

THE NEW YORK AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND:  
Unearthing the African Presence in Colonial New York

Volume 2

The Archaeology of the New York African Burial Ground  
*Part 2: Descriptions of Burials*

Warren R. Perry, Jean Howson, and Barbara A. Bianco  
*Editors*

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Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. General Services Administration or Howard University.

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Detail of the Maerschalk Plan (Francis Maerschalk, 1754)

Artifacts from the New York African Burial Ground (Photographs by Jon Abbott):

Enameled cuff link face, Burial 371, Catalog No. 1875-B.001.

Bead Type 12, Burial 340, Catalog No. 01651-B.79.

Oval turquoise enamel face, Burial 211, Catalog No. 1186-B.001.

Pins, Burial 12, Catalog Nos. 253-B.001, .002.

Ring, copper alloy with glass insets, Burial 310, Catalog No. 1486-B.001.

Bead Type 9, Burial 340, Catalog No. 01651-B.78.

Bead Type 15, Burial 340, Catalog No. 01651-B.75.

Button, bone, turned. Burial 171, Catalog No. 931-B.002.

Cast silver pendant, Burial 254, Catalog No. 1243-B.001.

Burial 335 (Photography by Dennis Seckler)

Cover design by Star Bullock + Associates, Mark A. Bartley

# Contributors

## ***DIRECTOR FOR ARCHAEOLOGY***

Warren R. Perry, Ph.D., Central Connecticut State University

## ***ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR ARCHAEOLOGY***

Jean Howson, Ph.D.

## ***LABORATORY DIRECTOR***

Leonard G. Bianchi, M.A.

## ***RESEARCH ASSOCIATE***

Barbara A. Bianco, Ph.D.

## ***HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS***

E. Kofi Agorsah, Ph.D., Portland State University  
Steven Barto, M.A., M.L.S., New York Municipal Archives

Christopher R. DeCorse, Ph.D., Syracuse University

Augustin F. C. Holl, Ph.D., University of Michigan at Ann Arbor

Meta F. Janowitz, Ph.D.

## ***RESEARCH ASSISTANTS***

Shannon Mahoney, M.A.

Ruth Mathis, M.A.

Janet L. Woodruff

## ***ARCHAEOLOGICAL TECHNICIANS***

Jean-Marie Cerasale

Tarik Holmes

Tamara Kelly

Iciar Lucena Narvaez

Allison Manfra

Amy Page

Paula Saunders

Cristine Whibby

## ***DIGITAL MAPPING***

Robert Bethea, M.A.

Marques Roberts

Percival Taylor, M.A.

Ed Zeltmann, The RBA Group

## ***FAUNAL AND FLORAL ANALYSTS***

Patricia Fall, Ph.D., Arizona State University

Gerald K. Kelso, Ph.D.

Lisa Lavold-Foote, Arizona State University

Marie-Lorraine Pipes

Leslie Raymer, R.P.A., New South Associates

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Michael L. Blakey, Ph.D. (College of William and Mary), Scientific Director

Edna Greene Medford, Ph.D. (Howard University), Director for History

Warren R. Perry, Ph.D. (Central Connecticut State University), Director for Archaeology

Sherrill D. Wilson, Ph.D., Director, Office of Public Education and Interpretation

Lesley M. Rankin-Hill, Ph.D. (University of Oklahoma), Director for Skeletal Biology

Alan H. Goodman, Ph.D. (Hampshire College), Director for Chemical Studies

Fatimah L. C. Jackson, Ph.D. (University of Maryland), Director for Genetics

#### **IV • CONTRIBUTORS**

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Jean Howson, Ph.D., Associate Director for  
Archaeology  
Leonard G. Bianchi, M.A., Archaeology Laboratory  
Director  
Mark Mack, M.A. (Howard University), Cobb  
Laboratory Director

***AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND PROJECT  
ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT***  
O. Jackson Cole, Ph.D. (Howard University),  
Executive in Charge  
James A. Donaldson, Ph.D. (Howard University),  
Project Manager

# Foreword

In 1991, during the excavation phase for the construction of the Federal Building now seen at 290 Broadway, New York City, a cemetery was uncovered containing human remains of Africans—most were enslaved, some free—who lived, worked, and died under inhumane conditions in colonial New York. This discovery, the largest bioarchaeological site of its kind, sparked heightened public awareness of an African heritage in the northern states of colonial America. An outcome of this awareness was the public's desire for amending and correcting the history of colonial New York during that period to reflect more accurately the lives and culture of these forgotten Africans and people of African descent and their contributions and roles in economic development. Several initiatives, sponsored by the General Services Administration on behalf of the American people, were launched to accomplish this goal.

The initiative to conduct historical and scientific studies of the remains and artifacts excavated at the site was entrusted to Howard University. There, Dr. Michael L. Blakey, now at the College of William and Mary, designed and implemented a comprehensive, interdisciplinary research program—the New York African Burial Ground Project—to address questions in three main areas: history, archaeology, and skeletal biology. As scientific director of the project, he assembled an international team of scholars, professionals, graduate and undergraduate students, technical staff members, and cultural specialists for various parts of the study.

*The New York African Burial Ground: Unearthing the African Presence in Colonial New York* serves as the culminating work of this project, reporting the research findings. This multivolume series covers broadly a contextualized historical perspective, details of the archaeological discoveries, and descriptions of the skeletal biology of the unearthed human remains. Each volume documents and validates the lives of African Americans' ancestors who lived and worked in colonial New York. Included in this work are detailed descriptions of the burials excavated, complete with drawings, figures, and tables, as well as a comprehensive appendix of the artifacts found within the burials.

Through the years of this project, membership of the research team changed, but the goal of the project remained constant, that of ensuring that the story of the origins, life, and death of the enslaved Africans of colonial New York would not be absent from the annals of world history.

O. Jackson Cole, Ph.D.

Howard University Executive-in-Charge of the African Burial Ground Project

James A. Donaldson, Ph.D.

Dean, Howard University College of Arts and Sciences



# Editorial Method

For the sake of consistency and because this was primarily an archaeological project, all three technical volumes of this series, *The New York African Burial Ground: Unearthing the African Presence in Colonial*

*New York*, were edited according to the conventions of the same style manuals: the style guide of the Society for American Archaeology and *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition.





# Acknowledgments

The Howard University Archaeology Team is grateful to the community members and the church, civic, and cultural organizations that paid close attention to the African Burial Ground Project over the years. Their support made this work possible, and their questions helped us to sharpen our inquiry.

We gratefully acknowledge Dr. O. Jackson Cole (Office of the President) and Dr. James A Donaldson (Dean, College of Arts and Sciences) for their efforts in the administration of the project. Also at Howard, Ms. Reba Brewington, Office Manager for the Cobb Laboratory, and Ms. Alma Kemp, Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, patiently fielded our questions, facilitated the sharing of information, and routed paperwork and files; Ms. Lori Sweet, Administrative Assistant, Office of the President, helped ensure that the transmission of the draft and final reports went smoothly.

We thank Contracting Officer Mildred Broughton and others on the New York staff of the U.S. General Services Administration for providing laboratory and office facilities, initially at the World Trade Center and later at 1 Bowling Green, and for their efforts in salvaging the laboratory after September 11, 2001. Nancy Brighton of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on behalf of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative, acted as liaison between the research team, GSA, and advisory agencies; oversaw the transfer of the collections for reburial; and provided helpful comments on the draft report. The staffs of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation provided consultation to the GSA and commented on the draft report.

The archaeology team owes an enormous debt to the African Burial Ground Project's Scientific Director, Dr. Michael L. Blakey. His knowledge, leadership,

generosity, encouragement, and resolve have been a mainstay over the years. We are profoundly grateful to all of the researchers from the Skeletal Biology Team (led by Blakey and Dr. Lesley M. Rankin-Hill) and the History Team (led by Dr. Edna Greene Medford), who helped shape our findings while sharing theirs as the project proceeded.

Dr. Blakey helped us to clarify and share the archaeological findings by organizing a series of multidisciplinary Sankofa Conferences, sponsored by Howard University and the College of William and Mary, that brought together the project's geographically dispersed research teams and other scholars of Africa and the African Diaspora. We wish to thank all of the participants, particularly Selwyn H. H. Carrington, Alan Goodman, Fatimah Jackson, Mark Mack, Edna Greene Medford, and Lesley Rankin-Hill. Kofi Agorsah, Augustin Holl, Bob Paynter, and Chris DeCorse helped formulate and refine archaeological issues. Chris Moore, Grey Gundaker, and T. J. Davis, among others, shared their insights on historical questions raised by the archaeological findings.

We thank the Institute for Historical Biology at the College of William and Mary for providing a second institutional home for the project. We especially appreciate Shannon Mahoney and Autumn Barrett for their research assistance, for answering our last-minute questions about the skeletal data, and for their superb efforts in facilitating the Sankofa Conferences.

Dr. Sherrill Wilson, Director of the New York African Burial Ground Project's Office of Public Education and Interpretation, shared her considerable knowledge of New York's African American history, helped broaden the research by pointing out important sources, opened her library to us, provided the roster on escapee advertisements, read early drafts of the report, and ensured that our findings

were brought to thousands of schoolchildren and the wider public.

Meta Janowitz shared her knowledge of Dutch New York and of the eighteenth-century stoneware that was so ubiquitous at the African Burial Ground site, discussed archaeological issues, read early drafts of several chapters, and generally provided good cheer in the New York laboratory.

The archaeological investigation was begun by the late Edward S. Rutsch of Historic Conservation and Interpretation, and we thank him for first proving that graves were still intact at the African Burial Ground and for assembling the field team. Obviously, without the field records, no analysis would have been possible. We thank Field Director Michael Parrington, Brian Ludwig, and the entire field staff, along with members of the Metropolitan Forensic Anthropology Team, for their efforts in conducting and recording the excavations under difficult conditions. Special thanks go to Margo Schur and the other site artists who carefully drew each burial and to Dennis Seckler for the photographs. Margo also assisted us by answering questions about field recording procedures. Initial laboratory processing of burial related artifacts was under the direction of Linda Stone and subsequently Gary McGowan of JMA. Charles Cheek was in charge of the analysis of the nonburial component of the 290 Broadway site, and we thank him for generously sharing early drafts of his site report and answering our questions as we proceeded with our analysis.

Numerous local libraries and archives yielded resources for our analysis. We thank the staffs of the following for helping us track down materials and answering our questions: the New York Public Library and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the New York Historical Society, the New York State Archives, the Brooklyn Public Library, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, the Municipal Archives of the City of New York, the Trinity Church Archives, and the John Street Methodist Church.

Help with specific questions and analyses was received from a number of individuals. Mac Headley of Colonial Williamsburg shared his knowledge of colonial cabinetry and coffin making and pointed us to additional sources. Ed Howson answered questions about joinery. Emily Wilson of Colonial Williamsburg provided information on enameling. Douglas Ubelaker provided information and sources on the rates of decay of human remains. Ann F. Budd, Department of Geology, University of Iowa, provided identifications

of coral specimens from the African Burial Ground. John Boyd of the U.S. Customs Service Federal Crime Laboratory performed spectrograph analysis on the silver pendant. Michelle Gilbert guided us through the literature on adornment in Ghana. Fatimah Jackson, Kofi Agorsah, Muhammad Hatim, and Sylviane Diouf provided information about Islamic burial practices. Cheryl LaRoche answered questions about the conservation of artifacts from the burials. Jason Narvaez and Jennifer Arnett provided technical advice on report graphics.

Howard University provided technical staff for digitizing the site map. We thank Robert Bethea for overseeing the initial digitizing, and technicians Percival Taylor and Marques Roberts, who, along with Ruth Mathis and Iciar Lucena Narvaez, patiently refined, double-checked, and corrected the base mapping.

We thank Dean Susan Pease, Dean of the School of Arts and Science, and Michael Park, Chair of the Department of Anthropology, at Central Connecticut State University for providing release time for Warren Perry and for supporting his work on the project over many years. Janet Woodruff, of Central Connecticut State University's Archaeology Laboratory for African and African Diaspora Studies (ALAADS), has provided energy and advice as well as many hours of her own time. We thank Richard L. Porter of The RBA Group for understanding the importance of the project and making it possible for Jean Howson to contribute much of her time. Thanks also to RBA's Kathy Krumbine for help formatting front matter and appendices, and Ed Zeltmann, who prepared all of the site maps for the report.

This report has benefited greatly from the careful critiques of the members of the Advisory Review Board, Diana DiZerega Wall, Theresa Singleton, and Frank McManamon. We are grateful for their excellent suggestions. The interpretations and any errors or omissions, however, are our own.

Howard University gratefully acknowledges the efforts of the African Burial Ground Project directors, under the leadership of Dr. Michael L. Blakey, and the editors, authors, research team members, and research consultants for their contributions to the Archaeology Final Report. A tremendous debt of gratitude is owed to the three members of the Advisory Review Board, jointly appointed by the U.S. General Services Administration and Howard University, for the excellence and professionalism of the critiques they provided for the several iterations of this report.

# **Descriptions of Burials 1–435**

*Jean Cerasale, Jean Howson, Iciar Lucena Narvaez, Ruth Mathis,  
Warren R. Perry, and Janet L. Woodruff*



# Notes on the Drawings

The editors' decision to use original drawings rather than re-rendering them was not based solely on expediency. In fact, time spent preparing the field drawings for reproduction herein was equivalent to what it would have taken to trace (either mechanically or digitally) each burial drawing. But each step removed from the original observation is likely to result in a loss of information, and so even in cases where the original drawing was fairly rough (and these are not many), we have elected to retain the excavation team's sketch. The preparation involved digitally scanning the drawings, then removing some of the labeling. The full, un-retouched drawings are retained in the project archive in the original and as .tif files.

Margo Schur (now Margo Meyer) was responsible for rendering the majority of field drawings, and her work speaks for itself. Ms. Schur and the other site

artists, notably Wendy Williams, took on the arduous and painstaking task of recording details of each burial in situ. Thanks to their diligence and talent, and to the equally careful work of photographer Dennis Seckler, assisted by Stan Bottitta, the visual recordation for most burials is excellent.

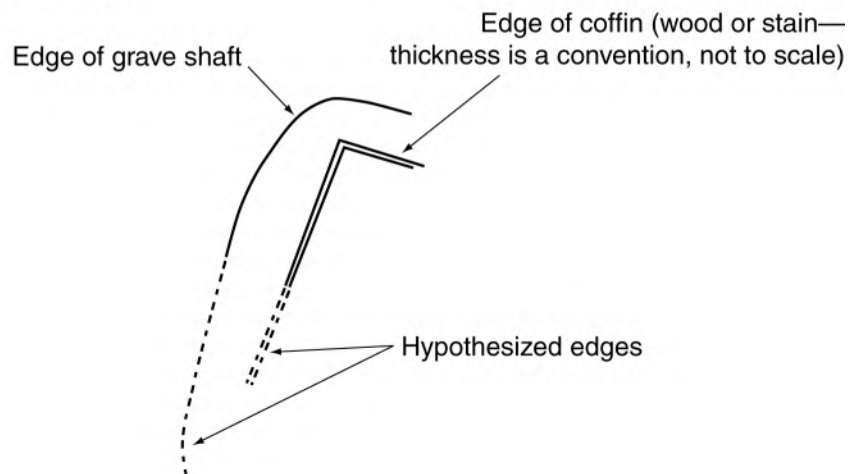
The "S" and "E" coordinates refer to the site grid (see site map). Elevations are not shown. The numerous depths recorded on the original drawings are important for reconstructing stratigraphic relationships and site topography, but the actual measurements are in depths below temporary datum points and require conversion to elevations.

Drawing conventions are as follows; there are some variations (especially among burials excavated early in the project) in the drawings reproduced in the burial descriptions.

├— Nail

×├— or × Vertically oriented nail

/ or ↘ Straight pin



## Burial 1

Series 41

Catalog Nos. 200, 96, 92, 93

Datum point: 14 (11.88 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 82.5, E 2

Associated excavation units: Trench D

Elevation of highest skeletal element: 9.13 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 1, of a probable woman 20–25 years old, was uncovered during machine excavation of Trench D in the former Republican Alley in June of 1991. Most of the skeleton, from the upper chest down, was removed by backhoe. The remainder of the burial was excavated in September of 1991 by hand.

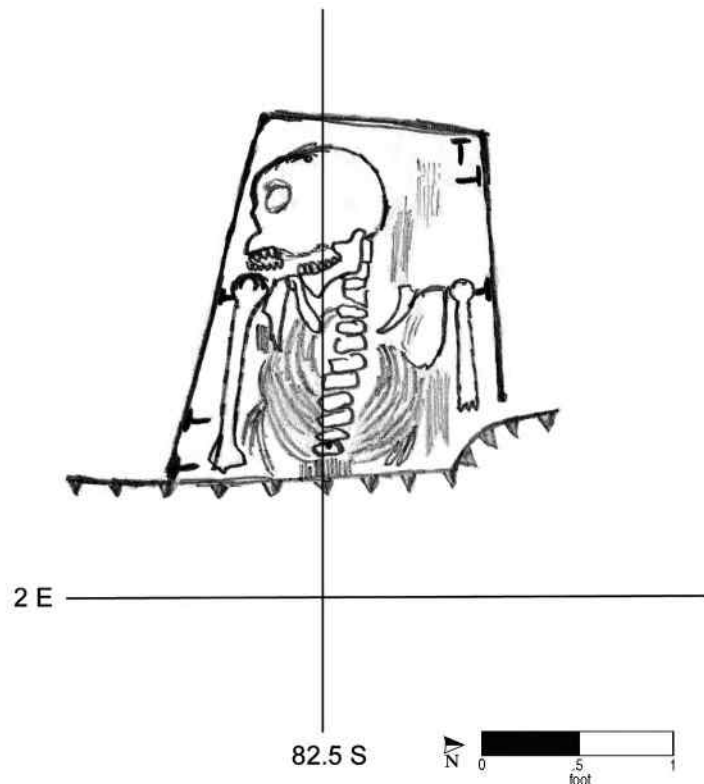
Catalog No. 96 refers to a 7.8-foot layer of soil removed from Trench D. It was described as a Munsell 7.5YR 4/4 sandy silt and was interpreted in the field as a natural stratum into which the grave shaft was cut. This natural stratum was beneath an apparent late-eighteenth-century surface layer, which in turn underlay a layer of nineteenth and twentieth-century sand and rubble fill.

The grave shaft was filled with soil described only as silty clay. The lid of a wooden coffin was exposed at elevations of 9.28–9.48 feet. Catalog No. 92 was assigned to some material from the grave shaft and the coffin itself; the skeletal remains and additional artifacts from shaft fill were given Catalog No. 200; and Catalog No. 93 was assigned to pelvic remains, apparently from soil disturbed by the backhoe. The grave shaft contained numerous ceramic sherds, including a sherd of delft, 5 of pearlware, 39 of creamware, 4 of redware, and 27 of stoneware (the latter probably locally made). A few fragments of glass and brick, a tobacco pipe stem fragment, and 47 animal bone fragments (mammal and fish) were also recovered.

The surviving portion of the coffin tapered toward the head, implying that it was hexagonal. Two nails were found near the top of the coffin, one each at

the northwest and southwest corners. Nine nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the bottom of the coffin after removal of the skeleton. These nails appear to have attached the sides to the bottom of the coffin. The woman had been placed with her head to the west, in a supine position; the arm position could not be determined. Two straight-pin fragments were recovered from the burial and treated in the laboratory. The location of the pins was not recorded, but copper staining was noted during cleaning of the cranium. It is assumed that they were directly associated with the deceased—perhaps shroud pins—and therefore, they were placed with the skeletal remains for reburial.

No associations with other burials were noted for Burial 1 during its excavation. However, the eastern portion of the grave (which had been removed by backhoe) must have overlain Burial 8, which was approximately 2 feet deeper and was undisturbed by the machine. Burial 1 is placed in the Late Group, because of its elevation and the material present in the grave shaft, which appears to be from a late-eighteenth-century surface layer.



Burial No. 1 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 9/26/91; Drawing No. 52).

**Burial 2**

Catalog No. 129

Datum point: 10

Grid coordinates: S 42, E 10.5

Elevation: 4.80 feet below Datum Point 10 (9.82 feet AMSL)

Temporal group: Late

Burial 2 refers to a crushed cranium recovered in Excavation Unit 6, from fill adjacent to a sandstone wall (Feature 11) in Lot 12. The skull belonged to a man of 27–42 years of age.

The skull appears to have been placed in the builder's trench for the stone wall. No other intact or partial burials were found in this area of Lot 12. This skull may indicate that burials once were present this far north but were completely displaced during the development of the front part of the lot. Field notes indicate that additional fragments of human bone were found elsewhere within same excavation trench; this would support the presence of at least one grave in the area. Alternatively, the skull may have been brought to this location, for unknown reasons, from elsewhere within the cemetery.

Assuming that the remains are from a nearby grave, the burial would have been located well north of the fence line that once crossed the site and is therefore placed in the Late Group.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.

**Burial 3**

Catalog No. 176

(no drawing; location taken from overall site map)

Datum point: [A?] [Sheet incorrectly indicates Datum Point 8]

Grid coordinates: S 107, E 2

Elevation: 18.2 feet below Temporary Datum [A?]  
(9.3 feet AMSL)

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 3 contained a cranium and an innominate from a man 25–35 years of age. These were found in an apparently disturbed context within the north-south leg of the former Republican Alley. The burial was only sketched on the field notes, and the exact location is uncertain. The soil matrix was described as mottled sand, silt, and clay. Excavators noted that the remains lay on an intact eighteenth-century surface, described as hard-packed silt. The notes mention a human pelvis and other bone fragments approximately 1 foot to the west in the same matrix as Burial 3. These remains were given Catalog No. 171 but were not designated as a burial. A pig bone was also identified from Burial 3.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.

## Burials 4 and 4A

Series 1

Catalog Nos. 186, 2233

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 87.3, E 11

Elevation: (8.78–8.68 feet AMSL)

Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burials 4 and 4A refer to cranial fragments of two individuals found in a disturbed context within the former Republican Alley. The matrix surrounding the remains was described as Munsell 5YR 4/4 sand, and field notes indicated they were “resting on a surface” of a 10YR 3/4 sandy silt with clay.

Burial 4 (Catalog No. 186) was designated a man between the ages of 30 and 40 years, and Burial 4A (assigned Catalog No. 2233 in the lab) was designated a man between the ages of 20 and 25. A cow bone and nails were found immediately adjacent to the human remains; the cow bone was not cataloged in the lab. The nails may have been associated with Burial 5.

Burials 4 and 4A were immediately east and 0.5 feet above the easternmost edge (foot) of Burial 5. These remains were approximately 3 feet above Burial 30, which also underlay Burial 5. The remains are assigned to the Late-Middle temporal group because of their likely relatively shallow original stratigraphic position.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.



## Burial 5

Series 1

Catalog No. 198

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 86.5, E 9

Elevation: (8.17–7.98 feet AMSL)

Temporal group: Late-Middle

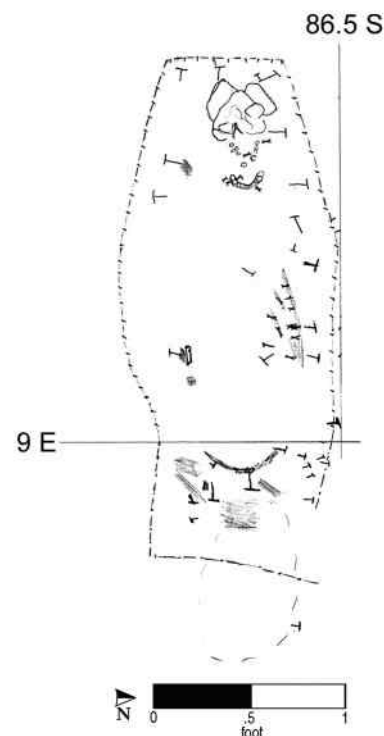
Burial 5 contained the remains of a child between 6 months and 1 year of age. Soil associated with the burial (presumably the shaft fill) was described as Munsell 10YR 3/4 silt. The burial was initially distinguished at an elevation of 8.17 feet. The original field drawing indicates the grave shaft was 2.7 feet long by 1.1 feet wide at its widest point; the cut is depicted as roughly the shape of a hexagonal coffin. The coffin itself was apparently smaller, measuring just 2.0–2.3 feet long by 0.4 feet wide (based on the locations of coffin nails and wood fragments). The coffin's shape could not be determined from the drawing or photographs. The bottom of the burial was recorded at an elevation of 7.75 feet.

Thirty nails were recorded in situ for Burial 5. Eight nails were aligned along the north side; there were 4 more nails along the south wall and 3 on the west or head of the coffin. Some of the 11 nails noted at the disturbed eastern end of the coffin may have been associated with disturbed Burial 4. A few additional nails were found toward the center of the coffin, possibly displaced from the coffin walls.

The child was interred with the head to the west. Skeletal elements were in very poor condition; only portions of the cranium, dental crowns, and long-bone fragments were noted in the field.

Straight pins were recorded in situ in a small area along the north side of the burial, approximately 0.5 feet from the displaced mandible and concentrated on and around a long-bone fragment. Field notes mention that pins were also scattered throughout the burial pit.

Burials 4A and 4B (probably redeposited remains) were immediately to the east and 0.5 feet above the easternmost edge or foot of Burial 5. Burial 5 overlay Burial 30 by 1.57 feet. Because of its stratigraphic position, Burial 5 is assigned to the Late-Middle Group.



*Burial No. 5 (drawn by C. S. G. on 9/25/91; Drawing No. 48).*

## Burial 6

Series 1

Catalog No. 219

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 15

Elevation: 4.90–5.40 feet below Datum Point 14  
(6.98–6.48 feet AMSL)

Temporal group: Late

Burial 6, located in the former Republican Alley, was an adult between 25 and 30 years old, probably a man. The grave was dug into soil described (on a composite field drawing) as Munsell 7.5YR 4/4 silt with 2.5Y 4/4 silt and 10YR 3/3 sandy silt mottling on the south; mottled 2.5Y 5/6, 5Y 6/2 silt with 10YR 3/3 sandy silt mottling on the north and east; and mottled 7.5YR 4/4 silt, 10YR 3/3 sandy silt, 7.5YR 3/4 sandy silt and 5Y 6/3 silt on the north. The grave shaft was depicted in field drawings as roughly hexagonal in shape. Its fill was mottled 10YR 4/4 sandy silt and 7.5YR 4/4 silt; no artifacts were recovered from within the fill.

The hexagonal coffin lid was encountered at a depth of 7.33 feet, and the bottom of the coffin rested at 6.48 feet. Excavators noted that the coffin sides had collapsed inward 0.1 feet at the top edge all the way around the coffin. They collected wood samples from the lid and the southern side, which were later identified as eastern white pine. Fourteen nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin, including four at the foot and two at each southern corner.

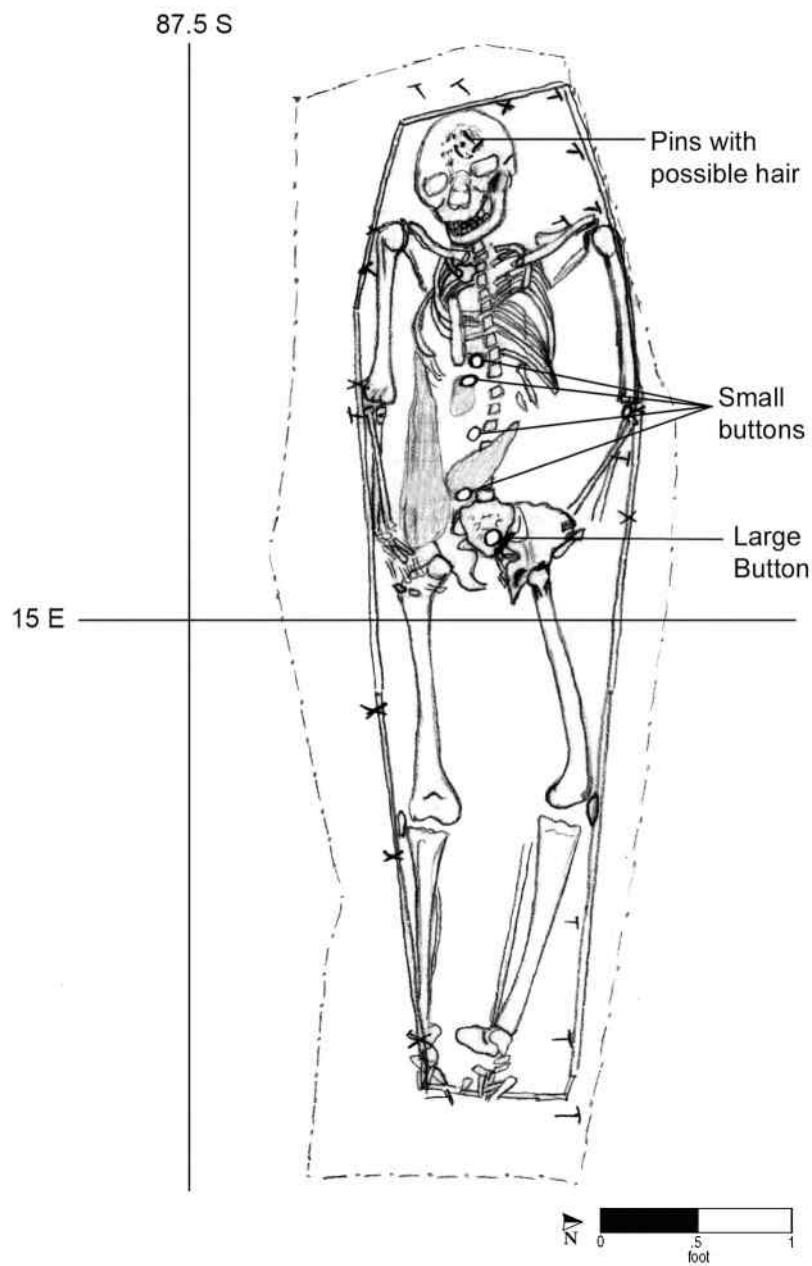
Skeletal remains were in fairly good condition and nearly complete, lacking only portions of the metatarsals (foot bones). The deceased had been placed in a supine position, with his head to the west, arms at his sides, and hands resting over his pelvis.



Four 17-mm-diameter copper-alloy buttons were recorded in situ along the right side of the spinal column from the tenth thoracic vertebra to the fifth lumbar vertebra (from chest to lower back). Two of these buttons had anchor designs and gilt, and two were apparently undecorated. The two anchor buttons were not identical. One larger button, a 26-mm-diameter copper-alloy button, with an unidentified decoration, was found resting on the lower sacrum (tail bone). This may have been a button fashioned from a coin. Fragments of up to three pewter buttons were also recovered. At least three copper-alloy straight pins were found above the cranium, with small bits of possible cloth adhering to the top of the cranium; the cloth fragments apparently were not recovered. One piece of 4-mm lead shot was noted in the burial.

The western end of Burial 6 lay immediately above the eastern ends of Burial 30 and Burial 38. The southeast corner of Burial 6's grave shaft cut into the northern edge of the grave shaft of Burial 35. Thus it appears that Burial 6 postdates all three adjacent burials. The buttons, probably from a jacket, date this burial to around the time of the Revolution, and the burial is placed in the Late Group.

Burial 6 (cont.)



Burial No. 6 (drawn by C. S. G. on 10/13/91; Drawing No. 1015).

