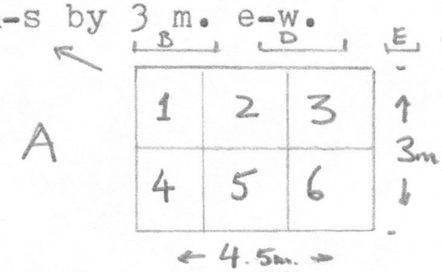
EXCAVATIONS AT LA LOMA, (SITIO SIERRA, AG-3, COCLE)

FIELD NOTES

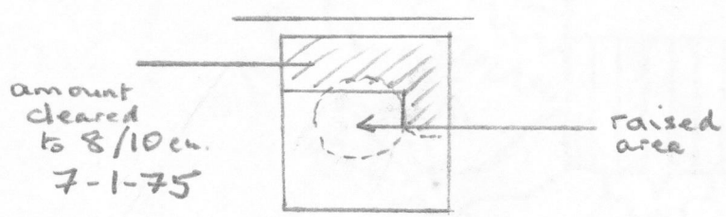
7-1-75

Arrived at the site on 2-1-75; 2-6-1 were spent fixing the camp; Palacios cleared the excavation area. The excavation was planned alongside pits B-D of 1971, and west of them. The initial cut was a box unit of six squares of 1.5m^2, i.e., 4.5 m. n-s by 3 m. e-w.



Pits B and D of 1971 were defined by small test pits. The datum line was fixed (green stakes) following the eastern edge of these pits. (Cat. #150: sherds from the edge of pit D of 1971). Datum stakes were placed 60 cm. south of D, and 50 cm. north of B. The eastern edge of Cut A of 1975 (the box unit) was defined 50 cm. west of the line of western wall of B-D of 1971. While the Cut A was being defined, material lying loose on the surface of the cleaned area was collected (cat. #151/2). Material embedded in the surface was left in situ.

Excavation work began at 2.00 p.m. on 7-1-75, in Cut A-1. The hard crust of humic material was broken with the small paleontologist's pick; this resulted in fracturing of some sherds. Most of the sherd material was crushed, though some sherds were of a good size. There seemed to be a lot of sherds placed upright in the deposit: perhaps the result of plough action? The material was all passed through the 1/4" (green) sifter (version 1). The "crust" (the sun-dried surface) was no more than 4 cm. deep. Underneath the soil was softer, humic and dark brown. Roots infrequent. There is a smallish prominence c. 2 cm. above the surface in the centre; as the excavation was started in arbitrary levels, this anomaly was ignored subsequently; i.e., when smoothed out, the levels were taken down as horizontally as possible.



Cat.# 153 was the area cleared over A1-3. Weather: calm morning; clouded over c. 10 a.m., prob bly due to high winds on the Caribbean; wind got up c. 8.30 a.m. Sunny, clear afternoon. High clouds moved across from east in late evening. Night windy

8-1-75

As cattle had eaten the palm fronds of the "ramada", time was spent arranging the tarpaulin and a barrier against the cattle (9-12.30 a.m.).

Continued to take down A-1/1 (0-10 cms.) Sherds continued densely packed. "ather more bone than in 1971. (Probably a better sifting technique). There were no depositional anomalies whatsoever. Sherds were densest in the [illegible] corner  . Some fragments of metates and large chunks of ? work débris found.

Weather: bright until c. 11.00 a.n. when cirrus moved across from N.E. Windy, but in gusts. Wind all night before. Calm c. 6-8 a.m. Early afternoon clouds approached from N.W.

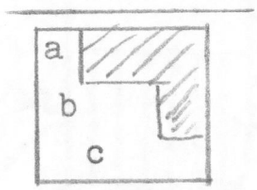
Cat. # 154

2-5 p.m.: completed and nailed up A-1/1 (#154); began A-1/2

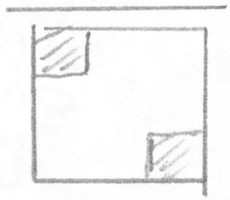
Soil much more humid and softer; sherds larger, some of considerable size. In spite of the typological mixing, the refuse looks somewhat undisturbed.

