

*Unit Number: 5*

*Coordinates: S8, E15*

*Excavators: Jacqueline Thomas, Catherine Ahern, Bianca Fernandez, Deb Rotman, Adam Richards, and Miranda Roy*

*Dates of Excavation: 12 July 2010-13 July 2010*

The site for Unit 5 was chosen because it is located where or very near to where a privy or outhouse would have been for this home site. The presence of lilac trees, which would have produced a fragrant aroma to cover up any offensive or unpleasant scents, is an ideal location for a privy. After seeing the large amount of human trash within the area and its location under lilac trees and next to a tool shed, it can be assumed that this area was probably not only the outhouse area but the general dumping or refuse grounds. The unit matrix was excavated using a trowel throughout the entire process and starting with Level 4 a CVS or a Constant Volume Sample of 1 Liter (1L) was taken from the South West corner of the unit where the datum stake was located. While the collection of a CVS is normally taken from every level, this particular unit is an exception because of the dense root growth within the soil. All the soil troweled and collected was sifted through quarter inch (1/4 in) mesh. Starting with Level 2 a soil sample was taken using the Munsell Color Chart (10YR). The datum stake for this unit was in the SW corner of the unit. Levels 0-6 were excavated on Monday, 12 July 2010 and Levels 7-13 were excavated on Tuesday, 13 July 2010.

#### *Level 0*

After selecting a unit site, clearing away and bushwhacking overgrown vegetation, the team commenced with the surveying of the ground area for any obvious artifacts, inclusions, or features. There was a good deal of human junk and rubble splayed out across and surrounding the unit. The junk was mostly glass and rusted aluminum beverage containers as well as some rusted metal hardware parts from automobiles. Some of the artifacts were too cumbersome to make the trek to the lab such as the exhaust pipe from an old car so a picture was taken with a whiteboard to document the information. After inspecting the unit, the team noticed that the unit was laid out on a slight slope and contained numerous thick as well as thin root systems burrowed and entrenched within the ground, which would prove to be relentless and difficult throughout the excavation. The beginning elevations (cm) for this unit were as follows: NE: 17, SE: 20, SW: 4, NW: 10, and Center: 16.

#### *Level 1*

The excavation objectives for Level 1 were to remove the top layer of the sod from the unit, which was executed using shovels. Field notes indicate that this was a very messy and difficult process, mainly because the unit is laid out on a slope, the overgrowth, the chunky and bark like root systems, as well as the rubble and debris embedded within the grass surrounding the unit. On this layer there were even more artifacts found which were mainly more rusted cans, glass shards, bolts, metal scraps and springs. The beginning elevations (cm) for this unit were NE: 17, SE: 20, SW: 4, NW: 10, and Center: 16. The ending elevation (cm) for this unit were NE: 21.5, SE: 26, SW: 20, NW: 11, and Center: 20. The depth of excavation began at 4 cm and ended at 26 cm, which is a huge difference on paper, and to account for this consideration must be given to the fact that this unit was on a slope and some corners contained more thick roots. When the roots were trimmed and removed at this level they did leave gaps of space in their place resulting in more depth. Over the course of the next couple levels it would take much work to finally reach a uniform level for the entire unit. This discrepancy within depths is also the reason that no CVS or Controlled Volume Sample was taken for this level or several levels following, to allow time for the rest of the unit to catch up. Concerning the soil a Munsell was performed on this level and the number was 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown with a loamy and weighty texture. The soil was a little damp, which could be because it was the morning when it was dug up and also because of the organic material within it. Inclusions consisted of strong roots as well as some fine root systems. There were very few pebbles and no rocks at this level.

#### *Level 2*

The objectives for this level were to work on cleaning up and leveling the unit to reach a uniform depth. The initial goal for this level was to reach 22 cm for all corners but the removal of a major root from the SE corner landed it at a depth of 26 cm. The beginning elevations (cm) were NE: 21.5, SE: 26, SW: 20, NW: 11, Center: 20 and the ending elevations (cm) were NE: 22, SE: 26, SW: 22, NW: 18, and Center: 22. A CVS was not taken at this level and artifacts were still uncovered which were mainly nails, glass, metal scraps, and another rusted can. Past interpretations for this unit still hold true after excavating this level and this certainly is a garbage heap, which is really great for the team because maybe broken pieces of ceramics will be tossed here. Past experience with this site at Unit 1 tells the team that these people were resourceful and will probably find some alternative use for broken objects.

### *Level 3*

The goals for this level was to continue leveling and clearing the unit of roots and reach a uniform level. The goal depth for this level was 26 cm. To reach this goal the team troweled the soil as well as cut the large and thick roots. A significant amount of manicuring was needed for this level but the goal to finally reach 26 cm was achieved! The beginning elevations (cm) were NE: 22, SE: 26, SW: 22, NW: 18, Center: 22 with the ending levels (cm) at NE: 26, SE: 26, SW: 26, NW: 26, and Center: 26. No CVS was conducted for this level. The walls of the unit are slightly weak and are held up mainly by junk and roots so removal of objects in future levels must be done carefully. On this level there were two Munsell samples done, one general sample then a specific sample conducted for the SE corner which appeared to be much darker than the rest of the unit. Both samples yielded 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown and had a soft, sandy, loamy, and heavy texture to them. The moisture content for the general sample was a bit drier than the one for the SE corner and each contained many pebbles and lots of roots. After conducting the two samples the team concluded that the difference in outward soil appearance and moisture levels can be contributed to a shadow in the unit. Artifacts from this level that were recovered were shards a broken glass, an old fuse, a chicken bone, ceramic chips, pieces of shingles, a tin top, and scrap metal. Concerning the broken glass, the colors were mostly clear and amber and even without labels the team was able to assume that the amber was probably from a beer bottles. Beer bottles were made multiple colors including aquamarine but amber became the most prominent.

### *Level 4*

The objectives for this level are to maintain the depth for the unit and to excavate the midden. The team troweled the midden and was able to keep a uniform level despite the roots, which are thick and barky persisting from previous levels. The depth goal was 30 cm. The beginning elevations (cm) were NE: 26, SE: 26, SW: 26, NW: 26, Center: 26 with ending elevations (cm) at NE: 30, SE: 30, SW: 30, NW: 30, and Center: 30. Gravel also started appearing in this level. A CVS (1L) was conducted for this level as well a Munsell soil sample. The soil color was 4/2 Dark Grayish Brown and texture wise was a bit more dusty and wispy than previous levels yet still sandy. There was no moisture in this level but lots of pebbles and roots. Other observations include that it was hard to grab the soil because of the intricate root systems, which were both fine and chunky. Artifacts recovered from this level include glass, a fuse, bones, small pole of metal, a hinge, and a nail.

### *Level 5*

Goals for this level were to continue to excavate the midden and work on establishing sharper walls. The beginning elevations (cm) were NE: 30, SE: 30, SW: 30, NW: 30, and Center: 30 with ending elevations (cm) at NE: 34, SE: 34, SW: 34, NW: 34, and Center: 34. The goal of excavating another 4 cm bringing the depth to 34 cm was accomplished. It should be noted that when excavated the team normally follows the natural stratigraphy of the soil but given the location of the unit (in a heap yard) there is not much definite stratigraphy to be observed. A CVS (1L) was taken of this level and a Munsell soil sample was also performed. According to the Munsell color cells the soil falls under 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown. The soil had a dusty and fine texture to it yet still had a significant sand concentration. Inclusions found in the soil were still roots, both thick and thin, as well as lots of pebbles and some smaller rocks. Artifacts recovered from this level include some shards of aqua glass, nails, wire, a possible bone, and shingle pieces.

### *Level 6*

The excavation objectives for this level were to continue excavating the midden while maintaining depth and keeping an eye on weaker parts of the walls. The soil was troweled and sifted in this unit and a CVS (1L) from the SW corner was taken. The beginning elevations (cm) were NE: 34, SE: 34, SW: 34, NW: 34, Center: 34 with ending elevations (cm) of NE: 38, SE: 38, SW: 38, NW: 38, and Center: 38. Artifacts recovered from this level include the first blue ceramic sherds of this unit! There were also some semi-porcelain sherds that were white with light green detailing, fuses, glass shards, as well as some bristles that look like they were once attached to a brush. The team can draw from the artifacts found that this family was probably thrifty and frugal based on the types of ceramics recovered. The artifacts are at a low density with lots of plain ceramics and some faux Chinese porcelain, indicating that this family was seeking social respectability. On a final note, a Munsell soil sample was conducted on the Level 6 soil, which was classified as 3/2, or Very Dark Grayish Brown with a weighty and sandy texture. The soil held a small degree of moisture and had the same inclusions as previous levels such as root systems, pebbles and rocks.

### *Level 7*

For Level 7 the excavation objects were to continue to excavate the midden and keep an eye out for more Blue Willow pieces. The team conducted a CVS (1L) and then troweled the midden starting at the following excavation depths (cm) NE: 38, SE: 38, SW: 38, NW: 38, and Center: 38. After troweling for 4 cm the team ended up reaching 42 cm with ending elevations (cm) of NE: 42, SE: 42, SW: 42, NW: 42, and Center: 42. The soil contained many roots as usual and the soil was damp this morning after being covered up for the night and tended to clump in the sifter. The walls are difficult to see any real layers of stratigraphy in because of the thick roots that are stuck in there. The soil was classified as 3/1 or Very Dark Gray with a sandy and weighty texture. Pebbles, root systems, and rocks are the visible inclusions. Artifacts recovered include several shreds of ceramics including blue, brown, and white. There was an olive green glass shard as well as aquamarine. Nails, metal scraps and metal wires were present as well. The team is pretty deep in the midden now but still encountering artifacts and the soil is still a dark gray color and pretty weighty so there is a good deal of organic material in there. The preponderance of colored glass shards could be helpful in dating in this level.

### *Level 8*

Objectives for this level are to continue excavating the midden. The team started off at beginning elevations (cm) of NE: 42, SE: 42, SW: 42, NW: 42, and Center: 42 and after troweling the soil elevations (cm) ended at NE: 46, SE: 46, SW: 46, NW: 46, and Center: 46. The root systems at this level have remained consistent, showing both thick and thin roots. A CVS (1L) was collected from the SW corner and a Munsell soil sampling was conducted as well. The soil fell under the classification of 3/2 of Very Dark Grayish Brown with a grainy and sandy texture that had a bit of weight to it. The moisture content was still damp with many root and pebble inclusions. No real stratigraphy was present and it was difficult to decipher the cultural layers. Level 8 turned out to yield a plethora of artifacts including the largest sherd of Blue Willow ceramic from the site as well as several smaller sherds from it. A piece of white ceramic as well as a piece of brown pattern white ware were both present. The piece of brown pattern ceramic was curved so it was probably a part of a bowl and perhaps connected to the brown ceramic sherd found on a previous level. Nails as well as glass shards and metal scraps made an appearance on Level 8 as well.

### *Level 9*

The team continued to excavate the midden on this level as well as manicured the root systems in the floor and walls. The initial elevations (cm) for this unit were NE: 46, SE: 46, SW: 46, NW: 46, Center: 46 and ended (cm) at NE: 50, SE: 50, SW: 50, NW: 50, Center: 50. A CVS (1L) and Munsell were also conducted at Level 9 and the Munsell indicated that this soil was 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown with a sandy and grainy texture. The moisture level was dry but damp in the SE corner of the unit because of the shadow. Artifacts found on this level include a chunk of bone with cut marks in it, an aquamarine jar shard,

nails, a ceramic yellowish chip, and metal scraps. Final comments on this level include that the soil has maintained the same composition as prior levels.

