

A SURVEY OF HISTORIC POTTERY MAKING



IN TENNESSEE

1979

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A SURVEY OF HISTORIC POTTERY MAKING IN TENNESSEE

Samuel D. Smith and Stephen T. Rogers

Division of Archaeology

Tennessee Department of Conservation

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FOREWORD

In any of the early major works on American potters and pottery, information concerning pottery making in the South ranges from brief to nonexistent. The problem was addressed by Ramsay (1939:81-82) who noted that:

It is extremely difficult to secure adequate information on the potters of the South. Historical details are difficult to obtain and are then not too reliable. There are several adequate reasons for this obscurity. Since the industries of the South played a negligible part in its development, Southern historians have confined their attention to past glories, political, military and social, and few of those studies of local industries so valuable to a compilation such as this have been made. Further, in the aristocratic, almost feudal, civilization of the South, the potters were individuals of slight importance, so that local historians give them scant attention, and the problem of reconstructing their lives and work is a difficult one.

While more recent research has helped to fill this information void for some areas of the South, the history of pottery making in Tennessee has remained obscure. Worse still, statements of misinformation, traceable to early authors such as Edward Barber and John Ramsay, have continued to appear in print, often modified in such a way as to increase their fallaciousness. For example, one of the more recent guides to early American ceramics (Ketchum 1971:31 and 72), while containing only two paragraphs on Tennessee, has at least ten statements pertaining to Tennessee potters and their wares that are not correct.

Clearly for Tennessee as well as for most of the South, there has been a great need for primary source research, followed by an investigation of the actual physical remains of pottery kiln sites. As noted by Burrison (1975:377), "While the traditional ceramics of the North have been actively researched and published for over a quarter of a century, not one detailed state or regional survey of the South has yet appeared." The present report, the result of two years of survey work, is at least a step in the direction of improved information. It is, we hope, a foundation on which to build in the years to come a solid understanding of Tennessee's role in the ceramic history of the South.

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The first group to deserve special thanks is composed of individuals with a direct tie to the traditional, or at least early, Tennessee pottery industry. In the mid-state area, the traditional pottery industry was still extant in Putnam County until the late 1930s, and several residents of that county were either themselves former potters or were raised as members of one of the families that were still actively involved in making pottery. Each of these individuals gave freely of their time, and each submitted to one or more taped interviews, an important legacy for the future. For this cooperation we are deeply indebted to Mary Rachel (LaFever) Cooper, Reid Dunn, Lee Hedgecough, Orb Hedgecough, Columbus LaFever, and Riley LaFever.

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INTRODUCTION

This report is the result of two seasons, almost two years, of archival research and field site survey. It was made possible by cooperative agreements between the Tennessee Historical Commission and the Tennessee Division of Archaeology, two state agencies concerned with documenting Tennessee's historic and prehistoric past.

Because of the dynamic nature of modern American society, reflected in forms such as an ever increasing urban sprawl, a real crisis situation exists for archaeologists and historic preservationists alike. In simplest terms, information which is not recorded today may well not exist tomorrow. Various programs have evolved in response to the desire to avoid a complete loss of the physical evidence of our past, and much of this endeavor is now categorized under the heading "cultural resource management."

Historic archaeological sites (in America, those sites with surface or below ground artifacts or other remains of human activity dating within the period of written history) are no less affected by the various agents of destruction than prehistoric Indian sites or historic buildings. Yet, for Tennessee the number of recorded historic archaeological sites remains very low (non-Indian archaeological sites account for less than 2 percent of the sites currently included in Tennessee's state archaeological site file).

With this in mind, the first season of archaeological site survey sponsored by the Division of Archaeology and the Historical Commission was carried out in accordance with a proposal (Smith and Butler 1976) designed to retrieve information concerning both historic and prehistoric archaeological sites in the Middle Tennessee area. Four categories of historic sites were selected for this first season of survey: Frontier Station Sites, Early Town Sites, Pottery Kiln Sites, and Early Iron Industry Sites.

The available published literature indicated that a few small potteries had existed in the Middle Tennessee area. But it came as a surprise to everyone involved that as many as twenty kiln sites could be recorded, in a relatively short period of time, in one small area of Tennessee's Eastern Highland Rim (Rogers 1978:45-70).

The success of the 1977 effort and an emerging understanding of a complex research problem led to an expanded emphasis on the pottery industry for the historic site portion of the 1978 survey. It was proposed (Smith and Hood 1977) that the problem of locating and recording pottery kiln sites be approached at the statewide level, and that the historic site survey force be increased from one to two two-person crews.

Intensive archival background research began in February, 1978, and both archival research and field site survey were carried out interchangeably from March through November, 1978.

By the end of the 1978 season, information had been obtained concerning 163 pre-1940s potteries and the sites for 110 of these (including the 20 recorded in 1977) had actually been found and recorded. One of the most vivid indicators of the time and effort expended in this statewide search is the mileage logged. During the 1978 season alone, the two survey teams drove a combined total of 19,456 miles.

While in some ways it was not possible to achieve as much as was hoped, in other areas the information obtained far exceeded all expectations. While the amount of detail that could be included in this report is extremely large, it seems desirable to present only a summary of the pertinent information concerning Tennessee potters and the remains of their industry. It is hoped that in the years to come this can be followed by detailed reports concerning particular operations. There is much that remains to be done by archaeologists and ceramic researchers of all types. In the interim, this work will serve as a general guide to what was one of Tennessee's more interesting and complex historic industries.

Rationale for an Archaeological Survey of Pottery Making

Few topics have attracted as many diverse categories of researchers as historic American made ceramics. Though the volume of literature is still not great, especially for Southern pottery, the studies completed have been produced by antiquarians, antique collectors, geologists, museum specialists, decorative arts historians, folklorists, and historical archaeologists.

For the archaeologist, few other classes of artifacts are as important as ceramic sherds. As expressed by Fontana (1973:2-3):

Pottery in North America is at least four thousand years old. Pieces of fiber-tempered earthenware found in Georgia and Florida have been radiocarbon-dated at about 2000 B.C., making these wares among the oldest in what are now the United States and Canada. From then until today, potters in North America have been busy at their craft, turning out a bewildering array of products, from the simplest kinds of politely fired plainware cooking vessels to sturdy ironstone toilets and brown-glazed electrical insulators. To add to the confusion, the consumers of these fired-clay objects have willingly acquired and used those made in foreign climes, ultimately leaving in American soil or in American homes and museums ceramics that originated halfway around the globe. It is no wonder that pottery has attracted a host of specialists to its study. It is among man's most durable artifacts. It is crafted by artist, artisan, technician, and engineer; it is traded throughout the world, it is used by president and pauper alike. If ceramics could talk there would be no limit to what they could tell. It is one of the tasks of the historian of technology to help them speak.

For the historic periods in America, information on European export wares is most substantial and has been synthesized in terms of discrete typological categories (eg., Noel Hume 1970:102-150; Miller and Stone 1970). These same types have also been used to develop chronological tools, whereby statistical computations based on sherd counts can produce the occupation span of an historic site (South 1972 and 1977:201-274), and to help interpret the social status and life style of the persons who discarded the broken vessels (eg., Otto 1977).

A similar utilization of sherds of locally made wares for interpreting historic sites remains to be fully demonstrated; however, the potential for such usage is beginning to be understood (eg., Turnbaugh 1977).

In Tennessee, archaeological work on historic sites has largely been restricted to upper-class nineteenth-century establishments, such as the Hermitage in Middle Tennessee (Smith 1976) or the Ramsey House in East Tennessee (Dickson 1973). In these situations better than 90 percent of the ceramic sherds excavated were from refined earthenware or porcelain vessels, which were obviously imported from out of state, if not out of country. Only recently has some comparative information been forthcoming from two middle-class nineteenth-century homestead sites in East Tennessee. These seem to clearly indicate that locally made earthenwares and stone-ware can provide a direct indication of the social status of a site's former occupants. At the sites in question, better than 40 percent of the sherds found were from such wares, with a corresponding decrease in porcelain and refined earthenware (Smith 1978).

In addition to this potential for status definition, the utility of locally made ceramics for producing chronology information was suspected and is now confirmed by way of this report. The marks summarized in Appendix B are sure to be found in various archaeological contexts and will serve as valuable time markers. Furthermore, as additional work is carried out at specific pottery kiln sites, these and other distinctive characteristics of the various wares produced should become better understood and defined.

Still another reason for archaeologists to become involved with a survey of historic potteries concerns the broad area of technological history, in which realm little is known concerning the workings of any of the earliest potteries within the state. Archaeology is clearly the only means by which the early history of pottery making in Tennessee can be understood, and an underlying assumption of this survey has been that it would ultimately lead to intense archaeological investigations of specific sites. Because of the completion of this survey, it should now be possible to clearly assess the significance of any particular kiln site, making for a much more rational management of an important cultural resource.

Survey Methodology

During the 1977 survey season, a great deal of reliance was placed on local informants for providing information about pottery kiln site

locations in a three-county area of eastern Middle Tennessee. While this made possible the recording of a relatively large number of sites in a short period of time, the temporal placement and persons associated with these sites was by no means always clear. Enough archival research was done to clarify some of these associations; and, at the same time, this provided a learning experience for how to conduct the 1978 statewide survey.

The majority of the kiln sites described in this report were first defined from federal census reports. It is desirable to provide some explanation of these, beginning with the earliest sources that are available concerning pottery making in Tennessee.

The first potteries in what is now Tennessee were probably in the upper eastern portion of the state. Intensive European settlement began in this area in the 1770s. By the time Tennessee became a state in 1796, at least a few potters must surely have been working in East Tennessee. Unfortunately, there seems little hope of proving this from the existing documents.

The first federal census was taken in 1790 (Wright 1900:12-16), but information concerning manufacturing establishments is not available until 1810. The information collected in 1810 was summarized by Tench Coxe, who provides tables of manufactures for the "Eastern District" and the "Western District" of Tennessee (Coxe 1814:137-143). While potteries are included in Coxe's listings for some states, none are given for Tennessee.

For the year 1820, manufacturing information collected by the census takers was presented in a Digest of the Manufacturing Establishments in the United States and Their Manufactures (1823). Eight Tennessee potteries are described in the digest, and the original census schedules for seven of these have survived. These original schedules, on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library, are most useful because they contain the proprietor's name, which was omitted in the digest. In the present report, the informal citation "1820 manufacturers' census" refers to these schedules.

The next year for which manufacturing data is available is 1840. No original schedules are known to exist, but a compendium was published (Compendium of the ... Sixth Census, 1841). This includes minimal information on 13 potteries in East Tennessee, 12 in Middle Tennessee, and 4 in West Tennessee. Unfortunately no owners' names are given.

Beginning in 1850, industrial information is available from at least two sources. The Seventh Census, in 1850, represented an attempt to greatly improve the quality of the information collected. Six separate schedules were used, and for the first time the occupation of all adult males was recorded on the general census, Schedule 1 (Wright 1900:39-45). Schedule 5, "products of industry," is also available and contains much useful information on potteries which produced at least \$500 worth of wares. Microfilm copies of Schedule 5 and some later decennial manufacturing schedules were obtained from Duke University Library. These are cited in this report as "1850 (1860, etc.) manufacturers' census."

From 1860 to 1880, the same basic information was collected as in 1850. Manufacturers' schedules obtained from Duke University include Tennessee counties in the last half of the alphabet for 1860, counties in the first half of the alphabet for 1870, and all counties for 1880.

The general census and other schedules for 1890 were destroyed (Wright 1900:69), and all that remains concerning potteries is the summary of "manufacturing industries." This lists ten clay and pottery products establishments for Tennessee, but it does not provide specific information for individual plants (Eleventh Census of the United States, 1890, p. 160).

The 1900 general census for Tennessee was not released until 1978 and did not become available for the survey until near the end of the project. A few counties were examined, but more work could be done with this document.

During the archival research portion of the survey project, transcriptions were made of all of the manufacturers' census reports for Tennessee potteries, and the Tennessee State Library's microfilm copies of the 1850 and 1860 general censuses for Tennessee were examined county by county, scanning the occupational column for the word potter, stoneware maker, ware turner, etc.* This same procedure was carried out for some counties using the 1870 and later censuses as well. Potters and/or potteries were also identified by examining state and local business directories, gazetteers, newspaper advertisements, and various other sources, including information provided by local informants. The year 1940 was used as the ending date for the research effort. A few later potteries are mentioned in the report, but these are not tabulated or discussed in any detail.

Once a potter was identified, a transcription was made from the census report, or reports, which included all of his personal and family data, his district location, and some information about his neighbors. This information was then used to search the available county records, land grants, and maps in an effort to determine as precise a location as possible before going into the field. For each individual potter, or associated group of potters, a separate information file was started and eventually became part of a permanent record system.

* The occupation "turner" or "bowl turner" frequently appears on the census reports, and in one or two cases "ware turner" was used in reference to a potter. Initially, a number of "turners" were treated as possible potters, but in all cases, except for the "ware turners," it was eventually concluded that the person was a wood worker.

In spite of this the term "turner" was, and still is, commonly used by older residents of pottery making areas (especially in Middle Tennessee) to identify someone who worked at a kiln or kilns not owned by him, making pottery for the owner. This term is used in this report in quotation marks, and it seems necessary to point out that the writers are aware of the difference in the terms "throwing," making a vessel by hand on the wheel, and "turning," the later trimming of the partially dry vessel (Barber 1971:8-9; Green 1967:147-148).

In some cases a more or less exact site location was known before the field survey began. In most cases, however, a great deal of help was needed from local residents familiar with the area to enable us to find the exact spot where a pottery had once existed.

Whenever a site was found an attempt was made to collect a representative sample of discarded pottery (waster sherds) and kiln debris, the area was photographed and mapped, and various kinds of information forms were completed. A check was also made for surviving examples of wares produced at the kiln belonging to descendants of the potter or other individuals. When possible these were photographed, and some of these photographs are reproduced in this report. Though often taken under less than ideal conditions, these provide an important record of this industry.

All of the pottery sites that were field-recorded have been entered in the statewide archaeological site file maintained by the Division of Archaeology. Permanent site numbers were assigned to them, and these numbers are used in this report to order the sites within a given county. Where a gap exists in a number sequence, this simply means that some other kind of site besides a pottery was recorded.

There are a number of potteries that are known to have existed, but their specific site locations were not found. In such cases, these appear at the end of a county section and an "unrecorded" number has been assigned for tabulation and indexing purposes.

The report includes an index of persons associated with the industry (Appendix A) and an index of marks, decorative motifs, and miscellaneous names (Appendix B). These provide a means by which Tennessee pottery, especially if it is marked, can be checked in reference to the site where it was probably made. There are other appendixes that provide information concerning certain distribution patterns or other aspects of the pottery industry not pertinent to the main body of this report.

The next section concerns the regional distribution of Tennessee potters and their sites, and the influences that seem to have affected the different regional developments. This is followed by a three part summary of the sites identified in East, Middle, and West Tennessee.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTIONS AND TRADITIONS OF POTTERY MAKING IN TENNESSEE

A fairly even geographical distribution of nineteenth to early twentieth-century Tennessee potteries might be expected. The wares produced by "family" or "folk" potters were in universal demand in rural areas of the South. These operations:

...were in business to provide sturdy, utilitarian vessels to serve the needs of farming communities: jugs for whiskey and "surp" (syrup, i.e., molasses); churns; "cream risers" (milk pans); milk crocks and pitchers; and jars for preserving vegetables, fruit, and meat. Before modern refrigeration... the potter's wares were indispensable adjuncts of farm and plantation living (Burrison 1976:3).

The widespread distribution and utility of these wares are remembered by many rural Southerners who were born before World War I.

When I was a child, every home I remember visiting in the winter had a large earthenware two-, three-, or four-gallon jar, containing milk, sitting by the fireplace. It contained sweet milk, placed by the fireplace so that warmth from the fire would clabber the milk.

When the milk clabbered someone put a long handle dasher into the clabbered milk, then a lid with a hole in the center for the handle to come through. Then someone took hold of the handle and began slashing it up and down in the milk. The cream on the top of the milk turned to butter after several minutes of working the dasher up and down. The butter was dipped from the milk with a spoon, salted and pressed in a pound presser; then it was ready for eating. What had been clabber milk was now butter milk. It was "tadlarpin."

Every farm smokehouse had several earthen jars, jugs, and bowls of all sizes. They contained molasses, vinegar, sauerkraut, cracklings, preserves, etc. I remember getting candied peach preserves from a large earthen jar. They were put there in the summer, when the peaches had ripened and been preserved. In addition every farmer had one or more gallon jugs to carry water into the field or wherever he was working. Sometimes there was a spring near the work, to get the jug refilled when it became empty (Hamblett 1969:5-6).

In order to fill this demand, there would have been a tendency for potters to establish kiln operations in most areas of the South. The actual establishment of a pottery, however, depended on various local resources, especially clay. The phenomenon of pottery kilns located near available clay sources is the most obvious pattern to emerge from the survey of Tennessee kiln sites.

Because the objective of the survey was to record pre-1940s pottery sites of all types, it has been necessary to make a sometimes subjective

distinction between two major categories of potteries. For the small, usually rural, operation the term "family pottery" has been used. This seems preferable to the term "folk pottery" because for many operations very little specific information was obtained. The meaning of the term "family" is, however, essentially the same as for "folk."

...Joseph Johnson Smith, in Regional Aspects of American Folk Pottery (unpaginated catalogue, York, Pa. 1974), offers this... definition of folk pottery: "It was handcrafted using simple (i.e., essentially non-industrial) technology and techniques of forming and decoration that had been passed on from master to apprentice through generations. It was essentially conservative, traditional, and nonfashionable. Forms and decoration changed very little over a period of time in response only to rather radical and permanent developments in history and society" (Burrison 1975:377).

In Tennessee, small, family potteries were predominant throughout the nineteenth century, and a few were still operating in Middle Tennessee until the 1930s.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, industrialization began to make an impact on the Tennessee pottery industry. The term "industrial pottery" is used here to separate those operations: that were unusually large, typically with a number of non-family workers hired by the owners; that used industrial, mechanized techniques and equipment; and that operated independently of local clay resources, relying on railway lines for hauling in clay and exporting the wares produced.

Art potteries (Evans 1974:1-8) constitute a third type of operation, but only a few pre-1940s art potteries are known for Tennessee. Most of these were single family establishments, and they are included on the family pottery distribution map.

The county locations of 132 family potteries identified during the survey are shown in Figure 1. The distribution pattern for these sites can be seen as three regional groupings, and the meaning of these groupings becomes apparent by reference to Whitlatch's (1940:Plate 1) map of Tennessee clay belts (reproduced here as Figure 5). For East Tennessee, the lineal distribution of kiln sites conforms to the East Tennessee Shale Belt. Similarly, in West Tennessee, there is another north-south lineal distribution of pottery sites along the West Tennessee Bedded-Clay Belt. The reason for the three-county concentration of sites in eastern Middle Tennessee is less obvious but can still be explained in reference to local geological conditions. The potteries that operated here were situated on the western edge of the Eastern Highland Rim. Both red and white residual clay deposits occur in the rim; and, in this particular area, major stream drainage from the Highland Rim into the Central Basin has resulted in exposure of these deep residual clay beds (Whitlatch 1938:4; Jackson et al. 1963:5).

The county locations of 31 industrial potteries identified during the survey are shown in Figure 2. The most obvious pattern concerning the distribution of these operations is their close association with the state's urban centers, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, and Memphis. Both in the urban centers and in the smaller towns with industrial pottery sites, specific site location was invariably tied to railway lines.

Another way of plotting these same distribution patterns is in reference to the individual potters and pottery owners. Individuals identified as closely associated with a family pottery operation are tabulated in Figure 3. Individuals, including owners and workers, known to have been associated with industrial potteries are tabulated in Figure 4. Figure 4 represents a gross understatement of the actual number of industrial pottery workers. In most cases only the names of the owners or operators of these establishments could be readily identified. The persons referred to in Figure 3 and Figure 4 are also discussed in connection with the individual sites and are listed in Appendix A.

The distribution of pottery sites and some of their characteristics are also shown in Table 1 (East Tennessee), Table 2 (Middle Tennessee), and Table 3 (West Tennessee). The most obvious pattern indicated by the tables concerns differences in the type of ware produced at sites in the three different regions. While this pattern is obvious in terms of all the sites recorded, it is most apparent for family pottery sites. For East Tennessee, 42 percent of the family potteries (based on sites where a ware-type determination could be made) produced earthenware; for Middle Tennessee, only 11 percent of the family potteries produced earthenware; and, for West Tennessee, none of the family potteries (excluding 1 art pottery) produced earthenware. Conversely, family potteries which produced stoneware equal 100 percent in West Tennessee, 89 percent in Middle Tennessee, and 58 percent in East Tennessee.

The greater incidence of earthenware pottery sites in East Tennessee is evidently the result of two major factors. Euro-American settlement began in upper East Tennessee in the late 1700s and extended westward, not reaching West Tennessee until nearly 1820. This earlier settlement in East Tennessee corresponded with the period when lead-glazed redware was still commonly produced by American potters. With the beginning of the nineteenth century, stoneware became increasingly popular in the South; and, for Tennessee, good stoneware clays were more common in the middle and western portions of the state.

With these broad differences in mind, it is now desirable to examine the specific regions for additional factors that produced in Tennessee some very different pottery making traditions.

East Tennessee

Of the three major pottery making regions, East Tennessee was the most heterogeneous in terms of types of operations. Generally speaking, there was an older earthenware pottery tradition centered in upper East

A map of Tennessee divided into its counties. Each county contains a number representing the count of family pottery sites. The numbers are as follows:

County	Pottery Sites
Adair	0
Anderson	1
Benton	1
Bledsoe	2
Cannon	7
Carter	2
Cheatham	4
Chester	6
Claiborne	1
Cocke	1
Coke	1
Cumberland	2
Daviess	0
De Kalb	20
Fayette	8
Gibson	1
Hancock	1
Hartman	1
Hawkins	2
Henderson	6
Hickman	2
Hughes	0
Jackson	1
Knox	3
Lauderdale	0
Lawrence	1
Lincoln	0
Macon	2
Madison	3
Marion	2
Marshall	0
Meigs	2
Monroe	2
Montgomery	0
Morgan	0
Murphy	0
Nash	0
Oberlin	0
Oglethorpe	0
Polk	1
Randolph	0
Robertson	0
Roane	2
Schroeder	0
Sevier	1
Shelby	3
Smith	1
Tipton	0
Union	1
Van Buren	1
Washington	2
Wayne	1
White	22
Williamson	0
Wilson	1
Yazoo	0

Figure 1. Family pottery sites.

N : 132

TENNESSEE



Figure 2. Industrial pottery sites.

N : 31

TENNESSEE

Map showing the number of known individuals associated with family potteries in each Tennessee county. The numbers are: Shelby 7, Fayette 15, Hardeman 1, Mc Nairy 1, Hardin 1, Wayne 1, Lawrence 1, Giles 1, Lincoln 1, Franklin 1, Marion 1, Hamilton 1, Bradley 1, Polk 2, Monroe 5, Mc Minn 2, Rhea 2, Bledsoe 1, Van Buren 1, Warren 16, De Kalb 16, White 46, Cumberland 6, Roane 6, Loudon 5, Blount 5, Sevier 3, Jefferson 3, Hamblen 1, Grainger 1, Claiborne 1, Hancock 1, Hawkins 4, Washington 7, Carter 5, Sullivan 6, and Johnson 5. Other counties with no numbers are: Obion, Weakley, Henry, Stewart, Montgomery, Robertson, Cheatham, Davidson, Sumner, Macon, Clay, Pickett, Fentress, Scott, Campbell, Union, Claiborne, Hancock, Hawkins, Washington, Carter, Sullivan, Johnson, Dyer, Gibson, Carroll, Benton, Humphreys, Dickson, Macon, Jackson, Overton, Putnam, Morgan, Anderson, Union, Claiborne, Hancock, Hawkins, Washington, Carter, Sullivan, Johnson, Crockett, Haywood, Madison, Henderson, Perry, Hickman, Maury, Williamson, Rutherford, Cannon, De Kalb, White, Cumberland, Roane, Loudon, Blount, Sevier, Jefferson, Hamblen, Grainger, Claiborne, Hancock, Hawkins, Washington, Carter, Sullivan, Johnson, Tipton, Lauderdale, Chester, Decatur, Lewis, Marshall, Bedford, Coffee, Grundy, Squatche, Hamilton, Bradley, Polk, Monroe, Mc Minn, Rhea, Bledsoe, Van Buren, Warren, De Kalb, White, Cumberland, Roane, Loudon, Blount, Sevier, Jefferson, Hamblen, Grainger, Claiborne, Hancock, Hawkins, Washington, Carter, Sullivan, Johnson, and others.

Figure 3. Known individuals associated with family potteries.

N = 269

Figure 3. Known individuals associated with family potteries.

N = 269

TENNESSEE

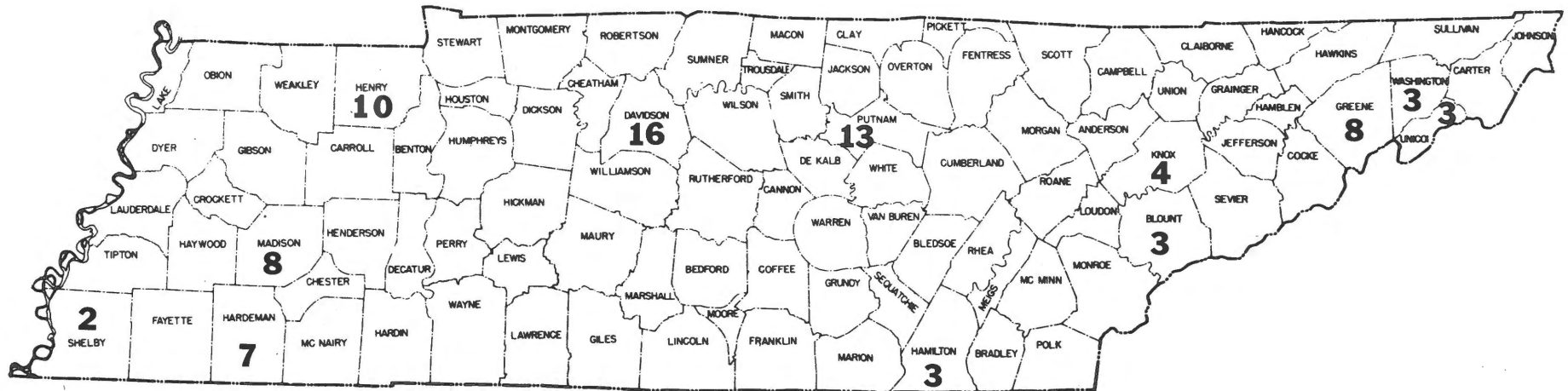
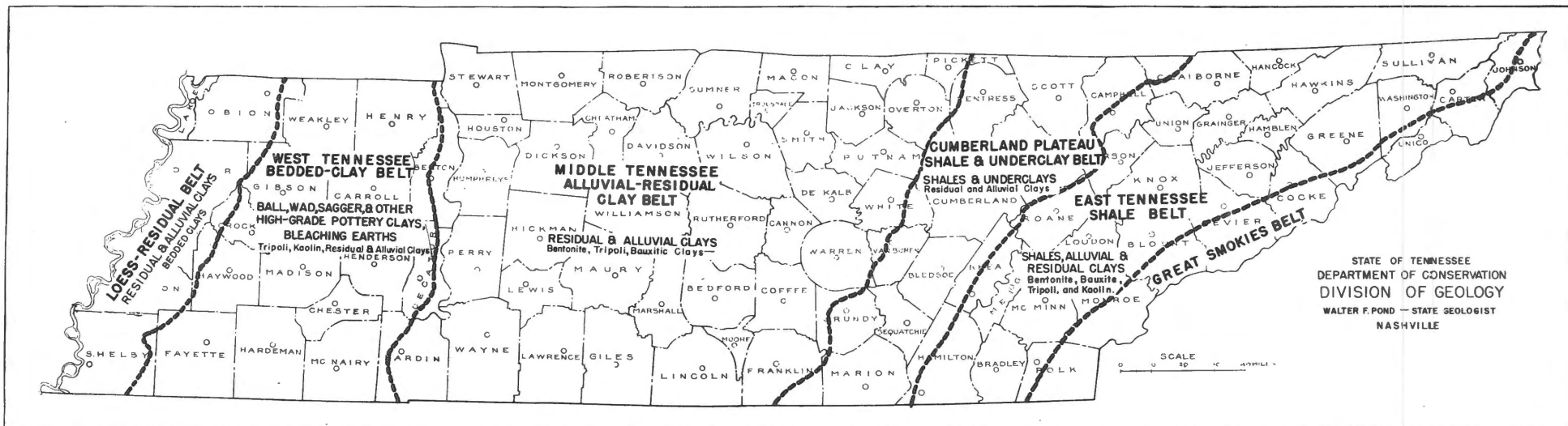


Figure 4. Known individuals associated with industrial potteries.

N : 80



Outline map of Tennessee showing clay belts and ceramic resources of each belt. Principal resources shown in large type; minor resources, in smaller type.

Figure 5. Clay resource map from Whitlatch (1940: Plate 1).

TABLE 1. Distribution of sites, wares, and kiln types in East Tennessee.

County	Site No.	Industrial, Family, or Art Pottery	Earthenware Stoneware Whiteware	Kiln Type	Principal Name of Association
Blount	40BT16	F	S	?	Smith, D.L.
Blount	40BT17	I*	S	circular	Grindstaff et al.
Blount	40BT18	F	S	?	Grindstaff
Blount	40BT"UN"#1	F	?	?	Glass
Blount	40BT"UN"#2	F	?	?	Ragan
Blount	40BT"UN"#3	F(?)	S	?	Maryville
Bradley	40BY"UN"#1	F	?	?	Hayse
Carter	40CR9	F	E	"1 furnace"	Mathorn-Hart
Carter	40CR"UN"#1	F(?)	?	?	Frazier
Claiborne	40CE"UN"#1	F(?)	?	?	Heller
Greene	40GN21	F	E	?	Shaffer
Greene	40GN22	F	E	?	Hinshaw
Greene	40GN23	I*	S	?	Mohawk
Greene	40GN24	F	E&S	circular	Grim
Greene	40GN25	F	E	circular updraft	Click, J., Sr.
Greene	40GN26	F	E	?	Click, J., Jr.
Greene	40GN27	F	E	circular (?)	Harmon-Bohannon
Greene	40GN28	I	E&S	bottle-shape updr'	Harmon, M.
Greene	40GN29	F	E	?	Ripley
Greene	40GN"UN"#1	F	E	?	Kinser
Greene	40GN"UN"#2	F	E(?)	?	Campbell, Jack
Greene	40GN"UN"#3	F	?	?	Stanley, T.
Greene	40GN"UN"#4	F	E(?)	?	Carter-Hendry
Greene	40GN"UN"#5	F	E(?)	?	Reynolds-Vestal
Hamblen	40HB"UN"#1	F	?	?	Stanburg
Hamilton	40HA96	F	S	?	Reevely, F.
Hamilton	40HA97	I	S	?	Montague
Hamilton	40HA98	I*	E&S	circular downdraft	Soddy-Daisy
Hamilton	40HA99	I	E	13 cir' downdraft	Soddy-Daisy
Hamilton	40HA100	I	E	8 cir' downdr' (?)	Soddy-Daisy
Hamilton	40HA101	I	E	6 cir' downdr' (?)	Soddy-Daisy
Hancock	40HK"UN"#1	F(?)	?	?	Ketron
Hawkins	40HW55	F	S	square	Anderson, B.
Hawkins	40HW"UN"#1	F	?	?	?
Jefferson	40JE31	F	S	circular updraft	Nooncasser et al.
Jefferson	40JE32	F	S	rectangular updr'	Nooncasser et al.
Jefferson	40JE"UN"#1	F	E	?	?
Knox	40KN61	F	S	?	Graves-Floyd
Knox	40KN62	F	S	rectangular	Grindstaff
Knox	40KN63	I	S	?	Weaver
Knox	40KN"UN"#1	F	S(?)	?	Smith, S.
Knox	40KN"UN"#2	I(?)	S	?	Swann
Knox	40KN"UN"#3	I(?)	?	?	Trent & Toms
Knox	40KN"UN"#4	I(?)	S	?	Bowlus et al.

* = Transitional from Family

TABLE 1. (continued)

<u>County</u>	<u>Site No.</u>	<u>Industrial, Family, or Art Pottery</u>	<u>Earthenware Stoneware Whiteware</u>	<u>Kiln Type</u>	<u>Principal Name of Association</u>
McMinn	40MN21	F	S	?	Love, T.
McMinn	40MN22	F	S	?	?
Marion	40MI"UN"#1	F	?	?	?
Marion	40MI"UN"#2	A**	E	?	Boggs
Monroe	40MR98	F	S	?	Pearson et al.
Monroe	40MR99	F	S	"groundhog"	Love, W.
Polk	40PK"UN"#1	F	?	?	Pearson, J.
Rhea	40RH"UN"#1	F	S	?	Reevly, C.
Rhea	40RH"UN"#2	F	?	?	Mathis
Roane	40RE149	F	E	circular	Hartbarger
Roane	40RE"UN"#1	F	E(?)	?	Hartbarger
Sevier	40SV"UN"#1	F(?)	S	?	Sevierville
Sullivan	40SL31	F	E	?	Cain
Unicoi	40UC1	I	W	tunnel	Southern
Washington	40WG51	I*	S	circular	Decker-Keystone
Washington	40WG52	F	S	circular(?)	Decker
Washington	40WG53	I	W	?	Cherokee
Washington	40WG"UN"#1	F	?	?	McPherson

Recorded sites = 35
 Unrecorded sites = 27
 62

I = 15 E = 19
 F = 46 S = 24
 A = 1 E&S = 3
 62 W = 2
 ? = 14
 62

* = Transitional from Family

** = Included with Family Potteries on maps

TABLE 2. Distribution of sites, wares, and kiln types in Middle Tennessee.

County	Site No.	Industrial, Family, or Art Pottery	Earthenware Stoneware Whiteware	Kiln Type	Principal Name of Association
Davidson	40DV138	I	S	circular downdr' (?)	Harley
Davidson	40DV139	I	E	1 round, 1 square	Sparks
Davidson	40DV140	I	S	?	Nashville
Davidson	40DV141	F(or A)	E	?	Coeffe
Davidson	40DV142	A*	E	?	Nashville Art
Davidson	40DV"UN"#1	F	E	?	?
Davidson	40DV"UN"#2	F	?	?	Stanley
Davidson	40DV"UN"#3	I	E	?	Rodenhauser
Davidson	40DV"UN"#4	I	E&S	?	Elkin
Davidson	40DV"UN"#5	I	?	?	Magnolia
DeKalb	40DK10	F	S	circular updraft	Dunn et al.
DeKalb	40DK11	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Dunn, N.
DeKalb	40DK"UN"#1	F	S	?	Davis-Leek
DeKalb	40DK"UN"#2	F	S(?)	?	Dunn, J.R.
DeKalb	40DK"UN"#3	F	S(?)	?	LaFever, J.
DeKalb	40DK"UN"#4	F	S(?)	?	Jones-Hash
DeKalb	40DK"UN"#5	F	S(?)	?	LaFever, Z.
Hickman	40HI3	F	E	?	Coble
Hickman	40HI120	F	E	?	Coble
Jackson	40JK"UN"#1	F	?	?	Sailers
Putnam	40PM49	F	S	2 circular updraft	LaFever et al.
Putnam	40PM50	F	S	3 circular updraft	Hedgcock et al.
Putnam	40PM52	F	S	circular updraft	Hedgcock
Putnam	40PM53	F	S	circular updraft	Hedgcock
Putnam	40PM54	F	S	circular updraft	Hedgcock
Putnam	40PM55	F	S	circular updraft	Stanley, E.
Putnam	40PM56	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Roberts et al.
Putnam	40PM57	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Vincent
Putnam	40PM58	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Gambrell
Putnam	40PM59	F	S	circular updraft	LaFever, C.
Putnam	40PM60	F	S	circular updraft	LaFever, A.
Putnam	40PM62	F	S	circular updraft	Roberts, J.
Putnam	40PM63	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Lollar-Mitchell
Putnam	40PM64	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever et al.
Putnam	40PM65	F	S	?	?
Putnam	40PM66	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Barr
Putnam	40PM67	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Dewese
Putnam	40PM68	F	S	circular updraft	LaFever, R.
Putnam	40PM69	I	S	downdraft	Cookeville
Putnam	40PM"UN"#1	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever et al.
Putnam	40PM"UN"#2	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Roberts, N.

* = Included with Family Potteries on maps

TABLE 2. (continued)

County	Site No.	Industrial, Family, or Art Pottery	Earthenware Stoneware Whiteware	Kiln Type	Principal Name of Association
Smith	40SM"UN"#1	F	?	?	?
Sumner	40SU31	F	E	?	Sullins (?)
Sumner	40SU"UN"#1	F	S(?)	?	Mayberry-Steele
Van Buren	40VB"UN"#1	F	?	?	Dunn, P.
Wayne	40WY"UN"#1	F	?	?	?
White	40WH75	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever, A.
White	40WH76	F	S	circular updraft(?)	"Jugtown"#1
White	40WH77	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Cole
White	40WH78	F	S	circular updraft	"Jugtown"#2
White	40WH81	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Elrod, G.
White	40WH82	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Montgomery (?)
White	40WH83	F	S	circular updraft(?)	?
White	40WH84	F	S	circular updraft	Spears, J.
White	40WH85	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Hitchcock, W.
White	40WH86	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Hitchcock (?)
White	40WH87	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Goodwin Bros.
White	40WH88	F	S	?	Dryer
White	40WH89	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Spears 2
White	40WH90	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Spears 3
White	40WH91	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Spears 4
White	40WH92	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Spears 5
White	40WH93	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Spears 6
White	40WH94	F	S	circular updraft(?)	LaFever-Spears 7
White	40WH95	F	S	?	LaFever-Spears 8
White	40WH96	F	S	?	?
White	40WH"UN"#1	F	S(?)	?	Brown
White	40WH"UN"#2	F	S(?)	?	Bersheers-Clayton
Wilson	40WI5	F	E	?	Statesville

Recorded sites =	50	I =	7	E =	9
Unrecorded sites	19	F =	61	S =	53
	69	A =	1	E&S =	1
			69	? =	6

69

TABLE 3. Distribution of sites, wares, and kiln types in West Tennessee.

<u>County</u>	<u>Site No.</u>	<u>Industrial, Family, or Art Pottery</u>	<u>Earthenware Stoneware Whiteware</u>	<u>Kiln Type</u>	<u>Principal Name of Association</u>
Carroll	40CL21	F	S	circular downdraft	Sparks
Hardeman	40HM12	F	S	circular downdraft	Keller, R.
Hardeman	40HM13	F	S	circular downdraft	Connor
Hardeman	40HM14	F	S	?	Price
Hardeman	40HM15	F	S	?	Price
Hardeman	40HM16	F	S	?	Ussery
Hardeman	40HM17	F	S	?	Ussery
Hardeman	40HM18	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Smyth
Hardeman	40HM19	I	S	circular downdraft	Follis
Hardeman	40HM"UN"#1	F	S	?	Johnson
Henderson	40HE35	F	S	circular (?)	Fesmire-Craven
Henderson	40HE36	F	S(?)	?	Craven
Henderson	40HE37	F	S(?)	?	Craven-Fesmire
Henderson	40HE38	F	S(?)	?	Garner
Henderson	40HE39	F	S	?	Mooney
Henderson	40HE40	F	S	?	Mooney
Henry	40HY59	I	S	circular downdraft	Currier-Weaver
Henry	40HY60	I	S	downdraft & Howard	Currier-Weaver
Henry	40HY61	I	S	2 circular updraft	Russell
Henry	40HY62	I	S	?	Gallion-Carter
Henry	40HY"UN"#1	F	S(?)	?	Campbell, E.
McNairy	40MT77	F	S	?	Culberson
Madison	40MD51	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Davis
Madison	40MD53	F	S	circular updraft(?)	Monroe
Madison	40MD54	F	S	?	Reevely, H.
Madison	40MD55	I	S	2 Stewart downdraft	Pinson
Madison	40MD"UN"#1	I	S	circular downdraft	Jackson
Shelby	40SY355	A*	E	?	Stevens
Shelby	40SY"UN"#1	F(or A)	?	?	Dunlap St.
Shelby	40SY"UN"#2	F(or A)	?	?	Erb
Shelby	40SY"UN"#3	I	S	?	Yeager
Shelby	40SY"UN"#4	I	E&S	?	Bluff City

Recorded sites =	25	I =	9	E =	1
Unrecorded sites =	<u>7</u>	F =	22	S =	28
	32	A =	<u>1</u>	E&S =	1
		32	?	=	<u>2</u>
					32

* = Included with Family Potteries on maps

Tennessee, which later gave way to a more widespread stoneware tradition. However, this interpretation is complicated by the continued production of earthenware (lead-glazed redware) at some sites until late in the nineteenth century.

