AN EXPLORATION OF THE AGE OF MOUND CONSTRUCTION AT MAZIQUE (22AD502), A LATE PREHISTORIC MOUND CENTER IN ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

by

DANIEL ANDERSON LADU

A THESIS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Master of Arts
in the Department of Anthropology
in the Graduate School of
The University of Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

2009

Submitted by Daniel Anderson LaDu in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts specializing in Anthropology.

Accepted on behalf of the Faculty of the Graduate School by the thesis committee:

_____
C. Hobson Bryan, Ph.D.

_____
Jason DeCaro, Ph.D.

_____
Vernon James Knight, Ph.D.

_____
Kathryn S. Oths, Ph.D.

_____
Ian W. Brown, Ph.D.
Chairperson

_____
Michael D. Murphy, Ph.D.
Department Chairperson

_____
Date

_____
David A. Francko, Ph.D
Dean of the Graduate School

_____
Date

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to a great many folks for their support in making this thesis possible. First, I would like to thank my advisor and mentor Dr. Ian W. Brown for his patience, wisdom, and guidance. I would also like to thank my committee members, Dr. C. Hobson Bryan, Dr. Jason DeCaro, Dr. Vernon James Knight, and Dr. Kathryn S. Oths, who provided honest and constructive feedback on earlier drafts of this work that greatly improved the final outcome. Furthermore, I am grateful for the support of my fellow graduate students and friends, Jeremy Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Lauren Downs, Paul Eubanks, Cameron Lacquement, Jayur Mehta, Meg Sorber and Leah Williams, as well as the entire UA Anthropology Club for the donation of their time and expertise.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the entire city of Natchez, Mississippi but specifically to Jim Barnett, James and Nancy Biglane, Jessica Crawford, Vidal Davis, Ron and Mimi Miller, and Guy and Lou-Ellen Stout. Additionally, I owe a very special thank you to Smokye Joe Frank, Lee and Sherry Jones, and Robert and Kathy Prospere, whose support and friendship means so much. I would also like to thank Dr. Vincas Steponaitis who first introduced me to the Lower Mississippi Valley. I am grateful to my parents, Bill and Becky LaDu, whose constant encouragement and support made this goal possible. Finally, I would like to thank my best friend, my love, Sarah Phillips Davis.

CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

ABSTRACT

The Mazique site (22Ad502), in Adams County, Mississippi, is believed to have been occupied during both the Coles Creek (A.D. 700-1000) and Mississippi periods (A.D. 1000-1680). However, Ian W. Brown (2007) has suggested that mound building at Mazique was primarily a result of Plaquemine activity. This thesis presents new evidence suggesting that mound construction at Mazique occurred primarily during the Coles Creek period and that the Plaquemine presence here during the Mississippi period has been overestimated. The larger implications of these conclusions are that the construction, arrangement, and use of flat top mounds and plaza complexes was an indigenous development of the Coles Creek period in the Natchez bluffs region as it was in the greater Lower Mississippi Valley, and that the characterization of the Plaquemine culture as a hybridization of Coles Creek and Mississippian cultures should not be discarded as a theory of cultural interaction in the region.

CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

This thesis focuses on the prehistoric occupation at the Mazique site (22Ad502). Mazique is located on the west bank of Second Creek, a tributary of the Homochitto River, south of Natchez Mississippi in Adams County (Figure 1.1). Specifically, this project reexamines Ian W. Brown's (2007:156) interpretation that mound construction at Mazique may have occurred exclusively during the Mississippi period (A.D. 1000-1680) rather than during the earlier Coles Creek period (A.D. 700-1000). New evidence from a private collection, surface collections, a stratigraphic cut made into Mound A at Mazique, and a sample of the basal midden below Mound A was used to test Brown's interpretation. I hypothesize that mound construction at Mazique occurred primarily during the Coles Creek period instead of during the Mississippi period. Support of this hypothesis would be significant because it would further indicate that the impetus for the construction, arrangement, and use of flat top mounds and plaza complexes was an indigenous development of the Coles Creek period in the Natchez Bluffs region, rather than a feature that was introduced to the region during the Mississippi period by external agencies. If it were established that earthen construction at Mazique was primarily a result of Coles Creek people, then the relationship between Coles Creek and Plaquemine cultures in the Natchez Bluffs and at Mazique could be drawn into sharper focus. This

Figure 1.1. A map of Adams County showing the location of Mazique.

project also provides a brief examination of the impact of various historical events at Mazique, focusing on how the past has shaped Mazique's present landscape.

This work contains a total of seven chapters including this introduction. Chapter 2 reviews relevant Coles Creek literature and then considers the theoretical underpinnings of ceramic taxonomy in terms of which is most appropriate to evaluate my hypothesis. Chapter 3 surveys Mazique's past through historical documents, Adams County Courthouse records, and previous archaeological investigations made at the site. Chapter 4 offers a discussion of the field and laboratory methods used in the course of this research. Chapter 5 contains a detailed record of the artifacts recovered over the course of this research including sample sizes, illustrations, proveniences, descriptions, distributions, and chronological positions. Chapter 6 reports on the results of the analysis regarding the Stout Collection, surface collections, the stratigraphic cut of Mound A, and the dates of the primary contexts in Mound A. Finally, Chapter 7 evaluates the hypothesis that Coles Creek was primarily responsible for mound-building at Mazique.

CHAPTER 2
COLES CREEK LITERATURE REVIEW AND TAXONOMIC THEORY

This chapter examines the Coles Creek period in terms of where it fits into the larger temporal and cultural scope of the Southeast. Specifically, it considers the Coles Creek position in relation to the Woodland and Mississippi periods and cultures and reviews the history of Coles Creek archaeology in terms of contributors, major concepts, and important sites. Included is consideration of Brown's (2007:156) interpretation and the implications conveyed by his position on our understanding of Coles Creek in the Natchez Bluffs region. Then, the theoretical underpinnings of ceramic typologies are considered in terms of which one is best suited to addressing the research questions that I am posing for the Mazique site.

The Gray Area between the Woodland and Mississippi Periods

The Coles Creek period (A.D. 700-1000) is an indigenous development of the Lower Mississippi Valley (Kidder 1992a: 147,155-156; 1998:125; Williams and Brain 1983:369,405) that spans the gap between the terminal Woodland period and the early Mississippi period. Cultural trends attributed to the Coles Creek period include common use of flat-topped platform mounds arranged in plaza groups, the development of increasingly more complex political institutions, a subsistence strategy that focused on locally available wild plants and animal foods rather than on maize, and the widespread

use of the bow and arrow (Blitz 1988:131; Kidder 1992a:147; 1992b:15; 2002:86; Steponaitis 1986:385; Williams and Brain 1983:408). Additionally, exotic artifacts and grave goods of any kind are rare in Coles Creek contexts and mortuary data are sparse and varied for the period (Barker 1999:207; Kidder 1998:130; 2002:82,86,89; 2004:554). Together these trends denote perhaps the most vital characteristic of the Coles Creek period, that the cultural traits described above were expressed homogenously over a considerably large area, from the Gulf Coast to the Yazoo Basin, for well over 400 years (Williams and Brain 1983:369,408; Steponaitis 1986:385).

The concept of periods, dealing with time, and cultures are often confounded. One of the principal reasons for this confusion is that many periods and cultures share, or have shared, the same name. An example of this is the term Mississippian that has been applied to both a time frame and a specific set of cultural traits. In 1970, Philip Phillips drew a distinction between the Mississippi period and the Mississippian culture to help alleviate this confusion. Phillips (1970:19) remarked:

> In other words, late Mississippi *period* and late Mississippian *culture* are not synonymous, and not necessarily even synchronous, terms[.] This kind of semantic difficulty is inevitable when one tries to confine the dynamism of history within a static chronological scheme.

However, before 1970 the term Mississippian referred to both a time period and set of specific cultural traits.

To appreciate the significance of Coles Creek's unique position between the terminal Woodland and the early Mississippi period, the origins of the terms Woodland

and Mississippian must be considered. In 1935, the Indianapolis Archaeological Conference was held in Indiana. One of the principal areas of concern discussed there was the utility of recognizing both Woodland and Mississippian patterns or cultures. At the time the McKern system was the preeminent taxonomic method in the eastern United States, as neither stratigraphic excavation nor radiocarbon dating had been implemented in the East to allow for control of time. The McKern system employed five levels of classification (component, focus, aspect, phase, and pattern) with the express intention of ordering archaeological data and allowing site to site and region to region comparison (IAC 2001; Trigger 2006:283-285). Therefore, the terms Woodland and Mississippian were applied to describe the presence of a select few cultural traits instead of a recognizable chronology. The general sentiment was that the fundamental Mississippian features were specific pottery characteristics, most notably shell tempering, and maize agriculture. The Woodland pattern was still an ethereal concept that seems to have taken its name from the romantic idea that cultures contained therein inhabited strictly the timbered areas along streams or lake margins, organized their subsistence strategies around plants and animals of the forest, and relied on wood and other perishable materials for utilitarian implements (IAC 2001:343-344). In fact, the earliest trait mentioned repeatedly that seems to have fixed itself as a Woodland attribute was reliance on a hunting-gathering subsistence strategy. The result of the presentations and discussion at the Indianapolis Conference was the general consensus that both Woodland and Mississippian designations were useful conceptual categories (IAC 2001:403-413).

Since this time, the Woodland and Mississippian categories have persisted within North American archaeological nomenclature but have accrued a more diverse suite of

traits. Woodland characteristics now include the presence of pottery, conical burial mounds, hunting-gathering subsistence strategies, as well as a diverse suite of regionally specific traits (Anderson and Mainfort 2002:1,4). The cultural traits of the Mississippian pattern still include shell-tempered ceramics and intensive maize agriculture but also often refer to the presence of fortified settlements, rectangular wall-trenched houses, temple-plaza community patterns, and social stratification (Steponaitis 1986:387-388; Stoltman 1978:726). In addition, the Woodland and Mississippian categories have been assigned to a broad temporal framework in North America. That is, the terms Woodland and Mississippi are used to describe a temporal boundary that roughly corresponds to the broad shift between Woodland and Mississippian cultural traits. Accordingly, the terms Woodland and Mississippi are intended to communicate a heavier burden, both culturally and temporally, than originally intended. Confusion of these temporal and cultural connotations has caused problems such as the conditioning of our interpretation of the Woodland based on what we know of Mississippian adaptations (Kidder 2002:66). In addition, the culture historical nomenclature of the Lower Mississippi Valley is also well known but vulnerable to the same confusion (Kidder 2004:545). The danger such systems pose to the Coles Creek is that by relegating it to either the Woodland or the Mississippi period and culture the truly unique innovations, traditions, and peoples of this time period are obscured or ignored.

In 1978 James Stoltman proposed a possible solution to this dilemma by offering a temporal model to accompany the cultural one inspired by the McKern system for eastern North America. The purpose of Stoltman's (1978:728-729) temporal model was to reduce the communicative burden of the classic terms Archaic, Woodland, and

Mississippi to simply their cultural connotations and to introduce the terms *Developmental*, *Intermediate*, and *Florescent periods* to describe the Southeastern temporal model. Unfortunately, while Stoltman's model elegantly resolves confusion between temporal and cultural issues, its adoption has been slow due to the entrenched nature of the classic terms. Revisiting Stoltman's (1978) concept has the potential to increase the clarity and logic of the Southeast's culture-history and is one way to ensure that periods and cultures such as the Coles Creek do not continue to fall between the cracks of arbitrary classificatory systems.

Review of Coles Creek Period Archaeology

Reference to the Coles Creek period first appeared in a publication by Henry B. Collins (1932:16,19; Ford 1936:172). However, it wasn't until James A. Ford's publication (1936) that the relative chronology of period 2, the Coles Creek period, was teased from the material culture, and differentiated from period 1 (the Marksville period) and period 3 (the Natchez period) (Ford 1936; Ford 1951:13).

The Coles Creek period was originally defined by the presence of a combination of ceramic decoration on grog-tempered ware. In fact, Ford (1936:172) noted that the Coles Creek pottery complex first came to his attention at the Mazique site, or, as Ford referred to it, the Mazique Plantation. From the ceramic collections generated at both the Coles Creek and Mazique sites, the complex's name was chosen according to the less historically involved of the two sites (see Chapter 3), Coles Creek[1]. These Coles Creek diagnostics were originally recognized by suites of ceramic attributes identified by Ford

[1] For the sake of contingency, it is remarkable how close Coles Creek came to being called the Mazique period/culture.

(1936:174-192). However, the cumbersome lists of attributes generated limited the interpretations that could be drawn from comparison (Ford 1936). Therefore, Ford (1938; 1951:70-85) turned to taxonomic types to describe ceramics indicative of the Coles Creek period. Significantly, even at its inception Ford (1936:173-174) recognized pyramidal and conical mounds arranged around an open court or plaza as a common characteristic of Coles Creek "villages."

The first and one of the most complete excavations at a primarily Coles Creek site occurred at the Greenhouse site in Avoyelles Parish. Greenhouse contained seven mounds, five of which were extensively excavated in 1938 and 1939 under the direction of Ford. The resulting report utilized a ceramic type system in its analysis of the material culture. Ford (1951:70-85) identified Coles Creek Plain, Coles Creek Incised, Chase Incised, Greenhouse Incised, Pontchartrain Check Stamped, Chevalier Stamped, Beldeau Incised, and Rhinehart Punctated as decorative ceramic markers of the Coles Creek period. Importantly, Ford also recognized that rectangular temple mound arrangements around a plaza originated before substantial Mississippian cultural influence in the Lower Mississippi Valley (Ford 1951:101). The Greenhouse report remains a classic source for information regarding site layout, mound construction, architecture, mortuary data, and cultural material of a Coles Creek period site.

The Coles Creek ceramic types identified by Ford at Greenhouse were reexamined by John Belmont in 1967. Using both a type-variety system and carefully defined stratigraphic analysis units, Belmont (1967) demonstrated that the periods and phases represented by the complex deposition of material culture at Greenhouse could be separated into phases based on evident shifts in both ceramics and site layout.

Additionally, Belmont suggested that the Coles Creek arrangement of mounds around a central plaza should not be viewed as part of the "temple mound tradition" of the Mississippi period but rather as an ancestor to it, as well as a continuation of a platform-mound tradition that seems to have existed earlier (Belmont 1967:31-32).

In 1970, Philip Phillips monumental work, *Archaeological Survey in the Lower Yazoo Basin, Mississippi, 1949-1955*, broke Coles Creek down into two phases based on a visible shift in the prevalence of certain ceramic types and varieties. He defined these phases as the Aden Phase and the Kings Crossing Phase, although other regions use alternate phase designations (i.e., the Ballina and Balmoral phases respectfully in the Natchez Bluffs region). Additionally, Phillips (1970:555,556,560) reinforced the notion that by the earliest of the Coles Creek period phases, Aden, that the rectangular platform mound was a consistent architectural element in the Coles Creek culture and that this trend continued through the Kings Crossing phase right on up into the Mississippi Period.

Stephen Williams and Jeffery P. Brain further refined our understanding of the Coles Creek period and culture in the Lower Yazoo Basin with their Lake George excavations in 1958 through 1960. At the time of Williams and Brain's investigations some 25 mounds were still evident at Lake George. As a result of their excavations and analysis, Williams and Brain (1983:335) reassigned Crippen Point to the terminal phase of Coles Creek period and culture on the basis of its continuity with the earlier Kings Crossing and Aden phases. Williams and Brain's (1983:334) conclusions also reified earlier notions that the Aden phase of Coles Creek was the beginning of the "temple mound tradition," at Lake George and in the region. They insisted that the most telling characteristic of a Coles Creek site plan was not the number or size of the mounds present

but rather their arrangement around a plaza (Williams and Brain 1983:370). By favoring the "temple mound" nomenclature, they broke from Belmont's (1967) earlier interpretations but agreed that the Coles Creek flat-topped platform mound and plaza arrangements were primarily an indigenous development.

Furthermore, Williams and Brain (1983:414) championed the idea that Plaquemine culture was the result of Mississippian influence that was introduced to indigenous Coles Creek patterns around A.D. 1000. Cultural elements that characterize Plaquemine and differentiate it from Coles Creek are its own distinctive pottery types, increased emphasis on mound construction, increased complex social stratification, rectangular wall-trench houses, and reliance on maize agriculture (Brain 1978:345; Brown 1985b:252-253; Fritz 1998:36-37; Kidder 2004:555-559; Phillips 1970:30,34; Williams and Brain 1983:412-414). Evidence of Cahokian contact in the Yazoo Basin (Williams and Brain 1983:408-412) led Brain to characterize Plaquemine culture as Mississippianized Coles Creek (Brain 1978:344-350; Williams and Brain 1983:412-414). However, this interpretation has not been wholly accepted on the grounds that it relies on a limited number of Cahokia-related diagnostic from a very few sites in the Yazoo Basin (Kidder 2004:558-559). Whatever the true nature of the relationship between Coles Creek and Plaquemine, both cultures are known to have utilized the same mounds sites such as Mazique (Brown 2007:155-156; Brain, Brown and Steponaitis 1994; Kidder 2004:557; Phillips 1970: 2004).[2]

Researchers interested in the emergence of social complexity have also devoted significant attention to Coles Creek (see Kidder 1992a). The position of the Coles Creek

[2] Also, see Chapter 6.

period and culture between the terminal Woodland and emergent Mississippian (discussed above), makes this culture uniquely positioned to address questions concerning the origins of social complexity. While Coles Creek material culture is often referred to as "mundane" and status and wealth distinctions are not evidenced by the presence of exotic trade, prestige, or grave goods (Barker 1999:206; Kidder 1992b:29; 2002:89; Roe 2004:24; Williams and Brain 1983:408) it is tempting to view the presence of flat top mounds and plaza complexes during this period as indicative of a significant labor investment coordinated by centralized leadership. Many different lines of evidence have been pursued in support of this line of reasoning. These include investigations that suggest that Coles Creek perishable structures found on top of mounds indicate the presence of prestige linked to formal offices of leadership and hereditary ranking (Steponaitis 1986:385-386), arrangement of monumental architecture shifted during the Coles Creek period to emphasize greater restriction of access to mounds (Kidder 1998:137-141), redistributive buffering occurred during the Coles Creek period denoting the presence of a political chiefdom (Barker 1999), and Coles Creek mortuary patterns could be indicative of institutionalized social differentiation (Barker 1999; Kassabaum 2006). If we defer to Yoffee's Rule[3] (Yoffee 2006:41), then it is clear that the exact nature of the political systems at work within Coles Creek culture remain elusive. However this area of inquiry has significant potential for resolving social complexity issues pertinent to the region, the larger Southeast, and beyond.

Our understanding of one of the primary traits of Coles Creek that has changed in the last 20 years is the dominant subsistence strategy. Coles Creek was originally

[3] Yoffee's Rule states that if you have to argue about whether a society is or is not, in this case a chiefdom, then it is not.

suspected to be dependent on maize agriculture, even in the face of a dearth of botanical evidence (Collins 1932; Kidder 1992b:17-18). Such assumptions were reinforced by Williams and Brain (1983:408) who proposed that maize agriculture offered an explanation for why Coles Creek never expanded past the Lower Mississippi Valley. In 1992, Tristram R. Kidder summarized the limited evidence for maize in the Lower Mississippi Valley and concluded that the available data suggested that maize was not an important Coles Creek subsistence resource. Subsequent research on the matter has also demonstrated that Coles Creek societies were not dependent on maize (Fritz 1995; 1998; Fritz and Kidder 1993; Kidder and Fritz 1993). Domesticated plants, like maize, were probably not important dietary resources in the Lower Mississippi Valley until after A.D. 1100 and the Coles Creek subsistence strategy focused on locally available wild plants and animal foods (Fritz and Kidder 1993; Kidder 1992b:19). Recognition of this fact further serves to differentiate Coles Creek from the early Mississippian and may also indicate that maize-based agriculture was not a precursor to social complexity (Kidder 1992b).

In 2007 Ian W. Brown published a chapter in the edited volume *Plaquemine Archaeology* (Rees and Livingood 2007) entitled, “Plaquemine Culture in the Natchez Bluffs Region of Mississippi,” in which he challenged many of the established views regarding Coles Creek and Plaquemine interactions in the loess bluffs of Mississippi. Based on evidence from three important mound sites in the Natchez Bluffs region, Feltus (22Ad563), Smith Creek (22Wk526), and Mazique (22Ad502), Brown (2007:154) questioned the dominance of the Coles Creek influence in the region by suggesting that the transition between Coles Creek and Plaquemine was not as cut and dry here as in

regions such as the Lower Yazoo Basin (Brown 2007:147, Phillips 1970:560; Williams and Brain 1983). The crux of Brown's case was not that Coles Creek occupation at these sites was less pronounced; rather, that Plaquemine mound building was more dominant here than previously believed (Brown 2007:154). The gravity of Brown's (2007) suggestion was that it provided grounds for questioning that most fundamental of Coles Creek cultural traits, the indigenous construction, arrangement, and use of flat top mounds and plaza complexes in the Lower Mississippi Valley prior to the Mississippi period (Belmont 1967:31-32; Ford 1936:173-174; 1951:101; Phillips 1970:555,556,560; Williams and Brain 1983:334). In addition, Brown's interpretation also threw doubt on Brain's (1971a:76-77; 1978:344-350; 1989:122-125; Williams and Brain 1983:412-414) characterization of the Plaquemine culture as a hybridization of Coles Creek and Mississippian cultures. Essentially, Brown was skeptical that the scenario documented in the Lower Yazoo Basin (Brown 2007:147, Phillips 1970:560; Williams and Brain 1983:414), in which various Coles Creek material continuities (including mound-building) merged with Mississippian inspiration to the north and produced the Plaquemine culture, was similarly applicable for the Natchez Bluffs region.

Crucial to Brown's (2007) case was demonstrating that mound building at Feltus, Smith Creek, and Mazique was primarily a result of Plaquemine people, or at least casting sufficient doubt that Coles Creek populations were responsible for the monumental architecture. Based on investigations conducted in the summers of 1971 and 1972 by the Lower Mississippi Valley Survey (LMS), Brown (2007:154-155) concluded that at Feltus there was no clear evidence that Coles Creek people constructed any of the four mounds, and at Smith Creek he concluded that too little evidence existed to

determine whether the mound and plaza complex here was Coles Creek, Plaquemine, or both. However, Mazique was a different story. Based on a 1948 survey conducted by John Cotter and W.P. Lancaster, National Park Service Archaeologists, a collection of cultural material was recovered from a midden below Mound A at Mazique (Cotter 1948). This small sample was later analyzed by Vincas Steponaitis who determined that it contained ceramic markers of the Mississippi period (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; Steponaitis Personal Communication 2009). Based on this evidence, Brown (2007:156) concluded that, "Despite the quantity of Coles Creek pottery that occurs on the surface of the Mazique site (Ford 1936:Figure 1; Phillips 1970:948), current evidence, limited as it is, supports only Plaquemine mound construction activity."

In the Fall of 2006 and 2007 Vincas Steponaitis and John O'Hear excavated at Feltus (22Ad563). Their efforts focused on Mound A, Mound B, Mound C, and the plaza. The preliminary results of this investigation conflicted with Brown's conclusions (2007:154-155). This new evidence suggested that the mounds here were solely the result of Coles Creek people and yielded no evidence of Plaquemine mound construction (Steponaitis and O'Hear 2008). Additionally, analysis of flotation samples taken from Feltus yielded no evidence of maize, only indigenous wild resources (Williams 2008). However, even if Feltus were removed from the argument, the lynch pin of Brown's (2007) case is mound construction at Mazique. Therefore, any reexamination of Brown's (2007:156) interpretation necessitated additional field investigations at Mazique. It is here that this thesis hopes to contribute to our current understanding of the relationship between Coles Creek and Plaquemine cultures by pursuing new lines of evidence concerning mound construction at Mazique.

The primary problem addressed by this thesis is of a direct nature, to assess whether mound construction at Mazique occurred during the Coles Creek or Mississippi period based on the presence or absence of recognizable diagnostic material culture in key primary contexts. In the following section the theoretical underpinnings of ceramic taxonomies are briefly reviewed. Then the ceramic taxonomy most appropriate to address the research questions that I am posing for the Mazique site is considered.

Taxonomic Theory

In review, while the recognized Coles Creek cultural traits are drawn from extensive investigations within the Lower Mississippi Valley they do not define the period. Instead, Coles Creek has been defined by a recognizable ceramic assemblage that itself is characterized by a limited number of decorative ceramic treatments (Kidder 1992a:147; Kidder 1992b:16; Williams and Brain 1983:405). The ceramic taxonomy responsible for defining Coles Creek has changed over the years. It began with an attribute analysis (Ford 1936), progressed to a pottery typology (Ford 1938;1951; Ford and Griffin 2001), and was later defined with a type-variety system (Brain 1988; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; Phillips 1970; Williams and Brain 1983). These Coles Creek ceramics, in terms of any of their many taxonomic expressions, were instrumental in establishing a chronology in the southern portion of the Lower Mississippi Valley and they continue to provide a framework from which to identify and hang cultural trends including architecture (both monumental and domestic), political organization, subsistence, trade networks, and mortuary patterns.

In 1947 John O. Brew published an article entitled, “The Use and Abuse of Taxonomy,” in which he stressed that taxonomies were arbitrary concepts and not objective realities. He viewed such classificatory systems as tools of analysis (Brew 1971:74). Brew summarized his perspective with seven essential aspects of typology that concluded with him advocating for more, rather than fewer, classifications tailored to address different questions (Brew 1971:76-77).

Following Brew (1971:77,104), researchers are presented a taxonomic choice when analyzing ceramics. Those methods that have been applied to Coles Creek, attribute analysis, the type system, and the type-variety system, represent only three of the various taxonomic systems from which to choose. Others systems include modal analyses that identify patterns of visible attributes (Phillips 1970:28-30; Rouse 1960); descriptive systems that focus on decorative styles and zones on vessels instead of sorting types simply on sherd decoration (Barker 1999:190; Schambach 1981:107-115); as well as typologies based on statistical methods (Spaulding 1953). In fact, if one considers potential classificatory systems, there are a virtually limitless number of pottery typologies that could be employed archaeologically. Not one of these systems of classification is inherently superior to another; they are simply designed to address different issues or questions. Accordingly, it is the specific research questions established that govern the investigator’s choice of analytical taxonomy. In other words, the appropriate question is not which ceramic taxonomy is best but rather which ceramic taxonomy best fits the circumstances.

Bringing this realization around to the research topic at hand, the goal of the Mazique investigations was to date the episodes of mound-construction using the

material culture recovered. Ceramic sherds were the sole form of diagnostic material culture recovered in the course of this research (see Chapter 5). With the earlier discussion in mind this project begged the question, which ceramic typology was most appropriate?

The type-variety system of pottery classification was originally proposed by Wheat et al. (1958; Barker 1999:187; and Phillips 1958). However, the experience conveyed in Phillips's (1970) consideration of this particular ceramic methodology in the Lower Yazoo Basin is a more telling source. Phillips (1970:23) used types, varieties, and modes to identify, order, and express cultural and historical relationships in the Lower Mississippi Valley. Southeastern culture historians assumed that types captured intercommunity distribution of decorative ceramics over time and space (Ford 1938; 1951; Ford and Griffin 2001; Phillips 1970:24). Therefore, the intended purpose of varieties was to perceive smaller scale areal and temporal variations in the norms of the type (Phillips 1970:25). Phillips (1970:26) diplomatically amended extant classification types by retaining the majority of existing names and reassigning them to more specific sorting criteria. Furthermore, in order to assure that classifications met their intended goal, Phillips (1970:26-27) set forth the following three conditions:

1) *Sortablility.* Type-variety categories should be easily differentiated from one another according to criteria identifiable on sherds of average size(i.e., paste, surface, and decorative treatment).

2) *Utility.* All of the ceramic material should be typed in order to account for all of the data.

3) *Continuity.* No limits should be imposed upon the areal and temporal

distribution of pottery types.

A practical example of the benefits of a type-variety system is apparent when the *Mazique*, *Kings Point*, and *Manchac* varieties of Mazique Incised are examined. Prior to Phillips (1970) the Mazique type and Manchac type existed as independent categories of pottery (Ford 1951). When Phillips (1970:129-130) amended this taxonomy by moving *Manchac* to a variety of Mazique Incised and adding the *Kings Point* variety a pattern became apparent. Mazique Incised, *vars. Mazique, Kings Point, and Manchac* constitute an intergrading series on a sliding temporal scale which begins in the early Coles Creek with *Mazique,* transitions to the more carefully executed *Kings Point* in the middle Coles Creek, and then transitions to the discernibly less even and carefully executed *Manchac* in the terminal Coles Creek. Therefore, instead of simply recognizing the Mazique type as a marker for the Coles Creek Period, the type-variety system allows much finer temporal distinctions to be made.

Consistent with Brew's (1971:77,105) conclusion, Phillips (1970) noted the importance of the additional modal classificatory system. Modes are defined as recurrent attribute combinations that are more specific in nature than types or varieties (Phillips 1970:28). Phillips included categories of modes in his consideration of ceramics to account for attributes that were not integrated into the type-variety system. He identified modes of form that included shape, rim, base, and appendage modes; and modes of decoration that included technique, placement, design, motif, and pattern modes. Phillips (1970:31) also identified the ceramic complex, ceramic assemblage, and ceramic treatment as useful concepts to round out his typological study. Curiously however, only

the ceramic types and varieties were explicitly defined by background, sorting criteria, distribution, chronological position, and documentation.

