Burial 368
Series 63
Catalog No. 1868
Datum point: 92
Grid coordinates: S 80.5, E 246.5
Elevation of cranium: 0.86 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 368, located in Lot 21 at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the disturbed remains of a child between 10.5 and 13.5 years old. The grave-shaft outline was irregularly shaped and only partially discernable because of severe disturbance by bulldozers. The grave shaft of the underlying Burial 383, a Middle Group burial of a woman between 14 and 18 years, obscured the south side of Burial 368. The fill of the Burial 368 grave shaft contained only three sherds of salt-glazed stoneware and one of kiln furniture. In contrast, the underlying burial contained hundreds of pieces of kiln debris consisting of waste sherds and kiln furniture. The dearth of such material in Burial 368 may be explained by the disturbance to this burial and the fact much of its shaft was removed by bulldozers and not excavated by archaeologists above the level of the remains. Alternatively, the edge of the stoneware dump may have skirted the south end of Burial 383; thus, the lower burial would have been within the dumping area, but Burial 368 may have been outside it.

Excavators noted that the western half of the burial, from the cranium to the lumbar vertebrae, had slumped into the underlying Burial 383, a north-south aligned grave. The coffin lid and sides had deteriorated to a mere stain in the soil. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at both top and bottom; however, eight of the vertical nails recorded with this burial may have been from the lid of Burial 383. The coffin shape was not discernable because of the disturbances.

The child was resting in supine position. The head was to the west, right hand on the pelvis, and the left hand was on the proximal femur. The feet and part of the lower legs were missing because of the disturbance by the bulldozers. Field notes indicated that the cranium from Burial 383 was visible under the side of the torso.

Two small copper-alloy artifacts were recovered, a thin curved fragment from the cranium (a possible pin?) and a tiny ring (1.1 cm in diameter) from the neck area. Neither item could be positively identified as to function, although conservators suggested the ring was from a fastener or grommet. In situ photographs were taken. Four straight-pin fragments were also found during laboratory cleaning of the thoracic vertebrae.

The western part of Burial 368 lay directly over the head of Burial 383, which held a woman whose coffin was positioned with the head to the south. Burial 368 lay at a nearly precise right angle to the earlier, underlying burial. It cannot be determined whether they were deliberately placed in proximity. In the absence of temporal evidence, both have been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 368 (cont.)

Burial No. 368 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/9/92; Drawing No. 794).
Burial 369
Catalog No. 1869
Datum point: 106
Grid coordinates: S 54, E 131
Elevation of cranium: -0.21 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late

Burial 369 held the remains of a man between 40 and 50 years old buried without a coffin. The grave-shaft outline was quite narrow and tapered toward the east. The grave-shaft fill was described on an opening plan of the area, but the extant copy of this map is not legible. A sherd of redware, a whole nail, and several mammal bones were found in the grave-shaft fill. The man was laid out supine with his head to the west and hands resting on the femurs. The skeletal remains were in fair to good condition; most of the bones were present, although somewhat eroded. The lowest elevation for the skeletal remains was at a left phalange at -0.84 feet.

Feature 160, an irregular pit, cut into the northern side of the grave shaft but did not damage the remains. The pit was about 1 foot deep and contained three bricks, kiln furniture, glass, nails, shell, and animal bone fragments. It was dated to the final quarter of the eighteenth century (Cheek 2003).

A copper-alloy straight pin was recorded in situ at the right zygomatic arch; although field notes indicated that it was recovered, it was not cataloged in the laboratory. Excavators noted that while removing the skeletal remains, they found a “green item” that appeared to be hair. This material was not cataloged in the laboratory nor treated by the conservators.

Burial 369 was adjacent, although offset slightly from, Burial 329, which held a man of unknown age. Both burials were without coffins and lay at similar elevations. They may have been part of a row of burials, many coffinless, that stretched along a roughly north-south axis. The pit that cut into the north side of the Burial 369 grave shaft also cut into the south side of the grave shaft of Burial 342.

Based on the location north of the former boundary fence, Burial 369, like the adjacent graves, has been assigned to the Late Group.
Burial 369 (cont.)

Burial No. 369 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/15/92; Drawing No. 804).
Burial 370

Catalog No. 1870
Datum point: 97
Grid coordinates: S 82, E 146.5
Elevation of cranium: 0.73 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 370 was of a child between 2 and 4 years old. The burial was severely disturbed by the construction of a nineteenth-century stone wall between Lots 17 and 18; the wall truncated the skeletal remains at the mid-thoracic area. The surviving elements were in extremely poor condition. The cranium and mandible were eroded and broken, and only tooth enamel survived. The only postcranial remains consisted of fragments of the thoracic vertebrae, ribs, clavicles, and humeri.

The child was buried in a supine position with the head to the west. The coffin tapered toward the head, indicating it had been hexagonal. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin. The highest nail was recorded at an elevation of 1.13 feet and the lowest nail at 0.93 feet. Three straight pins were also recorded in situ, one by each side of the cranium and one by the right side of the thoracic vertebrae, but only one fragment was recovered.

No other burials overlapped Burial 370; construction of the stone wall or other features may have obliterated graves in this area. Absent any clear evidence to place it earlier or later, Burial 370 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial No. 370 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/4/92; Drawing No. 787).
Burial 371
Series 66
Catalog No. 1875
Datum point: 105 (1.24 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 69.5, E 235
Elevation of cranium: -2.88 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 371 held the coffinless remains of a woman between 25 and 35 years old. The grave was in the southeastern portion of the excavated site, adjacent to a concrete footing for the structure at 290 Broadway. This construction disturbed and destroyed an unknown number of burials, including the truncation of Burial 371 at the lower abdomen.

The grave-shaft outline was straight sided and angled out from the head end. Its excavation began at an elevation of -1.37 feet; its bottom was at -3.42 feet. Numerous pieces of kiln furniture, stoneware waste, cow phalanges, and other cow bone fragments were present in the fill. During cleaning of the skeletal remains, a pipe stem fragment was recovered from the soil matrix.

Burial 362 had been dug through the upper grave shaft of Burial 371. Creamware sherds recovered from its grave shaft provided Burial 362 with a terminus post quem of ca. 1760; there is a possibility that some of the Burial 362 shaft-fill material was redeposited from the prior grave shaft of Burial 371.

Matching enameled copper-alloy cuff link faces were found beneath the woman’s left humerus. They were oval in shape, 1.4 by 1.1 cm, and decorated with a white and pink design on a blue-green ground. The items appeared to have been deliberately placed with the deceased. They may have been worn at the neck or arm or on clothing; however, no associated fabric was preserved.

A metal button was also recovered from Burial 371, but its location within the grave was not noted in the field records. The domed, stamped, circular iron disc was 12 mm in diameter and had a 2-mm central hole (Figure 12.69). A small fragment (broken into pieces) of rust-encrusted textile, identified as wool with an undeterminable weave, was found adhering to the button face. The button (possibly used for upholstery) was evidently lacking the pin shank and appears to have been of a type manufactured in the second quarter of the nineteenth century (Hume 1974:90–91). Based on the lack of provenience and the high degree of disturbance to Burial 371, the button is considered to have been intrusive.

Burial 371 lay about 2 feet beneath Burial 362. Burial 357, a coffinless grave of a man aged 45–65, lay a few feet to the west of Burial 371, and Burial 377, another coffinless grave which held a woman, lay approximately 2 feet to the south. These three other graves were at markedly higher elevations. Based on stratigraphy, Burial 371 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

(continued on page 508)
Burial 371 (cont.)

Burial No. 371 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/16/92; Drawing No. 812).
During excavation, the mandible was recorded in Stratum IV, Level 2, of Feature 144. However, excavators who were conducting the in situ assessment recalled that teeth and mandible fragments had been excavated from Feature 122, Stratum IV, Level 1, and Stratum 1, Level 2. They deduced that the skeletal elements were from the same individual, designated Burial 372.

Burial 372 has been placed by default in 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 372 consisted only of the mandible of a woman between 25 and 35 years old. The bone was found in Feature 144, an irregularly shaped pit believed to have been used by local potteries as a dumping area for kiln furniture and broken stoneware. The pit was approximately a foot deep and was filled with dark brown sandy silt. The highest elevation of the mandible was recorded at 1.91 feet and the lowest at 1.83 feet.
Burial 373

Series 56
Catalog No. 1878
Datum point: 111 (1.69 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 70.5, E 132
Elevation of cranium: -0.97 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 373 was the grave of a woman aged 45–60 years. The grave was located at the rear of former Lot 17. Its shaft outline was generally rectangular, and the fill was described as very mottled red and brown sand and gray and yellow-brown silt. It contained one sherd of white salt-glazed stoneware and several of gray stoneware, a wine-bottle-neck fragment, a cow bone, oyster and clam shell fragments, and pieces of tobacco pipe.

The intact grave shaft was quite deep compared to adjacent burials. Excavation of the grave began at an elevation of 0.79 feet. The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of -0.42 feet and the bottom at -1.41 feet. The coffin was hexagonal, although the shoulders angled only slightly. The lid had split lengthwise, and the north side had fallen onto the remains. Nails were recorded around the perimeter. The woman had been placed supine, with her head to the west and her arms at her sides. The skeletal remains were in poor condition, and many elements had eroded and disappeared. Hair and tissue were recovered with a pin on the cranium and were sent to the laboratory along with the skeletal remains.

Burial 373 appeared to have disturbed the south edge of Burial 324. Burial 373 may have been contemporary with Burial 352, which was adjacent to the north of Burial 324. All of these burials were part of a row of mostly adult graves that spanned the excavated portion of the cemetery, from Burial 337 on the north to Burial 338 on the south. This row may have delineated the contour of the eighteenth-century landscape.

At least two phases of interments occurred within this row of graves. The earlier phase included Burials 400 and 324, and the later stage (possibly “filling in” between the existing graves) included Burials 352 and 373. The later burials were found at lower elevations, which suggested that the surface of the cemetery had eroded during the interim. Based on the relationships to surrounding graves, Burial 373 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 373 (cont.)

Burial No. 373 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/27/92; Drawing No. 843).
Burial 374 was of an infant less than 3 months old. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 17, beneath Burial 349, another infant burial, and within the grave shaft of Burial 326, of a man aged 45–55.

The coffin was either tapered or slightly shouldered in shape. Its lid was recorded at an elevation of 1.54 feet and its bottom at 1.25 feet. Nails delineated the perimeter on the coffin bottom. Nine straight pins were noted, including two by the feet and seven in the cranial and thoracic region. The two near the feet were described as typical greenish copper alloy, but the others were represented by pale grayish streaks surrounded by organic stains. One of the cranial pins had preserved a sample of hair and organic matter. All soil from within the coffin was removed as a burial soil sample, and the grave-shaft fill was removed as a pedestal for the skeletal remains.

As noted, Burial 374 was found within the grave of Burial 326; the infant had been placed on the north side near the head of Burial 326. The recorded elevations for the bottoms of the coffins match. The infant’s coffin appeared to have been buried simultaneously with that of the man. In other cases in this cemetery, a coffin placed within an extant grave was atop the earlier burial, rather than alongside it.

Based on stratigraphy, Burial 374 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 374 (cont.)

Burial No. 374 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/8/92; Drawing No. 791).

Burial No. 374 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/8/92; Drawing No. 791).
Burial 375

Series 64
Catalog No. 1886
Datum point: 103
Grid coordinates: S 74.5, E 253
Elevation of cranium: -0.4 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 375, located in Lot 22 at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a woman between 16 and 18 years old. She was buried directly in the soil with her arms crossed above her head, a unique position at the African Burial Ground. The burial was discovered during excavation for concrete footings for the structure at 290 Broadway. Machine trenching exposed five broken long bones protruding from the wall of a construction trench. Excavators initially believed that the long bones were disarticulated, but as excavation proceeded, they discovered that the burial was intact, and the woman had been buried with her arms in this unusual position. The remains were nearly complete, although apparently truncated at the ankles, presumably by construction.

