

The study of consumer behavior requires a comparative database so that the patterns that characterize various social classes, ethnic groups, historical periods, and geographical regions can be compared (Lee Decker 1991). The primary cultural unit of comparison for historic archaeology has traditionally been the household, which is defined as a “domestic residential group consisting of the inhabitants of a dwelling or set of dwellings and appears as a discrete group in historic documents” (Henry 1987a, 1987b). The household, then, includes all the residents in the group that could have contributed to primary artifact deposits within the premises’ yard or another defined boundary during a single time period (Spencer-Wood 1987a:2). These deposits are generally classified as privies, wells, or household dumps.

Households combine to form two larger reference groups: social class and ethnic group. This commonality of group membership allows for the comparison of large numbers of households in a consistent manner (Henry 1987a, 1987b). If a sufficient database has been developed, research can focus on analytical units, larger than a single site, making comparisons (intersite) within and between social groups possible (Henry 1987a). Intersite comparisons are used to assess the range of variation, which may be present between groups and between households to help define shared group behaviors (Spencer-Wood 1987a:7-8). In part the definition of these groups, as it is based on material culture, requires that a “value” scale be developed to allow for this stratification. Several procedures have been developed to study consumerism and the relative values that different groups placed on certain artifact classes. These methods include economic indexing and consumption pattern analysis.

Economic indexing was first developed by George L. Miller for ceramic tableware. The scaling is based on indices developed from the cost relationships of tableware form and decoration during specific time periods (Miller 1980). Analytical methods based on Miller’s work have been refined to develop consumer choice profiles (Spencer-Wood and Heberling 1987; Spencer-Wood 1987b). Indices have also been developed by Henry for twentieth century ceramic assemblages (Henry 1982, 1987b) and similar indices have been used for butchered bone and fish remains (Schulz and Gust 1983; Huelsbeck 1991; Singer 1987). Consumption pattern analysis focuses on bottled products consumption patterns, which have proven useful to define site function and social or reference group affiliation. Relative frequencies of bottled products differ between domestic households and commercial establishments as well as between social groups (Van Wormer 1983a, 1991, 1996; Blanford 1987).

Artifacts from the Carrizo Stage Station represent culturally biased consumer behavior of the household members that occupied the premises. By applying the analytical techniques described above, it will be possible to identify which reference group they represented.

ARTIFACT ANALYSIS AND CATALOGING PROCEDURES

The artifactual material recovered was cleaned and identifiable items cataloged according to activity group, material, item, type, product, technology, origin, size, pattern, identifying marks, manufacturer, date, estimated minimum number of individual items represented, and weight. This information was used to conduct analysis of functional artifact patterning, bottled products consumption patterns, and ceramic economic scaling which will be used to answer the research questions proposed above. The artifact catalog is included with this report as Attachment I.

Chapter 6. Results

STRUCTURE HISTORY

Although covered in the historic background section, the known historical documentation of the stage station will be summarized here. The first mention of a building at Carrizo Creek is on June 3, 1855, two years before implementation of the Overland Mail Service, when Charles H. Poole, Chief Engineer with the Pacific Railroad Survey, reported “the storekeeper inhabiting the adobe house, newly built at camp, informed us that; for the eight months previous to our visit, it had not rained but once, and then for eight hours heavily...” This “newly built adobe house” soon became more than just an isolated desert post. In a little over two years it would become an important station on the first overland transcontinental mail service.

The station at Carrizo Creek became a vital link in the San Antonio—San Diego Mail line. It functioned as one of seven major stations west of the Rio Grande. Here passengers disembarked to change coaches. At Carrizo Creek they left the eastbound stage from San Diego and boarded another that ran between Carrizo and Fort Yuma (Woods 1858). It is assumed that the stage from San Diego remained at the station until the other returned with westbound passengers that had boarded in Yuma. I. C. Woods reported that the company had “two hundred head of mules west of the Rio Grande, stationed at San Diego, Carissa Creek, Fort Yuma, Petermans, Maricopa Wells, Tucson, and La Mesilla. At each of these places agencies or stations had been established with abundant supplies of grain everywhere. We feed corn to all our working mules.” Hay was delivered to the station from Green Valley in the Cuyamaca Mountains, under contract with James Lassitor (Woods 1858).

Based on the few ephemeral and brief descriptions that exist, the station appears to have been a small adobe building with a thatch roof that was not covered over with mud. J. J. Thomas saw Carrizo Creek Station in the fall of 1857 as an “old adobe house,” occupied by William Mailland. The thatch roof had been burned off (*Sacramento Union* 12-24-1857). After Mailland murdered his wife, Major Ringold found him locked inside with two Indians at the “barricaded door” (*San Diego Herald* 5-29-1858). This would suggest that the building had a wooden door and that by this time the roof may have been re-thatched. If it did have any windows they were too small for Mailland’s adversaries to climb through.

Under administration by Butterfield's Overland Mail Company, Carrizo Creek functioned as a changing or "swing" station to replace worn out teams with fresh horses. In 1860, the single station keeper was William Yates, identified as a hostler, who took care of the livestock and helped change the teams. He kept five horses and 12 tons of hay and barley. The Butterfield Company's investment in the station was 1,200 dollars (US Census Bureau 1860a, 1860b). Passengers in their brief descriptions did not leave details of the buildings. They were more impressed with the location, commenting on the "water still more sulphurous in its taste" (Farwell 1858; *Alta California* 11-6-1858) or a "a solitary station in a scene of desolation not to be surpassed in the Arabian deserts" (Tallack 1860).

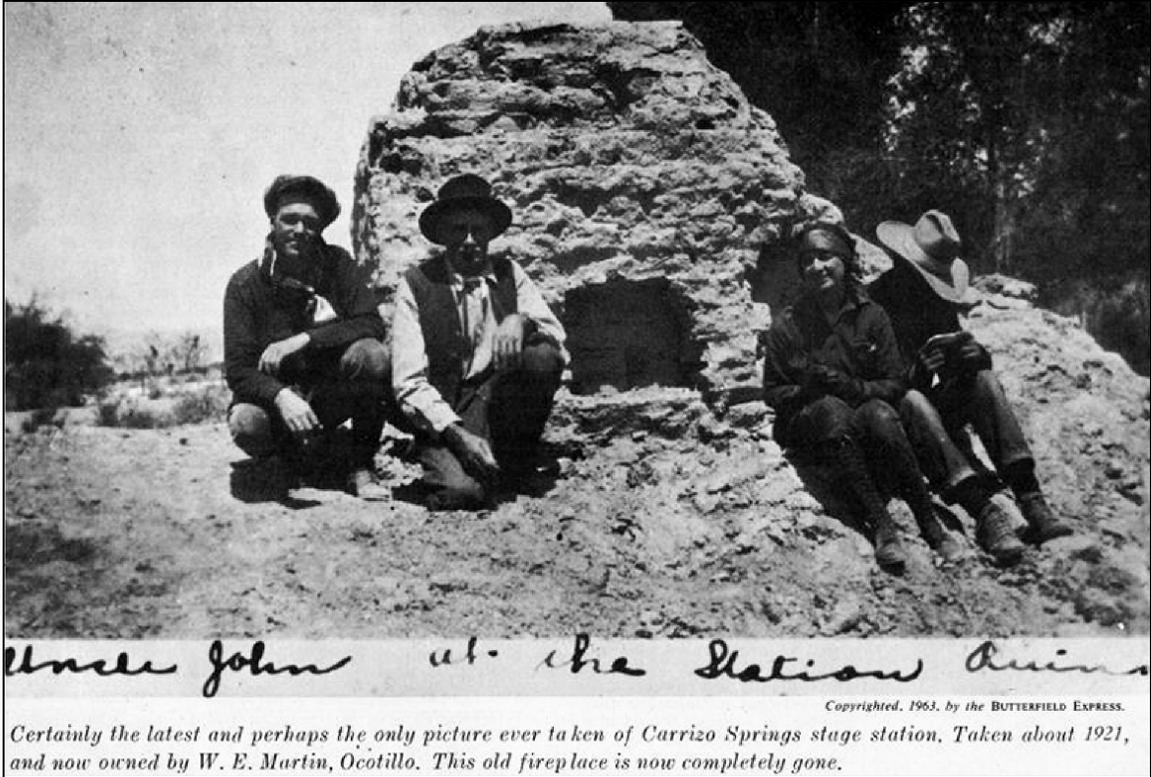
When James Russling saw the building after the Civil War, in February, 1867, he described it as "the adobe remains of an old stage station, whose roof was all gone, and as a substitute the enterprising proprietor had thrown some poles across, and covered them with willows and coarse grass..." The "forlorn structure, part of which was used for a chicken-roost, also served its owner as bar-room, grocery, kitchen, parlor, bed-room, etc., and yet contained only one rude apartment, altogether" (Russling 1877:349). Russling probably erred in believing the station had ever been covered by anything but a loosely thatched roof.

Following completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad line between Yuma and Los Angeles, the building was abandoned and fell into ruin. When photographer Edward H. Davis saw the station in 1896 "it was almost a complete ruin.... I did not consider it worth taking a photo of. Some of the adobe walls were standing, but mostly washed away—no roof, no posts, no rafters. It was located on a mound on the east bank of Carrizo Creek" (Davis 1935). Photographs from this period show the ruins consisting of fallen and melted adobe wall stumps. A fireplace chimney at the southeast corner of the building became the site's most prominent feature and could still be recognized into the 1930s (see Figure 4a, Figure 13a, Figure 15a, and Figure 16a).

Around 1900, local cattle ranchers, the McCains, established a winter camp at the old stage station location on Carrizo Creek (Figure 18). They built corrals and a small adobe house. A photograph shows remains of this building approximately 20 yards north of the station ruins (see Figure 15a). In the mid-1920s, Butterfield Mail historians Roscoe and Margaret Conkling visited the site and recorded: "The station quarters comprised a large adobe building, approximately 48 feet square and probably contained four rooms with an open hall between. The adobe walled corral adjoining was approximately 60 by 50 feet" (Conkling and Conkling 1947:227). Around 1958 the McCains severely impacted the ruins.

The events are described in an undated letter written by Mrs. Buster McCain found in the abandoned Carrizo Creek homestead in the 1960s:

Yesterday the final remains of the old Carrizo Stage Station vanished. Though maps still show it as an historical monument there has been nothing more than a small mound of adobe for years. We turn dozens of cars of sightseers away every winter who have traveled miles over awful roads to see this station the maps claim still stands. Now even the mound is gone. Buster leveled it off with the tractor and made it part of what will be a small pasture. On the bottom of the little heap of dirt he uncovered three perfect adobe bricks and the entire foundation which was, to my astonishment, made of large rocks, and the adobe floor. That much had been protected. [McCain 1958]



(a) "Uncle John at the Station Ruins," circa 1921, view to northeast
(from *Butterfield Express*, *Historical Newspaper of the Great Southwest*, February 1964).



(b) McCain-era Livestock Corrals North of the Carrizo Stage Station Site, 2003, view to the southeast
(by California State Parks).

Figure 18. Uncle John at Ruins, 1921, and McCains and McCains Corral, 2003.

In “leveling off” the adobe mound, Buster McCain built an earthen dike that ran along the base of the mesa, approximately ten feet to the west of the building site, in order to form a reservoir to irrigate his “small pasture.” Fortunately, he only impacted the north half of the site and the southern portion of the adobe mound remained intact. His work would have further destructive results in later decades. In the 1970s Hurricane Kathleen sent a torrent of water surging down Carrizo Creek and cut a small stream channel on the east side of the building, exposing foundation cobbles. In the early 1980s, the earthen dike built more than 20 years earlier overflowed, cutting a large erosional channel through the center of the stage station site.

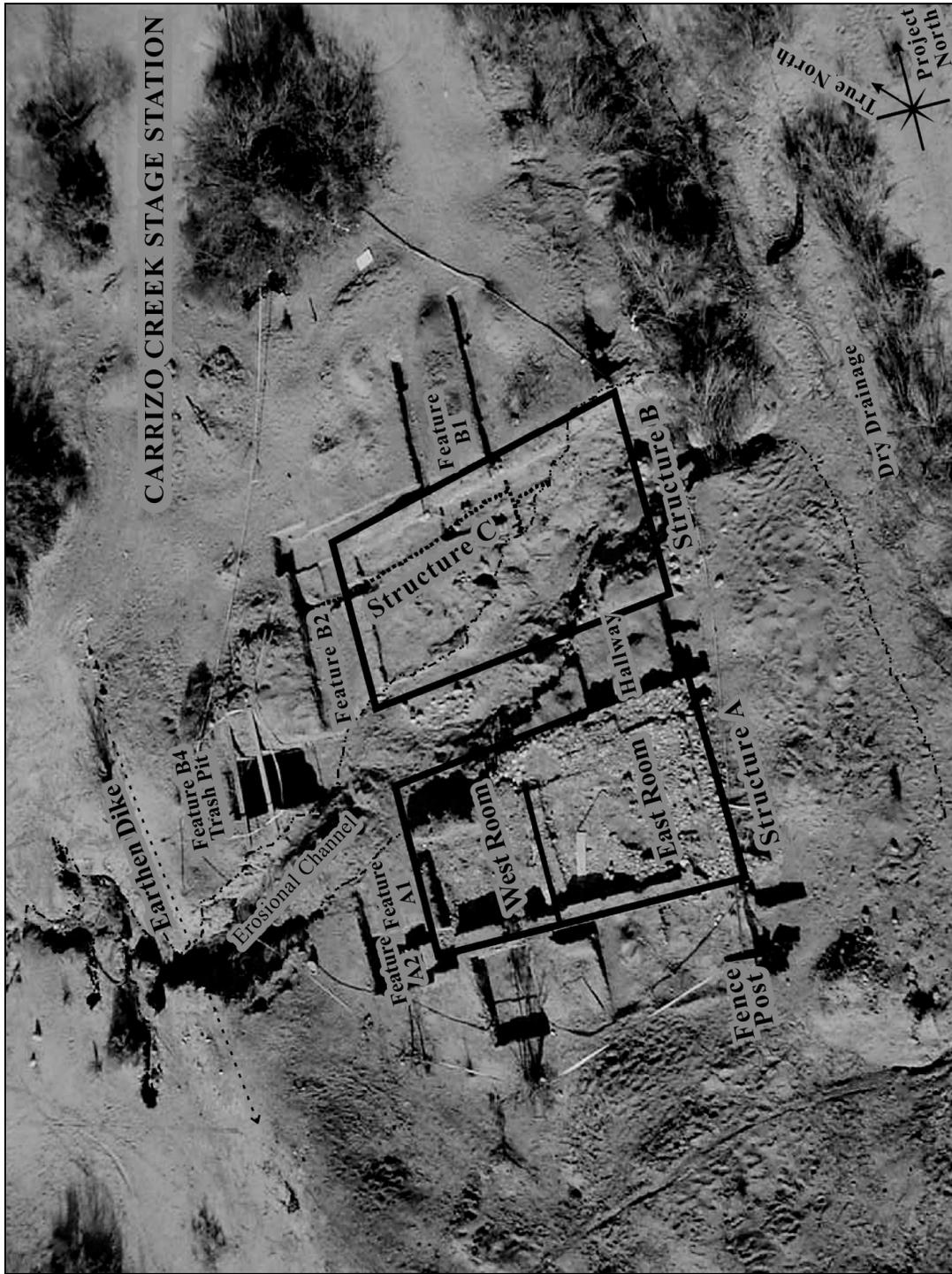
STRUCTURES, FEATURES, AND STRATIGRAPHY

Excavations at Carrizo Stage Station revealed remains of three buildings and a number of related features (Figure 19). The southernmost was designated Structure A. Structure B remnants lie approximately seven feet north of and parallel to Structure A. Both of these adobe construction ruins measured approximately 30 feet east-west by 18 feet north-south. A narrow seven-foot-wide open hallway originally ran between them. The remains of Structure C underlie B and consist of the vestiges of a wattle and daub building and associated features. Features B1 and B2 represented the burned remains of additional small wooden outbuildings. Features A1, A2, and B4 were refuse deposits contemporary with the Overland Mail period (1857-1861). A large erosional channel, running through the center of the site, formed when Buster McCains’ earthen dike overflowed in the early 1980s and destroyed portions of all structure ruins and some of the features. This summary will describe the chronological sequence of the site’s major features and stratigraphic units listed in Table 4. More detailed discussions will be provided as each structure and feature is individually described.

The site contained two types of sub-soils. Fine windblown sandy silt, that may have originally been a small stabilized dune, underlies the southern portion of the site below Structure A. The base soils of the northern half, under Structures B and C, consisted of a

Table 4. Chronological Order of Major Structures, Features, and Stratigraphic Units.

STRUCTURES, FEATURES, UNITS	TIME PERIOD
Loose Fine Sandy Silt Overburden	1958-2002
Earthen Dike Berm – Graded Overburden Over Structure B	Circa 1958
Feature B3	1880-1914
Adobe Melt Overburdens – Brown Sandy Loam Overburdens	1880-1914
Structure B – Feature B1	1857-Circa 1880
Structure C	Circa 1857-1861
Feature B2 – Structure D	Circa 1857-1861
Features A1, A2, and B 4	1857-1861
Structure A	1855-Circa 1880
Sub-soils	n/a



Schematic Drawing of Carrizo Stage Station Structures and Features, April 2003, superimposed on aerial photograph (drawing by Bonnie Bruce, photograph by California State Parks).

Figure 19. Schematic Drawing, 2003, Overlain on Aerial Photograph.