The type-variety system is currently the analytical method most commonly used in the Lower Mississippi Valley. However, over the last 40 years Phillips's (1970:25) types and varieties have been revised and supplemented by subsequent investigations (Brain 1982; 1989;Brain, Brown 1985; Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; Toth 1988; Williams 1989; Williams and Brain 1983), as he originally intended them to be. In light of the benefits of the type-variety system discussed above, it is clear that this particular classificatory system represents the most appropriate ceramic taxonomy to resolve my hypothesis concerning mound building at Mazique. This conclusion is drawn from the limitations in the sample size and the fact that resolution of my hypothesis is dependent upon being able to recognize fine-scale temporal indicators. Phillips himself (1970:25) noted that, "[o]n the positive side a great deal can be said in favor of the type-variety nomenclature. Perhaps the greatest advantage is that varieties can be formulated for the investigation of particular problems, or for the expression of their solution." These words effectively encapsulate the utility of the ceramic type-variety system in testing my hypothesis that Mound construction at Mazique occurred during the Coles Creek period instead of during the Mississippi period.

CHAPTER 3
THE HISTORY OF MAZIQUE

The primary focus of this thesis is the prehistoric origins of mound building at Mazique. However, this site has also played an important role in the history of the Natchez region. Written descriptions of Mazique occur as early as the 1830s and describe events that occurred here as early 1722. The importance of the site has not been forgotten within the Natchez region. Ask any of the well informed residents of Adams County and they are sure to regale you with the exploits of Prince White Apple and Colonel Anthony Hutchins or even direct you to some derelict brick ruins ten miles south of Natchez along highway 61. The brief survey of Mazique's history that follows provides a perspective of the cumulative impact that historic and modern times have had on the physical landscape and lore of this extraordinary site.

The White Apple Village: Mazique in the Historic Record

An extensive search of relevant historic documents yielded very little about Mazique's past other than it was located on the Mazique Plantation (sometimes spelled Mazcyque or Mazcique) when the site was named in the late nineteenth/early twentieth century. However, when the search was broadened to include the "White Apple Village," several historic accounts were found that described the site in varying degrees of detail. For clarification sake, Mazique was often referred to historically as the "White Apple Village" of the Natchez Indians (Albrecht 1944:67-68; Anderson 1958:2; Brain, Brown,

and Steponaitis 1994:253; Culin 1990:128; Ingraham 1835:180). The exact circumstances of the association between the Mazique village and mound site and the "White Apple Village" is unclear, although some have ventured to speculate (Albrecht 1944:82; Frank 1975; Barnett 2007:130-131).

The earliest known historical account of Mazique or the "White Apple Village" comes from John Hutchins's memoirs composed during the early 1830s. John Hutchins, the son of Colonel Anthony Hutchins, was born and raised at Mazique. According to John Hutchins, at the advice of a native "Natchez" Indian acquaintance named Tom, Colonel Anthony Hutchins established his home along Second Creek at Mazique in 1772.

> With Tom and the four young apprentices, who came with him from Carolina, they set out for the land of promise and after twelve hours walk through the cane, they were brought to…White Apple Village, formerly occupied by the Prince White Apple, of the Natchez Tribe and within three miles of Ellis' Cliff…. After opening a small piece of land and building a few log cabins, he left his plantation in the care of Indian Tom and the four apprentices and returned to his family [Anderson 1958:2].

Joseph H. Ingraham also made brief mention of the "White Apple Village" in 1835 when describing the vicinity of Natchez:

> The site of White Apple village, the capital of the Natchez tribe, and the residence of "Great Sun," chief of chiefs of that interesting nation, is pointed out to the traveller, on the river road to Woodville from Natchez. A few mounds, with the usual remains of spear and arrow heads, beads, and broken pottery only exist, to mark the spot [Ingraham 1835:180].

The most detailed historic descriptions of the “White Apple Village” come from the journals of Benjamin L. C. Wailes. Wailes was a natural historian who is widely regarded as Mississippi’s first geologist and archaeologist (Brown 1998b). He located the “White Apple Village” in Section 5, T.4, R.3 west on Second Creek. Wailes interviewed John Hutchins in 1853 who informed him that his father was conferred the “White Apple Village” through a Spanish land grant and then settled on one of the small mounds (Wailes 1852-1853 in Brown 1996:3). Wailes described Mazique:

> Crossed the Homochitto at the Harrisburg ferry and over the turnpike, Sec. 5, T.4, R.3 west. Surveyed a mound on the west of the road near the ferry in the field of Dr. Calhoun, and in the evening surveyed a very interesting group of three mounds on Second Creek, east of the road and on the plantation of James Railey, and opposite to his residence. These mounds are on the tract of land granted by the Spanish government to Hutchins, Sec. _____ T.5, R.3 W. and one of them has been used for the cemetery of the Hutchins family. This is claimed by some as the site of the White Apple Village, and is connected by tradition with the massacre of the French by the Natchez Indians in 1722? [sic-1729] The situation of these mounds in an extensive plain on the western margin of Second Creek is very handsome, and the good taste of the former proprietor has preserved upon the sides and summit of the two larger ones the noble forest trees which have shaded them for centuries. Some of these measure more than fifteen feet [4.6 m] in girth [Wailes 1852-1853 in Brown 1966:3].

Notably, Wailes mentioned both Colonel Anthony Hutchins’s house and the Hutchins’s family cemetery were located on the summit of mounds. Wailes’s account does not specify which mound supported the Hutchins’s house or the Hutchins’s cemetery, making it possible that they both occupied the summit of the same mound at different times. A survey of Mazique conducted by Ian W. Brown and myself in May of 2008 suggested

that the Hutchins's cemetery was located on the summit of Mound B. Efforts to identify a third mound have not as yet been successful.

The Adams County Courthouse yielded data on a record transaction in which a parcel of land called "White Apple Village" was presented by a Matilda S. Railey to one Bishop William M. Green (Deed Book NN, p.138) on February 8, 1861. A survey map that accompanied this transaction depicts two mounds within the "White Apple Village" (Figure 3.1). Both mounds are represented by circles on the western portion of the tract. The northwestern mound contains five small crosses which are presumably symbolic of a cemetery located on top of this mound. Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:260-261) suggest that this represents Mound B at Mazique, given that we know it contains historic graves. However, I do not believe that the current landscape of Mazique sufficiently matches the features of this map and it may not depict Mazique at all. If this survey map does indeed represent the White Apple Mounds at Mazique, it seems strange that Mound A and Second Creek are not depicted.

A second survey map from 1888 of the White Apple Village was found in the Adams County Courthouse in the Final Record Probate book (p.308). This map clearly details Mazique including both Mound A and Mound B (Figures 3.2 and 3.3). The map illustrates the monuments at Mazique as they appear today in relation to Second Creek and the southern property boundary (Figure 3.3). The precision this 1888 map casts further doubt upon the possibility that the 1861 map actually represents Mazique.

Historic accounts of Mazique have conclusively demonstrated that by the time Colonel Anthony Hutchins settled at the site it was known locally as the "White Apple Village." However, Mazique was not the only location referred to as the "White Apple

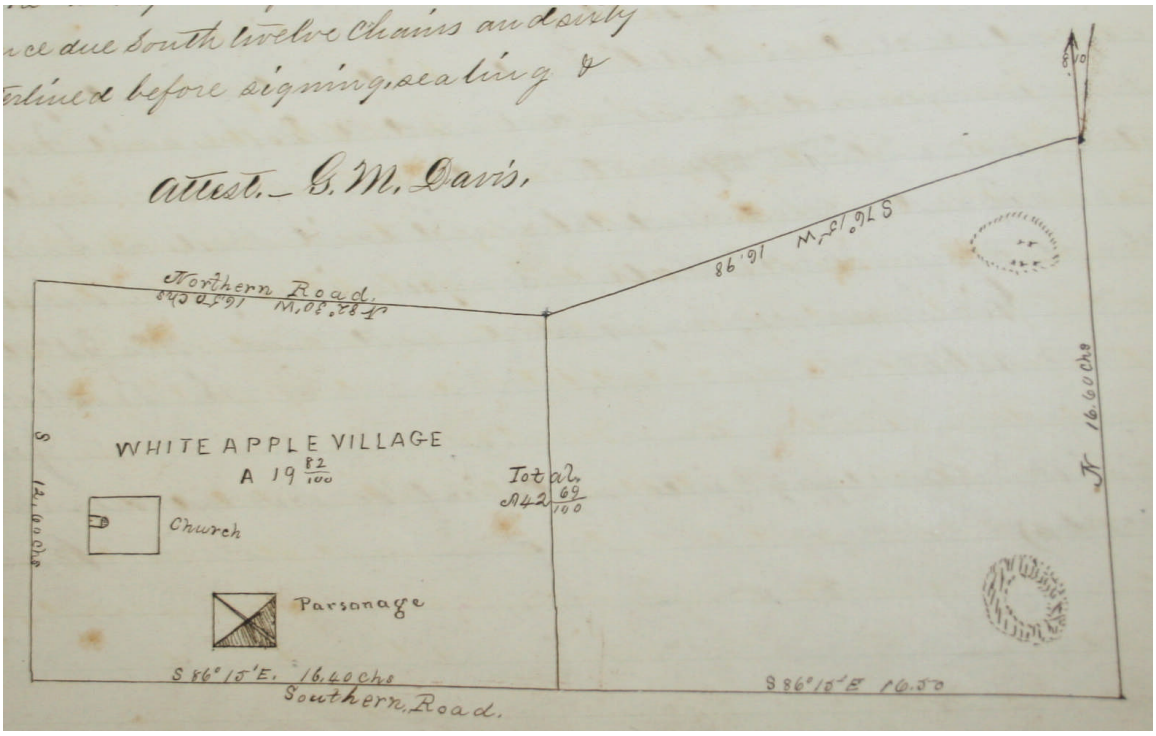


Figure 3.1. Survey map of "White Apple Village" as depicted in the land transaction between Matlida S. Railey and Bishop William M. Green February 8, 1861. Note the mounds to the right of the map indicated by circles. Deed Book NN, p.138 (Courtesy of the Adams County Courthouse).

Village" during the eighteenth century. A caringly constructed survey map of Natchez drawn by Ignace-Francois Broutin (1723) places the first known White Apple Village northeast of modern-day Natchez along St. Catherine Creek. This is certainly the White Apple Village that figured so prominently in the French and Natchez Indian conflicts within the region (Albrecht 1944:78-83; Barnett 2007:90-94; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:265).

Albrecht (1944:82) and Joseph V. Frank III (1975) both proposed that Mazique might have served as a temporary refuge for the inhabitants of the 1720s White Apple Village who were forced to flee from the French in the aftermath of the 1729 Natchez

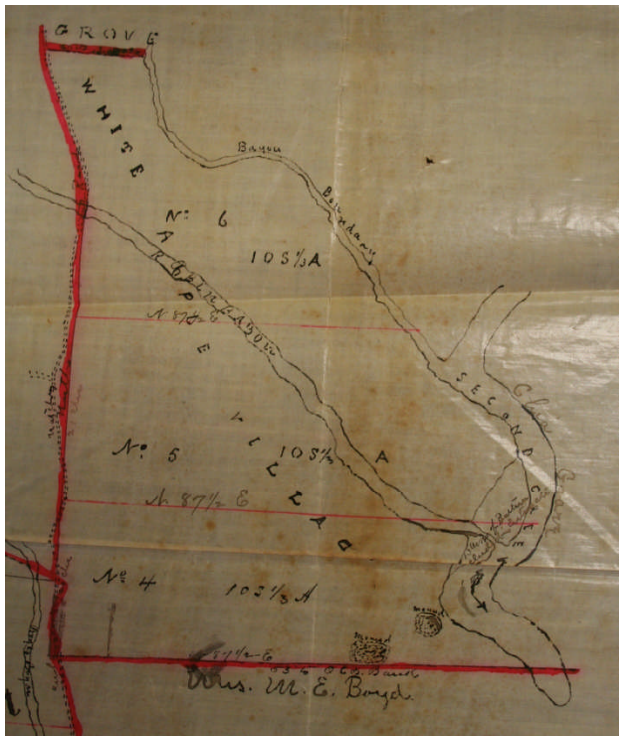


Figure 3.2. Survey map of "White Apple Village," as depicted in the 1888 Final Record Probate book p. 308. Note Mounds A and B in the lower right corner of the map.

Figure 3.3. Detail of mounds A on the western bank of Second Creek and Mound B next to the property line on the 1888 Final Record Probate survey map.

Massacre. This would explain the association between Mazique and the "White Apple Village" title. However, this explanation is tenuous. The "White Apple Village" name has endured since the late eighteenth century up to the present. The persistence of this title has largely been attributed to John Hutchins's narrative (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:254), but also received new life due to the handiwork of Jefferson Davis Dickson, Jr. in the 1940s. Whatever the true source of the Mazique and White Apple Village affiliation, this name has had a remarkable impact on local Adams County lore.

"An Emblem of Ruined Grandeur"[4]: The History of Archaeological Investigations at Mazique.

The first known academic investigations made at Mazique were those of Montroville W. Dickeson in 1841 (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994, Culin 1900:127:128). Dickeson was a medical doctor from Pennsylvania who fostered an avid interest in Indian sites and collections within the Ohio and Mississippi valleys (Brown 1998b;167). He described the layout of Mazique as composed of three circular (conical) mounds, the largest of which was 45.7 m in circumference at its base, about 6.1 m tall, and perched in a "commanding position" on the bank of Second Creek (Mound A) (Culin 1900:128). Dickeson's account stated that one of the mounds had been severely reduced by cultivation, suggesting that it was originally smaller than either of the other two mounds.

The Culin (1900) catalogue of Dickeson's collection listed five objects as having come from either the "White Apple Village mound" or the "White Apple Village:"

14,213. "Jar, with incised scroll ornament. Height, 3 inches [7.6 cm]."

[4] This phrase appeared in Montroville W. Dickeson's 1841 account of Mazique (Dickeson 1848:371-372.).

14,181. “Jar with rim and globular body, with incised scroll decoration. Diameter at mouth, 3 ½ inches [8.9 cm].”

14,373. “Discoidal stone (Chunke stone). Highly polished, sides convex. Diameter, 6 ½ inches [16.5 cm]; 2 ¾ inches [7.0 cm] thick.”

14,319. “Ear plug, highly concave sides. Diameter, 1 1/8 inches [2.9 cm].”

14,321. “Disk with ridged edges, highly polished. Probably an ear plug. Diameter, 1 3/16 inches [3.0 cm].”

Of principal interest among these items are the two jars with scroll designs. Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994) have suggested that these vessels likely represented either Fatherland Incised or Leland incised pottery types. However, lacking greater sorting specificity than “scroll ornament or decoration,” these vessels might also represent a variety of French Fork Incised. Therefore, it is unclear whether these vessels date to the Coles Creek or Mississippi period.

Calvin Brown, Archaeologist of the Mississippi State Geological Survey, surveyed Mazique on August 15, 1916 (Brown 1926:34-35). Only two mounds were visible at the time of his survey. Brown prefaced his account of the Mazique Mounds by describing the dense summer vegetation at the site, which could have effectively hidden a third mound. However, it is reasonable to assume that the third mound could have vanished by the time Brown visited Mazique, given Dickeson’s description of its condition in 1841. Brown’s account agreed with Dickeson’s on the conical shape of the mounds. He said Mound A was 131 ft (39.9 m) long on the top and 18 ft (5.5 m) tall, somewhat reduced from Dickeson’s estimates. Also of note, Brown indicated that by 1916 a noticeable portion of Mound A had been lost to erosion, which he attributed to the

flow of Second Creek. Brown measured the smaller mound's (Mound B) basal circumference at 500 ft (152.4 m) and estimated its height at around 12 ft (3.7 m).

Sometime between 1927 and 1929, Mazique was visited by James Ford and Moreau B. Chambers who collected 173 sherds at the site. Ford's subsequent analysis of these ceramics suggested that Mazique dated primarily to the Coles Creek period because the material shared greater similarities with that recovered at the Coles Creek site than from historic contexts at Fatherland (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:262; Ford 1936:172). Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis's (1994) examination of Ford's collection identified Ballina, Balmoral, and Anna phase ceramics.

The first known archaeological excavations at Mazique occurred in 1940 and were conducted by the Natchez Historical Association. The objective of this research was to investigate the historic Natchez ceremonial center, the White Apple Village (Albrecht 1944:68; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:262-263). However, the Natchez Historical Association's true intentions were likely geared more towards restoring the site at the insistence of the entrepreneur, Jefferson Davis Dickson, Jr. [5] (Albrecht 1944:68).

Dickson was a native of Natchez who was responsible for, among other things, financing and promoting attractions at the Devil's Punch Bowl and Fort Rosalie. He was also the impetus behind the Natchez Historical Association's work at Mazique to aid in turning the site into a tourist destination. Renovation included the construction of a

[5] Jefferson Davis Dickson, Jr. was born in Natchez, Mississippi in 1896. He made his fortune in Europe through various sundries including World War I photography and sports promoting. Upon his return to Natchez, Dickson and his wife, Lisa Mastbaum Dickson, became heavily involved in the local promotion of tourism including the Natchez Pilgrimage, the construction of an observation tower at the Devil's Punch Bowl, and the reconstruction of Fort Rosalie and the "White Apple Village." At the onset of World War II, Dickson volunteered for service. Upon finishing officer training school he went to work as the Chief of Photography for the Fourth Bombardment Wing in the Royal Air Force. In 1943 Dickson was reported lost in action over German occupied France. (Callon 1987)

temple on top of an alleged “Temple of the Sun mound” (Figure 3.5 and 3.11), the trenching of a second mound to allow visitors to observe the cultural stratigraphy (Figure 3.6-3.8), and the construction of a museum on top of a third mound (Figure 3.10) (Albrecht 1944:68).

The mention of three mounds is of interest. It is unlikely, although possible, that the third mound is the same one discussed by Montroville Dickeson. Instead, from evidence provided by Jefferson Davis Dickson’s family photos (Figures 3.4-3.11), Mound A, which is located directly on the bank of Second Creek, became the “ceremonial mound” that contained the covered trench, Mound B to the south served as the “Temple of the Sun Mound” that supported the reconstructed temple, and the museum and “Burial Mound” stood to the east. A survey conducted at Mazique in the summer of 2008 by Ian W. Brown and I did not locate or identify a third mound. However, the investigations did reveal that the museum was located on an amorphous-shaped raised area. The White Apple Village tourist pamphlet that was published at Dickson’s request sheds light on this mystery:

> A large museum has been built over the Burial Mound. Excavation work has brought to light the grave of one of the great chiefs of the vanished tribe, buried centuries ago. The visitor can view his bones, with all his implement of war lying by his side, his crude jewelry and his pots of corn [The Natchez Historical Association n.d.].

Albrecht’s (1944:68) account was consistent with the pamphlet’s description of the third mound, although any remnant of such a monument would have been severely disturbed by the construction of a museum. However, the legitimacy of the third mound

Figure 3.4. Mound A prior to the Natchez Historical Association's investigations. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 from a western vantage point (Courtesy of the Natchez Historic Foundation).

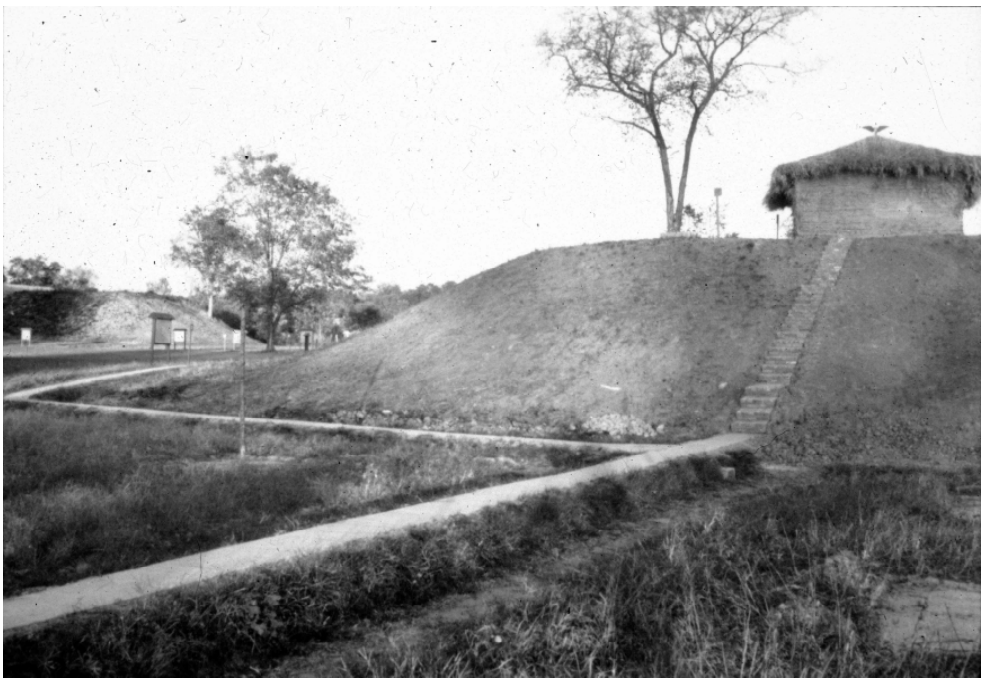


Figure 3.5. Mazique after Jefferson Davis Dickson's "White Apple" village reconstructions, Mound A to the left and Mound B, with the "Natchez Temple" on its summit to the right. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of Natchez Historical Foundation)

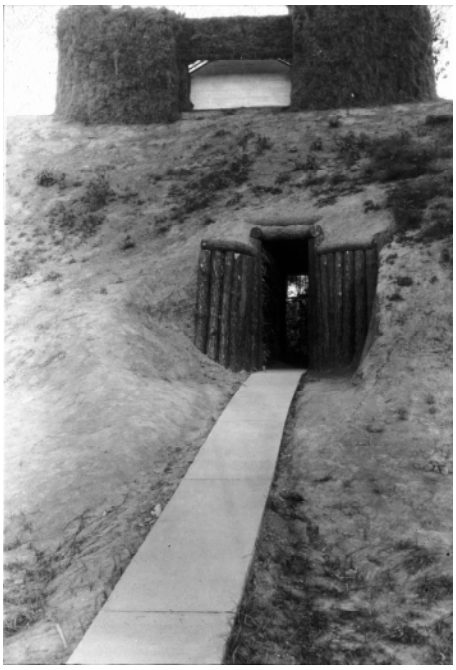


Figure 3.6. Mound A at Mazique showing the entrance to the covered trench. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of the Historic Natchez Foundation).

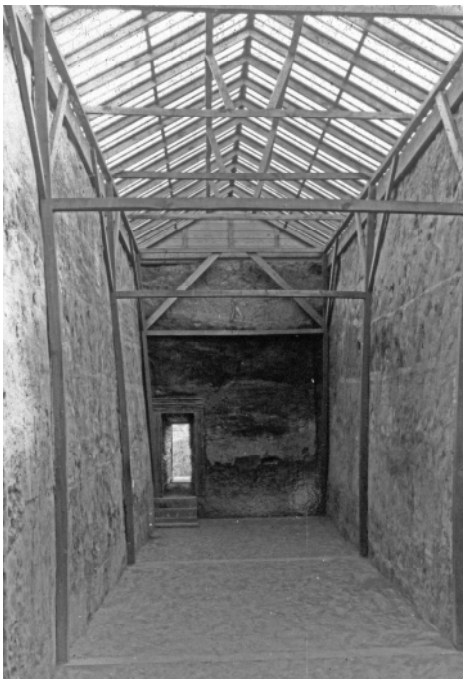


Figure 3.7. The interior of the covered trench in Mound A at Mazique showing the cultural layers exposed by the Natchez Historical Association excavations from an eastern vantage point. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of the Natchez Historic Foundation).

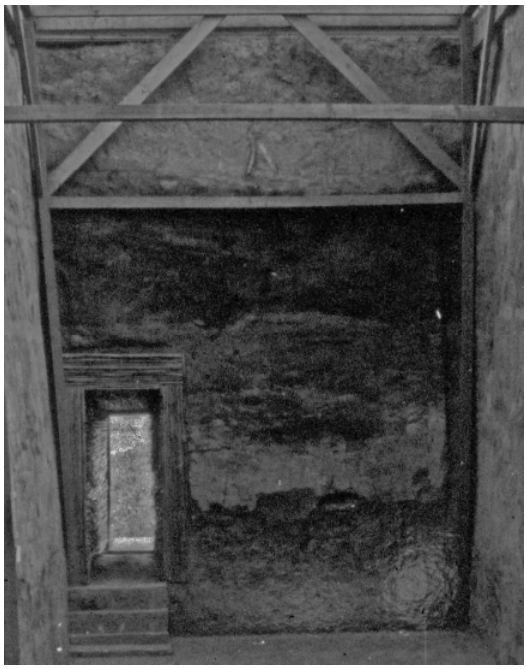


Figure 3.8. A detail of the cultural strata visible inside Dickson's trench through Mound A at Mazique. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of the Natchez Historic Foundation).

Figure 3.9. Dickson's staged "great chief" burial. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of the Natchez Historic Foundation).

Figure 3.10. The White Apple Village Museum and associated buildings at Mazique. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of the Natchez Historic Foundation).

Figure 3.11. "Temple of the Sun" on the summit of Mound B at Mazique. Photograph taken between 1940 and 1941 (Courtesy of the Natchez Historic Foundation).

described by Albrecht (1944:68) remains dubious (Albrecht 1944:86-87). Among Dickson's photos one revealed the burial described in the above text (Figure 3.9). The vessels contained within the burial display were recovered from the Fatherland and Dupree sites and were borrowed by Dickson from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History to display at the White Apple Museum (Baca 1989:37-38, Pete Gregory personal communication 2009). Dickson's understanding that Mazique had a strong Natchez Indian component appears to have motivated his staging of a "great chief" burial display. In light of Dickson's misinterpretation of Mazique's prehistory, it is very likely that the burial mound described by Albrecht (1944:68; The Natchez Historical Association n.d.) was also faked by the Natchez Historical Association (Phelps and Jennings c. 1940:87).

By the mid 1940's the condition of the Mazique site had significantly deteriorated, largely due to the ambition of Dickson's educational park (Baca 1989:37-38; Phelps and Jennings c. 1940:87). Phelps and Jennings visited Mazique during the brief period between the opening and abandonment of the park. They not only refer to the familiar layout of two larger mounds, but they also were the first to describe the mounds as truncated pyramids instead of conical in construction. This account supported Albrecht's report that the interior of Mound A was exposed so that visitors could view the stratigraphic occupational levels and that a "Natchez Temple" was built on top of the smaller mound (Figures 3.5-3.8, and 3.11) (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:263-264; Phelps and Jennings c. 1940:87). However, Phelps and Jennings also described various other contributions made to the site by Dickson, which were omitted in earlier descriptions. These included tepees of Spanish moss, a field of corn, and a ball field.

They also mentioned the presence of a small burial mound that had been faked by Dickson (Phelps and Jennings c.1940:87).

By the time of Phelps and Jennings's visit, it is apparent that Dickson's displays at Mazique were already in a state of neglect (Phelps and Jennings c. 1940:87). This is because less than a year after its opening, Dickson's White Apple Village closed its doors. Jefferson Davis Dickson, Jr. left Natchez and entered World War II as an air reconnaissance photographer. In 1943, he was killed in the line of duty and the "White Apple Village" never reopened (Baca 1989:38). The failure of Dickson's efforts at Mazique has been attributed to wartime travel restrictions and its subsequent effect on tourism (Baca 1989:38), but the untimely demise of its founder was probably the main reason. The museum (Figure 3.10) and other various structures at Mazique were abandoned, left to the mercy of vandals (Baca 1989:38, Pete Gregory personal communication 2009). Dickson stands out as a very dynamic character and contributor to Mazique's unique history.

The most recent archaeological excavations made at the site were conducted by John L. Cotter and W. P. Lancaster on November 11, 1948. Cotter and Lancaster made a stratigraphic collection along the exposed eastern face of Mound A. In his account, Cotter (1948:1) described a large central mound with a substantial pit in the middle where Dickson's trench had collapsed. As with Calvin Brown's 1916 description, Cotter also noted significant erosion along the eastern edge of the mound that he attributed to the flow of Second Creek. According to Cotter, a silver lining to the significant loss of Mound A was that a fair cross-section of the entire truncated pyramid and at least 6 ft (1.8 m) of naturally deposited loess at its base was visible. The fieldwork conducted by

Cotter and Lancaster consisted of a general surface collection, as well as the troweling of a 25 ft (7.62 m) section of a basal midden where they made a collection of sherds. Cotter summarized his investigations with a sketch of the eastern face of Mound A (Figure 3.12), which closely resembles the current condition of Mound A's eastern profile (Figure 3.13).

In the 1970s, Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994) examined Cotter's collection from Mazique and identified Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*, Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Harrison Bayou*, Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*, and Fatherland Incised, *vars. Fatherland, Stanton,* and *unspecified* ceramics (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994). According to Steponaitis (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; personal communication September 29, 2008), Cotter's basal midden investigations yielded at least one Fatherland Incised, *var. unspecified* on an Addis *var. St. Catherine* ware and an additional Addis Plain, *var. Addis* sherd.

The collection made by Ford and Chambers, in conjunction with Cotter and Lancaster' collection, clearly suggested that Mazique was occupied during the Ballina and Balmoral phases of the Coles Creek period, as well as the Gordon, Anna, and Emerald phases of the Mississippi period (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994, Ford 1936:Figure 1). In other words, Mazique hosted both Coles Creek and Plaquemine peoples.

