DATA SHEET

Form 10-306
(Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
AUG 11 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Tellico Blockhouse Site

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION 2 mi E of Vonore off TN 72

STREET AND NUMBER:
2½ miles east of Vonore; ½ mile SW of Tenn. #72; 3/4 mile SE of US 411

CITY OR TOWN:
Vonore vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second

STATE: Tennessee — CODE: 47

COUNTY: Monroe — CODE: 123

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building	☒ Public	Public Acquisition:	☐ Occupied	Yes:
☒ Site ☐ Structure	☐ Private	☐ In Process	☒ Unoccupied	☐ Restricted
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Considered	☐ Preservation work in progress	☐ Unrestricted
				☒ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☒ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. AGENCY

United States of America, with custody being in Tennessee Valley Authority

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)*
New Sprankle Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
500-516 Union Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee 37902 — CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Monroe County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Madisonville

STATE: Tennessee — CODE: 47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: CODE:

RECEIVED
DEC 31 1974
NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE:
COUNTY:
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
AUG 11 1975
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☒ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Tellico Blockhouse Site, opposite Fort Loudoun on the Little Tennessee River, is in a pasture field two-thirds down the southeast slope of a high hill at approximately Mile 20 of the Little Tennessee River, just above the mouth of Nine Mile Creek. The site of about 23.6 acres is one-fourth mile south of Tenn. Highway 72 and three-fourths mile southeast of U.S. 411, and two and one fourth miles east of Vonore, Tennessee, in Monroe County.

Once a forested river knob, the land has been cleared since the building of the Blockhouse in 1793. At various times the field in which the site lies has been cultivated, by local tradition, the last time being in the 1930's. Until archaeological excavation, the site was discernable by surface indications. The total remaining site of the Blockhouse proper has been excavated under the direction of Dr. Alfred Guthe, McClung Museum, University of Tennessee Knoxville. No excavation has at this time been done for the outlying buildings, such as an inn mentioned by eyewitnesses. Such excavation is scheduled for the summer of 1975.

In accordance with Article 14 of the Treaty of Holston, signed at Knoxville on July 2, 1791, between the Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation and William Blount, Governor of the Territory of the U.S. South of the River Ohio, Tellico Blockhouse was completed in its first stage, probably before March 1793, some 12 miles inside Cherokee lands. Its original purpose, according to the Treaty of Holston, was as a residence for certain Federal representatives who were to "lead" the Cherokee Nation "to a greater degree of civilization, and to become Herdsmen and cultivators, instead of remaining in a state of hunters." No Federal troops were stationed at the Blockhouse at the time of its establishment and, according to Ramsey's Annals, local militia occupied it for a relatively short period in the campaign of 1793-94.

After the passage by Congress on April 8, 1794, of a resolution authorizing the President to establish military posts on the frontiers as safeguards, Blount chose the Blockhouse, along with Southwest Point at Kingston, as military stations under the authority of the Congressional resolution. Thus although the original purpose of the Blockhouse was non-military and peaceful, it became a military garrison certainly by 1796 with a small detachment of troops under Captain Edward Butler stationed there. Although the troops seem to have moved in and out according to the needs of the frontiers, the garrison use of the Blockhouse necessitated structural and building changes from the original simple Blockhouse plan. Finally, under the Congressional Act of May 19, 1796, ("An Act for Establishing Trading Houses with the Indian Tribes . . ."), the Federal Government established at Colerain, Georgia, on the St. Mary's River, and at Tellico Blockhouse the first Indian trading posts sponsored and paid for by the Federal Government, called "factories." The purposes of the factory at Tellico were to make available to the Indian nations by trade, beyond what the Federal Government doled out to them, the tools and implements of civilization ranging from plows to spinning wheels and cotton cards; to recover from the Indians through trade some of the monies doled out to them through treaty annuities; and to draw away from the British and Spanish the total Southwest Indian peltry trade. The establishment of such a factory at Tellico necessitated further changes in the structures and area of the Blockhouse, including the probable enlargement of the palisade area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Tennessee	
COUNTY	
Monroe	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 11 1975

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION

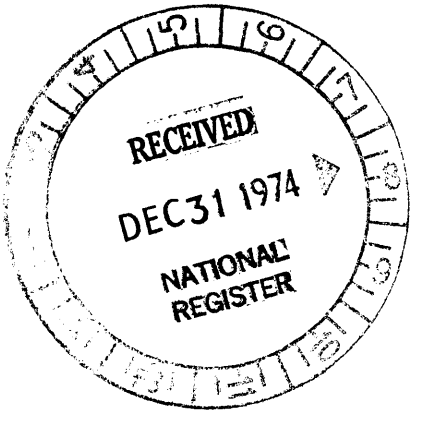
The attached report, Tellico Blockhouse Historic Site Stabilization, by Richard Polhemus, field director of the archaeological excavation, gives further details of the stages of the development of the Blockhouse and the accompanying maps will add clarification.

By the Treaty of Tellico in 1805, the boundary line was moved westward to the Little Tennessee River and eventually the functions and probably the timbers of the Blockhouse were moved to Hiwassee Garrison, around the year 1807.

Shortly after 1807 the site passed into private ownership and became part of a working farm during the next century and a half. Following the announcement of TVA's Tellico Dam and Reservoir Project in the mid-1960's, two amateur archaeologists excavated two features of the site. In 1972, intensive archaeological investigations were undertaken by the University of Tennessee with funds provided by TVA. This work was coordinated with the Regional Archaeologist of the National Park Service, and original research by a professional historian was initiated by TVA. As indicated earlier, the site has now been acquired by TVA in connection with its Tellico Project and is now in public ownership. Additional lands have also been acquired which include frontage on State Highway 72 at two points, and one or both of these will provide access to the public for reaching the site which was formerly inaccessible and not available to public view.

The essential features of the Tellico Blockhouse are above the operating level of Tellico Reservoir and will not be flooded, although water will be closer to the site, once the reservoir is filled, than formerly. The Blockhouse site is presently on a point of land between the Little Tennessee River and Nine Mile Creek. When Tellico Dam is closed and the reservoir filled, the site will be on a point between the main body of the lake and the Nine Mile Creek embayment.

In connection with its construction of the Tellico Project, TVA has announced its intent to insure preservation of the remains of the Tellico Blockhouse and to work with responsible organizations in the development of the Blockhouse site as an historic place, open to the public, properly interpreted, and properly maintained.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☒ 18th Century	☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	☒ 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* c. 1793 - c. 1807

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal	☐ Education	☒ Political	☐ Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	☐ Religion/Philosophy	☐ Other *(Specify)*
☐ Historic	☐ Industry		
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	☐ Science	
☒ Architecture	☐ Landscape Architecture	☐ Sculpture	
☐ Art		☐ Social/Humanitarian	
☐ Commerce	☐ Literature		
☐ Communications	☒ Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Tellico Blockhouse (1793-1807) to the State of Tennessee, the Southeastern United States, and the Nation is

1. The Blockhouse was, from its inception, a principal place for testing and enforcing Federal policies toward the Indians of the frontier--particularly the "civilizing policy" of Henry Knox and the military protection policy of Washington. In relation to the former, for example, a "resident artist" and his wife were stationed at the Blockhouse to teach the Cherokees the "civilized domestic arts."

2. The Blockhouse was the symbol of peace on the frontier of the lands south of the Ohio: peace between the white settlers and the Indian tribes and peace among the Indian nations themselves. For example, the Blockhouse was instrumental in maintaining peace between the Cherokees and the Creeks. And the Blockhouse acted as a deterrent to white settlers' encroachment upon Indian lands. It was also the place of exchange of stolen horses, a major contention between the Indians and the white settlers.

