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A TEST EXCAVATION OF THE HOLLYWOOD MOUND (9 Ri 1), GEORGIA

CLEMENS DE BAILLOU

Abstract

Test excavations were carried out at the Hollywood Site (9 Ri 1), Richmond County Georgia, during the summer of 1965. A seventy-foot long trench, excavated into the southwest side of Mound "A", revealed a thick layer of post-aboriginal alluvium which covers the flanks of the mound and the probable village area round it. Toward the inner portion of the mound, the slopes and slump zones of two construction stages were found. Ceramics from this test consisted primarily of plain surfaced and *Savannah Check Stamped* sherds. Two ten-foot test squares also were excavated at the site of the smaller Mound "B", previously explored by Henry Reynolds in 1891. Here, five feet of modern-day sediments were again found to cover the aboriginal occupation surface, and it is indicated that undisturbed portions of this mound are still present. Further excavations at both mounds and in the probable village area are recommended, but these would entail the removal of a large amount of sterile overburden.

This brief test excavation carried out by the Augusta Museum in the summer of 1965 was made possible by a grant received from the Porter Fleming Foundation in Augusta. Free labor was provided by the Youth Development Center and the Archaeology Club of Butler High School under the capable leadership of Mr. Harold Johnston. We wish to thank, especially, Miss Katherine Swanberg who was our most able field assistant and archaeologist.

The purpose of this excavation was to investigate the site of the Hollywood mounds, first reported by Cyrus Thomas in 1894 (See Appendix A). Many archaeologists thought that the "burial mound" was totally excavated and that the platform mound would not yield any new information, inasmuch as the Savannah River had probably washed away most of the original structure. Others, however, expected to find a thick cover of sediments, and they believed that the bases of both mounds still existed below the present surface. It is known that the remainder of the "burial mound", as well as the platform mound, was damaged by the construction of buildings more than 100 years ago. The old settlement called Hollywood was a "whistle stop" for a railroad long vanished, and the fields have been under intensive cultivation for many years. Cyrus Thomas' excavation of the "burial mound" yielded very striking objects of pottery, as well as beads, embossed copper, effigy pipes, all indicating a connection with a religious cult belonging to the Late Mississippian Period. The Thomas report mentions more than 10 burials which yielded these significant objects. Therefore, Hollywood was considered by several people as possibly the most eastern center and outpost of

Mississippian ceremonialism, known as the "Southern Cult", of which we find frequent traces even in the coastal area.

We felt it our task to examine these issues and decided on a small test excavation. In order to carry this out, we obtained exclusive permission to dig in this area. This was kindly granted by Mr. Raymond Floyd and the Lee Murray Real Estate Company.

TOPOGRAPHY

The Hollywood mounds are located in the widespread flood plain of the Savannah River. The plain varies in width from four to five miles. The Savannah River meanders through the plain changing its course frequently. Old river beds, cut-offs, and oxbows are found everywhere.

The river, flowing south, turns northeast and south again, thus forming a peninsula on which the mounds are located. To the west of the mounds, there is an old oxbow which is cut off from the present stream. To the northeast and east, the terrain is appreciably lower. All of this indicates that the river has changed its course and that the mounds originally stood nearer the river bank. Facing east, they dominated a considerable stretch of plain to the north and south. Here we would expect to find a village midden contemporary with the mounds. Unfortunately, we were unable to test this area due to the presence of crops.

As a result of deforestation in the past 150 years, increased river flooding has also increased the sedimentation in the valley. This was clearly indicated in our stratigraphy, and was confirmed by a geologist specializing in sedimentary geology.

EXCAVATIONS

On June 7, 1965 we began our excavations by sinking two ten-foot squares at the site of the "burial mound." We knew that the upper part of this mound had been bulldozed by Mr. Floyd several years ago, but seeing a slight elevation we placed the two test pits where he hoped to find the edge of the mound. A later paragraph will describe this work in more detail. This limited test showed that we succeeded in finding the foot of the mound, still undisturbed.

PLATFORM MOUND—MOUND "A"

After our work at Mound "B", we decided to run a ten-foot wide trench into the southwest side of the platform mound, starting in the field more than 80 feet away from the center of the mound. At the end, our trench measured 70 feet long by 10 feet wide.

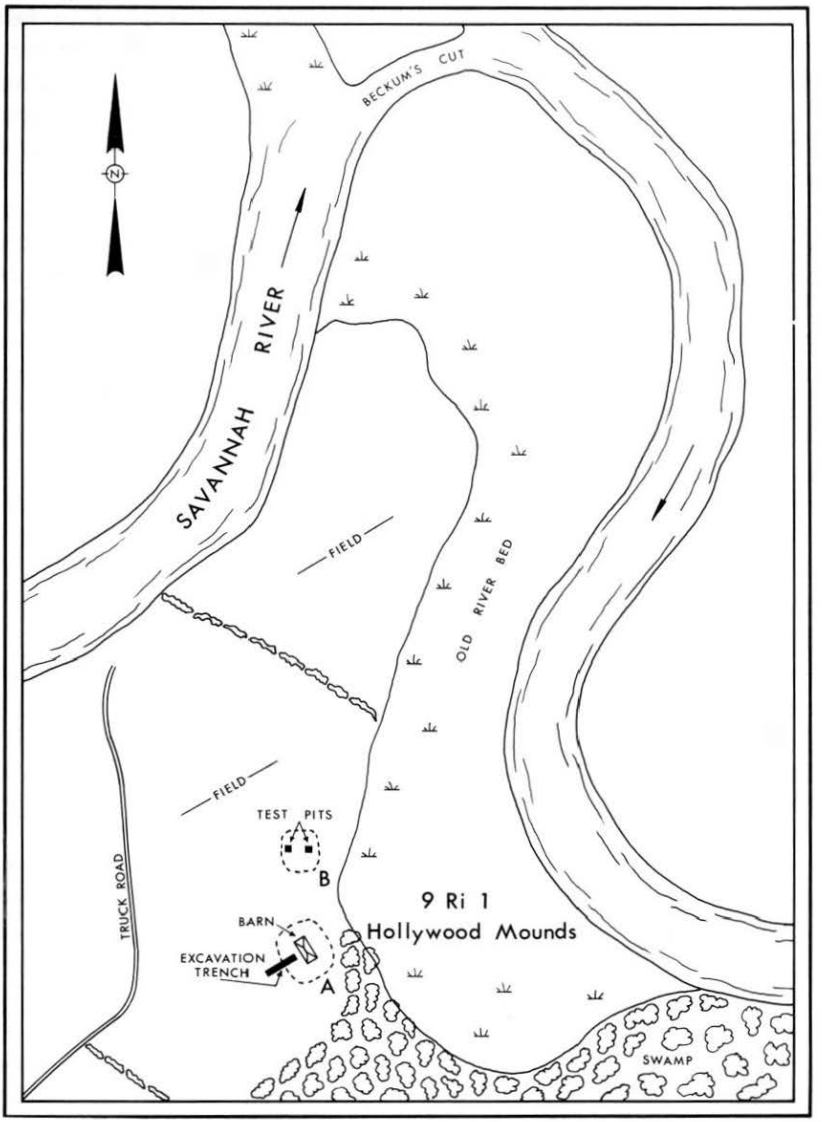


Fig. 1. Map of the Hollywood mounds.

We found that the platform mound is oriented more or less with its corners towards the cardinal points. A 70-foot long barn presently sits on the platform mound and matches its original orientation. Since the pillars of this barn are resting on heavy concrete blocks at 9½ to 10-foot intervals, we used them as a base line and designated the center block 1000R1000.

