

oriented post moulds (Features 1 and 3) were identified in Square A. Feature 1 was ca. 20 cm in diameter and extended only 3 cm into sterile subfloor deposits (Stratum XI). Feature 3 was ca. 15 cm and extended 11 cm into subfloor deposits. A small, circular, bowl-shaped hearth-pit (Feature 2) measuring ca. 40 cm in diameter by 10 cm deep was intersected in the western wall of Square A. A large, oval, basin-shaped, storage/refuse pit (Feature 4) (Stratum V) was intersected by the eastern wall of Square A. The matrix filling Feature 4 is a dark gray-brown (10 YR 2/2) silt with high cultural material content. Several large flake blanks, utilized flakes, retouched flakes, and a moderate quantity of fish and mammal bone were secured from this pit feature.

Strata VI and VII

These strata represent Shuswap horizon deposits displaced from the house floor to the rim during the Plateau horizon occupation. These strata both consist of loose, dry, light gray-brown (2.5 Y 4/4) silt with lots of angular gravel and cultural materials. Stratum VII differs from VI in its higher organic matter content which includes birch bark rolls, puccoon nuts, charcoal, and bone. A Shuswap horizon projectile point was secured from Stratum VII. These deposits indicate that this house (or area of the site) was initially inhabited in Shuswap horizon times, and was displaced in Plateau horizon times.

Stratum VIII

This is a sterile, light gray-brown (10 YR 5/2) compact mixture of clay and silt. It is contained in the southern half of Square C, and it *may* represent the extreme southern edge of a possible Shuswap horizon occupation/house

floor. Alternately, it may have been deposited during Plateau horizon times as part of the house construction activities.

Stratum IX

This is a natural, sterile, possible buried Ah soil horizon comprised of light yellow-brown (10 YR 5/6) sand and silt. It appears to represent a stable ground surface, which was buried during Shuswap and/or Plateau horizon times.

Stratum X

Stratum X is also a natural sterile buried soil horizon beneath Stratum IX which is comprised of medium brown (10 YR 4/3) silt, clay, and pebbles. It is horizontal in Square C, and in the south end of Square B it has slumped slightly at the edge of the Plateau horizon house edge.

Stratum XI

Stratum XI is a compact, yellow-brown (10 YR 4/3) mixture of silt, clay, and angular pebbles. It occupies Square A and the northern half of Square B. It is possible that this stratum was culturally deposited as intentional subfloor fill immediately prior to the deposition of the Plateau horizon floor deposits. This is suggested by the disconformity of this sterile stratum with sterile Stratum XII to the south.

Stratum XII

Stratum XII is a densely compact, sterile, light gray (10 YR 4/3) clay and silt occupying the southern half of Square B and all of Square C. Two bench-like features (Features 5 and 6) were intentionally excavated into this

stratum during the Plateau horizon occupation to form the southern edge of the house floor.

Excavation Summary and Conclusions

In summary, HP 4 (or the area where HP 4 is now located) was initially occupied during the Shuswap horizon (ca. 4,000–2,400 BP). These deposits were displaced to the rim of the Plateau horizon house, which is represented in the intact basal house floor deposits (Stratum IV). A possible third component belonging to the beginning of the Kamloops horizon is weakly represented immediately above the Plateau horizon roof fill (Stratum III) within the bottom of Stratum II.

References

- Richards, Thomas H., and Michael K. Rousseau
1987 *Late Prehistoric Cultural Horizons on the Canadian Plateau.*
Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Publication
No. 16, Burnaby, British Columbia.

Figure Captions

Figure 1: Housepit 4 east wall profile and floor plan.

Figure 1: Stratum Legend for Housepit 4

- I Littermat/Duff layer. Consists of high organic component within a medium gray-brown (10 YR 3/2) silt.
- II Mostly post occupational deposition of aeolian and slopewash sediments. This stratum grades from dark gray black (10 YR 2/1)

in the north end of the trench to medium gray brown (10 YR 4/3) silt and a few angular pebbles. A brief Kamloops horizon occupation may be contained in this stratum.

- III Plateau horizon roof fill deposits. A dark gray-brown (10 YR 3/2) silt with lots of angular pebbles and cultural materials.
- IV Intact Plateau horizon house floor. A dark gray black (10 YR 2/1) silt with some angular pebbles, fire cracked rock, charcoal, cultural material. Confined to units A and B. Associated with Stratum V of Feature 4. Stratum IVA is a light yellow gray ash lens above burnt wood.
- V Feature 4 (storage/refuse pit fill). A dark gray-brown (10 YR 2/2) silt with high cultural material content. Appears to relate to the Plateau horizon house floor.
- VI Shuswap horizon deposits displaced from the center of the house. A light gray-brown (2.5 Y 4/4) silt with lots of angular gravel.
- VII Shuswap horizon deposits (displaced) similar to VI with high organic content (birch bark, puccoon nuts, charcoal, bone). Loose, dry.
- VIII Sterile light gray brown (10 YR 5/2) compact clay/silt which may be edge of Shuswap horizon house floor or roof fill.
- IX Possible buried Ah soil horizon. A sterile light yellow brown (10 YR 5/6) sand and silt.
- X Sterile medium brown (10 YR 4/3) silt. Buried soil.
- XI Sterile glacial till. Yellow-brown (10 YR 4/3) silt, clay, pebbles.
- XII Sterile glacial till. Light gray (10 YR 4/3) clay/silt.

Figure 1. Housepit 4 east wall profile and floor plan.

