The lid of the hexagonal coffin was encountered at 1.49 feet. Some nails were recorded in situ, along the sides and the foot, but none were in place near the head of the coffin. Excavators collected a wood sample, which included a peach pit, from the coffin lid; the sample was not further identified.

The deceased had been laid out in supine position, with his head to the west. The legs and arms were extended, and the hands rested on the pelvis. The bones were in poor condition when removed; flooding during a rainstorm and vandalism at the time of excavation caused major damage. Strands of hair were recovered during cleaning of the skeleton. No artifacts other than the coffin remains were found with this burial, although six seeds were collected, including one identified as jimsonweed. The seeds were not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Burial 217 lay near the center of a possible row of graves, including Burials 266, 210, 242, 241, 243, and 299, and possibly several more to the south. The individuals in these graves were adults of various ages and both sexes. This row of graves was aligned roughly north-south and crossed the line of postholes that marked the former boundary fence. Because it lay north of the fence posthole alignment, Burial 217 has been assigned to the Late Group.

Burial 217 was of a man between 17 and 19 years old. His grave was located just north of an alignment of postholes from a fence that once marked the northern extent of the cemetery. The soil in the grave shaft was described as sandy clay with an orange tone. It contained a large quantity of animal bones, mainly from large mammals; there were 205 cow horn-core fragments and many parts of cow hooves. This grave was evidently dug into the animal-waste dump identified in this area of the site. Excavators also recovered sheep bones, including numerous caudal (tail) vertebral fragments, as well as a few pieces of shell, redware, salt-glazed stoneware (vessel, kiln furniture, and kiln waste fragments), and a fair amount of brick and bottle glass. Tobacco pipe fragments were also present, including fragments of stem and bowls and a stem and foot (with a 5/64-inch bore) that was identified as Dutch, from Gouda, and dated to post-1740. A small pit, probably a posthole (designated in the field as Feature 101), overlay the south side of the grave shaft.
Burial 217 (cont.)

Burial No. 217 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/11/92; Drawing No. 505).
Burial 218 was immediately overlain by the south-eastern portion of Burial 119. It directly overlay Burial 263, which in turn lay above Burial 272, both Early Group burials. Because of these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 218 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial 218 was of a child between 6 months and 3.5 years old. The grave shaft consisted of gray and brown silty clay mottled with reddish sand. The shaft outline was not visible on the south, obscured by the wall of a temporary excavation shelter. The child’s burial was initially discovered beneath the eastern portion of Burial 119. Bone fragments were found in the grave fill.

The child’s coffin lid, recorded at an elevation of 3.39 feet, was represented by gray clayey stains preserved in a few small areas. The coffin walls were difficult to distinguish and the shape unclear (four-sided tapered or hexagonal). The coffin bottom was at an elevation of 3.03 feet. Nails were recorded in situ at the bottom at the four corners and along the sides. No other artifacts were found in association with this burial. The remains were in extremely poor condition and consisted only of skull fragments and teeth, but excavators determined that the child had been buried with his or her head to the west.
Burial 219

Series 35
Catalog No. 1200
Datum point: 54 (3.94 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 71.5, E 122
Elevation of highest skeletal remains (unrecorded bone): 2.2 feet
Temporal group: Late-Middle

The child in Burial 219 was between 4 and 5 years old. The grave shaft contained gray-brown clay and sandy, silty loam, from which a single fragment of kiln furniture was collected. The burial had been severely disturbed by construction.

Because of the disturbance, no elevation was recorded for the coffin lid or bottom. The coffin appeared to be straight sided. Several nail fragments were recorded in situ, the ones on the east and south sides apparently in place, those on the north side displaced. The elevation of highest skeletal remains was at 2.2 feet; this was recorded at a small, disarticulated bone in a scatter on the child’s disturbed left side. The elevation of the lowest skeletal remains was at 1.71 feet, at the right innominate bone. The right side of the body was more intact, but the bones were not well preserved.

Artifacts directly associated with the child’s burial included copper-alloy straight pins, one recorded in situ at the fragmented cranium and one at the pelvis. A textile fragment was collected from an unrecorded provenience.

Burial 219 was probably the latest interment in a stratigraphic series that also included Burial 235 and Burials 288 and 292, which may represent a single individual. Burial 235 cut into Early Group Burials 288/292 and in turn was overlain by Burial 219. Burial 288/292 was thus the first interment; then the grave of Burial 235 was dug through these remains. Subsequently, Burial 219 was placed above Burial 235, without disturbing that burial’s coffin. No grave-shaft outline was recorded for Burial 219, suggesting that the latter was placed deliberately within the existing grave of Burial 235 and within a relatively brief interval. The two coffins were not stacked directly one atop the other; intervening soil was present. Because of this stratigraphic relationship, Burial 219 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 220

Series 22
Catalog No. 1205
Datum point: 79
Grid coordinates: S 78, E 93
No human remains found
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 220 yielded no human skeletal remains, only the remains of an infant-sized coffin. This area of the site was characterized by poor preservation, especially of infant remains. The oval grave-cut outline was visible on all sides, and the shaft fill consisted of stony mottled silts. One fragment of brick was found in the fill.

Excavation of the burial began at an elevation of 3.60 feet on the east end, and the four-sided coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 3.65 feet in the west, sloping to an elevation of 3.45 feet in the east. The bottom was reached at 3.25 feet, and excavation ceased at 3.20 feet. Both the coffin lid and bottom were observed as dark gray stains in the soil. Coffin nails were recorded in situ, two each at the head and foot and one along the south side.

Burial 220 may have been part of a row of infant graves that also included Burials 206 and 161 to the north. The three were spaced evenly, about 2 feet apart, and were parallel. Burials 206 and 161, however, may have been placed with reference to an adult burial (Burial 159), rather than with reference to Burial 220. Burial 207, of a probable woman between 25 and 35 years of age, partially overlay Burial 220. Because of its stratigraphic position and absent any evidence that would place it otherwise, Burial 220 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 221

Series 15A
Catalog Nos. 1206 and 1432
Datum point: 74
Grid coordinates: S 83.5, E 77.0
Elevation of cranium: 3.55 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 221 contained the remains of a man between 30 and 60 years old. Associated soil was described as mottled yellow clay, although shaft fill was later described as mixed sand and clay. An unassociated bone fragment was recovered from the grave fill. Both the grave-shaft outline and the coffin outline were difficult to define on the west side of the burial, probably because archaeologists were excavating burials to the west at the same time.

The coffin stain was first defined at elevations of 4.05–4.30 feet, and the highest elevation recorded for skeletal remains was 3.97 feet. A number of nails were recorded at the perimeter and in the central area of the burial. As excavation proceeded, an infant burial, Burial 226, was discovered lying directly over the center of Burial 221. A distinct soil stain marked the infant’s burial. It is possible that Burial 226 had a discrete grave shaft within that of Burial 221, which would indicate a separate, later interment. Alternatively, Burial 226 may have been interred at the same time as Burial 221, and the soil distinction was the result of the decomposition of Burial 226.

Burial 221 sloped downward from east to west, and the lowest recorded elevation for the skeletal remains was 3.26 feet, the bottom of the skull. Little coffin wood remained, but its stain was apparent. The coffin was four sided in shape, tapering slightly at the foot. A wood sample was collected and identified as pine. The man had been placed in the supine position, with his head to the west and his arms at the sides. The skeletal remains were in good condition. Two straight pins were recorded on the cranium and were removed along with the skeletal remains.

The east end of the grave shaft of Burial 229, which held a child, cut into northwest corner of the grave shaft of Burial 221. Burial 221’s four-sided, tapered coffin shape is the basis for assigning it to the Early Group.
Burial 221 (cont.)

Burial No. 221 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/12/92; Drawing No. 510)
Burial 222
Catalog No. 1207
Datum point: 54
Grid coordinates: S 76.5, E 118
Elevation of highest skeletal element: 0.24 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 222 held the incomplete and disturbed remains of an adult, probably a man. His age could not be determined. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 16 and had been truncated on the west side during construction clearing. The skull, ribs, vertebrae, and all of the left arm and most of the right were missing. Relatively little material was recovered from the mottled soil of the grave shaft; these remnants included bits of brick, two nail fragments, a piece of clam shell, and a chunk of concrete, possibly intrusive.

Enough remained of the coffin to determine that it had been hexagonal. Its lid was encountered at an elevation of 1.14 feet, and nails were recorded along the foot and sides. Excavators noted the presence of iron tacks, which had apparently formed a decorative lid pattern, over the pelvis and right arm of the individual. Vandalism during the excavation further disturbed the human remains and apparently scattered the tacks, although four were recovered; these were in the pelvic region at the time of recordation. The tacks were not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center.

The individual had been laid to rest in supine position, head to the west. His or her legs were extended, but arm position could not be determined. The pelvis and both legs were present and relatively complete, but only a few hand and arm bones and a portion of the right scapula were located. In addition to the vandalism that left several bones broken or crushed, the burial endured flooding, which resulted in the disarticulation or disappearance of other bones. No pins were recovered or noted within this burial.

There is little basis other than coffin shape for assigning Burial 222 to a temporal group. The tacks on the lid were probably similar to those from the other decorated coffins at the site, and if so, they date the burial to ca. 1760 or later. The burial therefore has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group rather than the main Middle Group.
Burial 222 (cont.)

Burial No. 222 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/10/92; Drawing No. 499).

Burial No. 222 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/10/92; Drawing No. 499).
Burial 223 was of a woman between 25 and 35 years old. Her grave was located just to the north of the alignment of postholes from a fence that once marked the northern extent of the cemetery. The grave shaft was filled with mottled light gray, brown, and yellow soil and contained minimal artifacts: two stoneware sherds; a few cow, sheep, and pig bones; and some oyster shell fragments.

The woman had been buried without a coffin, with her head to the west. She had been placed in a supine position, but there was a distinct leftward bend at the pelvis. Her head and feet were turned to the left, her left arm was extended, and the left hand rested at the head of her left femur. Her right arm was bent 90° at the elbow, with the hand resting at waist level. The remains were initially assessed as in reasonably good condition; later, the grave was vandalized and the skull was damaged. No artifacts were recorded or recovered in direct association with the deceased.

This grave may have been part of a roughly north-south row that included Burials 137/165 to the north and Burials 150, 199, and 211 to the south. Burials 223, 150, and 199 were among the few burials of women without coffins, and their graves were neatly spaced and similar in orientation.

Based on its location to the north of the line of fence postholes, Burial 223 is placed in the Late Group.
Burial 224

Series 22
Catalog No. 1210
Datum point: 79
Grid coordinates: S 77.5, E 97
Elevation of cranium: 2.39 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 224 contained the remains of a child between 6 and 16 months old. The grave-shaft fill consisted of stony (medium-sized to large cobbles and various pebbles) mixed silts, mottled with charcoal and ferric concretions. The eastern part of the grave was disturbed by machine excavation before archaeologists began hand excavations in this part of the site. Construction activity occurring during the project, including installation of an I-beam immediately to the east, caused further damage to the burial.

The child’s coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 3.20 feet. Remains of two other infant-sized coffins were noted in the immediate area, one immediately below Burial 224 (Burial 231) and one to the south (Burial 234). The headboard of Burial 224’s four-sided coffin had collapsed inward, and the lower portion of the footboard had also collapsed inward. As excavation continued, the coffin bottom was reached at an elevation of 2.20 feet. Nine nails were recorded in situ, one on the south side and the rest at the headboard and footboard.

The child had been placed in the supine position with the head to the west. The skull was crushed by a mass of nails during construction work that took place during the archaeological excavation. The movement of heavy machinery over the area may have damaged the coffin. The lower extremities were missing, but this may be attributable to poor preservation.
Burial 225 contained the remains of an infant between 6 and 15 months old. The grave was located in the rear part of Lot 15, and the south side of its shaft had been disturbed by Feature 77, a wood-lined privy from the later development of the lot. The shaft was filled with yellow-gray clay that contained scant brick, stoneware, glass sherds, and some shell and bone fragments.

Excavation of the burial began at an average elevation of 2.54 feet, and the child’s coffin lid and skeletal elements were exposed at approximately 1.99 feet. The coffin bottom was at 1.36 feet along the southern side, where it slumped into underlying Burial 252. The skeleton was twisted laterally. This may have been caused by its slumping into the underlying burial and possibly by the later intrusion of Feature 77.

The infant had been placed in a four-sided coffin in the supine position, with the head to the west. Coffin nails and wood screws were recorded in situ. The screws were at the southwest corner of the head of the coffin, both top and bottom. Straight-pin fragments and an associated textile fragment were recovered from this burial. Based on the field drawing and copper stains on the bones, the pins were at the left ischium, left hand, right parietal, and right clavicle; no provenience was recorded for the textile. The skeletal remains were in very poor condition; the cranium was crushed, and the long bones were broken and eroded.