To date, Cotter's collection has made the most significant contribution to our current understanding of mound construction at Mazique. Most pertinent to the focus of my thesis is the single diagnostic sherd recovered by Cotter from Mound A's basal midden, identified by Steponaitis as Fatherland Incised, *var. unspecified* (Brain, Brown,

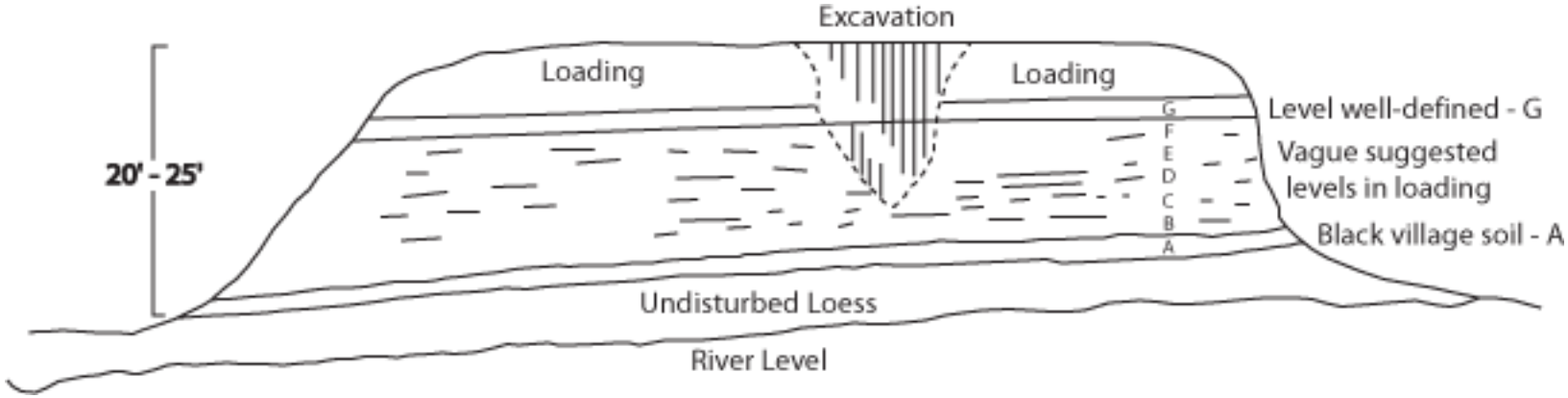


Figure 3.12. Cotter's sketch of the eastern face of Mound A at Mazique (Adapted from Cotter 1948:2).

Figure 3.13. A Panoramic photo of the eastern face of Mound A at Mazique taken on February 26, 2009. Note that Dickson's collapsed trench is still visible in the center of the mound.

and Steponaitis 1994). The primary context from which this sherd was recovered, coupled with the association with the late Mississippi or Historic period (Brown 1998a:54), would seem to suggest that although Mazique was occupied during the Coles Creek period, that mound construction was of Plaquemine origin. Ian W. Brown (2007:155-156) primarily based his interpretation of Plaquemine mound-building at Mazique on this discovery.

The Current State of Mazique

Today, three brick buildings in various stages of decay sit just behind the tree line along Highway 61, marking the location of Mazique. When compared with photographs of Dickson's attraction (Figure 3.10), it is clear that these are the remains of the museum and two associated buildings. The museum sits much closer to highway 61 today, and the road has been noticeably raised since the early 1940s.

Mazique still contains two impressive pyramidal earthen mounds. Mound A stands 8 m tall and is in poor condition. Roughly half of the monument has been lost to Second Creek (Figure 3.14). Consistent with Cotter's (1948) observation, a portion of the mound has collapsed, filling Dickson's handiwork and contributing to a "V" shaped erosional slump on the eastern side of Mound A (Figures 3.12 and 3.13). The northwest corner is the only intact portion of Mound A.

Mound B stands approximately 4 m tall and is located to the southeast of Mound A just beyond a patch of dense undergrowth. This mound is in excellent shape with clearly defined edges and an intact summit (Figure 3.15). Its seemingly pristine condition can be attributed in part to the presence of a historic cemetery on its summit. At present

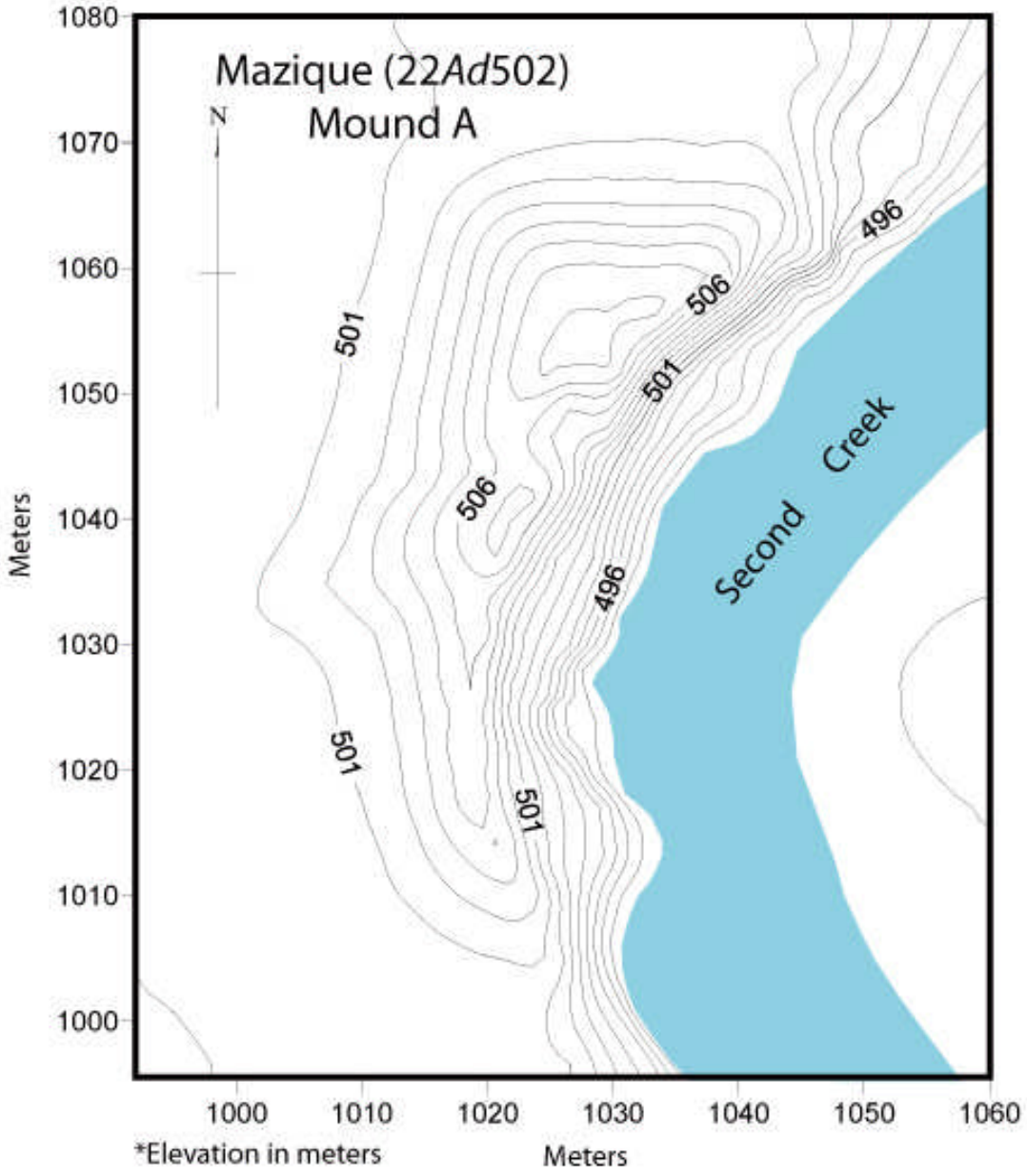


Figure 3.14. Topographic map of Mound A at Mazique.

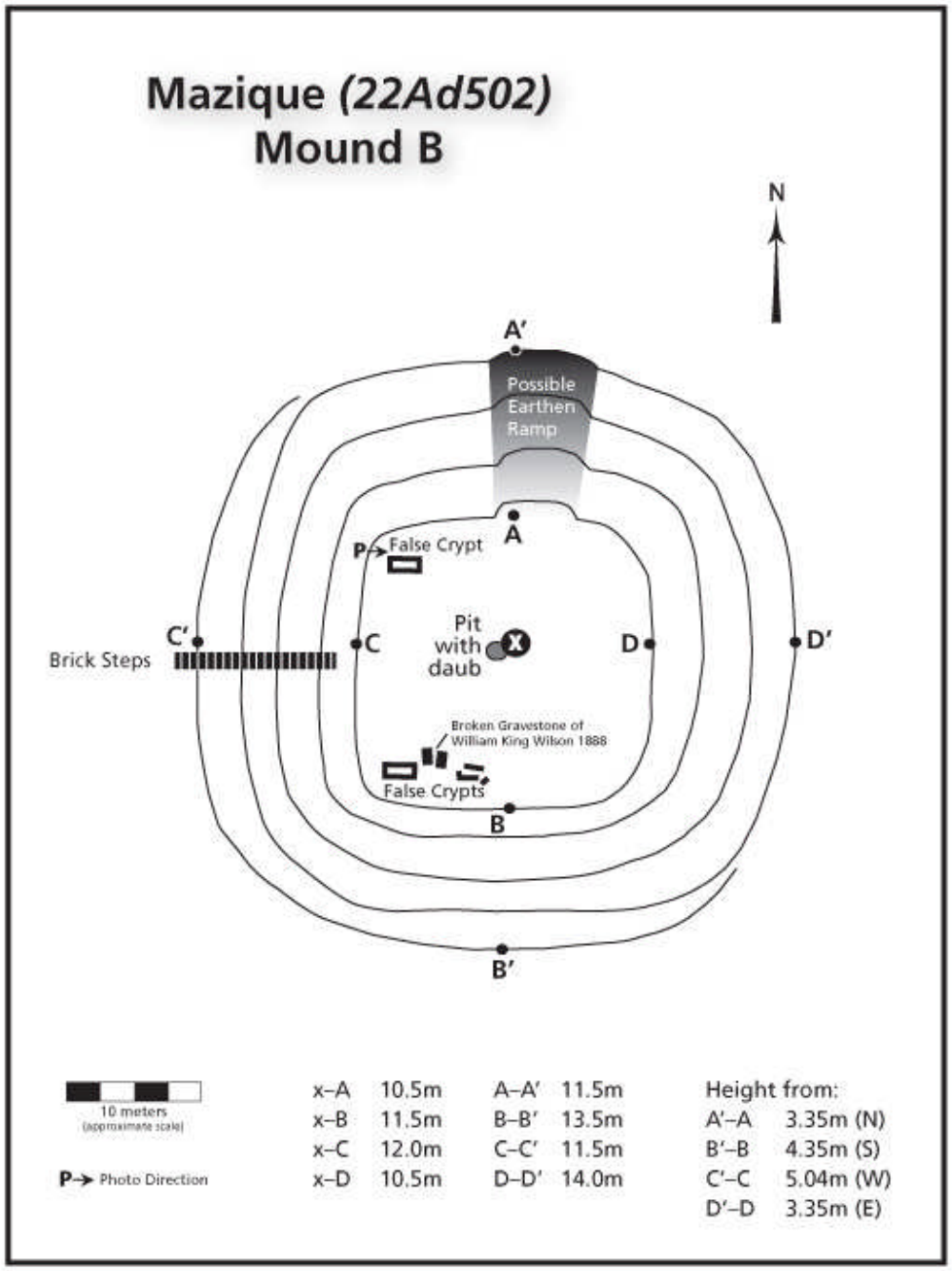


Figure 3.15. Sketch map of Mound B at Mazique.

there are two marble and brick false crypts still here, which were constructed no earlier than 1833. There is no visible evidence of Dickson's "Natchez Temple" on the mound save a narrow set of brick steps that climb the western flank of Mound B (Figure 3.11).

A troubling realization is that the first account to mention the pyramidal shape of these mounds (Phelps and Jennings c. 1940:87) occurred only after Dickson and the Natchez Historical Association "restored" Mazique. Furthermore, Dickson's photos (Figures 3.4, 3.5 and 3.11) support the notion that some mound restoration occurred, as evidenced by sharp corners and grass-free surfaces. This evidence suggests that Dickson himself could have been responsible for pyramidal facades built upon conical mounds. However, this scenario is unlikely for three reasons. First, dimensions provided by Calvin Brown (1926:34-35) suggest that Mound A was longer than it was wide in 1916 and, so, was not a conical mound (Figure 3.4). Second, the previously mentioned presence of graves on the summit of Mound B indicated that Dickson left the false crypts alone and, therefore, subsequent alteration of the mound was largely cosmetic. Finally, conical mounds are a cultural trait typically associated with the pre-Coles Creek period in this region. Given that neither Ford's nor Cotter's collection (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; Ford 1936: Figure 1) yielded any diagnostic ceramics that would indicate that Mazique contained heavy Tchula, Marksville, or Baytown components, it seems unlikely that one or even both of these mounds were conical in construction. Ultimately, the total extent of Dickson's modification of Mazique's landscape is unknown. But, sufficient evidence suggests that Dickson's restoration efforts were indeed conducted in the spirit of

conservation rather than enhancement[6] to support claims that the mounds were originally pyramidal in shape.

Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis's (1994) investigation of Cotter's collection, specifically the ceramics he collected from Mound A's basal midden, support Ian W. Brown's (2007:156) interpretation that mound construction at Mazique occurred exclusively during the Mississippi period rather than during the earlier Coles Creek period. However, a private collection that came to light in July of 2008 has introduced sufficient doubt to warrant additional investigation at Mazique. Chapters 4 – 7 deal specifically with these new lines of evidence in more detail, as well as my own investigations at Mazique that were undertaken in order to revaluate Brown's interpretation.

[6] The glaring exception to this assumption is the stratigraphic trench Dickson placed in Mound A.

CHAPTER 4
METHODS AND MATERIALS

> Patience and tolerance are indicated for the weary ditch diggers with their feet in the mud and their noses among the potsherds, for these abundant and sensitive registers of cultural influence offer the best opportunities for viewing culture change through appreciable spans of time.
>
> James A. Ford (1951:48)

This chapter seeks to explicitly describe the field procedures used to recover the artifacts from the surface collections, the Stout Collection, the Barnett Collection, the Wilson Collection, the stratigraphic cut, and Mound A's basal midden, as well as the logic that governed these investigations. Additionally, the purpose and process of generating the topographic map of Mound A are considered. Finally, the specific analytic laboratory methods and comparison used to interpret Mazique's material culture are reviewed. The materials recovered are presented in chapter 5 and the results of these field and laboratory methods are discussed at length in chapter 6.

Field Procedures

Surface Collections

During May, July, October, and November of 2008 as well as February and March of 2009, 11 surface collections were made at the Mazique site. The seasonal variation associated with these different investigations spanned the visibility gamut from dense summer foliage to relatively clear winter conditions. On July 30, 2008, in the

course of the survey a sketch map of Mound B (See Figure 3.14) was generated using a compass and a range-finder[7]. Collections with catalogue numbers R200, R201, R232, R233[8] were made with the explicit goal to sample the distributions and density of artifacts immediately on or around Mounds A and B. Collections R246-R252 were collected much more opportunistically in the course of preparing Mound A's eastern slope for the stratigraphic cut, generating a topographic map of Mound A, and exploring Mound A's basal midden. In each instance, collections were made and assigned different catalogue numbers according to zones determined by the investigator. An effort was made to split collections, rather than lump them, if there was any question as to artifact association.

The Stout Collection

During the course of Second Creek investigations conducted on July 19, 2008, I was introduced to a Natchez local named Guy Stout. Some eight years prior, Mr. Stout (personal communication July 2008) and his wife, Lou-Ellen, had been tenants at China Grove, a historic plantation located east of and adjacent to Mazique. At this time, Mr. Stout recreationally drove Second Creek on an all-terrain-vehicle. On one such trek he noticed a large portion of a vessel eroding into the creek from a slump beneath the eastern side of Mound A. Over a period of several days, he and his wife collected the sherds in a systematic fashion, making careful note of the location of the pottery sherds in relation to each other (Figure 4.1 and 4.2). Stout concentrated his efforts on the richest portion of the

[7] Nikon Laser 800S
[8] See Appendix 1 for a complete list of the Mazique catalogue numbers and their corresponding collection provenience.

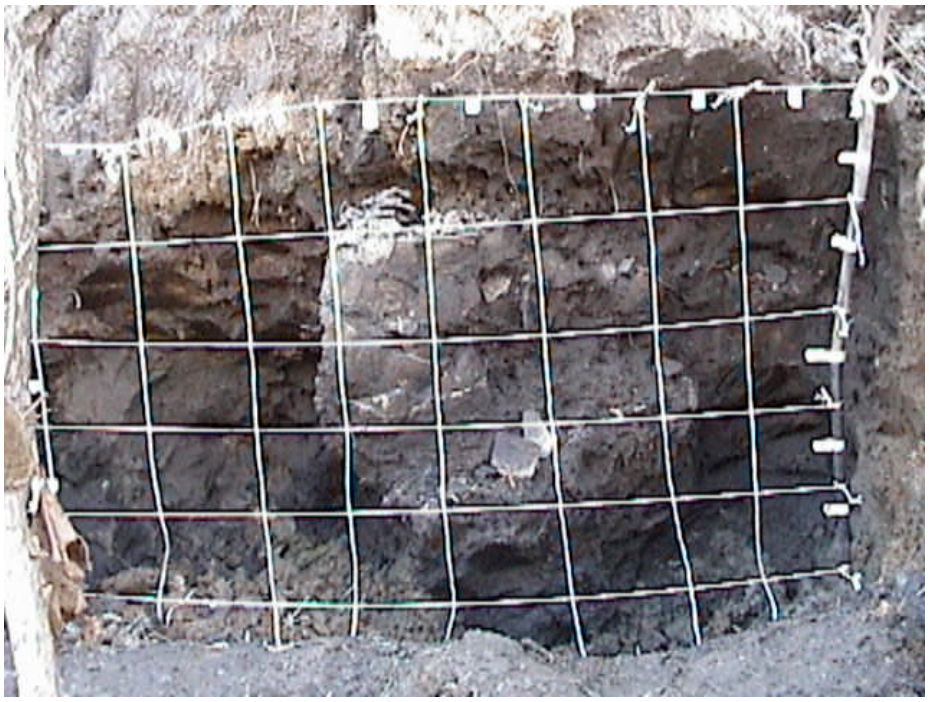


Figure 4.1. The Stout Collection on the bank of Second Creek, below the eastern slope of Mound A. Photograph taken in 2000 (Courtesy of Guy Stout).

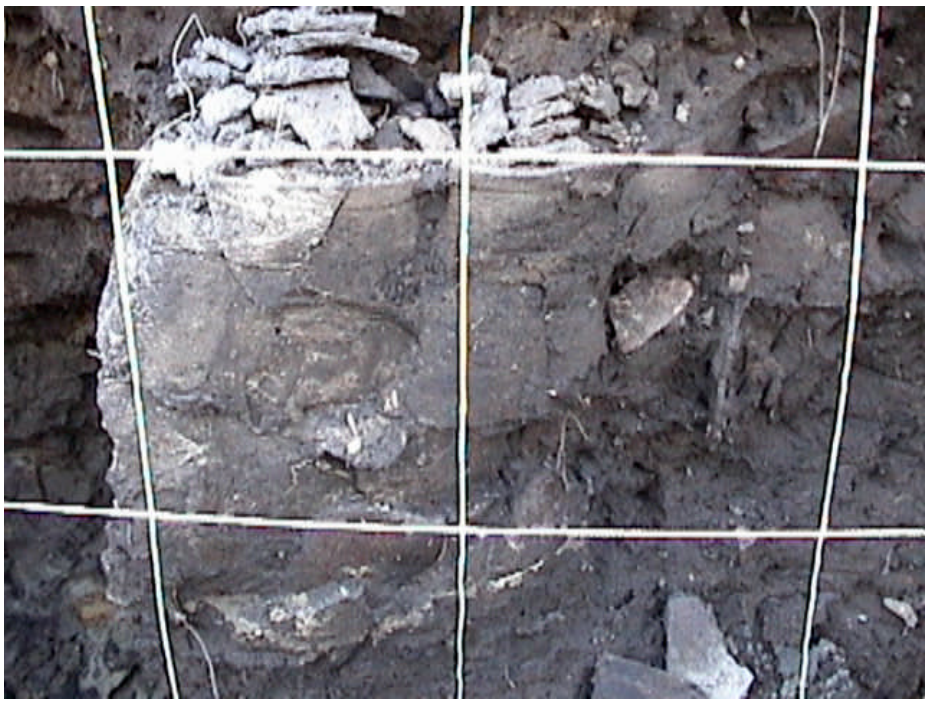


Figure 4.2. A detail showing the largely complete French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt* vessel recovered by Guy Stout. Photograph taken in 2000 (Courtesy of Guy Stout).

Figure 4.3. An example of erosional slumping on the eastern side of Mound A. Photograph taken on February 25, 2009.

feature and carefully strung out a vertical grid with twine. He numbered the columns across the top 1-8 from left to right, and the rows A-G from top to bottom. Each unit corresponded to a six inch square section (15.2 by 15.2 cm) of the feature (e.g., F3, G6). Stout then recorded the section each sherd came from on the individual sherds in chalk. Upon request, Mr. Stout produced this collection and generously allowed me to borrow it for further analysis.

On July 30, 2008 Guy Stout attempted to show us the exact location where he recovered his collection in 2000. After some difficulty he pointed out the general vicinity above Second Creek from where he believed the sherds to have come from. However, subsequent experiences at Mazique have revealed that significant mound slumping on the

eastern side of Mound A has occurred in the past (Figure 4.3). It is evident that the context from which the Stout collection was recovered has long since been carried away by Second Creek, rendering any efforts to link this context with the mound stratigraphy above it futile.

The Barnett Collection

In January of 1995 Jim Barnett, the Director of the Division of Historic Properties for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, surface collected Mazique in preparation for a National Register nomination for the site. The artifacts were numbered (95.1.1 – 95.1.26) and their general location on the site was recorded. Barnett graciously allowed me to analyze this collection on May 15, 2009 to supplement my sample of surface collections.

The Wilson Collection

In order to further increase the sample size of the surface collections made up in the course of these investigations the Mississippi Department of Archives and History was contacted to see if they had any additional artifact collections from Mazique. One such collection, made in 1976 by Robert Wilson, was in their inventory. The Wilson collection was loaned to the Gulf Coast Survey on May 22, 2009 for further analysis.

The Stratigraphic Profile of Mound A

On November 1-2, 2008, and February 25, 2009 a stratigraphic profile was cut into the largely eroded eastern surface of Mound A in an effort to identify and date the

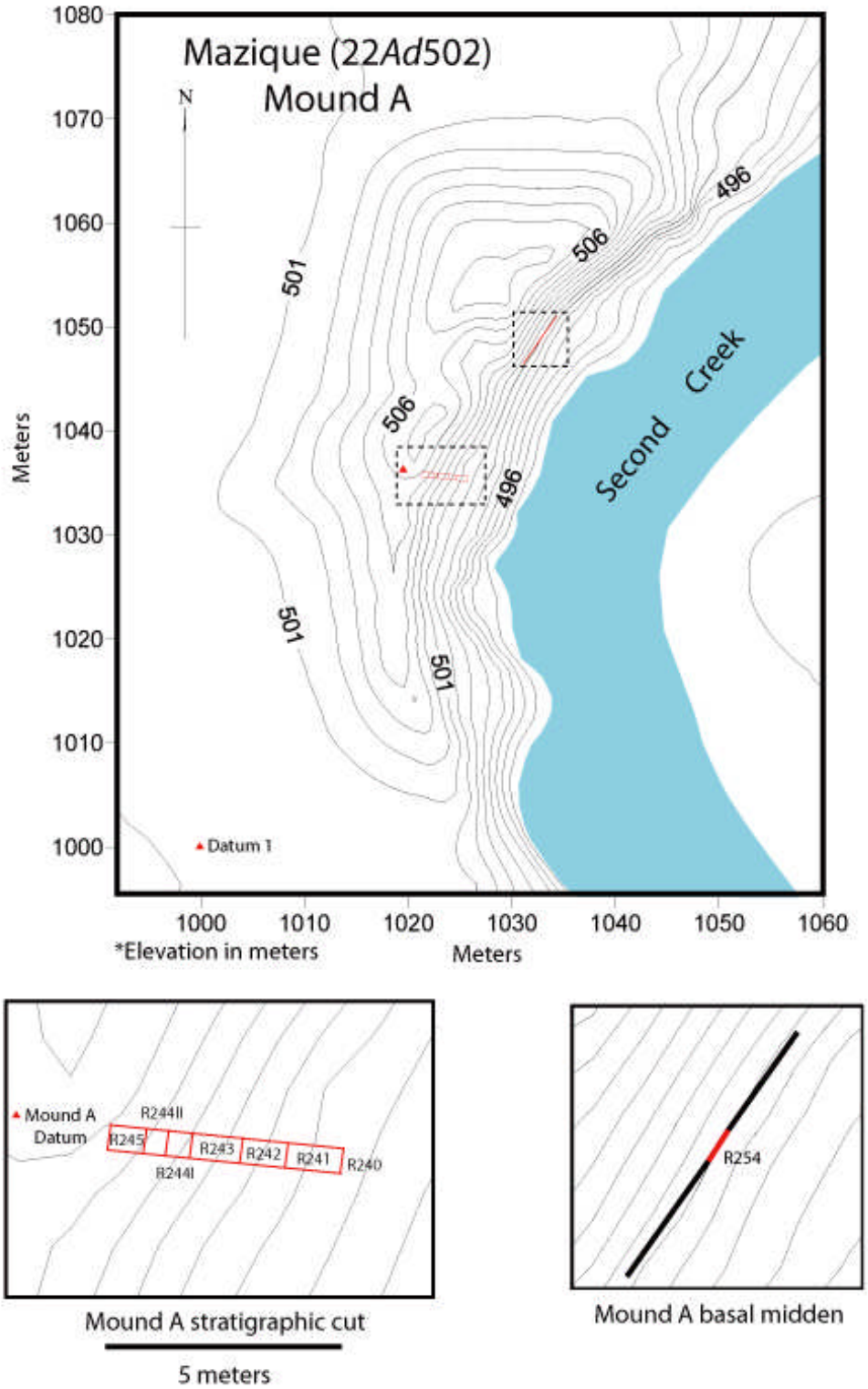


Figure 4.4. Topographic map of Mound A at Mazique. Note the locations of the stratigraphic cut and the basal midden.

initial levels of mound construction (Figure 4.4, 6.1-6.8). This location was chosen for three reasons: to maximize the area of profile exposed, to minimize the time and effort spent in the field, and accessibility. A west-east line was established with a transit and stadia rod. Seven points, spaced 1 m apart (with the exceptions of stratigraphic cuts R244I and R244II that were spaced 50 cm apart), were driven into the mound to establish the northern boundary of the stratigraphic cut. These points also defined the limits of the seven stratigraphic profile cuts, R240-R245, with R244 divided in two (Figure 4.4, 6.1 – 6.8).

From the east-west line and stepping up the mound, a 50 cm wide surface was exposed. First, a profile was cleaned at 80 cm from the eastern edge of the unit. All of this soil was screened through quarter inch mesh as mound-fill and erosional deposit and labeled according to the stratigraphic unit it came from as sample A (e.g., R240A, R241A, and R242A). Artifacts recovered from this sample were considered to be from a disturbed context. The stratigraphy at the cut made 80 cm from the eastern edge of the unit was then examined for cultural strata. If none were apparent then the remaining 20 cm of the stratigraphic cut were removed and the final profile exposed. However, if cultural strata were apparent then the 20 cm of soil remaining were removed and screened separately (Figure 4.5). The lowest visible strata was labeled according to the stratigraphic unit it came from as sample B, the next strata was labeled sample C, the next sample D, and so on until they were all accounted for (e.g., R243B, R243C, and R243D). The objective of employing this method was to recover diagnostic artifacts from primary cultural deposits such as mound surfaces.

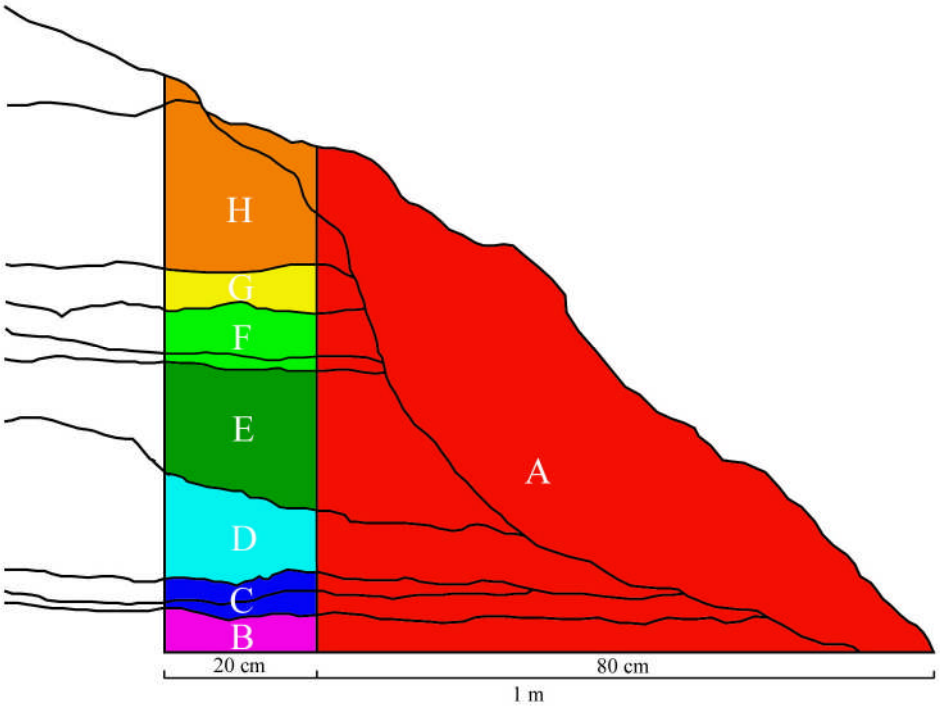


Figure 4.5. Visual of the stratigraphic profile excavation technique.

