# The Archaeology of Merryspring Nature Center:

## The Asa Hosmer Farm (ME 073.014)
## and
## The Lt. Benjamin Burton Militia Encampment (ME 073-015)

## Part 3

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## This Report

In light of the overall amount of information gathered in two years of testing, and in an effort to make it as reader-friendly as possible, this report is comprised of five parts, Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, each being a separate volume. Each part represents a stand-alone section of the whole, with its own Table of Contents, Table of Figures, and Introduction.

Part 1 includes: Executive Summary; Acknowledgements; Table of Contents; Table of Figures; Introduction; Geographical and Geological Context; Historic Background; Historic Ownership of Lot 71; and Regional Archaeological Context.

Part 2 includes: Executive Summary; Table of Contents; Table of Figure; Introduction; Archaeological Rationale, Context, and Protocol .

Part 3 includes: Executive Summary; Table of Contents; Table of Figures; Introduction; Soil Stratigraphy; Archaeological Stratigraphy; Features; Cultural Materials.

Part 4 includes: Executive Summary; Table of Contents; Table of Figures; Introduction; Cultural Material Spatial Distribution; Conclusions; and References Cited.

Part 5 includes: Executive Summary; Table of Contents; Table of Figures; and Appendices A-D.

In its content, this report is primarily a descriptive effort – the what, where, and when of two years of archaeological testing. That said, given 1) an "umbilical" relationship between ME 073.014, ME 073.015, and the long forgotten trans-regional Warren Road, and 2) an identical relationship between the Warren Road and nearby sites ME 373.016 and ME 373.017, and all of their temporal interconnectedness, it is near impossible to avoid introducing some interpretation, at least as it relates to site location and relationships. The author does, however, endeavor to avoid unfettered speculation.

## Executive Summary

On April 16, 2018, the author began archaeological testing in an open hay field at Merryspring Nature Center, Camden, Maine (Figure 1). A sub-rectangular depression, located in the field's northeast corner, suggested the presence of a possible filled cellar. The first shovel test pit, located immediately north of, and adjacent to the depression, recovered 18$^{th}$ c. ceramics, confirming the author's suspicions of an occupation.

The author, recognizing the site as, if not unique, then extremely rare within the micro-region known as mid-coast Maine (i.e., Waldoboro to Stockton Springs), undertook additional testing. Transects and shovel test pit (STP) locations were established, and testing continued from April to October, 2018. Expanded testing included a much broader site area, encompassing agricultural field, field edge tree line, and egress to the site's only immediately available potable water, the spring after which Merryspring Nature Center is named. Testing resumed in April, 2019, and continued through October, 2019. Over the course of 2018's and 2019's field seasons, the author excavated no less than 100, 50cm$^2$ shovel test pits, and approximately 25, 1m$^2$ units (Figure 2).

Archaeological testing reveals spatially extensive archaeological deposits associated with two early historic period sites. The sites, located approximately 50m distant from one another, are: ME 073-015, the fourth quarter 18$^{th}$ c. Lt. Benjamin Burton Militia Encampment, named after the historically identified officer in charge of an 18$^{th}$ c. militia encampment believed to be located there; and ME 073-014, the 19$^{th}$ c. Asa Hosmer Farm, named after the farm's first occupant, c. 1803.

## ME 073.015: The Lt. Benjamin Burton Militia Encampment

Minimally, ME 073-015 includes: a late 18$^{th}$ c., likely earthfast structure, estimated to be at least 24' x 30'. The structure is represented by: a very large, 4.5m x 5.5m (15' x 18') apparently unlined earthen cellar; and remnants of a 2.5 x 2.5m (8'x8') loose stone chimney base. Occupation is represented by: a spatially extensive midden, involving at least 200-300m$^2$ of $A_p$ and sub-$A_p$ soils; and, immediately south of the structure, a .75 acre agricultural field containing limited, but ubiquitous, temporally contemporary cultural materials, primarily ceramics.

Testing reveals ME 073-015 to be both spatially extensive and materially diverse. Chinese export porcelain, English soft paste porcelain, wheel engraved stemware, punchbowls (creamware glazed, China Glaze, and Fazackerly deft), engine turned refined white earthenwares and refined redwares, and Whieldonware are combined with numerous other examples of fourth quarter 18$^{th}$ c. material culture.

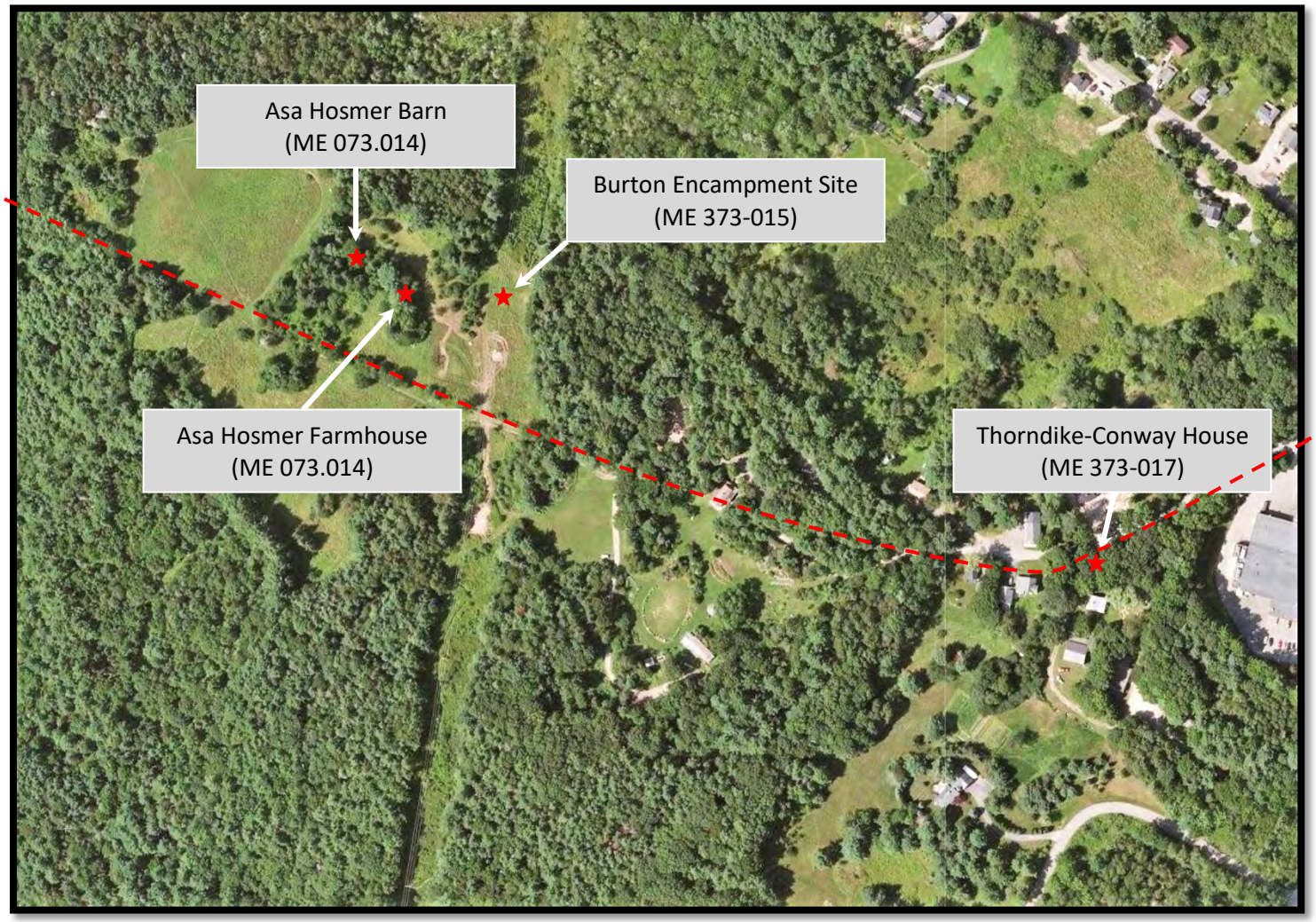


Figure 1: Merryspring Nature Center, ME 073.015 & .014, and ME373.016 & .017

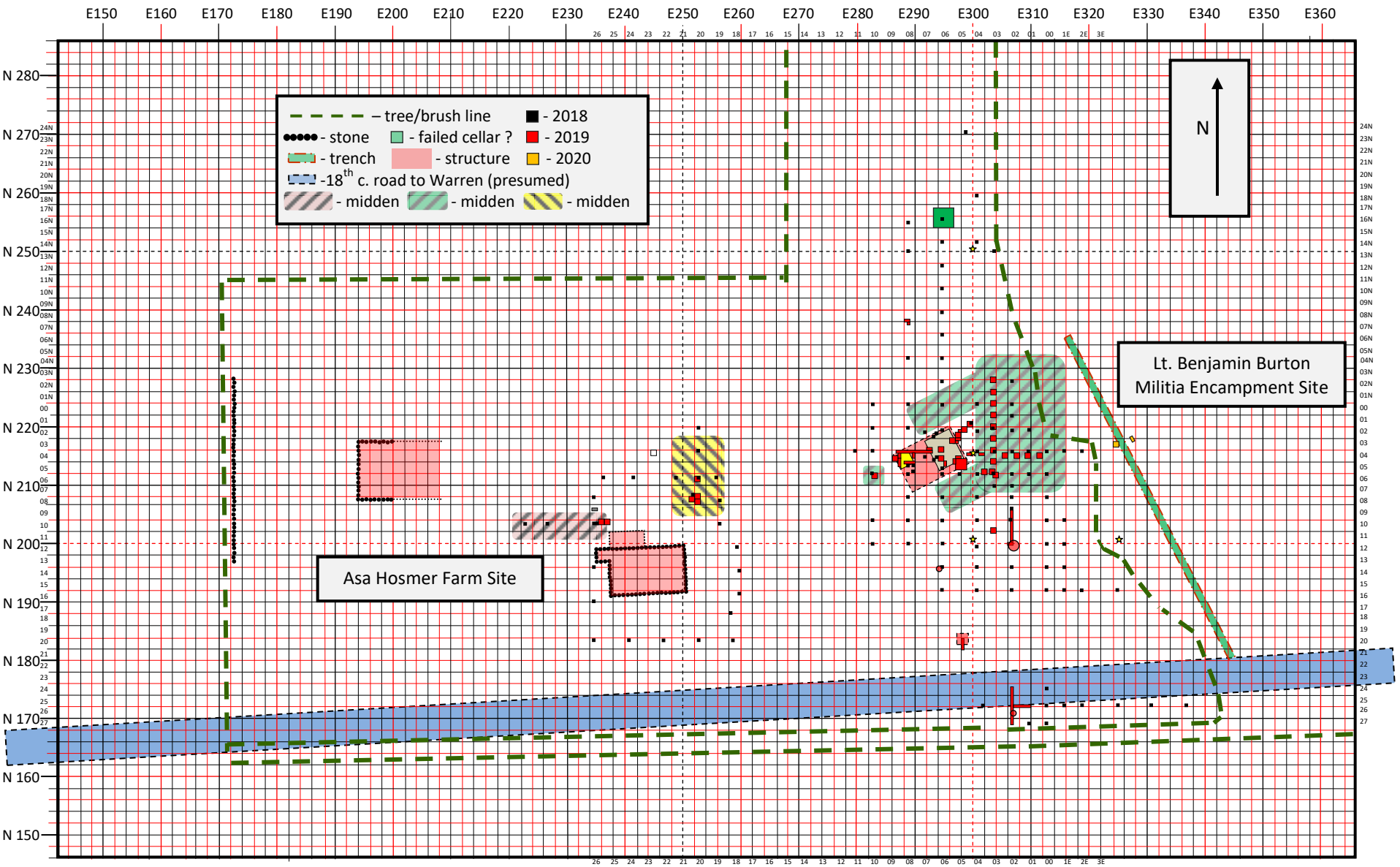


Figure 2: 2018, 2019, and 2020 archaeological testing at Merryspring Nature Center

The whole strongly suggests the site's initial occupation was not a frontier residence; it is likely the initial occupation was not an effort at frontier settlement by a simple settler-farmer (homesteader) and his family. Indeed, historical data suggest late 18th c. coastal and interior mid-Maine was not only grossly underdeveloped economically, but predominantly populated by under-educated or totally uneducated settlers/subsistence farmers, that is, families whose circumstances included permanent destitution and, in some cases, near, if not outright starvation (Taylor 1990).

During the site's occupation, c. 1775± - 1802, money was not a common reality for most in mid-Maine. "In August, 1788, Norridgewock's seventy-nine taxpayers collectively possessed a mere seven dollars in coin…" (Taylor 1990:66). "…in the early 1790's there was so little money in this country [mid-Maine] that dollars were shewn about among the farmers as curiosities.' " (Taylor 1990:66, citing Allis 1954). And, "in very long stretches of completely settled coast there is no specie… there all transactions are in the form of barter." (Taylor 1990:66, citing Talleyrand - no date)

Additionally, a great percentage of the region's settlers, whether arriving earlier or later in mid-Maine, lived in log homes, or hovels, with little or no resources to supply immediate, let alone longer term needs. So called "framed houses" (lumber constructed) were the rare exception. In 1792, in Jefferson, Maine, only twenty miles west of Camden, a mere 18% of taxpayers owned a framed house, and only 43% owned a barn. By 1801, those percentages had grown to only - 46% and 51%, respectively (Taylor 1990:258, Table 6).

Thus, a significantly large, albeit possibly earthfast, 18th c. structure with glass windows, nails, brick, an overly large cellar, and clear evidence of a broad subsistence economy and developed circumstances (e.g., tea sets and punch bowls) exists in stark contrast to the broader regional expectation.

Beyond the immediate structure and associated midden, the ME 073.015 includes a broad distribution of cultural materials throughout the hay field immediately south of the structure. This distribution of cultural materials, principally small ceramic sherds, is interpreted as reflecting agricultural practice associated with one or more later, 18th c. occupations, specifically the spreading of pig manure. The agricultural field also includes a large pit feature containing sheep remains, and both 18th c. European and presumed Native American content.

Further, the physical extent of the site, overall, is not limited to the area of the structure, its midden, and adjacent field to the south. Limited testing reveals cultural materials,

specifically ceramics, at least 60m north of, and well down the steep valley slope leading north, away from the site's main structure - the current, and presumably historic path to the flowing spring located north of the site. Additionally, visual inspection of the small stream emanating from the spring identifies the presence of Euro-American, early 19th c., if not late 18th c. ceramics within its gravel bed. Clearly the preceding two centuries of historic use of the landform includes an inferred use/dependence upon this water source, indeed, the landform's only surficial water source of any kind.

As noted above, a non-European component is also suggested at ME 073.015. A contemporary Native American presence is strongly suggested by the recovery of: shattered rhyolite cobble fragments; possible red clay beads; and large, hammered, folded and rolled, 18th c. flat buttons (interpreted as possible ornamentation).

Given the limited scope of testing, a full understanding of this 18th c. Native American presence is not available. However, a similar presumed Native American assemblage at the Thorndike-Conway House (ME 373.017) (Mitchell 2016a, 2016b, 2017), located approximately 1/5th mile east of the ME 073.015, strongly suggests the Native American presence at both is likely more than incidental, or coincidental.

In 1779, Continental land and naval forces, including 290 Massachusetts Militia and Native American Penobscot warriors from a base in modern Glen Cove (Rockport), attempted to evict British forces from Castine, a town along the Penobscot River, north of Camden. The effort proved disastrously unsuccessful, resulting in a complete route of Continental forces. Many of the retreating soldiers, and presumably Penobscots, fled south, seeking refuge at homes and farms in Camden (all of present-day Camden and Rockport).

As Camden remained the "front line" between British and Continental forces for the remainder of the Revolutionary War, it is reasonable that a Continental force remained in Camden for some period of time, in order to protect against, or at least warn others farther south, of any British advance. The historic record indicates such a force was stationed at "Camden Harbor" by at least 1780 - Lt. Benjamin Burton and a small force (Robinson 1907). The presence of a second, spatially and temporally contemporary Revolutionary War period site (Thorndike-Conway House, ME 373.017) along what was historically referred to as the "Warren Road" is suggestive of a strategic militarily intent.

The Warren Road, as it is referred to in 19th c. documents (e.g., deeds), was likely the only 18th c. overland route from the deep water anchorages of today's Camden and Rockport, to the Continental headquarters in Warren (present-day Thomaston). Recent

archaeological survey by the author located a remnant of the Warren Road approximately ¼ mile west of the ME 073.015 (Mitchell 2019a). Not only does the Warren Road follow a route through Merryspring Nature Center, and past the Thorndike-Conway House (ME 373.0170) and its Revolutionary War period site, but evidence indicates it was a pre-19th c. *engineered* roadway (Mitchell 2019a).

Had the British chosen to pursue the retreating Continental forces in 1779, or initiated an offensive at a later date, Camden and Rockport harbors would have been strategically critical to such an effort. And 18th c. Warren, being only 11 miles south, was vulnerable to an unobserved and rapid overland approach by British forces, via the Warren Road. Had Warren fallen to British forces, all of northern Massachusetts (i.e., Maine) could have become British territory. It is, therefore, reasonable that some form of combined Continental Militia and Penobscot warrior force maintained semi-permanent, contemporary encampments at both the Thorndike-Conway House and ME 073.015 locations.

Further, a spatial extension of the Revolutionary War period component at the ME 073.015 is inferred from recovery of fourth quarter 18th c. materials within ME 073.014's middens (e.g., an opaque glass trade bead, lithic debitage, large 18th c, flat buttons, and case bottle fragments). This apparent spatially remote component, contemporary with, but 50m distant from the 1770's occupation at ME 073.015, appears to have been present on, or adjacent to the landform on which the Hosmer farm's cellar is located. An immediate spatial overlap of 18th and 19th c. components there appears to have led to incorporation of earlier,18th c. cultural materials into the later, 19th c. middens (18th c. cultural materials are also found secondarily deposited within the 19th c. Thorndike-Conway House midden (e.g., glass trade beads).

Identification and separation of these two components will be an important aspect of any future investigative agenda at ME 073.014; some aspects of the fourth quarter, 18th c. encampment component *may remain extant beneath the Hosmer cellar's backdirt*.

### ME 073.014: The Asa Hosmer Farm Site

ME 073.014 is principally represented by a roughly 30' x 33' loose (i.e., non-mortared) stone-lined cellar located, as noted above, approximately 50m west-southwest of ME 073.015. ME 073.014's total spatial limits are not, as yet, fully defined. However, visual inspection identifies a site area potentially encompassing thousands of square meters - a main farmhouse (cellar), two middens, at least one outbuilding foundation 30m northwest of the cellar, stone walls, and extensive agricultural fields with possible additional archaeological deposits.

Asa Hosmer arrived in Camden, c. 1785. Being both an early resident, and Camden's first school teacher, Homer's farm has local, if not regional significance. In addition, the value of an essentially undisturbed, first quarter, pre-War of 1812, War of 1812, and early Maine statehood, 19th c. farm site cannot be understated. Few, if any, such sites remain in the mid-coast Maine region. And likely none exist in such an undisturbed condition.

While limited to a small percentage of overall testing, data suggest initial construction of the Hosmer farm dates to between 1800 and 1810. It is possible that Elisha Gibbs, ME 073.015's last resident, having entered into a four year contractual lease/purchase agreement with the parcel's owner in 1799, began construction of the farmhouse, only to lose possession of it in 1801, due to unfortunate circumstances. In 1803, Asa Hosmer became the parcel's owner, and the farmhouse is likely either taken ownership of, completed, or built by Hosmer at that time.

ME 073.014 includes two spatially separate, but related household middens. The middens lie adjacent to the farm cellar's northwest and northeast corners. Ceramics from within the middens, being the best temporal indicator, suggest the farm's occupation begins at or immediately after the turn of the 18th/19th centuries. Early polychrome pearlware glazed ceramics (possibly associated with occupation of ME 073.015) and early forms of blue shell edged pearlware glazed ceramics identify the approximate onset of occupation. Broad brush, cobalt blue floral decorated pearlware (c.1815-1830) identifies the terminal limit of occupation. No ceramics post-dating embossed shell edged pearlware, or broad brushed cobalt blue pearlware are present in the current sample; no whiteware is present.

While the significant volume of cultural materials present in both middens might suggest the farm to have been relatively prosperous, several indicators combine to suggest sustainability, but not prosperity:

- the paucity of high cost ceramics (e.g., Chinese export porcelain);
- the limited amount and diversity of otherwise available pearlware glazed ceramics (e.g., late polychrome decoration);
- the overwhelming dominance of creamware glazed ceramics;
- the extraordinary amount of utilitarian redware;

- and a noteworthy combination of low diversity within the faunal sample (e.g., no fish or bird) and low quality mammalian subsistence remains (e.g., pig's feet).

The above also suggests the Asa Hosmer farm was not what is commonly referred to as a self-sustaining farm, one which supplies its own internal needs. The appearance of (presumably) purchased (or bartered) butchered mammal parts (e.g., calf tail vertebrae, and pigs feet), and the high volume of utilitarian redwares, suggests the possibility of a dairy farm, perhaps supplying the micro-region with milk and other dairy products, while sustaining itself on food and other products purchase with the proceeds. This possibility also hints at growing post-Revolutionary War, micro-regional, economic specialization.

Ship building, a developing lime industry, and other economic and logistical "drivers" might have encouraged specialization (and possibly social stratification) within the immediate micro-regional population. Butchers, ship wrights, dairy farmers, mill workers, fishermen, carpenters, common laborers, blacksmiths, stone masons, quarrymen, and other non-agricultural, potentially *year-round* vocations would be required in an economically diverse and prospering, post-Revolutionary War Camden. Such a circumstance might explain the stark contrast between the archaeological evidence and the general state of hardship within mid-Maine (see above).

In light of the above, then, the farm's apparent sudden demise, while not understood, is all the more curious. Some circumstance caused the farm's complete abandonment by the mid to late 1820's, *with no ensuing reoccupation* ! Disease may have played a role.

Pyle identifies cholera began moving into Maine's central seaboard in the 1820's, arriving in Bangor by late 1832.

> "During December 1832, a chest of clothing that had belonged to a sailor, who had died of cholera at a Baltic port, arrived at his home in a small village near Bangor, Me. The chest was opened, the clothing was distributed to his friends, and all who received the garments were taken with cholera and died." (1969)

Alternatively, economic hardship may have played a role in the farm's abandonment. Even if the Hosmer farm were economically viable at one time, the second decade of the 19$^{th}$c. was unforgiving. Climactic instability caused shortages on farms and across the region. Additionally, the English, and the War of 1812, brought commerce and trade to a near standstill. As one Camden resident, William Parkman, put it, regarding the agricultural hardships:

> "*As to the times they are very hard. The district of Maine is going [to] wreck as fast as ever a country did. Farms can be purchased for less than half of what they could have been 5 or 6 years ago. A great many is moving away to Ohio.*" (Taylor 1990:239).

Yet another Camden resident, Alibeus Partridge, spoke to the English dominance of the bays in 1813.

> "The times are exceedingly dark… hundreds and hundreds have neither bread nor potatoes to eat… [shipping] is almost cut off. The British take and carry of[f] and burn numbers of [ships] so that… the southern trade is so stopt that no provisions is brought from thence to help the difficulty." (Taylor 1990:239).

The above not-withstanding, the author believes another factor may have adversely impacted the large farm, making it less and less sustainable - lack of adequate on-site water supply. By the mid to late 1820's, and based on visual identification only, the farm had grown spatially to include at least one outbuilding, and extensive fields. The presence of an addition to the home, in a possible new kitchen on the rear of the house, suggests internal growth of the farm. Ever increasing demand on a limited water resource (the single spring) by a growing farm and household may have destabilized what was, at a smaller scale, previously economically viable.

By the 1830's, soon after the farm's abandonment, the 18$^{th}$ c. parcel on which both archaeological sites are located (Lot 71 of the Twenty Associates, c.1768) was divided longitudinally (east to west) by contractual agreement. While the portion north of the Warren Road, including both archaeological sites, was spared, the entire area south of the Warren Road was commercially leased for $50 to "blow lime" (i.e., quarry lime). The line of demarcation between the lot's two halves is presumed to have been the then abandoned Warren Road, which, in earlier times, bisected the lot precisely as the lime contract identifies its subdivision. However, a western bypass of the Warren Road, identified in an 1811 survey map, suggests either its infrastructural inefficiency or obsolescence, or both, by that time.

Beyond a lack of economic sustainability, the "explosive" nature of a commercial lime operation in one's front yard would no doubt have contributed to abandonment and lack of reoccupation of the farm, for at least the duration of quarrying (c. 1830's and 1840's).

Analogous circumstances are seen in the late 20th and early 21st centuries – enormous pressure to exploit a natural resource on the same landform as a farm - gravel. Regionally, the financially lucrative 20th c. endeavor of gravel excavation has led to many, once prosperous 19th and 20th c. farms becoming little more than "the old homestead", and a few outbuildings, with the balance of once lush fields and pastures now little more than large holes in the ground.

As it relates to the limited testing of the fourth quarter 18th, and first quarter 19th century archaeological record at Merryspring Nature Center, the following is clear:

- A very significant fourth quarter 18th c. component is present at ME 073.015 and includes: an earthen cellar; chimney base; and extensive, though historically disturbed, midden deposits.

- The site includes a Revolutionary War temporal component, with evidence of a coincident Native American presence.

- A temporal, and possibly immediate relationship exists between some portion of the 18th c. component at Merryspring Nature Center and that of the Thorndike-Conway House (ME 373.017), a few hundred meters to the east. This relationship is believed related to Revolutionary War use of the two properties as semi-permanent, though possibly seasonal encampments/outposts by Continental forces, likely including Penobscot warriors.

- ME 073.015 includes extensive, likely terminal 18th c. agricultural activity. This is inferred via the presence of considerable, though broadly distributed terminal 18th c. ceramics thinly, but evenly distributed across an extensive area of field south of the structure itself. This activity is presumed related to spreading of (most likely) pig manure.

- First quarter, 19th c. occupation is present at ME 073.014, and includes: the farmhouse's loose stone lined cellar; one outbuilding foundation; and two undisturbed household middens.

- ME 073.014 also includes a possible fourth quarter 18th c., probable Revolutionary War period component, identified through contemporary cultural materials (e.g., large 18th c. silver washed flat button, case bottle fragments, and glass trade bead).

- ME 073.014 maintains evidence of extensive agricultural activity, identified by at least one outbuilding foundation west of the farm's cellar, stone field walls, and well developed pastures across the land form.

- And lastly, the 1830s and '40s saw significant amounts of limestone quarrying on the parcel. There is certainly an important archaeological reality associated with this activity. Although untested, there are numerous quarries and, presumably, buildings and archaeological deposits associated with this activity. While no effort is currently underway to define this reality, it represents a near pristine opportunity to archaeologically explore the burgeoning, pre-industrial age lime industry and technology in mid-coast Maine.

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## Soil Stratigraphy

While opening himself up to criticism, the author believes mechanical removal of the $A_p$ in any archaeological site is inappropriate, and unethical, with one exception, modern fill/overburden (e.g., asphalt road).

Too often, an $A_p$ is characterized as simply a "plow zone", a matrix within which some cultural materials may be present, but which contributes little or nothing to archaeological goals. Sites with such a physical component are often characterized as "plow zone" sites, and features and other sub-plow zone expressions (e.g., post holes), are considered of greater value, relative to the resources expended. This is true in both historic and pre-historic archaeological efforts. Massive stripping off of an $A_p$ to illustrate sub-$A_p$ features associated with pre-historic long houses, for example, was, and still is practiced. The result of such a practice is the extraordinary potential loss of horizontal, and possibly vertical context of any number of cultural materials. It tends to destroy subtle, or inconspicuous, cultural expressions (e.g., lightly developed sheet middens) in favor of those under the $A_p$ deemed more "intact" and "important".

