Chucalissa and Moundville: A Comparison

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Chucalissa and Moundville: A Comparison

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Introduction:

During the 1930s, the area located off Mitchell Road in Memphis, Tennessee and surrounded by the African-American communities, Boxtown and Grand Corner\(^1\), was an ideal spot for a park. It was almost 2,000 acres of dense forest, wildlife, and to the untrained eye, there appeared to be several manmade hills. With the intentions of erecting a park for African-Americans, an actual community site of a Native American settlement unearthed itself, as the work crews dug.

Throughout America during the post war years (mainly the latter part of the 1930s) an interest developed in cultural history and agricultural activities. This interest culminated into the WPA, (Work – or Worker’s Project Administration) and the TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority.)

In 1933, a republican President Hoover lost the election to Franklin D. Roosevelt – a democrat - who served from 1934 to 1945. Roosevelt’s administration called for an interest in the abundance of the cultural and naturalistic aspects of the American people, including the traditions of Native Americans and the oral histories of African-Americans, and he wanted to document and preserve that culture for future generations. Roosevelt was desirous, as well, of diverting the American people thought process from contemplating the conditions The Depression Era wrecked upon their lives.

Roosevelt’s formed the WPA to overseer and conduct these studies into the artistic, habits, and activities, along with the nature related aspects of the American people and locations in 1935. The TVA – Tennessee Valley Association came into

\(^1\) Within the African-American community, this location is also referred to as Grands Corner and Grants Corner. The name is possibly a derivative of this how location was once a junction point between Mississippi and Tennessee.
In the summer session of 2001, Dr. David Dye – Chair of the University of Memphis conducted an undergraduate/graduate course on working in a museum, along with assessing a museum collection. The focus of study was the burial remains, including the artifacts, of two specific units, Unit 2 and 4, excavated under Charles Nash’s guidance, along with the basic steps of capturing museum quality photographs.

Before proceeding with the archaeology findings at the Chucalissa site, it is advisable to understand and comprehend certain and specific terms used by Charles Nash.

**Terminology:**

Each archaeologist acquires individual field method practices based upon a set of conventional and undisputed (scientific) beliefs. These field techniques must be maintained by a raison d’être that lends integrity to the strategies and applications of the practices. Considering this requirement of authenticity, Charles Nash based his timeline theory on specific ceramic types located at the Chucalissa site, along with the layering of strata as it related to the foundations of structures uncovered.

For the benefit of separation, Nash divided the findings into four phases as each phase related to separate dig sites at Chucalissa. Nash called these phases, Boxtown, Mithcell, Ensley, and Walls and assigned specific unit numbers as it related to the area and location of each excavation.
Walls Phase – AD 1500

Unit 4

Boxtown Phase – AD 1400

Unit 3

Mitchell Phase – AD 1200

Unit 6

Ensley Phase – AD 1200

Unit 2

Prior – AD 900

Nash stated, "The Walls Phase as presently defined is quite restricted in scope from the old Walls-Pecan Point Phase of Griffin (1951:233-236) and the Walls Phase as discussed by Phillips (1970: 936 – 938). Ceramic contrasts in particular serve to distinguish it from neighboring units. For present purposes it will suffice to say that only the components at Chucalissa, Woodlyn, Cheatham, Irby, Walls, and Norfolk remain of the former Walls concept. Neighboring units of comparable extent have been defined and will be presented in a forthcoming paper. At Chucalissa the Walls component

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3 It appears that Charles Nash and Philip Phillips agreed on the fact that while Unit 4 was being completed, the people occupied Unit 2. Later, these people moved to the first level of Unit 4. However, because of the lack of the ability to carbon date artifacts it is not possible to say when these various generations or societies occupied Unit 4. The lack of a definite timetable for occupation, along with an Ethnogenesis of the separate societies and chiefdoms, presents a comparison stymie. Comparing the skeletal remains of Unit 2 and Unit 4 requires assessing the following topics on an equilibrium basis deleting disparity in hereditary features and the state of nutrition – at the time the people were alive. The topics are physical stature, effects of disease, malnutrition, and etc. Thus, the skeletal remains of Unit 2 and Unit 4 can only be
fruition in the hope of improving agricultural habits and activities in the southeastern part
of the United States.²

The world of the WPA, as well as the TVA, lavished in the abundance of labor,
time, and resources. The democratic United States president, Franklin D. Roosevelt,
attempted to support a financially weak American people by providing government type
subsistence in the form of employment, along with cultural expansion and employment
for the working class of American citizens.

In the 1930s, the Federal Government acquired land south of Memphis,
Tennessee for the development of an African-American park. As the diggers turned the
earth, approximately 1,800 acres, into a recreation zone, the detection of Chucalissa
occurred and resulted in this data (as it related to the archaeological findings) being
submitted to the University of Tennessee, Department of Anthropology.

Highly qualified Americans serving in the capacities of scientists, historians,
anthropologists, writers, photographers, culturalists, geologists, socialists, and explorers
flocked to the call of the WPA, as project leaders, etc.

Resulting from the funding and the influx of professionals, exploratory evacuation
began to determine the extent and possibility of an archaeological site that could possibly
become an archaeological park. However, 1940 saw an end to the post war excavation at
the Chucalissa, as America faced a national and global emergency.

² The southeastern part of the United States marks all states south of the Mason-Dixon Line and east of the
Mississippi River. However, the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex includes the Arkansas Native
American culture because of specific motifs, Chiefdom societies, and other elements that connect Arkansas
(east of Crowley’s Ridge) to what Anthropologist deem the Native American southeastern culture. (For the
benefit of being political correct, America’s Bottom, beginning in St. Louis, finds itself included in this
southeastern culture, as well. It is because of the documented Southeastern Ceremonial Complex patterns
in this area, also.)
In 1955, through the efforts of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society, started in 1952, the project went back into development under the direction of the Tennessee Division of State Parks system (Nash vii). Also, in 1952, permission was granted to the Society by the Tennessee Division of State Parks to make test excavations. Kenneth Beaudoin was the project director and his findings published in a private report (Beaudoin, 1953) gave the substantiated evidence to the Society to spur a professional effort to conserve, improve, and restructure this site (Nash vii).

Dr. Perry Bynum, President of the Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society, and Wiley Wilcox proposed in 1954 an idealistic plan for clearing and improving the property to the Tennessee Division of State Parks (Nash viii).