When the final profile was exposed at 1 m, it was photographed and drawn. In a few cases an effort was made to expand the sample in the face of time constraints. Therefore, portions of the stratigraphic profiles were bagged and later processed through quarter inch mesh. These included samples R243D1, R243D2, and R243D3.

Topographic Map of Mound A

Using a total station[9], Mound A at Mazique was mapped on February 26 and March 1, 2009. The objectives of mapping this mound was to capture accurately the condition of Mound A as it appeared in the course of these investigations, as well as to illustrate the location of the stratigraphic cut, profiles, and basal midden. A point was established well to the southeast of Mound A and named Datum 1. Here an arbitrary

[9]Topcon GTS 229 EDM (electronic distance measurer)

northing of 1000 m, an arbitrary easting of 1000 m, and an arbitrary elevation of 500 m was established. A GPS of N 30°24.885', W 091°23.306' with an elevation of 179 ft (54.56 m) above sea level was recorded using a hand-held GPS[10] at Datum 1 (Figure 4.4). Three other datum points were established in key positions around the mound in order to maximize the point coverage. A total of 285 topographic points were taken. This information was then used to generate a topographic map of Mound A[11]. Fifteen of these points were used to position the stratigraphic cut and the basal midden in their appropriate location on the topographic map (Figure 4.4).

Sampling Mound A's Basal Midden

The objective of sampling Mound A's basal midden was the same as that of the stratigraphic profile, to identify the initial stages of mound construction and to date this stage with an adequate sample of cultural material. However, as discussed in greater detail in Chapter 6, the stratigraphic profile did not encounter Mound A's basal midden. On March 1, 2009 the basal midden finally presented itself along the almost vertical northern most portion of Mound A's eastern slope[12] (Figure 4.6). An estimated five meters of the midden profile was exposed. Several portions were cleaned by trowel to reveal the dark, 15-20cm thick midden (Figure 4.7). Sherds recovered during the basal surface scraping were catalogued as R253. Then, a 30 cm deep sample (R254) was removed from a 30 cm long portion of the basal midden (Figure 4.4) in the hopes of

[10] Garmin model eTrex® Legend HCx
[11] using Surfer 8® software
[12] I refer to the basal midden as "presenting itself" rather than identifying it because it was clearly visible from a vantage point farther south from the mound, along Second Creek that I passed every trip in and out of the site. It took the fresh eyes of the visiting Vin Steponaitis to draw my attention to it on the last day of the field investigations.

Figure 4.6. Southern vantage point of Mound A from the western bank of Second Creek revealing light mound-fill, a darker natural horizon, and a thin black line separating the two, the basal midden. Photograph taken on March 1, 2009.

Figure 4.7. Detail of the Mound A basal midden and the natural horizon below. Photograph taken on March 1, 2009.

identifying chronologically diagnostic sherds. This sample was later screened through quarter inch mesh to recover the artifacts.

Analytic Methods

To meet the goals of this research in the face of the limited scope of investigations all of the artifacts recovered were analyzed including burnt clay, ceramics, faunal material, historic material, and lithics. The artifacts were washed, sorted, and labeled with their provenience information. These materials are all currently in the curation of the Gulf Coast Survey, housed in the Scientific Collections Facility on the campus of the University of Alabama.

As previously stated, this study included analysis of all of the artifacts collected during the survey and stratigraphic investigations. However, because the Coles Creek period has been defined by ceramic types (Ford 1936:172-213l, Phillips 1970) and Coles Creek varieties such as Coles Creek Incised and Mazique Incised exemplify the utility of the type-variety system (Barker 1999:197-198; Phillips 1970:69-77,129-130; Williams and Brain 1983:145), the ceramic data were weighted more heavily in the analysis and conclusions. As previously discussed (see Chapter 2), ceramic artifacts were analyzed using the type-variety system and the accompanying ceramic chronology for the region (Brain 1988; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; Brown 1998a; Phillips 1970; Toth 1988; Williams and Brain 1983). Only the pottery measuring larger than a quarter-inch was typed to facilitate comparisons between samples from Mazique and other sites.

There are advantages to focusing on the ceramics yielded by this investigation at Mazique. First, sherds are the most abundant artifact available in the Southeast and have

long been realized to be the best means to control for space and time. Relying on the ceramics yielded at Mazique increased my chances of recovering definitive chronological indicators within the limited scope of my stratigraphic investigations at Mound A. Second, clay affords an array of possible decorations and ornamentations removed from the confines of function not visible in other material culture. In fact, you will notice a dramatic shift in this project's treatment of ceramics versus lithics in Chapter 5. When sorting pottery, the focus is the decorative technique. This is what makes them so useful a register of preference and change. Lithics, on the other hand, are sorted by function and are recorded as such (i.e., burin, unifacial perforator on a flake, hammer-stone).

To test Brown's (2007:156) interpretation that the Mazique mounds were primarily of Plaquemine construction, this research focused on the primary cultural deposits in the stratigraphic cut (R253-R254) and samples from the basal midden (R243B-R243D3, R245A-R245B). The ceramic artifacts within each context were analyzed. Diagnostic ceramics from primary contexts yielded reliable dates while those from mound fill provided only a *terminus post quem*. *Terminus post quem* literally means the "limit after which." In other words, the most recent artifact that a context yields establishes its *terminus post quem* and sets the earliest date that the material could have been deposited. The types and varieties present within each context were then assigned to their corresponding phase and period within the Natchez Bluffs cultural sequence (Brown 1998a:18: Phillips 1970:518-71). This process is dependent upon the experience, data, and interpretations of Phillips (1970), Williams and Brain (1983), Brain (1988), and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994). It is with this information that I sought to reevaluate Brown's interpretations and test my own hypothesis.

CHAPTER 5
ARTIFACTS

Prehistoric Artifacts from Mazique

This section adopts the Lower Mississippi Valley strategy of artifact dissemination used in Phillips (1970), Williams and Brain (1983), Brain (1989), and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994). It applies the categories Sample, Illustrations, and Provenience of artifacts recovered at Mazique and analyzed during the course of this research, as well as the extant Descriptions, Distributions, and Chronological Position for already established type-varieties. In cases where varieties could not be specified, only the Sample, Illustrations, and Provenience data were included.

Pottery Types and Varieties

Addis Plain

Addis Plain was a variety of Baytown Plain when originally described by Phillips (1970:48-49). However, Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.1-A.2) revised its typological position and presented a set of diagnostic criteria for the Addis Plain type. Addis Plain is characterized by a heterogeneous composition of grog, grit, and a considerable amount of organic material such as plant matter, shell, and bone (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.1).

Addis Plain, *var. Addis*

Sample:	2	
Provenience:	2	R240A

Description. This variety was described by Phillip (1970:48-49) but under the Baytown Plain type. Williams and Brain (1983:92) and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.2) further refined this variety as a medium textured ware tempered mainly with grog and unspecified vegetable matter, and containing no shell.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.2)

Chronological Position. *Addis* is present in the Gordon, Anna, Foster, Emerald, and Natchez phases of the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.2).

Addis Plain, *var. Ratcliffe*

Sample:	30	
Illustrations:	Figures 5.1a-b	
Provenience:	9	Stout Collection
	19	Wilson Collection
	2	R241A

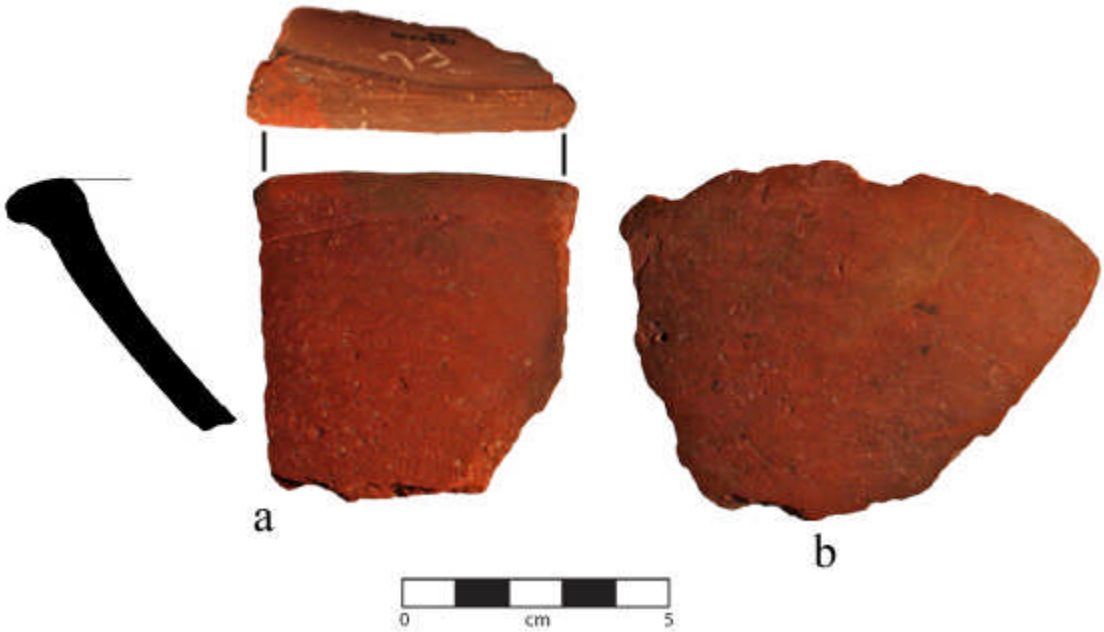


Figure 5.1. Addis Plain. a-b, *var. Ratcliffe.* Provenience: a-b, Mazique (22Ad502), the Stout Collection.

Description. This variety was originally defined by Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.3) as a rather coarse ware in which the paste is chunky with large white and sometimes black inclusions. Shell and bone may also be included in the paste. The surface of *Ratcliffe* is often uneven and poorly smoothed. This ware most often occurs in jars and simple bowls. Of the nine *Ratcliffe* sherds in the Stout Collection only one is a rim sherd with a thickened round-flattened rim broadening into a plain lug with a single exterior incision.

Distribution. This variety occurs in historic contexts in the southern portion of the Lower Mississippi Valley (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.3).

Chronological Position. *Ratcliffe* is present in the Emerald and Natchez phases in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.3).

Addis Plain, *var. St Catherine*

Sample: 2

Provenience: 2 Stout Collection

Description: This variety was described by Phillips (1970:61) under the rubric of Bell Plain. Its typological position was redefined in Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.3), as having compact granular paste with fine inclusions of shell, very fine grit, or charred organic material. Furthermore, this variety is distinguished from *Addis* by it finer textured paste and the frequent inclusion of ground shell.

Chronological Position: *St. Catherine* is present in the Foster, Emerald, and Natchez phases, and occasionally occurs in the Anna phase of the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.3).

Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 88

Provenience: 3 Barnett Collection

1 from the South end of Mound A

1 from Mound B at Mazique

	1 from the field south of the road south of Mound B
78	Wilson Collection
1	R232
1	R246
1	R240A
2	R241A
2	R243D2

Baytown Plain

This study adopted Phillips's (1970:A.6) concept of Baytown Plain, in that the super-type subsumes an exceptionally large spatial and temporal scope. This type contains virtually all of the grog tempered plainwares dating to the Marksville, Baytown, and Coles Creek periods. As discussed above, the only exception to Phillip's definition is the recognition of Addis Plain as a distinct type (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.1-A.2,A.6).

Baytown Plain, *var. Thomas*

Sample:	2	
Provenience:	2	Stout Collection

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:54-55), this variety is characterized by a sandy-textured paste.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the eastern part of the Yazoo Basin, especially in the Tallahatchie River drainage (Phillips 1970:55).

Chronological Position. *Thomas* is present in the Marksville period, and probably later (Phillips 1970:55).

Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*

Sample:	99 sherds	
Provenience:	1	Barnett Collection
		1 from the plaza between Mound A and Mound B
	8	Stout Collection
	75	Wilson Collection
	1	R201
	2	R233
	2	R243D2
	1	R243D3
	1	R250
	1	R251
	7	R254

Description. As described by Phillips (1970:55-56) and Williams and Brain (1983:103), this variety is characterized by hard, compact, and heterogeneous paste that breaks apart

in sharply angular patterns. In addition to the grog tempering, *Valley Park* also contains grayish white tufa inclusions (Williams and Brain 1983:103). Furthermore, this variety is typically fired in a reducing atmosphere, so that the color of the paste and surface is usually gray to black (Phillips 1970:56; Williams and Brain 1983:103). Of the two sherds recovered in a surface collection made northwest of Mound A (R233), one is a flattened rim with two parallel lip incisions. A single rim sherd that was recovered along the northern edge of Mound A (R250) has a round-flattened rim.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the southern part of the Yazoo Basin (Phillips 1970:56) and the Natchez Bluffs region.

Chronological Position. *Valley Park* is present in the Aden and Kings Crossing phases of the Coles Creek period in the Lower Yazoo Basin (Phillips 1970:56) and is considered diagnostic for the Ballina phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.6)

Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*

Sample:	37 sherds	
Provenience:	1	Barnett Collection from Mound B at Mazique
	5	Stout Collection
	20	Wilson Collection

4	R246
1	R241A
6	R254

Description. As described by Phillips (1970:56-57) and Williams and Brain (1983:103-104), this variety is characterized by a compact paste and highly polished surface. It is gray in color with dark fire clouding that looks intentional. Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.7) describe *Vicksburg's* paste as more finely textured than *Valley Park*.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the southern Yazoo Basin, the northern Tensas Basin, and the Natchez Bluffs region (Phillips 1970:57).

Chronological Position. *Vicksburg* is a marker for the Kings Crossing phase and the Balmoral phase during the late Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:57; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.7).

Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*

Sample:	404	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.2	
Provenience:	10	Barnett Collection
		3 from the South end of Mound A
		1 from the plaza between Mound A

Figure 5.2. Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*. This sherd contains an internal brown slip. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), R232.

6 from Mound B

232	Stout Collection
100	Wilson Collection
1	R200
4	R232
5	R241A
2	R242A
2	R242G
2	R242H
5	R243B
11	R243D
1	R243D3
2	R245A
2	R245B
2	R246

1	R240A
6	R249
3	R253
13	R254

Description. Of the 232 *var. unspecified* sherds recovered in the Stout Collection, 11 are undecorated rim sherds, 14 are decorated rims sheds, and 13 are bases. Of the undecorated rim sherds one has a pointed rim, one has a round-flattened rim, two have rounded rims, six have thickened round-flattened rims, and one has a thickened rounded rim. Of the decorated rim sherds from the Stout Collection five have flattened rims with a single exterior incision, one has a rolled rim, two have rounded rims with single exterior incisions, and three have strapped rims. Of the five unspecified sherds recovered in a 20 cm sample of strata B from the stratigraphic unit R243 (R243B) there is a single flattened and undulating rim sherd. Of the six unspecified sherds recovered in a surface collection made below the eastern edge of Mound A, two are rim sherds. One has a flattened rim, the other a tapered and flattened rim. Of the 13 unspecified sherds recovered from the basal midden beneath Mound A (R254), one is a rim sherd with a round-flattened rim.

Tchefuncte Plain

Tchefuncte Plain was described by Phillips (1970:163) and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.29) as characterized by an undecorated and temperless ware with a contorted,

laminated surface. This type is present during the Homochitto phase in the Natchez Bluffs region.

Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified*

Sample:	5 sherds	
Provenience:	1	Stout Collection
	1	Wilson Collection
	2	R241A
	1	R245B

Unspecified Plain

Sample:	1 sherd	
Provenience:	1	Wilson Collection

Description. This single specimen was a rim sherd that had been burnt to the point that its ware was unrecognizable.

Anna Incised

Anna Incised, *var. Anna*

Sample:	1 sherd
Illustrations:	Figure 5.3

Figure 5.3. Anna Incised, *var. Anna*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Wilson Collection.

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Description. This variety was first described by Phillips (1970:102) as a L'Eau Noire Incised, *var. Anna*. Williams and Brain (1983:120) later set up Anna Incised as its own type and established *Anna* as the most common variety. Phillips (1970:102), Williams and Brain (1983:120), Brain (1988:335), and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.4) describe this variety as characterized by dry paste incisions forming simple rectilinear or curvilinear arrangements of parallel lines on the interior of plates and shallow bowls. The technique of incision spans the gamut from coarse bold incisions to fine lines approaching engraving (Williams and Brain 1983:120). *Anna* typically occurs on a medium-textured, grog tempered pottery but also occurs on a shell or sand tempered paste.

Distribution. This variety occurs from the Lower Red River to the southern Yazoo Basin (Phillips 1970:102).

Chronological Position. Anna is a marker of the Anna phase in the Natchez Bluffs region, the Winterville phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin, and the Routh phase in the Tensas Basin during the Mississippi Period (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.4; Brown 1998a:48).

Beldeau Incised

Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*

Sample:	3 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.4	
Provenience:	2	Wilson Collection
	1	R233

Figure 5.4. Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R233; b-c, Wilson Collection.

Description. This variety was originally described by Phillips (1970:58). However, Williams and Brain (1983:133), Brain (1988:348), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.7) further refined this variety as characterized by a band of neatly and boldly incised cross-hatching that forms a diamond pattern. Typically in the center of each diamond is a triangular or circular punctation. *Beldeau* occurs on either a Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park* or *Vicksburg* ware. The single specimen collected northwest of Mound A is a flattened rim sherd, which contains only a single cross-hatched diamond without a central punctation.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Southern part of the Lower Mississippi Valley up to about as far as Greenville, Mississippi (Phillips 1970:58).

Chronological Position. Beldeau is present in the Kings Crossing phase of the Coles Creek period in the Lower Yazoo Basin (Brown 1998a:50, Phillips 1970:58) and the Balmoral phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:50), possibly continuing from the earlier Ballina phase (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.7).

Chevalier Stamped

Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*

Sample:	5 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.5a-e	
Provenience:	3	Stout Collection

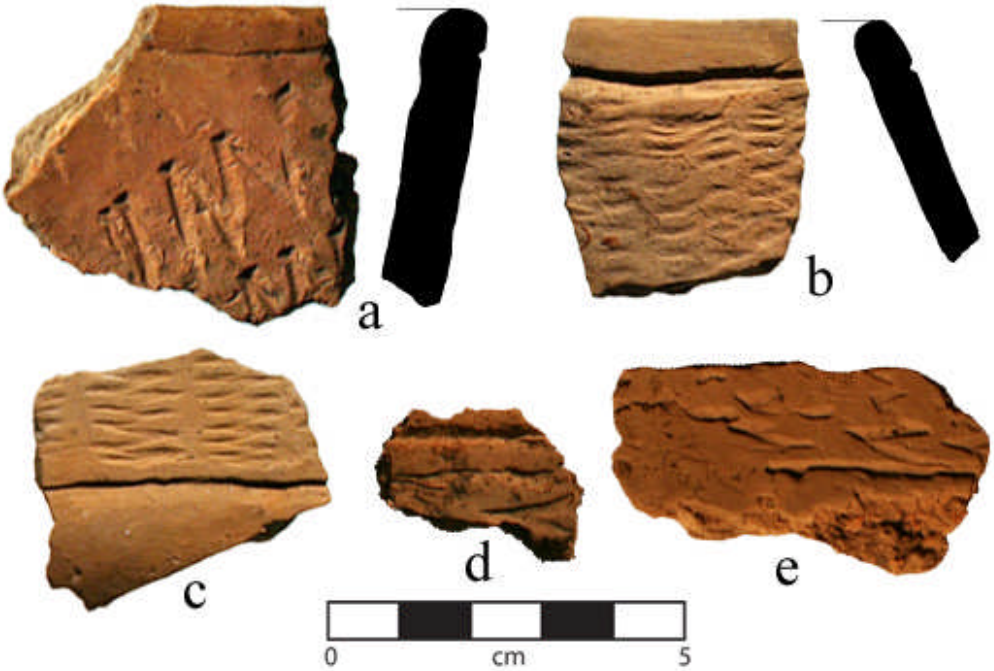


Figure 5.5. Chevalier Stamped. a-e, *var. Chevalier*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a-c, Stout Collection; d, R254; e, R253.

1	R253
1	R254

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:65) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:140-141), Brain (1988:342), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.8), this variety is characterized by parallel, closely spaced columns of plain rocker stamping forming a band around the upper exterior portion of vessels. On some sherds, the bottom of the decorated zone is defined by a single row of triangular punctations (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.8). This variety occurs on a medium-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park* ware (Brain 1988:342; Phillips 1970:65; Williams and Brain 1983:141). One of the Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*

sherds from the Stout Collection is a rim with parallel rocker stamping that occurs in diagonal lines around the rim. The rim of this particular sherd is round-flattened (see 5.4a). The other *Chevalier* rim is also round-flattened (see Figure 5.5b).

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Red River region northward to the latitude of Greenville, Mississippi (Phillips 1970:65), including the Natchez Bluffs regions (Brown 1998a:51).

Chronological Position. This variety is present during the Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:65), diagnostic of the Aden phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Ballina phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.8; Brown 1998a:51).

Chicot Red

Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village*

Sample:	1 sherd	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.6	
Provenience:	1	Stout Collection

Description. Originally defined by Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.10) and further described by Brain (1988:344), this variety is characterized by a red slip on the interior and/or exterior surfaces of simple bowls or bottles. It occurs typically on a medium- to fine-textured, mixed-shell-tempered pottery (Brain 1988:344), and on Addis Plain, *var.*

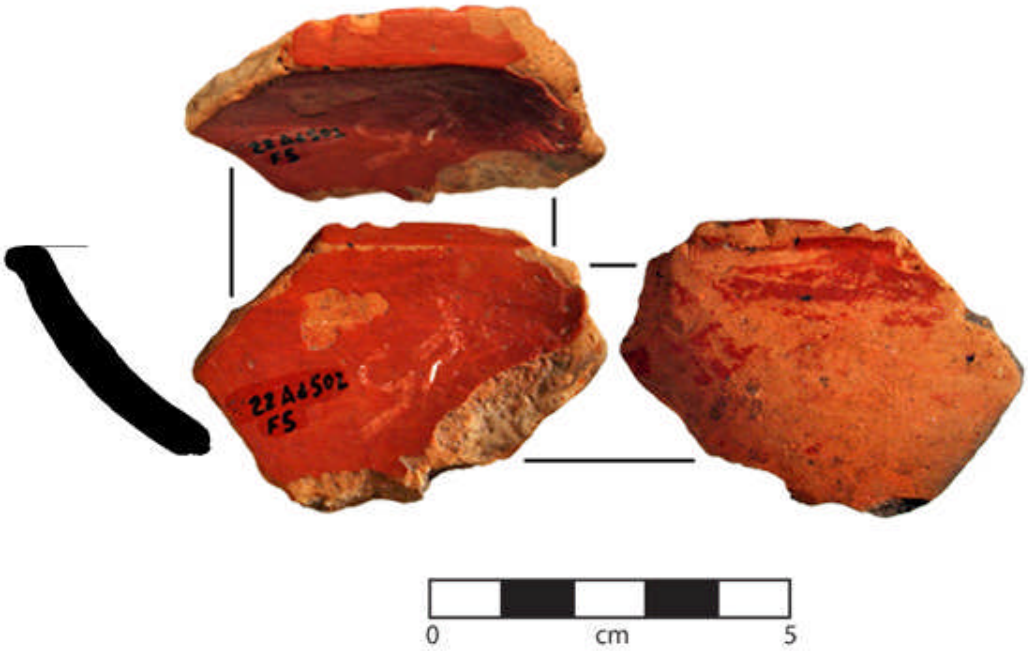


Figure 5.6. Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Stout Collection.

St. Catherine ware (Brain 1988:344; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.10). By virtue of the principle of *terminus post quem*, the presence of Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village* alone pushes the date of the Stout Collection to the late Mississippi period. The pock marks within the exposed temper are interpreted as leached-out shell. This particular *Grand Village* sherd has a flattened, notched rim, which broadens into a lug.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:51).

Chronological Position. Grande Village is present during the Emerald and Natchez phases of the Mississippi period in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:51).

Coles Creek Incised

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Athanasio*

Sample: 3 sherds

Illustrations: Figure 5.7a-b

Provenience: 1 Barnett Collection

from the plaza between Mound A and Mound B

2 Wilson Collection

Description. As described by Brown (1984:109-110), *Athanasio* is characterized by either pointed or overhanging incisions arranged parallel to the rim with punctations placed between them.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the northern Gulf coast of Louisiana (Brown 1984).

Chronological Position. Athanasio is present during the White Lake and Morgan phases in the Petite Anse region during the Coles Creek period (Brown 1984:109).

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Campbellsville*

Sample: 2 sherds

Illustrations: Figure 5.7c-d

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

1 Wilson Collection

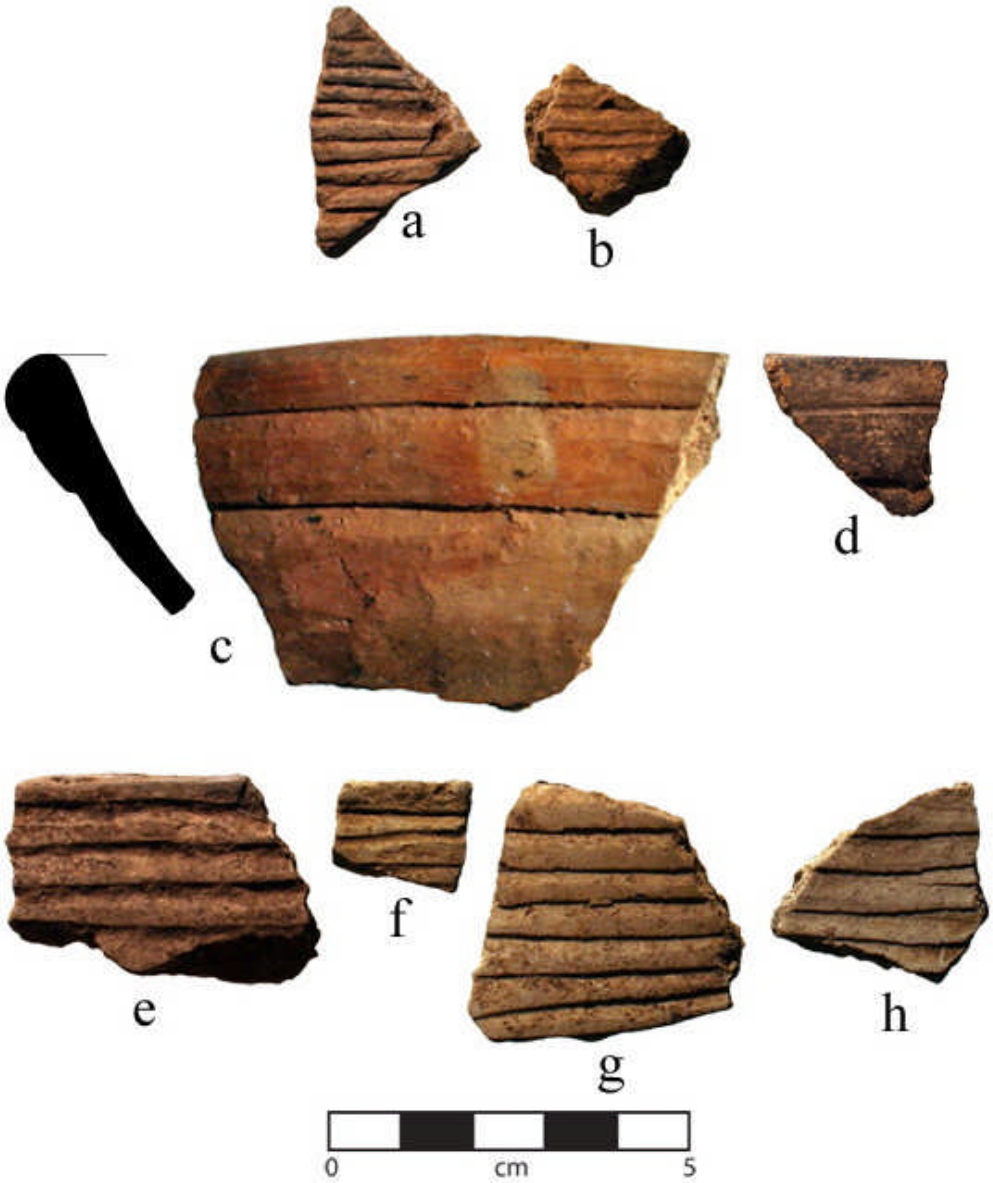


Figure 5.7. Coles Creek Incised. a-b, *var. Athanasio*; c-d, *var. Campbellsville*; e-h, *var. Coles Creek*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a-b, d-h, Wilson Collection; c, Stout Collection.

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:71) and further described by Williams and Brain (1983:147), Brain (1988:346), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.12), *Campbellsville* is characterized by two horizontal, wide-spaced, overhanging lines on bowl rims accompanied by one or two incised lines on a broad flat lip. This variety

occurs on a medium-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park* ware (Brain 1988:346; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Williams and Brain 1983:147). The *Campbellsville* from the Stout Collection has a thickened and rounded rim.

Distribution. Campbellsville occurs in the Lower Yazoo Basin, the Lower Red River, and the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:52; Phillips 1970:71).

Chronological Position. This variety is present in the Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:71), the Kings Crossing phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Ballina phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Brown 1998a:52).