The conclusion that Feature B4 is associated with Structure A is based on its stratigraphic relationship with the remaining features, which indicates it was abandoned and covered over when the other buildings were constructed. Feature B2, a dense ash lens representing a burned wooden structure immediately west of Structure B, overlies approximately 12 inches of water-deposited sediments that cap Feature B4, indicating it was built and later burned after the trash pit had been abandoned and closed. The ash lens of Feature B2 has, in turn, been bisected by a wall trench of Structure C, which shows that Structure C was built after Feature B2 burned. Overlying Structure C was the remains of the second adobe building, Structure B, which obviously demonstrated that it was the last in the sequence to be built. Since the buildings represented by Feature B2, Structure C, and Structure B date after the Feature B4 trash pit was covered over, the logical source for this refuse is the occupants of Structure A.

Adobe melt and building debris, which resulted from its abandonment and deterioration, covered Structure A. Wind-deposited sandy silt lay on top of the melt and rubble on some parts of the ruin mound. Structure B was covered with a thin lens of adobe melt, left after the site had been graded in 1958. The other features and the area surrounding Structure B were covered with adobe melt and brown sandy loam overburdens containing late nineteenth and early twentieth century artifacts, including sun colored amethyst glass and machine-made bottles indicating a deposition range circa 1880 to 1914. These appear to represent late nineteenth and early twentieth century winter occupation of the site by cattle ranchers. Feature B3, a thin ash lens overlaying the strata covering Feature B4, also dated from this period. The extreme western portion of the site is covered by the large earthen dike constructed by Buster McCain in 1958. The top layer of soil surrounding the adobe melt mound of Structure A, and on the northern portion of the site above Structure B, is a loose fine sand silt. This layer was water-deposited overburden that had accumulated since the dike was built. Structures and features will now be discussed individually in chronological order.

Structure A

Structure A was a two room, rectangular adobe building that measured 30 feet east-west, by 18 feet north-south. A single adobe block interior dividing wall separated the dwelling into two rooms. This partition is not square with the rest of the building's floor plan, but angles slightly from the southeast to the northwest. Consequently the room measurements are not consistent from north to south. The west room measured approximately seven by six feet and the east room five by six feet (Figure 20).

Condition and Stratigraphy: Prior to excavation, Structure A consisted of a small adobe mound approximately 24 to 30 inches high, covering an area of 25 by 35 feet. Along the eastern edge, erosion had exposed an alignment of foundation cobbles (Figure 21a). Excavation revealed remnant adobe wall segments, cobble foundation alignments, sections of articulated wall fall, and floors constructed of small cobble pavements covered with silty clay. The erosional gully cutting through the site had impacted the northwest corner of the Structure A ruin and completely destroyed about 1/8 of the building's remains.

Stratigraphy inside the building varied slightly between the rooms. In the east room the original floor was covered with about three to four inches of a very level, light-to-pale brown silty sand. It appeared to be a wind-blown deposit. This was under a layer of burned silt and sand approximately four inches thick. Lenses of thatched roof fall were encountered

throughout this layer. Above this was a one-to-two-inch layer of goat manure, covered by two to four inches of light tan silt consisting of melted adobe wall material (Figure 22). In the west room a thin burn layer about two inches thick covered the floor. Above this was two to three inches of a silty sand, identical to that covering the floor in the east room. At the contact between the burn layer and the sand was a thin organic fibrous lens that may have represented decomposed roof thatching material. This was covered by 24 inches of semi-articulated wall fall in the southern three quarters of the room (Figure 23). Disarticulated adobe building rubble covered the wall fall and filled the remaining areas (Figure 24).

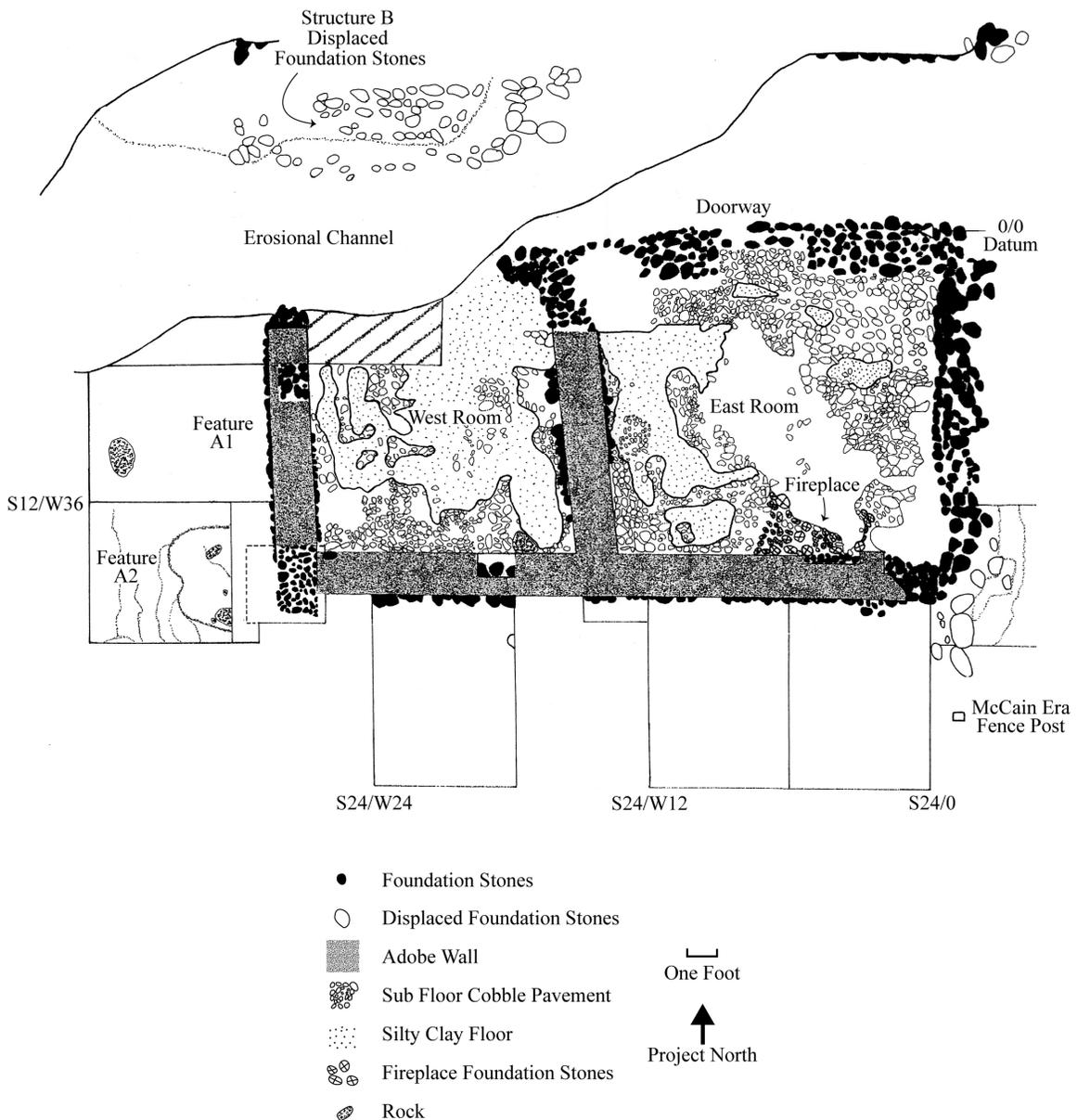
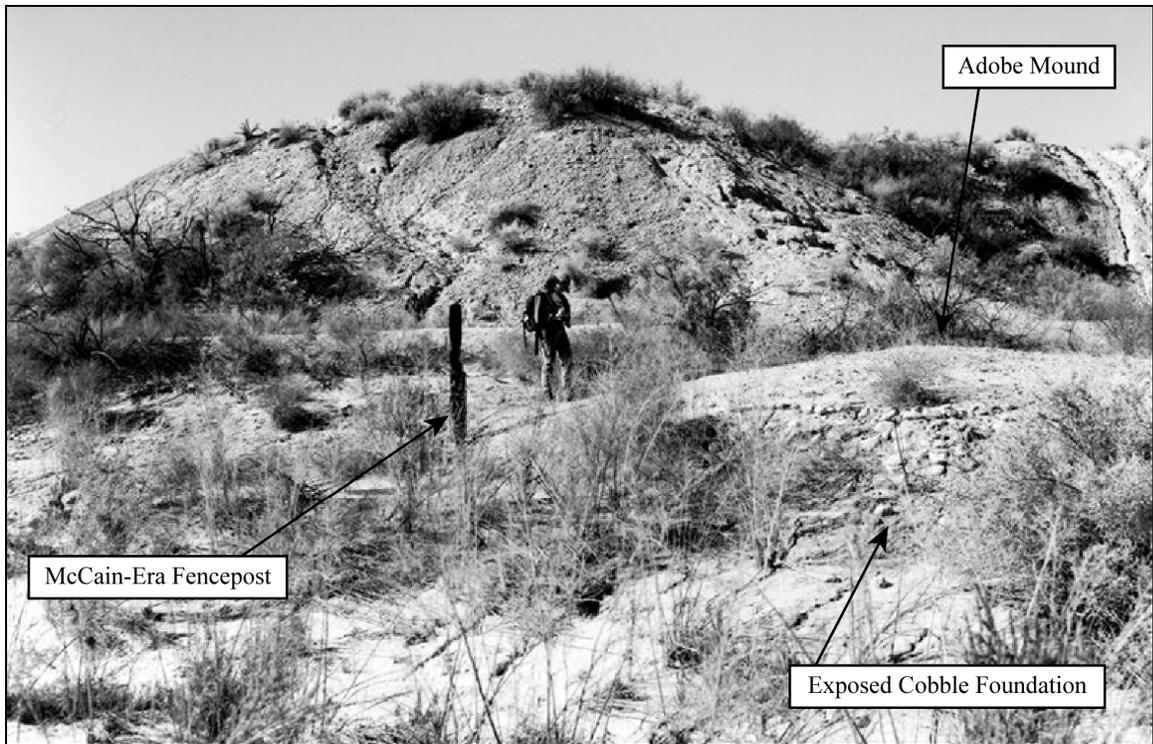
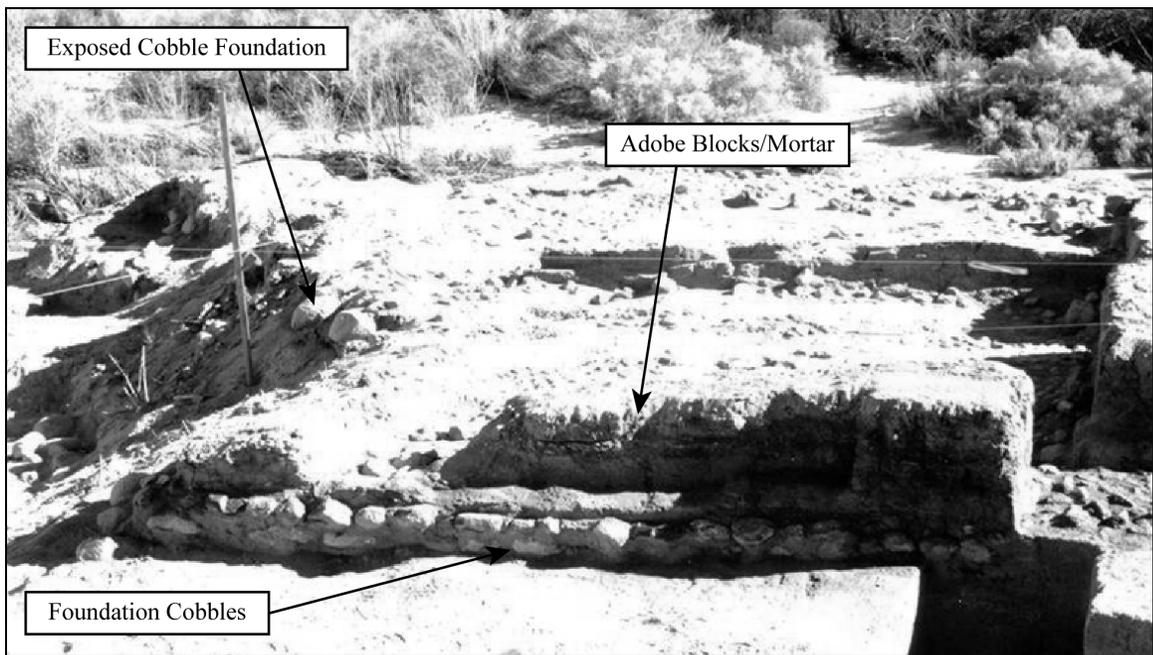


Figure 20. Structure A Archaeological Remains Site Map.



(a) Carrizo Stage Station Site, 1999, view to west (by Christopher Wray).



(b) Structure A, West Wall Detail, 2002, view to north-northeast (by California State Parks).

Figure 21. Carrizo Stage Station Site, 1999, and Structure A, 2002.

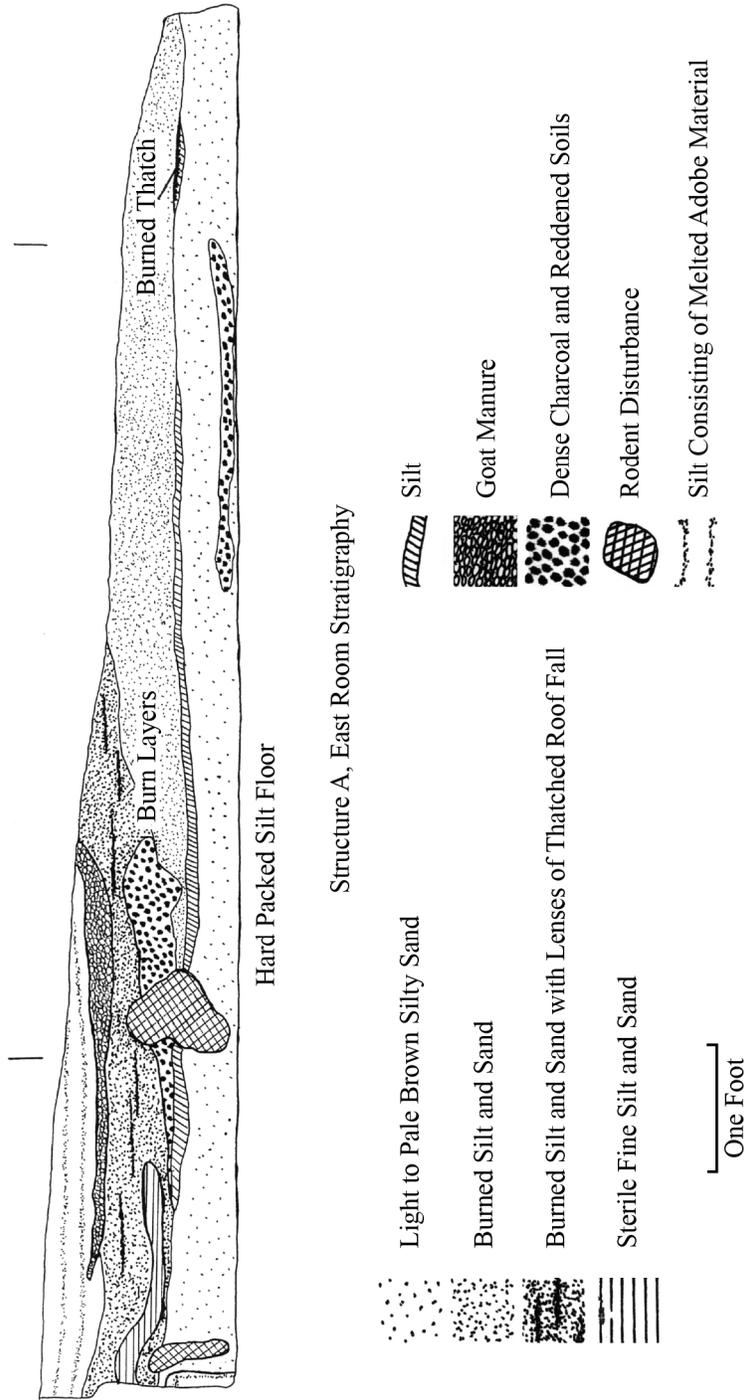


Figure 22. Structure A West Wall Profile of Units S0/W12, S6/W12, and S12/W12.