The surface of the field is archaeologically sterile. In our excavation no cultural material was found in the plow zone. It was not until we had reached a depth of 36 to 48 inches that we began to find small pieces of chinaware, iron, glass fragments, and bricks. Maintaining this level, we moved toward the mound and found more late cultural material, indicating that the area of the mound had been used as a building site during the 19th-century. On the slope of the mound many bricks were found at a depth of 6 to 10 inches. We had these examined by Mr. Douglas Cone, a chemist of the Merry Brothers Brick Company, who identified them as early 19th century, typical for this area.[1] As we carried our excavation deeper we encountered at a depth of approximately five feet the first cultural layer that could be referred to as an Indian occupation. The stratigraphy shows that we have a great many

TABLE I

Distribution of Pottery by Surface Finish from All Locations

Surface Finish	*Number*	*Per Cent*
Savannah Checked	2212	41.10
Plain	2053	38.15
Savannah Complicated	749	13.91
Roughened	193	3.58
Fabric Impressed	66	1.22
Reed Decorated	55	1.02
Cordmarked	21	.39
Scratched Line	8	.16
Lineblock	7	.14
Etowah	6	.12
Fingernail	5	.09
Simple Stamp	4	.08
Linear Checked	2	.04
Total	5381	100.00

1. Mr. Ernest Merry and Mr. D. L. Nowell concurred on the following information about the brick furnished.
It is a hand moulded, top struck, "pink-burning" mud brick made of material found in filled-in river beds between Augusta and Allendale, S. C. The bricks were sun dried and laid in form to make a kiln for burning with wood slabs. This particular brick could have been laid in the kiln walls, as the temperature attained was relatively low and its resistance to erosion relatively poor. The unit is probably 100 to 150 years old (probably nearest the 150 years date).

layers overlapping and of various origins, and it will take some time to clarify this extremely confusing situation. Most surprising to us was a layer of coarse black sand which was found along the lower part of the mound slope. It was hard to explain, until we learned that an earlier farmer had brought in this sand by the truck loads in order to keep his cattle yard dry during the wet season. We also found that slump dirt and erosional material coming from the mound had become intermingled with river sediments deposited by many floods. Since we found in the beginning that the base of the mound is actually covered by approximately 5 feet of river sediments, we moved further up its slope. Here we found a very black charcoal-containing midden layer that must have formed a late mound surface. This indicated an extensive use of fire, or that some of the late structures were consumed by fire. We were unable to locate any postmold patterns on the slope of the mound or at the bottom of the trench which exposed the earlier occupation layers. Some discolorations in the dirt may have indicated postmolds, but most of these could be tied in with post-aboriginal disturbances.

The stratigraphy deliniated three main cultural layers, separated by thin flood layers. At a depth of about 50", the first Indian pottery occurred together with late cultural material such as glass, chinaware, trade pipe stems, and iron. At about 58", the next cultural layer produced almost entirely aboriginal material, except for kaolin trade pipe stems. The third cutural layer seemed to be entirely prehistoric containing no trade items. In different parts of our trench these layers did not occur at the same depths. Late sedimentation was greatest in the field away from the mound and thinned out along the slopes of the mound. There was none on top of the mound.

Plain surfaced pottery was a very common type (38.15%), however, many of these potsherds could have belonged to other types of decorated vessels. The most abundant pottery type was *Savannah Check Stamped* (41.1%), while *Savannah Complicated Stamped* (13.91%) accounted for a surprising small per cent (See Table I). We do not wish to draw here too definite conclusions from results of one test trench, however, we would be surprised if this proportion of pottery types was not typical. Other pottery types were represented, but most of them in very small quantities. Linear Check Stamped, Simple Stamped, and Fabric Impressed types occurred primarily in the lower levels. Line-block and even some Etowah types were also found. Complicated Stamped pieces

with decorations or with rosettes along the rims are definitely characteristic of this area. A moderate amount of cordmarked pottery also appeared at various levels. In the lower zone, we found several Indian clay pipe fragments and one part of a zoomorphic effigy, probably a bear (Plate VI, *a*). An unusual number of sharpening tools were found. Most of them were made of stone, but a few were made from pottery fragments (Plate III, *g* and *h*).

TABLE II

Distribution of Plain, Savannah Check Stamped, and Savannah Complicated Stamped Pottery from Mound "A" Excavation

Location	*Plain*	*Savannah Check Stamped*	*Savannah Complicated Stamped*	*Total*
Square 940 & 950				
50-60"	494	337	318	1149
60-75"	443	710	112	1265
Square 960				
32-48"	46	32	47	125
48-58"	133	71	131	335
58-64"	65	94	11	170
Square 970				
10-20"	51	11	25	87
20-35"	11	4	4	19
35-48"	10	10	11	31
48-56"	53	107	49	209
56-64"	5	11	1	17
64-73"	23	29	5	57
73-90"	40	96	5	141
Total	1374	1512	719	3605

At the foot of the mound below two rich layers of midden, we found our first burial. It seems to be rather typical for this kind of platform mound to contain scattered burials, often along the periphery. The burials which we found were in very poor condition. The first burial seemed to be in a flexed position facing east. The age and sex were not determined, and no furnishings were in association. A small triangular projectile point was found near the burial, but cannot be definitely assigned to it. Three feet away, on a higher level, another burial was found. This was no more than a pit filled with dark material which included two human teeth. In probable association with this burial were a

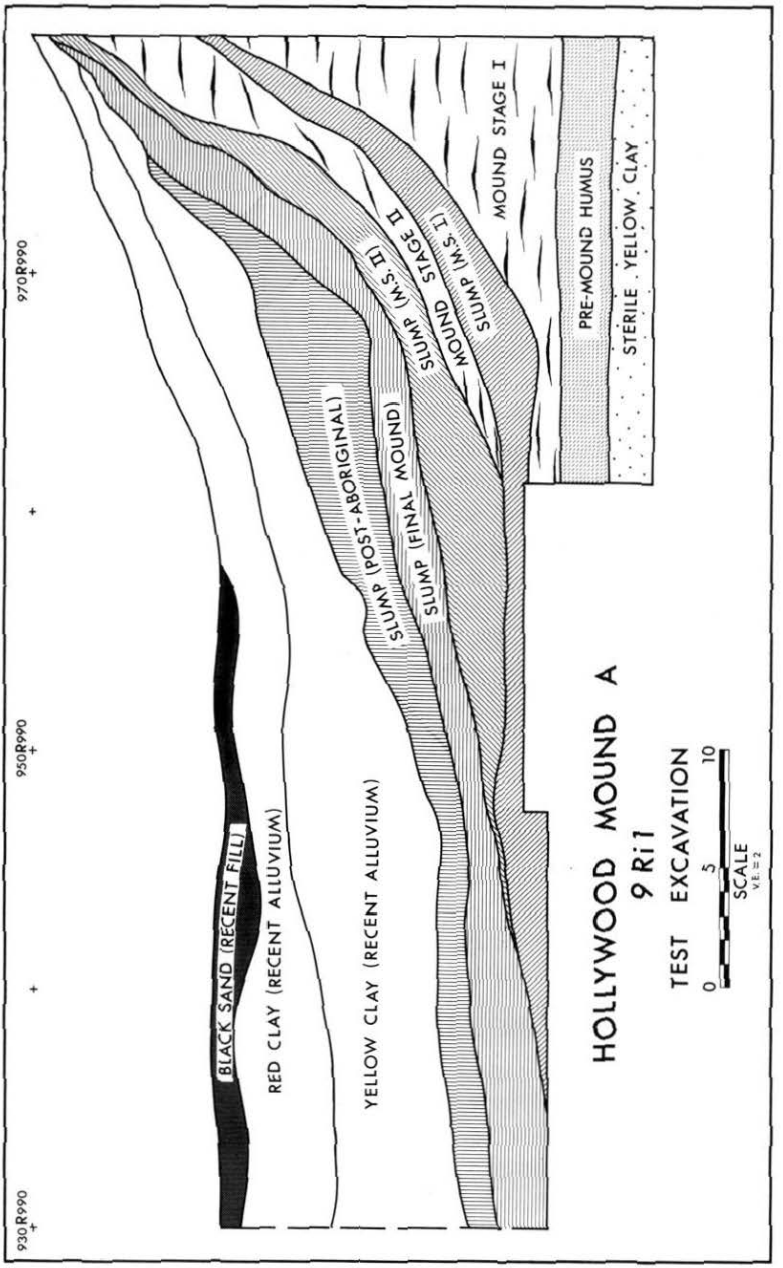


Fig. 2. Profile of the excavated trench at Hollywood Mound "A".

broken mortar and some unworked stones. A third possible burial was found on the upper level near the crest of the mound, practically open to the surface, and probably exposed as a result of the various constructions in recent years. The shape of this pit and the lack of any cultural material usually found in trash pits would suggest that it was used for a burial, but no human remains were found in it.