3. The Blockhouse was a principal point of communication with the Indians. Governor Blount, David Henley (Agent of the War Department) and his successor Return J. Meigs, Governor Sevier, Commissioners of the United States (including Hawkins, Pickins, Winchester, McClung, Martin, and Smith, among others), agents to the various tribes, interpreters sent among them, artisans, settlers, traders, and travelers -- all used Tellico Blockhouse as a point of communication with the Indians, not only the Cherokees, but also the Upper Creeks, Choctaws, and the Chickasaws. Official announcements were made to the Indians at the Blockhouse. And the treaties of 1794, 1795, 1798, 1804, and 1805 with the Cherokees were negotiated and signed at the Blockhouse or in its vicinity.

4. The Blockhouse was chosen as one of the two places on the frontier at which the "factory" system enacted in 1796 ("An Act for Establishing Trading Houses with the Indian Tribes . . ." May 19, 1796), should be tried. An actual "factory" or trading post was built within the compound and continued in operation until the removal to Hiwassee Garrison in 1807.

5. The Blockhouse was a major port of entry into and exit from the Indian lands. Entry permits and trading licenses were checked at Tellico Blockhouse by the Commanding Officer or his representative. Many of the chiefs and their attendants came onto the territories of the U. S. through the Blockhouse, thus assuring themselves safe conduct. The great Chickasaw Chief Piamingo, for example, came to the Blockhouse to be

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American State Papers. (Indian Affairs and Military Affairs)

Brown, John P. Old Frontiers. Kingsport, Tenn., 1938.

Hawkins, Benjamin. "Letters of Benjamin Hawkins, 1796-1806." In Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, vol. IX, 1916.

Henley, David. Waste Book of David Henley, Agent of the War Department, 1797-98. (Unpublished original account book in private hands.)

Indian Land Cessions in the U.S. Compiled by Charles C. Royce . . . Washington, 1900.

Ramsey, J.G.M. The Annals of Tennessee to the End of the Eighteenth Century. Kingsport, Tenn., 1926.

Williams, Samuel C., ed. Early Travels in the Tennessee Country. Johnson City, Tenn., 1928.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

CORNER	LATITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"

OR

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

LATITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
35°	35'	59.55"	84°	12'	11.01"

NO UTM HL

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 23.6 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

RECEIVED DEC 31 1974 NATIONAL REGISTER

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: J. Porter Taylor, Director

DATE: Dec. 6, 1974

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Division of Reservoir Properties, Tennessee Valley Authority

STREET AND NUMBER: 109 West Cumberland Building

PHONE: 615-637-0101, X2955

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee 37902

CODE: 47

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

☑ Yes
☐ No
☐ None

Hubert L. Hagen
State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☐ State ☐ Local

J. Porter Taylor — 7/21/75
Federal Representative Signature — *Date*

Director of Reservoir Properties, TVA
Title

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. Pendleton
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/11/75

ATTEST:

W. Thomas
Keeper of The National Register

AUG 7 1975

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

GPO 938-449

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Monroe	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER: AUG 11 1975	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

conducted to Philadelphia in a wagon for medical treatment in 1798. Chiefs going to Philadelphia and later Washington on official visits from the southern tribes passed through the Blockhouse, receiving from there forward and return proper escorts. Indian children from those same nations on their way to white schools maintained by the Quakers and Moravians in Pennsylvania and New Jersey also passed through the Blockhouse.

6. And the Blockhouse was visited by various important travelers, the most important of whom were the Duke of Orleans (Louis Philippe) and his two brothers (Duke of Montpensier and Count Beaujolais). Washington himself is supposed to have marked the route for them in red ink on a copy of Bradley's map. It is significant that Washington chose the Cherokees as the Indian nation which the Duke and his brothers should see most intimately; and by choosing the Cherokees, he made Tellico Blockhouse their headquarters during the visit in 1798.

TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE HISTORIC SITE

STABILIZATION

Richard Polhemus
McClung Museum
Department of Anthropology
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, Tennessee
May 22, 1974

Report Prepared For Water
Control Planning Division
Tennessee Valley Authority
Knoxville, Tennessee

TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE; SITE
STABLIZATION FIGURES

TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE; SITE STABLIZATION

INTRODUCTION

The question of historic site stablization or reconstruction is dependent on a number of factors concerning the site and its purpose. Primary factors involved include; the significance of the site to the history of the area; the feasibility of stablization or reconstruction; the benefits of such stablization or reconstruction; cost of stablization or reconstruction; and the maintenance of such an historical site after such development. The following comments concerning stabilization or reconstruction of historic sites deal primarily with the Tellico Blockhouse (40MR50) but are applicable to many other historic sites in the Tennessee Valley and elsewhere.

Many historic site archaeologists feel that the realm of historic site stablization, development, and interpretation is beyond that of the archaeologist involved in the project; deeming the report produced from the excavation sufficient participation in the site development. Other historic site archaeologists, such as Stanley South, feel that the archaeologist has a responsibility toward seeing that the data provided in the archaeological report is properly utilized in such a stablization or reconstruction and is not misinter-

preted, misrepresented, or simply ignored by the development group. Such problems are frequently encountered when working with small historical groups who lack sufficient funding and training in historic site work, often emplifyed by what Stanley South has referred to as the "Log Cabin Syndrome" (South 1972) (South 1970). Such problems can be lessened or avoided by continued cooperation with the historic site archaeologist during the development of the site and interpretive exhibits.

The distinction between historic site stabilization and reconstruction should be made prior to any consideration of historic site stabilization may be defined as the visible stabilization and representation of the remaining features of an historic site, such as building foundations, cellars, palisade trenchs, or ditches. The method of representation may vary but does not and cannot extend beyond the evidence provided by archaeological reaearch. Historic site reconstruction may be possible on the small percentage of sites provided with voluminous documentation in the form of primary descriptions, documents, paintings, sketches, or architects plans; however, the majority of sites excavated, interpreted, and developed do not have sufficient documentation to attempt complete reconstruction per se. A classic example of reconstruction without sufficient documentation and no archaeological research is the James White Fort in Knoxville, Tennessee. To attempt such reconstruction at the Tellico Blockhouse or any other similar site without additional documentation

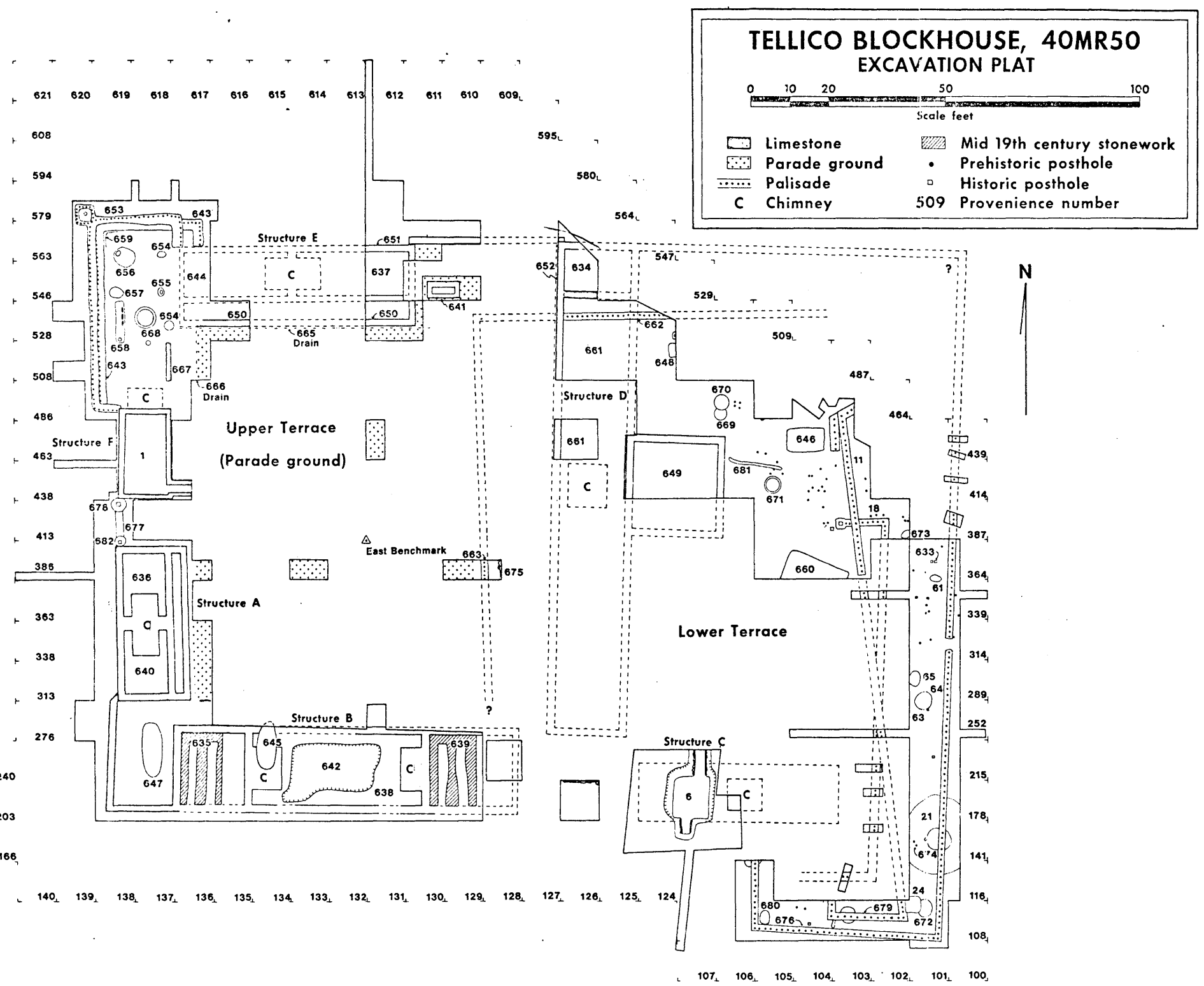
would be to rely on the historical architects inclination and imagination.

