

**Historic Sites Archaeology in Fargo:
Preliminary Archival and Archaeological Investigations of the
Potential for Historic-Age Archaeological Deposits
Within Specified Areas of Fargo**

A report prepared for
The City of Fargo Historic Preservation Commission
and
The State Historical Society of North Dakota

Report prepared by
River Keepers
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Table of Contents

List of Illustrations.....	iv
List of Tables.....	v
Acknowledgments.....	vi
Abstract.....	vii
Chapter	
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Scope of Work.....	7
3. Environment.....	15
4. Regional History.....	20
5. Archival and Archaeological Methods.....	34
6. Survey Results.....	39
32 CS 4669.....	40
32 CS 4670.....	53
32 CS 4671.....	65
32 CS 4672.....	81
32 CS 4673.....	88
Study Area 1.....	103
Study Area 3.....	109
Study Area 4.....	114
7. Discussion and Recommendations.....	116
References Cited.....	120
Appendix: Grantor/grantee index for Study Area 1.....	124

List of Illustrations

Figure	Page
1. Study areas investigated.....	10
2. The Red River and Major Tributaries.....	16
3. Sketch map of “Fargo in the Timber”.....	29
4. 1871 Photograph of “Fargo on the Prairie”.....	30
5. Aerial Photograph of Downtown Fargo.....	32
6. Photograph of 32 CS 4669.....	41
7. 1881 Plat map of 32 CS 4669 site area.....	43
8. Map of showing shovel probes 32 CS 4669.....	45
9. Faunal remains recovered from 32 CS 4669.....	49
10. Lithic item recovered from 32 CS 4669.....	50
11. Photograph of 32 CS 4670.....	54
12. Historic artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670.....	56
13. Prehistoric artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670.....	57
14. Site map of 32 CS 4670.....	58
15. Site map of 32 CS 4671.....	66
16. River deposited debris at 32 CS 4671.....	67
17. Photograph of 32 CS 4671 site area, ca. 1880.....	69
18. 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of 32 CS 4671 site area.....	70
19. Photograph of 32 CS 4671, ca. 1910.....	71
20. Detail of photograph of 32 CS 4671, ca. 1910.....	73
21. Photograph of North Bridge Footing, 32 CS 4671 site area.....	74
22. Photograph of Shovel Probe 2, 32 CS 4671.....	76
23. Photograph of river bank exposure, 32 CS 4671.....	78
24. Photograph of 32 CS 4672.....	83
25. Photograph of erosion feature, 32 CS 4672.....	84
26. Site map of 32 CS 4672.....	89
27. Photograph of 32 CS 4673.....	90
28. 1873 plat map of 32 CS 4673 site area.....	91
29. Photograph of 32 CS 4673 site area, ca. 1880.....	93
30. Photograph of 32 CS 4673 site area, ca 1936.....	94
31. Map of Foundation 1, 32 CS 4673.....	97
32. Map of Foundation 2, 32 CS 4673.....	98
33. Photograph of Foundation 3, 32 CS 4673.....	100
34. Photograph of wagon in situ, 32 CS 4673.....	101
35. Photograph of Study Area 1.....	104
36. 1960 plat map of North Dakota R1 Urban Renewal Addition.....	105
37. 1888 Sanborn map of Study Area 1.....	107
38. Archaeological sites resulting from historic survey.....	117

List of Tables

Table		Page
1.	Artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4669.....	48
2.	Artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670.....	59
3.	Artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4671.....	75
4.	Artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4672.....	82
5.	Artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4673.....	96

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Abstract

Research of the historical development of the City of Fargo, North Dakota aids in identifying the potential for historical archaeological deposits. Information collected through the analysis of photographic archives, city records, and documentary resources provide data useful in determining archaeological potential of certain locations. Eight study areas in the City of Fargo, totaling 270 acres, were subjected to archival and archaeological investigation. Intact archeological deposits were identified in five of the eight study areas investigated. These sites have been recorded with the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The historical significance of the recorded sites was evaluated in terms of their status as potential nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The origin of the City of Fargo coincided with the coming of the railroads into the Red River Valley in 1871. Shortly after its establishment, the city became an important regional center of commerce in the upper midwest. Throughout the later portion of the 19th century the fast-growing city soon became the western-most distribution point on the northern plains. The importance of Fargo was vested in its location. The town was situated at the point where the Northern Pacific Railroad crossed the Red River of the North. The city quickly became the crossroads for the movement of materials and people traveling to and from the western frontier.

Today, the importance of Fargo is still tied to its location. The city is the largest urban center between Minneapolis-St. Paul to the east and Spokane, Washington to the west (Holzkamm, 1993:1). The growth of the city in size and importance fulfilled the prophesy of Thomas Hawley Canfield, a director of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, when he claimed, "...wherever the N.P. (Northern Pacific Railroad) should cross the Red River, there would rise the next great city west of St. Paul and Minneapolis" (Johnson, 1982:255).

The early settlement of the city consisted of a collection of tents, dugouts, and log cabins situated along the banks of the Red River in the fall of 1871. The camp was inhabited by laborers employed in the construction of the railroads plus an assortment of individuals seeking their destiny on the frontier by both honest and dubious means (Johnson, 1982:264). The new community was called "Fargo in the Timber". The name "Fargo" was applied to the city in honor of William G. Fargo, a director and financial backer of the Northern Pacific Railroad (FMCC,

1975:16). The moniker “in the Timber” was applied in recognition of the community’s location within the gallery forest which lined the banks of the river.

“Fargo in the Timber” was the first of two small encampments occupied during the early days of the city. The second was “Fargo on the Prairie” which was located west of “Fargo in the Timber”, on the upland prairies away from the river. “Fargo on the Prairie” was inhabited by engineers and military personnel in charge of railroad construction. The camp was under the command of General T.L. Rosser (Johnson,1982:263). Despite initial animosities between the two camps, they would eventually merge into a single community as the economic potential and the population of the city grew.

The rapid growth of the City of Fargo was driven by its prime location at the crossroads of two major modes of transportation. The first, and earlier of the two, were the steamboats which plied the waters of the Red River between Fargo and Fort Garry. The second was the railroad which, once arriving in the area, completed a connection between the Red River Valley and the large commercial center of Minneapolis/St. Paul. Prior to the arrival of the railroads, transport of goods was accomplished by means of Red River carts and stagecoach lines (Holzkamm, 1993:2). The connection of the railroad to the river promoted the continued use of the Red River Valley as a transportation corridor.

Today, Fargo continues to be an important center of commerce in the upper midwest. The importance of earlier modes of transportation have been lessened or replaced by the development of highways and airports but the importance of Fargo as a hub has not diminished since its early beginnings in the 1870s.

Historical investigations of the Fargo area have traditionally concentrated upon the analysis of archival resources. Although a great quantity of information has been compiled and published relating the history of the city, few comparable in-depth studies have been undertaken to investigate the archaeological potential of the city's historic past.

Many past historic investigations have culminated in the identification of historical structures and properties (Granger and Kelly, 1986; Johnson, *et.al.*, 1992; Stine and Kulevsky, 1994; Vyzralek, 1985). The result of these investigations has been the creation of several historic districts within the city and the nomination of numerous structures to the State and National Register of Historic Places (Crary, 1977; Ramsey, 1979; Roberts, 1983).

Archaeological investigations which have been undertaken in the region have been almost exclusively concentrated on the prehistoric period (Edevold, *et.al.*, 1990; Vehik, 1979). For many, the research has been conducted under the rubric of cultural resource management. Further, the amount of archaeological research in the region surrounding the Fargo-Moorhead area has been limited. The City of Fargo is located within the Southern Red River Study Unit (SRRSU), one of thirteen archaeological study units defined for the State of North Dakota by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. In comparison to other study units within the state, the SRRSU has experienced the lowest degree of archaeological investigation (Picha & Gregg, 1991:10.7). As of 1991 only 33 recorded archaeological sites and 34 archaeological site leads had been identified in the study unit. With a total area of 2399 square mile the density of sites in the SRRSU is one site for every 73 square miles.

The inventory of historical sites and site leads for the SRRSU shows a markedly different accounting. A total of 4601 recorded sites and 132 site leads are listed for the study area (Larson

et.al.,1994). A majority of the recorded sites listed (n=4,333) were recorded during urban surveys conducted within the City of Fargo (Granger and Kelly,1986). The survey recorded several thousand intact structures within the City of Fargo in reference to the age of the structure, the architectural style, and whether the structure was contributing or non-contributing to the historic nature of its neighborhood. The high number of recorded sites and site leads is, however, is not an accounting of historic archaeological sites but an inventory of intact architectural sites.

Surveys undertaken in the immediate vicinity of Fargo to date have not provided substantive evidence for the existence of intact historical archaeological deposits. The current project described in this report represents an investigation concerned with the identification and recording of historical archaeological sites within the corporate limits of the City of Fargo.

The immediate goal of this research project is to determine the nature of the archaeological record at specified locations in the city and to make recommendations regarding the potential for continuing historical archaeological research in the area. The scope of the present research project entails an investigation of archival resources which may provide data relating to the developmental histories of certain properties within the city. The purpose of the research is to gauge the impact past episodes of construction and demolition have had on each specific location under investigation. The data gathered during this archival research will be used as a guide to determine the location and scope of subsequent archaeological investigations.

This report provides a narrative accounting of the nature of the investigations undertaken, the results of all phases of the investigations performed on each study area and an interpretation of the findings generated from the research. Descriptions of each phase of the investigation are presented in subsequent chapters.

Chapter two describes the scope of work for this research project. It provides a description of the required archival and archaeological investigations necessary to document pertinent information regarding the historical development of the specified properties. The chapter includes a brief description of four original study areas defined for this project. In addition, it includes a brief description of the results of the initial archival research which resulted in the incorporation of four additional properties (site leads) into the research project.

Chapter three provides a brief summary of the physical setting of the Red River Valley with attention paid to the Fargo-Moorhead area. It includes a short description of the geological history of the valley, a description of the physical properties of the landscape, and a brief inventory of important natural resources available locally.

Chapter four provides an outline of Red River Valley history, beginning with a summary of the prehistory of the region as exhibited in the region's archaeological record investigated to date. This is followed by a summary of European immigrant activity in the region prior to the establishment of a permanent settlement in Fargo. The chapter concludes with a history of early Fargo with emphasis placed on identification of key features and events which shaped the development of the city.

Chapter five provides an overview of the archival and archaeological research methods utilized during this project. It describes the various archival data sources examined throughout the course of the research and the efficacy of each source in determining the archaeological potential of the study areas under investigation. The chapter provides an overview of the archaeological methods utilized in the investigation of the eight study areas.

Chapter six describes the results of the archival and archaeological investigation for each of the eight study areas investigated in this research project. The chapter is divided into sections, each detailing the scope and results of the archival and archaeological research conducted. Each section begins with the description of the physical setting, legal description, and size of the study area. The final portion of each section provides preliminary discussion of the potential for each study area as a nomination to the State or National Register of Historic Places.

Chapter seven provides conclusions and recommendations regarding the results of the research project. This includes an interpretation of the archaeological history of the study areas in terms of how the sites recorded through this research may have been incorporated into the historical archaeological record. Further discussion regarding the need for future archaeological investigations of the recorded archaeological sites is provided.

Chapter 2

Scope of Work

In August of 1996 the City of Fargo contracted with River Keepers to perform an investigation of the historical archaeological record of Fargo, North Dakota. The immediate goal of this project was to develop and execute a program of research through which it would be possible to identify and assess the potential for historical archaeological deposits within specified areas of the city. The research was made possible through a grant provided to the City of Fargo and administered by the State Historical Society of North Dakota in Bismarck and the United States Department of the Interior. The project was initiated under the program administered by the State Historical Society Certified Local Government (CLG) Agreement for National Park Service Historic Preservation Grant Funds.

The research was undertaken to study the potential and extent of historical archaeological deposits relating to the Fargo's early historic period (i.e., early exploration and early settlement), dating from the original settlement of Fargo in 1871 to the beginning of the 20th century. The research design, as defined by the Archeology and Historic Preservation Division of the State Historical Society of North Dakota calls for:

[B]oth Class I and Class III cultural resources inventories of the areas to be investigated. The Class I inventory will include a review of all previous cultural resource inventories that have been conducted within the Fargo survey areas. It will consist of a literature and file search utilizing materials maintained and housed at the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Also, city, county deed, or title, records and other sources [e.g., atlases and plat books (*Sanborn Insurance Maps*), *Fargo Forum* archives, local histories, unpublished theses and dissertations] will

be researched to determine if any of the previously or newly recorded sites are associated with persons important in history. This in-depth archival research will serve to help date the occupation(s) of the properties.

The Class III (intensive, 100%) pedestrian inventory will employ on-the-ground archaeological survey techniques. In areas, either where surface visibility is judged to be inadequate or additional survey coverage is warranted, shovel and/or auger probes will be used at the discretion of the project field supervisor. Sufficient data will be generated on each site in order to complete North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey (NDCRS) site forms, and provide recommendations of what further work may be required to fully evaluate the recorded sites. All identified cultural resource sites will be recorded on NDCRS site forms according to SHSND guidelines. Finally, all work must be in compliance with (1) SHSND professional standards and (2) Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (SHSND, 1996:attachment 2).

The goal of the archival investigation is to gather pertinent data with which to evaluate the historical archaeological potential of the study areas defined. The scope of subsequent archaeological investigations performed will, in part, be determined by the quality and quantity of the data collected through archival research. The archival investigations also provide a means by which additional properties can be incorporated into the archaeological phase of the research project. The collection of substantive archival data pertaining to sites not originally defined in the research project would be incorporated as site leads.

The original proposal by the Fargo Historic Preservation Commission called for the investigation of four individual parcels of land within Fargo's corporate limits. Each parcel was identified as an independent study area.

Study Area 1 consists of the land currently in use as a parking lot in the downtown area of Fargo. This tract of land is bounded on the south by First Avenue North, on the west by Third Street North, on the north by Third Avenue North, and on the east by Second Street North (fig.1,1).

Study Area 2 consists of the land included within the contemporary boundaries of Oak Grove Park located along the river in north Fargo. This tract of land is bounded on the north, east, and south by the Red River. It is bounded on the west by the Oak Grove High School campus (fig.1,2).

Study Area 3 consists of the land included within the contemporary boundaries of Island Park. This tract is bounded on the south by Fifth Avenue South, on the west by Seventh Street South, on the north by First Avenue South, and on the east by Fourth Street South (fig.1,3).

Study Area 4 consists of the lands included within Lindenwood Park in South Fargo. This tract is bounded on the south by Interstate Highway 94, on the west by Fifth Street South, and on the north and east by the Red River (fig.1,4).

The study areas described above were incorporated into the research program prior to performing directed archival or archaeological investigations. These properties were included in the initial scope of study because they fulfilled one or more of the following criteria: 1) the land tract was within the city limits of Fargo at the turn of the 20th century, 2) historic documentation suggested that prior to, or near the turn of the 20th century, properties currently unoccupied may have been a site of either residential or commercial use, and 3) the tract is currently unoccupied by standing structures and may be viewed as potential sites for future archaeological investigations.

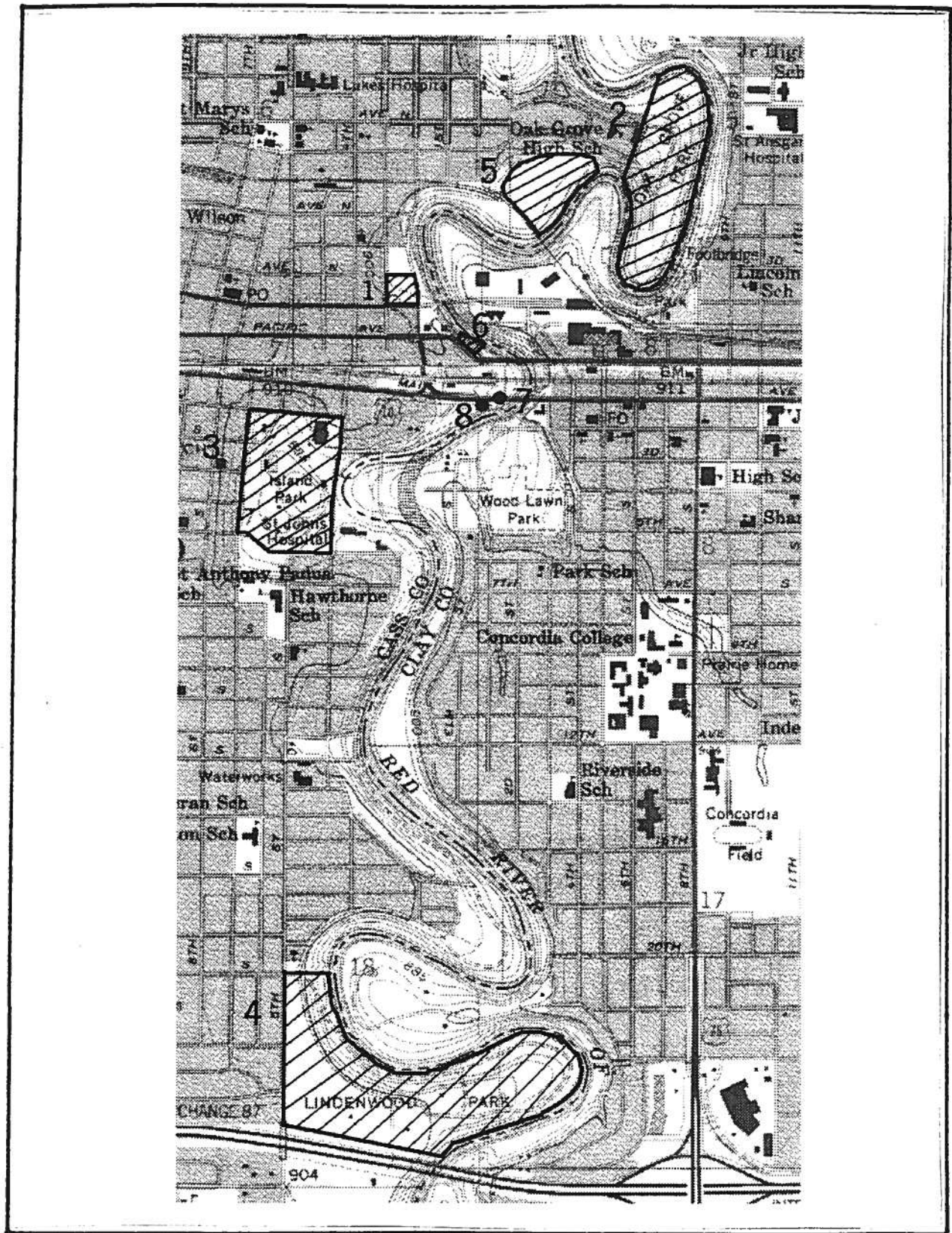


Figure 1. Map depicting the relative locations of the eight defined study areas. Base map taken from U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute topographic maps Fargo North and Fargo South.

In conjunction with the investigation of the original four properties, a provision to the research design allowed for intuitive archival and archaeological investigations of other potential sites to be initiated and pursued. Site leads were defined on the basis of data collected during preliminary archival and initial archaeological research. Archival site leads resulted from the collection of substantive photographic or documentary evidence suggesting that at one time the location was occupied by structures of historical significance and that subsequent modifications to the property have been minimal enough to allow the preservation of intact historical archaeological deposits.

Archaeological site leads resulted from the identification of on-the-ground archaeological features uncovered during an initial pedestrian survey. A total of four supplementary study areas were incorporated into the research project as site leads. Each subsequent study area incorporated into the research was numbered sequentially.

Study Area 5 consists of the land located on the Shotwell Floral Company property. This tract is bounded on the south by the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks, on the west by a topographic incline, on the north by private property lots, and on the east by the Red River (fig.1,5). This site lead was established following the initial pedestrian survey of this property. The survey recovered several historic-age artifacts on the surface of a plowed field.

Study Area 6 consists of a small tract of land located near the eastern end of the Northern Pacific Avenue Bridge. This tract is bounded on the south by the earthen embankment of the Northern Pacific Avenue Bridge, on the west by the steep topographic incline of the Red River trench, and on the north and east by the Red River (fig.1,6). This site lead was established as the

result of archival information which identified this location as the site of several structures relating to riverboat commerce during the early history of the city.

Study Area 7 consists of a small tract of land located directly beneath the Main Avenue Bridge. The tract comprises the location where a dense surface collection of artifacts was recovered. The boundaries of the site were determined by the extent of the surface scatter instead of physical features of the land surface (fig.1,7). This site lead was established following the initial pedestrian survey of the area. A dense concentration of historic-age artifacts was recovered from the surface of an erosion feature directly beneath the bridge.

Study Area 8 consists of a small tract of land on the south side of and near the western end of the Main Avenue Bridge. Like the previous study area the boundaries of this site were determined by the surface exposure of archaeological features (fig.1,8). This site lead was established following an initial pedestrian survey of the area. Several fragments of what were interpreted as intact building foundations were observed.

Archaeological sites recorded as a result of this investigation are also to be reviewed as potential nominations for the State of North Dakota or National Register of Historic places. The criteria used in ascertaining the significance by which each property is evaluated is as follows:

Criteria: The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history; or
- B. That are associated with lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or

method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (National Register Bulletin 16A 1991:37; Code of Federal Regulations 1992 36, Part 65.4).

Archaeological sites recorded as a result of this research project will be considered primarily under the framework of criteria A; an event of broad significance to historical patterns, B; a site associated with a significant person, or D; a site that has yielded or may yield significant information. The emphasis of the research towards the identification and recording of archaeological deposits rather than standing structures makes it unlikely that any properties relating to criteria C would be encountered.

A central goal of the research described here is to increase the potential for historical archaeological research within the city of Fargo. Archival investigation and archaeological examination of certain properties will provide a means of identifying previously unrecorded historical archaeological deposits. The utility of recording new historical archaeological sites within the city of Fargo serves several purposes. Holzkamm (1993:6-7) lists three potential goals for future historical and archaeological research for the area. The first concerns the need to identify significant structures or sites which are useful in interpreting Fargo's early history. The second concerns the need to recognize clusters or concentrations of significant structures or sites in order to define historic districts. The development of these districts would aid in the interpretation of Fargo's history and provide a means by which the history of the city could be preserved. The third goal is to identify significant structures or sites which relate to portions of

Fargo's history which are currently under-represented. The present research provides a means of addressing some of these goals.

CHAPTER 3

ENVIRONMENT

The City of Fargo is located on the eastern border of Cass County in the State of North Dakota. It is situated upon the western banks of the Red River of the North. The City lies near the center of the large basin referred to as the Red River Valley. The valley consists of the Red River and its major tributaries (fig.2). The Red River Valley occupies the eastern portion of North Dakota, the northeastern corner of South Dakota and parts of northwestern Minnesota. The basin of the Red River Valley is the ancient lake bed once occupied by Glacial Lake Agassiz (Teller and Clayton, 1983; Upham, 1895:20).

The Lake Agassiz Basin begins in South Dakota at Lake Traverse and extends northward to Lake Winnipeg in Manitoba, Canada. The eastern and western boundaries of the basin are defined by the ancient beachridges of Glacial Lake Agassiz. These linear features consisting of sand and gravel deposits are, on average, 30 to 40 miles distant from the Red River trench.

The Red River Valley is characterized by a lack of topographic variability. Elevations of the valley range from ca. 1000 feet above sea level at the southern end of the valley to ca. 800 feet in the northern end (Omodt, et.al., 1968:5). The extreme flatness of the valley is the result of two significant events in the geologic history of the area. First was the repeated glaciation which buried significant topographic features beneath a blanket of glacial till. Second was the uniform accumulation of substantial layers of fine lacustrine silts and clays which were

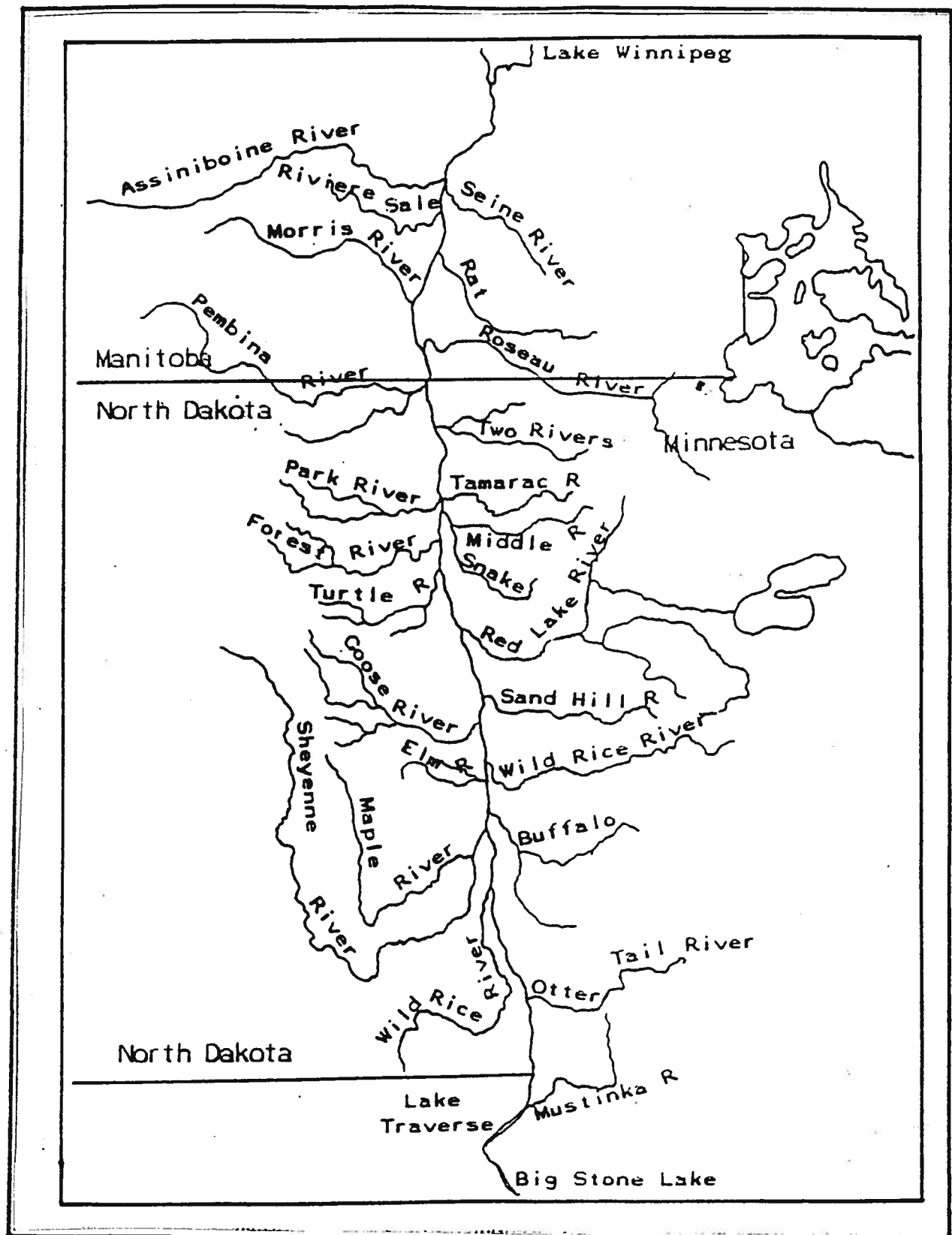


Figure 2. The Red River and its tributaries. Reprinted from Dean L. Dormanen, *Recreational Development of an Urban Riverfront Corridor*, Unpublished masters thesis, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota, 1991.

deposited when the valley was occupied by Glacial Lake Agassiz. As a result the valley has an average decline in elevation of less than one foot per mile from its southern to northern end.

The Red River is formed by the confluence of the Bois de Sioux and Otter Tail Rivers near the present-day city of Wahpeton, North Dakota. The river flows to the north through the center of the valley. The river has incised a trench into the lacustrine sediments which averages between 20 and 50 feet in depth. The volume of water flowing through the river channel, combined with the flatness of the valley, has caused the Red River to develop an extensive series of meanders. The meandering of the river has extended the length of the river channel far beyond the actual linear distance it covers. From the start of the river near Wahpeton, North Dakota to its outlet in Lake Winnipeg in Canada the river channel covers a distance of 548 miles. The direct line distance between these two points is approximately 290 miles (Dormanen, 1991:28-9). The meandering of the river is confined within a relatively narrow path. For the length of the river the meanders do not extend beyond a five mile wide corridor.

The banks of the Red River and its tributaries are occupied by a Northern floodplain forest. This gallery forest consists of a variety of deciduous trees and shrubs. Inventories of the flora of the gallery forest have shown that the American elm (Ulmus americana) is the dominant species, comprising upwards of 38% of the forest (Jones, *et.al.*, 1988). Other species found in the gallery are ash, basswood (Tilia americana), burr oak (Quercus macrocarpa), cottonwood (Populus), hackberry (Celtis occidentalis), ironwood (Ostrya virginiana), and willow (Saliceae) (Holzkamm, 1993:12; Michlovic, 1993:13; Picha & Gregg, 1991:10.7). Prior to the advent of agricultural utilization of the valley, the land beyond the gallery forest, away from the river, was dominated by tall grass prairie. The predominant species of the grasslands were the native

Bluestem (Andropogon gerardi), switchgrass (Panicum virgatum), Indian Grass (Sorghastrum avenaceum), and prairie dropseed (Sporobolus asper) (Holzkamm, 1993:12; Michlovic, 1993:13).

Today, most of the open land of the Red River Valley is under cultivation.

The combination of the forest and grassland provided a rich environment which supported a diverse assemblage of wildlife. Large mammal species included bison (Bison bison), moose (Alces alces), elk (Cervus elephas), and white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus). Small mammal species included beaver (Castor canadensis), fox (Vulpes vulpes), muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus), rabbit (Lepus spp.), and squirrel (Spermophilus spp.) (Dormanen, 1991:38; Michlovic, 1993:14; Picha & Gregg, 1991:10.7; Pielou, 1991:313-321).

The soils of the survey areas are part of the Cashel Series (Prochnow, et.al., 1984). The Cashel series consists of deep, somewhat poorly drained and moderately permeable soils situated on flood plains adjacent to rivers. The soils are formed from fine textured alluvium. The topography of the soils are generally level exhibiting a slope of less than one percent (Prochnow, 1984:87).

There are two soils units identified with the Cashel series, located within the current study area. The first is the Cashel silty clay. This soil unit is generally situated on floodplains which are occasionally flooded. The Cashell silty clay is a deep soil with level topography. The soil is somewhat poorly drained and moderately slowly permeable (ibid.:37). The second soil unit is the Cashel silty clay, channeled. This soil is comparable to the Cashel silty clay in both location and topography. The Cashel silty clay, channeled, is susceptible to land sliding and slumping. The Cashel silty clay, channeled soil unit is generally situated along the immediate edge of a river

channel. The Cashel silty clay soil unit is generally situated away from a river channel, adjacent to the Cashel silty clay, channeled soil unit.

The climate of the Red River Valley is classified as humid continental (Holzkamm, 1993:11). This climate is typified by significant variations in annual temperature extremes with warm summers and cold winters. The average daily temperature in July is 70 degrees Fahrenheit while the average daily temperature in January is 6 degrees Fahrenheit. These extreme seasonal fluctuations in temperature are coupled with equally diverse daily temperature change.