Burial 252, a child of about 18 months, lay immediately beneath Burial 225, in an apparent shared grave, although the upper coffin was offset slightly to the north. Because the graves were north of the fence line, both have been assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 226 was of an infant less than 2 months of age. The burial shared the grave shaft of underly- ing Burial 221, which was of a man between the ages of 30 and 60 (most likely in his 40s). Soil described in association with Burial 226 (presumably grave-shaft fill) was described as mottled yellow-brown, with patches of solid dark gray soil. This soil was the first indication that another burial was present—it was noted as a distinction within the Burial 221 matrix. Material recovered from the grave fill included a seed, a seed fragment, and a possible insect casing. The seed was recovered near the head area, above the elevation of the skeletal remains. It was not identified or recovered after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

A coffin stain was recorded and outlined at elevations of 3.80–4.00 feet; fragments of mandible and cranium were recorded at an elevation of 3.69 feet. The coffin appears to have been four sided in shape, tapering toward the foot. Coffin nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter. The lowest elevation recorded for the coffin was 3.56 feet. The infant had been laid with the head to the west. All soil from this burial was retained for flotation.

Remains of six straight pins were recorded in situ, one near the center of the burial and five near the cranial fragments. Also recorded in situ beneath the mandible fragments were eight beads, apparently from a necklace. These were fired-glass beads that have been identified as of West African origin, most likely produced in what is now southern Ghana. The beads were simple in design, oblate or donut-shaped, 0.4–0.46 cm in diameter, and probably originally opaque yellow. They were probably ground to shape after firing but may have been heat-treated after initial firing. The perforations were regular and were likely polished or drilled after the beads were fired.

As noted, Burial 226 shared a grave with Burial 221, a male adult, and it appears that the man and the infant were interred at the same time. Because the tapered coffin in Burial 221 is considered diagnostic of an Early Group interment, Burial 226 has also been assigned to the Early Group.

(continued on page 310)
Burial 226 (cont.)

Burial No. 226 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/7/92; Drawing No. 488).
Burial 227 yielded the remains of an individual of undetermined age and sex. The associated soil consisted of yellow-brown sandy clay silt. The western portion of the burial had been destroyed by a neighboring interment, apparently Burial 256. The skeletal remains had been disturbed, either destroyed or removed from the pelvis up; however, the cranium had been put back into the grave and was lying near the femurs. Extraneous bone found in the grave shaft of Burial 211 (which overlay Burial 256) may have been from Burial 227.

The displaced cranium was encountered at an elevation of 4.22 feet, and coffin nails appeared at 4.12 feet. The bottom of the grave was recorded at an elevation of 4.02 feet in the east and 3.62 feet in the west. The coffin was four sided in shape, and numerous nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the bottom. The deceased had been placed in the supine position, with the head to the west.

The grave shaft of Burial 251 appears to have cut into or overlain the southwestern edge of Burial 227. Because of this stratigraphic relationship, coupled with the four-sided, possibly tapered, coffin shape, Burial 227 has been placed in the Early Group.
Burial 228

Series 23a
Catalog No. 1214
Datum point: 71
Grid coordinates: S 86, E 55
Elevation at highest point: 4.28 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late

Burial 228 held the remains of an adult, probably a man, whose age could not be determined. The burial had been truncated on the west (head) end by the foundation of a later building on Lot 14. Skeletal remains included elements from the distal ends of the femurs to the feet. The grave-shaft outline, as far as it was visible, suggested that the grave might have been shared with a burial to the northeast, possibly Burial 236 or Burial 260. The latter was represented only by a few disarticulated bones.

The coffin lid was preserved only along the north side, at an elevation of 4.15 feet; the well-preserved bottom, later identified as cedar, was recorded at 3.93 feet. The coffin was hexagonal in shape, and nails were recorded in situ at the perimeter. The deceased had been placed with the head to the west. The extant skeletal remains were in fair condition.

The north edge of Burial 228 appears to have abutted or overlain the south edge of Burial 236, but their exact relationship could not be determined through field observation. Although Burial 228 was higher in elevation than Burial 236, it is possible the latter was interred after Burial 228, cutting through the north part of the grave shaft. Burial 236 appeared to overlay the edge of Burial 196 and to have truncated Burial 260. Burial 196 also truncated earlier graves. On the basis of overall stratigraphic position, Burial 228 is placed in the Late Group, along with Burials 236 and 196.
Burial 229
Series 15A
Catalog No. 1215
Datum point: 73
Grid coordinates: S 83.5, E 72
Elevation of cranium: 4.22 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 229 was the grave of a child between 6 and 11 years of age. The associated soil was described as mottled brown clay and sand. The grave fill contained wine bottle fragments, a nail fragment, two ceramic sherds (one of locally made stoneware), a pipe stem and a pipe-bowl fragment marked “RI” (probably eighteenth-century English). Recording began at an elevation of 4.44 feet. No coffin outline was apparent, although numerous nails were identified in the western end of the burial. The coffin bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.69 feet at the west end. Fragments of foot bones were recorded at 3.79 feet at the east end of the coffin. The coffin outline was followed based on nails found in situ. It was probably four sided in shape.

The child had been placed in the supine position, arms resting at the sides. The remains were in poor condition; the pelvis and long bones were badly eroded. Excavators noted the presence of hair. Tiny fragments of a straight pin or pins were recovered from the burial, but their location is not mentioned in the notes or indicated on the field drawing. One copper stain was noted on the hyoid.

The western end of Burial 229 overlay the eastern end of Burial 239, a child burial, and both overlay Burial 274/280, an Early Group burial of an adult, possibly female. Burial 229 did not appear to share a grave shaft with Burials 239 or 280. The easternmost end of Burial 229 was above the northwest corner of Burial 221, an Early Group grave of a man buried with an infant (Burial 226). Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 229 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 230
Catalog No. 1216
Datum point: 66
Grid coordinates: S 45.5, E 106
Elevation of cranium: 0.73 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late

Burial 230 was of a woman between 55 and 65 years of age. The grave was located in the northern area of the excavated cemetery, in the central part of Lot 16, underneath Feature 111/120, a filled-in “channel” running approximately 25 feet in a north-south direction. The grave-shaft outline was not recorded, except for a possible line at the southeast corner. The fill of the grave shaft was not described; no artifacts were recovered from the fill.

The elevation of the coffin lid was recorded at 0.98 feet, the bottom at 0.29 feet. Its shape was hexagonal. The south side of the coffin was disturbed, apparently by a wooden post or piling. The latter was drawn but otherwise not recorded. Thirty nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin top and bottom, including vertical nails that attached the lid to the sides. Nine more nails were cataloged in the laboratory.

The woman was in a supine position, with her hands on her pelvis and her head to the west. The skeletal remains were in generally poor condition and very fragile. Pipe wear was noted on the teeth. Straight-pin fragments were recovered from a soil sample from the stomach area; one pin was also recorded in situ on a central vertebra.

Two coins were also recovered from this burial. One was recorded in situ above the base of the left mastoid process (the bony projection behind the ear). It is not clear which of the two coins was cataloged. The second coin was neither mentioned in field notes nor included on the field drawing, and it is not known where it was found. Copper staining was noted on wood from the coffin lid at the cranium and also from the temporal bone; this staining may have been from the recorded coin. One of the coins measured 2.2 cm in diameter and had woven textile, not identified, adhering to each side. The other coin measured 2.9 cm in diameter. Neither coin was identifiable.

Because Burial 230 was located north of the fence line, this grave has been assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 230 (cont.)

Burial No. 230 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/11/92; Drawing No. 503).
Burial 231 consisted only of a coffin outline and coffin nails lying under Burial 224. The coffin outline appeared to be the size of an infant’s and was four sided in shape. Its highest recorded elevation was 2.70 feet based on coffin nails found along the north side; excavation of the burial ceased at an elevation 1.85 feet in sterile soil.

No skeletal remains were found. Excavators suggested that this lack of remains was because of poor preservation. Burial 231 appears to have been in a grave shared by two other infants, Burials 224 and 234. No artifacts other than remains of the coffins were found in association with any of the three children.

Lacking any temporal evidence other than stratigraphy, Burial 231 has been assigned to the Middle Group, as have Burials 224 and 234.
Burial 232 consisted of the remains of an infant-sized coffin. A grave cut was apparent along the northern and western edges and part of the southern side. Associated soil consisted of stony, mottled silts; some brick fragments were recovered from it. The southwest half of the grave appeared to have been truncated by the grave cut for Burials 224, 231, and 234.

The coffin wood did not survive, but coffin nails, apparently representing the southeast corner, were recorded at an elevation of 2.50 feet. Excavators recorded the probable bottom at 2.20 feet; this was based on coffin nails found along the southern edge. Excavators noted that the soil within the coffin was wet and very sandy with sticky, dark gray silt above the sand, indicative of decayed organic material.

Another soil stain representing a presumed grave, partially cut by Burial 232, was identified in the field. Excavation began at an elevation of 2.65 feet and ceased at an elevation of 2.20 feet, with no coffin or human remains found. Excavators suggested that this might have been a poorly preserved infant’s burial with no coffin; it was not assigned a burial number. The southwest half of Burial 232 was probably truncated by the triple grave of infant Burials 224, 231, and 234. Burial 160, another grave of a young child, overlay the northeast part of Burial 232. Burial 232 has been placed in the default Middle Group.
No skeletal remains were recovered from Burial 233, which consisted only of the remains of a small rectangular wooden box, possibly representing the burial of an infant. No cultural materials were recovered from the grave shaft, nor were the soil conditions noted. The coffin was oriented east-west lengthwise; its lid was at an elevation of 1.84 feet. Nails were noted in situ and recovered by excavators; they also recovered samples of the coffin wood.

It is possible that Burial 233 was not an infant burial but a coffin fragment from a larger burial. The wood remnants may have been shunted to the east and/or south from Burial 288 or 292, as a result of later interments or several apparent later disturbances in the area.

Burial 233 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 234 contained the remains of an infant less than 6 months old. The associated soil consisted of yellow-orange silt, mottled with stony tan and gray soil. Most of the northern edge of the grave cut had been removed during prior excavation of other burials to the north.

The coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of 2.45 feet based on coffin nails found along the western coffin edge; the bottom was at an elevation of 2.14 feet based on coffin nails found along the north side and in the southeast corner. The western headboard and eastern footboard were preserved, as well as part of the coffin bottom in the west. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter.

Excavators noticed what appeared to be a small hexagonal coffin-shaped area cut into the grave fill overlying the child’s burial. This was excavated down to sterile sand in the north and the Burial 234 coffin lid in the south. Excavators found three possible top nails, two of which belonged to Burial 234. Because no bone or wood was found, excavation of this area ceased, and no burial number was assigned.

The infant in Burial 234 had been placed in a four-sided, tapered coffin with the head to the west. The skeletal remains were in poor condition and consisted of teeth and gray, shiny, sticky clay presumed by excavators to be decayed tissue. Burial 234 appears to have been in a grave shared by two other infants, Burials 231 and 224, which cut into a prior infant burial designated Burial 232. No artifacts other than coffin remains were found in association with any of the burials. These burials, including Burial 234, have been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 235 was of a woman between 28 and 42 years old. According to the excavators’ notes, the silty clay of her grave shaft held a heavy concentration of rust. Numerous nail fragments were recovered from the grave fill, along with a few sherds each of bottle glass, salt-glazed stoneware, and kiln furniture. Excavators also collected fragments of bovine horn core and long bones and an oyster shell fragment. Other cultural material found in the soil included several whole seeds (one recorded in situ on the coffin lid, the others from unknown locations), a bowl fragment from a tobacco pipe, and a textile fiber (possibly intrusive).

The archaeologists exposed the well-defined lid of the hexagonal coffin at 1.99 feet. They noted “extraordinary” bones above the lid and postulated that they were from Burial 219, a child buried almost directly above. They also noted several small cobbles on the lid, which were roughly mapped but apparently not collected, as none was cataloged in the laboratory. Numerous nails were mapped and collected, including several found in vertical positions that attached the lid to the sides of the coffin. A scatter of metal remnants was observed and drawn on the central portion of the coffin lid, although none was recoverable as an object. It is possible the iron remnants were from nails from the overlying Burial 219. One circular “metal artifact,” 0.1 feet in diameter, was depicted at the pelvis, either on or above the skeletal remains, and was given field number 235.1; it was not recovered. A straight pin was found on or above the coffin lid and was recovered in two fragments.

The woman’s remains were virtually complete and in fair condition despite considerable postmortem breakage. She had been placed supine, with her head to the west and her arms and legs extended. Her left arm was bent slightly and the hand rested on her pelvis.

Burial 235 cut through Burials 288 and 292 (which may represent a single individual) at an angle and lay at a slightly lower elevation. Burial 219, the grave of a young child, was placed above Burial 235, slightly offset to the north. No grave-shaft outline was recorded for Burial 219; this suggests that the latter was placed deliberately within the existing grave of Burial 235. The two coffins were not stacked directly one atop the other, as intervening soil was present.

It is unlikely that Burial 235 was intentionally associated with Burial(s) 288/292. The detrimental impact on the remains implies that their presence was not known at the time when Burial 235 was interred. Based on this, Burial 235 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 235 (cont.)

Burial No. 235 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/20/92; Drawing No. 539).
Burial 236 was of a child between 4 and 5 years of age. A possible grave-shaft outline was visible on the east and west ends, but its fill was not described. Extraneous skeletal elements were present in the soil above the coffin, apparently from a burial that had been disturbed, possibly Burial 260.

The coffin lid was first recorded at an elevation of 4.08 feet and the bottom was at 3.67 feet. It was hexagonal in shape. The sides had fallen outward and lay flat to the north and south of the burial.