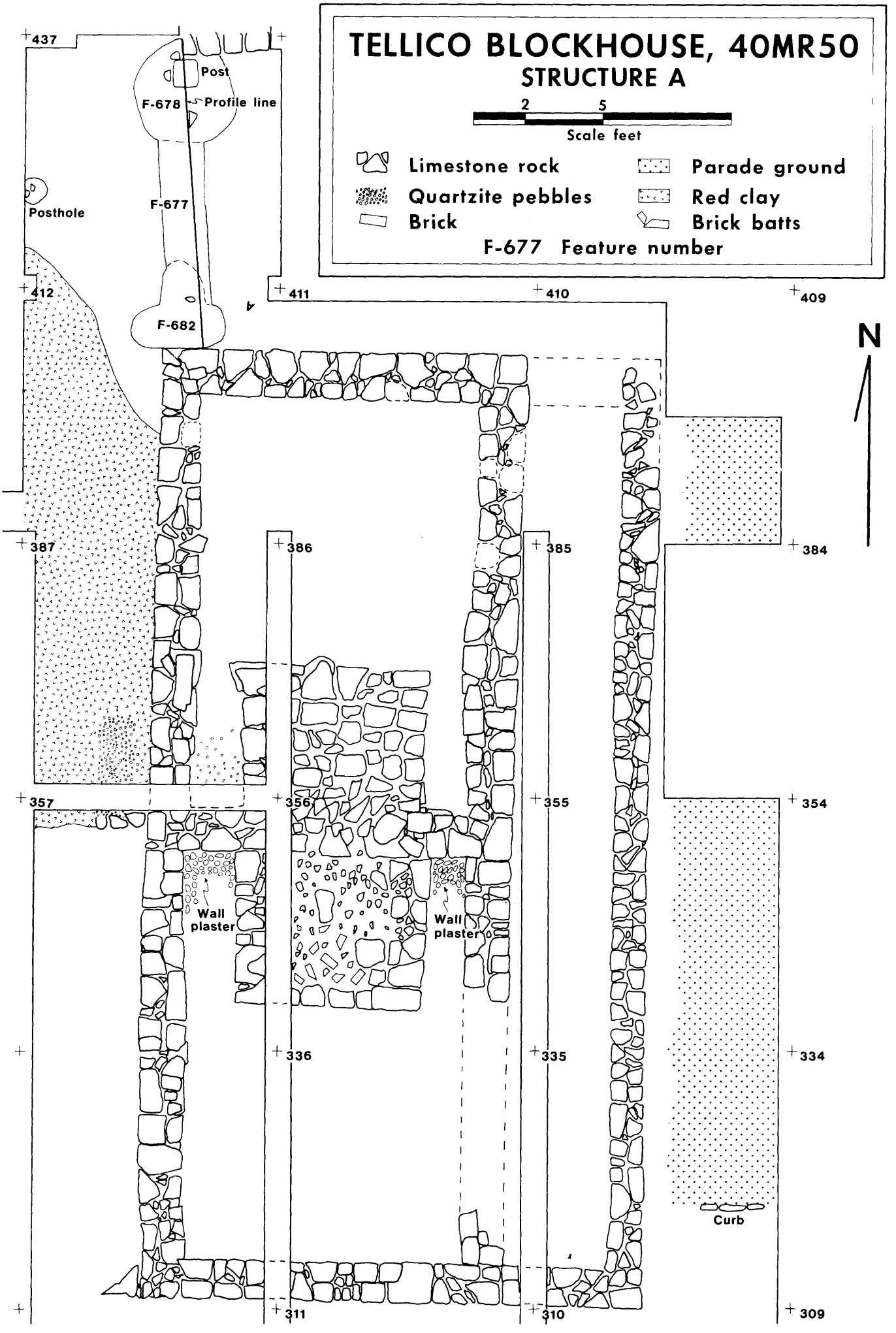
The methods of representation recommended for use at the Tellico Blockhouse are chosen on the basis of effect upon the viewer to provide a clear idea of the form and composition of the fort, on the expense of development, and on the expense in maintenance after development. Limestone wall and chimney foundations should be stabilized a short distance above the ground surface and replaced where presently missing. Cellars should be indicated by relatively shallow depressions of proper configuration. The palisade position should be indicated by a row of short post segments (CA 1.5' above ground surface) replaced in the original palisade trench. Square hewn gate posts of similar height should likewise be placed in the original post holes to indicate the position and size of the gates. Each structural element composing the last phase of the Tellico Blockhouse will be considered for such stabilization as opposed to those features removed by the occupants prior to the last phase. Each structural element of the Phase III Tellico Blockhouse complex will be considered in detail with regard to historic site stabilization, providing data concerning the quantity and type of materials necessary for such stabilization. All useable building stone encountered during excavation has been stockpiled for such stabilization of the limestone foundations. Similar examples of such historic site development to that projected for the Tellico Blockhouse may be found at Jamestown, Virginia, excavated by John Cotter

(Cotter; 1956), at Bethabara, North Carolina, excavated by Stanley South (South; 1965), and at Brunswich Town, North Carolina (South; 1964).

THE SITE; GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The primary difficulty in the stabilization and development of the Tellico Blockhouse other than foundation stabilization and palisade deliniation is to be found in the southeast corner at an elevation slightly lower than the 813' level of the reservoir (Figure 1). The east side of the fortified area will need to be filled to an elevation above pool level and the Phase III features established on this higher surface through survey. The north, east, and south sides of the site may need a riprap of other erosion preventative work due to the steep slope and apparent lack of limestone outcrops on the hillside. Sufficient soil to establish a good erosion resistant grass cover will need to be replaced around the building foundations and over the lower terrace area to be completely excavated during the summer of 1974. Drainage will need to be provided for the cellars in Structures A, C, and D through the use of a gravel lower fill underlying soil and grass cover, or other means. Foundation walls will need to be stabilized or rebuilt to above the present ground surface to allow viewing without destruction by visitors. The log segments utilized to deliniate the palisade lines should be treated to provide long use life and low enough to avoid producing a hazard. Once completed such site development


TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE, 40MR50
EXCAVATION PLAT
0 10 20 50 100
Scale feet
Limestone
Parade ground
Palisade
C Chimney
Mid 19th century stonework
Prehistoric posthole
Historic posthole
509 Provenience number
N
Upper Terrace
(Parade ground)
Lower Terrace
Structure A
Structure B
Structure C
Structure D
Structure E
Structure F
East Benchmark
665 Drain
666 Drain


TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE, 40MR50
STRUCTURE A
2
5
Scale feet
Limestone rock
Quartzite pebbles
Brick
Parade ground
Red clay
Brick batts
F-677 Feature number
N
437
Post
F-678
Profile line
Posthole
F-677
F-682
412
411
410
409
387
386
385
384
357
356
355
354
336
335
334
311
310
309
Wall plaster
Wall plaster
Curb

should provide an instructive outdoor exhibit economical to maintain; grass cutting and interpretive exhibit upkeep as necessary being the primary post development expenses.