The annual precipitation of the valley averages 20 inches. Most of this precipitation (80%) falls between April and September (Prochnow, et.al., 1984:2). The combination of the rich, organic soils derived from the Lake Agassiz sediments and the climate have made the Red River Valley one of the richest agricultural regions in the world.

CHAPTER 4

REGIONAL HISTORY

Prehistoric Archaeology

There have been several published and unpublished overviews of the culture history of North Dakota and the Red River Valley. A chronological model of the archaeology of the State of North Dakota can be found in The North Dakota Comprehensive Plan for Historic Preservation: Archaeological Component. (State Historical Society of North Dakota 1990:B7-B73). Descriptions regarding the archaeology of the regions surrounding the Fargo-Moorhead areas are detailed in the “Southern Red River Study Unit Archaeological Component of the State Plan” (Picha & Gregg, 1991).

The prehistoric components of the state have been divided into four distinct periods. These are the Paleo-Indian period; the Archaic period; the Woodland period; and the Plains Village period. Each of these periods is briefly described below.

Paleo-Indian

The earliest evidence of human occupation of the Red River Valley in the vicinity of the Fargo-Moorhead area has been tentatively dated to range from 11,500 year before present (b.p.) to 7,500 years b.p. (Picha & Gregg, 1991:10.17). This span of time is referred to as the Paleo-Indian period. The Paleo-Indians are identified as big-game hunters which exploited the megafauna which occupied this region at the end of the Pleistocene and the beginning of the

Holocene. Paleo-Indian points are noted for their distinctive shape lanceolate shape and high quality of craftsmanship.

The only evidence of Paleo-Indian occupation in the immediate vicinity of the Fargo-Moorhead area consists of a single spear point. The point was recovered from the surface of an agricultural field east of Fargo near the city of Glyndon, Minnesota. The projectile has been identified as an Agate Basin type point (Michlovic, 1988:57). The point is recognized as a Plano style point which is indicative of later Paleo-Indian occupations.

Archaic

The Archaic period immediately follows the Paleo-Indian period. The time of the Archaic ranges from 7,500 years b.p. to 2,000 years b.p., spanning most of the middle to late Holocene (Michlovic, 1993:16). A change in technology is evidenced in the Archaic. Lanceolate projectile points are replaced by smaller notched and stemmed projectile points.

During this period the regional climate became more arid. The climatic change stressed regional floral and faunal communities which may have influenced the lifeways of the populations inhabiting the region. The Archaic populations of the northern plains continued to exploit big-game mammals, concentrating on bison. Archaeological evidence suggests, however, that the Archaic peoples were beginning to make use of a wider variety of resources. This is, in part, signified by the recovery of ground-stone tools within Archaic-aged deposits.

Archaeologically, the Archaic is somewhat better represented in the region. Several intact deposits dating to this time period have been uncovered. The Canning site (21 NR 9) in Norman, County, Minnesota is a 3,000 to 4,000 year old campsite situated on the eastern banks of the Red

River. The site consists of a deeply buried cultural horizon approximately one meter below the present-day ground surface. The site contained an abundance of highly fragmented bison bone which has been interpreted as the remains of butchery activities (Michlovic, 1986).

A second Archaic-aged site, located south of the Fargo-Moorhead area has recently been investigated (Michlovic, 1996). The Rustad site (32 RI 775) is situated along the southern banks of the Sheyenne River in Richland County, North Dakota. The site is an extensive campsite which has been dated to ca. 7,100 years b.p.

The paucity of recorded Archaic-age deposits in the Red River Valley may be the result of two factors. The first is the depth at which the deposits may be buried. The accumulation of fluvial sediments along the major waterways may have buried Archaic deposits to a depth which precludes their identification without deep testing or excavation.

A second factor may be the increased surface erosion resulting from the increased aridity of the region during the mid-Holocene. Sites located in open areas may not have been afforded sufficient surface deposition which would have promoted preservation.

Woodland

The Woodland period succeeds the Archaic period and dates from 2,000 years b.p. to ca 350 years b.p. (Michlovic, 1993:16). Woodland artifact assemblages often contain pottery and small triangular projectile points. Bison continue to be an important resource but there is an increase in the use of both native and imported plant resources. An important feature of the Woodland is the construction of earthen mounds utilized for the interment of the dead.

Woodland sites are common in the region. Numerous surface components of Woodland age have been identified and recorded for the region. Many of these sites are surface artifact scatters located in agricultural fields throughout the Red River Valley.

Plains Village

The Plains Village period coincides with the later part of the Woodland period. The dates of the Plains Village period range from ca. 1,000 years b.p. to ca. 350 years b.p. The terminal date coincides with the arrival of Europeans. The archaeology of the plains Village is best represented by the numerous sites located along the Missouri River Trench in the central portion of the state. The Plains Village tradition is exemplified by the use of both horticulture and hunting. The sites of the Plains Village culture often consist of fortified villages containing numerous earth-lodge structures.

The southeastern portion of North Dakota contains several examples of the Plains Village tradition. Two sites of note are the Shea site, located in the southwestern portion of Cass County (Michlovic & Schneider, 1988), and the Biesterfeldt site, located along the Sheyenne River in Ransom County (Wood, 1971).

European Exploration and Settlement

The early history of European utilization of the Red River Valley is intimately connected with the fur trade. Explorations of the valley were initiated in the early 1700s when Pierre Gaultier de la Verendrye first traveled into the region in search of a navigable water route between Lake Superior and the Pacific Ocean. Early permanent European settlement of the

region primarily occurred in the northern portion of the valley. Trading posts were established at Pembina and Fort Garry, near present-day Winnipeg, Manitoba. These settlements were established as extensions of the fur trading operations of the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company (Johnson, 1982; Ritterbush, 1996).

Transportation of the commercial goods produced by the Red River settlements was performed with Red River Carts. The Red River carts were large, two-wheeled wooden vehicles often pulled by horse or oxen. By the 1830s a regular and reliable mode of transportation was needed and the Red River Carts provided the most efficient means available.

An extensive series of cart trails were established within the Red River Valley. From Fort Garry, one trail followed the western edge of the Red River for over 250 miles before crossing the Red River and continuing towards St. Paul (NA, 1909:337). The carts were capable of transporting between 600 and 700 pounds of freight. Cart trains consisting of up to 2,000 individual carts would make the five to six week trip between the Red River Valley and St. Paul, Minnesota (Holzkamm, 1993:18).

Numerous other Red River cart trails were established throughout the Red River Valley. the exact route of many of these trails is speculative. No intact remnant of the trails are known to exist within the city limits of Fargo (Holzkamm, 1993:19).

The Red River carts remained the dominant mode of transportation in the Red River Valley until the 1860s when steamboat travel began on the Red (Dormanen, 1991:52). The first riverboats was placed on the Red in 1859. The boat was transported in sections overland to the Red River Valley by Anson Northup, a former boatman on the Erie Canal (Johnson, 1982:111). The boat was reconstructed in the temporary town of Lafayette, located at the confluence of the

Red and Sheyenne rivers approximately 9 miles north of the present-day location of Fargo. The steamboat was named Anson Northup and was in use on the Red River until 1861(FMCC, 1975:21).

The placement of the Anson Northup on the Red River initiated the era of steamboating on the river between Wahpeton and Fort Garry. Early riverboat commerce was somewhat limited due to a small population, the fear of Native American attacks, and the needs of the Civil War (Holzkamm, 1993:19).

The advent of steamboats and the increased population on the region prompted the development of several small communities along the river. Many of these small towns were established to take advantage of the increase in commercial activities which were now possible. One of the prominent settlements was Georgetown. Originated in 1860, the settlement was located approximately 17 miles north of the present day location of Fargo. Local history places the original settlement of the site at 1825 as an outpost of the Hudson's Bay Company. This claim, however, has yet to be validated.

The permanent settlement of Georgetown began as the southern-most point of river navigation on the Red River and was occupied by agents of the Hudson's Bay Company. Like the eventual town of Fargo, Georgetown was the regional transportation junction for people and goods coming into and out of the region. Georgetown lasted as a settlement until 1883. At this time, the city of Fargo had been established.

Early Fargo History

The predominant theme in the early history of the Red River Valley relates directly to the use of the Red River Valley as a transportation corridor (Dormanen, 1991; Holzkamm, 1993). As either a pathway of seasonal exploitation by prehistoric populations or as part of a network of commercial trade by early European settlers, the Red River Valley has functioned as a funnel for the movement of people and property. The continued use of the valley as a means of mobility of materials and people had a significant influence on the development of the City of Fargo.

At the start of the 1870s the Northern Pacific Railroad had begun to extend its tracks westward towards the Red River Valley. The anticipation of the arrival of the railroad sparked a period of intense land speculation in and around the future site of the City of Fargo. The crossing point of the railroad was only speculative until the terminus of the railroad was established in the City of Moorhead, Minnesota in 1871.

Several episodes of deception were undertaken by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and its subsidiary, the Puget Sound Land Company, to throw would-be settlers off the trail of the proposed crossing point. It was hoped that the Railroad would be able to claim the lands in and around the crossing in order to avoid having to purchase the property at a later time. The town later to be known as “Bogusville” was established as a ruse by the agents of the Northern Pacific to draw settlers away from the actual crossing point.

Some of the wiser would-be settlers believed that this settlement was made for the purpose of misleading them, and three of them, Jacob Lowell, Jr., Henry S. Back, and Andrew McHench decided to keep a sharp lookout for the first indications of the railroad crossing. From early in April of 1871 until June, 29, *sic* they patrolled the banks of the Red River from the mouth of the Wild Rice River to that of the Sheyenne to Georgetown, Minnesota, and from Georgetown to the Elm River, making the entire trip every day. On June 29, Jacob

Lowell found a person calling himself "Farmer Brown" accompanied by three Scandinavian "settlers" who had squatted on what afterward proved to be the present townsite of Fargo.

"Farmer Brown" wore well-worn overalls. His face was sunburnt, and he wore a brown hickory shirt and an old brown hat. He sat with ease and unconcern upon the handles of his plow and talked wisely and interestingly of the great capacity of the Red River soil for wheat. But Lowell had his doubts, so he hastened back to give the alarm to his partners, Back and McHench. The three partners decided that "Farmer Brown" knew more about locating townsites than farming, and Lowell declared his intention of locating "right there."

On July 1, 1871 Jacob Lowell, Jr., did just that and staked his claim on the Southwest Quarter of Section 18, Township 139 North, Range 48 West, thereby becoming the first bona fide settler. Henry S. Back took his claim a few hours later, and on July 2, 1871, Andrew McHench took his claim nearby.

(FMCC,1975:12-13)

The individual referred to as "Farmer Brown" in the previous account was later discovered to be Major G. G. Beardsley, a surveyor employed by the Puget Sound Land Company. He and his companions, the three Scandinavians, were sent by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to lay claim to the land in the Dakota Territory where the tracks were to cross the Red River. The eventual result of this action on behalf of the Puget Sound Land Company was a rush on the property which brought a flood of potential settlers to the area.

A stampede followed and it was at once realized that a bitter fight would be made over the title to these lands, but no foundation could be laid for a contest in the land office until a legal survey and the return of the plats to the land office at Pembina had been effected. The contract for the survey of these lands had been let in May, 1871, to Joseph W. Blanding, who subdivided eighteen townships along the river from Whapeton to Georgetown. The plats were sent to the General Land office in December, 1871, but were not approved and

returned to the local office at Pembina, until July 25th 1873. Pending the survey the claimants to these lands settled down to spend their time in peace until such time as their right could be passed upon by the Land Department at Washington.

(NA,1909:487)

The delay in the official recording of the plats of the southern portion of the Red River Valley was, in part, due to Native American land claims. The crossing site the Northern Pacific Railroad had chosen in 1871 was, at that time, part of reservations of the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of the Dakota Indians. Legal rights to settle the lands were not obtained until an act of Congress in June of 1873.

Between the establishment of the crossing point of the Northern Pacific in 1871 and the eventual clearing of the land for settlement in 1873 two small encampments had developed in the area. One was called "Fargo in the Timber" and the other was "Fargo on the Prairie."

"Fargo in the Timber" consisted of numerous small tents, dugouts and log cabins located in the gallery forest near the banks of the Red River. The camp was inhabited by a variety of individuals, most of whom were employed as laborers in the construction of the railroad. Eventually, these occupants were joined by "...the entrepreneurs of those days - roughshod men and easy-going women...desperate and reckless characters, whose lawless desires and deeds kept them on the frontier" (Johnson,1982:264). This encampment was located near the present day crossing of the Main Avenue and Northern Pacific Railroad Bridges (fig.3).

"Fargo on the Prairie" was an encampment occupied by the Northern Pacific Railroad engineers under the command of General T.L. Rosser (fig.4). It was located on the uplands away

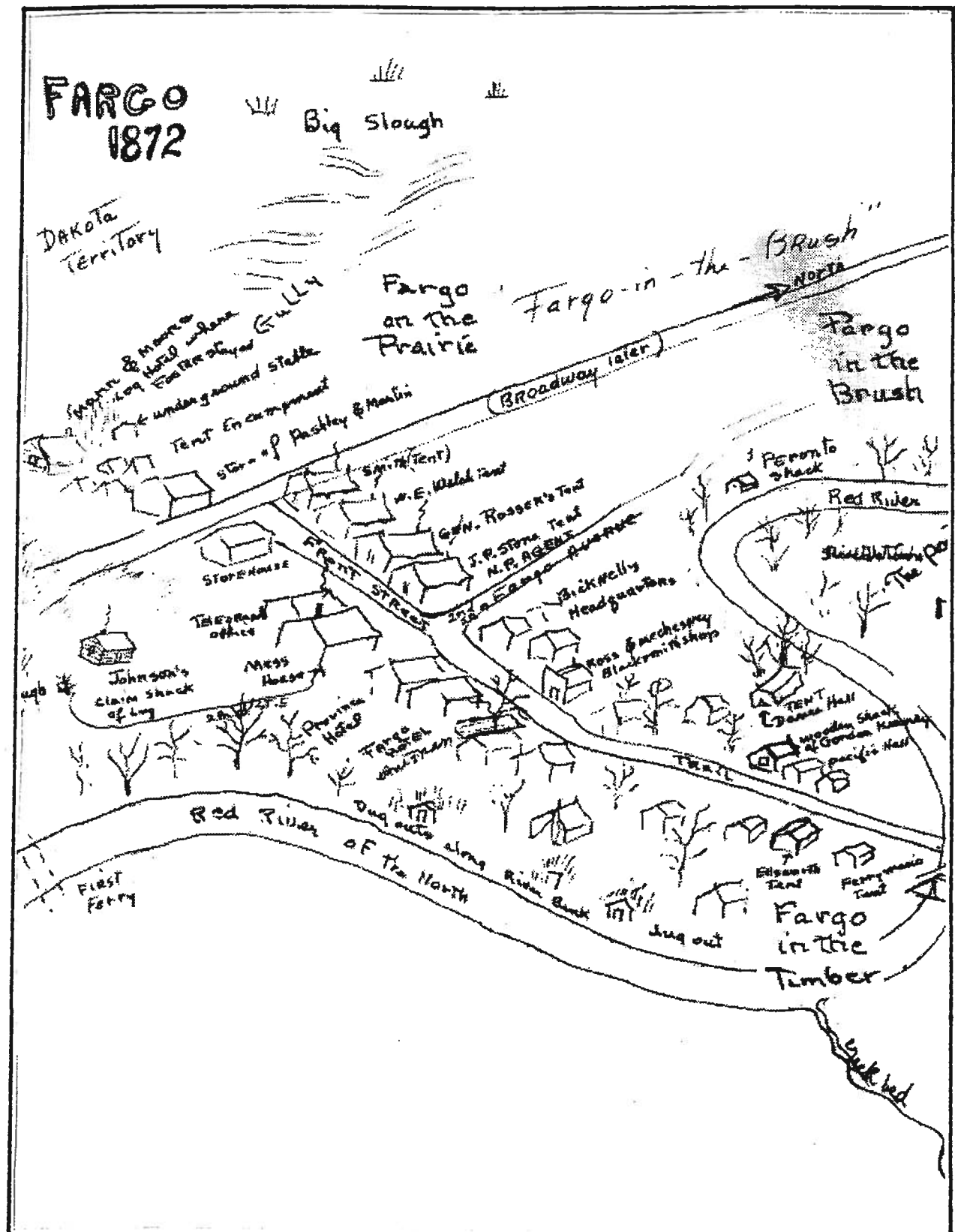


Figure 3. Sketch map of "Fargo in the Timber". Illustration by Miss Orabel Thortvedt. Reprinted from Fargo-Moorhead Centennial Corporation, *A Century Together: A History of Fargo, North Dakota and Moorhead, Minnesota*, Fargo-Moorhead Centennial Corporation.

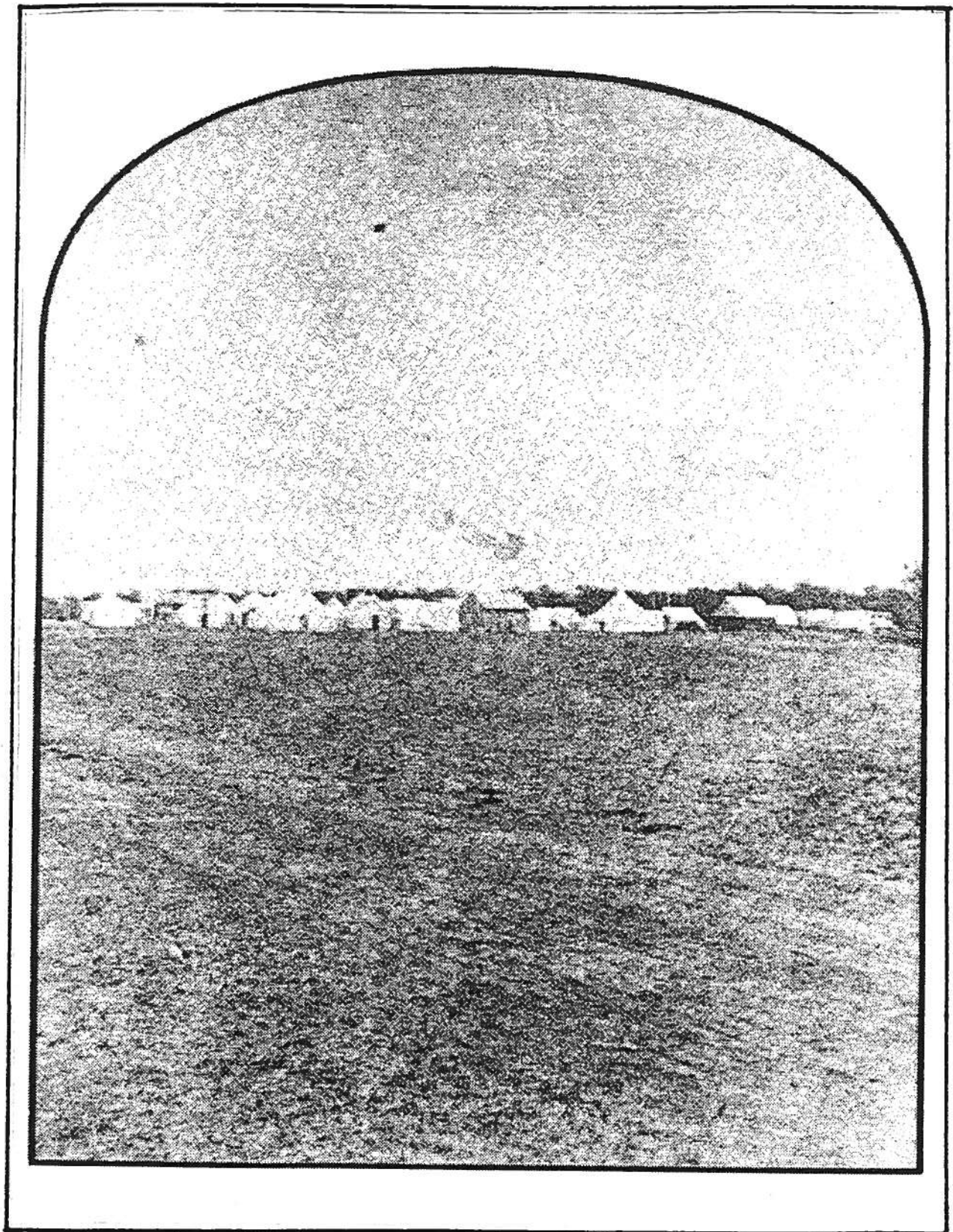


Figure 4. Photograph of "Fargo on the Prairie". Reprinted from Fargo-Moorhead Centennial Corporation, *A Century Together: A History of Fargo, North Dakota and Moorhead, Minnesota*, Fargo-Moorhead Centennial Corporation.

from the river's edge. "Fargo on the Prairie" was situated near present day Main Avenue between fourth street and seventh street (fig.5).

Fargo in the Timber and Fargo on the Prairie had little in common. The contrast was sharp, and the residents of one could not possibly be mistaken for those of the other. In the tents of Fargo on the Prairie could be found all that money could procure to make the days pass pleasantly, while the only thing Fargo in the Timber had in any great quantity was a fair quality of whiskey.

(FMCC,1975:17)

The Northern Pacific Railroad reached its western terminus in Moorhead, Minnesota in the winter of 1871. It was not until June of the following year that the bridge over the river was completed.

A series of financial problems beset the Northern Pacific Railroad Company during the 1870s. The company filed bankruptcy in 1873 and ceased construction of the railroad at Bismarck. The company was not reorganized until 1879. At this time a marketing plan was initiated to aid in the raising of revenue from which the company could complete the track to the west coast. Agents of the railroad company were sent forth to recruit immigrant settlers, primarily from Europe, to buy railroad lands in Dakota Territory.

This strategy brought an influx of people to the region, sparking an economic boom in the new city of Fargo. One result of this boom was the creation of more than one-hundred "Bonanza" farms in the Red River Valley (FMCC,1975:27). The impact of the increased settlement of the Red River Valley and the creation of the bonanza farms was a dramatic increase in the economic status of Fargo. All goods and materials needed to operate the farms

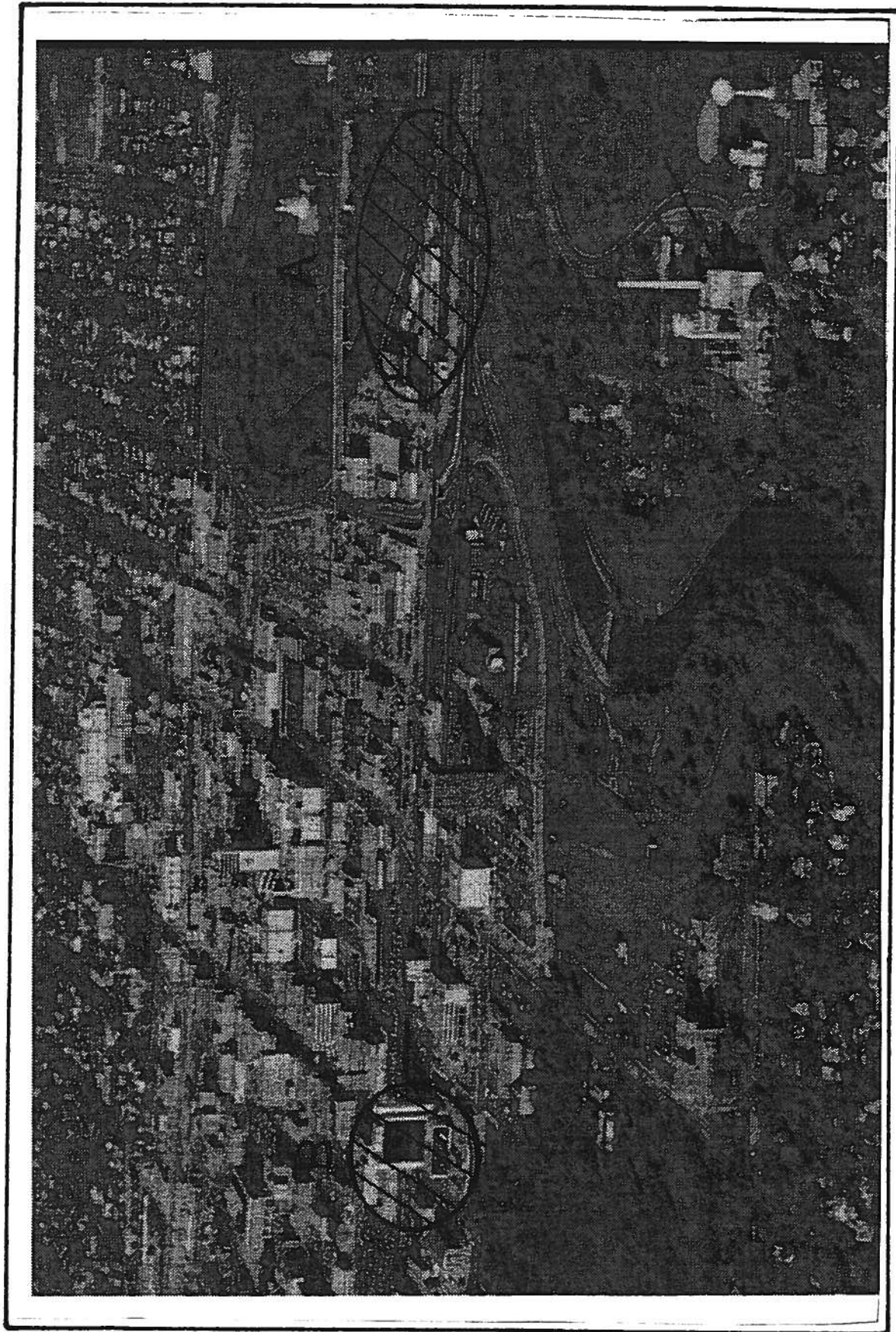


Figure 5. Photograph of present day downtown Fargo showing approximate locations of (A) Fargo in the Timber and (B) Fargo on the Prairie. Photograph courtesy of River Keepers.

were channeled through businesses in Fargo. Further, all goods and materials produced by the farms were channeled through Fargo as well. The increase in commercial activity in the city as a result of the agricultural production in the valley established Fargo as an important regional trade center (Holzkamm, 1993:35).

CHAPTER 5

ARCHIVAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODS

Archival Research

The archival investigations conducted during this research project consisted of a Class I cultural resources inventory. This research entailed the investigation of pertinent public documents and archives as well as published and unpublished resources. The investigation included a review of all previous cultural resource inventories which had been conducted within the Fargo area prior to the initiation of the current research project. Further, the research included a literature file search of the materials housed at the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Finally, the research included a review of local archival collections housed at city and county governmental offices. This include local historical society and library resources.

The initial phase of the archival investigation was conducted at the Register of Deeds office in the Cass County Courthouse located in Fargo, North Dakota. The goal of the research was to gather data relating to the history of land sales transactions pertaining to the properties within the defined study areas. This initial phase of the research was restricted to an investigation of the four original study areas defined by the Fargo Historic Preservation Commission. The original properties consisted of study areas 1 through 4.

The goal of this initial phase of the archival investigation was to obtain data relating to the developmental history of each study area. Information was sought which would aid in the definition of the historical processes, such as construction and demolition, which had occurred on the properties in the past. Information would aid in determining the potential for historical

archaeological deposits to be found in any of the study areas investigated. The search of the grantor-grantee indices further provided a means of identifying the association of specific properties with individuals or events which are important to the history of the city.

Information relating to all of the original four study areas defined by the Fargo Historic Preservation Commission was not immediately available in the grantor-grantee indices. Three of the original four study areas consisted of lands which are currently within the boundaries of existing city parks. Study area 3 (Island Park) and study area 4 (Lindenwood Park) were incorporated into the city as parks. No archival evidence was uncovered which suggested that the lands within these study areas had ever been developed as commercial or residential properties. Study area 2 (Oak Grove Park) was originally subdivided into blocks and lots, but, like study areas 3 and 4, no archival data was found suggesting commercial or residential development had taken place. as a result, data pertaining to the sales of these properties was not obtained.

The limited amount of data regarding the various study areas available from the Register of Deeds placed greater importance on the recovery of information from other archival resources. Photographic collections housed at the Institute for Regional Studies at North Dakota State University and the Clay County Historical Society provided an abundant amount of information regarding the historic development of the historic development of Fargo.

Archaeological Research

The archaeological investigations performed as part of this research consisted of a Class III pedestrian inventory employing on-the-ground archaeological survey techniques. The intent of the archaeological survey of the eight study areas was to investigate as much property as possible

in order to record intact surface and subsurface archaeological deposits. A record search performed by Paul Picha of the Archeology and Historic Preservation Division of the State Historical Society of North Dakota showed that no previously recorded archaeological sites were located in any of the study areas.

The survey methods employed in the investigations of the study areas consisted of one of the following techniques: pedestrian survey, controlled surface collection and survey, shovel probing, and soil probing. The type of archaeological investigation carried out at any one of the study areas was determined by the amount of surface visibility at the site. These activities were carried out on various dates in October and November of 1996 by the author (Sather) of this report, Dr. Michael G. Michlovic of Moorhead State University, and six undergraduate student volunteers from the Moorhead State University Department of Anthropology. The volunteers were supervised by either Dr. Michlovic or the author.

Pedestrian surveys consisted of a walk-over of the selected properties. All eight study areas defined for this research project were initially investigated in this manner. The goal of this initial survey was to gather data relating surface visibility and to identify features on the ground which may have been indicative of subsurface deposits. The instance of surface artifact scatters or the exposure of intact architectural remains constituted evidence by which to pursue further archaeological investigations.

Controlled surface surveys were conducted in study areas where ground cover was minimal, allowing a high degree of surface visibility. Transects spaced 20 meters apart were walked by crews numbering between three and six individuals. The walked transects followed the boundaries of the exposed ground surface. All materials observed during the survey were

collected and returned to the lab for subsequent analysis. The location of artifact clusters was marked on field maps. The areal extent of the artifact scatter defined the boundaries of the reported site.

Shovel probes were employed in study areas where sufficient ground cover prohibited the visual inspection of the ground surface. The spacing interval of the shovel probes along the transects averaged 20 meters. Shovel probes were excavated along established transects by two-person crews. The excavation of the probes was conducted with a round-nosed shovel. The diameter of the shovel probe opening was 50cm. The average depth of the probes was 60cm. All soil removed from the shovel probes was screened through 1/4" hardware mesh. All cultural materials recovered from the shovel tests were collected and returned to the laboratory for subsequent analysis.

Soil probes were employed in study areas where ground cover prohibited the excavation of shovel probes. Areas along the river which had been subjected to repeated deposition of river-born debris (i.e., large logs and tree limbs) were often too congested to allow the placement of shovel probes. Often, the soil probes were executed following the definition of a potential archaeological deposit identified in a shovel probe. In this case, the soil probes were undertaken to investigate the extent of the identified deposit. The information obtained through soil probes was only used in conjunction to previously defined results obtained through shovel probes. Soil probes alone did not form the basis for the definition of a potential archaeological deposit.

All artifacts recovered during either pedestrian survey or subsurface probing were collected. No field sorting was conducted during the field investigations. All materials were

returned to the laboratory for subsequent analysis except broken building materials. Fragments of bricks and mortar observed at a site were recorded but not collected.

