, and 7, may contain both nineteenth and twentieth century materials (Table 13). The dating of the other deposits was unclear during excavation. Due to the organic nature of some strata, such as Strata 8, many of these deposits may represent backyard trash dumpings, which were subsequently covered by deposits of sandy fill. The origin of these trash deposits may be the properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue during the turn of the century. If these strata dated to circa 1890, they would probably be linked to the hotel which was located to the north, once owned by Van Cott and later proprietors.

The trash deposits in Trench 8 were exposed through backhoe excavation. No excavation unit was placed in this trench. At the very eastern end of the trench, within Stratum 8, a dense pocket of shell was observed. As this may have been part of a feature, a trench was placed immediately east of Trench 8, to expose this deposit for hand excavation. This next trench was Trench 9. There were, however, several artifact samples taken from the strata in Trench 8, as they were excavated with the backhoe and shovel scraping.

Within Stratum 2, a brown bottle with mold seams ending on the neck, dating prior to 1880 (Stewart 1976:27), was found. The few ceramics retrieved included two sherds, one of undecorated ironstone and one of gray salt glazed stoneware, and a single porcelain sherd. An undated battery post was also recovered.

Stratum 6 contained a single diagnostic artifact. Green bottle fragments were reconstructed to form an embossment with the name of a New York brewer. This bottle probably dates to the period between 1870 and 1920 (Munsey 1970:116-117, Baugher-Perlin 1982:271). A sherd of clear glazed redware and a sherd of gray salt glazed stoneware were the only ceramics recovered. A hat pin with a metal bead on top was also collected.

# TRENCH 8 - NORTH WALL PROFILE



- |  |  |     |   |
|--|--|-----|---|
|  | GRAVEL IN GRAY/BROWN SILTY SAND  | (A) | BROWN SANDY ORGANIC SILT  |
|  | YELLOWISH BROWN MEDIUM SAND W/ SMALL PEBBLES   | (B) | RUSTED DECAYED SCREEN   |
|  | MEDIUM GRAY CINDER/ASH W/ COAL, LIGHT GRAY CINDER, SLAG & CHARCOAL   |     | BROWN SILTY SAND W/ SHELL & CHARCOAL  |
|  | REDDISH MEDIUM SAND W/ BRICK RUBBLE - VERY COMPACT   |     | MEDIUM BROWN/YELLOW SAND W/ POCKETS OF COARSE ORANGE BROWN, FINE YELLOW & PEBBLY YELLOW SANDS |
|  | ASPHALT  |     | YELLOW ORANGE COARSE SAND W/ PEBBLES  |
|  | ORANGE/BROWN SILTY SAND W/ ROCKS & PEBBLES, MOTTLED W/ BROWNISH COMPACT SILTY SAND & ORANGE/BROWN SILTY SAND |     | CARBON CORE   |
|  | ORANGE/BROWN MEDIUM SAND   | (C) | WHITE ASH   |
|  | BROWN SANDY SILT W/ CHARCOAL FLECKS & SHELL  | (D) | ORGANIC CHARCOAL  |
|  | YELLOW BROWN MEDIUM SAND W/ BROWN MEDIUM SAND & COMPACT BROWN SILT POCKETS                                   | (E) | SHELL   |
|  | BLACK ASH W/ CINDER, BURNT SHELL & ORGANICS  |     |   |
|  | STONE  |     |   |
|  | BRICK  |     |   |

0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

FIGURE 34  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 8 OS/100E

TABLE 13. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 8 0S/100E			
Stratum 1	Grayish brown silty sand	Fill	20th century
Stratum 2	Dark yellowish brown sand	Fill	19th and 20th century
Stratum 3	Very dark gray deposit with cinder, ash, coal, slag, charcoal, with pockets of weak red sand and asphalt	Horizontal yard	19th and 20th century
Stratum 4	Strong brown mottled silty sand with stones, pebbles and a pocket of reddish yellow sand	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 5	Dark brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks and shell	Horizontal yard deposit or fill	Unknown
Stratum 6	Very dark gray ash with charcoal flecks	Horizontal yard deposit	Late 19th century and 20th century
Stratum 7	Brownish yellow sand	Fill	19th century
Stratum 8	Black cinder and ash with burnt shell and pockets of dark gray brown sandy silt-organic in nature	Horizontal yard deposit	Unknown
Stratum 9	Strong brown silty sand with some shell and charcoal flecks	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 10	Yellow sand with pebbles	Sterile subsoil	No date
Stratum 11	Brownish yellow sand with pebbles and stones	Sterile subsoil	No date

Stratum 7 yielded the largest number of artifacts from this trench. Diagnostic ceramics included six transfer printed sherds, five of which mended to form a portion of a blue floral decorated bowl; and sixteen sherds of undecorated ironstone. Mold seams ending at the neck indicated that two collected prescription and one oil bottle dated prior to the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27). A bottle with a crown lip not produced on the automatic bottle machine and thus dating from 1891 (Munsey 1970:105) to 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43) was also recovered. This deposit also yielded a bottle with an identifying seam characteristic of a suction machine cut off scar. Such bottles post date 1904 (Toulouse 1969:582). Given the level of analysis at this phase, we were unable to date a metal snap recovered from this deposit. However, all other indicators point to a late 19th century deposition and possibly turn of the century. A complete catalogue of all artifacts from Trench 8 are listed in Appendix A.

#### Trench 9 (OS/120E)

Trench 9 was placed in order to investigate the eighteenth century property line which divides the western and middle sections of the project area (Figure 17b). Trench 9 yielded deposits similar to those found in Trench 8 (Table 14, Figure 35). They included alternating fill and horizontal yard deposits, and a grouping of cultural material bearing deposits within a possible depression in the western end of the trench. This grouping of deposits was a continuation of the shell bearing deposit located in the eastern end of Trench 8. Also, a small stone wall was exposed in the eastern end of Trench 9 (Figure 35).

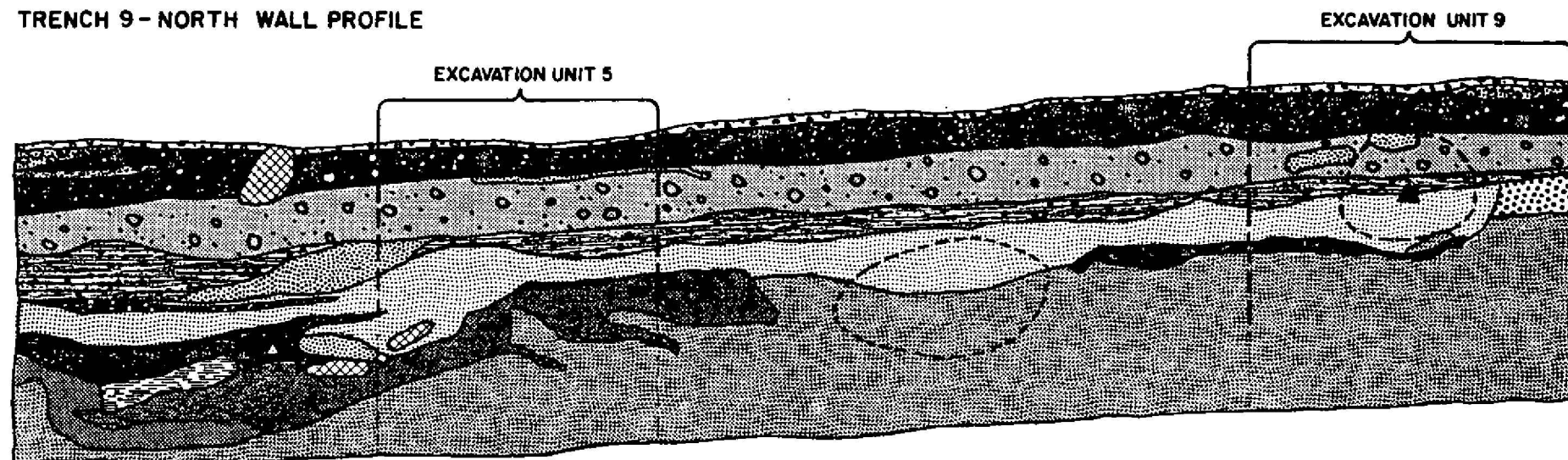
The description and materials within the strata were the same in Trench 9 as in Trench 8, so they will not be described here (see Table 13).

Two excavation units were placed in Trench 9. Unit 5, in the western section of the trench, began at the top of Stratum 5, and exposed Stratum 6, 7, and 11. Stratum 6 was not visible in the north wall of the trench or unit, as it occurred only in the southern half of the unit. This possible horizontal yard deposit was only .58 to 1.9 tenths of a foot thick.

Unit 9 was located in the eastern end of the trench, placed over the small stone wall (Figures 31 and 36). The excavation of this unit began at Stratum 7. The stone wall was set into Stratum 7, forming a possible builder's trench (Figure 36). The deposits excavated in this unit were the same strata seen in the north wall profile of the trench, which was excavated to subsoil, after the units excavations were completed. However, during excavation of Unit 9, Strata 7 and 8 were dug as a single deposit.

The dates of the various deposits, based on field observations, were similar to those made for Trench 8. Deposits in Unit 5 appeared to date to both the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Little datable material was recovered from Unit 9. What was recovered appeared to be twentieth century.

# TRENCH 9 - NORTH WALL PROFILE



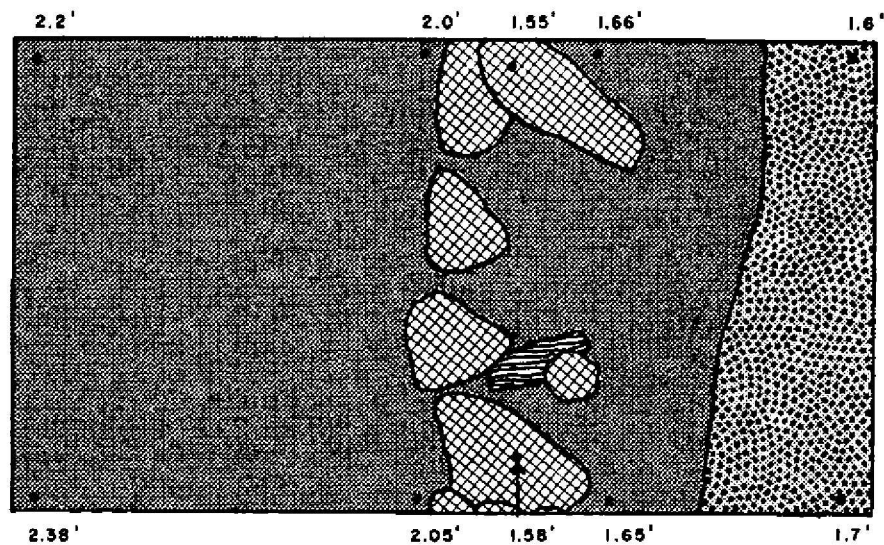
0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| GRAVEL IN GRAY/BROWN SILTY SAND  | ORANGE/BROWN MEDIUM SAND   | BROWN SILTY SAND W/ SHELL & CHARCOAL  | DARK BROWN SANDY SILT - VERY HARD PACK       |
| MEDIUM GRAY CINDER/ASH W/ COAL, LIGHT GRAY CINDER, SLAG & CHARCOAL   | BROWN SANDY SILT W/ CHARCOAL FLECKS & SHELL                                | MEDIUM BROWN/YELLOW SAND W/ POCKETS OF COARSE ORANGE BROWN, FINE YELLOW & PEBBLY YELLOW SANDS | BOTTLE                                       |
| REDDISH MEDIUM SAND W/ BRICK RUBBLE - VERY COMPACT   | YELLOW BROWN MEDIUM SAND W/ BROWN MEDIUM SAND & COMPACT BROWN SILT POCKETS | DARK BROWN SAND W/ PEBBLES  | STONE  |
| ASPHALT  | BLACK ASH W/ CINDER, BURNT SHELL & ORGANICS                                | DARK ORANGE CLAYEY SILT   | CAVITY AREA PULLED OUT BY BACKHOE            |
| ORANGE/BROWN SILTY SAND W/ ROCKS & PEBBLES, MOTTLED W/ BROWNISH COMPACT SILTY SAND & ORANGE/BROWN SILTY SAND | YELLOWISH ORANGE COARSE SAND W/ PEBBLES                                    |   | LOCATION OF STONE WALL PULLED OUT BY BACKHOE |

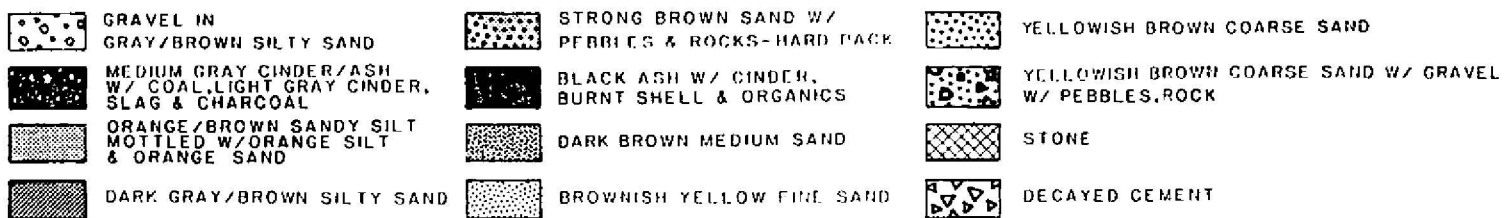
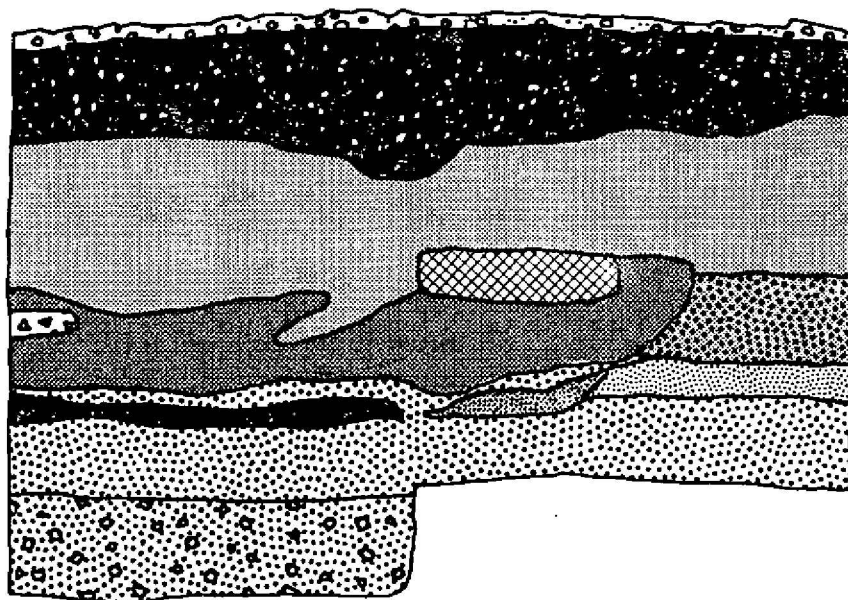
FIGURE 35  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 9 05/120E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 5  
EXCAVATION UNIT 9



# EXCAVATION UNIT 9-PLAN VIEW



## NORTH WALL PROFILE



2.2' • ELEVATION BELOW TRENCH DATUM

FIGURE 36  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 9 OS/120E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 9

TABLE 14. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 9 0S/120E			
Stratum 1	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 3	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 4	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 5	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 6	Same as in Trench 8, but only in west end of Trench 9		
Stratum 7	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 8	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 12	Strong brown clayey silt	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 13	Dark brown sand silt	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 9	Same as in Trench 8, but in Trench 9, pre- sent only in west end	Fill; Note Strata 4,5,6,7, 8,12,13, & 9 lie partially in a depression	
Stratum 10	Same as in Trench 8		
Stratum 11	Same as in Trench 8	Also partially in depression	



TABLE 14 (continued)

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
EU #5 of Trench 9			
Stratum 5	Dark brown sandy silty with charcoal and shell	Trash deposit, possible horizontal yard deposit	20th century and possibly 19th century
Stratum 6	Very dark grayish brown sandy silt with shell, bone present only in south half of unit, is .58 ft to 1.9 ft thick	Trash deposit possible horizontal yard deposit	Possibly late 19th century
Stratum 7	Brownish yellow to strong brown sand	Fill	Probably late 19th and 20th century
Stratum 11	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU #9 of Trench 9			
Strata 7 & 8	Brownish yellow to dark brown sand and black cinder ash layer	Fill and horizontal yard deposit, stone wall present within these strata	20th century
Stratum 11	Strong brown sand present in east end of trench		
Stratum 10	Yellow, yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil below Strata 7 & 8	No date

The analysis of materials from these two excavation units provided a firmer dating of these various deposits. The only diagnostic artifact recovered from Unit 5, Stratum 2, which was removed by the backhoe were a green bottle finish with an applied flattened string lip, indicating a post 1840 date (Personal Communication, Joe Diamond 1983), a light blue bottle finish with a tooled lip dating to before 1880 (Stewart 1976:27), and a rim sherd of a transfer printed cup. An anomalous piece of tin foil, similar to a gum wrapper was also found. This stratum also yielded approximately 200 grams of shell.

An undecorated ironstone sherd was the only diagnostic artifact recovered from Stratum 5 in Unit 5. All glass retrieved was non-diagnostic bottle fragments. The shell weight decreased slightly, but an increase in the amount of faunal remains present was noted. A pipestem was also found.

Stratum 6 yielded a whole bottle, which was dated to the years 1880 through 1903 (Stewart 1976:27). This date is based on the bottle's mold seams. No ceramics were recovered. The shell weight remained the same as Stratum 4, but the amount of fish bone greatly increased.

Stratum 7 was excavated in six arbitrary levels. The deposit did not yield much material. Only four ceramic artifacts were recovered: one transfer printed and two undecorated ironstone sherds, as well as a porcelain sherd. All glass was non-diagnostic and included bottle and/or glassware body fragments, window glass, and a fragment from an electrical insulator. This stratum also yielded a fragment of nitrite based 35 mm movie film dating from 1910 to 1930 (Personal communication, Carl Mydans). Bone and shell dropped to a minimal amount, however a substantial amount of nail concretion fragments, about 550 grams, was recovered. All artifacts collected from this unit are catalogued in Appendix A.

Unit 9 yielded even less cultural material than Unit 5. Stratum 7, the first deposit excavated in the unit, yielded only one undecorated ironstone sherd. No diagnostic glass was present, but many light bulb fragments were collected. Three fragments of nitrite based movie film, 1910 to 1930, were also retrieved.

Stratum 8 yielded no ceramics and no diagnostic glass. For a list of all artifact within unit #9 consult Appendix A.

As with Trench 8, the deposits in 9 probably were associated with properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue, during the turn of the century, and possibly later. The small stone wall, in the eastern end of Trench 9 would appear to be a remnant of a long structure that ran along what is now the eastern edge of modern lots 21 and 50. The eastern edge of these lots have been a property line throughout the history of the block. The structures along this property line included sheds and barns associated with the Jamaica and then Pettit's hotels, once located in the northeast section of the block.

## Trench 20 (20S/100E)

Trench 20 was placed in order to define the stratigraphy within the area of the eight borings (Figure 17b). The excavation of this trench exposed deposits similar to those within Trenches 8 and 9 to the north. These deposits included alternating layers of fill and horizontal yard deposits, and possible yard middens (Table 15, Figure 37). During backhoe and shovel excavation of the trench, large quantities of possibly nineteenth century artifactual material were found at the top of Stratum 3. Backhoe excavation was stopped, and an excavation unit, #13, was placed in the eastern end of the trench. The first stratum excavated was 3, as seen in the trench's north wall profile (Figure 37). The unit contained seven additional strata below Stratum 3. These strata appeared to be alternating fill, yard and trash deposits. The trash deposits often exhibited high artifact frequencies. These alternating deposits of fill and trash overlaid sterile subsoil, but did not appear to intrude into the subsoil as in a trash pit.

After the unit excavation was completed, the entire trench was dug out with the backhoe. The series of trash and fill deposits observed in the excavation unit were present throughout the trench.

Stratum 2 of Trench 20 contained sherds of the following ceramics: an undecorated ironstone chamber pot, a transfer printed bowl and dish, and a hand painted pearlware disk. A green molded bottle lip, dating to the period from 1880 to 1903 (Stewart 1976:27), was among the glass artifacts recovered.

Stratum 4 yielded fragments of a stemware glass, a molded teacup and a number of bottle fragments.

Unit 13, laid out in the east end of the trench, was opened by excavating Stratum 3 by hand. Very few diagnostic artifacts were collected - five undecorated ironstone sherds, a sherd of yellow ware and a clear bottle finish, without any seams, predating the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27).

Other ceramics and glass recovered from Stratum 3 included porcelain and undecorated redware sherds as well as bottle fragments, lamp glass and milk glass. The stratum also yielded a pipe stem fragment, a shoe lace fragment and five fragments of 35 mm nitrite based movie film dating from 1910 to 1930.

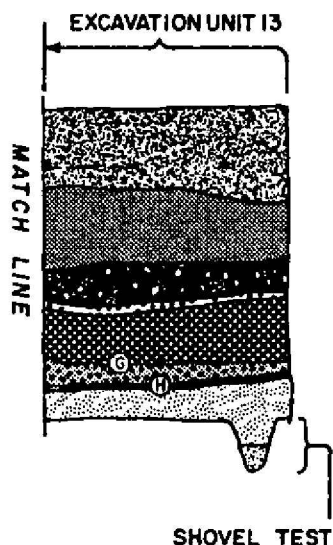
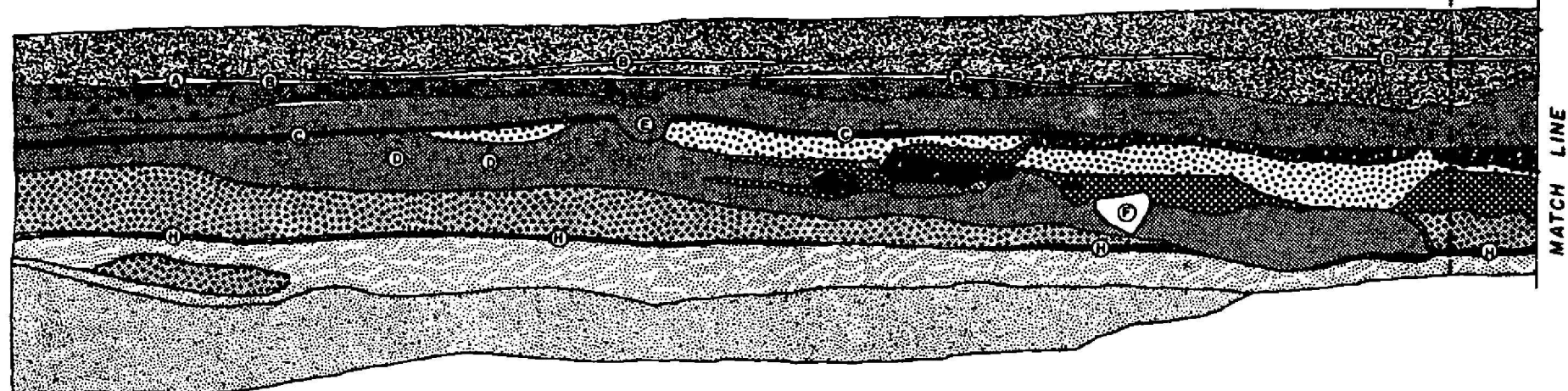
The cultural material recovered from strata 4 and 5 excavated as a single deposit, yielded two sherds of undecorated ironstone and a sherd of flow blue. All the glass collected from this stratum was non- diagnostic bottle fragments.