#### *Level 10*

For Level 10 the team continued to trowel the soil in the midden and started off at the beginning elevations (cm) of NE: 50, SE: 50, SW: 50, NW: 50, and Center: 50 and ended (cm) at NE: 54, SE: 54, SW: 54, NW: 54, and Center: 54. After troweling the soil the team then continued to work on taming unruly roots. After conducting a CVS (1L) in the SW corner of the unit and a Munsell soil sample indicates that the soil was 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown with a grainy sand texture and slightly damp. Inclusions of pebbles, rocks, and roots both thick and thin continue to be present within the soil. The artifacts seem to be waning a bit on this level and the unit could be entering into culturally sterile territory. Artifacts that were found on this level include a tiny chip of ceramic, a shard of aquamarine glass possibly connected to the pieces found on previous levels, and some nails. Final notes on this level are that the rocks are now becoming bigger and more frequent as the team trowels on and that the fine roots are starting to dissipate a bit.

#### *Level 11*

On Level 11 the team soil elevations (cm) started at NE: 54, SE: 54, SE: 54, NW: 54, and Center: 54 and ended (cm) at NE: 58, SE: 58, SW: 58, NW: 58, and Center: 58. As the team continued to trowel to the midden and take a CVS (1L) from the SW corner it was discovered that there was a definite soil change from dark grayish brown to a yellowish brown. A Munsell soil sample confirmed this change with a soil classification of 4/6 of dark yellowish brown with a fine and smooth sandy texture. The soil was a bit damp and had the same inclusions of pebbles, rocks, and roots as previous levels. During this level the children from the local Beaver Island Community School came to visit the site and helped the team sift through the dirt on this level and recovered some nails.

#### *Level 12*

The team continued to excavate the soil starting at NE: 54, SE: 54, SW: 54, NW: 54, and Center: 54 (cm) and after troweling the soil for 4 cm ended up at NE: 58, SE: 58, SW: 58, NW: 58, and Center: 58 (cm). The team was suspecting this could be the subsoil level. After taking a CVS (1L) sample from the SW corner, troweling the midden, evening out the level, and cleaning the walls the team conducted a Munsell soil color sample, which indicated that the soil was at 4/3 or brown with a grainy and weighty texture. The soil was damp and contained several large rocks as well as thick roots. Artifacts recovered include a piece of metal with green paint and a shiny chip that could easily be a piece of coal or fossil fuel. Taking into consideration the soil color change, large rocks, and lack of artifacts the team is most likely entering the subsoil and a culturally sterile area.

#### *Level 13*

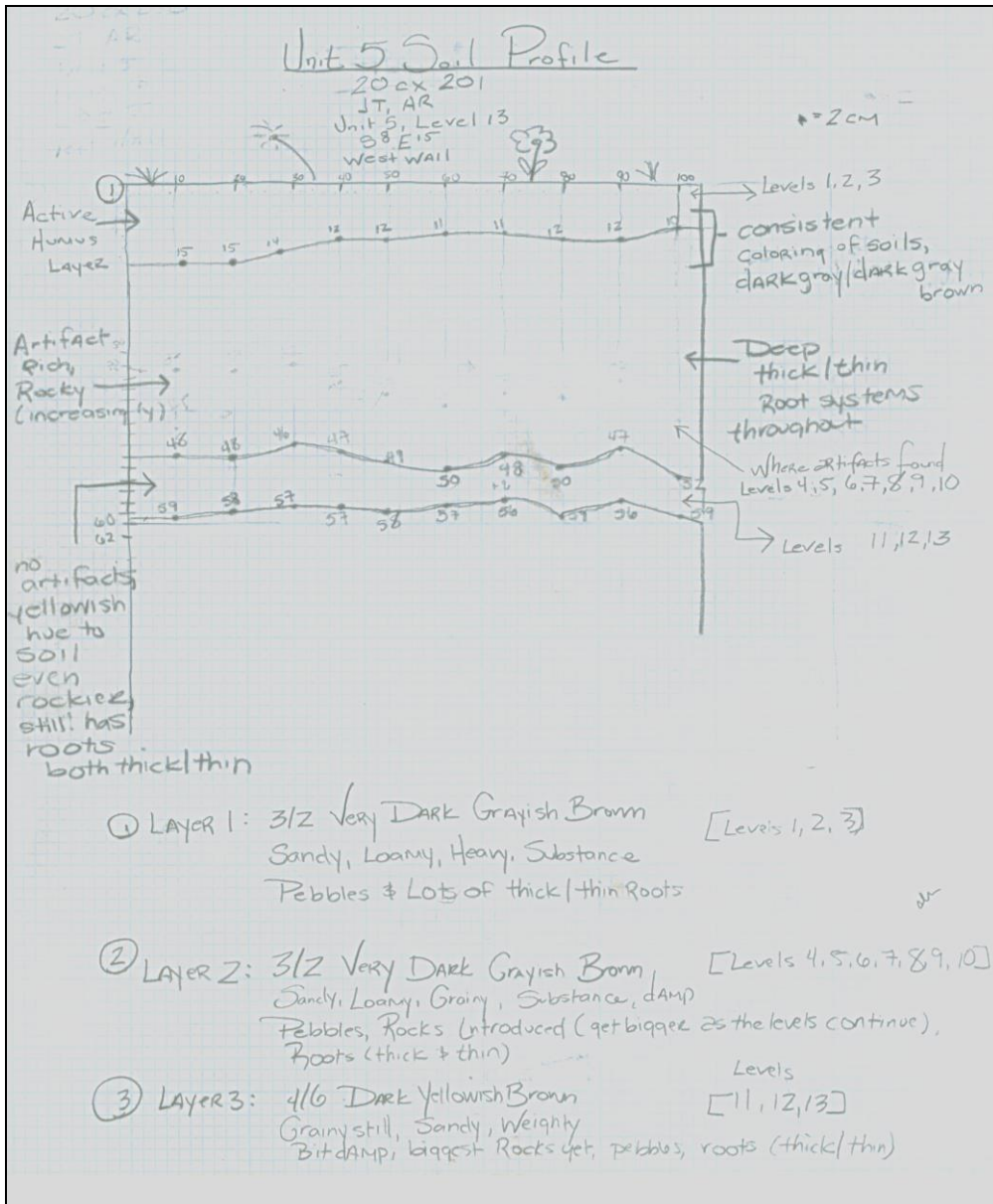
This will be the final level for the team with a beginning elevation (cm) at NE: 58, SE: 58, SW: 58, NW: 58, and Center: 58 and ending elevation (cm) of NE: 62, SE: 62, SW: 62, NW: 62, and Center: 62. Before troweling 4 cm into the midden the team took a CVS (1L) from the SW corner and then worked on the edges of the unit and remained conscientious not to push anything from the walls into the unit. After uncovering no artifacts the team determined that they had reached a culturally sterile zone and the subsoil. A Munsell was conducted on the soil, which was classified as 4/6 or Dark Yellowish Brown with a grainy, sandy, and weighty texture to it. The level yielded the largest rocks of the unit and some of the thickest roots. A soil profile was conducted and a picture taken of the west wall of this unit. Only three main layers were visible within the profile: an active humus layer on the top, a dark grayish brown middle level full of artifacts, and then the final level or the subsoil on the bottom that contained the lightest colored soil of dark yellowish brown as well as the largest rock sizes of the unit.

Ultimately because this unit yielded a high number of artifacts this area of the site must have been in heavy use. In addition to being near a privy the location of this unit was right next to a tool shed where people normally dump their trash or throw materials that they don't need or will deal with later. Even in houses today, the shed or the garages are normally always the spots of the home that are the messiest and full

of a mishmash of objects that are soon forgotten about, much like this unit illustrated. Because of the success on this unit, it is possible that future units maybe set up near this area

#### *Unit 5 Soil Profile*

At the end of each unit a soil profile of one of the walls is created to document the progression of the dig and stratigraphy of the soil (Figure 8.9). The soil is conducted by selecting a wall, stringing a line level across and carpenter's rule beneath. The layers of the soil are then noted and measured using a measuring tape from the line level to the bottom of each layer. A Munsell of each layer is also conducted after measuring and these measurements are then plotted and documented on a graph. In Unit 5 the West wall was chosen to profile. Unit 5 was composed of three different layers starting with the active humus layer, which covered Levels, 1, 2, and 3 during the excavation. Layer 1 was classified as 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown with a heavy sandy loam texture to it. It contained man pebbles as well as plenty of thick and thin root systems. Layer 2 of the unit was composed of levels 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 and was our artifact rich layer and was considered to be 3/2 or Very Dark Grayish Brown with a sandy loam texture similar to the texture of layer 1. The soil was slightly damp and contained many inclusions like pebbles, roots, and rocks that appear to be getting bigger as the excavation continued. Layer 3 was from Levels 11, 12, and 13 and was 4/6 or Dark Yellowish Brown that still maintained its dampness as well as a sandy and weighty texture to it. The biggest rocks of the unit were found in the layer and the roots still remained thick. This level was culturally sterile it was here that the team concluded they had reached the subsoil and put a successful Unit 5 to rest.



**Figure 8.9. A hand-sketched profile of the west wall of Unit 5. A properly drafted profile will be included in the final report.**

Unit Number: 6

Coordinates: N3 E30

Excavators: Kasia Ahern, Miranda Rooy

Dates of Excavation: 13 July 2010-15 July 2010

The unit location was chosen because it lay in an area where the landscape noticeably dipped down to a lower elevation in the backyard. This unit was expected to reveal a good amount of cultural material because it was in between the home and where the original barn had been. It seemed like a good area to excavate because it was assumed that those living in the home would have to carry things back and forth from the barn. The unit was excavated using a trowel throughout the entire excavation. The soil recovered during the entire excavation was screened through quarter inch (1/4in) mesh. A Constant Volume Sample (CVS) of 1 liter (1L) was taken at the SW corner of the unit for every level, beginning with Level 2. The

datum for this unit was in the southwest (SW) corner. The soil was described using the 10YR Munsell Color Chart. Levels 0-1 were excavated on July 13, 2010. Levels 1-7 were excavated on July 14, 2010. The profile of the unit was completed on July 15, 2010.

#### *Level 0*

The excavation objectives for Level 0 were to clear the longer grass blades, check the surface for artifacts, and prepare the unit for excavations. The initial elevations (cm) taken at Level 0 were as follows: NE 9.5, SE 10, SW 10, NW 5, Center 10. The unit had a high northwest elevation, but otherwise it was fairly level across the unit. There were no distinct features observed at the surface level. There were no artifacts observed or recovered from the surface level. The larger blades of grass were cleared from the unit before the initial elevations were taken.

#### *Level 1*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 1 were as follows: NE 9.5, SE 10, SW 10, NW 5, Center 10. The excavation objectives for this level were to clear the sod from the unit and to recover any artifacts found. The active humus layer was removed from the unit using a spade. The artifact density for this level was low. Artifacts recovered included a small metal piece. The soil was uniform in texture and color across the unit. The Munsell reading for this level was  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or “dark yellowish brown”. The texture of the soil was described as “sandy/grainy”. There were a lot of ants and grass roots in the soil. The moisture content of the soil was dry. The midden was reached at the bottom of this level. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 1 were as follows: NE 16, SE 19, SW 15, NW 14, Center 20. The depth of excavation began at 5cm and ended at 20cm.