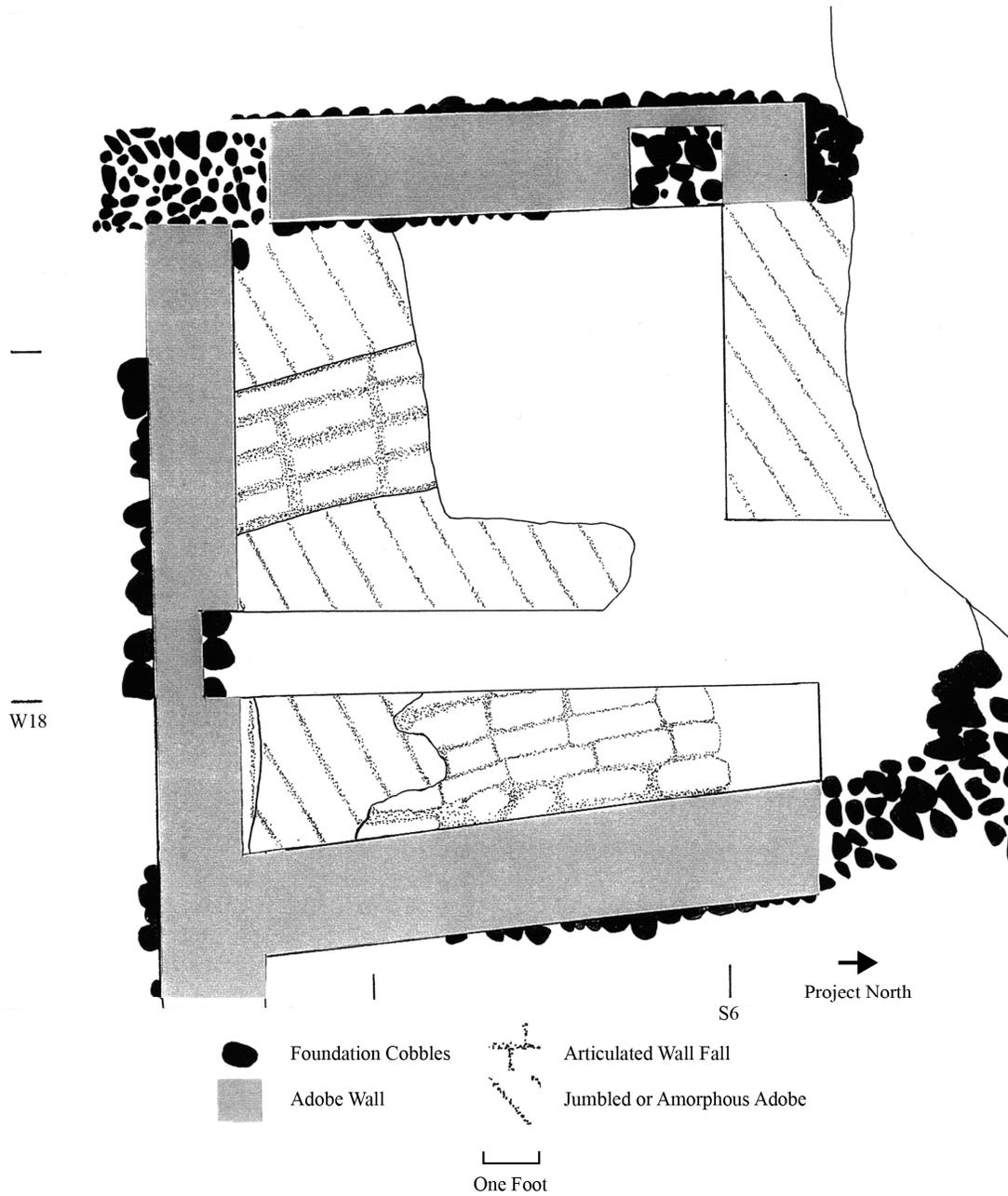


Figure 23. Structure A Plan View of Wall Fall in West Room.

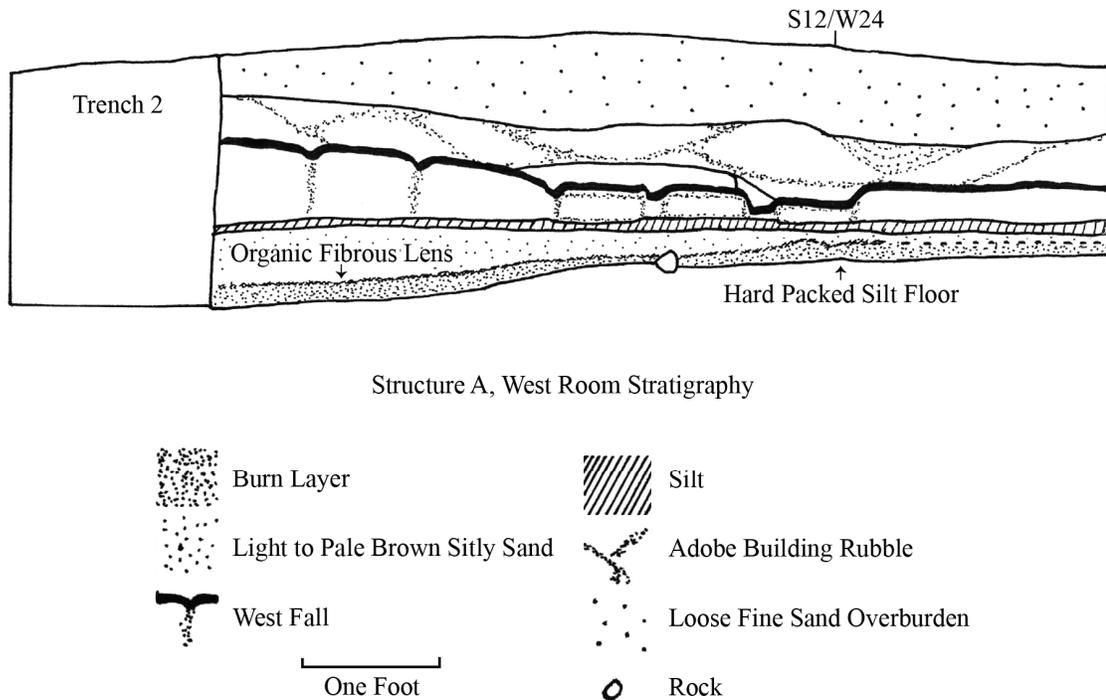
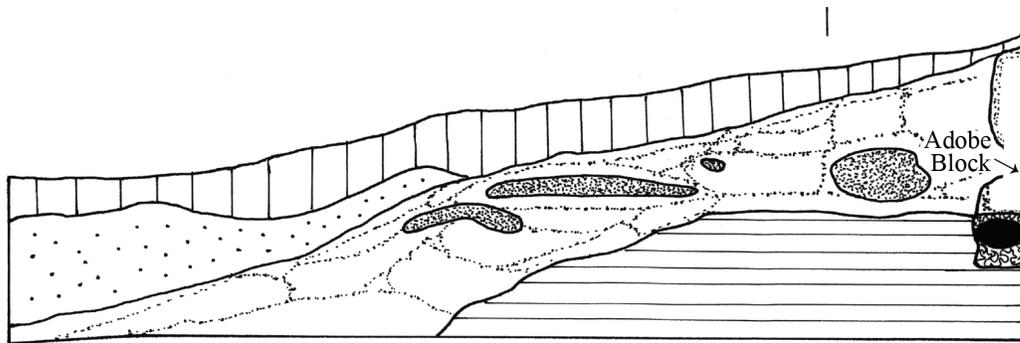


Figure 24. Structure A South Wall Profile of Units S6/W18 and S6/W24.

From the stratigraphy and historic photographs, the following general chronology of the deterioration of Structure A can be determined. For a time the building stood abandoned and unmaintained, allowing a layer of windblown sand two to three inches thick to accumulate on the floor. Near the end of this period the roof began to disintegrate and finally it burned, resulting in the roof fall encountered within the burn layer in the east room and the fine burned lens covering the floor with the fibrous organic layer in the west room. Sands continued to accumulate but without a cover the walls soon deteriorated and fell down, resulting in the articulated wall fall and building rubble in the west room and the light tan adobe melt that covered the entire mound. Finally, after the building had completely collapsed it was used as a goat corral, probably by the McCains.

Foundations: Exterior and interior foundations were constructed in an identical manner. They consisted of one to two courses of 6-to-8-inch diameter water-worn cobbles placed in alignments approximately 24 to 30 inches in width (see Figure 21b). On the east end of the building the cobbles were laid directly on the ground surface and mortared together with dark brown clay. Due to a slight rise in the terrain, foundations on the west wall and west end of south wall of the building were placed in a shallow trench (Figure 25 and Figure 26). The interior wall sits on a foundation identical in construction to the exterior walls.

Walls: Remains of adobe walls ranging from six to about 20 inches in height were found along the south and west exterior foundation alignments, in addition to the interior dividing wall that separated the building into east and west rooms. The interior wall is tied into the exterior, indicating that it was built at the same time as the rest of the building. The average size of the tan, silty loam adobe blocks appears to have been 12 x 24 x 4 inches,



Structure A, South Side Exterior Stratigraphy

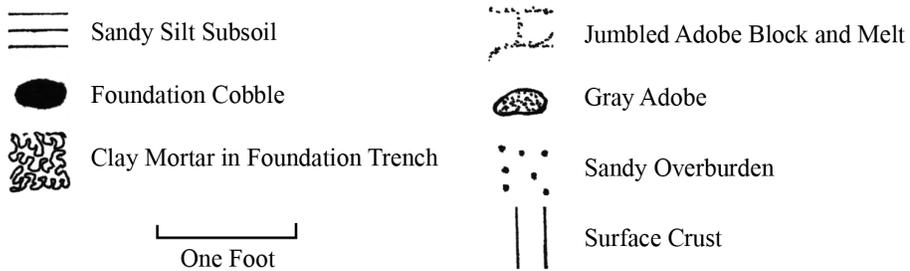
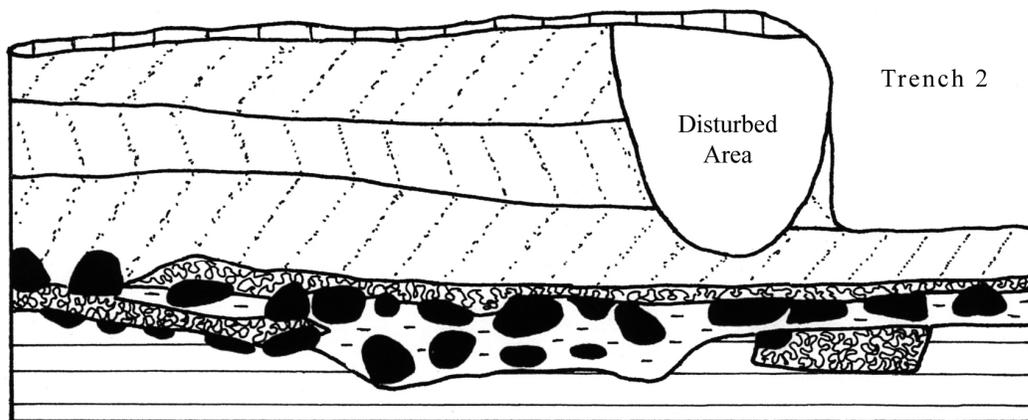


Figure 25. Structure A West Wall Profile of Units S12/W18 and S18/W18.



Structure A, South Wall Exterior

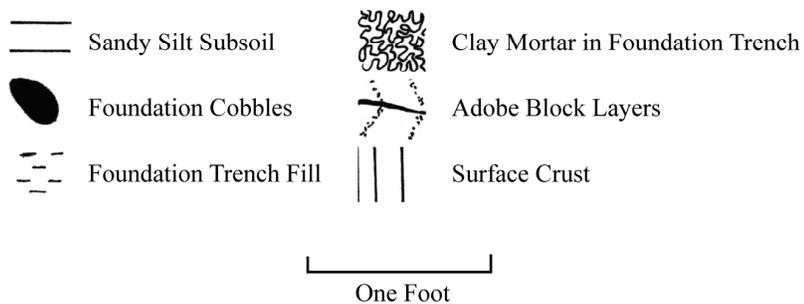


Figure 26. Structure A North Wall Profile of Unit S12/W18.

however block sizes varied slightly, and some were as long as 26 inches. To receive the blocks, the top of the cobblestone foundations was covered with a layer of dense clay approximately two inches thick. The bottom row of block was laid on this clay as a single header course across the foundations. The walls were then raised in alternating courses of two parallel 12-inch-wide stretcher bonds, and single rows of 24-inch-wide header bonds, with approximately one-inch-thick, dark reddish-brown clay mortar joints. In spite of the use of a dense clay mortar, joints between the blocks were difficult to define, especially in the upper courses where extreme weathering had occurred (Figure 27 and Figure 28a).

Floors and Roof: The interior floor consisted of a pavement of pebbles two to four inches in diameter, tightly packed over the entire surface of both rooms and against the interior edge of the adobe block walls. They were one to two inches higher than the foundation cobbles and placed in a dense, dark reddish-brown clay mortar similar to that

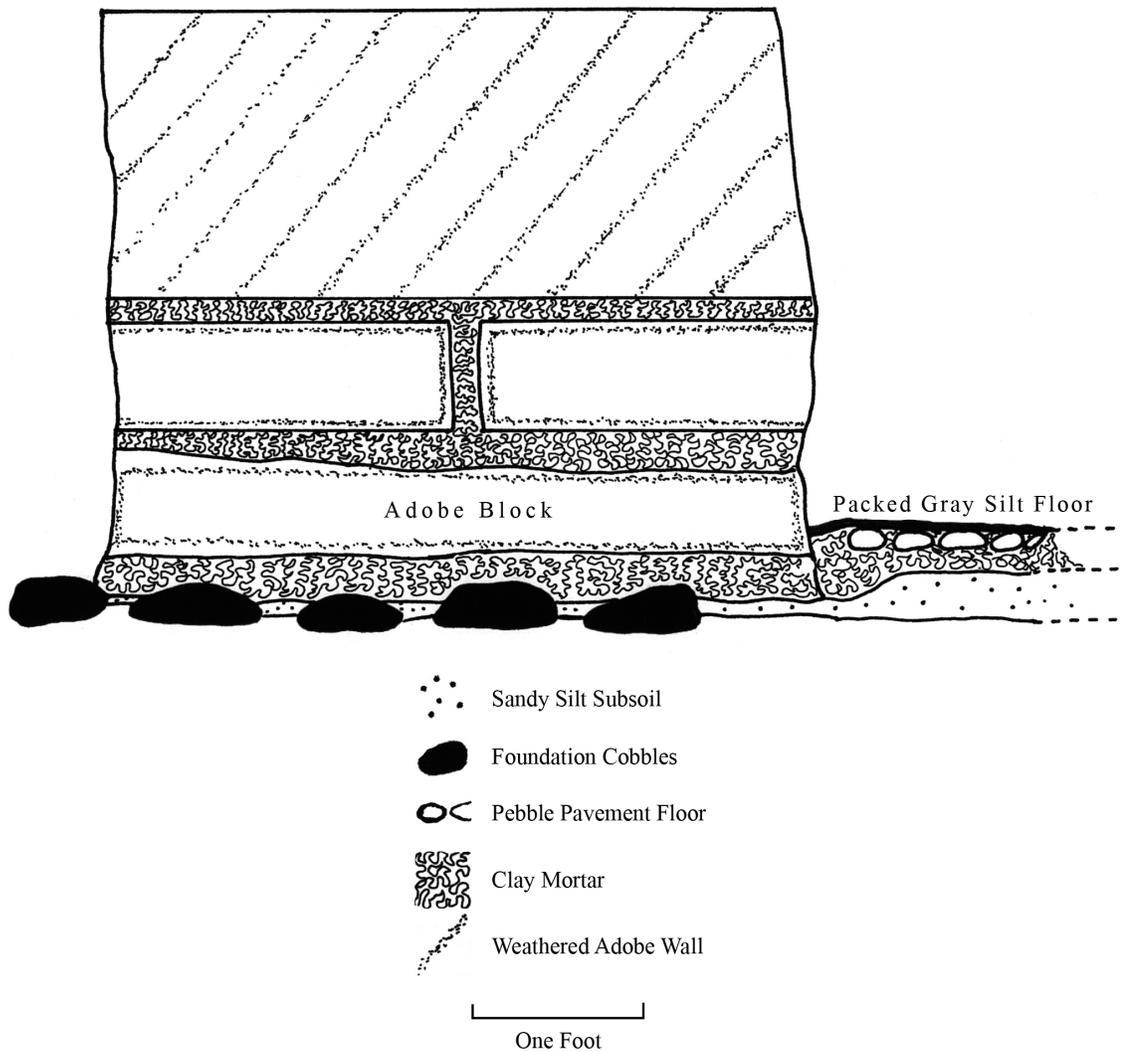
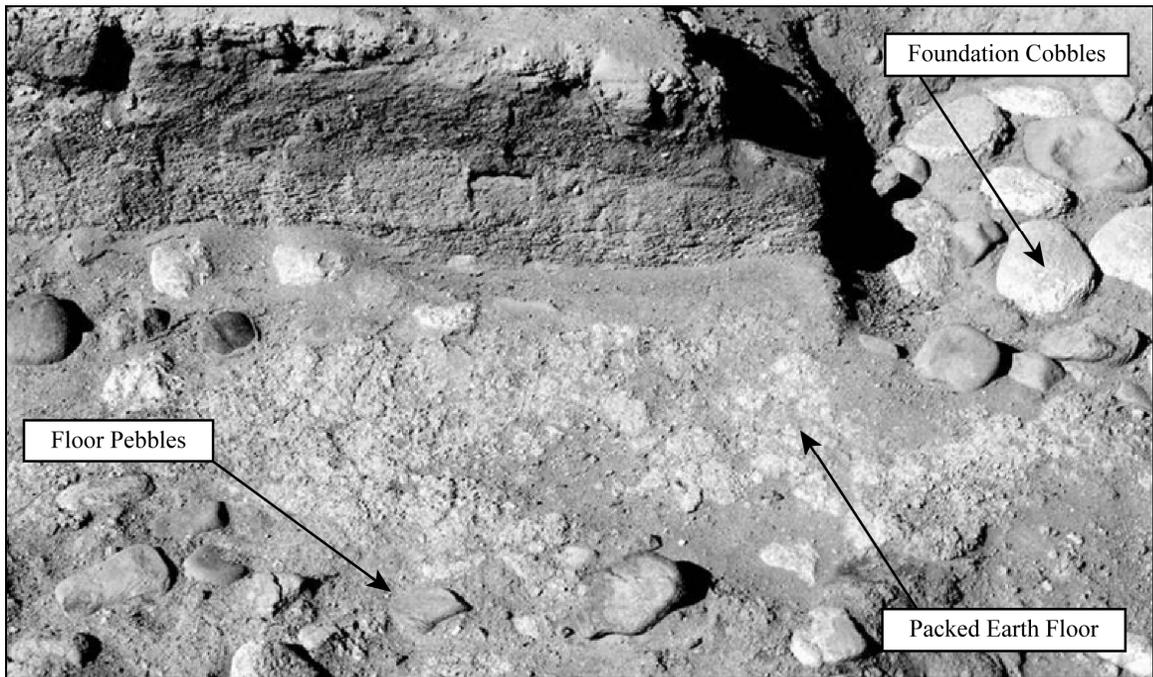


Figure 27. Structure A West Wall of Trench 2 Bisecting South Wall, Unit S12/W18.