Construction disturbances had obliterated the grave-shaft outline on the east and northwest sides. The eastern end of the burial had been truncated, perhaps by construction of a wall along Elk Street. The grave-shaft soil was described as olive-gray sandy silt, and it contained sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, a few sherds of kiln furniture, nail fragments (some with wood attached), a quartz crystal approximately ½-inch long, and two pieces of copper alloy, possibly from a shoe buckle. Field notes indicated that a musket ball was found in the grave-shaft soil, but it was cataloged with the clearing of the area rather than the burial. Fragments of disarticulated bones, including pieces of the maxilla and cranium, were found in the fill at the east end of Burial 375 and designated as Burial 345, a Middle Group adult burial, which may have been disturbed by Burial 375.

No coffin was evident in Burial 375. The body had been placed in a supine position, with the head to the west and legs extended. Her arms, as noted, were crossed above her head, right over left. Although this could have been the original burial position, it is also possible that her body was removed from its coffin and placed here as a secondary interment. Wood lines, which could have been remnants of a coffin, were found to the south of the burial, but the area was highly disturbed and excavation was not completed here.

A metal and ceramic artifact surrounded by an organic stain, possibly cloth or leather, was found adjacent to the right femur; this item was photographed and drawn in situ. The artifact was identified as a ceramic ball, 1.7 cm in diameter, encircled twice by a copper-alloy band. The band had an impressed design of diagonal lines on either side of a longitudinal groove. The object may have been enclosed in a pocket or pouch, represented by the organic material surrounding it. A single copper-alloy straight pin was recorded in situ between the first rib and left clavicle, and a possible kidney stone or ossified cyst measuring 2.8 by 2.2 cm was found by the lower right ribs.

Based on the lack of temporally diagnostic material in association with this grave, Burial 375 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 375 (cont.)

Burial No. 375 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/21/92; Drawing No. 888).
### Burial 376

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series 59</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catalog No. 1895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Datum point: 84 (3.49 feet AMSL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grid coordinates: S 77.5, E 134.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elevation of cranium: 0.45 feet AMSL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporal group: Late-Middle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Burial 376 held the remains of a man between 45 and 65 years. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 17, an area that had been scraped down by backhoe to a level where grave shafts and coffin outlines were visible. The grave shaft appeared to be significantly wider than the coffin. The extra breadth was on the north side, corresponding to the shaft of the underlying Burial 395. The soil was described as red sand and dark gray-brown silt mottled with yellow-brown sandy silt. The fill contained a small amount of stoneware, two oyster shell fragments, and two fragments of extraneous human bone.

The coffin lid was first recorded at an elevation of 2.14 feet, and the lowest point of the bottom was at 0.23 feet. The lid had collapsed onto the skeletal remains in the eastern part of the grave. Numerous coffin nails were recorded in situ, including vertical nails that attached the lid to the sides. The hexagonal coffin was noticeably wider than most coffins from this cemetery. This may imply that the deceased was a heavyset individual.

A piece of white coral, identified as *Siderastrea siderea*, was found 0.1 feet above the coffin lid in the area of the left femur. This coral is found in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico, Bermuda, and possibly off the Brazilian coast and the Annobón and Fernando Póo Islands in the Gulf of Guinea (Cairns 1981: Distribution 48–50, cited in conservation report). It may have been placed in the grave at the time of interment. The coral was missing from the final artifact inventory and was probably destroyed on September 11, 2001.

The man had been laid supine with his head to the west, hands resting at his sides. The skeletal remains were in poor to fair condition, bones crushed and eroded. Six copper-alloy straight pins were recorded on the torso, including two crossed pins on the sternum. Remains of at least two additional pins were recovered during laboratory cleaning of the occipital bones.

Burial 376 was interred, perhaps deliberately, above Burial 395, although the two graves were somewhat offset. Burial 376 may have been contemporary with Burials 314 and 338, of a man in his 40s and a woman between 33 and 65, respectively. The three graves lay at similar elevations and were virtually parallel. All of the abovementioned burials lay within a north-south row that spanned the entire excavated portion of the cemetery, from Burial 337 or 354 in the north to Burial 338 in the south, possibly delineating a contour in the hillside. Based on the relationships to nearby graves, Burial 376 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 376 (cont.)

Burial No. 376 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/23/92; Drawing No. 832).

Burial No. 376 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/23/92; Drawing No. 832).
Burial 377 was of a woman between 33 and 58 years of age. The grave was discovered during the excavation of Burial 355, which consisted of disarticulated remains, and the skull was originally assigned to that individual. The grave was located adjacent to a concrete footing for the proposed 290 Broadway structure in the eastern part of the site. This construction episode disturbed or destroyed an unknown number of burials; it truncated Burial 377 at the lower abdomen.

The grave shaft was clearly visible only at the south and west. The soil overlying the remains was described as fine reddish brown sand with inclusions of yellowish brown and dark gray compact sandy silt. A patch of fine dark brown sand with heavy mica flecking was noted on the outside of the right humerus. The grave fill was devoid of the ceramics and kiln furniture found in association with Burial 355 above, and no faunal remains, shell, or other artifacts were recovered from the grave fill. Excavators recorded a possible stone grave marker approximately 3 feet to the west; this marker may have been associated with a different grave, perhaps Burial 360 or an undiscovered underlying burial.

No coffin walls were identified, nor were any nails found with this burial. However, deteriorated material, possibly a remnant of the coffin lid and floor, was noted above and below the skeletal remains. The top covering was recorded at -0.76 feet, and the bottom was at -0.92 feet. The deceased may have been placed directly in the ground wrapped in material that left organic stains resembling wood. A similar substance was observed in Burial 381, immediately to the north. Excavators also suggested that boards might have been placed above and below the body. Alternatively, the woodlike residue could have been from the coffin of a prior burial that was disturbed by Burial 377. A substance excavators believed to be red ocher was observed on the possible wood remains, as well as on the head, ribs, and scapulae; samples were taken from the skull and ribs. According to field notes, several seeds thought to be jimsonweed were recovered from the mouth area, but they were not cataloged in the laboratory. A sticky orange substance was noted on the ninth right rib. It appeared to have eaten into the bone and stained the surrounding sand.

The skeletal elements that remained were in poor condition. The skull had been shattered by compression, the ribs and vertebrae were crushed, and the remaining long bones were eroded. The woman had been placed in a supine position. Her head was to the west, and her forearms appeared to have been laid over her lower abdomen, such that the hands would have crossed over her pelvis. The cervical vertebrae beneath the woodlike remains were covered with a sticky black substance. This substance, which proved impossible to remove, extended down the sternum and interior rib shafts.

Three copper-alloy rings, measuring about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter according to field records, were discovered in the neck area and photographed in situ. The rings lay essentially side by side under the woman’s chin. One ring had small fragments of hair or fiber attached to the bottom and was connected to another ring by a small piece of fiber. The project conservator freeze-dried the cervical vertebrae area, with the rings and fiber intact, and removed them for conservation: however, they were not cataloged in the laboratory and were never located by the Howard team. They appear to have been lost prior to accessioning by conservators. Because they were removed when found, they were not depicted on the final in situ drawings.

As noted, Burial 377 lay beneath a group of disarticulated remains designated Burial 355. Burials 378 and 381 lay adjacent to the north. Like Burial 377, these burials were overlain by a substance excavators assumed to be the remains of wood, despite the lack of coffin nails. A humerus
Burial 377 (cont.)

and other unidentified elements, possibly from Burial 355, protruded into the indistinct grave shaft, indicating that one or more burials were destroyed by the placement of Burials 377, 381, and perhaps 378 (although Burial 378 may have been one of the impacted graves).

Burial 377 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group because it appears to have destroyed a pre-existing grave.

Burial No. 377 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/28/92; Drawing No. 899).
Burial 378

Series 65
Catalog No.
Datum point: 102
Grid coordinates: S 75.5, E 235
Elevation of cranium: -0.28 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 378 was not fully excavated and was left in place when the field project was halted in the summer of 1992. No skeletal assessment was completed in the field nor was any information on the age or sex of the deceased recorded. The grave, located in the southeast part of the excavated cemetery, was truncated by a massive concrete footing for the proposed structure at 290 Broadway. This construction episode disturbed or destroyed an unknown number of burials.

The south side of the coffin and its southwest corner, along with the cranium and maxilla, were discovered during excavation of the overlying Burial 355, a disturbed grave. According to field notes, the north coffin side was identified as well, although no nails or other artifacts were observed in this burial, and no samples were collected. The remains were not photographed or drawn in situ, but the grave is indicated on drawings of Burial 355 and Burial 377.

The partial excavation of Burial 378 revealed a cranium later designated Burial 381. Field records do not clarify the relationship between Burial 378 and Burials 355, 377, and 381; however, an examination of photographs raised the possibility that the grave shaft for Burial 381 cut into the grave shaft of Burial 378. The disturbance to this area no doubt obscured much of the relevant stratigraphic information. Burial 378 has been placed by default in the Middle Group.

See drawing for Burial 377 for location of Burial 378.
Burial 379, located in Lot 20½ in the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a man between 30 and 40 years old. The grave-shaft outline was clearly defined with the western end wider than the eastern end. The grave-shaft fill was described as reddish brown mottled with light brown clay, and it contained a high concentration of artifacts. These included a sherd of scratch-blue, white salt-glazed stoneware; two sherds of undecorated white salt-glazed stoneware; several sherds of Staffordshire slipware; a sherd of Chinese export porcelain; glass fragments; hundreds of sherds of kiln waste; sherds of salt-glazed stoneware; nail fragments; a clay pipe bowl and two pipe stem fragments (lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center); many fragments of brick and kiln brick; a lead-alloy musket ball measuring 1.81 mm; numerous oyster shells and clamshells and shell fragments; and a chert fragment. The grave-shaft soil (and the coffin itself) held fragments of human bone from the underlying Burial 382, a child’s grave.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 0.66 feet and described as too faint for recovery. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeter, with seven vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides. The deceased had been buried in a hexagonal coffin. He had been placed in a supine position. His head was to the west, and his hands were on his upper thighs. Excavators found a button (which they identified as being made of bone) with a copper-alloy wire shank below the distal end of the left ulna. The button was identified in the laboratory as a leather button or button back. Another button was found during laboratory cleaning of the right innominate bone. It was a copper-alloy domed button with a soldered loop shank measuring 17 mm in diameter.

A shell was recorded in the field drawing and in the final photograph of the burial; it was located against the side board of the coffin, to the right of the skull. However, the only shell recovered from the burial was listed as grave-fill material. The shell may have intruded into the coffin from the shaft fill along the south side.

Burial 379 has been assigned to the Middle Group, in the absence of evidence that would place it later.

(continued on page 522)
Burial 379 (cont.)

Burial No. 379 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/3/92; Drawing No. 858).
Burial 328 overlay Burial 380 with no intervening soil, although the two were not aligned with each other. Burial 328 may have been deliberately placed with reference to Burial 380, indicating a relationship between the two. Like Burial 328, Burial 380 is assigned to the Middle Group.

(continued on page 524)
Burial 380 (cont.)

Burial No. 380 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/25/92; Drawing No. 839).
Burial 381
Series 65
Catalog No. 1917
Datum point: 102
Grid coordinates: S 75.5, E 235
Elevation of cranium: -0.68 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 381 was initially exposed in June of 1992. It was stabilized and covered, pending removal of adjacent burials, and then reexposed in July; however, it was not fully excavated before the field project was halted. The previously removed cranial fragments were replaced in the grave in October 1992, in preparation for site backfilling. Burial 381 was located immediately adjacent to a concrete footing for the proposed 290 Broadway structure. This construction episode disturbed or destroyed an unknown number of burials and likely truncated Burial 381.

The age and sex of the deceased was not determined; excavators assessed this individual as a young adult, but this was based only on examination of the face and right shoulder. Little or no tooth wear was noted, and the glenoid cavity of the scapula was lipped. The upper right second incisor was noted as pegged, and the excavators observed marked enamel hypoplasias (linear grooves or pits) across the teeth. The deceased had been laid supine with the head to the west. No artifacts were found in association with the burial. A soil sample was taken from the purported coffin lid.

The burial was not drawn in the field. As described in the notes, the skull of Burial 381 was located between the north side of Burial 377, a Late-Middle grave of a woman between 33 and 58, and the south coffin wall of Burial 378, a partially excavated Middle Group burial.

