

Las Capas Archaeological Project: House and Extramural Surface Descriptions

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Technical Report No. 2014-08
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ABSTRACT

House and extramural feature descriptions from archaeological investigations at the prehistoric site of Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM), situated in the Tucson Basin of southern Arizona, are provided in this report. Testing and data recovery excavations at Las Capas were conducted by Desert Archaeology, Inc., from August 2008 through September 2009, with smaller phases of fieldwork in 2012 and 2013, as part of Pima County's Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Regional Optimization Master Plan (ROMP). This massive project involved major upgrades and expansion of wastewater facilities at the Tres Rios Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF). Funding was provided by Pima County, and the excavations were conducted under the supervision of their Office of Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation, which requires all projects to adhere to the Federal standards of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended).

Las Capas is located in the northern Tucson Basin, situated on the eastern bank of the Santa Cruz River, just downstream from the confluences of the river with Rillito Creek and Cañada del Oro Wash. This is the point in the Santa Cruz River Valley where all major tributaries in the surrounding watersheds converge because of the terrain and the gradient, making it an ideal location for agriculture due to high water table levels and predictable streamflow. The great majority of features recovered at Las Capas dated to the San Pedro phase (A.D. 1200-800 B.C.) of the Early Agricultural period (2100 B.C.-A.D. 50).

The archaeological excavations allowed the singular opportunity of investigating a large area of the site in detail and intensity, providing the most comprehensive look at a San Pedro phase farming community conducted, to date, in southern Arizona. Backhoe trenches were excavated over most of the wastewater facility area to document the extent of archaeological deposits. Following this effort, intensive excavations were conducted in loci where new plant facilities were to be constructed (identified as Loci A-E; Loci F-H were only treated during the exploratory phase of the project).

Data recovery resulted in the identification of more than 5,500 prehistoric features, of which 3,455 were excavated or tested. Investigated feature types included 53 pithouses, 8 possible pithouses, 22 extramural surfaces, 610 bell-shaped pits, 49 large pits, 2,099 small pits, 490 roasting pits, 40 pits of unknown or other function, 20 inhumations, 2 cremations, and 11 animal burials. The excavations resulted in the recovery of more than 113,000 artifacts and 7,300 samples of various kinds, representing the largest quantity of San Pedro phase material recovered yet from the Tucson Basin. A large agricultural field system was also discovered containing primary and lateral canals that delivered irrigation water from the Santa Cruz River to hundreds of small fields. This field system has now been well-documented, and its history of development and modification through time reconstructed in detail.

Primary research issues investigated at Las Capas include chronology, artifact analyses, irrigation technology, subsistence systems, and syntheses of Early Agricultural lifeways. In short, the excavations at Las Capas have provided an ideal opportunity to study an Early Agricultural irrigation community in detail from the "production" end—fields, canals, and their contexts—to the "consumption" end of domestic living.

The results of the Las Capas investigations are presented in a series of Anthropological Papers, Technical Reports, and a book published, variously, by Archaeology Southwest and Desert Archaeology. The two Anthropological Papers provide a broad overview and synthetic examination of the site, with a specific emphasis on the reconstruction of prehistoric life in the northern Tucson Basin during the Early Agricultural period San Pedro phase. One volume (Anthropological Papers No. 50) provides the environmental and cultural context of the Las Capas project area. The environmental setting is discussed in detail, as it is the "stage" on which all cultural behavior is enacted. The complex mix of environment and culture defines the "Anthropogenic Landscape," the overarching research theme of the Las Capas Archaeological Project. The other volume (Anthropological Papers No. 51) explores the cultural and behavioral components of the San Pedro phase Las Capas occupation and the Early Agricultural period occupation of the Tucson Basin in general.

The five Technical Reports focus on more specific research issues, providing data that may be of interest to a more limited or specialized audience. The Technical Reports include discussions of the field methods, feature descriptions and descriptions of the mortuary assemblage, and an experimental analysis examining Early Agricultural period agriculture and ground stone tool production. A map packet is also

included as a Technical Report, with areal maps showing the project area and feature location by individual locus. Finally, the book is available that presents the first comprehensive study of Early Agricultural period projectile points in the greater Southwest United States, including both typological and behavioral interpretations.

The Las Capas-related publications are as follows:

Anthropological Papers

Vint, James M. (editor)

- 2015 *Implements of Change: Tools, Subsistence, and the Built Environment of Las Capas, an Early Agricultural Irrigation Community in Southern Arizona*. Anthropological Papers No. 51. Archaeology Southwest, Tucson.

Vint, James M., and Fred L. Nials (editors)

- 2015 *The Anthropogenic Landscape of Las Capas, an Early Agricultural Irrigation Community in Southern Arizona*. Anthropological Papers No. 50. Archaeology Southwest, Tucson.

Technical Reports

Adams, Jenny L., Joyce Skeldon Rychener, and Allen J. Denoyer

- 2015 *Las Capas Archaeological Project: Ground Stone and Maize Processing Experiments*. Technical Report No. 2014-02. Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson.

Price-Steinbrecher, Barry, George L. Tinseth, J. Homer Thiel, John R. McLelland, Rachel M. Byrd, and James T. Watson

- 2015 *Las Capas Archaeological Project: The Burial Assemblage*. Technical Report No. 2014-09. Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson.

Sinensky, Robert J., Jessica M. South, Barry Price-Steinbrecher, and George L. Tinseth

- 2015 *Las Capas Archaeological Project: House and Extramural Surface Descriptions*. Technical Report No. 2014-08. Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson.

Theriot, Tyler S., and Catherine B. Gilman

- 2015 *Las Capas Archaeological Project: Map Packet*. Technical Report No. 2014-10. Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson.

Whitney, Gregory J., Robert L. Sinensky, George L. Tinseth, Barry Price Steinbrecher, and Jessica M. South

- 2015 *Las Capas Archaeological Project: Field Methods, the Retention Basin, and Extramural Feature Descriptions*. Technical Report No. 2014-01. Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson.

Book

Sliva, R. Jane

- 2015 *Early Agricultural Period Projectile Points: Typology, Migration, and Social Dynamics from the Sonoran Desert to the Colorado Plateau*. Archaeology Southwest, Tucson.

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Feature 3012: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus G
Elevation: mbd not recorded

General Description

This possible house-in-pit was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in the north and south walls of Trench 209 (Figure 1). The feature was identified 1.80 m below the stripped surface. It measured 1.66 m in length in the south wall, 1.54 m in length in the north wall, and averaged 32 cm in thickness. The possible house-in-pit was visible as a blocky-textured sandy silt that stood out in contrast to the natural substrate and that contained minimal amounts of charcoal flecks and fire-cracked rock in both walls. The base of the feature was fairly well defined, while the edges were difficult to determine, and no artifacts were visible in the profiled walls. This feature may alternately represent a large pit.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 505, 504, and 503.

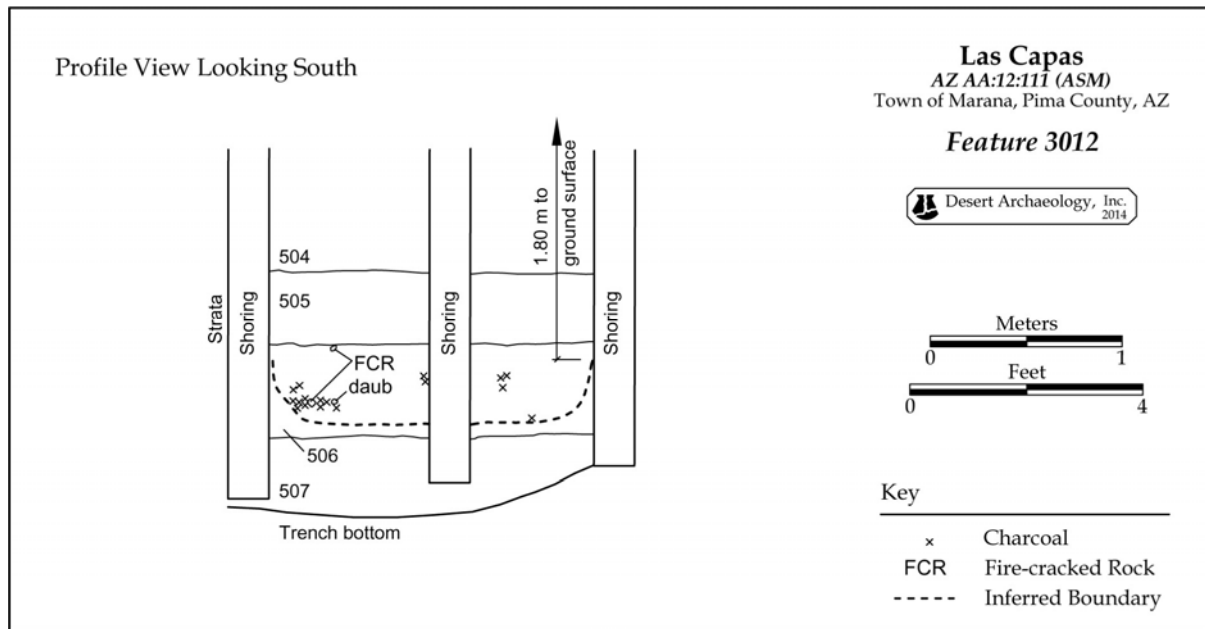


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3012, profile in south wall of Trench 209, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3026: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus F
Elevation: 11.83-11.90 mbd

General Description

Feature 3026, an extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the south wall of Trench 208 (Figure 1). The feature was not visible in the north wall of the trench, and was not exposed during further excavation in the locus. The feature was visible as a 1.82 m length of an undulating surface. The 7 cm of feature fill consisted of an undifferentiated, relatively hard, clay-rich, light to medium brown sandy silt, with a small amount of charcoal flecking and small daub inclusions. No artifacts were visible in the feature fill. The surface was defined by the undulating plane that did not show signs of oxidation, but that was impacted by bioturbation.