#### *Level 2*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 2 were as follows: NE 16, SE 19, SW 15, NW 14, Center 20. The excavation objectives for this level were to trowel the unit, check for artifacts, and to level out the elevations across the unit. The artifact density for this level was moderate. Artifacts recovered included metal pieces, glass shards, and possible potsherds. The Munsell soil reading for this level was  $\frac{3}{1}$ , or “very dark gray”. The texture was described as “grainy sand” and the moisture content of the soil was dry. There were a few rocks and pebbles in the soil. There was one larger root on the west side of the unit. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 2 were as follows: NE 21, SE 23, SW 20, NW 22, Center 22. The depth of excavation for this level began at 14cm and ended at 23cm.

#### *Level 3*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 3 were as follows: NE 21, SE 23, SW 20, NW 22, Center 22. The excavation objectives for this level were to trowel the level, recover any artifacts, and to level out the soil elevations across the unit. The artifact density for this level was low. Artifacts recovered included metal pieces and charcoal. The soil was uniform in texture and color across the unit. The Munsell reading for this soil was  $\frac{3}{2}$ , or “very dark grayish brown”. The texture was described as “grainy sand” and the moisture content was damp. There were a few pebbles, some fine roots, larger rocks toward the east end of the unit, and a larger root near the west wall. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 3 were as follows: NE 24, SE 24, SW 24, NW 24, Center 24. The depth of excavation for this level began at 20cm and ended at 24cm.

#### *Level 4*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 4 were as follows: NE 24, SE 24, SW 24, NW 24, Center 24. The excavation objectives for the level were to continue to trowel the midden and to recover any artifacts found. The artifact density for this level was low. Artifacts recovered included a bone, a potsherd, and a metal piece. The soil was very grainy on top of the level and as it was dug deeper the soil became damper and more compact. However, the soil color and texture was essentially the same as the previous level and was uniform across the unit. The Munsell reading for this level was  $\frac{3}{2}$ , or “very dark grayish brown”. The texture was described as “fine, grainy sand” and the moisture content was damp. There was one larger rock and a few pebbles. There were also lots of cicadas in the soil. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 4 were as

follows: NE 26, SE 26, SW 26, NW 26, Center 26. The depth of excavation for this level began at 24cm and ended at 26cm.

#### *Level 5*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 5 were as follows: NE 26, SE 26, SW 26, NW 26, Center 26. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to trowel the level and to check for artifacts. Due to the uniformity of the soil, 4cm were excavated for this level. The artifact density for this level was low. Artifacts recovered included a metal wire piece, a smaller metal piece, and a bone. The Munsell soil reading was 3/2, or “dark grayish brown”. The texture was described as “fine, grainy sand” and the moisture content was damp. There were small pebbles and rocks in the northeast corner that could possibly be attributed to the downward slant of the landscape in that direction. There were fine roots across the unit. There were also some cicadas found in the soil. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 5 were as follows: NE 31, SE 30, SW 30, NW 30, Center 30. The depth of the excavation for this level began at 26cm and ended at 31cm.

#### *Level 6*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 6 were as follows: NE 31, SE 30, SW 30, NW 30, Center 30. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to trowel the unit and check for artifacts. No artifacts were recovered. There was a distinct soil color change in some spots to more of a reddish orange and ashy gray. The subsoil was reached during this level. The Munsell reading for this level was 3/3, or “dark brown”. The soil texture was described as “very fine, grainy sand” and was damp, but drying. There were some fine roots and a few small pebbles. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 6 were as follows: NE 34, SE 24, SW 34, NW 34, Center 34. The depth of excavation for this level began at 30cm and ended at 34cm.

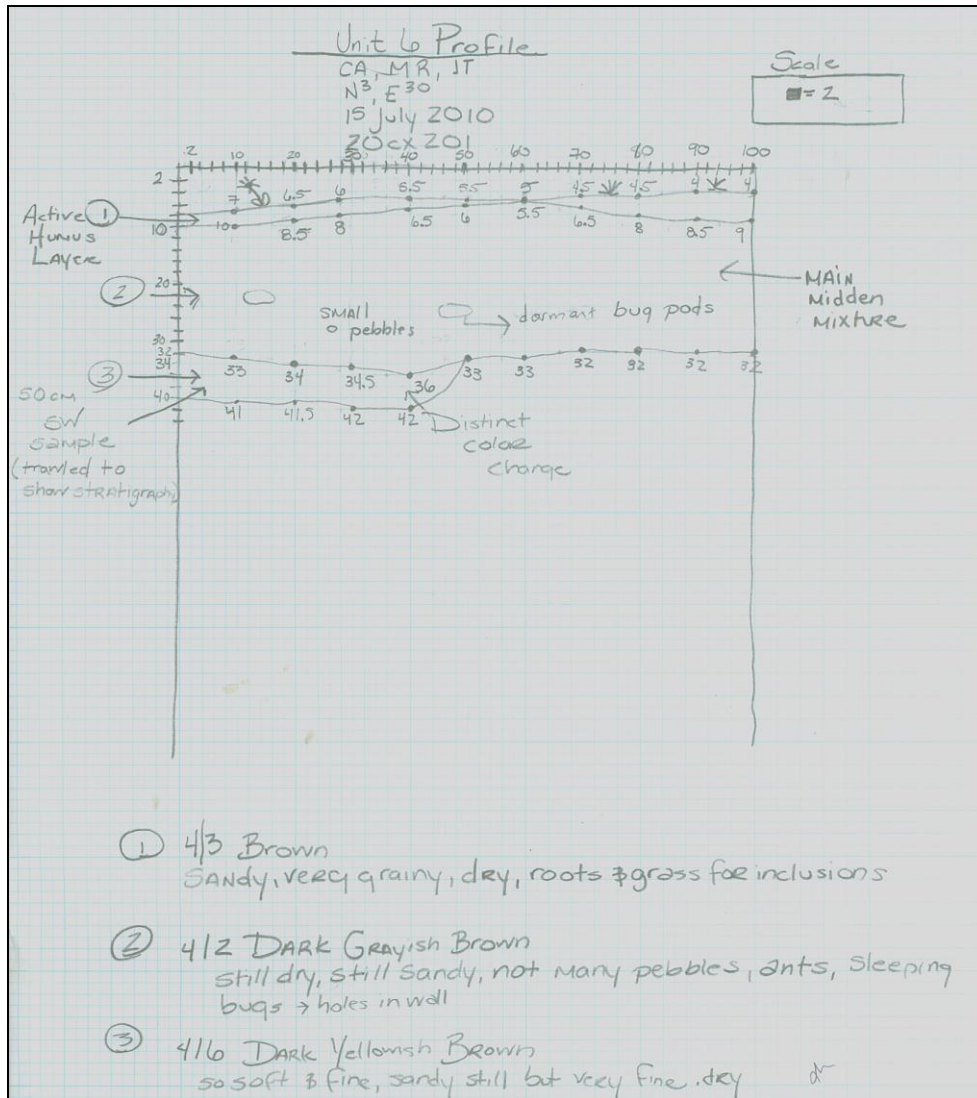
#### *Level 7*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 7 were as follows: NE 34, SE 24, SW 34, NW 34, Center 34. The excavation objectives for this level were to excavate in the southwest corner to make sure that the level was culturally sterile. A 50cmx50cm square with a depth of 4cm was dug in the SW corner of the unit. The soil was very reddish/orange. There was an ant hole in this corner with a lot of ants. No artifacts were recovered from this level, confirming that the subsoil had been reached and the soil was culturally sterile. The Munsell reading for this level was 4/6, or “dark yellowish brown”. The texture was fine, grainy sand and the soil was drying quickly due to the sun. There were a few pebbles in the soil. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 7 were as follows: NE 34, SE 34, SW 38, NW 34, and Center 34. The depth of excavation for this level began at 34cm and ended at 38cm.

#### *Profile of Unit 6*

A profile of the west wall of Unit 6 was drawn (Figure 8.10). There were three distinct zones of soil. The first (1) zone was the active humus layer. The Munsell reading for this zone was 4/3, or “brown”. It was composed of very grainy sand and it was dry. There were roots in the soil. The second (2) zone was the largest zone. It could be classified as the buried A horizon. The Munsell reading for this zone was 4/2, or “dark grayish brown”. The soil was dry and sandy. There were a few pebbles, some ants and cicadas in the holes in the wall. The third (3) zone was the subsoil layer. The Munsell reading for this zone was 4/6, or “dark yellowish brown”. The soil was very dry and was composed of soft, fine sand.





**Figure 8.10. A hand-sketched profile of the west wall of Unit 6. A properly drafted profile will be included in the final report.**

Unit Number: 7

Coordinates: N17 E20

Excavators: Bianca Fernandez, Adam Richards

Dates of Excavation: 14 July, 2010- 15 July 2010

The location for this unit was chosen because it could have had some activity as the family walked to and from the barn. In addition, the land and vegetation seemed to be a bit different from the surrounding area, so it was decided that it would be a good place to set up a unit. The unit matrix was excavated at first using a shovel to clear the active humus layer and grass (level 0 to level 1) but the rest of the levels were trowel skimmed, about 4 cm per unit. A Constant Volume Sample (CVS) of 1 liter (1L) was taken at the SW corner of the unit for every level, beginning from Level 2 up to level 6. The soil recovered during the entire excavation was screened through quarter inch (1/4in) mesh. The soil was described using the 10YR Munsell Color Chart. Starting at Level 2, it was decided that it would be easier to level the entire unit instead of trying to work with the natural slope of the land. In unit 2, the excavators tried to follow the natural slope and ended up leveling the entire unit.. The goal for the measurement difference was 4 cm. The datum for this unit was

in the southwest (SW) corner. Levels 0-6 were excavated on July 14, 2010. The western wall profile was done on July 15, 2010.

#### *Level 0*

The objectives for Level 0 were to clear the level of grass, check for surface features, and prepare the unit for excavating the subsequent levels. The beginning elevations (cm) were as follows: NE 11, SE 15, SW 10, NW 5, Center 10. The unit had a significant downward slope toward the southeast corner. The site had an un-manicured lawn so the first thing that was done to the level was to clear it of the grass. There was a great deal of overgrowth in the area. Some artifacts discovered on the surface of the unit, including shells and some pieces of paper.

#### *Level 1*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 1 were as follows: NE 11, SE 15, SW 10, NW 5, Center 10. The excavation objectives for this level were to remove the active humus layer and sod, to excavate for cultural deposits, and to begin leveling. The excavators began the process of removing the active humus layer. It was decided that it would be easier and not detrimental to the site if the unit was leveled instead of following the slope of the land towards the southeast corner. There were no distinct features observed. The sod was trowel cut and screened through a ¼" mesh. The artifact density is moderate with some shells, a piece of shingle, paper circles, a metal sheet and cigarette butt. A possible cut nail was found in this level. There were some grubs and many roots but not that many pebbles. The level was shovel dug but then the edges were refined and the level was evened with the trowel. The soil color and texture are homogeneous across the level. The soil had a Munsell number of 3/2, described as "very dark grayish brown". The texture of the soil was sandy loam. The moisture content was dry. The inclusions in the soil were some large roots, many finer roots and a few stones. The ending elevations (cm) of Level 1 were as follows: NE 15.5, SE 21, SW 15, NW 10, Center 14. The depth of excavation for this level began at 5 cm and ended at 21 cm. The goal is to level the unit at the next level.

#### *Level 2*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 2 were as follows: NE 15.5, SE 21, SW 15, NW 10, Center 14. The excavation objectives for this level were to level out the soil of the unit making sure not to excavate in the southeast corner because it is already very deep. The goal is to level out to 19 cm. The artifact density of this level is relatively high: ceramic piece, glass, scrap metal, and nails. More rocks were found, and the digging was done with a trowel and the midden was sifted through a ¼" mesh. The Munsell reading was 3/2 which is described as "very dark grayish brown". The soil texture was sandy loam. The moisture content was dry. Some of the main inclusions were rocks and pebbles, and fine roots. A CVS was collected. The ending elevations (cm) of Level 2 were as follows: NE 19, SE 21, SW 19, NW 19, Center 20. The depth of excavation began at 10cm and ended at 21 cm.