For East Tennessee, a considerable amount of variation is also indicated for the type of kilns that were used. While little actual information was found concerning this subject, an above-ground, circular updraft kiln was probably used at most of the family-operated earthenware potteries. In one rare description of such a pottery, the kiln is said to have been similar to an "Eskimo hut" with a single door and a small hole in the top (Alexander 1943). This description sounds very similar to the type of structure Olsen (1973:69) refers to as a "Greek Updraft" kiln. Round "beehive-shaped" kilns were also common in Virginia (Wiltshire 1975:20), and these may have provided the main prototype for upper East Tennessee.

Square or rectangular kilns are known to have been used on at least four sites in East Tennessee. Rectangular kilns were associated with stoneware manufacture in several adjoining states, including North Carolina (Greer 1977:42), and the ties between Tennessee and North Carolina were great (what is now Tennessee was considered part of North Carolina until creation of the Territory South of the River Ohio in 1790).

Virginia and North Carolina can be shown to have exerted the most influence on the development of pottery making in East Tennessee. Of 45 East Tennessee potters or pottery owners listed on the 1850 census (the first census to include place of birth), most (71.1%) were born in Tennessee. However, the next most common group was composed of individuals born in Virginia (11.1%), followed by North Carolina (6.6%). The importance of these two states in the background of East Tennessee potters can also be seen by examining the place of birth (where it could be determined) of all persons known to have been associated with the East Tennessee pottery industry. Based on 87 East Tennesseans listed in Appendix A: 65.5 percent were born in Tennessee, 11.5 percent in Virginia, 8.0 percent in North Carolina, 5.7 percent in Pennsylvania, 3.4 percent in South Carolina, 2.3 percent in Delaware, 1.2 percent in Georgia, 1.2 percent in New York, and 1.2 percent in Germany.

Some idea of the social-economic standing of East Tennessee potters can also be gained from the census reports. Again using the 45 individuals on the 1850 U. S. Census (persons either listed as potters on the general census or listed as owners of potteries on the 1850 manufacturers' census) 31 of these individuals did not own any real estate, and the value of real estate belonging to the remaining 14 averaged only \$497. General average values for 1850 real estate holdings in Tennessee are unknown; but, for some areas of East Tennessee, the average contemporary value of individual real estate was greater than \$1,000 (Smith 1978).

Some other impressions were gained from the East Tennessee survey concerning the generally older earthenware sites. Most of these were located adjacent to a very old house or house site, along a formerly important area road, next to a good spring, and adjacent to outcrops of both red and lighter colored clays.

The lineal distribution of the 62 pottery sites in East Tennessee falls not only along the East Tennessee Shale Belt (Fig. 5) but also within the physiographic region known as the Valley and Ridge (Miller 1974:3).

Along the eastern and western margins of this region, rich deposits of iron ore exist. By the mid-nineteenth century, these were being exploited by numerous furnaces and forges (maps accompanying Morris 1834 and Safford 1869). One of the most perplexing problems encountered in attempting to locate the sites where potters worked in East Tennessee concerns a number of individuals listed as potters on the 1850 U. S. Census, who do not appear to have operated a pottery. In each of these cases, which are discussed later, the individual appears to have lived near an iron works, usually a foundry producing cast iron products. According to Tunis (1972:151), in some foundries producing cast iron pots and pans:

A potter made a separate mold for each pot, including a solid core that had to be broken out when the metal cooled. He hardened his molds over a slow fire, but in no sense fired them as pottery.

Evidently, some of the Tennessee "potters" listed on the 1850 census were employed as mold makers in the iron industry.

Middle Tennessee

Middle Tennessee had a few early earthenware potteries and a later small concentration of industrial operations in the Nashville area. However, in terms of numbers, Middle Tennessee's potteries were heavily concentrated in DeKalb, Putnam, and White counties.

This major group of kiln sites on the Eastern Highland Rim represents a most intriguing interpretive problem. Basically, all of them appear to have been operating as part of the same stoneware pottery tradition, which lasted from ca. 1824 to 1938 and was largely attributable to the influence of the Andrew LaFever family. Webb (1971:110) suggests that Andrew LaFever, who was born in Pennsylvania, probably learned the potter's trade in Washington County, Virginia. LaFever is also assumed to have worked in Kentucky in the early 1800s, before moving to White County, Tennessee, around 1824.

The LaFever family's Kentucky background is reflected in the 1850 U. S. Census. Of 38 Middle Tennessee potters or pottery owners, whose places of birth are given on the census, most were born in Tennessee (61.8%) or North Carolina (14.7%), but the next largest group (11.9%) is composed of persons (all but one of them LaFever) born in Kentucky. North Carolina and Kentucky also stand out in the backgrounds of 109 Middle Tennessee pottery makers whose birthplaces are known (Appendix A): 76.2 percent were born in Tennessee, 8.3 percent in North Carolina, 5.6 percent in Kentucky, 1.8 percent in Virginia, 1.8 percent in Pennsylvania, 1.8 percent in South Carolina, 1.8 percent in Iowa, 0.9 percent in Maryland, 0.9 percent in Switzerland, and 0.9 percent in England.

As was the case for East Tennessee, Middle Tennessee potters appear to have possessed little wealth, as indicated by value of real estate on the nineteenth-century census records. Of the 38 potters or pottery owners listed on the 1850 census, only 7 are shown to have owned real estate, and the average value of their holdings was only \$329.

Because many of the family pottery operations located on the Eastern Highland Rim existed during the early twentieth century, it was possible to obtain a number of firsthand accounts concerning these. Several tape recorded interviews were conducted, and information was obtained concerning kiln construction, types of clays used, making the vessels, loading the kiln, firing the kiln, slat-glazing, and peddling the wares.

One of the most interesting interpretive problems in this area concerns the type of kiln that was in use by the beginning of the twentieth century. Basically similar to typical European circular updraft kilns (Rhodes 1968:41), it nevertheless had some major distinguishing characteristics, the origins of which are not clear. Most notable was the practice of recessing the kiln and fire holes several feet into the ground. While this "semi-subterranean circular-updraft" kiln seems to have been the only type that was built during this century, its antiquity and exact form at different times remain to be determined archaeologically (a possible prototype is the kind of seventeenth-century Virginia kiln described by Chappell et al. 1975).

Much of the information obtained from informants in this area, primarily for Putnam County, was summarized in the previous survey report (Rogers 1977: 48-67). Selected excerpts are presented here:

In building a kiln...a stake was driven into the ground with a string attached to the top. A circle 14 feet in diameter was then inscribed on the ground, and the inside of the circle dug out to a depth of four feet. A drainage pipe made of stoneware was first laid under the floor...the floor was made of mud, 9 inches thick...there were 10 to 12 flue holes about 6 inches in diameter in the floor...spaced around the periphery. Handmade bricks were used to line the walls of the kiln, construct the under-the-floor fire arches, and build the crown. The arch of the crown was built with the aid of a center pole and arch boards...the arch boards were shared by many people...the crown had a series of three rows of holes...5 holes around the top of the crown, 7 holes along the midsection, and 9 holes along the base of the crown. The kiln had two firing eyes directly opposite each other...each had a lower and upper chamber. The lower chamber was used during the initial firing...the upper chamber was used only during the "blasting" operation. The kiln had one entrance...in the side...to the chamber where the ware was stacked during firing. A new kiln would be made of green bricks...once construction was completed, an initial firing, usually with a load of bricks, was done to season the kiln. The longevity of a particular kiln seemed to vary, but an average life span would be 8 to 10 years.

Locating and gathering clays required considerable amounts of time and effort. Initial testing of an area for clay was done with a 1 1/2 inch extension auger...after one became experienced

with the auger, he could tell by the feel if the clay was the correct type... the digging was done using picks and shovels... freshly dug clays would be loaded on a horse drawn wagon and taken to a group of sheds near the kiln to dry... once the clay dried... it was ground and mixed in the clay mill (Fig. 14 present report)... both red and white clays were used... a bluish grey clay was sometimes added to "stretch" the supply.

The vessels were thrown on a homemade kick wheel (actually a treadle wheel)... made from a composite of materials, including a balance wheel improvised from a wheel off a horse-drawn mowing machine (see Putnam County site 40PM49)... often a skilled potter, a "turner," was hired by the kiln owner to make the ware... the "turner" received one-fourth to one-third of the profits of each kiln load... it took 14 to 17 days for one "turner" to throw, turn (or "dress"), and slip a kiln full of pottery... a brownish colored local clay, known as "hill" clay was used for slip and later Albany clay was ordered for the same purpose.

The proper stacking of vessels in the kiln was very important, and this task was usually carried out by the "turner"... biscuit-shaped wads of clay referred to as "dumps" were used to level the stacks... in addition to pottery vessels and miscellaneous items such as tobacco pipes and whimsies, bricks were sometimes fired in the kiln... lime was also burned in the kiln by placing limestone rocks into the lower chamber of the fire box... while the bricks were fired inside the kiln, lime was burned below... the lime and bricks were used locally to build chimneys.

The firing of the kiln required a great deal of work. Chopping of the wood was a year round activity, but efforts were usually concentrated in the winter months. Oaks and hickory were the primary woods used... Firing a kiln was a two-step operation... initially a small fire was built in the lower chamber of the fire box, allowing the temperature in the kiln to rise at an even slow rate... it required 3 days and nights of firing and 4 to 5 cords of woods in order to reach a proper temperature... small pieces of clay called "testers" or "totten pieces" were often placed in the kiln before firing... these were flat and rectangular with a hole in one end roughly carved by a pocket knife... when the pottery was thought to be properly fired, a long iron rod with a curved end was inserted into the kiln through one of the holes in the crown. A tester was pulled out and allowed to cool. By breaking the tester and examining the color of the paste, it could be determined when the stoneware was sufficiently fired... the second phase of firing was called "blasting"... very dry hardwood rails (blasting poles) were placed into the upper chamber of the fire box. This upper chamber was sealed with bricks during the initial firing, only to be opened when the blasting started. Three to five hundred blasting poles, 4 to 6 inches thick and 8 feet long, were used. After the poles were added, bricks that had been used to cover most of the holes in the crown were removed with a pair of iron tongs.

The next step was the salt-glazing. Handful upon handful of salt was thrown through the lower and middle holes in the crown... each firing used 60 to 80 pounds of salt. Due to the extreme heat, the salt would instantly vaporize, imparting a clear glaze (sodium silicate) over the vessels... it took about three days and nights for the kiln to slowly cool... the bricks and mud that had covered the loading door were then removed and the finished ware was removed. Breakage averaged about 10 percent.

The selling or peddling of the pottery was accomplished in a number of ways. Local people came to the kiln to buy a piece or two whenever needed. Vessels that were flawed in some way were sold there at a reduced rate. Before trucks became common, most of the ware was sold by one or two men in a horse or mule-drawn wagon... a typical peddling expedition would last from 4 to 7 days; however, longer 10 day trips out-of-state to Kentucky were common... money was not always necessary in order to purchase the pottery. Payment in kind, i.e. groceries, meats, household items, was also accepted.

Additional information concerning the peddling aspect of the Middle Tennessee pottery industry indicates that the peddlers covered an extremely large area of the state. It is clear that this activity was the main mechanism by which an intensely localized family pottery industry was expanded into a long-term, viable economic venture.

West Tennessee

As a result of the "Jackson Purchase" of October 19, 1818, West Tennessee, the region west of the Tennessee River, was first opened to non-Indian settlement. There followed a large influx of settlers from other parts of Tennessee and from other states, especially North Carolina (Folmsbee et al. 1969:149-150).

By 1850, at least 9 potters were working in Henderson and Madison counties in this region. According to the 1850 census, 6 of them (66.7%) were born in North Carolina, while the remaining 3 (33.3%) were born in Tennessee. North Carolina potters continued to play a major part in the development of the West Tennessee pottery industry. For 37 West Tennesseans on Appendix A, whose birthplace is known: 51.4 percent were born in Tennessee, 27.0 percent in North Carolina, 13.5 percent in Kentucky, 2.7 percent in Alabama, 2.7 percent in Iowa, and 2.7 percent in Illinois.

As for the other regions of the state, West Tennessee potters appear to have had little material wealth, as indicated by nineteenth-century real estate holdings. Only 4 of the 9 1850 potters owned real estate, and their average holdings were valued at only \$406 (1850 U. S. Census).

Very little is known about the early family-operated potteries in West Tennessee. The earliest kilns for which some description was obtained seem to have been above-ground circular-updraft types. Later, there were

large numbers of circular downdraft kilns (Fig. 21) operating in the region. Some of these were pottery kilns, but most were used in the brick and tile industry.

For some of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century West Tennessee potteries, some good descriptions were recorded in contemporary geology publications. A number of these are quoted at length under the appropriate site description in the next section of the report.

For West Tennessee, one of the most interesting discoveries made by the survey concerns the use of an alkaline glaze, sometimes called a "sand and ash" glaze (Greer 1971:157), at some of the family-operated stoneware pottery sites. A major use of this glaze is indicated at two sites, one in Hardeman County and one in Madison County, and a few alkaline-glazed sherds were found at three other sites in Hardeman, McNairy, and Madison counties. The use of this type of glaze in West Tennessee, but not in other areas of the state, is one of many traits which indicate three or more distinct Tennessee pottery making traditions.

TENNESSEE POTTERS AND THEIR POTTERY SITES

This section of the report contains an abbreviated description of each of the known and probable pottery making sites tabulated in the preceding section. The information is again organized according to the three major divisions of the State, with alphabetical county arrangements in each division. Within each county the recorded sites are discussed, followed by a presentation of information concerning other probable sites which remain unrecorded.

For each site, an attempt has been made to summarize the information obtained on the type of operation, period of production, persons associated, wares produced, and marks or other distinguishing attributes of the pottery. This same information has been derived from a variety of sources including material collected at the site, pottery collections belonging to other individuals, interviews with local residents, county records, census data, and a variety of published sources.

EAST TENNESSEE

Anderson County

(See Union County)

Blount County

The pottery sites in Blount County offer a rather complex problem in interpretation. There are at least six possible sites within the county, three of which have been recorded. Additionally, the interpretation was made more difficult by the presence of the ubiquitous William Grindstaff who seems to have been associated with several sites within Blount County and with sites in at least two adjacent counties.

40BT16

David L. Smith's Happy Valley pottery was located in one of the more scenic and remote areas of Tennessee. Smith was an active potter producing salt-glazed stoneware by 1880 (1880 U. S. Census Blount County).

Some uncertainty over the site's history exists. Burns (1974:247) states that William Grindstaff established a pottery at this site between 1865 and 1870; however, no census or deed records were found that would support this contention (also stated by Ketchum 1971:188).

Marked sherds found at the site, impressed with block letters "... L. SMITH" and "... SMITH," are clearly associated with David L. Smith. It is also known that Smith operated a country store in the area well into the twentieth century and may have used the store as a sales distribution point for his pottery.

40BT17

William Grindstaff moved his earlier Blount County pottery operation (40BT18) to a location south of the town of Maryville in 1884 (Blount County Tax Book 1884). He apparently was actively making salt-glazed stoneware at this location (40BT17) until 1888, when he may have moved to Jefferson County.

Grindstaff sold his second Blount County pottery to Dr. J. D. Garner who changed the emphasis from a family operation, producing utilitarian stoneware vessels, to a commercial tile making business. Two individuals named Gunion and Nooncesser are mentioned as potters who worked for Garner. By 1896, Garner sold the 40BT17 operation to William Rasor who continued to produce both tile and pottery until 1898 (Burns 1974:247).

40BT18

David Grindstaff, a blacksmith, moved from Carter County into southern Blount County in 1851. By 1860, David's neighbor, John E. Glass, was listed as a potter (1860 U. S. Census, Blount County), and David's son, William, age 12, probably learned the pottery trade from Glass. By 1870, William was listed as a potter (1870 U. S. Census, Blount County) living on or near the 40BT18 site. Evidently he produced salt-glazed stoneware pottery here until 1884, when he moved to the 40BT17 location.

Many marked pieces of Grindstaff's pottery have survived. Dated pieces include "May 10, 1871," "1871," and "1874." The most prominent features of the stamp used by Grindstaff to mark his pottery are a backwards and inverted letter "G" in the last name, and sometimes an inverted initial "W" preceding the last name. Additionally, Grindstaff was usually spelled without the "d". Some typical examples are shown in Figure 6. The churn (upper left) is marked "W GRINSTAFF 1871."

40BT"Unrecorded"#1

John E. Glass operated a pottery in Blount County by May of 1859; however, no site was found that could be associated with Glass. He was probably responsible for teaching the pottery craft to William Grindstaff, and he may have had some association with Grindstaff's 40BT18 site.

Deed records indicate that Glass's pottery was a family type operation (Blount County Deed Book Z, p. 453). While it seems probable Glass was producing stoneware, no documentary or physical evidence was found to verify this.

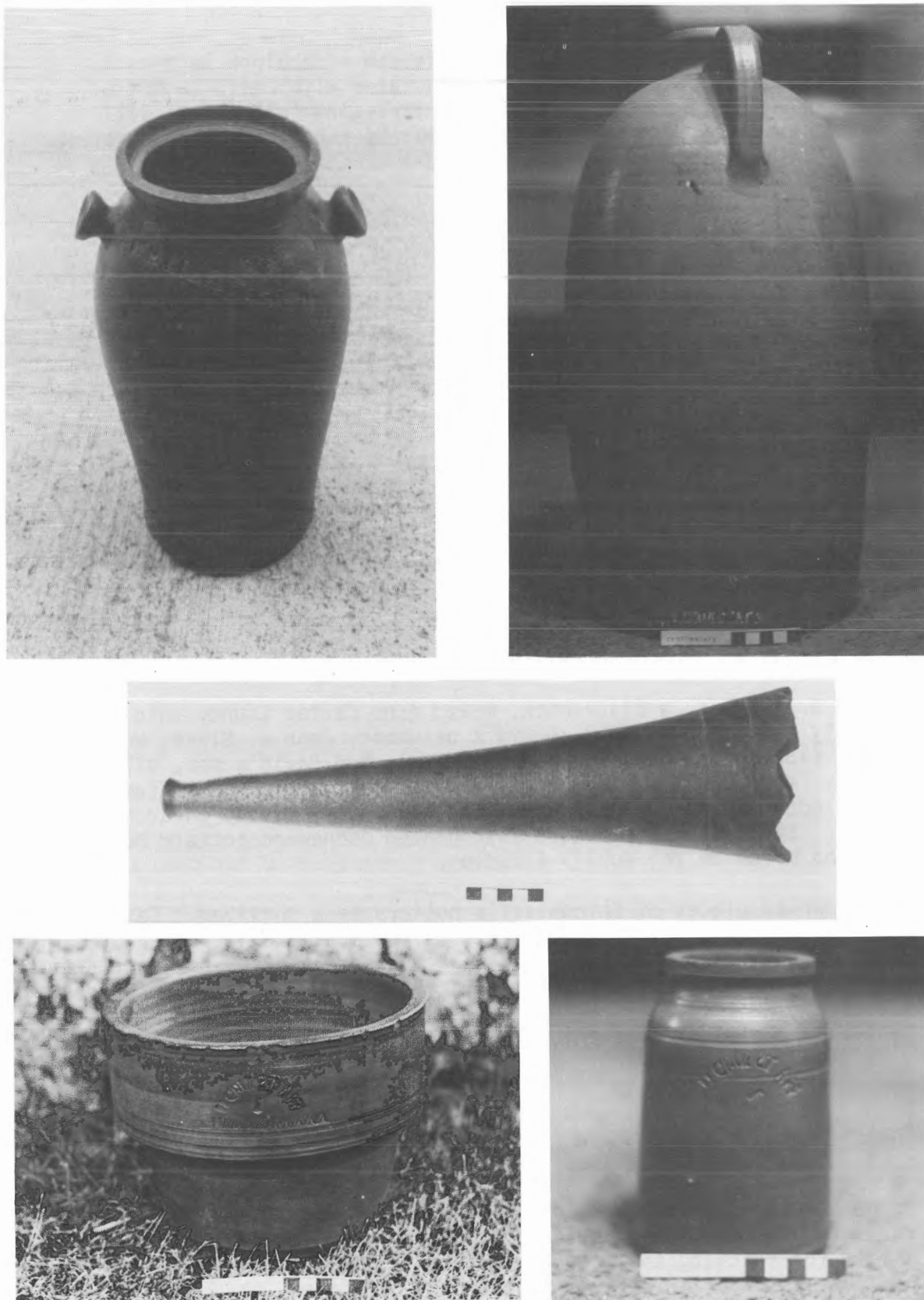


Figure 6. Marked stoneware vessels and hunters horn made by William Grindstaff. Vessels probably all made in Blount County (40BT17 and 18). Horn made in Knox County (40KN62).

40BT"Unrecorded"#2

Richard Ragan, "potter" on the 1850 census, appeared in Blount County deed books by 1834. He owned land west of the town of Maryville. His family pottery operation was probably located in this area, but no additional clues were found that would help to locate the site. Blount County tax books indicate Ragan lived in this area until 1852, at which time he disappeared from the tax records.

40BT"Unrecorded"#3

The third unrecorded site in Blount County involves a Maryville pottery. Two salt-glazed stoneware jars that were found in a private collection were impressed with a large block letter stamp "MARYVILLE POTTERY." Both vessels have distinctive roulette indentures around the neck (Fig. 7, upper).

No individuals were found who are known to have been associated with this operation, and a check of various newspapers published in Maryville throughout the nineteenth century produced no further information. The possibility does exist that one of the other two unrecorded sites may be this Maryville pottery.

Bradley County

40BY"Unrecorded"#1

An unsuccessful attempt was made to locate the only probable pottery site suggested for Bradley County. This operation is indicated by the 1850 census (Bradley County), on which Jeremiah Hayse was listed as a potter. Hayse was not found on any other census reports, and the Bradley County records exist only in fragmentary form from before 1860.

Carter County

As part of the earliest settled region in the state, it is not surprising that Carter County had one of the few potteries listed on the 1820 manufacturers' census. Besides the two sites discussed, there may have been other operations which were in existence too early to appear on the usable census reports.

40CR9

The 1820 manufacturers' census lists a single earthenware pottery owned by Isaac Hart and John Mathorn (family name later changed to Mottern).

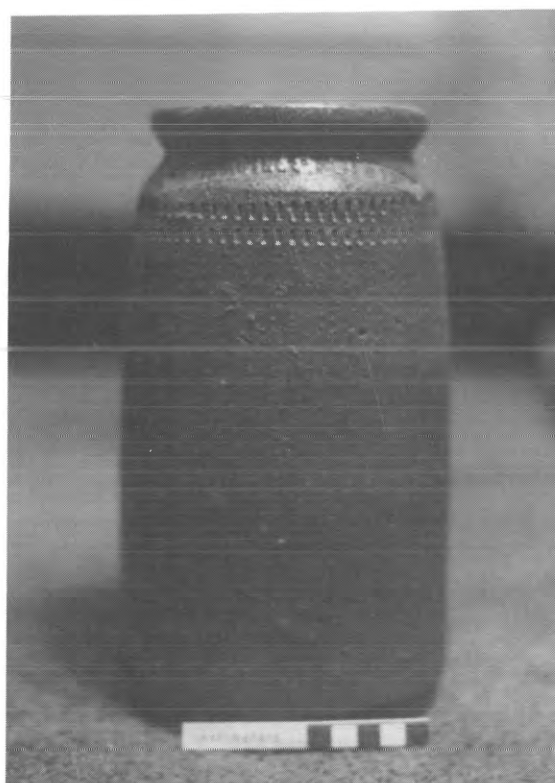


Figure 7. East Tennessee pottery vessels. Upper (left and right), stoneware churn and jar stamped Maryville Pottery (Blount County, 40BT"UN"#3). Lower left, manganese glazed sugar and creamer made at Hartbarger pottery, Roane County (40RE149). Lower right, stoneware crock stamped Weaver & Bo., Knoxville (Knox County, 40KN63).

The pottery that existed at the site recorded (40CR9) was, according to local tradition, operated by George Mottern (son of John). It was probably a continuation of the 1820 activity, until perhaps as late as the 1870s.

In 1820, \$300 worth of jugs, crocks, pitchers, bowls, and cream pots were produced. Two "turning laiths" were used, the ware was lead glazed, and one "furnace" was in operation. Lead-glazed redware is the only type present in the small collection from the site, and no identifying marks or distinctive attributes have been defined.

40CR"Unrecorded"#1

According to the 1850 census for Carter County, John Frazier and David O'Daniels were potters living three houses apart, presumably indicating a pottery manufacturing site. Unfortunately, it was impossible to obtain any other archival information about them. Using an extensive list of their 1850 neighbors, we were able to locate the general neighborhood where they must have lived but still could not find an actual site. Previously there were two or more iron furnaces present in this same neighborhood. As explained earlier, this is one of several instances where it is possible that the potters in question may have been involved with mold-making for iron casting.

Claiborne County

40CE"Unrecorded"#1

Hinim Heller is identified as a potter on the 1850 census for Claiborne County. He owned no real estate, and we were unable to determine a specific location for him, or obtain any other information on pottery making in the county. Both furnaces and forges for making iron products were in operation in Claiborne County in the mid-nineteenth century (map accompanying Stafford 1856). It is possible that Heller may have worked as a mold maker at one of these operations.

Greene County

No other county in East Tennessee had such a long or complex history of pottery production. Four of the nine potteries described for Tennessee in the 1820 manufacturers' census were located in Greene County, and one of these (40GN25) was still in operation more than sixty years later. The long history of earthenware production at this site is somewhat symbolic of production throughout the county. Though stoneware was produced in large quantities at certain potteries late in the nineteenth century, throughout the 1800s the basic redware pottery-making tradition seems to have been more actively practiced in this county than any other location in the State.

Much of this pottery-making activity was centered in the western part of the county, in the general vicinity of Lick Creek, and was clearly related to the availability of clay resources in that area. The same is also true of several other smaller production centers scattered around the county. Other factors that may help to explain the strength of the pottery-making industry in Greene County are rural isolation of the available local markets and strong ties to the industry on the part of a few specific families. None of these factors alone would seem to provide a satisfactory answer as to why the industry was so successful here, and it is believed that the importance of pottery making in Greene County was a combination of all of them, plus others unknown at this time.

40GN21

Frederick Shaffer was operating one of the four potteries in Greene County in 1820. Tax records place him in western Greene County as early as 1809, and information on the 1820 manufacturers' census indicates a well run and prosperous operation.

According to the census, Shaffer gathered the clay on his land, had a "wheel" for grinding clay, and used 300 pounds of lead for glazing the earthenware vessels. His main items of production consisted of crocks that he sold for 17¢ each, honey pots 67¢ each, jugs 25¢ each, pitchers 25¢ each, and dishes of all sizes that sold for 17¢ each, with a total annual production of \$724.

No date for the end of Shaffer's pottery-making activity is known, and no marks or specific identifying attributes were discovered on the redware waster sherds collected at the site.

40GN22

William Hinshaw had a long career as a potter. Listed in the 1860 census for Greene County as a "master potter," he probably worked at several other potteries in Greene County before establishing his own operation in 1870.

From information provided by the 1870 manufacturers' census, it seems that Hinshaw was producing a lead-glazed earthenware. Hinshaw's capital investment for 1870 was \$500, during which time he used 3 tons of clay, 20 cords of wood, and 40 pounds of lead. The pottery was probably in operation until about 1880. Hinshaw died in 1885 and is buried in a nearby cemetery. The pottery location was obtained from local informants, but adverse survey conditions prevented a good assessment of the site.

40GN23

The town of Mohawk had several pottery operations. There may have been as many as five different potteries that produced a large variety of stoneware ceramics, on at least two separate locations, over a period of 50 years. From

information obtained from local residents and newspapers, a chronology was established. It should be noted, however, that the lack of primary documents on the complex Mohawk problem has made this chronology somewhat subjective.

Because a modern structure superimposes the 40GN23 site, no physical evidence of the pottery was found. Also, the problem of associating this particular site to specific individuals is difficult because at least 3 different pottery operations may be involved, possibly all on this same location.

The earliest was probably operated by Lewis Haun, with some later involvement on the part of Jonathan Morgan. Lewis M. Haun was listed as a potter, in or near Mohawk, in 1860 (1860 U. S. Census, Greene County). Jonathan Morgan was listed as a potter in 1870 (1870 U. S. Census, Greene County) and appears to have been living in Mohawk. By 1880, Haun and Morgan were still living near each other, but Haun was listed as a farmer while Morgan was working in an "earthenware factory" (Morgan also worked in Hawkins County during this same year, see 40HW55).

About 1886, Carl Weaver from Knoxville (a son of David H. Weaver, owner of Weaver Brothers Pottery and Pipe Company, Knoxville) established a pottery in Mohawk for making clay sewer pipe. This particular operation was in existence for only two years. Around 1893, Carl Weaver returned to Mohawk and, in partnership with Lewis Haun, began making drain tile and bricks. They erected two round, domed kilns. These kilns were located north of the 40GN23 site and were in operation until 1920.

Two other men are mentioned as potters in the town of Mohawk (Roberts 1958b). Bascomb Lotspeich established a pottery in the mid-1890s, possibly at the 40GN23 site; however, its existence was apparently quite short. An Ohio man named Harris also established a pottery at this same location and produced brick and drain tile from about 1899-1903.

A small stoneware crock stamped "C. A. Haun & Co" was seen during the survey, and may somehow relate to the Lewis Haun operation. Unfortunately no other information has been found concerning a "C. A." Haun. A stoneware jar incised "Mohawk 45 - Weaver" was also seen in a private collection in East Tennessee. Presumably this was made at Carl Weaver's operation in Mohawk.

40GN24

William Grim, along with his sons David and Jacob, had a long and well documented history as a potter. Born in Virginia, William Grim came to Tennessee about 1858. Grim appears to have started his Greene County Pottery by 1860. By 1870, Grim seems to have been producing a large quantity of both earthenware and stoneware vessels. Working full time 8 months of the year, Grim and Sons used over 20 cords of wood and 700 pounds of lead in order to produce over 1,500 crocks and assorted vessels valued at \$1,000 (1870 manufacturers' census, Greene County).

By 1880, a slight decline in activity can be noted from the manufacturers' census. Working just 5 months of the year, Grim produced both stoneware and earthenware valued at \$500. Grim & Sons advertised in the 1887 Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory (p. 297) and were active potters into the 1890s.

Analysis of waster material found at the site indicates that only 2 percent of the sherds were stoneware, which suggests that lead-glazed redware was the predominant type of ware produced. No marks or specific identifying attributes were noted.

40GN25

At the start of the 1978 survey project, John Click, listed as operating a pottery on the 1820 manufacturers' census, was one of the first individuals selected for archival background research. A large mass of documentary information was accumulated and provided a rather specific area within which the site had to be located. Even so, the actual discovery of the site came only after several days of field survey work.

It is obvious from the 1820 manufacturers' census report that John Click's pottery was in operation sometime before that year. There is some question as to whether or not the 1820 operation was in fact at the 40GN25 site. But clearly by 1823, John Click was established on the tract of land where he remained until his death, ca. 1871. This location was near Malachi Click, who may have been John Click's uncle, and who possibly was also connected with the pottery making business (at least the inventory of his estate in 1840 shows that he died in possession of a substantial quantity of "crockerware").

Though John Click was born in Tennessee (in 1795), the Click family was evidently of Germanic origin (T. E. Cox, Greene County historian, personal communication). Some of the family members came to Tennessee from Pennsylvania, as indicated by census reports. John Click's father was probably also named John, but very little information was found concerning him. Though there presently seems little hope for defining any pre-1820 ceramic industries in the County, it would not be surprising to learn that the Clicks were making pottery in Greene County well before that date.

Following the 1820 manufacturers' census, the next definitive look at John Click's operation is for 1850. Again he was listed on the manufacturers' census, and it was noted that two males were employed at his pottery. An examination of the general 1850 census indicates that the two employees were probably Isaiah Heaton and John Nelson. Also in 1850, John's son, John Click, Jr., was identified as a 19 year old potter, still living in his father's household (1850 U. S. Census, Greene County).

Following the 1850 census report, John Click and various sons were listed as potters in subsequent decennial censuses: John Click and John, Jr., in 1860; John, Jr., Green, and Erasmus in 1870; and Erasmus in 1880. After John Click's death his farm passed to his eldest son, Green Click, and the pottery operation apparently did not last beyond the 1890s, at the latest.

The collection of waster sherds from this site indicates that glazed redware was the only ware produced. The glaze colors are mostly reddish browns with some dark greens and black. No distinctive specific attributes have been identified.

The manufacturers' census reports shed considerable light on what was produced by the Clicks. The 1820 report is especially interesting. In that year the clay was obtained locally, a small glazing mill and a potter's wheel were in operation, 320 pounds of lead and 32 pounds of brimstone (sulfur) were used, and the total production, valued at \$490, was subdivided: 1,600 crocks at 17¢ each, 320 jugs at 20¢, 144 honey pots at 50¢, 192 pitchers at 25¢, and 200 dishes at 17¢.

Later reports, in 1850 and 1870, are less specific but show that the lead-glazed ware was still being produced. The production was valued at \$900 in 1850 and \$1,000 in 1870. In the latter year the establishment is referred to as "Click & Brothers."

Some interesting comments appeared in a reminiscent article in the Greenville Sun (Alexander 1943). As a child, the writer had seen the "Click Brothers" making pottery. Some description was given of their work, a small shop was mentioned; and, of special interest, he noted that the "furnace was built round like an Eskimo hut with one door and a small hole in the top."

40GN26

As indicated in the preceding site discussion, John Click, Jr., worked at the pottery started by his father until possibly as late as 1880. About 1881, he purchased a farm several miles away and moved to this location, where he built and operated his own kiln until sometime before his death in 1898.

Waster sherds collected from the site show that this second operation was basically similar to the original John Click pottery. Reddish-brown lead-glazed redware crocks and jugs were the most common products; however, about 12 percent of the sherds have a rather distinctive light-olive, light-reddish-brown, spotted or mottled glaze.

40GN27

The kiln, which was still standing at this site until about 1900, was adjacent to the house built by Col. Peter Harmon. While it is doubtful that Peter Harmon ever made pottery himself, he (or later one of his sons) was apparently the owner of the pottery which operated here from 1850 or earlier to the 1880s.

According to the 1850 census, Benjamin A. Russell was a potter living next to Peter Harmon who was listed as a farmer with considerable wealth. By 1860, Russell seems to have been replaced by Simon Bohannon, a potter

from North Carolina. By 1870, Simon Bohannon was dead, but his son Thomas had joined the household of Simon's widow. Though listed as a "farm laborer," Thomas, according to his son, was already a practicing potter (interview in Roberts 1957). This seems confirmed in 1880, when Thomas (listed as William; William Thomas?), still living next to Peter Harmon's sons, was identified as a "farmer & potter" (1850-1880 U. S. Census, Greene County). Thomas Bohannon apparently made pottery here for a few more years (Roberts 1957); but, by 1900, he was living in another district (1900 U. S. Census, Greene County).

A sizable collection of waster sherds was obtained from this site. About a third of these are unglazed bisque wares. Most of the glazed ware is reddish-brown or orange, lead glazed; however, 20 percent of the sherds have a black, manganese glaze. Straight-sided crocks and jugs appear to have been the common vessel forms. No marked ware was found.

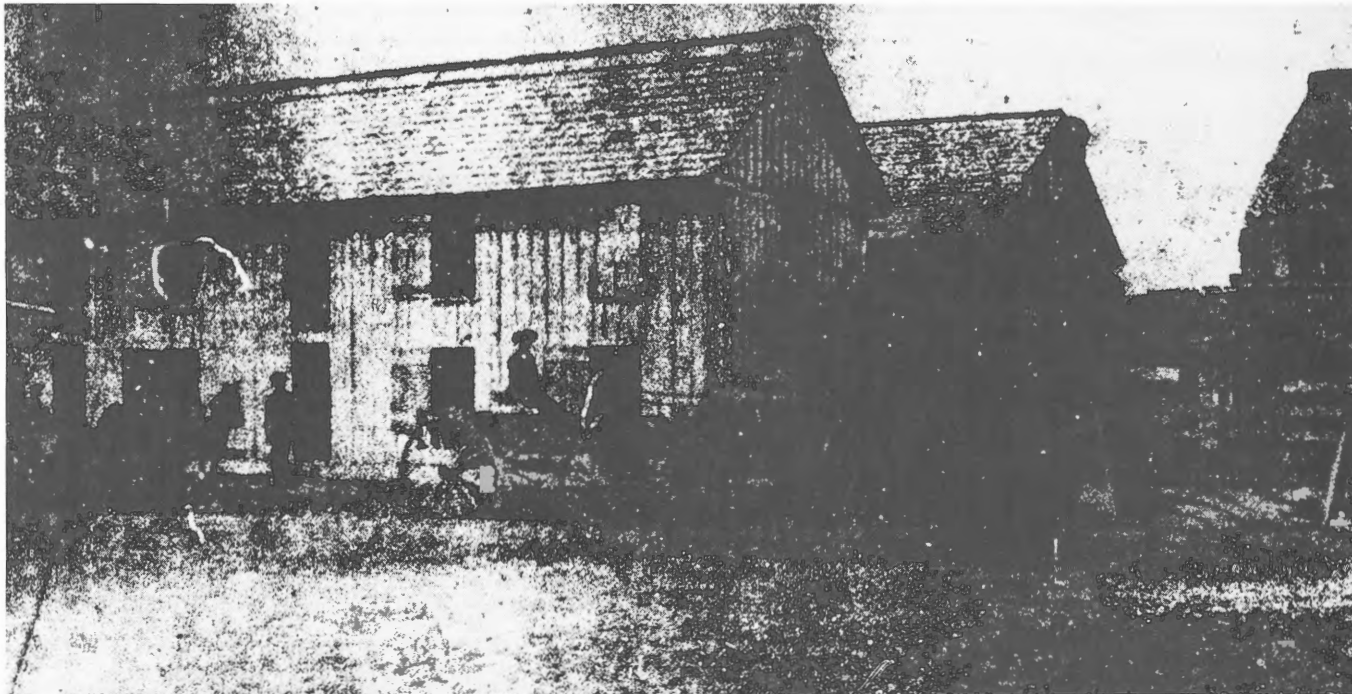
40GN28

From about 1885 to 1905, the Moses P. Harmon pottery shop operated at the spot in western Greene County that became known as "Pottertown." Around 1906, Harmon Pottery Company changed to Harmon Drain Tile and Brick Works, continuing in operation until 1920. The earlier operation produced both redware and stoneware crocks, jars, churns, vases, and other containers.

Much of the ware was marked. Most common are wide-mouth stoneware crocks with a 7/8-inch wide impressed band encircling the rim. Within this band, in block letters, the words "M. P. HARMON - MOHAWK" often appear two or three times (evidently made by impressing the wet clay with an inch-wide metal band bearing these letters). Other marks, seen in private collections, that may relate to this site are: "J. B. Harmon - Midway, Tenn.," incised letters; "HARMON," stamped; "G. W. McF," incised; and "turned by Sam McFarland," incised.

