

New Philadelphia Excavation Unit Summary Form

Block 3 Lot 1

Angela Maranville, Terrance Martin, and Shamia Sandels

Excavation Unit 1 (N90 E60)

Archaeologists began excavation of Block 3 Lot 1 Excavation Unit 1 to ground truth magnetic anomaly A42, found in Summer 2005. This area is the reported location of a former blacksmith shop. The archaeologists opened Level A1 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation for the level is 747.826 ft. above median sea level (amsl), and the average closing elevation is 747.648 ft. amsl. Level A1 is a sod layer with underlying soil that is 7.5YR 2.5/1 (black) with a texture of silty clay. Historic artifacts were recovered throughout the level, including glass, lithics, mortar, brick, ceramic, nails, clinker, metal, and one bead. The metal artifacts were concentrated in the northwest area of the unit.

*“Started work on Block 3 Lot 1 Unit 1, the blacksmith’s shop area.
Already lots of metal being found. Should prove to be fascinating.”*

- Angela Maranville [NSF-REU student]

The team excavated Level A2 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation was 747.648 ft. amsl, and the average elevation on closing was 747.348 ft. amsl. The soil of this level has a color of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark gray) with a texture of silty clay with some sand, clay, and charcoal inclusions. The team recovered historic artifacts from throughout the level, including glass, ceramic, brick, mortar, nails, charcoal, slag, lithics, and metal.

*“In Level A2 of EU1 there were 421 pieces of miscellaneous metal.
Wow.”*

- Shamia Sandles [NSF-REU student]

Level A3 was excavated by the archaeologists as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation was 747.348 ft. amsl, and the average closing elevation was 746.975 ft. amsl. The level is made up of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark grey) silty clay. The base of the level is mottled between 7.5YR 3/4 (dark brown) and 7.5YR 4/1 (dark grey). The team recovered historic artifacts including glass, ceramic, brick, nails, slag, mortar, lithics, and clinker.

“EU1 has been taken down to Level A3, and there was much metal to be found.”

- Shamia Sandles [NSF-REU student]

Archaeologists took soil probes along the west wall at 2.5 ft. The elevation of the soil probe was 747.078 ft. amsl. Iron staining was present throughout the 0.8 ft. sample in a matrix consistent with the gray mottled soil at the base of Level A3. A second probe of the soil 0.9 ft. to 1.8 ft. below the base of Level A3 showed mixed grey mottled soil extending to 1.1 ft. below the level. The soil changes at that point to a 7.5YR 4/6 (strong brown) mottled clay. There were no buried cultural lenses. Excavation Unit 1 was terminated at the bottom of Level A3 in favor of excavating Excavation Unit 2 to the southwest.

“Cored level B1. Goes approximately 1.1 ft. down to dark brown and yellow clay. Decision made to open Unit 2.”

- Angela Maranville [NSF-REU student]

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BLOCK 3, LOT 1
 EXCAVATION UNIT 1 (N90, E60)

MEGA STRAT	LEVEL	STRATUM	MUNSELL	TEXTURE	OPENING ELEV. AMSL	CLOSING ELEV. AMSL	DESCRIPTION
I	A1	SOD LAYER	7.5YR 2.5/1	SILTY CLAY	747.826 ft	747.648 ft	Though predominantly a sod level, historic artifacts were recovered throughout. In particular, many iron fragments were recovered.
I	A2	SUB-SOD	7.5YR 3/1	SILTY CLAY	747.648 ft	747.348 ft	Sand, clay, and charcoal inclusions were uncovered, as well as a high density of historic artifacts. The density of metal artifacts increased.
I	A3	SUB-SOD	7.5YR 3/1 7.5YR 3/4 7.5YR 4/1	SILTY CLAY	747.348 ft	746.975 ft	The floor of this level is mottled clay. Soil probes were taken at the closing of the unit. Though artifact density decreased, metal was still the most frequently recovered artifact class.