#### *Level 3*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 3 were as follows: NE 19, SE 21, SW 19, NW 19, Center 20. The excavation objective for this level was to continue the excavation of the midden for artifacts and to level the unit to 23 cm throughout. The matrix was removed through troweling and the deposits were screened through ¼" in mesh. There are some large rocks on the southwest corner. The unit was finally leveled despite the natural slope to the southeast. The artifact density was moderate: large bracket, mostly all hardware, and an opaque white glass. The Munsell reading was 3/3 which is described as "dark brown". The soil texture was sandy loam. The moisture content was dry. Some notable inclusions were rocks and pebbles. A CVS was collected. The ending elevations (cm) of Level 3 were as follows: NE 23, SE 23, SW 23, NW 23, Center 23. The depth of excavation began at 19 cm and ended at 23 cm.

#### *Level 4*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 4 were as follows: NE 23, SE 23, SW 23, NW 23, Center 23. The excavation objective was again to excavate the matrix 4 cm throughout and to sample cultural deposits. Removed the matrix by trowel work. The midden was skimmed through ¼" mesh. The artifact density was

low: nails, plaster, brick. There is a large density of rocks on the southwest corner. It is not a very interesting layer. It seems to be very similar to level 3. The Munsell reading was 4/3 which is described as “brown”. The texture was sandy with loam. The moisture content is dry. Some of the major inclusions were rocks and pebbles. A CVS was collected. The depth of excavation began at 23 cm and ended at 27 cm. The ending elevations (cm) of Level 4 were as follows: NE 27, SE 29, SW 27, NW 27, Center 27.

#### *Level 5*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 5 were as follows: NE 27, SE 29, SW 27, NW 27, Center 27. The excavation objective for this level was to continue to sample the midden and excavate another 4 cm. There was low artifact density: plaster and charcoal. The matrix was troweled and the deposits were screened through a ¼” mesh. There was a soil color variation: some of the possible subsoil is starting to peak through the western side of the unit. The Munsell reading was 4/3 which is described as “brown”. The texture was sandy with some loam. The moisture content was dry. Some of the inclusions were rocks, some roots, and buried cicadas. The Munsell reading for the subsoil pockets was 4/6 which is described as “dark yellowish brown”. The depth of excavation of this level began at 27 cm and ended at 31.5 cm. The ending elevations (cm) of Level 5 were as follows: NE 31, SE 31, SW 31, NW 31.5, Center 31.

#### *Level 6*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 6 were as follows: NE 31, SE 31, SW 31, NW 31.5, Center 31. The excavation objective was to excavate 4 more cm. The matrix was troweled out and was screened through ¼” in mesh. A CVS was taken. Conditions were very dry. No artifacts were found. May have reached the subsoil. The unit may be culturally sterile. The Munsell reading was 4/4 which is described as “dark yellowish brown”. The texture was mostly subsoil. The moisture content was dry. Some inclusions were rocks, pebbles, and earthworms. The ending elevations (cm) of Level 6 were as follows: NE 35, SE 37, SW 36, NW 35, Center 35. The depth of excavation is 31 cm to 37cm.

#### *Level 7/West wall sampling*

The beginning elevations (cm) of Level 7 were as follows: NE 35, SE 36, SW 36, NW 35, Center 37. Originally, the excavators were going to excavate 4 more cm for half the unit and sift the soil in order to determine if the soil was in fact culturally sterile but because of a lack of resources and because it seemed apparent that they had reached the subsoil, a profile of the western wall was prepared and drawn. As the excavators were fixing the wall for profiling, a nail was found.

#### *Profile*

A profile of the west wall was drawn for Unit 7 (Figures 8.11 and 8.12). The profile of this unit includes 3 major zones of soil. There was an active humus layer on top. The first zone, (marked on the profile with the Roman numeral I), was the active humus layer with dry, sandy loam, roots, and a Munsell reading of 3/2, or “very dark grayish brown”. The second zone (II) was a layer composed of dry sandy loam, some roots, and rocky in places. The Munsell reading for this zone was 4/3, or “brown”. The third zone (III) was the sandy and dry subsoil with a Munsell reading of 5/4, or “yellowish brown.”

Overall, the unit did not produce many interesting artifacts past the fourth level. Part of the reason for the relatively low artifact level may be due in part because that area of the house was not that frequented or at least not used for trash or social gatherings. The typical nails were found, as they have been found in every unit excavated, but nothing really exceptional except for the one ceramic piece was found.



Figure 8.11. West wall profile of Unit 7. Photograph by Adam Richards. Used by permission.

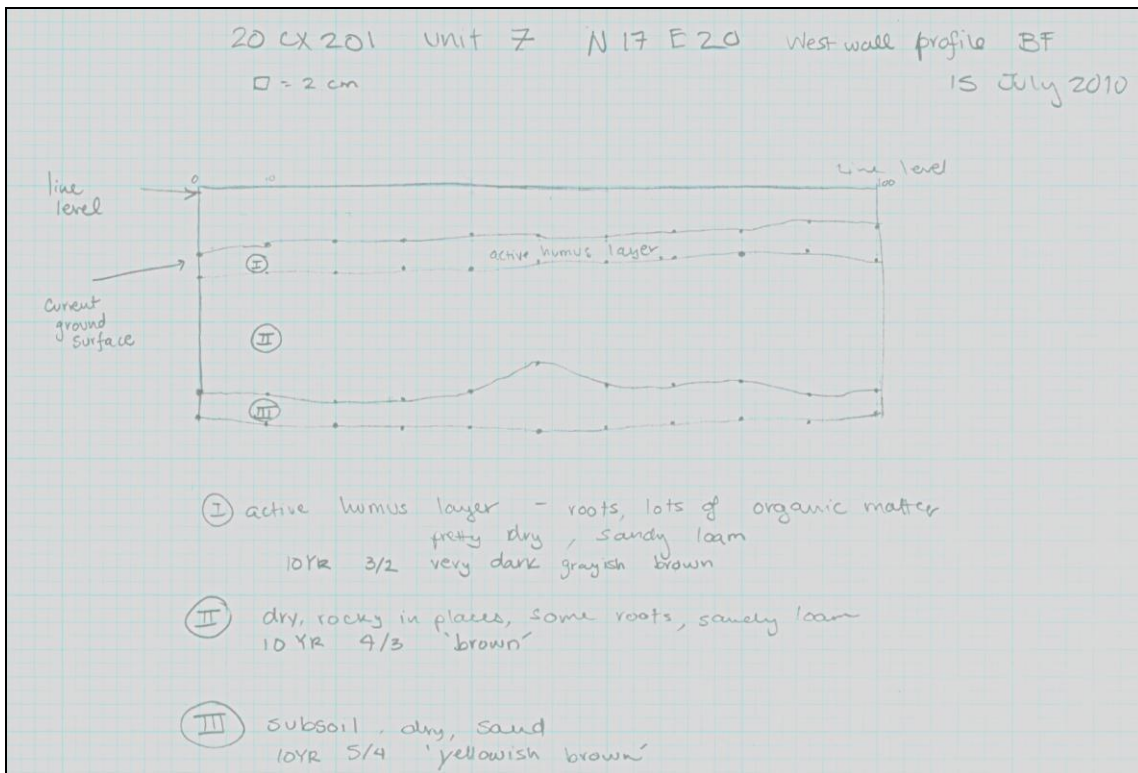


Figure 8.12. A hand-sketched profile of the west wall of Unit 7. A properly drafted profile will be included in the final report.

*Unit Number: 8*

*Coordinates: S11 E13.5*

*Excavators: Jacqueline Thomas, Catherine Ahern, Bianca Fernandez, and Deb Rotman*

*Dates of Excavation: 15 July 2010-19- July 2010*

This unit location was selected for a unit based upon the artifact density found within Unit 5. Unit 8 is situated under the lilac trees where the possible privy would have been placed. The entire unit was excavated using trowels and the datum stake was placed in the SW corner of the unit. There was no Constant Volume Sample taken for this unit because after sifting past CVS samples in the lab it was determined that the team was not finding any artifacts in the samples that they would have missed using the quarter inch (1/4 in) mesh screens in the field. As each level was being excavated the recovered soil was then screened by team members through the quarter in (1/4 in) screens and examined for artifacts. One the desired excavation depth was reached for each level the soil was sampled using the Munsell Color Chart (10 YR). One these processes were completed the team was able to move onto the next level of the unit. Levels 0 and 1 were excavated on 15 July 2010 while Levels 2, 3, 4, and 5 were excavated on 16 July 2010 and Levels 7-8 were excavated on 19 July 2010 respectively.

#### *Level 0*

The objectives for this started with clearing all debris covering the unit. From the amount of material it was clear that this was a definite dumping site for the family of this homestead. There were many glass bottles and shards and aluminum cans littered on the ground level (Figure 8.13). There was no soil visible to the team when they first started this level and much of the work for this unit was spent trying to reach the earth so no measurements or soil samples were taken concerning soil. Signs that there actually was soil lurking beneath all the rubbish were tiny blades of vegetation, which encouraged the team. There were no shovels used during this level which was all man powered. It is important to note that when a dump or garbage heap is created it stays that way for a while. Adjacent to a privy location is the perfect location for trash because the lilac that was covering up the scents from the privy would also cover up any unpleasant odors emitted from the trash as well. Each homeowner following the initial family must have had this realization as well and followed suit by continuing to toss their rubbish here. There were a plethora of artifacts uncovered from this level which included beer bottles and cans, soda bottles and cans, shards of teacups and a teapot, part of a bowl, rusted tins of ham and luncheon meat. It is interesting to note that there is a good deal of repetition concerning the brands of beer and soda this family purchased. All of the beer brands were both local brands, native to Michigan, and known for being inexpensive. The soda products ranged from Michigan favorites like Faygo, which was also inexpensive to only Pepsi products. No Coca-Cola was found within the heap, which indicates that either it was out of their price range or the island did not offer these products, which is the more likely of the two. Based upon the artifacts found on the ground level the team has high hopes for this unit and what they might uncover.

#### *Level 1*

The objectives for this level were to continue clearing the debris that are entrenched within Level 1, clear the root systems, and try to reach the soil. This level was certainly the most difficult layer to excavate and took two days to get through. Manually breaking apart thick bark root systems and compacted dirt filled with rubbish accounted for the extended time. After collecting countless tin cans the team decided to forgo collecting nondescript metal and tin that would not be able to provide any information. In the lab all the tins and bottles will be documented and if not needed for analysis the team will look into finally recycling the extras. Several of the tins had return prices on them which indicates that were created following the “America The Beautiful” campaign to promote recycling. The team was also hypothesizing that perhaps all this waste can be attributed to a single episode, like a party, where the family would have just put all the trash here. It is interesting to note that as the team excavates further into the unit they are starting to see an evolution of beverage containers with aluminum cans and mini kegs littering the top and then gradually getting to glass bottles. The vessels for the beverages are evolving but the brands remain unchanged.