Cat. #155:

Unit divided into 9 of 50cm.^{2}
a,1-3
b,1-3
c,1-3



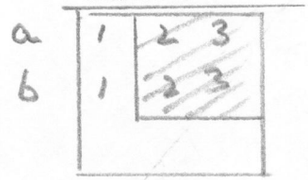
Line indicates E wall



Stringed off for tray and flotation

9-1-75

7-10 a.m. Palacios and Tapia erected barbed wire fence to keep out cattle. Cooke cleaned A-1/2 (0-50^2) for flotation and floated half (see above sketch). (Cat. no. 156). The presence of many grass roots obviates perfect collection, but the presence of many small bones at all levels emphasises the necessity of the technique at all levels.. Sherds are larger than in 0-10, but still are typologically mixed



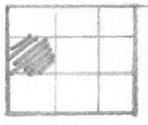
The second unit for flotation (c-3) was ignored.
a-1 = cat.#156; rest 157

P.M. Finished cleaning up a-1/2. One sherd (an olla with a modelled zoomorphic head) seems to be part of a similar or the same piece recovered in pit B, 1971. Check this; it might give an idea of the nature of plough-drag. Otherwise, nothing depositionally notable: sherds dense homogeneously over the unit; a lot of sherds continuing upright, indicating plough zone dis turbance.

4.30-5.00 P.M.
Started on 158: = a-1/ artificial separation#3 (20-30 approx.)
The soil is lighter, damper, and noticeably more silty.
Only 20 cm^2 completed.

10-1-75

A.M.: Completed cat. no. #158 (A-1/3). (See appended information from catalogue cards.) The flotation unit was #159: B-1



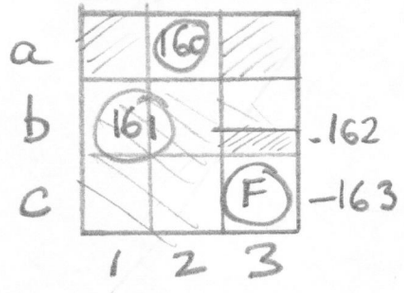
In the afternoon, the unit was completed and A-1/4 started (0-1.50 x 50 - a-1-3). Cat. no= 160.

Left for Arraiján, leaving Palacios at camp.

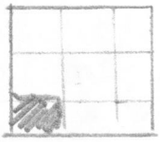
14-1-75

Returned from Arraiján. P.M. Completed 160 (A-1/4). Cat.#161 Just from the digging, it seems we are already in the Phase IV levels (N.B.: in fact, results from later pits showed this to be correct; separation #1 has already been passed through; this accounts for the siltiness of the soil following the sun-baked humic material.) The whole Ph.IV (upper) deposit slopes away rapidly to east; this accounts for the greater depth of the post-phase IV material in the pits of 1971.) Sherds are more densely packed and larger than in the preceding levels, often stacked up on top of one another. The number of bones has greatly increased.

Cat.#161: Unit other than 160,162&163
Cat.# 162: A dense area of fish bones, 1.50x0.80-1.00/1.00x0.80-(1.50
Cat.# 163: Flotation unit A-4, c-3



Discrepancy.

In c-1,  sherds were particularly dense. Carbon flecks and pieces and bones occur within large sherds as noted in 1971

N.B.: subsequent excavations have indicated thatthis area was part of a largish pit; hence, should be discounted as Phase IV unit. See wall profiles, A-1, N and A-1/4

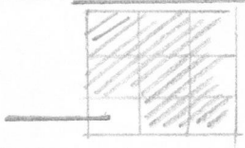
Hence, caution over carbon from this area:

Carbon sample #1: 

Flecks taken from
Perhaps these should be added to those from floated soil?
Carbon is in undoubted association with Ph. IV ceramics.
(N.B.: caution, due to presence of pit in N.W. corner.)

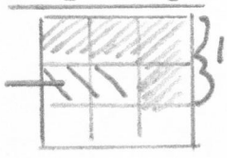
15-1-75

A.M.: excavated AG-3, A-1, 5, leaving C-1 for flotation.



(F)

Owing to possible "mixing" of artifacts, a,1-3 and b,3 were taken out separately and bagged C at. no. #165

166 

Cat. no.#166 is b-1/2, where there were a no. of densely packed sherds, these continuing into the next level (N.B. probably all part of pit in wall of A-1, north).
Carbon sample #2:
Taken from just below the concentrated fish bones of #161, in B-3, presumably contenporary

Carbon sample #3
Taken over B-1/2, in which case, probably intrusive and part of pit. (N.B.)

Cat. no. #167: C-3; flotation unit. Large nos. of fish bones found; also, a good carbon sample (#4). Concentrated within the area of culinary activity.

Cat. #168: A-1/5, c-2. Taken as a separate unit, but not floated.

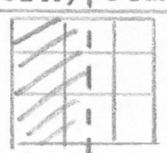
Cat.#169: A-1/5, c-1. This unit lay beneath the flare-collared urn (see slide, photo.) This was the unit chosen for floatation; C-3 floated for convenience, due to the large no. of fish bones.