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Excavation Unit 2 (N85 E55)

Archaeologists began excavation of Block 3 Lot 1 Excavation Unit 2 to ground truth magnetic anomaly A42, found in Summer 2005. Excavation Unit 2 is located to the southwest of Excavation Unit 1. The archaeologists opened Level A1 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation for the level is 748.626 ft. above median sea level (amsl). The average of the closing elevations for the level is 748.463 ft. amsl. Level A1 is a sod layer with soil that has a color of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark grey) and a texture of silty loam. There is some clay mottling and some inclusions of charcoal. Historic artifacts were recovered throughout the level, and include ceramics, brick, glass, shell, lithics, charcoal, slag, nail, clinker, and metal. The archaeologists found that metal artifacts increased in density in the southwest corner.

“Unit 2 Level A1 yielded metal and a few ceramics. Mostly sod.”
- Angela Maranville [NSF-REU student]

The team excavated Level A2 as an arbitrary 0.5 ft. level. The opening elevations averaged to 748.463 ft. amsl, and the closing elevations averaged to 748.195 ft. amsl. The soil of this level is composed of topsoil with a color of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark grey), and sand and clay concentrated in the northwest corner that have colors of 5YR 5/8 (yellowish red) and 2.5YR 6/4 (light yellowish brown) respectively. Artifacts were recovered throughout the unit and include bone, brick, ceramic, lithics, glass, coal, slag, clinker, mortar, nails, metal, one button, and one clay marble. Metal is the most prevalent artifact recovered. Excavation of Level A2 was stopped after a depth of 0.8 ft. below the datum due to a soil change.

Archaeologists excavated Level B1 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The level's average opening elevation was 748.195 ft. amsl. Level B1's average closing elevation was 747.759 ft. amsl. The soil of this level was made up of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark grey) loam and clay. The southwest corner is made up of grey mottled clay similar to Excavation Unit 1 Level A3. There is clay in the eastern half of the unit, but the archaeologists determined that it does not designate a sterile layer. Historic artifacts were recovered throughout the unit, and include ceramics, brick, glass, clinker, slag, nails, metal, possible gaming pieces, and mortar.

“Iron artifacts mainly in the southeast corner now. Hand painted 1880 porcelain found in southeast corner. Marble, pewter spoon found yesterday. Excellent unit.”

- Angela Maranville [NSF-REU student]

Although artifacts were still being recovered at the base of Level B1, the archaeologists closed Block 3 Lot 1 Excavation Unit 2 in favor of opening Excavation Unit 3 to the north and west. No features were designated within this unit.

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BLOCK 3, LOT 1
 EXCAVATION UNIT 2 (N85, E55)

MEGA STRAT	LEVEL	STRATUM	MUNSELL	TEXTURE	OPENING ELEV. AMSL	CLOSING ELEV. AMSL	DESCRIPTION
I	A1	SOD LAYER	7.5YR 3/1	SILTY LOAM	748.626 ft	748.463 ft	Charcoal and clay inclusions across the level. Metal artifacts increased in density in the southwest corner.
I	A2	SUB-SOD	7.5YR 3/1 5YR 5/8 2.5YR 6/4	CLAY, SAND	748.463 ft	748.195 ft	Metal artifacts were the most frequently recovered from this level. Over 100 nails were recovered. A concentration of mortar and sand was uncovered in the northwest corner.
II	B1	SUB-SOD	7.5YR 3/1	LOAM, CLAY	748.195 ft	747.759 ft	Though the level has a large clay inclusion in the eastern half of the unit, this does not denote a sterile layer.

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Excavation Unit 3 (N90 E35)

Archaeologists opened Excavation Unit 3 in an attempt to identify magnetic anomaly A42. Additionally, the team wished to explore the edges of a mounded area located adjacent to Excavation Unit 3.

“Unit 3 is an attempt to define the west edge of a feature.”

- Angela Maranville [NSF-REU student]

The team opened Level A1 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation was 749.040 ft. above median sea level (amsl), and the average elevation of the level at closing was 748.787 ft. amsl. The level was predominantly a sod layer, and is made up of mottled loamy soil and clay with colors of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark grey loam) and 7.5YR 6/8 (reddish yellow) respectively. The archaeologists recovered historic artifacts from throughout the level, including ceramics, brick, shell, plastic, clinker, mortar, glass, charcoal, nails, lithics and metal, with metal and nails making up the most numerous artifact class.