**Figure 8.13. Debris on the ground in the area of the trash dump at the beginning of excavation of Unit 8. Photograph by the author.**

Artifacts recovered from this level include 7 dog tags all dating from 1925, glass bottles, tin cans, baby formula, multiple ceramic patterns (pink floral and sponge print in blue), a woman's leather shoe, a straight razor, a fork (4 prongs), aluminum foil, tiny bottles of various shapes and sizes, a heel of shoe, and Presto fruit jar caps. From the artifacts it was interpreted that this spot was a definite dumping ground or garbage disposal. There are a multitude of artifacts to analyze, especially from the bottom of the glass bottles, which would be embossed from the plates a company might have purchased as well as the lips and tabs from the cans. At the end of 15 July 2010 the team had still not reached soil but after some serious troweling starting on 16 July 2010 the team was finally able to break through the debris and reach actual soil! They were then greeted by the first pebbles and stones observed in this unit. Along with the stones were massive roots which were very chunky and probably from the lilac tree. These roots will most likely pose future challenges for the team when trying to work around them and level the unit out. The Munsell soil sample described this soil as 3/3 or Dark Brown with a sandy, grainy, and weighty texture. The moisture content was slightly damp and inclusions included major thick and thin root systems, small pebbles and stones, as well as stuck artifacts like beer cans that were wedged into the floor and walls and intertwined with the roots. The ending elevations (cm) for this unit are as follows NE: 17, SE: 22, SW: 25, NW: 16, and Center: 20.

#### *Level 2*

The beginning elevations for this level are as follows NE: 17, SE: 22, SW: 25, NW: 16, and Center: 20 (cm). In Level 2 the team continued exploring the midden, removing artifacts, and avoiding cutting up the roots and ruining the stratigraphy of the unit. If a root really needed to be cut and could not be worked around or extracted by hand then root clippers were used. The roots seemed to be getting even bigger the deeper the team excavated yet the team continued to trowel the soil they came across in this unit and worked

to achieve a uniform level. It should be noted that while troweling the team came across a metal pole that was running horizontal along the unit in the North wall. It is possible that there could be a pole running parallel to this one in the South wall as well. This could be some sort of container or barrier. It should also be noted that many pebbles and stones were present towards the end of this level. Artifacts recovered include more glass shards, Presto jar seals, broken ceramic sherds, possible part of the woman's leather shoe, screen possibly from a screen door at some point in time, and finally metal scraps. The Munsell soil sample revealed that this soil was 3/3 or Dark Brown with a grainy and sandy texture. The soil was damp and included many roots, pebbles, and bigger rocks. The ending elevations for this unit were as follows NE: 27.5, SE: 28, SW: 28, NW: 29, and Center: 30 (cm).

### Level 3

The beginning elevations for this unit are as follows NE: 27.5, SE: 28, SW: 28, NW: 29, and Center: 30 (cm). The objectives for this unit were to continue excavating the midden and recover artifacts now that the team has reached soil. While troweling the soil the team is working to achieve and maintain a uniform soil elevation (Figure 8.14). The team has started to enter a gravel layer of the soil where the artifact density is much lower than previous levels. There are fewer large roots on this level, which a relief to all team members and the soil is uniform in texture and color, no extreme color changes present here. The Munsell described the soil as 2/2 or Very Dark Brown with a grainy and sandy texture. The moisture content was damp and inclusions were root, pebbles, and rocks. Artifacts from this level include glass shards, ceramic sherds, as well as metal and rubber pieces. Ending elevations for this level are as follows NE: 32, SE: 32, SW: 32, NW: 32, and Center: 32 (cm).



**Figure 8.14.** The team excavating Unit 8, using plywood to protect themselves from all the broken glass on the ground. From left to right, Miranda Rooy, Kasia Ahern, and Jackie Thomas. Photograph by the author.

#### *Level 4*

The beginning elevations for this level were as follows: NE: 32, SE: 32, SW: 32, NW: 32.5, and Center: 32 (cm). The excavations goals for this level were to continue troweling the midden and uncovering some interesting artifacts. Immediately into this level the team uncovered a ceramic sherd, which gave the team some encouragement and positive feedback. Other artifacts recovered from this level include some objects that really intrigued the team. They were made of clay or some softer material and in the shape of long cylinders. It was soon determined that these objects were carbon from radios. A burn spot in the unit yielded a plethora of charcoal pieces in this level. There were also some interesting crackled style ceramic sherds found, this crackled pattern is not a design but instead is just plain white ceramic that cracked and dirt has filled all the crevices. The team also observed a piece of concrete, and a shard of olive glass from a very old wine bottle. The team concluded this level on a very high note when they uncovered a sherd of Blue Willow! This recovered indicates that the team is now reaching the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the soil. A Munsell soil sample revealed that the soil was 3/1 or Very Dark Gray with the texture of soft sand. The moisture content was damp and there were inclusions in the form of gravel and roots. It should be noted that team troweled twice as much soil as planned because of the softness of the soil. In nice soil it is incredibly easy to become "trowel-happy." The ending elevations for this level are as follows: NE: 41, SE: 41, SW: 40, NW: 41, and Center: 41 (cm).

#### *Level 5*

The beginning elevations for this level were as follows NE: 41, SE: 41, SW: 40, NW: 41 and Center: 41 (cm). The goals for this level were to explore the 19<sup>th</sup> century soil by troweling the midden and keeping a sharp eye out for artifacts like pipes and Blue Willow. This unit has the potential of getting deep much like Unit 5 (62 cm) so the team has to make sure that they are efficient. On 16 July 2010 four levels were uncovered which is excellent considering all of the debris and roots in the unit. The soil has remained uniform across the unit and the artifact density has remained high with all of the glass shards and ceramic sherds recovered from this level. A Munsell soil sample revealed that the soil was a 3/1 or Very Dark Gray consisting of a very soft and fine sandy texture with a damp moisture content and pebbles and roots and inclusions. Ending elevations from this level are as follows: NE: 45, SE: 44, SW: 44, NW: 44, and Center: 44 (cm).

#### *Level 6*

The beginning elevations for this unit are as follows NE: 41, SE: 41, SE: 40, NW: 41, and Center: 41 (cm). The excavation objectives for this level are to trowel 4 cm throughout the unit and get the levels back a uniform depth while uncovering more artifacts. The unit is coming along really well considering from where the team started out. Dirt is now visible and the team is working on taming the wild roots. Most of the root systems are stemming from the floor of the unit and are thin systems. Thankfully, the thicker and chunkier roots are starting to die out a bit and are in the walls only. A bit of a "bathtub effect" where the center is troweled out more than the walls is going on in the unit because of all the roots in the walls but the team is doing great work on keeping the walls in check overall. Artifacts that were uncovered included a large ceramic sherd of transfer print, a suspender clasp, glass shards, rusted metal, charcoal, and a blue willow shard. The team also uncovered money, a penny dating back to 1918, glass and ceramic sherds, and a massive nail which were all found lurking beneath a rock that was lodged within the wall on the West side of the unit. There are a significant amount of slugs on this level, which is a good sign because they inhabit disturbed soil. There is also an interesting soil variation going on at this level that should be mentioned. There is a much lighter brown and a yellowish brown in places, specially the SW and NW corners. There is a definite mottling of soils and the team has a feeling that they might be reaching the subsoil sometime soon. A Munsell soil sample of all the different soil colors was conducted which revealed that the majority of the soil which was in the Center, NE, and SE corners was classified as 2/2 or Very Dark Brown with a sandy loam texture while the soils found in the SW and NW corners were aptly described as falling under 3/6 or Dark Yellowish Brown with a sandy subsoil-esque texture and was mottled with 4/3 Brown soil that was loamy sand. Each soil concentration was damp and contained inclusions of rocks and roots. It should be noted that the team did not excavate the anticipated 48 cm because of the subsoil and because the SW datum stake was



slightly off kilter and at an angle, and in very unlevelled soil, causing any measurements to be off. Ending elevations for this level are as follows NE: 47, SE: 47, SW: 46, NW: 46, and Center: 46 (cm).

#### *Level 7*

The beginning elevations for this level are as follows NE: 47, SE: 47, SE: 46, NW: 46, and Center: 46 (cm). The goals for this level are to continue troweling the unit and to keep a sharp eye out for possible soil inclusion or features. The team troweled the soil and noticed a significantly low artifact density, which contained only scrap metal and charcoal. The soil at this point is very mottled and the brown yellowish color is really becoming dominant in the matrix. There were no slugs at this level so this could indicate that we are getting out of disturbed soil and entering a subsoil area. The only artifact recovered from this area was a single metal scrap. There were no pebbles or rocks at this level either. A Munsell sample of this soil classified it as 3/6 or Dark Yellow Brown with a subsoil texture; the second area of soil with color differentiation was classified as 2/2 with Very Dark Brown with a sandy loam texture. The final soil color section tested was 4/3 or Brown with a loamy sand texture. All the soil has a moisture content of damp and contained only roots for the inclusions. The ending elevation for this level was 50 cm in each corner as well as the Center.

#### *Level 8*

The objectives for this unit were to continue excavating the midden and reach the subsoil of the unit. The beginning elevation for this level was 50 cm and the team strove to excavate an additional 4 cm into the unit. Some observations the team had of the unit were that there was a definite sand concentration in the NE corner. The soil from this level is mostly subsoil at this point mottled with sand from the previously mentioned NE corner. This soil was very fine and went through the sifter with ease. With the exception of the NE corner the rest of the unit floor is looking very uniform with a dark yellowish brown soil covering it. There were very few artifacts recovered from this level, only a shard of aquamarine glass and a shard of clear glass. The team decided it was time to put this unit to rest but before it was retired the unit was probed twice, once in the NE corner and once in the Center to ensure that no data would be overlooked. A Munsell soil color sample was taken for the NE sand corner, which yielded 4/4 or Dark Yellowish Brown with a sandy loam texture while the soil for the rest of the unit was classified as 3/6 with the same soil color of Dark Yellowish Brown. The soil for both groups was damp with small inclusions of pebbles and fine and thick root systems.

#### *Level 8-Speciality Sample*

The NE corner of the unit was chosen for a specialty sample mainly because it had a high sand concentration than the rest of the unit and the team was interested in seeing if it might lead to a possible feature or rich in artifacts. The corner was trawled 5 cm down to ensure the team reached the subsoil in the unit. The beginning elevations for this specialty sample were 54 cm and the ending elevation was 59 cm. The Munsell soil color sample of this corner classified it as 4/4 or Dark Yellowish Brown with a sandy loam texture that was slightly damp and had pebbles and root systems as inclusions. The hopes to uncover a feature or more artifacts did not come to fruition but this sample did help the team to decide that they had reached the subsoil and to finally retire the unit.

#### *Unit 8 Soil Profile*

At the end of each unit a soil profile of one of the walls is created to document the progression of the dig and stratigraphy of the soil (Figure 8.15). The soil is conducted by selecting a wall, for example in Unit 8 the West wall was chosen, stringing a line level across and carpenter's rule beneath. The layers of the soil are then noted and measured using a measuring tape from the line level to the bottom of each layer. A Munsell of each layer is also conducted after measuring. These measurements are then plotted and documented on a graph. Measuring this particular unit was rather difficult in places because there was a slightly "bath tub" effect going on where the walls were not as sharp as they normally would have been because of root growth. This made measuring the corners at some points impossible so several measurements are missing from the graph. The soil profile indicates that Unit 8 was divided up into three different layers. It should be noted that

with the creation of this profile it was difficult to level the line because the unit was on a slope and the ground it was so littered with junk and debris. The first level was the active humus layer lurking right beneath the ground level, which was classified by the Munsell as 2/2 or Very Dark Brown. There was lots of junk in this level that was in the process of decomposing as well as thick root systems. The moisture content of this soil was very dry and the texture was that of sandy loam. The second layer of the soil profile was the artifact rich layer, which was considered to be 3/2, or Very Dark Gray with a sandy loam texture and containing lots of pebbles, rocks, and smaller root systems. This soil also held moisture content of slightly damp. The final layer above ground level for this unit was 3/6 or Dark Yellowish Brown that was considered the subsoil with a slightly damp sandy loam texture and was culturally sterile.