Stratum 6, excavated in 3 arbitrary levels, yielded no diagnostic artifacts. A sherd of redware and a sherd of porcelain were the only ceramics recovered. Bottle fragments made up the majority of the cultural material collected. Other glass fragments retrieved were of milk glass, a possible goblet, and window glass. Also collected were nails, brick, and shell.

TABLE 15. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 20 20S/100E			
Stratum 1	Asphalt and black sand	Parking lot	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Very dark grayish brown sand with areas of dark reddish brown clays, very dark gray sand and ash	Fill	20th century
Stratum 3	Very dark brown sand with pocket of dark brown sand, slag and shell	Possible midden	Probably late 19th and 20th century
Stratum 4	Black sand with coal and ash	Horizontal yard deposit	Unknown
Stratum 5	Yellowish brown sand	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 6	Black sand	Horizontal yard deposit or possible midden	Unknown
Stratum 7	Very dark brown sand	Horizontal yard deposit or possible midden	Unknown
Stratum 8	Dark yellowish brown sand	Possible fill	Unknown
Stratum 9	Silty clay and black organic matter	Horizontal yard deposit	Unknown
Stratum 10	Brown/dark brown clay	Possible fill	Unknown
Stratum 11	Stong brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU #13 of Trench 20	Strata within unit discussed above, include Strata 3,4,5,6,8,9,10 & 11		

# TRENCH 20 - NORTH WALL PROFILE



SHOVEL TEST



SCALE IN FEET

- ASPHALT AND GRITTY SAND
- (A) DARK REDDISH BROWN COMPACT CLAY SAND, BURNED
- (B) VERY DARK GRAY GRITTY SAND AND ASH
- VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN COMPACT GRITTY SAND
- DARK BROWN MEDIUM COARSE SAND, PEBBLES, SLAG, SHELL
- VERY DARK BROWN MEDIUM COARSE SAND

- (C) BLACK GRITTY SAND COAL, ASH
- YELLOWISH BROWN MEDIUM COARSE SAND
- (D) WIRE (4'9" BRAIDED TWO STRANDS)
- (E) DISTURBANCE
- CHARCOAL GRITTY SAND
- BURNT STONE, BRICK FRAGS, CHARCOAL
- BRICK
- STONE

- (F) IRON CONTAINER, POSSIBLE POT OR CAN
- DARK YELLOWISH BROWN COARSE SAND
- (G) BONE
- (H) SILTY CLAY AND BLACK STAINED HUMIC MATTER, SOME COAL
- BROWN/DARK BROWN MOTTLED CLAY
- STRONG BROWN SAND AND PEBBLES AND COBBLES

FIGURE 37  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 20 20S/100E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 13

Two undecorated ironstone and one transfer printed sherds were the only ceramics collected from Stratum 9. The glass assemblage consisted of bottle fragments and window glass fragments. Other artifacts included shell, mortar and iron concretions.

Stratum 10 yielded very few artifacts: three glass fragments, iron, coal and shell.

As with almost all the deposits exposed in the central area of the block, those within Trench 20 probably contained material discarded from the hotel property to the north, along Jamaica Avenue. The hotel property would have been owned by O'Donnell in the 1890s (Figure 7). There is also the likelihood that the deposits within these trenches originated from the commercial properties that subsequently occupied the location of the hotel on Jamaica Avenue, in the early twentieth century.

#### Trench 2 (60S/40E)

Trench 2 was the second trench excavated of a transect of trenches paralleling Archer Avenue (Figure 17b). This transect of trenches was to investigate the very rear areas of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue, to the north.

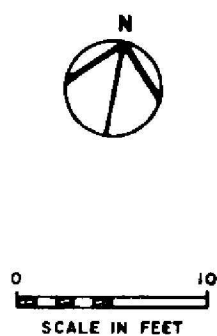
Trench 2 exposed deposits of fill and demolition debris within a basement. The basement, which extended 6.6 feet below the ground surface, consisted of stone walls that had been white washed on their interior sides. The basement did not cover the entire trench area. The eastern wall of the basement was 4.1 feet from the eastern edge of the trench. A second wall, adjoining the first, ran along the northern edge of the trench an additional 11.9 feet. This second wall extended only .5 feet from the north wall of Trench 2. This second wall then met a third at 14.1 feet from the east end of the trench. The third wall ran north/south and made a jog to the west at 2.9 feet from the trench's north wall. The jog continued into the western end of the trench, while the third (north/south running) wall appeared to continue into the southern wall of the trench (Figure 38).

During the initial backhoe excavation of the trench, the top of the walls, described above, were encountered. Backhoe excavations were stopped and an excavation unit, #1, was placed over the walls in the eastern half of the trench. As the excavation of the unit became difficult, due to its depth and the presence of fallen stones from the walls, the entire trench was expanded with the backhoe to locate the extent of the walls. The backhoe exposed more of the basement walls, in addition to the concrete floor in the basement. In order to excavate below the floor, the trench had to be expanded as the rubble in the basement continually slumped. Sterile, sandy subsoil was present below the concrete floor (Table 16). Based on field observations, the majority of material from the excavation unit, and the overall trench, was twentieth century.

TABLE 16. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 2 60S/40E			
Stratum 1	Dark brown silty sand with pebbles	Fill	20th century Post 1955
Stratum 2	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 3-20	Deposits of very dark gray sandy silt, sand and silty sand dark yellowish brown sand very dark grayish brown clayey sand, some with stone brick rubble, concrete	Fill and demolition debris within a basement above concrete floor, .1 foot thick	Post 1891
EU #1 of Trench 2			
Strata 4-17	Deposits of dark yellowish brown silty sand, dark yellowish brown sand & clay, very dark gray silty sand very dark gray sand, some rubble, concrete, and stones	Fill and demolition debris within a basement, above a concrete floor	Post 1891
Stratum 21	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date



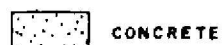


----- PROJECT AREA

T - TRENCH

EU - EXCAVATION UNIT

F - FEATURE



CONCRETE



STONE



BRICK



WOOD

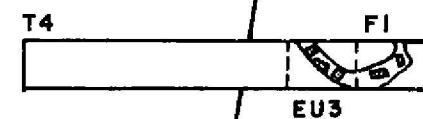
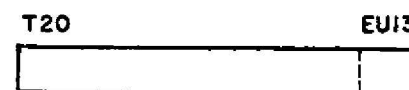
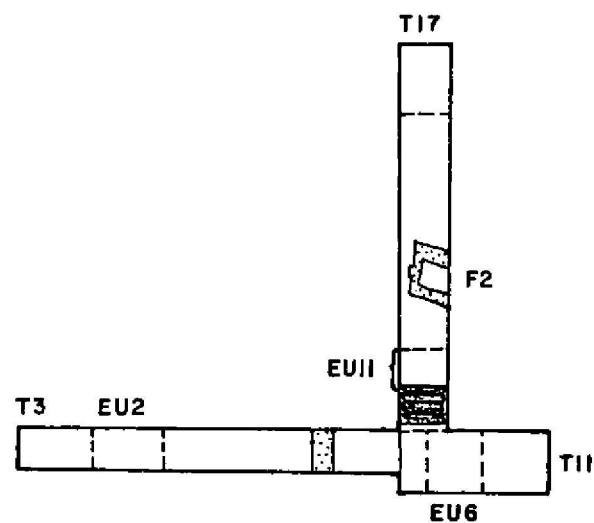


FIGURE 38  
DETAIL OF THE MIDDLE SECTION  
OF THE STUDY AREA

In examining the turn of the century maps for this area of the block, the basement uncovered in Trench 2 probably was associated with the lone structure, just east of what became the north east corner of modern Standard Place and Archer Avenue, on the 1891 map (Figure 7). This structure remained standing, at least into the 1950s. The function of this structure is not known.

### Trench 3 (60S/80E)

Trench 3, placed to the east of Trench 2 (Figure 17b) was excavated to investigate the very rear of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue, to the north. A total of eleven strata were exposed in the excavation of Trench 3 and excavation Unit 2 within the trench (Table 17 and Figure 39). Also present within the trench was a lone concrete wall (Figure 38) located .1 feet below the asphalt. The top five strata, below the asphalt, appeared to be a combination of fill deposits and horizontal yard deposits, generally dating to the twentieth century, with a utility trench in Stratum 5. Stratum 6, however, did contain possible middle to late nineteenth century materials mixed in with twentieth century artifacts. These deposits were excavated with the backhoe and shovel scraping.

Stratum 7 was a possible fill deposit with both late nineteenth century and twentieth century artifacts, and contrasted with the upper deposits, as they contained clay rather than sand.

As the eastern portion of the trench was excavated with the backhoe, strata were seen in the profile which did not occur in the western section. These new strata included Strata 8, 11, and 9 (Figure 39). Stratum 8 consisted of a clay deposit different from the other clay deposits in the trench, i.e. Stratum 7 to the west. It appeared that Stratum 8, as it was excavated and profiled, contained more late nineteenth century material than any other stratum in the trench. Below, Stratum 8 was sterile sand, the natural subsoil within the project area.

An excavation unit, #2, was dug in the western half of the trench (Figure 38). That unit exposed the same series of deposits as seen in the south profile of the trench. All deposits excavated in this unit are described in Table 17. This unit began with the excavation of Stratum 4, with Stratum 7 the first to contain nineteenth century materials. Below this stratum was Stratum 8, which had been exposed earlier in the excavation by backhoe in the eastern end of the trench. Stratum 8 (in both areas) contained similar artifactual material, and probably represented a fill episode. It should be noted that the profile of the eastern portion of the trench is not included. This area of the trench could not be profiled due to continual slumping of the trench walls. The artifact analysis for Trench 3 provided the following results.

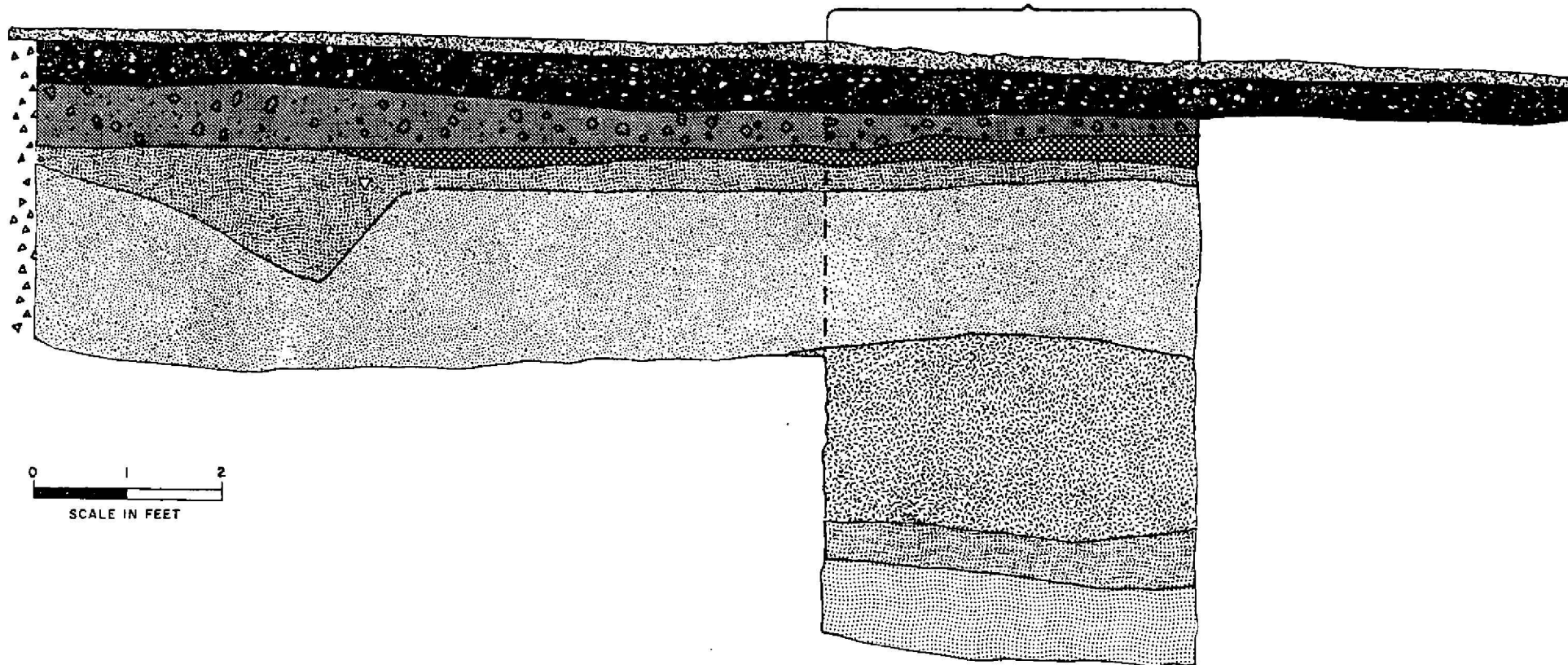
Three undecorated ironstone sherds and two bottle lips, postdating the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27) were recovered from the initial 3 strata of the trench during backhoe and shovel excavation.

TABLE 17. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 3 60S/80E			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 2-6	Deposits of black sand very dark grayish brown sand, very dark gray sand, dark yellowish brown sand, some with wood, shell, & stone	Fill or horizontal yard deposits	20th century, Stratum 6 contains 20th and possibly middle to late 19th century
Stratum 7	Dark reddish brown sandy clay, exposed in western 2/3 of trench	Fill	Late 19th century and 20th century
Stratum 8	Dark yellowish brown sand with silty clay, exposed only in eastern half of trench	Fill	Late 19th century and 20th century
Stratum 11	Black silty sand, present only in east end of trench	Fill	No date available
Strata 9 & 10	Yellowish brown sand, exposed only in eastern half of trench	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU #2 of Trench 3			
Strata 4-6	Same as in Trench 3		
Stratum 7	Dark reddish brown sandy clay	Fill	19th and 20th century
Stratum 8	Dark yellowish brown with silty clay	Fill	19th and 20th century
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

# TRENCH 3 - SOUTH WALL PROFILE

EXCAVATION UNIT 2



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

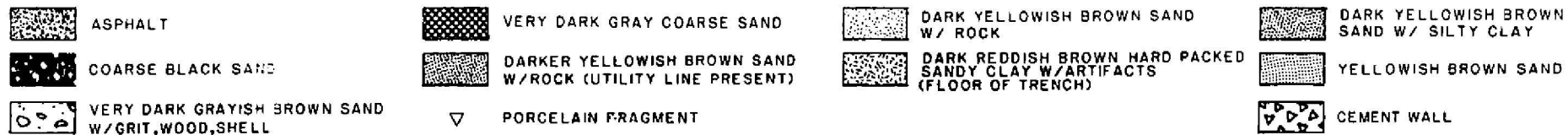


FIGURE 39  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 3 60S/80E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 2

Unit 2 began with the hand excavation of Stratum 4, which produced eleven bottle body fragments and a piece of milk glass. A carbon battery post and a plastic button were among the other cultural material retrieved from this deposit.

No diagnostic artifacts were recovered from Stratum 5, which yielded 70 grams of oyster and clam shell.

Stratum 6, excavated in four arbitrary levels, yielded few artifacts. All diagnostic material appeared in the upper two levels. The ceramics recovered from these levels included two blue edged sherds, and single sherds of white salt glazed stoneware, and gray stoneware. A redware pipe bowl fragment was also recovered.

The lower two levels contained a sherd of cc ware and a sherd of clear-glazed redware. No diagnostic glass was retrieved from Stratum 6. The frequency of shell increased slightly with each descending level of Stratum 6.

Stratum 7 was excavated in 4 arbitrary levels. The shell frequency continued to increase, reaching its highest frequency in the second level. Artifacts remained sparse. The only diagnostic material recovered was a sherd of undecorated ironstone and one of blue transfer print. This deposit also produced four sherds of cc ware and an engine turned redware sherd. A single sherd of Rockingham was recovered during the backhoe excavation of Stratum 7.

Stratum 8, excavated in two arbitrary levels, also yielded very few artifacts. Diagnostics recovered included a sherd of a blue hand painted ware and a bottle finish with seams which stopped below the lip, indicating a pre-1880 date (Stewart 1976:27).

The ceramic density from Stratum 8 exposed in the trench was greater than that of Stratum 8 of the excavation unit. A red overglazed transfer printed cup with a gilded band at the rim dating to the turn of the 20th century was recovered from Stratum 8 in the unit. There were also sherds of porcelain, gray salt glazed stoneware and undecorated ironstone.

A shovel test dug into Strata 8 and 9 yielded only building debris and shell. These materials seemed to originate from Stratum 8. All artifacts recovered from Trench 3 are cataloged in Appendix A.

It should be noted that Stratum 7d (i.e. the fourth arbitrary level of Stratum d) and Stratum 8a were sampled within the excavation unit at 50%. That is, half of the unit at these layers were screened and the remainder was discarded. This was done as a result of the very low artifact density within these strata, which appeared to be approaching sterile subsoil. Subsoil was encountered immediately under Stratum 8.

The depth of the cultural bearing deposits in Trench 3 was surprising, as no substantial structures were noted for this area of the block in the Phase I study. There was a reference, however, to an open air theater in this area of Lot 50, but no structural information on the theater was available. It was possible that the theater was dug below the twentieth century ground surface, and when abandoned, this subsurface portion of the theater was filled. This filling would have resulted in Strata 7 and 8.

The lone concrete wall within the trench (Figure 38), may related to a structure present on the 1955 block map (Figure 3). This structure, indicated by a "G" on the map, may have been a garage. Subsequently excavations in Trenches 11 and 17, discussed below, support this association.

#### Trench 11 (60S/100E)

This trench was placed immediately east of Trench 3 (Figure 17b), in order to investigate the deep cultural bearing deposits exposed in the eastern end of Trench 3 (Stratum 8). This trench was only ten feet long, with an excavation unit placed about 1.5 feet from the western end of the trench. The stratigraphy exposed in the unit, #6, was used in describing the deposits within the entire trench.

The top seven strata were removed by the backhoe, to Stratum 8, which was then hand dug. Refer to Trench 3 on Table 17 for the description of these top seven strata, as the strata in Trench 11 were the same as in 3. The deposits within the unit (Table 18) consisted of deep fill deposits and a possible horizontal yard deposit (Stratum 11). All were above sterile subsoil. It should be noted that the strata in the unit are numbered as they appeared in Trench 3. The two trenches were not connected as the walls of Trench 3 were continuously collapsing.

No artifacts were collected from Strata 1 to 7 in the unit as these upper strata had previously been sampled in Trench 3. Strata 8's ceramics included a white salt glazed stoneware, two transfer printed and five undecorated ironstone sherds. A substantial amount of glass was present in this stratum, nine sherds of which were diagnostic. A ladle or spoon fragment was retrieved, as was a brass .22 short casing. Given the level of analysis, we were unable to date either artifact. The stratum yielded 645 grams of shell.

Stratum 11, underlying 8, contained 5 undecorated ironstone sherds. This stratum also yielded no diagnostic glass. An 1845 Libery one cent coin was recovered, cleaned and stablized.

TABLE 18. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 11 60s/100E			
EU #6 of Trench 11 Stratum 8	Dark yellowish brown silty clay	Fill	Mid to late 19th century
Stratum 11	Black silty sand	Fill or possible horizontal yard deposit	Early to late 19th century
Stratum 12	Dark yellow brown sand with silty clay	Fill	Middle to late 19th century
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date



Stratum 12, (excavated in 7 arbitrary levels) yielded a large number of artifacts. The ceramic assemblage contained 39 undecorated ironstone sherds. Other diagnostic ceramics included slipware, transfer printed and flow blue ceramics. A mean ceramic date of 1854 was established. Also recovered were sherds of gray salt glazed stoneware, porcelain, and cc ware.

Although a large amount of glass was recovered, few sherds were diagnostic. These included a bottle fragment, with a seam which did not reach the top. This type dates prior to the 1880s (Stewart 1976:27). Also recovered was a patent medicine bottle lip which did not show a seam, thus pre-dating the 1903 introduction of the automatic bottle machine (Stewart 1976:27). Non-diagnostic bottle glass included paneled patent medicine body fragments and body fragments of brown, amber, green, aqua and clear glass. This stratum also yielded a number of fragments of tumblers, a goblet and a decanter or vase. A plastic magnifier loop was found in the first arbitrary level of stratum 12. The second level yielded a slate pencil fragment. Pipe fragments were recovered from arbitrary levels 5 and 6. Artifact density decreased greatly at the 7th arbitrary level.

Material from these deposits in Unit 6 dated to the nineteenth century, and possibly to the first quarter of that century. The origin of these strata were probably similar to the deep deposits in Trench 3; that is possibly filling in of the subsurface portions of the open air theater that was located in this area of the block in the twentieth century. The presence of early artifactual material suggest that soil from other parts of the block, or even outside the block, were redeposited in this area. Thus the material exposed in this unit, as in the lower strata in Trench 3, was displaced refuse (South 1977). It is possible that these early materials came from the 1842 structures that were located in the southern portion of the block. These included buildings of Hunter's Hotel in the southeastern corner of the block, and a lone structure at the southern end of what was the large lot containing Van Cott's Hotel (see Figure 4).

#### Trench 17 (40S/100E)

In order to obtain a more complete coverage of the area included within boring numbers 11-12-13-14-16-17-18 and 19, (as stipulated in the original testing contract of GSA), Trench 17 was placed between the two east/west running transect of trenches crossing this portion of the project area (Figure 17b).

