

**POTTERY MOUND, THE 1954 FIELD SEASON:
COMMENTS ON THE RENDERED MAP**

By

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In 2003 the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology began to organize the records and collections for LA 416, Pottery Mound. The first substantive result of these efforts was a report on the 1954 excavations by the University of New Mexico's archaeological field school. The report was based on student notebooks and plane table maps discovered among Hibben's research materials (Ballagh and Phillips 2006).

One hazard of "archival archaeology" is that after a report is prepared, primary materials unknown to the authors may surface. In this instance, a rendered plan of the room excavations (Cat. No. 58.1.434) that had gone missing was discovered in 2007, a year after online publication of the report. The purpose of this addendum is to present the newly discovered rendered plan (Figure 1) and to compare it to the plan published in 2006 (Figure 2).

The rendering reproduced as Figure 1 was most likely prepared shortly after the completion of the 1954 field season. It was deposited at the Maxwell Museum by Hibben in 1958 and thus was rendered no later than four years after the fieldwork was done. It may have been prepared sooner, of course—possibly it was intended for a preliminary report published in *American Antiquity* a year after the fieldwork (Hibben 1955). In any case, the rendering was done a half-century closer to the original excavations than the one published in 2006, and most likely was inked (or at least supervised) by someone who had taken part in the excavations.

Figure 2 was prepared shortly before publication of the report in 2006, based on a 1954 plane table map by Russell Schorsch (Cat. No. 2003.23.14). Given the half difference in the dates of the renderings, their similarity is comforting—but not surprising, as both derive from the same plane table map. In addition to the plane table map, Hibben's materials yielded a "clean copy" pencil map of the 1954 room excavation area (Cat. No. 2003.23.13). A comparison indicates that Figure 1 was taken directly from Schorsch's plane table map, not from the "clean copy," but the preparer of Figure 1 may have had access to both versions.

The balance of this addendum will examine differences in the details of the two renderings. The examination will proceed counterclockwise from the upper left corner of both drawings.

Based on Schorsch's plane table map, three stratigraphic units (I, II, and III) were laid out next to the Northwest Trench (in Figure 2 they are labeled A, B, and C), but only one was excavated. In 2006, we were unable to say which unit was the one completed (Ballagh and Phillips 2006:81). Based on the newly discovered plan (Figure 1), the excavated unit corresponds to Unit A in Figure 2 (and to Unit I on the plane table map and the "clean copy" map).

To the east of the stratigraphic test, a roughly north-south wall is shown in the Second Lateral to the Northwest Trench (the northern east-west trench) on the "clean copy" map, and was therefore included in the 2006 rendering (Figure 2).¹ Schorsch's plane table map does not include the north-south wall, nor does the newly found rendering. Hibben's (1975:21) published map does show this wall.

¹ To give an example of the confusion in the original records, on the "clean copy" map this lateral is labeled "1st Lateral to N.W. Trench."

THIRD EAST-WEST STAKE

SECOND EAST-WEST STAKE

NORTH STAKE

+ 0'
+
+
+
+ 50'
+
+
+
+
+ 100'