Sam McFarland was perhaps the best known "turner" who worked for M. P. Harmon. There were a number of other employees at various times, but our only point of identification is the 1900 census. In that year, M. P. Harmon, whose stated profession was "miller," had living near him Samuel McFarland, "crock molder," and Eugene Haun, "mold filling." Eugene Haun was a son of Lewis Haun (40GN23), and there were probably several other associations between this site and the nearby Mohawk operations.

An interesting article concerning the "Pottertown Pottery" was published in the Greeneville Sun (Roberts 1958a). This includes an 1894 photograph of the large pottery-shop complex (two two-story buildings) connected to a large bottle-shaped updraft kiln (Fig. 8) and a later photograph of the circular downdraft (?) kiln used during the site's brick and tile making era. Concerning the latter operation, it is noted that after M. P. Harmon's death, in 1915, his son Francis A. Harmon operated the tile and brick works.



HARMON POTTERY FACTORY—The two main two-story buildings are joined by cat walks adjoining the upper floors. The rear building was used for drying the freshly molded vessels and had a large chimney and a room extending to the rear. To the right can be seen the upper part of the pottery kiln. Shown are

M. P. Harmon, John Mayner, Mr. Burnett, Sam McFarland, Willie McFarland, Mrs. M. P. Harmon, Mrs. Sam McFarland and the following children, Francis, Ethel, Mae, Nora Harmon and John McFarland. The photo was made in 1894.

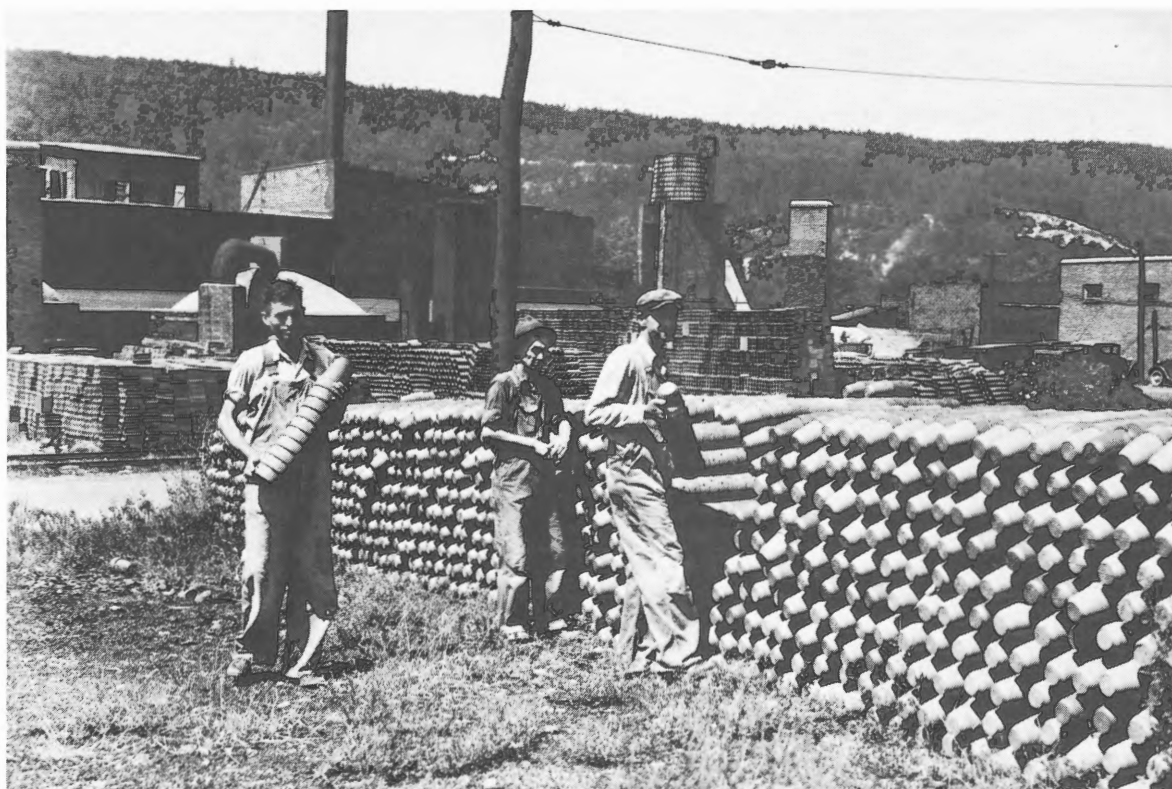


Figure 8. East Tennessee potteries. Upper, 1894 photograph accompanying article by Roberts (1958a) showing M. P. Harmon pottery in Greene County (40GN28). Lower, 1939 photograph showing stacking of clay turpentine cups at Herty plant (40HA98) in Hamilton County (Tennessee State Archives Photograph Collection).

40GN29

The pottery listed on the 1820 manufacturers' census with Thomas Ripley as proprietor was one of the most elusive dealt with during the survey. A large quantity of archival records was found relating to the Ripley family in general and Thomas Ripley in particular; however, no additional records pertaining to the pottery were encountered.

Thomas Ripley, Sr., acquired land within Greene County as early as 1783. A man of considerable wealth and land holdings, Ripley built a large two-story rock home in the 1790s, which is still standing. Thomas Ripley, Sr., died in the 1820s, and it seems very unlikely that he was directly associated with the pottery operation considering his age and high social status. Thomas Ripley, Sr., had 7 children, among them Thomas Ripley, Jr., born in 1801. Thomas, Jr., was 19 years old at the time of the 1820 manufacturers' census, and it was probably this individual referred to in the census.

According to the census schedule, Ripley used locally gathered clay in order to produce earthenware vessels, glazed with lead and brimstone (sulfur). He used a simple wheel for grinding the clay and turning the ware. The common vessel forms were crocks which sold for 12½¢ each, milk pans 12½¢ each, honey pots 37½¢ each, jugs 16¢ each, and pitchers 12½¢ each, for an annual value of \$116.

The additional comments made by the 1820 census taker allow for an interesting and revealing glimpse into the operation.

It is a small establishment not in a flourishing condition. The demand for the articles made is inconsiderable. The proprietor is almost continually intoxicated. It was impossible to get satisfactory answers to the questions, but it is believed that what is manufactured more than doubles the account given.

Thomas Ripley, Jr., was listed as a farmer in the 1850 census and died in 1862. It seems probable that the 1820 pottery had a rather short span of operation, and only minimal physical evidence was found at what is believed to be the site location.

40GN"Unrecorded"#1

Henry Kinser had an active and moderately prosperous pottery by 1820. Employing one other man, Kinser used clays found nearby to produce a lead-glazed earthenware. The 1820 manufacturers' census reported an establishment in good condition with sales readily made for all the ware that was produced. Major vessel types were crocks which sold for 12½¢ each (1,800), jugs 25¢ each (125), honey pots 75¢ each (120), pitchers 17¢ each (125), and dishes 12½¢ each (150), for an annual value of \$386.

Numerous Greene County records were found that relate to Kinser. His land holdings were all in the same general area west of Greeneville; however, no site was found that appears to be associated with him.

40GN"Unrecorded"#2

Jackson Campbell established a pottery west of Greeneville by 1850. While Campbell was listed on the regular 1850 census schedule (1850 U. S. Census, Greene County) as a farmer, the manufacturers' schedule for that year shows he owned a successful pottery business. It seems quite likely that this operation was one mentioned in the numerical listing of potteries for Greene County in the year 1840 (Compendium of . . . the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 243).

Campbell employed 2 men at his pottery whom he paid a total of \$40 per month. By compiling an extensive list of Campbell's neighbors in 1850, the names of two individuals, listed as potters, have been selected as Campbell's probable employees. Though not living immediately next to Campbell, William Sauls and William Hinely seem to have been located sufficiently close to Campbell to allow this association to be made.

According to the manufacturers' schedule, Campbell's pottery, with a capital investment of \$200 and \$500 worth of raw materials, produced \$1,000 worth of pottery in 1850. No information is available as to the type of ware produced by Campbell; however, when considered in the context of the known pottery operations within the county, it is assumed to have been earthenware.

40GN"Unrecorded"#3

Practically nothing is known about Thomas Stanley other than that he is listed on the 1850 U. S. Census (Greene County) as a potter. Stanley owned no land, and a list of his neighbors did not provide a specific location within the county. Various county records were examined in regard to Stanley without results. From his relative position on the census, Stanley appears to have been well removed from other known sites or potters. This suggests that there is probably a site, not found by us, that is associated with him.

40GN"Unrecorded"#4

John Hendry and Anderson Carter were operating a pottery in 1850. Information taken from the general census and the manufacturers' schedule (Greene County) for that year indicates a two-man operation with an annual production of \$1,100. While no mention was made of the type of ware produced, it seems probable that it was lead-glazed earthenware.

The difficulties in locating the site of this pottery proved particularly frustrating. Many of Anderson Carter's descendants still live in Greene County, and the area where Carter lived is known. Also, John Hendry is known to have lived nearby. Nevertheless, a separate site could not be found for them in the time available for survey. Complicating the problem is that the area where Carter lived is very near the location of the William Hinshaw pottery (40GN22). One possible interpretation is that Hinshaw may have taken over the pottery operation of Hendry and Carter by 1870, and there may be only one pottery site associated with these three individuals.

40GN"Unrecorded"#5

At least one additional unrecorded site must exist that relates to the Vestal and Reynolds families. The 1850 census suggests considerable separation between these families; however, they have been included together here as at least two associations are known. According to Mr. T. E. Cox (Greene County Historian, personal communication), the families were related by marriage, and the information found on land transactions shows an additional tie.

The first indication of involvement in pottery making on the part of the Vestal family comes by way of "An Inventory of the personal Estate of Silas Vestal decd. Sold ... on the 8th of April, 1833" (Greene County Inventory and Sale, Copied Under Works Progress Administration, 1938, Tennessee State Library, Nashville). The list of items sold is a lengthy one, but at least the following are relevant to our interests: "1 pair of pipe moulds"; "1 small lot of crockery ware"; "1 large quantity of crockery"; "1 jar and groce of pipes"; "a small quantity of crockery"; "2 turning lathes, stone and shop plank"; "1 clay mill"; "1 lead oven, 1 ladle"; "a quantity of potters clay"; and, in the same section of the inventory, nine separate entries for sale of small lots of crocks and pitchers.

Most of the pottery making equipment was purchased by Priscilla Vestal, Silas Vestal's widow, and it is believed that she was the mother of Isaac and Caswell Vestal who appear side-by-side as potters on the 1850 census (Greene County). Also on the 1850 census, Rufus Lucky is listed as a laborer living in the household of Isaac Vestal, presumably working for him in the pottery business.

Also listed as potters on the 1850 census (Greene County) are Vincent Reynolds and his close neighbor Henry Reynolds, who probably was his son. Vincent Reynolds was 53 years old in 1850, and had been a contemporary of Silas Vestal. His land transactions in Greene County began in the 1820s, and he owned 77 acres in District 8 until 1846. In that year he sold all of his land to Isaac Vestal, and it is noted in the deed that some of this land had originally been purchased from Silas Vestal (Greene County Deed Book 23, p. 183).

While the deed cited seems to suggest that the two families lived close to each other until 1846, the 1850 census suggests that this was no longer the case. Possibly the Reynolds family had moved to another

part of the county and started still another pottery, the location of which is likewise unknown.

All of this represents a very complex interpretive problem worthy of more research time than it was possible to devote to it during the survey.

Grainger County

(See Union County)

Hamblen County

40HB"Unrecorded"#1

Luke Stanberg was listed on the 1850 U. S. Census as a potter in Jefferson County. In 1870, Stanberg's particular area of Jefferson County was incorporated into what is today Hamblen County. A check in both the Jefferson and Hamblen County records produced no clues to a possible site location. The location of one of Stanberg's neighbors was discovered, but no other information regarding pottery-making activities was found.

Hamilton County

40HA96

Francis Reevely was one of the three Reevely brothers who were all listed as potters in the 1850 census (see Rhea County). In 1830, Francis was the neighbor of Thomas B. Love, a potter in McMinn County. Reevely moved to Hamilton County and was operating his pottery at the 40HA96 site before 1841. Account ledger books for that year show him exchanging his pottery wares for merchandise at a local store (Patterson Store Account Book).

Reevely lived on this site until 1869. The actual landowner, A. Crowley, moved to Texas before the Civil War. Reevely remained at the site but paid no rent. In 1869, Crowley wanted to sell the land, but Reevely sued Crowley stating he had a perpetual lease on the property by virtue of the fact that he had made improvements to the property, built fences, and cleared the land. Reevely lost the legal battle and was forced to move to the nearby community of Sale Creek. He lived there until his death in 1881 (historical information provided by David Gray, Hamilton County).

A stoneware jar with a dark metallic glaze, seen in a local collection, is thought to have been made by Reevely. It seems probable that he was also producing salt-glazed stoneware; however, no examples of such have been

found. Adverse survey conditions prohibited the collecting of waster sherds at the site.

40HA97

The Montague Pottery was part of a much larger firm called the Chattanooga Fire Clay Works. The pottery was owned by Langdon and Dwight P. Montague. The pottery was listed in the Chattanooga City Directory from 1880-1900. The 1880 manufacturers' census listed the Chattanooga Fire Clay Works as employing 65 people, but the actual number of people involved in the Montague Pottery operation is unknown.

The Montague Pottery manufactured stoneware vessels, fire brick, sewer pipe, stove pipe, and flue linings. The kilns were still standing as recently as 1958, but were gone by 1969 (U. S. G. S. Topographic Maps, Chattanooga Quad). Today a modern industrial complex is built on the site.

40HA98-101

The large ceramic industry in Soddy-Daisy developed by B. Mifflin Hood was located in the same area as the pottery (40HA98) established by C. L. Krager near the end of the nineteenth century. Initially, Krager produced stoneware jugs, bowls, and other pottery forms.

About 1904, Dr. Charles H. Herty formed a partnership with Krager and the Herty Turpentine Cup Company was established (Whitlatch 1936:161). They produced ceramic cups used in the collection of resin from pine trees (Fig. 8). Markets for these cups were limited to the turpentine producing areas of southern Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. The company continued producing large quantities of turpentine cups until about 1914. By that time the advent of aluminum cups had forced a decrease in demand for ceramic cups, and the company started producing other types of ceramic objects (Whitlatch 1933c:522).

By 1933, the Herty Turpentine Cup Company was leased to the Columbus Brick and Tile Company of Jacksonville, Florida. In addition to the turpentine cups they also produced hollow building tile, bricks, and farm drain tile (Whitlatch 1933c:522).

Also by 1933, B. Mifflin Hood had built three large plants (40HA99-101) that produced a large variety of ceramic products, floor, wall, and roofing tiles, plus acid tower rings (Whitlatch 1933a:40). The 40HA100 plant burned in 1942 or 1943 and was never rebuilt. The 40HA101 plant was dismantled in 1958 and the company went bankrupt in 1961. By 1962, the 40HA99 plant was sold to Federal Ceramics of Tennessee. The plant was later bought by U. S. Stoneware Company which in turn sold it to the present owner, Norton Chemical Company. The 40HA99 plant is still in production but it has undergone extensive modification and modernization.

Hancock County

40HK"Unrecorded"#1

Nelson Ketron is listed as a potter on the 1850 U. S. Census for Hancock County. Ketron did not own any land in the county and was not found in any of the county records.

Information provided by local informants suggests that Ketron lived in the southern part of the county; however, no site was found by the survey effort.

Hawkins County

40HW55

The pottery of Benjamin Anderson in Hawkins County was located in one of the more rugged and isolated parts of Tennessee. Anderson's pottery was well established by 1880, and the manufacturers' census for that year shows a relatively large and flourishing operation.

Anderson employed as many as 10 people at his pottery. Two of those individuals were George W. Snow, who lived in Anderson's household and was listed as a "crock turner", and Jonathan Morgan, who was listed as a "worker in the crock factory" (1880 U. S. Census, Hawkins County). According to local informants, a man named Hooten also worked at Anderson's Pottery. The 1880 manufacturers' census also shows that Anderson had \$2,000 capital invested in his pottery, which produced both stoneware and earthenware; however, no earthenware sherds were found on the site. Anderson's employees worked 10 hours per day and the skilled workers were paid \$1.50 daily, while the unskilled laborers received \$.50 daily. The pottery was in full operation for nine months and half time operation the remaining three months of the year. While no breakdown of the vessel types and their prices was given, the annual value of all manufactured products was \$1,700.

The date Anderson stopped making pottery is not known. Additionally, no marks or specific identifying attributes can be associated with his pottery based on the sample of salt-glazed stoneware sherds collected at the site. The most prominent vessel forms were crocks, churns, jars, and jugs. Perhaps the most unusual aspect of the site is a well preserved square-shaped kiln base. The kiln seems to have had one door, an inner lining of brick, and an outer liner of large limestone rocks.

40HW"Unrecorded"#1

The information regarding this pottery in Hawkins County came from the 1840 synthesis of manufacturers within the state (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 243). One pottery was listed in Hawkins County employing one person and producing \$300 worth of manufactured articles.

Because the compendium does not provide names of individual potters, no other information was found relating to this site.

Jefferson County

40JE31 and 32

Two kiln sites were recorded in Jefferson County. Their close proximity might suggest an association with the same potter; however, the differences in kiln construction would indicate two different operations, separated by a number of years.

The first site, 40JE31, is believed to have been associated with John Nooncasser (potter on the 1860 U. S. Census, Jefferson County). The exact date Nooncasser began his pottery is not certain, but it was a successful operation by 1860, as witnessed by his advertising in the Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory for that year (1860, p. 56). Nooncasser was living in District 4 in 1860, but he moved to District 3 south of the French Broad River by 1868 (Jefferson County Tax Book 1868). This would suggest that his pottery was out of operation by that time.

The 40JE31 site was discovered by the present landowner during landscaping activities. Upon uncovering the site with a bulldozer, he notified the Department of Anthropology at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Excavations carried out by Richard Polhemus in the spring of 1974 uncovered the remains of a circular kiln, 10 feet in diameter.

A second kiln, 40JE32, located about 200 feet from the first was also tested by Polhemus. Here he found a rectangular shaped kiln with two fire boxes not quite opposite each other (Richard Polhemus, personal communication). The rectangular construction of this kiln may, in this instance, suggest a later date than the circular kiln.

Two possible interpretations of these kiln sites are suggested by the available documents and other sources of information. First of all, the presence of another potter in 1860 is indicated. In addition to Nooncasser, A. J. Potts was also listed as a Jefferson County potter in the Gazetteer advertisement (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1860, p. 56). Tax books for the year 1853-1856 show that Andrew J. Potts was living in the same district as John Nooncasser. The wording of the Gazetteer entry would suggest a separate site for Potts, and may explain the second kiln recorded. However, it seems quite possible that Potts may have worked with Nooncasser, considering Nooncasser's advanced age (60) in 1860.

Perhaps a more reasonable, yet less documented, explanation for the rectangular kiln comes from Grindstaff family tradition. According to the daughter-in-law of William Grindstaff (Kitty Grindstaff, personal communication), William moved from Blount County to Jefferson County (around 1890) and may have made pottery at the 40JE32 site for 4 or 5 years before establishing his pottery in northern Knox County (40KN62). What gives this tradition added support is that the kiln Grindstaff built in Knox County was also rectangular, and probably similar to the one in Jefferson County (40JE32).

Salt-glazed stoneware was produced at both 40JE31 and 40JE32, but the collections obtained during the survey visit are too small to permit any real determination of types of vessels produced.

40JE"Unrecorded"#1

The manufacturing of pottery in Jefferson County had a long, yet poorly documented, history. Information provided in the synthesis of the 1820 manufacturers' census (Digest of the Manufacturing Establishments in the United States ..., 1823, p. 24) indicates one Jefferson County pottery, which employed two men and produced lead-glazed earthenware. Unfortunately, the original census schedule for this operation has not survived, and the identity of the potters could not be determined.

For 1840, a similar situation occurred. One pottery was listed on the census compendium (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 243), but no name or place association can be made. It is possible that the site indicated by the 1820 digest and the one indicated by the 1840 compendium are the same. It is also possible that the site suggested for 1840 may be the same location as 40JE31 or 32.

Knox County

The pottery industry in Knox County had a long history. At least seven different pottery operations were active within the county from ca. 1820 to 1906. Three sites were located and recorded, a fourth site appears to be obscured by urbanization in downtown Knoxville, and for the remaining three unrecorded sites only scant information is available.

40KN61

The pottery operated by George Graves in the northern part of Knox County appears to have been a successful business by 1850. Graves employed three men at his pottery and paid them \$65 per month in wages. One of these individuals was John Floyd, listed as a potter on both the 1850 and 1860 U. S. Census (Knox County). During the year 1850, Graves had \$200 in capital invested in his business, which produced 3,600 gallons of salt-glazed stoneware. He used 18 wagon loads of clay, for which he paid \$29; 36 cords of wood, valued at \$50; and 10 bushels of salt, valued at \$5 (1850 manufacturers' census, Knox County).

Several pieces made at the Graves Pottery are in the private collections of residents in the area. Most of these vessels have a very dark brown manganese (?) glaze; however, no fragments of this type are among the salt-glazed waster sherds collected at the site. One large jar was seen which has an incised letter "F" scratched into the vessel near the base. This piece is believed to represent the work of John Floyd.

An unusual find at the site was the top stone from a potter's glaze mill. A few other similar stones were encountered during the survey, but this one is unique in that it was cut from a larger millstone. Evidently the millstone had broken in half, but its half section was large enough for cutting out a smaller (44 cm, 17¼ inch, diameter) glaze-mill stone (see Appendix E).

40KN62

This is one of three or four sites in East Tennessee pertaining to William Grindstaff. Grindstaff appears to have worked at two separate potteries in Blount County, from 1870 to 1888 (40BT17 and 18). Family tradition places him in Jefferson County by 1890 (40JE32). And, by the mid 1890s, he moved to the northern part of Knox County to establish his operation at 40KN62. Grindstaff erected two kilns at this site, one for making bricks and the other for firing salt-glazed stoneware. The remains of the pottery kiln indicate a rectangular structure.

Grindstaff worked at this site well into the twentieth century; however, his exact date of death is unknown. A large ceramic urn marked his grave in a local cemetery for many years, but it is no longer present.

Grindstaff is known to have marked much of his pottery while he was located in Blount County. It is not known whether he continued marking his ware after the move to Knox County. An unusual stoneware hunters horn made at this site is owned by an area resident (Fig. 6).

40KN63

City and state business directories indicate that the Weaver and Brothers Pottery operated in Knoxville from ca. 1876 to 1906. The firm was owned by David H. Weaver, who, along with his sons Carl, William, and George, operated this industrial stoneware pottery.

The Weaver and Brothers firm produced a large variety of stoneware items. In the 1887 Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory (p. 194), they advertised as "manufacturers of all kinds of stoneware, fruit jars, flower pots, vases, sewer pipe, chimney tops, and dealers in sealing wax, etc."

In the Knoxville business directories (1876-1887) David H. Weaver was usually listed as the proprietor, and George C. Weaver was always listed as a potter. By 1892, George's name was not listed with his brothers. Also William H. Weaver left the firm from 1887-1905 to help establish potteries in Henry County (40HY59) and Davidson County (40DV138) in West and Middle Tennessee. He returned by 1906 and was listed as superintendent of the firm, renamed the Knoxville Pottery Company (Young and Company Business and Professional Directory, 1906, p. 212).

Weaver and Brothers produced both slip covered and salt-glazed stoneware. There are at least three characteristics which distinguish many of the vessels. The first is a larger block-letter stamp, "WEAVER & BROS." There were several variations of this stamp and often "Knoxville, Tenn." was added. On many of the pieces the holding capacity of the vessel is indicated by an impressed gallon number made with a round or oval stamp. This is composed of small rectangular indentations forming the circle with a very ornate number in the center. A third identifying feature of the Weaver and Brothers pottery is the shape of the extruded handles on the jugs. These have a series of nine or more parallel ridges and grooves running the length of the handle.

Quite a few pieces of marked Weaver and Brothers pottery (Fig. 7, lower right) were seen in private collections during the survey, and the distinctive handle type is represented in the small collection obtained from the site.

40KN"Unrecorded"#1

Samuel Smith was the only 1820 pottery proprietor listed on the manufacturers' census as making "stoneware." For his 1820 operation he used 12 wagon loads of clay and flint (at \$2 a load) and 30 bushels of salt (at \$2.50 a bushel). It is further noted that 12 kilns of stoneware were produced annually, valued at \$30 a kiln, or \$360. Two men were employed in the operation.

Smith's pottery was located at Knoxville, and he advertised in that city's newspapers. Three such advertisements are reproduced by Beasley (1971), all dating from or around 1826. The first is a general advertisement for stoneware "milch vessels," another an advertisement for apprentices to work in the "stone potting business," and the third states that Samuel Smith, Jr. "will give two cents a pound in stoneware for any quantity of broken glass delivered at my stone ware factory." This last advertisement raises an interesting question concerning the specific type of ware that Smith was producing.

Crushed glass is mentioned by Ramsay (1939:90) as an ingredient used by some southern potters in preparing a sand-lime or alkaline glaze, but Smith's request appears to be earlier than the earliest known date for the use of alkaline glaze in the South (Burrison 1975:387). It seems at least possible that the glass requested in the advertisement may have been used in the same manner as the flint purchased in 1820. Calcined and finely ground flint was a common ingredient of the better quality English earthenwares, and allowed them to be fired at a higher temperature (Hughes and Hughes 1968:78). Its unavailability in large quantities is said to have been one of the handicaps to the early production of fine earthenwares in North America (Hillier 1968:181). Interestingly, numerous chunks of flint were found in the workshop area during excavation of the eighteenth-century Yorktown Pottery site in Virginia. While the investigators of this site suggest that these may relate to the preparation of slip, it is also noted that tests conducted on the Yorktown stonewares show that they were fired at relatively low temperatures (Barka and Sheridan 1977:30-31). The

question that comes to mind is whether or not ground flint (or perhaps as an alternative finely ground glass) may have been used as an ingredient in the paste of some early American wares, which though technically earthenware, were in appearance like stoneware.

Unfortunately, the site of Samuel Smith's pottery was not found, and no examples of his work are known. Some Knox County deed records for him suggest that he may have lived in the same area as the later Weaver and Brothers Pottery (40KN63). It is possible that the two sites may in fact be the same, but Knoxville urban congestion provides a considerable handicap for making this determination.

40KN"Unrecorded"#2

A collector in East Tennessee has a piece of pottery with a paper label marked "Swann Pottery Knoxville". No additional historical documentation has been found that relates to this pottery. The use of a paper label suggests that an early twentieth-century date can probably be assumed for the pottery indicated.

40KN"Unrecorded"#3

Near the end of the survey project, a Knoxville collector provided us with information taken from a copy of the Knoxville City Directory, published about 1872, which lists "Trent and Toms, Potters." The State Library and Archives in Nashville does not have this particular copy of the Knoxville City Directory, as their collection has a gap from 1860-1876, so verification of this information was not made. Nothing else is known about the operation.

40KN"Unrecorded"#4

Another probable Knox County pottery site was also suggested by information obtained near the end of the survey. A Knoxville collector has a four gallon gray salt-glazed stoneware crock which is marked "Bowlus, Miner, & French - Manufacturers, Knoxville, Tenn." The stamp is an oblong circle with impressed lettering inside, and suggests a probable latter-half of the nineteenth-century date.

McMinn County

40MN21

Thomas B. Love was listed in the 1850 U. S. Census (McMinn County) as a farmer/potter. The earliest information found regarding Love comes from the 1830 census for McMinn County. Living next door to Love, in 1830, was Francis Reevely (listed as a potter on the 1850 census for Hamilton County).

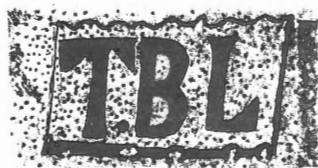
It is reasonable to assume that Love and Reevely were working together at the 40MN21 site in 1830.

By 1850, Love was working alone. The manufacturers' census for that year shows Love had \$100 invested in his pottery. He used 120 bushels of clay, valued at \$25, and \$100 worth of wood. The business produced \$600 worth of pottery annually. The manufacturers' census indicates that Love was producing earthenware; however, 98 percent of the waster sherds found at the site are salt-glazed stoneware. Only three sherds of earthenware were found, and these may be associated with the household debris from a nearby house site rather than pottery actually produced at the site.

By 1860, Love was 61 years old and no longer listed as a potter (1860 U. S. Census, McMinn County). It seems likely the pottery was out of operation by that time, but no exact ending date was determined. Love died on June 24, 1873 and was buried in a nearby cemetery. The inventory and sale of his personal property on October 17, 1873, is of some interest. Included in a long list of household items are two large lots of crockery and crocks, one of which sold for \$5 and the other \$10 (McMinn County Inventories & Settlement of Estate, Vol. 1, p. 15).

The most common vessels produced at this site seem to have been dark-gray salt-glazed stoneware crocks with wide mouths and straight to slightly ovoid body walls. The rims of these crocks are everted with flat lips, and pieces of several dome-shaped lids were found that have a "foot ring" made to fit inside the rim.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this site is that Love marked a large amount of his ware. The stamp used by Love was rectangular in shape and composed of three block letters, "TBL." The stamp appears to have always been impressed near the base of the vessel.



40MN22

It was not possible to conclusively associate the pottery once located at this site to a known potter. The deed records pertaining to the land were traced back to Jack Wilson who bought the farm in 1865 from Reynolds Cantrell. None of the land owners are known to have been potters, and it is likely that the pottery was in operation before 1865.

One possible explanation may involve members of the Reevely family. Francis Reevely, a potter on the 1850 U. S. Census (Hamilton County, 40HA96), was a neighbor to Thomas B. Love (40MN21) in 1830, and probably was working

for Love. Francis was listed in the 1830 and 1831 McMinn County tax books as owning 160 acres of land. However, for 1832, Francis' brother, Hugh Reevely, a potter on the 1850 U. S. Census for Madison County (West Tennessee, 40MD54), was listed on the McMinn County tax book as owning 160 acres of land. Presumably, the 160 acres owned by Francis in 1830 and 1831 and Hugh in 1832 are the same tract of land. The appearance of these two potters in McMinn County in the 1830s suggests that they could have been associated with the 40MN22 site, which is in the general vicinity of the Thomas B. Love site (40MN21).

The ware from this site is salt-glazed stoneware, although much of it is poorly glazed. The most distinguishing feature of the ware is the rim form of the vessels. All of the rim sherds found seem to be from wide-mouth crocks or jars and most of these have lips that are unusually wide, thick, and abnormally flat. These outward folded rims average 23mm (7/8 inch) wide, but range up to 28mm (1 1/8 inches) wide. A few of these could be from chamber pots but most are from storage jars.

Marion County

40MI "Unrecorded" #1

Manufacturing data obtained from the 1840 census (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 243) indicates that a single pottery, with one male employee and an annual production of \$250 worth of manufactured articles, was active in Marion County during that year. We have been unable to learn anything more about this operation, and nothing else has been found concerning pottery making in the county during the nineteenth century.

40MI "Unrecorded" #2

Information concerning the "Tennessee Art Pottery Works" was found in the Tennessee State Archives' manuscript collection (W. P. A. Project Boxes) too late in the survey to permit recording of the site. According to the Federal Writer's Project summary, this pottery, located in the town of Jasper in 1939, was:

... established by the owner and operator, J. H. Boggs, who is also chemist, designer and potter of his unique one-man enterprise. The clay, refined and moulded on Boggs' hand-wrought potter's wheel and glazed by his own process is assembled by him from clay deposits on the banks of the Tennessee River. His pleasing and quaintly designed output consists of water pitchers and other table ware, yard ornaments, vases and flower pots.

Monroe County

Pottery making appears to have been carried out in Monroe County throughout most of the nineteenth century. While we feel reasonably confident in associating all of the known historical sources to the two sites recorded during the survey, future work may well lead to the discovery of some additional pottery kiln sites in the county.

40MR98

A single one-man pottery operation, with an annual production of \$710, is indicated for Monroe County in 1840 (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 243). It seems likely that this is the same pottery that was still active in 1850 and 1860, which was recorded as site 40MR98.

In 1850, James M. Black and Lorenzo Pearson were listed on the regular census as potters living in the same neighborhood (1850 U. S. Census, Monroe County). Neither of them owned any land, but Pearson was next door to Andrew Pickens, who is known to have owned the farm where the 40MR98 kiln site is located. Thus, for 1850 (and probably 1840), it appears probable that Pickens owned the pottery and Pearson and Black worked for him.

For 1860, only one potter was found in the county, F. M. Ivans (1860 U. S. Census). Like Pearson and Black, Ivans was without any land, and he seems to have lived in the same neighborhood where Pearson and Black lived in 1850. This suggests the continuation of pottery making at the same site.

No potters were found on the 1870 census for Monroe County, and it is likely that this particular operation was by then defunct.

Because of heavy ground cover, only a small collection could be made at the site. Waster sherds from salt-glazed stoneware crocks and other containers were found, and there is a local tradition that brick making took place at this same location.

40MR99

Monroe County deed records provide a reasonably certain connection between this site and Walter C. Love. Love was listed on the 1880 U. S. Census (Monroe County) as a potter. In 1873, he apparently purchased the land in question and may have operated his pottery kiln as late as 1885.

As at 40MR98, conditions for obtaining a sherd sample were not favorable at the time the 40MR99 site was visited. Wide mouth straight-sided, to slightly ovoid, salt-glazed stoneware crocks are the only vessel types suggested by the collection.

A sizable portion of the kiln at this site is intact. Visible remains indicate a rectangular updraft kiln, with limestone outer wall and a brick

inner liner. It appears to have been built into the side of a hill, and may be the best example of a "groundhog" kiln (Greer 1977) found during the survey.

Polk County

40PK"Unrecorded"#1

John W. Pearson and his 15 year old son, Jackson Pearson, are listed as potters on the 1850 U. S. Census for Polk County. This is the only information found on pottery making in the county, and our search for a kiln site was not successful.

Interestingly, John W. Pearson's youngest son in 1850 was named Lorenzo, while Lorenzo Pearson, an 1850 potter in Monroe County (40MR98), had a son named John. Evidently, the two fathers, who were themselves close in age, were brothers.

Rhea County

Most of the pottery making in Rhea County was carried out by the Reevely family, who had a long involvement with the pottery industry. Charles Reevely was one of three brothers listed as potters on the 1850 census. Charles appeared in Rhea County as a potter while Francis was nearby in Hamilton County (40HA96) and Hugh was in Madison County (40MD54) in West Tennessee. No pottery sites were found during the survey in Rhea County, but two sites (Charles Reevely and James Mathis) are indicated and a third (Joseph Reevely) is suspected.

The patriarch of the Reevely family, Joseph Reevely, was born in England. He married Jenny Goodson in Sullivan County, Tennessee, on January 24, 1797 (Knoxville Gazette, February 6, 1797). Reevely was granted 600 acres of land in Knox County in 1809 (East Tennessee Land Grant Book No. 1, p. 600, Tennessee State Library and Archives). Reevely moved to Rhea County sometime before 1820. An 1820 deed, from Joseph to his children, refers to "the land and plantation upon which Joseph Reevely now lives" (Rhea County Deed Book E, p. 265).

There is no documented evidence that indicates Joseph Reevely was a potter, but given the fact that three of his sons were potters, it is possible that a pottery may have existed on his land.

40RH"Unrecorded"#1

Charles Reevely was the only one of the Reevely brothers to remain in Rhea County. He moved from his father's land on the Tennessee River to a location south of the town of Dayton. In 1850, he was living at this new location and was listed as a potter. The pottery may have been out of operation by 1860, since Reevely was listed as a farmer on that year's census.

(1850 and 1860 U. S. Census, Rhea County).

Charles died before 1869, and his wife Cynthia sold the land on November 13, 1869 (Rhea County Deed Book K, p. 101). She apparently moved out of the county, or perhaps remarried, because she was not found on the 1870 census.

Despite a considerable amount of information regarding Reevely, his kiln site was not found.

40RH"Unrecorded"#2

Some confusion exists regarding James Mathis. Mathis was listed as a potter in the 1850 U. S. Census for Rhea County. He was 60 years old and was born in Virginia. In 1870, a James Mathews, age 97 and born in Virginia, was listed on the census (Rhea County). It appears this is the same individual, because his daughters, Lusetta and Luisana, appear in both entries. Whether the proper name is Mathis or Mathews is not known.

No other documentation regarding Mathis or Mathews was found. The exact location of an 1870 neighbor was learned, but a search of the nearby area was unproductive in locating a pottery site.

Roane County

Six potters were listed in Roane County on the 1850 census: Daniel Hartbarger, his son Samuel, brothers Adam and George Kirkland, John Ball, and James Small. All six potters seem to relate directly or indirectly to a nearby iron works known as Eagle Furnace.

Excluding the Hartbargers, the remaining four potters owned no land in 1850, and the tax records indicate they all lived in the same district. This appears to be one of several examples of potters associated with the iron making industry. The occupational categories of the potters' neighbors all seem to relate to the iron industry (blacksmith, collier, wood chopper, iron master, and hammer-man), and it appears likely that most of the potters were involved with the casting of hollow ware. Except for the Hartbargers, there are no other indications of any actual pottery kiln sites.

40RE149

In 1830, Daniel Hartbarger moved his pottery from an earlier site (40RE"UN"#1) to an area near the Tennessee River, next to the newly established Eagle Furnace operated by Robert Cravens. Working with his son Samuel, Hartbarger had an active pottery operation until about 1863 (Mrs. C. G. Hartbarger, Roane County, personal communication). Today the pottery site is inundated by the waters of Watts Bar Reservoir.

While the Hartbarger site could not be examined, some of the wares produced there still exist in local collections (Fig. 7). The specimens examined are manganese glazed earthenwares. The paste of the vessels appears well fired, almost resembling a low fired stoneware. A Hartbarger descendant described the kiln as being circular in shape, appearing like an igloo, and dug into the side of a hill.

It is, of course, possible that some of the other potters listed on the 1850 census (Adam Kirkland, George Kirkland, John Ball, and James Small) worked at the Hartbarger pottery. However, as explained above, it seems more likely that they worked at Eagle Furnace.

40RE"Unrecorded"#1

According to information provided by Hartbarger descendants, Daniel Hartbarger came into the Roane County area from Pennsylvania, around 1800, and established a pottery, by 1812, in association with an iron furnace owned by George Gordon. The exact nature of their business arrangements is unknown; but, in 1827, George Gordon sold one-half interest in his "furnace, blushes, and pottery" to his brother-in-law, Mathew English (Roane County Deed Book F-1, p. 253). Apparently Hartbarger was working at the pottery kiln owned by Gordon (and English). In 1830, Daniel Hartbarger severed his connection with Gordon and established a pottery (40RE149) in association with Robert Cravens and his new Eagle Furnace.

Adverse field conditions prevented the recording of this site during the survey visit to Roane County.

Sevier County

One pre-1940 pottery is indicated for Sevier County, but a specific location was not determined. The suitability of the county's clay for pottery making has, however, been demonstrated by the Pigeon Forge Pottery, which was established in 1946 and continues to operate.

Though outside the time frame established for this survey, the Pigeon Forge Pottery deserves mention. It is perhaps the best known outgrowth of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Ceramic Research Laboratory, established in 1934 at Norris, Tennessee. Ernest Wilson and Douglas Ferguson, who founded the Pigeon Forge Pottery, had been employees of that laboratory (Publicity brochure entitled "Pigeon Forge Pottery"; Helen Bullard Papers, Tennessee State Archives, Manuscript Section).

40SV"Unrecorded"#1

The only documentary evidence for a pre-1940 pottery in Sevier County is based on manufacturing data collected in 1840 (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 243). The census information indicates one pottery that employed two men and produced \$400 worth of ware during 1840. No names are given.

A small stoneware crock owned by an East Tennessee collector is stamped "SEVIERVILLE POTTERY". The general shape and appearance of this piece suggests a mid-nineteenth-century date of manufacture, and it probably was made at the pottery mentioned in the 1840 compendium. Several knowledgeable individuals within the county were questioned regarding this Sevierville Pottery, but no additional information was obtained.