(a) Structure A, Southwest Corner, 2001, view to northeast (by California State Parks).



(b) Structure A, Unit 6S/24W, 2002, view to northwest (by California State Parks).

Figure 28. Structure A Foundation Cobbles and Compacted Floor.

used to construct the walls. The pebbles were covered with a packed layer of gray clayey silt about half an inch thick (see Figure 28b). On the north wall, near the northeast corner of the building, a doorway could be detected where pebble floor pavers covered the foundation in a three-foot-wide rectangle. A six-inch space between the edge of this section and the edge of the foundation suggests a wooden door frame was placed here (Figure 29a; see Figure 20).

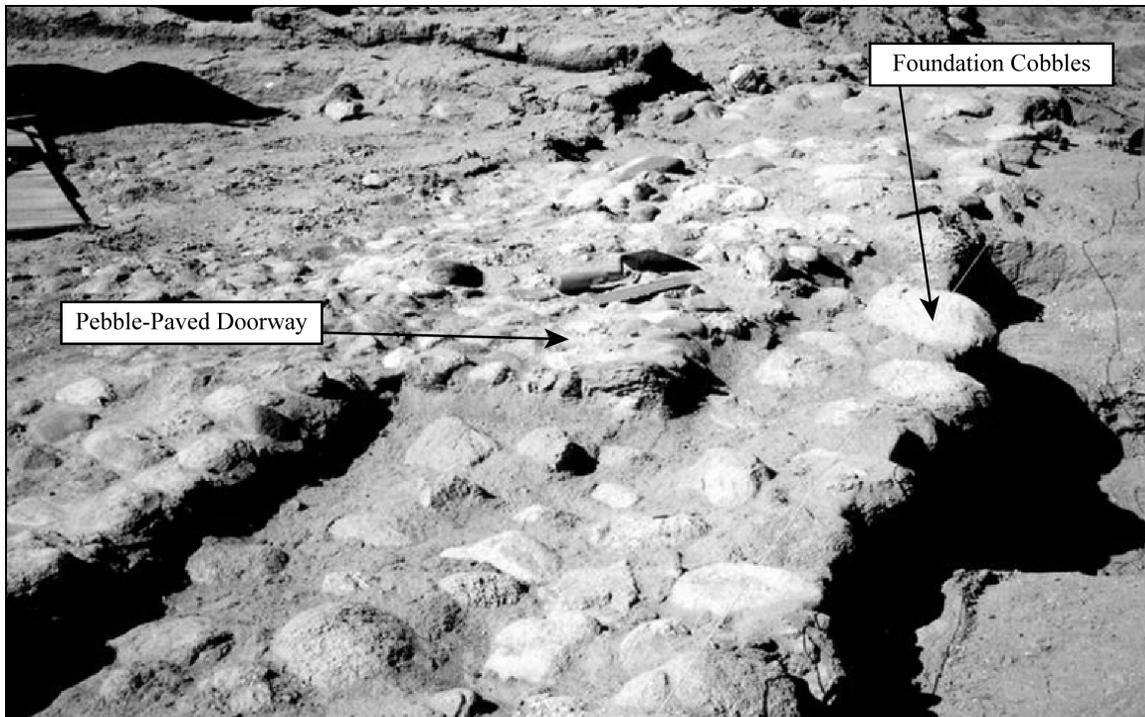
The floor has been highly disturbed in the center of the east room where cobbles have been removed, leaving an irregular shaped hole that measured approximately six by nine feet. At the southeast corner of the building the small floor pavement pebbles gave way to tightly packed 4-to-6-inch diameter cobbles. These appeared to have originally been placed in a rectangular pattern measuring approximately three by eight feet, and probably supported the fireplace that can be seen in historic photos of the ruins at this location. Unfortunately, this area had also been badly disturbed and many of the stones were missing.

Roof fall was encountered in the southwest corner of the east room. This consisted of burned and unburned sections of roof thatching, made up of small interwoven twigs varying from 1/8 to 1/4 inches in diameter. Associated with these were segments of burned limbs one to two inches in diameter that probably served as support pieces (Figure 29b). No evidence of mud or any other material covering the thatch was found. This complies with the stage station description by Russling in 1867, who saw the roof constructed of some poles thrown across the top of the building and covered with willows and coarse grass (Figure 30).

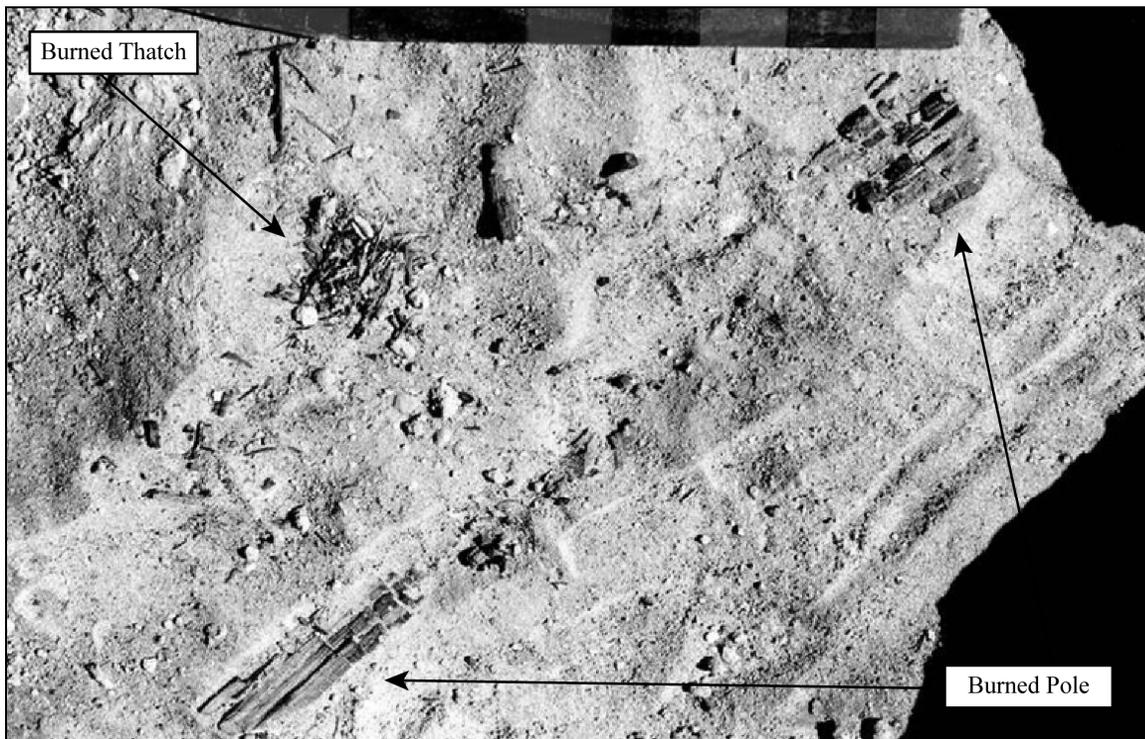
Building and Room Function: Building and room functions were determined by developing activity group profiles as described in the Artifact Analysis, Theoretical Background, and Methodology section. The activity profile for Structure A is shown in Table 5. In Table 6 and Figure 31 building materials have been eliminated so that the relative value of other activity groups in the profile can be better understood. Munitions dominate the Structure A assemblage at 41 percent, followed by garment items at 19 percent, consumer items at 10 percent, and kitchen and personal items at 9 percent each. Other activity groups make up 6 percent or less of the collection.

In Figure 32 and Figure 33, activity profiles for the east and west rooms are compared. In Figure 32, the percentages are calculated by the total number of artifacts in the structure. In Figure 33, the values were determined by using the total number of artifacts recovered from each room. Some major differences can be seen. The east room produced 81 percent of the artifacts (52 items). All the munitions, personal items, household items, a coin, and most of the garment items were recovered from the east room. The munitions included buckshot, a lead ball, and percussion caps. Shoe eyelets, suspender hardware, and buttons made up the garment items. Personal items included a lace making bobbin, a desert rose quartz mineral specimen, and a red clay smoking pipe.

The west room assemblage, on the other hand, was dominated by consumer and kitchen items that included liquor and culinary bottles, eggshell fragments, and pieces of undecorated ceramic earthenware. This suggests that the east room may have been a sleeping room where garments, personal belongings, and weapons were stored, while the west room may have served as a kitchen and dining room, where meals and beverages were prepared and consumed. These different activities explain the higher number of artifacts in the east room where a wider variety of items would have resulted in greater loss.

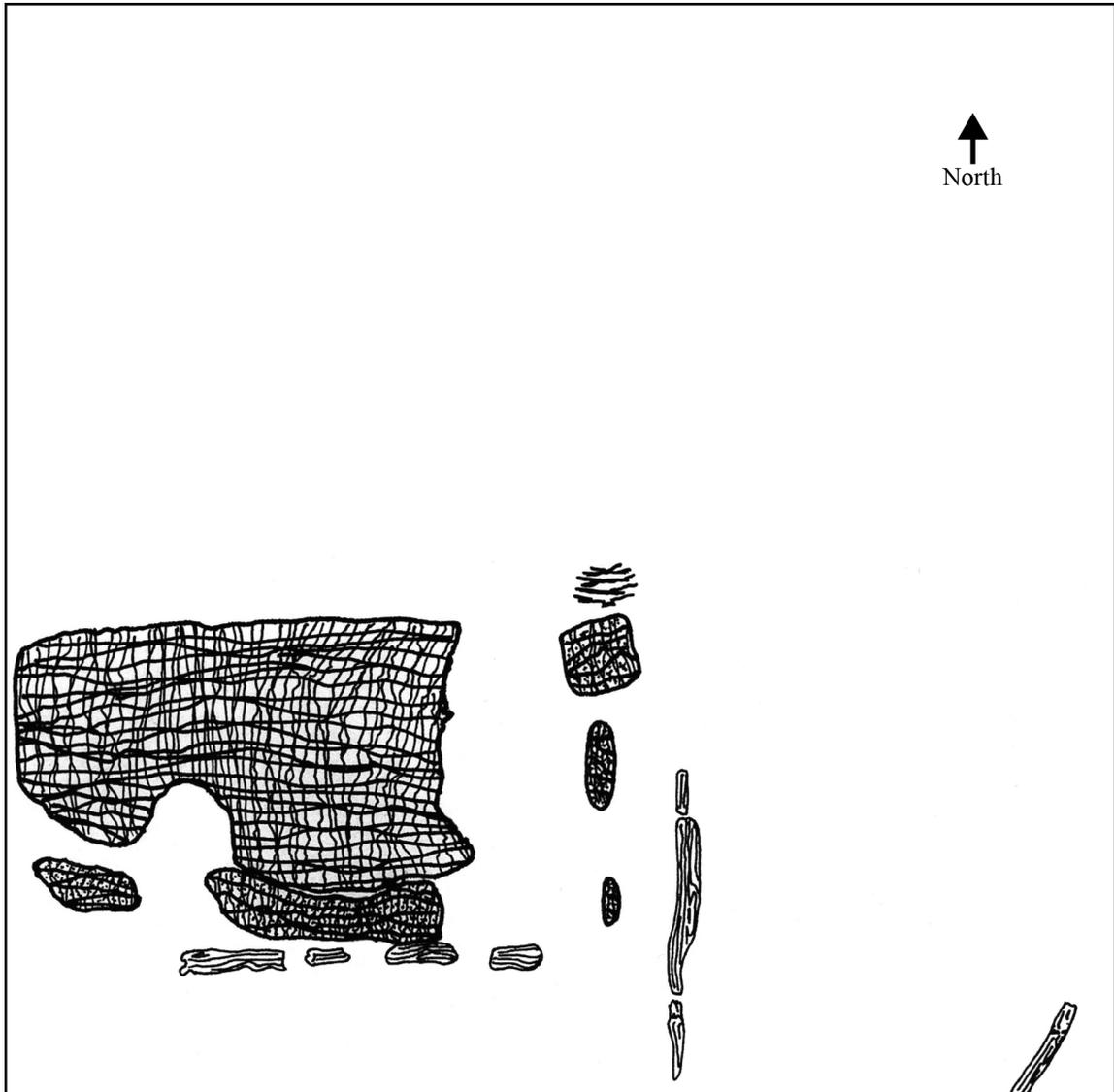


(a) Structure A, North Wall Foundation and Doorway, 2002 (by California State Parks).



(b) Structure A, Unit S6/W6, Burned Thatch and Pole Fragments, 2002, view to west (by California State Parks).

Figure 29. Structure A North Wall Foundation, Doorway, Burned Thatch, and Pole Fragments.



-  Burned Thatch
-  Burned Limb Segments
-  Unburned Twigs
-  Unburned Thatch


 One Foot

Figure 30. Structure A Plan View of Roof Fall in West Room, Unit S6/W6.

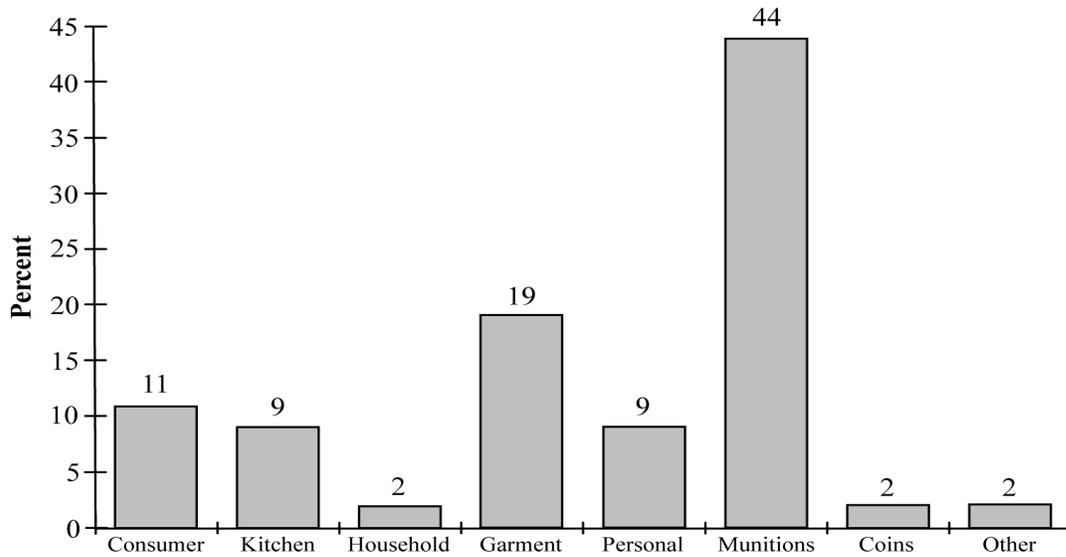


Figure 31. Structure A Activity Profile without Building Materials.

Table 5. Structure A Activity Profile.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	7	5.43
Munitions	28	21.71
Personal	6	4.65
Kitchen	6	4.65
Building Materials	65	50.39
Garment	13	10.08
Household	1	0.78
Coins	1	0.78
Unidentified Items	2	1.55
Total	129	100.00

Table 6. Structure A Activity Profile without Building Materials.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	7	10.94
Munitions	28	43.75
Personal	6	9.38
Kitchen	6	9.38
Garment	13	20.31
Household	1	1.56
Coins	1	1.56
Unidentified Items	2	3.13
Total	64	100.00

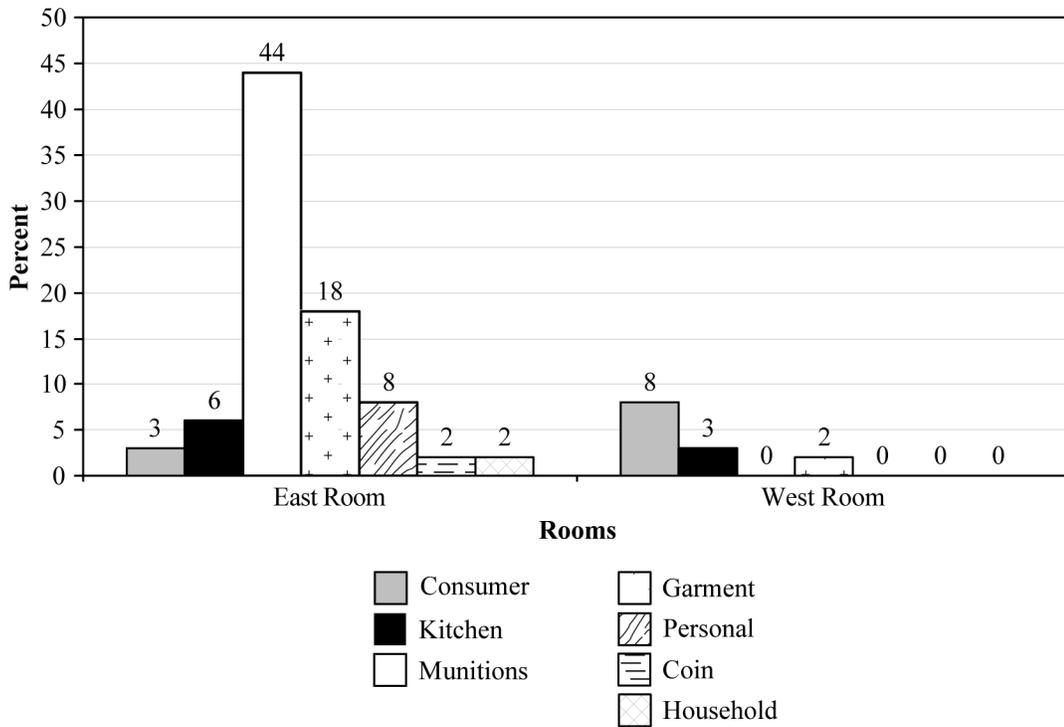


Figure 32. Structure A Activity Profiles Quantified by Artifact Totals.