THE STRUCTURES - SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Structure A:

Structure A consists of the limestone foundation for an horizontal log building two stories in height located south of the main gate (Figure 2). The structure is made up of a pair of rooms flanking a double hearth chimney foundation and a porch is present along the east side. A door way is situated near the center of the west or outer wall of the building and opens into the north room (Figure 3).

The porch, north, south, and east walls may need an addition of course stone to approximate the original elevation of 821.5 and to raise the foundations above the surrounding ground surface. The interior of the structure needs to be filled to a level approximating the ground surface, as does that excavated portion outside the west wall, following wall stablization. Remaining back dirt needs to be removed and the surface planted in grass.

Chimney	7' x 13'	
West Wall	1.75' x 37'	
East Wall	1.75' x 37'	(South 10.0' needs replacement)
East Porch Wall	1.5' x 37'	(North 5.0' needs replacement)
North Wall	1.95' x 19'	(East 5.0' needs replacement)
South Wall	1.5' x 19'	

Southwest Bastion:

The southwest bastion consists of a pair of limestone retaining walls extending from structures A and B and joining at a right angle. The position of the southwest bastion is indicated in Figure 2 and Figure 4. The remaining courses of limestone retaining wall will need to be reset and the missing portion rebuilt to just above the level of the parade ground (AE 821.0), after which the area behind the wall should be filled and grassed.

West Wall 27.0' x (1.75 - 2.0' thick) 6.0 - 1.5' high

South Wall 17.0' x (1.75 - 2.0' thick) 6.0 - 6.0' high

Comment: The amount of wall to be rebuilt is about 5' to 6' high on the south side and becomes less as one moves up the west wall to the north, until it is about 1' above the outer ground surface. See schematic profile Figure II.

Structure B:

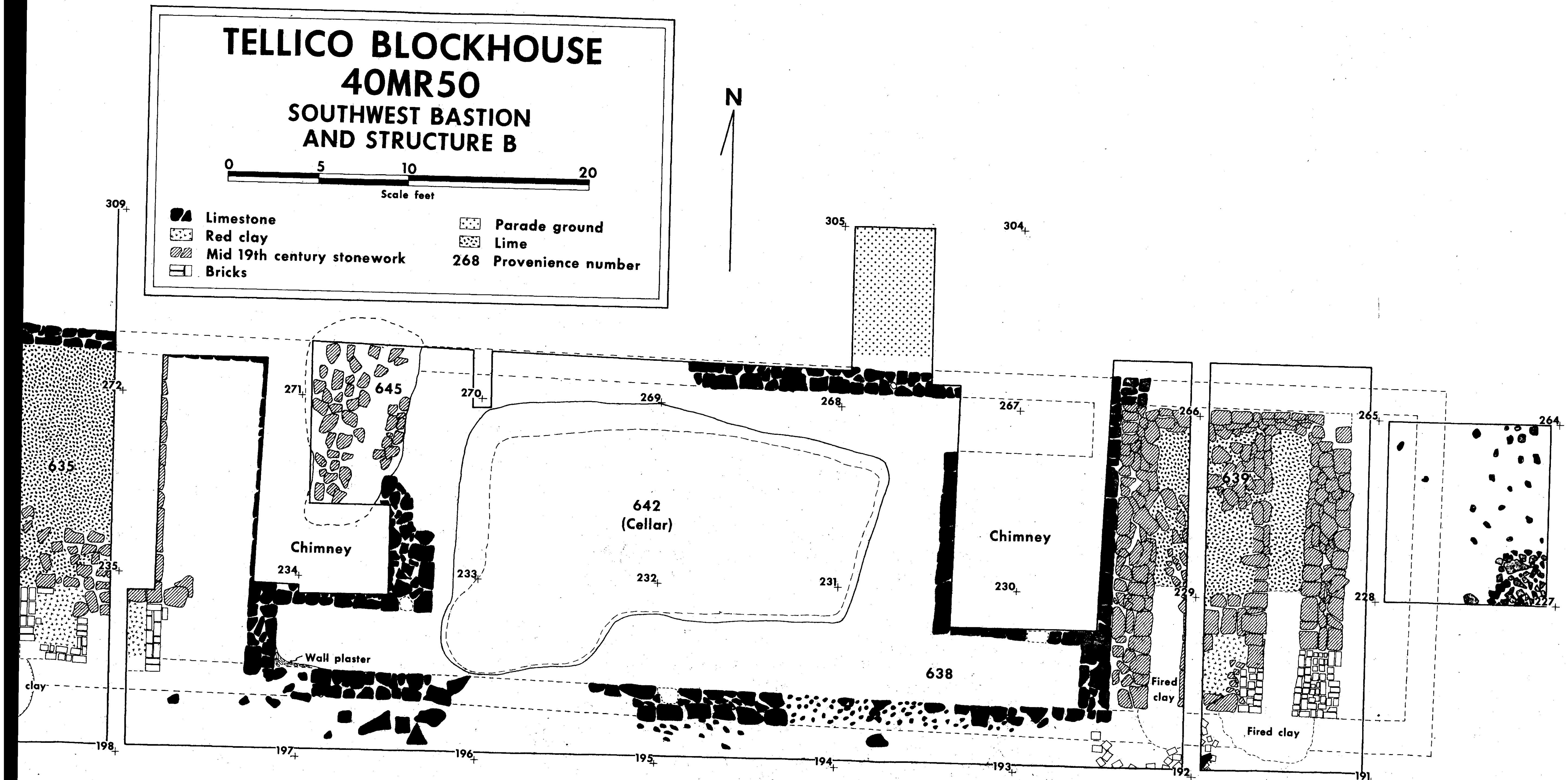
Structure B consists of a limestone foundation for an horizontal log building two stories in height making up most of the south fortification wall. The structure is composed of three segments, each having a cellar, separated by a pair of chimney foundations (Figure 4).

