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Orr, Ellison

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IOWA ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORTS 1934 TO 1939

(TEN VOLUMES)

by Ellison Orr

Volume I: Reconnoissance Survey and Excavation of Indian Mound Groups and Cementeries in Valley of Upper Iowa and Mississippi River, 1934.

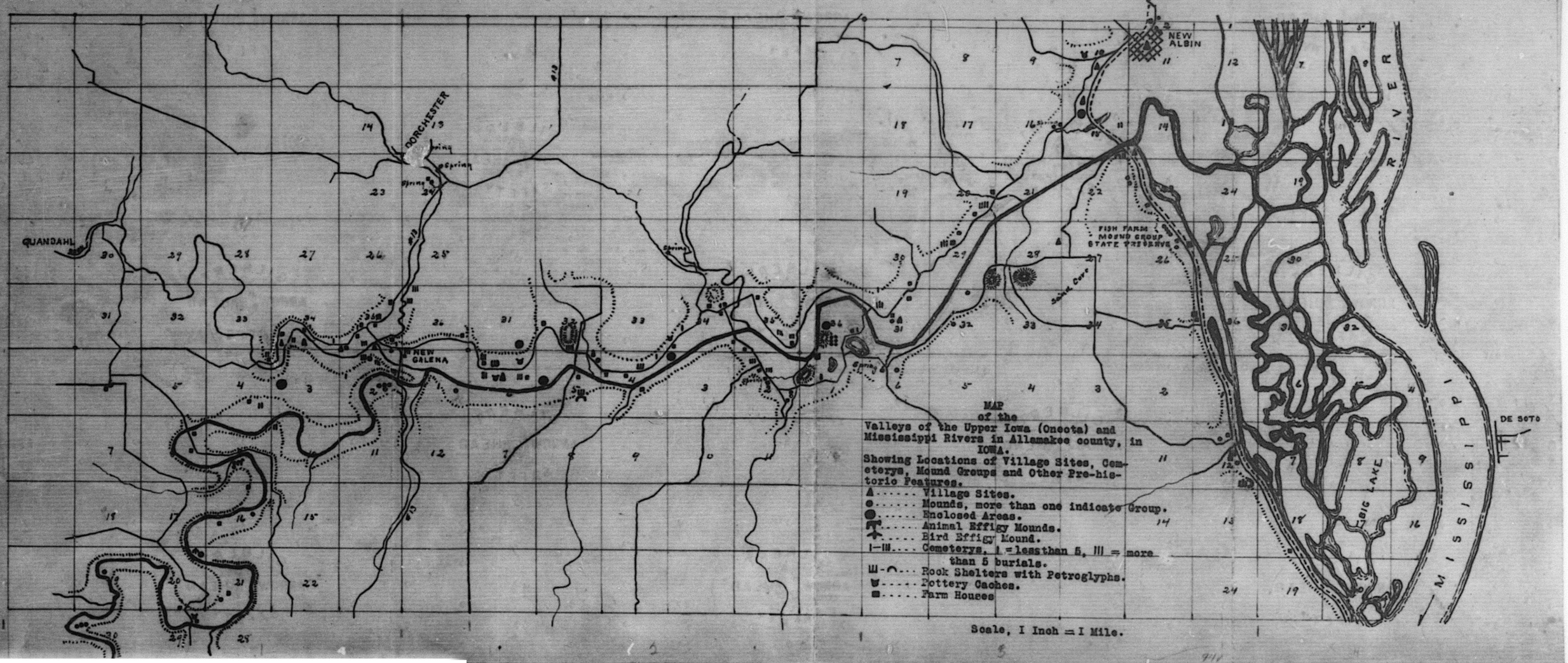
Vol. 1

Report of Reconnoissance Survey
and Excavation of Indian Mound
Groups and Cemeteries in Valley
of Upper Iowa and Mississippi
River under Project 1047 of the
Iowa Planning Board, by Party
under Dr. Charles R. Keyes,
June 11 to Sept. 16, 1934.

Dr. Charles R. Keyes,	Supervisor.
Ellison Orr,	Ass't. Supervisor.
Fred Orr,	Field Worker.
Harrison Toney,	Field Worker.

By Ellison Orr

(See Page 7A)



MAP
of the
Valleys of the Upper Iowa (Oneota) and Mississippi Rivers in Allamakee county, in IOWA.
Showing Locations of Village Sites, Cemeterys, Mound Groups and Other Pre-historic Features.

- ▲..... Village Sites.
- ●..... Mounds, more than one indicate Group.
- ⬤..... Enclosed Areas.
- ..... Animal Effigy Mounds.
- ..... Bird Effigy Mound.
- I–III.... Cemeterys. I = less than 5, III = more than 5 burials.
- III-◠... Rock Shelters with Petroglyphs.
- ..... Pottery Caches.
- ■..... Farm Houses

Scale, I Inch = I Mile.

INDEX. Vol. I.

Vol. 1

REPORT
Of Surveys of Mounds and Mound Groups, Excavations of same and of Prehistoric Cemeteries in the valley of the Upper Iowa River, by Party under Supervision of Dr. Charles R. Keyes, and authority of Iowa Planning Board's Project Number 1047, Summer of 1934.

The valley of the Upper Iowa River, - a flat flood plain from one-half to one mile wide, lying between precipitous two hundred feet high bluffs, has, first on the one side and then on the other, from its mouth some fifteen miles, as the stream runs, up to its confluence with Waterloo and Bear creeks, ten very considerable areas of terraces or "benches" as they are known locally. These were formed by flood waters from melting glaciers to the west that filled the valley from bluff to bluff. These in the order of their occurrence down stream are:

The Lyons; the New Galena; the Martin; the O'Regan; the English Bench; the Saddler; the Mount Hope; the Hartley and Lane; the Weymiller; and the Sand Cove.

All of these, lying between the foot of the bordering bluffs and the flood plain, are more or less irregular in outline and cut up by erosion ditches. Their height is quite uniformly sixty-five to seventy feet.

The surface is three or four feet of sandy loam overlying in places a yellow clay of fluvial formation, both resting on immense deposits of river sand.

Besides the large terraces there are every where at the same level along the bluff sides, except where tributary valleys come in, shreds and remnants, having an average width of less than one hundred feet.

The flood plain of this river, when first brought under cultivation, afforded a surprising abundance of prehistoric artifacts - especially sherds of a shell-tempered grayish, drab colored or blackish pottery, the most characteristic evidence of a Siouan culture which Dr. Charles R. Keyes has designated as the Oneota, after the Indian name of the Upper Iowa.

Almost if not more evidence was afforded by the terraces on every one of which were camp sites and cemeteries. These on the bottom lands were soon covered by sediment deposited by floods after the uplands came under cultivation, this deposit now having a thickness of from eighteen to twenty-four inches. On the terraces it was different, there, due to erosion of the surface, the plow cut deeper each year, from time to time reaching burials and turning up deeply covered implements, weapons or ornaments. Other material was washed out of the ditches; road work brought to light things that had lain hidden for many years and prospecting relic hunters found many burials from which "relics" in plenty were taken. But of all this abundant material, practically one hundred per cent was Oneota culture. Once in a while among the field finds of sherds would be a small piece covered with "string" impressions and tempered with crushed granite or sand. A handful of this different culture was the sum total of all we had ever found.

In the mounds along the Mississippi, we had found in the few that we had excavated that contained any relics, a small number of grit-tempered, string decorated sherds and one nearly complete pot. This pottery also predominated in the little that had been found on the terraces of the big river, and in the rock shelters of Allamakee County.

There are two large groups of mounds in the Upper Iowa valley containing respectively thirty-two and one hundred mounds, besides a number of smaller ones containing from one to a half dozen.

Then we questioned, were the builders of these mounds the ones who made and lost or threw away the bits of grit-tempered ware which we had picked up in the fields of the Upper Iowa valley? Only by thorough scientific excavation could we find out.

When early in the summer of 1934, the Iowa Planning Board asked Dr. Keyes to lay out and supervise archaeological work under their Project #1047, the answer to this question was deemed of enough importance to justify the opening of a sufficient number of these mounds in connection with the trenching of known Oneota culture cemeteries.

The writerwas asked to act as Assistant Supervisor, and Fred Orr and Harrison Toney were given the positions of field workers; Toney, who owned a car, also furnished transportation from our headquarters at Waukon out to the work and return for Fred Orr and himself, and a part of the F E R A workmen assigned to us to help in the work of excavation.

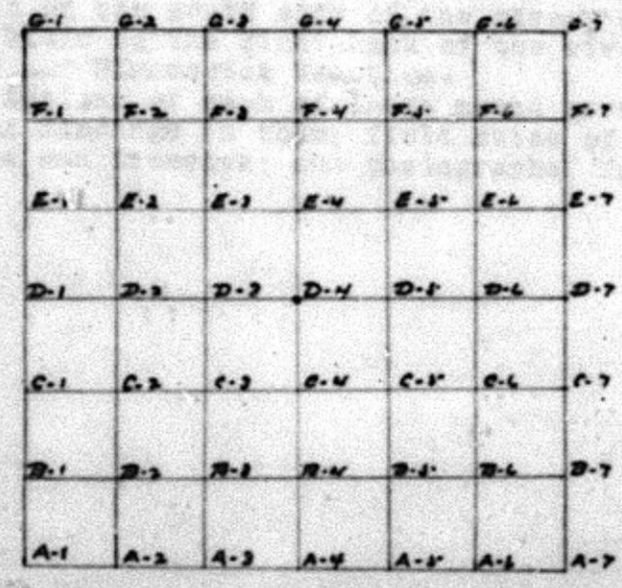
The unit of excavation was a section five feet square carried down to depths ranging from three to six feet, depending on where the "floor" or burials were found.

In cemetery trenching a series of any number of consecutive connected Sections made the trench. Trenches were lettered, sections numbered. The first Section in the first trench would be A-1 - the fifth section in trench C would be C-5, and so on.

In excavating a mound the approximate center was fixed and a stake set, this stake was always D-4, lines were run from this stake north and south, and East and West, and two or three stakes set on each line at every five feet.

Two stakes set on each side of the center were set when only a twenty feet square pit was needed, three stakes when a thirty feet square was to be dug.

In a thirty foot square pit the stake at the SW corner would be A-1, and the section of which it would be the southwest corner would be Sec. A-1.



In a twenty feet square pit the SW corner stake would be B-2 and the Section would be Sec. B-2.

The South row of sections was usually excavated first, forming a trench across that end, the earth dug out being thrown to the south. If no burials were found the earth from the next row of sections to the north was thrown over south into the first, and so on across the staked out pit.

If a bone was encountered by any of the workmen, either Dr. Keyes, Fred or myself, proceeded carefully to uncover and follow it up with a trowel, garden hook or jack knife, being careful not to disturb it or any other bone connected with or near it more than could be helped. In this way a skeleton and whatever might be with it were exposed, brushed and cleaned and photographed. One of the workmen always helped by cleaning up after the trowel and hook or by removing the earth from over and to the side of the skeleton.

Sometimes when there were many burials the earth from the entire pit would be thrown out on the sides, leaving a more or less clean floor.

Plats were made of these, measurements being taken to locate properly all the finds. During the progress of the work surveys were made showing some of the surrounding topography, fence lines, etc., and locating each mound or trench and tying up the group to some known land corner.

With three exceptions the workmen furnished by the F E R A, were trustworthy and careful and did a day's work that was satisfactory to us.

During July and August, the weather was extremely hot, - but the men stayed by it. Most of the time it took one man to keep them supplied with cool water from some spring or good well; their lunches they brought with them.

Work was done on the New Galena; O'Regan; the small Elephant terrace; the Lane Farm terrace; on two mound groups, one on a back-wash terrace on the E. side of Clark's creek, and the other on a low hog-back farther East, both on the south side of the river; and the Slinde Group on a low spur of bluff on the right bank of the river just at the line between Allamakee and Winneshiek Counties.

Brief descriptions of each of these mound groups, mounds or cemeteries, and of our findings in them; field notes of surveys; plats of mound groups, pits and trenches; and photographs, follow.

A-4

The New Galena Mound Group
On the S 1/2 NE Sec. 2, T. 99, R. 6 west of 5th P.M.
Hanover Township, Allamakee County,
Iowa.

Excavations of June 11th and 12th
1924
See Map on Page 69, Vol. V.

A-5

The New Galena Mound Group.
Excavations made June 11 to 22d, 1924.

Of this Group, which when surveyed by us over thirty years ago, consisted of thirty-two round mounds, all of which are now much reduced by cultivation, less than half that number can now be made out.

Lying in a great ox-bow loop of the upper Iowa river, the axis of which is NW and SE at about half a mile above the confluence of that river with Bear and Waterloo creeks from which it is separated by a high, narrow "Hog Back", this almost level 20 acre terrace appears to have appealed to the people who built the mounds.

These extended in a row on either side of of a ten rod wide NE and SW sag. The others were placed in no regular order.

Five of the group were excavated. No. 1; No. 2; No. 4; No. 8 and No. 3, in the order named.

In Mound No. 1 was an ossuary made up of the remnants of five skeletonsin a pit near the center, 4 X 5 ft., having a general NE and SW direction and 31 inches below the surrounding natural surface. Near the center of this burial floor, upright, was a squatty, nearly complete grit-tempered vessel broken in twenty pieces. It was an unusual form of vessel, - the width being to the height as 54 to 34. On the edge of the rim is a row of shallow punctures, nearly touching each other, made by a round, - propably hollow stem of grass or shrub or more likely by a hollow bird bone .2 inch in diameter. Below this on the neck is another row extending around the vessel at about .3 inches, if apart having a diameter of .1 inch and also made by a hollow instrument. Next below are five rows of .1 inch longvertical indentations running entirely around the neck.

Just below the greatest diameter of the bowl is a string of several pointed oval figures, - the lower half of one being blank, the upper half, of ten diagonal lines composed of close horizontal string indentations .1 inch long. In the next oval this order of decorations is reversed, - the decorated being below, the plain, above. The third is like the first, and so on. The incised boundary line of the ovals is continuous.

From the five horizontal lines running around the neck, covering all the remainder of the bowl except the oval figures, are stamped or incised vertical lines .1 inch apart, composed of .1 inch long horizontal lines.

The lines encircling the ovals and the long diameter of these are incised.

Near the vessel were two small, - 3/4 inch in diameter, - copper pieces shaped like a shallow toy saucer. These were propably covering for or parts of ear ornaments.

A study of the decorations of this vessel; its inclusion with with the remnants of five disarticulated badly decayed skeletons in a rectangular pit; and with parts of two copper saucer-shaped ear ornaments, - all characteristically Hopewell, - leads us to the conclusion that Mound No. I was constructed by people of the Hopewell culture.

In refilling the mound a fine chert blade was found in the mound earth and scattered sparingly through this mound earth were also placements of of bits of bone, chert flakes, and shell-tempered (Oneota) pottery. Their occurrence there is hard to account for.

Mound No. 2

Mound No. 2 contained a fully extended large skeleton with head to the north. This was in a better condition than those in Mound No. I. It lay on a floor at about one foot below the natural surface. Not in a pit and there were no other inclusions.

Mound No. 3

In Mound No. 3 at 36 inches below the natural surface , there was in a pit, 5 X 8, a nearly central ossuary containing the remains of at least 22 disarticulated skeletons as there were that many skulls. The floor of the pit was covered with the badly decayed remains of of the large bones mostly oriented the long way of the pit, NE and SW, the scanty pelvic and small bones scattered through them. The remains of the skulls lay in a row across each end.

Two perforated bear canine teeth were found and under one of the skulls were stacked above and within each other a half dozen pieces of a thick vessel tempered with coarse crushed granite. These were so soft that it was difficult to save any part of them.

Just below the depth to which the plow had gone, in the north-east part of the mound, was an intrusive Oneota burial with the head to the west. The two femora, the shin bones and some fragments of the skull and pelvis, in place, was all that was left of the skeleton.

Near the left shoulder was a small deposit of flakes, and alongside the left femur, a typical thin Oneota chert knife. At the right knee was a fragile , - in places almost as thin as paper, - a partly broken unshell-tempered vessel. Beside the left shin bone, - not yet uncovered when the picture was taken, - was a deposite of fourteen unusually fine triangular arrow points.

Mounds No. 4 and No. 8

In Mound No. 4 seven very badly decayed extended skeletons, buried separately, were found on a floor 30 inches below the natural surface. There were no other inclusions.

In Mound No. 8 there were only a very few bits of decayed skeletons and no other inclusions.

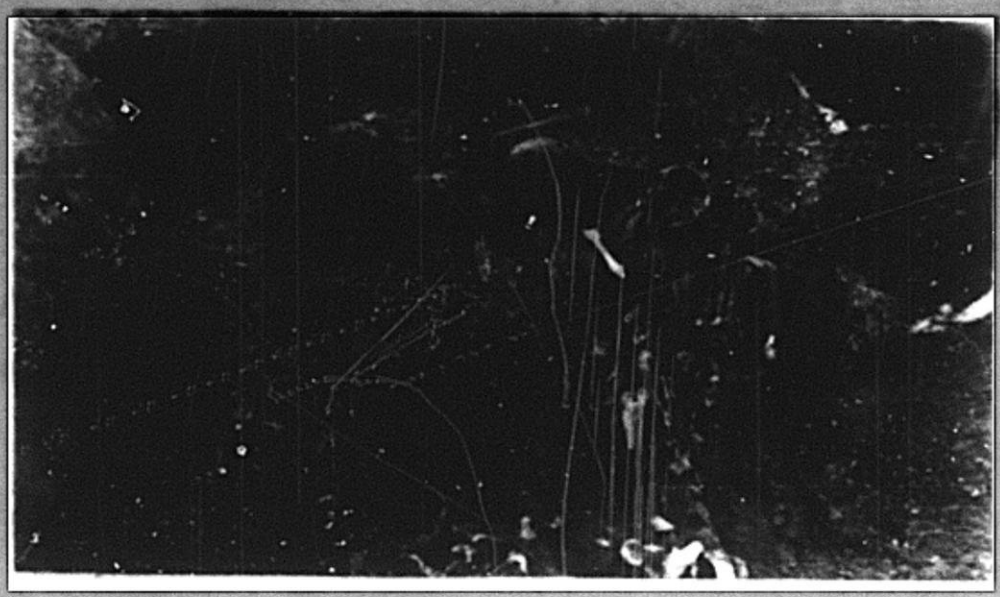
(See map of New Galena Mound Group on Page 69, Vol. V)

A-7

Fred Orr Ellison Orr

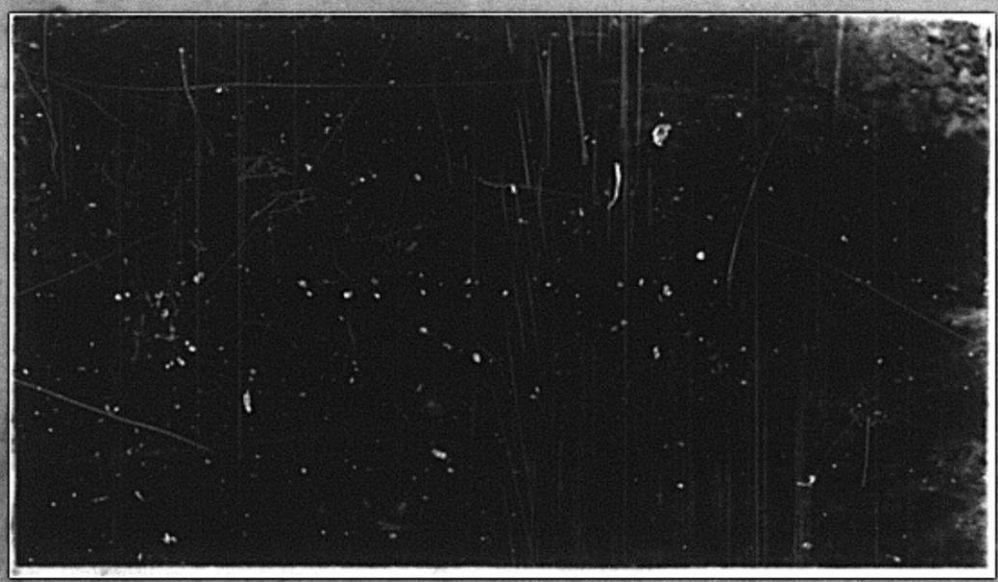
Harrison Toney

Photo by Charles R. Keyes, Oct. 13, 1935



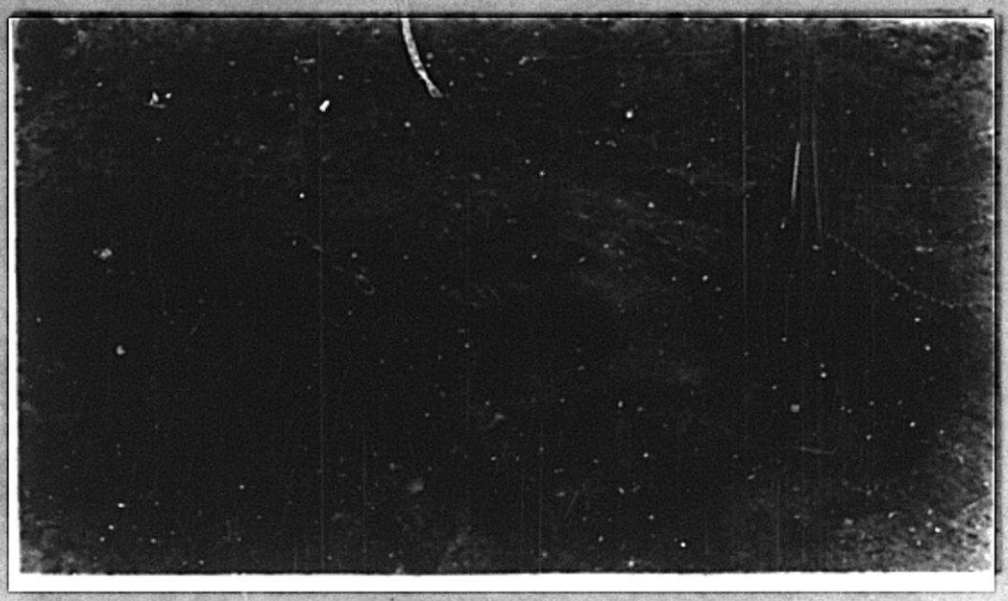
Ossuary in Mound #-3-
Looking South
New Galena Mound Group

See also page 2A.

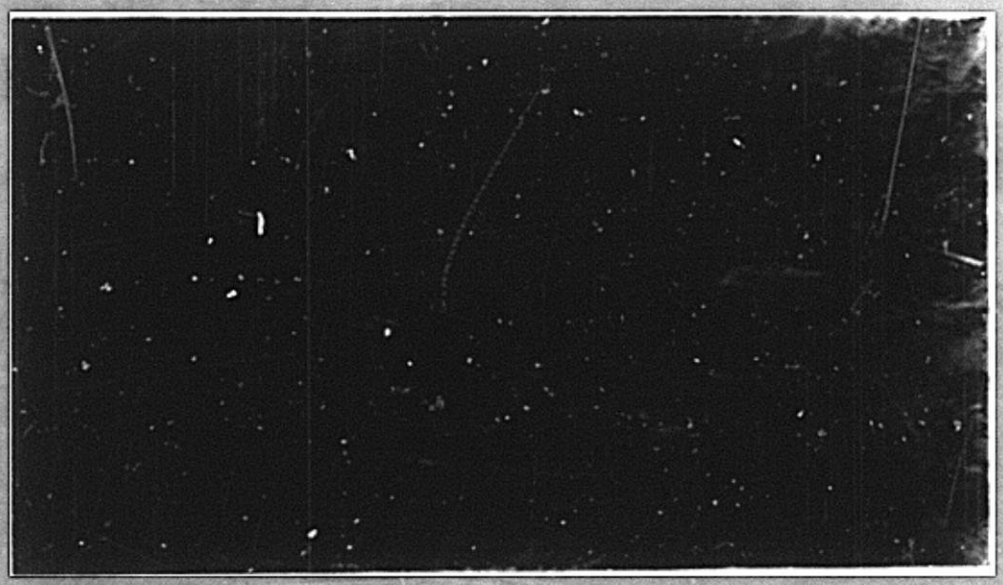


Intrusive Burial in Mound #3
Looking E. Note flakes, knife and Oneota Pot.
New Galena Mound Group.

When excavation of this intrusive burial was completed seven fine typical Oneota arrow points were found by left tibia.

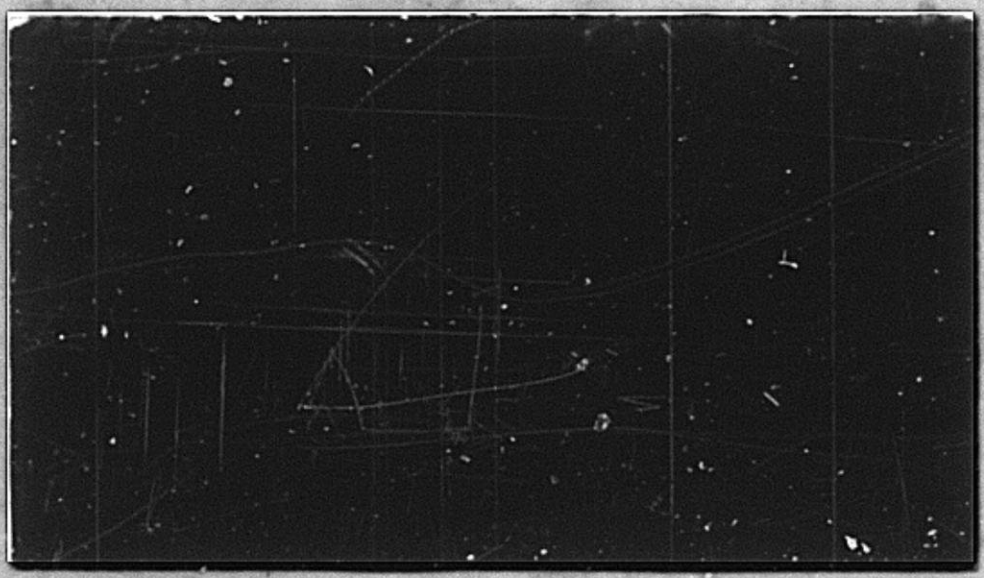


Algonkan Bundle Burials
Mound # 8
New Galena Mound Group.

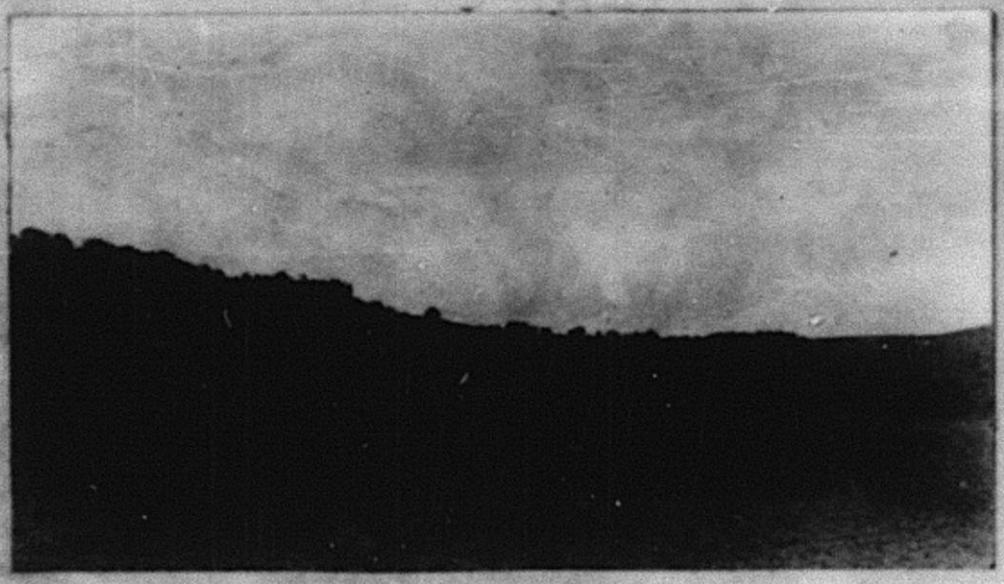


Algonkan Bundle (?) Burials
Mound # 8 Lower Floor Burial
New Galena Mound Group

Photograph of the Hopewell Vessel from
Mound No. I
of the New Galena Mound Group.



Badly decayed bundled skeletons in Pit in Mound #1 of New Galena Mound Group.
Hopewell (?) Algonkin Pot, for Photograph of which see page 4A, was found at A.
It had been removed before the Photo was taken.
Looking north.

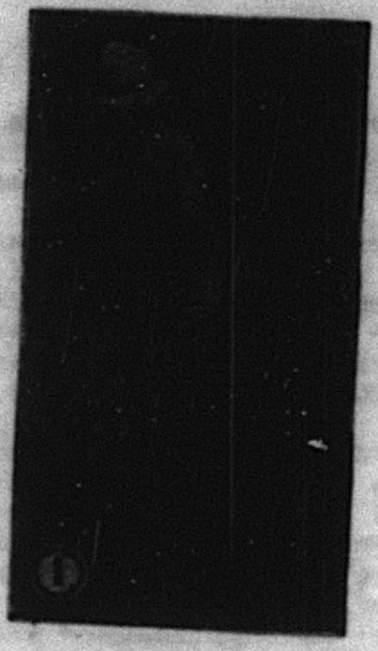


New Galena Mound Group Terrace
Looking West. Note "Hog Back" North,
Man working in Pit in center.

Ossuary in Mound # 3
Looking North
New Galena Mound Group.

There were 22 skulls in this Ossuary, placed in a row across each end of the pit, 8 ft. long and 5 ft. wide. See also page 4

A-18



THE ELEPHANT TERRACE

The "Elephant" Terrace.

On the SE quarter of Section 32, T. 100 R. 5 west of the 5th P.M. in Allamakee county, Iowa, in the canyon-like valley of the Upper Iowa river, stands an oval, isolated, two hundred feet high bluff.

This was once, ages ago, a peninsula running out into the valley from the general level of the country immediately to the south. On the west side the river impinged on the connecting isthmus, and on its way back from around the "oxbow" curve encircling the hill, cut away the other side, till in time this connecting link was removed and the stream flowed across, shortening its length by more than a mile.

Because of its resemblance to a huge beast couchant, it is known locally as the "Elephant", the precipice at the south end being the head. Under the head is a low - 28 ft. high - flatiron-shaped terrace, its flat top having an area of about half an acre. This might represent the extended front legs of the great beast.

The people of the Oneota (Siouan) culture used the south and south-east part of this terrace as a burial place. In 1894 Mr. W.F.Dresser excavated two of a row of five graves in the south part. In the most southerly he found a chert knife in a pot, - pot # 2 and knife # 900 of the Orr collection now belonging to the Iowa State Historical Society. In the next grave to the north he found a pot containing a clam shell. In 1895 or 1896, the next two graves were excavated by Mr. Jason Bulman, the owner of the land, without very encouraging results.

Later the remaining grave of the group was opened by Dr. J. Ratcliffe, and in it he found an effigy pipe shaped like a lizard holding its tail with all four feet, but having short animal-like ears.

This pipe of polished diorite, beyond question, is the finest of its type ever found. See photograph on page 13 of this report.

In still an other grave near or forming a part of this group, a party unknown found another pipe, said to have been a rectangular (Sioux) pipe of Minnesota catlinite, which he donated to the Field Museum. 1933

In ~~[illegible]~~ Mr. Ed. Wild excavated a group of eight graves arranged in a compact irregular group, a little east of the center of the terrace, in which he found five small pots and a small catlinite pipe, all of Oneota culture. Plat of this group on page14.

In the summer of 1934, the party working with Dr. Charles R. Keyes, and under authority of Project #1047, excavating trenches and pits as shown by the plats on pages 15 and 16.

In trench B a few small worked flints and pottery sherds were found scattered through the earth thrown out. This trench was excavated down to the top of the Jordan sandstone which underlaid the terrace at a depth of 4 ft. The same results were obtained in excavating trench A to the same depth.

Except for the upper 8 inches, all the earth removed from the 93 ft. long trench A was passed through a half inch screen. This trench was excavated down to the sand rock, a depth of 30 in. at the south end and 6 ft. at the north end.
Grit-tempered pottery sherds were found scattered at all depths down to the rock. A greenstone axe was found at a depth of around 3 ft., and near the south end at a depth of 18 inches a lens-shaped deposit of carbonized wood (charcoal) unmixed with ashes, having a maximum thickness of 4 inches and diameter of 4 ft., was encountered. All Woodland

In pit C, an apparently undisturbed skeleton lay, with head to East, at the depth of 30 inches, on the weathered rock floor. Near the left shoulder was a thin, 6 in. long chert knife of superior workmanship, very similar to the one found with the intrasive Oneota culture buried in Mound # 1 of the New Galena Mound Group. The skeleton was fully extended with the arms by the sides - probably a primary burial in the flesh. The skull; lower jaw; right humerus; entire spinal column; fragment of pelvis; left femur; and both tibia were in place, the remainder of the skeleton was gone. Except knife, no other relics.

In pit 1, the almost complete skeleton of a woman lay extended at a depth of 30 in., but with the pelvis part sagging a foot below the skull and feet into a shallow wide crevice in the weathered rock. Head was to the north and arms along the sides. No relics with this burial.

In pit 2, were the badly decayed remains of two skeletons, tandem, with heads to the north. On the East side of the one farthest south, was a skull but no other part of the skeleton. These burials lay at a depth of 30 in. on an earth floor. No relics.

In pit 3, at a depth of 27 in., with head to NW. was a badly decayed skeleton - only fragments remained - near the extremities was a spherical ball of black rock. What remained of the skeletons in pits 2 and 3, indicated fully extended burials.

Oneota Pottery, and other material recovered from Oneota graves on the Terrace in front of the "Elephant."

Grave excavated by -	Pipes	Pots	Knives	Bracelets	Arrow-heads	Celt
W.F.Dresser	2	I	I		?	
Bulman	2					
Ratcliffe	I	I	I	5	?	
Unknown	I	I			?	
Wild	7	I	5		?	
Orr	4		I		?	I

Orr Trenches 6, - 20, 93, 40, 10, 15, 10, 50 ft. long
Celt, - Woodland in Trench C at 36 in. below surface.

Survey of "Elephant" Terrace
July 17, 1934.

Survey of low terrace south of and under the head of the "Elephant" SE SW. Sec. 32, Town. 100, R. 5.

Beginning at 1/4 Sec. corner on south line (town line) of Sec. 32, T. 100, R. 5,

Thence, west along Town line
325 ft., road runs south to Kumph bridge
557 ft., set stake on town line

Thence, north
340 ft. to cen. of road runs N 33 W
365 " " " " " " N 45 E
432 " " foot of terrace
500 " " top " "
560 " and set stake - Sta. A-0
at SW corner of trench A-runs
N 27 E, 40 ft.- 5 ft. wide - 4 ft. deep

From Sta. A-0 N 35 W
47 ft. 4 in. to Sta. B-0 and set stake at SE. cor. of trench B- runs S 80 W. 20 ft. - 5 ft. wide - 5 ft. deep.

From Sta A-0 S 83 W
16 ft.- 6 in. and set stake at SE. cor. of trench C - runs N 28 E, 93 ft. - 5 ft. wide- 2-1/2 ft. deep at S end, 6 ft. deep at N. end.

From Sta A-0
Precipice at S. end of "Elephant" bears N 3 W

From Sta A-0 the small red cedar near grave from which was taken the Ratcliffe lizard pipe, and also another in which was found a calumet (?) now in the Field Museum, bears S 38 W 27 ft.

From Sta. A-0
S 15 E, 23 ft. to cen. of pit 0-5x5 ft. 30 in. deep
S 37 E, 25 ft. " " " N side pit 1, 5x5 ft. 30 in. deep
S 58 E, 23 ft. " " " " " " 2, " " " " "
S 71 E, 34 ft. " " " " " " 3, " " 27 " "
N 88 E, 36 ft. " " " W. end pit 4, 10x5ft. N 28 W
N 77 E, 43 ft. " " " " " " 5, 5x5ft.
N 75 E, 23 ft. " " " " " " 6, 15x5ft. N 45 E
N 53 E, 40 ft. " SW cor. pit 7, 10x5ft. N 28 E
N 68 E, 51 ft. " W end pit 9, 20x5ft. S 80 E
South of Cedar " E end pit 10, 12x12ft.
S 45 W, 36 ft. " SW cor. pit 11, 10x5 ft. 26 in. deep

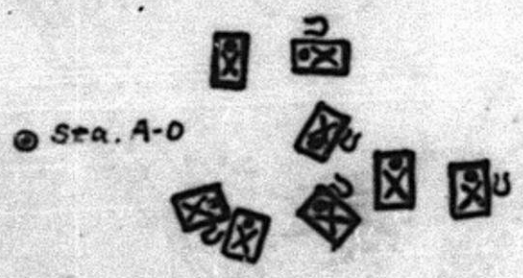
Station A-0 above flood plain of Upper Iowa River 28 ft.
Area of Terrace .45 acres.

Dimensions of Trenches and Pits
Excavated under Project #1047 of
Iowa Planning Board, July 1934.

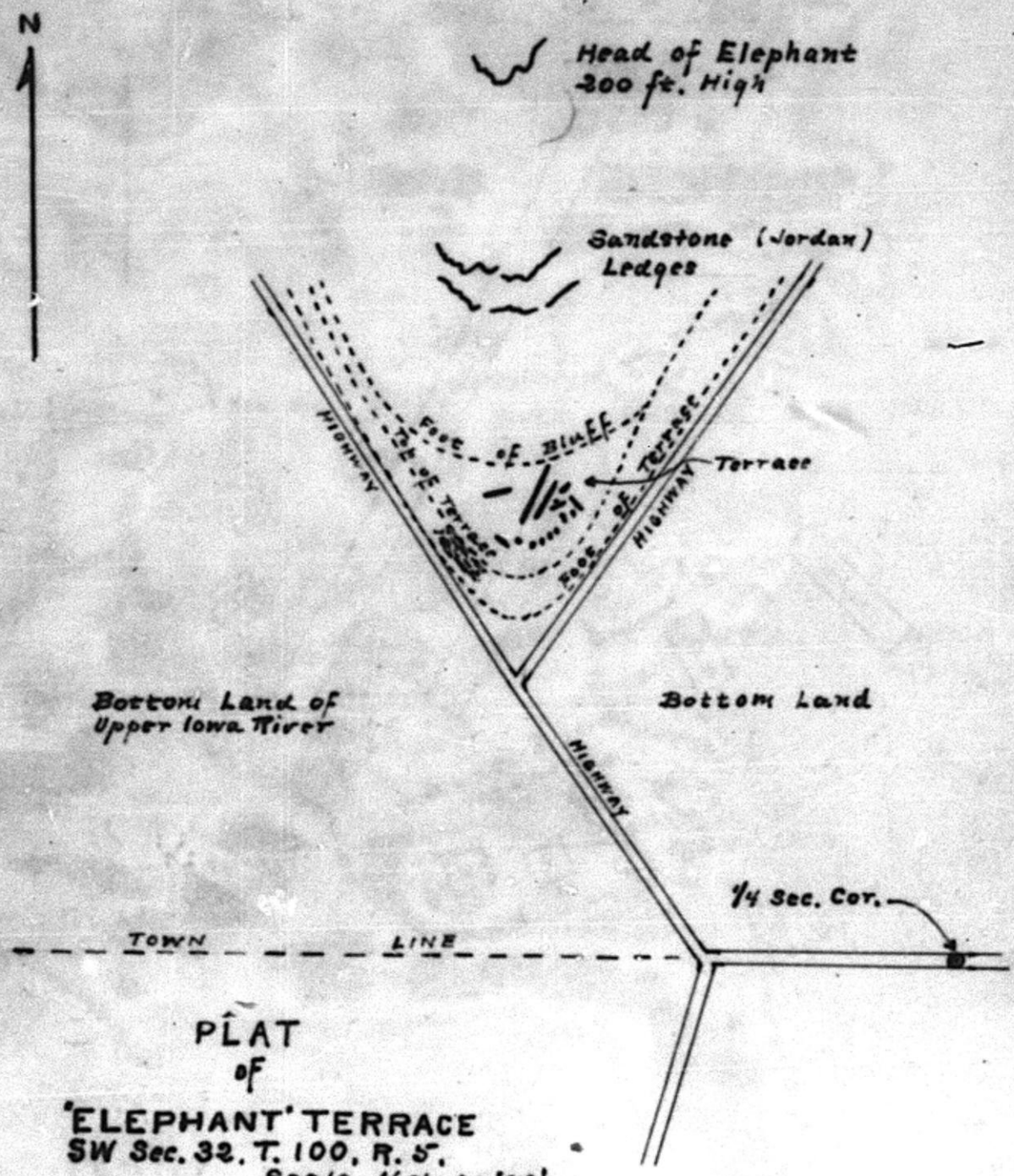
No.	Direction	Length	Width	Depth
Trench A	N 27 E	93 ft.	5 ft.	4ft.
" B	S 80 W	20 "	5 "	5"
" C	N 28 E	40 "	5 "	3" S end 6" N end
Pit 0		5 "	5 "	30 in.
" 1		5 "	5 "	30 "
" 2		5 "	5 "	30 "
" 3		5 "	5 "	27 "
" 4	N 28 W	10 "	5 "	30 "
" 5		5 "	5 "	30 "
" 6	N 45 E	15 "	5 "	36 "
" 7	N 28 E	10 "	5 "	36 "
" 8		5 "	5 "	36 "
" 9	S 41 E	20 "	5 "	30 "
" 10	N 57 W	15 "	5 "	24 "
" 11	a 30 ft. long shallow trench E & W down slope NE of pit #9			

The "Elephant" from the Public Road, looking north. About 1890. Spot of white near center is 5 year old Harry Orr, standing by Indian Grave in which Dragon Pipe was found. See Page 13. Also Page 17.