The general location of Burial 381 was indicated on the drawing for Burial 377, and it was photographed along with Burial 377. Field notes indicated that the right scapula, clavicle, and humerus of Burial 381 protruded into the grave of Burial 377 and that the tentatively identified wood remains from Burial 377 extended over Burial 381. Burials 377 and 381 may have been interred together, in coffins that were glued rather than nailed; or, possibly, the wood was from another coffin that was disturbed by this interment or had overlain it. Excessive bone found beneath the skull of Burial 381 was believed to belong with Burial 355, a fragmentary adult burial that may have been disturbed by Burials 377 and 381. Burial 381 was placed by default in the Middle Group.

See drawing for Burial 377 for location of Burial 381.
Burial 382
Series 48
Catalog No. 1929
Datum point: 104
Grid coordinates: S 71.5, E 215
Elevation of highest skeletal remains (occipital portion of cranium): 1.22 feet
Temporal group: Early?

Burial 382, located in Lot 20½ on the eastern end of the excavation site, held the disturbed remains of a child approximately 4–5 years old. Burial 382 was discovered during the removal of the grave fill in Burial 379, which overlay and truncated Burial 382. The disarticulated bones scattered through the western half of Burial 379’s grave cut were designated Burial 382. Additional, intact remains were discovered as the excavation continued.

The extant grave shaft of Burial 382 was rectangular, although truncated by Burial 379. The grave-shaft fill was described as reddish brown sand mottled with patches of light brown clay. This fill contained 60 sherds of stoneware and kiln furniture, nails, bricks, and a clay pipe bowl. Field records do not distinguish whether these items were from the disturbed or undisturbed portion of the burial, so it remains possible that Burial 382 predated the stoneware dumping that concentrated ceramic waste in the overlying Burial 379.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 0.86 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeter, including seven vertical nails that attached the lid to the sides. Field notes indicated that the north coffin wall was completely absent, as were portions of the west and east walls. The child was laid supine in a four-sided coffin with the head to the west. Drawing No. 801 indicates that one of the child’s displaced bones had a straight pin adhering to it.

The pattern of disturbance caused by Burial 379 made it clear that the child’s remains were disarticulated when the adult was buried, suggesting that a lengthy interval separated the two. The relatively small amount of kiln waste in the grave fill was intrusive from the overlying burial. Based on the disturbance and the possible interment prior to stoneware dumping, Burial 382 has been assigned tentatively to the Early Group.

(continued on pages 527–528)
Burial 382 (cont.)

Burial No. 382 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/13/92; Drawing No. 801).

(continued on page 528)
Burial 382 (cont.)

Burial No. 382 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/18/92; Drawing No. 819). (Bill-382b)
Burial 383, located in Lot 21 at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a young woman between 14 and 18 years old. A posthole, designated Feature 166, cut into part of the grave shaft. The shaft outline was ovoid at the head with a straight line at the foot; the high point was recorded at an elevation of -0.1 feet at the south end. The grave-shaft soil was not described, but it contained hundreds of sherds of kiln furniture, numerous sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, brick fragments, olive-green bottle glass, and a clay pipe stem with a 5/64-inch bore (which was lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001).

The burial was highly unusual in that it was oriented with the head to the south. The coffin was hexagonal in shape. The lid was recorded at an elevation of -0.37 feet, and nails were observed in situ around the top and bottom perimeter, with 10 vertical nails that attached the lid to the sides. The woman had been laid supine with her hands resting on her upper legs. Skeletal remains were virtually complete and in fair condition, notwithstanding depression fractures on the cranium.

Straight pin fragments were recovered from the cranial pedestal during laboratory cleaning of the bones. A cobblestone found under the cranium was cataloged and inventoried. A sample identified as organic debris, with cedar wood and copper-alloy staining (from an unrecorded provenience), was cataloged and inventoried but was not salvaged following the collapse of the World Trade Center.

Burial 365, located 10 feet to the east of Burial 383, also held the remains of a woman who had been placed with her head to the south. The south (head) end of Burial 383 was overlain by the western part of Burial 368, a child aged 10.5–13.5, so that head overlay head. The child was oriented at nearly an exact right angle to the woman.

Absent any definitive evidence to place it earlier or later, Burial 383 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 384

Series 61
Catalog No. 1955
Datum point: 89 (4.01 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 91.5, E 248
Elevation of cranium: 0.59 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 384 held the remains of a woman between 25 and 45 years old. The grave was located in the southeast corner of the excavated site, about a foot beneath Burial 317, a disturbed grave. The grave-shaft outline was visible, but the north side was indistinguishable from the shaft of Burial 361. The grave-shaft fill was not described. A nail with wood attached was recovered from the grave fill, but it may have been displaced from the coffin. This burial either predated or was placed outside the boundaries of the stoneware dump to the west; no ceramic-waste material was found in the grave fill.

The coffin was hexagonal in shape and particularly narrow. Wood samples from the sides and bottom were identified as red pine. Its top elevation was recorded at 0.87 feet, and its bottom was at -0.26 feet. Nails were recorded along the sides at top and bottom, although none was recorded as driven into either the headboard or footboard.

The woman had been placed supine, with her head to the west and hands resting on her upper legs. The skeletal remains were in very poor condition; the bones were highly eroded, and many were crushed or missing. The two top incisors had been filed flat. Strontium isotope analysis suggests birth in the Americas. Copper fragments, possibly representing a straight pin, were recovered during cleaning of pedestaled remains, but exact provenience was not recorded.

As noted above, Burial 317 lay 1 foot above the southeast part of Burial 384. On the north side, the grave shaft of Burial 384 was indistinguishable from that of Burial 361, which was very slightly higher in elevation. The stratigraphic sequence of these two burials could not be determined from their relative positions; however, Burial 361 had the tapered coffin that is considered diagnostic of Early Group burials, and Burial 384 had the more typical hexagonal coffin. Burial 384 has been placed in the Middle Group because of the hexagonal coffin. However, the possible relationship to Burial 361 and the absence of kiln waste suggest that it might alternatively be placed in the Early Group.
Burial 384 (cont.)

Burial No. 384 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/23/92; Drawing No. 836).
Burial 385
Catalog No. 1964
Datum point: 91 (3.99 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 86, E 251.5
Elevation of cranium: 0.83 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 385 held the remains of a woman between 40 and 60 years old. Her grave was located in the extreme southeastern portion of the excavated site, at the rear of Lot 22. Field records describe the grave-shaft fill as dark red-brown loamy sand with gray-brown and yellow-brown silty clay. The shaft outline was narrow and rectangular. Two 0.5-foot-diameter, vaguely circular, soil discolorations were recorded along the south side of the burial, near the foot, perhaps representing a later disturbance to the grave shaft. The western half of the grave was dug into red sand subsoil, and the eastern half was surrounded by brown and yellow silty clay, possibly a preexisting feature. A dozen sherds of locally produced stoneware or waste sherds were recovered from the grave-shaft fill. This burial was apparently outside the stoneware dump identified to the west.

The coffin was first recorded at an elevation of 1.31 feet and its bottom at 0.45 feet. The outline was difficult to define; only the headboard was present. Its shape was determined mainly from coffin nails that were recorded in situ at the top and bottom corners and along the bottom of the sides. Based on the nail positions, the coffin was narrow and hexagonal, much like that of the nearby Burial 384.

The woman had been laid supine, with her head to the west, arms at her sides, and hands on her upper legs. The skeletal remains were in fair condition and nearly complete, although the bones were soft and eroded and the cranium was partly crushed. A straight pin was recorded in situ on the manubrium (part of the breastbone), and at least two more were recovered during laboratory cleaning of the cranium. Two bone buttons were also recovered, one from the coffin floor between the right first rib and third thoracic vertebra, and one from loose sand examined after removal of the right ribs. Both buttons were of turned bone, 8 mm in diameter, with 2-mm drilled single-center holes.

Burial 385 did not overlap with any other burials. Highly disturbed Burials 319 and 320 lay just to the south at higher elevations. An infant burial, Burial 334, lay beneath the two disturbed burials and appeared to be aligned to Burial 385. Burial 361 lay beneath Burial 334 at the same elevation as Burial 385. Burial 385 was roughly aligned with Burials 335 and 356, a co-interred young woman and infant, and they were also at comparable elevations. Finally, the elevation of Burial 385 also corresponded to Burial 384, which lay about 5 feet to the south and had a similar narrow hexagonal coffin. Based on these stratigraphic relationships, Burial 385 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 385 (cont.)

Burial No. 385 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/23/92; Drawing No. 838).
Burial 386 was of an infant less than 4 months old. The grave was in the northern area of the cemetery, near the east side of Lot 16. The grave fill held a few fragments of salt-glazed stoneware, possible redware, a clay pipe stem with a 4/64-inch bore, red brick, wood, oyster shell, and mammal bone. Field notes indicated that the excavators found jimsonweed seeds, but they were not catalogued or inventoried.

Burial 386 had been oriented with the head to the west. Field notes indicate that the southern edge of the coffin had been disturbed and contained intrusive fragments of brick and charcoal. The skeletal remains (ribs, vertebrae, and long bones) were disturbed, and the cranium was crushed. There were also deep cracks running through the burial caused by the drying of the clay. As a result, the soil was water screened to recover additional bone after the removal of the pedestals. The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 0.58 feet, and the bottom was at 0.06 feet. Samples of the coffin wood were taken but never identified. Nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter of the coffin. One whole nail measured 1.9 inches long. This nail was recorded in situ at an elevation of 0.19 feet.

Burial 386 did not overlap with any other burial. It lay to the east and between two adult graves, Burials 210 and 242, but it does not seem to have been related clearly to either one. The area to the north, east, and south of Burial 386 was never fully excavated, so the proximity of other burials is unknown. Based on its location north of the former boundary fence, Burial 386 has been assigned to the Late Group.

Burial No. 386 (drawn by W. Williams on 6/23/92; Drawing No. 837).
The deceased had been buried supine with his head to the west; his right hand was placed palm down over the upper thigh, and his left hand was palm down over the center of the pelvis. The cranium was crushed and partially embedded in the south coffin wall. The burial tilted downhill toward the feet, which were recorded at an elevation of -1.16 feet. The incline of the skeletal remains is clearly indicated in the field drawing, which shows a fairly large space between the headboard and the skull and the feet pushed down to the foot of the coffin.

Laboratory staff cataloged a fragment of a cast copper-alloy cuff link or button from an unknown provenience associated with this burial. The item was not drawn in the field or mentioned in field notes, nor was it photographed before it was lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center. No clear evidence associated the artifact with this burial; however, the overlying Burial 366, which had slumped into Burial 387, contained a cast copper-alloy button, possibly a match for the item. It is possible that the artifact was originally associated with Burial 366.

Burial 387 and the adjacent Burial 388 (of a woman aged 29–57) had similarly narrow coffins and similar hand positions (perhaps the result of extremely narrow coffins); they appeared to be aligned, implying that the burials may have been contemporaneous. Both contained stoneware-waste material in their shafts—they either postdated the kiln dumping in the area, or the material was intrusive from later disturbances. Based on the apparently tapered coffin and the possible interment prior to the heavy kiln dumping in the area, this burial has been placed in the Early Group.

Burial 387, located in Lot 20½ in the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a man between 34 and 44 years old. The grave-shaft outline was slightly rounded at the foot end of the coffin; there was a disturbance at the northwestern corner. The grave-shaft soil was not described, but it contained numerous sherds of salt-glazed stoneware and kiln furniture, oyster shell, and a fragment of olive-green bottle glass. Because Burial 387 lay directly beneath Burial 366, the contents of the latter’s grave fill may have originated in the fill of the Burial 387 grave shaft. There was little ceramic waste in the soil immediately surrounding the coffin, and it might have been intrusive from Burial 366.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of -0.14 feet at the northwestern corner and at -0.99 feet at the northeastern corner. The coffin appeared extremely narrow and rectangular or tapered in shape; it has been recorded in the database as tapered. Field records indicate that an oyster shell was found on the coffin lid; this item was identified in the laboratory as the whole upper and lower valves of the oyster. Unfortunately, the shell was lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Nails were recorded in situ around the coffin’s top and bottom perimeters. Excavators observed that the north and south walls of the coffin had been disturbed, which caused some of the skeletal remains to lie outside of the designated coffin walls.
Burial 387 (cont.)