As our trench reached the point where the inner mound was exposed, we discovered that we had struck the edge of an even earlier mound phase. That means that the core mound, as well as certain later mound structures, were only half the diameter of the structure as it appears today. The profile exposed by the wall of our trench will show this (Figure 2). This profile was 10 feet deep, reaching from the summit of the present mound to the pre-mound occupation level. Since we were troubled and delayed by sudden high flood water, which filled our trench almost to the top, we were unable to go much deeper, even after the water had retreated. Our work to this point, however, had given us especially good information on the nature of the mound structure with its many layers of construction, and we thought it sufficient for a test excavation. We also were forced to fill in the trench, the bottom of which we marked by using material which will indicate a new fill. Our excavation was carried to the probable pre-occupation level in three five-foot squares.

The question whether there could be an earlier occupation covered with large deposits of river silt still remains. We do not think, however, that an earlier occupation will be found because the whole basin has been frequently changed by erosion and sedimentation. We are inclined to believe that if there was any earlier occupation, it would have been washed away by floods.

"BURIAL MOUND"—MOUND "B"

This mound was excavated by Henry Reynolds (for Cyrus Thomas) in 1891 and bulldozed by a recent owner of the farm. We sank two ten-foot test squares at a point where we hoped to find the base of the mound. We believe that we succeeded in reaching undisturbed mound fill at a depth of 5 feet, the same depth as the sediments covering the flanks of Mound "A". At a level of six feet, we found cultural material which may belong to a pre-mound level. In the upper levels we again found late cultural materials relating to buildings that had been erected during the past century. We know from his report that Reynolds

found a number of burials but his description of the mound clearly indicates that its primary function was that of a temple platform similar to Mound "A". The grave contents proved very interesting and are in the possession of the Smithsonian Institution. One Complicated Stamped pot (Plate VIII) with reed decoration at the rim, as well as fragments of imported chinaware were found in the upper level. A painted water bottle with a cross and sun motif, another water bottle with three faces, an engraved flat bottom pot, various shell beads, a zoomorphic clay pipe (Plate VII, 3), and a fine piece of embossed copper were found in the lower levels. From these we may infer a highly developed Mississippian-tyle culture.

As a result of this test excavation, we would suggest further excavation be carried out on Mound "B", as well as Mound "A". We can be reasonably sure that the edges of this mound are actually intact and would yield more burials and cultural material. The basic stratigraphy seemed to be similar, as far as sediment is concerned, to Mound "A". Also it would seem worthwhile to investigate the presumed village site, which should be found between the mounds and extending primarily to the West. Most likely one could expect to find an undisturbed midden under the thick layer of sediments. But such an excavation would require the free use of the land now under cultivation and enough space to dispose of slack dirt. Heavy earthmoving equipment could be safely employed after proper testing of the ground, and by this method a large area could be exposed.

Augusta Museum
Augusta, Georgia

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT ON CERAMICS FROM THE HOLLYWOOD AND THE TOWN CREEK MOUNDS

J. JEFFERSON REID

Abstract

This brief comparison of ceramics from the Hollywood mounds with ceramics from the Town Creek mound in North Carolina emphasizes similarities in the physical appearance of the pottery and in the presence of an urn-burial complex at both sites. Material from upper levels at the Hollywood mounds is described as showing striking resemblances to the material from Town Creek. The Lower levels at Hollywood possess "Southern Cult" material not duplicated at Town Creek, where "Southern Cult" influence is minor.

There are notable similarities between the ceramics of the Hollywood Mounds and the mound at Town Creek, North Carolina, and despite the limitations of an extremely small sample of 43 potsherds from Hollywood studied by the author, it is readily apparent that these similarities are not accidental but show a cultural relationship. Unfortunately, the meaning of this relationship is still not clear. This small Hollywood sample combined with an incomplete analysis of Town Creek ceramics restrict present discussion to a decription of similarities drawn primarily from the physical appearance of the pottery.

Town Creek is in the south central Piedmont of North Carolina in Montgomery County. The mound is the dominant feature of a palisaded ceremonial precinct and village situated on the west bank of Little River above its junction with Big Town Creek. This site functioned as the major ceremonial center for satellite villages within a radius of about 30 miles. The Leak Site is one of these villages on the Pee Dee River about 10 miles southwest of Town Creek. The people of the Pee Dee Culture constructed the ceremonial center and comprised the major prehistoric occupation of this area from around A.D. 1550 to 1650 (Coe 1952: 308-309). Although their culture was unique to the region, only one aspect of the material culture, Pee Dee ceramics from the mound, is currently under consideration.

The most striking similarity between the pottery from Hollywood and Town Creek is the decorative application of nodes and punctations to the rim. Specifically, this treatment consists of nodes riveted to the vessel with a reed impression in the center. One or two rows of punctations circle the node and continue along the rim below the lip linking all nodes in a decorative band. Punctations are made by solid and hollow reeds, and in our Holly-

PLATE I
View of Hollywood Mound "A" looking east.

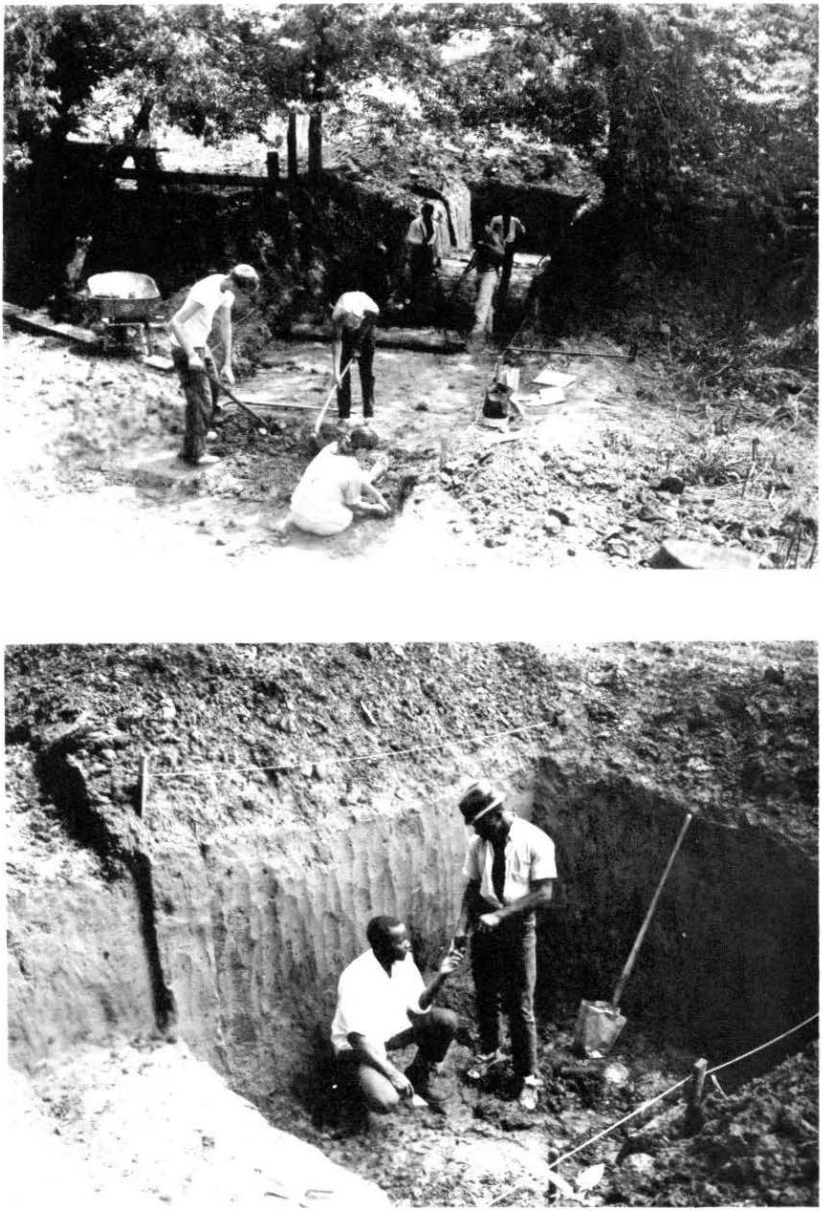


PLATE II
Excavation of trench at Mound "A". Note depth of recent silt in lower photograph.