In general AG-3, A-1,5 was characterised by very large sherd material, a densely occupied, silty, fine, yellowish soil and dense concetrations of bones; most of these fish. Deer bones appear for the first time in some numbers. (See subsequent notes for the coordinates of these). The neck of the large urn probably belongs to the body in level 6, B-1/2. The deer bones seem to be from one, adult individual, well scattered throughout. The impression is that fish bones are common where there are lense of shells and vice-versa.

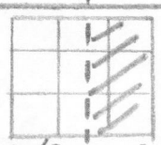
Cat.#170
This is a "clean-up unit" which might include wind-falls from the walls. The surface of the separation between 5 and 6, which must be artificial, was very erratic, due to the size of the sherds and their density. In fact, these deposits make a mockery of artificial units of depth - the deposit must have been built up quickly. The soil in places is remarkably powdery.

15-1-75 P.M.

Opened out A-1, level 6. This time, the excavation was begun in the centre of the unit, b-1 /2 to attempt to determine the nature of the deposition of the large massed sherds. I failed to do so; this lense must correspond to the mass of Ph. IV material of 1971. The day's work ended with almost half (the northern) complete, though not cleaned up in some areas



There might be a natural division at the base of the accumulation of large sherds, where the yellowish, soft and powdery soil seems to grade onto a darker, harder and mottled soil (N.B. this does, in fact, mark the end of the major refuse spread below the first separation; the mottled soil lies over the base house floor).

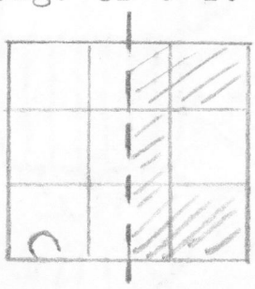


This is cat.#171

Carbon sample #5 taken over b-1/2 and c/1. Probably good to combine with sample 3.

16-1-75

Began by excavating a-3; flotation unit is b-3 (see roll-1, slides). Dashed area plus clean-up of 171. There seems to be a hole and ? floor at edge of C-1. (A-6, feature #1) (Roll 1, BW, #11&12.)



Carbon sample #6 taken from B-2, underneath and between a mess of large Escotá flare-collared sherds. In B-3, large sherd of flare-collared uern is part of vessel with neck in wall of C-3. (See photos, roll-1, S, roll-1, BW). Coordinates: tip of body: 105S/68W. The body is 110 cms. away from the neck. This indicates considerable hapharzdness of the build-up. Note: a seemingly late twisted handle was found underneath a large Escotá urn in wall of B-1. Suspicious. Check pottery sample for disturbance, as this is all part of the areaof the pitting discerned when excavating A-4.

Cat. #173: flotation unit?
Cat.#174: clean-up material, i.e., between levels 6 and 7. Majority of sherds are either the residue under the large urn sherds or loose on floor. 6 is not a level level, due to the number of very large sherds which, incidentally, generally lie flush on surface.
Cat. 175: In A-1,b-2 of this level, an area about 15x15x15 cms. between c. 90x90 was kept for flotation due to the large number of fish (cat. #175A)

16-1-75 P.M.

Excavated all of layer 7, except a-1, kept back for flotation. (BW, roll-1, no. 7). and C-1, which was left as there seems to be a possible post-hole.

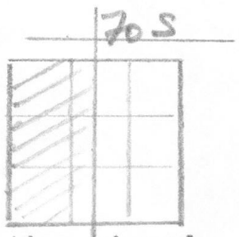
There is a very noticeable drop-off in the number of sherds and bone all over the unit, beneath the first c. 3 cms. of this separation. This must coincide with a depositional unit of slower pace beneath the large refuse unit.

176: A-7, a-3, flotation (Roll-1, BW, no. 10). Carbon sample no. 7 taken from beneath the mass of urn sherds in B-2; should date the end of the dump activity, Carbon sample #8, a good sample, though small; beneath layer of major dump activity. Few sherds (NB: i.e., lying on top of the mottled clay area.)

Carbon samples 7 and 8 were combined and sent to Teledyne on 3/2/75. The date was returned as: 475, s.d.110, radio carbon years 1475, using the Libby half-life of 5568 years. The sample was undersized and had to be diluted for analysis. It could not withstand treatment for the removal of humic acids; could be a little young. A date of between 365 and 585 A.D. does, however, coincide with the date of between 220 and 400 A.D. acquired from what must be the same depositonal unit of pit B in 1971. (I-8556).

Coordinates of sample 8: C-125S x 48 W

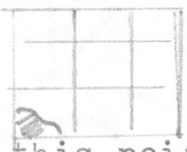
AG-3, A-1/8



Before lunch, we excavated to 70S:
177:
178:

P.M.: 179: it seems that in this level, the sherds are larger; there were at least three grains of maize in B-2. I think that this side represents the major rubbish accumulation and is later than the north side of the cut at this level.