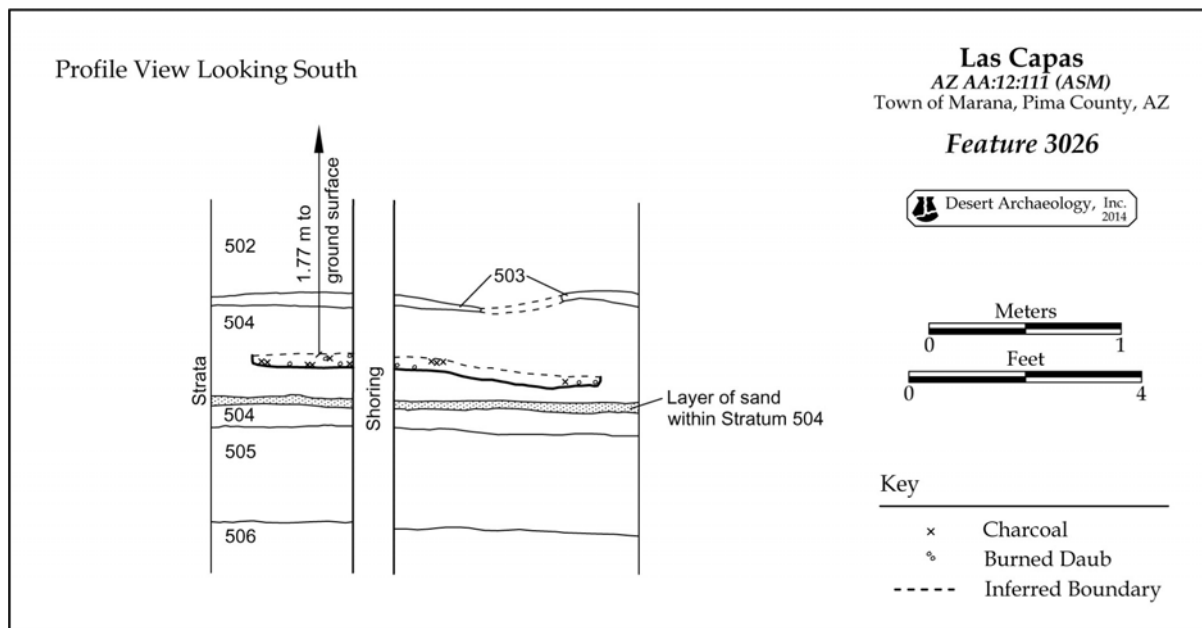


Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 3026, profile in south wall of Trench 208, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3027: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus G
Elevation: 12.25-13.05 mbd

General Description

Feature 3027, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the south wall of Trench 212 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavations. The feature originated in the upper portion of Stratum 504, and was excavated into Stratum 505. It had a length of 5.20 m in the profiled wall. The possible structure was also visible in the north wall of the trench, with a shorter length of 3.10 m and a more shallow depth. This may suggest only the edge of the structure was present in the north wall of the trench.

Two distinct strata were identified in the feature fill. The top 45 cm consisted of a tan, silty clay with moderate charcoal flecking, oxidation, caliche, and light-colored silt lenses throughout. No artifacts were identified in this stratum. The bottom 35 cm of fill was defined by a dark, blocky clay with white silt lenses that were concentrated toward the base of the feature. A single piece of fire-cracked rock was present in the profile. Both strata appeared to be related to natural flood deposits. The center of the feature showed signs of disturbance due to bioturbation.

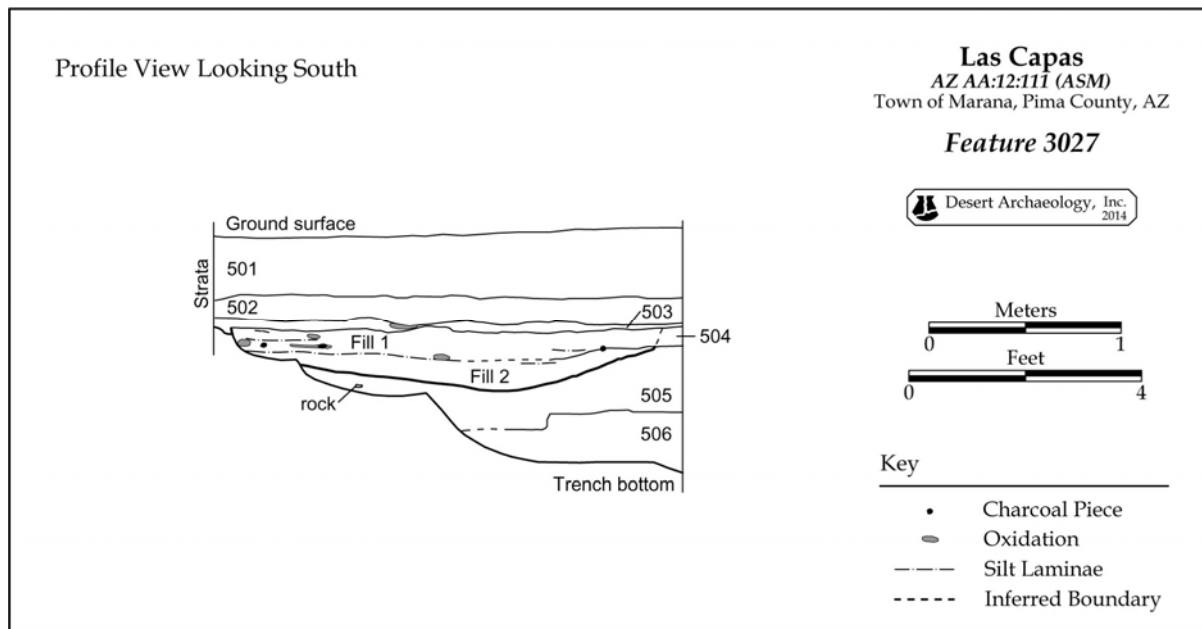


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3027, profile in south wall of Trench 212, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3033: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus G
Elevation: 13.15-13.32 mbd

General Description

Feature 3033, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the south wall of Trench 211 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the subsequently stripped area and was not uncovered during later excavation. The feature originated in the upper portion of Stratum 506. Feature 3033 had a length of 1.86 m in the profiled wall and 1.76 m in the opposite wall of the backhoe trench. The 17 cm of feature fill consisted of undifferentiated, moderately compact sandy silt with clay inclusions, as well as some charcoal flecks and chunks. A possible posthole and floor pit were visible, and a single flake and several pieces of fire-cracked rock were noted in the profile. A moderate amount of bioturbation was evident throughout the feature.

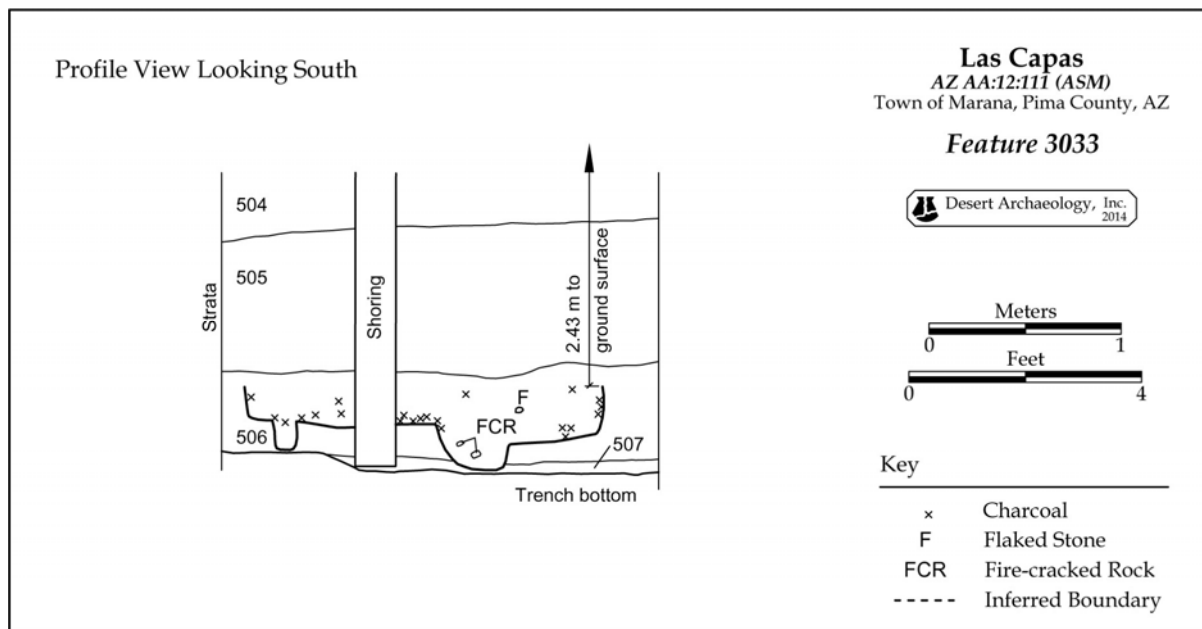


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3033, profile in south wall of Trench 211, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3042: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus G
Elevation: 12.74-12.94 mbd

General Description

Feature 3042, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the south wall of backhoe Trench 210 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area and was not uncovered during later excavations. The feature originated in the upper portion of Stratum 506. The possible structure had a length of 3.20 m in the profiled wall and 2.56 m in the opposite wall. The 20 cm of feature fill consisted of an undifferentiated, moderately hard, light to medium brown sandy silt with clay inclusions, as well as charcoal flecks and burned daub throughout. A moderate amount of bioturbation was present throughout the fill. Two flakes and a piece of animal bone were collected. A thin, oxidized, ashy lens was visible in the northern trench wall above the floor surface. The floor and walls did not show any signs of preparation. A possible floor pit was visible in the northern trench wall.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within the upper portion of Stratum 506, and was buried by deposits from Strata 505 and 504. Small pit Feature 3015 overlaid the western end of the structure, originating at the top of Stratum 505.

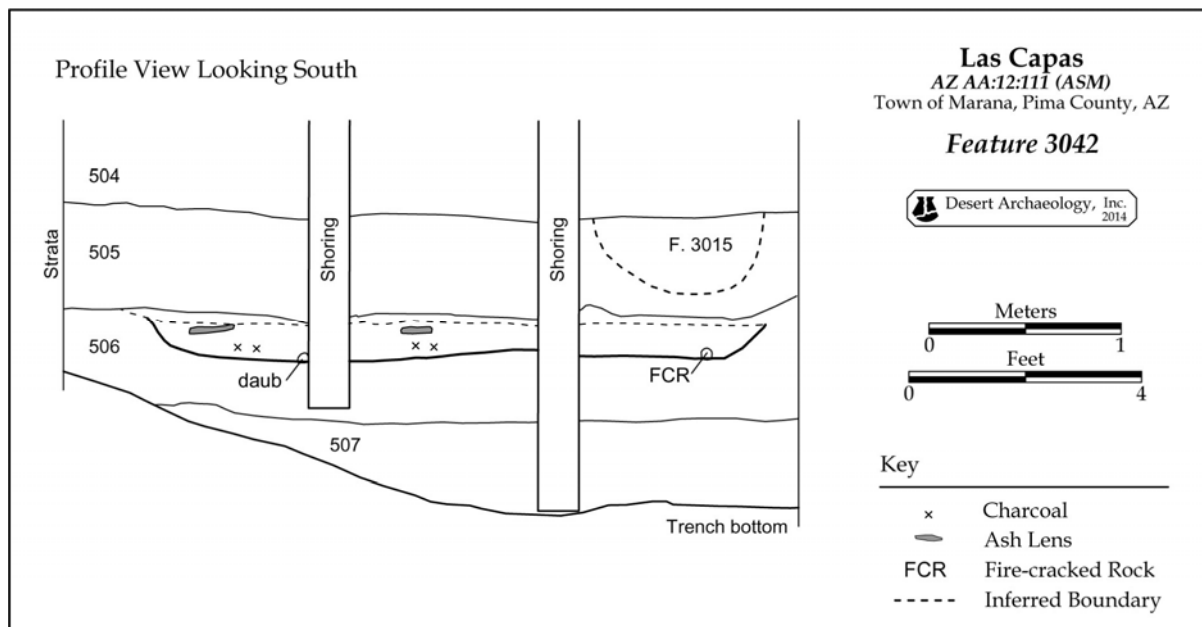


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3042, profile in south wall of Trench 210, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3044: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus G
Elevation: 12.27-12.36 mbd

General Description

Feature 3044, an extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 210 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavations. The feature originated in the lower portion of Stratum 504. The surface measured 1.45 m in length in the profiled wall and 1.61 m in length in the opposite wall. The 9 cm of feature fill consisted of a light brown, moderately hard silty sand with some charcoal and fire-cracked rock inclusions. No artifacts were visible, and a moderate amount of bioturbation was present. The surface was well defined by extensive oxidation, while the edges of the feature were determined primarily by a lack of oxidation. The feature may have extended further than what was visible in the trench wall.

