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## FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS: PART 2. MISSION GARDENS LOCUS, THE CLEARWATER SITE, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM)

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Archaeological work conducted during the Rio Nuevo Archaeology project resulted in the discovery of hundreds of features—areas in which human activities took place. Descriptions of excavated features and summarized data on unexcavated features are presented in this chapter. Descriptions of human burials found during the project are provided in Chapter 18 (this volume).

Work during this project was conducted at four different archaeological sites. The San Agustín Mission, Mission Gardens, Brickyard, and Congress Street loci were located at the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM), on the western side of the Santa Cruz River. AZ BB:13:481 (ASM) were the Prehistoric, Protohistoric, and Historic era canals, ditches, and a spillway, also located on the western side of the Santa Cruz River. The Tucson Presidio has been designated AZ BB:13:13 (ASM), and the site includes both prehistoric- and historic-era features. Finally, a portion of a historic-era residential block on the northern side of Clark Street and east of the Interstate 10 (I-10) frontage road was designated AZ BB:13:735 (ASM).

The feature descriptions in this chapter are grouped by locus, except for canals, which are described in Part 6 and which are grouped by time period. All site numbers in this chapter are Arizona State Museum (ASM) numbers. Radiocarbon dates are reported in both uncalibrated radiocarbon years before present (b.p.), and in calibrated calendar years at the 1-sigma range of probability. Excavated and unexcavated features are listed, by site/locus and time period, in Table 4.1 (see Part 1 of this chapter).

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Test trenching at the Mission Gardens locus, situated about 122 m west of the San Agustín Mission locus, revealed features dating to Early Agricultural, Early Ceramic, Hohokam, Spanish, American Territorial, and American Statehood periods. Locations of prehistoric and historic-era features in the garden area are shown on Figures 4.23 and 4.24.

The pit intruded on the fill of an underlying small pit, Feature 3082. The eastern edge of this pit was itself intruded on by a later borrow pit, Feature 3067. Feature 3001 is thought to be Hohokam in age.