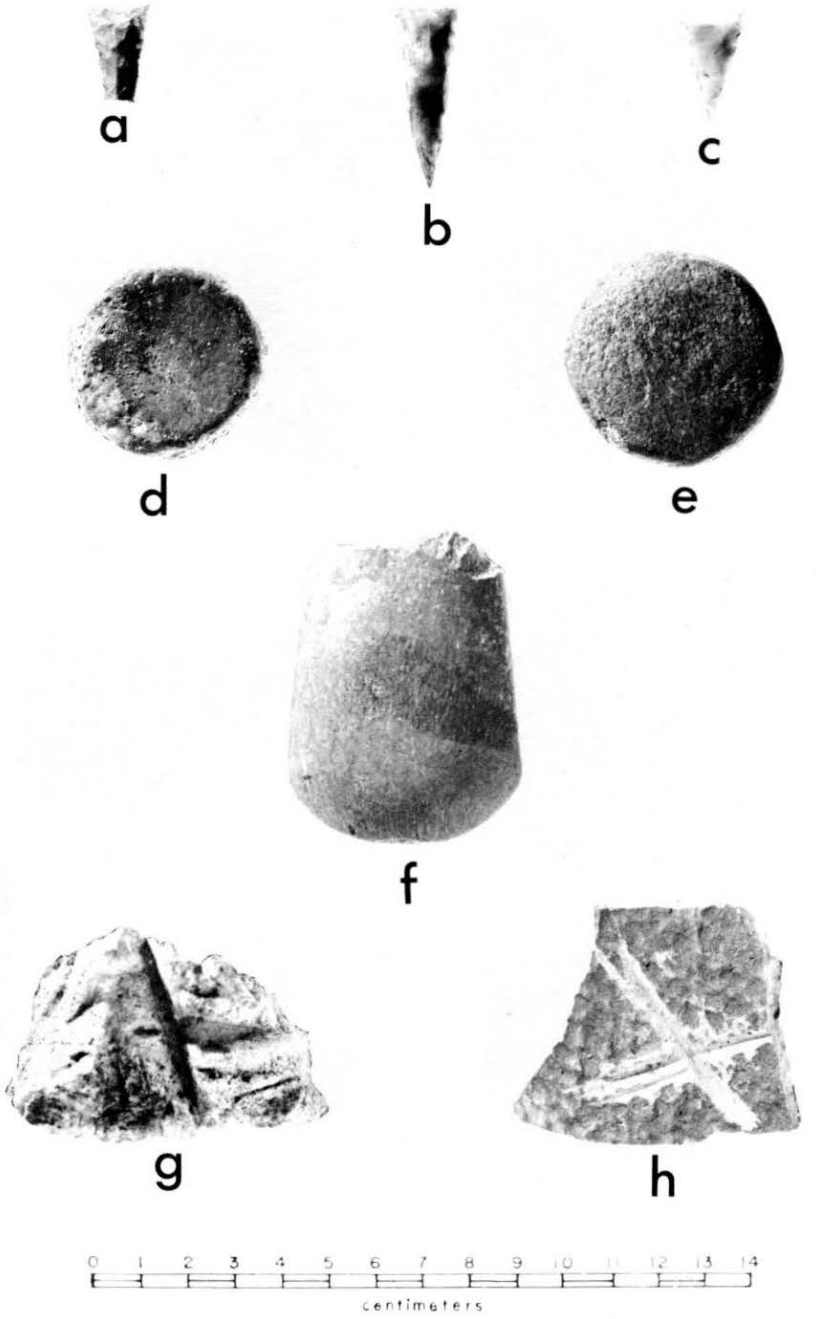


PLATE III
Artifacts from Hollywood Mound "A" excavation.

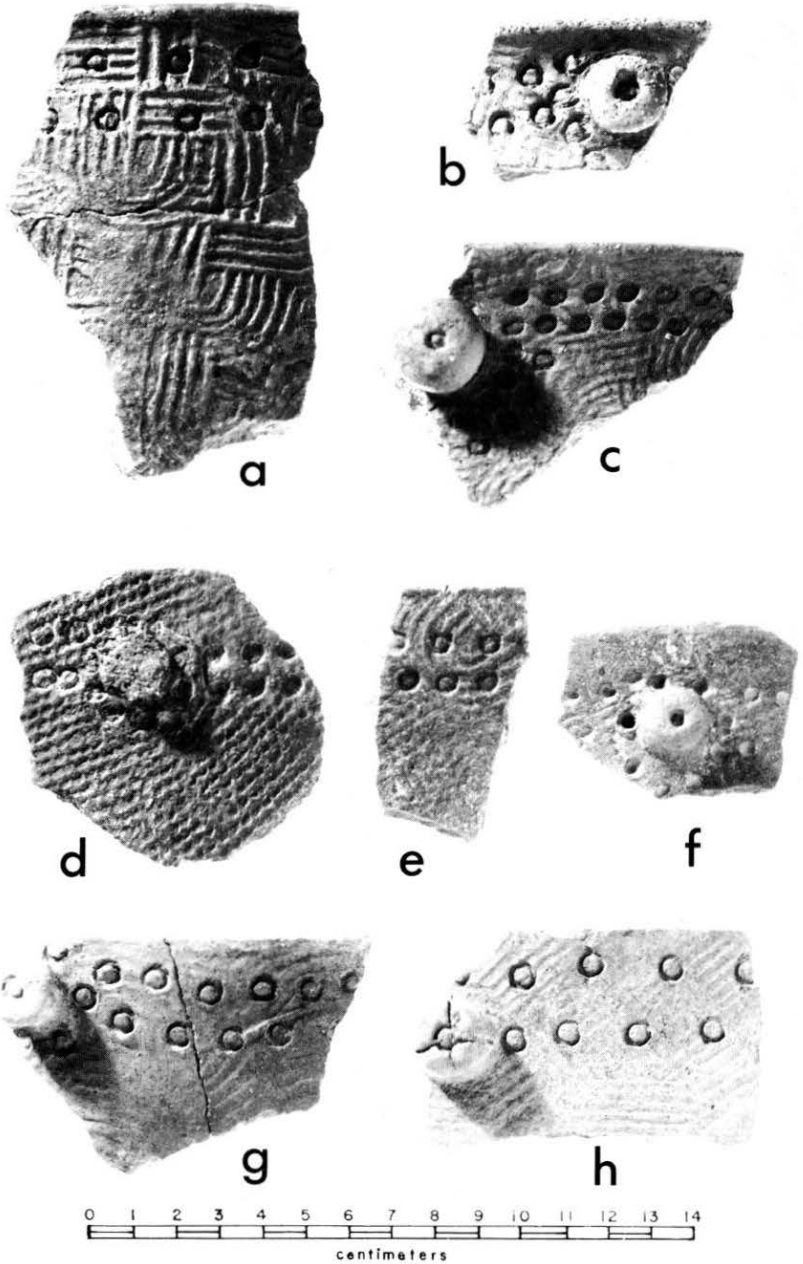


PLATE IV

Pottery from Hollywood, Fort Watson, and Town Creek, *a*, *b*, *c*. Hollywood Mound "A"; *d*, *e*, *f*. Town Creek Mound; *g*, *h*. Fort Watson Mound.