The intent was to collect a representative sample of the range of artifacts observed at all the defined study areas regardless of perceived historical age or contextual integrity. This process resulted in the collection of a wide variety of materials from the recorded sites. The entire collection of materials recovered from the study areas were retained in order to provide an example of all types and classes of materials observable in the study areas. An inventory of the artifact assemblages for each of the study areas was completed in accordance to the Museum Division of the State Historical Society of North Dakota guidelines (SHSND, 1995).

Of the eight study areas investigated, five were identified as potential archaeological sites. North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey (NDCRS) site forms were completed for each of the five potential sites. These forms were submitted to the SHSND for review and approval. Each of the five submitted forms was accepted and provided a Smithsonian Institution Trinomial System (SITS) number.

CHAPTER 6

SURVEY RESULTS

A total of eight study areas were defined for this research program. Archaeological investigations of these study areas resulted in the recording of five new archaeological sites. The archaeological information was obtained through controlled surface surveys and a series of shovel and/or soil probes. The level of archaeological investigation carried out at each of the defined study areas was determined by the archival data and the initial archaeological data collected gathered from each study area.

The five archaeological sites identified as a result of this investigation have been recorded with the State Historical Society of North Dakota. These sites have been assigned Smithsonian Institution Trinomial System (SITS) site numbers. The following sections provide descriptions of the archival and archaeological research conducted for each study area. Descriptions of the recorded sites are presented first, followed by descriptions of study areas which did not produce archaeological sites.

The first five of the eight descriptive sections relate to the five study areas which were recorded as new historical archaeological sites. The descriptive sections are arranged in order of assigned SITS number. Study areas which did not produce substantive archaeological data are described in the latter three sections of this chapter.

Recorded Archaeological Sites

32 CS 4669 (Study Area 2)

Site Location

Site 32 CS 4669 (field designation Study Area 2) consists of the land included within the contemporary boundaries of Oak Grove Park in north Fargo (fig.6). This 39 acre tract of land is bounded on the north, east, and south sides by the Red River. It is bounded on the west by the campus of the Oak Grove High School. The entrance to the park is situated at the eastern end of both North and South Terrace Drives in North Fargo. The legal description of the site is the E1/2, SE1/4, NW1/4 and the E1/2, NW1/4, SW1/4, and the E1/2, W1/2, NW1/4, SW1/4. section 5, T139N, R48W. The site minimally covers an area 1m (N-S) by 1m (E-W). The site, as recorded and reported to the State Historical Society of North Dakota consists of the collection of artifacts recovered from a single shovel probe. The extent of the subsurface deposit has not yet been determined.

Site Description

The site is located within the boundaries of an westward opening loop of the Red River. The topography of the site is rolling. The ground surface has shallow linear topographic depressions which extend along a north-south axis roughly paralleling the western bank of the river. The park is situated upon the floodplain of the Red River and has a slight topographic incline towards the west, away from the river. The site is covered by a sparse gallery forest consisting primarily of oak trees.

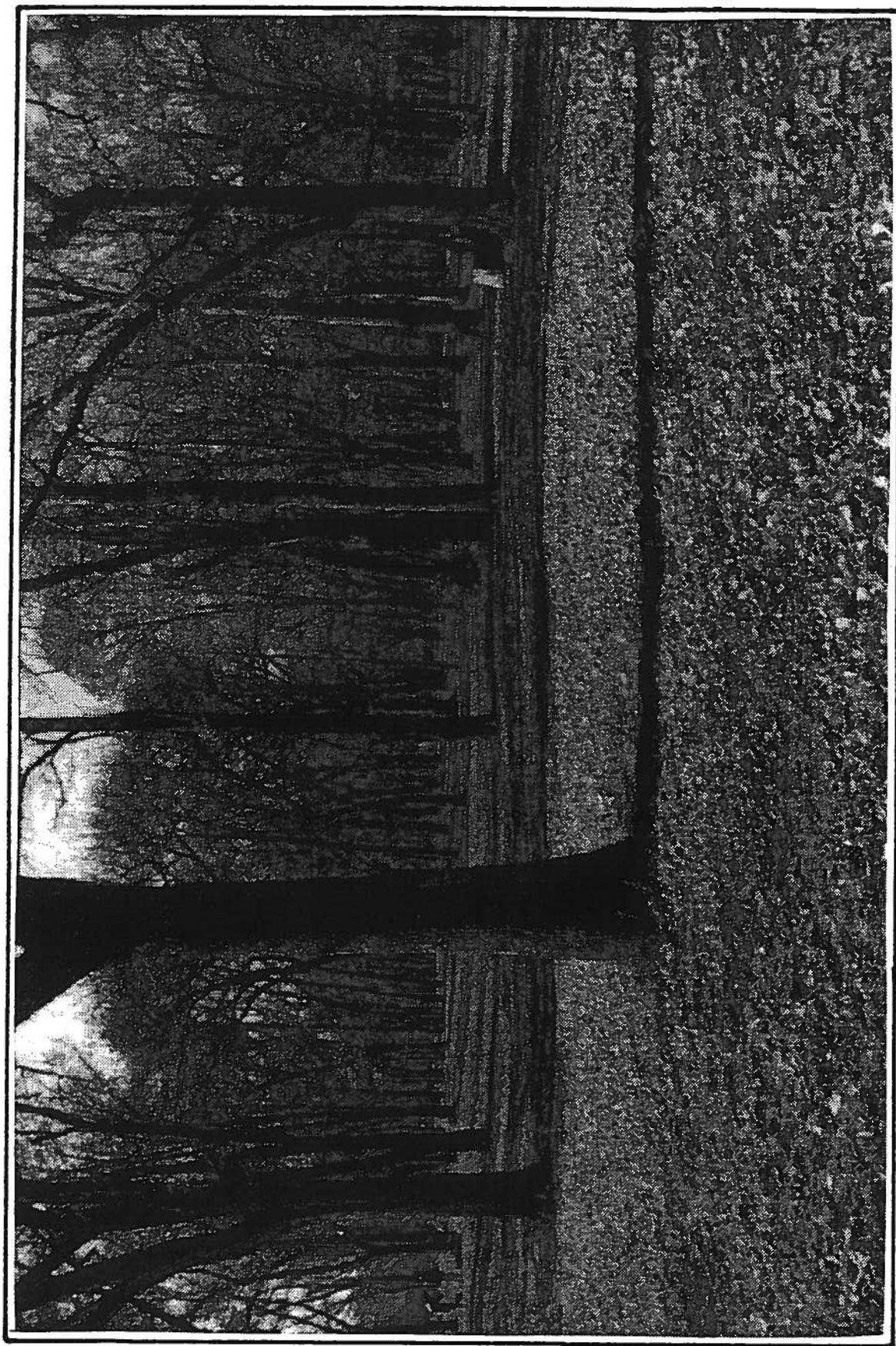


Figure 6. Photograph of 32 CS 4669 site area. Photograph by author.

The property is currently utilized as a city park. It contains several structures located towards the western edge of the park on the higher ground away from the river. The structures erected on the property include a covered picnic pavilion, public bathroom facilities, tennis courts, a baseball diamond, and a series of horse-shoe rings. On the northwestern end of the property are several pieces of playground equipment. An asphalt covered bike path parallels the river along the eastern edge of the study area. A pedestrian bridge leading across the Red River in the southeastern near the southeastern portion of the park.

Archival Research

Oak Grove Park was purchased by the Fargo Park Board in 1911 (North Dakota Writers Project, 1941). The name of the park comes from the large stand of oak trees which occupies the property. The park was originally incorporated into the City of Fargo in 1881 as part of the Oak Grove Addition to Fargo (fig.7). The original survey of the addition partitioned the property into numerous parcels distributed over several blocks. There is no archival evidence that any of these parcels had ever been developed as commercial or residential properties.

Archaeological investigations undertaken in the Oak Grove Park area were based upon two sources of information. First is a published account which claimed that Oak Grove Park was the site of a Native American encampment occupied in the 1870s (FMCC, 1975:7). The camp was inhabited by a band of Santee Sioux during the winter of 1872. It was suggested that the camp was only inhabited for a single winter. The departure of the Native Americans from the area was suggested to be the result of the arrival of a company of the United States Infantry.

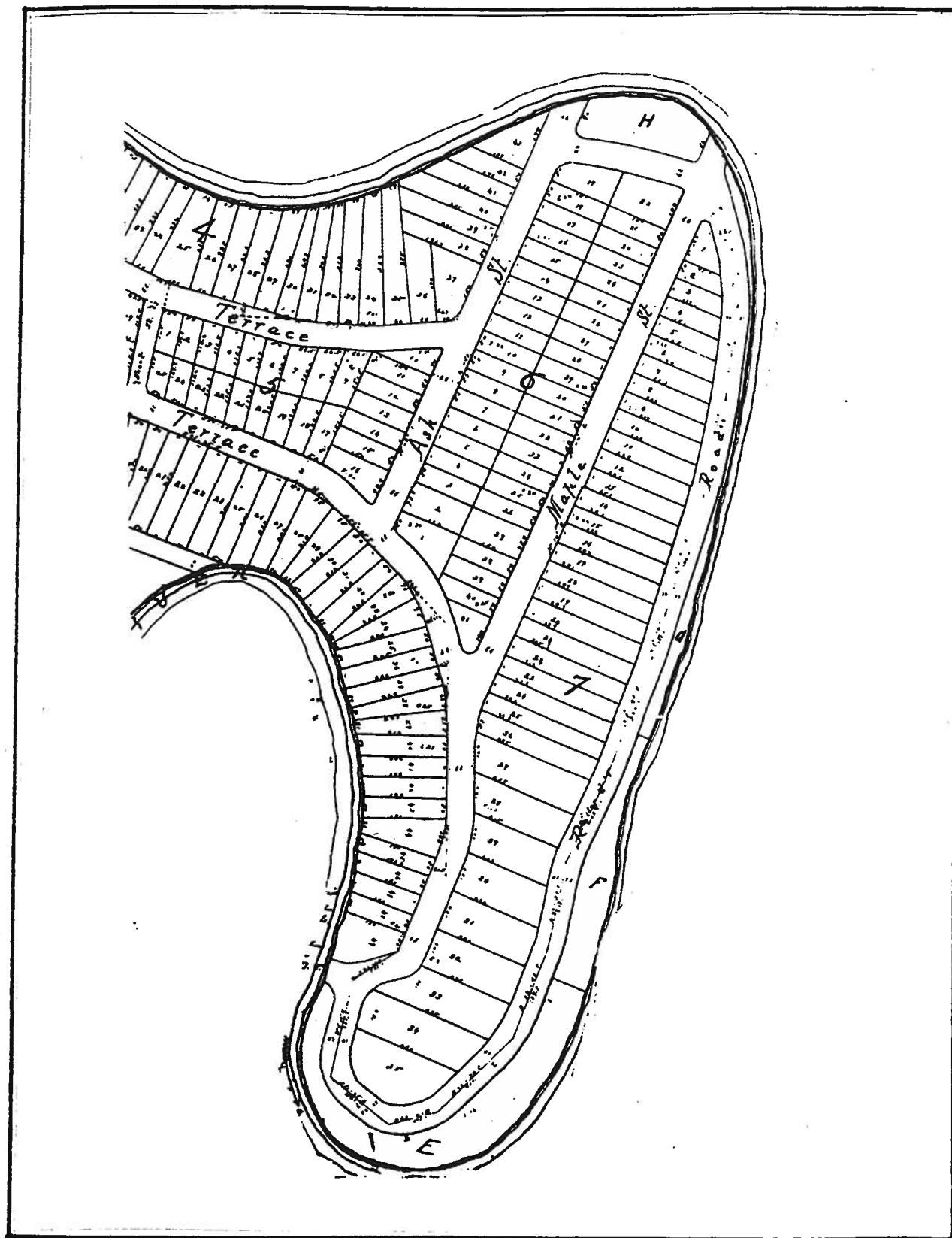


Figure 7. 1881 Plat Map of the Oak Grove Addition to Fargo. Reprinted from original map on file at the Cass County Register of Deeds Office, Cass County Courthouse, Fargo, North Dakota.

The second reason for performing archaeological investigations in Oak Grove Park was its proximity to the original townsite of Fargo. The tract may have been the location of earlier, independent land claims which were established while the crossing point of the Northern Pacific Railroad was only a speculative concern. There may have been attempts to obtain the property by independent land speculators which were never officially recorded within city records. Johnson (1982:265) makes reference to land claims which were “somewhat removed” from Fargo in the Timber and Fargo on the Prairie. The results of the archival investigation of the Oak Grove Park area suggested the site has the potential to contain historic-aged archaeological deposits relating to both Native American and European American settlements. The archival data further suggested that both occupations may date to the historic period.

Archaeological Investigation

The archaeological investigation of the study area consisted of 26 shovel probes that were excavated within the southern portion of the study area. The shovel probes were concentrated within the portion of the park, away from the standing structures and playground equipment, in an area which had been subject to the least amount of modification.

The shovel probes were excavated along four separate transects. Three transects were oriented along a north-south axis (fig.8). The shovel probes were excavated by two person teams with a round nosed shovel. Each was excavated to a depth of approximately 60cm below the contemporary ground surface. The probes were excavated in 10cm levels. All soil removed from the probes was screened through 1/4” hardware mesh.

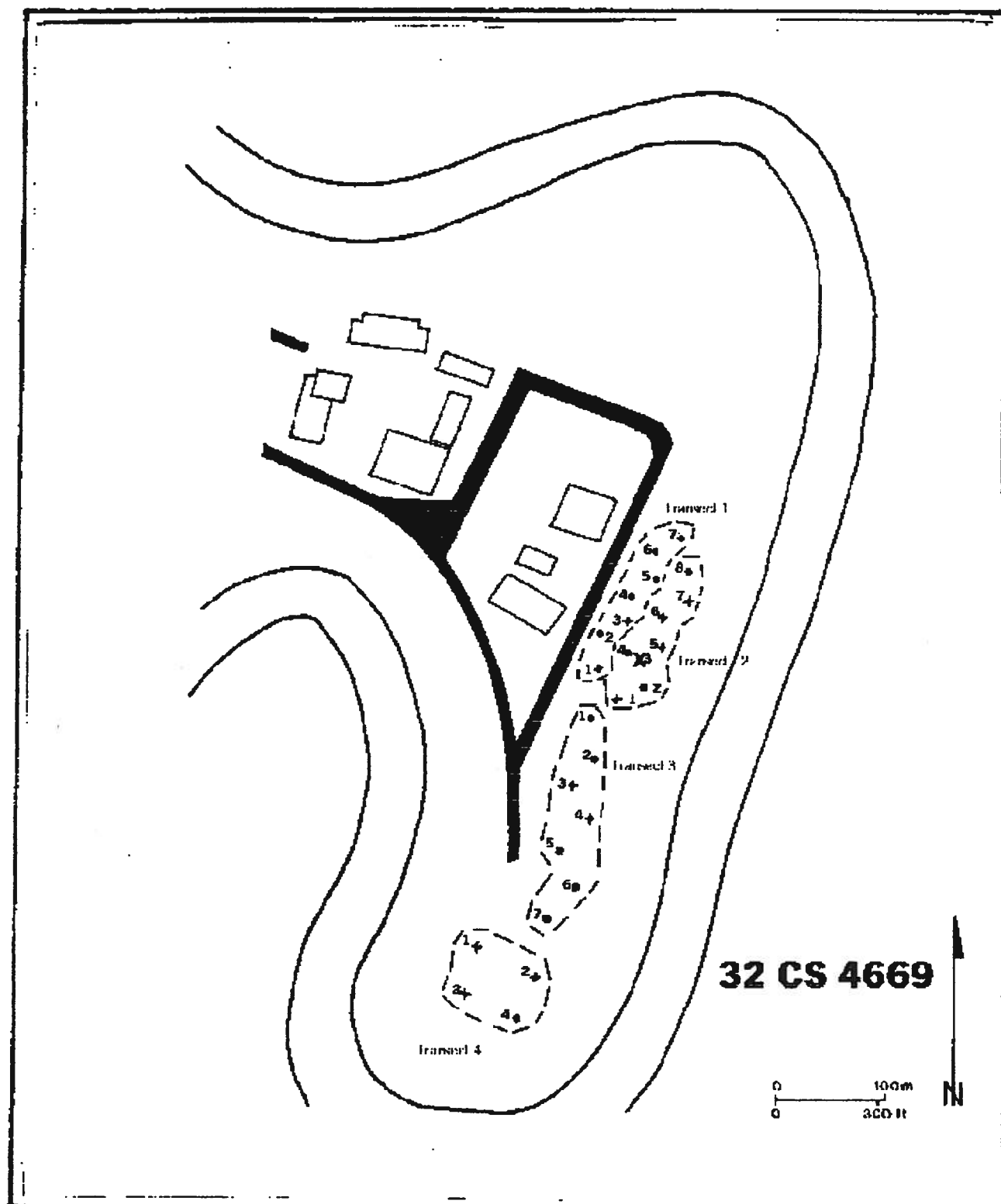


Figure 8. Mapped locations of excavated shovel probes in Oak Grove Park. + = positive shovel probe; o = negative shovel probe; X = shovel probe containing potential prehistoric artifacts. Map by author.

Transect 1 consisted of seven shovel probes excavated along a north-south axis. The series of probes was started at a location immediately east of the intersection of two asphalt paved paths and continued north from that point. The probes were spaced approximately 20 meters apart. In order to increase the ground surface covered by the transect the shovel probes were staggered. Each consecutive shovel probe was excavated 3-4 meters to the east or west of the north-south transect line.

Transect 2 consisted of eight shovel probes excavated along a north-south axis. The initiation point of the transect was located approximately 20 meters directly east of transect 1. The shovel probes were also staggered on either side of the north-south transect line in order to cover more ground surface.

West of transects 1 and 2 was a slight topographic depression. This depression is believed to be the remnant feature of Maple Street. Transect 1 is aligned along what has been interpreted as the western side of block 6 (fig.7). Transect 2 is aligned along what has been interpreted as the eastern side of block 6 (fig.7).

Transect 3 was excavated along a north-south line. The initiation point of this transect was approximately 20 meters south of the first shovel probe of transect 2. Transect 3 consisted of seven shovel probes spaced approximately 20 meters apart (fig.8). As in the previous transects, these probes were staggered to the left and right of the north-south axis in order to cover a greater amount of ground.

The fourth and final transect consisted of four shovel probes excavated in the extreme southern portion of the study area. These shovel probes were excavated in an irregular pattern in order to probe in the widest variety of locations.

Twelve of the 26 shovel probes excavated yielded artifacts. Distribution of the positive probes was not concentrated in any one area of the site (fig.8). An inventory of artifacts recovered from the shovel probes excavated in the Oak Grove Park is provided in Table 1.

Most of the artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4669 appear to be of recent origin. The depth of the artifacts rarely exceeded 20cm below the present-day ground surface. The collection contains several fragments of beer bottle glass, crown cap bottle closures, several plastic fragments, metal fragments, Styrofoam pieces, unidentifiable bone fragments, and a single piece of shoe leather. No diagnostic features were identified in the artifact assemblage which would suggest that any of the items were of substantial antiquity.

The items recovered from shovel probe 3, transect 2 present a different interpretation. In this shovel probe numerous fragments of bone (n=105) (fig.9) and a single piece of fractured chert (fig.10) were recovered from a depth of 40cm. The depth from which these items were recovered is nearly twice that of materials recovered from other shovel probes. The bone is a highly fragmented humerus from a large mammal, possibly bovine. There are no indications of modern butchery on the element, such as saw or cut marks. Greenstick fracture patterns on the element suggest that the bone was broken when fresh. Subsequent breakage of the element may have occurred later as evidenced by dry, rectilinear fractures intersecting some of the greenstick fractures.

There is no indication that the lithic item recovered in association to the bone fragments was produced as a result of directed lithic reduction. No identifiable platform or evidence of directed flake removal is observable on the item. The information regarding the lithic fragment does not allow for the interpretation of the item as a product of purposeful lithic reduction.

Table 1

Artifact assemblage recovered from 32 CS 4669.

TRANSECT	PROBE	DEPTH	QUANTITY	MATERIALS
1	1	20cm	1	Leather Shoe Fragment
1	2	60cm	0	Negative Probe
1	3	10cm	1	Styrofoam Cup Fragment
1	3	10cm	2	Coal Fragments
1	4	60cm	0	Negative Probe
1	5	60cm	0	Negative Probe
1	6	60cm	0	Negative Probe
1	7	60cm	0	Negative Probe
2	1	10cm	2	Metal Fragments
2	2	60cm	0	Negative Probe
2	3	40cm	105	Bone Fragments
2	3	40cm	1	Broken Chert Fragment
2	4	60cm	0	Negative Probe
2	5	10cm	1	Red Plastic Spoon Fragment
2	6	10cm	1	Crown Bottle Cap
2	6	20cm	1	Tinfoil Fragment
2	7	10cm	1	Red Plastic Fragment
2	8	60cm	0	Negative Probe
3	1	60cm	0	Negative Probe
3	2	60cm	0	Negative Probe
3	3	10cm	1	Amber Glass Beer Bottle Neck
3	4	10cm	1	Brown Plastic Comb Fragment
3	4	10cm	4	Clear Glass Bottle Fragments
3	5	60cm	0	Negative Probe
3	6	60cm	0	Negative Probe
3	7	60cm	0	Negative Probe
4	1	10cm	1	Crown Bottle Cap
4	1	10cm	1	Amber Glass Bottle Fragment
4	1	10cm	1	Metal Fragment
4	1	10cm	3	Unidentifiable Bone Fragments
4	2	10cm	2	Coal Fragments
4	3	10cm	3	Clear/White Plastic Fragments
4	4	60cm	0	Negative Probe
Total			133	

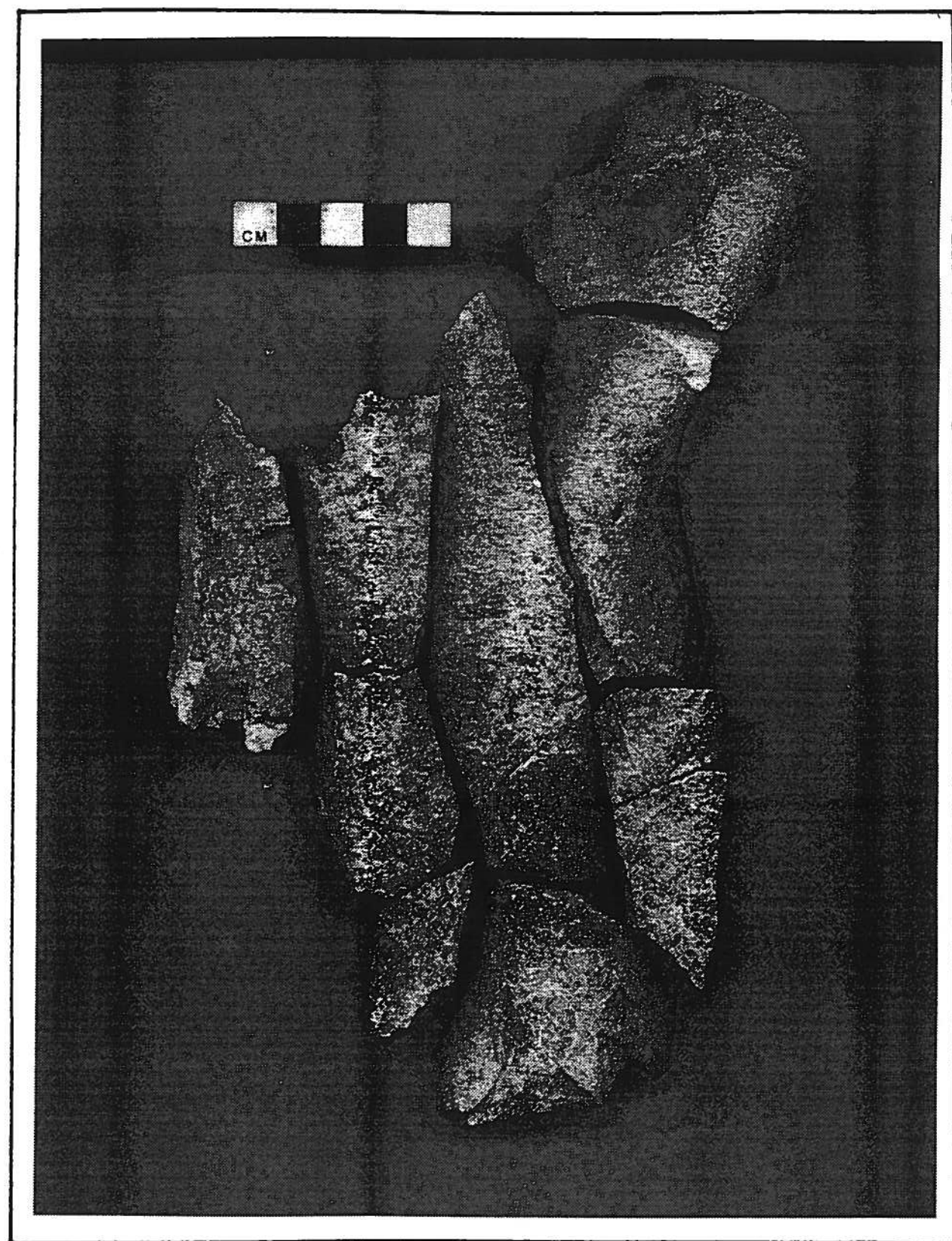


Figure 9. Fragmented humerus recovered from shovel probe 3 in transect 2.

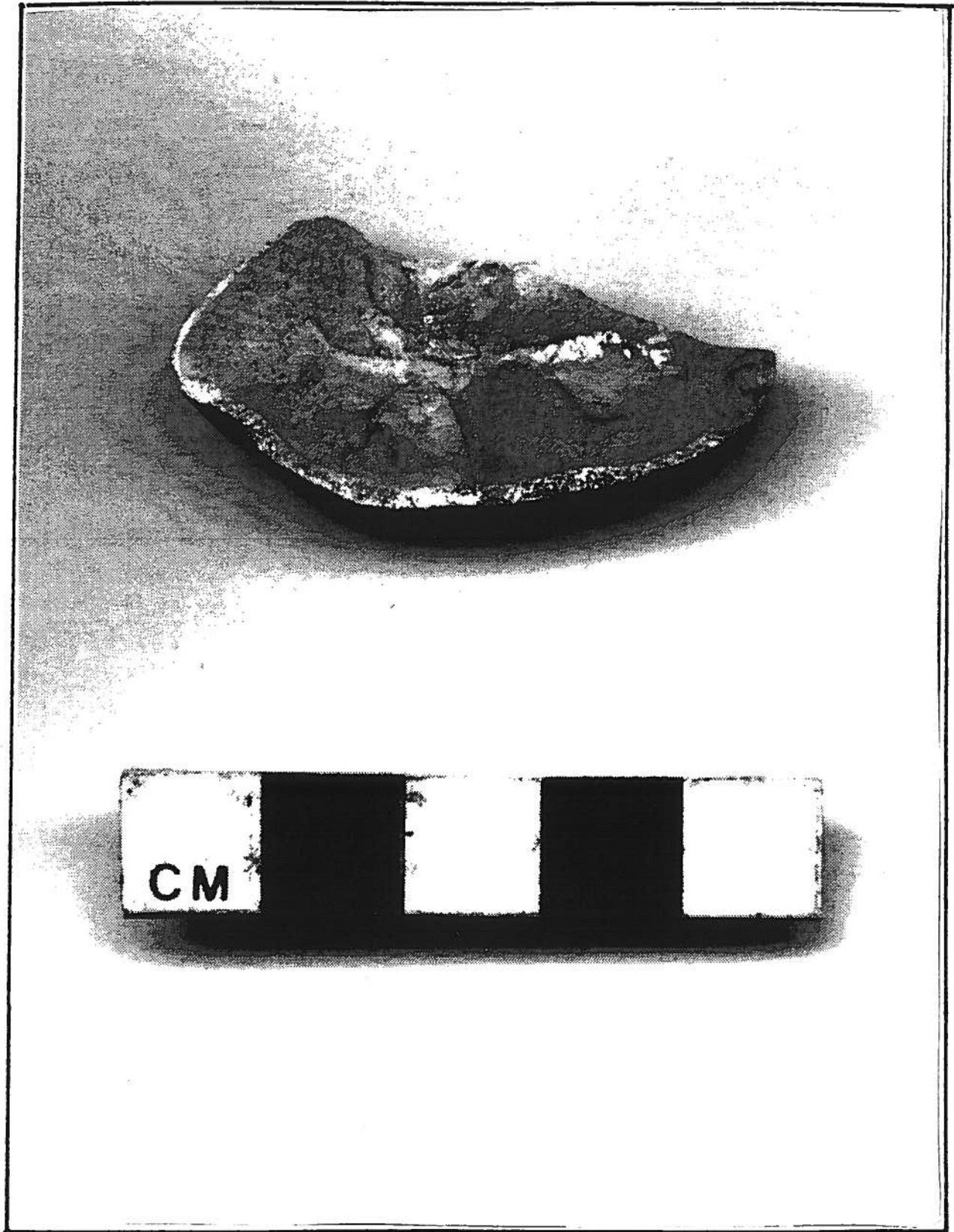


Figure 10. Lithic item recovered from shovel probe 3 in transect 2.

The areal distribution of the deposits identified in shovel probe 3 in transect 2 appears to be limited. The bone fragments recovered from shovel probe 3 were concentrated in a small portion of the excavated shovel probe. Shovel probe 4 was excavated 1 meter directly east of shovel probe 3. No artifacts were recovered from this probe.

No determination has been made regarding whether the materials recovered from shovel probe 3 of transect 2 are of historic or prehistoric age. The artifacts themselves do not contain diagnostic evidence with which to make a positive identification of chronological or cultural affiliation. The greater depth of the artifacts in relation to other items recovered from the site may suggest these are older. However, it must be pointed out that the study area has been subject to surface disturbance in the past resulting from the construction of bike paths and park facilities and that the depth of the artifacts may be irrelevant.

Recommendations

Further investigations of 32 CS 4669 are necessary to determine the age and areal extent of the archaeological deposits identified. Future archaeological investigations of this site should be directed to determine if the archaeological deposits identified by the shovel probes are related to the early settlement of Fargo.

The artifact assemblage recovered from this site may be partitioned into two segments. The first segment consists of those artifacts recovered from the upper levels of the positive shovel probes. As mentioned above, these items appear to be of recent origin. None of the artifacts contain any diagnostic features which indicate anything other than modern manufacture. This portion of the artifact assemblage may represent modern episodes of trash deposition in the site

area. The second segment of the assemblage are those items recovered from a greater depth in shovel probe number three in transect number two. These items were recovered at a depth of 40cm, twice as deep as any other artifacts. This portion of the assemblage consists of several fragments of a single humerus from a large mammal associated with a fractured piece of Red River chert.

The artifacts recovered from shovel probe three in transect two exhibit no diagnostic features with which to determine their age or origin. However, two features of the nature in which the artifacts were recovered suggests that the materials represent a separate depositional episode. First, the artifacts were not found in association with any materials of recent manufacture. Second, the items were more deeply buried than any other artifacts recovered at the site. Future investigations of the site should be directed at determining the age and extent of this deposit.