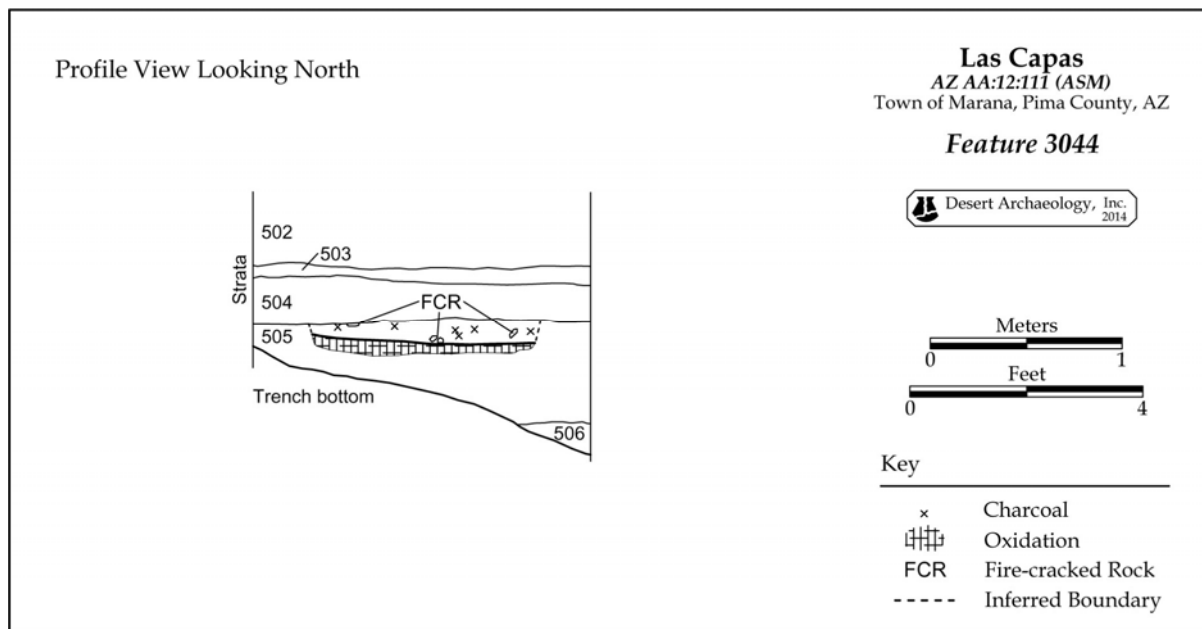


Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 3044, profile in north wall of Trench 210, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3050: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus B
Elevation: 12.17-12.27 mbd

General Description

Feature 3050, an unprepared extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 220 (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area and was not uncovered during later excavation. Feature 3050 originated in Stratum 504, and the base of the feature was defined by Stratum 505. The surface had a length of 1.85 m in the profiled wall and 75 cm in the opposite wall. The 10 cm of cultural fill overlying the surface consisted of uniform, moderately hard, brown silty clay with a blocky texture and a moderate density of charcoal and oxidized sediment. Charcoal was concentrated in the eastern portion of the fill. No artifacts were visible. An ashy lens was visible in profile above the floor surface in the south wall of the trench.

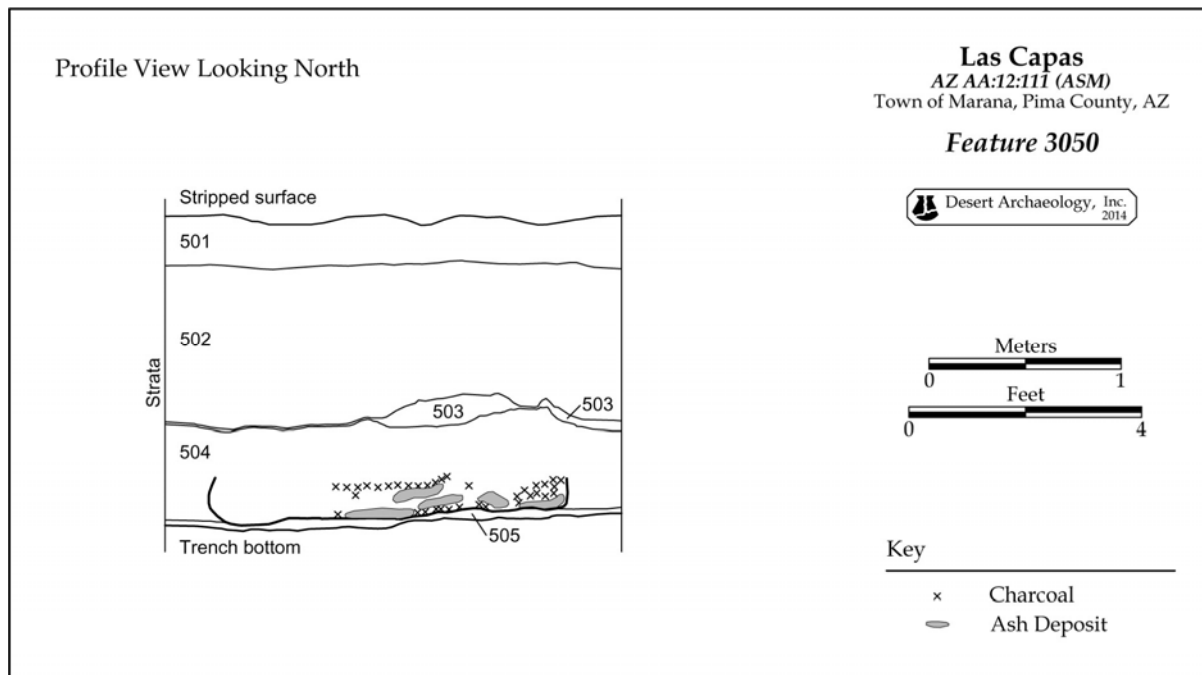


Figure 1. Profile of extramural surface Feature 3050, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3062: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus G
Elevation: 11.98-12.18 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit was discovered during mechanical trenching, and was visible in both the north and south walls of Trench 215, although it was more defined in the north wall. This possible structure measured 1.75 m in length in the south wall and 2.25 m in length in the north wall. The feature was discovered at 1.12 m below the stripped ground surface, and it averaged 20 cm in depth. The fill was a brown silt that contained charcoal flecks and small pieces of burned daub throughout, as well as discrete burned lenses. The feature had a well-defined base and stood out in contrast to the dark brown silty clay of Stratum 504. Foundation pit walls were difficult to identify, and no artifacts were visible within the profiled walls.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. Although Feature 3062 originated within the upper portions of Stratum 504 and the internal fill stood out in contrast to the natural stratum, this possible house-in-pit appeared to have been capped by Stratum 504.

Feature 3063: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus G
Elevation: 11.42-11.44 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface was discovered during mechanical trenching, and was visible in the north wall of Trench 215. This feature was located in a particularly unstable portion of Trench 215 and, as such, all measurements were taken from the stripped surface. The extramural surface was identified at 2.30 m below the stripped ground surface, measuring approximately 60 cm in length and 2 cm in depth. The feature was visible as a thin, sandy, oxidized lens with no visible artifacts.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface originated within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits from Stratum 504, as well as by deposits from Stratum 503. The feature was located approximately 20-50 cm above the interface between Strata 504 and 505.

Feature 3064: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus G
Elevation: 13.12-13.15 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface was discovered during mechanical trenching; it was visible in the north wall of Trench 215. This feature was located 2.22 m below the stripped surface, and it measured 1.05 m in length and 3 cm in thickness. The feature was visible as a thin, fairly continuous lens of charcoal flecking, with low amounts of small pieces of daub and fire-cracked rock. A single faunal bone fragment was visible approximately 10 cm above the charcoal lens at the eastern end of the feature.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface originated within Stratum 504, at the contact with Stratum 505, and it was buried by additional deposits from Stratum 504, as well as by deposits from Stratum 503. A natural root burn originated from the top of Stratum 505, located approximately 75 cm west of Feature 3064.

Feature 3065: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus F
Elevation: 13.03-13.21 mbd

General Description

Feature 3065, a possible house-in-pit (Figure 1), was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 232. The feature was located outside the subsequently stripped area of the locus and was not uncovered during later excavations. Feature 3065 originated in Stratum 504, and cut through a naturally occurring alluvial band of coarse sand. The 18 cm of feature fill consisted of a mottled, medium grayish-brown, slightly hard silty clay. A moderate to high density of charcoal, a low density of ash, and several pieces of fire-cracked rock were also visible. No artifacts were noted. The feature was visible in both the north and south walls of the trench; it measured 2.85 m in length in the profiled wall and 4.3 m in the southern wall. The base of the feature was well defined, although the walls remained difficult to discern. Some rodent and root disturbance was noted throughout the feature.

