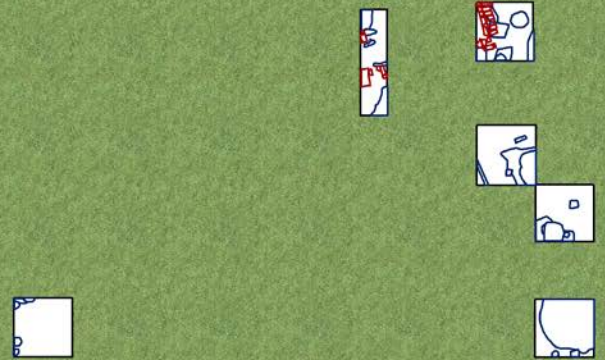
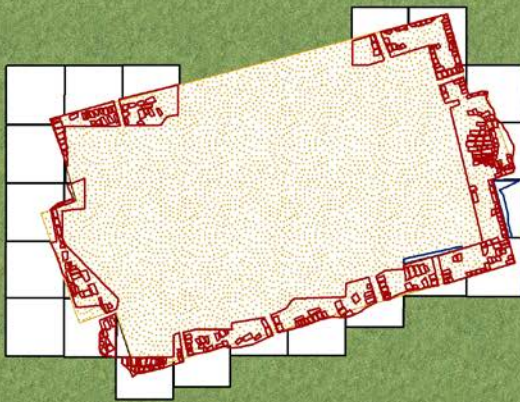


# Willtown's Second Presbyterian Church, 1767-1807: Archaeological Study of the Parsonage (38Ch1660)



Archaeological Contributions 44  
The Charleston Museum



Willtown's Second Presbyterian Church, 1767-1807:  
Archaeological Study of the Parsonage (38Ch1660)

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Archaeological Contributions 44  
The Charleston Museum

Prepared for  
The Seymour H. Knox Foundation  
September 2010



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## Acknowledgements

Investigation of the parsonage site developed from a visit by Mrs. Lucetta Knox to our excavations at the Stobo plantation at Willtown Bluff in 1997. Mrs. Knox was enthusiastic about our project, and an invitation to examine her property followed shortly. Mrs. Knox was a remarkable woman, and we are grateful for her interest, enthusiasm, and support throughout the project. We deeply regret her passing, and that she was unable to be with us in the final phases of this work.

Research at the Parsonage site was supported by the Seymour H. Knox Foundation, through the recommendations of Mrs. Knox and Mr. Northrup H. Knox. We are grateful for their support. Mrs. Linda Knox McLean served as our contact with the Knox family after 2007, and we appreciate her support and assistance. There are not enough words to thank Mr. Charles (Dickie) Godley for all of his assistance with logistics, site maintenance, equipment, cold drinks in the afternoons – and his good company. To the entire Knox family and staff at Willtown Plantation, we offer our deepest thanks for the opportunity to enjoy this beautiful property and to explore this remarkable site.

The initial site visit included Dr. Suzanne Linder and Mr. Jack Boineau, historians who identified the site as the Willtown Church. We thank them for their knowledge and research, and their support of the project. Throughout the project, we received advice and assistance from our colleagues in architectural research; Dr. Willie Graham and Dr. Carl Lounsbury of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Dr. Orlando Ridout of Maryland Historical Trust, Mr. Matt Webster of Drayton Hall and Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Dr. Carl Lounsbury was particularly generous with this time and interpretive advice.

We particularly enjoyed the advice and assistance from colleagues who began their academic careers on our field school courses. Mr. Andrew Agha and Ms. Nicole Isenbarger of Brockington and Mr. Hayden Smith of University of Georgia worked with us on every phase of the fieldwork, and provided valuable insights into the material culture, landscape, and architecture of the parsonage site.

The parsonage project was a research project, but it was also an important educational project. All of the fieldwork, and most of the laboratory work, was conducted by students from the College of Charleston, enrolled in ANTH 491, an 8-hour fieldwork course. The fieldwork was scheduled to coincide with the class, which is offered every two years. Students who worked on the project are listed below. We thank them for their hard work, enthusiasm, and good company.

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Jennifer Thomas  
Lisa Randle

# Chapter I

## Introduction

### An Archaeological Discovery

Archaeological research at the “New Willtown Church” site by The Charleston Museum began in May 1997 when work was ongoing at the site of James Stobo’s plantation on nearby Willtown Bluff, owned by Mr. Hugh C. Lane (Zierden, Linder, and Anthony 1999: 95-104). Based on the description of the site by the Knox family and Mr. Dickie Godley, and research by Dr. Suzanne Linder and Mr. Jack Boineau, the sites on Willtown Plantation were presumed to be those of a second Presbyterian church, “built in the upper part of the congregation” in 1767. This church evidently burned in 1807. Nearby was a brick foundation, presumed to be the remains of the parsonage, as noted on a plat of 1815 (McCrary Plats #4451).

The 1815 plat located by Dr. Linder indicated the location of the Willtown Church at the end of a straight avenue, proceeding from a (still extant) bend in Willtown Road. A quarter-acre plot currently at this location contained three gravestones and numerous unmarked depressions. A plowed fireline on the south side of the cemetery revealed brick fragments, window glass and hand wrought lath nails. The church site was tested in 1997, and recorded with the South Carolina State Site Files as 38Ch1661 (Zierden et al. 1999).

A larger site southwest of the church (designated 38Ch1660) is indicated on the 1815 plat by the terms “Willtown Parsonage”. The site is visually impressive. A large mound of soil, earlier interpreted as an Indian mound” evidently concealed an intact brick foundation of respectable size and impressive construction. Closer inspection and subsequent testing revealed intact walls along the north and south sides. The exposed brick and mortar suggested an 18<sup>th</sup> century date of construction, and the mound of earth seems to have formed gradually. Melted bottle glass and burned pottery recovered from the mound suggest the structure burned in an apparently hot fire.



Figure 1: The ‘mound’ formed by the foundation in 2003, with plowed area visible in the foreground, facing southeast.

Open ground around the mound revealed a quantity of colonial period artifacts. These include early 18<sup>th</sup> century ceramics such as Westerwald stoneware (1670-1770), delft (1670-1775), white saltglazed stoneware (1740-1760) and colono ware. Later refined earthenwares include creamwares (1760-1820) and pearlwares (1780-1830). The proximity of this site to the church site, and the date of the artifacts, led to interpretation of this site as the parsonage.



Figure 2: Close-up view of the mound, facing south

Based on the results of this initial survey, and testing at the church site, the Knox family invited The Charleston Museum to explore the mound and surrounding fields at the parsonage site, and to reveal the true nature of the structure preserved in the mound. A series of four small projects over eight years revealed the dimensions and construction style of the house, exposed a dense refuse midden associated with an adjoining kitchen, and suggested the locations of several other service structures.

The parsonage site was the subject of limited surface collections in 1997, survey and testing in 2003, and block excavation in 2005, 2007, and 2009. During each phase, the site yielded artifacts and architectural data of remarkable quantity and quality. These data were more consistent with economically successful colonial plantation sites than with materials expected at the home of a minister. A careful re-reading of the church records, published in 1960, suggests that the site did function much of the time as an income-producing plantation, rather than a parsonage. Therefore the site provides an opportunity to explore the colonial plantation economy as well as the ecclesiastical affairs of the Willtown community.

## Research at the Parsonage Site

During the 1997 site visit, artifacts were recovered from the church site (38Ch1661) and the presumed parsonage site (38Ch1660). A third site, consisting of a brick scatter and early 18<sup>th</sup> century artifacts, was noted in a plowed field south of the parsonage (38Ch1662). Above-ground features and surface artifacts at both the church and the parsonage sites conformed to expectation for such structures. The expected church site included a small cemetery with a number of stone markers dating to the late 18<sup>th</sup> – early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Following the initial site visit, a number of test units were excavated in the vicinity of the church. The open area adjacent to the cemetery yielded hand-wrought nails and window glass typical of the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, though the lack of brick from piers or foundation was unexpected and remains unexplained (Zierden et al. 1999:95-104).

The parsonage site contained more dramatic above-ground evidence, consisting of a rectangular earth mound, obviously covering a brick foundation. A range of domestic debris, including ceramics, bottle glass, and nails, were recovered from the ground surface near the mound. In 2002, the Knox family invited The Charleston Museum back to Willtown Plantation to continue exploration of this site (Zierden and Anthony 2003). Ongoing research was supported by an annual donation from the Seymour H. Knox Foundation.

Excavations at the parsonage were conducted by four successive archaeological crews, working for one to two weeks every other June. All of the projects were conducted by Ronald Anthony and Martha Zierden of The Charleston Museum, along with Dr. Barbara Borg, as part of the College of Charleston archaeological field school. Eighteen students participated in the 2003 project, and 16 students returned to the site in June 2005. In 2007, eleven students joined Zierden, Anthony, and Borg at the site, and thirteen students and volunteers worked the site in 2009.

The 2003 project included shovel testing and surface collecting of an area measuring 500' by 500', excavation of eight test units on the mound, and surface collecting the adjacent site (38Ch1662). The project demonstrated that the site is domestic, was occupied during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and is remarkable in its state of preservation (Zierden and Anthony 2003).



Figure 3: Survey of plowed fields, 2003

The eight units excavated in the mound revealed that the brick foundation contained in ‘the mound’ is relatively intact. These units revealed the northwest corner of the building (exposed in three units) and the length of the eastern wall (exposed in five units). Exposure of three corners allowed computation of the building dimensions, roughly 23’ by 34’. Exposure of the eastern wall also revealed an external chimney centered in this gable end (figures 52 and 54).



Figure 4: Exposing the northeast corner

Figure 5: Excavating west wall, 2005



The 2005 project continued work on the house foundation, and 80% of the foundation was exposed. These excavations exposed several architectural features that help define the structure as domestic. A significant assemblage of artifacts, from the 18<sup>th</sup> century midden surrounding the house, was retrieved. These materials provide information in the residents of the house and their daily activities (Zierden and Anthony 2006a).

In 2007, the Museum returned with the College of Charleston field school for a week of site exploration. After consultation with Mrs. Knox, the 2007 project focused on the area surrounding unit N525E400, excavated in 2003 and the suspected location of a kitchen or activity area. Four units were excavated in this area in a week-long project. The excavation yielded a number of features, including the southwestern corner of a brick foundation, presumed to be the kitchen building.



Figure 6: Testing the kitchen, 2007

In 2009 we returned to the parsonage foundation, to excavate and explore the interior. As plans called for leaving the foundation and excavations exposed, with possibly a shed covering, the goals were to retrieve a sample large enough to interpret the building interior, while preserving the stability of the foundation. Small areas were excavated in the northeast and southeast corners in 2005. The 2009 excavations exposed the entire east and south walls of the structure in contiguous 5’ units. A single unit was also excavated on the building interior, exposing an internal brick foundation.



Figure 7: Excavating the interior, 2009

## The Present Publication

Each of the field projects has been conducted in concert with the archaeological field school offered by the College of Charleston Department of Anthropology, working in concert with The Charleston Museum. This course is offered during the early summer every other year, and for the past four field seasons students have worked one or two weeks at the parsonage site. Together, the Willtown sites have provided training in archaeological field techniques to 80 undergraduate students. An additional five graduate students and numerous former students and volunteers have received additional experience at Willtown, while still others have honed their analytical and laboratory skills during internships at the Museum while analyzing materials retrieved from the parsonage.

Results of the 1997, 2003, and 2005 seasons have been reported elsewhere (Zierden, Linder and Anthony 1999; Zierden and Anthony 2003; Zierden and Anthony 2006a). In those documents, each field season was reported separately. This report will summarize the fieldwork for each phase listed above and describe the results of the 2007 and 2009 seasons in detail. Artifacts descriptions from the 2003 and 2005 reports will not be repeated; only the materials retrieved in 2007 and 2009 will be described in detail. Synthesis and interpretation will include data and artifacts from all projects.

## Chapter II Background

### Site Description

The site known as the Parsonage (38Ch1660) occupies a ridge of high land adjacent to freshwater swamps, a few miles from the historic village of Willtown on the South Edisto River. The site is accessed by a woods road, directly across from the Bethlehem cemetery, at the curve in Willtown Road. This location matches that shown in the 1815 plat of the Willtown Parsonage tract (McCrary Plat #4451). On this plat, an access road bisects a prominent building, while two smaller structures are shown to the south, closer to the edge of a freshwater swamp. This building has been previously interpreted as the church (or Meeting House). Currently, the woods road leads directly to a cemetery, and the presumed location of the church. The foundations of the parsonage are about one quarter mile to the south.

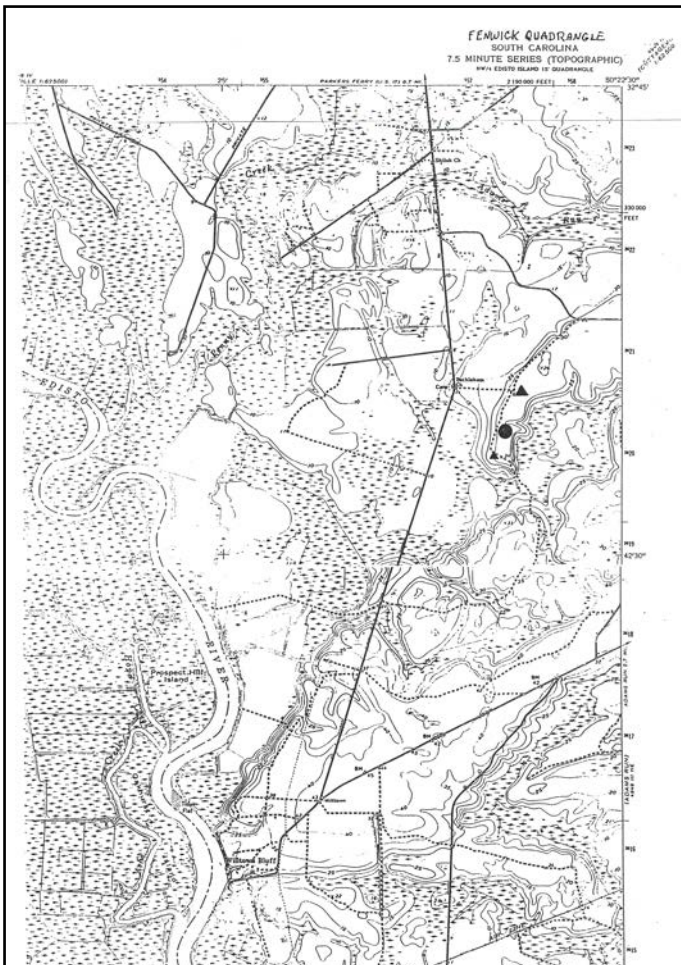


Figure 8: U.S.G.S quadrangle Fenwick, showing location of Parsonage sites

The parsonage site is marked by a rectangular mound of soil about 5' tall. The mound, as well as an exposed brick-lined well, are within a wooded area of mostly climax hardwood. Understory here is greatly reduced, or nearly absent, due to a carefully executed program of prescribed burning. The wooded area containing historic remains measures approximately 200' by 300'. The northern and eastern boundary of this area is a slough, or swampy area. The site is bounded to the west by a woods road running north/south, parallel to Willtown Road, or State highway 38. The area around the wooded section, to the west and south, is an open field, plowed regularly by Mr. Godley. The field has always been freshly plowed at the beginning of fieldwork in May or June. Visibility in both the field and the wooded area is very good, compared to most lowcountry woods.

## Documentary Evidence

Information on the church and parsonage has been summarized in the history of Willtown Presbyterian Church written by Slann Legare Clement Simmons in 1960. Mrs. Simmons was Secretary of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina. This information is also contained in the site report on the colonial settlement of Willtown, based on research conducted in 1997-1998 (see Chapter 5 in Zierden et al. 1999).



Figure 9: *Carte Particuliere de la Caroline, 1691* by Pierre Mortier. Shows location of New London (Willtown) in relation to Charles Town. Map collection, University of North Carolina Libraries.

The Carolina colony was developed by a group of English noblemen, who found themselves allied with the new monarchy. The Lords Proprietors hoped to attract many settlers for their venture, not necessarily from England. Following the settlement of Carolina in 1670, and the movement of Charles Town to the peninsula formed by the Ashley and Cooper Rivers, the growing number of settlers fanned out across the lowcountry.

Following a series of clashes and alliances with local Indians, the European colonists were already benefitting from an expanding trade in deerskins, furs, and Indian slaves by the mid 1670s. Prosperity demanded security, and Charles Town sought to protect its rapidly expanding economic base by fortifying the city and the surrounding



hinterland. Settlement of outlying areas, for protection as well as profit, was encouraged, and these posts were built on crossroads of transportation, trade, and encounter.

The growing colony never lacked settlers. Dissenters, Englishmen, Scots, New Englanders, Jews, and African and West Indian slaves formed the core of the diverse group. While the West Indian colonies were the initial source of settlers, the Carolina policy of religious toleration attracted a variety of groups, particularly French Huguenots. A large number of Carolina's settlers came unwillingly, as the increasing cultivation of rice created a voracious demand for slave labor. By 1708 the majority of lowcountry residents were black.

While many of those settling the hinterland sought plantation tracts for the cultivation of rice, others gathered in communities. Willtown, or New London, on the South Edisto River first appears in 1697 in grants to Landgrave Joseph Morton. From the 1690s through the 1730s, Willtown was an important landmark on the Carolina frontier. Various 17<sup>th</sup> century documents refer to two centers of settlement; Charles Town and "London in Colleton" (see figure 9). The proprietors instructed "if anyone Will build a house in said town you may by order of the Governour measure out unto him a towne Lott according to the proportions appointed at Charles towne and 100 akers of Land in the colony as a plantation" and a plat of the period shows a well-organized community (Salley 1967:196). While British historian John Oldmixon described Willtown in 1708 as "a little town of about 80 houses", historian Suzanne Linder suggests the actual community was much smaller. Though the actual number of residents and structures remains unknown, Willtown was clearly considered a center of transportation, government, commerce, religion, protection, and communication. It is a prominent landmark on maps of this period.

Though the dissenters from Massachusetts who first visited New London ultimately chose Dorchester on the Ashley for their tight-knit community, Willtown attracted settlers who were not Anglican. A Presbyterian church was centered at Willtown some time prior to 1728, and likely as early as 1704. Willtown was ideally situated for both trade and, with a prominent bluff overlooking the river, protection. Deerskins obtained through trade with local tribes were Carolina's first profitable export, and Willtown was positioned to take advantage of this trade network. By 1700 Carolina traders had pushed westward in order to reach the larger tribes, particularly the Creek and Chickasaws. The trade brought Carolina traders into competition with the French and Spanish. This ultimately ended with the colony's most significant colonial war, the Yemassee War of 1714-1715. A fort was constructed at Willtown and manned by a military garrison (Ivers 1970:75). A large party of Apalachee Indians and their allies attacked the fort in July 1715, and about twenty plantations were destroyed in St. Paul's parish. About 50 residents took refuge in the Willtown fort, and the attack was repulsed.

The period after the Yemassee War was one of growth for Willtown, but the community and surrounding environs were changing. A contingent of scouts was stationed at Willtown, and the fort may have remained in existence for some time, as isolated Indian raids continued until 1727. New land grants were recorded at the turn of

the century, and in the 1720s a church, school, and court were in operation. Property documents suggest one or more stores were active. Suzanne Linder suggests the post-war community was “probably fluid, with people moving in and out”. She further notes that the planter class was growing, and the importance of Willtown as a port for transporting goods was significant.

Rice as a profitable staple was introduced by 1695, and the lands around Willtown were well suited to this crop. Inland swamp cultivation was the major production technique through the colonial period, contributing to expanded settlement along the coast and the increased importation of African slaves. Indigo, first raised by Eliza Lucas Pinckney in 1739, flourished on the high land where rice did not. The majority of references to the Willtown area after 1730 are to planters and plantations. The plantation lands around Willtown were known for the quality of their indigo production. Plantations flourished in the Willtown community, and eventually encompassed the lots of the town by 1760.

Following the decline of the Willtown community and the death of Minister Archibald Stobo in 1741, the Presbyterian Meeting House “at Wilton” stood vacant. The Reverend Archibald Simpson noted in 1754 that a “chapel of ease had been built in the upper part of the congregation.” Dissention between members in the ‘south district’ who preferred to remain at Willtown, and the ‘north district’ ensued during this time. Reverend Simpson noted continued contention during the subsequent decade, when he and Mr. John Alison served the church during a vacancy. Mr. James Stobo, of the Willtown area, seemed to be a leader of the contentious group. His resignation from the Trustee board in 1765 and subsequent departure from the parish evidently smoothed the way for construction of the new church (Simmons 1960:45). Lease & Release for the purchase of the Parsonage Lands from Mrs. Elizabeth Didcotts were presented to at a Trustee meeting in July 1765.

At a meeting in 1765, the Trustees agreed to build “a New Meeting House upon the Willtown Parsonage Land forty Feet by Twenty Six with a flo[?] arch Twenty Six Feet by Twenty Five and Fourteen feet in the Storey with a hip [*scratched out*] Pitch Ruff” and that the Trustees promote a Subscription to enable them to carry on the work. The minutes provided additional details of the planned building: “forty feet square with hipt roof fifteen feet story with three Dore Sixteen windows arched with framed panel Dore & Wndow shutters”. This description, plus a reference to meeting “at the Parsonage house” in 1760, suggests that the house may have been completed prior to construction of the church. Mr. William Wilkens was paid for “Survaying the Parsonage Land & forwarding it for a Grant” in 1753 (Simmons 1960: 37).

Construction of the church evidently proceeded unevenly. On July 31, 1767, a committee was appointed to inspect the work done to the meeting house “now abuilding BY Mr. Gideon Dupont Senr”, and they noted that the work is not done in a “Workman Like Manner according to the Articles of Agreement”. They then presented a long list of shortcomings. Later, the Trustees viewed the work “lately done by Mr. Templeton to the Meeting House” and were “Satisfied with it.” They agreed to pay Mr. Templeton and to

“settle with Mr. Gideon Dupont and pay him the Ballance”. They further agreed that the meeting house should be painted, suggesting it was a wooden structure.

The new church, “now abuilding” in July 1767, was complete the following month when Mr. Simpson preached a sermon there. He mentions that the new Meeting house was “about four miles from the old one [at Willtown Bluff], and about three miles from the public path [likely Highway 17], so that it is very convenient and central; it is a large handsome and very well built house – the pulpit and pews the same which used to be in the old brick meeting house.” The contrasting remark about the ‘old brick’ house again suggests the new one was of wood.



Figure 10: *An Accurate Map of North and South Carolina*, by Henry Mouzon, 1775, showing location of Willtown (University of North Carolina libraries)

The new minister was the Reverend John Maltby from Bermuda, installed in December 1769. Only a year later his daughter and wife died, and Simmons notes that they are buried in the churchyard of the ‘burnt church’. She cites a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century manuscript of Reverend J.L. Girardeau (and grandson of the dismissed tenant of 1808), which states that “the remains of the ruins and a few grave stones which still stand in tolerable preservation. One of these is the name of John Berkeley, of honored memory,

who was one of the deacons of the church [appointed in 1769], and on another that of Mrs. Maltby...and nearby signs of the place where the parsonage stood.” The stones remaining in the cemetery at 38Ch1661 match the above description, as those remaining include those of John Berkeley (1806), Susanna Maltby (1770), and Henry Veitch (1811). Likewise, the description of “nearby signs of the...parsonage” supports the interpretation of 38Ch1660 as the parsonage.



Fig 11: Marker for Susanna Maltby

Reverend Maltby died one year after his wife and was buried in Dartmouth, New Hampshire. There followed a rapid succession of ministers, some who died and others who moved on after a short tenure. While the services of Reverend Maltby were solicited with great enthusiasm, reaction to some of the subsequent ministers was muted. Mr. Oliver Reese

was appointed in 1775, and was received ‘with great satisfaction’. In 1789, Mr. James Wilson was dismissed as minister, owing in part to inadequate funds.

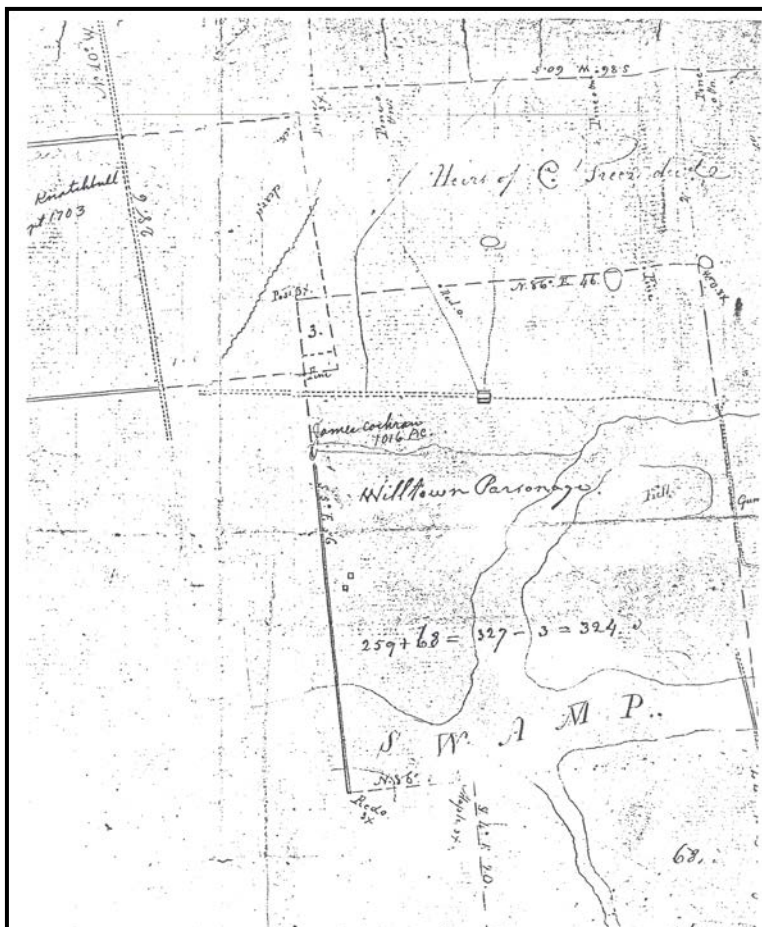


Figure 12: 1815 plat of Willtown Parsonage (CCRMCO McCrady Plats #4451.

The property on which the church and cemetery were built is enumerated on the 1815 plat as the “Willtown Parsonage”. The parsonage and surrounding lands were evidently valuable to the church as investment property, and were used for purposes other than to house a minister. In 1766, the Trustees leased part of the “Parsonage Old field, including a small piece of Rice land” to Mr. James Fabian. Mr. Fabian was granted permission to clear the rice land, but not to cut any valuable timber, and to pay the Trustees “Twenty

Shillings Curry pr Acre for every Acre he plants for the term of one year". Mr. John Peter was granted use of the remaining part of the Parsonage Old Field for the use of "Keeping a Reservoir of Water thereon". A month later, the Trustees paid for "a Sufficient Quantity of Oister Shells to Plaister the Parsonage House."