The archaeological investigation of the Oak Grove Park area was initiated upon two lines of archival evidence. The first concerned the account of a possible Native American encampment in the park during the early 1870s. This encampment would have been contemporaneous to the early settlement of Fargo. The second was the possibility that the park may have been the site of an early land claim which had never been officially recorded. The artifacts recovered from the deeper deposit at the site may represent an early occupation of the Oak Grove area. Future investigations of the site may yield information which would allow for the determination of the age and cultural affiliation of the deposits.

32 CS 4670 (Study Area 5)

Site Location

The site 32 CS 4670 (field designation Study Area 5) consists of the land located at the Shotwell Floral Company property in north Fargo (fig.11). This 3 acre tract is bounded on the south by the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks, on the west by a topographic incline, on the north by private property parcels, and on the east by the Red River. The legal description of study area 5 is the S1/2, NE1/4, SW1/4, section 5, T139N, R48W. The site minimally covers an area 120m (N-S) by 98m (E-W).

Site Description

The site is located on the floodplain of the Red River. The topography of the site is level. The surface of the site has been plowed repeatedly for the past several decades and is currently being utilized as garden plots. To the east of the site, along the banks of the Red River are small, discontinuous areas of gallery forest. Parts of the wooded area appear to have been purposefully removed. Much of the area in and around the gallery forest are overgrown with small brush. Running parallel to the river and located on the western edge of the remnant gallery forest is a short section of an asphalt paved bike path. To the south of the site is the earthen embankment of the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks. The tracks of the railroad travel east-west as they enter the site area from the west. From this point the path of the tracks trends to the southeast towards the river. A small cluster of buildings is located near the northwestern corner of the site consisting of four greenhouses, three small sheds, and a residential structure.

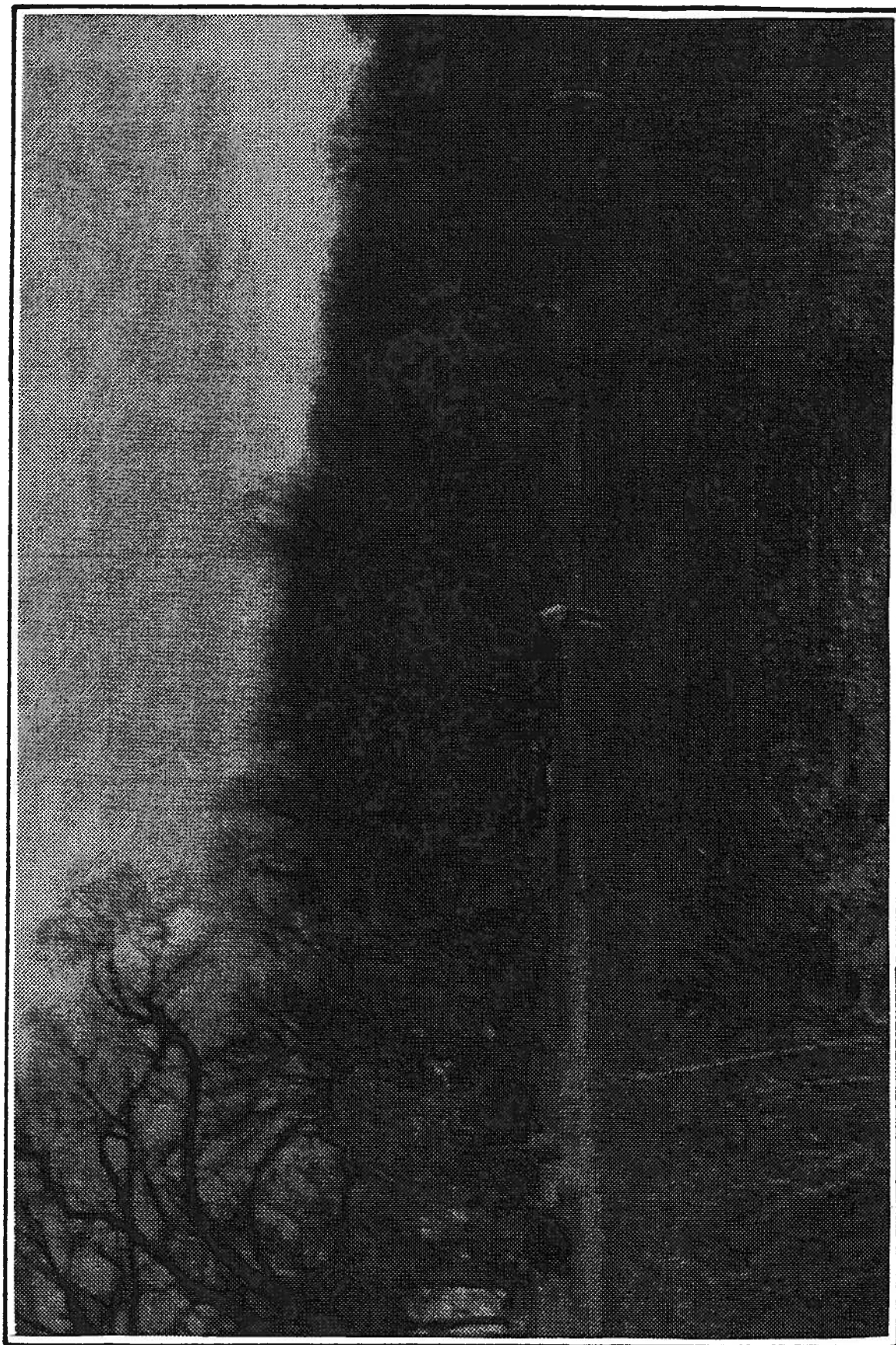


Figure 11. Photograph of 32 CS 4670. View from the northwest corner of site towards the east. Photograph by author.

Archival Research

Site 32 CS 4670 was originally discovered during the initial archaeological survey of the study areas. No archival evidence has been uncovered which suggests that any commercial or residential development has occurred on the property beyond that exhibited by the contemporary standing structures.

Archaeological Investigation

The land in the site area is included in the research program due to the recovery of artifacts following an initial pedestrian survey. Artifacts of both historic and prehistoric age were identified upon an initial walk-over of the tract.

Controlled surface survey was conducted at the site with the aid of Dr. Michael G. Michlovic of Moorhead State University and six archaeology undergraduate students. The survey consisted of the walking of transects throughout the exposed area. The pedestrian survey commenced along the northern boundary of the site area. The individuals performing the survey were spaced approximately 5 meters apart. The transects followed in a southward direction paralleling the contours of the exposed property edge. All observed materials were collected. A listing of the assemblage recovered from the site is provided in Table 2.

The pedestrian survey recovered artifacts from both the historic and prehistoric periods (fig.12,13). The historic materials were found throughout the study area in varying densities. The prehistoric artifacts were all recovered from a relatively small area towards the west central portion of the study area (fig.14).

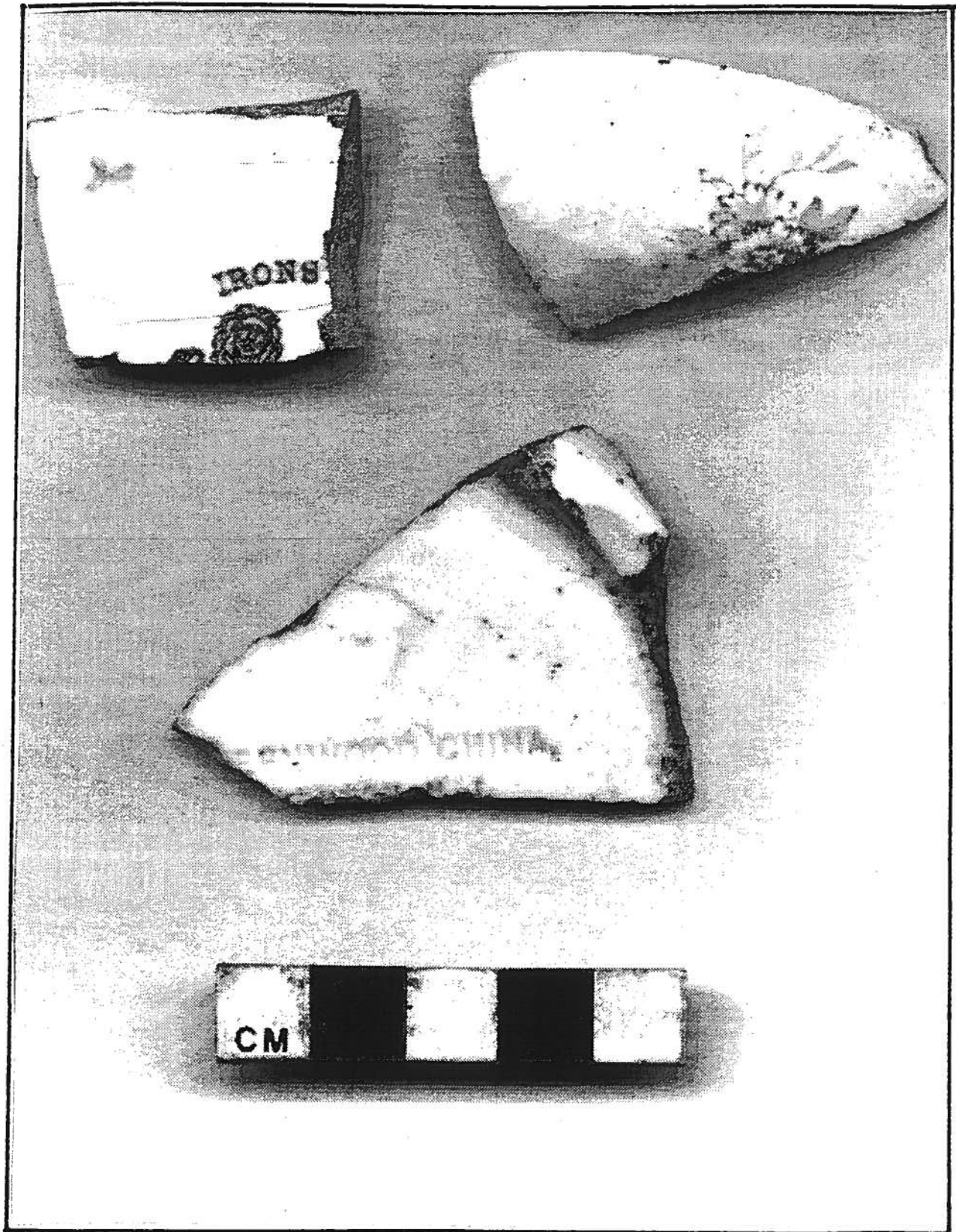


Figure 12. Selected historic age artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670. Photograph by author.

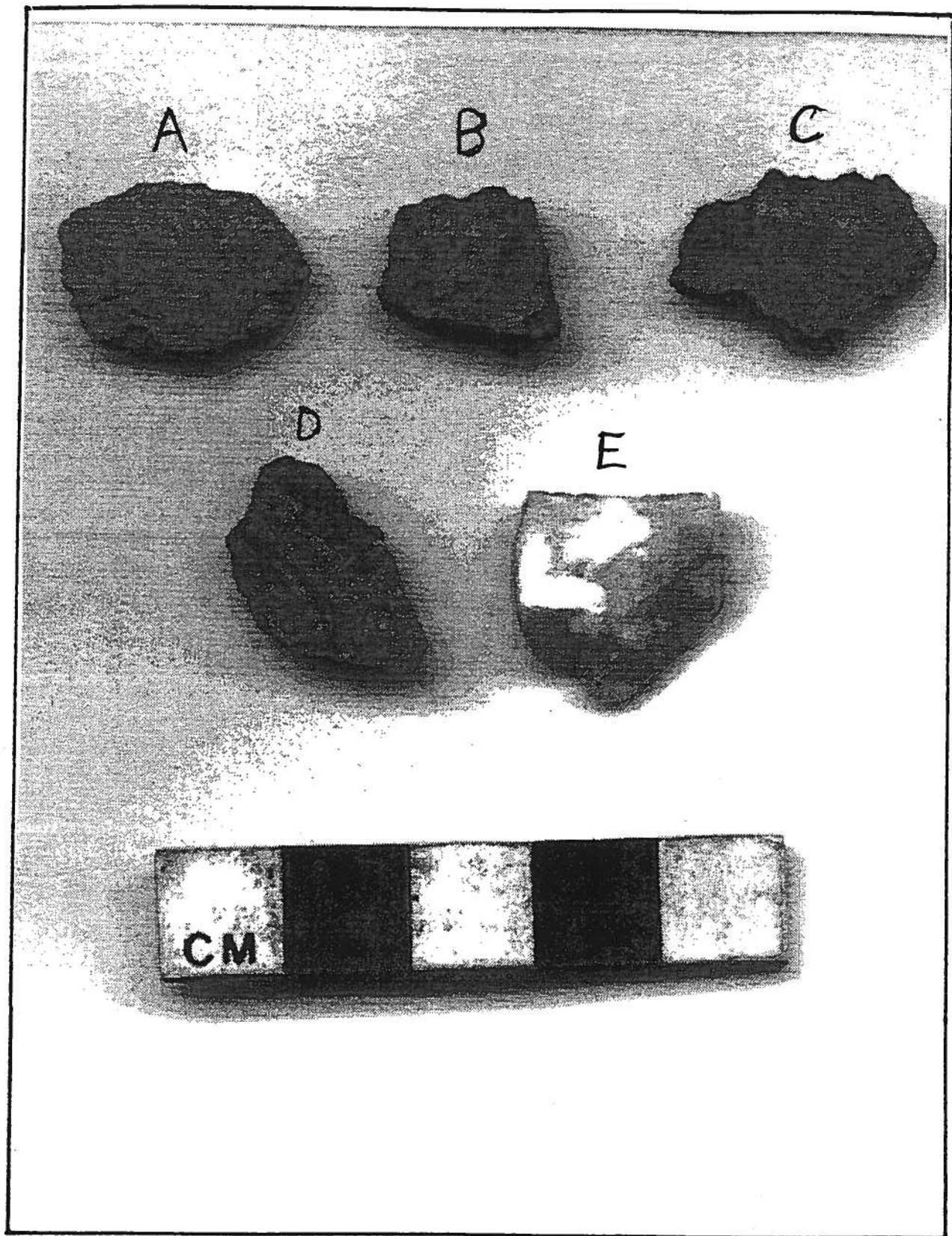


Figure 13. Prehistoric artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670. Photograph by author.

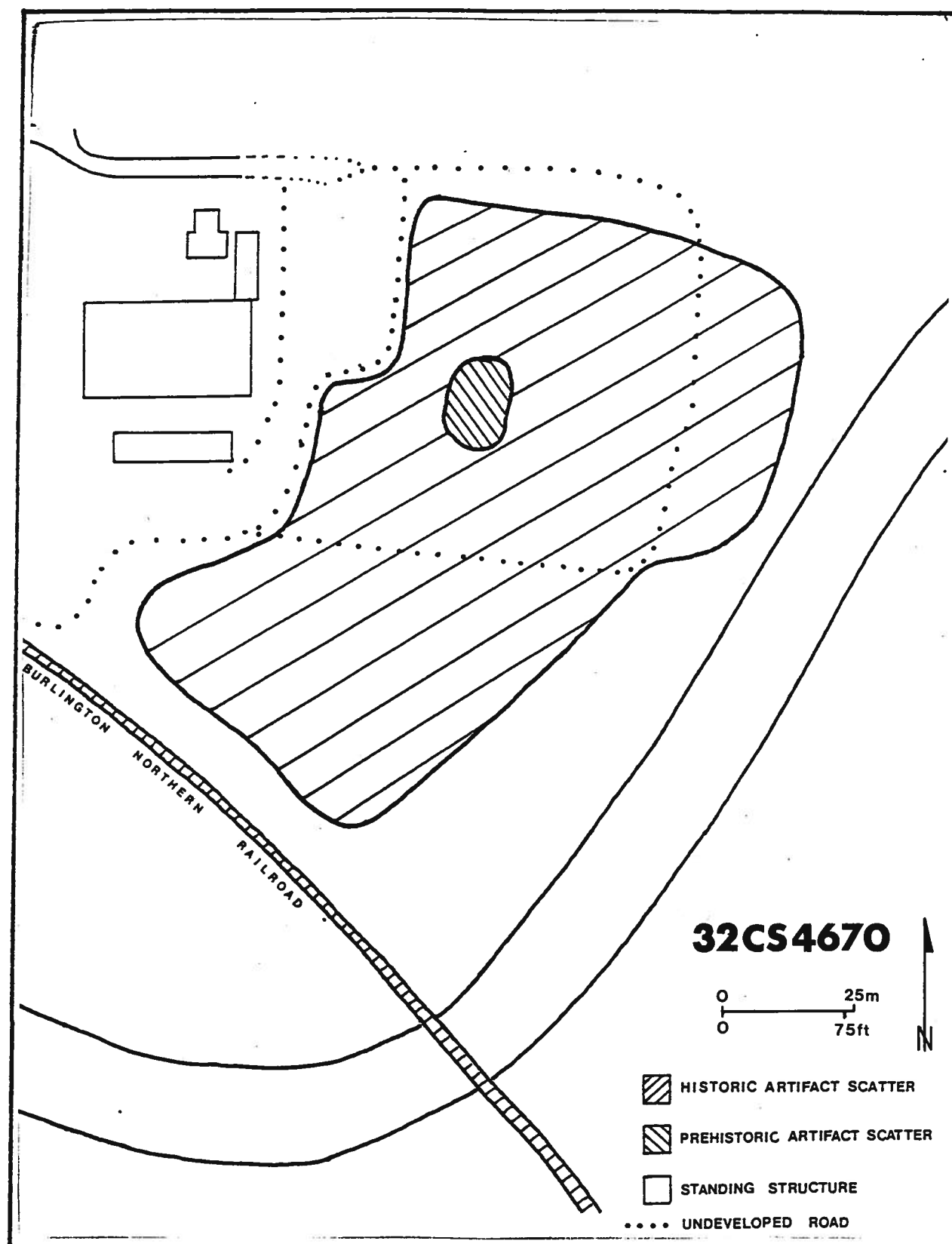


Figure 14. Site map of 32 CS 4670. Map by author.

Table 2

Surface Collection from 32 CS 4670

Period	Class	Description	Quantity
Historic	Glass	Clear Bottle	56
Historic	Glass	Amber Bottle	17
Historic	Glass	Aqua Bottle	7
Historic	Glass	White Bottle	5
Historic	Glass	Green Bottle	3
Historic	Glass	Light Blue Bottle	3
Historic	Ceramic	Ironstoneware	53
Historic	Ceramic	Redware	13
Historic	Ceramic	Stoneware	6
Historic	Brick	Fragment	4
Historic	Linoleum	Fragment	1
Historic	Basketball	Fragment	1
Unknown	Coal	Fragment	9
Unknown	Coal	Clinkers	4
Unknown	Clam Shell	Fragment	26
Unknown	Tooth	Fragment	1
Unknown	Bone	Non-ID	6
Unknown	Burnt Bone	Non-ID	1
Prehistoric	Ceramic	Shell tempered	3
Prehistoric	Lithic	Flake	2
Total			221

The artifact assemblage recovered from 32 CS 4670 contains a wide variety of materials. The artifact assemblage recovered from the site can be segregated into five separate categories. The first category consists of the historic-age household artifacts. This includes the various glass bottle fragments and the whiteware ceramics.

Glass artifacts represent the most abundant class of materials recovered from the site. The 91 individual artifacts comprise 41% of the total assemblage collected. A majority of the glass

items are clear glass bottle fragments (n=56). The size and shape of the clear glass fragments did not allow the reconstruction of vessel shape or size. Molding seems on some of the clear glass bottle fragments suggest that the bottles were manufactured mechanically rather than manually. The automated process of bottle manufacture became widely used between 1890 and 1920 (Jones and Sullivan, 1985) and is still in use today. This date, however, only provides a terminus date for the artifact collection. Amber colored bottle glass are the second most abundant type (n=17). It is likely that the majority of these items are fragments of broken beer bottles recently deposited at the site. The remaining 16 glass artifacts are all small bottle fragments. They do not, however, provide diagnostic information regarding the shape, size, function, or age of the original vessel.

Ceramic artifacts rank second in quantity at the site (n=72), comprising 33% of the total artifact assemblage. The most abundant ceramic type recovered from the site was ironstone. This ware was patented in England in 1813 and has been referred to in the literature as “semi-porcelain”, “graniteware”, “white granite”, and “ironstone china” (Cameron, 1986:170). As with the variety of names provided for this ware, it is also included within several different ceramic categories by different authors. Ketchum (1971:122) includes ironstoneware within the category of general white wares. Noel-Hume (1970) places this ware within his “other stoneware” category. For this discussion, the items identified as ironstoneware are considered as a separate ware type following Unsicker (1979:63).

Ironstone is a non-porous, highly vitrified ware exhibiting a pearl-gray paste covered with a clear glaze consisting of feldspar, silica, lead, and borax. The ware is extremely durable but also rather heavy. As the manufacturing techniques became more economical, ironstoneware replaced the less durable whitewares. Improvements developed during the late 1800s made it possible to

manufacture a lighter ironstoneware. This ware is often referred to as “hotelware” (Ketchum, 1971:122).

The appearance of this ware within an archaeological assemblage is sometimes recognized as a temporal horizon. The increased use of this ware and its eventual replacement of the less durable whitewares can often be dated within a general region. Ketchum (1971:121) suggests that this horizon may date to ca. 1850 for much of the midwestern United States.

The collection of ironstoneware artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670 suggest that the majority of the original ceramic vessels were of a general table ware category. The identifiable sherds appear to be fragments of plates, platters, or bowls.

Stoneware is the final ceramic type identified and the least abundant material recovered from the site (n=6). This ware represents a highly vitrified ware fired at high temperatures (Cameron, 1986:319; Ketchum, 1971:50). The paste of stoneware ranges in color from dark gray to a pale brown and may contain several inclusions of coarse sand. Most of the stoneware items recovered from the site appear to be of a general utility category, possibly originating from crockery.

Due to the high temperatures utilized during the firing of stonewares, conventional glazes are not applicable for surface treatment. Stoneware can be decorated with either salt or slip glazes. The salt glaze is applied to the surface of the ceramic vessel during firing. This is accomplished by introducing simple table salt into the kiln during the firing process. The salt is vaporized and bonds to the surface of the fired ceramic. The surface acquires a diagnostic texture sometimes described as resembling an orange peel. Slip surface treatment is applied prior to firing and is often utilized as the interior surface treatment on salt glazed items. Both techniques

decrease the porosity of the ceramic ware. The use and manufacture of stoneware items began decreasing toward the end of the 19th century due to the introduction of glass and tin storage containers (Ketchum, 1971:55).

The second category consists of building and construction materials. This category includes the various brick and linoleum fragments. None of the items contained within this category provided substantive diagnostic information useful in determining the age or use of the site.

The third category consists of the materials associated with the floral company and gardening activities which have occurred at the site. This category includes the redware ceramic fragments. Redware fragments represent the second most abundant ceramic ware recovered from the site (n=13). Redware is an earthenware ceramic which is a relatively low fired type which maintains a high degree of porosity after firing. Redware is an inexpensive, utilitarian ware used in the manufacture of storage vessels. Ketchum (1971:4) claims that clay sources for redware ceramics are often local and probably do not represent vessels which had been imported on a regular basis. The redware fragments collected from 32 CS 4670 are most likely fragments of flower pots utilized by the Shotwell Floral Company which currently owns and operates several greenhouses on the property. The redware ceramic fragments are most likely a recent addition to the archaeological deposits in the area.

The fourth category consists of the prehistoric artifacts. This category includes the two lithic flakes and the three prehistoric ceramic fragments. Each of the three prehistoric ceramic fragments are small body sherds. The first sherd (A, fig.13) is a shell tempered body sherd with a smooth surface texture. The second sherd (B, fig.13) is a shell tempered body sherd with a cord-

marked surface texture. The third sherd (C, fig.13) is a shell tempered body sherd with a smoothed-over cord-marked surface texture. The sherds are similar to Sandy Lake ceramics and are indicative of a Late Woodland occupation of the area (Picha and Gregg,1991:10.24). The two identified lithic items (D and E, fig.13) are both made of Swan River Chert. This lithic material is not readily available in the immediate vicinity of the site. The closest identified source of the raw material is located approximately 30km to the east (Bakken,1985:36).

The fifth and final category consists of the miscellaneous materials collected from the site which are not immediately associated with any one specific activity. This category includes the unidentifiable faunal remains, clam shell fragments, coal and coal clinker fragments, and the single rubber basketball fragment.

Recommendations

Further investigation of this site are necessary to determine the extent of both the historic and prehistoric components. The historic component contains a wide variety of materials which may have originated from several differing contexts. Like the context of 32 CS 4669, the site has the potential to contain several sites relating to the early history of the region. The prehistoric artifacts may be representative of the Native American encampment which has been indicated in archival references to have been located in the area (FMCC,1975:7). Further, the occurrence of historic-age artifacts may indicate the presence of an early land claim on the property which was never officially recorded.

The potential for this site to be considered for the State of National Register of Historic places is questionable. The integrity of the site appears to have been heavily compromised

through repeated plowing. Further, the archival evidence has not produced any information which suggests that any commercial or residential development of this site has occurred. This site may only be eligible for nomination on the State of National Register of Historic Places on the grounds that it may yet yield important information relating to the history of the area.

The greatest potential for future research may be vested in the prehistoric occupation of the area. Previous archaeological investigations along the Red River have shown that archaeological deposits located along the river may be deeply buried (Michlovic, 1986). The prehistoric artifacts recovered from the site may be indicative of a more deeply buried component that has only recently been uncovered.

32 CS 4671 (Study Area 6)

Site Location

Site 32 CS 4671 (field designation Study Area 6) consists of a small tract of land located near the western end of the Northern Pacific Avenue Bridge (fig.15). This tract is bounded on the south by the supporting earthen embankment of the Northern Pacific Avenue Bridge, to the west by a steep topographic incline, to the north and east by the Red River. The legal description of study area 6 is NE1/4, NE1/4, NE1/4, NE1/4, section 7, T139N, R48W. The area of the site is approximately one quarter acre. The site minimally covers an area 6m (N-S) by 12m (E-W).

Site Description

The site is located within a small wooded area on the floodplain of the Red River. The topography of the site area inclines upward away from the river towards the south. The incline is the result of the construction of the earthen embankment associated with Northern Pacific Avenue located to the south of the site area. To the east of the site area the ground surface is relatively level, exhibiting only slight topographic variation. The site area is currently occupied by an asphalt paved bike path.

In the direct vicinity of the site area the ground is covered by a thick layer of flood deposited debris (fig.16). The sparse tree coverage on the site has acted as a catchment agent for flood-born materials. The debris coverage is thickest along the eastern and southern sides of the wooded area.

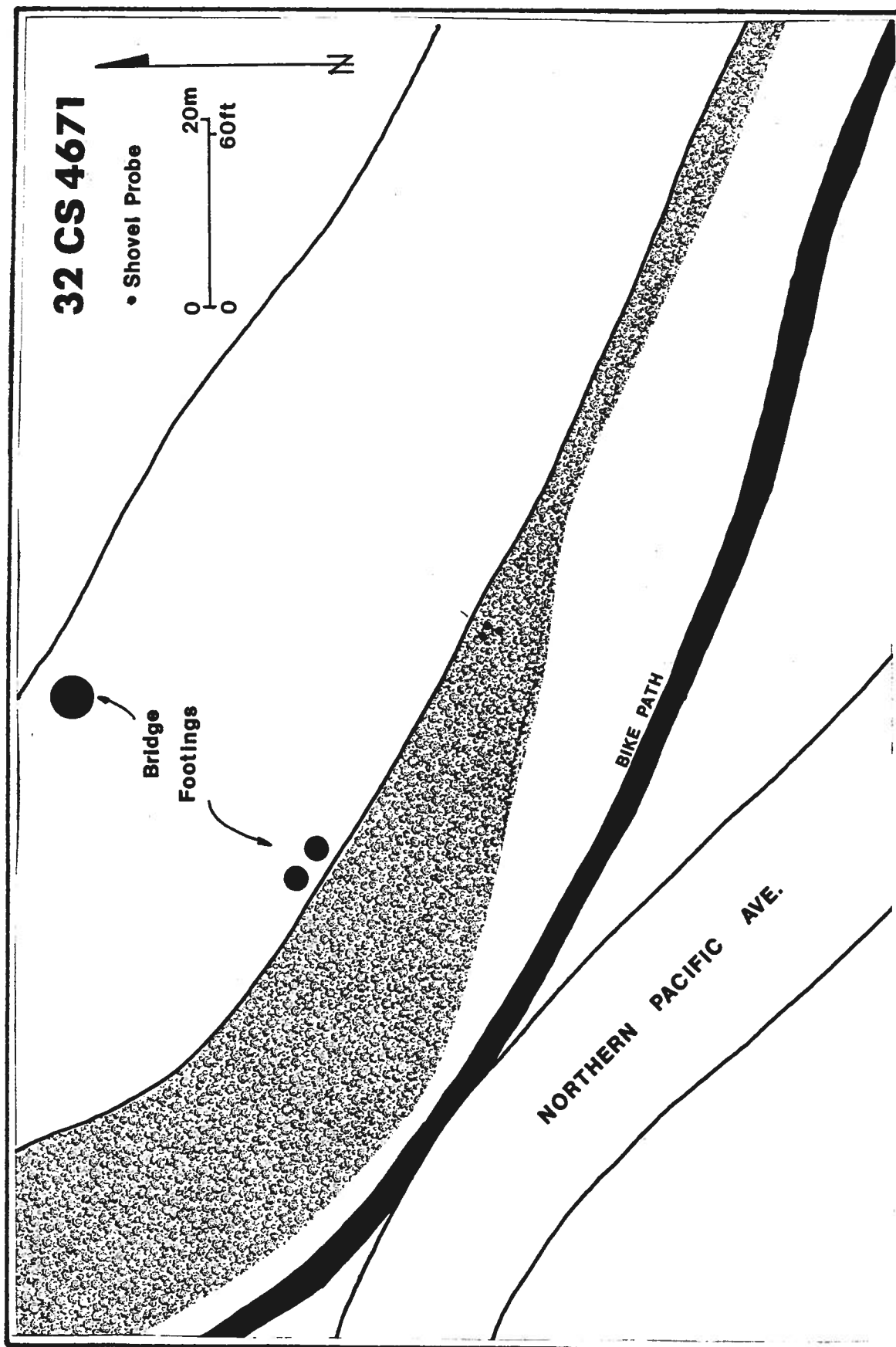


Figure 15. Map of 32 CS 4671 site area. Map by author.