Sullivan County

Pottery making had a long history in Sullivan County and seems to have been largely dominated by a single family, the Cains. In spite of considerable primary source information about the Cains, the only potter whose name has been widely published in connection with the county is William Wolfe.

As recently as 1971, Wolfe is included in a list of Tennessee potters (Ketchum 1971:188). Ketchum's source is not specified, but a series of possible references includes Ramsay (1939:236), Whitlatch (1936:158), Spargo (1926:225), and Ries and Leighton (1909:219), all of them relating back to statements appearing in Barber (1971), first published in 1893. Barber's (1971:177) comment is that:

Mr. William Wolfe carried on a pottery in Sullivan County, near Blountville C. H., Tenn., from 1848 to 1856, where glazed earthenware was made. In 1875 he operated a pottery in Wise County, Va., at East Big Stone Gap, where he continued to manufacture a fine quality of hard brown pottery, or stoneware, until the year 1881...

Barber's source for this information is not given, and we were unable to find any mention of a William Wolfe in the Sullivan County records. Also, while there is no William Wolfe in the 1850 U. S. Census for Sullivan County, or in the general Tennessee index for the 1850 census (Sistler and Sistler 1976), there is a William Wolfe listed as a potter on the 1850 U. S. Census for Lee County, Virginia (p. 50).

The only conclusion we can draw is that Barber's information is incorrect, and a Tennessee site for William Wolfe is not indicated.

40SL31

Leonard Cain's pottery, established near the beginning of the nineteenth century, has been referred to as one of the earliest west of the Alleghenies (Napps 1972:8). Sullivan County deed records (Book 4, p. 495 and Book 6, p. 495) place him in the area no later than 1814. Besides Leonard Cain, his son, Abraham B. Cain, was a potter (1850-1880 U. S. Census, Sullivan County), and his other son, William Cain (listed as a farmer on census reports), supposedly helped manage the pottery. William's son, Martin A. Cain (potter on the 1870 U. S. Census), continued the pottery operation until near the end of the nineteenth century.

The Jesse Henshaw (earlier Henshaw, later Hancher) family was closely associated with the Cains by marriage and through the pottery operation (Virginia Hancher, Sullivan County, personal communication). Jesse and his son William were both listed as potters on the 1850 U. S. Census (Sullivan County), and Jesse (still listed as a potter) was living next to Abraham Cain in 1860. While there is a possibility that the Henshaws may have operated their own kiln, there is no real indication of this.

The largest surviving collection of Cain pottery is located at Rocky Mount Museum in Washington County. This collection, with the survey collection of waster sherds from the site, indicates a great deal of variation in the types of vessels produced. Lead-glazed redware is the common ware type, but glaze colors range from the common reddish brown to yellow, light olive, dark olive, and black. Decorating with darker splotches of glaze color was fairly common and incising with straight (horizontal) and curvilinear lines is common on the Rocky Mount vessels (but not indicated by the waster sherds). Vessel forms produced include jars, bowls, jugs, plates, and cups, and a few pieces of tile were found at the site.

A few marked vessels exist that were probably made at this site. All of the marking was done by simple incising into the wet clay. Pieces seen during the survey or reported elsewhere include: "A. B. Cain - 1889," "A B C," and "Ellin Mortin - 1876 - J. E. Cain."

Unicoi County

Unicoi County had one of the largest pre-1940s potteries in the state. The Southern Potteries, a large industrial complex located in the town of Erwin, was a successful operation for 40 years.

An outgrowth of the Southern Potteries operation is the smaller Clinchfield Art Pottery, operated in Erwin by the Ray Cash family. Founded in 1945, and thus past the ending date established for the survey, this still flourishing pottery is now producing the same basic vessel forms and copying the same floral motifs of the Southern Pottery. In fact, most of the Clinchfield Art Pottery employees worked at the old Southern Pottery and are continuing the same ceramic tradition.

40UC1

The large industrial operation called the Southern Potteries was established in Erwin, Tennessee, in 1917. The firm produced a molded "semi-porcelain" dinnerware that was shipped to southern markets over the Clinchfield Railway (Whitlatch 1933c:523 and 1936:162). Founded by Daniel Cash, this pottery was in production until 1957 and was operated by G. F. Brandt from 1926 to 1939 (Ray Cash, Unicoi County, personal communication). In 1939, a summary of the operation was prepared by the Federal Writer's Project, based on information provided by H. W. Kibler, who had recently replaced G. F. Brandt as General Manager:

Southern Potteries, Inc., is a modern ceramic plant located at Erwin, Unicoi County, which employs three hundred operatives and turns out more than 2,500 dozen pieces of finished hand-painted, underglaze table and cooking ware daily, with shipments to every part of the United States and many foreign countries. The plant manufactures the celebrated "Clinchfield" brand of dinnerware and is the largest of its kind in the United States. The equipment is of the most modern and includes two circular tunnel kilns measuring forty-eight feet in diameter, one for "first firing" with a capacity of 5,000 dozen pieces of ware every twenty-four hours, and the other for "second firing" or finishing which turns out 2,500 pieces per day. Both are of the continuous circular motion type of kiln. Other modern equipment includes a ware brushing machine, one of the very few in use at the present time; a cup dipping machine and another for dipping flat ware. A modern drying equipment is also in use in the clay department. The principal product of the plant is hand-painted, underglaze dinnerware. Ninety-five percent of the raw materials used in the manufacture of the company's product are purchased in the South, with clay, the chief item, coming from both North and South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The plant has been in continuous operation since its opening in May, 1917 (Federal Writer's Project, 1939, Tennessee State Archives, Manuscript Collection).

The most common decoration found on the dinnerware is a multi-colored floral motif. Several of the sherds found at the site are marked "Blue Ridge, Hand Painted, Underglaze, Southern Potteries, Inc. Made in U. S. A." A lone pine tree with a mountain range in the background accompanies the lettering, which is printed on the base of plates, cups, etc. (Fig. 9).

Union County

Three individuals listed as potters on the 1850 U. S. Census for Anderson and Grainger counties were determined to have been living in what became Union County in 1856. Field survey work, consisting primarily of interviews with several local informants, eventually led to the conclusion that these three individuals, William Raulston, Thomas Dean, and Thomas D. Harden, were all probably associated with two iron foundries that operated in the County during the 1850s and 1860s.

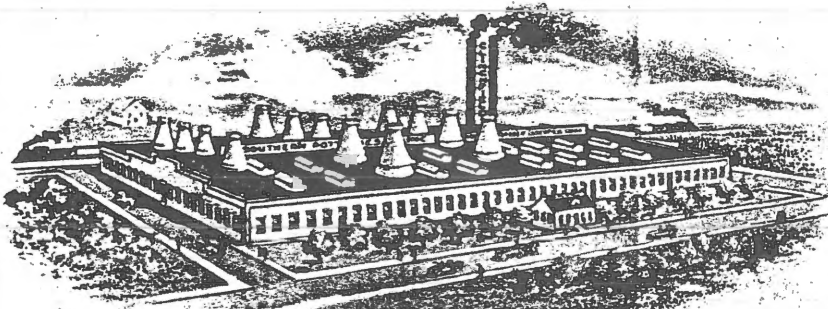
In 1850, William Ralston was listed in that portion of Anderson County that later became the Loyston area of Union County. In 1860, Ralston was a close neighbor to William Loy (1860 U. S. Census, Union County), one of the owners of Loy Iron Furnace, built around 1836 (Graves and McDonald 1976: 17). The other owner, Lewis Miller, is listed as the operator of the furnace in 1850 and 1860, and it is noted that both pig iron and hollow ware were produced (1850 and 1860 manufacturers' census, Union County).

This area is now covered by Norris Lake. However, former residents of the area were interviewed who knew much about the iron works but had

"Clinchfield" — IS LIKE — *"Sterling"*
ON CHINA ON SILVER

SOUTHERN POTTERIES

INCORPORATED
MANUFACTURERS OF
CLINCHFIELD CHINAWARE



ERWIN, TENNESSEE
March 11, 1936.



Figure 9. Southern Potteries: top, 1936 letterhead showing the pottery (Tennessee State Archives Manuscript Collection); middle, 1952 photograph of Southern Potteries warehouse (Tennessee State Archives Photograph Collection); bottom, basal marks found at the 40UC1 site.

never heard of any pottery making there. William Raulston is thus accounted for in Figure 3, but the suggestion that he worked at the iron furnace seems sufficiently strong to negate including a pottery in Figure 1.

The most striking example of individuals listed on the census as potters, but clearly not associated with a pottery, concerns the iron furnace built about 1830 by Allen Hurst and three members of the Sharp family (a site which is now also covered by Norris Lake). This was known as Green Grove Furnace, or sometimes the Sharp and Hurst Iron Works (Graves and McDonald 1976:16-17; map accompanying Safford 1856). According to the 1850 manufacturers' census, Hurst employed two males at his "foundry," which used pig iron to make castings valued at \$1,087. According to the 1850 U. S. Census (Grainger County, the portion that became Union County), two potters, Thomas Dean and Thomas Harden, were next door neighbors to Allen Hurst, and theirs were the only occupations other than farmer in the immediate neighborhood. The only reasonable conclusion seems to be that Dean and Harden were employed in Hurst's foundry as mold makers.

Technically, a foundry should use an "air furnace" rather than a "blast furnace" (Kauffman 1966:37), and this is evidently the type that is shown in the late nineteenth-century photograph (Fig. 10), provided by the authors of Our Union County Heritage (Graves and McDonald 1976). Additional information concerning Green Grove furnace was obtained from a long-time area resident who spent the early years of his life near the old furnace remains. He remembered many details about the furnace and casting floor but had never heard nor seen evidence of any pottery making near the furnace (Lee Cook, Union County, personal communication). This same informant stated that the water wheel, which had originally forced air to the furnace, was used for a long time afterwards to operate a mill. The long shed to the left of the Figure 10 photograph is evidently this later sawmill.

Washington County

Three of the four known potteries in Washington County were located and recorded. Two of the sites are associated with Charles Decker. Information in other published sources is available on the Decker Pottery, so only a summary of pertinent facts is presented in this report.

The third pottery, the Cherokee Pottery, was established in 1940, barely within the time frame of the survey, but included in the discussion.

40WG51 and 52

Charles F. Decker was born in Baden Germany on April 4, 1832, and immigrated to the United States while still in his late teens. He worked as a potter in Philadelphia, Delaware, and Abingdon, Virginia, before moving to Tennessee in 1872 (Burbage 1971:6; Miller 1971:9).

Decker built his first kiln (40WG52) near the Nolichucky River. While some salt-glazed stoneware was produced there, the kiln was intended to be a temporary structure. Decker mainly used this kiln to burn a large quantity of bricks for the construction of his permanent kiln about .6 mile away.



Figure 10. Late nineteenth-century photograph of Greene Grove Iron Furnance in Union County, the same foundry where the potters Thomas Dean and Thomas Harden appear to have worked in 1850. Photograph courtesy of Kathleen Graves and Winnie McDonald, Union County.

No documentary evidence is available regarding how long this first kiln was in operation, but all indications point to a rather brief time span.

Decker's main pottery operation (40WG51) was named the Keystone Pottery. The large circular kiln was enclosed in the center of a large building that was surrounded by at least eight other buildings forming the overall complex (photo in Burbage 1971:11).

The 1880 manufacturers' census shows that Decker had a large and well run operation. With a capital investment of \$1,600, Decker employed six people at his pottery. Decker paid his skilled workmen a daily wage of \$2, and the unskilled workmen 40¢. The Pottery was in full-time operation about 8 months of the year. Decker used 75 cords of wood in 1880 in order to produce 6,000 gallons of stoneware valued at \$1,400.

The Keystone Pottery is a difficult site to categorize. Initially a family operation, the pottery grew in size to such a large scale business (as many as 25 employees according to Hamill 1967) that it should probably be classified as an industrial pottery. Many of the people working at the pottery were Decker family members. In addition to the patriarch Charles Decker, his four sons Charles, Jr., William, Richard, and Fred all worked there. Two other persons who also appear to have worked at the Decker pottery were Theodore B. Fleet and Jas. H. Davis. Davis was listed as a potter on the 1880 Census (Washington County) living a few doors away from Decker. Fleet's name appears along with Charles Decker's on a marked stoneware vessel, dated Sept. 10, 1887.

Apart from the usual utilitarian salt-glazed stoneware food storage vessels, Decker also made tobacco pipes, jugs with faces on them, ceramic banks, inkwells, drain tile, yard ornaments, and grave markers. Decorative affects were sometimes created using cobalt blue floral designs, stars, and "hex signs" (photos in Burbage 1971).

Many marked and dated pieces of pottery made by the Deckers are in private collections in East Tennessee. The more formally marked pieces have block letters decorated with cobalt blue. Inscriptions range from the elaborate "Made by C. F. Decker Keystone Pottery May 5, 1884 Chuckey Valley Washington Co. Tenn" to "made August 9, 1889 by Wm. Decker". Additionally, many marked pieces with simple incised cursive lettering were seen. Perhaps the most unusual piece is a small bowl made by Richard Decker with the inscription "Don't annoy Granny, be kind to all persons - made by RHD (for) Osker Johnson."

The Keystone Pottery remained in operation until about 1910. Charles Decker died in 1914.

40WG53

In 1940, G. F. Brandt moved from Erwin, Tennessee, where he was associated with the Southern Pottery (40UC1), to Jonesboro to establish the Cherokee China Company. With the help of his two sons, Fritz and Frederick, Brandt continued his pottery operation about 10 to 12 years.

The firm produced a molded, underglaze hand-painted whiteware. They made dishes, flower vases, pitchers, and miniature knick-knacks. One marked piece of pottery was seen with a printed stamp "Cherokee China Co., Jonesboro, Tenn."

40WG"Unrecorded"#1

Matthew McPherson was listed as a potter in the 1850 U. S. Census for Washington County. No other records pertaining to McPherson were found. Several other McPhersons appear in the Washington County tax and deed books, but not Matthew. A check on his neighbors in the 1860 and 1870 censuses provided little additional information that would indicate a location for the suggested kiln site.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Davidson County

Nine and possibly ten potteries were established in Davidson County. Determining the exact number is complicated by the fact that four of the potteries called themselves the Nashville Pottery at various points in time. The Rodenhauser Brothers Pottery, 1869-1880, was listed as the Nashville Pottery from 1877-1880. A second pottery run by Laitenberger, McLee, and Goodall, from 1888-1900, was called the Nashville Pottery. The Harley Pottery, 1903-1918, changed its name to the Nashville Pottery in 1917. And finally the Nashville Pottery owned by Chester Sparks was in production from 1925-1940. In addition to these, four or five other commercial operations were in existence in Nashville during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and what was probably the first art pottery in the state was established in Nashville by Elizabeth Scovel in 1884.

One other Nashville firm should perhaps be mentioned. "Kramer & Son" is listed under potteries in the 1873-1874 issue of the Tennessee State Directory (p. 343). Contemporary listings in the Nashville City Directory, however, show that M. Kramer and Son operated a broom factory. Evidently the first mentioned listing was in error.

Perhaps the most obvious similarity of most of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century Nashville potteries was their location. They were typically located near railroad lines that were used to haul in clays from West Tennessee and later to ship finished products to various parts of the state.

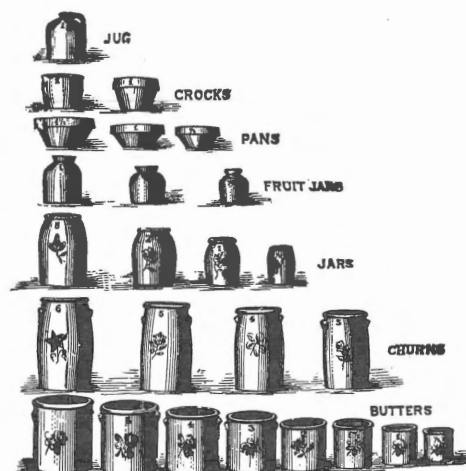
40DV138

The Harley Pottery Company in Nashville had a distinguished reputation for quality clay products.

One of the best-known potteries of Tennessee of comparatively recent years was the Harley Pottery at Nashville. The chief product was stoneware jugs for mail-order whiskey houses, and the Harley Pottery achieved an enviable reputation for jugs of superior quality (Whitlatch 1936:161).

On January 30, 1903, the Harley Pottery Company charter was granted to H. J. Harley, H. W. Buttorff, W. H. Harley, W. H. Weaver, and J. M. Harley "for the purpose of manufacturing and selling all kinds of earthenware, crockery ware, jugs, jars, and other products" (Secretary of State's Office, Charters of Incorporation, Book U5, p. 127). H. J. Harley worked as a traveling salesman for the Phillips and Buttorff Company for a number of years (Hale and Merritt 1913:1416), and the presence of H. W. Buttorff on the charter would suggest that some of the Harley Pottery Company stoneware items were sold by the merchandising firm of Phillips and Buttorff (Fig. 11).

STONE WARE.



JUGS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon	Per dozen, \$.....
1 Gallon.....	Per gallon, \$.....
2 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
3 Gallon.....	" " \$.....

SMALL MOUTH JARS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon	Per dozen, \$.....
1 Gallon.....	Per gallon, \$.....
2 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
3 Gallon.....	" " \$.....

CROCKS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon	Per dozen, \$.....
1 Gallon.....	Per gallon, \$.....
2 Gallon.....	" " \$.....

CHURNS.

3 Gallon	Per gallon, \$.....
4 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
5 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
6 Gallon.....	" " \$.....

PANS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon	Per dozen, \$.....
1 Gallon.....	Per gallon, \$.....
2 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
3 Gallon.....	" " \$.....

WIDE MOUTH JARS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Gallon	Per dozen, \$.....
1 Gallon.....	Per gallon, \$.....
2 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
3 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
4 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
5 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
6 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
8 Gallon.....	" " \$.....
10 Gallon.....	" " \$.....

FRUIT JARS.

1 Quart	Per dozen, \$.....
2 Quart	" " \$.....
4 Quart	" " \$.....

Figure 11. Advertisement from ca. 1886 Phillips & Buttorff Manufacturing Company catalog. Similar stoneware items were probably later supplied to Phillips & Buttorff by the Harley Pottery Company of Nashville (Davidson County site 40DV148).

Information from the Nashville City Directories suggests an earlier site location for the Harley Pottery from 1904-1905; however, no such site was found. The pottery was at the 40DV138 location by 1906. Plat maps of Nashville show three circular kilns at the pottery in 1908 (Map of City of Nashville and Davidson County, Tenn., 1908, Plat #25). In 1917, the Harley Pottery Company was sold to D. W. Benz, and the name was changed to the Nashville Pottery Company. The firm was in business until 1918 and after that date it no longer appeared in the City Directory.

Most of the sherds found at the site are from Bristol glazed and/or Albany slipped whiskey jugs, but fragments of large crocks and churns were also found. Two sherds were found with stenciled cobalt blue lettering. Construction at the 40DV138 site several years ago uncovered a waster dump and at least one jug marked "KENTUCKY LIQUOR CO. H. NEFF, PROP. MONTGOMERY ALA." (Fig. 12).

40DV139

Chester Sparks moved from Carroll County, in West Tennessee (see 40CL21), to Davidson County and established his Nashville Pottery in northeast Nashville in 1925. While Chester Sparks was the founder and president of the company, his sons Harold, John, and James actually ran the pottery. According to Whitlatch (1934:40) eight people were employed by this firm in 1934.

The main items of production were redware flower pots, which were sold locally and shipped by rail and truck to markets in Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Sparks built a large barn-like building with dimensions of about 170 feet by 32 feet to house the pottery operation. A second shed was north of the main shop and probably was used to load the finished ware onto railroad cars (Sanborn Insurance Maps of Nashville, 1914 with additions, Plat No. 384). Two side by side "furnaces" appear on the plat, one square, the other round; however, the diagram may represent one downdraft kiln with a large stack. The pottery remained in production until 1940.

40DV140

The Nashville Pottery Company, located in the Edgefield District of Nashville, was started in 1888 by William McLee and C. C. Laitenberger. F. W. Baker was listed as president of the company in 1890, and John L. Goodall was the pottery manager in 1892. The pottery was in operation until 1900, but in 1901 the building was listed as vacant (Nashville City Directories, 1888-1901).

The site has been covered in recent years by a large manufacturing complex. Only a few probable waster sherds were found at the site, and these came from along the railway line that was there when the pottery was in operation. Interestingly, several of these stoneware sherds have



Figure 12. Middle Tennessee stoneware vessels. Left, jug from the Harley Pottery, Davidson County (40DV138). Middle, jug stamped on the bottom "NASHVILLE POTTERY," probably made by Nashville Pottery Company, Davidson County (40DV140) (or possibly at 40DV"UN"#3). Right, cemetery urn marked "T. W. CLOUZE," probably made at LaFever pottery, Putnam County (40PM49).

a brown metallic glaze, similar to the glaze on two marked one gallon jugs seen in private collections in East Tennessee. Both of these jugs are stamped in block letters (one on the side; one on the bottom) "NASHVILLE POTTERY". A photograph of the jug with the bottom stamp is included in Figure 12.

40DV141

The Paul Coeffe and Company pottery operated in north Nashville from about 1886 to 1892 (Nashville City Directories), specializing in such florist wares as flower pots and bird baths. At least during 1886, Coeffe was assisted by Adam Coe and W. G. S. Anderson. The 1886 Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory (p. 569) lists Coeffe as an "Artist in Ceramics and General Potter," and gives the following price per thousand for flower pots: 2" - \$4.50, 2½" - \$5.50, 3" - \$8.00, 3½" - \$11.00, 4½" - \$12.00, 5½" - \$19.50, 6½" - \$40.00, 8½" - \$70.00, 12½" - \$300.

40DV142

The Nashville Art Pottery was created as part of the Nashville School of Art, in 1884, and continued to operate under the direction of Elizabeth J. Scovel until 1889. Two of the better known wares produced were called "Goldstone" and "Pomegranate." Two examples of these high-fired earthenwares are illustrated by Evans (1974:177-178), who also shows the only known example of a mark, an incised cursive "Nashville Art Pottery" (see also Kovel and Kovel 1974:362-363).

The site of the Nashville School of Art, which housed the Nashville Art Pottery, is now covered by a large office complex in downtown Nashville.

40DV"Unrecorded"#1

The only Middle Tennessee pottery mentioned on the 1820 manufacturers' census was in Davidson County. This is the earliest documented pottery in Middle Tennessee and the only one known to have been established in Davidson County until about 1860. What is particularly frustrating about this entry is that the name of the owner is illegible on the microfilm of the original schedule. Without a known individual to trace in the county records, locating the suggested site was impossible.

The unknown potter was producing a lead-glazed earthenware. In 1820, he used 300 pounds of clay valued at \$30. Two men were employed at the pottery and produced \$1,000 worth of manufactured products. Equipment at the pottery included one wheel for throwing the ware, a clay mill, and a glazing mill.

Comments made by the census taker are interesting. He recorded that "sales were dull and manufacturing was not conducted on as large a scale as formerly" (1820 manufacturers' census, Middle Tennessee counties, p. 191).

40DV"Unrecorded"#2

The appearance of a single potter, George Stanley, on the 1860 U. S. Census for Davidson County is difficult to interpret. Stanley was born in England and lived in the household of Tolbert Fanning. Fanning's wife and one other member of the household were also born in England and some sort of connection may be implied.

While Stanley owned no land and was not listed in any of the other Davidson County records, Tolbert Fanning appears to have been a man of considerable means. Listed many times in the Davidson County deed books, Fanning lived near the present location of the Nashville Metropolitan Airport, and a pottery site may have been located in that area.

If Stanley was operating a pottery, no advertising of such was placed in any of the Nashville City Directories. Unfortunately, the manufacturers' census for 1860 does not exist for Davidson County so verification there could not be made. Stanley's pottery, if a reality, was probably a very small short-term operation.

40DV"Unrecorded"#3

The Rodenhauser Brothers Pottery was the first pottery advertised in the Nashville City Directories. Established about 1869 by Peter and Rudolph Rodenhauser, this pottery changed its name to the Nashville Pottery in 1877 and remained in business until 1880. The approximate location of the site is known; however, the area has undergone a great deal of modification through urban developments in downtown Nashville. As a result no physical evidence was found that suggested a specific site location.

In 1870, the Rodenhauser Brothers were producing lead-glazed earthenware. They had \$1,500 in capital investments and used 36 cords of wood valued at \$180, \$36 worth of lead, and \$290 worth of clay. Their annual value of manufactured items was \$1,600 (1870 manufacturers' census, Davidson County). Aside from the usual utilitarian vessels, the Rodenhausers also produced flower pots and vases, sewer pipe, window caps, and chimney tops (Nashville City Directory, 1877, p. 268).

It is possible that the two marked jugs mentioned under site 40DV140 were actually made at the Rodenhauser Brothers' pottery. If so, they would presumably date to the 1877-1880 period (Fig. 12, middle).

40DV"Unrecorded"#4

A pottery operated by Andrew Elkin was listed on the 1870 manufacturers' census. Elkin lived in Jackson County in 1850, but by 1870 his pottery operation in Davidson County employed three men and produced \$575 worth of "stone and earthenware." Elkin had \$500 invested in his business and paid \$150 in wages. The pottery apparently was newly opened in 1870 as the census indicates only one month of operation.

Only one deed pertaining to Elkin was found in the Davidson County records (Deed Book 43, p. 164), and there is no way of knowing if that particular deed and location apply to the pottery. The location referred to in the deed is in a section of downtown Nashville that has undergone great modification through urbanization. No other information could be found concerning Elkin's pottery, and it probably was a rather short run operation.

40DV"Unrecorded"#5

The listing of a Magnolia Pottery in the 1903 Nashville City Directory caused some confusion in trying to develop a chronology for Nashville potteries. Weaver and Bradford are listed as proprietors of the Magnolia Pottery, which appeared in the City Directory for only one year. It seems likely that the newly chartered Harley Pottery Company bought out the Magnolia Pottery in 1903, because the Harley Pottery, for the years 1904-1905, was listed at the same location given for the Magnolia Pottery in 1903 (see 40DV138 for additional information).

DeKalb County

DeKalb, Putnam, and White counties formed the triumvirate that dominated the ceramic industry in Middle Tennessee. While the DeKalb County potteries were not as numerous as in the other two counties, the ceramic traditions and family names were similar. The manufacture of pottery in this three-county area was dominated from beginning to end by one family, that of Andrew LaFever (Webb 1971:110). Born in Pennsylvania, Andrew and his five sons established a ceramic industry that existed over 110 years (concerning the LaFever family see introduction to Putnam County). To a lesser degree the Dunn and Elrod families also played a significant role in the ceramic history of DeKalb County.

Information on manufacturing, collected in 1840, indicates six potteries in production in DeKalb County. These six potteries employed fifteen men. They produced \$3,700 worth of ceramic products and had \$5,300 capital invested (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 255). It is believed that at least four, and possibly all, of these potteries were located in the Caney Fork River Valley, which today is inundated by the waters of Center Hill Reservoir. Information obtained from the DeKalb County Historian, Thomas G. Webb, has allowed us to plot the approximate location of four of these underwater sites. Two additional 1840 "unrecorded" sites could be assumed for the Center Hill Reservoir area, but these have not been tabulated because of the very scanty information available (they may, in fact, have been in what is now Putnam County). One other DeKalb County unrecorded site is suggested from other sources, and two late nineteenth-century pottery sites near the town of Smithville were fully recorded.

40DK10

The pottery located at this site had a rather long history. An entry on the 1880 manufacturers' census for DeKalb County shows that Nollner and Gray had a pottery located in the town of Smithville. The general census for that year shows Francis B. Nollner and John H. Gray as neighboring farmers, and it is felt that these are the pottery owners indicated (1880 U. S. Census, DeKalb County). As many as eight people were employed in this operation. The census information shows that they had \$500 in capital investments and paid their skilled workers \$2.00 daily, unskilled \$0.50. The pottery was in full time operation for nine months but was idle the remaining three months. It produced \$960 worth of salt-glazed stoneware vessels.

Around 1890, this pottery was taken over by John Washington Dunn, who turned out "jugs, crocks, and other stonewares at his little pottery near Smithville" (Whitlatch 1936:158). Various members of the Dunn family were actively involved in the pottery business in this tri-county area, and John W. Dunn was apparently raised by some of the Dunns. His true family name, according to some of his descendants, was Hedgecough (Thomas G. Webb, DeKalb County Historian, personal communication). In 1870, he was living with George A. Dunn (see 40WH81), suggesting that he may have been raised by the Allen Dunn family.

The 1900 U. S. Census for DeKalb County lists Dunn as a "crock turner." Dunn's pottery was probably the last one in production in the county, making stoneware until 1915.

A salt-glazed stoneware jug incised "D. S. Colvert Sept. 5, 1911" exists in a private collection and may have been made at this site. Colvert is believed to have been a ware peddler working for Dunn (Thomas G. Webb, DeKalb County Historian, personal communication).

40DK11

The other recorded pottery in DeKalb County was operated by another member of the Dunn family, Newton Dunn. Exact dates for the operation of this pottery are somewhat speculative; however, Dunn's activities were followed with the help of census information and information provided by local informants.

Newton Dunn appears on the 1880 Putnam County census as a potter. He was living next to several potters and was probably working at the William C. Hedgecough pottery (40PM52) at that time. Around 1890, Dunn moved to the 40DK11 location to establish this pottery. His son, George W. Dunn, mentioned by several informants as the best "turner" of his day, undoubtedly worked with him. The pottery remained in operation until about 1900. A typical range of salt-glazed stoneware vessels was produced at this site. After the pottery was closed, Newton Dunn moved back to southwest Putnam County where he died on April 24, 1930.

40DK"Unrecorded"#1

An advertisement in the January 31, 1835, McMinnville Central Gazette offers an unusual source concerning the early pottery industry in DeKalb County.

Stone-ware Factory

The subscriber has taken the new and excellent stoneware establishment, on the Caney Fork River, Warren County, below Allen's Ferry and expected to have a large and general assortment of the best quality for sale, which he intends selling on the best of terms to those who may be disposed to purchase.

James Davis
Sept. 13, 1831

Two points need to be clarified about this advertisement. The date below James Davis' name is probably the date the advertisement first appeared in the newspaper, thus pushing the beginning date of operation back to 1831. Secondly, while the location given in the advertisement is Warren County, DeKalb County was established in 1837 from parts of five counties, including this portion of Warren.

It is not known how long Davis was actually involved in the pottery business, but it seems he sold his interest to Thomas Leek by 1839. A deed from Allen Johnson to Alexander Martin on January 4, 1839 (DeKalb County Deed Book A., p. 205) mentioned:

A 50 acre tract of land ... being in Warren County, now called DeKalb, on the waters of the Caney Fork River and in narrow bend of said river. Beginning at a beech ... including Thomas Leek's kiln for burning stoneware.

This site is evidently one of the six referred to in the compendium of the Sixth United States Census (1841, p. 255), but information regarding the ending date of operation is not known. Today the site is situated under the waters of Center Hill Reservoir.

40DK"Unrecorded"#2

John R. Dunn built a pottery in the Caney Fork River bottom around 1850 (it may have been one of the potteries listed on the Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 255). The 1850 U. S. Census (DeKalb County) listed Dunn and his neighbor, John Elrod, as potters. These two men were probably in partnership, but by 1860 Elrod moved to southwest Putnam County leaving John Dunn to operate his pottery alone. Dunn appeared in the DeKalb County tax book for 1866, but he was not found in any post-1866 county records.

Dunn was probably making salt-glazed stoneware. Today the site of his pottery is inundated by the waters of Center Hill Reservoir.

40DK"Unrecorded"#3

John LaFever was one of Andrew LaFever's five sons who established potteries in the DeKalb, Putnam, and White County area. John was listed in the 1850 U. S. Census (DeKalb County) as a potter and worked with his sons, John, Jr., and Jessie. Amon Martin lived in the LaFever household and was probably involved in the pottery operation.

The date when John LaFever established his pottery is unknown; however, it probably was in operation prior to 1840 and was one of the potteries mentioned on the 1840 census compendium (Compendium of ... the Six Census, 1841, p. 255). LaFever stopped production at his DeKalb County pottery before 1860 and moved to Putnam County, where he continued his pottery-making activities into the 1870s.

This site is one of at least four kiln sites believed to have been inundated by Center Hill Reservoir.

40DK"Unrecorded"#4

Charles F. Jones advertised in the 1860 Tennessee Gazetteer as operating a pottery in the southwestern part of DeKalb County (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1860, p. 290). A check of the census records for that year showed Charles Jones listed as a "Speculator." This is a clear indication that while Jones may have owned the pottery, he had little actual involvement with its daily operation and was not a potter.

This hypothesis is given added credibility in that living near Jones was James Hash, potter (1860 U. S. Census, DeKalb County). Hash was evidently the person throwing the ware, but no other clues concerning this pottery were found. It was probably a small, short-term operation producing salt-glazed stoneware.

40DK"Unrecorded"#5

The appearance of Zachariah LaFever as a potter in the 1870 census (DeKalb County) was surprising. Zachariah was the oldest son of Andrew LaFever and in 1870, at age 73, seems to have been continuing the family involvement in the pottery trade.

It is difficult to trace Zachariah's activities because he appeared only on the 1870 census as a potter. Indications are that he was established for a long time in the Caney Fork River Bottoms (Thomas G. Webb, DeKalb County Historian, personal communication). In 1870, Zachariah's son Abraham, brother Eli, and nephew Andrew J. LaFever were all living near him and may have been involved in the pottery operation to some degree.

The location of Zachariah LaFever's former farm and suggested pottery is in the area that was inundated by Center Hill Reservoir.

Hickman County

40HI3 and 120

The Coble Pottery, the only such operation known for western Middle Tennessee, has been mentioned by several authors (Safford 1869:514, Spence and Spence 1900:106, Ries and Leighton 1909:220, Whitlatch 1936:158), including Ramsay's (1939:238 and 242) erroneous name and place comments. It is the only pottery site in the state that has an historical marker (Tennessee Historical Markers, 1972, p. 157). The site of Adam Coble's log house and a probable kiln had been recorded previous to the 1977-1978 survey (40HI3); however, additional survey work led to the discovery of a second kiln site nearby (40HI120). The exact chronological relationship between the two sites is not clear, and little remains of either kiln.

Tradition places Adam Coble in Hickman County as early as the 1820s, but support for this was not found in the land records examined. The first probable indication of his presence in the county is the 1840 census compendium. This shows a single Hickman County pottery, employing two men, with an annual production of \$350 (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 255). It has also been widely accepted that the Coble pottery went out of business just after the Civil War, but census records indicate some sort of operation as late as 1880. On the 1850 census (Hickman County), Adam Coble is listed as a 53 year old potter, born in North Carolina. In 1860, Adam is listed as a farmer, but Peter Coble, living next to Adam and probably his brother, is identified as a potter. On the 1870 census, none of the Cobles are shown as potters. But in 1880, Adam Coble (age 82) and his son, David, are both listed as practicing the "potters trade" (1850-1880 U. S. Census, Hickman County).

All of the secondary published sources concerning the ware produced by the Cobles appear to be based on the summary in Safford's Geology of Tennessee (which incidentally provides support for the continued operation of the pottery between 1860 and 1880). According to Safford (1869:514):

At many points ... in the vicinity of the Tennessee River, the shales of the Meniscus Formation ... yield by weathering, potter's clay ... in Hickman (County), such clay is used by Mr. Adam Coble for making a brick red stone-ware. Mr. C. colors some of his ware with black manganese obtained in the vicinity. The clay is obtained from beneath the Black Shale.

In spite of Safford's use of the term stoneware, the large collection of waster sherds from 40HI120 indicates the production of a rather typical lead-glazed redware, with approximately 26 percent of the sherds having a dark manganese glaze. Common items manufactured were wide-mouth crocks and jars with knob-handle lids, preserve jars, jugs, churns, grease lamps, drain tile, and roofing tile. The pieces of flat tile are fabric impressed on one surface, indicating that they were molded in the traditional manner described by Barber (1971:49). No marked wares are known to have been produced by the Cobles.

Jackson County

40JK"Unrecorded"#1

Zachariah Sailers was listed as a potter on the 1850 U. S. Census for Jackson County; however, nothing else could be learned about him. It is possible that he worked at one of the 1850 potteries that were just across the Jackson-White County line in the portion of White County that became part of Putnam County in 1854. Unfortunately there are other problems with making this association; therefore, it seems best to leave Sailers with a possible Jackson County site.

Putnam County

Putnam County had more potteries than any other county within the state except White. Nineteen pottery sites were located and recorded during the two seasons of survey, and an additional 2 unrecorded sites may exist, making a total of 21 possible sites. Nineteen of these sites are located in the southwest part of the county.

One of the most important questions asked during the survey was why so many of these stoneware potteries were located in this area. Several factors were necessary for their existence; however, the primary reason seems to have been one of geology (Rogers 1978:46). "The potters of this area were utilizing local residual clays derived from limestones of the Mississippian Age" (Whitlatch 1934a:8)

The soils in this area are of the Waynesboro-Holston-Baxter association, and were developed from old terraces that are 100-120 feet higher than the present stream bottoms. The materials on these terraces appear to have been deposited over limestone residuum by an old drainage system. On some of the adjoining steeper slopes streams have cut through the deposit and have exposed residual soils (Jackson et al. 1963:5).

The presence of this substantial clay source, in addition to a large number of potters, resulted in a viable pottery industry lasting for nearly a century.

Putnam County was created in 1854 from portions of Fentress, Jackson, Overton, DeKalb, and White Counties. This caused a great deal of confusion in trying to relate potters mentioned on the 1850 census for the above counties to sites in Putnam County. This was a particular problem with White County. Eleven individuals, James T. Crowley, Stephen D. Crowley, Ellisen Crowley, Charter Mitchell, Thomas Roberts, John A. Roberts, Patrick Potts, William Rainey, Andrew LaFever, Jr., Allen Dunn, and John Campbell, were listed as potters on the 1850 Census for White County. All indications point to 2 or 3 sites associated with these potters, and these sites appear to have been located in what is now Putnam County. As a result, the above named potters will be referred to only within the discussion of Putnam County.

The greatest problem in associating potters to sites is one of sheer numbers. There were so many kilns and potters in one concentrated area that associating a specific individual to a specific location was difficult. Given the transient nature of the business, a local potter may have worked at several different potteries over a relatively short time span.

Another problem encountered in working in the DeKalb-Putnam-White County area was the persistence of names, especially in the case of the LaFever family. First names were often repeated from generation to generation. There were two Andrew LaFever's, three Asher LaFever's, two George LaFever's, three James LaFever's, and two John LaFever's, all of them potters. In order to avoid confusion in this matter, the identity of these individuals is clarified by making references to their father (i. e., Asher, son of Thomas, or James, son of Andrew).

An abbreviated LaFever family genealogy is presented below that shows the LaFever's who were active in the pottery industry. Andrew LaFever, the patriarch of the family, and five or six of his sons were potters. Not all of the family members are represented; only those with known or probable pottery making affiliation are shown.

LaFever Family

Andrew LaFever (born 1774) - White County

- I. Zachariah (1797) - DeKalb County
 - a. Abraham (1818) - DeKalb County (possible potter, no direct indication)
- II. John (1799) - DeKalb County, later moved to Putnam County
 - a. John (1831) - DeKalb County
 - b. Jesse (1833) - DeKalb County
- III. Eli (1803) - DeKalb County (possible potter, no direct indication)
 - a. Andrew (1830) - DeKalb County (possible potter, no direct indication)
- IV. Asher (1812) - White County, later moved to Putnam County
 - a. Thomas (1830) - Putnam County
 1. Asher (1850) - Putnam County
 - a) Eli (1880) - Putnam County
 - 1) Riley (post-1900) - Putnam County
 - b) Winfield (?) - Putnam County
 - c) Columbus (1896) - Putnam County
 2. James H. (1853) - Putnam County
- V. Andrew (1814) - White County
 - a. Francis A. (1836) - White County
- VI. James (1816) - White County
 - a. George (1834) - White County
 - b. Zachariah (1835) - White County
 1. George W. (1869) - White County
 - c. Asher (1845) - White County
 - d. James (1854) - White County

40PM49

The Eli LaFever Pottery (40PM49) was the last family pottery in operation in the DeKalb-White-Putnam County area. Eli, along with his son Riley, continued the operation until about 1937; however, the history of this site extends back to before 1870. The remains of two kilns are present on the site, and these temporally separated operations caused some difficulty in trying to establish a reliable chronology. After speaking to many long-time residents in the area, a reasonably clear picture of this site was developed.

