

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
OF THE  
FALLS OF THE NEUSE RESERVOIR**

**PREPARED BY THE RESEARCH LABORATORIES OF ANTHROPOLOGY**

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**CHAPEL HILL**

Final Report  
An Archaeological Evaluation  
Of The  
Falls Of The Neuse Reservoir

Trawick Ward  
Archaeologist

Joffre L. Coe  
Principal Investigator

Prepared By  
The Research Laboratories of Anthropology  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill  
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### Abstract

The archaeological sites discovered during the reconnaissance of the Falls of the Neuse Reservoir are reported and evaluated in terms of their potential for producing additional data. Limited excavations and tests were conducted at several sites and in some instances, expanded excavations should be considered in order to salvage as much as possible of the prehistoric record.

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## INTRODUCTION

Throughout the latter part of 1968, 1969, and until April 1970, the Research Laboratories of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in conjunction with the National Park Service conducted a preliminary reconnaissance of the proposed Falls of the Neuse Reservoir. During this period, 46 sites were located within the area circumscribed by flood control elevations. At the conclusion of the initial survey, it was felt that the archaeological potential of the area was still inadequately known. A number of circumstances were responsible for the relative paucity of sites from which adequate information was collected. Foremost was ground surface conditions because a large portion of the reservoir was covered by forest and swamp. These conditions were especially bothersome along the lower reaches of the Neuse River and most of its feeder streams. In addition, much of the once cultivated lands had been allowed to revert to heavy grass and brush or were sowed in permanent pasture. This situation prevailed along the Eno, Flat, and Little Rivers at their confluence with the Neuse.

Because of these handicaps, at the conclusion of the work in 1970 a proposal was presented which would extend the project and hopefully result in a better understanding of the cultural dynamics of the region along the Neuse and its tributaries above the fall line. This proposal included a continuation of survey efforts in areas which had previously been inaccessible and limited excavation and testing of key sites which had been recorded. Of particular concern was the investigation of the

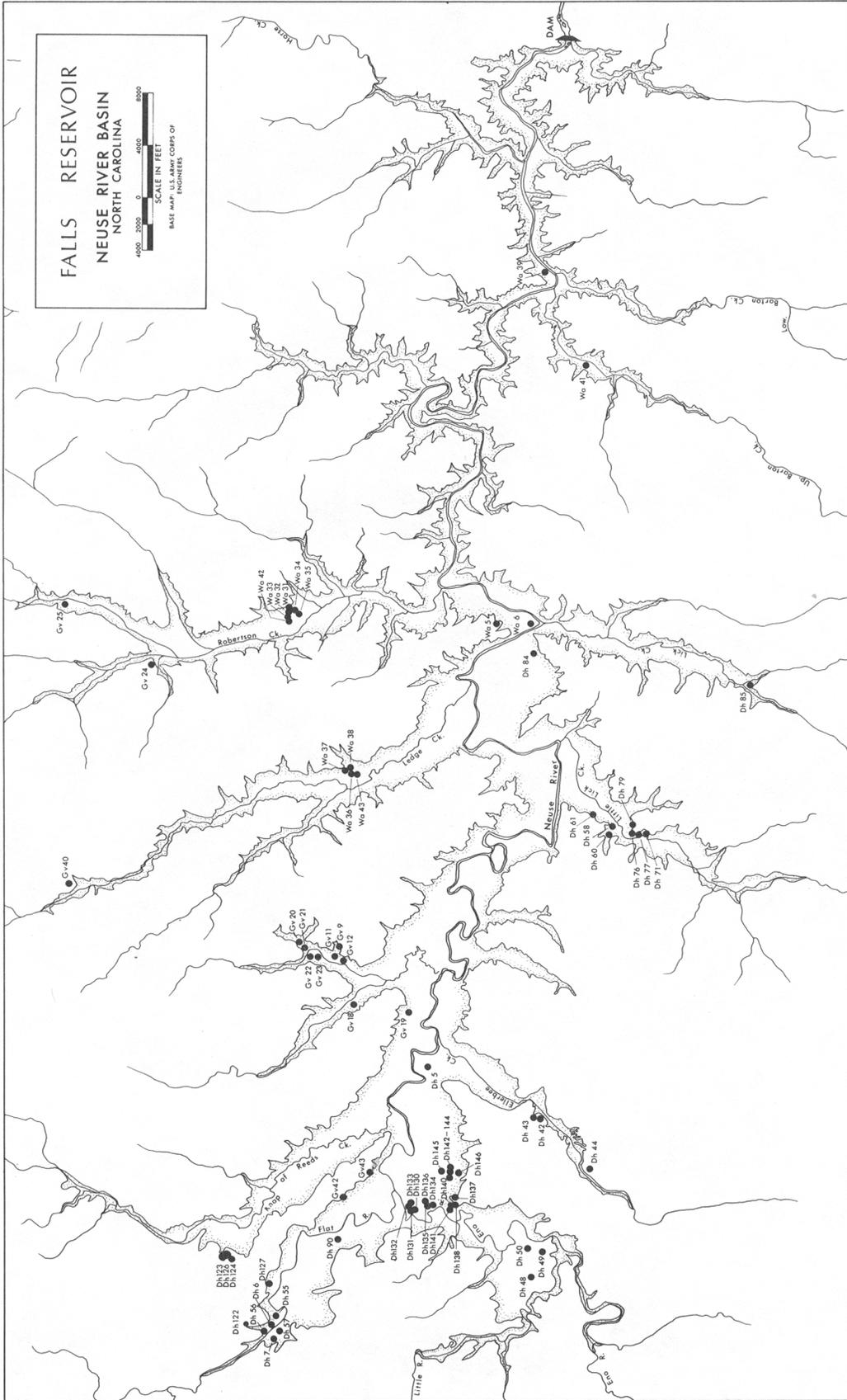
possible location of the town of Adshusheer visited by John Lawson in 1701. A cluster of sites, Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>7, Dh<sup>v</sup>55, Dh<sup>v</sup>56, and Dh<sup>v</sup>57, were located along the Flat River, and from the surface material and historic documentation, it appeared that there was a possibility that the cluster represented the remains of Adshusheer. Another cluster of sites in Wake County, Wa<sup>v</sup>32, Wa<sup>v</sup>34, Wa<sup>v</sup>35, Wa<sup>v</sup>36, and Wa<sup>v</sup>42, also warranted testing to determine if in situ remains existed.

With the results and recommendations of the initial survey in mind, the Research Laboratories of Anthropology working under National Park Service Contract Number CX500031664 (1-0-107-3285-SF029) again investigated the Falls of the Neuse Reservoir during the summer and fall of 1974. The initial fieldwork began May 16 and continued through September 18. Additional survey and testing continued on an irregular basis until January, 1975. Unfortunately, many of the problematical conditions initially encountered had failed to disappear. Because clearing operations had not begun, large areas with potential archaeological value remained obscured by forests, swamps, and pastures. During the summer when the bulk of the excavation and survey work was completed, many of the fields under cultivation had been recently planted, making several farmers understandably reluctant to grant access to major site areas. However, 28 new sites were recorded and excavation results, in some instances, were encouraging (Figure 1).

The project was directed by Dr. Joffre L. Coe. William O. Autry served as field supervisor while the writer, with the aid of Dr. Coe, completed the preliminary analysis. When fieldwork and analysis are pursued by different individuals, there always exists the chance that

FALLS RESERVOIR  
NEUSE RIVER BASIN  
NORTH CAROLINA

4000 2000 0 4000 8000  
SCALE IN FEET  
BASE MAP: U.S. ARMY CORPS OF  
ENGINEERS



some interference might invade the communicative process. It is hoped that adequate field recording and systematized excavation techniques have minimized any misinterpretations which could have resulted from this situation.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The proposed Falls of the Neuse Reservoir is located in north central North Carolina, north of Raleigh and northeast of Durham. The counties involved include Durham, Granville, and Wake. The dam is to be constructed at the Falls of the Neuse River in Wake County. In addition to the Neuse and its tributaries, the lower basins of the Eno, Flat, and Little Rivers will also be encompassed by the reservoir. At maximum conservation pool elevation, some 12,490 acres will be inundated while at flood pool elevation the surface area of the lake will increase to 22,860 acres.

Geology. The reservoir area is situated in the approximate center of the Durham Triassic Basin which extends from northern Lee County to just south of Oxford, N. C. in Granville County. The basin is seventy miles long and varies in width from five to twenty miles (Harrington 1948:1). The floor of the basin has a gently rolling topography which has been created by the erosion of soft Triassic rocks which once formed an old peneplain. In and around the impoundment area, four major rock formations are encountered:

- 1) A slate belt along the northern and eastern border of the Triassic Basin.
- 2) Sandstones, mudstones, and shales which comprise the floor of the Triassic Basin.
- 3) Granite formations which are scattered throughout the periphery of the Triassic Basin.
- 4) Diorite outcrops along the periphery and within the basin itself (Perkins, et. al. 1924:1357).

The slates belong to the Carolina Slate Series and are typically fine grained, and when unweathered, have a bluish or grayish color. When

weathered, considerable color variation results including grey, pink, purplish, yellow and red (Perkins, et. al. 1924:1357). Continued decay and weathering of the slates form silt and clay with a small amount of very fine sand. The Triassic rocks along the floor of the basin are normally red, grey or purplish sandstone, mudstone, and shale. When weathered, these create sandy and fine sandy loam soils. The granite along the edge of the basin is light colored, fine textured and composed primarily of quartz, feldspar, and mica. Within the impoundment area, diorite dikes are common, and because of the hard, fine grained nature of the Diorite, these dikes have created resistant areas which exhibit the maximum relief along the basin floor. The decay, weathering, and erosion of these various formations have resulted in the creation of four major soil types within the reservoir. Congaree silt loam and Granville fine sandy loam are most prevalent followed in frequency by white store loam and Iredell loam (Perkins, et. al. 1924:1357-1360).

Climate. The climate of the reservoir area is typical of that of the North Carolina Piedmont. It is described under the Trewartha Scheme as a humid subtropical variant of the humid meso-thermal climates. In the Piedmont, there is no distinguishable wet or dry season. During the spring and summer months, precipitation generally results from localized thunderstorm activity, while the winter and fall precipitation is usually associated with frontal activity. The average annual precipitation ranges from 40 to 50 inches. The average January temperature is 44 degrees Fahrenheit, and the average July temperature is 78 degrees Fahrenheit. The average annual temperature is seldom above 60 degrees. In the upper Falls area, there are approximately 200 frost-free days in each year, while this figure increases to around 220 in the lower Falls.

Flora. There are 835 species representing 127 families of vascular plants in the Falls Reservoir area. These represent about one-fourth of the total number of species and two-thirds of the families found in North Carolina. These plants are organized into 15 community types occupying habitats ranging from fresh water ponds and streams to xeric rock barrens (Moore 1973:V). The following is a description of the major community types with a list of the more important species.

1) Swamp Forest. This habitat comprises the floodplains along the rivers and major tributaries and typically occurs in poorly drained depressions behind alluvial terraces or in floodplains where the streams are not deeply entrenched. For these reasons, Swamp Forests are abundant in the lower Falls area. Canopy species include Sweet Gum (Liquidambar styraciflua), Black Gum (Nyssa sylvatica), Red Maple (Acer rubrum), Red Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), American Elm (Ulmus americana), Overcup Oak (Quercus lyrata), Water Oak (Quercus nigra), and Willow Oak (Quercus phellos).

2) Alluvial Forest. This is one of the most common communities and is located on sand-silt banks and fluvial terrace deposits that are adjacent to the major rivers and tributaries. Alluvial Forests are widespread along the upper Neuse and its tributaries. A typical community includes Box Elder (Acer Negundo), Sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), Hackberry (Celtis laevigata), River Birch (Betula nigra), Red Maple (Acer rubrum), Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum), Loblolly Pine (Pinus taeda), Red Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), Sweet Gum (Liquidambar styraciflua), Willow Oak (Quercus phellos), Black Oak (Quercus velutina), Bitternut Hickory (Carya cordiformis), Shagbark Hickory (Carya ovata), and Pawpaw (Asimina triloba).

3) Mixed Mesic Forest. Within the Falls Reservoir, this is probably the most prevalent community type. It occurs on low slopes with well drained soil and is frequently adjacent to Alluvial Forests. The most important species are Loblolly Pine (Pinus taeda), Red Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), Red Maple (Acer rubrum), Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum), Tulip Poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera), Sweet Gum (Liquidambar styraciflua), and Persomon (Diospyros virginiana).

Other communities include Mountain Laurel Bluff which is usually found on north facing river bluffs, Mixed Scrub which results when Mesic or Alluvial Forest are cut for timber, Hardwood Scrub which replaces the lumbered Hardwood Forest, and Pine Scrub normally found on sites which were formally Pine Forest or old fields. The Oak-Hickory Forest which is generally believed to be the climax forest in the Piedmont is rarely encountered in the Falls area. When it is found, it's restricted to steep rocky slopes with a southerly or westerly exposure. It now appears that the Mesic Hardwood Forest dominated by Beech (Fagus grandifolia) and Southern Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum) is the climax forest in the Falls region. Also of note is the fact that in the fields and pastures under cultivation, a number of pioneer weeds, including Goosefoot (Chenopodium album) and Rag Weed (Amaranthus spinosus), occur with some frequency (Moore 1973:31-59).

Fauna. One has only to read John Lawson's narrative of his travels through the Carolina Piedmont to realize its abundance of wild animal resources. Lawson lists 27 different species of mammals including several which are no longer found in the area, e.g. buffalo, panther, wolf, and elk (Lawson 1967:120). In addition, bear which appears to have been

ubiquitous during the early eighteenth century is found only rarely in the Piedmont today. Still many of the current mammalian species found in North Carolina occur with the greatest frequency in the Piedmont region. A few examples include Mink, Otter, Raccoon, and Opossum. Game birds, fish, and water fowl are also plentiful today and must have certainly been even more abundant during aboriginal times.