### Feature 3005, Possible Pit Structure

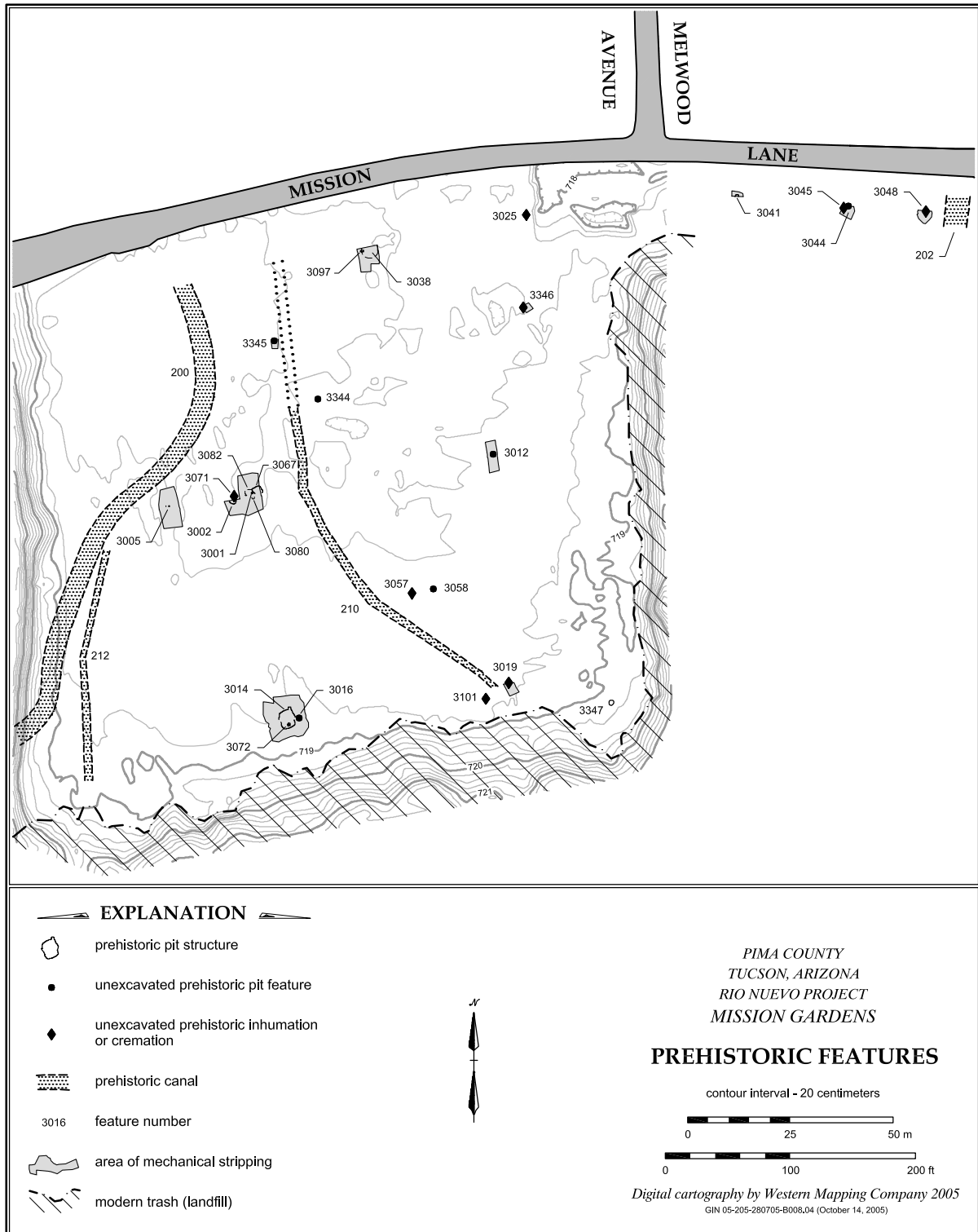
#### *Description*

This possible pit structure was discovered in the northern profile of Trench 300. After it was found, a 1-m by 2-m control unit was excavated into the fill of the feature. The remainder of the feature was not excavated; therefore, the overall length, width, and structure shape were unknown. No internal features were discovered. The entry was not identified and the orientation of the feature is unknown. A small area of oxidized floor plaster and small chunks of burned daub were found, suggesting the structure had burned. Only fire-cracked rock was found on the floor.

### PREHISTORIC FEATURES

#### Feature 3001, Pit

This large, irregularly shaped pit was found in the profile of Trench 300. It measured approximately 1.85 m in length, 1.25 m in width, and 0.44 m in diameter. The fill was compact tan silty clay with some charcoal flecking and small chunks of daub. The charcoal flecking increased with depth. Artifacts recovered from the fill included Native American sherds, two fragments of ground stone, some unworked animal bone, and pieces of flaked stone. Fire-cracked rock was also present throughout the fill.



**Figure 4.23.** Prehistoric features located in the Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

*Internal Features*

No internal features were discovered during the excavation of Feature 3005.

*Internal Strata and Artifact Contents*

Some 34 cm of fill were removed between the stripped surface and the floor of the pit structure.

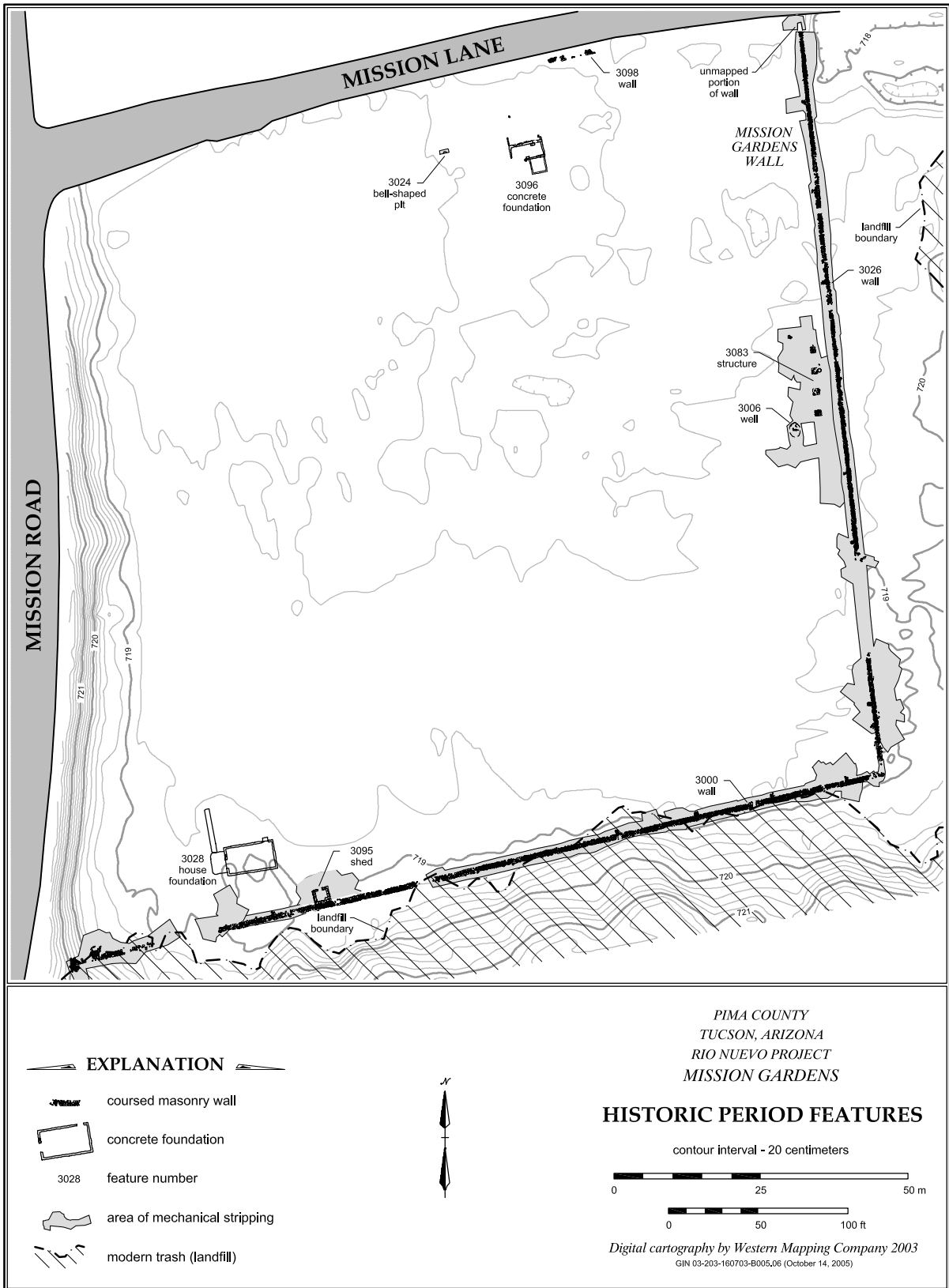


Figure 4.24. Historic era features located in the Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

The fill was grayish-brown silty clay with large chunks of charcoal and small pieces of burned daub. Artifacts recovered from the fill included Native American sherds, a reworked projectile point, a fragment of ground stone, a worked ceramic disc, a possible ceramic figurine fragment, pieces of flaked stone, and some unworked animal bone.