By 1955 Rudolph Jones, Shelby County Commissioner of Roads, Bridges, and the Penal Farm, involved himself in the project, with the interest of the possibility of an archaeological museum, at the site. The Penal Farm supplied labor, supervisory assistance, and supplies to the efforts of the clearing of the land (Nash viii). In 1961, Dr. C. C. Humphreys, President of Memphis State University, became interested in Chucalissa as a possible training ground for future archaeologist and anthropologist, along with the greater hope of using the findings to educate students on the lifestyles, habits, and traditions of early Americans. Based upon Dr. Humphreys’ opinions and suggestions, Chucalissa became a part of Memphis State University in 1962 (Nash ix).

Charles Nash began excavation at the Chucalissa site as early as 1940, returned in 1955 and worked through the summer of 1963. Regrettably, Nash died prior to the completion of his project and a thoroughly written textual document to accompany his findings was left unfinished due to his demise.
includes Stratum I and Stratum II. Units 2, 3, 5, 6, and a portion of Unit 4 are involved in the Walls occupation of the site” (Nash iii).

Unfortunately, for students studying the Chucalissa collection a quandary presents itself, in that except for the early writings of Charles Nash there hasn’t been much published on the subject of the Chucalissa collection. However, the publications and research documents on the cultural aspects of the Moundville, Alabama site lends a vast amount of support to present-day hypothesis because of the similarity as dictated by the Mississippian Period. (This fact can be proven by the material used to produce ceramics, along with the design patterns, found at Chucalissa in Tennessee and Moundville in Alabama.)

Hypothesis:

In researching the Charles Nash documents, there seems to be few supported sources that directed Nash’s assumptions relating to his period theories. In an attempt to provide a fulcrum for Nash’s opinions and theories, this research seeks to prove that Charles Nash was correct in his timeline analysis. In conjunction to the timeline supportive documentation, the burial artifact assumptions and the connection to the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex for Chucalissa calls for consideration, as well.

To validate the above hypothesis, that Charles Nash was correct in his theories and his application was infallible, requires research in the following areas.

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4 In the summer of 2001, ceramics identified as Moundville and Chucalissa were examined for similarities, etc. It was noted that the materials were mostly shell tempered, which classified it as either Neeley Ferry’s Plain (Mississippi Plain) or Bell Plain. Parkin Punctuated was located at both sights. Incised patterns were also documented.
• An overview of Charles Nash's opinion regarding the use of ceramics to date burials.
• A comparison of the ceramics found in Unit 2 and Unit 4.
• The importance of the trophy skulls found in Unit 4.
• A brief summary of the Boxtown, Mitchell, Ensley, and Walls Phases and how these four phases can be seen in burial patterns and etc.
• To corroborate Charles Nash's assumption, as it relates to the four distinct phases.
• To study the effect of approximately 300 years between the Mitchell Phase (Unit 2) and the Walls Phase (Unit 4), as it relates to temporal changes.
• To attempt to support a large majority of Nash's statements, hypothesis, and conjectures with legitimizing documented findings, versus simply assuming Nash was correct.
• A comparison between the skeletal remains found in Unit 2 and 4.
• A brief review of Moundville and a comparison between Moundville and Chucalissa.
• An inquiry into Unit 1, 3, 5, and 6, by reviewing Nash's opinions.

The Chucalissa site is a mass conglomeration of several cultures, dating back to the Tunica speaking people and ceasing before the 16th century findings of the explorer, Hernando De Soto.

Within these folds of time, research affords scholars the ability to study the evolution of these early people by allowing insight into cultural patterns, societal changes, the effects of diet, status, and to support the Chiefdom theory as it relates to burial patterns, etc.

To thoroughly grasp the findings at Chucalissa, the history of the site requires study.

History:

According to Charles Nash, Chucalissa is approximately nine miles southwest from downtown Memphis, Tennessee at the south end of the fourth Chickasaw Bluff. Ensley Bottoms and McKellar Lake are used in aerial photography as natural boundary
lines. Historic boundary lines are determined by the Illinois Central Railroad tracks (Nash 1).

The fourth Chickasaw Bluff is the last of a series of high bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River and is of a Pleistocene loess deposit and corresponds to the time frame of the last glaciation (Nash 1). 5

In the areas of northern Mississippi, eastern Arkansas, and western Tennessee a large majority of the Native American settlement sites (relating to prehistoric agriculturists) are found in the alluvial lands along natural elevation lines that have been built by river systems (Nash 1). Along with Chocalissa built on a bluff, the Moundville, Alabama site overlooks Black Warrior River, as well. Nash states that because of trend patterns in settlements in alluvial lands, the bluff site of Chocalissa, along with several other smaller sites, is rare due to the elevation.

The deep ravines cut into the bluff face of Chocalissa created narrow ridges that center out from the central clearing. These ridges contained debris of Native American habitation. The ridges present the evidence that these were the residential areas for the majority of the town’s population. Towards the end of these ridges, the debris suggests occasional inhabitation of early Mississippian groups. These variances in debris findings suggest that various cultures may have occupied Chocalissa at different times in history (Nash 2).

Chocalissa town pattern includes a central plaza, a flat-topped temple mound, a ramp leading upward to the temple mound, and a village area adjacent to the ceremonial mound. There is evidence of other village areas, beyond the ridges, adjacent to the
central mound. The southwest corner of the site suggests terrace-like development but there is no evidence of occupation. Unit 3 appears to rise four to five feet taller, closer inspection proved that some of the elevation was obtained by transferring basket loads of sterile clay (Nash 3).

Continuously, throughout his writings Nash repeatedly refers to the units being separate villages. “The largest village area at Chucalissa is north of the temple mound (unit 6)” (Nash 3). Later, Nash writes. “Beyond the central area to the south and separated from it be a ravine is another village area (unit 2) which was tested by two seasons of work” (Nash 3). A third example of the different village (possibly meaning a major difference in skeletal body frame, hereditary characteristics, the impact of disease – namely the virus akin to syphilis, and etc.) is found in Nash’s reference to Unit 1. “Well to the east of the central area and separated by ravines was a very extensive village development (unit 1). The deposit, like that of unit 8, was very shallow, however, so that this area seems to be the outgrowth of population expansion” (Nash 4). Searching the Nash document, no other evidence is presented to support the different village theory except the dating of the ceramics. Nash states, “A village area lies on the ridge beyond (unit 8) and was tested in 1940 by the University of Tennessee. While this material is not available for study the pottery was typical of the Walls-Pecan Point focus thus indicating that this may have been a late expansion of the town” (Nash 4). It appears that pottery was the main factor in dating the Chucalissa village sites; however, Nash does mention soil deposits.