Wood samples from the south side were identified as pine and the bottom as loblolly (soft pine). The child had been placed with the head to the west; the skeletal remains were incomplete, crushed, and severely eroded. Excavators recovered one straight pin but did not record its original location.

The north edge of Burial 228, of an adult male, appears to have abutted or overlain the south edge of Burial 236, but their exact relationship could not be determined through field observation. Although Burial 228 was higher in elevation than Burial 236, it is possible the latter was interred after Burial 228, cutting through the north part of the grave shaft.

Burial 236 appeared to overlay the edge of Burial 196 and to have truncated Burial 260. Burial 196 also truncated earlier graves. On the basis of overall stratigraphic position, Burial 236 is placed in the Late Group along with Burials 228 and 196.
Burial 237 consisted of partial remains, probably of an adult, but age and sex could not be determined. The burial was oriented north-south, with the head to the south. Burial 212 had truncated it on the south, above the pelvis. Only the east side of the grave-shaft outline was discernible; the fill from the grave shaft was not described, and no artifacts were recovered from it.

The coffin lid was first exposed at an elevation of 4.07 feet, and the lowest recorded elevation was at 4.00 feet. Coffin nails, including six nailed from the bottom to attach it to the sides (an unusual construction), were recorded in situ around the perimeter. The coffin was four sided, either rectangular or tapered. A wood sample from the lid was identified in the laboratory as red pine.

Skeletal remains were in very poor condition and consisted only of partial pelvic bones, radius and ulna fragments, and leg and foot bones.

Burial 237 was immediately adjacent to the east of, and parallel to, Burial 264, which held only partial right leg bones and coffin wood. It is likely that they represent a single individual. Burial 216, an infant burial, overlay the northeast corner of Burial 237, and as noted, Burial 212, a child’s grave, had truncated the southern half. On the basis of this stratigraphy, along with the possible tapering coffin, Burial 237 is assigned to the Early Group.
Burial 238
Series 15A
Catalog No. 1224
Datum point: 81
Grid coordinates: S 78.5, E 62
Elevation of cranium: 3.43 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 238 yielded the remains of a man between 40 and 50 years of age. Skeletal fragments were found in the grave fill, suggesting a previous burial in the area had been disturbed during or prior to the interment of Burial 238. Excavators also noticed numerous worm holes in the soil above the Burial 238 cranium.

The coffin lid was first encountered 0.85 feet below the top of the recorded grave cut, at an elevation of 3.61 feet (northwest corner). The bottom was reached at an elevation of 2.91 feet, near the center. The man had been interred in the supine position in a hexagonal coffin. His head was to the west, and his hands were placed over his pelvis. The skeletal remains were in fair condition. Hair was observed on the top of the cranium.

Cuff links were found with the deceased, one pair on the right radius and one pair beneath the left radius; these were numbered in the field as 238.1 (right) and 238.2 (left) and are shown in the accompanying photograph. The faces were octagonal in shape, 15 mm in diameter, and made of copper-alloy with cast flat shanks and drilled eyes. The faces had a molded motif around a central circular pattern. In addition, a very small (8-mm) single-hole bone button was recovered on the fifth and sixth cervical vertebrae.

Burial 238 was immediately beneath Burial 214, a grave of a man of similar age. Excavators suggested the two burials shared a grave; however, because Burial 214 is offset 2.2 feet to the east, it is unlikely that the interments occurred at the same time.

Burial 238 cut into the north side of Burial 285. Burial 271 was immediately north and northeast of Burial 238, at approximately the same elevation. The southwest edge of the Burial 271 coffin was slightly disturbed, possibly by Burial 238, in which case the former predates the latter. Based on the apparent chronology of the surrounding burials, Burial 238 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 238 (cont.)

Burial No. 238 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/25/92; Drawing No. 557).
Burial 239 was of a child between 1.5 and 3.5 years of age. The burial was discovered during the excavation of Burial 229. Associated soil was described as brownish silty clay with tan sand mottling, but no grave-shaft outline could be defined. Two wine bottle fragments, a fish scale, and four mammal bone fragments were recovered from the shaft fill.

Field notes state that no coffin wood outline was visible, but a wood sample was recovered and a number of coffin nails were found in situ, defining the coffin’s perimeter. The coffin was four sided, tapering slightly toward the foot. The bottom was recorded at an elevation of 3.54 feet at the eastern end.

The child had been placed in the supine position with the head to the west. The remains were in poor condition; only the skull, rib cage, and vertebrae were preserved and recognizable. A small, black organic stain was found on the cervical vertebrae below the mandible and was removed with the child’s remains. A straight pin was recorded in situ on the cranium, and pin stains or fragments were also noted in the laboratory during cleaning of the teeth and ribs. A metal object was found near the northwest corner of the coffin; excavators thought it might be a coffin handle, but only one such artifact was located, and laboratory examination failed to confirm this identification. Finally, a nail was found inside the coffin near the right side of the child’s head. The nail did not appear to be from the coffin itself.

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Burial 240 was of a child between 10 and 32 months old. The grave-shaft fill consisted of stony soil with charcoal, mottled with orange-brown and occasional lenses of red sand. It contained shell fragments and a sherd of bottle glass. Excavators noted a wooden stake beyond the east end of the burial, which they thought might be related to an underlying burial. This turned out to be Burial 254; however, the stake was only recorded on the field drawing for Burial 240.

Excavation of Burial 240 began at an elevation of 3.45 feet, and the coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 3.20 feet, based on coffin nails found in the southwest corner. The bottom of the coffin was at 2.48 feet, based on coffin nails recorded along the south edge. The excavation of the burial ceased at an elevation of 2.35 feet.

The coffin appears to have been hexagonal, although the headboard was bowed outward. The wood was not identified. The child had been laid supine with the head to the west. The skeletal remains were in poor condition and consisted of teeth and rib and cranial fragments. No artifacts other than the coffin remains were recovered in direct association with the deceased.

The bottom of Burial 207, of a probable woman, was 0.50 feet above the north edge of Burial 240. Burial 240 cut the south edge of Burial 234, which shared a grave with Burials 224 and 231, all
Burial 241 was of a woman between 55 and 65 years old. The soil in her grave shaft was described as yellow-brown and silty, mottled with yellow-gold. The grave-shaft fill yielded sherds of salt-glazed stoneware vessels, a fragment of kiln furniture and two of brick, a piece of bottle glass, and fragments of Jackfield ware and pearlware, providing a terminus post quem for the grave of ca. 1780. A number of cow bones, mainly carpal and phalange fragments; two dog pelvic bones; and a few unidentified bones of medium-sized mammals were also recovered from the shaft fill, along with one piece of oyster shell. The cow bone is typical of waste material associated with tanning, suggesting this burial postdated the animal-waste dump in this area. Four seeds were collected. However, they were not mentioned in field notes, and thus it is not clear whether they were from the shaft fill or more closely associated with the deceased. The unidentified seeds were not recovered after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

The woman had been buried in a hexagonal coffin. The coffin was fairly well preserved and was drawn in plan and cross section. The footboard sloped outward toward the top. An iron object, in four pieces, was labeled as having been found on the coffin lid. This object was identified as a possible nail. It was not mentioned in the field records; very few notes were taken during excavation of this burial. Nails were recorded in situ around the entire perimeter of the coffin bottom, but only three nails were present at the top, oriented vertically to attach the lid to the sides near the foot. The deceased had been placed supine with her head to the west. Her legs were extended and her arms were by her sides, with her left hand across her pelvis and her right hand over her upper leg. Her remains were complete, articulated, and well preserved, with a few recent breaks. The only artifacts directly associated with this burial were fragments of copper-alloy straight pin(s), found on her mid-thoracic vertebrae and right rib cage; copper staining was also noted on the left innominate and right ilium and ulna. The percentage of chestnut grains among the pollen counted from the coffin lid sample suggests a spring interment.

The grave-shaft soil for Burial 241 was described as exactly the same as the soil in Burial 185, the grave of a man 20–23 years old, except that excavators noted pockets of red sand in Burial 241, but not in the area of Burial 185 that overlapped with Burial 241. The interment of Burial 241 postdated Burial 185, as it clipped the north side of Burial 185, displacing the arm bones. Burial 241 and Burial 243, a coffinless burial of a man aged about 45, bracketed the earlier Burial 185. The two later burials may have been more or less contemporaneous. The elevation of the highest skeletal remains of Burial 243 was at 0.1 feet, reasonably comparable to the highest skeletal remains of Burial 241; both were substantially lower than Burial 185 (0.85 feet). Based on their location north of the former boundary fence, all three of these burials are assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 241 (cont.)

Burial No. 241 (drawn by W. Williams on 4/7/92; Drawing No. 629).
Burial 242 was of a woman between 40 and 50 years old. The grave was located in the northern area of the cemetery, in the central part of Lot 16. The soil in the grave shaft was described as yellow-brown silt, mottled with deeper brown. A variety of ceramic types were represented within the grave fill, including stoneware sherds, kiln furniture, white salt-glazed stoneware, Staffordshire slipware, redware, creamware, and Chinese export porcelain. The earthenwares and porcelain represented domestic wares. The creamware provides an earliest possible date of ca. 1760 for the interment. Other cultural material in the grave shaft included pipe-stem fragments, lead-glass stemware, bottle glass, lamp chimney, aqua and dark-aqua window glass, brick fragments, and intrusive fragments of cinderblock and modern earthenware tile. Domesticated animals represented by bone fragments in the grave fill included sheep, pig, cattle, and dog. Shell and turtle carapace and deer and rodent bones were also present. Eleven whole or partial seeds were collected but were likely intrusive from rodent disturbance in the pelvic area.

The woman’s coffin was hexagonal and made at least partly of spruce. Its lid was encountered at 0.05 feet. Numerous whole and partial nails were recovered, several of which were noted in vertical positions on five sides of the coffin. The woman had been laid to rest in supine position, with her head to the west and her legs extended. Her right arm was nearly straight, with her hand on her right innominate bone, and her left arm was bent at the elbow with her hand over the pubic bone. The bones had preserved well but had endured some mild disturbance through rodent activity, particularly around the feet.

Two copper coins were found in this burial, one in the woman’s right eye socket and one on the coffin floor just beneath her left eye. The two coins measured 2.6 cm and 2.7 cm in diameter, but the wear on their surfaces precluded identification. The woman had also been buried with a copper-alloy ring on the middle finger of her right hand. The ring was made of cast metal with three round cobalt-blue glass insets on either side of a larger, round, clear glass inset. A nearly identical ring was found with Burial 310, of a woman of similar age. In addition to the coins and ring, copper-alloy straight-pin fragments were recovered from the sternum and lumbar vertebrae, the latter with associated fibers and/or hair.

Burial 242 was located in an apparent north-south row with adult Burials 266, 210, 241, and perhaps several other burials that extended southward. Because they lay north of the former boundary fence, all of these burials, including Burial 242, have been assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 242 (cont.)

Burial No. 242 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/25/92; Drawing No. 555).
Burial 243

The man in Burial 243 was between 40 and 50 years old when he died. He was buried without a coffin. The grave shaft was filled with yellow-brown silty sand, mottled with gold-yellow areas and pockets of red sand. The soil was heavily littered with animal bones, predominately bovine and canine, with fragments of unidentified mammal bones, a deer hoof, and bits of clam and oyster shell. The cow bones included many hoof parts and pieces of horn core from an animal-waste dump, perhaps from a tannery in this area. The dog remains were associated with the canine bones recovered as grave fill from Burial 185, which lay adjacent to the north. They may represent a deliberate dog burial that had been disturbed by the human interments, or a co-interment with Burial 185; excavation records do not indicate whether the dog bones were articulated when found. Alternatively, the dog remains may simply have been present on the surface or in the soil when the grave for Burial 185 was dug.

A number of ceramics were found in the grave shaft of Burial 243, including salt-glazed stoneware vessel sherds, stoneware kiln furniture, and lead/manganese-glazed redware. Other cultural material from the grave fill included a fragment of pipe stem with a 5/64-inch bore, pieces of olive-green bottle glass, and bits of iron nails (not from a coffin). A large sample of fiber or hair, possibly human, was recovered from an unrecorded context within this burial, but this item was lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

The man’s body had been laid supine with his head to the west. His left hand was on his pelvis, and his right arm lay at his side. The remains had preserved quite well, despite some breakage. The only artifact that may have been deliberately placed in the grave was a copper-alloy button, recovered from beneath the upper part of the man’s skull. The button was cast, with an applied shank, and measured 27 mm in diameter.

Burial 243 was laid directly above the infant in Burial 305, with the secondary interment of the lower skeleton of Burial 185, a man aged 20–23, between the two. It appears that when the Burial 243 grave was dug, it truncated Burial 185 and exposed the coffin of Burial 305. Then the displaced bones from Burial 185 were placed atop Burial 305, after which the Burial 243 coffin was laid in the grave. The lack of artifacts in the grave-shaft fill surrounding Burial 305 indicates that it was in place prior to the dumping that occurred in this part of the site, thus supporting the interpretation that it was the earliest of the graves. The question remains as to whether Burial 243 was placed deliberately above Burial 305. Burial 243 was centered exactly over Burial 305, as though on purpose. The interment of Burial 243 must have occurred after the remains in Burial 185 had decomposed, an interval of at least 2–3 years.