2017's and 2018's archaeological testing at Merryspring Nature Center included taking care to observe and understand the vertical stratigraphic profile of both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015. As excavation proceeded generally in arbitrary 10cm levels (below surface), stratigraphy, if present, was easily noted. As a result, general statements can now be made regarding the sites' stratigraphic profiles.

### ME 073.015

ME 073.015, while materially rich, maintains a rather uncomplicated, and unhelpful, stratigraphic profile. ME 073.015's soil column begins at the surface with a well developed sod upwards of 5cm thick. While sod was almost always removed for replacement after excavation, on those few occasions in which it was removed and screened, no cultural materials were noted. Thus it can be stated with relative confidence - the site's sod stratum is culturally sterile.

The site's second stratum is generally a homogenous, dark brown, fine, sandy, silt loam with virtually no inclusions beyond a minimal volume of fine gravel – a well developed $A_p$. The $A_p$ extends from five centimeters below surface (cmbs) to approximately 25-30cmb.

Within the 20-30cm thick $A_p$ some natural sorting of both cultural and natural inclusions is present. Typically, all inclusions, whether natural or cultural, appear in quantity by 10cmbs, and definitely by 15cmbs. By 30cmbs, cultural material declined to zero or near

zero, coincident with the appearance of a "B" horizon interface. Although, on occasion, intermittent spodic development, overlying a well developed "B" horizon was noted (Figure 3), no interceding buried "A" horizon appears to be present.

Figure 3: Excavation floor at 25cmb - note floor cutting down through soil horizons at an angle (northwest to southeast); grey and black spodic development (right and bottom right), over orange B horizon (center), over light olive C horizon (left and upper left).

The chemical stratigraphy noted above (i.e., "B" horizon) appears coincident with the physical change in soil stratigraphy. That is, upon encountering a "B" horizon (if it was present at all) the site's soil typically becomes siltier and slightly more compact, with a minimal volume of fine gravel.

On the occasions where a "B" horizon was not encountered, the site's soils changed to more compact, light olive clayey sandy silt with a minimal volume of fine gravel ("C" horizon) (Figure 4). Excavation of the site's cellar illustrates the site is underlain by a light blue-grey to olive-grey clay-like substrate – reworked Presumpscot formation silt. While non-feature related excavation ceased at either the $A_p$/"C" horizon or "B"/"C" horizon interface, whichever was present, it is understood that the entire area is, ultimately, underlain by an extensive limestone formation.

Figure 4: 50cm$^2$ shovel test pit.
Note 20cm$^+$ $A_p$ overlying olive-yellow B/C horizon.

### ME 073.014

In most areas surrounding the Homer cellar, the archaeologically infused soil column is suggestive of a "stock" $A_p$ containing a scatter of cultural materials, that is, 20-30cm of brown silt loam over a more compact, siltier "B" or "C" horizon soil with minimal fine gravel content (Figure 5).

Figure 5: 50cm$^2$ shovel test pit at ME 073.014

The one area with virtually no cultural materials, random scatter or otherwise, is the steep east slope leading away from the cellar – initial cellar backdirt.

## Archaeological Stratigraphy

### Middens

### ME 073.015

ME 073.015 maintains a broadly distributed, rich cultural deposit (Figure 6). For all practical purposes it is characterized a single deposit, though accumulated over approximately 20-25 years by several mutually exclusive occupations. Unlike some midden deposits accumulated during a single occupation, or confined to a very limited space (e.g., a privy), ME 073.015's deposit is spatially broad, and distributed vertically throughout the soil column with little temporal separation. Additionally, much of the deposit reflects similar patterns of discard behavior over time. That is, occupants through time consistently utilized the same general area for kitchen and household waste and refuse disposal, severely limiting the ability to define temporal stratigraphy via horizontal differentiation of the refuse. Fortunately, the midden developed during a span of time in which technological and aesthetic changes occurred with relative frequency. Thus, using those changes, a means to identify temporal separation of refuse is available; the author can review general discard patterns, and isolate specific contributions through time within the overall deposit, generally, regardless of a lack of vertical and/or horizontal stratigraphy.

ME 073.015's midden deposit is, as noted above, a 20-25 year accumulation reflecting multiple occupations. And it is clear that those occupations did not all restrict themselves to depositing refuse in one general location. Creamware, for example, is nearly ubiquitous across a very large area – hundreds of square meters. Yet that is not the case for other ceramic styles or forms which might involve an area of only a few dozen square meters (e.g., shell edge pearlware).

### ME 073.014 Middens

The circumstances at ME 073.014 could not differ more from ME 073.015. ME 073.014's two middens (Figure 6) are literally surficial. In the case of the northeast midden, cultural materials and rock associated with the deposit are, quite literally, poking up through the surface. Large rock, and a very high volume of densely packed, extremely diverse cultural materials reflects a concerted and well bounded effort at intense dumping of refuse. Stratigraphic profiles suggest the northeast midden, located on the downward sloped northeast face of cellar backdirt (Figures 7), actually fills a deep hollow (Figure 8), as if soil was previously removed for the location, then the hollow refilled with midden.

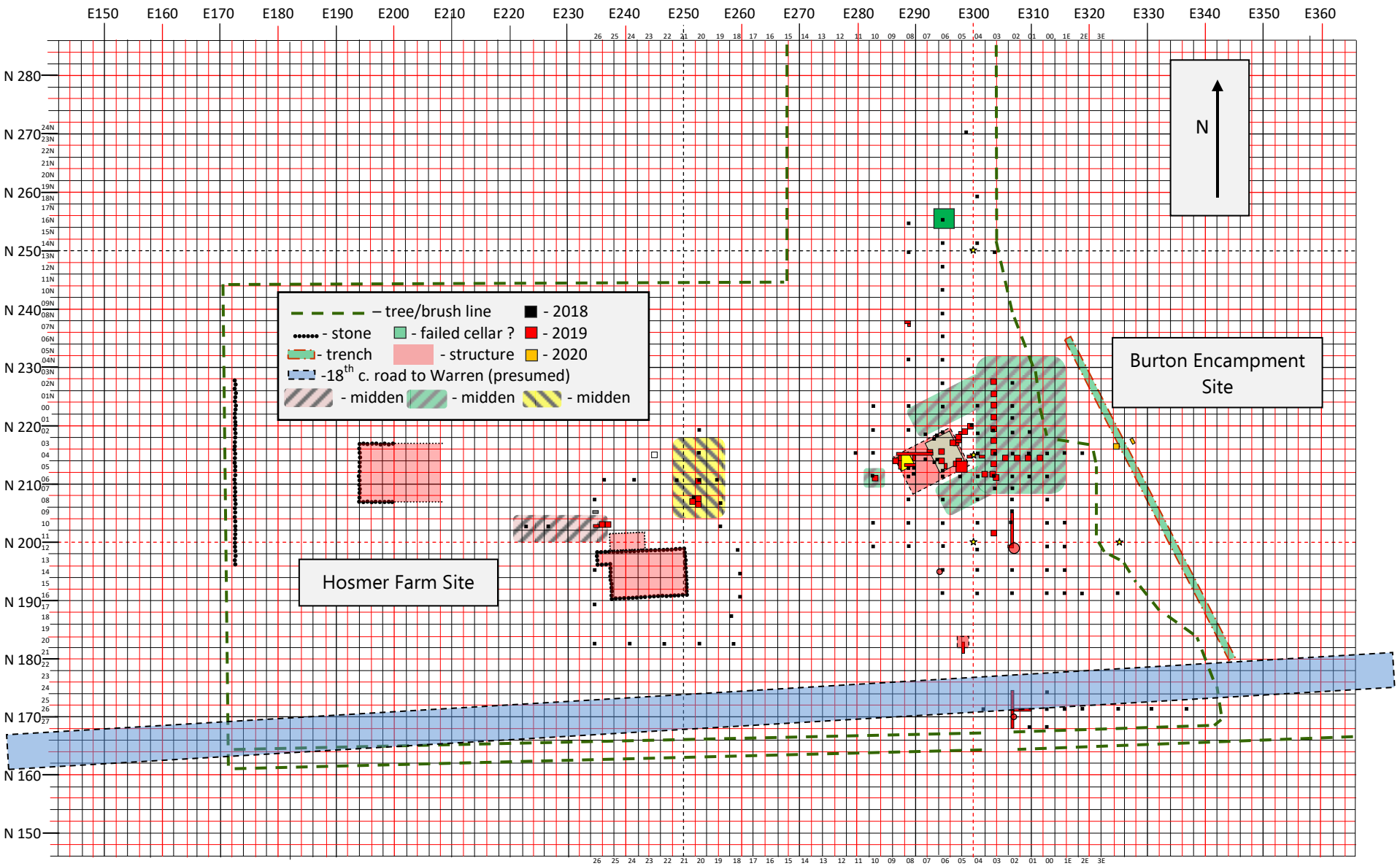


Figure 6: Archaeological testing at Merryspring Nature Center

Figure 7: ME 073.014 -northeast midden, facing southwest

Figure 8: ME 073.014 - northeast midden, facing south

The northeast midden's content is not only diverse, but suggests dumping of several types of refuse simultaneously, including: brick, rock, mortar, and nails (construction debris); significant volume of green bone (subsistence remains); copious creamware and pearlware, copious utilitarian redware, and porcelain (ceramics), iron hinges and harnesss buckle (home and equestrian related), and glass tumbler and flask (household), to name a few items. The composite image above (Figure 8) illustrates not only the deposit's density, but its concave basin-shape and convex surface.

Partial exposure of the midden in plan view clearly suggests a circular nature to its boundary (Figure 9). – a shallow, circular, basin shaped cavity in which refuse was dumped.

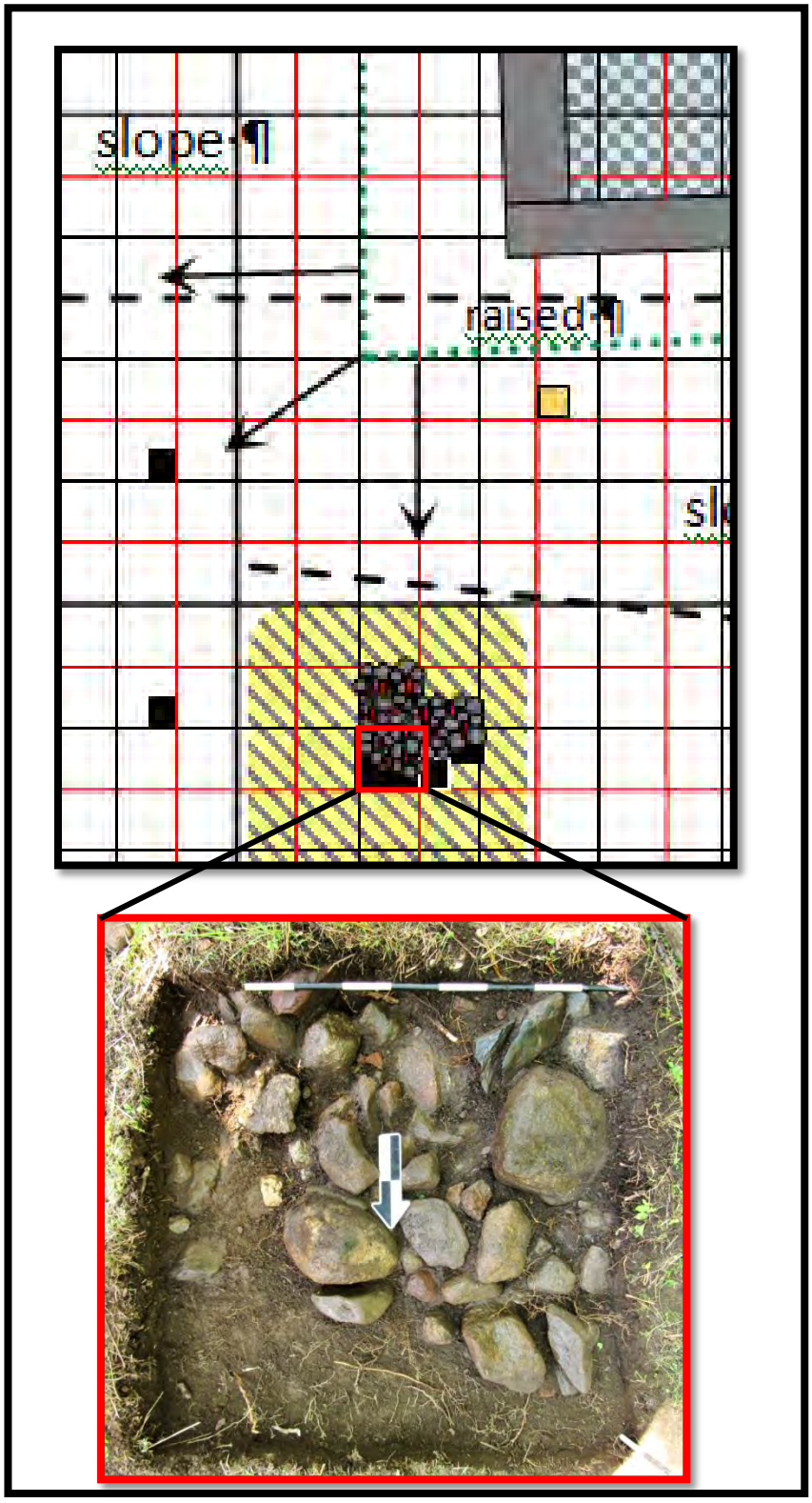


Figure 9: ME 073.014 – northeast midden

The author hypothesizes the northeast midden reflects both an effort at site cleaning (post construction leftovers), normal daily refuse dumping *after a new kitchen was added to the structure*., and possibly cleaning out of a previous kitchen

Additionally, the midden extends to a depth of over 40cmbs at its thickest, and overlies a light yellow-tan, sandy, silty subsoil with evidence of charcoal staining. An underlying earlier, late 18th c. occupation/presence is suspected (Figure 10).

Figure 10: ME 073.014 – charcoal stain under northeast midden.

In the case of the northwest midden (Figure 11), the soil column is thin, in some cases no more than 5-10cm thick. The overlying soil is sandy, silty, brown soil (not loam), with cultural materials present immediately beneath the surface, and continuing intensely to a "B" interface. It is as if the A horizon is entirely artificial, yet overlies a "B" horizon. And, in fact, that is likely the case.

The northwest midden is an "artificial" layer, in its entirety, overlying likely cellar backdirt, with modern B horizon development. All midden related soil is interpreted as deposited after development of the structure along with the midden's cultural content. Local analogous circumstances support this form of midden development (Mitchell 2017, 2018b).

The midden also illustrates some east/west differentiation with regard to it heavy fraction (i.e., brick and rock). Discreet "piles" of both rock and brick are present, with brick being westerly, toward the presumed kitchen (Figure 11, 12, and 13). There is no mortar present, either in the midden or attached to the brick. Also, and significantly, the brick "pile" overlies a dense, but limited shell concentration (Figure 12).

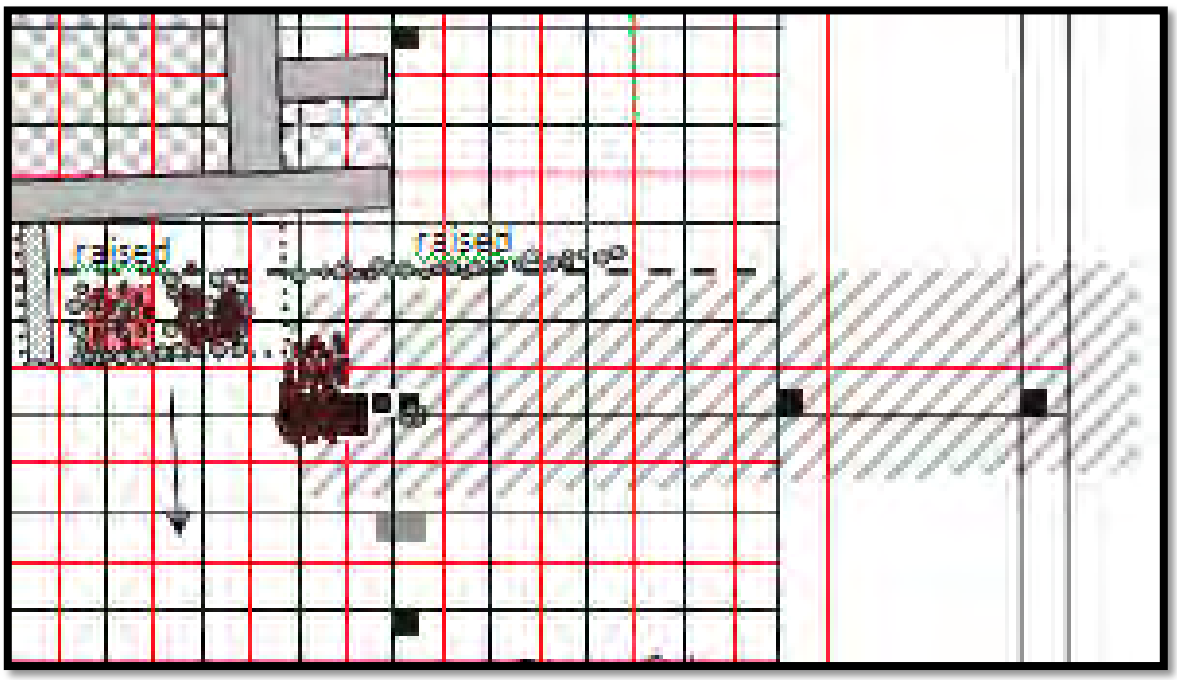


Figure 11: ME 073.014 - northwest midden area (striped area)


Figure 12: ME 073.014 - northwest midden; shell under brick
(left image - 5cmbs, right image 10cmbs)


Figure 13: ME 073.014 – northwest midden brick pile, facing east

Figure 14: ME 073.014 – northwest midden brick pile, facing south

Immediately adjacent to the presumed kitchen's west side, the brick is piled such that it extends from surface to approximately 30cmb (Figure 14).

The northwest midden is predominantly kitchen related, including considerable volume of ceramics and food remains, especially clam shell (Figure 15). However, midden materials are stratigraphically subordinate to piled construction related material, including; nails, window pane, brick (with no mortar), for example. The stratigraphic circumstances, and ceramics (cobalt blue pearlware) within the subordinate midden identify a post 1815 effort at reconstruction, possibly the addition of a new kitchen.

Figure 15: ME 073.014 – northwest midden, screen full of shell and brick fragments

# Features

## Pit Features

### Feature 1

Feature 1 was initially encountered in 2018. Feature 1 is located $10m^{+}$ south of ME 073.015's structure in what is currently agricultural field. Subsequently, expansion of TR 12, STP 2, in 2019 identified Feature 1 as a circular pit extending to a depth of approximately 80cmbs, and estimated at nearly 2m in width (Figures 16 and 17); the south wall of the 50cm x 1m unit involving Feature 1 is entirely feature fill/backdirt.

Feature 1's fill contains a variety of cultural materials, including creamware pottery, nails, glass, a small flat-button, and shattered rhyolite. Below the feature's presumed secondary fill (backdirt), the pit contains animal remains, specifically sheep, a charcoal

"floor", and cobbles, the latter two immediately beneath the sheep remains. Feature 1 is tentatively identified as a roasting pit developed during the historic period.

Figure 16: ME 073.015 - Feature 1, initial exposure

Although absolute precise dating of "Feature 1" is not possible at this time, its ceramic content (including both Euro-American and Native American material) implies its origin as no earlier than creamware, c. 1762 (terminus post quem). A higher volume of presumed 18$^{th}$c. cultural materials within the feature than might otherwise be expected from a similar sized area of the field, strongly suggests a concentration of such materials at that location prior to the pit's development. It is considered likely that the pit relates to some, either Euro-American or Native American, 18$^{th}$ c. cultural activity in that specific area.

Figure 17: ME 073.015 - Feature 1, 1m wall, facing south
(dashed line, lower right, is base of pit)

Assuming an 18th c. origin, a concentration of 18th c. material so far from the Encampment Site (the presumed source) is problematic (Figure 18), unless an extension of the 18thc. component is present at or near the pit. Further excavation of Feature 1, and the surrounding area, may aid in determining its general temporal association; fully 75% of "Feature 1" remains unexcavated.

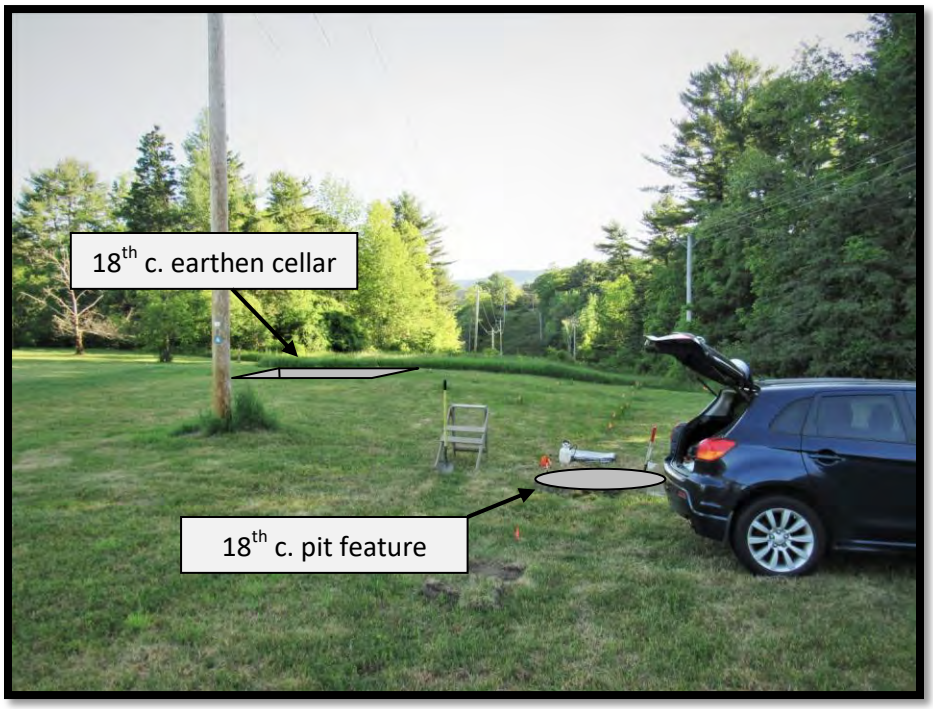


Figure 18: ME 073.015 – Feature 1,
note ME 073.015's cellar in background

### Feature 2

While ME 073.015's chimney base was encountered in 2018, not until additional testing in 2019 was its full extent defined. Measuring approximately 8' x 8', the base is constructed of very large, rounded boulders, and smaller cobbles and rocks.

The chimney base was initially identified at only 5cmbs; clearly plowing thick did not occur in at least the area of the chimney base. Yet the chimney base was surrounded by a thick brown $A_p$ with cultural materials throughout. The explanation lies in the nature of earthfast structures, and their development.

It is the author's experience from other historic contexts that earthfast structures appear to have, as one of their initial developmental protocols, the removal of all mineral soil within the structure's footprint to some pre-identified depth, possibly as deep as 30cmbs. This action affords not only air space, but reduction of moisture beneath the

structure. Such action also provides a large stockpile of soil later utilized to "top-dress" the occupants' surficial refuse deposits (i.e., midden). As a result, at the time of its construction, the ground surface beneath ME 073.015's structure was considerably lower than the "natural" 18th c. surface around it; the structure actually existed above a large, and in this case, rectangular, shallow hole/pit 20-30cm deep (its cellar not included).

Subsequent to the removal of soil beneath the structure, generally, a shallow, and in this case, square pit was excavated an additional 10-20cm, into which the structure's chimney base was set – Feature 2. Thus, the initial sub-fill surface encountered immediately adjacent to the chimney base in 2019 was already lower than the original 18th c. surface, and the chimney base sat in an even deeper extension of that original hole/pit.

In an effort to preserve features relating to the structure, the author chose not to excavate the chimney base, with the exception of N214.5 E287. There, cleaning around the large boulders associated with chimney base established Feature 2 is an additional 10-20cm deeper that the surrounding surface. Feature 2 was designed to contain the chimney base's first course. Brick, mortar, and other fill related materials were present not only over, but around the base's boulders all the way to the pit's floor, suggesting the chimney above was removed, and the base's remaining structural elements were simply buried with midden and demolition related fill (Appendix A, Figure 31).

### Feature 3

Feature 3 (Appendix C, Figures 52-59) is very similar to Feature 2. It is a large, shallow, flat bottomed pit extending 20-30cm below current surface. Its general appearance suggests an attempt at developing a chimney base. While additional testing may identify a structure associated with it, no such structure is identified at this time.

Like Feature 2, this stone construction , with very large boulder and cobble and rock construction, strongly suggests plowing did not occur there. No plowing scars are evident on the boulder, and many of the other rocks and cobbles are within 5-10cm of surface.

No cultural materials are associated with Feature 3 beyond a broken hoe blade, recovered within the rock accumulation itself. While the how blade appears young, possibly 19th c., no temporal attribution is given Feature 3 at this time.

## Cellars and Foundations
## ME 073.015

Two cellars are known on Merryspring property (Figure 19). The oldest is an earthen cellar filled with 18th c. cultural midden and construction related materials (rock and brick) presumably from around the cellar at the time of filling, and possibly from construction of the Hosmer farmhouse. The cellar is estimated to be 4.5m x 5.5m in size (15' x 18'), very large for a late 18th c. cellar.

The cellar is considered associated with a likely earthfast structure of unknown construction and form, and occupied from c. 1775-1802. The earthen cellar is excavated within a matrix of compact Presumpscot-like silt, and capable of maintaining vertical sidewalls with integrity without secondary support.

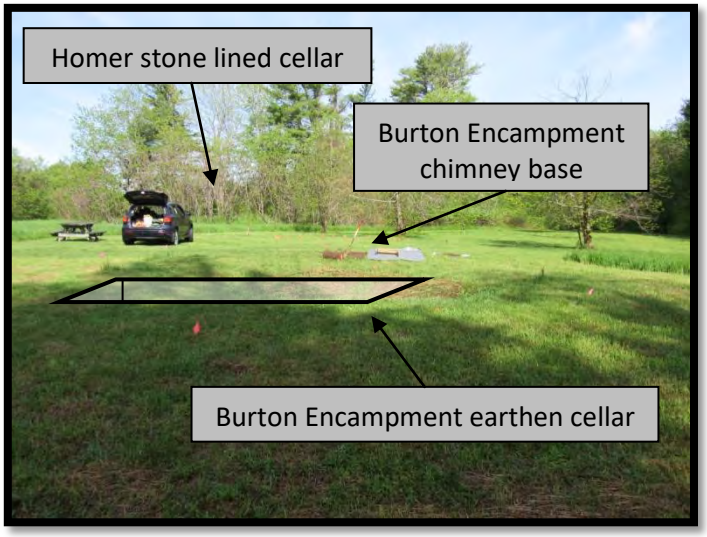


Figure 19: ME 073.014 cellar and ME 073.015 cellar, facing west

Two, 1m$^2$ excavation units, located centrally within the cellar, extended to a densely compact clay floor 1.5m below current surface – N216 E295 and N214.5 E295 (Figures 20 and 21). The two cellar excavation units contained cultural materials spanning the full length of the structure's presumed occupation, suggesting at least part of the fill is midden from immediately surrounding the cellar/structure. And, clearly identified strata within the cellar fill, suggest a single, likely extended effort at infilling from the surface adjacent to the cellar (sloped strata). The balance of cellar fill appears to be heavy construction debris (e.g., rock and brick) likely left over from construction of the Hosmer farm.

Figure 20: ME 073.015 – the author in deep cellar excavation unit

Contrasting ME 073.015's surrounding extant midden, which contains limited such remains, the cellar fill contains considerable amounts of unburned medium mammal remains. This may suggest the mammal remains are associated with some non-site related cultural activity (e.g., a celebration of the completion and clean up of the Hosmer farmhouse and yard?).

