ALMA COLLEGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

Old Main, Season 3, May 2018

Authored by students of ANT 215/315: Michigan Archaeological Fieldwork

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The building today known as "Old Main" succumbed to fire on the unfortunate morning of March 10, 1969. At 83 years old, Old Main was one of the first buildings of Alma College, serving a variety of purposes. In part to learn the history of Alma as well as archaeological theory and methods, we carried out a third season of survey and excavation at the site. This report is authored by the students of the 2018 spring term s-course, ANT 215/315: Michigan Archaeological Fieldwork, and compiled by their instructor, Dr. Kristin Landau. The below reviews the long history of Old Main—1886 to present—our research questions, methods, results, and interpretations.

Contents

Acknowledgments. We would like to thank Alma College for permitting us to carrying out a third season of destructive excavations on school grounds. Facilities kindly mowed around our pits, backdirt piles, and pin flags right up to the Highland Festival. Viki Everheart of the Alma College Library introduced us to the archives and allowed us to carefully peruse the folders pertaining to Old Main. Dr. John Rowe generously lent us a Trimble GeoXH 7 Series GNSS receiver, on which all maps and elevations are based. Jackie Gage expertly reconciled course fees, receipts, and the budget. Custodial staff in the Dow building regularly cleaned our classroom – even after the super muddy day! Reporters Sean Bradley from *The Morning Sun* and Rosemary Horvath from the *Gratiot County Herald* helped us reach out to the public and share our knowledge through two newspaper articles. Thanks to the wider Alma community for your support and interest in our project!

Project Datum. Despite renovations and a new air conditioning system at SAC, we estimated the 2014 and 2015 datum as best as possible. In 2018, we marked the datum with a series of pink pin flags. The datum point is located at UTM coordinates N688709.490, E4805622.736, Z198.509.

Introduction

The archaeological site of Old Main—20GR334—is located on the Alma College campus at the address of 614 W Superior St, Alma, Michigan 48801 (figure 1). Today, the building's remnants sit in front of the Swanson Academic Center, in the grassy area south toward Superior Street. Old Main was one of the original buildings constituting Alma College in 1886 (Beld 1986). Old Main caught fire on March 10, 1969 and burned to the ground in less than one hour (figure 2). There are no official or archival records of the exact location of the building, nor what labs, classrooms, or offices it housed at the time of the fire. Therefore, the Department of Anthropology and Sociology began an archaeological project in this area during spring term of 2014 to learn more about the building and daily lives of the students, faculty, and administrators who used it.

Figure 1: Old Main before the fire

Figure 2: Old Main burns

To date, there have been three seasons of work at the Old Main site. In 2014 and again in 2015, Dr. Mary Theresa Bonhage-Freund and Professor Alexandra Conell supervised excavations. In 2018, Dr. Kristin Landau continued their work. Spring term 2018 began on Sunday, April 29, 2018 and ended on Thursday, May 24, 2018. During Week 1, we focused on the basics of fieldwork in archaeology, using Peter Drewett's (2011) text, *Field Archaeology: An Introduction*. We dedicated Weeks 2 and 3 to the excavation of six 1x1 m units, and Week 4 involved lab work and cleanup. As a service-learning course, we also embarked on several small projects relating to public education. First, we invited the local **Boy Scout** troop to join us—whenever possible—and learn how to excavate pits and catalog artifacts. We wanted to support local scouts in achieving their archaeology merit badges. Second, we staffed a booth at Isabella County's annual **Environmental Education Day**. On Friday, May 18, 2018, we introduced nearly 600 third-graders to archaeology through three hands-on activities (making clay pots, excavating

for candy, and coring soil). On Saturday, May 19, 2018, we hosted **Community Archaeology Day**, opening our archaeological site to the wider public with demonstrations of sifting, lab work, and excavation. Last, on Thursday, May 24, 2018, we received a tour from **The Ziibiwing Center** on the broader implications of archaeology, history, and the meaning of heritage.

Assignments for the course were multiple: reading notes on book chapters, blog posts, journal writing, an artifact report, and a final field report. Rather than take quizzes or tests on assigned material, students turned in a set of notes and we discussed concepts and confusions during class. Each student was responsible for writing two blog posts (between 500-700 words each) throughout the term. Our blog can be found at: AlmaCollegeArchaeologicalProject.wordpress.com. Follow us! The posts challenged us to explain our learning in plain terms, without jargon; if we wanted the wider public to know about our research, we had to adjust our writing to our audience. Rather than an account of the day's tasks, journals were reflective pieces on what, how, and why students were learning. Following Hamilakis (2004:298), the journal "is a process that encourages students to use this course as an opportunity to reflect on their own lives, backgrounds, experiences, routines, and habits." Benefits include valorizing the students' personal life experiences, encouraging them to think about the process of learning itself, enabling them to link different kinds of knowledge from different sources and courses, and demonstrating the artificial division between research and teaching (Hamilakis 2004).

Each student wrote a distinct Artifact Report and Field Report, though they worked together beforehand. This season, groups of three students focused on researching and presenting background information on a particular class of artifacts common at the Old Main site. Reanna Averill, BJ Schutte, and Devyn Laroche studied wood; Akiela Carlton, Sean O'Malley, Hannah Flemming, and Mike Berra researched glass; and Eryn Corinth, Bridget Eshlemann, and Sam Sieffert focused on brick. In a separate course, Reanna Averill and Miranda Gavette had studied metal artifacts (particularly nails), and Devyn Laroche had researched glass. Each of the groups presented their findings to the class with examples of artifacts from Seasons 1 and 2. After this assignment, we had our "experts" in the different artifact classes we might find at Old Main. The Field Report was a longer technical report of each student's excavation unit, accompanied by an Introduction, Background to Old Main, Methods, and Conclusions section. The below report represents a compilation of all of the students' individual field reports. Each section is in the students' own words, edited for comprehension and grammar, where appropriate.

Research Design and Questions

While in the past, the goal of archaeological field schools was to provide researchers with "warm bodies" to collect data, the importance of field schools as intellectual, technical, and social training grounds for future scientists is now taken seriously. As such, students are trained in field methods within the context of an overall research design. In order for students to understand the nature of archaeological research as a scientific and collaborative venture, they must be involved in all aspects of research design (Baxter 2009:43). Therefore, we collaboratively developed a three-part research question (figure 3), decided what kind of data needed to answer our question, and where to place excavation units to best uncover that data.

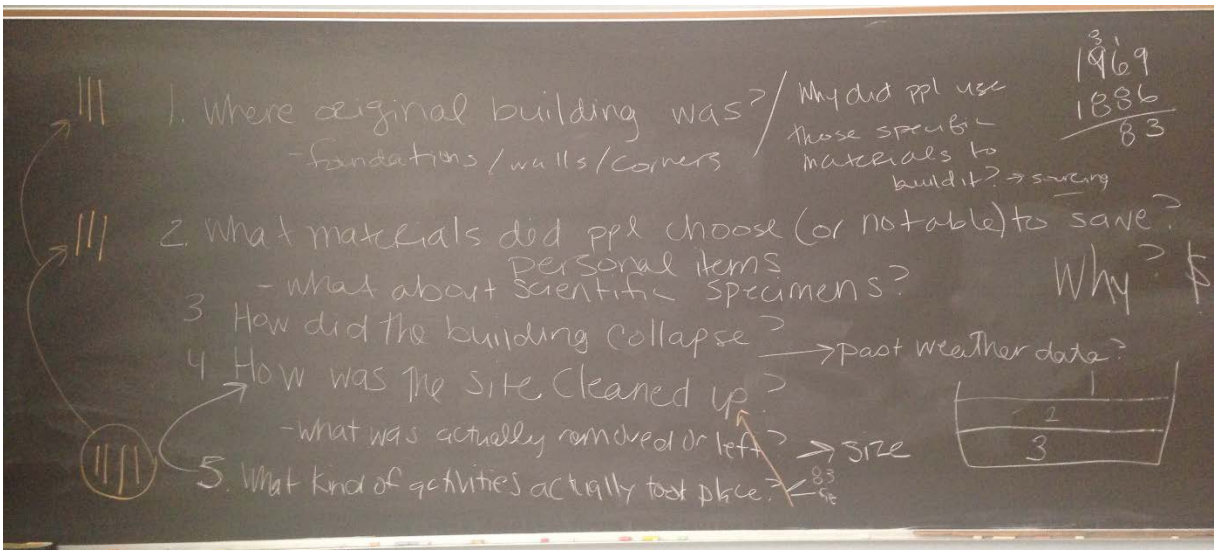

Figure 3: Collectively designing our research question

Our research question for this year is three-fold: we were interested in learning what human activities actually took place in the beginning of the building's 83-year history, what activities were occurring at the time of the fire, and how the site was cleaned up days after the fire was extinguished. The early years of Old Main are important because the artifacts already discovered are related to the construction and frame of the building. The day of the fire is important due to this event is what allowed the building to become a possible archaeological site that people could excavate in the future. The clean-up phase of the building is also important because there a very few records of how the site was actually cleaned up. This research question is what guided our excavations this year and how we interpreted the new artifacts that were discovered as well.

Students conducted the surveying and mapping of the site, archival research as well as artifact research prior to excavation. During excavation, students recorded natural stratigraphy, soil composition, elevations (in meters), artifacts found and drawings of each natural level of the unit excavated. In the lab, students cleaned each artifact, preserved artifacts by sealing them in precisely labelled bags and according to each artifact types preservation needs, as well as testing the soil collected from systematic soil coring of the site. This report aims to familiarize and clarify the archaeological research done on the site of Old Main in addition to present interpretations of the site as of May 2018.

Historical Background to Old Main

According to author Gordon Beld (1986:37), the site of the Old Main building and other original campus buildings used to part of what had once been the farm of Alma's Dan Boyer, as well as the local blacksmith and gun shop. Before Old Main and the other buildings had become part of Alma College, the buildings were what comprised the Central Normal School in 1886. The Old Main building's construction plans began in the winter of 1885-86 under the name "Union School" and it was agreed that the Michigan Normal School and Business College of Fenton, Michigan, would be moving to this location in

Alma (McMacken 2003:85). In mid-April of 1886 Adams & Rogers of Detroit had undertaken the contract for the Normal School buildings and the local firm of Tinker and Lumsden would be doing the woodwork (McMacken 2003:87). However, prominent Michigan businessman Ammi Wright saw an opportunity for the Presbyterians to establish a larger college in Alma. He offered the Presbyterians both land and the buildings if they would choose Alma over the nearby cities. On October 26, 1886, the two buildings Old Main and Pioneer Hall became part of the new Presbyterian-supported Alma College (McMacken 2003:90). After some conflict between the Normal School and the establishment of Alma College, Alma College finally opened on September 14, 1887 (McMacken 2003:92). The Old Main building then became the main administration and academic building for Alma College students for the next 83 years.

At approximately 10:45 a.m. on March 10, 1969, a fire started in the Old Main building's attic (Bollinger 1976). The building at the time held twenty-eight faculty offices, eight to twelve classrooms including laboratories and workshops (Alma College, Report From Alma 1969). As the fire was destroying the building, students and faculty ran into it in an attempt to save what they could such as records, books, equipment and other important documents. "Some faculty members stood by and helplessly watched the flames devour nearly completed doctoral dissertations and notes that represented years of research, organization and writing" (Michigan State Library, 16 March 1969).

Not much is known at this time of the exact cleanup process after the fire event. We know from a newspaper clipping (MSL, 16 March 1969) and a historical photograph (figure 4) that students volunteered to assist in the cleanup and reorganization of the site and that the site had been bulldozed for the 1972 construction of the new Swanson Academic Center (SAC) (figure 5). Buildings near Old Main, such as Pioneer Hall had been razed after the 1969 fire to make room for the new academic building by 1972. Plaques memorializing the original Alma College buildings as well as alumni class gifts had been placed shortly after construction completion on the center of the Old Main site.

Figure 4: Students helping to rescue filing cabinet drawers, books, research, and all else

Figure 5: Bulldozing the site in 1972

This history of Old Main is becoming increasingly more significant over the years for a few different reasons. The first reason is that any primary sources of people who saw the building burn are beginning to age. This would eliminate a very important source of information, as there is not a very specific record as to what took place in the building before it burned. These primary sources are also important because they can guide us to finding where the foundation of the building was and how the land was cleaned and prepared for the construction of Swanson Academic Center.

The study of Old Main is also important to the College for multiple reasons. First, it creates and opportunity to teach current students about the history of our college as well as give them a chance to practice researching the building through the process of archaeological method and theory. All of this together further interests other students and faculty across campus as well as members of the community, which creates awareness for what happened here almost five decades ago. The Alma College archives also benefits from the study of Old Main because it can create a more detailed file to be preserved into the distant future.

The community also cherishes the history of Old Main because many members experienced the burning and can recount the day to anyone interested in listening. We have heard numerous stories of what community members experienced the day Old Main burned, how they felt and what actions were taken during and after the event. Alma Elementary, Alma Middle School and Alma High School all made the call to discontinue teachings for the day so that students could make it home safely before the town became chaotic in the mess of this fire and destruction.

One community member recounts her day as she was sent home; she lived just south west of the campus and had to travel directly around and through the burning mess. She recalls how tragic it all was and how the main concern was to contain and discontinue the blaze so that other buildings were not affected, and so that maybe some items could be salvaged from the wreckage (personal communication with Lori Bebow, 3 May 2018). Another community member remembers how he had originally skipped high school that day with his friends before the fire even started. They heard of what was happening and then watched the aftermath unfold. He also remembered experiencing sorrow for everything that was lost in the building and even recalled M.J.J. Smith, a professor working on his dissertation. Smith's dissertation was lost in the fire and he lost all of his hair due to the stress of the event. If the significance of Old Main's demise caused a man to lose his hair and his life's work then studying and excavating it should prove significant to the College, students and the surrounding community (personal communication with Larry Jones, 8 May 2018).

To put it simply, the college played a critical role in growing the city of Alma and drawing students to the region while also starting a new culture within the community. The loss of one of two original buildings that so many students and faculty of the college spent countless hours in severs a part of their college pride and memories. The community supported the growth of the college and so this would also strike the hearts of those who cared for it. What was lost to the fire was more than just a building; to those who knew its history and legacy, they placed it as the origin of the college's pride. During our research and community outreach, we as a class have talked about how "there is no single public and no single past" (Little 2002:7). The results of Season 3 excavations have many publics and audiences, such as parents and family members, professors and teachers, community members, other students – high school and college, the archaeological community, and many others. Just as we have many publics, there are also multiple pasts, for example when our research and artifacts may not line up

exactly with a first or second-hand account of the fire. The reason for the intervention of archaeological research is to help the alumni, future students, and interested individuals gain a solid foundation of history to trace back to of this small, humble college.

Previous Archaeological Work in 2014 (Season 1) and 2015 (Season 2)

2014. The first season of archaeological excavations at Old Main occurred in 2014, and laid the foundation for future research at the site. Looking through previously filed student reports it seems that Season 1's focus was primarily to look for background information of Old Main and to find archaeological evidence for how the site was cleaned up after the fire. There were in total eleven students who excavated eight pits for this year (figure 6). These students started a blog on April 28, 2014 to keep track of and inform the public of their methods and progress (currently unavailable).

Figure 6: Excavation units dug in 2014 in relation to probable Old Main location

Before excavation, students learned about the history of Old Main through the Alma College archival material. Students also learned the basics of what archaeology entails and the history of the discipline in the Americas. They also were informed about archaeological ethics and how this applies to the work they would be doing on the site. The 2014 students used a magnetometer to get a reading on

where the southeast corner of the building was and used the results to set up where they wanted to excavate (figure 7a and 7b). One student noted, “The magnetometer was our best option because it detects ferrous metals, which include iron. By detecting iron and other metals, we can find nails, wire, and other metals that might have been left after Old Main burnt down” (Report #1 2014). Students of the 2014 excavation hypothesized (1) Most of the artifacts found would be in the basement and made of stone, glass, or metal, (2) the artifacts found would reflect academic work, student life, and food preparation, and (3) the lack of wood or paper artifacts would show the level of fire devastation. Other questions raised were: What building materials were used, will the debris reveal popular building materials from the original building in 1886, will we be able to prove the layout orientation of Old Main, how does the debris reflect the event of burning, and did they clear out the debris or leave it in the basement (Report 3 2014)?

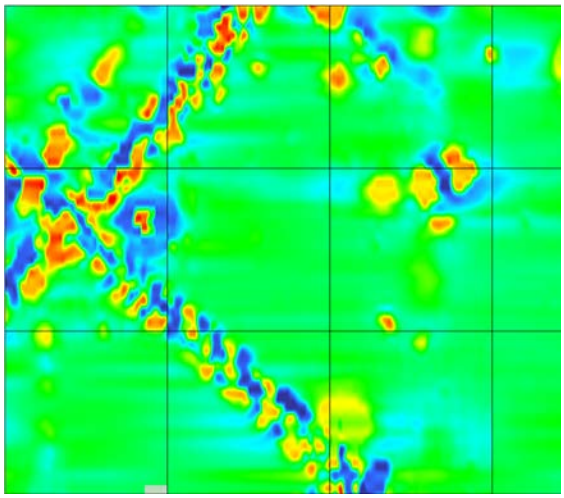

Figure 7a: Magnetometry results showing magnetic anomalies under the ground surface

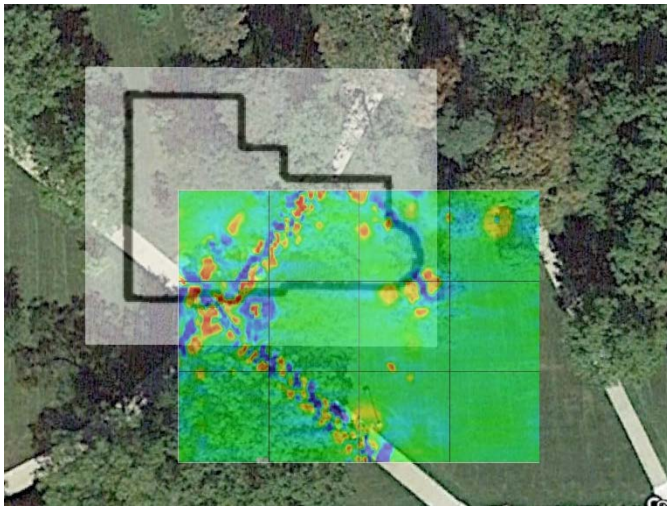

Figure 7b: Magnetometry map overlaying probable Old Main location

The first two levels of N-136.7 E10.7 were mainly composed of charcoal, nails, brick, and glass. Some significant artifacts, according to a student excavator, found in this unit were a fossil, green and white plastic pieces, iron pieces, the bottom of a glass container, wire, shell and aluminum. Based on the artifacts found in this unit, it was hard for these student excavators to determine whether the artifacts found “reflect education, student life, or food preparation.”

In unit N-115 E31, students found nails, wire, brick, glass, cement, concrete, slate, charcoal, and clinker throughout the entire unit. Some of the unique artifacts included a green decorative handle, an iron piece that resembles a door hinge, a painted brick, bone, roofing tile, a sewer pipe, and a large irrigation pipe. Students inferred that this unit “helped reflect education, student life, and food preparation” (Report #1 2014). Students posited that the large irrigation pipe was from the 1980s, which means it was installed after Old Main had already burnt down.

A majority of material pulled from unit N-134.5 E-26.3 was clinker, found throughout its entirety. Another primary find was a variety of types and colors of glass. The first level had a majority of

the artifacts which were concentrated in the southern half of the unit. The second level had most artifacts in the northeastern part of the unit (Report #2 2014).

Students excavating Unit N-105.4N E-9.8 found a lot of nails, cement, mortar, insulation foam, and clear glass shards. According to one student, "these artifacts confirm a human built a structure nearby. A few of the concrete chunks were scorched which proves an intense fire burned against the cement" (Report #3 2014). This student also correlates green glass found with old window glass from the building, the concrete, bricks, and mortar correlate with the walls, and the nails and carpentry staples "correlate with wooden beams which would have been present in the Old Main" (Report #3 2014). The students for this unit found a lot of clinker and charcoal which made them conclude that high levels of burning occurred. They discovered that more than one unit being excavated also had a lot of evidence of fire, this confirmed their records of the building fire at the site. Another report from 2014 hypothesized that the area was plowed to the east side, because more artifacts were found on that side than the west side (Report #5 2014). It was also suggested that the debris was moved—given the abundance of small artifacts found, as opposed to large artifacts—suggesting that they got broken down when moved (Report #5 2014).

In Season 1 of conducting archaeological fieldwork at Old Main in 2014, there are multiple accounts of bricks being found. On the Level 2 of the unit in Report 3, they found off white brick pieces, red colored brick, and mortar pieces (Report 3 2014:14). Report 4 recorded finding three pieces of brick in Level 1, and six pieces of brick in Level 2. They state, "most of the nails, and brick pieces were found in the basement area, which could mean that the debris was pushed into that area," (Report 4 2014:5, 6, 8). In Report 5, brick is an extremely common artifact, found 71 times, including painted brick. Report 5 advises to not get overzealous with bricks, as rocks can often look like bricks until the artifacts are cleaned (Report 5 2014:8-13). Lastly, in Report 6, they found burned bricks and three different types of bricks, yellow, red, and orange. They state that the yellow bricks were for "beautification" and the red and orange bricks were purely structural (Report 6 2014:4). Overall, bricks are an abundant artifact, along with other artifacts including but not limited to nails, Styrofoam, clinker, various other pieces of metal, glass, charcoal/carbon pieces, concrete, and mortar.

For the most part, Season 1 accomplished its objectives, and successfully recovered artifacts that can be linked to the Old Main fire, and some of the season one researchers believed they had located what was once Old Main's basement. However, some more specific questions remained unanswered. To quote one student: "…questions not answered were: Does the context of the artifacts reflect where they were in the building when it burnt, and will we find evidence to support why…" (Report 4 2014). From the excavation of 2014, interpretations were not very concrete. All that the students could infer from their data was that the site was indeed the location of Old Main and that a fire did take place on the site. Not much could be conclusively stated about what exactly happened during the fire and not much was found in terms of how life was during the late 1960s, at the time of the building's destruction.

2015. Season 2 excavations tested whether Old Main had undergone any renovations during its existence (figure 8). Finding building materials from different time periods in the excavation site would confirm this. If students found building material that dated after Old Main was destroyed in 1969 with no material that dates during its existence, the hypothesis of building renovations would be skewed unless the material was definitively from the construction of the SAC building. Another team of student

excavators, excavating units N-120 E-47, and N-72 E-36 sought to test their hypothesis: “The clean-up was carried out by pushing the debris into the basement of the building and capping it with a layer of clay. As a result, the number of glass artifacts will be more highly concentrated in the area of the building” (Report 4 2015).

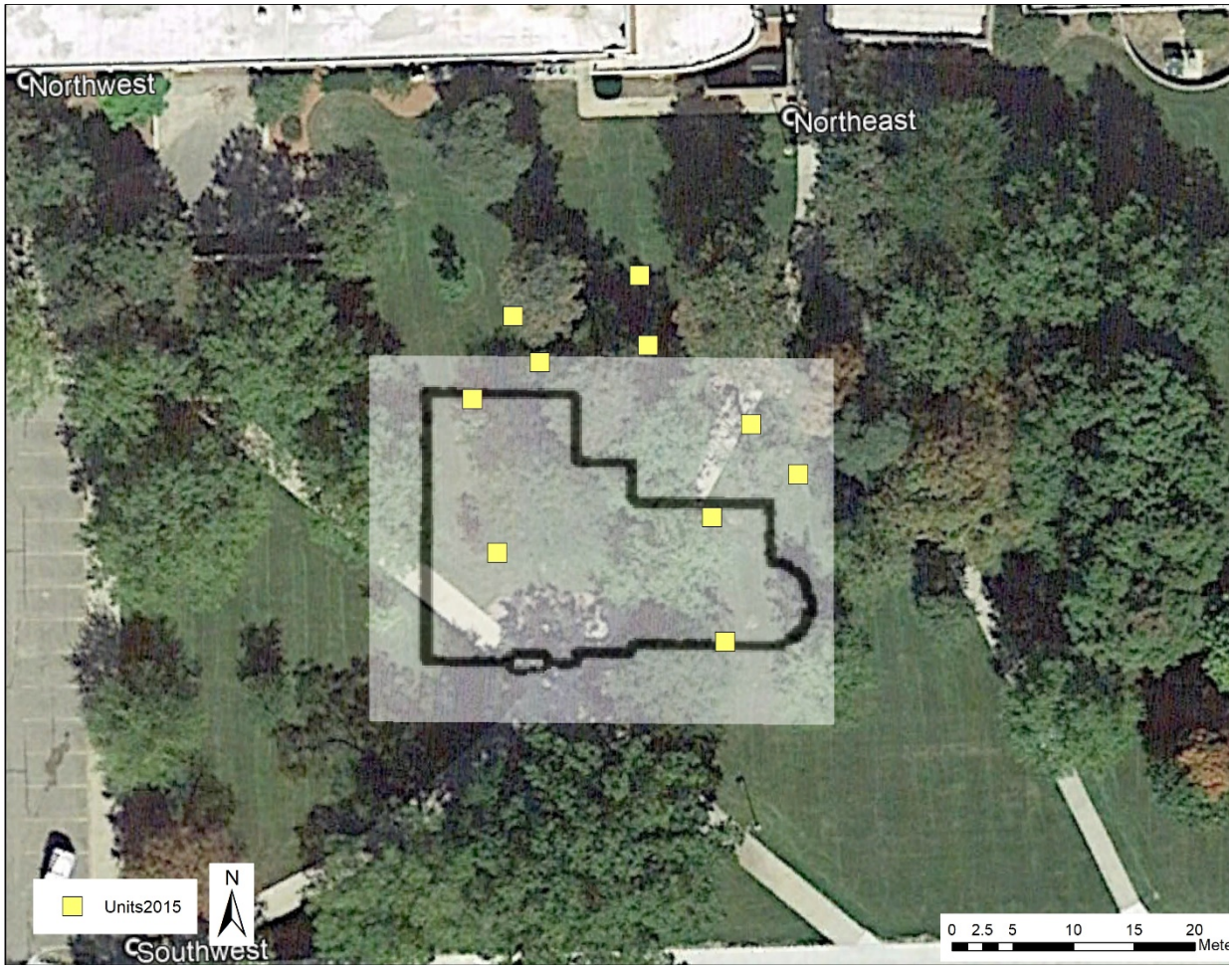

Figure 8: Excavation units dug in 2015 in relation to probable Old Main location

Student excavators of unit N-77 E-55 created a pie chart of their findings, which can be seen in their report. Unsurprisingly there is many data representing the occurrence of a fire, such as the presence of clinker, charcoal and burnt wood. Interestingly, this unit displayed a good amount of cultural material relating to items that would be found in an academic building and used by humans. An important find in this unit was part of a floor or wall tile (figure 9). The students believed this artifact to be “part of a bathroom in the basement or on a wall in one of the labs” (Report 2 2015). This unit also pulled the first complete yellow brick of the entire site’s history of excavation.

Figure 9: Floor or wall tile found in N-77 E-55

The unit located at N-105 N E26 contained construction materials such as glass of varying sizes, charred mortar, brick, cement, and nails as well as a folded metal sheet, a shell, slag and ceramic fragments all in Level 1. In Level 2, more construction material was found such as brick, mortar, slag, and a variety of nail technologies. Level 3 contained a total of 32 nails, brick and porcelain while Level 4 had some white ware (Report 3 2015).

Within unit N-120 E-47, a small piece of birdshot or buckshot, which was fused with sand was found. Another artifact was a small piece of brown glass concluded to be from a brown bottle used as a beverage container. Other artifacts found in this unit were clinker, charcoal, mortar, and brick. Excavators of this unit opened a unit at N-72 E-36 and found glass, ceramic, Styrofoam, bone, rubber, shell, and plastic in level 1. Level 2 featured tableware pieces, asphalt, glass, pipe fragments, plastic, a paint can lid, and metallic objects along with other building materials.

Students from 2015 concluded that their findings supported their hypothesis of evidence of renovation to Old Main. They were able to support this by finding the large amount of bricks in their unit that were from different time periods. “For instance, the whole yellow brick and yellow brick pieces are from back when Old Main was built and the red and orange brick pieces are from closer to when the fire happened” (Report 2 2015). One student hypothesizing the cleanup process, suggested based on their data and interpretations that the cleanup “consisted of crews pushing debris into the center of the site so as to make the site more even for capping with dirt and clay” (Report 4 2015).

Likewise, in Season 2 of excavating Old Main in 2015, the fieldwork uncovered more brick artifacts. In Report 1, it is recorded that they found six pieces of brick and mortar in Level 0, inferencing small chips from the outside of Old Main. At the same time, we should be careful when looking at data from Level 0 because it is on the top of the soil, and it is quite possible that it might be from any renovations from the Swanson Academic Center (SAC) (Report 1 2015:5). Report 2 found many brick artifacts, in three levels. They found red and yellow brick in Levels 1-3; dark brick in Level 1; full yellow brick in Level 3; and orange, red, and light-colored brick in Level 3. They say that “significance of yellow brick is that it shows how old the building was before the fire because yellow bricks were some of the first ones to be used when building back in the 1880’s” (Report 2 2015:12,13,14,16). While Season 2 says that the yellow bricks were used for building Old Main, Season 1 states that they were purely for beautification of the building. Lastly, in Report 3, there were bricks in three levels. In Level 1, twelve

pieces of bricks and mortar were found. In Level 2, six more pieces of brick. Finally, in level 3, one large brick and three small pieces were found (Report 3 2015:8-9). Moreover, bricks were not exclusive and other artifacts were found as well, including but not limited to: glass, charcoal, nails, screws, clinker, wood, and concrete.

According to data interpretations in select field reports from Season 2, the students confirmed the occurrence of renovations due to the presence of modern so-called "double headed nails" (Report 5 2015). However, I had some lingering doubts when reading this conclusion of theirs, due to the absence of any mention of interior renovations in historical record, coupled with the fact that to my knowledge no such nails exist in our inventory of Season 2 artifacts. Therefore, I consider this question unanswered to some degree. This season's focus seems to be very similar to the 2014 season but was more interested in the artifact class spread of the site. This means that they were trying to determine patterns of the specific types of artifacts located on the site, such as if one part of the site contained higher quantities of glass than another did, which could indicate a glass debris pile of the site cleanup. This season also more focused on the eastern side of the site, but since there was a higher number of students there are more units locate further west than the previous year.

Season 3 (2018) Methods

Just as at any other archaeological site, there are methods to figuring out where to place pits and how to go about being scientific archaeologists. The methods we used included: setting up a grid with pin flags, surveying, taking soil cores, testing pH levels, setting up 1x1 m excavation units, excavating, sifting, cleaning artifacts, cataloging artifacts, drawing plans and sections, and backfilling units.

Before we could start digging, there were multiple steps to complete. The Instruction phase consisted of two main parts: historical instruction, and archaeological skills. Historical instruction was the main focus of the first days of class, during which our primary goal was to learn everything we could about Old Main's history so that we could have a proper foundation of historical knowledge before any actual research design or field work could take place. Archaeological skills instruction consisted of learning the skills we would need for the research design, survey, excavation, and lab work phases through studying appropriate reading material, hands-on learning, and demonstrations. This type of work was more concentrated toward the beginning of class, but not entirely. An example of this is when we learned how to measure and mark out our 1x1 m pits by using tape on the floor. The research design phase consisted of developing our research questions, assigning artifact research groups, and planning for following phases of class.

One of those included setting up a grid with pin flags on the college lawn between SAC and West Superior Street (figure 10). First, we measured the area using tape measures, our strides, and pink flags to create a grid of the area surrounding Old Main, resulting in roughly 36 pink flags evenly placed on the lawn. Next, it was time to survey the area using a GPS and surveying equipment. The surveying and leveling equipment could be quite difficult to manage sometimes, but everyone got the hang of it quickly (figure 11). The tripod was placed at our starting point – datum point – and the elevations of the site were taken from there (Drewett 2011:128). A student would then hold the meter pole while others looked through the level to read the measurement that was seen though the cross hairs of the level.

This provided our class with 43 elevation points that Dr. Landau was able to place on a digital map and create a digital elevation model (DEM). We used the scope to view the large meter stick at each grid point and we read the measurement. Three students observed the measurement and shared observations after everyone had a chance to look to avoid peer bias and false agreement. We were very good at using the leveler and provided the same or extremely similar elevations for nearly every point reading.