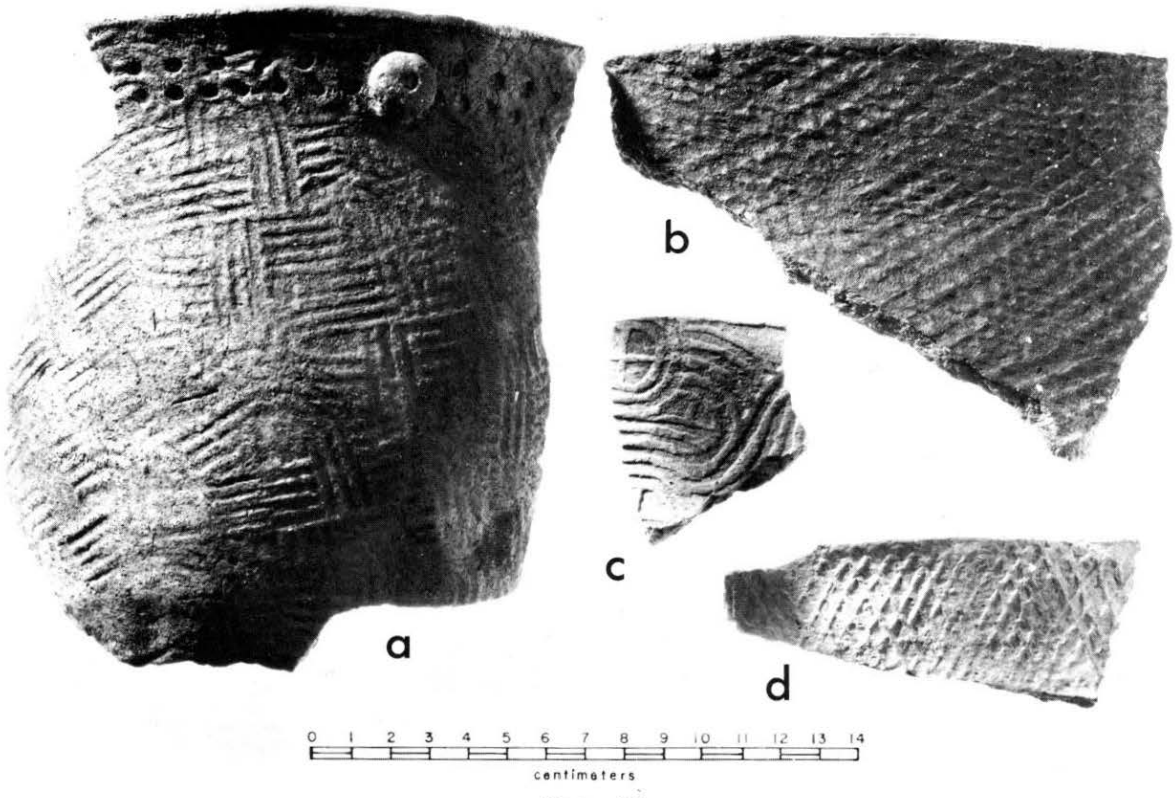


PLATE V

Pottery from Hollywood Mound "A" excavation. *b*. Sherd from the Leak Site, North Carolina.

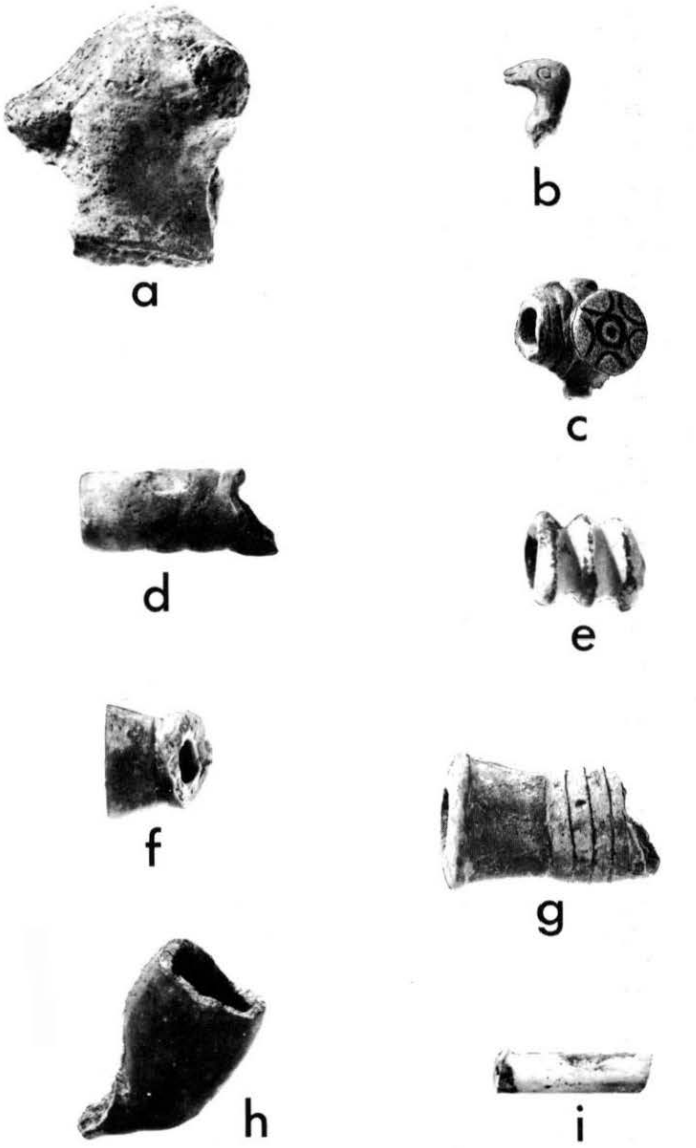
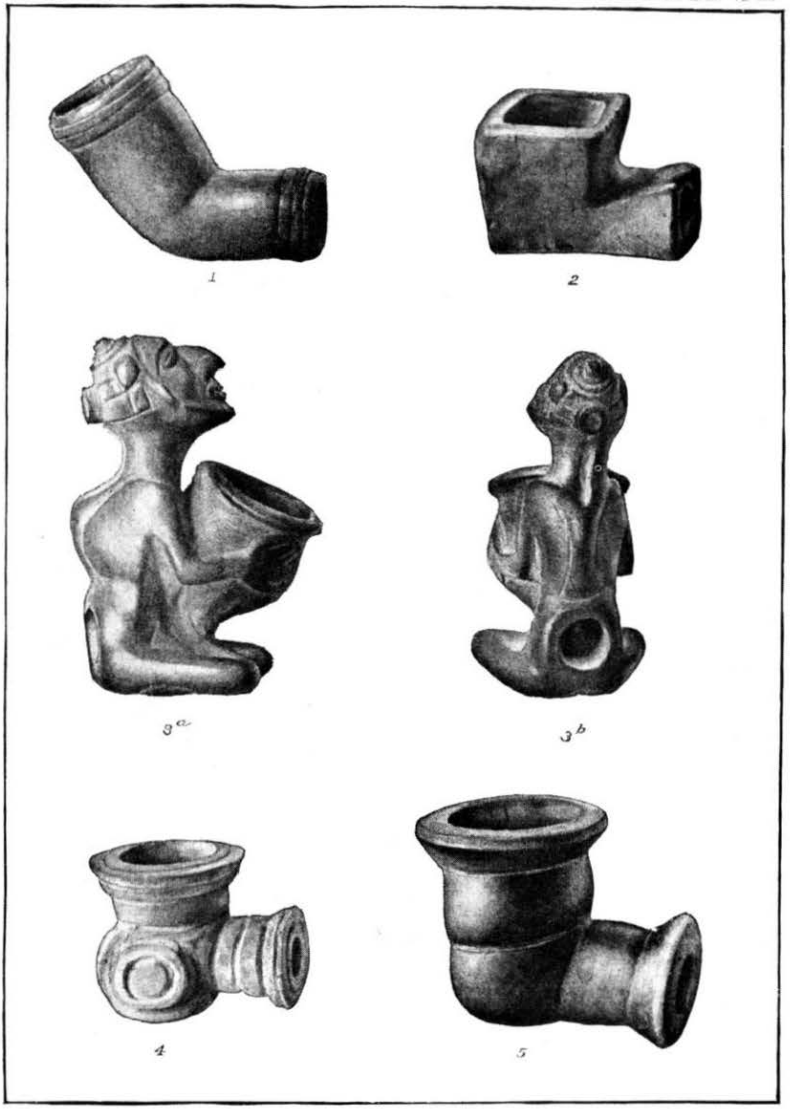


PLATE VI

Clay pipe fragments from Hollywood Mound "A" excavation. *a*. Shell-tempered pottery Effigy Head ("Bear"), Square 950R1000, Depth 72". *b*. Effigy Head from small grit-tempered bowl.