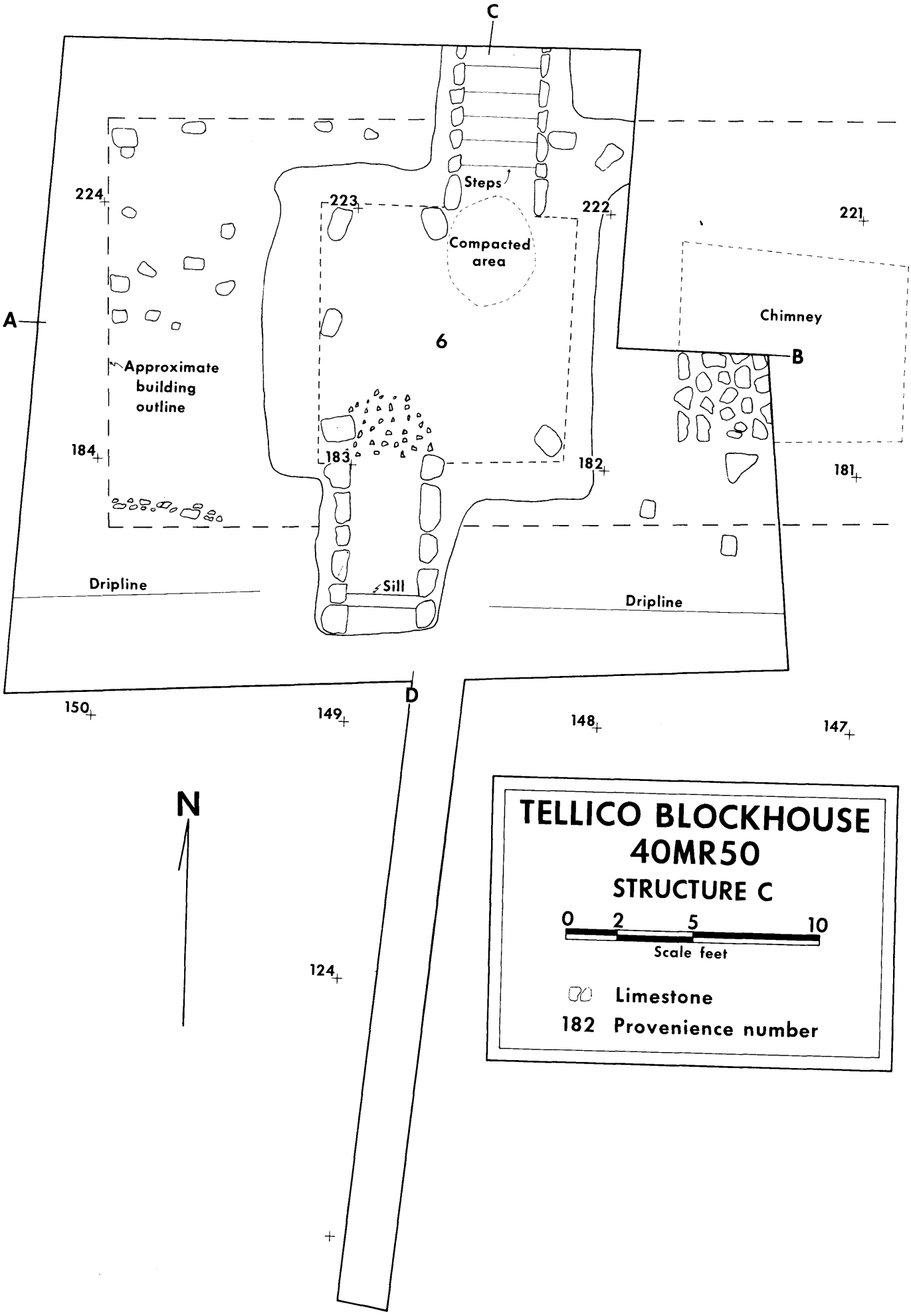
The walls for this structure average 1.5' in thickness and were extensively disturbed in the mid 19th century by the construction of two lime kilns. Lime kilns were constructed in both the east and west cellars and much of the foundation wall was utilized in the construction of the kilns and as raw material for lime production. The kilns have been excavated,

and recorded and should be preserved by filling over the remaining portion after the structure walls have been rebuilt and stabilized. The structure is 90' in length with a 20' square room and associated cellar at each end. The central 50' portion consists of a cellar flanked by a pair of single hearth chimney foundations linked to the outer walls by short segments of foundation wall.

The north wall of the structure requires rebuilding throughout the central section and the east end. The east chimney requires only stabilization and the addition of a few stones. The west chimney requires extensive rebuilding in the area disturbed by intrusion of kiln associated features to a height of about 1.5 - 2.0' to match the east example. The east end wall needs tc be rebuilt in its entirety, also having been disturbed in the mid 19th century. The south wall of the structure requires the addition of 1.0 - 1.5' of stone to indicate its position. The interior of the central portion should be filled at a slope and grassed over, making sure to cover the lower most foundation course of the north wall to prevent erosional undercutting and subsequent displacement.

North Wall	1.5' x 90' x 3.0'	
South Wall	1.5' x 90' x 1.5'	Replace 2
East Wall	1.5' x 20' x 3.0' - 1.5'	Replace
West Wall	1.5' x 20' x 3.0' - 1.5'	
East Chimney	11.0' x 5.0' x 2.0'	Present height
West Chimney	10.0' x 8.0' x 2.0'	To match present height


TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE
40MR50
SOUTHWEST BASTION
AND STRUCTURE B
0
5
10
20
Scale feet
Limestone
Red clay
Mid 19th century stonework
Bricks
Parade ground
Lime
268 Provenience number
N
309
305
304
272
271
645
270
269
268
267
266
265
264
635
639
642
(Cellar)
Chimney
Chimney
235
234
233
232
231
230
229
228
227
Wall plaster
638
Fired clay
Fired clay
clay
198
197
196
195
194
193
192
191

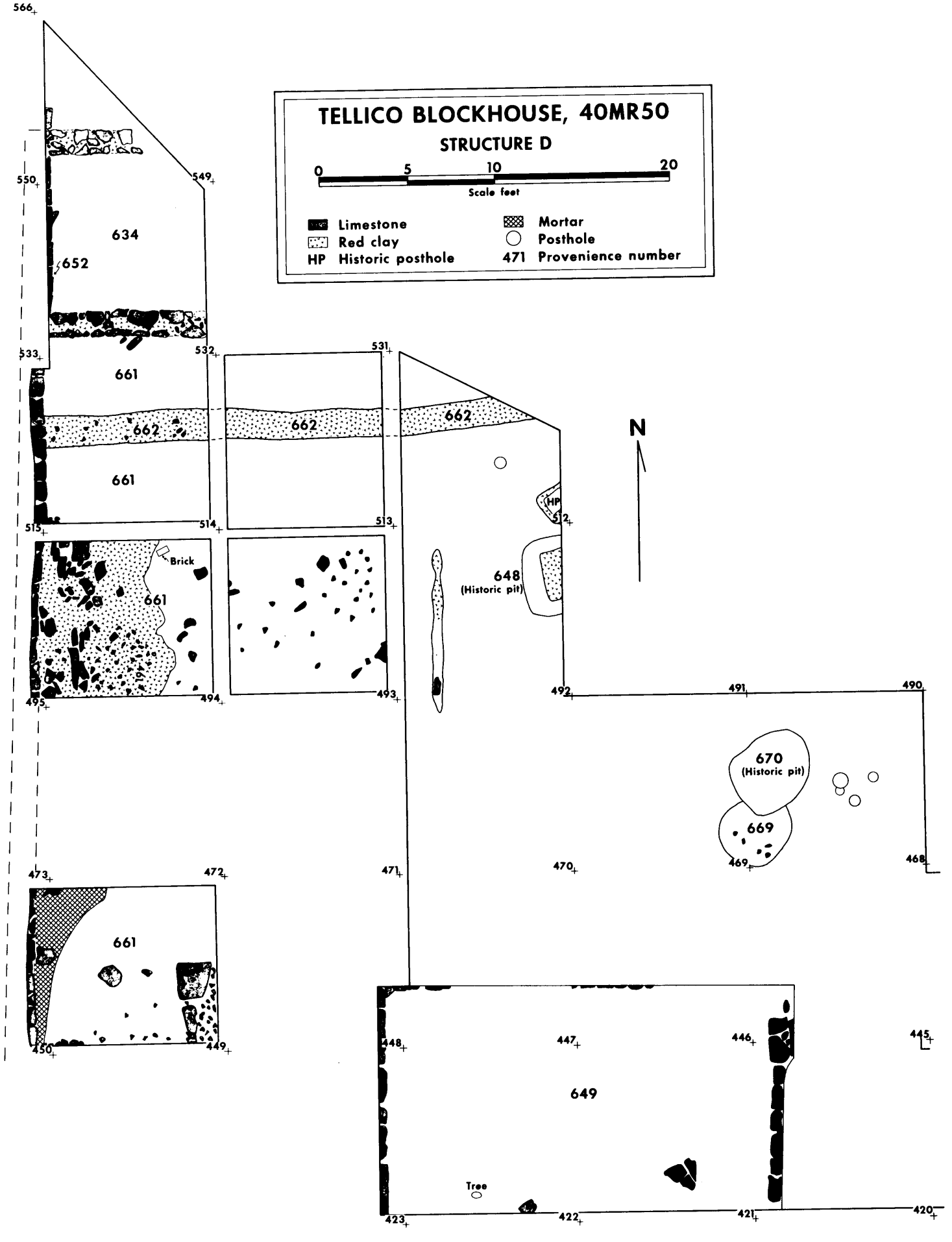


of the north fortification wall (Figure 2). This structure is represented by limestone foundation walls and a central double hearth chimney foundation (Figures 7 and 8). The building is 60.0' in length and 20.0' in width. The central portion of the structure has not yet been excavated and, as