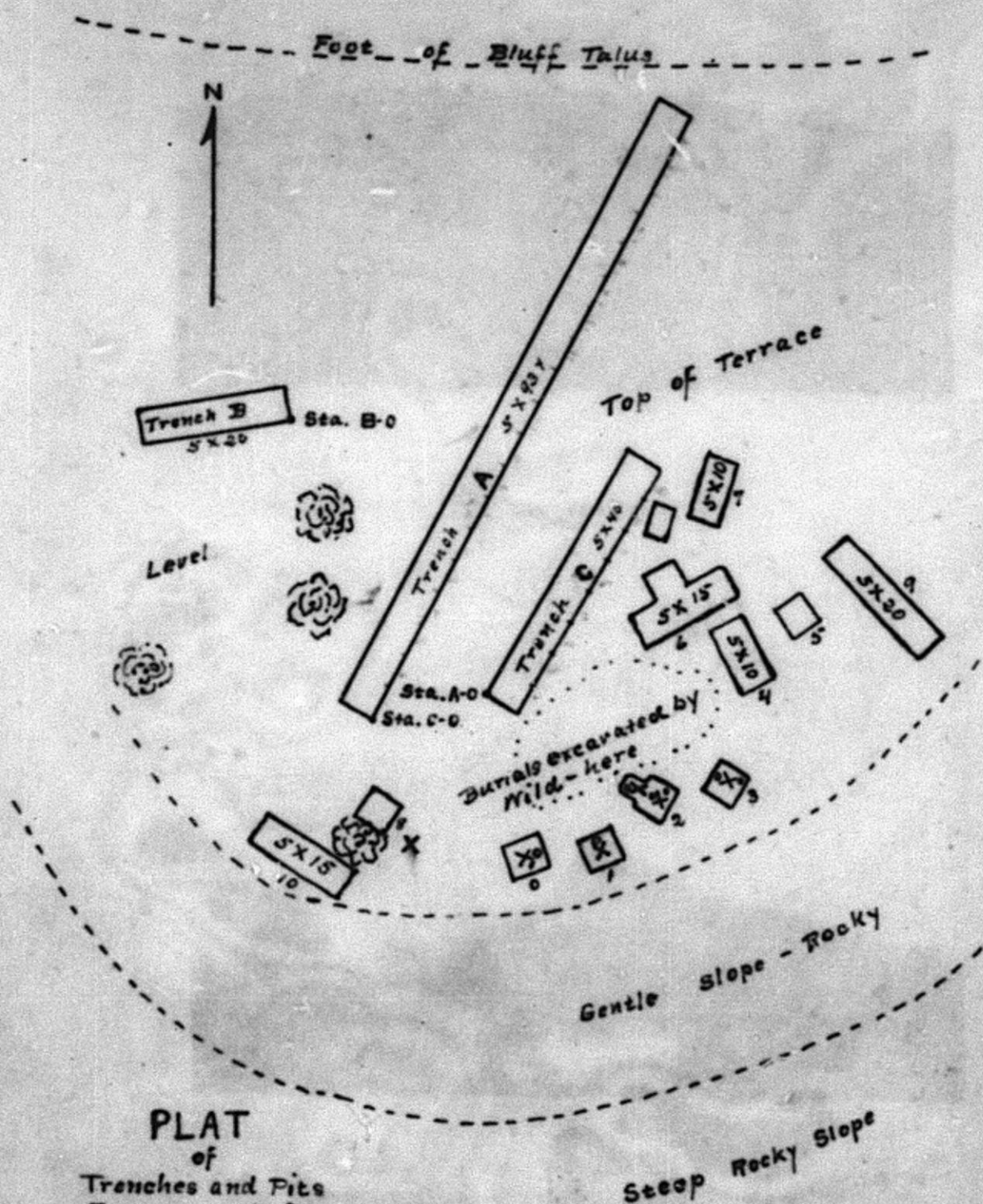
Ratcliffe (Lizard) Pipe



Group of Burials Excavated by
Ed. Wild - 1933
U - Pot with Burial
Scale, 20 ft. to Inch.



PLAT
OF
'ELEPHANT' TERRACE
SW Sec. 32, T. 100, R. 5.
Scale, 4 ch. to Inch
Elevation above Bottom Land, 25 ft.
Area, .45 Acres Survey by Ellison Orr. 1934



PLAT
of
Trenches and Pits
Excavated in "Elephant"
Terrace, 1934
Scale, 20 ft. to Inch

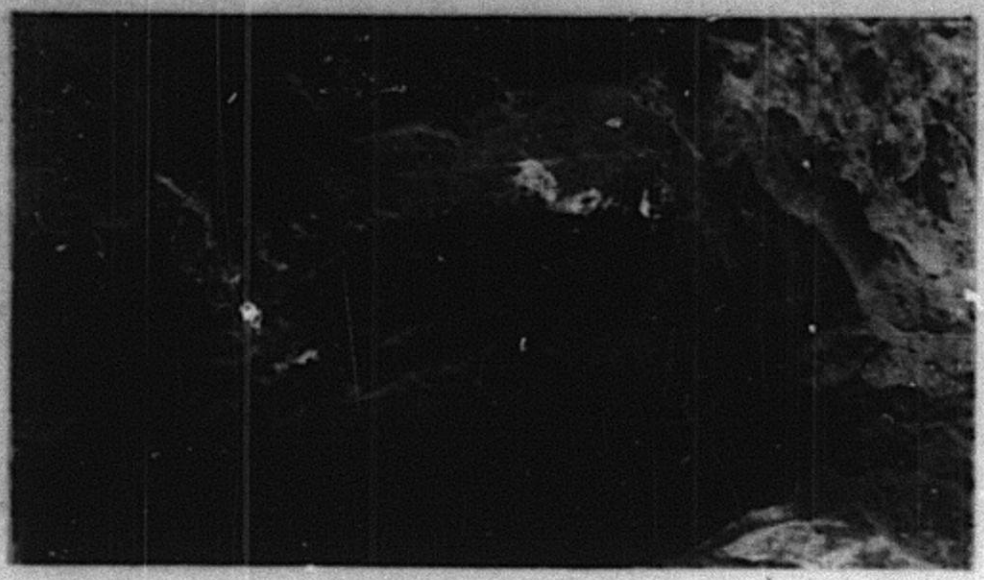
X - Ratcliffe (Lizard) Pipe found in most northerly of Group of 5 graves near this spot.

The Elephant from the west - 1934

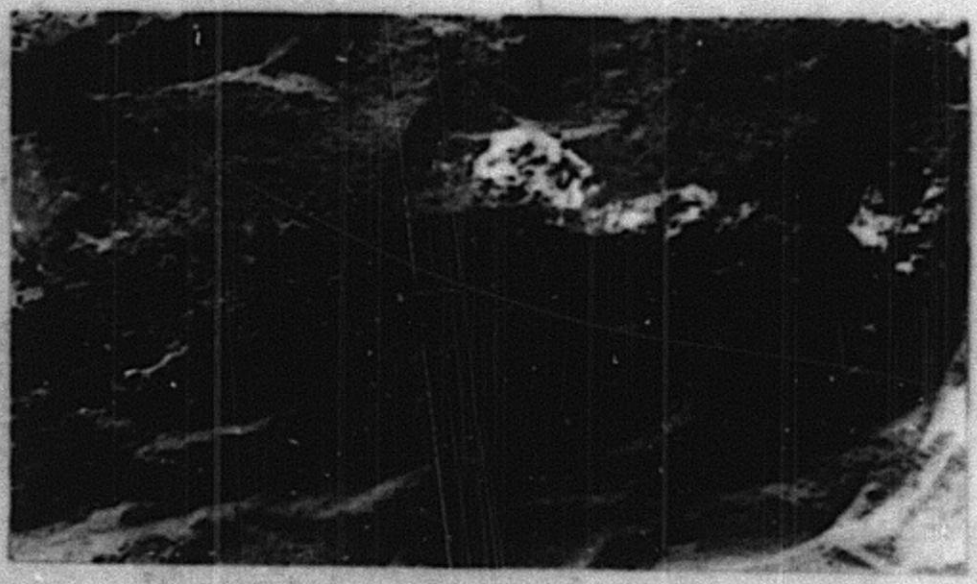
The Elephant from the south-east - 1934
Note terrace at left under head

A writer describing the ôdges built bycertain tribes, among them the Oneota, tells us that they were roofed with bark peeled in the spring from trees from which it could be separated readily and the slabs piled in orderly heapsand weighted down with rocks to flatten and dry them for use as shingles.

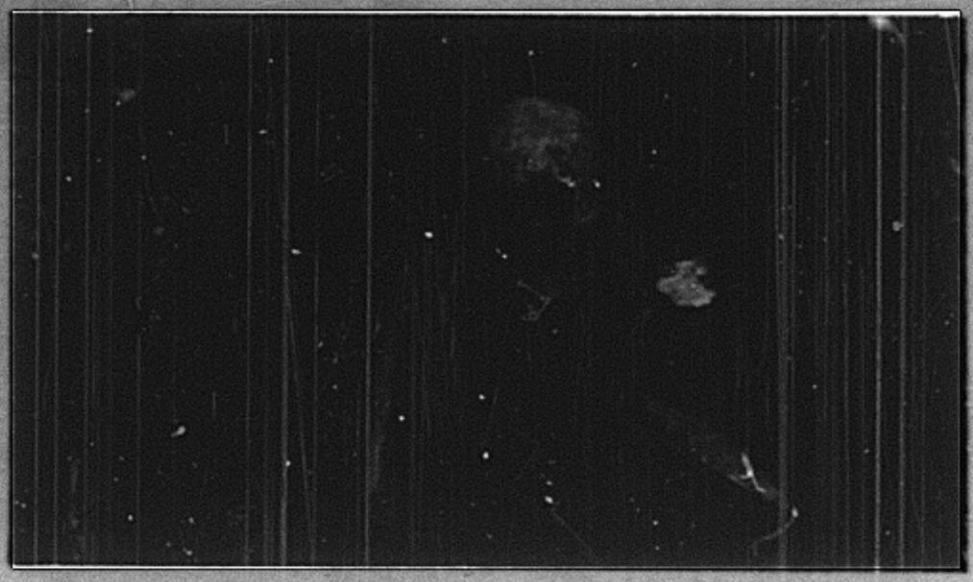
It is entirely possible that the heap of decayed of decayed bark shown in the photograps may be such a drying bunch of bark.



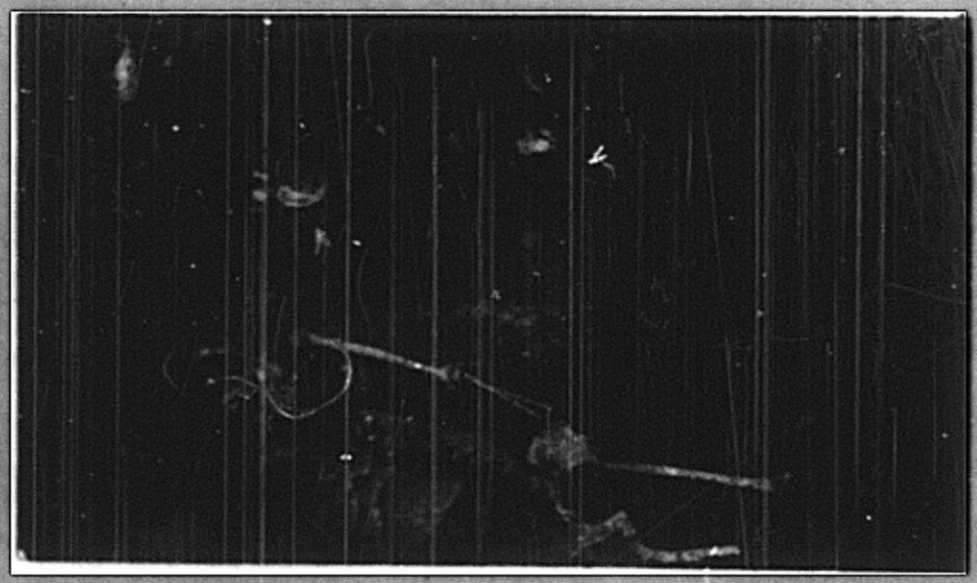
Laminated deposit of charcoal
S. end of Trench C



Close-up of Laminated Deposit of Charcoal
S. end of Trench C.



Skeleton uncovered in Pit O
Note typical Oneota culture chert knife



Skeleton of woman in Pit 1.
Note pelvis and femora in crevice in rock

REPORT
OF
SURVEY AND EXCAVATIONS
OF LANE FARM MOUNDS AND
ENCLOSED AREA.

The Hartley-Lane terrace is located on the North half of Sec. 1, T. 99, R. 5, French Creek Township, and Sec. 36, T. 100, R. 5. Union City Township, both in Allamakee County.

Its boundary is very irregular around an area of roughly two hundred acres, the north part known as the Lane Terrace, after the first white owner, in Sec. 36, has an area of around fifty-five acres. It is bounded on the south by a ravine along the town line, west of which is an isthmus connecting it with the Hartley part; on the East, by what was once a lakelet of ten acres, now dry; at the NE. corner it connects by a low place with two small remnants to the NE; from this corner it runs west along the bottom land of the Upper Iowa River to near the 1/8 Sec. cor. in center of the SW. of Sec. 36; then North, then West and again North, to near 1/4 Sec. corner in center of Sec. 36; then West twenty-five rods; then west of south to the town line. The river formerly washed this west boundary and along it, is Brown's Hill, an isolated oblong bluff rising from all sides to a short narrow ridge two hundred feet above the flat terrace to the North, East and South. Its base covers an area of around twenty acres.

Somewhat less than a half mile southwest, is a similar, but larger hill, called the Owl's Head.

Down the river valley from the terrace, is a lookout over wood fringed cornfields, jumbled rounded hills bare on their south slopes, but forest covered on the north, with here and there cedar covered castellated, precipitous sides showing above the trees, while on either side to the North and South, are the high bluffs bounding the valley of the river, and on the west the two great sentinel hills.

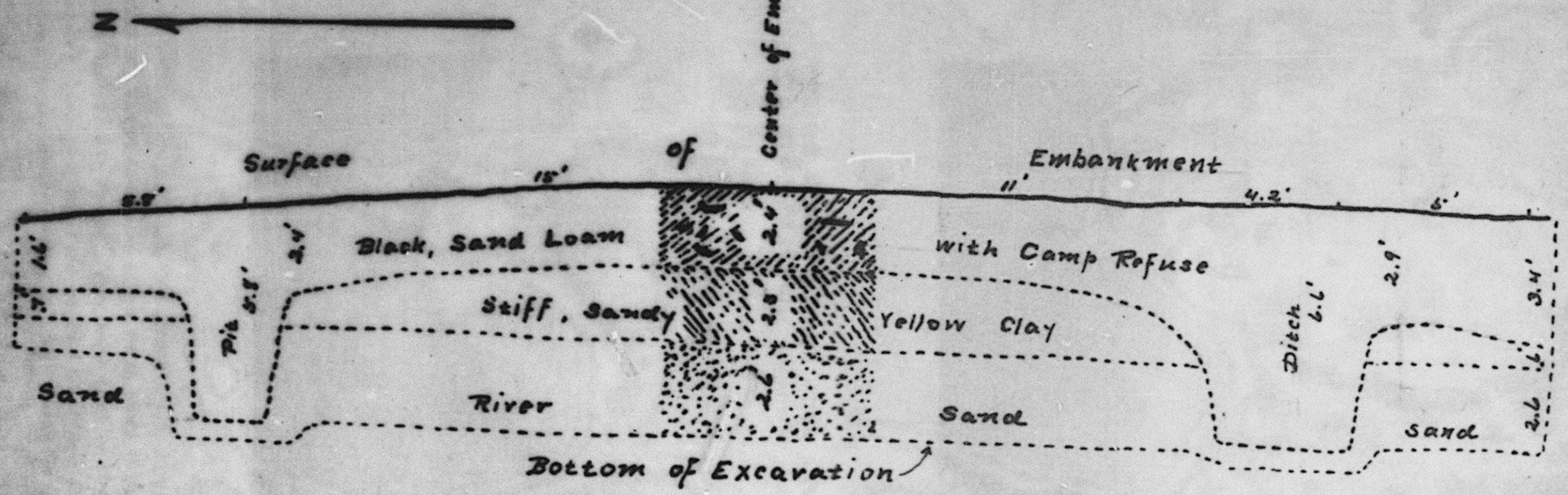
In the old days the river was full of fish, the surrounding uplands teemed with game, and the bottoms were the richest of corn lands; Southeast and Southwest are two of the finest springs in Iowa. That all this appealed to prehistoric man, an enclosed area on the Northwest part, and one hundred mounds in four rows over the absolutely flat area East of Brown's Hill, are mute witnesses. From the time of the earliest settlement, these earthworks have attracted attention.

As part of a general study of prehistoric earthworks in the United States, a party under Col. Norris, sent out by the Bureau of Ethnology, late in 1882, visited two mound areas in Iowa, on which they made quite extensive excavations. These two sites were those on the Lane Farm, and the Fish Farm five miles northeast on a terrace on the Mississippi.

In the 5th Annual Report of the Bureau, for the years 1883-84, a resume of their findings is given. In this report they also describe and comment on the information gotten by the Davenport Academy of Sciences in their mound excavations near that city and at Tooleboro in Scott Co. County.

An idealized, very inaccurate sketch map of the mound group showing the arrangement in six rows, of 84 round mounds and 6 linears, a total of 90 on the terrace, form part of this report. Three are also shown on the top of Brown's Hill, and 5 in the square enclosure.(Just south of the town line on Sec. 1, on the Hartley part of the terrace)

In the resume he says, that "the number in the group exceeds



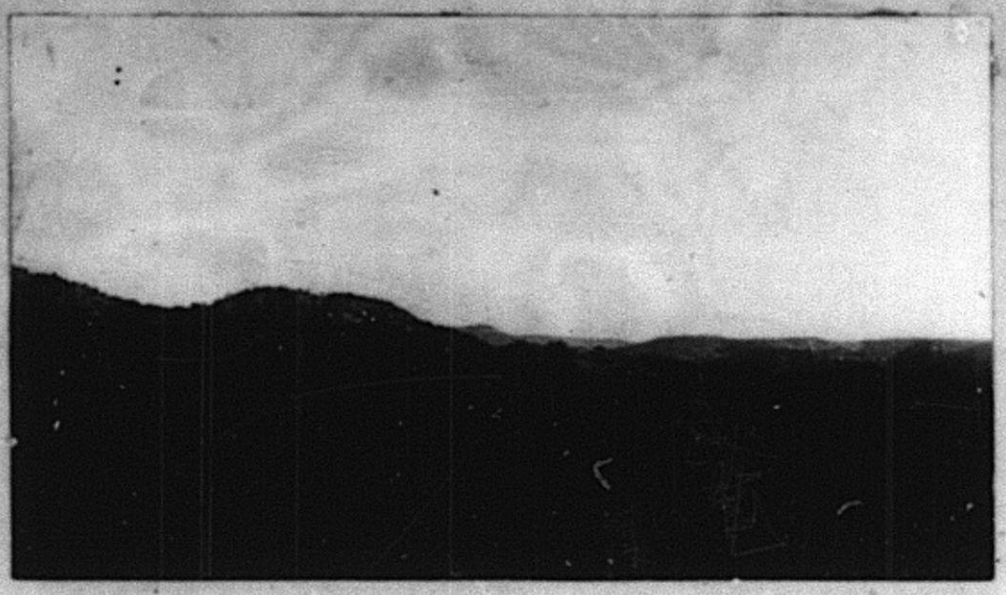
PROFILE OF TRENCH A

North and South Trench across Embankment of "Enclosed Area" on North Side of Lane-Hartley Terrace

46 ft. long by 5 ft. wide, 7 ft. deep.

Excavation summer of 1934 by Party under Supervision of Dr. Charles R. Keyes Under Authority of Project 1047, Iowa Planning Board.

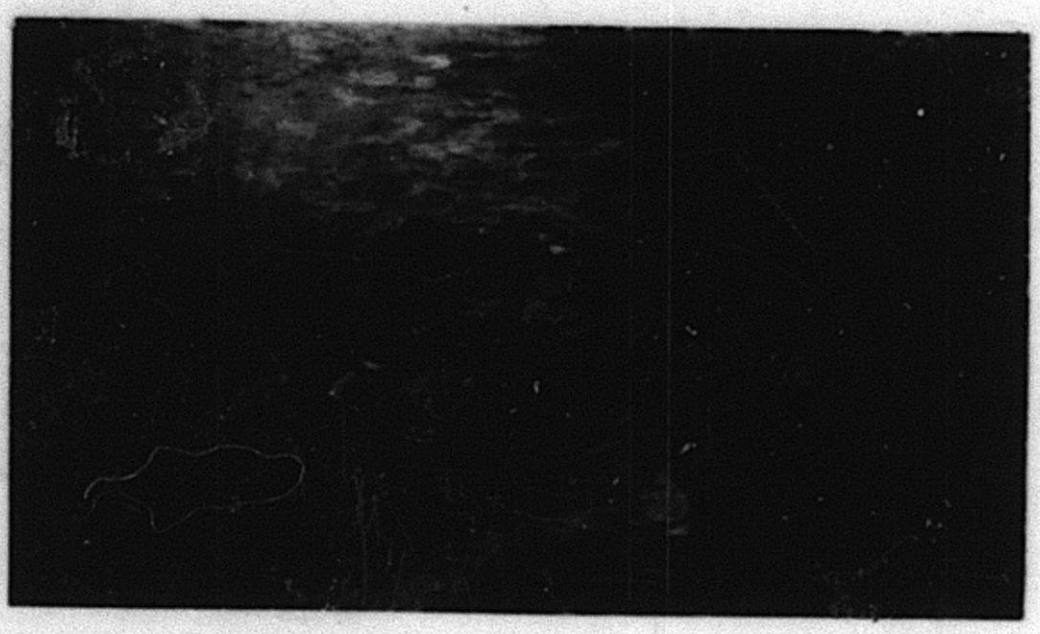
Scale, 1/4 inch = 1 ft.



Lookout from Enclosed Area down the valley of the Upper Iowa. *Looking East.*

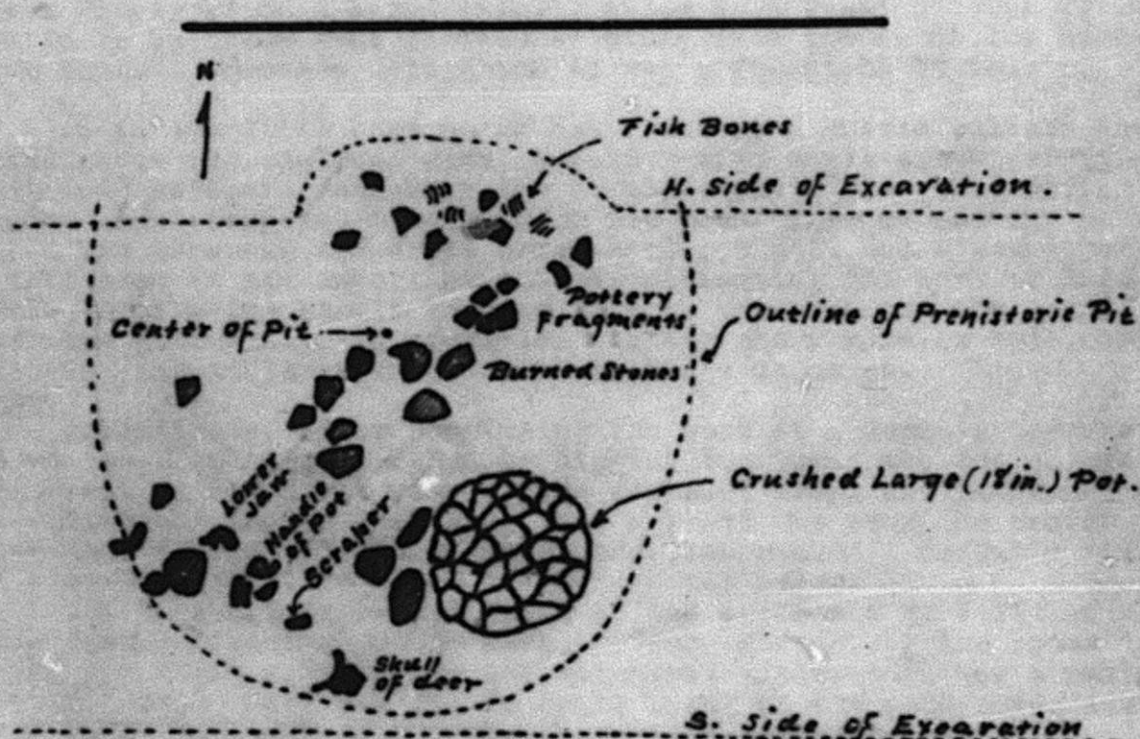
Brown's Hill from Enclosed Area. - *Looking SW.*
Trench A, across embankment on N. side of Enclosed Area in middle foreground. - Note embankment to left. Two men back of Trench A are working in Trench C. Farther back and a little to the right are two others working in Trench B. Around trees at left back is Lane Farm Terrace Mound Group.

Trench C in center of Enclosed Area.
Looking West.



Large crushed Pot in Trench C.
Looking East.

Profile of Trench C, in Center of Lane Farm "Enclosed Area".
Scale, 4 ft. to Inch



Floor Plan of Prehistoric Pit in W. end of Trench C, Lane Farm Enclosed Area. Six Feet in Diameter, three ft. deep. Besides crushed large Pot and other large sherds - all Oneota Culture - there were many scattered small pieces not shown, and bits of Charcoal, - also all Oneota

Scale ½ inch = 1 foot

one hundred". There are no traces of mounds on the very rocky top of Brown's Hill, and the square shown across the swampy rivulet cannot be located by the map, and no trace of it found by searching. Col. Norris concludes that the enclosed area was first made by a people "whose stay was probably not very protracted", who were followed by another tribe "that made it (the mound area) for a long time a dwelling place", and thinks that it is absolutely certain that this second tribe was the builder of the mounds.

A study of our findings which follow, will show that the reverse of Col. Norris' conclusions is probably correct.

The enclosed area, as described by Col. Norris, "is an almost exactly circular embankment, the curve being broken on the East side, where it touches the brink of the bluff,(terrace) being here made to conform to the line of the latter though probably never thrown up to the same height as the other portion. The ends at the Southeast overlap each other for a short distance - - -a ditch runs on the inside from the entrance on the south to where the embankment strikes the bluff (terrace edge) on the north, but is wanting on the overlapping portion". The North and South diameter measuring from outside to outside, is 277 ft., from East to West, 235 ft. - - - the length of the portion along the bluff (terrace edge) on the East, is 100 ft. - - - the wall (embankment) is 4 ft. high, and from 25 to 27 ft. wide,- - - and the ditch is 5 to 6 ft. wide and 3 ft. deep".

He says that the embankment was composed mainly of yellowish-brown clay resting on the natural earth, over this he found "an accumulation of refuse matter (mixed with earth) 1 to 2 ft. deep" and over this a "layer of sand 1 ft. thick", which by a great stretch of imagination he believes "was drifted by winds from the crumbling sandstone butte". (Brown's Hill,which is not a sandstone butte.)

As in our field hunting we had found much Oneota culture sherds in and about the enclosed area, together with small arrow points and "bunt end" scrapers, and only two or three small pieces of string decorated, sand-tempered ware, and on the mound area no pottery at all - only a few scrapers and crude arrow-heads, a celt and a copper strap, we felt that it was important that supplementing the work of Col. Norris, excavating should be done both in the area and the mounds, to determine definitely, if possible, whether there were or were not two cultures, and if there were, what was their sequence.

Accordingly, after completing the work at O'Regan's terrace, and at the Elephant, we began by digging two trenches, one across the embankment on the north side of the enclosed area, and the other across the embankment on the west side, and a third one near the center. We found that Norris' "1 ft. of sand" had disappeared - probably mixed by the plow with the 1 to 2 ft. of camp refuse below.

Our excavations showed first at the surface 2 to 3 ft. of black sandy loam containing not so much, pottery sherds, broken bones and a very few small arrow-heads and scrapers. Below this was a maximum of stiff, sandy clay 2.5 ft. in depth lying on the pure river sand which forms the bulk of all the Upper Iowa river terraces.

Practically the same sequence of soil formations of the same thickness were found in the trench in the center.

In the west end of this trench, in a refuse or fire pit, at a

depth of 3.5 ft. below the surface, along with other broken pottery, bones, fish scales and bones, and charcoal, was a large crushed, probably complete, Oneota culture pot. In fact no other pottery than that belonging to Oneota culture was found either in the trenches, in the pit which we dug on the edge of the terrace where Mr. Ed Wild had found a large quantity of large Oneota culture sherds the year before, or on the surface. This would mean that the enclosure for whatever purpose built, was the work of the latest comers, the people of the Oneota culture.

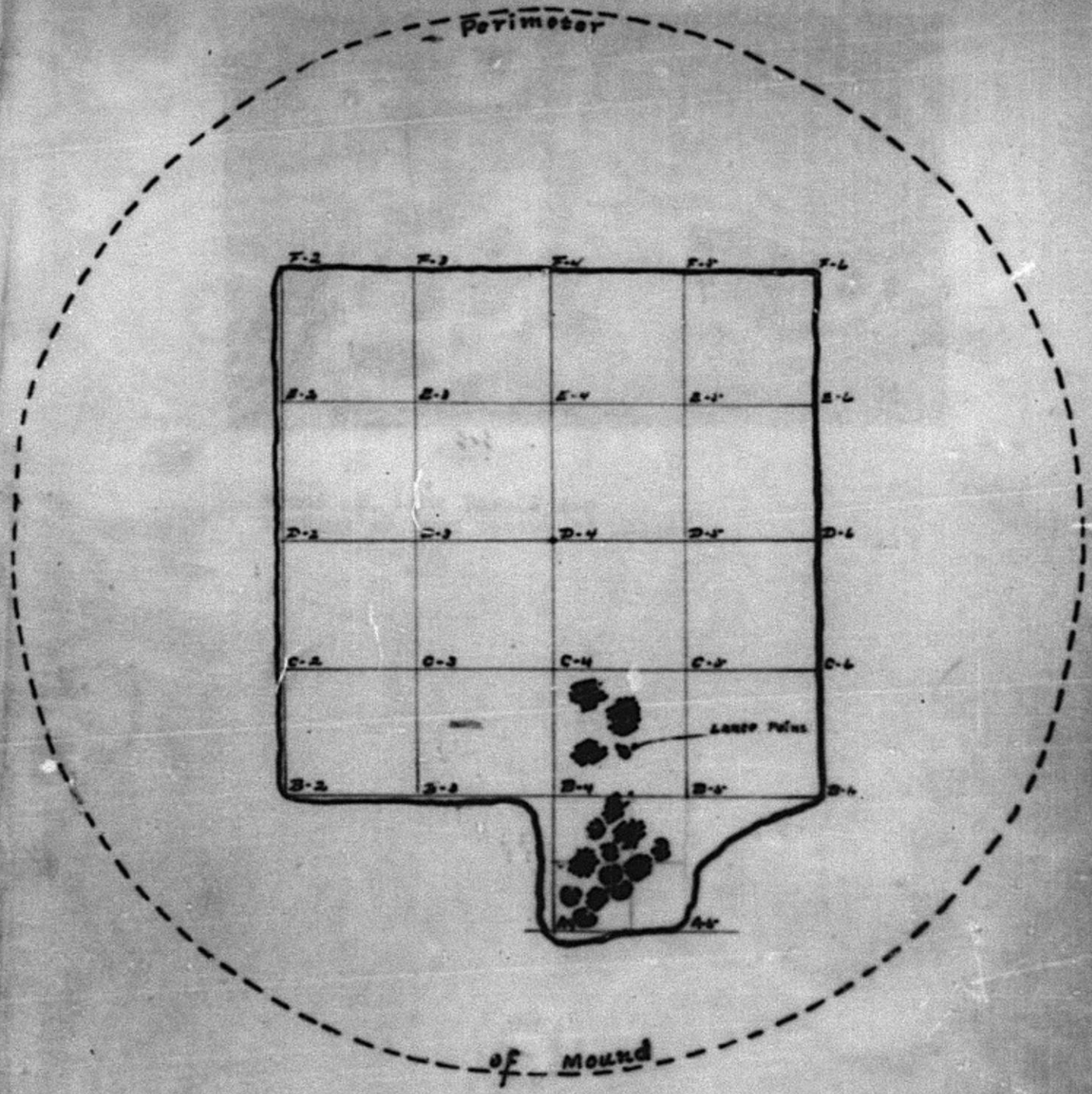
No traces of the buried ends of palisade posts were found in either trench across the embankment.

Cross sections of trenches and photographs follow; also field notes of survey of terrace and trenches as well as of mound excavations, details of which also follow.

Mound #1
Lane Farm Mound Group

Excavated Aug. 13 to 14, 1934.

This mound 40 ft. in diameter and approximately 18 inches in height, was excavated by digging a pit 20x20 ft. to a depth of 40 inches. The only skeletal remains or relics of any kind were encountered on two "floors" in Secs. A-4 and B-4. The three bundle burials in B-4 lay on what was probably the natural surface at the time of burial.
The 5 bundles and 6 badly crushed and fragmentary skulls in A-4 rested on a small level area a foot below the original natural surface.
The bundles in B-4 were oriented N 57 E, those on A-4, N 35 E. All bones were badly decomposed, crumbling at the touch.
A chert lance head lay on one of the three skeletons in B-4. Although the remainder of the pit was carried down to a depth of 40 in., nothing else was found.
We may have missed other burials around the edge - we came near to missing those in A-4. We are now convinced that a mound 40 ft. in diameter requires a pit 25 x 25 ft.



Excavation in Mound #1

6 bundle burials in Secs. A-4 and B-4
Note remnants of 6 skulls
The floor of these burials was approximately at the level of the surrounding natural surface.

Mound #1, Lane Farm Group
Looking SE from center of Mound.

Mound #2
Lane Farm Mound Group
Excavated Aug 15-16, 1934.

In this mound, 33 ft. in diameter and sixteen inches high, a pit 20x20 ft. was excavated to a rather uneven burial floor ten to twenty-four inches below the natural surface. From this floor the excavation was carried on down to a depth of four feet in hopes of finding earlier burials, but nothing was found except a shoulder blade digging implement in C-3, and a few bits of charcoal and clam shells in C-5, at 45 inches below natural surface.

Burial #1, oriented N 14 E, lay at 24 in. below natural surface. Skull 6.9 inches long, 5.4 wide, and lower jaw, lying on left side, were well preserved. Large fragments of shafts of femora, humerii and tibiae, were in place as were the articular portions of the pelvis and the sacrum. All the remainder of the skeleton was gone except fragment of radius which lay longitudinally across pelvis in Section B-3.

In Burial #2, the skull lay on left side at thirteen inches below surface, with lower jaw in place but behind it. Fragments of shafts of arm and leg bones, pelvis and lumbar vertebrae were in place at same level. Orientation N 48 E in C-4.

Burial No. 2

Burial #3 consisted of part of shafts of both femora protruding into pit from west side in D-2 at depth of thirteen inches below natural surface. Following these to west, found fragments of shin bones. A piece of skull lay three feet to east, probably belonging to this skeleton. Orientation N 77 E.

Femora of Burial #4 protruded from left bank of pit nineteen inches below surface, in D-2. Separated from #3 by about one foot, shin bones under bank not uncovered. Upper parts of skeleton missing. Lump of charcoal about 3 inches outside where left humerus should have been. Orientation N 59 E.
Pot - Oneota culture - lying on side with top against right knee, about

3 in. of neck on one side crumbled away down to swell of bowl - otherwise complete.
In this burial the head apparently was several inches lower than the feet.

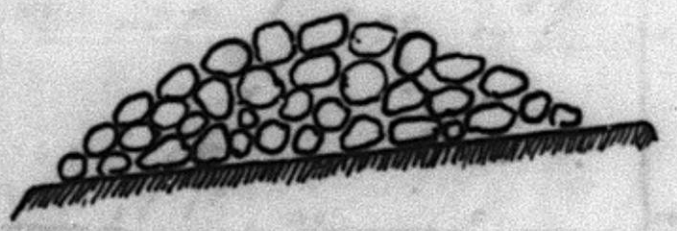
Burial #5 was in Sec. C-4 at 54 inches S 20 E of stake D-4 at center of mound and 11 inches below surface. It consisted of two pieces of skull only.

Burial #6 - a fragment of back and base of skull and the lower jaw, lay at 10 inches below the natural surface in the NE corner of D-4.

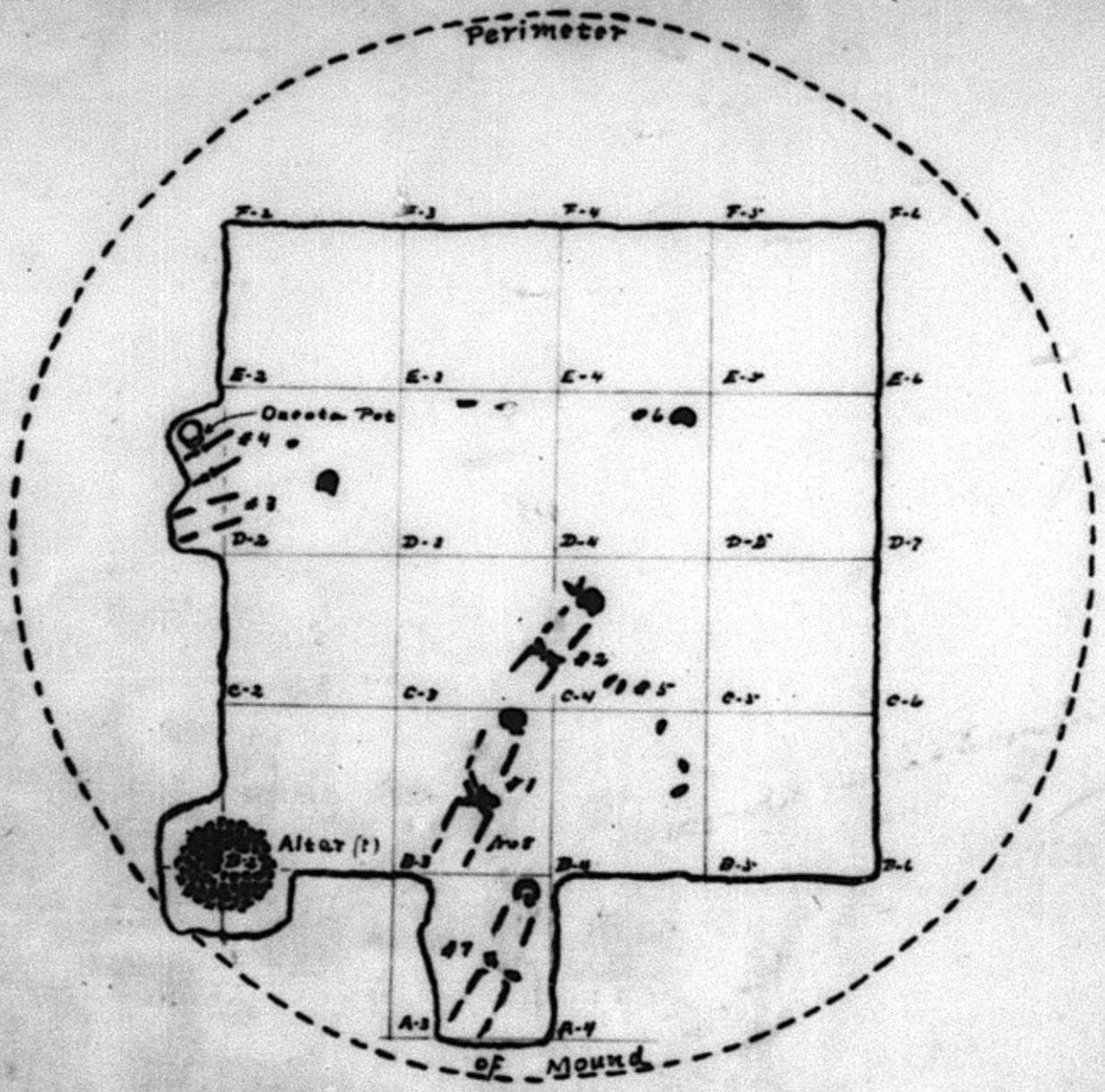
Burial #7, south of #1, in A-3 (?) at 24 inches below surface - skull and long bones - much decayed. Orientation N 14 E.

[redacted].

A circular conical heap of 100 chunky limestones, averaging 4 inches in diameter, lay on a floor sloping to the NW, at a depth of 18 inches, in the SW corner of the pit, in Section B-1, B-2, A-1 and A-2.



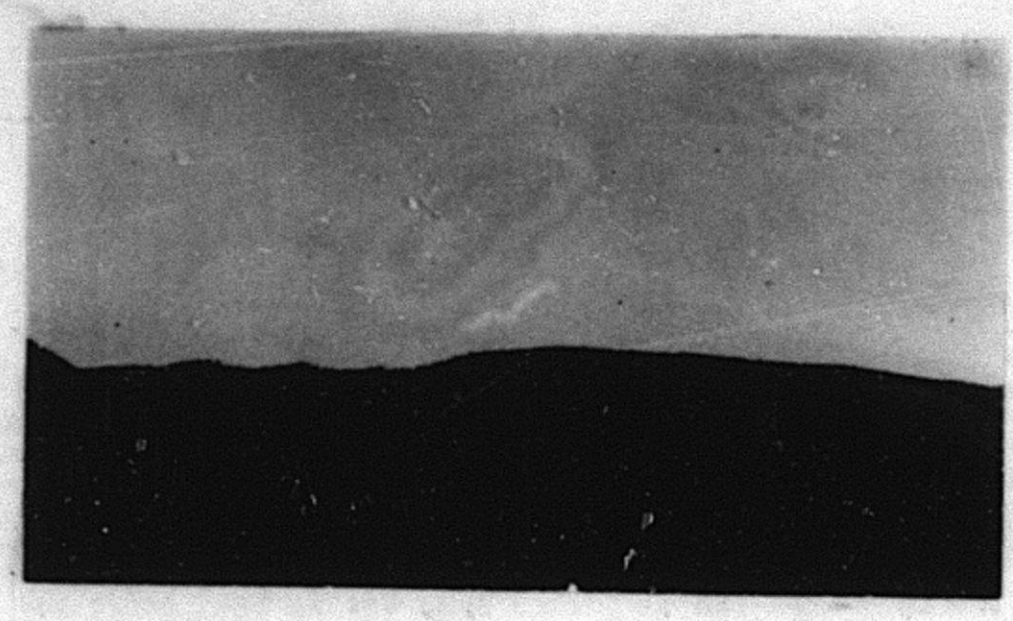
Numbers 3 and 4 are believed to be intrusive burials of people of the Oneota culture. Numbers 5 and 6, as well as the remnants of bones in the north part of Sec. B-4 and D-3 are quite certainly much older.
Because of any evidence of grave goods it is impossible to determine the culture of these or of numbers I, 2, and 7. Depth of burial can not be considered an evidence of the culture.



Excavation in Mound #2

[redacted]

Burial # 1, Section B-3
24 inches below natural surface.
Mound No. 1



The Giant's Davenport on the Oneota
Discovered by John Carter.

Mound #3
Lane Farm Mound Group

Excavated Aug. 21 and 22, 1934.