PIPES FROM HOLLYWOOD MOUND, GEORGIA.

PLATE VII

Pipes from Hollywood Mound "B", Georgia. Plate XXIV, Twelfth Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution.

PLATE VIII

Burial Urn from Hollywood Mound "B", Georgia. Plate XIX, Twelfth Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution.

wood sample they appear on vessels treated with the filfot cross and the check stamp. Aside from an isolated treatment of the lip on a sherd discussed later, nodes and punctations are the only decorative elements evident in our material from Hollywood. At Town Creek a larger body of material illustrates the use of nodes and punctations as well as rosettes, pellet appliqués, and punctations along rim fillets. Similar uses of nodes and punctations are described from the Irene Site outside of Savannah, Georgia (Caldwell and McCann 1941) and are also observed in surface collections from the Fort Watson Site on the north shore of Lake Marion, South Carolina (See Fig. 3). Representative sherds from Hollywood, Town Creek, and Fort Watson are illustrated in Plate IV.

Examples of the rim forms in our sample from Hollywood are found at Town Creek. Hollywood complicated stamped sherds exhibit a flared rim ranging from slight to moderate. The check stamp is a minority treatment at Town Creek yet is found in larger quantities in the Pee Dee component of the Leak Site. Here are found check stamped sherds nearly identical in rim form to those from Hollywood. Rims of plain sherds from Hollywood show the inversion of the cazuela form found also at Town Creek. Generally, the vessel lip from Hollywood is flat or rounded while one plain rim sherd in our sample bore a series of parallel lines along the lip. This latter treatment is observed at Town Creek where flattened and rounded lips are also typical.

Since adequate information is not present on the varieties of vessel form at the Hollywood Mound, it is useful to note a complete vessel recovered by Cyrus Thomas in his excavation of Mound "B" and shown in Plate XIX of his report (Thomas 1894: 317-326; reprinted in this volume as Plate VIII; for further illustrations from Thomas 1894 see Caldwell 1952, Fig. 174). This vessel, Thomas' pot 6, has a flared rim, unrestricted neck and a nearly vertical shoulder tapering to a round base, a general form also represented in the large vessels from Town Creek. The application of nodes and punctations and the filfot stamped design again illustrate similarities.

Surface treatment of Hollywood pottery evident in our sample includes complicated and check stamps, plain smoothed, burnished, and cordmarked. In his analysis of the Hollywood pottery, De Baillou observed that check stamped sherds comprised 41.1% of his total sample while plain sherds were 38.1%, complicated stamped 13.9%, and cordmarked .3%. A tabulation of surface treatment recorded by De Baillou from his sample is given in

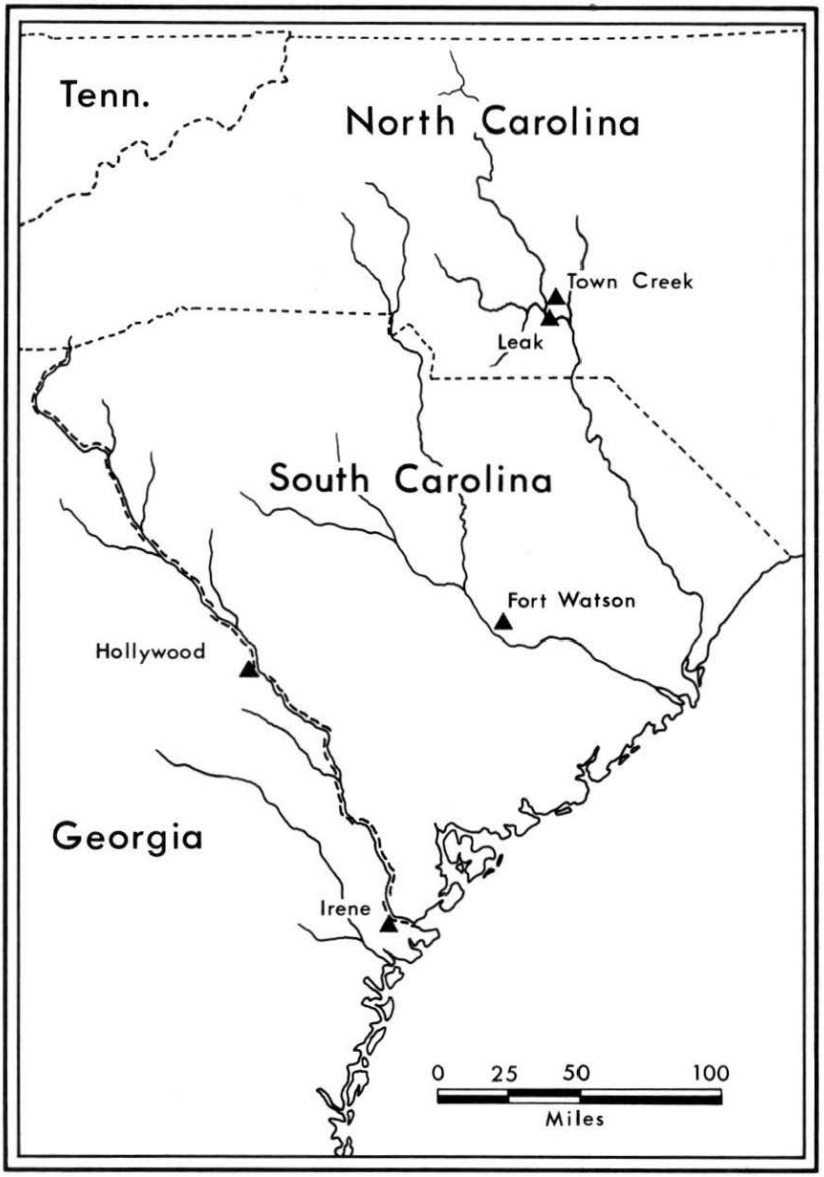


Fig. 3. Map showing the location of the Hollywood, the Fort Watson, and the Town Creek mounds.

Table I. Check stamped pottery enjoyed limited popularity at Town Creek yet appears as squares, diamonds, and linear checks as at Hollywood. A diamond check stamped sherd from the Leak Site is quite similar to that from Hollywood in the shape of the stamp and in rim form as mentioned previously. Representative rim sherds of this diamond check stamp from Hollywood and the Leak Site are shown in Plate V. Plain sherds from both mound sites are smoothed or burnished with burnished exteriors ranging from prominent, irregular tooling to a highly reflective surface showing faint tool marks. Interiors of sherds from Hollywood and Town Creek are typically smoothed or burnished. Most prevalent of the two complicated stamps in our sample from Hollywood is the filfot cross executed with definition varying from vague to well defined but generally obscured in part by overstamping. The other complicated stamp from Hollywood, a design not recognized at Town Creek, is the figure eight, a bold stamp of concentric lines forming the eight with a cross in the center of each terminal circle (Plate V, c). Four sherds with a coarse, closely wrapped cord impression in our sample from Hollywood are found to have few correlates in the material from Town Creek where cordmarked pottery is rare. When encountered, the cord is generally fine and irregular in spacing and application.