## Burial 7

Series 1

Catalog No. 218

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 81.5, E 13

Elevation: 4.59–4.9 feet below Datum Point 14  
(7.29–6.98 feet AMSL)

Temporal group: Late-Middle

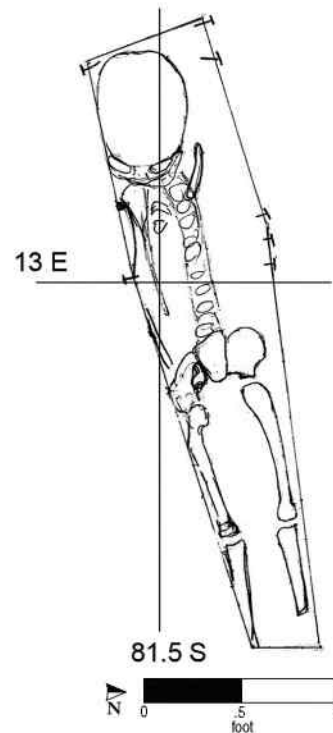
Burial 7, found beneath the former Republican Alley, was of a child between 3 and 5 years of age. The grave shaft was dug into soil described as Munsell 2.5Y 5/6, 5Y 6/2 silt mottled with 10YR 3/3 sandy silt to the east; 7.5YR 4/4 silt to the northwest; and mottled 7.5YR 4/4 silt, 10YR 3/3 sandy silt, 9.5YR 3/4 sandy silt, and 5Y 6/3 silt in the west. A profile drawing indicates the grave shaft was filled with 7.5YR 5/6 clayey silt with a few pebbles; soil within the cut below the coffin is described as 7.5YR 4/6, strong brown clayey silt and sand. The grave shaft appears to have been cut into a former surface layer that sloped down from west to east across the site (Drawing Nos. 59 and 239).

Remains of a coffin lid were encountered at an elevation of 7.38 feet, or 2.2 feet below the former surface as depicted in profile. Twelve nails were recorded in the preliminary field drawings, but some had been removed by the time the final drawing was rendered. Four nails were recovered from the footboard of the coffin: two apparently attached the side boards to the floorboards, and the other two attached the coffin lid to the side board. Two nails were found in the northwest corner and appear to have attached the coffin lid to the sides. Eight additional nails were found in situ on the coffin's hexagonal perimeter. One nail at each western corner fastened the side boards to the headboard; one nail was located at the central point of the headboard; three nails were found on the north side; and one nail was found on the southern side. The coffin bottom was recorded at an elevation of 6.98 feet.

The child was interred in the supine position, head to the west, possibly with the arms resting at the

sides. No left arm bones were recovered, which excavators attributed to poor preservation. The remains were found slumped onto the southern coffin wall; this probably resulted from the shifting of the coffin as graves beneath it settled. Five straight pins were recorded in situ, two on the cranium and three on the upper torso. Additional pin fragments were later recovered during cleaning of a parietal bone in the laboratory.

Burial 7 overlay the north side of the coffin of Burial 18, which was 1.9 feet below the bottom of Burial 7's coffin. The plan drawing (Drawing No. 64) indicates that Burial 7 did not share the grave shaft of Burial 18. Based on stratigraphy and on the six-sided coffin shape, Burial 7 can be placed in the Middle Group or later; because of its high elevation relative to other burials, it is placed in the Late-Middle Group.



*Burial No. 7 (drawn by R. D. on 10/2/91; Drawing No. 1014).*

## Burial 8

Series 41

Catalog No. 225

Datum point: 14 (11.88 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 82.5, E 5

Elevation of human remains: 6.58 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 8 was located along the north edge of the former Republican Alley in the westernmost portion of the excavated site. The only remains consisted of traces of a coffin and tooth enamel from an infant less than 6 months old. The fill of the grave shaft was described as a mix of red clay and brown silt, with minute wood fragments and scant charcoal. No artifacts were recovered.

The infant had been placed in a wooden coffin that tapered toward the foot. Excavators could not determine whether the coffin was four sided or six sided.

Nails (oriented both vertically and horizontally) were recorded in situ around the coffin's perimeter. The location of the teeth indicated that the infant had been placed with the head to the west. A straight pin was recorded immediately to the east of the tooth enamel. No other artifacts were found in association with this burial.

Burial 8 lay 2 feet beneath Burial 1. Although the original map indicated that this grave shaft also lay beneath Burial 79, Burial 8 was removed 2 months prior to the excavation of Burial 79. No final field drawing was made of Burial 8, and it is likely that its location was incorrectly transferred to the site map.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.

## Burial 9

Catalog No. 233

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 89.5, E 25

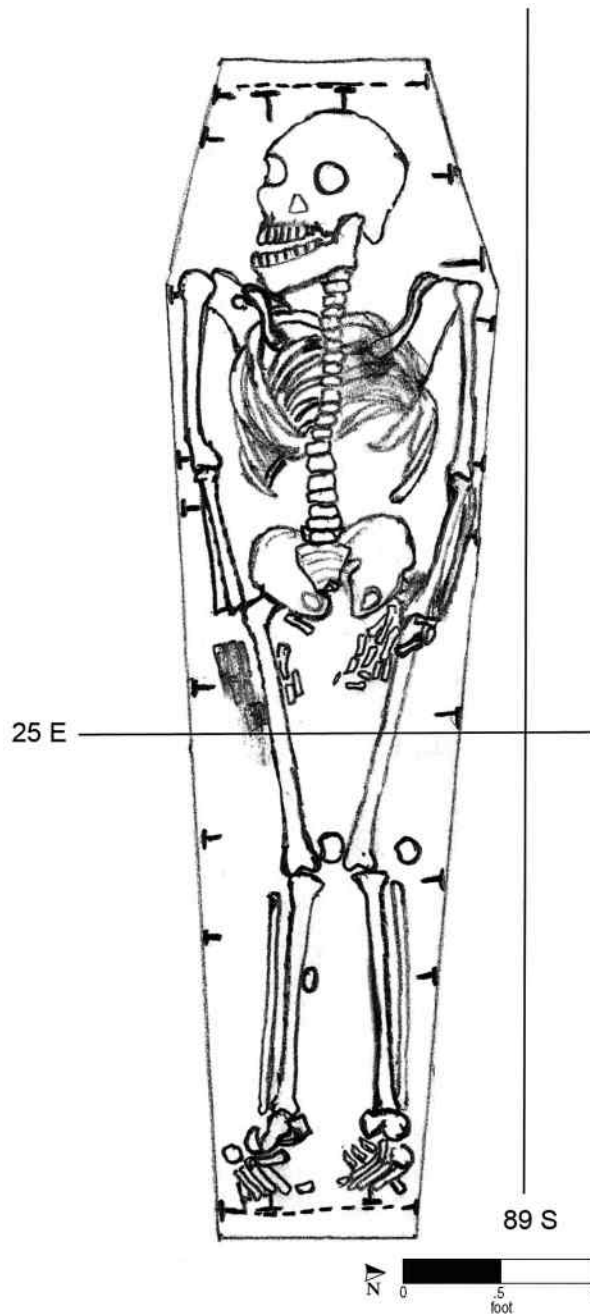
Elevation of cranium: 5.44 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 9 was of a man between 35 and 45 years old. The excavator recorded the grave-shaft outline as distinctly rectangular in shape and the shaft fill as reddish and green-gray mixed silt and clay. Fragments of window glass, bottle glass, Staffordshire slipware, locally made salt-glazed stoneware, redware, clam, oyster, and brick were all found in the grave fill. A stem fragment from a clay pipe was recovered from the “lower fill” and small iron nails were noted “adjacent to the skeleton” (these were not shown on the field drawing); the latter were bagged in the field along with coffin nails and therefore were cataloged as coffin hardware. It is possible the iron nails had been placed in the coffin with the deceased.

The coffin of Burial 9 was hexagonal in shape. Its lid elevation was recorded at 5.89 feet. Nails were noted in situ around the perimeter at both top and bottom. The man had been placed in supine position with his head to the west and his arms at his sides. According to the field notes, several roots were found under the skeleton and a wooden dowel was found under the left femur. No artifacts, other than the coffin itself, were found in association with this burial.

Burial 9 did not overlap with any other burials. It is possible it was part of a north-south row of burials that included Burials 10 and 25 to the north, which were at similar elevations. It is also possible this row extended northward as far as Burial 59, following the contour of the original slope of the cemetery. In the absence of artifactual or stratigraphic evidence that would lead to an earlier or later assignment, Burial 9 is placed in the Middle Group.



*Burial No. 9 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 10/7/91; Drawing No. 72).*

## Burial 10

Series 2

Catalog No. 234

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 82.5, E 20

Elevation of cranium: 6.04 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 10, located in the former Republican Alley at the rear of Lot 12, yielded the remains of a man between 40 and 45 years of age. Excavation began in September of 1992 and was completed the following month by different excavators. The grave shaft was identified at an elevation of 7.39 feet. Its soil was described as mixed clayey silts with pebbles, and excavators noted that it contained brick and shell fragments. The eastern side and northeast corner of the grave shaft and coffin outline had been obliterated by a foundation trench and wall.

Three iron objects were recorded above the coffin: one along the northeast edge of the grave shaft, one above the north edge of the coffin, and one above the central part of the coffin. These iron objects were not cataloged separately in the laboratory and may have been included with coffin hardware; X-rays of unidentifiable items among the rusted hardware revealed only nails. Also, overlying the coffin lid was a ceramic sherd near the lower right edge of the coffin and a shell of a hard-shell clam near the upper left edge.

The lid of the hexagonal coffin, which had partially collapsed onto the man's rib cage and into Burial 17 to the south, was recorded at an elevation of 6.74 feet in the northwest corner, sloping towards the east to an elevation of 5.64 feet. The man's skull and long bones were partially visible. Three horizontal nails were found in situ: there was one in each west corner and one on the east next to the stone foundation wall. One vertical nail was found in the northwest corner. The man's remains were completely exposed at an elevation of 6.04 feet, and the base of the coffin was at an elevation of 5.59 feet. Ten horizontal nails were found in situ, apparently attaching the side coffin boards to the base of the coffin.

The skeletal remains were in fairly good condition, but the left leg was missing, cut by the builder's

trench. The man had been placed in the supine position with his head to the west and with his arms resting at his sides.

Seven identical buttons were found in the torso area, evidently from a jacket. They were cast-cop-

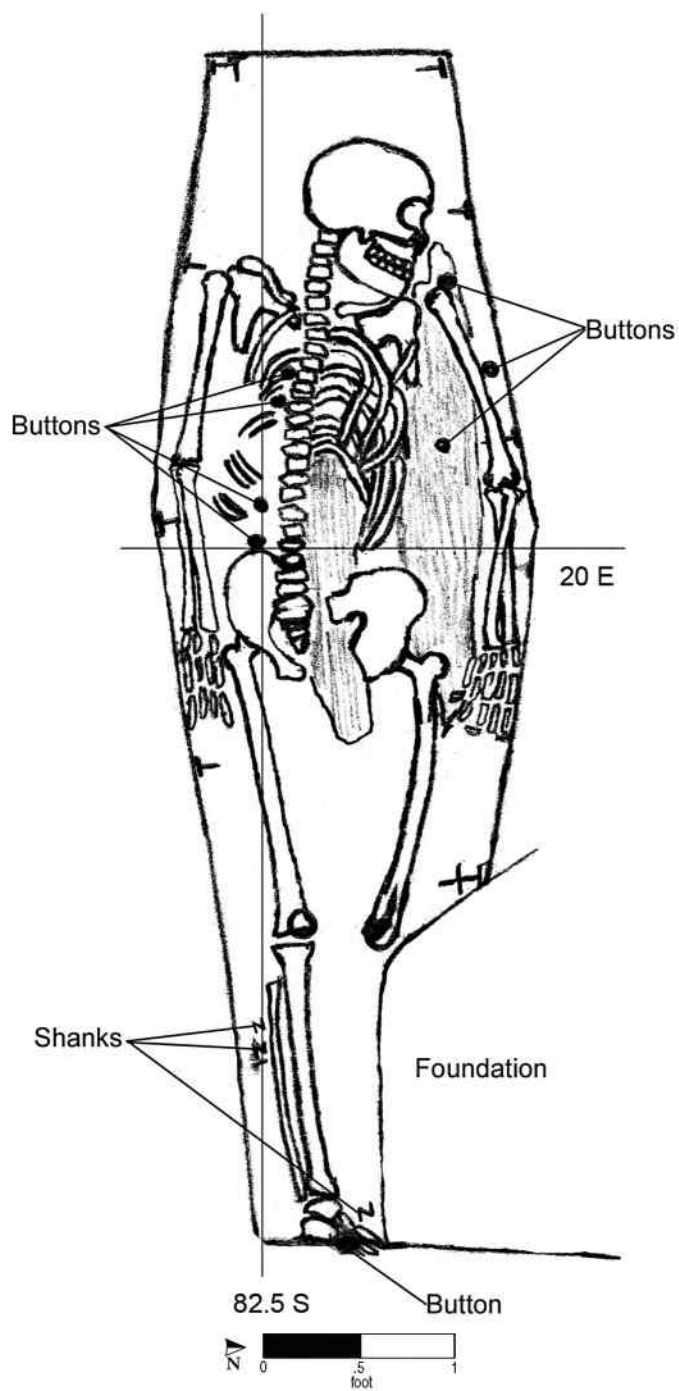


per-alloy discs with wire alpha loop shanks; these measured 17 mm in diameter. An eighth button, of a different type (domed) was found on the right foot; this is not shown in the photograph. Excavators also mapped three “eyelets” along the right leg; these were later identified as probable button shanks. In all, five buttons were inferred from wire shanks—unique objects unassociated with the coat buttons. These wire shanks were recovered from the lower right leg and identified once they were examined in the laboratory. The shank fragments probably represent the remains of composite buttons constructed of organic materials, such as wood or bone, and metal. Excavators noted the possible presence of a small bit of red ochre at the proximal end of the right femur (thigh bone).

The entire burial had partially collapsed into Burial 17, which lay to the east and partially underneath Burial 10. The southern half overlay Burial 26 by 1.2 feet. Burial 17 also overlay Burial 26; thus Burial 10 was the most recent interment and Burial 26 the earliest, with Burial 17 intervening. Reportedly, the Burial 10 grave shaft also intersected the grave shaft for Burial 97 immediately to the north. Burial 97 was at the same elevation; however, the area of Burial 97 was not excavated until some 2 months subsequent to Burial 10, and the exact relation between the two graves was not determined in the field. Because of its stratigraphic position, Burial 10 is assigned to the Late-Middle Group.

*(continued on page 14)*

## Burial 10 (cont.)



Burial No. 10 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 10/12/91; Drawing No. 82).



## Burial 11

Series 1

Catalog No. 267

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 83.5, E 12

Elevation of skeletal remains: 6.73–6.38 feet AMSL

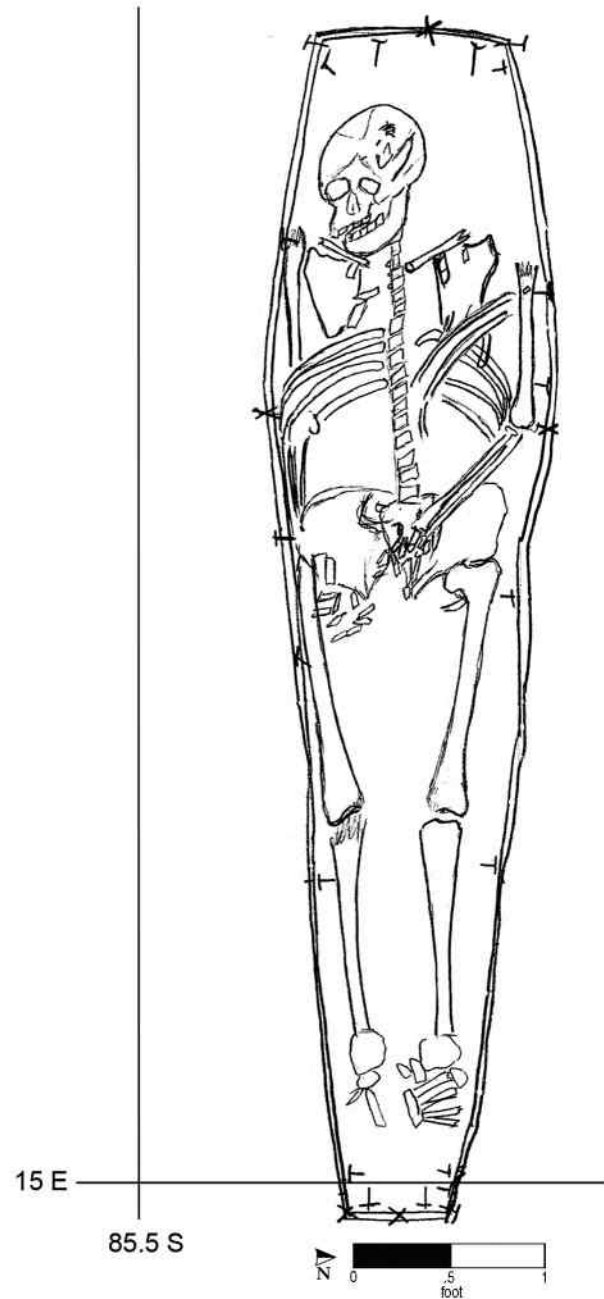
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 11, located in the former Republican Alley, held an adult identified as a probable man between 30 and 40 years of age. This grave was excavated after the field crew found that it overlay the southern side of Burial 18. The soil in the grave shaft was not described in field records, and no artifacts were recovered from the fill.

The hexagonal coffin lid was encountered at elevations of 6.88–6.68 feet. Five vertical nails were located in situ, apparently attaching the coffin lid to the sides, and four horizontal nails were also uncovered when the coffin lid was exposed. Twenty more horizontal nails were recorded in situ at the bottom of the coffin. The wood samples from the coffin bottom were identified as cedar. The elevation of the coffin bottom was 6.33 feet.

The man was interred in the supine position, his head to the west and apparently with his hands resting over his pelvis. His remains were in fairly good condition, although the metatarsals were missing. Excavators noted a small patch of straight hair on the cranium.

Burial 11 was located approximately 1.25 feet above the southern edge of Burial 18 and approximately 1.0 foot above the northern edge of Burial 38. Because of its stratigraphic position, it is placed in the Late-Middle Group.



*Burial No. 11 (drawn by C. S. G. on 10/18/91; Drawing No. 1016).*

## Burials 12 and 14

Series 3a

Catalog Nos. 253, 274

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 89.5, E 12

Elevation of cranium for Burial 12: 6.13 feet AMSL

Elevation of cranium for Burial 14: 6.10 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 12 and Burial 14 contained the remains, respectively, of a woman between 35 and 45 years in age and an infant of less than 6 months. These individuals were interred in the same grave. The grave shaft was filled with mottled yellow, tan, brown, and red silty and sandy loam. Artifacts recovered from the fill of the grave shaft consisted of ceramics (including white salt-glazed stoneware, delft, slipware, and a sherd of pearlware), glass sherds, tobacco pipe fragments, and shell and animal bone fragments. The pearlware, dating to ca. 1780 or later, places this burial in the Late Group.

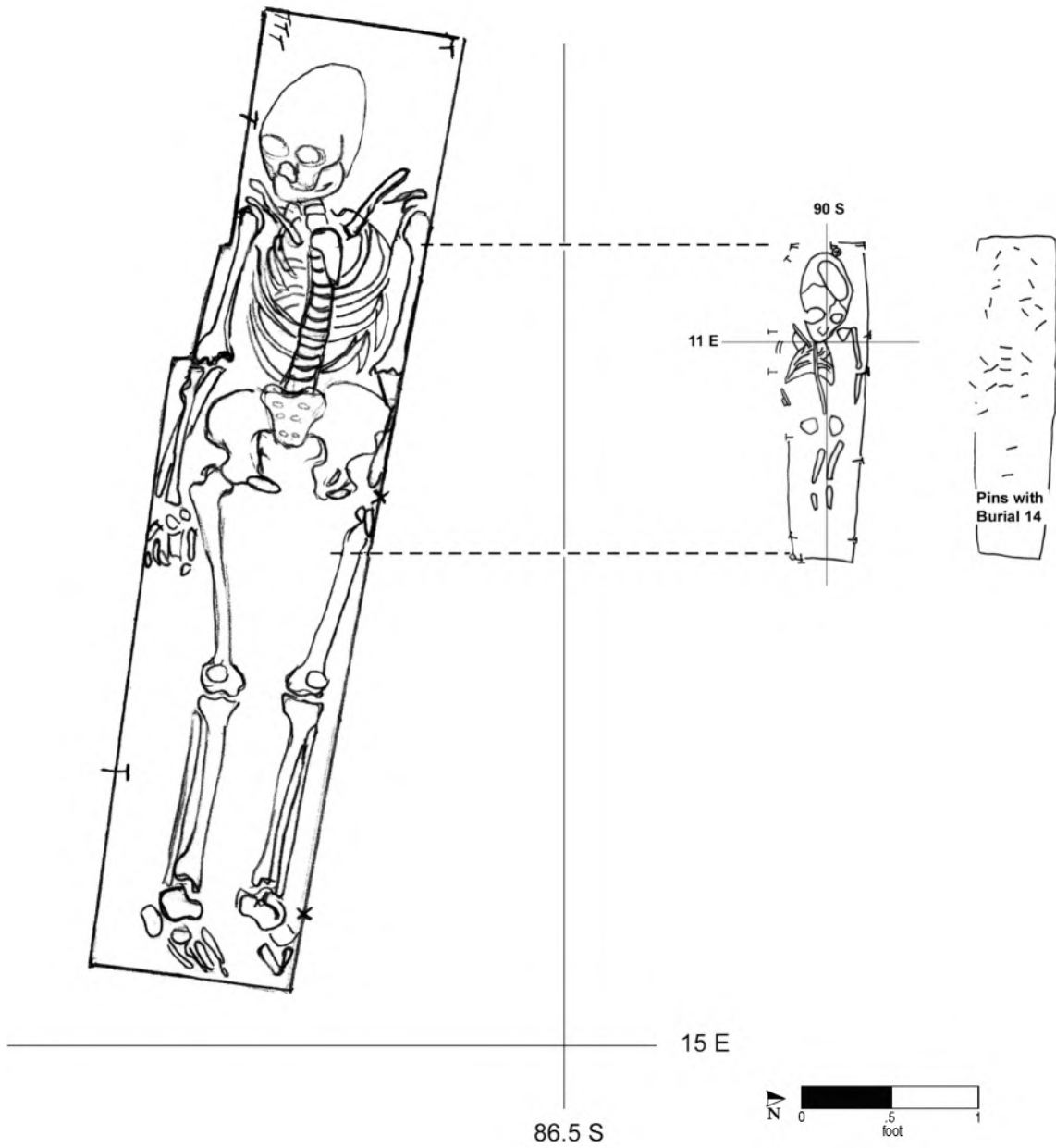
The woman's coffin lid, which appeared rectangular in shape according to the field drawing and photos, was at an elevation of 6.68 feet. The south side was partially disturbed. The infant's rectangular coffin lid, represented only by its north side, was exposed at the same elevation and was initially thought to be part of the woman's coffin. Both individuals were buried with their heads to the west and were in the supine position, their arms resting at their sides. The infant's coffin rested above the woman's left side.

Six copper pins and several fetal bones were noted in situ at the same time as the remnant of the coffin lid. Three vertical nails directly associated with the infant's coffin were recorded in situ. Seven horizontal nails recorded in situ may have been associated with the infant's burial, and at the bottom of Burial 14 there were 13 horizontal nails, apparently attaching the side boards to the coffin bottom. The presence of two coffins is certain. Although excavators thought that the infant's coffin originally may have been inside the woman's, it is perhaps more likely that the small coffin lay atop the adult's. The decay of the wood would have resulted in the collapse of one into the other.

Numerous copper straight pins were found around the infant's head and body. One pin was recorded on the woman's left parietal, and a copper stain was noted on her left clavicle. Additional pin fragments from Burial 12 were cataloged in the lab.

The eastern half of Burial 12 truncated the western half of Burial 34. The relationship between Burial 12 and Burial 56 (immediately to the southeast and excavated 1 month after the excavation of Burial 12) cannot be determined from field records; the top of Burial 56 lay 0.54 feet lower in elevation than the bottom of Burial 12. Burial 70 was immediately south of Burials 12 and 14, and excavators noted that it appeared to occupy the same grave cut. Burials 12 and 14 were excavated some 6 weeks prior to Burial 70, however, and it is not possible to determine their relationship to each other. Burial 78 underlay all three of these, with the top of Burial 78 lying 0.75 feet below the bottom of Burial 70.

Burials 12 and 14 (cont.)



Burial Nos. 12 and 14 (drawn by ?; R. D. on 10/14/91; 10/16/91; Drawing Nos. 2362 and 1017).

## Burial 13/43

Series 7

Catalog Nos. 273, 561

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 105, W 7

Elevation of cranium: 6.42 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 13/43 was of a child between 2.5 and 4.5 years old. The grave was marked at the presumed original surface level by an outline of small cobbles; excavators recorded two curved, east-west rows. The 20 remaining cobbles each measured about 0.3 inches in diameter and lay at elevations of 8.47–8.72 feet along the northern row and 8.37–8.62 feet along the southern row. The cobbles originally may have extended around the western side of the grave, but had been disturbed.

The grave shaft had a very distinct outline, and contained fill of reddish and gray silty clay. During excavation this grave-shaft outline was assigned to Burial 13. Remains of a coffin were first encoun-

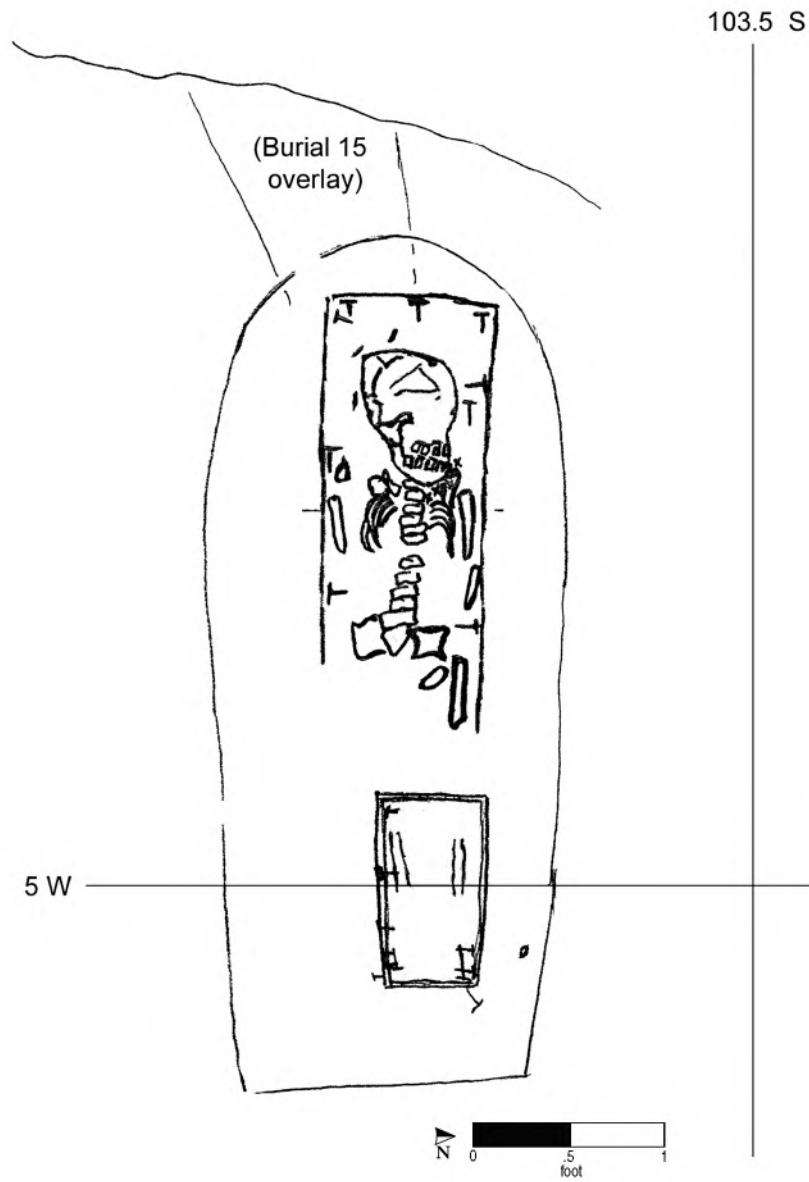


tered at an elevation of 6.52 feet. Excavators indicated the presence of a complete, small four-sided coffin measuring 1.0 by 0.55 feet; however, this now appears to have been only the eastern portion of the larger coffin. The western portion of the coffin was revealed at an elevation of 6.27 feet. The 0.25 feet vertical shift in elevation matches westward slumping noted for several burials in this area of the site. Several nails were found in situ around the perimeter of the coffin. The bottom of the eastern portion of the coffin was reached at an elevation of 6.27 feet, and the bottom of the western portion was reached at 6.02 feet.

The child was interred in a four-sided tapered coffin with the head to the west, resting in the supine position and arms placed at sides. The skeletal remains were in poor condition. The skull was crushed and the lower extremities had been disturbed. Excavators noted wet silt adhering to the surface of the bone, exfoliating the outer surface. Excavators recorded three shroud pins in situ that encircled the child's cranium.

Burial 13/43 was overlain in the west by Burial 15, which rested 0.90 feet higher in elevation. It is possible the western end of the cobble grave marker for Burial 13/43 was disturbed during the interment of Burial 15. The two burials may be completely unrelated and separated in time long enough for the first burial to have been disregarded. The first grave, that of Burial 13/43, could have been covered over by soil by the time Burial 15 was interred; the cobble marker may not have been visible. However, based on stratigraphy, and the fact that its surface marker was intact, Burial 13/43 has been placed in the Late-Middle Group, and Burial 15 has been assigned to the Late Group.

Burial 13/43 (cont.)



Burial No. 13/43 (composite) (drawn by C. Gross and W. J. Forbes on 10/10/91 and 10/31/91; Drawing Nos. 1018 and 135).

## Burial 14

See Burial 12.

## Burial 15

Series 7

Catalog No. 286

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 103.5, W 5

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 7.27 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

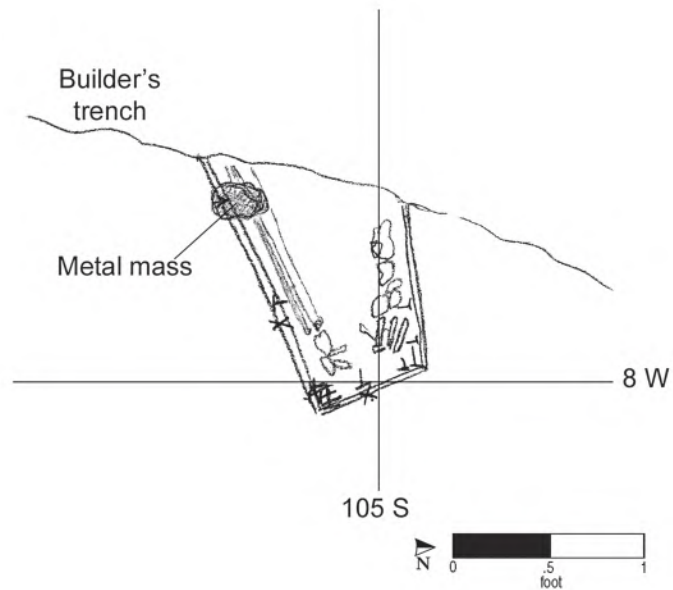
Burial 15 was of an adolescent between 11 and 18 years of age, whose sex could not be determined. This grave was truncated by a builder's trench on the west, and only the eastern end was preserved. The grave shaft contained silty clay.

The eastern end of the coffin lid was uncovered at an elevation of 7.67 feet and the base was reached at 7.17 feet. Several nails were found in situ at the perimeter of the lid and base of the coffin. Because little remained of the coffin, its overall shape could not be determined, although it tapered toward the foot. The child was interred in the supine position with the head to the west. The remains were in poor condition and only the left foot and the distal two-thirds of the right tibia, fibula, and metatarsals were present.

A large piece of metal, later determined to be an ox shoe fragment (which split in two when handled), was found above the right leg next

to the builder's trench. It may have been placed with the deceased as a grave good, or may have been intrusive; it rested on the edge of the coffin remains and could have come from the builder's trench fill.