Burial 243 may have been contemporary with Burial 241, which held a 55–65-year-old woman, located just to the north. Their grave-shaft fill and elevations were similar, and their placement was nearly parallel; both had been disturbed by a previous grave, Burial 185. These graves may be part of a north-south row extending from Burial 266 in the north to possibly as far south as Burial 315. There are several other coffinless burials of men in this area of the site, and Burial 243 may be part of a group of this type of burial. These men may have died during the Revolution, while New York was occupied by the British.
Burial 243 (cont.)

Burial No. 243 (drawn by E. S. on 3/25/92; Drawing No. 556).

Button located beneath skull

Feature 102

57.5 S

Burial No. 243 (drawn by E. S. on 3/25/92; Drawing No. 556).
Burial 244 was of a child between 5 and 9 years old. The grave was located in the central part of Lot 15. Soil in the grave shaft was described as yellow, red, and gray mottled clay. No artifacts were noted within the grave fill.

The coffin was possibly hexagonal in shape, and several nails were recorded in situ along its perimeter. The head area had been disturbed and the coffin’s north side had fallen inward, leaving the right side of the coffin abutting the southern wall of the grave shaft. The lid lay at an elevation of 0.98 feet. A wood sample taken from an unrecorded location was identified as cedar.

The elevation of the highest skeletal remains was at the cranium, at 0.88 feet; the elevation of the lowest skeletal remains was 0.6 feet. The remains were nearly complete but broken and eroded. Four fragments of copper-alloy straight pins were recovered during the laboratory cleaning of the child’s vertebrae, and one was noted from the cranium, but no other artifacts were observed or collected from this burial.

The south edge of Burial 244 lay underneath the northwest corner of Burial 164, the grave of a child between 8 and 13 years. The Burial 164 coffin floor was measured at an elevation of 1.29 feet, which placed it 0.31 feet over the lid of Burial 244’s coffin. Although the northwest corner of Burial 164 showed some disturbance, the grave-shaft outline was evident on the northern edge, directly above Burial 244. Thus it appears that Burial 244 predated Burial 164. The description of the grave fill for Burial 244 differed markedly from that for Burial 164 (light brown to yellow-brown sandy silt), and it is possible a layer of fill or eroded soil from the hillside had covered the area in the interval between these interments.

These two child burials, along with the 9-month-old child in Burial 166, were situated between two parallel north-south rows of adult burials, predominately of men. The rows were bounded by Burials 194 and 158 on the west and Burials 209 and 205 on the east. The highest elevations for skeletal remains in the western row ranged from 0.95 feet to 2.31 feet, and for the eastern row, -0.86–1.05 feet. Other child burials were interspersed within the rows of adult burials. Because all of these burials lay north of the fence line that once bounded the cemetery, they are assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 245 was of a child between 2.5 and 4.5 years old. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 15, about 2 yards to the south of the fence alignment that once marked the northern boundary of the cemetery. A sherd each of coarse salt-glazed stoneware and Staffordshire slipware, along with clam and oyster shell fragments, were the only materials retrieved from the compacted, mottled clay loam of the grave shaft.

Excavators located the lid of the small hexagonal coffin at 3.92 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter. Two wood samples were taken from the coffin bottom but not analyzed for species. A photograph taken during the excavation shows three small cobbles just to the west of the head of the coffin, within the grave shaft. If these cobbles were at the surface, marking the grave, then this would have been a very shallow interment. It seems more likely that the cobbles were simply present in the grave fill.

The child had been laid out supine, with arms and legs extended and the head to the west. Most of the bones were poorly preserved; the extremities were missing and the remaining bones severely compressed. Copper-alloy straight-pin fragments were found just east of the skull.

Because no clear evidence placed it earlier or later, Burial 245 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 246
Series 15A
Catalog No. 1234
Datum point: 73
Grid coordinates: S 82.5, E 70
Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.54 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 246 consisted of decomposed fragments of human bone in the remains of a coffin. The remains were identified as those of a child 6 months to almost 3 years old. The grave shaft contained two oyster shells, a pipe-stem fragment, and a pipe bowl and foot of probable English manufacture. The four-sided coffin was encountered at an elevation of 3.67 feet. A small portion of the coffin bottom was preserved and recorded at an elevation of 3.56 feet; a wood sample was identified as cedar. Numerous coffin nails were recorded in situ around the coffin perimeter.

Burial 246 overlay the center of Burial 295 (which held a woman 30–50 years old) by half a foot and may have shared the same grave, although it was not oriented parallel to the woman’s coffin. Burial 246 was due east of Burial 253, north of Burial 239, and just southwest of Burial 215; all three were at approximately the same elevation as Burial 246. A wide grave-shaft outline was recorded in the field, apparently encompassing both Burial 295 and underlying Burial 274/280, which had been disturbed by 295. Burials 246, 239, and 215, all infants or small children, may have been deliberately buried in or adjacent to the grave shaft of Burial 295.
Burial 247 held remains that were identified as a probable man, aged from 35 to almost 50 years old. His grave was excavated when Burial 213 was interred, and his disarticulated bones were placed at the eastern end of the later grave. It appeared to excavators that his bones were removed and replaced with care and that remnants of his coffin had been moved to surround the bones, as if to maintain an enclosed effect. Excavators attributed some cultural material to his grave shaft, including two fragments of brick, a sherd of olive-green bottle glass, one piece each of redware and stoneware kiln furniture, and two sherds of salt-glazed stoneware. Two seeds were also collected, although their provenience is somewhat unclear. The grave shaft was bisected by a nineteenth-century brick-lined drain (designated Feature 100) that cut completely through both overlapped burials. Burial 247 had already been disturbed before the drain was built.

The Burial 247 coffin appears to have tapered toward the foot, although its overall shape (four sided or hexagonal) could not be determined. The coffin was oriented east-west. Excavators noted that Burial 247’s coffin had collapsed outward and that parts of its coffin outline were at the same level as that of Burial 213. The highest elevation for the coffin was 3.87 feet, and the coffin bottom lay at 3.37 feet. Nails were observed and collected, and several wood samples were taken. These included two lid samples identified as cedar and pine.

The soft tissue of the individual in Burial 247 was gone by the time Burial 213 was laid to rest; this can be inferred because, with the apparent exception of some vertebrae, the bones were not articulated. Skeletal elements were in fair to poor condition. No cultural material was directly associated with them.

The Burial 213 and Burial 247 graves were parallel, although the later coffin was offset to the west. Intentional co-interment (albeit after an interval), with deliberate placement of the earlier burial’s bones within the later burial, should be considered. Burial 247 may belong to a concentration of Early Group burials in this part of the cemetery; however, without knowing the coffin shape, a firm assignment to the Early Group is not possible.

(continued on page 338)
Burial 247 (cont.)

Burial No. 247 (drawn by E. S. on 4/1/92; Drawing No. 586).

The New York African Burial Ground
Burial 248 was somewhat aligned with Burial 222, the grave of a probable man, which was also truncated by the construction. These two burials were lower in elevation than burials to the east, but this may have been the result of construction damage. In the absence of evidence to place it otherwise, Burial 248 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

### Burial 248

Catalog No. 1237  
Datum point: 54  
Grid coordinates: S 71.2, E 118.5  
Elevation of highest point: 1.14 feet AMSL  
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 248 was the severely disturbed grave of an adolescent between 14 and 15 years old whose sex could not be determined. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 16, several feet south of the fence line that once crossed the northern part of the cemetery. Construction had truncated this individual’s remains at the distal femurs, leaving only his or her lower legs and feet. No artifacts were found in the mottled clay of the grave shaft.

The coffin lid rested at an elevation of 0.99 feet. Because it was truncated, its original shape could not be determined. The deceased had been placed in a supine position, with the legs extended; the head would have been to the west.

![Burial No. 248 (drawn by E. S. on 3/20/92; Drawing No. 540).](image-url)
Burial 249

Series 15A
Catalog No. 1238
Datum point: 82
Grid coordinates: S 81, E 87
Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 4.16 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early?

Burial 249 yielded the remains of a child between 8 and 16 months old. The associated soil was described as orange-brown sand. The outline of the grave shaft was visible except in the eastern portion.

The coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 4.38 feet, which was also the elevation recorded for the grave cut in the western portion of the burial. The bottom of the coffin was recorded at elevations of 4.07 feet on the west and 4.22 feet on the east. The coffin was four sided and tapered toward the foot. Two nails were recorded in situ at the top of the headboard, and eight around the perimeter at the bottom. The child had apparently been placed with the head to the west. The skeletal remains consisted solely of teeth.

Burial 249 was at the southeast corner of Burial 250, an Early Group burial of an adult whose age and sex could not be determined. It is possible Burial 249 was placed here deliberately to associate it with Burial 250. Based on this relationship, Burial 249 has been tentatively assigned to the Early Group, although it is possible this child burial was placed here after a lengthier interval following Burial 250.
A button and a metal mass with a black glass bead were found in the central portion of the coffin interior, possibly near the pelvis. The copper-alloy button was 20 mm in diameter and had had a braised shank, but the shank loop was missing. The button had a small raised “nipple” on the face. The bead was wound, of simple construction, and round in shape; its color was dull-to-shiny opaque black. It was the only example of its type from the cemetery.

Burial 250 was cut into and partially destroyed on the northwest by Burial 251. A child burial, Burial 249, overlay the foot of the grave of Burial 250, and it is possible this placement was deliberate. Burial 250 is placed in the Early Group because of its stratigraphic position and the possible tapered-coffin shape.

(continued on page 342)
Burial 250 (cont.)

Burial No. 250 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/20/92; Drawing No. 541).
Burial 251 yielded the remains of an adolescent between 12 and 14 years of age. The associated soil was described as soft, mottled clay. The western and northern edges of the grave-shaft outline were obscure. Several kiln spacers and sherds of locally produced salt-glazed stoneware were found in the grave fill above the coffin, as was a fragment of glazed brick. Field notes mention faunal remains from the shaft fill, but none was present in the laboratory.

The coffin was first encountered at an elevation of 4.23 feet based on a nail found in the northwest corner, and the bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.51 feet, based on nails found along the eastern footboard. The coffin was hexagonal in shape. The deceased had been placed in supine position; the head was to the west, and the hands were crossed over the pelvis and the feet crossed at the ankles.

The remains were in poor condition; the cranium was shattered on the right side and the upper face depressed. Excavators noted that the teeth appeared to be encased in a bony substance. Both femurs had complete fractures at mid-shaft, and the ends of all the long bones were eroded.

A small, “paisley-shaped” metallic artifact was found next to the inside of the left femur. This item was given a field artifact number (251.1) and removed, but it was never logged in by laboratory staff.

The Burial 251 grave was stratigraphically associated with a number of others. It overlay the eastern portion of Burial 279, which was approximately half a foot lower in elevation. The grave shaft of Burial 251 cut into the northwest corner of Burial 250, and it also appeared to have overlain the southern edge of the grave shaft of Burial 256, which had in turn cut into Burial 281. The northeast corner of the Burial 251 grave shaft overlay the southwest corner of Burial 227. The grave shaft of Burial 211 may have overlain that of Burial 251, but the former was excavated 1 month prior to the latter, and records do not mention the stratigraphic relationship. Burials 279, 250, and 281 have been assigned to the Early Group, Burials 227 and 256 to the Middle Group, Burial 251 to the Late-Middle Group, and Burial 211 to the Late Group.
Burial 251 (cont.)

Burial No. 251 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/21/92; Drawing No. 547).
Burial 252
Catalog No. 1241
Datum point: 52A
Grid coordinates: S 64.5, E 95.5
Elevation of cranium: 1.30 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late

Burial 252 yielded the remains of a young child between 1 and 2 years old. The grave was located in the rear part of Lot 15, and the south side of the shaft had been disturbed by Feature 77, a wood-lined privy from the later development of the lot. The grave-shaft fill consisted of yellow-gray clay, mottled with a small amount of coarse, red sand.

The child’s coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 1.54 feet, beneath Burial 225, and the coffin bottom lay at 0.96 feet. The south edge of the coffin lid had been disturbed by Feature 77, but at the bottom the edge was visible. Disturbance to the skeletal remains was minimal. The coffin was hexagonal in shape, and remains of a small metal plate and a metal disc, possibly part of the plate, were recorded on its lid. The plate was not present in the laboratory when Howard University inventoried the burial. The disc was inventoried but was not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. One possible tack and several nails were recorded roughly aligned lengthwise down the center of the lid. Nails were also recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin, at top and bottom. An extraneous radius (not from either Burial 252 or 225) was found just above the coffin lid.

The child had been placed in the supine position, with the head to the west and hands resting over his or her pelvis. The skeletal remains were in fair to poor condition; the lower right arm, distal ends of the long bones, and hands and feet were missing. The burial was exposed to seeping water during excavation, and the remains were soft and wet by the time they were removed from the ground.

A bone disc, with a vertically oriented straight pin beneath it, was recorded in situ on the neck. These items apparently were misplaced and were never cataloged by conservation staff in the laboratory. Pins were also recorded on the frontal bone of the cranium (associated with a concentration of hair), over the left ear, and under the left mandible; copper stains were noted on the sacrum and a left hand phalange. Field notes refer to an impression of cloth over the left orbit, but the conservation staff did not analyze this. It is likely this young child was wrapped in a winding cloth that was pinned in several places.