5 It should be noted that in the same document, Nash was of the opinion (based upon geological science) that the loess deposit decrease extending eastward was due to the alluvial bottom lands formed by the Mississippi River during geologically recent times (Nash Site Description).
The art and development of cultivation at Chucalissa seems to have played a major role in what would be discovered by excavation in the 20th century. Nash states, “The deposit in this unit is very shallow while that of the adjacent unit 6 is over five feet deep. It seems possible that recent erosion set up by cultivation practices has reduced the archaeological evidence of continuity between these two (unit 6 and 8) units” (Nash 4). Also, the excavation uncovered a primitive ‘landfill’ system at Unit 5. “This enormous fill was made to level an ancient ravine in order to give an adequate area for construction of the temple mound. This reshaping of land surfaces to gain more usable area suggests a rapidly growing town with real estate needs outstripping the availability of contiguous flat land in a manner reminiscent of our own subsoil subdivisions” (Nash 4). These references to the soil deposit lend credibility to the development of the particular Native American groups in the areas of cultural, farming, and population growth levels; however it does very little for the scientific determination of time and actually pinpointing the specific culture that built the village.

Nash supports the conquest journals of the Hernando DeSoto expedition in that if DeSoto’s bearing, location, was correct and he meant the east bank of Mississippi River between the present day Memphis, Tennessee and Helena, Arkansas, when he didn’t mention any fortified towns being in this area. Nash’s test excavations proved there wasn’t a palisade or protective wall around the site (Nash 5).

In his site description document, this reference to DeSoto and the assumption regarding site cultivation are the only two ‘proofs’ offered by Nash, regarding time lines and documented, with the exception of the pottery mentions.

This leads to one of several conclusions:
• Nash didn’t see the need to support his theories and assumptions as they related to his phase divisions.

• Nash died before he could go back through his personal notes and support his findings with other scholarly research in the field of archeology.

• Nash was of the opinion that the pottery (ceramic) types found at the Chucalissa site were physical proof (not needing an attached research document). This was perhaps due to their composite and design being the same as the types of ceramics found in the Southeastern Cultural Complex model.

Considering these three points, it leads to the assumption that Charles Nash was of the opinion that the burials at Chucalissa were from different villages and done by people separated by time and perhaps bloodlines. He (Nash) was of the opinion that the ceramic similarity of the pieces located with the burials dates the time of internment, as well.

A look at the Moundville site lends credibility to Nash’s opinion.

Moundville:

Located on the Black Warrior River in west-central Alabama, Moundville finds high rankings in the categories of being one of the largest Mississippian centers in the Southeast, along with being the most intensively studied (Knight and Steponaitis 1). These are the reasons that Moundville is the comparison site for Chucalissa, as well the dates of both sites aligning with each other.

Some of the characteristics shared by Moundville and Chucalissa are:
- The terrace (Moundville) sits on a bluff overlooking the Black Warrior River.
- Moundville possesses truncated mounds, as well as low ones.
- “Moundville thus has the aspect of a compact, bounded settlement, in this respect similar to other fortified Mississippian centers” (Knight and Steponaitis 3).
- Moundville found itself enclosed on three sides by the settlement and the fourth side by the river.
- The palisade wall built around AD 1200 lead the people to take occupancy within the walls.

- Carbon Dating – “The four dates obtained from this excavation are generally consistent with the pottery. One radio carbon assay from the base of Zone II yielded an uncorrected age of 875 plus or minus 80 years, or AD 1075, a bit on the early side but not unreasonably so, given the standard error. Three archaeomagnetic dates from hearths in Zone III fell within a range from AD 1120 to 1230” (Knight and Steponaitis 34).

Beyond these physical common traits, there are the ceramics ones to consider.

- Moundville’s ceramic sequence consists of five phases, spanning the period from AD 900-1650 (Knight and Steponaitis 7).

1. AD 900-1050 West Jefferson Phase – Plain. Grog-tempered. Baytown Plain. Cord-marked. Incised. Punctuated decorations were rare. Late in phase shell tempered pottery made appearance. Vessel forms were bowls and jars often with loop handles (Knight and Steponaitis 7).

2. AD 1050-1250 Moundville I Phase – High frequencies of the decorated type Moundville Incised, with lesser amounts of Carthage Incised and

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6 Chicalissa didn’t have a palisade wall; however, there was a trench that surrounded the site.
Moundville Engraved. Jars had two handles, along with either folded or folded-flattened rims. Bottles had pedestals, along with a slender, ovoid profile. Bowls were restricted and shallow formed. Grog-tempered pottery disappeared. Carthage Incised and Moundville Engraved gradually became more popular, again. Fold-flattened rims declined in frequency. Often contained an unique kind of burnished ware – an early variety of Bell Plain with a gray, finely textured paste – that fell out of use in Moundville I times (Knight and Steponaitis 9).

3. AD 1250-1400 Moundville II Phase – Moundville Engraved and Carthage Incised grew in popularity, while Moundville Incised seemed to disappear. Designed on wares ranged from motifs to curvilinear scrolls made of multiple, closely spaced lines. These designs were arranged around the indentations in the vessel’s surface. Bottles became subglobose in shape, usually with pedestal or slab bases. Bowls were hemispherical, cylindrical, and terraced rectangular forms. Typically jars had unmodified rims and either two or four handles (Knight and Steponaitis 9).

4. AD 1400-1550 Moundville III Phase – Moundville Engraved and Carthage Incised predominated among the decorated wares. Later in this phase, Moundville Engraved and Carthage Incised all but vanished. Common shapes among burnished wares included subglobose bottles with simple bases, hemispherical bowls with beaded rims, short-necked bowls, and deep flaring-rim bowls. Numbers of handles on the jars grew from four to eight and sometimes more (than eight) were used (Knight and Steponaitis 9).

5. AD 1550-1650 Moundville IV Phase – Stylistic links with other phases, as well as shell being the main tempering agent. Carthage Incised seemed to fine a new life and continued to be produced, as well as two new types being introduced: Pensacola Incised, Alabama River Incised, and A’abama River Applique. Main vessel types were short-necked bowls, flaring-rim bowls, and globular jars. It should be noted that this phase correspondence with the Spanish explorations, trade goods of a European nature are rarely found in Moundville IV (Knight and Steponaitis 9).

- Tempering is an excellent tool by which to measure the similarities between Chucalissa and Moundville.
- Ceramic designs (although referred to by a different name for Chucalissa) is an excellent guide for establishing the phase theory for Chucalissa.
The burial site excavations at Moundville unveiled a dominant burial pattern for the elite. Five categories classify an elite burial: tools and household equipment, food preparation equipment, serving wares, religious items, and nonutilitarian items (Knight and Steponaitis 176).

A large amount of exotic goods, such as, marine shell beads, copper gorgets, copper ear spools, notched stone paint palettes, mineral-based pigments, and galena crystals were found buried in certain sites. These items lent a "superordinate dimension" characteristic to these burials (Knight and Steponaitis 18). These elite burials seemed to dominate one particular mound.

