

*The Last House of Philip Martin Ulmer  
(1807-1816)*



*A Preliminary Report  
of Excavations at ME 243-007,  
Ducktrap Village, Lincolnville, Maine*

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And lastly, to all the volunteers, the Lincolnville Historical Society, and abutting landowners – a sincere thank you for all your effort and support of this undertaking.

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## Summary

Born on December 25, 1751, in Broad Bay, Massachusetts (what is today Waldoboro, Maine), Philip Martin Ulmer was a prominent citizen and founding member of the late 18<sup>th</sup> c. community known as Ducktrap Plantation, Massachusetts, now part of coastal Lincolnville, Maine (Fig. 1).

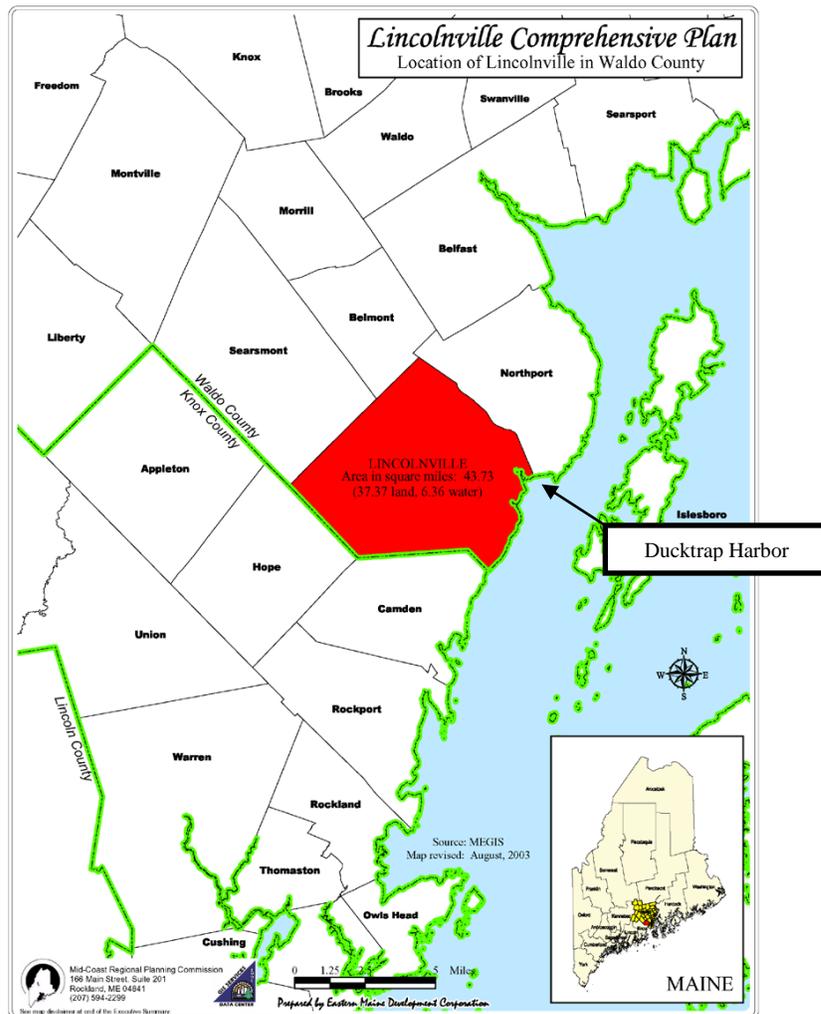


Figure 1: Lincolnville, Maine

Philip Ulmer was a first generation, North American-born, German, colonial citizen, who served as an officer in the Colonial Army during the American revolution, and the United States Army during the War of 1812. Along with his brother George, Philip was instrumental in the economic and political development of late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century Ducktrap. The Lincolnville Comprehensive Plan notes:

“Among the enterprises started [in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> c. Ducktrap] were: saw, shingle and grist mills; a lime kiln; hay press; barrel factory and shipyard. The

finished products were traded locally as well as to more distant ports. Naturally, this type of industrial enterprise required workers. A number of cabins and homes were built in the vicinity of Ducktrap. A general store, school, house of worship (the Bayshore Baptist Church), and a fraternal organization (the Masonic Hall), were established. (Lincolntonville 2006).

Arriving after the Revolutionary War, in what would eventually become Ducktrap Plantation, Philip Ulmer proceeds to purchase land in 1798 from his friend, General Henry Knox who, having married into the Samuel Waldo family, “inherited” the rights to the Waldo Patent (in other words, all the land in Ducktrap and surrounding region). Ulmer’s initial purchase of 163<sup>+</sup> acres is referred to in deeds as the “Homestead Lot”.

While Ulmer appears gifted at identifying the potential economic prosperity of the Ducktrap region, and did himself develop and take advantage of it, he is beset by financial troubles all along the way, some of his own making and others not. By 1806 he has little to show for all his hard work and effort; with virtually no money, his last remaining property is the “Homestead Lot”.

In early 1802, possibly in an effort to “hide it” from creditors, title to the “Homestead Lot”, the property of relevance to this effort, is transferred to and from Philip’s son Charles. However, while title was, ultimately, in Philip’s name after April, 1802, Philip’s title to the property remains unrecorded until October 3, 1806 (no author – b; Vol. 10:451). Until then, as far as the public is concerned, the property belongs to his son Charles.

Two months after recording the deed, on December 10, 1806, Philip sells a rectangular piece of the “Homestead Lot” amounting to 45 acres to William Moody for \$275 (no author – b; Vol. 22:133). Ulmer describes this parcel as “being the southwesterly part of my Homestead Farm”. Slightly over one year later, on April 15, 1808, Philip mortgages the remainder of the “Homestead Lot”, borrowing \$400 from Robert Treat of Bangor (no author – b; Vol. 24:386). Born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1752, Major Robert Treat was, like Ulmer, a first generation born colonial who served in the newly formed United States army. Treat settled in Bangor and developed extensive regional business relationships, and is noted as having recorded dealings with Phillip Ulmer in his personal day book [ledger] dated between 1786 and 1790 (Porter 1890).

On September 10, 1808 Philip again mortgages the “Homestead Lot”, this time for \$351.55. The second mortgage holder is Ezekiel G. (Goddard?) Dodge of Thomaston, Maine (no author – b; Vol. 26:456). Presumed to be the same Ezekiel Dodge to whom Philip Ulmer is indebted through this mortgage, Ezekiel Goddard Dodge was a physician in Thomaston, Maine (Patterson 1895), and may have served Philip in that capacity (as an aside, Philip’s son was also a physician in Thomaston).

While Philip Ulmer technically loses title to the “Homestead Lot”, the result of non-payment of the mortgage to Robert Treat by 1810, the agreed upon year by which repayment was to have occurred, he apparently remains on the property thereafter.

On July 14, 1815 Ezekiel Dodge, the second mortgage holder, buys Robert Treat’s claim against the “Homestead Lot” for \$590, thus becoming the sole mortgage holder (no author – b; Vol. 36:127). Documentation identifies the property as “being the lot of land whereon the said Philip Ulmer now lives” (no author – b; Vol. 36:127). And, though still indebted, now to Ezekiel Dodge, Dodge apparently makes no effort to evict Ulmer and his family either. After Ulmer’s death in 1816, Ezekiel Dodge himself dies, leaving the property in his estate, but without a will.

While it is clear through documentation that Philip Ulmer built his last house on the “Homestead Lot” along the Whitney Road (Figs. 2, 4, & 5), it is not precisely clear when. Based on the written record of deeds and other transactions, Philip accumulated over \$1000 between December, 1806 and September, 1808. This equates to approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 in today’s dollars, approximately 3 years average unskilled laborer’s wages in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (Table 1). The author believes this money was accumulated to build at least one large house now identified by the large cellar along the Whitney Road. If this is so, then the large house, represented by the extant stone lined cellar, was presumably built (or completed) some time after September, 1808. However, documentation relating to the 1808 mortgage held by Robert Treat includes the following reference, “together with buildings thereon and said lot being the lot of land whereon the said Philip Ulmer now lives” (no author – b; Vol. 24:386). This reference suggests, 1) the possibility that there were pre-existing structures on the property into which the Ulmer family may well have moved while awaiting completion of the main house, or 2) that Ulmer built a small, initial dwelling in which the family lived prior to construction of the main house (see “Conclusions”).

By 1815, only one year before his death, Ulmer had mortgaged all his remaining holdings, about 100-120 acres, one mile west of Ducktrap Harbor, along what is now referred to as the Whitney Road. And, unbeknownst to either of them, Philip had built himself his final home; Philip Ulmer died October 3, 1816.

Although not present on a 1798 map of the region (Fig. 3) (Soltzmann), the Whitney Road was utilized well into the late 19<sup>th</sup> c. for, among other things, a horse drawn railroad to transport lime from the interior to a kiln at the mouth of Ducktrap River (Cranmer and Spiess 1996).

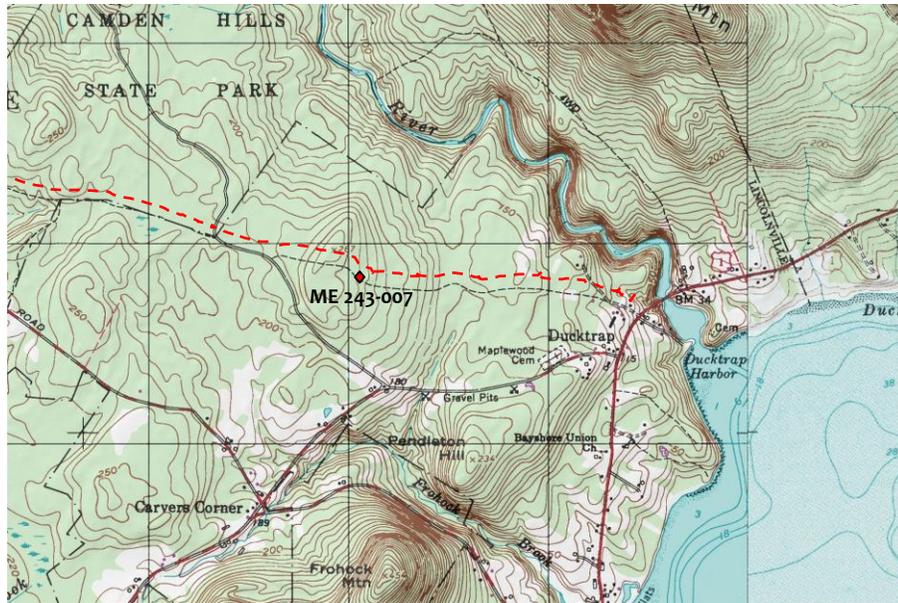
Occupational Differentials in Average Daily Earnings New England, 1815—1870 (US dollars)				
Year	Farm Labor <sup>a</sup>	Nonfarm Labor	Mason	Carpenter
1815 <sup>b</sup>		1.00	1.75	1.50
1825	8.50	1.00	1.62	1.45
1850	12.98	1.05		1.40
1870	19.87	1.56	3.50	2.97

a-monthly, with board; b-New York  
(after Lebergott 1960)

**Table 1: Average wages in New England 1815-1870**

“At the eastern end of what is now called Coleman Pond, a small community developed around a dam and millpond located on Black Brook. The 1859 map shows quarries, lime kilns, grist mill, saw mill, school and general store, all of which provided employment and life’s necessities at that time. One unique feature of this area is the remains of a horse-drawn lime railroad that in the 1870’s ran from the Coleman quarry on Sand Hill Road to Ducktrap. The raised berm that the tracks ran along is still visible in many locations. The route followed the shore of Coleman Pond (in fact, many cottages are built on top of the berm) to Slab City Road and thence likely followed the Whitney Road to the Trap. The Coleman quarry was an important element of Lincolnville’s lime business in those years.” (Lincolnville 2006).

However, the 20<sup>th</sup> century saw the “plantation” decline, and the Whitney Road fall into disuse and be forgotten. However, as a result of dramatic post WW II re-population of the Ducktrap region the Whitney Road’s eastern, coastal end now serves as a developed public way. Other sections farther inland function as private roads serving, among other things, Camden Hills State Park. As fortune would have it, one short, undeveloped section of the original Whitney Road remains slightly less than one mile from the outlet of Ducktrap River, and modern Rt. 1. It is along this undeveloped stretch that ME 243-007 is located – the final home of Philip Ulmer (c. 1807-1816).



**Figure 2: Location of ME 243-007 (red diamond) along the Whitney Road (traced in red)**

In June, 2015, utilizing volunteers, the author undertook limited archaeological testing of ME 243-007 with the specific intent of determining the temporal limits of this site's occupation. Testing focused on two previously identified areas (a third was ultimately added), a kitchen midden immediately outside of and adjacent to the cellar's southern wall (Area 1), and a midden comprised principally of burnt ceramics immediately outside of and adjacent to the cellar's west side (Area 2). A third area (Area 3), tested several weeks later, explored what is tentatively interpreted as a smaller, though clearly significant cellar/foundation, present some 8m south of the main cellar.

Consistent with the author's expectations, ceramics recovered through testing span a period extending from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to very early 19<sup>th</sup> c. Recovered ceramics reflect a broad suite of contemporary pottery, principally creamware, pearlware, red earthenwares, and English saltglazed ceramics consistent with the period. The creamware sample appears limited to drinking vessels, one example of flatware, chamber pots, and other, relatively non-descript pieces, though a possible creamware vessel with annularware decoration is present.

The pearlware, however, displays rich diversity, including Rococo blue shell edged flatware, a very limited amount of green shell edged flatware, numerous sherds of delicate monochrome and polychrome pearlware cups or hollowware vessels with floral patterns, and significant numbers of sherds of English "Chinese" ware (China Blue). Glazed and unglazed red earthenware vessels are also represented in the sample, including at least one, and perhaps two to three trailed slip chargers. Two

green glazed sherds of a possible olive jar are also present (Smith, personal communication).

The sample also includes a limited number of clay pipe bowl and stem fragments. Though few in absolute number they too illustrates significant diversity. While no intact pipe bowls are present, at least three pipe forms are represented by partial bowls. These include a heelless/spurless plain bowl, heeled plain bowl, and a bowl decorated with vertical row/s of possibly grain.

To date, limited faunal or metal analysis has taken place. But, suffice it to say, the faunal sample is significant in both size and diversity, including medium and large domesticated mammals, large fish (presumably saltwater species), and several species of shellfish (represented by whole and fragmentary shells). Clearly the site's occupants enjoyed a diverse subsistence economy, relative to protein.



Figure 3: 1789 Soltzmann Map (Ducktrap framed in red)



**Figure 4: Whitney Road facing south**



**Figure 5: Whitney Road facing north**

Metal includes a limited non-ferrous sample, principally represented by two buttons, a small brass “rod” of unknown function, and a tin mug. Ferrous materials include principally nails and two shoe buckles (one of a size indicating either an infant’s shoe or that of a doll). The nail sample illustrates several categories, relative to design, and include hand forged as well as early cut forms. All are reasonably associated with the late 18<sup>th</sup> and very early 19<sup>th</sup> c.

In sum it is clear that: 1) a probable single temporal component extending from the third quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup>c. to the very early 19<sup>th</sup> c. is indicated by the current sample of recovered cultural material, especially ceramics; 2) the current archaeological sample indicates only residential use of the site; 3) the site is developed beyond simply the home itself to include one possibly older building and a probable springhouse; and 4) at least one kitchen midden is present extending over an area of at least 100<sup>2</sup>m.

While no archaeological evidence is present to confirm ME243-007 as Philip Ulmer’s last residence, the site’s temporal bounding between late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> c. is consistent with written records relating the Ulmer’s to this property and its development as his last residence. In the absence of any indications to the contrary, ME243-007 is considered as maintaining a single temporal component representing occupation by Philip and Christiana Ulmer, circa 1807-1816.

## Introduction

In the winter of 2014, the author, and several other members of the Board of Directors of the Lincolnville Historical Society, entered into a conversation involving how the Board might engage Lincolnville, and more specifically its populace (as opposed to its governing bodies) in an active relationship with the history of Lincolnville (and to a lesser extent, the history of the mid-coast region of Maine).

The results of that conversation, and several others, identified Lincolnville's history as inclusive (i.e., not limited to the extant items or known genealogy of a few early, historic families or individuals). Lincolnville's history includes the development of its industries, its infrastructure (e.g., road system), its political identity, and its culture, to name a few specific areas. Thus it became clear that because its history is broadly inclusive, the effort to engage Lincolnville's populace in a relationship to its history must be also.

A review of Board identified numerous interests and gifts within its own membership, and the Board decided to begin developing its own internal resources first before going to the public and to seek resources there. As it relates to this effort, the author, being engaged in a lengthy career in archaeology, albeit principally relating to Native American culture and principally pursued in Maine, took on the challenge of considering how archaeology might act as a means to engage the populace. After some reflection, and further conversations with and between Board members, the presence of the Ulmer families in Lincolnville (and Ducktrap, specifically) began to coalesce into an initial focus area.

The Ulmer brothers, Philip and George, being pivotal in the very earliest development of the Ducktrap region of Lincolnville, afforded the Board with several separate but related opportunities to engage the public: archaeology; the written record; current familial ties; and development of the early socio-cultural and politico/economic environments of the area (and Maine more broadly). Further investigation into the Ulmers' lives by Randy Harvey, a Board member, led to the awareness that George Ulmer's 19<sup>th</sup> century home still exists as an extant and viable structure along side the Ducktrap River in northeastern Lincolnville. However, Philip's house does not, having been destroyed in the early 1900's. However, deed research accomplished by Mr. Harvey indicated that Philip Ulmer's final home, constructed in or around 1807 and possibly abandoned after Philip's death 1816 (see "Conclusion"), still existed as a cellar along the remains of a documented, late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century road.

The presence of Ulmer's cellar, and the undeveloped surrounding property, suggested to the Board a possible opportunity in which to pursue a limited archaeological testing effort. This fit well with the Board's agenda of offering Lincolnville opportunities to engage in its own history in varied and diverse ways.

And so it was, in the spring of 2015, that the Lincolnville Historical Society Board of Directors, with the author as lead, and in cooperation with the land owners, Cindy and Jim Dunham of Lincolnville, began developing and organizing a limited archaeological testing effort involving the site of Philip Ulmer's final home.

Anticipating an active public presence in the testing effort to come, the author developed a testing strategy designed around the presumed presence of a kitchen midden at the Ulmer house site. While not diminishing the value of archaeologically sterile test pits or larger units, the author understood the usefulness of artifact recovery when it comes to maintaining the public's enthusiasm for participation in such an effort. Recovering cultural materials that intrigue and excite the imagination is critical to growing the interest of volunteers who participate in such a public effort.

So, beginning in May, 2015, the author undertook a limited but focused solo testing effort to locate a kitchen midden spatially associated with the Ulmer cellar. Testing included a number of 50cm square, shovel test pits (STP'S) immediately adjacent to, and within the presumed Ulmer cellar. Test Pit 4, and Test Pit 6 identified the presence of two very different midden deposits. Test Pit 4, located immediately adjacent to the "rear" (south) of the cellar, revealed the presence of a well developed kitchen midden which included extensive faunal, ceramic, and other cultural remains.