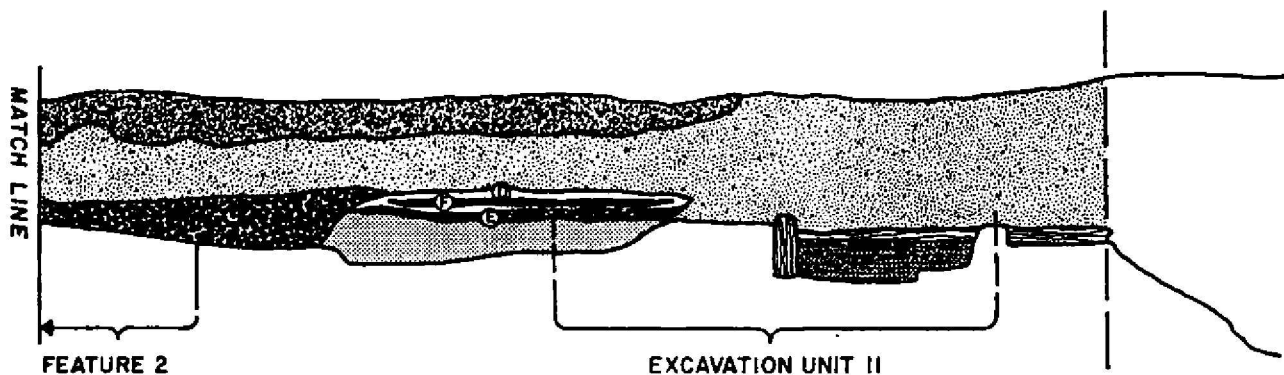
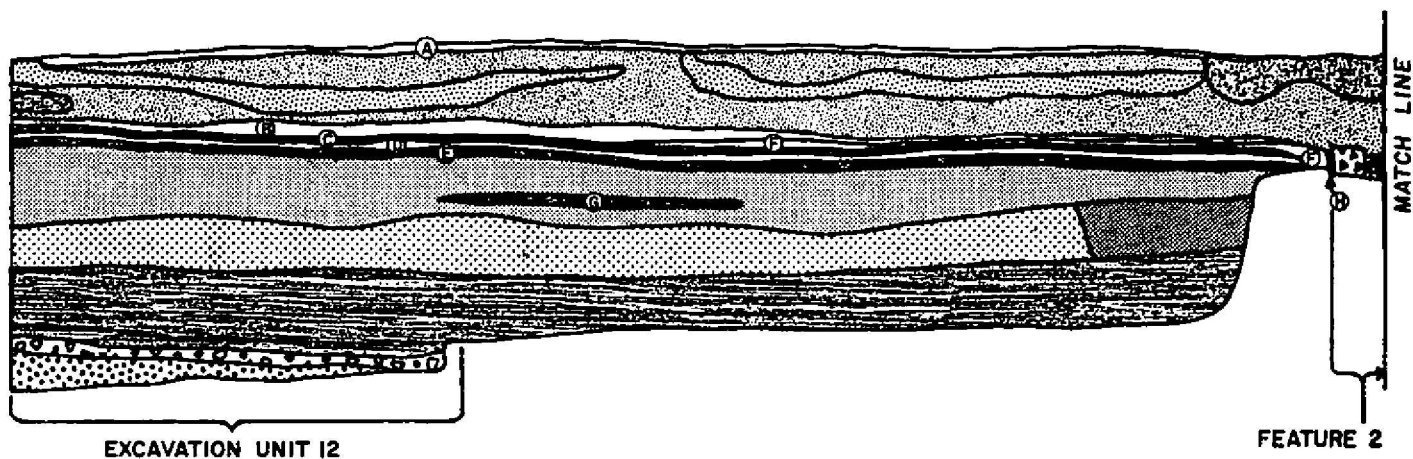
Almost all deposits and features exposed in Trench 17, and in the two units dug within the trench, appeared to date to the twentieth century. Excavation of the trench, with the backhoe, exposed several fill or horizontal yard deposits, generally containing cinder, charcoal and ash. During the backhoe excavation of the northern end of the trench, several artifacts, some of which could have been late nineteenth century, mixed with twentieth, were observed. Backhoe excavation was stopped and Excavation Unit 12 was placed at the northern end of the trench. The unit began within Stratum 11 (Figure 40 and Table 19). Only a small portion of Stratum 11 was remaining in the unit. This stratum overlaid a thin horizontal yard deposit, which in turn, overlaid sterile subsoil (Figure 40). Artifacts from the unit appeared to all be twentieth century.

During the excavation of Trench 11, which abuts Trench 17, (Figure 38) a possible wood floor was exposed in the north wall of the trench. Immediately to the west of this area of wood, north of the northern edge of Trench 11, was a metal sign with the word "SHELL" on it. This sign was undoubtedly from the garage that was located in this area of modern Lot 50 (Figure 3). An excavation, unit #11, was placed in the area of the wooden floor exposed in Trench 17, in order to date the floor and investigate the deposits beneath it. The unit exposed fill deposits and pockets of ash, cinder, sand and silt (Table 19 and Figure 41), under the wooden floor. Material from these deposits seemed to all date to the twentieth century. A shovel test was placed in the unit in Stratum 8. Based on the shovel test, and the makeup of Stratum 8, it appeared that deposits observed in Trench 11 to the south, i.e. Stratum 8 and 12, were also present in Unit 11 of Trench 17. Excavation of the unit was then stopped.

To the north of Unit 11, near the center of Trench 17 (Figure 38), was a concrete lined feature. The portion of the feature exposed in the trench, which appeared to be a little more than half, contained deposits of sand, gravel, clay, and coal (Table 19 and Figure 41). Sterile subsoil was encountered below the feature (Figure 41). As sterile subsoil was observed at a higher level in Unit 12 and Feature 2 in Trench 17, than observed in Unit 6 of Trench 11, it would appear that the deep deposit with displaced refuse and fill exposed in Trenches 3 and 11 (possibly associated with the open air theater), does not extend north beyond the area between Feature 2 and Excavation Unit 11, in Trench 17.

The artifact analysis of materials recovered from Trench 17, the two units, and the feature, confirmed the field observation that the majority of artifacts present dated to the twentieth century. The material from the south section of Trench 17, above Unit 11, was twentieth century debris consisting of a rubber disc, a metal pipe and a seamed crown lip from a brown bottle, post-dating the introduction of the automatic bottle machine in 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43).

# TRENCH 17 - EAST WALL PROFILE



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

- |                                   |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| (A) VERY DARK GRAY GRAVEL         | (D) PINKISH GRAY SAND  | (VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN GRAVEL)                   |
| (VERY DARK GRAY CINDER)           | (E) BLACK CINDER/ASH/COAL  | (STRONG BROWN MEDIUM COARSE SAND W/ROCKS, PEBBLES) |
| (DARK YELLOW BROWN SILTY SAND)    | (DARK BROWN SILTY SAND W/ SILT, CHARCOAL, SHELL, METAL, ASH BANDS) | (VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SANDY SILT)               |
| (DARK YELLOW BROWN SAND)          | (STRONG BROWN SAND)  | (H) WOOD   |
| (B) VERY DARK GRAY CINDER/ASH     | (BROWN/DARK BROWN SILTY SAND)                                      | (MORTAR)   |
| (C) DARK GRAY CINDER/ASH/CHARCOAL | (BROWN SANDY SILT)   | (G) CHARCOAL                                       |
| (F) DARK BROWN SAND               | (BLACK CINDER)   |  |

FIGURE 40  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 17 40S/100E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 12  
EXCAVATION UNIT 11  
FEATURE 2

TABLE 19. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

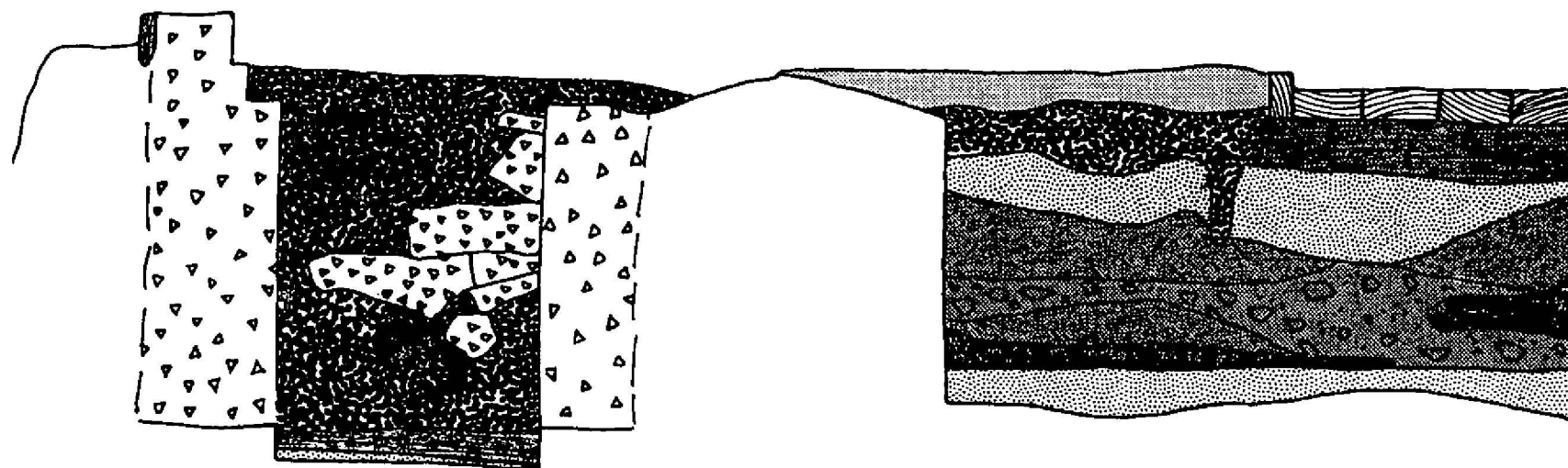
Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 17 40S/100E			
Stratum 1	Dark gray sand with gravel; Asphalt present in south half of trench	Fill	20th century
Strata 2 & 3	Very dark gray and dark yellowish brown sand with cinder	Possible horizontal yard deposit	20th century
Strata 4,5,6, 7, & 8	Deposits of very dark gray ash, charcoal, dark brown sand, pinkish gray ash and black cinder, ash, coal	Horizontal yard deposits	20th century
Stratum 9	Dark brown silty sand with charcoal, shell, metal, bands of ash	Horizontal yard deposit or fill	20th century
Stratum 12	Black cinder, only present in southern half of trench	Fill deposit overlying Feature 2	20th century
Strata 10 & 11	Dark brown silty sand and sandy silt	Fill	20th century
EU #12 of Trench 17			
Stratum 11	Dark brown sandy silt	Fill	20th century
Stratum 13	Very dark grayish brown sand, expected only in north end of trench	Possible horizontal yard deposit	20th century
Stratum 17	Strong brown sand	Possible sterile subsoil	No date

TABLE 19. (continued)

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
EU #11 of Trench 17			
Strata 1,2,3, 4,5,6 & 7	Deposits of black, very dark brown, brown/dark brown, grayish brown sand and silt with ash, cinder wood, brick fragments	Fill beneath wood floor	20th century
Stratum 8 & 9	Dark yellowish brown sand and strong brown clayey silt	Fill	20th century
Feature 2 in Trench 17			
Stratum 1	Black sand with gravel, coal, and concrete	Fill	20th century
Stratum 3	Reddish black clay with silt	Fill, below base of trenches	20th century
Stratum 4	Yellowish brown sand. Is below feature and relates to Stratum 8	Fill	20th century
Stratum 5	Strong brown clayey silt below feature; relates to Stratum 9 in EU #11	Fill	20th century

Note: Stratum 2 does not extend into East wall, below feature. Stratum 2 is dark brown sand with mortar and brick.

# TRENCH 17 - FEATURE 2, EXCAVATION UNIT II - EAST WALL PROFILE



0 1  
SCALE IN FEET





	BROWN SILTY SAND W/SILT		DARK YELLOWISH BROWN SAND		BLACK SILT & CLAY W/SAND		REDDISH BROWN CLAY W/SILT, COARSE GRAVEL
	BLACK CINDER, WOOD, ASH		DARK BROWN CLAYEY SAND		WOOD		YELLOWISH BROWN SAND
	VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SANDY SILT		VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SAND W/BRICK		CONCRETE		

FIGURE 41  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 17 409/100E  
EXCAVATION UNIT II  
FEATURE 2

Based on field observations, and corroborated by the laboratory analysis, Strata 1 through 7 of Unit 11 were combined as a 20th century fill deposit. The ceramic assemblage included sherds of undecorated ironstone, transfer printed wares, porcelain, cc ware, gray salt glazed stoneware, glazed red earthenware and yellow ware. Fragments of bottles, lamp glass, window glass, light bulb glass and a stemmed goblet were among the glass artifacts recovered. Strata 5,6, and 7 yielded a relatively large amount of glass, but not a single fragment was diagnostic.

Movie film, dating from 1910 to 1930 (Personal communication Carl Mydans 1983), was found in Strata 4, 5, 6 and 7. Interesting artifacts included a 1902 Indian head cent from Stratum 1, a brass .22 short casing from Stratum 3, and a blue glazed ceramic marble from Stratum 5.

A shovel test in Stratum 8 yielded only fragments of a metal bowl.

The artifacts recovered from above Feature 2 in Trench 17 included an undecorated ironstone sherd, a sherd of gray salt glazed stoneware, the base of a stemware glass, a clear glass measuring cup fragment and bottle fragments. The feature's only stratum, 1, yielded no diagnostic artifacts. The assemblage contained an engine turned redware sherd, bottle fragments and a molded starburst window glass fragment. Discarded in the field were several hundred pounds of finished concrete, and cut and dressed stone.

Below the wall of Feature 2, Stratum 2 was excavated. The deposit yielded three bottle fragments, five fragments of metal, concrete and wood.

Stratum 3 yielded miscellaneous glass fragments, an undecorated redware sherd and 35 mm nitrite based movie film dating from 1910 to 1930.

From Stratum 4, a flower pot sherd, nondiagnostic glass, and small amounts of building debris were recovered.

Artifacts collected from the backhoe excavation of Trench 17, above Unit 12, included single sherds of gray salt glazed stoneware, undecorated redware and porcelain as well as bottle fragments, brick, slag and an iron rod.

Unit 12, Stratum 11, yielded a sherd of unglazed redware, and bottle, lamp, and stemware glass fragments. Stratum 13 yielded a great many artifacts. The majority, however, were of non-diagnostic glass, including fragments of a wine glass, a molded disk, bottle, milk, and lamp glass. The few diagnostic glass artifacts included two lips and a neck fragment which, based on the mold seams, date prior to the 1880s date (Stewart 1976:27). The ceramic assemblage consisted mostly of undecorated ironstone sherds as well as a few sherds of porcelain and overglaze hand painted wares.



Other artifacts recovered from Stratum 13 include a ceramic marble, dating prior to World War I and possibly as early as the 1840s (Randall 1971: 103-104), a doorknob made of coarse agateware and 3 fragments of movie film, dated to the period from 1910 to 1930.

A shovel test into Stratum 17 yielded only shell, nail concretions and slag. Consult Appendix A for a complete list of all artifacts recovered from Trench 17, excavation Units 11 and 12, and Feature 2.

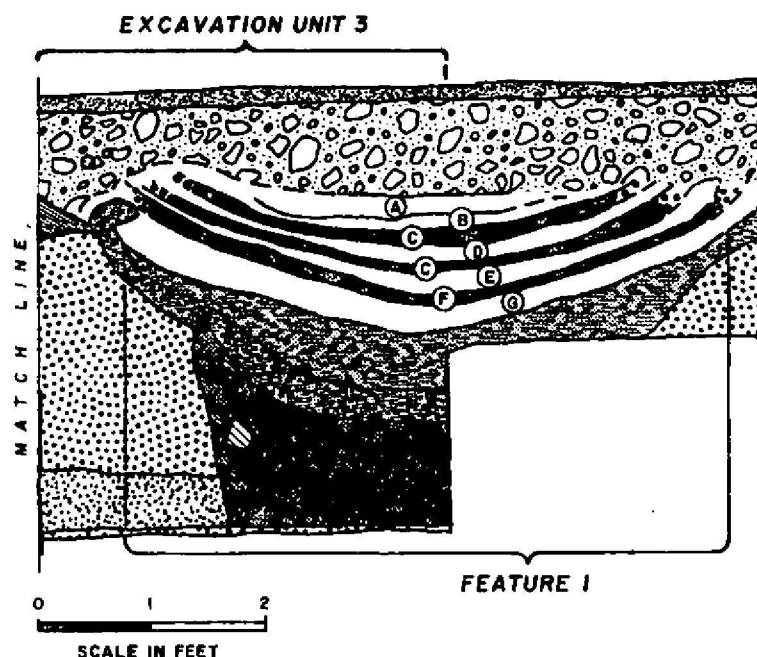
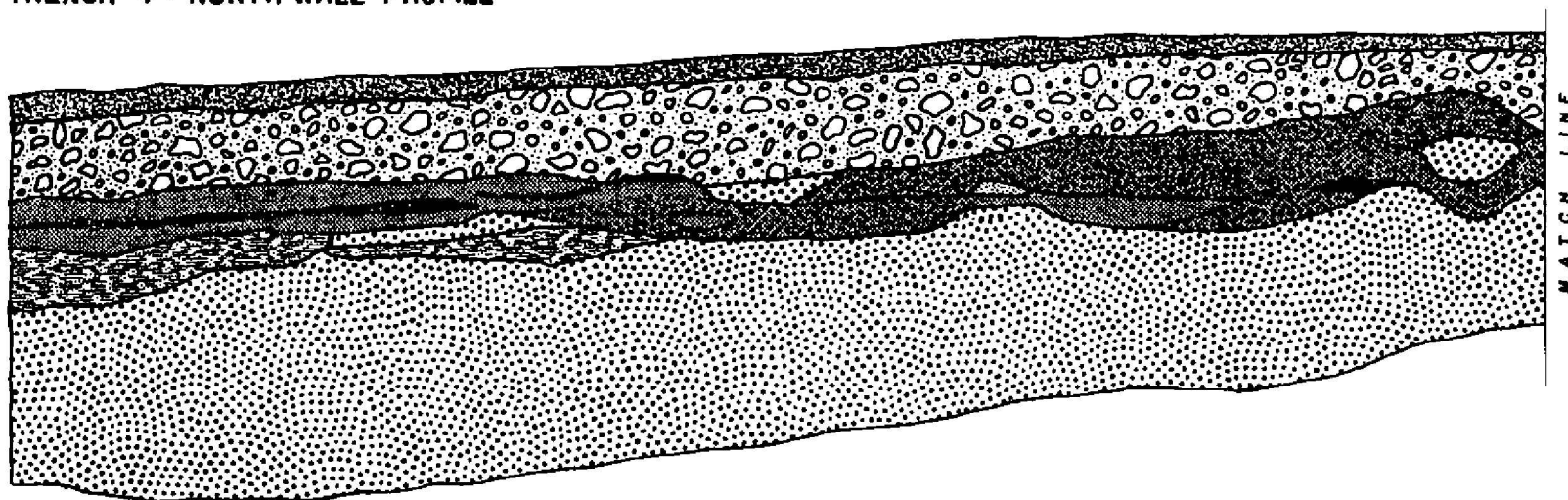
The deposits within Trench 17 probably were related to disposal activities that occurred within the garage, present on the 1955 map (Figure 3). It is also possible that some of the artifacts recovered from the trench originated from the lot to the west, Lot 53 on the 1913 map (Figure 6). A third possibility, due to the presence of movie film within many of the deposits, is that trash from the Jamaica Theater, to the east was also disposed of in this portion of the block. As discussed earlier, the theater was built in 1912.

#### Trench 4 (60S/120E)

Trench 4 was the fourth trench excavated of a transect of trenches placed to investigate the very rear areas of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue, to the north (Figure 17b). The deposits exposed in the backhoe and hand excavations of this trench included fill, demolition debris, possible horizontal yard deposits and a trash pit (Feature 1) (Figure 42). Below the asphalt was a deposit of fill and demolition rubble, with two small utility pipes, over several thin layers of sand with ash, cinder and tar, possibly resulting from surface deposition within a yard (Table 20). Below these possible yard deposits was sterile sand, the natural subsoil within the project area. Intruding into the sterile sand, and beginning below Stratum 2, is a pit filled with sand, ash, cinder and tar. This pit, designated as Feature 1 (Figures 42 and 43), contained clay and sand with cinder, charcoal, and soot. The feature produced a mixture of what appeared to be both late nineteenth and twentieth century artifacts. The horizontal yard deposits, which may be intruded by Feature 1, appeared to date to the twentieth century, as did the fill and demolition layers above the feature.

The excavation of Unit 3, in Trench 4, provided a sample of soils and artifacts within Feature 1 (Figure 42). This excavation, which commenced at Stratum 15, produced a mixture of both late nineteenth and twentieth century materials. Unfortunately, the quantity of artifactual material was low.