Other burials contained perhaps one piece of pottery, while yet other contained no evidence of grave artifacts. Due to the locality of these plain and simple burials, it was determined that Moundville did practice elite burials.

Using the hypothesis that the elite lived a better lifestyle than the non-elite did, the following evidence, upon inspecting the skeletal remains, lent credibility to this position (Knight and Steponaitis 105 - 112).

1. Elite females were slightly larger than non-elite females.
2. Elite males averaged slightly higher than non-elite males.
3. The dental health appeared to be the same for both elite and non-elite
4. Iron-deficiency anemia was lower among the elite.
5. Healed fractures were the most common among the elite males and non-elite males and females. The elite females revealed no trauma, which was the opposite from the non-elite females, perhaps this was due to the daily workload. Rib fractures appeared in a high frequency in the case of fractures.
6. Infectious disease appeared more frequently among the older adults.

7. Status differences didn’t appear to bring about biological benefits.

With the exceptions of classifying elite burials at Chucalissa\textsuperscript{7} and comparing one Chucalissa unit to another for the condition (health wise) of the skeletal remains, it appears that Moundville and Chucalissa share common grounds in all other categories.

As it relates to Moundville, the research turns towards the elements that define Chucalissa for a comparison of the two sites.

Points of Comparisons:

- Stratum Dates/Carbon Dating:
  
  - Moundville – Although pottery was the main dating factor, carbon dating paralleled with Nash’s findings on timeline. (AD 875 to 1220 for Level III. At the time of Knight and Steponaities’ publication, no carbon dating was mentioned after 1220.)
  
  - Chucalissa – Test on Stratum I, Stratum II, and Stratum III yielded carbon dates of AD 1029 to 1590 with a plus or minus range of 150 to 200 years. Considering that Moundville lacks dating after 1220, it appears that these sites were occupied during the same periods, give or take 50 to 100 years.

\textsuperscript{7} This is difficult to do, inasmuch as pottery hunters and collectors raided the Chucalissa site. If these artifacts were indeed removed from the graves, it becomes almost impossible to pinpoint an elite central burial location. The people of Unite 2 built Unit 4, while still occupying Unit 4. Unit 2 residents may or may not have moved on to Unit 4. However, it is certain that any burials connecting Unit 2 and Unit 4 would be on top and bottom, respectively. This causes a breach in time, since it appears that others settled Chucalissa long after the residents of Unit 2 occupied this site.
• Burial Artifacts:

  • Moundville – Burials were located throughout the site. Graves had grave goods enclosed. There seemed to be a central burial site for the elite, as denoted by grave goods. Flaking tools were located.

  • Chucalissa – Burials are located throughout the site. Graves had grave goods enclosed. As of today’s date, it hasn’t been determined that there was a central burial site for the elite. However, Unit 3 graves contained such items as a Walls engraved ‘snake’ pot, a Nodena red and white bottle with a coon skeleton inside (Burial 3). Burial 33 was an adult female with flick-flaking tools, three pottery vessels, shell ornaments consisting of a necklace of beads, a gorget, and ear spools. Burial 35 had a shell gorget of fresh-water mussel shell, four shell beads around the neck, one pottery vessel over the chest, and another over the tibia. Burial 44\(^8\) contained a shell spoon and a pile of red ochre – the only early grave at Chucalissa with something other than pottery.

Considering that Nash did not record any such grave goods for the other units, several assumptions can be made about Unit 3.

1. Unit 3 was an elite burial site, such as was located at Moundville.

2. Unit 3 had the same type of burials as all the other units and wasn’t raided by pottery hunters, etc.

\(^8\) Carbon 14 dated in the area of 1000 A. D. which now appears to be a result of digging and the shifting of ground, so this date can not be firmly affixed to this burial.
Health:

Moundville – As stated above, the residents of Moundville appeared to be separated by elite and non-elite status, as reflected by their health and body conditions.

Chucalissa – It is difficult to make this assumption for Chucalissa because it has not been determined that any one group of graves belonged to an elite class. Nash states, “It is a fair guess that medical problems whose specific nature is as yet unknown, such as respiratory diseases and dental infections, were mainly responsible for the high mortality rate of the village” (Nash 19). A thesis for a Master of Science in Orthodontics was conducted at Chucalissa by Chales Lord Earheart in 1967, where as he reported that it appeared the ‘grinding away’ of the teeth, unnatural erosion, was a possible result of the coarse and unrefined diet. It should also be considered that Dr. Dye directed a group of students in the Summer of 2001 to conduct a comparison study on height and the possible health conditions of the human remains in Unit 2 and Unit 4.

There is an inconsistency with the research on the skeletal remains between Moundville and Chucalissa and the condition of the skeletal remains between the two sites is the weakest point of consensus to support Nash’s timeline theory. This statement is made from the position that Moundville claim to have had an elite group and Chucalissa makes no assertion, in either support or disagreement, with their being an elite group at Chucalissa. Another point is that Chucalissa has not determined that a particular mound was designated as an exclusive burial site.
Unit 4 presented another piece of the puzzle for the skeletal remains appeared taller than other Chucalissa remains, thus finding similarity between the Moundville elite theory and Unit 4. However, specific grave goods that suggest an elite class weren't located in Unit 4.

Removing the condition of the skeletal remains, this research proves several things:

- There is a time comparison to consider between Moundville and Chucalissa, as it relates to both sites occupied by practitioners of the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex.
- The layout of Moundville and Chucalissa suggests a Chiefdom society.
- Moundville and Chucalissa were located on bluffs. This was possibly as a counter maneuver against would be attackers.
- The pottery was similar in texture and design.
- There were house burials, as well as specified mound burials.
- Carbon dating aligns the residency of Moundville and Chucalissa.
- Grave goods were interred with individuals.
- Types of houses were similar, if not the same.

Considering these elements, this research arrives at the conclusion that Nash was correct in his timeline assumptions and there were only a few mistakes documented. One was the date of interment on a specific grave and this was due to the shifting of the earth by diggers, etc. What was referred to as early Mississippian in the midden deposit category was indeed the Woodland period. Unit 3 proved to reflect a series of house structures built on top of each other
Chucalissa and it is the intention of this research to provide credence for Nash’s theories relating to time, carbon 14 dating, and practices of Chucalissa.

