

## Chapter 5

### Block 7, Lot 1

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One of our 2008 excavation teams focused on Block 7, Lot 1, based on multiple points of information, including previously known data and newly discovered evidence. A structure was located in the southeast portion of what was Block 7, Lot 1, of the New Philadelphia town site in a 1939 high-altitude aerial photograph (Figure 5.1). This farm was described in Burdick's (Burdick n.d.) memoir of the town site's mid-twentieth-century appearance as the "Betsy house." That house was removed sometime in the decades before a 1998 high-altitude aerial



**Figure 5.1.** 1939 aerial photograph of New Philadelphia town site. The farmstead referred to as the "Betsy house" by Burdick (1992), located on part of Block 7, Lot 1, is outlined by the rectangle in the left center portion of this image (Photograph from U.S.D.A. Aerial Photographs Collection; overlay by Christopher Fennell).

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photograph, which shows no remains above ground. This area also showed a heavy concentration of artifacts in a walk-over survey conducted in 2002 and 2003 (Gwaltney 2004), including a modest number of early nineteenth-century ceramic fragments on the ground surface, and a higher frequency of surface artifacts dating to the late nineteenth century. Archaeologists worked on two excavation units (each 5 ft. square in size) in Block 7, Lot 1, in 2004 to locate the potential layers of remains of the residence or business operations that once existed there. Feature 3 was identified as part of a fieldstone foundation of a house in the southeast corner of Lot 1 associated with artifacts that dated to the 1870s (Shackel 2006) (Figure 5.2). A later magnetic gradient geophysical survey of this area by Michael Hargrave primarily showed anomalies in the same southeast corner portion of the parcel (Hargrave 2006) (Figure 5.3). An aerial thermal survey conducted in May 2008 also shows evidence of potential sub-surface foundation remains in this vicinity (see [Chapter 6](#), “Block 8, Lots 1-2” of this report).



**Figure 5.2.** *Feature 3, fieldstone foundation remains to an 1870s house site located in Block 7, Lot 1, was uncovered in 2004 (Photograph from Shackel 2006).*

In 2008, Claire Martin, a historian working on the New Philadelphia project, discovered a misplaced tax ledger book in the basement of the Pike County Courthouse in Pittsfield. Examining this aged ledger, she discovered that it listed a tax assessor’s records of valuations assessed in 1845 in areas that included blocks and lots within New Philadelphia (Pike County Tax Collector 1845). Frank McWorter was listed as the owner of Block 7, Lot 1, and the value of that parcel was assessed at \$60, which was significantly higher than the values placed on other parcels in that area in 1845. This documentary evidence provided an indication that a building may have been standing on Block 7, Lot 1 in 1845, resulting in such a higher assessed value. Based on our knowledge of Feature 3 from excavations in 2004, and this newly discovered evidence in 2008, one of our teams focused on further excavating the southeast portion of Lot 1 to learn more about the 1870s occupation and to see if the remains of an earlier residence or business structure underlay that site location.

The next sections of this chapter provide background information on Block 7, Lot 1 based on documentary evidence, followed by a discussion of the survey and excavation results obtained in the 2008 field season. Research efforts and results concerning other portions of Block 7 are described in our 2006 report (Shackel 2006).

## Block 7, Lot 1 History

As summarized previously in our 2006 report (Shackel 2006), the following data concerning past property owners and potential residents of Block 7, Lot 1, can be ascertained from documentary records, including deeds, tax ledgers, and census lists.

The earliest recorded sale of Block 7, Lot 1, occurred in 1848 when Frank McWorter sold the property to James Pottle. In total there were over 20 transactions involving this property until 1930. The purchasers also found in the census data include: Christopher Luce, Squire McWorter, and William Hadsell. There is strong likelihood that at least some of these families lived on this lot. The tax records indicate that some improvements existed on the lot until 1867. After this date the value of improvements decreased significantly. However, in 1878 W. S. Cowder was assessed for \$114 in improvements, although this assessment included both Lots 1 and 2. In 1883 and 1888 J. O. Smith was assessed for \$125 and \$60 respectively, for Lots 1-4 on Block 7. The deed, tax, and census data follow and the italicized names are those that may have resided on the lot, since they appear in both the deed and census records.

### DEED TRANSACTIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Seller</i>	<i>Purchaser</i>	<i>Reference (page, line)</i>
1848	Frank McWorter	<i>James Pottle</i>	53, 1
1850	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	G. W. Berrian	53,4
1852	<i>James Pottle</i>	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	53,2
1852	<i>Christopher Luce</i>	<i>James Pottle</i>	53,5 S1/2
1853	G. W. Bowman	<i>Squire McWorter</i>	53,9
1853	William Wadsell	<i>Squire McWorter</i>	53,10
1855	<i>Squire McWorter</i>	Eliza Brown	53,8
1859	Eliza Brown	Perry Smith	53,11
1866	W. Perry Smith	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,18
1866	John O. Smith	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,20
1867	W. Perry Smith	John Cornwell	53,12
1867	John Cornwell	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,19
1868	John Cornwell	Benjamin Grey	53,13
1877	Benjamin Grey	W.S. Cowden	53,15
1877	W. S. Cowden	<i>William Hadsell</i>	53,16
1878	<i>William Hadsell</i>	John O. Smith	53,17
1884	John O. Smith	A.R. Burdick	53,22
1888	J. B. Smith	William Gem	53,23
1902	James McKinney	William Butler	53,24
1930	Charles Venicombe	F. W. Vencombe	53,36
1934	County Clerk	John Seigle	53,37