This Mound, 24 ft. in diameter and 24 inches high, was excavated by digging a pit 12x12 ft. square, 6 ft. deep to pure sand. No indications of stratification were found.

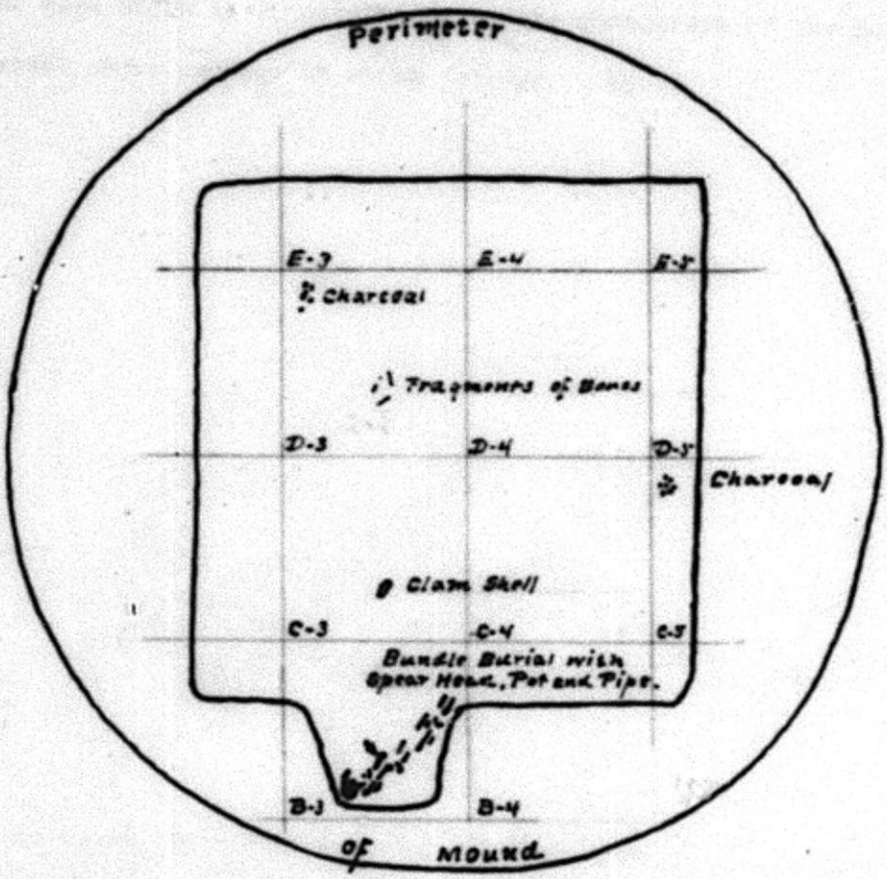
It was located 465 ft. north of the "forty" corner next north of the one-fourth Section corner on the south line of Sec. 35, T. 100, R. 4, the north and south quarter section line through the center of Sec. 36, touching its East side.

Just on the West edge of the great ditch which from its north side cuts into the terrace along the quarter line, the East half had escaped the plow but the west half showed the "backfurrow" ridge usually seen along the edge of carelessly cultivated old fields.

In Sec. C-3, at a depth of 36 inches below the surface, a clam shell was found, and at the same depth, in NW. corner of Sec. C-5, considerable charcoal. In NW. corner of Sec. D-3, there was much charcoal at a depth of 45 in., and in the center of the same Section, some small fragments of what were probably animal bones at 60 in. below the surface.

Two fragments of shin bones sticking out of the south side of the pit in Sec. B-3, at 20 in. below the surface, on being followed up, were found to be part of a bundle burial scattered over an area of floor 36x20 inches, having a northeast and southwest direction. On the west side and near the center, was a well made, notched, white chert knife or spear head, and at the south end, tipped a little to the north, a fine whole Algonkan pot, and a little under it, the bowl (the stem was broken off and missing) of a pottery pipe like the one illustrated in Fig. 3, Plate 35 of West's Pipes, except that the stem was round as in Fig. 1, instead of square. The almost accidental finding of this only burial at 7 ft. from the center and with one end but 4 ft. from the perimeter of the mound, goes to show that to excavate a mound properly, dig wide and deep.

No signs of intrusive burials were found.



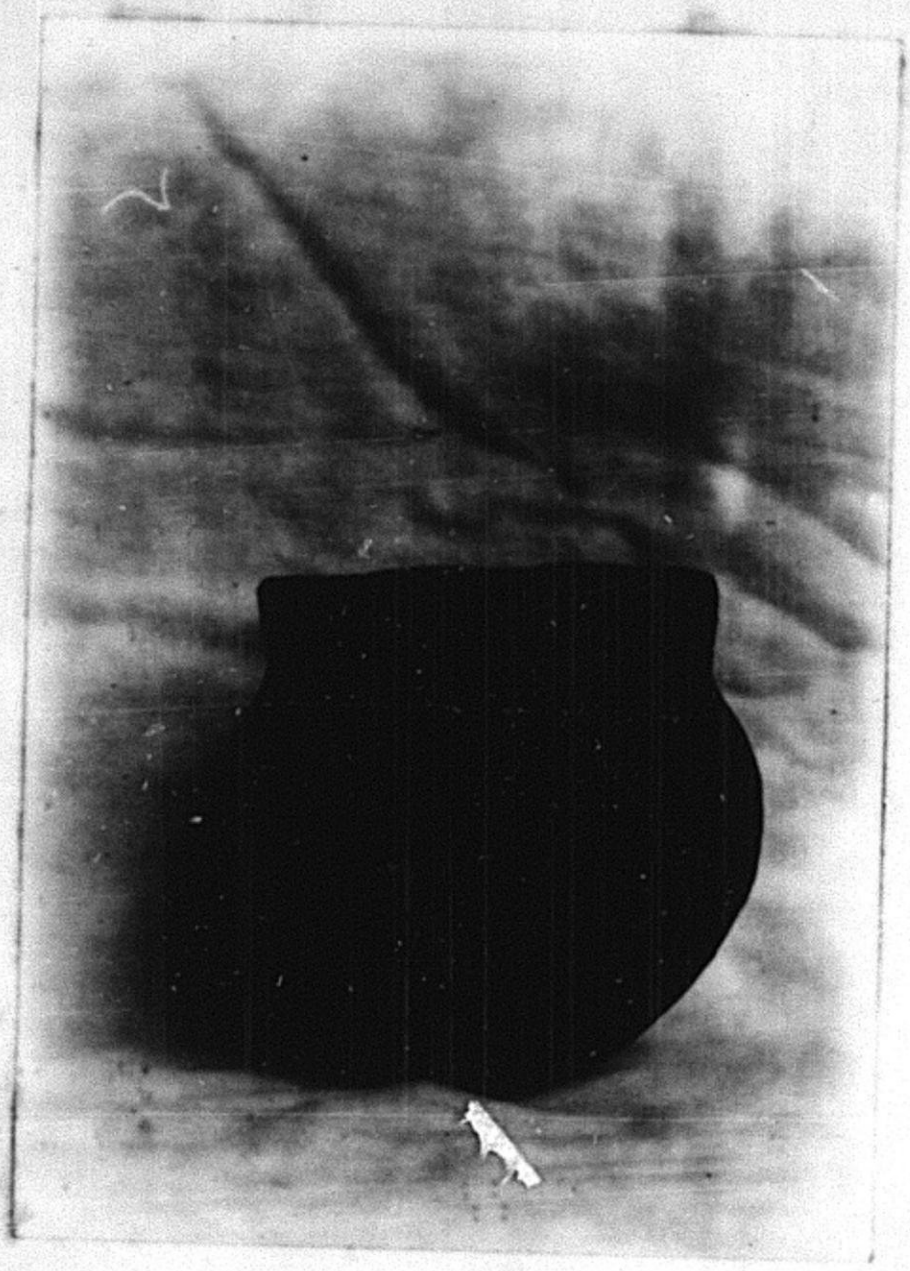
Horizontal Plan of Mound #3
Lane Farm Mound Group.
Scale 5 ft. to inch.

[The note below is an attachment to the photograph of the pottery vessel shown on page 38 which follows. Ed.]

The pot found in Mound No. 3 of the Lane-Hartley Group was decorated just below the lip by a horizontal belt of vertical 5 mm long incised lines below which were 3 horizontal string impressed lines, separated by I mm.

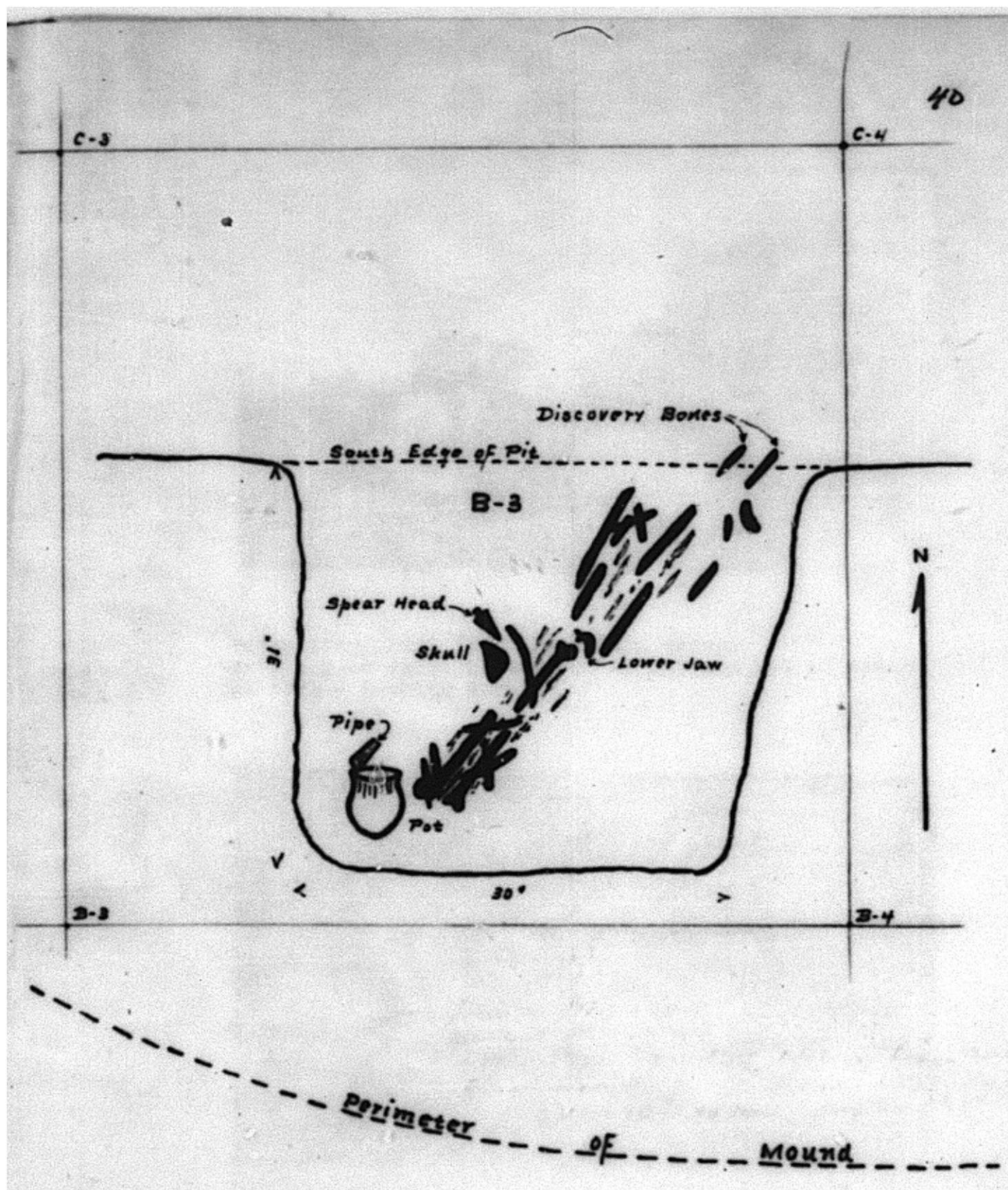
Below these were 2 - 3 horizontal belts of vertical in-incised lines approximately 2 mm long separated by I mm.

Below these the entire body of the pot was was decorated by very faint short strips of very slightly curved connected rouletted lines having diagonal and horizontal directions.



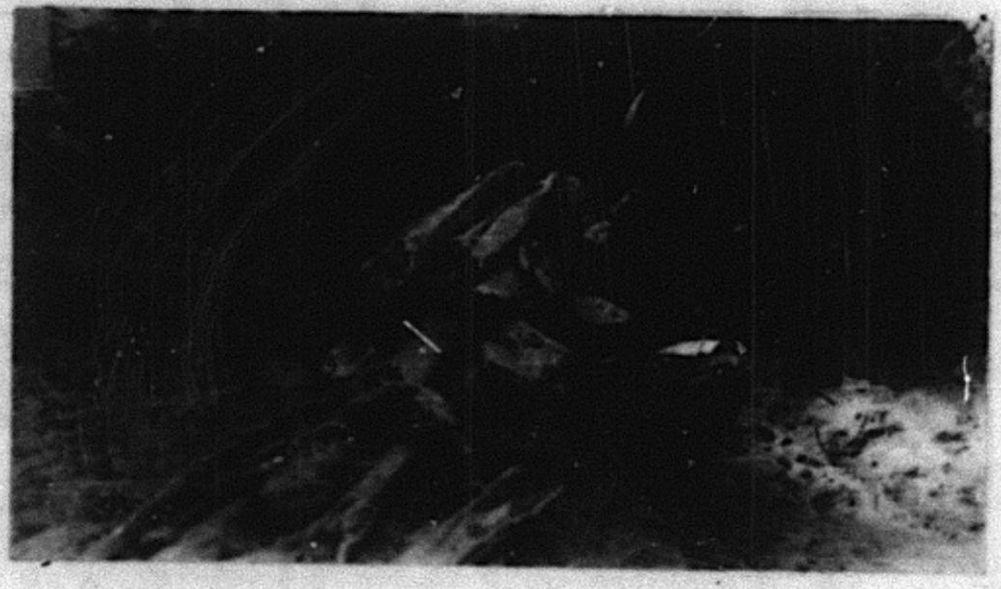
Funerary vessel (Pot) from Burial in Sec. B-3 of Mound #3 of Lane Farm Mound Group.
The bowl of a pottery pipe lay under this pot and a notched chert knife near to one side of the bundle burial with which all were associated.

3/5 Actual Size



Bundle Burial in Sec. B-3 of Mound #3.
Note Algonkan Pot, Pottery Pipe and Spear head.
Survey by Ellison Orr,
Scale 10 in. to inch. Aug. 22, 1934.

Excavating Mound #3 of Lane Farm Group.
Note boy on earth thrown out of pit and hat of man at work - Looking North



Bundle Burial, Algonkan culture, in Sec. B-3 of Mound #3. NotePot, clay pipe and chert spear-head. Looking south from center of Mound.

Mound #12
Lane Farm Mound Group
Excavated Sept 7-11, 1934.

This mound 33 ft. in diameter and 14 in. in height, was excavat- by digging a pit 20 ft. N and S. by 20 ft. E and W., down to the yellow clay 16 to 19 in. below the level of the natural surface.

The change from the ash-gray clay above to this yellow clay was abrupt and very noticeable. The change from the asy-gray clay to the blacker sandy surface soil was gradual. The line of the natural surface could not be distinguished.

Burial #1, consisting of 2 fragments of femur and 2 of shin bones, properly placed, lay 16" directly E. of the center of the mound, extending N. 10 E from there 3 ft. Over the femur on N. was the shoulder blade of a buffalo or elk 10 in. long, 5 in. S of which was a fragment of a skull. This burial at level of natural surface.

Burial #2, 4 ft. directly S. of Burial #1, and 1 in. below level of natural surface, consisted of well preserved skull and lower jaw, 2 in. S. of which lay a fragment of a humerus 10 in. long, 11in. E. of which were 2 quite well preserved femurs, 17 in. long, with fragment of pelvis at end of one on N. side, these femurs were 11 in. apart at proximal end and 3 in. at distal end, at which they were connected with 2 very well preserved shin bones 14 in. long, 2 in. S. of which was a shoulder blade 12 in. long placed on edge with socket end towards skull of burial.

Total distance from top of skull to end of shin bones was 60 inches, and bones were small, evidently the skeleton of a woman or youth. No vertabrae or other body bones present and except fragment of right humerus, no arm, hand or foot bones.

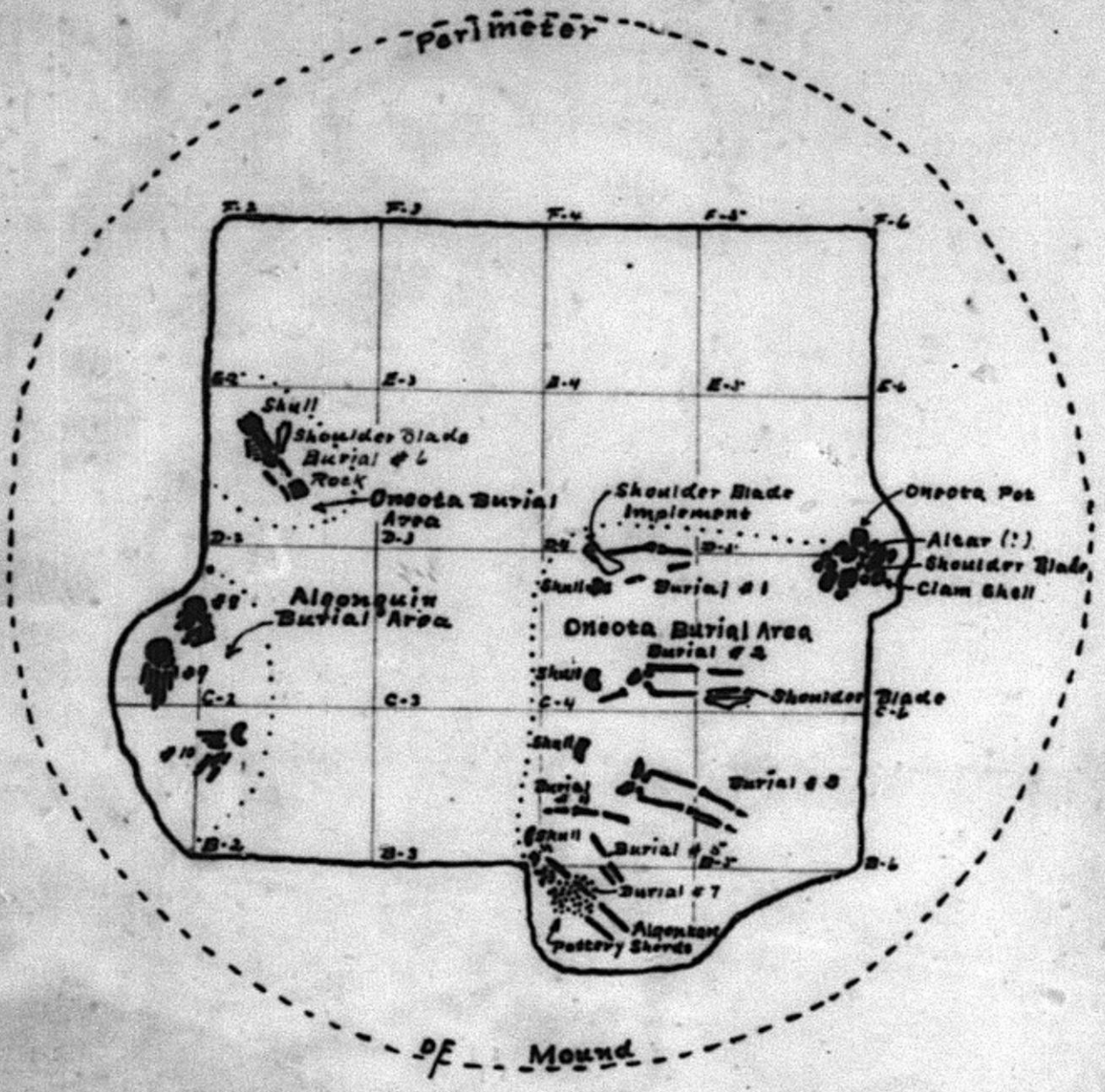
Burial #3 consisted of a fragment of skull at 21 in. S and 16 in. E of NW. cor. of Sec. B-4, at 24 in. S. 30 E from which is end of 2 well preserved femurs lying in same direction and connected at distal end with 2 as well preserved tibiae, with the right one of which properly placed is a fibula and at the distal end of each, an astragalus. Fragments of the pelvis are in place at proximal end of femora. This burial was 9 in. below level of natural surface.

Burial #4 consisted of 3 badly decayed fragments of leg bones placed E and W, the E. end of the one extending farthest in that direction being 36 in. S and 40 in. E of the NW cor. of Sec. B-4.

In "mopping up", there was found scattered in the earth under this burial, 8 fragments of Algonkan pottery. This burial was 1 in. below the natural surface.

Burial #5 consisted of a 10 in. long piece of the proximal end of a femur lying 1 ft. N and 16 in. E of SW cor. of Sec B-4, S 30 E. of which at a distance of 9 in. and extending in the same direction, lay 2 fragments of tibiae 6 in long and 4 in. apart. This burial lay 4 in. below the natural surface.

Burial #6 was that of a child about 7 years old, lying at a depth below the natural surface of 6 in. and in a N. and S. direction, the skull of which was 6 ft. S and 3 ft. E of the NW cor. of pit. Besides the skull, the part of the humeri, the cervical and dorsal vertabrae, most of the ribs, a fragment of the left incominata and of the 2 femora and the right tibia, were present. Over the articulation of the right femur with pelvis fragment was the shoulder blade of an elk or buffalo.



Excavation in Mound#12

Burials uncovered in SE one-fourth of Pit, except possibly burial #7 in Section A-4, at depth below natural surface of o to 9 inches are quite certainly of the Oneota culture people -intrusive burials- as is also the burial in Sec. D-2 at 6 inches below the natural surface. Bundle burials #8,9 and 10, at a depth below natural surface of 19-20 inches, are probably Algonkan. Burial #7 at the same depth in A-4, because of the depth and the cache of Algonkan pottery sherds 4 inches below it, may also be of this culture.

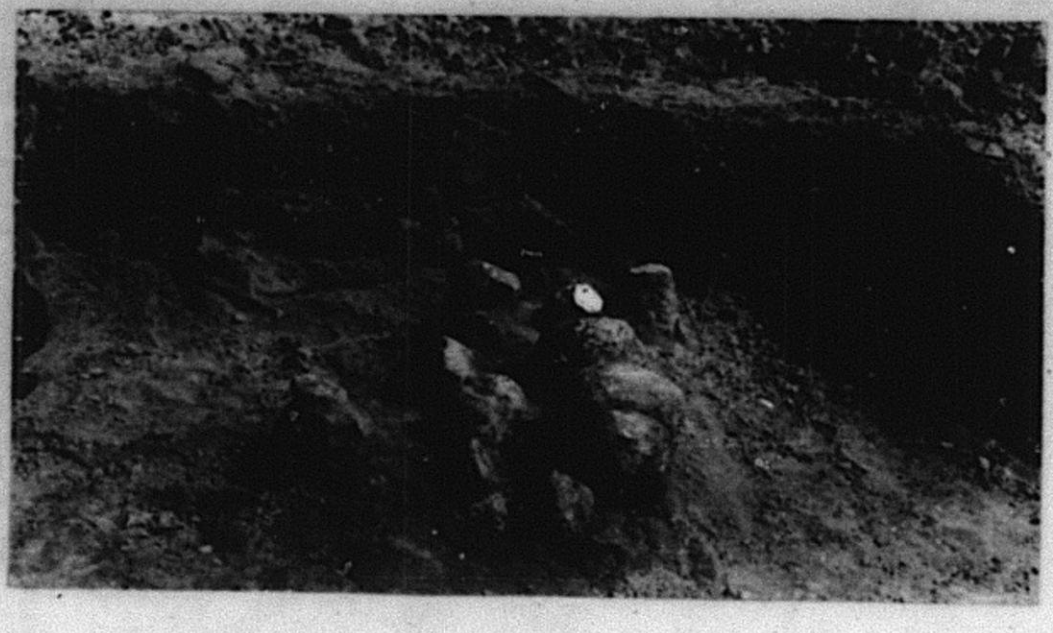
Scale 1 inch= 5ft.

Brown's Hill from East. - West side of Lane Farm Terrace. Note restored mound and car, right center.

Pit in Mound 12, looking NE. Note altar in center - NE corner of pit. Under this a Siouan pot was found. The burials shown are believed to be all Oneota culture.

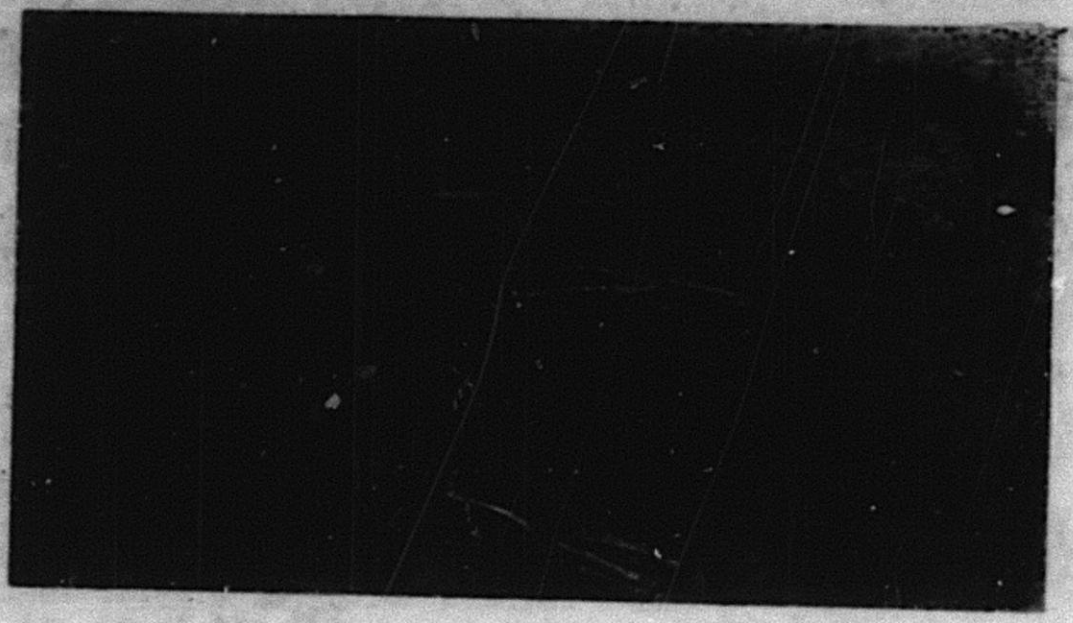
Algonkin Culture Pottery
Sherds from Sec. A-4, Mound #12 of
Lane Farm Mound Group.

All pieces of same pot.
Actual size.



Altar, looking East. Note clam shell, under this a Siouan Pot was found.

Close-up of Burial #6. Note shoulder-blade digging implement.



Burials 1, 2 and 3, Looking North
in Mound 12

Burials 1 and 2. Looking North
Note shoulder blade implement
at right knee.

in Mound 12

Burial #7, within 6 in. of SW cor. of B-4, 2 fragments of skull and the end of a badly decayed bone. Showing in the S. wall of the pit led to undercutting the bank to follow up the lead. A badly decayed humerus, and a radius incline upwards at an angle of 45° followed a little farther in by the shafts of 2 femora - the whole at 20 in. below the natural surface, at N. 50 W.

In uncovering this burial, 31 pieces of apparently the same Algonkan pot, and one piece of a different one, were found between the femora and skull fragments, scattered over a level 4 in. lower and 3-2ft. in diameter. Enough pieces to show the decoration scheme of the entire pot were recovered. At S end of 2 femora, at same level were found 2 pieces of Siouan rims of 2 different pots.

#8 At 2 ft. S. of Station D-2, consisting of a mass of badly decayed long bones placed parallel in a S 45-W direction, was a bundle burial at 10 in. below the natural surface. This was partly in Sec. C-2 and partly in Sec. C-1 outside the pit line.

Burial #8, a skull lay at the N. end of the heap.

7 in. Sw. of burial #8, was bundle burial No. 9, the long bones lying parallel N and S, with skull at N. end. Entirely outside of pit in Sec. C-1, 10 in. below natural surface.

18 in. SE of the latter, at the same level, and in Sec. C-2, was bundle burial #10 - skull fragment at SE end.

Under altar on E side Md. #12 at 16 in. below natural surface, a very thin fragile Siouan pot lying canted over 45° to NE. The top and one side was badly broken up by shovel of digger. When he discovered it he had thrown out not more than 5 shovels full of fresh dirt but apparently the vessel was not whole when interred as not all of it was found although a very careful and thorough search for it was made in the same heap of earth thrown out. 10 in. S of pot under altar at same level, was a large shoulder blade, E and W with cup to E. Fragment of skull 2 ft. W of pot.

Present elevation of Mound #12 above natural level	14	inches
Burial #1, below natural level	00	"
" #2, " " "	1	"
" #3 " " "	9	"
" #4 " " "	1	"
" #5 " " "	4	"
" #6 " " "	6	"
" #7 " " "	20	"
" Algonkan pottery sherds below natural surface	24	"
" #8 (Algonkan) below natural surface	19	"
" #9 top red clay Sw cor.		
" #10		

Altar - an elongated heap of 5 in. rocks.

Mound #13
Lane Farm Mound Group.
Excavated Aug. 1934.

This, in appearance one of the least promising that we opened, proved to be the banner mound of our summer's work.

Thirty-three feet in diameter and ten inches high it scarcely showed above the dead level of the surrounding field - the terrace top, yet it yielded two fine whole Algonkan pots and a third, which though badly crushed and some of it missing, can yet be restored to make a good exhibit of the particular type of the grit-tempered pottery of the Lane Farm Group of Mounds.

A pit 20x20 ft. was dug down through the 26-28 inches of gray top soil to the slightly sandy yellowish clay and into that for 12 in. to the level of the burials.

A so-called altar of 11 small limestones and a large one 12x10x14 inches, was found at about 2 inches below the natural surface in Sec. E-4.

Burial #1 consisted of half a dozen badly decayed long bones and a fragment of skull, lying E and W in Sec. C-2, in a pit 18x36 inches and 8 inches in yellow clay, or 26 inches below the natural surface.

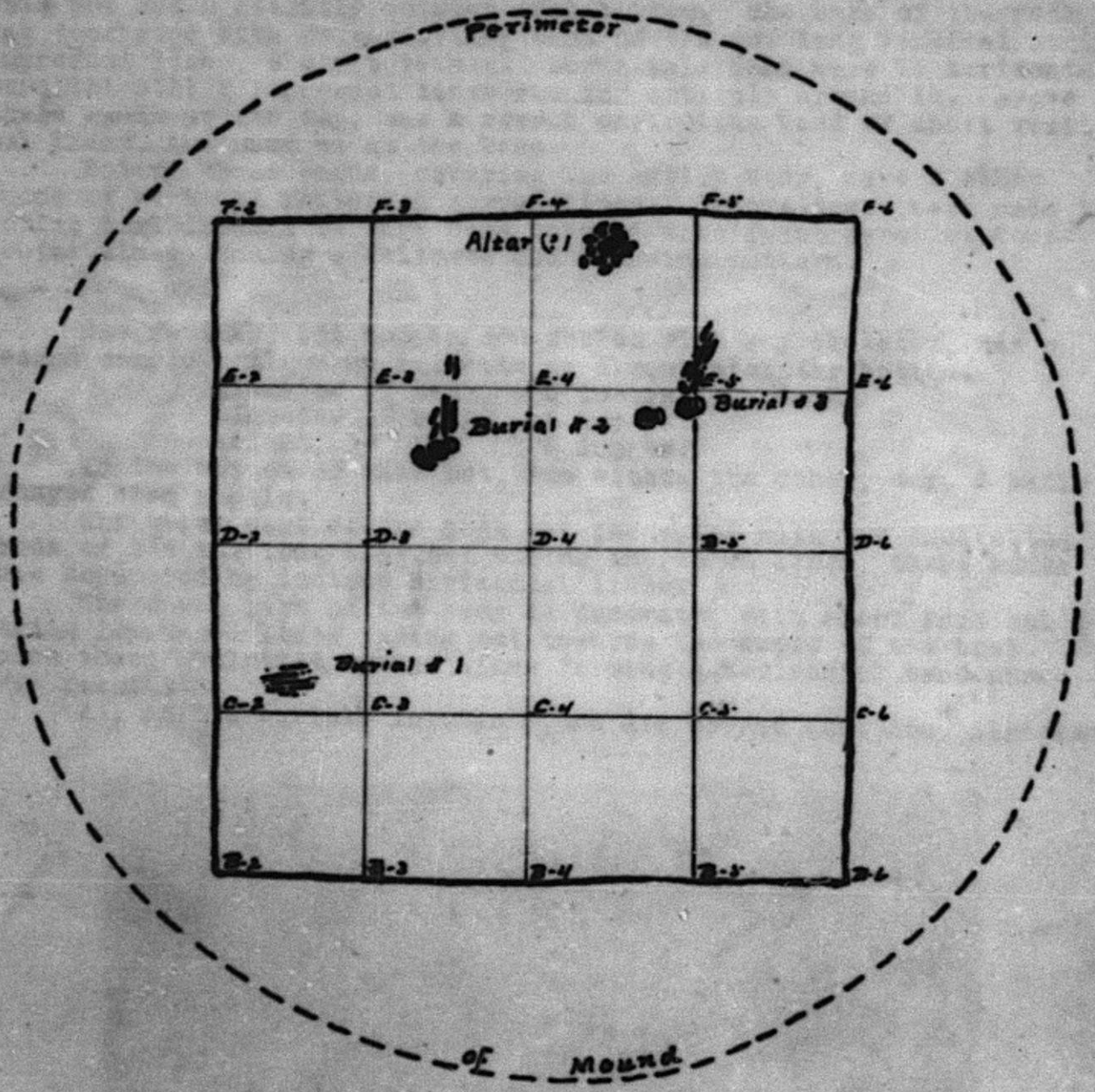
Of Burial #2 in Sec. D-3, only part of the skull and a few badly decayed fragments of long bones remained, these lay N & S in a pit 40x14 inches, 12 inches in yellow clay, or 26 in. below the natural surface. The skull, which lay on its right side facing the SE. and which appeared to be somewhat compressed by the weight of earth over it, was in a much better state of preservation than the few remaining bones of the skeleton. The dimensions were:

Length, 7.3 inches
Width , 5.0 "

Within 1 inch of the base of the skull and between it and the other parts of the skeleton, sitting upright, was a badly broken up Algonkan pot ornamented only on the neck by two horizontal string impressed lines running entirely around it just below the rim, there were no decorations on the bowl.

Burial #3 was, like this other, a bundle burial consisting of parts of 4 long bones, a bit of skull and part of a pelvis, in the NE. corner of D-4 and SE. corner of E-4, 28 in. below the general surface level, in a pocket 40x26 inches, in yellow-red clay, 1 ft. below its junction with the ash-gray surface soil- 28 in. below the natural surface. Orientation N 10 E. Four inches SW of skull, upright - with cant to East, was a finely decorated Algonkan pot,

Diameter of neck, 4.6 inches
Diameter of bowl, 5.3 "
Height, 5.6 "



Floor Plan of Algonkan Burials in Mound #13
of Lane Farm Mound Group.
Scale 5ft. to inch. Survey by Ellison Orr.

This pot had a slightly pointed oval bottom. The base of the neck was decorated with an encircling band of 1/4 in. long vertical string impressed lines, close together. Above this band were 11 horizontal parallel string impressed lines running entirely around it. Above these again at the top, was a second encircling band of short vertical lines, the same as at the base.

Below these bands, covering the entire body, were 8 other bands of vertical rouletted curved lines. Before these were made the entire bowl appears to have been covered with faint parallel horizontal lines, making a delicate and pleasing pattern.

One foot NW, but not in connection with any skeleton, was a second complete Algonkan pot with an almost globular bottom.

Diameter of neck,	5 inches
Diameter of body,	6 inches
Height,	5 inches.

In the bottom of this pot, one within the other, were 3 badly decayed clam shells.

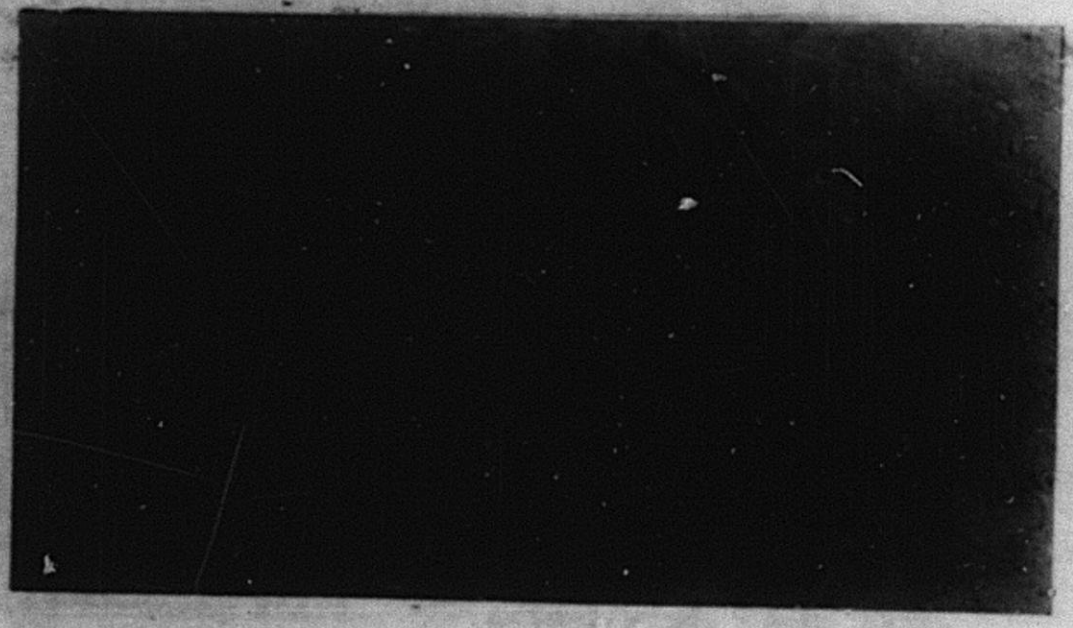
The upper part of the neck was decorated with two encircling bands of 1/4 in. long diagonal string impressed lines, these bands were separated by incised horizontal lines.

The upper part of the body is decorated with short vertical string impressed lines fading out towards the swell of the bowl. Below these rouletted curved lines forming a horizontal band show very faintly.

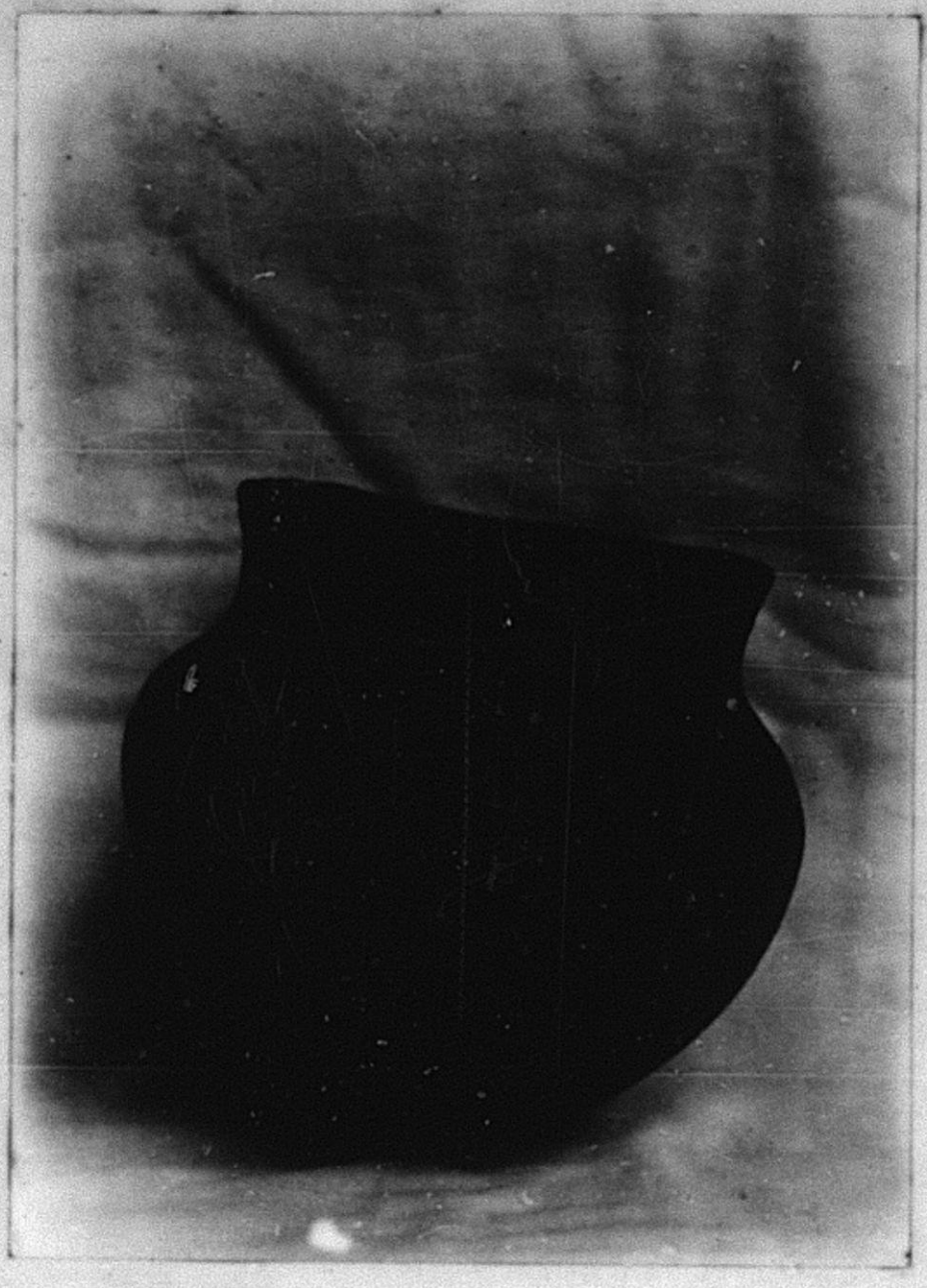
All of the burials in this mound are beyond question, Algonkan.

Algonkin funerary vessel (Pot) in place in bundle burial #2, Mound #13 of Lane Farm Mound Group. Note skull near.