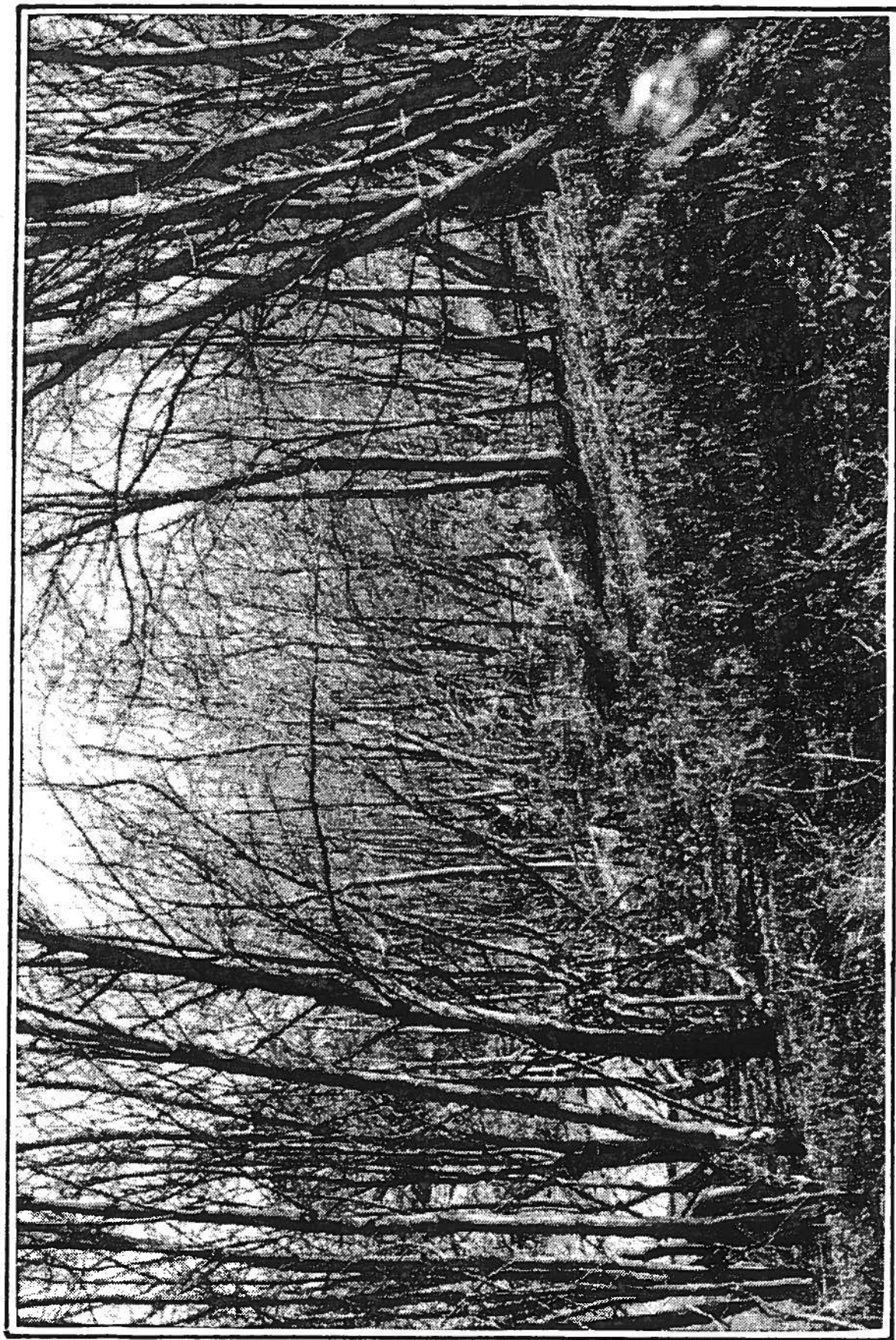


Figure 16. Photograph of 32 CS 4671 site area. Photograph of gallery forest cover and river deposited debris (background).
Photograph by author.

Archival Research

The location 32 CS 4671 was first identified during the investigation of archival resources. Photographs on loan from the archives of the Clay County Historical Society provided which showed that this tract of land was the historic location of several structures associated with riverboat and railroad commerce (fig.17). These structures were identified on Sanborn Fire Insurance maps (fig.18) from the latter part of the 19th century. The structures have been identified as the Grandin Line Warehouse, the Grandin Line Elevator, and the Alsop Warehouse.

The Grandin Line was owned and operated by the brothers J.L. and W.J. Grandin. The two men were bankers, originally from Tidioute, Pennsylvania. In 1876 the brothers purchased 41,000 acres of land in the Red River Valley from the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Through later purchases the land holdings of the Grandin Brothers eventually doubled. To accommodate the transport of the produce from their Bonanza Farm, the Brothers built the steamboat "Grandin" to transport their agricultural produce up stream to Fargo. The Grandins also constructed the two storage facilities along the banks of the Red River near downtown Fargo.

Although there are no intact surface features which would suggest the existence of subsurface deposits, archival investigations provide abundant data which would suggest the possibility of the existence of subsurface archaeological deposits. The first photograph (fig.19) shows the tract as it appeared in the early 1910s. In the background of this photograph is the location where the Grandin Line and Alsop structures once stood. Although the structures have by this time been removed, close examination of the photograph provides evidence that partial

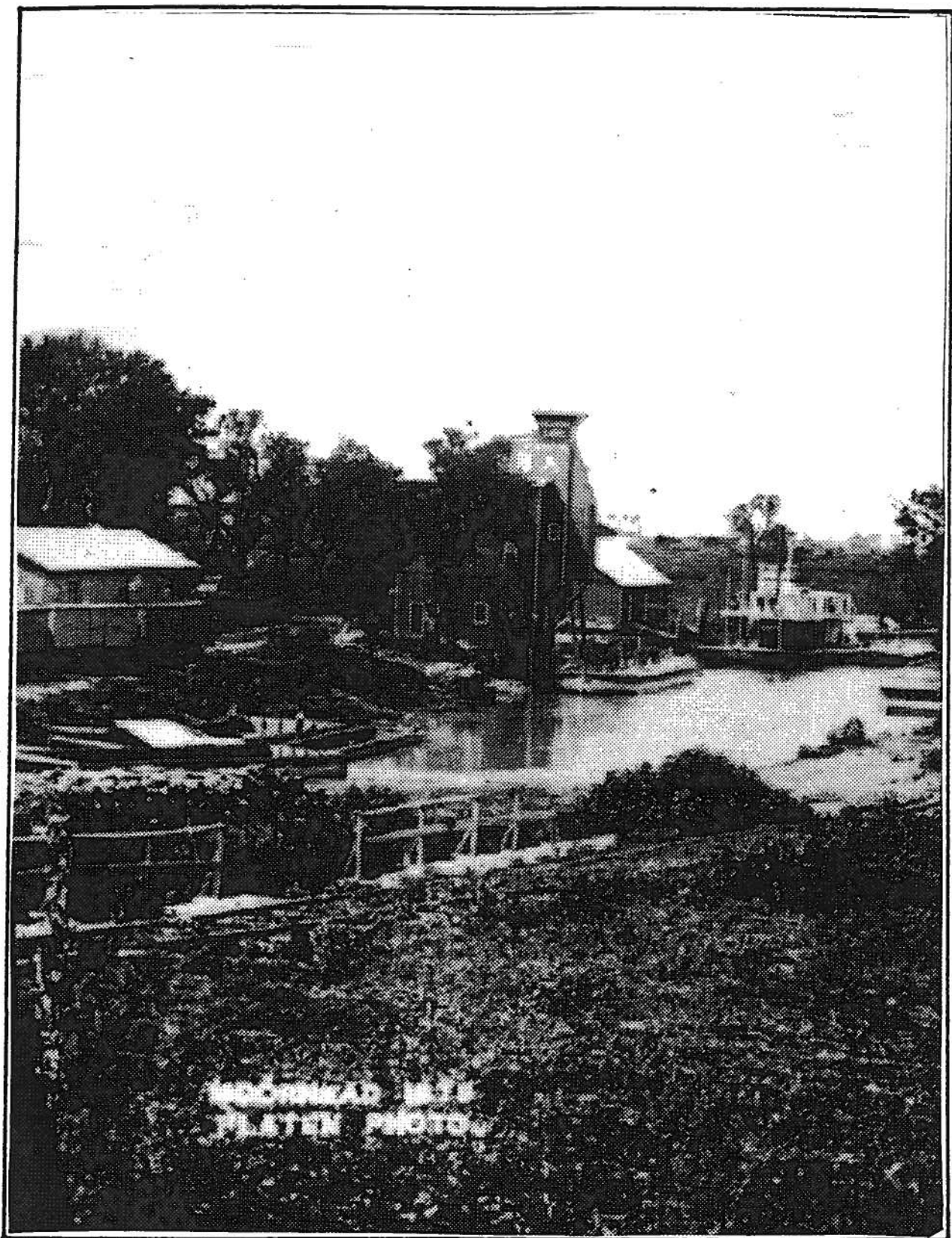


Figure 17. Photograph showing the area of site 32 CS 4671 ca. 1880. View is from Moorhead, Minnesota looking towards the west across the Red River. Photograph courtesy of the Clay County Historical Society Archival Collections.

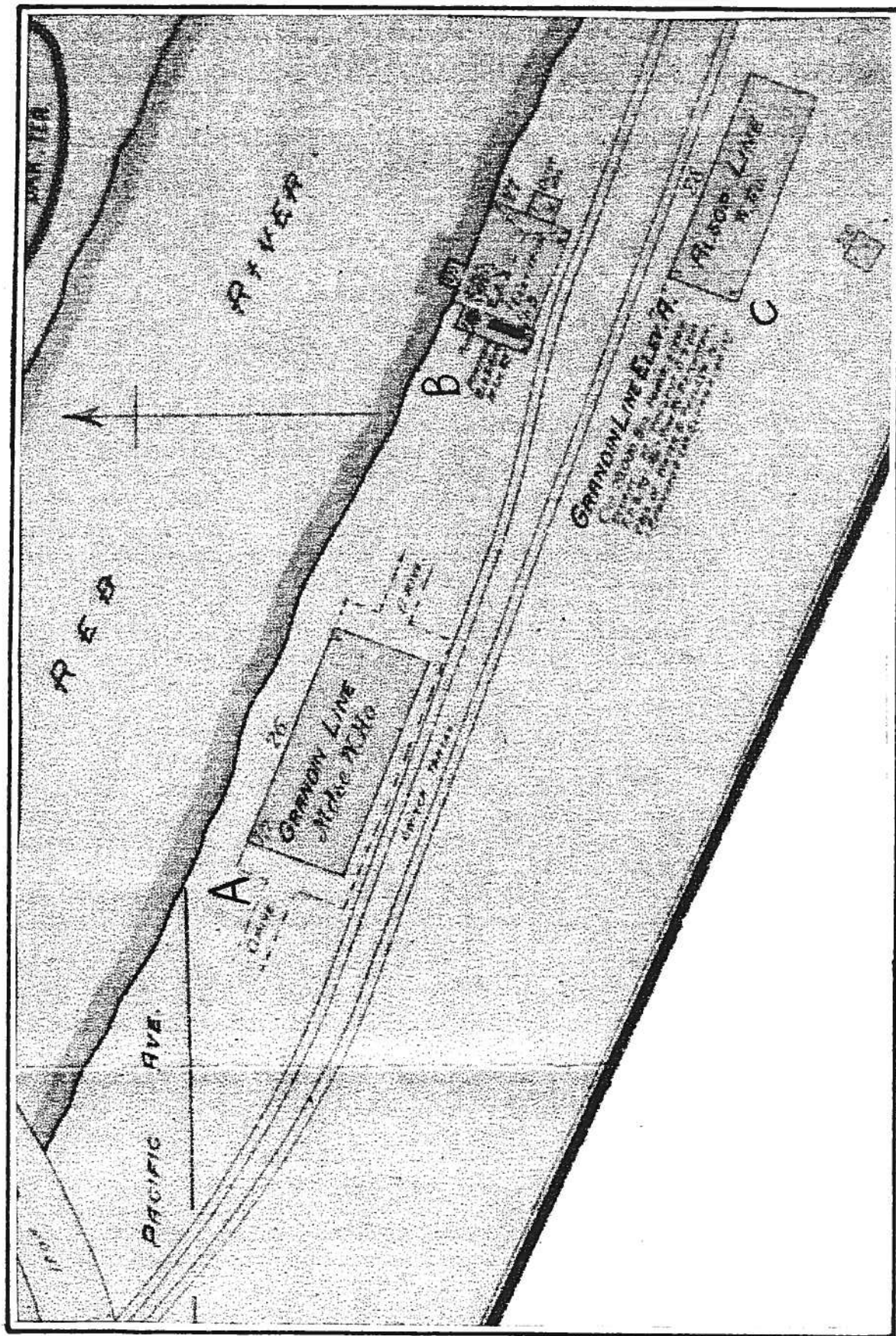


Figure 18. Detail of the 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Map shows location of (A) the Grandin Line Warehouse; (B) the Grandin Line Elevator; and (C) the Alsop Warehouse. Reprinted from the 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

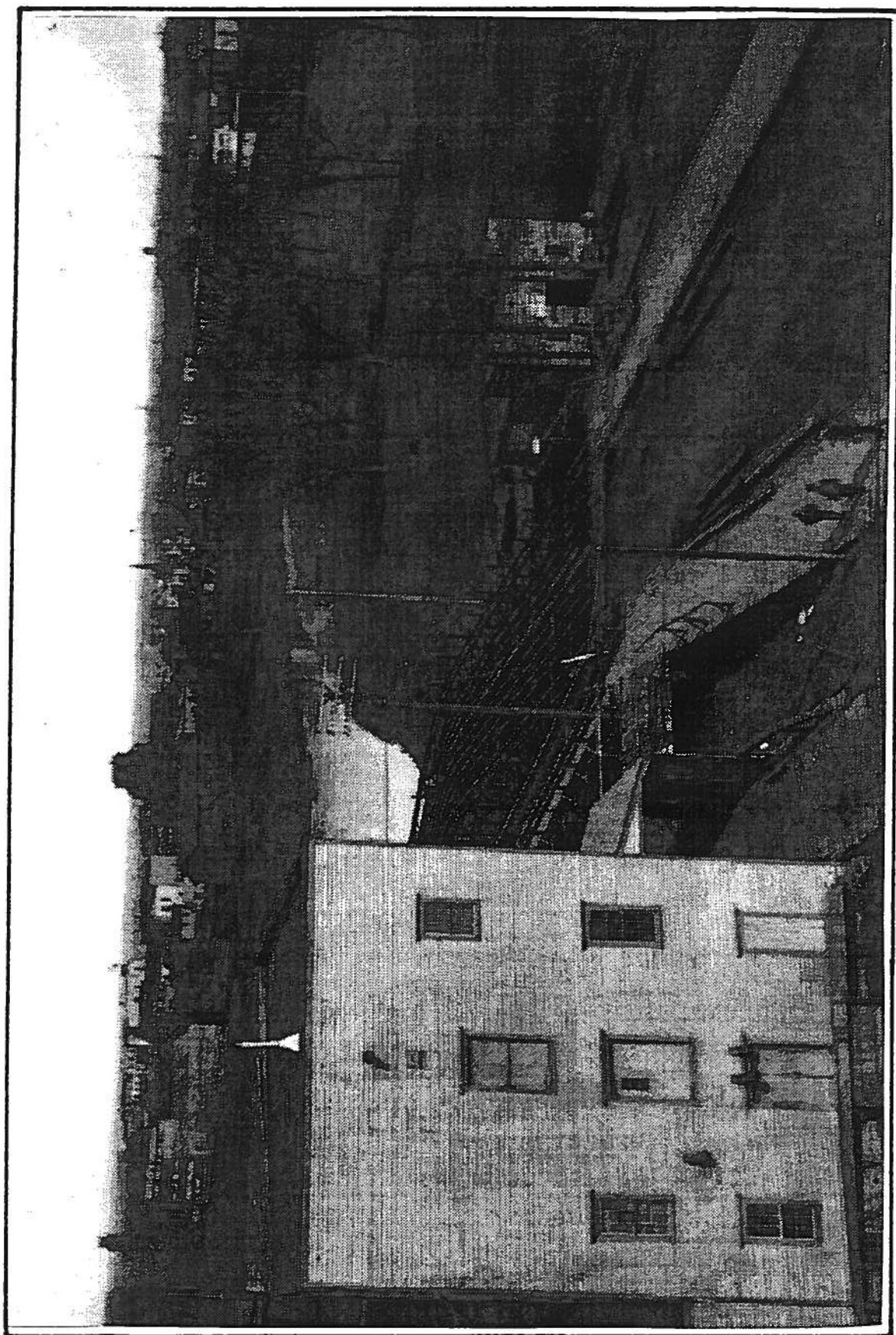


Figure 19. Photograph showing site 32 CS 4671 area ca. 1910. The building in the foreground is the Fargo Roller Mill. View is from the west towards the east. Photograph courtesy of the Clay County Historical Society Archival Collections.

remains of at least one of the structures are still intact. Observable on the ground surface, between the two power line poles, is a series of small post protruding from the ground. Figure 20 shows a detail of the area in the photograph. The posts observable in this photograph may be the intact remains of the foundation pilings of the Grandin Line Warehouse. Unfortunately, the clarity of the photograph does not allow for the determination of the exact location of the features. Nor does there appear to be any other remains on the surface which might be associated with the two other structures which also stood in this area. The photograph provides evidence that intact remains of the Grandin Warehouse had survived the initial demolition of the structure.

Archaeological Investigation

Archaeological investigations of the study area initiated with the determination of the approximate location of the structures on the current ground surface. This was accomplished through the interpretation of Sanborn Fire Insurance maps which provided data regarding the positions of the three identified structures relative to the Old North Bridge. The footings of the bridge are still observable along the banks of the river and were used as a temporary benchmark (fig.21). The determined distances were taped along the ground surface and wooden stakes were set in the ground where the corners of the structures were interpreted to have been located. The location of the corner stake defining the northwestern corner of the structure was located approximately 2 meters from the edge of the Red River.

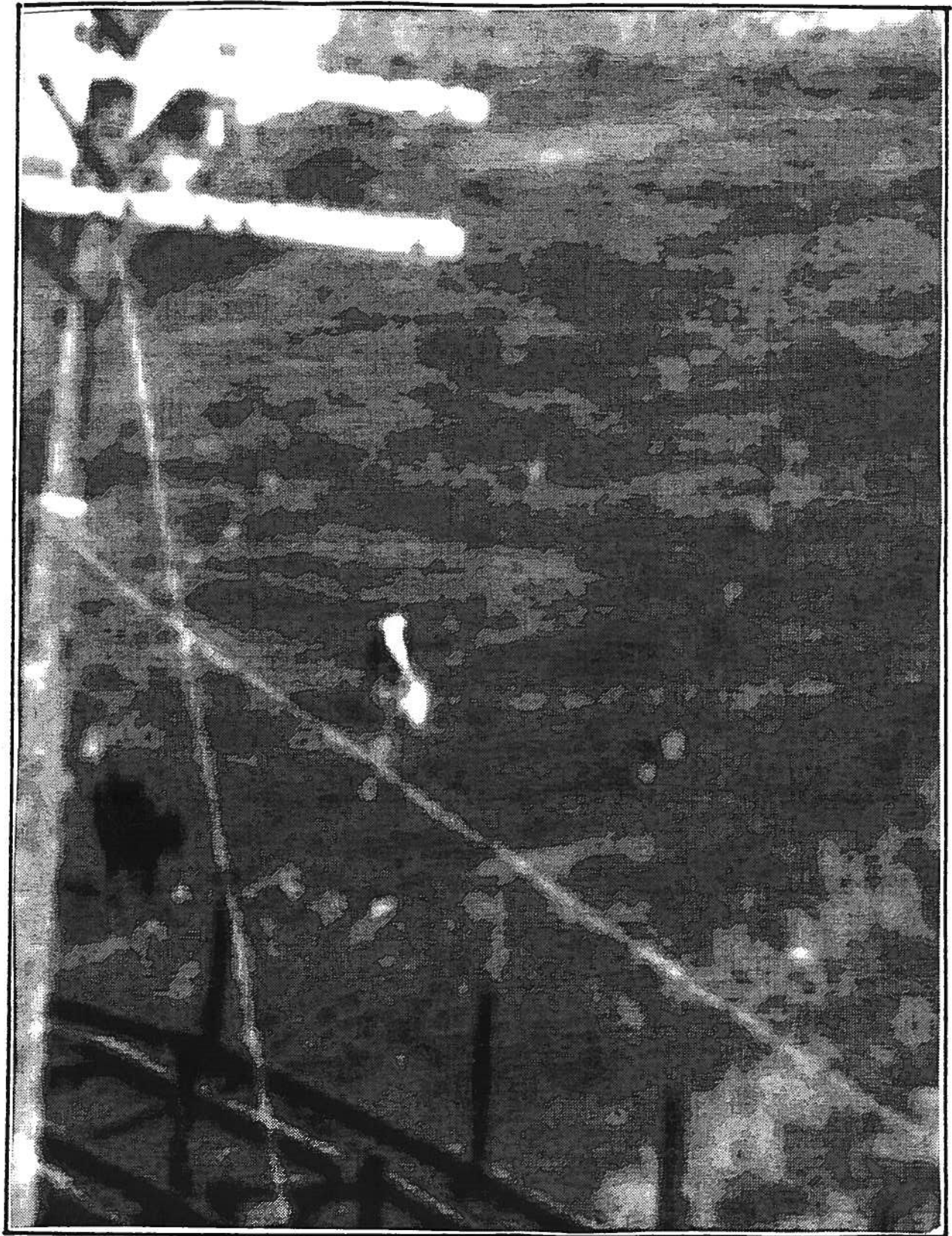


Figure 20. Detail of Figure 19 showing the location of intact foundation pilings of the Grandin Warehouse. Photograph courtesy of the Clay County Historical Society Archival Collection.

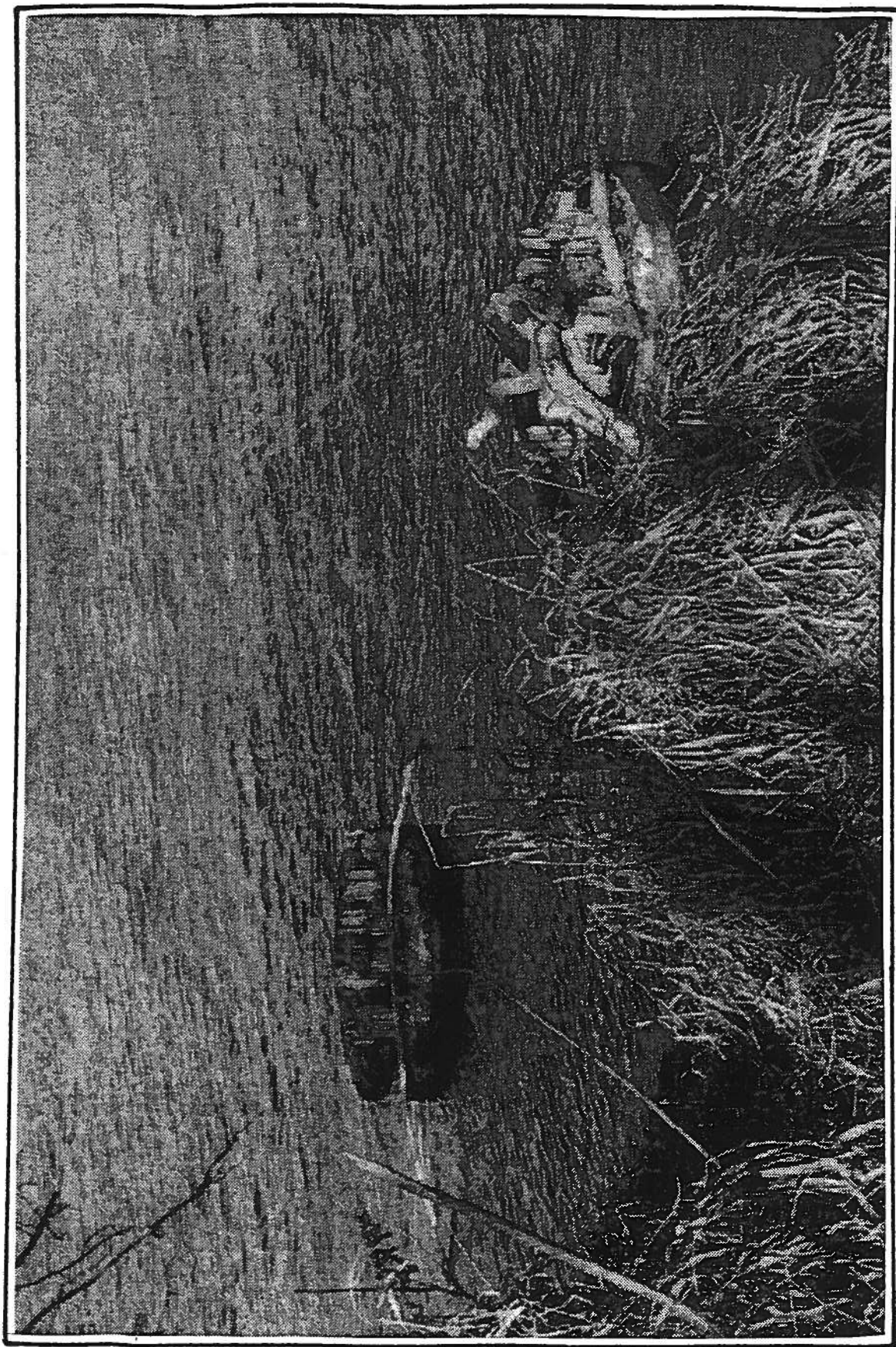


Figure 21. Photograph of extant North Bridge footings observable near 32 CS 4671. View is from the southeast towards the northwest. Photograph by author.

Subsurface investigations of the study area were accomplished through a series of shovel probes excavated in and around the marked northwestern corner of the Grandin Warehouse. Shovel probe 1 was excavated 1 meter to the west of the northwestern corner stake. The shovel probe was approximately 50cm in diameter and was excavated to a depth of 50cm. The probe was abandoned due to the existence of a large tree root running through the center of the probe. No artifacts were recovered from this excavation.

Shovel probe 2 was located 1 meter south of the northwestern corner stake. The probe was 50cm in diameter. The excavation of the shovel probe was stopped at a depth of 65cm. At this level a layer of brick, and mortar fragments were encountered which covered the bottom of the shovel probe (fig.22). A single piece of thick, clear bottle glass was also recovered in association with the brick and mortar fragments. The glass item was collected, the brick and mortar fragments were not. An inventory of the artifacts collected is provided in Table 3.

Table 3.

Artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4671.

Class	Description	Quantity
Glass	Clear Bottle Fragments	2
Metal	Rusted Nails	2
Metal	Rusted Spike	1
Brick	Fragments	16
Total		21

Subsequent to the positive shovel probe, a series of soil probes were performed using a 1 inch diameter coring tool. The soil probes were performed at regular intervals across most of the

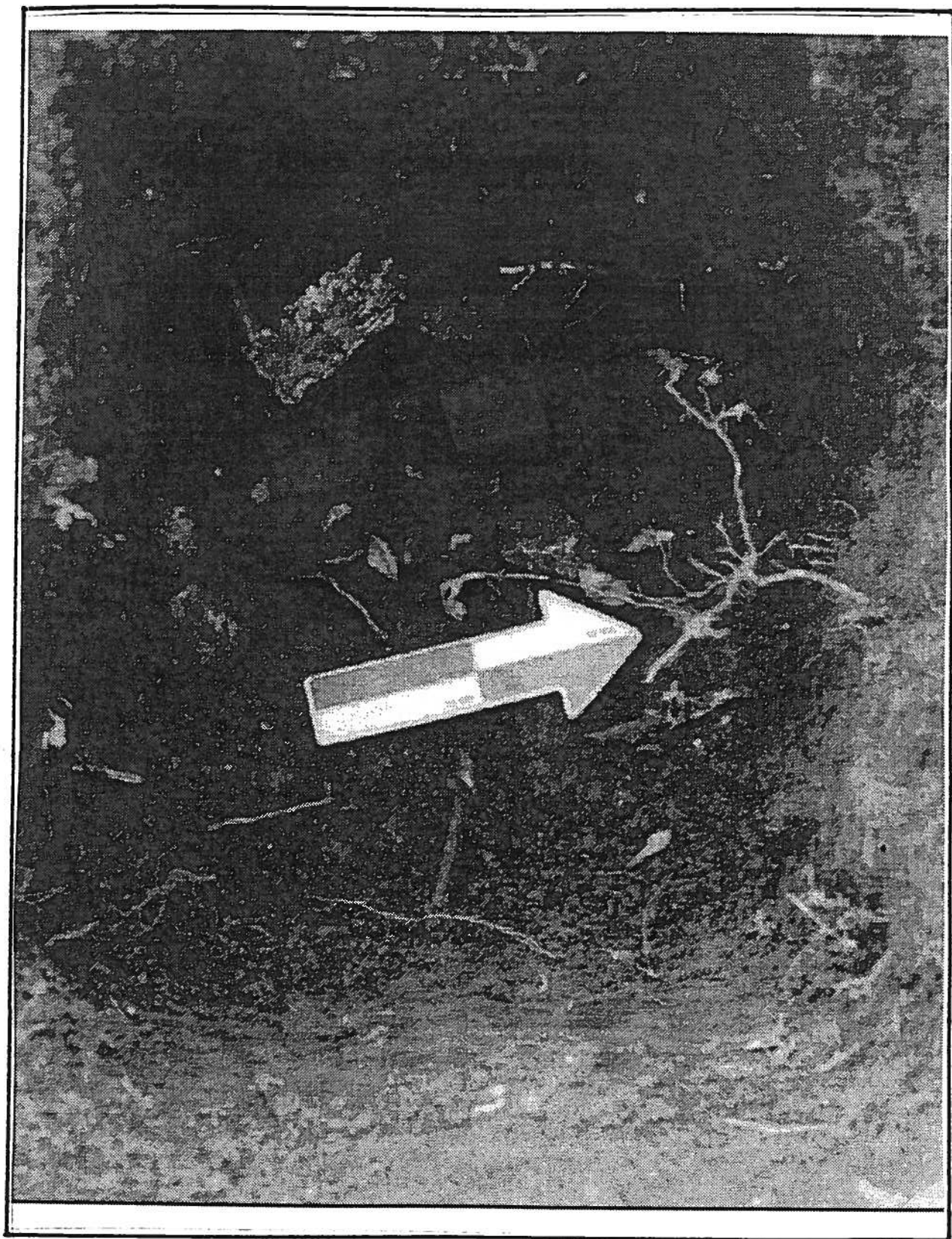


Figure 22. Photograph of basal level of shovel probe 2. Depth ca. 65 cm below surface. Photograph by author.

study area. The soil probes were conducted along two east-west oriented transects. The first transect was initiated 1 meter to the west of shovel probe 2. Soil probe transect 1 proceeded in a western direction with probes being performed every 2 meters. Of a total of five soil probes conducted along this western transect not one provided evidence of subsurface deposits.

The second soil probe transect was initiated 1 meter to the east of shovel probe 2. Soil probe transect 2 proceeded in an eastern direction with probes being performed every 2 meters. A total of four soil probes were performed in this transect. Unlike soil probe transect 1, all soil probes performed to the east of shovel probe 2 were positive. In each of the soil probes a layer of brick and mortar debris was encountered at approximately 65cm. The level at which the brick and mortar material was encountered was roughly oriented along a horizontal plane at a level comparable to that uncovered at the bottom of shovel probe 2. Not all areas were available for probing due to the build-up of an abundance of river deposited debris. The ground surface in the eastern portion of the study area had been covered by numerous tree branches, limbs, and trash which made shovel and soil probes impossible.

An investigation of the river bank provided further evidence regarding the buried deposits. Five meters to the east of the northwestern corner stake a portion of the river bank was trowelled clean to examine the profile of the deposits. In the exposure a layer of bricks, brick fragments, and mortar was uncovered (fig.23). The level at which these items were located was comparable to the level identified in the shovel and soil probes.