HADLEY TOWNSHIP RECORDS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name Assessed</i>	<i>Value of Lot</i>	<i>Improvements</i>
1867	Perry Smith	\$2	\$25
1868	Perry Smith	\$5	\$4
1869	Benjamin Gray	\$5	\$4
1870	Benjamin Gray	\$3	\$0
1871	B. Gray	\$3	\$0
1872	B. Gray	\$3	\$0
1875	Undocumented	–	–
1878	W. S. Cowder (Lots 1-3)	–	\$114
1883	J. O. Smith (Lots 1-4)	–	\$125
1888	J. O. Smith (Lots 1-4)	–	\$60

1850 FEDERAL CENSUS

<b>NAME</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>AGE</b>	<b>SEX</b>	<b>RACE</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>	<b>ORIGIN</b>
<i>Pottle</i>	James	38	M	M	Cabinet Maker	MA
	Ruby	28	F	M	-	MA
	James	3	M	M	-	MA
	<i>Luce C. S.</i>	42	M	W	Bapt. Preacher	ME
	Sally	41	F	W	-	NH
	George	15	M	W	Farmer	ME
	Moses	8	M	M	-	IL
<i>McWorter</i>	Squire	33	M	M	Farmer	KY
	Louisa	26	F	M	-	KY
	Lucy	5	F	M	-	IL
	Squire	3	M	M	-	IL
	George	1	M	M	-	IL
	Mary A.	22	F	W	-	ENG
	Mary A.	3	F	M	-	CAN
	Lucy	0.4	F	M	-	IL

1855 STATE CENSUS

<b>NAME</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>RACE</b>	<b>no. in household</b>
<i>McWorter</i>	Squire	B	11

1865 STATE CENSUS

<b>NAME</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>RACE</b>	<b>NO. IN HOUSEHOLD</b>
<i>Hadsell</i>	Wm.	W	5
<i>McWorter</i>	S.	B	5

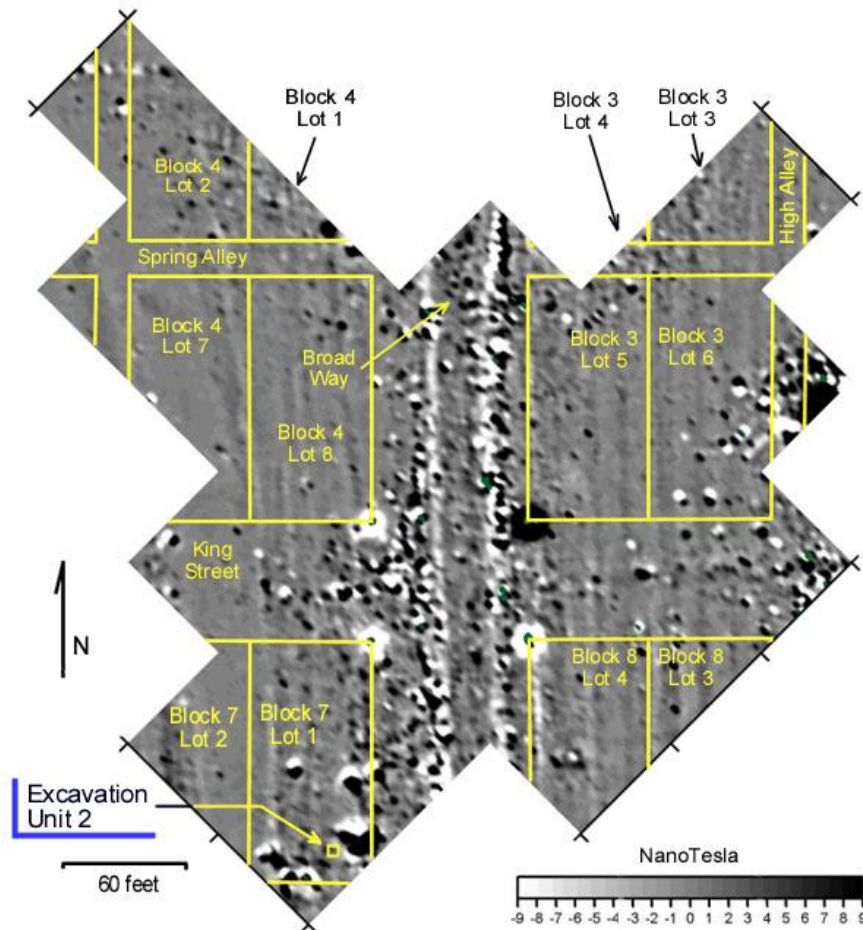
1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

NAME	FIRST NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	RELATION	ORIGIN
<i>Hadsell</i>	Wm.	57	M	W	Head	ENG
	Jane	58	F	W	Wife	OH