Two Algonkin funerary vessels (Pots) in place in pit in NE corner of Sec. D-4, Mound #13, Lane Farm Mound Group. Apparently deposited with Burial #3.



Nearer view of same pots as above.



Photograph of Mortuary Pot #_____ found with Burial #3 uncovered in excavating Mound #13 of the Lane Farm Prehistoric Mound Group under Project #1047 of Iowa Planning Board. 2/5 Actual size. Aug. 1934.

Pot farthest from skeleton.

Algonkin funerary vessel (Pot) #------- nearest skull of bundle burial #3, Mound #13 of Lane Farm Mound Group. 3/5 natural size.

Mound #16, Lane Farm Mound Group.

Sept. 8-11, 1934.

30 ft. in diam. x 8 inches high.
Excavated Mound #16 by digging a pit 20x20 ft. and 18 to 20 inches deep to yellow clay. Above this yellow clay was ashy-gray soil changing to a darker surface soil above. The top of the yellow clay appears to have been the floor of the mound but in Section B-2, C-2, D-4 and F-3, the ashy-gray soil dipped down 4 to 8 in. deeper.

At 6 ft. S. of NE cor. and 2 ft. W. of E wall of pit was an altar of 6 hand size limestone rocks at 14 in. below natural surface, and in A-2 and B-2, a second one of 12 somewhat larger limestones scattered over an area of 26 in. N. and S. and 36" E and W., 14 in. below natural surface.

NE of altar in A2 and B-2, was a "fire-pit" 48 in. in diam. and 38 in. below natural surface to bottom. At 28 in. below the natural surface was a stratum of ashes 2 in. thick above which was 8 in. of black earth with which was mixed over a peck of chips and spalls and some fragments of charcoal and Siouan pottery and a few clam shells and fish bones.

Three badly decayed limb bones lying in line from Station D-4 N 80 E, 18 in. in length and 16 in. below natural surface constituted burial #1, near which were found a few scattered small fragments of Algonkan pottery.

Burial #2 was a bundle burial of 4 long bones lying E and W at 20 in. below the natural surface in E-4. Almost in contact with these on the N side was a small (1/4 in.) rolled copper bead.

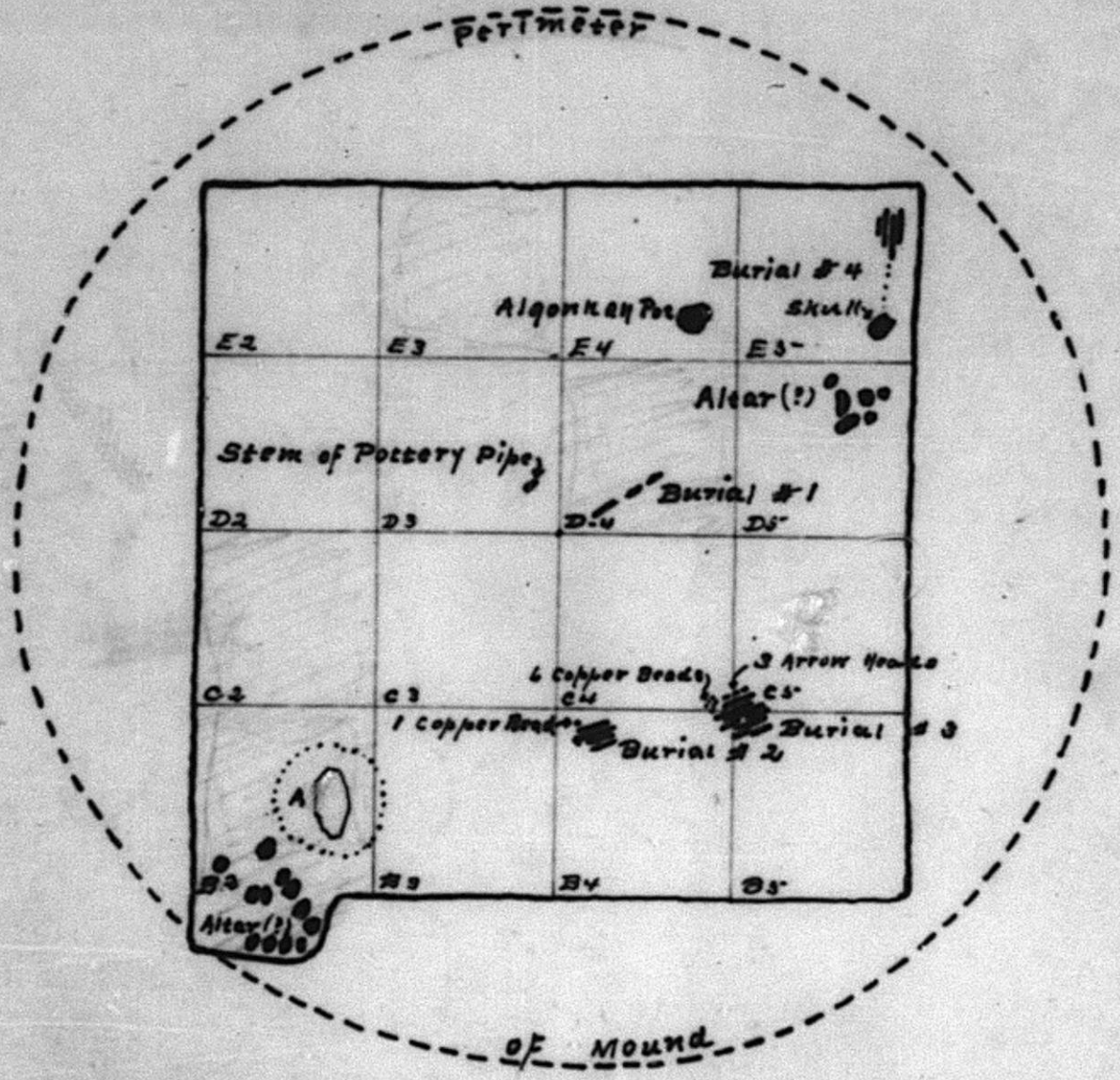
Burial #3 consisted of a bundle burial of 8 long bones at stake C-5, 20 in. below the natural surface. Six of the small copper beads and 3 large arrow heads were found in the earth alongside this burial, on the N side.

In the NE corner in Section E-5, was a bundle burial , #4, of 6 long bones lying N and S with a badly decomposed skull at the S end, 28 in. below natural surface.

At 7 ft. west and 3 ft. S. of the NE corner of the pit, placed vertically, with a 4x3x2 in. limestone lying over it, was a badly crushed round bottomed Algonkan pot with ornamentation around the neck only. In Sec. E-4, No skeleton with this pot, 24 in. below natural surface.

A pottery pipe stem, broken in two by digger, was found 20 in. below natural surface, in Sec. D-3

Present elevation of Mound #16, <u>above</u> natural level ,	8 inches
Floor of Burials #1 and 2, <u>below</u> natural level	7 "
Yellow clay <u>below</u> natural surface	18-24 "



Plan of Mound #16
Lane Farm Mound Group
Floor Level, 18 to 24 inches below Natural Surface.
A- Fire (?) Pit, 48 inches in Diameter. Bottom 38 inches below natural level. Lens-like layer of ashes 2in. thick at bottom, over which, in irregular bunches, was over a peck of chips, flakes and spalls of chert and quartzite, the former greatly predominating. Mixed with these were fragments of Oneota pottery, clam shells and fish bones and scales.

Burials 1-2-3-4, the Pot and Pottery Pipe stem are Algonkan. [redacted] The fire pit and altars are probably intrusive Oneota.

Aug. 30.

Excavated trench 3 ft. wide and 100 ft. long in low sandy ridge on N. shore of what was formerly a small lake on SE. SE. Sec. 36, T. 100, R. 5, and bet. old Bellows residence and highway along lake shore.

At one spot found in the pure sand of which the ridge was composed, a lens-shaped mass of hard red clay and gravel 18 in. in diam. and 4 in. thick. N. of this 1 ft. were 4 fragments of a large pot with scattering charcoal beneath. No burials or other relics.

SURVEY

of
Lane Farm Terrace
Lane Farm Enclosed Area
And Lane Farm Mound Group
Project S3-A2-1047
Iowa Planning Board.

Survey of Lane Farm Terrace, Mound Group and Enclosed Area.
August 1934.

Beginning at the 1/4 Sec. cor. on the line between French Creek and Union City Township, and on S. side of Sec. 36, T. 100, R. 5, Union City Township, Allamakee County, Iowa.

Thence, N. along 1/4 Sec. line
20.00 ch. and set stake in field for 1/8 Sec. cor.
Cottonwood 10 N 33 W 2.17 ch.
" 10 N 16 E 1.64 ch.

From 1/8 Sec. cor. set as above, Var 5 E

thence	N 62 W	2. 34 ch.	to cor. of field fence
"	N 3 E	4.67 "	along fence to corner from which Mound #3 bears N 58 E 1.75 ch. this mound on edge of old ditch
"	S 80 E	1.40 "	to fence cor.-edge of terrace 60lks SE
"	N 2 E	2.70 "	to cor. field at edge of terrace
"	N 77 W	2.92 "	to N & S fence
"	N 1 E	.67 "	to E & W fence at gate
"	N 47 E	1.31 "	to cor. field and edge of terrace
"	N 5 E	6.50 "	to center of most Easterly point of enclosed area
"	Same course	1.50 "	to edge of terrace and field fence
"	N 33 W	1.00 "	and set stake - cluster of box elder in same fence - same course .70 lks
"	N 37 E	.60 "	to point of terrace
"	N 10 E	.50 "	to near Cedar, B.T. to center of enclosed area
"	N 35 W	3.00 "	to most northerly point of terrace
"	S 64 W	1.50 "	along edge of terrace
"	S 33 W	2.10 "	to fence - runs S 86 E to box elder cluster
"	N 86 W	1.50 "	along edge of terrace
"	S 62 W	1.00 "	" " " "
"	S 22 W	6.38 "	" " " " to fence cor. from here N edge of timber on slope of Brown's Hill runs S 37 E
"	N 85 E	4.59 "	to cor. of fence
"	South	3.93 "	to cor. of fence - poplar tree in line with N & S axis of Brown's Hill and in edge of timber bears S 57 W 2.00 ch.
"	S 84 E	3.05 "	to fence cor. S. of gate to Enclosed area
"	South	7.50 "	along fence to gate from which edge of N & S woods at front of Brown's Hill bears West 1.90 ch.
"	Same course	4.65 "	along fence to double oak
"	S 8 W	3.50 "	to fence cor.at box elder foot of Brown's Hill bears N 45 W 3.00 ch.
"	N 61 W	6.10 "	along fence to rock with basin shaped depression (mortar?) 10" in diam. and 2" deep

Thence	same course	3.40 ch.	to point in fence - N & S axis of Brown's Hill - foot of hill N 75 chs. foot of steep slope 2.00 ch. S.
"	" "	2.80 "	to corner of field and fence and N & S edge of terrace
"	S 18 W	7.67 "	along fence and edge of terrace to town line fence. N.W. cor. of Hartley square. Enclosure bears N 66 E .65 ch. Peak of Brown's Hill bears N 19 E.
"	East	3.15 "	along town line to a point 20 lks N. of NE. corner of square enclosure.
"	Same course	2.69 "	to SE cor. of field at gate - peak of Brown's Hill bears N 5 E
"	N 15 E	5.10 "	along fence and edge of field to cor.
"	N 60 E	10.09 "	to oak tree by big rock - peak of Brown's Hill bears N 55 W
"	N 88 E	1.00 "	to intersect N & S 1/4 Sec. line at 10.28 ch. N. of 1/4 Sec. cor.
"	Same course	3.50 "	" cor. of field
"	S 17 E	2.06	to fence
"	S 46 E	3.08 "	along fence
"	N 62 E	2.50 "	" "
"	N 48 E	3.50 "	" "
"	N 15 E	2.13 "	" "
"	North	7.76 "	along fence to cor. of field NW of old cellar
"	N 42 W	2.25	along fence
"	N 2 W	3.04	" " to cor. and E & W edge of terrace.
"	S 88 W	5.00 "	along fence and edge of terrace
"	N 15 W	.79 "	to fence cor. angle in terrace 50 lks. N.
"	West	3.24 "	along fence - near milddle of this course terrace 1.00 ch. N.
"	S 12 W	2.56 "	to fence cor. and edge of terrace.
"	N 88 W	1.57 "	to ① 1/8 Sec. cor. and place of beginning.

① a point 34 ft. N. of

Survey to locate center of Lane Farm Enclosed Area and trenches made in same - work done under Project Iowa Planning Board S3-A2-1047 in NE. SW. Sec. 36, T. 100, R. 5. August 1934.

From 1/8 Sec. cor. stake in field
North .64 ch. to E & W fence
Thence West 3.82 " " N & S fence
Same course .09 ch. set stake
" North 9.20 ch. parallel to N & S fence, to gate
" Same course 6.50 ch. to center of enclosed area and set stake

---

From Stake- center of Enclosed Area
N 11 E, 117 ft. to cen. of S end of trench A
which runs N 12 W 41 ft. to N end
-4 ft. wide

From Stake - center of Enclosed Area

S 61 W 88ft. to center of E end of trench B
which runs S 57 W 23 ft. to W end
-4 ft. wide

From Stake - center of Enclosed Area

N 31 W 23.6 ft. to E end of trench C
which runs S 88 W 20 ft. to W end.

Bearing Trees to stake set at center of Lane Farm Enclosed Area, Aug. 10, 1934, by Ellison Orr

Elm 12 S 40-1/2 E 164 ft.- on edge of terrace
Red Cedar 3, N 75-1/2 E 118.4 ft. on edge of terrace
Red Cedar 5 N 16-1/2 E 291.3 ft. on edge of terrace
Burr Oak N 39 W 330.4 ft. on edge of terrace

Cor. of fence S 50 W 240.6

Survey of Lane Farm Mound Group, locating mounds that can now be made out with certainty. On SE SW and SW. SE., Sec. 36, T. 100, R. 5, Point of beginning 1/8 Sec. cor. N. of 1/4 Sec. cor. S. line of Sec. 36 T. 100, R. 5. *Corrected Aug. 22. 1936* *Var. 4°-30' E*

From 1/8 Sec. cor.,	S 87 W	to	Mound 4,	.16 ch
" Mound 4,	S 48½ W	"	" 5,	1.31 "
" " 5,	S 65 W	"	" 6,	1.40 "
" " 6,	S 20 E	"	" 7,	2.56 "
" " 7,	N 9 E	"	" 8,	1.63 "
" " 8,	S 78 E	"	" 9,	1.13 "

From 1/8 Sec. cor.,	S 86 E	to	Mound 10,	4.07
" Mound 10,	N 6 E	"	" 11,	1.18
" " 11,	S 78 E	"	" 12,	2.05
" " 12,	S 15½ "	"	" 2,	1.03
" " 2,	S 58 E	"	" 14	1.52
" " 14,	S 11 W	"	" 15,	2.70
" " 15,	S 77 W	"	" 1,	1.74
" " 1,	S 15 W	"	" 13,	2.00
" " 13,	N 35 W	"	" 16,	1.85

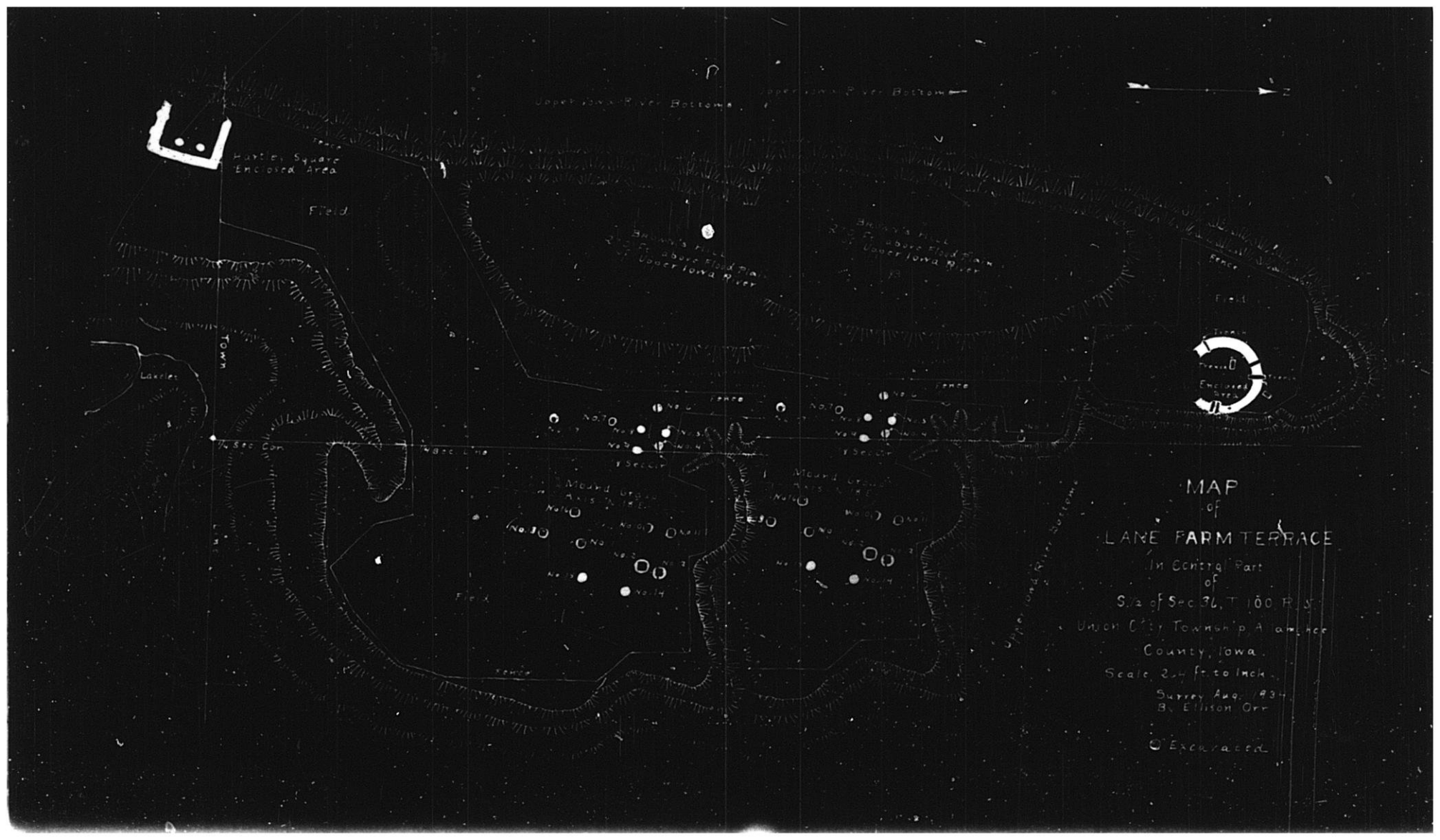
Lane Farm Mound Group.

Mound No. 1,	40 ft. diam.
" " 2,	35 " "
" " 3,	24 " "
" " 4,	20 " "
" " 5,	20 " "
" " 6,	30 " "
" " 7,	20 " "
" " 8,	30 " "
" " 9,	25 " "
" " 10,	40 " "
" " 11,	25 " "
" " 12,	33 " "
" " 13,	33 " "
" " 14,	25 " "
" " 15,	40 " "
" " 16,	30 " "

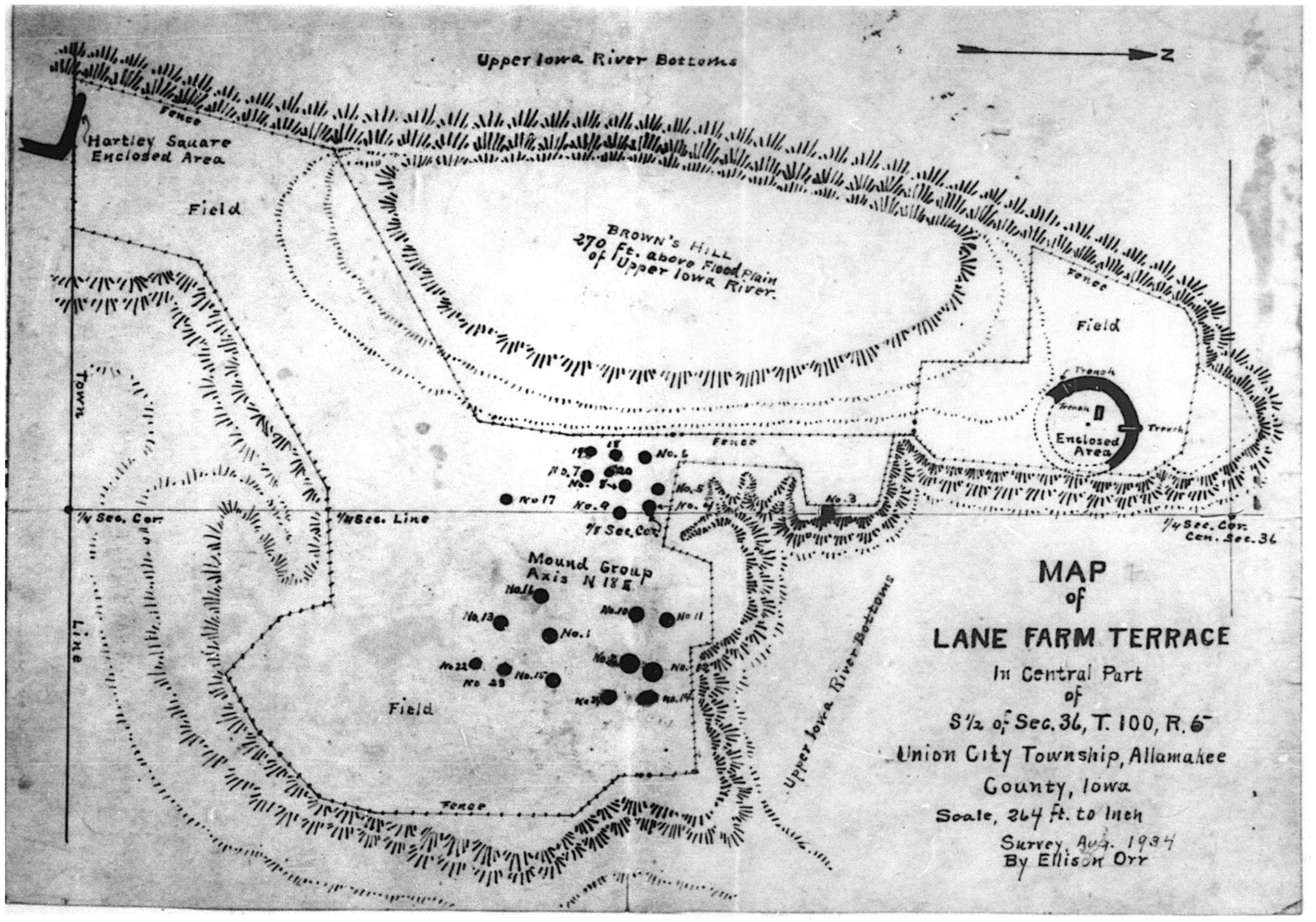
Estimate of Yardage Excavated
Upper Iowa Mound and Cemetery
Excavations under Project S3-A2-1047
Iowa Planning Board

Totals

New Galena (Reinbold Farm)	833	cu.	yds.
O'Regan Camp Site - trenches	330	"	"
"Elephant" Camp Site- trenches	200	"	"
Lane Farm Enclosed Area-trenches	108	"	"
Lane Farm Mound Group-No. 1 and 2,	120	"	"
Tally Mound-Harpers Ferry Group	166	"	"
Martell Mounds " " " -2 mounds	226	"	"
Cota Mound " " Bluff top	166	"	"
Brazell Island " " Long Mound	76	"	"
Lane Farm Mound Group No. 13 and 15,	120	"	"
Geo. Hammel Mound Group- 2 mounds	80	"	"
"Big Spring" - Con. Hammel Mound	27	"	"
Slinde Mound Group - #5 and 6	125	"	"
Lane Farm Mound Group #3	34	"	"
Slinde Mounds - #7,8 and 13	100	"	"
	2711	"	"


Upper Iowa River Bottoms
Upper Iowa River Bottoms
Hunter Square
Enclosed Area
Field
Brown's Flat
Above Flood Plain
of Upper Iowa River
Brown's Flat
Above Flood Plain
of Upper Iowa River
Fence
Field
Fence
Laxier
TOWN
Fence
Fence
Mound
Mound
Field
Fence
Fence
Enclosed Area
MAP
of
LANE FARM TERRACE
In Central Part
of
S½ of Sec 36, T 100 R 5
Union City Township, Allamakee
County, Iowa.
Scale 254 ft. to Inch.
Survey Aug. 1934
By Ellison Orr
Excavated

Lane Farm Terrace, Mounds and Enclosed Area



MAP of LANE FARM TERRACE

In Central Part of S½ of Sec. 36, T. 100, R. 6

Union City Township, Allamakee County, Iowa

Scale, 264 ft. to Inch

Survey, Aug. 1934
By Ellison Orr

70

SURVEY AND EXCAVATION
OF HARPER'S FERRY MOUNDS
1934.

Harper's Ferry Mound Groups

Surveys and Excavations of 1934.

The town of Harper's Ferry is located on a terrace of the Mississippi River extending for a distance of three miles along the Iowa Bluffs that border Allamakee County on the East. Its average width is over half a mile. It is just a sandbar of the old river that when the Wisconsin glacier melted, flowed seventy feet deep from bluff to bluff. Like all similar terraces it is only a few feet above the bottom lands at its up-stream end but gradually rising it reaches a height of sixty feet at its down-stream end. Cut off from it on the south by a small tributary of the big river is Brazell's island.

This terrace in prehistoric times must have been a national cemetery, as Mr. T. H. Lewis, who was making a survey of the prehistoric earthworks of the Mississippi valley, and who is considered a reliable authority, and who in 1889 and 1892, visited the terrace and made surveys of its effigy mounds, tells us that there was then not less than nine hundred mounds in the group, but cultivation has so obliterated them that now less than twenty-five can be made out. Among these about a half mile north of the town is what must have been one of the largest. It is now sixty feet in diameter and eighteen inches high. No other mound can now be made out anywhere in its vicinity. All alone it lies at the edge of the terrace top and head of the long slope down to the bottom lands.

It was deemed important to see what could be learned of the people who built this the largest group of burial tumuli on the continent. They were a people whose village sites were unknown. Only by opening some of the few remaining mounds before they too were lost could we hope to learn anything.

So, August 23rd, we went down to Harper's Ferry and attacked the big mound, to be exact its center is 570 ft. East and 133 ft. south of the 1/4 Section corner on the north line of Section 24, T. 97, R. 3, West of the 5th P. M. The land on which it lies belongs to Columbia College of Dubuque, whose business manager kindly permitted us to excavate it.

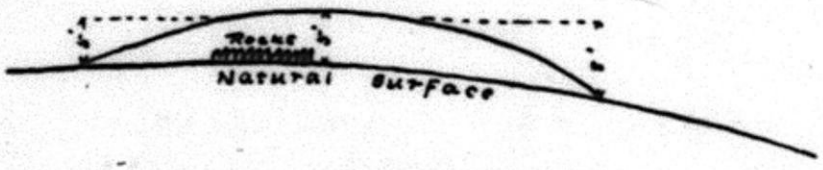
Expecting that a big mound would be rich in relics, and determined to miss nothing, we started on the south side to make a forty foot square pit. We had gotten well along with our A-1(the second) trench before we came on to any indications of occupancy. Then the record was confusing.

It would appear that a shallow pit (less than a foot deep)about twenty feet East and West and twenty-five North and South, had been made and in this great fires had been built. It would seem also that these had been smothered as there were layers of pure charcoal, in places two inches thick, and but little in the way of ash beds. Rocks were carried in and many of these showed signs of fire. No burned bone fragments and no relics of any kind were found, except a few grit-tempered sherds near the SE. corner. It was disappointing.

Harper's Ferry Mound Group No. 13, is located on the top and point of bluff North of the mouth of the valley down which the highway runs to the town, from which it bears North-west.

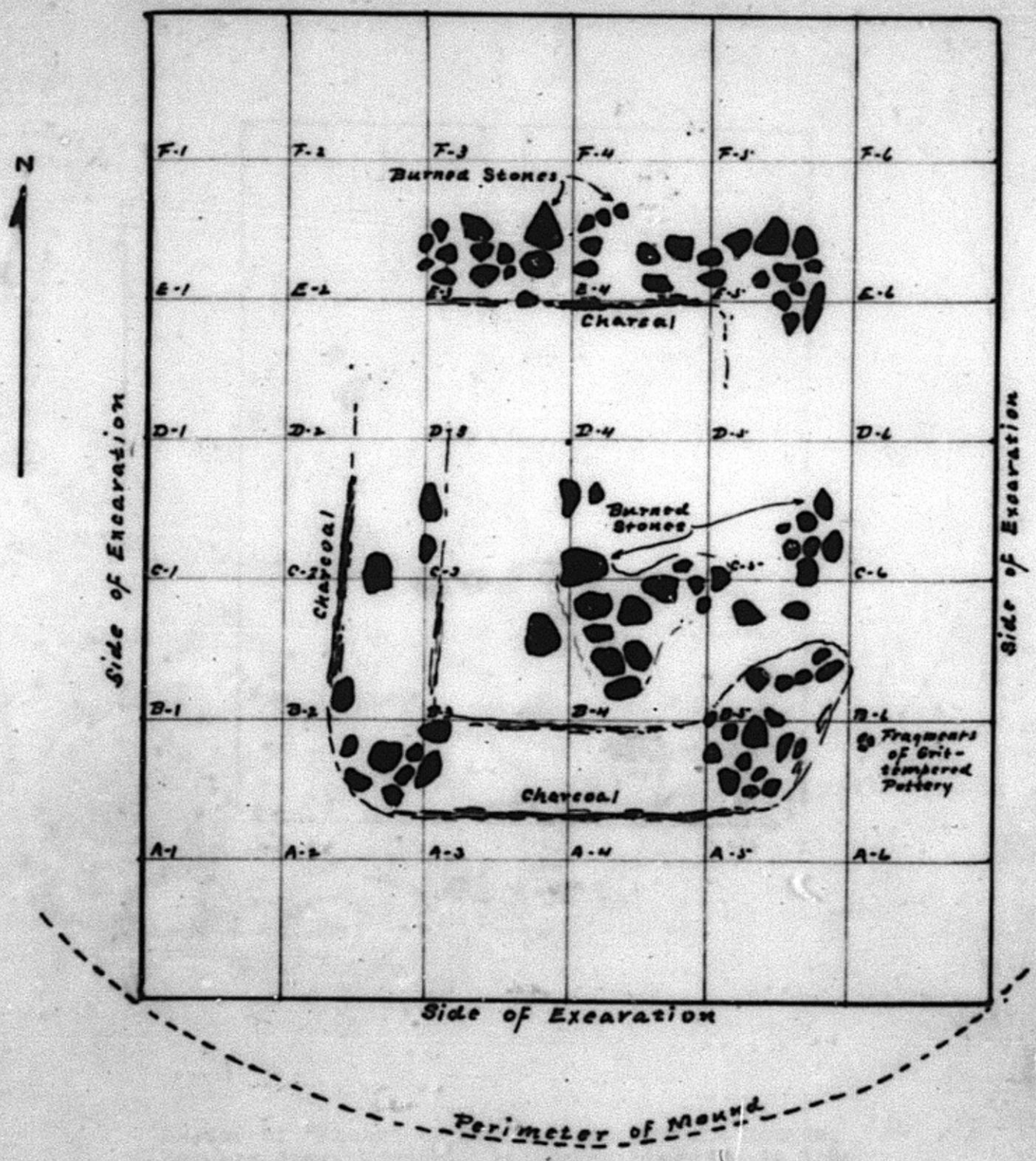
It consists of two mounds 110 ft. apart. The most Northerly, No. 1, is 50 ft. in diameter and 3 ft. high. The land is stump pasture and the mound has never been disturbed.

Mound No. 2, lies on ground sloping East towards the brow of the bluff. It is 56 ft. in diameter and the center is 5 ft. above the natural level.

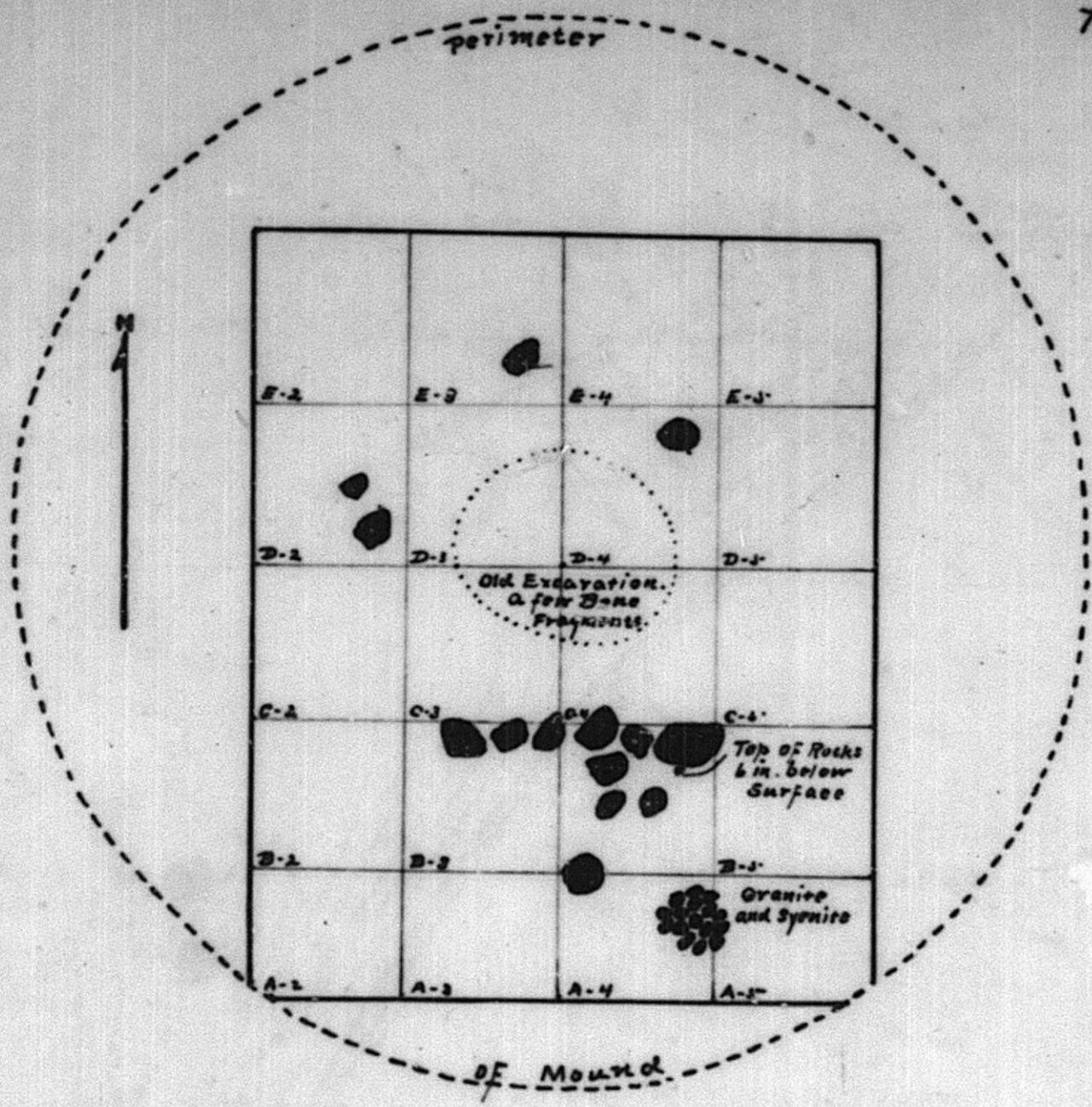


PROFILE OF MOUND No. 2

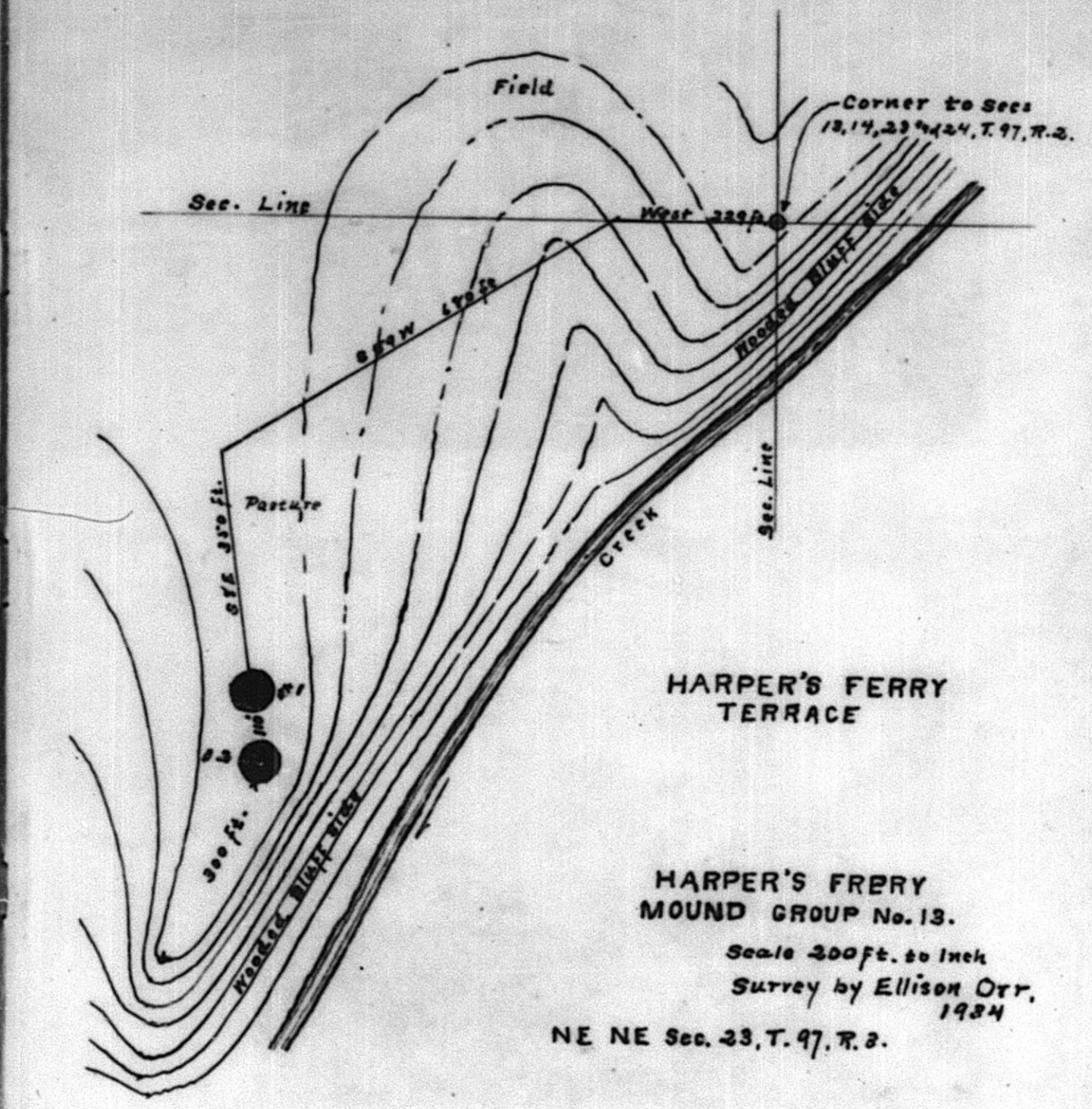
In this mound we excavated a twenty feet square pit. In the southwest quarter was a heap of large limestone rocks, 8 ft. East and West, 4 ft. North and South, and 2 ft. high. It looked as if a wall had been built to a height of perhaps 3 ft., and then tipped over to the south. We expected to find something important under this but there was nothing. At the "floor" on which it was built, and 6 in. to the north, was a well preserved femur and small pieces of two other round bones. The "floor" was approximately at the ground level for that part of the mound. No other skeletal remains, and no relics were found in the mound.



Sketch of "Floor" of Large Single Mound, the "Big Mound", forming Group #4 of Harpers Ferry Mounds, showing burned stones and charcoal areas. Scale 1 inch = 5ft.



Sketch of "Floor" of Mound #3 of Martell Mounds, Harpers Ferry Mounds. 34 inches black sandy loam on top over 14 inches gravel and sand.
Scale 1 in. = 5 ft.