Test Pit 6, located along the cellar's west side, also revealed a midden, though of a very different nature. Although some red earthenware is present, the midden revealed by Test Pit 6 is comprised almost entirely of burned and very fragmentary buff or refined earthenware sherds. Virtually no other cultural material is present within the midden.

With the insight of midden locations, then, the author developed a testing strategy in which the public could participate utilizing these deposits as the principal focus of testing. That strategy included excavation of five 1<sup>2</sup> meter test units in close proximity to Test Pits 4 and 6. The strategy's goal: to recover a large sample of cultural materials including, and especially, temporally diagnostic ceramics. The recovery of temporal diagnostics was critical to establishing the temporal occupation/s represented by the cellar, and the assertion that the site was in fact Philip Ulmer's last home.

On June 27, 2015, the author, several Board members, and a crew of about a dozen youth and adult volunteers congregated on ME 243-007 and began the testing effort (Fig. 6).



Figure 6: Volunteers at ME 243-007

## Geography

ME 243-007 lies approximately one mile due west of Ducktrap River's tidal outlet, along what is currently known as the Whitney Road, and identified on the USGS topographic map as a "jeep trail" (Fig. 2). It maintains a northwest/southeast orientation on the relatively gentle slope of an un-named hill in Lincolnville, Maine. With an elevation of approximately 230' above sea level, ME 243-007 would have an otherwise unimpeded view the full distance to Penobscot Bay, were it not for the forest (which was likely cleared for lumber and fire wood in the immediate region at that time).

The Whitney Road, along which ME 243-007 is located, is likely the first, and perhaps only mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> c. means of accessing the coast from interior Lincolnville, north of Lincolnville Beach. It begins essentially as the Howe Point Road at the shore of Ducktrap Harbor, adjacent to the river's outlet, and travels west-northwest to intersect Slab City Road. The union of these two roads forms a "V", open to the southeast (coast). Together, Slab City Rd. and Whitney Rd. afforded coastal egress north and south of geographic obstacles like Frohock Brook and a salt marsh at Lincolnville Beach, and the mountain range between Lincolnville's interior and its immediate coastline.

The Camden Hills, as noted above, form a difficult, if not impassable obstacle to east/west travel within the immediate region. Beginning southwest, in Rockport, the Camden Hills extend into Northport to the northeast. Reaching heights of over 1300', the Camden Hills would have been an imposing sight to travelers on ship in the bay, and a challenge to those on land.

The interior of Lincolnville is crisscrossed with small streams and brooks, and any number of small to large lakes and ponds. The only major watershed in Lincolnville is the Ducktrap River, which drains much of Lincolnville and bounds Lincolnville's eastern border with Northport. A second watershed, the Megunticook River watershed, while significantly within Lincolnville's bounds, courses through Camden to its outlet at Camden Harbor.

Overall it can be stated that the geography of the coastal plain in mid-coast Maine does not lend itself to being easily tamed. Deep gorges formed post-glacially by racing stream off the mountains inhibit travel overland, streams and rivers are not easily bridged, and the regions rugged and steep terrain is, in some cases, unmanageable (and certainly un-farmable). Add to that, a wealth of wetland environments, including at least one salt marsh along the coast, and one can understand why, perhaps, Lincolnville's coastline did not receive much attention until late. It was a difficult and somewhat unforgiving place to settle.

That said, the early European settlers who ventured into the region cut the timber, built their homes, plowed the rocky soils, and laid the foundation for what would eventually become a veritable economic boom town by the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> c.

Ducktrap’s (Lincolnville’s) resources, including timber, lime, granite, water power, and its proximity to Penobscot Bay, made it a valuable location throughout the age of sail. However, the Ducktrap River can be a powerful force, and floodwaters race through its watershed taking out dams, mills sites, and roads (even today). And its resources are not infinite. Once harvested, the forest was many years in re-growing. Once utilized, its lime and granite were gone for ever. And, by the 20<sup>th</sup> c., the socio-economic demands for the once plentiful resources of Ducktrap Plantation and Lincolnville disappeared.

By the 20<sup>th</sup> c., as a result of war, population loss, and economic irrelevance, the once populace and prospering Ducktrap Plantation was little more than a collection of houses through which modern Route 1 travels. The U.S. census identifies that during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Ducktrap experienced a 60% loss of population, falling from over 2100 residents in 1850, to only 881 by 1920 (Table 2). By the mid 20<sup>th</sup> c., the forest had reclaimed the once denuded lands, the dams were long gone and the river once again ran freely, the mills were only a memory, and ship building and the age of sail were relegated to nothing more than an historic footnote.

<b><u>Lincolnville’s Historic Population</u></b>			
<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>
1840	2048	1920	811
1850	2174	1930	818
1860	2075	1940	892
1870	1900	1950	881
1880	1705	1960	867
1890	1361	1970	934
1900	1223	1980	1414
1910	1020	1990	1809
		2000	2042

(Source: U.S. Census Records)

**Table 2: Lincolnville's population, 1840-2000**

## **Historic and Archaeological Background**

To date, though the municipal government of Lincolnville is well aware of its rich, and significant archaeological heritage (Mitchell, 1992), all but one archaeological effort within the town, and more specifically, the coastal Ducktrap River region, has been accomplished by the author (Mitchell 1990, 1991, 1992b, 1993, 1993b, 1994, 1994b, 1995, 1995b, 1995c). The rich prehistoric archaeology especially is quickly vanishing due to destruction by residential and commercial development. Only a few efforts to investigate and preserve some insight into the Native American presence in Lincolnville have been pursued, and those as unpaid, private research by the author on private land. As recently as 2014 Lincolnville's town leadership, though fully able to legally accommodate the request, denied the author, an established, regional, professional archaeologist, an opportunity to test for a Native American presence on land under Lincolnville's supposed municipal jurisdiction.

### **Historic and Prehistoric Archaeology**

As regards its historic archaeological record, the current effort notwithstanding, no testing or investigative efforts are known within Lincolnville's boundaries save one. In 1995 and 1996 (Cranmer; Cranmer and Spiess, respectively), as a result of Maine Department of Transportation's plan to re-building the Rt.1 bridge over Ducktrap River, the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) undertook an archaeological survey of the proposed reconstruction impact zone. A limited Phase I and Phase II testing effort identified three mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> c. sites, a lime kiln, a brick store, and a wind powered grist mill, all within or adjacent to the impact zone on the southern (western) side of Ducktrap River's outlet.

The results of all archaeological efforts in the region to date permit the following insights - the Ducktrap Harbor region, beginning at Howe Point, east of Lincolnville Beach, and extending to Spruce Head Point (Fig. 7), possesses a long and complex history of both Native American, and pre and post-colonial European and American occupation, respectively. Ducktrap Harbor has seen Native American occupation of its coastal margin for at least 4000 years. Excavations, surface collection, and review of residential construction sites' back-dirt has led to the recovery of Native American artifacts, for example, bifaces from the late Archaic Period Moorehead Phase and the Susquehanna Tradition. Additionally, no less than six Middle and Late Ceramic Period shell middens site, eroded site remnants, and intact sites are also present along Ducktrap's littoral. And, a contact period Native American presence is also indicated through the recovery of funnel angle elbow clay pipe dating to the mid to late 17<sup>th</sup> century. Other archaeological expressions of Native American cultural in sites tested along the Ducktrap littoral include, for example, a Middle to Late Ceramic Period, non-shell midden associated, semi-subterranean house.

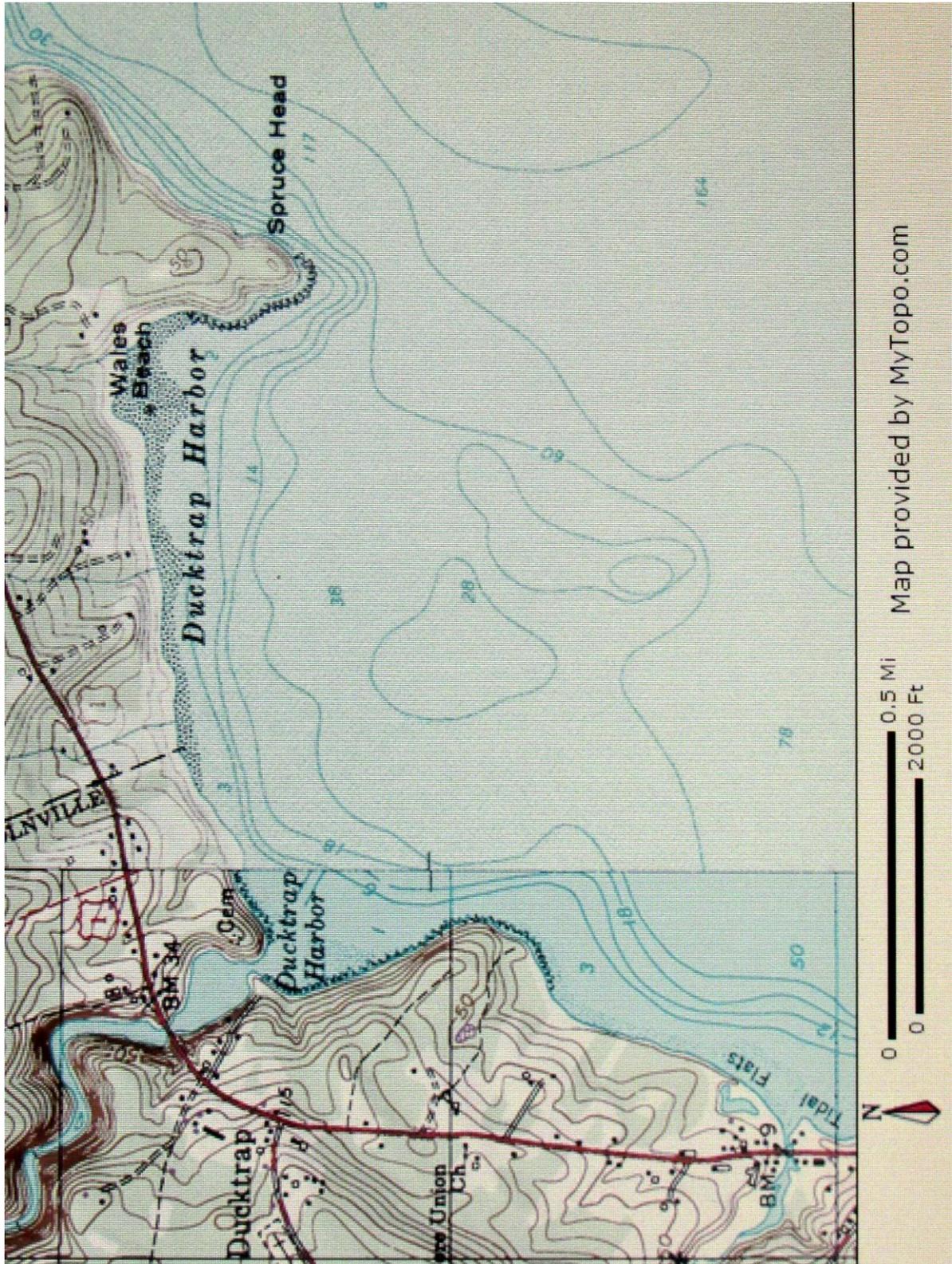


Figure 7: Ducktrap Harbor

Ducktrap is also associated with some of the earliest European settlement in mid-coast Maine. Historic accounts (some much post-dated to the actual events) and archaeological evidence indicate full time, 17<sup>th</sup> c. European settlement only a few miles from Ducktrap across Penobscot Bay in Castine (Faulkner and Faulkner 1987). There, Fort Pentagoet was constructed by the French in the early 1600's. Contact with early Europeans in Penobscot Bay is confirmed by the recovery of the aforementioned trade pipe on Ducktrap's shores.

However, while Ducktrap may have seen an isolated European presence on its shores and even its interior as early as the 17<sup>th</sup> century, full time European occupation of Ducktrap itself did not come until later. English military records indicate at least three mid-18<sup>th</sup> c. military excursions through the region, one in 1759 (Fig. 8) (Bock, personal communication 2015a), one in 1761 (Bock, personal communication 2015b), and one in 1764 (no author). The first excursion, a short march, traveled directly through modern Ducktrap, crossing the river at approximately head-of-tide, above the current Rt. 1 bridge over Ducktrap River. The second excursion, also a short march, reached Belfast using a much more interior route. The third excursion, undertaken to cut a coastal road from Fort Georges in Thomaston, Maine, to Fort Pownall in Stockton Springs, Maine, followed a route lying directly along the immediate coast through Camden, and on to what is today Lincolnville Beach. There, it turned west to the interior, then east once in the interior, and continued cross country to Belfast, and Fort Pownall.

Other regional occupation includes Camden, first settled in 1769. Robertson (1907) notes,

*“James Richards, a resident of Dover, New Hampshire, came with his family to Bristol, Maine, in 1767. The next year he came down to the wilderness of this township to cut ship timber at Negunticook or Megunticook Harbor. Charmed with the place, as so many have been since his day, he erected a rude log cabin while here, with the determination to make the place his home. The following spring he put his family and household goods aboard a vessel and started for his future residence, arriving here May 8, 1769.”*

Another account clearly identifies that Camden had an operational grist mill by 1771.

*“In 1771 Major William Minot, of Boston, purchased land and water power at Goose Harbor and soon afterward erected a grist mill [or] sawmill near the mouth of Megunticook River.”* (Little 1909)

Yet another account states that Major Minot *“is considered to be the second settler of Camden and in 1771 he purchased land and water power from the Twenty Associates,*

near the mouth of the [Megunticook]river. A grist mill was built at [what is today] about 35 Main Street [Camden].” (Dyer 2014)

There is also anecdotal evidence that after Minot’s mill was functioning in Camden, but before any other local grist mills were present between Belfast and south of Camden, at least one family was present on the Ducktrap Harbor shoreline.

Robertson notes that, “Robert Miller of Belfast, [came] to Camden by boat with grist, and on his return stopping at a cabin at "Duck Trap," which was the only house then in Northport, to get his dinner prepared. He found the family sick and destitute, having had nothing to eat but clams for several days. Returning to his boat he brought back and supplied them with half his bag of meal, prepared a repast, of which he partook with them, and went on to his home, happy in the knowledge that it is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Robinson 1907)

As Minot’s mill was not operational until at least 1771, Miller’s encounter must post date 1771.

Monroe, lying 20 to 25 miles from Ducktrap and the interior Lincolnville area, and only a few miles interior and north of Belfast, Maine, represents some of the earliest documented, named occupation in the region. Monroe’s occupation appears to have taken place by at least 1766 (no author-c), a number of years prior to the commonly held notion that Lincolnville’s earliest recorded home, **the residence of XYZ Knight**, and only a few years after Pownall’s troops marched through Lincolnville and Ducktrap.

*“When it was found that the garrison at Fort Pownall afforded protection and security, the tide of immigration grew. Between 1760 and 1772, all of the towns along the shores of the Penobscot Bay and River saw an increase in settlement. From Camden to Bangor on the one side and from Brewer to Castine on the other side.*

*It was about this time, most likely in the early 1760's, that a John Couillard arrived in Frankfort with his wife, Mary (Mock) and their young children. It is reported that John Couillard owned one of only two log houses in the area in 1766. John had been born in Gloucester, MA on November 5, 1728, the son of Lt. John Couillard. Lt. Couillard had moved his family up to Arrowsic Island, near Georgetown, ME, and most likely was involved in commercial fishing and farming. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the son, John, was also involved in fishing and, perhaps, trading in Frankfort. At this time in history, the fur of the beaver was a precious commodity and early settlers to Maine often traded with the local Indian tribes for beaver and other furs. It was also true that John's younger brother, James Couillard, served in the garrison at Fort Pownall in 1759, and may have described the beauty and opportunities available in the Penobscot region.” (no author - c)*

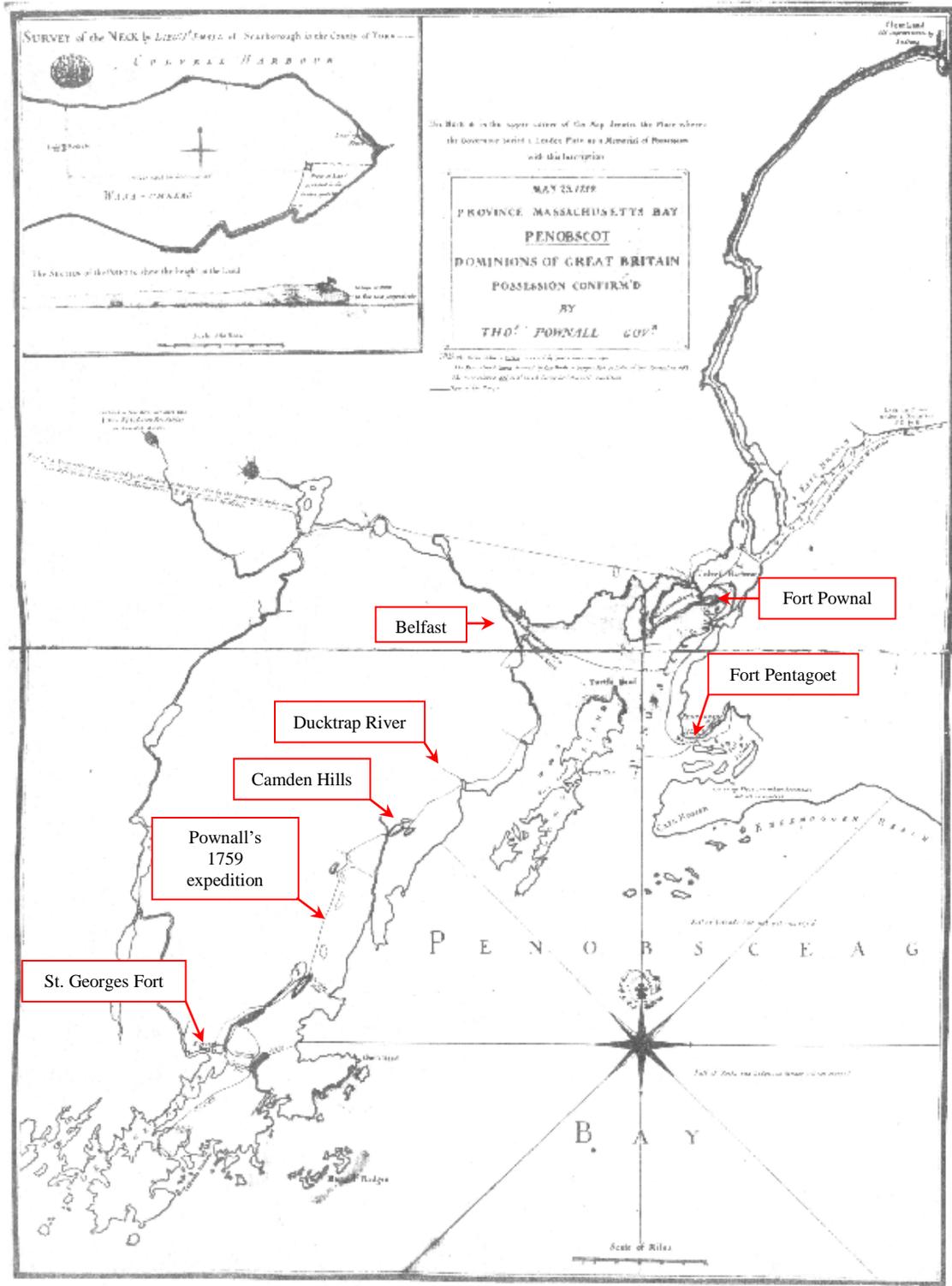


Figure 8: Route of General Pownall's first survey expedition c. 1759

So, being bounded by historic Euro-American occupation on all sides, mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> century historic and/or military archaeology likely exists, or did exist, in Ducktrap, Maine. However, the most consistent and focused development for which we have extant remains today, likely did not occur until the post-revolutionary period, c. 1780's and beyond.