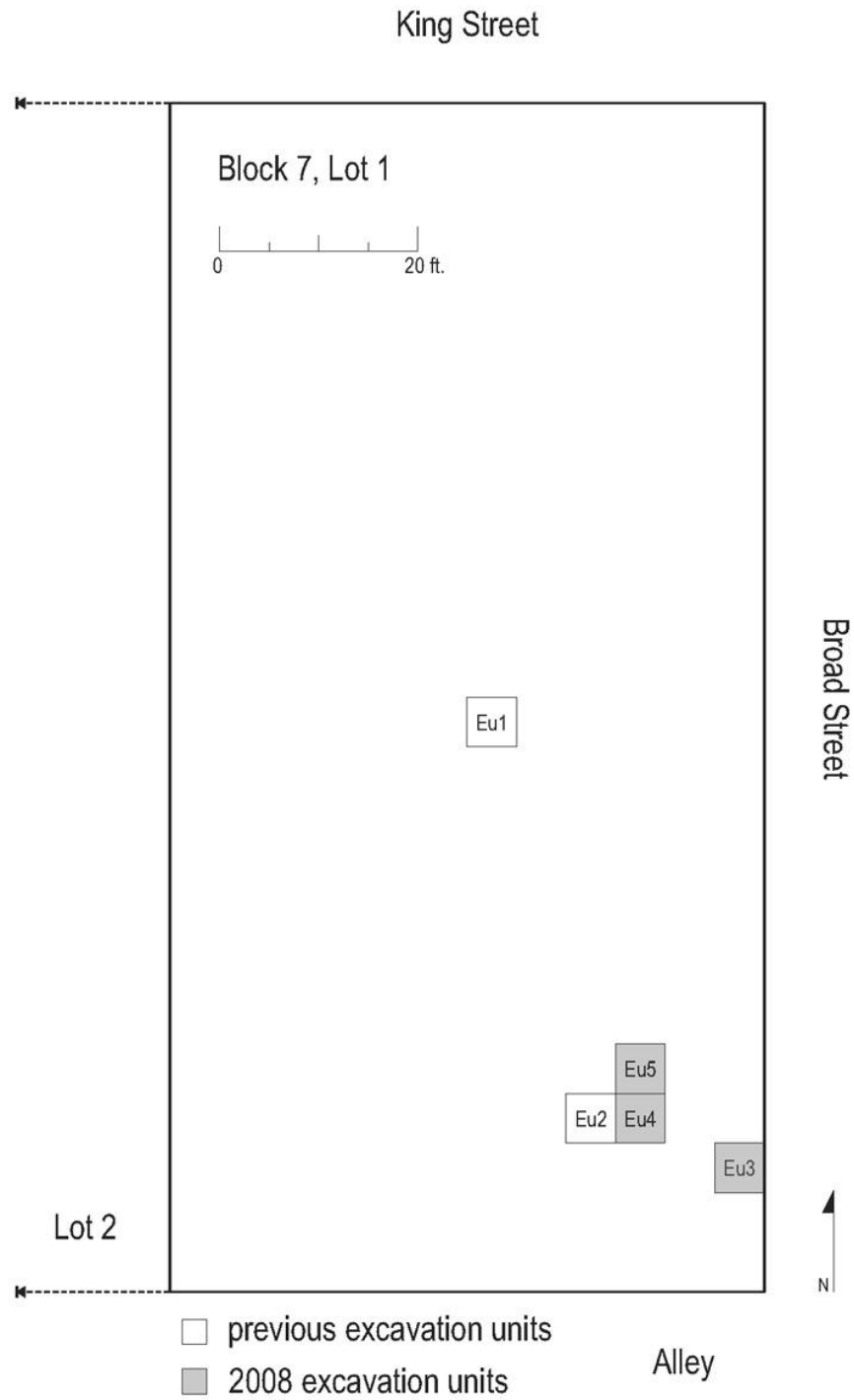
**Block 7, Lot 1 Archaeology**

The following is a summary of the archaeological excavations for Block 7, Lot 1, in 2008. For a more detailed technical overview see the unit and feature summaries in [Chapter 14](#), “Unit Summaries,” of this report.