Interestingly, the church records of that time also describe "Negroes belonging to the congregation". They were evidently in the care of a trustee, and monies from their hiring went into the Church treasury. Rental of the parsonage house, lands, and laborers provided income for the church. Minutes from a January 1775 meeting of the Trustees note that the "Negroes belonging to the Willtown Congregation, Seven in Number" were offered for hire on a yearly basis. Hawkins Martin, on behalf of himself and his mother, rented the people, and well as the "Parsonage Land & buildings". This policy, too, was not without problems, as the Trustees in 1808 removed a tenant for mistreatment of one of the enslaved. Evidently John Girardeau, "who had possession of the Parsonage and Negroes" had "in a cruel manner" shot the Fellow Lymus. For this action, Girardeau was dispossessed, and ordered to "quit the premises and settle for his arrears of Rent & Hire" before departing. The property was then rented to Mrs. Mary Edings.

On May 1, 1807, the congregation was asked to assemble at "the ruins of the church lately burnt" (Simmons 1960:152). A number of subscribers pledged money, or the services of their Negro slaves, for the purpose "of rebuilding the Wilton Church." The Board resolved, however, that rebuilding of the church occur "at Willtown Bluff instead of the site on which the Church lately burnt stood--". Simmons concludes that the abandoned church at Willtown was repaired for temporary use, before a new church was built in the Adams Run area.

Archaeological evidence indicates that the parsonage house also burned, but just when this happened is unclear. The artifacts recovered suggest that occupation of the house ceased early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The 1808 reference to the dismissal of John Girardeau suggests that the house did not burn with the church in 1807; however, it is possible that the subsequent rentals were for the lands and outbuildings only. Evidently, the Parsonage acreage was still owned by the congregation when the Penny Creek tracts were surveyed in 1815 (McCrary Plat 4451). Just when the lands were sold has not yet been researched. It is possible that the property passed to private ownership when the congregation dissolved in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.



## Chapter III Survey

### Site Survey

Initial survey of suspected sites at Willtown Plantation in 1997 revealed several locations of interest. These were subject to a walkover survey, with casual artifact collections and limited photography. Three sites were recorded. The parsonage site contained dramatic above-ground evidence of colonial occupation, consisting of a rectangular mound obviously covering a brick foundation. A range of domestic debris, including ceramics, bottle glass, and nails were recovered from the ground surface near the mound. The parsonage site received the state site number 38Ch1660. An open area adjacent to the cemetery, one-quarter mile north of the parsonage, yielded hand-wrought nails and window glass typical of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century; this location was recorded as the Willtown church, 38Ch1661. Three hundred feet beyond the limits of 38Ch1660, a plowed field contained a scatter of brick and early 18<sup>th</sup> century cultural materials, readily visible on the ground surface. The ceramics were considerably earlier than those recovered from 38Ch1660. Based on the differences, the southern field received a separate site designation, 38Ch1662. The church was surveyed and tested in 1997 (Zierden et al. 1999:97).



Figure 13: Testing the Church site (38Ch1661), 1998  
Figure 14: Initial visit to 38Ch1660, 1997



In 2002, the Knox family invited The Charleston Museum back to the parsonage to continue exploration of this site. A Phase I survey was proposed, to coincide with the College of Charleston archaeological field school. Fieldwork was conducted May 19 to 28, 2003. The fieldwork included shovel testing and surface collecting an area 500' by 500'. The project revealed that the site is domestic, was occupied during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and is remarkable in its state of preservation.

## Field Methods

Preparation of the site for surface collecting was conducted by Mr. Godley prior to the arrival of the archaeological crew. Studies have found that the best method for a controlled surface collection in a previously plowed field is to lightly disc the field. This does little damage, because the site has been continuously plowed for decades. Under this method, the freshly-plowed field is allowed to sit until washed by a heavy rainstorm. The rain significantly increases the visibility of artifacts on the surface. The artifacts themselves are washed free of dust, and they are often left on a pedestal of soil, as the loose sand around them is compacted by the rain. Surface collection must then proceed before heavy and rapid weed growth occurs. Our timing in 2003 was nearly ideal.



Figure 15: view of site and key stake, facing east

Investigation of the site began with establishing horizontal control. A Chicago grid was established over the site, with grid points at 25' intervals. In order to more closely align with the physical features of the landscape, a grid orientation of 20 degrees east of north was selected. A key stake was established at the presumed



Figure 16: laying in the key grid line (facing south)

southwest corner of the site, adjacent to the woods road and along the southern edge of the plowed field. This stake, a length of rebar driven into the ground and marked with a sleeve of white pvc pipe, was given the arbitrary designation of N200 E200. A second rebar was placed in front of a pine tree, near the northern limits of the parsonage field, at N700 E200. All measurements at 38Ch1660 were made to the north and east of these points. These key stakes remained in place and were used for all subsequent excavations. In addition, grid points along the E200 line, in the roadway, were marked with large nails hammered flush with the ground. These were left in place. The grid was reconstructed for each subsequent field season using these points. Some error was noted with each installation of the grid; these errors, and any compensation, are described in detail in the field notes for each season.



The chosen orientation of the grid is slightly west of the woods road. For the 2003 survey, the meridian was first established to the north, at 25' intervals, from N200 to N700. This line roughly paralleled the woods road, and crossed the road at N650. A baseline was then established from the key stake, from N200 E200 to N200 E600, parallel with the southern edge of the plowed field at 38Ch1660.

Parallel lines were established with the transit north/south from the N200 E400 point and the N200 E600 point. Tapes were used to locate the points at 25' intervals between these lines. All grid points except for the key stake were marked with wire pin flags. The grid points were completed for a collection area measuring 500' by 400'. As fieldwork proceeded, a concentration of cultural material was noted at N600 E600, extending outside the gridded area. Two parallel lines of grid points were then established, extending to the east 200' at N600 E600 and N625 E600.

Vertical control was established with the transit. An arbitrary datum point, consisting of a large nail in a tree, was placed at a point approximately N475E325. Based on the contour intervals present on the USGS topographic map (Fenwick quadrangle, 1960), this point was given an assumed elevation of 30.0' msl. All elevations, for both ground surface and subsurface features, were taken relative to this point.

Survey began with shovel testing. The crew was divided into teams of three, and every other (25') grid point was tested. Shovel tests measuring 1' by 1' were excavated into culturally sterile soil and screened through ¼" mesh. The grid pin flag served as the southwest corner of the shovel test, and as the coordinates for that test. All materials, including brick and mortar rubble, were collected. The shovel tests were placed in the areas exhibiting surface debris, between the E200 line and the E450 line. A total of 117 shovel tests were excavated.



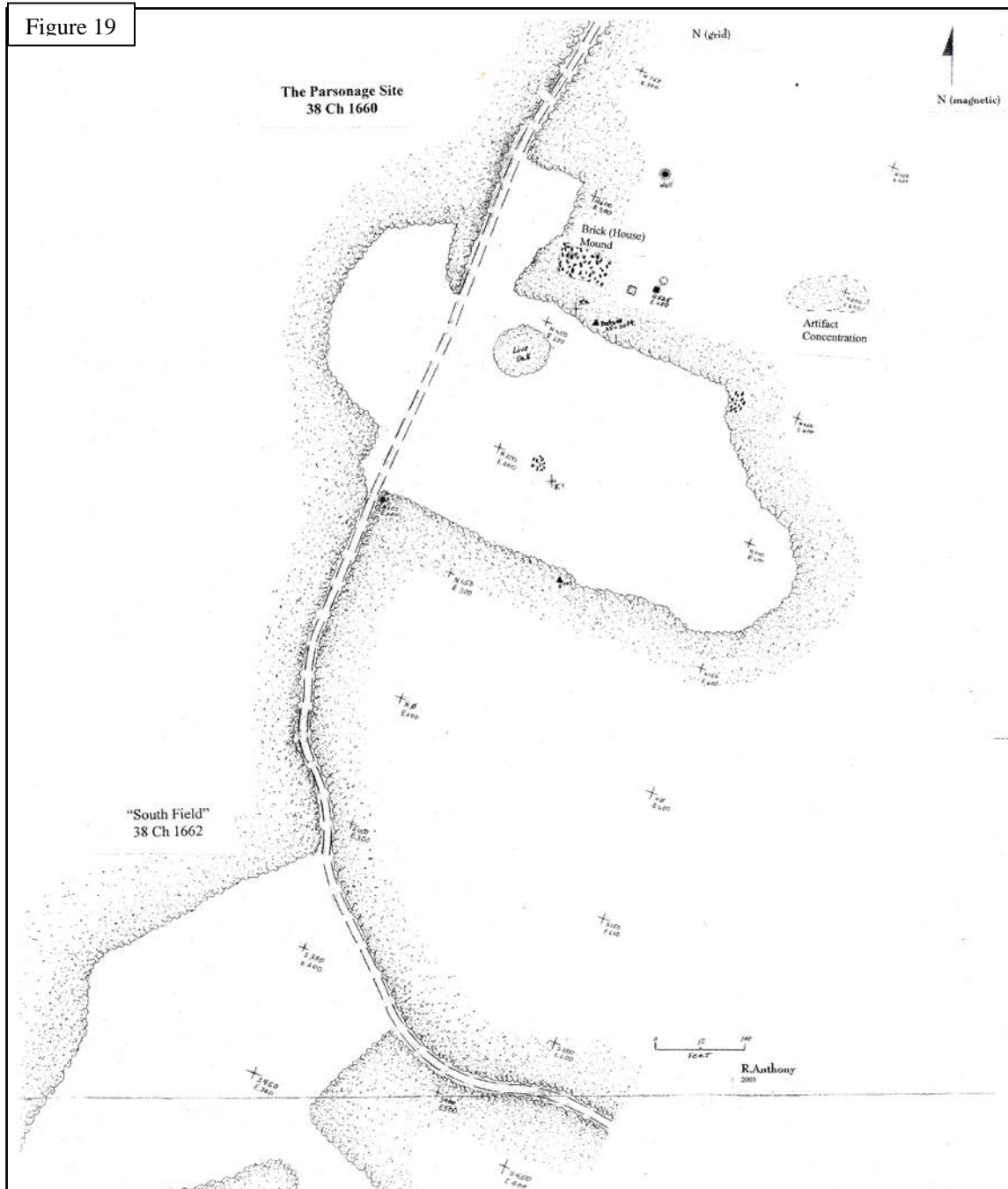
Figures 17 and 18: Surface collection (left) and shovel testing (right) during 2003 survey.

As ground visibility was very good (at least 50%) in both the wooded areas and the plowed fields, the site was subjected to intensive surface collection. The fields were tilled in April and heavy rains exposed the surface artifacts. Each of the 25' by 25' blocks was collected and bagged separately. The grid flag at the southwest corner of the unit served as the designation coordinates for that square. Individual crew members were assigned a north/south line of surface units, and materials were collected by walking in linear fashion back and forth across the unit. All

visible cultural remains, including brick, mortar, shell, and other artifacts were collected from each surface unit.

## Results of the Survey

Survey of an area approximately 600' by 900', plus walk-over inspection of the surrounding few acres, revealed a site with definite boundaries and concentrations of materials suggesting specialized activity areas. The survey produced 2,700 artifacts from the ground surface and shovel tests. Three possible structures, in addition to the dwelling house, were located.



Results of the surface collection, the shovel testing, and test excavations in 2003 were all similar. The project revealed a domestic site whose archaeologically-derived dates of deposition are in close agreement with the documented dates of occupation. Both shovel testing and surface survey revealed smaller brick concentrations in areas other than the house mound, likely indicating support structures of some sort. The first was detected by shovel testing at N275 E325. Here, the shovel test encountered a solid lens of crushed brick and mortar, about .6' below the ground surface. Additional tests in this vicinity revealed more brick.

A second concentration of brick was noted around a group of hardwood trees, and southwards into the plowed field at N425-450 E475-500. Here, a large scatter of brick fragments accompanied a number of partial bricks in the root structure of the trees. A third brick scatter, north and east of the main house, was outside the bounds of the gridded area. A fourth brick feature was a circular brick well, located at N650 E375. These brick concentrations were detected in both the shovel testing and the surface collection. All brick was recorded by weight.



Figure 20: location of brick concentration in wooded area

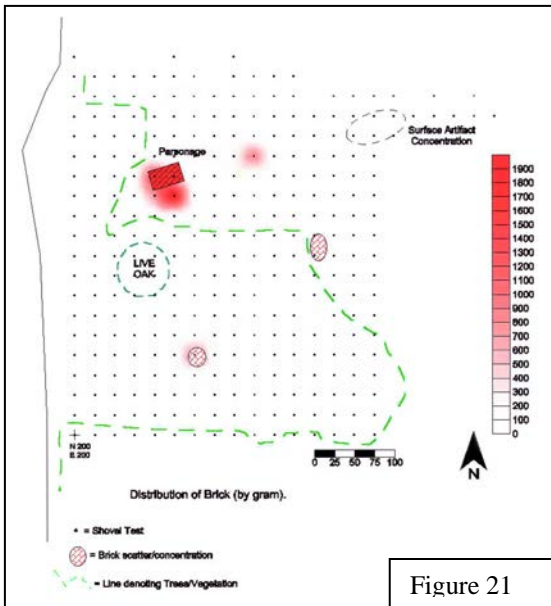
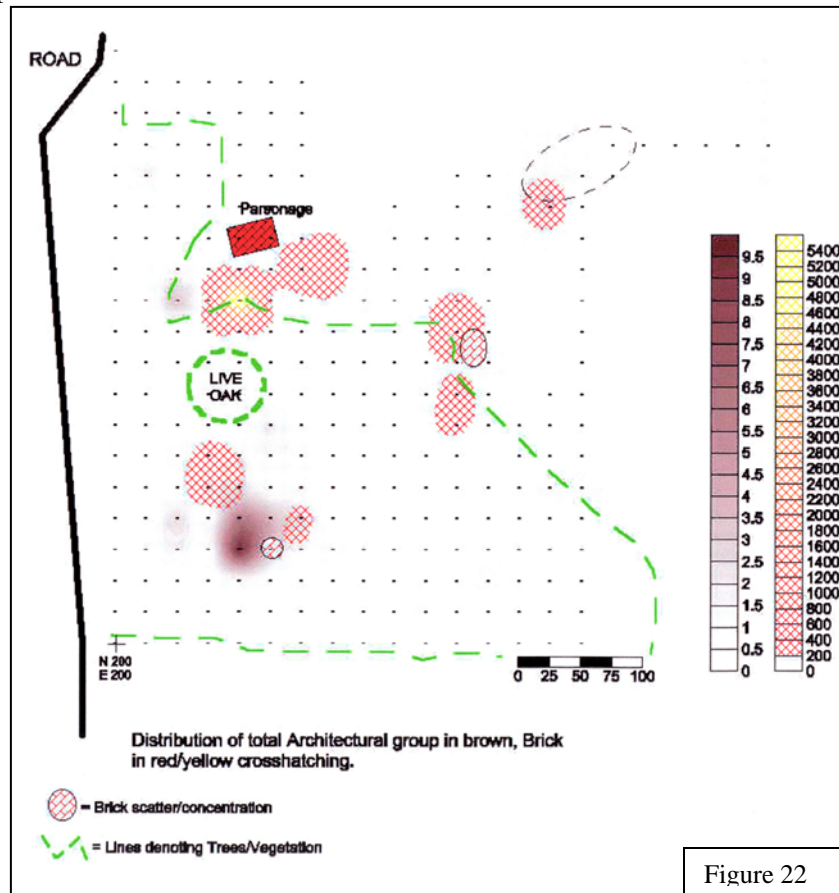


Figure 21

All of the shovel tests and surface collections were bagged separately, and the bags were labeled by site and grid coordinate. Artifact bags were inventoried, and assigned an ordinal Field Specimen number in the field. In the laboratory, each bag or provenience was washed and sorted individually. Brick and mortar were weighed, recorded, and returned to the field. Other artifacts were identified and catalogued. A catalogue card listing the number of identified artifacts was prepared for each provenience. The number and location of various artifact types were then entered in a data base, using the Excel program. Density (frequency) maps of these various artifact types, by both count and weight, were then prepared using SURFER program. These distribution maps were used to better define site limits and components, and to plan future exploration of the site.

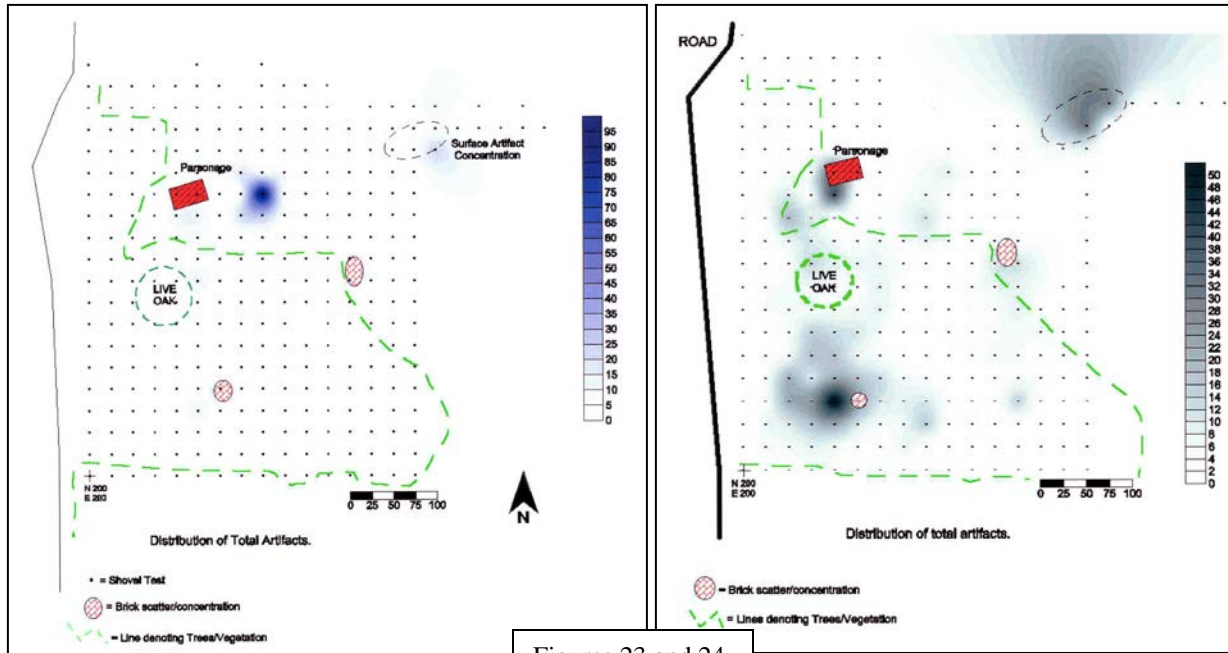
Density maps were created for a variety of artifact types, for both the surface collected materials and the shovel tests. The shovel test data and the surface data show similar results, though the larger quantity of material collected from the surface provided more detailed information. Both show the concentrations of brick rubble as described above, and associated clusters of artifacts. Figure 22 shows the architectural materials, principally nails and window glass, distributed in relation to the collected brick. These materials vary positively with the concentrations of brick. There is a particularly strong association of architectural materials in the area of N275 E325, though this was not readily apparent in a casual walk-over of the site.



Figures 23 and 24 show the distribution of total artifacts, for both the shovel tests (n=390) and the surface collection (n=1086). Figure 24 suggests some positive association of artifact, or refuse, accumulation with the brick concentrations. Refuse clustered to the east of the brick at N275 E325, to the south of the brick cluster at N425 E475, and south and east of the house foundation. The shovel test data also shows significant midden accumulation to the east of the main house, particularly in the vicinity of N525 E400 and N600 E600. The midden concentrations are particularly pronounced in the shovel test data. The midden at N525 E400 is less well-defined in the surface data, but the concentration at N600 E600 is very pronounced.

The surface collection data shows a strong concentration of refuse to the east of the N275 E325 structure and a much lighter concentration of materials around the N425

E475 structure. Refuse is also distributed around the east and south sides of the main house; this refuse actually forms a band between the house foundation and the brick structure to the south. This may suggest a domestic, or food-related function for the southernmost structure.



Figures 23 and 24

Finally, distribution maps were prepared for different types of diagnostic artifacts. Figure 25 shows the distribution of early 18<sup>th</sup> century ceramics (shown in purple) and colono wares (shown in yellow cross-hatch). Colono wares are ceramics of local manufacture, principally attributed to African American residents (Anthony 2002; Ferguson 1992). The early ceramics are concentrated around the main house and in the N600 E600 area. Colono ware is particularly pronounced in the latter location. This may suggest that the structure associated with N600 E600 (located outside the grid to the east) may be a dwelling for an African slave. There is also a concentration of colono ware around the N275 E325 structure. But this structure, in contrast, is the site of the greatest concentration of refined earthenwares, used after 1770. This may suggest that the southern structure is a later addition to the landscape. The concentration of colono ware

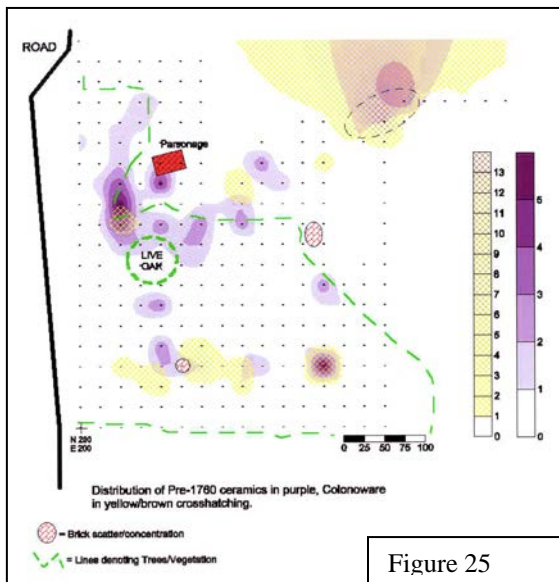


Figure 25

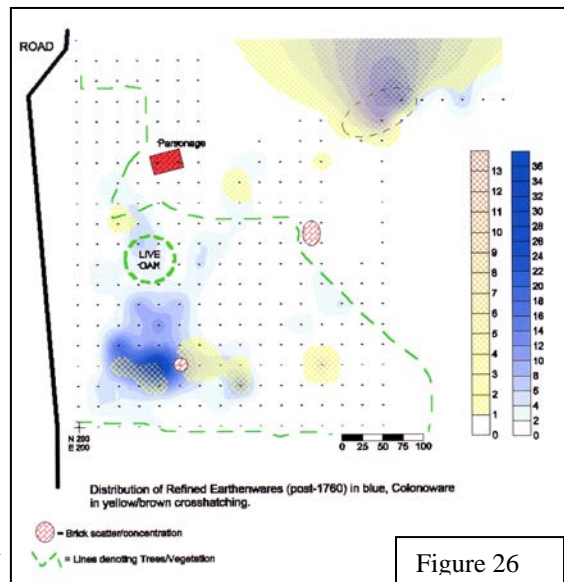


Figure 26

at this site may suggest that this is also a dwelling for an African laborer, but it is also likely that colono ware was used by all site residents. The concentration of ceramics, from both European and local sources, may indicate cooking functions at these buildings. Artifacts collected during the survey, in both shovel tests and surface collections, are shown in the table below.

	<u>Surface Collection</u>	<u>Shovel Tests</u>
Porcelain, b/w oriental	23	8
Porcelain, overglazed	10	1
Porcelain, English	4	1
Brown saltglazed stoneware	8	1
Westerwald stoneware	15	4
Grey saltglazed stoneware	13	
White saltglaze stoneware	22	12
Scratch blue stoneware	1	1
Nottingham stoneware		1
Creamware	342	48
Creamware, decorated	3	
Pearlware, undecorated	55	10
Pearlware, shell edge	22	2
Pearlware, hand painted	35	10
Pearlware, transfer printed	31	4
Pearlware, annular	2	
Delft	18	7
Slipware	5	13
Mottled ware		1
French Green glazed earthenware		2
Lead glazed earthenware	3	
Spanish storage jar	1	
Colono wares	70	140
Olive green glass	304	41
Clear container glass	19	14
Pharmaceutical glass	2	
Table glass	1	5
Nail fragment	6	26
Window glass	59	23
Flint	2	1
Shot		2
Brass button		1
Glass bead	1	
Tobacco pipe	3	11
Hoe	6	

## Survey of 38Ch1662

The site observed in the south field in 1997 was revisited in 2003; again, visual inspection indicated a scatter of early colonial artifacts. In order to retrieve a larger, and more controlled, sample for comparison to the parsonage, the south field was also subject to surface collection during the 2003 survey.

As the field was only 300' south, the grid from 38Ch1660 was extended into the new field (see Figure 19). Tapes and transits were used to locate and place a point from N200 E500 due south to S400 E500. This point was located in a wooded area south of road, and remains as a grid marker. Grid

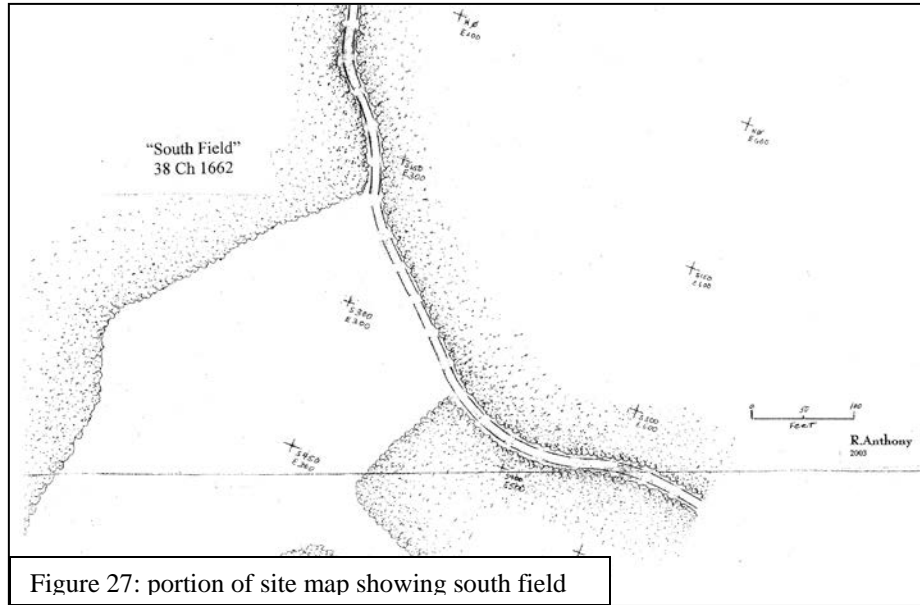


Figure 27: portion of site map showing south field

points in the south field were established with transit and tapes. As the grid, and its coordinates, was continued from the northern field, all of the grid measurements at 38Ch1662 are measured south from the key stake at N200 E200. These squares, then, have coordinates such as S500 E200, etc. Given that the same grid originally established the southwest corner of each unit as the source of designation, this continued in the south field. As with the more northerly site, all of the 25' by 25' flagged units contained within



the plowed field were collected. The collection included all brick and mortar rubble, as well as artifacts. Debris was concentrated in the southwest quadrant of the cleared field. The wooded area outside of the plowed field was not investigated, so it is possible that the site continues beyond the present limits of the field.

Figure 28: surface collection at 38Ch1662

The south field site was revisited in subsequent field seasons (2005, 2007, and 2009), and small surface finds were added to the collections. The assemblage yielded a large amount of brick in fragmentary condition, a wide range of ceramics from the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and colonial bottle glass and pipe stems. Other than brick, very few architectural artifacts were recovered. Very few items from other categories were recovered. Without additional testing, the precise function and occupation of 38Ch1662 remains unknown.