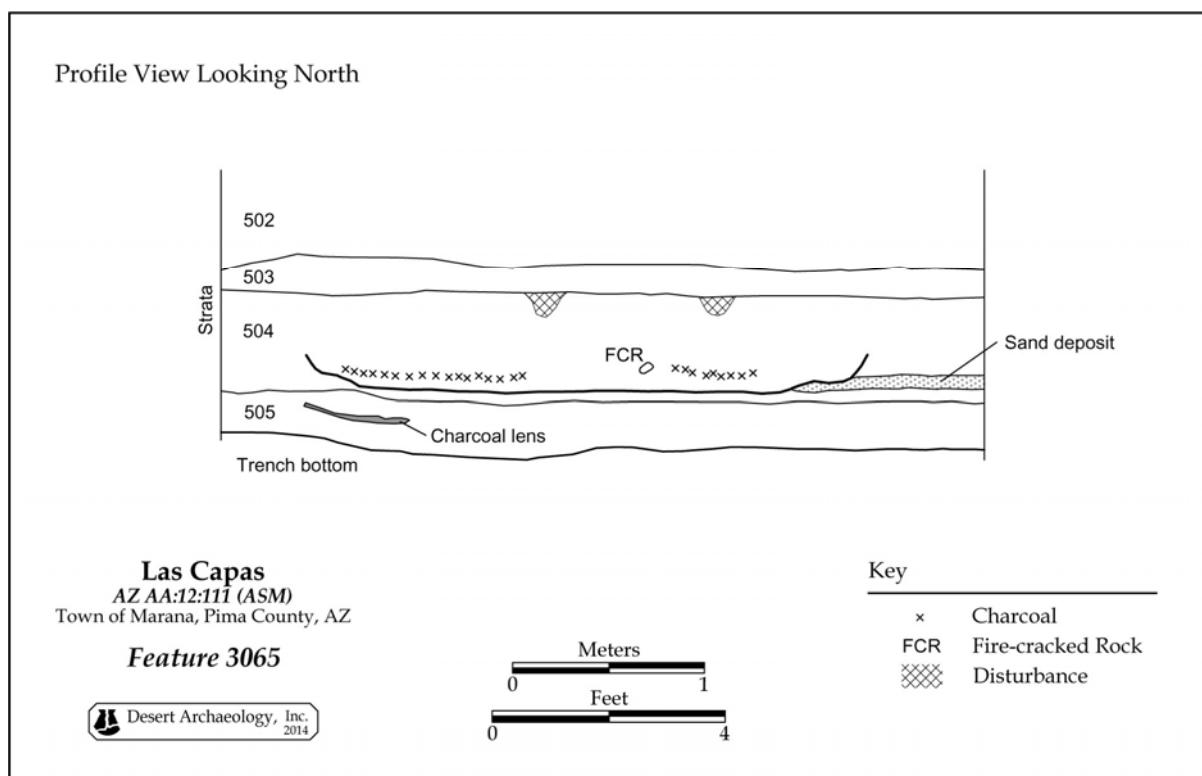


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3065, profile in north wall of Trench 232, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3071: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.25-13.30 mbd

General Description

Feature 3071, an extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 232; it was not visible in the south wall. The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavations. Feature 3071 measured 84 cm in length and originated in Stratum 505. The surface consisted of an oxidized, irregular surface with a thin layer of overlying fill. The 5 cm of feature fill consisted of a grayish to light brown silty sand with a low density of charcoal and pockets of ash. No artifacts were visible in the profiled wall. This feature may have been a natural burn rather than an extramural surface.

Feature 3079: House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus G
Elevation: 11.92-12.09 mbd

General Description

Feature 3079, a house-in-pit, was discovered and profiled in the south wall of Trench 219 during testing (Figure 1). While the walls and floor surface of the feature were well defined in the south wall of the trench, the feature was not visible in the north wall. The feature was located outside the subsequently stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavations. This feature originated within Stratum 504. The house-in-pit had a length of 1.79 m in the profiled wall. The 17 cm of feature fill consisted of a medium to slightly grayish-brown, moderately hard sandy loam that contained occasional large chunks of charcoal and daub with heavy charcoal and daub flecking throughout. The floor was defined by a heavily oxidized surface with two visible postholes and a possible fallen burned post. No ash or artifacts were visible in the fill. The heavy oxidation on the floor, high density of charcoal and burned daub, and presence of a possible charred post indicate Feature 3079 had burned.

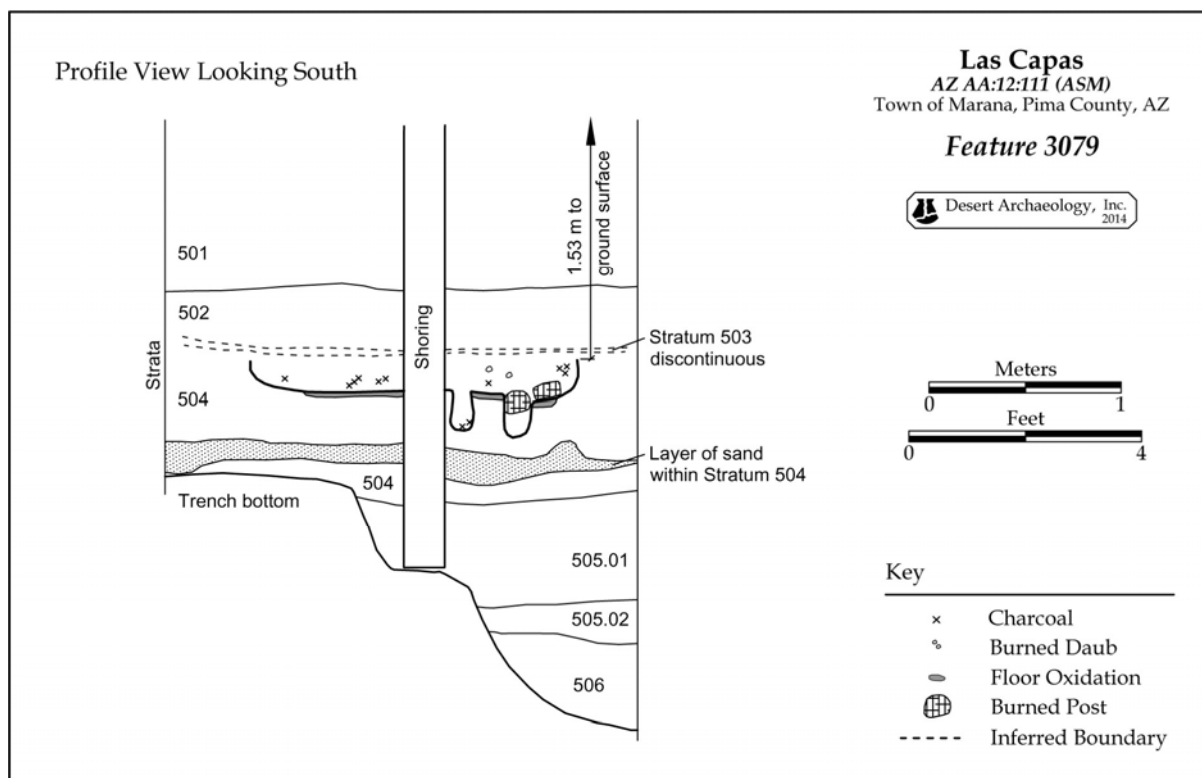


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3079, profile in south wall of Trench 219, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3080: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus G
Elevation: 13.59-13.96 mbd

General Description

Feature 3080, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 219 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area and was not uncovered during later excavations. The feature had a length of 1.95 m in the profiled wall and was not visible in the opposite wall. The feature originated in Stratum 506. The 37 cm of fill consisted of a medium brown, moderately hard sandy silt with a moderate amount of charcoal flecking and some large chunks throughout. No ash or oxidation was visible. A projectile point and a flaked stone tool were collected from near the base of the feature, suggesting the structure may have had a floor assemblage. Some bioturbation was visible. The base and edges of the feature were primarily defined by the limits of the charcoal-rich fill.

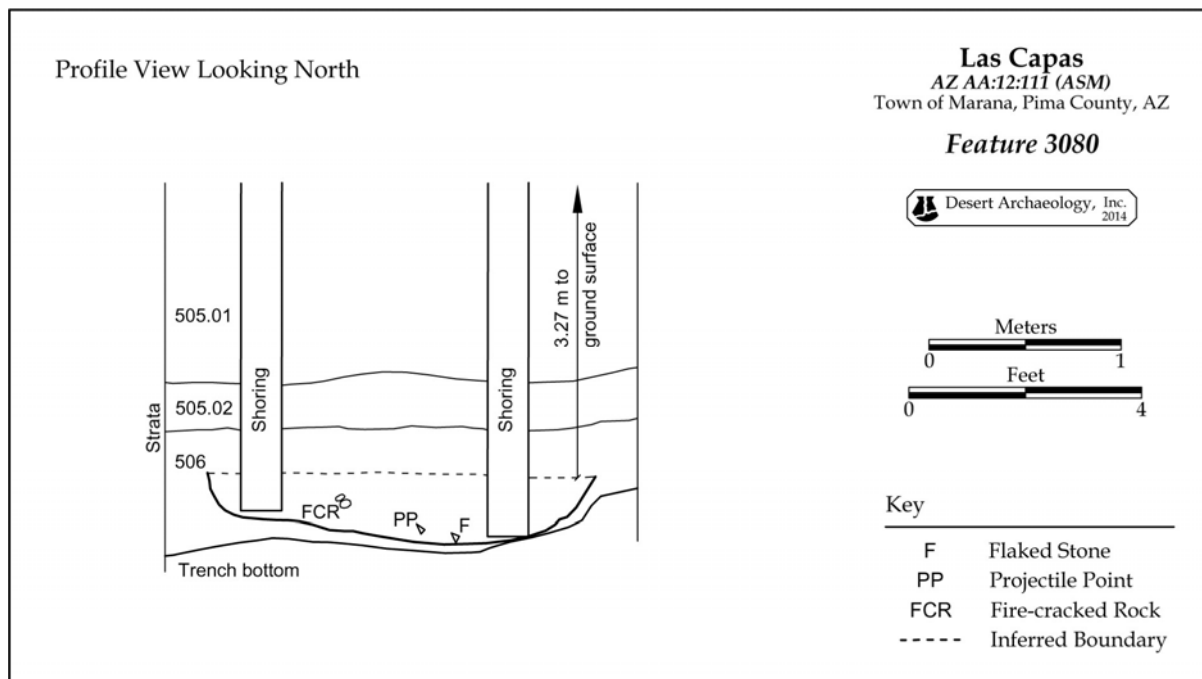


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3080, profile in north wall of Trench 219, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3084: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus F
Elevation: 12.78-12.88 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in the west wall of Trench 235. The possible house-in-pit was located 1.48 m below the stripped surface, and measured 1.92 m across and 10 cm in depth. The feature was visible as a layer of loosely consolidated, silty clay that contained large amounts of charcoal flecks, ash, and oxidized soil. This feature contained fairly well-defined boundaries with a flat base and upward-sloping edges. No artifacts were visible.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504, and it was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 503. The feature was located within the lower portions of Stratum 504.