Burial 252 lay immediately beneath Burial 225, another very young child, whose grave was offset slightly to the north but in an apparent shared grave. Because these burials lay north of the former fence line, both have been assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 253 yielded the remains of an individual between 13 and 15 years of age; sex could not be determined. The associated soil was described as gray sandy clay, mottled with tan silt and red sand. One shard of glass and numerous cow and unidentified mammal bone fragments were recovered from the fill. The grave shaft appeared to be disturbed along the western edge and was obscured along the eastern end where Burial 239 and Burial 246 had been removed previously.

The hexagonal coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 4.24 feet and was well preserved. Vertical nails recorded in situ around the perimeter appear to have attached the lid to the sides. Only the southwest corner appeared to have been disturbed, possibly by a brick drain (Feature 112/182) located south of the burial. The bottom of the coffin was reached at an elevation of 3.21 feet. Excavators noted that the coffin slumped downward from west to east, probably because of the underlying Burial 295 on the east.

The deceased was interred in supine position, with the head to the west and arms resting at the sides. The remains were in fair condition. The skull was disturbed, with the zygomatic (cheek) and frontal bone pushed to the north, off the mandible. The coffin lid rested directly on top of the skeletal remains, with very little soil inside the coffin. A straight pin was recorded in situ on the right ribs.

Burial 253 overlay the western end of Burial 295, the grave of a woman between 30 and 50. Because Burial 295 disturbed Burial 274/280, Burial 253 also must postdate Burial 274/280. To the west, the southern edge of the grave shaft for Burial 195 appears to have overlain the northwest part of Burial 253. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 253 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 254

Series 22
Catalog No. 1243
Datum point: 79
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 97.5
Elevation of cranium: 2.08 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 254 was of a child between 3.5 and 5.5 years old. The grave-shaft fill consisted of predominantly yellow-orange mixed silts, mottled with red sand lenses with pebbles and small cobbles. Its outline was apparent on all sides. A wooden stake was found within the eastern portion of the grave cut at an elevation of 2.85 feet; the stake was recorded during excavation of Burial 240 and was apparently not taken to the laboratory after its removal.

The child’s coffin lid was first exposed at elevations of 2.45 feet in the west and 3.10 feet in the east; the bottom was at 1.50 feet. Its shape could not be determined with certainty. The body was placed in supine position with the head to the west; the left hand was on the pelvis and the right hand was at the side. The skeletal remains were incomplete and in poor condition. The extant bones were crushed and severely eroded; the cranium was fractured and the maxillary teeth scattered.

A silver pendant was recovered during laboratory cleaning of the skeletal remains. It was found near the child’s mandible and may have been worn as an earring or strung around the neck. The piece (Catalog No. 1243-B.001) was of cast silver, with a hoop attached to a sphere, from which hung a teardrop-shaped ornament. A tiny fiber was found near the piece, possibly indicating a cord for the pendant, clothing, or a winding sheet. No other artifacts were found in association with this child.

Burial 240, a Middle Group child’s grave, directly overlay Burial 254, and the two were aligned similarly. Burial 240 had a distinct grave-shaft outline of its own; therefore, it was clearly a later interment, although it may have been deliberately placed with reference to Burial 254. Burial 207, of an adult, overlay the north edge of both. Based on stratigraphic position, and absent evidence that might date it more precisely, Burial 254 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

(continued on page 348)
Burial 254 (cont.)

Burial No. 254 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/18/92; Drawing No. 530).
**Burial 255**

Series 25B  
Catalog Nos. 1244 and 2147  
Datum point: 83  
Grid coordinates: S 79.3, E 117.9  
Elevation of cranium: 1.81 feet AMSL  
Temporal group: Middle

Tooth fragments were found in the western portion of the burial, indicating that the child was buried with the head to the west.

An unidentified metal object was recorded on the coffin lid but was never logged by project conservation staff in the laboratory. One possible straight pin was found in situ near the cranium but was not recovered. Additional coffin nails were found in the area between Burial 255 and Burial 265; these nails were given a separate catalog number (2147) in the laboratory, because it was unclear to which burial they belonged.

Burial 265, the grave of a child between 6 months and 1 year of age, and Burial 255 appear to have been a co-interment. Both burials have been assigned to the default Middle Group.

![Burial No. 255 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/19/92; Drawing No. 536).](image-url)
Burial 256

Series 15A
Catalog No. 1245
Datum point: 82
Grid coordinates: S 77.5, E 79.5
Elevation of cranium: 2.82 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 256 was of a man between 40 and 60 years of age. The western third of the burial lay in orange sandy soil that resembled subsoil. The eastern two-thirds lay in soft clayey silt, which may be a natural soil matrix redeposited as shaft fill.

The man’s coffin lid was well preserved but had collapsed over the eastern half of the skeletal remains. It was recorded at an elevation of 3.17 feet at the west end, 2.72 feet at the center, and 2.10 feet at the east end. A left humerus, radius, and femur were recovered in the shaft fill over the west end of the coffin lid; these probably belong to Burial 281, which lay below and had been truncated by Burial 256. The bottom of the coffin was not mentioned in field records, but the lowest elevation recorded was 2.38 feet. Coffin nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at both top and bottom.

The coffin was hexagonal in shape. The man had been placed in the supine position with the head to the west and hands over the pelvis. The remains were in very fragile condition. A circular copper stain was observed on the sixth vertebra but was not recoverable.

Burial 256 truncated Burial 281. Burial 251 overlay the south side of the Burial 256 grave shaft by 0.14 feet, and Burial 211, a grave of another probable man, lay above Burial 256. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 256 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial No. 256 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/31/92; Drawing No. 578).
Burial 257 was of a man between 30 and 40 years of age, whose grave was located along the fence post line that crosses the cemetery and marked a presumed former northern extent. This burial apparently disturbed an underlying burial, Burial 175 (the remains of a man in his mid-20s), and that man’s bones were redeposited above the Burial 257 coffin. It is also possible that Burial 175 represents a deliberate secondary burial, in which case the deceased may have had some relationship to the man in Burial 275.

The grave-shaft outline was rectangular on the west and north sides; the south side was irregular, and the east end tapered to a point. Its fill was described as mottled yellowish and bluish clay. Excavators collected four large, unidentified mammal bones and one cow bone from the grave fill of Burial 157. However, numerous other items were recovered during excavation of Burial 175 that were actually from the Burial 257 grave shaft. These included clay pipe stems, 4 pearlware sherds (providing a terminus post quem of ca. 1780), a redware sherd, 10 nail fragments, 4 oyster shell fragments, and a cow bone.

The elevation of the coffin lid was recorded at 3.3 feet in the southeast and 3.24 feet in the north, and the bottom was at 2.85 feet. The coffin shape could not be determined with certainty. Based on the tapered head and foot ends, it could have been hexagonal or possibly octagonal. Nails were recorded in situ at the perimeter of the coffin bottom. The excavators noted that two nails found underneath Burial 257 may have belonged to an original coffin from Burial 175, but these nails were not cataloged in the laboratory separately from Burial 257’s nails. When the excavator took down the coffin walls on all sides, one nail was found 6 inches west of the western coffin line. Another nail was found about 4–6 inches south of the southern part of the coffin wall. The excavator indicated that there appeared to be a coffin line in association with this nail. Fragments of a long bone and a possible hand bone were also found underneath the burial; these may have been from Burial 175.

The man was buried in supine position with his hands on his pelvis and his head to the west. The skeletal remains were in fair to poor condition. The burial was frequently flooded and silted over during excavation, requiring re-excavation. Two buttons were recovered during grave-fill screening, including one that was originally found in the sacrum area. A third button was recovered during laboratory cleaning of the left acetabulum (hip socket). The three buttons (possibly button backs) were of bone, 12–13 mm in diameter. Three straight pins were recorded in situ, two on the chest area and one next to the left side of the skull. Pin fragments or staining were also found at the left femur head, the cervical vertebrae, and the right zygomatic arch.

Burials 257 and 175 were along the alignment of fence postholes that crossed the cemetery. One posthole (Feature 67) was directly west of the burials; another (Feature 105) abutted them on the southeast and may have been cut into by one or both of the burials. Dating Burial 175 was problematic, as the artifacts in the shaft fill did not provide a terminus post quem for this grave; it was designated Middle Group in the absence of clear evidence to place it earlier or later. Burial 257 apparently post-dated the fence, and the associated grave-fill artifacts corroborated this chronology; thus, Burial 257 has been assigned to the Late Group.

(continued on page 352)
Burial 257 (cont.)

Burial No. 257 (drawn by E. S. on 3/20/92; Drawing No. 538).
Burial 258 was of an infant less than 6 months old. The skeletal remains consisted only of deteriorated pockets of bone and a single tooth. The grave-shaft fill was dark yellow-brown clay mottled with gray, evident as an oblong stain in gray clay to the north and west and sterile red sand to the east. No artifacts were recovered from the grave fill. The southern edge of the grave shaft had been previously excavated during the removal of Burial 198.

After delineating the grave (at an elevation of 4.4 feet), excavators scraped down approximately 1 foot to reach the coffin lid at an elevation of 3.62 feet. The bottom was at 3.05 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter, including vertical nails that attached both the lid and bottom boards to the sides. Their locations provide the best evidence for the coffin’s shape; it was four sided and tapered slightly toward the foot. Based on the location of the tooth, the child had been laid with the head to the west. No artifacts were recovered from within the coffin.

Burial 198 lay just to the south of Burial 258 at a lower elevation. Based on field drawings, it appeared that the grave shaft for Burial 198 cut into the upper part of the grave shaft for Burial 258. This indicates that Burial 258 was an earlier burial. It may have been contemporary with Burial 126/143, the grave of two children interred in the same coffin, or with Burial 261, a grave identified only by a coffin fragment, which was truncated by Burial 198. Burial 258 was oriented similarly to all three of these nearby burials. Based on the stratigraphic relationships among these burials, and without any definitive evidence to place it otherwise, Burial 258 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial No. 258 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/16/92; Drawing No. 523).
Burial 259

Series 46
Catalog No. 1249
Datum point: 66
Grid coordinates: S 40.5, E 102
Elevation of cranium: 0.47 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late

Burial 259 was of a probable woman between 17 and 19 years of age. The grave was located in the northern area of the excavated cemetery, in the central part of Lot 16. The shaft outline was ovoid and obscured on the south side by a later interment (Burial 278). No grave-fill artifacts were recorded, but a coin was recovered during excavation. It was not listed in the field records, but conservation staff reported that it was from construction fill. The coin was identified as a George II or III halfpenny. Because it was not directly associated with the remains, it was retained in the collection rather than reburied.

The elevation of the coffin lid was recorded at 0.74 feet, the bottom at 0.06 feet. The coffin was hexagonal or bowed at the sides, and nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeters. Wood samples from unidentified locations were identified as pine and cedar. The deceased was laid out in supine position with head to the west. The left arm was extended, and the right arm crossed over the abdomen with the hand on the left innominate bone. The skeletal remains were in fair to good condition.

Although the skeletal remains appeared to be female, the deceased had apparently been laid out in men’s clothing. Eighteen buttons were recorded in situ with the skeletal remains, some were whole and others represented only by shanks. Four buttons with a ridged face design were aligned at the end of each femur, just above the knee, and three similar buttons were found in the pelvic area. They clearly were from breeches. The buttons were of cast-copper alloy with tin plating and cone shanks, 18 mm in diameter. Two smooth-faced buttons were found on the ribs, two shanks on the vertebrae, and three shanks on the pelvis. Fabric was associated with buttons on both the pelvic area and the knees. Wool was identified in the laboratory with the buttons from the breeches. Conservators also identified linen fragments but did not record with which buttons these fragments were associated. The two buttons on the ribs, possibly with leather covers, may have been from a shirt. Several straight-pin fragments were also recovered from unrecorded locations.

The south edge of the grave shaft of Burial 259 overlay the northern edge of Burial 278, the grave of a man in his 40s or 50s. Their location north of the fence line places both of these burials in the Late Group.
Burial 259 (cont.)

Burial No. 259 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/21/92; Drawing No. 545).
Burial 260 consisted only of disarticulated bones of an individual of undetermined age and sex. The bones were found adjacent to Burial 236; most were beneath the fallen south side of the child’s coffin. Elevations recorded for the skeletal elements were from 3.89 to 3.68 feet.

Burial 260 has been assigned by default to the Middle Group.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore, it has not been reproduced.
Burial 261

Series 11B
Catalog No. 1251
Datum point: 75
Grid coordinates: S 87.5, E 80
No skeletal remains present
Temporal group: Early

No human remains were found in association with Burial 261, which consisted only of the north side of a coffin. The grave lay beneath Burials 126 and 143, which had been excavated 2 months prior to the discovery of Burial 261. Soil in the grave shaft of Burial 261 was described as mottled yellow-brown silty clay. The coffin remnant lay immediately beneath Burials 126 and 143 but was offset slightly to the north. It was not discovered until the balk formed by the northern edge of the Burials 126 and 143 grave shaft was removed. Backfill had been deposited over the empty grave pit of Burials 126 and 143, and excavators removed this in order to fully expose the coffin line of Burial 261; however, only the northern coffin wall was preserved. The coffin shape could not be determined, although several coffin nails were found in situ. Excavation of Burial 261 ended at an elevation of 3.23 feet.