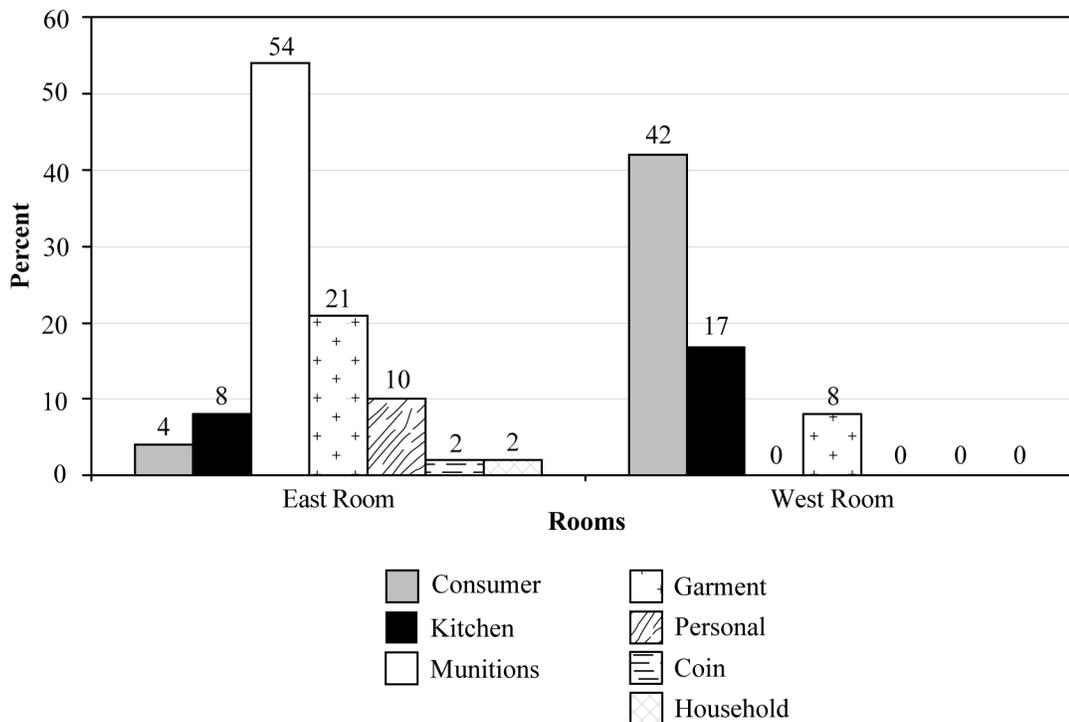


Figure 33. Structure A Activity Profiles Quantified by Room Totals.

Features A1 and A2

Features A1 and A2 represented a small trash scatter on the west side of the Structure A. A total of eight items were represented and included a cow horn core, a lid to a molded ironstone sugar bowl, three bottles, a lead bullet for a cap and ball revolver, an ironstone saucer, and a gun flint. The artifacts were located adjacent to the building and extended westward on an old sloping ground surface approximately 18 inches below the present ground surface (Figure 34a). This scatter was designated Feature A1. Feature A2 was a pit dug into the old surface and back filled with adobe rubble, suggesting it was excavated sometime after the building fell into ruin. It contained fragments of the same artifacts identified in A1 demonstrating that the pit had disturbed the original trash scatter.

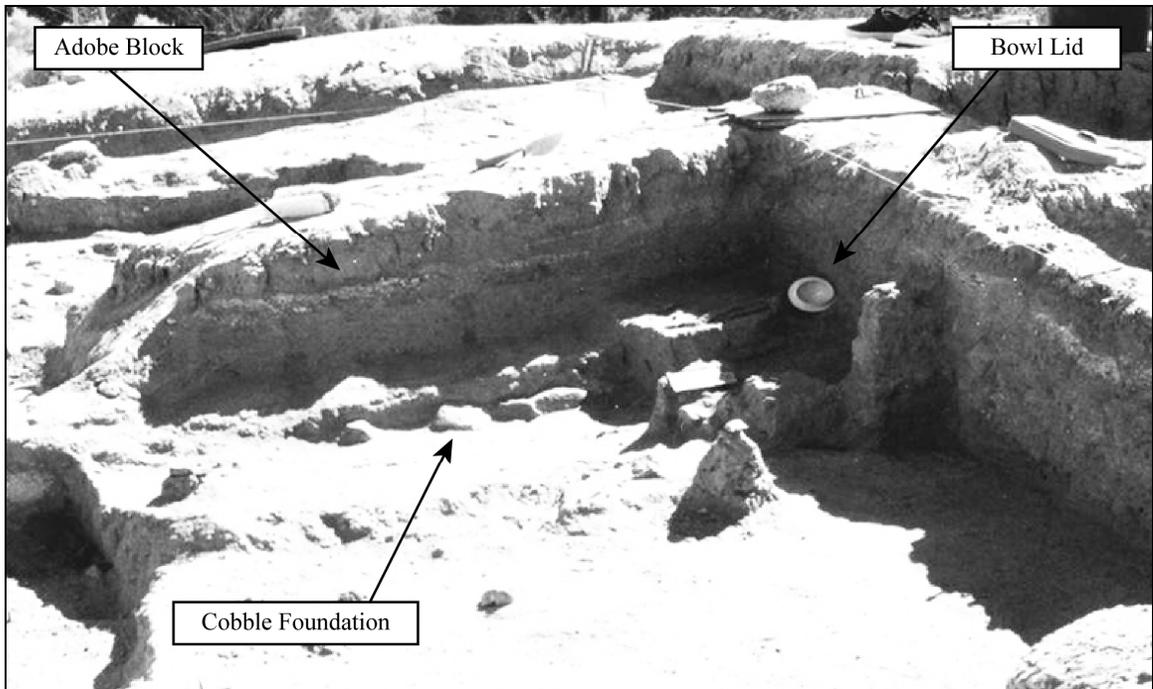
Feature B4

Feature B4 was a trash pit located six feet northwest of Structure A. This dump had originally extended further to the south and had been partially destroyed by the erosional channel bisecting the site. It was discovered while cleaning the north bank of the gully in preparation for drawing a stratigraphic profile. The full extent of the feature was not determined. The deposit was 12 to 24 inches below present ground surface and extended westward under the earthen dike built by Buster McCain, where it was covered by more than four feet of soil (Figure 34b). The trash was in a dense ash lens, six to 18 inches thick, that slopes gently downward toward the north and west (Figure 35). At around eight feet from the western edge of the feature this strata gave way to water-deposited silts, where a channel had eroded into the ash lens and mixed eroded soils with the artifacts. Datable items from the feature are listed in Table 7. There are no introduction dates after 1857 and a variety of items that were not manufactured after 1860 and 1864. This would suggest a deposition date of the late 1850s or early 1860s and corresponds nicely with the operation dates of the Overland Mail from 1857 to 1861. A wide variety of cultural material was recovered including large quantities of metal, butchered bone, ceramics, Native American pottery, munitions, garment items, and bottle glass. The activity profile for the feature is listed in Table 8 and Table 9 and shown in Figure 36. As a household garbage pit, it is unique in that it is dominated by munitions rather than consumer items and kitchen artifacts.

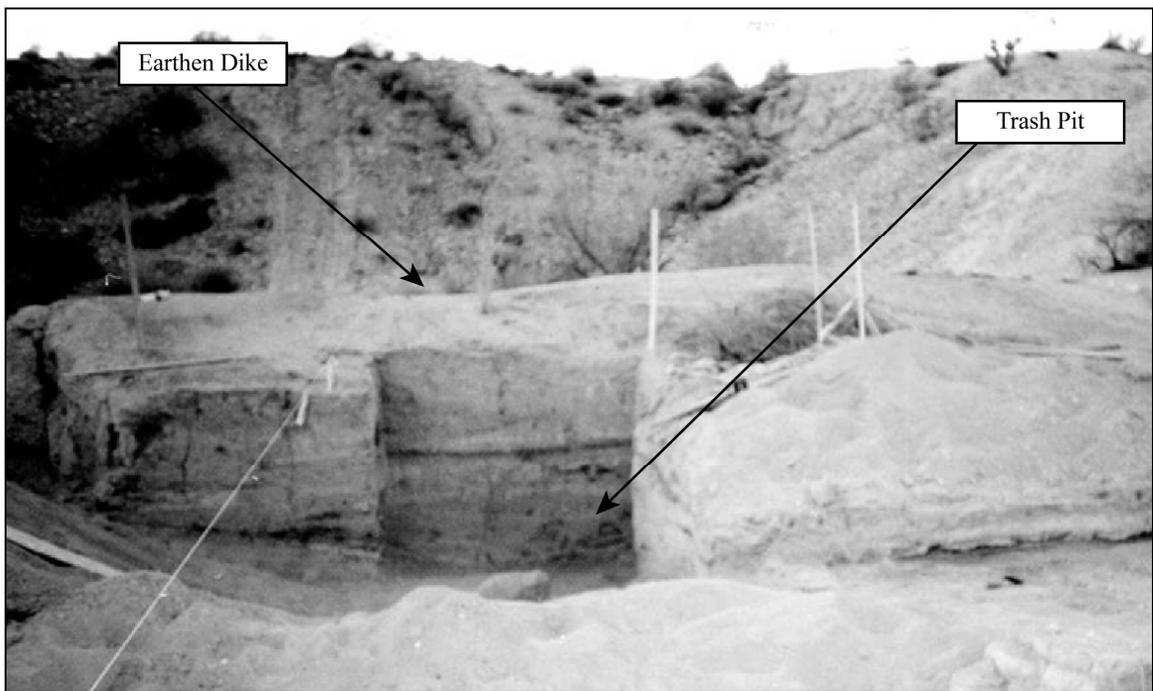
Feature B2

Feature B2 was a rectangular shaped ash lens approximately one inch thick that measured seven by 14 feet. It consisted of a thick dark wood ash that had an exceptionally high number of square nails. Almost 12 square feet of the feature was excavated and screened resulting in 95 nails (Figure 37a). Other artifacts included a large quantity of carbonized barley seed, a pepper sauce bottle, a lead round ball bullet, a percussion cap, a clay smoking pipe, and fragments of a Native American pottery vessel.

The activity profile is shown in Table 10 and Table 11 and is presented graphically without building materials in Figure 38. The barley grains, which were classified in an animal husbandry activity group, dominate at 86 percent. The feature seems to represent a wooden structure that was used for feed storage. The 1860 census indicates that 12 tons of barley and 12 tons of hay were stored at the station.



(a) Structure A, 6S/30W, Feature A1/A2, 2002, view to southeast (by California State Parks).



(b) Structure A, Feature B4, West Wall Profile, 2002, view to west (by California State Parks).

Figure 34. Features A1/A2 and B4.

Table 7. Datable Artifacts from Feature B4.

ITEM	TYPE	TECH.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	#	REFERENCE
Plate, Large	Molded	Earthenware	Manufactured by William Adams & Sons in England.	1800-1864	1	Godden 1964:21(18); Freeman 1954:10
Plate, Large	Molded	Earthenware	ID: "Adams"; Impressed. Manufactured by William Adams & Sons in England.	1800-1864	1	Godden 1964:21(18); Freeman 1954:10
Flatware	Tea Spoon	-	Pattern: Tipped (there are 9 versions of this pattern). International Silver.	1847	1	Drake 1984:40
Bottle	Pepper - Spice	Hand Finished Lip, No Pontil	Pattern: Octagon Paneled Spice Bottle	1850-1885	1	-
Jar	Tooth Paste	Earthenware	"Seven Highest Premiums / Awarded / Also / A / Prize-Medal / At The / World's Fair / London 1851 / To K. Bazin. / Philadelphia"; Underglaze Black Transfer, Manufactured by K. Bazin in Philadelphia, Penn.	1851	1	-
Bottle	Case Gin	Blm,* Dip Mold, Shear Tool Lip	ID: J.T. Daly Club House; Manufactured by J.T. & W.H. Daly in New York.	1857-1885	1	-
Bottle	Case Gin	Blm, Dip Mold, Shear Tool Lip	ID: J.T. Daly Club House; Manufactured by J.T. & W.H. Daly in New York.	1857-1885	1	-
Cups, No Handle	Hand Paint Floral Polychrome	Earthenware	Pattern: Sprigs Style; 4 Petals Red Flowers & Red Buds, Lt. Green Leaves.	Pre 1850-1860	3	Wood 1959:29,34; Williams 1981:15
Saucer	Hand Paint Floral Polychrome	Earthenware, Blue Puddling	Pattern: Sprigs Style; 4 Petals Red Flowers & Red Buds, Lt. Green Leaves. ID "17". Impressed. Unidentified origin.	Pre 1850-1860	1	Wood 1959:29,34; Williams 1981:15
Bottle	Ale - Junk Bottle	Blm	-	Pre 1885	1	-
Bottle	Condiment - Pickle Jar	Blm Hand Finished Packer Lip	Pattern: Plain Cathedral Style Wide Mouth Bottle.	Pre 1885	1	-
Bottle	Condiment - Pickle Jar	Blm	Pattern: Cathedral Style Wide Mouth Panels.	Pre 1885	1	-
Bottle	Condiment	Blm Hand Finished Packer Lips	-	Pre 1885	3	-
Bottle	Ink - Umbrella Ink	Blm, Blow Pipe Pontil	-	Pre 1885	1	-
Bottle	Unidentified	Blm Hand Finished Lip	-	Pre 1885	1	-
Bottle	Unidentified	Blm, Hand Finished Lip, Sun Colored Amethyst	-	Pre 1885	1	-
Total						20

Notes: Blm – Hand blown in mold; Tech. – Technology; Mnfg. – Manufacturing.

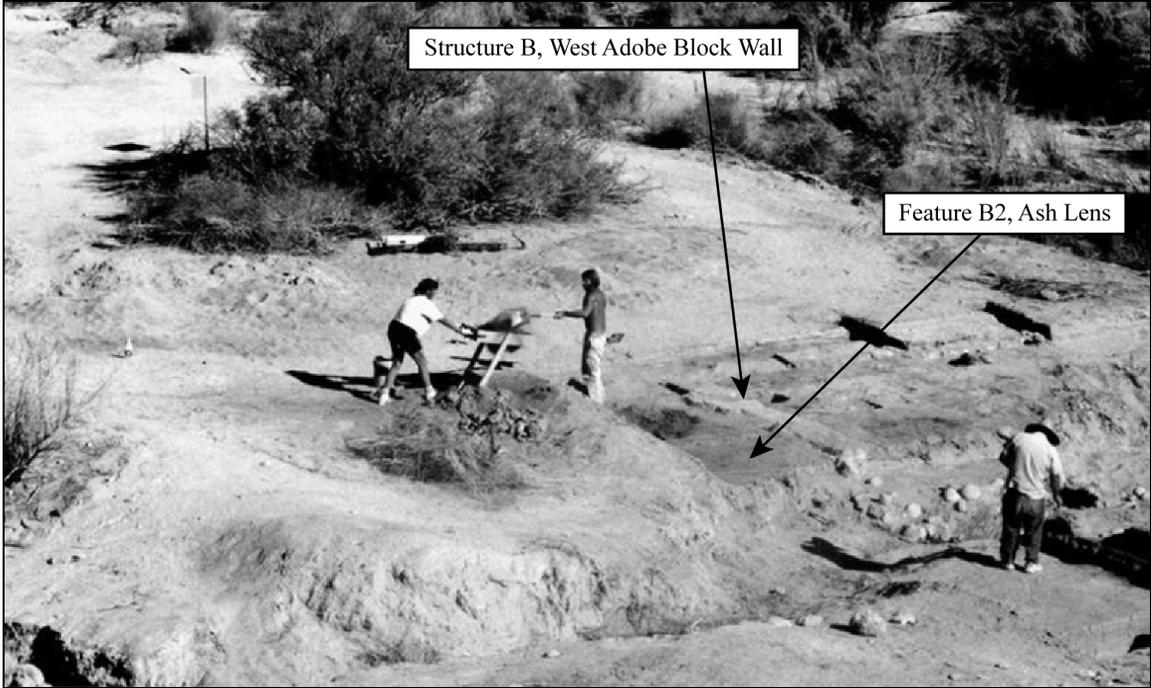
Table 8. Feature B4 Activity Profile.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	18	1.34
Livery	5	0.37
Munitions	51	3.79
Personal	25	1.86
Kitchen	29	2.15
Building	1,159	86.04
Coin	1	0.07
Garment	34	2.52
Hardware	6	0.45
Household	2	0.15
Unidentified	17	1.26
Total	1,347	100.00