Burial No. 387 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/9/92; Drawing No. 867).
Burial 388, located in Lot 20½ at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a woman between 29 and 57 years old. The grave-shaft outline was described as very long and rectangular in shape. Portions of the outline had been obscured by disturbances at the site. The grave-shaft soil contained about 300 sherds of kiln furniture and salt-glazed stoneware, pieces of clam and oyster shell, fragments of cow bone, and a clay pipe bowl.

The lid of the coffin was recorded at an elevation of -0.36 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeter, with 11 vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides. The deceased had been buried in a tapered coffin in supine position. Her head was to the west, and both hands were palm down over the thighs. The skeletal remains were complete except for some foot bones. The cranium was in poor condition, with multiple fractures. Excavators collected a wood sample from the coffin headboard, subsequently labeled as “dowel from lid,” but its true provenience is unclear. Another lid sample was identified as red pine. Field notes indicated that two straight pins were found, but only one was drawn in situ, on the cranium, and only one was cataloged. Copper staining was noted during cleaning of the bones in the left and right parietal and temporal areas.

According to field records, Burial 388 overlay another grave, Burial 424, which was represented only by an apparent grave-cut outline and a few small bone fragments with modern debris (newspaper) interspersed. Burial 424 was identified 4 weeks after the removal of Burial 388, and the entire area was disturbed in the interim. Burial 424 was probably a disturbance containing miscellaneous bone fragments rather than an in situ burial. Burial 421, adjacent to the west, was voided when it was determined to be a disturbance containing miscellaneous bone fragments rather than a burial.

Burial 388 and Burial 387 to its south had similar very narrow coffins, palm-down hand positions, and were aligned. The burials appeared contemporaneous. Both contained some stoneware-waste material in their shafts, indicating that they either postdated the kiln refuse disposal in this area, or that the material was intrusive from later disturbances. The tapered four-sided coffin places Burial 388 in the Early Group.

(continued on page 538)
Burial No. 388 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/30/92; Drawing No. 850).
Burial 389
Series 50
Catalog No. 2023
Datum point: 95
Grid coordinates: S 82, E 220
Elevation of cranium: 1.87 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 389, located in Lot 20½ at the eastern end of the excavated site, held the truncated remains of woman of undetermined age. The grave-shaft outline appeared to be tapered, but only the western half was discernable because it was truncated at its eastern end by Burial 396, the grave of a child between 6.5 and 8.5 years. The high point of the grave-shaft outline was recorded at an elevation of 2.58 feet at the northwest corner. The soil was described as red sand mottled with brown-yellow and gray-green clay. It contained a few brick fragments and numerous sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, kiln waste, and kiln furniture. The grave was overlain by the western part of a dump associated with the potteries in the area; the kiln furniture and waste may have been intrusive from the later industrial dump situated above the grave.

The remaining portions of the coffin lid were recorded as well preserved. The coffin was four-sided and tapered toward the foot. The elevation of the lid at the southwest corner of the headboard was recorded at 2.71 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeters of the coffin, with seven vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides. Field notes indicated that the headboard was unusually wide, measuring 1.6 feet. The grave floor may have sloped downward to the east; the cranium appeared to have slid away from the coffin headboard, leaving a wide empty space. The bottom of the coffin at the easternmost surviving portion was recorded at an elevation of 1.28 feet.

The deceased had been buried in supine position, head to the west and the left hand on the left innominate bone. The right hand was absent except for an eroded wrist bone, and the rest of her skeleton was missing below the pelvis. Excavators noted that the bones were stained black and had accrued an unidentified material, possibly a mineral deposit. A single straight pin was found on the cranium.

As mentioned above, Burial 389 was truncated Burial by 396. Burial 389 may have been aligned with another adult grave, Burial 432. Based on the tapered coffin and the fact that it had been truncated by a later interment, Burial 389 has been assigned to the Early Group.

(continued on page 540)
Burial 389 (cont.)

Burial No. 389 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/7/92; Drawing No. 861).
Burial 390 contained the disarticulated skeletal elements of a man between 25 and 35 years old. The skeletal remains consisted of right and left femurs, a humerus, and a partial occipital. Burial 390 was extensively disturbed by the interment of Burial 392. The femurs lay over the east end of the coffin, the humerus was laid against the west wall of the grave shaft, and the cranial fragment lay on the coffin’s north side.

Based on the relationship to Burial 392, and in the absence of evidence to place it more precisely in time, Burial 390 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

(continued on page 542)
Burial 390 (cont.)

Burial No. 390 (drawn by M. Schur on 6/29/92; Drawing No. 846).
Burial 391

Series 57
Catalog No. 2034
Datum point: 110 (1.83 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 68, E 140.5
Elevation of cranium: 1.69 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 391 held the remains of a man between 16.5 and 19.5 years old. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 17, just to the south of the projected alignment of the former boundary fence. This area had been scraped down to the level of coffin stains by backhoe; however, this burial had no coffin. The grave shaft was recorded at elevations of 1.43–1.65 feet, and the skeletal remains were exposed at 1.69 feet. Excavators noted a coffin line along the south edge of the burial that extended west of the remains; this coffin stain was from Burial 426, an unexcavated grave that lay immediately to the south and beneath Burial 391.

Artifacts from the burial included intrusive material from a disturbance near the feet, some wood fragments, and several nails, which may have been present in the soil matrix. However, the nails were recovered in direct association with bone and could have been deliberately placed in the burial; they were reburied with the skeletal remains. Fragments of extraneous bone and teeth were found in the grave fill and identified as those of an individual approximately 13 years old. The area contained numerous disturbed burials, any of which could have been the source of the extraneous remains.

The man had been placed directly in the ground in a supine position, with his head to the west and his hands crossed over his abdomen. The skeletal remains were severely crushed but complete.

The south side of Burial 391 overlay the north side of Burial 426. The latter was not fully exposed or excavated but appeared to have a four-sided coffin. The scarcity of material evidence in Burial 391 made temporal assignment difficult, but based on stratigraphic position, this burial has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.

Burial No. 391 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/15/92; Drawing No. 878).
Burial 392
Catalog No. 2039
Datum point: 110 (1.83 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 71.5, E 140
Elevation of cranium: 1.04 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 392 was of a man between 43 and 53 years of age. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 17, in an area that had been cleared down to the level of the coffins by backhoe. The grave shaft was clearly visible on all sides except the north. Its fill was described as gray-brown silt with yellow-brown, red-brown, and gray sandy silt mottling. Grave-fill artifacts included several sherds of stoneware, a piece of kiln furniture, a nail, and a molded tobacco pipe bowl fragment, which was lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The grave fill also contained disassociated skeletal elements from a man between 25 and 35 years old, designated Burial 390. This grave was probably disturbed by the interment of Burial 392.

The rectangular coffin lid was identified at elevations of 0.83–1.23 feet. It appeared to have at least two crosspieces nailed to the lengthwise boards. Other pieces of wood recorded on the lid may have been extraneous to this burial, possibly from the underlying Burial 416 (an Early Group adult burial) or the aforementioned Burial 390. A wood sample from the coffin side was identified as pine, and a sample from an unspecified location was identified as cedar.

The cranium was exposed at the same time as the coffin lid. The deceased had been laid in the typical supine position, with his hands at his sides but with his head to the east, which was very unusual in this cemetery. Although this orientation may have been deliberate, it is also possible that the rectangular coffin made it difficult to distinguish the head of the coffin from the foot, resulting in an inadvertent head-to-east position.

Eleven buttons were recorded in place and recovered (some in fragments) from this burial, along with remnants of fine wool (one with an obvious button hole). Bone button backs were located at the knees (four at the right and three at the left) and near the hands (three at the right and one at the left). The button backs from the right hand were 21–22 mm in diameter, and the others were 15–16 mm. In addition, a 16-mm octagonal button face with a cast loop shank was found at the right shoulder; the shank link apparently did not survive. During laboratory cleaning of the cervical vertebrae, a portion of a second octagonal face was found, and the two faces were classified as a cuff link.

Although complete, the skeletal remains were in poor condition, crushed and heavily eroded. Three round possible urinary stones were removed from below the innominate bones. Possible healed fractures were also noted on the left patella and right ribs.

Burial 392 appeared to have substantially disturbed Burial 390 and the underlying Burial 416. Burial 392 also cut into the northeast corner of the grave shaft of Burial 326. Burial 426, an unexcavated grave, lay just to the north of Burials 392 and 416. Based on the graves impacted by its placement, Burial 392 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 392 (cont.)

Burial No. 392 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/10/92; Drawing No. 870).

Burial No. 392 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/10/92; Drawing No. 870).
Burial 393

Series 52
Catalog No. 2051
Datum point: 95
Grid coordinates: S 84, E 211
Elevation of cranium: 2.54 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 393 held the remains of a perinatal or neonatal infant. The grave was located in Lot 20½, at the eastern end of the excavation site, atop Burial 405, which held a child 6–10 years old. The grave-shaft outline was irregularly shaped, and the grave-shaft soil contained a sherd of salt-glazed stoneware, a sherd of kiln furniture, and an oyster shell fragment.

The coffin lid was reached at an elevation of 2.63 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom coffin perimeters, with three vertical nails that attached the lid to the sides. The coffin was narrow and bowed out slightly at the south side; it appeared hexagonal, although the shape is in doubt. The infant had been laid supine with the head to the west and arms fully extended. The fragmented cranial bones were scattered, as were the bones of the feet. Five straight pins were recorded in situ. Two of the pins were at the cranium and one at the right clavicle, all of which were surrounded by concentrations of hair. Excavators also recorded a pin at the right radius and ulna and one at the left femur. Field notes also indicated that small fragments of oyster shell were found above the coffin lid, but they were not cataloged or inventoried as coffin lid items. They may have been inventoried as grave fill.

As noted, Burial 393 was located on top of Burial 405, although the two burials had separate grave-shaft outlines. Both graves held narrow coffins with problematic shapes. Burial 393 was probably placed deliberately within the grave of Burial 405, albeit at a later date. Absent any evidence to place it more precisely in time, Burial 393 has been assigned to the Middle Group.

Burial No. 393 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/3/92; Drawing No. 857).
The soil surrounding the burial was described as red-brown sand with patches of mottled yellow-brown clay. It contained fragments of salt-glazed stoneware, nails, wood, clamshell and oyster shell, and mammal bones, as well as intrusive material including modern sanitary tiles, mirror glass, window glass, linoleum, and plaster from twentieth-century construction. Because of the extensive disturbance, excavators could not identify a grave cut, and all loose artifacts in close proximity to the burial were catalogued as Burial 394; they could not definitively identify any artifacts as being unassociated with the deceased.

Burial 394 has been placed in the default 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 394 consisted of remains of an adult between 16 and 25 years old; sex could not be determined. The remains were located in an area that had been disturbed by nineteenth-century construction on Lot 18. The skeletal elements, disturbed by backhoe during clearing of the area, were very fragmented and were primarily from the lower half of the body (mostly tibia, fibula, femur, and innominate fragments). A wood sample, possibly from the coffin, was collected but not identified; it was not salvaged after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.
Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeters. The skeletal remains were badly eroded, wet and fragile, but complete. The man had been laid supine, with his head to the west, arms at his sides, and with the hands resting on the pelvis. One straight pin was recorded in situ on the skull.

The top of the Burial 395 coffin lay about 0.7 feet beneath the bottom of Burial 376, offset slightly to the north and oriented slightly more southerly. Burial 395 may have been contemporary with Burial 373, a nearby low-lying burial of a woman aged 45–60. These burials appeared to be within a north-south row that spanned the entire excavated portion of the cemetery, from Burial 337 or 354 in the north to Burial 338 in the south, and encompassed a broad demographic and temporal range. This row may represent a contour in the hillside. If Burial 395 was contemporary with Burial 373, then the overlying Burial 376 postdated both, although all three of these burials, including Burial 395, have been assigned to the default Middle Group.