# TRENCH 4 - NORTH WALL PROFILE



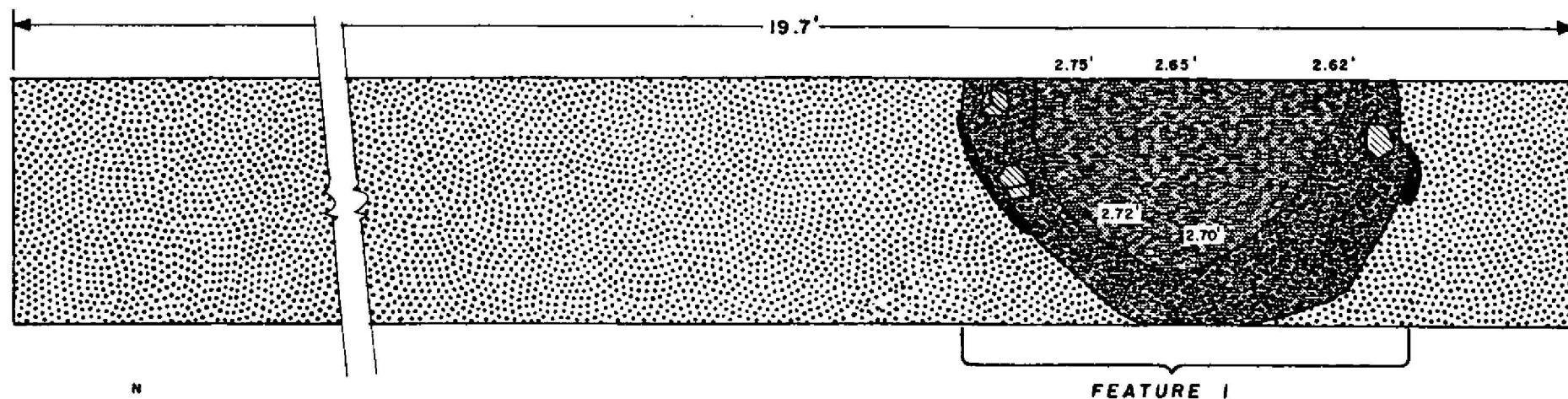
- |     |  |     |   |
|-----|--|-----|---|
|     | ASPHALT  | (C) | VERY DARK GRAY GRITTY SOOT  |
|     | VERY DARK GRAY MODERN ASPHALT RUBBLE W/ CINDER                           | (D) | GRAYISH BROWN CINDER  |
|     | DARK GRAYISH BROWN SILTY SAND  | (E) | LIGHT GRAY COMPACTED CINDER   |
|     | TAR  | (F) | VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SAND AND SOOT                                       |
|     | BROWN/DARK BROWN CLAYEY SILT   | (G) | MOTTLED CINDER AND SOOT   |
|     | VARIOUS SANDS, GENERALLY DARK YELLOWISH BROWN COARSE                     |     | BROWN/DARK BROWN SILTY SAND   |
|     | MIXED DARK GRAYISH BROWN SILTY SAND & DARK YELLOWISH BROWN VARIOUS SANDS |     | DARK YELLOW BROWN COARSE SAND MOTTLED W/ DARKER SILTY SAND                  |
| (A) | REDDISH BROWN CINDER W/ CLAY OR BRICK DUST                               |     | BLACK SILTY SAND W/ CHARCOAL AND CINDER INCLUSIONS, POSSIBLY HEAVY ORGANICS |
| (B) | PALE BROWN CINDER  |     | BRICK   |

FIGURE 42  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 4 60S/120E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 3

TABLE 20. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 4 60S/120E			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Very dark gray sand with asphalt rubble, and cinder	Fill, demolition debris	20th century
Strata 3, 4, and 6	Deposits of dark grayish brown silty sand, and brown/dark brown clayey silt, with cinder, tar	Possible horizontal yard deposit	Probably 20th century
Stratum 5	Dark yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
Feature 1			
Strata 7,8,9, 10,11,12,13, 14,15,16, & 17	Thin deposits of reddish brown clay, cinder soot, very dark grayish brown sand with soot, brown/dark brown silty sand, dark yellowish brown sand, black silty sand with charcoal and cinder	Intrudes into Strata 6, & 5; probable ash filled trash pit	Late 19th and 20th
EU #3 of Trench 4	Strata within unit discussed above include Strata 15, 16, 17 and 5		

# TRENCH 4 - PLAN VIEW



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

VARIOUS SANDS, GENERALLY  
DARK YELLOWISH BROWN COARSE  
DARK YELLOWISH BROWN COARSE SAND  
MOTTLED W/ DARKER SILTY SAND

BROWN/DARK BROWN SILTY SAND  
BRICK

CHARCOAL

• 2.72' ELEVATION BELOW TRENCH DATUM

FIGURE 43  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 4 60S/120E

Of the first fourteen strata in Trench 4 which were excavated by backhoe, only two contained artifacts. Stratum 2 yielded a single clear bottle fragment possibly a milk bottle. Stratum 3 contained two sherds of an undecorated ironstone plate, and a milk glass fragment of a jar with a continuous thread at the lip.

Stratum 15 in Feature #1 produced few artifacts. No ceramics were recovered, while glass fragments numbered only eight, including a clear glassware rim and non-diagnostic bottle fragments.

Stratum 16 contained only one ceramic, an undecorated ironstone sherd from a shallow bowl. Of the bottle fragments collected, only a large mouthed lip fragment was diagnostic. The mold seam of this piece continued onto the top of the lip, indicating it was produced by the automatic bottle machine, patented in 1903 (Lorrain 1968:43). Another artifact post-dating the nineteenth century was a part of an electric light fixture.

The third and final deposit of the feature, Stratum 17, was excavated in two arbitrary levels. An observation was made in the field that this stratum was a temporally mixed deposit of cultural material relating to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A decision was then made to sample 50% of the second arbitrary level. Nineteenth century artifacts included a seamless bottle lip, dating prior to 1880 (Stewart 1976:27), and a ceramic pipe stem and bowl. Two bottle lips, one from a Borden's mild bottle, appear to date to the turn of the twentieth century (Stewart 1976:27). The 20th century assemblage consisted of two automatic machine bottle lips and ten fragments of nitrite based 35 mm movie film dating from 1910 to 1930. The majority of glass from this stratum consisted of bottle body fragments, but pieces of a milk glass bowl and a lead glass candy dish were recovered. For a complete list of all artifacts consult Appendix A.

The horizontal yard deposits and trash pit in Trench 4 may have resulted from trash disposal activities within modern Lot 49 and/or 50. It is also possible that in the early twentieth century this area of the block was used for dumping material from lots fronting on Jamaica Avenue. During the early twentieth century, the south central area of the block contained vacant lots. Such urban spaces were often used for trash disposal, as they are today. A final possible historical association for the deposits in Trench 4, is the Jamaica Theater. This link is based on the presence of movie film in many of the deposits in the trench, including Feature 1.

## Eastern Section

The modern lots in the eastern section of the block included lots 27, 29, 31, and 38 (Figure 3). As with the other block sections, the area of the eastern section along Jamaica Avenue contained, since the 1800s, a hotel. Prior to this time, the northeast corner of the block may have been the location of John Dudley's bakery. The property owned by Dudley was bought by an inn-keeper in 1787. This property was subsequently occupied by the Jamaica Hotel (Figure 14). The hotel continued to occupy the entire northeast section of the block throughout the nineteenth century, but was owned by many different proprietors. At some time prior to 1906, the hotel was renamed the Pettit Hotel (Figure 11). At the turn of the century, the block section contained Pettit's hotel, with associated outbuildings such as barns and sheds, and a group of stores along Beavery Street (modern Parson Boulevard). After 1906, the entire block section was subdivided, and the hotel was probably demolished. A series of row structures was then built along Jamaica Avenue.

The southern area of this block section was vacant until the 1840s, when a hotel (Hunter's Hotel) was built in the southeast corner of the block (Figure 4). This hotel covered the main area of modern Lot 27, and modern Lot 49. The historical record shows that a residence of Dr. Charles H. Stevens, a dentist, existed in the 1850s, between the two hotels, and fronted on Beaver Street (Parsons Boulevard). It appears that this residence burned in the 1860s, during the fire which destroyed Hunter's hotel. After the fire, this area of the block contained only a few structures. An 1873 map shows a building along Archer Avenue, in the very southwest corner of this block section. This structure may have been associated with the line of structures running north/south along the property line between the Pavillion and Jamaica Hotel (see Figure 8). This structure was shown on an 1891 map. (Figure 7) In addition, a series of small buildings were present along Beaver Street (Parsons). These buildings correspond to the stores discussed above, present in the block section at the time of the 1906 subdivision. By 1912, the entire southeast portion of the block was occupied by the Jamaica Theater, with an entrance to the theater on Jamaica Avenue.

The above historical data suggest that the trenches and units excavated in this block section would produce artifactual assemblages and structural remains associated with:

1. late eighteenth century commercial properties, and possibly a residence.
2. early to middle nineteenth century commercial properties, and possibly as single residential property.
3. late nineteenth to early twentieth century commercial properties.

## Eastern Section Field Results

The eastern section of the block was investigated with 15 trenches (Figure 17c). The major focus of these trenches was to expose deposits and any feature within modern Lot 38, and to determine the depth of the basement, if present, under the main portion of the Jamaica Theater, in Lot 27. Lot 38, based on the Phase I study, appeared to be minimally disturbed (Figure 15). The main portion of Lot 27, within the theater, was the location of an early (1836) property line running east/west (Figure 44). Investigation of the area of the property line which was covered by the theater was expected to produce features and deposits usually found at the rear of urban lots, i.e. privies, well, and/or cisterns.

Trenches for this section of the block will be discussed beginning with those to the north, along Jamaica Avenue, and then to those in the very southeastern corner of the block.

### Trench 21 (30N/270E)

Trenches 21 and 22 made up a line of trenches that paralleled Jamaica Avenue (Figure 17c). Other trenches along this transect included Trenches 36 and 32. This line of trenches was designed to investigate depths of basements associated with structures once standing along Jamaica Avenue, and also to determine the potential for early deposits and structural remains in this area of the block.

Trench 21 exposed a deep deposit of building rubble above a concrete basement floor (Table 21, Figure 45). The floor was 9.0 feet below the surface. Near the center of the trench, at 5.8 feet below the surface, was a stone and concrete wall. Just below the top of the wall, the basement fill contained less brick rubble than the fill deposit above the wall, and had a predominant matrix of gray brown sand. These two different types of fill in the basement may represent two demolition episodes. It was interesting that the wall exposed in the trench did not extend to the surface, and had a small layer of wood at its top. This wall may have supported a wood floor to the basement, with the space between the wood and concrete floor, which was at a lower depth, may have functioned as an area for building utilities.

The wall and basement exposed in Trench 21 were probably associated with the row of structures built in the area of Pettit's Hotel after 1906 (Figures 6 and 12). It should be noted that the wall in Trench 21 runs at an angle, and is not perpendicular to Jamaica Avenue, as were the sides of the Pettit Hotel which occupied this area of the block prior to 1906. As the property lines placed over this area in 1906 (Figure 11) are at an angle similar to the wall exposed in Trench 21, this wall probably postdates the subdivision of the eastern section of the block.



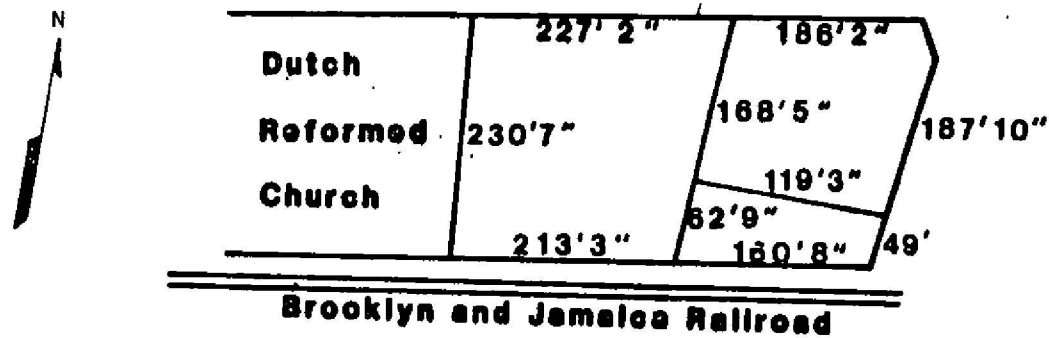


FIGURE 44  
THE PROPERTIES IN THE  
PROJECT AREA, 1836 TO 1844,  
USING DATA FROM THE  
APPENDIX (NOT TO SCALE)

TABLE 21. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 21 30N/270E			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 2-4	Building rubble, stone, concrete, gray brown sand, wood fragments	Demolition fill with a basement possibly two episodes	20th century
Stratum 5	Concrete	Basement floor	20th century?
Stratum 6	Yellowish brown sand with pebbles	Sterile subsoil below concrete	No date
Trench 22 30N/150E			
Stratum 1	Dark brown sand with brick	Demolition rubble	20th century
Stratum 2	Brick rubble & wood	Demolition rubble above a cinder concrete basement	20th century
Stratum 3	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

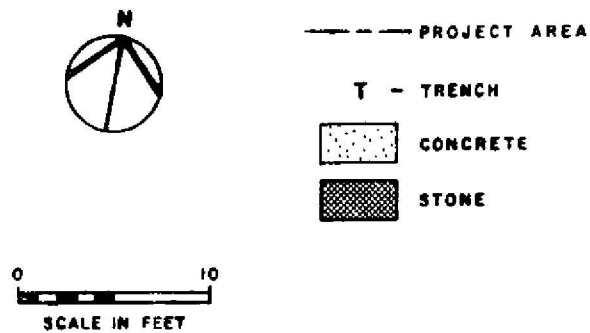


FIGURE 45  
DETAIL OF THE EASTERN SECTION  
OF THE STUDY AREA

## Trench 22 (30N/150E)

Trench 22, as did Trench 21, uncovered a deposit of demolition debris directly under the asphalt. Stratum 1 of the demolition debris consisted of dark brown sand with brick (Table 21). This deposit extended approximately 1 foot below surface. Underlying Stratum 1 was another layer of demolition debris, characterized by brick, wood and general building trash, all from the twentieth century. This deposit extended to a depth of 4.8 feet below surface. In the central portion of the trench a brick wall was uncovered, approximately 1.2 feet below the surface (Figure 46). The brick wall, 3 feet wide, also extends to a depth of 4.8 feet. Five utility pipes paralleled the brick wall oriented north/south to the east of the wall. Underlying the building debris and brick wall was a poured concrete floor approximately .8 feet thick. With the assistance of the backhoe, the concrete floor was broken through exposing Stratum 3, a sterile sand subsoil.

The wall and basement exposed in Trench 22 were probably associated with the entrance to the Jamaica Theater, fronting on Jamaica Ave. It should be noted that the brick wall is oriented northeast/southwest and is in the same location and orientation of a property line which has been in existence since the early nineteenth century (Figures 44 and 46).

## Trench 30 (90N/230E)

Trench 30 was opened and oriented east/west (Figure 17c) with the backhoe, by removing an asphalt parking lot surface. Underlying the asphalt, Stratum 1, six strata of demolition debris and fill deposits were encountered before uncovering a stone mortared wall approximately 6.5 feet below the surface (Figure 45). These demolition deposits consisted of reddish brown silty sand, dark brown to gray sand and yellowish brown sand, all with brick and mortar rubble, extending to a depth of 6.25 feet - 6.5 feet below surface (Table 22). Underlying the above mentioned demolition debris and fill deposits, and contiguous with the brick wall were four additional fill deposits. East of the brick wall, two fill deposits were overlying a poured concrete floor consisted of decayed mortar with brick rubble and blackish brown burned organic material mixed with black silty sand that extended to a depth of 8.75 feet below surface.

Based on field observations these two fill deposits may possibly represent an earlier demolition episode, as they are very different from the fill above, and begin at the same elevation as the destroyed stone wall. The two fill deposits west of the stone wall consisted of brick mortar and sand extending to a depth of 9 feet below surface. As mentioned above the fill deposits west of the stone wall were overlying a sterile subsoil.

East of the stone mortared wall underlying the burnt organic material a collapsed wood floor was observed in the trenches profile. This wood floor, extending from the stone wall east was approximately .5 feet above the concrete floor, with a utility pipe oriented north/south lying between the wood and concrete floors and abutting the stone wall. At this point, the concrete floor was removed by the backhoe, only to expose the sterile sand subsoil.

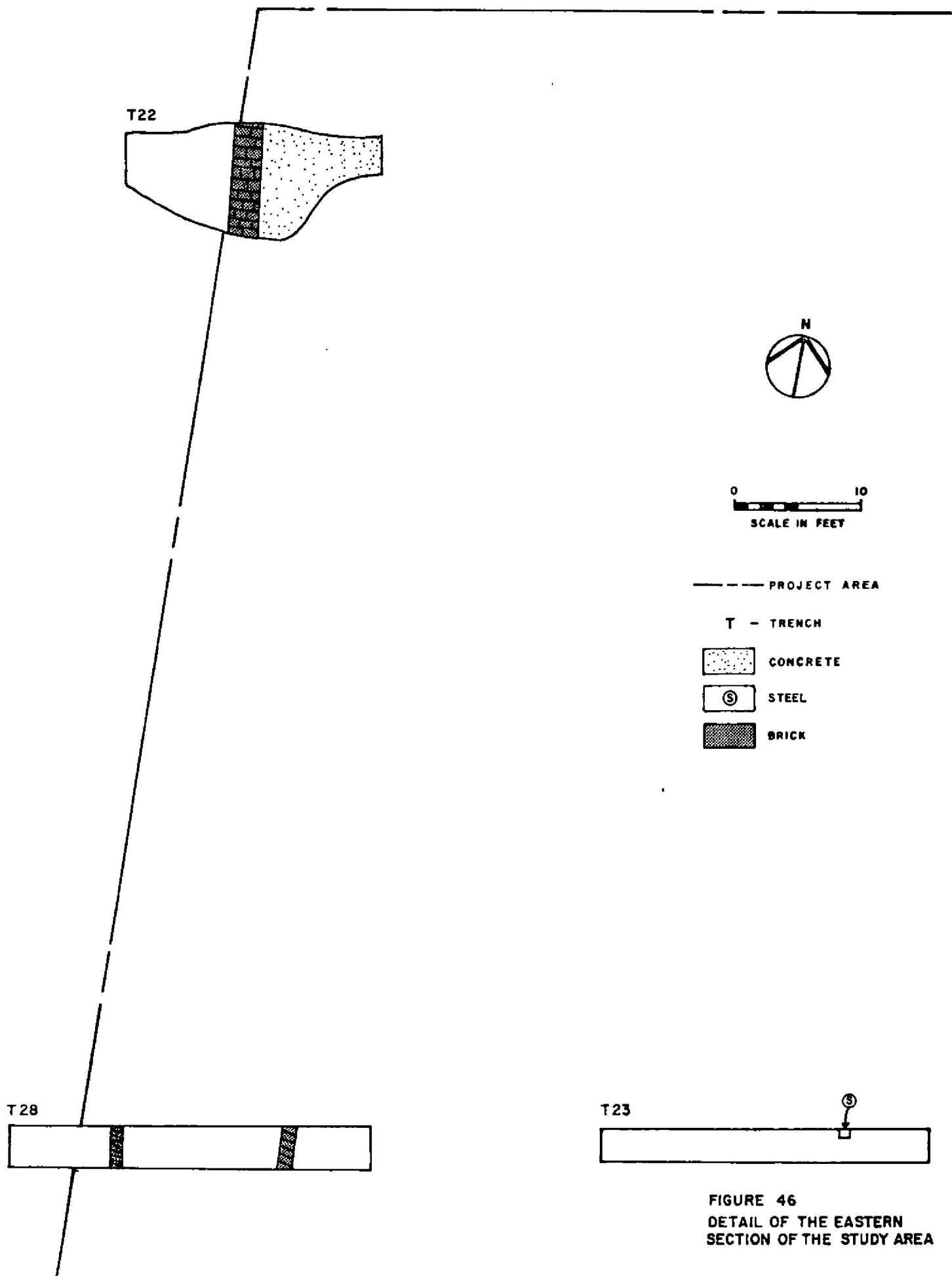


FIGURE 46  
DETAIL OF THE EASTERN  
SECTION OF THE STUDY AREA

TABLE 22. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 30 90N/230E			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 2-11	Deposits of light gray, dark brown, reddish brown, yellowish brown sand and silty sand with brick rubble, ash, cinder, burnt wood	Demolition debris and fill deposits within a basement or basements	Post 1906
Stratum 12	Yellowish brown coarse sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

The stone wall and cellar uncovered in Trench 30 was probably associated with the main structure on Lot 34. It should be noted that the stone wall runs at an angle and is not perpendicular with Jamaica Avenue as were the walls of the Pettit Hotel which occupied this area of the block prior to 1906. The property lines placed over this area in 1906 (Figure 11) are at an angle, similar to the wall uncovered in Trench 30, therefore this structure probably post dates the 1906 subdivisions of the eastern section of the block.

#### Trench 28 (50N/150E)

Trench 28 was located in the central eastern area of the east section of the project area (Figure 17c), oriented east/west. Excavation began by removing stratigraphically, Stratum 1, characterized as a fill deposit consisting of dark brown sand with gravel (Table 23, Figure 47). This deposit extended approximately .7 feet below surface. Strata 2 and 3 consisting of a yellow brown to dark brown sand and silty sand with brick and rubble extended to a depth of 4 feet below surface, where two brick walls were recovered (Figures 46 and 47). The western most brick wall was found in the trench's west wall profile. The trench was then extended to the west to expose the remainder of the wall. From the top of the broken wall (4 feet below surface), another fill deposit was excavated, consisting of dark brown silty sand, brick and mortar. This deposit west of the western most wall extended to a depth of 7.5 feet below surface before encountering a concrete floor (Figure 47). Excavation ended west of the brick wall because of the loose nature of the fill, causing unsafe footing for the backhoe to continue deeper excavations of this area. Excavation resumed east of the western most wall, again clearing the rubble between the two walls, and working east. In the central portion of the trench, Stratum 7 continued to 8.5 feet below surface, before stopping because of the loose fill or the surface. The second brick wall, also 4 feet below surface was located 13.8 feet east of the trench datum (50N/150E). Both the east and west brick walls were oriented north/south, and were not perpendicular to Jamaica Avenue, and corresponded with the orientation of the property lines on the 1906 plat (Figure 11). The next stratum to be excavated by the backhoe was Stratum 4, described as a yellow brown sand. This probably represented a fill deposit and extended 3.7 feet below surface. Stratum 5, described as a brown silty sand, occurred only east of easternmost brick wall and possibly represented a trash deposit with secondary refuse, and extended 5.7 feet below the surface. Artifacts collected from Stratum 5 consisted of a transfer printed sherd, two glass fragments, one shell, one pipe stem fragment and 7.5 grams of iron. Underlying Stratum 5, a sterile yellowish brown sand which represented the subsoil was the last stratum excavated.