The first person known to have been associated with the Eli LaFever site is *William Gambrell*. He was listed on the 1870 U. S. Census (Putnam County) as a farmer; however, his neighbors included *William Massa*, *Jacob Barr*, and *John LaFever* (son of Andrew), potters. It is assumed that these individuals were associated with this site during the 1870s. The problem of developing an accurate history of this site is compounded by the earlier appearance of these same potters in this area. John LaFever, Jacob Barr, and William Massa, as well as *John Elrod* and *Peter Dunn*, were all potters listed on the 1860 census (Putnam County) who appear to have been living in the 40PM49 area. However, William Gambrell was not found on the 1860 census. One possible interpretation is that this early group of potters, headed by John LaFever, had the initial pottery operation at the 40PM49 site, and William Gambrell took it over by 1870 (see also 40PM"Un"#1).

Sometime after 1880 Gambrell traded his land, which included the kiln, to *Thomas LaFever*. Thomas and his father, Asher (son of Andrew), had been operating a pottery about one mile south of 40PM49 (see 40PM58). Thomas and his wife Rachel, along with their sons, *Asher* and *James H.*, operated at the 40PM49 site well into the twentieth century. After Thomas died, *Rachel LaFever* hired a potter named *Dick Clouse* to continue the operation. The old kiln was deteriorating, and Rachel had a new kiln built, abandoning the old one. Dick Clouse, along with James LaFever and *Riley Elrod*, did most of the turning at the new pottery.

During the late 1920s, *Eli LaFever* took over the pottery operation. Eli was the grandson of Thomas and Rachel and the son of Asher. By that time the newer kiln was deteriorating, so Eli abandoned it and rebuilt the original Gambrell kiln. Eli was a potter, but he also hired *George W. Dunn* to turn for him. In addition, Eli's son *Riley* worked at this site.

While there is some confusion between this pottery and a nearby one operated by Columbus LaFever (40PM59), it was the opinion of the majority of the people interviewed that the Eli LaFever pottery was in operation until 1937 or 1938 (1938, according to Jacobs 1978:10). It was the oldest surviving pottery in a long legacy of family potteries in the area.

Waster sherds collected at this site indicate a generally good quality of workmanship. All the typical utilitarian salt-glazed stoneware vessel forms are represented, in addition to candle holders, grease lamps, and tobacco pipes.

At least a few vessels with Thomas LaFever's initials incised into the bottom were made at the 40PM49 site, and marked pieces of pottery were seen that relate to the operation during the Dick Clouse years (T. W. "Dick" Clouse

died in 1914). Several vessels stamped "T. W. CLOUSE" or "T. W. CLOUSE BURTON TENN." were seen in private collections (Fig. 12). Initially the identity of "Burton" could not be determined, but eventually it was learned that this was once the name of a post office that operated out of a country store near the 40PM49 site.

Photographs taken at the Eli LaFever pottery were published in 1934 by George Whitlatch, the Assistant Geologist for the State of Tennessee (Whitlatch 1934a:6 and 1934b:42). One photograph, captioned "Primitive 'wheel and pit,' LaFever Pottery, Putnam County," shows the horse-drawn wheel used to grind the clay and the pug mill where the two kinds of clays were mixed. The second photograph, captioned "View of Typical Hill County Pottery," shows a general view of the kiln, sheds, and ware.

Photographs of this same pottery as it appeared in 1936 or 1937 were made available to us by Dillard Jacobs, of Williamson County, who visited the LaFever pottery and took the photographs at that time. Figure 13 is a view of the kiln, its protecting shed, and some of the wares produced. In the lower right corner of this photograph an old potter's wheel is lying on its side. Its wooden head block is attached to a used automobile crank shaft that connects to a recycled horse-drawn-mower wheel, used as the flywheel (for additional explanation of this type of treadle wheel see Barber 1971:5). Figure 14 shows the clay grinding stone and pug mill, the same equipment shown in the photograph in Whitlatch (1934b:42). Figure 15 is a recent photograph of some vessels purchased by Dillard Jacobs when he visited the LaFever kiln.*

The Jacobs' photograph (Fig. 13) is the only example encountered during the survey that shows in any detail one of the semi-subterranean circular-updraft kilns used in this area. The crown of the kiln is clearly visible and gives some indication of the fact that the main portion of the structure is below ground. This is further illustrated by Figure 16, a 1977 photograph of the same kiln remains.

40PM50

While this site does not have the longevity of the Eli LaFever site (40PM49), it has an equally complex history. There are three kilns located on the site, but the exact evolution of these kilns is not known. Information provided by several local informants has been pieced together to form a general site history.

The first kiln was built by John Dunn during the late nineteenth century. John was the son of Peter Dunn, a potter. Nothing of the sites' early history is known, but James H. LaFever (son of Thomas) eventually took over the operation. Apparently the original kiln built by John Dunn had deteriorated to such a condition that James LaFever was forced to build a new kiln south of the old kiln. It was at this point the Hedgecough family became involved with the operation.

* We are also indebted to Mr. Jacobs for preparing the photomontage used as the cover design for this report. This shows George W. Dunn, the principal "turner" for the LaFever's during the late 1930s, superimposed over the kiln photograph.



Figure 13. Photograph of Eli LaFever kiln (40PM49) taken in 1936 or 1937. Photograph Courtesy of Dillard Jacobs.

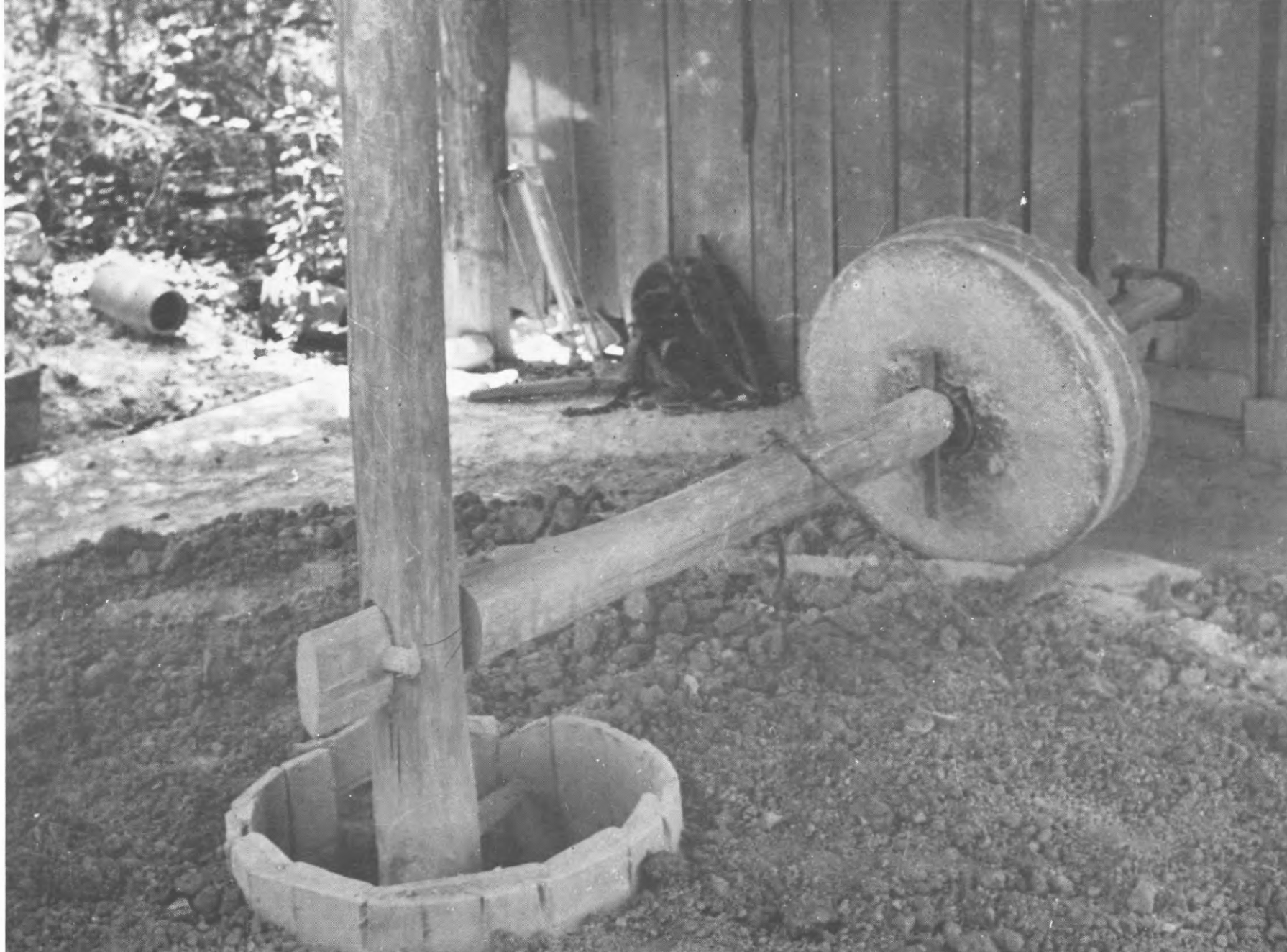


Figure 14. Photograph of clay mill at Eli LaFever pottery (40PM49) taken in 1936 or 1937. Photograph courtesy of Dillard Jacobs.



Figure 15. Churns and jar purchased at the Eli LaFever pottery (40PM49) in 1936 or 1937. Photograph courtesy of Dillard Jacobs.



Figure 16. Remains of Eli LaFever kiln at 40PM49 in 1977.



Figure 17. Typical stoneware churns, jars, pitchers, and grease lamp (lower right) produced by the Hedgecough family in the early twentieth century (sites 40PM50, 53, and 54).

By about 1920, the three Hedgecough brothers, Orb, Lee, and George, (see also 40PM53) apparently owned the pottery, but James H. LaFever did most of the turning during the early years of their ownership. During later years they hired George W. Dunn to make the ware. After a number of years this second kiln was replaced by a third located north of the first kiln. The Hedgecoughs stayed in operation until the early 1930s.

Because of the close proximity of these three kiln sites and the relatively short temporal span of each kiln, making distinctions among the sites based on differences in waster sherds was impossible. The salt-glazed stoneware produced at each kiln was similar. Various types of utilitarian vessels were produced (Fig. 17), and during later years the Hedgecoughs made large quantities of rabbit feeders.

40PM52

The Hedgecough family, like the LaFever and Dunns, had an association of several generations with the pottery industry. The patriarch of the family was William Calvin Hedgecough. He was listed in the 1850 U. S. Census for White County as a farmer, but by 1860 the census for White County listed him as a potter living in the Jughtown area (see 40WH76 and 78).

One difficulty in tracing the activities of the Hedgecoughs was that they changed their name from Hitchcock to Hedgecough. In addition, this change of last name was not always consistent. Williams's last name was listed on the 1850, 1860, and 1880 census as Hitchcock, but the 1870 census shows him as Hedgecough.

William C. Hedgecough moved his family from White County into Putnam County by 1880 and established a pottery operation at the 40PM52 site. Hedgecough had twelve children, and three of his sons were associated with this pottery. His sons Asher, Wiley, and Riley were listed on the 1880 census for Putnam County as "working at the pottery" (the oldest son, William Thomas Hedgecough, later operated a pottery near his father's location, see 40PM53). The 1880 census (Putnam County) also shows a group of potters living next to William C. Hedgecough. They included James and Asher LaFever (sons of Thomas), Newton Dunn, and Ezekiel Stanley. Some, or all, of these four potters may have been associated with the 40PM52 site. William C. Hedgecough died in 1903.

The pottery made at this site was basically utilitarian salt-glazed stoneware. No specific identifying attributes are obvious from the sample of waster sherds collected.

40PM53 and 54

William Thomas Hedgecough was the oldest son of the potter William Calvin Hedgecough (see 40PM52). The father moved into Putnam County by 1880, but William T. remained in White County until 1900 (1900 U. S. Census, White County) then moved to DeKalb County (Mrs. Cappie Walker, Putnam County,

personal communication). It is not known if William T. Hedgecough was involved in the pottery industry while in White and DeKalb counties.

William T. Hedgecough moved to Putnam County sometime after 1900 and established a pottery operation near the location of his father's kiln. He built two kilns on his property. The kiln sites are near each other, but they were recorded as separate sites, 40PM53 and 40PM54. Hedgecough, with the help of his three sons, George, Orb, and Lee, worked at this location until about 1920.

Typical salt-glazed stoneware vessels were produced at both kilns, but the 40PM53 site was very interesting in that many fragments of stoneware bottles were found near the kiln location. The presence of bottle forms is rare in this area. Several of the bottle fragments were marked on the outer wall just above the base by a crudely made stamp with the initials "T C":



Some confusion about the meaning of the T C exists. It was at first felt that the initials stood for a known potter in the area, Tom Cole (see 40PM58). No information from documentary sources has substantiated this hypothesis; however, Thomas E. Cole is known to have been a potter who worked at several potteries in the area (Lee Hedgecough, Putnam County, personal communication).

A second possible explanation of the T C stamp came from Thomas G. Webb, the DeKalb County Historian (personal communication). He felt the T C mark was an abbreviated "country way" of spelling Tennessee. Additional support for this theory was found in Guillard's Early American Folk Pottery, in which an urn-shaped vessel with long finials on the handles is illustrated. Incised lettering on the side of this vessel states "I AM FROM 10 E.C." (Guillard 1971:360). While the abbreviations are not identical, the ideas behind both could be similar.

40PM55

Ezekiel Stanley appears on the 1880 U. S. Census for Putnam County as a farmer, but his four immediate neighbors, Asher and James LaFever, Newton Dunn, and William C. Hedgecough (Hitchcock), were all potters. It seems logical to assume that Stanley was also initially involved in the operation of Hedgecough's pottery (40PM52).

Work at the Hedgecough Pottery must have been very rewarding for Stanley, because he married one of William C. Hedgecough's daughters. In 1900, Stanley purchased a tract of land from William C. Hedgecough (Putnam County Deed Book Z, p. 220).

Stanley's own pottery was probably in operation from about 1900-1910. It produced a variety of utilitarian salt-glazed stoneware vessels and tobacco pipes. Nine examples of Stanley's pipes are in one private collection and are decorated with geometric designs or made in anthropomorphic shapes (Fig. 22).

40PM56, 63, and 64.

These three sites are located so close to each other that any suggested association of specific individuals to a specific site is very subjective. The early history of these sites is partially unclear because Putnam County was not established until 1854 (see introductory discussion of Putnam County). The 1850 census for White County listed eleven potters clustered in a concentrated area, apparently in what is now this portion of Putnam County. From this cluster, three discrete groups are evident. While it seems likely that each group was associated with one of the three recorded sites, not enough information was available to conclusively assign each group a specific site. The associations suggested are at best tentative.

The first group of potters appears to have been headed by *Thomas Roberts* and his son, *John A. Roberts*. Living next to Roberts were *Charter Mitchell* and *James T., Stephen D., and Ellison Crowley*, all potters. Information provided by local informants suggests that J. A. Roberts operated the 40PM56 pottery. J. A. Roberts sold two tracts of land to William Massa in 1866 and 1870 (Putnam County Deed Book E, p. 251 and Book G, p. 352). The 1866 deed made reference to a "Clay Pond" located on the land. William Massa was a potter listed on the 1860 census (Putnam County). It is doubtful that he was living on his newly purchased land in 1870, because census information indicates he was living in another area of the county and working at another pottery (40PM49). Instead, Massa's son, *Green Massa*, probably operated the pottery after Roberts sold the property (Finley Sullivan, Putnam County, personal communication). John A. Roberts moved to the Cookeville area to establish a new pottery (40PM62) in 1871 and ended his association with the 40PM56 site. It was not determined exactly how long the 40PM56 pottery stayed in business, but various indications point to a termination date prior to 1900.

A second group of potters on the 1850 census included *Patrick Potts*, *William Rainey*, and *Andrew LaFever* (son of Andrew). The pottery associated with these three potters was probably not in operation for very long, because Potts and Rainey moved to the "Jugtown" area of White County (40WH76 and 78) before 1860, and Andrew LaFever, Jr. disappeared from the census records. Considering the apparently short term nature of the suggested operation, a tentative association with the 40PM64 site is proposed. A very light scattering of stoneware waster material was found on the site, and a trace of the landowners through the deed records was not helpful in associating known potters to this location. The ovoid-shaped vessel forms produced at this site suggest a mid-nineteenth-century date of production.

The third group of potters in this area listed on the 1850 census includes *John E. Campbell* and *Allen Dunn*. Living next to Campbell and Dunn was *Isaac Lollar*, whose profession was "farmer". However, Lollar was listed

on the 1850 manufacturers' census for White County as owning a pottery which employed two men. This is another clear example of the owner of a pottery hiring "potters" to do the actual throwing. Lollar used 150 tons of clay valued at \$120, 500 pounds of salt valued at \$8, 50 cords of wood worth \$30, and 5,000 hardwood "blasting" rails worth \$25. Dunn and Campbell were paid a total of \$26 per month. They produced 13,000 gallons of salt-glazed stoneware valued at \$800 (1850 manufacturers' census, White County).

From the above figures, it is obvious that Lollar had a relatively large and well run operation in 1850. By 1860, Allen Dunn had moved away, but a second Campbell, *J. J. Campbell*, had moved next to John E. Campbell and was listed as a potter (1860 U. S. Census, Putnam County). Also *Charter Mitchell*, a potter on the 1850, 1860, and 1870 census, had moved near Lollar by 1860, and *Martin Sullins*, a potter on the 1850 census for Sumner County, was living next to Mitchell.

By 1870, Charter Mitchell was the only potter in this area listed on the census (1870 U. S. Census, Putnam County). It seems likely he took over the operation of Lollar's pottery. The remaining site, 40PM63, probably relates first to Lollar, and later to Mitchell. The granddaughter of Charter Mitchell was interviewed and provided information regarding this pottery.

Similar varieties of salt-glazed stoneware were produced at all three of these sites. Presumably earlier, ovoid forms were found at 40PM64, and tobacco pipes were found only at 40PM63. However, no really distinctive attributes were identified from the sherds from any of the three sites.

40PM57

This site, associated with Tom Vincent, was located and recorded from information provided by local informants. This association was verified by several individuals, but no historical documentation pertaining to Tom Vincent was found. The pottery was evidently in operation from about 1890-1910, producing salt-glazed stoneware in basic utilitarian storage vessel forms.*

40PM58

The pottery at this site was established by Asher LaFever and his son Thomas. Asher was the son of Andrew LaFever, Sr. Both he and Thomas were listed as potters on the 1850 and 1860 census for White County (see 40WH89-95 for discussion of their activities in White County). In 1868, Asher bought 185 acres of land in Putnam County (Putnam County Deed Book E, p. 287) and moved out of White County.

The 1870 census for Putnam County lists both Asher and Thomas LaFever as potters. Solomon R. Cole, also a potter, was living nearby, presumably

* An interesting bit of information regarding this site was mentioned by local informants. It is said that Tom Vincent was murdered at the kiln by his brother-in-law. Vincent was shot while he was firing the kiln.

working at this site. Asher died sometime before 1880, but his widow, Ellenor, was in the same location living next to her son Thomas, who was again listed as a potter (1880 U. S. Census, Putnam County). Sometime after 1880, Thomas LaFever traded the land inherited from his father with William Gambrell, who had been operating a kiln on his own land (see 40PM49). Thomas moved his family to the Gambrell property and took over the operation of the pottery there, while Gambrell moved to the LaFever property and continued producing pottery at the 40PM58 site.

Gambrell was never listed on the census as a potter and presumably hired potters to work for him. One such individual was Thomas E. Cole, a son of the potter Solomon R. Cole (see above). Thomas Cole, who earlier worked in White County (40WH76 and 78), may have had some association with the 40PM58 kiln until it went out of operation about 1900 (Lee Hedgecough, Putnam County, personal communication).

A wide variety of salt-glazed stoneware was produced at this pottery. In addition to the usual crocks and churns, other items included grease lamps, jugs, and spouted pitchers.

40PM59

The pottery owned by Columbus LaFever was one of the last in production in Putnam County. While this pottery's existence was short-lived in comparison to many of the others in this area, trying to identify all the individuals who worked here was difficult. Columbus LaFever is still living and the information obtained from a tape recorded interview was most helpful in understanding the history of the site.

Columbus is the son of Asher LaFever (the son of Thomas) and the brother of Eli (see 40PM49 and 60). He was a fifth generation pottery maker in the LaFever family. The kiln was built around 1930 by Columbus, his father, and his brothers Winfield and Eli. The pottery was in operation for only 5 or 6 years. Columbus did very little throwing of pottery himself, but he hired several "turners" to work for him. George W. Dunn and Albert Elrod were two such individuals employed there.

The salt-glazed stoneware produced at this pottery was made in standard utilitarian forms: churns, crocks, preserve jars, etc. They also produced bird houses, tobacco pipes, candle holders, and grease lamps.*

40PM60

Asher LaFever was the son of Thomas and grandson of Asher (see 40PM49 and 58). On the 1880 census for Putnam County he was listed as a farmer but was living next to a group of potters working at the Hedgecough Pottery (see 40PM52).

* The production of grease lamps (Fig. 17) in the early twentieth century was not uncommon in this area. One would normally assume the presence of grease lamps to be a time marker for a rather old site, but this is not the case in Putnam County.

In 1893, Asher bought a tract of land from William Gambrell. The surveyor's description of the boundaries of this tract mentions "a stake in the road near the clay bank" (Putnam County Deed Book P, p. 550). Apparently, it was on this same tract that the 40PM60 kiln was built. The exact dates of operation are unknown, but several local residents remember the pottery being in production until the late 1920s. A time range from 1893 to 1930 is suggested. Asher apparently was able to throw pottery to a limited degree, but he hired "turners" to do the majority of the throwing. Asher's sons Eli, Columbus, and Winfield all worked at the pottery, and he also hired George W. Dunn and Riley Elrod to throw.

The salt-glazed stoneware made at this pottery was typical of the utilitarian vessels produced in the area. Crocks, churns, and other storage-type vessels are represented by the sherd collection from the site.

40PM62

John A. Roberts was the son of Thomas Roberts, potter. John was listed as a potter on the 1850 census for White County, living with his father in what is now Putnam County (see 40PM56). John sold his land to William Massa in 1866 and 1870 (Putnam County Deed Book E, p. 251 and Book G, p. 352). He moved to the Cookeville area in 1871 and purchased a 100 acre tract of land (Putnam County Deed Book G, p. 377).

John Roberts established a pottery (40PM62) at this new location, and in 1880 he was listed on the general census for Putnam County as "making crockery". Living next to Roberts was Chris Dryer, a potter born in Switzerland. The manufacturers' census for 1880 (Putnam County) shows a large and well run operation. Roberts employed 6 people whom he paid \$3.00 daily for skilled workers and \$0.50 daily for unskilled workers. He had \$600 capital invested in the business and \$300 in raw materials. His pottery was in full time operation for eight months and idle for four months. The annual value of the ceramics produced was \$1,600.

In 1889, Roberts granted the Nashville and Knoxville Railroad Company an easement through his property. Information included in the deed is very interesting:

... it is hereby agreed and understood, by and between said parties that said Roberts Pottery now on the right-of-way is to remain, and said Roberts is to have free to use, own, run, and operate the same on said easement or right-of-way where the same (is) now located (Putnam County Deed Book H. p. 78).

By 1900, Chris Dryer had moved to White County (see 40WH87 and 88), and Roberts, who was 71 years old, was listed as a farmer on the census (Putnam County). However, it seems that Roberts was still involved in the pottery business. A large eight gallon churn seen in a private collection is marked "J. A. ROBERTS COOKEVILLE, TENN. 1900." Living next to Roberts in 1900 were Amon D. Roberts and Newton C. Roberts, both potters (1900 U. S. Census, Putnam County). While these two individuals were not Roberts' sons, a family connection is clearly indicated. They may have been his nephews.

The 40PM62 pottery operation produced salt-glazed stoneware. The dominant vessel forms were large churns and wide-mouth crocks, but other items such as tobacco pipes were produced. In addition to the marked churn mentioned above, a two gallon churn stamped near the base in large block letters "J. A. ROBERTS" was seen in an East Tennessee collection. It is shown in Figure 18.

40PM63 (See 40PM56)

40PM64 (See 40PM56)

40PM65

Nothing is known of the history of this southwestern Putnam County pottery or possible associated individuals. Information regarding the location of the site was provided by a long-time resident of the area, who had plowed up large quantities of waster sherds each year. The land has been in pasture for a number of years, making the collecting of surface waster material impossible.

This tract of land has been in the Dunn family for many years and the pottery site may relate to Peter Dunn, a potter on the 1860 Putnam County census. Some association with John LaFever (son of Andrew) is also possible (see 40PM49 and 40PM"Un"#1).

40PM66

Jacob Barr had a very long involvement with the pottery industry in Putnam County. Barr was listed as early as 1854 in Putnam County tax books, and in 1860 he was listed on the census as a potter (1860 U. S. Census, Putnam County). While he was listed as a farmer in the 1870 census, he was living next to potters and presumably was involved in their operations.

By 1880, Barr was at the 40PM66 location making pottery. His next door neighbor, John W. Hitchcock, was listed on the 1880 census as "works at potters kiln," and another neighbor, Amon A. Martin, had worked around potteries all his life (see 40DK"UN"#3).

The Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory for the year 1887 (p. 1005) listed Jacob Barr as owning a pottery in Burton, Tennessee. As mentioned previously (see 40PM49), an early post office in this area was called Burton. It is not known how long this pottery stayed in production, but the 1900 census shows the potter George W. Dunn living next door to Barr. This suggests that the pottery may still have been in operation in 1900.

Salt-glazed stoneware was produced at this site. Common vessel forms included crocks, churns, jars, and jugs. Tobacco pipes were also made here, and a partial ceramic sheep figurine found in a nearby field may relate to this operation.



Figure 18. Middle Tennessee marked stoneware churns. Top, J. A. Roberts, Putnam County (40PM62). Bottom, James LaFever, White County (40WH90).

40PM67

Information concerning this pottery was provided by a local informant. No historical documentation regarding the site was found; however, it seems that Murray (?) Dewese owned the pottery, and Riley Elrod did the actual throwing (Mary Rachel Cooper, Putnam County, personal communication). There were several Deweses in this area of Putnam County as early as 1860, and the pottery may date from that time. However, it seems more likely that it was in operation around 1890-1900, producing a typical range of salt-glazed stoneware.

40PM68

According to a local informant, Owen Rigsby built a kiln for Roll LaFever at this site about 1900. LaFever hired Jasper Dunn to work at his pottery, but it was closed after 2 or 3 years because LaFever became too ill to operate it (Mary Rachel Cooper, Putnam County, personal communication).

An individual identified as R. LaFever appears on the 1900 U. S. Census (Putnam County) living in this area. He was 67 years old at that time and may be the same LaFever mentioned in connection with the site. Another informant stated that he and his father made bricks at this location in the early 1900s, probably after the kiln had ceased to be used for pottery (John Ashburn, Putnam County, personal communication).

Because of the short term operation and the disturbed condition of the site, no waster sherds were found.

40PM69

The last pottery in operation in Putnam County was the Cookeville Pottery, owned by the Lacy family. The exact date this pottery began production was not established, but William Lacy was the original owner.

Ownership passed from William Lacy to his son Arnold. Arnold Lacy acquired a partner, Oliver Sherrill, and they along with Arnold's three sons, William, Raymond, and Edward, ran the business. Other Lacys who worked at the Cookeville Pottery were James, Alvin and David.

During the late 1930s and early 1940s the Lacys hired several area potters to throw ware for them. George W. Dunn, George Hedgecough, and Riley LaFever all worked at this pottery. It was during this period that Lee Lacy took over the business. The pottery went out of production in August, 1961.

Common vessel forms made at this pottery were stoneware churns, crocks, etc., but molded ceramic objects were produced in later years. One large churn, reported to exist in a private collection, is marked with a circular stamp in blue cobalt lettering "Cookeville Pottery - Cookeville, Tenn." Much of the ware made here was Bristol glazed.

40PM"Unrecorded"#1

John LaFever (son of Andrew) was one of the most difficult persons to isolate in Putnam County. John LaFever was listed as a potter on the 1850 census for DeKalb County (see 40DK"Unrecorded"#3). He moved into Putnam County before 1860 and was listed on the census as a farmer; however, he was living near four potters, Peter Dunn, William Massa, John Elrod, and Jacob Barr. In 1870, LaFever was still living in the same area but was listed as a potter (see 40PM49 for a more detailed history of this area).

This specific area has undergone such a large turnover in terms of potters, it is extremely difficult to interpret. The probability that John LaFever, John Elrod, William Massa, Peter Dunn, and Jacob Barr related to an early operation at the 40PM49 site is quite high; however, until additional documentation is obtained verifying this connection, LaFever et al. will be regarded as indicative of at least one ca. 1860 unrecorded site.

40PM"Unrecorded"#2

Newton C. Roberts was another potter who is difficult to associate with a specific kiln site for a certain period. Roberts was listed on the 1880 U. S. Census for Putnam County as a nineteen year old potter living in his mother's household. Living near Roberts was A. R. Massa, who was listed as a "ware peddler". Based on their location in relation to their neighbors and the other potters in the area, no obvious site association is suggested. At least seven other potters were living in Roberts' general area in 1880, and it is possible that he may associate with one of these recorded sites. Additional research may someday clarify this association.

By 1900, Newton C. Roberts was working at a different location (40PM62).

Smith County

40SM"Unrecorded"#1

A single pottery, which produced \$200 worth of products in 1840, is indicated for Smith County (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 255). Nothing more could be learned about this operation.

Sumner County

40SU31

This site was found from information provided by a local informant. It appears to represent a fairly small operation producing lead-glazed redware crocks and jars.

It seems probable that this site relates to Martin Sullins, who is listed on the 1850 U. S. Census for Sumner County as a "mfg. of stone ware." The ware produced at this site was certainly not stoneware, but as discussed elsewhere (eg., 40HI3) the term "stoneware" was sometimes used in mid-nineteenth-century reports to describe locally made lead-glazed earthenwares. The information obtained for Sullins places him in the same district as the 40SU31 site.

40SU"Unrecorded"#1

At least one additional Sumner County site is suggested by the 1850 census. James Mayberry and Nathaniel Steele, residents of the same district in the northwestern part of the county, are shown as having the same occupation, "making stoneware." Scattered deed records were found for some of Mayberry's and Steele's neighbors, and field survey was carried out in the area suggested. Unfortunately, a pottery site was not found.

Van Buren County

40VB"Unrecorded"#1

Peter Dunn was listed on the 1850 census for Van Buren County as a "wareturner," but the survey effort failed to determine a specific location for him. The use of the term "turner" suggests he was somewhat itinerant; and, indeed, he next appears on the 1860 census for Putnam County, listed as a potter (see 40PM49 and 40PM"UN"#1).

Wayne County

40WY"Unrecorded"#1

A single one-man pottery operation is indicated for Wayne County in 1840 (Compendium of ... the Sixth Census, 1841, p. 255). The annual production for this establishment is given as \$200, but nothing more could be learned about the person associated or his probable location.

White County

In his major volume on the resources of Tennessee, J. E. Killebrew (1874:988) remarked that:

In the north-western angle of the county there is a fine quality of potter's clay, from which large quantities of earthenware have been manufactured. There are now a number of kilns in successful operation, and employment

is furnished to large numbers of men. So great has been the number of wagons engaged in the "crock trade," that some persons in other counties have jocularly remarked that there can be nothing left of White County but a hole in the ground.

This comment gives some indication of the degree to which persons in White County were involved in the pottery industry. Information obtained during the survey project indicates no less than 22 White County kiln sites associated with a minimum of 46 individuals.

The beginning of the White County pottery industry appears to have been tied to the arrival of Andrew LaFever, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1774 and died in White County in 1849 or early 1850 (see LaFever family genealogy at end of Putnam County introduction and p. 21). Andrew was the second son of Abraham LaFever. Probably by 1804, both father and son were in Wayne County, Kentucky (possibly after several years in Virginia). Andrew moved from Kentucky to Tennessee sometime after 1816 and probably by 1824 (LaFever family genealogical information provided by George Elrod, White County).

In addition to LaFever, the names Elrod, Spears, Dunn, and Hitchcock (or Hedgecough) are family names with a long history of involvement with pottery making in this county, as well as in adjoining Putnam County.

As explained in the Putnam County discussion, the fact that Putnam County was created in 1854, taking away a sizeable portion of what had been White County, increases the problem of trying to associate the twenty potters on the 1850 U. S. Census for White County to a correct location. Where it has been determined that an 1850 White County potter lived in what became Putnam County, this individual is discussed only in the Putnam County section.

For many of the White County sites a thorough interpretation could not be made during the time available for documentary research. Where several potters are listed in the same district on census reports, and where more than one site is known in the area, a completely accurate association between specific persons and sites is dependent on a complete study of deed, tax, and other county records. It was simply not possible to do this in most cases. The associations suggested represent the best information we have at this time.

40WH75

Based on the information provided by several informants and the type of ware produced, this kiln site appears to be one of the earliest in the DeKalb-Putnam-White County area. It is believed to relate to Andrew LaFever who lived nearby from approximately 1824 to 1849.

There is also some suggestion that Andrew's sons James and Asher, his grandson James, Jr., and Henry Dunn may have worked at this same location at a later date, possibly until about 1880.

The majority of the ware produced at this site seems to be of an early type. It is a thin well-made salt-glazed stoneware, the exterior of which

is usually reddish brown with much yellowish-olive mottling. The predominant vessel type seems to be an ovoid jar, often with incised decoration (wavy lines inside horizontal, parallel lines) on the shoulder.

Concerning this site and the persons associated, information can also be found under sites 40WH89-95.

40WH76 and 78

Two kiln sites located about 1,000 feet apart were recorded in a small area of western White County once known by the appellation "Jugtown." This area had a long history of pottery making, from 1850, or earlier, to 1918, involving many different potters and kiln owners. It is entirely possible that there may be some other kiln sites in this area that were not found during the survey.

The general sequence of operations is indicated by census reports and county records beginning in 1850. In that year *Henry Collier* is listed on the manufacturers' census (White County) as the owner of a pottery employing four men. On the regular census *George W. Collier* and *John K. Sailers* are listed as potters living in Henry Collier's household, and in two adjoining households *John Mitchell* and *William Dunegan* are identified as potters (1850 U. S. Census, White County). William (W. C.) Hitchcock (listed as a farmer) is also living near them (see below).

For 1860, Henry Collier appears to be in the same location and his son, George, is still identified as a potter. John A. Mitchell, "potter," is still living nearby and *W. C. Hitchcock* (Hedgecough) "potter," *George A. Dunn* "potter," and *William Rainey* "potter" are close neighbors to Collier. William Rainey is living in the household of *Patrick Potts*, who is listed as a farmer, but is known to have also been a potter (Rainey and Potts were potters in what is now Putnam County in 1850, see 40PM64).

Around 1860, Henry Collier sold a major portion of his land to his neighbors, G. A. and J. B. Fraley, and by 1866 Collier was deceased. According to the Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory (1860, p. 238), both William Rainey and "C. D. Fraley" were operating potteries in 1860. No "C. D." Fraley appears in this area on our census transcriptions, and it is believed the Gazetteer entry should be G. A. Fraley. The Gazetteer entries do suggest at least two kilns operating in the Jugtown area at this time.

On the 1870 census, *George A. Fraley* appears to be in Collier's old location with *James Montgomery*, "potter," living next door. John Mitchell (now listed as a farmer) and William C. Hedgecough (Hitchcock), "potter," are nearby.

By 1880, the only major pottery operation in this area was owned by Oliver and Southard who (according to the 1880 manufacturers' census for White County) employed three males over 16. On the regular census, *John M. Southard* appears near *John F. Oliver*, and next to Oliver is *Meredith M. Bussell*, "stoneware turner". Nearby are *Jesse Cole* and *Thomas E. Cole*, "stoneware turners." They all live near John A. Mitchell, who is no longer listed as potter, but appears to have remained in the same location since 1850.

Near the end of the nineteenth century, *Jacob Seabolt* (according to his grandsons) was living at the old Fraley homeplace and was a potter or pottery owner. Seabolt first appears in district tax records for this area in 1887, and in 1900 he was listed as a farmer on the census, next to G. A. Fraley's widow and Meredith Bussell. Bussell (whose nickname was "Bud") is listed as a farmer on the 1900 census, but he is known to have been an active potter into the early 1900s. Several older people in the area specifically associate him with the operation at 40WH78.

In terms of the ware produced, 40WH76 appears to be an older site than 40WH78. The 40WH76 salt-glazed stoneware waster sherds from crocks, jars, bowls, and jugs are somewhat similar to the 40WH75 samples.

The sample of waster sherds from 40WH78 is much smaller; but in addition to salt-glazed stoneware bowls and crocks, churns (not found at 40WH76) are represented in this collection. Two marked vessels in a private collection in Middle Tennessee probably were made at this site. One is a stoneware jar with cursive incising: "Miss Mollie Bussell Aug. the 16 1881." The other is a stoneware pitcher, also with cursive incising: "Fanchers Mills White Co. Tenn. March the 2, 1907 Harmon Bussell His Pitcher." The exact family connection of Miss Mollie Bussell is unknown, but Harmon Bussell was Meredith Bussell's son, who was 16 years old when the pitcher was made (1900 U. S. Census, White County).

40WH77

Solomon R. Cole, a potter in Putnam County (40PM58), owned land in both Putnam and White Counties. The kiln at 40WH77 is believed to be on a tract of land which Solomon R. Cole bought in 1854 (White County Deed Book R, p. 502), some of which passed to his sons Jesse and William. By 1880, Jesse and another brother, Thomas, were working as potters, but appear to have been at the Jugtown location (40WH76 and 78). It is difficult to say when the 40WH77 pottery was in operation. It could have been operated by Solomon R. Cole as early as the 1850s or by his sons as late as 1900, when Jesse and William appear as close neighbors on the 1900 census for White County. Perhaps there was intermittent pottery making here throughout the second half of the nineteenth century.

The sample of salt-glazed stoneware waster sherds collected from the site suggests a rather long period of operation. This is the only site in this region where examples of stoneware plates were found. These and some of the grease lamp fragments appear to be early forms, but there are also heavy brown-slipped wares that appear to be late.

40WH78 (see 40WH76)

40WH81

Giles Elrod (1823-1903) had a long involvement with the White County pottery industry. Although always listed as a farmer on the census reports,

Elrod is shown as the owner of a pottery as early as 1860 (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1860, p. 238). He appears from the tax records to have been established at the 40WH81 location by 1849, and he lived there until his death. After about 1870, his son George Washington Elrod helped run the pottery and continued its operation until around 1919.

A number of ware "turners" must have worked at this pottery during its 60 to 70 year span. George A. Dunn, who seems to have been working at Jugtown (40WH76 and 78) in 1860, is listed as a potter living close to Giles Elrod in 1870, and his brother (?) John W. Dunn is listed as a potter in the same household. The only other person known to associate with the work at this site is Levi Howell who worked here in the early 1900s (George Elrod, White County, personal communication).

As expected for a pottery of such long duration, a very large quantity of waster sherds exists at this site. A wide range of utilitarian salt-glazed stoneware vessels and other items, such as grease lamps, were produced. Though not exclusively found at this site, this was one of the first places where we noticed what we have called the "wagon-bow staple ear." Many of the churn and honey, or molasses, jar fragments have ears which are shaped somewhat like a bow staple, pushed sideways into the shoulder of the vessel. The bow staple is a type of metal wood-fastening device commonly found on eighteenth and nineteenth century archaeological sites (eg. Grimm 1970:119, No. 13). The appearance of this type of ear in the White-Putnam County area appears to be a late nineteenth to early twentieth-century time marker, i.e., it occurs on many sites and was obviously produced by several different potters (see examples in Fig. 15, center and left).