A number of late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century dam, and grist and lumber mill remnants still exist as degraded constructions along the Ducktrap River and its tributaries in interior Lincolnville. And a possible 18<sup>th</sup> century, and numerous 19<sup>th</sup> century granite quarries dot the interior, often forgotten through time, and now hidden by Lincolnville's forests. Several known examples of 19<sup>th</sup> century lime kilns are present in interior Lincolnville, along with one example located at the tidal outlet of the river itself (Cranmer and Spiess 1996). A 19<sup>th</sup> century wooden railed, horse-drawn railway used to transport raw limestone to be "cooked" at the coastal kiln, extended a number of miles from Lincolnville's interior utilizing the Whitney Road. And numerous late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century cellars and other extant remnants of Lincolnville and Ducktrap's historic archaeological record remain today, concealed behind the underbrush and reclaimed by new tree growth on the once open hills and fields.

## **Archaeological Effort**

The testing of ME 243-007 undertaken by the author, and accomplished principally through volunteer effort, had only one archaeological goal - to firmly establish the temporal bounding of ME 243-007 through the recovery of temporally diagnostic cultural materials. In an effort to accomplish that goal, the author focused testing efforts on two middens spatially associated with the Ulmer house cellar, and hereafter referred to as Area 1 (kitchen midden) and Area 2 (burnt ceramic midden). Area 3, a small “cellar” eight meters south of Area 1, was discovered late on the day of testing Area 1 and Area 2; a single 50cm square test pit was excavated in Area 3 at that time. A 1m square test unit was excavated within Area 3 at a later date. While appearing as a small foundation or cellar of some type, Area 3 revealed an overlying deposit of kitchen midden consistent with that of Area 1. Area 3’s kitchen midden (Stratum 1) is considered a direct extension of Area 1’s kitchen midden.

### **Initial Testing (May, 2015)**

Initial visits to ME 243-007 in May, 2015 focused on developing an accurate, but not totally inclusive map of the site, including the house’s cellar, the immediate area surrounding it, and that portion of the Whitney Road lying immediately north of the cellar (Fig. 11). While the cellar’s sill may be absent, the cellar itself is in relatively good condition and the areas immediately around the cellar undisturbed.

On May 25 and 27, 2015, a total of six, 50cm x 50cm STP’s quickly established the presence of two middens, especially STP4 and STP 6 (Fig. 15). Shovel Test Pit 4, located 4-4.5m south of, and in line with the cellar’s southwestern most interior corner revealed a 20cm thick stratum (Stratum 1) of midden. Stratum 1 extends from ground surface to 20cm below surface (cmbs). It is comprised of dark brown, sandy silt with fine to coarse gravel. Dozens of small ceramic sherds, as well as significant faunal remains (both calcined and “green”) were recovered beginning immediately below the ground surface. This location was designated Area 1.

Shovel Test Pit 6 (Fig. 9), located 3 – 3.5m west of the cellar’s more northerly southwest inside corner, revealed copious amounts of finely crushed and fragmented, burned ceramics (predominantly buff earthenware) extending from ground surface to 20cmbs (Stratum 1). Stratum 1 is comprised of brown, fine sandy silt with limited fine gravel. This location was designated Area 2.

Excavation of STP 6 continued to approximately 30cmbs where a possible burnt floor was exposed; a possible 4” x 6” sized post mold, with a nail in situ, was revealed (Fig. 10).



**Figure 9: Shovel Test Pit 6**



**Figure 10: Shovel Test Pit 6 - possible burn feature with nail**

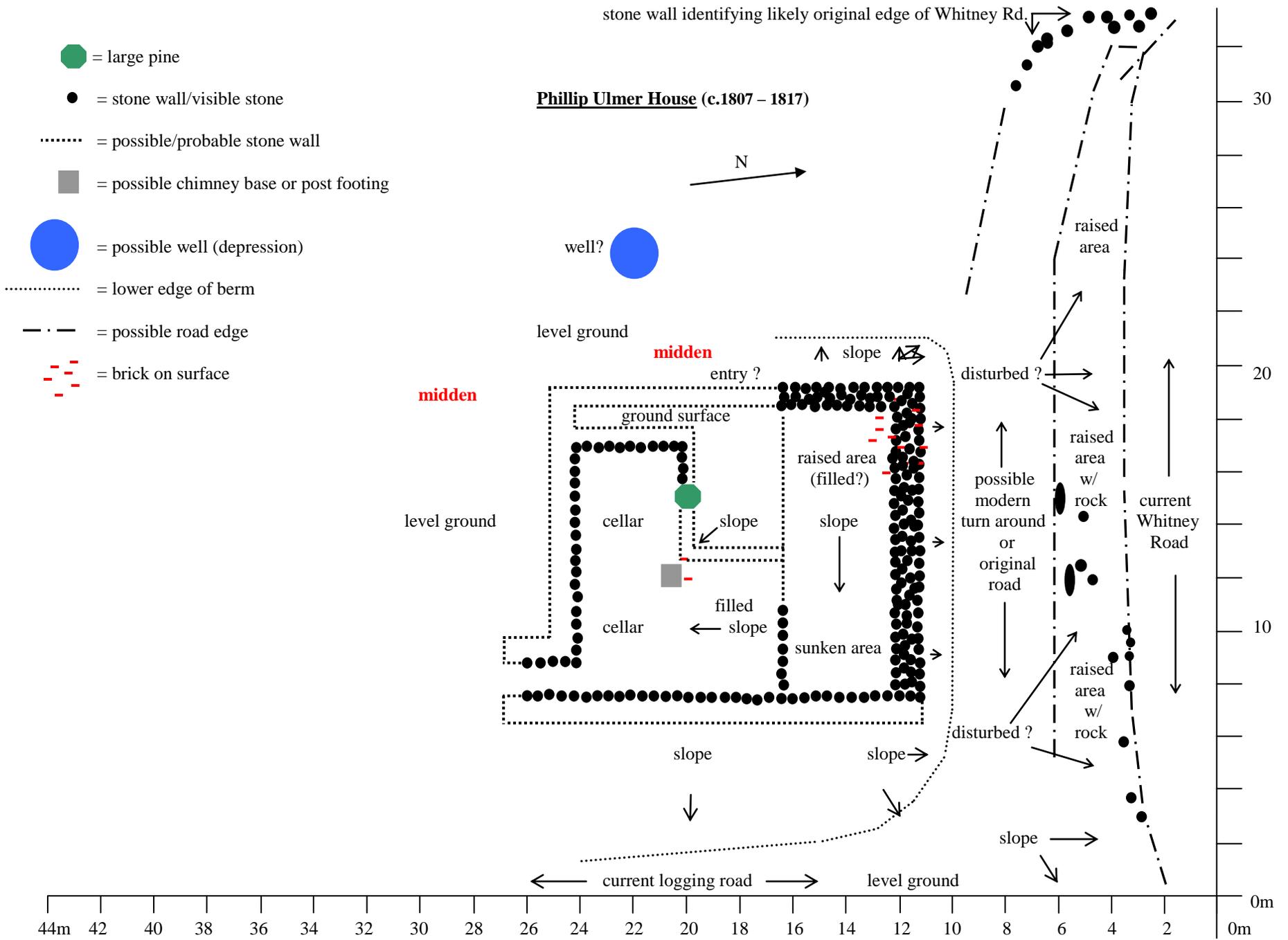


Figure 11: Initial Site Map

### Site Clean Up and STP 7 (June, 2015)

On June 4, 2015, the author, with volunteers, returned to ME 243-007 to clear the site of “blow down” and other obstructions to permit establishment of testing locations, for safety of the volunteer crew that would arrive later to assist in testing (Fig. 12). While present, the author observed two tree throws, located 3m south and 2m west of TP4, respectively, which revealed midden content. STP 7 was initiated in an effort to establish the extent (thickness and content) of midden at that location. Test Pit 7’s NE corner is 1.5m west of TP4’s NW corner.

Shovel excavation of STP 7, a 50 x 50cm unit, revealed three strata. Stratum 1 is light to medium brown, fine sandy silt extending from 0-10cmbs. Stratum 2, extending from 10-30cmbs (its base slopes north to southwest, 10-30cmbs) is medium to dark brown fine sandy silt with copious fine to large gravel and angular rock. Stratum 3 is yellow-brown, siltier sandy soil with copious gravels and angular rock.



Figure 12: Site Clearing

Stratum 1 contained only a single brick fragment, two tiny pieces of bone, and two very small ceramic sherds. However, Stratum 2 included: nails, ceramic sherds, window pane, large green bone sections (long bone), calcined bone fragments (long bone), brick fragments, a small green medicine/ointment bottle neck, and dozens of clam shell fragments. Stratum 3 is sterile.

### Volunteer Testing (June, 2015)

Having established two testing areas, Area 1 and Area 2 (Fig. 15), the author, with volunteer crew, returned on June 27, 2015 to pursue excavation of larger, 1m x 1m test units. Five test units were established; Area 1 - TU1, 2, and 3 (Fig. 13); Area 2 - TU4 and 5.

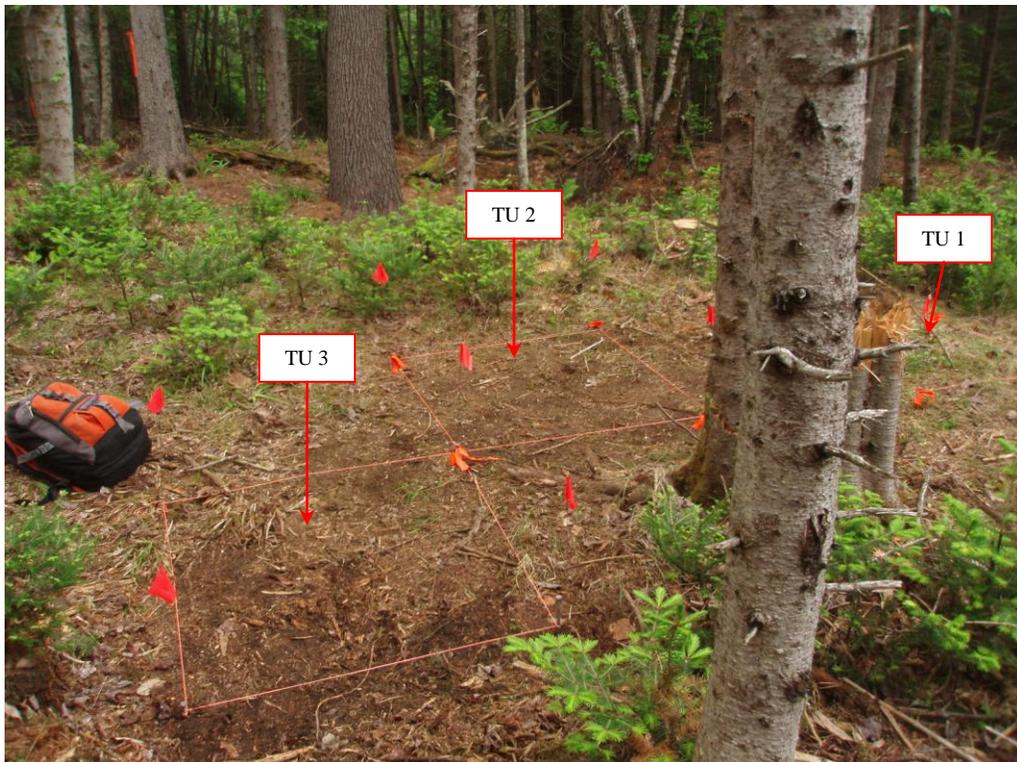


Figure 13: Area 1 - Test Units 1, 2, & 3

As the volunteer effort had only a single day in which to accomplish its work, rather than open all five test units at once only TU 5 (Area 2) and TU 2 (Area 1) were initially opened. Once TU 5 and TU 2 were completed, TU 3 (Area 1) and TU 1 (Area 1) were excavated as well. Test Unit 4 (Area 2) was not excavated based on the recovery of virtually nothing but burned ceramics from TP6 and TU5. It was felt TU 4 would offer little more understanding of the deposit than was already present.

## **Area 1**

### **Test Unit 1**

Test Unit 1 maintains a “thin” midden layer, suggesting the midden’s eastern terminal margin is near. Test Unit 1 is the most easterly test unit along the cellar’s southern wall.

Stratum 1 is brown, fine, sandy silt with little to no gravel or rock from 0-5cmbs, and fine, sandy silt with moderate gravel and rock from 5-15cmbs. Stratum 1 includes ceramics, clam shell, bone, nails, brick fragments, glass, and a pipe stem fragment.

Stratum 2 extends from 15-25cmbs as brown, fine sandy silt with gravel and rock. Stratum 2 includes ceramics, brick fragments, shell, nails, and bone.

Stratum 3 is yellow-brown, sandy, silty soil with rock and gravel. No cultural materials are present within Stratum 3.

### **Test Unit 2**

Test Unit 2 is similar to TU 1 with the exception that the midden deposit thickens notable with movement from north to south (i.e., with greater distance from the cellar). Stratum 1 begins immediately at ground surface and is comprised of brown, fine to medium, sandy silt with little to no rock or gravel from 0-15cmbs (natural sorting- bioturbation) with limited midden deposit. Its cultural content includes finely crushed shell, bone, ceramics, glass, nails, brick, and pipe stem.

Stratum 2 is midden deposit. It is comprised of fine to medium fine, sandy silt with rock and gravel, and extends from 15-25cmbs. Stratum 2’s content is varied and well preserved - shell, bone, nails, ceramics, and brick fragments are all present in considerable volume.

### **Test Unit 3**

Test Unit 3 (Fig. 14) is immediately south of TP7, and southwest of and contiguous with TU 2. Previously, TP7 indicated the midden deposit located there increased in thickness north to south (away from the cellar). Test Unit 3 confirms this observation. Test Unit 3 included large quantities of bone (primarily green), ceramics, nails, brick fragments, shell, metal, glass, a shoe buckle, and pipe stem.

With no root mat or organic layer (a consistent site-wide circumstance), Stratum 1 begins at ground surface as dark brown, fine to medium fine sandy silt with little to no rock or gravel (0-5cmbs; natural sorting- bioturbation). It extends from approximately 0-20cmbs. Cultural content within Stratum 1 increases in quantity

below 5cmbs, as does its rock and gravel content. Cultural materials initially appear finely crushed, but increase in size and completeness with depth.

Stratum 2A, while similar to Stratum 1, is black-brown, fine to medium fine, sandy silt with moderate rock and gravel content. Stratum 2A extends from approximately 20-25cmbs.

Stratum 2B while visually similar to Stratum 2A (blackish brown, fine to medium fine, sandy, silty soil) contains much higher levels of rock and coarse gravel, and its ceramic content is comprised of large, refitting pieces (especially those relating to a trailed slip red earthenware charger). Stratum 2B tapers, and extends from approximately 25-30cmbs in TU3's southern half, while subsoil is present in TU3's northern half from 25-30cmbs.



**Figure 14: Area 1 - Test Unit 3**

Stratum 3 is yellow-brown, sandy, silty soil with rock and coarse gravel. Some grey mottling and burning is present at the interface of Stratum 2 and 3 (a circumstance noted elsewhere in test units). However, no cultural materials are present in Stratum 3. Stratum 3's surface tapers north to south, beginning at 25cmbs north to 30cmbs south.

Of special note is the large, refitting ceramic sherds, and the extraordinary faunal preservation associated with the midden deposit within TU 3.



## Area 2

### Test Unit 5

As there is little to no root mat, excavation of Test Unit 5 (Fig. 16) began immediately from the surface. From surface to 15cmbs the soil is light to medium brown, fine sandy silt with little to know rock or gravel component (Stratum 1). Cultural materials include several nails, burned ceramics, small brick fragments, limited window pane, and possible bottle glass.

Stratum 2 extends from 15-30cmbs. It is comprised of medium brown, sandy silty soil with angular rock fragments. Numerous large brick fragments are present and increase in both in number and size with depth. A nearly whole brick, along with completely disintegrated brick is noted at 30cmbs. Cultural materials recovered include a few small fragments of *unburned* black glazed red earthenware. No nails or other household objects are present.

Stratum 3 is subsoil, with a burned and gray mottled Stratum2/3 interface (charcoal staining noted across floor at 30cmbs). Stratum 3 soil is clayey sandy silt, orangey yellow-brown, with rock and gravel with no cultural materials recovered.



Figure 16: Area 2; Test Unit 5

### Area 3

#### STP 9

Late in the day of June 27<sup>th</sup> the author and several members of the volunteer crew placed a single 50cm x 50cm shovel test pit, STP 9 (Figs. 17, 18, & 19) within Area 3, a small foundation or cellar-like depression having perpendicular earthen berms. Area 3 is located approximately 8m south of the main house cellar. Immediately beneath the surface (again, no root mat or “A Horizon” is present) STP9 revealed copious closely packed, large, broken, angular rock, and black-brown to black, fine sandy silty “midden soil” with abundant amounts of cultural materials. A dense concentration of clam shell (numerous intact valves), and remarkable amounts of well preserved, large and small bone, along with dozens of fish vertebrae were recovered. High levels of ceramic fragments, along with nails and other ferrous and non-ferrous cultural materials, glass, and large brick fragments were all present from ground surface to approximately 18cmbs (Stratum 1).

Stratum 2 is comprised simply of closely packed, large, broken, angular rock. No soil was noted between the rock. Rather, Stratum 2 resembled a rock dump with cavities between rock fill. Due to the hour, and the limits of a test pit, no effort was made to reach the “bottom”. Further excavation in the form of a larger test unit was clearly required.



Figure 17: Shovel Test Pit 9

## TU 6

On July 16, 2015 the author, along with Randy Harvey, a local volunteer, returned to Area 3 and opened a 1m x 1m test unit within the small “cellar”/foundation berms located there (Fig. 20). The 1m x1m was established using former Test Pit 9 as its northwest 50cm x50cm quad. As a result of previously excavating TP9, it was already established that stratigraphy included a thin “duff” layer, a midden deposit overlying and interspersed within a tightly packed rock fill, and this underlain by tightly packed rock fill with little to no soil of any kind, except that which had intruded from above.

As with TP9, excavation immediately encountered a surface comprised of large (10-20cm) broken and angular rock. The first three (3) cm of excavation included “duff”, organic accumulation and moss that developed over time. But even this included ceramics and other cultural materials, suggesting that little to no soil of any kind had accumulated since the cultural deposit had been laid down.

Stratum 1 is the initial “duff” layer: 0-3cmbs. It includes brown fine sandy silt with small angular rock and limited gravel. Cultural materials present include ceramics, brick, and clam shell.