179A: clean-up material from around the feature to the lower level:



The earth at this point seems to be harder and mottled: is it the base of a pit?

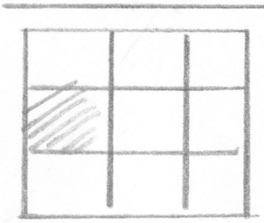
18-1-75

AG-1,A-1,9

At the base of level 9, we came across a definite horizon of hard, mottled clayey soil with abundant flecks of carbon which seems to be an occupation floor. In B-2 and C-3 were some large stones, presumably a hearth and a core, in between which were some large fish bones.

Cat. #181 is material from most of level 9, on to the floor of mottled material.
Cat. #182 is material from B-1; a small area of concentrated hearth area, ash, kernels of maize, carbon; excavated and bagged as a unit. Coords.: 15-35S/70-90W. 88 from surface.
Cat. #183: material from the centre of the floor; a shallo depression and immediately above. Coords.: 100W/100S, c. 25 cms. diameter.

Cat. #184: B-1, the rest of the unit planned for flotation This includes part of the rest of the floor nearby scraped down to localize post-holes.



Cat. #185: feature (p-h) 2
186: feature (p-h) 3
187: feature (p-h) 4
188: feature (p-h) 5 material from within; total take 189 is sweep-up material collected during the excavations of p/hs and pits; will include wind-falls from walls

Cat. #190: the pit to the north-east of the post-holes; not completed (completed day after)

The soil from the p/hs and pits is a light, mist brown, humic soil of good crumb structure; quite different in colour and texture from the mottled, dark-brown earth around them. Its is possible that the correct level of the rims of these features was missed and that they are c. 3.5 cms. above the excavated level.

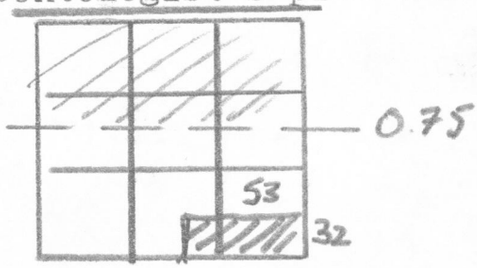
Post-hole 1 was sterile; earth not reserved for flotation.

The area around the loose stones and the core of B-2/c-3 was well scattered with carbon and carbonised seeds: must belong to the remains of the hearth pit above.

Carbon sample #9 was taken from the stones of hearth and lying directly on the floor (B-3)

21/1/75

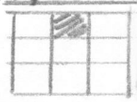
A.M.: Changed tarpaulin for the excavation of unit A-3/ Completed most of separation one (Cat. #191). Typically, hard humic soil, dark brown; breaks into very uneven clods. The grass cover was broken by heavy pick to prize up clods. Rest picked over with paleontologist's pick and trowelled.
P.M.: Took down A-3/2 over :
Soil still dark brown and humic, clodding irregularly.
Softer than above (Cat. #192)



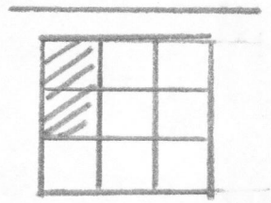
22/1/75

A-3/2 completed (Cat. #193). Large root of a bush at 80W in south wall might disturb deposition considerably. In this unit, a block was left in the south-west corner to cover the modern post-hole (dug for the tarpaulin) (53 cms. N x 32 W).

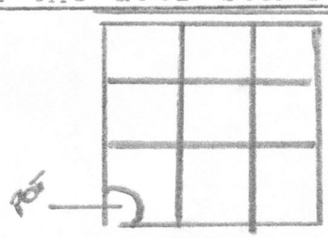
A-3/3: In this unit, ceramics were densely packed; flotation unit chosen A-2:



Cat. #194: excavation started with a,b-1



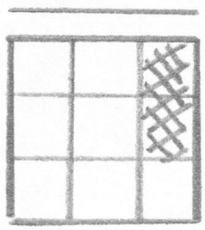
194A: in the western part of the cut, the sherds became particularly dense, but loosely packed. Amidst them were large quantities of bones. All the deer bones came from c,1 & 2. In the s.w. corner was part of an unpturned pot. Extracted and innards taken for flotation.



Same day, P.M.: excavated:

195 is clean-up material from the top of 3 and bottom, i.e. after morning's work 22-1-75

Cat. #196: material from: There is a distinct area of looser sherds in the n-w corner (c-1); this has the appearence of a floor or pit.



The general "level" of this separation is somewhat variable, due to the broken nature of the surface, differential drying-out of the deposit and the size of the sherds. The softer, densely packed area of c-1 has been so trodden that it is about 2 cms. lower than the surrounding surface.