Figure 21: ME 073.015 – deep cellar excavation unit (base at 150cmbs) note sloped fill identifying direction of infilling

### Asa Hosmer Cellar

The Hosmer cellar is larger than ME 073.015';s cellar, being 9m x 13m (29' x 42'). It is loose-stone lined (Figure 22), and includes a stone lined and staired cellar entrance on the northwest corner of the west gable end. Although none is currently present, the foundation likely had a brick sill as it predates common use of quarried granite as sill material.


Figure 22: ME 073.014 - stone lined cellar, facing southeast

Granite quarrying did not develop in New England generally until approximately 1800. Although accomplished early, regional splitting of stone initially took the form of "boulder quarrying" (i.e., splitting readily available as surficial boulders). Split boulders would prove inadequate for sill material unless broken into manageable pieces, then subsequently finished by hand.

> "In the New England region, the first recorded use of quarried field boulders occurred with the construction of King's Chapel in Boston which was completed in 1754. The boulders for the chapel were first blasted and then the chunks were shaped into rectangular blocks using a method called "hammering." (Gage and Gage 2019)

Gage and Gage note that, "By the mid 1800's some farmers were supplementing their income by quarrying field boulders on their farms during the off seasons. The quarrying of boulders continued as late as the 1860's." (2019).

Not until the advent of "ledge quarrying", a quarry form not present in New England generally prior to 1805, did stone foundation sills become practical.

> "Ledge quarries are places were exposed bedrock, usually on hillsides, was quarried for usable bars of rock. The exposed bedrock many times had well defined fractures, both horizontal and vertical, that allowed for roughly rectangular blocks and slabs of stone to be split off." (Gage and Gage 2019)

While "the flat wedge method was developed in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1803", Gage and Gage also point out that the First Religious Society Unitarian Church in Quincy, Massachusetts, seemingly pushes use of this technique back to when that structure's foundation of quarried granite was laid, "This method was developed prior to the summer 1800 " (Gage and Gage 2013).

The flat wedge (aka, cape chisel) method is the earliest form of commercial granite splitting in the region, and associated with early ledge quarries in the region. And there is evidence of "ledge quarrying" in mid-coast Maine prior to 1800$^{\pm}$ A large, three story, brick, general store in Ducktrap, Maine (only 10 miles north of Camden), constructed in 1802 (ME 243.005) (Cranmer 1996), maintains a split (i.e., quarried) granite sill. However, the specific quarrying technique evidenced on the store's sill blocks indicates use of a cape chisel, producing long, narrow, trapezoidal quarry scars (i.e.,flat wedge/cape chisel method) (Figure 23).


Figure 23: trapezoidal quarry scar indicating use of a cape chisel and flat wedges

Subsequent technological advances in quarrying developed post-1820, for example, the so called "plug and feather" quarrying – numerous small, shallow holes drilled into the granite, with wedges driven down into the holes. Regular, sequential tamping down of the wedges applies pressure within the rock along its grain, eventually splitting the rock. Gage and Gage note, "Most surface ledge quarries used the commercial plug and feather method and date from the 1823-1870's time period." (2019).

While the Hosmer cellar includes a single fractured piece of split granite, this single piece is incorporated into what is interpreted as a later addition to the structure. Large, rounded, uncut rocks accompanying it in the kitchen addition's foundation, suggest random inclusion of the piece. That said, its very presence suggests later, first quarter 19$^{th}$ c. construction, several years after the structure's presumed initial construction, c. 1803$^{\pm}$. No quarry scars are visible at the surface to assist in dating this piece.

Also worth noting is the presence of rounded boulders in Hosmer's loose stone cellar. No such stone was encountered in any form during archaeological testing of either ME 073.014 or ME 073.015. Clearly, all stone utilized in cellar construction (and possibly stone field walls' construction) originated at some remote location, likely a distant gravel pit or plowed field.

### ME 073.014: Barn Foundation

Approximately 30m west, and slightly north of the Hosmer farmhouse, is a surficial, loose, single course rock foundation (Figure 24). The foundation is interpreted as that of a barn. Its foundation is comprised of rounded boulders and some angular rock, with two exceptions. While virtually all of the barn foundation rock identified thus far is field or gravel pit generated, and presumably from some distant source (see above), there are two pieces of clearly quarried stone. They are coarse, blast fragments. No less than two, 1.5" diameter drill holes are evident in longitudinal section on one face.

Although the author's interpretation has the farm abandoned by the mid-late 1820's, Lot 71 was utilized in the 1830's and 1840's for quarrying lime. It is reasonable that: 1) a pre-existing barn may have been present and utilized for housing oxen and other work animals necessary for that pre-industrial age endeavor; and 2) the barn saw expansion in the 1830's or 1840's, using blasted rock for the foundation.

Figure 24: ME 073.014 – southwest corner of barn foundation west-northwest of main house

### Chimney Base
### ME 073.015

A significant, subsurface, remnant chimney base is present at ME 073.015. Constructed of large rounded boulders and cobbles, and only a few centimeter below ground surface, its presence suggests a lack of plowing, in at least that general area.

The chimney base was first encountered in 2018 during the author's initial testing effort. Cobbles, brick, and mortar appeared within 5cm of the surface in a 50cm square shovel test pit. Subsequent expansion of the test pit into a 50cm x 3.5m trench exposed a significant, though seemingly disturbed and horizontally distributed construction (Figures 25 and 26).

Being only 3m west of the earthen cellar strongly suggested a relationship, and the author quickly surmised that this was most likely the structure's chimney base. With that insight, a rough estimate of structure length was at hand.

Figure 25: ME 073.015 - disturbed chimney base, facing east (toward the cellar)


Figure 26: ME 073.015 - disturbed chimney base, (facing east, toward the cellar)

In 2019, an eastward extension of 2018's 50cm wide trench exposed the earthen cellar's western boundary approximate 2.5m east of the chimney base (Figure 27).

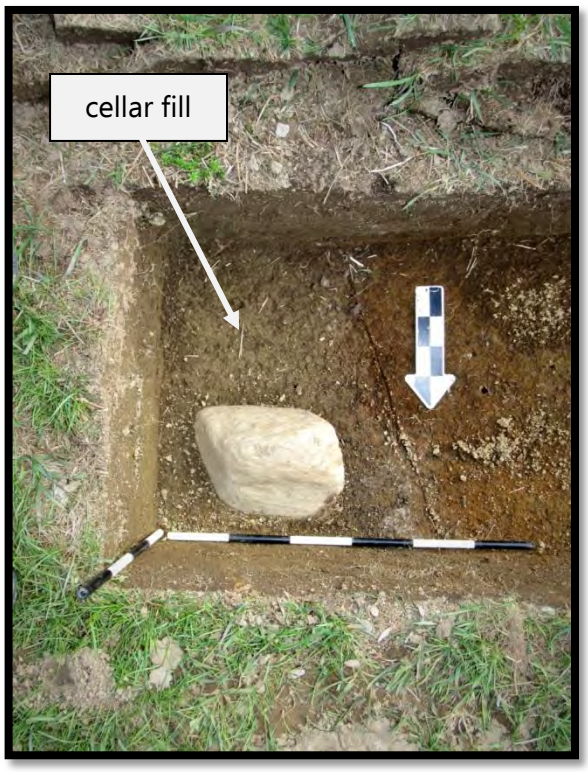


Figure 27: ME 073.015 – western boundary of cellar fill (olive gray)

## Cultural Materials - European

### Ceramics

As with all historic archaeological sites, the potential volume and diversity of cultural materials is near limitless. If it was manufactured on earth in the last four hundred years it may be present, and present in quantity. And this potential began early in the historic period in North American, and especially New England. Centuries of a European presence in New England has littered its coastal region with cultural materials from across the globe.

Archaeologically, this globally woven economic fabric is both a blessing and a curse. On the one hand, there is a multitude of actual physical materials with which to work when developing understandings of the who, the when, the what, and the why of an historic archaeological context. On the other hand, the sheer volume and diversity of cultural materials in an historic site may inundate the researcher/excavator with unfathomable amounts of data… and choices. What does one keep… any or all the brick? How does one quantify… count or weigh? And why? Can one be all things to all materials? Does one invest in expensive equipment in order to conserve a particular type of material, for example, fabric, wood, or iron? How does one limit investigative efforts when any given unit may reveal singularly unique evidence relating to an occupation or behavior? What materials receive priority when analysis takes place, and which remain in a bag or box unanalyzed? How might some future archaeologist/researcher benefit from saving some form of cultural material today, though it currently has no benefit?

While all the above is inherent within any archaeological investigation, historic or pre-historic, it is made all the more complex, and sometimes painfully frustrating in coastal New England historic contexts by the potential intensity of modern occupation – constant expansion and rebuilding within spatially confined villages and towns. Additionally, the archaeological field is quickly passing by (if it hasn't already) the individual who can be all things to all contexts; the "Renaissance Man". Although what the "jack-of-all-trades" brings to the "table" has value, it also necessarily forces choices to be made due to the inherent limitations in such an identity (e.g., limited analytical skill sets and lack of financial resources). Conversely, large scale, multi-faceted, institutional archaeological efforts, by virtue of their large financial and personnel commitments, must limit the pursuit of limited, broad regional limited testing in favor of the "richest" and most informative sites. With that in mind, then, the author acknowledges the shortcomings of this testing effort and subsequent reporting of it, as it relates to the limited nature of excavations, logistical capabilities, and analysis.

While not limited to it, the author has chosen to focus especially on the ceramic sample developed from both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015 (Figure 28). Ceramics is likely to have the greatest "bang-for-buck", with regard to evaluating temporal attribution of occupations, for example. The following section attempts to identify the ceramics present within the excavated sample relative to their decorative schemes, glazes, and likely temporal attribution.

All ceramics were initially sorted based on paste, decorative motif or attribute, and glaze. Sherds demonstrating the same attributes, and originating from the same excavation unit (assuming no internal unit stratification), were consolidated into one unit sample.

No ceramic sherd count is offered in this report. As it is traditionally utilized, sherd count is considered time consuming and of little to no value, generally. Rather, unit samples (e.g., sherds of like paste or decorative motif/application) are weighed in grams. The goal of unit sample weight data collection is to define intra-site spatial patterning more clearly. For example, high utilitarian redware *weight* in a spatially defined area, may indicate a food or dairy processing locus. Whereas, a high, utilitarian redware sherd *count* may simply identify where extensive crushing took place, creating dozen, or even hundreds of sherds from what was, formerly, a single vessel (or even sherd).

Lastly, within this section, whether of ceramics or another form of cultural material, images may be identified by site of origin. If so, the identifier is located at the end of a caption as either an "(H)", for the Hosmer Farm Site (ME 073.014), or a "(B)", for the Burton militia encampment (ME 073.015). *Such alphabetic designations by no means identifies a sherd's or design's temporal attribution, merely the site from which it came*.

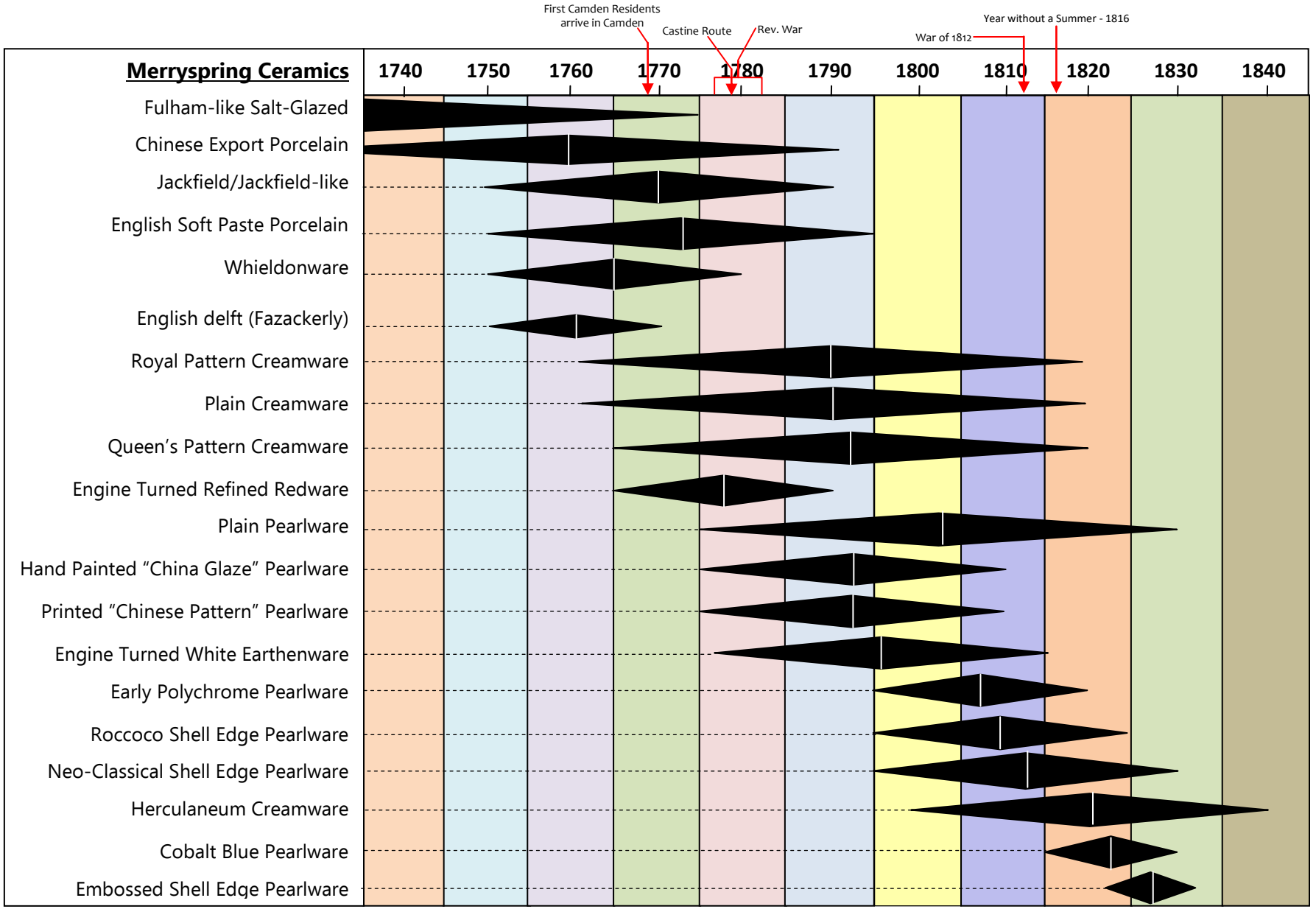


Figure 28: ceramics identified at Merryspring Nature Center

## Overall Sample Condition

The current Merryspring ceramic sample (Figure 28) includes no less than 19 individual ceramic categories (e.g., shell edged pearlware), the majority being represented at ME 073.015. While sherd preservation is not particularly good, decorative motifs, glazes, and, in some cases vessel form, are clearly evidenced. There are currently no known privies, or other contexts within which ceramics might be recovered in a complete or semi-complete state, or in a vertical stratigraphic context. All ceramics recovered during testing are fragmentary, overwhelmingly crushed, and horizontally distributed through various presumed processes (e.g., human pedestrian traffic); the vast majority of ceramic herds are no more than a few centimeters in axial length. This latter fact lends some insight into the nature of the deposit – it was likely surficial at the time of deposition, remained so for some time thereafter, and was regularly trodden upon.

In its overwhelming majority, and especially from within ME 073.015, the ceramic sample is comprised of vessel *body* sherds. A small minority of sherds reflect footring and lip fragments; only a few sherds offer insight into vessel form or function. That said, efforts at vessel reconstruction has met with some success, and offers some limited insight into vessel form. Additionally, a large percentage of the sample maintains only one surface. While exfoliation through frost induced splitting is common in Maine archaeological sites, it was likely exacerbated by surficial exposure and constant trodding after deposition.

## Refined White Earthenware

### *Creamware and Plain Pearlware Glazed*

Understanding the total length of occupation within both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015 is approximately 50 years, and that being entirely within the "creamware/pearlware glaze period" (c. 1762-1830$^{\pm}$), some utility is seen in initially considering the entire ceramic sample as a whole. The author acknowledges differences in function and form will effect outcome. For example, creamware glazed plates, being dominant in ME 073.015, certainly outweigh delicate pearlware tea bowls recovered there. However, pearlware glazed plates contribute heavily within ME 073.014. And so, as a starting place in the ceramic sample's gross analysis, the two glaze types are juxtaposed against one another as a whole.

While early polychrome pearlware glazed ceramics are likely limited to tea service or comparable wares, China Glaze can and does include larger, and by default, heavier forms – hollowware and flatware (e.g., punch bowls). Shell edged wares, predominantly in the ME 073.014's sample, but present within both sites, also include heavier forms.

Since, as a general rule, creamware glazed ceramics on colonial period sites are supposed not to appear prior to the late 1760's (Hume 1969), the creamware glazed ceramic sample at Merryspring is likely no older than c. 1770$^{\pm}$. And, given that pearlware glaze can appear in the form of "China Glaze" blue-on-white underglazed hand painted wares, c. 1775, it is presented that both creamware and pearlware glazed ceramics at Merryspring maintain approximately the same temporal attribution, and likely coincident use, generally.

Thus, and again, purely as a starting point, given a similar temporal range of the two general categories on colonial to early 19$^{th}$ c. sites, gross analysis by weight (Figure 29) may reasonably suggest either a balanced prioritization of, or continued relationship to the refined white earthenware market during the totality of occupation at both sites, approximately 50 years, *regardless of occupants*.

| Refined Red and White Earthenware | WEIGHT (gr) |
|---|---|
| creamware | 4800 |
| plain pearlware | 1400 |
| polychrome pearlware | 680 |
| refined redware | 648 |
| China Glaze pearlware | 600 |
| shell edged pearlware | 320 |
| broad-brush cobalt blue pearlware | 60 |
| blue transfer print - Willow | 46 |
| gold transfer print – non-Willow | 22 |
| blue transfer print – non-Willow | 12 |
| total identifiable refined white earthenware | 7940 |
| total identifiable red and white refined earthenware | 8588 |
| burned/unidentifiable | 580 |
| Total all refined earthenware | 9168 |

Figure 29: ceramic categories by weight

Of the refined white earthenware sample recovered within both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015, the total weight of all creamware glazed ceramic sherds is approximately 4800 grams. In contrast, the total undecorated pearlware glazed ceramic sherd sample weighs approximately 1400 grams. However, when all pearlware glazed ceramics are combined, the total is approximately 3140 grams.

As to the utility in such numbers… there is certainly room for debate. But, it is worth noting that, as a general statement, all creamware combined dominates the plain, glazed white earthenware sample *by category* by a ratio of at least 3.4:1 (creamware:undecorated pearlware). However, when all pearlware glazed ceramics are considered together (3140 grams), the creamware/pearlware ratio nears 1.5:1, suggesting a near equal prioritization of the two glazes, over the life of both sites combined. This is an important insight, as creamware glazed sherds, as a single category, far outweigh any single pearlware glazed ceramic category, and might incline the casual observer to perceive creamware as the overwhelmingly dominant ceramic type.

As both glaze types were presumably equally available, post-pearlware's initial introduction as China Glaze decorated (c. 1775$^{\pm}$), a roughly equal cultural prioritization of ceramic glaze types by all colonial and post-colonial occupants represented by ME 073.014 and ME 073.015 is suggested.

### *Decorated Pearlware Glazed White Earthenware*

#### Early Painted Polychrome Under Pearlware Glaze

*Attribution*

There is considerable finely painted early polychrome decorated pearlware glazed ceramics at both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015. Its fine, hand painted brush work, "warm" colors, and ubiquitous brown or olive rim stripe just below a vessel's lip, on either the interior and/or the exterior surfaces, identifies it. Such wares represent a period beginning no earlier than the mid-1790's (Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum 2012) (Florida Museum 2020).

Of importance to this effort is the awareness that all early polychrome-under-pearlware-glaze decorated vessels are attributable to the last iteration of ME 073.015's use – terminal 18$^{th}$ c. residential. Deeds indicate no less than four owners of Lot 71 during the 1790's.

December 1, 1791
Michael Shays (Camden) to Joseph Hardy (Islesboro)

December 9, 1793
Joseph Hardy (Camden) to William Gregory, Jr. (Camden) - Lot 71

November 3, 1796

Joseph Pierce (Boston; clerk for the Twenty Associates) to William Walter (Boston) – Lot 71 (100 acres for free as compensation for services rendered)

March 22, 1799

William Walter (Boston) conditionally sold to Elisha Gibbs (Camden) – Lot 71 ($500 to be paid within four years)

March 22, 1801

Lynde Walter, et al (executors - William Walter deceased) to Nathaniel F. Fosdick (Portland, Maine) – Lot 71 ("…on which Elisha Gibbs now lives…")

July 28, 1803

Nathaniel F. Fosdick (Portland, Maine) to Asa Hosmer (Camden, Maine) – Lot 71 ("[lot] number seventy one… which is the same lot on which Elisha Gibbs formerly lived…")

Assuming Asa Hosmer lived in the large, newly constructed farm house either as soon as he took ownership of Lot 71, or very shortly thereafter, the polychrome-under-pearlware-glaze at ME 073.015 must belong to one or more of its 1790's owners. Given Michael Shays predates the introduction of such decorated wares, he is eliminated from having contributed to the sample.

As for Joseph Hardy (c.1791-1793), historic documentation indicates he and his entire family were forced to leave Camden a year after purchasing Lot 71 (Delano 2007). Apparently, the Hardy's severe poverty threatened to make them town (financially) supported citizens.

"1791 Dec 01 - Joseph Hardy of Islesborough purchased 100 acres in Camden, Maine from Michael Shays for L30. Starting at SW corner of James Richards Jr's. land then NW by N half N along the said James Richards Jr.'s line 160 rods. From thence SW and west half west 100 rods thence SE and by five halfs 100 rods. From thence SE by South 1160 rods, from thence northwesterly 100 rods to place of beginning. (Lincoln County Registry of deeds Book 30 PP.67)

1792 Dec 24 - Camden selectmen gave notice to Joseph Hardy, Joseph Hardy Jr., Zachariah Hardy, Lydia Hardy, and Sara Hardy to leave limits of town of Camden

within 15 days with their children and those under their care. (Camden town records)…

"1793 Dec 09 Joseph Hardy sold to William Gregory Jr. lot #71 containing 100 acres in Camden, Maine, bounded as follows: SE on lot # 77 and # 78, Southwest on lot # 70, Northwest on land of Nathan Barrett and Northeast on lot # 72 now occupied by James Richards Jr. Seal and Mark. (Lincoln County Registry of deeds Book 31, PP. 118)" (Delano 2007).

Having left Camden in January, 1793, the current polychrome-under-pearlware-glaze sample is also not the result of the Hardy's occupation. That leaves only two occupations to which the polychrome-under-pearlware-glaze sample is attributable. The first is William Gregory, Jr.

William Gregory, Jr. was son to the first Camden resident in what is today, south Rockport. Born in Walpole, Massachusetts in 1762 (Robinson 1907), he arrived in (south) Camden as a child, with his father, William Gregory, Sr., in 1769 (Robinson 1907). On October 23, 1784, he married Melia Tolman, and had one son, Calvin, born in 1801 (Eaton 1865b). William Gregory, Jr. divorced Melia in 1809 (Hubbard 1861), and died in the 1870's "though we do not have the exact year of his death." (Robinson 1907:268).

When he purchased Lot 71, William Gregory, Jr. was 31years old. Being a sea captain, and a captain in the militia, it is reasonable that he maintained a relatively high social status, which might be reflected in the acquisition of current ceramic forms and decorative schemes.

There is currently no known deed of sale from William Gregory, Jr. to anyone. That William Walter, a Boston clergyman, acquired the property from the Twenty Associates in November, 1796, suggests Gregory owned Lot 71 for slightly less than three year. It is unknown whether Walter, a resident of Boston, held the land as a vacant lot, or leased it to Gregory during the ensuing three years; the three year period (i.e., 1796-1799) may or may not have contributed to the current sample of polychrome-under-pearlware-glaze.

In 1799, William Walter sold Lot 71 to Elisha Gibbs. At the same time (1799) William Gregory, Jr. receives a gift of substantial land in south Camden from his father, followed by another in 1807. It is possible William Walter leased Lot 71 to Gregory for the three "missing" years (1796-1799), after which Gregory no longer needed it, having a larger, and better parcel gifted to him by his father.

The author theorizes, however, that the 1791 sale of Lot 71 by Michael Shays *may well have been invalid to begin with*. Michael Shay was illiterate, unable to even sign his name. The illiterate Shays may well have been a poor, post-Revolutionary War squatter with no clear title. Such was a common occurrence within mid-Maine during the immediate post-war period (Taylor, 1991). If that is so, William Gregory, Jr. may have lost his claim to Lot 71, with the lot's ownership reverting back to the Twenty Associates. That would explain how the Twenty Associates came to have it to give to William Walter in 1796. (As an aside, it also suggests Shays, a poor illiterate squatter, likely did not contribute significantly to the current archaeological deposits).

Regardless, Elisha Gibbs is presumed to be the final occupant of the 18$^{th}$ c. structure, departing in 1802/1803. In 1803, Asa Hosmer purchases Lot 71, and either builds or moves into the 19$^{th}$ c. farm house, effectively ending any active contribution to ME 073.015's midden deposit.

As a result of all the above, the current sample of all polychrome-under-pearlware glazed ceramics from ME 073.015 offers a rare opportunity. Unlike blue on white, under pearlware glazed China Glaze, potentially present on site upwards of twenty years before polychrome-under-pearlware-glaze even existed, the current polychrome sample offers a very narrow temporal window into such wares. The temporal attribution of the current sample of polychrome-under-pearlware glazed ceramics at ME 073.015 is interpreted as, maximally, c. 1795-1802$^{\pm}$. And, Elisha Gibbs (c. 1799-1802) is the likely principal contributor.

With that in mind, the author considers the current sample from the perspective of discreet decorative schemes. While vessel lots are, by default, inferred, the number of vessels is the minimum, and may actually be considerably higher. As a result, 32 distinct decorative schemes identified, and at least as many individual vessels are represented. Such a large sample attests to not only the availability of such wares, but their desirability as well.

### *Decorative Schemes*

For the purposes of this section, all decorative schemes are considered as a single sample, regardless of site of origin (Figures 30-61). As noted above, an alphabetical identifier is placed by each decorative scheme image – "(H)" for Hosmer Farm Site (ME 073.014) and "(B)" for Burton Encampment Site (ME 073.015). For simplicity's sake, decorative schemes are numbered 1, 2, 3, etc… There is no intended relationship between numbering and organization of the sample.

*Decorative Scheme 1*

Slender, pointed, brown and green leaves along a thin brown stem, and orange-yellow flower (pedals outlined and veined in brown).


Figure 30: Decorative Scheme 1 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 2*

Thin, exterior olive rim stripe, with exterior blue and brown slip (possible "dip't/mocha").

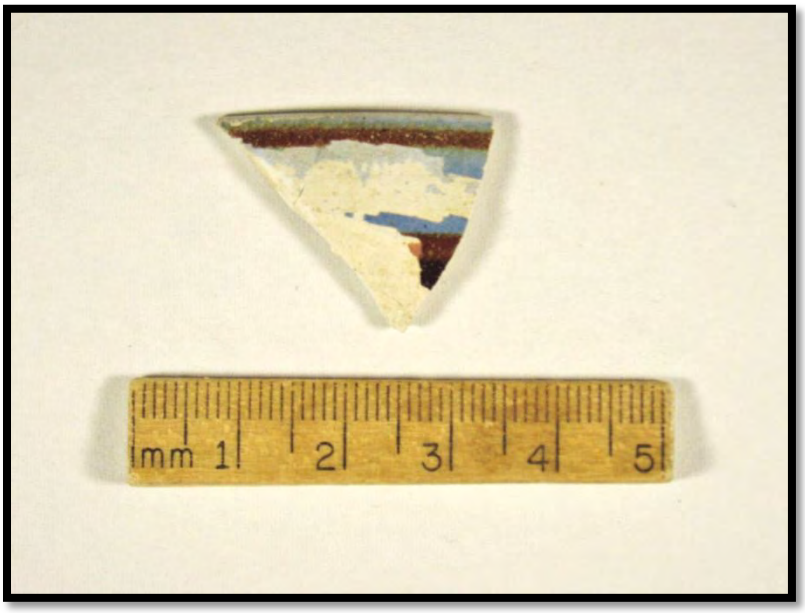


Figure 31: Decorative Scheme 2 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 3*

Rim with broad (est. 8mm), interior light blue rim band (2mm below lip) with single horizontal row of brown dots centrally, and thin brown border above and below blue band. Two possible vessels represented.