Burial 15 lay 0.90 feet above the western end of Burial 13/43. It is possible the western end of the cobble grave marker for Burial 13/43 was disturbed during the interment of Burial 15. The two burials may be unrelated and separated in time long enough for the first burial to have been disregarded, or the earlier burial may have been covered over with soil in the interim. Based on its stratigraphic position, Burial 15 is placed in the Late Group.



*Burial No. 15 (drawn by C. Gross on 10/9/91; Drawing No. 1019).*



**Burial 16**

Catalog No. 326

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 106.5, E 0

Elevation of cranium: 6.03 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 16 was of a woman between 50 and 60 years old. The grave, located in the north-south leg of the former Republican Alley, was the southernmost of those excavated. Its shaft outline became apparent at an elevation of 5.67 feet within a surrounding soil matrix of reddish brown silty sand with mica flakes; this was also noted elsewhere in this area of the site. Excavators noted that the burial had been damaged in the field by falling rocks from the backhoe excavation, nearby construction work, and by flooding.

Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin top and bottom. Based on their pattern, the coffin appeared hexagonal. Lid remains were encountered at elevations of 6.22 feet in the west and 6.62 feet in the east. Several small cobbles were also recorded at this general level near the perimeter of the coffin; these may have been part of the grave fill matrix or may have been placed on the

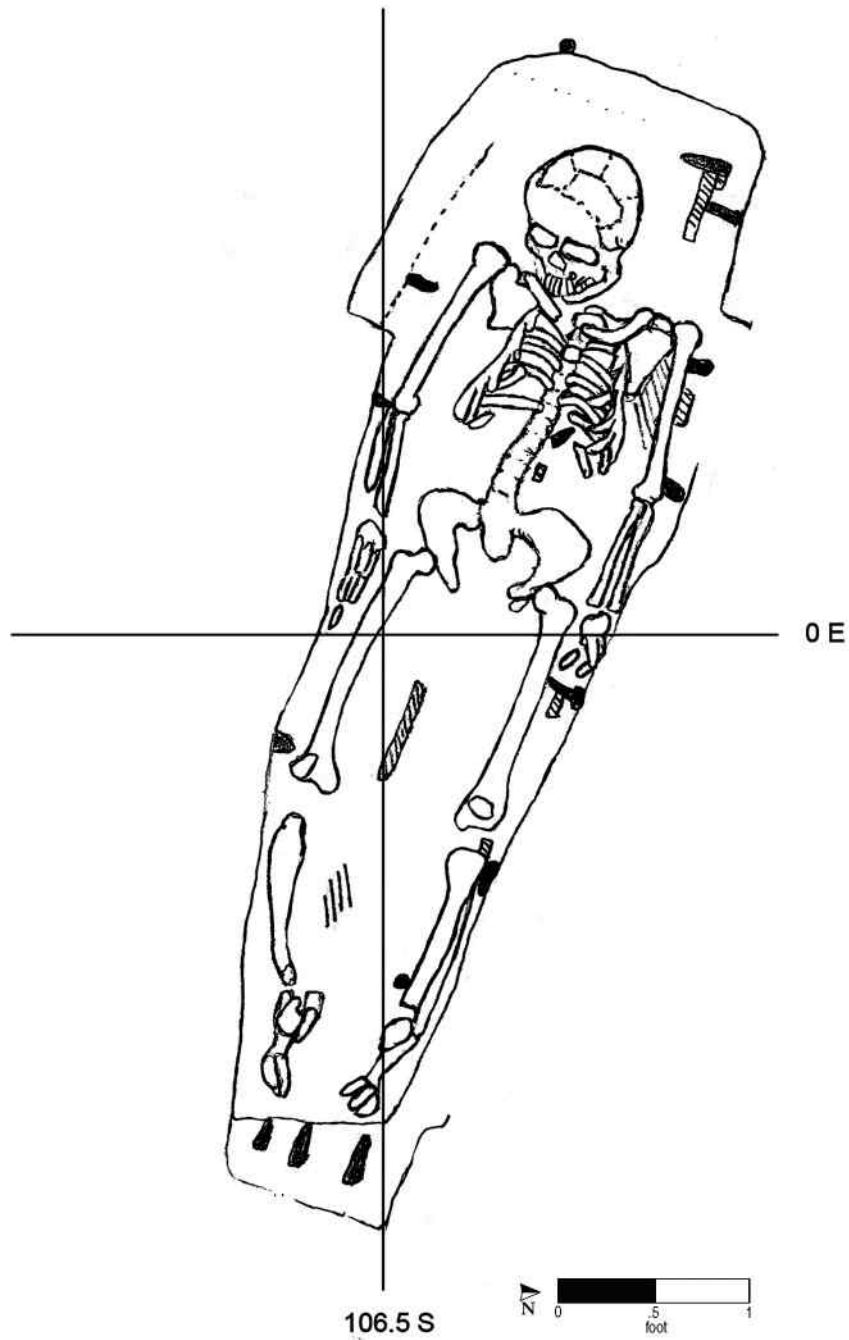
coffin. The cobbles were not collected. The coffin bottom was at an average elevation of 5.77 feet. An unidentified wooden object (originally thought to be a button) was recovered from above the coffin near the center of the burial; it was photographed and placed with the skeletal remains for reburial. A clam shell was found near the top of the skeleton; again, it is unclear whether it was placed there deliberately or was present in the shaft fill. The shell was not recovered from the African Burial Ground archaeology laboratory after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

The woman had been placed with her head to the west, in the supine position, with her arms resting at her sides. Her remains were in poor condition. Straight pins were observed on the right side of the upper part of the remains but were not recoverable.

Because this burial's orientation was more northerly than others in the cemetery, it seems possible the interment took place during the summer months. The grave had no direct stratigraphic relationship to other burials. Based on elevations, it may belong to the same temporal group (Middle) as Burials 31 and 47 (Series 6). In the absence of other temporal evidence, it is assigned to the Middle Group.

*(continued on page 22)*

## Burial 16 (cont.)



*Burial No. 16 (drawn by G. Hess on 10/22/91; Drawing No. 1021).*



## Burial 17

Series 2

Catalog No. 357

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 83.5, E 20

Elevation of cranium: 4.94 feet AMSL

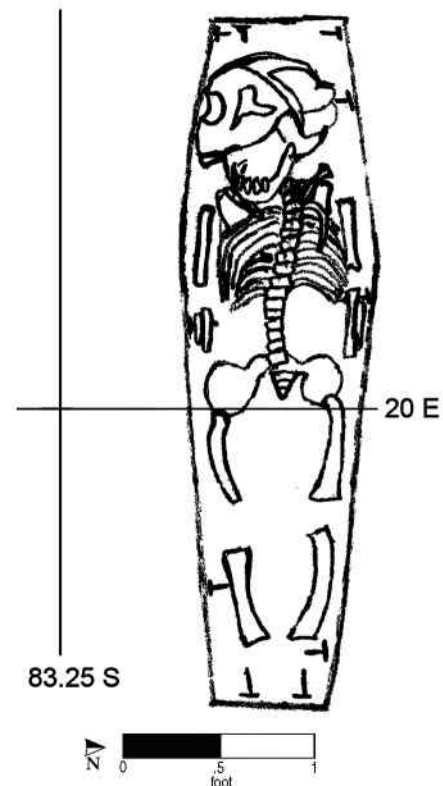
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 17, located in the former Republican Alley at the rear of Lot 12, contained the remains of a child between 4 and 6 years in age. Excavation of the grave shaft began at an elevation of 7.39 feet, beneath Burial 10, and the soil at this elevation was described as mottled green, red-brown, gray clayey silt with sparse pebbles. Only the southwestern portion of the grave outline was clearly visible. The opening plan map indicated a grave shaft measuring approximately 6 feet by 2 feet, but this clearly included part of the shaft for Burial 26 (to the east) and possibly Burial 10 (to the north). Artifacts excavated from the grave-shaft fill above the coffin included ceramic sherds (local stoneware), a tobacco pipe fragment, and animal bone.

The hexagonal coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of 5.84 feet. Six horizontal nails were found in situ; one was in the northwest corner (identified as a “bottom nail” in the field notes), two were along the north wall, one was in the southeast corner (also identified as a “bottom nail”), one along the south wall, and one in the southwest corner. Coffin wood was apparent in the northwest corner and part of the north wall. A sample of the coffin lid wood was later identified as yew, one of only two such samples from coffins at the site. After the child’s remains were exposed, nine more nails were found in situ. Excavators recorded two along the east footboard, two along the north wall, one on the northwest wall, two in the southwest corner, one on the south wall, and another on the south wall beneath the cranium. The coffin bottom was at an elevation of 4.59 feet.

The child was interred in the supine position, with the head to the west and the arms apparently resting at the sides. The remains were in poor condition; the metacarpals (hand bones) and metatarsals were missing, and there were gaps where no long bones survived. The child’s tibias (lower legs) and femurs were bowed, evidence of rickets. Straight pins were observed by excavators at the head and pelvis but were not retrievable during excavation; two pin fragments were recovered from a soil flotation sample.

Excavators indicated that Burial 10 cut into the grave shaft of Burial 17. There is a discrepancy between the site map and the burial drawing as to the exact location of Burial 17, but it was clearly beneath, and offset at least slightly to the south, of Burial 10. Burial 17 in turn overlay Burial 26. Because of its stratigraphic position, this grave is assigned to the Middle Group.



*Burial No. 17 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 10/17/91; Drawing No. 93).*

## Burial 18

Series 1

Catalog No. 310

Datum point: 14A = 8.58 feet AMSL

Grid coordinates: S 81.5, E 12

Elevation of cranium: 4.53 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early

Burial 18, located in the former Republican Alley, contained the remains of an adult, probably a woman, aged 35–45 years. A flat, rectangular stone, positioned vertically at the western end of the grave-shaft outline, was tentatively identified during fieldwork as a headstone and was pedestaled during excavations. The elevation at the top of the stone was 9.73 feet. The soil surrounding the grave shaft was described as Munsell 7.5YR 4/4 silt in the west and 2.5Y 5/6, 5Y 6/2 silt with 10YR 3/3 sandy and silt mottling to the east. Soil within the grave shaft, described as extremely wet, was a mix of sand and silt lenses, including 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown clayey silt and 7.5YR 5/8 strong brown fine sand.



Because the grave shaft of Burial 18 continued to a considerable depth, it became necessary to remove the shallower Burial 11, immediately to the south. After Burial 11 was removed, Burial 18's coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of 4.93 feet. The coffin lid was 4.8 feet below the top of the pre-

sumed headstone and approximately 3.8 feet below the recorded top of the grave shaft.

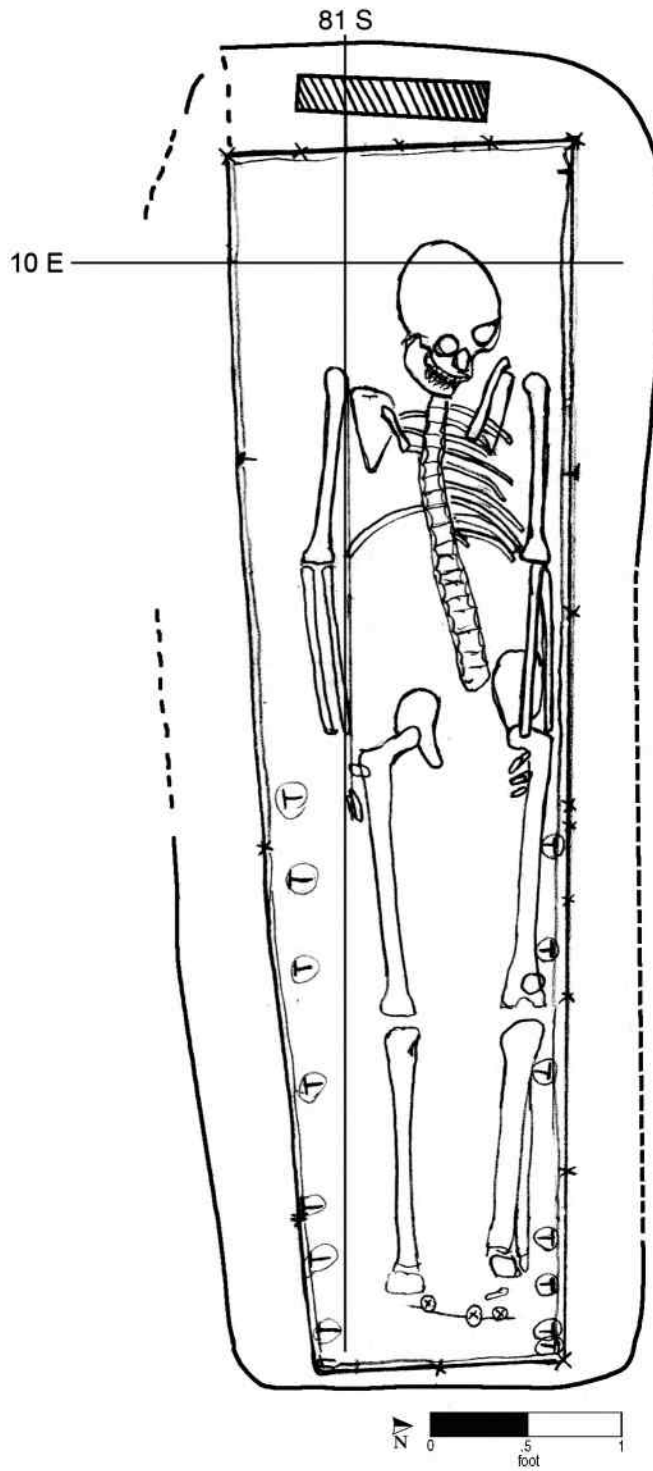
The coffin was four sided and tapered toward the foot end. The lid had split lengthwise down the center. Fifteen vertical nails were discovered in situ, attaching the coffin lid to the sides. There were three nails along the west headboard, one at the southwest corner, one at the northwest corner, seven along the north side, one at the northeast corner, one in the center of the east footboard, and one on the south side. In addition, three horizontally oriented nails were found along the south side. One was 1.5 feet from the coffin head and two were at the southeast corner, below the top of the coffin. After the skeletal remains were exposed, the coffin bottom was recorded at an elevation of 4.03 feet. Sixteen horizontal nails were found in situ at the bottom of the coffin; these attached the side boards to the coffin bottom. There were five along the north, two at the northeast corner; and seven along the southern side. Three additional nails were found extending up into the coffin bottom in a line near the feet; these had attached the coffin bottom to the footboard.

The individual was positioned with the head to the west. The remains were in moderate condition; metacarpals, metatarsals, and pelvic material were missing. The lack of the pelvic bones made gender assessment difficult.

A tiny fragment of possible textile was recovered during laboratory cleaning of the left parietal bone. This textile, the headstone, and coffin hardware were the only artifacts recovered from the burial.

Burial 18 was beneath two other burials. Burial 7 lay 1.9 feet above the north side of the Burial 18 coffin. The south edge of the grave shaft for Burial 18 was cut into by the grave shaft of Burial 11, which lay immediately to the south and 1.25 feet higher in elevation. Thus Burial 18 predates Burials 7 and 11. Because of the four-sided, tapering coffin shape, Burial 18 is placed in the Early Group.

Burial 18 (cont.)



Burial No. 18 (drawn by ? on 10/91; Drawing No. 1022 [stone marker added from map]).

## Burial 19

Series 1

Catalog No. 322

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 21.5

Elevation (cranial remains): 6.29 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 19, located in the former Republican Alley, was of a child or an infant. Associated soil was described as mottled yellow-brown silt and clay. The grave was excavated as a roughly hexagonal cut measuring 2.15 feet by 1.5 feet, although it is not clear how it was distinguished. The coffin outline, which was visible only along the south side, was observed at an elevation of 6.54 feet. According to the field drawing, the visible portion of the coffin indicated a hexagonal shape. Also visible was a clearly distinguishable oblong area of darker-stained soil, presumably the result of decayed remains. This soil contained the child's cranium, highly decomposed but in situ, as well as other bone and tooth fragments.

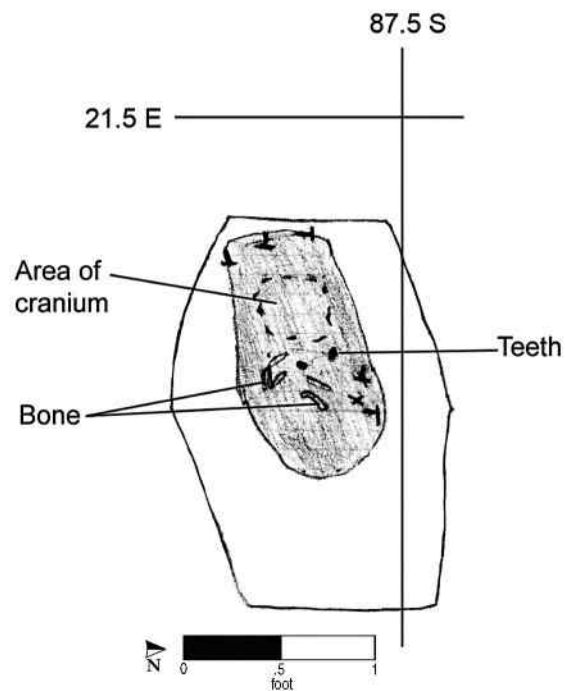
A small angular patch of lighter soil along the southwest portion of the burial was removed separately. The soil distinction quickly faded, however, and the material recovered was subsequently added to that from Burial 19. Several nails were recorded within this lighter soil and along the southern edge of the coffin outline. Additional nails were recorded along the dark stain containing the human remains, including horizontal nails at the northwest and southwest corners, a vertical nail at the center of the west edge, and a horizontal nail near the northeast corner.

In the photograph, the dark soil that contained the human remains appears very distinct and rectangular in shape, with the eastern portion disturbed. The first artist's drawing of the burial rendered a rectangular coffin; however, as noted above, when first encountered during excavation the southern coffin outline

appeared to indicate a hexagonal shape. It is possible the infant's remains were actually inside a small rectangular box and that the appearance of a hexagonal grave cut was because of the disturbance of the southeastern portion of the burial by Burial 21.

Lying immediately above the infant's fragmentary remains were an adult tooth fragment and a ceramic fragment. Associated with the cranial remains were two brass straight pins, implying that the infant had been wrapped in cloth. The burial and surrounding soil were removed in their entirety for analysis. A closing elevation of 6.19 feet was recorded.

The top of Burial 48 lay 1.8 feet beneath the bottom of Burial 19. Immediately to the south/southeast of Burial 19, Burial 21, another infant, was recovered. The relationship between Burials 21 and 19 is unclear. They are placed in the Middle Group by default, in the absence of other evidence that would place them earlier or later.



Burial No. 19 (drawn by L. Romancyk on 10/19/91; Drawing No. 1023).

## Burial 20

Catalog No. 347

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 85, E 0

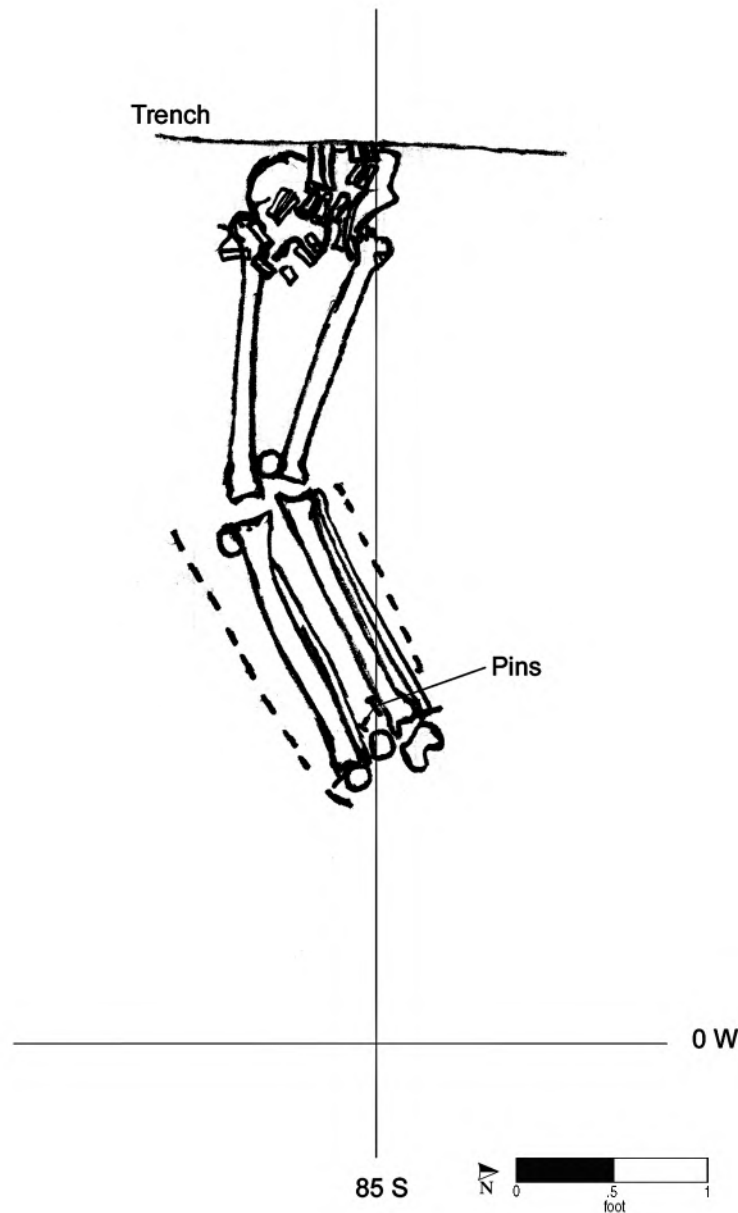
Elevation of highest skeletal element: 8.68 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 20 held the remains of a man between 45 and 50 years of age. The remains were truncated on the west by a foundation trench and were only pres-

ent from the pelvis down. The grave-shaft outline was only faintly traceable in the eastern part of the burial. There was no evidence of a coffin. Two straight pins were recorded in situ, lying between the ankles.

Burial 20 was at a high elevation similar to Burials 1, 28, and 36 in the vicinity. It is possible they were separated from other burials by an interval of time, along with deposition of a layer of soil. They are placed in the Late Group. The lack of a coffin in Burial 20 supports this assignment.



*Burial No. 20 (drawn by W. Forbes on 10/14/91; Drawing No. 87).*

## Burial 21

Series 1

Catalog No. 345

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 20

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 21 contained remains of a small coffin and two bone fragments. The soil matrix was described as mottled yellow-brown compact silt and clay. The coffin outline was first exposed at an elevation of 6.44 feet. It was rectangular, measuring just 0.8 feet by 0.35 feet. Nails were recorded in situ at the northeast, southeast, and southwest corners. They were described as “upright,” but it was not

clear whether they were from the top or bottom of the coffin. Within the coffin outline was a darker stained area, possibly the result of decayed human remains. The bones were removed with all surrounding soil.

The relationship between Burial 21 and Burial 19, immediately to the north and west, is unclear. Both burials overlay Burial 48 by 1.8 feet. Both Burials 21 and 19 are placed in the Middle Group by default, in the absence of clear evidence that would place them earlier or later.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.

## Burial 22

Series 5

Catalog No. 344

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 95.5, E 0

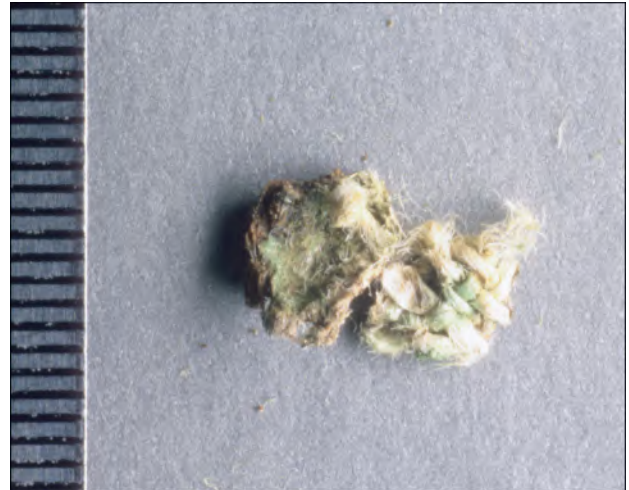
Elevation of cranium: 6.97 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Prior to uncovering Burials 22, 46, and 29, excavators had recorded a line of small cobbles, which ran east-west just south of the burials. The line was in two segments, either because of disturbance or they were distinct features. The western segment (labeled “Feature 1”) was at elevations of 8.22–8.57 feet, and the eastern segment (labeled “Feature 3”) was at 8.62–8.82 feet. The combined features were 3–4 feet above the Burial 29 coffin. The cobbles, averaging about 0.3 feet in diameter, are in all likelihood the remains of a grave marker or markers which may be associated with Burial 29 to the north or with Burial 47 to the south; the latter association was assumed in the field. It may also have been a boundary marker between grave groups. Laboratory catalog numbers assigned to the cobbles were Nos. 348 and 350.

Burial 22 contained the remains of a child between 2.5 and 4.5 years in age. The grave cut for the child’s burial was not initially apparent, and no soil description was recorded. The coffin lid was first encountered at elevations of 7.47 feet in the west and 7.67 feet in the east, reflecting the general east-to-west slumping in this portion of the site. The coffin appeared to be either tapered or hexagonal in shape. As drawn in the field, the western half was squared and the eastern half tapered toward the foot. Wood samples were identified as pine.

The child was interred in the supine position with the head to the west and arms resting at the sides. The hands were placed over the pelvis. The remains were in fairly good condition but some metacarpals and metatarsals were missing. A clam shell frag-

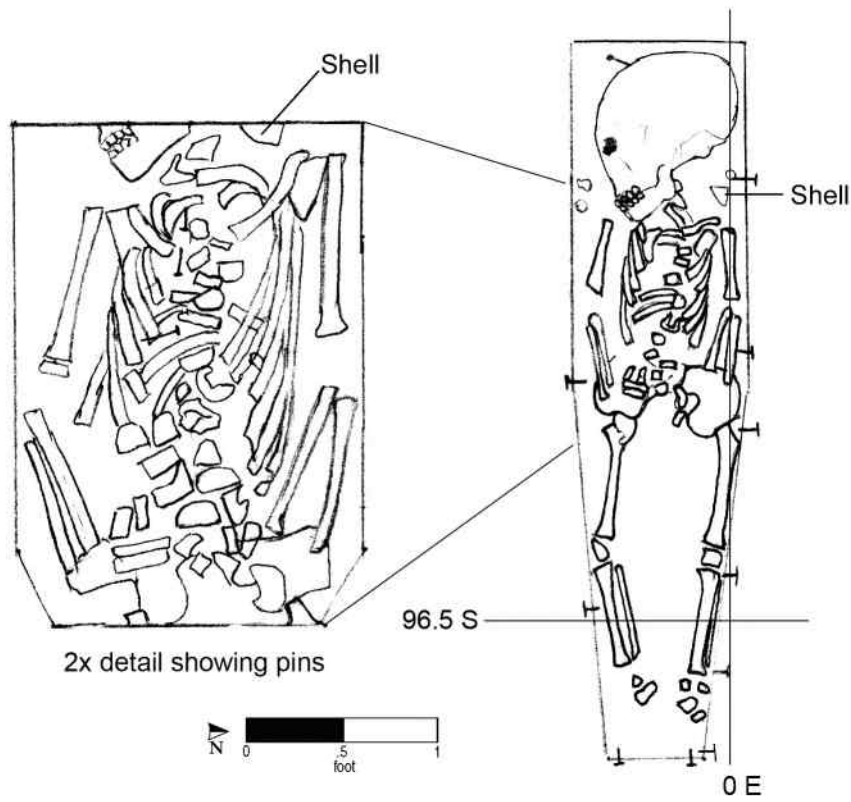


ment was recovered next to the child’s left clavicle (collar bone). Three straight pins were recorded in situ in the upper torso area, along the vertebrae, and a detail drawing was rendered. A fourth pin was found on the skull. One pin, originally identified as having hair or fiber attached, was later identified as an aglet (a copper-alloy “tube” finishing the end of a lace or drawstring), with associated fiber. A tiny fragment of linen textile was also recovered.

Although field recording for Burial 22 was minimal (no note was made of the underlying burials), Burial 22 was underlain by Burial 46 on the north and Burial 29 on the south. The highest point of the Burial 46 coffin was recorded at the same elevation as the bottom of Burial 22. Recorded depths also place Burial 29 immediately beneath the bottom of Burial 22. It is possible Burial 22 was deliberately placed with the others. However, field records suggest there were distinguishable grave shafts for the lower two burials, which indicates separate interments rather than a multiple (simultaneous) burial. Burial 29 is assigned to the Early Group, and Burial 46 to the Middle Group (although the latter may in fact also be early). Because of its stratigraphic position and its possible hexagonal coffin, Burial 22 is placed in the Middle Group.

*(continued on page 30)*

## Burial 22 (cont.)



*Burial No. 22 (drawn by P. Freeman on 10/16/91; Drawing No. 1025).*



## Burial 23

Series 42

Catalog Nos. 383, 355

Datum point: 14B (7.58 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 86, E 4 and S 86.6, E.6

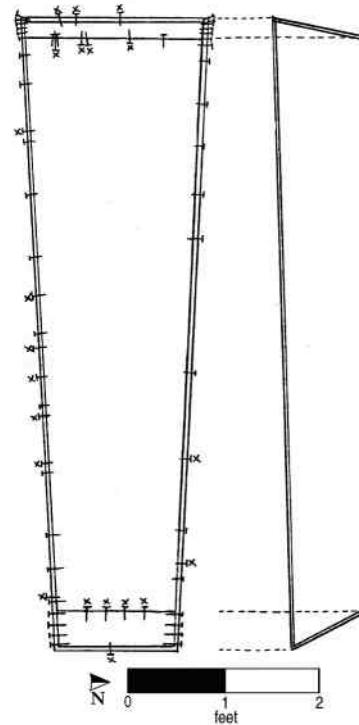
Elevation of cranium: 5.48 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early

Burial 23 contained the remains of a man between 25 and 35 years of age. It was located within the former Republican Alley, in the western portion of the excavated site. The grave shaft was depicted on the final drawing as rectangular and well defined, except at the eastern end. The shaft fill was described as reddish brown silty clay. No artifacts were recovered from the fill.

A rectangular stone, labeled in the field as Feature 8 and given Catalog Number 355, was thought by excavators to be a possible headstone associated with Burial 23. Neither the field drawings nor the photographs directly depict this stone in relation to the burial (it was mapped separately), but it appears to have lain above the west (head) end of the grave shaft. The only recorded elevation for the stone (presumably at its top) was 11.08 feet, and the elevation of the top of the coffin at its west (head) end was 5.93 feet; thus, the stone may have been a surface marker for Burial 23. The stone was not recovered after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. A series of cobbles (designated Feature 6 in the field) was recorded to the west of Burial 23; these may also have served as a grave marker.

The coffin lid was readily visible during excavation of the grave. It had collapsed inward leaving a gap down the center of the coffin. The coffin was four sided, tapering toward the foot, and the walls sloped outward at the top. Nails were recorded in situ at both top and bottom. Around the perimeter, vertical nails attached the lid to the sides. There were four nails at each corner of the head attaching the sides to the headboard, and four at each corner of the foot attaching the sides to the footboard. Vertical nails attached the bottom to the head and footboards. One coffin wood sample was identified as white spruce, another as red (eastern) spruce. The sample locations were not recorded. The coffin design is similar if not identical to that of Burial 68, to the south, although a sample of the Burial 68 coffin wood was identified as cedar.



Schematic rendering of Burial 23 coffin (drawn by B. Ludwig on 11/4/91; 1 inch = 2 feet).