Cat. #197: flotation material from a-2
Cat. #197a: material from the bottom of separation #3 - includes loose sherds from the area of soft earth.

It is important that most of the bone material came from C-1 & 2; should indicate some kind of culinary/dump activity at this point.

23-1-75

Completed separation 3, A-3

Baulk left for the modern post-hole pulled out; this was done crudely and quickly with the baby-pick, approximately to the level of separation 3, except for a small depression in the centre which remains from the post-hole

In the western end there is a depression due to scuffing up of small sherds which belong to the ?hearth/cooking area. Hence separation 3 is lower at this end than the other. (Cat. #198)

Cat. #199: scrapings from the floor of separation #3 and the walls.

23-1-75

Separation #4 begun in the eastern wall; flotation unit a-2: a-1/3 seemed to be continuing the dark brown, clodding, humic soil, but in b & c, the soil changed to a loamier, softer soil - kitchen area ? following from previous level?
(N.B.: this in fact seemed not be be a kitchen area as much as a generalised flow of rubbish from a point west of the excavation)

In the western half of the cut a floor (?) was discerned. This consists of a thin film of yellowish clay which breaks up quite evenly under large sherds lying horizontally upon it. In c-2, part of a grinding table and mano were found to be lying upon the "floor".

In a-3 and b-3, eastern half, the floor in the afternoon light was infuriatingly difficult to perceive after the successful separation of the morning's work. It seemed to be dropping away to the south-east and was followed (later proven a right assumption)

Cat.#200: material considered to represent a single cultural activity on top of the discerned floor.

In a-1 - 3, however, the mottled dark brown broke quite evenly over the loamy: this was separated as 201A for c. 3 cms. Later units a 1-3 were taken down to c. 10 cms. below the end of separation #3, to approximately the union with the loamy (201B). If there is a division here, then 201 should have Phase V-VII sherds.

Cat. #202: sweep-up material; should be from this separation but there may be wind-falls from the walls.

24-1-75

Began to open up A-5. Kit Sargeant put to cleaning the walls of separation #4. Important: in s.w. corner, almost flush on yellow "floor" there was the right side of a Hoplias microlepsis jaw which I believe might be the other side of one recovered in ? a-1, at a higher level. Check this.

Cat. no. 203: this separation (A-5/1) has unusually high nos. of grinding stones for the site.

Cat. #204: this is the remainder of A-3, sep.#4: i.e., from the end of 201 B (23/1/75) - marked by a line of small nails - onto the yellow separation surface. About 1/3 way along the east wall was found the remains of a large Escota-type urn. Photographed. This should seal the date?

Cat. no 205: AG*3/A-5/2: this is the second artificial separation through disturbed humic.

Cat. no.206: This is the earth and sherds from around and within the large Escotá and Girón sherds apparently dug through the yellow separation at the base of separation #4. Separated and taken for flotation.
(N.B. when the unit A-2 was taken out before closing the dig, it seemed that the so-called pit - although it shows up well in the photos. - was all part-and-parcel of the same, first Phase IV refuse throw-out, which slopes away eastwards.)

Carbon sample #10: from the base of separation #4, area C-2; should date the eastern half of this "deposition unit". By the side of maize-preparing equipment lying flush on the yellow separation.

Carbon sample #11: a "good" sample, taken from between and within the GBL/Escotá sherds (i.e., the "pit" at the base of the yellow separation (cat.#206). (N.B.: if this, from the profiles does not seem to be a pit at all, it would be a useful corroborative sample for that analysed by Gif in 1972).

Note: there is more carbon from this unit bagged with the bones of #204.

#207: these are sweepings picked up by Arden Swisher while cleaning down the surface of separation #4 for drawing.

#208: these are cleanings from the wall of A-5, separations 1 and 2; worked by Bertha Brown, K.S. et alii.

#209: Separation #3, AG-3/A-5.

This whole unit was taken down slowly; the same pattern was visible, as in A-3: large GBL sherds, the "floor" of broken ceramics, which breaks up evenly over the whole unit. About 3 cms. only taken down to the level of the broken sherd "floor".

#210: This is the compacted layer of ceramics taken to the level of the compacted yellow separation. Material in the s.w. corner all taken for flotation (

It is debatable whether 209/210 should be considered a contemporaneous depositional unit. 210 certainly is equated with separation #4 in A-3. The position and composition of the bones samples would seem to indicate contemporaneity of 209 and 210.

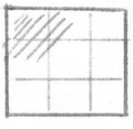
The slide photograph indicates well the division between 209/210, seps. 3 and 4.

211: N.B.: pottery collected from the surface between roots at western end of rock outcrop, 25-1-75

212: sweep-up material from the end of 25-1-75, which is the end of A/5, separation 3 to the beginning of yellow. but probably includes sherds from the wall.