Burial 395 was of a man aged 43–53 years. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 17 in an area that had been excavated by backhoe to expose the grave shafts and coffin outlines. The grave shaft was originally believed to be the shaft of Burial 376, which lay above Burial 395. The fill was described as red sand and dark gray-brown silt, mottled with yellow-brown sandy silt. No artifacts were recovered from the shaft of Burial 395, but some of the grave-shaft artifacts assigned to Burial 376 may have originated in Burial 395.

The hexagonal coffin was encountered at an elevation of -0.52 feet, and the bottom lay at -1.55 feet.
Burial 395 (cont.)

Burial No. 395 (drawn by K. Eilberg on 7/9/92; Drawing No. 868).
Burial 396
Series 50
Catalog No. 2059
Datum point: 94
Grid coordinates: S 82.5, E 224
Elevation of cranium: 1.43 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 396, located in Lot 20½ at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a child between 6.5 and 8.5 years old. The shaft outline appeared rectangular, although the southwestern corner was not discernable. The high point of the grave cut, close to the southwestern corner, was recorded at an elevation of 2.77 feet. The grave had been dug through a waste dump from nearby pottery kilns, and the shaft fill contained over a thousand sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, some kiln furniture, a few brick fragments, two pieces of unidentified-mammal bone, and a fragment of oyster shell. Two phalanges found above the coffin lid were probably from the underlying Burial 389, a woman’s truncated grave.

The hexagonal coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 1.81 feet and appeared to have collapsed and crushed the cranium. Excavators noted that large rocks had lain directly on the skeleton and may have damaged some of the skeletal remains. Nails were recorded in situ, around the top and bottom coffin perimeters, with eight vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides. The deceased had been buried supine, with head to the west and hands at the sides. Excavators noted that the north side of the coffin wall had slumped onto the left hand, left fibula, and the left foot. Five straight pins were recorded in situ: three on the cranium (at least one of which had preserved a hair sample) and dentition, one on the distal left humerus, and one on the right ribs. A small, unidentified iron artifact, which was not cataloged or inventoried in the laboratory, and some intrusive potsherds and kiln furniture, were found inside the coffin.

Burial 396 truncated the eastern end of Burial 389, indicating that the child’s burial postdated it. Burial 396 has been assigned to the Middle Group.
Burial 397, located at the far rear of Lot 20½ at the eastern end of the excavated site, held the remains of a woman between 30 and 40 years old. The rectangular grave cut was shared with the overlying Burial 341, of a man of undetermined age. The grave-shaft fill contained hundreds of fragments of salt-glazed stoneware, kiln furniture, a fragment of redware, nails, and numerous fragments of oyster shell and clamshell.

The coffin lid, hexagonal in shape, was recorded at an elevation of 0.83 feet. Excavators noted that the coffin appeared large in the field drawings because the upper walls had extended outward. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom coffin perimeters; 12 vertical nails attached the lid to the sides. The woman was buried in supine position, with her head to the west, arms extended, and her hands directly atop her thighs. Burial 341 had slumped down onto Burial 397 and apparently caused fractures to the cranium. The dental remains showed signs of distal chipping, a deliberate modification.

Fragments of a straight pin or pins were recovered from the cranium during cleaning in the laboratory. A fragment each of ceramic and kiln furniture were recorded in situ at the base of the cranium; considering the vast amounts of sherds found in the grave fill, it is likely these fell in from the grave shaft. The coffin bottom was recorded at an elevation of 0.08 feet. Excavators noted that they checked the bottom of the grave cut and found no evidence of an underlying burial.

As noted, Burial 341 directly overlay Burial 397, and they appear to have shared the same grave. The grave may have been aligned with Burials 366 and 353 to the north. Burials 341 and 397 have been assigned to the Middle Group, based on overall stratigraphic position and in the absence of evidence that would place the grave more precisely in time.

(continued on page 552)
Burial 397 (cont.)

Burial No. 397 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/14/92; Drawing No. 875).

The New York African Burial Ground
Field notes state that Burial 398 consisted of “all the bone fragments and artifacts in redeposited fill dirt in the extreme SE corner of Structure F.” The area was heavily disturbed by the construction of retaining walls for the buildings at 290 Broadway. An unknown number of burials were damaged or destroyed by this construction. The surrounding soil yielded a few sherds of local stoneware; window, bottle, and drinking glass fragments; and a piece of unidentified gastropod shell. Human skeletal remains recovered included cranial fragments, teeth, vertebrae, ribs, and long-bone fragments. These remains appeared to have been from an adult aged 25–35 years. Excavators believed that Burial 398 and Burial 403, the remains of a man between 39 and 65 years, represented the same individual. Laboratory notes indicated that Burial 403 was voided, and the remains were joined with those from Burial 398. Each was cataloged separately, however, as the skeletal remains of Burial 398 appeared to be from a younger adult than those of Burial 403.

Artifacts recovered near the bones included nails and nail fragments, straight pins, a copper-alloy ring (21-mm-inside-band diameter), and a portion of an octagonal cuff link. A button was found to the north of the main concentration of bone but was not cataloged with this burial; it was probably cataloged with Burial 403.

Burial 398 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 399 was of an infant less than 4 months old. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 20½ in the eastern part of the excavated site. Although the field notes mentioned extraneous nails in the shaft fill, all nails were packaged in the same bag and could not be differentiated in the laboratory.

The infant was buried in a rectangular coffin, in supine position with the head to the west. The lid of the coffin was recorded at an elevation of 0.16 feet and the bottom at -0.23 feet. Several vertical nails were recorded in situ around the coffin’s top perimeter and an additional 17 nails delineated the coffin bottom. The skeletal remains were in fair to poor condition. The skeleton was nearly complete, but bone surfaces and epiphyses were very eroded and the cranium was crushed.

Seven straight pins were recorded in situ: five at the cranium, one at the neck, and one adjacent to the left femur, lying on a bit of preserved coffin wood. Field notes indicate that a concentration of seed, probably jimsonweed, was found at the distal end of the left tibia. The seeds were inventoried but not conclusively identified before they were lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Excavators recorded large amounts of hair and possible tissue on the cranium, and samples were collected for later analysis. Another sample was taken from the upper thoracic vertebrae and left rib area where a copper-alloy straight pin was present.
Burial 400 held the remains of a man 25–35 years old. The grave-shaft fill was described as brownish yellow silt with sand mottled with strong brown and gray-brown silt. A few ceramic sherds and a piece of kiln furniture were recovered from the shaft. A sherd found in the coffin was deemed intrusive and was bagged along with the fill items. Because the sherd could not be singled out, and it is virtually certain it was intrusive rather than a deliberate placement, it was not reburied with the human remains.

The coffin lid was encountered at 2.41 feet and the bottom at 1.37 feet. Burial 352 had disturbed the eastern half of the coffin’s south side. Otherwise, the sides, headboard, and footboard were discernable; in situ nails around the bottom outlined the hexagonal perimeter. The skeletal remains were in poor condition, very crushed and eroded. The deceased had been placed supine with his head to the west. Both elbows were bent at a 90°; the forearms were across the abdomen. This arm position is very similar to that of Burial 324, of a woman between 25 and 35. The burials were at similar elevations, and both had been slightly disturbed by Burial 352, a grave that was placed between them.

Burials 324 and 400 may have been interred at or near the same time and/or may have been related in some way. Perhaps they were prepared for burial by the same individuals. Two copper-alloy pins were recovered from the top of the cranium, both with hair attached. The pins were sent to the laboratory for conservation, and the hair was kept with the skeletal remains.

Burial 400 appeared to fall within a north-south row that spanned the excavated portion of the cemetery, from Burial 337 or 354 in the north to Burial 338 in the south. This row may have represented a contour in the hillside. At least two phases of interments were represented: an earlier one that included Burials 400 and 324, and a later one, which included Burial 352. The later burials lay at lower elevations, which suggested that the surface of the cemetery eroded during the interim.

Two possible post molds were recorded at the same elevation as the coffin top, and more postholes were recorded some distance to the east and west. These features may have represented one or more fence lines along the patent boundary that traversed the site; however, they were located slightly south of the surveyed boundary and did not quite align with the clearer pattern of postholes recorded farther west at the rear of Lots 14 and 15. Burial 400 was located along this projected fence line, but it was not clear whether the grave predated or postdated the fence. Because this determination cannot be made, Burial 400 was assigned by default to the Middle Group.

(continued on page 556)
Burial 400 (cont.)

Burial No. 400 (drawn by K. Eilberg on 7/17/92; Drawing No. 883).
**Burial 401**

Series 56  
Catalog No. 2065  
Grid coordinates: S 69.5, E 130  
Temporal group: Undetermined

Burial 401 was located immediately beneath Burial 352, a Late-Middle grave of a man of uncertain age. The remains consisted of a coffin floor with associated nails and a few items from the surrounding soil. It was later decided that this was part of the Burial 352 coffin, perhaps a reinforced double bottom, and the burial number was voided.

Burial 401 may have been, as originally thought, a separate burial. In this case, only the coffin floor survived the impact of later interments. If it were such a disturbed burial, redeposited skeletal remains would probably have been recovered from the intruding burial shafts. However, in this part of the site, the upper portions of the grave shafts (with their associated artifacts and remains) were removed by machine before archaeological excavation began. Skull fragments were recorded above the nearby Burial 324, of a woman aged 25–35, and additional redeposited remains were designated Burial 367, which held a probable woman of similar age. Burial 401 has not been assigned to a temporal group, as it is not clear whether or not it represents a distinct interment. Records are filed with Burial 352.
Burial 402
Catalog No. 2066
Datum point: 93
Grid coordinates: S 84.5, E 235
Elevation of cranium: 1.06 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 402, located in Lot 20½/21, at the eastern end of the excavated site, held truncated adult remains. The burial was exposed and drawn in situ but had not been fully excavated when the project was shut down in August 1992. The remains were left in place and reburied; no laboratory analysis was conducted. Preliminary field assessment tentatively identified the deceased as a man about 35 years old.

Burial 402 was discovered during excavation of Burial 380 when excavators noticed a pit-fill line in the western section of the grave shaft. They eventually determined that the outline was not Burial 402 but an unexposed lower-lying burial that may have truncated Burial 402.

Only the western half of the rectangular grave cut was discernable; the eastern half was missing below the proximal femurs. The grave fill was described as mottled yellowish brown. Grave-fill artifacts included a few fragments of salt-glazed stoneware, a fragment of kiln furniture and one fragment each of undecorated Chinese export porcelain, glass, and a tobacco pipe bowl. Although some ceramic was recovered from the coffin, it was deemed intrusive rather than directly associated with the burial.

The coffin lid was noted at an elevation of 0.96 feet. The coffin was four sided and tapered toward the foot, and the south side was extremely well preserved. A lid sample was identified as cedar and a second sample from the side or lid was identified as spruce. Six nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeters, and four vertical nails attached the lid to the sides. Three shanks were recovered, cataloged, and inventoried, and the rest were left in situ.

The deceased had been laid supine, head to the west and hands on the pelvis. Excavators noted that portions of the upper body had “sloped” into the coffin walls on either side. The skull, left radius and ulna, and pelvis had sustained considerable rodent damage during excavation, exacerbating their already poor condition. The sacrum was the lowest part of the skeletal remains and was recorded at an elevation of 0.56 feet.

Burials 387, 389, 432, and 340, all nearby adult graves, appear to have predated the stoneware-waste dump in this area (or at least the heaviest dumping) and had tapering coffins, so were assigned to the Early Group. Burial 402 was located to the north and parallel to Burial 340. On the basis of its coffin shape, it too has been placed in the Early Group.
buttons were photographed and drawn in situ before being collected in the field; three buttons were mentioned in the notes; and four buttons were cataloged in the laboratory. The fourth button was probably the button noted in field records for Burial 398. Two buttons were pewter (with high tin and lead content) of cast construction, with applied loop shanks, 23 mm in diameter. One was a plain cast-copper-alloy button, with a flat face and a cone shank, 22 mm in diameter (shown at right). The fourth was a copper-alloy cast dome button, plain, of two-piece construction, with a brazed or polished soldered omega shank and seams, 17 mm in diameter. In addition to the buttons, fragments of black woven cloth were recovered. Pin fragments were recovered during cleaning of one of the temporal bones.

Burial 403 has been assigned to the default 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 404
Catalog No. 2069
Datum point: 118a (0.85 AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 165
Temporal group: Early?