John Lawson's description of his journey from the Haw River to Occaneechi Town (just outside of Hillsboro, N. C.) provides a vivid picture of the environment and its aboriginal utilization in the area just north of the Falls Reservoir.

The Virginia-Men asking our Opinion of the Country we were then in? we told them, it was a very pleasant one. They were all of the same Opinion, and affirm'd, That they had never seen 20 Miles of such extraordinary rich Land, lying all together, like that betwixt Hau-River and the Achonechy Town. Having taken our Leaves of each other, we set forward; and the Country, thro' which we pass'd, was so delightful, that it gave us a great deal of Satisfaction. About Three a Clock, we reach'd the Town, and the Indians presently brought us good fat Bear, and Venison, which was very acceptable at that time. Their Cabins were hung with a good sort of Tapestry, as fat Bear, and barbakued or dried Venison; no Indians having greater plenty of Provisions than these. The Savages do, indeed, still possess the Flower of Carolina, the English enjoying only the Fag-end of that fine Country (Lawson 1967:61).

Lawson, however, does not seem as impressed with the land or the Indians of the Falls area. "...we went over several Tracts of rich land, but mixed with Pines and other indifferent Soil" (Lawson 1967:63). Describing a village between Adshusheer and the Falls of the Neuse he states, "...we found this Indian Town, which was a Parcel of nasty smoaky Holes, much like the Waterrees; their town having a great Swamp running directly through the middle thereof. The land here begins to abate of its Height, and has some few Swamps" (Ibid).

This brief review of the environmental potential of the reservoir area suggests a varied resource base but with some culturally inhibiting characteristics. There appears to have been an array of exploitive niches for hunters and gatherers, but sedentary agriculturalists would have been rather severely restricted in their search for well drained, friable soils. Large expanses of Swamp and Alluvial Forest are common along the Neuse upstream from the Falls area almost to its confluence with the Eno, Flat, and Little Rivers. In fact, the only extensive area substantially adaptable to permanent settlements of consequential size is the flood plains of the lower Eno, Flat, and Little Rivers.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF THE PIEDMONT AREA

The succession of cultural events comprising the archaeological history of the Carolina Piedmont has been firmly established by Coe (1952, 1964). Because Coe's sequence provides the organizational backbone for this report, a brief summary of the major traditions is in order.

Fluted projectile points resembling the Clovis type of the Southwest have been recovered from surface sites in the Piedmont; however, their presumed association with extinct mega-fauna remains to be demonstrated not only in North Carolina but throughout the eastern United States. The earliest excavated assemblage in the Piedmont is the Hardaway complex which is characterized in its earliest form by a lanceolate projectile point with a thin concave base. This variety evolved into a Dalton-like point with broad shallow side notches and serrated edges. The Hardaway complex terminated with a unique projectile point form with narrow side notches and a concave recurved base. Hardaway peoples occupied the Piedmont region from at least 10,000 B.C. until 8,000 B.C. (Coe 1964:64-67).

The early Archaic period is represented by the Palmer and Kirk complexes distinguished primarily on the basis of distinctive projectile point styles. Palmer points are rather small, averaging 35 mm. in length and 20 mm. in width. They typically have serrated triangular blades, notched corners, and a straight ground base. Kirk specimens are larger with some varieties averaging 100 mm. in length and 35 mm. in width. Blades are again triangular and serrated while the bases are straight to slightly rounded but never ground. Corner notching is

characteristic of early Kirk specimens but is replaced by broad square stems in later varieties. Palmer dates as early as 8000 B.C. while the Kirk complex appears to span the millennium between 6000 and 7000 B.C. (Coe 1964:67-70).

The beginning of the middle Archaic is marked by the appearance of the Stanly complex which displays the continued evolution of stemmed projectile points. During the Stanly period, blades became wider and stems narrower although the basic form still resembled the later Kirk types. The Stanly complex also contained the first evidence for the extensive use of polished stone implements. The continuity of projectile point styles was interrupted at the end of the Stanly period by the introduction of two new types which appear to be stylistically related to western and Midwestern specimens. The earliest type is represented by the Morrow Mountain point which, with its fairly small blade and short tapering stem, is seemingly related to the Gypsum Cave material. Following the Morrow Mountain period, a long thick lanceolate point, the Guilford, was introduced. This type is widespread over the Piedmont but not frequently found outside the area. Stanly dates from 5000 to 6000 B.C. while Morrow Mountain ranges from 5000 to 4500 B.C. and Guilford from 4500 to 4000 B.C. (Coe 1964:122-125).

The late Archaic period began with the return to the manufacture of broad bladed, stemmed projectile points characteristic of the Savannah River complex. During this period, full grooved axes and steatite bowls made their first appearance. The Savannah River complex begins around 4000 B.C. and persisted in some areas of the Piedmont until 500 B.C. (Coe 1964:123-124).

The succeeding Woodland period has been divided by Coe (1952:303) into Developmental and Climactic phases. The Developmental phase began with the introduction of pottery and agriculture and lasted in most areas of the Piedmont until European contact. The earliest Developmental occupation is represented by the Badin complex which includes well-developed ceramic techniques and large, crude triangular projectile points. The pottery is well made with a fine sand tempered paste and typically has a cord or fabric impressed exterior surface (Coe 1964:28, 45). The Badin period began around the first century A.D. and lasted until approximately 600 A.D. It was followed by the Yadkin complex which represented a continuation of basic Badin forms with no major innovations. Pottery manufacture changed only slightly and the triangular projectile point continued to be used although it was better made than its Badin predecessor. The Yadkin complex lasted until around 1200 A.D. (Coe 1964:55). After 1200 A.D. a number of archaeologically and ethnographically distinct cultures can be identified in the Piedmont. When considering the Falls Reservoir area, the Uwharrie, Caraway, Dan River, and Hillsboro complexes are probably the most important late Developmental manifestations.

The Climactic phase is represented only by the Pee Dee culture which was introduced in North Carolina by immigrants from the south around 1550 A.D. These immigrants constructed temple mounds, palisaded villages, and made pottery vessels in a fashion reminiscent of the Irene-Savannah styles in Georgia and South Carolina. For the most part, Pee Dee influence on the indigenous Developmental cultures was minimal and shortlived. By 1650, Pee Dee peoples had abandoned the area, leaving it to the decedents of the late Developmental Uwharrie culture (Coe 1952:308).

## SITE SURVEY

As was mentioned in the introduction several factors inhibited the initial survey of the Falls Reservoir, and many of these inhibiting conditions were still present during the summer and fall of 1974. Large sections of the reservoir remained in woods, swamp, and pasture. However, all areas were checked which could reasonably be expected to produce evidence of aboriginal occupation. Cattle trails, logging roads, drainage ditches, and erosional gulleys were all carefully scrutinized in areas dominated by dense ground cover.

Many of the sites discovered during the initial survey were re-checked, but in most instances, additional data were not forthcoming. Although swampy conditions prevailed, vast areas along the lower Neuse, Beaverdam, Ledge, and Knapp of Reeds Creeks were re-surveyed in the hope that additional sites might be found but none were.

However, 28 new sites were recorded primarily in the upper Falls area of Durham County. The following summary includes all the known sites in the Falls Reservoir. Where sufficient data were obtained, the major cultural components from each site are discussed, and each site's potential in providing additional information is evaluated.

## Durham County

Dh<sup>v</sup>5. This site is located immediately south of the Neuse River, northwest of its confluence with Ellerbe Creek. Dh<sup>v</sup>5 was initially recorded in 1937 when the area was under cultivation. The land has since reverted to woods and scrub with a small portion being in pasture. A large amount of lithic material was collected in 1937, but today surface conditions prohibit additional reconnaissance. Artifacts on file

at the Research Laboratories of Anthropology indicate occupation during early, middle and late Archaic times with a majority of the specimens falling within the late Archaic range. The most frequently encountered projectile point types were Guilford Lanceolate and Savannah River Stemmed. The artifacts were scattered over a fairly large area with no concentrations noted. It is probable that all were redeposited. For this reason, in conjunction with the heavy ground cover, additional investigation does not seem warranted.

Dh<sup>v</sup>6. A discussion of this site is included in the section dealing with excavation and test results.

Dh<sup>v</sup>7. A discussion of this site is also included in the section dealing with excavation and test results.

Dh<sup>v</sup>42. In a field rising slightly above the north bank of Ellerbee Creek, ten projectile points and fragments along with 58 miscellaneous chips were collected. Identifiable specimens were all Savannah River Stemmed, thus indicating a late Archaic age. The scattered nature and paucity of materials suggest that no further action be taken with this site other than casual surface collecting.

Dh<sup>v</sup>43. This site was situated on a prominent rise immediately east of Dh<sup>v</sup>42. Two Archaic preforms and 66 miscellaneous flakes were found, but diagnostic materials were lacking. Further investigation does not seem necessary.

Dh<sup>v</sup>44. South of Dh<sup>v</sup>42 and Dh<sup>v</sup>43, on the east bank of Ellerbee Creek, 14 random flakes and chips were collected. This sparsity of material makes even the most general cultural-temporal classification impossible. Further reconnaissance might provide needed diagnostic specimens.

Dh<sup>v</sup>47. This site is located on the south bank of the Eno River just east of State Road 1004. Two small unidentifiable potsherds and one projectile point base were collected. The point was manufactured from quartzite and had a slightly concave base with shallow side notches. The base was slightly thinned on one face. This combination of attributes is anomalous in the Carolina Piedmont and forms an, as yet, unnamed type. No further work is recommended on this site.

Dh<sup>v</sup>48, 49, 50. These adjacent sites were located on the west bank of the Eno River just north of its confluence with the Little River. A total of 9 miscellaneous flakes, 1 preform, and 1 triangular scraper completed the inventory from all the sites. A review of the material and erosional and depositional factors in the area suggest that no further work is warranted.

Dh<sup>v</sup>52. This site is located on a hill on the right side of State Road 1004 after crossing the Flat River heading north. It is a favorite site of the local collectors and has a long history as such. This fact probably explains why only one projectile point, a Guilford lanceolate, was recovered during the survey. A middle and probably also late Archaic components are present. This site should be re-checked periodically and hopefully a sizeable sample could be taken before the relic hunters make their haul.

Dh<sup>v</sup>54. Approximately 100' east of Dh<sup>v</sup>52 is another hill top site which has a similar history of local collecting. Only one projectile point blade was found by the survey crew, but a fairly large private collection was obtained by the Research Laboratories of Anthropology. This material included 21 projectile points, 11 preforms, and 11 blades Primarily affiliated with the middle and late Archaic periods. Repeated

plowing and erosion from the hill top make any buried horizons highly unlikely, but further surface collections should prove helpful in gaining an understanding of the variety of middle and late Archaic tool assemblages in the Falls area.

Dh<sup>v</sup>55. A discussion of this site is included in the Excavation and Test section of this report.

Dh<sup>v</sup>56. This site will be discussed in the Excavation and Test section of this report.

Dh<sup>v</sup>57. This site will also be discussed in the Excavation and Test section of this report.

Dh<sup>v</sup>58, 59, 60. This group of sites is clustered around the edges of a small pond located just off the north bank of Little Lick Creek at its intersection with State Road 1804. The total artifact inventory included only 25 waste flakes and one abrading tool. It is doubtful that further work would provide any additional information.

Dh<sup>v</sup>61. This site is located on the east side of State Road 1804 across from Dh<sup>v</sup>59 and also north of Little Lick Creek. As with the other sites along Little Lick Creek, it was not particularly productive with only one miscellaneous flake being recovered. Obviously, no further work is needed here.

Dh<sup>v</sup>71. A fairly large area on the east side of Little Lick Creek at the State Road 1812 crossing yielded several flakes, core fragments and 2 broken projectile points. The fragmentary nature of the projectile points made precise identification impossible, but the general debitage is not unlike that associated with middle and late Archaic cultures. Additional surface collecting is needed to obtain diagnostic materials.

Dh<sup>v</sup>76. This site is located on a hill side on the east bank of Little Lick Creek north of Dh<sup>v</sup>71. Several miscellaneous flakes and chips were collected in addition to 6 Archaic preforms. Further surface collecting might provide additional information if diagnostics could be recovered.

Dh<sup>v</sup>77. In a small field southwest of Dh<sup>v</sup>76, 7 projectile points and fragments and several flakes and chips were collected. The material is primarily late Archaic and had probably been washed in from the slope of Dh<sup>v</sup>76. A periodic re-check of Dh<sup>v</sup>77 should increase the late Archaic sample from the Falls Reservoir area.

Dh<sup>v</sup>79. Immediately east of Dh<sup>v</sup>76 a small number of chips, core fragments, and 1 scraper were found. Here again this material had probably washed off the slopes of Dh<sup>v</sup>76. No additional investigations are necessary except incidental surface collecting while visiting Dh<sup>v</sup>76 and Dh<sup>v</sup>77.

Dh<sup>v</sup>84. The material from this site was collected along a logging road leading down to the south bank of the Neuse River east of State Road 1806. One Savannah River point and 2 Archaic preforms, in addition to several waste flakes, were recovered. A late Archaic occupation is in evidence, but because of extremely dense ground cover, except in the narrow road itself, any further work would be prohibitively difficult.

Dh<sup>v</sup>90. This site is located on the west bank of the Flat River approximately one mile down stream from Dh<sup>v</sup>55, 56, and 57. In 1970, 1 small plain grit tempered sherd along with 6 waste flakes were inventoried. During the 1974 survey, the site was re-visited with the hope of finding additional material that might have been turned up by recent plowing.