Stratum 2 begins immediately beneath the “duff” layer. It was, as expected, tightly packed, large, broken and angular rock all of a size on the order of 10-20+cm in width, with midden. The midden, having been initially deposited over the rock fill, is presumed to have subsequently migrating down into the rock fill. It is dark brown to



Figure 18: Area 3 - Shovel Test Pit 9



**Figure 19: Shovel Test Pit 9 - note berms of cellar/foundation**

nearly black, fine sandy silt with rock and some fine to medium gravel; it is slightly “greasy” to the feel.

A working assumption is that the rock fill represents one cultural deposit, while the midden represents a second, subsequent deposit, overlying and intermixed with the rock. At this juncture, and though likely to be proven incorrect in the long-term, it is assumed all cultural materials within the rock fill, even those recovered more deeply are intrusive from above, having migrated over two centuries down through cavities within the rock fill deposit.

Cultural materials recovered from Stratum 2 included a significant amount of glass, ceramics, faunal remains (including copious amounts of shell), and a lesser amount of brick and nails. Included also was a large tin cup/tankard. No personal items (e.g., buttons) were present.

Stratum 2 extends from approximately 3-30cmts, after which rock fill continues with large cavities and voids throughout, and into which materials from the unit’s walls and base of Stratum 2 continued to fall throughout excavation. As “excavation” continued (more like throwing rocks out of a hole), all soil recovered was considered intrusive into the rock fill. Therefore, the rock fill was labeled “Stratum 3”, while all soil recovered (and there was very little of it) was labeled “Stratum 3 - intrusive”.



**Figure 20: Test Unit 6 (facing west)**

Stratum 3 is rock fill. It is comprised of large (10-30cm<sup>+</sup>), broken and angular rock with voids throughout. Stratum 3 extends from approximately 30cmbs to at least 130cmbs. Due to the unconsolidated nature of the rock fill, the unit proved fundamentally unstable, a point fully illustrated in the sudden, simultaneous, and catastrophic collapse of all four unit walls (Fig. 23). At 130cmbs, all four unit walls, comprised completely of unconsolidated rock, simultaneously slumped into the unit leaving portions of the surrounding Stratum 2 soil hanging above, unsupported. The decision was made to close Test Unit 6 at that time. At the time of collapse, Stratum 3 appeared to continue to some depth below 130cm bs.

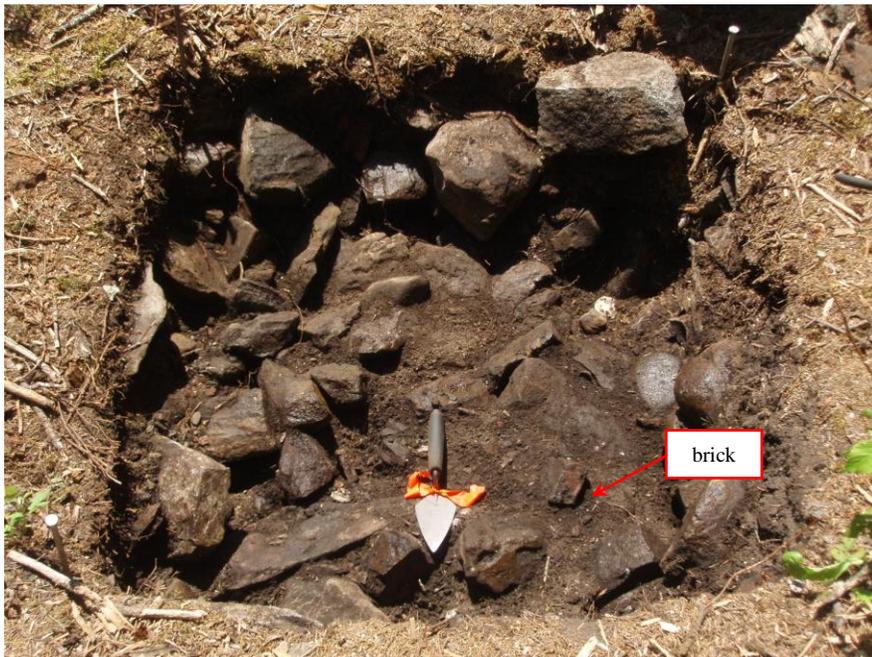
Stratum 3-intrusive, recovered while excavating/removing Stratum 3, represents soil having migrated through time down into Stratum 3. It is dark brown to black-brown, fine sandy silt with small rock and gravel. Given the limited volume of soil excavated as Stratum 3-intrusive, surprisingly high amounts of ceramics, glass, brick, and other cultural materials were present, along with bone and other faunal material (e.g., large fish vertebrae).

Interpreting Stratum 3 is difficult. While soil and smaller cultural material might easily migrate downward over time, the result of frost and other natural disturbances, large brick fragments are unlikely to do so. Yet a number of large brick fragments were

recovered well within Stratum 3 (Figs. 21 & 22). At this point in time TU 6 is hypothesized as lying within a “construction”, possibly a chimney base, and brick may well be a “natural” inclusion within such.



**Figure 21: Test Unit 6 with brick**



**Figure 22: Test Unit 6 with brick**



**Figure 23: Test Unit 6 - post collapse  
(note tremendous volume of rock from 0-130cmbs)**

Given the extraordinary amount of midden deposit in Area 3, and its distance from the main cellar some 8 meters north, several additional STP's were placed between Area 1 and Area 3 to establish if the midden was continuous or if Area 3 was a localized dumping effort.

### **STP's 10, 11, 12, and 13**

On July 24, 2015 the author and Randy Harvey once again returned to Area 3 to pursue further shovel testing. Upon arrival three test pits were established: STP 10, located approximately 2m north of the northeast corner of the small cellar/foundation berm; STP 11, located four meters west of Test Pit 10, and parallel the same berm; and STP 12, located on the opposite side of the Area 3 cellar/foundation, approximately 1-2 meters south of the cellar berm's southeast corner.

### **Shovel Test Pit 10**

While it could have been assumed, given its proximity to the kitchen midden within Area 3's cellar/foundation, the presence of a thick kitchen midden in STP 10 (Fig. 24) was none-the-less something of a surprise. Cultural materials, including high volumes

of well preserved faunal remains, lay immediately beneath the overlying moss and very limited ground cover.

Stratum 1 is a medium to dark brown sandy silt “loam” with “duff”. Ceramics, nails, faunal remains (calcined and green), brick, and glass were all present. There is little to no gravel in the soil; natural sorting has made the first 3cm of soil very loamy. Stratum 2 is similar to Stratum 1 with the exception of high levels of fine to medium gravel. The soil is medium to dark brown fine sandy silt; the deposit is unquestionably kitchen midden. Cultural materials include high volumes of bone and shell, and ceramics (including a trailed slip red earthenware fragment), nails, glass, and a solitary button.

Stratum 2 extends from 3cmbs to approximately 20cmbs to the south and 25cmbs to the north; a notable decline is present to the midden’s base. This declination is interpreted as midden overlying the sloped foundation berm extending at a downward angle toward TP10 from the south.

The interface with berm soil is orangey yellow-brown, fine sandy silt with gravel and rock. Continued excavation to 40cmbs did not encounter any cultural materials, confirming the midden’s lowest limits.

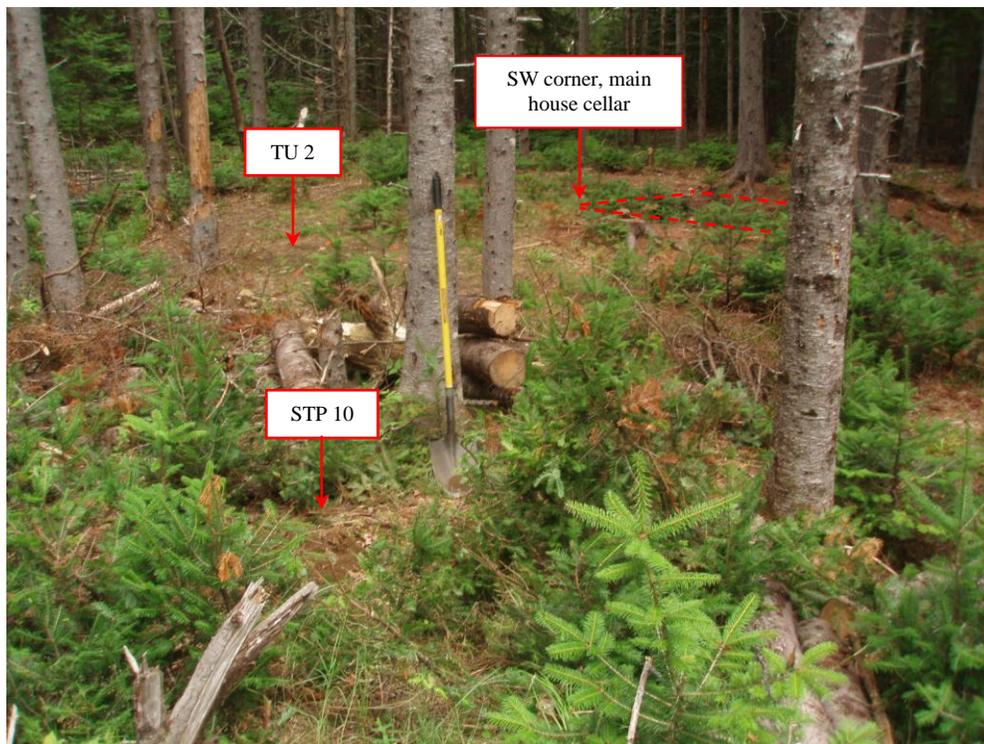


Figure 24: Shovel Test Pit 10

Stratum 3 extends from 20cmbs (southern floor) to 40cmbs (northern floor). The soil is orange yellow-brown, fine to medium, very sandy silt with fine to coarse gravel and small angular and broken rock (sub-soil). A gradational change to olive yellow-brown is noted with depth. No cultural materials are present within Stratum 3, and no underlying cultural horizon appears present.

### **Shovel Test Pit 11**

Test Pit 11 lies four meters west of Test Pit 10, parallel Area 3's small cellar/foundation's north wall.

Stratum 1 extends from 0-15cmbs. Its soil is medium brown, fine sandy silt with increasing amounts of gravel with depth. The interface with subsoil is noted at only 15cmb. Ceramics, nails, glass, faunal, and shell are present to the Stratum 1 and Stratum 2 interface. While the midden deposit is thinner, its content is consistent with that recovered from other areas of the midden.

Stratum 2 extends from 15-23cmbs. The soil is yellow-brown, fine sandy silt with gravel and broken and angular rock. No cultural materials are present.

Stratum 3 extends from 23-60cmbs. Its soil is yellow-brown to olive yellow-brown, medium sandy silty with gravel and broken angular rock. No cultural materials are present, and no additional interfaces were noted.

### **Shovel Test Pit 12**

Test Pit 12 identifies the likely southern limits of the midden. It is located approximately 15 meters south of the main house cellar; 1-2 meters south of the southeast corner of Area 3's small cellar/foundation.

Stratum 1 extends from 0-15cmbs as medium brown to light brown, fine sandy silt with gravel. Cultural materials are near non-existent; only a few tiny ceramic sherds/spalls and brick fragments are present. There is no midden soil or deposit, as such, only loam. An interface of yellow-brown fine silty sandy soil with gravel and rock is present at 15cmbs (Stratum 2). No further excavation was undertaken.

### **Shovel Test Pit 13**

A final shovel test pit, STP 13 (Fig. 25), was excavated within the southwest corner of the main cellar itself. Previously, STP 2, excavated central to the cellar, revealed considerable charcoal, large fragmentary rock and brick, and melted glass and burned nails.

Three strata were present within STP 2. Stratum I extends from 0-20cmbs and is comprised of black to black-brown sandy silt, charcoal (some large chunks), and copious amounts of very large brick fragments (1/2 bricks and larger) and smaller fragments as well. Large angular, broken rock was also present within Stratum I (many over 20cm in length or width). Stratum I produced nails and a single piece of clear glass (possible stem ware).

Stratum II extends (maximally) from 20-40cmbs (some sloping to the SE is noted at Stratum II's base). Stratum II is similar to Stratum I – black to black-brown sandy silt infused with charcoal (some large chunks), but differs in content. Cultural material includes copious small brick fragments and significant numbers of nails. Large brick fragments are not present. A large piece of melted green glass was recovered as well.

Stratum III was excavated only a few centimeters, to about 42cmbs (base of excavation). It is yellow, “clayey”, sandy silt (sub-soil) with no cultural materials present.



**Figure 25: Shovel Test Pit 13**

Initially, and as a result of STP 2, the author hypothesized the house may have burned down at some point after Christiana Ulmer left in 1817/18. However, STP 13 being completely void of any charcoal or other indicators of fire, dispels that theory. Its content included only large brick fragments and a few very small ceramic fragments.

The latter, it is hypothesized, may easily have fallen from above through cracks in the floorboards. No indications of fire or even heat are present. Thus it is concluded that the house did not burn down. It may be that at some point someone collected the remnants of the then fallen-in building into a central pile within the cellar and set it ablaze, thus accumulating large amounts of charcoal and nails in the area of STP 2.

## Results

It is not the intent, nor within the capacity of the author at this time, to discuss Areas 1, 2 or 3's overall content. Analysis of such is ongoing and will be forthcoming at a later date.

From the start, the goal of this initial testing effort, utilizing both 50cm x 50cm shovel test pits and 1m x 1m test units, was recovery of temporally diagnostic cultural materials, and especially ceramics. The author's principal focus within this section is analysis of recovered ceramics as to type, form (if discernable), and chronological placement. While some additional insight into the site's temporal affiliation may be gleaned from other forms of cultural materials, those materials represent a minor inclusion to this section. No faunal, or ferrous or non-ferrous metal analysis will be included, except as noted above – any minor contributions to indentifying the site's temporal bounds.

In general the following statement can be made - in the majority, the ceramic sample is noteworthy in four ways – 1) it is dominated by creamware and pearlware; 2) the creamware sample appears to include limited flatware, being mostly utilitarian vessels (e.g., chamber pot); 3) the pearlware sample appears principally comprised of a broad suite of tableware forms and decoration, including cups, flatware, and small bowls, but includes no transfer printed ceramics; 4) red earthenware, while present, is limited in both absolute number and diversity, and what is present stands out for its individualism (e.g., unique slip trailed vessels); and 5) other, contemporary ceramics on site are extremely limited (e.g., porcelain).

It was assumed from the outset that at the time of the Ulmer's initial occupation of the site, Philip and Christiana likely possessed personal and household items originating from their previous home in Ducktrap, pre-1806. Especially germane to this effort, then, is the assumption that the Ulmers would have brought with them to the site a pre-existing ceramic sample. Thus, while it was assumed an abrupt terminal limit to ME 254-007 temporal bounding should be present (i.e., 1817/18), its earliest temporal extent might predate the site by as much as two to three decades, or more.

Philip Ulmer, born in 1751, served in the Continental Army in the 1770's, arrived in Ducktrap in 1780, and traveled on board ship in a civilian and military capacity. It was assumed that ceramics from far afield, and predating the house's 1807/08 construction, might be present. Yet, the current ceramic sample from ME 243-007 appears to include only contemporary creamware, pearlware, red earthenwares, salt glazed ceramics, and porcelain readily available to the general population in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## **White or Buff Earthenware**

### **Creamware**

#### **Plain (CW)**

The creamware sample is principally plain, and generally represents utilitarian vessels. It is also in very poor condition generally. The effects of being in the ground and exposed to the elements and frost are obvious. Dramatic spalling and fracturing is present throughout the sample making not only identification of form problematic but vessel reconstruction near impossible. Creamware vessels are identified by the designation “CW” (Cream **W**are), used simply to identify individual vessels for the purposes of this report. A number of vessels are represented within the current sample, but worth note is the lack of feather edge flatware, or creamware serving vessels.

#### **Area 1**

No identifiable creamware vessels originate within Area 1; creamware recovered from TU 1, 2, and 3 reflects significant fragmentation and spalling. With 3.5<sup>2</sup>m excavated, Area 1's creamware represents a minor component of the ceramic sample overall. That said, it does appear that the incidence of creamware in Area 1 rises from east to west.

#### **Area 3**

CW 1 (Fig. 26) was recovered from STP 9 and is associated with the early 19<sup>th</sup> c. midden. It is a plain creamware chamber pot with a flat rim/lip formed perpendicular to the body. Numerous small sherds were refitted in an effort to visualize the vessels overall form, but only the immediate lip and 3<sup>+</sup> cm of rim are present. Its rim reduces from 5mm immediately below the lip to 3.8 at 3.5cm down the rim.



**Figure 26: CW 1 - chamber pot**

CW 2 (Fig. 27 & 28) was recovered from STP 10, between 0-10cmbs. Like CW 1, CW 2 represents a plain creamware vessel of substance. Its rim is relatively thin, but its lip is robust. CW 2's everted lip is formed by folding the vessel's rim 180 degrees outward toward, but not enough to touch the vessel's exterior surface. The terminal lip itself is finely pinch.



**Figure 27: CW 2 - bowl**



**Figure 28: CW 2 - bowl**

A third vessel, CW 3 (Figs. 29 & 30), was recovered from Area 3. It is a large portion of a small bowl's body and base. It maintains annularware banding and engine turned rouletting. The banding is black over cream over tan, top to bottom respectively. The vessel appears slightly burned, making determination of type (e.g., creamware) difficult. However, pooled glaze along the foot=ring suggests a green hue; creamware. CW 3 was recovered in STP 9 at 0-45cmbs.



**Figure 29: CW 3 - bowl**



**Figure 30: CW 3 - bowl**

Located in TU 6, between 3-30cmb, CW 4 is a plain, creamware drinking mug (Fig. 31). It was totally destroyed, being recovered in dozens of small sherds, and then, only in part. The vessel walls are thin, 3m, while the base is extremely thin, 2mm or less. The mug's side walls are vertical, and upwards of 4mm in thickness. The mug itself is 8cm in maximum diameter.

A final vessel, CW 5 (Fig. 32), recovered from TU 6, represents the only example of creamware flatware. Comprised of several sherds recovered in STP 9, 0-45cmb, maintains a broad, flat rim with rounded lip, 3.8cm wide. CW 5 indicates a shallowly sloped sidewall extending from the rim.

Beyond the vessels indicated above, the bulk of the creamware sample is comprised of hundreds of unidentifiable, small, plain, creamware body, foot-rim, handle fragments, and surface spalls. Macro analysis suggests the greatest single percentage of creamware originates within Area 3. Area 1, reflecting approximately three times the amount of excavation as Area 3, appears to have only produced about 1/3 the creamware by weight and number as Area 3. Test Unit 1 produced less than a dozen creamware sherds. Test Unit 2 produced 20-30 sherds. And Test Unit 3, slightly more, at 40-50 sherds. Contrasting the volume of 3<sup>2</sup>m of TU 1, 2, and 3, STP 9, a 50cm x50cm test pit, produced over 50 sherds; TU 6 (which includes STP 9) produced a total of over 100 creamware sherds.



**Figure 31: CW 4 - drinking mug**



**Figure 32: CW 5 - plain plate**

## Pearlware

Unlike the creamware sample, the pearlware sample is diverse and more broadly reflective of tableware (flatware and cups) and small bowls. However, with the exception of a blue shell-edged plate, interestingly, the sample includes rim/lip sherds in the overwhelming majority.