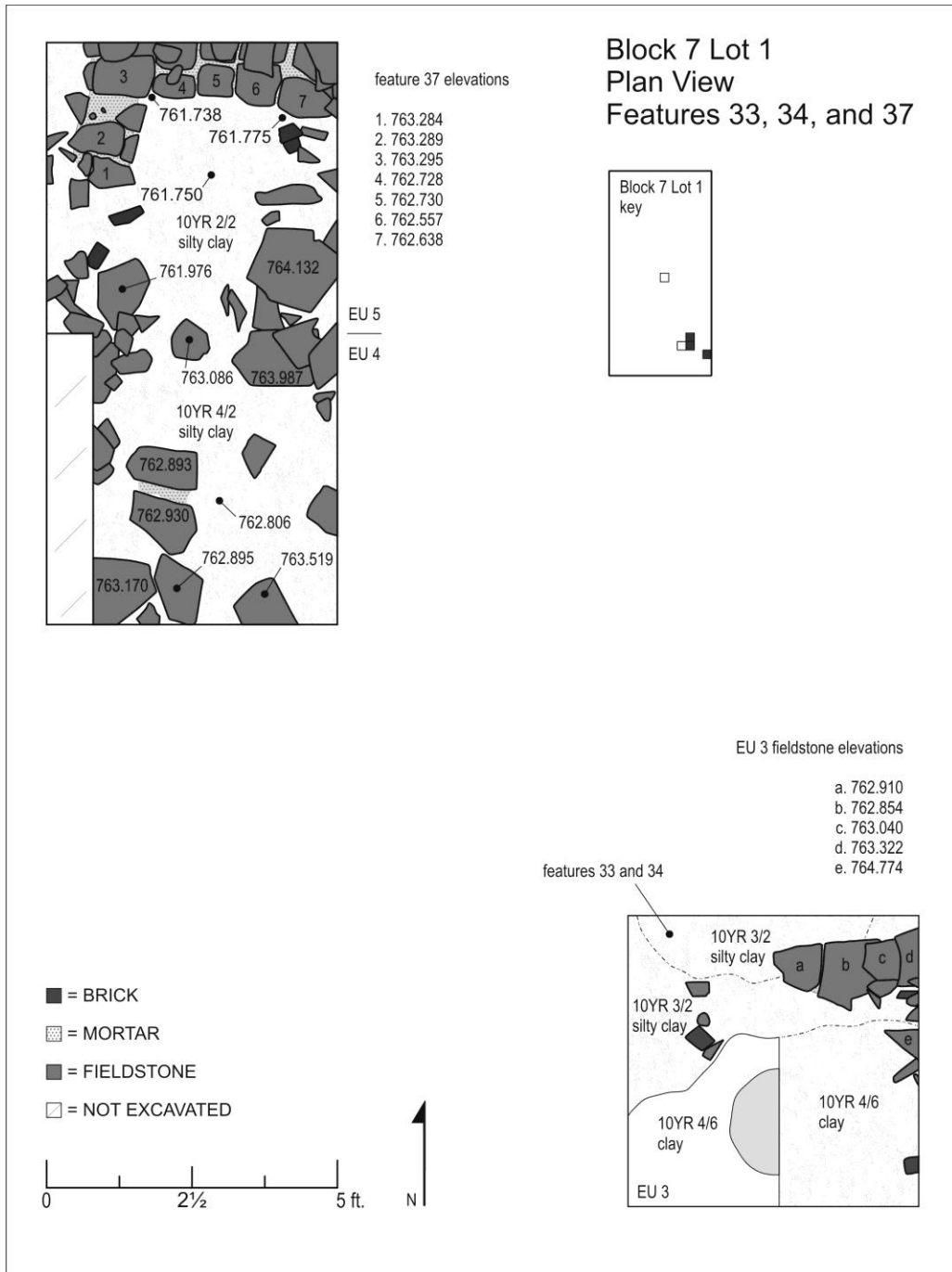
To begin further investigation of the likely remains of successive occupations on the southeast corner of Block 7, Lot 1, Team X first relocated the coordinates of Excavation Unit 2, in which Feature 3 had been uncovered in 2004 (Figures 5.3, 5.4 and 5.6).



**Figure 5.3.** Magnetic survey data map, showing anomalies in southeast corner of Block 7, Lot 1, and location of Excavation Unit 2, in which Feature 3 was located in 2004 excavations (Image map by Michael Hargrave; overlay by Christopher Fennell).



**Figure 5.4.** Map of Excavation Units in Block 7, Lot 1. Units 1 and 2 were excavated in 2004, and Units 3-5 in 2008 (Image by Christopher Valvano).



**Figure 5.5.** Map of Excavation Units 3-5 and Features 33, 34 and 37. Elevations (e.g., 762.910) are in U.S. survey feet above median sea level (Image by Christopher Valvano).

In the 2008 field season, archaeologists excavated three more units in Lot 1, located in the immediate vicinity and to the east of Unit 2 and the buried fieldstone foundation segment labeled as Feature 3. Figure 5.4 provides a map of the locations of these excavation units, and Figure 5.5 provides plan views of the Features 33, 34, and 37 uncovered in these new excavations.

The southwest corner of Excavation Unit 3 was located 10 ft. east and 5 ft. south of the southwest corner of Unit 2. Team X excavated Level A1 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. Level A1's average opening elevation was 765.769 ft. above mean sea level (amsl), and its average closing elevation was 765.262 ft. amsl. Level A1 was a combination of silty loam and plow zone, with a large concentration of historic ceramics (n=97), glass (n=164), and part of a harmonica reed. Archaeologists excavated Level A2 to a natural depth of 0.92 ft. below ground surface. The excavation team chose to forgo excavating this level to an arbitrary depth of 0.5 ft. (1.0 ft. below surface) after exposing a concentration of brick, stone, and mortar in the eastern half of Unit 3. This "rubble concentration" averaged a depth of 0.92 ft. below ground surface. Level A2 yielded a large amount of architectural debris, including historic artifacts such as wire and machine-cut nails (n=129), fragments of container and flat glass (n=287), and three distinct ceramic pipe fragments.