However, the only artifact collected was the base of a Morrow Mountain II projectile point blank. Currently, no further work is recommended at this site.

Dh<sup>v</sup>122. This site is situated on a hill top off State Road 1004 east of the Flat River. It has been intensively plowed, subjected to considerable slope wash, and has a long history with amateur relic collectors. It proved to be one of the richer surface sites in the impoundment area. Twenty projectile points ranging from 1 early Archaic Palmer to the late Archaic Savannah River types were recovered in addition to several scrapers, bifaces, and utilized flakes. Additional surface collecting would seem to be profitable.

Dh<sup>v</sup>123. North of the Flat River near the junction of State Roads 1004 and 1630 a few Archaic artifacts were found, including one Kirk stemmed projectile point. Collecting conditions were extremely poor because the site area was sowed in pasture grass. Should the field revert to active cultivation, additional surface reconnaissance will be necessary.

Dh<sup>v</sup>124. Immediately south of Dh<sup>v</sup>123 another sparse concentration of Archaic materials was isolated. The only diagnostic specimen in the inventory was a middle Archaic Guilford lanceolate projectile point. Again collecting conditions were less than optimum because of pasture cover. If and when the field is plowed, it should be re-checked.

Dh<sup>v</sup>126. This site was located on the west side of State Road 1630 across from Dh<sup>v</sup>123. This field was also in pasture and only one projectile point tip, one blank, and two flakes were found. Additional surface survey should be considered if the field is plowed prior to inundation.

Dh<sup>v</sup>127. South of Dh<sup>v</sup>126 on the east bank of the Flat River, waste flakes, one utilized flake and a biface were collected. At the time of the survey, the site was covered with old corn stubble and weeds which made it impossible to conduct an adequate survey. This site should be re-checked after it is plowed.

Dh<sup>v</sup>133, 131, 132, and 133. These contiguous sites are located in the Eno River flood plain off State Road 1632, south of the Eno River bridge. Twelve projectile points were collected with a temporal range from early to late Archaic. Kirk, Morrow Mountain II, and Savannah River points were all represented with the latter being the most prevalent. The primary site is Dh<sup>v</sup>131, which is situated along the crest of a slightly rising north-south ridge. It is highly probable that the artifacts retrieved from the other three sites had eroded and washed down from Dh<sup>v</sup>131. No further work is anticipated at these sites.

Dh<sup>v</sup>134, 135, and 136. These sites are also arbitrary divisions of a fairly large area containing scattered specimens. The area is located immediately north of the Dh<sup>v</sup>130, Dh<sup>v</sup>131, Dh<sup>v</sup>132, Dh<sup>v</sup>133 group also in the flood plain of the Eno River. Material was sparse consisting primarily of waste flakes and core fragments. One Savannah River base and three scrapers were gleaned from Dh<sup>v</sup>136. No further work is recommended on the sites.

Dh<sup>v</sup>137. This site is located off State Road 1632 north of its junction with State Road 1633 on the east side of the Eno River. Very few artifacts were present, but one Savannah River projectile point blank suggests a late Archaic affiliation. No additional work is warranted.

Dh<sup>v</sup>138. One point tip and the base of a Guilford Point were found in a small field northeast of Dh<sup>v</sup>137. Because planting was in process at the time of the survey, it was possible to walk only around the periphery of the field. A re-check of the site might yield additional specimens.

Dh<sup>v</sup>140, 141. These two sites were located around the edge of a small pond a few hundred feet northeast of Dh<sup>v</sup>138. They were less than productive yielding only one unidentifiable projectile point tip and a few waste flakes. It is doubtful that additional survey work would provide more information.

Dh<sup>v</sup>142, 143. These contiguous sites were located immediately south of Dh<sup>v</sup>138 east of State Road 1632. One crude Savannah River point was found at Dh<sup>v</sup>142 in addition to a scraper and a few waste flakes. An unidentifiable basal fragment of a projectile point and eight plain and fabric marked potsherds completed the inventory for Dh<sup>v</sup>143. No further work is needed on Dh<sup>v</sup>142, but more collecting might increase the ceramic sample from Dh<sup>v</sup>143. Due to the general lack of Developmental sites in the reservoir area, any additional ceramic material would certainly be important.

Dh<sup>v</sup>144. Another unproductive lithic site of probable late Archaic affiliation was located across a farm road northeast of Dh<sup>v</sup>142. No diagnostic artifacts were recovered, and the paucity of material observed indicates that repeated survey would probably not be worthwhile.

Dh<sup>v</sup>145. This site covered a fairly extensive area on a slight rise adjacent to Dh<sup>v</sup>142 and Dh<sup>v</sup>143. All the material was either middle or late Archaic. One Morrow Mountain II, 4 Guilford lanceolate blade

fragments, and 2 Savannah River projectile Points were identified. Several bifacial and unifacial tools in addition to 140 waste flakes were also recovered. This site appears sufficiently promising to warrant additional surface survey in order to increase the middle, late Archaic inventory from the Falls Reservoir.

Dh<sup>v</sup>146. This is a small unproductive site immediately west of Dh<sup>v</sup>142. Only a few miscellaneous chips and 2 undiagnostic bifaces were found. Additional survey is not necessary.

#### Granville County

Gv<sup>v</sup>9, Gv<sup>v</sup>10, Gv<sup>v</sup>11, Gv<sup>v</sup>12. These 4 sites are located around the intersection of the Seaboard Railroad and State Road 1726 north of the Neuse River. The total inventory from all sites included 34 waste and 3 utilized flakes. Cultural affiliation is probably Archaic. It is doubtful that additional reconnaissance would provide further information.

Gv<sup>v</sup>18, Gv<sup>v</sup>19. These are two small sites northeast of the Neuse River just across the Durham County line. Gv<sup>v</sup>18 yielded a few fine sand and grit tempered cord marked sherds but little else. Gv<sup>v</sup>19 was even less productive with only a few waste flakes and some 20th century ceramics. A re-check of these sites is not necessary.

Gv<sup>v</sup>20, Gv<sup>v</sup>21, Gv<sup>v</sup>22, and Gv<sup>v</sup>23. These 4 sites are clustered along an unnamed branch feeding into the Neuse River immediately below the Interstate Highway 85 crossing. Gv<sup>v</sup>20 contained only a few waste flakes; Gv<sup>v</sup>21 yielded 2 late Archaic Savannah River projectile points while Gv<sup>v</sup>22 produced a Savannah River and a Guilford point. Only 5 waste flakes were collected on Gv<sup>v</sup>23. Additional survey at Gv<sup>v</sup>21 and Gv<sup>v</sup>22 could probably provide more diagnostic middle Archaic specimens.

Gv<sup>v</sup>25. This site is located at the base of a ridge on the west bank of Beaverdam Creek at the crossing of State Road 1709. Two small stemmed Early Developmental projectile points and three plain sherds were retrieved. Additional surface collecting is needed to increase the ceramic sample.

Gv<sup>v</sup>40. One utilized flake was found south of SR 1901 just across from the Wake County line. Obviously, no additional work is recommended.

Gv<sup>v</sup>42. This site occupied a fairly large area west of Knapp of Reeds Creek off SR 1630. One early Archaic Palmer point and three unidentifiable point types were collected in addition to several miscellaneous flakes and chips. Further surface survey could possibly recover more early Archaic artifacts which have not been frequent in the Falls Basin.

Gv<sup>v</sup>43. Southeast of the termination of SR 1630 on the north bank of the Neuse River, a recently cut logging road revealed middle and late Archaic artifacts which appeared to have been washed in from the bluffs above the river. Further investigation is not recommended.

#### Wake County

Wa<sup>v</sup>5. This site is located on the Neuse River approximately one-half mile north of the mouth of Lick Creek. The site was in pasture when it was surveyed, but 5 Savannah River points were recovered. Periodic checks should be made, and if the field is plowed, additional surface reconnaissance should be initiated.

Wa<sup>v</sup>6. Approximately one-half mile south of Wa<sup>v</sup>5 on a bluff adjacent to the Neuse River, 1 small stemmed projectile point, 2 scrapers, and 1 flake were recovered. The projectile point was

unclassifiable although it probably is transitional between the late Archaic and Developmental periods. Further action does not appear to be warranted.

Wa<sup>v</sup>31. This site is adjacent to and east of SR 1900 at its intersection with SR 1906. Fifty miscellaneous chips were collected in addition to Savannah River and Guilford projectile points. The site was recollected in 1974, but only a few flakes were recovered. Additional work is not needed.

Wa<sup>v</sup>32. This site is discussed in the section on Excavation and Testing.

Wa<sup>v</sup>33. This site is located immediately west of Wa<sup>v</sup>31 and adjacent to Wa<sup>v</sup>32 on the down slope of the rise comprising Wa<sup>v</sup>32. A middle Archaic component was represented by one Halifax point. No further work is recommended.

Wa<sup>v</sup>34. This site is discussed in the section on Excavation and Testing.

Wa<sup>v</sup>35. This site is discussed in the Excavation and Testing section of this report.

Wa<sup>v</sup>36. This site is also discussed in the Excavation and Testing section of this report.

Wa<sup>v</sup>37. A few miscellaneous chips and flakes were collected immediately north of Wa<sup>v</sup>36 off State Road 1900. No diagnostic material was found during a re-check of the site in 1974. Additional work is not necessary.

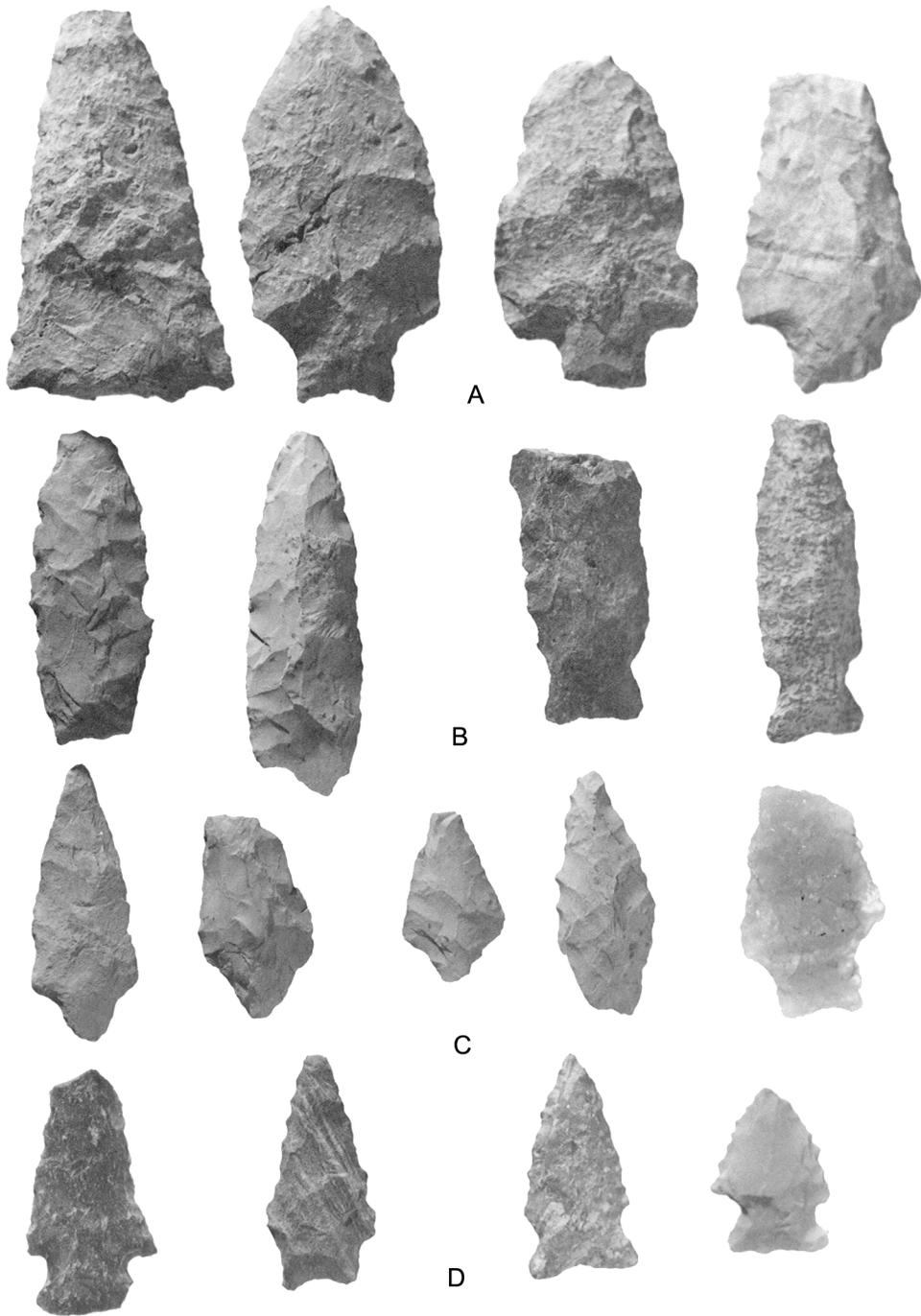
Wa<sup>v</sup>38. This site is located north of Wa<sup>v</sup>36 and east of Wa<sup>v</sup>37. Two unidentifiable point fragments and 23 chips were found in 1970, but a re-check in 1974 failed to add diagnostics. Additional reconnaissance is not necessary.

Wa<sup>v</sup>39. North of the Neuse River on the east side of SR 2003, after crossing Penny Hatcher Bridge, two unmodified flakes were found. Further work is not necessary.

Wa<sup>v</sup>41. This site is located on the north bank of the Upper Burton Creek below the SR 1003 bridge. Again diagnostic specimens were lacking, and additional survey does not seem necessary.