**Table 2: 38Ch1662, controlled surface collection 2003**

Porcelain, blue on white	19	
Porcelain, overglazed		3
Brown saltglazed stoneware		15
Westerwald stoneware	13	
Grey saltglazed stoneware	2	
Slip dipped white saltglaze		1
White saltglazed stoneware		13
Nottingham stoneware	2	
Whieldon ware	7	
Creamware		2
Astbury ware		5
North devon gravel tempered ware	6	
Slipware, combed and trailed		25
Slipware, American		25
Mid-atlantic ware	2	
Lead glazed earthenwares	9	
French green glazed earthenware	1	
Slip coated ware	1	
Delft, undecorated		11
Delft, blue on white		12
Faience	1	
Colono ware		38
Historic aboriginal		27
Olive green glass	56	
Clear container glass		1
Aqua container glass		5
Table glass		3
Nail		2
Window glass		1
Worked flint		3
Gun hardware		1
Blue glass bead	1	
Pipe bowl		3
Pipestem		20
Prehistoric aboriginal pottery		23
Lithic flake		2



## Chapter IV Testing the Outbuildings

### Identifying Possible Structures

The 2003 survey revealed a domestic site whose dates of occupation are in close agreement with the documented dates of occupation. Both shovel testing and surface survey revealed smaller brick concentrations in areas other than the house mound, likely indicating support structures of some sort. The first was detected by shovel testing at N275 E325. Here, the shovel test encountered a solid lens of crushed brick and mortar, about .6' below the ground surface. Additional tests in this vicinity revealed more brick.

A second concentration of brick was noted around a group of hardwood trees, and southwards into the plowed field at N425-450 E475-500. Here, a large scatter of brick fragments accompanied a number of partial bricks in the root structure of the trees. A third brick scatter, north and east of the main house, was outside the bounds of the gridded area. A fourth brick feature was a circular brick well, located at N650 E375 (see also figure 19, page 18).

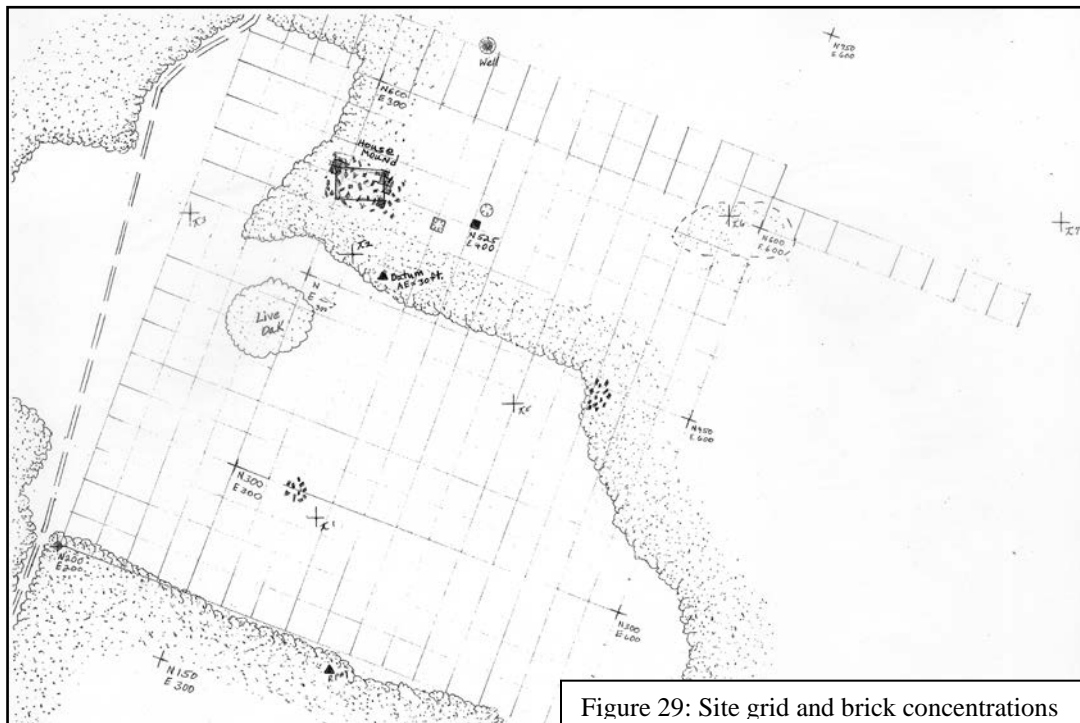


Figure 29: Site grid and brick concentrations

A concentration of refuse was noted in both the surface collection and shovel testing in the vicinity of N525 E400; in fact, a shovel test at this location produced over 100 artifacts. This prompted excavation of a 5' by 5' unit in the same location during the

2003 survey. The quantity of artifacts, plus the location of the concentration, indicated that a kitchen building could be in this vicinity.

## Testing the Possible Kitchen

The area around the shovel test was expanded to a standard test unit, with the shovel test in the southwest corner of the unit. This unit was excavated to a depth of 1.2' below ground surface, without encountering sterile subsoil. Excavations were halted due to time constraints; three experienced field crew worked for a full week without completing excavation.

The deposits encountered in N525 E400 were rich and complex. Three zones and fourteen features were identified and excavated in this unit. About 1600 artifacts were recovered during the 2003 excavation.



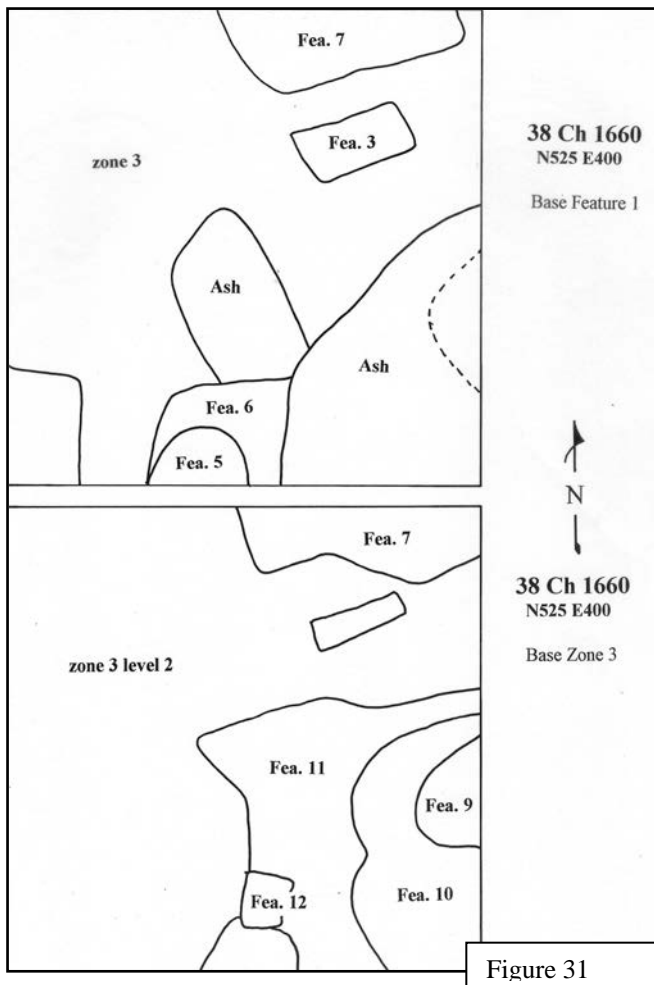
Figures 30a-c: N525 E400 top of Feature 1, base of feature 1, base zone 3

Excavation began with a defined zone 1, a lens of dark loamy sand and light root mat, about .2' deep. A moderate amount of artifacts was recovered, particularly post-1780 pearlwares. Only a light concentration of brick rubble was noted (8 pounds). Brick rubble and artifacts increased in the subsequent deposit, designated zone 2. This soil was slightly lighter brown loamy sand, and this deposit continued for .4'. Both artifacts and brick rubble increased in density. Brick from zone 2 weighed 19 pounds, and was concentrated in the northern half of the unit. The zone contained a great quantity of colono wares, in particular.



Below zone 2 was a lens of lighter grey loamy sand that appeared to be an ash layer. This was designated Feature 1, and covered the entire unit. Feature 1 was excavated in two levels, and was .2' thick in total. A number of features were encountered within feature 1. Three areas were designated at the base of level 1. These included a hard-packed area of ash in the southeast corner of the unit, a concentration of mortar and ash in the center of the unit, and a hard-packed area of orange-brown sand and brick rubble. The latter was designated Feature 2. It was quite shallow (.15') and exhibited an undulating bottom. Because of amorphous boundaries, none of the other areas received feature designations. They were, however, mapped and photographed.

Excavation continued with another shallow level of feature 1, and a number of features were defined at the base of this deposit. The ash layer continued in the southwest corner of the unit, but did not receive a separate feature designation. Feature 3 was a roughly circular area in the northeastern quadrant of the unit, filled with orangish-brown mottled soil, ash, and charcoal. Feature 3 was rather deep, and excavated in two levels. It began as an irregular area, but became more rectangular in shape as excavation proceeded. Features 5 and 6 were located along the south wall of the unit, and were filled with dark brown (10yr3/2) soil. They may represent a post mold and post hole, but were not clearly defined. Feature 7 was the best defined. It intruded into the north wall of the unit, and was rectangular in shape with rounded corners. The feature exhibited a lighter fill, principally yellowish-tan loamy sand mottled with orange clay, indicating a deep excavation. Only the top level of this feature was excavated, however.



When the ash layer (feature 1) and the intrusive features were removed, excavation continued with zone 3. This was loamy brown sand. Additional features were present at the base of zone 3. Feature 12, located in the center of the unit, was a shallow post hole with a flat base and square shape. This intruded into three other defined features. The most impressive were features 9 and 10, a large double post hole 1.8' deep. This was a mottled soil, filled with dark brown and lighter yellowish brown sand. Examination of the eastern profile of the unit after excavation of this feature revealed that the overlying layers of soil had all slumped toward the center of feature 10, suggesting some rotting

Figure 31

of a post, or settling, after deposition. Two additional features were defined at this level, and neither was excavated; features 13 and 14 appeared to be post holes.

Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this point. The floor at the base of zone 3, the eastern and northern profiles were photographed and mapped. The unit was then backfilled. The single unit revealed a rich, dense midden and evidence for a host of activities. The features excavated did not reveal much about the function of the area. It is possible that the posts reflect a building constructed of wood, rather than brick, while the array of artifacts suggest a kitchen function for this area.

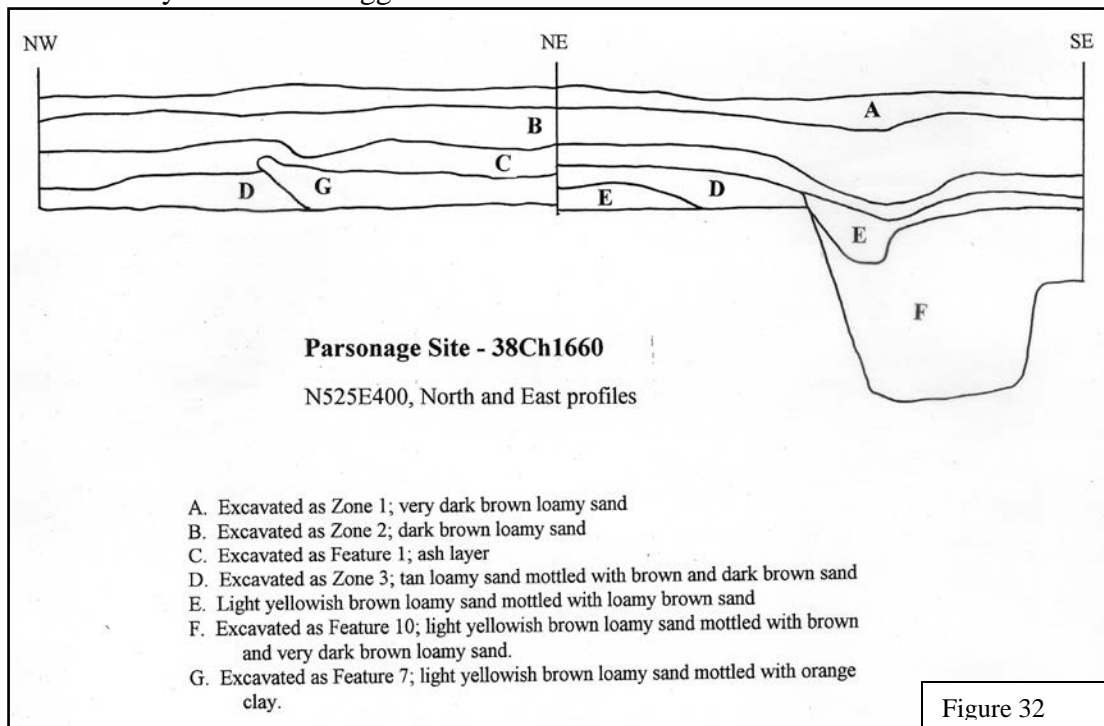


Figure 32

Artifact analysis in 2003 revealed that the midden centered in N525E400 contained a larger, and slightly different, ceramic assemblage than the main house or other site areas. Like the initial shovel test, colono wares were over half of the 560 ceramics recovered. Ceramics from the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century – slipware, white saltglazed stoneware, and delft – were the most common European ceramics. The later refined earthenwares, creamware and pearlware, were slightly less common. Kitchen wares were 72% of this assemblage. Architectural artifacts were more common than elsewhere in the survey, and nails and window glass represented 21% of the unit materials. While the majority of the nails were hand wrought, at least 1/5 was machine cut, suggesting some construction or renovation after 1780-1800. Tobacco pipes were more common in this unit than elsewhere on the site; they comprised 5% of the assemblage, compared to 2.6% of the shovel tests.

Together, these data suggest that the area of the site in the vicinity of N525E400 contains intact evidence of occupation unique to the site areas, and that more research is warranted. The opportunity to return to this portion of the site came four years later, when Mrs. Knox requested that the 2007 field school focus on that area.



Figure 33a-c: Views of fieldwork in the kitchen area  
a) location of kitchen from south edge of main house;  
b) excavation of N510E405 and N520E405, facing north  
c) N510E360, with main house in background

### Further Exploration of the kitchen Area

Four additional units were excavated in the vicinity of N525E400 in a week-long project in 2007. The grid was re-established from the E200 line, beginning with N200 E200. A series of 10' squares were established between N510 E410 and N510 E400. From here, two units were established in the vicinity of N525 E400, unit N510 E405 and N520 E405. A third unit, N535 E400, was excavated farther north, adjacent

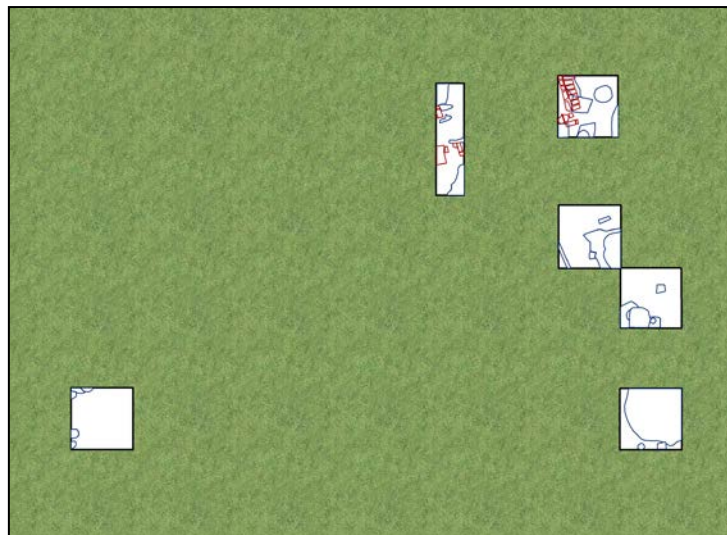


Figure 34: Composite map of test units in the kitchen area, showing features at the base of the ash layer, Feature 1. Brick foundations are shown in red.

to a depression and mound of soil exhibiting a concentration of brick. A fourth unit was established midway between the parsonage foundation and the suspected kitchen midden concentration, to help determine locus boundaries and provide a comparative data base. This final unit was established along the N510 grid line, at E360.

Soil and stratigraphy in the two units adjacent to the original test were similar, and every effort was made to coordinate provenience designations with those from the previous project. Zone 1 was a dark, cloying midden soil (10yr2/1), followed by a rich brown loam (10yr3/3). A second level of zone 2 was segregated by a sandier content to the same soil (10yr3/1). Pockets of ash, characterized as lighter soil, were present throughout zone 2. Zones 1 and 2 varied in depth, averaging .6' from ground surface. Artifacts were abundant in zones 1 and 2, but most remarkable was the extraordinary abundance of small colono ware fragments. Small artifacts were so abundant that all the residual material in the 1/4" screen was bagged and sorted later in the laboratory.

The dark midden soil was followed by a lighter grey, powdery layer of ash, designated Feature 1. Feature 1 was contiguous across both units, and was deeper in N510 E405. The feature was excavated in three levels. Levels 1 and 2 averaged .6' in depth, and were described as a medium grey ash (10yr4/1). The next deposit was more mottled with dark soil and gold subsoil mixed with the ashy soil. These were excavated as Feature 1/zone 3 and this layer was .4' deep.

Each unit was filled with features in and below Feature 1. Unit N510 E405 contained a well-defined postmold and post hole in the south profile (feature 38), defined in the layer of ash. A large, shallow pit filled with the ashy soil was designated feature 47. Its function is unknown. A small circular post stain was defined at the base of zone 3, designated feature 48.



Figure 35: N510 E405, top of feature 47, with fea. 1 in profile

Unit N520 E405 was a deeper and more complex unit. Features 32 and 33 were

defined at the base of zone 2, intruding into Feature 1. These proved to be slumped areas of



Figure 36 a-b: N520 E405, south profile, feature 42 before and after excavation

zone 2 overburden, but were located over features defined later. The base of Feature 1 zone 3 was encountered at 1.3' below surface. Several features were visible, clustered along the south profile. Feature 39, located in the middle of the south wall, is the most recent. This was a circular stain with highly mottled fill. The underlying Feature 40 was a rectangular feature with darker mottled fill, corresponding to a slumped area of overlying zone 2 (originally designated feature 32). Feature 40, in turn, intruded into an irregularly shaped area of mottled soil, designated feature 41. Feature 42, in the southeast corner, exhibited a circular area of unfired red clay, with some grey ash. A small square post in the center of the unit, of mottled dark and light soil, initiated at the base of zone 2 and continued into subsoil; it was designated Feature 33. Additional mottled soil was evident beneath the cluster of features in the southwest corner.

When excavated, features 33 and 39 proved to be square post holes with round molds. Feature 40 was excavated next, and became more regular as excavation proceeded. The feature was round, and was 2.5' deep from the ground surface. The lower, more regular portion was .8' in diameter, initiating 1.5 below the top of the defined feature. The underlying mottled soils were poorly defined, and initially excavated as feature 41. Upon excavation, a well-defined area was segregated, and excavated as Feature 50; this proved to be a large rectangular post hole with round post mold.

Unit N510 E360 was shallower, and contained fewer artifacts than those in the kitchen midden. Like the other units, zone 1 was dark (10yr2/1), but was not as loamy and cloying as those in the midden; here, zone 1 was riddled with grains of a coarse white sand. Zone 2 also matched the soils from the midden, and was marked by a concentration of nails and colono ware. There was no ash layer (feature 1) in this unit, though a thin lens of ash was later visible in the east profile. Zone 2 was immediately followed by the mottled soils of zone 3. Five small circular features (possible posts) were defined at the base of zone 2 level 2. Three received feature designations (features 34-36).



Figure 37: N510 E360, base zone 3

Excavation of zone 3 to sterile subsoil revealed additional features. The post hole designated Feature 36 continued into sterile, and four new features were designated. Features 43, 44, and 46 were small, circular, but rather amorphous stains. Feature 45 was a more substantial post hole, with a dark mold center.

Unit N535 E400 revealed different stratigraphy and proved to be the location of the kitchen structure. The ground surface sloped upward to the north. Zone 1 was a thin lens of black soil, overlying moist red/orange clay. The clay wedge and dark soil were excavated as zone 1 to the lowest point of the unit. Zone 2 as defined elsewhere was present beneath the clay, but here contained higher concentrations of brick. A pocket of zone 1/zone 2 soil in the southeast corner was excavated separately, and contained a concentration of artifacts, including nails. Zone 2 was .4' deep, and was excavated in two levels.



Figure 38: N535 E400, brick foundation at base of zone 3



Figure 39: Features 37, 51, 52 in N530 E390

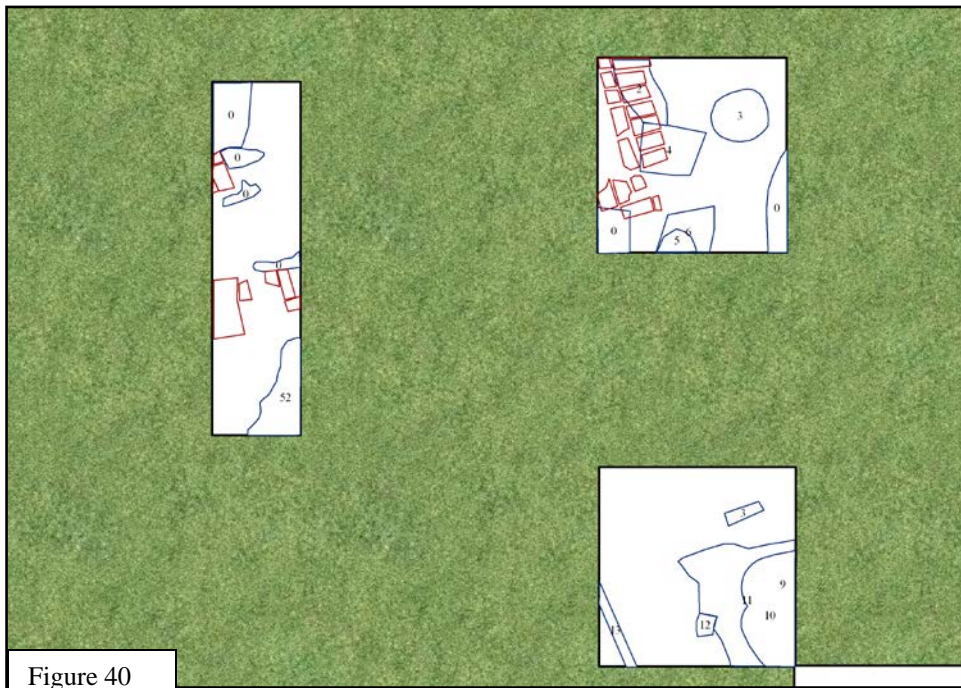
An intact brick foundation was revealed at the base of zone 2 in the northwest quadrant of the unit. The bricks were soft red clay, and there was little evidence of mortar, though some mortar was retrieved from the overlying soils. The feature is evidently the southeast corner of a structure, and was designated feature 37. A concentration of artifacts was again noted at the southeast corner of the foundation. An amorphous area of grey ashy soil and charcoal was excavated as feature 49. Feature 49 evidently mixed the soils of feature 1 and zone 3 in the portions of the unit outside of the foundation, and so could not be isolated in this unit. The unit was excavated to a level that exposed two courses of brick in the foundation; it is unclear if the foundation continued below this level.

In order to gain more information on the kitchen foundation, a final trench unit was excavated. N530 E390 measured 10' north/south by 2.5' east/west, and was positioned to intersect the south wall of the structure represented by feature 37. Zones 1 and 2 were excavated for the entire trench as a single provenience, and brick was encountered in the southern half. Some of the brick was disturbed, but was intact enough to determine location and angle for a southern wall. The articulated brick evidently continues west beyond the limits of the trench. A second section of brick in the west wall of the unit may be an internal wall, or may be a portion of the west wall of the building. Exposure of this structural element, designated feature 51, was minimal and so its exact function was not determined.



Once the brick wall was exposed, further excavation (of zone 2 level 2) was segregated by the southern section (outside of the wall) and the northern section, inside the structure. Several significant artifacts were recovered from the building, including a number of buttons, scissors, and a draw knife. A concentration of mortar in the southeast corner of the unit was designated feature 52. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this point.

The five units excavated in 2007 supported the interpretations posited in 2003. The type and quantity of artifacts retrieved suggest a kitchen building, with multiple functions. The quantity of colono ware is astounding, and the overall domestic signature of the artifacts support interpretation as a kitchen. The recovery of buttons and scissors suggest the building may also have functioned as the laundry; this combination of



activities has been documented for kitchen buildings in colonial Charleston (see Zierden and Reitz 2007). Exposure of the foundation suggests the building was brick, or at least one with a brick foundation. The large post stains may also indicate a building, either concurrent or predating the brick foundation. The quantity of ash suggests that this structure burned in a hot fire, like the one that destroyed the main house. Finally, the reduced number of artifacts in N510 E360 reinforces the unusual concentration and density of cultural material at the locus of the kitchen building.

Like the main house, the artifacts recovered from the kitchen suggest the construction and destruction of the building are in close agreement with the documents. Pearlwares manufactured between 1780 and 1820 were recovered in abundance from zones 1 and 2, and from the ash deposit, feature 1. The smaller structural features, which initiate below the destruction layer, contain artifacts in use between 1740 and 1760, suggesting that they were deposited during construction, close to the documented date of 1767.

**Table 3: Features in the Kitchen Midden Area**

Feature #	Unit	description	TPO	Feature #	Unit	description	TPO
1	N525E400	ash deposit	creamware	<i>base zone 3</i>			
37	N535E400	brick foundation	--	12	N525E400	post	bone
51	N530E390	brick pier		9	N525E400	double post	white sgs
52	N530E390	mortar deposit		10	N525E400	double post	scratch blue sg
<i>Base zone 2/feature 1</i>				13	N525E400	post	scratch blue sg
3	N525E400	circular pit	creamware	14	N525E400	post	scratch blue sg
5	N525E400	postmold/hole	white sgs	11	N525E400	post	slipware
6	N525E400	postmold	westerwald	39	N520E405	round area	white sgs
7	N525E400	square post	porcelain	40	N520 E405	large pit	scratch blue sg
38	N510E405	postmold/hole	pipe bowl	41	N520E405	mottle soil	white sgs
49	N535E400	irregular area	pearlware	42	N520E405	area of clay	n/a
32	N520E405	circular pit	whieldon ware	45	N510E360	postmold/hole	colono ware
33	N520E405	rectangular pit	white sgs	46	N510E360	amorphous	burned clay
34	N510E360	small post	white sgs	47	N510E405	ash pit	pipestem
35	N510E360	small post	brick	48	N510E405	small post	no matl.
36	N510E360	small post	colono ware	50	N520E405	large post	white sgs

### Testing the N300 Concentration

Evidence for a possible structure in the N300 E300 area was first suggested by a positive shovel test at N275 E325, when intact brick was noted in the bottom of the test. Four additional shovel tests were excavated, each 10' from the original in cardinal directions. Additional brick rubble was recovered in these tests.