Consideration of a specific vessel use is significant in demonstrating further similarities between the two sites. At Town Creek there are found large pots used as burial urns solely for the primary interment of infants (cf. Caldwell and McCann, 1941). These urns were generally made in the same shape and treated with a complicated stamp, yet no decoration was applied (Coe 1952: 309). In each case the urn was "killed" by knocking a hole in the bottom, and it was usually sealed by inverting a bowl over the top. Evidence of this practice appears unmistakably from Cyrus Thomas' report of his work at Hollywood, although it was not recognized as such. Within Thomas' pot 3 was found an inverted pot, "decayed animal matter, a few bone beads, a fragment of the tooth of some animal and some scattering charcoal cinders" (Thomas 1894: 319). A large bowl was also found inside of pot 6 (Thomas 1894: 321), described before as typical of large Town Creek vessels. This pot also falls within the general shape of the burial urn; the only difference being in the application of nodes and punctations on pot 6, while at Town Creek, urns are undecorated. Another pot was also found within Thomas' pot 8, while within pot 1, was found "decomposed animal matter

mingled with scattered particles of black and white ashes" (Thomas 1894: 319). "Like pot 1, 6, and 8 [*sic*, a misprint which should be changed from 8 to read 3], it [pot 8] had a small hole in the bottom" (Thomas 1894: 322). These pots were "killed" in the manner of Town Creek burial urns. It seems quite evident that the burial urn complex observed at Town Creek is present at Hollywood where the presence of unidentifiable, decomposed animal matter within the vessel instead of "recognizable" human remains would tend to support their use as infant burial urns since infant remains would decay rapidly.

De Baillou's test excavation of Mound "A" and the upper level of Thomas' excavation of Mound "B" at Hollywood have produced similar ceramic materials to those found at Town Creek. The Lower levels at the Hollywood mounds contained material showing Late Mississippian or "Southern Cult" influences that are not obvious at Town Creek. Three vessels recovered by Thomas show this influence best. In the lower level of Mound "B" he found a bottle standing on a tripod of human effigy heads (Thomas 1894, Fig. 199), a bottle painted in a cross and sun motif (Thomas 1894, Fig. 200) and a beaker engraved with at least one plumed rattlesnake (Thomas 1894, Fig. 201). The serpent's eye is the conventional forked eye motif of the "Southern Cult" (Waring & Holder 1945: 2). Further information concerning these vessels is absent in Thomas' report. De Baillou recovered a shell-tempered, bear effigy (Plate VI, *a*) from Mound "A" in a lower level that would correlate in his profile with the slump of Mound I. This fragment may well be from an effigy bottle similar to that found by Thomas and demonstrates by its provenience that the core of Mound "A" (Mound I) probably contains more "cult-like" material comparable to that from the lower level of Mound "B"

"Southern Cult" or Late Mississippian influence at Town Creek is difficult to see. There are no painted or engraved designs on vessels, yet a simple cross, carved through a shell gorget might be read as a vestige of "Cult" symbolism. Shell temper plays no part in the manufacture of pottery or of the few recovered effigies. The typical Mississippian bottle-shaped vessel is also absent. One small, red-painted pot signifies the scarcity of painted vessels at this site. Most significant in postulating Town Creek's "Cult" ties are copper celts and ornaments that include copper covered, wooden ear discs. Copper celts and other copper artifacts were recovered by Thomas from the lower level in Mound "B" where they were associated with the "Cult" material.

We conclude that the ceramics from the upper levels of the Hollywood Mounds show striking similarities to the ceramics from the Town Creek Mound and that the "Southern Cult" influence at Hollywood is not evident at Town Creek where the "Cult" is seen dimly in a few remains other than ceramics. Our present knowledge is insufficient to go much beyond these statements concerning cultural relationships between these two sites, yet such correlations should be expected as more attention is focused on protohistoric cultural relationships in the Southeast.

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APPENDIX A

CYRUS THOMAS' REPORT ON THE EXCAVATION OF THE HOLLYWOOD MOUND IN RICHMOND COUNTY, GEORGIA[1]

While this report was being prepared [1891] Mr. Henry L. Reynolds, one of my assistants, was sent to certain points in Georgia and South Carolina to make examination of some works to which my attention had been called. The result of this examination is given in the following report, made by him. This includes the Hollywood mound of Richmond County, Georgia, which proved to be of unusual interest, and the McDowell mound, Kershaw County, South Carolina.

THE HOLLYWOOD MOUND

There are two mounds situated in a bend of the Savannah river, in Richmond County, Georgia, 3 miles east from Hollywood, a small flag station on the Georgia Central railroad about 10 miles below Augusta and 5 miles above Silver bluff. This latter, which is on the South Carolina side, seems to me, after a special investigation of this question, to be the most probable site of the ancient town of Cutifachiqui, where De Soto and his army were so generously entertained.

The mounds are situated on the lowest river land, which is annually subject to inundation. The overflows of the Savannah are very destructive, particularly at this point. Cattle are drowned, the rich riparian crops are destroyed, and the farmers impoverished. At such times these mounds are the only land visible above a broad expanse of water, and it is this fact which has given rise to the tradition among the people of the vicinity that they were thrown up by some former owner of the property to serve as places of refuge for his cattle during their inundations. A quarter of a mile to the north of the mounds near the river bank is an extensive shell heap, composed chiefly of the shells of *Unio*. Upon the larger of the two mounds a simple barn has been erected. This mound appears to have been originally of the pyramidal type, but since its surface has suffered so greatly from the cattle that have been penned in upon it and the washing occasioned by floods, its original character, as well as whatever

1. Extracted from the Twelfth Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution. Washington, 1894. Pages 317-326.

smaller physical features it may have presented, is now almost entirely lost.

Mound No. 2, the one excavated, is in an adjoining field, the property of a gentleman of Augusta, Georgia. It is 280 feet due north of No. 1, is conical in form, 10 feet high, and 70 feet in diameter. Though originally surmounted by a small log barn, which a former flood removed to a point at its base, the mound had evidently remained unmolested since that time, for several small cottonwood trees, as well as considerable underbrush, were growing upon it.

The excavation was conducted as follows: First two trenches, each 10 feet wide, were cut crosswise through the center, one north and south, the other east and west. These were carried down to the bottom, and in some places to the original pure micaeous soil that underlies the mixed loam of the surrounding field. The segments that remained were then cut down several feet beyond the radius that covered the interments found in the trenches. In this manner the mound was thoroughly excavated and all its buried contents exposed.

The mound is stratified, or, in other words, constituted of two different kinds of soil, the upper being strictly sandy micaceous loam, 3 feet thick; the lower a hard, compact vegetable earth, taken from what is commonly called in the south "crawfish land." This rested at the bottom upon 9 inches of a very black and rich vegetable mold, permeated throughout with innumerable small pieces of burnt pottery, charcoal, shell, mica, chipped flint, and charred and decayed bones too small for identification. The surface of this black mold appeared to be the original surface upon which the mound was built.

All the interments lay within the lower division of the mound. The absence of burial in the upper division, the different character of the earth, and the presence of fragmentary pottery (N. M.[1] 135278-84) unlike that found in the subsoil, seems to indicate a subsequent addition. It also seems to indicate that the original builders or others who succeeded them were disposed to utilize these their old tombs for some purpose in connection with floods, for this additional earth seems to have been cast upon the mound to increase its elevation.

It will also be seen from the sectional diagram that there were two general series of interments which comprise the find,

1. "N. M." in this connection signifies "National Museum" number.

or rather the important contents of the mound. The lowermost of these contained specimens either resting on the black mold at the bottom or within a foot and a half above it, and the upper from a foot to 2 feet below the line separating the two strata, or from 4 to 5 feet below the surface of the mound. Fire played some part in the ceremony of burial, for hearth remains of burnt earth and ashes were seen with each series of burials. These burials were made before the subdivision was finally completed; in other words, they were not intrustive, for there was no disturbance of the soil above them.

Scattered indiscriminately throughout the soil composing the upper division of the mound were the following articles: One stone chisel (N. M. 135271), one stone celt, eight small pieces of white and blue glazed European crockery (N. M. 135279), many small fragments of Indian ware, and five pieces of old-fashioned rudely wrought iron nails much oxidized (N. M. 135280). These appeared to have been thrown up with the earth in the constuction of this part of the mound.