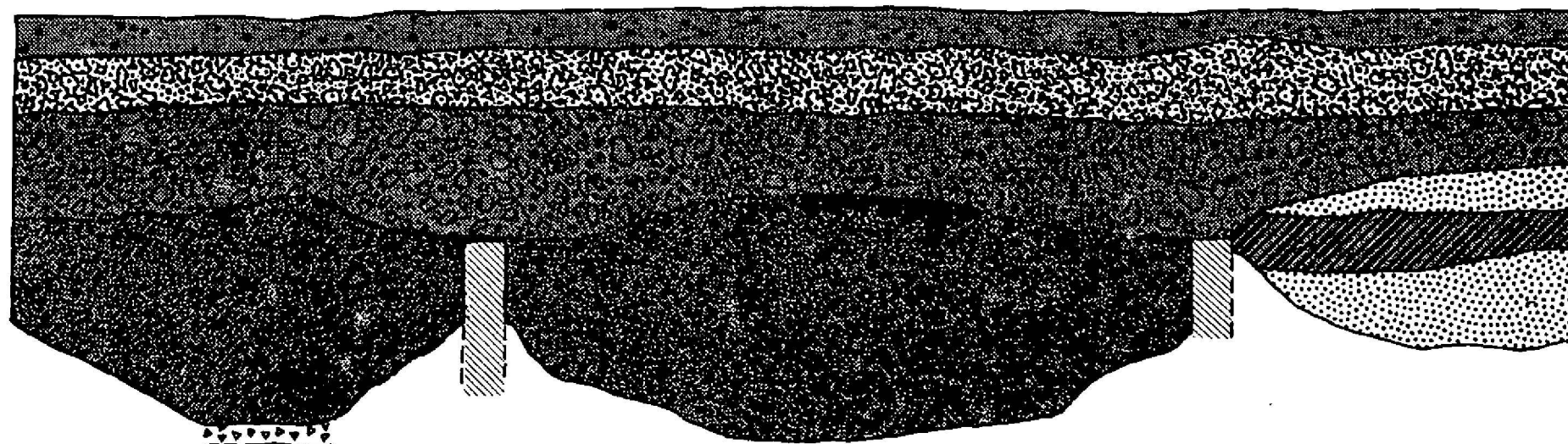
As mentioned above, Trench 28 was oriented east/west and possibly crossed modern Lots 49, 27 and 29 (Figure 3). The western most wall in the trench possibly related to the division between Lots 49 and 27. The excavation of Trench 28 demonstrated that this area had at least 8.5 feet of disturbance below the surface. The Phase I report indicated the depth of disturbance in this area was unknown. No evidence of structures earlier than 1906 was recovered. The area between the two brick walls possibly



TABLE 23. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 28 (50N/150E)			
Stratum 1	Dark brown sand with gravel	Fill	20th Century
Stratum 2, 3 and 7	Yellow brown to dark brown sand and silty sand with brick and rubble	Demolition rubble within two basements	Post 1906
Stratum 4	Yellow brown sand, present only east of eastern most wall within trench	Possible fill deposit	Not datable
Stratum 5	Brown silty sand present only east of eastern most well within trench	Possible trash deposit with secondary refuse	unknown
Stratum 6	Yellow-brown sand, exposed only east of eastern most well within trench	Sterile subsoil	No date

# TRENCH 28-NORTH WALL PROFILE





0 1 2 3  
SCALE IN FEET


 DARK BROWN SAND  
W/ GRAVEL FROM PAVING


 YELLOW BROWN SAND  
W/ BRICK RUBBLE


 DARK BROWN SILTY SAND  
W/ RUBBLE


 TAR

 BROWN SILTY SAND -  
19th CENTURY CULTURAL DEPOSIT

 YELLOW BROWN SAND

 DARK BROWN SILTY SAND  
W/ VERY MUCH RUBBLE (MISC. FILL)

 BRICK WALL - THREE COURSES THICK

 HYPOTHETICAL CONTOUR


 CEMENT FLOOR

FIGURE 47  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 28 50N/150E

represented the entranceway of the Jamaica Theater. This area was documented in the Phase I report as having a cellar of unknown depth. The trench excavation did not confirm or deny the existence of a cellar in this area of the theater, but did document the disturbance to 8.5 feet below surface. This section of the trench would have to postdate 1955 (Figure 3), with no evidence recovered of earlier occupation i.e., the Jamaica Hotel. The area east of the easternmost brick wall possibly represented the division between modern Lot 27, the theater entrance and the backyard area of modern Lot 29 (Figure 3). Again, this wall was not perpendicular to Jamaica Avenue and probably postdates the 1906 plat (Figure 11). Stratum 5, excavated in this section of the trench, possibly represented a nineteenth century trash deposit in the backyard area of Lot 29. No evidence of earlier occupations was present in this area of the trench.

#### Trench 23 (50N/190E)

Trench 23 was the third trench of a transect of trenches, 50 feet north of transit Station 1. The trench was oriented east/west (Figures 2 and 17C). This trench was centrally located within the eastern section of the project area (Figure 46). Excavation began by removing the asphalt parking lot surface, Stratum 1. Underlying Stratum 1, Stratum 2, described as a dark yellowish brown sand, probably functioned as a fill or bedding for the asphalt and extended .4 feet below surface (Table 24). Strata 3 and 4, described as dark grayish silty sand with brick rubble and dark reddish brown sand with brick and mortar rubble, extended 1.6 feet below surface. Underlying Stratum 4, another layer of demolition debris, Stratum 5 was described as very dark gray brown silty sand with large pieces of wood and concrete. Stratum 5 extended 3.8 feet below surface. Stratum 6, the next deposit to be excavated only occurred in the western half of the trench. This stratum was a reddish brown sand with a large amount of brick and mortar. The deposit appeared to lense into Stratum 5 and also extended 3.8 feet below surface. Underlying Strata 5 and 6 was another layer of demolition debris, Stratum 7. This stratum was a very dark grayish brown silty sand, also with large fragments of building materials i.e., concrete and brick wall sections, wood fragments and large pieces of sheet metal. Artifacts collected from this stratum consisted of two brass light bulb fragments, one square cut nail fragment, three clear glass fragments with ridges on one side, one aqua colored bottle neck fragment with seams to the lip and nine ceramic buff earthenware rim sherds, with a green, blue and brown glaze. Stratum 7 extended to a depth of 9.0 feet below surface before exposing a concrete floor. The concrete floor was then removed by the backhoe uncovering yellowish brown sand subsoil, Stratum 8. Trench 23 excavation ended at the subsoil.

Trench 23 was possibly within the backyard extension of the eastern structure on modern Lot 29 (Figure 3). The historic documentation furnished no information pertaining to the extent of disturbance on this portion of the project area. Excavation of Trench 23 showed disturbance to 9.0 feet below surface. No evidence of earlier structures or features was recovered from Trench 23.

TABLE 24. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 23 (50N/190E)			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 2 to 7	Deposits of dark gray, reddish brown sand and silty sand with brick rubble, mortar	Demolition rubble within basement floor	20th Century
Stratum 8	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

## Trench 24 (50N/230E)

Trench 24 was centrally located in the eastern section of the project area (Figure 48), and was the third in a transect of trenches oriented east/west across this section of the block (Figure 17c). Trench 24 was placed in this location in order to expose any deposits and/or features in modern Lot 38 (Figure 3). In addition, this area of the block contained structures and possibly rear yard deposits from John Dudley's bakery in the late eighteenth century, the Jamaica Hotel in the nineteenth century and the Pettit Hotel in the early twentieth century.

The trench excavation exposed five deposits of fill and demolition debris overlying three brick walls (Table 25, Figures 49 and 50). The western and easternmost walls were just visible in the north wall trench profile. The central wall, located in the central eastern area of the trench, almost entirely bisected the trench (Figure 50). This wall section appeared to be a corner, extending 6 feet to the east and 2 feet north into the north wall of the trench. The easternmost wall, mentioned above, was oriented north/south and the western wall was oriented east/west. It should be noted that the walls in Trench 24 ran at an angle, and were not perpendicular to Jamaica Avenue, as were the walls of the Pettit Hotel, which occupied this area of the block to circa 1906. As the property lines placed over this area in 1906 (Figure 11) were at an angle similar to the walls exposed in Trench 24, these walls probably postdated the subdivision of the eastern section of the block.

An excavation unit, designated Unit 15, was placed east of the brick wall that bisected the trench. A total of six strata were excavated in the unit (Table 25). Stratum 6 was the first to be hand excavated within the unit. Stratum 6 possibly represented a fill or horizontal yard deposit, intruded by the brick wall and large stones. The stones may have been the footing on which the brick wall was built. Cultural material consisted of mid- nineteenth century artifacts. The next deposit to be excavated, Stratum 7, was removed in 5 arbitrary levels. This deposit contained a large amount of cultural material, such as ceramics, glass and shell. Based on the soil and amount of cultural material, Stratum 7 may have been a deposit with secondary or displaced refuse, possibly within a feature such as a well or cistern. The cultural material recovered from this deposit was characteristic of the first quarter of the nineteenth century and may also have been intruded by the large footing stones and/or basement foundation (Figure 50). Stratum 8 (Table 25) as above may have been secondary or displaced refuse. It contained ceramics, glass, brick and shell (8.85 kg of shell, *venus mercenaria*, were discarded in the field). The cultural material from Stratum 8 was characteristic of the early nineteenth century. The next deposit to be excavated, Stratum 9 (Table 25) consisted of a mottled clay and sand. This deposit may have contained secondary or displaced refuse within a feature. The frequency of shell and brick decreased sharply in this deposit. Ceramics, glass, bone, metal and wood fragments were also collected. The cultural material appeared to be from the late eighteenth century and intruded into the sterile subsoil. A detailed discussion of artifacts recovered from Trench 24 follows.

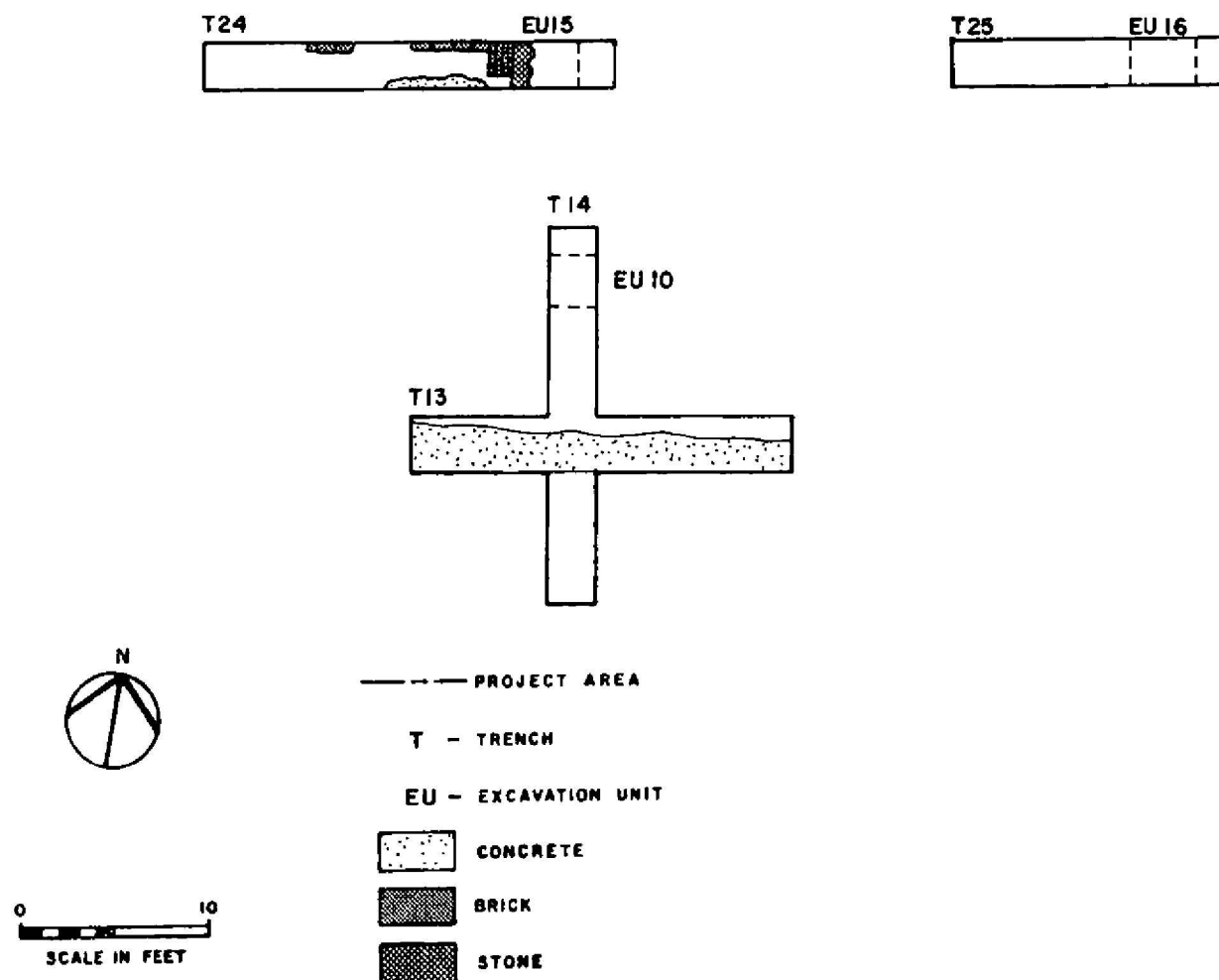


FIGURE 48  
DETAIL OF THE EASTERN SECTION  
OF THE STUDY AREA

TABLE 25. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

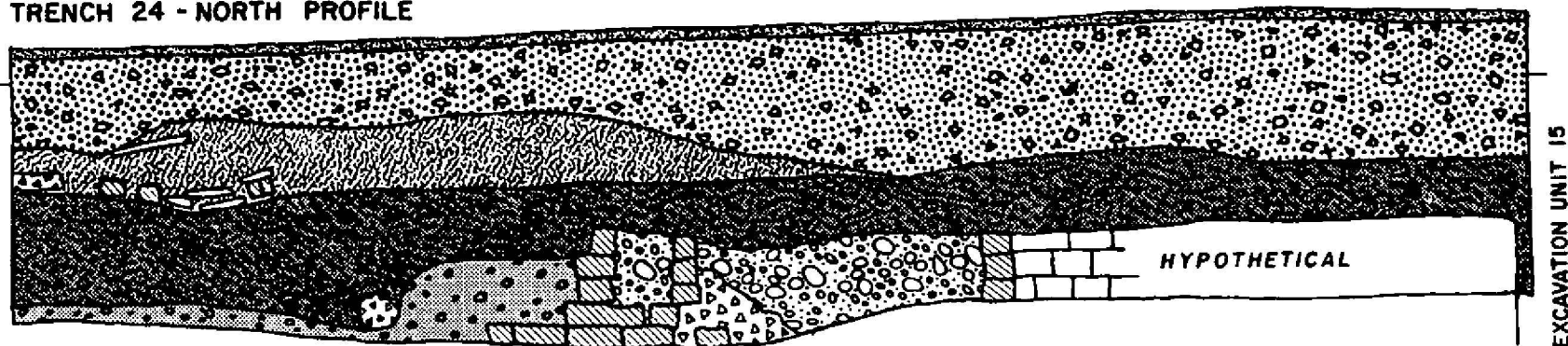
Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 24 (50W/230E)			
Strata 1 to 5	Deposits of yellowish brown sand, reddish brown sand with rubble, strong brown sand, concrete rubble, brick-rubble	Fill and demolition debris	Post dates 1906
Stratum 6	Dark brown silty sand with coal ash and coal	Deposit intruded by brickwall and possible stone foundation. Maybe fill or horizontal deposit	Mid 19th Century (M.C.D 1854)
Stratum 7	Dark brown to light brown mottled sandy silt, with layers of clam and oyster shell	Deposit intended by possible stone foundation. May be soil with secondary refuse within a feature, possibly a well, cistern or basement. <u>In situ</u> metal pipe present in stratum	Early to Mid 19th Century (M.C.D. 1825)



TABLE 25. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
E.U. #15 continued			
Stratum 8	Brown sand with shell brick, gravel	Possible soil with secondary refuse within a feature such as a well, cistern, or basement	Early 19th Century
Stratum 9	Mottled gray clay and brown sand	Possibly soil with secondary refuse within a feature	Late 18th Century (M.C.D. 1796)
Stratum 10	Brown to yellow brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

# TRENCH 24 - NORTH PROFILE



# TRENCH 24 - SOUTH PROFILE

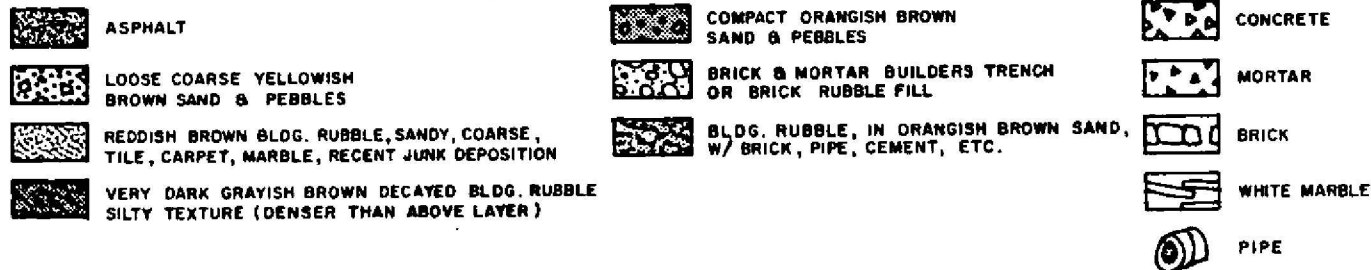
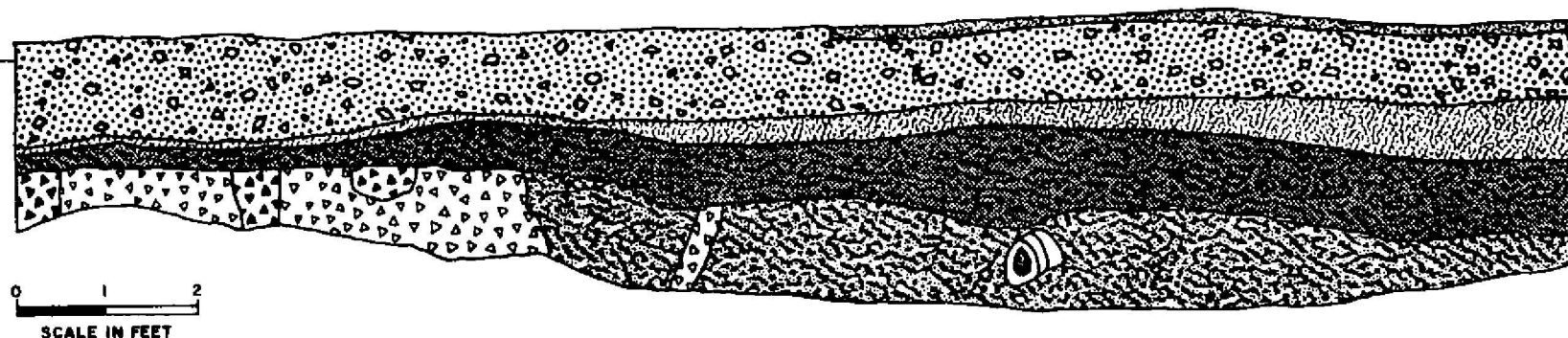
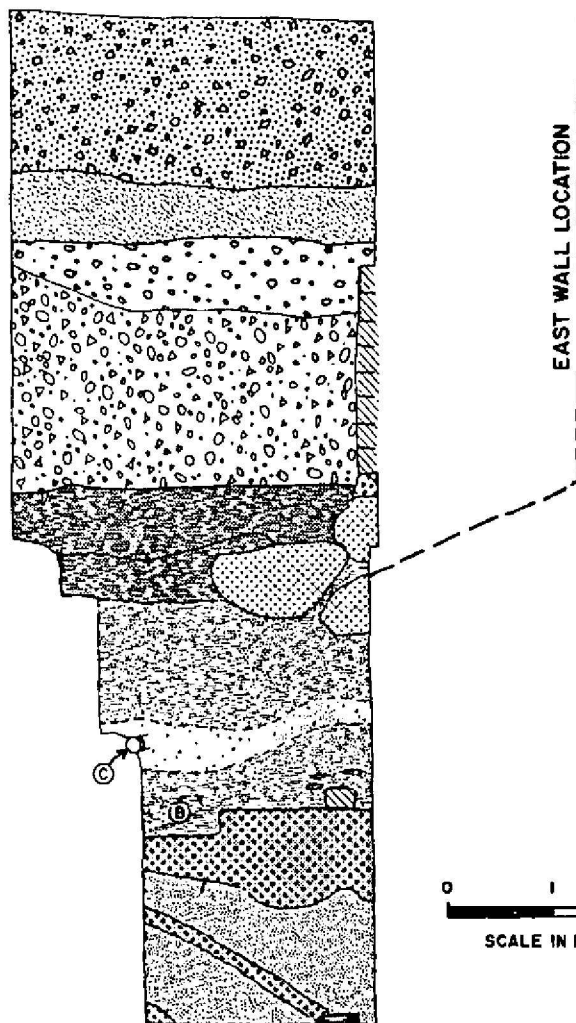
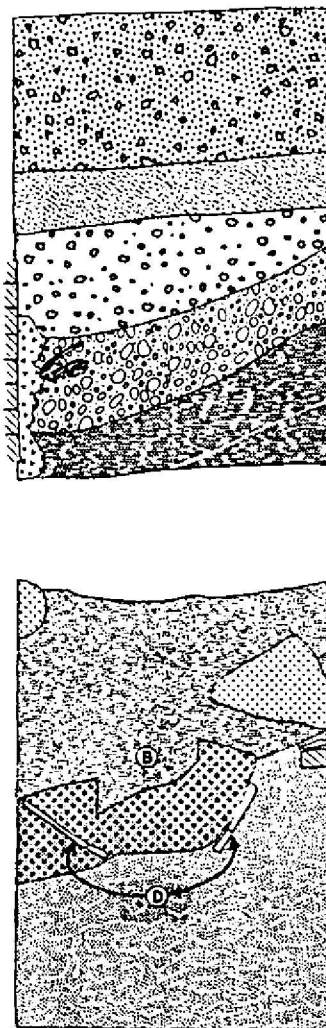


FIGURE 49  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 24 50N/230E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 15

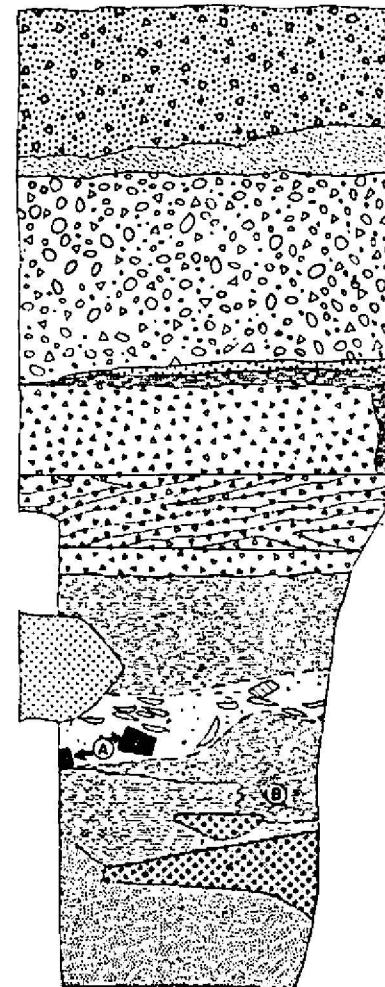
EXCAVATION UNIT 15  
NORTH WALL PROFILE



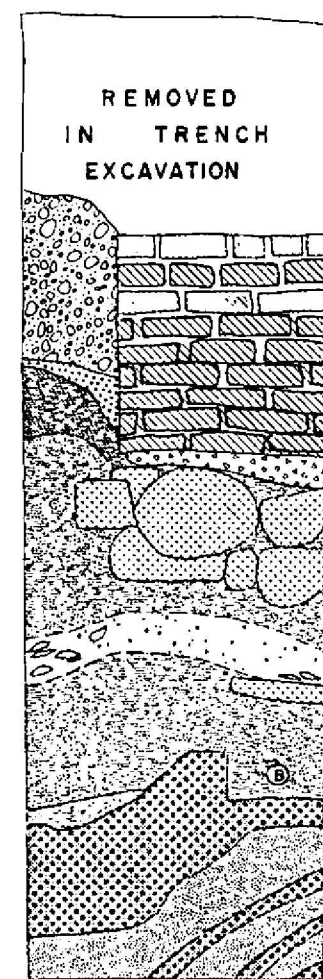
EAST WALL PROFILE



SOUTH WALL PROFILE



WEST WALL PROFILE



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

BROWN STERILE SAND BEGINS 10.6' BELOW SURFACE

- LOOSE COARSE YELLOWISH BROWN SAND W/PEBBLES
- REDDISH BROWN BLDG. RUBBLE, SANDY, COARSE, TILE, CARPET, MARBLE, RECENT JUNK DEPOSITION
- COMPACT ORANGISH BROWN SAND W/PEBBLES
- POURED CONCRETE MIXED W/RUBBLE (FLOOR, WALL, OR WASTE PILE)
- BRICK/MORTAR BUILDERS TRENCH OR BRICK RUBBLE FILL

- DARK BROWN SAND
- DARK BROWN SILTY SAND, COAL ASH, UNBURNT COAL
- DARK BROWN MOTTLED SANDY SILT, SHELL, BONE, BRICK, ROOTS
- BROWN MOTTLED SANDY SILT, SHELL, PIPE STEMS, CREAMWARE, SLIPWARE, PEARLWARE SHERDS, BRICK, MORTAR, GLASS
- BRICK
- STONE

- BROWN SAND, SHELL, BRICK, STONWARE, DELFT, PEARLWARE SHERDS, BROWN GRAVELLY SAND
- MOTTLED GRAY CLAY, BROWN SAND, CREAMWARE, GLASS, LEAD GLAZED REDWARES, OVER DEC. PORCELAIN
- CONCRETE
- BURNT BRICK
- WOOD
- WOODEN FORM LOCATION

- POSSIBLE IMPRESSION OF EARLIER STRUCTURE SUPPORTS OR WALLS
- THREADED PIPE
- DECAYED WOOD, POSSIBLE PLANKS
- ORGANICS (SHELL, BONE), BRICK

FIGURE 50  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 24 50N/230E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 15

Strata 1 through 5 of Trench 24 were excavated using the backhoe. The cultural material from the east and west ends of the trench were kept separate. The east end yielded a single sherd of undecorated ironstone and bottle glass fragments. Additional material included an eight sided dark aqua soda water bottle, probably originally made with a two peice mold, the lower half of an aqua embossed cream soda bottle with no seams, and a green mineral water bottle similar to McKearin's (1978) Figure 2 on page 196. It is described as having a domed base with a black oxide deposit and a well modeled American eagle on one side. The bottle is dated to circa 1851-1867.