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Coles Creek*

Sample:	5 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.7e-h	
Provenience:	5	Wilson Collection

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:70) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:146); Brain (1988:345), and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.11-A.12), *Coles Creek* is characterized by broad overhanging close-spaced horizontal lines incised around a vessel's rim. *Coles Creek* often exhibits the "classic mode" of triangular punctations bordering the bottom of the decorated zone (Brain, Brown, and

Steponaitis:A11-A.12; Phillips 1970:70; Williams and Brain 1983:146). This variety occurs on medium textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park* ware (Brain 1988:345; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis:A11-A.12; Phillips 1970:70; Williams and Brain 1983:146).

Distribution. Coles Creek occurs in the Lower Red River region, the Natchez Bluffs region, the Tensas Basin region, and the Lower Yazoo Basin region (Phillips 1970:70; Williams and Brain 1983:146)

Chronological Position. This variety is a marker for the Aden phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Sundown and Ballina phases in the Natchez Bluffs region during the Coles Creek period (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994: A.11-A.12; Brown 1998a:52).

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Greenhouse*

Sample:	1 sherd	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.8a	
Provenience:	1	Wilson Collection

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:72-73) and refined by Williams and Brain (1983:148,151), Brain (1988:347), and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.12), *Greenhouse* is characterized by two or three widely spaced horizontal lines neatly incised around the exterior rim surface. The lines sometimes overhang but the “classic mode”

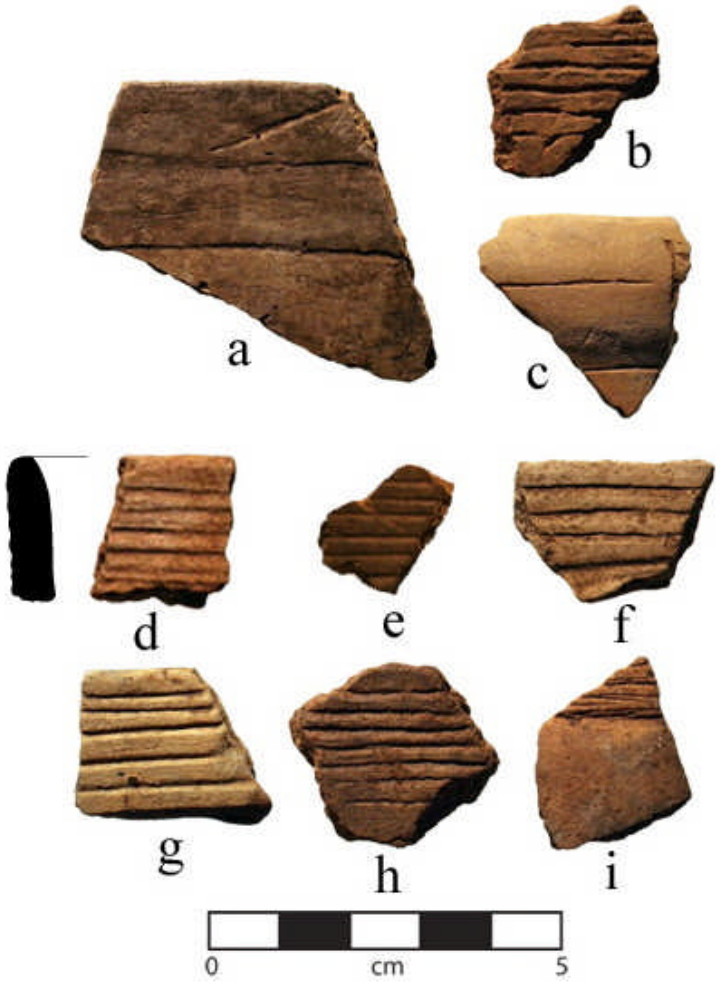


Figure 5.8. Coles Creek Incised. a, *var. Greenhouse*; b, *var. Hardy*; c, *var. Macedonia*; d-i, *var. Mott.* Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a-c, f-i, Wilson Collection; d, R232; e, R233.

does not occur on this variety (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Phillips 1970:72-73). *Greenhouse* occurs on fine-textured grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware (Brain 1988:347; Williams and Brain 1983:148).

Distribution. This variety occurs from the mouth of the Red River to as far north as the Yazoo Basin (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Phillips 1970:72-73)

Chronological Position. *Greenhouse* is a marker for the Kings Crossing phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Balmoral phase in the Natchez Bluffs region during the Coles Creek period (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Brown 1998a:52; Phillips 1970:72-73)

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*

Sample: 1 sherd

Illustrations: Figure 5.8b

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:73-74) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:151), Brain (1988:347), and Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.12), *Hardy* is characterized by multiple horizontal lines crudely or carelessly incised with a pointed tool around the exterior rim. This variety sometimes exhibits the "classic mode" (Phillips 1970:73-74). *Hardy* occurs on a medium-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically an Addis Plain, *var. Addis* ware (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12).

Distribution. Hardy occurs below the Red River to as far north as the Yazoo Basin (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Phillips 1970:73-74; Williams and Brain 1983:151)

Chronological Position. This variety is a marker for the Crippen Point phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Gordon phase in the Natchez Bluffs region during the Coles Creek period (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis: 1994:A.12; Brown 1998a:52; Phillips 1970:74).

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Macedonia*

Sample: 1 sherd

Illustrations: Figure 5.8c

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:75), *Macedonia* is characterized by two or three lines widely spaced on restricted bowl rims accompanied by multiple incised lines in a broad, flat, in-slanting lip. This variety was not retained by Williams and Brain (1983); Brain (1988), or Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis who felt that it was not sufficiently different than *Campbellsville*. I chose to revive this antiquated variety by assigning the single specimen in the Wilson Collection as a *Macedonia* because it fit Phillips's (1970:75) sorting criteria to a "T."

Chronological Position. This variety dates to either the early or middle Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:75).

Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*

Sample:	6 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.8d-i	
Provenience:	4	Wilson Collection
	1	R232
	1	R233

Description. As described by Phillips (1970:75-76), Williams and Brain (1983:151,154), Brain (1988:348), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.13), this variety is characterized by neatly incised, very close-spaced horizontal lines with a less pronounced tendency to overhang. *Mott* occurs on a fine-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware (Brain 1988:348; Phillips 1970:75; Williams and Brain 1983:154). The *Mott* rim sherd recovered from Mound B has a rounded lip (see Figure 5.8d).

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Southern part of the Yazoo Basin, as well as in the Lower Red River, Natchez bluffs, and Tensas basin regions (Phillips 1970:75).

Chronological Position. Mott is a marker for the Kings Crossing phase of the Coles Creek period in the Lower Yazoo Basin (Brown 1998a:53, Phillips 1970:75) and the Balmoral phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.13; Brown 1998a:53).

Coles Creek Incised, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 15 sherds

Provenience: 15 Wilson Collection

Description. Fifteen sherds met the qualifications of the Coles Creek type but their variety could not be specified. However, simply lumping these sherds into an unspecified category does not do justice to the variation they exhibit. One of these sherds fell somewhere between *vars. Coles Creek* and *Mott*, seven sherds fell between *vars. Mott* and *Hardy*, and the final seven fell between *vars. Greenhouse* and *Blakely*.

Evansville Punctated

Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart*

Sample: 2 sherds

Illustrations: Figure 5.9a-b

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

1 R254

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:80-81) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:158), Brain (1988:350), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.14) this variety is characterized by triangular, lunate, or circular punctations applied at random or in horizontal rows forming a band on the upper exterior portion of vessels. *Rhinehart* occurs

Figure 5.9. Evansville Punctated. a-b, *var. Rhinehart*; c, *var. unspecified*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, c, Stout Collection; b, R254.

on fine-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware (Brain 1988:350; Phillips 1970:80; Williams and Brain 1983:158). Both examples of Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart* recovered from Mazique are composed of triangular punctations arranged in horizontal rows.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the southern part of the Lower Mississippi Valley from about the mouth of the Red River to a short distance above Vicksburg (Phillips 1970:81), as well as in Lower Yazoo Basin and the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:54).

Chronological Position. Rhinehart is present during the Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:81), the Kings Crossing phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Balmoral phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.15; Brown 1998a:54).

Evansville Punctated, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 1 sherd

Illustrations: Figure 5.9c

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

French Fork Incised

French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork*

Sample: 13 sherds

Illustrations: Figures 5.10, 5.12a

Provenience: 12 Stout Collection

1 R254

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:84) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:160), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.16) the *French Fork* variety is characterized by fine stippled punctations as background treatment to fairly complex and sometimes non-repetitive curvilinear incised or linear punctated designs. Often circular, triangular, or wedge-shaped punctations are centered on lines or at their terminations (Phillips 1970:84). *French Fork* occurs on fine-textured, hard, grog-tempered pottery (Williams and Brain 1983:160), typically in Baytown Plain, *vars. Sharfit* and *Vicksburg* wares (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.16). The *French Fork* sherds found at Mazique were recovered both with the Stout Collection and in Mound A's basal midden.

Figure 5.10. French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Stout Collection.

Figure 5.11. French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Stout Collection.

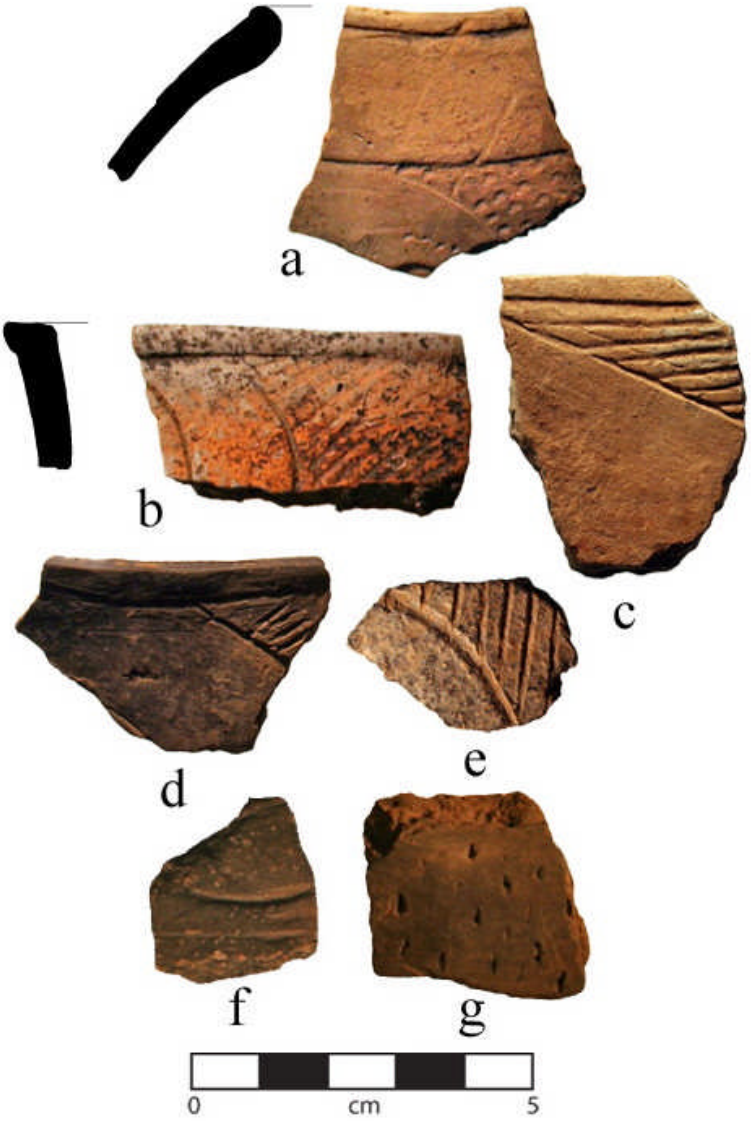


Figure 5.12. French Fork Incised. a, *var. French Fork*; b-e, *var. McNutt*; f-g, *var. unspecified*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R254; b, R246; c-e, Wilson Collection; f, R241A; g, Stout Collection.

All 13 specimens in the sample occurred on Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware. Nine of the *French Fork* sherds in the Stout Collection represent a single vessel of very fine design execution (Figure 5.10). Five of these *French Fork* sherds are rims and one

exhibits a French Fork lug. The *French Fork* sherd recovered from Mound A's basal midden (R254) had a thickened rounded rim with a single exterior incision.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Lower Red River, the Tensas Basin, the southern part of the Yazoo Basin, and the Natchez Bluffs regions (Brown 1998a:54; Phillips 1970:84).

Chronological Position. French Fork is present during the Early Coles Creek period, probably the Sundown and/or Ballina phases in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.16; Brown 1998a; 54).

French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*

Sample:	20	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.11, 5.12b-e	
Provenience:	16	Stout Collection
	3	Wilson Collection
	1	R246

Description. As described by Phillips (1970:86), Williams and Brain (1983:162,163), Brain (1988:354), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.13), this variety is characterized by incised curvilinear decoration on the exterior rim or upper body surface, with zones filled by close-spaced incised lines or occasionally punctations. *McNutt*

occurs on a fine-textured grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware (Williams and Brain 1983:162-163). Of the 20 *McNutt* sherds recovered at Mazique, 16 came from the Stout Collection, one came from a surface collection made in the vicinity of the stratigraphic cut on Mound A, and three came from the Wilson Collection. All 20 contain zones filled by close-spaced incised lines. Those from the Stout Collection represent the upper portion of one largely complete vessel (Figure 4.2). Eight of the *McNutt* sherds from this vessel are rim sherds with rounded rims. Much more of this vessel is represented within the Stout Collection, but these sherds are sorted as Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*. The single *McNutt* sherd recovered as a surface collection on the eastern slope of Mound A (R246) has a flattened rim with a row of punctations that seems to be broadening into a French Fork lug (see Figure 5.12b).

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Lower Red River, Tensas Basin, Natchez Bluffs region, and southern part of the Yazoo Basin (Phillips 1970:86).

Chronological Position. McNutt is a fairly reliable marker for the end of the Coles Creek period in the Lower Red River region and Tensas Basin, the Kings Crossing phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin, and the Balmoral phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.17; Brown 1998a:55; Phillips 1970:86).

French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 2 sherds

Illustrations: Figure 5.12f-g

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

1 R241A

Leland Incised

Leland Incised was described by Phillips, Ford, and Griffin (1951:137-140), Phillips (1970:104), and Williams and Brain (1983:171). This type was later revised by Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A.19) as trailed incised pottery, or those containing relatively broad and shallow U-shaped incision.

Leland Incised, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 3 sherd

Illustrations: Figure 5.13

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

2 Wilson Collection

Figure 5.13. Leland Incised, *var. unspecified*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Stout Collection.

Description. One of the Leland Incised sherd exhibited water worn edges, which is very curious because it is part of the Stout Collection.

Marksville Incised

Marksville Incised, *var. Spanish Fort*

Sample: 2 sherds

Illustrations: Figure 5.14a

Provenience: 2 R241A

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:115) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:181), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.22), *Spanish Fort* is characterized by broad, coarse incisions made in a wet paste, arranged in closely spaced curvilinear or rectilinear patterns on the exterior surface. The variety occurs on a medium to course textured, grog-grit-tempered ware, typically Baytown Plain, *vars. Reed* (Phillips 1970:115) or *Satartia* (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994: A.22; Williams and Brain 1983:181). These two Marksville Incised, *var. Spanish Fort* sherds formed a refit.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Lower Red River region (Phillips 1970;115).

Chronological Position. Spanish Fort is a marker for the late Issaquena phase of the Marksville period in the Lower Yazoo Basin (Brown 1998a:59; Phillips 1970:115) and

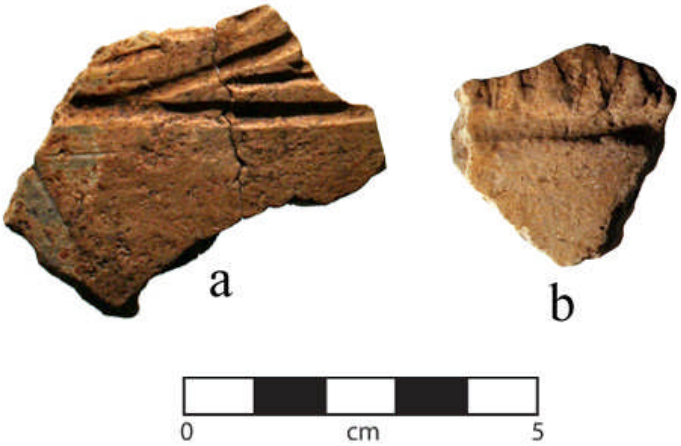


Figure 5.14. Marksville Incised. a, *var. Spanish Fort*. Marksville Stamped. b, *var. Old River*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R241A; b, Stout Collection.

the Issaquena phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.22; Brown 1998a:59).

Marksville Stamped

Marksville Stamped, *var. Old River*

Sample: 1 sherd

Illustrations: Figure 5.14b

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

Description. As defined by Toth (1988:230-31), this variety is characterized by broad u-shaped zoned rocker stamping on a soft, chalky paste, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Marksville* ware (Brown 1998a:33).

Distribution. Old River occurs in the Lower Red River region (Brown 1998a:59).

Chronological Position. This variety is present in the Marksville phase of the early Marksville period (Brown 1998a:59; Toth 1988:230).

Mazique Incised

Mazique Incised, *var. Kings Point*

Sample:	7 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figures 5.15a-g	
Provenience:	1	Stout Collection
	5	Wilson Collection
	1	R248

Description. As described by Phillips (1970: 129), Williams and Brain (1983:186), and Brain (1988:370), and modified by Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.23), this variety is characterized by carefully executed incisions, which are sometimes but not always arranged in line-filled triangles that form a horizontal band on the rims of vessels. On some sherds, the upper and/or lower border of the decorated band is defined by a single horizontal incision (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.23). *Kings Point* occurs on a fine-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware (Brain 1988:370; Phillips 1970:129; Williams and Brain 1983:186). The *Kings Point* rim sherd in the sample that was recovered from the surface collection made

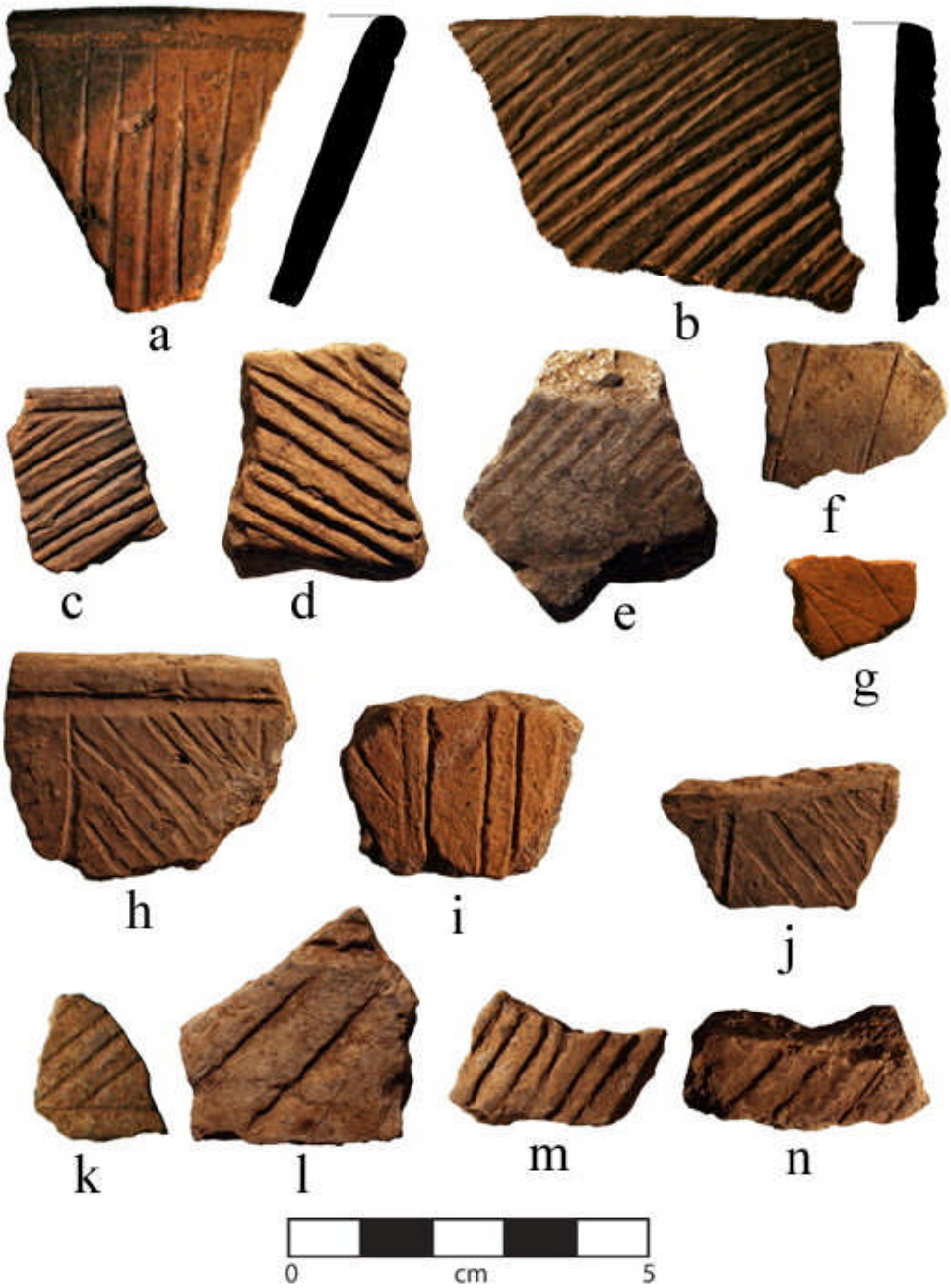


Figure 5.15. Mazique Incised. a-g, *var. Kings Point*; h-j, *var. Manchac*; k-n, *var. Mazique*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R248; b, Stout Collection; c-j, l-n, Wilson Collection; k, R232.

southwest of Mound A is decorated with vertically arranged parallel lines (see Figure 5.15a). It has a rounded rim with a single exterior incision. The *Kings Point* rim sherd from the Stout Collection has a flattened rim.

Distribution. This variety occurs in the Lower Yazoo Basin (Phillips 1970:129) and the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:60).

Chronological Position. Kings Point is present during the late Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:129), the Kings Crossing phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Balmoral phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.23; Brown 1998a:60).

Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*

Sample:	4 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figures 5.15h-j	
Provenience:	4	Wilson Collection

Description. As defined by Phillips (1970:129-130) and refined by Williams and Brain (1983:186) and Brain (1988:370), *Manchac* is characterized by carelessly incised lines made by means of a pointed tool and arranged in rectilinear patterns on the exterior rim. This decoration is often arranged in line filled triangles and in rare cases exhibits the "classic mode" of a single row of punctations located below the design field (Phillips

1970:130; Williams and Brain 1983:186). This variety occurs on a medium-textured, grog tempered pottery, typically an Addis Plain, *vars. Addis* or *Greenhouse* (Brain 1988:370; Brown 1998a:11,14; Phillips 1970:129-130; Williams and Brain 1983:186).

Distribution. Manchac occurs in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Natchez Bluffs regions of the Lower Mississippi Valley (Brown 1998a:60).

Chronological Position. This variety is present during the Crippen Point phase of the Coles Creek period in the Lower Yazoo Basin and the Gordon, Foster, Emerald, and Natchez phases of the Coles Creek and Mississippi period in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:60). *Manchac* is noticeably absent, or extremely rare, during the Anna phase (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.24)

Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*

Sample:	5 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figures 5.15k-n	
Provenience:	1	Barnett Collection
		1 from the North end of Mound A
	3	Wilson Collection
	1	R232

Description. As described by Phillips (1970: 129), Williams and Brain (1983:184), Brain (1988:348), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.22-A.23), this variety is characterized by incised lines that have a tendency to overhang. They are arranged in line-filled triangles and other simple arrangements of vertical and oblique parallel lines, which form bands on the rims of vessels. The incisions are typically made with a square-ended implement that was held at an oblique angle (Brain 1988:370). *Mazique* occurs on a medium-textured, grog-tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park* ware (Brain 1988:370; Williams and Brain 1983:184). The sherd from the Barnett Collection exhibited the classic Coles Creek mode of triangular punctations below the parallel incisions. The single sherd from R232 was recovered from a surface collection on Mound B. It has gently overhanging parallel incisions zoned by a single incised line.

Distribution. *Mazique* occurs in the Lower Red River, Tensas Basin, and adjacent portions of Mississippi. The variety is largely absent in the Yazoo region (Phillips 1970:129; Williams and Brain 1983:184).

Chronological Position. Mazique is a marker for the early Coles Creek period (Phillips 1970:129; Williams and Brain 1983:184), the Ballina phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown and Steponaitis 1994:A.23; Brown 1998a:60).

Mazique Incised, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 8 sherds

Provenience: 8 Wilson Collection

Mulberry Creek Cord Marked

Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek*

Sample: 2 sherds

Illustrations: Figures 5.16a-b

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

1 Wilson Collection

Figure 5.16. Mulberry Creek Cord Marked. a-b, *var. Smith Creek.* Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, Stout Collection; b, Wilson Collection.

Description. As described by Phillips (1970: 138-139), Williams and Brain (1983:189-190), Brain (1988:372), and Brain, Brown and Steponaitis (1994:A.25), *Smith Creek* is characterized by fine cord marking, usually crisscrossed, and applied with a cord-wrapped paddle on the exterior surface of vessels. This variety occurs on a compact, medium-textured, grog-grit tempered pottery, typically a Baytown Plain, *vars. Sharfit* or

Valley Park. (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.25; Brain 1988:372; Williams and Brain 1983:190).

Distribution. The *Smith Creek* variety occurs in the Lower Yazoo and Tensas Basins, the Lower Red River (Phillips 1970:139), and the Natchez Bluffs region (Brown 1998a:61).

Chronological Position. This variety was present during the Late Baytown and Coles Creek periods in the Lower Red River region and Tensas Basin (Brown 1998a; 61; Phillips 1970:139), the Bayland phase in the Lower Yazoo Basin, and the Sundown phase in the Natchez Bluffs region (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.25; 1994; Brown 1998a:61).

Tammany Punctated

Tammany Punctated, *var. Tammany*

Sample:	3 sherds	
Illustrations:	Figures 5.17a-b	
Provenience:	1	R241A
	2	R246

Description. As described by Phillips (1970:161), Weinstein and Rivet (1978:53-55), and Wilkins (2004), *Tammany* is characterized by deep vertical impressions made by fingernail or finger and thumbnail, or punctations made by implements other than

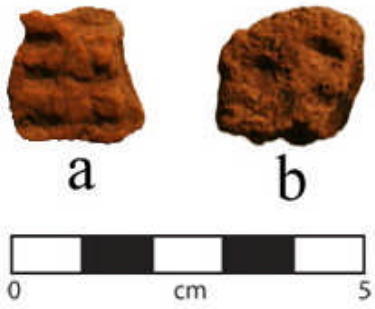


Figure 5.17. Tammany Punctated. a-b, *var. Tammany*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R241A; b, R246.

fingernail impressions that are arranged in horizontal rows beginning very close to the lip. This variety occurs on a Tchefuncte Plain, *var. Tchefuncte* ware. Due the poor preservation of temperless ceramic wares and the presence of bits and pieces of a Tchefuncte Plain, *var. Tchefuncte* pottery in collection area R246, the sample of Tammany Punctated, *var. Tammany* recovered in the general vicinity of the stratigraphic cut on Mound A may have initially been larger.

Distribution. Tammany occurs in the southern Mississippi Valley and the delta of the Mississippi River (Brown 1998a:64; Phillips 1970:161; Wilkins 2004:80).

Chronological Position. This variety is present during the Tchula period (Brown 1998a:64; Phillips 1970:161; Wilkins 2004:80).

Unclassified Incised on Addis Plain, *var. St. Catherine*

Sample: 1 sherd

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

Unclassified Incised on Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 1 sherd

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Description. The surface of this sherd was etched post firing and breaking.

Unclassified Incised on Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*

Sample: 6 sherds

Provenience: 6 Wilson Collection

Unclassified Incised on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*

Sample: 8 sherds

Provenience: 1 Stout Collection

6 sherds

1 R254

Unclassified Incised and Punctated on Addis Plain, *var. Addis*

Sample: 1 sherd

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Pottery Appendages

Four French Fork lugs were found in the Stout Collection (Figures 5.10, 5.18a-c). French Fork lugs were recognized by Ford (1951:65) and Phillips (1970:189,194,358,412) and described by Williams and Brain (1983:160) as a distinctive triangular handle mode that protrudes from the lip and are incised and/or punctated in the French Fork manner. It is interesting to note that all of the French Fork lugs included on undecorated sherds (see Figures 5.18a-c) are rocker stamped.

A single podal support is present in the Stout Collection (Figure 5.19). It occurs on a Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified* ware.

Miscellaneous Pottery

In cases where ceramic sherds meet the sorting criteria of more than one type or type/variety, a more detailed description is provided. While these ceramics might not comfortably fit into existing type-variety categories, they are still important indicators of the past, not to be disregarded (Brew 1971:103). Far from violating the sanctity of the type-variety typology, these combination ceramics provide a unique way of demonstrating contemporaneity of decoration styles (Brown 1999:611).

Figure 5.18. French Fork lugs, on a Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* ware. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), the Stout Collection.

Figure 5.19. Ceramic pode, on a Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified* ware. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), the Stout Collection.