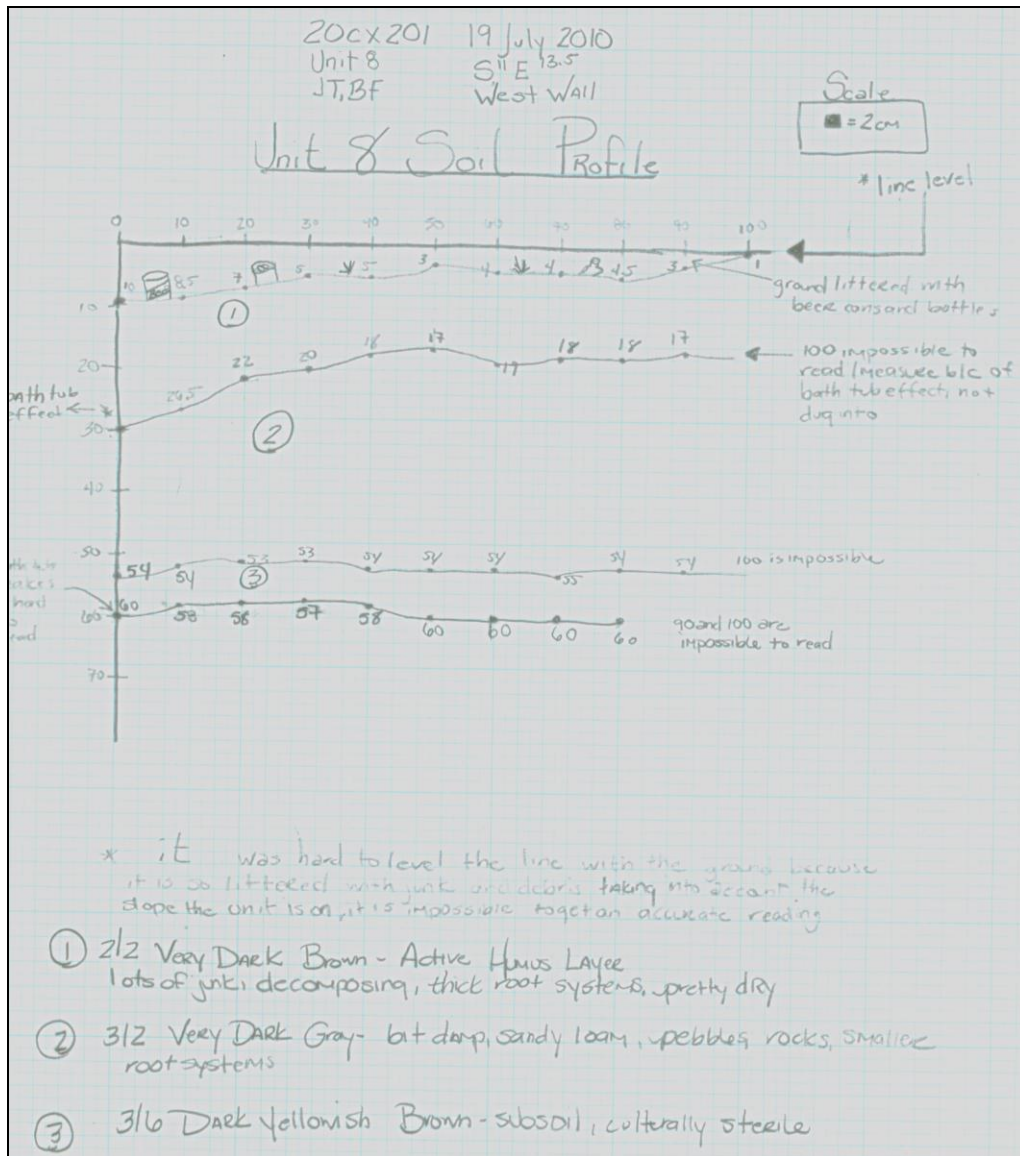


Figure 8.15. A hand-sketched profile of the west wall of Unit 8. A properly drafted profile will be included in the final report.



**Figure 8.16. Volunteer Cindy Pikaart (left) and Notre Dame student Kasia Ahern excavating Unit 9.**

*Unit Number: 9*

*Coordinates: N1 E14*

*Excavators: Kasia Ahern, Adam Richards, Bianca Fernandez, and Cindy Pikaart*

*Dates of Excavation: 16 July 2010, 19 July 2010- 20 July 2010*

The unit location was chosen because of its proximity to Unit 3, which produced a considerable amount of artifacts. This unit is also close to the original back door of the house, so it was thought that there would be a lot of artifacts in the area on the path from the door to area where the original barn had been. The unit was excavated using a trowel throughout the entire excavation. The soil recovered during the entire excavation was screened through quarter inch (1/4in) mesh. A Constant Volume Sample (CVS) of 1 liter (1L) was taken at the SW corner of the unit for every level, beginning with Level 2. The datum for this unit was in the southwest (SW) corner. The soil was described using the 10YR Munsell Color Chart, starting with at Level 1 of the unit. Levels 0-2 were excavated on July 16, 2010 by Kasia Ahern, Adam Richards, and Bianca Fernandez. Levels 3-10 were excavated on July 19, 2010 by Kasia Ahern and Cindy Pikaart (Figure 8.16). Levels 11-13 were excavated on July 20, 2010.

#### *Level 0*

The excavation objectives for Level 0 were to clear the grass, check the surface for artifacts and prepare the unit for excavation. The larger blades of grass were removed from the unit before initial measurements were taken. The initial measurements (cm) for Level 0 were as follows: NE 17, SE 18, SW 12, NW 9, Center 15. The unit sloped upward in the west direction. There were no features observed at the surface level. No artifacts were recovered at the surface level.

#### *Level 1*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 1 were as follows: NE 17, SE 18, SW 12, NW 9, Center 15. The excavation objectives clear the unit of the active humus layer and check for artifacts. The artifact density

was low/moderate. Artifacts recovered include a nail, a glass shard, piece of plaster, plastic, and charcoal. The soil was uniform in color and texture across the unit. The Munsell reading for the level was 3/2, or “very dark grayish brown”. The texture was grainy sand with some loam. The moisture content of the soil was drying. There were some roots and pebbles across the unit. There were also some ants and caterpillars in the soil. The ending elevations (cm) for Level were as follows: NE 25, SE 23, SW 20, NW 12, Center 20. The depth of excavation for this level began at 9cm and ended 25cm.

#### *Level 2*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 2 were as follows: NE 25, SE 23, SW 20, NW 12, Center 20. The excavation objectives for this level were to trowel the level, check for artifacts, and to level out the elevations of the unit. It was especially difficult to trowel in the NW corner due to a large amount of roots. The artifact density of the level was low/moderate. Artifacts recovered included ceramic sherds, plastic pieces, nails, metal pieces, and charcoal. The soil was uniform in texture and color across the unit. The Munsell reading for this soil was 3/2, or “very dark grayish brown”. The texture was grainy sand and the moisture content was damp. There were some rocks and pebbles, fine roots, and larger roots. There was a larger root sticking out of the west wall. This level appeared to be the start of a midden. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 2 were as follows: NE 25, SE 25, SW 22, NW 22, Center 23. The depth of excavation for this level started at 12cm and ended at 25cm.

#### *Level 3*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 3 were as follows: NE 25, SE 25, SW 22, NW 22, Center 23. The excavation objectives for this level were to trowel the midden, check for artifacts, and level out the elevations of the unit. The artifact density for this level was low. Artifacts recovered included a few potsherds, nails, and some metal. The soil color and texture was uniform across the unit. The Munsell reading for this soil was 3/3, or “dark brown”. The texture of the soil was grainy sand. The soil was damp because it had rained the previous night. There were lots of roots and some pebbles, which made it somewhat difficult to trowel through. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 3 were as follows: NE 25, SE 25.5, SW 25, NW 25, Center 25. The depth of excavation for this level began at 22cm and ended at 25.5cm.

#### *Level 4*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 4 were as follows: NE 25, SE 25.5, SW 25, NW 25, Center 25. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to trowel the midden and to check for artifacts. The artifact density for this level was moderately high in comparison to the last level. Artifacts recovered included brick pieces, metal pipe, round nails of varying sizes, a square nail, sherds, metal pieces, glass shards, and charcoal. The soil was uniform in texture and color across the unit. There was a clear color change from the previous level. The Munsell reading for this soil was 4/2, or “dark grayish brown”. The texture was grainy sand and the moisture content damp, but drying. There were roots and pebbles in the soil. Roots were sticking out of all sides of the unit. There were some worms in the soil. There was some metal circular piece that was sticking out of the wall around the NE corner of the unit. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 4 were as follows: NE 30, SE 29, SW 29, NW 29, Center 29. The depth of excavation for this level began at 25cm and ended at 30cm.

#### *Level 5*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 5 were as follows: NE 30, SE 29, SW 29, NW 29, Center 29. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue troweling the midden and to check for artifacts. The artifact density for this level was high. Artifacts recovered included varying sizes of cut and round nails, screws, bolts, brick pieces, metal pieces, two coins, and a pendant with a religious cross on it. The sun was out while this level was excavated, making the soil dry and lighter in color. The soil was uniform in texture and color across the unit for the most part. The Munsell reading for this soil was 3/3, or “dark brown”. The soil was still a fine, grainy sand and was damp, but drying. There were some pebbles, fine roots, and one thicker root in the center. There was an ant hole in this level with lots of ants. There was lots of charcoal in the center of and toward the west side of the unit. There were also some pieces of bark. There were big roots

sticking out of west and east walls. There were some small spots of soil with an orange tint due to large amounts of rusted metal. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 5 were as follows: NE 33, SE 33, SW 33, NW 33, Center 33. The depth of excavation for this level began at 29cm and ended at 33cm.

#### *Level 6*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 6 were as follows: NE 33, SE 33, SW 33, NW 33, Center 33. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to excavate the unit and to recover any artifacts found. The level was started by digging up what was inside the metal ring that had been stuck in the NE corner of the unit and recovering any artifacts. The artifact density of the entire level was moderate. Artifacts recovered included lots of nails, bones, and glass shards. There was still a lot of charcoal in the center and in other spots around the unit. It was very hot out so the soil was drying up very quickly. Besides the spots of charcoal, the soil was uniform in texture and color. The Munsell reading for this soil was 3/3, or “dark brown”, which was the same as the previous level. The soil was damp, but drying quickly and the texture of the soil was grainy, fine sand. There were pebbles and lots of fine roots in the soil. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 6 were as follows: NE 37, SE 37, SW 37, NW 37, Center 38. The depth of excavation began at 33cm and ended at 38cm.

#### *Level 7*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 7 were as follows: NE 37, SE 37, SW 37, NW 37, Center 38. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to trowel the midden and to recover any artifacts found. The artifact density of the level was moderate, but lower than the previous level. Artifacts recovered included nails of varying sizes and metal pieces. The soil was uniform in color and texture across the unit. The Munsell reading for the soil was 3/4, or “dark yellowish brown”. The texture was a fine, grainy sand. The soil was very dry because of the sun. There were fine roots and pebbles in the soil, and a couple of bigger rocks scattered across the unit. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 7 were as follows: NE 41, SE 41, SW 41, NW 42, Center 42. The depth of excavation for this level began at 37cm and ended at 42cm.