Wa<sup>v</sup>42. This site is discussed in the Excavation and Testing section of this report.

Wa<sup>v</sup>43. Three unmodified chips were found on the east side of Ledge Creek, north of SR 1900. The swampy nature of the terrain makes additional survey efforts unwarranted.



## PLATE I

## ARCHAIC PROJECTILE POINTS COLLECTED BY SURVEY

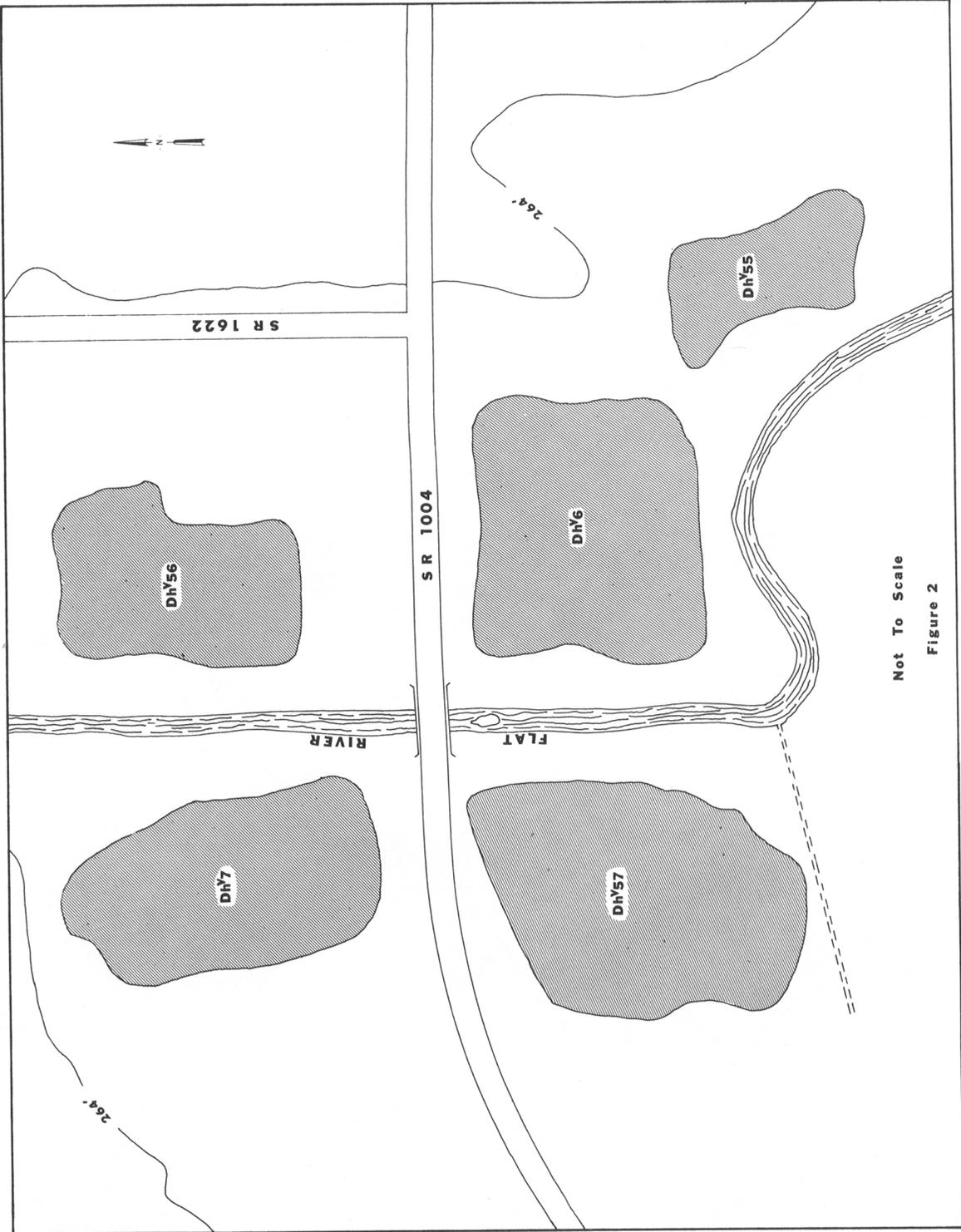
A. SAVANNAH RIVER. B. GUILFORD. C. MORROW MOUNTAIN, FAR RIGHT, STANLY,  
 D. KIRK CORNER NOTCHED, KIRK STEMMED, FIRST, SECOND FROM LEFT, PALMER,  
 FIRST, SECOND FROM RIGHT.

## EXCAVATION AND TEST RESULTS

A total of 10 sites were subjected to limited excavation and/or testing. Although some limited testing was undertaken in the fall, the bulk of the work was completed during the summer when the maximum amount of manpower was available. The large number of sites to be investigated naturally prevented extensive excavations in any one area, therefore, the strategy was to dig as many test units as time would allow at each site in the hope of isolating structures or features which could provide direction for expanding the excavations.

Because it was felt that Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>7, Dh<sup>v</sup>56, and Dh<sup>v</sup>57 were possibly affiliated with the village of Adshusheer, excavations were begun here and continued throughout the summer (Figure 2). Dh<sup>v</sup>7 and Dh<sup>v</sup>57 were planted in permanent pasture and could not be adequately surface collected to determine the most profitable areas to test. As a result, the locations of the excavation units were determined solely on the basis of site topography. Dh<sup>v</sup>6 and Dh<sup>v</sup>56 were planted in corn, and the owner was unwilling to allow any work which would disturb the crop. This lack of cooperation naturally restricted the area which could be excavated, and at least at Dh<sup>v</sup>6, meant the heart of the site could not be investigated.

Because of their topographic position and/or concentrations of surface material, Dh<sup>v</sup>55, Wa<sup>v</sup>32, Wa<sup>v</sup>34, Wa<sup>v</sup>35, Wa<sup>v</sup>36, and Wa<sup>v</sup>42 were also considered to be important enough to warrant limited testing. This work was completed during the fall after crops had been harvested. As a consequence, it was possible to carefully survey each site and excavate test pits in the most promising areas.



Not To Scale

Figure 2

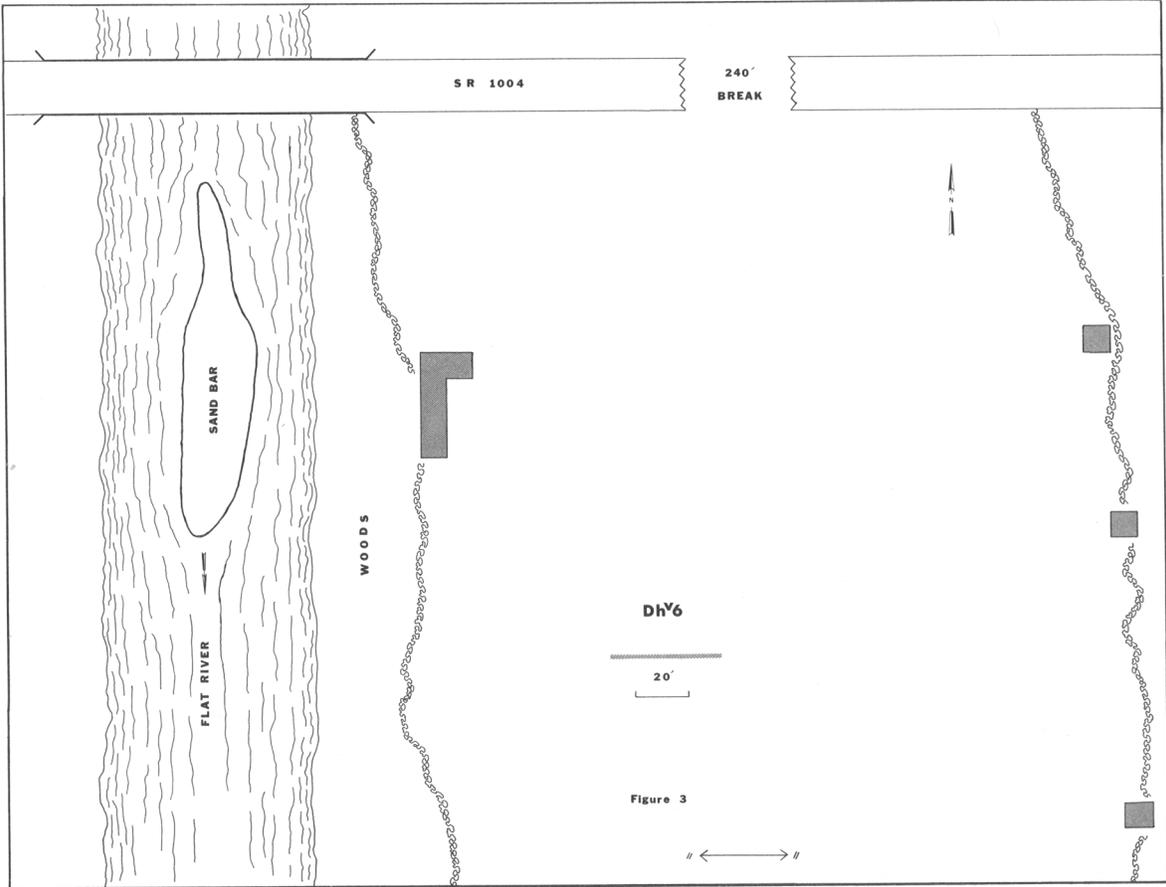
The following is a brief description of the excavation and test results from each site. From the information obtained, it is now possible to provide an accurate assessment of each site's potential in contributing to the understanding of the prehistory of the Falls Reservoir.

Dh<sup>v</sup>6. This site is located approximately 11 miles northeast of Durham on the east side of the Flat River at its intersection with SR 1004. From surface indications, the area covered by the site is approximately 390' east-west by 250' north-south. At the time of the excavations, the main portion of the site was planted in corn, and the tenant was unwilling to have any of the crop damaged. As a result the test units were restricted to the periphery of the field and, coincidentally, along the edge of the site (Figure 3).

A datum was established 25' east of the Flat River bridge on the edge of SR 1004. Originally 5 contiguous 5' squares were laid out along the western border of the corn field. Three additional 5' units were subsequently excavated at random intervals along the eastern edge of the field. It should be kept in mind that the location of these squares was based on decisions made by the farmer and not the archaeologist.

The plow zone was removed as a unit, and the plow scars were then cleaned. Subsequent levels were excavated arbitrarily. The plow zone averaged approximately .5' thick, and rested upon a yellowish-brown sand which contained varying amounts of red clay. This zone extended to a depth of 1.24' and rested upon a sterile homogeneous red clay subsoil.

Almost all of the material recovered from the site was either found on the surface or restricted to the plow zone (Table 1), and there were no indications of intrusive features or post holes in the subsoil.



DH'6

20'

Figure 3



TABLE 1

A SUMMARY OF ARTIFACTS FROM Dh<sup>v</sup>6

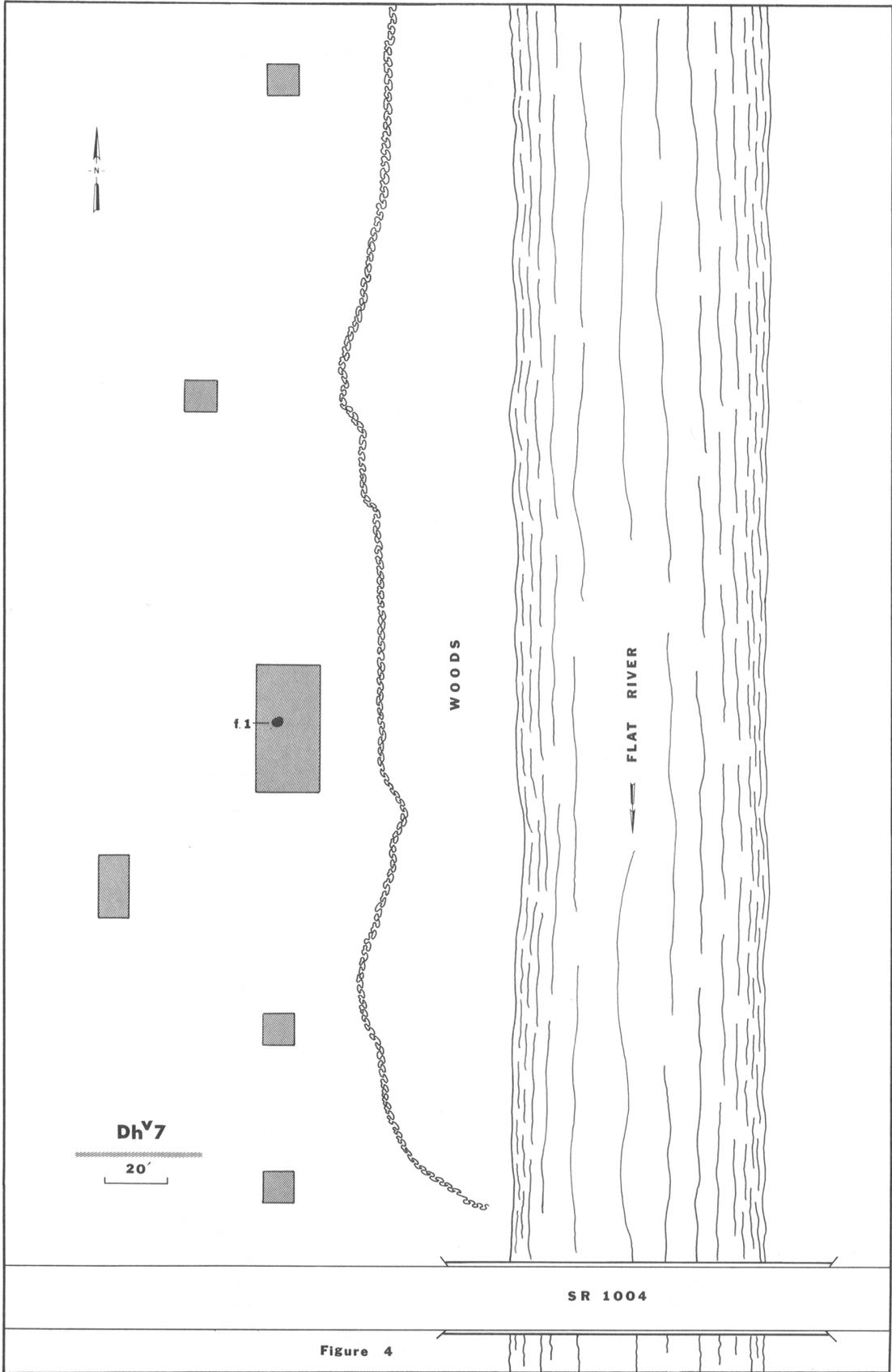
	Surf. No.	Plow Zone (L. 1 & 2) No.	L. 3 No.	Total No.	Per Cent
<b>CERAMICS</b>					
Net Impressed	44	10		54	9.27
Simple Stamped	8	1		9	1.54
Brushed	6			6	1.03
Corn Cob Impressed	1			1	.17
Fabric Impressed	20	1		21	3.60
Cord Marked	32	3		35	6.01
Plain	126	58		184	31.61
Unidentifiable	<u>220</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>46.73</u>
Total	457	124	1	582	100.00
<b>PROJECTILE POINTS</b>					
Hillsboro	7	3		10	16.67
Caraway	3	2		5	8.33
Uwharrie	4			4	6.67
Yadkin	5			5	8.33
Badin	4			4	6.67
Unidentifiable	<u>30</u>	<u>2</u>	—	<u>32</u>	<u>53.33</u>
Total	53	7		60	100.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
Unifacial Scrapper	1	1			
Blades	2	1			
Drills	2				
Celt Fragment	1				
Utilized Flakes	16	7			
Debitage	1063	936	21		