Small pieces of fire-cracked rock were discovered on the floor of the pit structure.

#### *Construction and Remodeling Evidence*

Very little evidence for construction details of the structure was discovered. A small patch of oxidized floor plaster that measured 35 cm long by 22 cm wide suggested that the floor was originally plastered, and that the structure had probably burned. Small pieces of oxidized daub constituted the only evidence for a superstructure.

#### *Stratigraphic Relationships*

Feature 3005 was constructed into the floodplain alluvium. The nearest feature was a canal, Feature 201, AZ BB:13:481 (ASM), located about 5 m to the west. It was not intruded on by, nor did it intrude upon, any other features.

#### *Abandonment and Postabandonment*

Lack of floor artifacts suggested the structure might have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. The oxidized daub and floor plaster indicated the structure might have burned. After burning, alluvial and colluvial processes filled the foundation pit of the structure. Continuing natural processes then buried the filled foundation pit.

#### *Date*

The presence of decorated ceramics suggested the structure dated to the Hohokam occupation of the area.

#### **Feature 3012, Pit**

This small pit was discovered in the northern profile of a backhoe trench. It was roughly circular in shape and had straight sidewalls. The remaining portion of the pit was excavated and measured 74 cm in length, 36 cm in width, and 45 cm in depth.

The fill of the pit was gray clayey silt. Artifacts recovered from the fill included five Native American plain ware sherds and one possible ground stone. About 40 pieces of fire-cracked rock were also found in the fill, but were not collected. The pit likely dates to the Hohokam occupation of the area.

#### **Feature 3014, Pit Structure**

##### *Description*

This pit structure was originally discovered in both the northern and southern profiles of Trench 301 (Figure 4.25). A control unit was excavated down to the floor of the structure, and the remainder of the structure was excavated by hand. Two later canals, Features 203 and 204, BB:13:481, intruded and destroyed the western and eastern walls of the structure. A small hearth, Feature 3072, also intruded on the upper levels of the fill.

The structure measured approximately 4.35 m in length, 2.87 m in width, and 30 cm in depth. It appeared to be rectangular in shape. Four postholes, three possible postholes, and a hearth were discovered in the floor. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined. A mano and four large pieces of fire-cracked rock were recovered from the floor, and the structure appeared to have burned.

##### *Internal Features*

Four postholes and three possible postholes were discovered. Two of the postholes, Features 3014.01



**Figure 4.25.** Feature 3014, an Early Ceramic period pithouse, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

and 3014.03, were centrally located in the structure, and ranged in size from 20-26 cm in length, 17-20 cm in width, and 14-24 cm in depth. A burned post fragment was removed and collected from Feature 3014.01.

Two postholes, Features A and B, and three possible postholes were arranged around the interior perimeter of the structure. They ranged in size from 10 cm to 17 cm in length, 10 cm to 16 cm in width, and 7 cm to 9 cm in depth. No artifacts were recovered from any of these postholes.

Feature 3014.02 was a hearth located near the center of the structure. It measured 25 cm in length, 22 cm in width, and 12 cm in depth. The upper margins of the hearth were oxidized. The base appeared to have been disturbed by bioturbation. No artifacts were recovered from the fill of the hearth.

#### *Internal Strata and Artifact Contents*

Approximately 30 cm of fill was removed between the stripped surface and the floor of the structure. The fill was brown clayey silt with abundant amounts of burned daub, charcoal, and charcoal flecking. The concentration of daub and charcoal increased with depth in the fill. Artifacts recovered from the fill included Native American sherds, pieces of flaked stone, fragments of ground stone, a biface, some unworked animal bone, a turquoise pendant fragment, and samples of red ochre, mica, and chalcidony.

A mano and four large pieces of fire-cracked rock were discovered on the floor of the structure.

#### *Construction and Remodeling Evidence*

When encountered, the walls of the structure were preserved to a height of roughly 17 cm above the floor. The eastern and western walls of the structure had been removed by intrusive canal Feature 203 and Feature 204, BB:13:481. The northern and southern walls were intact, but may have been slightly impacted by mechanical stripping. The walls of the structure showed no evidence of plaster. A small patch on the floor of the structure appeared to have been plastered, suggesting the entire floor may have originally been plastered.

The two centrally located postholes, Features 3014.01 and 3014.03, may have held roof support posts for the structure. The other two postholes, Features A and B, probably held wall support posts. The burned daub present in the fill of the structure suggested the superstructure was of wattle-and-daub construction.

No evidence existed to indicate reuse or remodeling of the structure.

#### *Stratigraphic Relationships*

This pit structure was constructed into the floodplain alluvium. Sometime after it had been abandoned and filled, two canals, Features 203 and 204, BB:13:481, were constructed through its eastern and western edges. Also after the structure was filled, a hearth, Feature 3072, was built in the upper levels of fill. The stratigraphic relationship between the canals and the hearth was unclear.

#### *Abandonment and Postabandonment*

The lack of artifacts on the floor of the structure suggested that it was cleaned out before it burned. Oxidized daub and charcoal present in the fill and the postholes suggested the superstructure was intact when the structure burned. After burning, alluvial and colluvial processes filled the foundation pit of the structure. These continuing natural processes then buried the filled pit. The canals and the hearth were constructed sometime after the structure had been buried.