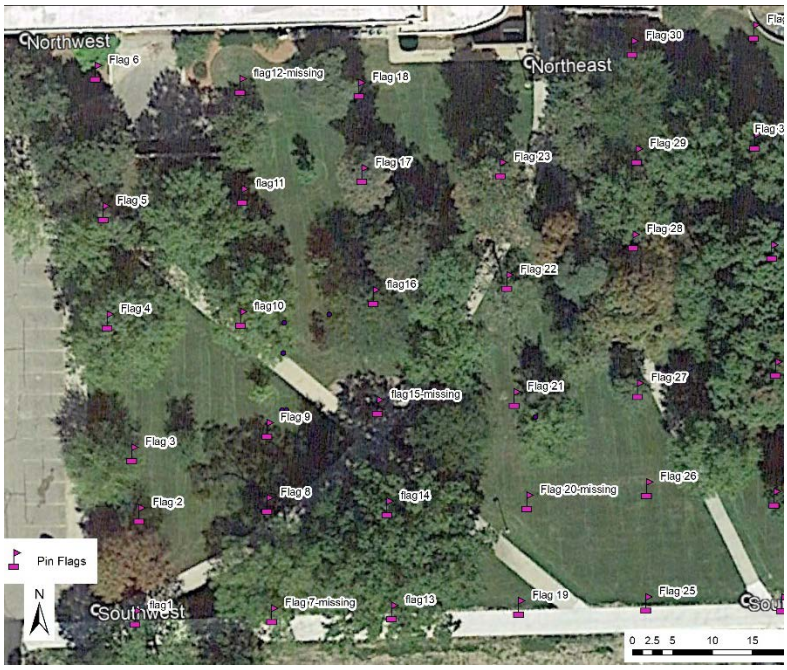

Figure 10: Our 36 pin flags set up across the full extent of the Old Main site

Figure 11: Learning the leveler

The pin flags were not placed in the lawn for aesthetics; they were markings to help take elevations and soil cores. Coring is "a continuous section of sediment or rock obtained by using a hollow cylinder called a corer or coring device" (Stein 1986:505). Coring helps us find the stratigraphy of the soil, and to give us a heads up on what we might run into when excavating. A coring device can be used "to observe subsurface deposits for reconstruction of site physiography, and to obtain samples of buried strata for radiocarbon, biological, or chemical analysis (Stein 1986: 509)." Stratigraphy is "the study of the sequence, age, and correlation of sediments and rocks and their interpretation regarding mode of origin and geologic history" (Holiday 2004:73).

The class split into groups of three to take soil cores and to look at the stratigraphy of the soil at each pin flag (figure 12). The purpose of taking soil cores was to test the pH of the soil to see if it held any clues to what we might find when excavating. Due to the abundance of tree roots, rocks, or sidewalks, some of the cores were taken up to two feet away from the flags, but in the grand scheme of our excavations it was okay. The corer would then be pushed into the ground until the top of the soil is level with a line on the corer. It is then slowly and carefully lifted out of the ground and the excess soil is scraped off with a trowel, so the uncontaminated levels of soil are visible. The soil was then separated

into different layers, measured, and placed into small sterile Whirlpak sample bags. Common soil types that we cored into were the humus (topsoil) layer, clay, and marbled clay. The bags would be marked with the site number (20GR334), pin flag number, level number, how many bags of soil at each flag, and the length of the soil level.

Figure 12: Stratigraphy in the soil corer

After the labors of our strenuous soil coring, we tested the pH of the soil. Our class attempted to test the pH of soil from the soil cores we took at each pin flag. It was a good experience, but the downfall was that the pH of the soil was too alkaline for our pH reader to test correctly. To test the pH of soil, you place said soil (without contaminating it by touching it with your hands) into the test tube, empty a capsule of reagent chemicals on top of the soil, and fill it with deionized water (or distilled water). The test tube is shaken until mixed and then set on the table for two minutes for the soil to settle. The solution will then turn a different shade of green based on the alkalinity/acidity of the soil (figure 13). All of the soil tests we took turned dark green, and the pH reader stated that the pH of the soil was 7.5 or greater, which means that the soil is alkaline or basic. It is totally okay if your soil is alkaline, but every single test (maybe except one) was 7.5 or greater according to the pH reader. We even tried testing the water itself – tap water, the deionized water, LIFE WTR, and Aquafina – too see if the water played a larger role than we had previously thought, and still none of them clocked out as acidic. Aquafina, the water that we could find on campus that was the most acidic (at a pH of 6.0), still did not counteract the reagent chemicals and the alkaline soil to create a more neutral or acidic test result. Not soon after testing the water, we decided that it was not worth our trouble to figure out the pH of the soil and went on to learn how to set up 1x1 m excavation units.

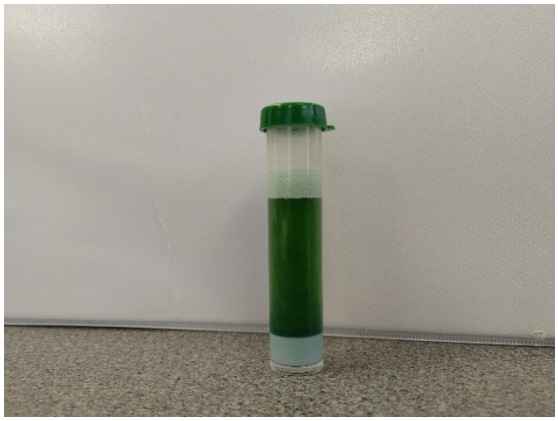

Figure 13: Testing the pH level of a soil sample

Instead of practicing square units outside, we practiced inside how to make square units because they can be tricky to maneuver. Units are the sections of dirt that we will be excavating, and they must be square to be scientific and accurate. We excavated 1x1 m units, and to make a square unit, you must first find the distance of the diagonal, which can be found by using the Pythagorean theorem. The diagonal of a 1x1 m square is 1.41 m, so not only do you have to make sure the sides are 1 m long, the diagonal must be 1.4 m long. The sites can be one or two millimeters off, but other than that we have to redo it before excavating.

After the site was officially surveyed, we then plotted where are units were going to be for the 2018 season. Before we did this, we needed to place where the previous seasons' units were located so that we are not excavating a previous unit. Pin flags were placed near where the southwest stakes would have been for past units. We placed them based on the coordinates of the past seasons relative to the datum of the site (N 0, E 0). The coordinates of all excavation units are read from the southwest stake of the unit. Once all past units were located, we then planned where our units were going to be. Using a combination of the chalkboard and projected maps, we overlaid different images on top of each other for spatial reference. We decided to place our units in the western side of the site because there have not been many units near that location in past seasons. For of the units were placed along what we hypothesized might have been the location of the foundation of Old Main. One last unit was placed on the southeastern, curved side of Old Main, where magnetometry presented an anomaly that had not yet been excavated in previous seasons.

To best preserve the area we were excavating in, we rolled the humus layer of grass to place back on the site after backfilling. Some groups were very methodical when it came to excavate; in one case, students would start with a trowel sized square in the center of our site that was 5 cm deep and then work to the outside of the site keeping the bottom level. We would start excavating 5 cm at a time because it was easier to keep the bottom of the site level and to watch for artifacts. There are variations at archaeological digs on how deep each level is, but in general, each different soil type is a level. However, if the soil type is more than 10 cm deep, a new level begins. For example, soon after the humus layer, we ran into marbled clay that would transcend 20 cm – two layers. Excavation was done carefully and slowly using tools such as a pointed trowel, squared trowel, mini broom, dustpan and a

small bucket. Every cultural and significant item found by the excavator was removed from the unit and seen as an artifact to be later cleaned in the lab. During the excavation process, it is essential to sift through the loose soil that was dug up, to catch any artifacts that were not found in the site initially. We used a quarter inch mesh screen and wooden sifter to sift the dirt and to find any small artifacts. This is where we found most of our smaller artifacts – glass, charcoal and carbon pieces, and mortar. Once we found artifacts, they would be placed in a labeled fabric bag and placed in the lab to be cleaned and cataloged.

Later when multiple units had had full artifact bags, the class would work in the lab to clean and catalogue artifacts. Depending on the artifacts, they will either be washed, dry brushed, or left alone. Artifacts that can be washed are stone, pottery, glass, brick, and plastic. Those that must be dry brushed are metal, wood, leather, and cloth. Artifacts that cannot be washed at all are charcoal/carbon and pollen. Lastly, for bone, shells, and rubber, it depends on the condition of the artifacts whether they get washed. Each bag of artifacts would be kept on the same tray to dry to make sure they are not mixed up with other levels. The next day when the artifacts are dry, they are placed in individual bags by identification of artifact and labeled. After all artifacts were bagged and tagged, all information was entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet for the entire Old Main project excavations. All artifacts from Season 3 are currently housed in three file boxes within the Archaeology Closet of the Environmental Lab in DOW Room 240.

Results and Interpretations

Figure 14: Map showing the placement of the six units of the 2018 season

N-150 E-75 (by Eryn Corinth and Sean O'Malley)

N-150 E-75 was comprised of six levels and held numerous surprises. The elevation of the southwest stake was 231.97 meters above sea level (masl). Level 0 consisted of the grass and humus layer. There was bark, rocks, sticks, and leaves found on the grass, but no artifacts found. Looking at the grass, there was a dead patch of grass through the left side of the southeast and northeast quadrants, running north to south (figure 15). There the rocks were mainly found in the area of dead grass, with the bark, sticks, and leaves strewn around the remaining area of the site. The soil type was grass and silty clay, and the Munsell color was 10YR 4/3.

Figure 15: Top of Level 0 showing the dead patch of grass in the center

Level 1 consisted of more humus and topsoil. It was a thin layer because it was still part of the humus layer. Nonetheless, no artifacts were found, but rocks and wood were placed in an artifact bag. In Level 1 only three pieces of wood were found that was deemed an artifact. There was an orange-red unidentified possible artifact in the northeast quadrant, but it turned out to be nothing (figure 16). The soil type was silty clay loam, and the Munsell color was 10YR 4/2.

Figure 16: Bottom of Level 0, top of Level 1

In Level 2 the soil type was also silty clay loam with the Munsell color 10YR 4/3. The soil was gritty, smooth, soft, and wetter than previous soil. There were some rocks found throughout the site and in the soil. On the top of the soil in the level there was a small piece of wood in the northeast quadrant. Two small pieces of glass were also found on the top of the soil, but in the southwest and southeast quadrants. The soil became harder to dig through, and it became more marbled. When we started this level, we first dug down five centimeters because it is easier to excavate, find artifacts, and keep the bottom of the site level when there is less soil to move. Level 2 was comprised of two 5 cm

'levels,' with a total decrease in elevation of 10 cm (figure 17). We located a metal piece (possibly an iron strip) in the western wall, but could not remove it easily. We also found a large cement rock with flat surface on one of the sides that could possibly be from the broken-up sidewalk in front of Old Main. We found over a hundred-twenty different artifacts in this level too. The most interesting artifact was a piece of sewer pipe, which other students from the previous classes have found before (figure 18). We found more of the same pieces in further levels.

Figure 17: Bottom of Level 1, top of Level 2

Figure 18: Ceramic sewer pipe

Level 3 was a continuation of Level 2 with marbled clay, but the soil type came out as sandy clay and the Munsell color as 10YR 4/4 (figure 19). It was a continuation of Level 2 because of the magnitude of marbled clay. In general, on the top of Level 3, the northeast and southeast quadrants were of darker clay than the northwest and southwest quadrants; Dr. Landau said that it was not a big enough change to excavate them differently or to pedestal the clay. A cement and possible brick piece were found protruding from the northern wall. A blue plastic ribbon was sticking out of the floor, and we were able to excavate it during this level. The piece had no burn marks to it, so it was probably not involved in the fire (figure 20). More artifacts were found in the first 5 cm than the second 5 cm, totaling about 130.

Figure 19: Bottom of Level 2, top of Level 3

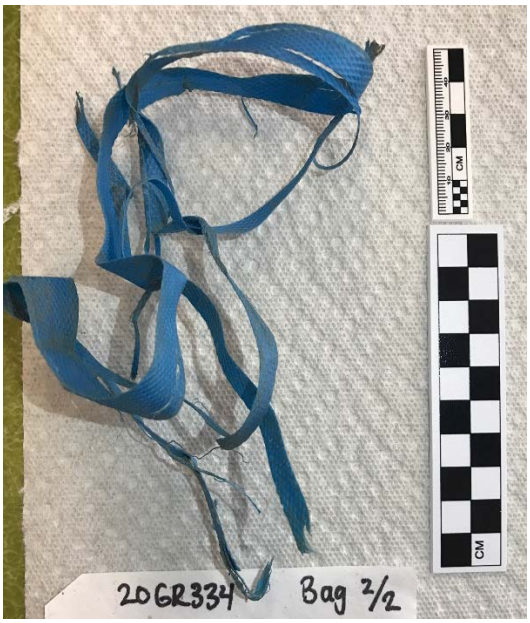

Figure 20: Blue plastic ribbon without burn marks

Level 4 was a short 2.5 cm until we found different colored soil. The soil became lighter, with different marbled colors in the soil including red, orange, and light brown. The soil type was sandy clay with the Munsell color of 10YR 5/3. Right away, we noticed a difference in color in the southeast corner, and we pedestaled the corner until we could find the same soil throughout the whole site. The clay became rockier and fewer artifacts were found in the layer. For this level, we only found twenty-two artifacts. One of the most common artifacts found in this level was mortar, which was very common around all of the other levels as well (figure 21).

Figure 21: Bottom of Level 3, Top of Level 4

Level 5 was slightly lighter with more marbled clay everywhere, but the southwest corner had more grey patches of clay, which were more prevalent in the northern half of unit (figure 22). New red and pink patches of soil near southeast corner, and splotches of paler yellow silt were found in northeast and southeast quadrants – yellow silt Munsell color 2.5Y 6/4. When the seemingly grey clay

dries, it is often hard to distinguish from rocks, and the clumps of soil are harder to break apart in the sifter, they almost look like conglomerate rocks or cement – sandy loam Munsell color 10YR 4/2. The other general soil of the site was sandy clay Munsell color 10YR 4/6. Overall, the marbled clay was lighter than previous levels. We can tell that we are getting closer and closer to a sterile layer because were finding less artifacts. One of the artifacts we found in this layer happens to be one of the biggest pieces of glass we found throughout all other levels (figure 23). We begin to notice the soil gets darker in the southwest corner of our pit, and that will make more sense once we reach the sixth layer.

Figure 22: Bottom of Level 4, top of Level 5

Figure 23: Largest piece of glass found in this pit

Level 6 was our last level, as we dug down another 10 cm and did not find very many artifacts. One curious artifact from Level 6 includes a small rock with two 'x's' inscribed on it. However, the soil was still marbled clay loam Munsell color 10YR 4/3 with spots of yellow and grey silt and clay (figure 24). In the southwest corner of the site, we encountered a pipe (figure 25), and the soil around the pipe a darker brown soil. This could also be the reason our pit has different stratigraphic layers because the original context was destroyed when this pipe was put in. The soil was darker because the soil was mixed either when the pipe was laid down or the pipe made the soil around it moist and wet. After excavating this level, it was deemed sterile – that we would not get anything else from the unit. However, we did not perform a shovel or probe test to determine if we actually hit sterile soil, yet we closed the site anyway.

Figure 24: Bottom of Level 6

Figure 25: Modern pipe in southwest corner

Discussion. Overall throughout most the levels (figure 26a and 26b), pieces of concrete, bricks, and glass were found in separate areas. The glass was mostly found in the southwest and southeast quadrants. Concrete and brick pieces were found predominantly in the area of the dead grass that was Level 0 – the north to south areas of the northeast and southeast quadrants. The soil surrounding the pipe found in Level 6 may be from when the pipe was placed in the ground. When the pipe was inserted into the lawn, the soil would have been placed back into the trench differently than it was taken out resulting in a different stratigraphy and soil color.

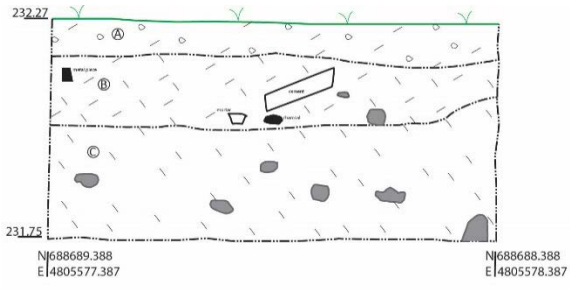

Figure 26a: North profile

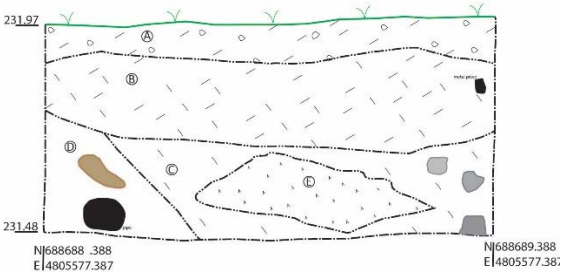

Figure 26b: West profile

A: Sandy Loam 10YR 5/3 – grass and roots, some rocks

B: Sandy Clay 10YR 3/2 – mix of humus and marbled clay, more rocks, gray and yellow intrusions

C: Clay Loam 10YR 4/3 – marbled clay with gray intrusions and yellow silt

D: Sandy Clay 10YR 2/2 – matrix in and around the plastic (PVC) pipe

E: Yellow Silt 2.5YR 6/4 – some intrusions and darker spots within

We believe that the results from both the N-150 E-75 and N-143 E-75 sites correspond with past season's data and contribute to our knowledge of Old Main. With the site N-150 E-75, I believe we might have come across either a part of the basement, somewhere where debris was pushed after the fire, or

pieces from the burning of Old Main that was pushed into the ground. It was probably more likely that it was of the two latter possibilities. An example of the wood from Level 1 (figure 27), but we should be careful with the wood found in this level because it is still very close to the humus and topsoil, so it is possible that it was from surrounding flowerbeds or current trees. The same caution should be held to the gravely rocks found in Level 1, since it is so close to the topsoil and might be from outside sources or pieces of the sidewalk.

The artifacts from Level 2 that stood out to Sean and I were cement (figure 28), the metal ribbon (figure 29), piece of the sewer pipe (figure 18), and a piece of red brick (figure 30). These artifacts probably came from the wreckage of Old Main. We placed the pit to try to catch a corner of Old Main, and even when we did not find a cornerstone or a feature of bricks, other artifacts were found. It is possible that the piece of cement came from Old Main, the previous sidewalk that was surrounding Old Main, or from the old SAC parking lot. The metal ribbon was found in the northwest corner sticking out of the wall – and the rest of it could not be excavated as it is stuck within the wall. We are not sure what the metal ribbon would have been used for, but possibly for structural uses in Old Main. One of my favorite artifacts that we found was the piece of sewer pipe. We believe that it is sewer pipe because based on the curvature of the piece, it must have been a large pipe and when looking at it, it has a metallically/the gasoline-rainbow look. Additionally, in past seasons the same type of pipe has been found and it was labeled a sewer pipe. Lastly, the piece of red brick. I thought that this was interesting because Old Main was constructed with yellow brick first and for structural purposes and red brick for decoration (Report 2 2015:16). That being, red brick would be less common. When I was looking through Season 1 and Season 2 artifact bags, I came across more yellow/beige bricks and orange bricks than red bricks.

Figure 27: Level 1 – wood

Figure 28: Level 2 – cement

Figure 29: Level 2 – metal ribbon

Figure 30: Level 2- piece of red brick

In Level 3, the artifact that I found most interesting was that of a blue plastic ribbon (figure 20). This blue plastic ribbon was first found sticking out of the end of Level 2 and the beginning of Level 3, and it almost looks newer than the stratigraphy allows. Personally, I think that it looks like something from a modern-day construction site or electrical working. On the other hand, in Level 4, the artifact I chose to look at more was mortar. Even though we found mortar throughout the site, I thought that it was interesting that we were still finding mortar even though the bricks and cement pieces were found in more of the upper levels. Additionally, in Level 5, Sean and I found our biggest piece of glass yet, a piece of green glass roughly the size of a silver dollar (figure 23). As a class, we believe that Old Main had green glass in the windows, as evidenced by the vast multitude of green glass found in the 2018 Season and the width of the glass itself. Lastly, in Level 6, we were still finding charcoal/carbon pieces. This possibly shows the amount of mixing that the bulldozers or cleaning crews placed upon the debris after the fire to move it around.

N-143 E-75 (by Eryn Corinth and Sean O'Malley)

N-143 E-75 was comprised of one level and was opened purely for the community to try their hand at archaeology during Community Archaeology Day (figure 31). The soil type was humus with the Munsell color being 10YR 4/3. Artifacts found during Community Archaeology Day include: one nail, one piece of blue glass, one piece of clear glass, and nine pieces of mortar. Both glass pieces and the nail were found in the northern half of the unit, and mortar was found throughout the unit. These artifacts may not all be exactly from Level 0 due to the fact that those who were excavating dug down and not across, so the level was not even. Not much can be said about this unit because it was opened for the intent of including archaeology members in our dig through Community Archaeology Day (figure 32). When we backfilled the unit, we marked in all four corners and the center of the site with pink flagging tape so future archaeologists at the site of Old Main can find how far deep we went and excavate the site further.

Figure 31: End of Level 0

Figure 32: "St. Louis's Kari Rodriguez, son Johnny, and Alma College history major Sean O'Malley sift dirt looking for artifacts at Community Archaeology Day Saturday. Kari is an Alma College alum who minored in archaeology." Photo by Rosemary Horvath, Gratiot County Herald.

From the N-143 E-75 site, the two prominent artifacts were the piece of blue glass and the large nail (figure 33). It is quite possible that both of the artifacts came from Old Main, but they also were both from Level 0, so the uses are disputed but similar to those found in Season 1-3.

Looking throughout everyone in our class's pits, I have pinned more of my focus toward N-120 E-75, because we are located on the same east-west line and only thirty feet separates our two pits, as well as toward the north. N-100 E-75 was also on the same east-west line but they were fifty feet north of us. Looking through everyone's level forms, it looks like everyone found a large sum of their artifacts in the second and third levels of their pits. I believe this can mean that looking at the stratigraphy in the soil overtime, then Old Main must have collapsed during the level three zone and level two was the bulldozers moving more dirt and artifacts over top of it. This is also true for the 2014 and 2015 classes, that most of their artifacts were found in the level two and three zones. Now, with all of this information, Old Main was definitely a building that hosted rooms for education. Since the building burned down in 1969, we can say that the stratigraphy of soil would indicate that the soil from 1969 is only two or three levels. I would suggest that for future classes that they would end up finding most of their artifacts throughout these levels as well.

Figure 33: Large machine-cut nail

N-120 E-75 (by Reanna Averill and Hannah Flemming)

The unit we excavated was located on the western end of the Old Main site. The elevation of the southwest corner was measured at 228.85 meters and established our reference point for future elevation calculations.

Level 0: The soil composition was recorded as a silty loam with a Munsell of 10YR 4/3 or brown-dark brown. Artifacts found at this level were a granny smith apple PLU sticker, a foil wrapper, half a white button, and three pieces of mortar (figure 34). As Sam Sieffert and I were rolling the top soil and grass off from level 0, I had noticed a small piece of green glass that was unfortunately lost in the rolling process.


Figure 34: Top of Level 0

Level 1: The soil composition of this level was more of the silty loam that became more of a silty clay loam as we went deeper. The color is classified at a 10YR 5/3 or Brown. Artifacts found at this level were three pieces of small green glass. Due to the grass rolling process, the surface of level 2 is uneven and can be seen in the representations of the unit in my drawing and the photograph (figures 35a and 35b). My partner and I were very careful with this level. We dug by using the sides of our trowels and slowly scraping aside the soil.

Figure 35a: Bottom of Level 0, top of Level 1

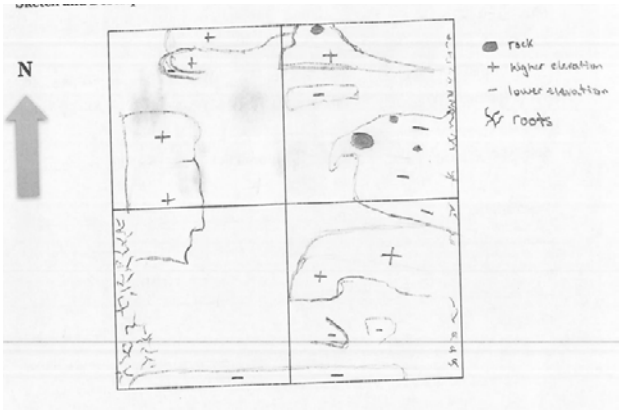

Figure 35b: Sketch of Top of Level 1

Level 2A: My partner and I had to divide the level into two sections because the two sections contained different colored soil. The soil composition of this level is silty clay with a Munsell of 10YR 5/2 or Grayish-brown. 2A is separated from 2B due to soil composition and color (figures 36a and 36b). My partner and I dug this section also by being careful and scraping with the sites of our trowel to start, but as we went deeper we realized it was fine to dig into the ground more.

Figure 36a: Bottom of Level 1, top of Level 2A (left) and 2B (right)

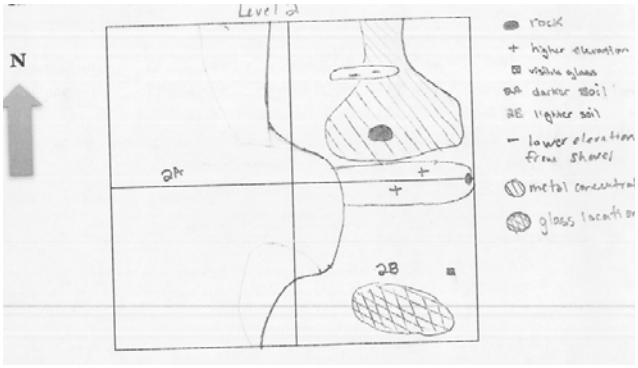

Figure 36b: Sketch of Level 2A and 2B

Level 2B: The soil composition for 2B is silty clay with a Munsell of 10YR 6/8 or Reddish-yellow, 10YR 5/8 or Strong brown and 7.5YR 5/2 or Grayish-brown. We have called it marbled clay due to the mixture of colors and textures the soil has. The southern area of 2B is where we have found most of the green glass. In the northern part is where we found the nails and wire. Level 2B had much more artifacts than 2A, and ended up with two bags of artifacts. As we dug we dug our trowels deeper into the ground because we are now going through a lot of marbled clay. We used the pointed trowels to dig and the flat ones to fix our walls.

Level 3: This levels soil composition is clay. The Munsell colors are: 7.5YR 4/2 or Brown, 7.5YR 6/6 or Reddish-yellow, 7.5YR 4/6 or Strong brown, and 2.5YR 6/6 Light red. There was also some silty clay that was 7.5YR 4/1 or Dark gray. Charcoal is larger in this level than in levels 2A and 2B. The brick and featural stone were found in the center of the unit. The soil is getting a lighter yellow and less

marbled. The dark gray silty clay is noticeably harder than other colors and composition of soil (figures 37a and 37b).

Figure 37a: Bottom of Level 2, top of Level 3

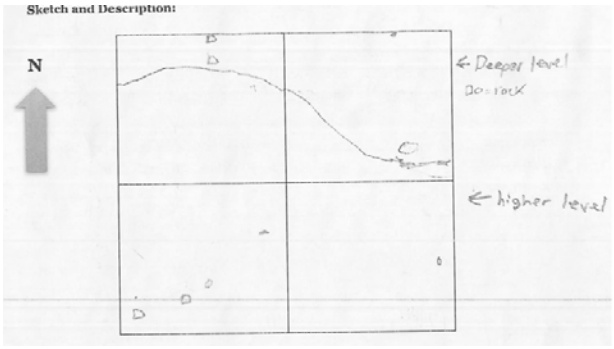

Figure 37b: Sketch of top of Level 3

Level 4A: As we dug deeper in Level 3, we noticed a rectangular area of darker soil in the southeastern part of our unit. We decided to pedestal this area off for later excavation. This pedestal area is 4B. The area around this pedestal is 4A. Level 4A's soil composition is silty clay with a Munsell color of 2.5YR 7/4 or Light reddish-brown, 10YR 6/8 or Brownish-yellow, 7.5YR 6/1 or Gray, 10YR 7/3 or Very pale brown, and 10YR 7/1 or Light gray. There was also a small patch of silty loam with a Munsell color of 7.5 YR 4/2 or Brown (figure 38). There is a small piece of plastic material sticking out of the southern wall that was unable to be collected.

Figure 38: Bottom of Level 3, top of Level 4A and 4B

Level 4B: The dark, rectangular patch of soil turned out to be a different soil composition than the typical silty clay of this depth. This patch's composition was clay loam with a Munsell of 10YR 3/2 or Very dark grayish brown 10YR 3/1 or Very dark gray. The area surrounding the patch was a sandy clay with Munsell colors: 2.5YR 7/4 or Light reddish-brown, 10YR 6/8 or Brownish-yellow, 7.5YR 6/1 or Gray, 7.5YR 4/2 or Brown, and 10YR 7/3 or Very pale brown. The soil is hypothesized to be a mixture of the

top soil with the clay. It was easier to dig through and dried out easily. This area also features charcoal that is more powdery than previous levels (figure 39 and figure 40).

Figure 39: Top of Level 4B (southeast corner)

Figure 40: End of Level 4

Discussion. Overall, we noticed at our unit that the deeper we went, the larger our charcoal deposits became. Not only were the deposits larger, but there were more of them (figures 41a and 41b). We also noticed the quantity of artifacts increased in Levels 3 and 4. We were continuing to find brick and mortar pieces in our lower levels but the amount of metal and glass was not present in the lower half of levels 4A or 4B. Could this be an indication of a gap in the soil of artifacts, the sterility of lower levels or an indication of the influence of the cleanup of the site? We believe there may be more to find in levels deeper than 4A and 4B. If we look at the surface of Level 5, we can still see a little of that dark patch in the southeast corner that we had noticed at the end of Level 3. This may be signaling the presence of an artifact below or the influence of soil churning during the cleanup process.

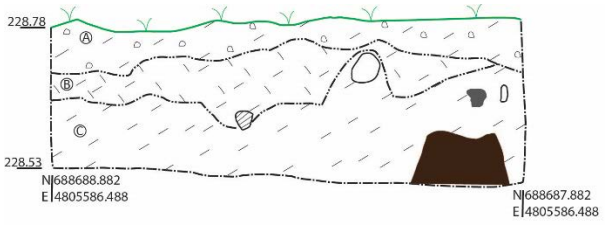

Figure 41a: East profile

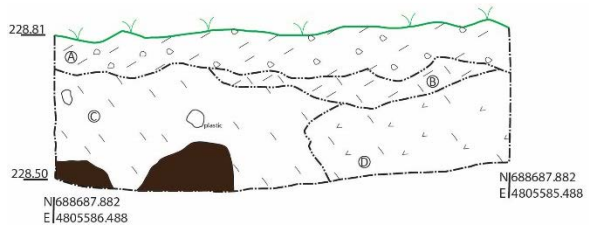

Figure 41b: South profile

A: Silty Loam, Silty Clay 10YR 5/3 – humus topsoil with roots

B: Silty Clay 7.5YR 6/8, 10YR 5/2 – small charcoal inclusions missed with gravel and rocks

C: Clay 7.5YR 4/2, 2.5YR 6/6, 7.5YR 6/6, 7.5YR 4/6, 7.5YR 4/1 – marbled clay with sandy loam (humus) patches

D: Sandy clay 2.4YR 7/4, 10YR 6/8, 7.5YR 6/1, 7.5YR 4/2, 10YR 7/3, 10YR 3/2, 10YR 3/1 – marbled clay mixed with ash, includes some gravel

It is interesting that we found all metal artifacts in the northeast corner of the unit and located in the bottom of Level 2B and the top of Level 4A. We believe this grouping along with a clear abundance of artifacts in the eastern side of our unit shows the existence of the edge of the western

wall of the site or edge of building collapse. All green glass shards were found in a localized area in the southern part of the unit. It was also found only in the upper three levels. We believe this indicates a bottle or decorative glass piece may have been left or destroyed in this location, possibly the larger pieces disposed of with the smaller pieces being to difficult to pick up. We also believe it to have been left sometime after the fire in 1969. We believe this because of the 1985 penny found in level 2A; this indicates that most likely anything in the level with this penny will date to 1985 or later. However, we cannot rule out the possibility of the penny being buried unnaturally such as through construction or intentional burying.

Due to the larger amount of evidence of fire in the form of charcoal deposits, hard gray clay deposits, and burnt brick, we believe artifacts in levels 4A and 4B are most definitely from the building of Old Main. We know from archival research that Old Main was last building to burn down in this area; this suggests that the artifacts we found can be traced to Old Main. Although our unit's natural levels are not exactly flat, there are clear divisions in soil composition throughout. Soil color seems to mix throughout Levels 2, 3 and most of Level 4. This may indicate the churning and mixing of soils, artifacts and degradable material after the fire. We do not know if this mixing happened immediately after or several years after, however. We also do not have enough evidence to definitively say if the laying of the sidewalk immediately south of our unit had any effect on the stratigraphy or artifact pool in our unit.

Unit -150N, -75E, just south of our unit, began to reveal an abundance of artifacts related to the Old Main building around 30 cm below surface. These artifacts include nails, cement, brick, and tile. Despite their ability to excavate deeper below surface and a few unique finds, overall the artifact types are extremely similar to our unit. We both found a lot of charcoal, cement and mortar, as well as pieces of brick. Unit -100N, -75E, just north of our unit, seemed to have an abundance of artifacts similar to our unit and unit -150N, -75E. The only difference was in quantity and unit depth. This unit began to have items related to Old Main around 20 cm below surface. They found about ten times as much brick and glass as our unit did at this depth. At this level they also began to find older nails such as machine cut that were most likely used in the construction of Old Main. However, this unit seemed to go sterile around the end of their levels 3A and 3B and into Level 4.