The data collected from the probes performed at 32 CS 4671 suggest that substantial subsurface deposits exist. These materials are situated at a depth of 65cm below the present day ground surface. The areal distribution of the subsurface deposits, as evidenced through the soil



Figure 23. Photograph of materials exposed in the wall of the banks of the Red River. Photograph by author.

and shovel probes, places it in an area roughly comparable to the interpreted boundaries of the Grandin Warehouse. The data collected to date is not sufficient to determine if the identified subsurface deposits are directly related to the Grandin Warehouse. The material may represent the debris deposited during the construction of the Northern Pacific Avenue Bridge.

However, the earthen embankment located towards in the southern portion of the study area may indicate that a significant quantity of material was deposited on the ground surface prior to the construction activities. If this is the case, the deposits uncovered by the soil and shovel probes may predate bridge construction and be more closely associated with the Grandin Line occupation of this tract.

Recommendations

Further archaeological investigations of this site are necessary to determine the nature of the deposits identified. Archival research identified this site as the historic location of the Grandin Warehouse. Although no direct evidence of intact structural remains was located, the discovery of what appears to be a contiguous layer of building debris may be indicative of the buried remains of the Grandin structure.

Of all sites recorded through the course of this research this site yields the highest potential for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The site has the potential to meet three of the four criteria. The site is a location associated with the early commercial development of the city of Fargo. The structures which once stood in this location were constructed by the Grandin Brothers, important historical figures in the Red River Valley. And,

the excavation of the site has the potential to yield valuable information relating to the historical development of the city.

32 CS 4672 (Study Area 7)

Site Location

The site 32 CS 4672 (field designation Study area 7) consists of a small tract of land located directly beneath the Main Avenue Bridge (fig.24). The tract is comprises the areal location from which a dense surface scatter of artifacts was collected. The boundaries of the site were defined as the extent of the surface scatter and not by physical features of the property. The legal description of the site area is S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4, NE1/4, NE1/4, section 7, T139N, R48W on the Fargo South U.S.G.S. topographic map. The site area is approximately one quarter of an acre. The site minimally covers an area 25m (N-S) by 40m (E-W).

Site Description

The site is located on the floodplain of the Red River. The topography of the site is inclined slightly towards the west. This incline may have been created during bridge construction activities of the 1930s. The surface of the ground in the vicinity of the is devoid plants. The western boundary of the site is defined by a concrete footing of the Main Avenue Bridge. As mentioned above, the remaining boundaries of the site are defined by the extent of the surface artifact scatter. The area surrounding the site are covered by a thick lawn. The lawn coverage is confined to the upper portions of the topographic incline, away from the river. The lower portions of the slope, closer to the river, are covered by shrubs and gallery forest.

Archival Research

This location was discovered during an initial pedestrian survey of the project areas. The location consists of a series of small erosion rills on the downslope side of a footing of the Main Avenue Bridge (fig 25). The materials collected at this location were all recovered in direct association to the erosion feature. The inventory of the materials recovered from 32 CS 4672 is provided in Table 4.

Table 4

Artifact assemblage recovered from 32 CS 4672.

Class	Description	Quantity
Glass	Clear Bottle	23
Glass	Amber Bottle	7
Glass	Green Bottle	2
Glass	Light Green	2
Ceramic	Ironstoneware	2
Ceramic	Stoneware	3
Ceramic	Porcelain	4
Ceramic	Rockinghamware	1
Metal	Nails	3
Metal	Non-ID	1
Tooth	Fragment	1
Bone	Non-ID	1
Total		50

The artifact assemblage recovered from the site is of questionable origin. The materials were recovered from an erosion feature associated with a support member of the Main Avenue Bridge. The bridge was constructed in 1936. It is unlikely that these materials were recovered from their original context. As with the artifacts recovered from 32 CS 4670, the artifacts do not

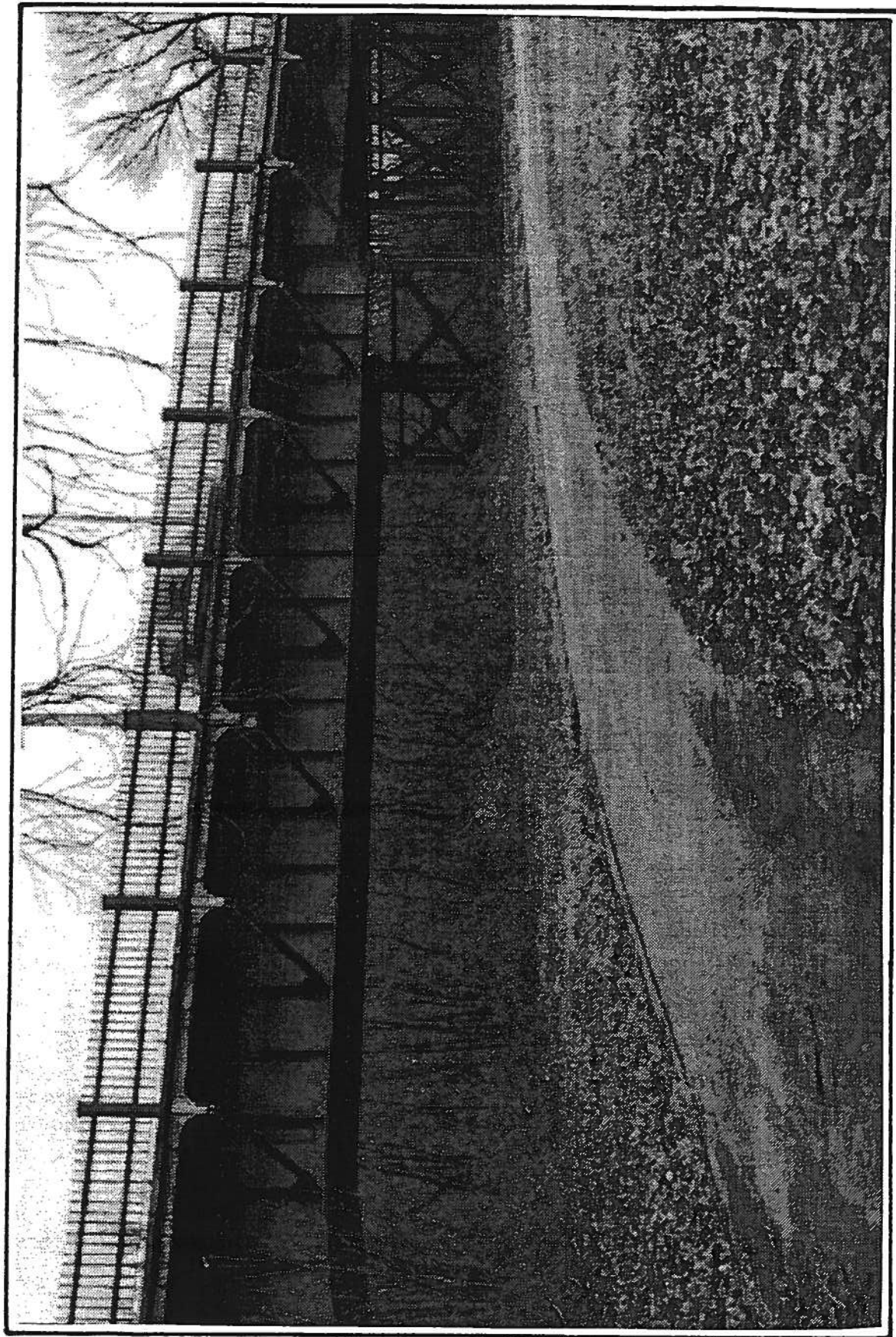


Figure 24. Photograph of site 32 CS 4672. View is from the northeast towards the southwest. The site is located to the immediate left of the first complete bridge footing in the central portion of the photograph. Photograph by author.

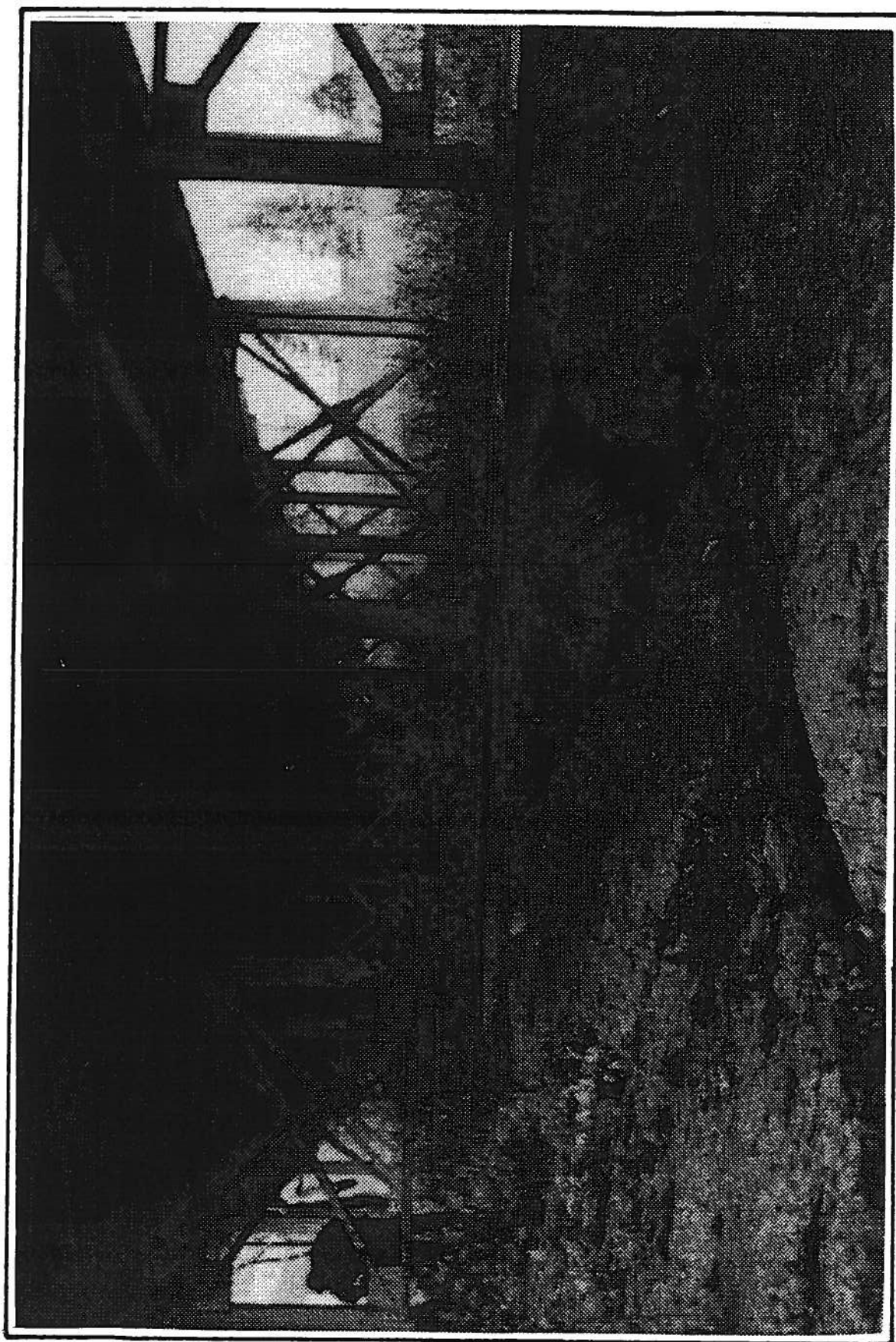


Figure 25. Photograph of erosion surface at 32 CS 4672 from which historic artifacts were recovered. View is from the east towards the west. Photograph by author.

provide diagnostic information which would allow the determination temporal context. Like the previous collection, the assemblage contains several features which allow the identification of a terminal date. This is identified by the occurrence of molding seems on some of the bottle glass which suggests a manufacturing date after the turn of the 20th century. The ceramics provide information only on techniques utilized during their manufacture and not towards the determination of the period of manufacture or use.

Of import, however, is the vicinity in which they were found. The original settlement of Fargo was located in and around the site area. This was the location of “Fargo in the Timber.” Although no immediately identifiable evidence of this settlement was uncovered during this research program, the artifact assemblage recovered from this site suggests that it may originate from older deposits than surface materials collected elsewhere. In the immediate vicinity of the site area an abundance of trash is observable on the ground surface.

Archaeological Investigations

The investigation of the site consisted of a surface survey. A total collection of the artifacts was made. Several of the artifacts required partial excavation to free them from the sediment. It was not immediately discernible whether these items were re-deposited into the sediments or eroding from a primary context.

The areal distribution of the artifacts was limited to the area directly beneath the Main Avenue Bridge. The artifacts were only recovered from the area in direct association to the footing of the bridge support member.

The surface scatter recovered from this site is small and is void of any diagnostic artifacts. Further, the artifacts were collected from a surface which often contains a sizable quantity of litter. As mentioned above, the artifacts collected at this site were concentrated within an area directly beneath the Main Avenue Bridge. A small sample of surface materials was collected from areas outside the described boundaries of the site. A field comparison of the site sample to the off-site sample suggested that each had originated from differing sources. The materials recovered from the surface scatter beneath the Main Avenue Bridge consisted of numerous fragments of household materials, such as whiteware ceramics and table glass.

Most of the materials collected off-site were of modern manufacture. The assemblage consisted of modern bottle glass, most probably broken beer and liquor bottles, assorted plastic items, and several examples of paper products. While some of the modern materials were collected on-site, the area from which the household materials were recovered did not extend beyond the erosion feature.

Recommendations

Continued monitoring of the erosion feature is warranted at this site due to its proximity to the original 1871 settlement of the city referred to as "Fargo in the Timber." The differences observed between the artifact assemblages collected on- and off-site suggest that the materials recovered from the site originate from an intact archaeological deposit. The exact location of this deposit has not been identified to date. The recovery of the artifacts from the erosion feature associated with the bridge footing suggests that the deposit may be located in the immediate vicinity. Continued investigation of the site should concentrate on determining the integrity of the

deposits associated with the erosion feature. This includes the continued collection of artifacts from the site with emphasis placed on the recovery of diagnostic artifacts which would aid in the determination of the age of the deposits.

The potential for this site to be nominated to the State or National Register of Historic Places rests in its possible association to the original settlement of the City of Fargo. Although the integrity of the site may have been impacted by the construction of the Main Avenue Bridge in 1936, the deposits identified may represent the remains of the original settlement.

32 CS 4673 (Study Area 8)

Site Location

The site 32 CS 4673 (field designation Study Area 8) consists of small tract of land located near the eastern end of the Main Avenue Bridge on the south side (fig 26). The tract comprises an area in which several small lines of concrete foundations are observable on the ground surface (fig.27). Like 32 CS 4672, the boundaries of this study area are defined by the extent of the physical features of the archaeological deposit. The legal description of study area five is the N1/2, SE1/4, SE1/4/, NE1/4, NE1/4 of section 7, T139N, R48W on the Fargo South U.S.G.S. topographic map. The area of the tract is approximately 1/10 of an acre. The site (32 CS 4673) minimally covers an area 15 m (N-S) by 30 m (E-W).

Site Description

The site is situated on the top of a slight topographic high. The top of the incline is located near the western end of the Main Avenue Bridge. The ground surface is covered in thick grass.

Archival Research

Archival investigations regarding the location of these foundation remnants has provided no substantiating evidence which might identify from which structures they originated. The features uncovered in study area 8 are in close proximity to the land tracts included in the original plat of the Town of Fargo filed in 1873 (fig.28).

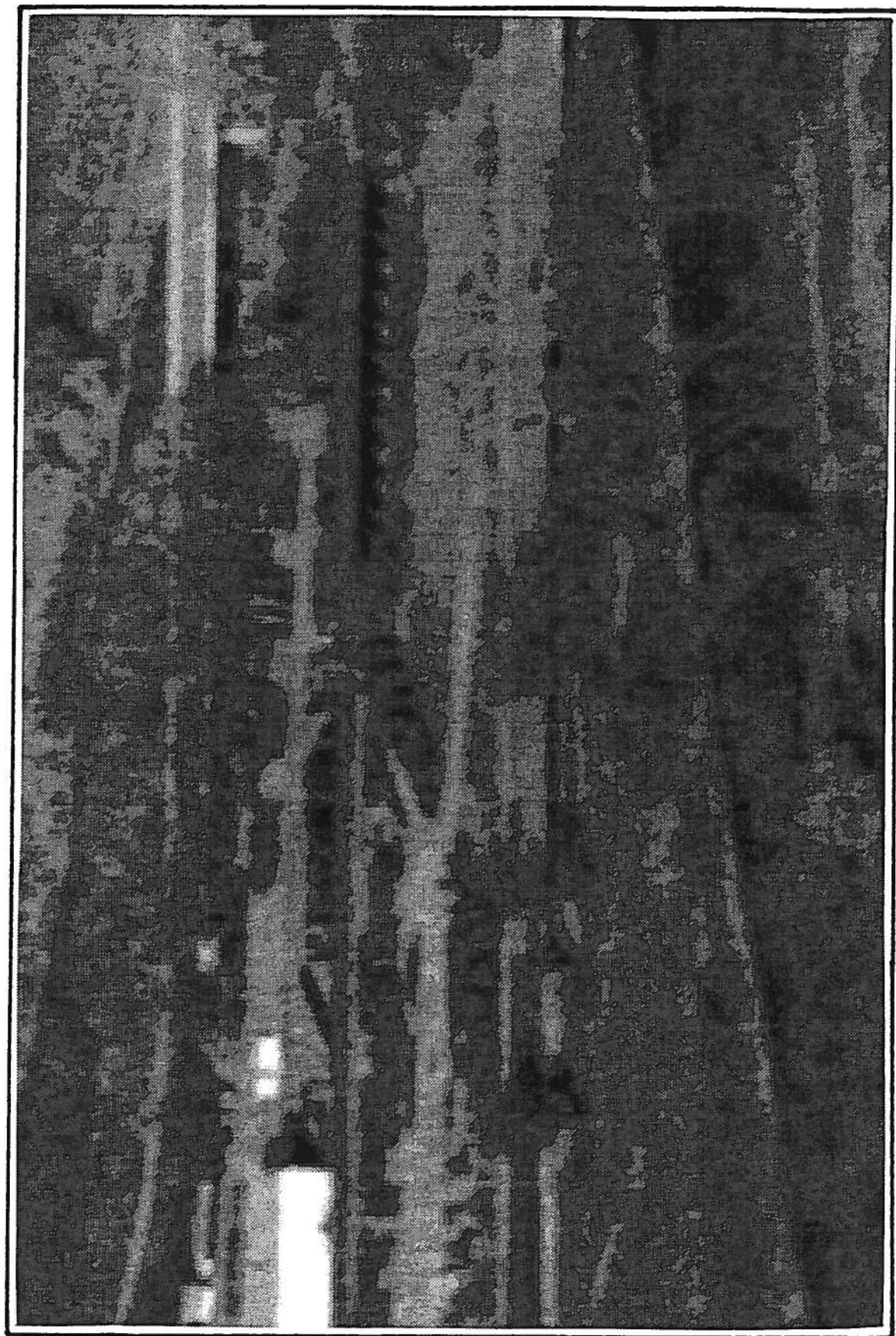


Figure 26. Photograph of 32 CS 4673. View from the south towards the north. Photograph courtesy of River Keepers.

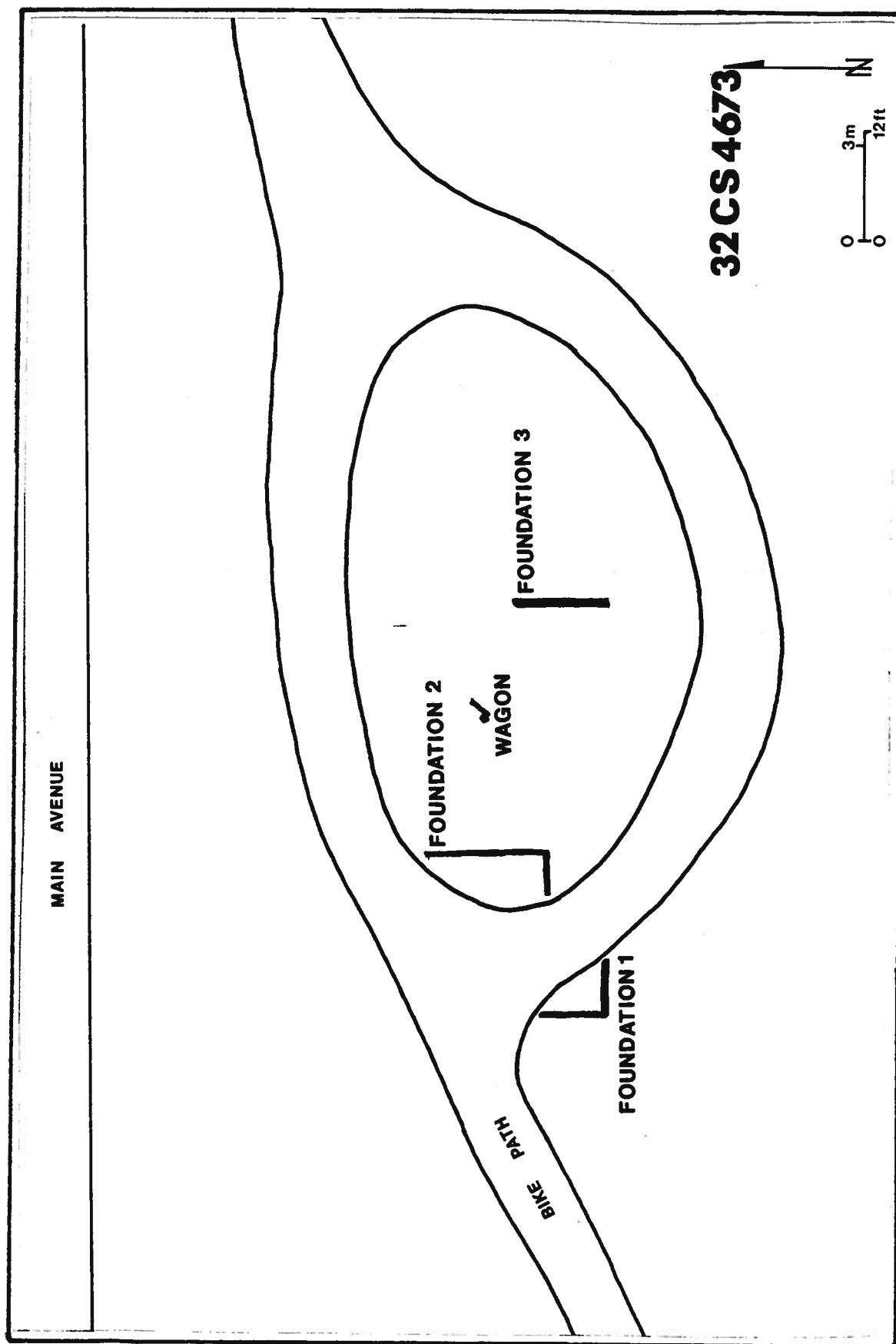


Figure 27. Site map, 32 CS 4673. Map by author.

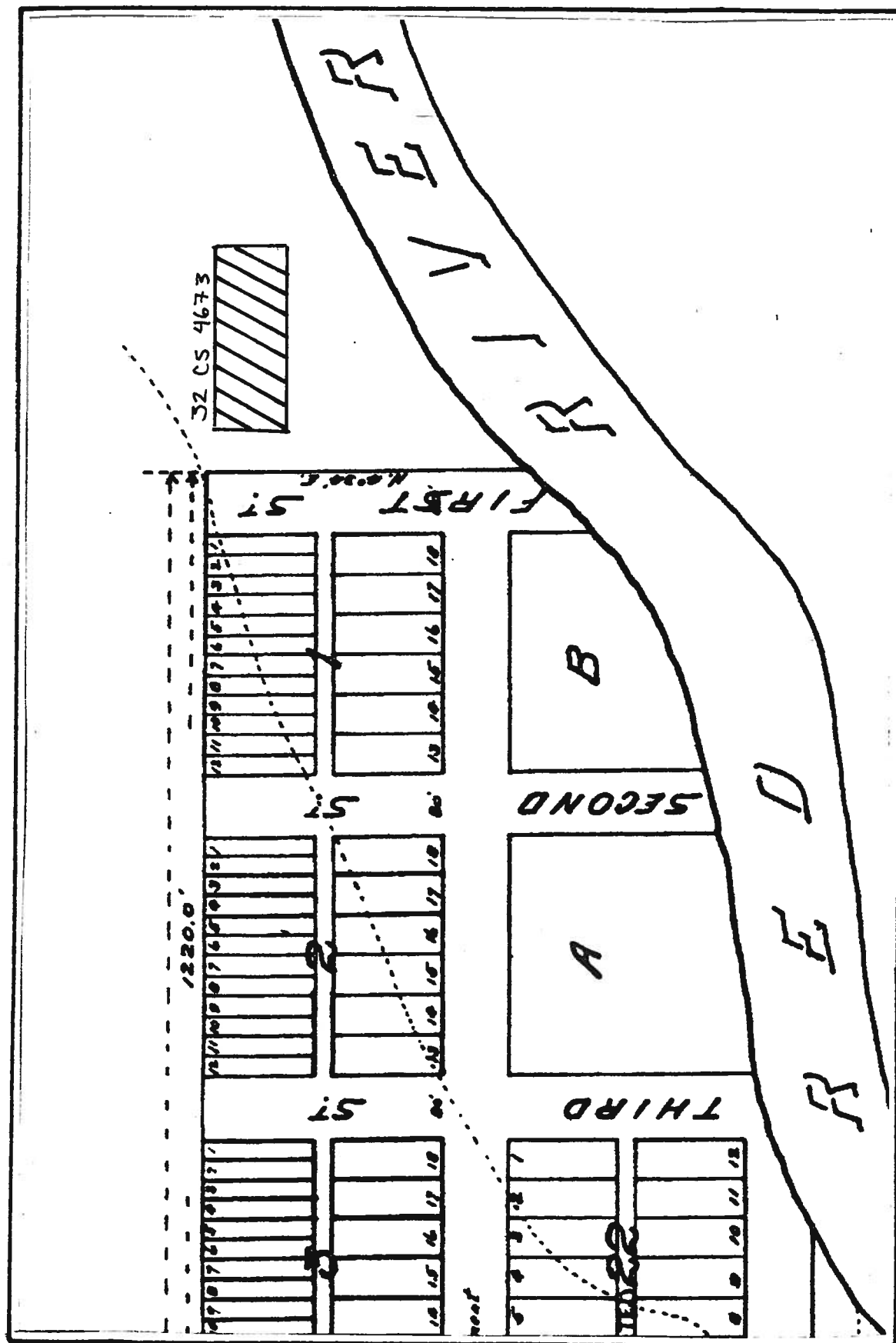


Figure 28. Portion of original Fargo townsite plat map, 1873.

Comparison of the location of the intact foundation remnants to known historical landmarks suggests that the structures from which the foundation remnants originate were located to the east of those tracts and not within established block or lot boundaries.

Photo-archival and documentary evidence has provided some leads regarding the nature of the foundation remains. Several photographs dating between the late 1870s through the 1930's show several structures situated on or near the tract of land where the foundation remnants are located (fig.29). Identification of the function of these structures can only be speculative. Structures occupying the property in photographs from the 1870s and 1880s appear to be small housing units. Later, in photographs from the 1930s, structures are observable which appear to be larger storage structures. Descriptions of the property published in The WPA Guide to 1930s North Dakota (1990:128) claim that the structures which lined the northern and southern sides of Front Street comprise the city's slum district, containing, "...dilapidated, unpainted frame shacks near the river."

Archival photographs of the area taken in the mid 1930s when the present day Main Avenue Bridge was under construction show the site occupied by different structures than those observable in the previous photograph. The structures present in this photograph (fig.30) show larger structures. Further, these structures appear to have been constructed on substantial foundations.

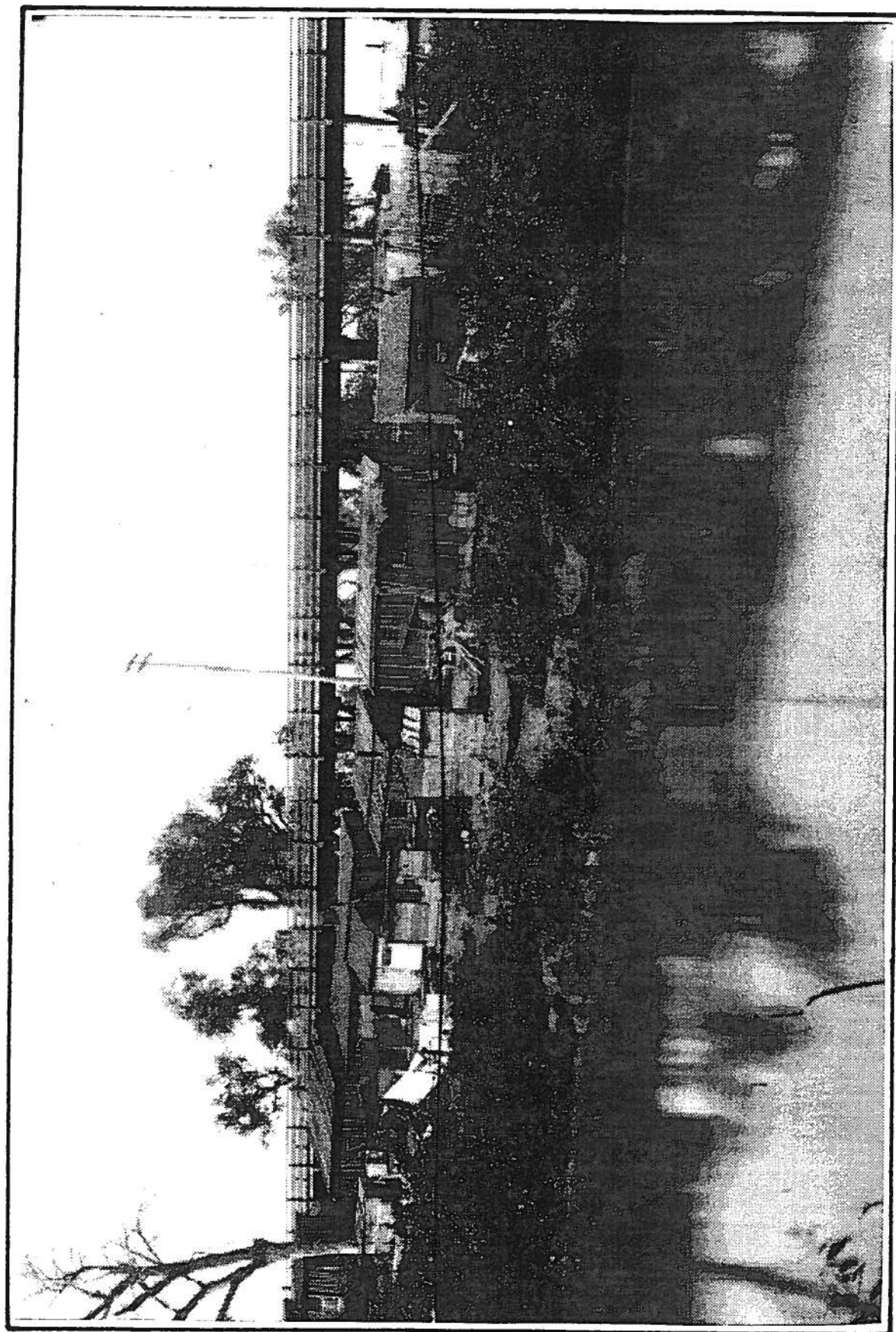


Figure 29. Photograph showing 32 CD 4673 site area ca. 1880. Photograph courtesy of the Clay County Historical Society Archival Collection.