Today, Chucalissa, the Choctaw word for “abandoned house” is now an archaeological museum. The village has been reconstructed and presents the Hall of the Sinti, “Sinti” is the Choctaw word for “snake”, the entrance trench, as well as an exhibit on the life and habits of the Mississippian. It has fulfilled the dream of many of the early people who invested time, effort, and money into the project of creating an archaeological museum at this site. However, there is still the dream of Charles Nash. It was the dream to do a complete excavation, along with a catalog. Nash wanted to protect this early history of man by securing it scientific knowledge and effort.

The development of Chucalissa is a continuing effort, for the betterment of society as a whole. For cultural education is the key to assimilation and the existence of Chucalissa proves that there is still a great wealth of knowledge to be not only learned from each other, but gathered from the ones who went before us.

11 See footnote number nine
versus being one level of time. A grave empty of the skeletal remains but still possessing the grave goods thought it meant that the remains were tossed out.

Later, it was discovered that the remains were perhaps moved to another location and the grave goods left behind intentionally.

Appendix:

1. Photos from the Checalissa collection, relating to pottery and burial traditions.
   - 40sy1-6/B-18 – Grave Goods at shoulder
   - 40sy1-6/B-45 – Grave Goods at head
   - 45y1-B3468 – Grave Goods, three skulls, one female painted red
   - 40sy1-3/P-34 – A duck Effigy bowl
   - 40sy1-3/B-6,7 – Two Burials, numerous artifacts
   - 40sy1-3/B15, 16, 17 – Burial with numerous artifacts
   - 40sy1-3/P-18 – Bowl, Engraved, Handles
   - 40sy1-3/P-4 – Water Jar, Engraved
   - 40sy1-3/P-15 – Jar, Handles, Punctated
   - 40sy1-3/P-5 – Engraved, Effigy

2. Glossary\textsuperscript{10}

3. Mississippian Period Ceramic Typology in the Mid-South Field Guide\textsuperscript{11}

Conclusion:

Chucalissa still possesses a great deal of discovery and deserves the funding and attention of the city, state, and federal government levels to support this activity. There is much to be learned and Charles Nash who devoted a great deal of time to Chucalissa only tapped the surface. However, using Nash's timeline theory as a springboard and compiling it with additional excavations, it opens new vistas of discovery for the study of early man.

Charles Nash presents a thorough and well-written approach to studying

\textsuperscript{10} Compliments of Iverson Software Co. 6281 NE 6th St. Bridley, MN 55432-5038
Reference


Earheart, Charles 1967. A Thesis Submitted to the Graduated Committee of the Department of Orthodontics the University of Tennessee.


Glossary
GLOSSARY:¹

Abrasive stone: usually a sandstone slab used for grinding and polishing.

Absolute dating: the determination of age with reference to a specific time scale, such as a fixed calendrical system; also referred to as chronometric dating.

Achieved status: social standing and prestige reflecting the ability of an individual to acquire an established position in society as a result of individual accomplishments (cf. ascribed status).

Activity area: a limited portion of a site in which a specialized cultural function was carried out, such as food preparation, tool manufacture etc.

Adaptation: changes in gene frequencies resulting from selective pressures being placed upon a population by environmental factors; results in a greater fitness of the population to its ecological niche. The process of change to better conform with environmental conditions or other external stimuli.

Adena/Hopewell Culture: Prehistoric culture of the American middle west, recent evidence has pretty much proven that Adena is indistinguishable from the Hopewell of the central North American continent. Village settlements date between 500 BC-AD 200; large shaped burial mounds and extensive trade networks are Adena/Hopewell characteristics.

Adze-blade: a ground and polished stone artifact characterized by a generally rectangular shape with a beveled cutting edge on one end. Used as a woodworking tool.

Alluvial fan: a cone-shaped deposit of sediments generally formed where a mountain stream discharges onto a level surface. Alluvial fan deposits are among the most common surficial sediments in mountainous terrain.

Alluvium: a general term for all deposits laid down in fresh water - most commonly applied to riverine sediments.

Ancillary sample: any non-artifactual materials collected by archaeologists to aid in dating, paleoenvironmental reconstruction, or other interpretations - e.g. carbon samples, soil samples, palynological samples etc.

Ancillary sample: any non-artifactual materials collected by archaeologists to aid in dating, paleoenvironmental reconstruction, or other interpretations - e.g. carbon samples, soil samples, palynological samples etc.

¹ Some of these terms are not mentioned in this research project; however, these terms apply to the excavation of Chucalissa.
Arbitrary level: an excavation level defined by factors of convenience, with no necessary relationship to site-stratigraphy or cultural components.

Archaeological context: the physical setting, location, and cultural association of artifacts and features within an archaeological site.

Archaeological culture: a constantly recurring assemblage of artifacts assumed to be representative of a particular set of behavioral activities carried out at a particular time and place (cf. culture).

Archaeologist: anyone with an interest in the aims and methods of archaeology. A professional archaeologist usually holds a degree in anthropology with a specialization in archaeology and is trained to collect archaeological information in a proper scientific way.

Archaeology of cult: the study of the material indications of patterned actions undertaken in response to religious beliefs.

Archaeology: a subdiscipline of anthropology involving the study of the human past through its material remains. Archaeologists not only attempt to discover and describe past cultures, but also to formulate explanations for the development of cultures.

Archaeomagnetic dating: sometimes referred to as paleomagnetic dating. It is based on the fact that changes in the earth's magnetic field over time can be recorded as remnant magnetism in materials such as baked clay structure (ovens, kilns, and hearths).

Art object: any artifact carrying, or consisting of, decorative or artistic elements.

Articulated: two or more bones left in their anatomical position after tissue decay.

Artifact: any manually portable product of human workmanship (see feature). In its broadest sense includes tools, weapons, ceremonial items, art objects, all industrial waste, and all floral and faunal remains modified by human activity. Common examples include tools, utensils, art, food remains, and other products of human activity.

Ascribed status: social standing or prestige which is the result of inheritance or hereditary factors (cf. achieved status).

Assemblage: a group of artifacts recurring together at a particular time and place, and representing the sum of human activities.

Association: the co-occurrence of an artifact with other archaeological remains, usually in the same matrix.

Attribute: a minimal characteristic of an artifact such that it cannot be further subdivided; attributes commonly studied include aspects of form, style, decoration, color, and raw material.
Attritional age profile: a mortality pattern based on bone or tooth wear which is characterized by an overrepresentation of young and old animals in relation to their numbers in live populations. It suggests either scavenging of attritional mortality victims (i.e. those dying from natural causes or from non-human predation) or the hunting by humans or other predators of the most vulnerable individuals.

Augering: a subsurface detection method using either a hand or machine-powered drill to determine the depth and character of archaeological deposits.

B.P.: "Before Present." the notation commonly used on radiocarbon dates, e.g. 1,000 B.P. = 1,000 years before 1950 A.D., or approximately 1,000 A.D.