**Figure 5.6.** *Team X at work in Block 7 in 2008, including supervisor Christopher Valvano and NSF-REU field school excavators George Calfas, Shalonda Collins, and Elizabeth Sylak (Photograph by Doug Carr, Illinois State Museum).*

Level B1 in Unit 3 was excavated to a 0.5 ft. arbitrary level. Because Level B1 contains soil nearly identical to its overlying levels, but exists at depth beyond the reach of historic plows, the excavators described this level as "sub-plow zone." Team X first excavated the soil surrounding the rubble concentration. This yielded historic artifacts dating to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Artifacts from this level are domestic items such as ceramic vessel fragments (n=82) and decorative copper tubing found near copper wiring. The tubing is likely either a fragment of a lamp or curtain rod (see Sears 1969:803, 903). Artifacts from this deposit are mainly architectural items like machine-cut and wire nails, flat glass, and tar-like roofing paper. The team then excavated Level B2 as a 0.5 ft. arbitrary level, and recovered historic



artifacts throughout that level also. The bottom of this level showed two horizontal soil transitions. These two areas of distinct deposits were excavated separately and labeled B3–B4 (northern), and C1–C2 (southern).

Archaeologists excavated Level B3 as a 0.5 ft. arbitrary level. The team began excavating level B3 with the intent of removing the majority of the northern half of Unit 3. This half contains mottled silty clay made up of 70% 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and 30% 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown). As excavations proceeded, portions of the mottled sediment appeared more solidly as a 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) clay. Team members later identified this deposit as a clay cap (Feature 33) that extended into the northern wall of Unit 3 (see Figure 5.5). As excavators encountered Feature 33, they left the solid 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) clay portions in situ and removed the surrounding 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty clay that included relatively more organic material. Further excavations of Level B3 exposed a second 10YR 3/2 silty clay layer underneath Feature 33. The team later identified this soil lens as Feature 34. This method of excavation defined Unit 3 with a trench-like appearance with two elevated areas of 10YR 4/6 clay (one to the north and one to the south), and a low area of 10YR 3/2 silty clay within the center portion (Figure 5.7).

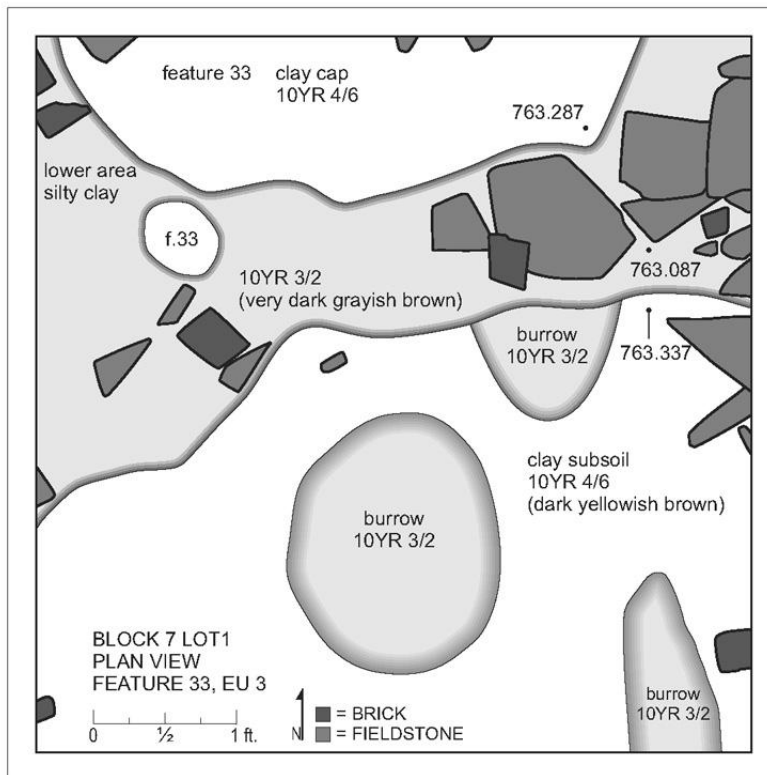
Archaeologists excavated Level C1 to an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. Level C1 was subsoil, made up of mottled 30% 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) and 70% 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) silty clay. The team excavated this level in the southern half of Unit 3 to confirm this soil was sterile subsoil different in nature from the clay cap identified in the northern portion of Unit 3. The level shows intense burrowing activity with fewer historic artifacts than previous levels in Unit 3. Team X determined that the presence of large burrows and historic artifacts required further excavations to identify the soil as sterile subsoil (Figure 5.8).

Archaeologists excavated Level C2 to an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. Level C2 was a bisection of C1. It was made up of 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) clay. The team removed the eastern half of C1 (also the southeastern quadrant of Unit 3) and recovered no cultural artifacts. This level confirmed the excavation team's distinction between the clay soil in Unit 3's southern half and the clay cap in Unit 3's northern half. Excavations in this unit were terminated at this point.