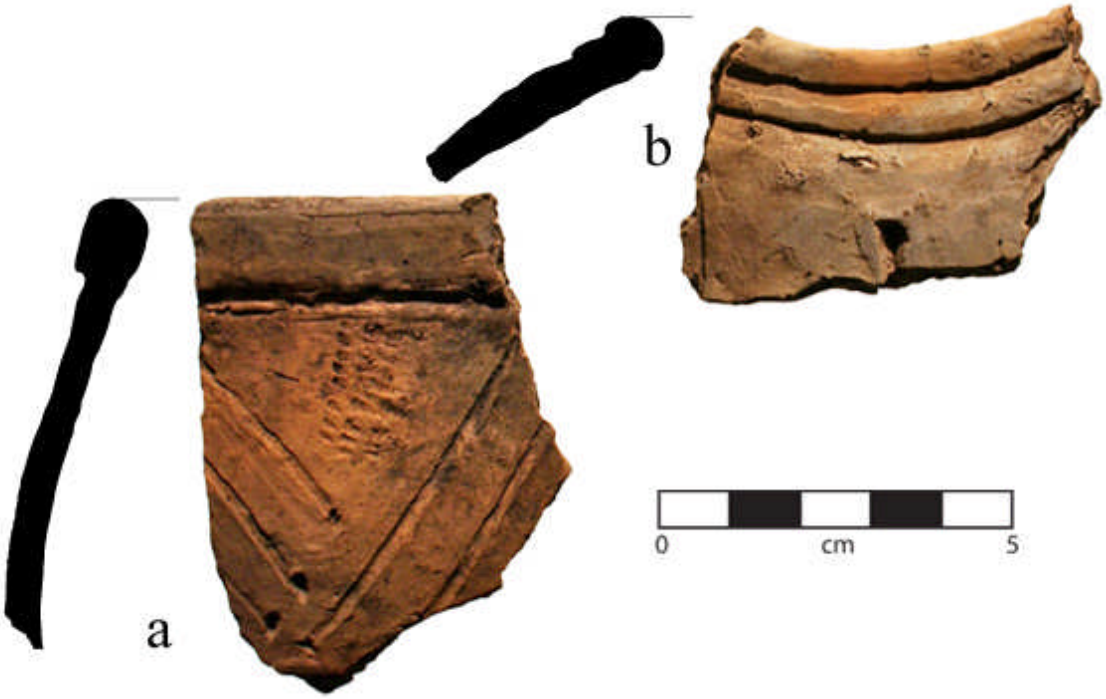


Figure 5.20. Combination sherds. a, Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*/ Chevalier Stamped, *var. unspecified*. b, Coles Creek Incised, *var. Chase*/French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified*. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a-b, Stout Collection.

Only two sherds, both from the Stout Collection, possess combinations of two or more types. One is a rim sherd that combines design elements from both Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique* and a Chevalier Stamped, *var. unspecified* (Figure 5.20a). In this case, three triangular zones are visible near the rim of the vessel. Two of the zones have the familiar triangles of the *Mazique variety* and the third is a triangle partially filled with a column of rocker stamping associated with the Chevalier type. This sherd has a thickened, round-flattened rim with a single exterior incision. The second combination ceramic recovered is a rim sherd that combines elements of Coles Creek Incised, *var. Chase* and a French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified* (Figure 5.20b). This sherd contains two closely spaced incisions on the exterior of the rim characteristic of *Chase* (Brain

1988:347; Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994:A.12; Phillips 1970:71-71; Williams and Brain 1983:147-148), as well as evidence of two curvilinear incisions and a single triangular punctation suggestive of the French Fork type. This sherd is from a vessel with a thickened round-flattened rim.

In addition, the Wilson Collection yielded a fragment of a fired pottery coil that was tempered with grit and grog (Figure 5.21).

Figure 5.21. Fired pottery coil, tempered with grit and grog. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Wilson Collection.

Modified pottery

A number of objects shaped from pottery vessels were also recovered from Mazique. Collection area R241A, the loose mound fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut unit R241, yielded a Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* sherd that was shaped into a partial discoidal form (Figure 5.22a). The Wilson collection also yielded a shaped discoidal on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* ware (Figure 5.22c). Two additional shaped sherds were recovered from R254, the 30 cm deep sample taken from Mound A's basal midden. One is a partial discoidal (Figure 5.22b). The other is not your typical pottery discoidal in that it is very large. In addition to the rounded edges, it has a squared tab (Figure 5.23). Both of the shaped ceramics that came from R254 were formed from Baytown Plain, *var.*

Figure 5.22. Partially shaped discoidals. a, formed from Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg* ware. b-c, formed from Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* ware. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R241A; b, R254; c, Wilson Collection.

unspecified ware. Also, they both were covered to varying degrees with a tenacious unclassified substance made up of flecks of ash and charcoal.

Additionally, the Stout Collection contained two rim sherds that have a single hole drilled through each, presumably for mending. Both of these drilled sherds occur on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified ware*.

Fired Clay

Fired Clay

Sample:	47	
Provenience:	3	Barnett Collection
		1 from the North end of Mound A
		2 from Mound B
	1	R232
	38	R241A

Figure 5.23. Large shaped sherd with rounded edge and squared tab on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* ware. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), R254.

	2	R242A
	1	R243D
	2	R245E

Daub

Sample:	19	
Provenience:	11	Wilson Collection
	8	R232

Faunal Material

Bone

Unclassified bone

Sample:	4	
Illustrations:	Figure 5.24	
Provenience:	1	Wilson Collection
	1	R241A
	1	R242A
	1	R243D3

Description. The unclassified bones recovered from Mazique were in a state of poor preservation. The bone from the Wilson collection was a fragment of long bone and the

Figure 5.24. Poorly preserved bone exposed in the western profile of unit R243, strata R243D. Photograph taken on November 1, 2009.

bone pictured (Figure 5.24) was revealed in the stratigraphic profile of unit R243, strata R243D3.

Human (*Homo sapiens sapiens*) phalange

Sample: 1

Illustrations: Figure 5.25

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) left metatarsal

Sample: 1

Figure 5.25. Human phalange. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Wilson Collection

Figure 5.26. White tailed deer metatarsal. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), R254.

Illustrations: Figure 5.26

Provenience: 1 R254

Description. This metatarsal was recovered from the basal midden below the eastern face of Mound A at Mazique. It is in a state of excellent preservation due to the fact that the bone has been burnt.

Shell

Unclassified shell

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 R252

Miscellaneous Stone Artifacts

Miscellaneous Stone Tools

Bifacially Chipped Sandstone

Sample: 1

Illustrations: Figure 5.27

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Figure 5.27. Bifacially chipped sandstone. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Wilson Collection.

Description. This tool was made from a highly solidified white sandstone.

Bifacially Chipped Pebble

Sample: 1

Illustrations: Figure 5.28

Provenience: 1 R241A

Figure 5.28. Bifacially chipped pebble. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), R241A.

Description. This bifacially chipped pebble is made out of a chert that is commonly available in the Natchez Bluffs region. A single edge was prepared and sharpened through pressure flaking. There was little if any evidence of use along this prepared edge.

Burin on a Flake

Sample: 1

Illustrations: Figure 5.29

Provenience: 1 R248

Description. This burin was made out of a Natchez Bluff pebble chert. This flake tool was produced with three blows: two on one end, one on the opposite end. There is evidence of use along one of the edges of the flake.

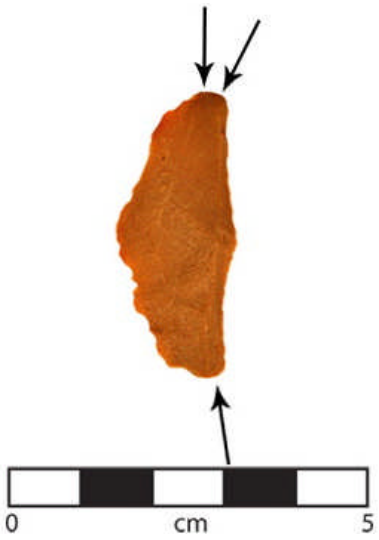


Figure 5.29. Burin on a flake. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), a, R248. The arrows show where the burin blows were applied.

Unifacial Perforator on a Flake

Sample: 1

Illustrations: Figure 5.30

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Figure 5.30. Unifacial perforator on a Flake. Provenience: Mazique (22Ad502), Wilson Collection.

Ground Sandstone Fragments

Sample: 2

Provenience: 2 Wilson Collection

Hammer-stone

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Unifacially Chipped Pebble

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 R243A

Description. This unifacially chipped pebble was made out of quartzite. Two flake scars are evident. The pebble also exhibits a little pecking, which suggests the pebble might have been used as a hammerstone.

Core

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Lithic Debitage

The lithic debitage, waste from the production of stone tools, was separated into four categorical types: primary flakes, secondary flakes, tertiary flakes, and shatter. A flake was considered primary if the majority of its dorsal aspect was covered by cortex, secondary if it possessed some cortex on its dorsal aspect, and tertiary if it exhibited no

cortex (Sutton and Arkush 2002:56). The shatter category contained all nonflake angular waste (Sutton and Arkush 2002:56).

Primary Flakes, utilized

Sample:	2	
Provenience:	2	Wilson Collection

Primary Flakes, unutilized

Sample:	9	
Provenience:	5	Wilson Collection
	2	R241A
	1	R245B
	1	R246

Secondary Flakes, unutilized

Sample:	9	
Provenience:	2	R242I
	1	R243D3
	2	R244IB
	2	R245B
	1	R246
	1	R253

Tertiary Flakes, utilized

Sample:	5	
Provenience:	2	R240A
	1	R240B
	1	R244IIA
	1	R245A

Tertiary Flakes, unutilized

Sample:	12	
Provenience:	1	Wilson Collection
	3	R241A
	2	R242A
	1	R242I
	1	R243A
	2	R243D
	1	R245D
	1	R245F

Shatter

Sample:	19	
Provenience:	2	Barnett Collection
		from the South end of Mound A
		from Mound B

	1	Wilson Collection
	1	R240A
	4	R241A
	1	R242A
	1	R242I
	1	R243D
	3	R245B
	1	R245F
	1	R253
	3	R254

Miscellaneous Lithics

Fire-Cracked Rocks

Sample:	431	
Provenience:	2	Barnett Collection from Mound B
	6	Wilson Collection
	4	R232
	1	R233
	5	R246
	5	R247
	52	R240A

118	R241A
60	R242A
1	R242C
1	R242F
2	R242G
6	R242H
13	R242I
9	R242J
2	R243A
8	R243B
11	R243D
1	R243D3
29	R244IB
9	R244IC
18	R244ID
45	R245B
1	R245C
14	R245D
1	R245E
1	R245F
2	R245G
2	R253
2	R254

Iron Stone with Limonite

Sample:	1	
Provenience:	1	R243D

Pebbles

Sample:	55	
Provenience:	1	Wilson Collection
	13	R240A
	2	R240B
	11	R241A
	4	R242A
	1	R242H
	1	R242I
	2	R242J
	3	R243D
	3	R244IB
	4	R244ID
	7	R245B
	1	R245F
	1	R245G
	1	R254

Description: Pebbles were kept during the sorting process and listed here because they must have been brought to their respective context due to the nature of the wind deposited loess soil of the Natchez Bluffs region.

Sandstone Fragment

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 R253

Fossils

Fossilized Wood

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Historic Artifacts

Ceramics

Creamware

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Earthenware

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Porcelain

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Salt-glazed stoneware

Sample: 1

Provenience: 1 Wilson Collection

Whiteware

Sample: 13

Provenience: 13 Wilson Collection

Description. Seven of the 13 whiteware sherds were decorated, one with a floral transfer print pattern and the other six with solid colors.

Glass

Clear glass

Sample: 2

Provenience 2 R252

Description. These two pieces of glass are clear and flat. They were recovered below the erosional “V” on the eastern side of Mound A at Mazique (see Figures 3.12-3.13). This glass is probably part of the display from Jefferson Davis Dickson’s trench exhibit in Mound A.

Olive Green Bottle Glass

Sample:	2	
Provenience:	2	Wilson Collection

Metal

Cut nail

Sample:	1	
Provenience:	1	Wilson Collection

CHAPTER 6
RESULTS OF THE LABORATORY ANALYSIS

This chapter presents the results of the artifact analysis from the sampled Mazique contexts: the surface collections, the Stout Collection, the Barnett Collection, the Wilson Collection, the stratigraphic cut of Mound A, and the Mound A basal midden. The results presented here were generated following the methods discussed in Chapter 4, and the artifact descriptions contained in Chapter 5. The discussion herein centers upon trends evident within each context and assigning the various collections and corresponding contexts at Mazique to their appropriate chronological periods and phases.

Analysis of the Surface Collections

This section considers the nine surface collection contexts at Mazique that yielded ceramics collectively, because of the limited sample size and the fact that no clear pattern could be discerned from the distribution of artifacts. The most striking trend evident in the data is that none of the diagnostic ceramics recovered on the surface of Mazique date later than the Coles Creek period. That is, no ceramic marker indicative of the Mississippi period was found in the course of surface collecting. The Coles Creek period ceramics that were recovered include Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*, French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*, Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*, and Mazique Incised, *var. Kings Point* (Table 6.1). Additionally, a single sherd of Tammany Punctated, *var. Tammany* was recovered

Summary of the Surface Collection Ceramics from Mazique (22Ad502)					
context	**Type, *Variety***	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
R200	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
R200 total sherd count					1
R201	Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	1	-	1
R201 total sherd count					1
R232	Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*	1	-	-	1
	Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*	-	1	-	1
R232 total sherd count					2
R233	Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*	1	-	-	1
	Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*	-	1	-	1
R233 total sherd count					2
R246	French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*	1	-	-	1
	Tammany Punctated, *var. Tammany*	-	2	-	2
	Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
	Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	4	-	4
	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	1	2
R246 total sherd count					10
R248	Mazique Incised, *var. Kings Point*	1	-	-	1
R248 total sherd count					1
R249	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	2	4	-	6
R249 total sherd count					6
R250	Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	1	-	-	1
R250 total sherd count					1
R251	Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	-	1	-	1
R251 total sherd count					1

Table 6.1. Summary of the Surface Collection Ceramics from Mazique (22Ad502).

that dates to the Tchula period. It would be tremendously significant were it demonstrable that appreciably less Mississippi material was recovered at Mazique than previously assumed, given that this is at the crux of Ian W. Brown's (2007:156) interpretation. However, this should also be tempered by the limited sample size of this study's surface collections, a mere 25 sherds. In order to further investigate the scope of the Mississippi period material recovered at Mazique it was necessary to review the pertinent literature and other collections to expand the sample size accordingly.

Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994) reexamined Ford's Mazique collection and noted the presence of Ballina, Balmoral, and Anna phase markers. In the 1970's Vin Steponaitis (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994; personal communication 2009) reexamined Cotter's general surface collection made at Mazique and noted that it includes Harrison Bayou Incised, *var. Harrison Bayou*, Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac* (with herringbone pattern), and Fatherland Incised, *vars. Fatherland, Stanton,* and *unspecified.*

The Barnett Collection made at Mazique contained only two diagnostic sherds, a Coles Creek Incised, *var. Athanasio* and a Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique* (Table 6.2). Both of these type-varieties are indicative of the Coles Creek period, although *Athanasio* is a variety typically associated with the northern Gulf Coast instead of the Lower Mississippi Valley. The Barnett collection did not register a Mississippi presence at Mazique. However, this collection only contained a total of 16 sherds and so was susceptible to the same sample size bias as my own surface collections.

The Wilson Collection added an additional 34 diagnostic sherds to the overall sample. Ceramic type-varieties contained within this collection that dated to the Coles

Summary of the Decorated Ceramics in the Barnett Collection				
Type, *Variety*	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Athanasio*	-	1	-	1
Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*	-	1	-	1
total decorated sherd count				2
Summary of the Plain Wares in the Barnett Collection				
Type, *Variety*	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	3	-	3
Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	-	1	-	1
Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	1	-	1
Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	11	-	11
total decorated sherd count				16

Table 6.2. Summary of the Barnett Collection Ceramics from Mazique (22Ad502).

Creek period included Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Athanasio, Campbellsville, Coles Creek, Greenhouse, Hardy, Macedonia,* and *Mott*, French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*, Mazique Incised, *vars. Kings Point, Manchac,* and *Mazique*, and Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek* (Table 6.3). In addition, this collection contained a total of 5 sherds that date to the Mississippi period. Four of these sherds were Mazique Incised, *var. Manchacs*. However, while this type-variety occurs in the Foster and Emerald phases of the Mississippi period it also is associated with the Gordon phase of the terminal Coles Creek as well as the Natchez phase of the Historic period. Therefore, the presence of *Manchac* does not definitively signify a Mississippi presence. However, the fifth sherd was Anna Incised, *var. Anna* that dates to the Anna Phase of the Mississippi period.

Given Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis's (1994) discussion of Ford's surface collection at Mazique, Steponaitis's evaluation of Cotter's general collections (personal communication 2009), Barnett's surface collection, and Wilson's surface collection, my own surface collections were sufficiently augmented to allow a more appropriate assessment of whether the amount of known Mississippi period material recovered from

Summary of the Decorated Ceramics in the Wilson Collection				
Type, *Variety*	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
Anna Incised, *var. Anna*	1	-	-	1
Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*	2	-	-	2
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Athanasio*	-	2	-	2
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Campbellsville*	1	-	-	1
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Coles Creek*	1	4	-	5
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Greenhouse*	1	-	-	1
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*	-	1	-	1
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Macedonia*	-	1	-	1
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Mott*	-	4	-	4
Coles Creek Incised, *var. unspecified*	3	12	-	15
French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*	2	1	-	3
Leland Incised, *var. unspecified*	1	1	-	2
Mazique Incised, *var. Kings Point*	1	4	-	5
Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*	2	2	-	4
Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*	-	3	-	3
Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek*	-	1	-	1
Unclassified Incised on Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
Unclassified Incised on Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	6	-	5
Unclassified Incised on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	3	3	-	6
Unclassified Incised and Punctated on Addis Plain, *var. Addis*	-	1	-	1
total decorated sherd count				64
Summary of the Plain Wares in the Wilson Collection				
Type, *Variety*	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
Addis Plain, *var. Valley Park*	2	17	-	19
Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	20	58	-	78
Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	12	61	2	75
Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	4	16	-	20
Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	26	83	1	110
Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
Unspecified Plain	1	-	-	1
total decorated sherd count				304

Table 6.3. Summary of the Wilson Collection Ceramics from Mazique (22Ad502).

Mazique warranted Ian W. Brown's emphasis of the Plaquemine component at the site. It should come as no surprise to the reader at this point that Brown's treatment of the cultures represented at Mazique was reasonable given the available evidence at the time

of its publication. It is clear from the Cotter, and Wilson Collections that both Coles Creek and Plaquemine populations made use of Mazique. However, the presence of Mississippi occupation is based on a very few Fatherland Incised, *var. unspecified* sherds that John L. Cotter found and a single Anna Incised, *var. Anna* sherd suggesting that Brown overestimated the strength of the Plaquemine component at Mazique (Brown 2007:145). While these results indicate that Mazique was occupied during both the Coles Creek and Mississippi period, the results of surface collection analyses do not resolve my Coles Creek mound building hypothesis.

Analysis of the Stout Collection

A preliminary glance at the ceramic types and varieties contained within the Stout Collection was the primary motivation for this reevaluation of Ian W. Brown's (2007:156) interpretation of mound construction at Mazique. However, the results of this analysis begged far more questions than they were able to resolve.

It is clear that there is a very strong Coles Creek component to the Stout Collection. The presence of Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*, Coles Creek, *var. Campbellsville*, and French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork* ceramics are indicative of the Ballina phase of the Coles Creek period. Types present in this collection that relate to the Balmoral phase of the Coles Creek period include Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart*, French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*, and Mazique Incised, *var. Kings Point* (see Table 6.4). Of the 38 diagnostic sherds[13] contained within this collection, 34 (92.1%) date to either

[13] This count only includes those decorated ceramics with a specified variety as well as the Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified* pode.

Summary of the Decorated Ceramics in the Stout Collection				
Type, *Variety*	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*	2	1	-	3
Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village*	1	-	-	1
Coles Creek, *var. Campbellsville*	-	1	-	1
Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart*	-	1	-	1
Evansville Punctated, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork*	5	7	-	12
French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*	8	8	-	16
French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
Leland Incised, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
Marksville Stamped, *var. Old River*	-	1	-	1
Mazique Incised, *var. Kings Point*	1	-	-	1
Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek*	-	1	-	1
Unclassified incised on Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* ware	-	1	-	1
Unclassified incised on an Addis Plain, *var. St. Catherine*	-	1	-	1
combination sherds				
Coles Creek Incised, *var. Chase/* French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified*	1	-	-	1
Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique/* Chevalier Stamped, *var. unspecified*	1	-	-	1
total decorated sherd count				44

Summary of the Plain Wares in the Stout Collection				
Type, *Variety*	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
Addis Plain, *var. Ratcliffe*	1	8	-	9
Addis Plain, *var. St. Catherine*	2	-	-	2
Baytown Plain, *var. Thomas*	-	2	-	2
Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	-	8	-	8
Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	5	-	5
Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	25	196	13	234
Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	-	1 (pode)	1
total decorated sherd count				261

Table 6.4. Summary of the Stout Collection Ceramics from Mazique (22Ad502).

the Ballina or Balmoral phase of the Coles Creek period. However, the presence of several anomalous ceramic types complicates the status of this collection.

The Stout Collection contains a single Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek* sherd that dates to the Sundown phase of the Coles Creek period. Another Stout Collection sherd is Marksville Stamped, *var. Old River*, which dates to the early Marksville period. The earliest diagnostic sherd in the Stout Collection is a Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified* basal sherd with a podal support that dates to the Homochitto phase (Wilkins 2004) of the Tchula period in the Natchez Bluffs (see Table 6.4). All three of these sherds are diagnostic of periods earlier than Coles Creek. The inclusion of these materials in the Stout Collection, especially the Tchefuncte specimen, raises the possibility of two different depositional scenarios. The first scenario is that the feature from which the Stout Collection was drawn contained vessels or portions of vessels that were curated by the prehistoric occupants of Mazique and were all deposited in the same event. This would explain the presence of the Tchula and Marksville period ceramics and why they were found in such close association with the sherds and vessels diagnostic of the Coles Creek period. A second scenario is that the Marksville Stamped, *var. Old River* sherd and the Tchefuncte sherd were contained within mound fill adjacent to the Stout Collection feature and that these two contexts mixed when the erosional slumping that exposed the collection occurred. The presence of several additional crumbs of Tchefuncte Plain pottery encountered in Mound A's fill suggests that the earth used to construct at least some of the mound came from a Tchula period context on or near Mazique, lending some credence to this explanation. Furthermore, the Mulberry Creek Cord Marked, *var. Smith Creek* type could still have been being locally produced during the early Coles Creek period, so its presence in the Stout Collection is strange but not out of the question.

The most troubling diagnostic within the Stout Collection is a single large Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village* sherd (Figure 5.6). The sorting criteria established by Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis (1994:A:10) distinguished between the Larto Red and Chicot Red types on the basis of the ware that the paint occurs on: Larto Red occurs on a Baytown ware, and Chicot Red occurs on an Addis ware. Therefore, the sherd in question is determined to be Chicot Red on an Addis Plain, *var. unspecified ware* due to the presence of pock marks within the temper interpreted as leached-out shell. However, it should be noted that shell is not visible in the exposed profile. Consideration of this sherd in light of the other diagnostic ceramics present in the Stout Collection raises a troubling dilemma: either the Chicot Red sherd represented taphonomic contamination of the feature that yielded the Stout Collection, or the collection was, in fact, deposited later than the vast majority of the diagnostics would suggest. In the first, the feature and its associated collection was deposited during the Coles Creek period, but in the second case the feature would have to be of Mississippian vintage. While the three Stout Collection ceramics that date to earlier periods do not affect the *terminus post quem* of the Stout Collection, validation of this Chicot Red sherd does. Ultimately, due to the presence of this sherd, the Stout Collection can date no earlier than the Emerald phase of the Mississippi period.

There are, however, two issues of concern associated with the Stout Collection. The first issue is that the sherds that are stacked on top of the large French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt* vessel in Mr. Stout's photographs of the feature (Figures 4.1-4.2) are not in situ. These sherds were primarily recovered in the immediate vicinity of the large *McNutt* jar, cleaned, and then stacked on top of it (Stout personal communication September

2009). This collection's location below Mound A on the banks of Second Creek and the recovery techniques employed suggest an avenue by which anomalous sherds could have easily become associated with the material from the feature.

The second irregularity was encountered over the course of analyzing the Stout Collection. This problem came in the form of a single water-worn Leland Incised, *var. unspecified* sherd (Figure 5.13). This was the only sherd that evidenced such wear, but its presence is very important. It is clear that this sherd spent some time in Second Creek or some other body of water with a current. Two solutions come to mind, 1) The sherd may have been recovered from the water and intentionally deposited in the feature with the rest of the ceramics; or 2) the sherd is simply a contamination of the Stout Collection and was unintentionally mixed in with the material. Whatever its true origin, the current association between this particular Leland Incised, *var. unspecified* sherd and the Stout Collection is troubling and presents grounds for questioning the validity of other anomalous ceramics contained therein.

An unfortunate fact inhibiting a more complete understanding of the Stout Collection was that its context in relation to Mound A was lost to Second Creek. That is, due to the fact that this material was found eroded below the natural horizon that Mound A was built upon, located so close to the edge of Second Creek, its primary depositional context could not be reconstructed. The only statement that can be made with any confidence concerning the Stout Collection is that it came from Mound A at Mazique, but that is about it! Therefore, even with a *terminus post quem* of the Emerald phase of the Mississippi Period in the Natchez Bluffs region, the Stout Collection ultimately can not be used to evaluate the central hypothesis of this thesis. However, despite the problems,

the Stout Collection has served this research by providing a thought-provoking glimpse into the material culture and, therefore, the occupants of Mazique.

Analysis of the Stratigraphic Cut in Mound A

This section considers the results of the mound profiles that were exposed and recorded in the course of this research (Figures 6.1-6.8). Profile descriptions are presented in the order they were excavated, beginning with R240 and ending with R245. Noteworthy aspects of each profile are discussed, including points such as mound surfaces, construction technique, concentrations, and material inclusions. Furthermore, the ceramics recovered within each cut and/or strata are considered in conjunction with the specific context that yielded them. Finally, general patterns evident in the total stratigraphy of Mound A at Mazique are proposed. It should be stressed that the following results are based upon a modest window that was a little over 5 m tall and 0.5 m wide into the mound's stratigraphy. Therefore, the conclusions are tentative and should be taken with an appropriate grain of salt.

The bottom of the northern corner of unit R240, the lowest profile, was 7 m east and 6.86 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). The location of this cut was guided by the desire to encounter the break defined by the initial level of mound construction and the natural horizon. Unfortunately, neither was definitively encountered. In a further effort to identify the divide between the initial mound building episode and the natural horizon a 40 cm deep shovel test was placed in the floor of unit R240. This too failed to identify the break. Examination of R240's west profile yielded evidence of a single inclined mound surface from south to north, Mound Surface (MS) 1 (see Figure 6.2). MS

Summary of the Ceramics from the Mound A Stratigraphic Cut at Mazique (22Ad502)					
context	**Type, *Variety***	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
R240A	Addis Plain, *var. Addis*	-	2	-	2
	Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
R240A total sherd count					4
R241A	French Fork Incised, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
	Marksville Incised, *var. Spanish Fort*	-	2	-	2
	Tammany Punctated, *var. Tammany*	-	1	-	1
	Addis Plain, *var. Ratcliffe*	-	2	-	2
	Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
	Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	2	-	2
	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	5	-	5
	Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
R241A total sherd count					17
R242A	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
R242A total sherd count					1
R242G	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
R242G total sherd count					2
R242H	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
R242H total sherd count					2
R243B	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	1	4	-	5
R243B total sherd count					5
R243D	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	10	1	11
R243D total sherd count					11
R243D2	Addis Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
	Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	-	5	-	5

R243D2 total sherd count					7
R243D3	Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	1	-	1
	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
R243D3 total sherd count					2
R245A	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
R245A total sherd count					2
R245B	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	2	-	2
	Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	1	-	1
R245B total sherd count					3

Figure 6.5. Summary of the Ceramics from the Mound A Stratigraphic Cut at Mazique (22Ad502).

1 may represent the sloping edge of a buried mound surface. In such a case, this would indicate that the original length of Mound A was significantly shorter north to south than indicated by its current manifestation. A total of four undecorated sherds were recovered from unit R240 (Table 6.5). However, because all of the soil removed in the exposure of the profile was collected and screened as sample R240A, the artifacts recovered were considered to be from disturbed context (see Chapter 4). Therefore, no *terminus post quem* was established for unit R240's west profile.

The next step up from unit R240 was unit R241. The bottom corner of its northern profile was located 6 m east of and 6.22 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). The exposed profile yielded a largely uniform layer of mound fill and some evidence of basket loading (Figure 6.3). However, this fill was far from sterile. Unit R241 yielded a total of 17 sherds including four decorated ones: one French Fork, *var. unspecified*, two Marksville Incised, *var. Spanish Fort,* and one Tammany Punctated, *var. Tammany*

(Table 6.5). As was the case in unit R240, all of the soil removed from unit R241 was collected and processed as R241A and deemed from a disturbed context. Once again, no *terminus post quem* could be established.