209, i.e., sep. #3, A-5, was taken to the level of the broken sherds only in the western half of the cut (A-5). In the eastern half the division was less clear to see.
209A: the sweepings from the end of separation #3, i/e/ on top of the broken sherd floor.

26-1-75



Continued to strip off large Phase IV sherds to the top of yellow (cat. #213). There was a lot of carbon (sample #12) over: in the N.E. corner of the cut. This was embedded in the hard yellow and scraped up as large pieces. This is the best carbon sample we have had so far for the cultural activity on top of the yellow surface. One reservation: the pieces could be from large trees.

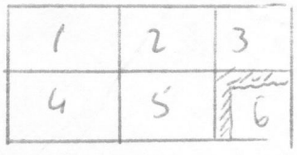
The entire unit - that is, 213, from the end of 210, 25-1-75, - was sieved into the green tray and taken to the river for flotation.

The small nails in the east wall mark the limit between 209/210

There was a very marked rise in the no. of long, rectangular blades and other lithic débitage on top of the yellow "floor". Why?

27-1-75

Opened A-6, leaving a 30 cms. baulk around walls, thus:



215: AG-3, A-6, 1
Finished off, 27-1, P.M. (2i5).
Arbitrary separation of 10-12 cms, following the natural slope westwards.
216: Sweepings from KS's clean-up of walls of A-5, onto yellow floor. There is a small plastic bag of finds from the sep. 4 area, kept apart.

K*S finished cleaning down the walls of A-5, to the yellow surface.

217: AG-3, A-6, 2: Begun by KS as an arbitrary 10 cms. unit.

Took western profile of AG-3, A-4/1, prior to taking down A-4

N.B.: Cat, #218 is a unit taken for water separation from beneath upturned pot in A-3, 3/4. See photo.

28-1-75

KS continued down in A-6; took out separation #2 below 10 cms. to top of Ph. IV sherds placed horizontally

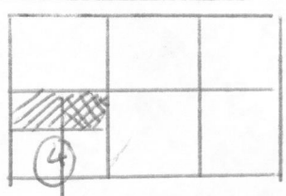
220: material dug out of post-hole fill from the erection of tarpaulin in A-4.

221: A-4, southern end (1.50-2.25W), sep. #1
222: " " " " , sep. #2

This was taken by JA to what was considered a natural stratigraphic break (sic): where the dark humic soil breaks onto a yellower, grittier soil, which seems to be the precursor of the compacted sherd layer before the first yellow surface.

The base of 222 follows approximately the same break as that between A-1, seps. 2/3. In the western side of the cut, the corner on wall is 18 cms. b/s, on southern wall, 15 cms. b/s

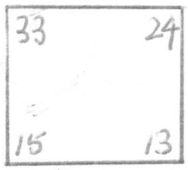
222B: material fallen onto the plstic sheeting (in A-1), from this unit

In: 

, the base of sep. #2 is c. 2 cms. above the base of sep. #2 in A-5

223: material off 75 cm.^{2} (southern) of A-4, to top of the sep. #2 in A-5. This was done to separate out the sherds lying on top of the mass of broken sherds. There is no doubt that one reaches - after coming on a lense of horizontally placed, large GBL sherds, onto a looser, loamy lense with a rapid rise in quantities of bone and shell.

P,M: Finished A-6/2; this is a very irregular unit, which attempts to stop at the apparition of Ph. IV sherds lying horizontally. It is much deeper at eastern than western end, due. presumably, to the natural slope of the refuse.

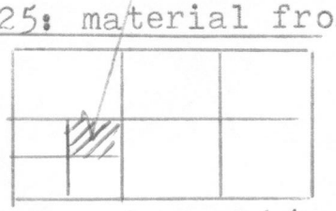


A-6/2: measurements from the existing surface. It is interesting that Escotá and groove-rimmed sherds appear lying on top of the "pile" of ceramics which I think ought to be "in situ".

224: Material from the end of 223 until the floor of sherds in A-4:

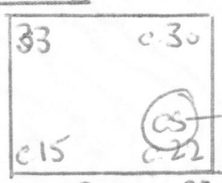
Best carbon sample so far: sent Teledyne 3-2-75 (no. 13)/ returned as over 40,000 B.P. (I- 8555). In A-4, between the sherd floor in s.e. corner, 5 cms. from wall, flush on w. wall at 36 cms. bs.

225: material from within floor of packed sherds to yellow separatio



226: AG-3, A-6/3. This separation follows on 219 and runs to the beginning of the first yeallow floor.