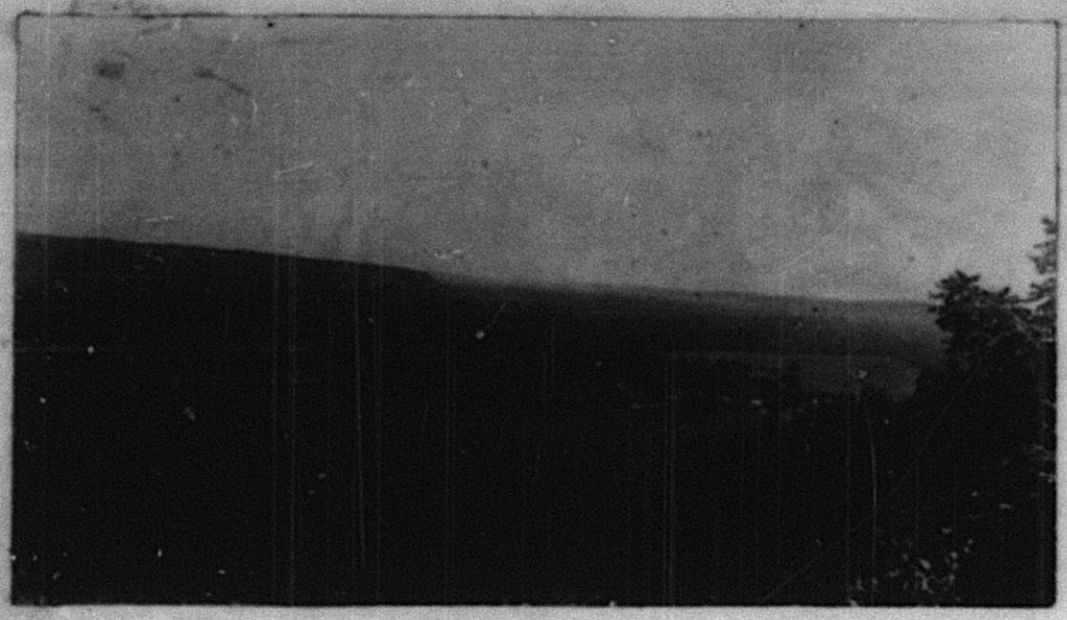


HARPER'S FERRY
TERRACE

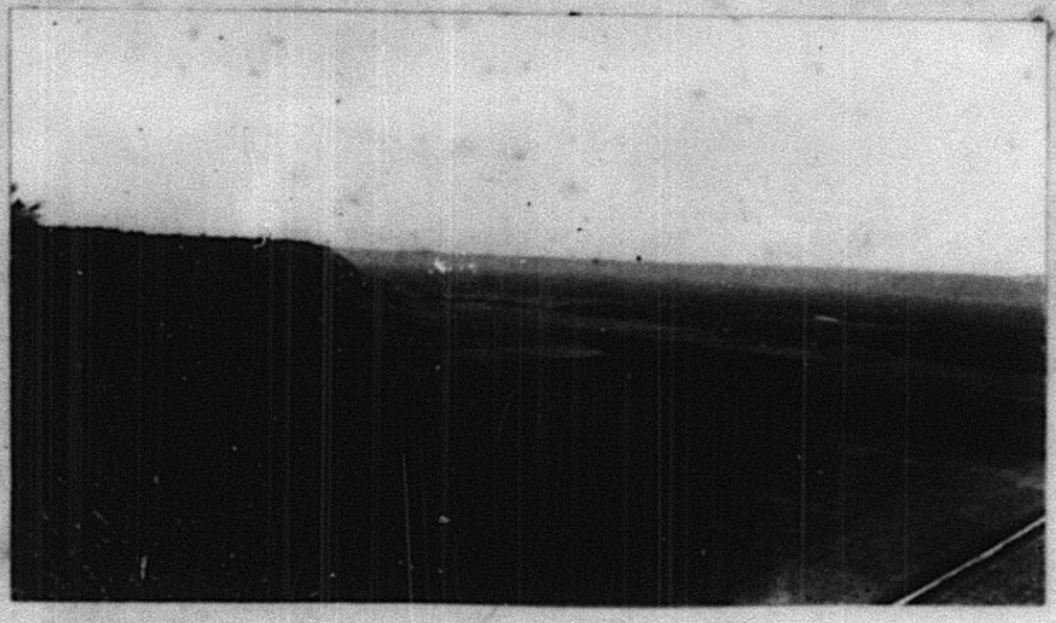
HARPER'S FRERY
MOUND GROUP No. 13.

Scale 200 ft. to Inch
Survey by Ellison Orr.
1934

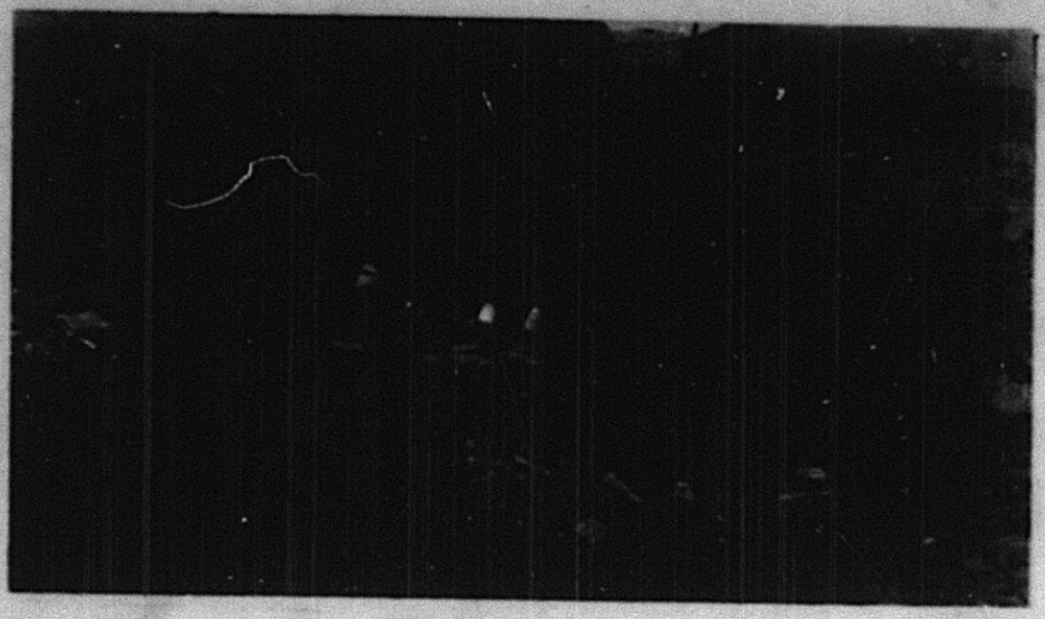
NE NE Sec. 23, T. 97, R. 2.



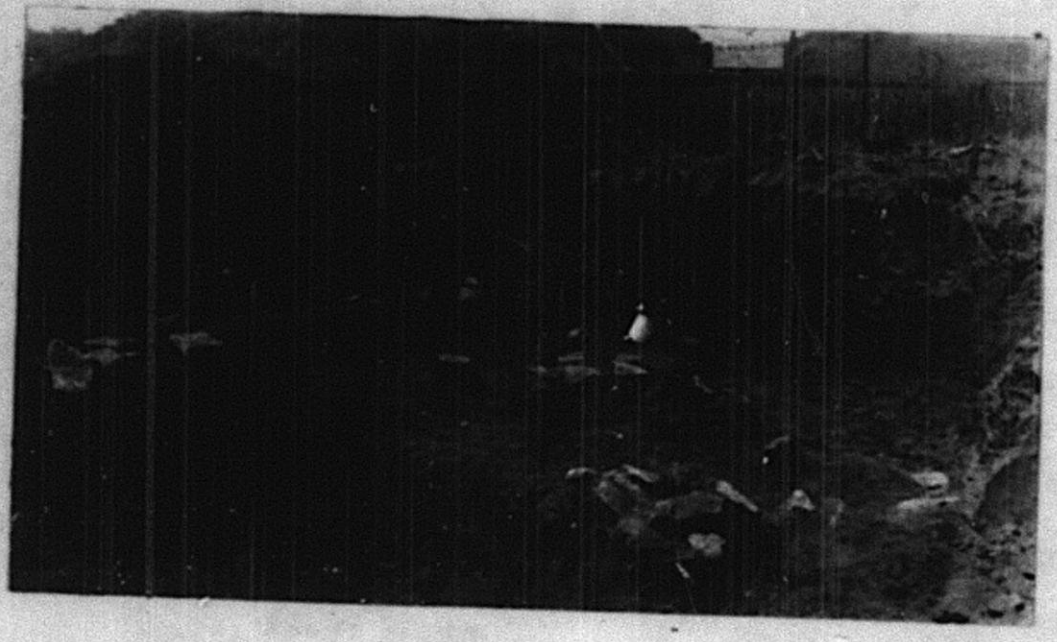
Harper's Ferry from Bluff top
Looking South.



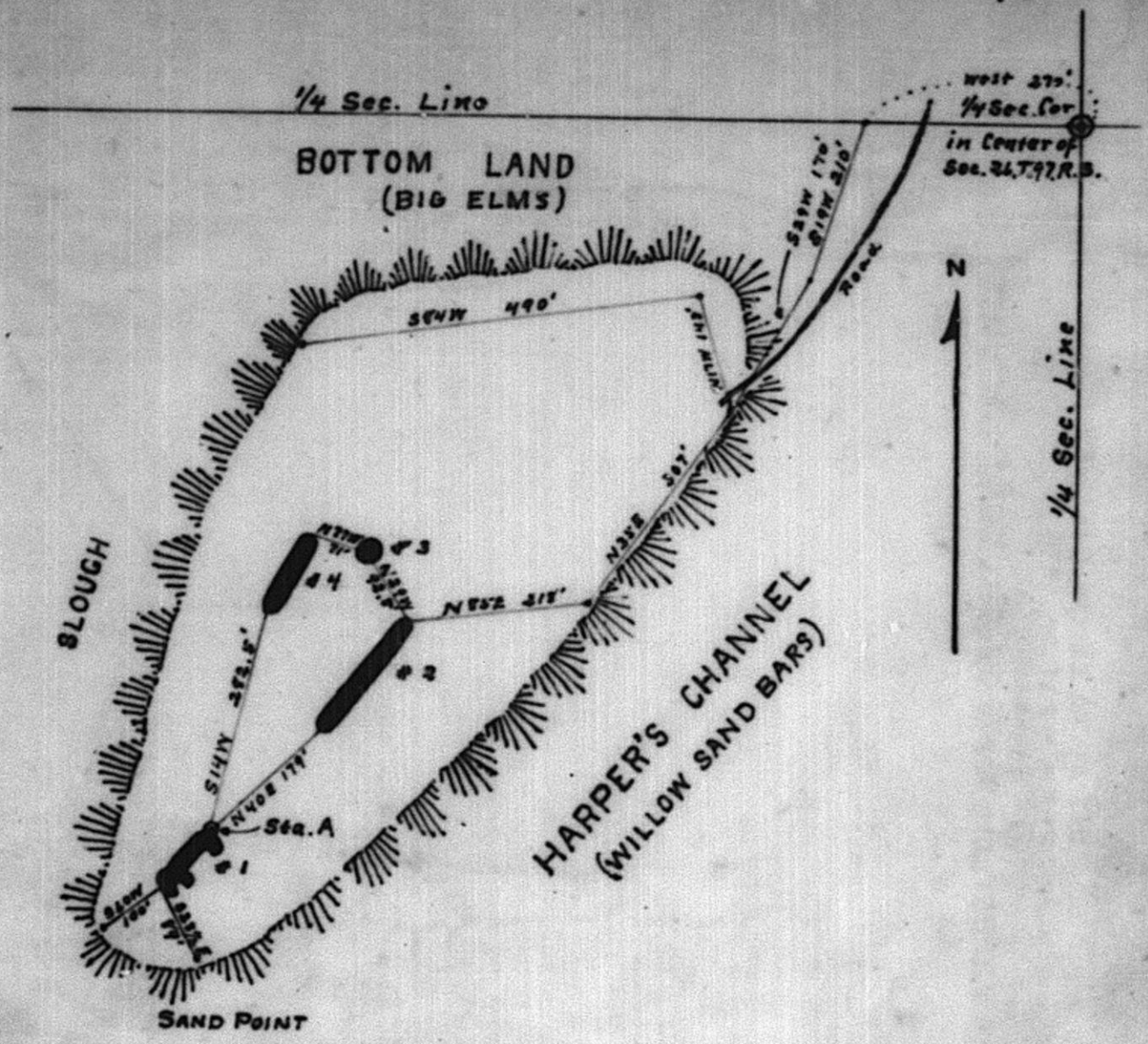
North half of Harpers Ferry terrace from bluff top. Looking North-East.
Note Hart's Evergreen Experiment Forest near center of picture.



Part of Pit of "Big Mound".



Another view of same Pit.



BRAZELL'S ISLAND

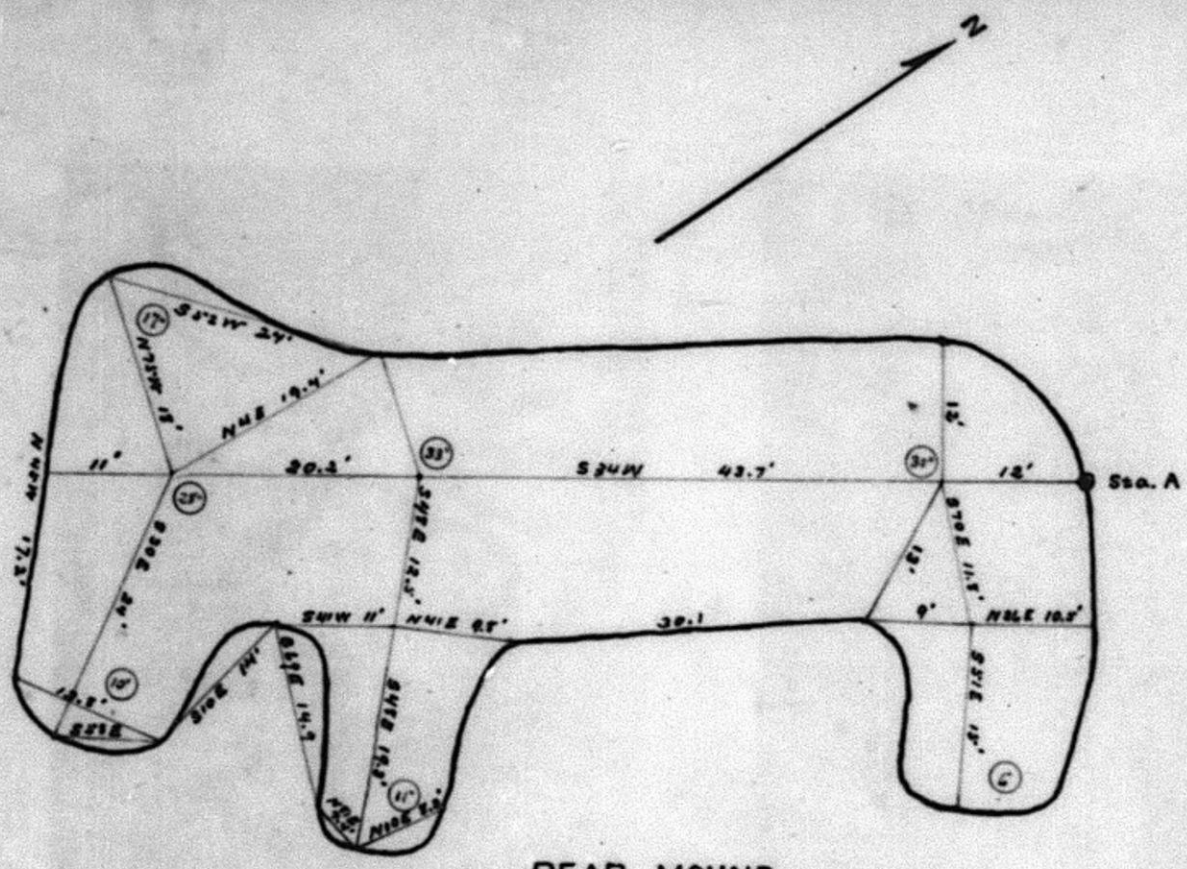
Mound No.	Direction	Length	Width	Height	
1	S23W	86.5 ft	24 ft	33 in.	Effigy
2	N35E	172 "	16 "	18 "	Long
3			30 "	30 "	Round
4	S25W	103 "	18 "	30 "	Long

(Mound # 4 excavated, Aug., 1934
under Iowa Planning Board's Project # 1047)

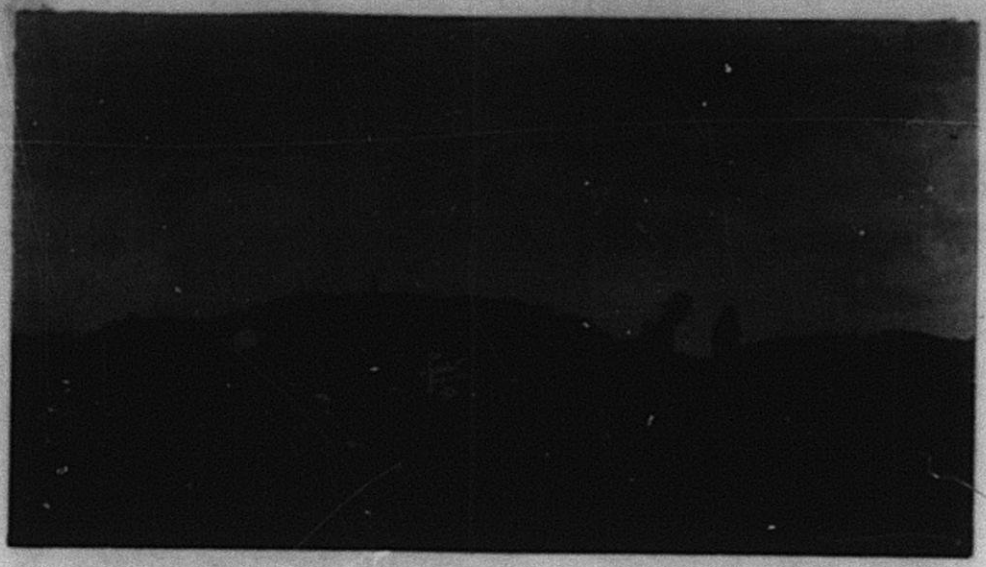
Scale, 200 ft to Inch

Survey by Ellison Orr, Aug. 6, 1934

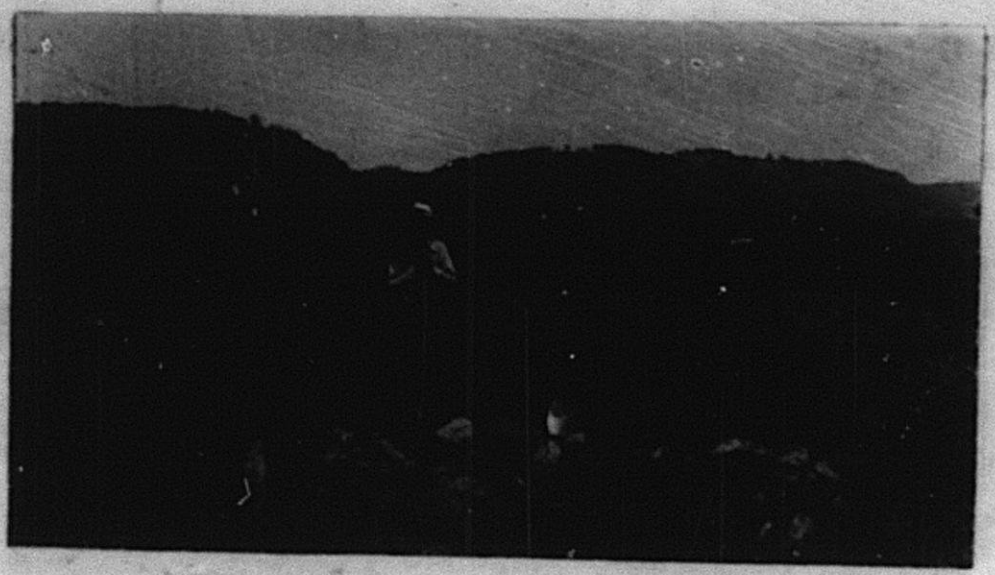
NE SW Sec. 24, T.97. R.3



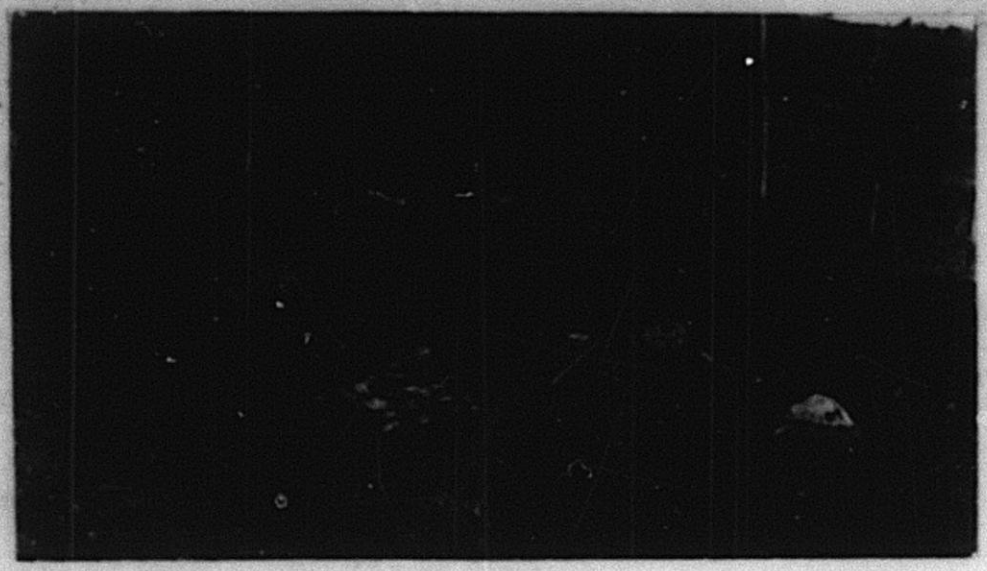
BEAR MOUND
AT SOUTH END OF BRAZELL ISLAND
○ = Elevation
Scale, 12 ft. to Inch
Survey by Ellison Orr, Aug. 6, 1934



Men restoring "Big Mound"
One mile NE of Harper's Ferry.



Uncovering altar (?) at N. end of
"Big Mound".

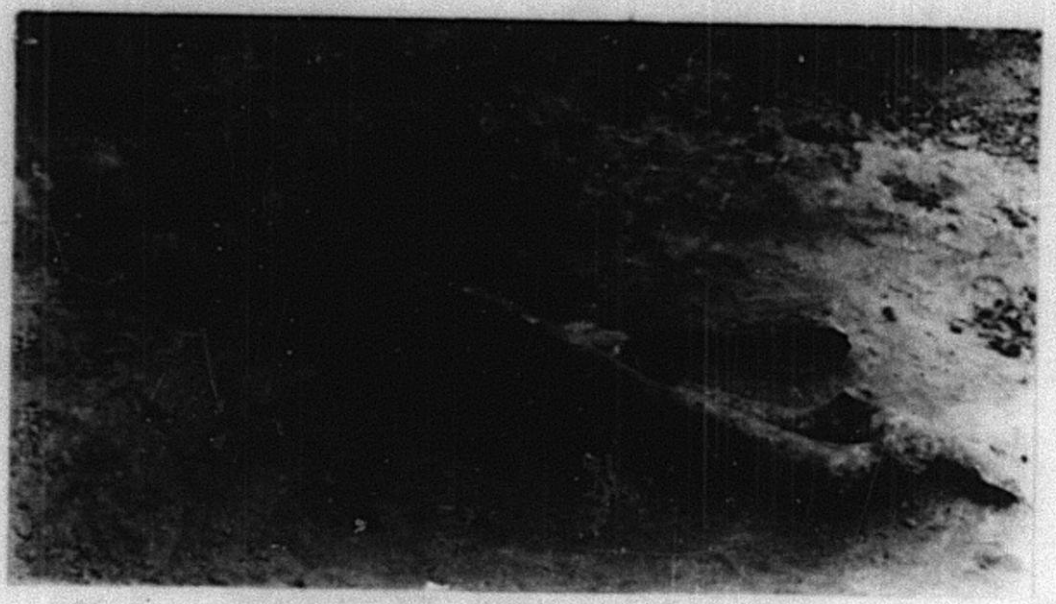


View of part of Pit of Mound #3,
Martell Mounds.

Men at work on Pit in Mound #3
Martell Mounds.

Mound #2, Group #13 of Harpers Ferry Mounds.
Looking South-east.
Note four men at work.

Deposit of large rocks in Mound #2 of Group #13.
Looking North. Dr. Keyes in lower left corner.



Skeletal remains in Mound #2 of Group #13,
Harper's Ferry Mounds.

Looking north across Brazell's Island,
Dr. Keyes standing at rump of Bear Mound. Note men
trenching long mound directly back of him.

Martell Mounds.

Surveyed Aug. 1934.

After restoring the "Big Mound" on Sec. 24, we excavated Mounds #3 and 5, of the group on the Martell farm one mile northeast. These mounds like "the big mound", lie along the edge of the terrace, here but twenty-two feet above the bottom lands from which the slope up to the top is very gentle.

To locate the Martell Farm Mounds, begin at the 1/8 Section corner on the north line of the NW. 1/4 of Section 18, T. 97, R. 3, West of the 5th P. M., and run from thence South, var. 4"-30' E, 200 ft.; thence S 41 W, 1050 ft. to Mound #5, 124 ft. West to fence, 212 ft. East to bottom land. From Mound #5, South 200 ft. to a point 12 ft. West of center of Mound #4, thence, South 222 ft., to center of Mound #3, fence West, 48 ft.
From Mound #3, South, 162 ft., to center of large Mound #2; thence South 74 ft. to small Mound #1 in yard.

Only collections of stones - so-called altars, though why they should be called altars we are at a loss to know as they seldom show signs of fire, very seldom ashes or charcoal is found in them - were found in both #3 and 5. One in Mound #3 was a heap of granite and greenstone hand boulders.

No relics were found except one crude arrow point. The whole interior, except for 30 inches of sandy, gravelly loam on top, to a depth of 4 ft., was sand and gravel in changing proportions. It might be said to present a "mussed up" appearance.

A group of two large mounds, Group No. 12, lies on the bluff top west of the Hart experimental evergreen forest on the terrace below. The edge of the bluff here has a direction of around N 30 E, and the most Northerly Mound, #2, lies thirty-five feet west of the edge on the highest part of the divide between the Mississippi valley and a ravine west and three hundred and fifty feet west of the north and south 1/4 Sec. line through the center of Sec. 13, T. 97, R. 2; the south Mound, #1, lying 250 ft. S 45 W, seventy ft. from edge of bluff, was excavated two years ago with team and scraper, by the owner, Mr. Cota, to a depth of perhaps two feet below the natural level, but only scattering large limestone rocks were found.

Mound #2, 50 ft. in diameter and 24 in. high, has never been disturbed except by cultivation.

On Brazell's Island there is a group of ____two____ long, one round and one fine effigy mound.

The long mound in the northwest part of the group was completely excavated by digging a 5 ft. wide trench for the whole length of the mound.

The center of the mound was 27 in. above the natural level of the terrace, and the trench was carried 18 inches lower, through 12 inches of yellow clay and 6 inches of red gravelly soil to the pure sand.

Except here and there a small bit of charcoal, nothing was found.

REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF ROCK SHELTER AT WATERVILLE, IOWA, 1934.

Report of Excavation of Rock Shelter at Waterville, Iowa.

To Dr. Charles R. Keyes,
Supervisor of Project S3-A2-1047
of Iowa Planning Board.

This Shelter is located in a ledge of rock on the south side of the bluff along a small tributary to Paint Creek, and on the NE. Sec. 23, T. 97, R. 4, in Allamakee County, Iowa, one mile northeast of Waterville.

The work consisted in removing the accumulated dry earth, and rock fragments that had fallen from the roof, and spreading the same out in front to form a terrace.

To find the things lost or thrown away by the people who frequented the place in prehistoric times, it was necessary to sift all the earth taken out.

Following is a list of the material found in removing the upper 2-3 ft. from the floor of the Shelter, Nov. 25th, to Dec. 31st, 1934, by Fred Orr and Harrison Toney, field workers, assisted by five laborers furnished by the FERA.

Because of two holidays and an account of snow-blockaded roads, seven days of this time was lost.

A total of 344 hours labor was furnished by the FERA and approximately 135 cu. yds. of earth and loose rock were moved an average distance of 40 ft. Approximately 70 cu. yds. of this was sieved.

300 pieces of grit tempered pottery, mostly about one inch in diameter with a few up to 2 1/2 inches, decorated with string impressions of not many patterns, most of which had been more or less obscured by rubbing down or by wear from use.

95 very thin, grit tempered, small pieces of pottery decorated with string impressions, the average thickness of this pottery was but six one-hundreths of an inch.

16 pieces of grit tempered pottery decorated with nearly straight and approximately parallel lines consisting of incised dashes separated by spaces of equal length, thus: - - - - -, a decoration not heretofore met with.

7 pieces of grit tempered pottery decorated with connected "fingernail" impressions, thus: WW See Page 90 ①

10 thin hard, gray, plain pieces of grit tempered pottery.

2 undecorated pieces, 2 1/2 in. in diameter, of pottery colored red on outside, grit tempered.

1 undecorated piece but not colored, grit tempered.

2 pieces of rims with part of bowl attached, of hard black, grit tempered pottery, only rim decorated with indentations.

12 pieces of shell tempered (Oneota) pottery

No. 10-1 handle attached to piece of neck and rim, shell tempered

29 pottery fragments of grit tempered necks and rims. All decorated with string impressions, indentations and incised lines, but no two having the same pattern.
12 fragments of lower parts of necks of grit tempered pottery, no two decorated alike or like above 29 rim and neck pieces.
3 small pieces grit tempered pottery decorated with incised dots and small dashes arranged in lines.
7 undecorated pieces of grit tempered necks and rims.
6 undecorated pieces of lower part of necks.
2 fragments of grit tempered pottery that may have been part of the necks of jug-shaped vessels or bowls of pipes, the orifice had a diameter of approximately one inch.
No. 17 3 pieces comprising one-half of the 2 in. high, straight neck of a grit tempered pottery vessel, decorated with ten parallel lines of incised vertical short dashes, running entirely around it.
The part of bowl adhering to this neck is decorated with slanting "fingernail" impressions one-half inch long. An unusually fine well preserved specimen, the incisions being very sharp and distinct.
1 inch of the stem of a clay pipe like the one illustrated by Figures #1 or 4, Plate 35 of Wests Pipes.
3 bone awls, two 2 in. long, one 4 and 1/2 in.
3 short, 1-2 in., antler tips.
2 long, 4 in. antler tips.
4 toe bones
1 bird wing (double) bone.
1 clam shell, 3 in. in diameter, and 2 pieces, thick and heavy.
1 vertebra of large turtle (?)
2 small pieces red paint
6 chert lance heads 1 1/2 to 3 in. long
2 notched triangular arrow heads.
7 triangular arrow heads without notches.

(1) This "Fingernail" decoraton was made, not by pressing the end of the finger into the clay, but by a rockered movement of a roulette wheel.

When we saw the Waterville Rock Shelter some years ago, there was an abundance of bones of deer and dog and fragments of jaw bones of these, with teeth, scattered about on and just under the surface of the floor. As the years went by this material was gradually carried off by picnickers and relic hunters.

The upper foot of floor has been pretty well worked over by these and doubtless considerable small pottery shreds and arrow heads found and carried off, yet we feel that the material listed is a good representative collection of what the shelter contained.

The abundance of grit tempered pottery with the decorations, although differing greatly as to details, still, with the exception of the 2 pieces of black ware, following the same general scheme, indicates that the people that left it there, either by accident or design, were of one culture. This culture is tentatively regarded as Algonkian - that of some tribe of that widely extended people.

The handle of shell tempered ware (Oneota) with the scattered pieces of same, were quite likely for long the last prehistoric objects added to the hoard buried in the cave earth. They had escaped the eyes of the diggers for relics who in their work only buried them deeper.

The people of the Oneota culture often buried their dead in the mounds made long before by those of another culture - intrusive burials. So it does not seem strange to also find evidences of their frequenting places once resorted to by another and older tribe.

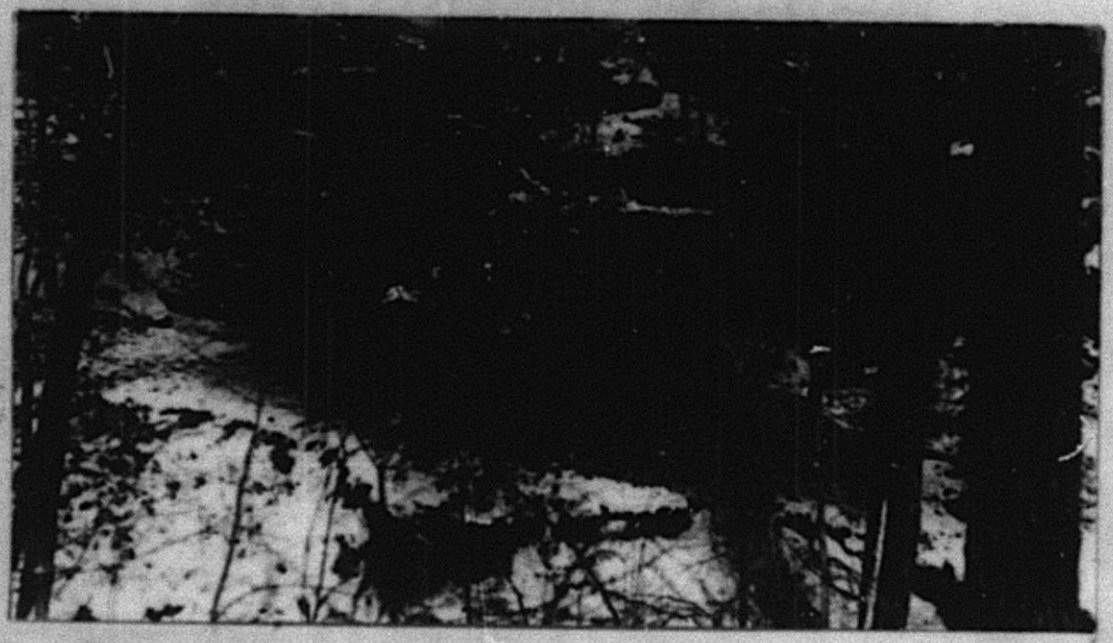
In mound #3 of the Lane Farm Mound Group, there was found in the 1934 excavations, the bowl of a thick heavy pipe of grit tempered clay from which the stem had been broken off, to this the stubby short stem found in the shelter could, without a very great stretch of imagination, be fitted to form a complete pipe.

The two broken pieces of what may have been part of the neck of a jug-like vessel, or with just as great probability, parts of the bowls of two pipes, which if a correct surmise, would make parts of three grit-tempered clay pipes from the shelter.

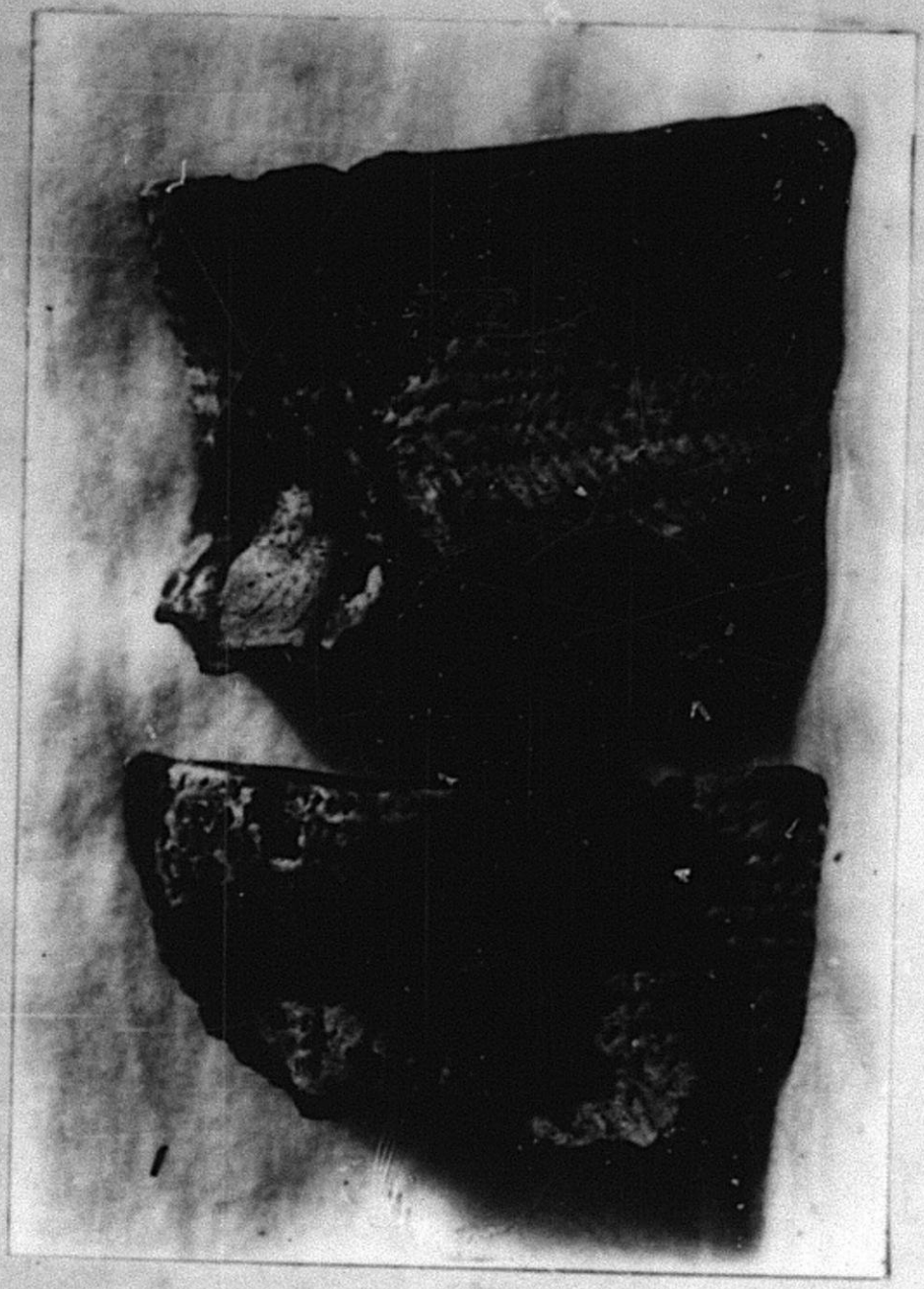
Respectfully Submitted
Ellison Orr

Jan. 10, 1935-

Waterville Rock Shelter looking East



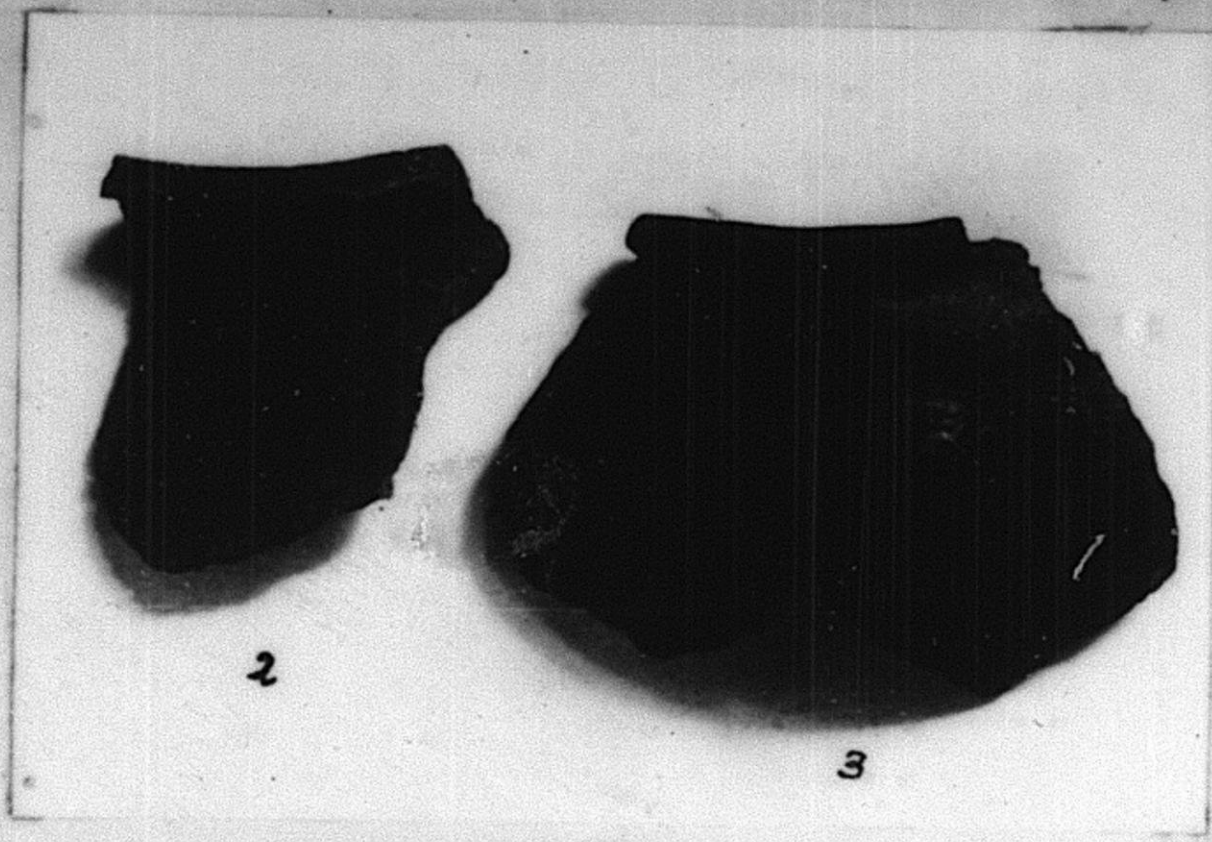
Waterville Rock Shelter from across Ravine to South. Workmen behind tree in center

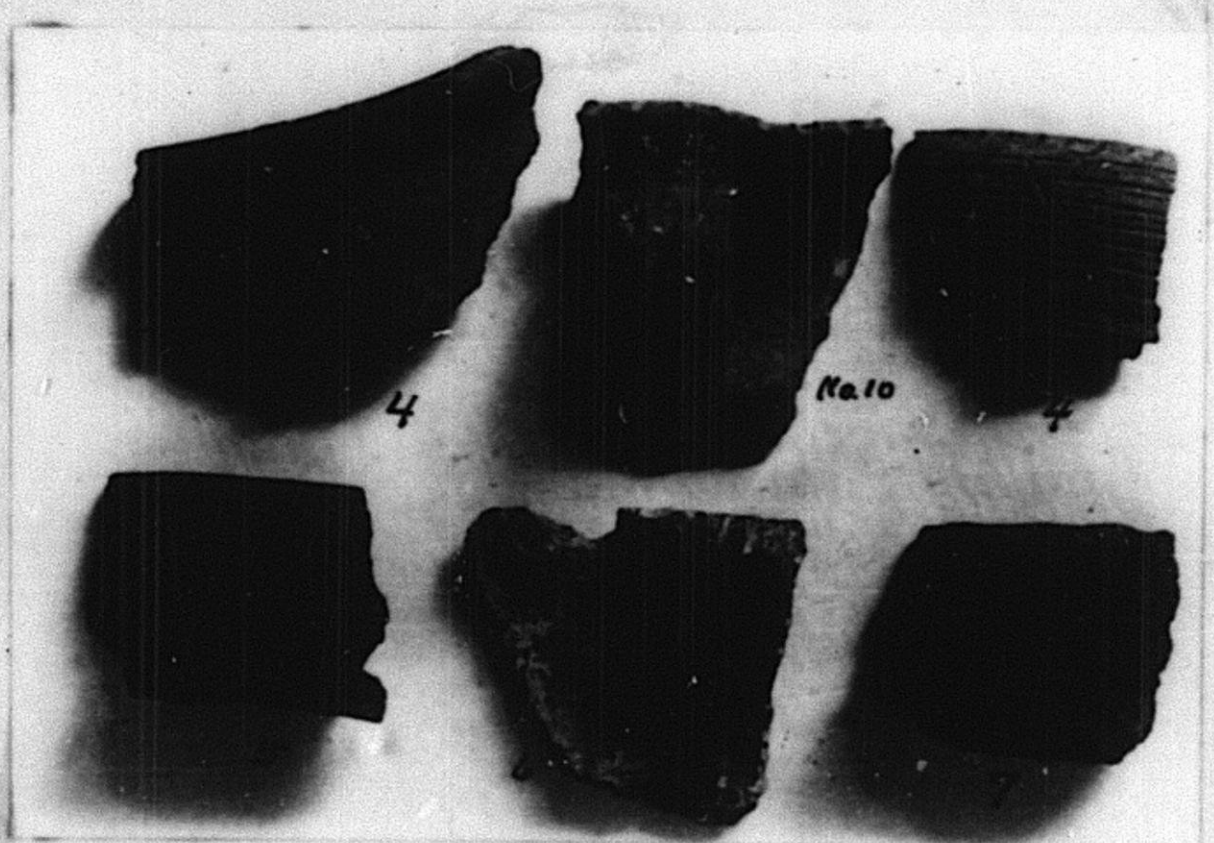


Grit-tempered Sherds from Waterville Rock-Shelter
Parts of Same Pot Actual Size 1934