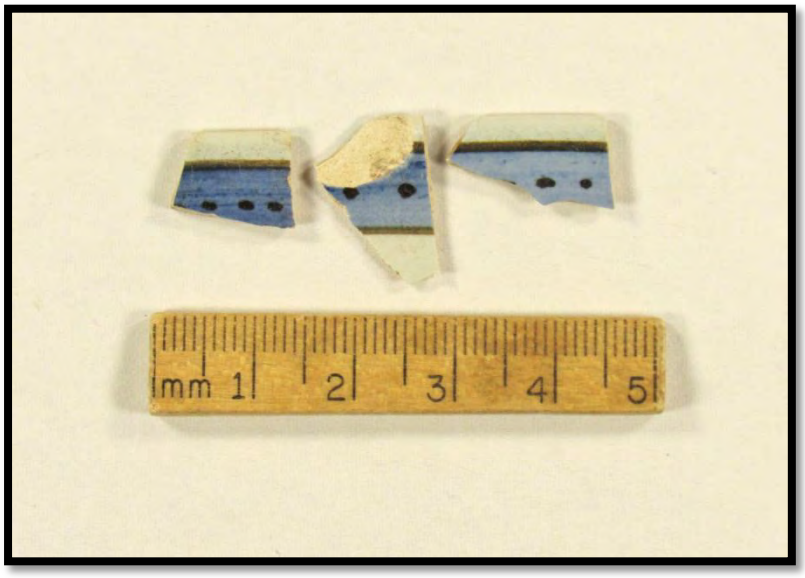


Figure 32; Decorative Scheme 3 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 4*

Identical rim scheme as *Decorative Scheme 3*, except dark yellow band, in place of blue. Two possible vessels represented.


Figure 33: Decorative Scheme 4 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 5*

Light olive-brown exterior rim stripe 2mm$^{+}$ below lip (and or interior), with very fine, alternating orange "leaves" and cobalt blue dots swagged on a fine brown stem/vine, and scrolled, "wandering grapevine" with grape leaves. Two probable vessels represented.


Figure 34: Decorative Scheme 5 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 6*

Light olive-brown interior and exterior rim stripe 2mm below lip, with exterior, central-body, dark yellow band bounded with light olive-brown stripes on margins. Exterior body maintains undulating/"flowing" stem with slender, brown, pointed leaves.


Figure 35: Decorative Scheme 6 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 7*

Light olive-brown interior and exterior rim stripe 2mm below lip, with fine exterior brown stems, and fine, slender, pointed brown and green leaves, leading to dark, broad pedaled orange flowers; secondary stems terminate in cobalt blue dots.


Figure 36: Decorative Scheme 7 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 8*

Similar to *Decorative Scheme 3*, but with darker blue band. Blue band is "broken" with short, clear glazed section (est. 1cm wide) containing four short, non-intersecting lines on cardinal points.


Figure 37: Decorative Scheme 8 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 9*

Interior and exterior, narrow light olive-brown rim stripe 2mm below lip, with sage green leaves and cobalt blue dots 2mm below interior lip.

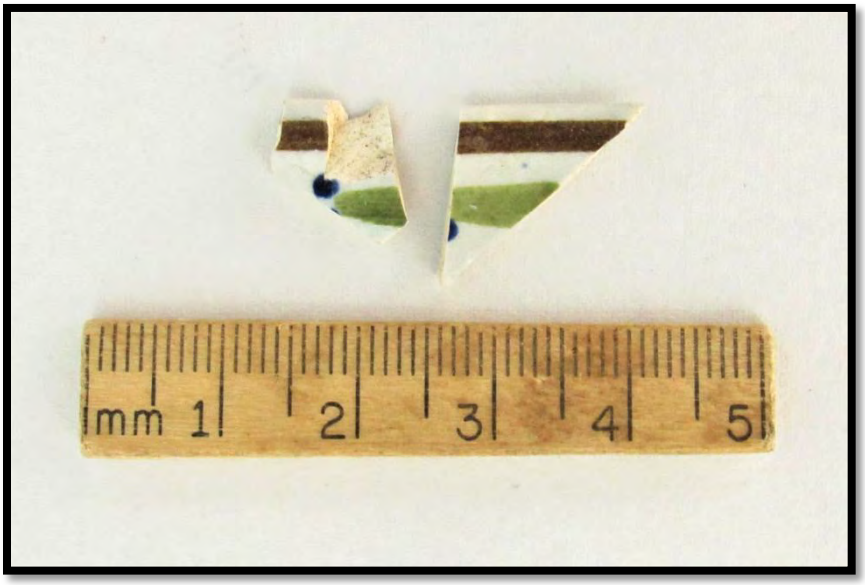


Figure 38: Decorative Scheme 9 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 10*

Brownish red lip, with fine, interior brown-red and orange-red horizontal and angled lines.


Figure 39: Decorative Scheme 10 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 11*

Large orange strawberry, with brown seeds and green cap leaves.


Figure 40: Decorative Scheme 11 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 12*

Dark olive to olive-green slip with white slipped lip.


Figure 41: Decorative Scheme 12 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 13*

Interior and exterior narrow olive-brown rim stripe 2mm below lip, with very light, horizontal sage green leaves and cobalt blue dots between leaf grouping, in triangular organization (possible fine, brown to olive brown stems) .


Figure 42: Decorative Scheme 13 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 14*

Even scalloped lip, with 3mm wide light olive-brown rim stripe 1mm below lip, and 1.5mm medium blue rim stripe 2mm below olive-brown stripe – all interior and exterior.


Figure 43: Decorative Scheme 14 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 15*

Body sherds only –broad brushed dark orange, cobalt blue, and forest green: pattern indistinguishable.


Figure 44: Decorative Scheme 15 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 16*

Lightly fluted body with gilded lip - undulating cobalt blue expanding and contracting line, minimally 2mm below lip. Very fine, light olive line 1.3cm below lip, with sage green leave in repeated, but alternately inverted pattern, with small blue or orange (alternating) dots on line, surrounded by blue or orange dot circle (repeated but alternating, inverted leaf pattern is nestled within the "troughs" formed by the undulating blue stripe). Two vessels represented – tea bowl and saucer (?) - similar motif but with the exterior addition of a very fine line brown 7mm below lip, with small brown dots spaced along the line.


Figure 45: Decorative Scheme 16 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 17*

Narrow interior and exterior brown rim stripe 2mm below the lip, with opposing undulating lines, one of brown dots, the other solid. Serrated edged, half brown, half orange leaves are located lengthwise on the solid line (stem), and bisected by the line of dots. There is also a large green dot at intersection of the two undulating lines, and a narrow brown stripe, 2.5cm below lip (below the above described elements). There is a probable second vessel with same motif interior to vessel, and fine brown line low in bowl as well (waste bowl).


Figure 46: Decorative Scheme 17 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 18*

Narrow brown rim stripe 2mm below lip, with second, finer stripe 1mm farther from lip. A vertical perpendicular, orange-blue-orange side-by-side combination stripe intersects a lower, fine brown stripe.


Figure 47: Decorative Scheme 18 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 19*

Interior decorated with narrow olive-brown rim stripe, and large, solid, muted-yellow "ball" with fine, brown "cat's whiskers" emanating outward at various angles.


Figure 48: Decorative Scheme 19 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 20*

Interior decorated – inverted small, three lobed medium green leaves, "suspended" from fine, horizontal, brown, branch-like element (mistletoe-like), all 2-3mm above narrow olive-brown stripe low in bowl.


Figure 49: Decorative Scheme 20 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 21*

Body sherds only – undulating line of cobalt blue, long, slender, pointed "leaves", with orange dots separating leaves at leaf points, paralleled by gold "asterisks" and "commas". A larger, wider olive-brown stripe is present at a change in angle of vessel wall (London type vessel).


Figure 50: Decorative Scheme 21 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 22*

Exterior narrow olive rim stripe 1mm below lip, with 3mm wide, parallel, combination orange and blue, side-by-side stripes 1mm below rim stripe.

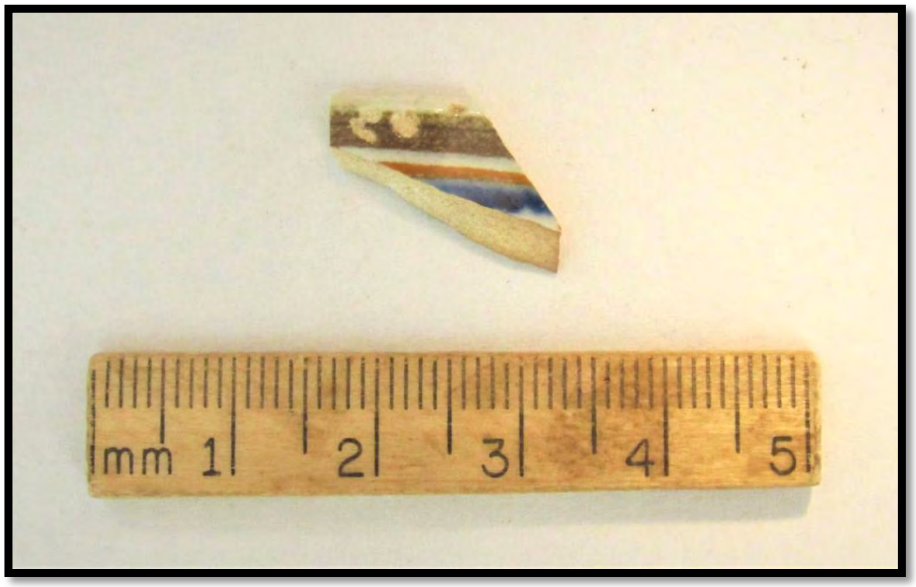


Figure 51: Decorative Scheme 22 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 23*

Rim only – narrow olive rim stripe 2mm below lip, with very fine second rim stripe 1mm lower, and cobalt blue leaf point (?) intersecting fine lower rim stripe.

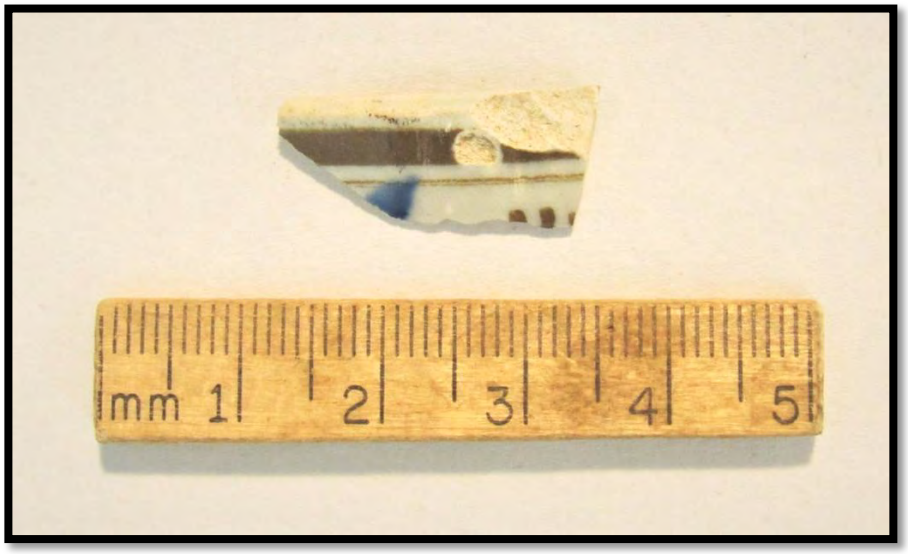


Figure 52: Decorative Scheme 23 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 24*

Lip/rim only – very fine red line 2mm below gently scalloped lip, with triangularly configured tiny red dots immediately below red line (possibly overglaze enameled creamware).

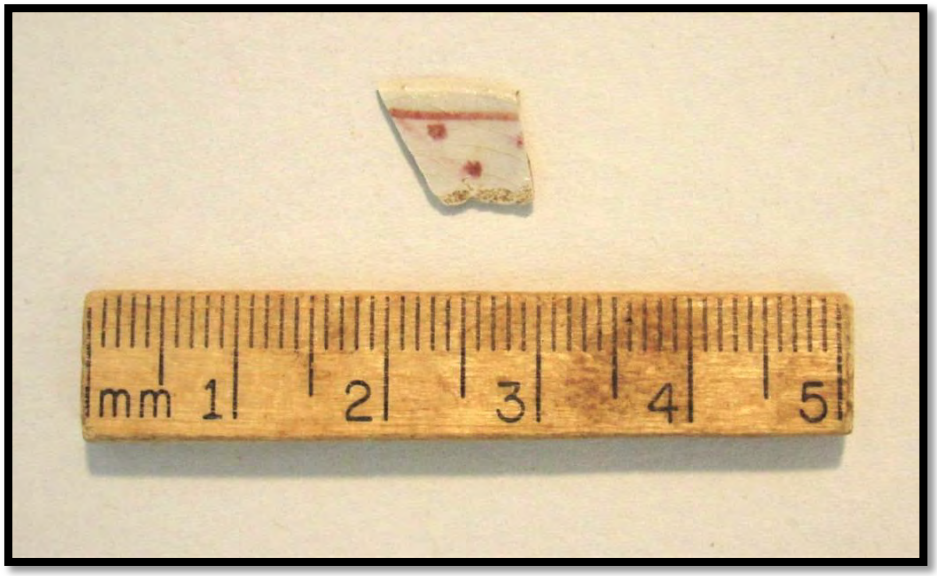


Figure 53: Decorative Scheme 24 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 25*

Body sherd only – broad brushed cobalt blue pedals (?) with suggestion of brown stems and/or slender leaf points.


Figure 54: Decorative Scheme 25 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 26*

Slightly wider than "normal", exterior olive-brown rim stripe beginning immediately at lip, with second, fine, olive-brown rim stripe 1mm below first, with suggestion of green leaf 2mm below fine rim stripe.

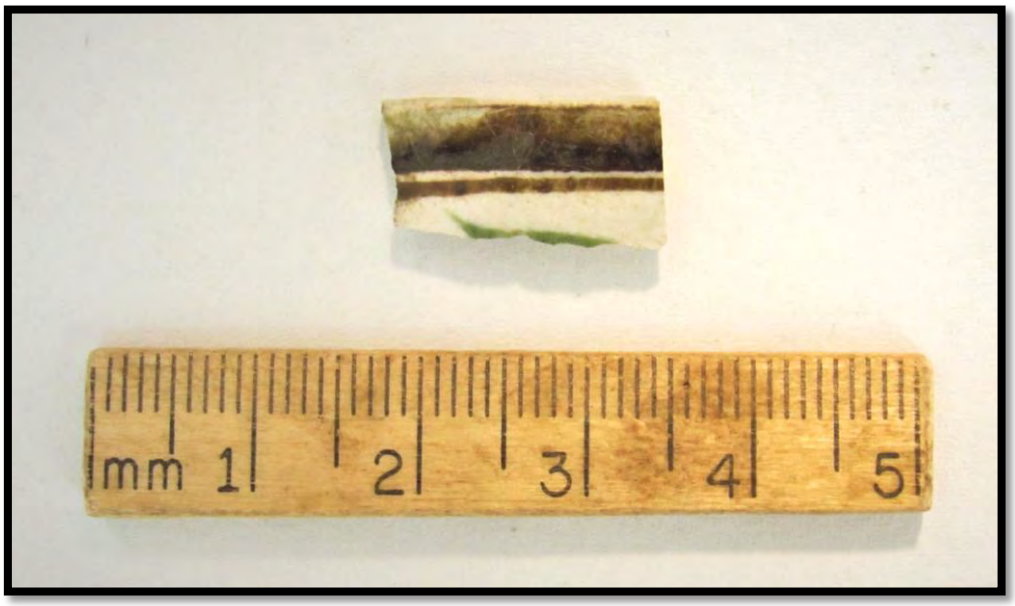


Figure 55: Decorative Scheme 26 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 27*

Lip/rim only – narrow exterior olive-brown rim stripe 2mm below lip, with very fine, opposing angled brown lines, with very fine blue line interior to brown lines, intersecting rim stripe (point-of-pyramid-like). Orange dot (?) immediately adjacent to blue and brown stripes, and intersecting olive-brown rim stripe.

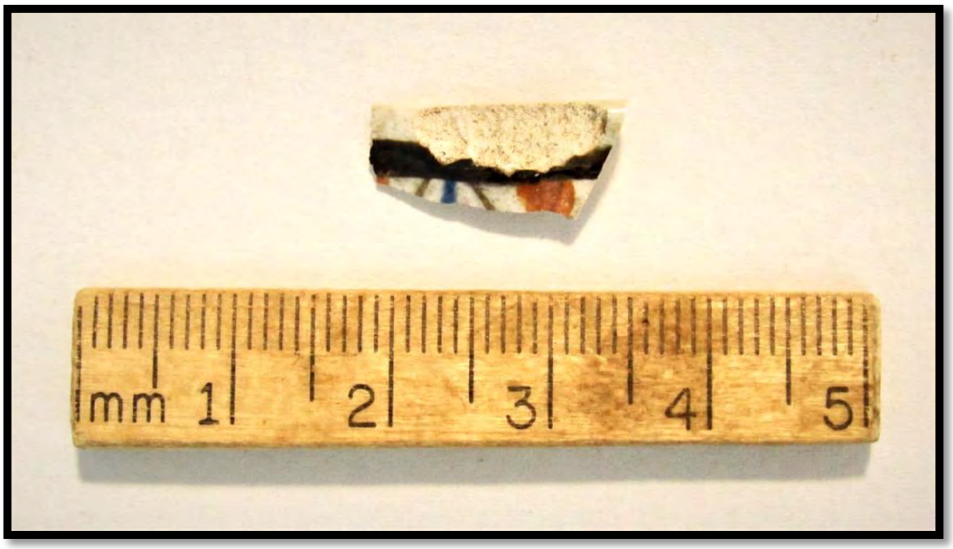


Figure 56: Decorative Scheme 27 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 28*

Interior olive-brown rim stripe 2mm below lip, with fine brown stem, delicate curled green leaves on stem, and cluster of tiny blue dots at top of stem, all 1cm below lip.


Figure 57: Decorative Scheme 28 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 29*

Interior brown rim stripe 2mm below lip.  Exterior blue and green leaves on fine brown stem, from lip down at least 2cm.


Figure 58: Decorative Scheme 29 (B)

*Decorative Scheme 30*

Very similar to Decorative Scheme 27, with the exception of the narrow olive-brown rim stripe beginning .9mm below lip.

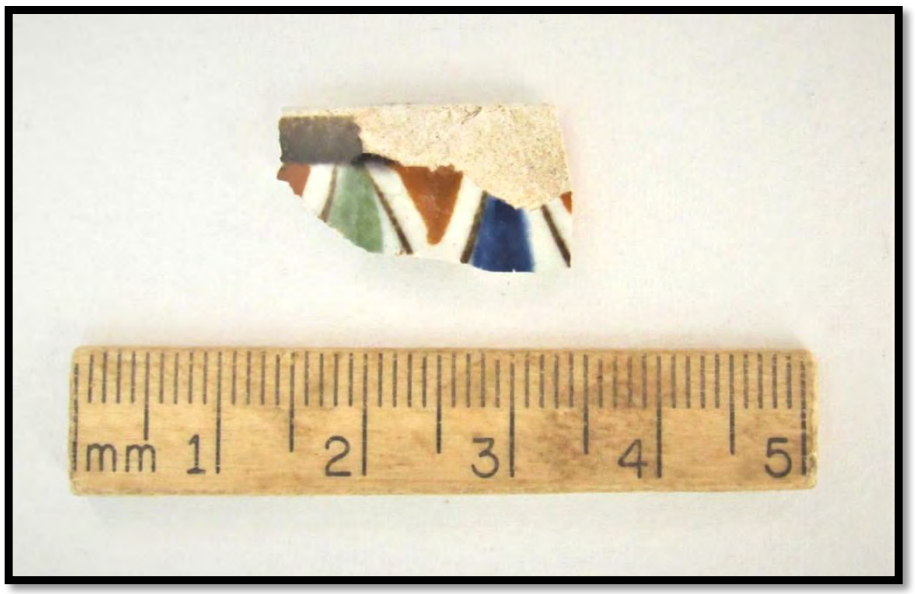


Figure 59: Decorative Scheme 30 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 31*

Body sherd only – delicate, short, slender light brown leaves along very fine brown stem, intersecting curved orange line, all interior.


Figure 60: Decorative Scheme 31 (H)

*Decorative Scheme 32*

Attributes include: narrow interior and exterior olive-brown rim stripe 2mm below lip, with very fine brown and blue stem with orange-yellow dot and very small green leaves along stem on the exterior only.


Figure 61: Decorative Scheme 32 (H)

## Engine-turned Refined White Earthenware Under Pearlware Glaze

### *Attribution*

The attribution of engine turned, pearlware glazed, refined white earthenware is problematic. Generally, such wares are lumped together into a wide variety of decorative treatments, motifs, forms, and labels (e.g., mocha), most of which are datable to the late 18th and 19th centuries. The difficulty with lumping together such a broad tradition, however, is the tendency for its temporal attribution (c. 1780's+), and those who defined it, to be accepted as inerrant.

However, there is increasing archaeological awareness that such wares, while certainly present in later periods, are most likely also present perhaps as early as the late 1770's. This awareness is built from the recovery of plain pearlware glazed refined white earthenwares, engine-turned slipped (dipt') pearlware glazed wares, and so called "China Glaze" (blue chinoiserie painted) pearlware glazed wares being archaeologically recovered from younger, colonial/Continental-military period contexts (see "*Conclusions*").

For example, relative to engine-turned pearlware glazed dipped ware, Rickard notes,

> "*British forces erected Fort Watson in South Carolina in December of 1780, only to have it fall in April of 1781. Archaeological findings from that tightly-dated site included marbled wares and sherds of pearlware tea wares with checkered black and white bands at the rim and a speckled blue slip field.*" (2006: 7, 8)

With the previous discussion regarding polychrome and ME 073.015's post-1790 occupations, and the shifting awareness of engine-turned, slipped, pearlware glazed pottery at ME 073.015 as potentially earlier than previously suspected, ME 073.015's slipped, engine-turned, pearlware glazed sample is herein considered reasonably included in a Revolutionary War period temporal component.

### *Decorative Schemes*

One distinct, pearlware glazed, engine-turned and slipped (dipt') vessel is identified within ME 073.015's current ceramic sample. It is given a decorative scheme number following the previously defined decorative schemes identified within the polychrome sample - Decorative Scheme 33 (Figure 62 and 63).

#### *Decorative Scheme 33*

Decorative Scheme 33 is represented by three pearlware glazed sherds. Included is one sherd with a pearlware glazed interior surface, and a medium "sky blue" slipped exterior

surface. The sherd's interior rim is pearlware glazed and slightly everted, with a pealrware glazed lip.

Based on its surface features, the exterior rim indicates the presence of an added rim element immediately beneath the lip – a rough detachment area immediately beneath the lip, with a smooth, unglazed, slightly concave groove beneath that. These features are indicative of a lip form whereby the extreme edge of the vessel's everted lip is "rolled" back onto the vessel's exterior surface, forming a raised exterior rim, in this case, a wedge shaped "collar" extending outward directly from the vessel's lip.

Two sherds of the detached "collar" are present. Their upper surface is tapered downward, while their underside is flat (i.e., perpendicular to the vessel's exterior surface) (see below).

Figure 62: Decorative Scheme 33 (B)

The "collar" is engine-turned on its upper surface as follows: a band of three parallel rows of small, black rectangles in relief. The band is bounded by a very fine black line immediately outboard of, and touching each outer row of rectangles. The inner row of rectangles is narrower than, and offset to the outer two. As such, the inner rectangles only touch the outer rectangles at their corners (see below). Rickard refer to this form of engine-turned decoration as "inlaid rouletted checkering" (2006: Fig.13)

Figure 63: Decorative Scheme 33 (B)

The "collar's" underside, and a minute remnant of the vessel's exterior sidewall immediately beneath the "collar", maintains a trace of medium "sky blue" slip under pearlware glaze. That these sherds represent the same or identical vessels is unequivocal. Although the two engine-turned collar sherds do not refit the body sherd, their interior surface form and their longitudinal curvature match the detachment area on the body sherd perfectly.

Three similarly slipped, medium "sky blue" sherds, though without engine turning, form the base of a small bowl or teapot. A similarly slipped, but non-engine-turned footring fragment, and a similarly slipped, but non-engine-turned lip sherd from an additional vessel, are also present, and tentatively considered illustrative of Decorative Scheme 33.

*Decorative Scheme 34*

A second, engine-turned, pearlware glazed vessel illustrates treatment with medium sky blue slip. However, the engine-turned design elements differ substantially enough to merit receipt of a unique decorative scheme number.

This design motif is illustrated by only a few sherds (n=9). No rim, lip, or basal sherd are present. Thus, no understanding of vessel form is available. However, clearly the vessel maintained a handle, as a proximal handle fragment is present, and mending of the handle attachment fragment is possibly with one sherd from the same unit.

Two distinct colors are present within the scheme, medium sky blue and brown. Both are interpreted as horizontal bands of color extending around the vessel. The sherds available indicate the brown and blue bands are adjacent to, but separate from each other by 4mm. Adjacent to, but separated by 2mm, is a field comprised of very fine, horizontal double lines (separated by 1mm), between which is a single row of horizontal 4mm long and 1mm wide brown rectangles. 2.4cm of this field of repeated fine double lines and rectangles is available (Figure 64).

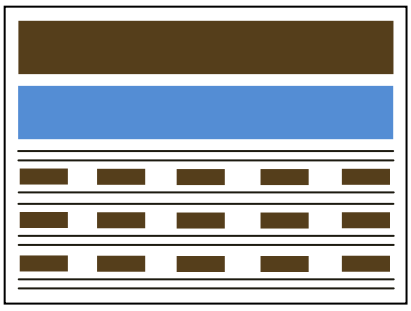

Figure 64: Decorative Scheme 34 (B)

The proximal handle fragment refits a sherd illustrating both the medium sky blue band and the field of lines and rectangles, such that it can be determined the handle's proximal end attached on the blue band, and just beneath the brown band. Minimally this relationship suggests the solid band of blue and brown are located at the point of handle attachment, and the field of very fine double lines and rectangles is proximal to them. It further suggests that the broader color bands, being placed roughly central to

the vessel's exterior wall, are bounded distally by a similar field of very fine double lines and rectangles.

## Engine-turned Refined White Earthenware under Creamware Glaze

### *Attribution*

As noted above, the attribution of pearlware glazed, engine-turned, refined white earthenware is somewhat problematic. That may also be true for creamware glazed forms. The following decorative schemes are tentatively attributed to the 1770's or 1780's, due to both their simplicity and creamware glaze, but could represent much younger specimens.

### *Decorative Schemes*

Two, and possibly three creamware glazed, engine-turned and slipped (dipt') vessels are identified within ME 073.015's current ceramic sample. They are given decorative scheme numbers following the previously defined decorative schemes identified within the polychrome and engine-turned pealrware glazed sample - Decorative Scheme 35 and 36 (Figures 65 and 66).

#### *Decorative Scheme 35*

Decorative Scheme 35 is represented by numerous creamware glazed sherds from what was likely a tankard. The vessel maintains a white slipped interior, with white slipped lip and .7mm of its rim. The white slipped rim is followed by a broad, 2.7cm wide field of dark orange-tan slip, below which is a second band of white slip, but with 3 rows of "inlaid rouletted checkering" (Rickard 2006) just as with Decorative scheme 34. No insight into what lies below the engine-turned design is available. While Decorative Scheme 34's rouletting is very similar to that of Decorative Scheme 34, 35's inlaid rectangles are narrower, slightly longer, and the central row of checkers do not "touch" the row above or below. Rather than black checkering, this pattern could, alternatively, be seen as a white chain, with square links, on a black field.