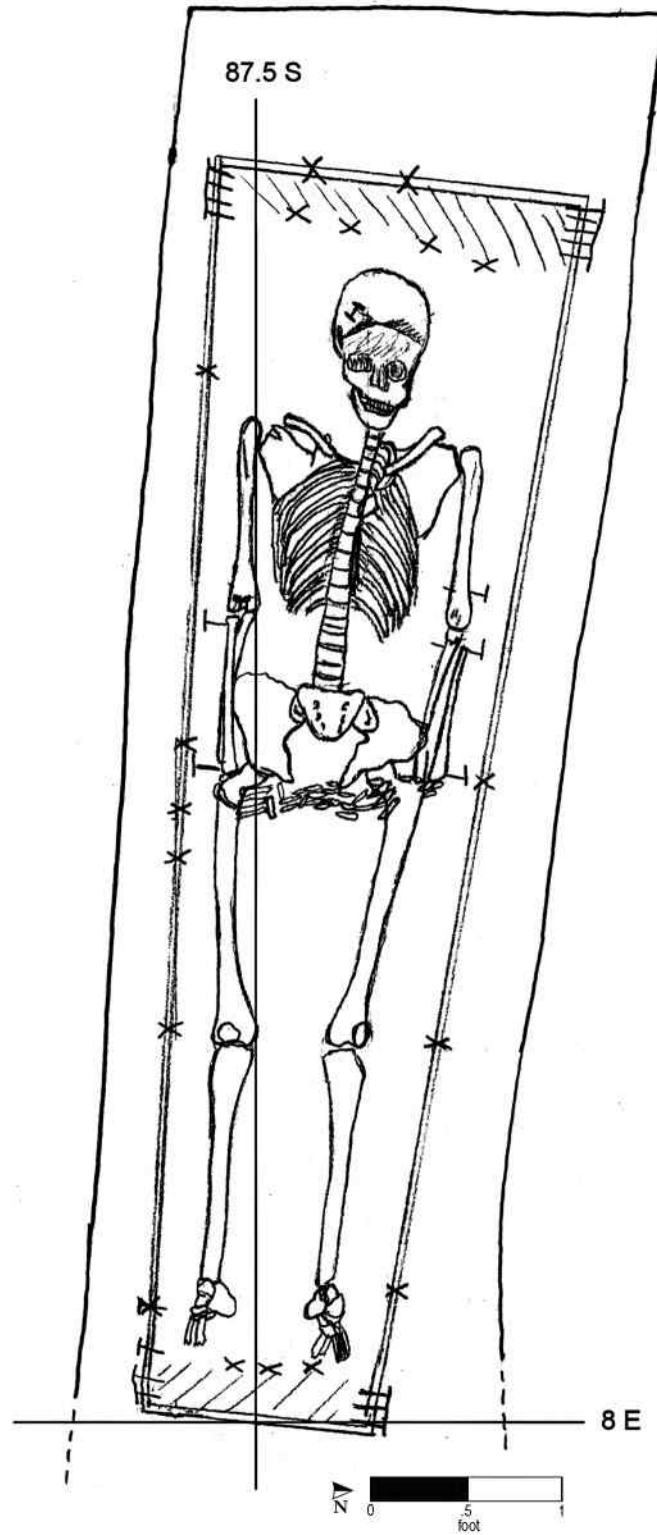
The man had been placed in a supine position, with his head to the west and hands resting on his upper thighs. The skeletal remains were in fair condition and complete. The upper central incisors had been modified into the “wedge” pattern, demonstrating mesial filing. A single straight pin was recorded in situ on the cranium but was not recovered.

Burials 68 (to the south), 18 (to the northeast), and 78 (to the southeast), all with four-sided coffins, may form a group with Burial 23. These burials appear to be from the earliest period represented in the excavated portion of the cemetery.

Burial 23’s grave shaft was overlain on the south side by Burial 24, an infant, whose remains were 1.6 feet higher in elevation. Burial 24 also overlay the northwest portion of Burial 27. Intervals of time probably separated them; the two children’s coffins were oriented differently from each other, and the man’s burial is likely from an earlier period. These three burials may not be related to one another. However, because Burial 23 was apparently marked at the surface by a headstone and possibly cobbles, it is possible the two children were placed here deliberately, perhaps after a lengthy interval had passed.

(continued on page 32)

### Burial 23 (cont.)



Burial No. 23 (drawn by C. S. G. on 10/23/91; Drawing No. 1027).

## Burial 24

Series 42

Catalog No. 360

Datum point: 14 (11.88 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 88.5, E 6

Elevation of cranium: 7.88 feet AMSL

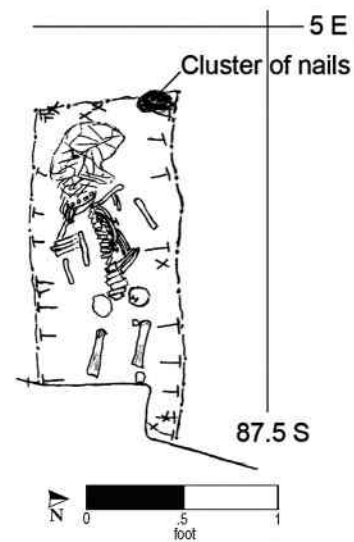
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 24 was of a child between 3 and 6 years old, located in the former Republican Alley in the western portion of the excavated site. The grave shaft was not visible, but associated soil was described as gray-brown silty clay. The coffin and lower legs had been truncated by a “previous trench” during the excavation (it is not clear how).

The coffin was clearly delineated by numerous in situ nails and appears to have been rectangular in shape. Its highest elevation was 7.93 feet, its lowest was 7.53 feet. A wood sample was taken but was not identified by species. The child had been placed in the coffin in a supine position, with the head to the west. Six straight pins were recorded in situ. Excavators recorded one on the cranium, four on the left ribs, and one on the left innominate. No other artifacts were found in association with this burial.

Burial 24 overlay the southeast edge of Burial 23, which was 1.6 feet lower in elevation. It also overlay the northwest portion of Burial 27, another

child burial, which was 0.6 feet lower in elevation. The three burials were probably not close in time; the man’s burial was earliest based on the coffin shape and lowest elevation, and the two children’s coffins were oriented differently from each other. However, because Burial 23 was apparently marked at the surface by a headstone, it is possible the two children were placed here deliberately. Burial 24 is assigned to the Middle Group because of its stratigraphic position and a lack of evidence to place it later.



*Burial No. 24 (drawn by C. Gross; Drawing No. 1028).*

## Burial 25

Series 1

Catalog No. 358

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 85.5, E 23

Elevation of cranium: 6.07 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 25 contained the remains of a woman between 20 and 24 years of age. A flattened lead musket ball (1.6 cm by 1.3 cm in diameter) was found in situ beneath her fourth left rib; this was the apparent cause of death.



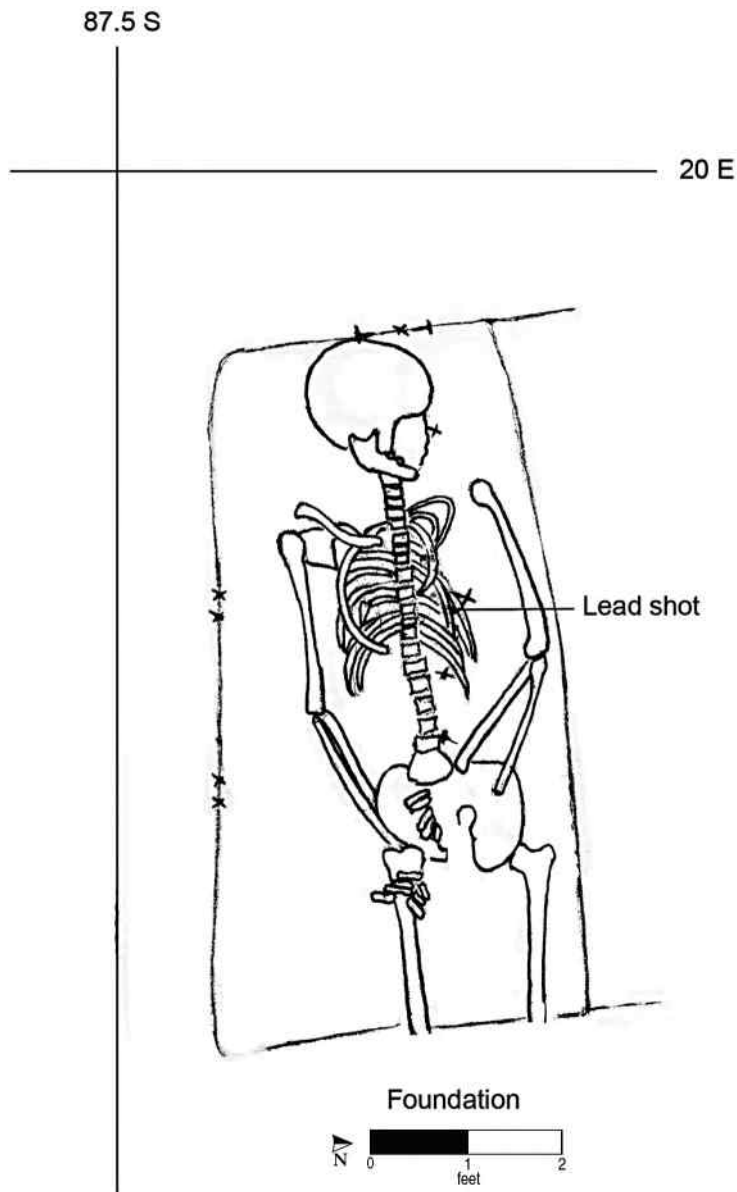
Although no grave shaft was clearly defined during excavation, the grave fill was described as mottled

yellow-brown silty clay. Ceramic sherds (a few of stoneware and one of delft) and oyster and scallop shell fragments were recovered from the fill. The coffin lid was at an elevation of 6.24 feet. It was truncated by a stone foundation that cut the entire burial below the distal ends of the femurs. The coffin was poorly defined and its shape was not determined, but a sample of its wood (from an unspecified location) was identified as pine. After the woman's remains were exposed completely, seven nails were found in situ at the bottom of the coffin. Of the seven, five nails were vertical, apparently attaching the coffin floor to its sides. At the time Burial 25 was excavated, the north coffin edge was obscured by a balk. The lowest recorded elevation for the burial was 5.64 feet.

The woman had been placed in the supine position, head to the west, with her hands resting on her pelvis. Her skeletal remains were in poor condition although they were essentially complete from the head to the femurs. There was a large hole at the center of the shattered left scapula (shoulder blade), and it is possible the musket ball entered through the upper left back. Bone fractures suggest that she also had a blunt-force trauma to the face, and her lower right arm had been fractured by being twisted and pulled. A small trace of new bone around the fractures suggested that she lived for a short while after the fractures occurred, probably no more than a few days.

Burial 25 lay immediately above Burial 32, which held a man between 50 and 60 years of age in a hexagonal coffin. Notes indicate that the Burial 32 cranium lay directly underneath the right scapula of Burial 25, with only coffin wood intervening. The difference in elevation of only 0.12 feet between the tops of the two coffins may be the result of compression or to a field recording error. It is possible this was a shared grave. Burial 25's grave shaft appears to have cut into the shaft of Burial 44, located to the northwest. This indicates that Burial 25 postdates Burial 44. Burials 25 and 32 are placed in the Middle Group, in the absence of other temporal evidence.

Burial 25 (cont.)



Burial No. 25 (drawn by L. Romanczyk on 10/19/91; Drawing No. 1029).

## Burial 26

Series 2

Catalog Nos. 359, 406

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 83, E 20

Elevation of cranium: 3.74 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early?

Burial 26, located in the former Republican Alley at the rear of Lot 12, contained the remains of a child between 8 and 12 years old. The soil that filled the grave shaft was described as mottled red-brown clayey silt with blue-green clay lumps and sparse pebbles. However, the shaft was largely disturbed by the shafts for Burials 10 and 17, and field notes indicate that most of the grave shaft above the elevation of 4.59 feet was removed during the excavation of these later graves. The eastern end of Burial 26 also had been disturbed by a builder's trench and stone foundation. Excavators noted that the bottom of the child's burial overlay an area of cobbles, but they were not certain whether this was a cultural feature.

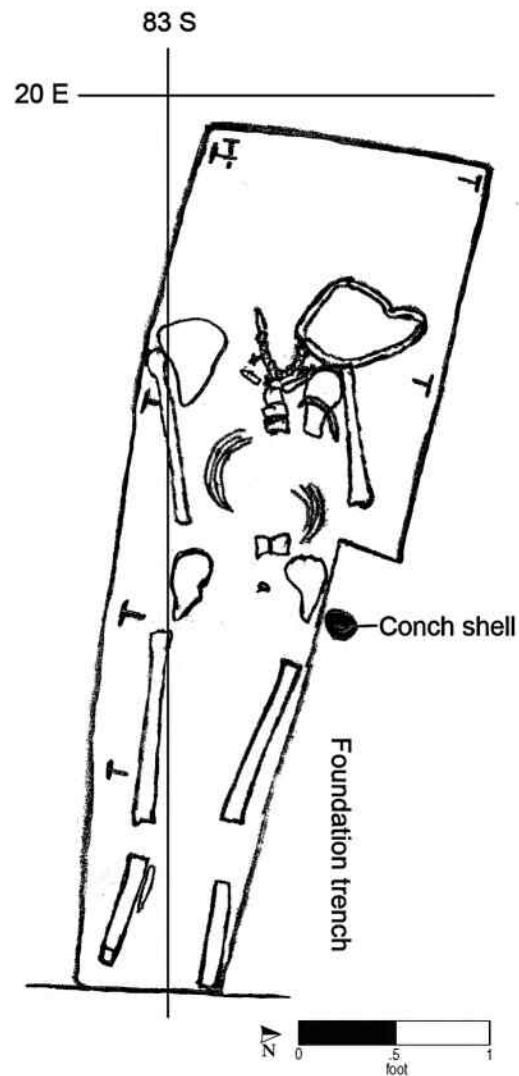
The four-sided coffin lid was first encountered at a depth of 4.39 feet. Four nails were found in situ. Excavators recorded one nail in the northwest corner, two along the north wall, and one in the southwest corner. The coffin bottom was at an elevation of 3.44 feet. At the bottom of the coffin, seven nails were found in situ; one was in the northwest corner, one along the north wall, three along the south wall, and two were in the southwest corner. These apparently attached the coffin side boards to the bottom.

The child was interred in the supine position with the head to the west. The child's hands apparently rested at the sides. The remains were in extremely poor condition. The bone was extremely soft and much of it was absent because of "waterlogged conditions." The child's cranium had rolled to the left, off of the mandible (lower jaw), and rested on the partially silted coffin floor. Ten deciduous (baby) teeth were present in situ in the mandible, resting above the vertebrae.

A conch shell (Catalog No. 406) was found in the foundation trench that cut into the burial shaft,

immediately adjacent to upper left leg. In addition, the excavators found oyster and scallop shells, brick, and delft in the trench. The excavator noted a possible iron buckle but suggested it was more likely fragments of iron from one of the iron objects that had been found above the coffin of Burial 10.

It is possible this burial belongs with the Early Group of burials. It was highly disturbed by later burials. Also, although this was a child, he or she was old enough to have a possibly full-sized, four-sided coffin, considered diagnostic of the Early Group.



Burial No. 26 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 10/19/91; Drawing No. 99).

## Burial 27

Series 42

Catalog No. 378

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 89, E 5.5

Elevation of cranium: 6.73 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

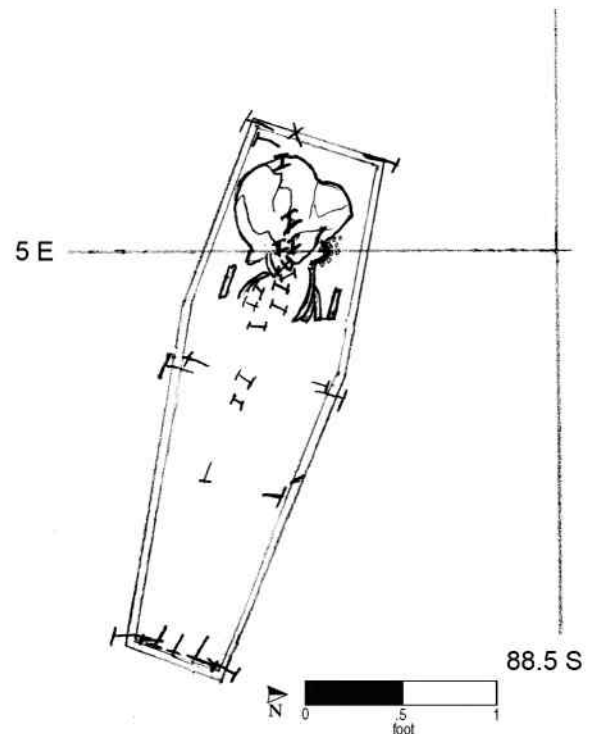
Burial 27 was of a child between 1.4 and 2.8 years old. The grave was located in the former Republican Alley in the westernmost portion of the excavated cemetery. No grave-shaft outline was recorded, but the associated soil was described as grayish silty clay.

The top of the hexagonal coffin was recorded at 6.93 feet, the bottom at 6.48 feet. Nails were drawn in situ at the head, the foot, and at the middle of each side of the coffin. A coffin wood sample from an unspecified location was identified as pine.

The skeletal remains consisted mainly of badly crushed cranial elements (note: no in situ skeletal assessment was recorded). The child had been placed with the head to the west. Thirteen straight pins were recorded in situ, aligned from the top of the cranium to the mid-abdomen. The only other artifact recovered from this burial was a leather fragment, from an unknown location (possibly from the surrounding soil).

The northwest portion of Burial 27 lay beneath Burial 24, with 0.6 feet of intervening soil. The two children's coffins were oriented differently, with Burial 27 the more northerly (suggesting a summer interment). Burial 23 (a young man) was adjacent to the north but at a lower elevation. Burial 23 was

apparently marked at the surface by a headstone, and it is possible the two children were placed here deliberately, perhaps well after Burial 23. Adjacent to the southwest of Burial 27, also at a lower elevation, was Burial 78. Both Burials 23 and 78 are probably from the earliest period of use of the excavated portion of the cemetery. Burial 27 may be related to one or both or may simply have been an isolated interment. Because the tiny coffin was hexagonal, and lacking other temporal evidence, Burial 27 is assigned to the Middle Group.



*Burial No. 27 (drawn by C. Gross on 10/17/91; Drawing No. 1030).*

## Burial 28

Catalog No. 379

Datum point: 13

Grid coordinates: S 83.1, W 2.2

Elevation of cranium: 8.58 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 28 contained cranial and clavicle fragments, probably of an infant, found in a clayey sand matrix near the northwest corner of Republican/Manhattan alley. The skeletal elements were recorded at elevations of 8.48–8.58 feet. The composite burial map for this part of the site depicted the remains of the west end of a coffin immediately adjacent to

the bones, with five nails recorded in situ. No wood was recoverable. Other than the nails, no artifacts were found in association with this burial.

The high elevation of Burial 28 corresponds to that of Burials 1 (to the east), 20 (to the south) and 36 (to the west). It is possible the west end of Burial 28 overlay the east end of Burial 36, although the field notes are not clear on this. All four are probably late burials, representing the last phase of burials in this portion of the cemetery.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.



**Burial 29**

Series 5

Catalog No. 381

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 97.5, E 0

Elevation of cranium: 3.92 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early

See Burial 22 for a description of a cobble marker that may be related to this burial.

Burial 29 was an adult, probably a man, aged 35–45 years. The elevations of the grave shaft, recorded after excavation had already begun, were 6.07 feet in the west and 5.32 feet in the east. The grave fill was described as very stony, dry yellow clayey, mottled silt, with cobbles in mixed sand and clay towards the bottom. A pipe stem fragment was recovered from the fill. The grave had been truncated on the west by a builder's trench for a structure on Broadway. This disturbance also produced an abrupt fall in elevation from east to west. The archaeological trench did not extend to the southern side of the grave shaft.

The coffin lid was first recorded at an elevation of 5.17 feet. Excavators noticed what appeared to be charred material overlying the poorly preserved bones of the torso. The material was black in color and gritty and greasy in texture. A sample was taken for analysis (Catalog No. 00381-SC). The fill surrounding the man's remains, within the coffin, was very gravelly, with some wet clay and silts. The soil immediately under the skeletal remains consisted of gravel and sand cemented into a very hard layer.

The coffin was four sided, tapering toward the foot. The bottom was reached at an elevation of 4.52 feet in the east and 3.47 feet in the west. Only eight nails were recorded in situ at the bottom. Wood

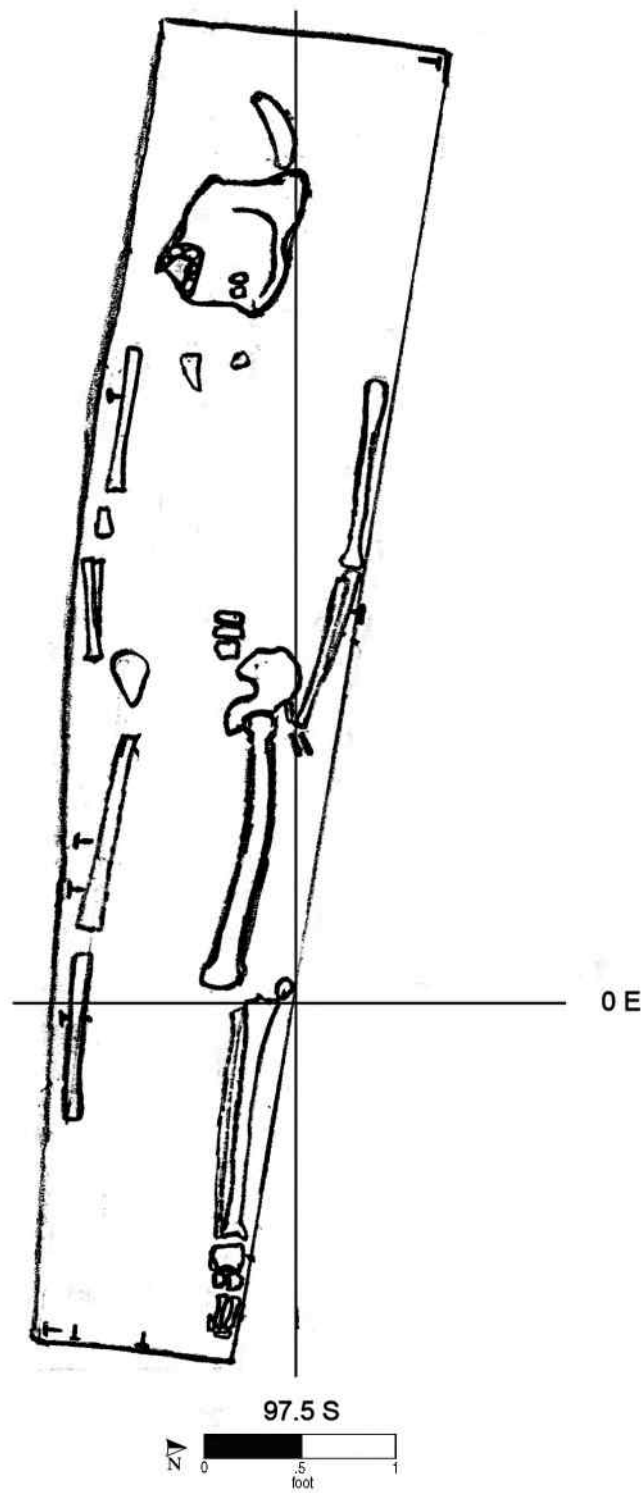
samples, one labeled as from the "back board" and one from an unspecified location, were identified as white spruce.

The man was interred in the supine position with his head to the west, with his arms resting at his sides. His skeletal remains were in very poor condition. Possibly because of the nature of sediments surrounding the skeleton, preservation was better on the left side. The right foot was missing because of the concretion of sands and gravels, and there was severe erosion of the right tibia. The ribs and all but the lowest vertebrae were absent. Excavators noted that bone impressions sometimes remained in the soil concretions as shiny surfaces and needed to be broken with hammer and chisels. The man's cranium was soft, fragmented, and very white; it was imbedded in the surrounding cemented sediments, giving the appearance of being calcified. No artifacts were found within the coffin.

Burial 29 was overlain by Burial 22. A long bone belonging to Burial 46 was visible in the north wall of the excavation trench for Burial 29. Drawings suggest that the grave shaft for Burial 29 may have cut through a portion of the south side of Burial 46. However, the relationship between the two grave shafts is not clear from field records, and it remains possible the two graves are contemporaneous or that Burial 46 postdates Burial 29. Based on differential preservation and its deeper elevation, it seems likely that in fact Burial 29 predates Burial 46, perhaps by some time. It is possible Burial 46 was deliberately placed adjacent to the marked Burial 29, and that Burial 22, occurring some time later, was deliberately placed above the two. Based on its coffin shape and stratigraphic position, Burial 29 is assigned to the Early Group.

*(continued on page 40)*

Burial 29 (cont.)



Burial No. 29 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 11/13/91; Drawing No. 238).

## Burial 30

Series 1

Catalog No. 410

Datum point: 14

Grid coordinates: S 85.5, E 10

Elevation of cranium: 5.83 feet AMSL

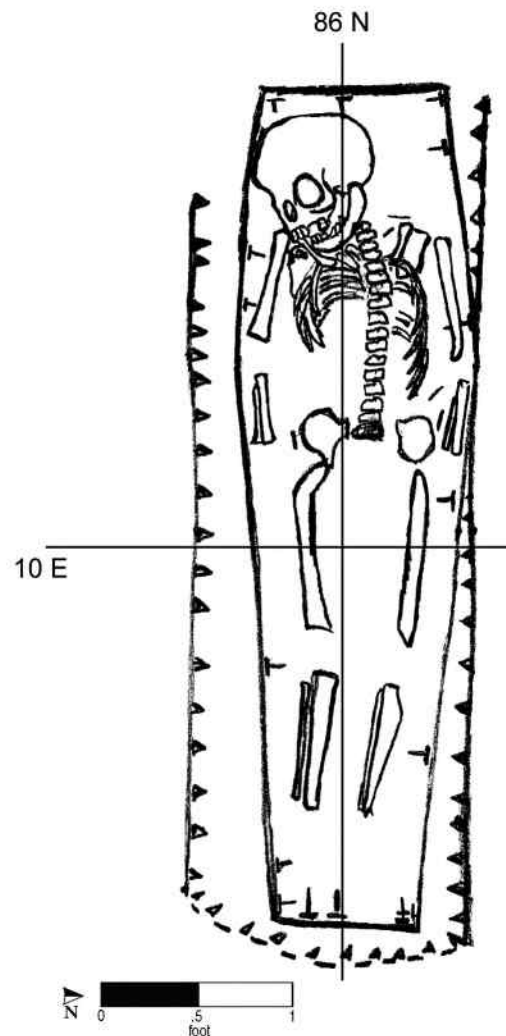
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 30, in the former Republican Alley, was of a child between 7 and 11 years in age. The fill in the grave shaft was described as mottled Munsell 7.5YR 4/4 silt, 10YR 3/3 sandy silt, 7.5YR 3/4 sandy silt, and 5Y 6/3 silt. The grave cut was not clearly delineated on either the east or west end. The field notes indicate that there were shell fragments in the soil associated with this burial, but these were not retained. A sherd of tin-glazed ceramic, pipe stem fragments, faunal remains, and a prehistoric ceramic sherd were also recovered from the grave-shaft fill.

The coffin lid was at an elevation of 6.18 feet. It was hexagonal in shape, and a single vertical nail was recorded midway along the south side. Sixteen horizontal nails were recorded at the bottom of the coffin, apparently attaching the sides to the bottom board. Excavators recorded one nail each at the north and south corners, one along the west headboard, four along the north side, four along the south side, two at the north and southeast corners, and one along the south. The bottom of the coffin was at an elevation of 5.08 feet.

The child was interred with the head to the west, in the supine position with hands at sides. The bone was fragile; field notes indicate that the left humerus (upper arm) was “mangled” by excavators. All the hands and feet were absent, and all joints between arm and leg bones were absent. Several straight pins were recorded in situ near the left shoulder and the pelvis area; excavators were not able to recover these pins, which were visible as green stains.

The bottom of Burial 30 was 0.25 feet above the top of Burial 38. The grave shaft for Burial 6 cut into the extreme eastern end of the grave shaft for Burial 30. Burial 30 thus predates Burial 6 and postdates Burial 38. Lacking other temporal evidence, Burial 30 is assigned to the Middle Group.



Burial No. 30 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 10/23/91; Drawing No. 108).

## Burial 31

Series 6

Catalog No. 409

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 102.5, E 0

Elevation of cranium: 6.47 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 31 contained the remains of an adolescent between 14 and 16 years of age, whose sex could not be determined. Excavation initially followed the outline of what appeared to be a large, double-sized grave pit and continued until Burial 31's coffin outline appeared in the southern portion of the pit at an elevation of 6.99 feet. Field records did not mention any other burial within the pit; however, Burial 47 was located immediately north of Burial 31 but offset to the west, within what had been observed as one large grave pit, at a corresponding elevation. Burial 47 was excavated 18 days after the excavation of Burial 31. It is possible this was a double burial that was not recognized during excavation. A fragment of a smoking pipe and a lead shot pellet were the only artifacts recovered from the pit outside the coffin of Burial 31.

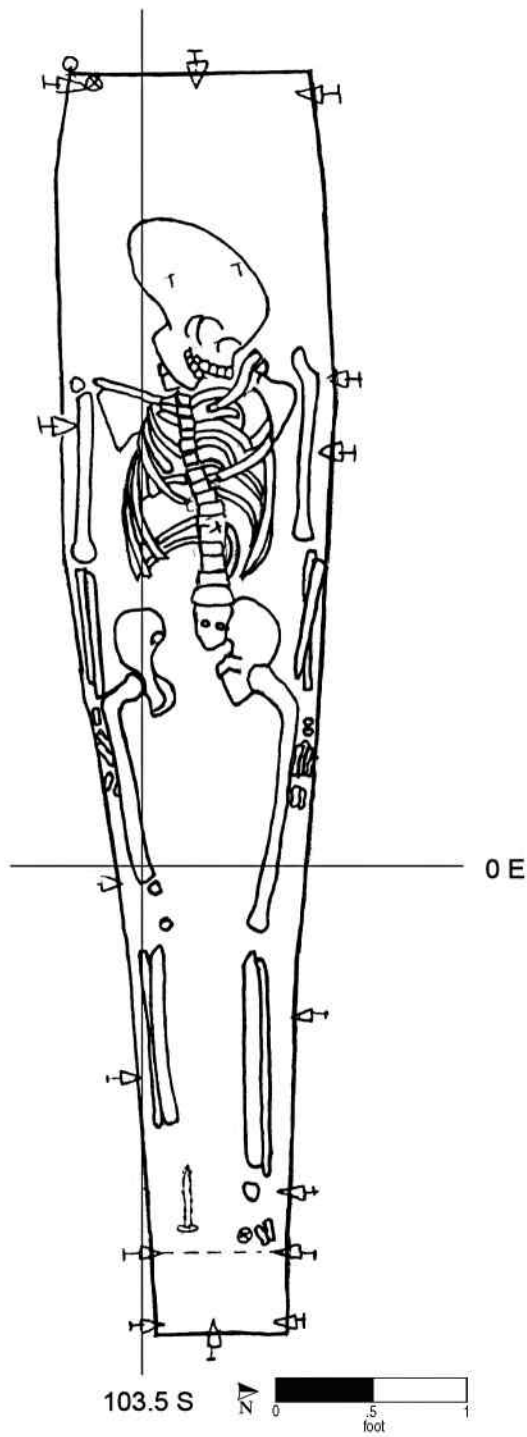
The coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of 6.82 feet in the west, 6.92 feet in the center, and 6.77 feet in the east. This burial had not undergone the westward slumping observed in nearby burials, presumably because it was placed approximately 2 feet farther to the east. The field drawing of the

exposed burial does not include depth measurements; the lowest skeletal elevation noted was for the back of the cranium at 6.17 feet.