40WH82

This site was recorded based on reliable informant information. It was not possible to actually examine the site during the survey, but it seems likely that a typical range of salt-glazed stoneware was produced here during the nineteenth century.

The land belonged to the Montgomery family during most of the nineteenth century, and it is possible that there was some connection between this site and James Montgomery who worked at Jugtown in 1870 (see 40WH76 and 78).

40WH83

This appears to have been a fairly substantial nineteenth-century kiln operation, producing the usual assortment of utilitarian salt-glazed stoneware.

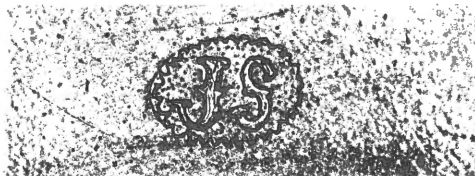
It was not possible in the time available, to make any direct association between this site and a known potter. The history of land ownership was not determined for the period before 1900, and the kiln was evidently operated before that date. As it is located between the "Jugtown" area (40WH76 and 78) and sites 40WH77 and 40WH81, it may relate to one or more

of the persons named in connection with those sites. Also, there are two 1860 potteries indicated by documentary sources for this general area, either of which may have been at this site (see 40WH"Unrecorded"#2).

40WH84

Jefferson Spears was listed on the census reports as a White County potter from 1850 to 1880. He was still alive, listed as a 79 year old farmer, at the time of the 1900 U. S. Census (White County). There is some suggestion that Jeff Spears may have been working at one of the LaFever-Spears kiln sites (40WH89-95) in 1850, but otherwise he appears to have lived at the same spot from about 1848 to 1900. James Spears, who was probably Jeff's brother, is also listed as a potter on the 1850 census for White County, and they may have worked together in earlier years. The only other individual indicated to have been connected with Jeff Spears' kiln operation is Asher LaFever (son of James LaFever, Sr.), who was listed as a "laborer" living next to Spears on the 1880 census (concerning Asher LaFever see also 40WH89-95).

Jeff Spears produced a wide range of salt-glazed stoneware forms including large, ovoid jars, crocks, churns, pitchers, bottles, tobacco pipes, and whimsies. A considerable portion of the vessels were marked using a stamping device made of stoneware, which has passed down to a Jeff Spears descendant now living in another state. This stamping device is cylindrical shaped, about 4 inches long, and has the initials "J S" on each end. The marks found on waster sherds at the site have raised initials in an oblong circle:



40WH85

Although William L. Hitchcock (1822-1908) was always listed as a farmer on the census reports (1850-1900 U. S. Census, White County), he owned one or more pottery kilns. The 40WH85 site includes the spot where his first house stood and the remains of a kiln where salt-glazed stoneware jars, crocks, bottles, grease lamps, and tobacco pipes were made. The sample of broken items obtained from the site is essentially the same as found on other sites in the general area, with no readily definable distinguishing attributes.

Based on the county tax records, Hitchcock appears to have been living at the 40WH85 location by the late 1840s. Later in the nineteenth century, he built a new house less than one-fourth mile north of here, and another kiln site (40WH86) one-half mile north of his second house site may have been owned by him also.

40WH86

This kiln site was recorded with the help of a local informant. Because of adverse survey conditions, little could be determined about the site, but a typical range of salt-glazed stoneware was evidently made here.

The land once belonged to William C. Hitchcock, a son of William L. Hitchcock, and it is believed that the kiln may have been one that was operated by the older William. William C. Hitchcock is not indicated to have been involved with pottery making (also he is not the same person as William C. Hedgecough/Hitchcock who was a potter in both White and Putnam counties).

40WH87 and 88

By 1891, if not earlier, a pottery was in operation at Bakers Cross Roads and Myres and Cast were listed as owners (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1891, p. 70). Evidently they were Jim Cast and George Myers, remembered by older local residents as ware peddlers. It is generally agreed by older informants that the pottery that operated at 40WH87 belonged to two brothers, James T. and John W. Goodwin. A grease lamp described by Watkins (1977:36) is said to have been made by J. T. Goodwin in 1895, and the Goodwin brothers, who operated stores, are listed as adjoining merchants in the 1900 U. S. Census for White County. Also listed beside them is Chris Dryer, a potter from Switzerland, who earlier had worked in Putnam County (40PM62). Dryer is well remembered by many area residents, and he appears to be the only person still identified as a potter on the 1900 census for White County. Exactly how long he worked for the Goodwin brothers is not clear, but the overall operation here seems to have lasted from about 1890 to 1910.

The remnants of a potter's shop and kiln were still standing at the 40WH87 site until about 1920 (Gertrude Sailors, White County, personal communication). A sample of the broken wares found here suggests an emphasis on the production of straight-sided crocks, preserve jars, churns, and tile. All of the vessel fragments are typical of the salt-glazed stoneware made in the general area. A stoneware container marked "Goodwin Pottery" or "Goodwin Brothers" is believed to exist but was not seen by us. There is some potential for confusion here in that "Goodwin Bros." frequently appears on white granite wares made in East Liverpool, Ohio (Ramsay 1939:261).

The 40WH88 site includes the spot where Chris Dryer's house stood, but there is some indication that a kiln may have once existed here also. In addition to a concentration of salt-glazed stoneware waster sherds, which could be explained in terms of the nearby locations for 40WH87 and 88, some pieces of kiln furniture were also found on the 40WH88 site. Sherds found at the two locations are similar, but two distinctive specimens were found at 40WH88. These are from two separate wide-mouth crocks with a decorative "rope-like" applique around the exterior rim near the lip.

40WH89-95

Along with 40WH75, these sites form a compact group of kiln locations in northwestern White County referred to during the survey as LaFever-Spears Sites Nos. 1-8. As previously indicated, the beginning of the pottery industry in this area appears to have coincided with the arrival of the Andrew LaFever family around 1824 (see Putnam and White County introductions). Descendants of Andrew LaFever were still making pottery here until near the end of the nineteenth century, by which time other families, specifically the Spears, were operating kilns here also.

It was not possible to conclusively associate Andrew LaFever with a specific site. However, the information obtained suggests that he operated at LaFever-Spears Site No. 1 (40WH75).

Andrew LaFever had several sons: Zachariah (1797), John (1799), Eli (1803), Asher (1812), Andrew (1814) and James (1816). Assuming that the family first settled in the 40WH75 area, by 1850 the two sons Asher and James were the only two still there (Andrew, Sr., died sometime shortly before the 1850 census was taken). Six persons identified as potters were listed on the 1850 U. S. Census for White County in what appears to be a compact household group: *Asher LaFever* and his son *Thomas*, *James LaFever* and his son *George*, *James Spears*, and *Jefferson Spears* (it is not clear whether or not Jeff Spears was already living at the site he operated farther to the south, 40WH84, or whether this was shortly before he began working there). As the 1850 census report was made four years before the creation of Putnam County, this makes it even more difficult to be sure of specific locations.

For the 1860 census this becomes a more readily definable area. Asher LaFever and his son, Thomas, are again listed as potters but now appear separated from James LaFever, who is still a potter living in the same district as his brother. Next to James is his son *Zachariah* (age 24), listed as a farmer but known to have also been a potter (40WH94). Between James and Asher are *Francis LaFever*, "potter" (son of Andrew LaFever, Jr.), and James Spears, now listed as a farmer (Jeff Spears, 40WH84, is now clearly removed from this immediate area).

By 1870, Asher and Thomas LaFever had moved to Putnam County (40PM58), but James LaFever appears to have remained in his same location, with his son Zachariah and now also his son Asher living next to him. Also in James' household, his son *James LaFever, Jr.*, (age 17) is identified as a potter.

In 1880, James LaFever and James LaFever, Jr., lived side by side and nearby were Zachariah and John (sons of James, Sr.). All of them are now listed as farmers, which could indicate a decrease in the pottery-making activity. Interestingly, *Asher LaFever* (son of James, Sr.) is now living well to the south, next door to Jeff Spears (40WH84), and identified as a "laborer." Evidently this means that he was working for Jeff Spears at his pottery.

Information provided by a grandson of James LaFever, Jr., indicates that his grandfather and *Henry Dunn* ran the kiln at LaFever-Spears Site No. 1 (40WH75)

until the 1880s. Henry Dunn was not found on the 1880 census, but a Jasper Dunn, "laborer," is nearby. Evidently this is the same *Jasper Dunn* who later worked in Putnam County (40PM68).

Another LaFever descendant provided the information that his grandfather, Zachariah (James' son), and his father, *George W. LaFever*, operated the kiln at LaFever-Spears Site No. 7 (40WH94). This same individual stated that the kiln at LaFever-Spears Site No. 6 (40WH93) was once operated by *Lorenzo Dunn*. Nothing else was found concerning him, but the name Dunn is closely associated with, and appears to have sometimes been interchanged with, the family name Spears.

Complicating our interpretation of the sites associated with the Asher and James LaFever lines of the Andrew LaFever family is the later activity in this same area attributed to *George Washington Spears*. Most of the information obtained concerning him came from his granddaughter, but he does appear in this area as a 48 year old farmer on the 1900 census. At least two of the sites in this area (40WH89 and 40WH92) appear to represent new operations started by Spears sometime after 1885.

Although much additional archival research would be needed to positively associate each of the above individuals to a correct site, the interpretations suggested for each site are summarized below:

40WH89 Late nineteenth-century kiln site operated by George Washington Spears. Made salt-glazed stoneware jars, jugs, churns, and tobacco pipes.

40WH90 A probable LaFever kiln site. A single sherd bearing part of a stamped-block-letter mark, "JAMES LAFEVER" "MAKER," was found on the site. Salt-glazed stoneware jars, churns, and tobacco pipe fragments were also found. A large churn in a private collection in White County has two of the James LaFever stamps (Fig. 18). This churn could have been made here or at 40WH75, but it is not known if this mark was used by James LaFever, Sr., or Jr. (or both).

40WH91 An early to mid-nineteenth-century kiln site. Salt-glazed stoneware with some similarities to LaFever-Spears Site No. 1 (40WH75). Person associated unknown.

40WH92 Site of second kiln operated by George Washington Spears, probably sometime around 1900. Made salt-glazed stoneware crocks and churns, including use of the "bow staple" style of churn ear.

40WH93 Late nineteenth or early twentieth-century kiln site. Probably operated by Lorenzo Dunn. Very small collection of sherds obtained; indicate typical salt-glazed stoneware containers.

40WH94 Second half of the nineteenth-century kiln site. Owned and operated by Zachariah LaFever (1835-1910) and his son George W. LaFever. Only possible to obtain a very small sample of salt-glazed stoneware waster sherds.

40WH95 Probable nineteenth-century kiln site. Person(s) associated unknown; probably one of the LaFever family potters. Sherds from salt-glazed stoneware crocks, jars, and one chamber pot.

40WH96

This was recorded as a possible kiln site in association with a nineteenth-century house. A heavy concentration of salt-glazed stoneware sherds and one piece of possible kiln brick were found in the backyard area of the house. The site is not too far removed from the LaFever-Spears site group (40WH89-95) and may associate with some person, or persons, mentioned for those sites.

40WH"Unrecorded"#1

Charles Brown is listed as a 26 year old potter from North Carolina on the 1850 census. His listing is included in District 14 of White County, a district that no longer existed by 1860. Brown may have been living in what is now Cumberland County, but nothing more was learned about him.

40WH"Unrecorded"#2

D. M. Bersheers and W. Clayton are indicated to be the owners of White County potteries in 1860 (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1860, p. 238). These operations were in the same area of western White County and are either unrecorded sites or sites we have recorded, but could not associate with Bersheers or Clayton. It seems likely that one of these individuals may associate with site 40WH83; therefore, no more than one unrecorded site appears indicated.

Wilson County

One 1830s earthenware pottery was recorded in Wilson County. There is some possibility of an earlier unrecorded site, but direct historical evidence for such was not found.

The appearance of Frederick Aust in the early Wilson County records (1803-1813) is very interesting and leads to speculation concerning an early pottery with Moravian traditions. No information was found to prove that Frederick Aust was related to the famous Moravian potter Gottfried Aust (see Bivins 1972 and South 1967 for discussion of Gottfried Aust). However, an entry from a Bethabara diary, March 7, 1786, states that "... this afternoon I visited the Austs. Their Friedrich, who has the smallpox, is beginning to improve" (Fries 1941:2150). No documentation is known that links the Friedrich mentioned in the Moravian diary to the Frederick in Wilson County, or that indicates Frederick was a potter. The possibility of such is, nevertheless, an intriguing one.

The Wilson County tax books for the year 1803-1807 show that Aust owned a large tract of land in northern Wilson County. His will lists his wife Elizabeth and five children, Frederick, Joseph, Thomas B., Lattey, and Elizabeth. Aust died in 1813 (Wilson County Wills and Inventories, Book 1, p. 335 and 358).

40WI5

The site of the pottery that was located in the southeast part of Wilson County was found, but no specific person could be identified as associating with it. Describing the town of Statesville, Morris (1834:256) mentioned:

200 inhabitants, one church, one male and one female school, five retail stores, one large cotton factory, one wool carding machine, two cotton gins, one tread sawmill, one horse and one water grist and sawmill, two tan yards, five saddlers, six tailors, six blacksmiths, three cabinet makers, three carpenters, two brick and stone masons, four shoe makers, and one potter's shop [present authors' emphasis].

Waster sherds collected at this site show that the unknown 1834 potter was producing lead-glazed earthenware. The exterior finish of the vessels was usually a variation of dark browns, while the interior surface varied from dark brown, to yellowish red, to olive green. Vessel forms represented in the artifact sample include large-mouth crocks and jugs.

The most interesting aspect of the distribution of waster sherds at the site was that they seemed to be confined within a single town lot. While the exact dates of operation are not known, information obtained from the county records concerning this particular lot suggests that the pottery was out of production by 1840.

WEST TENNESSEE

Carroll County

40CL21

The stoneware pottery established by Chester Sparks was located in the town of McKenzie and was operated with the help of Sparks' four sons, Elry, Harold, James, and John. This pottery was open by 1908, and in 1911 was described by Nelson:

The clay is ground in a pug mill, worked by horse power; two-thirds of the mixture coming from the pit, and one-third being a sandy clay gotten nearby. The pit is located 6 miles north of McKenzie in Henry County. In winter the pottery is dried three days in the drying room, while in summer it is placed out doors to dry. The drying room has in it two long furnaces, 2 feet high and running nearly the length of the room. The jars are placed on top of these flues running back from the furnaces and on racks placed around the room. After drying, the ware is glazed by dipping in Albany slip, or for a white glaze a mixture of spar, whiting and ground flint. Zinc, too, is used with good results. Shrinkage of the clay is very slight, being 1 inch for every foot. The amount of clay used in a ten-gallon jug is 40 pounds, but after burning it has a weight of 28 to 30 pounds. The finished ware is stored out in the yard without any cover.

The following products are made: Flower pots, 4 to 12 inches in diameter; chicken founts, 1 and 2 gallons; jars, 1 to 10 gallons; and churns, 1 to 10 gallons. About 1,000 fire bricks are made yearly for local use.

Two potters wheels run by foot power are used in molding the ware. They have no plaster of paris casts. The clay is tempered by cutting again and again against a fine wire stretched tight over a board. In this way it is well mixed.

The burning is accomplished in one down draft kiln* of 25,000 gallons capacity. Its diameter is 12 feet, with a height to the beginning of the crown of 6 feet. There are four fire grates. Coal from the Reniecke Coal Mining Company at Madisonville, Ky., is used in burning the ware. The actual burning takes about seventy hours; taking into account the setting and cooling, only two burns are made a month.

The pottery is shipped as far east as Dickson and north to Hickman while south they are shipped to within 25 miles of Memphis (Nelson 1911:49-50).

The exact date when the Sparks Pottery closed has not been confirmed, but Chester Sparks moved to Nashville and established the Nashville Pottery in 1925 (see 40DV139).

* An example of a downdraft kiln, the common type for West Tennessee, is shown in Figure 21.

Hardeman County

The sites of eight potteries were recorded in Hardeman County. Most of these were late nineteenth to early twentieth-century operations, several of which have been described in publications concerning the clay resources of West Tennessee. The sites for two mid-nineteenth-century potters were identified from the census reports and county records, and these add considerably to an understanding of the early phase of the pottery industry in this part of the state.

40HM12

Two separate potteries are known to have operated in the small town of Toone. The one that existed at the 40HM12 site is described by Nelson (1911), who apparently saw it in operation around 1910.

Mr. R. B. Keller owns and operates a pottery on the edge of Toone The clay is mixed and ground in an old wooden upright horsepower pug mill, then hand wedged, turned on potters wheels, and after sun drying for two days is burned in a down-draft beehive kiln, with 3,000 gallon capacity. Albany slip clay is used. Wood is used for drying, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cords being required; while 3 tons of coal are used in the burning.

The following ware is made: Churns, 3 to 6 gallons, jars 1 to 10 gallons, pitchers, $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 gallon, chambers, chicken founts, cuspidors, milk pans, flower pots, 6, 8 and 10 inches, and jugs 1 and 2 gallons. Nothing is shipped by rail, all is sold in the surrounding country.

The plant uses clay from a pit 2 miles north of Toone ... There are 2 to 8 feet of dark orange-red sandy clay overlying the clay, which is white, with slight yellow coloration in places. This bed is 5 feet thick. Further up the ravine in which the clay is mined, a dark grey clay appears, which burns very white. This clay is about 7 feet thick, and overlaid by 2 or 3 feet of white clay (Nelson 1911:77-78).

In addition to R. B. Keller, some of the other persons who worked at this pottery include Tarence Connor, W. V. Keller, and Earl Keller. The operation apparently lasted until about 1920.

Stoneware waster sherds from the site exhibit the use of Albany slip inside and out, as well as gray salt-glazed exteriors with Albany slip interiors. Some of the latter show a slight use of cobalt blue decorative designs.

40HM13

The second pottery at Toone was operated in the 1920s by Tarence Connor, with the help of his brothers Tom, Dan, and Charles. Charles Connor bought it from his brothers around 1926 and operated it intermittently for the next

ten years. During one period it was operated under the supervision of Earl Keller. It was reopened for the last time in 1938 by Charles Conner, who with his sons, Howard and Alfred, worked here until 1940, at which time they moved to Mississippi (Whitlatch 1940:144; Howard Connor, Ashland, Mississippi, personal communication; Earl Keller, Hardeman County, personal communication).

Much of the waster-sherd debris on the site consists of broken pieces of Albany slipped stoneware crocks and churns, which apparently relate more to the early phase of operations. According to Whitlatch (1940:144), the production in 1940 was limited to unglazed decorative garden ware. He goes on to state that:

The list of wares includes bird baths and pedestals, garden jardeniers, fern logs, 6- and 12-slot vine jars, and variously shaped pots, some decorated by scratch patterns. The plant is largely seasonal in operation but can make at least two kilns of ware per month. The market extends to Memphis, Jackson, Bolivar, and other cities of West Tennessee and the more populous centers of adjacent parts of Arkansas and Mississippi. Shipments are by truck, although rail shipping facilities are available at Toone over the Illinois Central Railroad.

Clay for the Toone Pottery is obtained from ... (Madison County) ... Mr. Connor states that the clay is slightly sandier than the best types of stoneware clay but makes a very satisfactory product.

The Toone Pottery is a family-operated plant in which Mr. Conner and his two sons do practically all the work. Preparation of the clay consists simply of soaking it in a concrete pit and then tempering in a vertical wooden pugmill; the auger of the mill is turned by use of a horse-drawn sweep. After thorough pugging, the clay is wedged across a wire, weighed, and pounded into bats for the potter's wheel. All ware is hand-thrown on two wheels, operated by power furnished by a 2½-h.p. gasoline motor.

All wares are air-dried. None of the ware is glazed but is simply fired to a fairly hard bisque of cream to light-buff colors. Firing is done in a downdraft 9-foot kiln, over a cycle of 42 to 45 hours, to a maximum temperature of about 2700°F. Decorative effects are created on part of the wares, particularly around their edges, by flashing to a slightly brownish color (Whitlatch 1940:144).

40HM14 and 15

Both of these kiln sites, located a mile apart in eastern Hardeman County, probably relate to Edward ("Wes") Price. Price was listed as a potter on the 1870 census, and he seems to have worked here between 1860 and 1880. He married the widowed daughter of P. M. Huddleston sometime after 1860, and she was again listed as a widow by 1880 (1860-1880 U. S. Census, Hardeman County). Both sites are on land that once belonged to Price's father-in-law, and it seems reasonably certain that Huddleston actually owned the potteries.

A sample of the wares produced here could only be obtained from one of the sites (40PM15). This is unfortunate because it is not certain if Price worked at both sites, and it is impossible to be sure if the sample is indicative of his work. Waster sherds collected are from stoneware crocks, jars, and jugs made from the light colored clays typical of Hardeman and Madison Counties. The sherds are from a mixture of unglazed bisque-fired and brown-slipped vessels. A few pieces appear to be lightly salt-glazed.

40HM16 and 17

Benjamin F. Ussery first came to the attention of the survey through the 1860 U. S. Census for Hardeman County. This appears to be the only time he was listed as a potter, but his involvement with the industry was a long and complex one, extending through four states.

The 40HM16 site, in central Hardeman County, is one of the most interesting found during the survey. The land the site is on was purchased by Mastin C. Ussery in either 1847 or 1852 (Tennessee Land Grant #13986, State Archives; Hardeman County Deed Book J, p. 29). In 1858 (Hardeman County Wills, Vol. 5, p. 83), Mastin Ussery's will noted that:

I also wish my brother B. F. Ussery to live on the place which he is now at as long as he may wish and to have the use of the shop and furnace as long as he may think proper without any charge whatever.

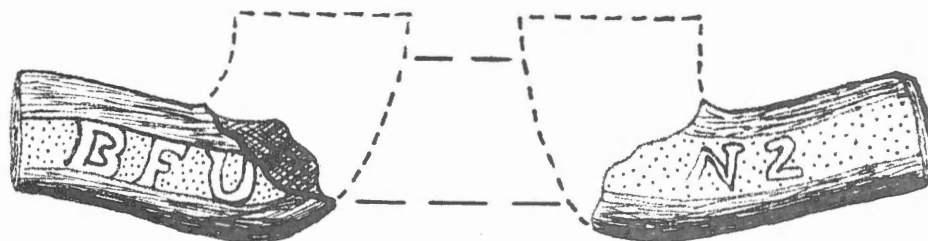
B. F. Ussery remained in this location until the late 1860s, briefly moved to another part of the county, then bought a lot in the town of Grand Junction.

The 40HM16 kiln was found to have been badly destroyed by long years of cultivation, but the exposed condition of the site made it possible to obtain a complete collection of surface waster sherds. Interestingly, this is the only collection obtained in the state that exhibits a total use of an alkaline glaze.

Alkaline-glazed stoneware has received considerable attention from ceramic researchers (eg. Greer 1971; Burrison 1975), and its use was widespread in the deep South. Its occurrence in Tennessee is not unexpected but has until now remained undocumented.

Glaze color of the 40HM16 stoneware sherds is a mottled light olive that appears in two shades, which vary in proportion to a very light or slightly dark paste (apparently the result of oxidation vs. reduction firing conditions). A deposit of pure white clay is located adjacent to the site.

Vessel forms include wide-mouth crocks, jugs, a probable chamber pot, and shallow straight-sided bowl-like forms, some of which appear to be saggars. The most exciting find made at this site was one that eliminated any doubts we might have had concerning a correct association between potter and site. This is the stem portion of an alkaline-glazed tobacco pipe embossed "B F U" and "N 2".



In 1871, B. F. Ussery moved to the small town of Grand Junction near Hardeman County's border with the state of Mississippi. He remained there on the town lot he had purchased (Hardeman County Deed Book Y, p. 591) until 1875. This lot was located; and, as expected, evidence was found for another pottery site, 40HM17.

As with the 40HM16 site, the actual kiln location had been much disturbed, but it was possible to obtain a large sample of broken stoneware pottery. The most interesting aspect of this collection is the mixed nature of the vessel finishes represented. Only a limited use of an alkaline glaze is indicated, and then usually in combination with Albany slip or salt glaze. Most common are vessel fragments with an Albany slip interior and a gray or tan salt-glazed exterior.

Vessel forms indicated for 40HM17 are also very different from the earlier Ussery site. Large heavy crocks, churns, and jugs are suggested by most of the waster sherds. It may be that the pottery at this location continued in operation for some time after B. F. Ussery departed. Hopefully, future research will lead to a more complete site history. For now, a comparison of the two Ussery sites seems to suggest that the use of Albany slip in this area began around 1870.

Research on the activities of B. F. Ussery in Hardeman County has been an intriguing problem, but his association with pottery making in the South extends beyond Tennessee. Indeed, he seems to have been not only itinerant, but literally driven from place to place.

B. F. Ussery and his wife, Harriet, appear on census reports from 1850 to 1880. In 1850, they were in Randolph County, Alabama, where B. F. was listed as a 25 year old "machanoch" (mechanic?), born in North Carolina (1850 U. S. Census, Randolph County, Alabama). Randolph County was the location of a pottery operated by some of the Usserys (John A. Burrison, Georgia State University, personal communication), and B. F. may have begun work as a potter there.

By 1860, B. F., his wife, and six children were living in Hardeman County, Tennessee, but one daughter had been born in Georgia around 1857 (1860 U. S. Census, Hardeman County). The exact nature of Ussery's activities in Georgia is not known, but his stay there could have acquainted him with the use of alkaline glaze in pottery making. After operating at least two potteries in Tennessee, Ussery moved his family to Mississippi in 1875.

By 1880, Ussery was operating another pottery and Lafayette Glass was living in his household as a "boarder potter" (1880 U. S. Census, Yallobusha County, Mississippi). Evidently this is the same Lafayette Glass listed by Ketchum (1971:160) as working in Arkansas until around 1879.

The most interesting aspect of the 1880 census entry is that it shows that five of the Ussery children, aged 18 to 28, were still living at home and were all noted as being either "palsied" or "idiotic." With this information, the troubled wanderings of the B. F. Ussery family are brought into better perspective, and it is now clear that they were the operators of the Ussery Pottery in northern Mississippi described by Theora Hamblett (1969:6).

Ussery's Pottery was located on the old Water Valley and Banner Road The hardware store in Water Valley as well as the small surrounding villages were well stocked with Ussery's pottery, the crocks being necessary items for farm homes.

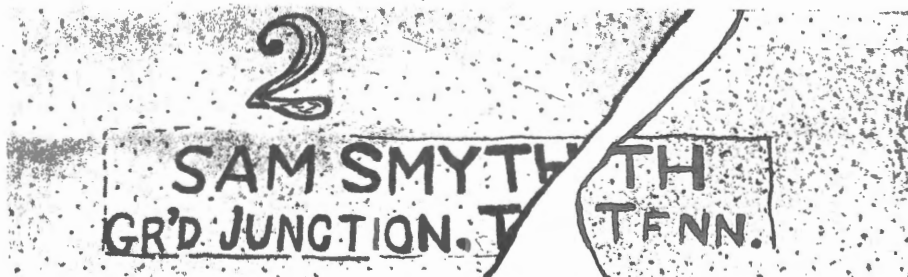
There was a sad story, as told to me, about the family who ran that pottery. They were orphaned when very small, and adopted by two different families. Later those two families moved into the same community. That little orphan brother and sister became interested in each other and married. She remembered her little brother had a big toe cut off, and her husband had a missing big toe.

40HM18

Samuel Smith (Smyth) is listed as the operator of a pottery in Grand Junction from 1887 to 1891 (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1887, p. 1005 and 1891, p. 280 and 1116). He does not appear on the 1880 or earlier censuses for Hardeman County, and his operation was sold in 1899 (see 40HM19). Evidently, this is the same Samuel Smyth who was a potter in Holly Springs, Mississippi, in 1870 and 1880 (Georgeanna Greer, San Antonio, Texas, personal communication).

The kiln used in the 40HM18 operation was enclosed in a large frame building, and it evidently was of the circular-updraft type (Earl Tipler, Hardeman County, personal communication).

Waster sherds collected at this site show that Smyth was producing salt-glazed stoneware crocks, churns, and jugs, many of them with an Albany slipped interior. Several sherds with part of a mark used by Smyth were



found. These are stamped, usually just below the rim, in block letters, "SAM SMYTH" "GR'D JUNCTION. TENN."

40HM19

In 1899, W. T. Follis purchased the property owned by Samuel Smyth in Grand Junction (Hardeman County Deed Book LL, p. 396) that included the location of Smyth's pottery (40HM18). Whether or not Follis continued this pottery for a while is not clear, but by 1901 he had moved the equipment to another location nearby (40HM19), where he soon developed a more industrialized operation. Follis's pottery is mentioned by Eckel (1903:384), Ries and Leighton 1909:477), and Nelson (1911), who provides the following summary:

Grand Junction - The Grand Junction Pottery, owned and operated by W. T. Follis, has been in operation here since 1901. Clay is gotten from the plant pits in Fayette County. The clay is ground in a wet wan [sic] crusher, which has a capacity of about 1 ton an hour. From the crusher it is taken and hand-welded by throwing it against a tightly stretched wire. The two pieces are taken up and pressed together and thrown again. The ware is molded on potters wheels, worked by footpower. For the small ware plaster of paris molds are used. The ware is steam dried for 24 hours, then glazed in Albany slip, or Bristol white glaze.

One downdraft beehive kiln with a capacity of from 6,000 to 7,000 gallons is used. It has a diameter of 16 feet and a height of 8 feet to the curve. At the base the walls are 5 feet thick. Coal is used for drying and burning, which occupies from 12 to 24 hours.

The following articles are made: churns, 1 to 10 gallons, jars, $\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 gallons. Both these articles are made in molds up to 3 gallons; jugs, $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 gallons ($\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 gallons made in molds); flower pots, 5 to 12 inch, chambers 9 inch, chicken founts, $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon; pitchers from 1 quart to 2 gallons are turned; also a few fire brick and sewer pipes are made for local use. The ware is mostly shipped south and west (Nelson 1911:76).

Operations continued at this location until around 1916. Of the many individuals who worked for Follis, the following names were learned: Dan Connor, Charles Connor, Earl Tipler, ? Glover, and ? Esquew. Also, a Mr. Smalley apparently ran the pottery for Follis in later years.

40HM"Unrecorded"#1

An East Tennessee collector has a small brown-slipped stoneware jar stamped "D. T. JOHNSON" "GR. JUNCTION" "TENN." This stamp is similar to the one used by Sam Smyth (40HM18), and Johnson may have been a "turner" for

him or at one of the other known Grand Junction potteries (40HM17 and 19). However, since nothing more could be learned about Johnson, it seems best to account for him under a probable unrecorded site.

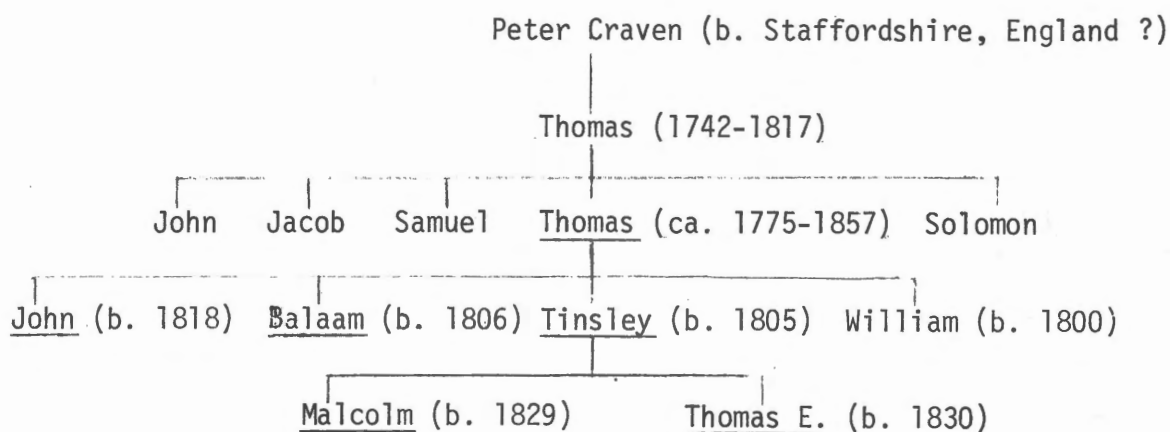
Henderson County

The ceramic history of Henderson County is very complicated and has its origins in an older North Carolina pottery tradition. Of the ten potters listed on the 1850-1880 census schedules for Henderson County, five were members of the Craven family from North Carolina: Balaam, John, Tinsley, Malcolm, and Thomas. A sixth potter, John Hughes, was living in the household of John Craven, and the remaining four potters, Mark Mooney, Alexander Fesmire, and Richard and Riley Garner, all had direct ties to North Carolina.

Much has been written about pottery making in Randolph County, North Carolina (Auman and Zug 1977), and specifically about Peter Craven (Crawford 1964). The patriarch of the Tennessee Craven family was Thomas Craven, born in North Carolina about 1775. He was the oldest son of Thomas Craven and the grandson of Peter Craven. Thomas Craven, Jr., was listed on the 1800 and 1810 censuses for Randolph County and on the 1815 tax list.

Thomas's sons John, Tinsley, and William moved to Henderson County, Tennessee, in 1829, and Thomas and a fourth son, Balaam, were in Clarke County, Georgia in 1830 (1830 U. S. Census, Clarke County Georgia). By 1840 Thomas and Balaam had joined the other Cravens in Henderson County. An additional generation of potters appeared by 1850 when Tinsley's sons, Malcolm and Thomas E. Craven, were listed as potters (1840-1850 U. S. Census, Henderson County).

An abbreviated Craven family chart is presented below in order to illustrate the relationship between generations. The individuals involved in pottery making in Tennessee are underlined.



The Fesmire family seems to have been associated with the Craven family for many years. Balaam Fesmire was born in North Carolina, presumably in Randolph County. Balaam moved to Henderson County, Tennessee, about 1829, the

same time the Craven family moved west. In 1850, Balaam Fesmire was living next to Balaam and William Craven (see 40HE37). The repetition of the Biblical name Balaam in both families was probably not coincidental and is additional proof of the families' close ties. While Balaam Fesmire was never listed in the census as a potter, it seems logical to assume he played some part in the pottery-making activities in Henderson County.

40HE35

Balaam Fesmire's son Alexander was listed as a potter on the 1870 census for Henderson County and apparently was working at the 40HE35 site. Thomas E. and Malcolm Craven (sons of Tinsley) were also listed as potters and were living next to Alexander Fesmire in 1870.

This Fesmire-Craven pottery produced salt-glazed stoneware in the standard utilitarian forms, and tobacco pipes and ceramic animal figurines were also made. Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the ware concerns several sherds from large ovoid-shaped jars that have an applique "rope-like" design around the midsection. Two large jars in private collections have this identical applique and clearly were made at this pottery (Fig. 19, upper left, and Beasley 1971: No. 123).

The exact period of production at this site is not known, but a large quantity of waster sherds was found, suggesting a long operation. The pottery was probably active from before 1870 until at least the 1880s.

40HE36

The recording of this site was largely based on information provided by the former landowner, a life-time resident of the area. The pottery was located at the end of a hollow known locally as "Old Potters Shop Hollow" (John Britt, Henderson County, personal communication).

The early history of this pottery is unclear. Thomas Craven and his sons, John and Tinsley, were probably associated with this operation. John, Tinsley, and Tinsley's son, Malcolm, were all listed as potters on the 1850 census. In 1850, Malcolm had recently married and was living next door to his father and his uncle John. Living in John's household was John W. Hughes, also a potter. All four of these potters probably were associated with this site; however, one or more additional kiln sites could exist in this general area.

The 40HE36 pottery was probably out of production by 1860. Tinsley Craven died in Lexington, Tennessee in 1860 (Cravens 1957:6), John did not appear on the Henderson County census schedule after 1850, and Tinsley's son, Malcolm, moved to a different part of the county by 1860 (see 40HE35).

A large waster sherd pile was once evident at this site, but heavy vegetation prevented the collection of an artifact sample during the survey.



Figure 19. West Tennessee vessels. Upper left, 10 gallon stoneware jar assumed to have been made at Henderson County site 40HE35. Upper right, jardiniere marked "NONCONNAH" on base (red body with light blue slip, green and white floral designs), Shelby County site 40SY255. Lower left, ink bottle holder marked "Pinson," see Madison County site 40MD55. Lower right, stoneware crock with Albany slipped interior, marked "P. C. DAVIS MFR," Madison County site 40MD51.

40HE37

While both the history and the location of this site is somewhat speculative, it was felt that enough information was obtained to assign a site number. By 1850, Balaam and William Craven had settled in this area northwest of Lexington, Tennessee, 10 miles from their brothers Tinsley and John (see 40HE36). They were joined by Balaam Fesmire. The 1850 census shows these three men living next to each other. Balaam Craven was the only one listed as a potter, but Balaam Fesmire's son, Alexander, was a potter in later years (see 40HE35) and probably learned the pottery trade at this site.

Both William Craven and Balaam Fesmire received land grants in this area (West Tennessee Land Grant Book 3, p. 181; Book 7-A, p. 865, Book 9, p. 517; and Book 12, p. 424; Tennessee State Library and Archives). Long time residents of the area still remember the Bill Craven homeplace. The pottery was probably in operation until sometime in the 1860s. In 1860, Balaam Fesmire's son, Alexander, was still living in the area, but Balaam had moved. Also Balaam Craven had moved to a new district in the county. By 1870, the pottery probably was not in operation. By this time Alexander Fesmire had also moved and established a new operation (40HE35).

The 40HE37 pottery site is located on land now densely covered with pine trees. No physical evidence of the site was found at the time of the survey; however, the information provided by informants was very specific as to location.

40HE38

Richard and Riley Garner were the sons of Adam Garner of North Carolina. A. Garner was listed on the 1810 Census for Guilford County, North Carolina. By 1830, Adam Garner was in Henderson County, Tennessee; but, by 1840, Garner had moved to Blount County in East Tennessee (1830 and 1840 U. S. Census, Blount and Henderson counties).

The Garners were back in Henderson County by 1850. Riley and Richard were both listed on the census as potters living near their father Adam. Apparently the Garners continued their wandering life-style because they were not listed in subsequent census schedules for Henderson County. No other records regarding these Garners in Henderson County were found, but the Garner family name is still very conspicuous in the southwestern part of the county. Some of the family may have moved to northeast Arkansas, where there was an 1890s pottery associated with a J. C. Garner (Smith 1972:9).

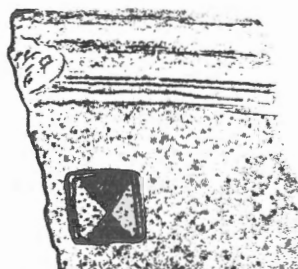
The pottery site associated with Richard and Riley Garner was located from information provided by Garner descendants. The kiln was formerly situated in an area that has undergone a great deal of change and disturbance due to erosion. A light scattering of brick debris was found, but no sherd sample could be collected. The brick fragments are covered with a heavy coating of salt glaze that would suggest the Garners were producing salt-glazed stoneware.

40HE39 and 40

Mark Mooney was another North Carolinian who settled in Henderson County. Mooney was established here by 1840, and he was listed as a potter on the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses for Henderson County.

Mooney built at least two kilns during his more than thirty years of pottery making. Both kiln sites are located in the same general area, and it is not certain which is the older.

Mooney produced salt-glazed stoneware at both sites. Typical vessel forms included crocks, bowls, and grease lamps. He also made tobacco pipes. One marked sherd was found at 40HE39. The stamp is square in shape with two diagonal lines through it that form four triangles. Two of the triangles are more deeply depressed than the other two suggesting a stylized "M."