Burial 404 consisted of the vestiges of a coffin along with several fragments of skeletal remains found in the surrounding grave fill. The remains have been identified as those of a woman of undetermined age, but it is not clear whether they were redepotted from other nearby burials or represented the individual that was originally buried in the coffin. This part of the site, at the rear of Lot 18, was substantially disturbed by past activity and also suffered damage during mechanical clearing for the project. Excavation of the area had just begun when the field project was shut down in July 1992.

The grave fill was described as brownish mottled soil and also as mottled yellow silt and reddish brown silty sand. Pieces of brick and mortar were noted in the soil above the western end of the coffin, and ceramics, kiln furniture, intrusive window glass, pipe stem fragments, and animal bone were recovered from the fill. One piece of kiln furniture was recorded in the fill below the coffin bottom. Archaeological excavation began at the level at which the coffin stain was visible. Although the coffin had collapsed, it appeared to be complete, albeit empty. The lid was recorded at 0.8 feet and the bottom at 0.1 feet. Drawings, including the first site plan, seem to indicate it was four sided and tapered toward the foot. However, field notes record it as hexagonal. Disturbances were noted at the foot and on the south side adjacent to the head of the coffin. Nails were recorded around the coffin perimeter, mainly at the bottom. Excavators made particular note of the “extremely thick” organic stain that, along with the in situ nails, represented the coffin bottom. They opined that the body had been removed from the coffin at some time prior to its decomposition. It is also possible, however, that the burial had been disturbed from above, eradicating the skeleton, during a construction episode in the past.

Cranial and radius fragments were found in the soil adjacent to (and outside) the southwest corner of the coffin; a tooth and fragments of a humerus and a vertebra were found near the centerline of the coffin. Other elements identified from the soil included scapula, tibia, and phalange fragments. The field assessment suggested that the tooth, a premolar, was from a different individual than the bones.

Burial 404 has been tentatively assigned to the Early Group based on a possible tapering coffin shape.
Burial 404 (cont.)

Burial No. 404 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/16/92; Drawing No. 881).
Burial 405

Series 52
Catalog No. 2071
Datum point: 95
Grid coordinates: S 83.9, E 211.8
Elevation of cranium: 2.22 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 405, located in Lot 20½ at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of a child between 6 and 10 years old. The grave-shaft outline appeared to have straight sides and a rounded head but it was not completely discernable because Burial 393, which lay above Burial 405, had slumped into its northern side. The grave-shaft soil contained a few sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, kiln furniture, nails, and fragments of oyster shells and clamshells.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 2.52 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeter, with five vertical nails attaching the lid to the sides. The coffin was narrow and probably hexagonal. The child had been laid in supine position, with the head to the west, the left arm at the side, and the right arm flexed at about 70° with the right hand on the pelvis. The field drawing showed the right humerus lying just outside the south coffin wall.

A button was recorded in situ below the right wrist and was identified in the laboratory as a Britannia large button made of spun white metal with an applied copper-alloy loop shank measuring 30 mm in diameter. Two copper-alloy straight pins, one with hair attached, were recorded in situ on the cranium, although only one pin was positively identified in the laboratory; the other pin was designated as unidentified organic material with copper staining. A shell and nail were recovered during laboratory cleaning of the cranium.

Burial 393, as noted, was located on top of Burial 405, although it had its own defined grave-shaft outline. Both burials contained narrow coffins with questionable shapes. Burial 393 was probably placed deliberately within the grave of Burial 405. The south side of Burial 415 appears to have cut into the Burial 405 grave shaft. Burial 405 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 405 (cont.)

Burial No. 405 (drawn by C. Sneed on 7/10/92; Drawing No. 869).
Burial 406
Catalog No. 2078
Datum point: 105
Grid coordinates: S 68.25, E 253.5
Elevation of cranium: 0.02 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 406 was of an infant less than 6 months old. The grave was located at the eastern edge of the excavated site, between a footing for the 290 Broadway structure and a retaining wall along Elk Street. The shaft fill contained a large quantity of kiln waste.

Despite its location, the burial was well preserved. It was unusual in that the infant had been laid with the head to the east. The coffin lid was encountered at an elevation of -0.10 feet and the bottom at -0.26 feet. Coffin shape was rather unclear; it may have been hexagonal, but the shoulder break was indistinct and may have been in the middle of the coffin rather than toward the head end. The east-headed position may have resulted from confusing the coffin head with the foot at the time it was laid in the grave. At least six nails were recorded in situ around the perimeter at the top and the bottom, but only one was inventoried in the laboratory. The child was in a supine position, with arms slightly flexed and hands resting just above the pelvis. The skeleton was well preserved despite fractures to the cranium. Excavators removed several pieces of kiln furniture that had sunk into the cranial vault.

The excavation of Burial 406 began in early July 1992 and was interrupted at the end of the month when the project was halted. Excavation resumed in October 1992. The excavators observed footprints over and around the burial. A nail had been dislodged, and the coffin wall had collapsed at the foot of the burial, displacing some of the foot bones. The hand bones were also displaced.

According to field notes, a total of 12 pins were found within the burial, 3 of which had associated organic material. It was possible to determine locations of 9 of the pins. Three pins were on the cranium, 1 on the left scapula, 1 on the right scapula with organic material, 2 on the ribs, 1 from the thoracic area, and 1 pin stain with organic material at the right wrist.

Burial 406 was an isolated burial, although the large disturbed area adjacent to it probably once contained other graves. It has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 407

The excavation feature originally designated Burial 407 was determined not to be a grave. It was recategorized as Feature 173 and assigned Catalog No. 2091.

Burial 408

Catalog No. 2080
Datum point: 119
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 158
Elevation: not noted
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 408 consisted of scattered remains, located at the rear of Lot 18, in an area that had been substantially disturbed by building-construction activity in 1991. This area was reopened for archaeological excavation in 1992. Modern debris was noted in proximity to the human remains. The remains were identified as those of a probable man. The burial has been assigned to the default Middle Group.

Burial 409

Catalog No. 2081
Datum point: ?
Grid coordinates: S 89.5, E 185
Elevation of cranium: ?
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 409 was located along the foundation trench behind No. 22 Reade Street, in an area of the site that was within a large nineteenth-century disturbance. A soil stain presumed to be a disturbed burial was recorded, along with a large micaceous schist slab. Field notes mention fragments of cranial bone were found when screening grave soil through 1/8-inch mesh; however, no such remains were cataloged. One sherd of creamware, a whole nail, and a nail fragment were recovered from the presumed burial.

It does not seem likely that a burial would have survived the disturbances to this area of the site. No other burials were found within 20 feet of the location of Burial 409. Cranial fragments found in the screen may have been redeposited. Because the disturbance to this burial destroyed the archaeological context, Burial 409 has been placed in the default Middle Group.
Burial 410 was immediately south of and 0.4 feet above the south edge of Burial 427. The stratigraphic relationship between the two burials was somewhat ambiguous. Based on photographs and drawings, Burial 410 appeared to partially overlay the grave shaft of Burial 427, thus postdating it. The placement may have been deliberate, as the pair was precisely aligned and seemed to be separate from other interments.

Burial 410 has also been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 410 (cont.)

Burial No. 410 (drawn by K. Eilberg on 7/20/92; Drawing No. 887).
An irregularly shaped soil stain located 2 feet south of Burial 410 was initially designated as Burial 411. As the soil was scraped down, the discoloration disappeared, and no human remains were found. This was almost certainly not a burial, but part of the large nineteenth-century disturbance in this part of the site. The only artifacts recovered from the soil stain were a sherd of stoneware, a fragment of window glass, and three oyster shell fragments.

Burial 412, located in Lot 20½, at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the severely disturbed and fragmentary remains of an infant, probably a newborn. The grave lay beneath a layer of construction rubble. The coffin outline was indiscernible, but nails were mapped in close proximity to several straight pins. Further excavation revealed cranial bone fragments and more pins; the total pin count was estimated at 20. A piece of coral recovered during excavation was treated as a possible grave good, despite its provenience in an area that contained a high density of rubble. The coral was lost and presumed destroyed on September 11, 2001. A possible iron link was also recovered, but its provenience and association to this burial was not determined.

Excavations and burial identifications in this vicinity were complicated by the construction and later removal of an excavation shelter.

Burial 412 probably represented displaced remains rather than an intact grave. The remains overlay Burial 432, an adult burial, and were adjacent to Burial 388, a woman between 29 and 57 years of age, and Burial 424, of another adult. Disturbances in the area obscured the relationships between Burial 412 and these others.

Burial 412 has been assigned to the default 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 413
Catalog No. 2095
Datum point: 113
Grid coordinates: S 63, E 175
Elevation of cranium: 0.97 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Late-Middle

Burial 413, located in Lot 18, contained the disturbed remains of a woman between 50 and 70 years of age. The grave was truncated on the east by nineteenth-century construction. Only the western half of the rectangular grave cut was visible. The grave fill contained fragments of salt-glazed stoneware, undecorated redware, kiln furniture, nails, brick, oyster shell and clamshell, and domestic animal bone, as well as a sherd of creamware (providing a terminus post quem of ca. 1760), one of glass, and a clay tobacco pipe stem, which was lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Excavation began in July 1992 but was halted later that month and resumed in October. The hexagonal coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 1.01 feet. The woman had been buried in supine position, with her head to the west and her arms at her sides. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom coffin perimeters. One of the whole coffin nails measured 3¼ inches.

Skeletal remains were in poor condition, and many bones were eroded or crushed. The right forearm, most of the right innominate, the entire right leg, and left lower leg were missing. Excavators noted a few areas of sticky soil, possibly indicating some type of metal remains; these areas were removed with the left femur and left upper rib cage when the excavation was completed, but it is not clear whether soil samples were ever taken. Fragments of two or more straight pins were found at the cranium, includ-

ing one with cloth attached.

Excavators noted a preponderance of soil underneath the remains and postulated that another burial may have been situated directly beneath Burial 413; the project was closed before this hypothesis could be tested.

Burial 413 may have been part of a row that included Burials 410 and 427, graves of a woman and a young adult, probably a man. Based on the presence of creamware in the grave shaft, Burial 413 has been assigned to the Late-Middle Group.
Burial 414
Catalog No. 2096
Datum point: 117
Grid coordinates: S 74, E 165
Elevation of cranium: 0.97 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 414 was of a man between 39 and 59 years old. The grave had been truncated on the east end by the footing of a large building, and the skeletal elements were missing below the femurs. A fallen stone had disturbed the north side of the coffin, and unspecified damage had befallen the southwest corner of the coffin. Portions of the grave-shaft outline were visible on the south and west sides. In addition to kiln waste and local stoneware, the grave shaft held oyster shell fragments, sherds of wine bottle glass, slipware, and an intrusive sherd of whiteware.

The coffin lid was represented only by a thin stain, which lay directly on the bone. The coffin shape could not be determined because of the extensive damage. Vertical nails were recorded in situ around the top of the coffin.

The skeletal remains were fully exposed and recorded in July 1992 and were left in place when the site excavation was shut down at that time. The bones were removed 8 weeks later. The prolonged exposure, as well as rodent damage during excavation, had exacerbated the existing damage caused by the inward collapse of the coffin sides. A single copper-alloy straight pin was recovered from the top of the cranium, and copper stains were noted on parietal and occipital bones.

Burial 414 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 414 (cont.)

Burial No. 414 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/30/92; Drawing No. 902).

(Possible feature or grave --- brick and rubble in fill)
Burial 415 was of a man between 35 and 55 years old. The grave was located at the rear of Lot 20½ in the eastern part of the excavated site. The shaft fill contained more than a hundred sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, kiln waste, and kiln furniture. Field notes indicated that a ceramic sherd, a coral fragment, and two mammal bones were found on the coffin lid, but these items were probably in the soil matrix at the time of interment. The coral, although cataloged as a grave-fill artifact, was not sent for reburial. The ceramic sherd, which in photographs appeared to have been a ceramic sewer-tile fragment, and the mammal bones were not received in the laboratory.