Unit -100N, -55E also began to find artifacts related to the fire around 20 cm below surface in the form of charcoal, metal, and brick. This unit had more brick and charcoal than the other three units nearby. Their artifacts seemed to dwindle a little around 40 to 50 cm below the surface. However, this unit did find a metal ring in the northern part of the unit that may be interesting to research in the future. Unit -155N, 30E appears to be the more eventful unit in this year's excavation. This unit already had artifacts around 10 to 15 cm below surface. There was a large quantity of carbon mortar, and even four nails found in Level 1. In Level 2 there was even more brick, carbon, mortar, glass and even wood. It became clear by Level 3, around 20 to 25 cm below surface, that this unit was unique and was possibly a site of building collapse, possibly undisturbed. This unit was unique in that it had complete bricks, large pieces of brick, wire, wood and carbon in abundance and a large amount of nails compared to other 2018 units (figure 14). Unfortunately, time constraints did not allow for full excavation of this unit.

We had excavated in more western units than those of previous years in an attempt to get a more representative view of the Old Main site. However, we have seen in previous years and even this year that a majority of cultural material related to the site have been excavated on the eastern side of the site. In terms of artifact types, all three excavation seasons had the same types of artifacts with a

few unique artifacts such as a sewage pipe, tile, beaker glass, a 1950s Coca-Cola can and a sizeable metal ring. It seems that in the previous excavations there are artifacts related to the construction of SAC in the northern units, such as duplex and wire nails, paint can lids and red brick.

N-100 E-75 (by Bridget Eshleman and BJ Schutte)

In our Unit (N-100 E-75), 310 artifacts were found throughout four levels of soil. Level 0 of unit N -100 E -75 (figure 42) was our grass sod layer that we rolled back on the surface and below the grass contained no artifacts of any kind. Our unit was located 2-3 meters east of a medium-sized tree and the topsoil was scattered with dry patches of grass. The initial elevation for our southwest stake was 227.51 m above sea level and elevations were then measured at each corner of our unit for each level. The soil was a 10YR 3/2 very dark grayish brown loam and was also called the humic layer.

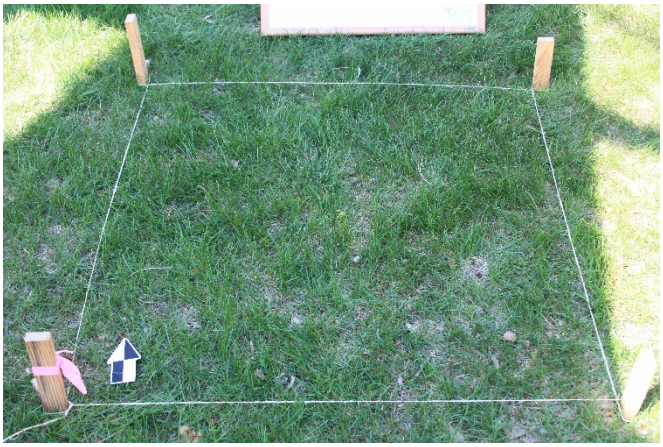

Figure 42: Top of Level 0

Within Level 1 (figure 43) we removed all of the humic layer and reached the marbled clay layer that was a 10YR 3/3 dark brown sandy clay soil. This layer was somewhat mixed with the humic layer soil. No artifacts were discovered. Within this layer we slowly excavated the humic layer away, compared to other levels, to reach the marbled clay layer. The marble clay layer was also reached much deeper in the center of the unit that formed a shallow valley within our unit.

Figure 43: Bottom of Level 0, top of Level 1

We began to excavate into the marbled clay layer in Level 2 (figure 44). This soil had a 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown sandy clay base marbled with 10YR 5/6 yellowish brown sandy clay. There were also two sections of our unit that we decided to separate from the regular soil. One was 10YR 4/2 dark grayish brown silty clay with 10YR 5/6 yellowish brown sandy clay inclusions along the south wall. Due to the overall darker color of the soil, we initially sectioned this off. Upon further excavation, it was revealed to be some unknown soil color change that seemed to have no explanation, therefore it was not treated as a separate level. The other section was a 10YR 5/3 sandy loam that was not given much attention, but was noted to be only a slightly different color and harder than our base Level 2 soil in the northeast corner. All soil sections also contained large quantities of small portions of charcoal inclusions; we started only collecting larger portions. It rained several times over the course of this level. We did not reach a change in soil so we stopped the level after 20 cm finishing the unit. We found 67 artifacts in this level—primarily charcoal, brick, glass, and cement. A 35cm-long metal rod, a masonry nail, and several pieces of colored glass were some significant finds. We also discovered a piece of charred wood, which was uncommon, because wood deteriorates rather quickly in the ground.

Figure 44: Bottom of Level 1, top of Level 2

Level 3 was then started within the same marbled clay layer (figure 45). It contained two soil sections. The majority of the unit, Level 3A, contained a 10YR 6/6 brownish yellow sandy clay soil base with 10YR 4/3 brown silty clay loam soil inclusions. Level 3B contained 10YR 4/2 dark grayish brown clay soil mottled with 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown sandy loamy clay and 10YR 3/2 very dark grayish brown sandy loam soils that was plateaued from section 3A. We took section 3A down to the elevations of NW: 227.475 m, NE: 227.478m, SW: 227.479 m, SE: 227.478 m. After reaching these elevations, we then excavated 3B down to the same levels as 3A. After brining 3B down, we concluded that there was not anything significant in the difference of soil color to warrant further separation in the continuing levels. Each section wielded different artifacts. This level near the bottom contained an artifact that contained oxidation on it while underneath the artifact, showed a ring of oxidation. The rock was kept separate and place in the Level 4 artifact bag in case it belonged to the rest of a possible artifact.

Figure 45: Bottom of Level 2, top of Level 3A and 3B (raised)

Level 4 (figure 46) was brought down to the elevations of NW: 227.473 m, 227.475 m and 227.467 m in the crevice, SW: 227.463 m, SE: 227.475 m. It contained a 10YR 3/3 dark brown silty clay base with 10YR 5/6 yellowish brown sandy clay, 10YR 5/1 clay, and a single 5Y 7/6 yellow clay inclusion(s). One area within the level contained 10YR 7/3 Brown sandy clay with 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown sandy clay inclusions that we felt warranted a different soil matrix from the other soil areas. We attempted to pedestal this area, but discovered that it was just an oxidation stain; we obtained 56 cement-like rocks from this area. This level is our final layer due to the strong possibility that we reached a sterile layer of soil due to the small amount of artifacts we found in this layer. It was also difficult to get through the gray clay inclusions of the layer, making excavation nearly impossible to continue.

Figure 46: Bottom of Level 4

Discussion. The distribution of artifacts among the various levels in our unit is depicted in Figure 47.

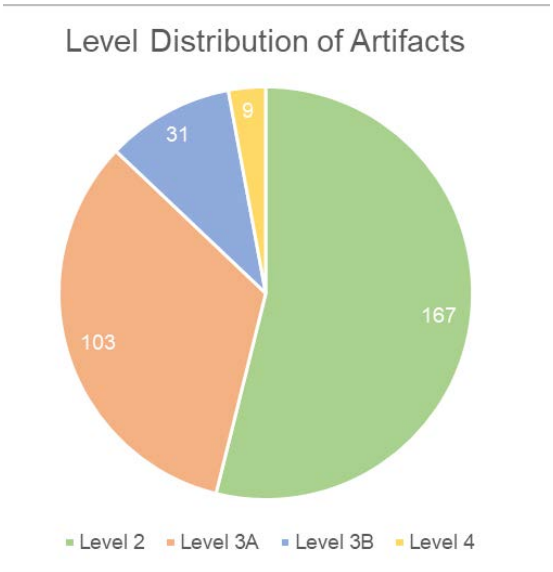

Figure 47: Level Distribution of Artifacts

No artifacts were found in Levels 0 and 1, many were found in Levels 2 and 3, and just a few were found in Level 4. The various artifact classes were also well represented in our unit (figure 48).

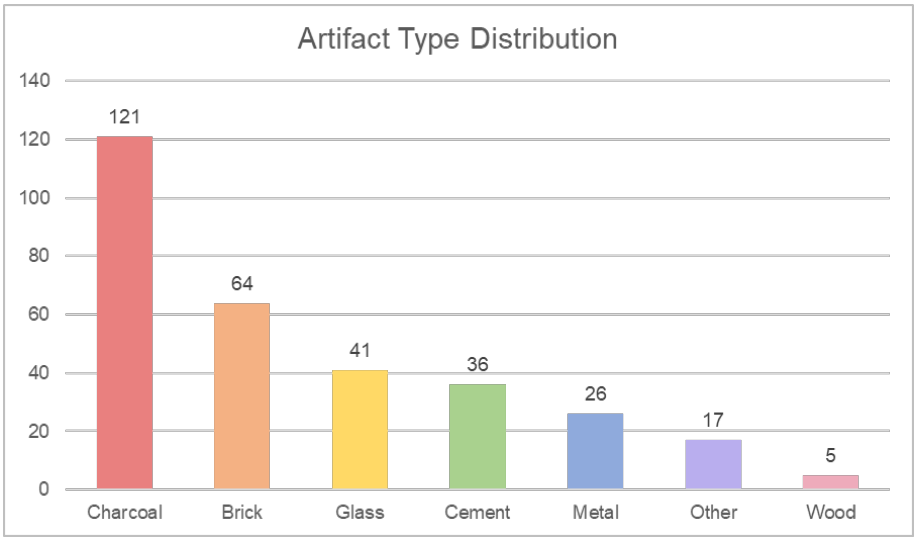

Figure 48: Artifact Type Distribution

The placement of our units was rooted in locating the foundational wall of the west side of where Old Main once stood (figure 14). The single unit off to the east side was placed due to an anomaly noticed in the magnetometer test, as previously stated. Surprisingly, the only potential structural components we discovered, were in said unit. Each unit fairly consistently displayed artifacts such as brick, glass, metal, mortar, and charcoal; however, the N-155 E30 unit unearthed significantly larger quantities and sizes of items. Whole bricks, large metal wires, and ceramics were discovered. Because of the unusually high number of findings in this unit, I believe that this might have been a dumping area for the debris from the fire.

The soil stratigraphy of our unit (N-100 E-75) was to be expected—nothing out of the ordinary from our soil core tests previously performed (figures 49a and 49b). A humus layer, followed by marbled clay and clay. A few inclusions of lighter-colored sandy clay and dark silty loam were noted. We hypothesize that the impenetrable gray clay contained ash from the fire, given its cement-like nature. We encountered several small and a few larger roots from the nearby trees; however, these did not have a major impact on our excavations. A significant number of small rocks were scattered throughout our unit, as well as carbon inclusions. Because charcoal was so widespread and abundant, I believe that our unit was located relatively near to where the building burnt down. The lack of large artifacts indicates that perhaps those were moved elsewhere (N-155 E30).

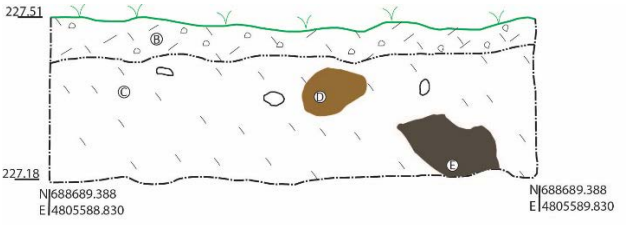

Figure 49a: North profile

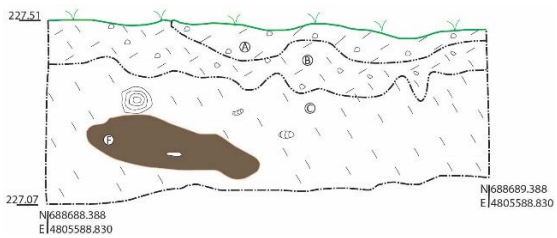

Figure 49b: West profile

A: Sandy Clay 10YR 3/3 – humus topsoil, grass and roots
B: Sandy Clay 10YR 5/4 – minor roots with some small rocks
C: Sandy Clay 10YR 6/6 – marbled clay with roots, large rocks, and large discolorations
D: Sandy Clay 10YR 5/6 – inclusion
E: Clay – 10YR 4/2 – inclusion
F: Sandy Loam – 10YR 3/2 – inclusion, possibly stained or containing charcoal

Was the unit in the area of where the corner was? Most likely not. There is no artifact-based evidence to prove this nor was there any part of the foundation that was uncovered either. There is the possibility that the foundation of the building was dug out and there is nothing left of it, so the foundation may never be found. One problem that has loomed over this entire project is that there is not extensive enough records to even really show where Old Main stood. Despite this there was some patterns that were discovered and discussed while excavating. There were larger quantities of nails discovered in the western half of the unit. A variety of metals were discovered in our unit, including four wire nails, a masonry nail, ten machine-cut nails, a metal rod, two metal wires, and eight pieces of metal. On the east side, large quantities of glass were uncovered compared to the west side. A hypothesis that could explain this is that the unit was divided by where the foundation once was, making the east half of the unit inside of the building. Unfortunately we do not have the evidence to prove this so it will remain a theory. There were also several rocks with oxidation. Perhaps because of the small sizes of these objects, they did not get cleaned up from the fire and could easily get pushed into the ground and forgotten.

It is believed that past level 4 is not sterile. The gray clay inclusions found in this level are hypothesized to be clay mixed with the ashes of the building's fire, making them almost brick like and very difficult to excavate through. If this were true, then the soil layer where the building stood was reached. This means that possible artifacts to when the building was still standing could reside and could

be evidence of pre-fire human cultural activity. Because it is very difficult to get through that gray clay layer, it made the unit essentially sterile.

N-100 E-55 (by Devyn Laroche and Samuel Sieffert)

Our pit was located at N -30.48 m, E -16.764 m. The pit was a square, one meter long on each side, and at its deepest point was approximately 51 cm below datum. This depth was made up of six separate levels including level zero, of which level five or the sixth overall layer was considered sterile.

Level 0 consisted of surface vegetation such as sticks, pine needles, seeds, and live grass which was growing in soil that was entirely humic. The soil type was determined to be clay loam, and the color was 10YR 3/4 by the Munsell soil color system. Level 0 was on average not very deep, measuring between only 2 cm below datum from the northwest corner, to five centimeters in the southwest corner. Only one artifact was recovered from Level 0: a small piece of plastic measuring two square centimeters with features and texture consistent with the plastic used in paper lamination. t was a flimsy piece that was possibly once transparent, however; it was now opaque due to damage. Level 0 was ended upon the discovery of light brown spots near the southwest corner and southeast wall which were much lighter in color than the humus of Level 0 (figures 50 and 51).

Figure 50: Top of Level 0

Figure 51: Bottom of Level 0, top of Level 1

Level 1 marked the first occurrence of what was originally deemed to be marbled clay. However, upon further excavation it was discovered that level 1 was in fact very similar to level 0 in terms of soil characteristics. The soil type remained clay loam, with a minor shift in color. Level 1 had a Munsell color of 10YR 3/3, being slightly lighter than Level 0. The digging technique for Level 1 was notably slower than the previous level, due to both complications from the presence of numerous tree roots, and from our anticipation of finding our first Old Main artifacts in this level. However, no artifacts were recovered from Level 1. The end of Level 1 and the beginning of Level 2 was determined when we reached what was the much lighter brown marbled clay we had previously thought to have found at the end of Level 0 (figure 52). Level 1 was not a very thick layer, being only one to two centimeters thick overall, approximately seven centimeters below datum.

Figure 52: Bottom of Level 1, Top of Level 2

Level 2 marked a distinct change in soil composition (figure 53). The soil of level two was a marbling between the 10YR 3/3 sandy loam of the previous level, and a new much lighter 5YR 4/4 sandy clay. Level 2 possessed numerous tree roots like level one, with one large root completely cutting through our pit which necessitated cutting. Our digging pace was much slower in Level 2, and our methods became much more careful. This is because Level 2 was much harder to dig through, and also because it contained a wealth of artifacts of many types and sizes, meriting extra caution. Level 2 was in fact our most artifact-rich level by sheer quantity of artifacts. Over two hundred artifacts were recovered from this level alone, which lasted ten centimeters before requiring a change in level. Some interesting artifacts found were brick, mortar, nails and glass. Brick, carbon and mortar were the most abundant artifacts and made up over one hundred and fifty artifacts just in this level. We found one nail, who's type could not yet be identified due to extreme alteration from rusting, and also a metal wire. The origins of this wire could not be determined. We also found clear glass only, which could most likely have been from the windows. Two miscellaneous or unknown pieces were found. One was hypothesized to be antler due to its organic nature, softness and appearance. We took multiple core samples around the perimeter of the pit at the ten-centimeter mark of Level 2 to determine if and where the soil stratigraphy changes in the depths below. Five samples were taken and all returned inconclusive as the soil remained similar and marbled. Once we hit ten-centimeters of Level 2, we switched to level 3.

Figure 53: Bottom of Level 2, top of Level 3

Level 3 was very similar to Level 2 in terms of soil composition, with one exception. The soil of Level 3 continued to display marbled clay of 10YR 3/3 sandy loam, and 5YR 4/4 sandy clay, identical to Level 2 (figure 54). However, Level 3's exception is the first occurrence in our pit of gray clay, which we believed to be a mixture of clay and ash. This clay was incredibly dense, almost rock-like, with a Munsell color of 10YR 4/2. Artifacts recovered from Level 3 were less numerous than Level 2, but still abundant. As a result, our digging speed and level of care remains unchanged from that described for Level 2. Like Level 2, Level 3 ended because of ten more centimeters of excavation without a significant change in soil composition.

Figure 54: Bottom of Level 3, top of Level 4

Level 4 was similar to Level 3 in many ways. The first is that there were few artifacts in this level. The second was that the level lasted another ten centimeters before we had to switch without a change in layer. A third similarity was the continuous increase of gray ashy clay presence in the marbled clay. In this level, we found carbon, metal, cement, mortar, granite like minerals and two unknown pieces. The granite like minerals were determined to be diorite with mica and were kept for possible cultural importance. In Level 4 the marbled clay had more distinct patches of color and we were able to identify soil type and soil color for each individual clump of different soils. The northwest corner was more marbled than the rest of the pit which had the highest concentrations of the gray ashy clay. Another 10 cm of soil were dug to mark the end of Level 4. Level 4 soils consisted of gray ashy clay that was categorized as sandy clay and scored a 10YR 4/2 color, a tan silty clay colored 10YR 6/8, a black sandy clay that scored a color of 2.5YR 2.5/1 and a yellow silty clay that was classified as having a color of 2.5YR 5/4 (figure 55).

Figure 55: Bottom of Level 4, top of Level 5

Level 5 was the final layer due to an extreme decrease in the number of artifacts found (figure 56). We found, carbon, mortar, cement and metal in this level. The most impressive artifact from this pit was found in level 5. This was a metal ring that measured approximately two inches in diameter (figure 57). The circumference of the ring was composed of a cylindrical piece of metal that was estimated to be about half of an inch in circumference. This ring was found in the north and central area of the pit about four centimeters below the initial surface of level 5. Level 5 soils consisted of gray ashy clay that was categorized as sandy clay 10YR 4/2; a tan silty clay colored 10YR 6/8; a black sandy clay 2.5YR 2.5/1; and a yellow silty clay that was classified as having a color of 2.5Y 5/4. Level 5 ended after excavating another ten centimeters. The final five centimeters of this level yielded no artifacts while the soil type did not change. It was determined that at this point we had hit sterile soil and began the process of recording everything possible before we backfilled the pit.

Figure 56: End of Level 5

Figure 57: Metal Ring

Discussion. Having looked at all of the artifacts recovered from our pit and taking into account our stratigraphy (figures 58a and 58b), we believe that we excavated a portion of what was once Old Main's interior.

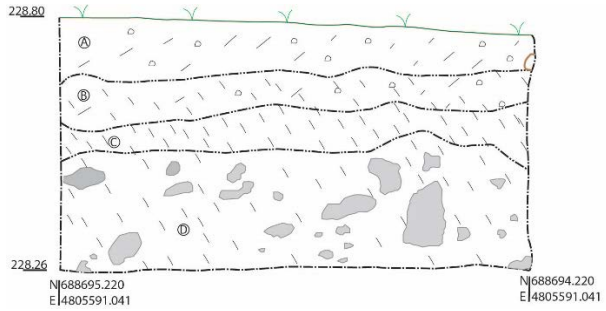

Figure 58a: N-100 E-55 east profile

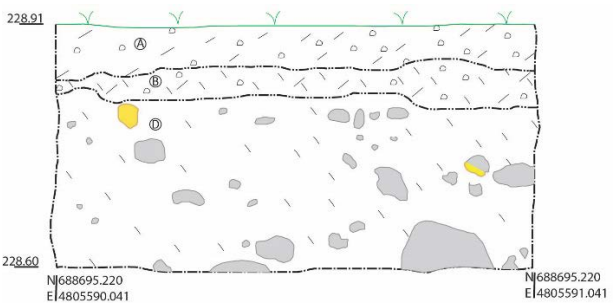

Figure 58b: N-100 E-55 north profile

A: Clay Loam 10YR 3/4 – humus layer with rocks and roots

B: Clay Loam 10YR 3/3 and Sandy Clay 5YR 4/4 – even mixture of humus and mixed clays

C: Sandy Clay 5YR 4/4, Silty Clay 10YR 6/8, and Silty clay 2.5Y 5/4 – marbled clay layer

D: Sandy Clay 5YR 4/4, Silty Clay 10YR 6/8, Silty clay 2.5YR 4/4, Sandy Clay 2.5YR 2.5/1, and Sandy Clay 10YR 4/2 – marbled clay layer with gray clay deposits (possibly ash)

My primary reason for believing this is the increasingly present quantity of ash-clay mixture we unearthed, plus the fact that the proportion of carbon and charcoal we recovered is much higher than all other artifact types. It is quite clear that what we unearthed was a portion of Old Main from the finding of construction material in my pit and the two nearby pits at N-120 E-75, and N-100 E-75. When unearthing Old Main, two possible options for what part of the building you excavate are apparent to me. One can either find the building's exterior walls, or the interior. I believe we have examples of both among our five pits.

We believe the pit at N-155 E30 is an example of what could possibly be exterior wall. That pit contained numerous intact or mostly intact bricks and large pieces of concrete (figures 62 and 63), as well as a fairly large quantity of glass thick enough to be consistent with use in windows. It is known that Old Main's exterior structure was composed entirely of brick with many large glass windows. Additionally, none of the hard grey ash-clay mixture was located in this pit.

We believe that our pit is an example of Old Main's former interior. No large pieces of brick were found, nor any large cement or large concentrations of glass. All materials present in great abundance on the outer structure such as mortar, brick, and glass were found in small isolated fragments and fewer in number than in the pit previously mentioned. Furthermore, charcoal and carbon were found in great quantities in my pit and the nearby pits, along with hard grey ash-clay mixture. Carbon and ash are consistent with the combustion of wood and other organics, and as we know that Old Main had an underlying wall and floor structure of timber. The lesser presence of brick, glass, and mortar coupled with the vast quantity of carbon and ash-clay mixture found leads me to my conclusion that our pit excavated the former interior of Old Main.

The artifacts aid in answering our research question about the activities that took place during the three phases of Old Main; pre-fire, during the fire and after the fire. The nails proved that old main

was occupied for at least eight decades due to the three changes in nail style and their popularity in construction. These nail types also prove that renovations were made before the fire occurred to accommodate for any damages or changes made to the architecture. The charred wood and charcoal pieces prove that the fire burned at different temperatures and caused things to preserve in different ways. Due to the fact that we still have not found a definite piece of the foundation, we cannot prove where the debris was moved to after the fire was extinguished.

Arguably our most significant find of the pit was the metal ring (figure 57). Everyone suspects this to be a piece of a door knocker because it is a similar shape, size and weight. We asked Professor Conell what she thought about it could be and she agreed with this hypothesis and also said it could be something structural from the building. In my own opinion, in order for me to believe that it is a door knocker, I would need evidence of a weighted piece that would have sat at the lowest point of the ring so that it would have made a loud knock when dropped or banged into a door.

Our pit was twenty feet due east of another pit which was another twenty and 25 feet due north of two other pits. A fifth pit was plotted much further east and south, an outlier when compared to the four other pits. This outlier pit revealed the most significant artifacts of the entire 2018 season because a massive feature was discovered with many full bricks as well as large chunks of brick and cement. Some of these bricks even had the SAGINAW name stamped into them, allowing us to determine that the bricks used to build Old Main were from Saginaw, Michigan. Other interesting artifacts were also found in this pit such as a long metal wire and a clip that looks to me as if it belonged on a blackboard and its function was to hold up papers before we innovated a cork strip along the top border of blackboards that we use today to hang posters and papers from. Because this pit was so far east, we can further make an assumption that some, if not all, debris was pushed to the east. However, we cannot be certain that all of the debris was pushed to the east because we did not locate the foundation or the basement of Old Main where other debris may lie.

When looking at the larger picture of Old Main excavations across the three seasons of this project, we can make further interpretations. What I found most interesting were the bones found. In 2018, more bone was found, similar to what was found in 2014. Previously, students had believed that these bones were remnants of food preparation inside of Old Main. However, to my trained eye, I could tell that these were not bones from food but instead these bones were most likely specimens in one of the science labs. This was further confirmed by more bone found in the eastern most outlier pit within the feature. This bone was broken into four pieces and the excavators of the pit believed it could not have been pieced back together. However, I was able to puzzle the pieces together to create another clean cute angled cross section of bone. Bone would not look like clean and precise if it were done by a cook because they do not care about how the bone would look. However, a scientist would make sure that their specimens are exact and as clean as possible.

Altogether, the three seasons can illustrate a larger picture of what took place at Old Main throughout the course of its occupation, its destruction and the final demolition into the ground. We can determine that the debris of Old Main was pushed to the east, as primary documents and witnesses have stated. However, we cannot deny the possibility that the basement of the building was also filled with the debris. Unfortunately, due to the fact that we have not identified for certain a piece of the foundation, we cannot know for sure what is in the basement, if anything at all. It can also be said that we have a range of cultural and architectural artifacts that give insights as to what activities were taking

place at Old Main. Bone and beaker remnants prove that there were science classes and labs in the building. A porcelain statue base, a decorative handle and uniquely shaped glass not used for science or structural purposes prove that there was art and personal items left in the building while it was burning. Finally, we can conclude that we will need further excavations to reveal more answers and more detailed descriptions of what was going on at Old Main during its occupancy.

N-155 E30 (by Akiela Carlton and Michael Berra)

At first glance everyone knew this unit's location was going to make it a troublesome digging experience since there was a tree 15 m south of the pit and another about 8 m north too. Originally, our unit was to be located N-150 and E30, but would have caused the majority of the pit to be too close to the tree and could cause a major disturbance in our excavation and the root system of the plant. The height of our southwestern stake was 228.18 masl. We used this number as the reference for collecting the depth of each corner for all our levels.

Level 0. The first and most strenuous task of the excavation process was the removal of the top grass layer and keeping it in one piece as best possible. We would count both the visible contents within the grass and soil content underneath the grass blanket as part of our Level 0 form. All of Level 0 was comprised of top soil otherwise known as the humus layer, also finding large roots almost immediately connected to the grass layer, which were cut so that the grass could be removed completely. At the end of this level our pit was roughly .06m (6 cm) deeper than the initial height of 228.18 m. The soil color was more yellow than red so we used the 10YR page to compare our soil color to; this came to a darker brown color reading 2/2 as its representative color. Based on the sandy feeling and not smooth or very gritty texture we felt it fit under the category of sandy loam or potentially just a loam soil contour. We found a thick root that created semi-natural ledge to our southeast corner, which obstructed very little to the excavation effort (figures 59 and 60).

Figure 59: Top of Level 0

Figure 60: Bottom of Level 0, top of Level 1

Moving on to Level 1 findings, we found there was an increase in the number of artifacts in all areas of the unit. Charcoal and other carbon pieces began showing up in large quantities and found in small clusters mostly on the eastern side of the pit. A spike in findings of glass and mortar fragments was one of many changes between this level and the previous level. The discovery of nails took our attention

as well after finding a square-shaped nail. By the end of this level we had our pit down 10 to 14 cm below the initial reading of 228.18.. Soil color continued to darken from the humus present in Level 0, using the same 10YR panel we agreed on the color being closest to 3/3 on the Munsell soil color guide. As for soil texture, it had smooth and gritty qualities to it because of small pockets of marble clay being found at various locations of this unit. It was believed this level had a clay loam soil texture before distinctly changing to an even distribution of this marble clay throughout our unit (figure 61).

Figure 61: Bottom of Level 1, top of Level 2

Reaching Level 2, we planned to dig down another 10 cm from this level if we did not come across a new soil type before reaching that depth. Only digging 5 cm down we encountered a plethora of artifacts and a thick root that presented itself running through the unit's center and into the northeastern wall. Most important to the unit was an uncovered feature that spanned from the northeast corner south to the next corner, and then over to the southwest corner. This feature contained scattered bricks, mortar, nails and much more that appeared to be buried slightly deeper. The first sighted artifact of this feature was a metal wire that was caught in the southern wall and wormed its way around the southwestern part of the unit before breaking close to the east wall. Before excavating the feature we sectioned off and plateaued the feature area, continuing to dig down another 5 cm in the areas that lacked any significant archaeological features at this elevation. The maximum depth of the pit focused around the northwestern corner and reached roughly 27 cm from our initial height of 228.18 m. The highest corner was the southwestern post, which only had a divot of 0.18 meters (18 cm) from our initial height. This drawing along with other forms of documentation allow the placement of some artifacts in the feature for closer viewing and analysis (figures 62a and 62b).

Figure 62a: Feature 1

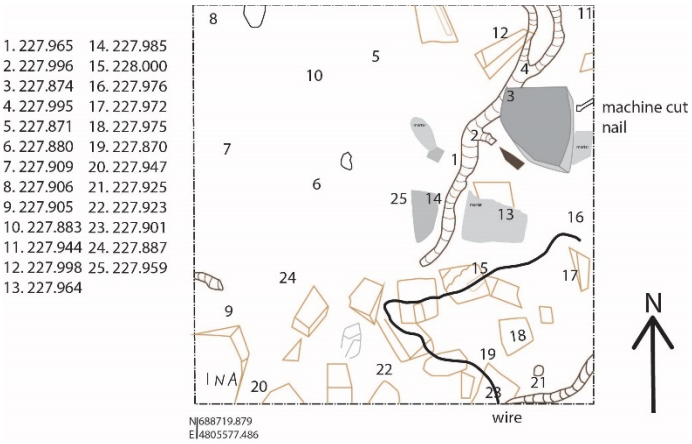

Figure 62b: Drawing of Bottom of Level 2, Top of Level 3

Level 3 is the final level we had time to complete as a rushed process, digging to level out the plateau area made around the feature. The soil composition of this layer had two types of soil, a marble clay, and red sandy soil. The clay soil was the same consistency and fell as precise layers with a dark color of 10YR 3/3; the texture was a sandy clay. The red sandy layer was surprisingly well held together and it was odd that it came to feel like a sandy loam texture. This may have been from accidentally using two different soil types in this test by accident. Upon cleaning off parts of the feature we noticed a hefty brick lodged into the southeast corner actually had the letters, “INA” inscribed on it. We removed several large brick pieces that did not appear to connect to one another. The large root present in the center and northeast section of the unit was cut since it was completely visible at this layer. New artifacts were found underneath the locations of ones removed from our unit and so to preserve the context we had to again draw out a plan for where all the artifacts were. To end the unit we had to also sift any and all remaining buckets of dirt and collect anymore artifacts found within. We covered the pit up after all forms of documentation were completed and placed within our online files (figures 63a and 63b).

Figure 63a: End of Level 3

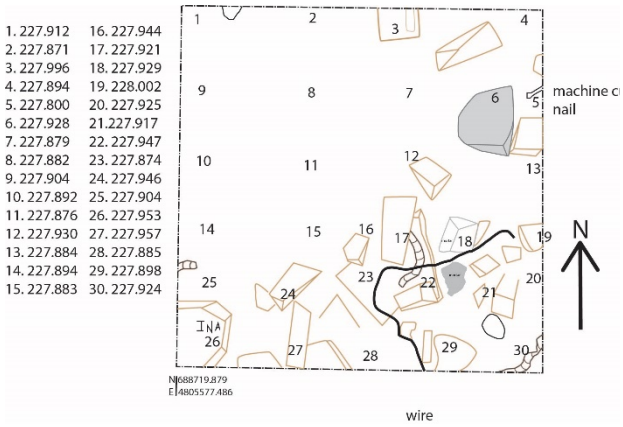

Figure 63b: Drawing of bottom of Level 3

Discussion. The pit that my group excavated was visibly the least deep of all the other excavated regions of this semester it is not in the slightest symbolic to lack of effort or artifactual findings (figures 64a and

64b). Based on the layer of soil the majority of our artifacts of the feature were found in allows bit of speculation of how their context portrays when they were placed there and possibly what purpose they served. Finding a lot of bricks in our feature with the sandy textured soil makes me speculate these and most all the other artifacts in this context are from the Old Main building since many demolished buildings in recent times have used sand to fill in the foundation area. This aspect would explain when these artifacts were left in the soil here, and that they were likely buried after the fire claimed the building.