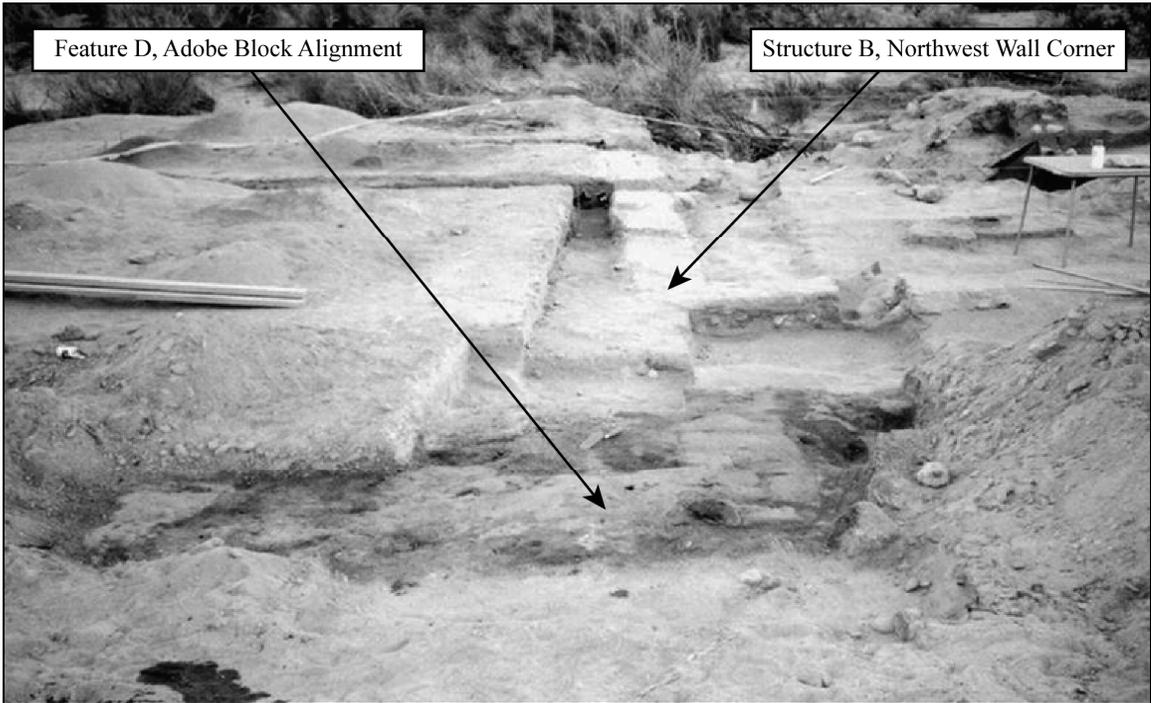
Table 9. Feature B4 Activity Profile without Building Materials.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	18	9.57
Livery	5	2.66
Munitions	51	27.13
Personal	25	13.30
Kitchen	29	15.43
Coin	1	0.53
Garment	34	18.09
Hardware	6	3.19
Household	2	1.06
Unidentified	17	9.04
Total	188	100.00

Although it was located immediately to the west of Structure B, Feature B2 appears to be an earlier construction that is not associated with that structure. As previously discussed, the dense ash lens of this feature overlies approximately 12 inches of water deposited sediments that cap the refuse deposit of Feature B4, indicating it was built and later burned after the trash pit had been abandoned and closed (Figure 39). The ash lens of Feature B2 has, in turn, been bisected by a wall trench of Structure C, which shows that Structure C was built after the structure represented by Feature B2 burned (Figure 40). Overlying Structure C was the remains of Structure B, which obviously demonstrated that it was the last in the sequence to be built. Chronologically, therefore, the structure represented by Feature B2 can be placed after the trash pit of Feature B4 was no longer in use, but prior to the construction of Structure C or Structure B (Figure 39 and Figure 40).



(a) Structure B, Feature B2, 2002, view to northeast (by California State Parks).



(b) Structure B, Feature D, 2002, view to southeast (by California State Parks).

Figure 37. Feature B2 and D.

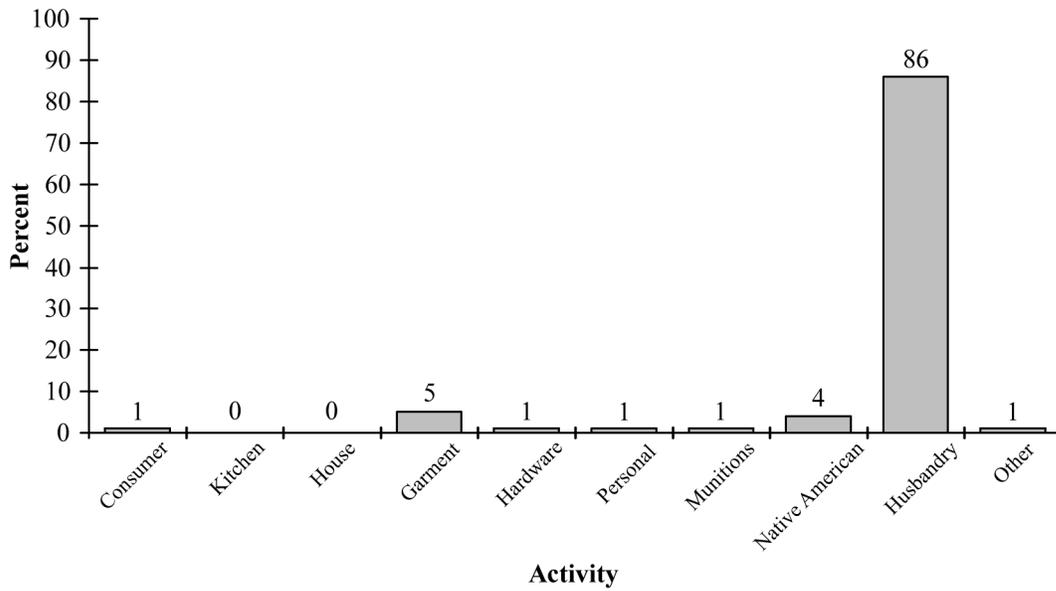


Figure 38. Feature B2 Activity Profile without Building Materials.

Table 10. Feature B2 Activity Profile.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	2	0.76
Munitions	2	0.76
Personal	1	0.38
Native American	7	2.67
Animal Husbandry	144	54.96
Building Material	95	36.26
Garment	9	3.44
Hardware	1	0.38
Unidentified Item	1	0.38
Total	262	100.00

Table 11. Feature B2 Activity Profile without Building Materials.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	2	1.2
Munitions	2	1.2
Personal	1	0.6
Native American	7	4.19
Animal Husbandry	144	86.2
Garment	9	5.39
Hardware	1	0.6
Unidentified Item	1	0.6
Total	167	100

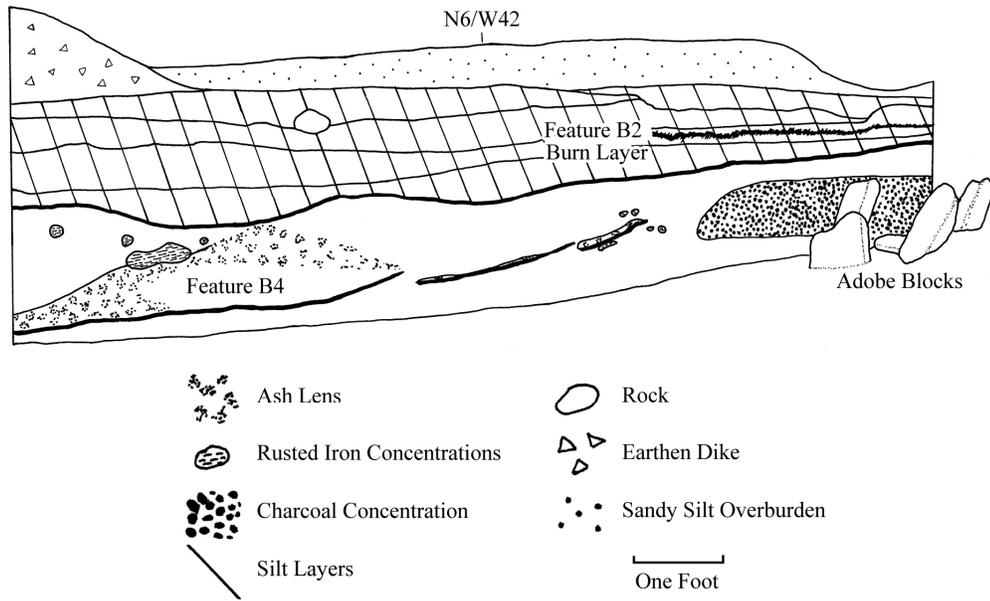


Figure 39. North Wall Profile of Units N6/W36 and N6/W42 showing Relationship between Feature B4 Trash Pit and Feature B2 Burn Layer.

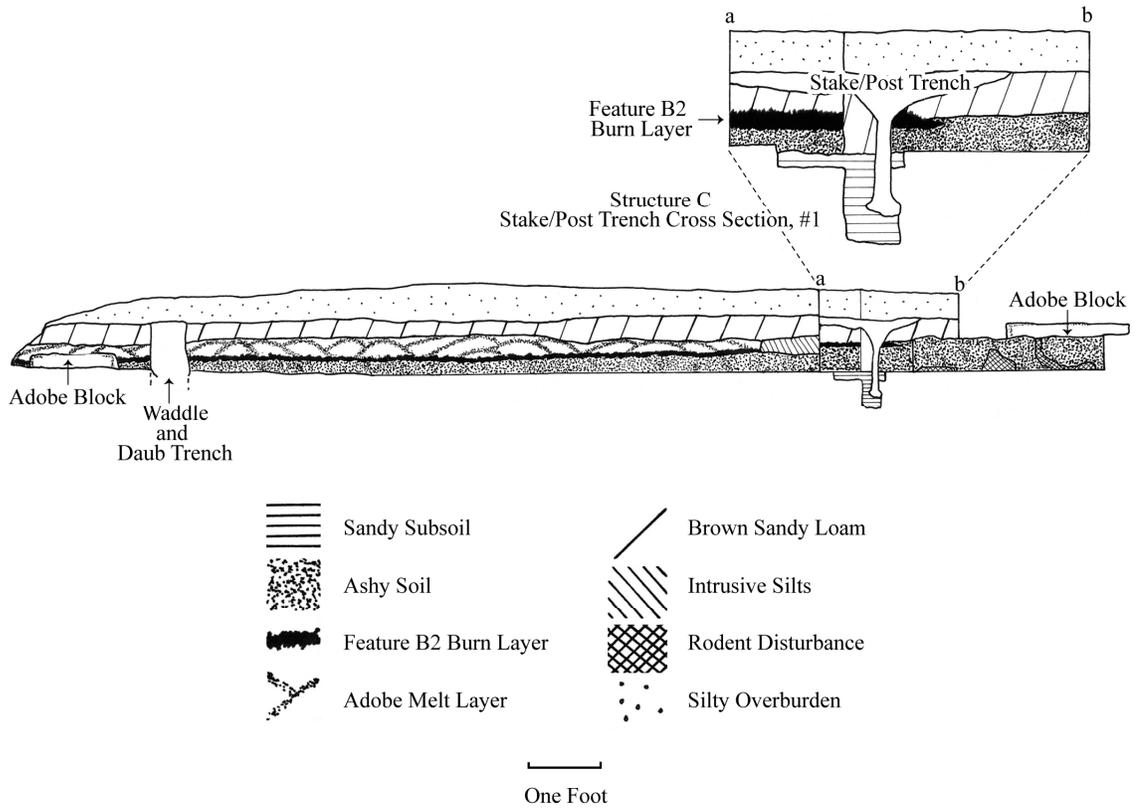


Figure 40. West Wall Profile of Units N5.75/W36 to N21/W36 showing Relationship between Feature B2 Burn Layer and Structure C Wattle and Daub Trench.

Structure D

Two rectangular alignments of adobe blocks were encountered on the west side of Feature B2. These appeared as a thin lens of gray clay one to two inches thick and about 24 inches wide (see Figure 37b). The true nature of these remains have not been determined. They may represent the adobe corral that adjoined the station buildings that was observed by the Conklings in the 1920s.

Structure C

Structure C consisted of the remains of a wattle and daub building discovered underneath the floor of Structure B (Figure 41). Evidence included alignments of small ocotillo or willow stake post holes and two small cobblestone hearths. The features were first discovered in the western half of Structure B in an area where the packed earthen floor surface of that building was indistinct and it was decided to excavate below the known level of the floor to see if it could be defined in the resulting stratigraphic profile. A very definite row of post molds around 1.5 to two inches in diameter, containing the remains of willow or ocotillo stakes, were encountered running in an east-west direction. The feature was about 18 inches south of the north wall of Structure B and parallel to it. In order to further define the wattle and daub construction, the packed earthen floor of Structure B was removed by troweling. The alignment of postholes was found approximately one inch below the floor (Figure 42a). It consisted of a narrow trench two inches wide with a series of willow or ocotillo stakes placed in it about 0.5 to one inch apart (Figure 43). The alignment was 27 feet long. It continued to the west, under Structure B's west wall, which had been built over it, and extended in the same direction for another eight feet. This portion was a continuation of the trench filled with brown soil. Some post molds and stakes were visible, but they were not as well preserved as the eastern portions. At the east end, puddled gray clayey silt, representing mud plaster daubing, could be seen around the stakes. Here the alignment abutted against a semi-circular feature constructed in the same manner. Most of this feature, unfortunately, had been destroyed by the erosional channel.

Under the rest of the floor, additional remains of the wattle and daub building were found. Several broken off branches or stakes were encountered, as well as additional post molds. None had the distinct alignment of the original discovery, although they obviously represented portions of the same structure. A series of post molds and broken stakes at the edge of the erosional channel, suggested that the remains of the south side of this structure was probably destroyed when the channel formed (see Figure 41).

There was no definite floor defined for Structure C. The post molds and stakes were excavated into a coarse sandy subsoil that underlies this entire portion of the site. Two small cooking hearths, designated Features C1 and C2, occurred in association with the wattle and daub remains. These contained the only artifacts recovered that could be associated with the structure. Both hearths measured approximately 12 inches in diameter and eight inches deep. They were located in the western portion of the structure, one against the north side of the main stake wall alignment (Figure 42b). The hearths consisted of loosely-packed water-worn stones with concentrations of ash and charcoal. Pieces of ground stone implements, including a combination mano and pestle and another mano fragment, were identified in C1 (Figure 44). Feature C2 contained two manos (Figure 45). Metal fragments in Feature C1,