#### *Date*

A maize sample from the structure was radiocarbon dated to 1760±40 b.p. (uncalibrated <sup>14</sup>C years), or A.D. 230-450 (calibrated calendar years at the 1-sigma range of probability), indicating the structure dates to the Agua Caliente phase of the Early Ceramic period.

### **Feature 3038, Pit Structure**

#### *Description*

This possible pit structure was discovered in the northern profile of Trench 304 (Figure 4.26). A 1-m by 2-m control unit was excavated into the fill of the structure to identify the floor. The remainder of the feature was then excavated to identify the walls of the structure. However, only one small area of wall could be positively identified. The rest of the feature edge remained indistinct. An inhumation, Feature 3097, intruded on the western edge of the structure.

This pit structure was oval in shape, and measured about 4.34 m in length, 3.95 m in width, and 29 cm in depth. Three pits, a possible hearth area, and seven possible postholes were identified in the floor of the structure. No entry was discovered, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined. A single sherd was discovered on the floor. Oxidization of the floor and burned daub in the fill suggested the structure had burned.



**Figure 4.26.** Feature 3038, an Early Ceramic period pithouse, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

#### *Internal Features*

Seven possible postholes were discovered in the floor. All were arranged around the interior circumference of the structure. They ranged in size from 10-16 cm long, 10-15 cm wide, and 5-12 cm deep. Two of the postholes, Feature 3038.05 and Feature 3038.06, contained artifacts, while the other five, Features A to E, did not.

Feature 3038.01 was an irregularly shaped area of the floor that was highly oxidized. It measured 24 cm in length, 20 cm in width, 1 cm in depth, and was thought to represent a possible hearth for the structure. This area contained no fill and no artifacts.

Feature 3038.02 was an irregularly shaped pit that measured 95 cm long, 89 cm wide, and 18 cm deep. It was centrally located in the pit structure. The fill of the pit was oxidized, but the margins were not. Artifacts recovered from the pit included Native American sherds, a piece of unworked animal bone, and a possible hammerstone.

Feature 3038.03 was a small circular pit that measured 48 cm in length, 23 cm in width, and 23 cm in depth. Fill of this pit contained charcoal flecking and a few small pieces of unburned daub. A small reconstructable sherd was recovered from the base of the pit. The northern half of the feature was removed by the backhoe trench.

Feature 3038.04 was a small oval pit that measured 35 cm in length, 32 cm in width, and 12 cm in depth. A few sherds were recovered from the fill. A portion of this pit had been removed by the backhoe trench.

#### *Internal Strata and Artifact Contents*

Approximately 29 cm of fill was removed between the stripped surface and the floor of the pit structure. The upper 13 cm of fill was grayish-brown clay that contained small amounts of charcoal and burned daub. Artifacts recovered from this upper fill consisted of Native American sherds, some flaked stone, and one piece of burned human bone.

The lower 16 cm of fill was tan sandy silt with abundant quantities of charcoal, oxidized daub, and ash. The lowest 6 cm of this fill was very highly oxidized. Artifacts recovered included Native American sherds, some shell, a piece of burned human bone, a worked ceramic sherd, and some red ochre. Fire-cracked rock was present throughout the fill of Feature 3038. One sherd was discovered on the floor of the structure.

#### *Construction and Remodeling Evidence*

Only one small portion of the wall of the structure could be identified. Where it was preserved, it was roughly 17 cm above the floor. The presence of postholes and abundant quantities of daub suggested the pit structure had a superstructure, likely of wattle and daub. No evidence was found for a remodeling of the structure.

#### *Stratigraphic Relationships*

Feature 3038 was constructed into the floodplain alluvium. Sometime after the foundation pit had filled, an inhumation was placed into the fill of the western edge. No other features were found nearby.

#### *Abandonment and Postabandonment*

The lack of artifacts on the floor suggests the structure had been cleaned out prior to abandonment. The large amounts of oxidized daub indicated the superstructure was at least partially intact when the structure burned. After it burned, the foundation pit of the structure was reused as a trash pit. After being filled mostly with trash, the foundation pit was buried by alluvial and colluvial processes. These continuing natural processes then buried the filled foundation pit.

### Date

A sample of columnar-celled seed coat (CCSC) provided a radiocarbon date of 1600±40 b.p. (uncalibrated <sup>14</sup>C years), or A.D. 410-530 (calibrated calendar years at the 1-sigma range of probability), indicating the structure dates to the Agua Caliente phase of the Early Ceramic period.

### Feature 3044, Bell-shaped Pit

This bell-shaped pit was discovered in the southern face of a backhoe trench. It had a maximum diameter of 2.0 m and a basal diameter of 1.9 m. The pit was not entirely excavated to its base, because it extended below the bottom of the trench. However, it measured at least 22 cm deep. An inhumation, Feature 3045, was placed into the bell pit, possibly after the pit had already been partially filled. Excavation of the pit was conducted primarily to remove the inhumation.

The fill of the pit was brown clayey silt with some small pockets of sand. The concentration of sand in the fill became higher with depth. Artifacts recovered from the fill included Native American sherds and pieces of flaked stone. The feature dates to the Hohokam occupation of the area.