Back-dirt: the excavated matrix or fill of a site, Presumed to be of little or no further archaeological significance.

Back-filling: the process of refilling a completed excavation.

Blank: an "advanced" Preliminary stage in the manufacture of an artifact (also: "preform").

Body sherd: any fragment of a ceramic vessel not identifiable as a rim sherd

Bone industry All the bone artifacts from a particular site.

Burial mound: an artificial aboriginal mound containing or covering human burials.

Burial: a human interment. may be "flexed" or "extended"; single or multiple; primary or secondary.

Carbon sample: a quantity of organic material, usually charcoal, collected for radiocarbon dating.

Catalogue number: a number assigned all items recovered by archaeological research to cross-index them to the catalogue.

Catalogue: the systematic list recording artifacts and other finds, recovered by archaeological research, including their description and Provenience.

Ceramics: deliberately fired clay artifacts, such as ceramic vessels.

Chiefdom: a term used to describe a society that operates on the principle of ranking, i.e. differential social status. Different lineages are graded on a scale of prestige, calculated by how closely related one is to the chief. The chiefdom generally has a permanent ritual and ceremonial center, as well as being characterized by local specialization in crafts.

Chronology: arrangement of past events in time.
Chronometric dating: a dating system that refers to a specific point or range of time. Chronometric dates are not necessarily exact dates, and they are often expressed as a range.

Chronometry: The art of measuring time accurately.

Cultural Anthropology: a subdiscipline of anthropology concerned with the non-biological, behavioral aspects of society; i.e. the social, linguistic, and technological components underlying human behavior. Two important branches of cultural anthropology are ethnography (the study of living cultures) and ethnology (which attempts to compare cultures using ethnographic evidence). In Europe, it is referred to as social anthropology.

Cultural deposit: sediments and materials laid down by, or heavily modified by, human activity.

Cultural determinism: the idea that except for reflexes all behavior is the result of learning.

Cultural diffusion: the spreading of a cultural trait (e.g., material object, idea, or behavior pattern) from one society to another.

Cultural drift: Cultural change that is due to the improper passing on of information from the people in one region to those of another. Results in the eventual creation of a new culture.

Cultural ecology: a term devised by Julian Steward to account for the dynamic relationship between human society and its environment, in which culture is viewed as the primary adaptive mechanism.

Cultural evolution: the theory that societal change can be understood by analogy with the processes underlying the biological evolution of species.

Cultural group: a complex of regularly occurring associated artifacts, features, burial types, and house forms comprising a distinct identity.

Cultural materialism: the theory, espoused by Marvin Harris, that ideas, values, and religious beliefs are the means or products of adaptation to environmental conditions ("material constraints").

Cultural relativism: the ability to view the beliefs and customs of other peoples within the context of their culture rather than one's own.

Cultural resource management (CRM): the safeguarding of the archaeological heritage through the protection of sites and through salvage archaeology (rescue archaeology), generally within the framework of legislation designed to safeguard the past.

Cultural resources: Sites, structures, landscapes, and objects of some importance to a culture or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons.
Culture: learned, nonrandom, systematic behavior and knowledge that can be transmitted from generation to generation.

Culture history: the identification and classification of cultural change through time. A primary aspect of archaeological interpretation concerned with establishing the chronological context of cultural items and complexes.

Culture sequence: the chronological succession of cultural traits, phases, or traditions in a local area.

Culture-area: a classification of cultures within a specific geographic-environmental region, sharing enough distinctive traits to set them apart from adjacent areas, e.g. Northwest Coast, Arctic, etc.

Culture-historical approach: an approach to archaeological interpretation which uses the procedure of the traditional historian (including emphasis on specific circumstances elaborated with rich detail, and processes of inductive reasoning).

Datum plane: an arbitrary or imaginary horizontal surface surveyed over a site from which vertical measurements are taken.

Datum: a fixed reference point on an archaeological site from which measurements are taken.

Daub: Clay used to fill in the holes and gaps between the wood or thatching of a wall. It was used by both Indians and European settlers in North America to construct houses.

Effigy mound: an earthwork in the general shape of an animal (e.g. a snake, bird, etc.).

Effigy pipe: an aboriginal smoking pipe shaped to resemble a human or animal form.

Emulation: one of the most frequent features accompanying competition, where customs, buildings, and artifacts in one society may be adopted by neighboring ones through a process of imitation which is often competitive in nature.

Excavation grid: a system of rectangular coordinates, established on the ground surface by stakes and string, which divides a site into excavation units.

Excavation: the principal method of data acquisition in archaeology, involving the systematic uncovering of archaeological remains through the removal of the deposits of soil and the other material covering them and accompanying them.

Experimental Archaeology: the study of past behavioral processes through experimental reconstruction under carefully controlled scientific conditions.

Fabric: (1) a material woven of plant or animal fibers. (2) the orientation of sedimentary particles.
Factor analysis: a multivariate statistical technique which assesses the degree of variation between artifact types, and is based on a matrix of correlation coefficients which measure the relative association between any two variables.

Field data forms: printed forms used to record archaeological survey or excavation information. Special forms are frequently used to record artifact proveniences; features and burials; site locations and descriptions; and level-notes.

Field walk: Process by which surface artifacts can be discovered before excavation occurs. This is a useful step in determining the potential of an archaeological site.

Flexed burial: a human interment where the body is placed in a semi-fetal Position with the knees drawn up against the chest and hands near the chin.

Functionalism: the theory that all elements of a culture are functional in that they serve to satisfy culturally defined needs of the people in that society or requirements of the society as a whole.

Gorget: a relatively large, flat, or gently curving object of polished stone, shell, or metal, with holes for suspension. Usually believed to have been worn as an ornament around the throat.

Grave goods (also: "grave inclusions", "mortuary goods", etc.): tools, weapons, food, or ceremonial objects placed with a burial.

Graver: a small pointed or chisel-like stone tool used for incising or engraving.

Grid-system: a system of rectangular excavation or sampling units laid over a site by strings and stakes.

Grit and grog tempered pottery: Sand (grit) and crushed pottery sherds (grog) mixed in the unfired clay to make ceramic vessels stronger. These inclusions prevented the rapid expansion of the paste as the clay's water content was boiled away when the pottery was fired.

Ground reconnaissance: a collective name for a wide variety of methods for identifying individual archaeological sites, including consultation of documentary sources, place-name evidence, local folklore, and legend, but primarily actual fieldwork.

Ground stone: stone artifacts shaped by sawing, grinding, and/or polishing with abrasive materials (e.g. "ground slate knives", "polished soapstone pendants" etc.).