#### *Level 8*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 8 were as follows: NE 41, SE 41, SW 41, NW 42, Center 42. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to excavate the matrix and to check for artifacts. The artifact density for this level was moderate. Artifacts recovered included nails, bone, metal pieces, and a suspender buckle. There was not much soil color change from the previous level. The soil was uniform in color and texture across the unit. The Munsell reading for the soil was 4/4, or “dark yellowish brown”. The soil was composed of fine, grainy sand. There were pebbles and roots in the soil. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 8 were as follows: NE 45, SE 45, SW 45, NW 45, Center 45. The depth of excavation for this level began at 41cm and ended at 45cm.

#### *Level 9*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 9 were as follows: NE 45, SE 45, SW 45, NW 45, Center 45. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to excavate the midden and to recover any artifacts found. The artifact density for this level was moderate. Artifacts recovered included lots of nails, potsherds, metal pieces, and charcoal. There were still bits of charcoal across the unit. The soil was uniform across the unit. The Munsell reading for the soil was 3/4, or “dark yellowish brown”. The texture was still a fine, grainy sand. The soil was drying due to the sun. There were some fine roots and pebbles of varying sizes. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 9 were as follows: NE 49, SE 49, SW 49, NW 49, Center 49. The depth of excavation for this level began at 45cm and ended at 49cm.

#### *Level 10*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 10 were as follows: NE 49, SE 49, SW 49, NW 49, Center 49. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue to excavate the midden and to check for artifacts. The artifact density for this level was similar to the last level; moderate. Artifacts recovered included nails, metal pen nib, glass shard, bones, and some charcoal. The soil was similar to the last level and

uniform across the unit. The Munsell reading for this soil was 3/4, or “dark yellowish brown”. The soil was fine, grainy sand. The moisture content was dry and there were some small pebbles, charcoal bits, small woodchips, and fine roots across the unit. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 10 were as follows: NE 53, SE 53, SW 53, NW 53, Center 53. The depth of excavation for this level began at 49cm and ended at 53cm.

*Level 11*

The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 11 were as follows: NE 53, SE 53, SW 53, NW 53, Center 53. The excavation objectives for this level were to continue troweling the unit and recover any artifacts found. The artifact density for this unit was low. Artifacts recovered included some nails, a bolt, and some bone. The soil was uniform across the unit, except for a color change in the NW corner. There were spots of orange and gray in the NW corner. The Munsell readings for the soil in the NW corner were 4/6, or “dark yellowish brown”, and 4/1, or “dark gray”. The Munsell reading for the soil in the rest of the unit was 3/4, or “dark yellowish brown”. It appeared that the subsoil was reached in the NW corner. Across the unit, the soil was a fine, grainy sand and was damp. There were some pebbles and fine roots across the level as well. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 11 were as follows: NE 57, SE 57, SW 57, NW 58, Center 57. The depth of excavation began at 53cm and ended at 58cm.

*Level 12*

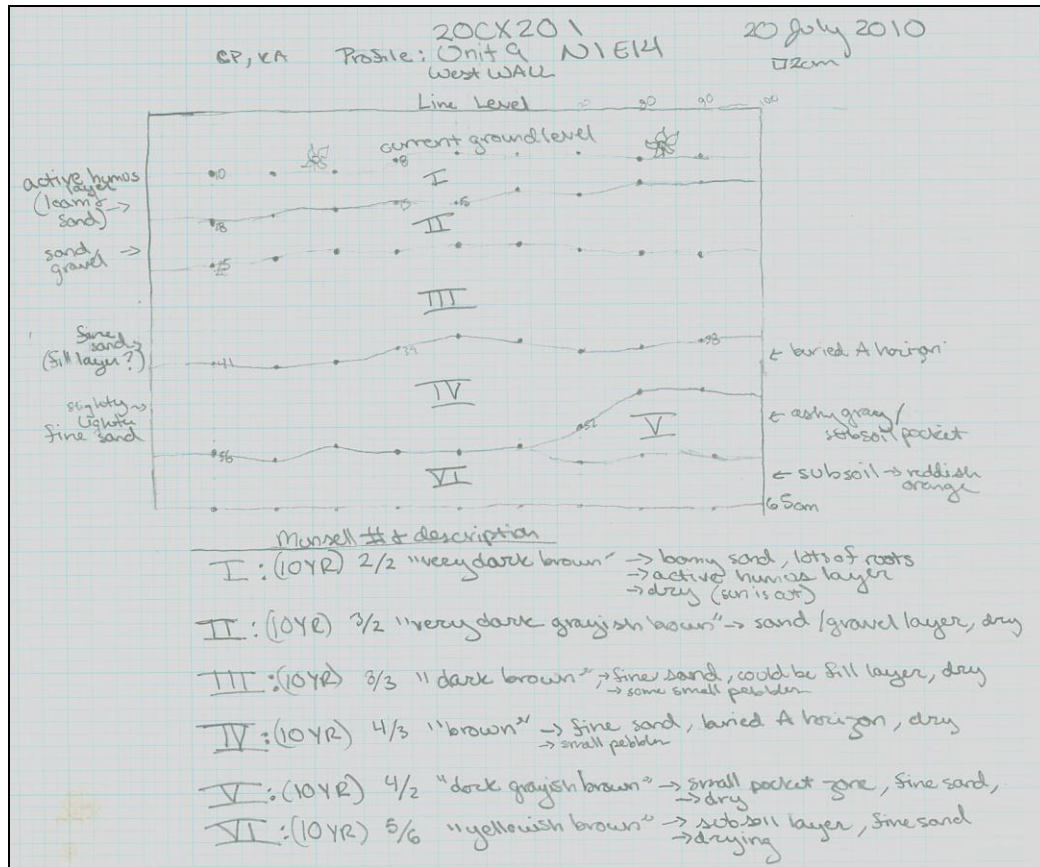
The beginning elevations (cm) for Level 12 were as follows: NE 57, SE 57, SW 57, NW 58, Center 57. The excavation objectives for the level were to continue to excavate the midden until there are no more artifacts. The level had a very low artifact density: 1 nail. The north half of the unit had more orange soil with some gray patches (subsoil). The south half of the unit had soil that was similar to the previous level. The unevenness of soil color could be due to the natural tilt of the land. The Munsell reading for the north half of the unit was 4/5, or “dark yellowish brown”. The Munsell reading for the south half of the unit was 3/3, or “dark brown”. The soil was very fine and grainy sand. It was damp and there were a few pebbles and fine roots. The ending elevations (cm) for Level 12 were as follows: NE 61, SE 61, SW 61, NW 61, Center 61. The depth of excavation began at 57cm and ended at 61 cm.

*Level 13*

The beginning elevations for Level 13 were as follows: NE 61, SE 61, SW 61, NW 61, Center 61. The excavation objectives for this level were to excavate until the unit was culturally sterile and to watch for subsoil on the south half of the unit. No artifacts were recovered from this level. There was a soil color change on the south half of the unit. Now, the soil color is uniform across the entire unit. This indicates that subsoil has been reached across the unit and this soil is culturally sterile. The Munsell reading for this level was 4/6, or “dark yellowish brown”. The soil was damp and composed of fine sand. There were a few pebbles, bigger rocks, and fine roots in the soil. The ending elevations for Level 13 were as follows: NE 65, SE 65, SW 65, NW 65, Center 65. The depth of excavation for the level began at 61cm and ended at 65cm.

*Profile for Unit 9*

A profile was drawn of the west wall of Unit 9 (Figure 8.17). There were 6 zones total, five of which were larger and one which was a smaller pocket zone. The first zone (I) was the active humus layer, composed of loamy sand. This zone had a Munsell reading of 2/2, or “very dark brown”. There were lots of roots and the soil was dry due to the sun. The second zone (II) was the dry sand and gravel layer. The Munsell reading for this zone was 3/2, or “very dark grayish brown”. The third zone (III) was composed of dry, fine sand. It could be classified as a fill layer. The Munsell reading for this zone was 3/3, or “dark brown”. The fourth zone (IV) was composed of dry, fine sand as well and appeared to be the buried A horizon. There were a few pebbles in the zone. The Munsell reading for this zone was 4/3, or “brown”. The fifth zone (V) was a pocket zone that is composed of fine, dry sand. This zone had a Munsell reading of 4/2, or “dark grayish brown”. The sixth zone (VI) was the subsoil layer and was also composed of dry, fine sand. The Munsell reading for this zone was 5/6, or “yellowish brown”.



**Figure 8.17. A hand-sketched profile of the west wall of Unit 9. A properly drafted profile will be included in the final report.**

Unit Number: Root Cellar (in home)

Coordinates: - - - - -

Excavators: Bianca Fernandez, Adam Richards, Deb Rotman

Dates of Excavation: 16 July, 2010

The unit location was chosen in part because the home will be moved in the coming year, and if the root cellar is not excavated this time around, next summer may be too late. Also, the root cellar may hold many interesting artifacts or signs of daily life that were swept under or stored underneath. The root cellar consisted of two different rooms: the main room, where one would first drop down into and then a second room to the north. The five zones excavated were done in both rooms. Adam Richards was down in the root cellar excavating, wearing a face mask and a hat to protect his head (Figure 8.18). Bianca was recording the data and the details of the excavations. Dr. Rotman was sifting the soil and collecting the artifacts.

Someone was always in the room when the excavator was down in the root cellar. All the soil was trowel dug (or even just the dustpan was used since the soil was so loose). All the deposits were sifted through a 1/4" screen. No CVS was collected. The soil was described using the 10YR Munsell Color Chart. Not every level was identified and described with the Munsell because the other units needed to use it, and much of the soil was homogenous, so only a sampling was done every couple levels per zone. It was difficult to set up very specific units because it was dark and unlevel in the unit. It was decided to dig by zones instead and try to dig on an even level, keeping one point as a constant marker for depth. Although not a typical unit, it did reveal some interesting results. While doing a preliminary search and analysis of the area, a couple desiccated animals were found, including what was later identified as a snowshoe hare.



**Figure 8.18.** Beaver Island schoolteacher Adam Richards at work in the root cellar. Photograph by the author.

**Zone A**

Zone A is located on the shelf on the east wall in the second, more northern room. The area is about 55cm x 55 cm.

*Level 0*

Nothing was discovered over the zone.

*Level 1*

It was not possible to determine beginning elevations because a formal unit was not set up considering the cramped conditions, the loose sand, and the interesting location. The excavation objective was a preliminary clearing and leveling of the area as well as to sample the cultural deposits. The excavator leveled the area with the side near to the wall, digging about 10 cm down in the area near the wall. The shelf had soil that increases in height as one goes toward the wall, or the east, so the excavator decided to try to get it level with the side closer to the west. The soil is cool sandy loam, very loose, and there seem to be hardly any bugs. The soil is not just sand but some bits of rock. As digging ensued, there was a possible large rock in the way, so it was a bit uneven in that area. Seven canning jars and a glass lid were found. The canning jars were found jutting out of the soil, so they were removed. Most of the cans had a rusted top, and one still had something in it.



#### *Level 2*

The soil is not packed down. It is loose and the texture is very homogenous. It has some gravel and mostly sand with loam. The Munsell reading was 3/3, or 'dark brown', on the 10 YR scale. The moisture content is damp, probably due to the cool climate. Some of the major inclusions were gravel, rocks, and pebbles. The East wall had a depth of 16 cm and the west wall had a depth of 7 cm.

#### *Level 3*

Now that two levels were done, the excavation objectives became clearer: dig about 6 cm down. The soil is the same as Levels 1 and 2, with the exception that there are more rocks and plaster clumps or even possible concrete in this level than previous ones. There are no bugs. The large rock that was already mentioned in Level 1 is just getting wider. It had sharp angles. It may be a piece of cement or a large field stone. The unit was dug down to 13 cm on the west wall and 22 cm on the east wall.