Based on photographs and notes, the coffin was hexagonal in shape. The excavators recorded horizontal nails, 1 each in the headboard and footboard and 13 along the sides of the coffin, and also 2 vertical nails at head and foot. A 3-inch nail was recorded in situ near the right foot, and excavators suggested this nail might have been placed inside the coffin. Alternatively, the nail appears to have been associated with a board found at the bottom of the coffin, oriented north-south, interpretable as the bottom of the coffin footboard. The coffin foot thus would have sloped inward in profile, as seen in other coffins from the site. The deceased was interred in the supine position, with the head to the west, arms resting at the sides. Three straight pins were found in situ within the coffin; 2 on the cranium and 1 along the vertebrae.

As noted above, Burial 31 may have shared a grave with Burial 47, which was marked with a thin granite stone. It is not possible to determine whether the two interments were separated by an interval, although the fact that Burial 31 was offset, rather than aligned exactly side-by-side with Burial 47, suggests it may have been a later burial. And, because Burial 47 appears to have been marked with a headstone, the deliberate placement here of Burial 31 is very plausible. In the absence of other temporal evidence, both of these burials are placed in the Middle Group.

Burial 31 (cont.)



Burial No. 31 (drawn by P. A. F. and S. B. on 10/25/91; Drawing No. 1031).

## Burial 32

Series 1

Catalog No. 420

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 85.5, E 24

Elevation of cranium: 5.74 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 32 contained the remains of man between 50 and 60 years of age. It was immediately beneath Burial 25, and like the latter grave, it had been partially destroyed by a stone foundation for a building that once stood at 13 Duane Street. The grave shaft was not distinguishable from that of Burial 25, and the soil in both burials was described as yellow-brown clay/silt. A few sherds of locally made stoneware, one of delft, and a few fragments of shell were found in the shaft fill.

The coffin lid appeared hexagonal in shape and was encountered at an elevation of 6.19 feet. The northeast corner and much of the eastern end of the coffin were truncated by the later stone foundation. Seven vertical nails were recorded in situ. The excavators recorded one in the southwest corner and six along the south side, attaching the lid to the coffin sides. One horizontal nail was recorded in situ at the northwest corner. After the man's remains were exposed, five horizontal nails were recorded in situ at the bottom of the coffin, one in each western corner, three along the north wall,

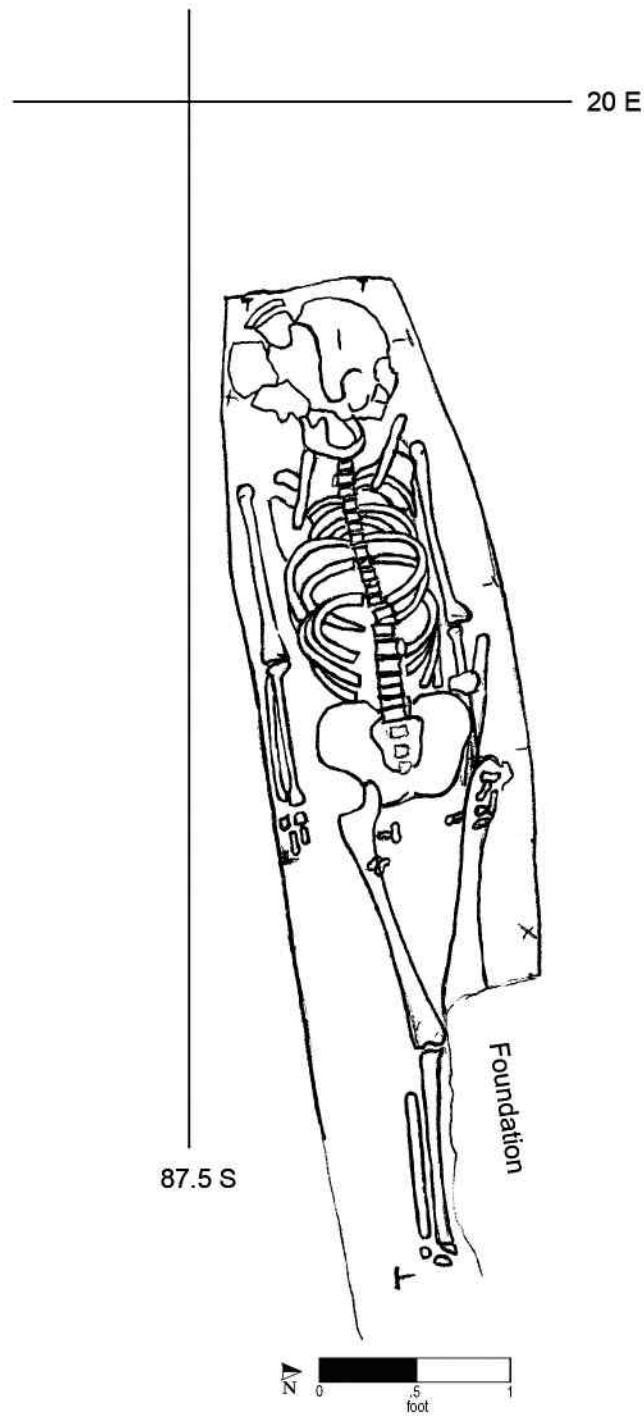
and one in the southeastern area. Two vertical nails were also recorded in situ, one on the southern wall and another on the north wall in close proximity to the stone foundation. The bottom of the burial was recorded at an elevation of 4.79 feet.

The man was interred with his head to the west and with his arms resting at his sides. His remains were in good condition other than the damage from the foundation. His cranium was fragmented and so were his pelvis and sacrum. His left femur was embedded in the intrusive foundation trench, and his right foot was found under the foundation wall.

Fragments of a pewter button were identified in the laboratory, but there is no mention of it in the field notes, and it is not clear that it was directly associated with the remains. This item was not recovered from the laboratory at the World Trade Center and therefore could not be reburied along with the skeletal remains.

Burial 25 covered Burial 32. The field notes indicated that the Burial 32 cranium lay directly underneath the right scapula of Burial 25, with only coffin wood intervening. The difference in elevation—only 0.12 feet between the tops of the two coffins—may be the result of compression or to a minor recording error. It is possible the two coffins were stacked in the same grave. They are placed in the Middle Group based on coffin shape and stratigraphic position, and in the absence of other temporal evidence.

Burial 32 (cont.)



Burial No. 32 (drawn by L. Romanczyk on 10/26/91; Drawing No. 1032).

## Burial 33

Series 3a

Catalog No. 426

Datum point: 16

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 10

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 7.69 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early

Burial 33 refers to the disarticulated skeletal remains of a person of undetermined gender and age. The remains were in poor condition and consisted of a left tibia resting on top of a right femur. The dimensions of the pit as excavated were 0.8 feet by 0.4 feet, and its fill was described as mottled dark red-brown fine silt with dark yellow-green fine silt, with rock inclusions. A few fragments of animal bone were found in the soil. In the opinion of the excavator, Burial 12 had intruded into Burial 33. The field forms indicate that Datum Point No.

16 was used for depth measurements, yielding an elevation of 7.69 feet for Burial 33. However, it is clear from site photographs that the long bones of this burial were in fact at approximately the same elevation as Burial 12 (5.89 feet). A few nail fragments and one whole nail were found in association with Burial 33. Excavators noted a ceramic sherd that they described only as “1760?” above the burial area, but no sherd was collected from this burial.

Burial 33 may represent the same individual as Burial 34, which consisted only of the east end of a coffin and a few disarticulated bones, and was also apparently disturbed by the later interment of Burial 12/14.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore it has not been reproduced.



## Burial 34

Series 3a

Catalog No. 427

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 15

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 6.02 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early

Burial 34 yielded scant remains of an adult of undetermined age and sex and remains of a coffin. The grave shaft was exposed at an elevation of 6.44 feet, and its fill consisted of mottled red-brown and yellow-gray silty clay. No artifacts were recovered from within the fill.

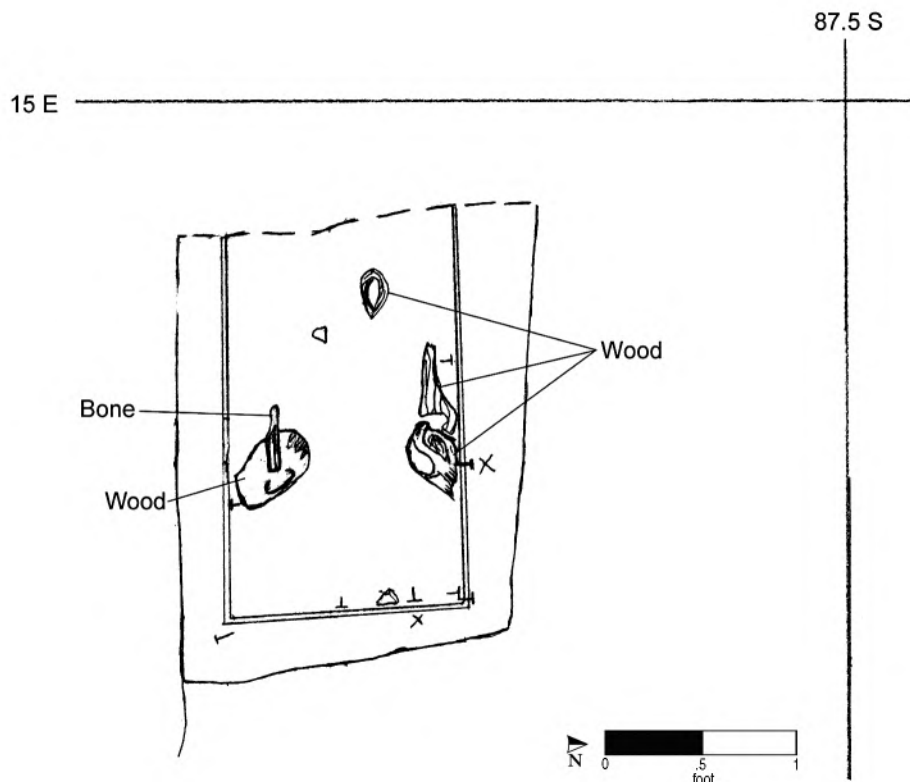
The coffin appeared to be rectangular in shape, but it was incomplete; the western half had been truncated by the later grave of Burial 12/14. Three coffin nails were recorded in situ; there was one in each eastern corner and one centrally located on the eastern wall. The bottom of the remaining portion of the coffin was exposed at an elevation of 5.94 feet, and five horizontal nails were found in situ. The excavators recorded two on the north wall,

one in the northeast corner, one on the east wall, and one on the south wall, apparently attaching the sidewalls to the bottom of the coffin. Several large pieces of wood were preserved in situ at the bottom of the coffin, and the wood was identified as fir. Other than the coffin itself, the only item recovered in association with this burial was a tiny fragment of green glass from a soil sample.

The skeletal remains consisted of one long-bone fragment, which was found in the eastern portion of the coffin. It is possible these remains represent the same individual as Burial 33, which consisted only of disarticulated bone also apparently disturbed by Burial 12/14.

Burial 56 abutted the south side of the grave shaft of Burial 34, and lay some 0.74 feet lower in elevation. The grave-shaft outline for Burial 56 appeared intact along the north side, indicating it postdates Burial 34.

Burial 34 is placed in the Early Group because of its stratigraphic position and its near-destruction by later burials. Also, although the coffin shape is not certain, it does not appear to have been hexagonal.



Burial No. 34 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/11/91; Drawing No. 229).

## Burial 35

Series 1

Catalog No. 458

Datum point: 25

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 15

Elevation of cranium: 6.08 feet AMSL

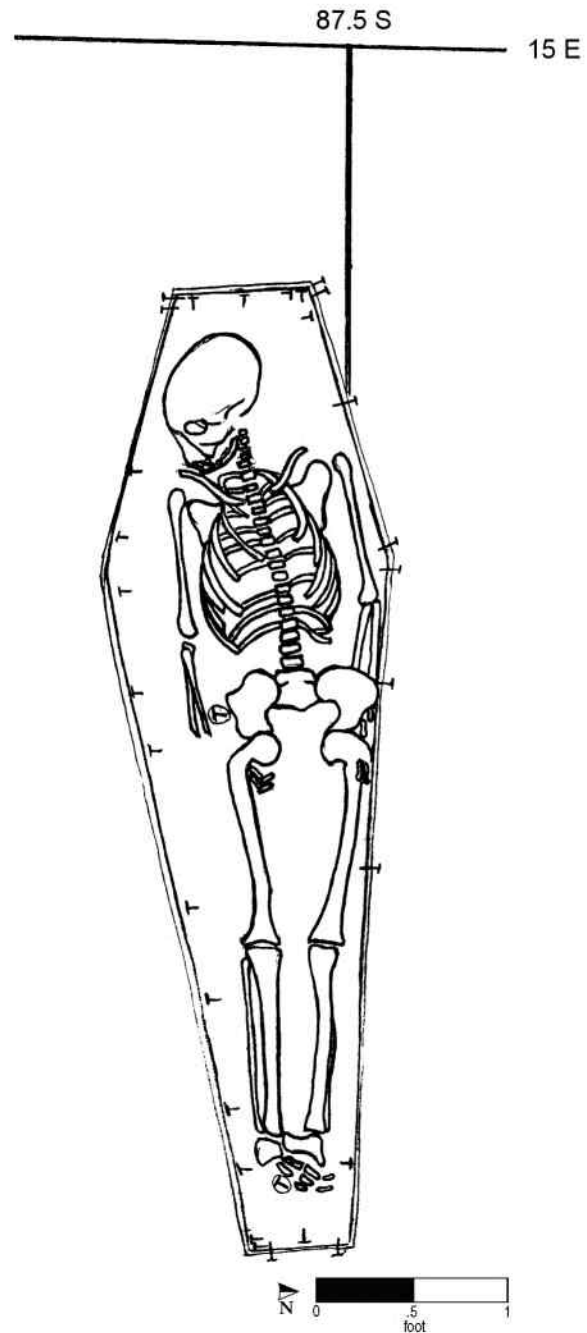
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 35, located in the former Republican Alley, contained the remains of a child between 8 and 10 years in age. The grave-shaft fill was described as mottled red-brown and yellow-green silty clay. It contained redware kiln waste, local stoneware, and two small sherds of white salt-glazed stoneware. The redware indicates this burial occurred after the Campbell pottery began operation on an adjacent property in the late 1750s.

The child's coffin was hexagonal. The lid was encountered at elevations of 6.13 feet in the west and 5.68 feet in the east. Field notes indicate that the slope of the top of the coffin was because the lid collapsed onto the child's remains. The child's skull was visible through the lid boards, which were separated down the center. Three horizontal nails were recorded along the center line of the lid, interpreted by excavators as indicating a possible gabled lid. Only one of these nails was visible on the coffin lid, and the other two were identified at the bottom of the coffin. Numerous additional nails were recorded at the coffin perimeter at both top and bottom. A coffin wood sample was identified as red pine.

The child's remains were in good condition, but the metacarpals were missing. The remains were interred in the supine position, head to the west, with arms resting at the sides and hands on the hips. Excavators noted traces of a pin on the cranium, but it was not recoverable.

Burial 35 lay approximately 0.25 feet above the western half of Burial 48, and its grave shaft was cut into by the shaft of Burial 6. Burial 6's coffin lay approximately 1 foot deeper than that of Burial 35. Burial 35 thus postdates Burial 48 and pre-dates Burial 6. Because of its stratigraphic position and the artifacts in the grave shaft, Burial 35 is assigned to the Middle Group.



Burial No. 35 (drawn by T. Gray on 11/1/91; Drawing No. 1035).

## Burial 36

Catalog No. 459

Datum point: 13 (11.38 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 82, W 3

Elevation of skeletal elements: 8.17 feet AMSL

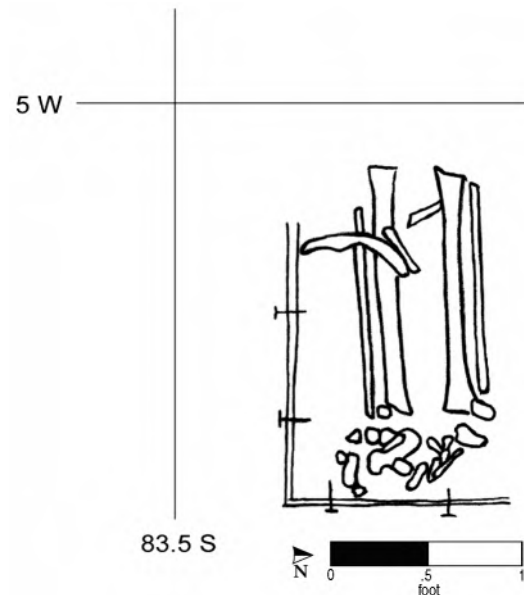
Temporal group: Late

Burial 36 was of a woman of undetermined age. The burial was truncated by builders' trenches for rear foundations of Broadway buildings, and only the eastern end of the grave survived intact. The soil associated with this burial was described as grayish brown silty clay. A soil sample taken from the coffin interior yielded a fragment of green glass; this may have been in the soil matrix at the time of interment.

The coffin was represented by linear wood stains and in situ nails at an elevation of 8.0 feet. Its shape cannot be determined. A sample of its wood was identified as cedar. The woman's leg and foot bones were undisturbed, but a part of the pelvis rested on the right leg. She had been placed with her head to the west.

Burial 36 lay immediately above Burial 93. It is possible that the grave shaft of Burial 28, located to

the east, overlay the east end of Burial 36; the notes are unclear on this point. Burials 36, 28, 20 (to the south) and 1 (to the east) were all at similar elevations, noticeably higher than others in the area. It is likely all are from the latest period of the cemetery's use.



*Burial No. 36 (drawn by B. V. Ludwig on 10/31/91; Drawing No. 1036).*

## Burial 37

Catalog No. 460

Datum point: 27

Grid coordinates: S 65, E 20

Elevation of cranium: 7.44 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 37 contained the remains of a man between 45 and 55 years of age. According to the excavator, the bones were extremely fragile and most were taken out in fragmentary condition. The shaft fill was described as a mottled mix of ochre-colored and gray clay with reddish silty sand. Sherds of delft, the stem of a clay pipe, and an oyster shell were found in the grave fill.

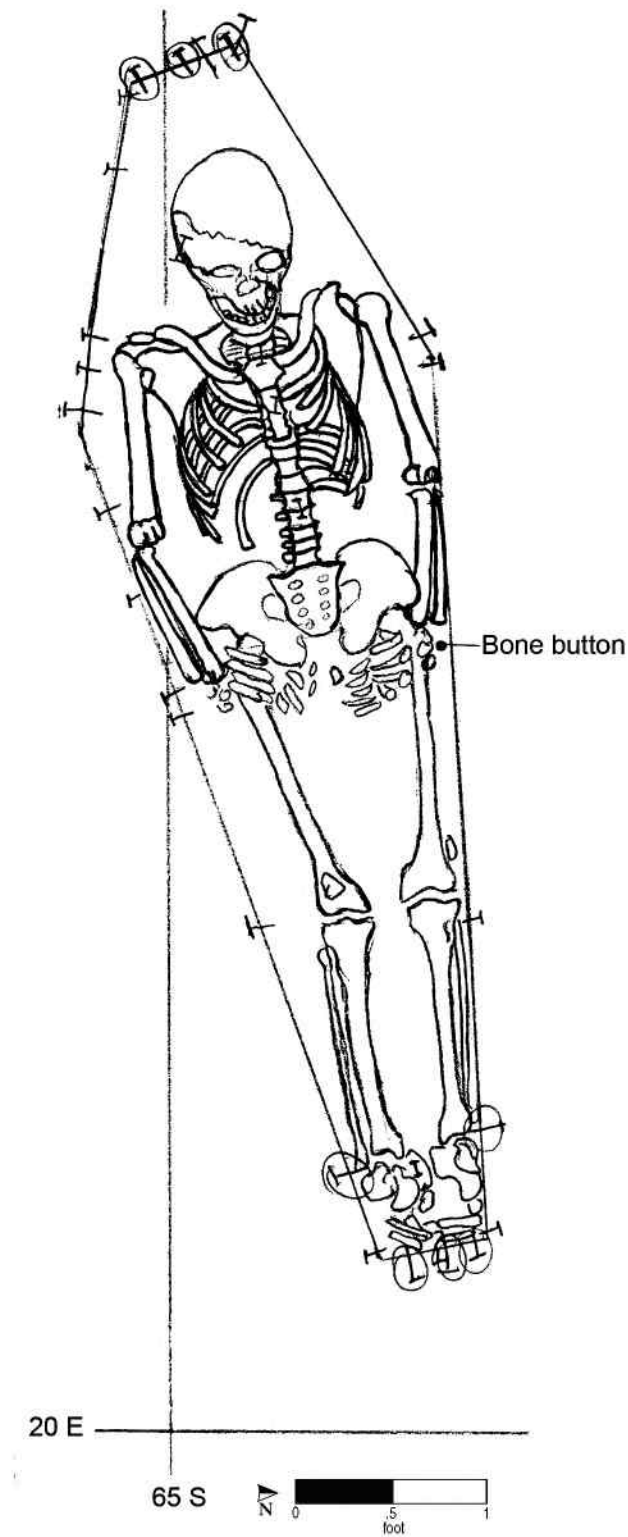
The coffin of Burial 37 was hexagonal in shape. Its lid was recorded at 7.74 feet and its bottom at 6.64 feet. The man had been placed in a supine position with the head to the west and his hands resting on his pelvis. Nails were recorded around the perimeter of the coffin at both top and bottom. The excavators noted that much of the coffin wood from the side boards and the lid at the west end of the coffin was preserved. The samples were identified as cedar.



A 13-mm-diameter bone button was found by the man's left wrist. Pin fragments or staining was recorded during laboratory cleaning of the bones at the right side of the cranium, the thoracic vertebrae, the inside of the right ankle, the sternum, the manubrium, and the sacrum; two fragments were recovered and inventoried.

The grave of Burial 37 was located just 1 foot to the south of Burial 59, an infant, and at a comparable elevation. These burials may have been aligned in a north-south row that also included, moving southward, Burials 58, 63, and 86. They were all north of the fence line that once crossed the cemetery and are therefore assigned to the Late Group.

Burial 37 (cont.)



Burial No. 37 (drawn by R. DiBennardo on 10/31/91; Drawing No. 1037 [Note: circled nails are vertical]).

## Burial 38

Series 1

Catalog No. 461

Datum point 14A

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 10

Elevation of cranium: 5.18 feet AMSL

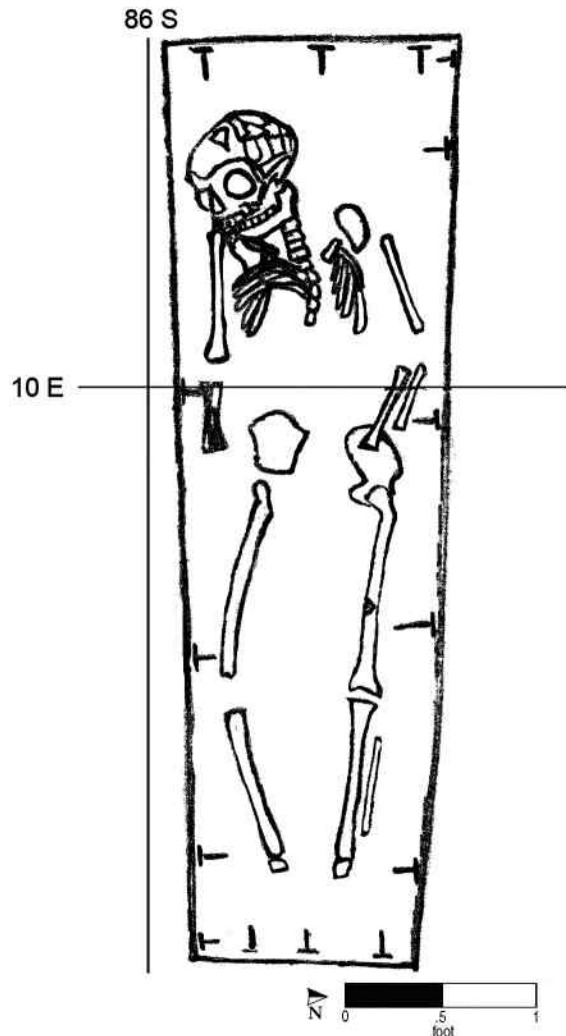
Temporal group: Early

Burial 38, located in the former Republican Alley, yielded the remains of an adolescent girl between 12 and 18 years old. The grave-shaft fill was described as mixed, mottled very soft silt with a few cobbles, with lower levels containing patches of hard clay. Field notes indicate that small fragments of shell were identified in the soil associated with Burial 38 but were not retained. The grave was apparently dug into subsoil.

The four-sided, slightly tapered coffin was encountered at elevations of 5.48–5.03 feet. The coffin sides had slumped inward along the length of the coffin and outward at the ends. The coffin lid was noted as “fibrous” where it rested directly on skeletal elements. A wood sample from an unspecified location was identified as spruce. At the top of the coffin, excavators recorded two vertical nails at the northwest and northeast corners, and an additional vertical nail was found along the north side. One horizontal nail was also recorded along the north wall. Fifteen vertical nails were recorded in situ at the bottom of the coffin, apparently attaching the bottom boards to the sidewalls. These nails were regularly spaced along the four sides of the coffin. The coffin bottom was at an elevation of 4.83 feet, and field notes indicate it rested in “undisturbed sand.”

The young woman was interred in the supine position, head to the west, with arms resting at the sides. Her skeletal remains were in poor condition, with metacarpals, portions of the pelvic bones, and metatarsals missing. A pin was noted just above the cranium during excavation.

Burial 6 overlay Burial 38 on the east by approximately 0.05 feet, and Burial 30 overlay it along the southern edge by 0.35 feet. Burial 38 is thus the earliest of the three. Based on coffin shape and stratigraphy, Burial 38 is assigned to the Early Group.



*Burial No. 38 (drawn by W. J. Forbes on 10/27/91; Drawing No. 121).*

## Burial 39

Catalog No. 509

Datum point: 36

Grid coordinates: S 93, E 38

Elevation of cranium: 4.69 feet AMSL

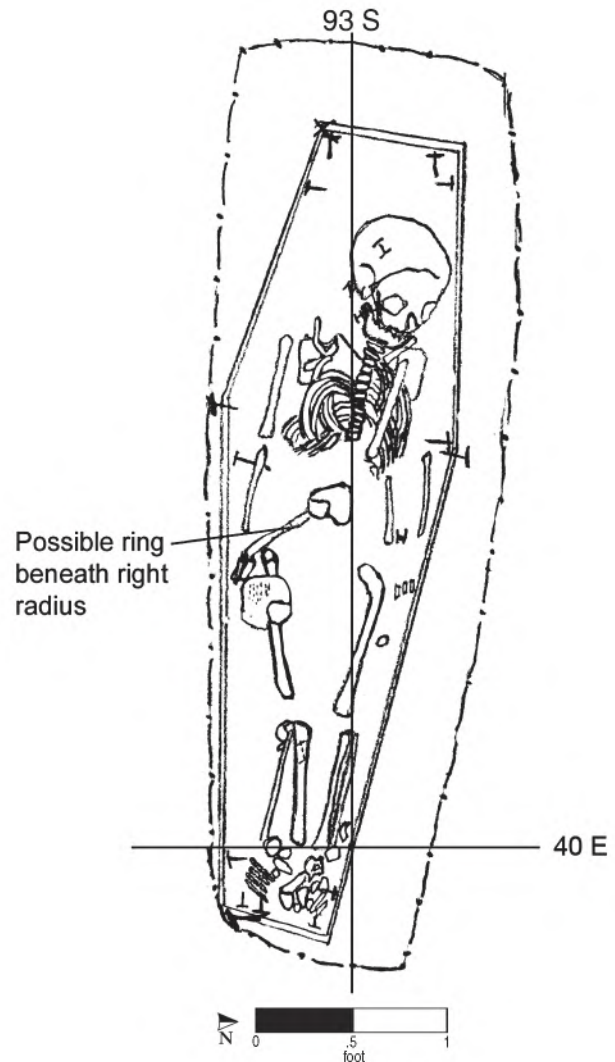
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 39, located in the former Republican Alley, was of a child between 5 and 7 years old. The grave-shaft fill consisted of gray silty clay; no artifacts were recovered from the fill.

The coffin was six sided; the lid was first apparent at an elevation of 4.74 feet along the north wall and the bottom at 4.29 feet. Nails were recorded in situ at the head, foot, and along the sides. The child had been placed supine, with the head to the west and arms resting at the sides.

Skeletal remains were in poor condition and highly disturbed, which excavators suggested was because of rodent activity. About half of the interior of the burial appeared to have been disturbed. The left humerus had been rotated 180 degrees; the ilia (hip bones), femurs, radii and ulnae (forearms), lower vertebrae, and right fibula (lower leg) were all disturbed. Straight pins were recorded in situ on the cranium, alongside the right jaw, and on vertebrae, and pin stains were noted on the right lower leg and ankle.

A ring was also recorded, adhering to the right radius. No ring was recovered in the laboratory, but a circular residue of copper alloy was found adhering to a fragment of wood.



*Burial No. 39 (drawn by C. S. G. on 10/29/91; Drawing No. 1038).*

Burial 39 was not directly related stratigraphically to any other burials. It was higher in elevation than Burial 49 just to the north and lower than the group to the west (Burials 50, 57, and 66). It may have been aligned in a north-south row with Burials 49 and 80 (also to the north). In the absence of evidence to place it early or late in the burial sequence, Burial 39 is assigned to the Middle Group.

## Burial 40

Catalog No. 489

Datum point: 19

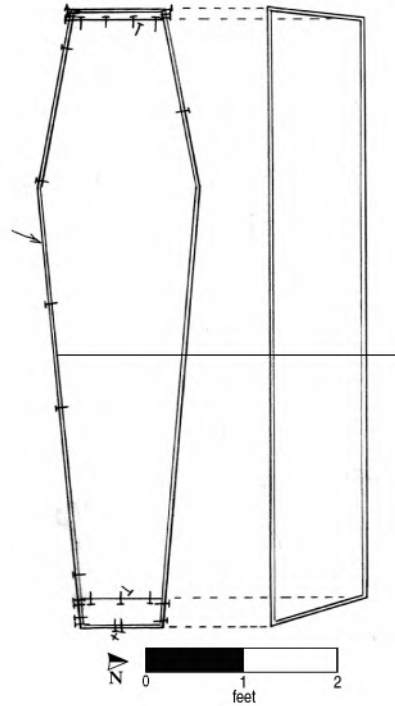
Grid coordinates: S 68.5, E 8

Elevation of cranium: 7.88 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 40 was of a woman between 50 and 60 years old. It was located in the northwest portion of the excavated site, in the rear of Lot 12. The outline of the grave shaft was recorded on the field map although not on the burial drawing. The fill soil was not described in the notes. There were several sherds of redware and a sherd of undecorated, light-bodied creamware found in the grave fill. The presence of creamware dates the interment to about 1760 or later. Field notes indicate that numerous animal bones were also present in the grave fill, but these were apparently not collected as none was cataloged in the laboratory.