Structure C:

Structure C consists of the remains of a log building without continuous foundations, enclosing a cellar and centered around a chimney foundation (Figure 2). The 16.0' square cellar does not have a stone lining although a pair of opposed entries do have limestone retaining walls (Figure 5). The elevation AE of the structure as a whole is 813 - 814 and is within the eastern area in which the general surface will need to be raised through filling to AE 815.0'. The unlined cellar should be represented by a rectangular depression 1.0 - 1.5' in depth of the proper rectangular form 16 feet square situated over the original cellar position. The chimney foundation will need to be stabilized and several courses added to provide an elevation of 816.5' for the top. The stone lined cellar entries should be indicated by segments of stone retaining wall surveyed in to the proper position in relation to the underlying original stone work. The stone work should be slightly (CA 0.5) above the ground surface on the exterior side and have a sloping grass cover between them down to the cellar depression bottom. The outline of the original structure may be indicated by a frame of four logs about 1.0' in diameter resting on the ground surface over the original wall position.

Chimney	8.0 x 9.0 x 2.0'	To be extended up to filled surface
Cellar Entry Walls		
North - East side	6.0 x 1.0' x 2.0'	
West side	6.0 x 1.0' x 2.0'	


TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE, 40MR50
STRUCTURE D
0 5 10 20
Scale feet
Limestone
Red clay
HP Historic posthole
Mortar
Posthole
471 Provenience number
N
566
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634
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533
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515
514
513
HP
512
Brick
661
648
(Historic pit)
495
494
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(Historic pit)
669
473
472
471
470
469
468
661
450
449
448
447
446
445
649
Tree
423
422
421
420

South

East side 4.0' x 1.0' x 2.0'

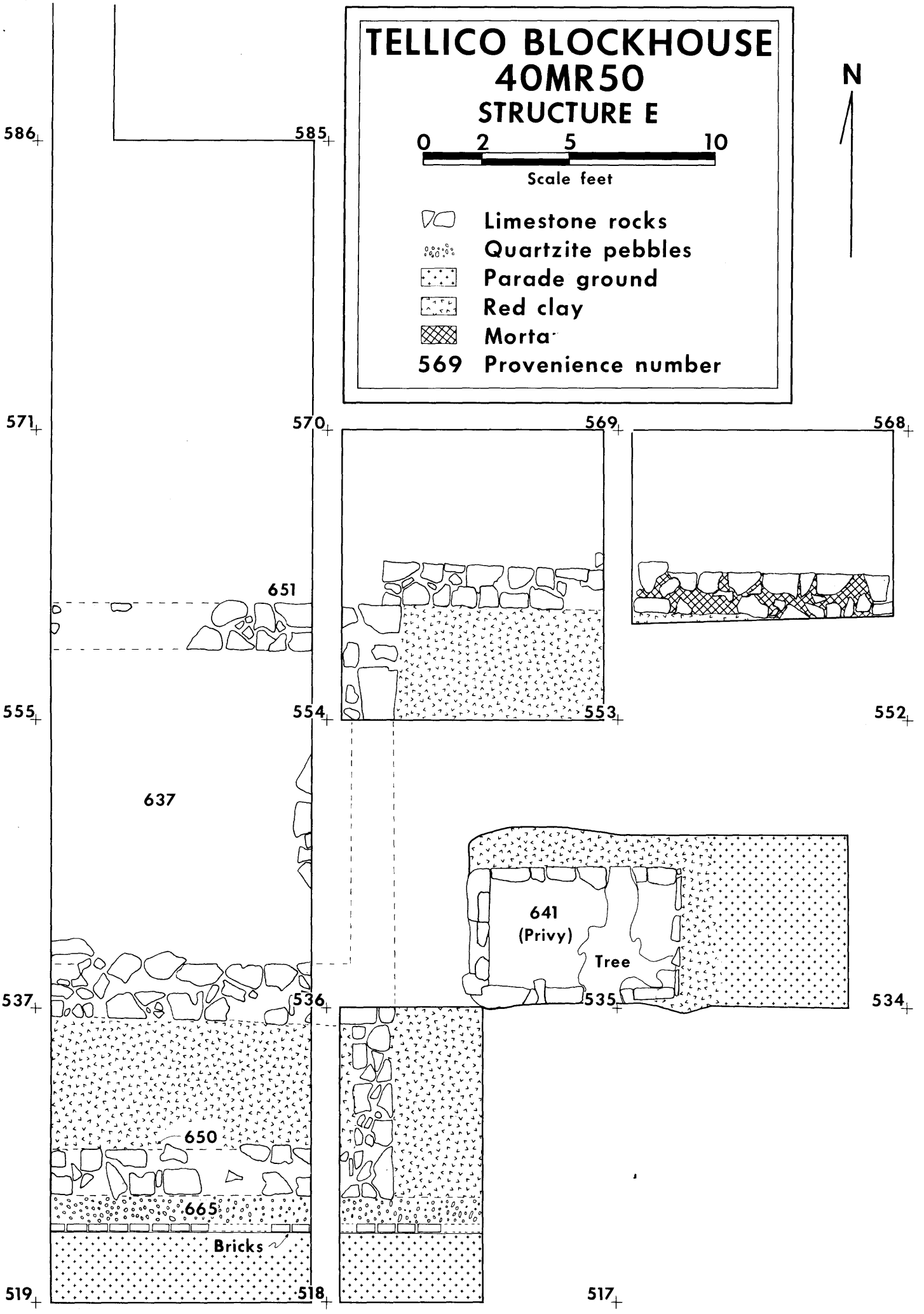
North side 4.0' x 1.0' x 2.0'

Outline: The outline of the entire structure is yet to be determined. The area will be completely excavated in the 1974 season.

Structure D:

Structure D consists of the foundation walls of a horizontal log building 20' wide, 120' in length, having a 25' square wing in the center of the east side. (Figures 6 and 10) This structure has been only partially excavated and as a result figures on wall stabilization and replacement must remain tentative until complete excavation in the summer of 1974. The west wall of the structure also serves as a retaining wall for the filled parade grounds on which it fronts (Figure 2). The wall is 1.5' in thickness in the excavated portions of Structure D and should be stabilized and rebuilt to an elevation of approximately 819.0', resulting in an exposed east face 1.5 - 2.0' in height. A chimney foundation is present in the unexcavated area and so has not been measured but should approximate that in Structure A.

The south wall has not been excavated and will probably need the addition of several courses of stone to raise the foundation to just above the ground surface. The north wall will need to be rebuilt on the east end and a course or two added on the west end. The east wall has been completely re-


TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE
40MR50
STRUCTURE E
0 2 5 10
Scale feet
N
Limestone rocks
Quartzite pebbles
Parade ground
Red clay
Morta
569 Provenience number
586
585
571
570
569
568
651
555
554
553
552
637
641
(Privy)
Tree
537
536
535
534
650
665
Bricks
519
518
517

moved in the excavated portion and will need replacement by a wall 120' in length, 1.5' in thickness, and 1.0' in height. The central 25' portion of this wall is made up of the west side of the central extension or wing. The walls of the 25.0' square structure will need to be raised through the addition of courses to an elevation of 816.5' and the cellar filled to 815.0' and grassed. The bottom portion of the fill should be gravel to provide adequate drainage.