From the western half of the trench a bottle fragment cross mended with one from the eastern section, indicating a single deposit. The ceramics collected were of undecorated ironstone and hand painted wares, porcelain, and coarse agateware. The base of a mineral water bottle displayed a domed based with a black oxide deposit. Another bottle of which 50% was recovered including the finish, is similar to one in McKearin (1978:281, Figure 7), who dates it to the mid-nineteenth century.

Unit 15 began with the excavation of Stratum 6, which yielded a high frequency of cultural material. Forty-three sherds of undecorated ironstone were recovered as well as sherds of cc ware, pearlware, slipware, porcelain, transfer printed ironstone, delft and glazed redwares. A mean ceramic date of 1854.4 was calculated for this stratum. Three diagnostic glass fragments corroborated this date: the domed base, circa 1851-1867, and noted above (McKearin 1978:237), and a neck similar to one in McKearin (1978:281, Figure 6 or 7) dated to the mid-nineteenth century.

Stratum 7 was excavated in 5 arbitrary levels. The first two levels did not yield much material but the entire stratum produced a great many artifacts. The ceramic assemblage consisted of slipware; pearlware (transfer printed and hand painted); Nottingham; white salt glazed stoneware; creamware; ironstone; (edged, flow blue, sponged and transfer printed wares); delft; brown and gray salt glazed stoneware; glazed redware; porcelain and cc ware. A mean ceramic date of 1825.6 was established.

There were slightly fewer glass artifacts, but they were all nondiagnostic bottle glassware and window fragments.

Stratum 7 also yielded small quantities of bone, shell, brick, mortar, iron, and pipe fragments. Few artifacts were recovered from Stratum 8. The ceramic assemblage consisted of two undecorated and two blue transfer printed pearlware sherds, as well as sherds of cc ware and clear lead glazed redware. Seven fragments of window glass and one bottle fragment were the only glass artifacts recovered. Two pipe stems were also among the cultural material recovered.

Stratum 9 was dug in three arbitrary levels and a shovel test. The diagnostic ceramics recovered were slipware, white salt glazed stoneware, Jackfield, creamware, as well as hand painted and plain pearlware, transfer printed, and undecorated ironstone. A mean ceramic date of 1796 was derived for that stratum. However, the presence of ironstone suggests a mixing with nineteenth century materials. Other ceramics recovered included brown and gray salt glazed stoneware delft, glazed redware and porcelain.

There was very little glass present. The only diagnostic fragment was an applied, flattened string lip, dating to about 1780 (personal communication Joe Diamond 1983).

For a complete list of artifacts recovered from Trench 24, including excavation Unit 15, consult Appendix A.

The Phase I report had identified modern Lot 38 as being a minimally disturbed area. It was hoped that since the area was minimally disturbed, intact cultural deposits and features would be present. The excavation of Trench 24 did in fact recover archaeological deposits dating from the late eighteenth century through the early-mid twentieth century within the possible limits of the feature. The specific type of feature was unknown. However, as Unit 15 did not encounter a wall in association with the early materials, this feature must be of considerable size, such as a large cistern or basement. The presence of both late eighteenth and nineteenth century materials in these lower deposits suggests that these deposit probably contain displaced refuse.

#### Trench 25 (50N/270E)

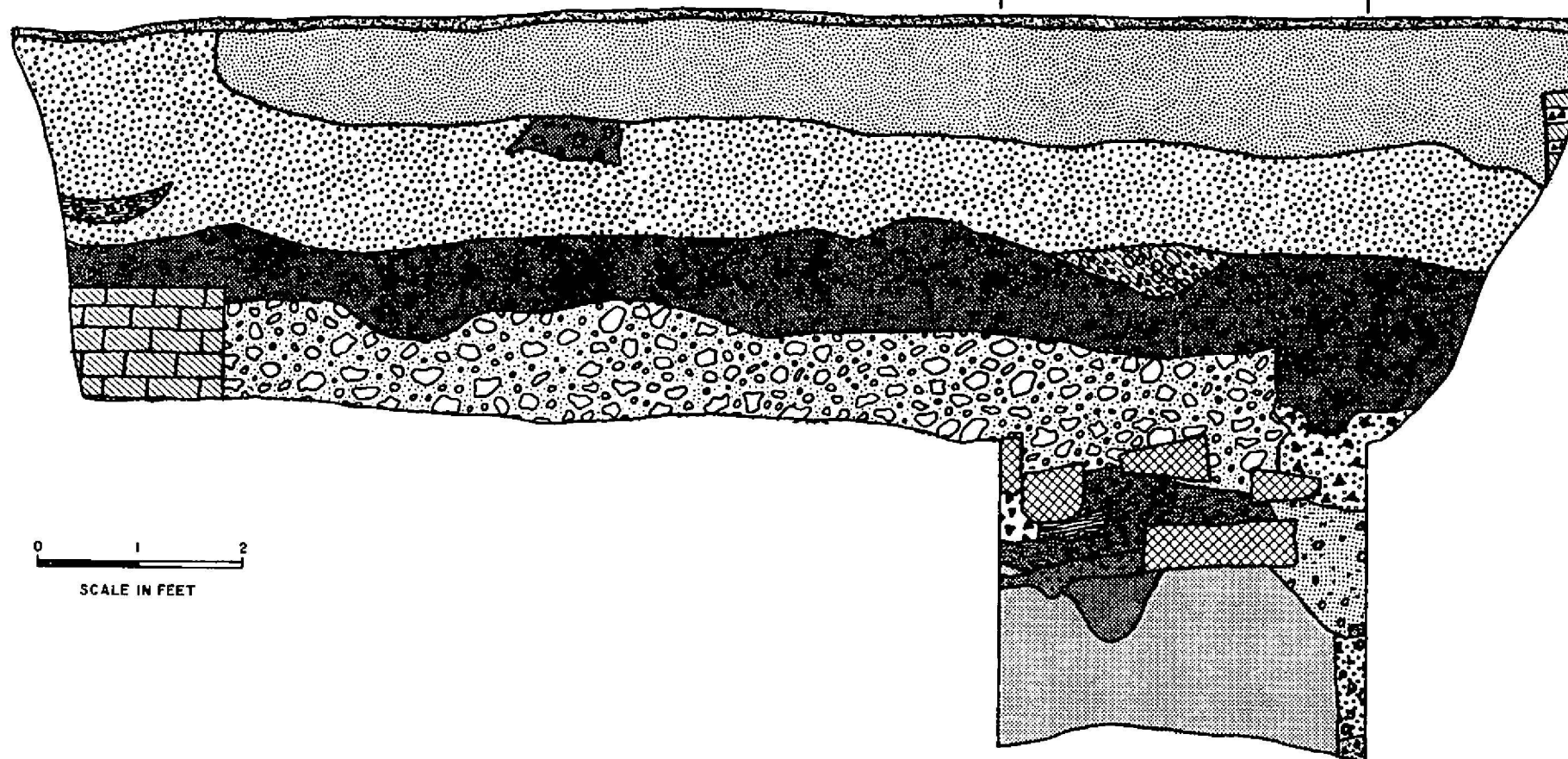
Trench 25 was located on the east side of the eastern section of the project area (Figure 48), and was the fourth in a transect of trenches oriented east/west across this section of the block (Figure 17c). Trench 25, as was the case for Trench 24, was placed in this location in order to expose any deposits and/or features in modern Lot 38. In addition, this area of the block contained structures and possible horizontal yard deposits from John Dudley's bakery, thought to have been in the north east corner of the project area in the late eighteenth century. Also, the Jamaica Hotel was located in this area in the mid- to late nineteenth century, as was the Pettit Hotel in the early twentieth century.

The trench excavation with the backhoe exposed five deposits of fill and demolition debris overlying a possible builder's trench, wooden material and brick wall in the east end of the trench (Figure 51). An additional brick wall on the west side of the trench, in the trench profile, was observed while clearing the trench's north wall profile. Again it should be noted that this wall runs at an angle, and is not perpendicular to Jamaica Avenue as were the walls of the Pettit Hotel. As seen in Figure 11 this hotel occupied the northeast corner of the block prior to 1906. The property lines placed over this area of the block in 1906 (Figure 11) are at an angle and similar to the wall exposed in the trench's north wall profile. Therefore this wall must postdate 1906. The wall exposed in the eastern end of the trench is oriented east/west, and probably was associated with a structure fronting on Parsons Blvd. An excavation unit, designated as Unit 6 was placed over the builder's trench and wooden material in the east end of the trench. A total of nine strata were excavated in Unit 16 (Table 26). The first stratum to be hand excavated was the remainder of Stratum 5, a level of brick and mortar demolition debris (Figure 51) containing large stone and cobbles. Strata 6 and 7 were underlying Stratum 5 (Table 26) and were probably the remainder of the upper fill and demolition debris. Additional cobbles, similar to those found in Stratum 5 were observed. These stones may



# TRENCH 25 - NORTH WALL PROFILE

EXCAVATION UNIT 16



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET



FIGURE 51  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 25 50N/270E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 16

TABLE 26. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Dating
Trench 25 (50N/270E)			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 2 and 3	Deposits of dark yellowish brown sand and strong brown sand	Fill	20th Century
Stratum 4	Black sand with silt and building debris	Fill and demolition debris	20th Century probably post 1906
Stratum 5	Brick and mortar rubble with pulverized brick	Demolition debris	Probably post 1906
Stratum 6	Dark brown sand with silt with some mortar and stone	Fill with some demolition debris and possible fallen footing stone	Unknown
Stratum 7	Dark brown clay with sand	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 8	Dark brown clay with sand	Pocket within Stratum 9	Unknown
Stratum 9	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date
Stratum 10, 11, 12, and 13	Deposits of strong brown sand and gravel with mortar, dark yellowish brown sand and gravel with clay, dark brown sand with silt, concrete, dark brown sand and gravel and dark yellowish brown sand with gravel. Deposits overlay sterile sand subsoil	Fill within possible trench. Contained trunks of decomposed trees	
E.U. #16 of Trench 25		Strata within unit, discussed above, include strata 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13	



possibly represent fallen or destroyed footing stones. Strata 8 and 9 underlaid Stratum 7 (Table 26, Figure 51). Stratum 8 was described as a dark brown clay with sand. This deposit probably represents a pocket within Stratum 9, a sterile yellowish brown sand. A poured concrete wall oriented east/west was observed in the unit's south wall. The sterile sand was probably the sterile subsoil which has been observed on other areas of the site. The cultural material recovered from the interface of Strata 7, 8 and 9 appeared to be the result of materials filtering down through the unconsolidated sand.

Strata 10 through 13 (Table 26, Figure 51 and 52) probably represented stratigraphic fill deposits within a possible builder's trench. Two small decomposing tree trunks were observed in Stratum 11, and continued down to Stratum 12 where one entered the unit's east wall and the other continued through Stratum 13. The artifact analysis for Trench 25 provided additional data on the nature and temporal affiliation of the deposits just discussed.

Strata 1 through 4 of Trench 25 were removed with the backhoe and yielded no artifacts. Unit 16 began with the hand excavation of Stratum 5, from which only brick, mortar and a linoleum floor fragment were recovered.

Stratum 6 yielded mortar and brick fragments, slag, tar paper and shell.

A single shell and two pieces of concrete were the only items retrieved from Stratum 7 and 8.

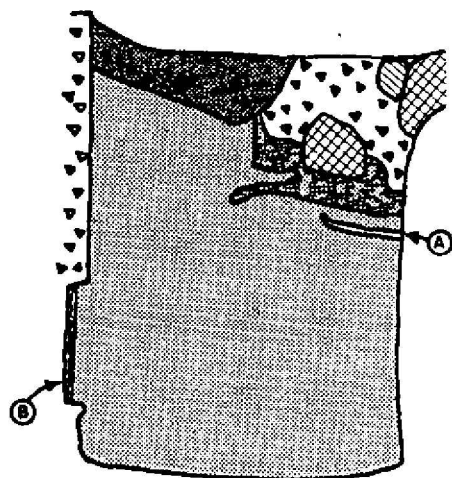
Stratum 9 was excavated in three arbitrary levels. The first level contained concentrations of concrete and brick. Four aqua bottle fragments were also recovered. The second and third levels yielded very few artifacts. The total assemblage consisted of four transfer printed sherds, seven glass fragments, iron, shell and bone.

Strata 10 through 13 were excavated in five arbitrary levels. Two ceramic sherds—one red slipware and one transfer printed ware, a single bottle fragment, brick, mortar, iron and window glass were the only artifacts within these strata.

Phase II results in the area of Trench 25 indicated that no intact archaeological contexts remain relating to features and/or living surfaces from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The possibility still remains for recovering these deposits in the backyard area of Lot 31, just north of Lot 38 (Figure 3). Of the two brick walls observed in the north wall profile of Trench 25, the eastern probably related to the blacksmith's shop in Lot 38 (Chapter II). The western wall, also in the north wall profile, possibly related to the Butler building fronting on Jamaica Avenue (Figure 3). As mentioned above, this wall ran at an angle and was not perpendicular to Jamaica Avenue, as were the property lines on the 1906 plat (Figure 11). This suggests a construction date of post 1906.

EXCAVATION UNIT 16  
WEST WALL PROFILE

EAST WALL PROFILE



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

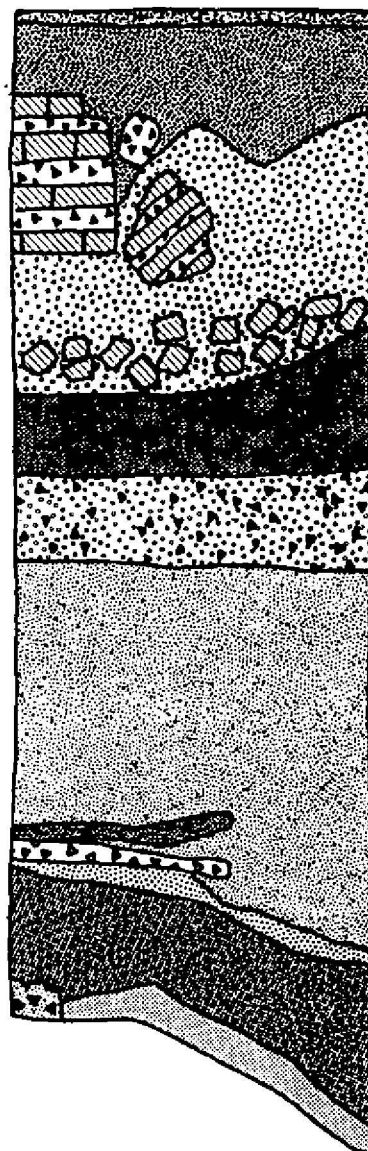
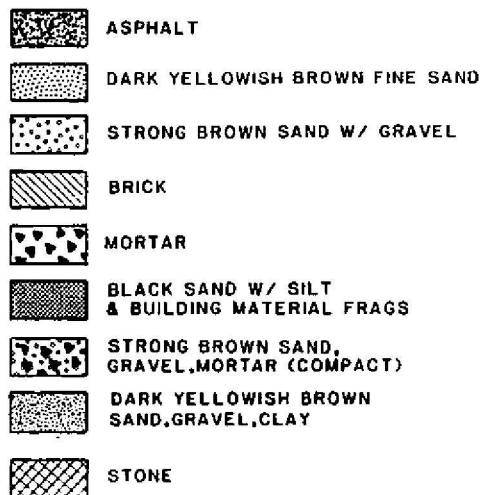


FIGURE 52  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 25 50N/270E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 16

### Trench 13 (30N/230E)

Trench 13 is located in the central portion of the eastern section of the project area (Figure 17c), within modern Lot 27 (Figure 3). Excavation of the trench was oriented east/west and began by removing the asphalt surface, Stratum 1 (Table 27). Underlying the asphalt parking lot surface a brownish yellow sand, Stratum 2, was uncovered, extending approximately 1.0 feet below surface. This deposit was probably used as a fill or bedding for the asphalt surface. Once Stratum 2 was removed another layer of fill or possible demolition debris, Stratum 3, was excavated to a depth of 2.2 feet below surface. Underlying Stratum 3 a .4 feet thick deposit of fill or demolition debris was encountered before uncovering a concrete wall oriented east/west running the length of the trench (Figure 48). This ended the excavation of Trench 13. For the depth of the concrete wall in Trench 13, see the Trench 14 discussion.

As mentioned in the Phase I report (Rockman, Dublin and Friedlander 1982) the soil borings indicated that the disturbance in this section of the block extended from 6 to 15.5 below surface. The excavation at Trench 13 was unable to confirm or deny the extent of the disturbance, as a poured concrete wall was located running the length of the trench and probably associated with the northern portion of the theater main structure. The deposits overlying the wall are probably associated with the theater demolition, post dating 1955, as the theater appears on the Hyde map (Figure 3).

### Trench 14 (40N/248E)

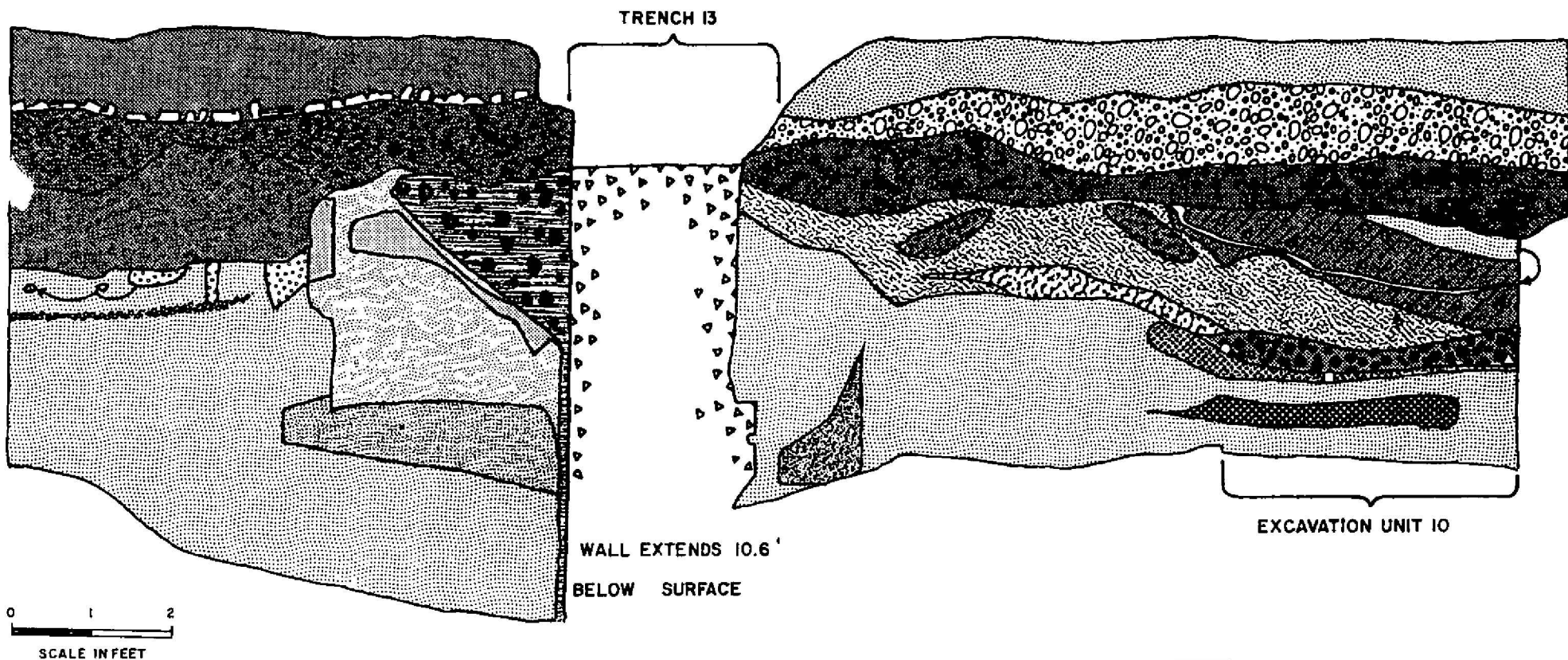
As discussed above, Trench 13 contained only a large concrete foundation wall. Trench 14 was placed perpendicular to the Trench 13 in order to determine the nature of this wall (Figure 48). The trench ran ten feet north and south of the exposed concrete wall. The deposits exposed both to the north and south of the wall were very different in terms of soil type, artifactual materials, and possible origins.