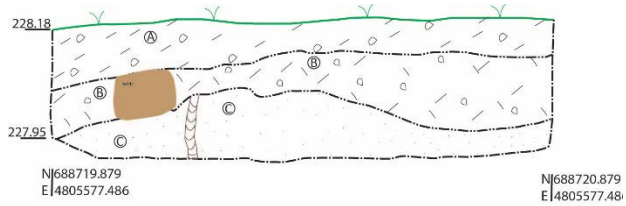

Figure 64a: West profile

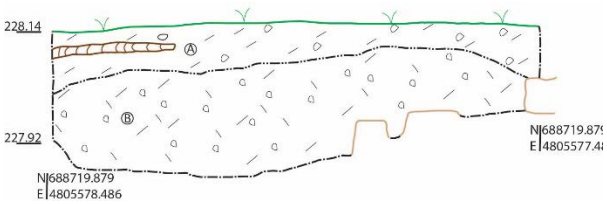

Figure 64b: South profile

A: Sandy Loam to Loam 10YR 2/2 – lots of roots and small rocks

B: Clay Loam 10YR 3/3 – marbled clay with many larger artifacts (and bricks)

C: Sandy Clay, Clay Loam 10YR 4/3 – Redder, sandy soil, very easy to excavate

Upon further researching the "INA" inscribed on the brick (figure 65), we came up with that this was likely a brick made in Saginaw when comparing the writing and color to an actual Saginaw brick (figure 66). We also found a piece of mortar with a small letter A, likely imprinted from the brick's letter A. The methods of creating it was based on an equipment report titled "automatic measuring device," which was filed by a brick company of Saginaw in 1925. This brick was different from the rest, which were yellow in color. I speculate this was potentially a replacement for the building or served a purpose after the building had been constructed.

Figure 65: "INA" partially visible

Figure 66: Photo of intact "SAGINAW" brick

When comparing our findings to those of the rest of the 2018 class excavations there were major variability between us and all the other pits. To state first is that our pit was the only one that was

placed to the eastern section of our site area; all other pits were placed in a line formation as a means to find evidence of the exterior wall of the building. The reasoning behind the placement of our pit at N-155 and E30 is largely for two reasons. First, it was where we suspected to find the rounded outside wall that was shown to be on the eastern side of the Old Main building. Second, a magnetometry map created by the 2015 season showed an anomaly near this location beneath the soil. When comparing the artifact count and categories of our pit to the others we saw a clear difference in content. Our pit was the only one to uncover a feature of artifacts, where many groups did not find any artifacts in their first one or two levels. Soil stratigraphy for most of our pits were closely uniform since we also based our unit locations on the presence of marble-clay soil type as another method of investigating areas.

While each of the other units found a decent number of artifacts, due to our pit being filled to rim with bricks and possibly large ceramic pieces, we have developed two possible interpretations. The first one is that due to my partner and I finding bricks and other sorts of large pieces of material one by one in a messy fashion, our unit, if not, the general area, may have been a disposal hole for any excess rubble. I considered this because we were only finding small artifacts up until the third level; while the smaller items may have been in the ground due to being too small to cause any serious hazards, the bricks would have certainly been an issue to the public as the large pieces could trip or hurt someone's foot. The pile would also be unsightly, especially in college campus, which would promote somebody to at least hide it from spectators. Since plain bricks do not harm the environment except for making the roots of trees go a different angle when they are growing, it would not be a bad idea to bury a small pile bricks if there were no time to transport them to the landfill. The other interpretation is that because of the closeness and size of the bricks along with the long metal wire, we could have potentially stumbled upon a part of a collapsed wall since all texts about Old Main explained how the building just broke apart as it burned; essentially an educated second thought to what the unit had.

As a whole, through each season 2014, 2015, and now 2018, we can piece together more of the collective data together. Though it is apparent that we do not have a complete picture and probably never will that is not to say that our data are of no use. Using maps created by the earlier seasons we were able to get a good idea of where the building stood and where to focus our efforts this year. Our findings had very interesting connections to the potential location of the southeastern wall of the building or maybe a pit that housed rubble as a means of cleaning up the destroyed building parts.

Conclusions

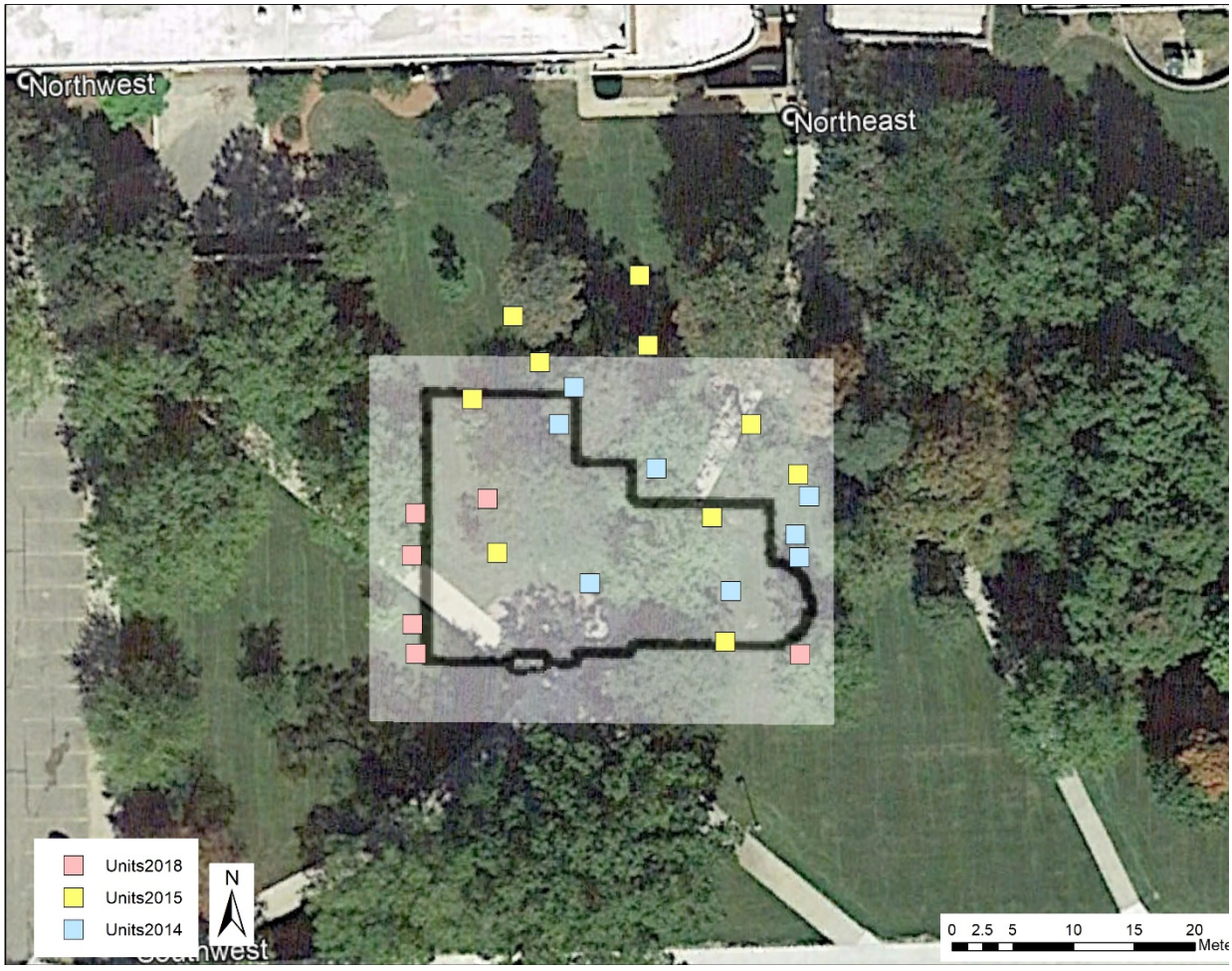

Figure 67: All Excavation Units in Relation to Old Main: 2014, 2015, 2018

Altogether, our research question asked what happened at Old Main before the fire, during the fire, and after the fire. Before the fire in 1969, Old Main was a three-story academic building with a basement, complete with psychology labs, chemistry labs, and professors' offices. During the fire, students helped firefighters carry out academic file cabinets, lab equipment, books, typewriters, and other office equipment. After the fire, the site was more than likely bulldozed into the basement with miscellaneous debris pushed into the topsoil with a new academic building (SAC) built in 1972. I believe that this course and report is necessary to produce to be ethical archaeologists in the 21st century and to learn more about the history and heritage of Alma College (Zimmerman 2003).

It is also possible based on quantity distribution of artifacts that the building collapsed inward and easterly or the site was bulldozed towars the basement and east wall. It is also clear from data in previous seasons that most academic equipment and material was salvaged after the fire, all that seemed to remain in the archaeological record was a little pencil, blackboard and lab beaker. Also, based on the archaeological record, after the fire, there are clear indicators of construction in the northern side of the site, related to the establishment of SAC. There is also evidence of littering of the

site between 1969 and 2018. This is evidenced in the amount of candy wrappers and broken glass in levels closer to the surface.

Future student exvcavators may consider excavation on the eastern portion of the site based on my hypothesis that this was the direction of building collapse or bulldozing. Other questions that could be useful for future research of this site could be, how could the clean-up process of debris of Old Main have effected recovered artifacts? We could also ask if debris were buried on site to save time and money, and if so where could they be buried? The best way I see answering this would be to look at old photos that show the building while it was burning and the aftershock pictures of when the property was being cleaned. You could look for pits with large quantities of building parts found in a particular level and place new digs near these areas. It may also be a good idea to have a more random distribution of excavation rather than the clustering of units that we had done this year. It may give a more interesting look on possible variations in distribution. It would be interesting to compare stratigraphy in a random sample of units as well. It is also important to keep in mind that we found most artifacts related to Old Main about 15 to 25 cm below surface. This of course varies according to the unit's location. Through future excavation, can we confirm that northern units show artifacts from SAC construction? Do eastern units also have artifacts from the demolishing of Pioneer Hall and would we be able to tell them apart from those of Old Main? Why are we finding a mix of different artifact technologies in the nails, glass and ceramics; is this because of the buildings 83-year history? Is the lack of academic material indicative of items salvaged or were these lost in the fire and cannot be found archaeologically? These questions may help future student archaeologists find a direction to go in for their own research of the Old Main site.

Having more time to excavate and get under that gray clay layer and see what possible artifacts are underneath it would have been desirable. For future classes, I would recommend a larger class with more instructors so that more could be uncovered and processed in the short four weeks we are able to dig. I also think it would be awesome if a summer course were offered so that we could utilize even more time to uncover the history of Old Main and answer more research questions of past, present and future. A suggestion for the future schools would be to lump all of the background days of the first week into three whole days and spend the left over time excavating more with an extra lab day as well. Maybe then the layer underneath can be reached and the answer of what happened on campus before the fire can finally be answered. If this class were offered again, I would hope that the students could find to discover how the fire started. This is the biggest question that surrounds Old Main still; however, the answer has yet to be found. A class should be inspired to discover exactly how this building went down. As for lingering questions of mine are concerned, I would like to see my question of when Old Main lost certain facilities such as the chapel, and when it gained new ones. I feel it would be beneficial to future research if we had a timeline of Old Main's many services and functions over its long lifetime from 1886 to 1969.

This project holds importance and interest across a broad spectrum of people including the Alma College campus, alumni and the Alma community. Alumni and staff seem to enjoy learning about their school's first building and one of the major events of the college's near past. Alumni that had taken classes in the building have an even more intimate connection to this project than many others. It is important to uncover this history because we did not locate very detailed records about the building. It seems as if no one really cared to keep detailed documents of Old Main until it was too late, and

everything was destroyed by fire. People often overlook the importance of keeping records or items that pertain to the past history of a building, area, or culture if it doesn't affect them on a personal level. What this course has taught me is the importance of maintaining those kinds of records for the future so that someone who would like to share in their memory can do so. The course also taught me the importance of careful note taking and documenting makes retracing thought processes, context, or cultural relevance a more simple task in the future is recorded clearly. It is always important to uncover a lost history because it can prove the importance of keeping detailed records in a safe spot to be referred to in the future. It is important to current students because it gives people like us the opportunity to participate in a field school, so we can gain experience for my own skills and for my resume. For non-anthropology majoring students, this class dives deep into history through the access of archaeology and it may steer them into a different direction in the future after the experience.

Alumni also care about this research because many experienced classes inside of Old Main, the fire and the demolition and building of Swanson Academic Center just a few years after. It is important for us to engage the alumni because they are a great source to be able to have because they can tell us more than the documents can. Finally, this study is important to the community because even those who may not have attended Alma College but lived here their whole lives got to experience the fire from a different perspective. What I find most interesting about this group of public witnesses was how they all felt upset and heartbroken over such a large loss to academia and their Alma community. We are also making sure to make meticulous notes, records, pictures and reports in hopes that future Alma College students will be able to continue this archaeological project with very little difficulty. This course also gives students a different outlook on the history of the school they are attending and even a different outlook on the construction and destruction of modern and pre-modern buildings.

Exploring the history of Old Main sheds light on the continuities of Alma College and knits together the campus community. As archaeologists, we possess a shared vision—culturally, historically, and socially (Little 2002). And on this site, we are trying to uncover the stories of those who came before us as Alma College Scots. Belloq, from *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, reflects on a very important point: "Look at this. [holds out pocket watch.] It's worthless—ten dollars from a vendor in the street. But I take it, I bury it in the sand for a thousand years, it becomes priceless." As archaeologists, uncovering a piece of plastic (or somebody's garbage) is insightful; unearthing items that were abandoned or forgotten about is valuable. All of these discoveries contribute to filling in the holes of humanity's existence. Understanding the evolution of humanity is important in not only understanding our past, establishing ourselves in the present, but also in creating a future that betters the world as a whole.

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ALMA

DIGGING UP THE PAST

College students researching Old Main building's history through archaeology

SEAN BRADLEY — MORNING SUN

Alma College junior Mike Berra points to one of many items he and junior Akiela Carlton found as part of their excavation on Saturday at the college. Berra and Carlton are students in a four-week archaeology course taught by anthropology professor Kristin Landau, where excavation is occurring to help find out the activities that took place at the Old Main building, which burned down in 1969.

By Sean Bradley
Sbradley@digitalfirstmedia.com
@MorningSunSean on Twitter

A 55-centimeter-deep hole in the ground can contain a lot of history if the right eyes are analyzing it.

Alma College students are in the middle of a four-week archeology course taught by anthropology professor Kristin Landau.

The 10 students have been digging up spots at the college to discover what activities occurred at the Old Main building that existed from 1886 until 1969, when it burned down.

"In archeology, we have to be very careful where we dig because we're digging up other people's pasts," Landau said.

On Saturday, the students held their last of nine expeditions as a "community dig" event where residents could learn how archeology works and participate in their own dig and watch the students conduct their digging and research.

Approximately 1,000 items have been found throughout this expedition process. Other expeditions took place when the class was held in 2014 and 2015.

The found artifacts will be washed, organized and catalogued.

After this process, research will be done on the items, which will be published by Landau in a larger report compiled from reports by the students.

The final report, which is planned for release by early June at the latest, will be made available for the public to read.

Found throughout the digging process were artifacts such as nails and brick and mortar pieces used in the original building, and carbon and charcoal pieces from it burned down.

"We'll look at that the next couple of days and find out what that might've been," said junior student Sean O'Malley, while describing a blue ribbon found in the pit dug with sophomore Eryn Corinth.

"I didn't think archeologists were so precise with their measurements. All of these walls had to be perfectly straight."

In one layer — defined as a section with a particular type and color of soil — O'Malley and Corinth found more than 300 artifacts.

An artifact dug up by juniors Mike Berra and Akiela Carlton could be a machine-cut nail, Berra said.

Berra elaborated on why he's in the class.

"I've always really enjoyed social and cultural aspects of people," Berra said. "The combination of history of people and how interactions occurred and relating them to what goes on now is kind of intriguing."

Documentation such as pictures and drawings by hand of artifacts will be created.

"The idea is to record it as precisely and fully as we can because once we excavate something we are also destroying it," Landau said. "Once we take it out of its original place, we destroy the context."

DEERFIELD TWP.

Man in jail after police standoff

Suspect faces several charges after threatening to kill self, family member

By Sean Bradley
Sbradley@digitalfirstmedia.com
@MorningSunSean on Twitter

A Deerfield Township man faces several charges after he was successfully arrested and lodged once a standoff with police concluded.

Cowen

Darrell Charles Cowen, 55, was lodged at 12:49 a.m. in the Isabella County Jail, where he remains.

Cowen was arrested Friday after a standoff with police at a home on the 2000 block of West Winn Road where he threatened to kill himself and a family member, and fired guns inside the home. No one was hurt during or after the incident or during the arrest.

He is charged by police with one count each of reckless use of a firearm (up to two years in prison); possession or use of a firearm while under the influence (93 days in jail); and intentionally discharging a firearm at a dwelling or potentially occupied structure (up to 10 years in prison).

MAN » PAGE 2

GRATIOT COUNTY

School districts reflect on practices as year concludes

By Sean Bradley

Students search for buried remnants on campus

St. Louis's Kari Rodriguez, son Johnny and Alma College history major Sean O'Malley sift dirt looking for artifacts at Community Archaeology Day Saturday. Kari is an Alma College alum who minored in archaeology. (Herald photos - Horvath)

Yellow bricks from Old Main buried for decades unearthed by Alma College students during a Spring Term class.

By Rosemary Horvath
Herald Staff Writer

This spring, the former site of Alma College's Old Main on West Superior Street became something of a center of learning once more.

Students enrolled in a 4-week archaeology course unearthed small, square sections of ground where the college's principal classroom and faculty office building had stood for 83 years.

The program culminated with a Community Archaeology Day last Saturday which saw students convey to the general public why archaeology is important.

The class may have found the western wall of Old Main "and we are looking for the foundation," anthropology major Sam Sieffert said.

The 3-story Old Main building was constructed in 1886 from heavy pine and yellow bricks. It was one of two original campus buildings.

By 1969, the aging structure looked odd amid a major building boom on campus until it became a footnote on March 10 that year.

Fire of undetermined origin burned the former administration building to the ground in an hour and 15 minutes, The Gratiot County Herald reported, with an estimated 1,000 spectators watching. "Water was of little use."

Students helped faculty and staff members remove textbooks and records where 12 classrooms and 28 faculty offices had been housed.

The Herald was told at the time that several Ph.D. dissertations and years of research were lost as a result of the fire..

This spring marks the third time over several years that archaeology students carefully excavated sections of the site by hand to practice fundamentals of an archaeology dig.

Archaeology Professor Kristin Landau said more than a thousand artifacts have been found.

This year's dig ended this week ahead of the Highland Festival. Students in the final days spent analyzing and recording artifacts in the lab.

Trained as an anthropologic archaeologist, Landau this summer will resume her research on the development of complex societies. She heads up archaeological projects in the Copan Valley of Western Honduras where she studies the major capital history of trade development from the Maya Classic Period AD 250-900.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

-150 -75

Unit N: -145.28 **E:** -27.86 **Level:** 0 **Excavators:** Eryn C.

Size: 1m x 1m Sean O.

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial: NW: 230.27 **NE:** 232.77 **SW:** 231.97 **SE:** 231.27

Ending: NW: 232.20 **NE:** 232.91 **SW:** 231.93 **SE:** 231.23

Soil Type: Grass (Silty Clay) **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/3

Description: Ground Level, grassy, dry, dead patch running through middle, some rocks, bark, and leaves

Contents: **# of bags:** 0

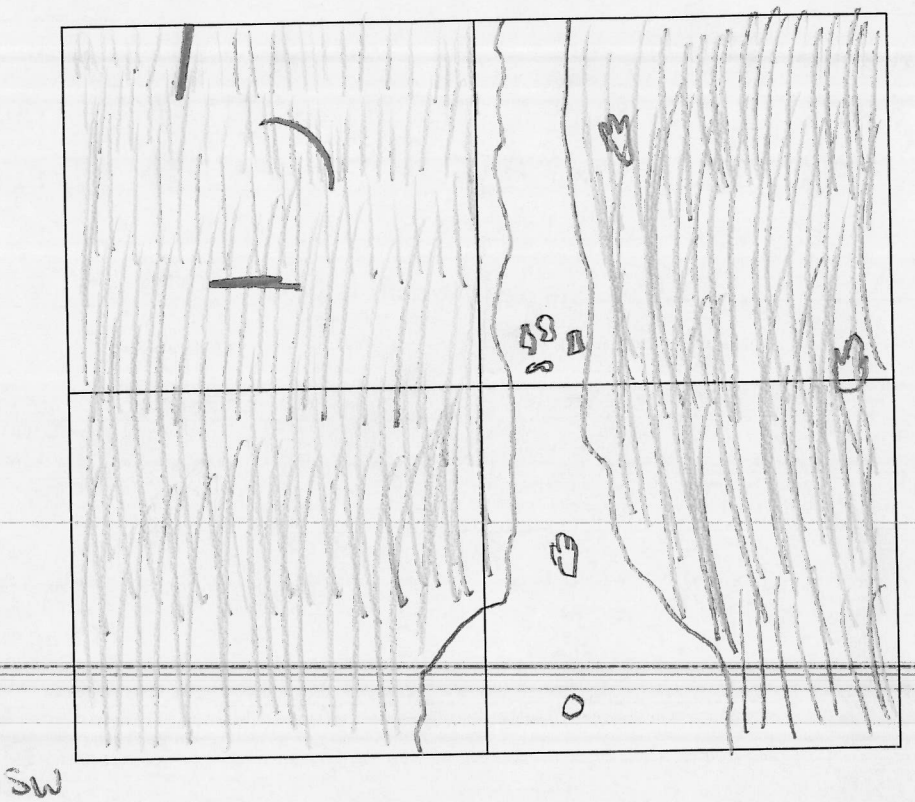
Bark	4	
Rocks	1	
Sticks	3	
Leaves	4	

Special Samples:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



Level 0 is very grassy; however, there is a dead patch of grass running through the SE and NE squares. Three sticks are found in the NW square. A rock is found in the SE square within the dead patch of grass. 4 dark pieces are found in the NE square also inside the dead patch. The last objects are found twice, leaves, one located in the ~~SE~~ square and the is split between the NE and SE square

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

-150 -75

Unit N: -45.72 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 1 **Excavators:** Sean O.

Size: 1m x 1m Eryn C.

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial: NW: 232.27 **NE:** 232.77 **SW:** 231.97 **SE:** 231.27

Ending: NW: 232.18 **NE:** 232.67 **SW:** 231.89 **SE:** 231.18

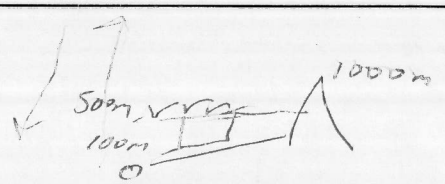
Soil Type: Silty clay loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/2

Description: Short layer because still getting through humus, quick to marble clay layer

Contents: # of bags: 1

wood	2	piece of wood, may be woodchip
rock	1	looks to be piece of coral imbedded in clay

Special Samples: flotation



Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N

- Quite uneven from our taking of the humus and grass, lighter soil than other pits, Orange/salmon/red piece in 2nd quadrant, smaller piece of wood possibly in 1st quadrant, nothing else on the top in the others.
- Layer short because we were still getting through the humus layer and the marbley clay came up fast
- few gravely rocks and woodchips
  - Quarry rocks imported
  - from gardens surrounding sidewalks

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -150 **E:** -75 **Level:** 2 **Excavators:** Eryn C, Sean O.

Size: 1 x 1 M

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial:	**NW:** 232.27	**NE:** 232.77	**SW:** 231.97	**SE:** 231.27
Ending:	**NW:** 232.09	**NE:** 232.57	**SW:** 231.78	**SE:** 231.09

Soil Type: Silty Clay Loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/3

Description: Soft but gritty. Smooth and wet with a darker color and a layer of marble. Some rocks lay throughout the pit and within the soil.

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Glass	10	2 top layer, found the rest as we dug South Side
Wood	3	1 found on top layer of level
Metal	8	All found in the NW square
Cement	4	
Carbon	61	
Screw/Nails	4	
Brick	1	
Plastic	5	
Ceramic	2	Found in the SE square
Styrofoam	2	
Mortar	34	
Bone	0	

Special Samples:

_____ :

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Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

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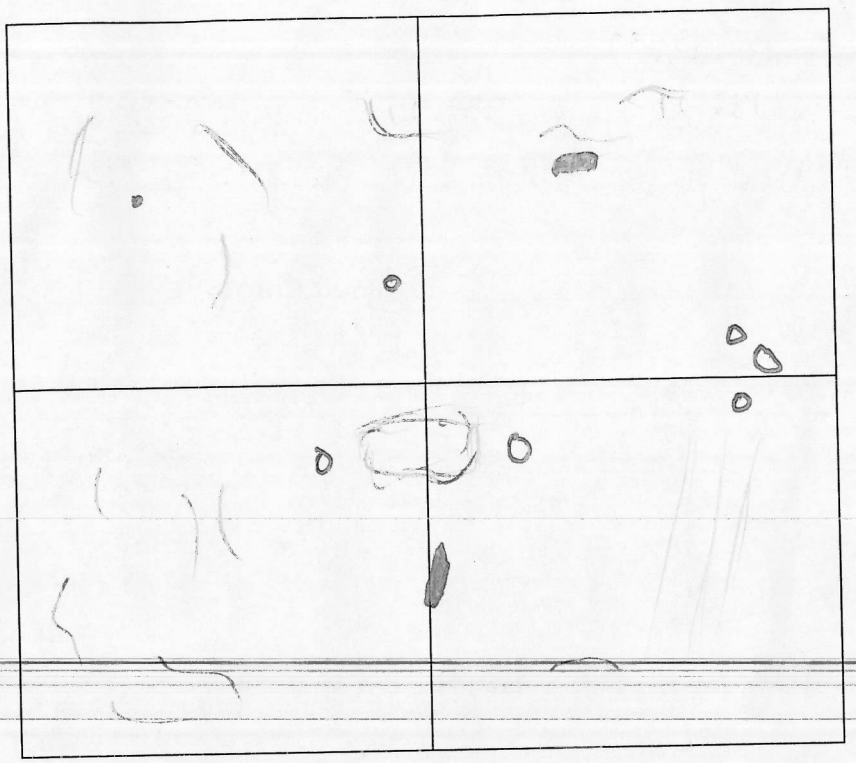


As we get lower into the ground were beginning to discover more hard soil and more rocks. Rocks seem to be scattered in every direction of our pit. In the NE square there looks to be a small wooden piece. Also, spliting the SW and SE square is a tiny piece of glass. Dug down 10cm, still didn't find a difference in the soil.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -150 **E:** -75 **Level:** 3 **Excavators:** Eryn C.
Sean O.

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial: NW: 232.27 **NE:** 232.77 **SW:** 231.97 **SE:** 231.27

Ending: NW: 231.995 (37.5 = .375) **NE:** 232.44 (33 = .33) **SW:** 231.65 (32 = .32) **SE:** 230.965 (30.5 = .305)

232.270 − .275

232.77 − .33 − .44

231.97 − .32 − .65

231.27 − .305

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/4

Description: continuation of level 2 because of magnitude of marbley clay, some red/orange sand found in NE corner, darker marble than lighter marble clay

Contents: **# of bags:** 2

mortar	46	light colored/yellow-y
charcoal	58	charcoal/carbon (+6 pieces in foil)
metal	17	metal pieces, industrial staples, molten metal
fossil	1	
glass	8	all smaller than a quarter, and a multitude of widths
wood	6	big piece appears to be pine from past experience with decomposing wood
cement	17	
Red Brick	4	
tile	1	it's metalicy and shiny
yellow/orange brick	9	
oxidized rock	1	
unidentified	5	rocks? mortar? Something burnt?
blue plastic thing	1	

Special Samples:

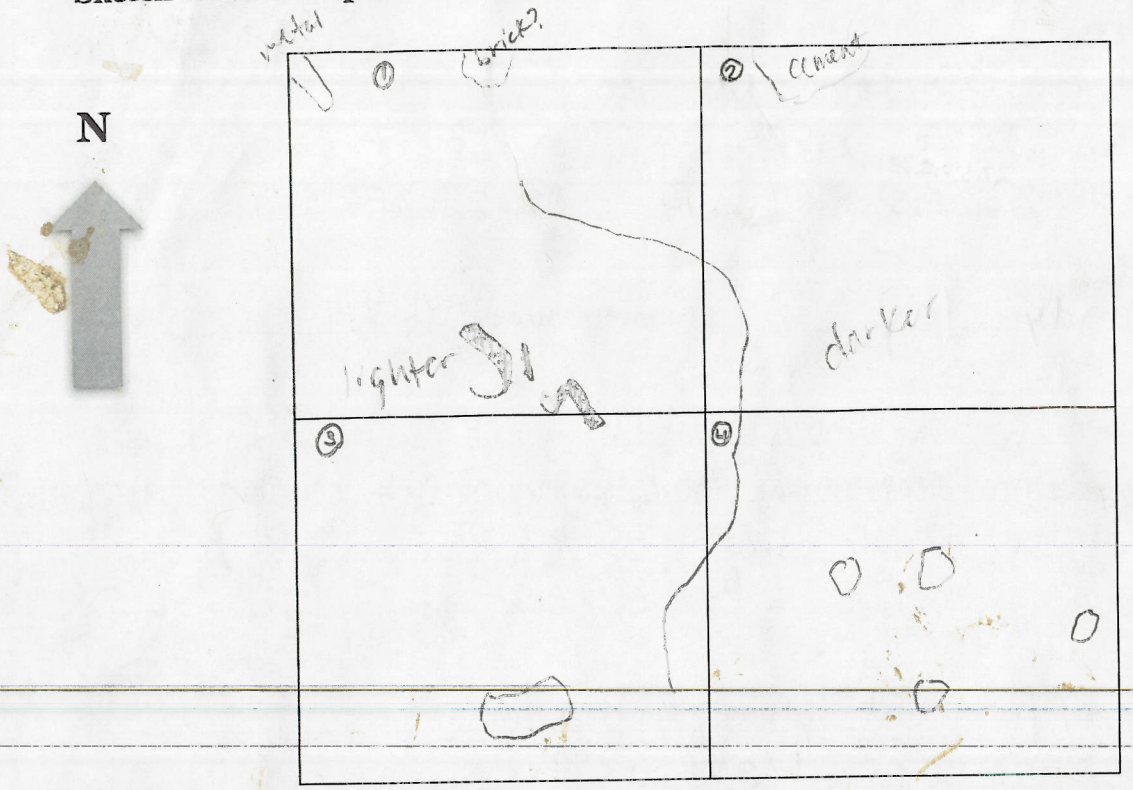
_____ :

_____ :

_____ :

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



- Right side of site is predominantly darker than the left side. Rocks/pieces of cement in boxes 3 and 4, larger piece of cement imbedded in the Northern wall, along with a presumed piece of yellow/beige-orange brick. Rectangular piece of metal also protruding from the wall, on the NW wall (diagonal wall for the stake. The rest of that piece was in L2
- As we got into the 2nd 5 centimeters of digging this level, the less artifacts found (we separated digging into 2 layers, 5 cm each, because L3 is a continuation of L2 due to the magnitude of marbley clay.)