Unit R242 was the third step up in the stratigraphic cut of Mound A. The bottom northern corner of its profile was located 5 m east of and 5.63 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). In contrast to the first two profiles, R242 yielded extensive evidence of basket loading (Figure 6.4). A 20 cm sample was taken of several of the individual basket loads (R242B-J). However, for analysis purposes, these distinct collections can be lumped together because it is clear they were all deposited in the same construction episode. A total of four Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* sherds were recovered from the basket-loaded fill (Table 6.5) and another from R242A. So, unit R242 also failed to produce a *terminus post quem.*

Stratigraphic step four up Mound A was designated unit R243, and the bottom northern corner of its profile was located 4 m east and 4.23 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). This stratigraphic profile yielded evidence of two separate mound surfaces (2 and 3) separated by an approximately 37.5 cm thick construction episode (Figure 6.5). MS 2 is denoted by a series of five thin horizontal depositional lenses. A 20 cm sample was taken of this stratum and processed as R243B. It yielded five Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* sherds (Table 6.5). MS 3 is indicated by four horizontal depositional lenses, two of which are considerably thicker than the MS4 lenses. These layers, designated strata R243D, contained concentrations of charcoal and bone. The 20 cm sample taken of R243D yielded 11 sherds that were all arranged horizontally throughout the layer,

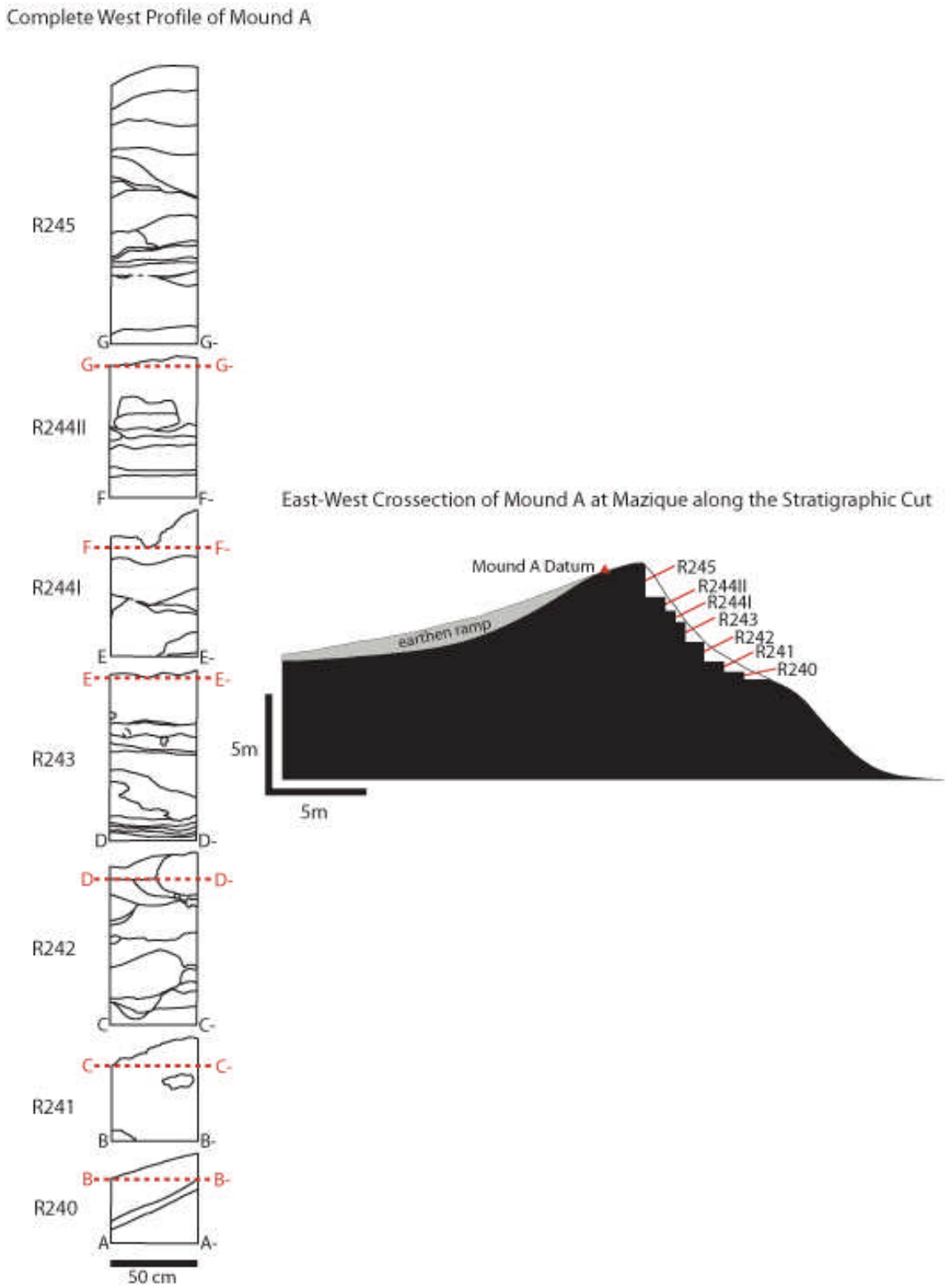


Figure 6.1. West profile of Mound A.

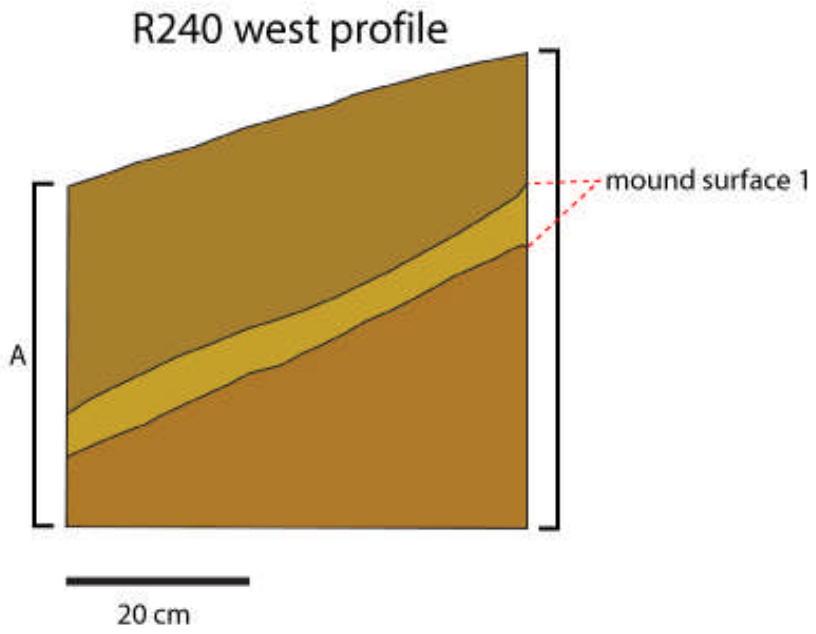


Figure 6.2. West profile of unit R240.

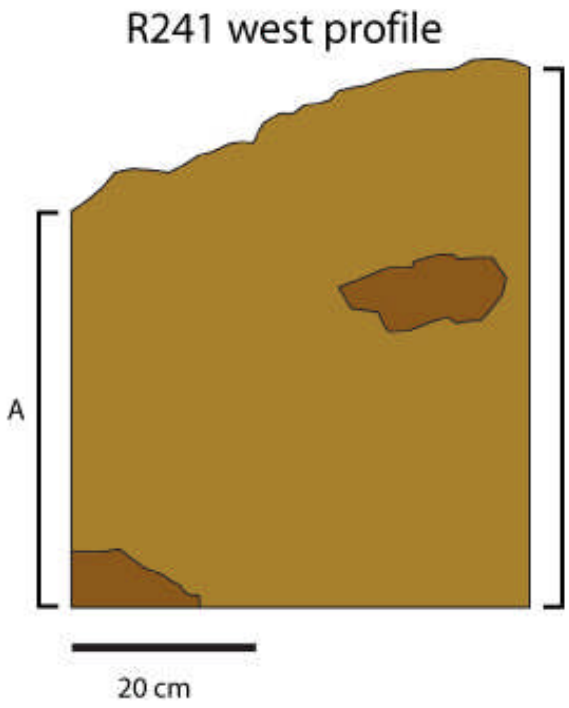


Figure 6.3. West profile of unit R241.

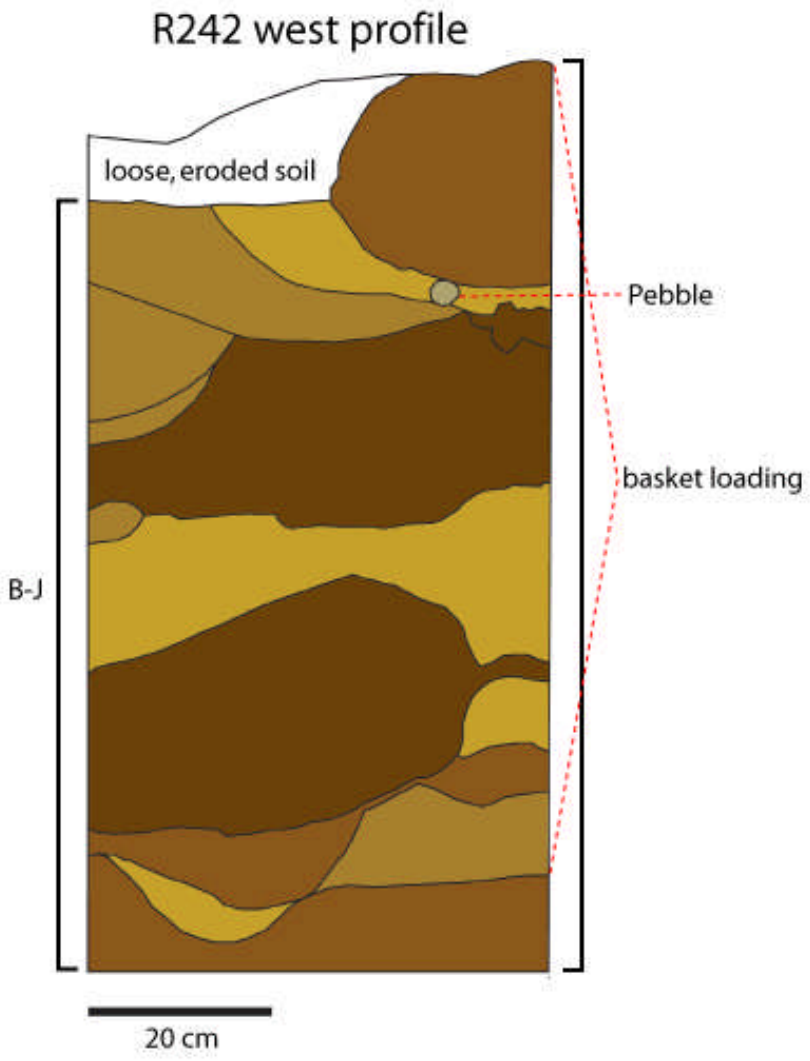


Figure 6.4. West profile of unit R242.

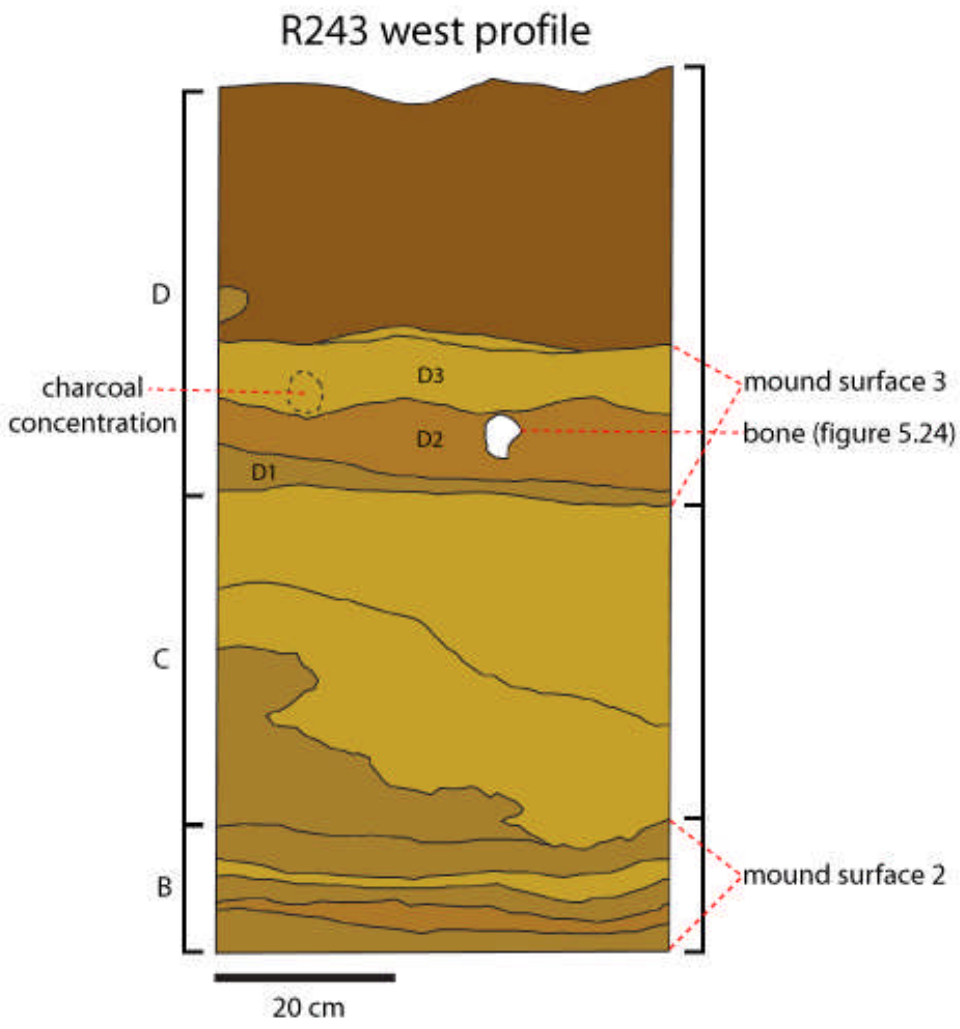


Figure 6.5. West profile of unit R243.

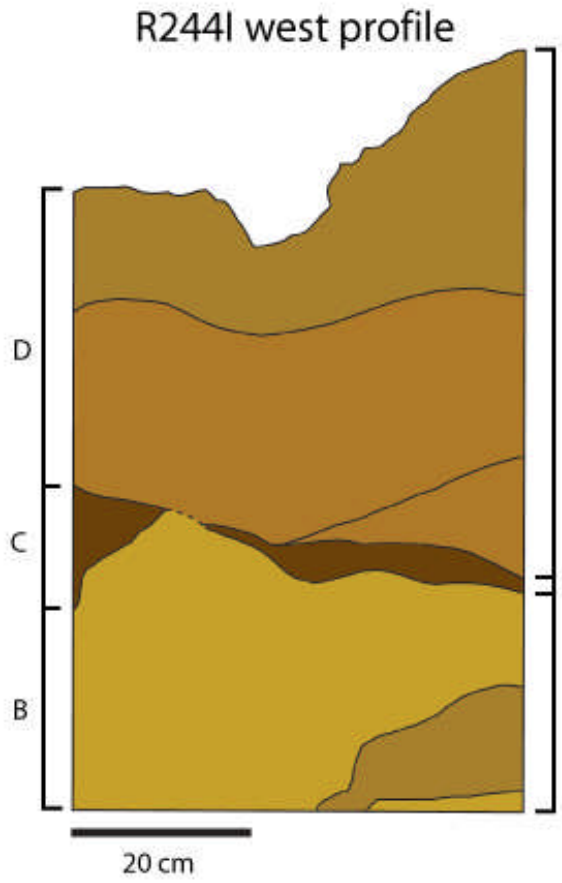


Figure 6.6. West profile of unit R244I.

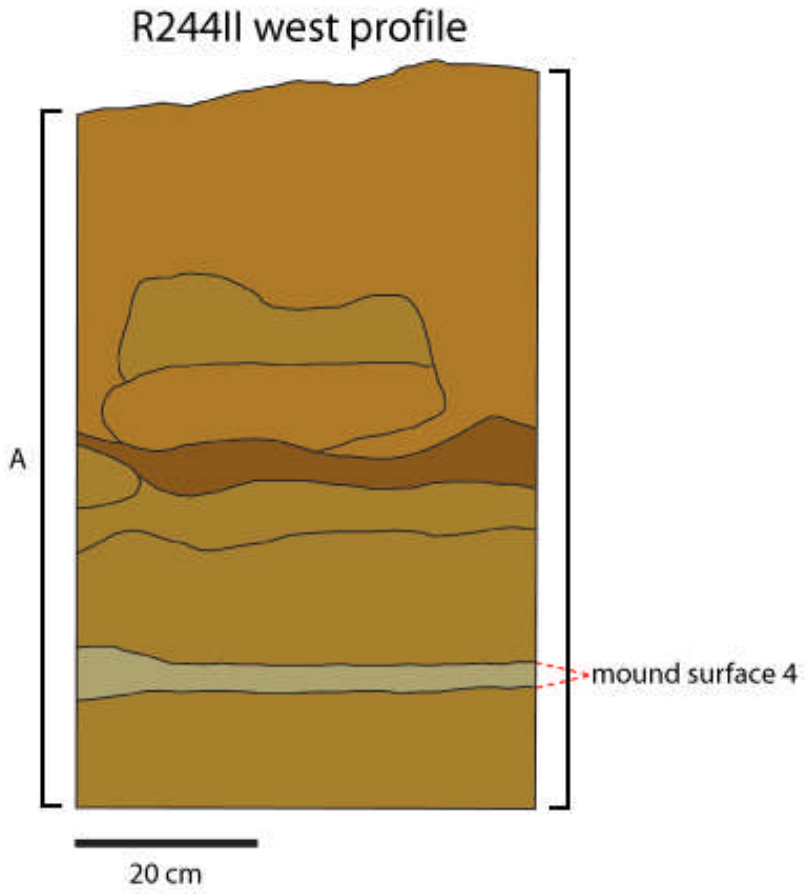


Figure 6.7. West profile of unit R244II.

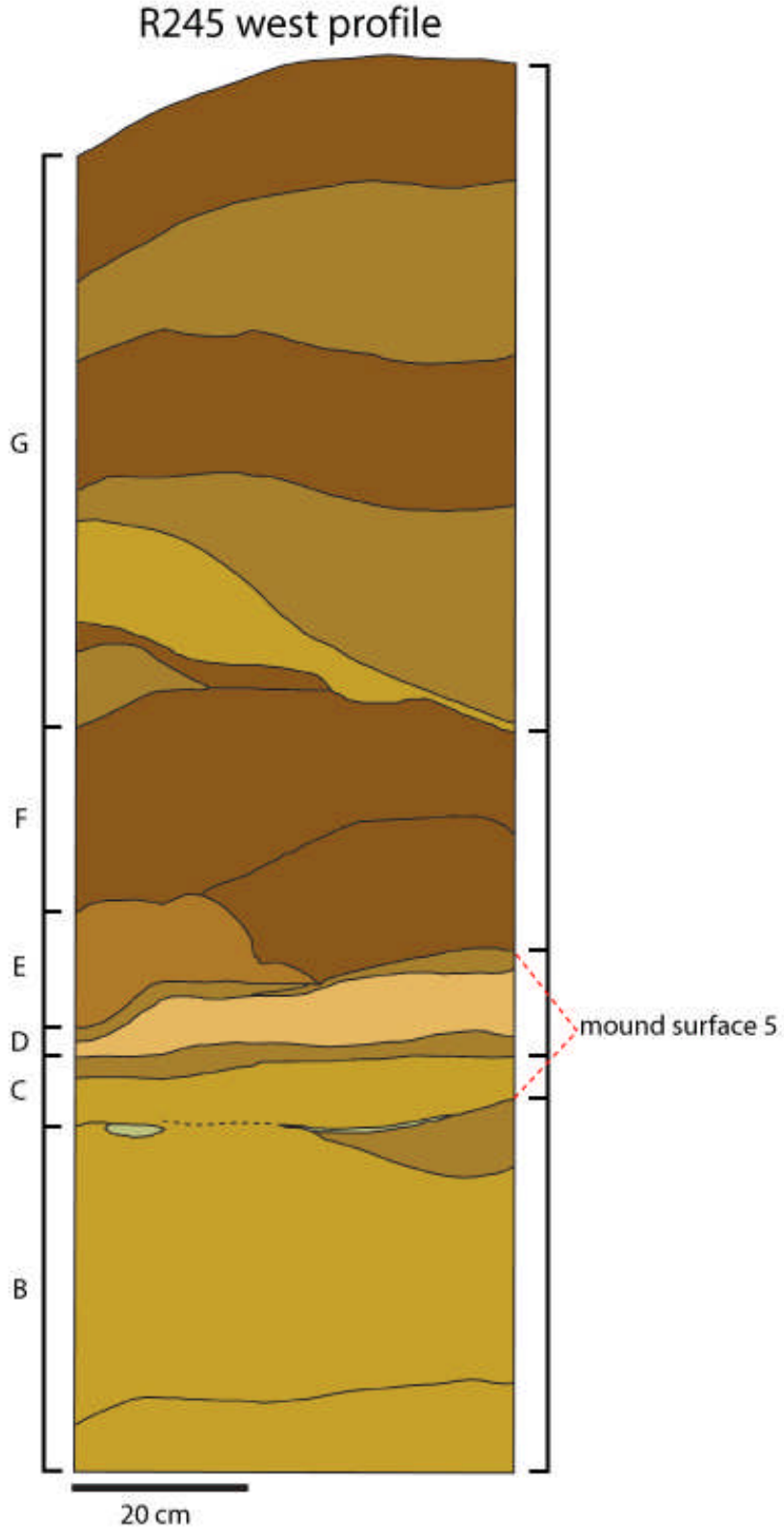


Figure 6.8. West profile of unit R245.

suggesting that MS 3 represents an occupational zone within Mound A. Strata R243D yielded no diagnostic sherds (Table 6.5), but it was further divided into R243D1, R243D2, and R243D3 and an additional 15 cm sample was taken of each in order to increase the sample size and refine the sequence. Both R243D2, and R243D3 yielded additional sherds that were once again deposited horizontally lending support to the conclusions drawn from strata R243D. However, neither the seven sherds from R243D2 nor the two sherds from R243D3 were diagnostic (Table 6.5). So, while unit R243's profile contained two different mound surfaces neither can be assigned dates.

The bottom northern corner of the fifth stratigraphic step up Mound A's profile was located 3.5 m east of and 3.31 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). Because, the fifth and sixth stratigraphic steps were excavated 0.5 m away from the Mound A Datum, half the distance of the other units, they were assigned a single unit number and the qualifying roman numerals I and II respectively. This unit was designated R244I and evidenced various layers of fill but no additional mound surfaces (Figure 6.6). Unfortunately, no artifacts were found in this unit.

The sixth step up the eastern slope of Mound A was designated R244II and the bottom northern corner of its profile was located 3 m east of and 2.6 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). A horizontal band of water swirled silt is believed to represent MS 4 (Figure 6.7). This context was devoid of artifacts or other indications of occupancy such as bone and charcoal suggesting that this surface may represent a single rain event that occurred during the course of mound construction. The rest of the profile was interpreted as mound fill, as it contained basket loads of earth that were sterile of cultural material.

The final step made up the eroded eastern slope of Mound A at Mazique was designated R245. The bottom northern corner of the profile of unit R245 was located 2 m east of and 1.71 m below the Mound A Datum (Figure 4.4). This profile evidenced one final buried mound surface in Mound A, Mound Surface 5 (Figure 6.8). MS 5 included at its lowest limit a thin band of silt that yielded two Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* sherds that were deposited horizontally (see R245A in Table 6.5), and at its highest limit a 7.5 cm thick layer of water swirled silt. Like MS 3, MS 5 likely represents an occupational surface. The only other ceramics recovered from unit R245 came from a 10 cm sample of strata R245B and included two Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* sherds and a single Tchefuncte Plain, *var. unspecified* sherd. The layers of mound fill contained above MS 5 in the profile are believed to represent the final mound building episode that occurred at Mazique. The last mound surface was presumably exposed at the point when construction halted on Mound A and has been lost to erosion.

Examination of the total Mound A profile yielded evidence of five mound surfaces. Two of these surfaces, 3 and 5, represent occupational surfaces, as evidenced by horizontally deposited sherds found within them. MS 2 should also be considered an occupation surface due to its composition of five horizontally deposited lenses and artifact content. MS 4 likely resulted from a single rain event that occurred during an episode of mound building, and finally, MS 1 may represent the sloping edge of a buried mound surface.

A total of 56 sherds were recovered in the course of exposing these stratigraphic profiles, but unfortunately not a single diagnostic sherd could be associated with the mound surfaces uncovered. Although the stratigraphic profile of Mound A yielded

valuable insight into mound construction at Mazique, its scale and sample of material culture were insufficient to address this thesis's hypothesis.

Analysis of the Sample of Mound A at Basal Midden

Approximately 5 m of basal midden was visible along the northern portion of Mound A's eastern slope. In three places the transition from the initial mound building episode to the midden and the midden to the natural horizon were exposed to corroborate this assessment (Figure 4.7). The sample of the basal midden, contexts R253 and R254, yielded a total of 36 sherds all deposited horizontally throughout the midden (Table 6.6). Of this sample, three sherds were diagnostic allowing a period, phase, and date to be assigned to the basal midden. This collection included two Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier* sherds (Figure 5.5), one Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart* sherd (Figure 5.9b), and one French Fork, *var. French Fork* sherd (Figure 5.12a). The *Chevalier* and *French Fork* ceramics are characteristic of the Ballina phase while the *Rhinehart* sherd dates to the Balmoral phase. Therefore, this pre-mound context most likely dates to the Balmoral phase of the Coles Creek period (A.D. 850-1000). However, it should be noted that the *Rhinehart* sherd recovered from R254 would have not been analyzed had this study employed more typical methodology and examined only the sherds larger than 1/2 in^2 in size. Furthermore, it is possible that this sherd belongs to a vessel with additional decorative elements that might date to an earlier phase and/or period. Were this the case, the basal midden might actually date to the Ballina phase (A.D. 700-850) of the Coles Creek period.

Summary of the Ceramics from the Mound A Basal Midden at Mazique (22Ad502)					
context	**Type, *Variety***	**rim sherds**	**body sherds**	**basal sherds**	**total**
R253	Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*	-	1	-	1
	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	-	3	-	3
R254 total sherd count					4
R254	Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*	-	1	-	1
	Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart*	-	1	-	1
	French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork*	1	-	-	1
	Unspecified Incised, on a Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified* ware	-	1	-	1
	Baytown Plain, *var. Valley Park*	-	7	-	7
	Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*	-	6	-	6
	Baytown Plain, *var. unspecified*	1	13	1	15
R254 total sherd count					32

Table 6.6. Summary of the Ceramics from Mound A Basal Midden at Mazique (22Ad502).

This consideration of the basal midden would not be complete without examining the other materials recovered here. In addition to the sherds, R253 and R254 contained lithics. The latter included: one pebble, five pieces of pebble chert debitage, four fire-cracked rocks, and a single fragment of sandstone and faunal material: one entire left White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) metatarsal (Figure 5.26) and a single piece of unidentified shell. Additionally, some artifacts from each type (ceramic, lithic, and faunal) were partially covered with an unidentified substance made up of flecks of ash and charcoal that stubbornly resisted cleaning (Figure 5.23). This substance, to my mind, most resembled a hardened form of the mixture produced when dousing a wood fire with water. Although unprecedented, perhaps if such a solution were hot enough or simply

exposed long enough to allow for hardening it might produce the effect encountered in the basal midden at Mazique.

One final curiosity was noted in Mound A's basal midden. There were two instances where sherds had been intentionally shaped. One was the size of a typical discoidal (Figure 5.22b) while the other was much larger with a squared clay tab (Figure 5.23). There occurrence and the unusual fired aggregate mentioned above might be related.

The Results of the Mazique Investigations

In review, this chapter has presented the results of the artifact analysis and considered trends revealed in the course of these Mazique investigations. This included consideration of the surface collections, the Stout Collection, the stratigraphic profile of Mound A, and the basal midden. Examination of these contexts revealed both Coles Creek and Mississippi period occupation at Mazique, raised troubling questions concerning the Stout Collection, and evidenced five buried mound surfaces within Mound A. Investigations also reveled that the basal Midden below the first episode of mound building at Mound A was deposited during the Balmoral, or perhaps the Ballina phase, of the Coles Creek period. Chapter 7 evaluates my original hypothesis with these results in mind.

CHAPTER 7
CONCLUSIONS

This chapter evaluates my hypothesis that mound construction at Mazique occurred primarily during the Coles Creek period instead of during the Mississippi period using new evidence from the Stout Collection, the Barnett Collection, the Wilson Collection, and my own field investigations composed of surface collections, a stratigraphic cut of Mound A, and a sample of Mound A's basal midden. Interpretations concerning the possible cultural motive behind the deposition of the Stout Collection and the material culture recovered from Mound A's basal midden are ventured in light of available ethnohistoric sources. Finally, this chapter concludes with suggestions concerning future areas of research at Mazique.

The Timing of Mound Construction at Mazique

My original research design intended for the data yielded by the Mound A stratigraphic cut to resolve the question of mound construction at Mazique. To review, the objectives of this field work were to identify and date the occupational layers within the mound and the initial stages of mound construction, both of which it failed to do. Five mound surfaces were identified but none of them yielded diagnostic material necessary to date the contexts. In addition, the transition between the initial mound building episode and the natural horizon beneath it was not encountered. Therefore, the data yielded by the Mound A stratigraphic cut were insufficient to assess the validity of my hypothesis.