### Feature 3058, Pit

This small pit was discovered in the northern profile of Trench 305 (Figure 4.27). It measured 87 cm in length, 54 cm in width, and 10 cm in depth. The fill



**Figure 4.27.** Feature 3058, a Hohokam cache of ground stone hoes and preforms, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

of the pit was grayish-brown silty clay. Artifacts recovered from the fill included Native American sherds, a ground stone mano, and 20 slabs of tabular stone. The stone slabs were stacked in three layers on the bottom of the pit and appeared to have been cached for later use. They ranged from 14-19 cm long and 10-15 cm wide. The feature dates to the Hohokam occupation of the area.

### Feature 3067, Borrow Pit

This large, irregularly shaped borrow pit was discovered during excavation of a pit structure, Feature 3001. It intruded on the western edge of the structure. The borrow pit measured approximately 2.9 m in length, 2.0 m in width, and 35 cm in depth. A small portion of the southern edge of this pit was removed by Trench 300.

Fill of the borrow pit was brown silty clay with some charcoal chunks and flecking. Small pieces of unburned daub were also present in the fill. Artifact density was very high, and included Native American sherds, pieces of flaked stone, shell, hammerstones, unworked animal bone, flaked stone tools, and both whole and fragmentary ground stone artifacts. Fire-cracked rock was abundant throughout the fill; approximately 692 pieces were discovered. The feature almost certainly dates to the Hohokam occupation of the area.

### Feature 3072, Hearth

This small hearth was discovered during mechanical stripping of an area south of a pit structure, Feature 3014. It measured 29 cm in length, 24 cm in width, and 13 cm in depth. The margins and collar of the pit were oxidized and had small areas of intact, oxidized plaster. No evidence of a floor or walls was found near the hearth, suggesting it may have been an extramural feature.

The fill of the hearth was brownish-orange silty clay. A few small pieces of charcoal were noted, but the overall fill did not appear oxidized. The fill of the hearth was completely collected as a flotation sample; one Native American sherd was collected from the base of the hearth. The feature dates to the Early Ceramic period or Hohokam occupation of the area.

### Feature 3081, Possible Roasting Pit

This possible roasting pit was discovered during mechanical stripping south of Trench 300. It was visible as a dark stain that measured 75 cm long and 70 cm wide. Several large pieces of fire-cracked rock were visible on the stripped surface of the stain. This feature was not excavated.

### Feature 3082, Pit

This small pit was discovered during excavation of an overlying pit structure, Feature 3001. It was unclear how much of the upper portion of the pit was removed by the pit structure. The intact portion of the pit measured 40 cm in diameter and 12 cm in depth.

The fill was moderately compact, brown silty clay with caliche striations and some light charcoal flecking. Artifacts recovered from the fill included several Native American sherds and a few pieces of flaked stone debitage.

### Feature 3099, Pit

This possible small pit was discovered during mechanical stripping of an area south of several historic structural elements, Feature 3083. Feature 3099 was not excavated, although the visible portion measured 82 cm in length and 80 cm in width. The fill appeared to consist of light tan silty sand with some small daub and charcoal chunks. Several mollusk shells were also visible in the fill of Feature 3099. The presence of the mollusk shells suggested the pit may have been related to a nearby canal, Feature 207, BB:13:481.

## HISTORIC-ERA FEATURES

### Feature 3000, South Mission Gardens Wall

Feature 3000 was the foundation of the southern wall of the Mission Gardens. The foundation was 116.4 m long and approximately 0.8 m to 1.0 m wide. It was constructed from large rocks collected from the side of A-Mountain. The foundation was between three and five rocks wide, with up to three courses of rock high. In some areas, small rocks were used as chinking between the larger rocks.

Five buttresses were present on the interior side of the wall (Table 4.2). Individual buttresses were between 70-80 cm wide and 60-70 cm long. The first buttress was 6.62 m west of the southwestern corner. The next three buttresses ranged from 12.98 m

to 14.15 m apart. The last buttress was much farther to the west, at 60.10 m from the fourth buttress; however, this was probably caused by the loss of portions of the wall from bulldozing and removal of rocks.

A gate opening was present along the southern wall. The opening was 47 cm wide, from 22.65 m to 23.12 m west of the southwestern corner of the wall. Each side of the opening was composed of several rocks that were noticeably larger than the other rocks used to construct the foundation. The rocks protruded slightly into the interior of the wall, more so on the eastern side of the opening, perhaps indicating a buttress was present on each side.

There was no evidence for interior structures inside the wall dating to the Spanish or Mexican periods, and no Euro-American artifacts predating A.D. 1900 were found during excavation of the wall.

At the western end of the wall, the southwestern corner of the Mission Gardens wall was discovered. Only a 75-cm-long segment of the western wall was uncovered, and the rest of the western wall is lying beneath the embankment of present-day Mission Road.

### Feature 3006, Historic-era Well

Feature 3006 was a historic-era well found a few meters southwest of a historic structure, Feature 3083. The well was found in a backhoe trench and a 1-m-square excavation unit was placed inside the interior of the well. The well appears to have been oval in plan view, and measured 2.4 m north-south, by 1.8 m east-west. Three strata were identified to 1.2 m below the modern ground surface. At that point, excavation terminated.

The top stratum was moderately compact grayish-brown silt, 60 cm thick. Artifacts recovered from this layer included pieces of metal, animal bone, glass, prehistoric sherds, and flaked stone. The second stratum was lightly compacted, dark brown, clayey sandy silt, 40 cm thick. Artifacts found in this layer

**Table 4.2.** Buttresses located along the southern wall of the Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

Buttress	Meters West from Southeastern Corner (Centerpoint)
7	6.62
8	19.62
9	32.60
10	46.75
11	106.85



included oyster shells, animal bone, metal, glass, flaked stone, prehistoric sherds, and fire-cracked rocks. The third stratum was a mixture of loosely compact brown silty sand and very compact brown sandy silt. Five large rocks were present, filling much of the space. Artifact density was low and consisted primarily of prehistoric sherds, flaked stone, and a mano.