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -150 **E:** -75 **Level:** 4 **Excavators:** S. O'Malley, E. Corinth

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial: NW: 232.27	**NE:** 232.77	**SW:** 231.97	**SE:** 231.27
Ending: NW: 231.94 (.33)	**NE:** 232.44 (.33)	**SW:** 231.67 (.30)	**SE:** 231.95 (.32)

Soil Type: Sandy Clay **Munsell Color:** 10 YR 5/3

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: This soil layer became very light. We noticed a different soil color than previous, like orange, red, and some lite brown colors

Contents: **# of bags:** _____

Nail	1	Found in the east wall white thinning wall
Mortor	9	Big pieces, none that are very small
Charcoal	5	
Unknown	7	Unknown pieces but could be something

Special Samples:

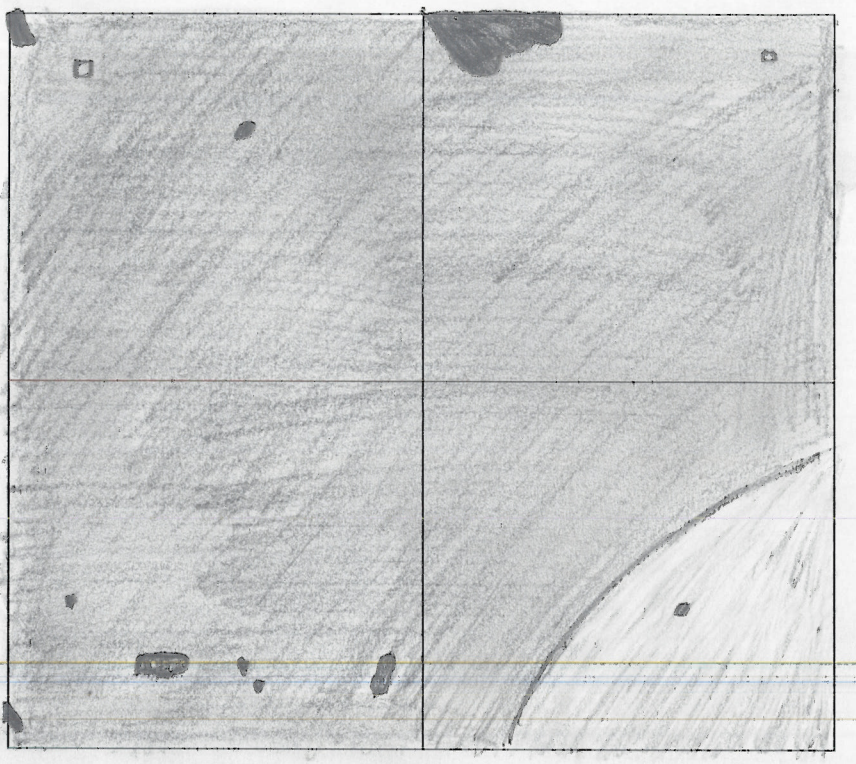
_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



There seems to be a difference in soil color on this layer. There is a lighter patch of soil located in the SouthEast square. We'll work our way down through the other squares to see if we can find the same color. Many rocks are arranged around our pit, while we do have a piece of charcoal in the top left Northwest square. Less artifacts found on this layer. This layer however, had a lot more rocks than the previous layers. To reach this next new layer we dug only about 2.5 cm down from the previous layer

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -150 **E:** -75 **Level:** 5 **Excavators:** Eryn C. Seth O.

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial: NW: 232.27 (48 = .48) **NE:** 232.77 (46 = .46) **SW:** 231.97 (45 = .45) **SE:** 231.27 (46 = .46)

Ending: NW: 231.79 **NE:** 232.31 **SW:** 231.53 **SE:** 230.81

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/6

Soil Type: Sandy loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/2

Soil Type: yellow silt **Munsell Color:** 2.5Y 6/4

Description: lighter than normal marble clay, in 2nd 5cm more grey clay

---

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

glass	1	
Shell	2	(1) conch-esque shell, (1) clam/oyster-esque shel
charcoal/coal/carbon	14	(or burnt rock, idk)
Cement	1	
mortar	1	
metal	20	or oxidized rock, or something
Sandstone	3	
unidentified shard	1	

Special Samples:

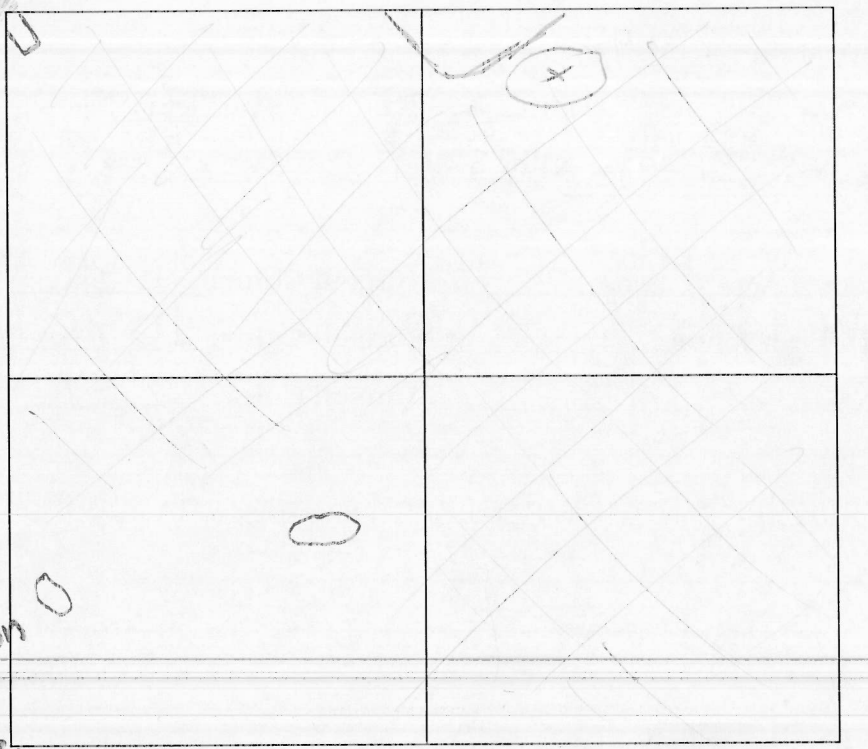
:

:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



We did the 5cm down then level it then another 5cm thing because it's easiest for us.

- Still slightly lighter/more marbled clay on cross-hatched area, red & pink patches near SE corner, digging another 10cm or until a new soil color emerges.
- More marbled clay, grey patches of clay more prevalent in top half of unit. In the circle with the x (above) was more of a paler yellow silt.
- Not many artifacts found, some, but nothing close to Levels 2 & 3.
- When the grey clay dries, it is hard to distinguish from rocks, and they are also harder to break apart in the sifter, almost looking like colgromerate or cement.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -150 **E:** -75 **Level:** 6 **Excavators:** S. O'Malley, E Corinth

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 231.97

Initial:	**NW:** 232.27 (.52)	**NE:** 232.77 (.53)	**SW:** 231.97 (.49)	**SE:** 231.27 (.50)
Ending:	**NW:** 231.75	**NE:** 232.24	**SW:** 231.48	**SE:** 230.77

Soil Type: Clay Loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/3

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: The soil was still marble clay as dug down another 5 cm into our pit.

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Mortar	1	Small piece
Rusty Rocks	4	Orange + Red pigment on surface
Unknown Rock	1	Has two X's on it
Glass	1	Very thick piece
Charcoal	7	

Special Samples:

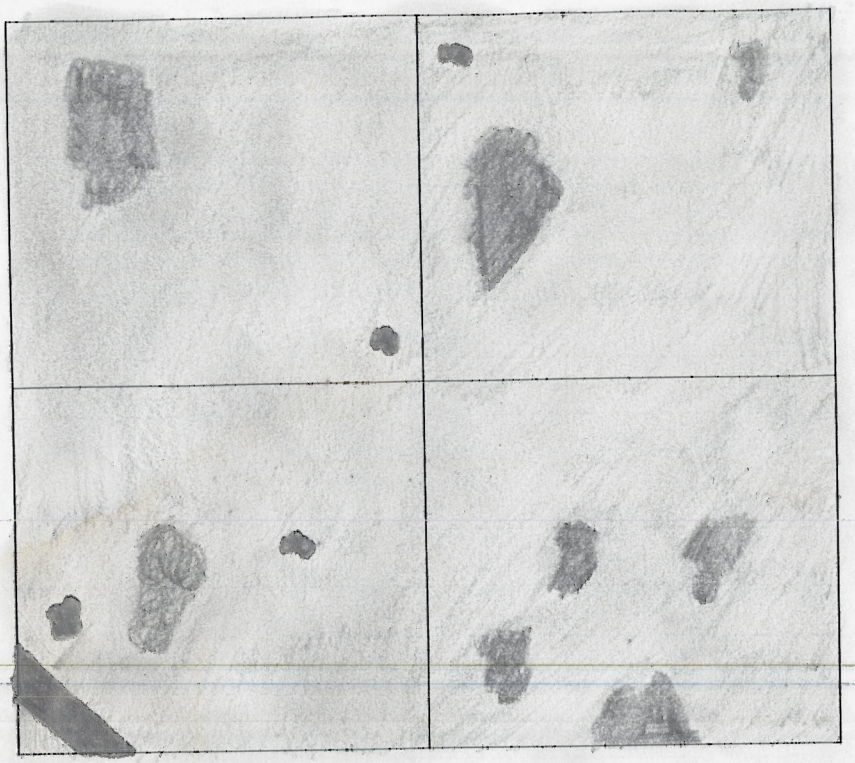
_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

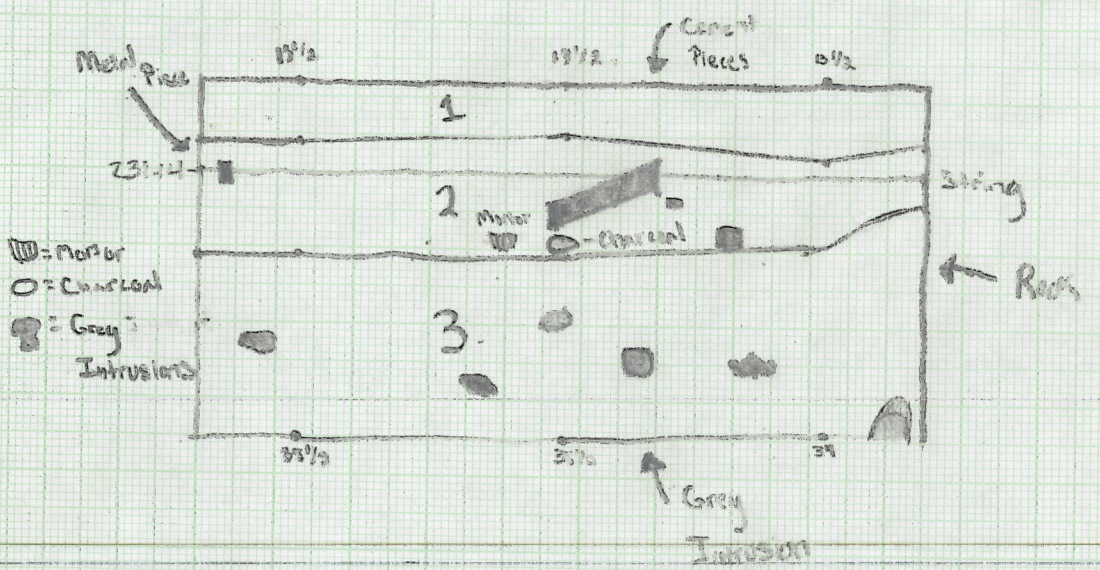
N



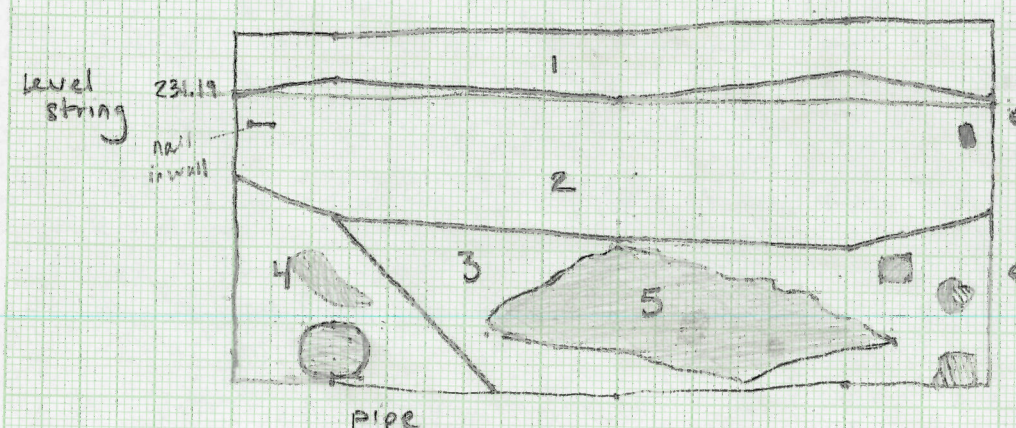
After digging down another 10 cm we have located level 6. From the looks of level 6 is still marble clay with different spots of yellow to grey soil colors located around our pit. In the bottom left square we discovered a pipe. This led us to believe that this soil is not from the orginical content, since the pipe had to be put in. From the top there looks to be some rocks located throughout the pit as well. Less and less artifacts were found during this layer. We have reached the last part of the excavation.

20GR334
Old Main
N-150 E-75
S. O'Malley
E. Corinth
Grid paper #1
05/21/18
Cut of Level 6

1. humus 10 YR 5/3
2. 10 YR 3/2 sandy clay
3. 10 YR 4/3 clay loam



North Wall



West Wall

1. humus 10 YR 5/3
2. 10 YR 3/2 sandy clay
3. 10 YR 4/3 clay loam
4. 10 YR 2/2 sandy clay
5. 2.5Y 6/4 yellow silt

North Wall

1. Humus Layer, contains grass pieces and some grass roots. Small pieces of rock can be found here too. Soil seems more put together.

2. 10YR 3/2, contains a larger number of rocks and those rocks are a lot bigger. Some grey intrusions can be found in this layer but not many. Soil is very brown

3. 10YR 4/3, contains less rocks but seems to have more of a clay feel to it. Grey and yellow intrusions can be found spread out through the layer. Soil is a lot more darker than those other layers above it.

West Wall

1. Humus Layer - grass, grass roots, compact soil with some small rocks

2. 10 YR 3/2 - the beginning of marbled clay (only slightly though), larger amount of pieces of rocks and larger rocks in general than humus (nail found in this layer of wall). Some grey and yellow intrusions

3. 10 YR 4/3 - more intensely marbled clay/clay in general, grey clay intrusions, yellow silt intrusions, darker than above

4. 10 YR 2/2 - The darkest of all soil found from when the pipe was placed in ground, slightly yellow-silt-marbled, very little grey clay, some rocks

5. 2.5 Y 6/4 - yellow silt area within level 3, has some intrusion of orange-y/darker brown spots, no rocks (or little saw)

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -143 **E:** -75 **Level:** 0 **Excavators:** S. O'Malley, E. Corbath

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 231.92

Initial: NW: 231.98 **NE:** 231.99 **SW:** 231.92 **SE:** 232.00

Ending: NW: _____ **NE:** _____ **SW:** _____ **SE:** _____

Soil Type: Humus **Munsell Color:** 10 YR 4/3

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: PIT CAN STILL BE EXCAVATED! Opened this pit for visitors at community archaeology day to perform their own digging

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Glass	2	1 Blue piece
Nail	1	
Mortar	7	

Special Samples:

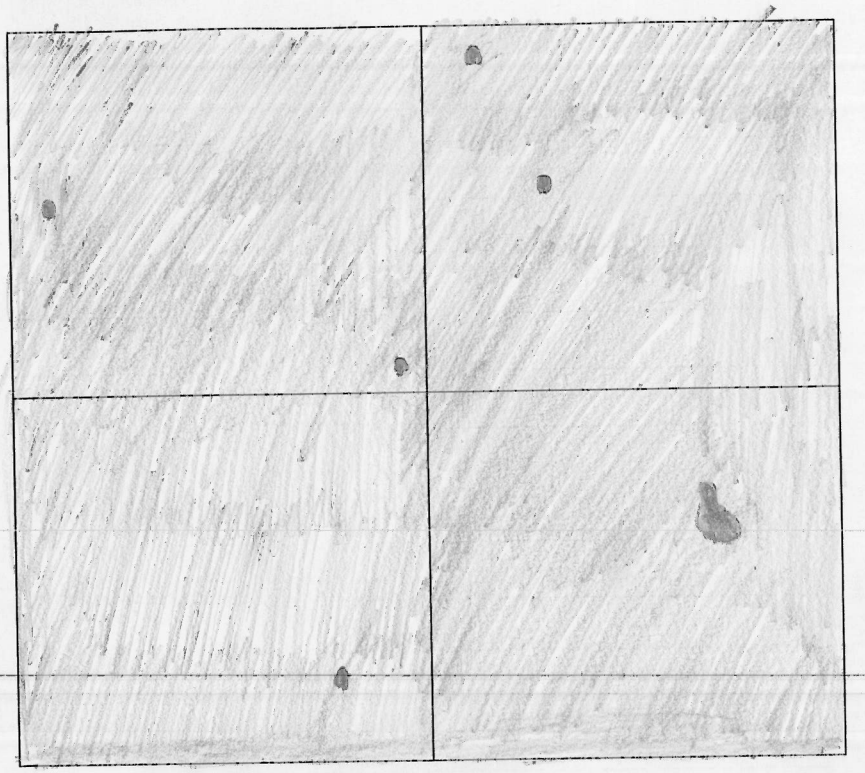
_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



The nail and glass pieces were found in the North section of the pit. The mortar was found throughout all of the pit. The pit was open for free excavation during archaeology day. Some of the people dug between different layers so the layers were mixed throughout the pit.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: ~~-30.57m~~ -100ft **E:** -22.86m -75ft **Level:** 0 **Excavators:** Reanna Averill

Size: 1m x 1m Sam Siefert

Elevations: SW stake: 228.85

Initial: NW: 228.83 **NE:** 228.78 **SW:** 228.85 **SE:** 228.81

Ending: NW: 228.77 **NE:** 228.78 **SW:** 228.79 **SE:** 228.78

Soil Type: Grass, silt loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 4/3 brown-dark brown

Description: Topsoil with grass; No excavation done. Patches of dirt and dead grass. Littered with small pieces of leaves and pine needles. No cultural debris or rubbage.

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

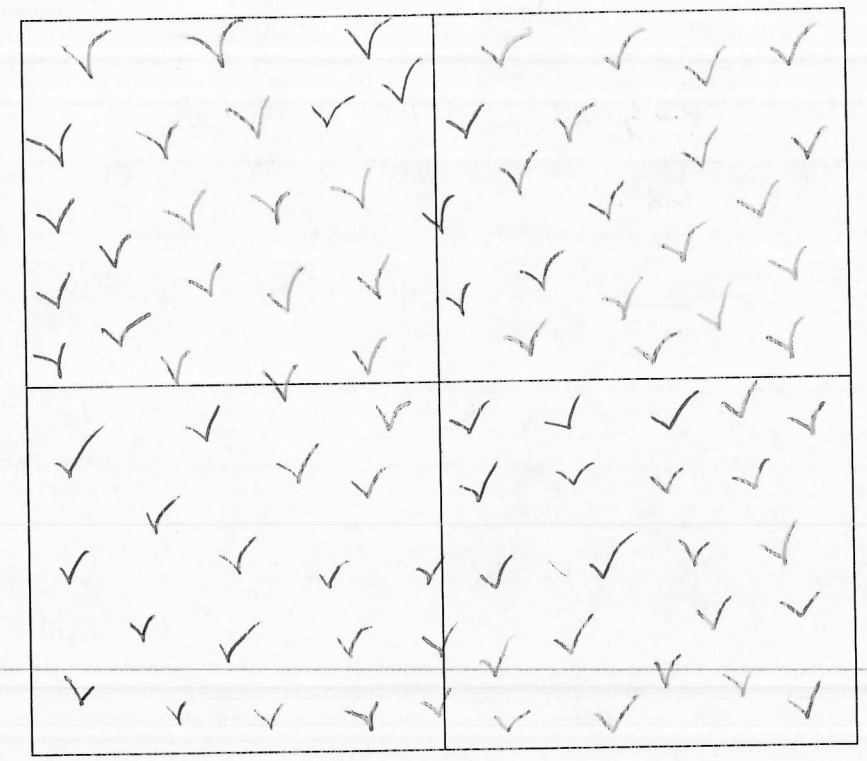
Sticker	1	a sticker for produce.
Foil	1	green foil; possibly from a candy
button	1	half of a white button
mortar	3	small pieces of possible mortar

Special Samples:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



√ = grass

See Soil description

As we were rolling the grass, I noticed a tiny piece of green, blue glass embedded in the roll (it was not collected)

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -36.57 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 1 **Excavators:** Reanna Averill, Hannah Flemming

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.85

Initial: NW: 228.79 **NE:** 228.78 **SW:** 228.77 **SE:** 228.78

Ending: NW: 228.76 **NE:** 228.77 **SW:** 228.78 **SE:** 228.78

Soil Type: Humus, Upper Silt loam, Lower silty clay loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 5/3 Brown

Description:

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

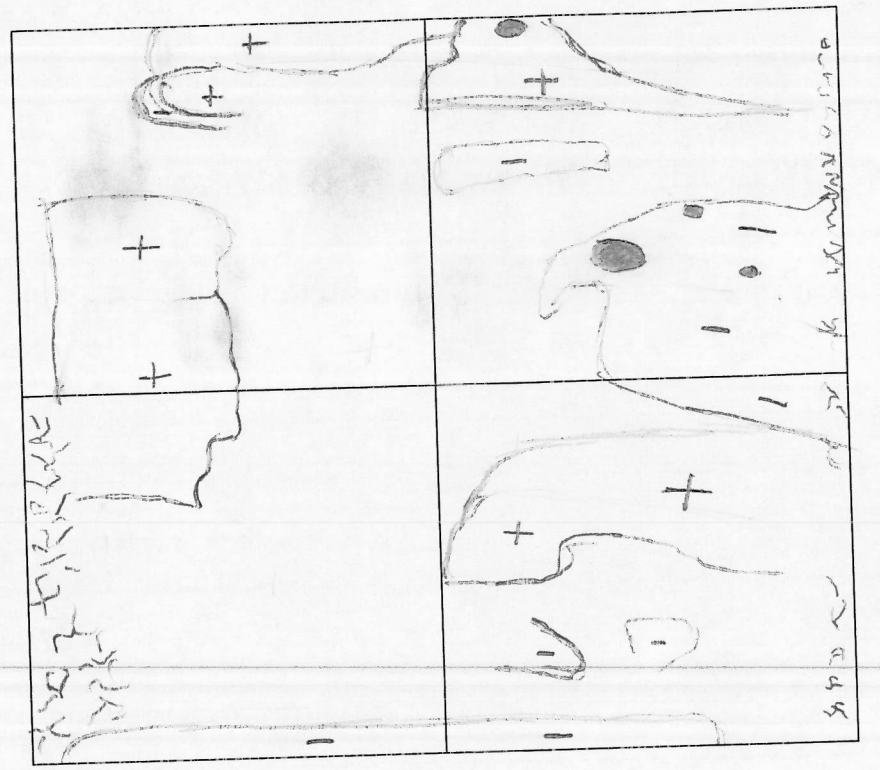
Glass : 3 : small brown pieces

Special Samples:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



As the level is uneven, due to trowels being used to get the grass up, the layer has patches of deeper digging and areas of little hills and roots still present. There are 4 visible roots in the NE quadrant

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -36.5 **E:** -82.86 **Level:** 2A **Excavators:** Reanna Averill, Hannah Flemming

Size: 1 x 1

Elevations: SW stake: 228.85

Initial: NW: 228.79 **NE:** 228.78 **SW:** 228.79 **SE:** 228.78

Ending: NW: 228.76 **NE:** 228.75 **SW:** 228.765 **SE:** 228.765

Soil Type: Silty clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 6/8 Reddish-yellow

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR 5/2 Grayish brown

Soil Type: **Munsell Color:**

Description: 2A is dark to medium brown; clay marbeling

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

glass	18	green
glass	1	clear, possible lip
brick	10	red, yellow-orange
wrapper	1	green foil wrapper; from Hershey kisses?
penny	1	1985
plastic	1	
string	1	blue, coarse
mortar	1	
wrapper	1	green, yellow paper, metallic inside

Special Samples:

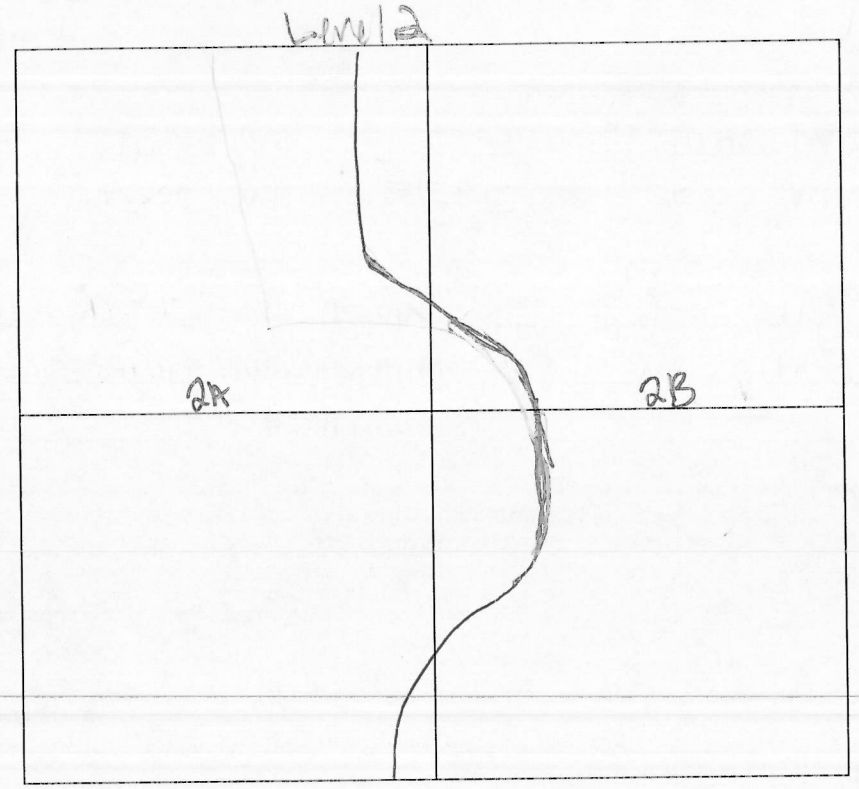
:

:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



See 2B description

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -36.576 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 2b **Excavators:** Reanna Averill, Hannah Flemming

Size: 1 x 1

Elevations: SW stake: 228.85

Initial: NW: 228.77 **NE:** 228.78 **SW:** 228.79 **SE:** 228.78

Ending: NW: 228.74 **NE:** 228.71 **SW:** 228.75 **SE:** 228.765

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 5/8 strong brown

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR 5/2 grayish brown

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: Soil has identified 2A and 2B categories

~~2A is dark brown and fine~~ 2B is yellow-brown and gravelly. There are patches of yellow and gray clay. Evidence of [illegible]

Contents: **# of bags:** 2

glass	11	green color
klinker	3	magnetic
charcoal	58	small pieces in vial
nail	1	machine cut
unknown	4	Washing required
mortar	6	varying colors
glass	1	clear, thin
plastic	1	White, flimsy
nail	1	wire nail
brick	20	red and yellow/orange
wire	4	very thin, fragile
unknown, rust	1	ball of metal/rust?

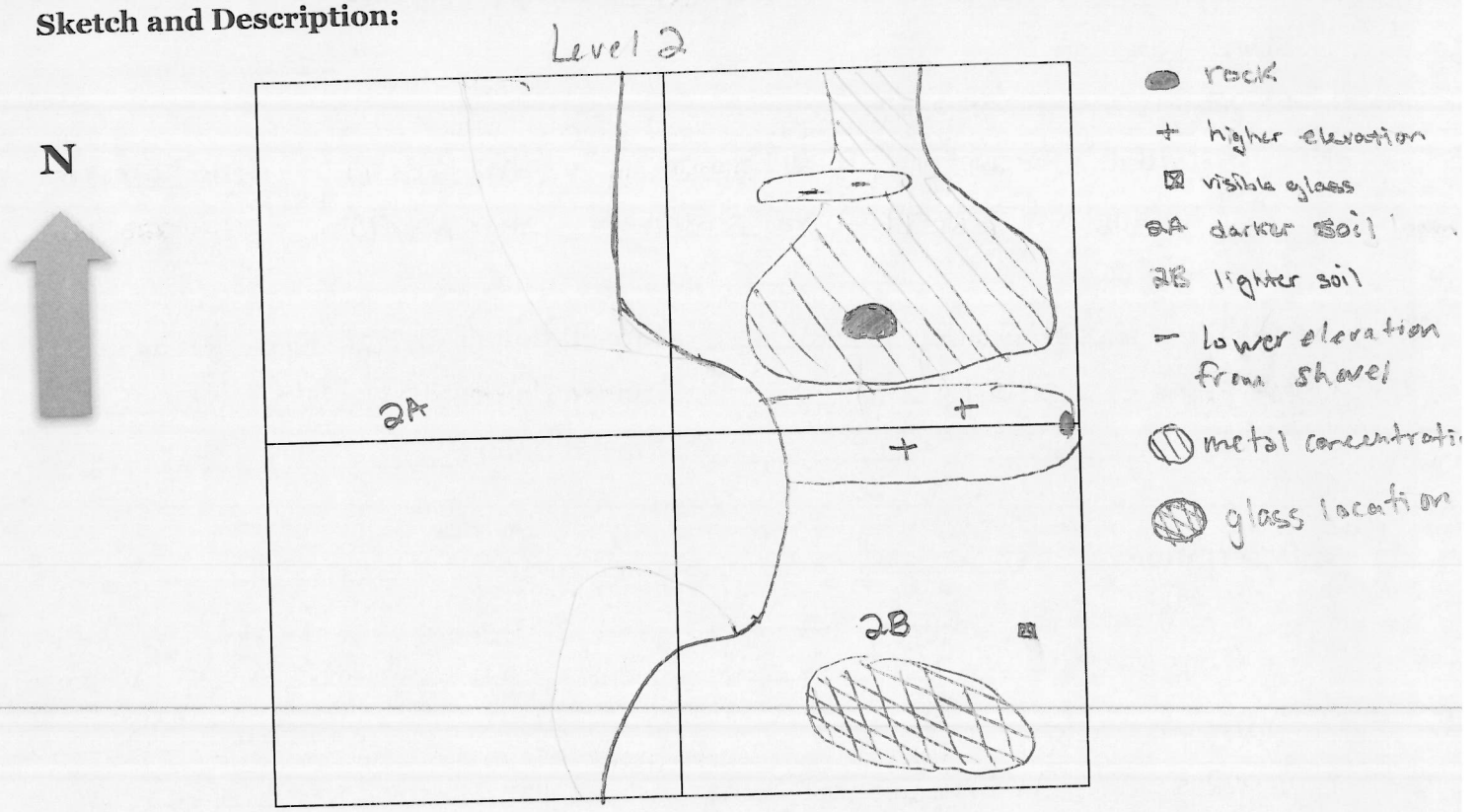
Special Samples:

_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



2A of the unit seems to have uncovered a brown-dark brown soil. 2B has uncovered a yellow-brown soil. For this reason we will excavate them separately to maintain natural soil stratigraphy. There is a visible piece of green glass in the SE quadrant. At the start of excavation the weather has turned gloomy and is sprinkling intermittently.

As we continued excavation, we found nails and wire in the northern area of 2B. Surrounding these areas were packets of sandstone and grey clay (possibly ash and clay mixture?)