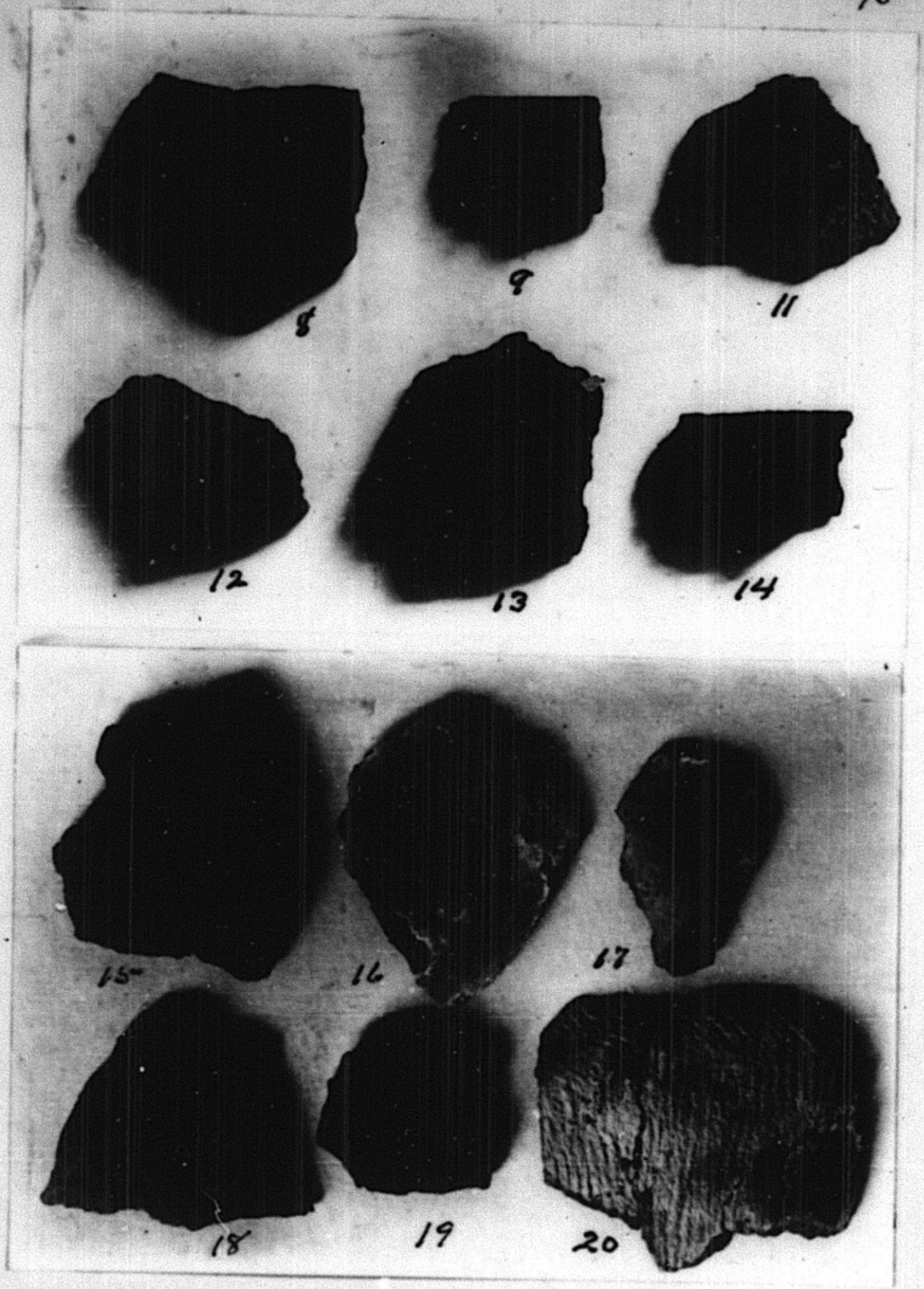
See No. 17 of List

See Page 74, Vol. IV





Grit-tempered Sherds from Waterville Rock Shelter (Except No. 10 Shell Tempered)
Actual Size 1934

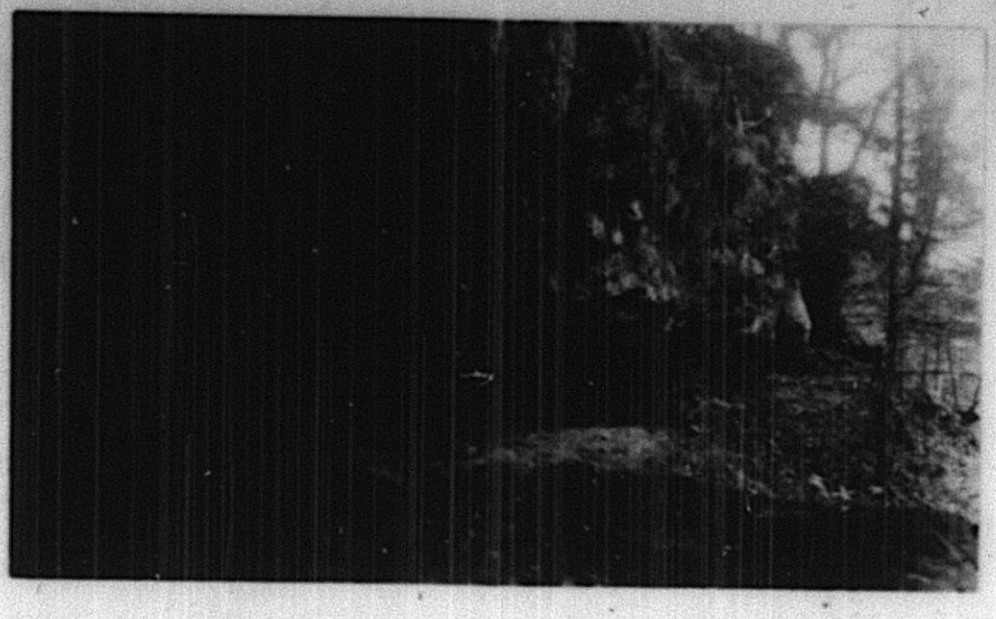


Grit-tempered Sherds from Waterville Rock Shelter
Actual Size 1934

Waterville Rock Shelter.
1933
"Gabe" Peterson seated.

Excavating Waterville Rock Shelter
Dec. 1934.

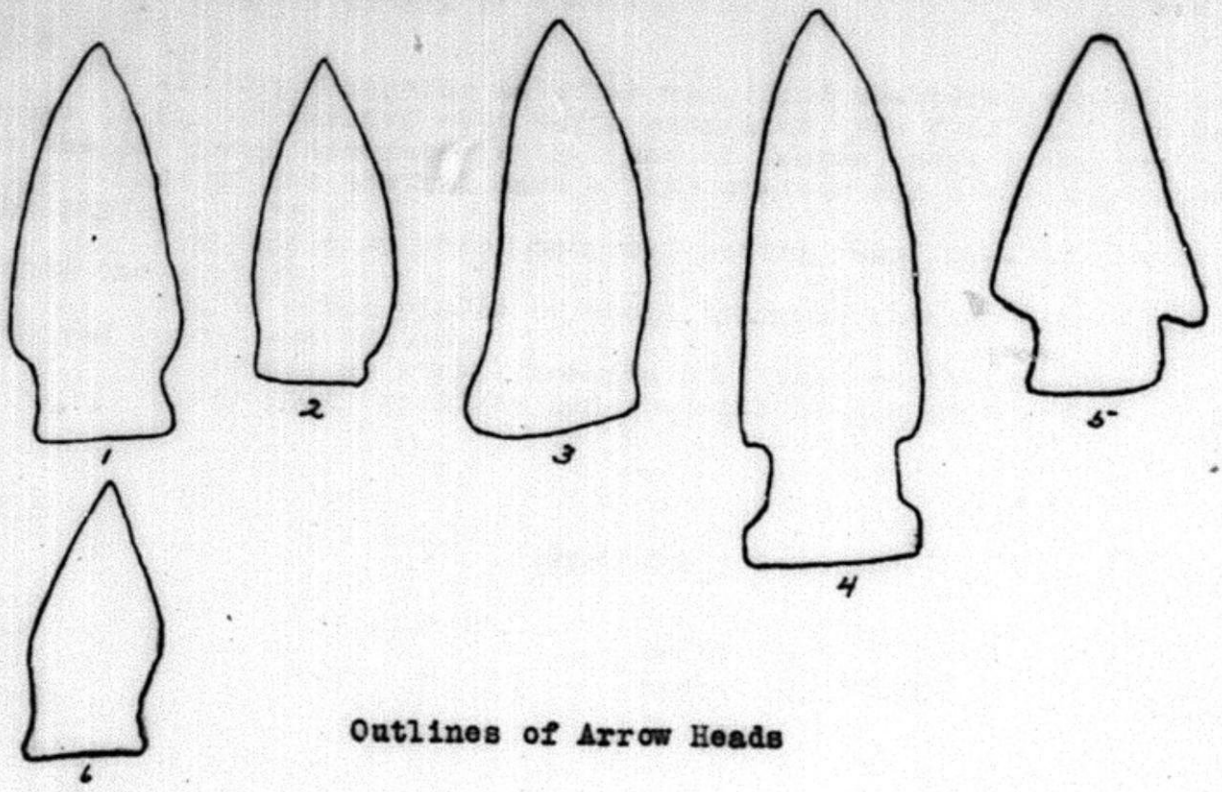
Lunch Time



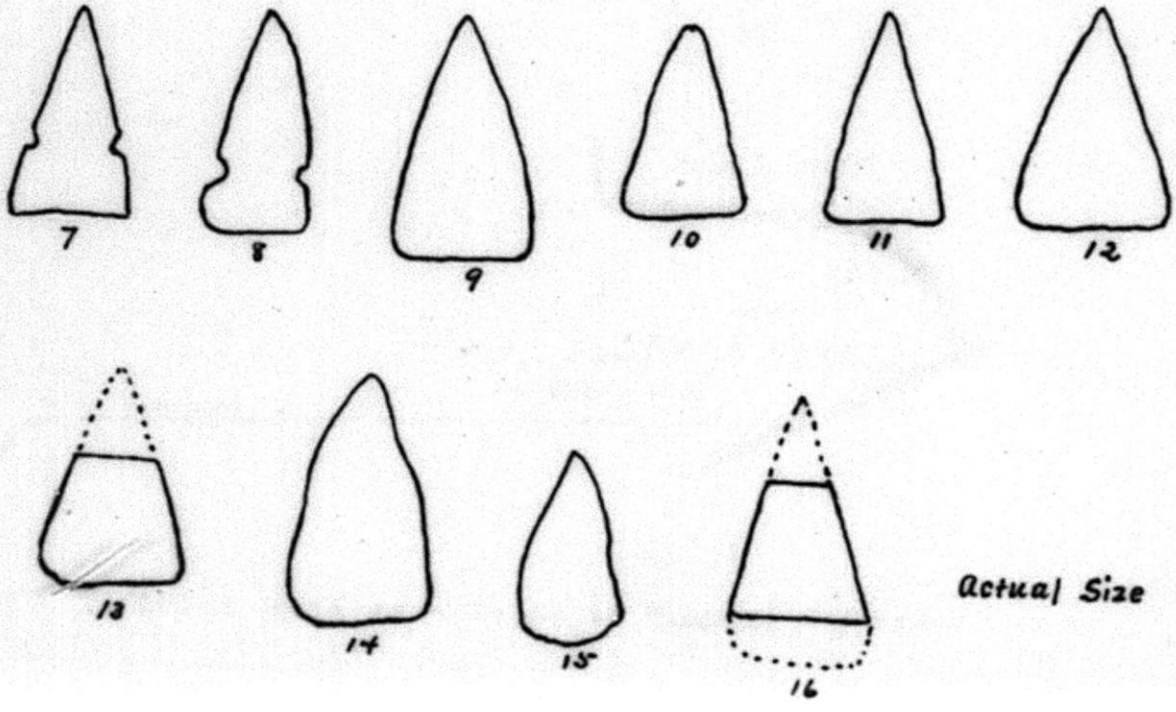
(Upper) Photograph of Waterville Rock Shelter
before Excavation - Looking East
1932

(Lower) Photograph of Waterville Rock Shelter
after Excavation - Looking East
1934

Outlines of Lance Points



Outlines of Arrow Heads



Actual Size

2 chipped flakes - crude
1 clay marble (?)
1 drift pebble of quartz.

All the foregoing material was found scattered through the upper 18 in. of the dry cave earth excavated. The fine half pot neck and the 16 pieces decorated with lines of dashes, were found at the extreme back of the central part of the shelter and 2 - 3 in. below the surface. - No. 17

The handle of shell tempered pottery was found at one foot below the surface.

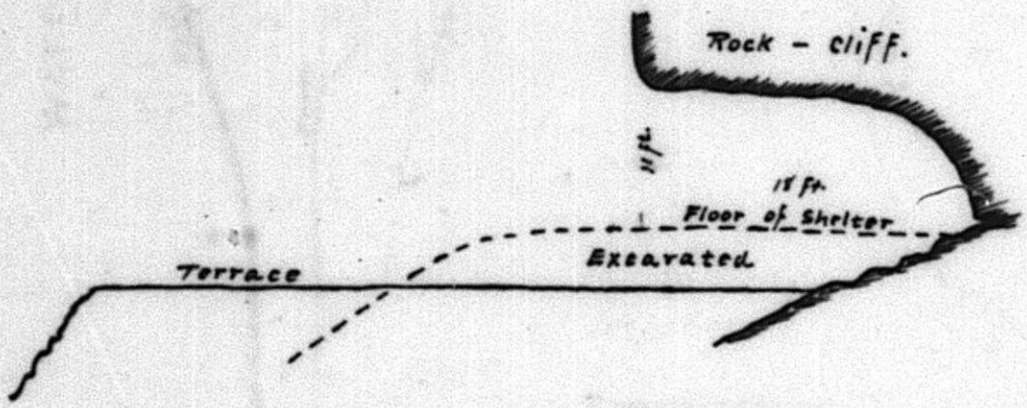
The 12 other pieces of shell tempered pottery were found at various places and depths.

There was no stratification of either earth or pottery.

Floor plan, profiles and photographs are attached.

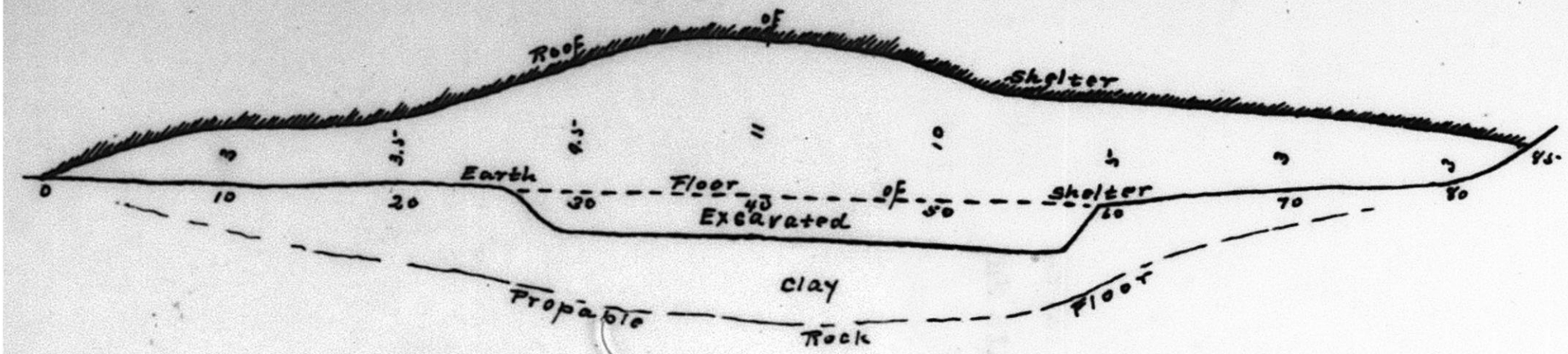
Respectfully submitted

Ellison Orr
Asst. Supervisor



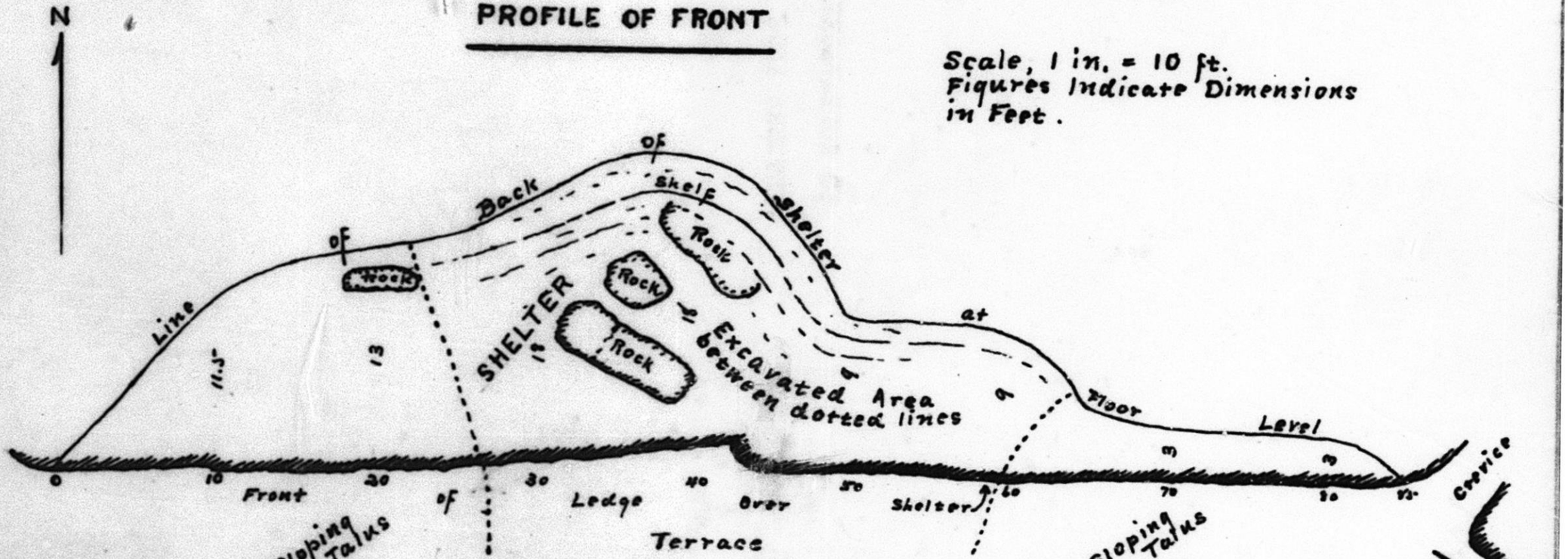
Cross Section - Front to Back of Shelter

WATERVILLE ROCK SHELTER



PROFILE OF FRONT

Scale, 1 in. = 10 ft.
Figures Indicate Dimensions in Feet.



FLOOR PLAN

SURVEY AND EXCAVATION OF THE SIXTEEN ROCK SHELTER.

The Sixteen Rock Shelter.

In the cliffs of Oneota limestone on the north side of Yellow river, on the NW. SW. Sec. 15, T. 96, R. 4, Allamakee County, is a large ideally located rock shelter. Facing the south, not difficult of approach and less than ten rods from the stream navigable for canoes, it is the best of the pocket caverns in the Oneota in the county.

During that part of January, 1935, when not prevented by blockaded roads, excavation work was carried on in this cave under project #1047 of the Iowa Planning Board.

Inside the vertical face of the cliff the "cave" floor is composed of very dry loose material, the upper 8 to 10 inches of which is disintegrated lime rock, almost as fine as dust, mixed with much ashes and black earth. Below that, for an additional 2 ft. - as deep as the work of excavation was carried - there was little, and at the bottom, no surface soil mixed with the products of rock decay.

In front is a narrow terrace of rubble rock mixed with much black soil washed down from the bluff above. This had been well wet by the late fall rains and frozen solid, very difficult to work up and impossible to get through the screens, the small bits of pottery and lime incrusted, dirty chipped pieces which it contained were very difficult to see. Few were found.

The dry interior floor excavated was all sifted through wire screens, with discouraging results.

This shelter apparently was never very rich in material and much shallow digging had been done previously. A number of years before, we had been with a party that by scratching around had found four triangular points.

With the exception of the triangular arrow points, which were just fair, with no really fine ones, the chipped flint pieces were of the crudest.

Of the pottery sherds one of every eight pieces was shell-tempered, all of which was found in the upper 8 in. Probably if no digging had ever been done by "relic hunters", this type would have been confined to a much shallower depth -(the mixing up of the dirt by the diggers who were looking for "arrowheads", burying the small bits of pottery deeper.)

The grit-tempered sherds were largely thin black ware, deeply stamped with impressions resembling those made with a twisted string, and indentations, forming decorative patterns.
Less than half a dozen plain pieces were found. On many of the thicker pieces, the decorations had been largely obliterated either by smoothing after stamping or by wear.

All material collected will be turned over to the Iowa State Historical Society.

Plans, profiles and photographs accompany this report.

a total of 344 hours of FERA labor employed

Respectfully submitted,

Ellison Orr

Waukon, Iowa, Feb. 4, 1935.

Pottery and other material found in Excavating Sixteen Rock Shelter.

Grit-tempered Pottery.

1 2x4 in. piece of neck - resembles Mill C reek culture.
8 small pieces of much decorated necks.
4 large pieces of bodies.
158 small pieces of bodies.
171 total grit-tempered sherds.

Shell-tempered Pottery.

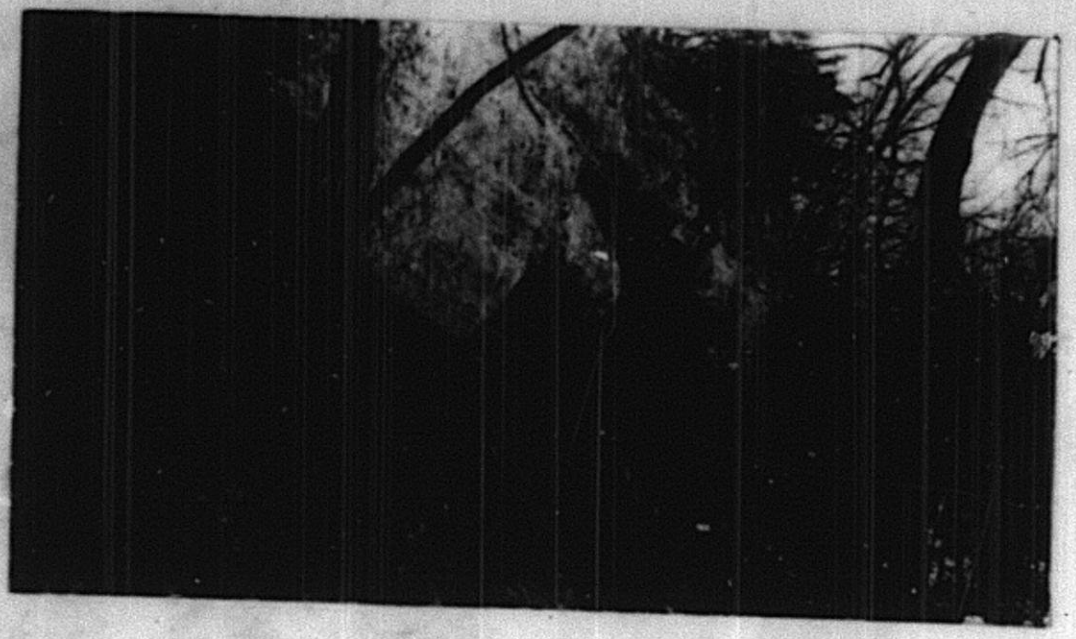
26 small body sherds.

Artifacts of Bone

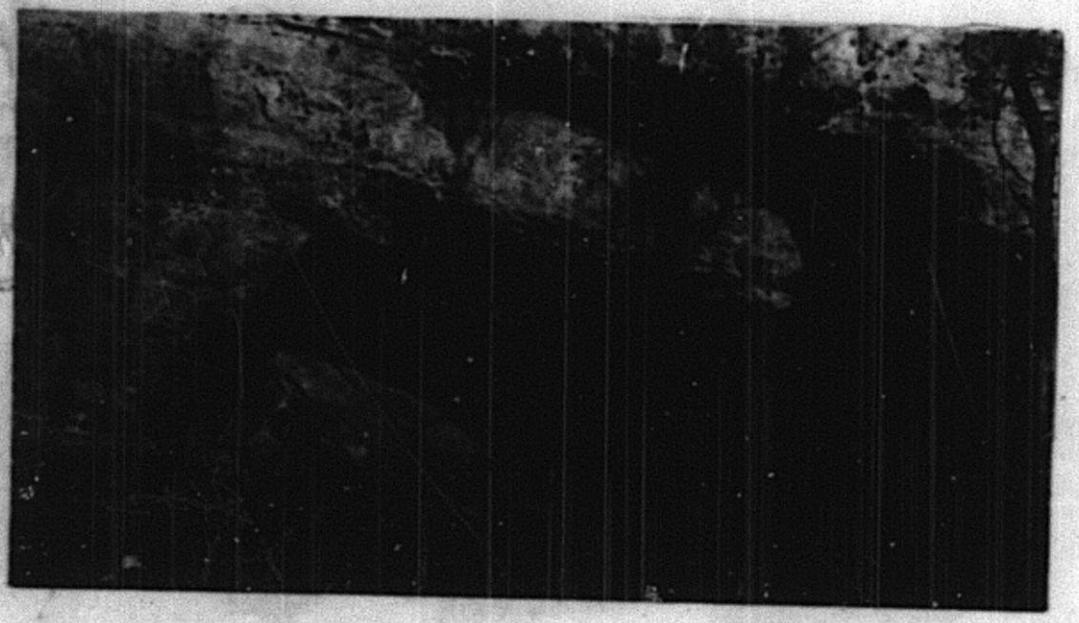
3 antler tines
1 well preserved skull of small rodent.
1 fragment deer antler.
Many split bones in places.
1 bone awl.
1 shoulder blade digging implement.
A number of clam shells of several species.
A few fragments of turtle bones.
7

Sundry Flint Material.

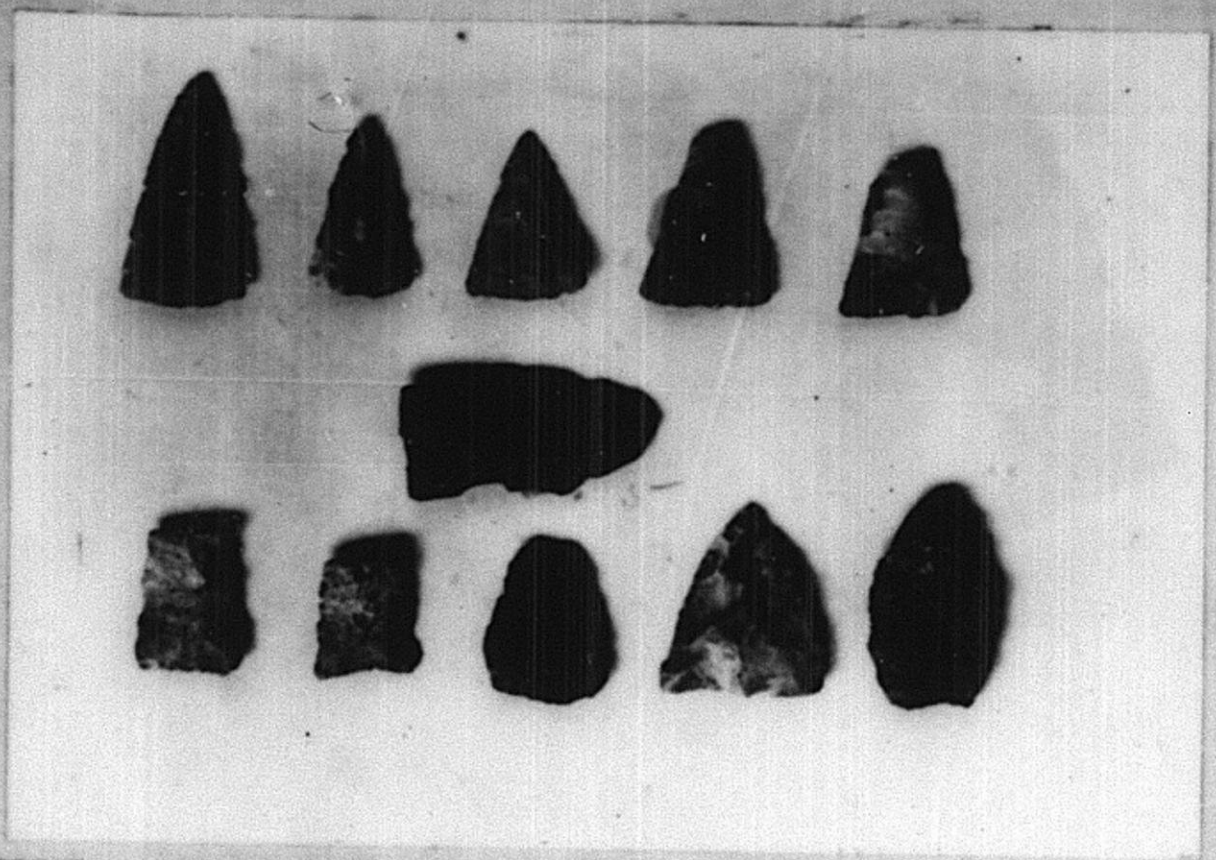
1 quartzite lance head or knife, 3-1/4 in. long.
2 pointed oval chert pieces.
2 triangular chert pieces, 2x1.4 in.
1 triangular, mottled piece, 1.7x.7 in.
11 triangular arrow-heads, .9 to 1.2 in.x.5x.9 in., 5 with points broken off - 1 crude.
6 notched arrow-heads - all different - 2 with points broken off.
1 crude oval arrow-head, 1.6 in. long.
5 stemmed points, 1.2 to 2 in. long - 3 with shanks broken off - 1 with stem 1/2 in. long, 1/2 in. of body, remainder broken off, body 1 in. wide.
9 scrapers - all different, 2 bunt ends, 1 broken.
3 ends of wide oval pieces - 1.3 to 1.7 wide and 1.5 long - complete pieces probably 3.5 to 4 in. long.
1 crude chipped celt, 2.3 in. long, bitt 1 in. wide.
1 nearly round chipped piece, 1.6 in. in diameter and .9 in. thick.
7 points .6 to 1 in. long broken off larger pieces.
1 base of triangular arrow-head, probably 1.5 in. long.
51 total.



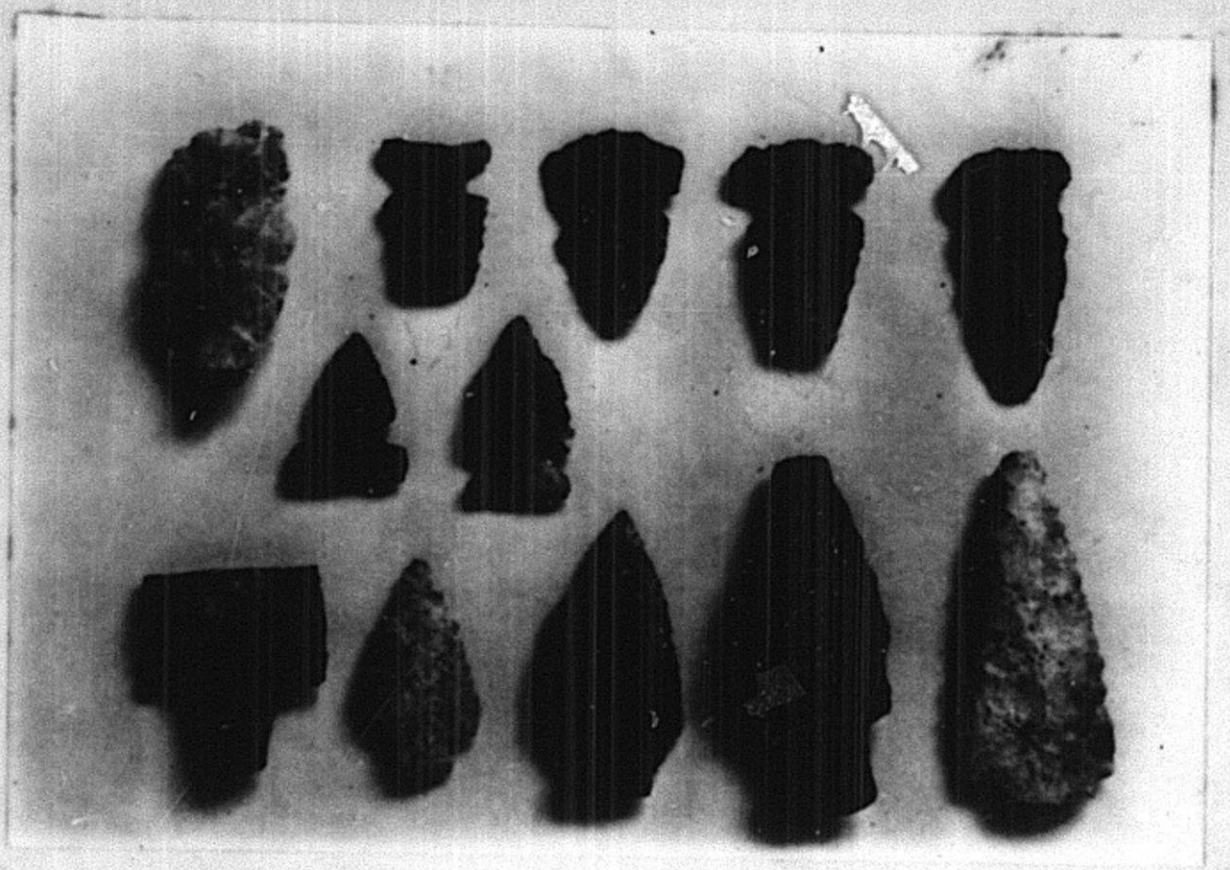
Looking East along front of cliff
Shelter in center of photo.



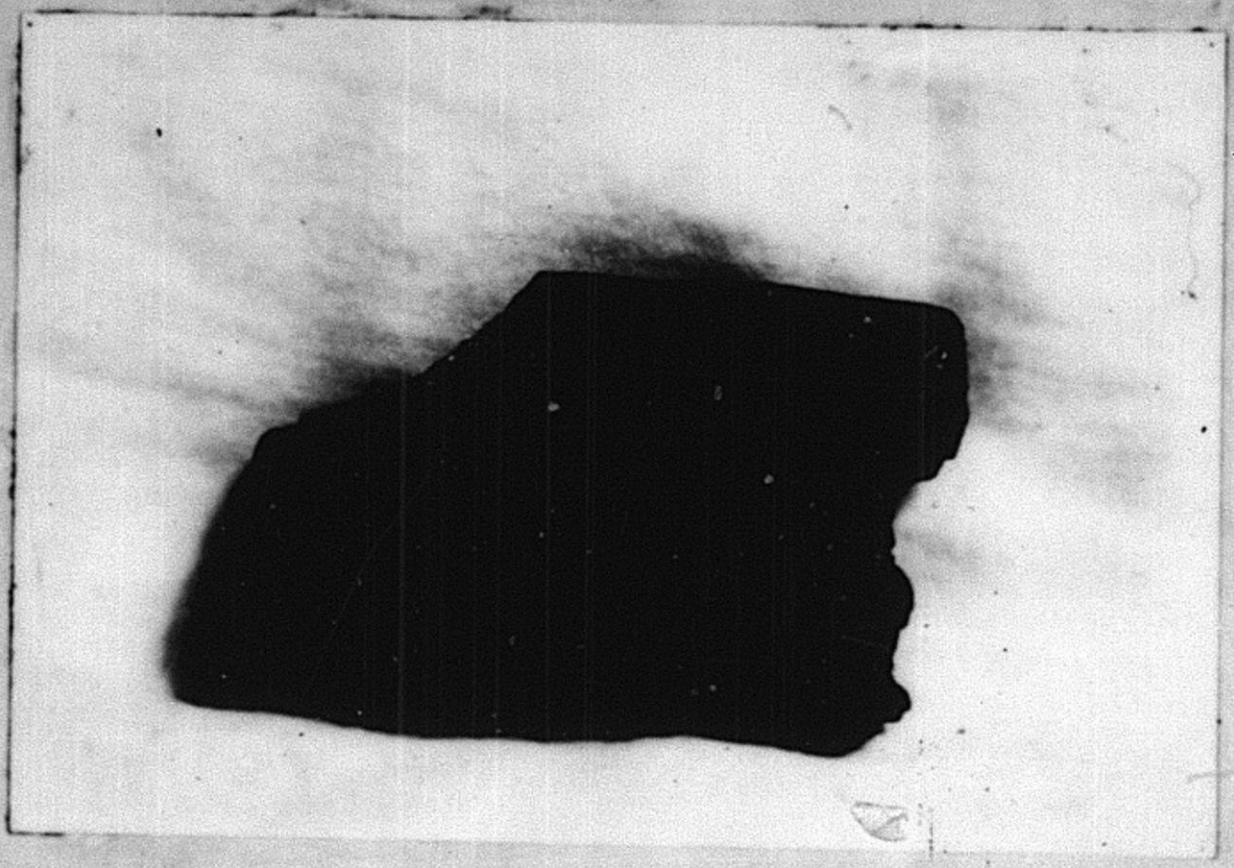
Looking North into Shelter



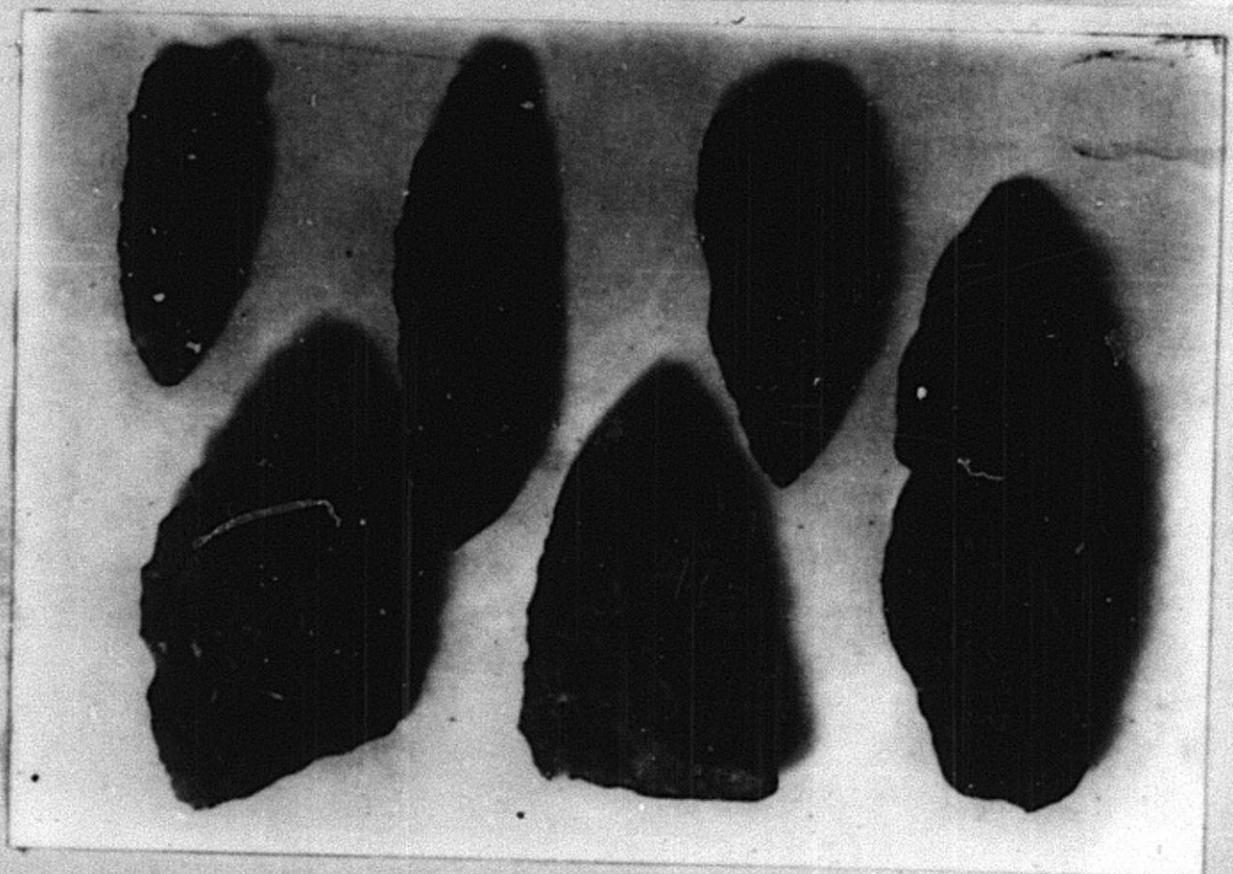
Chipped Pieces from Sixteen Rock Shelter. Actual Size 1934



Chipped Pieces from Sixteen Rock Shelter. Actual Size
1934

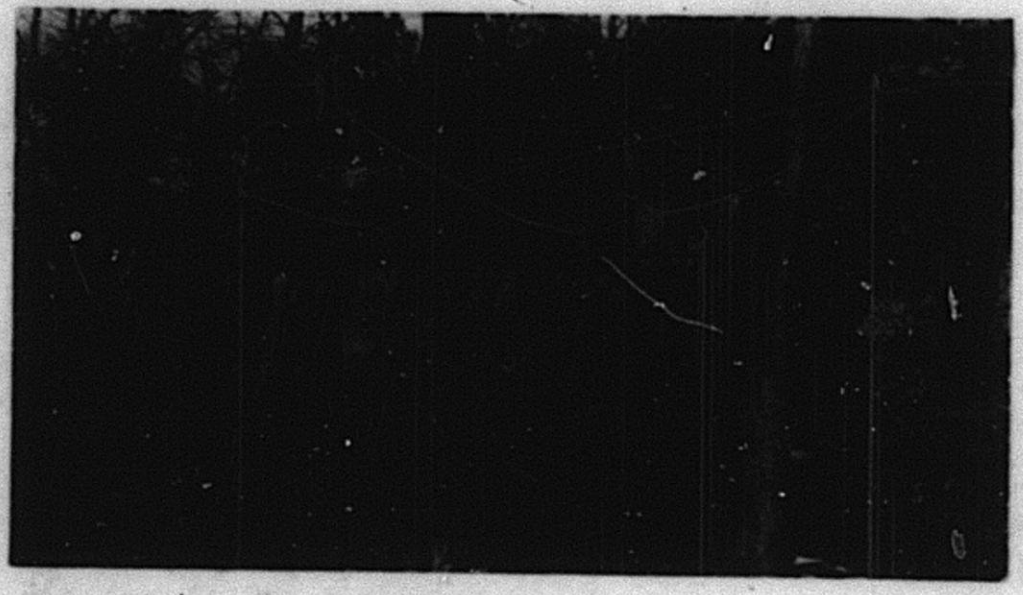


Grit-tempered Rim Sherd from Sixteen Rock Shelter
Note resemblence to Mill Creek Actual Size
1934

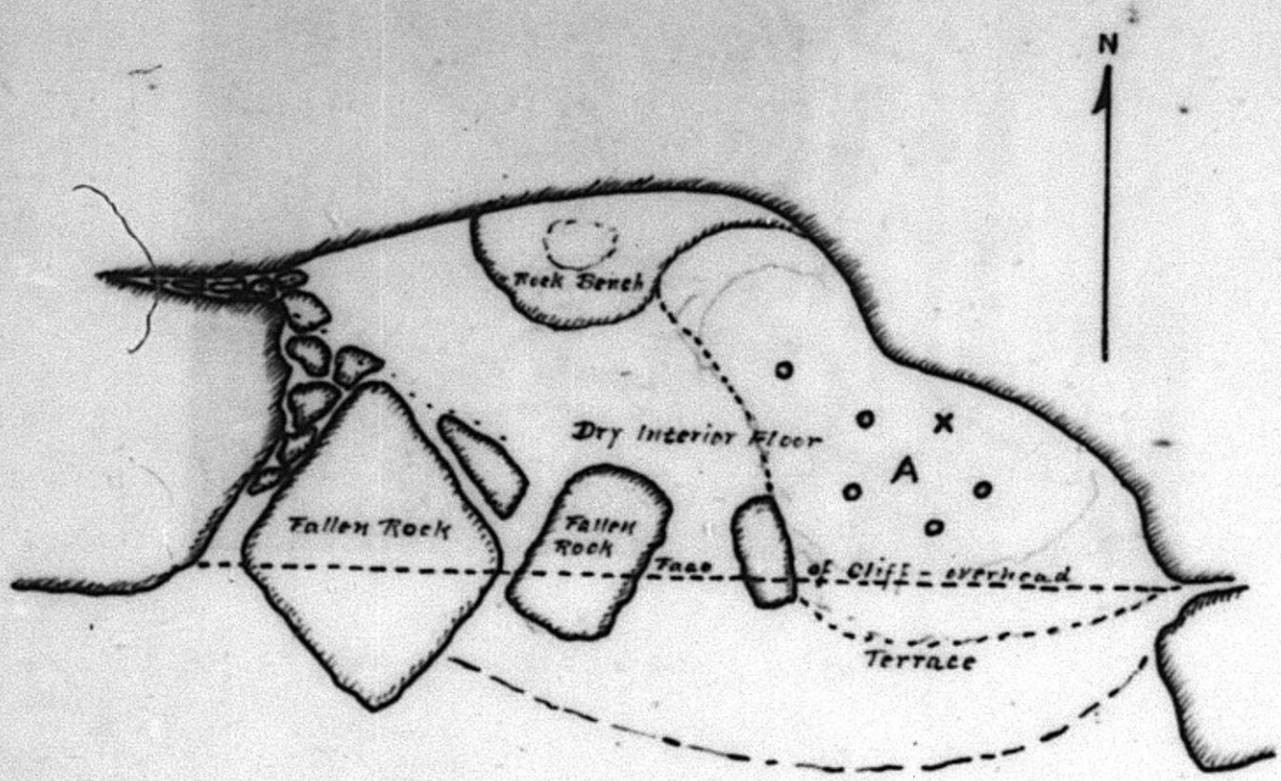


Chipped Pieces from Sixteen Rock Shelter. Actual Size, 1934

Shelter from South-west



Shelter from South-east.