### Blue Shell Edge and Green Shell Edge (BSE and GSE)

The pearlware flatware represented in the current sample appears to be of both the blue and green shell-edge style (designated “BSE or GSE”). As few as four plates are represented within the sample - three blue shell-edge plates, and one green, shell-edge plate.

Analysis of the blue shell-edge pearlware sample suggests at least two, and possibly three styles are present, older to younger. Both are painted underglaze.

### Area 1

A blue, shell edged plate, BSE 1 (Fig.33), possibly a version dating to 1800<sup>+</sup>, is represented by several sherds recovered from TU 1 and TU 3, at 10-15cmbs and 0-20cmbs, respectively. Its later style is identified by its more even and regular edge scalloping. This form illustrates a slightly lighter blue than the Rococo specimens, and its blue underglaze painting, while still present on the rim, is not “drawn down” as far across the rim face as on the earlier, Rococo form.



Figure 33: BSE 1 - plate

A possibly even younger variation of blue, shell edge may be represented within Area 1 as well. One sherd of what appears to be an even scalloped variety maintains straight impressions on the rim below the lip, as opposed to the earlier, more artistic, wavy, flowing lines of earlier styles (Miller 1990). Its blue underglaze painting is also less bold and pronounced, and more limited spatially in its application (no image).

### Area 3

The earliest form of blue shell-edge, BSE 2 (Fig. 34), maintains the “Rococo”, or deeply scalloped rim design (Miller 1990). All Rococo shell-edge was recovered from Area 3 – TU 6 and STP 11.

BSE 2’s presence in the pearlware sample is clearly evident through the recovery of several relatively large rim sherds, one of which includes a partial foot ring. These sherds reflect not only the highly diagnostic deep scalloping of the Rococo style, but also include trimming/cutting of the lip, and a “bud” (Figs. 35 & 36). The “bud” motif is one of two contemporaneous Rococo styles (Miller 1990). The other style, being “budless”, is identical to the “budded” form in all other ways. As not all Rococo style sherds originate in the same unit, it is likely that more than one plate is represented; Rococo blue shell edge was recovered from TU 6 and also STP 11, some 5-6m distant from one another.



Figure 34: BSE 2 - plate



**Figure 35: BSE 2 - plate with "bud" decoration**



**Figure 36: BSE 2 - plate, with "bud" enlarged**

While blue shell-edge sherds number over a dozen, green shell-edge pearlware is represented by as few as nine sherds. While some of these refit (GSE 1) (Fig. 37), all are badly spalled and fragmented, and all are small rim/lip sherds.



**Figure 37: GSE 1 - plate**

Notably, the green shell edge ceramics appear to have little or no scalloping. While this may reflect the small and limited nature of the sherds, it is curious, none-the-less to see no undulation within 2cm of lip/rim. The author's expectation is of some inclination of declination of the lip/rim, even on so limited a sample of the lip/rim. While a straight, un-scalloped lip/rim configuration exists as a later (and the last) variation of the shell edge form (Miller 1990), it is typically blue and clearly too young (c. 1850) for the Ulmers to have acquired it. All recovered green underglaze painted shell edge ware derives from either STP 9 or TU 6 (being one and the same).

At this point, and though perhaps self-serving, the green, shell edge sherds are not interpreted as a later variant that conflicts with the temporal bounding of the Ulmers' occupation of the house. Rather, the specimen is interpreted as reflecting even scalloping (though the scalloping is not illustrated) with straight impressed lines on the interior rim where green underglaze paint is applied, or another vessel form maintaining straight edges.

Unlike the blue shell edge sherds noted above where the blue underglaze paint application ceases partially across the lip, the green underglaze painting on these sherds extends over the lip and onto the back of the rim some distance, becoming lighter with distance from the lip. Were the paint a sprayed application of color (which of course it is not), this over rim coloration would give the appearance of light "overspray"; the rim's back maintains a very light, but easily discernable "shadow" of underglaze green paint.

### Polychrome (PC)

Polychrome pearlware cups or small hollowware vessels are well represented. Thin, beautifully decorated rim sherds, and several body sherds, identify no less than three design patterns.

One is a cup (PC 1) (Fig. 38 & 39) with a bold, contemporary floral design on its exterior (orange flowers, green leaves, and brown stems) and two light brown bands on its interior rim (one wide and one thin).

A second vessel, PC 2 (Fig. 40), is likely another cup (or small bowl). PC 2 maintains a more delicate floral pattern, which includes very small light green “tracks” (leaf groups?) in a row, spiky light green leaves extending upwards from a thin brown stem, and a muted orange flower center with blue dots surrounding.

A third polychrome, possible cup (PC 3) (Fig. 41), recovered from STP 10 (0-10cmts), illustrates an interior possessing delicate but bold, near cobalt blue leaves, muted orange dots and leaves associated with its flower (?), fine brown stems, and a thin brown rim band. Its exterior also maintains a thin brown rim band. Given the very small nature of the sherds, and the limited view they give of motifs, it’s reasonable that more than one vessel may be represented via a visually similar floral motif.



Figure 38: PC 1 - cup



Figure 39: PC 1 - cup, interior



Figure 40: PC 2 - cup or small bowl



**Figure 41: PC 3 – cup**

A fourth example of polychrome (PC 4) (Fig. 42), also a possible cup, is represented by two sherds. PC 4 illustrates an exterior decoration which includes a broad yellow band, bounded top and bottom by brown bands, wide and narrow, respectively. A suggestion of perhaps blue dots is noted below the banding. PC 4 was recovered from TU 1 and STP 10, 10-20cmbs and 0-10cmbs, respectively.



**Figure 42: PC 4 – cup**



**Figure 43: PC 5 - cup**

And lastly, still another likely cup illustrates a polychrome design. PC 5 (Fig. 43) was recovered in TU 1, Stratum 1 (0-20cmbs). It illustrates an interior decoration that includes a thin brown band immediately below the lip, with deep blue “leaves” and muted orange dots (flower center).

### **Fluted Polychrome (FPC)**

A design somewhat similar to CP 2 is represented on a fourth vessel, probably a tea cup (FPC 1) (Fig. 44). Several very delicate pieces of fine pearlware polychrome tea (?) cup with green leaf “tracks”, and orange and brown leaves and stems (?) are present. This vessel exhibits fine ridges across its exterior. It is interpreted as having a fluted exterior surface. Two other tiny sherds in the pearlware sample pair well with this vessel - one tiny body sherd with similar lines in relief (fluting). Another example of a possibly fluted cup includes a fine brown rim band interior, and immediately below the rim, fine brown lines (vines?) beneath, and a delicately scalloped rim/lip (Fig. 45). This latter vessel is included here not for its decorative coloration, but rather, its unique form. While its decoration is, to the extent illustrated, monochromatic brown, its scalloped rim/lip form is associated with exterior fluting during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (Roth 1961).

### **Monochrome (MC)**

A second category of decorated pearlware is one with a monochromatic design. Entirely tan or light brown, this design, being found on cups, is similar to the more refined, or conservative polychromatic schemes above, but singular in color and



**Figure 44: FPC 1 - cup**



**Figure 45: Fluted cup - scalloped rim**

maintaining no stems or leaves along a stem. It is more reminiscent of a “swagging” vine with stylized berries or clusters of fruit which appear at regular intervals -

multiple dots surrounding a central dot to form the cluster. One specimen's exterior (Fig. 46) maintains not one but two tan rim bands (one broad and one narrow) with the vine and fruit clusters "swagging" immediately beneath, as if supported fence-like by the lower, narrower band. Its interior appears to possess only a relatively broad tan rim band (MC 1) (Fig. 47). Enough of this vessel is present to know that it was destroyed, not merely chipped.

Clearly variations on this motif are present. Close examination of rims indicates another vessel with a similar design motif, likely also cups, may be present in the sample (MC 2, no image). One possesses a darker, broader brown rim band than the other, and finer "vines" with more delicate fruit clusters. Both maintain the same pattern, and would otherwise be indistinguishable if not for close inspection.



**Figure 46: MC 1 - cup**



Figure 47: MC 1- interior



Figure 48: MC 3 - cup

Additionally, a third vessel (MC 3) (Fig. 48), maintains a double rim band *interior*, and no exterior rim banding. No design pattern is illustrated, as not enough body is represented by the sherds recovered. But it is considered likely that this vessel (also likely a cup) would have a similar design motif as the above.

***Of special note – all polychrome or monochrome pearlware cups represented by rim/lip sherds, while differing in their color schemes (being poly or monochromatic) and overall motifs, share one commonality. All rim/lip sherds illustrating rim banding, whether interior or exterior to the lip, include the combination of two rim bands, a broad band above a narrower band immediately below the lip. Possibly a personal preference of either the market or the Ulmers themselves.***

### **Chinese ware (CHW)**

Within the pearlware sample are a significant number of blue on white, Chinese patterned sherds. These sherds do not represent true Chinese export wares. Rather, they are pearlware with motifs reminiscent of Chinese export wares (aka China Blue).

China Blue is represented by a significant number of small rim/lip sherds, all pearlware. Several small body sherds are present, but not enough to illustrate any vessel form/s or painted schema. Also, whole vessel disintegration is not suggested, as the limited sample does not generally include body sherds and/or foot rings. The majority of decorated sherds present in the sample represent only a rim/lip and any design immediately below the lip (generally on the interior surface). This is not the case with the single recovered specimen of English “Chinese” porcelain, however (CH 1) (Fig. 49 & 50). It possesses not only rim/lip sherds but a body sherd as well; no vessel configuration is identified via these sherds.

Based on lip form, rim thickness, and painted pattern, no less than four discrete vessels are represented within the sample. And, the sample is scattered throughout the midden, one piece being recovered from in Area 3, while another in Area 1, some 8 meters distant. With the exception of two body sherds from TU 3, no pieces refit.

Beyond rim patterns, body schema are also evident, though undecipherable due to the small size of body sherds to date. However, the available view of body motifs within the sample does appear consistent with China Blue patterns generally. As with the chromatic pearlware sample, there is artistic continuity within the China Blue sample as well. Generally the sample includes rims with banding. However, unlike the chromatic pearlware specimens, the China Blue rim/lip sherds illustrate not individual bands but “borders”. Generally, the China Blue rim/lip sherds have two narrow, parallel, horizontal, typically light blue lines immediately below the lip, interior to the vessel (Fig. 51).



**Figure 49: CHW 1 – interior rim decoration**



**Figure 50: CHW 1 - interior body design motif**



Figure 51: Typical ME 243-007 China Blue interior rim design



Figure 52: Typical ME 243-007 body design motif

Between these lines is additional decoration in the form of tiny half circles extending from the lower line up to and touching the upper line, very rising/setting sun-like. All decoration is underglaze and hand painted. Ulmer Site China Blue also appears to maintain “Chinese” body design motifs as well (Fig. 52).

### **Chinese Export Porcelain (CEP)**

A single piece of true porcelain (CEP 1) is present in the ceramic sample (Fig. 53). Recovered from TU 1, Stratum 1 (0-10cmbs), CEP 1 is extremely fine, vitreous, and semi-translucent in nature. This very white body sherd maintains a partial foot-ring and is overglaze hand painted with a pedaled flower motif. While very faded the pedals are clearly red or rose colored.



**Figure 53: CE 1 - bowl interior with foot-ring**

### **Possible Weildonware (WW)**

Three very small sherds/fragments, recovered from TU 6, between 3 And 30cmbs, at first glance appear to be buff earthenware with a very limited amount of rich “chocolate” brown glaze (WW 1). One sherd, while possessing brown glaze, also maintains brownish yellow within it, and an extremely small illustration of light greenish yellow mottling (Fig. 54).

For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the brown glazed surface is the exterior surface. With that in mind, then, two of the three fragments maintain very small areas of “creamware-like” glaze on their interior surface. While it is difficult to

assess, it is reasonable to suggest a “white” glaze because the sherds’ body, or paste, while very distinctive, is not readily visible through the glaze.

Initial review led the author to interpret the paste’s “dirty” appearance as related to staining or another form of degradation of the paste. However, this does not appear to be the case. All three sherds’ paste is not the buff earthenware white or off white so characteristic of creamwares or other more or less refined buff, or “white” earthenwares. Rather, at 20x these sherds’ paste appears visually reminiscent of granite, of stone – buff to white with gray to blackish gray, that is, “salt and pepper” and granular in appearance.



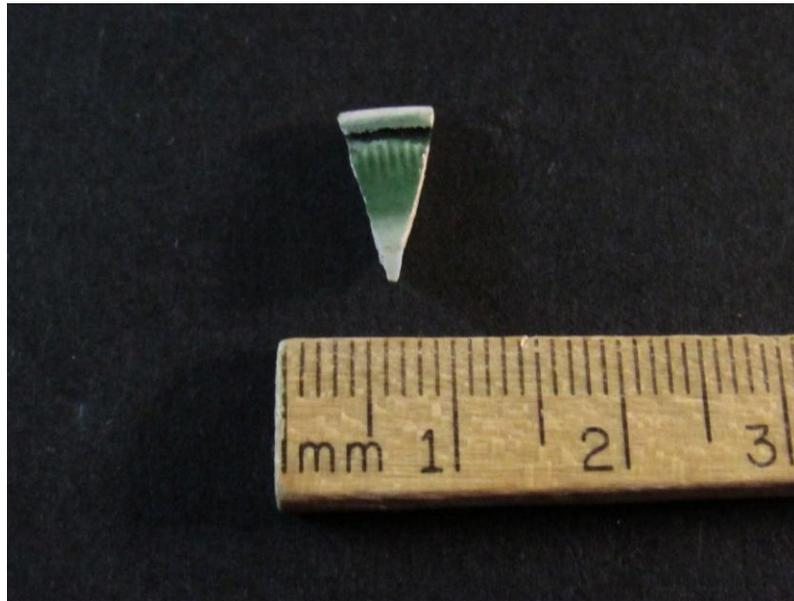
**Figure 54: WW 1 - exterior**

While this paste description does not “fit” Weildonware per se, the sherds reflect a hard and compact paste which permits an extremely thin vessel wall. The single sherd with both interior and exterior glaze capable of permitting measurement indicates the vessel’s wall is an incredibly thin, 2.4mm.

### **Unknown**

A single, thin, delicate, and small rim/lip sherd of pearlware maintains an unknown application and technique (Fig. 55). Recovered in TU 1, Stratum 1 (0-20cmbs), the lip itself appears molded in form, maintaining a very thin rim wall, with an indented (molded?) interior surface and an everted, slightly “pinched” exterior lip form. Immediately below the lip’s exterior is a very narrow, black, underglaze stripe,

overlying a broad, bright green, underglaze band with light vertical “feathering”, or drawing down of the green paint.



**Figure 55: Possible engine turned, unknown ceramic type**

### **Red Earthenware**

A number of different forms, glazes, and motifs are reflected within the red earthenware sample. These include: chargers and utilitarian hollow wares; and slip trailed with manganese (?) glaze, and plain with black/very dark brown or clear glaze. While several body sherds maintain horizontal ridges in relief, the majority of sherds are un-modified.

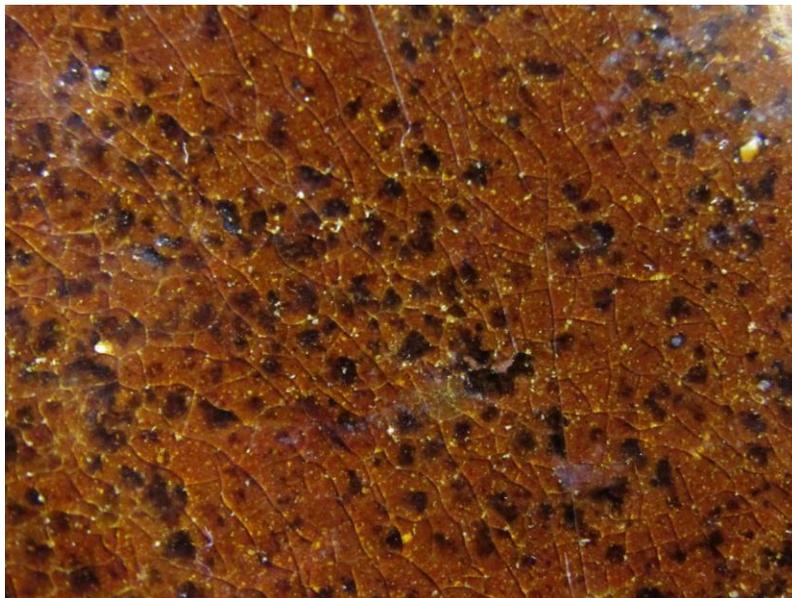
### **Slip Trailed (ST)**

A great surprise was the recovery of a significant percentage of a slip trailed vessel (ST 1) (Fig. 56). All sherds associated with ST 1 originate in Area 1, with the greatest single majority from TU 3.

ST 1 is a shallow charger. Its bowl is shallow, and its sidewalls angles upward at approximately 45 degrees to a well developed, but flat rim with a rounded lip. While the ware is clearly red earthen, it is not simply clear lead glazed. The glaze lends a rick dark brown tone to the vessel, and illustrates minute, even darker brown speckles, the result, not of inclusions in the earthenware (e.g., temper) but rather, mottling (Fig. 57). It is assumed an additive was introduced to the glaze to permit the effect of grit or extremely fine gravel temper. The glaze is interpreted as a manganese type, and present on the vessel’s interior only.



**Figure 56: ST 1 – charger, interior**



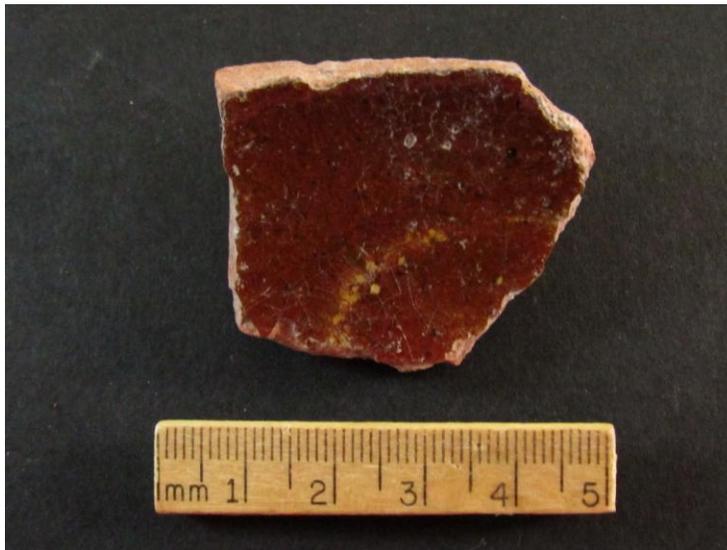
**Figure 57: ST 1 - glaze enlarged**

ST 1 is decorated with a random, “squiggly line” motif, accompanied by an occasional paisley dot; not enough of the pattern is present to firmly establish an overall intended effect. However, it does appear as though the rim is likely decorated with a series of “squiggly lines” paralleling the lip all the way around the rim. And, the “squiggly line and paisley dots appear to emanate from a central orientation, possibly illustrating a sun burst-like pattern.