Depths:



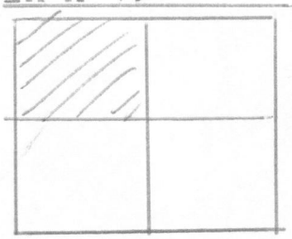
Carbon sample #14: good; taken from large GBL sherd on surface (see photo.)

227: sweepings from floor, following cleaning of surface of 225. Bagged separately.

29.1.75

KS takes A-6 from level of 28/1/75 to yellow surface which began to appear in S.W. corner. R.C. follows A-4/s.1/2 northwards to attempt to define pit.

In A-4:



, the separation was not made, probably mistakenly, between material lying immediately above the sherd floor and the mass of densely packed material. This would account for some late-looking sherds on top. The material underneath, found closely packed, is Phase IV. i.e. 228= 224 & 22 5

Sherds of "tortilla" griddle immediately to north-west of large stone.

Cat. #228: this is material from A-4 (as above); that is, material from below separation #2 and just above the floor of sherds to yellow will include late material in pit area (232).

In A-4, as over (14), there are two anomalies:

1* pit
2* an area of obvious kitchen activity; soils breaks up mostly carbonaceous abd oily over yellow, which is, however, not well defined here.

229: is material (bagged in chocolate plastic) fr m the fire-pit in A-4.

See photos.

In A-6, the sherds in the s.e. corner seem to be packed horizontally, but in the centre of the unit (east baulk) KS noted that the sherds began to dip towrds the centre: this coincided with a different soil: seemingly more oily, clammier and blacker. Material from this ? pit is 231

230: material from the rest of A-6, sep. #3, in this unit. There are two large blades, one of silica and one of andesite, which were kept apart and will be bagged under 231. This pit in A-6, would seem to be late: a large, round handle was found right within it. This complies with the picture in A-4, where the large pit had late sherds.

231: a Phase Vi polychrome sherd came from the base of KS's pit: 

Cat. #232: material from within the pit in A-4, starting just about flush with the yellow floor. A number of late fea ures: round handles, zoomorphic appliqué buff and others occurred right to the bottom of the pit.

The fire-pit (229) is, in fact, lying UNDER the thin yellow separation layer which, in this par, was difficult to discern. It is important to consider this carboniferous layer, which is visible in the west wall of A-1, as later than the large GBL sherds in that wall, but definitely earlier than the yellow floor which overlies it.

Prior to my departure to Panamá, sweepings were made:
233: A-3; 234: A-6; 235: A-5; 236: A-1

NB: 233A are the sweepings from KS's pit after 29-1-75 (A-6)

3-2-75

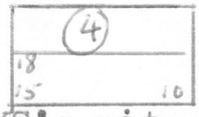
A.M: swept down mess from weekend. Replaced tarps. Drew up profiles of A-3/A-5/6. J.A. began to take down A-3, first yellow separation, beginning A-1 (to north of pit (206). Soil very loamy, dry and dusty.

237: JA, A-3, separation #5.
238: sweep-up material on floor of A-5. sep. #4
239: A-4, western half, 2.25-3.00 W, separation #1

Carbon sample #15:

237: A-3, sep. #5, b-1, 80wx30s, all over A-3/5 were large areas of carbon in considerable quantities.
Taken in a restricted area by J.A. 237B: sample taken from over area, 3/2/75. Collected from sifter. This sample must be valid for the entire heath area - definitely below the yellow separation at the base of the yellow surface

237: the northern part of A-3 excavated to 80s, between 10 and 15 cms. below the yellow floor. 80-1.50 S remains as 242.

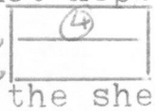
239: in: 

was taken as an irregular unit, in one fell swoop.

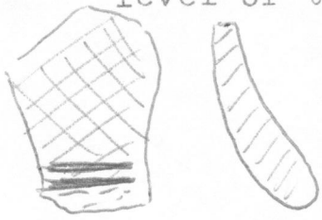
240: A-6, KS's pit; this is clean-up material from the bottom of pit, if this division is valid, & from walls around

4-2-75

241: A-4, to top of yellow.
242: A-3/5, southernhalf; yellow surface to the black area only. 242A is the flotation unit: 65Ex80N only. Rest (242 B) not kept for flotation.

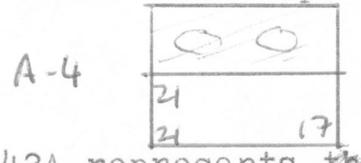
241A: 

separation made slowly, down to the level of the sherd floor.

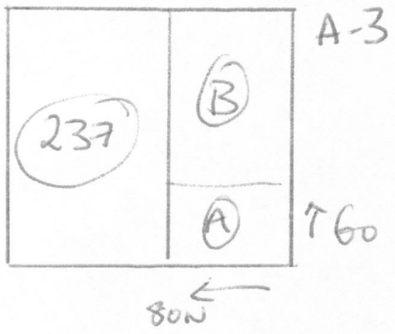


A Macaracas pedestal fragment was definitely pressed into the grey floor at the base of sep. 4, A-3.