Plan of "Sixteen" Rock Shelter.

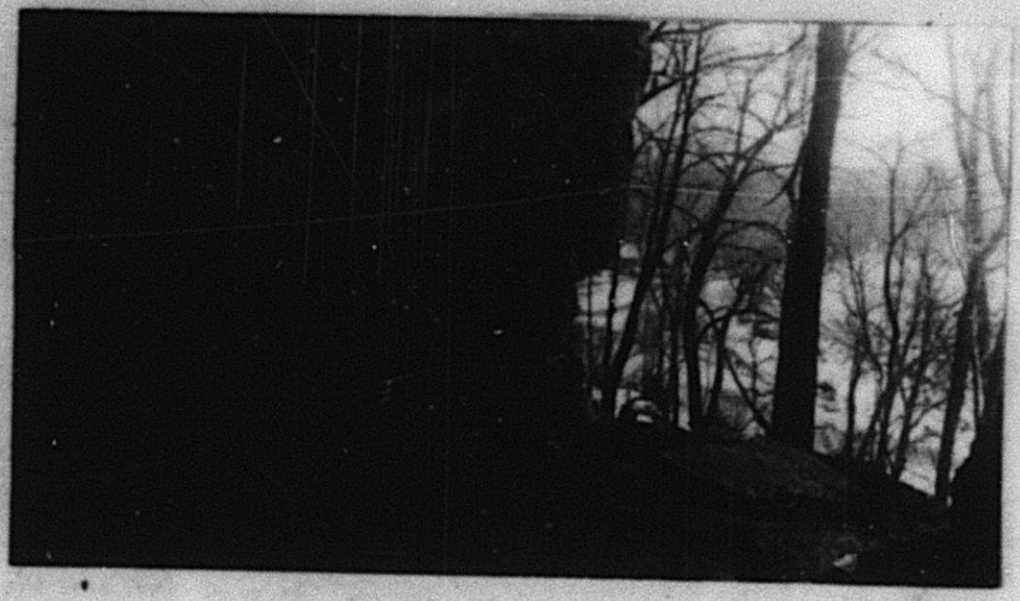
X - Where Shoulder-blade digging implement was found, 18 in. below surface.

o Ash deposits.

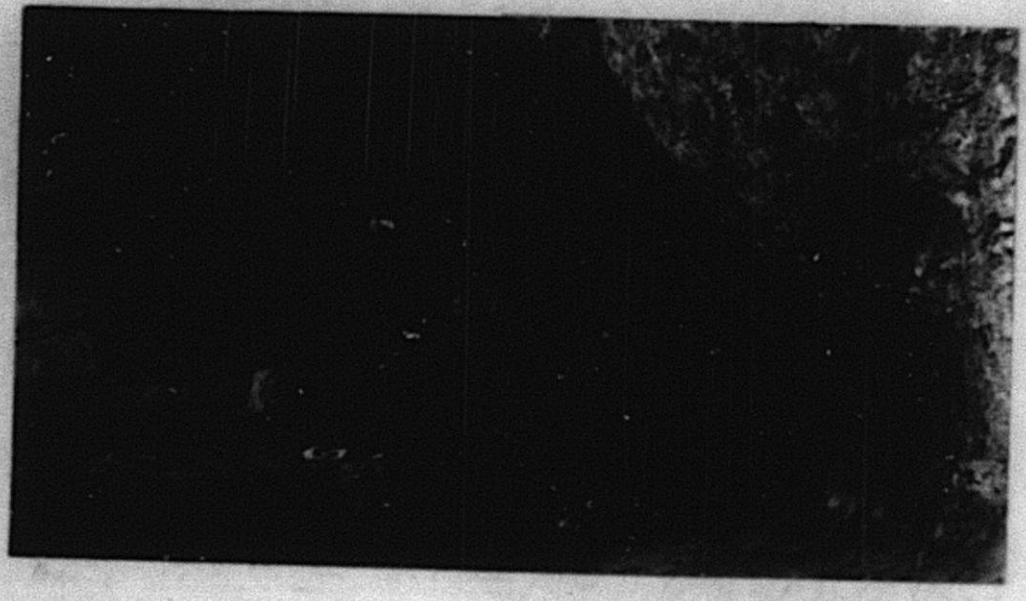
Scale, 10 ft. to Inch

A Excavated Area - 1935

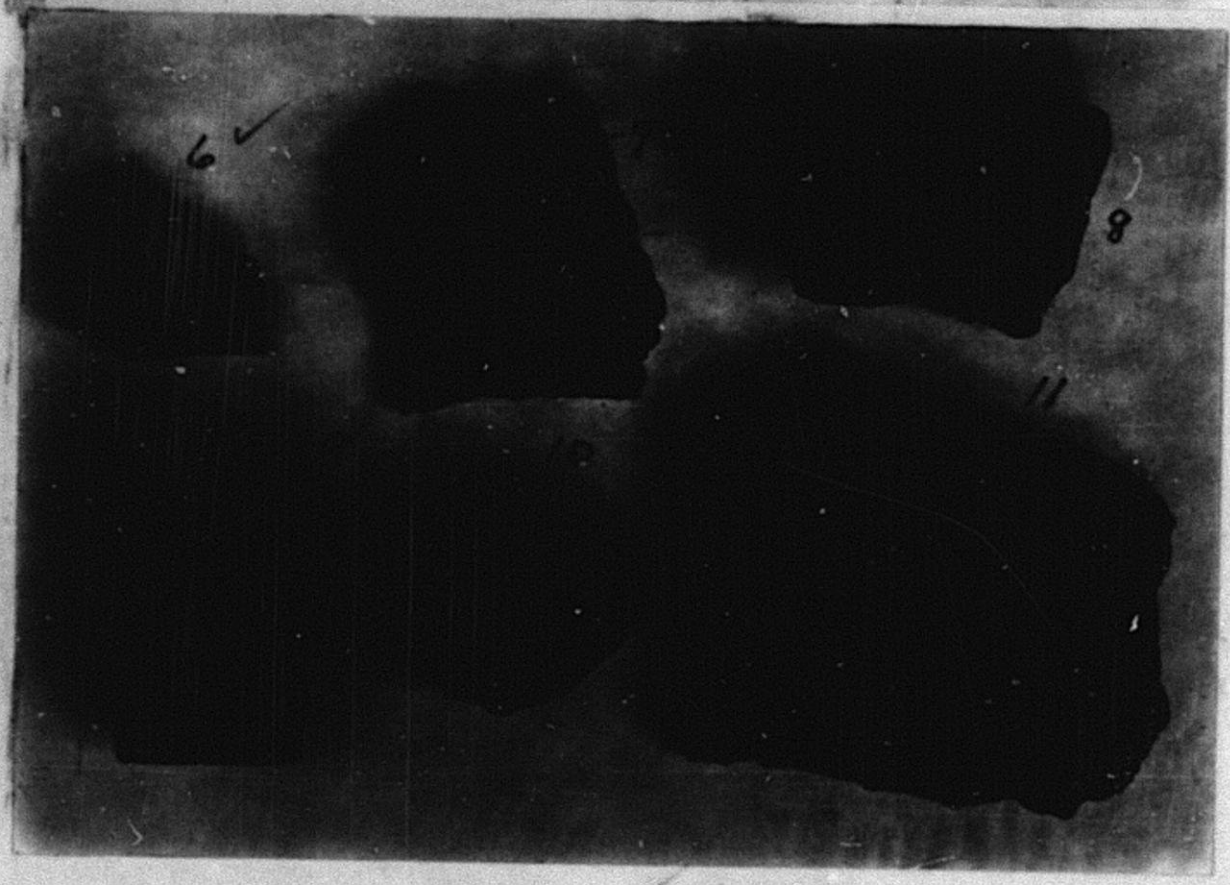
Survey by Fred Orr, Jan., 1935



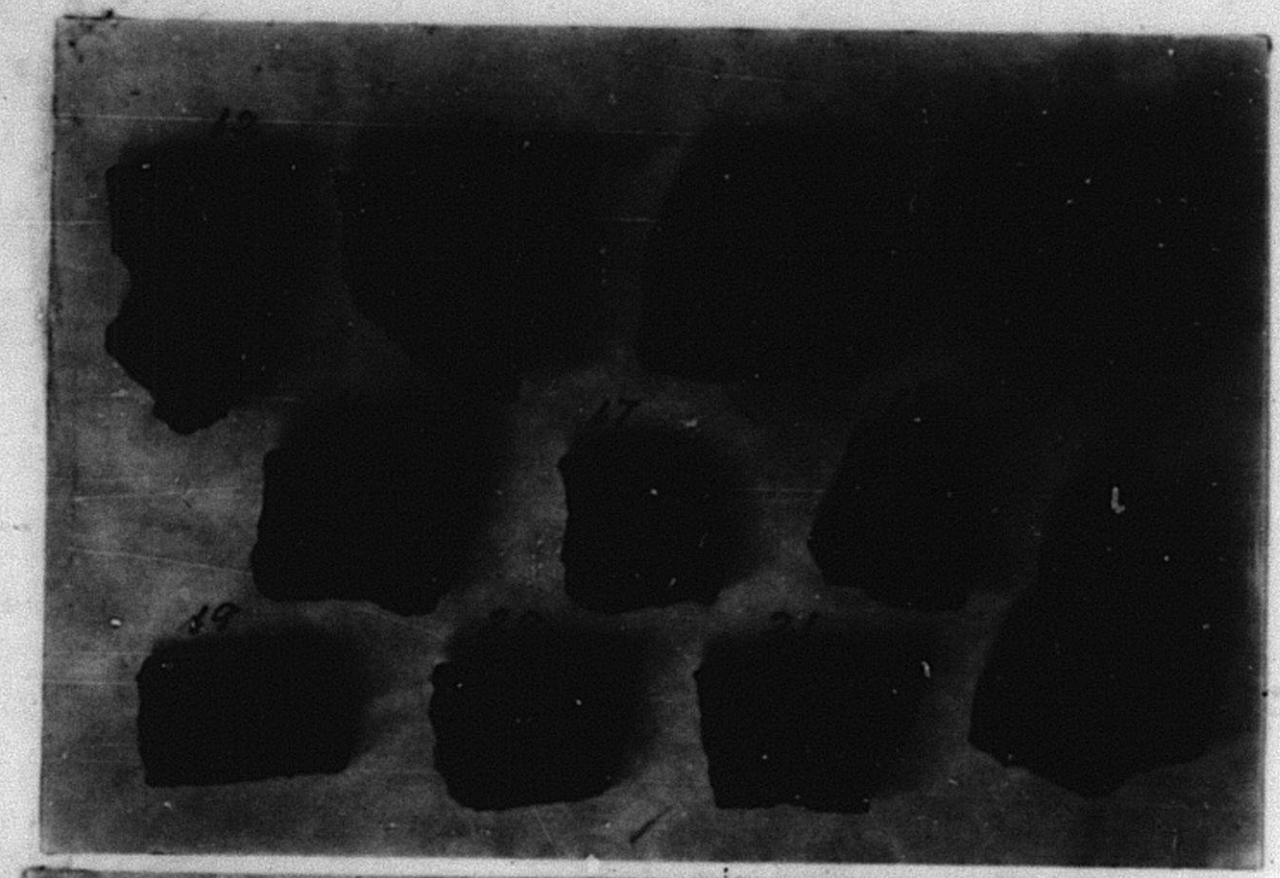
Men at work excavating - Looking East

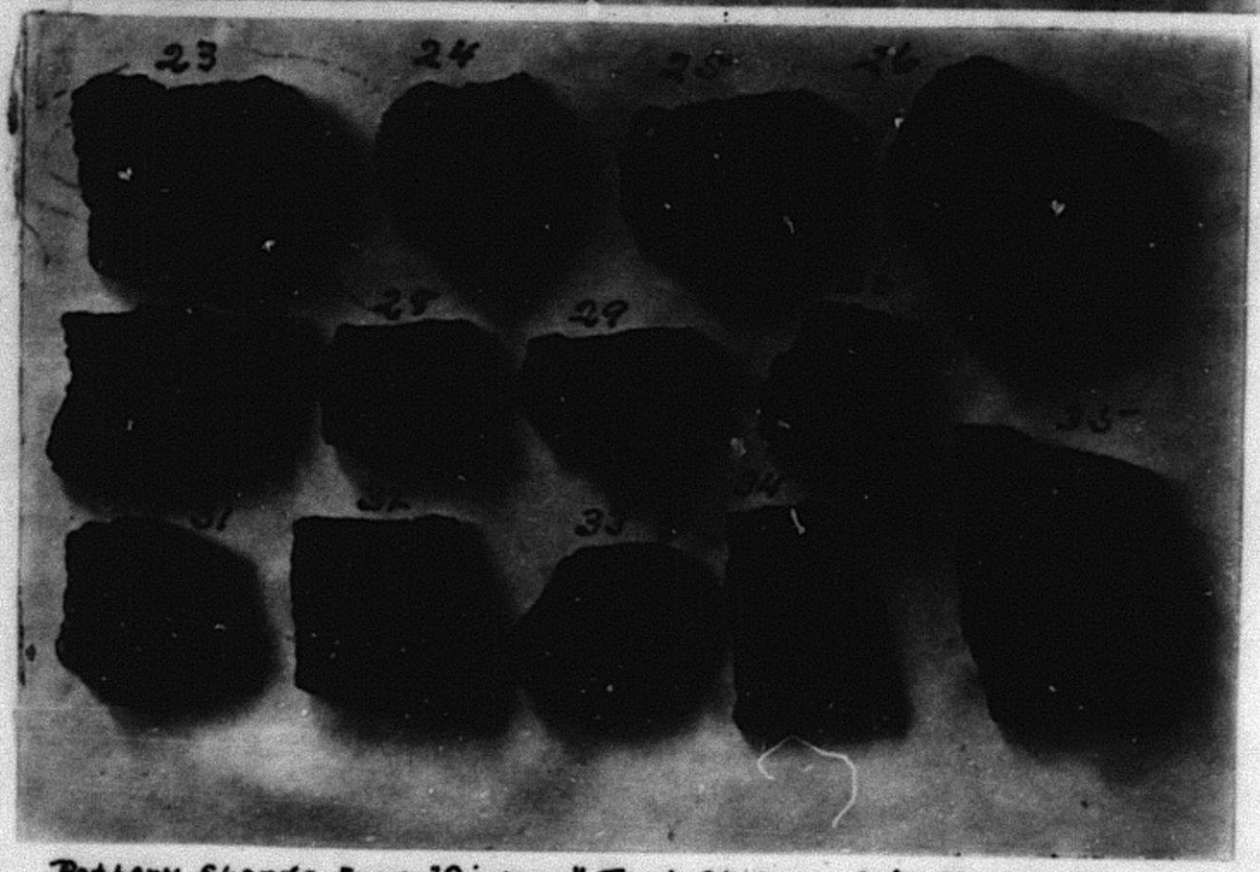


Men at work - Looking North-west into cave.



Pottery Sherds from "Sixteen" Rock Shelter - Grit Tempered.





Pottery Sherds from "Sixteen" Rock Shelter - Grit Tempered
Upper Picture is of Rim Pieces

SURVEY

of

HAMMEL and BIG SPRING MOUND GROUPS

and

EXCAVATION OF SAME
PROJECT S3-A2-1047
IOWA PLANNING BOARD

Big Spring Mound Group.

Aug. 18, 1934

Survey of Mound Group on terrace on E. side of valley of Clark's Creek on SW. NE. Sec. 6, T. 99, R. 4, Lansing Township, Allamakee County, Iowa.

From 1/4 Sec. cor. in cen. of Sec. 6, north along 1/4 Sec. line - (this line runs over point at W. end of bald bluff on E. side at mouth of Clark's Creek) 725 ft. Set stake.

Thence E. to Mound #1, 128 ft. 36 ft. in diam. 2 ft. high.

From Mound #1, N 38 W 50 ft. to Mound #2, 30 ft. in diam. and 1 ft. high

From Stake set on 1/4 Sec. line, N 61 W. 130 ft. to Mound #3- excavated by Ed Wild about 1915 - 30 ft. in diam.

From Mound #3 to Mound #4, same course - (excavated years ago) 30 ft. 20 ft. in diam.

The same course 100 ft. along divide between gullies in terrace, thence west 225 ft. to "slide" at end of terrace.

Locating Big Spring.

From 1/4 Sec. cor. in cen. Sec. 6,	N69 W to bank of creek		5.70
	N45 W " dead tree on W bank of creek		11.93
	N86 W 9.50 to stake at fence cor. on W side of creek		
	S57 W to big spring		3.74

Aug. 17, 1934.

Survey of Hammel Mound Group #1

Aug. 17, 1934.

On high divide between valley of Upper Iowa River and a tributary valley on S side - on NE SW Sec. 32, T. 100, R. 4, - Iowa Township, Allamakee County, Iowa.

From 1/4 Sec. cor. in angle of road, in cen. of Sec. 32, West along 1/4 Sec. line, 1688 ft. to top of divide, thence S 58 W 33 ft. to Round Mound #1, 36 ft. in diam. and 34 in. high,
Thence same course 50 ft. to Round Mound #2, 30 ft. in diam and 24 in. high.

Paid Geo. Hammel, owner of land, $4.00 for permission to excavate both Mounds, August 18, 1934.

Hammel Group #2

Group of 4 round mounds lie on sag in bluff line on S. side of Upper Iowa River at an elevation of about 150 ft. above flood plain - 3 in woods, 1 in field in SW. SW. Sec. 32, T. 100, R. 4.

Aug. 17,

Paid Con Hammel, $2.00, for permission to excavate Mound #1 - SE. of Big Spring.

Dug pit 12 ft. square and 5 ft. deep in this Mound but found absolutely nothing. 24" at top ash-colored surface soil. Below that heavy yellow clay.

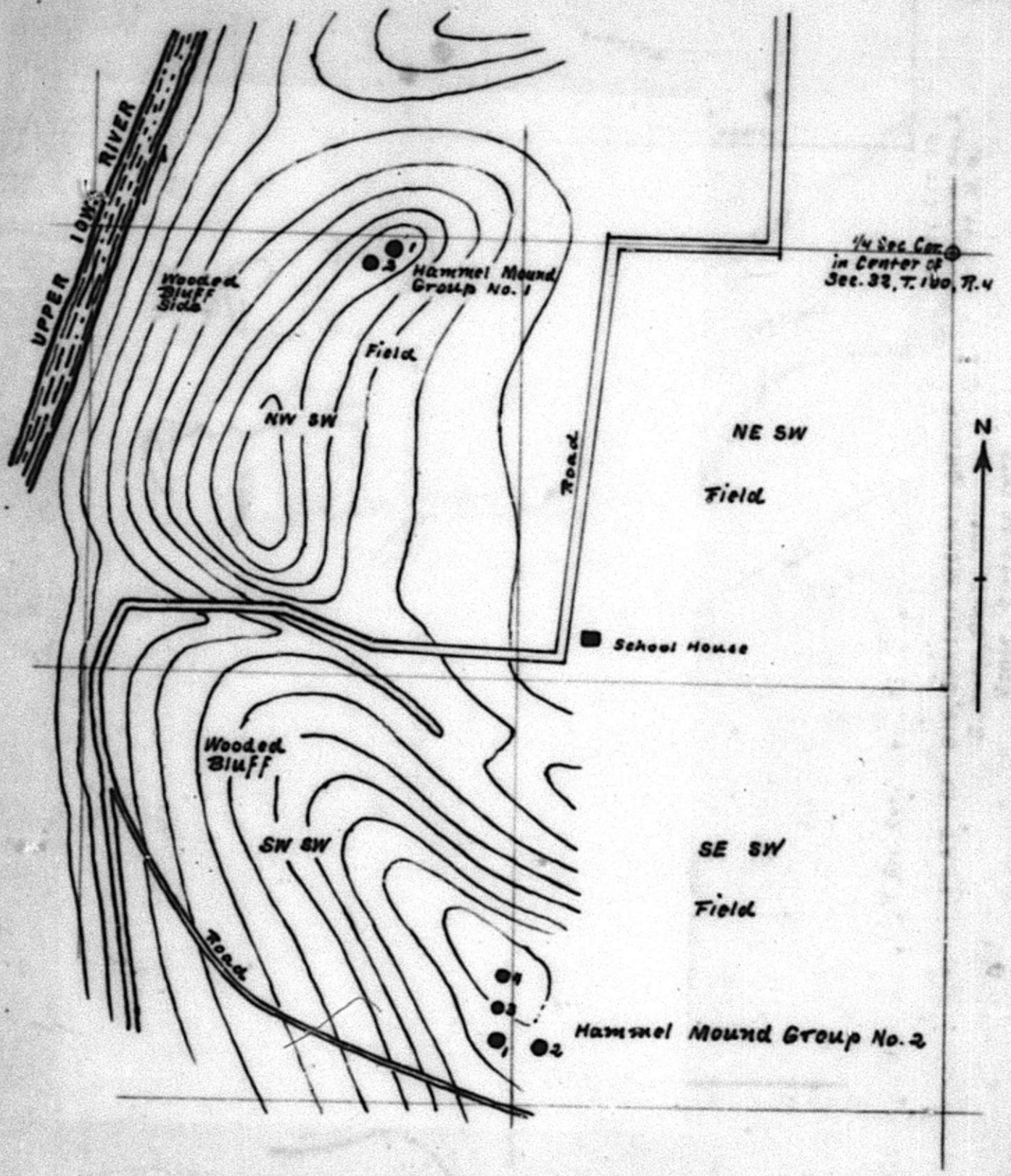
Aug. 18-19

Dug pit 18x12x5 in Geo. Hammel Mound No. 1, down to rock, no relics.

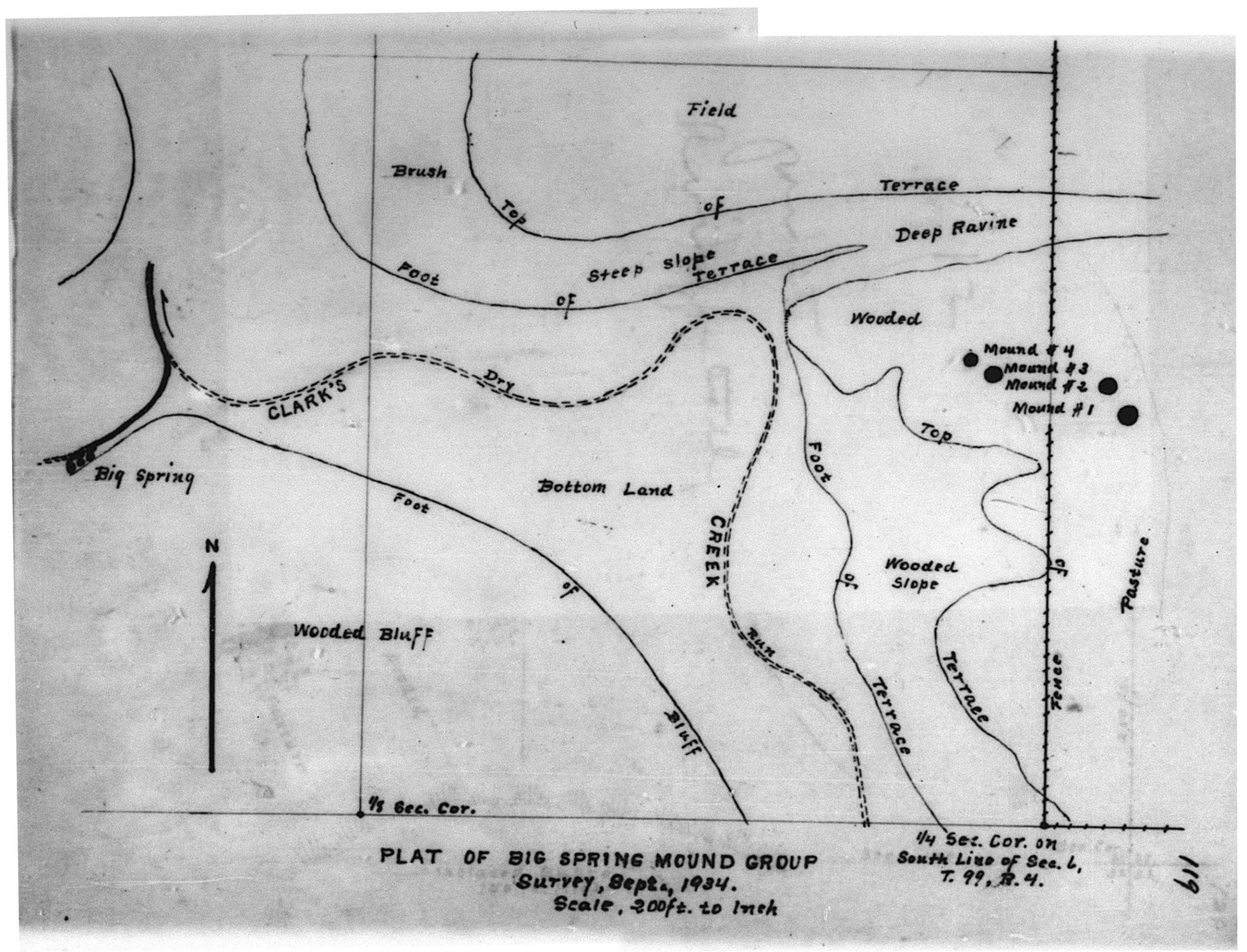
Aug. 21,

Dug pit 12x12x4 ft. in Geo. Hammel Mound #2
18" to light ash-colored soil
12" ash-colored soil down to yellow sandy clay.
No relics.

Mound No. 1 of Big Spring Group and Mounds Nos. 1 and 2 of Hammel Mound Group No. 1, were excavated Aug. 17, 18, 19 and 21, 1934, by party working under Dr. Charles R. Keyes, but all three were barren of any indications of a burial.



PLAT OF HAMMEL MOUND GROUPS Nos 1 and 2
Scale 400 Ft. to Inch



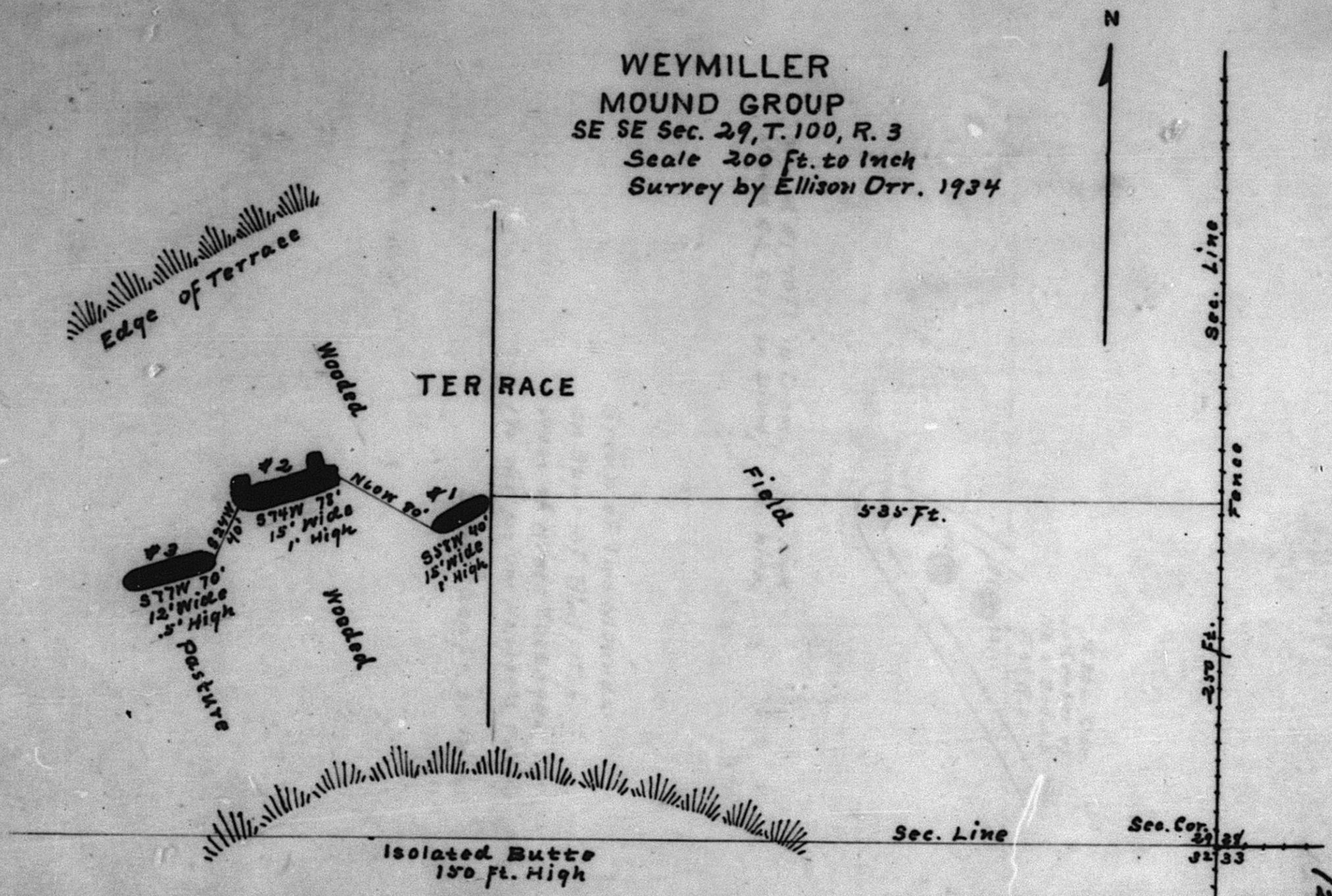
PLAT OF BIG SPRING MOUND GROUP
Survey, Sept., 1934.
Scale, 200 ft. to Inch

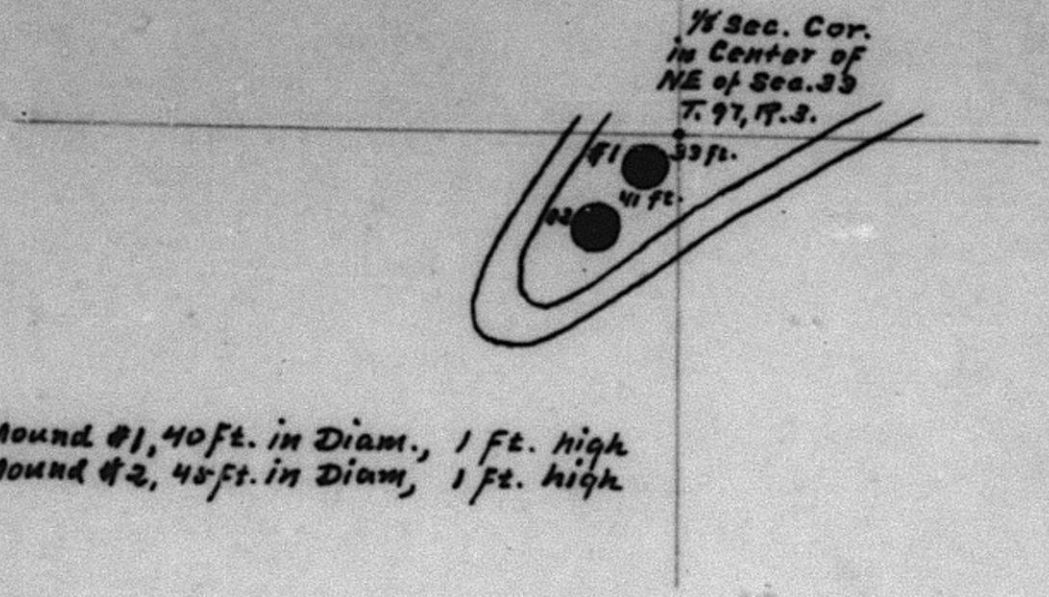
WEYMILLER MOUND GROUP

SE SE Sec. 29, T. 100, R. 3

Scale 200 ft. to Inch

Survey by Ellison Orr. 1934





Mound #1, 40 ft. in Diam., 1 ft. high
Mound #2, 45 ft. in Diam, 1 ft. high

Group of Two Mounds
on Spur of Bluff Top
west of Wines Cottages
1½ mi. below Harper's Ferry

Scale, 200 ft. to Inch.

THE SLINDE MOUND GROUP

Survey and Excavation
Aug. and Sept. 1934.

The Slinde Mound Group

Mound #5, 27 ft. in diameter, 2.2 ft. high.

This Group of fifteen round mounds is located on a terrace having an elevation of sixty-feet above the flood plain of the Upper Iowa River, and on the inner or East side of an "ox-bow" of the canyon-like valley of that stream, on the SW. 1/4 of NW. 1/4 of Sec. 30, T. 99, Range 6, Hanover Township, Allamakee County, Iowa.

The mounds of this group range in size from 12x1ft. to 40x4ft., five of the smaller ones of which have been"dug into"years ago.

The soil on which these mounds are located, except No. 7, is a hard ash-colored clay overlying much glacial gravel imbedded in a compact red clay. In No. 7, the ash colored clay is replaced by a very sandy soil and in No. 6, a 20 in. stratum of light yellow pure sand lies between the upper clay and the gravel bed.

On Aug. 23rd to 27th, inclusive, under Project S3-A2-1047 of the Iowa Planning Board, the Ass't Supervisor, Field Worker and iriver of the transportation car, assisted by three laborers furnished by the Emergency Relief Administration of Allamakee County, excavated Mounds Nos. 5 and 6, and after completion of this part of the work, restored them.

In Mound No. 5, with an elevation of 26 inches above the natural level, a pit 20x20ft. was dug down to the gravel bed. A few scattering flint chips, bits of charcoal, one crude arrow point and a bit of Algonkan pottery were found in the mound earth. An altar(?) three feet in diameter and composed of twenty-two limestones, two to six inches in diameter, was uncovered in the edge of the pit in Section D-3. This lay at a depth of 24 in. below the natural surface on what was probably the floor of the mound.

There were no signs of a burial in this mound and no relics.

Mound #6, 40 ft. in diameter, 4 ft. high.

In Mound No. 6, having an elevation of four feet above the natural surface, a pit 22x22ft. was dug down to and 16 in. into the bed of pure sand overlying the gravel. Two very small bits of Algonkan pottery and a few scattering bits of charcoal were found in the mound earth. Near the center and at the line between Section D-2 and D-3, the charcoal just below level of natural surface was abundant enough to form a noticeable streak. In the SE corner in Section B-4 was an altar (?) composed of many small limestone, quartzite and greenstone pebbles, on what was probably the mound floor at 14 in. below the natural surface, and in the SW corner a limestone rock 18x10x7 inches lay at 23 inches below the natural surface

At one or two feet west of the mound center, set upright on the mound floor 15 inches below the natural surface, were two logs of oak wood much decayed, one foot long and eight inches in diameter. At the exact center of the mound on the floor at the bottom of the ash-colored clay 25 in. below the natural surface lay an adult skull facing the south, and so badly decayed that only the outline could be traced in the clay, there were no other skeletal remains. Touching this was an Algonkan culture pot 3.9 in. in diameter by 4.6 in. in height. It lay partly on its side with the top to the north and away from the skull. Most of the neck had been broken off before

interment and upon cleaning it the body separated, along old cracks, into four pieces, but restoration will be easy, and will result in a very good specimen. Three small pieces of the neck lying beside the pot show the figures decorating that part. In the bottom of this pot was a clam shell. Underneath the pot, with point to the west, was a fine notched spear or lance head 3.6 inches long and 1.5 inches wide, made of a blue-gray flint.

At one mile down stream on the same side and on a similar terrace, projecting from the east into a like ox-bow, is a long mound, fifty feet back and parallel to the terrace front. Its dimensions are 100x15x1 ft. This single Linear constitutes Ward Mound Group.

Mounds #7,8 and 13.
Excavated Sept. 12 and 13, 1934.

Mound #7, 30 ft. in diameter, 2 ft. high.
Mound #7 lies at the west end of an upper-semi-terrace of almost pure sand. In this, 12x12 ft. pit was dug to a depth of 4 ft. to sand. At 6 ft. west and 4 ft. north of SE corner of pit, at a depth of 30 in. below the top of the mound, and 6 in. below the natural surface, was found a 6 in. long piece of large bone - probably a femur.

In restoring this mound found in the sand thrown out, a rather crude knife, 1.5x1 in.

Mound #8, 20 ft. in diameter, 2 ft. high.
Excavation 12x12 ft. At 16 in. were 2 pieces of logs 5 in. in diameter, the outside 1/4 to 1/2 was charcoal, inside of which they were decayed and gone.
1 ft. northwest of center, lying horizontally was a limestone rock, 10 in. in diameter 10 in. below natural surface.
Burial #1
#1 Four 3 in. long badly decayed fragments of undeterminable long bones at 14 in. below mound surface, 3 ft. north and 5 ft. west of SW corner lying closely parallel.
Burial #2
#2 Piece of badly decayed 6 in. long bone, 42 in. west and 60 in. South of NE corner Burial #2
Burial #3
#3 3 in. piece of long bone, 24 in. north and 65 in. west of SE. corner, 24 in. below natural surface.
Burial #4

At 16 in. west of burial #3 were 2 pieces of long bone - one 16 and the other 14 inches - lying S 48 W at 56 in. West and 50 inches south of northeast corner. One of these was much gnawed on one side. At 12 in. west of above was a small pile of badly decayed fragments of pelvis and a clavicle - probably part of same burial.

A very small fragment of bone, badly decayed, was found below floor of burial #2 and under where charred logs lay.

Burial #2 5 in. below natural surface
Burial # 5 in. below natural surface.

Mound #13 - 18 ft. in diameter, 1 ft. high.
Pits 8x8 ft. excavated.

In the SW corner at 18 in. below the surface was found a round hard ball of St. Peter sandstone, 2 in. in diameter, cemented by iron oxide, around which a narrow groove was cut.

Plat of this group attached, and photographs of pot and knife found in Mound #6 in sites.