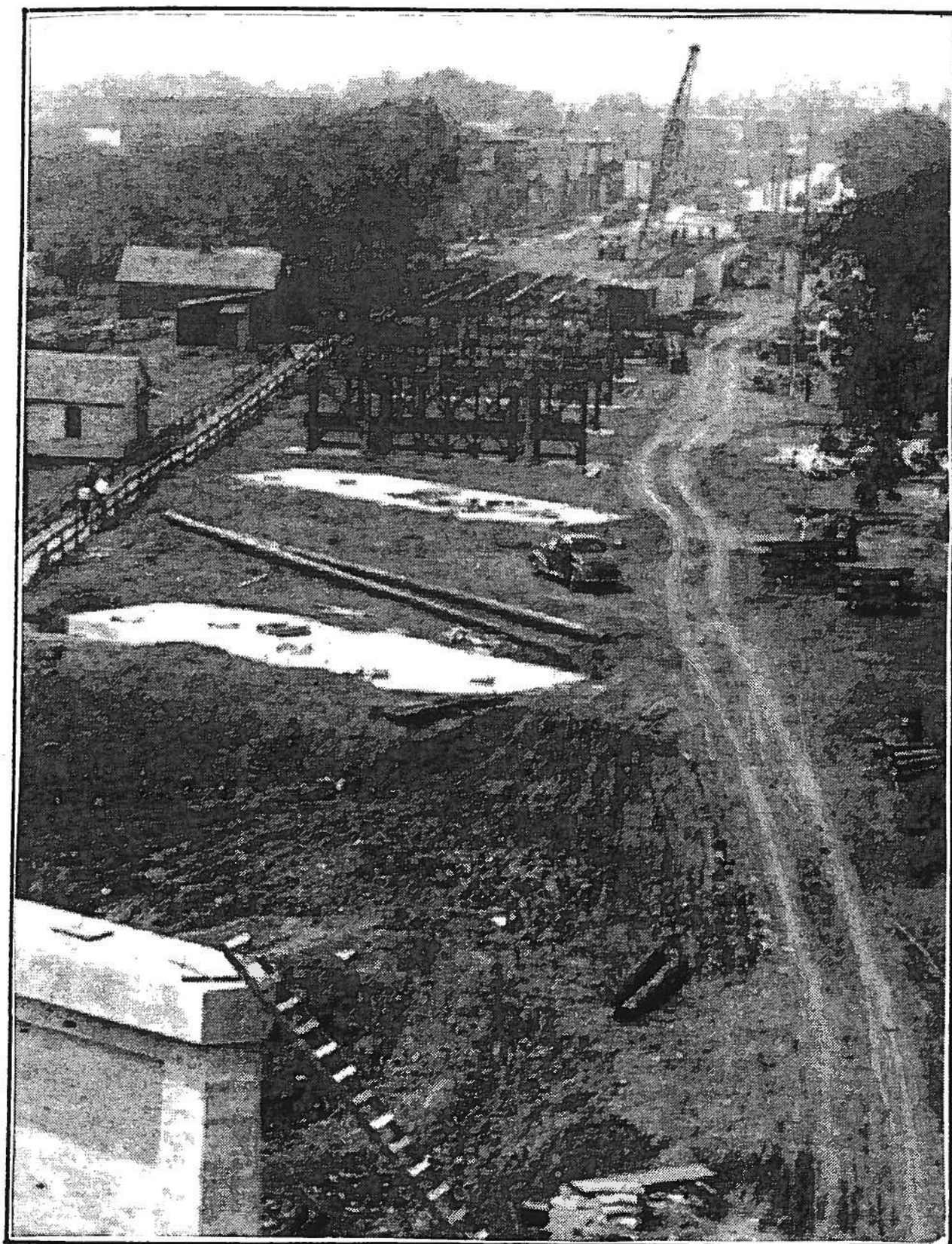


Figure 30. Photograph showing 32 CS 4673 site area, ca. 1936. View from the northeast to the south west. Photograph courtesy of the Clay County Historical Society Archival Collection.

Archaeological Investigations

Site 32 CS 4673 was incorporated into the research project following the initial pedestrian survey of the project areas. The site consists of three individual foundation remnants which are observable on the present day ground surface. The foundation remnants are in direct association with a bike path constructed by the Fargo Park Board (fig.27). The bike path encircles the two eastern most foundation with the third fragment lying directly to the west.

Archaeological investigation of the foundation remnants was conducted by trowelling around the foundations in order to expose as much of the features as possible. The matrix removed during the process of trowelling was screened through 1/4" mesh screen. The artifacts recovered from this activity were collected for subsequent analysis. An inventory of the artifacts recovered from the site is provided in Table 5.

The first foundation (Foundation 1) consists of a series of poured concrete slabs aligned in two perpendicular lines (fig.31). The two lines of the foundation meet in the southwestern corner at a ninety degree angle. The southern portion of the remnant consists of three separate blocks with a total length of 140cm. The blocks are 30cm wide along the north-south line and range in length from 60cm to 35cm. The eastern end of the southern arm of Foundation 1 is intersected by the western edge of the bike path.

The northern portion of Foundation 1 consists of two separate blocks with a total length of 165cm. This portion of the foundation also contains the corner block. The northern most of the two blocks is 90cm long and 25cm wide. The southern of the two blocks, the corner block, is 75cm long and 35cm wide. Like the southern portion of Foundation 1, the northern end of the foundation is intersected by the bike path.

The second foundation (Foundation 2) consists of a series of concrete blocks aligned in two perpendicular lines (fig. 32). The two lines of Foundation 2 meet in the southeastern corner at a ninety degree angle. The southern portion of Foundation 2 consists of several separate concrete block fragments and the partial remains of a single concrete block aligned along an east-west axis. It is 75cm in total length and 30cm in width. The western edge of the southern portion of Foundation 2 is intersected by the eastern edge of the bike path.

Table 5

Artifact assemblage recovered from 32 CS 4673.

FOUNDATION	CLASS	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
1	Glass	Clear Bottle	4
1	Glass	Amber Bottle	2
1	Ceramic	Whiteware	2
1	Ceramic	Earthenware	1
1	Masonry	Brick	1
1	Bone	Non-ID Cut	2
1	Coal	Chunk	1
1	Rubber	Canning Gasket	1
1	Metal	Hardware	1
1	Metal	Can Opening Key	1
1	Metal	Rusted Nail	3
1	Metal	Rusted Spike	1
2	Glass	Clear Bottle	8
2	Ceramic	Whiteware	1
2	Ceramic	Festival Ware	1
2	Metal	Rusted Nail	8
2	Metal	Non-ID	2
2	Metal	Rusted Spike	1
2	Asphalt	Shingle Fragment	4
2	Shell	Fragment	4
	Total		49

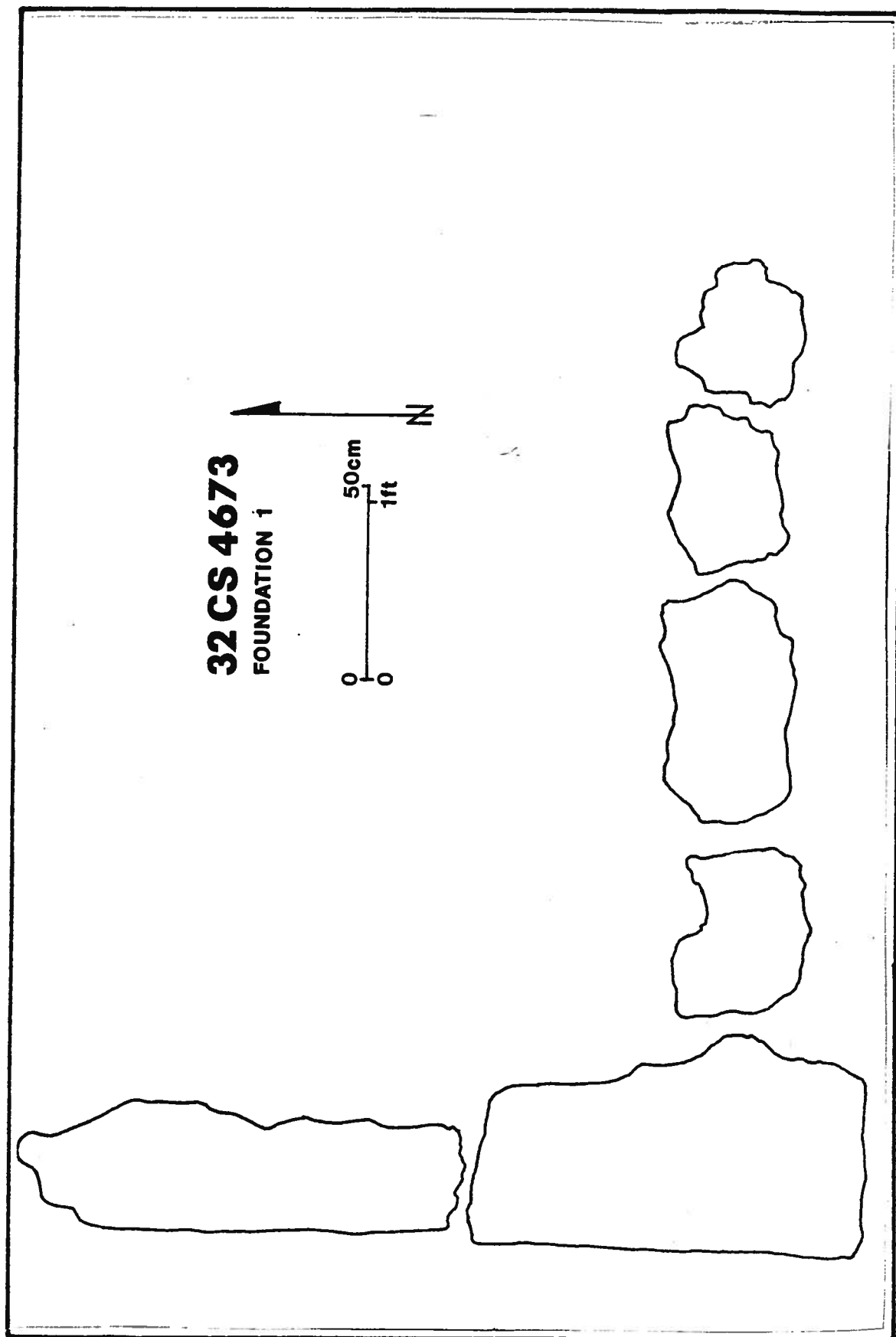


Figure 31. Map of Foundation 1.

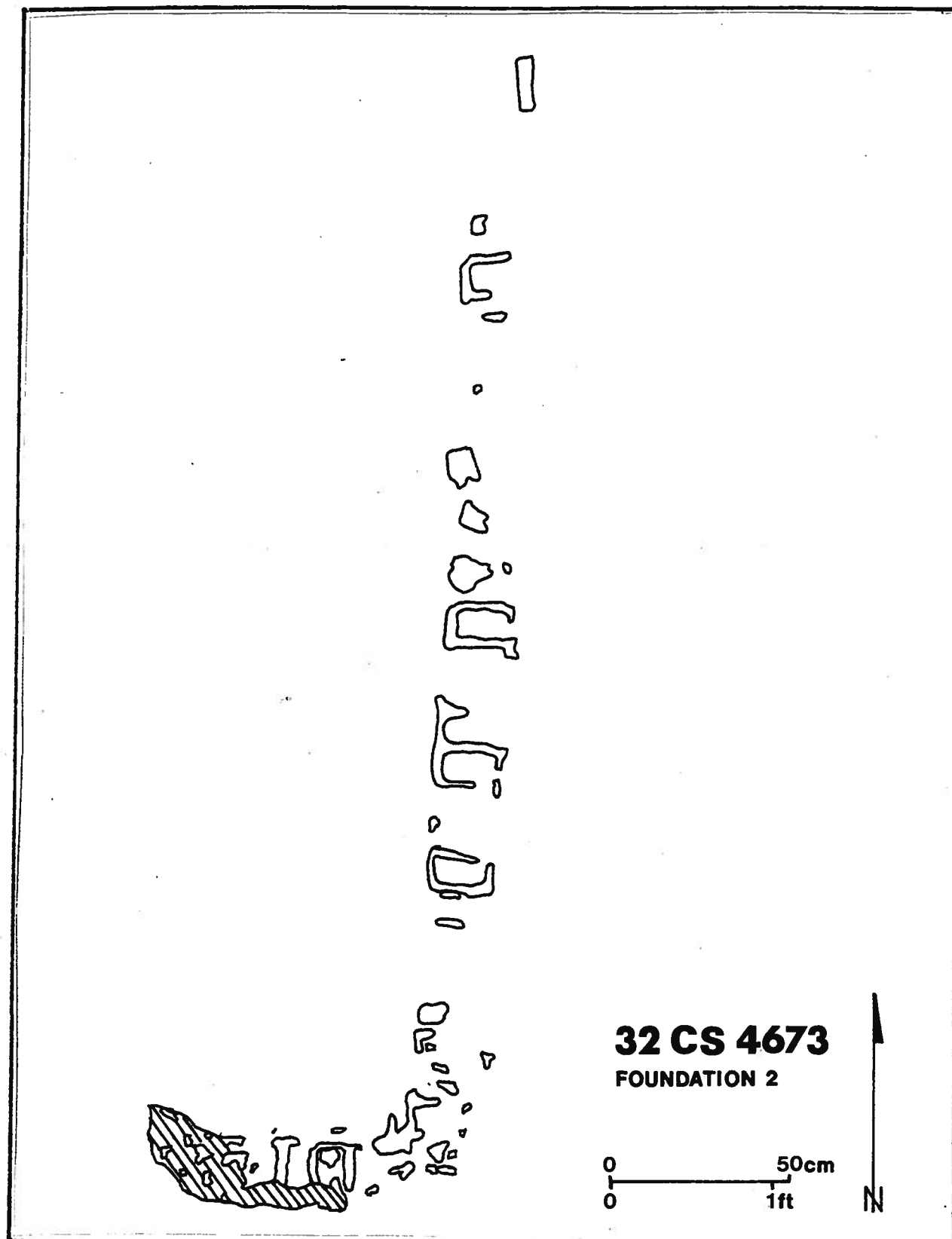


Figure 32. Map of Foundation 2.

The northern portion of Foundation 2 consists of a series of partial concrete blocks aligned along a north-south axis. It is 300cm long and 30cm wide. The northern end of the northern portion of Foundation 2 is intersected with the southern edge of the bike path. The condition of Foundation 2 is heavily deteriorated. Several gaps in excess of 15cm exist between the individual blocks. Further, the entire length of Foundation 2 is associated with several small fragments of concrete mortar.

The third foundation (Foundation 3) consists of a single, poured concrete slab aligned along a north-south axis (fig.33). Originally, only the southern end of the foundation was exposed on the surface. The remaining portion of the foundation extended further to the north and into a small topographic rise located in the center of the loop created by the bike path. A total of three meters of Foundation 3 was uncovered during this investigation. Towards the northern end, the foundation was buried to a depth of 35cm. No artifacts were uncovered in association to the foundation.

Exposed on the ground surface between Foundation 2 and Foundation 3 was small rubber tire. Trowelling of the grounds in the immediate vicinity of the tire uncovered what appeared to be an intact children's wagon (fig.34). The area around the wagon excavated only enough to expose the feature. No other artifacts were uncovered in this area. The nature of the association of the wagon and the intact foundation remains has not yet been determined.

The question regarding the nature of the relationship of the three foundation fragments uncovered at 32 CS 4673 remains undetermined. The southern ends of both foundation fragments 1 and 3 are closely aligned. This may indicate that they are portions of a single



Figure 33. Photograph of Foundation 3, 32 CS 4673. View from the south. Photograph by author.

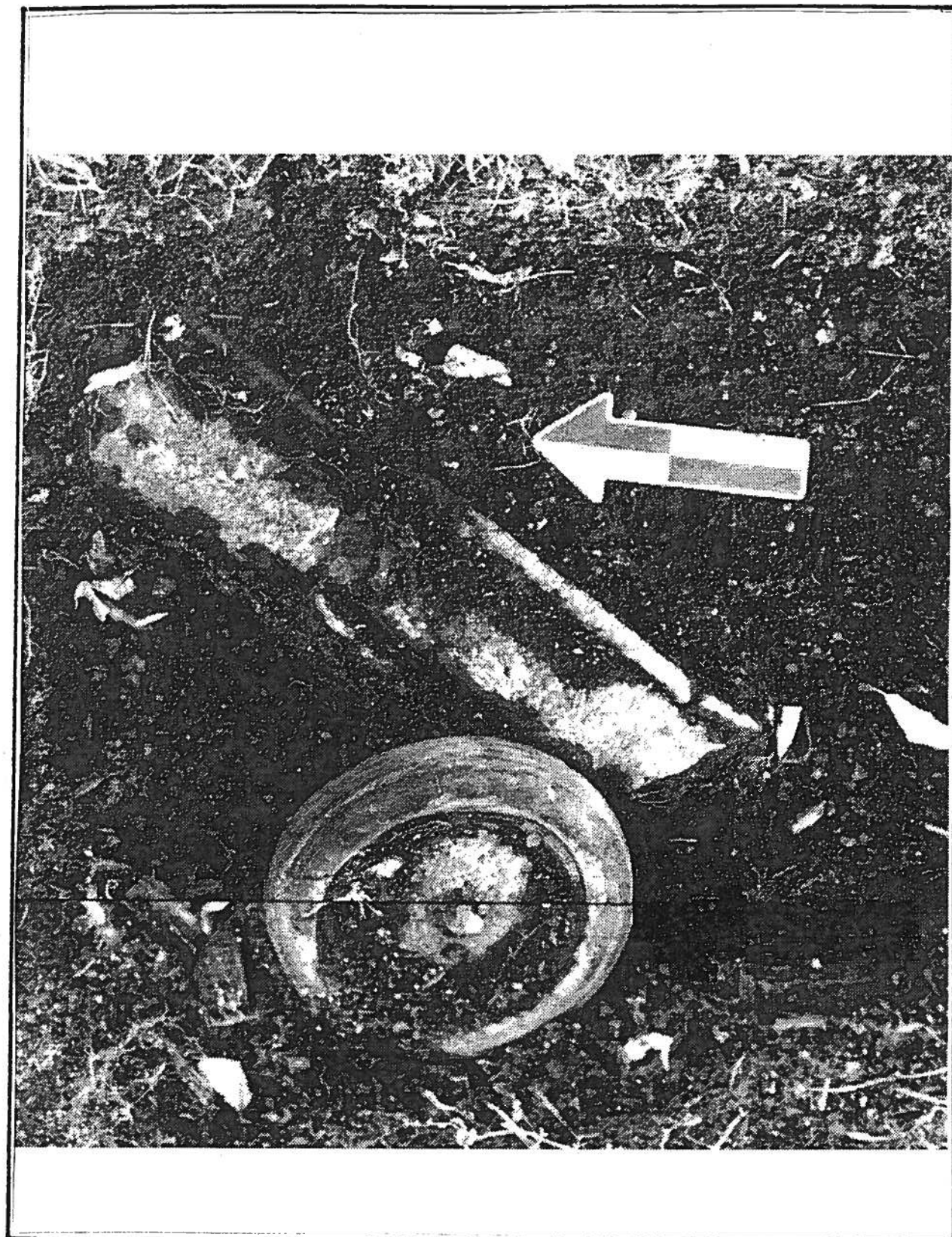


Figure 34. Photograph of child's wagon in situ, 32 CS 4673. Photograph by author.

structure. However, the two foundation lines are not of similar construction. Unfortunately, the presence of the bike path precluded the ability to pursue the further uncovering of the foundations.

The degree to which the construction of the bike path impacted the foundation remnants is undetermined. It is possible that the bike path was only placed onto the surface of the area and did not entail the excavation or removal of any portion of the existing foundations. Examination of the ground surface on the sides opposite of where the bike path intersected the foundations did not produce any evidence that the foundations continued beyond the bike path.

Recommendations

The foundations uncovered at the site may make the site 32 CS 4673 a potential nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The fourth criteria citing the potential for yielding significant information relating to the history or prehistory of an area. Archival evidence has shown that at least two individual structures had occupied this location in the past. The earlier of the two structures may have been residential while the second may have been industrial. Further archaeological testing of this property is necessary before final National Register status can be determined.

Study Area 1

Study Area Location

Study Area 1 consists of the lands currently being used as a parking lot in the downtown area of Fargo (fig.35). This tract of land is bounded on the south by First Avenue North, on the west by Third Street North, on the north by Third Avenue North, and on the east by Second Street North. The legal description of Study Area 1 is the SW1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4, section 7, T139N, R48W. The area of Study Area 1 is approximately 3 acres in size.

Study Area Description

The area defined as Study Area 1 is currently occupied by a paved parking facility. The parking lot has occupied the property since the early 1960s when the area was witness to substantial urban renewal activities.

Archival Research

The archival data available for Study Area 1 provided for the most complete record search afforded any of the study areas within this research program. The parcel of land under investigation is currently referred to as block number six of the North Dakota R1 Urban Renewal Addition to Fargo (fig.36).

The parcel now called block six originally consisted of blocks 5 and 12 of the Keeney and DeVitt Addition to Fargo. This addition was surveyed and platted in 1877. At this time the

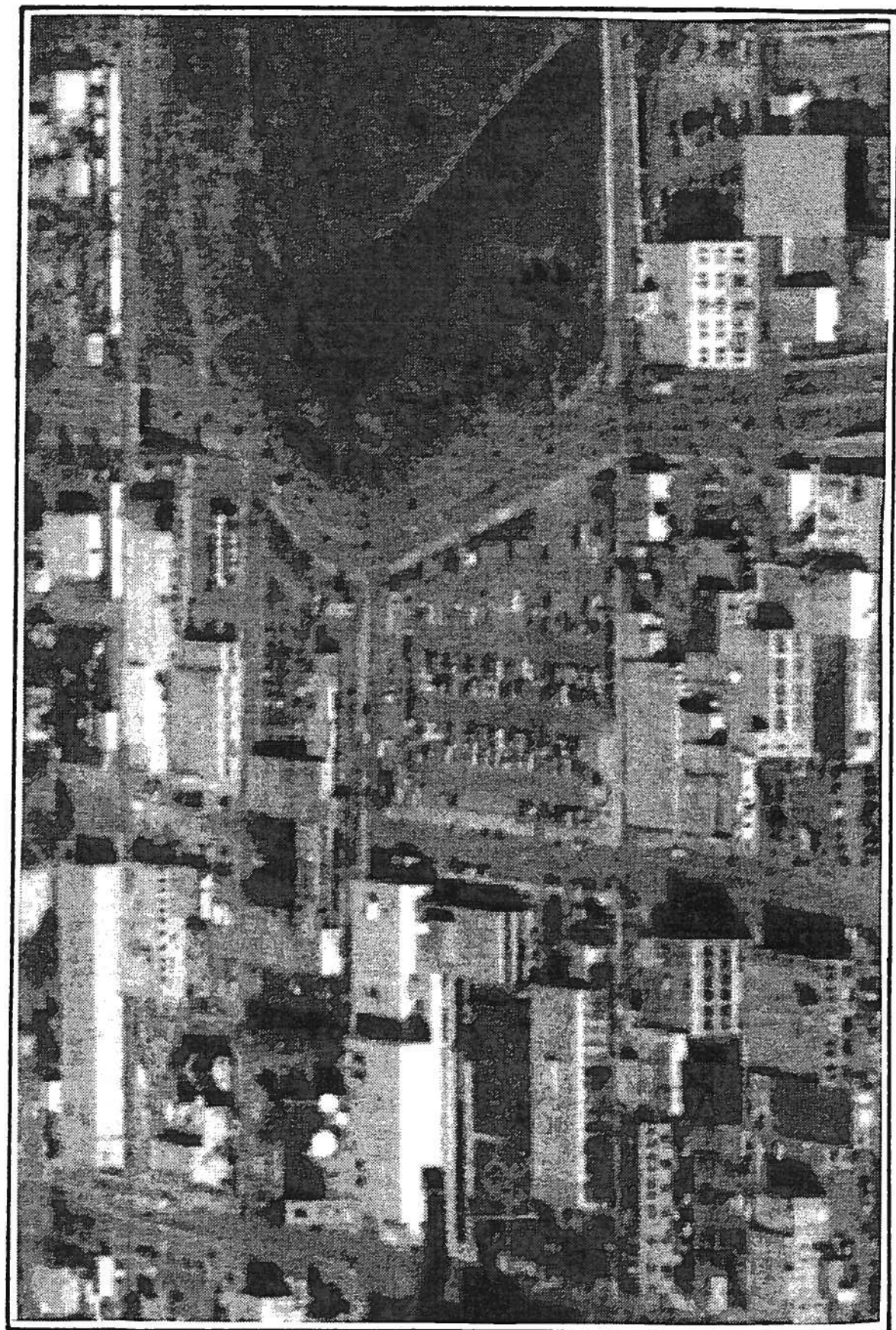


Figure 35. Aerial view of Study Area 1. View from the south towards the north. Photograph courtesy of River Keepers.

tract of land was subdivided into individual lots for the development of commercial and residential properties. Investigations into the history of block five of the Keeney and DeVitt Addition have provided an interesting story relating to the early history of the city.

Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of the later part of the 19th century show that the northern portion of block five was occupied by several frame structures. On the individual maps, these structures are identified as “female boarding” houses (fig.37). According to Holzkamm (1993:51) these structures were parts of the city referred to as “under the Hill” or “The Hollow”. This area was the center of prostitution during the early history of Fargo. Several attempts throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s failed to put an end to the illegal activity. Growing negative public opinion brought an eventual end to the activities in this district by the 1920s.

The archival data suggest that the most significant past event which affected study area 1 was the episode of urban renewal. Data collected from the Register of Deeds files housed at the Cass County Courthouse in Fargo, North Dakota show that the lots within this study area had been sold several times throughout its history. A listing of the data collected from the Register of Deeds files is provided in the Appendix.

Each individual lot of block number five of the Keeney and DeVitt Addition to Fargo is listed separately. The lots are numbered 1 - 9. The first column is the grantor followed by the grantee. The third and fourth columns provide information relating the deed book and page where each individual transaction is listed. The original owners of the property, Keeney and DeVitt, are identified at the beginning of each list. The history of the land transactions follow. The list for each of the lots concludes the City of Fargo obtaining ownership. This represents the initiation of the urban renewal episode.

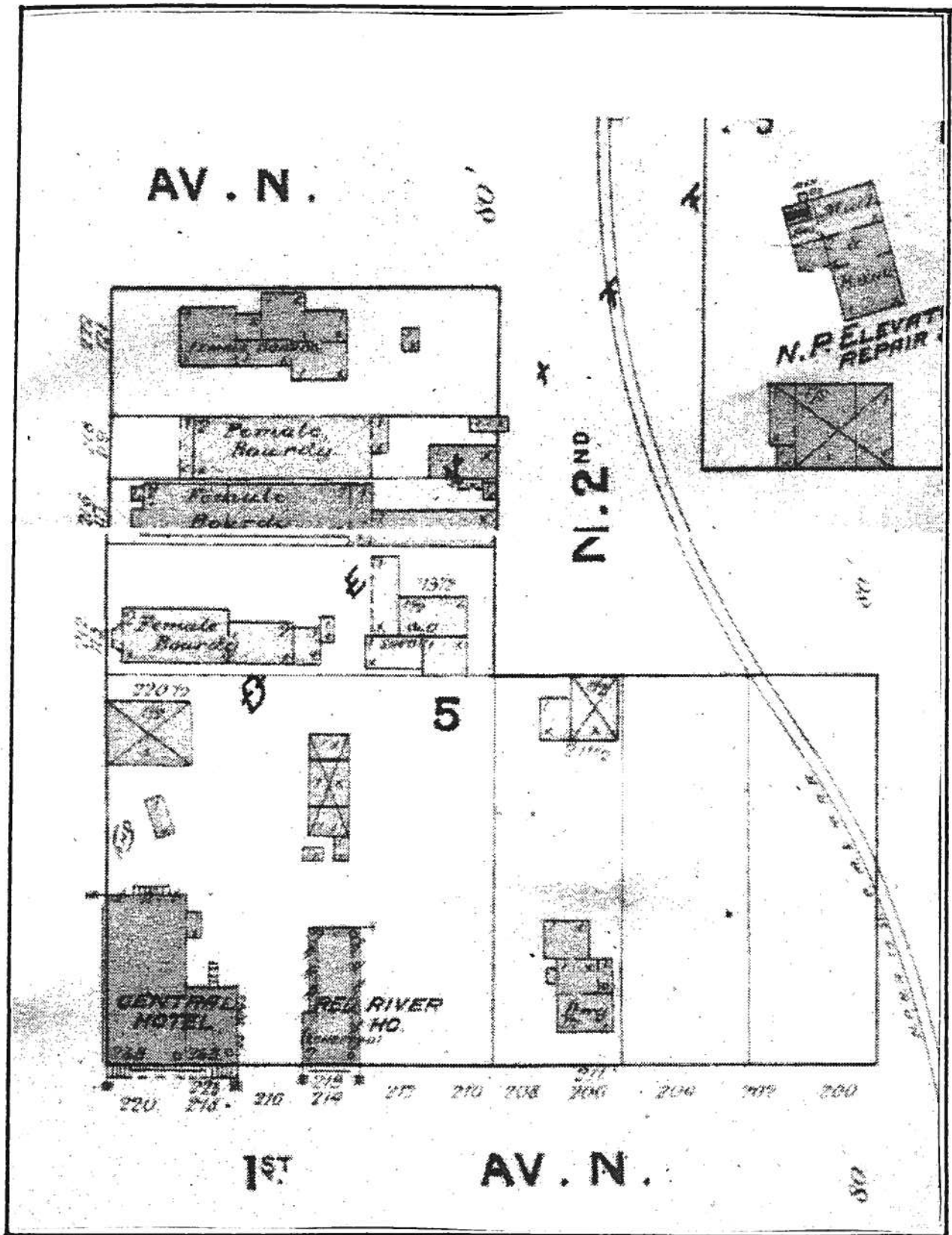


Figure 37. 1884 Sanborn Map.

Archaeological Investigations

Due to the fact that the study area under investigation is covered by a pavement extensive archaeological probing was not undertaken. A pedestrian survey of the study area was conducted. The goal of the pedestrian survey was to identify areas where subsurface materials had been exposed due to the failure of the overlying pavement. Those areas which were exposed yielded no evidence that intact subsurface archaeological deposits existed. The investigation of the subsurface stratigraphy of Study Area 1 would entail the time consuming and costly removal and replacement of asphalt. As a result of these findings no site was recorded for this study area.

Recommendations

The archival information relating to the prostitution which had once flourished in this district provides a colorful anecdote of the early history of Fargo but may not be considered an important feature in relation to National Register status.