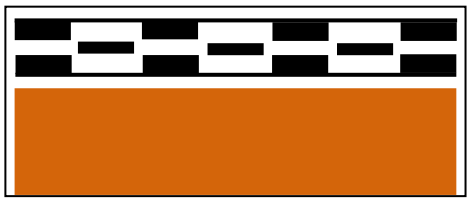

Figure 65: Decorative Scheme 35 (B)

#### *Decorative Scheme 36*

This decorative scheme is represented by eight sherds: one rim sherd with lip; one basal fragment; and six body sherds. Minimally, the sherds represent one tankard.

To the extent that it is visible, the scheme is comprised of at least three elements, white slip, black stripes/bands around the vessel, and black “checkers”. The interior surface is simply white slipped, with no additional elements noted.

The exterior is also white slipped. The exterior rim (distal end of the vessel) maintains a horizontal, 4mm wide black stripe, 4mm below the lip. Proximal to that is a second, horizontal, 4mm wide black stripe separated from the first by 5mm, with no apparent intermediate decoration.

Immediately proximal to the second horizontal black stripe below the lip several extremely small fragmentary remnants of black squares are noted; the rim sherd is badly spalled.

On the body sherds, a horizontal row of small, 5mm square black squares is noted between 4mm black stripes; the black squares are slightly above (distal to) center in the gap between the black stripes, almost touching the stripe above them.

The basal fragment indicates this alternating pattern of parallel horizontal, 4mm black stripes, and horizontal rows of 4mm black squares, continues proximally nearly to the , vessel’s base. There, a terminal horizontal 4mm black stripe, 8mm from the vessels base, is separated by 5mm from a horizontal 4mm black stripe distal to it. No black squares are present between these two lowest parallel black stripes.

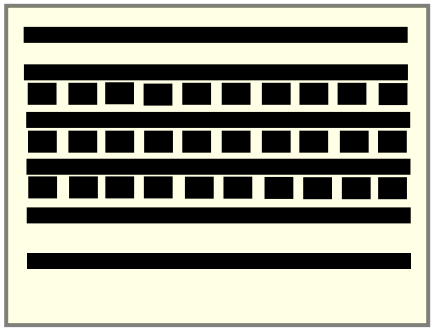

Figure 66: Decorative Scheme 36 (B)

Based on the general perception of the exterior scheme, the tankard had an initial, isolated horizontal black 4mm wide stripe 4mm below the lip, followed by a field of unknown height, comprised of alternating black stripes and rows of black squares (beginning and ending with a black stripe), and terminating 4mm above a single, isolated black stripe, which is 8mm above the base (mirroring the initial isolated black stripe immediately below the tankard's lip).

### Painted Broad-brushed Cobalt Blue Floral Decorated Under Pearlware Glaze Attribution

Two partially reconstructed cups illustrating a "London-type" form were recovered from ME 073.014's northeast midden (Figures 67 and 68). Both maintain broad brushed, cobalt blue, floral motif under pearlware glaze. These cups clearly identify a period of production, c. 1815-1830.

While both cups maintain broadly brushed cobalt blue floral motifs, typical of the period, they differ considerably in the specific. As a result, their painted schemes are given decorative scheme numbers following the previously defined decorative schemes identified above - Decorative Scheme 37 and 38.

#### Decorative Scheme 37

Beginning immediately beneath the lip, this Decorative Scheme 37 includes a 7mm tall, oblique chevron-like element along the exterior rim.


Figure 67: Decorative Scheme 37 (H)

Immediately proximal to the rim element, is a broad, 3.3cm field (the upper portion of the cup) which includes a horizontal motif of fine, scrolling stems and leaves connected to a broad, light blue tulip-like flower (outlined in darker blue). Although not present in the portion recovered, the tulip/stem/leaves motif is presumed to be repeated at least once around the cup. The cup's base is not present to establish if any painted decorative elements are present there.

### Decorative Scheme 38

Decorative Scheme 38's lip maintains a very fine blue line and, like Decorative Scheme 37, 38's floral motif is a horizontal flower with stem and leaves. However, its flower is "pedaled", having 5-6 individual dark blue rounded pedals, surrounding a central empty circle at its center. The flower's stem is very fine, and linear. Two leaves, attach to the stem approximately 2cm "below) the flower, and opposite one another on the stem. The leaves are sub-triangular, with three elongated terminal lobes.


Figure 68: Decorative Scheme 38 (H)

### Painted Shell Edge Under Creamware Glaze

A single, lip sherd of possible shell edged creamware is present in the current sample - Decorative Scheme 39 (Figure 69). The sherd originates in ME 073.015, and reflects a probable tea bowl or very thin waste bowl. The cobalt blue underglaze is finely painted, and the rim maintains well molded, curved impressions.

Decorative Scheme 39

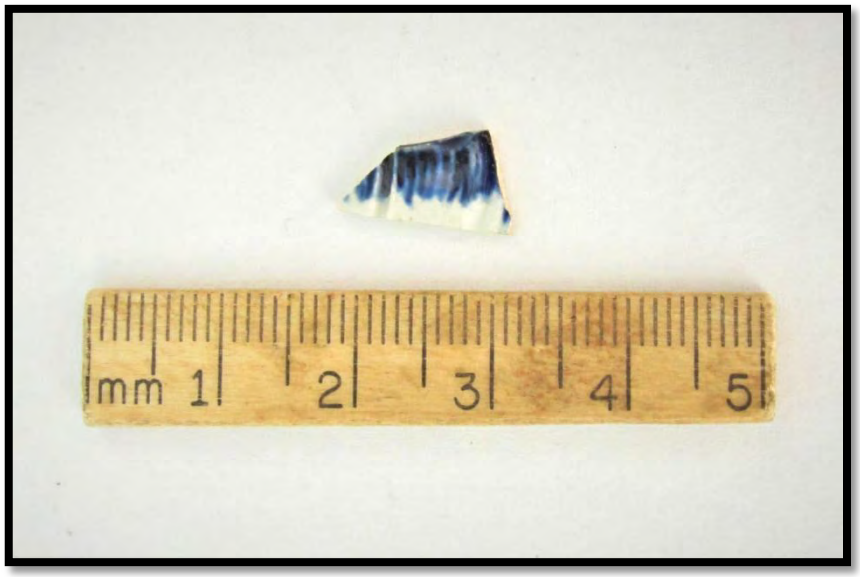


Figure 69: Decorative Scheme 39 (B)

### Painted shell edge under pearlware glaze

Shell edged pearlware glazed ceramics are present at both ME 073.015 and ME 073.014, but more prevalent at the latter (Figures 70-76). Their presence at ME 073.015 is limited to a light scatter of sherds across a broad north/south oriented area immediate east of the structure (the principal midden).

ME 073.015's shell edge sherd scatter is illustrated by less than 6 grams per $1m^2$. This stands in stark contrast to ME 073.014's two middens, where shell edge sherd weight per $1m^2$ is upwards of five time that. ME 073.015's shell edge sample is considered either a *very* early $19^{th}$ c. expression of terminal occupation there, or material brought in with soil from elsewhere as "top-dressing" to level out or landscape the area after removal of the structure.

With the exception of Decorative cheme 39, Merryspring's shell edge sample includes both green and blue edged wares, all under pearlware glaze. Although flatware vessels

predominate, several very small lip fragments are present, suggesting tea bowls or waste bowls.

At ME 073.015, both blue and green, evenly scalloped neo-classical forms dominate, typically with shallow molding of the lip and rim. As with all other ceramics at ME 073.015, shell edge sherds are small, being crushed and well fragmented. Limited efforts at reconstruction and cross mending resulted in no refits.

While shell edged wares do not dominate ME 073.014's ceramic sample, their presence is significant, both in terms of volume and diversity of decorative motif. The latter contributes greatly to an understanding of the farm's length of occupation. As with ME 073.015, both blue and green, even scalloped, and lightly molded (impressed) neo-classical forms dominate; more deeply molded, cobalt blue, and dark green forms, with molded "buds", are present, however (Figures 73-75).

The shell edge sample recovered from the ME 073.014 differs from that of ME 073.015 in a number of ways. First, ceramics within the farm's northeast midden, located downslope from the cellar's northeast corner, appear as one might expect in an undisturbed kitchen midden - broken and fragmentary sherds of varying sized, with more delicate refined white earthenware fragments tending to be smaller than those of thick, robust utilitarian redware vessels. Although the midden itself begins immediately at the ground surface, trampling and crushing is not particularly evident.

Secondly, shell edged sherds recovered from the farm's northwest midden, located immediately adjacent to the cellar's northwest corner, are larger, and facilitate significant, intra-unit refitting. This suggests direct discard of whole or partially broken vessels, with subsequent breakage in place resulting in large, intact vessel portions (this is also true with broad-brush cobalt blue pearlware tea cups recovered in the same excavation units). Additionally, severe burning of discarded vessels is noted (Figure 74). Curiously, however, no fire is evident in units with severely burned plates, suggesting burning took place elsewhere before their disposal.

In contrast to ME 073.014's northeast midden, and ME 073.015's midden deposits, numerous *gilded*, deeply molded green shell edge plate rim fragments are present in the northwest midden sample (Figure 74).

Additionally, while the recovered blue or green shell edge sample, as a whole, illustrates neo-classical forms almost exclusively, two additional shell edge forms are present. Four fish scale embossed rim fragments (Figure 76) are present, three of which are blue

painted under pearlware glaze. While the temporal range of neo-classical shell edge decoration is roughly 1800-1830's (Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum 2012) (Florida Museum 2020, citing Miller 1987), embossed shell edged rims, whether blue or green, reflect a later, post 1820 development (Miller 2000).

Two, and possibly three small/damaged sherds may reflect a Roccoco style shell edge lip form. One, a tiny, likely tea bowl lip fragment, originates in ME 073.015. The other two, recovered from both of ME 073.014's middens, are larger, and reflect small plates or saucers.

The author notes two distinct sub-forms of even scalloped lip forms within the Merryspring sample: small, shallow scallop; and broad, deeper scallop. Both are present in ME 073.014 and ME 073.015. Further, straight line impressed shell edge, on a "flat" rim/marley, appears associated more frequently with green shell edge than blue, at both sites (Figures 70 and 71).

Decorative Scheme 40


Figure 70: Decorative Scheme 40 (H)

Decorative Scheme 41


Figure 71: Decorative Scheme 41 (H)

Decorative Scheme 42


Figure 72: Decorative Scheme 42 (H)

Decorative Scheme 43


Figure 73: Decorative Scheme 43 (H)

Decorative Scheme 44


Figure 74: Decorative Scheme 44 (H)

Decorative Scheme 45


Figure 75: Decorative Scheme 45 (H)

Decorative Scheme 46


Figure 76: Decorative Scheme 46 (H)

### Blue-on-white painted under pearlware glaze (aka, China Glaze)

For the purposes of this report, "China Gaze" refers to a decorative genre – blue on white, hand painted Chinese-like imagery (i.e., chinoiserie) including, for example, pagodas, chimney'd houses, water, and reeds (Figures 77-80). This decorative genre is applied under pearlware glaze.

### Attribution

Although China Glaze pottery is present at both sites, it predominates at ME 073.015. It is considered likely that the China Glaze sample, in its majority, is related to a Revolutionary War Period temporal component.

### Decorative Scheme

China Glaze presents as both interior and exterior, light blue chinoiserie decoration on a number of different vessel, including: at least one punch bowl (Figures 79 and 80), a probable waste bowl (Figure 77), a possible tea bowl, and an undefined, square cornered vessel.

Although variations on a theme are, undoubtedly, present, a single decorative number (with alphabetic sub-designations) is given to the genre, the result of no perceived intentionality within said variation. In other words, while the overall motif may vary slightly from vessel to vessel, there does not appear to be a concerted effort to produce unique motifs specific to individual vessels or sets. Grossly similar and even identical design elements appear across vessel form and function. No polychrome decorated China Glaze ceramics are present at either ME 073.014 or ME 073.015.

Decorative Scheme 47 interior


Figure 77: Decorative Scheme 47 – interior (B)

Decorative Scheme 47 exterior


Figure 78: Decorative Scheme 47 – exterior (B)

Decorative Scheme 47b interior


Figure 79: Decorative Scheme 47b – interior (B)

Decorative Scheme 47b exterior


Figure 80: Decorative Scheme 47b – exterior (B)

### Transfer Printed Blue Chinese Pattern Under Pearlware Glaze

At least two blue transfer printed vessels illustrate Chinese pattered motifs (border only), probably willow (Figures 81 and 82). A third is suggestive of a later transfer printed tradition.

### Attribution

One, well printed medium blue vessel is represented by no less than 15 lip and body sherds, and recovered at ME 073.015. The small, plate most likely represents the terminal, Elisha Gibbs occupation, c. 1799-1802 (Decorative Scheme 48). Sherds from a second transfer printed vessel were recovered within ME 073.014's northwest midden, and are consistent with first fourth quarter of the 18$^{th}$ c. Sherds from a third transfer printed vessel originate in ME 073.014's northeast midden, and are likely early 19$^{th}$ c. as well.

### Decorative Scheme

Blue-on-white, transfer printed vessels reflect flat and hollow ware vessel. Both flatware and hollow ware lip, rim, and body sherds illustrate a decorative pattern consistent with "willow".

#### Decorative Scheme 48


Figure 81: Decorative Scheme 48 (B)

Decorative Scheme 49

Figure 82: Decorative Scheme 49 (B)

### Gold-on-White Printed Chinese Pattern Under Pearlware Glaze with Overglaze Enamel

A very unusual form of gold, under-glaze Chinese pattern transfer print is seen in numerous delicate, pearlware glazed tea bowl or waste bowl sherds (Figure 83).

### Attribution

Its gold-on-white aspect not-withstanding, this design motif is consistent with other similar design motifs illustrating a "willow" Chinese pattern. This pattern is likely late 18$^{th}$ to early 19$^{th}$ c. in its temporal attribution.

### Decorative Scheme

One sherd clearly illustrates the partial upper torso and partial face of a man fishing (presumably from a bridge or boat). The man's flesh has been painted in by hand with Caucasian colored enamel over the glaze. Several sherds illustrate a rocky shoreline and "half-moon" shaped clumps of reeds. At least three other sherds (possibly a second vessel) illustrate a gold transfer printed rose (or similar flower blossom) with leaves within an oval "cartouche" located immediately below the interior lip.

Decorative Scheme 50


Figure 83: Decorative Scheme 50 (B)

## Creamware

### Molded Creamware Glazed Refined White Earthenware

Creamware glazed ceramics represents the majority of refined white earthenware, by weight. Within that sample, the overwhelming majority of creamware is represented by large and small molded plates.

### Attribution

Creamware, generally, is limited in its temporal attribution to a broad period, c. 1762-1820. There is no way to definitively narrow the range in this case, with one exception. The presence of a HERCULANEUM stamped creamware plate fragment indicates its production as post 1815, and attributable to at least the second, if not a third occupation at ME 073.014.

### Decorative Scheme

The current sample illustrates a variety of lip configurations (e.g., rounded; slightly squared; and slightly inverted) and molded styles (e.g., Queens ware, Royal, and plain) (Figure 84-88). Two forms are especially notable: an octagonal form; and one with a relief molded "tassel-like" design on its marly, and molded "rope-like" lip (Figure 87 and 88, respectively).

#### Decorative Scheme 51


Figure 84: Decorative Scheme 51 (B)

Decorative Scheme 52


Figure 85: Decorative Scheme 52 (B)

Decorative Scheme 53


Figure 86: Decorative Scheme 53 (H, B)

Decorative Scheme 54

Figure 87: Decorative Scheme 54 (H)

Decorative Scheme 55

Figure 88: Decorative Scheme 55 (H)

### Transfer Printed Creamware Glazed Refined White Earthenware

#### Attribution

The current ceramic sample possesses a single sherd of black transfer printed creamware (Figure 89). While possible, this sherd is not believed to pre-date the Revolutionary War period, generally, c. 1775-1785.

#### Decorative Scheme

No image is currently discernable on the single black transfer printed sherd. However, clearly there is a specific image represented.

##### Decorative Scheme 56

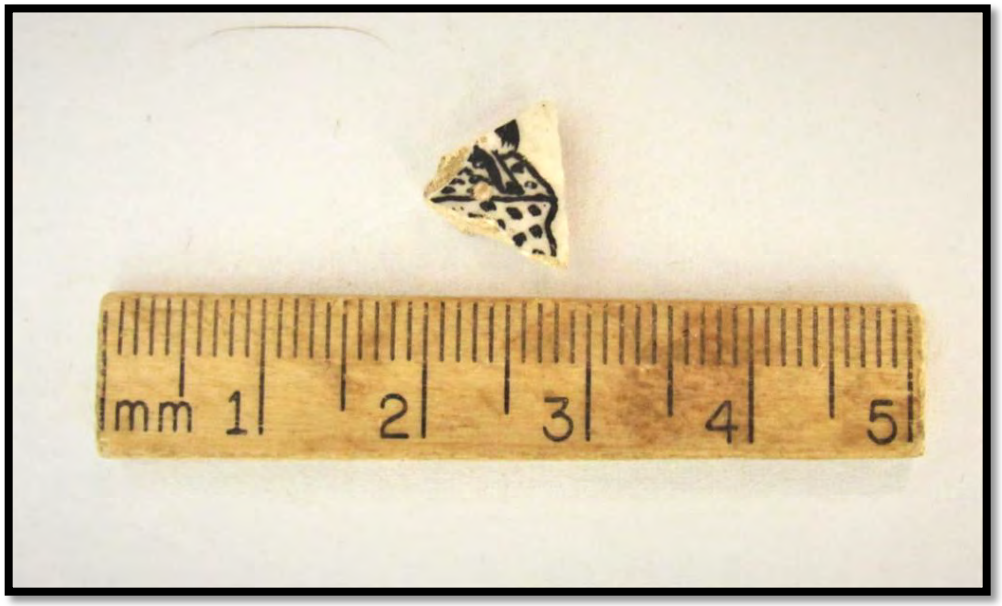


Figure 89: Decorative Scheme 56 (H)

### Whieldonware Creamware Glazed Refined White Earthenware

#### Attribution

Of all the unexpected recoveries, three tiny, tea bowl sherds (two lip sherds and one body sherd) were the most surprising (Figure 90). Mottled brown under creamware glaze, these sherds measure only 1.5mm in thickness, 9mm or less in maximum axial length, and collectively weigh no more than 1 gram. Their recovery in ¼ in mesh screens attests to the integrity of the volunteer help at the time.

The small tea bowl sherds maintain the uniquely characteristic underglaze coloration of Wieldonware, produced by Thomas Whieldon, c. 1750-1780. While a Revolutionary War

period attribution may situate such a decorative element at the terminal end of its popularity and production, it is not unreasonable.

### Decorative Scheme

Unlike specific design motifs (e.g., polychrome under pearlware glaze) mottled Whieldon ware (aka, tortoise shell) reflects a consistently generic, and unstructured decorative motif, with broad temporal range. None-the-less, this ware is given a decorative scheme number, as it represents a specific decorative intent, generally.

#### Decorative Scheme 57

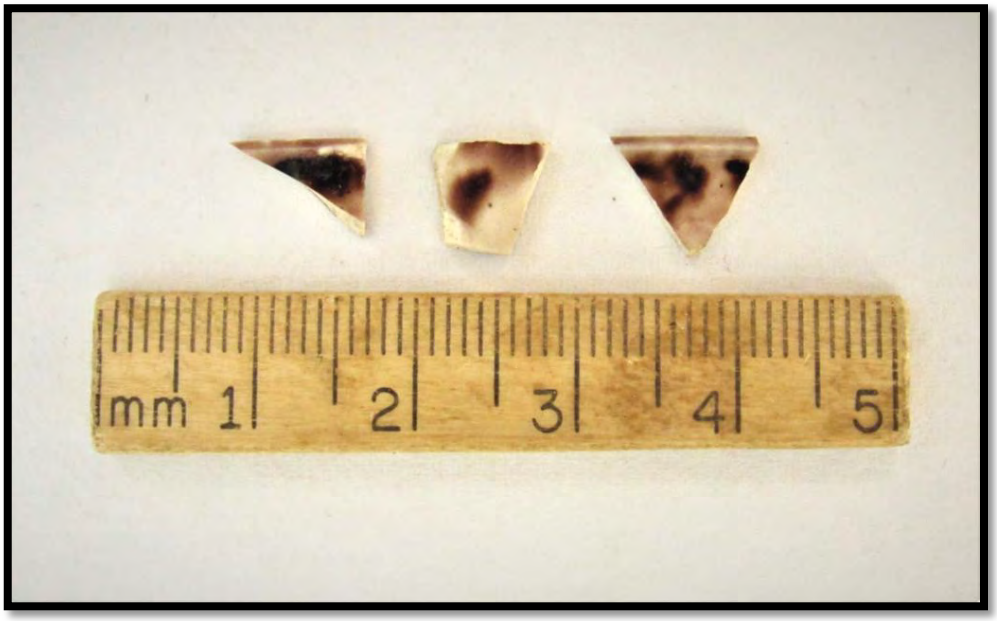


Figure 90: Decorative Scheme 57 (B)

### Non-creamware/Non-pearlware Glazed Refined White Earthenware

There is a total absence of any non-creamware or non-pearlware glazed white earthenware ceramics at Merryspring (e.g., whiteware). Had they been available during ME 073.014's occupation, being 19$^{th}$ c., such wares would almost certainly be present. Given a total lack of such wares within ME 073.014's sample, it is reasonable to infer the length of occupation at the farm did not extend beyond the creamware glaze and pearlware glaze period, approximately 1825$^{+}$.

## Porcelain

### English Soft Paste Porcelain

#### Attribution

English soft paste porcelain was manufactured as early as the mid-1740s (Owen 2007), and believed present in many North American households by the third quarter of the eighteenth century (Jellicoe and Hunter 2007:166).

#### Decorative Scheme

Several porcelain vessels recovered from ME 073.015 appear as part of an English, soft paste porcelain tea set. This dark cobalt blue on white, "arch and tassel-like" decorative rim pattern (Figure 91) is not as yet identified. However, it invokes a strong relationship to Liverpool porcelain manufacture, specifically, that of Seth Pennington.

A second, similar decorative motif is also identified (Figure 92). A substantive difference lies in the presence of a different style of "tassel"; the rim decoration is otherwise similar.

##### Decorative Scheme 58

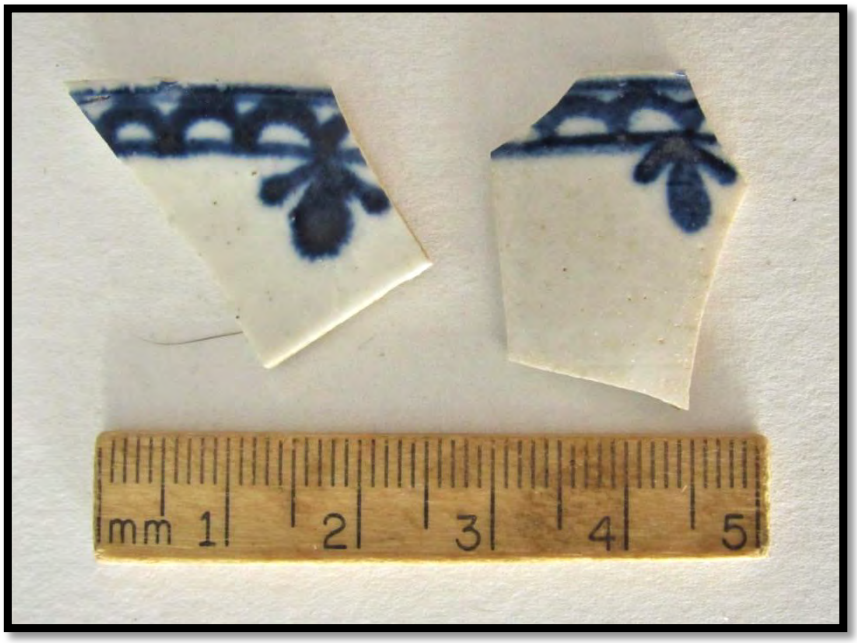


Figure 91: Decorative Scheme 58 (B)

Decorative Scheme 59


Figure 92: Decorative Scheme 59 (B)

## Chinese Export Porcelain

Chinese export porcelain is represented by a number of sherds in both ME 073.015 and ME 073.014.

## Decorative Scheme

At ME 073.015, Chinese export porcelain takes the form of a large sidewall portion of a lightly fluted, scallop lipped vessel (Figure 93). The sherd does not appear to represent a tea or waste bowl. Though faded and barely visible, combined, the extant and "ghost" decoration indicates a vessel sparsely decorated with over-glaze enamel on the interior only (Decorative Scheme 60).

Decorative Scheme 61 includes a single undulating red stripe one centimeter below the vessel's interior lip. A grouping of five red dots around a single red dot is seated within the undulating stripe's "troughs". Beneath each apex of undulating stripe is a large, single dot of possibly blue. Above all, and following the contour of the fluting, just beneath the vessel's lip, is a row of very small dark (possibly blue) dots. Given the vessel's asymmetrical sidewall, it may be a small pitcher or gravy boat fragment.

Decorative Scheme 60


Figure 93: Decorative Scheme 60 (B)

Decorative Scheme 61


Figure 94: Decorative Scheme 61 (H)

A very small sherd of the same or similar vessel was recovered some 10m distant, in fill overlying the structure's footprint. The second sherd clearly illustrates the above decorative scheme, undulating red stripe, with a horizontal row of alternating groupings of red dots above the stripe, and blue dots below the stripe, with a horizontal row of small blue dots along the lip – all are interior to the vessel (Figure 94).

Several undecorated, slightly grayish export porcelain sherds suggest a third vessel on site, but no greater insight into its decorative scheme (if any) is available.

ME 073.014's porcelain sample includes a grayish paste porcelain, with decoration limited to occasional reddish-brown (rouge-de-fer) floral sprig painted overglaze randomly around the body (Figure 95-97). The vessel's handle is composite - two intertwined narrow, ribbed handles, each having separate handle attachments (four total). The handle attachments are "fleur-de-lis"-like appliqués with reddish-brown overglaze enamel highlights. The vessel's interior rim is unglazed in a broad interior band, suggesting the vessel had a deeply seated lid.

Additional, but notably thinner sherds maintaining the same pattern, are present in the same, and immediately contiguous units, as the large vessel. These sherds likely represent a tea bowl. Their recovery is consistent with an early 19$^{th}$ c. Chinese export tea set at ME 073.014's, post 1803.

Archaeological testing at the neighboring Thorndike-Conway House, 1/8$^{th}$ mile east on the same road generated two Chinese export porcelain sherds maintaining the exact same porcelain handle attachment point appliqués with reddish-brown overglaze enameling. The earliest portion of the Robert Thorndike, Jr. occupation (c.1806-1825) is immediately contemporary with the Homer Farm site.

Decorative Scheme 62a

Figure 95: Decorative Scheme 62a (H)

Decorative Scheme 62b

Figure 96: Decorative Scheme 62b (H)

Decorative Scheme 62c

Figure 97: Decorative Scheme 62c (H)

## *Delft*

### Fazackerly

Over thirty sherds of Fazackerly delft (100grams) are present in ME 073.015's ceramic sample (no delft is present in ME 073.014's sample).

### Attribution

Given the site's presumed 18th century site attribution, the presence of delft is not surprising. Fazackerly delft, specifically, was a surprise, however. While typically associated with an early period, c. 1760's (Grimm 1970), its production range does extend to 1770; this vessel (Figure 98) is interpreted as reflective of curation.