However, it should be kept in mind that it was not possible to test the heart of the site because of the owner's reluctance to sustain crop damage.

Dh<sup>v</sup>7. This site is approximately one-eighth of a mile northwest of Dh<sup>v</sup>6 along the floodplain on the west bank of the Flat River. The site has been planted in permanent pasture for a number of years, making surface reconnaissance virtually impossible. Lacking surface evidence needed to determine the limits of the site, a datum was established 50' west of the Flat River bridge, and arbitrary north-south base line 350' long was laid out along the crest of an old river terrace. Initially six 5' squares were excavated at various intervals along this line (Figure 4).

Excavation procedures were the same as those employed at Dh<sup>v</sup>6, i.e. the plow zone was removed, plow scars cleaned, and the remaining levels were taken out in arbitrary cuts ranging from .3' to .5'. The plow zone consisted of a dark brown sandy soil varying from .65' to .9' in depth. A fairly thick undisturbed, alluvial tan-sandy soil averaging about 1' in thickness lay beneath the plow zone. The homogeneity of the sand was frequently broken by fairly thin rust colored percolation bands. The sandy soil rather abruptly graded into a light orange clay subsoil.

The first 4 test squares, 50' apart on a north-south axis, did not contain a significant amount of material, and that which was present was confined to the plow zone and the upper portions of the tan sand. Neither were any features or postholes recorded in any of these units. However, at the base of the plow zone in the fifth test unit, several large sherds



were collected while cleaning out a plow scar in the southeastern corner of the square. Further cleaning exposed a light brown stain extending into the south and east profiles. At this point, it was decided to excavate two contiguous 10' squares around the feature in order to completely expose it and to determine if additional features or postholes were present. These two squares were designated by the location of their southeast corners relative to the datum established at the northern edge of SR 1004. The feature was completely exposed in the northern unit (500R510) and remained the only intrusion in that square. The excavation of 490R510 also failed to yield any additional information.

At the base of the plow zone, the feature was roughly circular in shape and measured 2.31' at its maximum diameter. Removal of the fill revealed a fairly straight sided, flat bottomed pit .9' deep. The upper .3' of the pit contained a light brown, sandy soil which appeared to have resulted from the washing out and mixing of the original fill with the tan sand during the letters deposition. The remaining fill was dark brown organic soil containing a considerable amount of wood charcoal and several large Dan River Net Impressed sherds. The feature had evidently functioned as a storage pit which was subsequently utilized as a trash receptacle.

An additional 5' square was excavated 50' north of 500R510 but failed to provide additional data. Unfortunately, testing was begun at Dh<sup>v</sup>7 toward the end of the summer field season, and time did not permit further work in the area of feature 1.

TABLE 2

A SUMMARY OF ARTIFACTS FROM Dh<sup>v</sup>7

	Flow Zone	L. 3	F. 1	Total	
	(L. 1 & 2) No.			No.	No.
<b>CERAMICS</b>					
Net Impressed	26	2	39	67	20.74
Simple Stamped	3			3	.93
Brushed	3			3	.93
Fabric Impressed	9			9	2.79
Cord Marked	6	2	1	9	2.79
Plain	62	3	39	104	32.20
Unidentifiable	<u>118</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>39.63</u>
Total	227	10	86	323	100.00
<b>PROJECTILE POINTS</b>					
Hillsboro	3			3	42.86
Caraway	1			1	14.29
Guilford		1		1	14.29
Unidentifiable	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>28.57</u>
Total	6	1		7	100.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
Unifacial Scrappers	1				
Bifacial Scrappers	1				
Blades	4				
Core Tools	1				
Utilized Flakes	3				
Debitage	281	40	13		

Dh<sup>v</sup>55. This site is located immediately southeast of Dh<sup>v</sup>6 on the east side of the Flat River. In 1972, a fabric impressed sherd, 9 miscellaneous chips, and one preform were recovered from the surface of the site. In 1974, the site was re-collected prior to testing, and only one small unidentifiable sherd and four utilized flakes were found. Three test units (3' X 3') were excavated although surface indications were less than encouraging (Figure 5). As expected, there were no indications of preserved occupational evidence, and except for a few flakes in the plow zone, no material was recovered from the test squares.

Dh<sup>v</sup>56. This site is located on the east bank of the Flat River immediately across SR 1004 from Dh<sup>v</sup>6. At the time the site was tested, the field was planted in corn, and as was the case with Dh<sup>v</sup>6, the owner (the same individual who owned Dh<sup>v</sup>6) was not agreeable to having his crop disturbed in any way. As a result, testing was again restricted to the periphery of the field. Fortunately, prior surface survey had revealed that the major artifact concentration was along the field's western edge, approximately 200' east of the river.

A north-south base line was laid out by back-sighting on the Dh<sup>v</sup>6 datum, and three test squares were excavated along this line (Figure 6). The first unit was a 5' square 200' north of the datum and east of the Flat River. The second test consisted of a 10' square 50' north of test square 1. The final unit excavated was a 5' square 50' north of test square 2. The plow zone operation was the same as that described for Dh<sup>v</sup>6 and Dh<sup>v</sup>7; subsequent levels were taken out in arbitrary .2' blocks. As would be expected, the natural stratigraphy did not differ significantly from that described for Dh<sup>v</sup>6 and Dh<sup>v</sup>7.

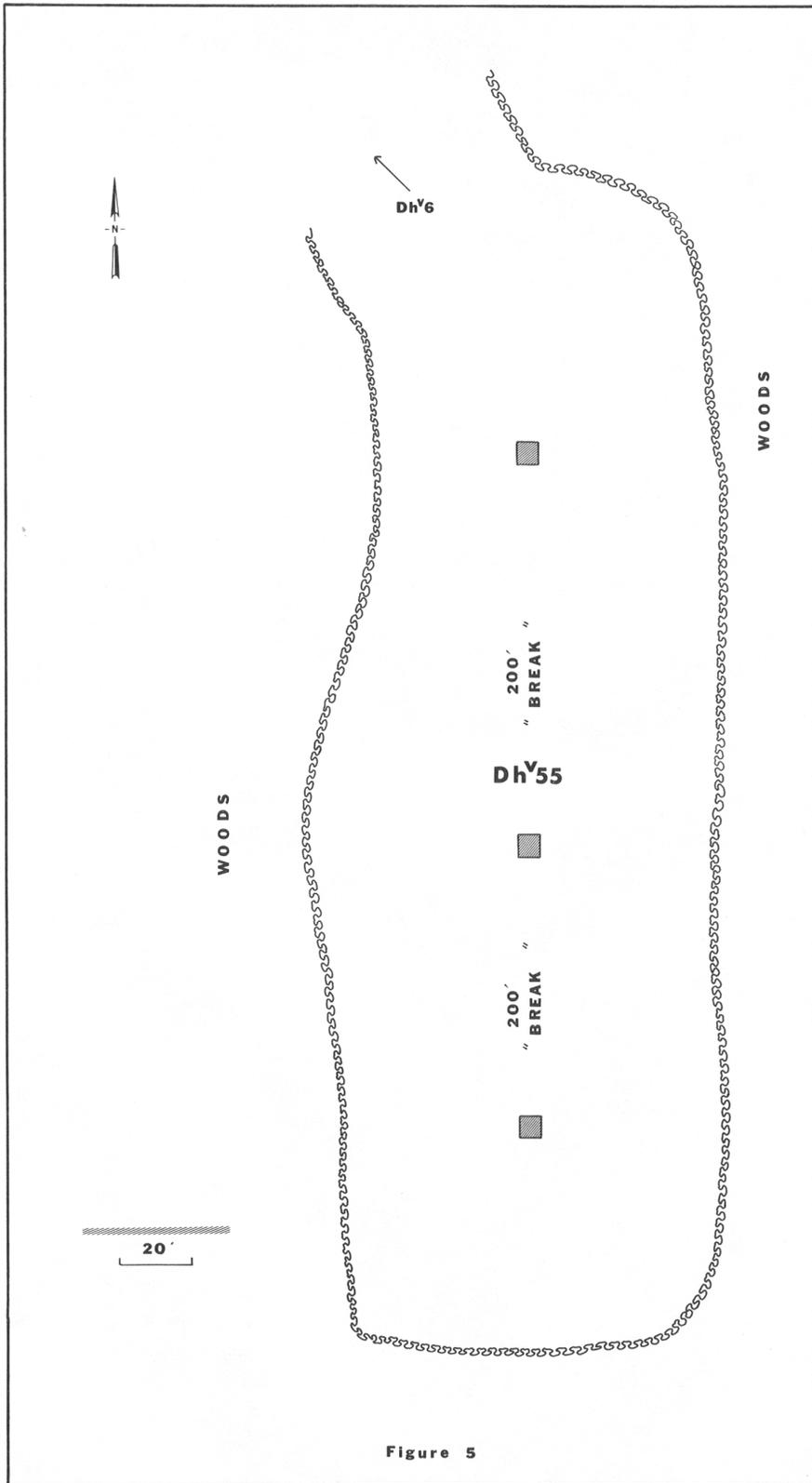


Figure 5

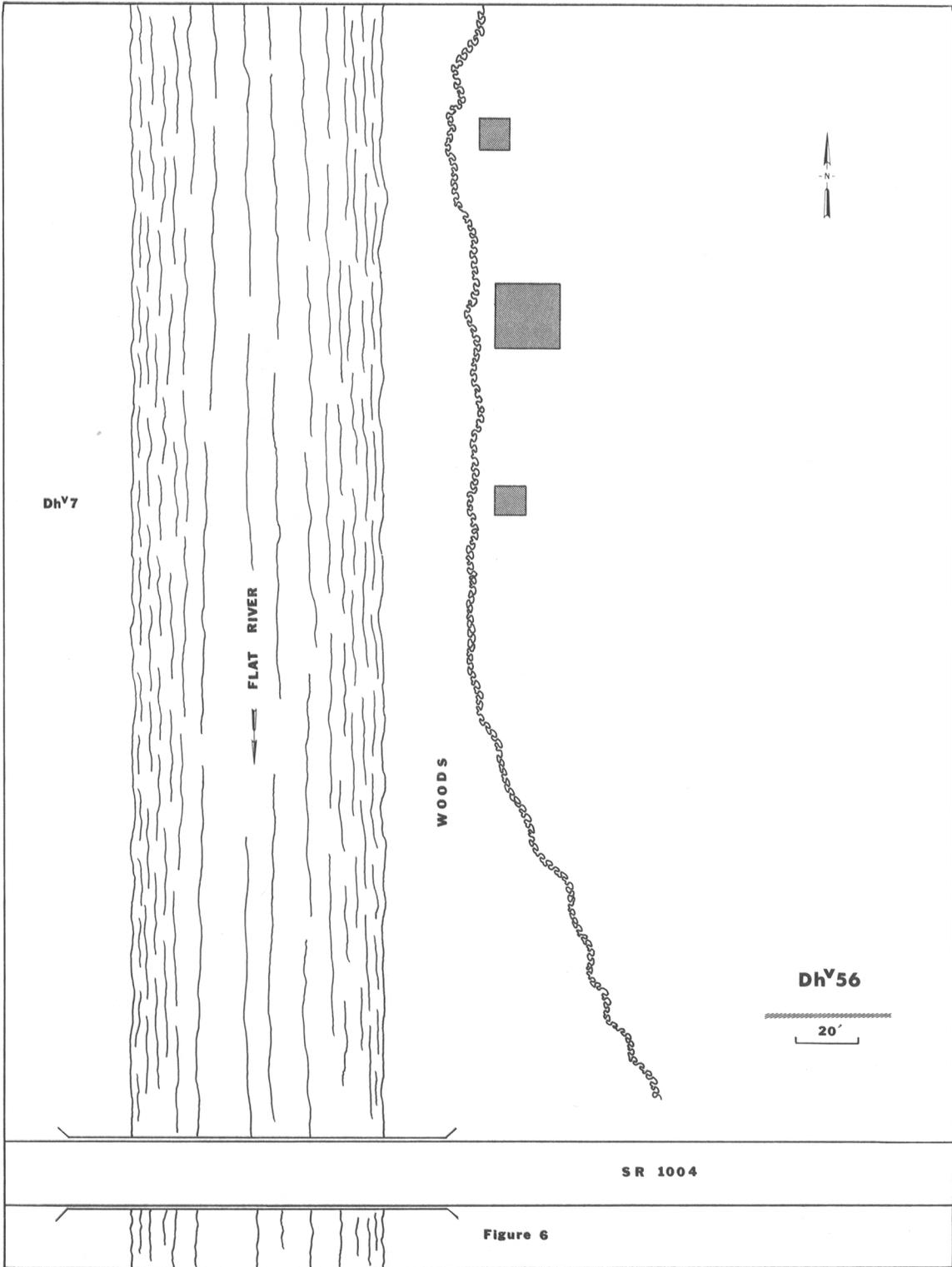


Figure 6

An average of approximately .6' of plow zone rested on top of the alluvial tan sand which averaged about a foot in thickness. Directly below the sand was an orange clay which extended to the bottom of the excavation (2.7' below the surface).