West Wall:	120' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 3.0'h Add to east end
North Wall:	20' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 1.0'h Replace east end
North Interior Wall:	20' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 1.0'h Replace
South Wall: (approx.)	20' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 1.0'h Add courses
East Wall:	120' x 1.5'x 1.0' Replace to height 0.5 above ground surface

East Extension

North Wall	25.0' x 1.5' x 3.0' Add courses
East Wall	25.0' x 1.5' x 3.0' Add courses
South Wall	25.0' x 1.5' x 3.0' Add courses
West Wall	(Incorporated into east wall of structure)

Structure E:

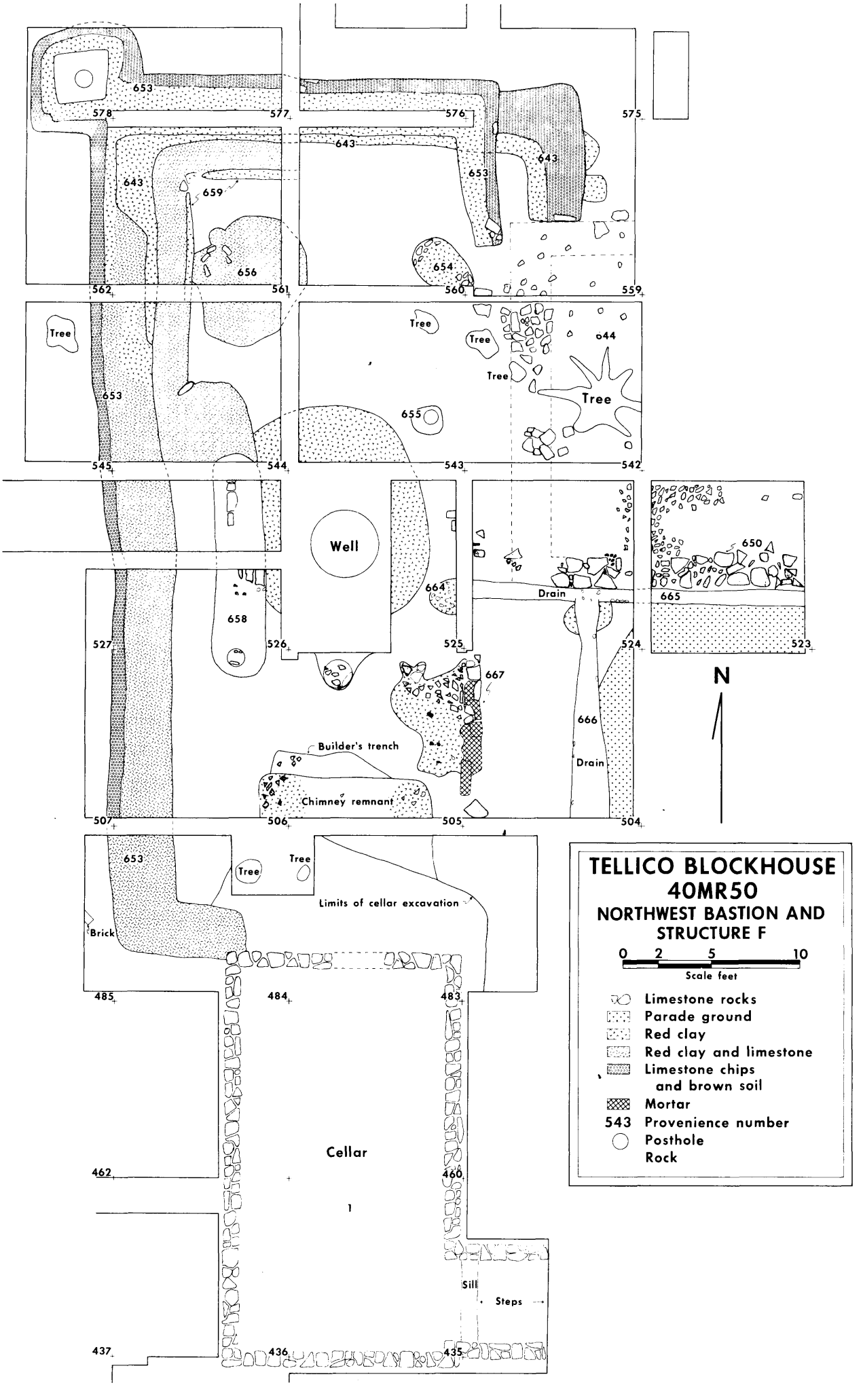
Structure E consists of a two story horizontal log structure with a porch along the south side making up most of the north fortification wall (Figure 2). This structure is represented by limestone foundation walls and a central double hearth chimney foundation (Figures 7 and 8). The building is 60.0' in length and 20.0' in width. The central portion of the structure has not yet been excavated and, as

a result , estimates concerning stabilization may change after complete excavation in the summer of 1974. The walls average 1.5' in thickness and much of the north wall and west end of the foundation will need to be replaced. The west foundations were deposited in the well in the northwest bastion in an attempt to bring the land back into cultivation during the depression. The south walls and east wall will need to be stabilized and perhaps a course added to raise the foundation above the surrounding ground surface. The chimney foundation should be stabilized and should be well enough preserved to make any additions unnecessary. The size of the chimney has not been determined through excavation but should approximate that of Structure A.

North Wall	60.0' x 1.5' x 1.5'h.	needs replacement throughout
East Wall	20.0' x 1.5' x 1.5'N - 1.0'S	needs some stone
West Wall	20.0' x 1.5' x 1.5'N - 1.0'S	needs replacement
South Wall	60.0' x 1.5' x 1.0'	needs some stone
South Porch Wall	60.0' x 1.5' x 0.5 - 0.75'	needs some stone
Chimney (approx.)	7.0' x 13.0' x 2.0'	needs some stone

Northwest Bastion

The last phase of the northwest bastion consists of an unequally faced extension of the northwest corner capped by a small bastionette (Figure 2). The north face of the bastion is 25.0' in length; the south face 50.0' in length and both flanks are extended 5.0' out from the adjoining wall line. The bastionette is 4.0' on a side, flanks and faces, and is centered on a large posthole (1.5') which may be for a swivel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545
544
543
542
Well
650
664
Drain
665
658
527
526
525
524
523
667
N
666
Builder's trench
Drain
Chimney remnant
507
506
505
504
653
Tree
Tree
Limits of cellar excavation
Brick
485
484
483
Cellar
462
460
Sill
Steps
437
436
435
TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE
40MR50
NORTHWEST BASTION AND
STRUCTURE F
0 2 5 10
Scale feet
Limestone rocks
Parade ground
Red clay
Red clay and limestone
Limestone chips
and brown soil
Mortar
543 Provenience number
Posthole
Rock

gun mount. Figure 8 illustrates the form and position of the northwest bastion.

East Flank	5.0'	5
North Face	25.0'	26
East Flank - Bastionette	4.0'	4
North Face - Bastionette	4.0'	4
West Face - Bastionette	4.0'	4
South Flank - Bastionette	4.0'	4
West Face	50.0'	54
South Flank	5.0'	5
	101.0' Palisade	106 posts

The segments of palisade posts should be set against the outer face of the palisade trench and extend 1.5' above the ground surface. The posts should be 0.8' - 1.0' in diameter. The upper surface should present an even contour, sloping with the ground surface and could perhaps be produced by cutting the upper end with a chain saw after placement.

Structure F:

Structure F consists of a stone lined cellar with entry fronting on the west side of the parade ground (Figure 2). The traces of a single hearth chimney foundation are present adjoining the north end of the cellar. Further excavation is necessary to determine the exact size of the structure overlying this cellar. An addition was made to the north end of this structure at some point after 1797 as indicated by the mortared limestone foundation designated 667 on the excavation plan (Figure 8).

The cellar has been refilled with recent refuse since its initial excavation in 1960 - 1963 by James H. Polhemus and Richard Myers, and will need to be cleaned out with a backhoe before the limestone cellar walls can be stabilized and an average of 2.0' of stone work added to raise the foundation to the present ground surface. The cellar will need to be filled to an elevation of 818.0 - 819.0 to prevent a hazard and allow the addition of several feet of gravel under the fill and grass to provide proper drainage. The fill of the cellar entry may be sloped from the surrounding ground surface down to the fill level and grassed, allowing access by grass cutting equipment.