Burials 126 and 143, which held two children interred in the same coffin, truncated most of Burial 261. The excavators of Burial 261 believed that all three individuals were interred in the same grave shaft, and in fact the coffins seem to have been oriented exactly parallel to each other. It was evident that Burial 261 predated Burials 126 and 143, and there appeared to have been no effort to preserve the former when the second burial took place. Burial 198, the grave of a subadult, lay immediately north of Burial 261 and apparently over its northwest end. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 261 has been assigned to the Early Group.
An adolescent between 15 and 17 years old, identified as a probable male, was laid to rest in Burial 262. The grave was located in the far northern area of the cemetery, in the center of Lot 16. The deceased had been buried directly in the mottled yellow and bluish clay without a coffin. Some nail fragments were recovered from the grave fill, as were five unidentified iron remnants, but no nails were found in a context that would have indicated the presence of a coffin. Despite its location within the area of the animal-waste dump identified in this part of the site, no animal bone was cataloged from this grave. It is possible the interment occurred prior to the waste dumping; it is also possible that the material from this grave shaft was mislabeled in the laboratory. It may be included with Catalog No. 1262-UNK, an unknown context associated with Burial 266, located immediately to the west of Burial 262.

The deceased had been laid supine with head to the west. The legs were extended, and the wrists were crossed, right over left, on the pelvis. Field notes refer to a piece of decorative glass associated with this burial, but it was apparently not recovered, as it is not mentioned in laboratory records. No pins were noted with this burial.

This grave did not overlap with any other burials. It was located to the south of Burial 276, the coffinless grave of a woman between 20 and 24 years old, and immediately east of Burial 266, which held a woman between 25 and 35 years. Because of their locations north of the boundary fence, all of these burials, including Burial 262, have been assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 263 appeared to be the burial of an infant. The grave shaft consisted of yellow-brown soil mottled with gray. A temporary excavation shelter obscured the southern side of the grave cut, and an apparent posthole was also identified along the southern side of the grave shaft.

The coffin outline was identified during the excavation of overlying Burial 218, a Middle Group grave of a very young child. One tooth was found at an elevation of 3.30 feet and recorded as miscellaneous bone associated with the child’s burial; however, excavators noted that it might have belonged to another burial in this densely used location. The four-sided coffin lid was identified at an elevation of 3.05 feet, based on heavy, dark staining in the soil and a series of nails along the east and north walls. The coffin bottom was identified at an elevation of 2.80 feet. No skeletal remains were found during excavation other than the tooth noted above, nor were any artifacts recovered from this burial other than nails.

Excavators noted that Burial 263 was within a larger grave, which also held another infant burial (Burial 272) directly below. Burials 218, of another young child, and Burial 119, of a 35–45-year-old man, were immediately above Burial 263. Based on stratigraphy, Burials 263 and 272 have been assigned to the Early Group.

Burial No. 263 (drawn by B. Mc. on 3/20/92; Drawing No. 1093).
Burial 264
Series 23B
Catalog No. 1259
Datum point: 71
Grid coordinates: S 80, E 55
Elevation at highest point: 4.07 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 264 consisted of right lower leg bones and part of a coffin bottom preserved in situ. The deceased was probably adult, but age and sex could not be determined. The burial was oriented north-south, with the head to the south. Burial 237, which held partial remains of another adult, was immediately adjacent to the east and parallel. It seems likely the two burials represent a single individual.

Burial 212, a child burial, had truncated Burial 264 on the south.

Based on general stratigraphy and preservation, Burial 237/264 has been assigned to the Early Group.
Burial 265
Series 25B
Catalog Nos. 1261 and 2147
Datum point: 83
Grid coordinates: S 82, E 120
Elevation of cranium: 1.74 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 265 contained cranial and tooth fragments of an infant between 6 and 12 months old. The grave-shaft outline was visible only on the south side, and fill consisted of gray-brown sandy silt mottled with yellow fine silt. The coffin lay directly beneath that of Burial 255, a Middle Group infant burial, and shared the same grave shaft. The grave had been disturbed, probably by machine during construction activity in this area, and the eastern end had been shifted southward approximately 0.2 feet.

The child’s coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 2.03 feet during the excavation of Burial 255, which had collapsed onto it. The lid was broken in two parts but appeared to be hexagonal in shape. The bottom was at 1.57 feet. A wood sample was identified as cedar. Nails were recorded in situ, and additional coffin nails were found in the area between Burial 265 and Burial 255. These nails were given a separate catalog number (No. 2147) because it was unclear which burial they belonged to. Based on the position of cranial fragments, the child had been placed with the head to the west. One possible pin was noted near the temporal but was not recovered.

As stated above, Burial 265 was in the same grave as Burial 255. Because of the backhoe disturbance, their relationship to any burials to the east cannot be reconstructed. Based on the stratigraphic relationships, and absent any evidence to place them more precisely, Burials 255 and 265 have been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 266 was of a woman between 25 and 35 years. The grave was located in the northern area of the cemetery, in the center of Lot 16. Its shaft contained a great deal of shell and animal bone, including fragments of mussel, clam, oyster, and coral, and bones from cow, sheep, turkey, turtle, and unidentified medium-sized to large mammals. Excavators also collected nine tobacco pipe stem fragments and a pipe-bowl fragment, an English gunflint, a cast copper-alloy buckle (most likely from a shoe), and various fragments of building materials, including aqua window glass, brick, mortar, and nails. Ceramics in the fill included locally produced salt-glazed stoneware, English white salt-glazed stoneware, delft, creamware, Nottingham ware, redware, and Staffordshire slipware. This collection provides a terminus post quem of ca. 1760.

The coffin was hexagonal, and nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter. The woman had been laid out supine; her arms and legs were extended, and her hands rested on her pelvis. The skeletal remains were somewhat fragmented, with slight erosion on the ends of the long bones. A single copper-alloy straight-pin fragment was noted on the right femur but apparently could not be recovered. No other artifacts were recovered from within the coffin.

Burial 266 lay at the northern end of a possible north-south row that included Burials 210, 217, 241, 242, and 243, adults of both sexes and various ages. Because it contained creamware in the shaft fill and lay north of the former boundary fence, Burial 266 was assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 266 (cont.)

Burial No. 266 (drawn by W. Williams on 4/3/92; Drawing No. 607).
Burial 267 was of an adult of undetermined age and sex. The fill of the grave shaft, recorded at an elevation of 4.23 feet in the west, consisted of stony, mottled silts with some occasional charcoal flecking and organic stains. The southern grave cut was obscured because of the presence of other burials in this area. The northern grave cut was apparent and was partially overlain by Burials 240 and 254, which had been excavated previously. The grave was in an area that had been scraped by machine, and the Burial 267 cranium was found during the shovel cleaning of the area.

The coffin lid was first exposed at an elevation of 4.15 feet along the south side, sloping downward to an elevation of 3.55 feet in the southeast corner. The coffin sides were bent outward at the top. The coffin bottom was at 4.00 feet in the west, sloping down to 3.20 feet in the east. It was hexagonal in shape.

The deceased had been placed in the supine position, with the head to the west and arms at his or her sides. The skeletal remains were in poor condition. The cranium had been crushed and fragmented by the weight of the backhoe, the pelvis and torso were largely absent, and the vertebral column was observed as a stain in the soil but was irretrievable. Disarticulated human remains were found in the grave fill and were later assigned to Burials 293 and 291.

Burial 267 appeared to excavators to have cut into the south edge of the grave of Burial 254, a child burial. It also cut into the northeast edge of Burial 293. Remains from two other individuals were found in the grave shaft of Burial 267; these were probably from burials that were disturbed during the interment. These remains were assigned to Burials 269 and 291 (an adult and a young child, respectively). Burial 269 was subsequently identified as elements belonging to Burial 293. In summary, Burial 267 postdates Burials 254, 293, and 291. Based on stratigraphic relationships, Burial 267 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 268 was directly above and in the same grave as Burial 286. As noted, the coffin of Burial 283 cut into this grave shaft. Burial 306, of a man aged 28-44, which was overlain by Burials 283 and 300, lay just to the south of Burials 268 and 286. The relationship between these graves was not clear from the field photographs or drawings, but excavators believed that Burial 306, which was slightly lower in elevation, cut into the grave shaft of Burials 268 and 286. Based on these relationships, and in the absence of evidence to place it earlier or later, Burial 268 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial 268 yielded remains of an infant less than 6 months of age. The grave-shaft outline was much larger than the coffin, and as excavation proceeded, the outline of an underlying coffin appeared. This held the remains of a child aged about 6.5 years, assigned to the Middle Group and designated Burial 286. The shaft fill consisted of reddish brown sand mottled with gray-brown clay. Two large-mammal vertebrae, two sherds of gray salt-glazed stoneware, and three kiln spacers were recovered from the soil in Burial 268, and four sherds of locally produced salt-glazed stoneware and a sherd of English refined white salt-glazed stoneware were recovered in the shaft fill surrounding Burial 286. The southwest corner of the Burial 268 grave shaft was cut into by the southeast corner of the coffin of a third burial, Burial 283 (another Middle Group infant or very young child).

The Burial 268 coffin was either hexagonal or four sided and tapered toward the foot. Field notes indicate it was hexagonal, but the drawing suggests its sides may have been straight boards that had bowed out slightly as they decayed. It was first revealed at an elevation of 0.8 feet, and its bottom was recorded at 0.22 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at both top and bottom. A wood sample was identified as pine. The skeletal remains were very poorly preserved, consisting of portions of ribs, cranium, scapulae, two teeth, left femur fragments, and the outline of the right femur. The infant had been placed with the head to the west.

Field notes mention some shroud pins in the torso area, some of which were recovered and some left in place. The head of a single pin and one or two additional pin fragments were inventoried in the laboratory.
Burial 270
Series 27
Catalog No. 1266
Datum point: 83
Grid coordinates: S 84.5, E 123.5
Elevation of cranium: 1.44 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 270 was of a man whose age could not be determined. The grave was located at the far rear of Lots 16/17, just to the north of the large nineteenth-century disturbance associated with No. 22 Reade Street. There are no field records of the excavation of the grave shaft, and it is possible the coffin was exposed by machine. Drawings indicate “extraneous” bones were lying atop the coffin lid; these may belong to Burial 359, which had been truncated by Burial 270.

The coffin shape cannot be reconstructed with certainty. It tapered toward the foot but may have been either four sided or hexagonal; the draft site map depicted it as hexagonal. The lid was noted at approximately 1.8 feet, and the bottom was at 1.10 feet. Numerous coffin nails were recorded in situ around the extant perimeter. Several wood samples were recovered from the coffin, and a lid sample was identified as cedar. No artifacts other than coffin wood and nails were recovered from this burial.

The man had been laid in supine position, with his arms at his sides and his hands on his upper thighs. His head was to the west. The skeletal remains were in good condition, although some crushing of the cranium from recent compression was noted.

As noted, Burial 270 truncated the western half of Burial 359, which was discernible only as coffin fragments. Based on field drawings, Burial 315, the grave of a woman in her thirties, appears to have cut into the north edge of the Burial 270 grave shaft; however, upon examination of the burial photographs, this relationship was not clear. The two burials were at approximately the same elevation, and both have been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 270 (cont.)

Burial No. 270 (drawn by M. Schur on 4/15/92; Drawing No. 663).

Burial No. 270 (drawn by M. Schur on 4/15/92; Drawing No. 663).
Burial 271
Series 15A
Catalog No. 1267
Datum point: 81
Grid coordinates: S 76.5, E 65
Elevation of cranium: 3.70 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 271 was of a man between 45 and 57 years of age. Associated soil was described as rocky and mottled. Excavation records mention sherds of delft and salt-glazed stoneware in the grave fill, along with shell, brick, and faunal remains including cow, sheep, and other medium-sized-mammal bone fragments. The ceramics from the grave fill may have been mislabeled or lost, as they were never received in the laboratory.

The coffin lid was reached at an elevation of 3.72 feet in the southwest corner, sloping downward to 3.42 feet in the center and eastern portions of the lid. The coffin bottom was at 2.94 feet, recorded in the northeast corner. It was hexagonal in shape. The man had been placed in the supine position, with his head to the west and with his hands over his pelvis. The skeletal remains were in fair condition, but most of the right arm was missing, and the cranium was fragmented.

Two 1.4-cm copper-alloy domed buttons were recovered from the screen during excavation. One was of solid cast one-piece construction, the other of two-piece construction with a cast shank. Because the buttons were found in the screen, it could not be determined whether they were directly associated with the man’s remains. The buttons were lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

The southwest edge of the Burial 271 coffin was slightly disturbed, possibly by adjacent Burial 238, a Late-Middle grave of a man in his forties. This would indicate that Burial 271 predated that grave. The two burials were at approximately the same elevation. Burial 312, a Middle Group infant grave, lay immediately northeast of Burial 271, also at approximately the same elevation. Based on these stratigraphic relationships and absent any evidence to the contrary, Burial 271 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 272 was of an infant between 3 and 9 months old. The grave was identified during excavation of Burial 263 and was given an opening elevation of 3.15 feet. As excavation continued, a portion of the coffin lid was identified, covering the child’s mandibular molars, at an elevation of 2.80 feet. Traces of coffin wood were also present in the middle of the burial, but the coffin bottom was not recorded. The wood sample that was recovered was identified as cedar. Excavators noted that several nails were found in situ with very little rusting and appeared to be in their “original state.” A posthole cut into the south side of the grave shaft; it was not given a feature designation, and there is no record of its contents.