Figure 41: shovel test @ N275E325

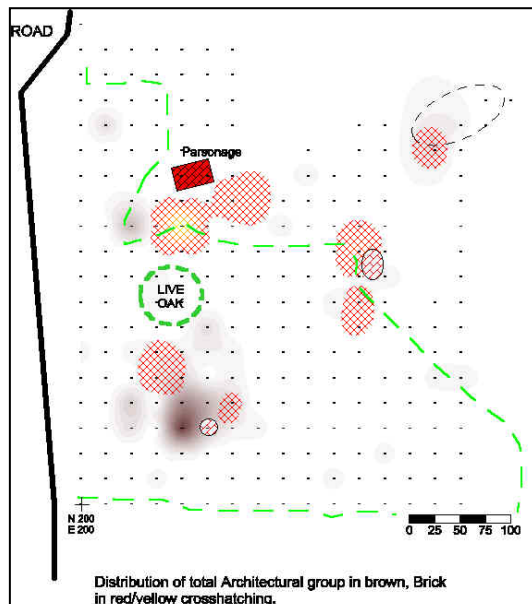


Figure 42: distribution of brick in surface collections

The concentration of brick was also evident in the surface collection data. Computer density mapping (SURFER) suggested the brick was concentrated around N300 E350 and to the northeast of this point. Other architectural items, particularly nails, were concentrated west of this point. This latter concentration was noted for other artifacts, as well. Clustering of pre-1760 ceramics, total artifacts, and particularly post-1760 refined earthenwares were noted west of the brick concentration. Colono wares were spread more broadly, from southwest to southeast of the brick concentration. Together, these data suggested a structure and/or activity area in this location, with the strongest signature post-dating the 1780s. The survey data suggested additional work here was warranted.

In a second effort to locate the outbuilding or structures suggested by the 2003 survey, three 5' units were excavated in the plowed field south of the house foundation in 2005. The 2003 surface collection and shovel test survey revealed a concentration of brick and mortar rubble in the vicinity of N300 E325. Additional shovel tests showed a layer of crushed brick and mortar. The units excavated in 2005 were, however, inconclusive.



Figure 43: brick and mortar in N300 E350

Three units were excavated in plowed soils, on a slight rise. Two levels of plowzone were designated in unit N300 E350, while the plowzone was excavated as a single deposit in the two remaining units. The plowzone was relatively shallow in this portion of the site, averaging .5' to sterile subsoil. Numerous plow scars were visible in the subsoil.

Unit N300 E305 and N300 E325 revealed a number of small, ephemeral features that are possible post stains. These include features 16 through 19 and features 22 and 23. The last unit excavated, N300 E350, revealed a concentration of brick and mortar rubble in the south half of the unit. The feature exhibited a fairly straight edge and was filled with large chunks of mortar and brick in a medium brown sand matrix. Due to time constraints, the feature was not sampled.

Unit N300 E305 and

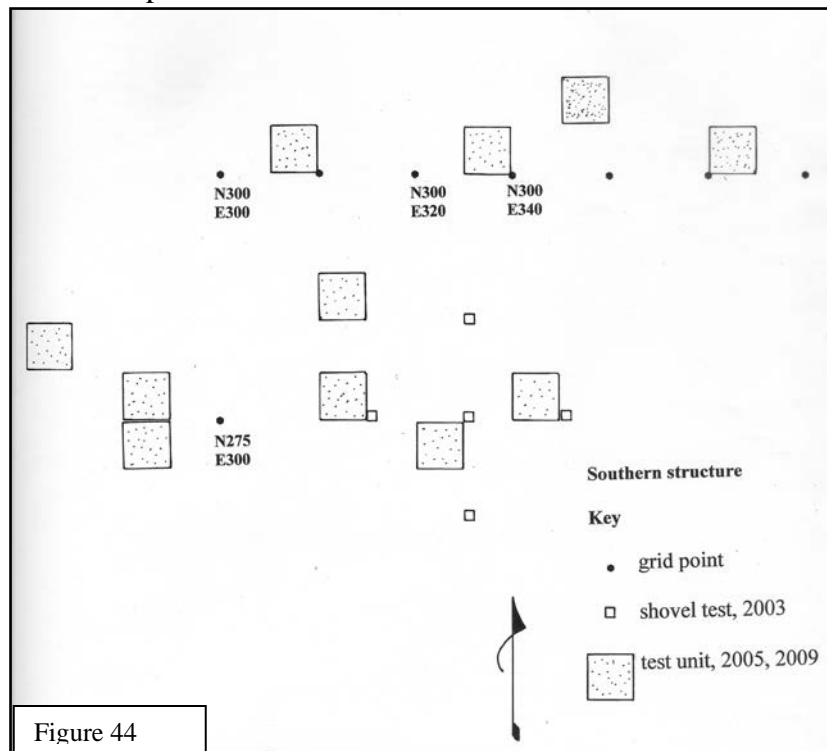


Figure 44

Though the brick was discovered in shovel tests along the N300 line, survey data suggested the true concentration was further south, around the N275 line. Additional units were excavated in this area during the 2009 field season. The first week of the 2009 dig was spent

in this vicinity for two reasons; to continue the search for structural remains in this area, and to teach beginning students basic field techniques in plowzone contexts. Eight additional 5' squares were excavated in 2009, concentrated along the N275 line. These were located in a visible concentration of surface artifacts in the freshly-plowed field. All units exhibited relatively shallow plowzones (.5' or less). Two contiguous units (N270 E290 and N275 E290) revealed portions of a large, presumably deep, feature, filled with dark soil (10yr3/1) and clumps of orange clay (5yr4/6). Larger artifacts, and highly mottled fill suggests a deep feature. Since feature excavation was beyond the scope of the 2009 season, only the top level (.25') was sampled.

Well defined posts were noted in N275 E310 and N275 E330. Nails were also excavated from these units. Three other units, however, produced no features and only sparse artifact assemblages (N280 E280, N270 E320, and N285 E310). A final excavation unit to the north, N305 E335, yielded some fire-burned nails and a concentration of brick and plaster. The unit revealed a linear area of dark soil mottled with yellow sand, interpreted as possibly architectural.



Figure 45: N270/275E290, feature 58, deep deposit of mottled soil



Figure 46: N305E335, features 62 and 63

Overall the units in the N300 E300 area were inconclusive. Occasional architectural features were exposed, but none clear enough to ascribe function with certainty. Moreover, the posts and linear stains suggest a building of wood, rather than a foundation or walls of brick, as indicated by the rubble concentration. Clearly, more extensive work will be necessary to expose and interpret any features in this location.

**Table 4: Proveniences, Southern structure**

Feature #	Unit	Description	TPQ
53	N275 E310	postmold/hole	not ex.
54	N275 E310	postmold/hole	not ex.
55	N275 E330	amorphous	polychrome pearlware, 1780
56	N275 E330	possible posthole	not ex.
57	N275 E330	shovel test?	not ex.
58	N275 E290	large pit of mottled soil	polychrome pearlware, 1780
62	N305 E335	linear stain; foundation?	not ex.
63	N305 E335	amorphous	not ex.
16	N300 E305	circular pit	not ex.
17	N300 E305	possible post	not ex.
18	N300 E305	possible post	not exc.
19	N300 E305	possible post	not exc.
20	N300 E305	possible post	not exc.
22	N300 E325	possible post	not exc.
23	N300 E325	possible post	not exc.
28	N300 E350	area of brick and mortar rubble	not exc.

Figure 47a-b: Views of 2009 excavations at southern structure



**Table 5: Units Excavated in area of Structure**

<u>Shovel Tests</u>	<u>2009 Units</u>
N275 E325	N270 E290
N285 E325	N275 E290
N265 E325	N275 E310
N275 E375	N275 E330
N275 E335	N280 E280
	N270 E320
<u>2005 Units</u>	N285 E310
	N305 E335
N300 E305	
N300 E325	
N300 E350	

## Chapter V

# The Parsonage Dwelling House

### Exploring the Parsonage Foundation

From the first site visit, it was apparent that the mound of soil and undergrowth likely contained remains of a structure. A line of intact brick was visible, intruding from the edge of the soil overburden. Exploration of the foundation initiated in 2003, concurrent with the overall site survey. The majority of the foundation was exposed in a series of 5' units excavated in 2005. Finally, a portion of the interior fill was excavated in 2009. Field and laboratory methods were the same for all three projects.

Continued investigation of the site in 2005 began with re-establishing horizontal control. In 2003, a Chicago grid was established over the site, with grid points at 25' intervals. In order to more closely align with the physical features of the landscape, we selected an arbitrary grid orientation of 20 degrees east of north. A key stake was established at the presumed southwest corner of the site, adjacent to the woods road and along the southern edge of the plowed field. This stake, a length of rebar driven into the ground and marked with a sleeve of white pvc pipe, was given the arbitrary designation of N200E200. All measurements at 38Ch1660 were made to the north and east of this point.



Figure 48: Laying grid on mound

The chosen orientation is slightly west of the woods road. The meridian was first established to the north, at 25' intervals, from N200 to N700. This line roughly parallels the woods road, and crosses the road at N650. A base line was then established from the key stake, from N200E200 to N200E600, parallel with the southern edge of the plowed field. Fieldwork in 2003 required establishment of grid points in an area measuring 500' by 400', at 25' intervals. With the exception of the key stake at N200E200 and the northernmost point on the meridian, N700E200, all grid points were marked with wire flags. These were removed at the end of the 2003 field season. Grid points on the structural mound were marked with 10" nails, and these were left in place.

The base points at N200E200 and N700E200 were intact when we returned in 2005. The transit was set up over the N200E200 point and grid points placed at 50' intervals. Points were then placed at closer intervals in the vicinity of the mound (N500 to N550). The transit was then set over the N510 and N530 points, and lines established

to the east. These proved to be .4' north of those from the 2003 dig, which were still in place. The 2005 points were used for all excavations on the west and south sides of the foundation. Points from the 2003 excavation were used for the two remaining units on the eastern wall. The discrepancy was adjusted in mapping. Grid points from both seasons were left in place at the end of the project.

Vertical control was established with the transit. An arbitrary datum point, consisting of a large nail in a tree located at approximately N475E325, was established in 2003. Based on the contour intervals shown on the USGS topographic map (Fenwick quadrangle), this point was given an assumed elevation of 30.0' msl. All elevations, for both ground surface and subsurface features, were taken relative to this point. This point remained in place and was used again during the 2005 season.



Figure 49: portion of site map showing datum point location

Materials from each provenience were bagged separately. Artifact bags were inventoried, and assigned an ordinal Field Specimen number in the field. Record keeping also included narrative notes and completion of a variety of forms on a daily basis. Planview and profile maps were made for each unit, as appropriate. Photographs were taken with color slide film (Kodachrome 200) for archival stability and with a digital camera for instant reference. The digital photographs are used in this report.

The students were involved in all phases and activities of the fieldwork. They maintained a duplicate set of narrative notes, rotating this duty daily. Labeling of bags and assignment of FS numbers was also assigned to individual students on a daily basis. In addition, students were primarily responsible for completing excavation unit forms and feature forms, under the supervision of field supervisors.

## Testing the Mound

Exploration of the foundation began in 2003 with eight excavation units, measuring 5' by 5', strategically located on the mound, in order to expose corners of the foundation. Units were located using tapes and triangulation from the grid point flags, based on surface evidence for the foundation location. The excavation units were marked with 10" nails and string, and nail markers remained in place after the excavation for later relocation.

N525 E290 was the first unit excavated, and it was strategically placed on the northwest corner of the structure, based on surface evidence. The ground surface of this unit sloped dramatically from east to west, with a 1.5' difference between the east and west sides of the unit. Excavation revealed the northwest corner and a portion of the west face of the foundation. This was the only 2003 unit excavated to sterile subsoil and the base of the foundation. Three zones were defined in the unit. Zone 1 was a narrow band of organic topsoil and root mat. This was followed by a deep deposit of brick and mortar rubble (zone 2), containing no other cultural material. Zone 2 averaged .7' in depth. Zone 3 was a loamy grey-tan sand, containing a range of eighteenth century artifacts. A sample of zones 1 and 2 were screened (25% of excavated material), while zone 3 was screened in its entirety. Zone 3 ranged from .3' to .5' in depth.

Excavation of the unit to sterile subsoil exposed a 5' section of the western foundation, three feet in depth. The top 1.8' of the exposed wall was constructed of soft orange-red bricks, and exhibited well-finished mortar joints. The mortar was bright white, with a relatively wide scribed joint. Below this point, unfinished mortar joints indicate the grade at time of excavation, and suggest the foundation continued 1.2' below historic grade.



Figure 50: NW corner of dwelling, excavated to sterile subsoil

Two adjoining units revealed the northwest corner of the building and a short portion of the north wall. Units N530 E290 and N530 E295 revealed a 6' section of the north wall. Unlike the first unit, these two were excavated into zone 2 just deep enough to minimally expose the top of the foundation. In these units, zone 1 averaged .4' in depth, and excavation of zone 2 was terminated at a varying depth, relative to the slope, ranging from .6' to 1.4' below ground surface.

A group of four units exposed the northeast corner of the structure and the majority of the eastern wall, including an apparent chimney base centered on the east face. The four units included N535 E325, N530 E325, N530 E330, and N525 E330. Zone 1 was relatively thin, and zone 2 was relatively dense in this area. The units were located on a sloping ground surface, and excavation proceeded to an average depth of .8' below the present ground surface. This block revealed a 4' section of the north wall, the northeast corner, and a 14.7' section of the east wall. The exposed exterior of the foundation presented the same high-quality mortar joints seen on the east side of the



structure. Unit N535 E325 also exposed the entire width of the wall along the northeast corner, suggesting a foundation 2.4' thick.

The foundation for an exterior chimney was centered on the east wall of the structure. The chimney was 7.5' wide on the exterior, and initiated 7.5' south of the northeast corner. While the northern half of the foundation was rather eroded, an interior firebox, complete with rounded interior corners, was evident in the southern portion of the chimney foundation. The exposed brick flooring of the firebox interior evidenced a fair amount of wear. Excavations terminated at the southern edge of the chimney foundation.



Figure 51: Excavating units on east side of dwelling

The final excavation unit on the foundation was positioned to expose the southeast corner of the unit. This was interpolated by pulling tapes from the previously exposed corners. Unit N515 E330 exposed the exterior southeast corner of the structure and a portion of the interior. Excavation here was only .4' deep, simply to expose the top of the foundation.

The eight excavation units revealed three corners, plus an exterior chimney, for a structure measuring 22' by 36' on the exterior. The brick foundation was well made, and is 2.4' thick, suggesting a substantial building. The mound apparently just covers the intact foundation, and the sloping ground on the structure exterior consist of sloping brick rubble with a thin layer of soil and humus. Unit 525 E290, excavated to sterile subsoil, revealed a midden deposit of grey soil, containing a moderate amount of artifacts dating to the second half of the eighteenth century.

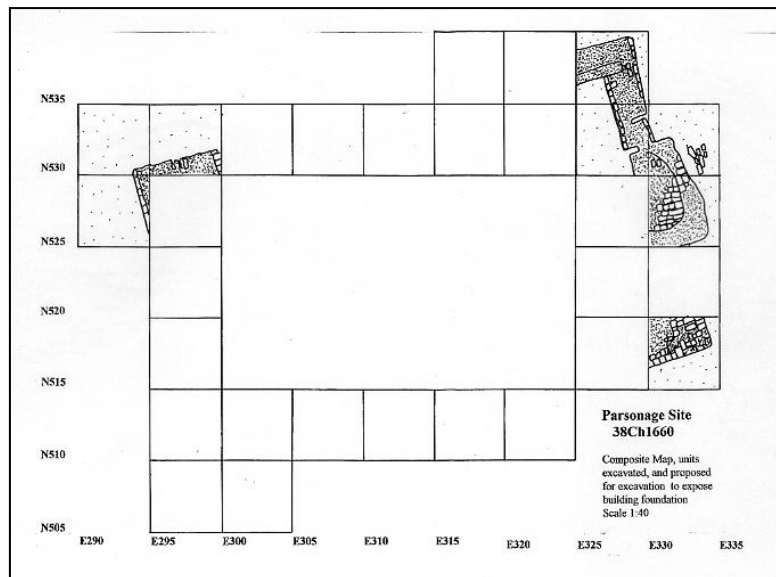


Figure 52: Portions of structure exposed in 2003 and units projected

## Exposing the Foundation

We returned to Willtown in 2005 to more fully expose the parsonage foundation. Investigation began with re-establishing horizontal control. The meridian from N200 E200 to N700 E200 was reestablished, and points were placed at closer intervals between N500 and N550. Lines were established to the east from the N510 and N530 points. These proved to be .4' north of those remaining on the mound from the 2003 project, which were still in place. The 2005 locations were used for all excavations on the west and south sides of the foundation, while points from the 2003 excavation were used for the two remaining units on the eastern wall. The discrepancy was adjusted in mapping, and grid points from both projects were left in place at the end of the season.

Complete exposure of the northern wall was hampered by the presence of large trees growing over the center portions of this foundation. After careful deliberation, it was determined that removing the tree at this point might prove more damaging than leaving it intact. Subsequent to the 2005 season, Mr. Godley cut the large trees, leaving the stumps in place. All but the northernmost one had rotted to a point of removal by the 2009 season.

The mound over the foundation rises over 4' from the general ground surface. This appears to be the result of collapse of the structure following a fire, as the ground surface is littered with melted bottle glass and scorched ceramics. Three zones are present in the mound. Zone 1 is a dark grey-grown humus layer (10yr2/1 or 2/2) full of roots. This zone ranged from .2' to .5' in depth. The layer of brick and mortar rubble resulting from decay of the building was designated zone 2. This varied in thickness, depending on the location within the building mound, and ranged from .1' on the edges to 4.0' adjacent to portions of intact foundation. Moderate amounts of dark soil (10yr2/2) were present among the heavy brick rubble. Zone 3 was associated with the interface of finished and unfinished mortar joints in the foundation (indicating original grade), and consisted of a medium grey-brown sandy soil (10yr4/3). A moderate amount of 18<sup>th</sup> century material was recovered from zone 3. Sterile subsoil was present beneath zone 3, and was characterized as a yellow to light brown sand (10yr5/4).



Figure 53 a-b: Laying in excavation units on south side of foundation (facing east); Exposure of chimney on western wall, revealing the shallow nature of topsoil (zone 1) over brick rubble (zone 2).

Sixteen units were excavated in 2005; these plus eight in 2003, exposed 80% of the rectangular foundation. These units completely exposed the east, south, and west sides. Nine units were excavated to the base of zone 3, in order to expose builders trenches and retrieve artifacts for dating construction and abandonment of the structure. The remaining seven units were excavated into zone 2, deep enough to expose architectural details.

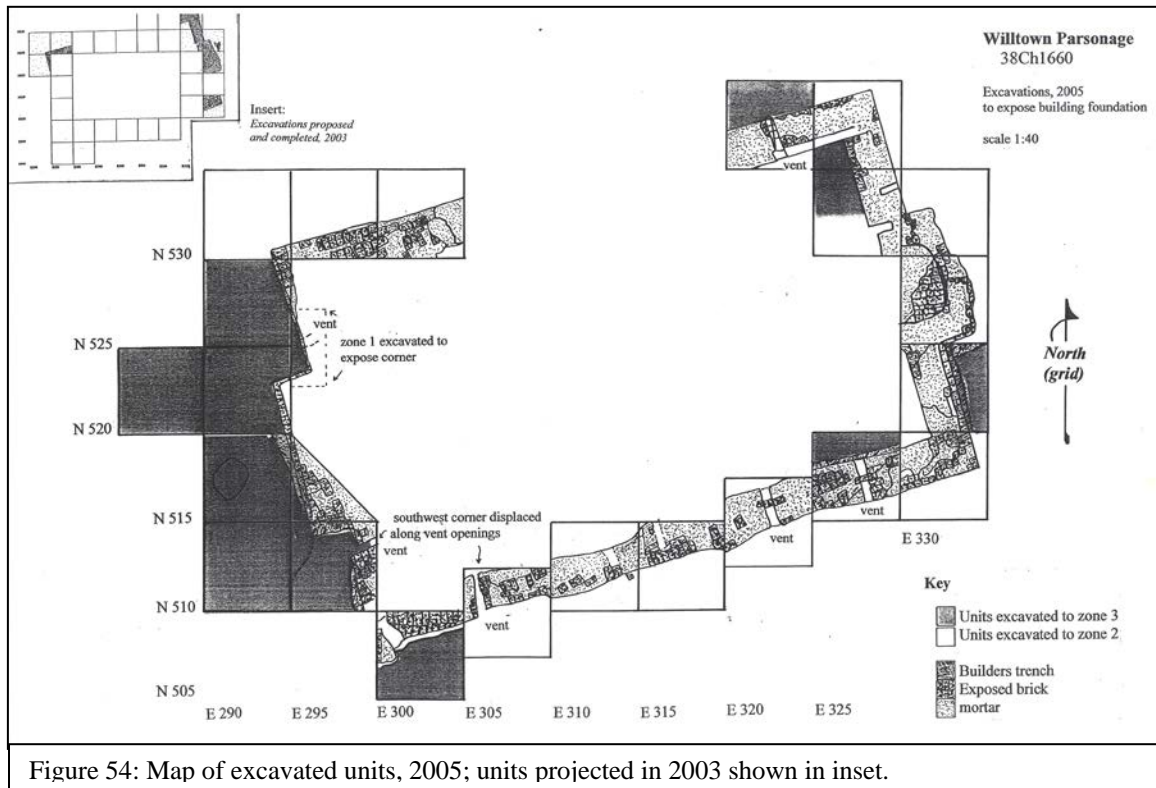


Figure 54: Map of excavated units, 2005; units projected in 2003 shown in inset.

The brick foundation is quite substantial, and measures 2.4' in width. The foundation survives in the mound at varying heights. Excavation adjacent to the foundation reveals that it continues 1.2' below grade at the time of occupation, based on the presence of a footer course at sterile subsoil and unfinished mortar joints to that height. At its most intact point, the surviving foundation rises an additional 1.7' above this level.

The northwest corner of the structure was exposed in three contiguous units in 2003. Excavation of N525 E290 to sterile subsoil exposed a 5' section of the western foundation, 3' in depth. Five more units excavated in 2005 exposed the western face of the building. These excavations revealed an external chimney



Figure 55: crack at vent opening, SW corner of dwelling

centered in the western wall, identical to the eastern fixture. The chimney was 7.5' wide and protruded 2' from the face of the wall. The remaining exterior wall measured 7.5' on either side of the chimney, for a maximum exterior width of 22.5'. However, exact measurements along the west wall were impossible to determine, due to cracking and settling of the southwest corner of the structure.



Figure 56: Exposing the west wall and chimney

The 2003 excavations exposed all but five feet of the east wall, including the northeast and southeast corners. These units exposed the same high-quality mortar finish seen on the northwest side. They also revealed an external chimney centered in the wall. The chimney was 7.5' on the exterior, and initiated 7.5' south of the northeast corner. The block of units also exposed the interior firebox, which evidence a fair amount of wear.



Figure 57: Southern wall of structure, facing west

A series of vent openings in the foundation face were exposed during the 2005 project. These were .4' wide and .8' high, initiating two courses (or .5') above grade level. Single vents were located on both sides of the end chimneys. Four vents were identified along the south wall. Two were identified in the exposed portion of the north wall. These vents continued through the foundation, and appeared to be angled from front to rear. They evidently proved a point of post-abandonment weakness, however, as the southwest corner had settled, severed along vents on the south and west walls.

The entire south side of the structure, measuring 36', was exposed during the 2005 season, in a series of staggered 5' squares. Again, precise measurement of the southern side was hampered by damage and settling of the southwestern corner. The exposed foundation was examined for

evidence of any entrances or openings. A 4' wide section of header bricks laid on end in N510 E315 was tentatively interpreted as a threshold, suggesting a central doorway. It is unknown if a similar opening might be found in the north façade, as a large tree made this section inaccessible. The central 15' of the north wall was not excavated due to this tree; instead, eleven feet of the north wall was exposed on the west side and 8.5' on the east side.

Identification and excavation of builders trenches is an important step in dating construction of archaeological building remains. A narrow (.2') builders trench was identified along the foundation walls and designated feature 21. A wider (.8') but more ephemeral builders trench was identified along the east and west chimneys, and



Figure 58: builders trench for east chimney; note vent opening

designated feature 24. These were sampled in N520 E330, along the southern side of the east wall. In this unit, feature 21 appeared to truncate, and post-date, feature 24. While this sequence is uncertain, the evidence clearly does not show the opposite arrangement which would indicate that the chimneys were a later addition. Feature 21 contained creamware, suggesting a fill date of 1760 to 1770. Feature 24 contained no datable materials.

Additional features were present around the building foundations. Most interesting were amorphous concentrations of bright red clay, all designated feature 27. It is unclear if these represent natural unfired clay, clay fired at the time of construction, or the results of the fire that destroyed the house. None were sampled.



Figure 59: Completed excavations, 2005, facing the west side of the structure; note displacement of SW corner due to cracking along vent opening.

## Exploring the Interior

The interior of the building was explored in two test units as part of the 2005 excavations. A 2.5' by 6' sample was excavated inside the northeast corner (units N530 E325 and N535 E325) and a smaller sample (2' by 5') was excavated along the south wall in N515 E325. The two samples exhibited similar stratigraphy. The interior fill was mostly rubble, 3' deep. A shallow soil and root mat (zone 1) overlay a thick layer of brick and mortar rubble. Beneath this was a layer of mortar and plaster, much of it blackened by fire. A second lens of brick rubble followed, this on top of a gray sand layer similar to zone 3 on the exterior. Beneath this, in both locations, was a distinct lens of soft red brick. Dark soil lenses were present beneath this brick in the southeast corner; the red brick was directly on top of sterile subsoil in the northeast corner.



Figure 60: interior profile, N515 E325

A distinct interior builders trench was present in the southern unit, N515 E325. This was a mottled soil fill approximately .4' wide, designated feature 29. This intruded into the dark soil deposits beneath, here designated feature 30. Both features were sampled, but neither contained artifacts other than brick and mortar fragments. A lack of cultural materials, however, is consistent with initial occupation of a site; there would be no artifacts on the ground to become mixed with the fill of a construction trench.

The two test units provided guidance for the larger, and final, exploration of the parsonage in 2009. The goal of the final phase was to explore the building interior, retrieve materials likely lost in the fire, and understand the post-occupational events at the site. Stability of the foundation, before and after testing, was an ongoing priority of the parsonage project. Since exposure in 2005, the brick foundation has weathered fairly well, owing in part to maintenance of black plastic covering and periodic prescribed burning of the surrounding vegetation. The only signs of instability are a few cracks in the foundation, and some shifting of the southwest corner, along the vent holes in the south and west walls.

The 2009 plan was to excavate enough of the interior to understand structure layout, room function, and sequence of architectural events. At the same time, excavation units would be placed to minimize exposure of foundations and maximize stability of the walls. Excavation of contiguous 5' units along the south and east walls

would intersect previous units, expose the interpreted chimney and door area, and leave other areas undisturbed. Assuming the modest structure was internally divided into two, or four, rooms, possibly with a central hall, this strategy would also test three of four quadrants. The units were therefore located along the south and east foundations. As the northeast and southeast corners were previously tested, these units provided a guide to the stratigraphy, and an opportunity to expose walls while minimizing additional disturbance.



Figure 61: Grid line for 2009 fits between two large trees

In order to minimize error from re-establishing grid nails year after year, grid points left in place from the 2005 project were used, wherever possible, to establish units in 2009. Each installation of grid points on the mound, including those established in 2009, resulted in additional discrepancies. Because the 2005 project was the largest, and nails were used for total station mapping as well as hand-mapping, these nails were used for the 2009 units. Corrections and discrepancies are discussed in detail in the field notes.