The fill of the well continued downward; however, this material was left in place.

### Feature 3024, Bell-shaped Pit

Feature 3024 was a bell-shaped pit found a few meters south of the northern wall of the gardens. It was discovered after a backhoe trench cut through the pit, removing about half the feature. The top of the pit was 52 cm wide, and the base of the pit was 98 cm wide. The feature was 64 cm deep.

The pit was filled with soil layers. The top layer was loosely compacted gray-brown clayey silt with many artifacts. The middle layer was loosely compacted light brown sandy silt with less charcoal and ash than the preceding layer, but still containing many artifacts. The bottom layer was dark brown clayey silt with few artifacts but had many large pieces of charcoal. Prior to being filled, a fire had been built in the pit. The heat from the fire had reddened the soil across the entire pit edge, forming a 2- to 3-cm rind.

Artifacts found in the pit included fragments of a shoe, nails, a horseshoe, tin cans, and a piece of stove pipe. Many pieces of burned animal bone were present. Feature 3024 was probably a roasting pit for meat. It seems unlikely that this was a pit in which trash was burned, because most of the artifacts were unburned.

### Feature 3026, East Mission Gardens Wall

Feature 3026 was the foundation of the eastern Mission Gardens wall (Figures 4.28-4.29). It was traced from just south of Mission Lane to the south-eastern corner of the garden walls. It was at least 127.5 m long, and ranged in width from 0.8 m to 1.0 m. The foundation was between three and five rocks wide, with two to three courses of rock surviving in most areas. In some areas, small rocks were used as chinking between the larger rocks. The wall was gen-



**Figure 4.28.** Feature 3026, the foundations of the eastern gardens wall, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

erally constructed by using larger rocks at the base and smaller rocks along the top to create a flat surface for adobe bricks to be placed on.

Six buttresses were present on the interior side of the wall (Table 4.3). Other buttresses were probably removed when portions of the wall were mined for rocks. Individual buttresses were between 70 cm and 80 cm wide, and 35 cm and 75 cm long. The buttresses were spaced between 11.75 m and 15.75 m apart, in places where they were intact.

One structure was built along the wall during the Spanish or Mexican period. This building, Feature 3083, used the garden wall as its western wall.

### Feature 3028, Historic Home

Feature 3028 was the concrete and rock foundation for a dwelling in the southwestern quarter of the garden. The house was probably constructed in the 1930s, and was probably in use until the early 1950s.

The house was 8.56 m long east-west, and 4.91 m wide north-south. The foundations of the structure were made from A-Mountain rock and concrete. Inside the rectangular foundation was a poured concrete floor. The house appears to have had only one room. A doorway was present next to the northeastern corner, with a small, 22-cm-long concrete door stoop. Immediately inside the door was an area of dimpling on the concrete floor that appears to be where a carpet was tacked down to the concrete floor. Linoleum was present along the western side of the house; in some cases, with fragmentary newspapers from the early 1950s lying below. A few slots and