### Decorative Scheme

The author's general expectation for late 18th c. delft is utilitarian forms (e.g., ointment jars). It presence in the form of a finely decorated, floral, underglaze painted vessel

(punch bowl) was a big surprise. While many of the sherds appear as plain bluish-white glazed on a buff earthenware body, or retain no glaze at all, those with painted decoration clearly illustrate a Fazackerly color palette and schema in their decoration – light sage green, three lobed leaves with black veins, and pale orangey-red and sky blue flowers. Not enough of the overall decorative scheme is present to know if other typical colors (e.g., pale "buttercup" yellow) are present. But the expectation is that they were.

Decorative Scheme 63


Figure 98: Decorative Scheme 63 (B)

### *Stoneware*

#### Salt glazed Stoneware Crockery

The near total absence of stoneware, and especially salt glazed stoneware, from either ME 073.014 or ME 073.015 is conspicuous, not only for its absence generally, but its near absolute necessity for the operation of 18$^{th}$ and 19$^{th}$ c. occupation sites. While the absence of refined salt glazed stoneware (e.g., white salt glazed "dot-diaper-basket" plates) is not necessarily a surprise if one considers both sites post date its general use, the lack of *utilitarian* salt glazed wares is. No thick-walled, utilitarian salt glazed stoneware crockery is present at ME 073.015. And only the most limited amount is present at ME 073.014.

Represented by only a few sherds, ME 073.014's sample includes only 55 grams of "classic" dark reddish brown interior/clear glazed exterior, salt glazed crockery. The

vessel portion represented by the sherds, some of which refit, is the handle attachment area. To date, *no other salt glazed crockery is present at ME 073.014*.

### Non-Salt Glazed Stoneware Crockery

The only other example of stoneware crockery of any kind is a single large sherd recovered from ME 073.015. The sherd, weighing 26 grams, is thick walled (9cm thick), maintains a very dark olive-green to olive-brown lead glazed interior and "dusty" red (light reddish-brown) slipped exterior; *no exterior glaze is evident*. Deep "turning" ridges are evident on the sherd's interior. Its paste is very dark gray to gray-black.

### Non-Crockery Salt Glazed Stoneware

#### *English Brown Fulham-like*

Of all the testing accomplished on both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015, there is, astoundingly, a near absolute paucity of salt glazed wares relating to personal use, such as tankards or flatware. Only two, refitting sherds (with exterior surfaces only) are present from either site. The two refitting sherds reflect the exterior of a "Fulham-like" brown, English, salt glazed vessel - probably a tankard. Together, the two sherds weigh less than 4 grams.

### ***Yellowware***

Only two small yellowware sherds are present within the current sample. Recovered 32 meter apart, the sherds' presence is completely inconsistent with the archaeology revealed to date. No yellowware is present anywhere else in either ME 073.014 or ME 073.015. It is possible the yellowware actually relates to limestone quarrying, which took place only a few meters distant, south of the then discontinued Warren Road. A significant, commercial grade "natural cobble" road is present there, and reflects commercial transport of either raw quarried, or processed limestone. The generally accepted time frame for such wares is consistent with the initial quarrying at Merryspring, c. 1830's.

### **Red Earthenware**

### **Refined Red Earthenware**

#### ***"Black-on-Black" Glazed***

*Refined* black interior and exterior glazed redware ("black-on-black") is defined here as black glazed, non-utilitarian red earthenware vessels with generally very thin sidewalls (e.g., 3mm), as opposed to utilitarian wares which, regardless of glaze type, typically maintain sidewalls upwards of 1cm or more in thickness, and are often glazed on one surface only (e.g., milkpans). Given the thin nature of refined redware and, as a result, its weight being relatively comparable to refined white earthenware, comparison to such wares by weight is considered reasonable (see Figure 29).

As a category, refined redware accounts for approximately 7.5% of the total refined earthenware sample from both sites combined, though predominantly at ME 073.015. Their limited presence at ME 073.014 may reflect the limited testing at the site. Supporting a higher percentage of refined redware at ME 073.014 is the presence of such wares there in the majority of 50cm$^2$ test pits and 1m$^2$ units.

Of the current "black-on-black" refined redware sample (648 grams) approximately 100 grams relate to the ME 073.014. The remainder (approximately 548 grams), relates to ME 073.015. The overall majority of refined redware is, or is presumed to be black glazed on both the interior and exterior. However, only sherds illustrating black lead glaze on both surfaces are considered here. In the instance of a single surface black glazed sherd, presumption of "black-over-black" glazing is inappropriate, as a percentage of refined redware at both sites is noted to be "black-over-brown" glazed, the brown often being very dark to near black.

Most, "black-over-black" refined redware is tentatively interpreted as representing mugs, tankards, or small bowls (e.g., porringer).

### *Clear Lead Glazed*

#### Engine Turned

ME 073.015's ceramic sample includes a striking, albeit very fragmentary, example of lead glazed, engine-turned refined redware (Figure 99). The sample is interpreted as representative of a coffee pot or globular teapot, and includes one basal fragment, one body rim fragment, a lid margin fragment, and numerous small body sherds.

Assuming a single vessel, the vessel, while severly fragmented, is isolated to a very discreet portion of ME 073.015's midden immediately southeast of the structure. This coincides with the densest portion of the midden, and suggests the midden did not experience much post-depositional, horizontal distribution.

Oddly, a very small, but clearly associated sherd is located several meters west of the structure (N211.5 E283.5). This unit generated significant volume, diversity, and temporal "spread" in its ceramic content. While initially suggesting another possible midden, subsequent stratigraphic and cultural material distributional analysis indicates the unit's cultural content is actually fill. Indeed, the fill's make-up suggests the midden southeast of the structure was "mined", then transported to the area immediately west-southwest of the structure, where it was leveled. It is hypothesized ME 073.015's structure itself was moved laterally (east to west) through the area of N211.5 E238.5 (i.e., relocated and repurposed), not dismantled or destroyed.

### Attribution

This Staffordshire engine turned red earthenware vessel has a manufactured date range of 1765-1790 (Gallagher, et al., 2015).

### Decorative Scheme

The vessel is *very* finely engine turned, likely over its entire body, and clear lead glazed.

#### Decorative Scheme 64


Figure 99: Decorative Scheme 64 (B)

## Course Red Earthenwares

Some course, utilitarian red earthenware is present at ME 073.015, and significant amounts are present at ME 073.014. Although the sample is certainly both informative and worthy of analysis, no effort is undertaken to quantify, photograph, or report it. It's presence through time is ubiquitous, and as such, of little value to the current agenda – defining the broad "who, what, where, and when" of both sites.

## Non-Ceramic Cultural Material

### Buttons

#### *Flat Buttons*

Given the limited amount of testing, a seemingly high number and diversity of buttons were recovered overall (n=23) (Figures 100-103). Of those, flat buttons represent the majority at both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015 (n=21). All eighteen are non-ferrous, and can be divided into twelve size categories: 1.1cm; 1.3cm; 1.4cm; 1.5cm; 1.6cm; 2cm; 2.1cm; 2.5cm; 2.6cm; 2.2cm; 2.3cm; and 3.4cm. Two of the sample's three 3.4cm flat buttons are associated with ME 073.014's northeast midden. This and other evidence suggest a possible late 18$^{th}$ c., Revolutionary War period component exists in that area.

Both spun and non-spun, and cast and non-cast varieties are also present. Three of the twenty one flat buttons are modified. One is folded in half, with the eye interior to the fold. Another is rolled with the eye interior to the rolled, now tubular form. And a third is not identifiable beyond its being a flat form; only that portion immediately around the eye is present, the remainder having been intentionally cut away.

Several flat buttons are back stamped with gilt information, and several are front stamped, embossed, or hand-punched with floral or floral-like motifs. All flat buttons with back stamping identifying gilt originate in either ME 073.014's northwest or northeast middens, and are almost certainly attributable to that occupation (c.1800$^{+}$-1825$^{\pm}$).

#### *Two Piece Buttons*

Also represented within the sample are three, two-piece, biconvex buttons. One includes only a portion of the back, with no eye present. Another includes the entire back, with the eye intact, though folded over. In fact, the eye appears to have been hammered forcibly over, and with such force as to leave a clear impression of the eye in relief on the reverse side.

The third specimen is complete (Figure 100, bottom center). The front is embossed with a raised, rope-like design element forming a wheel with multiple spokes. Utilizing the same raised design element, the button's margin maintains a border of two raised circles between which is a continuous row of embossed "X"'s.

Two additional, button related artifacts were recovered – two bone button forms for making fabric or woven buttons (Figure 102). While both possess a single centered hole, they differ in size, being 1cm and 1.2cm.

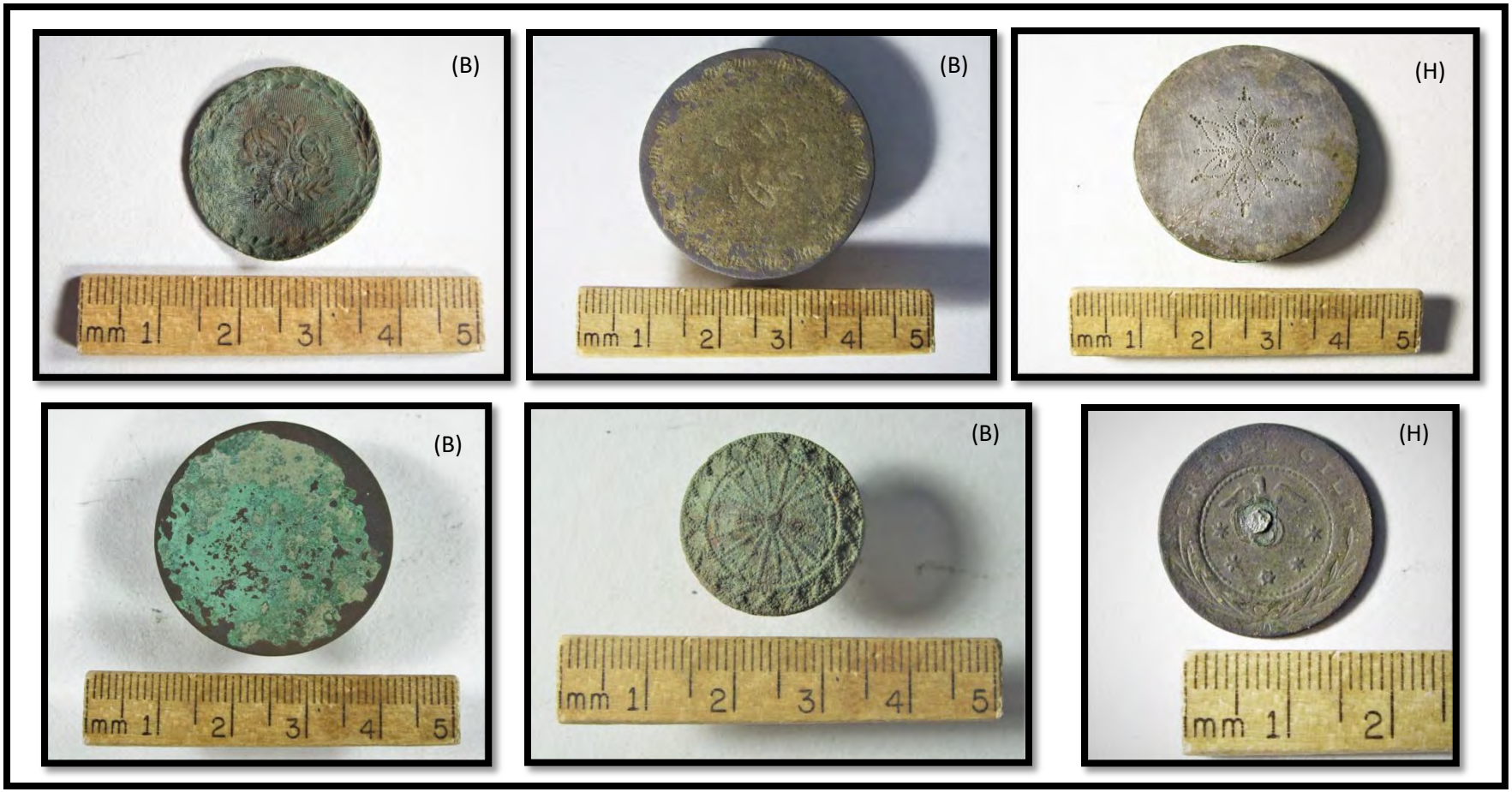


Figure 100: stamped or hand punched decorated buttons


Figure 101: folded, rolled, and cut flat buttons (B)

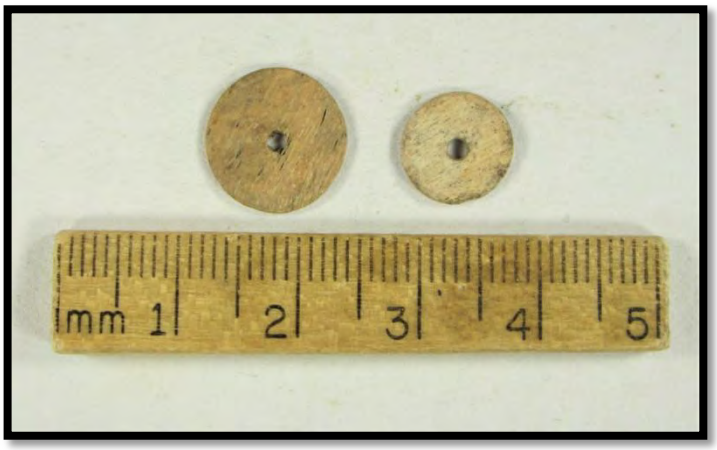


Figure 102: button forms (H, B)

| Button Style | Size (cm) | Decoration | Comments | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| flat disc | 1.1 | None | with eye | N215 E308 |
| flat disc | 1.3 | None | no eye | N214 E304 |
| flat disc | 1.3 | None | no eye | N214 E304 |
| flat disc | 1.3 | None | spun, no eye | N212 E302 |
| flat disc | 1.3 | raised front edge | solder boss | N211.5 E304.5 |
| flat disc | 1.4 | back stamped – "GILT" with central sun burst on back | with eye | N203.5 E236.5 |
| flat disc | 1.4 | back stamped "TREBLE GILT" and "+" along opposite margin | with eye | N203.5 E236.5 |
| flat disc | 1.5 | None | with eye | N214 E299 |
| flat disc | 1.5 | None | with eye | N216 E307, SE quad |
| flat disc | 1.6 | None | spun, solder boss | N218 E298, NW & NE quads |
| flat disc | 1.6 | None | cast, cast eye, spun | N200 E307, SE quad |
| flat disc | 2 | None | cast?, spun | N204 E289, SE quad |
| flat disc | 2.1 | back stamped – "TREBLE GILT" and central eagle over five stars, all over open olive branch crown | no eye | N208 E252 |
| flat disc | 2.5 | front stamped – 4 "wedges" of "corduroy" lines perpendicular to center, two intertwined rows (?) with leaves | no eye | N216 E295 |
| flat disc | 2.6 | None | cast (?), wire eye, broken (2pcs) | N215 E308 |
| flat disc | 3.4 | front stamped with fine concentric circles, eight small diamonds in a central circle, and diamonds in an outer circle close to button's edge | with eye | N219 E299 |
| flat disc | 3.4 | front stamped with short impressed lines perpendicular to edge and large central "flower" of eight oblique petals | with eye | N208 E252 |
| flat disc | 3.4 | front decorated - hand punched "flower" with six "football" pedals, and additional accent punching | "silver washed' with eye | N207 E253 |
| flat disc | 2.6 | None | folded, hammered into shape | N219 E299 |
| flat disc | 2.6 | front stamped –indiscernible decoration | rolled, hammered into shape | N215 E306 |
| flat disc | ? | None | eye and central portion only - cut up | N215 E310 |
| 2 piece | 2.2 | front stamped – embossed "wheel" with rope-like spokes, band of rope-like embossed "X"'s along margin | bi-convex, cast back, wire eye? | N214 E298 |
| 2 piece | 2.3 est. | None | partial back only, no eye | N214 E304 |
| 2 piece | 2.3 | None | Complete back with eye | N215 E308 |
| Disc | 1 | None | bone, central hole | N219 E298 |
| Disc | 1.2 | None | bone, central hole | N207 E253 |

Figure 103: buttons recovered at Merryspring Nature Center

## Gunflint

The Merryspring gunflint sample is comprised of only three small fragments (Figure 104). All are light "honey-brown" or brown, less than 1cm in maximum width, and 1.7cm or less in maximum length. As with a number of other, presumed 18th c. cultural materials (see "*Beads*"), all three fragments were recovered in both sites' middens.


Figure 104: gunflint fragments (H, H, B)

## Clay Pipes

Clay tobacco pipe stem and bowl fragments are relatively rare at both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015. The perception of rarity results partly from an expectation that smoking is, essentially, ubiquitous in the 18th c. However, given the regional and temporal "frontier" context of ME 073.015 (be it militia or homestead related) tobacco, and smoking generally, may not have been easily facilitated. A lack of access to tobacco or the pipes themselves, or limited financial capacity may have acted to keep smoking to a minimum. That said, there certainly doesn't appear to be any shortage of, or difficulty acquiring other cultural materials (e.g., ceramic).

In spite of any relative or absolute rarity of such activity, evidence to date does support tobacco smoking at both sites. However, while located at both sites, it is important to keep in mind that the evidence (e.g., pipe stems) may reflect smoking associated with the same temporal component, but in two separate loci.

Twenty-four pipe stems and bowl fragments (Figure 106 and 108) are present in the current sample. Of these, 12 are stem fragments, and 12 bowl fragments. A single, complete pipe bowl is also present.

Few attributes are present to assist in temporal attribution of the pipe sample. However, enough are present to give a general sense of period of origin. Two means are utilized to do so – pipe bore diameter and pipe bowl form.

Of the overall sample, the 12 stem fragments recovered permit bore diameter measurement. Of the twelve, six maintain a 4/64" diameter, and six maintain a 5/64 inch diameter.

Higgins (2017) identifies that 5/64" diameter pipe stem bores can extend back as far as the late seventeenth to late eighteenth century.

> "…during this period [late seventeenth to late eighteenth century]… stem bores are sometimes as large as 7/64" but more typically in the 6/64" to 5/64" range." (4.1)

Higgins goes on to state that pipe stem bore diameters of the late 18th c. and later are "typically" 5/64" and 4/64" (Higgins 2017:4.1). In addition, some late 18th c. and later stems can be "rather oval in cross section" (Higgins 2017:4.1). Such a stem is noted at the ME 073.014's northwest midden. The stem fragment measures 5.2cm long, 7mm wide, 5mm thick, and has a 4/64" bore diameter.

Interestingly, Higgins makes no citation relating to this information, nor does he establish how the above temporal relationships are determined, or use those formulae. Rather, Higgins' explicit focus is bowl shape as a temporal indicator, citing others' bowl typologies (e.g., Oswald 1975). However, Ivor Noel Hume (1969), and Mallios (2005) (both citing Harrington 1954, and Binford 1962), clearly establish how such temporal attributions are established.

Using Harrington's chart (Hume 1969), Merryspring's overall pipe stem sample has a mean date of approximately 1755. When Binford's regression formula is applied, the mean is slightly younger - 1760.

Separating the sample by its respective sites failed to result in any difference. Even when separated into two individual samples (ME 073.014 and ME 073.015), the dates are the same. This is because of the unusual circumstance that each site's excavated samples are not only equal in number of specimens, but in number of each respective bore diameter, hence the mean remains unchanged. As a result, pipe stem diameter, as a method to calculate temporal attribution of Merryspring's pipe stem sample, is considered unreliable in this case.

However, when bowl form is considered, the results differ. Referencing Higgins (2017), Harward (2014), Oswald (1975), and Atkinson and Oswald (1969), Merryspring's one complete pipe bowl (Figure 105), maintains a form generally consistent with that attributed to a period, c. 1740-1800 (Harward's "AO 26" form [c. 1740-1800]; Atkinson and Oswald #26 [c. 1740-1800]; and Oswald's #23 [c. 1760-1800].

Figure 105: pipe bowl (H)

Given a lack of pre-creamware ceramics on either site (with the exception of several likely curated pieces), and given a presumed date range of 1765-1770 for transition to full adoption of creamware in the American colonies, a pipe bowl mean date of approximately 1770 is very much in line with the evidence at hand. Additionally, given the pipe bowl was recovered within ME 073.014's midden, its date lends credibility to the hypothesis of a "masked", remote, Revolutionary War period locus in that area.

That said, some consideration must be given to the potential of a later temporal attribution for the pipe bowl, as its decorative elements are suggestive of a terminal 18$^{th}$/very early 19$^{th}$ c. decorative form. It is reasonable that Elisha Gibbs, being the last known 18$^{th}$ c. owner of ME 073.015's structure (c. 1799-1802), began construction of the Hosmer farm house at or around 1800, hence the same individual and, by default, the same pipe fragments, could exist at both sites.

Figure 106: pipe stem fragments (lower right is oval in section)

The sample's only "TD" pipe bowl fragment (Figure 107), recovered from ME 073.015 (N222 E304), is associated with what could reasonably be described as a distant northern extension of the site's midden deposit. Given the presence of so much cultural material north of the site, however, and the continued use of ME 073.015 area as a pathway to the only potable water on site (the spring) until at least the 1820's, it is possible the pipe bowl fragment is attributable to virtually any time at which "TD" was utilized.

That said, such a mark, often attributed to Thomas Dormer (c. 1748-1770) (Gaulton 1999) (FPCA 2020), is dated between 1750-1780 (FPCA 2020). It is consistent with a Revolutionary War temporal component.

Figure 107: "TD" pipe bowl fragment (B)

| Unit | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Stem Fragments** | **5/64 bore** | **4/64 bore** | **# of pieces** | **Decoration** |
| N211.5 E283.5 | 1 | | 1 | - |
| N213 E289 | | 1 | 1 | - |
| N214 E298 | | 1 | 1 | - |
| N216 E285 | 1 | | 1 | - |
| N216 E285 | | 1 | 1 | - |
| N216 E304 | 1 | | 1 | - |
| N216 E304 | 1 | | 1 | - |
| N216 E304 | | 1 | 1 | - |
| N203.5 E236.5 | | 1 | 1 | - |
| N207 E252 | 1 | | 1 | - |
| N208 E253 | | 1 | 1 | - |
| N208 E253 | 1 | | 1 | - |
| total | 6 | 6 | 12 | |
| | | | | |
| **Bowl Fragments** | | | **# of pieces** | |
| N214 E304 | | | 1 | - |
| N216 E285 | | | 1 | parallel multiple (2) vertical leafed stems |
| N216 E304 | | | 1 | - |
| N219 E301 | | | 1 | - |
| N222 E304 | | | 1 | molded "TD" in circle with 3 dots below TD |
| N203 E228, NWQ * | | | 1 | vertical leafed stem on front and back mold line, with heel (?) portion |
| N203 E228, SWQ * | | | 1 | - |
| N203.5 E237.5 * | | | 1 | - |
| N203.5 E237.5 * | | | 1 | - |
| N208 E253 * | | | 1 | - |
| N211 E249, NEQ * | | | 1 | - |
| N211 E253, NEQ * | | | 1 | - |
| total | | | 12 | |
| | | | | |
| **Complete Bowls** | | | **# of pieces** | |
| N208 E252, SEQ * | 1 | | 1 | vertical leafed stem on front and back mold lines, fine raised vertical ribs overall (short of lip), with spur/heel |
| total | 7 | | 25 | |

**blue** – Burton Encampment Site, **red** * – Hosmer Farm

Figure 108: tobacco pipe bowls, bowl fragments, and stem fragments recovered at Merryspring Nature Center

## Cast Iron Kettles

The cast iron sample from both sites is comprised of two rim fragments (Figure 109), three legs or leg fragments (Figure 110), and one body fragment. All were recovered within midden contexts.

One rim fragment is 3.5mm thick and 12.2cm long, and 6.5cm tall (N214 E304). While the other, 2.5mm (N208 E253) thick, 6.2cm long, and 5.1cm tall. Clearly, these fragments represent two different vessels.

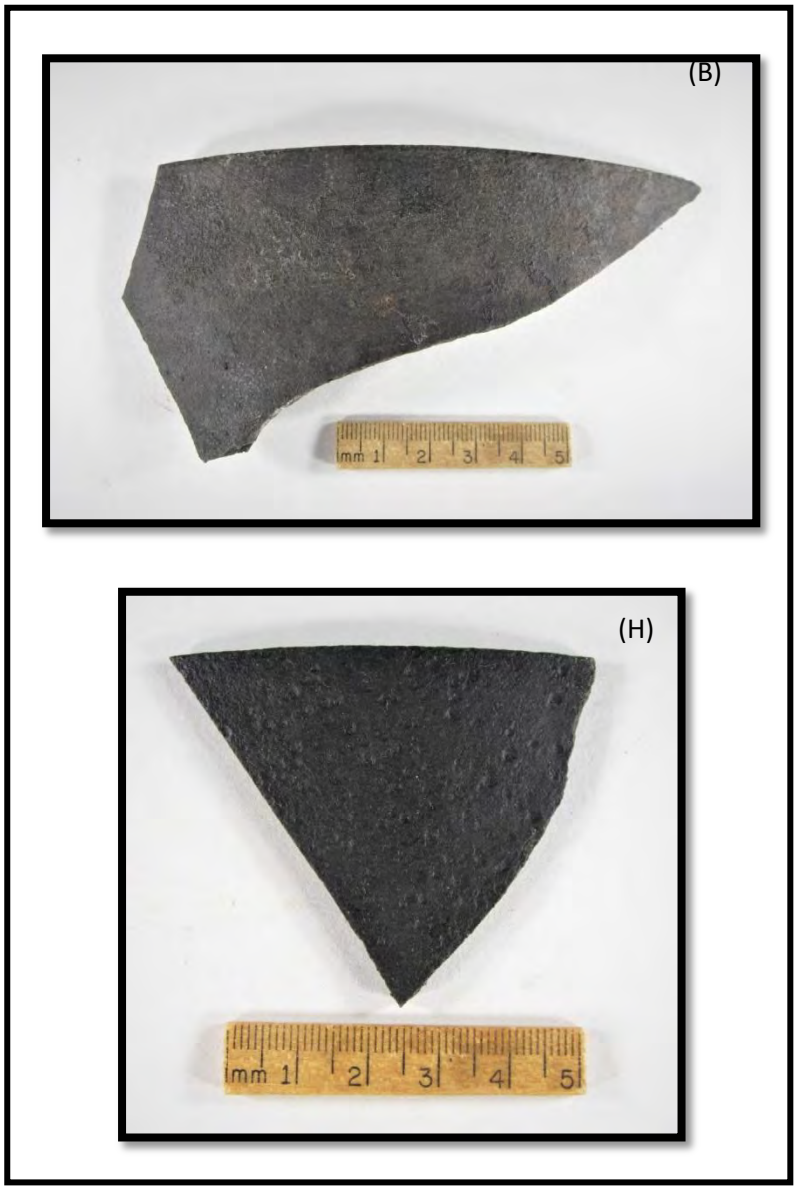


Figure 109: cast iron kettle rim fragments

A rimless fragment (no photo), 4mm thick, 6.1cm wide, and 8.6cm long, is undistinguished; no design or other elements are present.

Within the leg sample, three forms are represented in section: half-round (with slightly squared sides); half-round; and sub-rectangular with a rounded front face. Legs 1 and 3 (Figure 110) appear near-complete. Both are 4.7cm in length. Proximally, leg 1 is 1.7cm wide, while leg 2 is 1.4cm wide. Both legs taper to 1cm distally.

Leg 2(Figure 110), a proximal fragment, maintains a slight remnant kettle wall attachment curve. In section Leg 2 is half-round to slightly half-oval. Proximally, Leg 2 measures 1.5cm wide, 1.3cm thick, and 1.8cm long.


Figure 110: cast iron kettle legs (Legs 1, 2, and 3, left to right) (H, B, B)

Based on their differences, it is reasonable that all three legs represent different vessels. Leg 1 (Figure 110, left) was recovered in N208 E253 (ME 073.014). Legs 2 and 3 (Figure 110, center and right) were recovered in N211.5 E304.5 and N215 E308, respectively (ME 073.015).