#### *Level 4*

The excavation objectives were to dig down 6 cm. It was difficult to keep sharp sides on the unit because the sand continued to cave in. The large triangular chunk of plaster or cement was getting progressively wider the more one dug. The eastern side of the unit was really just sand. There were progressively more rocks and gravel. There was a jar found in the level, but it was also part of the unit north. The soil is still the same color, texture and moisture. The final measurements were 19 cm on the W wall and 28 cm on the E wall.

#### *Level 5*

The excavation objective was to excavate 6 cm throughout the unit. The level was similar to levels prior except for the fact that the eastern half of the unit was mostly sand at that point. Because of the sand and loose texture of the soil, the edges continued to cave in, getting a sort of avalanche effect. The large rock just continued to get bigger the more one dug and went all the way to the east wall. One and a half buckets of soil was collected (used some of the shorter buckets). The final measurements were 25 cm on the W wall and 34 cm on the E wall. It was decided to end excavation in this zone because the rock was getting larger and not many artifacts were being yielded.

Note: Adam Richards explored a bit more in the northern room, in part to choose another zone to excavate. In the NW area he looked at, he saw an area of boxes, full of canning lids, a TV Guide with Friends times listing, a silk flower, a thick layer of cloth, almost as if it were stuffing. They are all items that seem relatively recent.

#### **Zone B**

A 50 cm by 50 cm zone was set up in the southern part of the northern room, at the interface between both rooms. This zone was decided in part because it would have people passing by it going from one room to another.

#### *Level 0*

Feather, bones and a piece of cardboard were covering the zone of interest. The ground angles up toward the northeast (NE) corner. The angling of the soil could be in part due to the path people would take in and out of the room that would push the soil toward that direction.

#### *Level 1*

The excavation objective was to level the zone. The NE corner, the higher spot, was dig down 6 cm. The soil is a lot sandier than Zone A. Many tiny plaster pieces were found. They were not all collected. A couple samples of the larger pieces were taken. The Munsell reading was 5/3, or 'brown'. The soil was dry and was more sand than loam. There does not seem to be a lot of organic matter.

*Level 2*

The excavation objective was to dig 6 cm down. The soil was very loose and easy to dig. At times the dustpan was the only thing used to dig. Some of the artifacts discovered include a burlap sack found at the interface of the unit, a carcass (rat, bunny, or mouse...), and lots of bits of cardboard. Because there were so many, only a sample was collected. In part it was also because as it was being screened, many of the light pieces flew away. The depth was 12 cm on the higher, NE side at the base of the level.

Note: Artifacts from Level 1 and 2 were collected together as there was some confusion during provenience control.

*Level 3*

The excavation objective was to dig 6 cm down. The beginning measurement on the high corner (NE) was 12 cm. The Munsell reading for the level is 4/3, or 'brown', and the soil was sandy with loose rocks. It seemed that the next level might be more compact. The ending measurement on the NE corner was 18 cm.

*Level 4*

The excavation objective was to dig 6 cm down. The beginning measurement on the NE corner is 18 cm. It was a more packed soil than prior levels, but with some slight scraping with a trowel, it came off easily. There was some slight caving in on the north and west walls. One bucket of soil was collected (smaller/shorter buckets used). The Munsell reading was 4/3, or 'brown'. The soil was dry and loose sand. The final measurement at the NE corner was 24 cm, which was about 9 cm below the bottom of the cabin (the final plank).

*Level 5*

The excavation objective was to dig 6 cm down. The beginning measurement on the NE corner is 24 cm. It is a more packed down soil, in part because the level now seems to be below the foundation of the home. The southern wall, below the plank on the eastern side, seems to have rotting wood. The southeast corner seemed to have a hole that goes down at an angle. Two buckets of soil were collected, probably because the soil was more compact. The artifact density is low. The final measurement on the NE corner was 30 cm.

*Level 6*

The excavation objectives were to dig 6 cm down and to determine that there are no more cultural artifacts. Because the prior levels were more packed, the walls of the unit were better defined. In prior levels, on the southern wall, running flush with the board where the excavator is digging, the soil was loose and running into the unit at times. The excavator, felt very good about the integrity of the level's artifacts because he made sure that there was no soil falling in from the sides as occurred in the prior levels (in part because the sand was so loose). The edges of the unit were holding better and nothing was knocked in accidentally from the southern board where the excavator was crouching to dig. The eastern half of the unit is now mostly sand. Some of the bits of wood found may be due to fleckings from the south wall. Some plaster was also found. The final measurement on the NE corner was 36 cm.

*Level 7*

The excavation objective was to dig one more level just to make sure that the area is more or less culturally sterile, or at least won't have artifacts that we are interested in. The soil became loose again because most of it is sand. Only the western 1/5 of the unit is now not sand. The level was just under the board on the southern wall. Many splinters and pieces of wood were found, but it was probably due to the trowel scraping against some of the pieces of wood around the zone. It was decided to end the zone at this level. The final measurement on the NE corner was 42 cm.

### **Zone C**

The zone was set up on the southwest corner of the main room. It was a 50 cm by 50 cm unit. The zone was placed in this location because there was a great deal of soil angled up toward the southwest corner, probably because the soil is so loose that it gets pushed toward the corners.

#### *Level 0*

There was a large height difference in the unit. The grade difference was about 14 cm from the southwest (SW) corner, which was higher, to the northeast (NE) corner. One nail was found on the surface.

#### *Level 1*

The excavation objective is to level the unit. Because the SW corner was higher, 12 cm were removed from it to level the unit. The board was running from the foundation of the home on the south wall out to the north of the unit. The temperature was very cool. Excavation occurred just with dustpans because the soil was loose and dry sandy loam.

#### *Level 2*

The excavation objective was to level the unit further and to dig down 6 to 8 cm. The beginning measurement of the SW corner was 12 cm. The wooden board mentioned in Level 1 was removed on the west side of the unit. Another board was found in the center of the unit, and it too was removed. About one bucket of soil was removed from the level. There were a lot of paper pieces found, and some were collected, but many flew away as they were being sifted (in part because of the strong winds). The Munsell reading was  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or 'dark yellowish brown'. The soil was very loose and dry sand and loam. The final measurement on the SW corner was 20 cm.

#### *Level 3*

The excavation objective was to dig down 6 more cm. There was some avalanching on the east side, probably due to the loose nature of the soil. The south west wall was right up against the house wall, so the foundations of the home were clearly visible. The northwest side was not very deep because it was on the lower side with less dirt accumulation. About a bucket and a half was removed from the level. The final measurement on the SW corner was 26 cm.

#### *Level 4*

The excavation objective was to dig down 6 more cm. The soil was more packed down and rockier. There was less avalanching in the level, even though some still occurred. Because of the foundation of the home, it was not possible to get a sheer side on the south all. The Munsell reading was  $\frac{3}{3}$ , or 'dark brown.' The soil was damper and rockier sandy loam. The final measurement on the SW corner was 32 cm.

#### *Level 5*

The excavation objective was to dig down 6 more cm. The Munsell reading was  $\frac{3}{3}$ , or 'dark brown'. The soil was rockier, damper, and more packed sandy loam. The level was dug out with a trowel and dustpan. The final measurement on the SW corner was 42 cm.

#### *Level 6*

The excavation objectives were to dig down 6 more cm in part to confirm that there is nothing else of note in the zone. The excavation of the level led to the last wood plank of the foundation of the home. The soil in the bucket that was sifted was due to some 'avalanche' debris from the sides of the unit. The Munsell reading was  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or 'dark yellowish brown'. The soil was damp and rocky sandy loam. The final measurement on the SW corner was 48 cm.

## **Zone D**

The location chosen was right at the opening of the root cellar, on the ledge on the south wall of the main root cellar room. It was chosen because it is believed that objects that may have been swept in the cracks by accident when sweeping or walking and when the door was opened, it could have fallen in.

### *Level 1*

Because there is no sod to remove and nothing really on top, there was no level 0. A thin layer was excavated. The level was cleared and leveled a bit, going down 3 cm. About a half bucket of soil was removed. The area seems to have a depth of 10 cm. The Munsell reading was 4/3,, or 'brown'. The soil was dry, loamy sand. The final depth was 3 cm.

### *Level 2*

The excavation objective was to dig down 3 cm. About a half bucket was removed. The Munsell reading was 4/3, or 'brown'. The soil was dry, loamy sand. The final depth was 6 cm.

### *Level 3*

The excavation objective was to dig down 3 cm. The level is about the same as the prior level 2. The soil's color, texture and moisture content were the same as the prior level. The final depth was 9 cm.

### *Level 4*

The excavation objective was to dig down 3 cm. The level is the same as level 2 and level 3. The soil's color, texture, and moisture content were the same as the prior level. The final depth of the level was 12 cm.

### *Level 5*

The excavation objective was to dig down 3 cm. The level is the same as level 2, 3, and 4. The soil's color, texture, and moisture content were the same as the prior level: 4/3, or 'brown' dry loamy sand with some rocks and pebbles. The final depth of the level was 15 cm.

### *Level 6*

The excavation objective was to dig down 3 cm. The level is about the same as level 2, 3, 4, and 5. The soil's color, texture, and moisture content were the same as the prior level. The only slight note of difference was that there were a couple of spots of soil that were more packed throughout. The final depth of the level was 18 cm.

### *Level 7*

The excavation objective was to dig down 3 cm. As excavation progressed, there was a sudden sandiness, which could have been attributable to a fill layer. There was a board on the north side of the unit running along the wall. The board is nailed to the side. The Munsell reading was 4/3, or 'brown'. The soil was dry, loamy sand.

## **Zone E**

The zone was triangular in shape because of the location chosen. It is right under the opening of the root cellar, on the ground of the main room. There is a tree trunk looking object right by the zone.

### *Level 1*

The log was used as a means to measure the depth of excavation. The excavation objective was to dig 6 cm. The final depth of the level was 6 cm.

### *Level 2*

The excavation objective was to dig 6 cm. A burlap sack was found while excavating. The bits and pieces of it could not all be collected, in part because they were blown away by the wind as the midden was

sifted. The major pieces, which were rather large, were kept. The final depth was 12 cm from the top of the log.

*Level 3*

The excavation objective was to dig between 4 and 6 cm more. Lots of wooden pieces were found because as the soil is being troweled, the trowel is bumping against a piece of wood that is coming off the base where the depth is being measured. The Munsell reading was 4/3, or 'brown'. The soil was dry, loamy sand. The final depth was 18 cm.

*Level 4*

The excavation objective was to dig down 6 more cm. The level is similar to the prior level. It is not any rockier. The log on the south wall is infringing on the excavation space because it is jutting far out. It is making excavation difficult. There were no artifacts. The Munsell reading was 3/3, or 'dark brown'. The soil was dry, loamy sand with some small pebbles as rocks. The final depth was 24 cm.

*Level 5*

The excavation objective was to dig down 6 more cm. The soil was more compact in a few spaces. This was the final level for the zone as well as the root cellar unit. The final depth was 30 cm.

Unit 10 yielded different artifacts than expected. Some of the items were interesting, such as the dried fruits and the preserving jars. Yet more intriguing artifacts, like ceramic pieces and glass were not really found. It is possible that the door of the root cellar was well sealed and little made its way down. One thing is for certain, the preservation conditions in the root cellar were great, in part demonstrated by the desiccated animals, including the mice, the chipmunk, and the snowshoe hare.