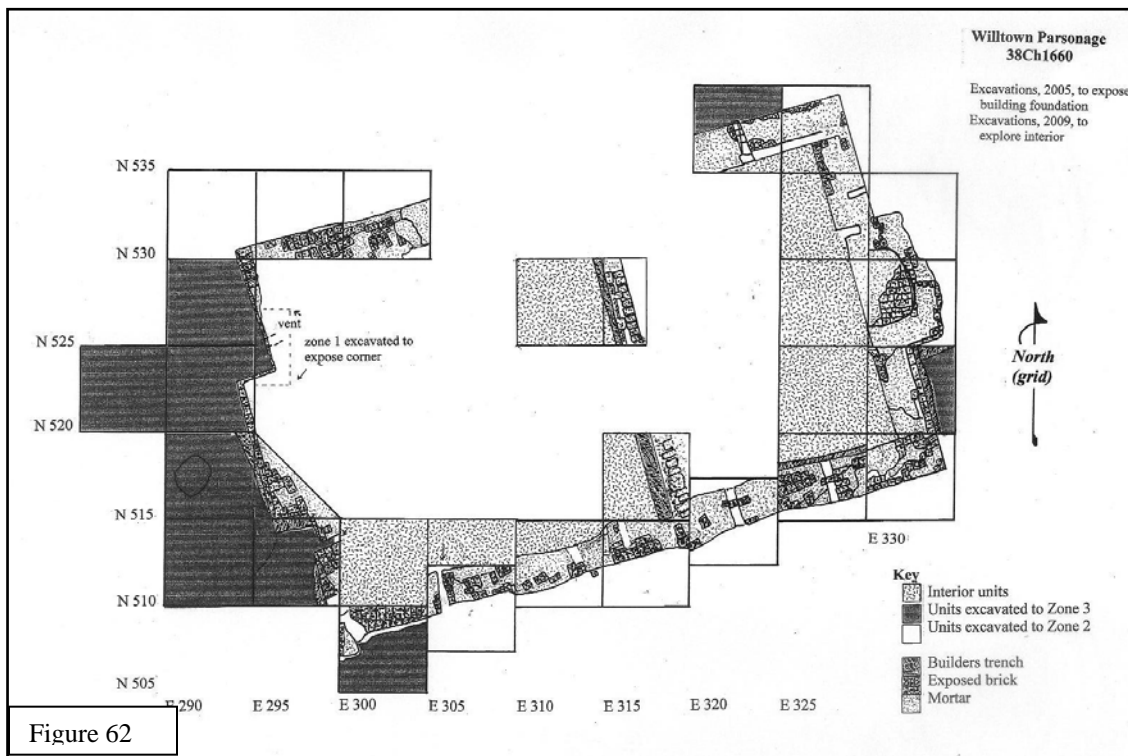


Figure 62

Three units were excavated along the south wall of the structure, exposing the interior of the foundation and recording stratigraphic deposits. As the parsonage

foundation is angled relative to the site grid, the area available for excavation varied from unit to unit. Unit N510 E300 was the largest, and approximately 3' by 5' was available for excavation. Unit N510 E305 was approximately 2' by 5', while N510 E310 narrowed from 1.5' on the western edge, to the intersection with the wall interior at the northeast corner of the unit. An adjoining unit to the northeast, N515 E315, was completely excavated, and a small (5' by 1.0') wedge was removed from the wall interior in a 2005 unit, N512.5E320 (excavating to the N517.5 line).

Testing of the interior in 2005 focused on the east wall, in the northeast and southeast corners. The interior portions of these units were backfilled at that time. Exposure of the east wall of the parsonage therefore entailed removal of backfill from N515E325 (an area approximately 5' by 2') and from N530 E325 (an area approximately 2.5' by 5'). Two new units were excavated in 2009, N520 E325 and N525 E325. Together, these four units exposed the interior of the entire east wall, and provided large samples from the southerly unit (5' by 5').

A final sampling strategy was to excavate a 5' square in roughly the center of the structure. Selection of this unit was guided, in large part, by the presence of large tree stumps. Several trees growing on the rubble mound were removed in 2005 by Mr. Godley, and many of these have decayed. Unit N525 E310 appeared to be in the most accessible and least disturbed area.

Stratigraphic designations from 2005 were used for the 2009 project, and were consistent across the site. Each unit, or area of the site, exhibited most of these layers:

- Zone 1: a narrow band of dark grey-brown topsoil and root mat.
- Zone 2: a heavy layer of collapsed brick and mortar; varies in thickness
- Zone 3: lens of mortar/plaster (only present in certain areas)
- Zone 4: a layer of heavy brick and mortar rubble, in a matrix of tan sand
- Zone 5: narrow lens of brown sandy loam (only present in certain areas)
- Zone 6: ash and charcoal, with an increase in artifacts; varies in thickness
- Zone 7: narrow lens of soft red brick crumbs
- Zone 8: compacted yellow and grey sand; subsoil plus original grade, construction layer

Excavations began along the east wall, and the stratigraphy exposed here confirmed the sequencing defined in 2005. Excavations also exposed the interior of the external chimney exposed in 2003. A narrow band of topsoil and root mat (zone 1) was removed, revealing a level of brick and mortar rubble. The brick and mortar designated zone 2 was relatively shallow here, increasing in thickness toward the west, or interior of the structure. Artifacts were sparse in zone 1, and increased in frequency in zone 2. There was no evidence of zone 3, as a lens of mortar and plaster, in these units; instead, a thin band of brown sand received this designation. The lower level of brick rubble was excavated as zone 4, and was distinguished by an increase in artifacts, particularly bone. Cultural material was particularly dense in the southeastern corner, in unit N520 E325. Zones 2-4 together averaged 1.4' thick in the west profile.



Zone 5 was designated in the northeast corner in 2005, and was present in N525E325. Across the eastern section of the building, Zone 6 was a significant layer of ash and charcoal, and its content and thickness varied across the building interior. Here, the ash averaged .5' thick. Significant architectural items were recovered from zone 6. N520 E325 contained an H-L hinge, complete with nails clinched at a regular point, providing data on the thickness of the door to which it was once attached. Zone 6 also contained some flat clay paving tiles, many of them with a burned surface. None were in situ, but they appeared to be clustered adjacent to the chimney. Excavation of zone 6 also exposed bricks in situ at the base of the fireplace, suggesting an arched support for the chimney in the basement level. This was manifest in a single row of brick, at angle, in front of the firebox. Also associated with the fireplace, beneath zone 6, was a deposit of compacted brown sand, evidently burned hard by the fire. This deposit was mounded, and presumably follows the contours suggested by the remnant brick. Designated feature 60, the mound of burned presumably pre-dates the fire, and is associated with construction of the parsonage.



Figure 63 (left): curved brick foundation abutting hearth; pavers on top of zone 7.  
Figure 64 (above): ruler in feature 61

The floor of the basement was a layer of crushed, soft red brick, designated zone 7. This was defined in 2005 and was present across the structure, though in varying thickness. Beneath the brick layer was a deposit of compacted dark grey and yellow sand. Excavations in 2009 were halted at this level, but the sand level was previously sampled in 2005 so that, when cleaned of backfill, these units were deeper than the present excavations. The mottled sand appears to be original grade, disturbed and mixed during construction of the parsonage. A narrow builders trench was designated feature 61 and excavated in N525 E310. The trench contained a single, unusual artifact – a four-inch section of brass folding rule, showing inches 19 through 23. The artifact was likely



Figure 65a-b: Zone 6 (ash and charcoal) in N520 E325; concentrated around vent

used during construction of the building, broken and then discarded.

Similar stratigraphy was noted in units excavated along the southern wall of the parsonage. Three units were excavated along the N515 line, beginning with E300. Except for a deep pocket of dark soil, likely the location of a tree stump, zone 1 was shallow. The mound was quite high along the south wall, and was reflected in a relatively deep deposit of brick rubble. There was no evidence of zone 3 in this area, and so the brick rubble was arbitrarily divided into zones 2 and 4, to create shallower levels.

Light brown sand was encountered at the base of the rubble, and artifacts increased in frequency. Zone 5 was marked by heat-fired nails and melted window glass, and was relatively thin, sloping upward to the north (toward the center of the building interior). This was followed by zone 6, a solid layer of ash and charcoal. Zone 6 was also filled with fire-hardened nails and melted window glass, but the ash also contained domestic artifacts in situ. N510 E300 contained a creamware bowl. The adjacent unit N510 E305 yielded overglazed porcelain and a sliding bolt.



Figure 66: Profile of N510 E300, adjacent to s.w. corner of structure

The third unit, N510 E310, was relatively narrow and difficult to excavate, and a portion of this had been excavated in 2005. Backfill was removed to the top of zone 5, and zones 5 and 6 were excavated together. The nail assemblage here included a number of 4" nails, whereas the more easterly units feature lath or finishing nails (1.5"). Zone 6 contained a large concentration of olive green bottle glass.

In order to more fully investigate this portion of the foundation, a larger unit was excavated at N515 E315. Based on previous discoveries, this unit could intersect the internal wall discovered in N525 E315, as well as the possible threshold suggested by the brick patterning in the external foundation. Excavation of the unit quickly confirmed that there is not a second internal wall (which would define a central hallway), and that the wall present in N525 E315 likely creates a two or three-room, rather than four-room plan.



Figure 67a-b: N515 E315, excavating zone 6/feature 64; excavations completed, showing threshold and interior wall

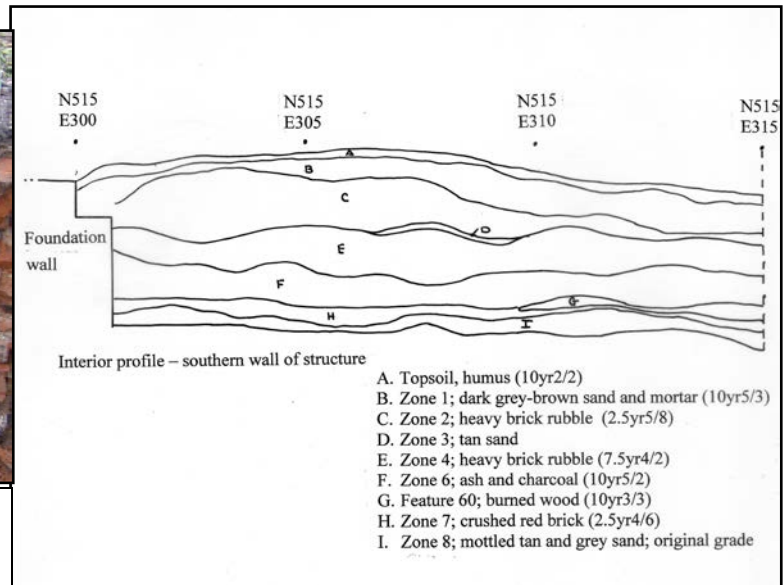
Stratigraphy in the upper zones of these two units was disturbed by a large, rotting tree stump. The soils and artifacts were intact below zone 4, and unit N515 E315 revealed a deep deposit of zone 6 ash, followed by a dense layer of burned wood. A selection of door hardware was recovered, including two pull rings with clinched nails, and a brass door knob or door pull. The burned wood was designated feature 64, and appears to be wood paneling, consisting of planks 3” across and 1” thick. This thickness corresponds to the depth of the clinched nails on the H-L hinge recovered earlier. Based on the recovery of door hardware and the location of the burned wood adjacent to the brick threshold, feature 64 is interpreted as the door, burned in place.

Artifacts in general were particularly dense in N515 E315, including nails, window glass, and furniture items in zone 6 and feature 64. The latter group included a hinge, a brass finial, a furniture tack, and a set of dividers. The burned timbers were

followed by a deposit of dark brown soil, designated feature 64b. This was followed by the burned foundation sand, previously designated feature 60, and then the brick paving of zone 7.



Figure 68: Photo and profile, strata along southern wall of dwelling, facing north. Shown in the photo is a section from E305 – E310.



All of the southerly units were excavated to zone 7, and the profile recorded. Zone 7 was then excavated from two units. Zone 7 was excavated from all of the easterly units (the E325 line), exposing mottled yellow and dark grey soil across the base of the structure interior. These soils initially received feature designations, but were subsequently interpreted as builders' activity, mixing original topsoil and subsoil, and designated zone 8. Excavated samples of zone 8 contained no materials, confirming this interpretation as original grade.

A single unit, N525 E310, was excavated in the center of the foundation, or the 'top' of the mound. This meant that the unit contained at least two additional feet of rubble and was therefore challenging to dig. In addition to



Figure 69: completed interior excavations along east wall, facing south. Chimney and hearth visible on left.

loose rubble, the unit contained large sections of intact wall. The stratigraphic position of these sections (within zone 2), as well as the size, suggest that the walls of the building, not just the foundation, were brick. It further suggests that the walls may have collapsed gradually.



Figure 70a-b: N525 E310, intact wall in zone 2; exposure of feature 59 in the east profile

Further excavation revealed an intact interior wall, discovered when the brick rubble fell away from the east profile. The unit was expanded 2.5' to the east, revealing the wall. This was designated feature 59, and was later encountered in N515 E315, abutting the south foundation on the east side of the projected door threshold.

Zone 5 was present below the brick rubble, and the sandy layer contained scratch blue stoneware and a rice hoe. A thin level of feature 60 and zone 7 were present in the unit. A well-defined builders trench was present on the east side of feature 59; this also received the feature 61 designation.



Figure 71: N525 E310; colono ware in zone 5; base of excavation, showing feature 59 (internal wall) and feature 61 (associated builders trench)

## Site Stabilization

Upon completion of the fieldwork, all cultural materials were removed to The Charleston Museum for laboratory analysis and permanent curation. After each field session, units in the plowed field and away from the foundation were backfilled to original grade. Excavations on the parsonage foundation were left uncovered, as requested by the Knox family. In 2005, the two excavation units on the building interior were backfilled to within .6' of the top of the intact brick foundation. Ten deep units along the exterior of the eastern wall were backfilled to the level of finished mortar joints (or original grade) to stabilize the foundation for continued exposure. All walls were covered with new sheets of .4ml black plastic. At the request of Dickie Godley, a single unit on the east side of the building exterior, N520E330, was left open to the level of sterile subsoil. Black plastic was placed in the bottom of the unit.

Excavation of the dense brick rubble associated with the burned foundation resulted in large quantities of debris. Efforts were made to consolidate these materials, and to remove all possible signs of physical presence. Loose material (principally brick fragments) that could pose pedestrian hazards was collected and isolated from the archaeological remains. All loose items were removed from the top of the mound. The smaller screen debris was placed in backfilled units beneath layers of sand. Heavier brick rubble was isolated in piles along the north and south sides of the foundation, so that they could be easily moved, or removed, with power equipment. Roots were collected in a single pile, as well.

All grid markers were removed from the field and the road, with the exception of the two key stakes remaining from the 2003 excavation. Nails from the 2003 and 2005 excavations on the mound were left in place, and hammered flush with the ground surface. Heavy cotton cord marked the western edge of the excavation block.

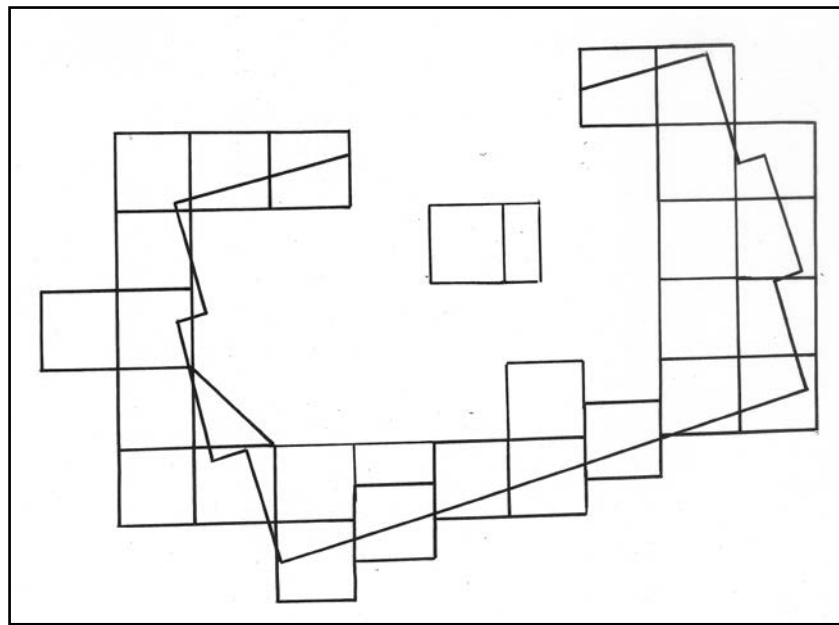


Figure 72: schematic of completed block excavations of dwelling foundation

In 2009, profiles and planviews of the interior excavations were prepared, and then portions of the site were backfilled for long-term stability. N525 E310 was filled completely with brick rubble. The excavations along the south and east walls were covered with new black plastic, but otherwise left open for viewing. Following completion of the project, Mr. Dickie Godley supervised construction of a pole shed covering and preserving the foundation of the Willtown parsonage.



Figure 73: protective shed over the parsonage foundation, after completed excavations

## Chapter VI

### Artifacts

During the course of study, a total of 760 discrete proveniences were defined at the parsonage. They range from isolated surface finds to the contents of discrete soil features. The overall assemblage from excavated contexts mirrors the results of the initial survey. Artifacts of similar date and type were recovered throughout the project. Over 24, 000 artifacts were recovered from the four projects.

While considered a single site, the various artifact collections may be divided into discrete subassemblages. First are horizontal divisions that speak to varying site activity areas: artifacts from the main house, the kitchen midden, and the southerly structure may be separated by location. Secondly, it is possible to isolate materials associated with demolition of the site by a single destructive event (fire) from those that accumulated over the course of site occupation. All of the assemblages contain the same range of artifacts, and so the collections from the initial survey may be used to define the site assemblage and describe the various artifact categories.

The principal difference in the various subassemblages is the relative proportions of these materials. Proportion will therefore be the focus of the subassemblage discussion. Materials from the surface and from the plowed fields lean heavily toward artifacts that are well preserved and highly visible, such as European ceramics and glass fragments. Fragile or darkly colored objects, such as iron nails and earthenware pottery, are less common.

The demolition assemblage is unique, in that it reflects a group of items in use at a particular point in time. The kitchen midden assemblage, in contrast, includes materials from decades of discard and trampling, which stopped abruptly with destruction of the structures. These two assemblages will be described in detail, focusing on the artifacts that are unique in those assemblages.

The destruction assemblage is principally from the ash of zone 6, which preserved artifacts from the house interior in situ, but also from the overlying brick rubble, both inside the structure (zones 2 through 4) and immediately outside of the foundation (zone 2 rubble from the foundation units). The artifacts from zone 6, in particular, were large and evidently burned in situ. Comparison of the various zone 6 deposits speaks to distribution of artifacts in the house, or at least in the basement at the time of the fire.

This c.1807 destruction deposit may be compared to the midden that accumulated around the house throughout the occupation (zone 3). Zone 3, in turn, may be compared to the materials from the kitchen midden to discern differences between the two activity areas, and to the plowzone material from the southern structure. Materials from all of the assemblages are itemized in various tables that follow.



## Laboratory Methods

The archaeological assemblage includes cultural artifacts from 758 designated proveniences, soil samples, faunal materials, and samples of brick, intact mortar, and plaster. Each season, the collections were returned to The Charleston Museum, where they were accessioned under the initial gift agreement (Accession # 2003.046). Laboratory duties included the sorting, washing, identifying, and cataloging of all recovered artifacts. Since the funds available from the Knox Foundation were expended on the fieldwork, the laboratory processing was conducted by student interns from the College of Charleston (many of them graduates of the field school at the Parsonage) and long-time volunteers.

Cultural materials were washed in warm water, dried, and sorted by artifact type. The next step in analysis was identification of artifacts by provenience. The Museum's type collection, Noel Hume (1969), Stone (1974), Brown (1982), Ferguson (1992), and Deagan (1987) were the primary references used, with others consulted for specific artifacts. Ceramics were separated into types and, where possible, identified by vessel form. Cross-mends and matches were noted, but a complete cross-sorting by minimum number of vessels (MNIV) was not undertaken. Nails were identified by manufacture type, head type, and size, whenever possible. Architectural material was sampled, and rubble – brick, mortar, plaster – was weighed in the field by provenience and discarded.

All metal, ferrous and non-ferrous, was stabilized in the Museum's laboratory. Ferrous materials from this site were in remarkably good condition, compared to other lowcountry sites. This was particularly true with some of the burned nails. Several ferrous and all non-ferrous metal items were treated with electrolytic reduction. The ferrous items were placed in electrolysis in a weak sodium carbonate solution with a current of six amperes. Upon completion of electrolysis, ranging from a few weeks to a few months, they were placed in baths of distilled water to remove chlorides and air-dried. Finally, the materials were coated with a solution of tannic acid and phosphoric acid, and dipped in microcrystalline wax to protect the surfaces. Non-ferrous artifacts were also placed in electrolytic reduction, in a more concentrated solution with a current of 12 amperes. Electrolytic reduction of these artifacts was usually accomplished in one or two days. They were then placed in distilled water baths to remove surface chlorides, dried in ethanol, and gently polished with steel or brass wool before being coated with Inralac varnish to protect the surfaces.

## The General Site Assemblage

All of the various artifact assemblages are similar, and the summary of the survey material applies to the assemblage in general. The site contained an assemblage of artifacts typical of British colonial sites of the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. In order to be comparable to other excavated colonial sites, the artifact discussion follows Stanley

South's model for the Carolina Artifact Pattern (South 1977; Zierden et al. 1999). Under this method, artifacts are grouped, and then quantified, within eight broad categories:

- those relating to kitchen activities, such as food preparation, service, and storage
- those relating to architecture and the buildings themselves
- to arms and weaponry, including hunting and defense
- to clothing, its surviving elements, its manufacture and repair
- items of personal ownership
- to furniture and furnishings
- to tobacco smoking as an individual habit
- to a variety of daily activities on a relatively self-sufficient homestead, including gardening, storage, equestrian affairs, carpentry, blacksmithing, etc.

As most of the artifacts recovered from domestic sites have to do with the affairs of daily life, the largest group is usually those items associated with food preparation, storage and service. These are also the best-preserved and most visible, and so therefore often make up an artificially large proportion of surface collected material. On the sites of wealthy individuals, those of the service category were designed to display one's social status and knowledge of use that went with ownership of such display pieces.

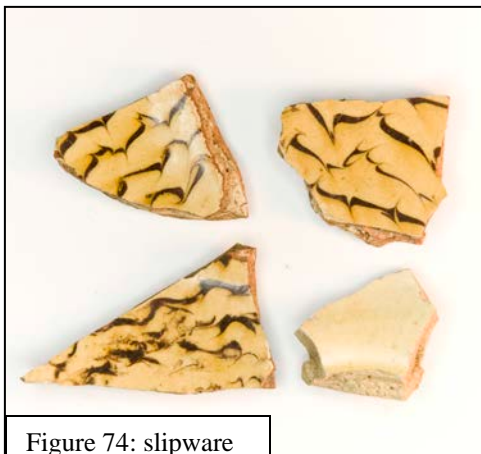


Figure 74: slipware



Figure 75: delft

Chinese porcelain was the most expensive and most desired of all colonial ceramics. The parsonage site contained a moderate amount of these, both the blue-on-white underglazed variety and the more elaborate overglaze enameled styles. The earliest English tablewares were tin-glazed earthenwares known as delft. This ceramic was manufactured from 1670 through 1795. Though common, delft was not very durable, and so fell into disuse after other English wares became more available. Delft was specifically replaced by white saltglazed stoneware, developed in 1740 and in use until the 1760s. This decorative refined stoneware was recovered in significant amounts at the parsonage, and was slightly more common than delft. Another common English ceramic of the 18<sup>th</sup> century was combed and trailed slipware, and it was in use throughout the century. These wares feature a clear to yellowed lead glaze over a variety of clay slips applied to a buff-colored body. Slipware came in hollow ware forms, as well as open bowls, and was likely used for food preparation as well as service. Slipware was slightly more common in the shovel tests than in the surface collection. Another hallmark of 18<sup>th</sup> century assemblages is Westerwald stoneware, distinguished by its grey body, dimpled grey glaze, and blue decorations. Westerwald was common in both the surface collection and

the shovel tests. Utilitarian vessels of brown saltglaze stoneware are also a common component of 18<sup>th</sup> century sites.

The parsonage site was occupied during an era of rapid development in the English ceramic market, both in terms of innovation and marketing. The leader of this innovative group of potters was Josiah Wedgwood. It was he who perfected the group of white-bodied ceramics known as refined earthenware, and spread them literally to the four corners of the world. These were inexpensive, durable, fashionable, and mass-produced. The earliest type exhibits clouded or swirled underglaze designs in brown,



Figure 76: Whieldon ware (left)  
Figure 77: Royal pattern Creamware (above)

yellow, and grey, or solid green. Known among archaeologists as Whieldon ware, this type of ceramic was manufactured from 1740 to 1760 (often in the same molds as the contemporary white saltglazed stoneware), and was never very common in the lowcountry. A few fragments were recovered from excavation units. Whieldon wares were rather rapidly replaced with the cream-colored ware known as Creamware or Queen's Ware, and available by 1762. It is this ceramic that dominates the parsonage site assemblage. Like the Chinese porcelain, creamware came in highly decorated and expensive styles, as well as relatively plain and inexpensive varieties.

In their quest for an all-white ceramic, Wedgwood and his contemporaries altered the refined earthenware glaze formula with the addition of cobalt to produce a bluish-tinted ware. Known collectively among archaeologists as pearlwares, these came



Figure 78: Pearlwares; transfer printed, hand painted

in a variety of decorative styles. Hand painted and shell edged wares appeared in 1780, while transfer printed and annular striped wares were available in 1795. Creamware, tinted yellowish, continued alongside the pearlwares in popularity. Though not as common as creamware, the parsonage site contains a number of pearlwares, in each of the four decorative groups.

Coarse earthenwares with an otherwise undecorative lead glaze are an important component of kitchen assemblages of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Lead-glazed earthenwares in

black, brown, dark green, orange-brown, and yellow are common on lowcountry sites, and come in a variety of sizes and forms. Cream pans are a common vessel type. The final type of ceramic common on 18<sup>th</sup> century sites is colono ware, which are low-fired, unglazed earthenwares of local manufacture. Colono ware is recovered on all lowcountry historic sites from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, particularly after 1730, through the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. In Charleston, colono wares comprise about 6% of the ceramic assemblage, though on rural plantations it can be as much as 50%. Archaeologists have determined that much of this ware was made by the African slaves who populated the lowcountry, though Native Americans, either slave or free, likely made some of the wares recovered (Anthony 2001; Ferguson 1992). The ware varies greatly in quality, ranging from thick, coarse sand-tempered ware to intermediate, burnished wares to fine, hard, micaceous types. The parsonage site contains an impressive collection of colono ware.

Another common component of the kitchen group is olive green glass from beverage bottles. These were generally, though not exclusively, used to hold alcoholic beverages, and were often reused. These were hand-blown, and exhibit a pontil scar on the base and irregularities throughout the glass. Seventeenth century examples are short and squat, known as ‘onion bottles’. They gradually get taller and narrower until, by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, green bottles exhibit the proportions found today (Noel Hume 1969). Fragments of olive green glass are common at the parsonage site. Another variety of glass container is small vials for medicine or condiments. These are also hand blown and exhibit a pontil scar at the base. They are often aqua or light olive green, but can also be made of clear glass. A few fragments were recovered from the parsonage.