The man was buried in a hexagonal coffin in a supine position. His head was to the west, and his hands were together, resting between the upper femurs. The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 2.3 feet and the bottom at 1.46 feet. Nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom of the coffin, including clusters of vertical nails that attached the top to the sides in the upper body area. Two of the whole coffin nails measured 2 ¼ inches and 2 3/16 inches. A wood sample from the coffin bottom was identified as cedar.

The field drawing of the remains showed 14 buttons in locations consistent with breeches: 4 over the left knee, 4 outside the right knee, and 1 above and 1 on the proximal end of each femur. Two additional buttons were noted as located beneath the sacrum. There is, however, a discrepancy between the field count of 14 and the number of buttons (13) that were inventoried in the lab. It is likely the field number was inaccurate; one button had been broken and was counted as two. The buttons were hollow cast, with two holes in the button back through which heated gasses could escape during manufacture. The separate wire shanks were cast into the button backs. Textiles associated with this burial included a leather fragment attached to the back of one of the buttons; a wool fragment that appeared to be a buttonhole; a scrap of garment backing with a sewn, finished edge; and an unidentified fragment of fiber attached to wood.

One straight pin was also recorded in situ, to the right of the cranium. Pin fragments and an additional whole pin were recovered during laboratory cleaning of the skeletal remains.

The east end of Burial 415 overlay the southwest corner of Burial 432, and the south side of Burial 415 cut into the grave shaft of Burial 405. Burial 415 has been assigned to the Middle Group on the basis of the hexagonal coffin and in the absence of evidence that would place it any later.
Burial 415 (cont.)

Burial No. 415 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/23/92; Drawing No. 891).

Burial No. 415 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/23/92; Drawing No. 891).
Burial 416
Series 57
Catalog No. 2098
Datum point: 110 (1.83 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 71.5, E 142
Elevation of highest human remains (right humerus):
1.28 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Early

Burial 416, located at the rear of former Lot 17, yielded the remains of an adult whose age and sex could not be determined because of the severe erosion of the bone and the absence of the skull. This grave lay immediately below Burial 392, which may have caused the disturbance. The grave-shaft outline was visible along part of the south side and at the northeast corner, but was obscured elsewhere by the shafts for Burials 392 and 426 (to the north), and an unexcavated burial to the south. The shaft fill was described as dark gray-brown sandy silt with pale gray silt mottling. Grave-fill artifacts included a few sherds of stoneware and redware, a sherd of painted delft, and metatarsals from a cow and a sheep. An unidentified cylindrical metal object was noted in the field records but was not cataloged at the laboratory.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of 1.13 feet and the bottom at 0.58 feet. It was four sided and tapered toward the foot; the footboard sloped out toward the top. The deceased had been placed supine, with the head to the west and the arms at the sides. As noted, the bone was badly eroded, and the hands and feet were completely gone. Save for the coffin and nails, no artifacts were recovered in direct association with this burial.

As noted, Burial 392 overlay Burial 416, and the later interment was probably responsible for some of the disturbance. Burial 426, a partially excavated grave that lay to the north, and an unexcavated burial to the southeast also may have impacted the grave shaft of Burial 416. It is also possible that Burial 426 was contemporary with Burial 416.

Based on the coffin shape, Burial 416 has been assigned to the Early Group.
Burial 416 (cont.)

Burial No. 416 (drawn by K. Eilberg on 7/18/92; Drawing No. 886).

Volume 2 • The Archaeology of the New York African Burial Ground
Part 2 • Descriptions of Burials
Burial 417
Series 60
Catalog No. 2099
Datum point: 113 (2.06 feet AMSL) [Authors' note: field sheet indicates 116]
Grid coordinates: S 64.5, E 163
Elevation of highest skeletal element (tibia): 1.14 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 417 held the remains of a child between 9.5 and 14.5 years old. The grave was identified during clearing of the area next to an elevator shaft at the rear of Lot 18. This entire area was disturbed by building construction (the elevator shaft on the west and a line of concrete footings to the east) and possibly by backhoe damage. Excavators believed that some of the skeletal remains, those lying at the highest elevations, might have been dragged northeast by a later disturbance. Disturbance to the north side of the grave also may have been caused by another burial, but the area had not been excavated when the field project was shut down.

The grave-shaft outline and coffin stain for Burial 417 were discernable only at the east end and part of the south side. No coffin wood was recovered, although nails were drawn in situ and recovered. The skeletal remains were incomplete and in very poor condition, as they were badly crushed and eroded. Nevertheless, it was determined that the child had been laid supine, with the head to the west. A straight pin was recorded in situ at the mandible.

Burial 417 lay directly atop Burial 418, which held a man between 30 and 55. Their grave-shaft outlines were distinct, which indicates that the child's burial postdated that of the man. Burial 418 appears to have cut into the grave shaft of Burial 423. In the absence of evidence to place them more precisely in time, Burials 417 and 418 have been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 418 held the remains of a man between 30 and 55 years of age. The grave was identified during clearing of the area adjacent to an elevator shaft at the southwest corner of Lot 18. Cranial fragments from both Burials 418 and 423 were recovered from within the elevator shaft embankment. Because the shaft was enlarged and used for water-screening during the excavation, its embankment was unstable, and adjacent burials were damaged by erosion and soaking. Early in the excavation of Burial 418, another disturbed burial was discovered immediately atop it. This was designated Burial 417, and it held a child between 9.5 and 14.5 years old. The child burial was removed before excavation of Burial 418 proceeded. The grave-shaft outline for Burial 418 was clearly visible along all but the west side, where the elevator shaft had cut it.

The Burial 418 grave shaft was ovoid with an irregular south side. Artifacts recovered from the fill included sherds of locally produced stoneware and a fragment each of animal bone, tobacco pipe, and bottle glass.

The coffin shape was difficult to identify but may have been hexagonal. Its top was recorded at 0.99 feet, and its bottom was recorded at 0.45 feet. The only wood sample collected was taken from redeposited wood in the shaft embankment; it was not analyzed for species. Five nails were recorded in situ at the coffin top and five more at the bottom. The coffin footboard was not apparent, but based on nail locations, it probably sloped outward toward the top. One straight pin was found on the thoracic vertebrae but was not recovered.

The remains were in poor to fair condition when exposed; the bones were eroded, and the cranium and mandible were severely fragmented. Excavators noted that the right lower leg bones seemed to lay ventral side down but were unsure whether this was caused by the obvious disturbance to the burial. The skull had slid into the elevator shaft and was overlain by bricks, which excavators noted were imbedded in the bone. When the brick was removed, an oyster shell was found resting on the frontal bone. The shell may have been placed on his head or atop the coffin when he was buried, or it may have been incorporated by chance as a result of the disturbance. The shell was not recovered after the destruction of the World Trade Center.

Only a few skeletal elements had been removed when the excavation was shut down in July 1992. The burial was covered and then reexposed in October 1992, when it was moved to the laboratory. No major damage occurred in the interim.

Burials 417 and 418 had separate grave-shaft outlines indicating separate interments. However, the child may have been placed deliberately within the man’s grave. Burial 418 appears to have cut into the grave shaft of Burial 423, an unexcavated grave. Burials 417 and 418 have been assigned to the Middle Group.

(continued on page 578)
Burial 418 (cont.)

Burial No. 418 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/30/92; Drawing No. 903).
Burial 419 was the grave of a man between 48 and 62 years old. It was located in the southeastern part of the excavated cemetery in an area that had just begun to be excavated when the project was shut down. The shaft fill was described as mostly a sandy matrix containing masses of salt-glazed stoneware and kiln furniture, as well as a few sherds of Chinese export porcelain, Straffordshire slipware, bottle glass, shell, and mammal bones. Field notes indicated that yellowware and possible lithics (two quartz flakes) were also found, but they were not cataloged or inventoried.

The man had been laid in supine position, with the head to the west and his hands on top of his thighs. The skeletal remains were generally in good condition and well preserved, but rodent activity during the excavation caused considerable damage to the ribs. The remains suffered further deterioration between the halting of the excavation in July 1992 and its resumption in October of the same year. Mold had formed on the bones because the vermiculite in the grave retained too much moisture. The right radius had been fractured at the midpoint and the proximal area, the maxilla had been damaged on the right side, the ribs and vertebrae had minor scrapings throughout, and the scapulae had been damaged. In addition, there had been damage to the pubis, the right phalanges, and the distal left tibia. Some nails were found dislodged after reopening the burial.

The coffin was hexagonal, and nails were recorded in situ around the top and bottom perimeter. Two of the whole nails measured 2¾ and 2½ inches. A wood sample from the coffin side was identified as spruce. Excavators noted a possible fiber next to the right fibula, but it was later identified as root matter rather than textile. Two possible quill fragments, including one from the leg area, were recovered during water-screening, and straight-pin fragments were found during laboratory cleaning of the cranium.

Excavators recorded a square soil feature, labeled Feature 183, beneath the coffin in the area of the right hip. The soil was described as mostly silt and clay with cinder and brick. There is no further record of the feature. Apparently, it was not excavated.

Burial 419 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.

(continued on page 580)
Burial 419 (cont.)

Burial No. 419 (drawn by M. Schur on 7/30/92; Drawing No. 904).
soil contained numerous oyster shell and clamshell fragments; mammal bone; brick, glass, and nail fragments; kiln waste; and transfer-printed white-ware, delft, and Whieldon ware.

A wood sample designated as “coffin lid” was collected from the area of the cranium, and another wood sample was collected from the soil matrix between the bones. No other evidence of a coffin was noted. The highest elevation for Burial 420 was recorded at the vertebrae at 0.63 feet and the lowest elevation was recorded at the bottom of the “grave pit” at -0.63 feet. The skeletal elements themselves were in good to excellent condition, albeit incomplete, disarticulated, and scattered. Burial 420 has been placed by default in the Middle Group.

Burial 420 held the disarticulated remains of three individuals: a man between 35 and 45 years of age, an adult of undetermined age and sex, and a sub-adult of undetermined age. The remains were found in an area that had been disturbed by nineteenth-century construction in Lot 18; they may have been redeposited in a builder’s trench. The surrounding soil contained numerous oyster shell and clamshell fragments; mammal bone; brick, glass, and nail fragments; kiln waste; and transfer-printed white-ware, delft, and Whieldon ware.

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Burial No. 420 (drawn by K. Eilberg on 7/27/92; Drawing No. 898).
Burial 421 was erroneously designated a burial and has since been voided. The materials assigned to Catalog No. 2106 were sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, Chinese export porcelain, kiln furniture, fragments of brick and nails, and the stem of a clay pipe with a \(\frac{5}{64}\)-inch bore.

Burial 422, located in the southeastern portion of the excavated site, consisted only of vestiges of a wooden box and crushed bone that was not even identifiable as human. The possible burial had been exposed and recorded but was left in place when the field project was shut down. The box was extremely narrow (approximately 0.3 feet wide), with a single nail located near the northwest corner. A possible grave-shaft outline was recorded in all but the southwest corner, where there was an unidentified disturbance. No artifacts were recovered from this burial.

Burial 422 and Burial 430 (located about 1 foot to the east) were originally considered to be two separate individuals; after the completion of the fieldwork, the two were reassigned to a single burial. However, because no human remains were removed, skeletal biological assessment was impossible. The minimum number of individuals could not be confirmed. By default, Burial 422 has been assigned to the Middle temporal 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 423 had been identified, but no human remains had been exposed by the time the field project was shut down in July 1992. The grave was uncovered during clearing and initial scraping of the area around an elevator shaft at the southwest corner of Lot 18. This had disturbed the west end of the grave. Because the elevator shaft was used for water-screening during the excavation, its sides had become unstable, and Burial 423 began to slide into the embankment. Cranial fragments believed to be from Burial 423 were found in the side of the shaft. They were sent to the laboratory when the field project was shut down; however, no elements were cataloged from this burial. Presumably, the fragments were inventoried as unassigned remains or as Burial 418, which also was eroding into the shaft.

The only artifacts recovered in association with Burial 423 were nails and nail fragments. No elevations were recorded for this burial, but based on drawings for Burials 418 and 423; the shaft was visible at 0.74 feet.

Burial 418 lay just to the north of Burial 423, and the Burial 418 grave shaft appeared to cut into the grave shaft of Burial 423.

By default, Burial 423 has been assigned to the Middle temporal group.