“Much paper work and artifact counting needed to be done.”

- Shamia Sandles [NSF-REU student]

Archaeologists opened Level A2 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The opening elevations for the level averaged to 748.787 ft. amsl, while the closing elevations were on average 748.181 ft. amsl. The level is characterized by a mottling of 7.5YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown) loam, 7.5YR 2.5/1 (black) loam, and 2.5YR 5/4 (light olive brown) clay, with the majority of the level being made up of clay. The team recovered historic artifacts from throughout the level, including glass, ceramic, bricks, nails, metal, slag, clinker, charcoal, and mortar. Metal artifacts continue to predominate in this level, but the number of artifacts recovered has dropped.

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BLOCK 3, LOT 1
 EXCAVATION UNIT 3 (N90, E35)

MEGA STRAT	LEVEL	STRATUM	MUNSELL	TEXTURE	OPENING ELEV. AMSL	CLOSING ELEV. AMSL	DESCRIPTION
I	A1	SOD LAYER	7.5YR 3/1	LOAM, CLAY	749.040 ft	748.787 ft	Metal and nails made up the most frequently recovered artifact class. Artifacts consistent with architectural remains were recovered (nails, flat glass, brick), but no architectural features were uncovered.
I	A2	SUB-SOD	7.5YR 3/2 7.5YR 2.5/1 2.5YR 5/4	LOAM, CLAY	748.787 ft	748.181 ft	Tree roots present. Mostly clay. Fewer artifacts recovered.

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Excavation Unit 4 (N90 E45)

Archaeologists opened Excavation Unit 4 in order to identify magnetic anomaly A42. Additionally, the team wished to explore the edges of a mounded area located adjacent to Excavation Unit 4.

Level A1 was begun as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation of the unit was 748.781 ft. above median sea level (amsl). The average closing elevation of the level was 748.590 ft. amsl. Level A1 is made up of mottled soil consisting of 7.5YR 3/1 (very dark grey) loam and 5YR 5/6 (yellowish red) clay. The archaeologists recovered artifacts from throughout the level including mortar, brick, coal, clinker, glass, nails, metal, one bullet case, and one lithic.

“Today was hot, very hot. I was bitten by a bee three times today. I am very frustrated.”

- Shamia Sandles [NSF-REU student]

The team excavated Level A2 as an arbitrary level of 0.5 ft. The average opening elevation of the level was 748.590 ft. amsl, and the average closing elevation was 748.142 ft. amsl. The level is made up of soil that was 2.5YR 3/3 (dark olive brown) and 7.5YR 3/2 (dark brown) with the texture of loam. There is a concentration of 7.5YR 4/1 (dark grey) clay in the southwest corner. The archaeologists recovered historic artifacts throughout the level, such as glass, brick, ceramic, lithics, slag, mortar, nails, clinker, metal, one whetstone, one doorknob, and one seed.

“In four buckets [of excavated soil] we have already filled an artifact bag. This unit is going to be highly productive.”

- Angela Maranville [NSF-REU student]

“Last day of digging. Tear.”

- Shamia Sandles [NSF-REU student]

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BLOCK 3, LOT 1
 EXCAVATION UNIT 4 (N90, E45)

MEGA STRAT	LEVEL	STRATUM	MUNSELL	TEXTURE	OPENING ELEV. AMSL	CLOSING ELEV. AMSL	DESCRIPTION
I	A1	SOD LAYER	7.5YR 3/1 5YR 3/6	LOAM, CLAY	748.781 ft	748.590 ft	Archaeologists encountered a high artifact density in this level, particularly metal and architectural remains.
I	A2	SUB-SOD	7.5YR 3/2 7.5YR 4/1 2.5YR 3/3	LOAM, CLAY	748.590 ft	748.142 ft	Whole bricks were recovered from this level. There are stones in a north to south alignment at the base of the level.