Habitation area: a generalized term for a house or tent floor, or the remains of any other type of aboriginal shelter.

Habitation site: a location where a human group has lived and conducted normal daily activities for a significant period.
**House-pit:** an aboriginally excavated house floor.

**Incised:** A decoration found on pottery consisting of lines drawn into wet clay. When fired, the arrangement of lines leaves a permanent design on the vessel surface.

**Living floor:** the horizontal layer of an archaeological site that was once the surface occupied by a prehistoric group. It is identified both by the fact that it is hard-packed and also by the artifacts located on its surface.

**Locality:** a very large site or site-area composed of 2 or more concentrations or clusterings of cultural remains.

**Loess sediments:** deposits formed of a yellowish dust of silt-sized particles blown by the wind and redeposited on land newly deglaciated, or on sheltered areas.

**Looter:** One who steals from archaeological sites for personal gain.

**Material culture:** the buildings, tools, and other artifacts that includes any material item that has had cultural meaning ascribed to it, past and present.

**Matrix:** the physical material within which artifacts are embedded or supported.

**Midden:** The layer of soil which contains the byproducts of human activity as the result of the accumulation of these materials on their living surface. For prehistoric sites, a layer of soil that was stained to a dark color by the decomposition of organic refuse which also contained food bones, fragments of stone tools, charcoal, pieces of pottery, or other discarded materials. For historic sites, a similar layer of soil but with appropriate historic material remains often in a much thinner deposit. The long-term disposal of refuse can result in stratified deposits, which are useful for relative dating.

**Mississippian:** A period of the Paleozoic era, spanning the time between 360 and 325 million years ago. It is named after the Mississippi River valley, which contains good exposures of rocks of this age.

**Open-area excavation:** the opening up of large horizontal areas for excavation, used especially where single period deposits lie close to the surface as, for example, with the remains of American Indian or European Neolithic long houses.

**Pot-hunter:** an "amateur archaeologist" who vandalizes and destroys sites to add to his private collection, or for monetary gain.

**Pre-ceramic period:** the period prior to the introduction of ceramic artifacts.

**Pre-contact:** refers to the period before the first arrival of europeans in a given area.
**Punctates**: Impressions in the surface of ceramic vessels made by implements or by fingernails as a form of decoration.

**Ranked societies**: societies in which there is unequal access to prestige and status e.g. chiefdoms and states.

**Reconnaissance survey**: a broad range of techniques involved in the location of archaeological sites, e.g. the recording of surface artifacts and features, and the sampling of natural and mineral resources.

**Settlement pattern**: the spatial distribution of cultural activities across a landscape at a given moment in time.

**Sexual division of labor**: the situation in which males and females in a society perform different tasks. In hunting-gathering societies males usually hunt while females usually gather wild vegetable food.

**Sherds**: The individual pieces of broken pottery vessels.

**Shovel-screening**: a rapid excavation procedure in which the site matrix is shoveled directly through a screen (usually 1/4" mesh).

**Site**: a distinct spatial clustering of artifacts, features, structures, and organic and environmental remains. as the residue of human activity.

**Site catchment analysis (SCA)**: a type of off-site analysis which concentrates on the total area from which a site's contents have been derived; at its simplest, a site's catchment can be thought of as a full inventory of artifactual and non-artifactual remains and their sources.

**Site exploitation territory (SET)**: often confused with site catchment analysis, this is a method of achieving a fairly standardized assessment of the area habitually used by a site's occupants.

**Site survey**: (1) The process of searching for and describing archaeological sites in a given area.

**Skull deformation**: the artificial distortion of cranial bones during growth practiced by some aboriginal cultures.

**Strata**: (1) depositional units or layers of sediment distinguished by composition or appearance. (singular: "stratum"), (2) individually sampled subareas in a "stratified-random" probabilistic sampling scheme.

**Stratigraphy**: The branch of geology concerned with the formation, composition, ordering in time, and arrangement in space of sedimentary rocks.
Stratification: the laying down or depositing of strata or layers (also called deposits) one above the other. A succession of layers should provide a relative chronological sequence, with the earliest at the bottom and the latest at the top.

Stratified random sampling: a form of probabilistic sampling in which the region or site is divided into natural zones or strata such as cultivated land and forest; units are then chosen by a random number procedure so as to give each zone a number of squares proportional to its area, thus overcoming the inherent bias in simple random sampling.

Stratified sample: a sample obtained by the process of dividing a population into categories representing distinctive characteristics and then selecting a random sample from each category.

Stratified society: a society in which extensive subpopulations are accorded differential treatment.

Stratified systematic sampling: a form of probabilistic sampling which combines elements of (1) simple random sampling, (2) stratified random sampling, and (3) systematic sampling, in an effort to reduce sampling bias.

Stratigraphy: the study and validation of stratification; the analysis in the vertical, time dimension, of a series of layers in the horizontal, space dimension. It is often used as a relative dating technique to assess the temporal sequence of artifact deposition.

Structural functionalism: the theory that the central function of the various aspects of a society is to maintain the social structure—the society's pattern of social relations and institutions.

Structuralist approaches: interpretations which stress that human actions are guided by beliefs and symbolic concepts, and that underlying these are structures of thought which find expression in various forms. The proper object of study is therefore to uncover the structures of thought and to study their influence in shaping the ideas in the minds of the human actors who created the archaeological record.

Superposition: the principle that under stable conditions strata on the bottom of a deposit were laid down first and hence are older than layers on top.

Surface collection: archaeological materials obtained from the ground surface.

Surface finish: in the study of ceramic artifacts, the mainly decorative outer elements of a vessel.

Surface scatter: archaeological materials found distributed over the ground surface.

Surface survey: two basic kinds can be identified: (1) unsystematic and (2) systematic. The former involves field-walking, i.e. scanning the ground along one's path and recording the location of artifacts and surface features. Systematic survey by comparison is less subjective and
involves a grid system, such that the survey area is divided into sectors and these are walked systematically, thus making the recording of finds more accurate.

**Survey area**: the region within which archaeological sites are to be located.

**Surveying**: (1) in archaeology, the process of locating archaeological sites. (2) more generally, the process of mapping and measuring points on the ground surface (e.g. "legal" or topographic surveying").

**Symbol**: something that can represent something distant from it in time and space.

**Symmetry analysis**: a mathematical approach to the analysis of decorative style which claims that patterns can be divided into two distinct groups or symmetry classes: 17 classes for those patterns that repeat motifs horizontally, and 46 classes for those that repeat them horizontally and vertically. Such studies have suggested that the choice of motif arrangement within a particular culture is far from random.