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: 120 **E:** -75 **Level:** 3 **Excavators:** Hannah Flemming, Reanna Averill

Size: 1 x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.85

Initial: NW: 228.76 **NE:** 228.71 (13.5) **SW:** 228.765 (20) **SE:** 228.765

Ending: NW: 228.715 **NE:** 228.66 **SW:** 228.665 (18.5) **SE:** 228.645 (20.5)

Soil Type: clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 4/2 Brown

Soil Type: clay **Munsell Color:** 2.5YR 6/6 Light Red

Soil Type: clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 6/6 reddish-yellow

Soil Type: clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 4/6 strong brown

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 4/1 dark gray

Description: the soil has about 5 different colors marbled into the clay. There are reds, browns and grays

---

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Charcoal	124	large & small
brick	65	red, yellow, orange
unknown	41	multiple colors, shapes, & sizes
metal	2	unknown metal pieces
Klinker	1	oddly shaped metal
wire	4	
Slate/shale	18	dark grey & black
slag	1	burnt up pieces of metal; looks like a rock; rust
glass	6	1 green, 2 light green, 3 clear
thread	1	navy blue.
foil	2	1 green 1 silver
stone	2	from a foundation / decorative wall?
mortar	42	I might be burnt
Plastic	6	hard, thin, & thread-like

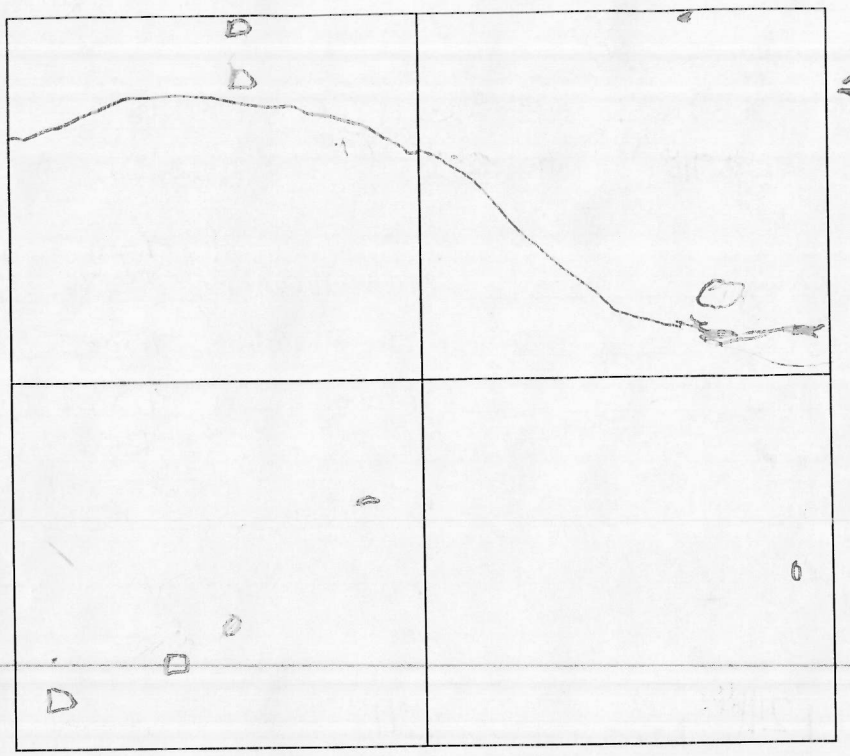
~~Special~~ Samples:

Plastic: 6

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



Charcoal/carbon is bigger in this level than previous levels. A lot of patches of possible ash mixed with clay. The soil gets lighter as we get deeper. Finding pieces of brick in the center of the unit. The gray patches of clay are harder and siltier. They come out in clumps almost as hard as rocks

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -120 **E:** -75 **Level:** 4A **Excavators:** Brooke Arnett, Hannah Fleming

Size: 1 x 1

Elevations: SW stake: 228.95

Initial: NW: 228.715 **NE:** 228.65 **SW:** 228.665 **SE:** 228.645

Ending: NW: 228.422 **NE:** 228.352 **SW:** 228.375 **SE:** 228.635

29.3cm 29.8cm 29cm 29cm

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 2.5YR 7/4 Light reddish brown

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR 6/8 brownish-yellow

Soil Type: silty clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 6/1 Gray (ash w/ c

silty clay — 10YR 7/3 Very pale brown

Sandy clay loam — 7.5YR 4/2 brown

Description: silty clay — 10YR 7/1 Light gray

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

glass	6	clear, + one slightly green
nail	1	machine cut
charcoal	76	various shapes + sizes
wire	1	small
nail	1	unknown, possibly wire
Kimber	5	4 big 1 small fragment
glass	vial	6 distinguishable pieces Small shards of red + orange glass
unknown substance	vial	tiny little crumbs / bits of a light blue substance
mortar	2	1 large 1 small
brick	5	2 orange 3 yellow
unknown	15	various sizes + shapes

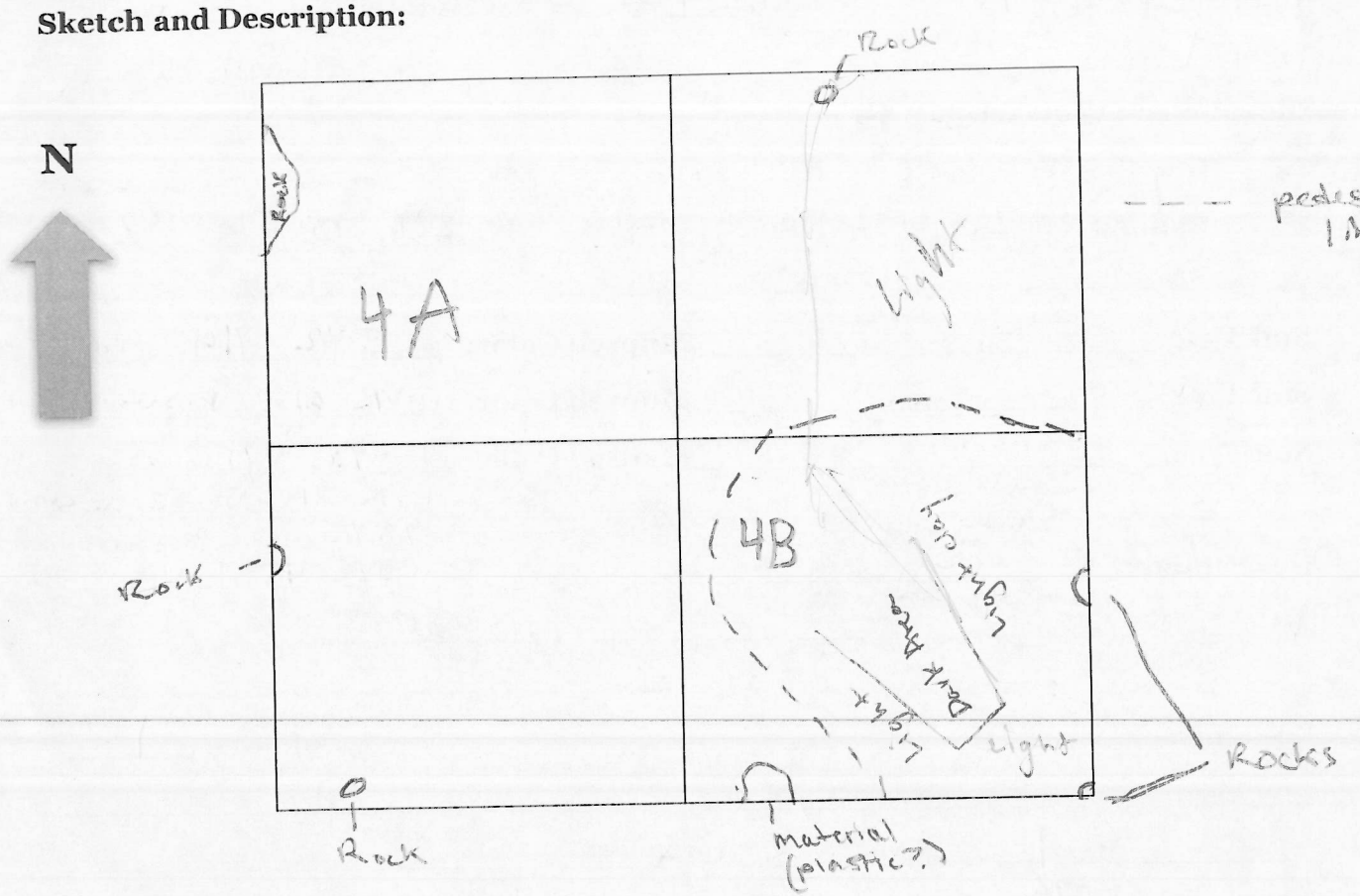
Special Samples:

:

:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



We noted that there is a dark patch of soil which is rectangular in shape and surrounded by a lighter clay color. There is also a piece of material sticking out of the south wall. As we began digging around the pedestal area (not the area with the "dark area") we noticed a larger amount of gravel or small rocks in the center of the entire unit, with no indication of the continuation of the dark area.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -120 **E:** -75 **Level:** 4B **Excavators:** Hannah Flemming, Reanna Averill

Size: 1 x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.85 m ↓ check back for elevations

Initial: NW: _____ **NE:** _____ **SW:** _____ **SE:** 229.635

Absolute **Ending: NW:** 228.54 **NE:** 228.535 **SW:** 228.545 **SE:** 228.5

Soil Type: sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 2.5YR 7/4 light reddish brown

Soil Type: sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR 6/8 brownish-yellow

Soil Type: sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 7.5YR 6/1 Gray

sandy clay 7.5YR 4/2 brown

sandy clay 10YR 7/3 very pale brown

Description: clay loam 10YR 3/2 very dark grayish brown

clay loam 10YR 3/1 very dark gray

very dark grayish brown > very dark gray are a bit more humous

Contents: **# of bags:** _____

charcoal : 71 : in vial and tinfoil

unknown stone : 4 : sparkles in light, flecks

~~bone~~ : ~~1~~ : ~~possible tooth~~

stone w/ mortar : 1 :

chalk piece : 1 : possible piece of chalk / chalky substance

unknown stone/brick : 8 : various colors

mortar : 3 :

slag : 1 : melted metal

brick : 2 : orange

brick : 1 : yellow

glass : 1 : clear

brick : 1 : red

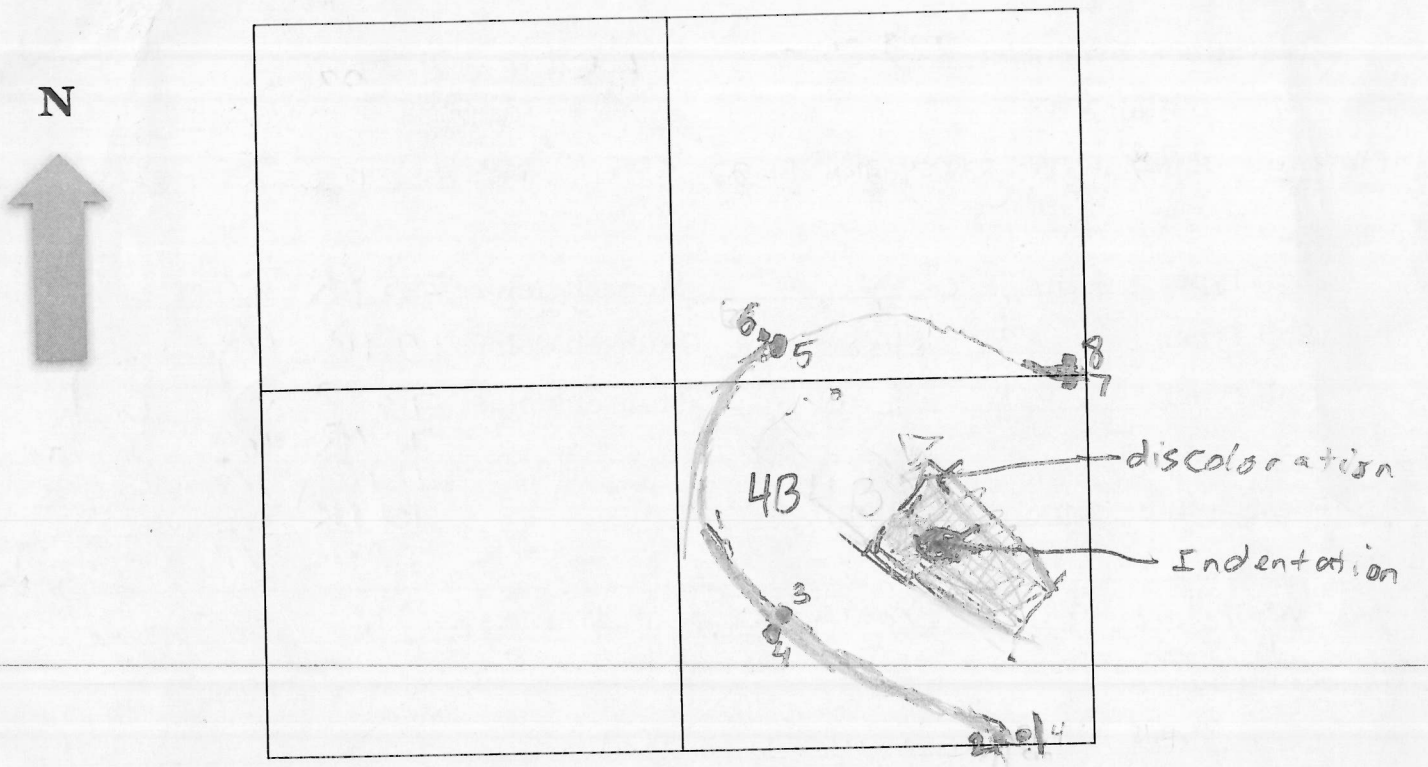
Special Samples:

_____ :

_____ :

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

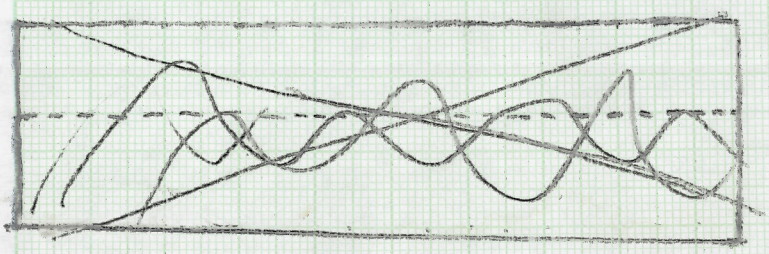
Sketch and Description:



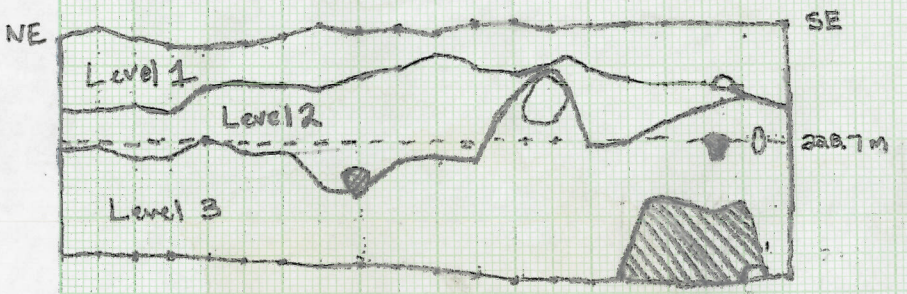
I am starting to dig around the feature it has gotten very dry because of sun exposure. It is very sunny, but breezy which makes it difficult to take pictures. I am finding charcoal powder deposits in the soil. There is also a combination of what appears to be a humus section & marbled clay section. The section I believe is the humus section is easier to dig which makes sense, it is not clay. It almost looks like 2 colors of humus.

1.	21.4 cm	228.63
2.	34.5 cm	228.50
3.	22 cm	228.63
4.	33.5 cm	228.515
5.	21.5 cm	228.63
6.	33.4 cm	228.516
7.	21.3 cm	228.63
8.	32.3 cm	228.52

20 6R334 Old Main
N-120 E-75
05/21/2018
R. Averill
H. Flemming
End of Level 4

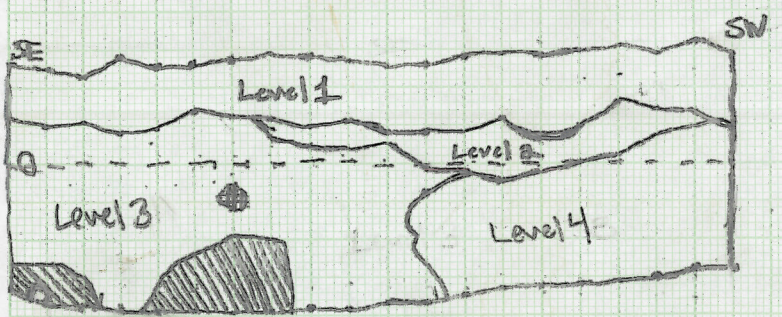


228.7 m



- gray color clay
- dark patch of soil
- red clay (rust color)
- Rocks
- Plastic inclusion

20.5 cm



NE-SE Wall (Eastern wall)

Level 1

Grass with roots
Topsoil, Humus, silty loam
gray-brown

Level 2

Brown - light brown marbled clay
silty clay
small charcoal inclusions
More gravelly with a few large rocks

Level 3

very light brown, gray, reddish-brown marbled clay
larger charcoal inclusions
clay and silty clay
Gray clay deposits - possibly ash mixed with clay
- dark patch of soil -
marbled clay mixed with sandy loam/humus
Presence of tree roots and gravelly with large rocks

SE - SW wall (southern wall)

Level 1

Grass with roots
Topsoil, silty loam
gray-dark brown

Level 2

silty loam mixed with brown silty clay
Dark brown and light brown soil

Level 3

very light brown, gray and brown marbled clay
Includes dark brown-black patches
- Patches are a marbled brown clay with sandy loam
Includes larger rocks and plastic feature sticking out about 2.5 cm
Soil has become more gravelly

Level 4

light brown mixed with ashy, gray deposits of clay
clay
Gray clay is possibly ash mixed with clay. It is harder to excavate than other clay colors.
Soil has become more gravelly and [illegible]

(-100) -75

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

N -100 E -75

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 0 **Excavators:** Bridget Eshleman, B. J. Schuette

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 227.51

Initial: NW: 227.51	**NE:** 227.52	**SW:** 227.51	**SE:** 227.54
Ending: NW: 227.45	**NE:** 227.44	**SW:** 227.44	**SE:** 227.46

Soil Type: Grass, loam **Munsell Color:** 10YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown)

Description: Tree debris; no modern cultural waste; unit located 2-3 meters E from a medium-sized tree; topsoil appears dry with patches of dead grass

Contents: **# of bags:** _____

class	#	description

Special Samples:

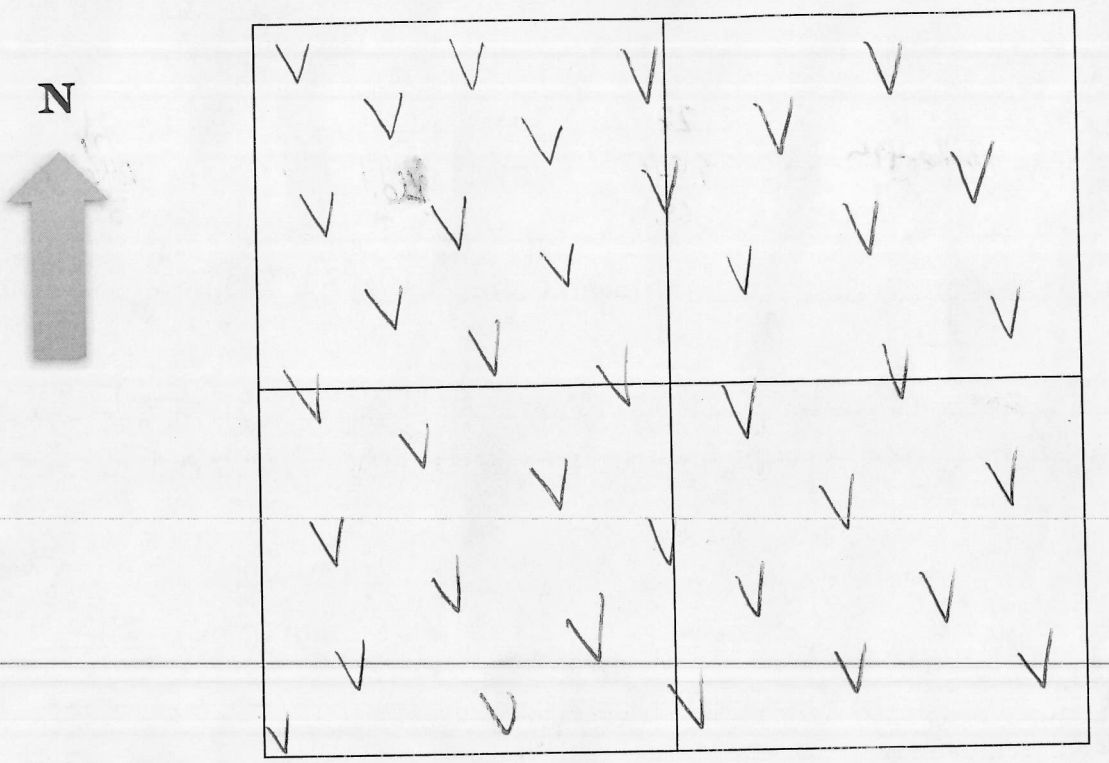
_____ : _____

_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



20GR334 bag # 1,2,2
N ___ E ___
Level ___ BVE, -

We rolled the grass, which fell apart into pieces upon removal. We did not have to dig very deep to remove the humus layer. There was a mysterious, hard spot along the south wall of our pit. The soil type was loam and the Munsell color was 10YR3/2. There were no artifacts discovered from sifting or visual inspection.

very dark grayish brown

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

N-100 E-75

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 1 **Excavators:** B. J. Schutte, Bridget Eshelman

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 227.51

227.51 − .65 = 226.86

Initial: NW: 227.45 **NE:** 227.44 **SW:** 227.44 **SE:** 227.46

Ending: NW: 227.365 (8.5) **NE:** 227.345 (9.5) **SW:** 227.375 (6.5) **SE:** 227.375 (8.5)

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR3/3 (dark brown)

get rid of and make it a few lines (like this)

Description: Removed humus soil and reached marbled clay level,

Contents: **# of bags:**

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

_____: _____: _____

Special Samples:

_____: _____

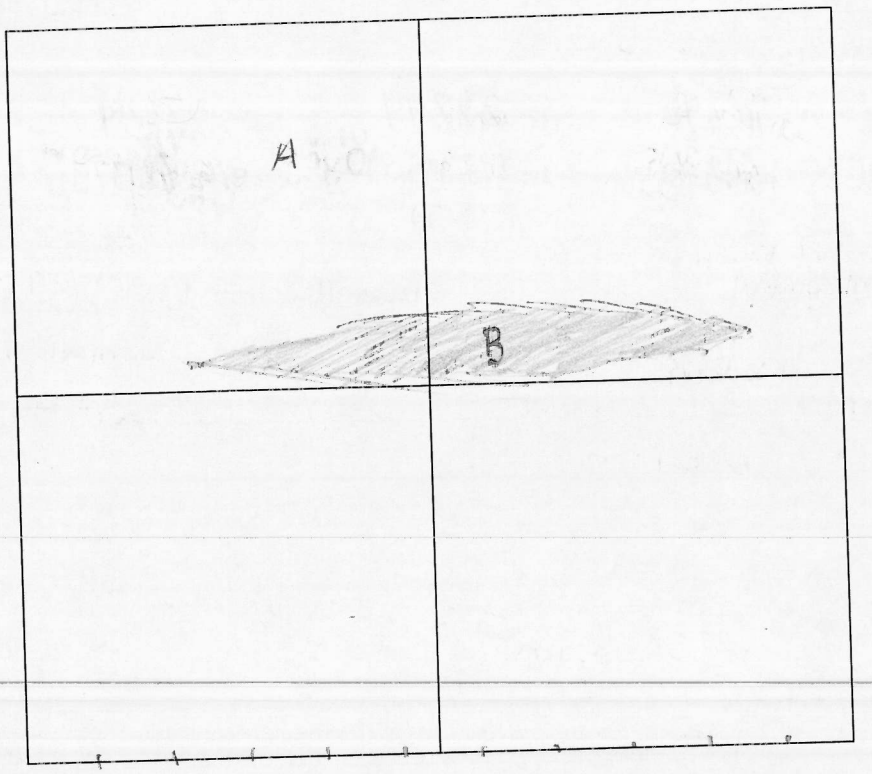
_____: _____

_____: _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



A.) Mottled clay layer B.) There is a valley where the mottled clay layer was reached that we felt was necessary to draw in. The mottled clay layer rested under the humus layer that was a 10 yr 3/3 dark brown sandy clay soil. No artifacts have been discovered.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 2 **Excavators:** B.J. Schutte
Bridget Esherman

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 227.51

Initial:	**NW:** 227.365	**NE:** 227.345	**SW:** 227.375	**SE:** 227.375
Ending:	**NW:** 227.285 (22.5)	**NE:** 227.27 (24)	**SW:** 227.30 (21)	**SE:** 227.29 (22)

(b) **Soil Type:** Silty Clay (w/ sandy clay inclusions) **Munsell Color:** 10yr 4/2 dark grayish brown w/ 10yr 5/6 yellowish brown

(a) **Soil Type:** Sandy Clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 5/4 yellowish brown w/ 10yr 5/6 yellowish brown

(c) **Soil Type:** Sandy Loam **Munsell Color:** 10yr 5/3 brown

Description: Consisted of 10yr 4/2 (dark grayish brown) silty clay with 10yr 5/6 (yellowish brown) sandy clay inclusions, 10yr 5/4 (yellowish brown) sandy clay with the same inclusions, 10yr 5/3 (brown) sandy loam with the same inclusions. All soils also contain charcoal inclusions

Contents: **# of bags:** _____

metal	4	could be Iron nail? Definetly contains oxidation
Charcoal	71	its charcoal
Brick?	36	8 red, 13 orange, 7 yellow, 8 w/ mortar
[illegible]	1	[illegible]
Unknown	4	mortar? or just rocks?
metal	2	metal wire wrapped in artifact bag.
Plastic	3	some plastic like paper or tarp. (In artifact bag)
wood	1	small wood like piece in glass vial
metal	1	Large metal rod/cable/wire
Styrofoam	3	Styrofoam piece (in artifact bag)
metal	7	nails
Glass	22	3 green, 1 blue, 17 clear, 1 orange/yellow
Cement	21	its cement → 1 in glass vial

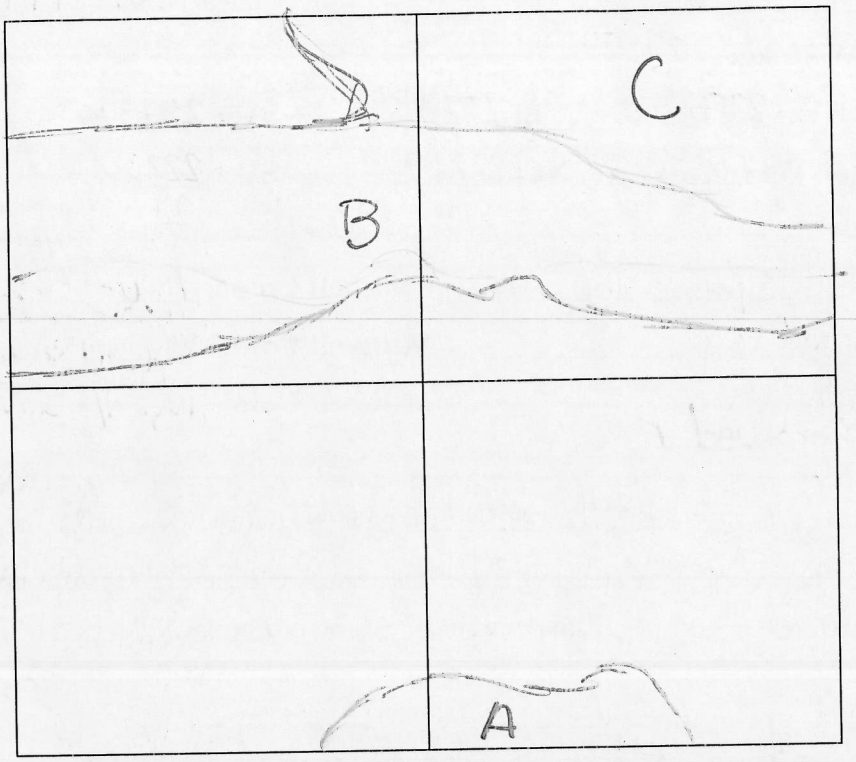
Special Samples:

_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Sketch and Description:

N



At one point we noticed a slight change in soil in various spots along the floor of our unit, we decided to excavate around these spots due to a higher quantity of artifacts being discovered in these areas. (A, B). There is also an area in the NE corner that is very dry (C) that we also decided to excavate around. At the end of the Level, our 3 soil areas are no longer found. There were charcoal inclusions all over our unit, therefore we are only collecting larger portions. It rained several times over the course of this level. We still have not reached the non-marble clay layer, but since we went down 20+ cm since level 1, we decided to stop at our current elevations.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 3A **Excavators:** Bridget Eshleman, B.J. Schutte

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 227.51

Initial: NW: 227.285 **NE:** 227.27 **SW:** 227.30 **SE:** 227.29

Ending: NW: 227.475 34 **NE:** 227.478 32 **SW:** 227.479 31 **SE:** 227.478 32

A **Soil Type:** Sandy clay (silty clay loam) **Munsell Color:** 10YR6/6 Brownish yellow w/ 10YR4/3 Brown and carbon inclusions

B **Soil Type:** Clay **Munsell Color:** 10YR4/2 Dark grayish brown

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: Consisted of 10YR6/6 (brownish yellow) sandy clay and 10YR4/2 (dark grayish brown) clay. Both had inclusions of 10YR4/3 (brown) silty clay loam and carbon

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Wood	6	Burnt/carbonized wood in glass vial
Metal	11	Nails or nail shaped artifacts
Glass	17	glass of multiple colors
Charcoal	30	Charcoal/Burnier
Cement/metal	1	Cement object w/ oxidation piece sticking ou
Brick	81	Brick pieces of various colors
Cement	5	Cement pieces

Special Samples:

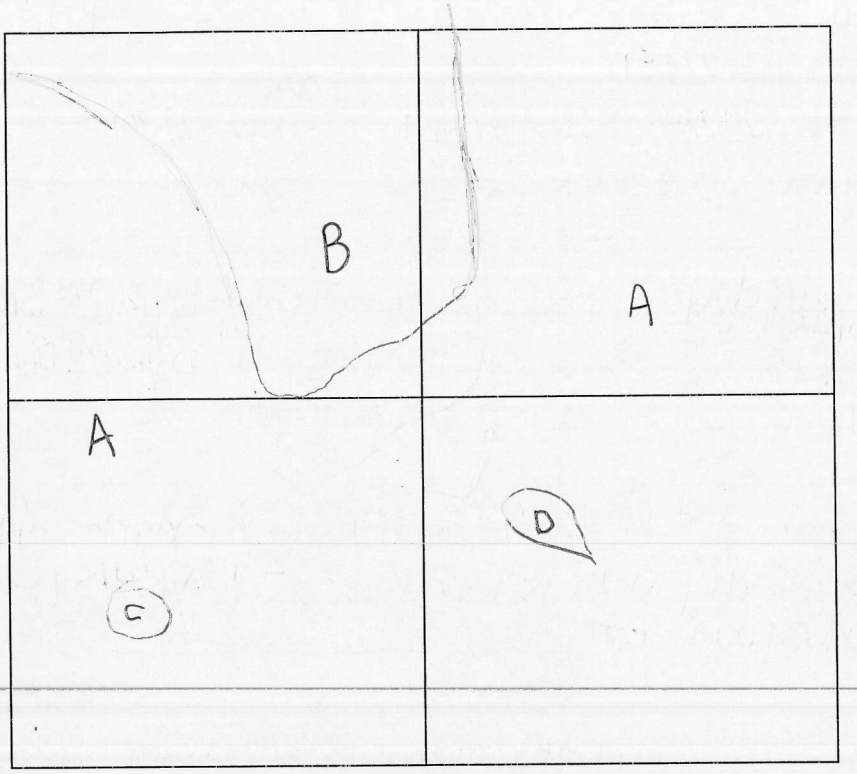
_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



A = sandy clay
B = clay
C = carbon
D = stone

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 3B **Excavators:** B.J. Schulte, Bridget Eshleman

Size: 1 x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 227.51 see drawing for elevations

Initial: NW: _____ **NE:** _____ **SW:** _____ **SE:** _____

Ending: NW: _____ **NE:** _____ **SW:** _____ **SE:** _____

Soil Type: Clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 4/2 Dark grayish Brown

mottled with { **Soil Type:** sandy loam clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 5/4 yellowish brown

Soil Type: sandy loam **Munsell Color:** 10yr 3/2 very dark grayish brown

Description: Consisted of 10yr 4/2 (dark grayish brown) clay mottled with inclusions of 10yr 5/4 (yellowish brown) sandy loam clay and 10yr 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) sandy loam

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Rock	5	3 are granite like, 2 are humanly modified
Brick	11	various colored brick pieces
Cement	1	looks like charcoal
metal	1	nail piece
Glass	2	its glass
Charcoal	12	it charcoal
Pencil	1	pencil w/ lead core
unknown	1	round object in glass jar

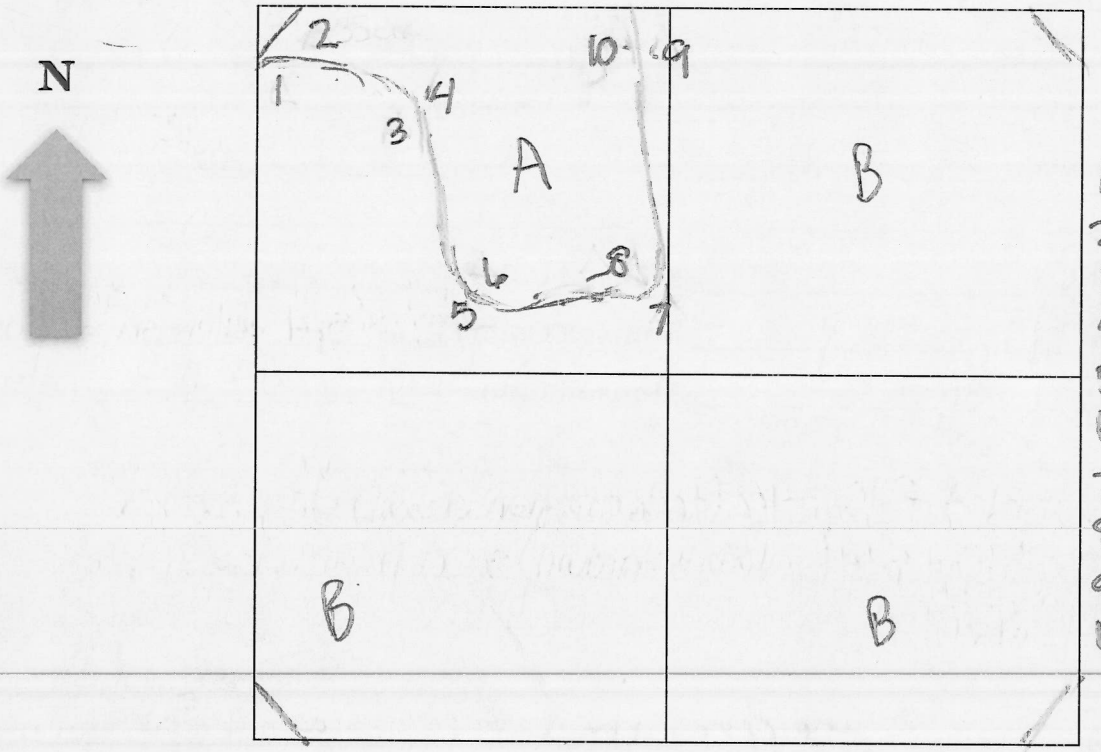
Special Samples:

_____: _____

_____: _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



A = Level 3B
B = Level 4

1.) 35 cmbd (227.47
2.) 23 cmbd (227.487
3.) 37 cmbd (227.473
4.) 25 cmbd (227.485
5.) 33 cmbd (227.477
6.) 24 cmbd (227.486
7.) 32 cmbd (227.478
8.) 24 cmbd (227.486
9.) 33 cmbd (227.477
10.) 25 cmbd (227.485

We decided to plafave Section A from our level 3 into 3B due to this section of the level having a different soil color and type. Section B is the top of our level 4. We took elevation levels of the different sections of our 3B (1-10). 3B had a soil matrix of 10yr 4/2 dark grayish brown clay melted with 10yr 5/4 yellowish brown sandy loamy clay and 10yr 3/2 very dark grayish brown sandy loam. After leaving section A down to about the same elevation as Section B, we concluded that there is nothing geologically/archaeology significant of that spot. So we are no longer giving special focus on that spot in future levels.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -22.86 **Level:** 4 **Excavators:** Bridget Eshleman, B.J. Schutte

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 227.51

Initial: NW: 227.475 **NE:** 227.478 **SW:** 227.479 **SE:** 227.478

Ending: NW: 227.473 **NE:** 227.475 **SW:** 227.463 **SE:** 227.475

in crevice: 227.467

C **Soil Type:** Silty clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 3/3 (dark brown) mottled with 10yr 5/1 clay
inclusion: Sandy clay 10yr 5/6 (yellowish brown)

A **Soil Type:** Clay **Munsell Color:** 5y 7/6 (yellow)

B **Soil Type:** Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 4/3 (brown)
Sandy clay 10yr 5/4 (yellowish brown)

Description: Consisted of 10yr 3/3 (dark brown) silty clay with 10yr 5/6 (yellowish brown) sandy clay inclusions, 5y 7/6 (yellow) clay inclusions, 10yr 4/3 (brown) sandy clay inclusions, and 10yr 5/4 (yellowish brown) sandy clay; mottled with 10yr 5/1 (gray) clay

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

pottery	1	white
cement	5	
charcoal	3	
brick	3	yellow

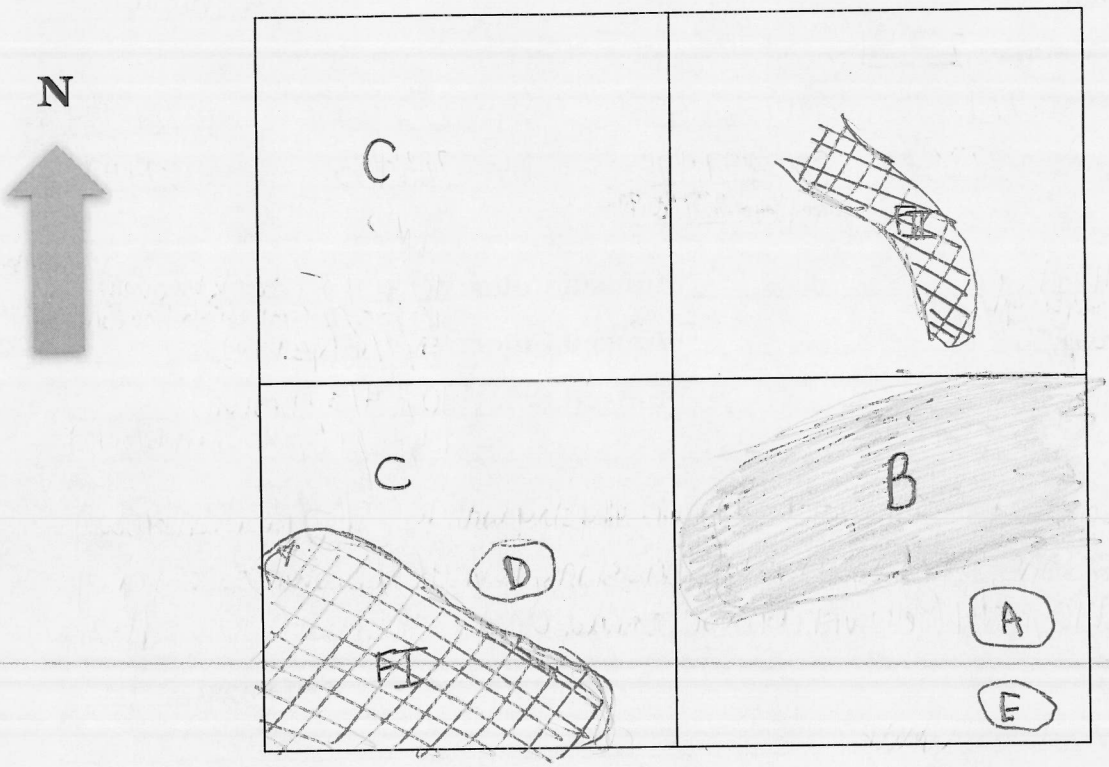
Special Samples:

_____: _____

_____: _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



We attempted to pedistal D, but upon excavating we discovered that it was just an oxidation stain. We obtained 5(6 cement/ clay-like objects from around this area. We continued digging down until we reached the 10yr 5/1 (gray) clay which was extremely difficult to dig through. We noticed a significant decrease in artifacts in this level, and, after sifting several buckets with none, have determined that we reached sterile soil. At the end of the level, FI was dug to an elevation of 227.463 and FII an elevation of 227.467 because these areas did not have as much hard clay as the other areas

NORTH WALL PROFILE

NW
N-29.48
E-22.86

NE
N-29.48
E-21.86

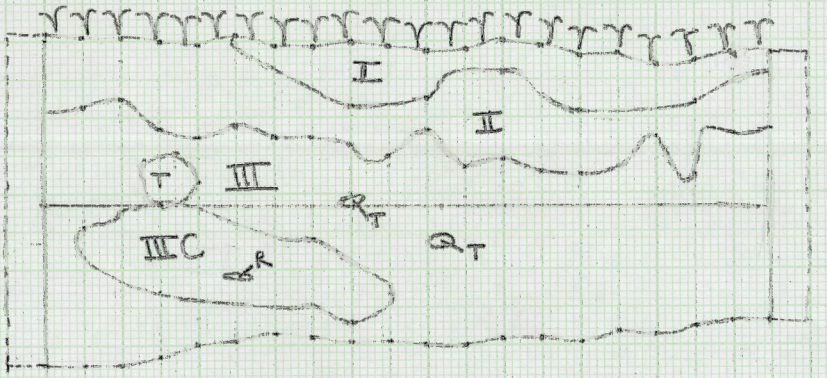
Bridget Eshleman
BJ Schutte
20GR334
5/21/18
Unit N-100 E-75
N-30.48 E-22.86
Ended at Level 4

5cm

I: humus 10yr 3/3 (dark brown) sandy clay
II: sandy clay (10yr 5/4 yellowish brown)
III: 10yr 6/6 (brownish yellow) sandy clay
IIIA: 10yr 5/6 (yellowish brown) sandy clay inclusion
IIIB: 10yr 4/2 (dark grayish brown) clay inclusion
IIIC: 10yr 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) sandy loam inclusion
R: rock
T: tree root
P: plastic

W/X

SW
N-30.48
E-22.86



NE
N-29.48
E-21.86

I: grass and grass roots, no artifacts found
II: sandy clay with minor roots, small rocks found
III: mostly clay with tree roots, larger rocks found, small sections discolored but found to be insignificant
IIIA: sandy clay inclusion found in third layer, source unknown
IIIB: clay inclusion found in third layer, source unknown
IIIC: dark sandy loam inclusion, possibly charcoal inclusion

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -35.48m **E:** -16.764m **Level:** D **Excavators:** Devyn Hannah

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.80 meters above sea level

Initial: NW: 228.77 **NE:** 228.78 **SW:** 228.80 **SE:** 228.77

Ending: NW: 228.73 **NE:** 228.74 **SW:** 228.75 **SE:** 228.75

Soil Type: Grass, clay loam **Munsell Color:** 3/4 10yr

Description: Green grass w/ brown spots near SW corner and SE wall on east side

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Plastic : 1 : consistency similar to laminated paper, slightly opaque

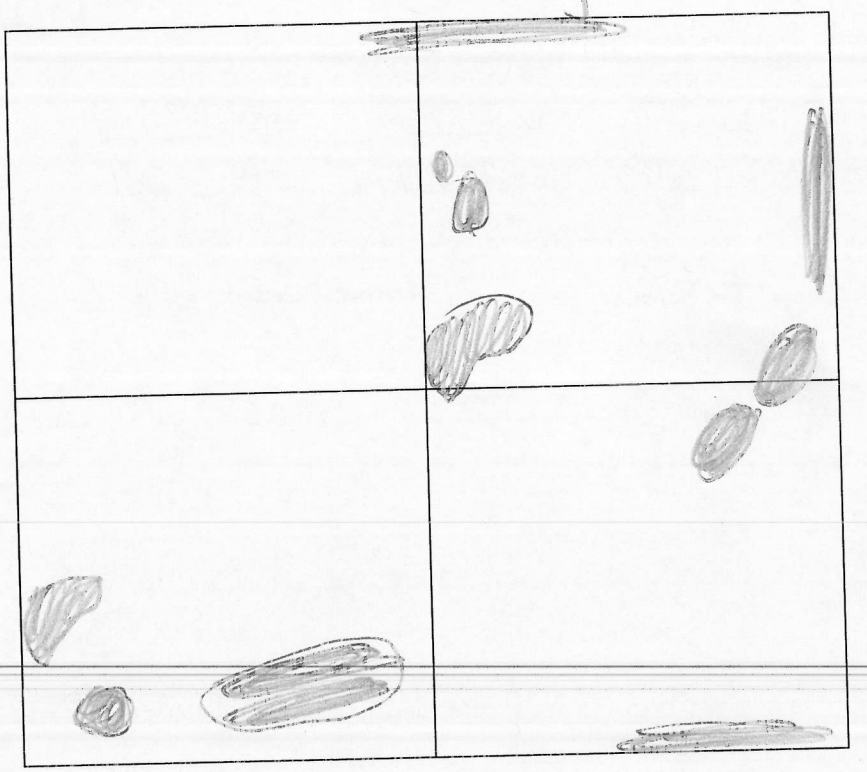
Special Samples:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description: Level 0 – under the grass

areas w/ shading indicate increased depth caused by pulling up roots and brushing off loose soil

N



grass pit was covered in twigs, leaves and needles. when digging up the grass layer we saw multiple worms + bugs. We swept up the top loose dirt and sifted through it & we found a small (maybe 2cm x 2cm) piece of plastic that was bendable but not as flimsy as something like a food wrapper and also not as hard as something like a credit card, it is more consistent with something like a laminated page. The plastic is slightly opaque as if it were damaged.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -16.764 **Level:** 1 **Excavators:** Devyn L, Sarah S

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.80m

Initial: NW: 228.74 **NE:** 228.74 **SW:** 228.75 **SE:** 228.75

Ending: NW: 228.73 **NE:** 228.73 **SW:** 228.73 **SE:** 228.74

Soil Type: clay loam **Munsell Color:** 10 yr 3/3

Description: Soil is similar to that seen in level 0, uniform in color, lots of roots

Contents: **# of bags:** 0

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

_____ : _____ : _____

Special Samples:

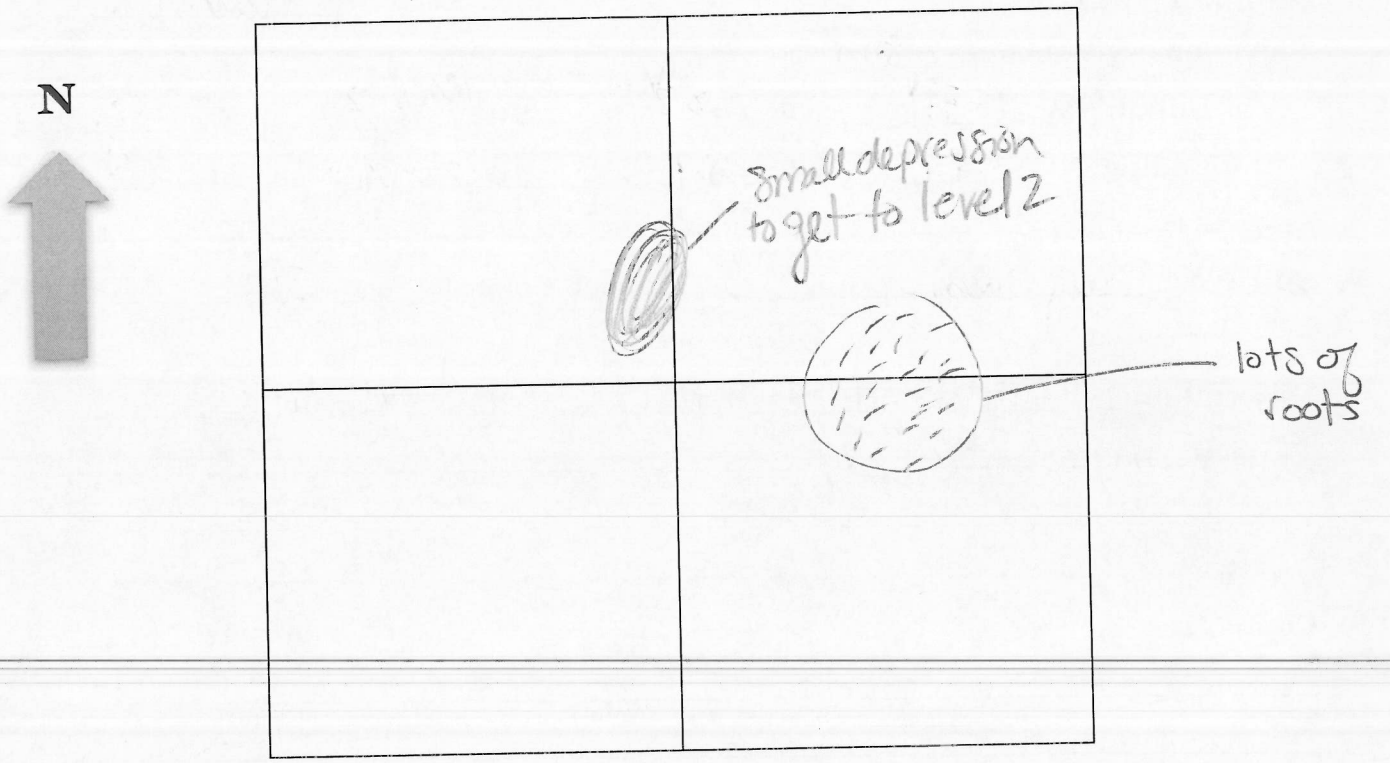
_____ : _____

_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



The layer of marble clay indicative of level 2 seems to be slightly more elevated on the East side when compared to the west (elevation data can confirm) Soil is uniform in color and there are tons of roots in central/east half. possibly from tree ~ 20ft SE of pit? no artifacts found in level 1 but we see a visible piece of red brick/pottery like material at the surface of level 2

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -16.746 **Level:** 2 **Excavators:** Devin L, Sarah S

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.8 m

Initial: NW: 228.73 **NE:** 228.73 **SW:** 228.73 **SE:** 228.74

Ending: NW: 228.61 **NE:** 228.59 **SW:** 228.61 **SE:** 228.63

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 5yR 4/4

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: lots of marbled clay as well as some looser dirt with still a lot of roots

---

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Glass	7	6 blue/green clear pieces, 1 amber piece.
metal	2	1 nail 1 unknown
brick	115	yellow, orange + red brick
carbon	78	Fragile, black, some is shiny
synthetics/ plastic	8	Flimsy + thin. 1 piece is black, 2 pieces are white
misc.	12	unsure of what these things are right washing them. Could be artifacts or just rocks
Cement?	10	large chunks very coarse
Porcelain	1	None
non brick ceramics	7	square + straight edges, look burnt
mortar	29	different colors
Styrofoam	2	very dirty, very light + fragile

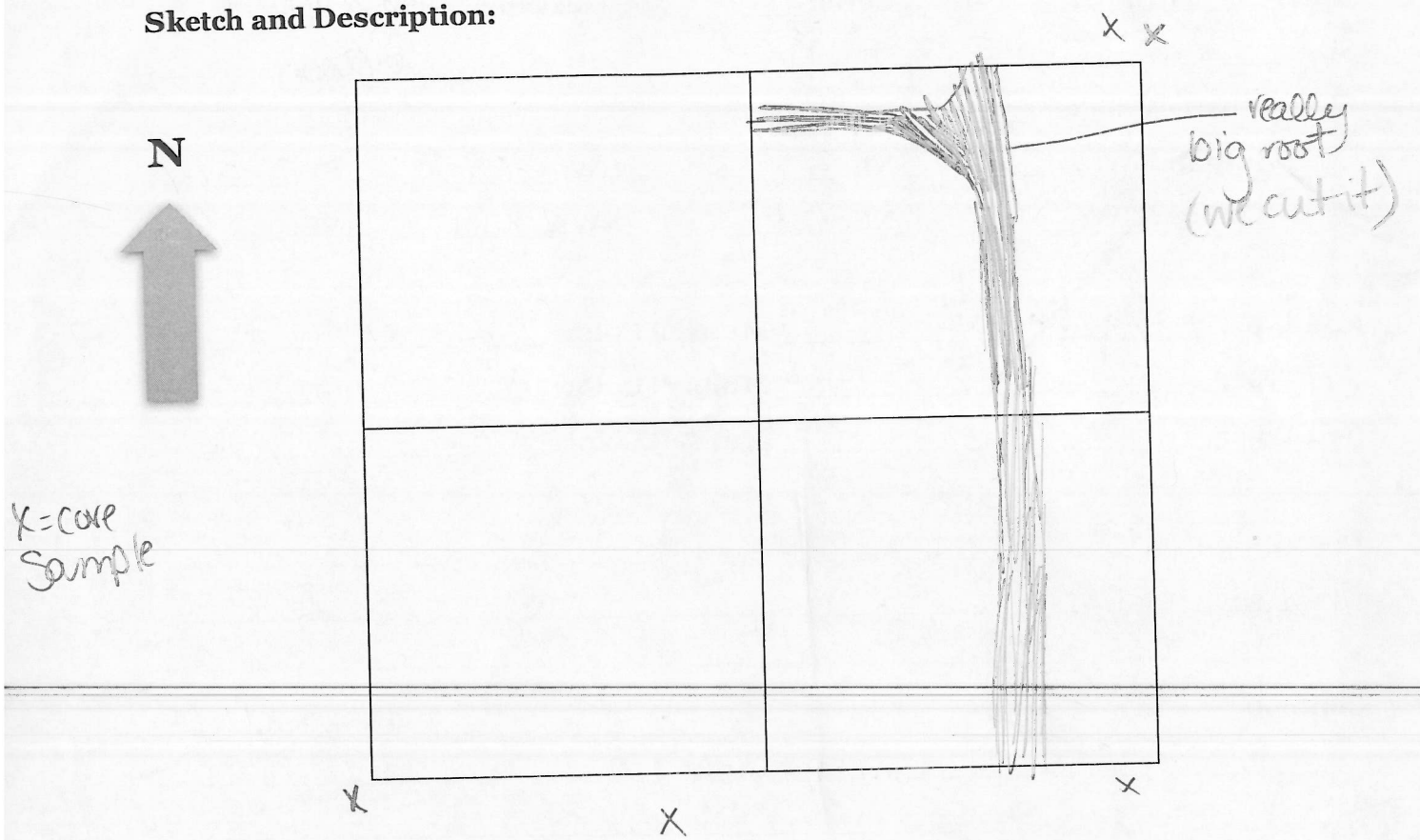
Special Samples:

_____ : _____

_____ : _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



the soil is becoming more like clay and it is difficult to excavate. the soil colors range from light tan to black. we are digging to get to the next (3rd) level which will be indicated by a nearly uniform layer of the tan clay. there is a large root running along the eastern half of the quadrant which has a westward split near the northern wall. The pit is slightly more elevated on the eastern side due to the layering of the clay. We are taking another core sample near the Northeast corner in order to determine where we might expect level 3 to be. We reached 10 cm into level 2 before hitting the solid clay so we will start level 3 here. We cut the large to get it out of the way after it was excavated

we took multiple more cores along the perimeter of the pit

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: 30.48m **E:** -16.764m **Level:** 3 **Excavators:** Devyn Laroche Sam S

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.80m

Initial: NW: 228.61 **NE:** 228.59 **SW:** 228.61 **SE:** 228.63

Ending: NW: 228.52 **NE:** 228.51 **SW:** 228.53 **SE:** 228.50

Soil Type: Sandy Clay **Munsell Color:** 5yr 4/4

Description: Very marbled, increasing amounts of grayish clay.

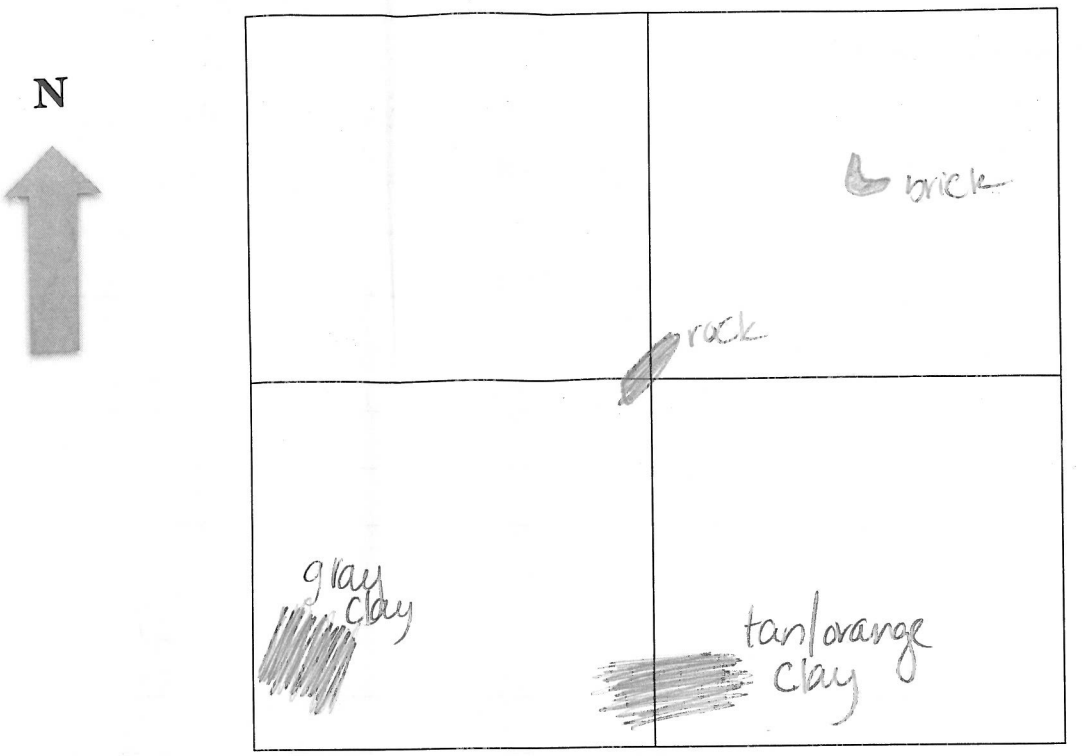
Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Glass	1	small + clean
Styrofoam	1	a couple inches long
Mortar		different colors
Carbon		finding larger pieces in this level
Brick		
Cement		

Special Samples:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



marked clay across entire pit lots of gray + tan/orange clay. there is a rock sticking out of the ground in the center of the pit. there is also a piece of brick protruding from below in the NE quadrant of the pit. A root is sticking out from the bottom of the eastern/central area that we will continuously have to cut as we go deeper down. At the bottom of level 3 we still haven't hit a new layer, but we are seeing a lot more of the gray/ashy clay. We found significantly less artifacts in this layer than in layer 2. The gray clay is very hard + dry when compared to the other clay we are finding.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -30.48 **E:** -16.764 **Level:** 4 **Excavators:** Devyn L. Sam S.

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.80

Initial: NW: 228.52 **NE:** 228.51 **SW:** 228.53 **SE:** 228.50

Ending: NW: 228.41 **NE:** 228.41 **SW:** 228.41 **SE:** 228.42

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10 yr 4/2 (gray)

Soil Type: Silty clay **Munsell Color:** 10 yr 6/6 (tan)

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 2.5 yr 2.5/1 (black)

Silty clay 2.5y 5/4 (yellow)

Description: very mixed + thick, lots of large + hard patches of ashy gray clay + it was difficult to dig through

---

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

metal : 3 : 1 nail, 2 unknown

carbon : 15 : smaller pieces than level 3

Granite stuff : 5 : granular, salt + pepper (diorite w/ mica?)

cement : 3 : 2 medium pieces + 1 small

Mortar : 7 :

: :

: :

: :

: :

: :

: :

: :

Special Samples:

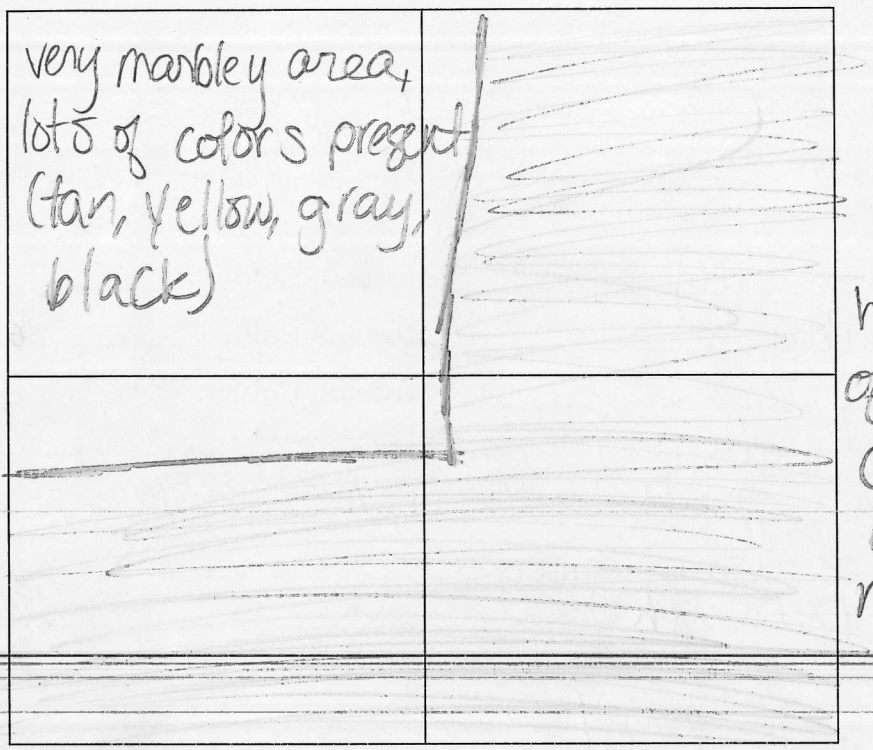
:

:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



Clay is still marbled. We excavated 10cm and ended Level 4. Level 5 is still in the same layer of stratigraphy. The amount of gray/ashy clay has increased and made digging slightly more difficult. Less artifacts were found in this level, similar to level 3. No significant finds or changes in level 4

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: 35.48 **E:** -16e.764 **Level:** 5 **Excavators:** Devyn C. Sasha S.

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.80

Initial: NW: 228.41 **NE:** 228.41 **SW:** 228.41 **SE:** 228.42

Ending: NW: 228.31 **NE:** 228.31 **SW:** 228.31 **SE:** 228.32

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 4/2 (gray)

Soil Type: Sandy clay **Munsell Color:** 10yr 6/8 (tan)

Soil Type: Sandy clay, Silty clay **Munsell Color:** 2.5yr 2.5/1 (black)

Description: Level 5 is very identical to level 4 in soil color concentrations with gray/ashy clay being of the highest concentration.

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

Carbon	3	small pieces
metal	1	Special Sample ↓
morter	1	small + yellow
brick	2	medium red pieces w/ morter
cement	1	medium chunk w/ red markings

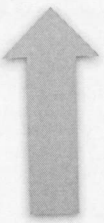
Special Samples:

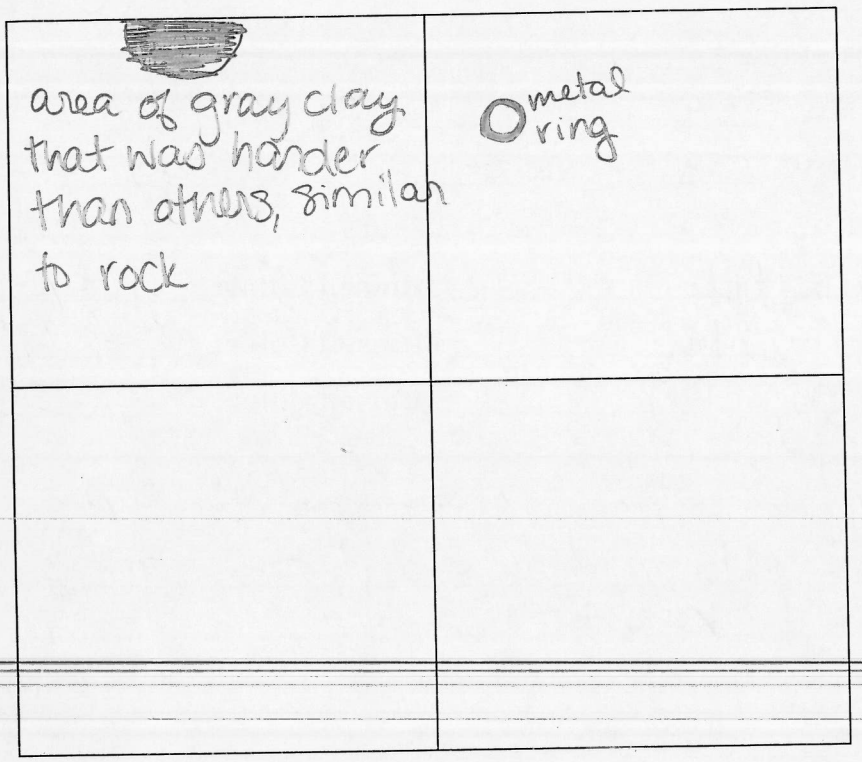
metal	ring shaped artifact, unlike most metal we have found

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N

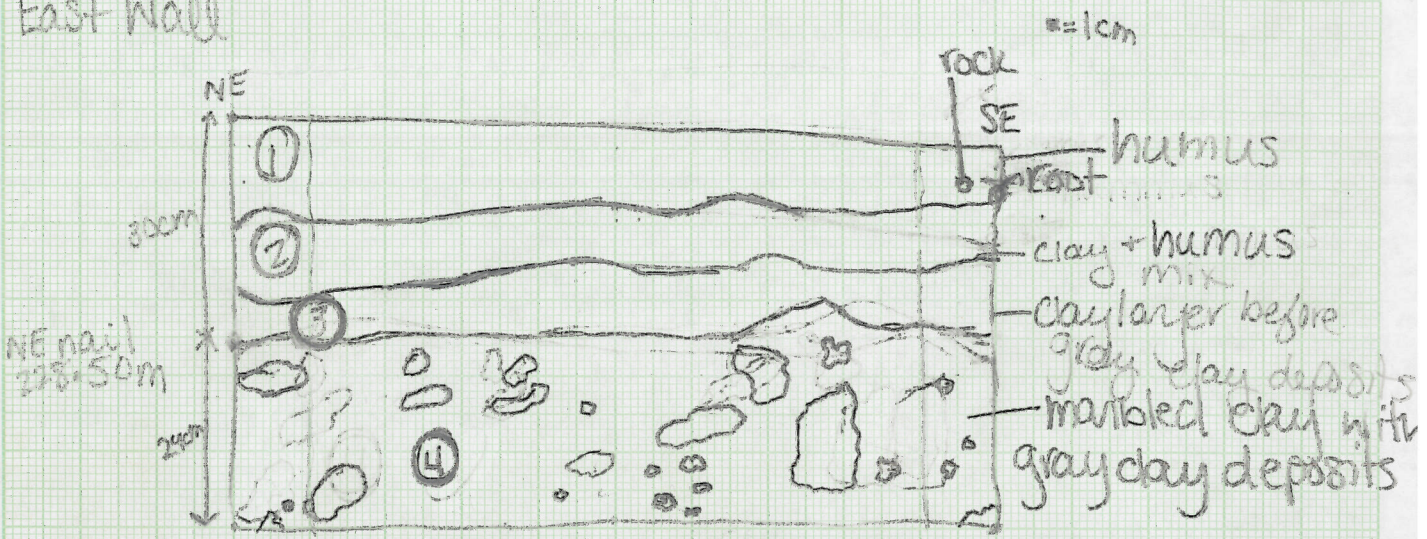




We have found mainly small pieces of carbon as well as one metal ring ~2 inches in diameter. It was found ~6 inches south of the north wall and ~4 inches east of the median between the eastern and western halves. The ring is highly eroded and seems to have a cylindrical shape around the circumference. The ring is also magnetic and quite heavy for its size. We suspect that this could be a door knocker. We have also found a few items that are most likely brick, cement and mortar. The grayish clay is becoming much more dense and compact making it very hard to excavate. In some spots, it was nearly as hard as stone.