## Hinges

Two matching hinges were recovered in ME 073.014's northeast midden (Figure 111). They are clearly ornamental, as well as functional, likely related to a small jewelry box-like chest. Both maintain a thickness of only .08mm, a maximum width of 1.2cm at the hinge, 7.4cm long, and taper to only 3mm.


Figure 111: decorative iron hinges (H)

### Harness Buckles

Two, small, square, presumed harness buckles (Figure 112) are present in the current sample, one recovered from each site. They measure 2.6cm and 2.3cm square, respectively.


Figure 112: probable harness buckles (H, B)

## Axe Head

A single, partial axe head (Figure 113) is present, being recovered at ME 073.015. The axe head, represented by the distal (bit) end only, measures 6.8cm tall, 5.3cm long, and 1.3cm thick. The partial nature of the axe head is not the result of use. Rather, the axe head has clearly been deliberately cut by a blacksmith or other individual for some unknown reason. At least one ineffective effort to cut the bit end from the axe head is noted in a partial cleaving.


Figure 113: forge cut axe head (B)

## Hoe

In an effort to understand a shallow, seemingly round depression, located significantly south of the ME 073.015, but in the same field, the author opened a north/south oriented 50cm x 2m unit across the depression (N182-184 E299). Surprisingly, a stone chimney base-like construction was revealed. The stone utilized for the construction is large water-worn boulders and cobbles.

Given, 1) the total lack of any such stone in the ground naturally, and 2) the flat bottomed, linear nature to the sub-$A_p$ excavation in which the stone base was developed, cultural intent is clearly indicated; this is not simply rock fill.

In the process of excavation, an iron hoe blade (Figure 114) was recovered in direct association with the stone. It is logical, and a rather obvious conclusion, that the hoe blade broke away from its handle during excavation for the stone base, and was subsequently included in backfilling of the base's initial excavation.

The how blades shape includes a well rounded proximal corner, from which the blade expands outward slightly from proximal to distal, being an estimated 10cm proximally to 13.7cm distally. The blade generally measures 2mm in thickness, but thins to 1mm along its very sharp, distal margin. The distal margin's shape includes one rounded corner and one near $90^0$corner. It is unknown if this configuration reflects intention, or the result of breakage along one side. Additionally, at least two rivet holes are present toward the blade's proximal end, suggesting it maintained a three point attachment to a separate piece of metal affixed to the handle; the blade was not hafted, suggesting $19^{th}$c. (or later) technology.

Figure 114: broken hoe blade

## File

A central fragment of a three sided, triangular, "rat tail" file (Figure 115) was recovered at ME 073.015 (N215 E288) in $A_p$/fill above the structure's chimney base. The file fragment is 7cm long and 7mm wide on a side.


Figure 115: triangular iron file (B)

### Saw Blade

A possible "buck saw" blade fragment (Figure 116) is present in ME 073.015's sample. The blade, including the one tooth present, is 3.1cm tall, 1mm thick, and 2.2cm long. The single tooth present is 3mm tall, and approximately 6mm long.


Figure 116: possible frame saw blade fragment (B)

### Shoe Buckle

Excavation recovered a single, partial broken shoe buckle outer frame (Figure 117). Due to the nature of the break, the frame's width can only be estimated at 5cm (outside measure). The buckle is thin (1mm), narrow (9mm), and scalloped along its outer margin. The buckle was recovered in N211.5 E304.5 (ME 073.015).


Figure 117: shoe buckle fragment (B)

## Spoons

### *Brass Spoon Bowl*

A single brass spoon bowl (Figure 118) was also recovered in testing ME 073.015. The spoon bowl is slightly pointed distally, with a double "scale-like junction ornament" (Hume 1969:183) proximally, at the point of the stem's attachment. Such an attachment style, in combination with a slightly pointed bowl form, is consistent with the second half of the 18th c. (Hume 1969).


Figure 118: 18th c. spoon bowl (B)

### *Pewter Spoon/Fork Handle*

Testing at ME 073.015 resulted in recovery of a likely spoon handle (Figure 119). The spoon handle is comprised of a dense, non-ferrous metal (likely pewter), and weighs 22 grams. The handle appears intentionally broken by bending the robust 7mm thick stem at the junction of stem and handle.

The handle flares gently, but consistently, from 7mm at the junction of the stem and handle, to 2.2cm at its widest, 1cm from the tip (proximal end). The handle form is spatulate, with a full length central raised ridge, and upturned proximal margin. This style is identified as "Hanoverian" with a full central ridge, c.1710-1750 (Sheridan 2009).

Although changes in the Hanoverian style handle ridge identifies this specimen as pre-1750, both forks and spoons had upturned handle terminations (i.e., tips) during that period. As a result, whether this handle belongs to a spoon or fork is indeterminate. After c.1760, however, upturned handle tips are specific to forks only (O'Keefe-Coulson 2014)

> "In the 1750s, when the upturned Hanoverian serving implements were seen to be awkward to use, the Old English pattern subtly changed the rules and determined the end of the spoons were to turn down not up. The forks were not developed in the same manner for ease of handling, but this meant the engraving of a crest to a fork would remain on the underside whereas it changed to the anterior surface for each spoon." (O'Keefe-Coulson 2014).

That said, the Hanoverian style handle is "certainly appropriate for a site from 1700 until the American revolution." (Sheridan 2009: 3).


Figure 119: 18th c. Hanoverian style spoon handle (B)

### *Silver Spoon/Fork Handle*

A second, likely spoon handle, recovered in ME 073.014's midden, is silver and engraved. While the handle's condition is poor, having suffered extreme hammering, presumably to flatten it, the handle style is clearly discernible – "fiddle-back", c. 1800-1860 (Sheridan 2009). The engraved letters, located proximally on the handle's (presumed) anterior surface, are "EP".

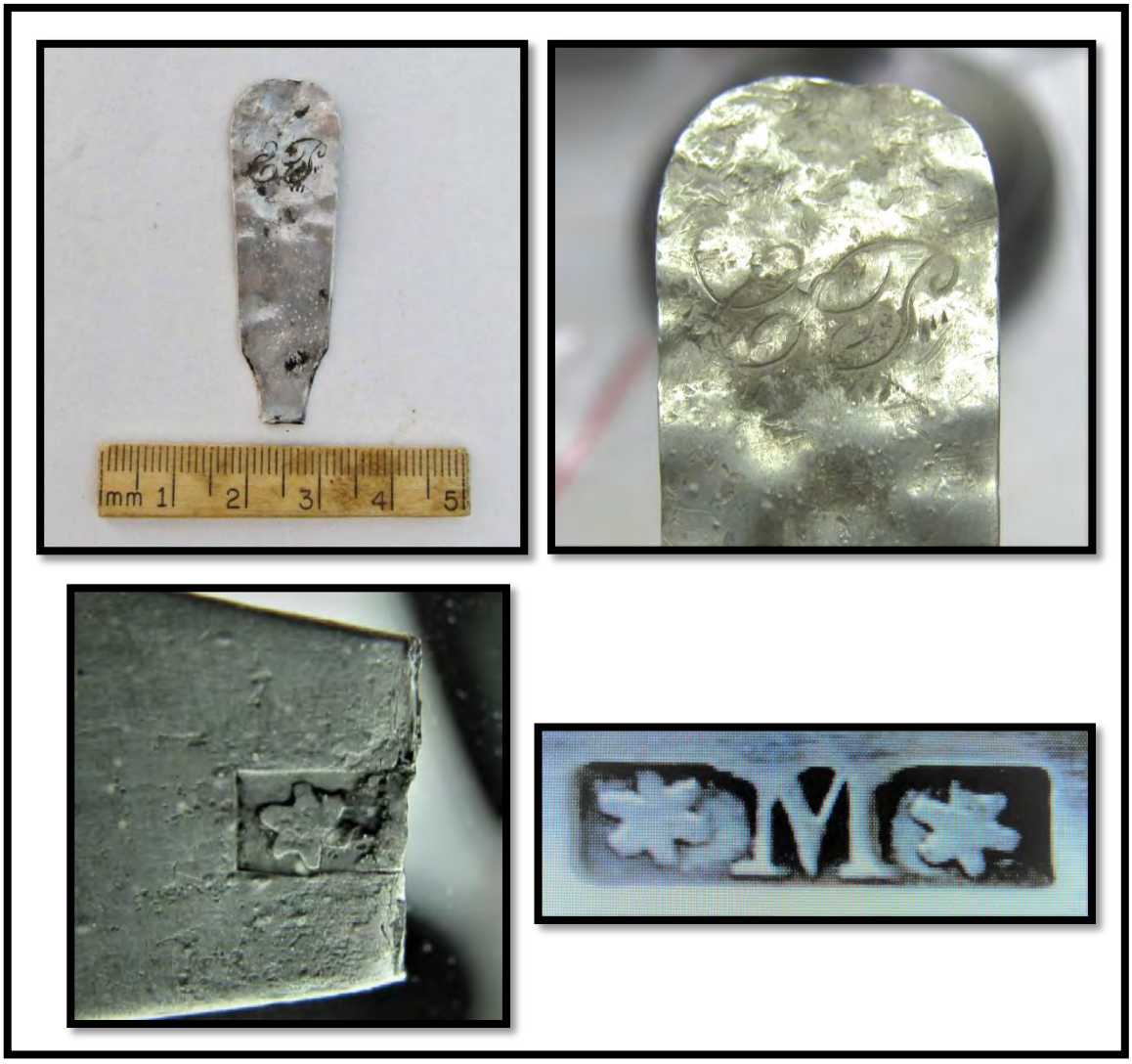


Figure 120: 19th c. engraved silver spoon handle with silver smith's mark (H)

The handle maintains a partial silver mark identifying the implement as the work of Abel Moulton, of Newburyport, Massachusetts. This specific Moulton silver mark is indicative of the period 1818-1820 (Sterling Flatware Fashions 2019), the farm's second, if not third occupation.

## Forks

Four unequivocal examples of 18th c., two tined iron forks were recovered from both ME 073.014 and ME 073.015 - two eating forks and two stabbing forks (Figure 121-123). All maintain one or two piece bone handles, with either square "rat-tail" or flat flange iron inner handle supports. The two eating, or table forks,

both maintain “balustroid” shafts (Figure 121), as does one stabbing fork (Figure 123).

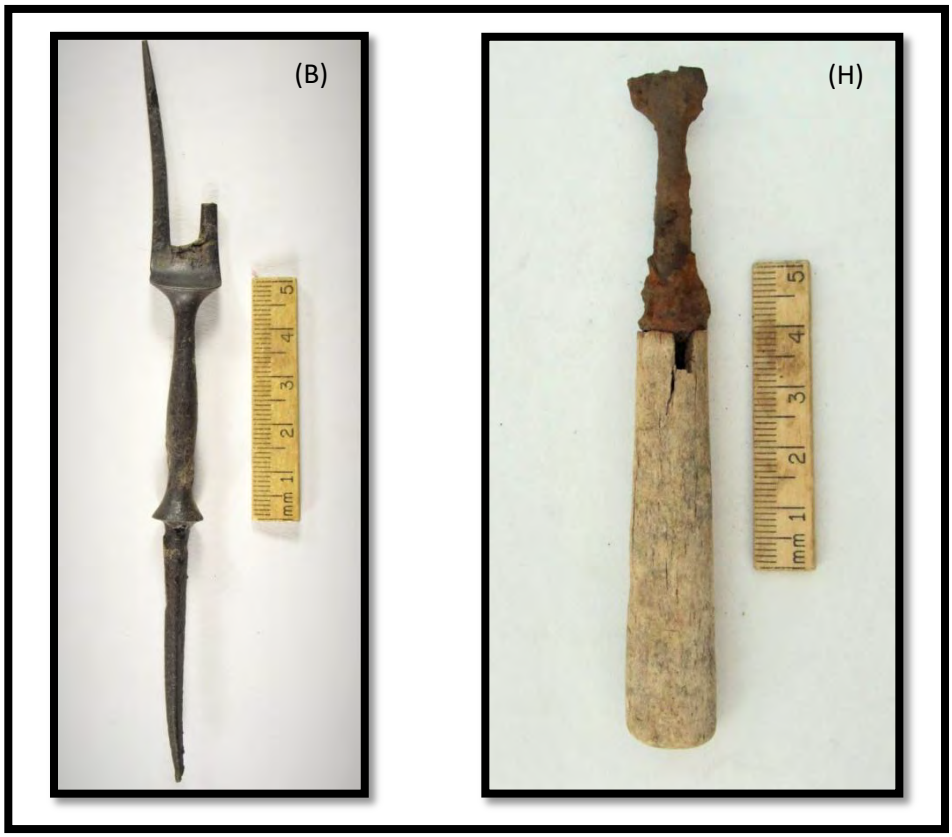


Figure 121: 18th c. two-tined table forks with balustroid shafts


Figure 122: 18th c. two-tined stabbing fork with tapered shaft

Two forks are represented by bone handles (one rat tailed and one flanged). One half of a bone handle overlay a broken two tined fork’s rivet holes exactly (2m distant cross-mend) (Figure 122). Another half of a bone handle retains its inner iron handle flange, representing a fifth utensil, likely a fork (Figure 124).


Figure 123: 18th c. two-tined stabbing fork with balustroid shaft (B)


Figure 124: bone utensil handle with riveted iron interior flange (H)

## Brass Aglet

A single brass aglet is present in ME 073.014's cultural sample (Figure 125). Recovered in N208 E252, it is 2.2cm long, and 6mm wide proximally, and tapers to a rounded point. A small 2mm wide hole, 5mm from the proximal end, is present on both sides of the aglet.


Figure 125: brass aglet (H)

## Brass Book Clasp

The proximal end of a finely pressed or stamped, brass book clasp was recovered at ME 073.015 (Figure 126). The clasp is visually identical in form to the proximal portion of a book clasp recovered at the early to mid 18th c. Ephraim Sprague Site, in Lebanon, Connecticut (Ross, et al., 2013: 45). While such clasps of this style were likely present at other times during the 18th c., the Sprague Site example dates to no later than c. 1750 (Figure 127, upper right).


Figure 126: 18th c. bookmark - Merryspring Nature Center (B)

*Literacy artifacts from the Sprague House including (top) brass book clasps, and (bottom) fragment of an eyeglass lens, a lead pencil and a small lead inkwell.*

s

Figure 127: 18th c. brass bookmark - Sprague House, Connecticut

## Ornamental Brass

A very thin, highly ornamental piece of brass (Figure 128) was recovered from ME 073.015. Its asymmetrical design does not suggest a drawer pull related item. Nor does it have the thickness to sustain any substantial stress, being only 1mm thick.

While possibly furniture related, the specimen's nature and design are suggestive of an ornamental brass feature on an 18th c. rifle, specifically the patch box cover hinge mounting plate. The proximal, secured hinge portion of an 18th c. flintlock rifle's patch box is often asymmetrical and secured with one or more screws (Figure 129). Although frequently ornately engraved, many maintain a plain, though ornately shaped hinge plate.


Figure 128: possible ornamental brass patch box hinge fragment (B)

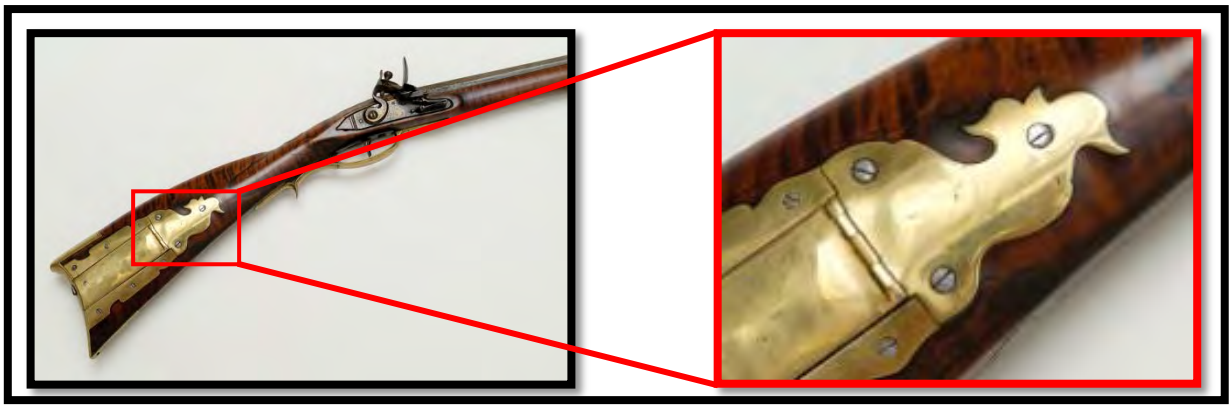

Figure 129: brass patch box cover with hinge magnified
http://explorepahistory.com/kora/files/1/2/1-2-12E8-25-ExplorePAHistory-a0k9m0-a_349.jpg

## Thimbles

While only two thimbles were recovered during testing (Figure 131), two differing thimble styles are represented – closed end and open end (aka, ring thimble).

Although surface degradation makes attribute analysis difficult, the closed end specimen recovered at ME 073.014, and similar to the one illustrated by Flynn (Figure 130, right), does not appear to have a ridge between the side and the top, indicative of the late 18th and 19th centuries (Flynn 2016).

Figure 130: examples of 18th c. thimbles –domed (left) and open end (right)

The ring type thimble may date as early as the 13th c. in England, and may predate "common use of domed thimble." (Flynn 2016). While the dome topped thimble came into use by the 15th c., this very early type "continued to be made into the 17th and 18th centuries; they tend to have heavy, thickened lower rims, and machine made interlocking indentations." (2016, citing Read 2018: 17-20).

Although only partially represented, the open, ring type thimble (Figure 131, right) recovered at ME 073.015 meets all the above criteria.


Figure 131: thimbles recovered at Merryspring Nature Center – domed (left) (B) and open end (right) (B)

## Bottles

There are complications with regard to bottles represented at both ME 073.015 and ME 073.014. There is significant utilization of glass, and especially bottle fragments, as scrapers. As a result, bottles may be over-represented by extra-site fragments considered representative of bottles on site. While no comprehensive analysis has been undertaken, clear evidence of a well represented glass scraper "tradition" is present.

## Patent Medicine – Turlington Bottle

One, molded and embossed medicine bottle (phial) is present in ME 073.015 assemblage. It is a molded Turlington patent medicine bottle (Figure 132). The bottle is represented by a small body sherd with embossed "…RAN…" over "TO" (GRANTED TO). This portion of an authentic Turlington bottle typically has "BY THE KINGS ROYAL PATENT GRANTED TO" on one face, with each word being above the next. Although Turlington patent medicine was available from the very early 1740's to the mid 20th c., this wording, in this organization, is consistent with a post-1754 form (Jones 2016).


Figure 132: 18th c. Turlington patent medicine bottle (B)

Another partial Turlington patent medicine bottle was recovered in 2017, from a context similar to that of ME 073.015 – the Thorndike-Conway House (ME 373.017). The Thorndike-Conway House is located 1/8 mile east of Merryspring, on the same road (Mitchell 2018). In his report of the Thorndike-Conway House, the author states,

> "The molded phial is identified as a Turlington elixir bottle (Hume 1969; Atkinson, no date; Atkinson 2013). Only the immediate base and a

millimeter of sidewall is present (Figures 26 & 27), but the style is clearly identifiable. Although a similar bottle was recovered in Stockton Springs, at the Fort Pownall Redoubt #1 site, circa 1759+, .017's example is not considered reflective of such an early period." (Mitchell 2018: 40, 41)

### Medicine Phial

One, narrowly lipped, clear glass medicine phial is present in the current bottle sample (Figure 133). Its flat, narrow lip is consistent with a late 18th c. period bottle of this type.


Figure 133: medicine phial rim fragment with lip (B)

### Perfume/Ointment Bottle

A very small, square, dark aqua bottle, with flattened, fire-finished base is represented by only it basal portion, and three partial side walls (Figure 134)


Figure 134: small ointment/perfume bottle (B)

## Case Bottle

The Merrypring bottle sample includes a splendid example of a dark green, heavily patinated (glass diseased) case bottle (Figure 135). The reconstructed base exhibits a well developed hollow pontil scar. In addition to the base, numerous sidewall fragments, and a shoulder fragment are also present in the sample. While no neck or lip fragments were recovered, they are suspected of being present within the midden from which the other fragments were recovered. As with other cultural materials recovered there, this case bottle strongly supports a Revolutionary War temporal component at ME 073.014.

Figure 135: 18th c. case bottle base with hollow pontil scar (H)

## Cultural Materials – Native American

No prehistoric Native American component is currently known at Merryspring Nature Center; no pre-European evidence is identified by the current testing, and no anecdotal evidence for such is present, either. However, there is significant circumstantial evidence to support a late-historic, Native American presence.

Within the mid-coast Maine region, late 18th c., presumed Native American behavior is inferred in a number of ways, in a number of historic archaeological contexts. Recent efforts by the author and others (see Bock 2016, Mitchell 2018, Spiess 2010), identifies this 18th c. tradition via the inclusion of any or all of the following: glass trade beads; locally produced red clay beads; glass scrapers and utilized glass fragments; and shattered rhyolite (or less frequently another lithic variety). As a result of this effort, the author adds to that list, the presence of folded, rolled, and cut, large, late 18th c. flat buttons.

All of the above are present at either Merrypring or nearby Thorndike-Conway House, in direct association with colonial and/or Revolutionary War period European archaeological deposits (c. $1776^{+}$). In lieu of an identified pre-creamware period component (c. $1762\text{-}1825^{\pm}$) at either site, all the above identified materials are attributed to the late 18th c.

While little is known of the Native American, late 18th c. experience of bi-cultural, European/Native American occupation, it clearly occurred. Written historic documentation identifies dozens of Native American, Penobscot warriors present at, and living with a Continental military force in Camden, prior to, and after the failed battle for Castine, c.1779 (Robinson 1907) (Hubert 2014).

> "The force stationed at Clam Cove [south Camden] under General Ulmer, [*] consisted of two hundred men… There was a company of Penobscot Indians connected with the force… At the same time as Gen. Ulmer's force was stationed at Clam Cove, Lt. Benjamin Burton, with a smaller force, was stationed at Camden Harbor." (Robinson 1907:55, 56).

As the Penobscot warriors were clearly an integrated component of the main Continental force in south Camden, it is reasonable to conclude that at least a few warriors might accompany a smaller force, such as Lt. Burton's in north Camden (the "Harbor", or "Camden Harbor" as it was then known).

*(Major Philip Ulmer [Mitchell 2015], under whom Lt. Benjamin Burton served, and the individual likely responsible for Burton's being stationed in north Camden, was in command of Fort Pine Hill, in south Camden, until the very early 1780's. Until then, Captain George Ulmer, Philip's brother, was also under the command of Major Philip Ulmer. Later, Captain George Ulmer took command of Fort Pine Hill in south Camden (Glen Cove, Rockport) for a short period, and later discharged. Sometime between 1808 and 1812, Captain George Ulmer was given the rank of militia Major General, a political appointment by Massachusetts Gov. James Sullivan (Hubert 2014). During the War of 1812, militia Major General George Ulmer was subsequently stripped of his rank by the subsequent governor, demoted to militia Colonel, placed under house arrest, and court marshaled. He later regained his title of militia Major General through presidential intervention in 1814. [Hubert 2014]).

## Lithics

### Rhyolite Debitage

Beyond very fine inclusions, there is no naturally occurring gravel in the matrix at ME 073.015; there is no way for rhyolite to be naturally present and available for human use. Thus, it is a foregone conclusion that all lithics utilized technologically at ME 073.014 and ME 073.015, and represented by flakes, shatter, or cobble core reduction, is culturally introduced to the sites.

Approximately 580 grams of rhyolite shatter, cores, core fragments, or flakes are present in the current Merryspring sample (n=28 flakes or small shatter, and 6 large core fragments or core reduction flakes). Of these, the overwhelming majority emanate from ME 073.015's midden (Part 4; Figure 14), with some recovered from the cellar fill, and presumed to also originate in the site's midden.

A number of waterworn cobble fragments are present within the sample. These fragments reflect primary reduction (cobble splitting) and subsequent flaking; all are intentionally developed and utilized as cores. The largest fragments maintain well developed rind, or patina (Figures 136 and 137). Of the rhyolite flakes recovered, the perception is not of biface or other specific tool manufacture,. Rather, the suggestion is of core preparation or modification. Possible utilization is noted on only one flake.

Of considerable note is the recovery of several small rhyolite flakes in ME 073.014's northwest midden. Their presence correlates with the recovery of other cultural materials in the same unit (and in the northeast midden) and attributed to the late 18$^{th}$ c. (e.g., glass trade bead, gun flint fragment). This supports the hypothesis that one or

more, westerly, “sister” loci relate to ME 073.015, but are “masked” by ME 073.014’s development.


Figure 136: rhyolite cobble fragments (B)

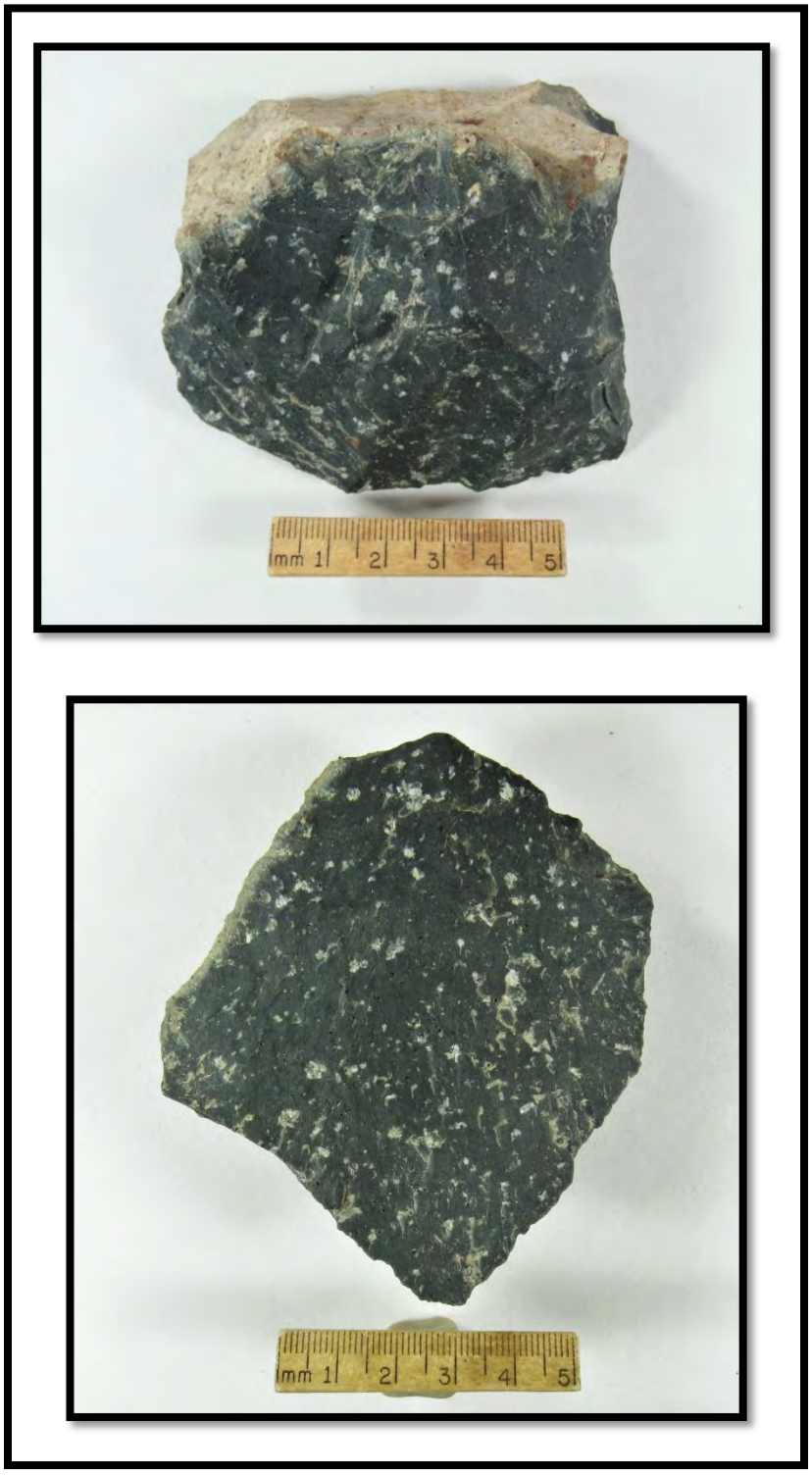


Figure 137: rhyolite cobble primary reduction flake – exterior (top) and interior (bottom) (B)

Of equal import is the presence of a large rhyolite cobble reduction flake (with cortex), and a small, extremely sharp and un-weathered rhyolite flake, both recovered between 50-75cm below surface, solidly in Feature 1 (Figure 138). Feature 1 lies approximately 10m south of the nearest other rhyolite recoveries (those being adjacent to ME 073.015's structure).