Mooney's pottery was probably out of operation by 1880. On February 2, 1880, Mooney was decreed a lunatic, and the court appointed him four legal guardians (Henderson County Bond and Guardian Book, Vol. A, p. 239).

Henry County

Henry County was one of the more active counties in terms of the ceramic industry in West Tennessee. Large quantities of clay were available, and today clay is still commercially mined in the county. One family pottery was established as early as 1860, but the majority of pottery-making activity centered around Paris, Tennessee, from 1884 to 1950. The existence of these industrial potteries was the result of a good clay source and a good railroad system used to transport the wares throughout the southeast.

40HY59 and 60

The exact nature of the business relationship between William H. Weaver and John T. Currier is not clear; however, William Weaver built a pottery near Paris about 1894. Weaver sold his interest in the pottery to John Currier in May, 1894, but continued to run and manage the business. In describing the

land sold by Weaver to Currier, the deed mentioned " ... with said road and its meanders to the beginning being the same on which there is now situated a pottery" (Henry County Deed Book 3, p. 208).

The Currier-Weaver pottery was part of a larger firm owned by Currier that specialized in cotton yarn products. The cotton mill was located next to the pottery. A second pottery, 40HY59, was built $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the principal pottery, 40HY60. The 40HY60 pottery was described by Eckel (1903:389):

A two-horse pug mill is used for grinding the clay and is capable of tempering about 11,000 pounds a day. Three turners are employed. Two kilns are in operation - one, a down-draft, 16 feet inside diameter, with a capacity of 3,000 gallons; the second, a patent (Howard) kiln, with a capacity of 2,000 gallons of ware. (Seven pounds of clay are equivalent to 1 gallon of stoneware.) The down-draft kiln is fired with coal, taking 120 bushels; the Howard kiln uses wood, 5 cords being required.

The second pottery, 40HY59, was smaller and employed two "turners." It had one downdraft kiln with a 2,000 gallon capacity. At both potteries the stoneware was slipped with either an Albany clay or a flint and feldspar mixture (Eckel 1903:389).

The major vessel forms made at these potteries were large straight-sided crocks and churns. Whiskey jugs were also a very important product. "Old timers say that it was a common sight to see thousands upon thousands of whiskey jugs stacked outdoors east of the cotton plant" (Johnson 1958:209). The Currier-Weaver potteries were out of operation by about 1908 (Nelson 1911:91).

40HY61

W. D. Russell built a pottery in Paris, Tennessee in 1925. Russell was a grandson of Bomer Russell, who started the first pottery in Calloway County, Kentucky, in the 1820s. W. D. learned the pottery trade as a boy and operated potteries in Pottertown, Kentucky, and Bell City, Kentucky, before moving to Paris (Johnson 1958:210).

Working with W. D. Russell in the 1920s and 1930s were his four sons, Thad, Paul, George and Duell. The domestic wares made by the Russell Pottery included churns, crocks, mixing bowls, jugs, water pitchers, beer mugs, com-modes, marmalade jars, and straight-wall jars (Whitlatch 1940:150). The Russells used both a Bristol and Albany slip on the domestic wares. All the above mentioned forms were thrown by hand, but the pottery also used jiggers to produce churn lids and flower pots (see Barber 1971:5-7 on the use of jiggers).

Two beehive-shaped updraft kilns were used at the pottery. One kiln was 16 feet in diameter, the other 18 feet. They were both fired by coal (Mrs. Paul Russell, Henry County, personal communication). The average output of the pottery was about five kilns every two months (Whitlatch 1940:150).

The Russell pottery continued operation until 1944, when it was sold to the Golden Peacock Company, operated William Warner, Emily Warner, and a Mr. Duvall. They transformed the pottery into one that produced molded art ware items, and they continued their operation until 1950.

After selling their interest in the Russell Pottery in 1944, Paul and Thad Russell built a new pottery in Paris in 1946. While the dates on this operation fall outside the parameters of this survey, some mention of it should be made. This later Russell pottery was in operation until the early part of the 1970s. It is no longer active, but the kiln and shop are still in operating condition.

40HY62

In 1884, a one acre tract of land in Paris, Tennessee, was deeded from W. B. Jones to William L. Carter, Frank B. Gallion, and R. E. Gallion (Henry County Deed Book W, p. 496). It was on this one acre tract that the Gallion and Carter Pottery Company was built. Tax records for the years 1885-1896 provide an exact description of the pottery's location. Once situated adjacent to the railroad tracks, the pottery site is now covered by tons of gravel and fill. As a result, no artifact sample was collected.

The Gallion and Carter Pottery Company placed advertisements in the Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory for the year 1887 and 1891 (p. 638 and p. 684). The pottery went out of business about 1896. The principal products made here were "crocks, churns, and whiskey jugs" (Johnson 1958:209).

40HY"Unrecorded"#1

The earliest indication of pottery making in Henry County is for Enoch Campbell. Campbell appears to have been rather transient. Born in North Carolina, he moved to Kentucky and was listed on the 1850 census as a potter (1850 U. S. Census, Calloway County, Kentucky). By 1860, Campbell moved to Henry County, Tennessee, and was listed as a "crockery maker" (1860 U. S. Census, Henry County).

Campbell was not found in any of the Henry County records, and no other clues were found that would suggest the location of his property. The pottery was probably a short term operation that may have ended before the Civil War.

There may have been some connection between Enoch Campbell and the Porter's Station clay pit, mentioned by Killebrew (1874:1110) as a spot in Henry County where potter's clay was mined before the Civil War. Ramsay's (1939:240) listing of a Porter's Station pottery, however, represents a less than accurate interpretation of this same source.

McNairy County

40MY77

N. J. Culberson is listed in the 1891 Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory (p. 422) as a "jug Mnfr." He first appears on the McNairy County tax records for 1880, and he apparently remained on his same small tract of land until his death in the 1890s.

In addition to jugs, Culberson produced stoneware churns, crocks, jars, and tobacco pipes. The ware was both salt glazed and Albany slipped, and a few waster sherds were found with an alkaline-glazed exterior.

Many of Culberson's jars were made with a rather distinctive type of rim. From the shoulder the upper portion of the vessel recedes inward in a step-like fashion three or four times before joining the lip, which is flat. Jar and churn "ears" found at the site are also distinctive. These are made from sections of strap handles, such as are used on jugs. A rectangular piece of extruded clay was formed into an ear, then pressed sideways into the body of the vessel to be fired.

Madison County

Southeastern Madison County has long been recognized as an important source for some of the fine quality potter's clays found in West Tennessee. In this area there were large quantities of the brownish-gray to pale yellowish-brown clays of the Wilcox formation (Sykes 1968:3-4). Were it not for the relatively late period of Anglo-American settlement in this region, the number of pottery operations in Madison County would no doubt have greatly exceeded the five which are known.

40MD51

The "Old Davis Pottery" and clay pit are briefly mentioned in a few sources, including Whitlatch (1940:285). Richard ("Dick") Davis was apparently living at this location by 1870 (1870 U. S. Census, Madison County), and he appears on D. G. Beers's 1877 "Map of Madison County, Tenn." In 1882, he sold this land to Peter C. and B. F. Davis, apparently brothers; and, by 1884, this same tract was out of the Davis family (Madison County Deed Book 40, p. 183 and Book 42, p. 285).

It was suggested by older local residents that Charlie Monroe actually made the ware that the Davises sold. A sherd found near the kiln site has part of Charlie Monroe's name incised into the surface in cursive letters. The pottery that operated at this site is also the probable origin of two small crocks seen in private collections. These are stamped "P. C. Davis MFR" PINSON TENN" (Fig. 19, lower right).

In addition to straight sided crocks, other stoneware vessels produced here included jugs and churns. Typically, these vessels were Albany slipped on the interior with a salmon or pinkish gray exterior, which is unglazed or lightly salt glazed. A few waster sherds exhibit what appears to be an alkaline glaze.

40MD53

Following the close of the Davis pottery (40MD52), Charlie Monroe began his own operation that lasted from about 1890 to the early 1900s (W. H. Hinkle, Madison County, personal communication).

The ware he produced at this site is very similar to that of the earlier production. Stoneware crocks, jugs, and churns were made, and these commonly have an Albany-slipped interior with a light colored, salt-glazed exterior. No particularly distinctive attributes were noted in the collection of waster sherds obtained from the site.

40MD54

Hugh Reevely, a son of Joseph Reevely, moved from East Tennessee to Madison County during, or just before, 1841. At that time he was 35 years old and must have already been a skillful potter as a result of his family association (see general discussion under Rhea County and see McMinn County site 40MN22, East Tennessee).

Hugh Reevely purchased his first tract of Madison County land in 1841 (Madison County Deed Book 11, p. 575) and appears to have lived at the same spot until his death shortly before 1880. His occupation on the 1850 census is that of potter. Though Hugh Reevely was listed as a farmer on the 1860 census, his 21 year old son, Joseph, is identified as a potter. By 1870, Joseph had left the household, and his father was again listed as a farmer. However, pottery making may still have been a part of Hugh Reevely's work (1850-1880 U. S. Census, Madison County).

A large collection of waster sherds was obtained from the site of the Reevely kiln. These show that stoneware crocks, bowls, jar lids, jugs, and grease lamps were the major items of production. The ware produced here is distinctive in terms of the glazes that were used. Salt glaze, alkaline glaze, and Albany slip were all used separately and in various combinations. Most typical are vessel sherds with brown-slipped interiors and salt or alkaline-glazed exteriors.

Reevely's alkaline glaze (Fig. 20) is consistently a darker mottled olive than B. F. Ussery's (40HMI6), and this seems to be largely related to the use of an Albany slip by Reevely but not by Ussery. These are the only two sites that show a high incidence of this glaze that were found in the state by the survey. In the case of Ussery, his previous experience in Alabama and Georgia was no doubt the influencing factor in his use of an alkaline glaze. Reevely's usage is harder to assess. Presently there is



Figure 20. Alkaline-glazed stoneware waster sherds from Madison County site 40MD54.



Figure 21. Example of downdraft kiln, late nineteenth to early twentieth-century type commonly used in West Tennessee for firing pottery as well as brick and tile (from Nelson 1911: Plate 5).

no indication that alkaline-glazed stoneware was ever produced in East or Middle Tennessee, so we can only assume that Reevely adopted the technique by exposure to some influence not presently understood. Perhaps he employed someone as a "turner" whose name and association remain to be learned, who had knowledge of alkaline glazes.

40MD55

The Pinson Pottery Company operated from 1898 to about 1916; but, according to one source, pottery "had been made here for 30 years" before 1898 (Nelson 1911:104). It is not clear, however, if Nelson means that pottery had been made at this same site or in the general area (e.g. 40MD51, 53, and 54). Other early indications of pottery making in the town of Pinson are a small ink bottle holder, found by a local resident near the 40MD55 site, marked "J.M.C. - Pinson - 1881" (Fig. 19, lower left) and an 1891 advertisement for a Pinson firm, E. S. Halton and Company, "Stoneware Mnfs, Hardware, and Groceries" (Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1891, p. 694). These suggest one or more pre-1898 potteries in the town of Pinson, possibly but not certainly, on this same site.

Descriptions of the Pinson Pottery are given in Eckel (1903:386-387):

A large pottery located near Pinson station is operated by Messrs. Robins and Henderson. The plant, which is run entirely by steam, is by far the best equipped that was seen on this trip. Fire brick, tiles, and stoneware are manufactured, and, to a small extent, common brick. The engine supplies about 35 horsepower to the plant. It should be recollected that usually part of the machinery is idle, as it is, but rarely that both stoneware and fire brick are in process of manufacture.

The clay for stoneware passes through the following processes in order: 1. Crushing (crusher). 2. Grinding (wheel). 3. Turning (hand work, wheel run by steam). 4. Drying (on heater). 5. Burning.

The kiln used is down draft of the Stewart pattern, the rights being owned by the Stewart Patent Kiln Company, of Findlay, Ohio. The right to erect one kiln costs \$100. It is fired entirely with wood. One burning requires about 15 cords, costing here about \$1.50 per cord. The production of stoneware is about 2,500 gallons per day. The slip clays used come from Albany, N. Y., and from Seneca Falls, N. Y. The Albany clay is, of course, often used alone, but the Seneca Falls slip is very hard to fuse, and in consequence Albany slip is usually added to it, the proportions of the mixture being one-third Seneca Falls, two-thirds Albany. The Seneca Falls slip costs somewhat more than the Albany clay. It is not so easy to dissolve as the Albany slip clay, but when dissolved covers the ware more evenly. When used alone it gives a beautiful bright olive glaze. Used in combination with Albany slip, it brightens the coloration of the latter and also gives a somewhat greenish tint.

And in 1909 by Nelson (1909:104):

The pottery ... at present is operating only on a small scale ... A few fire brick are made along with the pottery, the same clay being used for both. The clay is ground up in a crusher and then tempered by hand welding. Everything but the jars and jugs are made in plaster of paris molds, though at present churns are made on a potters wheel, as well as the jugs and jars. These wheels at present are run by foot power, though they are fixed to be run by steam if so desired.

The following ware is made: Pitchers, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ gallons; chicken founts, 1 gallon; jars, 1 to 10 gallons; churns, 1 to 6 gallons; bowls, $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 gallons; flower pots, 4 to 14 inches in diameter. No jugs are made at present, as they were used in shipping whiskey, which is now bottled in glass.

Seven pounds of clay are used for 1 gallon vessel, which when dried weighs 6 pounds, and when burned $5\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, this showing the presence of 25 percent of water in the green ware. A 2 gallon vessel requires 11 pounds of clay, a 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 gallon require respectively, $15\frac{1}{2}$, 18, 22, $23\frac{1}{2}$, 32, and 38 pounds of clay.

The ware shrinks 1 inch to the foot, which is allowed for its making. The drying is done in a room 100x13 feet, holding 5,000 gallons, which is heated by flues from three fire boxes at one end, using wood. After dipping in a slip of feldspar, ground flint and clay, the ware is put in two down-draft kilns (Stewart patent), one 18 feet in diameter, holding 6,000 gallons, the other 25 feet, holding 8,500 gallons. The burn takes 72 hours. Only the small kiln is now used, requiring 10 tons of coal. Most of the ware is shipped south, some going as far as New Orleans.

Besides Henderson and Robins (Frank Robins), a Mr. Kline, a Mr. Weist, Dick Rye, Walter Dismuth, and J. M. Chambers are still remembered by older local residents as some of the many individuals associated with this firm. J. M. Chambers may have been the maker of the ink bottle holder mentioned above.

40MD"Unrecorded"#1

The search for some remains of the Jackson Pottery Company was one of the most frustrating undertaken. The general location was determined, but an intensive area survey failed to produce any clear surface evidence. The general area where the plant stood appears to have undergone major modification as part of an ever changing urban scene.

The Jackson Pottery Company "plant" is briefly described by Eckel (1903) and is mentioned by Ries and Leighton (1909). Eckel (1903:388) states that:

Only stoneware is manufactured. The clay is ground in one mill, worked by two horses, the amount ground per day being $1\frac{1}{2}$

to 2 tons. One down-draft kiln is used, fired with Kentucky coal, and holding 5,000 gallons of ware. The clay used is a mixture, in equal parts, of clay from pits near Jackson and of that from Morrow pits near Pinson. The slip used is from Albany, N.Y., and from East St. Louis, the latter being a "flint" and "spar" mixture.

The type of vessels produced at this plant are not known, but several stoneware jugs were seen in Jackson antique shops marked with the names of Jackson whiskey firms. Some of these may have been produced at the Jackson Pottery during the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

Shelby County

Shelby County represents a weak spot in terms of the completeness of the survey effort. Not enough time was allocated to the problem of locating sites in the complex urban setting presented by modern Memphis. At least four Memphis potteries are suggested, and some remains of these should exist. A stoneware sherd found in Arkansas has also been reported (Leslie C. Abernathy, Arkansas Archaeological Survey, personal communication) that is marked "Memphis Stoneware Pottery". This may represent still another unrecorded site, but it could be connected with one of the firms discussed below. If the Memphis City Directories are a true indication of the late nineteenth-century potteries operating there, none of them appear to have been active beyond about 1882.

Shelby County did have a very unusual early twentieth-century pottery, and this site adds considerably to our understanding of an emerging diversity in what was traditionally a rather mundane sphere.

40SY255

Walter B. Stevens is perhaps best known for his work in North Carolina at what became known as the Pisgah Forrest Pottery (Sayers 1971:98; Kovel and Kovel 1974:177). Stevens moved to North Carolina, in 1913, from southern Shelby County, where he and his mother, Mrs. Andrew Stevens, had made pottery from about 1901.

Much discrepancy exists in the few secondary sources pertaining to Stevens, and his name has been given as Stevens, Stephens, and Stephenson. Probably one of the more reliable sources concerning his Shelby County pottery is Nelson (1911:109-110):

The Nonconnah Pottery ... is owned and operated by Mr. W. B. Stevens. They make very pretty, artistic ware, consisting of jardinières, jars and pitchers of various shapes. They are decorated with white enamel designs on a green base. After experimenting for several years, they started in 1909 to make ware on a commercial basis.

The local clay is gotten ... just over the border in Mississippi. It is a light grey clay, which on burning turns to a light

pink. In making the ware they mix with the local clay an imported red and white clay, with feldspar to make it tough. The ware after being molded is placed in a china ware kiln and burned to biscuit heat. It is then porcelain glazed and burnt under a temperature of 2,400° Fahr., which gives the ware a vitreous fracture. The decorative designs are burnt under a low heat.

Waster sherds collected at the site and one vessel examined in a private collection (Fig. 19, upper right) indicate that Stevens's vessels had more earthenware than porcelain characteristics. Most common are sherds from light to dark-green slipped vessels, often with light-colored slip-trailed or floral cameo-like designs. This same type of decoration was also sometimes applied to a light blue or turquoise slip, and there are indications of some experimenting with polychrome and dark metallic glazes.

Not uncommonly, Stevens's Shelby County wares were marked with the word "NONCONNAH" handpainted in black on the vessel base. The appearance of the word Nonconnah, the name of a nearby stream, should firmly date a ceramic piece as having been made between 1901 and 1913.

NON CONNAH

40SY"Unrecorded"#1

At least one, and possibly more than one, pottery is suggested by the listing of a group of potters, all located on Dunlap Street, in the 1871 to 1874 Memphis City Directories. The names of these individuals are Samuel Tighe, Valentine Malsi, Mrs. Eliza Malsi, and Jacob Alp. No clue is given as to the exact type of pottery, or potteries, with which they were involved.

40SY"Unrecorded"#2

Jacob Erb is listed as a potter in the 1872 to 1877 Memphis City Directories. Though he was in the same general area as the Dunlap Street potters, a separate operation seems implied by his longer period of listing.

40SY"Unrecorded"#3

Joseph Yeager's pottery is listed in the Memphis City Directories in 1876 and 1877. In 1876, he is identified as a "Manufacturer of Stone Crockery" producing "a full line of jars, jugs, flower pots, spittoons and all styles of

stone crockery". This advertisement at least suggests a more production oriented, industrial type operation, than the other directory listings.

40SY"Unrecorded"#4

Most of the survey time spent in Memphis was devoted to an unsuccessful search for the site of the Bluff City Terra Cotta Works that operated from about 1876 to 1882. The 1880 manufacturers' census (Shelby County) shows that this firm was producing "stone and earthen pottery ware" valued at \$2,500, using eight male employees. According to an advertisement in the Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory (1876, p. 245), the firm's proprietor was Gus A. Morti, and the following items were produced:

... Plain and ornamental Terra Cotta Work, flower vases, flower pots, flue linings, glazed stoneware water pipes, chimney tops, jugs, crocks, jars, ornamental statues, and sewer pipes of every size and shape. A large stock always on hand that will defy foreign competition.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Information collected for each of the 163 pre-1940s pottery-making operations discussed in this report ranges from slight to voluminous. Paradoxically, because of sources such as the manufacturers' census, more is known about the type of operation at some of the 53 "unrecorded" sites, than for some of the 110 sites that were found. In keeping with the goal of providing a general research document concerning historic pottery making in Tennessee, only a summary of each operation has been presented in this report.

For most of the sites discussed it would be possible to increase what is known about them by additional archival and field research. The survey effort was too broad in scope to allow for a thorough examination of any particular site, and a different research approach directed at any one of them could yield added information, even in the cases where the site has been greatly altered. However, from the writers' point of view, the next logical step in developing a more complete understanding of this important historic industry would be the detailed examination of a carefully selected sample of representative regional sites. Such a project, or series of projects, should be founded on a coordinated program of intense historical background research for each selected site, followed by a carefully planned and directed archaeological excavation. Some of the problems in need of such research can best be seen in terms of the state's three major regional divisions.

In East Tennessee, at least two major pottery-making traditions were in existence during the nineteenth century. However, for both earthenware and stoneware potteries, a substantial information void exists in terms of specifics about kiln types and other technological aspects of how the wares were produced.

The older earthenware pottery tradition is certainly of great interest, and much could be learned from an archaeological investigation of some of these nineteenth-century earthenware kiln sites. Unfortunately, the available site resource is very limited. Only two nineteenth-century earthenware kiln sites that are believed to have good archaeological potential were recorded in East Tennessee. The rest have been severely damaged, or obliterated, by modern construction and farming activities.

For East Tennessee stoneware kiln sites, the picture is a little more encouraging. Two such sites have been at least partially excavated, though not yet reported, and at least five other sites were found by the survey that appear to have intact kiln remains. These could provide important information about kiln type variation within the region, as well as information concerning associated functional areas (shops, clay mills, etc.) related to the overall production at particular sites. Unfortunately, for some of these sites this relatively undisturbed condition is not likely to continue for many more years.

In Middle Tennessee, only a few nineteenth-century earthenware potteries existed, and no intact kiln remains are known to exist at any earthenware site recorded. Only one earthenware site was found that has some degree of archaeological potential in terms of relatively undisturbed functional areas.

Certainly the most intriguing research prospect in Middle Tennessee concerns the family-operated stoneware potteries that once existed in the DeKalb-Putnam-White County area. While much was learned about the twentieth-century phase of this tradition, little is known about its origins. Even in the case of the twentieth-century kiln type, some details of its construction are not clear, and no example exists where the floor and fire boxes are still visible. At least a dozen nineteenth or twentieth-century sites that could be interpreted archaeologically do exist in this area. However, there is nothing secure in this statement. In the last few years, subdivision developments have destroyed several previously intact kiln sites, and this trend is sure to continue.

For the West Tennessee stoneware pottery tradition the situation is especially critical. No example of a pre-Civil War site was found that appears to have the remains of an even partially intact kiln. Additionally, no more than three of the family pottery sites recorded appear to have the potential to provide significant answers to questions concerning late nineteenth-century kiln construction and methods of ware production.

Interrelated with this situation of limited site resources is the division of sites into family and industrial categories. As the industrial potteries were generally more recent operations, it would be expected that more intact remains should exist for them. This, however, is negated by their typically urban locations. In the urban settings, modern changes occur rapidly, often resulting in a more thorough obliteration of past landscapes. As a result, only 5 or 6 of the 22 recorded industrial pottery sites are believed to be sufficiently intact to permit the recovery of any substantial amount of information by archaeological techniques.

All of this indicates a pressing need for action in terms of developing an archaeological research program. At this time, Tennessee's remaining site resource base for historic potteries is just barely large enough to permit some degree of selection in choosing sites that could provide archaeologically derived answers to many critical technological and chronological questions. In a few years, it is expected that this same resource base will have been reduced to the point where such choice is not available and all examples of some regional pottery site types will have been destroyed. Hopefully, before this occurs, some way can be found to provide the program of specific site research that this important historic industry so urgently needs.

APPENDIX A

INDEX OF PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TENNESSEE POTTERY INDUSTRY

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Alp, Jacob	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#1
Anderson, Benjamin W.	TN 1853	ET	Hawkins	40HW55
Anderson, W. G. S.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV141
Aust, Frederick	(possible association, see Wilson County, MT)			
Baker, Francis W.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV140
Ball, John	TN 1825	ET	(see Roane County)	
Barr, Jacob	TN 1833	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 66
"	TN 1833	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#1
Benz, D. W.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV138
Bersheers, D. M.	? ?	MT	White	40WH"UN"#2
Black, James M.	TN 1829	MT	Monroe	40MR98
Boggs, J. H.	? ?	ET	Marion	40MI"UN"#2
Bohannon, Simon	NC 1809	ET	Greene	40GN27
Bohannon, William	NC 1838	ET	Greene	40GN27
Bowlus, ?	? ?	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
Bradford, ?	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#5
Brandt, Frederick	? ?	ET	Washington	40WG53
Brandt, Fritz	? ?	ET	Washington	40WG53
Brandt, G. F.	? ?	ET	Washington	40WG53
"	? ?	ET	Unicoi	40UC1
Brown, Charles	NC 1824	MT	White	40WH"UN"#1
Bussell, Meredith	TN 1851	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Buttorff, Harry W.	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV138
Cain, Abraham	TN 1827	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Cain, Leonard	VA? 1782	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Cain, Martin A.	TN 1851	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Cain, William	TN 1822	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Campbell, Enoch	NC ca. 1820	WT	Henry	40HY"UN"#1
Campbell, J. J.	TN 1831	MT	Putnam	40PM63
Campbell, Jackson	TN 1818	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#2
Campbell, John E.	TN 1817	MT	Putnam	40PM63
Carter, Anderson	TN 1824	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#4
Carter, William L.	? ?	WT	Henry	40HY62
Cash, Daniel	? ?	ET	Unicoi	40UC1
Cast, Jim (?)	? ?	MT	White	40WH87
Chambers, J. M.	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Clayton, W.	? ?	MT	White	40WH"UN"#2
Click, Erasmus	TN 1841	ET	Greene	40GN25
Click, Green	TN 1823	ET	Greene	40GN25
Click, John, Sr.	TN 1795	ET	Greene	40GN25
Click, John, Jr.	TN 1832	ET	Greene	40GN25
"	TN 1832	ET	Greene	40GN26
Clouse, T. W.	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM49
Coble, Adam	NC 1797	MT	Hickman	40HI3 & 120
Coble, David	TN 1833	MT	Hickman	40HI3 & 120
Coble, Peter	NC 1803	MT	Hickman	40HI3 & 120

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Coe, Adam	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV141
Coeffe, Paul	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV141
Cole, Jesse S.	TN 1850	MT	White	40WH76,77,78
Cole, Solomon R.	TN 1825	MT	Putnam	40PM58
"	TN 1825	MT	White	40WH77
Cole, Thomas E.	TN 1855	MT	Putnam	40PM53 & 58
"	TN 1855	MT	White	40WH76,77,78
Collier, George	IA 1830	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Collier, Henry	NC 1800	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Connor, Alfred	TN post-1900	WT	Hardeman	40HM13
Connor, Charles P.	IL ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM13 & 19
Connor, Dan	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM13 & 19
Connor, Howard	TN post-1900	WT	Hardeman	40HM13
Connor, Tarence	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM12 & 13
Connor, Tom	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM13
Craven, Balaam F.	NC 1806	WT	Henderson	40HE37
Craven, John M.	NC 1818	WT	Henderson	40HE36
Craven, Malcolm	NC 1829	WT	Henderson	40HE35 & 36
Craven, Thomas	NC ca. 1775	WT	Henderson	40HE36
Craven, Thomas E.	TN 1830	WT	Henderson	40HE35
Craven, Tinsley W.	NC 1805	WT	Henderson	40HE36
Crowley, Ellisen	TN 1829	MT	Putnam	40PM56
Crowley, James T.	MD 1798	MT	Putnam	40PM56
Crowley, Stephen D.	TN 1831	MT	Putnam	40PM56
Culberson, N. J.	? ?	WT	McNairy	40MY77
Currier, John T.	? ?	WT	Henry	40HY59 & 60
Davis, B. F.	TN ?	WT	Madison	40MD51
Davis, James	? ?	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#1
Davis, Jas. H.	PA 1849	ET	Washington	40WG51
Davis, Peter C.	TN ?	WT	Madison	40MD51
Davis, Richard	TN 1833	WT	Madison	40MD51
Dean, Thomas	TN 1824	ET	(See Union County)	
Decker, Charles, Sr.	Germany 1832	ET	Washington	40WG51 & 52
Decker, Charles, Jr.	PA 1857	ET	Washington	40WG51
Decker, Fred	DE 1863	ET	Washington	40WG51
Decker, Richard Henry	PA 1866	ET	Washington	40WG51
Decker, William	DE 1859	ET	Washington	40WG51
Dewese, Murray (?)	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM67
Dismuth, Walter	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Dryer, Chris	Switzerland 1850	MT	Putnam	40PM62
"	Switzerland 1850	MT	White	40WH87 & 88
Dunegan, William	NC 1800	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Dunn, Allen	VA 1802	MT	Putnam	40PM63
Dunn, George A. (son of Allen)	TN 1838	MT	White	40WH76,78,81
Dunn, George W. (son of Newton)	TN 1870	MT	DeKalb	40DK11
"	TN 1870	MT	Putnam	40PM49,50,59
"	TN 1870	MT	Putnam	40PM60,66,69
Dunn, Henry	? ?	MT	White	40WH75,89-95
Dunn, Jasper	TN 1847	MT	Putnam	40PM68
"	TN 1847	MT	White	40WH89-95

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Dunn, John (son of Peter)	TN 1846	MT	Putnam	40PM50
Dunn, John R.	TN 1829	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#2
Dunn, John Wash.(son of Allen ?)	TN 1849	MT	DeKalb	40DK10
"	TN 1849	MT	White	40WH81
Dunn, Lorenzo	? ?	MT	White	40WH93
Dunn, Newton	TN 1848	MT	DeKalb	40DK11
"	TN 1848	MT	Putnam	40PM52
Dunn, Peter	KY 1812	MT	Van Buren	40VB"UN"#1
"	KY 1812	MT	Putnam	40PM49, 65
"	KY 1812	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#1
Elkin, Andrew	TN 1821	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#4
Elrod, Albert	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM59
Elrod, George Washington	TN 1851	MT	White	40WH81
Elrod, Giles	TN 1823	MT	White	40WH81
Elrod, John	TN 1827	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#1
"	TN 1827	MT	Putnam	40PM49
"	TN 1827	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#1
Elrod, Riley (son of John)	TN 1858	MT	Putnam	40PM49,60,67
English, Mathew	? ?	ET	Roane	40RE"UN"#1
Erb, Jacob	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#2
Esquew, ?	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM19
Ferguson, Douglas	(see Sevier County, ET)			
Fesmire, Alexander W.	TN 1831	WT	Henderson	40HE35 & 37
Fesmire, Balaam	NC 1802	WT	Henderson	40HE37
Fleet, Theodore B.	? ?	ET	Washington	40WG51
Floyd, John	VA 1804	ET	Knox	40KN61
Follis, W. T.	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM19
Fraley, George A.	NC 1813	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Frazier, John	SC 1822	ET	Carter	40CR"UN"#1
French, ?	? ?	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
Gallion, Frank B.	? ?	WT	Henry	40HY62
Gallion, R. E.	? ?	WT	Henry	40HY62
Gambrell, William	TN 1828	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 58
Garner, J. D.	? ?	ET	Blount	40BT17
Garnder, Richard	TN 1804	WT	Henderson	40HE38
Garner, Riley	TN 1801	WT	Henderson	40HE38
Glass, John E.	TN 1821	ET	Blount	40BT"UN"#1
Glover, ?	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM19
Goodall, John L.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV140
Goodwin, James T.	TN 1843	MT	White	40WH87
Goodwin, John W.	TN 1845	MT	White	40WH87
Gordon, George	? ?	ET	Roane	40RE"UN"#1
Graves, George	TN 1806	ET	Knox	40KN61
Gray, John H.	TN 1853	MT	DeKalb	40DK10
Grim, David	VA 1845	ET	Greene	40GN24
Grim, Jacob	VA 1848	ET	Greene	40GN24
Grim, William	VA 1818	ET	Greene	40GN24
Grindstaff, William	TN 1847	ET	Blount	40BT17 & 18
"	TN 1847	ET	Jefferson	40JE32
"	TN 1847	ET	Knox	40KN62
Gunion, ?	? ?	ET	Blount	40BT17

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Halton, E. S.	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Harden, Thomas D.	NY 1803	ET	(see Union County)	
Harley, Henry J.	TN 1838	MT	Davidson	40DV138
Harley, William H.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV138
Harmon, Francis A.	TN 1888	ET	Greene	40GN28
Harmon, Moses P.	TN 1857	ET	Greene	40GN28
Harmon, Peter	VA 1785	ET	Greene	40GN27
Harris, ?	? ?	ET	Greene	40GN23
Hart, Isaac	? ?	ET	Carter	40CR9
Hartbarger, Daniel	VA 1786	ET	Roane	40RE149
Hartbarger, Samuel	TN 1826	ET	Roane	40RE149
Hash, James	SC 1828	MT	DeKalb	40"UN"#4
Haun, Eugene	TN 1884	ET	Greene	40GN28
Haun, Lewis M.	TN 1836	ET	Greene	40GN23
Hayse, Jeremiah	TN 1800	ET	Bradley	40BY"UN"#1
Heaton, Isaiah	SC 1822	ET	Greene	40GN25
Hedgecough, Asher	TN 1860	MT	Putnam	40PM52
Hedgecough, George	TN 1881	MT	Putnam	40PM50, 53, 54
"	TN 1881	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Hedgecough, Lee	TN post-1900	MT	Putnam	40PM50, 53, 54
Hedgecough, Orb	TN post-1900	MT	Putnam	40PM50, 53, 54
Hedgecough, Riley	TN 1863	MT	Putnam	40PM52
Hedgecough, Wiley	TN 1863	MT	Putnam	40PM52
Hedgecough, William C.	TN 1815	MT	Putnam	40PM52
"	TN 1815	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Hedgecough, William T.	TN 1858	MT	Putnam	40PM53 & 54
Heller, Hinim	PA 1815	ET	Claiborne	40CE"UN"#1
Henderson, ?	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Hendry, John	TN 1827	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#4
Henshaw, Jesse	NC 1802	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Henshaw, William	TN 1829	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Hinely, William	NC 1804	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#2
Hinshaw, William	NC 1808	ET	Greene	40GN22
Hitchcock, John W.	TN 1850	MT	Putnam	40PM66
Hitchcock, William L.	TN 1822	MT	White	40WH85
Hitchcock - see Hedgecough				
Hooten, ?	? ?	ET	Hawkins	40HW55
Howell, Levi	? ?	ET	White	40WH81
Huddleston, P. M.	TN 1806	WT	Hardeman	40HM14 & 15
Hughes, John W.	TN 1830	WT	Henderson	40HE36
Ivans, F. M.	TN 1830	ET	Monroe	40MR98
Johnson, D. T.	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM"UN"#1
Jones, Charles F.	TN 1823	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#4
Keller, Earl	TN post-1900	WT	Hardeman	40HM12 & 13
Keller, R. B.	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM12
Keller, W. V.	TN post-1900	WT	Hardeman	40HM12
Ketron, Nelson	TN 1808	ET	Hancock	40HK"UN"#1
Kibler, H. W.	? ?	ET	Unicoi	40UC1
Kinser, Henry	? ?	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#1
Kirkland, George	TN 1823	ET	(see Roane County)	

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Kline, ?	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Krager, Charles L.	? ?	ET	Hamilton	40HM98
Kramer, M.	(unverified association, see Davidson County, MT)			
Lacy, Alvin	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, Arnold	TN ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, David	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, Edward	TN ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, James	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, Lee	TN ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, Raymond	TN ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, William	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Lacy, William (son of Arnold)	TN ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
LaFever, Andrew, Sr.	PA 1774	MT	White	40WH75,89-95
LaFever, Andrew, Jr.	KY 1814	MT	Putnam	40PM56,63,64
LaFever, Asher (son of Andrew)	KY 1812	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 58
"	KY 1812	MT	White	40WH75,89-95
LaFever, Asher (son of James)	TN 1845	MT	White	40WH84,89-95
LaFever, Asher (son of Thomas)	TN 1850	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 52
"	TN 1850	MT	Putnam	40PM59 & 60
LaFever, Columbus	TN 1896	MT	Putnam	40PM59 & 60
LaFever, Eli	TN 1880	MT	Putnam	40PM49,59,60
LaFever, Francis	TN 1836	MT	White	40WH89-95
LaFever, George (son of James)	TN 1834	MT	White	40WH89-95
LaFever, George W. (son of Zach.)	TN 1869	MT	White	40WH94
LaFever, James, Sr. (son of Andrew)	KY 1816	MT	White	40WH75,89-95
LaFever, James, Jr. (son of James)	TN 1854	MT	White	40WH75,89-95
LaFever, James H. (son of Thomas)	TN 1853	MT	Putnam	40PM49,50,52
LaFever, Jesse	TN 1833	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#3
LaFever, John, Sr.	KY 1799	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#3
"	KY 1799	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 65
"	KY 1799	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#1
LaFever, John, Jr.	TN 1831	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#3
LaFever, Rachel	TN 1833	MT	Putnam	40PM49
LaFever, Riley	TN post-1900	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 69
LaFever, Roll	TN 1832	MT	Putnam	40PM68
LaFever, Thomas	TN 1830	MT	Putnam	40PM49 & 58
"	TN 1830	MT	White	40WH89-95
LaFever, Winfield	TN ?	MT	Putnam	40PM59
LaFever, Zachariah (son of Andrew)	KY 1797	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#5
LaFever, Zachariah (son of James, Sr.)	TN 1835	MT	White	40WH94
Laitenberger, Christian C.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV140
Leek, Thomas	? ?	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#1
Lewis, Henry (?)	TN 1874	ET	Greene	40GN28
Lollar, Isaac	TN 1809	MT	Putnam	40PM63
Lotspeich, Bascomb	? ?	ET	Greene	40GN23
Love, Thomas B.	TN 1799	ET	McMinn	40MN21
Love, Walter C.	GA 1840	ET	Monroe	40MR99
Lucky, Rufus	TN 1827	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#5

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
McFarland, Sam	TN 1852	ET	Greene	40GN28
McFarland, William	TN 1882	ET	Greene	40GN28
McLee, William	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV140
McPherson, Matthew	TN 1827	ET	Washington	40WG"UN"#1
Malsi, Mrs. Eliza	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#1
Malsi, Valentine	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#1
Martin, Amon A.	TN ca. 1838	MT	DeKalb	40DK"UN"#3
"	TN ca. 1838	MT	Putnam	40PM66
Massa, A. R.	TN 1842	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#2
Massa, Green	TN 1856	MT	Putnam	40PM56
Massa, William	TN 1833	MT	Putnam	40PM49
"	TN 1833	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#1
Mathis (or Mathews), James	VA 1790?	ET	Rhea	40RH"UN"#2
Mathorn, John	TN 1795	ET	Carter	40CR9
Mayberry, James	TN 1815	MT	Sumner	40SU"UN"#1
Miner, ?	? ?	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
Mitchell, Charter W.	TN 1823	MT	Putnam	40PM56 & 63
Mitchell, John A.	TN 1818	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Monroe, Charlie	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD51 & 53
Montague, Dwight	? ?	ET	Hamilton	40HA97
Montague, Langdon	? ?	ET	Hamilton	40HA97
Montgomery, James	PA 1792	MT	White	40WH76, 78, 82
Mooney, Mark	NC 1795	WT	Henderson	40HE39 & 40
Morgan, Jonathan	TN 1827	ET	Greene	40GN23
"	TN 1827	ET	Hawkins	40HW55
Morti, Gus A.	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#4
Mottern, George	TN 1820	ET	Carter	40CR9
Myers, George (?)	? ?	MT	White	40WH87
Nelson, John	TN 1800	ET	Greene	40GN25
Nollner, Francis B.	TN 1837	MT	DeKalb	40DK10
Nooncasser, John	NC 1800	ET	Jefferson	40JE31
Nooncesser, ?	? ?	ET	Blount	40BT17
O'Daniels, David	PA 1818	ET	Carter	40CR"UN"#1
Oliver, John F.	NC 1841	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Pearson, Jackson	TN 1835	ET	Polk	40PK"UN"#1
Pearson, John W.	TN 1814	ET	Polk	40PK"UN"#1
Pearson, Lorenzo	TN 1823	ET	Monroe	40MR98
Pickens, Andrew	SC 1808	ET	Monroe	40MR98
Potts, A. J.	? ?	ET	Jefferson	40JE31 & 32
Potts, Patrick	SC 1793	MT	Putnam	40PM64
"	SC 1793	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Price, Edward	AL 1830	WT	Hardeman	40HM14 & 15
Ragan, Richard	TN 1803	ET	Blount	40BT"UN"#2
Rainey, William	TN 1829	MT	Putnam	40PM64
"	TN 1829	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Ralston, William	TN 1825	ET	(See Union County)	
Rasor, William	? 1858	ET	Blount	40BT17
Reevely, Charles	TN 1801	ET	Rhea	40RH"UN"#1
Reevely, Francis	TN 1804	ET	Hamilton	40HA96
"	TN 1804	ET	McMinn	40MN21 & 22
Reevely, Hugh	TN 1806	ET	McMinn	40MN22
"	TN 1806	WT	Madison	40MD54