Study Area 3

Study Area Location

Study Area 3 consists of the lands included within the historical and/or contemporary boundaries of Island Park located near the southern end of the city's downtown district. This tract is bounded on the south by Fifth Avenue South, on the west by Seventh Street South, on the north by First Avenue South, and on the east by Fourth Street South. The legal description of Study Area 3 is the W1/2, SW1/4, NW1/4 (including fractional tracts of land surrounding this area), section 7, T139N, R48W. The area of Study Area 3 is approximately 42 acres.

Study Area Description

The study area consists of a wooded parkland located near the southern end of present day downtown Fargo. In the northern portion of the park the surface of the ground is much lower than the surrounding area. This had, in the past, caused the northern portion of the park to flood each year during the spring. The southern portion of the park is occupied by a small hill which was not subject to seasonal flooding. The remaining island in the southern portion of the park during seasonal flooding provided the park with its name.

Archival Research

The lands which today comprise Island Park were originally presented to the people of Fargo as a gift from the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in 1877. The land was donated to the people of Fargo to be used as an area of recreation.

As a park, the property was left primarily undeveloped for over thirty years following its donation to the city. In 1908 a bronze statue of Henrik Wergeland, a Norwegian poet and activist was erected near the center of the park. The statue was gift to the State of North Dakota from the people of Norway. This was followed in 1916 by the placement of a second bronze statue near the northern entrance of the park. This statue was erected on the site by the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic. The statue is inscribed "Statue of Civil War Soldier 1861-1865".

In 1927 construction was begun on an octagonal bandstand near the center of the park. Completed in 1928, the structure was constructed upon a masonry foundation which housed a small storage space below the main floor of the stage. The funds for the construction were donated by N.A. Lewis, a local business leader, and was named after him (*Fargo Forum*, 1928).

Other facilities constructed within the park include a public pool constructed in 1978, an activity center for mentally handicapped adults, several tennis courts, a playground, a basketball court, and two practice backboards.

An investigation of the city records housed at the Register of Deeds in the Cass County Courthouse shows that the lands contained within the contemporary boundaries of Island Park were never officially platted for commercial or residential development. Records pertaining to the official development of the park as a public facility are concerned with the creation and maintenance of the structure and statues which exist in the park today.

Several lines of evidence, however, suggest that the park may contain historical archaeological deposits not related to the previously mentioned structures. The first evidence originates from several documentary sources. In A Century Together (FMCC, 1975:12) it is stated that a house constructed by Harry Moore was once located near the northeastern corner of

the property now contained within Island Park. The structure was situated on the edge of a slough. The structure was later moved to new location further to the north towards the location of the present day First National Bank parking lot. The structure remained at this location and was occupied by the Moores until 1879. The structure eventually became the first hotel of the city and was later purchased by Henry Hector. The structure now stands in Bonanzaville near West Fargo. It is suggested that this structure is the oldest wooden structure in the city.

The second archival source relates an account of two Native American burials being found somewhere within Island Park. The source of the information was a published article in the December 16, 1895 edition of the *Daily Argus*. The article was authored by Ruth Keeney, daughter of Gordon Keeney, one of the occupants of the original settlement of “Fargo in the Timber”.

In her account, Ruth Keeney relates the story of a Native American family that passed away during a harsh winter. The story begins with two children from the family, a young boy and girl, appearing at the Keeney household. The children were “ragged, and nearly frozen and starved.” The Keeneys followed the children back to the camp where they found the remaining members of the Native American family close to death. Keeney described the location of the encampment as being near the south side of the water works. This would place the camp near the present day location of the Fargo-Moorhead Community Theater.

The death and burial of the Native American family is not described in Keeney’s narrative. She only describes that there were two shallow depressions on the grounds of Island Park where she and her friends often played. According to the account, her father informed her that the depressions were the location of the burials of the two small Native American children.

The names of the children are given as Eskie and Paul Dupont. Within one of the shallow depressions Ruth claims to have found a cross made of two rough pieces of oak, a broken cup, and a dolls head. Unfortunately, the location of the burials is not identified in the Keeney narrative.

Archaeological Investigations

As mentioned above, the records regarding the Island Park area do not suggest that any commercial or residential development was undertaken. Archaeological investigation of the study area consisted of a controlled surface survey. In the course of the survey no evidence was discovered which would suggest the possibility of intact subsurface deposits.

Archival evidence reporting the past occupation of the park by privately owned structures was also not identified archaeologically. If the properties discussed above once stood in the northeastern corner of the park it is likely the original locations of the buildings has been covered by the construction of the YMCA building and the associated parking lot.

No archaeological evidence was uncovered which would have suggested the possibility of the existence of the reported Native American interment. If, as reported, the site where the gravely ill Native Americans was found exists, it is likely to have been destroyed by the construction of the water-works and the Fargo-Moorhead Community theater.

Recommendations

Island Park contains several properties which are eligible for or have already been placed on the North Dakota State Register of Historic Places. These sites, however, are related to standing structures and statues and do not offer immediate potential as archaeological deposits.

The archival leads relating to older structures, although substantive enough to suggest potential, does not today offer any clues to their existence on the ground. As mentioned above, subsequent modifications to the park, and its surrounding areas may have eliminated any trace. For the potential of Native American graves within the park it may be necessary to require archaeological monitoring of future modifications to the park.

Study Area 4

Study Area Location

Study area 4 consists of the lands included within Lindenwood Park in South Fargo. This tract is bounded on the south by Interstate Highway 94, on the west by Fifth Street South, and on the north and east by the Red River. The legal description of study area 4 is the S1/2, SE1/4 and the S1/2, NW1/4, SE1/4 and the E1/2, NW1/4, NW1/4, and the W1/2, NW1/4, NW1/4. section 18, T139N, R48W; and the N1/2, SW1/4, SW1/4, and the S1/2, NW1/4, SW1/4, section 17, T139N, R48W. Study area 4 is approximately 150 acres in size.

Site Description

Study Area 4 contains two distinct regions. The first is heavily wooded parkland situated in the eastern portions of the park. This wooded area is the gallery forest of the Red River. This portion of the study area contains both an upland terrace, near the east central portion of the park and a floodplain terrace which parallels the course of the river. The second portion of the park consists of a large open grassed area. This area is located on the western portion of the study area.

Archival Research

The lands which are included within the contemporary boundaries of Lindenwood Park were purchased by the Fargo Park Board in 1917 (NDWP,1941). Similar to Island Park, no archival evidence was recovered for Lindenwood Park which would suggest that the property had

ever been slated for commercial or residential development. The origin of the name of Lindenwood Park is suggested to have come from the abundance linden trees in the area. At one point, Lindenwood Park marked the southern terminus of a system of scenic parkway drives which paralleled the Red River. The roadways were called Darling Drive and New North Drive.

Several sports and recreational facilities have been constructed in Lindenwood Park. These include the Roger Maris Gardens, the American Legion Fountain, several softball and baseball diamonds, picnic shelters, playgrounds, campsites, and motor-home sites.

The Lindenwood Park area was incorporated into the research program for many the same reasons as the Oak Grove area. To date, no archival record, either textual or photographic, has been found which would suggest that an occupation dating to the historic period had been established here. However, early efforts to settle the region may have occurred here prior to the determination of the crossing point of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Small independent land claims may have been established in this area which were never officially recorded.

Archaeological Investigation

The archaeological investigation of Study Area 4 consisted of a controlled surface survey of the eastern wooded portion of the site. The western portion of the study area appears to have been severely landscaped during the construction of baseball and softball diamonds. No evidence was uncovered from the surface survey which would suggest the presence of intact subsurface deposits.

CHAPTER 7

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The research presented in this report represents the results of a Class I archival search and a Class III archaeological inventory of selected sites within the city of Fargo. As described in earlier sections of this report, the central goal of this research project was to determine the potential for historical archaeological properties to be located within the city. Through a series of archival and archaeological investigations it has been shown that several areas within the city have significant potential for intact archaeological deposits which date to the early history of the city. Archival and archaeological investigations of selected areas of Fargo have yielded information resulting in the recording of five new historical archaeological sites and one new prehistoric archaeological site within the city limits (fig.38).

The sites recorded as a result of this investigation have the potential to provide a wealth of information regarding the early commercial and residential history of the city. The pattern of archaeological preservation which has been uncovered through this investigation suggests something of the nature of the historical development of Fargo. This pattern also provides insight into the archaeological potential of the city. All of the sites recorded during this research were located along the banks of the Red River in areas which are no longer active commercial or residential properties. This pattern may be representative of the development of the city as it grew from a frontier town into a large, regional commercial distribution center.

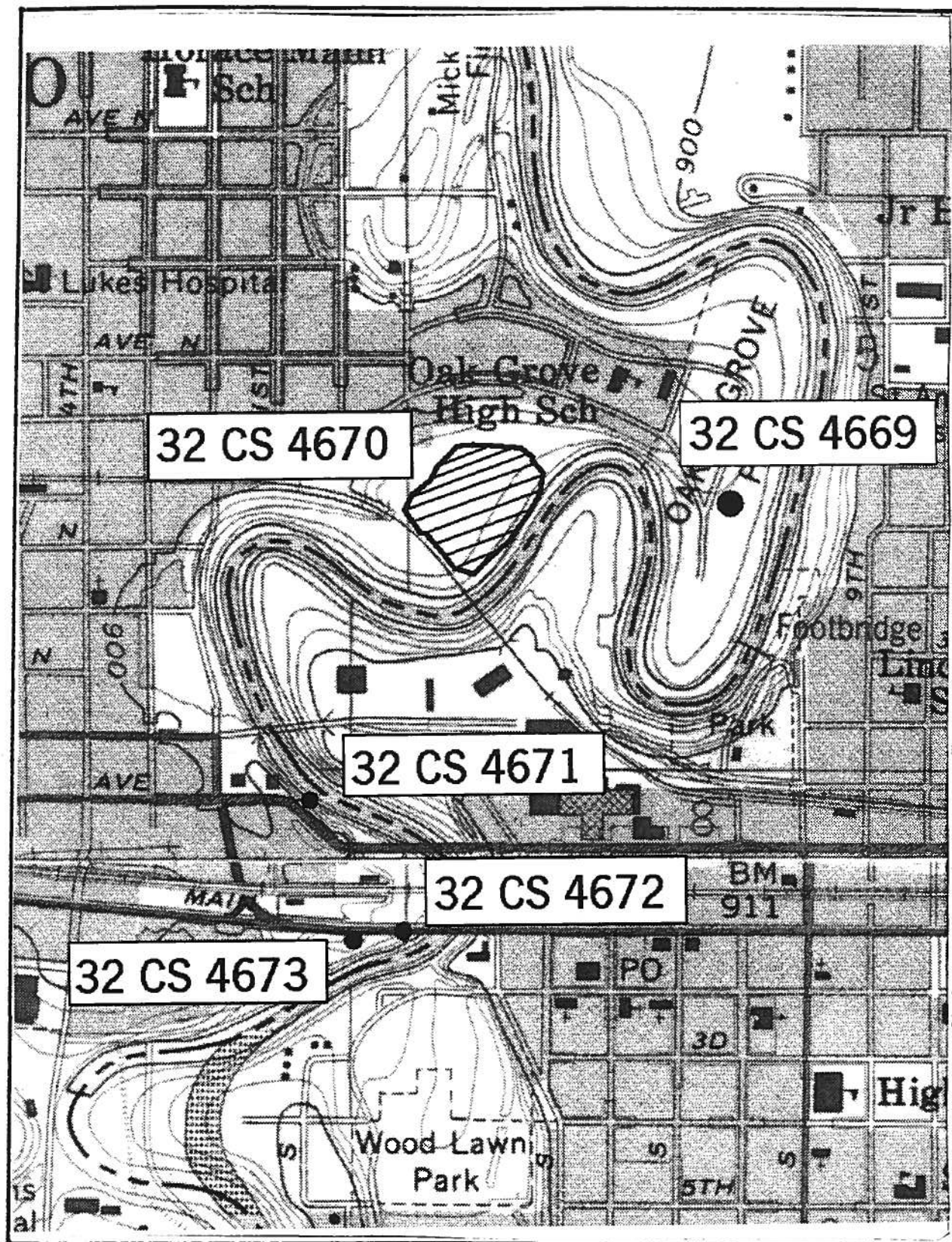


Figure 38. Archaeological sites recorded as a result of the current research.

While not all of the originally identified study areas provided positive results regarding immediate research potential, it must be pointed out that their inaccessibility cannot be construed as a lack of archaeological deposits. Study areas 1 and 3 may yet yield substantial archaeological materials which were not immediately identifiable through the archival and archaeological investigations performed during this research project. Much like the scenario envisioned for the Oak Grove Park Area of an unrecorded land claim, earlier instances of Fargo's settlement may only be recorded in the archaeological record and not immediately available for discovery or investigation until further research is undertaken.

The greatest potential for the continuation of archaeological research appears to be concentrated along the banks of the Red River in the downtown area. The discovery of archaeological remains along the river provide a resource which has great potential for the development of the area.

Many of the early commercial enterprises in Fargo were centered on the river. Steamboat transport of goods and people provided the basis for several thriving businesses. The westward extension of the railroad to Fargo in 1871 supported and increased the level of riverboat commerce in the region. It was not until the 1880s, when a rail-line was built linking Fargo and Grand Forks, that the amount riverboat commerce began to decline.

As the emphasis shifted away from the riverboats to the railroads, those areas of the city primarily related to the riverboat commerce became less important to the financial enterprises of the city. The riverfront, once of key importance to the city, was abandoned in preference to areas away from the river, closer to the railyards and depots.

The locations where the riverboat commerce had flourished, as with the Grandin Line, were no longer necessary for the commercial endeavors and were eventually excluded from future commercial development. The abandonment of the riverfront area as a commercial center provided a scenario through which these locations were eventually incorporated into the archaeological record and preserved.

The area of the Grandin warehouse (32 CS 4671) is one of three sites recorded along the banks of the Red River near the downtown area of Fargo. It is proposed that the suite of the three sites may constitute an historic archaeological district. The three sites are in close proximity to one of the original settlements of Fargo. Although the exact range of dates for two of the sites has been established, it may be that the deposits are related to the earliest history of the city of Fargo.

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Appendix

Grantor-grantee inventory of block five of the Keeney and DeVitt Addition to Fargo. The lists are organized according to individual lots.

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 1 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A01	DeVitt	Keeney	D	234	WD	1
A03	Keeney	Harwood	D	254	WD	1
A08	Harwood	Humel	H	54	WD	1
A13	Humel	Hicks et.al.	J	103	WD	1
A21	Hicks	Johnson, et.al.	K	489	WD	1
A30	Svenson	Johnson	35	164	QCD	1
A39	Johnson	Public	A	36	Afft	1
A46	Johnson est.	Johnson	80	526	FD	1
C10	Johnson	Bahe, et.al	159	149	WD	1
C58	Johnson, et.al.	Bahe	203	219	WD	1
C59	Johnson est.	Johnson, et.al.	203	400	FD	1
D15	Gate City S&L, et.al.	Fargo Urban Renewal	262	640	OC	1
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	1
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	1
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	1
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	1

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 2 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A02	Keeney	DeVitt	D	232	WD	2
A04	DeVitt	Harwood	D	249	WD	2
A08	Harwood	Humel	H	54	WD	2
A14	Humel	Anderson	H	383	WD	2
A15	Humel	Hicks	M	243	WD	2
A22	Anderson	Kringlee	42	375	WD	2
A23	Hicks est	Hicks	50	46	FD	2
A31	Kringlee	Hallenberg	52	367	WD	2
A32	Jensen	Jensen	102	21	WD	2
A40	Hallenberg	Anderson	66	395	WD	2
A47	Beck	Anderson	82	510	QCD	2
A54	Anderson	Peterson, et.al.	95	249	WD	2
A61	Simonson	Peterson, et.al.	103	98	QCD	2
B05	Peterson, et.al.	Dahlberg	105	507	WD	2
B12	Schuyler	Public	U	625	Afft	2
B19	Fowler	Public	U	626	Afft	2
B26	Dahlberg	White	110	42	QCD	2
B33	White	Seebold	109	413	WD	2
B40	Seebold	Holmquist	124	489	WD	2
B46	Holmquist	Seebold	130	55	QCD	2
C36	Jensen est.	Jensen, et.al.	163	448	FD	2
C37	Jensen est.	Jensen	161	187	FD	2
C38	Jensen	Johnson	167	176	WD	2
C39	Johnson	Bahe, et.al.	167	177	WD	2
C51	Seebold est.	Seebold	193	54	FD	2
C55	Seebold est.	Seebold, et.al.	200	265	FD	2
C57	Seebold	Johnson	202	142	WD	2
C58	Johnson, et.al.	Bahe	203	219	WD	2
C59	Johnson est.	Johnson, et.al.	203	400	FD	2
D14	Rommismo, et.al.	Fargo Urban Renewal	262	636	OC	2
D15	Gate City S&L, et.al.	Fargo Urban Renewal	262	640	OC	2
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	2
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	2
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	2
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	2

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 3 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A01	DeVitt	Keeney	D	234	WD	3
A05	Keeney	Ball	D	490	WD	3
A09	Ball est.	Wheelock et.al.	97	322	FD	3
A16	Ball et.al.	Ball	105	203	WD	3
A24	Ball est.	Ball, et.al.	98	169	FD	3
A33	Ball	Lane	105	539	WD	3
A41	Lane	Logan	105	545	WD	3
A48	Logan est.	Mortenson, et.al.	122	51	FD	3
A55	Mortenson	Shervey	123	113	WD	3
A62	Mortenson	Hendrickson	127	511	WD	3
B06	Shervey	Mortenson	122	504	Jdgm	3
B13	Mortenson	Baarstad	129	477	WD	3
B20	Cass Co Sherf	No. Trust Co.	119	459	SD	3
B27	Erickson	Mortenson	129	630	WD	3
B34	Nor. Trust Co.	Hogan	125	328	WD	3
B41	Cass Co Shrf	Baarstad	53	473	SD	3
B47	Baarstad	Gate City S&L	L1	415	Asst	3
C35	Baarstad	Lane Co.	l1	351	Asst R	3
C41	Baarstad	Helsper	181	381	WD	3
C42	Helsper	Gate City B&L	T1	5	ASST	3
C56	Hogan	Johnson	201	171	WD	3
D07	Helsper	Urban Renewal	259	345	WD	3
D14	Rommismo, et.al.	Fargo Urban Renewal	262	636	OC	3
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	3
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	3
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	3
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	3

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 4 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A02	Keeney	DeVitt	D	232	WD	4
A06	DeVitt	DeVitt	E	76	WD	4
A10	DeVitt	Taylor	F	425	WD	4
A19	Tyler	Pray	F	608	WD	4
A25	Pray	Wold	H	626	WD	4
A34	City Treas	Tyler	39	371	TD	4
A42	Cass Co Aud	Kedney est.	57	101	Ad D.	4
A49	Cass Co Aud	Kedney est.	57	102	Ad D.	4
A56	Cass Co Aud	Kedney est.	57	103	Ad D	4
A63	Cass Co Aud	Kedney est.	57	104	Ad D	4
B07	Cass Co Aud	Kedney est.	67	344	Ad D	4
B14	Cass Co Aud	Kedney est.	67	345	Ad D	4
B21	O'Niel, et.al.	Kedney est.	72	143	Jdgm	4
B28	Erickson, et.al.	Kedney est.	92	59	QCD	4
B35	Tyler, et.al.	Kedney est.	92	60	QCD	4
B42	Cass Co Aud	Blakemore	67	502	Ad D	4
B48	Cass Co Aud	Blakemore	67	503	Ad D	4
B56	Kedney est.	Thompson	94	369	WD	4
B59	Wright est.	Wright, et.al.	154	179	FD	4
C34	Cass Co Shrf	Wright est.	158	390	SD	4
C40	Wright est.	Wright, et.al.	174	274	QCD	4
C45	Wright	Smeby	192	96	WD	4
C46	Woodruff, et.al.	Smeby	189	547	WD	4
C47	Woodruff, est.	Smeby	189	548	Adm D	4
C48	Smeby	Gate City B&L	V1	14	Asst	4
C49	Woodruff est.	Smeby	W1	29	Order	4
D02	Smeby	Brady	K2	589	Asst	4
D03	Smeby	Tronnes	237	491	WD	4
D04	Tronnes	Ruud	238	376	WD	4
D05	Ruud	Dak. Nat'l. Bank	5-2	265	Asst	4
D16	Ruud, et.al	Fargo Urban Renewal	264	506	OC	4
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	4
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	4
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	4
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	4

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 5 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A01	DeVitt	Keeney	D	234	WD	5
A43	Keeney	SPMMRR	T	629	WD	5
A50	Keeney	Eddy	27	258	WD	5
A57	Eddy est	SPMMRR	30	335	Ex D	5
B01	Eddy, et.al.	RRV Nat'l. Bank	50	463	WD	5
B08	Eddy est.	Eddy	50	464	Ex D	5
B15	Eddy est.	Eddy	H	139	Order	5
B22	Eddy, et.al.	Eddy	51	249	QCD	5
B29	RRV Nat'l. Bank	McGuire	54	127	WD	5
B36	McGuire	Cudahy Pack. Co.	66	368	WD	5
B43	SPMMRR	Cudahy Pack. Co.	69	56	QCD	5
B49	Cudahy	Johnson Bros.	79	107	WD	5
B53	Johnson Bros.	Johnson	136	622	WD	5
D17	Kenady	Public	K3	544	Afft	5
D18	GN RR Co.	Fargo Urban Renewal	268	232	WD	5
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	5
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	5
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	5
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	5
D23	Johnson, et.al.	Fargo Urban Renewal	P3	142	OC	5

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 6 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A02	Keeney	DeVitt	D	232	WD	6
A06	DeVitt	DeVitt	E	76	WD	6
A10	DeVitt	Taylor	F	425	WD	6
A17	Tyler	Keeney	H	83	WD	6
A26	Tyler	Baker	H	84	WD	6
A35	Baker	Keeney	I	56	WD	6
A43	Keeney	SPMMRR	T	629	WD	6
A50	Keeney	Eddy	27	258	WD	6
A57	Eddy est	SPMMRR	30	335	Ex D	6
B01	Eddy, et.al.	RRV Nat'l. Bank	50	463	WD	6
B08	Eddy est.	Eddy	50	464	Ex D	6
B15	Eddy est.	Eddy	H	139	Order	6
B22	Eddy, et.al.	Eddy	51	249	QCD	6
B29	RRV Nat'l. Bank	McGuire	54	127	WD	6
B36	McGuire	Cudahy Pack. Co.	66	368	WD	6
B43	SPMMRR	Cudahy Pack. Co.	69	56	QCD	6
B49	Cudahy	Johnson Bros.	79	107	WD	6
B53	Johnson Bros.	Johnson	136	622	WD	6
D17	Kenady	Public	K3	544	Afft	6
D18	GN RR Co.	Fargo Urban Renewal	268	232	WD	6
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	6
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	6
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	6
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	6
D23	Johnson, et.al.	Fargo Urban Renewal	P3	142	OC	6

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 7 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A01	DeVitt	Keeney	D	234	WD	7
A05	Keeney	Ball	D	490	WD	7
A11	Ball	Ball	I	534	WD	7
A18	Ball	Kearns	I	535	WD	7
A27	Kearns	Hoover, Jr.	R	337	WD	7
A36	Hoover, Jr.	Johnson	S	132	WD	7
A38	Johnson	Espy	Y	560	WD	7
A51	Espy	Lines	29	450	WD	7
A58	Lines est	Joyce	45	344	Adm D	7
B02	Lines est.	Joyce	6	154	Order	7
B09	Campbell	Morton	68	28	QCD	7
B16	Joyce	Morton	75	65	QCD	7
B23	Morton	McCune	76	283	WD	7
B30	McCune	Everhart	75	66	QCD	7
B37	Everhart	McCune	75	128	QCD	7
C14	Engels	Engels	107	255	WD	7
C15	Engels	Loucks	W	237	WD	7
C18	Schuyler	Public	X	215	Afft	7
C19	Engels	Loucks	113	513	WD	7
C20	Schuyler	Public	X	221	Afft	7
C21	Clapp	Public	X	221	Afft	7
C25	Loucks	Paxman	129	32	WD	7
C26	Poseley	Wilde	129	478	WD	7
C28	Cass Co Shrf	Lane Co.	53	485	SD	7
C29	Loucks	Poseley	136	438	WD	7
C30	DeGraw, et.al.	Lane Co.	142	637	Jdgm	7
C31	DeGraw	Lane Co.	142	638	Order	7
C33	Lane Co.	Oliver	138	584	WD	7
C44	Oliver	Watkins	T1	517	Asst	7
C50	Oliver	Kyle	192	538	WD	7
C52	Watkins	Oliver	W1	591	Sat	7
C54	Kyle	Paseka, et.al.	196	562	WD	7
C60	Loucks	Poseley	203	459	WD	7
C61	Wilde	Collette, et.al	206	51	WD	7
C62	Paseka, et.al.	Lane Co.	E2	149	Asst	7
D06	Paseka	Paseka	257	475	QCD	7
D08	Muchow est.	Paseka	261	27	WD	7

D09	Kyle	Paseka	262	401	WD	7
D10	Paseka	Paseka	262	403	WD	7
D11	Churda	Paseka	262	405	WD	7
D13	Paseka	Paseka	262	409	WD	7
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	7
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	7
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	7
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	7

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 8 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A02	Keeney	DeVitt	D	232	WD	8
A06	DeVitt	DeVitt	E	76	WD	8
A10	DeVitt	Taylor	F	425	WD	8
A19	Tyler	Pray	F	608	WD	8
A28	Pray	Keeney	H	82	WD	8
A37	Keeney	McGuire	N	466	WD	8
A44	Madden	Dexter	P	18	WD	8
A52	Dexter	Campbell	P	128	WD	8
A59	McGuire	Farrell	C	516	CD	8
B03	Keeney	Madden	P	380	WD	8
B10	McGuire	Clark	S	47	WD	8
B17	Clark	Aldrich	V	442	WD	8
B24	Aldrich	Clark	34	4	WD	8
B31	Cass Co Treas	Alford	30	456	TD	8
B38	Clark	Clark	37	291	WD	8
B44	Alford	Clark	40	207	QCD	8
B50	Clark	Aldrich	49	35	WD	8
B54	Aldrich est.	Aldrich, et.al.	64	123	FD	8
B57	Campbell	Morton	68	28	QCD	8
B60	Morton	McCune	70	66	WD	8
B62	Morton, et.al.	McCune	L	570	Afft	8
C01	Aldrich est.	Clark, gdn	N	268	Order	8
C03	Holcomb	Public	N	451	Afft	8
C05	McGuire	Public	N	452	Afft	8
C07	Aldrich	Clark	72	373	WD	8
C09	Aldrich est.	Raymond	62	144	Gnd	8
C11	Clark	Raymond	76	560	WD	8
C12	Raymond	Johnson	76	565	WD	8
C13	Johnston	Engel	106	318	WD	8
C14	Engels	Engels	107	255	WD	8
C15	Engels	Loucks	W	237	WD	8
C16	Engel	McGoon	109	223	WD	8
C17	McGoon	Thomas	109	224	WD	8
C18	Schuyler	Public	X	215	Afft	8
C19	Engels	Loucks	113	513	WD	8
C20	Schuyler	Public	X	221	Afft	8
C21	Clapp	Public	X	221	Afft	8

C22	Engels	Public	X	221	Afft	8
C23	Cass Co Shrf	Thomas	62	570	SD	8
C24	Thomas	Loucks	114	449	WD	8
C25	Loucks	Paxman	129	32	WD	8
C26	Poseley	Wilde	129	478	WD	8
C27	Cass Co Shrf	Lane Co.	53	484	SD	8
C28	Cass Co Shrf	Lane Co.	53	485	SD	8
C29	Loucks	Poseley	136	438	WD	8
C30	DeGraw, et.al.	Lane Co.	142	637	Jdgm	8
C31	DeGraw	Lane Co.	142	638	Order	8
C32	Lane Co.	Oliver	138	583	WD	8
C33	Lane Co.	Oliver	138	584	WD	8
C43	Oliver	Watkins	T1	570	Asst	8
C44	Oliver	Watkins	T1	517	Asst	8
C50	Oliver	Kyle	192	538	WD	8
C52	Watkins	Oliver	W1	591	Sat	8
C53	Watkins	Oliver	W1	592	Sat	8
C54	Kyle	Paseka, et.al.	196	562	WD	8
C60	Loucks	Poseley	203	459	WD	8
C61	Wilde	Collette, et.al	206	51	WD	8
C62	Paseka, et.al.	Lane Co.	E2	149	Asst	8
C63	Oliver	Kyle	216	133	WD	8
D01	Kyle	Paseka	213	340	WD	8
D06	Paseka	Paseka	257	475	QCD	8
D08	Muchow est.	Paseka	261	27	WD	8
D09	Kyle	Paseka	262	401	WD	8
D10	Paseka	Paseka	262	403	WD	8
D11	Churda	Paseka	262	405	WD	8
D12	Paseka est.	Paseka	262	407	Decree	8
D13	Paseka	Paseka	262	409	WD	8
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	8
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	8
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	8
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	8

Grantor-Grantee index for Lot 9 of Block 5 of Kenney and DeVitts Addition to Fargo.

Entry	Grantor	Grantee	Book	Page	Inst	Lot
A01	DeVitt	Keeney	D	234	WD	9
A07	Keeney	Keye	M	373	WD	9
A12	Keye	Kearns	N	82	WD	9
A20	Kearns	Hoover, Jr.	R	337	WD	9
A29	Hoover, Jr.	Johnson	S	132	WD	9
A38	Johnson	Espy	Y	560	WD	9
A45	Espy	Clark	Y	561	WD	9
A53	Clark	Espy	27	374	WD	9
A60	Espy	Lines	29	450	WD	9
B04	Lines est.	Joyce	45	344	Adm D	9
B11	Lines est.	Joyce	G	154	Order	9
B18	Joyce	McIntyre, et. al.	H	304	Lease	9
B25	MacIntyre	Raymond	I	317	Asst	9
B32	Joyce	McIntyre	59	281	WD	9
B39	MacIntyre	Raymond	58	72	QCD	9
B45	Raymond	Luger Furn. Co.	61	228	WD	9
B51	Raymond	Mead	76	73	WD	9
B52	Cass Co Aud	Blakemore, et.al	67	504	Ad D	9
B55	Luger Furn. Co.	Mead	85	67	WD	9
B58	Mead	DeLayer	90	6	WD	9
B61	Gordon	DeLayer	92	456	QCD	9
B63	McQuade	DeLayer	92	457	QCD	9
C02	McGinn	DeLayer	92	458	QCD	9
C04	Parks	DeLayer	92	459	QCD	9
C06	DeLayer est.	DeLayer	98	145	FD	9
C08	DeLayer	Johnson	109	582	WD	9
C58	Johnson, et.al.	Bahe	203	219	WD	9
C59	Johnson est.	Johnson, et.al.	203	400	FD	9
D19	City of Fargo	Public	O3	8	Resol	9
D20	City of Fargo	Public	G	80	Vac. Plat	9
D21	City of Fargo	Public	P3	121	Resol	9
D22	City of Fargo	Public	G	82	Plat	9