In the subsoil the hearth A (Fig. 196, which shows a horizontal section) was first discovered almost touching the line of division. It was of reddish burnt earth, covered with pure wood ashes and a small quantity of charcoal. It was 5 feet in diameter, 2 feet thick, and rested at the bottom on fine sand. Adjoining it on the southeast lay a large culinary pot (N. M. 135205), indicated on the diagram (Fig. 196) as No. 1, the rim being 10 inches below the line dividing the lower from the upper strata and 3 feet 10 inches below the surface of the mound. Decomposed animal matter was found in the bottom mingled with scattered particles of black and white ashes. One foot and a half east from pot No. 1, on the same level, lay another pot, 2 (N. M. 135209), having inside of it another pot (N. M. 135208). In consequence of their inferior composition, badly decayed condition, and the pressure of the hard superincumbent earth, these vessels were so badly injured that they fell apart when taken out. Almost alongside of the last, on the same level, lay another, 3 (N. M. 135211), inside of which was an inverted pot (N. M. 135210). Decayed animal matter, a few bone beads, a fragment of the tooth of some animal, and some scattering charcoal cinders were found in the bottom. In the earth alongside of these pots was found a piece of iron (N. M. 135275). Directly south of pot No. 1, on the same level, 6 feet distant, lay another pot, 4 (N. M. 135212). In the earth surrounding it were found pieces of white European porcelain (N. M. 135279, Fig. 197). East

of this last, 6 feet distant, lay a small pot, 5 (N. M. 135198). The rims of these two pots appeared to be about on the same level. Not far from pot No. 5 were the decayed remains of a repoussé figured copper plate (N. M. 135226) so thin and brittle that it was with difficulty that it could be handled without breaking. Alongside were the faint indications of human burial, as seen in small pieces of decayed bone and human teeth. Between these last and those indicated by the figures 1, 2, 3 was a scant line of decayed bone, so scant and decayed that it was impossible to tell whether or not it was human. Traces of fire were seen about these bones. North of these traces of bone, and immediately under the line of pots Nos. 1, 2, 3, were three small upright timber molds, varying from 1 to 1½ feet long. No traces of the timbers remained. Apparently lying on the dividing line between the two strata, 14 feet northwest of the center, was the fragment of an old drawing knife (N. M. 135261). A rude old iron nail, very much oxidized, was found on the surface of the subsoil, 3 feet deep and 12 feet southwest of the center. Another rude though sharp-pointed ancient iron nail was found not far from the last, but 8 inches below the surface of the subsoil. A small piece of green glass was found 3 inches below the surface of the subsoil, in the southeast segment and east of the hearth. Resting on the sand that seemed to stretch over the entire area beneath these pots and the fire bed between them were the pots indicated by Nos. 6 (Pl.XIX, N. M. 135192) and 7 (N. M. 135200). A large bowl (N. M. 135199) was found inside of pot No. 6, and by the side of the two vessels, at the bottom, were the scanty remains of some fabric. Two feet 8 inches from the surface of the mound were the remains of decayed timber, which ran down about 1½ feet to the east of the pot at 6, almost touching its eastern rim. It is not unlikely that this was the remnant of some post planted on the surface of the mound by some of its white owners.

Alongside of the northwestern edge of the hearth A was a line of decayed bones, which, from the small pieces of skull and two or three teeth that remained, were found to be human. Though in the very last stages of decay, the remains were so remarkably meager as to give the impression that all the bones of the body could not have been buried. The soil about all the bones found in this upper layer was absolutely free from any trace of animal or vegetable matter, which leads to the opinion that the bones were buried after having been denuded of flesh. A pot, No. 8 (N. M. 135193), lay close to the skull remains thus found.

Like pots 1, 6, and 8, it had a small hole in the bottom, but had another sounder pot (N. M. 135200) placed within it. Seven and a half feet to the northeast of the fire bed, on a level apparently 5 inches lower than that of the pots heretofore described, lay pot No. 15 (N.M. 135213). Near it to the northeast were the remains of human bones (No. 10).

In the lower division, as in that last described, all the articles seemed to be clustered about a hearth B (Fig. 198, which shows a lower horizontal section) and on the same general level. Here most of the human remains were found, but, like those in the upper burial, only the merest traces were observed. The conditions of this locality are very conducive to decay. Decayed and meager as they were, sufficient evidence was had in the case of each skeleton to show that it was human, such as the presence of teeth and certain identifiable bones.

The hearth B, which in some places was 10 feet in diameter, was situated wholly southwest of the center. Its composition was peculiar. It consisted of four layers of pure white ashes each one-half inch thick, separated by red burnt earth averaging an inch in thickness. Ashes formed the bottom as well as the topmost layer. The hearth rested on the curious black mold at the bottom. This black mold did not penetrate to the north and east border of the mound, but lay only over an area of which this hearth was the center.

Southwest of the hearth B and in connection with the remains of skeleton No. 2 was pot 9 (N. M. 135197), a bottle standing on a tripod of human heads, shown in Fig. 199. As traces of fire were noticed above this pot and skeleton, there seems to have been more than one ceremony attendant upon the burial of these articles. The pot 10 (N.M. 135194), which was found at the foot of this skeleton, seemed to have had originally a wooden cover, for in the earth taken from the top some small traces of decayed wood were noticed, and in the earth about it lay a clay pipe (N. M. 135223). Northeast of pot No. 9, and also near the fire bed, was a long-neck jar, 11 (N. M. 135295). (See Fig. 200.) At its western base lay the pipes (N. M. 135216, 135218, 135219, 135220, 135221, 135222), five typical forms of which are shown in Pl. XXIV. Pipe 3*a* and 3*b* (135216) was carved from soapstone; the remained are of clay. Adjoining these articles on the northeast and on the same level were pots 12, 13, and 14 (N. M. 135196, 135204, 137215), and 6 inches below the former lay a copper ax head (N. M. 135228) wrapped in cloth and incased in bark.

Three or 4 feet west of these, lying against each other, were two other pots, 16 and 17 (N. M. 135202, 135203). No. 16 (Fig. 201) was found lying on its side upon the black mold at the bottom, and beneath it, as if the pot were placed on top of them, were the fragments of thin and very brittle plates of copper (N. M. 135227), bearing Mexican figures in relief, some flakes of mica, and decayed pieces of unidentified shells. The copper had been originally first wrapped in some kind of leather, then in fine, rush matting, and whole incased in bark. Beneath No. 17, which was also lying on its side, was a beautful biconcave disk of quartz (N. M. 135260). Beneath this last, 3 or 4 inches deeper, and lying on the black mold at the bottom, were two copper celts (N. M. 135229) wrapped in cloth together and incased on both sides in bark. Accompanying this were several large pieces of mica. There were scarcely more than a handful of decayed bones in connection with these objects, identifiable only by the help of a few human teeth.

About the neck bones of skeleton 3, which lay 13 feet northwest of the center, were found a lot of shell beads (N. M. 135247, Fig. 202), and below these, a foot to the south, another lot of shell beads (N. M. 135242), a lot of perforated shell disks (N. M. 135248), the copper-sheathed ornament of wood (N.M. 135256) shown in Fig. 203, and a lump of galenite.

Immediately north of the remains last described, on the same level and about 15 feet northwest of the center, lay the bones and teeth of what seemed to be another skeleton (No. 8). With it were found the lot of shell beads (N. M. 135233) shown in Fig. 204, a copper ax or celt incased in wood (N. M. 135232), the decayed remains of the columella of the *Busycon perversum*, and a lump of soggy glauconite.

Nothing was found with skeleton No. 9, which lay southwest of the fire bed and near to skeleton 2 on the south, except a pipe (N. M. 135224).

Skeleton No. 5 lay about 23 feet west of the center, almost on the black mold at the bottom, and near its head were found a pipe (N. M. 135217), representing the head of an owl (Fig. 205); one decayed shell ornament, three stone celts, five discoidal stones, an anomalous stone implement, and a lump of glauconite. The apparent remains of another human burial were seen to the east of the hearth (skeleton No. 6), and near the teeth was discovered a well-shaped stone celt.

A pipe (N. M. 135225) was found in the earth two feet to the south of hearth B.

The piece of blue porcelain (N. M. 135279) shown in Fig. 206 was found 4 feet southwest of the center and 6 feet beneath the surface of the mound.