West Wall	22.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'
North Wall	11.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'
East Wall	18.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'
South Wall	11.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'
Cellar Entry - Northside	4.0' x 1.5' x 6.0' - 1.0'
Cellar Entry - South side	4.0' x 1.5' x 6.0' - 1.0'
Chimney (Approx.)	8.0' x 5.0' x 1.5' x 6.0' Rebuild entirely

West Gate:

The west or main gate is situated between Structures A and F and is 10.0' in width (Figure 2). The gate structure is made up of a pair of square hewn posts set in large postholes (Figure 3) joined by a heavy wooden sill at ground level. The gate should be indicated by a pair of square hewn posts extending about 2.0' above the ground surface and joined by

a square hewn sill set into the ground between them.

North Gate Post	0.8' x 0.8' x 4.0' long
South Gate Post	0.6' x 0.6' x 4.0' long
Sill	0.6' x 0.8' x 10.0' long

East Palisade and South East Bastion:

The east side of the Tellico Blockhouse is protected by a palisade made up of posts 0.8' - 1.0' in diameter making up the south east bastion and east fortification wall (Figure 2). The east side of the fort below the 815.0 EA will need to be filled to AE 815.0 and the position of historic features resurveyed onto the raised ground surface. The northeast corner of the palisade enclosure may have been totally destroyed by the early county road intruding through it and as a result the presence of a single flanked bastion similar to that in the southeast corner (Figure 4) is presently conjectural. The necessity of a bastion of some sort at this point is clearly indicated by the need for flanking fire down the east wall. The calculation of the number of post segments necessary to deliniate the palisade outline includes an allowance for this form of bastion. The east gate should be indicated by a pair of square hewn posts similar to the west gate.

Palisade Post Segments	220' trench = 220 posts - 3.0' long
East Gate Square Hewn Posts	0.6' x 0.6' x 4.0' (2) necessary

Privy:

The stone lined privy situated near structure E (Figure 2) designated 64d should be back filled to within 2.0' of the

surrounding ground surface and the top of the stone work raised to about 819' to 820' through the addition of 1.5' of stone.

North Wall	6.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'
South Wall	6.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'
East Wall	3.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'
West Wall	3.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'

Well:

The stone lined well associated with the 1797 - 1807 occupation of the Tellico Blockhouse is located in the center of the northwest bastion (Figure 2). The collapsed upper 4.0' of stone have been replaced with a corrugated metal culvert section to stabilize the casing until such time as the remaining fill may be excavated (Figure 8). Once excavated the well should be back filled and the culvert replaced with stabilized stone work. A depth of 2.0' - 4.0' should be retained to maintain the appearance of a well.

Well Casing	4.0' diameter
	4.0' height to be rebuilt

North Fortification Wall:

This limestone segment resembles those of the southwest bastion and joins the east end of structure E with the north end of structure D (figure 2). The retaining wall is 40.0' in length and 1.75' in thickness. Several courses need to be added to this wall to maintain an elevation of 819 - 820 (Figure 7). The wall needs some stabilization.

The Parade Ground:

The parade ground is in good condition and after removal of accumulated back dirt and maintenance of the grass cover should provide no problems (Figure 2). The brick drains bordering the north and west sides of the parade ground may be rebuilt if desired or necessary to take care of drainage problems (Figure 7 and 8). The use of modern brick chosen to match the color and texture of the original brick would make this possible, if desired. Surface indications suggest the presence of a flag pole at the center of the parade ground, which after proper excavation and recording, could again be used for such purpose.

CONCLUSIONS

The primary features making up the last phase of the Tellico Blockhouse have been described and evaluated in relation to the use of the stabilized ruin concept of historic site interpretation. The value of the stabilization of the Tellico Blockhouse remains over that of reconstruction has been discussed. An attempt has been made to estimate the number of linier feet of stone foundation wall needing stabilization or replacement that are present at the Tellico Blockhouse, as well as to estimate the number of post segments necessary to deliniate the palisade positions. Suggestions have been made concerning various aspects of the historic site stabilization process as concern the Tellico Blockhouse.

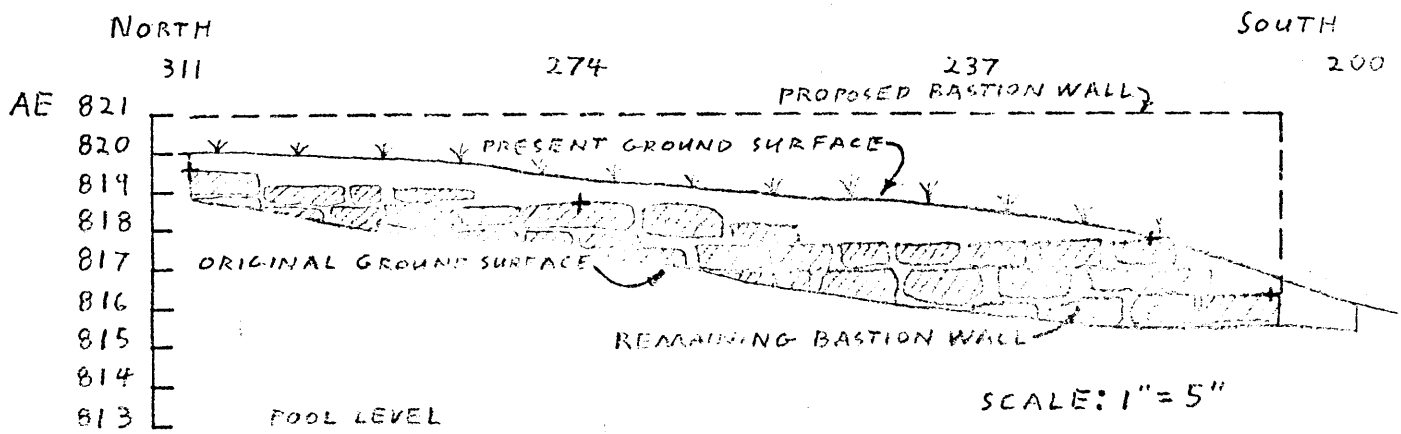
The source of limestone suitable for rebuilding and

stabilizing the foundation walls at the Tellico Blockhouse is to be found in the features of the site itself and in the old road cut adjoining the site. A quantity of stone may be obtained from reexcavating the cellars of structures C and F, from reexcavating the well in the north west bastion, from the gully in the slope below the southwest bastion, and the old road cut in addition to the stone stock piled during the 1973 excavation. It is hoped that the original stone available from these sources will prove to be sufficient for stabilization and interpretation of the Tellico Blockhouse site.

One remaining problem which must be considered is the control of erosion on the north, east, and south slopes after the east portion of the fort site is raised to elevation of 815.0 AE. Figure I illustrates the limits of the area to be filled and the approximate line of riprap or other erosion preventative measures.

SUMMARY OF MATERIALS AND WALL STABILIZATION

Stone Foundation Walls	1,160 feet
Stone Chimney Foundations	8 x 5 x 2 feet
	13 x 7 x 2 feet
	13 x 7 x 2 feet
	4 x 8 x 2 feet
	10 x 8 x 2 feet
	11 x 5 x 2 feet
	10 x 8 x 2 feet
	13 x 7 x 2 feet
Palisade Post Segments	0.8' - 1.0' in diameter 3 feet in length = 332 - 350
Square Hewn Timbers	0.8' x 0.8' x 4.0' = 1 0.6' x 0.6' x 4.0' = 3
Square Hewn Sill	0.6' x 0.8' x 10.0' = 1



TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE
40MR50
SITE STABIZATION

FIGURE 11

SOUTHWEST BASTION: SCHEMATIC PROFILE OF THE WEST FACE, PROVIDING ELEVATIONS ON STONE REPLACEMENT.

Cotter, John L., 1958 Archeological Excavations at Jamestown Colonial National Historical Park and Jamestown National Historic Site, Virginia. Archeological Research Series Number 4, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

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