Test squares 1 and 3 were relatively unproductive with an occasional sherd and unmodified flake coming from the plow zone. However, the 10' square, test square 2, midway between them presented a more enlightening picture. Again a few sherds were found in the plow zone, but no Developmental features were noted at the base of the plowed soil. However, over 2,745 waste flakes were recovered in all levels of the square with 1,467 of them coming from a preceramic zone roughly .4' thick at the interface of the tan sand and clay. Diagnostics from this zone included a Savannah River projectile point and several blades suggestive of Guilford projectile point blanks. Numerous fire-cracked rock were also present, and some were in clusters, indicating their possible function as hearths. Dh<sup>v</sup>56 evidences a sparse Developmental occupation probably restricted to the plow zone, overlying a late Archaic horizon. In the area of Test Square 2, this latter occupation is well represented, and additional excavation might reveal an extensive habitation zone.

Dh<sup>v</sup>57. This site is located across State Road 1004 immediately south of Dh<sup>v</sup>7 on the west bank of the Flat River. Like Dh<sup>v</sup>7 the site was sown in permanent pasture. This heavy ground cover made an adequate surface survey impossible. Excavation units were consequently laid out in an arbitrary fashion along an old river terrace 40' west of the Flat River (Figure 7). Excavation procedures followed the pattern described for the previous sites.

TABLE 3

A SUMMARY OF ARTIFACTS FROM Dh<sup>v</sup>56, 1974

	Surf. No.	Plow Zone (L. 1 & 2) No.	L. 3 No.	L. 4 No.	L. 5 No.	Total	
						No.	Per Cent
<b>CERAMICS</b>							
Simple Stamped		1				1	1.22
Incised		3				3	3.66
Fabric Impressed	1			1		2	2.44
Cord Marked		7	1		3	11	13.41
Plain	3	19				22	26.83
Unidentifiable	<u>3</u>	<u>30</u>	—	—	—	<u>33</u>	<u>40.24</u>
Total	7	70	1	1	3	82	100.00
<b>PROJECTILE POINTS</b>							
Hillsboro	1					1	3.13
Caraway	1	2				3	9.38
Uwharrie		2				2	6.25
Yadkin	1					1	3.13
Badin	2	3				5	15.63
Savannah River	1			1		2	6.25
Guilford	1					1	3.13
Morrow Mountain	1					1	3.13
Unidentifiable	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	—	<u>16</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total	15	14	1	2	0	32	100.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>							
Unifacial							
Scraper		1	1			1	
Bifacial							
Scraper	1						
Blades	4	2		3			
Core Tools	4		3				
Utilized Flakes	2	2	2	1			
Abrading Stones				2			
Debitage	713	2180	1082	368	35		

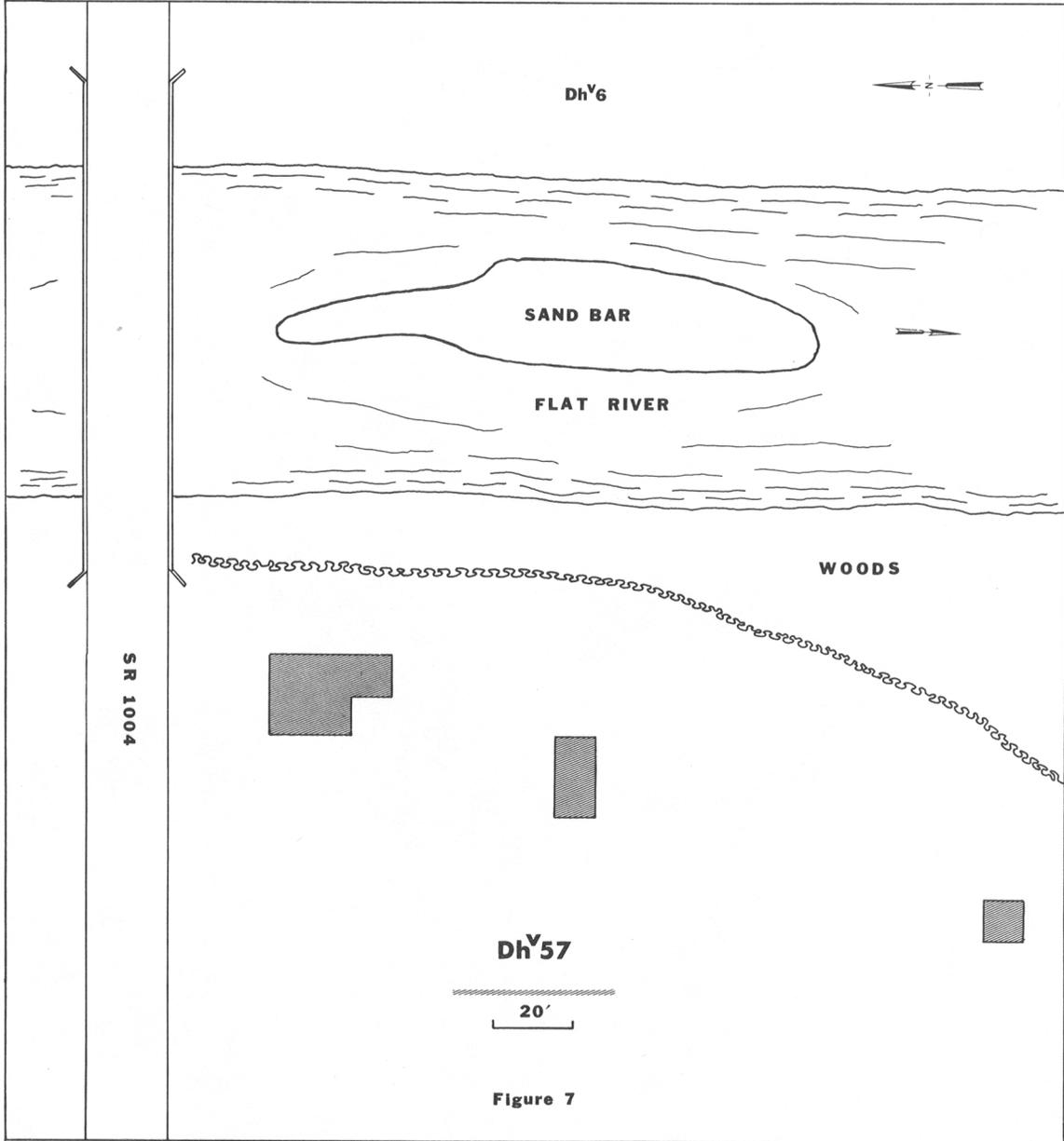


Figure 7

TABLE 4

A SUMMARY OF ARTIFACTS FROM Dh<sup>v</sup>57

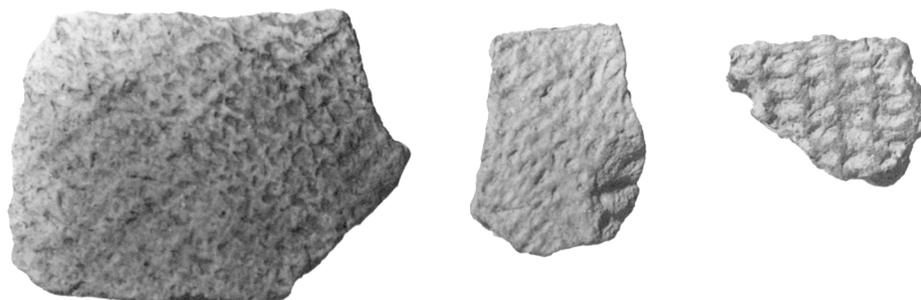
	Surf. No.	Plow Zone (L. 1 & 2) No.	L. 3 No.	L. 4 No.	Total No.	Total Per Cent
<b>CERAMICS</b>						
Net Impressed	4	23	1		28	7.76
Simple Stamped		10			10	2.77
Fabric Impressed		13	1		14	3.89
Cord Marked	2	24	1		27	7.48
Plain	3	64	1		68	18.84
Unidentifiable	<u>2</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>59.28</u>
Total	11	335	15	0	361	100.00
<b>PROJECTILE POINTS</b>						
Caraway		7	2		9	42.86
Uwharrie		3			3	14.29
Yadkin		1			1	4.76
Badin		2			2	9.52
Unidentifiable	<u>—</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>28.57</u>
Total	0	19	2	0	21	100.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>						
Utilized Flakes		13				
Debitage	18	404	10	10		

A total of eight 51 squares were excavated. Excavations began in square 1a, which was expanded into a 10' unit when possible postholes were discovered at the base of the plow zone. The "postholes" turned out to be root disturbances, and no subsoil features were present. The second test square was also expanded when possible postholes were discovered. Again excavation of the stains revealed that they were root cavities. Additional test squares were also unproductive in isolating features. Test square 1a was excavated to a depth of 5.20' in order to see if earlier materials were present. Cultural remains in the lower levels were sparse consisting of only a few waste flakes, none in an undisturbed matrix.

Interpretation. Excavations and tests at Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>7, Dh<sup>v</sup>55, Dh<sup>v</sup>56, and Dh<sup>v</sup>57 were generally discouraging, but information was obtained which allowed for a more precise definition of their cultural affiliations and a clearer understanding of the stratigraphic situation at each site. Early Developmental through historic occupations were in evidence at Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>56, and Dh<sup>v</sup>57. The early and middle Developmental periods were represented by cord marked and fabric impressed sherds of the Badin and Yadkin series and fairly large triangular projectile points (Plates II and III). Net impressed, some fabric marked, and simple stamped pottery characteristic of the Uwharrie and Dan River series in addition to Uwharrie, Caraway, and Hillsboro projectile points evidenced late Developmental and historic affiliations (Plates II and III). In fact, the vast majority of the sherds from all three sites were Uwharrie types, thus placing their major occupation around 1500 A.D.



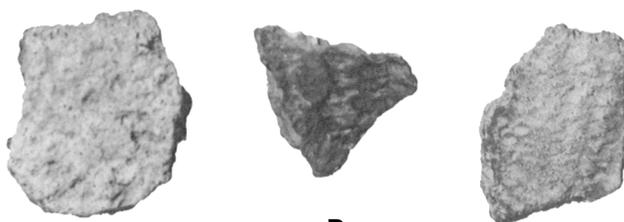
A



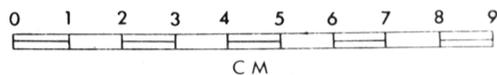
B



C

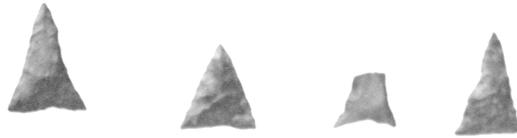


D



## PLATE II

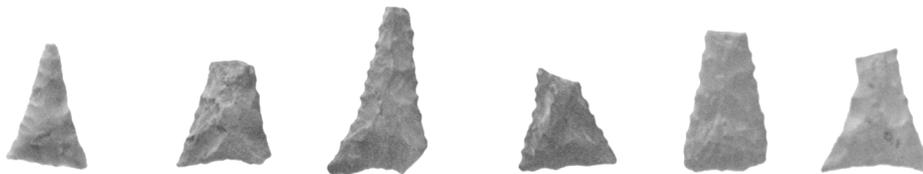
A. LATE DEVELOPMENTAL NET IMPRESSED. B. MIDDLE-LATE DEVELOPMENTAL FABRIC IMPRESSED. C. EARLY DEVELOPMENTAL CORD-MARKED. D. EARLY DEVELOPMENTAL FABRIC IMPRESSED.