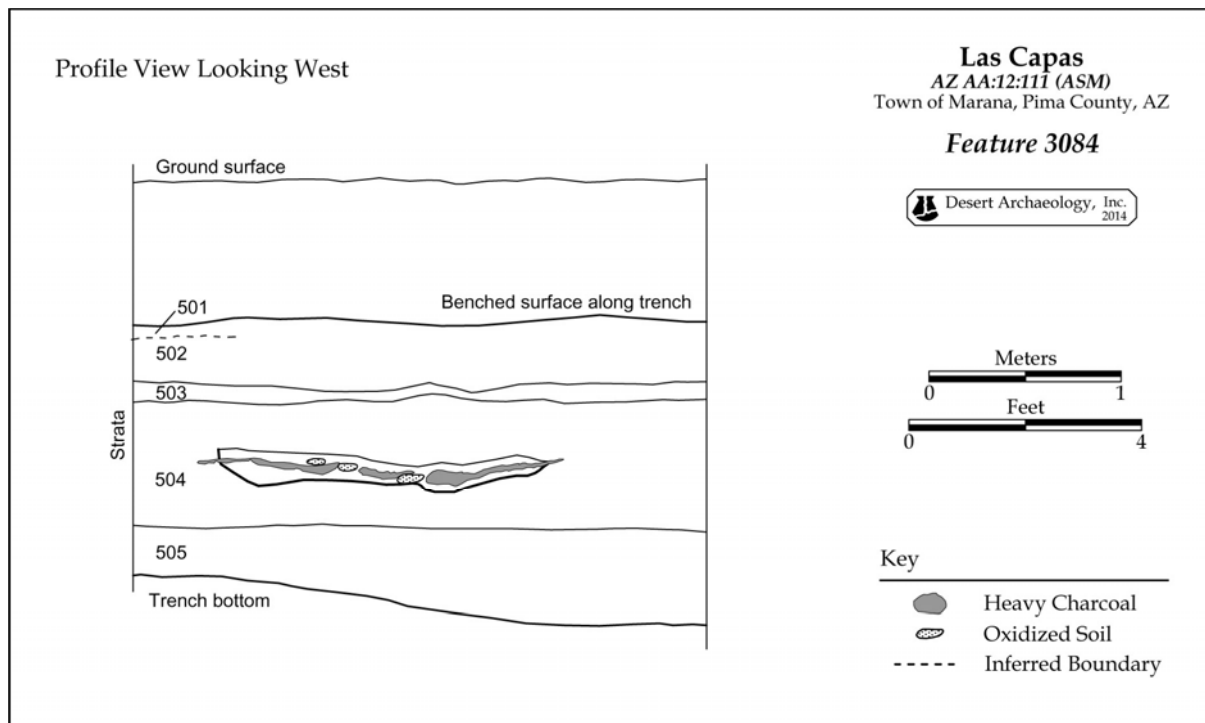


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3084, profile in west wall of Trench 235, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3094: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.40 mbd

General Description

This feature was identified in Trench 233, and was originally thought to be a pithouse. A 1-m by 2-m control unit was subsequently hand-excavated along the trench, which defined the feature as an extramural surface (Figure 1). The feature had no depth, and the excavated fill was composed of cultural overburden that had accumulated over time. An 8-m length of the surface was visible in the profiled backhoe trench, but only a small portion of the surface was excavated.

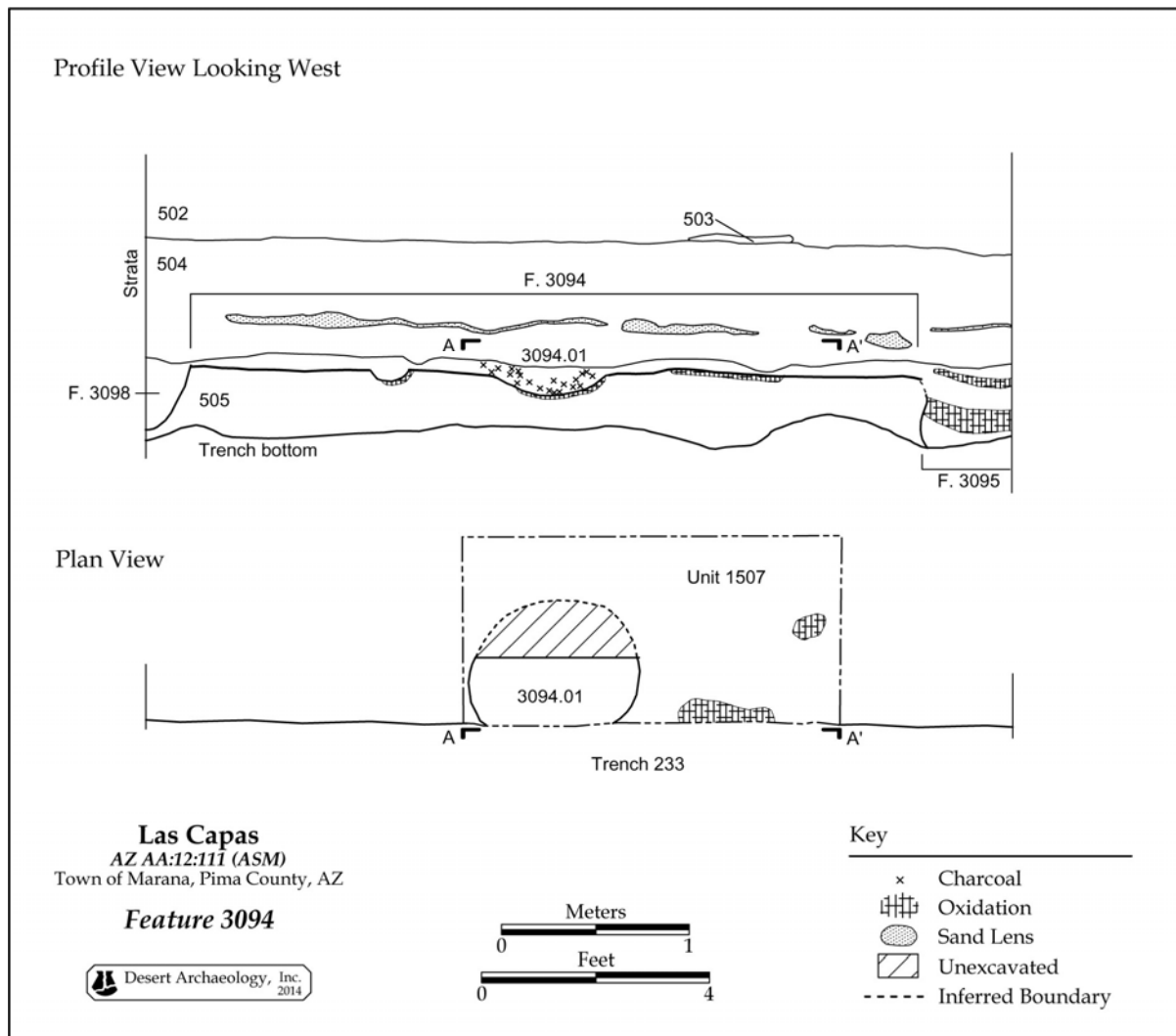


Figure 1. Plan view of control unit and profile in west wall of Trench 233, extramural surface Feature 3094, Locus F, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Features

A small roasting pit that was visible in Trench 233 originated at the extramural surface. The pit was exposed in the control unit and subsequently excavated. It measured 90 cm by 68 cm, and was 18 cm deep. The pit fill consisted of medium brown, coarse silty sand. A low density of artifacts was present, including 6 pieces of flaked stone, 10 pieces of faunal bone, 1 piece of ground stone, and 3 pieces of fire-cracked rock.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The extramural surface and the internal pit originated in Stratum 505. The 5 cm of excavated fill consisted of uniform, slightly hard, medium brown, fine sandy silt with some fire-cracked rock and charcoal flecking. The fill contained a very low density of artifacts, including a single piece of faunal bone and a San Pedro style projectile point.

Stratigraphic Relationships

A large number of extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 505 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 3094, just east of the feature. Most of these features were small or bell-shaped pits (Table 1). These pits may have been used in conjunction, as well as in the same time frame as the extramural surface. Several pits visible in the profile of Trench 233 – Features 3098, 3095, 3099, and 3111 – appeared to intrude on the surface. These were not excavated, however, and their relationship to the extramural surface could not be determined.

Functional Inferences

Feature 3094 likely functioned as an area for extramural activities, such as food preparation. This feature was likely associated with the large number of pits located in close proximity. Large patches of oxidation and a possible hearth were visible in the feature's profile. Little is known about the surface, though, because only a small portion was excavated.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 3094, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 23817 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23829 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23830 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 23831 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23833 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23835 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23838 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23845 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23846 | Small pit | East | — |
| 23758 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 23760 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 23813 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 23814 | Small pit | Southeast | — |

Feature 3106: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus F
Elevation: 12.60-12.97 mbd

General Description

Feature 3106, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 234 (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area and was not uncovered during later excavation. The feature originated in the upper portion of Stratum 504. The possible structure measured 1.96 m in length and was only visible in the profiled wall of the trench. The 37 cm of fill consisted of a hard, dark brown, blocky sandy loam with a moderate amount of charcoal flecking. Charcoal flecking and small daub flecking was concentrated in the center of the feature, which may be associated with a trash dumping episode. Two pieces of fire-cracked rock and a ground stone fragment were present in the fill. A possible posthole originated at the floor surface, but might have been a rodent burrow. Feature 3106 did not exhibit any evidence of burning.

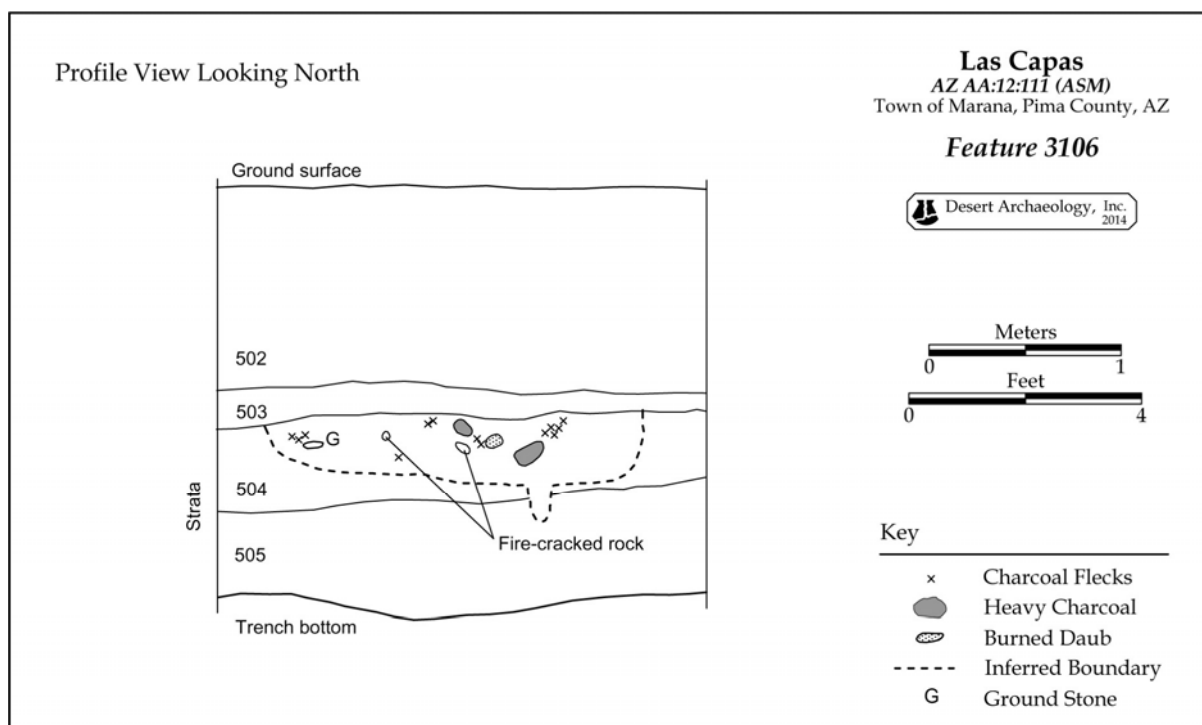


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3106, profile in north wall of Trench 234, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3110: House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.02-13.27 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in both the north and south walls of Trench 234. The south wall contained the largest and best-preserved portion of the feature. This house-in-pit was located 1.58 m below the stripped surface and it measured 4.10 m in length on the south wall, 3.85 m in length on the north wall, and it averaged 25 cm in depth. The feature was identifiable as a linear lens of oxidized soil that contained a moderate amount of charcoal, ranging in size from flecks to pieces 5 cm thick, and one large piece of fire-cracked rock. The north profile was similar, although the feature was less defined it contained several small pieces of fire-cracked rock. A single fragment of burned bird bone was visible within the fill of the feature in the south wall of Trench 234. No other artifacts were visible.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 505, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504 and 503. Stratum 503, in particular, was much less defined in the area over the house-in-pit than in the rest of Trench 231.