Artifacts from the kitchen group dominated the survey assemblage, comprising nearly 80% of all artifacts. Colono wares, the pottery of local manufacture, dominated the ceramic assemblage, at 52%. Other commonly recovered ceramics include creamware, slipware, and white saltglazed stoneware. A moderate amount of olive green glass was recovered.



Architectural items include nails and window glass, the majority light aqua color, typical of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A few fragments of worked chert and lead shot comprised the arms group, while clothing items included buttons and buckles. Tobacco pipe fragments were also recovered. Assemblages retrieved from the site survey are shown in Table 1.

## The Parsonage Interior Assemblage

The materials retrieved from the building interior, in 2005 and 2009, reflect the materials in the structure at the time of destruction and abandonment. Though a small portion of the footprint was excavated, the data suggest that the structure was nearly empty – perhaps unoccupied – at the time of the fire and building collapse. A relatively small and limited number of items were retrieved from the ash and layers of rubble. These represent items in use, or at least present, in the structure in 1807.

A limited number of ceramics were discovered in Zone 6, burned in situ. These include mid-18<sup>th</sup> century types as well as later wares. Creamware and pearlware was recovered (developed in the 1760s and 1780s, respectively), but so was white saltglazed stoneware (1740-1760) and scratch blue stoneware (1744-1775). Creamware vessels include bowls, recovered from N510 E310, and royal pattern plates, from N515 E315. Pearlware was less common and more fragmentary, and was limited to undecorated and hand-painted examples. The white saltglazed stoneware vessel was a delicate, decorated cann or pitcher. The scratch blue stoneware included a tea saucer and fragments of a tea bowl; these were recovered from multiple units along the south side of the structure, including the ash at N515 E315. Chinese export porcelain, mostly tea wares, was also recovered across the interior.



Figure 81: Scratch blue stoneware



Figure 82: creamware

Brown saltglazed stoneware storage vessels, manufactured throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century, were the most numerous. Stoneware was recovered from the central unit N525 E310, as well as the southern and eastern areas. Finally, the base of a large lead-glazed earthenware vessel was recovered from N520 E325. This vessel featured red paste, a white slip, and yellowed lead glaze, with large dots of manganese (figure 109). Lead glazed redware was also recovered from N510 E305.

Colono ware was also recovered inside the parsonage house. Larger vessels include a large fragment of colono ware bowl from N525 E310. A large rim sherd from a globular jar came from the ash in N515 E315. Other fragments were recovered throughout the interior.



Figure 83: colono wares from the interior

These wares, plus Chinese export porcelain, delft, and combed and trailed slipware were recovered from the overlying rubble. Colono ware was particularly numerous in the zone 2 rubble outside of the structure. Brown saltglaze stoneware was also numerous in the rubble.



Figure 84: porcelain



Figure 85: brown saltglazed stoneware (burned)

The most common storage item from the house interior was olive green glass, much of it melted from the fire. The assemblage included 600 green glass fragments, over half from the ash zone. At least two square case bottles were also discarded in place. Another 997 fragments of fire-damaged green glass were recovered, the bulk from the ash zone. A few fragments of aqua and clear container glass, including those from

pharmaceutical bottles, were recovered. Examples of table glass included a tumbler base, a wine goblet stem, and fragments of drinking glasses. The final items were cutlery; a pewter spoon handle fragment was recovered. A delicate, two-tined iron knife was also recovered from N515 E315; the iron was well preserved, but the bone or wooden handle was no longer present. Kitchen items comprised 16% of the interior artifacts.



Figure 86: iron, pewter cutlery  
Figure 87: case bottle



The vast majority of the artifacts associated with the main house are architectural. Late 18<sup>th</sup> century window glass, aqua in hue, was recovered in large quantities, most of it melted. The exterior rubble featured a larger proportion of window glass that was not heat-altered, suggesting that windows may have shattered before the building burned completely. The assemblage included 1,661 melted fragments and 687 unaltered fragments. The distribution of window glass by weight is discussed in Chapter VII.

Nails were also recovered in large quantity (over 1600), and most of these were heat-fired, and thus well preserved. All of the recovered nails were hand wrought, indicating construction and use before 1780; there is little evidence for repair and rebuilding of the house in the last quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (in the form of machine-cut nails). and fell into three size categories. The first, and largest, group clustered at 1.5 inches and featured a rose head. “A rose head nail has a distinctive head created by four strikes of a hammer, giving it the form of a four-leaf clover. It was the most common nail employed for rough framing and attaching exterior cladding.” (Lounsbury 1994:412). A second group, averaging 2-2.5 inches, featured a clasp head. Those 3-3.5 inches also featured a clasp, or T-head. Architectural historian Carl Lounsbury suggests that “clasp head nails were manufactured like a rose head nail but was struck an additional two times on the sides of

Figure 88: nails from the interior



the head. The resulting nail formed a T head and was used in trim work” (Lounsbury 1994:412). Similar sized nails were also used for roofing or shingles. A small number of tacks (less than ½ inch) were also recovered from zone 6.

Other building hardware recovered from zone 6 in unit N52 E325 includes a H-L hinge, complete with clinched nails, as described in Chapter V. The clinched nails suggest the hinge was attached to a plank door approximately 1” thick. The door also featured a brass fixture, consisting of a post with a flanged base, plus a two-part hollow knob, approximately 1.5” by 2”. Three rings, affixed to cotter pins, were evidently part of the door hardware, as well. A slide bolt was also part of the recovered door hardware.

Furnishings included lead-filled brass finial, a furniture tack, and a brass hinge. A pair of dividers may have been stored in a desk or on a shelf nearby. A snaffle bit was also recovered from the same deposit. The final item was an unusual three-pronged iron piece, set with small nails; this may be a brace for a tea table or other furniture.



Figure 89: clockwise, from left; snaffle bit, dividers, hinge, melted finial

Very few clothing or personal items were recovered from the ash layer. These included three brass buttons. One was a large coat button; two others were small vest buttons, one molded with a flower or thistle design. The only personal item was a bone comb. Two pipe stems were recovered. A buckle and barrel strap were the only activities items. Artifact proportions for the destruction assemblage are shown below.

As is typical of most archaeological assemblages, kitchen and foodway artifacts dominated the assemblage, followed by architectural remains. Architectural debris was the dominant artifact in the ash/destruction layer, and provided direct evidence of the destruction of the house by fire, as well as details of the architectural layout. The lack of furnishing artifacts, as well as smaller personal possessions, such as clothing, personal



items, pipes, and even arms, suggests the house was largely empty at the time of the fire. Indeed, the relatively large kitchen group is dominated by olive green bottles, with very few ceramics. The bottle glass and brown stoneware may reflect storage in the house basement. The small number of kitchen ceramics and other household items contrasts with the rich, though fragmentary, assemblage recovered from the kitchen midden.

<b>Table 6: Interior Artifact Assemblage</b>	<u>Interior Zones 2-4</u>	<u>Interior Zone 6</u>	<u>Fea 64</u>	<u>Exterior Zone 2</u>
Porcelain, blue on white	2		1	6
Porcelain, overglazed	1			
Delft	1			
Combed and trailed slipware	1			
Lead glazed earthenware			1	
Nottingham stoneware	1			
White saltglazed stoneware		1	1	2
Scratch blue stoneware	1			
Creamware	8	3	3	12
Pearlware, undecorated	3			1
Pearlware, hand painted		2	2	1
Brown saltglazed stoneware	6	18		
Colono ware	9	2	1	17
Slipware, combed and trailed				2
Olive green glass	86	388	2	120
Olive green case bottle	9	1		
Olive green glass, melted	261	736		
Aqua container glass	2	1	2	11
Table glass	4	1	1	1
Spoon handle			1	
Aqua flat glass		19	9	659
Aqua flat glass, melted	469	1120	3	69
Ud nail/frag	54	162		26
Nail, T-head, 3.5"	73	164	4	89
Nail, T-head, 2.5"	46	118	3	
Nail, rose head, 1"	186	1161	13	
Tack		12		
Clinch nail	4	3		
Other hardware		4		
Tool/finial	1		1	
Hinge		1	1	
Furniture tack			1	
Compass/divider			1	
Button	1	1		1
Comb		1		
Folded metal		1		
Pipe stem		2		2
Pipe bowl		1		1
Snaffle bit			1	
Barrel strap			1	
Buckle	1			
Fork	1			
Saw blade				1
Misc iron				1
Misc brass				1

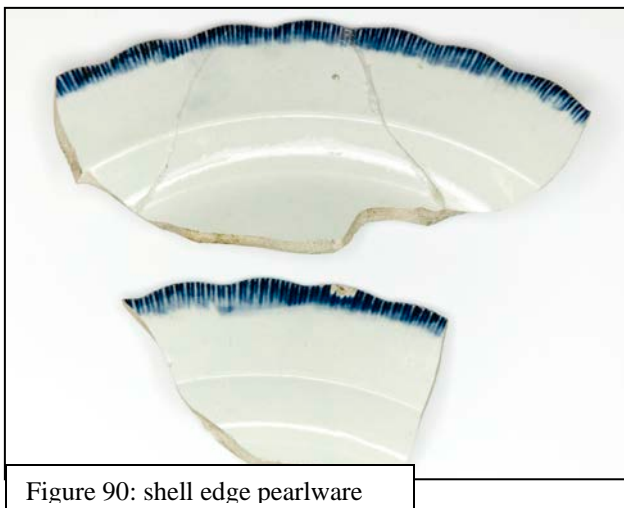
## The Kitchen Midden

Like the destruction layer from the interior of the parsonage, the debris recovered from the kitchen midden appears to have remained undisturbed since abandonment of the site in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Unlike the dwelling, the midden suggests a building used intensively throughout the occupation of the property. While the dwelling artifacts are large, those recovered from the kitchen area were relatively small, suggesting heavy trampling and mixing during the occupation of the site. Finally, unlike the parsonage house, the kitchen midden is dominated by artifacts from the kitchen group.

The ceramics at the kitchen were both more numerous and more diverse. The kitchen midden included a number of ceramic types not recovered at the main house, particularly those typical of the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The most remarkable aspect of the kitchen assemblage was the profusion of small fragments of colono ware. As discussed in Chapter IV, recognition that almost all of the small dirt-covered fragments in the screen were, in fact, small pottery sherds prompted removal of the screen residuals and careful screening in the lab. While this technique may have skewed the sample towards recovery of objects otherwise lost in quarter-inch dry screening, the fact remains that virtually no other site produced this density of small sherds and prompted such recovery technique. Therefore, the numbers presented in this discussion include all of the residual sherds, in direct comparison with other assemblages.

Colono wares comprised 68% of the 5310 ceramics from the kitchen units. While most of the colono ware fragments were very small, several larger pieces were recovered.



Creamwares and pearlwares comprised 10% of the kitchen ceramics. In addition to the earlier styles of pearlware (shell-edged, hand painted), the kitchen assemblage included a good number of blue transfer printed wares, as well as a smaller number of annular wares. A nearly complete plate of shell edged pearlware was recovered from N510 E405, while N535 E400 yielded fragments of transfer print and hand painted tea saucers, as well as a transfer print plate base and a hand-painted teapot lid.

A relatively large amount of Whieldon ware (1740-1760) was recovered from the kitchen. The 27 fragments included fragments of a teapot lid and base, as well as a saucer. One fragment of a 'cauliflower' decorated vessel was recovered.

Teaware forms were also noted among the 29 fragments of Jackfield ware. Produced from about 1740 to 1790, this ware features a fine clay body that ranges from purple to red, the red being the hallmark of Staffordshire potters. The common feature is a deep black, oily or shiny black lead glaze. Also part of the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century tea and tablewares recovered from the kitchen was 38 fragments of Nottingham stoneware. This is characterized by a hard grey stoneware body and a smooth or lustrous brown glaze over a white slip. The white slip distinguishes the Nottingham wares, and can be seen by viewing a ceramic fragment from the side. Nottingham was produced throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A few fragments of unglazed stonewares, the reddish Elers ware and Black Basalt ware, were part of the assemblage.

Like the parsonage house, the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century white saltglazed stoneware and scratch blue stoneware formed a significant component of the kitchen ceramic assemblage. Among the fragments of white saltglazed stoneware (n=229) was a fragment of cann with floral handle attachment identical to one recovered from the burned deposits inside the parsonage house. The scratch blue stoneware (n=18) included fragments of tea bowls and saucers.



Figure 91: White saltglazed stoneware

Fragments of Chinese export porcelain were common in the kitchen midden, with both blue underglaze and overglaze enameled examples recovered. Fragments of a small, very delicate blue on white saucer were recovered from multiple proveniences in N530 E390 (figure 84). Well-executed examples of overglaze decorated porcelain were also recovered. The nearly 200 fragments of porcelain comprised 3.6% of the ceramics.

The earliest tableware recovered from the kitchen was British delft, developed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and used throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Delft was largely replaced by the stonewares and refined earthenwares developed after 1740, but larger vessels such as plates, bowls, platters, and punch bowls were used throughout the century (Austin 1994). British delft features a soft yellow-to-buff colored earthenware paste and an opaque sometimes chalky-textured glaze of tin oxide. The glaze can be white to light blue, and cobalt blue decorations are the most common. Delft was 2% of the kitchen ceramics.

As expected, utilitarian (cooking and storage) vessels were common in the kitchen assemblage. Most common were combed and trailed slipwares from the Staffordshire and Bristol regions. Most of these wares feature a buff to yellow body with small dark inclusions. They were decorated with combed lines in iron oxide or manganese under a clear to pale yellow glaze. The large flatware pieces – shallow bowls of all sizes and shapes – were press-molded with a rim reminiscent of piecrust (Barker 1999:228). These were glazed on the interior only. The hollow wares – most often drinking pots or cups of

Figure 92: Combed and trailed slipware



various sizes, but also pitchers and candlesticks – are thinner, glazed on both sides, and most often feature a series of brown clay dots with combed trailings on the exterior. Slipwares average 10% of the 18<sup>th</sup> century ceramics in Charleston, and the 115 fragments comprised 6.5% of the kitchen ceramics. A nearly-complete drinking pot was recovered from N535 E400, while matching fragments of a large bowl were recovered from N510 E360.

A variety of lead glazed utilitarian wares came from the kitchen midden, including wares common in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Manganese Mottled Ware, used from 1670 through the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and Buckley, produced from 1720 to 1775). Lead-glazed wares in a variety of colors and forms were also common, as were earthenwares from the Philadelphia region. Together, these wares comprised 2% of the ceramics.

Utilitarian stonewares were also a major component of the ceramics. Somewhat surprisingly, the brown saltglazed stoneware jugs that were common in the main house were largely absent from the kitchen midden; only 9 fragments were recovered. The contemporary Westerwald stoneware was somewhat more common. This grey-bodied stoneware with salt glaze and cobalt blue decoration was produced through the 18<sup>th</sup> century; common forms of the mid- to late 18<sup>th</sup> century include chamber pots and tankards, while reed-neck jugs, porringers, and pots were more common in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The kitchen assemblage included a large tankard, as well as fragments of a “GR” medallion from a smaller vessel (figure 79).



Figure 93: utilitarian stonewares



Figure 94: Spanish grey ware

The most unusual ceramic discovery was several fragments of Spanish Greyware (Deagan 1987:39-40). This is an unglazed earthenware with a fine-grained, micaceous grey paste. Most common forms are basins and water jars. The ware was evidently produced in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup>

century and was most common in the last decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A few examples have been recovered in Charleston, but the ware is relatively rare.

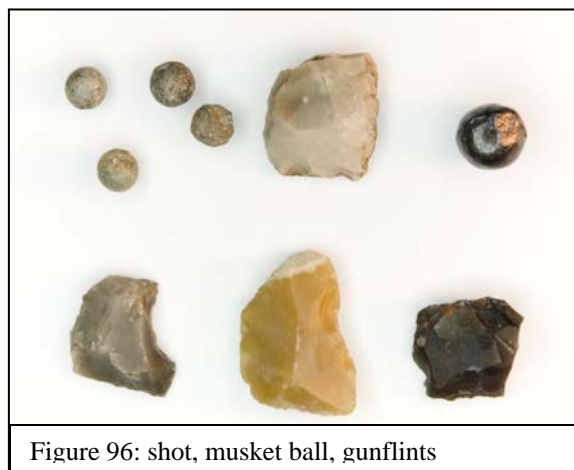
Unlike the parsonage house, which was dominated by green bottle glass, ceramics were the major component of the kitchen group in the midden. Olive green bottle glass was far less common, with less than 500 fragments recovered (compared to 5,000 ceramics). The glass group was also more varied; several fragments of clear and aqua container glass were recovered, including small pharmaceutical vials. Table glass was also common (42 fragments recovered), and included tumbler bases and goblet fragments.



As the above discussion suggests, items from the kitchen group (ceramics, bottle glass, cutlery, iron kettles) dominated the artifact assemblage from the kitchen; such wares comprised 69% of the kitchen assemblage. In addition to the ceramics and glass described above, two knife blades and six fragments from iron kettles were also recovered.

In contrast to the parsonage house, artifacts relating to architecture were less common in the kitchen midden, despite the location of the units on top of, and adjacent to, a structure. Architectural artifacts comprised 15% of the kitchen assemblage (compared to 40% of the main house assemblage). Still, the assemblage was considerable; over 1,000 nails were recovered. About half were identifiable as to type, and the majority of these were hand-wrought. Over a quarter, however, were machine cut, suggesting construction or renovation after 1780. Window glass was present, but was much less common than at the main house (188 fragments).

As mentioned above, the kitchen midden was much more varied than the assemblage from the house; this is reflected in the large number of artifacts from functional categories other than kitchen and architecture. Twenty-nine artifacts related to arms were recovered, comprising .4% of the assemblage. Three gun flints and eleven flint flakes were recovered. Shot in two sizes (6mm and 10mm) were found throughout the units (15 total).



Clothing items comprised .3% of the assemblage, and included a number of brass buttons. Most were small, decorated vest buttons. A pewter button and a brass cuff link were also recovered; the small clear glass jewel may have been set in this same cuff link. Glass or paste jewels, often with a foil backing, were popular in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Also recovered from the kitchen were two scissors, likely small sewing scissors. Laundry and sewing functions were often combined with kitchen functions in the same building, both in the city and on plantation sites in the colonial period (Zierden and Reitz 2007). Finally, four glass beads were recovered, including two blue with white stripes, a large blue wire-wound bead, and a fragment of a cornaline d' alleppo.

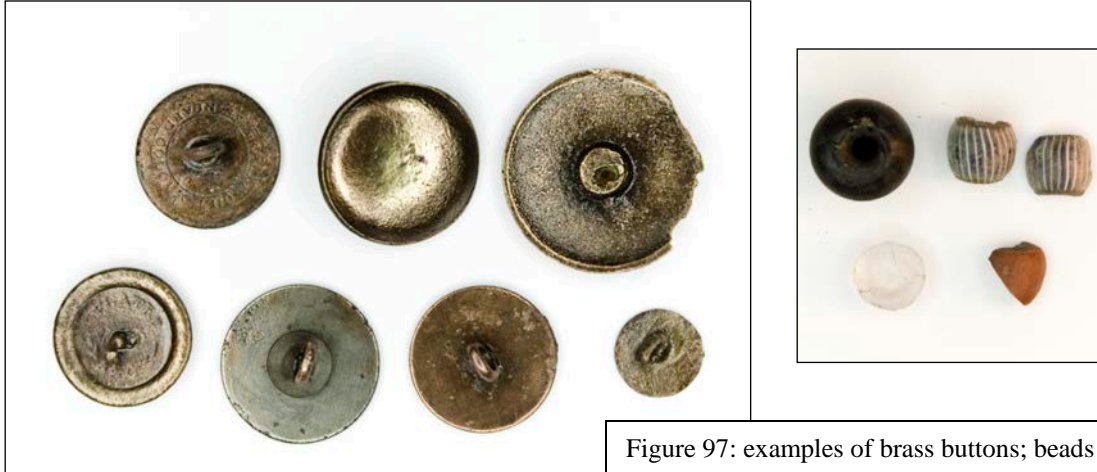


Figure 97: examples of brass buttons; beads and paste jewel

Two coins, both badly worn, comprised the personal group. One was a George III halfpenny; though the date is illegible, it appears to date to the 1770s. Furniture items were more common (.3% of the assemblage), and this group was comprised entirely of brass upholstery tacks.



Figure 98: upholstery tacks, George II halfpennies

Tobacco pipes were common at the kitchen; 310 artifacts comprised 4% of the total assemblage. Most unusual was a pipe of colono ware.

Finally, activities items comprised .5% of the assemblage, and included iron fragments, lead fragments, and barrel strap.

**Table 7: Artifacts, Kitchen Midden**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>total</u>
Porcelain, b/w	58	103	161
Porcelain, overglaze	17	15	32
Porcelain, English			
Brown saltglaze stoneware		9	9
Westerwald stoneware	16	19	35
Grey sg stoneware	3	23	26
White sg stoneware	82	147	229
Scratch blue	5	13	18
Nottingham	18	20	38
Elers ware	1		1
Black basalt ware	1	1	2
Whieldon ware	5	22	27
Creamware	57	213	270
Creamware, decorated	1		
Pearlware, undecorated	15	83	98
Pearlware, shell edge	7	44	51
Pearlware, hand paint	6	41	47
Pearlware, transfer print	5	68	73
Pearlware, annular	2	6	8
Delft	38	77	115
Comb and trail slipware	88	258	346
Mottled ware	6	6	12
mid-atlantic ware	2	9	11
jackfield	13	16	29
lead glazed earthenware	7	50	57
Spanish grey ware		11	11
Moravian earthenware	1		
Buckley		11	11
Colono wares	560	3033	3593
Olive green glass	93	389	482
Clear container	21	106	127
Aqua container	15	91	106
Amber	2		
Pharmaceutical		4	4
Table glass	11	31	42
Iron kettle	3	3	6
Cutlery, knife		2	2
Wrought nail	156	228	384
Cut nail	26	111	137
u.d. nail		233	233
nail frag	46	220	266
window glass	116	72	188
delft tile			
flint	2	1	3
flint flake		11	11
shot, small		15	15
shot, large			
brass button		11	11

pewter button		1	1
cuff link		1	1
glass bead	1	3	4
paste jewel		1	1
buckle		1	1
scissors		2	2
coin		2	2
furniture tack	4	21	25
misc brass			
tobacco pipe bowl		117	117
pipe stem	11	181	192
colono ware pipe		1	1
misc iron	17	8	25
drill bit			
horse shoe			
buckle			
misc lead		2	2
hoe			
barrel strap		7	7

### **The Main House midden**

In addition to the two assemblages described above, two others merit some discussion. Soils around the main house foundation excavated as zone 3 appear to be surface midden that accumulated during the use-life of the house; it also appears that the midden contains materials deposited during destruction of the house.

The zone 3 assemblage contained 2,785 artifacts, of which 30% were kitchen items. These were evenly divided between ceramics and bottle glass. The ceramics included a wide range of types in use during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and was more similar to the kitchen midden than the assemblage inside the burned house. Refined earthenwares from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries were present in the assemblage, but creamware was much more numerous than the later pearlwares; only two fragments of pearlware manufactured after 1795 (transfer print pearlware) were recovered.

Ceramics typically associated with the early to mid-18<sup>th</sup> century were recovered in relatively large numbers. Delft and, particularly, Combed and Trailed Slipware were a major component of the midden ceramic assemblage. White saltglazed stoneware, from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, was also present in significant numbers. Colono wares comprised 11% of the ceramics.

Olive green bottle glass dominated the glass group. Significant amounts of clear and aqua container glass, from condiments or medicines, was recovered, as well. A single fragment of table glass was recovered.



A moderate number of nails were recovered from the midden (184 nails and 32 nail fragments). All of the identifiable nails were hand-wrought. The assemblage, however, was dominated by fragments of window glass; the 1,690 fragments of glass, together with the nails, raised the proportion of architectural items to 68.5% of the zone 3 assemblage. Most of the glass was not melted, but the large number must be the result of disaster, rather than daily use.

Arms items included two gun flints and a lead shot (.1% of the assemblage). Two furniture tacks were recovered. Sixteen pipestems comprised .5% of the assemblage, while the frequency of activities items was the same. The activities group included barrel strap fragments, as well as brass and iron scrap and brass wire.

**Table 8: Artifacts from the main house midden (zone 3)**

Porcelain, b/w oriental	36	Olive green glass	353
Porcelain, overglazed	2	Aqua bottle glass	20
Westerwald stoneware	13	Clear bottle glass	42
Grey saltglazed stoneware	2	Pharmaceutical	1
White saltglazed stoneware	48	Table glass	1
Scratch blue stoneware	1		
Nottingham stoneware	3	Wrought nail	184
Whieldon ware	3	nail frag	32
Creamware	125	window glass	1690
Pearlware, undecorated	2		
Pearlware, shell edged	6	flint	2
Pearlware, hand painted	9	shot	1
Pearlware, transfer printed	2		
Delft	24	furniture tack	2
Slipware, comb and trail	51		
Jackfield ware	5	pipe bowl	5
Olive Jar	1	pipe stem	11
Colono, Yaughan	9		
Colono, Lesesne lustered	67	misc. iron	4
Colono, River burnished	2	barrel strap	1
Colono, residual	11	misc brass	7
Colono, aboriginal	3	wire	4

## The Southern Structure

The final artifact assemblage to be considered as a unit is the materials retrieved from plowzone excavations in the vicinity of the structure at N300 E300. Unlike the parsonage house and the kitchen area, there was little direct evidence of a fire in this vicinity, though it must be noted that no direct structural evidence was encountered.

The 5' units excavated in 2005 and 2009 produced 2,020 artifacts. Unlike the previous assemblage, the majority of these were kitchen items, primarily ceramics. Unlike the middens around the kitchen and main house, the majority of the wares retrieved from the southern excavation were refined earthenwares, in use during the last quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and first decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Creamware was the most common ceramic recovered (386), and pearlwares were only slightly less common. The 182 pearlwares recovered were principally styles developed in 1780, though a small number of transfer printed wares, developed after 1795, were recovered. Refined earthenwares comprised 66% of the total ceramics.

Colono wares were also common at the southern structure; 256 fragments comprised nearly 30% of the ceramics. Ceramics associated with the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century comprised less than 5% of the total, and included Chinese porcelain, white saltglazed stoneware, delft, earthenware, and brown saltglazed stoneware. Three foreign wares were recovered; most remarkable were two fragments of Moustiers yellow on white faience and a single sherd of Spanish olive jar.

Bottle glass comprised the remaining 30% of the kitchen group. Olive green glass was the most common artifact, though fragments of clear and aqua container glass were proportionally more common. An increase in clear and aqua bottle glass in relation to dark green is typical of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Table 9: Artifacts, Southern Structure**

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>total</u>
Porcelain, b/w	3	3	6
Porcelain, overglaze	1	3	4
White saltglaze stoneware		2	2
Delft	2	2	4
Faience		3	3
Olive jar	1		1
Creamware	77	309	386
Pearlware, undec.	14	64	78
Pearlware, shell edge		13	13
Pearlware, hand paint	8	66	74
Pearlware, transfer print	2	15	17
Brown saltglaze stoneware		9	9
Grey saltglaze stoneware	3	3	6
u.d. stoneware		7	7
lead glazed earthenware		3	3

colono ware	34	222	256
olive green glass	21	249	270
aqua container glass	1	24	25
clear container glass	7	53	60
table glass	1	1	2
aqua flat glass	135	354	489
nail/nail frag	74	166	240
misc. hardware		1	1
flint		1	1
buckle	1	1	2
pipe bowl	1	6	7
pipe stem	2	4	6
strap metal	10	37	47
misc lead		1	1



## Chapter VII Interpretations

### Dating the Assemblage

As is standard, all archaeological deposits from this site were dated on the basis of stratigraphic point of initiation and Terminus Post Quem. Stratigraphic point of initiation (or the relative vertical position of the top of a feature or zone) states that soils gradually accumulate on sites of human occupation and that the deepest is the earliest. Terminus Post Quem, or TPQ, is based on the invention date of the newest artifact in the provenience. Both principals are used in combination to date events on sites.