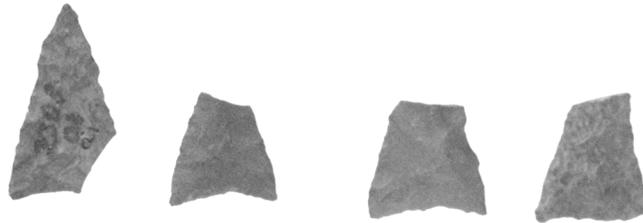
A



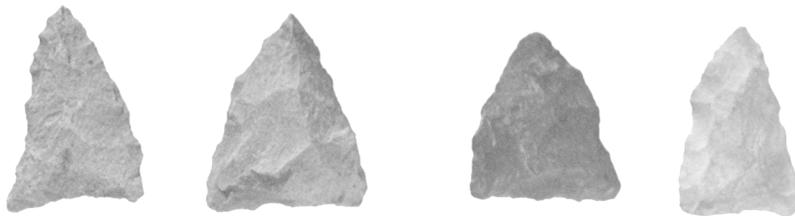
B



C



D



E

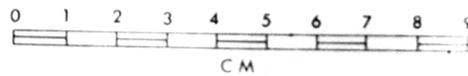


PLATE III

A. HILLSBORO. B. CARAWAY. C. UWHARRIE. D. YADKIN. E. BADIN.

The Developmental and historic materials recovered from Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>56, and Dh<sup>v</sup>57 had been badly disturbed and mixed by plow action. However, the main part of Dh<sup>v</sup>6 could not be tested because the farmer would not allow any crop damage. Negotiations should be made early in the year so that permission to test the main part of the site could hopefully be obtained. Certainly additional testing is needed before the site is flooded. More work is also needed at Dh<sup>v</sup>56 to determine the extent of the Archaic occupation and to hopefully provide data on subsistence and environmental utilization. Based on the test results, additional excavations at Dh<sup>v</sup>57 does not seem warranted.

Dh<sup>v</sup>55 appears to represent little more than the southeastern edge of Dh<sup>v</sup>6 and, as such, should not be considered for additional work.

The final site in the cluster, Dh<sup>v</sup>7, is probably the most promising site in the entire reservoir, and the most likely candidate for the putative location of Adshusheer. Although there is evidence for historic occupation on all these sites, Dh<sup>v</sup>7 appears to represent the center of this occupation. Virtually all the pottery belonged to the Dan River series and appeared to be contemporary with the late 17th, early 18th century ceramics from Or<sup>v</sup>11, Occaneechi Town (Plate IV). Also of note is the fact that all the late projectile points were also historic types dating to the late 1600's and early 1700's.

The one feature excavated at Dh<sup>v</sup>7 suggests that additional material is preserved in undisturbed contexts. Expanded excavations should be considered so that information concerning house types, community patterns, and subsistence could be gleaned. These kinds of data are crucial to our

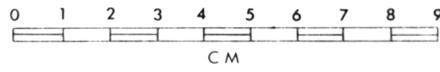
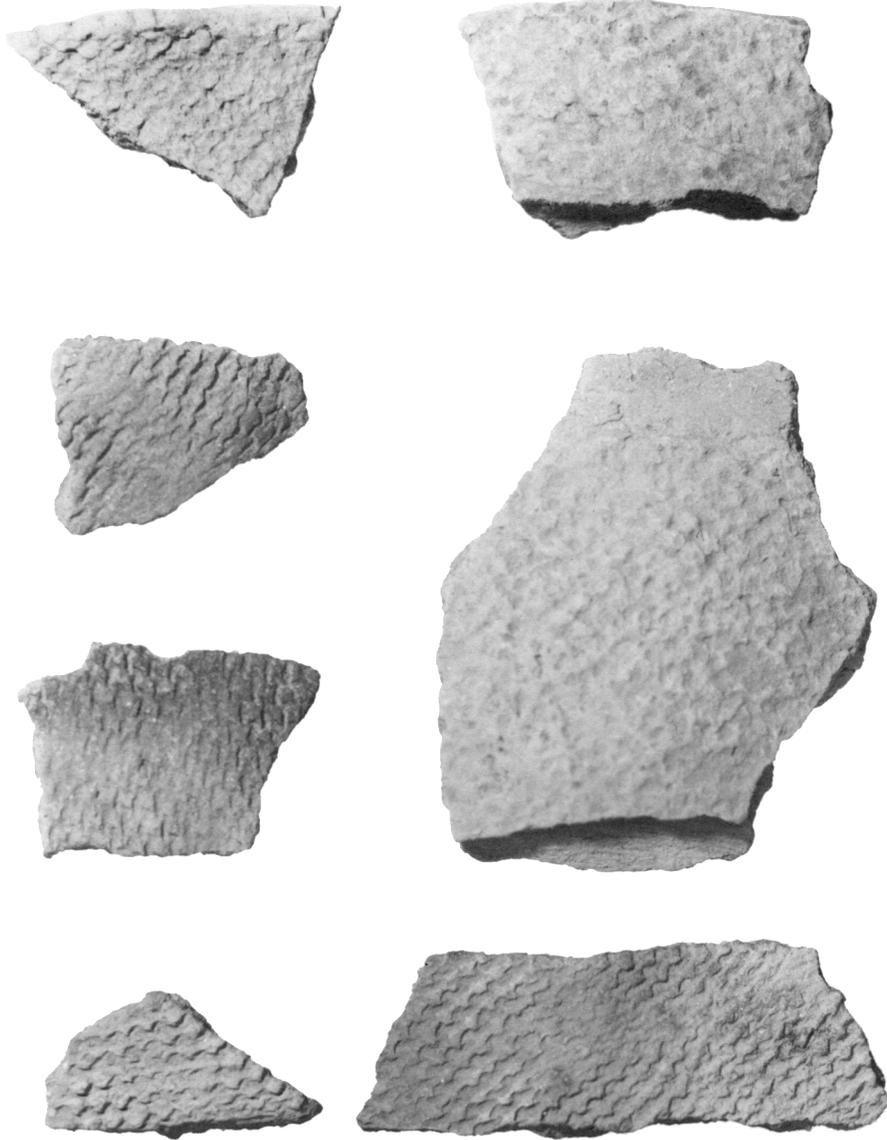


PLATE IV  
DAN RIVER SERIES, NET IMPRESSED

understanding of the complex cultural processes of the early contact period. Extensive excavations, coupled with indepth historical research, should also solve the Adshusheer riddle.

Wake County Sites. Wa<sup>v</sup>31, Wa<sup>v</sup>32, Wa<sup>v</sup>33, Wa<sup>v</sup>34, Wa<sup>v</sup>35, and Wa<sup>v</sup>42 are contiguous sites located along the east bank of Beaverdam Creek on the south side of SR 1900. In 1972, these sites were considered to be the second most important group in the reservoir area. As a result, Wa<sup>v</sup>32, Wa<sup>v</sup>34, Wa<sup>v</sup>35, Wa<sup>v</sup>36, and Wa<sup>v</sup>42 were re-collected and tested in order to more accurately evaluate their potential.

Wa<sup>v</sup>32 is situated along a slight north-south rise and extends over an area of approximately 200' by 100' immediately east of Wa<sup>v</sup>33 and north of Wa<sup>v</sup>42 (Figure 8). Chips and debitage were scattered throughout the area but a concentration was observed along the crest of the rise. For this reason, three 3' test squares were laid out on a north-south axis across the top of the rise. Excavation of the squares revealed that there were no buried occupational zones. All cultural material recovered was found either on the surface or in the plow zone which averaged .8' in depth. A sterile band of greyish-white alluvial sand up to .6' in thickness was beneath the plow zone. This sand rested upon an orange-yellow clay subsoil. All tests extended to at least .4' into the clay. Artifacts recovered in 1972 indicated a middle to late Archaic occupation with Stanly stemmed, Guilford and Morrow Mountain projectile points being represented. These point types were also found in the 1974 tests and surface survey along with a Kirk corner notched specimen indicating some occupation throughout most of the Archaic period.

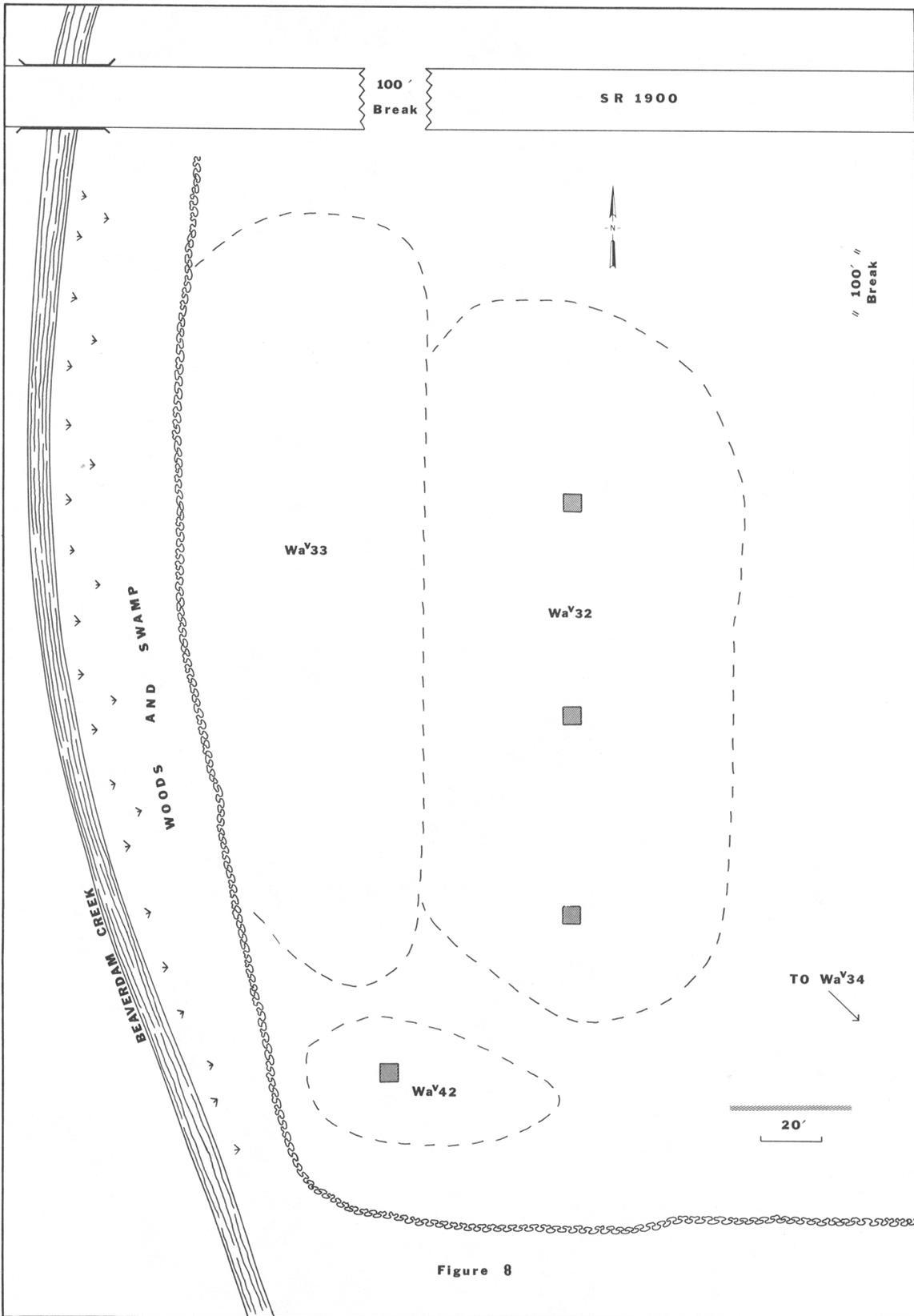


Figure 8

The 1974 inventory also included 32 utilized flakes and 2 historic potsherds. The absence of evidence for buried Archaic horizons suggests that only additional surface collecting is necessary if the field is re-plowed prior to inundation.

Wa<sup>v</sup>34 is located on a slight knoll approximately 390' east of and 240' south of Wa<sup>v</sup>32. Material was generally sparse on the surface and showed no concentrations, but two 3' test units were excavated to insure that there were no buried occupations (Figure 9). The first square contained nothing but plow zone overlying a sterile orange-yellow clay subsoil. A band of greyish-white alluvial sand was found in the second unit overlying the clay, but it too was sterile. No diagnostics were recovered from the site in 1972, but one Morrow Mountain point and a Guilford point were found on the surface in 1974. No other material was recovered except for 12 utilized flakes and one side scraper. The majority of these specimens were found on the surface, but a few flakes were retrieved from the plow zone. Additional work is not recommended at this site.

Wa<sup>v</sup>35 is situated in an area of flat bottomland 150' south of and 200' west of Wa<sup>v</sup>34 (Figure 9). The site is bounded by woods and a swampy area which extends for approximately 1/4 mile to Beaverdam Creek. Here again, surface material was not plentiful, but the possibility of buried occupations could not be overlooked. Four 3' squares were dug along the middle of the site in order to check the stratigraphy. Other than a few flakes from the plow zone, all the units were sterile. As expected, the stratigraphy was somewhat different from that encountered at the previous sites. The plow zone, in most instances, lay on top of a light brown alluvial sand which extended to the water table, almost three feet below the surface.