The white underglaze slip appears yellow, the result of discoloration caused by the overlying glaze. Slip has been both individually and generously trailed by a single nozzled trailer. Interestingly, the “speckling” noted above is not present over the slip, perhaps the result of a re-glazing after the trailed slip was applied.

No less than 17 individual sherds, some as large as 10cm in width, are present in the Area 1, ST 1 sample. As a result, a significant percentage of the vessel can be reconstructed. ST 1 is estimated to be 11-12 inches in diameter.

Interestingly, a single sherd of a second slip trailed red earthenware vessel (ST 2) derives from TU 6, in Area 3, some 8 meters distant from Area 1 (Fig. 58). It differs from ST 1 in a number of significant ways.



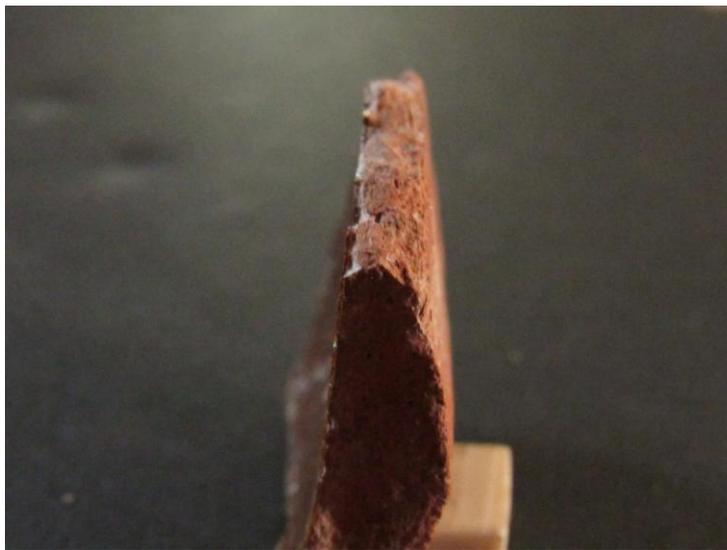
**Figure 58: ST 2 - interior**

ST 2's body is a much lighter red, almost pink, in contrast to the darker, brownish red body of STV 1. Additionally, the glaze is clear lead with very limited to no “speckling” within it. And, while limited to only a single sherd for inference, ST 2's underglaze slip trailing differs dramatically, not in design but application.



**Figure 59: ST 2 – redeveloped lip**

Unlike the bold and generous application of slip on ST 1, slip trailing on ST 2 is barely visible, having the feel of being almost “tentative”, the amount of slip actually used being miniscule. By comparison one might understand ST 1 as higher quality, while ST 2 as less refined or “low end”.



**Figure 60: ST 2 - redeveloped lip form**

A last difference lies not in the sherd's body or glaze or any technical aspect, but the apparent use of the vessel after damage. SV 1's current "lip" is not the original, manufactured glazed lip. Rather, the sherd appears to indicate an intentional wearing down or "micro-chipping" of a raw edge where the lip/rim had broken, and a new "lip" formed (Figs. 59 & 60). This is interpreted as indicating the vessel's continued use after initial breakage of the rim.

And finally, another possible vessel is identified via a single rim sherd (ST 3) (Fig. 61). While no actual slip trailing is apparent, the vessel's glaze is very consistent with, and suggestive of ST 1. However, the sherd's transition from vessel side wall to rim is inconsistent with that of either ST 1 or 2. The transition from vessel sidewall to rim is sharp and well defined, differing from that of ST 1, whose transition from side wall to rim is smooth and rounded - flowing.



**Figure 61: ST 3 – rim sherd**

### **Plain Dark Brown Glazed (PBG)**

Plain Brown Glazed red earthenware (PBG) is virtually ubiquitous within ME 243-007's middens; Areas 1, 2, and 3 all produced some level of brown glazed red earthenware. Test Unit 6, Area 3, generated the single greatest volume of this ware type both in weight and number of sherds, and also the greatest single sized sherds. No less than six vessels are represented by a body sherd's unique attributes, lip form, or lip/rim form. While many individual sherds of plain brown glazed red earthenware are present overall, all identified vessels are represented by as few as one sherd.

### Area 1

From TU 3 comes a brown glazed vessel, PBG 1, represented by a 7.5mm thick lip sherd (Fig. 62). The lip is straight, flattened, and formed through folding over the 5.5mm rim toward the vessel's exterior. PBG 1 maintains a glazed interior, but not enough rim is present to determine any exterior treatment/s.



**Figure 62: PBG 1 – rim interior**

PBG 2 also emanates from TU 3. It, too, is represented by a single lip/rim sherd (Figs. 63 & 64). PBG 2 maintains a folded 4mm thick rim to form a rolled, 6mm thick lip. Enough rim is present to establish that the flat rim was bent outward at a severe angle of  $50^+$  degrees, immediately before the lip. This vessel is glazed on both its interior and exterior surfaces.

PBG 3 is strikingly similar to PBG 2 (Figs. 65 & 66). It is represented by a lip/rim sherd recovered from TU 3. PBG 3, maintains a thin, 4mm rim wall. However, its rim is not flat, but illustrates a slight curvature prior to the rim being bent at a severe angle of  $50^+$  degrees. The rim is folded as with PBG 4, to form the 5.5mm thick lip. This vessel is also glazed on both its interior and exterior surfaces.



**Figure 63: PBG 2 - rim interior**



**Figure 64: PBG 2 - rim/lip form**



**Figure 65: PBG 3 – rim interior**



**Figure 66: PBG 3 - rim/lip form**

**Area 2**

Recovered from TU5, Area 2 (TU 5, Stratum 2, 15-30cmbs), PBG 4 (Fig. 67) maintains a flat, 4.5mm thick, rim side wall (Fig. 68). It, too, is severely bent at a 50<sup>+</sup> to form the lip. As with PBG 1, 2, and 3, the lip is formed as a result of folding over the thin rim.

As with PBG 2 and 3, PBG 4 is glazed on both its interior and exterior surfaces. PBG 4 was recovered from Stratum 2, 15-30cmb.



**Figure 67: PBG 4 – rim interior**

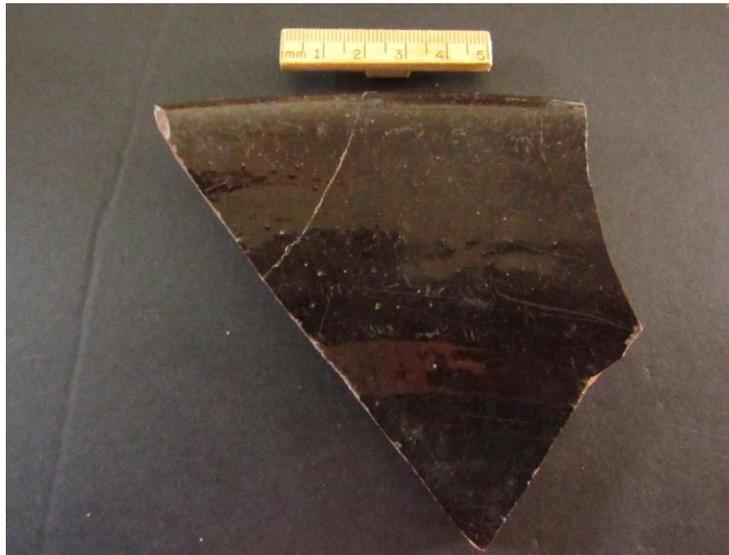


**Figure 68: PBG 4 - rim/lip form**

### **Area 3**

A very large, “black” glazed, hollow ware utility vessel, recovered from TU 6, is represented by two refitting sherds, PBG 5 (Fig. 69). The vessel’s interior is glazed, with an everted, round lip form, 1.2cm thick. Glaze fully involves the lip, extending to the exterior surface but not beyond. Its rim wall is 8mm in thickness. The vessel is

estimated to have been at least 13 inches in diameter – a wash basin or other broad, shallow utility vessel.



**Figure 69: PBG 5 - rim interior; bowl**

PBG 6, also recovered from TU 6, illustrates an additional lip/rim form, hence an additional vessel (Fig. 70). While maintaining a thin, 5mm rim wall, the lip is not produced by folding the rim over on itself, as it is in other examples. PBG 6's lip is actually produced by gracefully curving the rim outward (everted) 90 degrees and pinching the lip's terminal margin edge. PBG 6 is glazed on both its interior and exterior surfaces and maintains a relatively pronounced interior curvature, suggesting a small, 5 inch diameter (at the lip) vessel.

PBG 7 also derives from Area 3, specifically, STP 10. While similar to PBG 5, it possesses no lip or upper rim. PBG 2 is distinguished from PBG 2 by its undulating rim form. From a moderately thin base, the vessel's 6mm thick side wall projects at about a 45 degree angle, but, half way (?) up it curves outward, then back inward, before proceeding to a presumed lip. This outward and inward movement of the vessel's side wall results in a shallow, 1cm wide recess/groove extending around the vessel's interior (no image)



**Figure 70: PBG 6 – rim exterior**

### **Clear Lead Glaze (CLG)**

Unlike plain brown glazed red earthenware, clear lead glazed red earthenware (CLG) is hardly ubiquitous. In fact, the greatest single percentage of clear lead glazed red earthenware originates in Area 3. Area 1 generated a single, non-brown glazed sherd, and that, not clear lead glazed. And while Area 2 (STP 6 and TU 5) produced 20<sup>+</sup> sherds, all were severely burned (glaze vitrified and bubbled, and body fire reddened and blackened), as was virtually all other ceramics from Area 2. Area 2 is not considered a normal midden deposit. But rather, a secondary deposit whose presence is as yet undetermined (though a hypothesis is put forward – see “Conclusions”).

### **Area 2**

Area 2 produced a severely burned, and as a result, spalled and split, red earthenware lip/rim sherd in TU 5 (CLG 1). Although badly damaged, refitting efforts allow its general form to be discerned (Figs. 71, 72, & 73).

CLG 1 maintains a 8.8mm thick rim, terminating in a lip 1.55cm in thickness. The lip is formed as a result of folding the rim over on itself in an exterior direction, then finishing it by smoothing into a rounded form exterior to the vessel.

While horribly burned, it does not appear that the exterior was ever glazed; interior glaze only.



**Figure 71: CLG 1 - lip/rim exterior**



**Figure 72: CLG 1 - lip/rim interior**



**Figure 73: CLG 1 - lip/rim profile**

### **Area 3**

Of the dozens of clear lead glazed sherds recovered from Area 3, only two refit to form a lip/rim – CLG 2 (Fig. 74 & 75). Recovered from STP 11, CLG 2 is severely split and spalled. While one surface (exterior?) is spalled away lightly, but entirely, its general form is still discernable. The rim is flat with its terminal margin flattened, or “squashed” slightly. The act of “squashing down” the rim’s terminal margin produced not only a flat lip, but causes the lip’s edges to protrude slightly beyond the thickness of the rim. This gives the impression of an expanding lip. The rim is minimally 1cm in thickness, while the lip is 1.35cm thick.

Although not identifying a vessel, it is worth noting that the midden represented by TU 6 contains a tremendous amount of red earthenware. Nearly 30 split and spalled red earthenware sherds were recovered in one “pocket” alone, with some measuring upwards of 5-10cm in width. While likely representing a single vessel, these sherds were so badly split interior from exterior, there is virtually no ability to rejoin sherds. With few exceptions, all glaze is gone from these sherds, and no lips or basal sherds are present.



**Figure 74: CLG 2 - lip sherd, interior**



**Figure 75: CLG 2 - lip/rim, profile**

## Unknown

### Areas 2 and 3

A final category of red earthenware is represented by only four sherds, three small and one large; all are split interior from exterior such that only the interior surface is present, and that, glazed (CLG 3).

Interpreting this vessel beyond red earthenware is made difficult by the nature and condition of the glaze. Appearing as if “faded”, its non-lustrous (let alone glassy) glaze is more reminiscent of slip than glaze (Fig. 76). Upon micro-inspection, clearly two layers of surface treatment are present, a dark underlying layer and an outer, relatively clear glaze. However, the outer, clear glaze is not at all reflective, as if affected somehow.

When wet, however, the overall effect of the underglaze slip is almost “tiger maple” or “wood grained” (Fig. 77). Yet when dry, this effect is not at all apparent. When dry, the glaze appears as a homogenous light brown to olive. While the author has considered the possibility of burning, the sherds originate from two distinctly separate areas, Area 1 and 3 (TU 1 and TU 6, specifically), and neither their paste nor their glaze indicate burning; there is no fire reddening or blackening of the paste, or vitrification of the glaze.



Figure 76: CLG 3 - interior, dry



**Figure 77: CLG 3 - interior, wet**

The largest sherd, that being from TU 6, is 5.2cm in maximum length, and only 3.5mm in thickness; no exterior surface is present. Emphasizing how delicate and immediate the midden deposit is - this sherd was recovered within 3cm of ground surface. Even the pressure of walking over the ground surface risks breaking and crushing ceramics located there.

### **Coarse Red Earthenware (CRE)**

#### **Area 3**

A final category of “red” earthenware is represented by two sherds (CRE 1). Both were recovered from TU 6, Area 3, one between 0-30cmbs, the other 30-130 (Stratum 2, and Stratum 3-intrusive, respectively). CRE 1 is identified by its unique paste characteristics as well as its surface treatment (Fig. 78 & 79).

CRE 1’s body is very light brown to tan with a medium grained temper content. Its glaze is glassy, and gives the viewer an initial impression of a “milk” green color. At first glance one might mistake the exterior finish to be a clear glazed over slip. However, this does not appear to be the case. Microscopic review identifies the glaze itself to be green, and not an overlying clear glaze, with an underlying slip coating of the vessel.

No interpretation of vessel type is presented at this time, except as suggested by others, a possible olive jar (Smith, 2015 personal communication).



**Figure 78: CRE 1 – rim/lip sherd**



**Figure 79: CRE 1 - lip profile**

**Salt Glazed (SG)**

Slat glazed pottery, though represented by fifteen sherds, was only present in TU 3 and TU 6, Areas 1 and 3, respectively.

### Area 1

While Area 3 maintains a single expression of salt glazed ceramics (SG), Area 1 maintains several.

Initially believed to be a partial salt glazed handle, a specimen recovered from Stratum 2 of TU 3 (15-25cmbs) is likely a partial jug lip (SG 1). It appears encrusted, but is suspected of being burned, possible thermal fracturing is evident (Fig. 80).

A second vessel, represented by two sherds recovered from Stratum 1 and Stratum 2 of TU 3 (10-15cmbs and 15-25cmbs, respectively), represents a very different vessel form (SG 2). Both sherds are very thin, averaging only 3mm, and illustrate extremely fine, compact, concentric turning marks (Fig. 81). On one surface the specimens maintain an underglaze white slip surface treatment, while on the other simply a clear glaze.

Also within Stratum 2, TU 3, two, refitting sherds clearly represent an English salt glazed ware (SG 3). Both refit to form a substantial sherd of 5.75cm in length and 4.1cm in height (Fig. 82). The vessel's exterior is mottled brown with twin, very narrow, turned grooves extending band-like around the vessel. Combined, the twin grooves measure 8.5mm in total width. The vessel's interior is clear glazed. Based on the combined sherds' curvatures, they suggest a large bottle is the likely vessel form.



**Figure 80: SG 1 - jug lip fragment**



**Figure 81: SC 2 - mug bottom fragment**



**Figure 82: SG 3 - mug or bottle body sherds**

An additional small sherd refitting SG 3 maintains a matching brown exterior surface treatment. It was recovered from Stratum 3 (25-30cmts) of TU3.

Also in Stratum 2, TU3, were two additional salt glazed sherds (no image), one of which likely reflects a portion of SG 3's lower section. Of the two sherds, one is more consistent with the brown salt glazed treatment and surface texture, though its exterior is light grey with a very light yellowish brown hue. Its interior is identical to that of SG 3.

The second sherd differs in that its surface treatment and texture, and its color (both interior and exterior) are much lighter. Its exterior glaze is a light blueish hued grey, while its interior is a much more white-grey. Its exterior surface texture is much more subtle, with less coarseness to the salt glazing. And it maintains a single example of weak, but apparently intentional shallow incision.

A final salt glazed vessel recovered within Area 1 is a single sherd recovered from Stratum 2, TU 3 (SG 4). It immediately stands out for its apparently refined nature. Although only a basal fragment, the foot ring clearly suggests this vessel was molded (Fig. 83 & 84); the foot ring's lines are clean and sharp, and well defined. At its thinnest, the vessel's wall is 3.5mm. Its paste is dense, off-white, and porous - a very refined earthenware. Both its interior and exterior appear to maintain a clear, salt glaze treatment, though the typical "orange peel" texture associated with such is not especially evident.



**Figure 83: SG 4 - small bowl foot-ring**

One might be tempted to refer to this sherd as reflective of "ironstone". And if it is, this vessel could fit within the presumed temporal framework for the Ulmer House, though barely. Shelton (2015) identifies that "ironstone denotes a specific refined earthenware patented in 1813."

Alternatively, this specimen may fall into the category of molded salt glazed, circa 1720-1770 (Roberson 2014).



**Figure 84: SG 4 - foot-ring profile**

### **Area 3**

All salt glazed sherds from TU 6 refit to form a substantial body sherd from a probable salt glazed jug (SG 5). The vessel clearly maintains multiple curvature, indicating its location within the body of a rounded jug (Fig. 85). The exterior glaze is glassy and clear, and appears “wiped” or heavily brushed on without care to its finish, while the interior glaze is brown semi-lustrous slip-like treatment.



**Figure 85: SG 5 - jug or bottle body sherds**

### Clay Pipes (CP)

Excavation resulted in the recovery of several partial pipe bowls and pipe stem fragments. Several bowl forms, or styles, are represented. One specimen (CP 1), recovered in STP 11 (0-15cmbs), maintains no heel or spur, and its bowl appears undecorated (Fig. 86).



**Figure 86: CP 1 - bowl with no heel or spur**

A second bowl (CP 2), recovered in TU 6 (30-130cmbs), maintains a heel and also appears undecorated (Fig. 87).



**Figure 87: CP 2 – spurred/heelled pipe**

third pipe is represented by a single, small, bowl fragment. Recovered from STP 10 (10-20cmbs), CP 3 clearly illustrates vertical rows of a “grain-like” pattern in relief on its exterior surface.



**Figure 88: CP 3 - decorated bowl fragment**

At least one additional pipe is represented by a partial bowl fragment. CP 4 appears to reflect a plain, undecorated bowl, though no heel area is present to establish other stylistic attributes (Figs. 89 & 90). CP 4 was recovered in TU 6 (3-20cmbs).



**Figure 89: CP 4 - bowl fragment profile**



**Figure 90: CP 4 - bowl fragment, distal view**

A number of pipe stem fragments were also recovered, the greatest single percentage of which originate in Area 3, specifically, TU 6 (n=8). This is also true with regard to bowls and bowl fragments as well. Area 1 produced only three small stem fragments. Shovel Test Pit 11, located midway between Area 1 and 3, produced one pipe stem fragment. And Area 2, along and all other shovel test pits to date, produced no pipe fragments of any kind, bowls or stems.