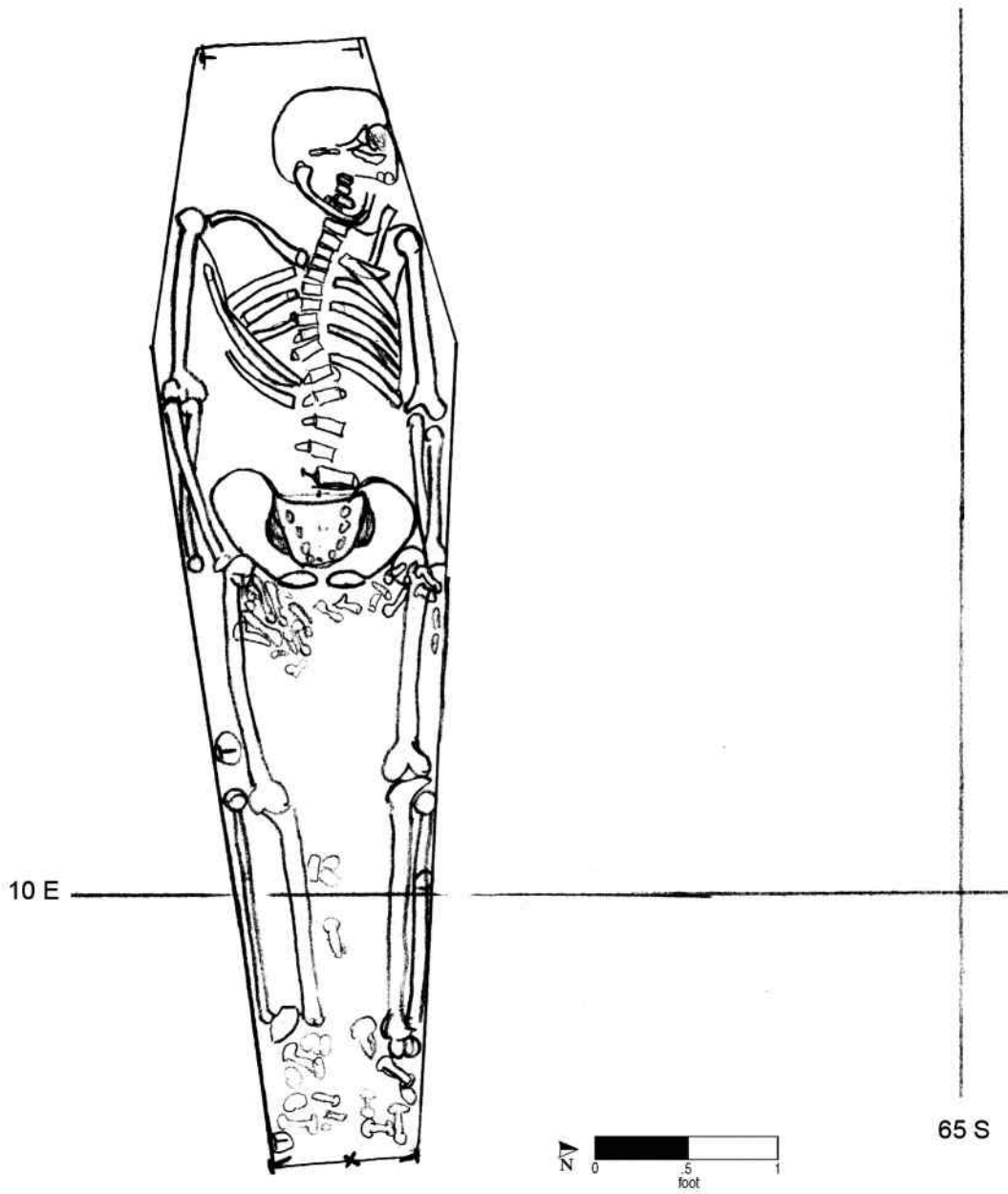
The well-preserved coffin was hexagonal in shape and was drawn in plan and cross section. The headboard and footboard sloped outward. The thickness of the north side board measured  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches. A wood sample from an unspecified location was identified as eastern white pine. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter, at both top and bottom. A 1.7-inch screw was also identified in the laboratory, although its provenience is not known. The woman had been placed in the supine position, with her head to the west and with her hands resting on her upper thighs. A number of straight-pin fragments were recovered from the cranium during cleaning of the skeletal remains.



Burial 40 lay to the north of the row of fence posts that ran southwest-to-northeast across the site and is thus placed in the Late Group of burials. The area where Burial 40 was found seems to hold only one phase of burials; there were no underlying burials in this area. Burial 40 was at a fairly high elevation, as were nearby burials just to the south, including Burials 51, 76, 71, 65, and 62, suggesting this was a high spot within the excavated portion of the African Burial Ground. It is possible Burial 40 was aligned in a row with Burials 51 and 71, both also of women. A north-south “row” of burials, located to the east of Burial 40, was at a slightly lower elevation, which probably indicates a natural contour.



Burial 40 (cont.)



Burial No. 40 (drawn by S. B. and S. T. on 11/4/91; Drawing No. 1040).

## Burial 41

Catalog No. 525

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 99, W 5

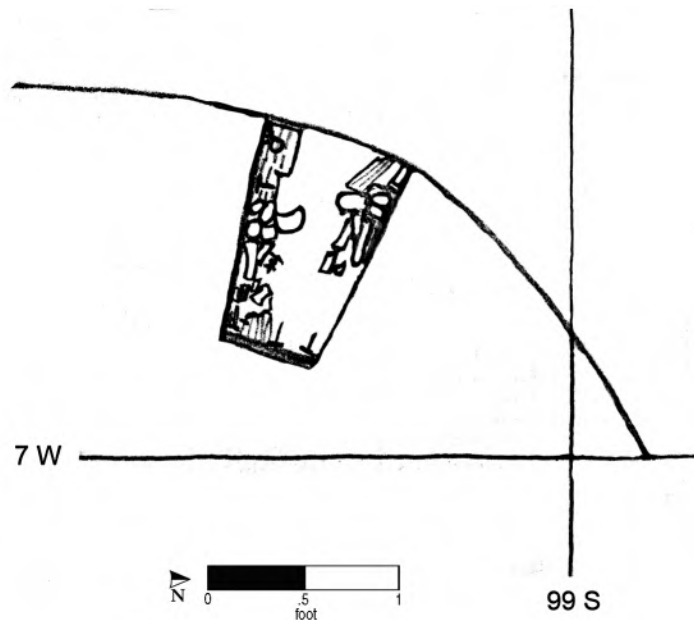
Elevation at highest point of skeleton: 7.57 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 41 consisted of the eastern portion of the grave of an adult of undetermined sex and age. The remains had been truncated by a wall trench on the west, the rear wall of a structure facing Broadway. The fill in the grave shaft was described as stiff, moist yellow and red-brown clayey silt with pebbles. Redware and a fragment of olive green bottle glass were contained in the shaft fill. The field notes also mention white earthenware (not cataloged in the lab), which may have been intrusive from the builder's trench.

The well-preserved coffin lid, measuring 0.02 feet thick, was recorded at an elevation of 7.92 feet. It had been shifted slightly to the east over the foot of the coffin, presumably the result of disturbance from the builder's trench excavation. The coffin bottom was also preserved, at an elevation of 7.26 feet. Nails were recorded in situ at the foot and on the south side of the coffin, which tapered toward the foot. It was not possible to determine whether it was four sided or hexagonal in shape. The preserved skeletal remains, recorded at elevations of 7.27–7.57 feet, and consisting only of the lower extremities, were in very good condition. The deceased had been placed with the head to the west, apparently in the supine position.

In the absence of evidence to place it early or late, the burial is assigned to the Middle Group.



*Burial No. 41.*

## Burial 42

Series 9

Catalog No. 532

Datum point: 35

Grid coordinates: S 91.5, E 45

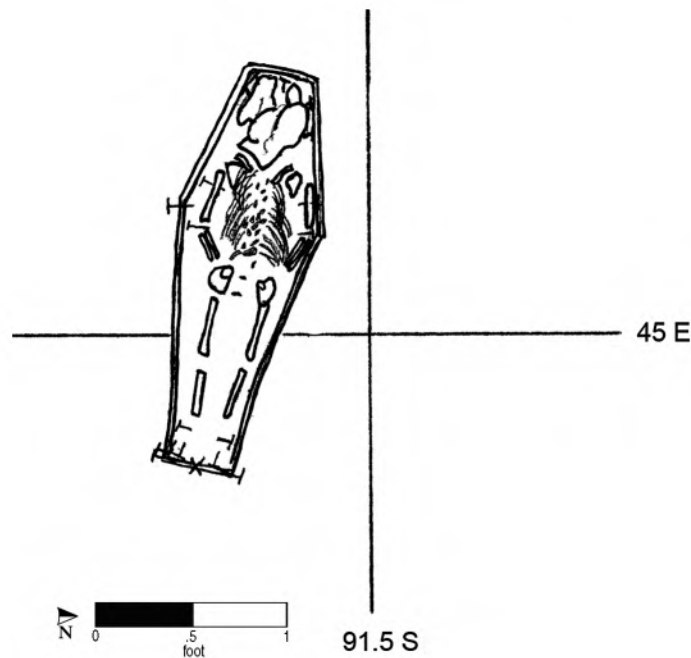
Elevation of cranium: 4.92 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 42 was of a child under 2 years old. The soil surrounding the burial was described as grayish brown silty clay, and no artifacts were recovered from the grave fill. The hexagonal coffin lid was exposed at an average elevation of 5.22 feet, and the west end of the skeletal remains was at 4.92 feet. The coffin bottom was at an elevation of 4.72 feet. Several nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at top and bottom.

The child had been placed with the head to the west, in the supine position with the arms apparently resting at the sides or over the pelvis. The remains were in poor condition; the skull was fragmented and the bones were very splintered and soft. Portions of the metacarpals and metatarsals were missing, and the tooth crowns were scattered.

The easternmost end of Burial 42 immediately overlay the western end of Burial 96. (The Burial 96 grave was excavated more than 6 weeks after excavation of Burial 42). Burial 42 and adjacent children's Burials 95, 91, 64, and 61 may all form a group. These burials all had a similar alignment, angled slightly northward. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 42 has been placed in the Late-Middle Group.



*Burial No. 42.*

## Burial 43

See Burial 13.

## Burial 44

Series 1

Catalog No. 570

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 20

Elevation of teeth: 5.54 feet AMSL

Elevation of coffin: 5.94–5.42 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early?

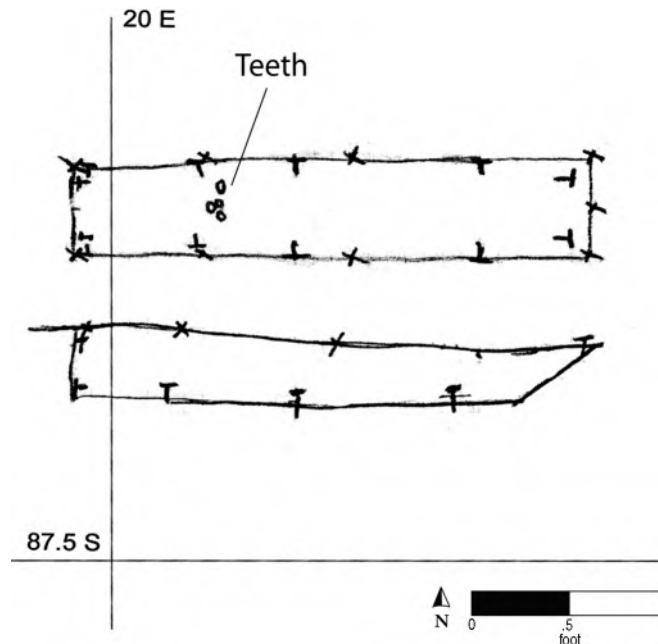
Burial 44 was of a child between 3 and 9 years old. The fill surrounding the grave was described as mottled yellow-brown silt, and no artifacts were recovered from this soil.

The coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 5.94 feet, recorded in the northwest corner. Vertical nails were found in situ at the top, apparently adjoining the coffin lid to the sides, and additional

nails, recorded as “side nails,” were at the head and foot and along the bottom. The coffin was four sided and the footboard angled outward. Its bottom was at an elevation of 5.42 feet. The wood was not identified.

The child’s remains were in extremely poor condition; only four dental crowns were found in situ. Additional teeth were found during water screening. Based on the location of the teeth, the child apparently was interred with the head to the west.

Based on the original field drawing, the southeast portion of the grave shaft for Burial 44 appears to have been cut into by the shaft for Burial 25. This indicates Burial 25 postdated Burial 44. Burial 44 is tentatively placed with the Early Group of burials, along with nearby Burials 48 and 52, which were also beneath later burials.



Burial No. 44 (drawn by L. Romanczyk [redrawn] on 11/1/91; Drawing No. 1043 [plan and section]).

## Burial 45

Series 6

Catalog No. 598

Datum point: 12 (11.07 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 103.5, W 5

Elevation of cranium: 6.72 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 45 was of a child between 2.5 and 4.5 years of age. Excavation of the grave shaft began after it was revealed during the initial excavation of Burial 47, which lay to the east. The shaft fill consisted of dark gray-brown silt with mottling of dark green and yellow silt. The fill contained no artifacts. The west end of the burial was adjacent to a builder's trench, and the west edge of the grave shaft was not visible.

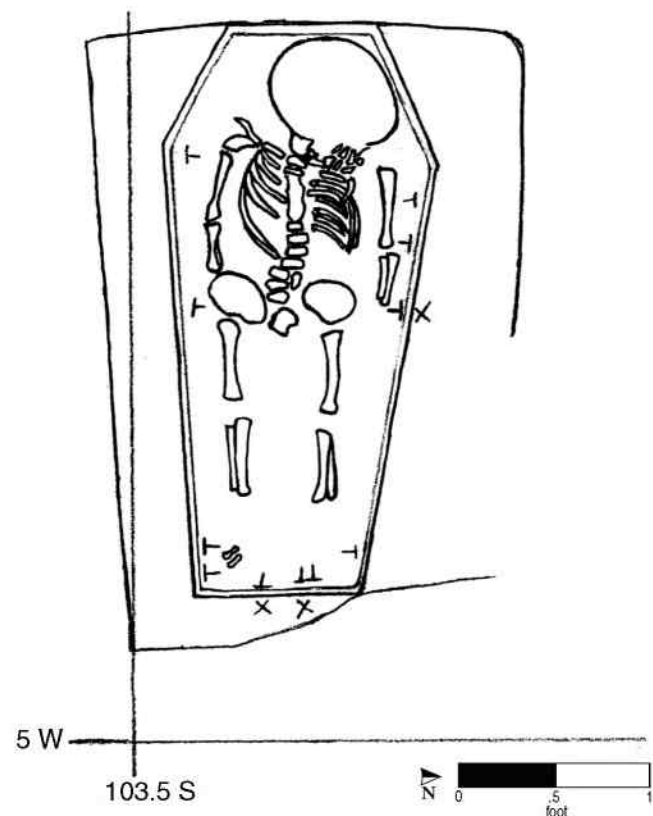
As excavation proceeded, the six-sided coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 6.87 feet. The coffin slumped toward the west and north. Excavation continued in order to expose the child's skeletal remains and the coffin bottom. The lowest recorded elevation for the child's skeletal remains was 6.37 feet, recorded in the pelvic area. Eleven coffin nails were recorded around the coffin bottom. There were six at the foot end (two of which were vertical, attaching the bottom to the footboard) and five along the sides.

The child was interred with the head to the west, in the supine position, with arms resting at the sides. The remains were in poor condition, and it appeared to field excavators that disturbance by heavy construction machinery had flattened the child's long bones and cranium.

Other than coffin remains, the only artifacts recovered from the coffin interior were three pin fragments, found during cleaning of the right temporal

bone (the side of the cranium, above the ear). Pollen analysis of a soil sample from the child's stomach area revealed an exceptionally high concentration of carrot family pollen. It is suggested that the child ingested carrot flowers shortly before death, possibly as a medicine, or that the flowers were placed in the coffin.

Burial 45 overlay the southwest corner of Burial 47 by approximately 0.41 feet. It is assigned to the Middle Group based on stratigraphic relationships and in the absence of other temporal evidence.



*Burial No. 45 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/6/91; Drawing No. 176).*

## Burial 46

Series 5

Catalog No. 605

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 95.5, E 0

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 6.62 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

See Burial 22 for a description of a cobble marker possibly related to this burial.

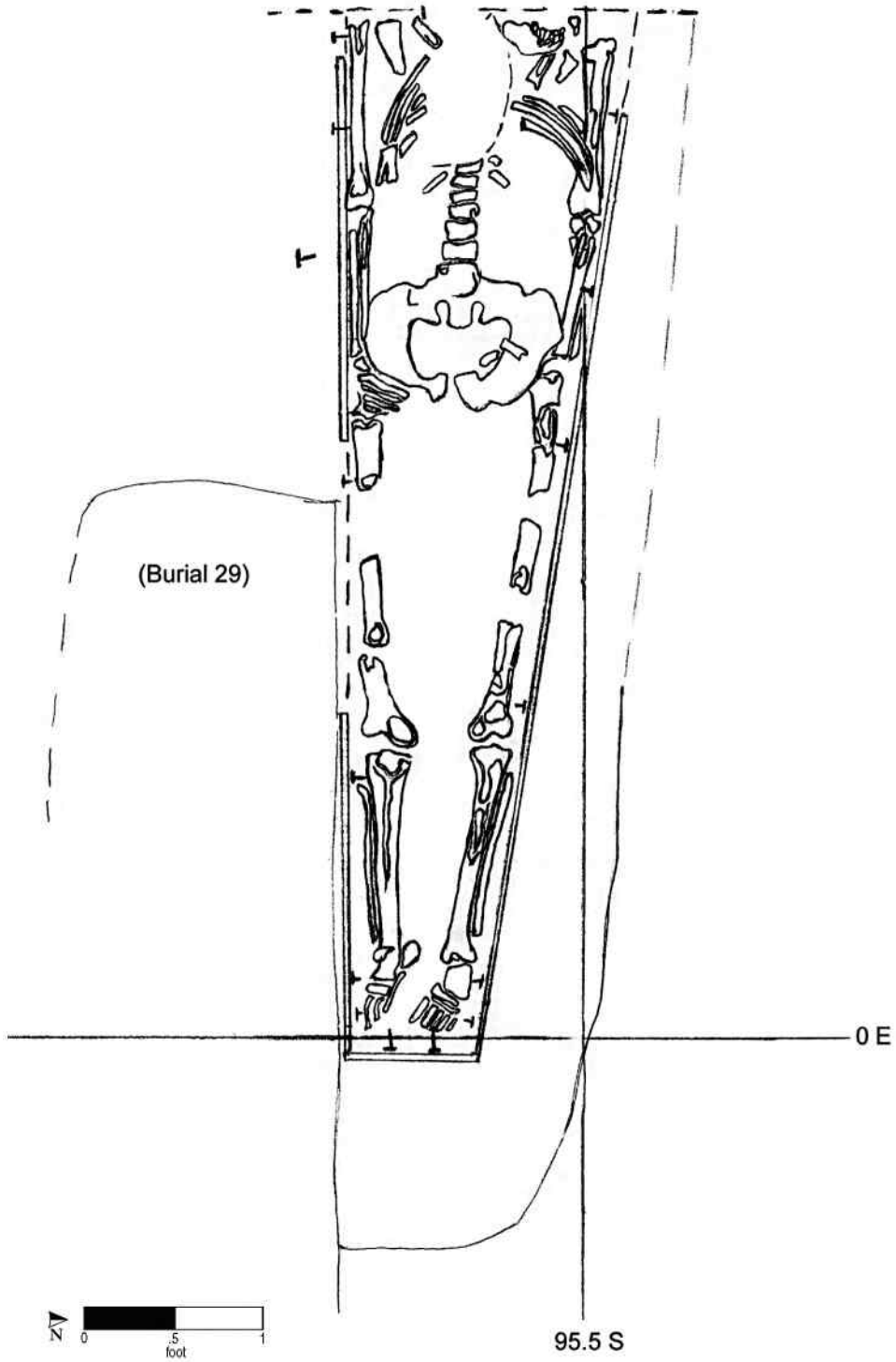
Burial 46, located in the former Republican Alley, was of a probable woman of undetermined age. This burial was first visible along the north side of the excavation trench for Burial 29, but the stratigraphic relationship between the two grave shafts is not clear from field records. The soil surrounding the burial was described as mixed mottled clayey silts with pebbles, cobbles, and sand lenses. Soil immediately surrounding the bones was described as brown silt with sand lenses. The west end of the grave shaft and coffin were truncated by a builder's trench for a structure on Broadway. A piece of kiln furniture and tobacco pipe fragments were found in the grave shaft.

The coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 6.77 feet. The coffin slumped downward on the west end, next to the builder's trench. Based on the extant portion of the coffin, it appears to have been four sided with tapering sides; however, a six-sided coffin cannot be ruled out. The coffin bottom was reached at an elevation of 6.62 feet in the east and 4.97 feet in the west. A wood sample from an unspecified location on the coffin was identified as fir.

The deceased was interred with the head to the west, in the supine position. The hand bones appeared to underlie the ilia, suggesting they had been placed beneath the hips. The skeletal remains fit tightly within the coffin. Bones were in poor condition and the long bones were severely splintered. A crushed mandible and fragments of the maxilla (upper jaw) were the only remaining portions of the cranium; the rest had been removed by the builder's trench. Excavators noted that impressions of the cranium survived in the clay underneath the fill of the builder's trench. Only seven vertebrae were present. Field records note that the extant ribs were accidentally "hacked" by the excavator. No pins were recorded in situ during excavation, but fragments of copper staining were recovered in the laboratory when the skeletal remains were cleaned.

The southeast portion of Burial 46 was overlain by Burial 22. Burial 29 was immediately adjacent to the south side of Burial 46. This was not a simultaneous interment; Burial 29 was offset to the east and was a foot deeper. Excavators also recorded separate shaft outlines. Moreover, Burial 29 was disturbed, possibly by Burial 46. Although the archaeological excavation trench for Burial 46 truncated the south sides of the grave shafts of Burials 60 and 67 to the north, it is not possible to determine whether the original Burial 46 grave shaft actually cut into the others. Based on stratigraphy and kiln furniture in the grave shaft, Burial 46 has been placed in the Middle Group.

Burial 46 (cont.)



Burial No. 46.

## Burial 47

Series 6

Catalog No. 619

Datum point: 12

Grid coordinates: S 103.5, E 0

Elevation of cranium: 4.96 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

A flat, squared slab of granite, an apparent grave marker, was found in an upright position over the general area of the northwest corner of Burial 47. There was also a line of cobbles along the north side of Burial 47. The granite marker (designated “Feature 2” in the field) and line of cobbles (designated “Feature 1”) were photographed in situ, removed, and later given Catalog Nos. 364 and 348, respectively. It is not clear whether the row of cobbles was in fact marking Burial 47; it may be associated with this burial or with Burial 29 to the north. The granite marker can more readily be associated with Burial 47 because it was embedded in the grave fill on an alignment perpendicular to the coffin.

Burial 47 was of a man between 35 and 45 years of age. Excavation of the grave shaft was interrupted in order to remove a child’s burial (Burial 45), which overlay the southwest portion of the grave shaft. The Burial 47 grave-shaft fill consisted of dark gray-brown silt mottled with dark green and yellow silt, containing some fragments of animal bone, a mammal’s skull.

The coffin had been disturbed by the excavation of a builder’s trench for a Broadway structure to the

west; the coffin’s western end had shifted approximately 1 foot downward. The coffin lid was at elevations of 6.85 feet on the east and 5.70 feet on the west, and the bottom of the coffin was reached at 6.2 feet on the east and 4.85 feet on the west. It is difficult to determine the coffin shape because of the disturbance, but drawings and photographs suggest that it was six sided. Seven horizontal nails were recorded in the headboard of the coffin, 5 in the footboard, and 11 in the side boards. A sample of coffin wood was identified as spruce.

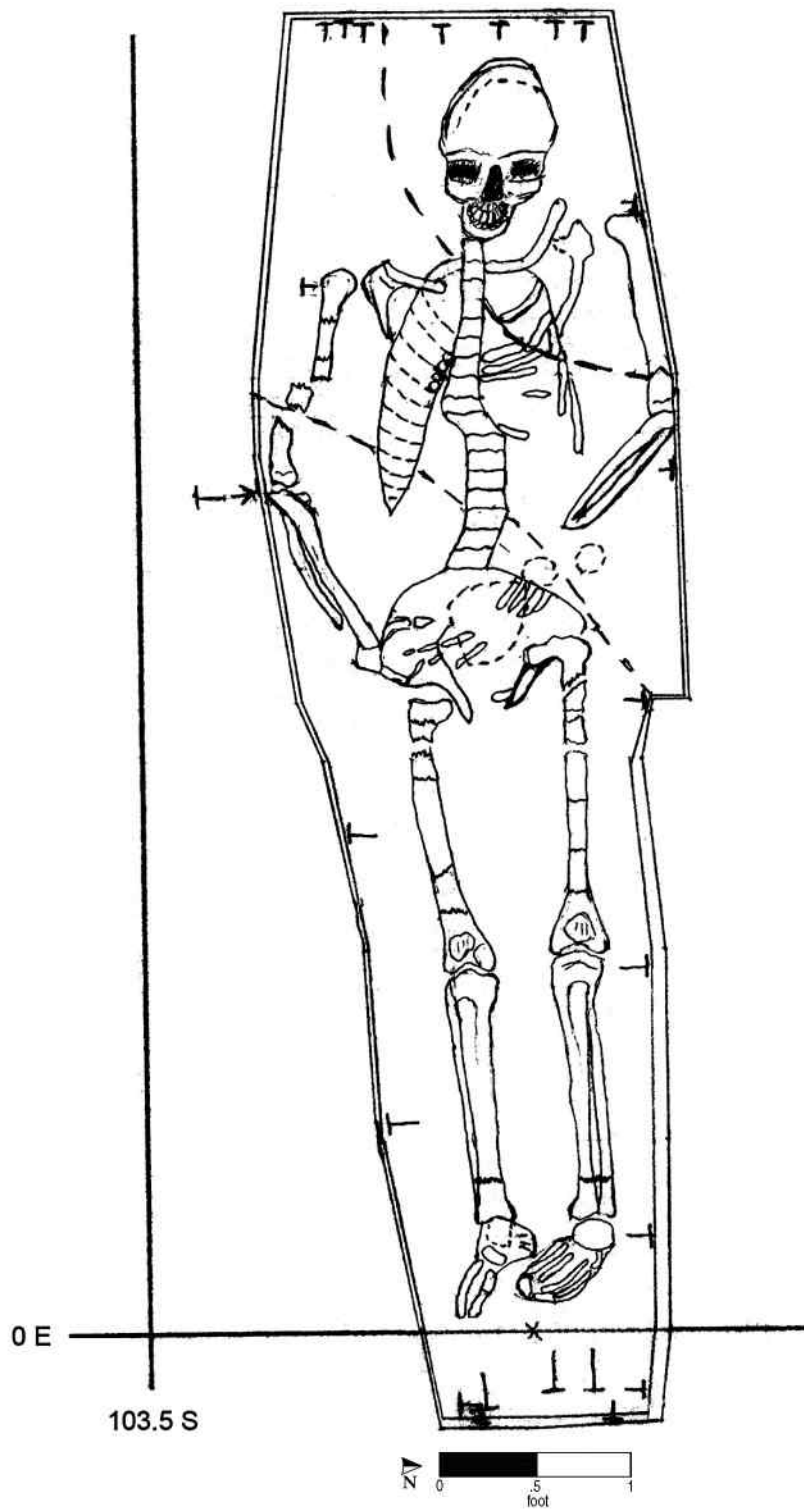
The man had been placed with his head to the west, in the supine position, with his arms at his sides and his hands resting over his pelvis. Preservation of the remains ranged from fair in the leg and pelvic regions to poor in the torso and cranial areas.

Burial 47 may have occupied the same grave as Burial 31, that of an adolescent between 14 and 16 of undetermined sex. Burial 31 was immediately adjacent but offset to the southeast. Burial 45 was situated above the southwest corner of Burial 47, approximately 0.41 feet higher in elevation. It is possible the three burials formed a group distinguished by a grave marker. A fourth burial, Burial 41, was adjacent to the northwest and at a higher elevation; its relationship to the other three is unclear. Burial 47 appears to be contemporaneous with Burial 46, located to the north on the opposite side of the line of cobbles (Features 1 and 3). Based on stratigraphy, and the lack of evidence that would place it either earlier or later, Burial 47 has been assigned to the Middle Group.





Burial 47 (cont.)



Burial No. 47 (drawn by S. H. and S. P. on 11/12/91; Drawing No. 235).

## Burial 48

Series 1

Catalog No. 620

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 20

Elevation of cranium: 4.89 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Early

Burial 48, located in the former Republican Alley, held the remains of an adult individual of undetermined sex and age. The fill of the grave shaft was described as a yellow-red-brown silt and clay. No artifacts were recovered from this fill.

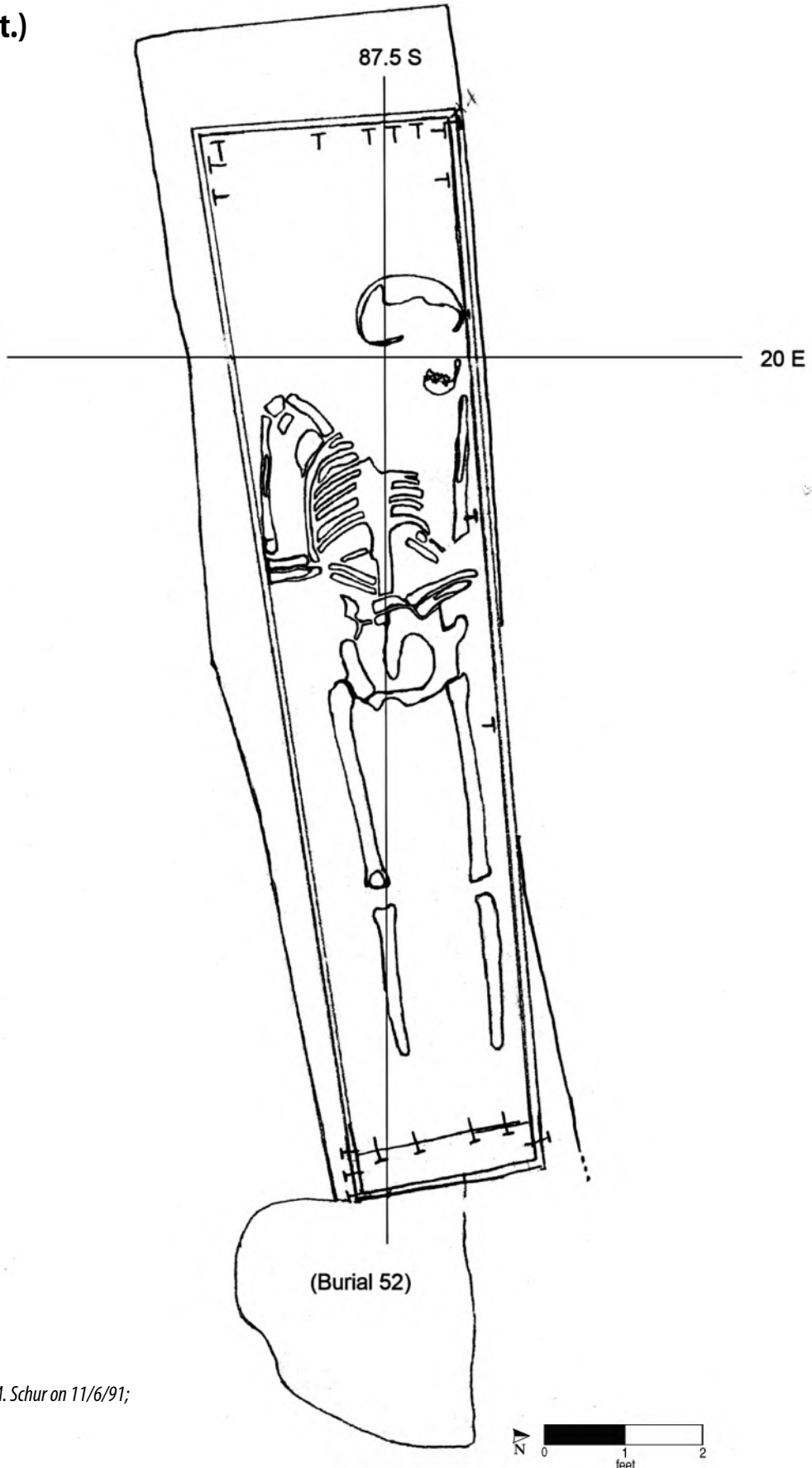
Field notes indicate that the coffin was encountered at an elevation of 4.7 feet. There was a well-defined coffin outline at this depth. The coffin was four sided and slightly tapered. Nineteen nails were recorded in situ. For eight of these, it is not possible to determine from the field records whether they were located at the top or bottom of the coffin. There were two along the north wall, three in the southwest corner, and three in the northwest corner. One horizontal nail at the northeast corner and three at the southeast corner were apparently at the top of the coffin. Four horizontal nails, in pairs, were recorded along the bottom of the west end (foot) of the coffin. The foot of the coffin sloped inward in

profile, from top to bottom. The bottom of the coffin lay at an elevation of 4.64–4.66 feet. Below the skeletal remains, the excavators noted a fine layer of silt.