These dating tools cannot be used specifically for the shovel test or surface collection data, as there is no vertical separation of the artifacts. The plowed portion of the site, in particular, has lost the vertical layering reflected in stratigraphy. Examination of the artifact assemblage as a whole suggest that they contain some artifacts manufactured throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century and others produced for a short time during the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Still others, the refined earthenwares, were manufactured and used in the final decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Taken together, the artifact assemblage is in agreement with the documented dates of occupation, from circa 1767 through 1807 (Table 1).

The principals of TPQ and stratigraphy were applied to the units excavated in the wooded area, those at the main house foundation and in the midden area. There was some evidence for temporal stratification in the midden units. The refined earthenwares, manufactured after 1760 and after 1780, were confined to the upper zones, particularly zones 1 and 2 and the upper levels of Feature 1, the ash layer. Lower levels of feature 1, as well as the features initiating below the ash, contained ceramics typical of the 1740s, such as whieldon ware and white saltglazed stoneware. The midden around the main house, in contrast, contained a number of later ceramics as well as architectural artifacts, suggesting this midden contains some materials deposited at the time of site abandonment (see Table 8).

A final measure applied to the site assemblage was calculation of the Mean Ceramic Date. This principal, developed by Stanley South (1972), aids in determining period of occupation, as the Terminus Post Quem merely allows dating of the fill. It is based on the principals of popularity and life cycle of manufactured items, specifically ceramics, to determine a peak period of site occupation, based on the frequency of each ceramic type and its median date of manufacture. While the Mean Ceramic Date does not provide an absolute time of deposition, or range of occupation, it does hint at the most active period of site occupation, based on relative frequency of datable artifacts.

Based on the assumption of a mid-18<sup>th</sup> century date of construction through abandonment in 1807, the documented mean date of occupation for the parsonage is 1778. The shovel test assemblage produced a mean ceramic date of 1770. The surface collection, dominated by refined earthenwares, produced a later mean ceramic date of

1783. In contrast, the 2003 excavation unit in the kitchen midden produced the earliest date, 1758, reflecting a preponderance of early ceramics in those features. The zone 3 assemblage from the main house that same year also produced a relatively early date of 1763. These dates may reflect the lengthy availability of the wares that span the entire 18<sup>th</sup> century, or they may suggest that the heaviest use of the site occurred in the third quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, rather than the fourth quarter. This will be explored with the two large assemblages, those from the parsonage interior and the kitchen midden.

When the 2007 units from the kitchen midden area are tabulated with the 2003 test unit, the resulting assemblage and Mean Ceramic Date are much later; 1650 datable artifacts produced a mean ceramic date of 1770.36. As noted above, this date matches the documented mean occupation date. It also reflects the varying contexts recovered in the two projects. Many of the ceramics from the 2003 unit were retrieved from large features below the ash layer (feature 1) that appears to reflect destruction of the site. The 2007 units contained more extensive deposits of feature 1, and therefore proportionately later artifacts. This is reflected in the difference in mean ceramic dates.

The smaller zone 3 assemblage from around the main house appeared to be similar in deposition history; a grey sand containing ceramics and artifacts from the daily occupation, plus debris from destruction of the house. The mean ceramic date of 1763, earlier than the MCD for the kitchen midden, mirrors the ceramic totals. Artifacts from the house destruction in zone 3 were principally window glass, while the majority of the ceramics are associated with daily life during the 60 years of occupation.

In contrast to the two midden assemblages that accumulated gradually throughout the occupation of the site, the refuse from the parsonage house interior should contain only materials in active use at the time of the destructive fire and site abandonment. This does not necessarily mean that all of the objects in the house were new at the time; instead, a household may include objects in use for several years, and even heirloom objects that remain part of the household. Nonetheless, the interior assemblage was expected to produce a later mean ceramic date than the middens. The opposite was, in fact, the case. Initially, the assemblage produced a mean ceramic date of 1752. This reflects the small size of the ceramic assemblage (only 89 specimens), with a preponderance of brown saltglazed stoneware fragments. Brown saltglaze stoneware was manufactured for a very long period, and therefore has a very early mid-date (1697), despite the fact that fragments recovered were likely manufactured much later. When the brown saltglaze specimens are removed from the MCD calculations, the resulting date is still earlier than expected, 1773.5. The small assemblage included mid-18<sup>th</sup> century saltglazed tablewares, as well as later creamwares. This serves as a cautionary tale in relying too heavily on a single analysis or source of information to interpret a site.

As anticipated by the surface survey (see figures 25-26), the plowzone assemblage from the southern structure produced a significantly later mean ceramic date. The 603 ceramics were dominated by refined earthenwares, producing a mean ceramic date of 1789. This is significantly later than the documented mean date of occupation,

**Table 10**  
**Mean Ceramic Date Calculations (examples)**

Ceramic type	date range	mid-date	Kitchen midden		So. Structure	
Porcelain, b/w	1660-1800	1730	161	278530	6	10380
Porcelain, og	1700-1780	1740	32	55680	4	6960
Brown saltglaze sw	1620-1775	1697			9	15273
Westerwald stoneware	1700-1775	1737	35	60795		
Grey saltglaze sw	1650-1725	1687	26	43862	6	10122
Nottingham	1700-1810	1755	38	66690		
White saltglaze sw	1740-1770	1757	229	402353	2	3514
Scratch blue sw	1744-1775	1759	18	31662	1	1759
Faience	1730-1790	1760			3	5280
Mang. Mottled ware	1670-1750	1720	12	20640		
Slipware, Comb+trail	1670-1795	1732	346	599272		
Buckley	1720-1775	1747	11	19217		
Delft	1660-1800	1750	115	201250	4	7000
Jackfield	1740-1780	1760	29	51040		
Mid-Atlantic ware	1750-1800	1775	11	19595		
Elers ware	1763-1775	1769	1	1769		
Black basalt ware	1750-1820	1785	2	3570		
Spanish grey ware	1750-1830	1780	11	19580		
Whieldon ware	1740-1780	1760	27	47520		
Creamware	1760-1820	1790	270	483300	386	690940
Pearlwares, 1780	1780-1820	1800	196	352800	165	297000
Pearlwares, 1795	1795-1830	1812	81	146772	17	30804
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1650</b>	<b>1770.3</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>1789</b>

*Date ranges derived from Noel Hume (1969) and South (1977); some amended to correspond to historical/archaeological events in the lowcountry*

The Mean Ceramic Date Formula, as developed by Stanley South, is calculated as the sum of (median date for each type X frequency of each type) divided by number of ceramics.

South, Stanley

1972 Evolution and Horizon as Revealed in Ceramic Analysis in Historic Archaeology. *Conference on Historic Sites Archaeology Newsletter* 6(2):71-106.

Finally, it must be noted that the Mean Ceramic Date formula reflects the mean date of manufacture, and not necessarily the mean date of use. There is likely considerable time lag between the manufacture, sale, purchase, use, and discard of an object. This may be balanced against the long use period for some ceramics, whether because of durability or because of careful and occasional use (curation). Long-term analysis of archaeological assemblages against documented site histories in Charleston suggests that an average time lag for manufacture and use/discard of objects is approximately twenty years (see Zierden and Reitz 2006:91-94). This is generally supported by the parsonage data. The parsonage provides further insight into time lag and use life of durable objects, with the recovery of mid-18<sup>th</sup> century tablewares in the

early 19<sup>th</sup> century destruction layer. Both white saltglazed stoneware and scratch blue stoneware were made for a relatively short time, in the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Yet, large, intact examples were recovered from the 1807 ash layer. The possibility that the house was unoccupied at the time of the fire, and the objects there abandoned (possibly in the basement) may suggest that the materials went unused for a number of years. The frequent turnover in site occupants would, however, argue against unused materials remaining in the house for an extended period.

The parsonage data underscore the value of using multiple lines of evidence, and a range of analytical tools, to interpretation of colonial sites. The parsonage site is unique in that the excavated proveniences resulted from multiple processes, and post-occupational disturbance has been minimal. Assemblages that reflect the entirety of site occupation, particularly the midden around the main house and around the kitchen building, differ in content from those resulting from a single destructive event and from an area likely constructed late in the occupation of the site. Application of the mean ceramic date formula has revealed differences among midden, plowzone, and destruction assemblages. It has also demonstrated the close agreement of archaeological and documentary dates of site occupation.

## Site Formation

As the above discussion suggests, the methods by which living sites become archaeological sites influence the type and number of artifacts that will be retrieved. In order to most fully interpret the recovered materials, it is important to consider site formation processes, the physical events that form the archaeological site.

Cultural materials become part of an archaeological deposit by four basic methods: discard, loss, destruction, or abandonment (Schiffer 1977). Discard, the throwing away of refuse, is the most common form of site formation. Artifacts and other debris are either broadcast on the ground surface, gradually forming zone deposits, or placed in newly dug (trash pits) or previously existing holes (such as abandoned wells, clay extraction pits, privy pits, etc.) called features. Items deposited due to loss are usually small, such as buttons, straight pins, coins, toys, etc. Abandonment includes destruction of buildings and their contents from fire or storm, or the artifacts left behind or thrown out when tenants vacate a property. In some cases, including the parsonage, it is possible to distinguish proveniences (the defined archaeological boundaries of single behaviors) resulting from specific depositional processes. This can sometimes be determined from the location of the provenience, the physical appearance of the provenience, or the contents of the provenience. In other cases, such as the parsonage, there is graphic physical evidence of the processes at work.

Once in the ground, artifacts can be redistributed or they can be removed (Ascher 1968; Honerkamp and Fairbanks 1984; Schiffer 1983). Usually the archaeological record is a combination of all three events. Redistribution or removal can be done by the same site occupants who created the deposit, or these events can happen much later, by



subsequent users. Under these conditions, the archaeological deposits are said to be disturbed. The most common form of site disturbance is plowing for agricultural purposes, following abandonment of a domestic site. Plowing compromises an archaeological site by displacing deposits vertically and removing any distinct soil layering or stratigraphy; this means that archaeological materials in a plowed deposit may be used to date the site on a general level only.

Based on Schiffer's definition, the parsonage site contains evidence of daily discard and destruction followed by abandonment. Beginning with the most common process, it is safe to say that much of the refuse encountered on the site is the result of daily discard. This is particularly true for zone 3, the midden surrounding the main house, as well as the levels below the ash in the area of the kitchen building. The small size of ceramics and broad range of artifacts in kitchen midden, in particular, are evidence of trash deposited principally on the ground surface and generally shuffled about under foot traffic, before becoming part of the general zone accumulation.

The parsonage site is an excellent case study for the difference between an artifact assemblage that is discarded versus one that is abandoned. Generally, an abandoned deposit will contain items not thrown away on a daily basis. While abandonment summons up visions of a catastrophe, one accompanied by destruction, this does not have to be the case. In Charleston, for example, many assemblages have been classified as 'abandonment' that results from an occupant vacating a site. This has parallels in modern society, where a 'big clean out' and yard sale accompanies a move: you finally throw out all those half-full jellies, pickles and supplies you've been storing. In such cases, abandonment is not related to destruction.



Figure 99: Examples of rarely-discarded artifacts; scissors from the kitchen area, rice hoe from the dwelling basement

At the nearby, and contemporary, Stobo plantation (Zierden et al. 1999), abandonment followed destruction, resulting in a rich archaeological assemblage in the main house area that was different from one in the yard. In addition to small, lost items

such as beads and straight pins, shots and gunflints, the archaeological record contained objects that are rarely discarded, such as scissors and sword handles, but also walking canes and furniture hardware. At Stobo, the destruction of the house was deduced by the placement of these artifacts, and the presence of an overlying midden that suggested decay. A destructive storm was interpreted from the available evidence. There was no evidence for fire.

The parsonage site, in contrast, contained graphic evidence of a catastrophic fire, and evidence that the entire site was abandoned shortly thereafter. The large artifacts recovered from the house interior, and the large sections of brick wall, as well as the overall appearance of the mound and its overlying topsoil, provided graphic evidence that the site was destroyed, and subsequently abandoned. This is suggested in the documents, as well. It is interesting that the documents describe the church as “burn’t” but do not mention the parsonage. But proveniences around the kitchen foundation as well as the building interior suggest that all of the buildings associated with the second Willtown church burned at the same time.

The burned deposits in the parsonage interior contained artifacts typical of a destruction signature; large artifacts in situ, few in number. These may be interpreted as primary refuse, objects left in their place of use, and untouched after abandonment. As we have seen in the artifact profiles, the proportions of materials that result from abandonment are quite different than those from gradual accumulation of trash over a long time.

## Artifact Distribution and Architectural Analysis

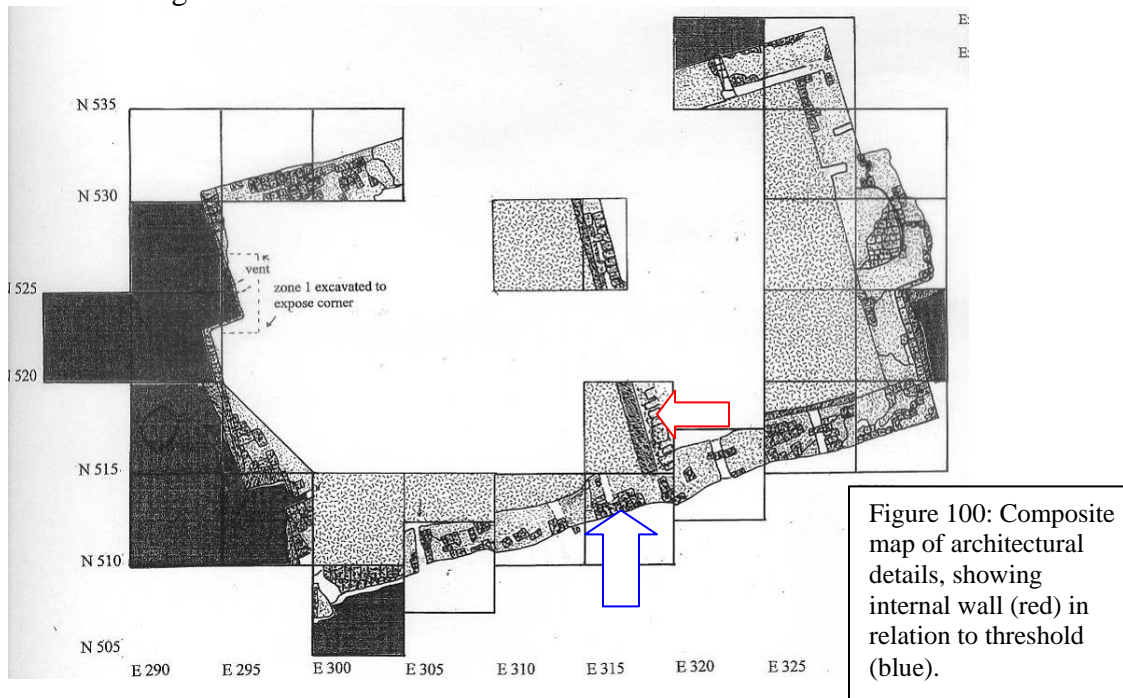
Because of the sudden destruction and abandonment of the parsonage house, the artifacts retrieved around and inside likely represent primary refuse. This is material that has not been moved from the time of initial deposit. In such cases, horizontal distribution of materials can vary according to site activity. All of the units excavated in 2005 were located on, or beside, the foundation of the house. Variations in distribution therefore inform on the layout and use of the house. Excavations on the interior in 2009 provide an additional set of data.

Much of the site is intact and the product of primary refuse disposal. Exposure of the majority of the foundation, combined with analysis of artifact distribution, provides some solid clues to the layout and appearance of the house, though these become more speculative as one moves from foundation to roof. Data from the project were reviewed by a number of experts in historical architecture throughout the course of the project. Following the 2005 exposure of the foundation, Dr. Carl Lounsbury and Dr. Willie Graham of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, and Dr. Orlando Ridout of Maryland Historical Trust reviewed the artifacts, photographs, brickwork, and site maps. Dr. Lounsbury provided further interpretation the building and interior layout following the 2009 excavations of the interior. Dr. Carter Hudgins of the National Trust for Historic Preservation - Drayton Hall and Mr. Matt Webster (formerly Drayton Hall, currently

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation) also provided architectural guidance and prepared the GIS map of the structure.

The structure is rectangular, and measures 22.5' by 36'. Exterior chimneys are present on both narrow (gable) walls, and each protrudes an additional 2'. This general configuration suggests a multi-room plan. There is tentative evidence along the south wall for a central entrance. The central area on the northern side was unavailable for excavation, so a second entrance on the north site is possible, but undocumented. The rooms were each heated by the external fireplaces.

Based on the 2005 excavations, a central hall floor plan was proposed. The internal excavations in 2009 instead revealed a single wall, offset to the east, suggesting instead a two room hall-chamber floor layout. The larger of the two rooms measured 18' by 18', while the smaller (east) room measured 12' by 18'. Interpretation of the section of header bricks centered in the south foundation as an entrance was supported by discovery of burned wood and door hardware in unit N515 E315. The position of the internal wall foundation to the east of this area suggests a central door opened directly into the larger of the two rooms.



Though there is no direct archaeological evidence, it is likely that the structure was a single story. Lounsbury (personal communication) suggests that single-story structures were more common before 1775. Absent any further data, a single-story building is suggested. Following this, Lounsbury further suggests the amount of brick present in the mound, and the thickness of the walls suggests a structure entirely of brick. We have no evidence for roof style or materials, but it is likely the two narrow walls, with chimneys, were gable ends (Lounsbury 1994:153). The quantity of wood charcoal retrieved from the excavation units on the building interior suggests wooden rafters and possibly a wooden shingle roof.

The preserved foundation varies in height, but seems substantial enough to support a semi-subterranean basement or cellar area, as well. These spaces typically served as storage rooms or work spaces. The well-executed masonry and numerous vent openings suggest a space large enough to benefit from air circulation, approximately 3' in height. The crushed red brick layer (zone 7) appears to be a prepared surface for the basement space. The quantity of ash directly above is likely from a raised wooden floor and support joists. Joist placement was suggested by the plastered joist pocket preserved

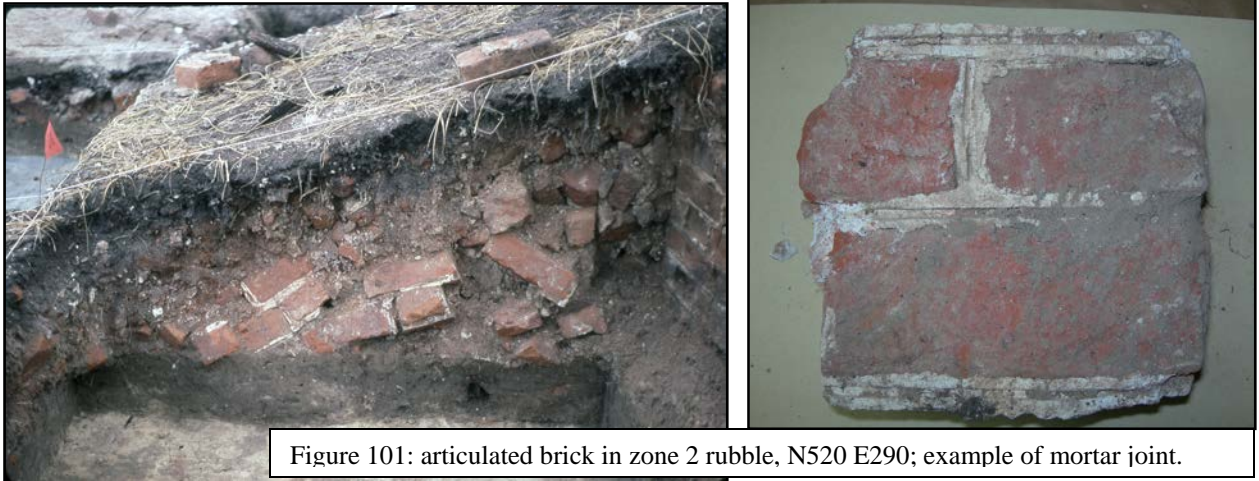


Figure 101: articulated brick in zone 2 rubble, N520 E290; example of mortar joint.

in the north foundation. The brick varied in hardness and quality, and is likely of local origin. Recovery of finish-coat plaster, as well as intact plaster on the wall section in N525E213 suggesting the interior brick walls were plastered. The struck joints, white lime mortar, and English bond suggest “a very good house for its time and place” (Lounsbury 2010 p.c.)



Figure 102: Window glass, intact and heat-altered, from the interior

Finally, as discussed above, the structure evidently had many windows, likely located on the north and south sides. In keeping with the style common by the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, these were likely sash windows, with rectangular glass panes. Fragments of hand-blown aqua glass were common in the rubble, and in the exterior midden. The interior units produced large amounts of melted glass, including some large, multi-layered conglomerations.

Nails were also recovered in large quantity (over 1600), and most of these were heat-fired, and thus well preserved. All of the recovered nails were hand wrought, indicating construction and use before 1780; there is little evidence for repair and rebuilding of the house in the last quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (in the form of machine-cut nails). The preserved nails fell into three size categories. The first, and largest, group clustered at 1.5 inches and featured a rose head. “A rose head nail has a distinctive head created by four strikes of a hammer, giving it the form of a four-leaf clover. It was the most common nail employed for rough framing and attaching exterior cladding.” (Lounsbury 1994:412). A second group, averaging 2-2.5 inches, featured a clasp head. Those 3-3.5 inches also featured a clasp, or T-head. Architectural historian Carl Lounsbury suggests that “clasp head nails were manufactured like a rose head nail but was struck an additional two times on the sides of the head. The resulting nail formed a T head and was used in trim work” (Lounsbury 1994:412). Similar sized nails were also used for roofing or shingles. A small number of tacks (less than ½ inch) were also recovered from zone 6. It is likely that the larger nails were from framing, and the smaller nails from trim or, given their quantity, flooring.

Unit N515 E315 revealed a deep deposit of zone 6 ash, followed by a dense layer of burned wood. The location, plus the nature of the charcoal and the artifacts, suggests that the door was encountered in this unit. A selection of door hardware was recovered, including two pull rings with clinched nails, and a brass door knob or door pull. The burned wood, consisting of planks 3” across and 1” thick, corresponds to the depth of the clinched nails on the H-L hinge recovered in an adjacent unit. Based on the recovery of door hardware and the location of the burned wood adjacent to the brick threshold, feature 64 is interpreted as the door, burned in place.



Figure 103: Hardware from the parsonage door: H-L hinge, with clinched nails; oval door pull and stem of brass

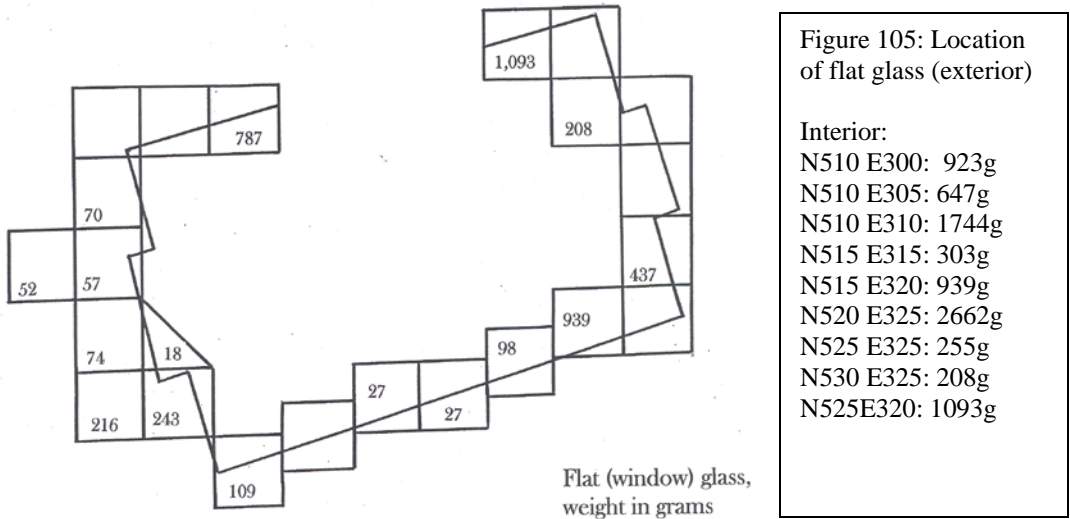
Taken together, the archaeological evidence indicates a well-made house of moderate size. The high-quality masonry, echoed in the brass door hardware and the plastered interior, suggests at least some attention to quality and detail, resulting in a house that was fashionable as well as functional.



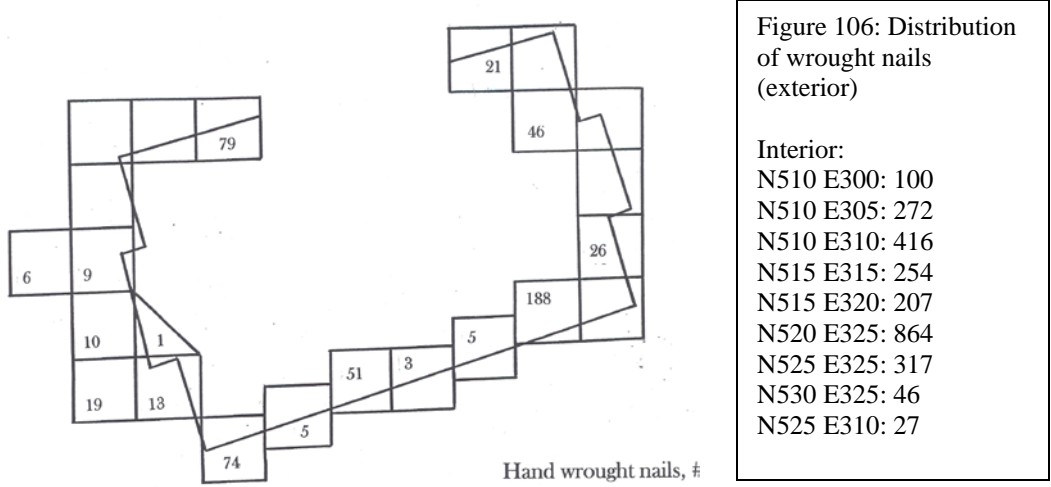
To further define the architecture of the parsonage, artifacts recovered along the foundation and in the interior were tabulated by excavation unit. For the 2005 units that were excavated into zone 3 on the building exterior, zones 2 and 3 were added together. Five artifact categories were considered. Most significant for expanding our view of architectural style is the distribution of window glass. This distribution was calculated by weight as well as count, and the results were the same. Window glass is relatively sparse along the west wall and, to a lesser extent, along the east wall. These appear to be the gable ends with external fireboxes, and they evidently did not have windows. Glass is concentrated in two units along the north and south walls, suggesting these are the locations of windows. Heavy concentrations are noted along the north wall, indicating that this may be the front of the house, or at least the location of the largest windows. Glass is distributed in a similar manner along the south wall, though lesser amounts were recovered. Unlike the north wall, where trees blocked access to the middle third, the entire south wall was exposed. Here, it was possible to detect concentrations of window glass near the southwest and southeast corners, and lesser amounts in the center. This, combined with evidence for a threshold in the brickwork, suggests a central door flanked by two windows.