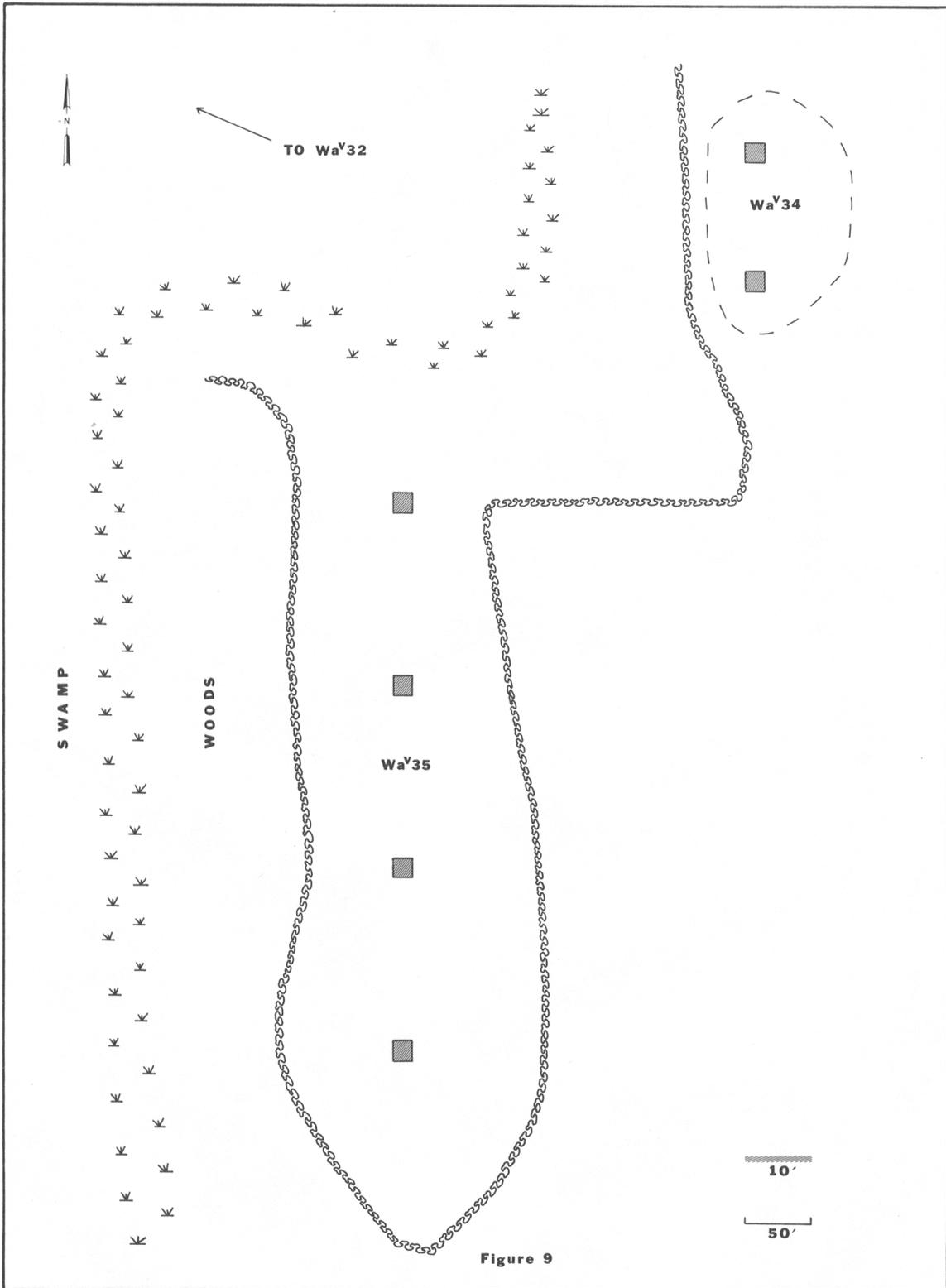


Figure 9

Several chips and one Guilford lanceolate point were picked up on the surface in 1972. This inventory was expanded in 1974 to include a Randolph stemmed projectile point and five badly eroded potsherds tempered with sand and quartz inclusions. Evidently, the site was at least visited from the middle Archaic up to the Historic period, but the sparsity of surface artifacts and the absence of buried horizons indicate that further work is not necessary.

Because testing at Wa<sup>v</sup>32 had proven unsuccessful in identifying buried occupations, only one 3' test was opened at Wa<sup>v</sup>42 (Figure 8). As expected, the plow zone rested directly on sterile clay. The collection from 1972 indicated a middle to late Archaic occupation with Morrow Mountain, Guilford and Savannah River projectile points being recovered. No diagnostics were recovered from the test pit or from the surface in 1974. As a consequence, no additional work is necessary.

The final site tested was Wa<sup>v</sup>36, which is located in bottomland approximately 1/8 mile east of Ledge Creek. In 1972, the site was broken up into three areas designated "a" "b", and "c". In 1974, only a few chips could be found in areas "b" and "c", but a Savannah River stemmed projectile point was found at Wa<sup>v</sup>36a. Three 3' tests were excavated to check the stratigraphy (Figure 10). A deep one foot plow zone lay on top of a mottled sandy clay which continued to the water table at a depth of a little over two feet. No material or features were found in any of the excavated units. Additional testing or survey does not seem worthwhile.

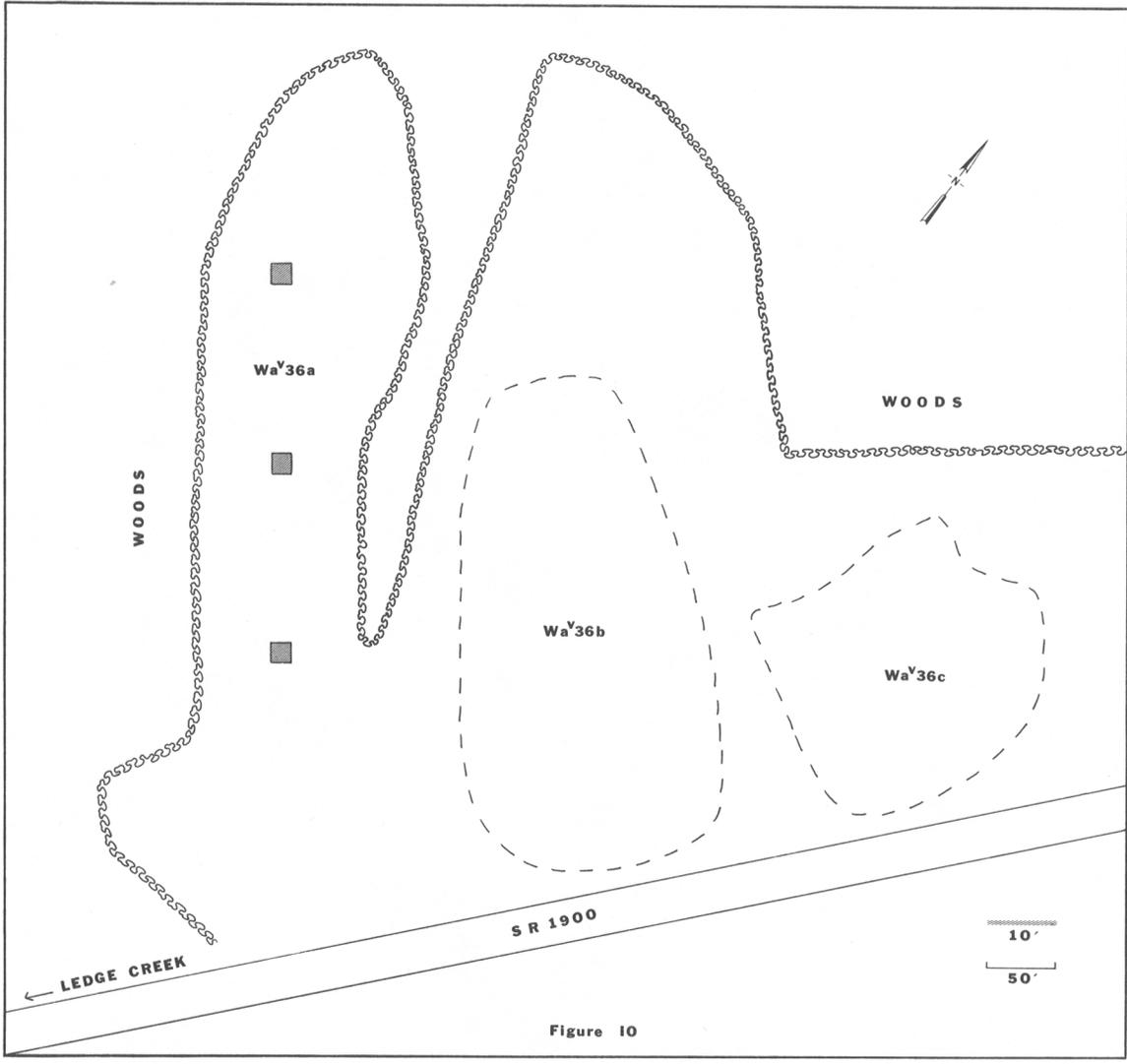


Figure 10

## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A total of 74 sites were located within the area encompassed by the flood pool elevation of the Falls of the Neuse Reservoir. Most of these sites were concentrated along the tributaries of the upper Neuse River or on the flood plains of the Eno, Flat, and Little rivers. The reservoir area was occupied from the early Archaic until the Historic period. However, all periods were not equally represented nor were there ever increasing populations reflecting the general cultural evolutionary trend from small bands of hunter-gatherers to fairly large settlements of agriculturalists.

The majority of the sites which yielded diagnostic artifacts appeared to evidence seasonal, middle to late Archaic bases which were occupied for short periods of time (Appendix I). Ten sites contained early Archaic types, but in all cases, these specimens were not abundant. The Developmental period was represented by only 9 sites with 5 of these comprising a cluster along the Flat River. These Flat River sites also contained the only evidence for habitation during the early contact, Historic period.

Although fairly large expanses within the reservoir area were not accessible to extensive survey, in most instances this inaccessibility must also have faced aboriginal populations. During the early Developmental period when aboriginal technologies were becoming specifically adapted to settled agriculture, most of the Falls Reservoir presented a less than favorable environment for such exploitive techniques. The high bluffs and narrow swampy bottoms of the Neuse and its feeder streams probably could not have been successfully utilized by incipient agriculturalists.

The most promising areas capable of sustaining permanent agricultural settlements were the flood plains of the lower Flat, Eno, and Little rivers. Of these three, the Flat appears to have offered the best potential as evidenced by the early Developmental through Historic occupations at Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>7, Dh<sup>v</sup>55, Dh<sup>v</sup>56, and Dh<sup>v</sup>57.

Regrettably, tests have shown that some of the most promising sites have been badly disturbed by erosion and plow action and do not warrant additional investigation other than periodic surface checks (Appendix I). However, two sites, Dh<sup>v</sup>7 and Dh<sup>v</sup>56, did reveal undisturbed occupation layers which should be subjected to additional excavation prior to their inundation. The possible association of Dh<sup>v</sup>7 with the historic town of Adshusheer gives it a special significance which can't be overlooked. Additional work should also be carried out at Dh<sup>v</sup>6 since the main portion of the site could not be tested in 1974. Permission to excavate in the heart of the site could probably be obtained if sought prior to planting time.

The rather large scale testing project conducted in 1974 has made it possible to determine the sites with the greatest potential for yielding additional information. Expanded excavations at Dh<sup>v</sup>6, Dh<sup>v</sup>7, and Dh<sup>v</sup>56 should provide sufficient data to reconstruct the prehistory, of the falls area from the middle-late Archaic through Historic times. This information could add significantly to our knowledge of the culture history of the North Carolina Piedmont.

## APPENDIX I

## SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF FALLS RESERVOIR SITES

Site	Major Cultural Components	Recommendations
Dh <sup>V</sup> 5	early to late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 6	early Developmental to Historic	Expanded excavations
Dh <sup>V</sup> 7	late Developmental to Historic	Expanded excavations
Dh <sup>V</sup> 42	late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 43	Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 44	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 47	early Developmental	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 48	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 49	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 50	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 52	middle to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 54	middle to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 55	Developmental	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 56	middle Archaic to Historic	Expanded excavations
Dh <sup>V</sup> 57	early Developmental to Historic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 58	?	No further action

APPENDIX I  
(con't)

SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF FALLS RESERVOIR SITES

Site	Major Cultural Components	Recommendations
Dh <sup>V</sup> 59	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 60	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 61	?	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 71	middle to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 76	Archaic (?)	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 77	late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 79	Archaic (?)	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 84	late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 90	Archaic to early Developmental	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 122	early to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 123	early Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 124	middle Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 126	Archaic (?)	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 127	?	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 130	early to late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 131	early to late Archaic	No further action

APPENDIX I  
(con't)

SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF FALLS RESERVOIR SITES

Site	Major Cultural Components	Recommendations
Dh <sup>V</sup> 132	early to late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 133	early to late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 134	Archaic (?)	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 135	Archaic (?)	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 136	late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 137	late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 138	middle Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 140	Archaic (?)	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 141	Archaic (?)	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 142	late Archaic	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 143	early Developmental	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 144	Archaic (?)	No further action
Dh <sup>V</sup> 145	middle to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Dh <sup>V</sup> 146	?	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 9	Archaic (?)	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 10	Archaic (?)	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 11	Archaic (?)	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 12	Archaic (?)	No further action

APPENDIX I  
(con't)

SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF FALLS RESERVOIR SITES

Site	Major Cultural Components	Recommendations
Gv <sup>V</sup> 18	early Developmental (?)	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 19	?	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 20	?	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 21	late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Gv <sup>V</sup> 22	middle to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Gv <sup>V</sup> 23	?	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 25	early Developmental (?)	Additional surface collecting
Gv <sup>V</sup> 40	?	No further action
Gv <sup>V</sup> 42	early Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Gv <sup>V</sup> 43	middle to late Archaic	No further action
Wa <sup>V</sup> 5	late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Wa <sup>V</sup> 6	?	No further action
Wa <sup>V</sup> 31	middle to late Archaic	No further action
Wa <sup>V</sup> 32	early to late Archaic	Additional surface collecting
Wa <sup>V</sup> 33	early (?) to middle Archaic	No further action
Wa <sup>V</sup> 34	middle Archaic	No further action
Wa <sup>V</sup> 35	middle Archaic to Historic	No further action
Wa <sup>V</sup> 36	late Archaic	No further action

APPENDIX I  
(con't)

## SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF FALLS RESERVOIR SITES

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Site	Major Cultural Components	Recommendations
Wa <sup>v</sup> 37	?	No further action
Wa <sup>v</sup> 38	?	No further action
Wa <sup>v</sup> 39	?	No further action
Wa <sup>v</sup> 41	?	No further action
Wa <sup>v</sup> 42	middle to late Archaic	No further action
Wa <sup>v</sup> 43	?	No further action

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