The individual had been placed with the head to the west, in the supine position, and with the wrists crossed over the pelvis. The skeletal remains were in poor condition with portions of the cranium, pelvis, metacarpals, and metatarsals missing. The coffin appears to have been oversized for the deceased, with approximately 1 foot of extra space at the head.

Burial 32 overlay the north side of Burial 48 and was 0.65 feet higher in elevation. Burial 35, overlying the western half of Burial 48, was 0.24 feet higher in elevation. The southwest corner of the Lot 13 foundation wall lay just off the northeast corner of the coffin. This stone wall may have disturbed the grave shaft. Immediately to the east of the east end of Burial 48, Burial 52 lay partially beneath the foundation. The relationship between Burials 48 and 52 is difficult to determine from field records. It appears, however, that Burial 48's grave shaft may have cut into that of Burial 52. Burial 52 also was slightly lower in elevation than Burial 48. Thus Burial 48 may postdate Burial 52. Based on coffin shape and stratigraphy, Burial 48 is assigned to the Early Group.

Burial 48 (cont.)



Burial No. 48 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/6/91;  
Drawing No. 180).

## Burial 49

Catalog No. 641

Datum point: 35

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 40

Elevation of cranium: 3.76 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 49, located in the former Republican Alley to the rear of 13 Duane Street, was of a woman between 40 and 50 years of age. The grave shaft was fairly well defined, and its fill was described as sandy clay with gravel; the fill contained no artifacts.

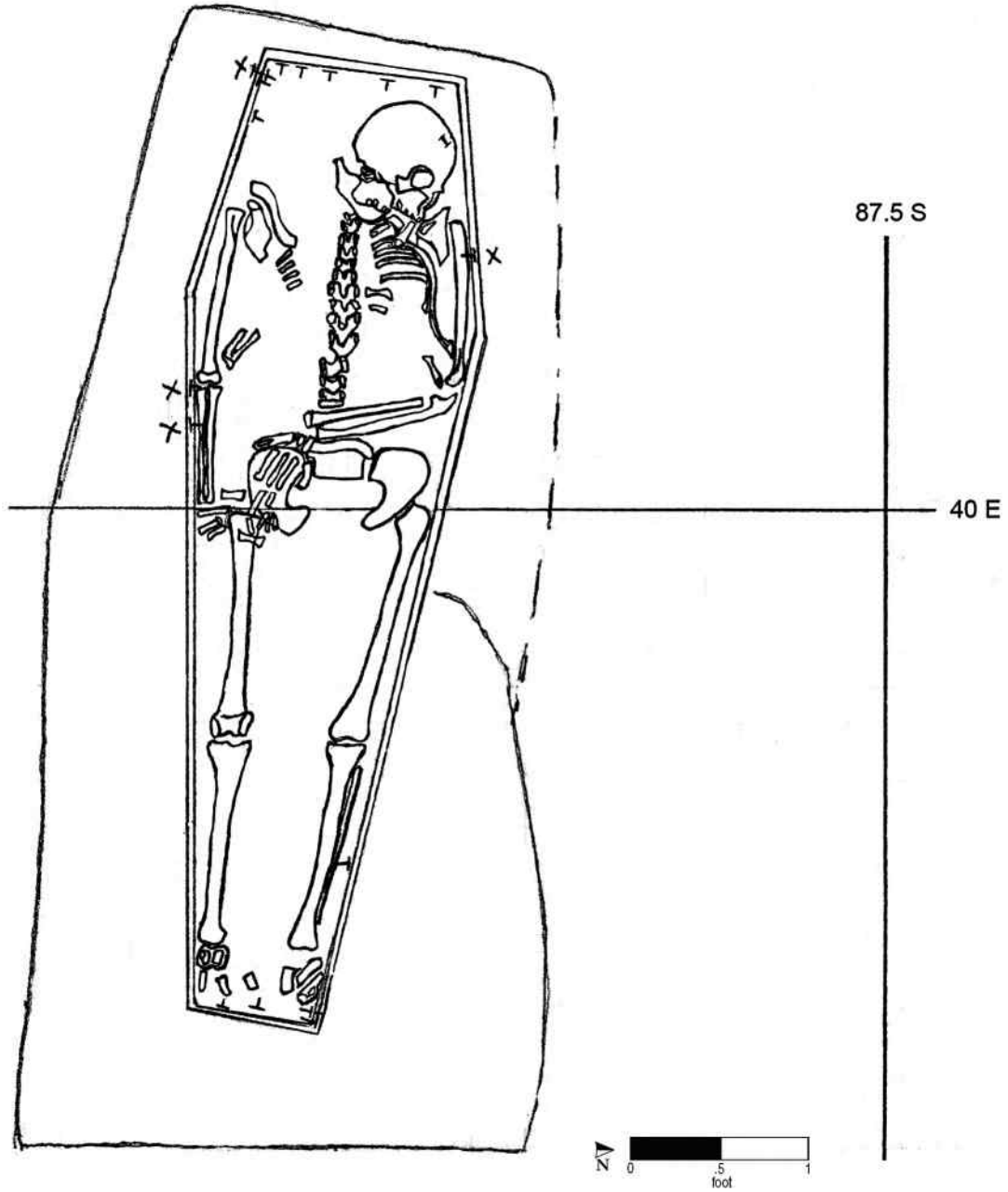
The coffin lid, six sided, was first encountered at elevations of 4.12–3.92 feet, based on nails recorded in situ. It sloped downward from west to east. The base of the coffin was at an elevation of 3.14 feet, recorded in the east portion. Numerous nails were recorded in situ at both the top and bottom of the coffin, including vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides, and five attaching the bottom

of the headboard. A wood sample was identified as cedar.

The woman had been placed in the supine position, with her head to the west. Her right arm rested at her side and her left arm was crossed over her pelvis, with her fingers resting above the right side of her pelvis. A single straight pin was recorded on the cranium, and fragments of at least one other pin were recovered during cleaning of the bones in the laboratory. Copper staining was noted on the frontal bone (forehead) and left and right temporal bones.

Burial 49 was located west of Burial 42 and immediately north of Burial 39, with no direct stratigraphic relationship to either. It lay slightly lower in elevation than burials to the east, west, and south, comparable to Burial 80 to the north. It is possible the ground sloped down to the north in this area. Burials 39, 49, and 80 may be the remnant of a north-south row of burials. In the absence of other temporal evidence, Burial 49 is assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial 49 (cont.)



Burial No. 49 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/6/91; Drawing No. 185).

## Burial 50

Series 29

Catalog No. 649

Datum point: 37

Grid coordinates: S 93, E 30

Elevation of cranium: 5.81 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

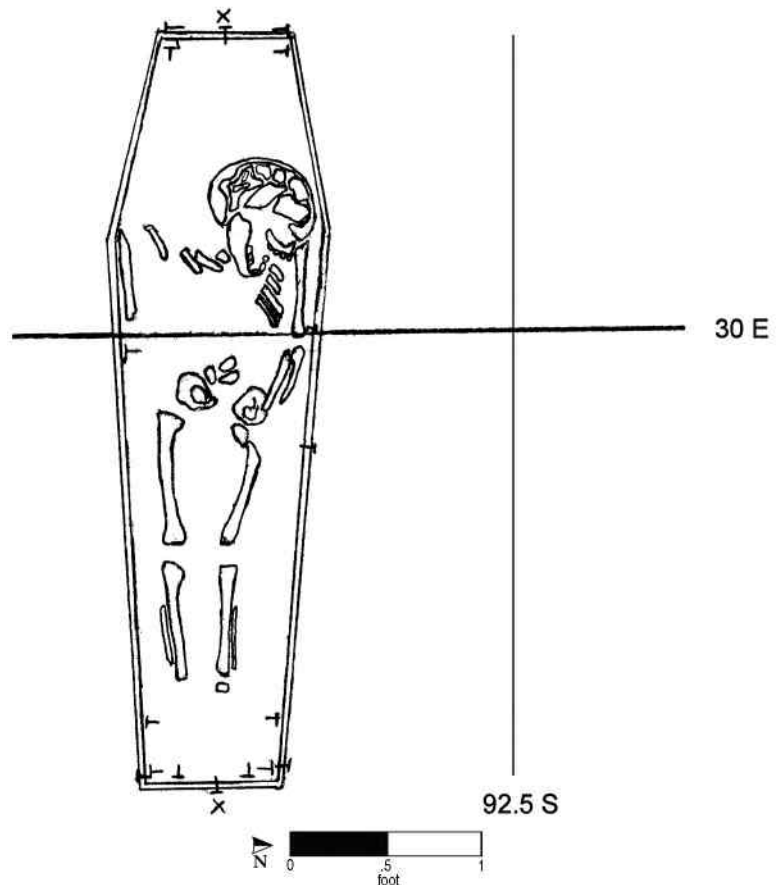
Burial 50 consisted of partial remains, probably of a child, of undetermined age and sex, along with a coffin. The remains had been disturbed, possibly by root action (see below). The grave-shaft fill consisted of gray-brown silty clay with pebbles of reddish brown sand; no artifacts were recovered from the fill.

The coffin of Burial 50 was hexagonal in shape. It was first recorded at 6.61 feet and its bottom was at 5.56 feet. The child had been placed with his or her head to the west, but the position of the arms could not be determined. No artifacts other than the coffin itself were found in association with the deceased.

According to the field notes, cylindrical, well-preserved wood fragments were found at varying depths throughout the coffin. The pieces in the center of the burial seemed to have a cut edge, but the fragment in the east corner of the north wall resembled a natural branch. The fragment in the south wall was perfectly cylindrical and projected horizontally a small distance into the coffin [a knot or dowel?]. There were no traces of wooden coffin sides except for these fragments, although coffin boards were visible on the bottom of the coffin. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin at both top and bottom.

Excavators noted extensive root activity around the bones, concentrated around the pelvis, ends of the long bones, and small bones, and suggested that a tree or shrub may have grown in the vicinity. Wood labeled as coming from the “coffin interior” was identified as spruce, but the wood sample from the coffin lid or bottom (the location is not clear from the records) was identified as pine.

Burial 50 was situated northeast of Burial 57 and north of Burial 66. The western portion of Burial 50 partially overlay the coffin of Burial 57. It was at a higher elevation than, and may postdate, Burial 66. Based on stratigraphy and the absence of other temporal evidence, Burial 50 is assigned to the Middle Group.



Burial No. 50 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/11/91; Drawing No. 232).

## Burial 51

Catalog No. 700

Datum point: 19

Grid coordinates: S 75, E 10

Elevation of cranium: 8.58 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 51, of a woman between 24 and 32 years of age, was located north of the posthole line in the rear of Lot 12. A shaft outline was recorded on the map for this portion of the site. It was straight sided on the north, east, and south, and rounded at the west or head end, precisely similar in shape to the shafts of two other graves to its north (Burials 40 and 37). The fill of the grave shaft was not described, but it contained three sherds of salt-glazed stoneware (probably locally made) and a clam shell.

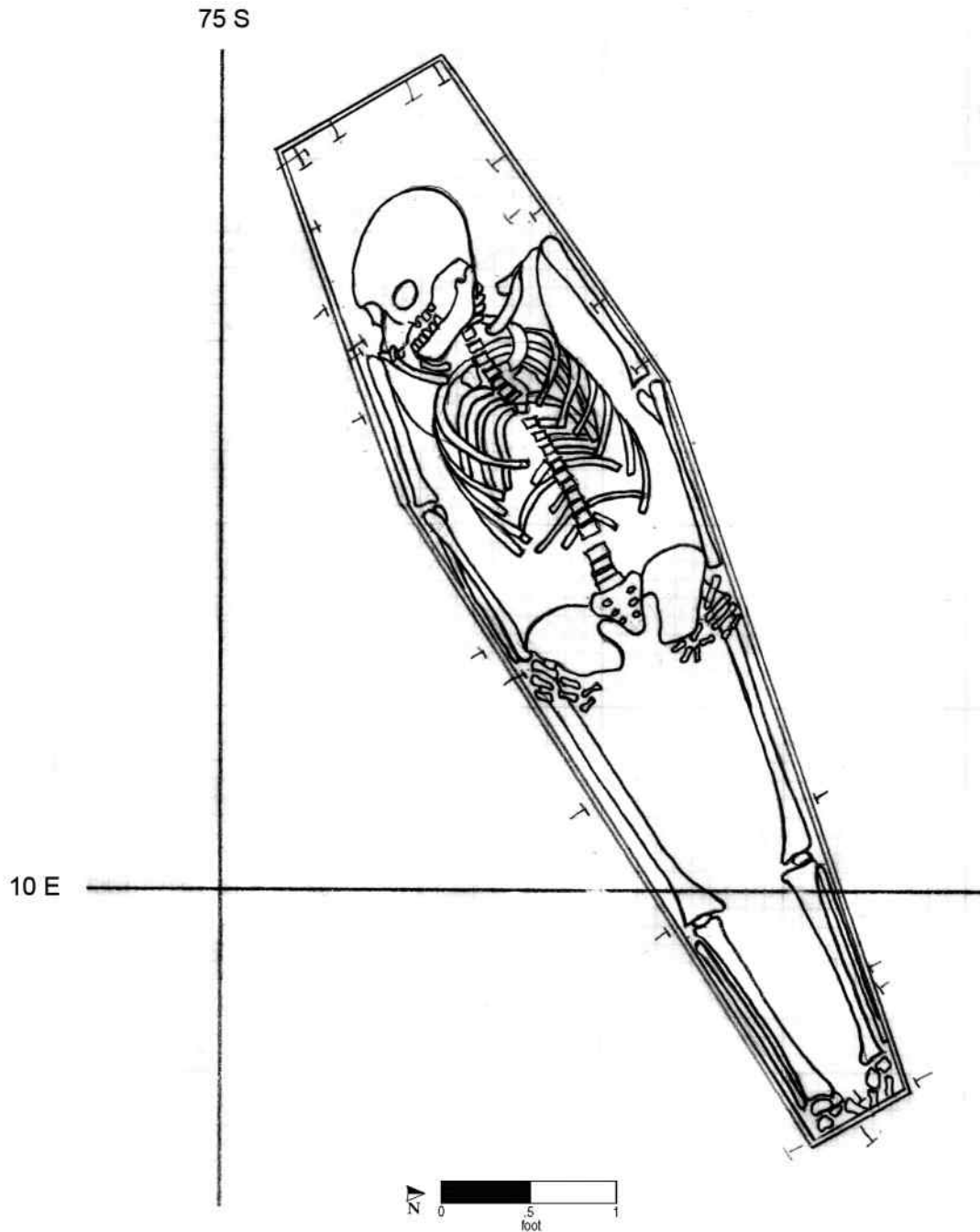
The relatively well-preserved coffin was hexagonal in shape and was drawn in plan and cross section. Nails were recorded around the perimeter, but nail

orientations are difficult to reconstruct from the drawings. The coffin's footboard sloped outward, and the feet were lying vertically against it. The woman had been placed with her head to the west, in a supine position, with her arms resting on her pelvis.

Burial 51 did not overlap with any other burials. It lay at a high elevation, as did nearby burials just to the north and south, including Burials 40, 76, 71, and 65, suggesting this was a high spot within the excavated portion of the African Burial Ground. It is possible Burial 51 was aligned in a row with Burials 40 and 71, both also of women. Also, as noted, the grave-shaft outlines of Burials 51, 40, and 37 matched, as although dug by the same person. Burials located to the east of Burial 51 are aligned at a slightly lower elevation, probably indicating a natural contour; the ground sloped down from west to east. Based on its location north of the fence line, Burial 51 is assigned to the Late Group.

*(continued on page 70)*

## Burial 51 (cont.)



*Burial No. 51 (drawn by P. A. Freeman on 11/13/91; Drawing No. 237).*



## Burial 52

Series 1

Catalog No. 706

Datum point: 15 (10.64 AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 25

Elevation (right fibula): 4.34 feet AMSL

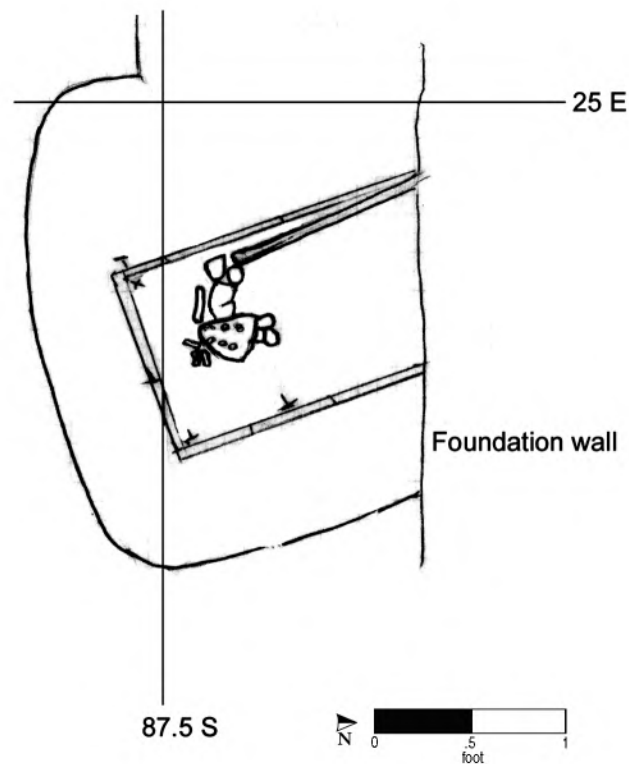
Temporal group: Early

Burial 52, with an unusual north-south orientation, yielded the remains of an individual of undetermined age and sex. The grave was in the former Republican Alley and had been truncated by the south foundation wall of a structure on Lot 13. Only the southern 2 feet of the coffin remained. The grave shaft was filled with yellow-brown silty clay and contained a brick fragment and kiln furniture. These artifacts may be intrusive, however, given the disturbance caused by the foundation.

Based on the field drawing, the coffin was 1 foot wide and rectangular in shape. Field notes indicate

the coffin was well defined, and the floorboard was well preserved. The skeletal remains included the right fibula, left and right foot bones, and the sacrum. The sacrum was displaced and was found over the feet. The leg and foot bones appear to have been in situ within the coffin, thus indicating the head had been to the north, although it is possible the entire coffin had been displaced during building construction. The lowest point of the burial was recorded at an elevation of 4.31 feet.

The relationship between Burials 48 and 52 is difficult to determine from field records. Burial 52 was slightly lower in elevation, but it appears that the Burial 48 grave shaft may have cut into that of Burial 52, placing Burial 52 earlier in time. Burial 48 contained a tapered adult coffin and is thus placed in the Early Group. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 52 is assigned to the Early Group as well. Burials 25 and 32, which were also truncated by the foundation wall, overlay both Burial 48 and Burial 52.



*Burial No. 52 (drawn by L. Romanczyk on 11/7/91; Drawing No. 1046).*

## Burial 53

Series 3b

Catalog No. 708

Datum point: 13

Grid coordinates: S 87, E 0

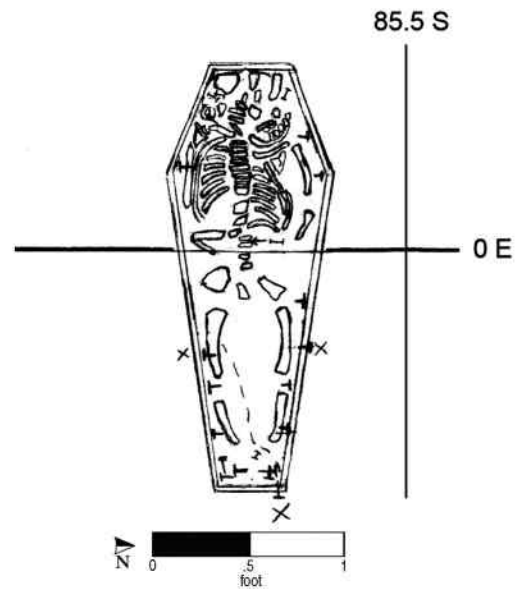
Elevation of cranium: 7.7 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 53, which held the remains of a child between 3 and 9 months of age, was located in the westernmost area of the excavated cemetery. The grave shaft was cut into soil overlying Burial 68 and was filled with mottled brown, pink, and yellow silty clay.

The tiny coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of 8.18 feet, and it was hexagonal in shape. Excavation continued downward to the coffin bottom, recorded at 7.69 feet, exposing the infant's skeletal remains. The bones were in poor condition; the cranium was soft and fragmented. Four brass pins were found in situ, three in the western portion of the coffin around the skull and one along the lumbar vertebrae. Only one was recoverable.

Burial 53 overlay the southeast edge of Burial 69, which held a man 30–60 years old. It also overlay the northwest corner of an Early Group burial, Burial 68, by 1.11 feet. Based on coffin shape and stratigraphic position, and the lack of artifacts that would place it later, Burial 53 is assigned to the Middle Group.



*Burial No. 53 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/11/91; Drawing No. 231).*

**Burial 54**

Series 4

Catalog No. 726

Datum point: 13

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 0

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 7.63 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late-Middle

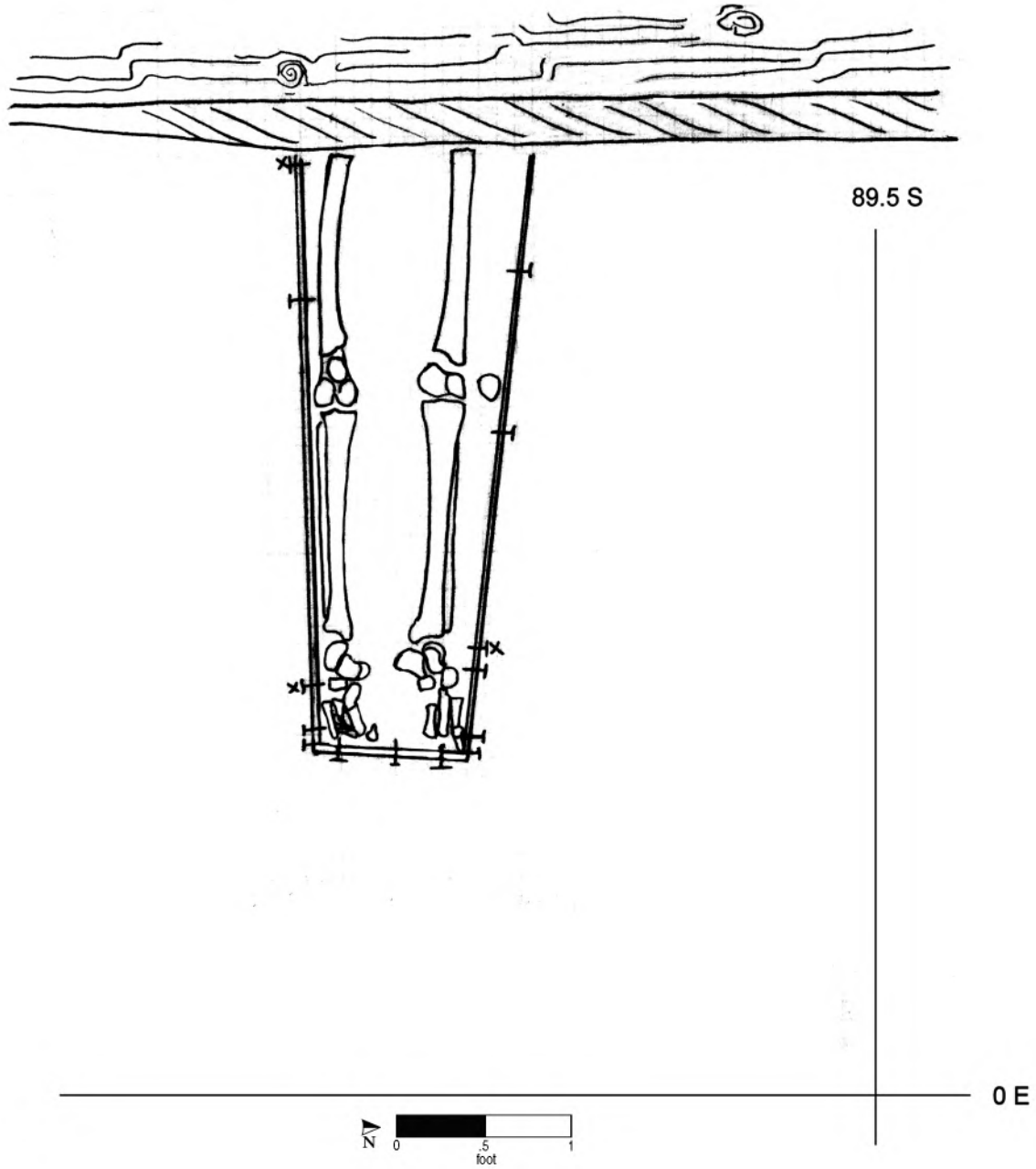
Burial 54 held the remains of an adult of undetermined gender and age. The western half of this grave had been truncated by a builder's trench for a structure on a Broadway lot. The grave shaft contained soil described as soft reddish brown, moderately stony silt. The excavators recovered sherds of roofing tile, stoneware, and cow and other animal bone from the fill.

The coffin was first encountered at an elevation of 7.89 feet, and its bottom was recorded at 7.59 feet in the east, sloping downward to 7.07 feet in the west next to the builder's trench. The coffin sides tapered toward the foot, but it was not possible to determine the overall coffin shape because of the damage from the building. A coffin wood sample from an unspecified location was identified as cedar. The skeleton had been truncated; only the legs and feet remained.

Burial 54 lay at a relatively high elevation, approximately a foot and a half above the northern side of Burial 81, which in turn lay above Burial 88. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 54 is placed in the Late-Middle Group.

*(continued on page 74)*

### Burial 54 (cont.)



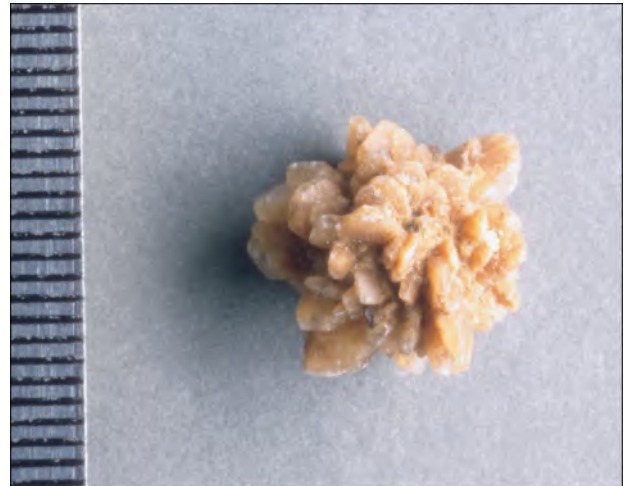
Burial No. 54 (drawn by S. Bottitta on 11/91; Drawing No. 236).

## Burial 55

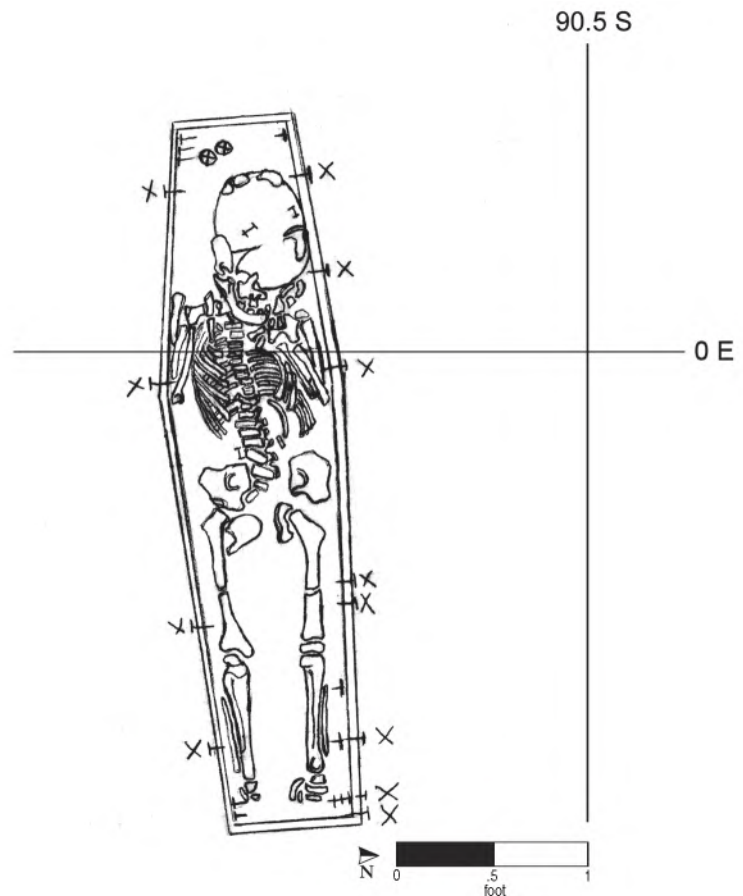
Series 3b  
 Catalog No. 792  
 Datum point: 13  
 Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 0  
 Elevation of cranium: 7.65 feet AMSL  
 Temporal group: Middle

Burial 55 held the remains of a child between 3 and 5 years of age. The grave was located in the west-ernmost portion of the excavated cemetery. Associ-ated soil was described as mottled silty clay, and the grave fill contained two sherds of white salt-glazed stoneware, providing a terminus post quem of ca. 1720.

The coffin lid was first encountered at an eleva-tion of 7.76 feet, and its bottom was recorded at 7.22 feet. It was hexagonal in shape. The child had been placed with the head to the west, in the supine position, with the arms folded and resting across the upper torso. The skeletal remains were in good condi-tion, although some metacarpals and metatarsals were missing. Excavators found four straight pins in situ, two on the child's head, one in the middle of the right ribs, and one on the lumbar vertebrae. A calcite crystal was indenti-fied from the burial during laboratory processing.



Burial 55 overlay the southwest corner of Burial 68 by 0.64 feet. Burial 68, of a man in his early 20s, had a tapered coffin and is assigned to the Early Group. Burial 55, because of its stratigraphic posi-tion and in the absence of artifacts that would place it later, is assigned to the Middle Group.



Burial No. 55 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/14/91; Drawing No. 240).

## Burial 56

Series 3a

Catalog No. 793

Datum point: 15

Grid coordinates: S 90.5, E 15

Elevation of cranium: 5.64 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

Burial 56 yielded the remains of a woman between 30 and 34 years old. The grave was located along the southern edge of the former Republican Alley to the rear of Lot 12. Associated soil was described as mottled red-brown and yellow-gray silty clay. No artifacts were recovered from the shaft fill.