Clearly pipe fragments, both bowls and stems appear throughout the midden. But, it does appear, preliminarily, that a significantly greater number of fragments are present in Area 3. Additionally, analysis of stem fragments reveals that all fragments maintain either a 4/64<sup>th</sup> or 5/64<sup>th</sup> stem hole diameter (Table 3).

Whether trustworthy or not, commonly held theory/ies suggest pipe stem bore diameter is a relatively precise indicator of period of use/manufacture (see, for example, Harington 1954, Binford 1962, and Hume 1969). While the current sample is small (n=5) the 4/64<sup>th</sup> bore diameter pipe stem sample is consistent with the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> c. However, the 5/64<sup>th</sup> bore pipe stem sample (n=7) is not; 1710 - 1750. The chronological distance between these two samples calls into question the validity of their use in establishing the site's temporal attribution. Given the consistent apparent lack of disturbance to the site midden, it is difficult to accept that a younger temporal component is being identified. However, one must at least consider the *possibility* of a second, earlier temporal component/occupation (see Conclusions).

ME 243-007 Pipe Stem Bore Measurements					
Description	Unit	Depth( cmbs)	# of pcs	64 <sup>th</sup> s	Comments
Stem fragment	TU 1	0-20	1	5	midden
					midden
Stem fragment	TU 2	0-15	1	4	midden
					midden
Stem fragment	TU 3	15-25	1	4	midden
Stem fragment	STP 9 (TU 6)	0-45	1	5	midden
Stem fragment	STP 9 (TU 6)	0-45	1	5	midden
Stem fragment	STP 9 (TU 6)	0-45	1	5	midden
Stem fragment	STP 9 (TU 6)	0-45	1	4	midden
Stem fragment	TU 6	3-30	1	4	midden
Partial bowl/ stem	TU 6	30-130	1	4	midden; plain bowl, spur/heel
Stem fragment	TU 6	30-130	1	5	midden
Stem fragment	TU 6	3-20	1	5	midden
Partial bowl/ stem	STP 11	0-15	1	5	midden; plain bowl, no heel/spur
Total			12		
			5 @ 4/64 <sup>th</sup> s		
			7 @ 5/64 <sup>th</sup> s		

**Table 3: Pipe stem bore measurements**  
 (Red – Area 1, Green – Area 3 Blue – Area 1/3)

## Glass Bottles (GB)

While the author does not attempt to analyze all the bottles represented within the sample (n=6), several insights inform ME 243-007's temporal attribution. As a result they are included here. Firstly, of the six clearly identified glass bottles present in the current sample all but one emanate from Area 3, specifically, TU 6 (including STP 9). Only one bottle, GB 4, was recovered elsewhere, and that in STP 7, Area 1. Of the three excavation units opened in Area 1 (TU 1, 2, and 3) in June, 2015, no bottles are represented by identifiable elements. Area 1 is essentially devoid of bottles, yet Area three has bottles in relative quantity.

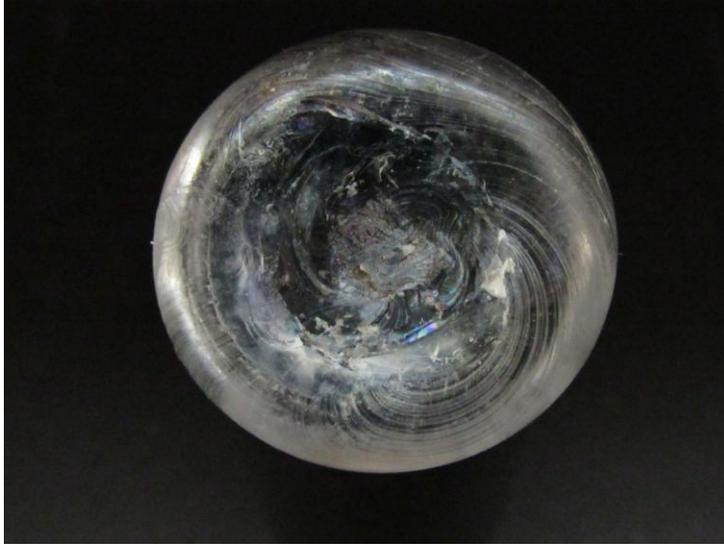
Six, distinctly different glass bottles (designated GB) are present in the current sample. Of these, two are cylindrical clear glass with maximum widths of 3.5cm (GB 1) (Figs 91 & 92) and 5.5cm (GB 2) (Fig 93) . Both were recovered from TU 6, and appear blown, with apparent solid and hollow pontil scars, respectively. One or both may be mold blown.



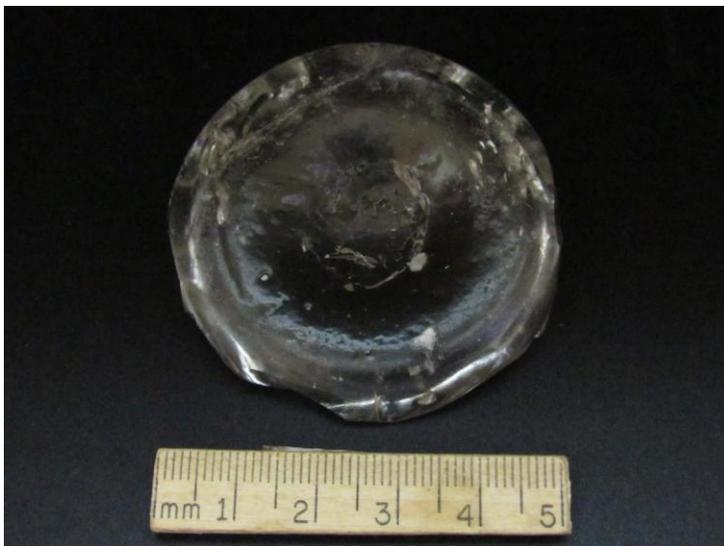
**Figure 91: GB 1 - cylindrical clear glass bottle**

A third bottle, GB 3, also recovered from TU 6, is represented by only a small lip/rim fragment (Figs. 94 & 95). It is light aqua in color, and maintains a narrow, flat lip perpendicular to the rim, and very narrow neck bore.

GB 4, recovered from STP 7, Area 1, is also a small lip/rim fragment (Figs. 96 & 97). However, it is significantly larger than GB 3, though in relative terms. It is light to medium green, and while not melted, does give the impression of having been exposed to some significant heat. It, too, has a flat lip perpendicular to the rim, and narrow bore. Both GB 3 and 4 were likely corked.



**Figure 92: GB 1 - cylindrical clear glass bottle, note solid pontil scar**



**Figure 93: GB 2 - cylindrical clear glass bottle**



**Figure 94: GB 3 - aqua glass bottle lip/rim**



**Figure 95: GB 3 - aqua glass bottle, lip profile**



**Figure 96: GB 4 – small green glass bottle**



**Figure 97: GB 4 - small green glass bottle, lip profile**

GB 5 is comprised of two, refitting basal fragments. Recovered in TU 6, it is dark green to amber and illustrates degradation of its surfaces; glass disease. After some study, GB 5 is interpreted to as a concave based case bottle, the two fragments representing its basal “corner”.



**Figure 98: GB 5 - green case bottle, basal corner**

The final bottle recovered is of great import to the overall interpretation of ME 243-007's temporal attribution. While GB 5, the case bottle, could be a later variety, GB 6 was initially interpreted to be an early example of a dark green, English wine bottle of some variety (Figs. 99 & 100). While the body of GB 6 is not present to establish form, the lip to lower neck is intact and highly suggestive of a much earlier period than Philip Ulmer's occupation of the site.

Analysis of GB 6 identifies it as having a flat, fire polished lip (Jones 1986), thicker than the bottle's neck wall. The bottle maintains a laid on (added) “string rim” (Jones 1986). Two aspects of the string rim stand out. First, the string rim is relatively thick and unfinished. It is neither flattened nor sloped in any way; no tooling is present on the string rim. Secondly, the string rim was applied a significant distance below the lip, upwards of a full centimeter. If of English origin, these attributes combine to suggest a pre-18<sup>th</sup> c. temporal attribution. Jones says the following:

“On mouth-blown examples of the dark green glass English “wine” bottles the string rim was always formed from added glass. The string rims on the earliest English “wine” bottles were thick and protuberant, generally flat on the top and bottom surface with a rounded edge and sloped downwards. They were located at a considerable distance from the cracked-off lip. **By 1700 the string**

rim was being applied only a few millimetres from the lip. It had become less protuberant and was almost exclusively V-shaped, a shape achieved by tooling both the upper and under surfaces of the glass addition... (boldface added by author). The V-shaped string rim remained in production into the 1770s and can be found occasionally on dark green glass liquor bottles whose finishes were formed by finishing tools or by machine. The difference in date can be distinguished easily by examining the lip form and manufacturing techniques used on the finish. In the late 1720s down-tooled string rims (Fig. 14) were introduced and were the predominant style between 1740 and 1770. For a short time, in the 1770s and 1780s, the down-tooled string rim appears to have been out of style as few examples occurred on dated bottles. It reappeared in the 1790s and remained in production until the 20th century. The flattened string rim (Fig. 16) became common in the 1760s. The earliest dated example seen has a seal dated 1738 but generally it was not a significant style until the 1760s. Several examples were recovered from the *Machault*, a ship that sank in 1760 (Sullivan 1979). The flattened string rim has also continued in production into the 20th century. **Some examples of string rims of indeterminate shape, generally a thin thread of glass, were observed dating from the mid- to the end of the 18th century** (boldface added by author). Up-tooling on the under surface of the string rim, a feature common throughout the 18th century, had disappeared by 1800. On up-tooled examples, the results could be V shaped, could be up-tooled on the under surface and down-tooled on the upper surface, and could have flat sides, a rounded top, or a horizontal top.”

What might be understood from the above is the following: tooling of string rims was, if not ubiquitous, certainly the norm for English wine bottles by the early 1700's. Further, string rims not only became less pronounced through time, but their presence on the bottle neck moved closer to the lip over time. By the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> c. string rims were positioned only a few millimeters from the lip. And finally, tooling of a bottle's string rim and lip became a standard practice throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> c. and into the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Indeed, tooling of string rims on English bottles appears so prevalently throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries that within Jones sample of 211 bottles, dating between 1735 and 1859, only three are identified as being a “thread of glass”, that is, presumably, un-tooled (Jones 1986:44, Table 5). Of the three untooled string rims in Jones' sample, two date to between 1750 and 1769, and one to 1810-1819.

Beyond the bottle's finish, its neck form is also suggestive of an early period. Three forms, tapered, cylindrical, and bulged (older to younger, respectively) are noted by Jones (1986:46). As best as can be discerned, GB 6 maintains a tapered neck form. While Jones notes all three neck forms are present and overlap within the 18<sup>th</sup> c., they do appear to “predominate” within relatively identifiable time frames (1986).



**Figure 99: GB 6 - dark green/amber wine bottle**



**Figure 100: GB 6 - dark green wine bottle  
(note un-tooled string rim and fire polished lip)**

For example, a tapered neck is more likely than not to reflect a pre-1770 time frame, a cylindrical neck is more prevalent in the 1770-1780 range, and a bulging neck is noted as more prevalent from the mid-1780's on (Jones 1986).

When compared to Jones' sample, GB 6, if English, can be defined in the following manner. GB 6 maintains:

- 1) a dark green to amber color, and likely represents a wine bottle;
- 2) an un-tooled string rim "low" on the neck;
- 3) a flat, un-tooled, likely sheared or cracked lip (generally replaced by other forms by 1760-1770), subsequently reheated, or "fire polished" to smooth its edges;
- 4) a tapered neck, dominant between 1750-1790;
- 5) and a neck wall thinner than the bottle's lip (an attribute noted between 1760 and 1800).

When considered as a whole, neck/lip thickness disparity notwithstanding, GB 6 appears to correspond to a period significantly earlier than ME 243-007's 1807-1816 occupation. When the neck/lip thickness disparity is introduced, however, GB 6 tends to suggest a later, 18<sup>th</sup> c. attribution. This attribute related "flipping back and forth" between time periods is problematic.

## Discussion

As Philip Ulmer was born in the 1750's, and did not arrive in Ducktrap until the mid 1780's, it is unlikely GB 6 belonged to either he or his wife first-hand as an early to mid 18<sup>th</sup> c. bottle. Therefore, if originating from the early 18<sup>th</sup> c., and belonging to Philip personally, GB 6 would have to be either a bottle perhaps taken from either Philip or Christiana's original family's home in Waldoboro, or a specimen genuinely relating to a second, earlier occupation at ME 243-007.

It is extraordinary to consider, and deemed unlikely by the author, that an English wine bottle dating to perhaps the early 18<sup>th</sup> c., let alone the 17<sup>th</sup> c., could possibly have survived intact in various Ulmer households until the occupation of ME 243-007 in 1807-1816. Though possibly an aberrant English form genuinely relating to the 19<sup>th</sup> c. Ulmer occupation, the author is inclined to consider alternate interpretations. While an earlier occupation is a reasonable alternative, GB 6 may actually relate to Ulmer's 19<sup>th</sup> c. occupation but reflect a bottle of non-English origin - *French!*

Hume (1969), although writing primarily on wine bottles of English origin, speaks directly to the parallel industry within France. "Most French bottles of the eighteenth century had poorly applied string rims, round in section, and pinched against the neck at only two or three points. This was in marked contrast to the carefully tooled string rims on most English examples." (1969:70-71). GB 6 fits this description very, very well (Figs 101 & 102). But how does an 18<sup>th</sup> c. French wine bottle end up in a 19<sup>th</sup> c. dump?

In setting aside the unlikely or less plausible (e.g., a 17<sup>th</sup>/ to early 18<sup>th</sup> c. English form or an aberrant 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> c. English form), and considering an 18<sup>th</sup> c. French attribution as more reasonable, one must also consider that unless GB 6 originated very late in the 18<sup>th</sup> c. and was kept carefully into the Ulmer period of occupation, GB 6 as a French wine bottle suggests an 18<sup>th</sup> c. temporal component or occupation at ME 243-007. And, if, in fact, French, GB 6 further suggests the possibility of an occupation early enough to predate English consolidation of power within the West Penobscot Bay (mid-coast Maine) region - construction of Fort Pownall.



**Figure 101: GB 6 - note irregular, round, poorly applied string rim**



**Figure 102: GB 6 - note two "pinch points" attaching the string rim to the bottle's neck**

Construction of Fort Pownall was accomplished in 1759, and several English survey marches crossed through Lincolnville, Ducktrap, and Belfast during that period (1759, 1760, and 1764). If GB 6 is French it suggests a temporal component with access to French goods in the Penobscot Bay area, a period prior to 1759.

While a second temporal component, especially one dating to the early to mid 18<sup>th</sup> c., is enticing, another alternative is put forward: a French wine bottle relating to the Ulmer occupation of 1807-1816, but as a result of his Revolutionary War relationships.

Hubert is clear in her writings (2014) that Ulmer was closely connected through his military service to a number of high ranking Colonial Army officers, officers who would eventually become influential in post-revolutionary United States. Of particular relevance to this discussion is his service at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

While a young lieutenant in the colonial army, Philip Ulmer served in the Canadian, New York, and New Jersey campaigns (Hubert 2014). In the course of his service he interacted with both General Lafayette (Fig. 103) in Valley Forge, and General Dekalb (a German speaker only) (Fig. 104), and developed a “personal friendship” with the former (Hubert 2014:599). Hubert notes that,

“after the Revolutionary War, General Lafayette returned to America for four months, at the invitation of General Washington in 1784, to clear up his military status and secure a settlement for American land grants for his military service. General Lafayette also wanted to thank some of officers and soldiers in New England for their personal support and service that was given to him during the Revolutionary War. Lafayette made a four-day visit to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and the District of Maine accompanied by General Knox... The bond of friendship between General Lafayette and the American Patriots was strong enough that during Lafayette’s visit to America in 1784, General Lafayette, General Lincoln and General Knox, who served as his host during the visit, paid a social call to the Ulmers at Waldoboro... (2014:599)

Philip Ulmer moved to Ducktrap from Waldoboro “in the fall of 1784” (Hubert 2014:594) just prior to, or coincident with Lafayette’s visit to Waldoboro. It is reasonable to imagine that as a result of their personal friendship, during his visit to Waldoboro General Lafayette may have presented Philip with a token of his esteem, perhaps a bottle of French wine. As a valued piece, then, it is reasonable to imagine this bottle as cherished and cared for in such a way as to preserve it for many years into the future. Thus, the author suggests that GB 6, a late 18<sup>th</sup>c. French wine bottle, is present in the Ulmers’ 1807-1816 kitchen midden, 20-30 years after its being given to him as a gift by General Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette (Fig. 103).



**Figure 103: Washington and Lafayette, at Mount Vernon, 1784**  
(by: Rossiter and Mignot, 1859)



**Figure 104: General Johann de Kalb**  
(unknown artist)

## Conclusion

As of this writing, archaeological testing of ME 243-007 includes 12, 50cm x 50cm shovel test pits and 5 1m x 1m test units, for a total of 8<sup>2</sup>m. Testing has revealed two middens associated with cellar representing occupation of the Ulmer house. The first midden, beginning immediately “behind” the house (to the south), is a kitchen midden which includes ceramics, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, calcined and uncalcined faunal remains, ceramics, and clay pipes. The second midden appears limited to a relatively thin layer of severely burned and finely fragmented ceramics, principally buff earthen wares, though some red earthenware is present.

The ceramic sample recovered to date from ME 243-007 appears contemporary with the time Philip and Christiana Ulmer would have resided in the house. Indeed, prior to the house’s construction, the late 1790’s and very early 1800’s, the Ulmers appear to have remained contemporary, though selective, relative to ceramics, in spite of difficult financial straights (i.e., keeping up with the Jones’s). As a noted military commander, prominent community member, and longstanding entrepreneur in the region, there may well have been an emotional tension between the persona and the reality, this tension expressing itself in the acquisition and/or display of contemporaneous ceramics.

While the presence of Rococo blue shell-edged ware may well reflect earlier purchases, perhaps the 1780’s or 90’s when it was current (Table 4) (Maryland 2002) (Stelle 2001), the continuance of blue shell-edged flatware beyond its initial expression as Rococo, affirms the Ulmers’ continued acquisition of contemporary styles (and, as an aside, the availability of current ceramics in the region). The Ulmers appear to have purchased ceramics slightly after 1800 and perhaps later still, depending upon local availability.

So, very late 18<sup>th</sup>/ very early 19<sup>th</sup> century ceramics are present (i.e., creamware, and early to mid-production blue shell-edged pearlware). However, of greatest import to this effort is not whether the Ulmer’s attempted to stay current with the fashion of the day, as it appears they did, but rather, does the current ceramic sample from ME 243-007 overall suggest a terminal date for occupation consistent with Philip Ulmer’s death in 1816, the presumed termination of the Ulmers’ occupation of the site.

Philip Ulmer died October 3, 1816, thereby ending any ability of his own to introduce new ceramics to the site. On December 25, 1816, Christiana applied for and was denied a continuance of Philip’s military pension. With multiple children in the household, and presumably no financial resources of her own, it is possible Christiana left the property. If so, Christiana also would no longer have contributed additional

ceramics to the site. So, the Ulmers' contribution to the ceramic sample would likely have ended in 1817 if both left the site.