An additional, remote rhyolite recovery is noted in a core fragment/shatter and a single flake, even farther from the main concentration of rhyolite debitage. Recovered in a 50cm$^2$ shovel test pit (N192 E295, SE quad), these two piece are located 17m south of the main rhyolite concentration, and 7m south of Feature 1.


Figure 138: - Feature 1 rhyolite flake and cobble fragment – dorsal/exterior (left), ventral/interior (right) (B)

### Quartz Debitage

Two, very small, possible quartz flakes are present in the current lithic sample. Both indicate some attributes consistent with flaking. Given the lack of any such lithic material in the site matrix, and the lack of any other such pieces being recovered in 2017's or 2018's testing, they are considered likely cultural. Both are spatially associated with ME 073.015.

### Beads

The bead sample at ME 073.015 is comprised of four tubular, and one disc shaped red clay beads. Three of the clay beads were recovered from either cellar fill, or an area presumed to be under the structure and likely "top-dressed" after the structure's

removal, and the cellar filled. Thus, no clear provenience is available for these beads. That said, there is no evidence that cultural material within cellar fill is not related to the immediately adjacent midden. Quite the contrary, ceramic evidence from both the midden and cellar fill indicates the cellar's culturally enriched fill is immediately contemporary, and likely relates to the surrounding midden.

The other two beads in the sample were recovered immediately adjacent to the structure's presumed outer limit, and also likely in a disturbed context.

The single disc shaped bead is 1cm wide and 4mm thick (Figure 139). The four tubular clay beads (Figure 140) are 7mm, 1cm, 1.3cm, and 1.7cm in length, and vary from 3-6mm in thickness. Bead bore diameters are approximately 1mm (Figures 139 and 141).

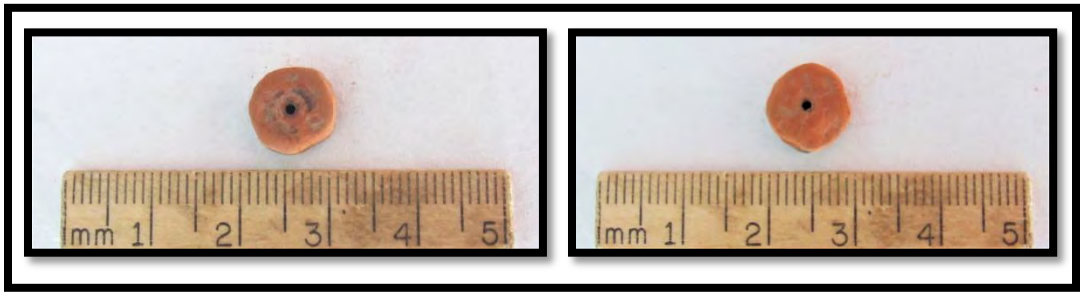


Figure 139: flat disc clay bead - obverse (left), reverse (right) (B)

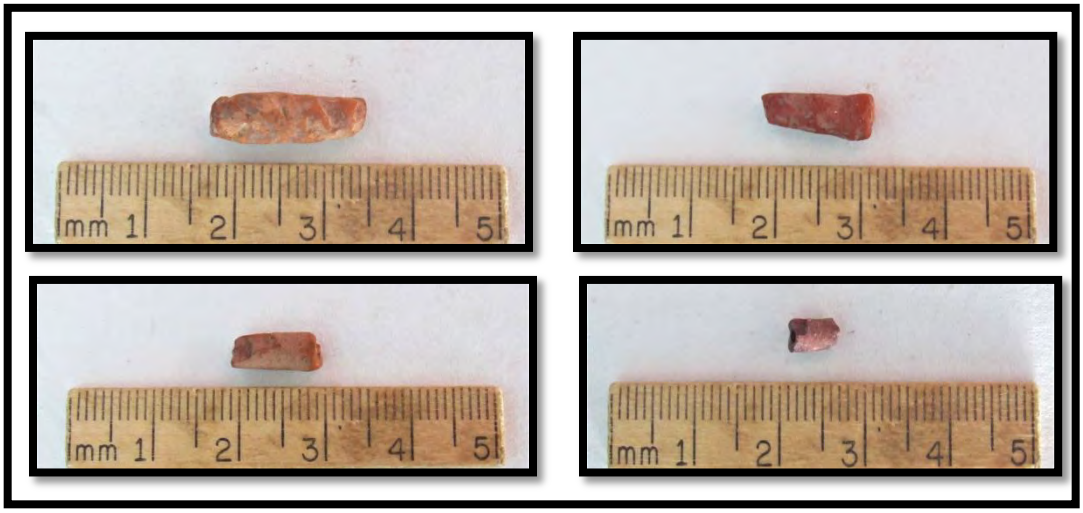


Figure 140: tubular clay beads (B)

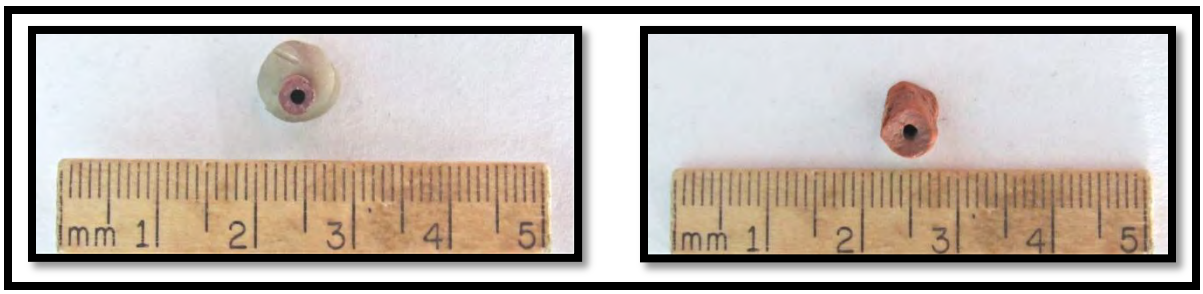

Figure 141: tubular clay bead bore diameters (B, left; H, right))

The ME 073.014's bead sample, though recovered in the site's middens, is especially intriguing as there is little likelihood of such beads being a part of American daily life between 1800 and 1820. And, while natural processes can produce "bead-like" structures (i.e., tubular concretions/"root casts"), the recovery of a glass trade bead in ME 073.014's northwest midden (along with gunflint fragments and rhyolite flakes) effectively precludes that potential. At the same time, their presence there, along with other presumed late 18$^{th}$ c. cultural materials, strongly reinforces the interpretation that a Revolutionary War period, European/Native American, bi-cultural component existed on, or near the (now cellared) elevated terrace overlooking ME 073.015 to the northeast.

The two clay beads in ME 073.014's sample (Figure 142) are: a small tubular form (possibly broken) 7mm in length and 5mm thick; and two pieces (which probably refit at one time) 8mm in length and 8mm thick, from the same 1m unit, 50cm$^2$ quad, and 10cm level. If joined, they would reflect a "football" shaped form.

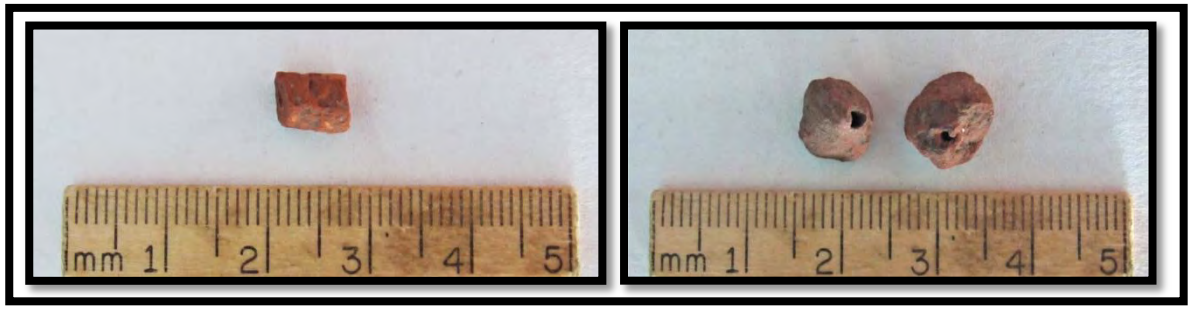

Figure 142: tubular clay bead and broken oblong clay bead (H)

The glass bead (Figure 143) is clearly weathered, maintaining an iridescent, "diseased" surface. It is light aqua in color, wound, and measures 7mm in length, and 8mm in width. The bead's size, and wound nature, are consistent with a "WIb4" type (Kidd and Kidd 1970).

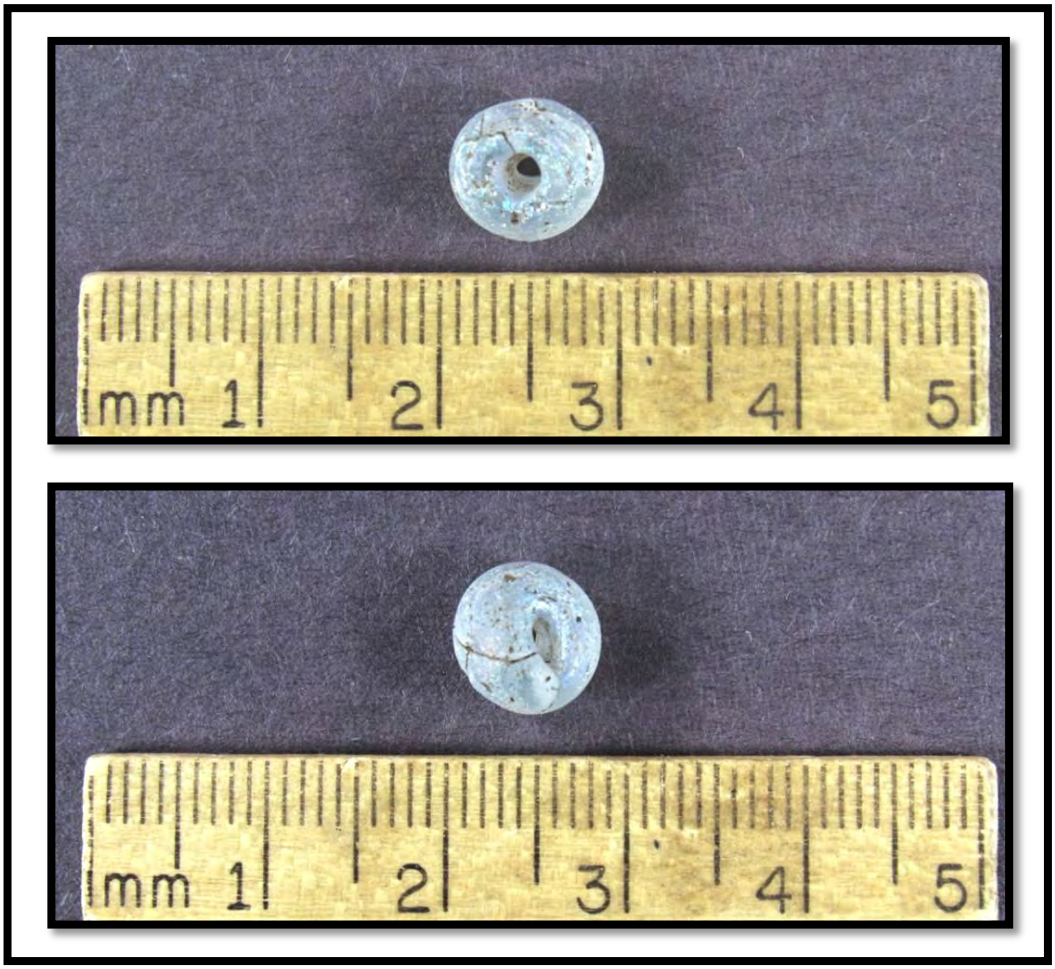


Figure 143: wound, glass trade bead (obverse and reverse) (H)

## Glass Scrapers/Utilized Glass

ME 073.015 contains a very high glass scraper/utilized glass aspect - forty-four specimens! While the author acknowledges glass breaks and fractures in many different ways, producing tremendous variations in its edges, the two "types" identified herein, "side scraper" and "graver/drill", are consistent in their morphological attributes, generally. ME 073.015's "side scraper" form typically illustrates very limited use wear/retouch along 2cm or less of a straight or curved, perpendicular (i.e., square) edge – an expedient tool form. Only a very localized and limited amount of likely use wear, or minor intentional retouch is evident (Figure 144).

In contrast, but equally as consistent in its form, the glass "graver/drill" sample illustrates minor retouch/use wear on corners of angles typically $90^0$ or less (Figure 145). Indeed, some specimens appear shaped, so as the utilized portion is less than $90^0$. Like the "side

scrapers" these specimens' retouch/use wear is also very limited, and suggestive of an expedient tool form.

As there are too many examples of glass scrapers/utilized glass to illustrate herein, a single representative specimen maintaining both technological forms is illustrated below (Figures 144 and 145).

Of all the scrapers/utilized glass, many are of clear or light green to aqua flat glass – window pane. However, the range of glass types utilized is broad, and includes: flat green bottle glass; curved green bottle glass; light green to aqua flask neck and lip fragment; flat, aqua bottle glass; wheel engraved stemware bowl fragment; thick stemware bowl base; and stemware or tumbler rim fragments.

Beyond the need for a "square" edge (side scraper), or an angled corner (drill/graver), utilized glass generally appears random in its size and shape. No utilized specimen is greater than 3cm in maximum axial length, and some are less than 1cm. While some "side scrapers'" working edge do utilize a concave margin, as might be intuitively expected, some are convex, suggesting any square edge will do – once again… expedience.

When plotted by count, a general area of concentration appears northeast of the ME 073.015's presumed structure (Figure 146). While midden is distributed over a broad area, generally, the concentration of scrapers/utilized glass is situated at the approximate northern limit of ME 073.015's main midden. Although considerable utilized glass is present elsewhere, this concentration may represent an activity locus.

Also worth noting is the presence of several glass scrapers or utilized specimens within the western fill concentration immediately west of the presumed structure's west gable end, and also overlying the chimney base area – fill. If excluded from the plotting map, distribution of glass scrapers/utilized glass looks very much like several other forms of cultural materials attributed to Native American use (e.g., clam shell and buttons).

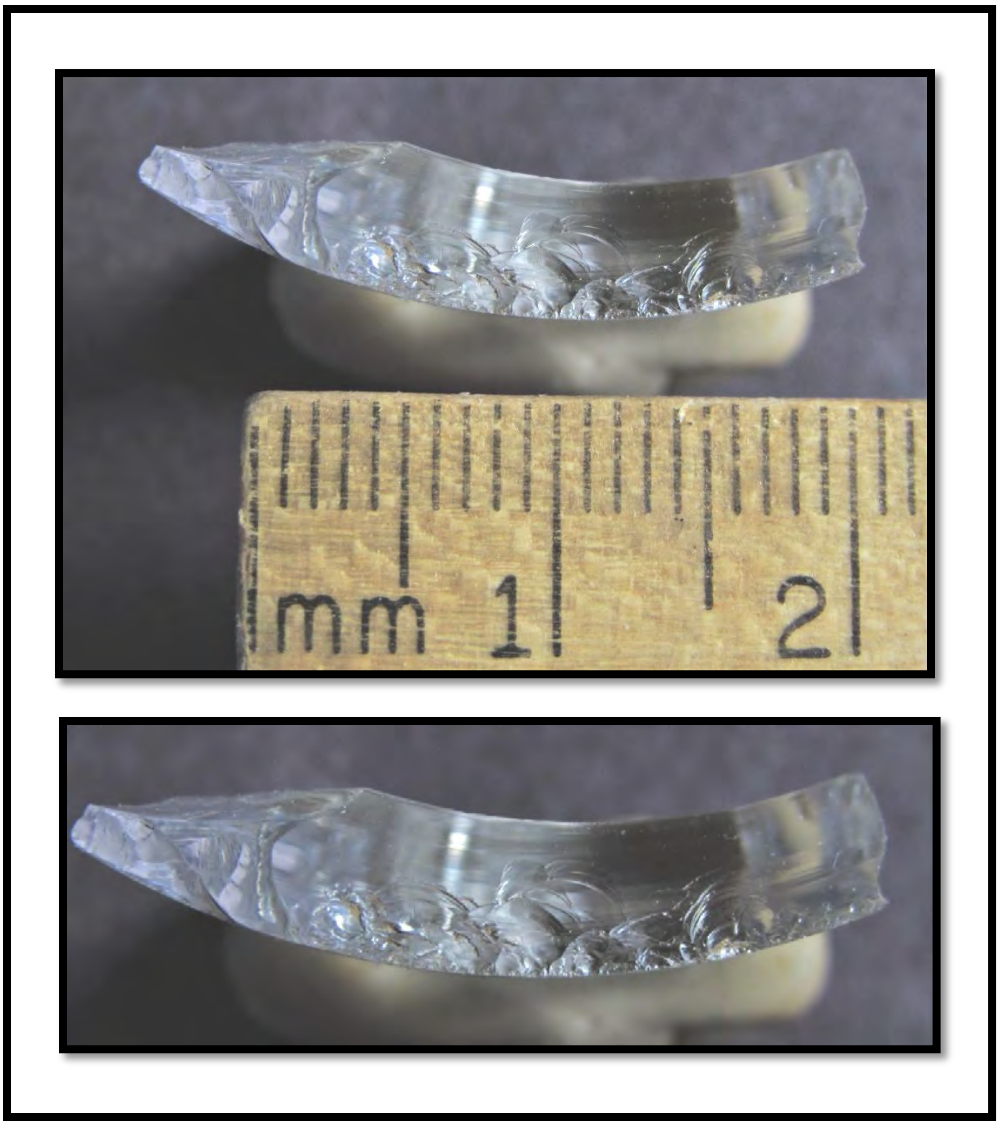


Figure 144: glass side scraper (convex)

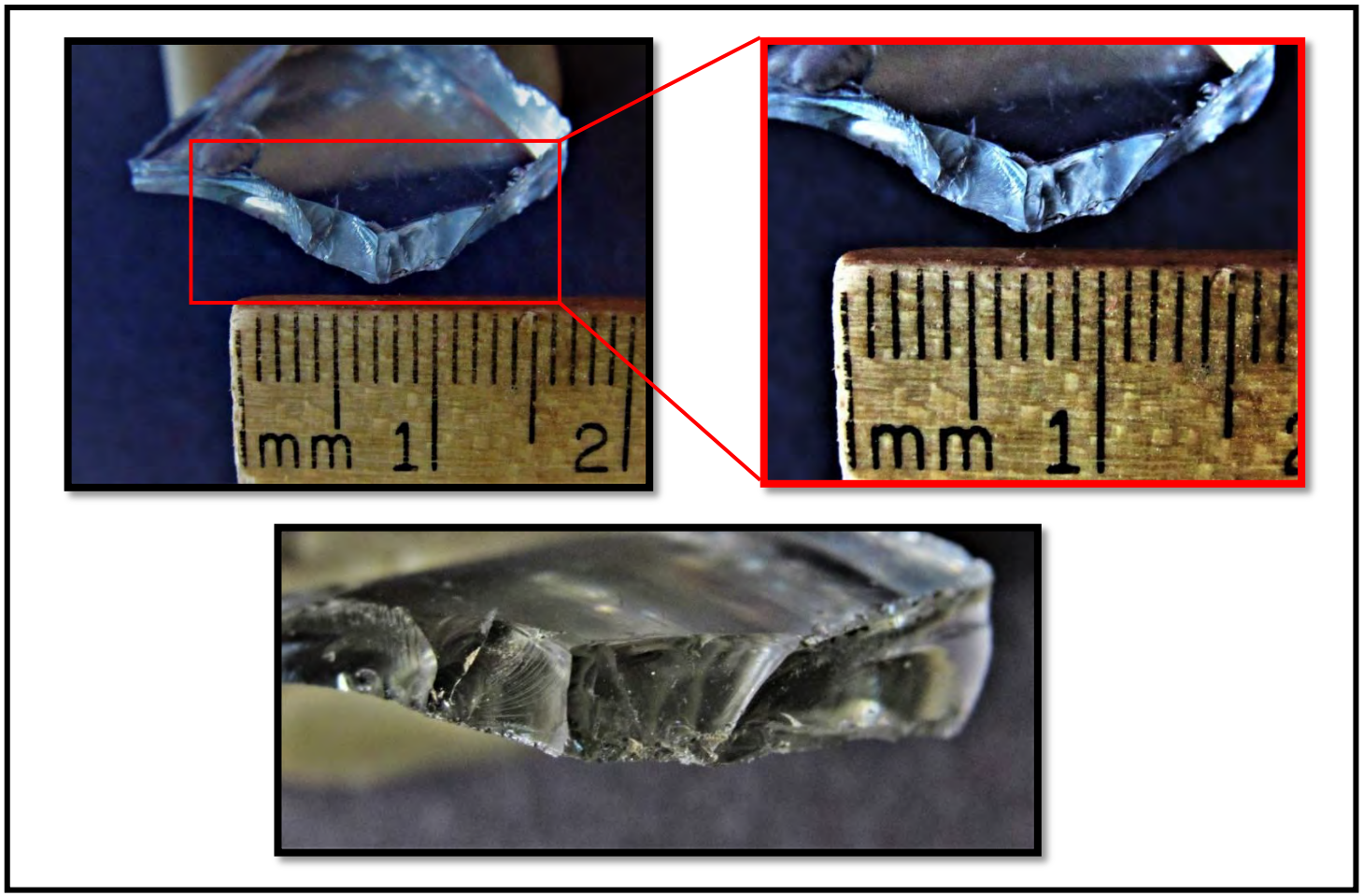


Figure 145: same glass scraper as Figure 144
glass "corner scraper" with intentional preparation of working margin; skewed contrast (upper left); $90^0$ corner (upper right); working margin with use wear (bottom)

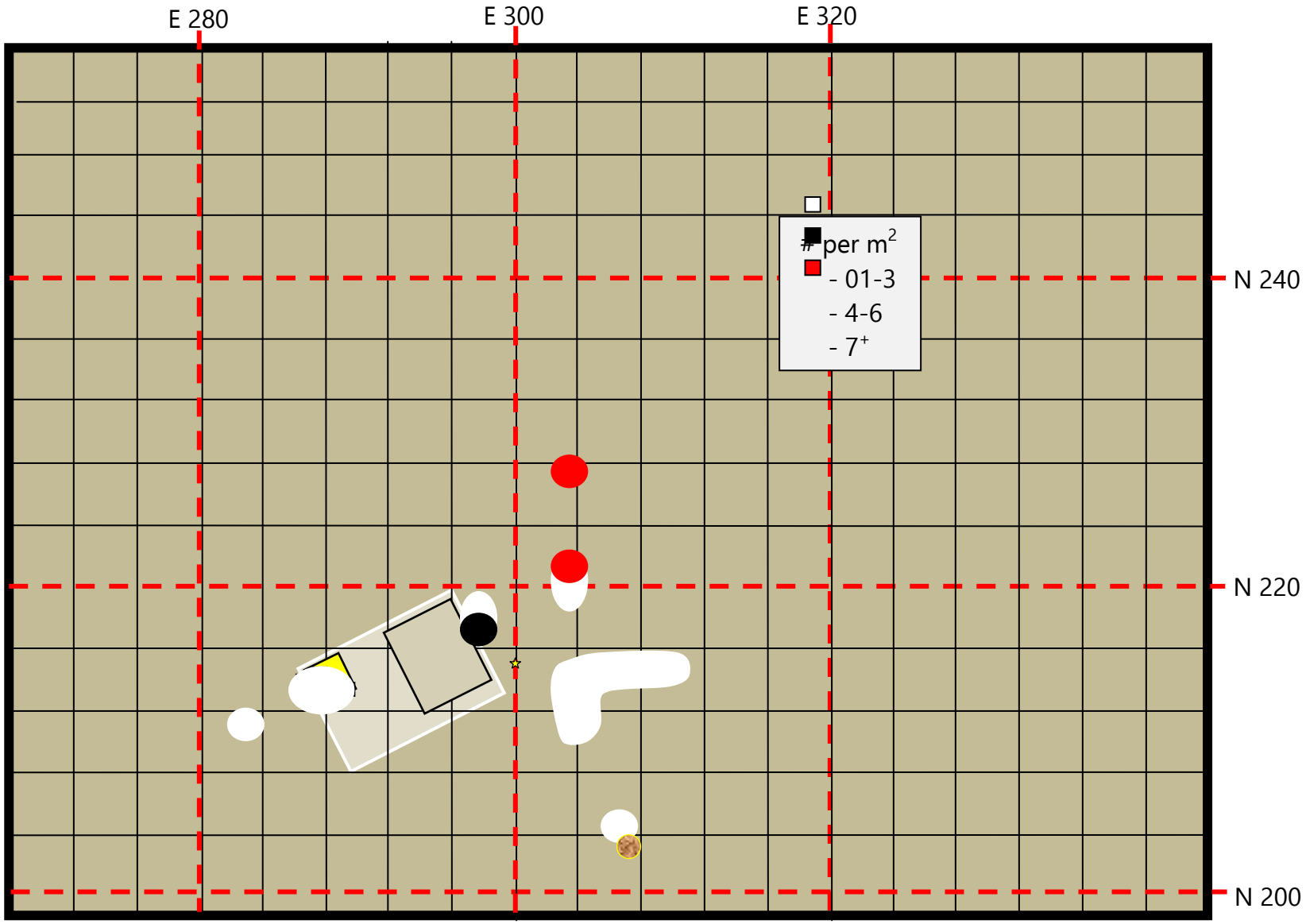


Figure 146: ME 073.015 - glass scrapers/utilized glass by count

Identical forms of glass scrapers/utilized glass are found at ME 073.014. Fourteen "side" and/or "corner" scrapers are present within ME 073.014's sample. All were recovered from the site's northeast midden. Such a concentration suggests the presence of a possible activity locus in or near that location (N207 E252; N208 E252-253).

If legitimately attributable to Native American technology, c. 1770's and 1780's, their presence reinforces the possibility of a remote Revolutionary War period extension of ME 073.015.

## Folded, Rolled, and Cut Buttons

The final category of cultural material tentatively attributed to a Native American is modified buttons (Figure 147). As noted, the attribution of these buttons to Native American culture, albeit colonial-historic, is tentative. At present, there is no defined technological or cultural tradition attributable to Native American culture during this period, such that a Native American "fingerprint" for the period is available to the archaeologist. While a number of sites within mid-coast Maine have contributed to such a "finger print", none have defined it unequivocally.


Figure 147: folded, rolled, and cut flat buttons (B)

While anyone can roll flat buttons into a tube, or hammer them over into half-moons, or even cut them into pieces for some reason, it seems unlikely Europeans might do so. It

is even harder to imagine such behavior repeated numerous times in the simultaneous presence of contemporary glass or clay beads, and glass scrapers, and not be Native American. So, while there may be no distinct, Colonial period, Native American tradition is currently available, in which folded, rolled, and/or cut flat buttons are a part, cumulatively the circumstantial evidence for such is strong.