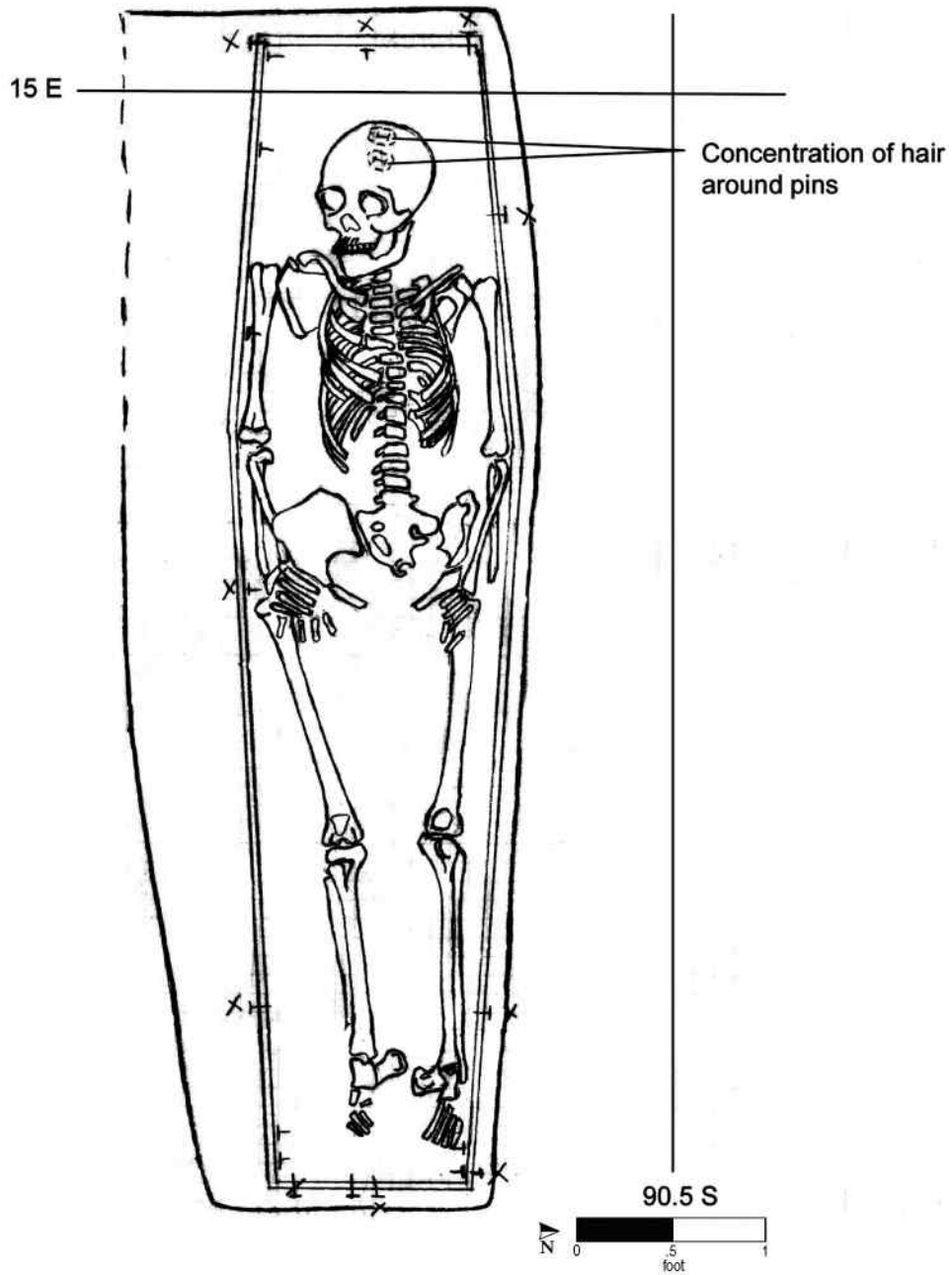
The coffin was first encountered at an elevation of 5.89 feet, and was slightly shouldered in shape. The

bottom of the coffin was reached at 5.20 feet in the west and at 4.99 feet in the south. The woman had been interred in the supine position with her head to the west, her arms resting at her sides, and her hands over her pelvis.

Two pins with hair attached were found in situ on the woman's cranium, and three more probable pins were recorded on the left side of the woman's torso.

Burial 56 abutted the south side of the grave shaft of Burial 34 and lay some 0.74 feet lower in elevation. The grave-shaft outline for Burial 56 appeared intact along the north side, indicating it probably postdates Burial 34. Based on the coffin shape and stratigraphy, and in the absence of artifacts that would place it later, Burial 56 is assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial 56 (cont.)



Burial No. 56 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/15/91; Drawing No. 246).

## Burial 57

Series 29

Catalog No. 796

Datum point: 37

Grid coordinates: S 93.5, E 27

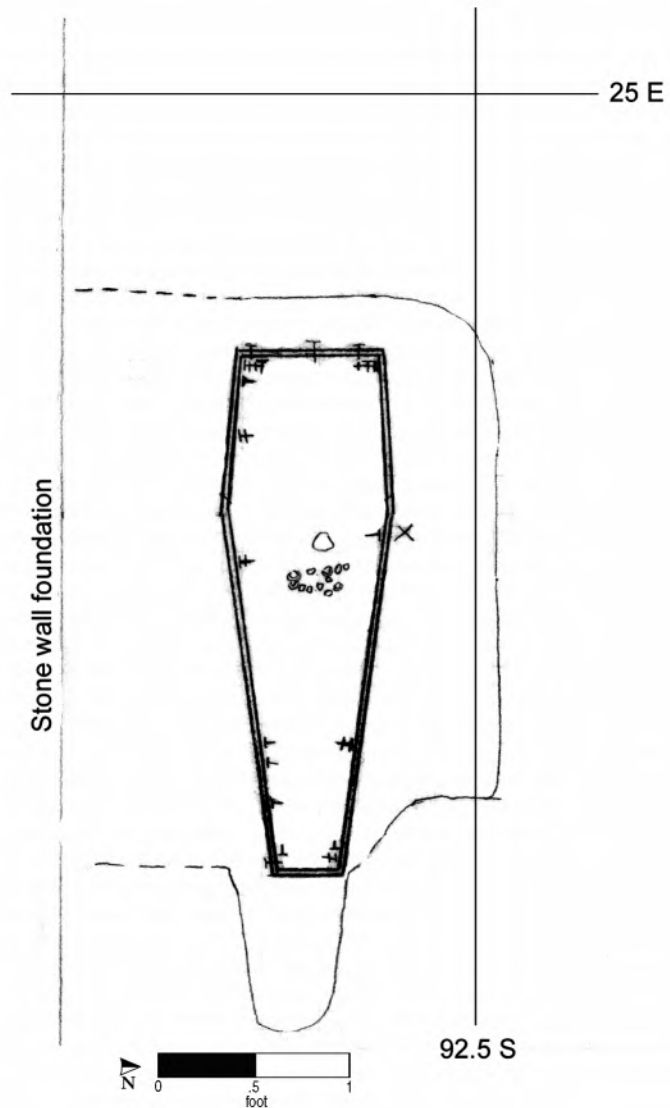
Elevation of cranium: 5.27 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Middle

The eastern end of Burial 57 was partially overlain by Burial 50, which also overlain Burial 66. Burials 57 and 66 may have been contemporaneous; although it appears that the grave pit of Burial 57 may have disturbed the grave pit of Burial 66. The precise relationship between the two is not clear from the field photographs or drawings. Lacking clear evidence to place it later in time, Burial 57 is assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial 57 was of a child between 10 months and 2 years of age. The remains consisted of teeth and a small bone fragment. The grave was located along the south edge of the former Republican Alley, to the rear of Lot 13. Its shaft fill consisted of red and brownish gray mottled silty clay and sand, with pebble inclusions and charcoal flecks. Brick fragments that were bright orange in color and a sherd of Staffordshire slipware were recovered from the fill.

The small coffin for Burial 57 was hexagonal in shape. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at both top and bottom. A fragment of coffin wood, which had bonded to the teeth, was recovered and later identified as cedar. The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 5.71 feet, the bottom at 5.16 feet. The teeth and bone fragment were recorded at 5.27 feet. Root disturbances were recorded throughout the coffin. Based on the location of the teeth, the child had been placed with the head to the west.



Burial No. 57 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/17/91; Drawing No. 249).



### Burial 58

Catalog No. 797

Datum point: 27

Grid coordinates: S 65, E 15

Elevation of cranium: 7.42 feet AMSL

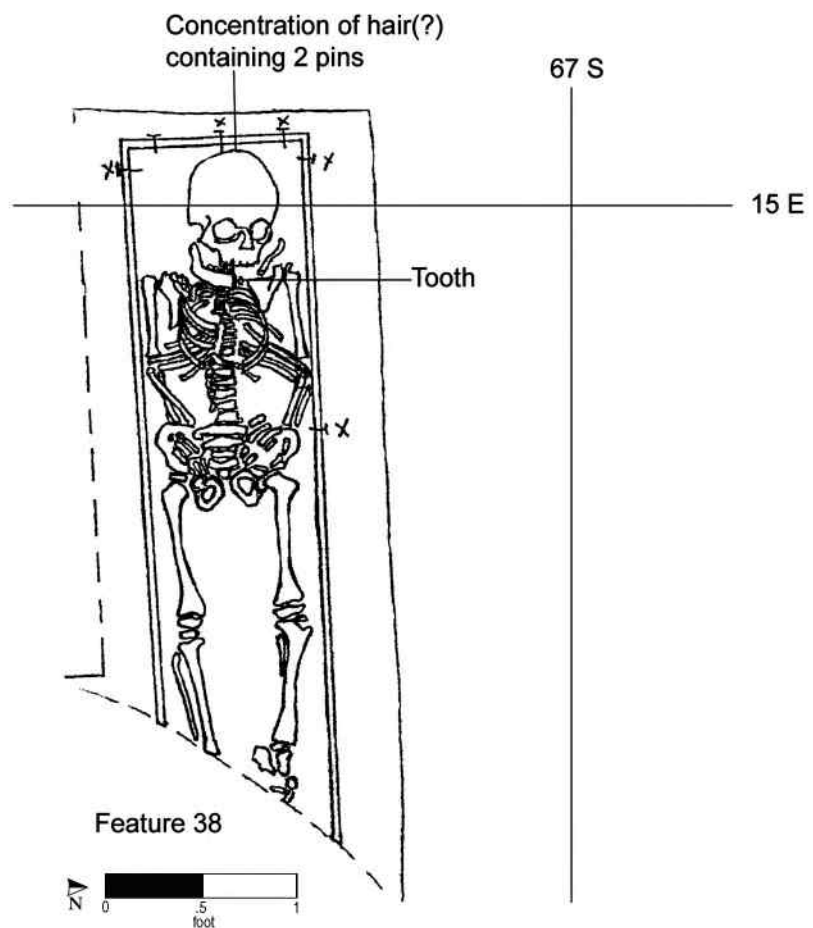
Temporal group: Late

Burial 58 was of a child between 3.5 and 4.5 years of age. The grave was located in the northwest portion of the excavated cemetery, in the rear part of Lot 12. Its foot (east) end had been truncated by the later construction of a circular cistern, Feature 38, and the child's right foot was missing because of this disturbance. The soil matrix was not described in the field notes, but the grave-shaft outline was discernable, except along its south side, where it was within an excavation balk. The fill from the grave shaft was not screened, but two fragments of animal bone were recovered from it.

No coffin wood was preserved; there was only a faint gray stain in the soil, along with in situ nails, that indicated its presence. The highest recorded elevation for coffin nails was 7.74 feet. The field drawing indicates a rectangular coffin, but the shape should be considered speculative. A sample of wood from the bottom was recovered and later identified as red pine.

The cranium was at 7.42 feet and the lowest skeletal remains were at 6.85 feet. The child had been placed supine with the head to the west. Notes indicate that the ribs, both parietals (bones on the sides of the cranium), and the lumbar vertebrae were damaged during excavation. A concentration of hair or fiber containing two pins was noted on the top of the child's cranium, and another pin was recorded adjacent to the chin. Only two pin fragments were recovered. No other artifacts were found in association with this burial.

Burial 58 did not overlap with any other burials. It may have been part of a north-south row that also included Burials 86 and 63 (to the south), and Burials 37 and 59 (to the north). Base on its position to the north of the posthole line, Burial 58 is assigned to the Late Group.



Burial No. 58 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/15/91; Drawing No. 244).

## Burial 59

Catalog No. 789

Datum point: 27

Grid coordinates: S 63, E 15

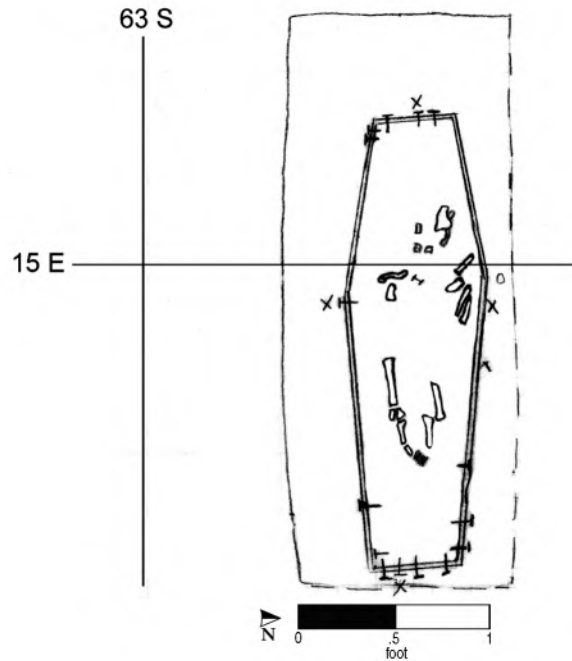
Elevation of cranium: 6.58 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 59, the northernmost burial in the western portion of the excavated cemetery (in Lot 12), was of an infant less than 3 months old. The grave-shaft fill was described as yellow clay, the surrounding soil as pink sand. Two sherds of gray-bodied salt-glazed stoneware (probably locally made) were recovered from the shaft.

The six-sided coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 6.91 feet, the bottom at 6.42 feet. Several coffin nails were found in situ around the perimeter at both the top and bottom of the coffin. The baby had been placed in a supine position, with the head to the west. Portions of long bones, teeth, and cranial fragments were the only preserved remains. One straight pin was recorded in situ to the immediate east of the teeth. Copper staining was noted on the scapula, clavicles, zygomatic bone, and sternum.

Burial 59 did not overlap with other interments, although the grave of Burial 37, a man about 50 years of age, was located just 1 foot to the south and at a comparable elevation. These interments may have been aligned in a north-south row that also includes, moving southward, Burials 58, 63, and 86. Based on its location north of the fence line, Burial 59 is placed in the Late period.



*Burial No. 59 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/15/91; Drawing No. 243).*

## Burial 60

Series 4

Catalog No. 799

Datum point: 13

Grid coordinates: S 93.5, E 0

Elevation of cranium: 7.63 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late-Middle

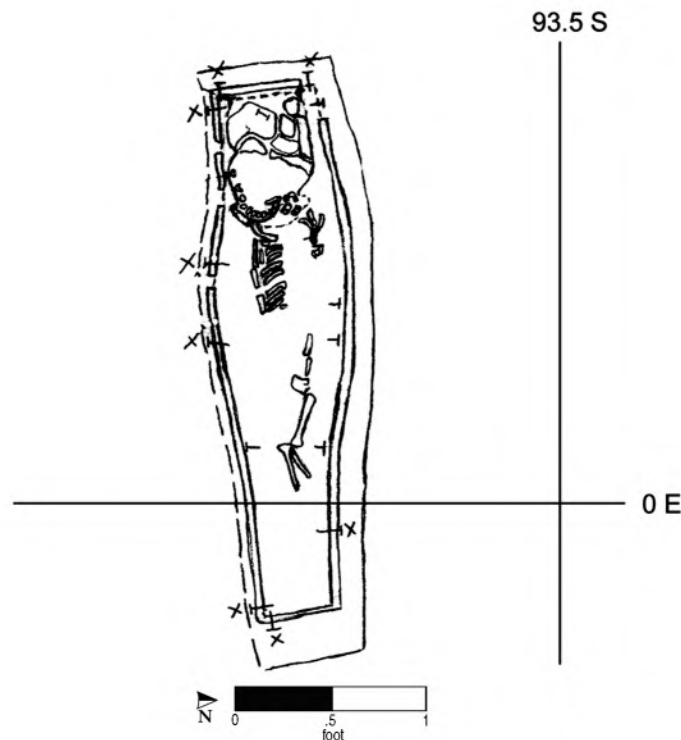
Burial 60 contained the remains of an infant between 3 and 9 months old. Excavation of the grave shaft, which was filled with soil described as mottled silt with pebbles, began at an elevation of 8.43 feet. Because of the earlier excavation of Burial 46, portions of the south side of the grave shaft were missing. Artifacts found in the grave shaft included oyster shell, clam shell, and a sherd of redware.

The coffin lid, described as well preserved and apparently of a single plank, was first exposed at an elevation of 8.08 feet on the eastern side of the burial and 7.48 feet on the west. Cranial elements protruded to a slightly higher elevation. Eight verti-

cal nails and six horizontal nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin's lid. The lowest recorded elevation at the base of the coffin was 7.28 feet. At least two horizontal nails were recorded at the headboard on the bottom of the coffin. Excavators noted that some nails from the underlying Burial 67 may have been removed with soils scraped beneath Burial 60.

The shape of the tiny coffin is difficult to determine, but the opening plan drawing suggests it was a four-sided coffin. The deceased infant had been placed with the head to the west, in the supine position. Pins were recorded in situ under the mandible, under the left clavicle, and on the cranium.

Burial 60 overlay the southeast edge of Burial 67, which in turn truncated Burial 81 and overlay Burial 88. Based on stratigraphic position, Burial 60 is placed in the Late-Middle Group. It should be noted that although the archaeological excavation trench for Burial 46 truncated the south sides of the grave shafts of both Burials 60 and 67, there is no clear evidence that the original grave shaft for Burial 46 actually cut into the other two.



*Burial No. 60 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/16/91; Drawing No. 247).*

## Burial 61

Series 9

Catalog No. 800

Datum point: 35

Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 45

Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 5.53 feet AMSL

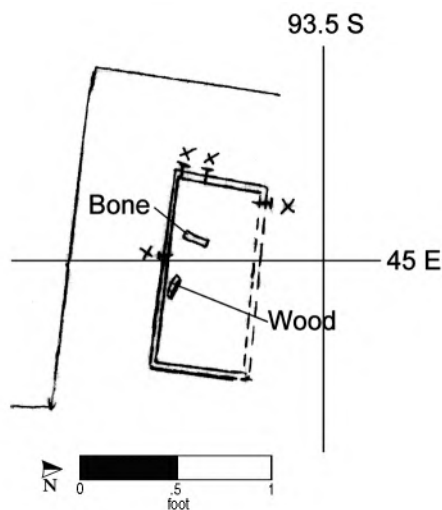
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 61 contained a single fragment of bone and the apparent remains of a portion of a coffin with four nails. The field drawing indicates a tiny, 1-foot-long coffin oriented east-west. It is possible the remains were actually from a larger coffin which had been disturbed. Coffin nails were recorded at an elevation of 5.62 feet, the bone fragment at 5.53 feet. Only two nail fragments associated with this burial were accounted for in the laboratory.

Burial 61 apparently overlay the southwest corner of Burial 64 by 0.34 feet. It may be part of a group including adjacent children's Burials 95, 91, and 42. These interments all had a similar alignment, angled slightly north of grid west. Based on the stratigraphic relationships of the burials in this cluster, Burial 61 is assigned to the Late-Middle Group.

## Burial 62

Remains designated Burial 62 were later reassigned to Burial 7.



Burial No. 61 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/14/91; Drawing No. 241).

## Burial 63

Catalog No. 805

Datum point: 27

Grid coordinates: S 70, E 15

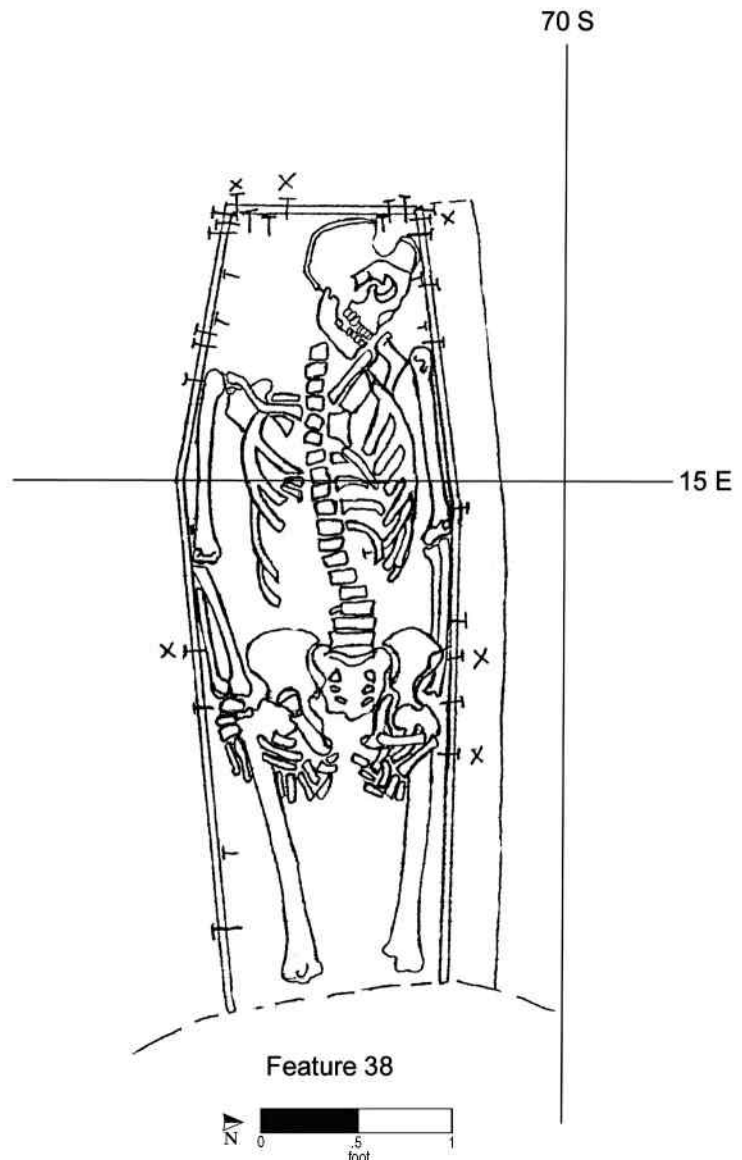
Elevation of cranium: 7.12 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 63 was of a man between 35 and 45 years old. The grave was located in the northwest portion of the excavated cemetery, in the rear part of Lot 12. It had been truncated on the east (foot) end by a later cistern, and skeletal elements below the knees were missing. The soil associated with the burial was described as reddish brown coarse sand with gravel. The shaft fill contained few artifacts: a fragment of animal bone, a tobacco pipe stem fragment, and an olive green bottle base.

The coffin was hexagonal and numerous nails were recorded in situ. Wood samples from the sides were identified as pine, and from the bottom as cedar. The topmost nail recorded was at an elevation of 7.36 feet, the cranium at 7.12 feet, and the lowest skeletal elements at 6.72 feet. Excavators noted that the whole right side of the skull was damaged by shovel during excavation; damage was also sustained to the right and left innominate bones and the pubis (front part of the pelvis). The man had been placed in a supine position, with his head to the west and his hands resting on the upper thighs. One pin was mentioned in the field notes but was not recorded in situ. Pin fragments and an unidentifiable organic fragment were cataloged in the laboratory.

Burial 63 did not overlap with any other burials but may have been in a north-south row that also included Burials 86 (to the south) and Burials 58, 37, and 59 (to the north). Because it was located to the north of the posthole line, Burial 63 is assigned to the Late Group.



Burial No. 63 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/20/91; Drawing No. 252).

## Burial 64

Series 9

Catalog No. 803

Datum point: 34

Grid coordinates: S 92.5, E 45

Elevation of cranium: 5.25 feet AMSL

Temporal: Late-Middle

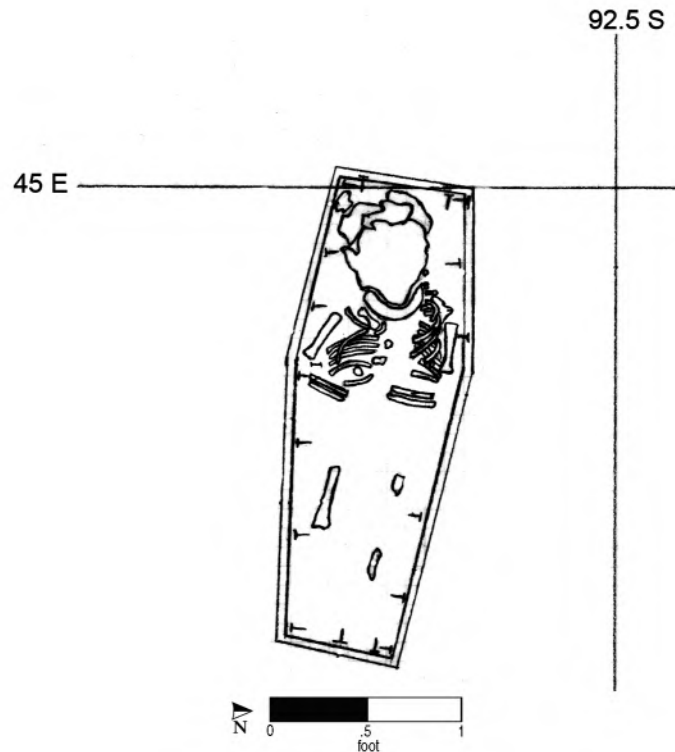
Burial 64, located along the south edge of the former Republican Alley, was of an infant under 1 year old. The grave shaft was not recorded in the field records. The coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 5.06 feet in the eastern end of the burial and at an estimated elevation of 5.25 feet in the west, based on the highest elevation of skeletal material in this location. The bottom was reached at an elevation of 5.02 feet. The hexagonal coffin was well preserved (both lid and bottom were distinguished), and a sample of the wood was identified as pine.

The infant was in the supine position, with the head to the west. The skeletal remains were in poor

condition. Damage occurred during excavation; the limb bones and ribs were scarred, one rib was cracked, and one vertebra was destroyed. The cranium had collapsed prior to excavation, and most skeletal material below the ribs was missing. The excavator noted that the area below the ribs was surrounded by wetter soil.

A single straight pin was mapped in the field, near the right elbow joint; five pin fragments were counted in the lab. A hollow tooth crown was recorded on the left side of the jaw.

The southwest corner of Burial 64 was overlain by Burial 61 by 0.34 feet. Burial 64 in turn overlay the south side of Burial 96 by 0.23 feet; Burial 96 was excavated 1 month later. Burial 64 and adjacent Burials 95, 91, 61, and 42 may all form a group. These interments all had a similar alignment, angled slightly north of grid west. Based on the stratigraphic relationships of the burials in this cluster, Burial 64 is assigned to the Late-Middle Group.



Burial No. 64 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/21/91; Drawing No. 253).

## Burial 65

Series 44

Catalog No. 806

Datum point: 19 (11.38 feet AMSL)

Grid coordinates: S 76.5, E 7

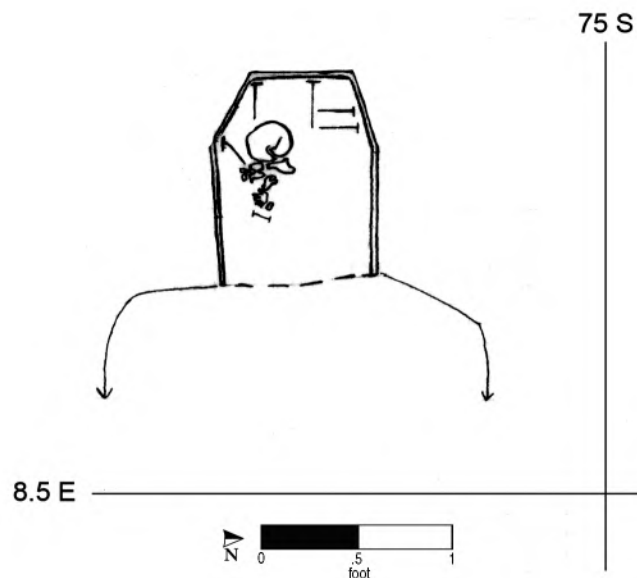
Elevation of cranium: 8.58 feet AMSL

Temporal group: Late

Burial 65 was of an infant under 6 months of age. The eastern end of the grave had been truncated by a later interment, Burial 71. The Burial 65 grave-shaft outline was not distinguishable from that of Burial 71. A coffin outline and five nails, along with skeletal remains consisting of cranial elements, were recorded in situ at elevations of 8.58–8.68 feet. The coffin appeared to be six sided, and the infant had been placed with its head to the west. A

straight pin was recorded in situ within the coffin, just to the east of the cranial remains. Additional pins were found during cleaning of the skeletal remains in the laboratory, one under the left temporal bone, one under occipital, and two on cervical vertebrae.

Burial 65 predates Burial 71, which cut into its eastern end and lay approximately 1 foot deeper in elevation. It is possible there was little surviving postcranial bone from Burial 65 at the time Burial 71 was interred. Burial 76, which held the remains of a man interred with no coffin, lay immediately northeast of Burial 65, also beneath and partially destroyed by Burial 71. All of these burials appear to be in the Late Group, buried after the fence, which once formed the northern boundary of the cemetery, had been destroyed. Clearly, Burial 71 is the latest of the three.



*Burial No. 65 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/19/91; Drawing No. 255).*

## Burial 66

Series 29

Catalog No. 804

Datum point: 37

Grid coordinates: S 93.5, E 30

Elevation of cranium: 5.23 feet AMSL

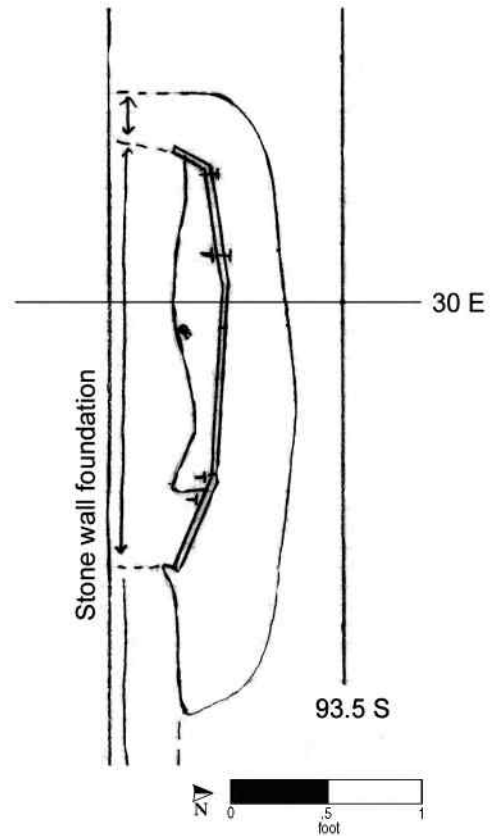
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 66 was of an infant under 1 year of age, represented mainly by teeth. The grave was largely destroyed by a builder's trench for a stone wall along the south side of the former Republican Alley. The shaft fill consisted of red and brownish gray mottled silty clay with pebble inclusions and charcoal flecks.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 5.51 feet and its bottom at 5.22 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at both top and bottom. There was root disturbance throughout the coffin. The original shape cannot be determined because of severe disturbance. Based on the location of teeth, the infant had been placed with the head to the west.

It appears that the grave shaft of Burial 57 may have slightly disturbed the grave shaft of Burial 66, but the precise relationship between the two graves is not clear from the field photographs or drawings.

Burial 50 overlay them both, and is thus the latest interment, although it may have been placed here deliberately to form a group. All three are assigned to the Middle Group, in the absence of evidence that would place them later.



*Burial No. 66 (drawn by M. Schur on 11/18/91; Drawing No. 250).*