Types	Maximum Popularity	Median	Production Range
Rococo	1788-1812	1800	1780-1820
Scalloped rim, impressed curved lines	1802-1832	1817	1795-1845
Scalloped rim, impressed straight lines	1809-1831	1820	1795-1840
Scalloped rim, impressed bud	1813-1834	1823	1800-1850
Embossed (raised) patterns	1823-1835	1829	1820-1845
Unscalped, impressed rim	1841-1857	1849	1825-1891
Unscalped, unmolded	1874-1884	1879	1850-1897

**Table 4: Shell edge ceramics chronology**  
(Stelle 2001 [after Miller 1987] )

As testing of ME 243-007 is neither complete nor comprehensive, it is possible post-Ulmer occupations wait to be discovered via middens or another forms of archaeological evidence. However, in lieu of such evidence the site appears bounded temporally, relative to ceramics. Yet, a question remains.

Assuming Ulmer's house was sound and habitable, occupation certainly could have continued after the family left the site. However, to date, there appears to be no ceramics of any kind post dating a presumed Ulmer family departure. The conspicuous absence of later ceramics, and especially transfer printed ceramics, for example, suggests the Ulmer house remained unoccupied after approximately 1817.

Available by approximately 1820 (Table 5) (Stelle 2001), and tremendously popular, transfer printed ceramics of different forms, styles, and colors are not only broadly adopted by the general populace, but nearly ubiquitous in Maine archaeological sites dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> c. Yet none are present, not even one sherd, thus far; no transfer print, no hard white, no yellowware, no later annularware, no ceramics post-dating the introduction of mid-forms of blue shell edged ceramics are present. This is inconsistent with both the author's expectations and 20-30 years experience.

According to the written record, the Ulmer property changes hands legally in 1816 when the mortgager, Ezekiel G. Dodge, takes ownership. After receiving the

property through mortgage default in 1816/17, Dodge himself dies, intestate. As a result, Dodge’s estate finds itself in significant entanglement with probate court for near to a decade, after which the property passes on to Dodges son. Thus, by at least 1826<sup>±</sup> the property, presumably including house, land, and any out buildings that may have been present, is clear of probate complications, free of encumbrance, and able to be sold and, presumably, occupied. Why, then, would a perfectly good home of some substance, on 100+ acres, along a “developed” road, in a town soon to be booming for at least the next 50-100 years, go unoccupied, seemingly forever, after its initial owner’s death and (presumed) family’s departure?

Type	Maximum Popularity	Production Range	Median
Dark Blue	1820-1830	1820-1860	1845
Light Blue	1827-1828	1826-1831	1829
Blue and Painted	---	1840-1860	1850
Red	1829-1839	1829-1850	1840
Brown	1829-1839	1829-1850	1840
Green	1829-1839	1829-1850	1840
Black	---	1830-1850	1840
Purple	1829-1839	1829-1860	1845
Purple and Painted	---	1840-1860	1850
Gray and Painted	---	1840-1860	1850
Red and Green	1832-1838	---	1835
Scenic Flow (Blue or Black)	1840-1849	1840-1860	1850
Flowery Flow	1870-1879	---	1875

**Table 5: Transfer printed ceramics chronology**

(Stelle 2001 [adopted from Miller 1987, Esary 1982, Sonderman 1979, and McCorvie 1987] )

In order to understand such a seemingly unexplainable circumstance, the author delves into the realm of speculation. While generally loathe to speculate the author attempts to integrate the archaeological and historic evidence such that plausible hypotheses might be put forward. Two are submitted for consideration.

At first glance, the archaeology of ME 243-007 does not appear to suggest anything unusual or out of the ordinary occurred during the Ulmers’ occupancy. And, while there is a limited written record illustrating how the Ulmers lived on the property and interacted with the broader community, it might be fair to say that at this point there

are no notable, negative issues present, at least any worthy having been historically written about. That said, one archaeological circumstance stands out, a midden of little more than burnt ceramics, overlying construction related debris, the later presumably relating to the house's initial construction.

To date, the archaeological record, to the limit by which it has been tested, indicates a steady, unwavering inclination to take all household trash, kitchen and table scraps, refuse, and any other discardable items to a specific area "behind" the house. And while the kitchen midden was later revealed to extend into and include Area 3, the midden none-the-less maintains a south-southwest orientation from the house. Not only is there consistency in this human pattern of behavior, but the amount of midden deposit is significant in both scope and scale. The occupants did the same thing all the time, did so with frequency, and eventually developed a midden 20-30cm thick covering at least 100<sup>2</sup>m – minimally 30<sup>3</sup>m of trash in nine years.

Thus, a question which poses itself is this – If a behavior such as that described above is so well developed why do the (presumably) same individuals diverge from that behavior such that a second midden is developed? Not only that, but why a midden limited to virtually nothing but extremely burned and fragmented ceramics?

It is submitted (**Hypothesis 1**) that a lack of subsequent occupations, and the second, burned ceramics midden, may be related. The author begins by first framing this hypothesis in the context of the broader site-wide environment of the site as a whole, and considers the number of unburned fragments recovered from testing to date.

Shovel Test Pits 1, 2, and 3, just exterior to the cellar entrance, within the cellar, and exterior to the cellar but within the foundation limits, respectively, possess no burned ceramics. Shovel Test Pits 4 and 5, located on opposite sides of, and just exterior to the cellar's southwest corner possess no burnt ceramics. Neither STP 8, located west of Area 2 by several meters, nor STP's 9 and 12, located in Area 3, possess burnt ceramics. Additionally, TU 6, also in Area 3, possesses no burnt ceramics.

Shovel Test Pits 7, 10, and 11, and TU 1, 2, and 3 all contain a minor sample of burnt ceramics. Combined, STP's 7 and 10 possess only two sherds of burnt ceramics, and, STP 11 possesses only seven. Test Unit's 1, 2, and 3 possess only six pieces of burnt ceramics combined. This totals only fifteen sherds/fragments of burnt ceramics recovered from 3.75<sup>2</sup>m. Thus, as a general rule, it is suggested that the occupants did not burn ceramics intentionally or inadvertently.

In contrast to the above, STP 6, a 50cm x 50cm shovel test pit located in Area 2, possesses upwards of 170 sherds/fragments of burnt ceramics. And TU 5, a 1m x 1m test unit located .5m immediately north of, and adjacent to STP 6, possesses upwards

of 350 burnt ceramic sherds or fragments. While a single sherd of unburned, black or very dark brown glazed red earthenware is present in Stratum 1 (0-15cmbs) in both STP 6 and TU 5, all other black glazed red earthenware (5 sherds/ fragments) is unburned and emanates from below the burnt ceramic deposit (Stratum 2, TU 5; 15-20cmbs), including PBG 4, a lip/rim sherd. And all Stratum 2 black glazed red earthenware is associated with earlier construction related debris. Of the burnt red earthenware sample in Area 2, nineteen sherds/fragments were recovered from Stratum 1, TU5 (including CLG 1), and five from STP 6.

Over 500 sherds or fragments of burnt ceramic were recovered from 1.25<sup>2</sup>m excavated within Area 2, and all emanate from within only 15cm of surface. While a small number of unburned ceramic sherds do appear in TU 5, Stratum 1, no burned ceramics appear in Stratum 2, TU 5; all burnt ceramics in STP 6 and TU 5 emanate from 0-15cmbs. Of all burned ceramics, only .5% are red earthenware, by count.

Stratigraphic analysis of Area 2's ceramic sample places TU 5's entire burnt ceramic sample above large brick and rock fragments within Stratum 2 (15-30cmbs). Stratum 2 is interpreted as relating to house construction. Thus, Stratum 1 likely relates to the home's post-construction occupation. In light of a complete lack of charcoal or other indications of fire within Stratum 1, it is concluded that the entire accumulation of burnt ceramics in Area 2 reflects a secondary deposit; incineration took place elsewhere.

When considered as a whole, the evidence above identifies, 1) a dramatic departure from the well established pattern of dumping within Area's 1 and 3, and 2) a radical shift in what is being dumped. It is the author's perspective that an explanation for such dramatic deviation from habit is likely to be equally dramatic. It is hypothesized that Philip Ulmer's death may be a direct contributor to this behavioral deviation.

Details of Philip Ulmer's death are described only in general terms. However, while the specific modern diagnosis is not available it is clear that his death was likely directly related to a long standing, 30 year battle with some form of bodily infection, the result, initially, of a Revolutionary War related wound. Hubert (2014) notes: "Philip appears to have died from complications from a growing infection in his leg from a war injury."

In her petition to the government to continue her deceased husband's military pension, Christiana Ulmer not only identifies her husband's wound as derived from active service during the Revolutionary War, and the source of continued hardship throughout his life, but also identifies his thigh as the location of the wound.

"The memorial of the undersigned, widow of Philip Ulmer recently deceased, respectfully represents that her said late husband devoted his early manhood to the service of his country in the revolutionary war & had the misfortune to

be wounded in the thigh by the enemy's shot at the siege of Majabigueduce on the mouth of the Penobscot River, the painful & debilitating effects of which accompanied him through life increased with his increasing years." (Hubert 2014)

Although Philip himself makes no mention of it in his initial petition to the government in 1814, Hubert further identifies that his initial injury, derived from "grape shot" in the thigh (Hubert 2014: 374), was exacerbated in local conflict with the British along the Northport/Lincolnville/Camden road during the War of 1812, (Hubert 2014:574). So, the apparent issue, an initial wound in the thigh from grape shot, was compounded by an additional injury (or re-injury) in 1812 ±.

Also, at no time is Philip's injury identified as including penetration of the thigh by grape shot or other foreign object. It appears Philip sustained a severe surficial impact from grape-shot in the 1770's which may have resulted in a fractured but not broken femur and/or a subcutaneous injury (e.g., ruptured or torn vessel). The reinjuring of that break/rupture may have led to some "poisoning" of the body (e.g., internal bleeding) which could explain an ongoing struggle with "continued pain and a permanent limp over the years" and "other health issues" (Hubert 2014:574).

Assuming his death at home, the author suggests that in response to Philip's care near death, which likely included washing and cleaning up after his perhaps uncontrolled bodily functions, tending to fever, and a number of other related needs, ceramic vessels associated with his being washed or eating and drinking may well have been isolated from other household wares. These items, now perhaps contaminated, or perceived as such, were destroyed after his demise. Destruction of those wares associated with direct contact during his last days before death (i.e., eating, drinking, defecation, draining of infection, etc...) may have been accomplished through incineration prior to being dumped outside - a direct socio-cultural response to an understanding of "inoculation" or sterilization of the household.

The general historic record from the period is clear - disease had a powerful influence on the colonial population, both in terms of how it impacted the population directly in its numbers and how they responded to it. The presence and chronology of epidemics throughout early North American colonization is readily available to the reader.

"Infectious disease has always been a presence in Anglo-American North America, from the dysentery and fevers in 17th-century settlements to the smallpox and diphtheria of the early 18th century, the yellow fever and cholera of the late 18th and 19th centuries, and the polio and influenza of the 20th century. (Rosenberg 2006)"

“Scarlet fever epidemics occurred in New England between 1735-1740 in which hundreds died, primarily children. In 1764 a Scarlet fever epidemic hit Boston and in 1787 in Maine. (no author 2002)

There is also written evidence that while nothing was generally known of contagions themselves, some intuitive insight into the mechanism of contraction may have been present, and so, contraction was perceived as preventable to a certain extent. Some written insights suggest that one manner of responding to disease was fire. In a diary written by Rev. Ebenezer Parkman during the early to mid-colonial period of Westborough, Massachusetts, we see such a response to potential contagion.

“The fact that Westborough escaped the smallpox during the period is probably due to the great care taken to avoid infection; Parkman burned letters received from Boston during the epidemics. (Lakewood 1978:114).

Halverson (1995) notes:

“By the late 1700s, there was also a major and effective change towards quarantining infected [native] individuals. Earlier, natives viewed quarantine as abandoning family and often crowded around the sick to attend to them, spreading the disease further. Some argue, however, that smallpox did not spread so easily and had to be acquired through intimate contact. Infected individuals were quarantined and homes were either burned or cleaned.”

So, burning, as a technique to avoid continued contraction of disease, is present in both colonial European and Native American mindsets during the 18<sup>th</sup>c. And while it is clear that Philip Ulmer did not die from a contagion, his death by bodily infection almost certainly included considerable off-putting, if not downright repulsive issues, issues perhaps perceived as potentially “contagious”. Ceramics associated with those issues might well have been burned to extreme as a socio-cultural response.

Relative to the second question, why did reoccupation of ME 243-007 appear not to have ever occurred, it is possible that reoccupation of the Ulmer house did not occur as a result of a socio-cultural aversion to occupation of a structure in which an individual perished from an infectious reality such as gangrenous bodily degradation and all that goes with that.

However, alternatively (**Hypothesis 2**), while the above might explain how a burnt ceramics midden might come to be developed is still considered reasonable, the Ulmer house’s apparent lack of re-occupation may not be the result of cultural mechanism, but rather, the result of “invisibility” within both the written and the archaeological records.

Soon after Philip died, Christiana asks for and is denied an extension of Philip's military pension. Being destitute, and the house having a mortgage to Ezekiel Dodge, one might naturally assume Christiana left the house and moved in with family elsewhere, be it her own family of origin in Waldoboro, or the household of her grown child in Thomaston. However, Hubert's writing, without intending to do so, infers Christiana may never have left Lincolntonville at all, or her home along the Whitney Road.

Hubert states that as a result of his death, Philip's "family was left almost penniless with no means of financial support except from the United States government's military pension" (2014:607). As a result of denial of continuance of Philip's military pension by the Committee of Pension and Revolutionary Claims, on January 29, 1817, and in the depths of winter, Christiana was left with no income of any kind to support herself and young children still at home. However, while speculative, Hubert suggests that Christiana may well have received assistance locally.

"Perhaps the town provided some support for the destitute widows, children, and other residents in need. This was likely one of the infrastructure arrangements that was made while Philip was an active leader in town. It is thought that George Ulmer and Philip's married children might have helped with care of [Christiana] and the youngest children still at home. It is probable that Philip's Masonic brothers assisted in the needs of Philip Ulmer's family after his death. This would have been one of the charges and responsibilities of the Masonic brotherhood." (2014:612, 613).

Additionally, probate records for Hancock County, Maine, appear to support the notion that Christiana did receive at least some financial help after Philip died. In May, 1818, she petitioned the Hancock County court, and was granted \$96.22 in "widow's allowance" (no author-b, 1818), or the equivalent in 2015 dollars of over \$1800 (approximately three months wages for early 19<sup>th</sup> c. non-farm labor).

Hubert states that Christiana died on December 3, 1829, (2014) almost 13 years after Philip, and was buried in the local cemetery in Ducktrap along side her husband. Unless transported to Ducktrap for burial, this statement further suggests Christiana never left Lincolntonville, and perhaps her home on the Whitney Road.

Thus, as it relates to the archaeological record, while no ceramics relating to a period post 1815 appear present, their absence in no way conclusively identifies a lack of continued occupation, only a lack of continued introduction to the site of younger ceramics. As a penniless widow, it is unlikely that Christiana, though she may have continued in the house for a decade or more after her husband's death, would have purchased any ceramics given her financial straits. Thus, it may well be that Christiana remained in the Ulmer house until her death, but left no significant archaeological evidence of her continued presence there. Greater exploration and

analysis of the site, and especially the kitchen midden, may hold the key to establishing if this is indeed the case.

An additional revelation which must be discussed here, if for no other reason than to identify the potential ramifications, is the presence of an apparent, additional cellar/foundation, and the possibility of an earlier temporal component reflected within its archaeological record. Located within Area 3, a significant depression, illustrating at least two perpendicular earthen berms, clearly identifies a cellar or foundation of some form. As noted above, this second cellar/foundation was not identified until late in the day in June, 2015's testing (Area 3).

Testing of the Area 3 cellar/foundation is limited to a single 50cm x 50cm STP (STP 9) and a single test unit (TU 6), and does not permit temporal assignment; no recovered cultural materials serve to date this construction. All ceramics recovered in Area 3 to date appear to relate to, or derive from an overlying kitchen midden (Stratum 1, Stratum 2, and Stratum 3-intrusive) interpreted as developed during the Ulmer's occupation, c. 1807-1816. However, testing to date suggests the Area 3 cellar/foundation may reflect an earlier occupation.

The Area 3 portion of the overall kitchen midden appears to cover most, if not all of the underlying cellar/ foundation, illustrating its stratigraphically superior position, relative to the smaller cellar/foundation. Thus, the smaller cellar/foundation must pre-date the kitchen midden. Additionally, GB 6, a possible dark green English wine bottle recovered from within the Area 3 cellar/foundation (TU 6) appears to date to the early to mid 18<sup>th</sup>c, too early for the Ulmer's to have been present at ME 243-007. And, the presence of a significant number of clay pipe stem fragments tentatively assigned to possible the mid-18<sup>th</sup> c. are also present in TU 6.

While testing and stratigraphic orientation of events does not assign either a date of origin or use to the cellar/foundation, they most certainly infer the absence of a structure overlying the cellar/foundation at the time deposition of the overlying midden. Thus it is reasonable to say that the cellar/foundation was an open depression at some point during the Ulmer's occupation of the site between 1807 and 1816. Further, whether the Ulmers themselves removed an overlying structure, or utilized a pre-existing cellar/foundation depression as a dumping ground, it is reasonable to suggest the Area 3 cellar/foundation predates the Ulmers' 19<sup>th</sup> century occupation of the main house by some period of time. The presence of both a possible French wine bottle and 18<sup>th</sup>c. pipe stems only serves to reinforce this perception.

It is therefore submitted that the Area 3 cellar/foundation may reflect one of two scenarios:

- 1) the Area 3 cellar/foundation dates to the late 18<sup>th</sup>/very early 19<sup>th</sup> century, and represents an effort/occupation by Ulmer himself prior to construction and occupation of his principal residence (identified by the extant, Area 2 stone cellar);
- 2) or, the Area 3 cellar/foundation may date to the mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> century, and reflects the efforts of, if not the actual occupation by an as yet unidentified, earlier colonial resident in Ducktrap.

While the chronology of clay pipes at ME 243-007 might suggest an earlier temporal component, no other definitive temporal indicators are present to support that perception. And, while potentially supportive of an earlier temporal component, the presence of an 18<sup>th</sup>c. French wine bottle is explained, and not in conflict with a single temporal component. That said, a second temporal component is still considered reasonable. The law of super-positioning identified the Area 3 cellar/foundation as clearly pre-dating the development of the Ulmer kitchen midden, which overlies it, and dates to 1807-1816.

Further testing and analysis may help to “untangle” the complexity of these and other circumstances at ME 243-007. Regardless, ME 243-007 is identified as the site of the last home of a figure noteworthy for his role in shaping not only Lincolnville’s and coastal Maine’s history, but that of the nation itself. ME 243-007’s worth cannot be understated; it stands out as a rare and precious, unplowed, and otherwise undisturbed example of mid-coast Maine’s earliest 19<sup>th</sup> century, and possibly 18<sup>th</sup>c., history and archaeological record. ME 243-007 identifies itself as worthy of serious consideration with regard to its preservation and continued study.

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