POTTERY MOUND July 1954

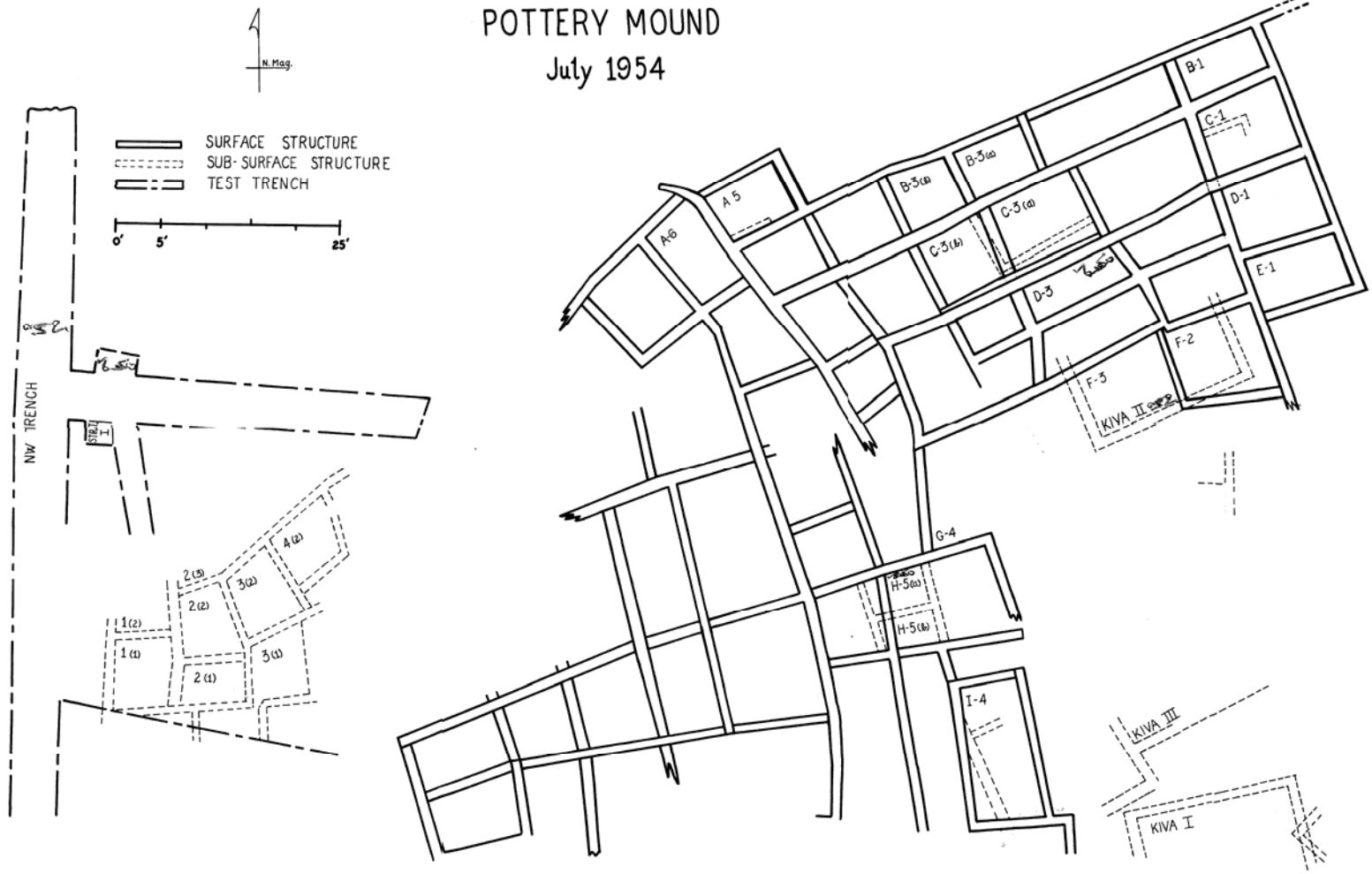


Figure 1. The 1954 northern excavation area: rendering found in 2007. Maxwell Museum Catalogue No. 58.1.434.