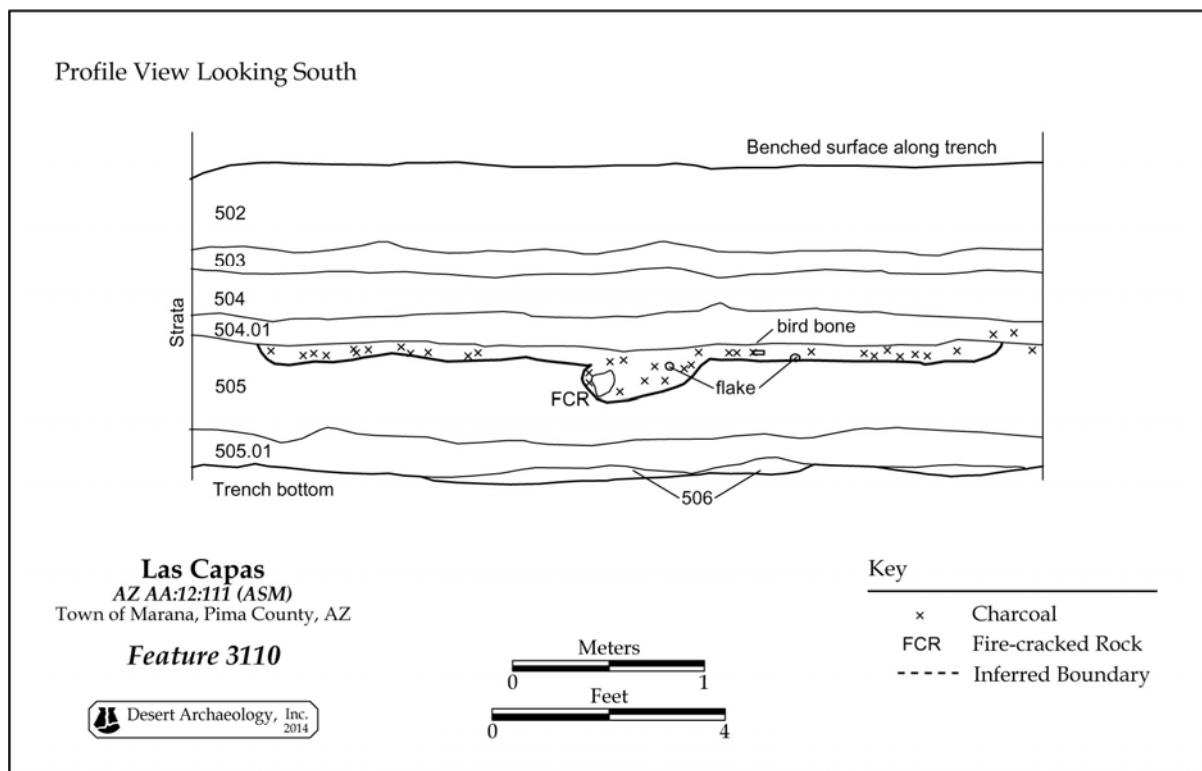


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3110, profile in south wall of Trench 234, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3117: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.06-13.24 mbd

General Description

Feature 3117, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the north wall of Trench 234 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the subsequently stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavation. The feature originated in Stratum 505 and was first recorded as a large pit. Feature 3117 measured 1.26 m in length and was only visible in the northern wall of the trench. The 18 cm of fill consisted of a mottled, grayish-brown silty sand that contained a moderate to high density of small chunks and flecks of charcoal, some small pieces of burned daub, and two pieces of fire-cracked rock. No artifacts were visible. Although no ash or oxidation was present, the high density of burned material in the fill may be evidence the possible structure burned or was filled with trash after abandonment.

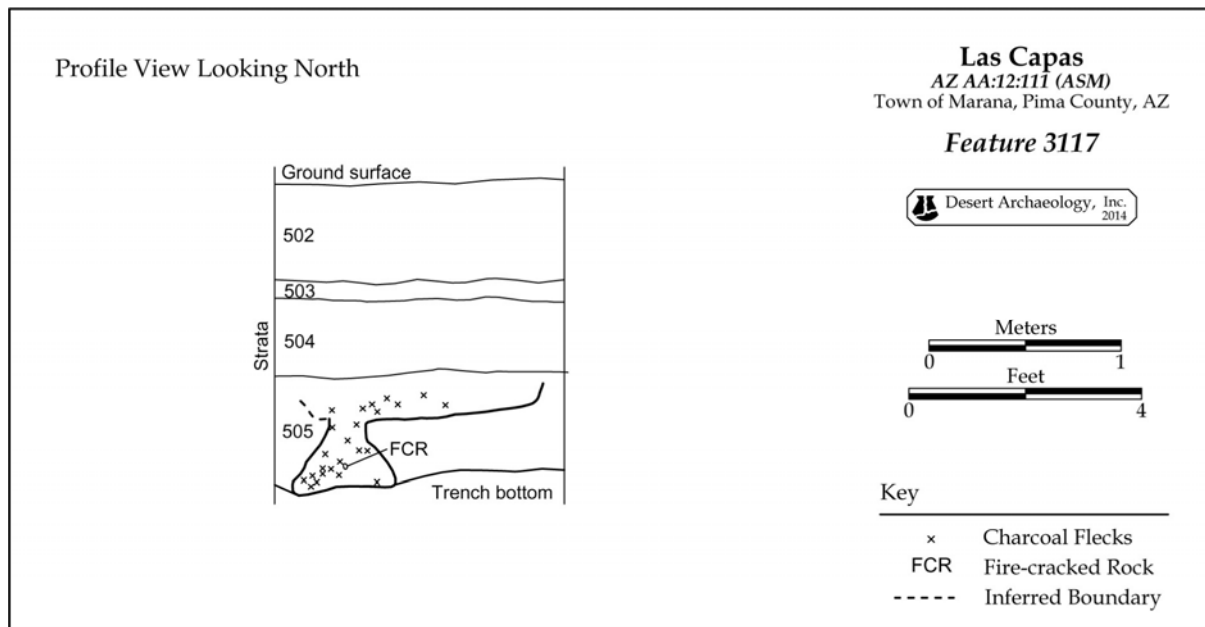


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3117, profile in north wall of Trench 234, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3128: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.25-13.36 mbd

General Description

Feature 3128, an extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the east wall of Trench 233. The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavations. The surface originated in the lower portion of Stratum 504. The feature measured 2.00 m in length within the profiled wall and 1.25 m in length within the opposite wall. The extramural surface was poorly defined in the west wall. The 11 cm of fill over the surface consisted of a very hard, medium brown silty clay with a linear charcoal concentration and some oxidation. No artifacts were visible. The edges of the feature were poorly defined, while portions of the floor were oxidized.

Feature 3129: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus F
Elevation: 12.65-12.82 mbd

General Description

Feature 3129, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the east wall of Trench 233 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the subsequently stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavation. The possible structure originated in the upper portion of Stratum 504. It measured 2.00 m in length in the profiled wall and 2.30 m in length in the opposite trench wall. The 17 cm of fill consisted of a slightly hard, blocky textured, medium to dark brown silty clay, with a moderate to high density of charcoal flecking and some small pieces of burned daub. No artifacts or signs of oxidation were visible on the floor surface. The floor was defined by an undulating surface. The high density of burned debris in the fill, in conjunction with a lack of in situ structural material, may reflect a trash-filling episode rather than evidence that Feature 3129 burned.

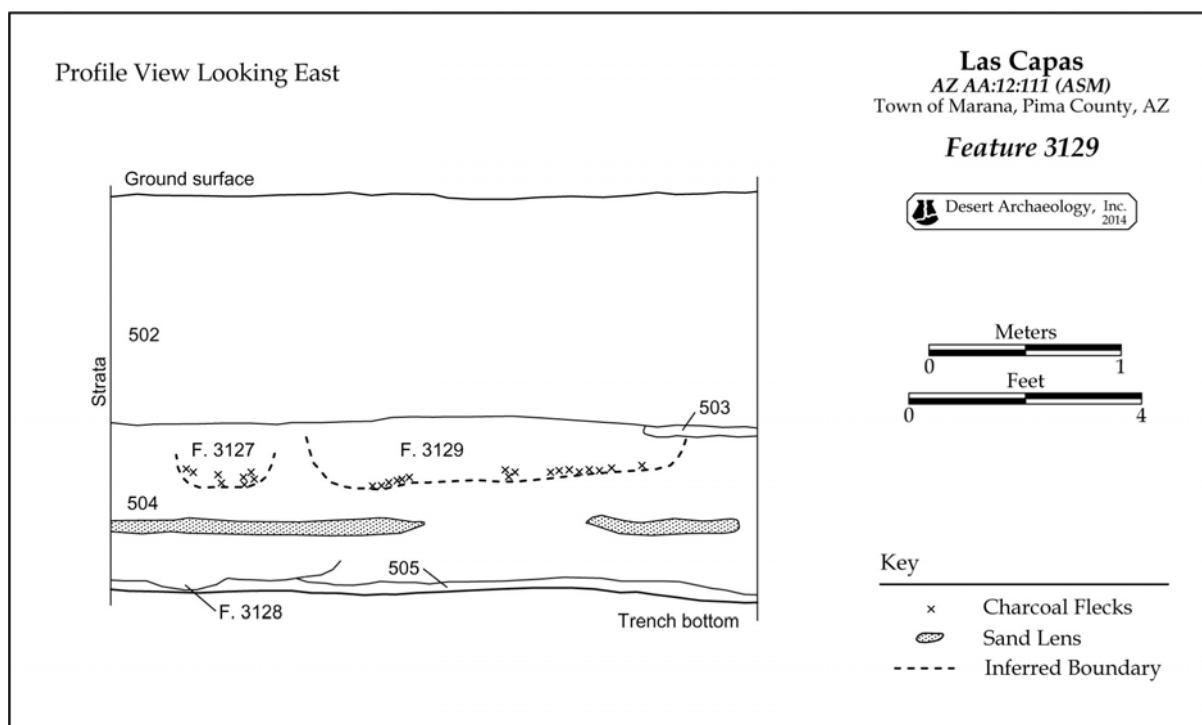


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3129, profile in east wall of Trench 283, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3134: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.29-13.32 mbd

General Description

Feature 3134, an extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the west wall of backhoe Trench 233. The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavations. The feature originated in Stratum 505. Feature 3134 measured 54 cm, and was visible only in the profiled wall of the trench. The length of the feature was defined by the extent of oxidation. The 3 cm of cultural fill consisted of a fine, silty sand with oxidized sediment and charcoal flecking present throughout. No artifacts were visible in the fill. This feature may also represent a continuation of Feature 3128, an extramural surface that was identified in the east wall of the same backhoe trench and that originated from approximately the same elevation. It is also possible that these oxidized surfaces were related to a natural burn.