**Synchronic studies**: rely on research that does not make use of or control for the effects of the passage of time.

**Synchronic**: referring to phenomena considered at a single point in time; i.e. an approach which is not primarily concerned with change (cf. diachronic).

**Synostosis**: the joining of separate pieces of bone in human skeletons; the precise timing of such processes is an important indicator of age.

**Theory**: a step in the scientific method in which a statement is generated on the basis of highly confirmed hypotheses and is used to generalize about conditions not yet tested.

**X-ray diffraction analysis**: a technique used in identifying minerals present in artifact raw materials; it can also be used in geomorphological contexts to identify particular clay minerals in sediments, and thus the specific source from which the sediment was derived.

**X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRF)**: a method used in the analysis of artifact composition, in which the sample is irradiated with a beam of X-rays which excite electrons associated with atoms on the surface.
Photographs
MISSISSIPPIAN PERIOD
CERAMIC TYPOLOGY
IN THE MID-SOUTH
FIELD GUIDE

by

Daniel Qualls

Spring 1992
Terminology

References: See Lumb and McNutt 1988; and Smith 1969.

Rim

Neck

Body

Shoulder

Base

Rim Decoration

Notched

Lugs

Strap Handle

Loop Handle

Arcaded Rim
Vessel Forms

Vessel forms include bottles, jars, bowls, and effigy vessels. Some varieties of each form are shown below. Effigy vessels may represent people, abstract symbolism, or almost any type of native wildlife (e.g., birds, fish, reptiles, raccoons, bats, dogs).
Vessel Forms

Effigy Forms

Sample Rim Effigies

duck  "cat-serpent"  corn god
TYPE DESCRIPTIONS
Mississippi Plain, variety Neeley's Ferry.


Description

Decoration: Punctating, appliqué, and nicking are forms of decoration that may be found on rims, but the neck and body are plain.

Paste: Paste contains medium to heavy amounts of course shell temper (containing more shell than clay particles), and may look swirled and contorted if the tempering particles are especially large. Open spaces are common due to poor wedging of clay.

Color: Color usually ranges from grayish buff to light gray, but there are some reddish colored exceptions. The core colors are usually the same as the surface colors, except the red vessels which usually have grayish cores.

Surface Finish: Smoothed on both the interior and exterior surfaces, but surface polishing is rare.

Form: Jars are the most common vessel form, with bowls next, and globular bottles are uncommon.

Handles and Appendages: Lugs and tabs (usually horizontal), and vertical handles (loop, strap, and arcaded), and effigy appendages are found.
Mississippian Plain, variety Boxtown.

References  See Lumb and McNutt 1988.

Description
   Decoration  Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
   Paste  The paste is tempered with sparse amounts of course shell.
   Color  Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
   Surface Finish  Smoothed on both the interior and exterior surfaces; moderate surface polishing is often found on both surfaces.
   Form  Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
   Handles and Appendages  Handles are usually strap, loop, and arcaded.

Mississippian Plain, variety Mitchell.

References  See Lumb and McNutt 1988.

Description
   Decoration  Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
   Paste  It contains more shell and clay tempering with the material slightly smaller in size than in var. Boxtown.
   Color  Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
   Surface Finish  Smoothed on both the interior and exterior surfaces and is rarely polished. Both surfaces are usually rough due to leaching of the shell material.
   Form  Jars and bowls.
   Handles and Appendages  Lugs.
Bell Plain, *variety Bell*.


**Description**

**Decoration**: Most rims are plain, but, if decorated, are nicked, pinched, or notched. The lips are usually beveled in, but may bevel out.

**Paste**: The paste consists of a very finely crushed homogeneous mass of shell and clay.

**Color**: Color ranges from dark gray to very dark gray, or light gray to yellowish-brown. The cores are usually the same as the exterior surfaces but are occasionally lighter.

**Surface Finish**: Smoothed on both the interior and exterior surfaces, and commonly polished on both surfaces resulting in a characteristic smooth, "soapy" texture.

**Vessel Form**: Bottles and bowls are the most common, and most effigy vessels are of this variety.

**Handles and Appendages**: Appendages are rare, but applique medallions, lugs, and handles do occur. The most common appendage is the effigy.

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Bell Plain, *variety Nickel*.


**Description**

**Decoration**: Any decorative treatment is uncommon. Lips are usually straight.

**Paste**: The paste contains very fine shell, and medium to heavy amounts of large clay particles which are exposed when the sherd is freshly broken.

**Color**: Same as *var. Bell*.

**Surface Finish**: Same as *var. Bell*.

**Form**: Same as *var. Bell*.

**Handles and Appendages**: Appendages are rare, but loop and strap handles do occur. The most common appendage is the effigy.
Barton Incised, variety Barton.


Description

Decoration The decoration is made of incisions formed by a sharp instrument on a moist surface; they are usually irregular and carelessly executed. The design is located on the rim but can extend to the shoulders. The most common designs are opposed diagonal lines in triangular plats and simple cross-hatching; a less common design is a chevron pattern.

Paste Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.

Color Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.

Surface Finish Smoothed on both interior and exterior surfaces.

Vessel Form Small to large jars.

Handles and Appendages Handles can range from parallel-sided vertical straps to triangular or arcaded handles. Lugs are common on the rims and are usually incised.

VESSEL

SHERD
Barton Incised, variety Campbell.


Description
- **Decoration**: This variety is identical to var. Kent except that the neck is incised rather than the body.
- **Paste**: Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
- **Color**: Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.
- **Surface Finish**: Smoothed on both interior and exterior surfaces.
- **Vessel Form**: Small to large jars.
- **Handles and Appendages**: Parallel strap handles and lugs are common.
Parkin Punctated, variety Parkin.


Description

Decoration The punctation can be produced by different tools, causing a wide variety of depression shapes and sizes which may be scattered randomly over the vessel surface. All leave a ridge ("burr") on the side of the depression which may be extended by a pinching technique. The shape is usually oval or "C"-shaped which suggests nail marking.

Paste Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.

Color Same as var. Neeley's Ferry.

Surface Finish Smoothed on both interior and exterior surfaces.

Vessel Form Globular or semi-globular jars with slightly flattened base.

Handles and Appendages Mainly horizontal, semicircular lugs which are placed below the lip. Handles, also punctated, are broad triangular straps, or narrow straps.

VESSEL

SHerd

actual size
Nodena Red and White.

References  See P.F.G. 1951 and Hathcock 1976.

Description  
Decoration  Slipped ware applied like Carson Red on Buff with a heavy white slip applied to the buff areas.
Paste  Same as Carson Red on Buff.
Color  Same as Carson Red on Buff with an added white slip.
Surface Finish  Same as Carson Red on Buff.
Form  Bottles, bowls, and effigy vessels.
Handles and Appendages  None.