The infant was interred in a four-sided coffin with the head to the west. The remains were in poor condition, consisting only of mandibular fragments and teeth.

Burial 272 was directly overlain by Burial 263, another infant burial, in an apparent shared grave. Burial 218, of a very young child, overlay both of them, and Burial 119, a Late-Middle adult burial, overlay all three. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burials 263 and 272 have been assigned to the Early Group.
Burial 273 consisted of a few disarticulated skeletal elements recovered from a disturbed context alongside a foundation wall. Age and sex could not be determined. The bones lay immediately above Burial 275, a grave that held a partial coffin and leg bones. Because Burial 273 had suffered extensive disturbance, no temporal assignment could be made.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore, it has not been reproduced.
Burial 274/280
Series 15A
Catalog Nos. 1278, 2256, 1289
Datum point: 74
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 70
Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.55 feet AMSL for cranial fragments removed as Burial 274; 2.80 feet AMSL for long bones designated Burial 280
Temporal group: Early

Burial 274/280 yielded the remains of an adult, inconclusively identified as female, that were excavated as two separate burials but subsequently considered a single disturbed burial. Burial 274 was identified first. It consisted of cranial and some long-bone fragments recovered from within the balk between Burials 295 and 282. The cranium and a radius were exposed at an elevation of 4.44 feet. Excavation was halted in order to scrape down the entire area, and Burial 295 to the south was uncovered and removed. As excavation continued, the left (north) side of the burial appeared to lie in the grave cut of Burial 282 to the north. Scattered nails were found, the lowest at an elevation of 2.78 feet. No coffin was found associated with Burial 274. The remains appeared to have been disturbed by the interment of a later burial, possibly Burial 295.

The remains designated as Burial 280 were originally exposed after the excavation of Burial 253 to the south, when the south grave cut and coffin line became visible. Excavators noted that the burial was highly disturbed. They pursued the 6-foot coffin line and found three nails along the west end before the coffin line disappeared. Two more nails were recorded in the eastern section. The opening elevation for the coffin was recorded as 3.50 feet; only a small portion of the coffin lid was recovered. A disarticulated right mastoid process and left femur, along with a tobacco pipe-stem fragment and a fragment of a wine bottle, were recorded at approximately 3.40 feet; these were apparently from the disturbed grave fill, and the artifacts may not be associated with the burial. The coffin bottom was identified at an elevation of 2.70 feet in the east-central portion.

The coffin was four sided in shape, and the individual had been placed in supine position with the head to the west.

Burials 239 and 229 overlay what was identified as Burial 274. Burial 295 truncated Burial 274/280 along the north side. Based on stratigraphy and coffin shape, Burial 274/280 has been placed in the Early Group.

(continued on page 372)
Burial 274/280 (cont.)

Burial No. 280 (drawn by J. B. and B. Mc. on 4/7/92; Drawing No. 636 [combined with 274]).
Burial 275 consisted only of coffin remains and leg bones of an adult of unknown age, possibly a woman. The grave was located along the west side of Lot 14 and had been truncated by a foundation wall, leaving only the eastern part of the coffin. Large stones from the wall were removed from atop the burial during excavation. The grave-shaft outline was visible, but the soil within it was not described, and no cultural material was recorded or recovered from the fill. Disarticulated bones designated Burial 273 lay immediately above Burial 275.

The coffin’s outline was first exposed at an elevation of 3.62 feet, and the bottom was noted at 2.96 feet. Its shape was not determined, although numerous nails were recorded in situ and recovered. The skeletal remains were in poor condition; the foot bones were missing.

The grave shaft of Burial 212, a Middle Group child of 4.5–5.5 years, appeared to have overlain the southeast corner of Burial 275’s grave shaft.

Because no clear evidence placed it earlier or later, Burial 275 has been assigned by default to the Middle Group.
Burial 276 held the remains of a woman between 20 and 24 years old. The grave was located in the far northern part of the cemetery, in the center of Lot 16. The woman had been buried directly in the mottled brown sandy silt, without a coffin. The soil in the grave shaft contained a scattering of charcoal, brick, and stone cobbles. A substantial number of whole and partial animal bones were recovered, including 129 pieces identified as cow bone (ranging from phalanges to horn core), along with pig and sheep bones and bones of unidentified mammals. Shell and seeds were also present in the fill. Ceramics included locally produced stoneware and kiln furniture, undecorated redware with lead-manganese glazes in light brown or black, white-salt glazed stoneware, polychrome delft, and Staffordshire slipware. The grave fill also yielded two partial hand-wrought nails, fragments of tobacco pipe bowls and stems, and window and bottle glass.

The woman had been placed in supine position with her head to the west. Her legs and arms were extended, and her hands rested on her pelvis. No pins or other artifacts were definitively associated with the burial; however, the field notes refer to a possible coin recovered from slightly above the body, approximately at rib level on the woman’s right side. No further mention is made of a coin, but a button was cataloged in the laboratory. It was not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Burial 313 and Burial 262 flanked Burial 276 to the north and south, respectively. These graves held an adult male and an adolescent, probably male, who had been buried without a coffin. Because the grave lay to the north of the former boundary fence, Burial 276, along with the two adjacent burials, was assigned to the Late Group.
The remains of the individual in Burial 277 were so severely disturbed that age and sex could not be determined, although he or she was probably a child. The burial was truncated on the west by a foundation wall along the west side of Lot 14, leaving only the lower portions of the legs.

No cultural material was noted in this burial save nails and coffin fragments. The coffin lid lay at 4.08 feet; it was too severely truncated for its shape to be determined, but the remaining areas of wood were intact enough to yield samples for analysis. The lid was determined to be eastern white pine, and the coffin bottom was made of cedar. Nails were mapped in the field but either were not collected by the excavators or were mislabeled when brought to the laboratory. The deceased had been laid supine with his or her head to the west.

Nearby burials that were similarly disturbed included Burials 287, Burial 275, and Burial 228. All of these burials appeared to have been at a similar angle and evenly spaced in relationship to Burial 277. Burial 277 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial No. 277 (drawn by L. C. on 3/25/92; Drawing No. 560).
Burial 278 was of a man between 45 and 55 years of age. The grave was located along the western edge of Lot 16, underneath Feature 111/120, a filled-in “channel” running approximately 25 feet in a north-south direction. The grave-shaft outline was rectangular in shape. The fill of the grave shaft was described as mottled silt clay with sand, gravel, and cobbles; it contained 2 clay-pipe-stem fragments, a roughly circular lead disc (hand cut and flattened, measuring 1¾ inch in diameter), 14 salt-glazed stoneware sherds, 3 sherds of delft, 3 of redware, 1 white salt-glazed stoneware sherd, an oyster shell fragment, a skull fragment from a large mammal, a bovine lumbar vertebra fragment, and a few pieces of nails. A copper-alloy button, measuring 16 mm in diameter, was cataloged in the laboratory, but its provenience was not recorded. Conservators’ notes indicate that the button back exhibited gold plating and was associated with fabric. No textile fragments were in the collection examined by the Howard University archaeology team. The button was photographed, but neither the 35-mm slide nor the item itself was recovered after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

There was no coffin associated with this burial, and the excavators did not note or recover any artifacts in association with the remains. The highest elevation was recorded at the cranium at -0.34 feet and the lowest at -0.72 feet. The man was in supine position, with his hands resting on his pelvis and his head to the west. Excavators noted that the skeleton was well articulated and preservation was good.

The north edge of Burial 278 lay beneath the south edge of Burial 259, and Burial 230 was approximately 3.5 feet to the southeast and slightly higher in elevation. Both Burials 259 and 230 probably postdated Burial 278. Because all of these graves were located north of the former boundary fence, they were assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 278 (cont.)

Burial No. 278 (drawn by W. Williams on 3/26/92; Drawing No. 559).
Burial 279
Series 15A
Datum point: 74
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 76.5
Elevation of highest skeletal remains: 3.32 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 279 held the remains of an adult of undetermined age and sex. The grave was truncated on the west end; the head of the coffin and the skull were missing. It is likely that the damage occurred during the interment of Burial 295, which lay at a lower elevation just to the west.

Although a sample of the coffin lid was taken, its elevation was not recorded, nor was the coffin bottom mentioned. The highest recorded elevation for the burial was 3.32 feet on the left tibia, and the lowest elevation was 2.75 feet on the right tibia. The coffin was four sided in shape, and the deceased had been placed supine, with the head to the west and arms at the sides.

Skeletal remains were in poor condition. The pelvis and foot bones were missing, and the remaining bones were badly eroded. As noted, the skull was missing because the burial had been truncated. A cranium and some long bones were recovered from a disturbed context to the east (labeled Burial 274), but these remains are probably associated with Burial 274/280 rather than 279.

Burial 295 had apparently truncated Burial 279, and Burial 251 overlay the eastern portion of the grave. Because of its stratigraphic position and because the coffin was probably four sided and tapered, this grave is assigned to the Early Group.

Burial No. 279 (drawn by L. C. on 3/31/92; Drawing No. 582).
Burial 280

See Burial 274

Burial 281

Series 15A
Catalog No. 1290
Datum point: 74
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 75
Elevation of cranium: 3.78 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 281 yielded remains identified as a probable man, whose age could not be determined. The associated soil was described as gray, densely packed clay and red sand. A pipe-stem fragment (6/64-inch bore) was recovered from the grave shaft. No grave-shaft outline was recorded because of the density of adjacent and overlying burials. The grave had been truncated, and only the west end of the coffin, the skull, and right shoulder and arm bones remained in situ.

The coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 4.01 feet, based on coffin nails found along the southwestern edge; the bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.51 feet, based on the lowest elevation of skeletal remains. The man had been interred in a four-sided coffin with his head to the west; his right arm was at his side.

Remains consisted only of the skull and right humerus, ulna, scapula, and clavicle. The man’s upper and lower incisors were filed into a bow-tie or hourglass shape. Two straight pins were recorded in situ on the cranium; one had a patch of hair and skin adhering to it.

Most of Burial 281 had been truncated by Burial 256, which was in turn overlain by Burial 251 and Burial 211. Based on the four-sided coffin shape and the stratigraphic relationship to these burials, Burial 281 has been assigned to the Early Group.
Burial 282
Series 15A
Catalog No. 1301
Datum point: 74
Grid coordinates: S 77.5, E 71.5
Elevation of cranium: 3.35 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 282 was of a man between 32.5 and 42.5 years of age. The grave-shaft fill consisted of two separate and distinct soil types, yellow-gray clay and coarse red sand, but notes do not indicate where each was observed. The grave cut was visible along the northern and western sides but was obscured along the eastern side and in the southeast corner by excavation balks.

The four-sided coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 3.50 feet, and the coffin floor was reached at 2.64 feet. The man had been laid in supine position; the head was to the west, and the hands rested over the pelvis. The coffin appeared rectangular but may have tapered slightly toward the foot. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter, including several vertical nails attaching the lid. Numerous whole and fragmented seeds were recovered from the area surrounding the distal right tibia; these were not mentioned in field notes and were apparently destroyed on September 11, 2001.

The south side of the Burial 282 grave shaft was partially overlain by disturbed elements of Burial 274/280, an Early Group burial of a probable woman. This indicates that Burial 282 predates Burial 295, which is the interment that caused the disturbance to Burial 274/280. Based on these relationships and the coffin shape, Burial 282 has been assigned to the Early Group.
Burial 283 was of a child between 4 and 8 months old. The grave shaft contained yellow-brown sandy loam, mottled with gray and black sandy loam, which excavators thought may have been from decayed wood. No artifacts were recovered from the grave shaft.

Excavation revealed the hexagonal coffin lid, visible only as stain in the soil, at 1.13 feet. It was largely indistinguishable from the coffin floor onto which it had collapsed. Coffin nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter. A wood sample was identified in the laboratory as red pine.

The infant had been laid in the coffin with the head to the west. Cranial fragments, teeth, and a few postcranial bones of the upper torso were preserved; there were no limb elements. Excavators noted that the burial slumped toward the south; this was probably because of the underlying burial (Burial 306). A straight pin was recorded on the upper torso, and a tuft of hair was recorded near the cranial fragments.

Burial 283 lay immediately above the northeast edge of Burial 306, which held a man between 28 and 44 years old. Burial 300, an infant burial, lay just to the southeast of Burial 283, also above Burial 306. Burial 283 apparently cut into and thus postdates the grave containing Burials 268 and 286, an infant and young child. Lacking clear evidence of earlier or later interment, the entire cluster of burials has been assigned to the Middle Group. It is possible, however, that either or both of the children’s graves (Burials 300 and 283) that overlay the others belong with a later temporal group; there is no way to determine the interval between the lower and upper interments.
Burial 284
Series 25A
Catalog Nos.: 1303 and No. 1476(?)
Datum point: 83
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 114
Elevation of cranium: 2.09 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 284 was the grave of a man between 21 and 28 years of age. Associated soil was described as mottled yellow and brown silty clay and reddish sand. Small pieces of glass and other modern debris were found in the overlying fill, along with two fragments of long bones from an unidentified large mammal. The grave was disturbed during mechanical removal of a deep layer of modern and historic overburden; this shifted the torso about a foot to the north.