Feature 3155: House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.35-14.44 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in both the north and south walls of Trench 111. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and establishing the boundaries of the feature. This structure was circular in shape, and it measured 5.40 m in diameter, with 12.18 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Internal features and postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No formal entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit had five internal features, most in the northern half of the floor (Table 1). Hearth Feature 3155.01 was north of the center of the structure and Feature 3155.02, an ash pit, was located 20 cm to the northeast. Small pit Feature 3155.03 was partially removed by Trench 111. Small pit Feature 3155.04 and ash pit Feature 3155.08 were located in the western portion of the structure.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3155, post-excavation, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

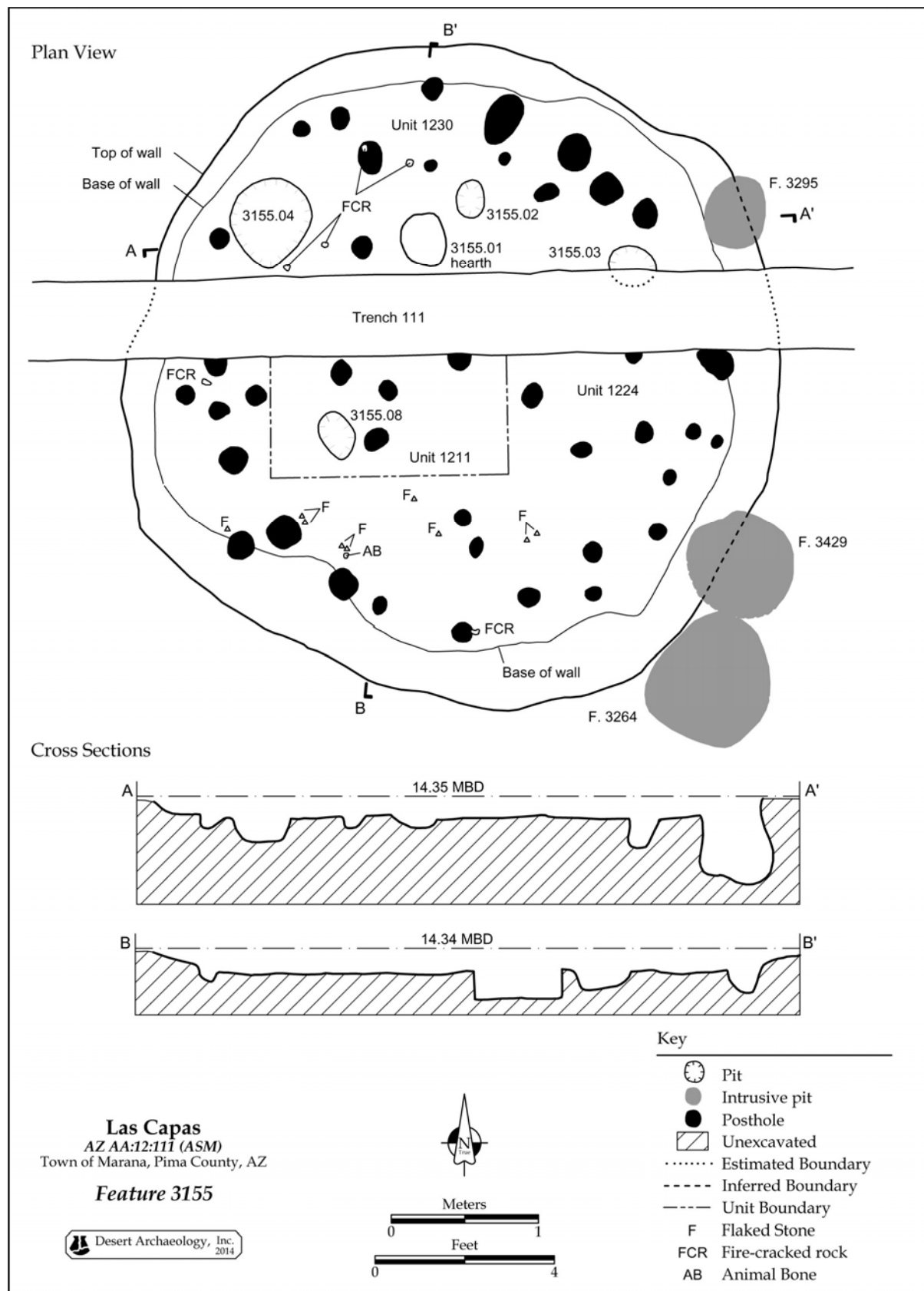


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 3155, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated in Stratum 504. The fill of Feature 3155 contained five stratigraphic layers. The upper 12 cm consisted of the modern Stratum 501, composed of medium brown, fine-textured, loosely consolidated silt with small amounts of modern trash. The next 17 cm of fill was identified as Stratum 502, and was comprised of a brown, slightly more consolidated silt with dark brown clay at its base. The next 5 cm consisted of Stratum 503, a loosely consolidated orange sand that represented a flooding event from Cañada del Oro. The subsequent 16 cm represented the actual fill within the structure and was identified as Stratum 504.01. It consisted of a slightly hard, dark brown blocky clay that contained small amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. The remaining 12 cm represented Stratum 504.02, a slightly hard, medium brown silty clay that included sparse of charcoal flecks throughout.

Artifact density within Strata 504.01 and 504.02 was high, and included 344 pieces of flaked stone, 96 pieces of faunal bone, 1 figurine fragment in Stratum 504.01, 3 pieces of broken ground stone, 3 pieces of fire-cracked ground stone, and 52 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The artifacts were distributed throughout the internal strata, although a higher density occurred within Stratum 504.02. A few artifacts were directly on the exposed floor surface, including 9 pieces of flaked stone distributed across the southern portion of the structure, 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 1 faunal bone.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504. The floor surface was in fair condition, although it degraded to patchy areas around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. Oxidation was present on the floor surface, and was concentrated around the hearth, ash pits, and interior postholes, and in the center of the structure. The floor surface was relatively flat but sloped upward around the perimeter of the foundation pit to approximately 10 cm above the floor surface. The foundation pit walls may have once extended higher, but were removed by mechanical stripping.

In all, 41 postholes were identified and excavated. These postholes ranged from circular to oval in shape, were straight-walled, and averaged 17 cm in diameter and 19 cm in depth. The postholes appeared to form two rings within the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. Very few of the postholes contained burned materials, and those that did were located either centrally in the structure or within the inner ring. Based on the architectural materials found within Feature 3229, a house-in-pit located nearby, this structure was likely built similarly, with wall support posts that were bent or bowed to form a dome and connected with horizontal stringers. The framework would then have been covered with reed or grass thatching.

Based on the presence of the two rings of postholes and numerous interior postholes, this feature almost certainly saw a structural expansion during its use-life. The presence of burned materials within the inner postholes may indicate the structure burned during the initial occupation, prior to completion of remodeling.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within Stratum 504, and was covered by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503, 502, and 501. Two extramural bell-shaped pits were intrusive into the structure, and two small pits were identified as overlying. Several extramural features also

originating within Stratum 504 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure; these included numerous small and bell-shaped pits (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the small size and number of artifacts on the exposed floor, it appears this structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The areas of oxidation on the floor surface, in addition to burned materials present in interior postholes, suggest burning may have occurred within the structure prior to remodeling (and perhaps caused the remodeling). No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 3155 was likely for habitation, based on its size, usable floor space, and the presence of a hearth. The number of internal features relegated to a particular area within the structure may indicate the interior of the structure was subdivided into working and living spaces. Based on the remodeling evidence identified, this structure appeared to have contained either one long-term occupation or multiple separate occupations during its use-life. The presence of many storage pits that surrounded this structure was a trend for many of the houses-in-pits excavated throughout Las Capas, which suggests an emphasis on outdoor storage near individual houses-in-pits.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 3155, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 3155.01 | Hearth | 0.38 | 0.38 | 0.18 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0136 |
| 3155.02 | Ash pit | 0.29 | 0.23 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3155.03 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.27 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0390 |
| 3155.04 | Small pit | 0.71 | 0.65 | 0.26 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 10 | — | — | 7 | — | 0.0942 |
| 3155.08 | Ash pit | 0.43 | 0.25 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0073 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 3155, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 3242 | Small pit | North | Overlying Feature 3155 |
| 3295 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 3155 |
| 3262 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 3264 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 3265 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 3266 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 3269 | Small pit | Southeast | Overlying Feature 3155 |
| 3429 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | Intrusive into Feature 3155 |
| 3267 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3268 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3349 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3413 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 3416 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 3163: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.27-14.36 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in the north and south walls of Trench 111; more of the feature was present and it was better defined in the south wall. The portion of the feature in the south wall measured 1.70 m in length, while the portion in the north wall measured 1.15 m in length. The average depth of the feature was 9 cm in both walls.

This feature was visible as a linear lens of loosely consolidated, brown silt that contained charcoal flecks and small pieces of daub in low quantities throughout. Two pit features were identified as originating from this possible house-in-pit floor; one in the north wall and one in the south wall. The pits had well-defined edges and contained the same fill as the possible house-in-pit, although with a much higher density of charcoal flecking, and with fire-cracked rock in the pit visible in the south wall. Feature 3163 may represent an accumulation of clean-out from these pits, as opposed to an actual structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 3163 originated within Stratum 504, and the small internal pits cut into the top of Stratum 505. The feature was buried by additional deposits of Stratum 504, as well as by deposits of Strata 503 and 502. No other features were identified near Feature 3163.