Devyn Sarah

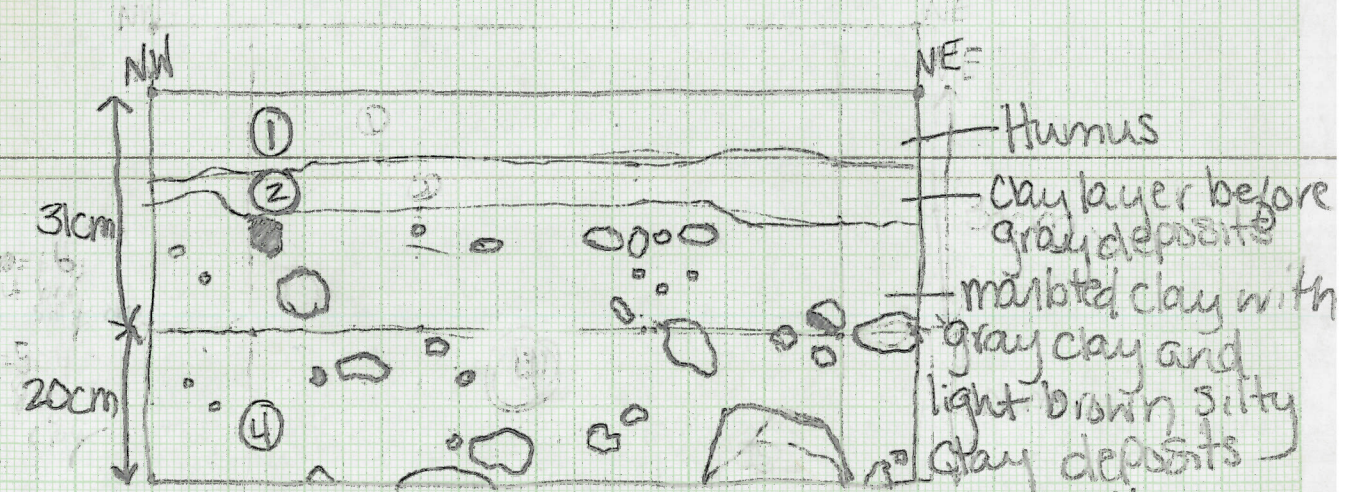
East Wall



Initial Datum elevation = 228.80 m

O = gray clay (layer 4)

North Wall



● = light brown silty clay (or tan) (trait 5 w/in layer 4)

O = gray clay (layer 4)

26ER334
N-100 E-55
5/21/18
D. Laroche
S. Sieffert
Wall Section

East Wall

(1) Humus layer, rock and root protruding from wall on South side, clay loam 10yr 3/4

(2) An almost even distribution of mixed clay and humus, slight peak in elevation near south side, clay loam 10yr 3/3 and Sandy Clay 5yr 4/4

(3) Marbled clay layer without gray clay deposits, slight peak near south side Sandy clay 5yr 4/4 (marbled matrix, brown), Silty clay 10yr 6/8 (tan), Silty clay 2.5y 5/4 (yellow)

(4) Marbled clay layer with gray clay deposits, slight peak near southern wall, Sandy clay 5yr 4/4 (brown matrix), Silty clay 10yr 6/8 (tan), Silty clay 2.5y 4/4 (yellow), Sandy Clay 2.5yr 2.5/1 (black), Sandy clay 10yr 4/2 (gray)

North Wall

(1) Humus layer, clay loam 10yr 3/4

(2) An almost even distribution of mixed clay + humus, small Plateau in elevation on eastern side of wall clay loam 10yr 3/3 and Sandy clay 5yr 4/4

(3) No layer 3 in north wall as we see gray clay deposits immediately after the clay/humus mix with no marbled clay lacking gray clay- intermediate

(4) Marbled clay layer with gray clay deposits and some light brown silty clay deposits, slight peak in Western side of wall and wide but shallow depression near eastern border, Sandy clay 5yr 4/4 (brown matrix), Silty clay 10yr 6/8 (tan), Silty Clay 2.5y 4/4 (yellow), Sandy Clay 2.5yr 2.5/1 (black), Sand clay 10yr 4/2 (gray)

(5) light colored silty clay deposits, small + scattered in a few spots

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -1564 **E:** 30ft (9.144m) **Level:** 0 **Excavators:** Alexis Carlson, Michael Berra

Size: 1m x 1m (47.224m)

Elevations: SW stake: 228.15

Initial: NW: 228.18 **NE:** 228.04m **SW:** 228.18 **SE:** 227.94m

Ending: NW: 228.12 **NE:** 228.12m 5.8cm -.058m **SW:** 228.122m .058m **SE:** 228.127m -.053m

Soil Type: Sandy Loam to Loam **Munsell Color:** 2/2-10YR

Description: May have more sand in the clay soil, sand combination due to how it can crumble easily.

Contents: Water **# of bags:** 1

	pieces	description
Orange Stone	2	Orange in the inside but gray outside
Black Pebble	2	Can moderately break and is black on the inside
Glass piece	1	Less than 1 inch in length, a dull clearness, covered in dirt.
Crumbled Stone	1	Circular bumps all over stone as well some orange color
Ceramic Piece	1	Triangular in shape with a piece of cream color on it.
Dark Color Stone	1	Deep black in color, smeared with dirt, One side has lines on it.
Broken Shard	1	Cream orange color chipped off and appear to have an edge on it.
Black Shard	1	Deep black color with a broken circular piece on one side.
Orange Pebble	1	Dark orange and can scratch easily from nail.
Tiny flint	1	Very White color with sharper edges

Special Samples:

_____: _____

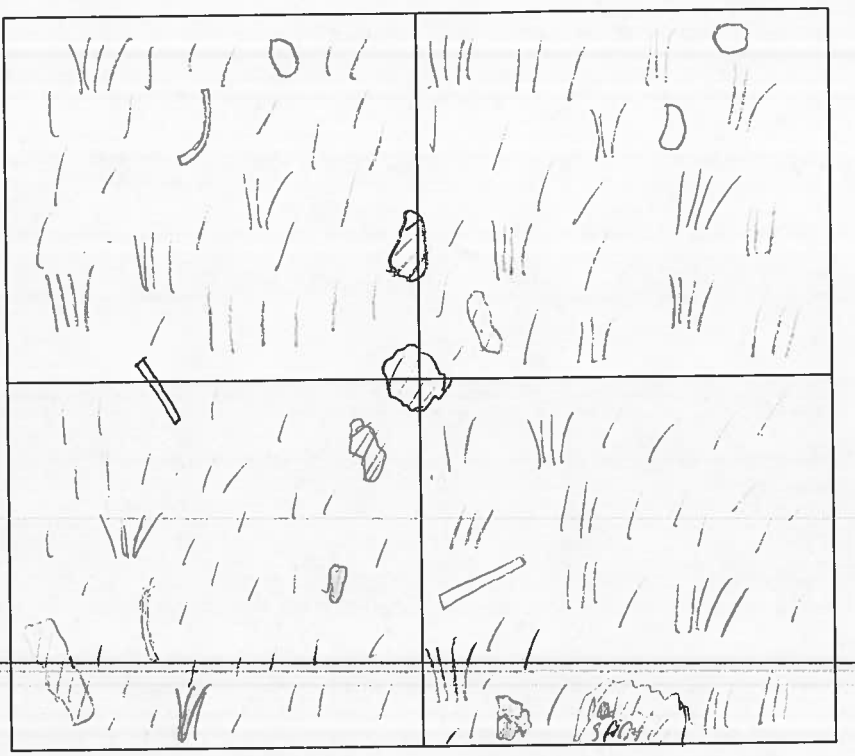
_____: _____

_____: _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N



The undugged plot of grass and topsoil has a typical appearance when it comes to the SAC and Heritage Center lawns. In the May weather the grass is dark green and growing vigorously from the rain and sunshine but there are slight patches of bare soil along with a few sticks and twigs and broken seeds laying around. Most likely from the mower shredding the fallen branches and seeds as they are mowing the lawn.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

-49.244Nm 9.144Em

Unit N: 155 **E:** 30 **Level:** 1 **Excavators:** Michael Batta
Akiela Carlton

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: 228.18

0.1m **Initial: NW:** 228.19 **NE:** 228.14 **SW:** 228.18 **SE:** 228.00

=0m **Ending: NW:** 228.046 **NE:** 228.041 **SW:** 228.049 **SE:** 228.055

Soil Type: Clay loam **Munsell Color:** 3/3 10YR

Description: Soil medium to dark brown, not black in color. The soil holds together and has a soothe yet slightly grit/. Small bits of clay comprise the soil.

Contents: **# of bags:** 1

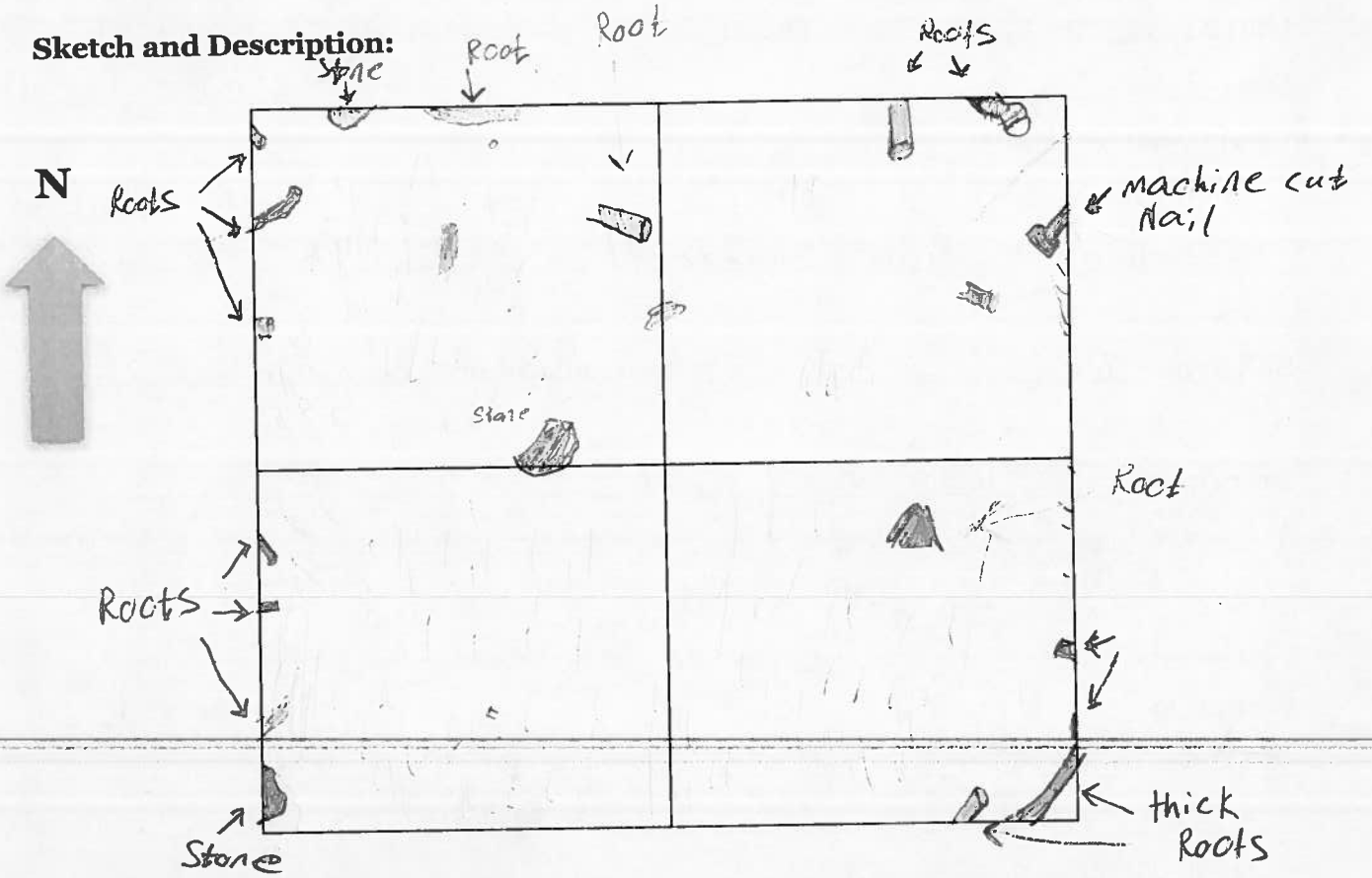
Glass : 13 : clear glass, smudged or chipped.
Carbon : 58 : Small, black Pieces of burned material.
Wire Nail : 3 : small circular nail, skiany Point.
machine-cut Nail: 1 : Box/Square shape Head and body, thick
Yellow brick: 2 : flat Yellow Stones distinctly cut.
mortar : 12 : Pale chunks of stones, made of one rock type.
unknown : 5 : Similar to yellow brick, not clear cut, rugged
Sand Stone : 10 : Sandy rock with orange or pale color
Concreate : 1 : hard gray color, flat in natature.
Unknown : 8 : Black or gray colored odd shaped stones
: :
: :

Special Samples:

Mineral Stone: Geological artifact, Contains Shiny quart crystals
:
:

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:



This layer was comprised of majorly of pieces of clay at various depts across the unit. as well as a sandy loam soil that made up most of our top humis-layer. Small stones were found buried throughout the unit, most prominant in the North east and South eastern quadrents. A high volume of roots were encountered at all areas, thick roots found in the North East corner and South East corner. Root hairs present across entire level one. Top halves of Stones present in North and East walls. Most noteable is the sight of the head and mid section of another machine cut nail, lodged into our North Eastern wall of the unit.

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: 155ft **E:** 30ft **Level:** 2 **Excavators:** Akiela Carlton, Michael Berra

Size: 1m x 1M

Elevations: SW stake: 228.18 ft.

Initial: NW: 228.18ft **NE:** 228.165 **SW:** 228.18ft **SE:** 228.144

Ending: NW: 227.914 **NE:** 227.92 **SW:** 227.95 **SE:** 227.993

-.27 -.26 -.23 -.187

Soil Type: Sandy Clay **Munsell Color:** 3/3 10YR

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: Not only the level is of darker soil but we appear to be dealing with excess water due to recent rains. At the end of the level more sandier soil is present and seem to be mixing with the clay soil.

Contents: **# of bags:** 3

Charcoal/Carbon	74	Black and shiny and quite fragile. in various sizes
Nails/Screws	14	all are rusted and of various sizes: one at least 5inches long.
Wood	157	Dark on inside with a charred bark. Quite fragile
Glass	32	consists of small to large pieces that are cracked or curved
Sandstone	3	1 big one with 2 smaller ones yet all are orange-red
Board clipper	1	rusted beyond use and may not be from Old Main
Nail with wood	1	Bent nail attach to burnt wood. Nail itself is rusty.
Brick	135	various pieces of red and yellow brick in different sizes.
Mortar	198	various broken pieces from tiny to large.
Cloth	3	Very dirty in its state but is quite large for being burnt
Ceramic	1	Off white, cracked, and small
Unknown	7	small except for one, maybe fragile material

Special Samples:

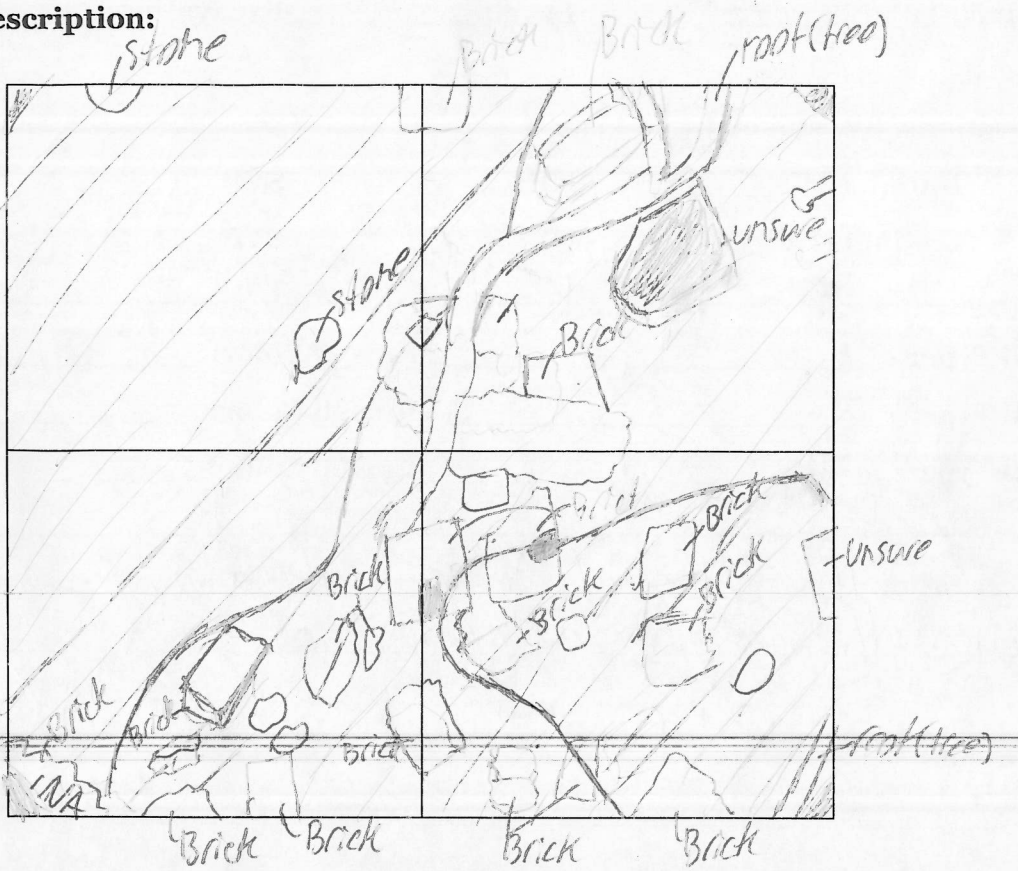
Graphite	Not native in Michigan so moved through culturally means
Mineral	Dirty but shows its color of black and silver

Initial NW: 19.5cm x .001 Initial NE: 19.4cm almost .095 Initial SE: 21.4cm ? Initial SW: 19cm x .059

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

N

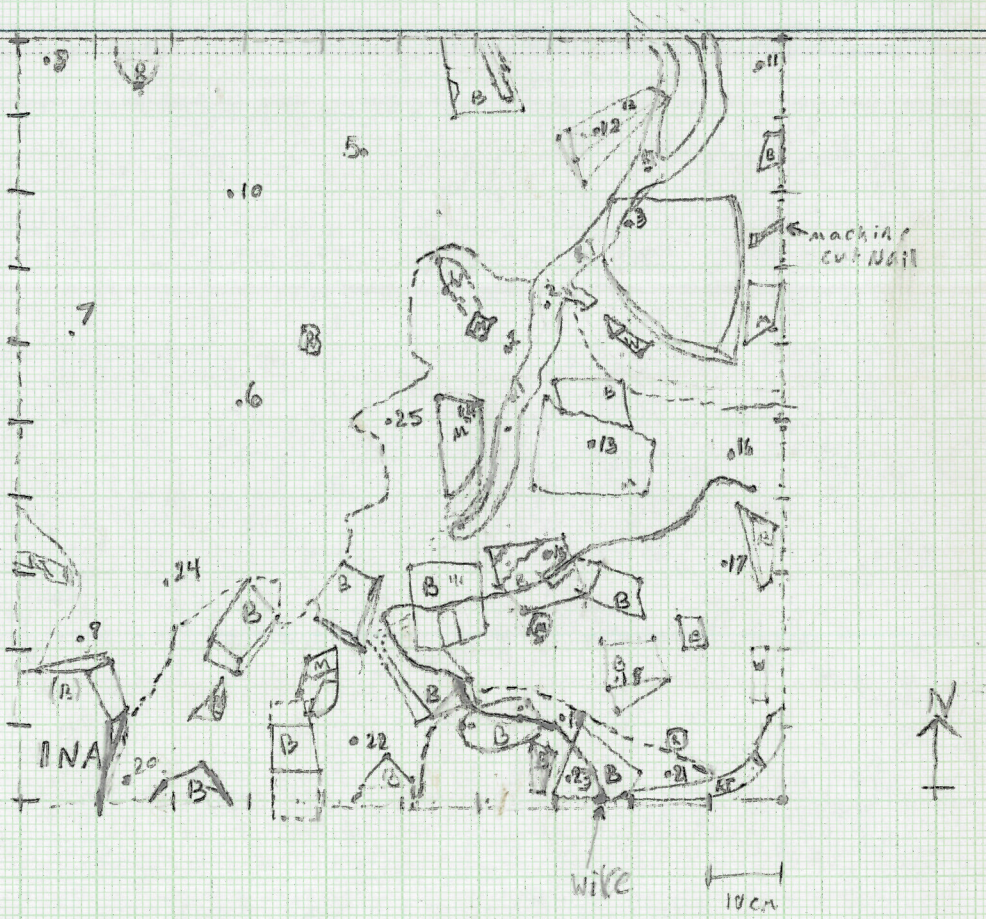


To be blunt, we essentially uncovered a glorious "brick mine" in the level and appears to be shooting more pieces every time we dig or brush a small area. Of course, there's an ample supply of mortar to go with these bricks and they seem to be in one piece. It adds to the large root that grew across the site. The soil is also more sandier and clay like but still maintains some humus like features. More burnt wood have been consistencally found in larger pieces thus adding to our diversity of artifacts.

height

1. 21.5cm = 227.965
2. 18.4cm = 227.996
3. 30.2 cm = 227.874
4. 18.5cm = 227.995
5. 30.9cm = 227.871
6. 30.0cm = 227.880
7. 27.1cm = 227.909
8. 27.4cm = 227.906
9. 27.5cm = 227.905
10. 29.7cm = 227.883
11. 23.6cm = 227.944
12. 18.2 cm = 227.998
13. 21.6cm = 227.964
14. 19.5cm = 227.985
15. 15.0cm = 228.000
16. 20.4cm = 227.976
17. 20.8cm = 227.972
18. 20.5cm = 227.975
19. 31.0 cm = 227.870
20. 23.3cm = 227.947
21. 25.5cm = 227.925
22. 25.7cm = 227.923
23. 27.9cm = 227.901
24. 29.3cm = 227.887
25. 22.1cm = 227.959

20GR334
N-155 E30
End level 2
begining level 3
Feature #1
05/17/2018
Michael Berra
&
Akiela Carlton



W = Wood
M = mortar
B = Brick
RT = Root
R = Rock

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Unit N: -155 **E:** 30 **Level:** 3 **Excavators:** Michael Bella, Akiela Carlton

Size: 1m x 1m

Elevations: SW stake: _____

Initial: NW: 228.168 **NE:** 228.163 **SW:** 228.18 **SE:** 228.144

Ending: NW: 227.912 **NE:** 227.894 **SW:** 227.953 **SE:** 227.92

Soil Type: Sandy Clay **Munsell Color:** 3/3 10YR

Soil Type: Clay loam **Munsell Color:** 4/3 10YR

Soil Type: _____ **Munsell Color:** _____

Description: Soil surrounding feature feels exceptionally sandy and gritty, soil in areas without features is more smooth with slight sandy feel. all have clay like composition.

Contents: **# of bags:** _____

Glass	34	most clear or greenish, most flat style
Carbon	85	small chalk fragments, charcoal or wood slivers
Wood	38	Bark on one side, brittle and damp
Yellow brick	113	Pale large and small bricks (7 large brick pie
Red brick	8	Small red/pink colored brick pieces
Nail wire cut	1	Small circular head, thin body.
Nail unknown	1	Bulky but too corroded to tell figure.
Mortar light color	114	large and small, pale, sandy stones.
Mortar dark color	24	Gray/Black colored mortar s
Bone	4	curved tan colored bone pieces, fit togethe

Special Samples:

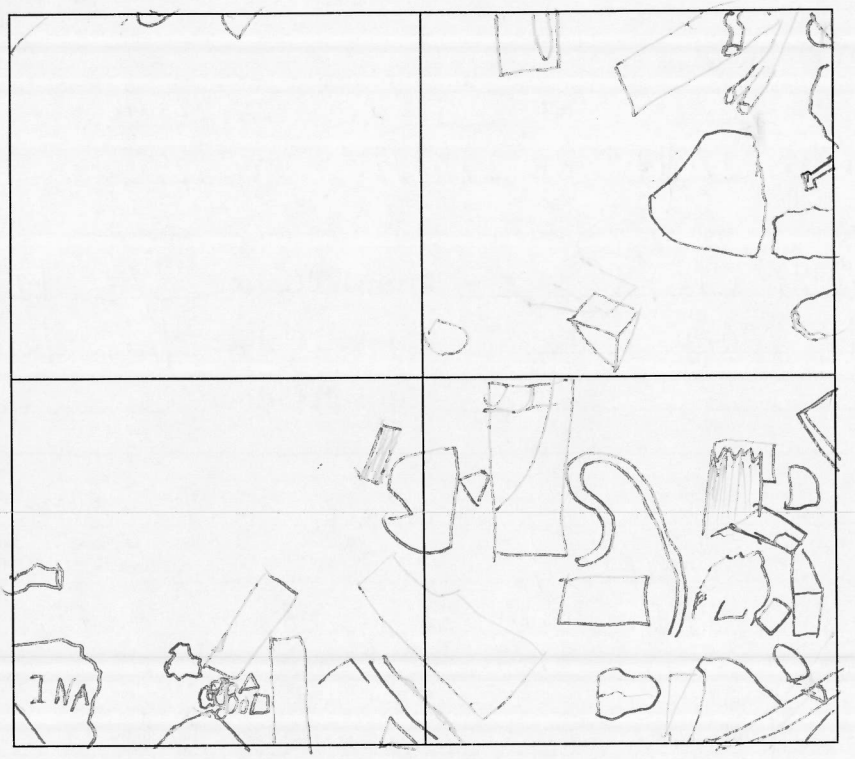
metal clip: _____

_____: _____

Alma College Archaeological Project – Old Main 2018

Sketch and Description:

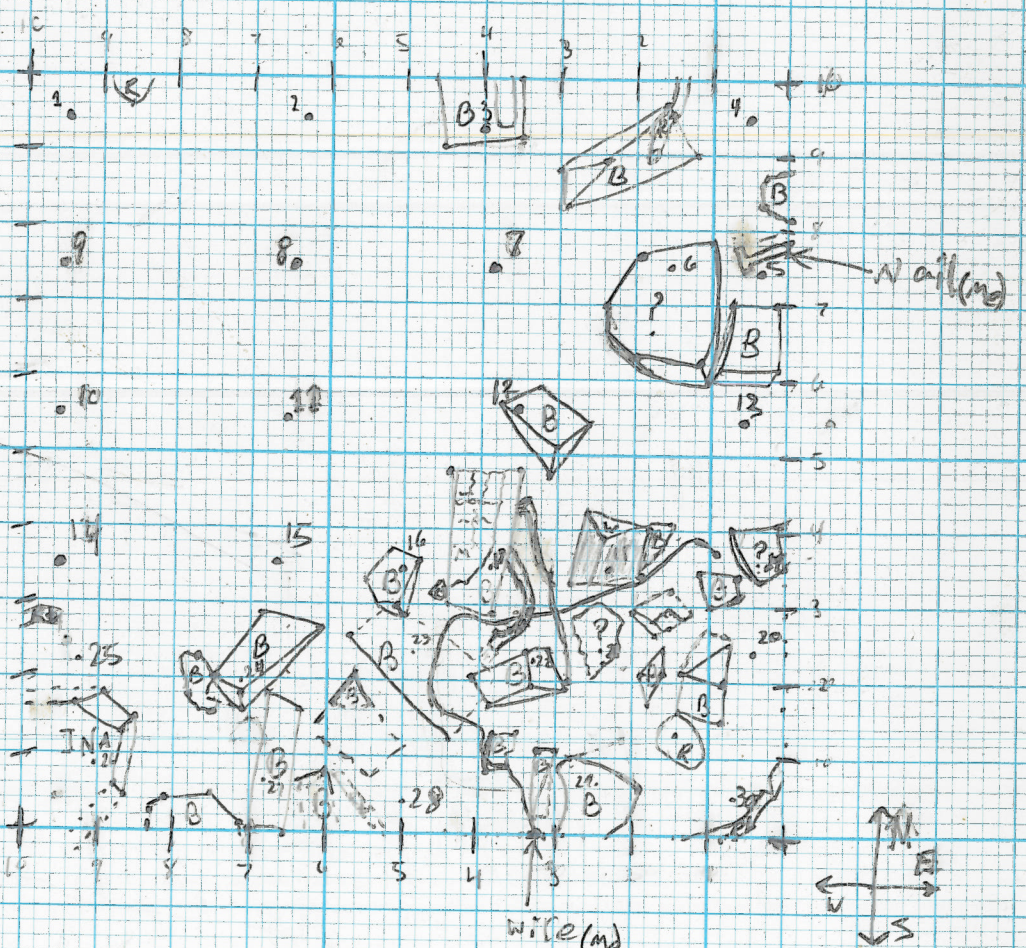
N



Feature of artifacts runs in a circular orientation moving from North East to South East and then to South West quadrants. Clay / Marble Soil present throughout Unit. Most nail artifacts found in the South West region of the Pit. Much glass was discovered in the South Eastern and Middle cross section of the entire Unit. Many Carbon and Chate Wood Pieces were discovered throughout the Unit but largest Samples were found slightly north, west, and east of central location of the pit.

1.) 26.8 = 227.912
2.) 30.9 = 227.871
3.) 25.4 = 227.996
4.) 28.6 = 227.894
5.) 29.0 = 227.800
6.) 23.2 = 227.928
7.) 30.1 = 227.879
8.) 29.8 = 227.882
9.) 27.6 = 227.904
10.) 28.8 = 227.892
11.) 30.4 = 227.876
12.) 25.0 = 227.930
13.) 29.6 = 227.884
14.) 28.6 = 227.894
15.) 29.7 = 227.883
16.) 23.6 = 227.944
17.) 25.9 = 227.921
18.) 23.1 = 227.929
19.) 17.8 = 228.002
20.) 25.5 = 227.925
21.) 26.3 = 227.917
22.) 23.3 = 227.947
23.) 30.6 = 227.874
24.) 23.4 = 227.946
25.) 27.6 = 227.904
26.) 22.7 = 227.953
27.) 22.3 = 227.957
28.) 24.5 = 227.935
29.) 28.2 = 227.898
30.) 25.6 = 227.924

20GR334
N-155 E 30
level 3
Feature 2
05/21/2018
Michael Berra
&
Akiela Carlton

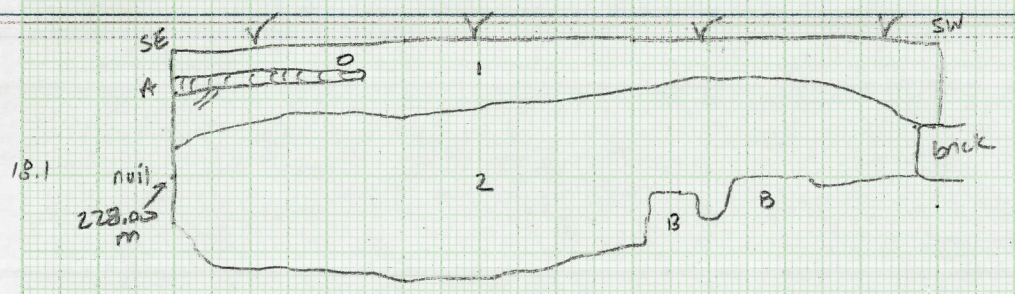


Mortar = M
Brick = Br
Root = Rt
Wood = W
Rock = R
Metal = Me

N-155
E 30
west section

humus
marble
red sand

south section



1) humus - sandy loam to loam 10YR 2/2 - lots of roots large and small; small rocks

2) clay loam 10 YR 3/3 - marbled with small bits of clay mixed in as well - cultural layer with many larger artifacts

3) sandy clay/ clay loam 10YR 4/3 - redder soil that felt/looked sandy, but smooth upon inspection - possible dolded to even out area - sandy texture

20GR334 N-155 E 30
5/22/18 Mike + Alicia
Bottom of Level 3
west + south profiles
Drawing by KVL