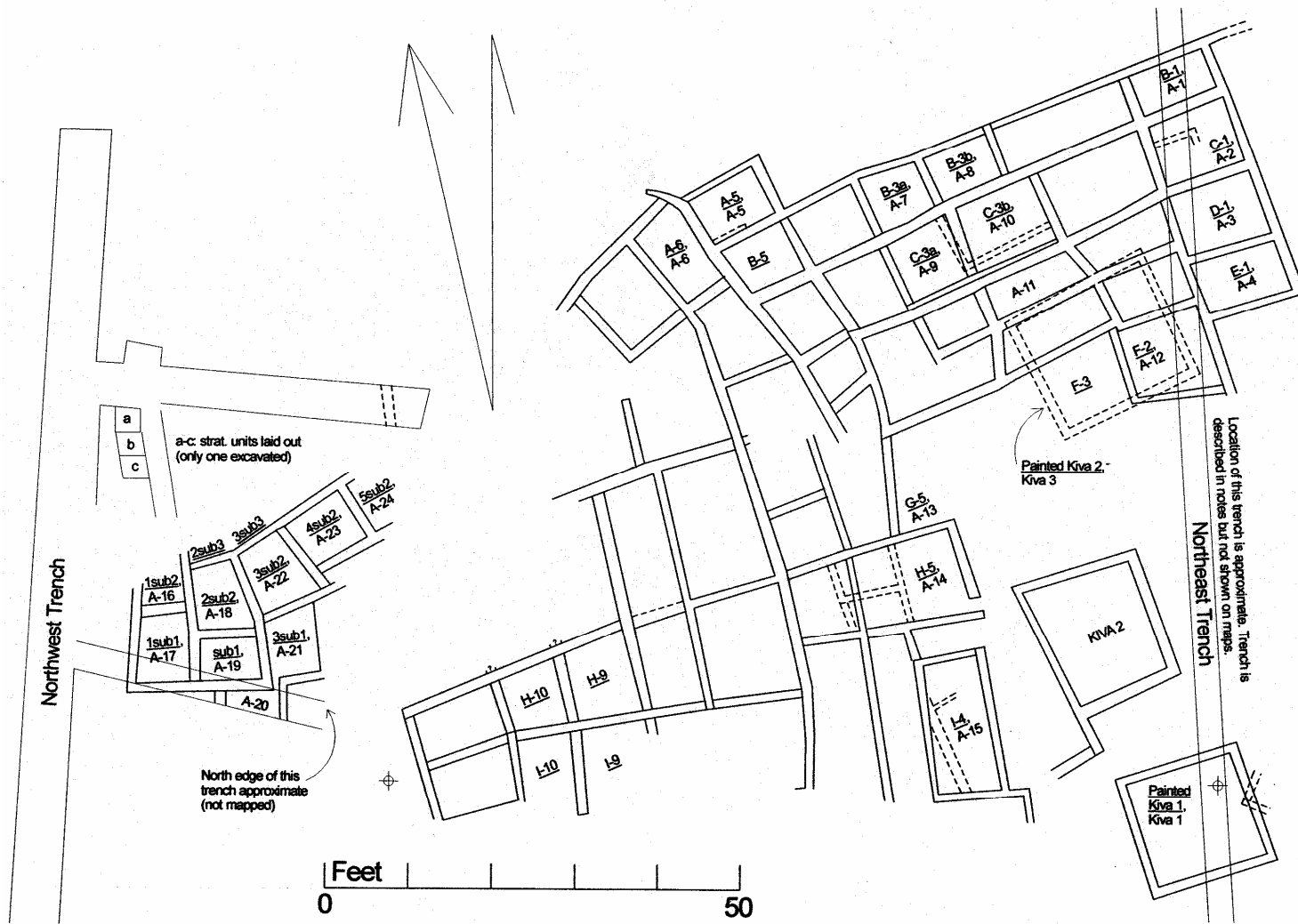


Figure 2. The 1954 northern excavation area: rendering published in 2006.
 Reproduced from Ballagh and Phillips (2006, Figure 2).

The plane table map does not show a platform mound edge in the lateral trench, nor does the “clean copy” map, nor does the newly discovered rendering, so the basis for the local segment of the platform mound edge, shown in Hibben’s (1975:21) published version of the map, remains unknown.

In Figure 1, the burial shown in the Northwest Trench is Burial 1. The burial shown in an alcove excavation (along the Second [or northern] Lateral to the Northwest Trench) is Burial 16. Both orientations appear to be correct.

Figure 1 shows the western group of rooms as “subsurface” as opposed to the main group of rooms, which is listed as “surface.” The western group of rooms was lower than the main one, and Hibben believed the former to be earlier than the latter. On Schorsch’s plane table map the western rooms are indicated in red pencil; on the “clean copy” they are indicated with dashed lines, as was done in the early rendering.

The wall abutments indicated at the northwest corners of Room A-21 and A-22 in 2006 (Figure 2), though not shown on the earlier rendering (Figure 1), are shown on both the Schorsch plane table map and the “clean copy” map.

A gap in the northeast wall of Room 4sub2 (A-23), shown in the early rendering but not in the 2006 rendering, appears on the plane table map but not on the “clean copy” map. This was identified as a doorway by the student excavator. In the initial version of the 1954 report, the student’s sketch of the room (Ballagh and Phillips 2006, Figure 30) was upside down. This has been corrected, so that the 1954 report properly shows the doorway in the north half of the room’s east wall.

The adjacent Room 5sub2 (A-24) is not indicated on the early rendering, or on the plane table map, but the wall stubs shown in Figure 2 are shown on the “clean copy” map. This area was not excavated until 1955, but in 1954 the student who excavated Room A-23 indicated that there was an adjacent room to the east.

Kiva 3 in Hibben’s (1975) published map was the second one identified during fieldwork, and is indicated as such in Figure 1. As is reflected in Figure 2, it was referred to as “Painted Kiva 2” in the field.