241B: JA continued to peel off slowly. Photo. taken



In A-3, 242A represents ~~the~~ :
and the peeling off of compressed dusty yellow above more humic, with plentiful carbon. (Kept for flot.) 242B is rest of unit.

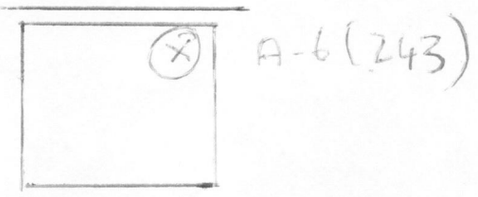


237 should have been more closely separated; it would have included material from the top of the yellow. It might well contain erratics from above.

The extensive area of carbon which lies under the yellow, seems to spread over the entire areastripped; it was present in A-4, 1/2, when the top of the yellow was prematurely stripped off it. (This appears as pit 229 in photos.) The piece of ?carbonised axe was found within this carboniferous layer.

It would seem that the areawith very high carbon content does not have the vast quantities of bones as the areas of "dump" (loose sherds).

Enormous andesite blade:

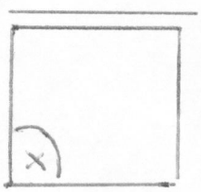


243: K.S.'s material from A-6, from the edge of the pit onto (approximately) yellow.

244: material from the base of 242/237 to the level of the fire pits.

245: material from the fire pit in the centre of sep.#5, A-3. This is a somewhat arbitrary designation. Most of the ashy remains were recovered on 3.2.75 (237), amongst which was the ?axe shaft head. The photo. shows the beginning of the unit - simply, the carbon was followed down to a layer of ochraceous clay which is, presumably, burnt earth at the base of the conflagration.

246: a pit formed through the ywllow floor, at junction of AG-4/5. This pit had round handles c. 20 cms. below the yellow floor level.



247: K.S.'s pit in A-6; material from within the pit:

Apart from the "fire-areas" of 245, the rest of the possible occupation floor beneath the first yellow separation has been included within #244.

To the north of the pit at junction A-4/5, was a circular concretion around an Anadara shell; this was bagged and separated as 246A.

Resumé:
215: A-6/1
217/219: A-6/2, c. 10 cms. b/s to level of large GBL sherds
230: A-6/3, n.w. corner, line of nails

231: A-6, pit, east wall
240: clean-up from east wall pit and egdes.
243: material of 4.2.75
247: pit, n.w. corner, contents thereof.

247 (5-5-75)

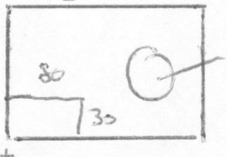
This is the remaining material from K.S.'s pit 2 (N.W.) in A-6. The edges were cleaned approximately. There are several fragments of a large flare-collared urn, appearing on floor. This may, or may not, be the natural bottom of the pit.

249: the continuation of the separation below the first yellow "floor" of A-3. This will be taken to c. 15 cms. below the yellow, following the assumed natural slope. In the s.w. corner, a patch of carbon was bagged separately for flotation. (Check this.)

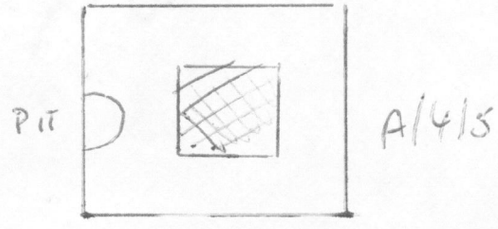
244 and 249 represent the same separatn. unit: 244 is north and 249 south.

Carbon samples

Beneath the yellow separation in A-4/5, there were considerable pieces of carbon, as in A-3, presumably representing a floor and fire activity. In A-4, over c. 1-3 cms. below "floor" were large chunks, collected as Sample #6.



In A-5, over c. 50 cms.^{2}, to the south of the pit, K.S. collected another sample is essentially the same stratigraphic position; this sample should be maintained separate and would be good corroboration for our stratigraphic separation, ie. earlier than the sample #13 sent to Teledyne (and received as 40,000 B.P.).



Carbon sample #18

Again, from below the yellow "floor" and top of the carbonaceous level. This one between pit inadvertently dug by me and wall face. May be contaminated. (A-4)

249 follows directly onto 244. J. Almednra first cleaned off c. 15 cms. from below surface of yellow floor. (5-2-75 A.M.) He then outlined a ?pit (249B).