The south half of the trench contained demolition debris and fill above possible basement fill (Figure 53). Strata 1 and 2 represent fill and demolition debris that was above the top of the concrete wall located in Trench 13. The remainder of the deposits were possibly fill within a very deep basement. The only deposit with artifacts was Stratum 5. The south side of the concrete wall exposed in the south half to Trench 14 was flat and finished. This suggests that this side was the interior face of the wall. The fill against the wall included deposits of sand, clay and coal. The lowermost deposit was what in other portions of the site has been interpreted as sterile subsoil. These deposits were not the type of basement fill usually found in other basements excavated within the project area. The latter usually contain large deposits of demolition debris. This difference, and the presence of what may be sterile subsoil seem to conflict with the interpretation that the deposits south of the wall were within a deep basement. In addition, no concrete floor was encountered at the bottom of the wall. These data alter the original field interpretation that a basement was present.

TABLE 27. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 13 (30N/240E)			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parkling lot	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Brownish yellow sand	Fill	Post 1955
Stratum 3	Dark brown silty sand with stone, brick, concrete, wood, ash	Fill or demoli- tion debris	Post 1955
Stratum 4	Very dark gray clay with coal and brick above concrete founda- tion wall	Fill or demoli- tion debris	Post 1955

# TRENCH 14 - WEST WALL PROFILE



- REDDISH BROWN SAND
- DARK REDDISH BROWN SANDY SILT
- YELLOWISH RED CLAY
- COAL, MOSTLY POWDER
- DARK YELLOWISH BROWN CLAY
- YELLOW SAND

- DARK YELLOWISH BROWN: SANDY CLAY
- PEBBLES
- YELLOWISH BROWN SAND
- DARK YELLOWISH BROWN CLAYEY SAND
- BRICK
- WOOD

- BROWNISH YELLOW MEDIUM COARSE SAND
- STONE, CONCRETE, BRICK W/ WOOD FRAGS, GRAY ASH
- VERY DARK GRAY COAL & BRICK FRAGS, HARD PACK CLAY
- DARK YELLOWISH BROWN POROUS SAND & PEBBLES
- COAL / SAND
- HARD PACK DEBRIS, CLAY, GLASS, COAL, CHARCOAL, WOOD
- MOSTLY COAL FEATURE FILL
- COAL / CHARCOAL

- VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN CLAYEY SAND
- DARK GRAY CLAYEY SAND
- BROWN CLAY, SAND
- CONCRETE
- GOBLET BASE
- GRAY STONEWARE
- DINNER BONES, CERAMICS

FIGURE 53  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 14 40N/248E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 10

The wall was probably a foundation wall to a very large structure, i.e. the Jamaica Theater. The measurement for the theater does place the northern wall of the building within the area of Trench 13 and 14. Thus, in Figure 53, Strata 4,5,6,7 and 9 (Table 28) probably represent an area where sterile subsoil was removed during the placement of the wall, to avoid slumping. After the wall was completed, this area immediately south of the wall was back filled with available soil from the block or elsewhere. Also, as discussed below, there is a possible builder's trench on the north side of the wall.

The north half of Trench 14 consisted of two top deposits of fill and demolition debris, as in the southern half (Table 28, Figure 53). Below these strata are various deposits of fill and trash. The top of a cultural bearing deposit (Stratum 6) was exposed with the northern end of the trench during the backhoe excavation. Backhoe excavation was stopped in this area of the trench and the area to the south was then dug with the backhoe, leaving the top of Stratum 6, and the soil underneath, pedestaled. The backhoe exposed in the southern portion of this north half of the trench, a possible builder's trench for the concrete wall. The trench appears in Figure 53, as an area of sand and clay below a yellowish brown sand. It appears that the builder's trench was dug into sterile subsoil and then refilled with the subsoil, except for a pocket of sterile sand mixed with clay. This would explain the lack of clear definition of the trench on the profile presented in Figure 53.

The northern face of the concrete wall, in the north half was unfinished. Near the bottom of the wall, the concrete protruded out from the wall. These features of the wall suggest that this wall face is the exterior.

An excavation unit (Unit 10) was dug into the pedestaled area at the north end of the trench, to investigate the nineteenth century deposits observed in this area. Four strata were exposed in the unit, beginning with Stratum 6. These deposits consisted of layers of trash, above sterile sand, which in turn overlay another trash deposit. The second trash deposit was above another area of sterile sand. Stratum 6 contained middle and possible early nineteenth century artifacts, based on field observations. These artifacts included blue transfer printed ceramics. Based on the patterns observed in the field, they could have dated to the 1840s to 1860s. Stratum 7 was sterile sand with some nineteenth century material. A pocket of clayey sand is observed again in the northern wall of the unit, again within Stratum 7. As Stratum 7 contains this pocket of soil, it is probably sterile fill. Natural sterile subsoil is visible in the eastern half of the northern wall of the unit, as Stratum 10 (Table 28). This suggests that Strata 6, 7, and 8 represent a trash pit dug into the sterile subsoil.



TABLE 28. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 14 40N/248E South Half			
Stratum 1	Reddish brown sand	Fill	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Dark reddish brown sandy silt	Fill	
Stratum 3-8	Deposits of yellowish red sand, coal and coal powder, dark yellowish brown clay, yellow sand dark yellowish brown clayey sand with brick, wood, pebbles. Stratum 8 is yellowish brown sterile sand	Basement fill? With possibly redeposited sterile sand subsoil	Post 1955
North Half			
Stratum 1	Brown yellow sand	Fill	Probably post 1955
Stratum 2	Gray ash with stone, concrete, brick, wood fragments	Demolition debris	20th century
Stratum 3	Very dark gray clay with coal and brick fragments	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 4	Dark yellowish brown sand with pockets of coal and sand	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 5	Dark gray clay with coal, charcoal, and wood. Present south of EU #10	Fill	Unknown
Stratum 6	Very dark grayish brown clayey sand		
Stratum 7	Yellowish brown sand with pocket of brown to dark brown clay and sand		

TABLE 28. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS  
(continued)



Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
<hr/>			
EU #10 of Trench 14			
Stratum 6	Very dark grayish brown clayey sand	Trash deposit	Early to middle 19th century
Stratum 7	Yellowish brown sand with pocket of brown to dark brown clay and sand	Fill, sterile	No date
Stratum 8	Dark gray clayey sand	Trash deposit	Probably 19th
Stratum 10	Yellowish brown gravelly sand		
<hr/>			

The deposits containing middle nineteenth century artifacts in the northern portion of Trench 14, probably were trash dumpings from the Jamaica Hotel. The hotel was to the north and east of this trench (Figures 8 and 17c). The deposits above these strata may be fill, laid down during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century prior to the construction of the wall for the Jamaica Theater (1912). The upper most two strata, Strata 1 and 2, probably post date the demolition of the theater. It should be noted that the area immediately north of the theater, on the 1955 map (Figure 3), contained an alley way. At one time, this alley way may have overlain Stratum 3 and 4, and was subsequently removed during demolition of the theater after 1955. The following artifact discussion confirms the dates of deposits in Trench 14, as derived from field observations.

A green bottle with a steel or glass pontil mark, dating to the mid-19th century (Personal communication, Joe Diamond 1982) was the only artifact recovered from the southern half of Trench 14. This bottle was discovered in Stratum 5.

Excavation Unit 10 in the northern half of the trench began with the hand excavation of Stratum 6, which yielded a large number of artifacts. Three tumblers, dating from 1845 to 1865 (personal communication, Joe Diamond 1982), were reconstructed. A six sided, pressed tumbler, displaying a large ground pontil mark, was also reconstructed and is very similar to M'Kee and Brothers' (1981:19) pint tumbler from the 1859/60 catalog. The upper portion of a stemmed glass, with fluting nearly to the rim, was also found. All of the above were made of flint, or lead glass. Over 200 fragments of chimney globe lamp glass were retrieved. Noted was the minimal amount of bottle glass present.

Diagnostic ceramics from Stratum 6 were reconstructed to form a large transfer panted serving dish, with a maker's mark of J. Wedgewood, a flow blue serving dish, a transfer printed bowl or gravy boat, a yellow ware serving dish and an undecorated ironstone plate and bowl. Other reconstructed ceramic vessels included a cc ware bowl, a large gray salt glazed stoneware cooler with a spigot hole at the base, two gilded porcelain dishes and a gilded porcelain cup.

All of the above mentioned artifacts from Stratum 6 fell into South's (1977:93) kitchen group with the exception of lamp glass which falls within the activities group. This comprised the majority of material collected. Artifacts within other groups included five nails from architecture and seven fragments from bone.

Stratum 6 appears to be a trash deposit. A mean ceramic date of 1853 was established.

Stratum 7 was a sterile sand layer and yielded no artifact. An undecorated ironstone sherd and two tumbler fragments were recovered from Stratum 8.

For a complete list of all artifacts consult Appendix A.

## Trench 10 (0S/160E)

Trench 10 was the sixth trench of a transect of trenches, oriented east/west along the zero base line of the site's grid (Figure 17a, b and c), within the eastern section of the project area (Figure 54). Excavation began in Trench 10 by removing a brown to dark brown silty sand and gravel fill, Stratum 1, which extended across the trench to a depth of .5 feet below surface. Underlying Stratum 1, three concrete walls were uncovered. The west and east walls were oriented north/west to south/east, while the center concrete wall was oriented east/west (Figure 54). Stratum 2, which underlaid Stratum 1 in the west side of the trench, consisted of a black cinder and ash horizontal yard deposits or fill that extended to a depth of .8 feet below surface. Cultural material recovered from the backhoe excavation of Stratum 2 consisted of one molded plaster fragment, three undecorated ironstone sherds, one pipe stem fragment and two glass fragments-one clear fragment and one ribbed tumbler fragment. Underlying Strata 2 and 1, east of the eastern most concrete wall another horizontal yard deposit or fill layer, Stratum 3, consisting of dark brown silty sand. The cultural material collected from this deposit consisted of four ceramic sherds; one lead glazed redware sherd, one transfer printed flow blue shoulder sherd of a London cup, one pipe bowl and one ironstone sherd with rouletted pattern. The deposit extended to a depth 1.0 feet below surface. Underlying Stratum 3 and west of the western most wall, Stratum 4, a fill deposit within a possible utility trench, consisted of yellowish brown coarse sand. Stratum 5, underlying Stratum 3 east and west of the north/ south oriented walls consisted of strong brown sand with clay. This stratum probably represented a fill or horizontal yard deposit. Cultural material collected from Stratum 5 consisted of one blue band painted porcelain flatware sherd. This deposit extended to a depth of 1.5 feet below surface. Stratum 6, described as a sterile yellowish brown sand was located on both the east and west sides of the possible utility trench. Stratum 7, another fill deposit with the utility Trench underlaid Stratum 3 just west of the western utility trench wall and extended to a depth of 3.4 feet below surface.

Stratum 9, also underlying and contiguous with Stratum 3 to the west, as well as flush against the west side of the east/west concrete wall was another fill deposit within the possible utility trench. Cultural material collected from this deposit consisted of three marble fragments (possible door step or threshold fragments). This deposit extended to a depth of 2.8 feet below surface. Stratum 10, underlying Stratum 9 was another deposit of fill within the utility trench which extended to a depth of 3.1 feet below surface (Table 29). This was overlying Stratum 11, also fill within the utility trench. This deposit extended to a depth of 3.5 feet below surface. Stratum 12, a deposit of fill and demolition debris within the possible utility trench was between the eastern utility trench wall and the center east/west oriented wall. This demolition debris extended to a depth of 3.7 feet below surface. The sterile subsoil, Stratum 8 underlaid Stratum 12 (Table 29). This sterile sand was excavated to a depth of 4.5 feet below surface.

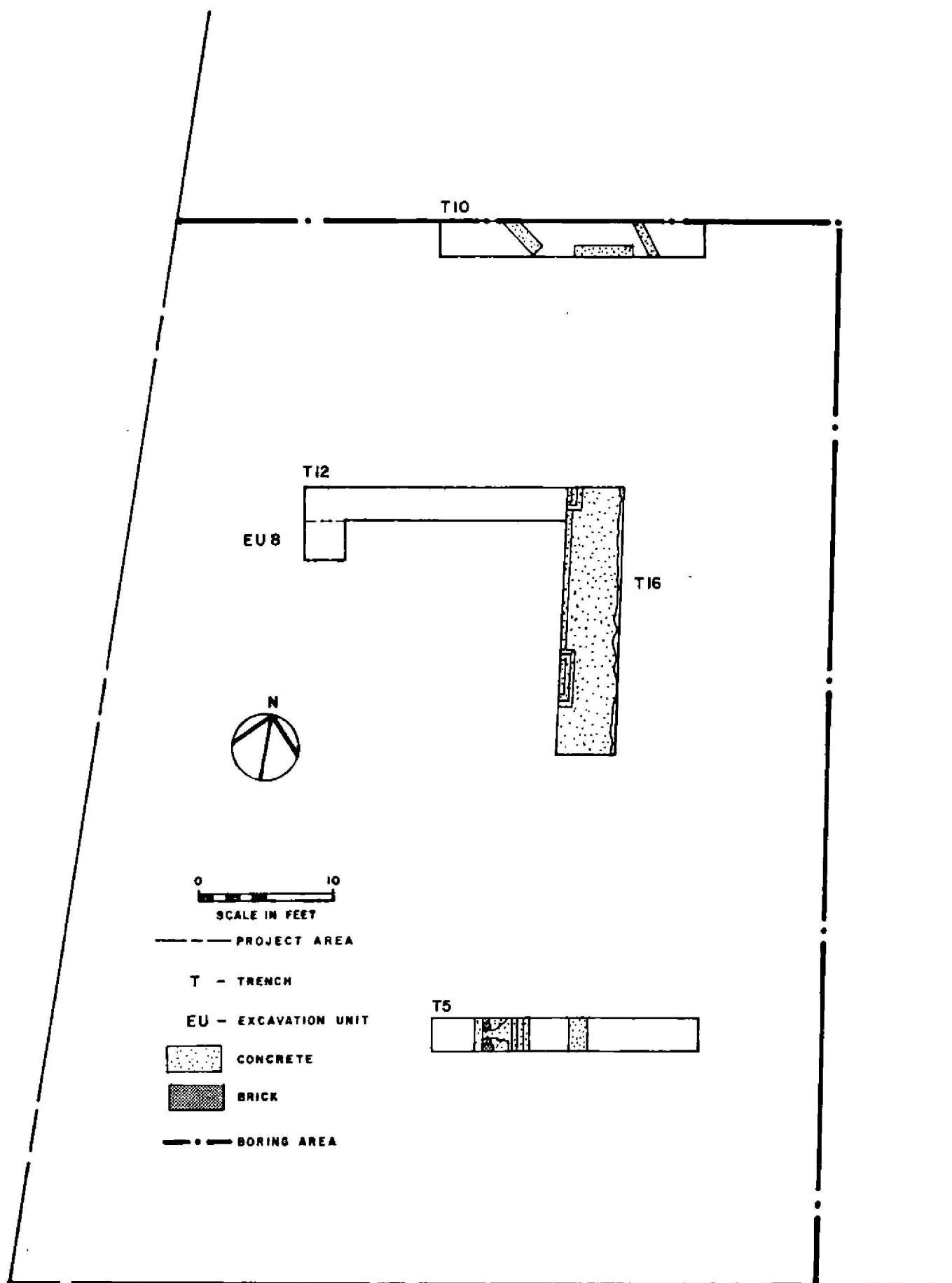


FIGURE 54  
DETAIL OF EASTERN  
SECTION OF PROJECT AREA

TABLE 29. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 10 (0S/160E)			
Stratum 1	Brown/dark brown silty sand and gravel	Fill	20th Century
Stratum 2	Black cinder ash, in western end of trench	Horizontal yard deposit or fill	Late 19th and 20th Century
Stratum 3	Dark brown silty sand on both sides of utility trench	Horizontal yard deposit or fill	Mid to late 19th century
Stratum 5	Strong brown sand with clay on both sides of utility trench	Fill or horizontal yard deposit	Not datable
Strata 6 and 8	Yellowish brown and brownish yellow sand on both sides of utility trench	Sterile subsoil	No date
Strata 4 and 7	Yellowish brown sand and light olive brown brown sand	Fill deposits with- in a possible utility trench. Trench also filled with deposits similar to Strata 3, 5, and 6 described above	20th Century
Strata 9, 10 and 11	Deposits of yellowish brown and brownish yellow sand and sand with gravel	Fill within a possible utility trench	20th Century
Stratum 12	Very dark grayish brown sand with rubble	Fill and demolition debris within utility trench with concrete siding	20th Century

Trench 10 was located within modern Lot 27, the location of the Jamaica Theater. The Phase I report indicated a cellar was present, but its extent was unknown. Also, the soil borings in the area of Trench 10 documented the disturbance from two to four feet from surface. The excavation of Trench 10 indicated that a basement did not exist on this section of the lot, only a utility trench. The depth of disturbance was also confirmed to extend to a depth of 4.5 feet below surface. No evidence of earlier structures or features from either the Jamaica or Pettit Hotels was found. It appears as though the Jamaica Theater has destroyed the remains of these earlier structures and surfaces.

#### Trench 12 (20S/150E)

Trench 12 was placed in order to investigate the area of an 1836 property line which ran east/west within the main portion of modern Lot 27 (Figures 44, 3 and 17c). It was expected that this trench would uncover deposits and possibly features in this area, which historically would have functioned as the very rear of properties fronting on Jamaica Avenue, i.e. the Jamaica Hotel.

The trench did not contain deposits or features that were related to the area of this early property line. Strata exposed in the trench included fill and horizontal yard deposits dating to the twentieth century and possibly the late nineteenth. These deposits overlay sterile subsoil (Table 30, Figure 55). As possible nineteenth century material was recovered during the backhoe excavation of the trench below Stratum 4, a 3 foot by 3 foot excavation unit was placed immediately south of the trench (Figure 54), with the northwest corner of the unit the same as the southwest corner of the trench.

In the excavation of unit 8, the top four strata were removed by the backhoe, and hand excavations were begun at the top of Stratum 5 working into Stratum 7 (Table 30, Figure 56). The hand excavated deposits consisted of fill and horizontal yard deposits, similar to those exposed within Trench 12 itself. Late nineteenth century materials were recovered from Stratum 7 in the unit. Stratum 8 also produced nineteenth century materials; however, a piece of movie film was also recovered from this stratum. This initially suggests an early twentieth century deposit. The lowest stratum within the unit was the sterile sand which occurs throughout the project area.

The deposits within both the trench and unit could be linked to several different properties in this area of the block. These would include, for the twentieth century, the structures in modern Lot 49 or the Jamaica Theater, the latter supported by the presence of movie film. For the early twentieth century, these deposits may relate to the rear of properties along modern Parson Boulevard (Beaver Street historically). These structures appear to have been commercial properties (Figure 12). Finally, there is the likelihood that these deposits may be linked to the structures fronting on Jamaica Avenue, whereby trash was deposited in the vacant lots which now make up the western portion of modern Lot 27.

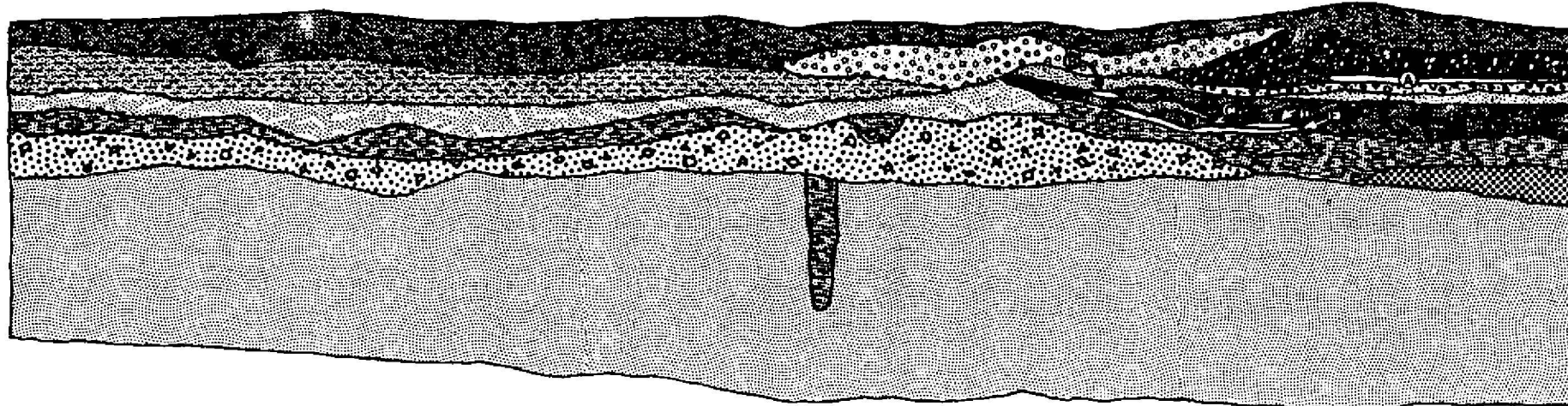
TABLE 30. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 12 20S/150E			
Strata 1-22	Deposits of black, grayish brown to yellow brown sand, silty sand, cinder and ash with gravel and brick	Fill deposits and horizontal yard deposits	20th century and possibly late 19th century
Stratum 23	Interbedded yellowish brown sands	Sterile subsoil	No date
EU #8 of Trench 12			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Strata 2-8	Black to dark yellowish brown silty sands with pebbles, cinders, and soot	Fill deposits and horizontal yard	Late 19th and 20th century
Stratum 23	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date



# TRENCH 12 - SOUTH WALL PROFILE

EXCAVATION UNIT 8



0 1 2  
SCALE IN FEET

VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SILTY SAND  
VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SILTY SAND W/CINDER  
DARK REDDISH BROWN SILTY SAND W/BRICK DUST  
BLACK SILTY SAND W/ CINDER  
BLACK CINDER AND ASH

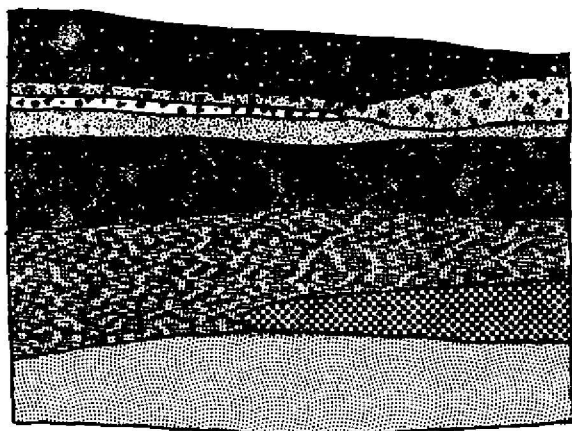
GRAYISH BROWN CINDER  
A GRAYISH BROWN CINDER W/PEBBLES  
VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SOOT W/PEBBLES  
DARK BROWN SILTY SAND  
B DARK YELLOWISH BROWN MEDIUM SAND W/ ROUNDED GRAVEL

C BROWN/DARK BROWN SILTY SAND  
D DARK YELLOWISH BROWN MEDIUM SAND  
E VERY DARK GRAY SILTY SAND W/ ORGANICS AND CINDER  
STRONG BROWN CLAYEY SILT

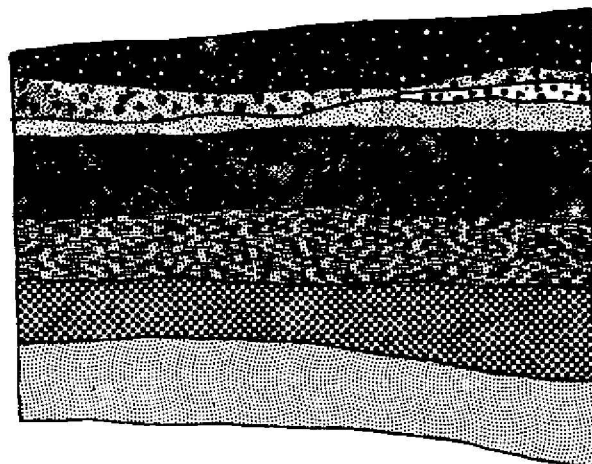
DARK YELLOWISH BROWN SILTY SAND  
BROWN/DARK BROWN SILTY SAND W/ ROUNDED GRAVEL  
YELLOWISH BROWN COARSE SAND W/ ROUNDED GRAVEL  
YELLOWISH BROWN VARIOUS INTERBEDDED SANDS

FIGURE 55  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 12 20S/150E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 8

**EXCAVATION UNIT 8  
SOUTH WALL PROFILE**







**WEST WALL PROFILE**



0 1  
SCALE IN FEET

-  BLACK SILTY SAND W/CINDER
-  GRAYISH BROWN CINDER W/PEBBLES
-  VERY DARK GRAYISH BROWN SOOT W/PEBBLES
-  GRAYISH BROWN CINDER
-  DARK BROWN SILTY SAND

-  DARK YELLOWISH BROWN SILTY SAND
-  BROWN / DARK BROWN SILTY SAND
-  YELLOWISH BROWN SAND
-  DARK GRAYISH BROWN CINDER AND SOOT W/PEBBLES

**FIGURE 56  
GSA SITE 152  
TRENCH 12 20S/150E  
EXCAVATION UNIT 8**

Trench 12 was excavated entirely by backhoe removing deposits stratum by stratum. In this way, it was possible to associate artifacts with the stratum from which they were recovered. Strata 7 and 8, the only ones containing cultural material, yielded few artifacts. Two bottle fragments were retrieved from the former. The latter produced two bottle finishes, each with a crown lip. One not manufactured on the automatic bottle machine, dates from 1891 (Munsey 1970:105) to 1903 (Lorraine 1968:43). The other postdates the introduction of the automatic bottle machine in 1903 (Lorraine 1968:43).