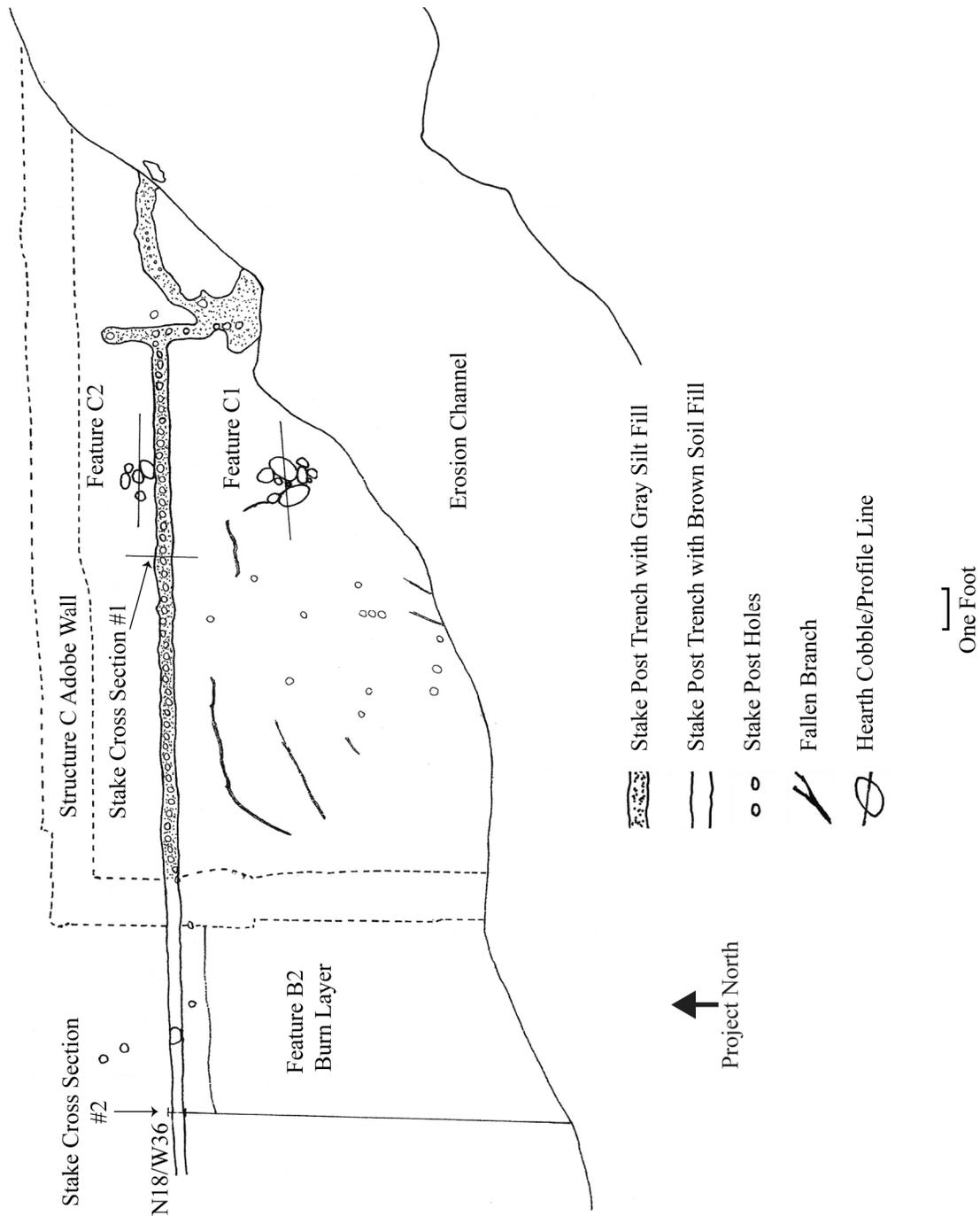
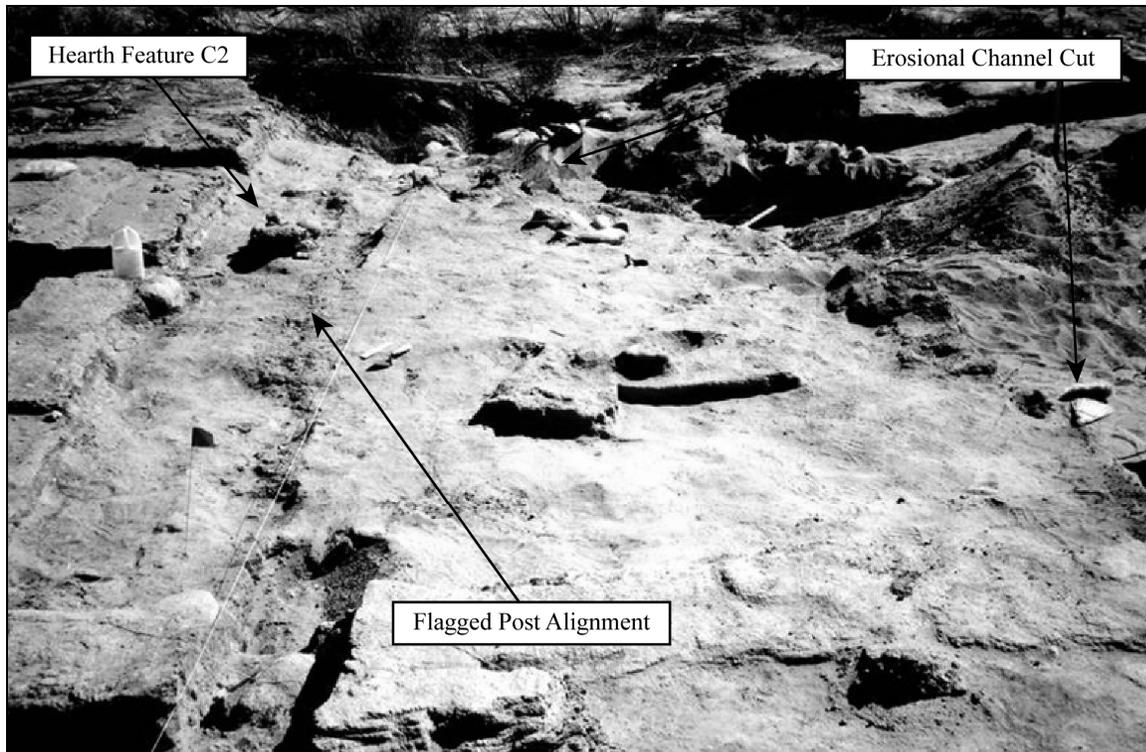
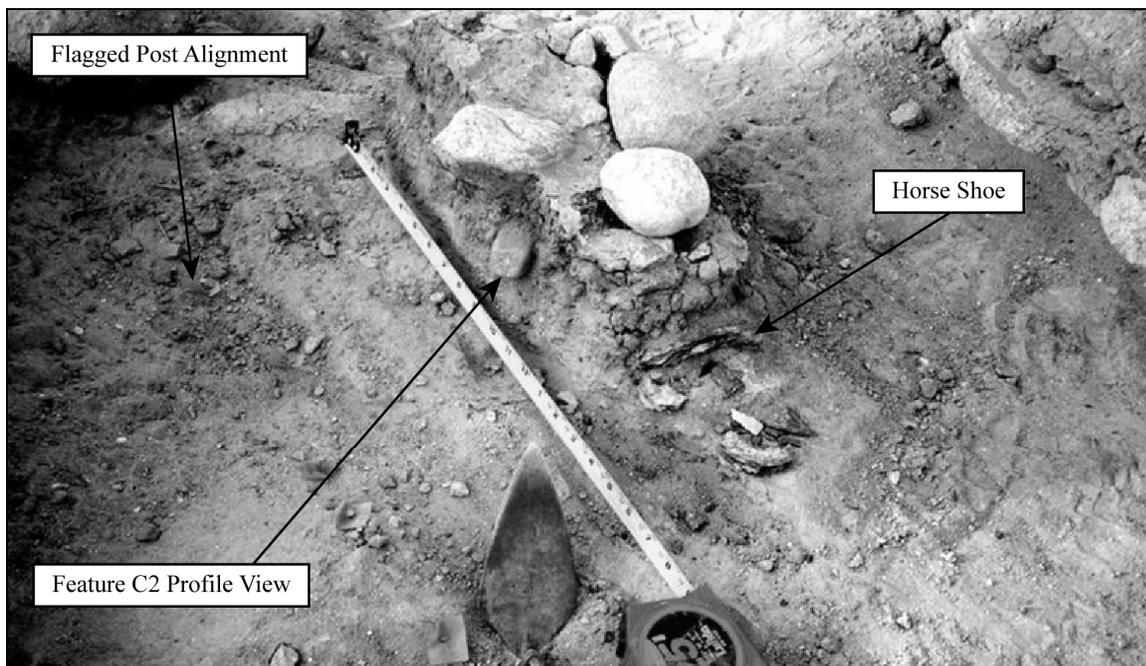


Figure 41. Structure C Archaeological Remains Site Map.



(a) Structure C, Posthole Alignment, 2002, view to southeast (by California State Parks).



(b) Structure C, Feature C2, 2002, view to north (by California State Parks).

Figure 42. Structure C Posthole Alignment and Feature C2.

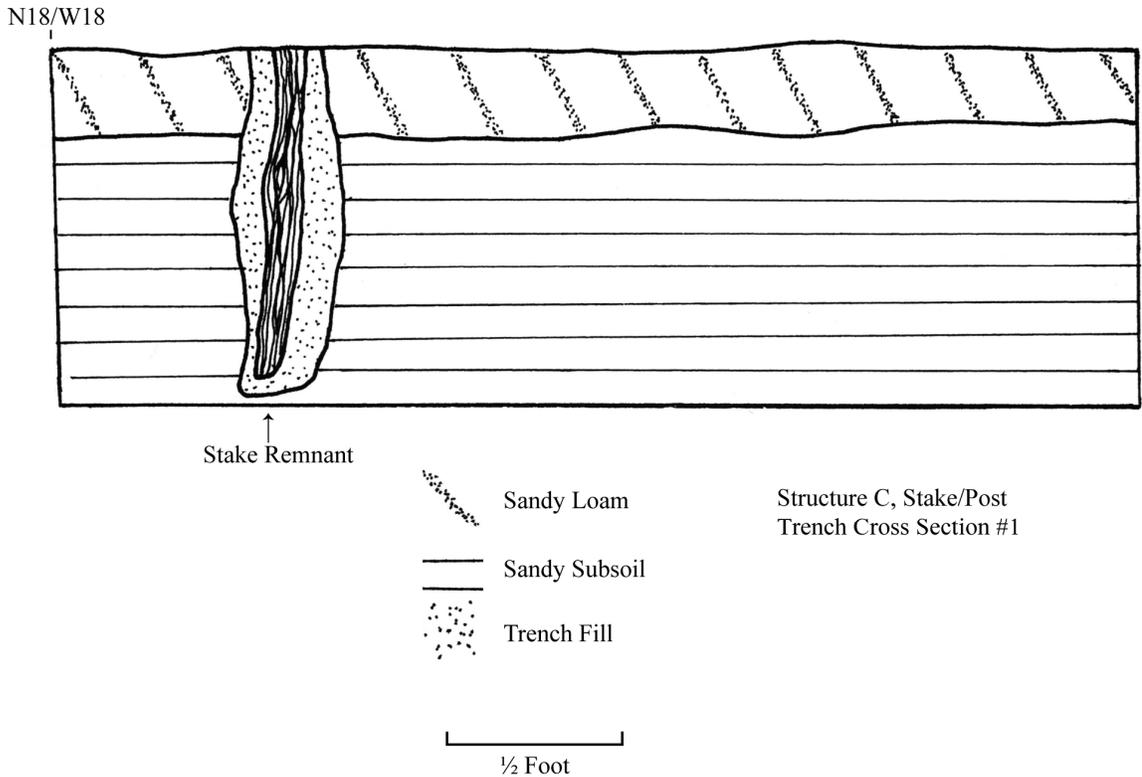


Figure 43. Structure C West Wall Profile bisecting North Wall.

and horseshoe fragments in Feature C2 indicated that, although the ground stone items are typical of those manufactured and used by Native Americans, these are Stage Station period features and do not represent an earlier prehistoric occupation. They do, however, reflect the influence of Native American food preparation methods on the station occupants.

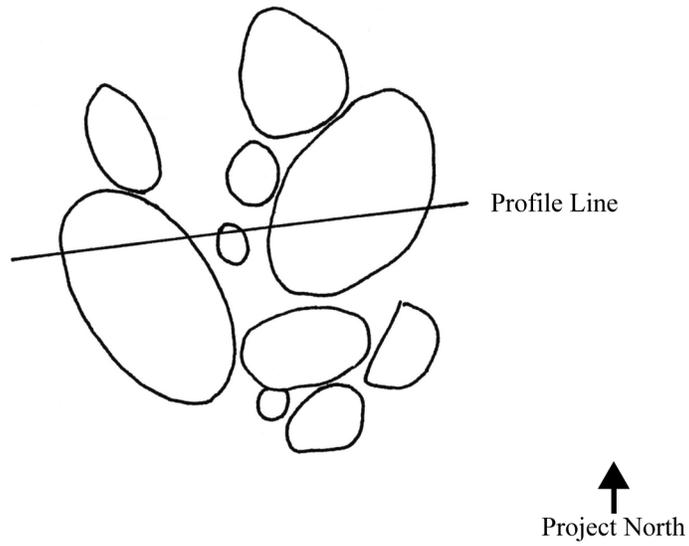
No artifacts were recovered from the levels associated with Structure C. It is possible that the lower layers of the packed earthen floor associated with Structure B was also the floor for C. The two small hearths in Structure C strongly indicate the building was used as a kitchen. The nature of the building and features recalls Charles Running's description of their quarters at Lassitor's Ranch in September 1857, where they "slept in a low hut with fire in the middle, Indian fashion. Had a good supper and breakfast—fresh butter, bread, mutton, coffee" (Running 1858).

Structure B

Like Structure A, Structure B was a rectangular building measuring approximately 30 feet north-south by 18 feet, east-west (Figure 46). There were no remains of interior divisions.

Condition and Stratigraphy: Prior to excavation, Structure B consisted of an almost level terrace on the north side of the erosional gully. This is the area graded by Buster McCain in 1958. Close to 40 percent of what remained of the ruins after Buster had flattened them was later destroyed by erosion when the earthen dike overflowed. The

PLAN VIEW



PROFILE VIEW

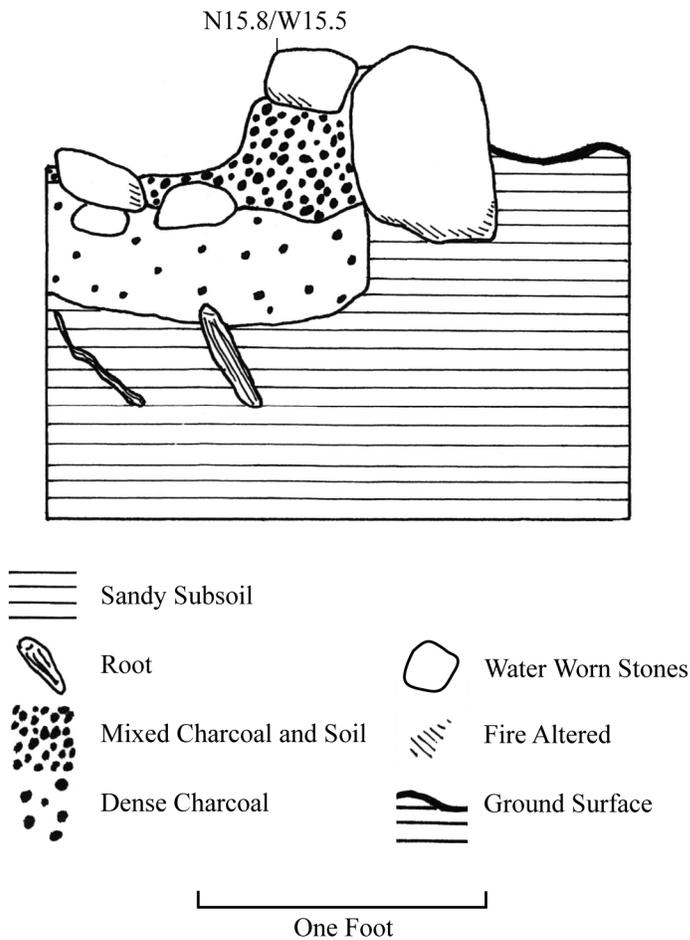
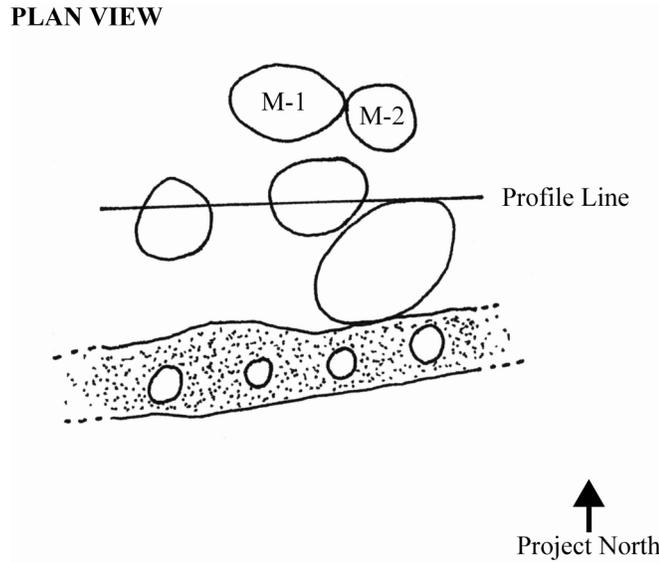


Figure 44. Feature C1 Hearth at Unit N15.8/W15.5.

PLAN VIEW



PROFILE VIEW

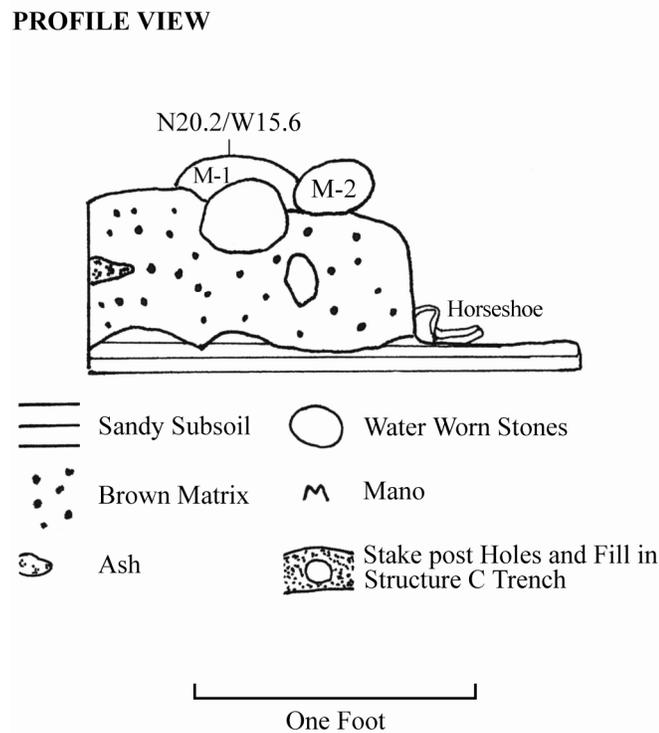


Figure 45. Feature C2 Hearth at Unit N20.2/W15.6.