**Feature 33.** Feature 33 was a semi-circular clay cap overlying an identically shaped dark organic fill (Figures 5.7 and 5.8). Archaeologists bisected this feature and excavated separate levels with separate bag numbers. Both halves of Feature 33 are made up of 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) clay. Feature 33's east half was removed as a single level: "A1-East." Level A1-East's average opening elevation was 763.271 ft. amsl, and its average closing elevation was 763.094 ft. amsl (0.177 ft. average thickness). This level contained 16 pebble-sized mortar and brick fragments. Feature 33's west half was removed as A1-West. Level A1-West's average opening elevation was 763.174 ft. amsl, and its average closing elevation was 762.921 ft. amsl (0.253 ft. average thickness). This level contained 10 pebble-sized mortar and brick fragments with one similar sized piece of bone, glass, and porcelain.



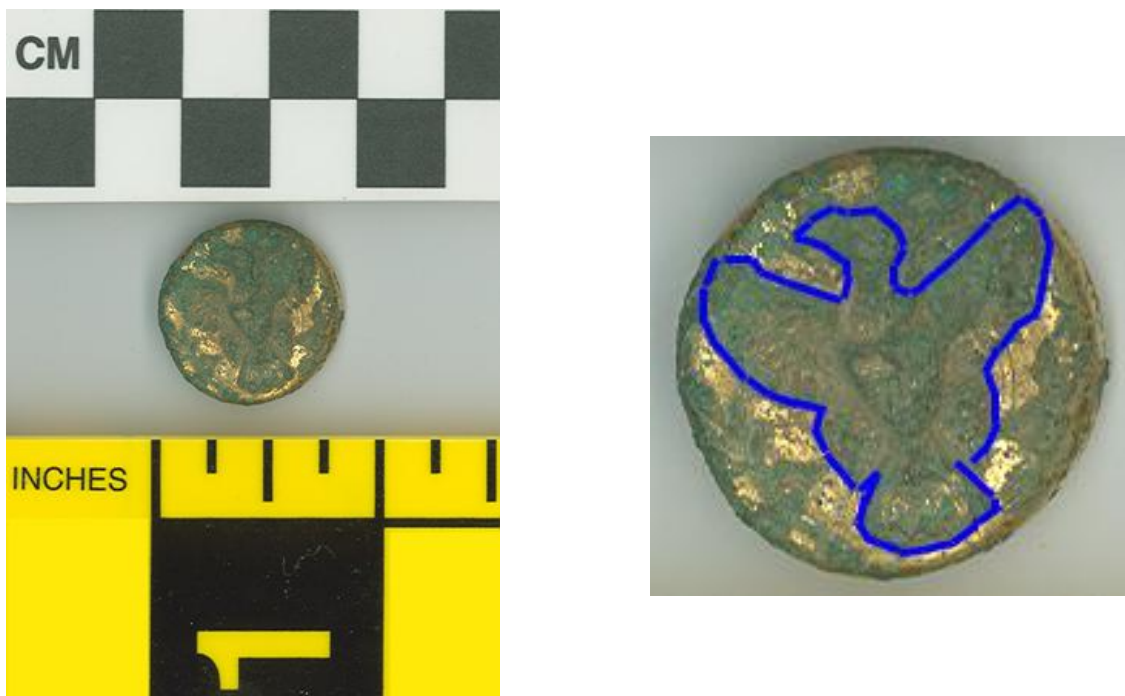
**Figure 5.7.** *Excavation Unit 3 with Features 33 and 34 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*



**Figure 5.8.** *Plan view diagram of Feature 33 in Excavation Unit 3 (Image by Christopher Valvano).*

Feature 33 was located in the north half of Unit 3. It presumably extends to an unknown distance in the unexcavated area beyond Unit 3 to the north. Feature 33's halves were completely removed in one level to expose the basin-shaped organic fill of Feature 34. Archaeologists interpret Feature 33 as a clay cap intentionally placed above the organic 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty-clay fill of Feature 34.

**Feature 34.** Feature 34 was a semi-circular dark organic fill completely underneath Feature 33 (Figures 5.5, 5.7 and 5.8). Archaeologists bisected this feature and excavated separate levels with separate bag numbers. Both halves of Feature 34 were made up of 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty clay. Feature 34's east half was removed as a single level: "A1-East." Level A1-East's average opening elevation was 763.174 ft. amsl, and its average closing elevation was 762.759 ft. amsl (0.415 ft. average thickness). This level exposed a continuation of the flat fieldstones chinked with mortar partially exposed by the removal of level B4. It also contained architectural debris, one bone fragment, and a circa 1860 Federal military button made by Scovill Manufacturing Company (Figure 5.9). Level A1-West's average opening elevation was 763.271 ft. amsl, and its average closing elevation was 762.854 ft. amsl (0.417 ft. average thickness). The layer showed an abrupt end to the fieldstones just to the west of the bisect line. The layer yielded architectural debris including tar paper and wood. Other pebble-sized artifacts such as glass, ceramic, slag, and nails were recovered.



**Figure 5.9.** 1860 Federal military button, made by Scovill Manufacturing Co., from Feature 34, with eagle motif outlined in close-up view (Images by Christopher Fennell).