Excavation Unit 8, set alongside Trench 12 was opened to better sample the cultural material recovered from the trench. Strata 1 through 4 were excavated with the backhoe. Very few artifacts were collected, of which the only diagnostic piece was an undecorated ironstone sherd.

Stratum 5, deemed to be a twentieth century deposit, was hand excavated and only a 50% sample was taken. No ceramics were recovered and all glass was non-diagnostic.

Glass, ceramics, a battery core, and nitrite based film, dated from 1910 to 1930 (personnal communication Carl Mydans 1983), were observed in the field within Stratum 6. A four holed bone button, a white glass bead, and two grommets were recovered.

Stratum 7 yielded the most artifacts within the unit. Diagnostic ceramics recovered were one white salt glazed stoneware, one transfer printed and four undecorated ironstone sherds. There was no diagnostic glass present, but fragments of both bottles and glassware were retrieved. Given the level of analysis at this phase, we were unable to date a battery post fragment which was also collected.

The finish of an aqua blob top "torpedo" bottle was recovered from Stratum 8. McKearin (1978:237) writes that these bottles appears in the mid-to late 19th century. Another bottle finish, without mold seams, could date to this same period. Anomolous with the glass artifacts were two fragments of nitrite based movie film, dating from 1910 to 1930 (personnal communication Carl Mydans 1983).

#### Trench 16 (20S/170E)

Trench 16 was located in the south/west portion of the eastern section of the study area (Figure 17c), and was oriented north/south. Excavation of Trench 16 began by removing, with the backhoe, three layers of fill, consisting of brown sand with concrete, ash and deposits of brick rubble and building debris, extending to a depth of approximately 3.56 feet below surface. Within these fill deposits three utility pipes were uncovered oriented north/south, paralleling the trench. At 3.5 feet below surface, the east and west wall of the trench began to collapse, exposing two parallel concrete walls perpendicular to Jamaica Ave. After clearing the slumped rubble, a .2 thick concrete floor was uncovered, extending the length of the trench, as well as two concrete stanchions, poured into wooden forms (Figure 54). After removing the concrete floor with the backhoe, a yellowish brown sterile sand

was observed (Table 31) and characterized as sterile subsoil. This ended the excavation of Trench 16.

Trench 16 was located within the area of the Jamaica Theater, i.e. modern Lot 27. The Phase I study identified Lot 27 as an area of unknown disturbance. The excavation of Trench 16 indicated that this area was in fact disturbed to a depth of 4.6 feet below surface, thus probably destroying shallow remains of earlier structures i.e., Mrs. Hunter's Hotel (Figure 4).

#### Trench 31 (20S/210E)

Trench 31 is located in the south central portion of the eastern section of the project area (Figure 17c), and was oriented north/south. The trench excavation began by first removing the asphalt surface, Stratum 1 and exposing Stratum 2 (Table 32). Stratum 2, a black sand with brick rubble and building debris, extended to a depth of 3 to 3.5 feet below surface. Under Stratum 2 was a sterile yellowish brown sand, or subsoil, ending the excavation of Trench 31.

Trench 31 was within modern Lot 27, and area of the Jamaica Theater (Figure 3). Although no features were encountered during the excavation, it did furnish information relating to the extent of the disturbance of this portion of Lot 27. In addition to the extent of disturbance, the excavation indicated there was no basement present in this portion of Lot 27. Since the Phase I study indicated that no additional structures were built after the Theater, the demolition debris postdates 1955. It should also be noted, although Trench 31 did bisect the nineteenth century east/west property line in Lot 27, no evidence of it was observed.

#### Trench 5 (60S/160E)

Trench 5 was located in the southwest portion of the eastern section of the project area (Figure 17c) within modern Lot 27 (Figure 3). The trench was oriented east/west. Excavation began with the backhoe, stratigraphically removing several fill deposits (Strata 1, 3 and 5). At 2 feet below surface, two concrete walls, with brick atop the western most wall, were uncovered (Figure 54). Excavation then continued west of the western most wall. Stratum 2, a sterile yellowish brown to light yellowish brown sand was encountered (Table 33).

Excavation then continued east of the westernmost wall of Stratum 3. This stratum was a dark brown sand with brick, slag, concrete, mortar, plaster and in situ utility pipes. Stratum 3 extended to a depth of 3.6 feet below surface and overlaid a concrete floor. This construction appeared to be a utility trench. The concrete floor was broken using the backhoe, uncovering the sterile yellowish brown to light yellowish brown subsoil. Upon clearing the debris from the central portion of Trench 5, (between the above mentioned walls) a concrete stanchion poured into wooden forms was uncovered. This stanchion was probably used as the footing for the western most wall. The bottom of the stanchion was reached at 4.3 feet below surface, approximately .5 feet into the sterile subsoil.

TABLE 31. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 16 (20S/170E)			
Strata 1 to 3	Brown sand with concrete pieces, ash and deposit of brick rubble and building debris	Fill within utility trench with concrete floor	20th Century
Stratum 4	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

TABLE 32. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 31 (20S/210E)			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Black sand with brick rubble and metal	Possibly basement fill and demolition debris	Post 1955
Stratum 3	Yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil	No date

TABLE 33. SUMMARY OF DEPOSITS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 5 (60S/160E)			
Stratum 1	Black ash, west and overlying western most concrete wall	Fill	20th Century
Stratum 3	Dark brown sand with brick, slag, concrete mortar, plaster and <u>in situ</u> pipes	Fill within utility trench with concrete walls	Post 1912
Stratum 5	Strong brown sand with stone and gravel east of eastern most concrete wall	Fill	Probably 20th Century
Strata 2 and 4	Yellowish brown to light yellowish brown sand	Sterile subsoil below concrete floor of utility trench and below Stratum 1 west of western most wall, and Stratum 5, east of eastern most wall	No date



East of the eastern most wall, backhoe excavation continued, removing another fill deposit, Stratum 5. This deposit extended to a depth of 1.8 feet below surface before encountering the sterile yellowish brown to light yellowish brown sandy subsoil. This ended the excavation of Trench 5.

The Phase I study indicated that a basement was present in Lot 27, but was of an unknown depth and location. The Phase I study did in fact document the extent of the disturbance extending to a depth of 2 to 4 feet below surface based on the soil borings. Trench 5 confirmed the extent of disturbance, to 4 feet, as well as established that no cellar was present on this portion of Lot 27. The fill deposits within the utility trench postdate 1912, the date for the construction of the Jamaica Theater. It should be noted that although the historical research documented the Hunter Hotel as occupying this section of the block, no evidence of it was recovered from Trench 5.

#### Trench 26 (60S/270E)

Trench 26 located in the south east corner of the study area (Figure 17c) was oriented east/west. Excavation of the trench began by removing the asphalt parking surface. Underlying the asphalt, Stratum 1, extremely deep deposits of brick rubble and demolition debris were uncovered (Table 34). The backhoe was only able to excavate through the building debris to a depth of 11.5 ft below surface before encountering several steel "I" beams running perpendicular to the trench (Figure 57). At this point excavation was stopped in Trench 26 as the ground surface of the trench perimeter began to slump severely.

Trench 26 located in Lot 27 is most probably within the deepest part of the Jamaica Theater, possibly the boiler room, as the building and demolition debris continues much deeper than 11.5 ft below surface. The brick and demolition debris encountered in Trench 26 postdates 1912, the construction of the Jamaica Theater.

#### Summary of Trench Excavations

The archaeological testing sampling scheme for the block was established to examine five land use strata that were anticipated to exist based on the Phase I results. Those strata were:

- Stratum 1: areas with early ground surfaces or surficial structures that would contain minimally disturbed archaeological deposits;
- Stratum 2: areas with structures that would contain archaeological deposits that would be disturbed to a depth of no more than ten feet;
- Stratum 3: areas with structures that would contain archaeological deposits that would be disturbed to a depth greater than thirteen feet;
- Stratum 4: areas with structure that would contain archaeological deposits which were probably disturbed by recent cellar construction, but to an unknown depth;

TABLE 34. SUMMARY OF DEPOSTIS

Provenience	Description	Interpretation	Date
Trench 26 (60S/270E)			
Stratum 1	Asphalt	Parking lot	Post 1955
Stratum 2	Brick rubble	Basement filled with demolition debris	Post 1912

T31



--- PROJECT AREA

T - TRENCH

Ⓟ PIPE

0 10  
SCALE IN FEET

T26

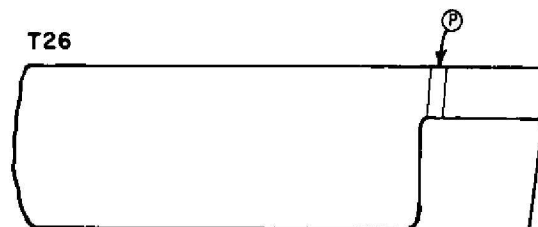


FIGURE 57  
DETAIL OF THE EASTERN  
SECTION OF THE STUDY AREA

Stratum 5: areas with no information on extent of disturbance caused by past or recent land use.

Strata two through four were included in the sampling scheme under the assumption that extensive landfilling had been conducted on the block, and that deeply encapsulated archaeological remains would be present under even the deepest cellars. That assumption proved to be incorrect.

Surface levels of modern demolition debris, extending to a depth of up to four feet, were found over most of the block. Beneath the demolition debris the excavation encountered either sterile subsoil, layers of middens or horizontal artifact deposits, features, or cellars. Resource destruction was total in the areas that contained cellars, and most of the archaeological resources encountered were relatively shallow and fragile. The lone exception was found in the eastern third of the block, and was apparently a cellar filled during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. That feature extended to a depth below surface of 11 feet, and was by far the deepest archaeological resource on the block. It is still possible that the two wells known to have been present historically on the block have survived at least in part, beneath deep cellar excavations, but no trace of those features was found during testing.

Despite the fact that archaeological resources were not distributed on the block in the manner anticipated in the testing plan, the testing program did yield a comprehensive view of the resources that were present. The entire northern third of the block or more, which generally fell into Stratum 2, was found to have been heavily impacted by the construction of deep cellars, with what must be regarded as total resource loss. The sole exception were two backyard spaces to the rear of Lots 17 1/2 and possibly 18, that apparently had been overbuilt with superficial building extensions. Deep cellars were encountered on other portions of the block, but the overwhelming majority of the minimally disturbed areas were restricted to the southern half to two-thirds of the study tract. The latter area fell within Stratum 1. That portion of the block had been the last area to be developed historically, although artifact deposits related to the hotels in the north section of the block during the nineteenth century were found.

The significant archaeological features and deposits found during the testing investigations will be summarized in the following chapter. Investigation of those areas should provide valuable archaeological data to supplement the historical record of the Jamaica section of Queens during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

## V. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The historical research conducted under Phase I of this project (Rockman, et al 1982) indicated that the project site has been utilized from the seventeenth century to the present time. Study of locational data for known prehistoric sites in the area revealed that no previously recorded prehistoric sites were present within the study site, and that no factors were present that would have made the site desirable for occupation during prehistory. The primary thrust of the Phase II investigations then became an attempt to define the historic occupations on the study tract, and to determine what archaeological traces, if any, from those historic occupations had survived.

The original Phase II proposal was designed to intensively test an area delineated by soil borings 11-14 and 16-19. Twenty trenches were planned for the Phase II investigation, with the understanding that any trenches not needed within the defined area would be expended on other areas of the project block determined to be potentially archaeologically sensitive from the Phase I report. It was not the intent of the original Phase II proposal to provide comprehensive testing of the entire block, but instead to intensively test the area designated in the GSA scope of work, and to conduct exploratory tests in other areas with the remaining trenches. The Phase II effort was expanded by up to twenty additional trenches while the crew was still in the field. The purpose of the expanded effort was to provide comprehensive, intensive testing of the entire block without incurring time delays or the cost of demobilization and remobilization. A total of 37 trenches were ultimately excavated, as the final three trenches were found to be redundant and potentially harmful to the resources present. Thus, the combined Phase II effort did culminate in an intensive testing effort that yielded sufficient information to determine the nature and extent of the archaeological resources present, and to plan a subsequent data recovery phase.

The strategy employed for the Phase II investigation was designed to sample two types of land use within the study block. Archaeological investigations conducted in a number of urban settings (cf Garrow 1982, Klein and Garrow 1982, Henry and Garrow 1982, and Rockman et al., 1983) have indicated that there was a marked tendency to place features such as privies, wells, and cisterns along the back lines of lots. Further, the back lines of lots appear to be collecting points for trash, and such locations are likely spots to contain horizontal deposits and middens. Priority was given during the overall Phase II investigations of this study block to exploring the back lot lines as they had existed historically on the study tract. Open yards on lots have also been demonstrated to be likely areas to contain certain types of archaeological remains. Most research in urban archaeology has indicated that utilization of open backyards normally results in deposition of less intense deposits than on rear lot lines, but that such resources as horizontal trash deposits and outbuilding ruins could be expected to be found in such areas. Areas that had historically been open backyards were therefore sampled during the combined Phase II investigation.

The Phase I historical research (Rockman et al. 1982) indicated that the earliest development on the study block was centered along Jamaica Avenue. Jamaica Avenue was a major road as early as the seventeenth century. Development on the block was apparently nonintensive during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as the Taylor Map of 1782 depicts just three structures along Jamaica Avenue in that year. Development intensified during the nineteenth century, and a few structures were present on the southern half of the block by the 1840s. The primary structures present in the nineteenth century were hotels, whose owners capitalized on the strategic location of the block within the local transportation net. Various types of commercial structures were present on the block until demolition in the mid-twentieth century.

The Phase II combined investigations clearly indicated that archaeological deposits and features on the study block were primarily limited to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This may be the result of the relatively nonintensive use of the block indicated from the historical documents for the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, or a function of the later construction of continuous structures along Jamaica Avenue with deep basements during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Realistically, the paucity of seventeenth and eighteenth century deposits probably relates to a combination of those factors. The Phase II investigations indicated that basements extending 8 to 11 feet below the modern ground surface covered at least the northern third of the block on all but Lot 17 1/2 and possibly Lot 18. Less than half of Lots 17 1/2 and 18 were covered by basements, but those lots are located well to the west of the strategic intersection of Jamaica Avenue and Parsons Boulevard.

The lack of seventeenth and eighteenth century remains on the block is regrettable, but the combined Phase II investigation did indicate that a wealth of nineteenth century archaeological deposits, primarily associated with the hotels that were present at that time, has survived. Five areas were identified within the study block that contain deposits or features that are archaeologically significant. Those areas, and the strategies needed for each area, are delineated in the following paragraphs.

#### Area 1

Area 1 includes two of the most important features found during the Phase II investigations. Excavation of Trench 14 and associated Unit 10 revealed what appears to have been a trash pit filled with mid-nineteenth century debris. That feature was located near the north wall of the Jamaica Theater, which definitely postdates the fill of the feature. The artifacts within the feature were primarily kitchen generated items, but a number of glass lamp globe fragments were also present. Study of the artifacts indicates that they were probably generated from the Jamaica Hotel, and thus can provide valuable insights into that important enterprise.

The deepest and earliest feature found during the excavation was identified in Trench 24, which was located to the north of Trench 14. That feature was explored through hand excavation of Unit 15, and extended to a maximum depth below the surface of 11 feet. The artifacts from Unit 15 included some distinctly eighteenth century types, but primarily dated from the early nineteenth century. The limits of the feature were not determined during the Phase II investigations, as it was decided that further trenching during essentially a testing phase would cause more resource loss than could be balanced by the information gain. Study of the artifacts and the Unit 15 profiles indicates that that feature may well have been a deep cellar that accumulated artifacts during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. We cannot discount the possibility at this time that Unit 15 penetrated some other type of large, deep feature, but the cellar interpretation appears to be the most plausible based on available information. This feature did not extend to Trench 25 to the east, and the deposits in Trench 14 to the south definitely postdate the material from Unit 15. At any rate, the feature encountered in Unit 15 represents the oldest deposit found during the Phase II investigation, and merits full attention during data recovery.

The most productive strategy that can be employed in Area 1 involves extensive machine stripping followed by careful hand excavation of the exposed features. The stripping operation should begin at the north wall of the Jamaica Theater ruin, and include the alley and Lot 38 to the north. The stripping area should completely delineate the feature explored in Unit 15, as well as expose the trash feature in Trench 14. Lot 38 should be completely explored because of the apparent concentration of early resources in that area.

## Area 2

Area 2 is located in the eastern third of the study block, and includes the site of Hunter's Hotel, which burned in 1860. This 80 by 80 foot area extends from Trenches 5, 16, and 10 to the west to the "boiler room" of the Jamaica Theater found in Trench 26 to the east. The single trench placed in this area, Trench 31, revealed that basements are absent in this area, and that subsoil is under approximately four feet of modern debris.

The excavation strategy for this area will simply involve machine stripping the modern overburden and checking the sand subsoil below the features. It should be possible to accomplish this quickly, and excavate whatever remains are found to be associated with Hunter's Hotel. This area was not stripped during the Phase II investigation as the effort involved was greater than what can be defined for a testing level investigation. Further, it was felt that features exposed in this manner during the testing phase would have become vulnerable to damage from extreme weather or other mechanisms.



### Area 3

The third area is located in Lot 29, and consists of a small backyard section revealed in Trench 28. Nineteenth century material was found during the trenching operation in this area, and the potential does exist for the presence of additional deposits in this small, minimally disturbed area.

The excavation strategy that should be used in this area involves exposing the 20 by 20 foot backyard section through machine excavation and inspecting the cleared section for middens and features. Again, it was felt in this case that machine stripping at the testing level would have caused more damage to the resources present that could be balanced by the potential data yield, and that that area would best be saved for a data recovery phase.

### Area 4

Area 4 is within the middle section of the study block, and includes the northern portion of Lot 50 and the alley that separated Lots 50 and 21. Trenches placed in that area revealed a number of discrete interlocking middens that contained features. The material recovered from that section dated from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and probably related at least in part to the J.S. Remsen Pavillion Hotel which was depicted in the 1873 Beers Atlas. The materials within those middens included food waste and kitchen related artifacts, and can yield valuable insights into food preparation and service in the hotel industry in the New York area from the mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century.

The excavation strategy that would be most effective in this area would be to sample the 6000 square foot area believed to contain the deposits described above. A ten percent sample of this area, if carefully chosen, would provide sufficient information to constitute adequate data recovery.

### Area 5

The last area within the study block that contains significant archaeological data is the southern portions of Lots 17 1/2 and 18. That area appears to contain minimally disturbed backyards in a section of the block that contained a structure on the 1868 Conklin Map. Trenches 34 and 18 were placed in this area during the Phase II investigations, and the results of those trenches indicated that the rear portions of Lot 17 1/2 and probably Lot 18 had not contained a basement. No early features, horizontal deposits, or middens were found in those trenches, but the identification of minimally disturbed ground surfaces in that area was sufficient to support the interpretation that the general area is archaeologically sensitive.

The strategy that should be employed in the case of Area 5 will be to strip Lots 17 1/2 and 18 in order to identify features or middens that are present. The stripping operation should begin at a point 20 feet north of the alley separating those lots from Lot 55, and run approximately 60 feet north to the back walls of the basements on Lots 17 1/2 and 18. The stripping operation should extend the width of the two lots, which is approximately 40 feet. Hand excavation should then be employed on exposed features and middens.

The basic strategy that has been outlined for the five areas should result in adequate mitigation of adverse effects to be caused by construction of the proposed Social Security Building. It should be possible to accomplish the described fieldwork in no more than three months with a crew of eight to ten professional archaeologists. Analysis of the data and artifacts would then follow, and the project would culminate with preparation and acceptance of a detailed report of findings.

The Phase III report, to be completed by Soil Systems, Inc. under the current contract, will include a detailed research design and methodological approach for conducting the data recovery project outlined in this chapter. That document will be accompanied by a detailed budget, delineating the anticipated cost of that investigation.

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