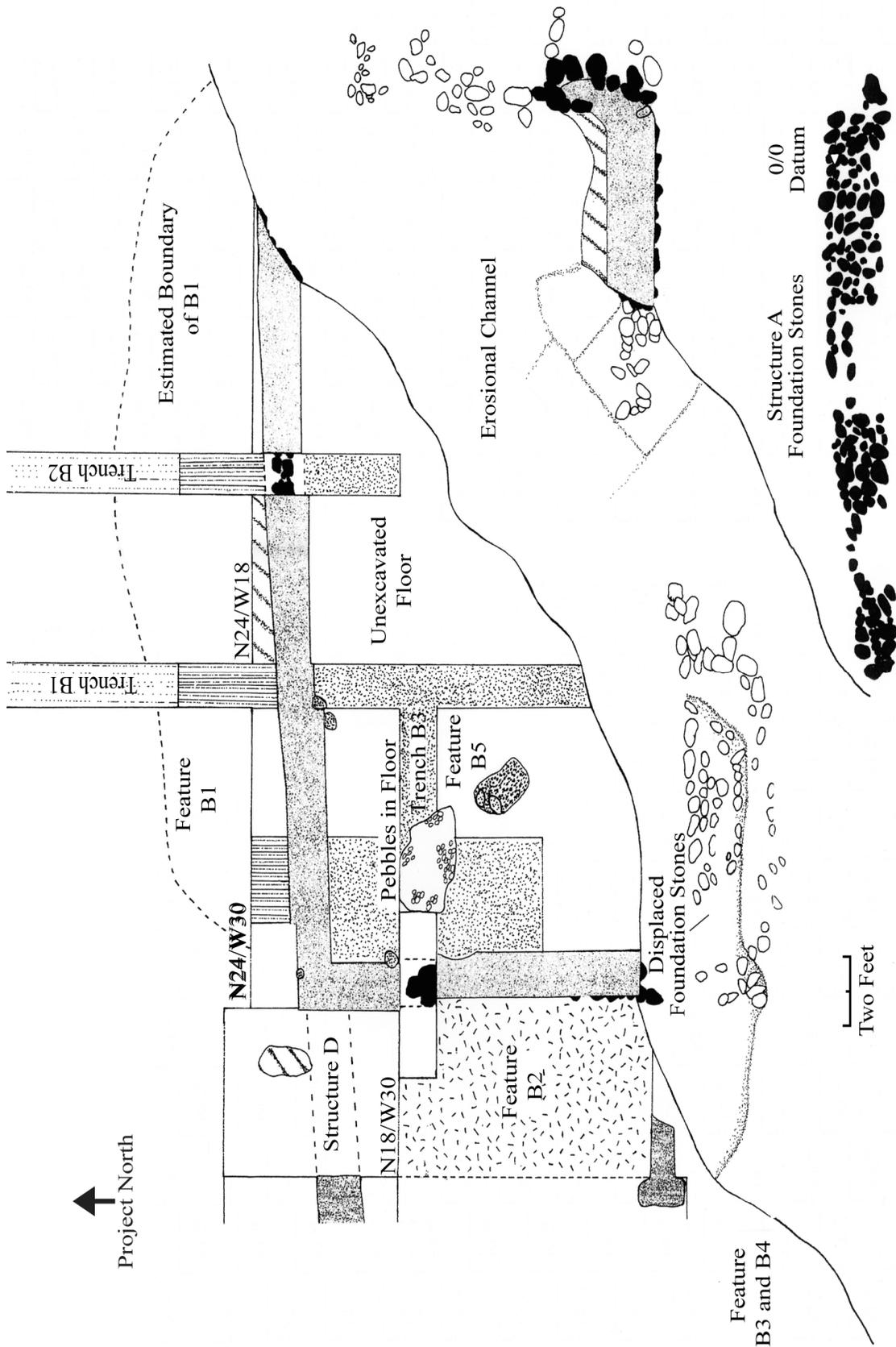


Figure 46. Structure B Archaeological Remains Site Map (As Exposed During Excavation).

channel took away most of the southern edge and east end of the building leaving a small segment of the southeast corner isolated on its south bank, and the remaining portion of the building on the north side. This became clear when the gully was cleared of brush and debris. Foundation stones, shallow wall remains, and burned surfaces representing floors could be seen in the north bank. This stratigraphic profile was sketched prior to excavation (Figure 47). In addition, displaced foundation stones were found in the bottom of the channel (Figure 48a). The stratigraphy of Structure B differs from that of Structure A. Extremely shallow wall remains occur at about 16 inches below the surface. A burned packed earthen floor within the perimeter of the walls is about 24 inches below the surface. The floor and walls are covered with around four to 12 inches of a light brown, sandy loam, consisting of fine layers of water deposited melted adobe. This layer is extremely level and uniform in thickness and appears to have been artificially leveled. It is what was left on the site after Buster McCain graded his pasture in 1958. This is covered with six to 12 inches of very light tan, fine, sandy, water-deposited silt that has come from the steep berm located directly west of the building remains.

From the stratigraphy and historic photographs, the following general chronology of the building's deterioration can be determined. Unlike Structure A, this building did not have layers of windblown sand covering the floor, suggesting it did not experience an extended length of time between abandonment and wall collapse. The highly burned condition of the floor suggests that it may have been used as a cooking area, with small hearths built directly on it, or it may also be the result of the roof burning off very rapidly. After the roof was destroyed, the walls almost immediately began to deteriorate and cover the floor, which was generally well preserved and covered with fine layers of melted adobe. The ruins were still visible enough in the 1920s that historians Roscoe and Margaret Conkling could distinguish both Structures A and B "separated by a hallway" (Conkling and Conkling 1947:227). In 1958, however, Buster McCain graded this portion of the stage station remains, leaving a uniformly level surface with no indication of the underlying architectural features.

Foundations: The foundations of Structure B are similar to those of Structure A. They are 18 to 24 inches wide and consist of one to two courses of 6-to-8-inch diameter round and oblong water-worn cobbles. Some are up to 12 inches in length. The stones are not as tightly packed as in the foundations of Structure A. However, as in Structure A, they are placed at ground surface and mortared together on the east end of the building and set in shallow trenches at the west end in order to compensate for a slight rise in the terrain.

Blocks and Walls: Wall remnants of Structure B consisted of a layer of dense gray clay, two to four inches thick, and approximately 24 inches wide, on top of the foundation cobbles. The footprint of the building could easily be seen by the dark gray outline in the surrounding ashy brown soil. This is all that remained of the bottom course of adobe blocks. The block material was very different from that used in Structure A, where the adobes had been made from a tan silty loam. The blocks in Structure B were of a dense gray clayey silt very similar to the material used in Structure A to cover the pebble floor pavement. Mortar must have been of the same material since no mortar joints could be detected. The fact that the wall material is consistently about 24 inches wide suggests that, as in Structure A, these block measurements probably averaged 12 x 24 x 4 inches and were laid in alternating courses of a single row of headers and two parallel rows of stretchers.

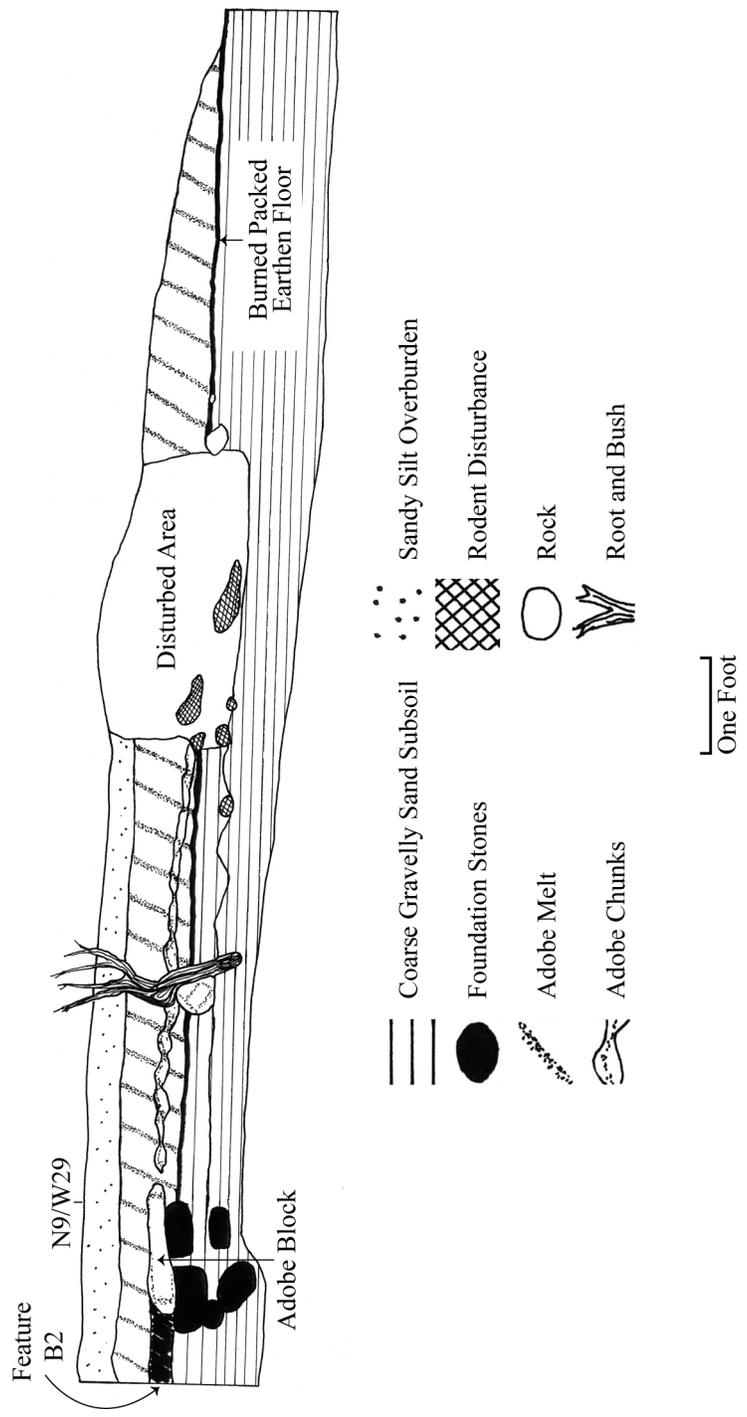
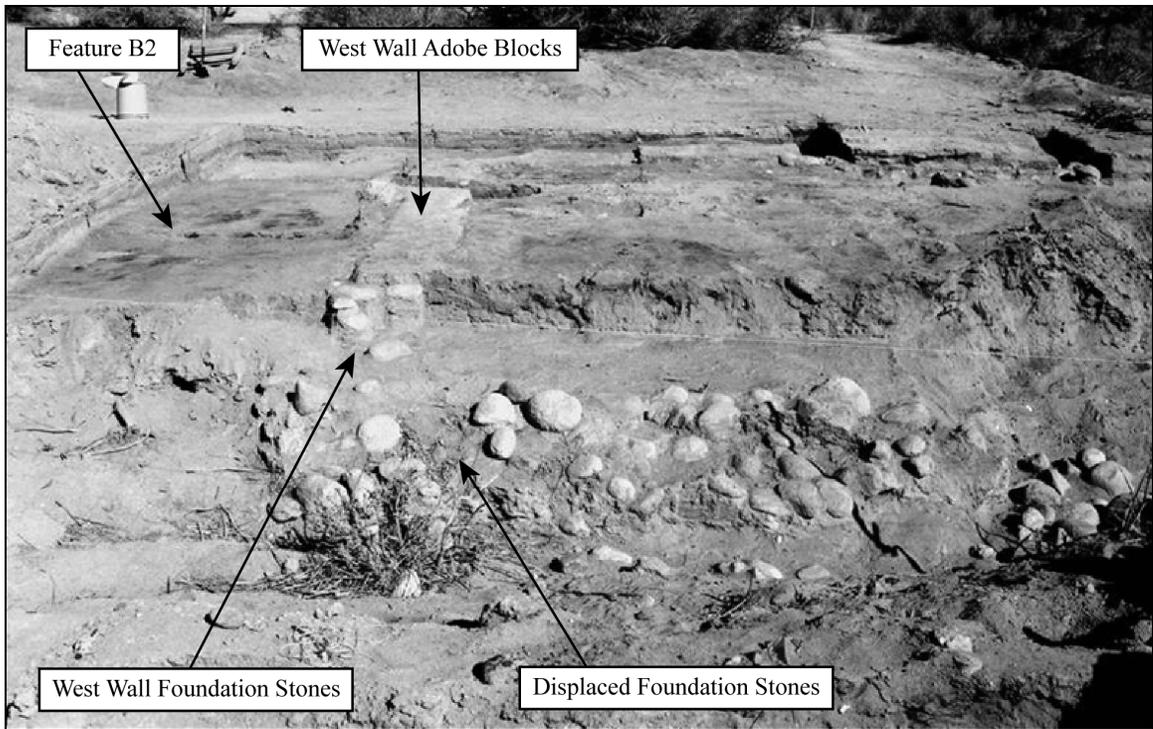


Figure 47. Erosional Gully North Bank Profile, Unit N20-N31.



(a) Structure B, West and South Wall Foundation Stones, 2002, view to north (by California State Parks).



(b) Structure B, Fire Hearth Feature B5, 2002, view to southwest (by California State Parks).

Figure 48. Structure B Wall Foundation Stones and Fire Hearth Feature.

Floors and Roof: The interior of Structure B had a packed earthen floor. It consisted of a very definite lens of hard-packed soil that could be detected by excavation with a trowel. The soil above the floor peeled back to this level as it was removed. In some places, especially toward the west end of the structure, the floor became less distinct and more difficult to define. Overall, the surface had a dark brown burned color with some areas of concentrated ash deposits (see Figure 46). In the east half of the building a small fire hearth, designated Feature B5, was identified on the floor (see Figure 48b). It consisted of fire-affected rock and a dense concentration of charcoal. The feature measured 20 by 17 inches by about four inches thick. It had been built on, and slightly excavated into, the floor surface. No roof fall was defined. The burned color of the floor appears to have been caused by use of this building as a kitchen and the consequent disbursement of ash as a result of cooking over open hearths with wood fueled fires. An intense fire, that burned the roof quickly, may also have contributed to the burned appearance of the floor. However, if this had occurred, a thicker layer of ash and charcoal would be expected. No door or window openings could be defined for this building. The doorway may have been on the south side of the building that has been destroyed by the erosional gully, and it may have opened into the hallway in a similar fashion as the doorway of Structure A.

The artifact activity profile for Structure B is shown in Table 12. It is shown without building materials in Table 13 and in Figure 49. The assemblage is dominated by kitchen items at 29 percent. This is followed by garment items at 20 percent, hardware and munitions at 11 percent, and consumer items at nine percent. Other activity groups made up less than five percent each of the artifact collection. Garment items included only overall and jeans fly buttons. Munitions consisted of percussion caps and a Civil War era mini ball. Kitchen items included fragments of eight Native American cooking pots, pieces of flow blue and Rockingham decorated ceramics, and a single peach pit. Fragments of liquor and culinary bottles made up the consumer items. The activity profile, the sooty scorched floor, and the small hearth of Feature B5 all reveal that this building was used as a kitchen, although the garment items, personal items, and munitions show that other activities also occurred there.

Table 12. Structure B Activity Profile.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	3	2.36
Livery	2	1.57
Munitions	4	3.15
Personal	2	1.57
Kitchen	7	5.51
Building	92	72.44
Garment	10	7.87
Hardware	4	3.15
Household	1	0.79
Unidentified	2	1.57
Total	127	100.00

Table 13. Structure B Activity Profile without Building Materials.

ACTIVITY	QUANTITY	PERCENT
Consumer	3	8.57
Livery	2	5.71
Munitions	4	11.43
Personal	2	5.71
Kitchen	10	28.57
Garment	7	20.00
Hardware	4	11.43
Household	1	2.86
Unidentified	2	5.71
Total	35	100.00

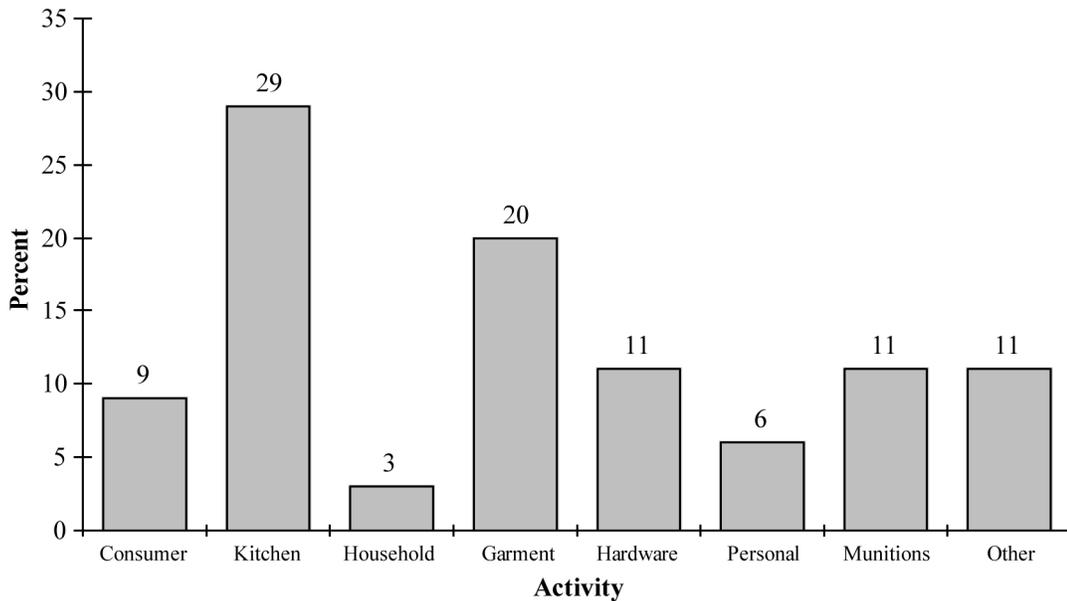


Figure 49. Structure B Activity Profile without Building Materials.

Hallway

The seven-foot-wide passageway between Structures A and B was formed when Structure B was constructed (Figure 50 and Figure 51a). Although largely destroyed by the erosional channel, approximately eight feet of the former hallway area was still intact on the eastern edge of the site. Excavation encountered the original compacted surface between the buildings under three to nine inches of a loose sandy overburden (Figure 52). A variety of artifacts were recovered on and above this surface including fragments of Native American pottery, percussion caps, a hard rubber comb, and square nails. Most notable was 195 grams of window glass, indicating that there was a window in one of the buildings at this location. No artifacts were recovered below the packed surface. Table 14 and Table 15 and Figure 53 provide the activity profile for the Hallway.