Moreover, the Stout Collection, which served as the original motivation for reevaluating Brown's (2007:156) interpretations, ultimately did not directly serve this purpose in the course of research. Although a *terminus post quem* of the Emerald phase of the Mississippi period was established for the Stout Collection, this material could not be used to evaluate this thesis's hypothesis due to the inclusion of a water-worn sherd in the collection, and the fact that its context within in the mound could not be reconstructed. Consideration of the Stout Collection was further complicated by the fact that the phase and period designation of the Stout Collection was ultimately decided by a single ceramic. The presence of a single Chicot Red, *var. Grand Village* sherd, despite a collection dominated by ceramic markers of the Coles Creek period, was sufficient to set the Stout Collection's *terminus post quem* firmly in the Mississippi period. My intention is not to dispute the date yielded by analysis, but rather to explicitly illustrate the specific set of circumstances on which this decision was based. As discussed in Chapter 6, the primary difference between the Larto Red and Chicot Red ceramic types is the ware on which they occur. In addition to the ceramic ware, there are other indicators known to specialists in Lower Mississippi Valley ceramics that can be used to differentiate between Larto Red and Chicot red such as vessel shape, rim form, and thickness of paint. However, none of these attributes were particularly useful while considering the red painted sherd from the Stout Collection. Therefore, because the red painted sherd in question exhibited a lens of leached-out shell when viewed in profile, it was deemed to be on an Addis Plain, *var. unspecified* ware, and therefore a variety of Chicot Red.

What this scenario demonstrates is that the Stout Collection's *terminus post quem* was contingent on the ability to consistently differentiate between Baytown and Addis

wares. My own experience with Lower Mississippi Valley ceramics does not instill a great deal of confidence that this is possible. There are, of course, those wares that exemplify the criteria established for Baytown and Addis (see chapter 5). However, there are also those wares that fall somewhere between the two types. It is troubling that conclusions as important as a collection's or context's date are dependent on such subjective decisions. Therefore, I believe that it is worth reconsidering the recognition of Baytown and Addis as different wares (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994) and readopting the original system proposed by Phillips (1970) in which Addis was recognized as a variety of Baytown. The data yielded by these Mazique investigations are far too limited to adequately evaluate the utility of this suggestion. However, this line of questioning is worth further consideration in the future.

The limited utility of the stratigraphic cut and Stout Collection left only the surface collections and the sample of Mound A basal midden to assess my hypothesis. Surprisingly, the surface collections recovered at Mazique were a very telling source of data. A sample of only 25 sherds was recovered during the course of this research but not a single one was diagnostic of the Mississippi period or Plaquemine culture. Just as astonishing was that when the data set was expanded with the Barnett Collection and the Wilson Collections that only a single Anna Incised, *var. Anna* sherd indicated a Mississippi period presence at Mazique. While evidence from Ford and Cotter's collections support the notion that Mazique was occupied by both Coles Creek and Mississippi presences, the material culture does not exhibit the "strong Plaquemine component" expected by Brown (2007:145). Instead, the artifact assemblages contain an overriding amount of Coles Creek ceramics. The fact of the matter is that surface

collections alone cannot establish if mound construction at Mazique occurred during the Coles Creek or the Mississippi period. However, if we accept Brown's (2007:152) word that, "Almost every little hill in the Natchez region sports a Plaquemine sherd or two if one looks hard enough," then the dominance of the Coles Creek versus the Mississippian presence at Mazique is further amplified.

The last remaining line of evidence from which to evaluate my hypothesis was the sample taken from the Mound A basal midden at Mazique. This context yielded four diagnostic ceramics that dated to the Balmoral, possibly Ballina, phase of the Coles Creek period. This date did not match the late Mississippi or Historic period established by Cotter's sample from this same midden (Brain, Brown, and Steponaitis 1994). I did not personally examine the material from Mazique recovered by Cotter, but it is worth noting that the curvilinear designs associated with the Fatherland type can be very similar to the French Fork type, a reliable marker of the Coles Creek period. Here again, is evidence as to just how important it is to consistently distinguish between Baytown and Addis wares. Given that the date provided by Cotter's midden collection was dependent on a single sherd of an unspecified variety, I am confident that the dates provided by this thesis research are more representative of the context. Therefore, the midden layer that directly precedes the first stage of Mound A's construction probably dates to the Coles Creek period.

Unfortunately, the surface collections and sample of the basal midden do not satisfactorily resolve the question at hand. In light of the evidence presented in this thesis, I am confident that the strength of the Plaquemine presence at Mazique has been previously overestimated, and that the midden surface immediately predating mound

construction at Mazique dates to the Coles Creek period. Taken together, these conclusions seem indicative of primarily Coles Creek mound construction at Mazique. However, without firm dates from occupational surfaces in Mound A, it cannot be definitively determined one way or the other.

Evidence of Ritual at Mazique?

The Stout Collection and the material from the basal midden represent two curious contexts from Mazique. The Stout Collection contained sherds from more than a dozen different vessels including the largely complete French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*. The analysis of this material as well as the excavation photos taken by Guy Stout (Figure 4.1-4.2) seem to indicate that this vessel was deposited within Mound A at Mazique intact. Ethnohistorical precedent for the intentional destruction and disposal of pottery was noted in Antonio J. Waring, Jr.'s (1968:57) consideration of Creek cycles of destruction and rebuilding evident in the busk ceremony:

> Nevertheless this fire became a pollution at the time of the busk, and everything which touched the old fire had to be destroyed or cleansed. The old fire was extinguished, the hearths of the village cleansed of every trace of ash. Anciently, Hawkins [Waring probably means to refer to Milfort, instead of Hawkins. See: Swanton, 1928b, p.581.S.W.] states, all cooking vessels which had contact with the old fire were broken, although Adair states that they were merely given a good scrubbing. It is probable that the ceremonial breaking of pottery at this point was originally a more widespread practice [Waring 1968:57].

Furthermore, Waring (1968:57) posited that the Creek square-ground was likely derived from ceremonial structures on the top of platform mounds. It is therefore reasonable to assume that rituals, such as the breaking of pottery as part of an annual renewal

ceremony, could have their foundations in Plaquemine, Coles Creek, or even earlier cultures in the Lower Mississippi Valley. It is also possible, tentatively, that such ritual actions may be reflected in the composition of the Stout Collection.

Mound A's basal midden at Mazique is also of particular interest. As noted in Chapter 6, in addition to the ceramic material this midden contained evidence of faunal material such as deer bone and shell. Due to the limited sample size, it is unclear whether this midden represents the accumulation of domestic refuse over a considerable amount of time or a single event such as a feast. However, the presence of the stubborn substance of ash and charcoal may provide a clue. Because this substance was found on the ceramic, lithic, and faunal material alike from the basal midden it is likely that all of these materials were deposited in the same event supporting the latter scenario. Furthermore, as I have previously postulated, the hardened ash and charcoal substance was likely a result of intense heat from a fire. La Page Du Pratz noted an association between ceremony and controlled burning in his description of the Natchez harvest feast:

> This feast is incontestably the most solemn of all. Essentially it consists in eating in common and in a religious manner new corn which has been sown with this intention with suitable ceremonies.
>
> When they wish to sow this corn they choose a new plot of earth, which within the memory of man has never been cultivated. They cut the canes, the creepers, the vine stalks, and all that makes a thick forest. They peel the trees to the wood from the base of the tree to the height of 2 feet. It is left thus for fifteen days. Then they set fire to it, and it burns so hotly and rises so high that it burns the tops of the trees, brings down the sap which may have gone up, burns the roots of the canes and the rest of the underbrush, at least in great part, so that it leaves only some green canes, the roots of which extend so deeply into the earth that the fire is unable to damage them; but these die during the year [Swanton 1911:113].

While a direct association between Natchez ethnohistory and the Mound A basal midden at Mazique would be tenuous, a similar series of events could have characterized the preparation for initial mound construction, which may be reflected in the sample recovered from the Mound A basal midden at Mazique.

Future Research

It seems likely that mound construction at Mazique occurred primarily during the Coles Creek period based on the scarcity of Mississippi material recovered from surface collections, and the fact that Mound A's basal midden dates yielded firm Coles Creek diagnostics. However, the fact that none of the five mound surfaces encountered yielded a firm date leaves my research open to reevaluation, just as Brown's (2007) was. Further research at Mazique is required to definitively resolve the issue of mound building primacy at Mazique. The next logical step in investigation of the Mazique site would be to excavate test pits in the well preserved northwestern corner of Mound A (see Figure 3.14). These excavations should be located squarely on the summit of the mound with the express purpose of isolating one or more of the most recent mound surfaces to get a larger sample of these primary contexts. A confident date established for just one occupational surface has the potential to resolve this thesis's hypothesis once and for all, as well as to elucidate Mound A's particular function at Mazique.

From a broader perspective, Mazique is ripe to address a range of additional questions concerning Coles Creek. However, any additional work at Mazique absolutely necessitates the production of a detailed and accurate topographic map of the entire site. Current undergrowth conditions at Mazique severely limit visibility, even in the winter

months, meaning that impressions made on the ground at Mazique are likely skewed by considering each piece of monumental architecture separately. To facilitate comparisons between the layout of Mazique and other mound sites in the region and the Lower Mississippi Valley, the site should be considered in its entirety. A complete map of Mazique would make such comparisons possible and would have the immediate potential to locate the third mound noted by Dickeson and the limits of the plaza.

As discussed in Chapter 3, Mound B (see Figure 3.15) is in excellent shape and investigations here hold the potential to add a new dimension to our understanding of mound building at Mazique. Research directed at Mound B, in combination with the data from Mound A, could provide a more nuanced understanding of the timing of mound construction at Mazique, as well as highlight differences in building technique and function of the two mounds. Also, there is more to Mazique than mounds. Investigations of the plaza at Mazique could yield information regarding settlement at the site. Researchers might evaluate if occupation at Mazique was concentrated between the mounds at Mazique as might be expected for a Coles Creek site (e.g., Greenhouse—Ford 1951) or if it exhibited a unique settlement pattern. There is some concern regarding the full extent of historic modification of Mazique's landscape that could prove problematic if investigations were focused on the plaza. While Mazique's landscape was certainly affected by Jefferson Davis Dickson, Jr., there is no evidence to suggest his restorative efforts at Mazique were any more harmful than regular cultivation.

This thesis has provided sufficient evidence to suggest that Plaquemine presence at Mazique is actually very minimal. Surface collections and a sample of the Mound A basal midden obtained and analyzed by this study seem to indicate that mound

construction at Mazique occurred primarily during the Coles Creek period instead of during the Mississippi period. The larger implications of this conclusion is that the construction, arrangement, and use of flat top mounds and plaza complexes was an indigenous development of the Coles Creek period in the Natchez bluffs region, which concurs with developments elsewhere in the Lower Mississippi Valley (Belmont 1967:31-32; Ford 1936:173-174; 1951:101; Phillips 1970:555,556,560; Williams and Brain 1983:334), and that Brain's characterization of the Plaquemine culture as a hybridization of Coles Creek and Mississippian cultures should be retained as a theory of cultural interaction.

Mazique's prominence and importance in the Natchez Bluffs region has been noted for centuries and it has played many roles. To the citizens of Mississippi, Mazique has been called home by generation after generation of planters, piqued the curiosity of travelers for hundreds of years, and even briefly supported an educational amusement park. To archaeologists, Mazique was instrumental in defining the Coles Creek period with ceramics and it remains one of the principal mound centers in the Natchez Bluffs. Indeed, Mazique has become legendary in its own right. However, the role that Mazique played in prehistory is the one that is least understood. It is only through additional archaeological investigations that we might appreciate the full extent of Mazique's past and determine how this important site relates to Southeastern prehistory overall.

REFERENCES

Albrecht, Andrew C.
1944 The Location of the Historic Natchez Villages. *Journal of Mississippi History* 6(2):67-68.

Anderson, John W. (editor)
1958 The Narrative of John Hutchins. *The Journal of Mississippi History* 20(1):1-29.

Anderson, David G. (editor), and Robert C. Mainfort, Jr. (editor)
2002 *The Woodland Southeast*. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

Baca, Keith A.
1989 Archaeological Collection of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. *Mississippi Archaeology* 24(2):28-44.

Barker, Alexander W.
1999 Chiefdoms and the Economies of Perversity. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Barnett, James F.
2007 *The Natchez Indians.* University Press of Mississippi, Jackson.

Belmont, John S.
1967 The Culture Sequence at the Greenhouse Site, Louisiana. *Southeastern Archaeological Conference Bulletin* 6: 27-34.

Blitz, John H.
1988 Adoption of the Bow in Prehistoric North America. *North American Archaeologist* 9(2):123-145.

Brain, Jeffery P.
1971 *The Lower Mississippi Valley in North American Prehistory.* Fayetteville: National Park Service and Arkansas Archaeological Survey.

1978 Late Prehistoric Settlement Patterning of the Yazoo Basin and Natchez Bluffs Regions of the Lower Mississippi Valley. In *Mississippi Settlement Patterns,* edited by Bruce S. Smith, pp. 331-368. Academic press, New York.

1988 *Tunica Archaeology.* Papers of the Peabody Museum, No. 78, Harvard University, Cambridge.

Brain, Jeffrey P., Ian W. Brown, and Vincas P. Steponaitis
1994 *Archaeology of the Natchez Bluffs*. Manuscript on file, Research Laboratories of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Brew, John O.
1971 The Use and Abuse of Taxonomy. Reprinted. In *Man's Imprint From the Past: Readings in the Methods of Archaeology*, edited by James Deetz, pp.73-107. The Little, Brown Series in Anthropology. Little, Brown and Company (Inc.), Boston, Massachusetts. Originally published 1946, *The Archaeology of Alkali Ridge, Southern Utah Papers*, Peabody Museum, 21:44-66.

Broutin, Ignace-François
1723 *Carte des environs du fort Rosalie aux Natchez 1723*. Bibliothéque nationale de France, http://visualiseur.bnf.fr/Visualiseur?Destination=Gallica&O=IFN-6700314, accessed March 4, 2009.

Brown, Ian W.
1984 Late Prehistory in Coastal Louisiana: The Coles Creek Period. In *Perspectives on Gulf Coast Prehistory*, edited by Dave D. Davis, pp. 94-124. Ripley P. Bullen Monographs in Anthropology and History, No. 5. University of Florida Press/ Florida State Museum, Gainesville.

1996 B.L.C. Wailes and Mississippi Archaeology: Journals of B. L. C. Wailes, Volumes 1-13, 1852-1854. Unpublished manuscript on file, Gulf Coast Survey, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

1998a *Decorated Pottery of the Lower Mississippi Valley: A Sorting Manual.* Mississippi Archaeological Association. Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

1998b Benjamin L. C. Wailes and the Archaeology of Mississippi. *Mississippi Archaeology* 33(2):157-191.

1999 In the Land of Salt and Tabasco: Archaeology of Coastal Louisiana. Unpublished manuscript on file, Gulf Coast Survey, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

2007 Plaquemine Culture in the Natchez Bluffs Region of Mississippi. In *Plaquemine Archaeology*, edited by Mark A. Rees and Patrick C. Livingood, pp.145-160. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

Brown, Calvin S.
1926 *Archeology of Mississippi.* Mississippi Geological Survey and University of Mississippi, Oxford. Reprinted by University of Mississippi, Jackson, 1992.

Callon, Sim C., Jr.
1987 Natchez Native Becomes Internationally Known. Paper presented at the Grand Village of the Natchez, Natchez, Mississippi.

Collins, Henry B., Jr.
1932 Excavations at a Prehistoric Indian Village site in Mississippi. *Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum Proceedings.* 79:1-22.

Cotter, John L.
1948 NTP Archaeological Survey, Inspection Visit, November 11, 1948, White Apple Mound and Village Site, Adams Co., Mississippi. Unpublished report, Southeast Archeological Center, National Park Service, Tallahassee.

Culin, Stewart
1900 The Dickeson Collection of American Antiquities. *Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Art of the University of Pennsylvania* 2(3):113-168. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Dickeson, Montroville W.
1948 American Antiquities No. VIII. White Apple Village. *The Lotus* vol. 1, September, pp. 371-373.

Ford, James A.
1936 *Analysis of Indian Village Site Collections from Louisiana and Mississippi,* Department of Conservation, New Orleans: Louisiana Geological Survey, Anthropological Study 2, Louisiana Geological Survey.

1938 A Chronological Method Applicable to the Southeast. *American Antiquity* 3:260-264.

1951 Greenhouse: a Troyville-Coles Creek period site in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana. *Anthropological Papers of the American Museum of Natural History* 44:5-132.

Ford, James A. and James B. Griffin
2001 Report of the Conference on Southeastern Pottery Typology. Reprinted. In *Measuring the Flow of Time: The Works of James A. Ford, 1935 – 1941*, edited by Michael J. O'Brien and R. Lee Lyman, pp. 435-449. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa. Originally published 1938, *Newsletter of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference* 7(1):10-22.

Frank, Joseph V., III.
1975 In Defense of Huntchins's Natchez Indian. *Mississippi Archaeological Association Newsletter,* 10(4):7-11.

Fritz, Gayle J.

1995 New Dates and Data on Early Agriculture: The Legacy of Complex Hunter Gatherers. *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 82(1):3-15.

1998 The Development of Native Agricultural Economies in the Lower Mississippi Valley. In *The Natchez District in the Old, Old South*, edited by Vincas P. Steponaitis, pp. 23-47. Southern Research Report no. 11, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Fritz, Gayle J., and Tristram R. Kidder

1993 Recent Investigations into Prehistoric Agriculture in the Lower Mississippi Valley. *Southeastern Archeology.* 12(1):1-14.

Indianapolis Archaeological Conference (IAC)

2001 The Indianapolis Archaeological Conference, 1935. In *Setting the Agenda for American Archaeology: the National Research Council Archaeological Conferences of 1929, 1932, and 1935*, edited by Michael J. O'Brien and R. Lee Lyman, pp. 333-427. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

Ingraham

1835 *The South-west. By a Yankee.* 2 volumes. Harper and Brothers, New York.

Kassabaum, Megan C.

2007 Looking Beyond the Obvious: Identifying Patterns in Coles Creek Mortuary Data. Unpublished Fourth Semester paper. Department of Anthropology, the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Kidder, Tristram R.

1992a Coles Creek Period Social Organization and Evolution in Northeast Louisiana. *Archaeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association* 3(1):145-162.

1992b Timing and Consequences of the Introduction of Maize Agriculture in the Lower Mississippi Valley. *North American Archaeologist* 13(1):15-42.

1998 Mississippi Period Mound Groups and Communities in the Lower Mississippi Valley. In *Mississippi Towns and Sacred Spaces*, edited by R. Barry Lewis and Charles Stout, pp. 123-50. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

2002 Woodland Period Archaeology of the Lower Mississippi Valley. In *The Woodland Southeast*, edited by David G. Anderson and Robert C. Mainfort, Jr., pp. 66-90. The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

2004 Prehistory of the Lower Mississippi Valley after 800 B.C. In *Handbook of North American Indians,* edited by William C. Sturtevant, pp. 544-549. Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

Kidder, Tristram R., and Gayle J. Fritz,
1993 Subsistence and Social Change in the Lower Mississippi Valley: the Reno Brake and Osceola Sites, Louisiana. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 20(3): 281-297.

Natchez Historical Association, the
n.d. *White Apple Village of the Natchez Indians* pamphlet. The Natchez Historical Association, Natchez, Mississippi.

Phelps, Dawson A., and Jesse D. Jennings
c.1940 A Preliminary Study of the Natchez Trace, Proposed Locations of the Natchez Trace Parkway, and Historical and Archaeological Sites in and near Natchez, Mississippi. Unpublished Report, Southeast Archeological Center, National Park Service, Tallahassee.

Phillips, Philip
1958 Application of the Wheat-Gifford-Wasley Taxonomy to Eastern Ceramics. *American Antiquity* 24(2):117-125.

1970 *Archaeological Survey in the Lower Yazoo Basin, Mississippi,1949-1955.* Cambridge: Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University 60.

Rees, Mark A. (editor), and Patrick C. Livingood (editor)
2007 *Plaquemine Archaeology.* The University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.

Rouse, Irving
1960 The Classification of Artifacts in Archaeology. *American Antiquity*. 25(3):313-323.

Schambach, Frank F.
1981 A Description and Analysis of the Ceramics. In *The Shallow Lake Site (3UN9/52) and Its Place in Regional Prehistory*, by Martha Ann Rolingson and Frank F. Schambach, pp. 101-176 Arkansas Archaeological Survey Research Series, No. 12. Arkansas Archaeological Survey, Fayetteville.

Spaulding, Albert C.
1953 Statistical Techniques for the Discovery of Artifact Types. *American Antiquity*. 18(4):305-313.

Steponaitis, Vincas P.
1986 Prehistoric Archaeology in the Southeastern United States, 1970-1985. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 15:363-404.

Steponaitis, Vincas P., and John W. O'Hear
2008 Recent Excavations at the Feltus Mounds: Preliminary Findings and Comparisons. Paper presented at the 65th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Stoltman, James B.
1978 Temporal Models in Prehistory: An Example from Eastern North America. *Current Archaeology* 19(4):703-746.

Sutton, Mark Q., Brook S. Arkush
2002 *Archaeological Laboratory Methods, An Introduction.* Kenall/Hunt Publishing Company. Dubuque, Iowa.

Swanton, John R.
1911 *Indian Tribes of the Lower Mississippi Valley and Adjacent Coast of the Gulf of Mexico.* Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 43. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Toth, Edwin A.
1988 *Early Marksville Phases in the Lower Mississippi Valley: A Study of Culture Contact Dynamics.* Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Archaeological Report no. 21, Jackson.

Trigger, Bruce G.
2006 *A History of Archaeological Thought.* 2nd ed. Cambridge University Press, New York, New York.

Waring, Antonio J., Jr.
1968 The Southern Cult and Ceremonial. In *The Waring Papers*, edited by Stephen Williams, pp.30-69. Cambridge: Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University 63.

Weinstein and Rivet
1978 *Beau Mire: A Late Tchula Period Site of the Tchefuncte Culture, Ascension Parish, Louisiana*. Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission, Anthropological Report No. 1, Baton Rouge.

Wheat, Joe Ben, James C. Gifford, and Williams W. Wasley
1958 Ceramic Variety, Type Cluster, and Ceramic System in Southwestern Pottery Analysis. *American Antiquity* 24(1):34-47.

Wilkins, James Christopher
2004 The Tchula Period in the Natchez Bluffs: the Grace MacNeil Site and the Homochitto Phase. Unpublished Master's Thesis, the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Williams, Leah
2008 The Paleoethnobotany of the Feltus Mound Site. Unpublished Honors Thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Williams, Stephen, and Jeffery P. Brain,
1983 *Excavations at the Lake George site, Yazoo County, Mississippi, 1958-1960*. Cambridge: Papers of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University 74.

Yoffee, Norman
2004 *Myths of the Archaic State: Evolution of the Earliest Cities, States, and Civilizations.* Cambridge University Press, New York

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
CATALOGUE NUMBERS FOR COLLECTIONS MADE DURING THE MAZIQUE INVESTIGATIONS

R200	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from the southern summit of Mound A, 5-16-08.
R201	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from the southern slope of Mound B, 5-16-08.
R232	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from Mound B, 7-30-08.
R233	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from dark soil northwest of Mound A, 7-30-08.
R240A	Mazique (22Ad502) Mound-fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut R240 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R240B	Mazique (22Ad502) Exploratory shovel test placed in the base of stratigraphic cut R240, 11-2-08.
R241A	Mazique (22Ad502) Mound-fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut R241 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R242A	Mazique (22Ad502) Mound-fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut R242 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R242C	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata C (basket load) from stratigraphic cut R242 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R242F	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata F (basket load) from stratigraphic cut R242 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R242G	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata G (basket load) from stratigraphic cut R242 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R242H	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata H (basket load) from stratigraphic cut R242H in Mound A, 11-1-08.

R242I	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata I (basket load) from stratigraphic cut R242 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R242J	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata J (basket load) from stratigraphic cut R242 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R243A	Mazique (22Ad502) Mound-fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut R243 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R243B	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata B from stratigraphic cut R243 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R243D	Mazique (22Ad502) Twenty cm stratigraphic sample of strata D from stratigraphic cut R243 in Mound A, 11-1-08.
R243D1	Mazique (22Ad502) Fifteen cm deep stratigraphic sample of strata D1 from stratigraphic cut R243 in Mound A, 11-2-08.
R243D2	Mazique (22Ad502) Fifteen cm deep stratigraphic sample of strata D2 from stratigraphic cut R243 in Mound A, 11-2-08.
R243D3	Mazique (22Ad502) Fifteen cm deep stratigraphic sample of strata D3 from stratigraphic cut R243 in Mound A, 11-2-08.
R244IB	Mazique (22Ad502) Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata B from stratigraphic cut R244I in Mound A, 2-25-09.
R244IC	Mazique (22Ad502) Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata C from stratigraphic cut R244I in Mound A, 2-25-09.
R244ID	Mazique (22Ad502) Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata D from stratigraphic cut R244I in Mound A, 2-25-09.

R244IIA Mazique (22Ad502)
Mound-fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut R244II in Mound A, 2-25-09.

R245A Mazique (22Ad502)
Mound-fill and erosion from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09.

R245B Mazique (22Ad502)
Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata B from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09.

R245C Mazique (22Ad502)
Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata C from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09.

R245D Mazique (22Ad502)
Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata D from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09

R245E Mazique (22Ad502)
Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata E from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09

R245F Mazique (22Ad502)
Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata F from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09

R245G Mazique (22Ad502)
Ten cm stratigraphic sample of strata G from stratigraphic cut R245 in Mound A, 2-25-09

R246 Mazique (22Ad502)
Surface collection from the general vicinity of the stratigraphic cut on the western side of Mound A, 10-31-08.

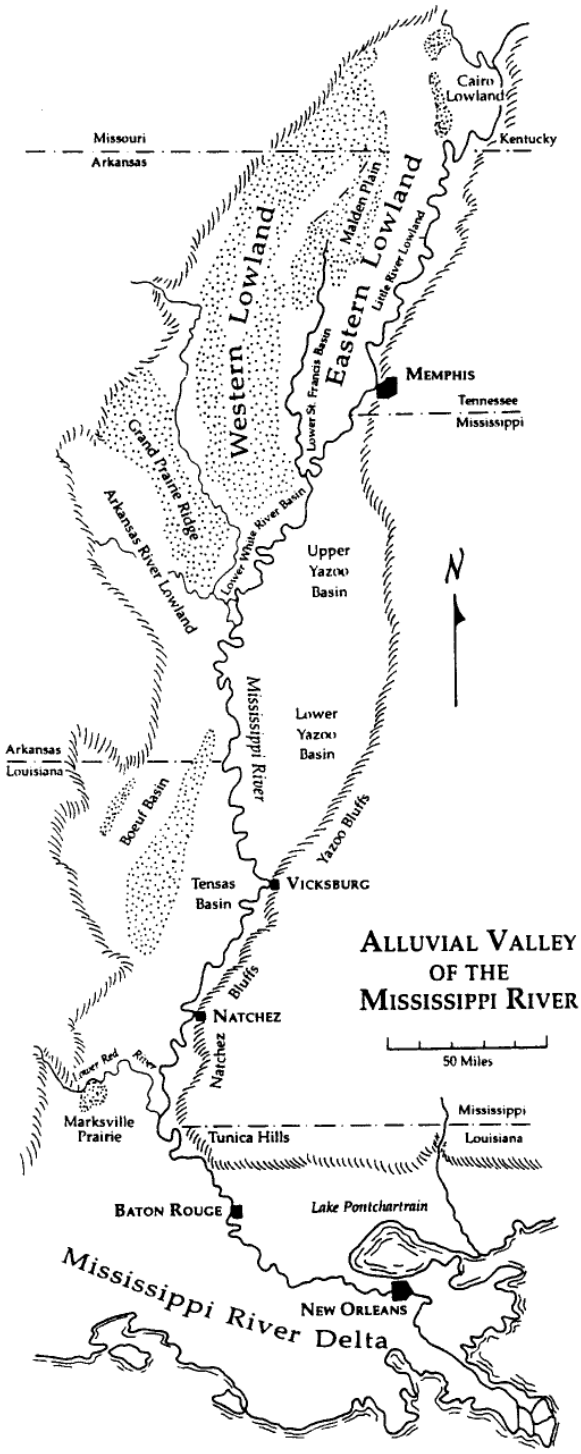
R247 Mazique (22Ad502)
Surface collection from the general vicinity of the stratigraphic cut on the western side of Mound A, 10-31-08.

R248 Mazique (22Ad502)
Surface collection from the southwest of Mound A, 2-25-09.

R249 Mazique (22Ad502)
Surface collection from below the eastern edge of Mound A right above Second Creek, 2-26-09.

R250	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from the northern edge of Mound A, 3-1-09.
R251	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from a tree-fall near Datum 1, 3-1-09.
R252	Mazique (22Ad502) Surface collection from below the eastern edge of Dickson's collapsed trench in Mound A, 3-1-09.
R253	Mazique (22Ad502) Collection from surface scrapings of Mound A's basal midden, 3-1-09.
R254	Mazique (22Ad502) Thirty cm deep sample taken from Mound A's basal midden, 3-1-09.

APPENDIX B
MAP OF THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY SHOWING VARIOUS REGIONS
(Brown 1998a:6)



APPENDIX C
NEO-INDIAN CHRONOLOGY IN THE LOWER YAZOO BASIN AND NATCHEZ BLUFFS REGION OF THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
(Brown 1998a:7)

Periods	Dates	Lower Yazoo Basin Phases	Natchez Bluffs Region Phases
Historic	A.D. 1650-1750	Russell	Natchez
Mississippian	A.D. 1500-1650 A.D. 1350-1500 A.D. 1200-1350	Wasp Lake Lake George Winterville	Emerald Foster Anna
Coles Creek	A.D. 1000-1200 A.D. 850-1000 A.D. 700-850	Crippen Point Kings Crossing Aden	Gordon Balmoral Ballina
Baytown	A.D. 550-700 A.D. 300-550	Bayland Deasonville	Sundown Hamilton Ridge
Marksville	A.D.100-300 100 B.C.-A.D.100	Issaquena Anderson Landing	Issaquena Grand Gulf
Tchula	300-100 B.C.	Tuscola	Panther Lake