Feature 34 was located in the north half of Unit 3. It presumably extends to an unknown distance in the unexcavated area beyond Unit 3 to the north. Archaeologists cannot confidently distinguish Feature 34's fill from the similar fill found in levels B3-B4. Nor can they confidently state that the semi-circular shape of Features 33 and 34 was not the result of post-depositional disturbance. Feature 34 might be related directly to the shape of Feature 33 from a single depositional event; however, the visible semi-circular shape might be a product of multiple, undetected historic events.

One can infer a formation scenario for the creation of both features. The configurations of these features suggest that the southern half of Unit 3 (made up of Levels C1-C2) reflect the historic excavation of subsoil to prepare an area for laying a stone foundation. The flat fieldstones chinked with mortar in Unit 3's northwest corner might be the remnants of this foundation, even though their northern distance from C1-C2 suggests an unusually large builders' trench compared with those identified for Features 16, 17, and 21 in Block 3 of the town site and nearby in Feature 37 in Block 7. Future excavations could determine the presence of additional courses below these exposed fieldstones in Unit 3. At some point after 1860, residents of the lot either modified or abandoned the structure and placed the dark organic fill (B3-B4) over the former foundation. The circa 1860 Federal military button made by Scovill Manufacturing Company found vertically between the fieldstone and Feature 33 should mark the earliest possible date of this event. Once residents placed the dark organic fill above the former foundation stone, they (or later residents) placed a smooth clay-cap surface atop the organic fill (Feature 33). Archaeologists have identified similar "capping" activity within the stratigraphy of Feature 13 in Block 4 of the town site. The clay cap identified as Feature 33 may have been originally deposited in the observed semi-circular shape, or it may have been much larger, thereby reflecting later modification by cultural or natural disturbances.

Archaeologists excavated Excavation Unit 4 in Block 7, Lot 1, to further investigate the fieldstone foundation (Feature 3) identified during the 2004 archaeological field season, and to determine the relationship between Feature 3 and Unit 3 located to the southeast (Figures 5.2-5.4). Unit 4 was located adjacent to Unit 2, with a 0.8 ft. baulk separating them and making up Unit 4's west wall to provide support against the backfill inside Unit 2. Excavators removed Level A1 of Unit 4 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level (5 ft. x 4.2 ft.). Level A1's average opening elevation was 765.200 ft. amsl, and its average closing elevation was 764.771 ft. amsl. Level A1 was a combination of silty loam and plow zone, made up of 10YR 2/1 (black) silty clay loam, and included a large concentration of historic artifacts.

Team X excavated Level A2 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. The excavators recovered an abundance of flat glass fragments (n=101) as well as machine-cut and wire nails (n=67). Level A2 produced the first signs of underlying rubble from a former structure. The team excavated Level A3 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. Team members described this level as "sub-plow zone" with extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble. It was made up of 10YR 3/1 (very dark gray) silty clay. Excavators recovered historic-period materials throughout this level, including a 1930 U.S. penny. Team X excavated Level A4 as a 0.37 ft. natural level to a depth 1.8 ft. below ground surface. Level A4's average opening elevation was 763.961 ft. amsl, and its average closing elevation was 763.596 ft. amsl. Level A4 contained extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble, in a matrix of 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown) silty clay. The team ended this level at a natural floor of compacted soil with heavy concentrations of

architectural debris consisting mainly of fieldstone and white mortar fragments. The number of historic-period artifacts was pronounced, but less abundant than in higher levels.

The team excavated Level B1 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level into the compact soil within the fieldstone rubble. Team X described Level B1 as “possible” foundation fill because they anticipated, but could not confirm, that this soil consisted of fill from an historic-period structure. Level B1 contained extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble in a matrix of 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown) silty clay. The level yielded historic artifacts, including streaks of a red mineral compound likely comprising a residue of paint or similar pigment (7.5 YR 4/8 (red)). Archaeologists excavated Level B2 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level into the compact soil within the fieldstone rubble. Level B2 was possible foundation fill with extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble and a matrix of 10YR 4/2 (dark grayish brown) silty clay.

At the bottom of the level, excavators found three flat fieldstones chinked with mortar in the southwestern quadrant of Unit 4. These stones lay 2.45 ft. below ground surface and were similar in composition and shape to the overlying rubble. They were, however, only half as large as those found in the rubble (approximately 1.0 ft. versus 1.7 ft. maximum length). This level yielded historic artifacts, including an 1889 U.S. penny. Archaeologists excavated Level B3 as a “floor scraping” level of less than 0.1 ft. Level B3’s matrix was identical to Level B2 and was excavated to provide a continuous, even floor between Unit 4 and Unit 5, which was located directly north (Figure 5.5). Team X recovered 12 historic artifacts from this level of Unit 4. Excavations in Unit 4 were halted to open an adjoining Unit 5 directly to the north.

Excavators opened Unit 5 adjacent to the north side of Unit 4 to further investigate these residential foundation remains (Figures 5.4 and 5.5). They excavated Level A1 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level, with an average opening elevation of 765.206 ft. Level A1 was a combination of silty loam and plow zone, made up of 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty clay loam, and included a large concentration of historic-period artifacts. Archaeologists excavated Level A2 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level, and recovered an abundance of container and flat glass fragments (n=101) as well as machine-cut and wire nails (n=90). The level also produced the first signs of underlying rubble from a former structural foundation. Team X excavated Level A3 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. The excavators observed extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble in this level. It was made up of 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) silty clay, and the team recovered historic artifacts throughout the level.