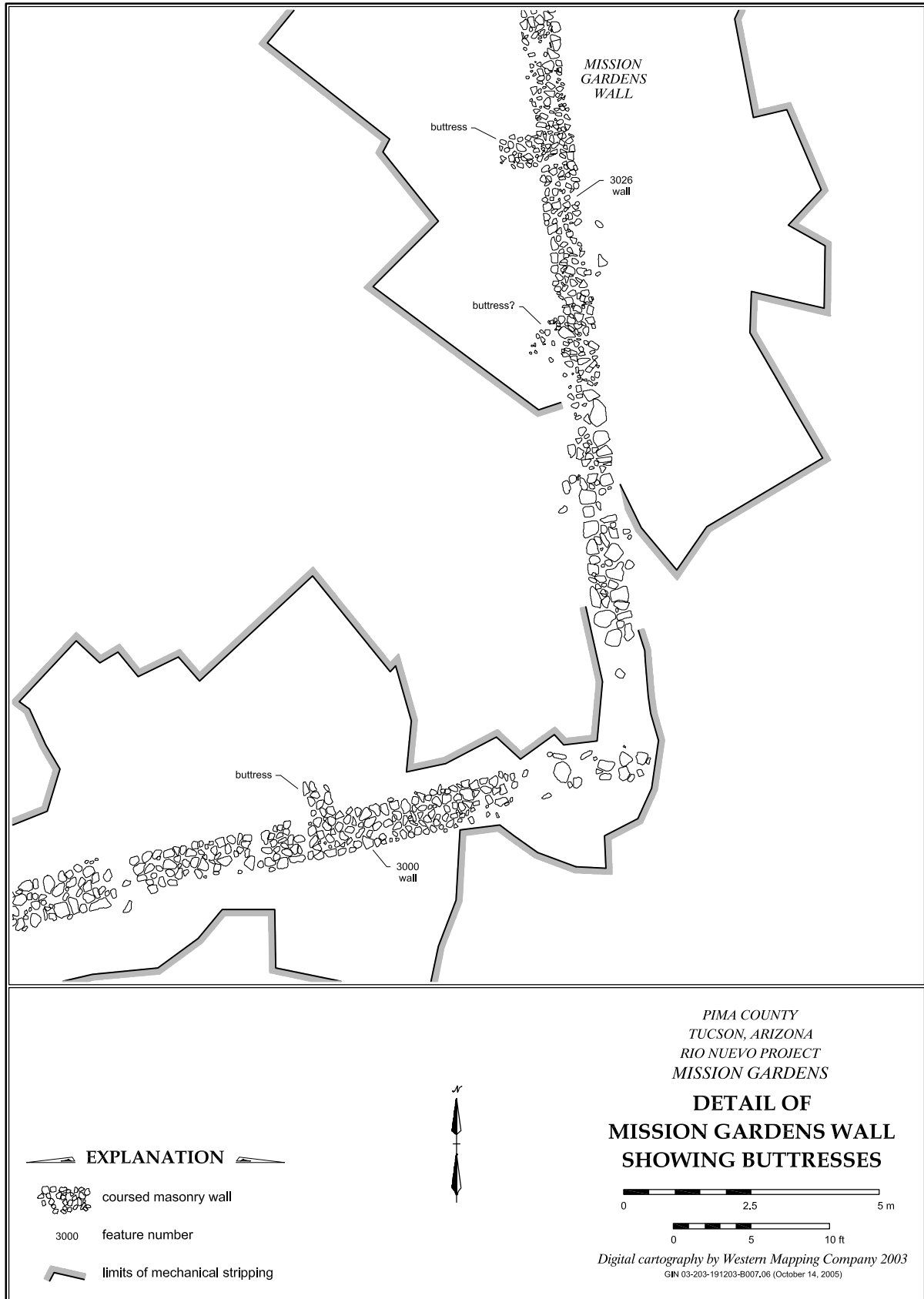


Figure 4.29. Map of the southeastern corner of the gardens walls, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

**Table 4.3.** Buttresses located along the eastern wall of the Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

Buttress	Meters North from Southeastern Corner (Centerpoint)
1	11.75
2	27.00
3	42.75
4	75.50
5	87.25
6	114.88

square postholes present along the northern and eastern walls may represent the location of partition walls or shelves. Areas of red paint were also visible on the floor, as was a circular rust area in the southeastern corner, that may mark the location of a barrel or bucket.

A second doorway was present along the western side of the house. Immediately outside the doorway was a concrete floor, measuring 3.70 m by 2.45 m, that appears to represent an addition used for a porch. A sidewalk extends 12 m north from this addition.

The house appears to have been burned after abandonment. A thick layer of charcoal lay directly on the concrete floor.

#### **Feature 3083, Historic Structure**

Feature 3083 was a historic structure located along the eastern wall of the Mission Gardens (Figure 4.30). Four square rock column bases, an adobe brick, and a possible stone corner buttress were the physical remains of the dwelling. The structure is depicted on the 1862 Fergusson field map and is visible in photographs taken in the 1880s and 1890s.

The interior column bases were constructed of small A-Mountain basalt rocks. They measured 1.10 m by 0.80 m, 0.90 m by 1.00 m, 1.10 m by 1.05 m, and 1.10 m by 1.00 m. They were aligned in a north-south row, with individual columns roughly 2.45 m apart. The line of columns was 3.5 m west of the gardens wall. The line presumably represents the middle of the structure, and a beam would have originally run north-south down the center of the columns, with roof beams extending east-west from the central timbers to the adobe walls of the structure. The adobe walls were apparently built without substantial foundations. A cluster of rocks in the presumed north-western corner of the room may be for an exterior buttress, or may be the remains of an interior corner

fireplace. One partial adobe brick was found along the probable location of the northern wall.

The floor of the structure was unprepared. A variety of historic and prehistoric artifacts were visible on the floor after the plowzone was removed by scraping. A 1-m by 2-m excavation unit was placed along the western side of the structure. One arbitrary level was excavated into the very compact gray-tan silty sand floor, uncovering a small number of artifacts, most of which were prehistoric sherds, flaked stone, and fire-cracked rocks. Two pieces of metal, some glass fragments, and some pieces of plain and transfer-printed whiteware ceramics were also collected. The transfer-printed ceramics bore designs that were popular from the 1840s to the 1880s.

A historic-era well, Feature 3006, located several meters to the southwest, was probably in use when the house was occupied.