Burial 424, located in Lot 20½, at the eastern end of the excavation site, consisted only of a possible grave-shaft outline and a few fragments of adult bone. Excavators recorded a partial grave-shaft outline with a high elevation of -0.69 feet; however, no outline is clear in the field photographs. A fragment of kiln furniture, a pipe stem fragment, and modern debris (newspaper) were interspersed with the bone fragments. Excavations and burial identifications in this vicinity were complicated by the construction and later removal of an excavation shelter.

Although mapped as lying beneath Burial 388, Burial 424 was opened 4 weeks after that burial’s removal, and the entire area appears to have been disturbed in the interim. Another purported grave, designated Burial 421, adjacent to the west, was voided, as it was not actually a grave. Although it has been counted as a grave and assigned to the default Middle temporal group, Burial 424 also may represent a disturbance containing miscellaneous bone fragments rather than an individual burial.
Burial 425
Catalog No. 2111
Datum point: 123
Grid coordinates: S 79.1, E 253
Elevation of cranium: 0.35 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

The Burial 425 grave was located in the southeastern portion of the excavated site. Excavation was halted before the burial was fully exposed, and the skeletal remains were not removed from the ground. The deceased was identified in the field as a woman, but her age was not determined. The grave had been disturbed at its eastern end by a trench for a wall along Elk Street; this trench truncated the skeletal remains at the lower legs. The grave shaft contained fragments of animal bone and shell, brick, mortar, nails, glass, redware, stoneware, and a tiny piece of kaolin pipe bowl, as well as bits of iron strap and sheet metal.

Enough of the coffin survived to determine that it had been hexagonal. Its lid lay at an elevation of 0.62 feet. Nails were recorded at several points on the coffin but were apparently not retrieved by excavators. The body had been laid out supine, with the head to the west and legs extended. The elbows were bent at a right angle to the body, the hands at the lower rib cage. The long bones were well preserved, but many other bones were crushed, deteriorated, or not excavated. A “white substance” found on the proximal right femur was collected and boxed but apparently was not analyzed. No pins were observed in the exposed part of the burial.

Burial 425 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 392 cut into the south edge of Burial 426. Burial 426 may have been aligned with Burial 416, located just to the south, which had a similar four-sided, tapered coffin and lay at a similar elevation. Based on the coffin shape, both burials are assigned to the Early Group.

(continued on page 586)
Burial 426 (cont.)

Burial No. 426 (drawn by K. Ellberg on 7/30/92; Drawing No. 909).
Burial 427 was the grave of a young adult aged 16–20 years, probably a man. The burial was located at the rear of Lot 18 in a very disturbed part of the site. Its shaft outline was generally ovoid but irregular in shape, especially on the south side, possibly from the intrusion of Burial 410 to the south. A large trench associated with nineteenth-century construction had truncated the eastern end of the grave. The grave fill was described as mottled gray and light brown clayey silt with red sand. Artifacts in the fill included three nail fragments, numerous salt-glazed stoneware sherds, two redware sherds, kiln furniture, a white salt-glazed stoneware sherd, and animal bone and shell fragments. Field notes mentioned a possible lithic biface found during the surface cleaning, but this item was either never received in the laboratory or was collected as part of the nonburial component of the site.

The coffin was hexagonal but the footboard missing. Its lid was recorded at an elevation of 0.42 feet; the bottom was at 0.02 feet. Nails were noted in situ around the top and bottom perimeters. The man had been placed in supine position, with his hands resting on his upper legs and his head to the west. When initially exposed, the long bones were in good condition but the other bones were very eroded, and the cranium was fragmented.

Burial 427 was initially excavated in late July of 1992; 90 percent of the burial was exposed. When the excavation was shut down at the end of July, the burial was covered with vermiculite pending a decision on whether to remove it. Excavation resumed in late September, and the skeletal remains were removed for analysis. Flooding in the interim caused some damage to the remains.

One straight-pin fragment was found at the feet during laboratory cleaning of the remains, but no other artifacts, except for the coffin remains, were recovered in association with this burial.

Burial 410 lay adjacent to and 0.4 feet above the south edge of Burial 427. Excavators did not indicate which grave shaft cut into the other, and the stratigraphic relationship between the two burials was somewhat ambiguous. Based on photographs and drawings, Burial 410 probably partially overlay the grave shaft of Burial 427 and thus postdated it. Both burials are assigned to the default Middle Group.

(continued on page 588)
Burial 427 (cont.)

Burial No. 427 (drawn by K. Eilberg on 7/29/92; Drawing No. 906).
Burial 428 held the remains of a woman between 40 and 70 years of age. The skeleton had been truncated at the rib cage by a stone wall and a builders’ trench at the boundary between Lots 17 and 18. Material recovered from the grave fill included a cow phalange, a fragment of clamshell, a few sherds of stoneware and kiln furniture, a sherd of hard-paste porcelain (probably institutional or sanitary ware), a fragment of aqua window glass, a pipe stem with a 4/64-inch bore, and a few nails. In addition, two faceted glass beads were recovered from an uncertain provenience during screening of the grave fill. These beads were not salvaged from the World Trade Center laboratory after September 11, 2001.

The woman’s coffin lid was at an elevation of 1.73 feet in the northwest and at 1.53 feet in the southeast. Less than half of its original length was intact at the time of excavation. Although field notes state it was rectangular, the final drawing depicts it as hexagonal. The woman had been placed in supine position with her head to the west. Her arms seemed to extend downward, but her remains were severed at mid-torso, thereby obscuring the position of her hands and legs. Two copper-alloy straight-pin fragments were directly associated with her burial; these were recovered during laboratory cleaning of the right parietal.

Burial 428 did not appear to be aligned with any other excavated burials. The construction that disturbed these remains may have also obliterated any adjacent burials to the north, south, and east. Burial 428 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 429
Catalog No. 2116
Datum point: 104
Grid coordinates: S 64.5, E 212.5
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 429 was only partially excavated because the site was closed, and the skeletal remains were never exposed. Excavators did not note or collect any cultural material from the grave fill, nor did they comment on the soil conditions in the grave shaft. A coffin lid was identified at an elevation of 1.12 feet.

It appeared to be an adult-sized coffin, but it was not fully exposed, and its shape was not determined. Several nails were noted and drawn but not removed. No wood or soil samples were obtained. The coffin was oriented east-west.

Burial 429 lay to the northwest of the other burials excavated in this part of the site. Because excavation was halted, it is impossible to say whether any graves lay closer to it. The lack of evidence to place it earlier or later has consigned Burial 429 to the default Middle Group.
Burial 429 (cont.)

Burial No. 429 (drawn by M. Schur on 8/11/92; Drawing No. 918).
Burial 430
Catalog No. 2117
Datum point: 95 (3.42 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 84.5, E 215
Elevation of (coffin remains): 2.57 feet
Temporal group: Middle

This burial, located in the southeastern portion of the site, was not fully excavated before the field project was shut down. Only a remnant of a coffin was exposed and recorded. Burial 430 and Burial 422 (located about 1 foot to the west) were originally considered to be two separate individuals, but after fieldwork they were reassigned to a single individual. However, because no human remains were exposed and observed in Burial 430, there was no skeletal biological assessment. There was no opportunity to confirm that the two graves represented a single individual.

The coffin lid remains were recorded at elevations of 1.86–2.57 feet. Three vertically oriented nails were recorded in situ; there were two at the east end of the coffin and one on the north side. The west end of the coffin was not discernable, nor was the western part of the grave-shaft outline. Twenty-three stoneware sherds and two glass fragments were recovered from the grave fill.

Burial 430 has been placed by default in the Middle Group.
Burial 431
Catalog No. 2118
Datum point: 118 (1.35 feet AMSL)
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 162
Elevation of cranial fragments: 0.48 feet AMSL
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 431 consisted of disturbed remains, including a few cranial, rib, and vertebral fragments, and a left tibia lying beneath a piece of concrete and alongside pieces of brick and stone. This part of the site, at the rear of Lot 18, had undergone substantial disturbance. Two Middle Group burials were noted in close proximity; Burial 404, consisting of coffin fragments and a few disarticulated female bones, lay to the east, and Burial 433, an unexcavated grave, lay immediately to the north. A small bit of coffin wall stain was recorded on the north side of the Burial 431 bones, and a few nails were found but were not cataloged in the laboratory. An arcing soil stain stretched eastward from the bones and may represent the disturbed grave shaft. The age and sex of the individual in Burial 431 could not be determined from the remains, although they represented an adult. Burial 431 has been assigned to the default 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 432

Burial 432, located in Lot 20½, at the eastern end of the excavation site, held the remains of an adult, age unknown. The grave was not fully excavated and was left intact when the excavation was shut down in the summer of 1992. The grave-shaft outline was recorded as rectangular in shape. No grave-shaft artifacts were cataloged from Burial 432, but it is not clear whether this is because none was found or because they were left in place. Excavations and burial identifications in this vicinity were complicated by the construction and later removal of an excavation shelter.

The coffin lid was recorded at an elevation of -0.49 feet. It was four sided, apparently rectangular in shape; however, it was never fully excavated so this is not certain. It was clearly of a different shape than the two nearby early burials, Burials 388 and 387. Both of these were tapered and extremely narrow. Nails were recorded around the perimeter of the top of the Burial 432 coffin but were not recovered. The deceased had been buried in a supine position, with the head to the west. Only the skull, clavicles, scapula, and all the long shafts were exposed, and these elements were described as being in good condition. The lowest elevation recorded was -1.08 feet, just above the exposed femurs. Field notes indicate that a straight pin was found on the cranium, but it was not recovered. Soil samples were taken from the coffin lid and from inside the coffin.

Burial No. 432 was overlain on the north side by Burial 388, and Burial 415 overlay the southwest corner. Stratigraphic relationships, in particular the apparent predating of Burial 388 (which had a tapered coffin and is assigned to the Early Group), place Burial 432 in the Early Group.
Burial 433 consisted of skeletal remains excavated in a possible grave at the rear of Lot 18, to the west of Burial 404, itself a disturbed grave. At the time the excavation was shut down, only foot bones and a small bit of coffin wall stain had been exposed. A drawing was made and depths taken, but the datum point used was not recorded, so elevations could not be determined. The remains were not sufficiently exposed to allow an evaluation of age or sex for this individual. The remains were left in situ and reburied. Based on the lack of evidence to place it earlier or later, Burial 433 has been placed in the default 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 434

Catalog No. 2125
Datum point: 117
Grid coordinates: S 79.5, E 155
Elevation of cranium: unknown
Temporal group: Middle

Burial 434 was not fully excavated and age and sex were not determined. Only a few bones had been exposed when field excavations were shut down, and they were left in situ and reburied. The elements were not identified in the field notes, but the field drawing showed long bones. Excavators did not observe a coffin stain within the purported grave shaft.

The sole artifact found in association with this burial was a glass bead, recovered from the mottled soil to the west of the bones. It is not clear whether this item was from grave fill or from disturbed overlying soil. The opaque white bead was tubular with a roughly trapezoidal cross section, and a slightly irregular perforation. The surface was somewhat pitted and cracked and showed tan or whitish brown patination. It was not recovered from the laboratory after the collapse of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Because the incomplete excavation did not yield sufficient material evidence to date it more specifically, Burial 434 has been assigned to the default Middle Group.
Burial 434 (cont.)

Burial No. 434 (drawn by M. Schur on 8/11/92; Drawing No. 917).
Burial 435
Catalog No. 2128
Datum point: 86
Grid coordinates: S 84.5, E 205
Elevation of highest skeletal element: 2.64 feet AMSL

Although Burial 435 was not completely excavated, field notes referred to the possibility that it may have held two people. The remains, as found, were not sufficient to determine age or sex for the person or persons buried there. No descriptions of soil conditions were recorded, although excavators recovered several sherds of salt-glazed stoneware, numerous bits of kiln waste, a single nail fragment, and a sherd of lead-glass tumbler from the grave shaft. The body or bodies appeared to have been buried without a coffin. No wood or hardware (except the nail fragment in the grave shaft) could be associated with this burial.

The human remains consisted of two pockets of bone, separated by almost 2 feet. One had a few fragments of femur or humerus, and the other held bits of rib and possibly tibia. No artifacts were found in direct association with the human remains.

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.