The archaeologists excavated Level B1 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level into the compact soil within the fieldstone rubble. Team members describe Level B1 as “possible” foundation fill because they anticipated, but could not confirm, that this soil was fill from an historic-period foundation. Level B1 contains extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble within a matrix of 10YR 2/2 (very dark brown) silty clay. Excavators identified a line of three flat fieldstones chinked with mortar 2.0 ft. below ground surface in the northwest quadrant of Unit 5. A possible builder’s trench touches the stones’ western edges (Figure 5.5). This sediment was mottled, made up of 60% 10YR 2/2 (very dark brown) and 40% 10YR 4/6 (dark yellowish brown) silty clay. The stones chinked with mortar were later identified as the western side or edge of Feature 37 (Figures 5.5 and 5.10). Team X recovered historic materials throughout Level B1, broadly dating from the last half of nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Among the later-dated objects was a curved and beaded hair comb. The comb’s material is a type of plastic manufactured since the 1930s. Archaeologists excavated Level B2 as a “floor scraping” level of

less than 0.1 ft. Level B2's matrix was identical to Level B1 and was excavated to provide a continuous, even floor between Unit 5 and Unit 4. The team identified heavy concentrations of mortar and clinker/slag in the center portion of Unit 5, and recovered 54 fragments of historic artifacts.

Team X excavated Level B3 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. Level B3's average opening elevation was 762.910 ft. amsl, and it consisted of possible foundation fill with extensive boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble. Its matrix was made up of 10YR 2/2 (very dark brown) silty clay. Excavators did not remove any stones identified as Feature 37 (i.e., stones laying flat and



**Figure 5.10.** *View of Excavation Units 4 and 5 looking from north to south, with Unit 4 (top, south) and Unit 5 (bottom, north), and Feature 37 fieldstone foundation segment along north, east, and west edges of Unit 5 (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

chinked with mortar) (Figures 5.5 and 5.10). Level B3 produced an abundance of architectural artifacts as well as domestic items like a hard rubber mangle (or roller) from a hand-operated washing machine and an ironstone bowl marked “Helen” and dating to 1903. The level also showed a second and third course of stones below the ones identified in Level B1 (Figures 5.10 and 5.11).

Archaeologists excavated Level B4 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. Level B4 likely consists of foundation fill with less of the boulder- to cobble-sized fieldstone rubble than was present in previous levels. Its matrix was made up of 10YR 2/2 (very dark brown) silty clay. Team members did not remove any stones identified as Feature 37. At 2.60 ft. below ground surface, they identified a second line of flat fieldstones chinked with mortar. These stones connected and formed a right angle with the stones detected in Level B1 (Figures 5.5 and 5.10). These were later identified as part of Feature 37. Level B4 exposed two lower courses of stones on both the north and west sides of Feature 37. Time constraints and the end of the field season terminated excavations in Unit 5 before the lowest fieldstone course was detected. In total, the team exposed five courses on the west side of Feature 37 and three courses on the north side. Future excavations could identify the maximum depth of Feature 37’s bottom course.

**Feature 37.** Feature 37 was the corner of a fieldstone foundation chinked with mortar. Archaeologists first detected its western side in Level B2 of Unit 5. Feature 37’s west side was located approximately 2.0 ft. below ground surface. Archaeologists exposed five courses of fieldstones. This side of Feature 37 also appears to end abruptly midway along the western edge



**Figure 5.11.** *View of Excavation Units 3-5, looking north, with Unit 3 on right (east), Units 4 and 5 on the left (west), with multiple and overlapping courses of successive fieldstone foundation assemblies, including Feature 37 (top left) (Photograph by Christopher Valvano).*

of Unit 5. The upper-most stones were fully exposed showing a soil transition along the western edge to a mottled soil interpreted as a builders' trench. Feature 37's north side was located approximately 2.60 ft. below ground surface. Archaeologists exposed four courses of fieldstones. This side runs directly into the eastern wall of Unit 5. The north wall of Unit 5 partially covers Feature 37's north side obscuring evidence of a builder's trench (Figures 5.5 and 5.11). Given the depth of these additional and offsetting courses of foundation walls in Units 4 and 5, it is possible that this location in Block 7, Lot 1 contained an earlier occupation that predated the 1870s and the later residential site of which Feature 3 was a part. In addition to Feature 37, Features 33 and 34 in nearby Unit 3 both are associated with artifacts that date as early as the 1840s (Figure 5.10).

These archaeological remains can be interpreted in the context of our expanded body of documentary evidence, including tax, deed, and census records. Examining these multiple lines of evidence, it could be that James Pottle's household purchased this lot from Frank McWorter in 1848 when a residential structure was already present on the parcel. Members of the Pottle family, or some other family, likely leased the parcel from McWorter before 1848 and constructed that home. Alternatively, that house may have been constructed by members of the McWorter family before the 1848 sale.

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