Field Notes of Survey of Slinde Mounds.

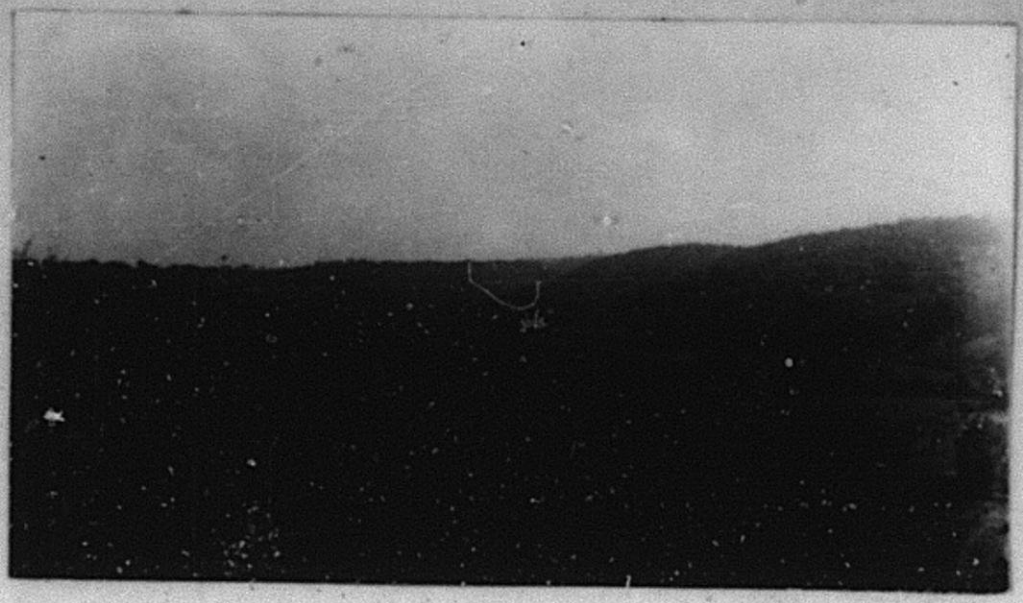
August 23, 1934.

From a Point on the county line between Allamakee and Winneshiek Counties, 3.57 ch. South of the 1/8 Section corner on the west side of the NW. 1/4 of Sec. 30, T. 99, R. 6, Hanover Township, Allamakee County.

Thence, East 3.57 ch.		to the top and most westerly point of a flat-iron shaped terrace - the county line crosses the foot of the same. An obscure mound on this point is #1
" S 42 E	.96 "	to Mound No. 2, 18 ft. in diam. x 1 ft. high
" S 42 E	.68 "	" " " 3, 25 " " " " 1 ft. "
		about 1/2 of S. part of mound #3 has been dug away in making farm road.
" S 79 E	1.79 "	to Mound No. 4 15 ft. in diam. x1.7 ft. high
" N 44 E	.70 "	" " " 5 27ft. " " x2.2 " "
" N 62 E	1.65 "	" " " 6, 40 " " " "4 " "
" S 72 E	1.20 "	" " " 7, 30 " " " "2 " "
" S 43 W	.74 "	" " " 8, 20 " " " "2 " "
		All above mounds in field.
" S 75 W	.84 "	to Mound No. 9, 20ft in diam. x1.5 " " under fence
" S 40 W	.52 "	to Mound No. 10, 20ft. " " " 2 " " on S. side of farm road
" S 80 E	1.00 "	to Mound No. 11, 18ft. in diam " 1.5" "

From Mound #10,	S 4 E,	1.06 ch.	to Mound #12, 20ft. in diam. x1.5ft high
" " "	S60 W,	1.04 ch.	" " "13 18" " " "1 " "
" " "	N13 W,	.43 ch.	" " "14, 18" " " " .6" "
" " "	N50 W.	.48 ch.	" " "15, 12" " " " .5" "

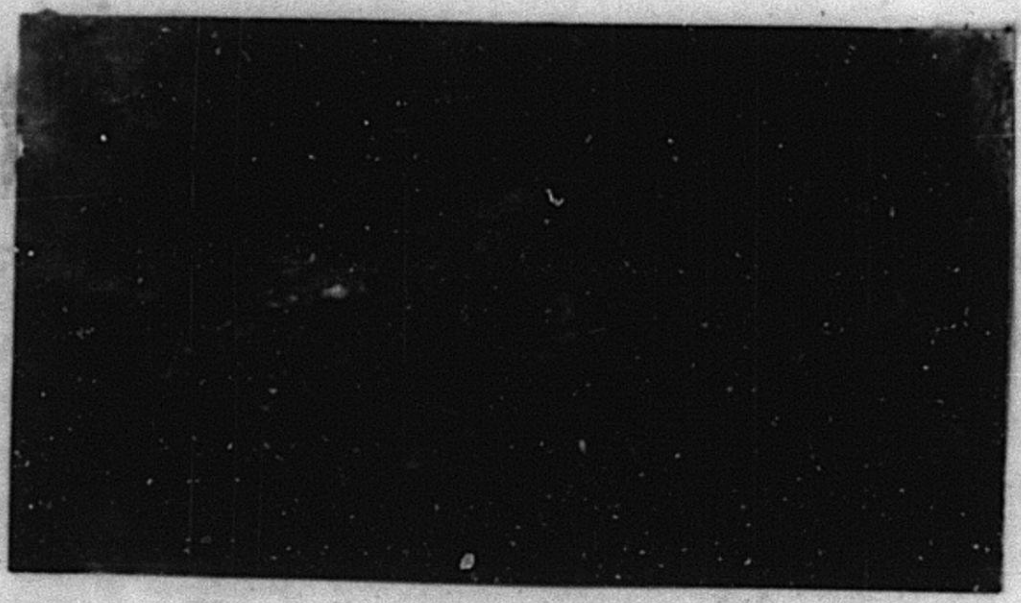
(Mounds Nos. 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 have been excavated long ago)



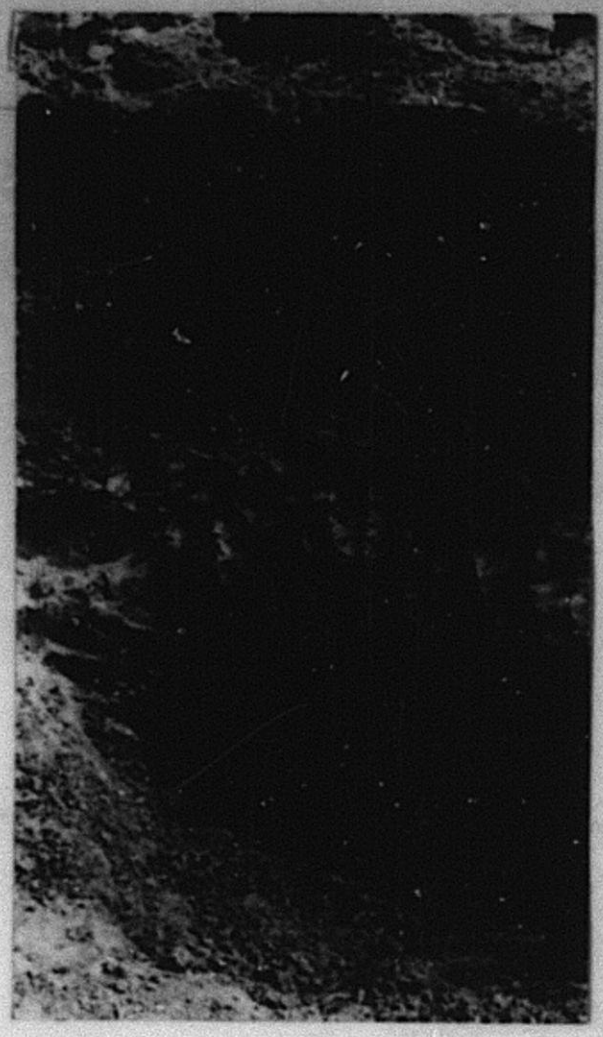
Looking south across Upper Iowa River bottoms in foreground, Slinde Mound Group terrace in center of picture from Thompson's Bluff top above old house on N. side of river. Looking South up Upper Iowa River valley

Mound #6 - Looking North

Mound #5 in foreground, #6, back
Looking north-east.

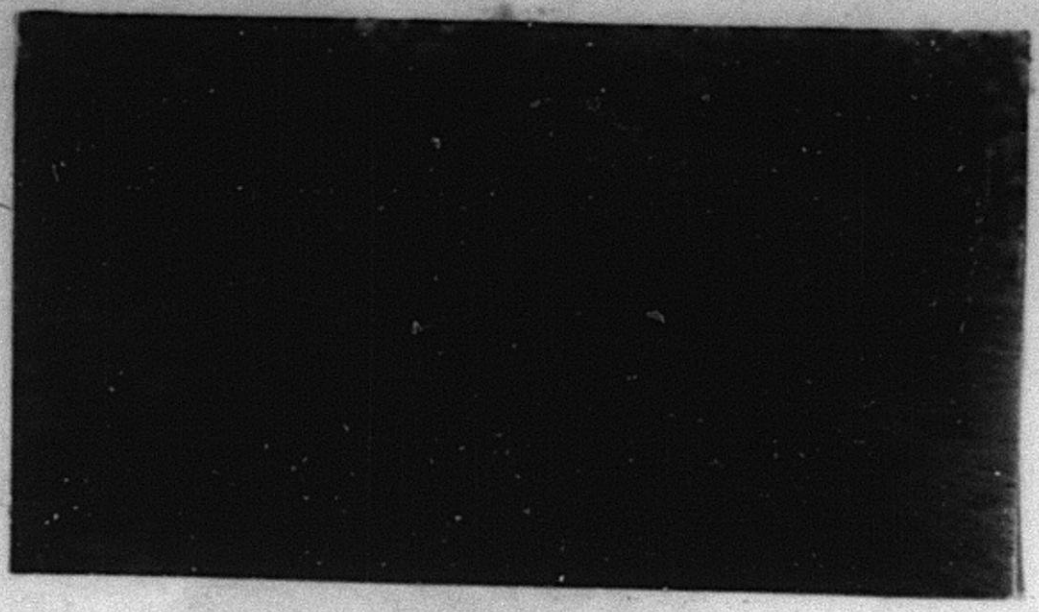


Alter (?) west wall Mound 5

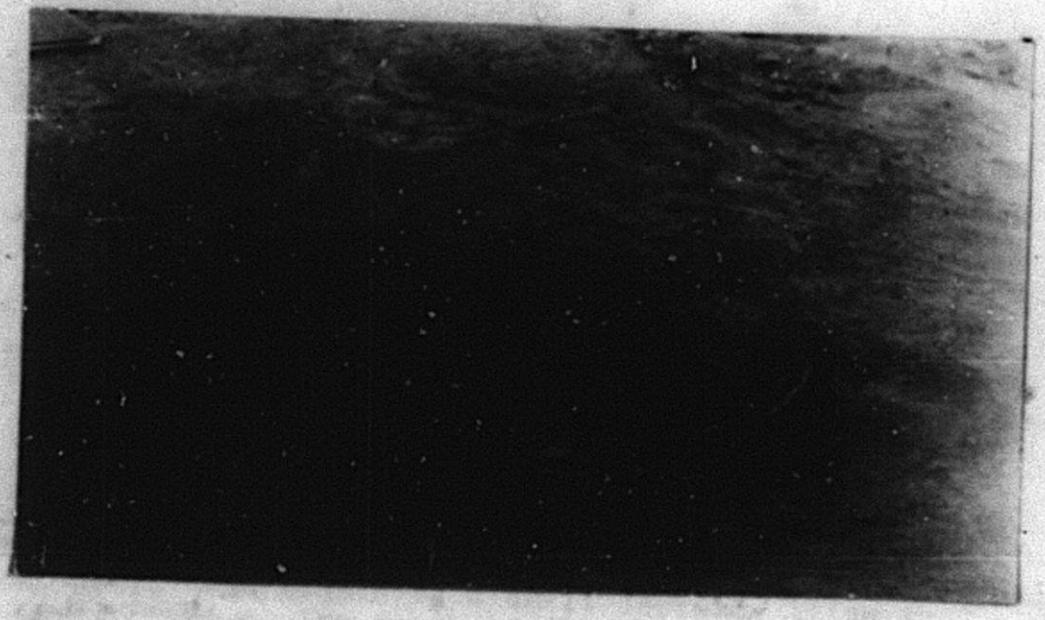


E. wall of pit in Mound #13
Note stratification

Mound #6 - Looking north



Burial in center of Mound #6 - Looking SW
Note pot with neck gone and remains of skull
to left. Aug. 1934



Burial in center of Mound #6 - Looking NE
Remains of skull at right. Note chert knife under pot

Woodland Pot from center of floor, at 25 inches below the natural surface, of Mound No. 6 of the Schlinde Group og Fifteen Mounds on a small terrace lying in an ox-bow bend to the north of the Upper Iowa river. On tne SW NW Sec. 30, T. 99, R. 6 west of the 5th P.M. Hanover township, Allamakee County. Propably Woodland. Note rocker decoration.

MAP OF SLINDE MOUND GROUP

SW. N.W. Sec. 30, T. 99, R. 6 West

Scale: 1 inch = 6 ft.

☐ Excavations - Iowa Planning Board's Project S3-42-047

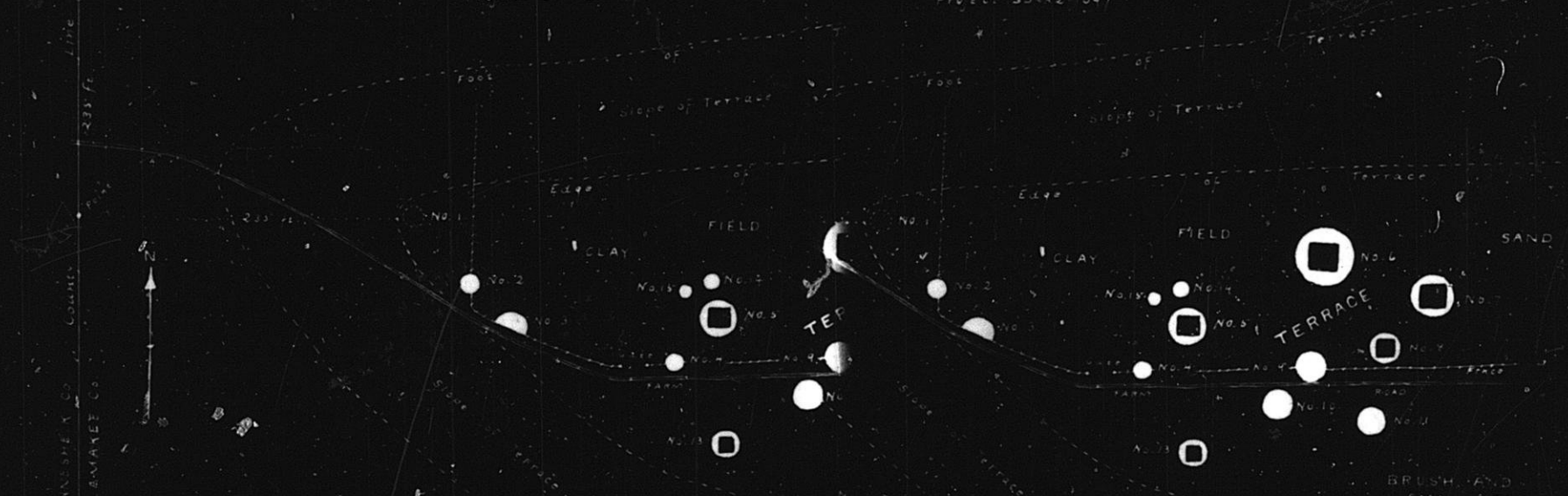
MAP OF SLINDE MOUND GROUP

SW. N.W. Sec. 30, T. 99, R. 6 West

Scale: 1 inch = 6 ft.

☐ Excavations - Iowa Planning Board's Project S3-42-047

Surveyed by Ellison Orr
Aug. 23d. 1934



SURVEY AND EXCAVATION OF THE OREGAN TERRACE AND INDIAN CEMETERY.

The ORegan Terrace

Cemetery Excavations.

The ORegan terrace, so named after a former owner of its East half, a remnant of an old gravel train of a greatly swollen stream that headed near the edge of the melting Iowa glacier half a hundred miles north-west, lies along the foot of the ledge-crowned bluff on the north side of the Upper Iowa (Oneota) river on the SW. NE. and SE. NW. of Sec. 6, T. 99, R. 5 W.

Remnants of this are easily traced along the bluffs on either side at a height above the present flood plain - bottom land - of 60-70 ft. For the most part they have a width of less than half a dozen rods but in places, as at ORegans, they widen out considerably.

On these broader places there is much evidence of prehistoric Indian occupation - village sites, camp sites and burial places. Some of these latter, as at ORegans and "The Elephant", may very appropriately be called cemeteries, laid out very irregularly.

The almost flat surface of the ORegan terrace has an approximate present area of around 20 acres. It is half-moon shaped, - the rounded side to the south. A deep erosion ditch cuts into it along the bluff foot from the NE. Another cuts in centrally from the south along the 1/4 Section line. Both of these reach well towards the center. The NW horn is also cut off by a ravine coming down out of the bluff.

Essentially the terrace is a sand bar covered by a deposit of yellow clay (loess) of varying thickness.

Old settlers used to tell of a "big cottonwood" tree that stood on its west half, on the SE.NW, and near the N and S 1/4 Section line, that marked the burial place of a chief and near which were other burials.

After the settlement by the whites, parties of Indians - old men - from time to time revisited the graves of their ancestors, and from them the settlers got their information. It is not known to what tribes they belonged. Fires were built and ceremonies performed over the graves it was said, and once after they had left a bottle of whiskey was found - presumably left as an offering to the dead.

Along the south slope of the terrace, perhaps 200 ft. west of the 1/4 Sec. line, a boy in digging out a wood-chuck, unearthed a complete pot, #32 at a depth of 12-18 inches.

Besides much chipped flint, - scrapers, arrow points and knives, - mortars, mullers, celts and axes have been found in cultivating the land. Pottery sherds are not common.

All appears to have been the typical Oneota phase of Siouan culture.

East of the 1/4 Sec. line much chipped flint - arrow heads and scrapers - has been found on the surface. Mullers and mortars have not been unusual finds, and at least one pipe was picked up at X6. At the farm gate we once found 2 mortars within four feet of each other.

At X3 and X4 small caches of Oneota pottery were found in the ditch side, and at X1, a storage vessel 18 in. in diameter was uncovered by a cow stepping too near the edge of the ditch, breaking off a slice and exposing the vessel lying upside down, filled entirely with earth, and cracked in many pieces, - pot #15.

Two fine typical Oneota culture knives were found in the sand at the ditch bottom at X5 and X7, where the sides had sloughed off these had come down in the clay from near the top.

Between the erosion ditch along the bluff in the NE part, and the SE edge, what might be called a spur runs east, the point being at the original E. edge of the terrace. Along the crest of this spur, west to the edge of the field, almost directly south of the head of the erosion ditch, is an extensive Indian burial ground, - the ORegan terrace Indian burying ground or cemetery. Across the middle of this the farm road from the highway along the foot of the bluff on the north runs and down the SE slope to the farm house. In the course of time rains washed out this road near the top exposing skeletons. The discovery of these burials led to "digging for relics". For twenty feet back from the road along its N. side, and to the west a hundred ft. to the edge of the field, - and there is evidence of digging having been done along the S. edge of the terrace west to the central erosion ditch, - the ground was pretty well dug over and much pottery and other relics taken out. Along the N. bank of the road we had found at different times a pair of copper bracelets and a catlimite pipe.

During the year 1932 the tenant, a Mr. Saddler, living on the farm, recovered four good pots, a catlimite pipe and with one burial, about 30 ft. SW of Sta A-0, over one hundred beautiful blue glass venitian beads. All of this material is in the Timmerman collection at New Albin, Ia. See p. 187

So far as we have been able to learn, all the pottery recovered from this cemetery at any time heretofore, has been of the general globular, ellipsoidal, depressed spherical or ellipsoidal type and its variants.

Two specimens of a unique variant of this general type, boat-shaped - having a much depressed top with the blunt pointed ends of the longest diameter turned up, have been found in this cemetery. One found by the tenant, Saddler, is now in the Timmerman collection, the other, found by the party under Dr. Keyes in 1934, is now in the State Historical Society collection.

During the months of June and July, 1934, under Project 1047 of the Iowa Planning Board, extensive trenching of the ORegan terrace cemetery was done by a party under Dr. Charles R. Keyes. X

Attached field notes of the survey of the terrace and of the trenches, and Plats A of the East half of the terrace, and B of the trenches, will show the details of this work better than it can be described.

As it was sought to avoid as far as possible the old much dug over portions of the cemetery we fortunately struck but few disturbed burials. As Dr. Keyes kept the notes of the burials, we are unable to give the exact number that we found which had never before been dug into. However there must have been about 20. Nor can we give the exact number of pots found but there were certainly four. One of these, a

boat-shaped variant was found with the few skeletal remnants of an extended burial in Station A-13 of trench A. It was complete, right side up and as usual filled solidly with earth, and resting on upper left breast. At Sta. A-19 alongside the left femur were seven very fine Oneota, [redacted] arrow-heads with points toward the feet.

With the burial in trench E was a Siouan type pipe of a white stone with a badly disintegrated surface. Between the femora at the bottom of the pelvis was an area a foot in diameter, stained very red, This was the only sign of coloration that we found with the ONegan terrace burials.

The one grave in which the burial was of the bundled type might have been previously excavated and the skeleton reinterred in a bundle. Some of the burials might have been flexed but there was no certain evidence of this. With the possible exception of the bundle, all were probably extended burials.

Following is copy of field notes of the finding of a common steel (white man's) butcher knife with a skeleton:

"At S 52 W, 63 ft. from Sta. C-0, a badly rusted butcher knife was found with a skeleton which lay N 78 W, with head 41" below surface. At 18" above same was a pile of rocks 4" to 6" in diameter between 2 of which was a fragment of lower jaw with 3 molars. The skull - well preserved - lay upside down with face towards pelvis - near center of body but to the right of backbone which was present except cervical vertebrae. Ribs of right side, humerus, ulna and radius in place. Remnants of shoulder blades and clavicle under skull. Pelvis, femora and large bones of lower leg in place.

Ribs of left side, bones of left arm, and all bones of hands, feet and lower jaw missing.

Coil - 1/4 in. in diameter and same length - of copper wire lay on shoulder blade 4 in. above skull.

At right of and touching pelvis lay the much rusted blade of a common white man's butcher knife - the end of the handle part was 2" above right innominata and the edge of the blade was up or to front - evidently it hung on a scabbard attached to a belt. Handle gone. 3 rivets that held it on still in place.

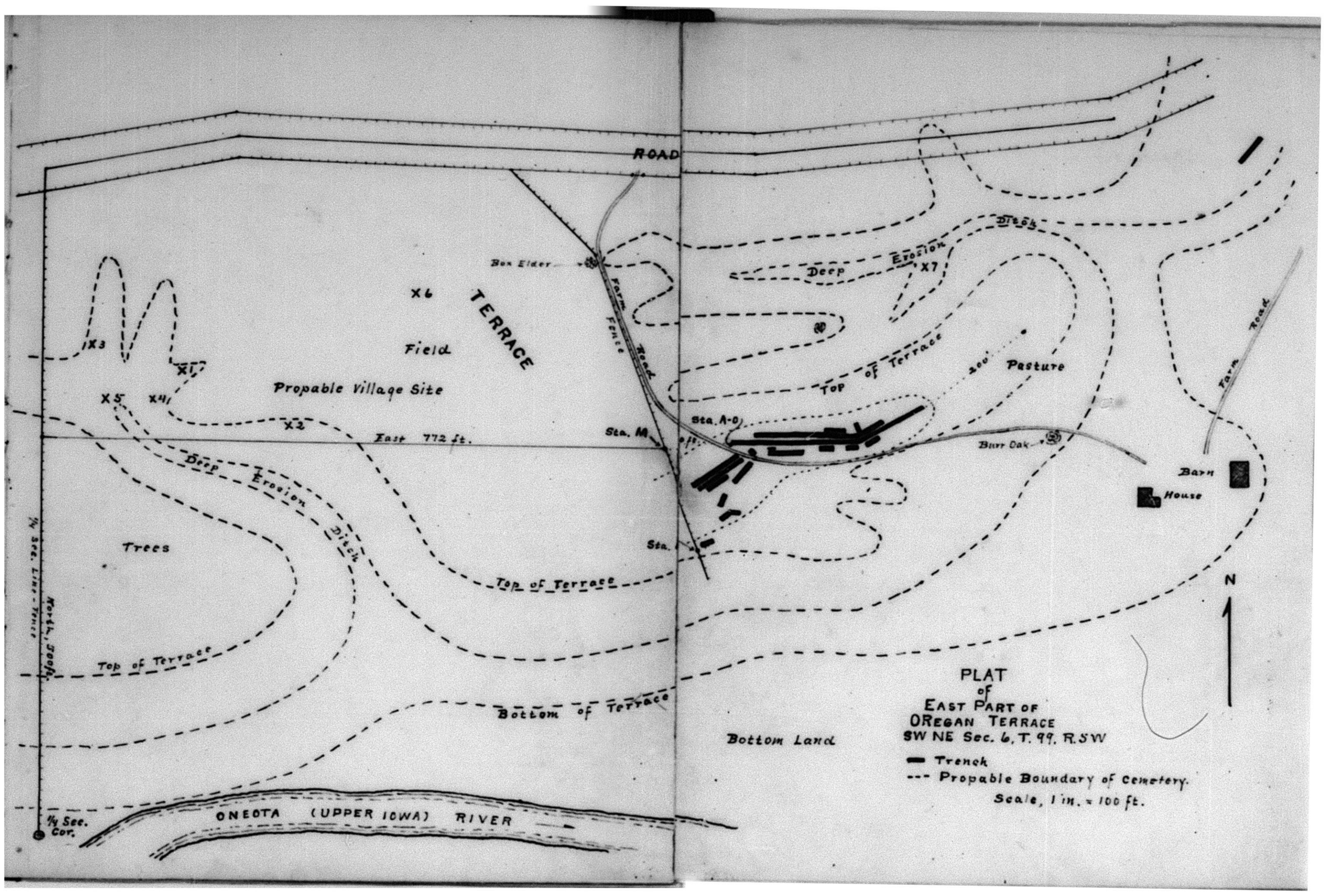
Articulation of femur with pelvis and tibia and fibula, perfect, undisturbed. Articulation of vertabrae with each other and with sacrum, natural and undisturbed. Pelvic opening 5.5 in."

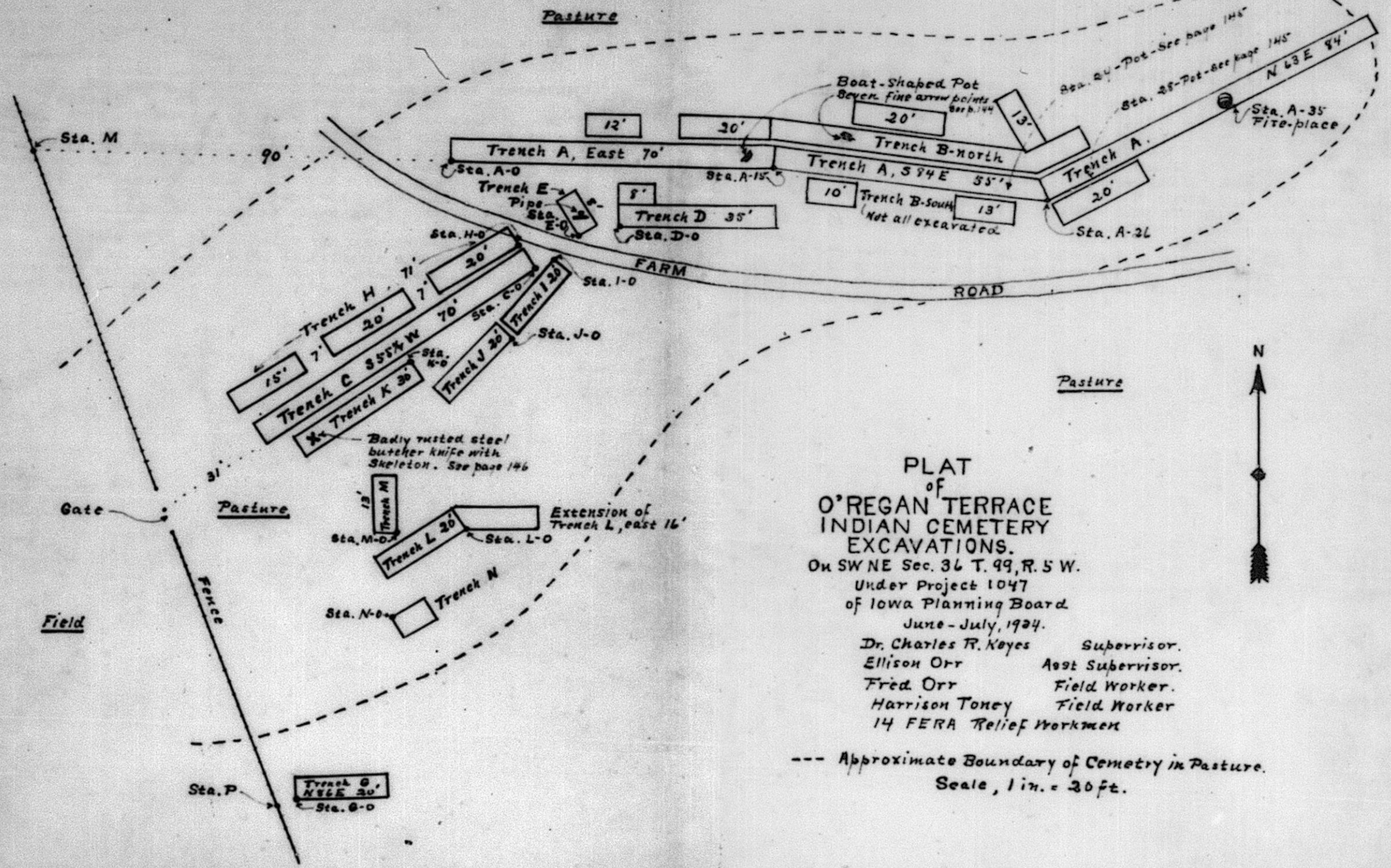
The finding of this knife and the venitian beads with the burials in this cemetery, establish beyond a doubt that these people had had contact, probably towards the end of their occupancy of the valley, with the white traders.

More than 35 years ago we excavated one of a row of graves along the ridge of a low spur projecting from the bluff on its N. side of Bear creek, south into a group of same. From this group there on the NW. NE. Sec. 4, T. 99, R. 6, is a fine view up and down the valley, and across to the SE, on the high ground of the Lyons plateau, could be seen the Lyon Enclosed Area before its destruction by cultivation.

The grave which we opened contained an extended skeleton boxed in by flat rocks set up edgewise, beside which was a badly rusted steel table knife. This knife was with my collection for years but finally disappeared.

In a grave on a shred of a terrace lying against the gently sloping bluff side in the angle of the road west of the Ed Wild residence on the SE. NW. Sec. 2, T. 99, R. 6, one of the Wilds found an iron awl, about 6 inches long and 1/8 in, in diameter, pointed at both


ROAD
Box Elder
X6
TERRACE
Field
Propable Village Site
X3
X1
X5
X4
X2
East 772 ft.
Sta. M
Deep Erosion Ditch
Trees
Top of Terrace
Top of Terrace
Farm Fence
Farm Road
Sta.
1/4 Sec. Line - Trees
North, 2000'
Bottom of Terrace
1/4 Sec. Cor.
ONEOTA (UPPER IOWA) RIVER
Deep Erosion Ditch
X7
Top of Terrace
200'
Pasture
Sta. A-0
Burr Oak
Farm Road
Barn
House
N
Bottom Land
PLAT
of
EAST PART OF
OREGAN TERRACE
SW NE Sec. 6, T. 99, R. 5W
Trench
Propable Boundary of Cemetery.
Scale, 1 in. = 100 ft.



PLAT
of
O'REGAN TERRACE
INDIAN CEMETERY
EXCAVATIONS.
On SW NE Sec. 36 T. 99, R. 5 W.
Under Project 1047
of Iowa Planning Board
June - July, 1934.

Dr. Charles R. Keyes	Supervisor.
Ellison Orr	Asst Supervisor.
Fred Orr	Field Worker.
Harrison Toney	Field Worker
14 FERA Relief Workmen	

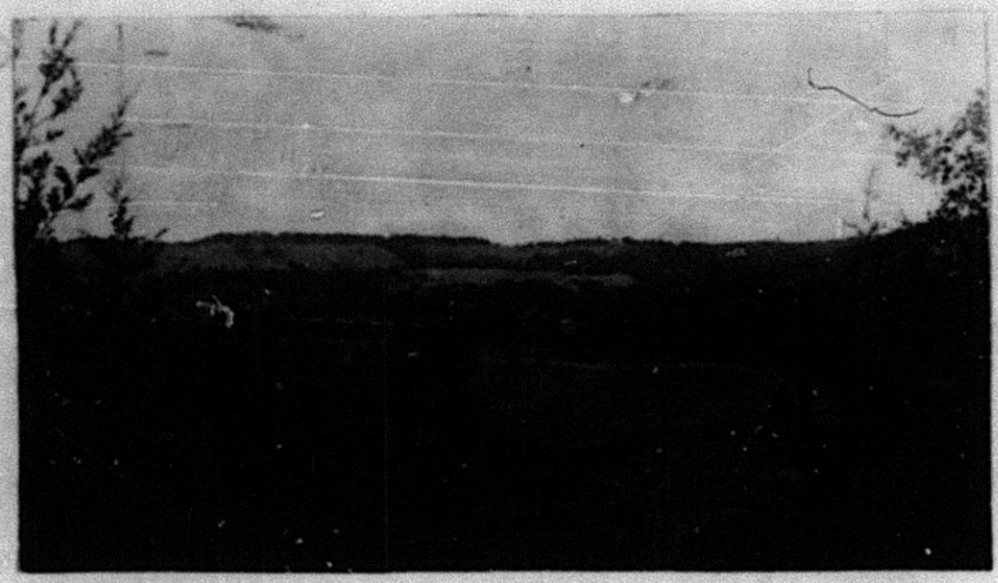
--- Approximate Boundary of Cemetry in Pasture.
Scale, 1 in. = 20 ft.

ends, and in another nearby grave, another piece of iron. These two pieces, together with the ORegan cemetery butcher knife, are now in the archaeological collection of the Iowa State Historical Society. The people who possessed this iron and the beads could hardly have contacted the white traders earlier than the middle of the 17th century and probably not for 25 years later or about 1680.

In 1805 Lieut. Zebulun-Pike found a village of Sioux under a chief with the French name of La Feuille, at the mouth of the Upper Iowa. From his account of his visit to them it would appear that their village was on the bank of the Mississippi. That this was the people of the Onsota culture is very doubtful as they had guns and were probably also well supplied with white man's cooking utensils and other implements while only four of the graves that have been excavated - running into the hundreds - have shown any iron, and in about an equal number, beads of glass and copper bangles have been found.

At Sta A 35 at 30 in. below the surface was a thin irregular ash bed (2 in. thick) 2-3 ft. in diameter and to one side and over which was a deposit of rocks. No skeletal remains or relics were found with this.

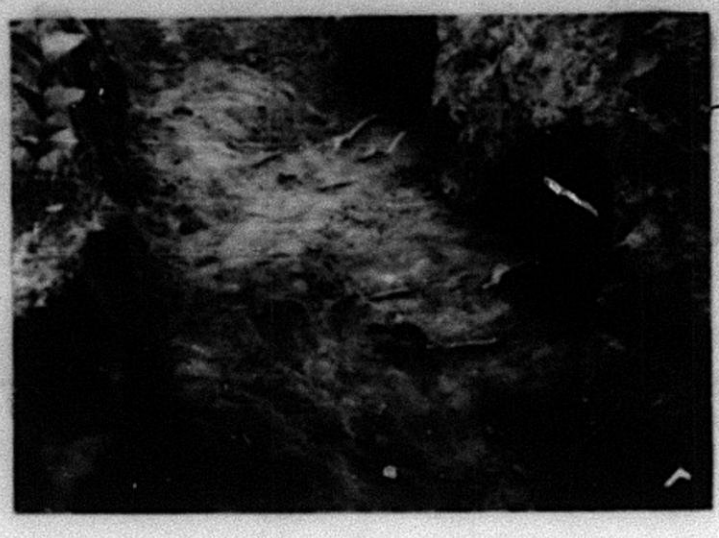
ORegan Terrace from bluff top to NW. Trees along central erosion ditch at X, trenches at Z



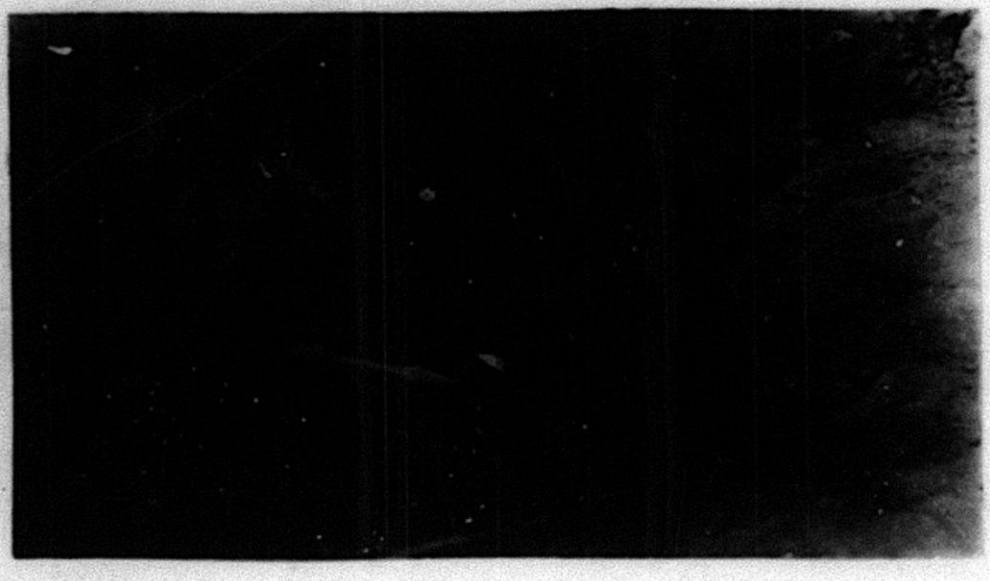
ORegan Terrace from bluff top NW - at a point E. of one from which upper picture was taken.
Trenches at Z. Box elder at X. Roof of house(white) at Y.

Skeleton at Sta. A 18. Note arrow points beside left femur.

Close-up of seven arrow heads beside left femur of Skeleton at A 18.



Pot with remnants of humeri and femora in trench A at about Sta. A 23. On S. side of trench. Looking East.



Fine chert Oneota culture knife beside burial pot in trench A about Sta A 24. Except fragment of skull, pieces of both humeri and femora, bit of pelvis and 8 remnants of vertebrae, skeleton missing.

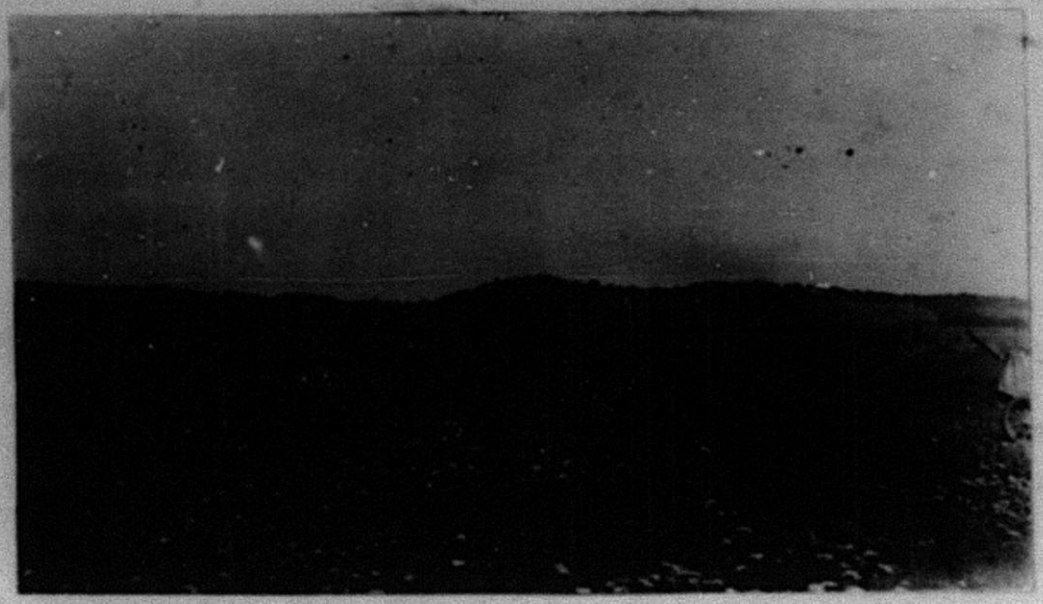
Skeleton at Sta A 13 with boat-shaped burial pot in situ. Looking North.

Skeleton at S. end of trench K with white man's steel butcher knife beside right innominata. Looking South.

(See Page 153)

Men at work on trenches. Looking North.
Flowers in foreground are yarrow.

Embankment of trench A. Looking North-East.
Dr. Keyes, Toney and Connors.



Looking East along cemetery spur. Note men at work on trench B north. Earth thrown out of trench A to south of them.

Continued from Page 146

"Relic Hunters may have dug a pit in this grave, finding at the bottom the skull and bones of the arms, scapulae and clavicles. They would have been looking for pottery which was usually placed near the head.

The bones which they had removed they then threw back into the pit as they are seen in the photograph. The lower half of the skeleton evidently was not uncovered.

We found the same conditions in the graves of a man and woman - evidently man and wife - which we excavated on the east side of Waterloo Creek on the NE NW sec. 25, T. 100, R. 6 west of 5th P.M., only both skulls had been removed and carried off.

If a pot or pots were found they, too, were carried away. But we uncovered the whole skeleton, as they failed to do, and found beside the man's left inominata a beautifully chipped flint knife; beside the right femur, near the knee, a clay pipe; and by the left ankle, some half dozen typical Oneota arrow points.

In the clenched bones of the woman's hands were enclosed crude arrow points, scrapers and a lot of flakes.

(See West's "Pipes and Smoking Customs of the North American Indian, page 212, 3d paragraph, and Plate 257, figure 10.)