The internal data are more robust, though perhaps a bit more ambiguous. Here, window glass was tabulated by weight, so that the large conglomerations would count for more than a single fragment. Internally, glass was again concentrated at the two south corners, but was also numerous adjacent to the central door. The large amount of glass in N520 E325 may be a bit misleading, in that this is the largest excavation unit. Generally, the internal excavations supported the interpretation of windows in the two long walls, and no openings in the two gable ends. The concentrations in the corners as well as the

center may suggest two window openings in each of the two rooms. The single interior unit along the north wall, at the northeast corner, also yielded a large amount of window glass.



Nails are more equitably distributed, with exterior concentrations noted at the corners of the structure. Large numbers of nails were recovered from the two interior samples (units N515E325 and N530E325), suggesting that most of the building structure collapsed inward. All of the nails recovered were hand-wrought, indicating construction and use before 1780; there is thus little evidence for repair or rebuilding of the house in the last quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The interior excavations yielded larger numbers of wrought nails, distributed across the interior in no particular pattern. Surprisingly few were recovered from the interior units. Again, a large number in N520 E325 may simply reflect unit size.



The domestic artifacts were distributed in a slightly different manner than the architectural materials. Three categories were considered; olive green bottle glass, European ceramics, and colono wares. Because of the high volume, bottle glass was calculated by weight as well as artifact count; the distribution by weight is considered for

the present discussion. Distribution of glass was highly variable by unit, as one proceeds around the perimeter of the structure. When units from each of the four sides of the structure are added together, a different picture emerges. Green glass is nearly absent from the northern side of the structure (119 grams or an average of 60 grams per unit), but is heaviest along the south side of the structure (5,057 grams, or an average of 842 grams per unit). Glass is moderate on the two sides, with a heavier concentration on the east side (659 grams, or 120 grams per unit) and a slightly smaller amount on the west side (1339 grams, or 446 grams per unit). This distribution provides tentative support for the suggestion that the north side of the structure (roughly facing the church) was the front of the building, and the south side was the rear (facing the adjoining outbuildings). The heavier concentration on the east side was amplified in the interior. Here, green bottle glass was concentrated in the southeast corner of the structure, and along the eastern chimney, suggesting this room, or this portion of the basement, was used for bottle storage.

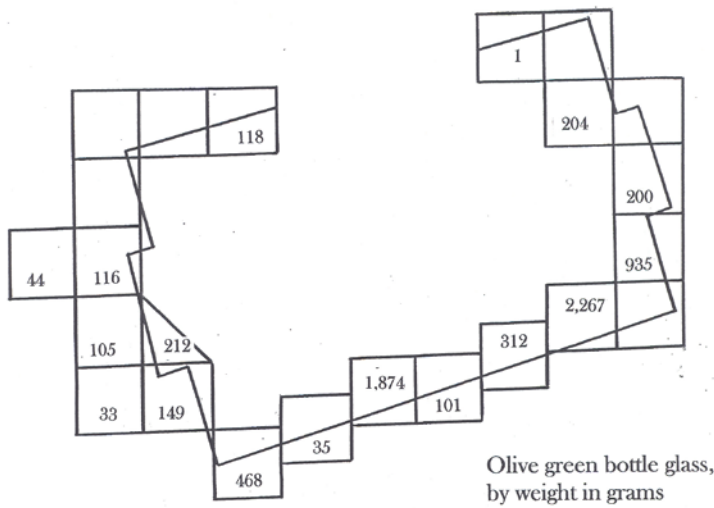
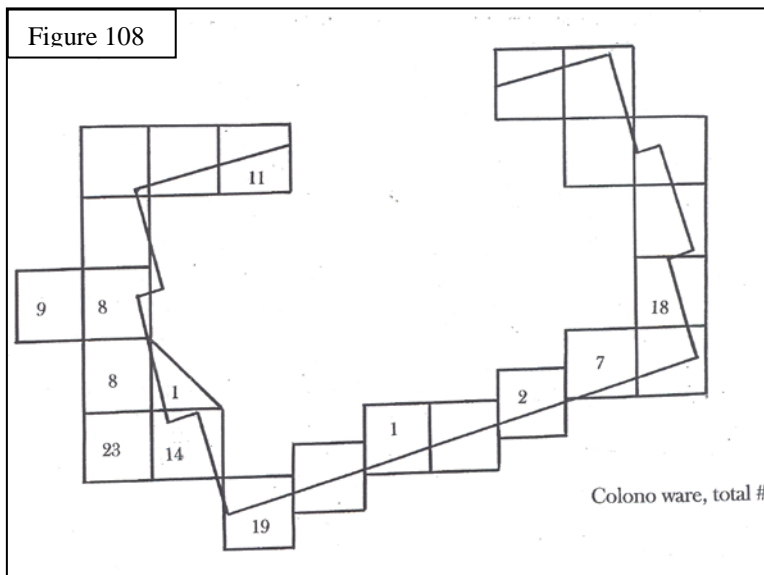


Figure 107: distribution of olive green bottle glass (exterior)

Interior, melted glass (#fragments):  
 N510 E305: 4  
 N510 E310: 27  
 N515 E315: 90  
 N515 E320: 79  
 N520 E325: 658  
 N525 E325: 136



Colono ware, which is far less common than bottle glass, shows a slightly different pattern. Here, colono ware was calculated by sherd count. Colono wares are concentrated on the two sides of the structure, with the heaviest concentration along the west side. They are less frequent along the north side, and particularly along the south side. European ceramics are distributed in a similar



manner. They are most common along the west side of the structure (322 total, or an average of 58 fragments per unit), and along the north side, the proposed front of the house (69 fragments or 34 per unit). They are least common along the south and east sides (14 fragments and 20 fragments per unit, respectively).

If some, or all, of the exterior artifacts were deposited as a result of the fire, or abandonment of the structure, then the distribution may reflect their placement and use in the house. This is particularly true of the European ceramics, for example. The recovery of relatively large portions of vessels, particularly from the vent openings, indicated that the building interior would contain *in situ* deposits and inform on the distribution of durable material culture through the house. Alternately, deposition of artifacts, particularly in zone 3, may reflect secondary discard and thus the pattern have no relevance to area of usage.

As discussed in Chapter VI, a smaller, less diverse group of ceramics was recovered from the interior of the structure. Those recovered included Chinese porcelain, creamware, white saltglazed stoneware, lead glazed earthenwares, colono wares, and brown saltglazed stoneware. Ceramics were concentrated in the southeast corner, along with olive green glass. Colono wares, in particular, were found along the east wall. Also recovered here was a previously-unidentified earthenware, featuring a red paste, white slip, and yellowish lead glaze. The base represented a large, flat-bottomed utilitarian vessel. Colono ware was also recovered from the interior unit. The tablewares, Chinese porcelain and creamware, was distributed along the south side of the interior, while the scratch blue stoneware was recovered from the western corner. The brown saltglazed stoneware was also recovered from the western room, in a location different from the bulk of the bottle glass.



Figure 109: Lead-glazed earthenware and location of recovery

Generally, the total amount of excavated space, and the number of artifacts retrieved from the interior did not inform on use of interior space. The small number of items suggests that the house was unoccupied at the time of destruction, and that the recovered items may not have been in use. It is interesting to note that, in addition to

ceramics and bottle glass, bone was concentrated in the southwest corner. This may suggest a dining or food storage area.

### Parsonage - or Plantation?

The parsonage site was identified through historical documents as the home of the minister associated with the second Willtown Presbyterian church, and was interpreted as such. The site has been surveyed and tested since 1998. During each phase of investigation, the site yielded artifacts and architectural data remarkable in quantity and quality. These data were more consistent with economically successful plantation sites than with materials expected at the home of a minister. In particular, the recovery of quantities of colono ware suggests the presence of enslaved African Americans, while the presence of fashionable creamwares and Chinese porcelain suggests the ability to acquire some luxury goods. Thus the archaeological data was seemingly at odds with the documentary data. But a careful reading of the church records reveals that the congregation owned at least seven African American slaves. Further, they leased the people and the property to plantation owners; thus the site did function much of the time as an income-producing plantation. It is unknown if the planters leasing the site also lived in the house.

Excavation of the house foundation produced a modest artifact assemblage, one dominated by architectural debris. The pattern was similar for the zone 2 materials, deposited as a result of destruction, and the zone 3 materials, that accumulated at least in part during the use-life of the structure. This reflects the destruction of the house. This is in contrast the Carolina Artifact Pattern (South 1977), which defines a broad range of daily activities on British colonial sites.

**Table 11**  
**Artifact profile for the Parsonage House**

	<u>Zone 2(%)</u>	<u>Zone 6 (ash)</u>	<u>Zone 3(%)</u>	<u>Carolina Pattern</u>
Kitchen	17.0	58.2	30.0	60.3
Architecture	82.3	41.5	68.6	23.9
Arms	--	--	.03	.5
Clothing	.09	.02	.03	3.0
Personal	--	.02	--	.2
Furniture	.07	.1	.07	.2
Pipes	.28	.07	.57	5.8
Activities	.28	.02	.57	1.7

Artifacts other than architectural debris and kitchen wares are virtually absent from the soils around the main house. The kitchen materials are those typical for domestic sites of the late colonial period, and include a large proportion of colono wares, typically associated with the households of African American slaves. Colono ware is also recovered from planter's houses, and was likely used in cooking. Twenty one percent of the parsonage ceramics were colono wares. The majority was Lesesne lustered, a variety that dominates the colono wares of planter houses. The great majority of the European ceramics were tablewares. The two fashionable table and tea wares of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, creamware and Chinese export porcelain, dominate the ceramics. Smaller amounts of delft (from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century) and pearlware (from the very late 18<sup>th</sup> century) were also present. Generally, the ceramic assemblage was narrower than other colonial plantation sites, and contained fewer types than the nearby midden area, which contained twice as many ceramic types. Generally, this assemblage suggests moderate furnishings, but ones adequate to serve tea and dinner according to current fashion.

The kitchen midden assemblage stands in contrast to the assemblage from the main house. Here, kitchen materials dominate the assemblage, and architectural materials are in the minority. Architectural artifacts are, in fact, less common than typically found on colonial sites, based on the Carolina Artifact Pattern. The artifact assemblage from the kitchen midden was both larger and more diverse. In contrast to the main house, arms, clothing, and furniture materials are present in proportion to the Carolina artifact pattern. Tobacco pipes are also present in significant numbers. This suggests a domestic occupation typical of British colonial sites.

**Table 12**  
**Comparison of Kitchen midden assemblage to Carolina Pattern**

	<u>Kitchen midden</u>	<u>Carolina Pattern</u>	<u>Stobo</u>	<u>Drayton Hall</u>
Kitchen	6087	68.9%	60.3	64.7
Architecture	1208	15.6%	23.9	28.7
Arms	29	.3%	.5	.3
Clothing	21	.3%	3.0	.2
Personal	2	.02%	.2	.08
Furniture	25	.32%	.2	.7
Pipes	310	4.0%	5.8	5.1
Activities	34	.4%	1.7	.1
Colono ware, % ceramic	67.7		25.6	62.0
Porcelain, % ceramic	.6		6.0	4.2
Creamware, % ceramic	5.0		19.0	13.0

In order to consider this assemblage in broader context, the midden assemblage was then compared to the nearby plantation assemblage of James Stobo. This site, located at Willtown Bluff, was occupied by James Stobo from 1741 to 1767 (Zierden et al. 1999). Like the parsonage, the Stobo site was well-preserved and subject to sudden destruction and abandonment. As noted in the historical background, James Stobo played a key role in decisions concerning the second Willtown church and parsonage. These

data were also compared to those from an area of 18<sup>th</sup> century occupation at Drayton Hall, located on the Ashley River. Drayton Hall was constructed in 1738 and used principally as a business center and seat of entertainment by the owner of several plantation tracts. Recent excavations were conducted in an area believed to be the location of slave quarters and work buildings during the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Zierden and Anthony 2006b). Several categories of material culture are comparable between the parsonage midden, the Stobo yard, and the Drayton Hall yard.

Analysis of the ceramic assemblages from the parsonage house, the midden, the Stobo plantation, and the Drayton Hall yard reveals some interesting trends. Colono wares dominate the ceramic assemblage in the midden, comprising 55% of all ceramics. This is in contrast to the house assemblage, containing 21% colono wares. It also varies markedly from the Stobo site, which contained 25% colono wares. This strongly suggests occupation and use of the kitchen building and associated activities by African American residents. Likewise, the Drayton yard – including possible slave residences – contained 62% colono ware.

Chinese porcelain is also well-represented in the midden, comprising 7% of the ceramics. This is comparable to the Stobo site, which contained 6% porcelain. The Drayton Hall work area assemblage contained 4.2% porcelain. A large variety of European ceramics are present, as well, and the midden contained a broader range of types than did the house assemblage. Delft and white saltglazed stoneware are the dominant tablewares found in the midden. Another common component of the midden assemblage are combed and trailed slipwares, typically used in food preparation and storage during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Creamware is far less common in the midden than it is around the main house, comprising 5% of the kitchen midden ceramics and 29% of the house ceramics. The Stobo site, abandoned after 1767, still contained 19% creamware, while the Drayton work yard, occupied through 1800, contained only 13 % creamware.

The quantity, and location, of recovered colono ware is perhaps the most significant indicator of a slave-based plantation function for the site. Colono Ware, originally called Colono-Indian ware (Noel Hume 1962) by Virginia archaeologists, is an unglazed low fired hand built earthenware. This pottery was, for many years, interpreted as a product of historic period Native Americans, sold or traded to European settlers. Noting the high frequency of this pottery on plantation sites and observing that much of this ware in South Carolina exhibited formal, decorative, and manufacturing characteristics atypical of Native American pottery, Leland Ferguson (1980) suggested that much of this pottery from plantation sites was produced and used by enslaved Africans and/or African Americans. Rather than Colono-Indian ware, Ferguson (1980) suggested that the name be modified to Colono Ware. He urged that this term be used to refer to unglazed low-fired earthenware likely utilized, sold, and traded by both African Americans and Native Americans during the colonial and antebellum periods.

In South Carolina, early support of Ferguson's hypothesis regarding the makers and users of colono ware was provided by the archaeological investigations of the slave site at Spiers Landing (Anthony 1979; Drucker and Anthony 1979) and by the work at

Yaughan and Curriboo plantations in Berkeley County, South Carolina (Wheaton et al. 1983). Research at Yaughan and Curriboo (Wheaton et al. 1983), and more recently at Drayton Hall plantation (Lewis n.d.; Ferguson 1992; Zierden and Anthony 2004), has provided evidence strongly suggesting the on site manufacture of colono ware at these plantations.

Colono wares recovered from lowcountry sites by the authors since 1984 have been further subdivided into three sub-types (Anthony 1986). Analysis of these sub-types shows some spatial, and likely functional, differences across the parsonage site. The first, Yaughan colono ware, appears to be an “everyday” utilitarian ware used for cooking and serving, and is most often associated with African American residential sites. At several plantation sites investigated in lowcountry South Carolina, this variety of colono ware comprised more than half of the artifacts recovered from African American slave residential areas (eg. Drucker and Anthony 1979; Wheaton et al. 1983; Zierden et al. 1986). Yaughan vessels usually exhibit crudely smoothed to burnished or rubbed surfaces. Yaughan vessels which have been burnished can exhibit surfaces that have been incompletely rubbed or burnished in an almost haphazard manner. A notable number of Yaughan sherds recovered from the parsonage site were burnished in this way. Normally exhibiting a clearly laminar paste, Yaughan vessels often exhibit vessel walls that are not uniform in thickness. Yaughan bowls generally outnumber jars and this seems to be the case at the parsonage site.

Lesesne Lustered colono ware (Anthony 1986), believed to have been a *market* ware rather than a *utilitarian* ware (Anthony 1986; Hamby and Joseph 2004), often accounts for the majority of colono wares found on rural planter/landowner residences (Anthony 1986, 2002). Possibly used in 18<sup>th</sup> century planter households, Lesesne colono ware can exhibit physical attributes similar to some European ceramics. Recent archaeological investigations evidence that Lesesne colono ware represents the majority of colono wares found in urban 18<sup>th</sup> century Charleston contexts as well (cf. Hamby and Joseph 2004; Isenbarger 2001, 2006).

The relatively well made River Burnished colono ware was likely produced and sold/traded by historic period Catawba (Ferguson 1989). Although River Burnished pottery was not observed at the parsonage, other historic period aboriginal pottery was recovered. This ware exhibits interior surfaces that are very well smoothed to burnished.

**Table 13: Colono ware from the Parsonage**

Classification	Kitchen		Dwelling	
	#	%	#	%
Yaughan	225	74	21	18
Lesesne lustered	53	18	90	76
Historic aboriginal	25	8	8	6

Lesesne Lustered colono ware is more common than Yaughan at the parsonage house. This association of the Lesesne variety with planter/landowner occupations has been clearly noted for several years (Anthony 1986, 2002; Hamby and Joseph 2004). It is likely that this occurrence is an expression of cultural preference. Yaughan pottery is more common around the southern structure and in the kitchen midden. Interestingly, historic aboriginal colono ware at the parsonage site seems to occur with Yaughan pottery. Yaughan pottery is the most common type at the kitchen midden.

The colono ware varieties observed at the parsonage site, Yaughan, Lesesne, and Historic Aboriginal colono ware, appear to be relatively homogenous and consistent in distinguishing physical attributes; there does not appear to be much internal variability among the recovered groups of each colono ware variety, suggesting a single source and perhaps on-site manufacture. The Yaughan variety appears to be much better fired than Yaughan pottery from quite a few other sites.

The quantity, and the location in abandonment contexts, of colono wares at the parsonage provides some important new data on the users of colono ware. Use of colono ware in the planters' houses is derived largely from recovery of this pottery around the archaeological remains of owner houses. Many, if not most, of the reported contexts have experienced varying degrees of post-occupational disturbance, particularly plowing. Because the parsonage site was destroyed and immediately abandoned, and never disturbed, means that site provides a significant degree of certainty to the presence, and therefore use, of colono ware in the owners house. A large amount of colono ware was recovered from the rubble of the main house; moreover, two large fragments were recovered *in situ* in the interior ash (figure 83). These two vessels exhibit the form and finish of 'typical' colono wares. Colono ware was likely in use in the parsonage house.

Likewise, the tremendous amount of colono ware recovered from the kitchen midden, particularly the quantities of small, trampled fragments, underscore the centrality of this ware to lowcountry foodways. The prevalence of the Yaughan variety, and the suggestion that the most numerous and most consistent residents of the parsonage were enslaved African Americans, supports the general interpretation of African Americans as the principal makers and users of this variety. Finally, the retrieval of two distinct assemblages, spatially segregated and differing in quantity and type, supports the current interpretation different uses/users for the colono ware sub-types. At the parsonage, Yaughan colono ware was the preferred cooking ware, while the Lesesne lustered variety dominated the planter house assemblage. It is also noteworthy that the wares ascribed to Native Americans were recovered with the Yaughan. Though the source of these wares is unknown, the parsonage kitchen data suggests they were used in food preparation and were considered utilitarian. Pristine contexts like those at the parsonage are an important source of data for these complex issues.

## Project Summary

The parsonage site, then, contains an artifact assemblage typical of lowcountry plantation sites of the colonial period. The data compares favorably with assemblages from the Stobo site, a successful rice plantation owned by a man of means. The parsonage kitchen midden area contains an artifact assemblage significantly different from that of the main house. Further, the large assemblage of colono wares supports the suggestion that African Americans were in residence at the site, and that they were responsible for most of the affairs of the plantation function of the property. This, together with the stratigraphic record, indicates that the parsonage midden area may be used to explore evolution of foodways and daily life at the site through the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The 2003 survey revealed a number of outbuildings in addition to the main house, thus suggesting a plantation function. The distribution maps suggest a concentration of artifacts associated with the brick cluster south of the main house, at N300E325. The limited excavations failed to reveal an intact structure in this vicinity, but produced an artifact assemblage supporting domestic occupation. The assemblage contains a large proportion of architectural material, supporting the presence of a structure. Overall, the ceramic assemblage is somewhat later, and creamwares comprise 43% of the ceramics. Colono wares also form a significant portion of the assemblage, accounting for 19% of the ceramics. These results suggest this area is worthy of further investigation.

The 2003 survey also revealed a heavy concentration around the brick cluster at N600E550, in the wooded area. In contrast, artifacts were notably absent around the brick rubble at N450E500. Artifacts are also, of course, concentrated in the midden area. The present data suggests horizontal variability across the site, and a specialized function for each of the structures. They further suggest an extensive plantation complex, beyond a simple residence occupied by a minister. Investigation of each of these areas should expand our knowledge of site activities.

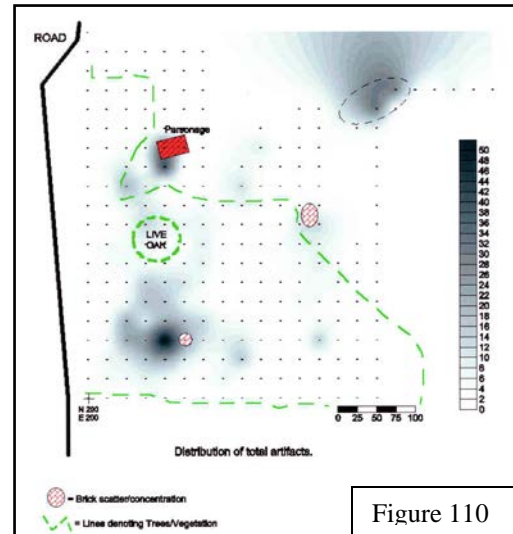


Figure 110

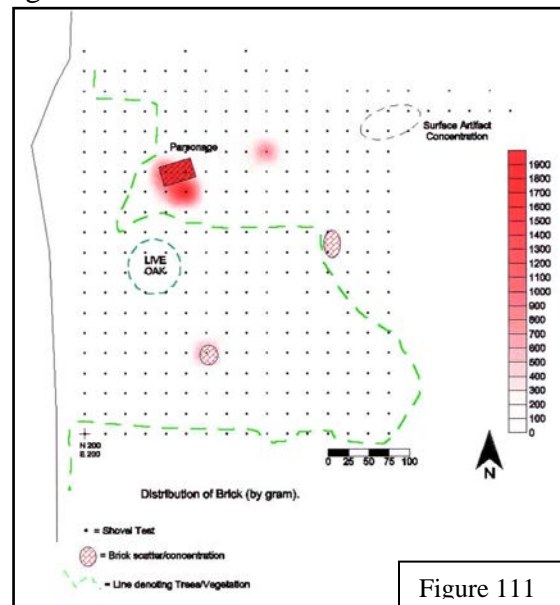


Figure 111

Religious settlements in the lowcountry have received relatively little attention, and the artifacts recovered at the parsonage suggest that a range of activities – economic, social, and religious – may have occurred here. Research at Willtown and colonial Dissenter communities (Zierden 2002; Beck 2002; Crass et al. 2002; Elliott and Elliott 2002) suggest that these communities were fluid and complex. The Parsonage site is part of the greater Willtown community, founded a few miles to the south (Zierden et al. 1999). The new Willtown church and parsonage are part of the evolving Carolina frontier, and the creation of the new church reflects a shift from frontier to plantation economy in the Edisto area. A major characteristic of frontier society was a multiracial and multiethnic population, and the ways relations and identities of component groups shifted. The parsonage site is a component of the evolving Willtown community.

The parsonage site contains data capable of providing new insights into the history of the Edisto area. Preservation of the parsonage site is remarkable. The dwelling house, in particular, has remained untouched since an early 19<sup>th</sup> century fire caused its collapse. Stewardship by the Knox Foundation ensures that this site will be preserved for future research.

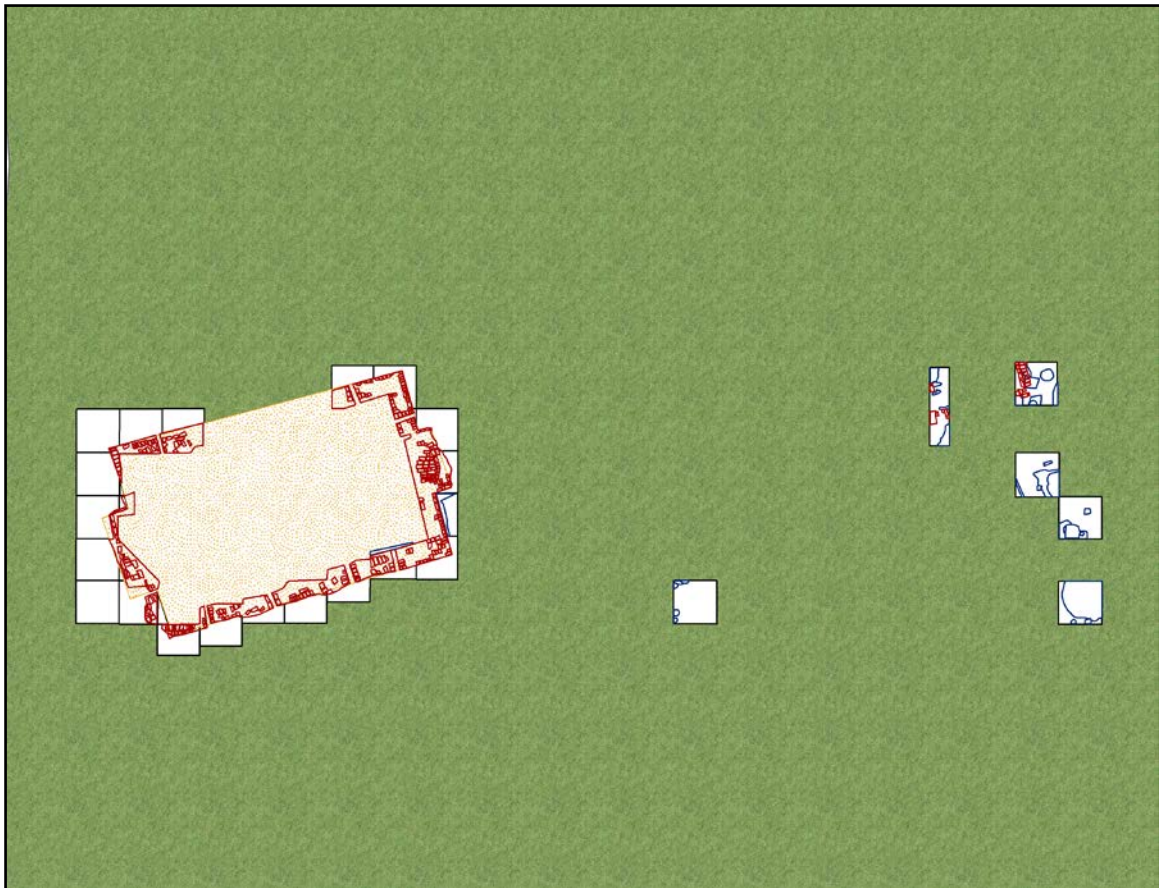


Figure 112: Completed excavation of the Parsonage dwelling, and test units exposing the kitchen



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