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Reevely, Joseph	TN 1848	WT	Madison	40MD54
Reynolds, Henry	TN 1819	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#5
Reynolds, Vincent	VA 1797	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#5
Rigsby, Owen	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM68
Ripley, Thomas, Jr.	TN 1801	ET	Greene	40GN29
Roberts, Amon D.	TN 1876	MT	Putnam	40PM62
Roberts, John A.	NC 1829	MT	Putnam	4056 & 62
Roberts, Newton C.	TN 1861	MT	Putnam	40PM62
"	TN 1861	MT	Putnam	40PM"UN"#2
Roberts, Thomas	NC 1785	MT	Putnam	40PM56
Robins, Frank	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Rodenhauser, Peter R.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#3
Rodenhauser, Rudolph R.	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#3
Russell, Benjamin A.	TN 1807	ET	Greene	40GN27
Russell, Duell P.	KY ?	WT	Henry	40HY61
Russell, George	KY ?	WT	Henry	40HY61
Russell, Paul	KY ?	WT	Henry	40HY61
Russell, Thad	KY ?	WT	Henry	40HY61
Russell, W. D.	KY ?	WT	Henry	40HY61
Rye, Dick	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Sailers, John K.	IA 1829	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Sailers, Zachariah	TN 1819	MT	Jackson	40JK"UN"#1
Sauls, William	VA 1819	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#2
Scovel, Elizabeth J.	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV142
Seabolt, Jacob	VA 1826	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Shaffer, Fredrick	? 1758	ET	Greene	40GN21
Sherrill, Oliver	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Small, James	TN 1800	ET	(See Roane County)	
Smalley, ?	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM19
Smith, David L.	TN 1854	ET	Blount	40BT16
Smith, Samuel	NC 1800	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#1
Smyth, Samuel	? ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM18
Snow, George W.	TN 1858	ET	Hawkins	40HW55
Southard, John M.	TN 1846	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Sparks, Chester	? ?	WT	Carroll	40CL21
"	? ?	MT	Davidson	40DV139
Sparks, Elry	TN ?	WT	Carroll	40CL21
Sparks, Harold	TN ?	WT	Carroll	40CL21
"	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV139
Sparks, James	TN ?	WT	Carroll	40CL21
"	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV139
Sparks, John	TN ?	WT	Carroll	40CL21
"	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV139
Spears, George Washington	TN 1852	MT	White	40WH89 & 92
Spears, James	TN 1814	MT	White	40WH84,89-95
Spears, Jefferson	TN 1821	MT	White	40WH84,89-95
Stanburg, Luke	TN 1810	ET	Hamblen	40HB"UN"#1
Stanley, Ezekiel	TN 1852	MT	Putnam	40PM52 & 55
Stanley, George	England 1820	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#2
Stanley, Thomas	TN 1823	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#3
Steel, Nathaniel	TN 1804	MT	Sumner	40SU"UN"#1

APPENDIX A (continued)

<u>Name of Person</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
Stevens, Mrs. Andrew	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY355
Stevens, Walter B.	IA 1876	WT	Shelby	40SY355
Sullins, Martin	TN 1807	MT	Sumner	40SU31
"	TN 1807	MT	Putnam	40PM63
Tighe, Samuel	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#1
Tipler, Earl	TN 1890	WT	Hardeman	40HM19
Toms, ?	? ?	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#3
Trent, ?	? ?	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#3
Ussery, Benjamin F.	NC 1826	WT	Hardeman	40HM16 & 17
Ussery, Mastin	NC ?	WT	Hardeman	40HM16
Vestal, Isaac	TN 1824	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#5
Vestal, Caswell	TN 1826	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#5
Vestal, Silas	? ?	ET	Greene	40GN"UN"#5
Vincent, Tom	? ?	MT	Putnam	40PM57
Weaver, Carl	TN ?	ET	Knox	40KN63
"	TN ?	ET	Greene	40GN23
Weaver, David H.	? ?	ET	Knox	40KN63
Weaver, George C.	TN ?	ET	Knox	40KN63
Weaver, William	TN ?	ET	Knox	40KN63
"	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV138
"	TN ?	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#5
"	TN ?	WT	Henry	40HY59 & 60
Weist, ?	? ?	WT	Madison	40MD55
Wilson, Ernest	(see Sevier County, ET)			
Wolfe, William	(unverified association, see Sullivan, County, ET)			
Yeager, Joseph	? ?	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#3

Addendum

Barr, Jacob C.	see Appendix F
Binsfield, Charles W.	"
Craven, Malcolm	"
Martin, Amon A.	"
Moss, A. H.	"
Wolford, E. D.	"

APPENDIX B

INDEX OF TENNESSEE POTTERY MARKS, MOTIFS, AND MISCELLANEOUS NAMES

Marks Appearing on Tennessee Made Pottery

<u>Mark or Portion of Mark</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
A B C	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
B F U	WT	Hardeman	40HM16
Blue Ridge	ET	Unicoi	40UC1
Bowlus, Miner, & French Knoxville, Tenn.	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
BURTON, TENN.	MT	Putnam	40PM49
" (see also)	MT	Putnam	40PM66
Harmon Bussell	MT	White	40WH78
Mollie Bussell	MT	White	40WH78
J. E. Cain	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
Cherokee China Company Jonesboro, Tenn.	ET	Washington	40WG53
Chuckey Valley	ET	Washington	40WG51
T. W. CLOUSE	MT	Putnam	40PM49
D. S. Colvert	MT	DeKalb	40DK10
COOKEVILLE	MT	Putnam	40PM62
Cookeville Pottery	MT	Putnam	40PM69
P. C. DAVIS MFR PINSON, TENN.	WT	Madison	40MD51
DECKER (with various given names)	ET	Washington	40WG51
F	ET	Knox	40KN61
Fanchers Mills	MT	White	40WH78
French	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
Goodwin (?)	MT	White	40WH87
GRAND JUNCTION TENN.	WT	Hardeman	40HM18
"	WT	Hardeman	40HM"UN"#1
W GRINSTAFF	ET	Blount	40BT17 & 18
" (see also)	ET	Jefferson	40JE32
" (see also)	ET	Knox	40KN62
HARMON	ET	Greene	40GN28
J. B. Harmon - Midway, Tenn.	ET	Greene	40GN28
M. P. HARMON - MOHAWK	ET	Greene	40GN28
C. A. Haun & Co	ET	Greene	40GN23
I AM FROM 10 E C (see discussion under	MT	Putnam	40PM53)
J. M. C. PINSON 1881	WT	Madison	40MD55
JS	MT	White	40WH84
D. T. JOHNSON GR. JUNCTION TENN.	WT	Hardeman	40HM"UN"#1
Jonesboro	ET	Washington	40WG53
KENTUCKY LIQUOR CO. MONTGOMERY, ALA.	MT	Davidson	40DV138
Keystone Pottery	ET	Washington	40WG51
Knoxville	ET	Knox	40KN63
"	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
JAMES LAFEVER MAKER	MT	White	40WH90
LaFever (family name potentially appearing on vessels from many sites in DeKalb, Putnam, and White counties, Middle Tennessee)			

APPENDIX B (continued)

<u>Mark or Portion of Mark</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Site Number</u>
M (stylized)	WT	Henderson	40HE39
G. W. McF	ET	Greene	40GN28
turned by Sam McFarland	ET	Greene	40GN28
MARYVILLE POTTERY	ET	Blount	40BT"UN"#3
Memphis Stoneware Pottery	WT	(see Shelby County)	
Midway	ET	Greene	40GN38
Miner	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#4
MOHAWK	ET	Greene	40GN28
Mohawk 45 - Weaver	ET	Greene	40GN23
Charlie Monroe	WT	Madison	40MD51
Ellin Mortin	ET	Sullivan	40SL31
N2	WT	Hardeman	40HM16
Nashville Art Pottery	MT	Davidson	40DV142
NASHVILLE POTTERY	MT	Davidson	40DV140
" (see also Davidson County sites 40DV138, 139, and "UN"#3)			
NONCONNAH	WT	Shelby	40SY355
PINSON	WT	Madison	40MD55
PINSON, TENN.	WT	Madison	40MD51
J. A. ROBERTS	MT	Putnam	40PM62
SEVIERVILLE POTTERY	ET	Sevier	40SV"UN"#1
DAVID L. SMITH	ET	Blount	40BT16
SAM SMYTH GR'D JUNCTION TENN.	WT	Hardeman	40HM18
Southern Potteries, Inc.	ET	Unicoi	40UC1
Swann Pottery Knoxville (paper label)	ET	Knox	40KN"UN"#2
T B L	ET	McMinn	40MN21
T C	MT	Putnam	40PM53
T L	MT	Putnam	40PM49
Weaver	ET	Greene	40GN23
WEAVER & BROS.	ET	Knox	40KN63

APPENDIX B (continued)

Decorative Motifs Appearing on Tennessee Pottery

Motif	Region	County	Site Number
Cobalt blue decoration and/or letters	ET	Washington	40WG51
Cobalt blue decoration and/or letters	MT	Davidson	40DV138
Cobalt blue decoration and/or letters	MT	Putnam	40PM69
Cobalt blue decoration and/or letters	WT	Hardeman	40HM13
Gallon capacity stamp composed of ornate number in round to oval circle	ET	Knox	40KN63
Pine tree	ET	Unicoi	40UC1
Roulette impressions around neck and rim of vessel	ET	Blount	40BT"UN"#3

Appliques:

Wide mouth crocks with "rope-like" applique around exterior rim	MT	White	40WH88
Large jars with "rope-like" applique around midsection	WT	Henderson	40HE35
Hearts and diamonds applied to exterior of vessel (two stoneware vessels seen in private collections with this motif, both believed to have been made in Putnam or White County, MT)			

Churn Ear:

"Wagon-bow staple ear" (occurs on churns from many sites in Putnam and White counties, MT, including 40PM49, 40WH81, 40WH92, etc.; see Fig. 15)

Incising:

Thin ovoid jars with wavy lines between horizontal parallel lines on shoulder	MT	White	40WH75
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Miscellaneous incising, a common decorative treatment on Tennessee vessels from many sites.

Miscellaneous Names Not Seen as Marks or Included in Appendix A which Associate with the Tennessee Pottery Industry

Name	Region	County	Site Number
Bluff City Terra Cotta Works	WT	Shelby	40SY"UN"#4
Chattanooga Fire Clay Works	ET	Hamilton	40HA97
Clinchfield Art Pottery	ET	(see Unicoi County)	
Columbus Brick and Tile Company	ET	Hamilton	40HA98
Grand Junction Pottery	WT	Hardeman	40HM19
Herty Terpine Cup Company	ET	Hamilton	40HA98
B. Mifflin Hood Company	ET	Hamilton	40HA99-101
Jackson Pottery Company	WT	Madison	40MD"UN"#1
Jugtown	MT	White	40WH76 & 78
Magnolia Pottery	MT	Davidson	40DV"UN"#5
Montague Pottery	ET	Hamilton	40HA97
Pottertown	ET	Greene	40GN28
Pigeon Forge Pottery (see Sevier County,	ET)		
TVA Ceramic Laboratory (see Sevier County,	ET)		
Tennessee Art Pottery Works	ET	Marion	40MI"UN"#2

APPENDIX C

TOBACCO PIPE PRODUCTION IN TENNESSEE

Short-stem clay pipes (designed to use a detachable cane stem that inserted into the pipe's shorter stem) are actually of greater antiquity than the "colonial-style" long-stem white ballclay pipes. However, in America, the widespread distribution of the short-stem type dates from the nineteenth century. Initially a home industry product, its production in some areas became very industrialized by the end of the nineteenth century (Walker 1975).

For Tennessee, the 1977-1978 survey of historic pottery sites led to the discovery of two different modes of tobacco pipe production that once existed in the state.

First of all, evidence indicating the production of tobacco pipes was obtained for 26 of the 110 pottery sites recorded. At all of these 26 sites, stoneware was the only ware made. Only for one probable earthenware pottery, an unrecorded site, is there evidence for pipe making (contained in the estate inventory discussed under Greene County site 40GN"UN"#5, East Tennessee).

Examples of stoneware pipes produced in Tennessee are shown in Figure 22. The list of sites where tobacco pipes are known to have been made is as follows:

East Tennessee counties - Knox, 40KN61; Washington, 40WG51.

Middle Tennessee counties - Putnam, 40PM49, 40PM50, 40PM55, 40PM59, 40PM60, 40PM62, 40PM63, 40PM66; White, 40WH77, 40WH78, 40WH82, 40WH83, 40WH84, 40WH85, 40WH88, 40WH89, 40WH90, 40WH94, 40WH96.

West Tennessee counties - Hardeman, 40HM16; Henderson, 40HE35, 40HE39, 40HE40; McNairy, 40MY77.

One observation that should be made concerning this list is that, with one exception, it includes only sites of family operated potteries (and the exception, Washington County site 40WG51, was the location of a pottery with as many family as industrial characteristics). In terms of production within the state, whatever demand existed for short-stem clay tobacco pipes seems to have been satisfied by an entirely non-industrial method of manufacture.

An important "find" made during the survey was a tobacco pipe mold once used by the Hedgecough family of Putnam County (Fig. 23, bottom). The antiquity of this mold, which belongs to a Hedgecough descendant, is not certain, but it was in use during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The two halves of the metal mold, believed to be pewter, are fitted into two halves of a wooden block. In its closed position, filled with clay, the mold was inserted into the wide slot in the second block, and the two wooden reamers were used to form the stem and bowl openings. Additional information about the use of this type of mold was condensed earlier from interviews with Putnam County informants (Rogers 1978:64-65):

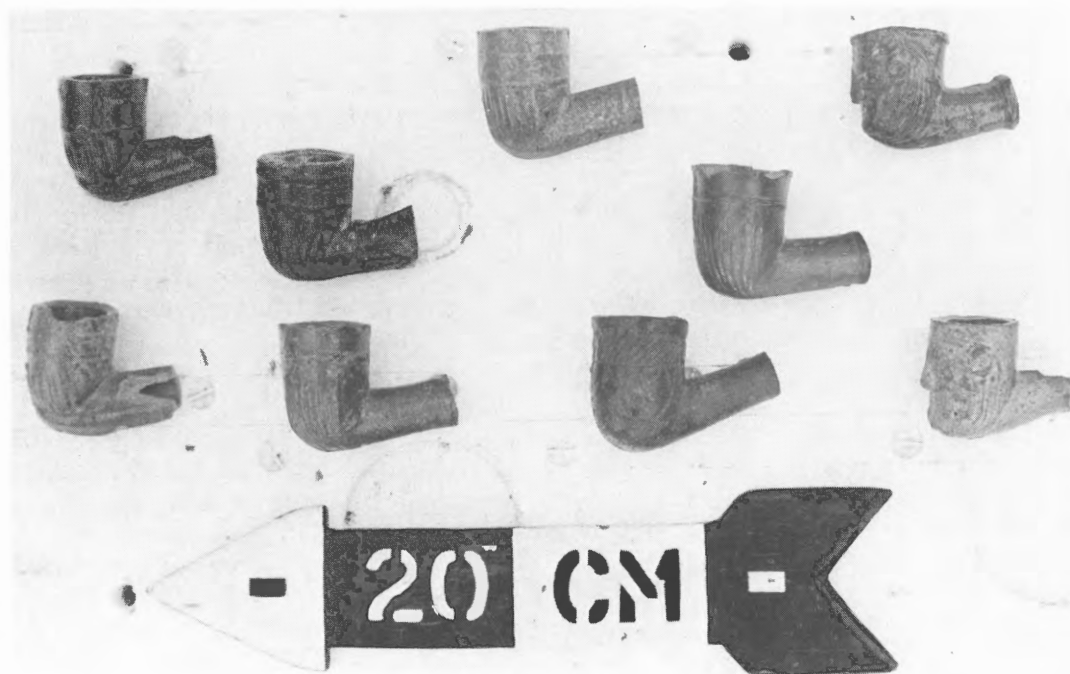


Figure 22. Short-stem stoneware tobacco pipes. Top, pipes made at Putnam County site 40PM55 (Middle Tennessee). Bottom, pipes from Middle and West Tennessee: a and b, Putnam County site 40PM63; c and f, White County site 40WH84; d and e, Henderson County site 40HE35.

After the mold was removed from the clamp ... the wet clay pipes were put on a board to dry ... the clay used in manufacturing the pipes was stiffer (drier) than the clay used in making the pottery. If the clay was not stiffer, the pipes lost their shape when taken out of the mold ... in addition to pewter ... molds were also made of wood and brass. A potter usually had two molds. One typically was of geometric design, and the other was plain or had an anthropomorphic design. Beef tallow or hog lard was used as a mold release lubricant. Beef tallow was considered the superior of the two. Twelve to fifteen pipes were made from one application of beef tallow before the mold needed to be regreased.

A similar mold (Fig. 23, upper) was found in East Tennessee, in Hancock County, and this led to the discovery of a second mode of pipe production that formerly existed in at least this one county. This mold was used by the grandmother of the present owner. She was evidently one of a number of women who made tobacco pipes in Hancock County during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In at least one family this craft was still being practiced until about ten years ago. The unusual aspect is that the Hancock County pipe makers were not connected with the pottery industry. According to several local informants, the pipes were baked in the home fireplace or kitchen stove. Though no examples were seen, the final product of such firing would obviously be a rather soft-bodied earthenware pipe. This situation presents an interesting research problem that could not be thoroughly investigated during the course of the pottery site survey. Hancock County's proximity to Virginia suggests a possible connection with that state's home pipemaking industry, which has been described by Hamilton and Hamilton (1972).

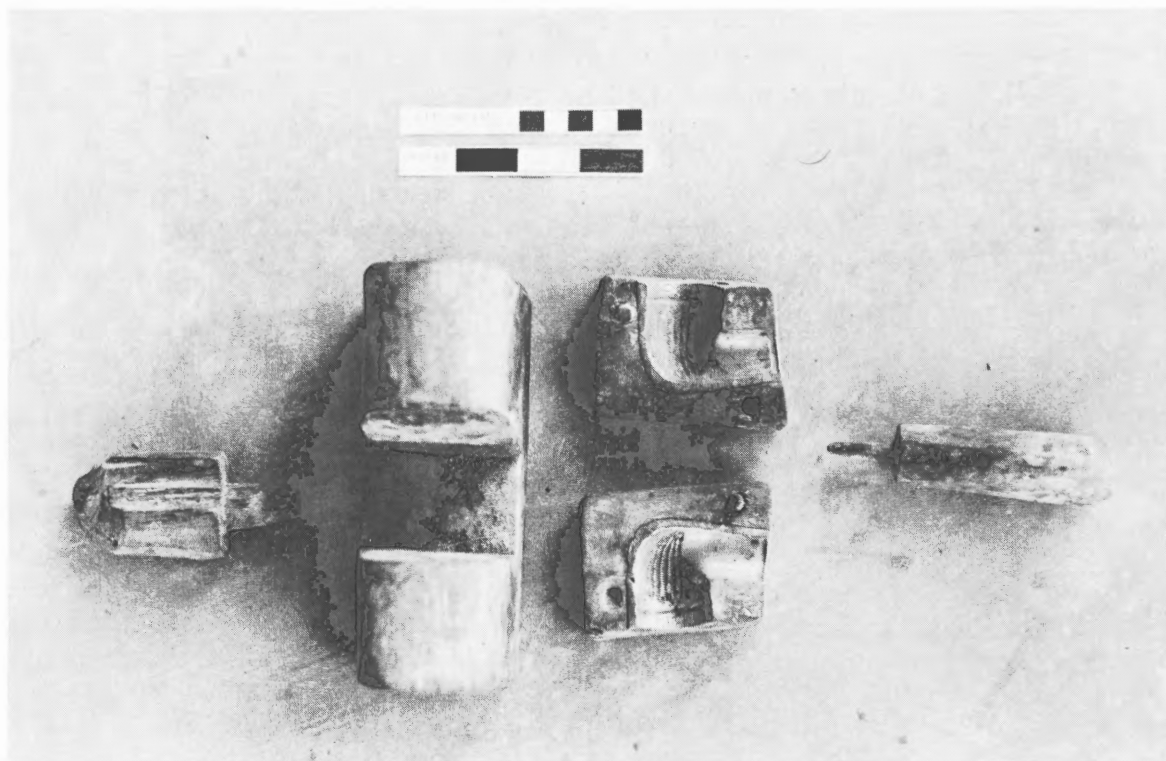


Figure 23. Tobacco pipe molds. Top, mold from Hancock County, East Tennessee. Bottom, mold from Putnam County, Middle Tennessee.

APPENDIX D

CERAMIC GRAVE MARKERS

Ceramic "tombstones" as well as cemetery urns (Fig. 12, right) were made by a few Tennessee potters. Because of vandalism and theft, the full extent of this production will never be known.

According to Burbage (1971:8), as many as six cemeteries in East Tennessee once contained examples of grave markers produced by the Deckers at their Keystone Pottery in Washington County (40WG51). These were typically made of gray stoneware with impressed letters decorated with cobalt blue. The example illustrated by Burbage has the general appearance of a large stylized bottle.

The only other known examples of such grave markers in Tennessee formerly existed in a small cemetery on the Eastern Highland Rim. These were photographed during the first season of the pottery site survey, but two of them were stolen sometime during 1978. We can only hope that someday the person, or persons, responsible for this theft will return them to their rightful owners, the descendants of the potter William C. Hedgecough.

The largest of these markers is the 70 cm (27½ inch) tall "headstone" marked "W. C. Hedgecough Born Feb 10 1815 Died Apr 14 1903" (Fig. 24, upper left). This same grave was marked by a smaller "footstone" (Fig. 24, upper right). Adjacent to W. C. Hedgecough's marker was that of his wife "Nancy Hedgecough Born Feb 20 1830 Died Apr 13 1899" (Fig. 24, lower left). Nearby was the marker for their daughter "Rebecca Elrod Born Aug 10 1851 Died Jan 5 1935" (Fig. 24, lower right). Each marker is made of dark brown or brownish-gray stoneware.

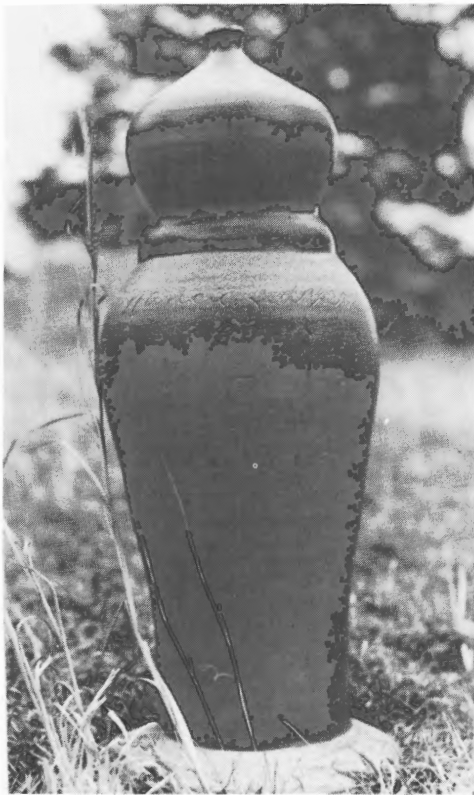


Figure 24. Ceramic grave markers.

APPENDIX E

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE TECHNOLOGY OF POTTERY
MANUFACTURE IN TENNESSEE

At most of the pottery kiln sites recorded, some evidence was found indicative of the technology by which ceramic items were produced. Most common are pieces of fired clay that fall into the general category of "kiln furniture," i.e.:

The various articles fashioned of clay by the potter for supporting ware to be fired in the kiln. This would include trivets, saggars, setting tiles, and pugging coils (Bivins 1972:280).

The variety of such items that were found on Tennessee kiln sites is great. Biscuit-shaped wads of fired clay, referred to as "dumps" by some traditional potters (see page 23), were found on many Middle Tennessee sites. "Dumbbell-shaped" fired-clay coil sections, used as spacers between stacks of vessels, were found on many sites all across the state. And one of the more interesting patterns to be identified concerns a particular kind of sagger. Fragments of this same style of sagger were found at stoneware pottery sites in all three regions of the state, and eventually it was realized that they seemed to always occur on sites where salt-glazed stoneware jugs had been made.

A complete example of this type of sagger was encountered in West Tennessee (Fig. 25, bottom). Subsequently, a Middle Tennessee jug was seen that exhibits a firing scar indicative of the use of such a sagger (Fig. 25, upper). The larger cut-out on one side of the sagger allows it to be placed over the handle of a jug. The smaller cut-out on the opposite wall would permit a better penetration of the salt vapors during glazing. Placed over the neck of a jug, the sagger's flat "bottom" (actually top) would provide a flat surface on which to set a second jug. Several such saggars would have been used to form stacks of jugs in the kiln during firing.

Broken examples of saggars made in this same style were found at the following sites:

East Tennessee counties - Knox, 40KN61; Washington, 40WG51.

Middle Tennessee counties - Putnam, 40PM53, 40PM54, 40PM55, 40PM58, 40PM59, 40PM62, 40PM63; White, 40WH81, 40WH83.

West Tennessee counties - Hardeman 40HM15, 40HM17; McNairy, 40MY77

Another type of item found at several kiln sites relates to the grinding of clay, lead, and other mineral products for use in the preparation of glazes. The potters glaze mill or "quern" (Fig. 26, top) is a device of considerable

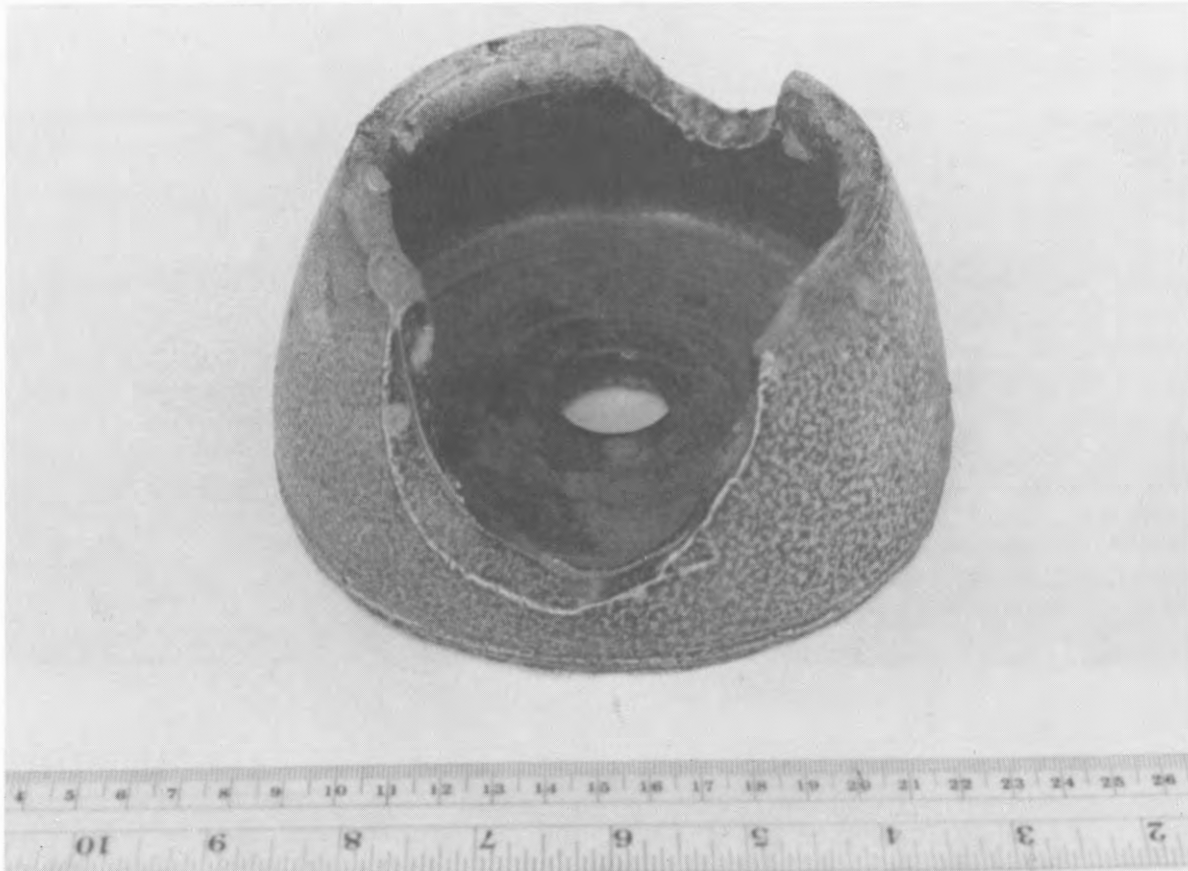


Figure 25. Jug sagger use. Top, stoneware jug showing sagger scar below neck. Bottom, example of sagger from a West Tennessee site, Hardeman County site 40HM15.

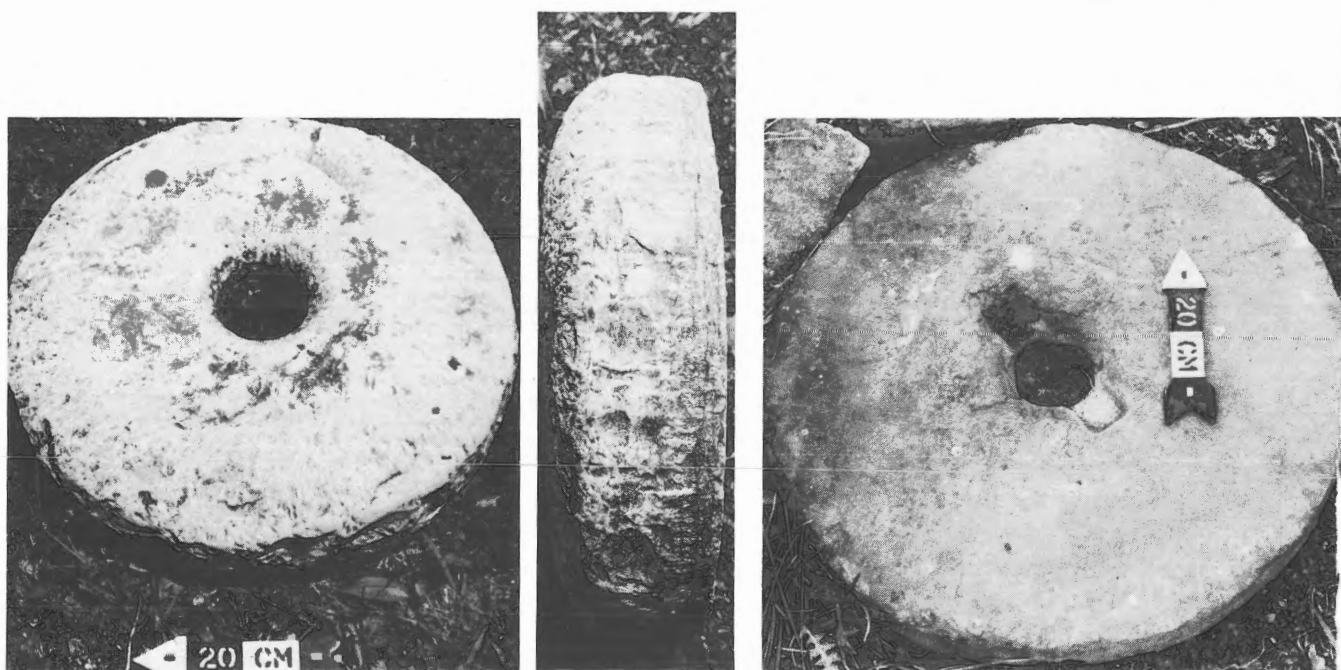
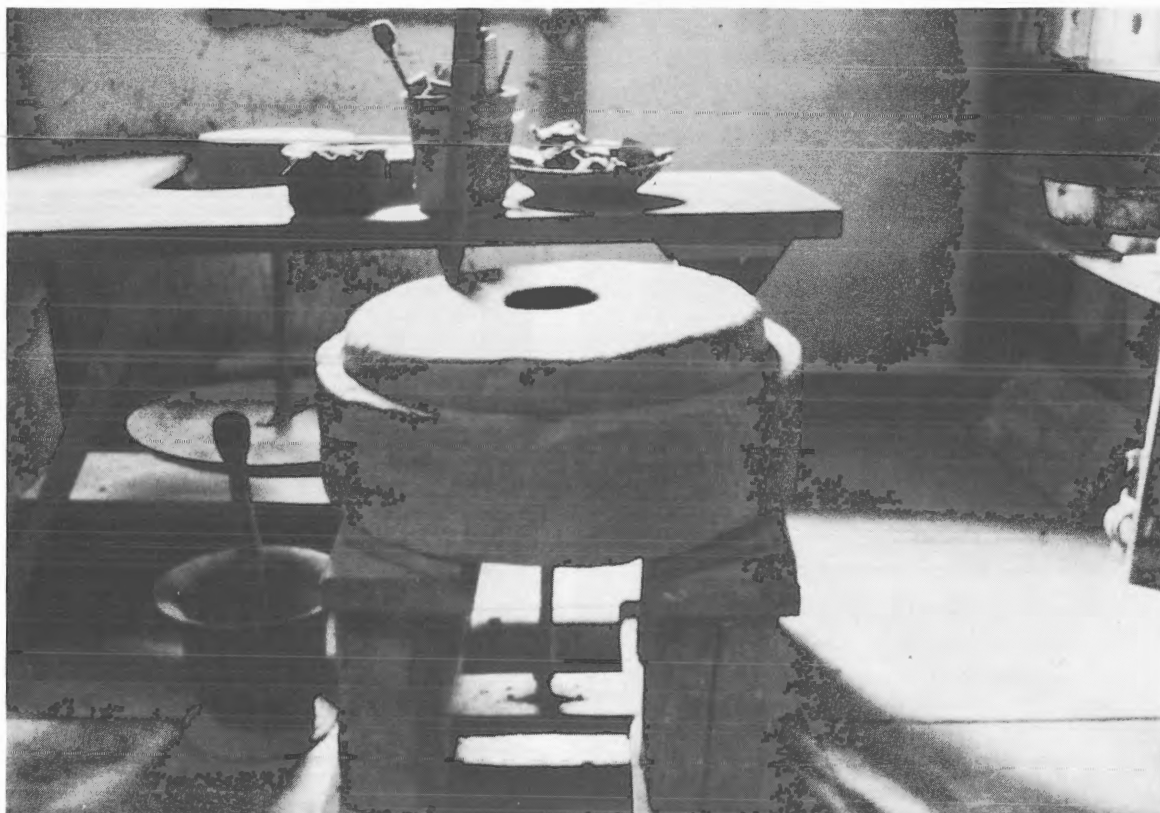


Figure 26. Glaze-mill stones. Top, example of glaze mill from the potter's shop, Old Salem, North Carolina. Bottom, glaze-mill runner stones from Tennessee sites (left and center, top and side views of stone from Coble pottery, Hickman County, 40HI3 and 120; right, bottom view of stone from Harmon-Bohannon pottery, Green County, 40GN27).

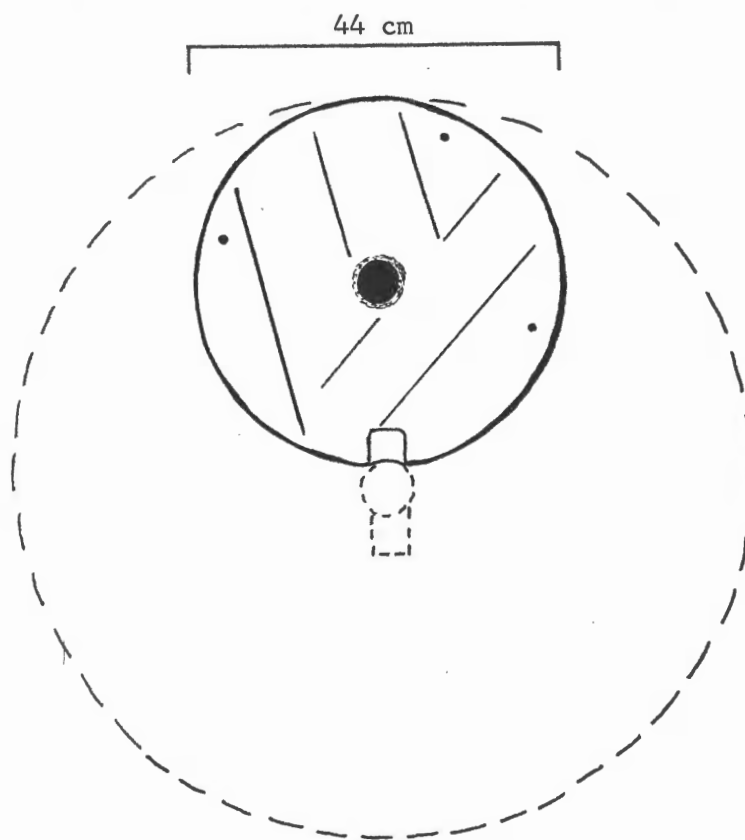


Figure 27. Glaze-mill runner stone cut from larger millstone (from Graves-Floyd pottery, Knox County, 40KN61).

antiquity, and its use must have been widespread in Tennessee. Surviving examples of top or runner stones from such mills were encountered at two sites in East Tennessee and two in Middle Tennessee. Some typical examples are shown in Figure 26 (bottom), and one unusual glaze-mill stone, cut from a larger millstone, is shown in Figure 27.

APPENDIX F

ADDENDUM

As the final draft of this report was being completed, research in connection with another Division of Archaeology project led to the discovery of some additional information on Tennessee potteries. This comes from the State Library's copy of the 1881 Tennessee State Gazetteer and Business Directory, which was overlooked during our original examination of this type of source. This volume lists six potteries, at least one of them not previously identified by the survey effort.

EAST TENNESSEE

Sullivan County

The references cited (p. 413) lists E. D. Wolford as the owner of a pottery in the same community where the Cain family pottery (40SL31) was located. It is possible that Wolford's 1881 pottery was the same as the one previously owned by the Cains. The Wolfords and Cains were connected by marriage, and an old house near the Cain pottery site was once owned by the Wolfords.

Hamblen County

The same reference (p. 622) lists Charles W. Binsfield as a Hamblen County potter. This is assumed to indicated an 1880s pottery operation previously unknown to us.

Middle Tennessee

Putnam County

The directory (p. 128), under the place name Burton, lists Jacob C. Barr "magistrate and pottery" and A. A. Martin "constable and pottery." This seems to support our earlier suggestion that, around 1880, Amon A. Martin was associated with Jacob Barr in the operation of the 40PM66 kiln.

WEST TENNESSEE

Hardeman County

A. H. Moss is listed as a potter in the town of Grand Junction (p. 272). While this may imply an 1881 pottery previously unknown to us, it is possible

that Moss was a predecessor of Samuel Smyth at 40HM18 or a later operator of B. F. Ussery's 40HM17 pottery.

Henderson County

The 1881 directory (p. 840) lists M. Craven as the owner of a pottery that appears to be the same as 40HE35. Malcolm Craven was previously suggested as one of the persons associated with this site.

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