The coffin lid was exposed at an elevation of 2.04 feet, and center of the bottom was reached at 1.38 feet. The bottom was intact except along the north side, which had been bent outward and broken in the center. Excavators noted that below the coffin bottom, the mottled grave-pit fill appeared to have well-defined margins oriented differently from the man’s burial. This area was explored, but no cultural material was found.

The field drawing indicates a straight-sided coffin, but the actual shape is questionable because of the severe disturbance to the grave. The man had been placed in supine position; his head was to the west and his right hand was over his pelvis. The skull was severely fragmented.

One coffin nail (Catalog No. 1476) that was found with Burial 307 may actually belong to this burial. No other artifacts, except grave-fill debris and coffin remains, were found in association with this burial.

Burials 255 and 265, the graves of two co-interred infants, lay adjacent to the southeast corner of Burial 284 at a slightly lower elevation. A relative sequence for Burials 255/265 and Burial 284 was not determined. The grave shaft of Burial 284 truncated an underlying grave, Burial 307.

Based on stratigraphy, and because the coffin shape is considered “undetermined,” Burial 284 is assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 284 (cont.)

Burial No. 284 (drawn by L. C. on 4/11/92; Drawing No. 652).

(Grave shaft of underlying Burial 307)
Burial 285

Series 15A
Catalog No. 1304
Datum point: 73
Grid coordinates: S 80.5, E 64
Elevation of cranium: 3.57 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 285 yielded the remains of a woman between 20 and 30 years of age. The associated soil was described as mottled silty clay with sand. A piece of kiln furniture (an angled spacer) and a shard of wine bottle glass were recovered from the shaft fill. The north side of the grave appeared to have been cut into during the placement of Burial 238, which disturbed the coffin wall. The eastern portion of the grave cut could not be discerned during excavation.

The woman’s coffin lid was first encountered at an elevation of 3.74 feet based on coffin nails found on the southern side; here, the coffin lid was relatively intact. The cranium was at 3.57 feet, and the coffin bottom was reached at an elevation of 3.01 feet, recorded near the center. The coffin was hexagonal in shape. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeter, including several positioned vertically that had attached the lid to the sides, head, and foot. The woman had been laid in supine position; her head was to the west, arms at her sides, and her hands were over her pelvis. During cleaning of the skeletal remains, a bit of hair was recovered adhering to wood within a soil pedestal.

Burial 238 cut the north side of Burial 285. In turn, Burial 238 was overlain by Burial 195 (on the south side) and Burial 214 (on the north side). Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 285 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 268 was directly above and in the same grave as Burial 286. The coffin of Burial 283 cut into this grave’s shaft. Along with Burial 300, another infant grave, Burial 283 overlay Burial 306, which held a man between 28 and 44 years old. The relationship between Burial 306 and Burials 268/286 was not clear from the field photographs or drawings, but excavators believed that Burial 306, which was slightly lower in elevation, cut into the grave shaft of Burials 268 and 286. This apparent cluster of adult-with-child burials has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial 286 was of a child between 4.5 and 8.5 years of age. The grave lay within the same shaft as Burial 268, an infant who lay immediately above. The fill for Burial 286 was not described, but that of Burial 268 was described as reddish brown sand, mottled with gray-brown clay. Two sherds of gray salt-glazed stoneware and three kiln spacers were found in the fill associated with Burial 268, and four sherds of locally produced salt-glazed stoneware and a sherd of white salt-glazed stoneware were recovered from the fill surrounding Burial 286.

The coffin lid stain, recorded at approximately 0.4 feet, was very distinct. The coffin bottom was recorded at 0.27 feet. The grave cut for Burial 306 to the south cut into the south side of the grave, obscuring the southern side of the coffin; the north side was also misshapen, and excavators were not able to determine the coffin shape with certainty. However, the locations of the in situ nails at the head of the coffin suggested a hexagonal coffin (i.e., it tapered at the head). In addition to coffin nails around the perimeter, two vertically oriented screws were recorded in situ along the north side. These were placed on either side of where the coffin “shoulder” would have been. This also suggests a hexagonal shape because they may have been used to hold the bent side board in place.

The child had been laid in a supine position; the head was to the west, the arms at the sides, and the hands rested on the pelvis. No artifacts were found within the coffin. The entire skeleton had been flattened. Although most elements were present, the bones were described as “mushy” and fragile when they were removed.

Burial No. 286 (drawn by M. Schur on 5/4/92; Drawing No. 708).
The man in Burial 287 was between 18 and 20 years old at death. The grave was located along the south side of a posthole alignment from a fence that once marked the northern boundary of the cemetery. A foundation wall along the west side of Lot 14 had truncated its western end. Mottled tan, brown, and orange silty clay filled the grave shaft. This was sparsely littered with ceramics (two fragments of kiln furniture and a salt-glazed stoneware sherd), shell (a few fragments of oyster and hard-shell clam), and a pipe-stem fragment (with a \( \frac{5}{64} \)–inch bore). Field notes also mention glass, but none was collected.

The coffin might have been hexagonal (one possible “shoulder” was recorded on the south side). The lid lay at an elevation of 4.27 feet. Several nails were drawn in situ along the coffin sides and at the foot. Enough remained of his skeleton to indicate that the young man had been laid out supine, head to the west. His legs and arms were extended; his hands rested on the pelvis. The remains were flooded during excavation and did not preserve well. The left foot was missing, which excavators attributed to disturbance by an adjacent burial (Burial 197). It is also possible that the later pit feature, Feature 106, which cut into the southwest corner of Burial 197, detached the left foot; however, no human bone was noted in the pit fill.

The north-south wall that bisected Burial 287 also cut across Burials 277, 275, 228, 162, 188, and 125. Construction on Lot 13 would have destroyed scores of burials to the immediate west.

Burial 287 was overlain slightly by Burial 197. To the east lay Burial 310, a 44–52-year-old woman’s grave; Burial 176 (of a man in his early 20s); and Burials 145 and 146 (an empty coffin and an infant burial). These burials, and probably Burial 287 as well, had been placed just along the south side of the fence that once marked the northern boundary of the cemetery. Therefore, the burial would date to the time when the fence was standing, prior to the British occupation of New York.

Based on stratigraphy relative to other burials and its location, Burial 287 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 288 consisted only of two partial femurs, which lay parallel in hard-packed sandy clay. Age and sex for this individual could not be determined, although he or she was probably an adult. No cultural material was noted in association with this burial.

Although the bones, found without coffin remains and apparently isolated, appear to have been redeposited, the position of the femurs, in correct placement for supine burial with the head to the west, suggests they were still articulated. If the bones were in fact undisturbed from their original place of interment, this burial had no coffin. The right femur was at an elevation of 1.61 feet, the left at 1.55 feet.

Burial 288 was impacted by the later interment of Burial 235 to the east and possibly Burial 248 to the northwest. The shafts of both burials appear to have cut into the clay soil that surrounded the femurs. Another disturbed burial in close proximity was Burial 292 (consisting only of a possible coffin line and a bone fragment), located at the northeast corner of Burial 235. Burials 288 and 292 may represent the same individual, whose grave was extensively disturbed by Burial 235. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 288 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial No. 288 (drawn by M. Schur on 3/27/92; Drawing No. 570).
Burial 289
Series 26
Catalog No. 1321
Datum point: 83
Grid coordinates: S 81, E 125
Elevation of cranium: 1.73 AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 289 contained the remains of a child between 5 and 9 years of age. The grave-cut outline was visible surrounding the coffin, and the shaft-fill matrix was described as reddish, coarse sand (redeposited subsoil). One piece of kiln furniture was recovered from the fill.

The coffin was first exposed at an elevation of 1.67 feet on the south, tilting down to 1.29 feet on the north. It was four sided and tapered slightly toward the foot. No elevations were recorded for the coffin bottom, but the lowest elevation of skeletal remains was 0.99 feet. The child had been placed supine with the head to the west. The remains were in fair to poor condition, with most bone eroded, crushed, or broken. Two pins were recorded in situ, one near the neck and one at the right hip, and copper staining was noted on the occipital bone. A quartz crystal was recovered during laboratory cleaning of the skeletal remains.

Burial 289 lay directly above the southwest portion of Burial 332, which held a man whose coffin lid was embellished with the initials “HW” and the number “38.” The grave-shaft outline indicates that this was a separate grave, although the child may have been deliberately placed above the man. Burial 289 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group, along with Burial 332.
Burial 290
Series 25C
Catalog No. 1324
Datum point: 83
Grid coordinates: S 84, E 114
Elevation of cranium: 2.32 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 290 held the remains of a man between 45 and 55 years of age. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 16 near the former Republican Alley. This area had been subjected to backhoe operations and there was much damage to burials. Only the north edge of the Burial 290 grave-shaft outline was discernible. The fill was described as gray-brown sandy silt mottled with yellow-gray silt. No artifacts were noted in the grave shaft.

The lid of the hexagonal coffin was first encountered at an elevation of 3.21 feet. The eastern end of the coffin lid had been truncated, probably by the backhoe. Coffin nails were recorded in situ. A wood sample was identified as black walnut; this was the only example of a hardwood coffin found at this site.

The man had been placed in the supine position, with his head to the west and his hands over his pelvis. Portions of the feet were missing, and the right arm was fragmented and disarticulated. Heavy machinery operating in the area had also caused compression fractures prior to excavation. One straight pin was found on the man’s cranium, and field notes refer to hair recovered during excavation.

The west end of Burial 290 overlay the east (foot) end of Burial 308, an Early Group grave of an individual of undetermined age and sex.

Based on its overall stratigraphic position, Burial 290 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 291 consisted of the disturbed remains of a child between 3 and 5 years of age. The remains consisted of teeth and a mandible; these disarticulated remains were found in the southwest corner of the grave shaft of Burial 267 and were commingled with skeletal elements of another individual, Burial 293. It is not possible to determine whether the child was interred in a coffin.

The paucity of evidence for earlier or later assignment has, by default, consigned Burial 291 to the Middle Group.
Burial 292
Series 35
Catalog No. 1139
Datum point: 54
Grid coordinates: S 72.5, E 123.5
Elevation of highest element (bone fragment): 1.93 feet
AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 292 contained only one fragment of an adult long bone. The remains were surrounded with silty clay, with scattered pockets of sand. Excavators did not note any cultural material within the grave shaft, although an “above the lid” soil sample contained several seeds. A single seed was analyzed for species and identified as raspberry. Fragments of coffin wood were also recovered in the soil sample.

A probable coffin line was observed at an approximate elevation of 1.93 feet. Nail fragments were recovered from the burial, although only one was recorded in situ, near the presumed coffin line. The presence of a coffin cannot be confirmed, because of the ephemeral remains and minimal recording in the field.

The archaeological and forensic teams raised the possibility that Burial 292 may have been part of Burial 235 (a 28–42-year-old woman). However, the remains in Burial 235 were complete, lacking no long bones; thus, the two burials must represent discrete individuals. Burial 233, consisting of a coffin fragment, assumed to have been a deteriorated infant burial, may have been the foot of an adult-sized coffin. This raises the possibility that Burials 233 and 292 were portions of the same interment, bisected during the placement of Burial 235. Burial 288, which held a pair of articulated adult femurs and placed in the Middle Group, may also have been of the same individual. Based on the apparent sequence of interments in the area, Burial 292 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

The field drawing did not represent remains in situ within a grave and/or does not provide information on a burial context; therefore, it has not been reproduced.
Burial 293 was the grave of an adult, probably male, whose age could not be determined. The grave shaft consisted of flaky, dry, very stony silt mottled with orange-brown silt. The bottom of the grave fill consisted of tan, semi-laminated silt. Feature 113 (a grave-shaped, east-west-oriented pit) and Feature 103 (a nineteenth-century pit feature) cut into the western end of the grave. Excavators noted that the soil in Feature 113 was typical of grave fills and postulated that this was an infant or child’s grave with no evidence of a coffin or skeletal remains. The feature was not assigned a burial number. A fragment of a tobacco pipe bowl was recovered from the grave fill of Burial 293; it may have actually been associated with Feature 103.

Excavation of Burial 293 began at an elevation of 4.10 feet, recorded in the southwest area. The coffin lid was first exposed at an elevation of 3.95 feet, and the bottom was reached at 3.25 feet. The northwest corner and most of the north side of the coffin were missing as a result of the interment of Burial 267. Many nails were recorded in situ along the perimeter of the extant portion of the coffin.

The man had been placed in a hexagonal coffin in supine position with his head to the west. The skeletal remains were in poor condition and consisted of fragmented lower long bones and hand bones. Excavators suggested that a cranium, upper limb bones, and parts of a pelvis found disarticulated in the grave fill of Burial 267 (designated Burial 269 and given the Catalog No. 1265) were from Burial 293. Laboratory analysis confirmed this deduction.

Burial 267 disturbed Burial 293 along the north side, and some bones from the latter were re-deposited in the grave shaft of Burial 267. Skeletal fragments of a young child found in the Burial 293 grave shaft were designated Burial 291 and assigned to the Middle Group. Based on its elevation and orientation, Burial 296 probably overlay or cut into the south edge of the Burial 293 grave shaft. Burial 293 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 293 (cont.)

Burial No. 293 (drawn by E. S. on 4/3/92; Drawing No. 604).

Burial No. 293 (drawn by E. S. on 4/3/92; Drawing No. 604).