#### **Feature 3095, Adobe Outbuilding**

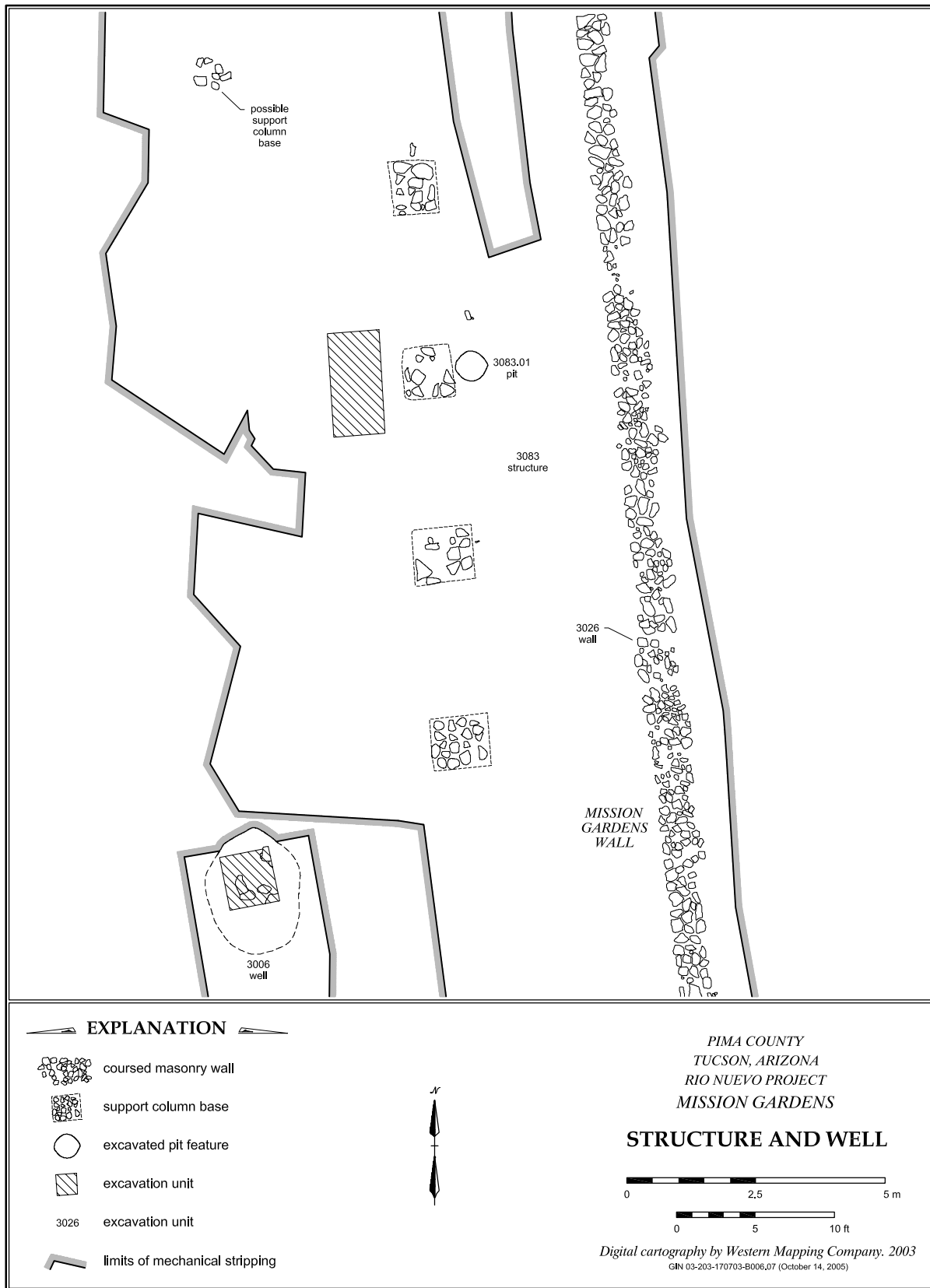
Feature 3095 was a small outbuilding located along the southern wall of Mission Gardens (Figure 4.31). The small structure was built from adobe bricks that measured 46 cm long, 30 cm wide, and at least 7 cm thick. Each wall was made from roughly five bricks, which had been reinforced after construction with a line of A-Mountain rocks along the exterior face. A doorway was present in the center of the northern wall, measuring 75 cm wide. The interior of the building was heavily burned, as was the floor, indicating the structure had been burned. No in situ artifacts were present; the items found inside were primarily 1950s trash that had drifted over from the nearby landfill. This outbuilding is associated with the dwelling, Feature 3028.

#### **Feature 3096, Historic Structure**

Feature 3096 was a historic foundation located along the northern side of the gardens. The feature is constructed from concrete blocks and concrete. The foundation measured 6.0 m by 5.7 m. It was mapped but not excavated.

#### **Feature 3098, North Mission Gardens Wall**

Feature 3098 was the rock foundation of the northern wall of the Mission Gardens. A small portion of the wall was visible immediately south of Mission Lane and was exposed and mapped. The wall was roughly 80 cm wide and was constructed of rocks collected from the side of A-Mountain. One buttress is visible, extending into the interior. Portions of the



**Figure 4.30.** Map of Feature 3083, a structure built against the eastern gardens wall, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).



**Figure 4.31.** Feature 3095, a Historic era outbuilding foundation, Mission Gardens locus, the Clearwater site, AZ BB:13:6 (ASM).

northern foundation wall are covered by Mission Lane and Mission Road. Placement of utility lines and a gas line have disturbed portions of the foundation, which is also being damaged by vehicular traffic along the side of the lane.

## SUMMARY

In contrast to the San Agustín Mission locus, approximately 122 m to the east, few Early Agricultural period features were discovered during testing at the Mission Gardens locus. Several inhumation burials (described in Chapter 18, this volume) appear to be

the only features from that timespan. A pair of Early Ceramic period pit-houses, dating to the Agua Caliente phase, were a surprise, because relatively few sites in Tucson date to this time period. Later Hohokam features were more common and included burials, cremations, and pits. A large amount of Hohokam pottery was also present. Only one pit structure from this time period was found; however, given the wide spacing of the test trenches, many more pit-houses are likely present. Previous descriptions of artifact distributions suggest this settlement extended to the south into the area destroyed by landfill activity.

No evidence for Protohistoric period O'odham use of the area was discovered. The walls of the gardens were probably built sometime between the 1790s and 1820s. The structure along the eastern side of the garden may also date to this timespan, or it may be slightly later, perhaps constructed in the 1840s, as suggested by some of the English transfer-print ceramics found inside the building. Several historic-era structures and other features were also uncovered.

Archaeological testing has revealed that numerous cultural features are preserved beneath the ground surface at the Mission Gardens. The planned use of this area as a demonstration or community garden will have to be carefully planned to avoid damaging these cultural resources.