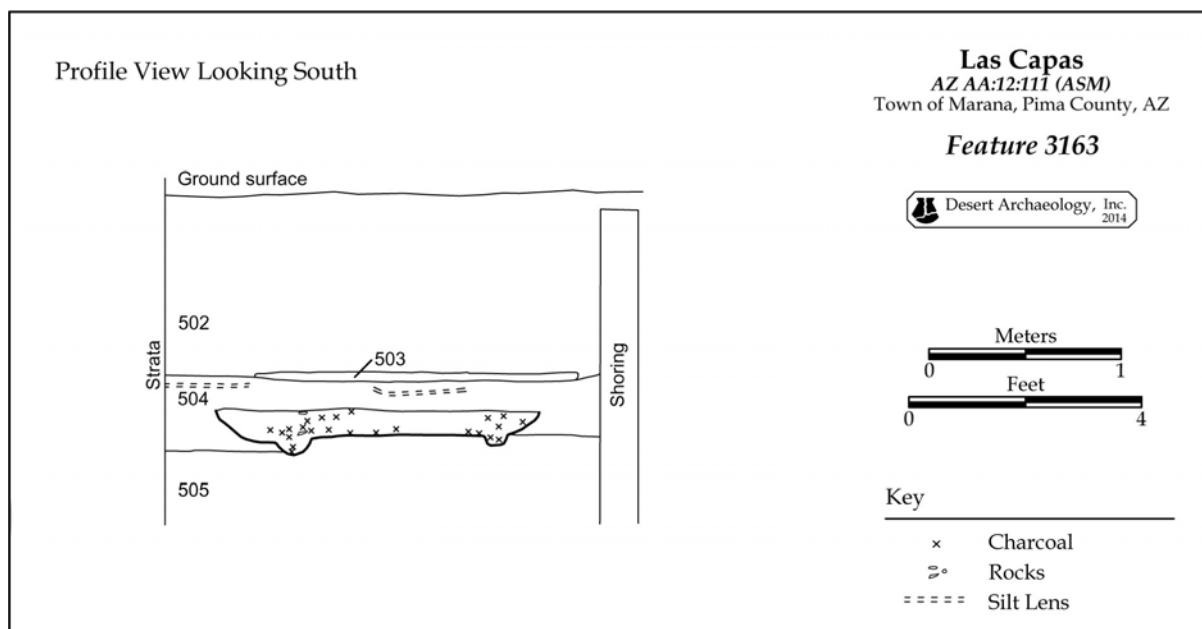


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3163, profile in south wall of Trench 111, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ A:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3167: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 12.96-13.16 mbd

General Description

Feature 3167, a possible house-in-pit, was identified and profiled in the south wall of Trench 234 during testing (Figure 1). The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavation. The feature originated in Stratum 504 and cut into Stratum 505. Feature 3167 measured 3.10 m in length in the profiled wall and 3.12 m in length in the opposite trench wall. The profile was offset in the northern trench wall, and possibly represented a separate feature. The base and edges of the feature were discrete and were easily identified in profile. The 20 cm of feature fill contained two distinct strata. The upper 10 cm of fill consisted of a moderately hard, silty clay with a low density of charcoal flecking. The lower 5-10 cm of floor fill consisted of a clay-rich sandy loam, with a high density of charcoal and visible artifacts that included fire-cracked rock, flaked stone, and a ground stone fragment. The lower portion of the fill may be related to a trash-filling episode, while the upper fill appears to be naturally deposited sediments.

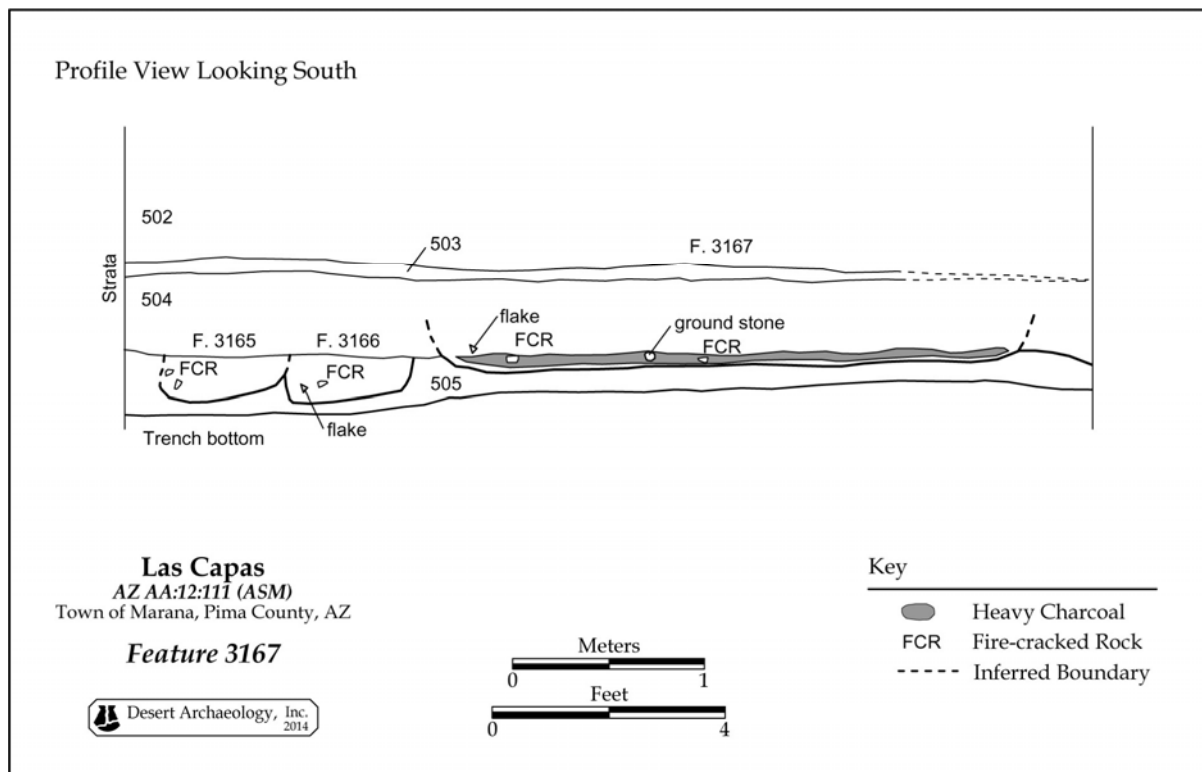


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3167, profile in south wall of Trench 234, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3181: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus F
Elevation: 12.56-12.63 mbd

General Description

Feature 3181, an extramural surface, was identified and profiled in the south wall of Trench 234. The feature was located outside the stripped area, and was not uncovered during later excavation. The feature originated in the upper portion of Stratum 504. The surface measured 2.58 m, and was only visible in the profiled wall. The 7 cm of fill consisted of a medium to dark brown, moderately compact silty clay with a 1-2 cm, fairly level layer of black ash directly on top of the surface. The edges of the feature were defined by the limits of visible feature fill. No artifacts were present, and no disturbance was noted. The ash may have been related to occupational debris.

Feature 3199: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.00-14.10 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching, and was visible in the north and south walls of Trench 113, although it was better defined in the south wall. This possible structure measured 2.17 m in length along the south wall and 1.80 m in length along the north wall, with an average depth of 10 cm. Feature 3199 was visible as a linear area of oxidized soil that contained small amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. The feature had a well-defined bottom, although the edges and top of the fill were difficult to discern. Two well-defined small pits were located along the south wall, at either end of the estimated feature length. No artifacts were visible in either profiled wall.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. The small pits that originated from the feature cut through the top of Stratum 505.

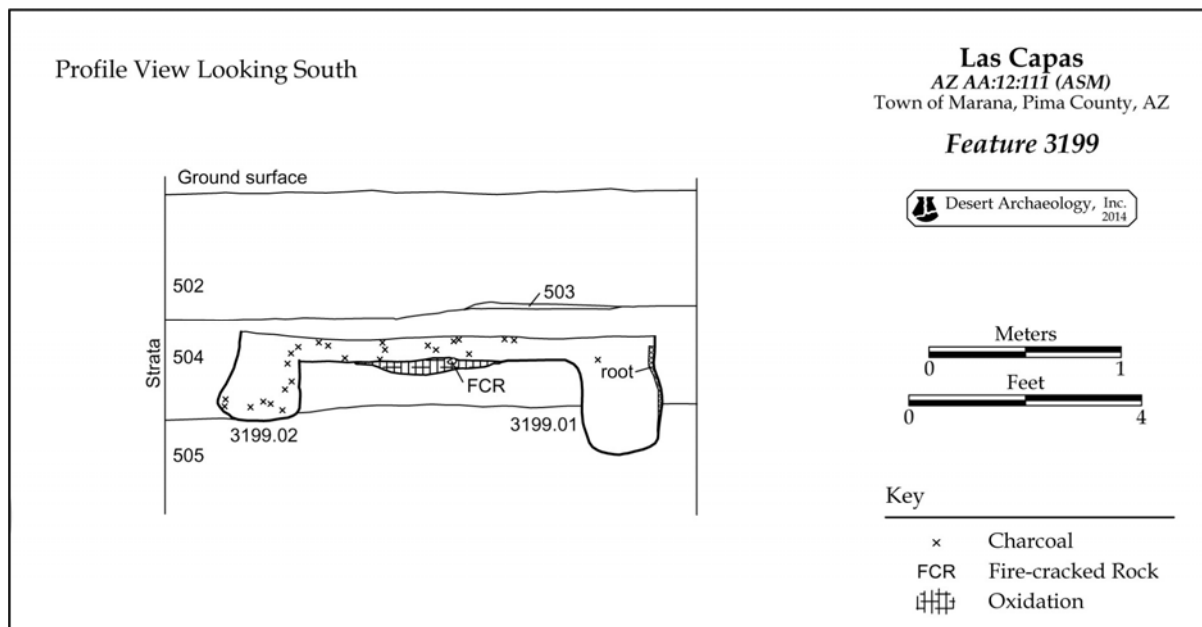


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3199, profile in south wall of Trench 113, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ A:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3229: House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.22-14.31 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during hand-excavation of control units that were placed just south of Trench 112. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and establishing feature boundaries. This oval-shaped structure measured 6.40 m northwest-southeast by 4.45 m northeast-southwest, with 20.68 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Several internal features and postholes were identified within the structure. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Eight internal features originated from the floor surface of the structure (Table 1). One hearth, Feature 3229.13, was located in the south-central portion of the floor. Feature 3229.12 was another hearth located in the north-central portion of the floor and intruding on a small pit, Feature 3229.11, which was also intruded by small pit Feature 3229.10. Two bell-shaped pits, Features 3229.02 and 3229.08



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3229, post-excavation, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

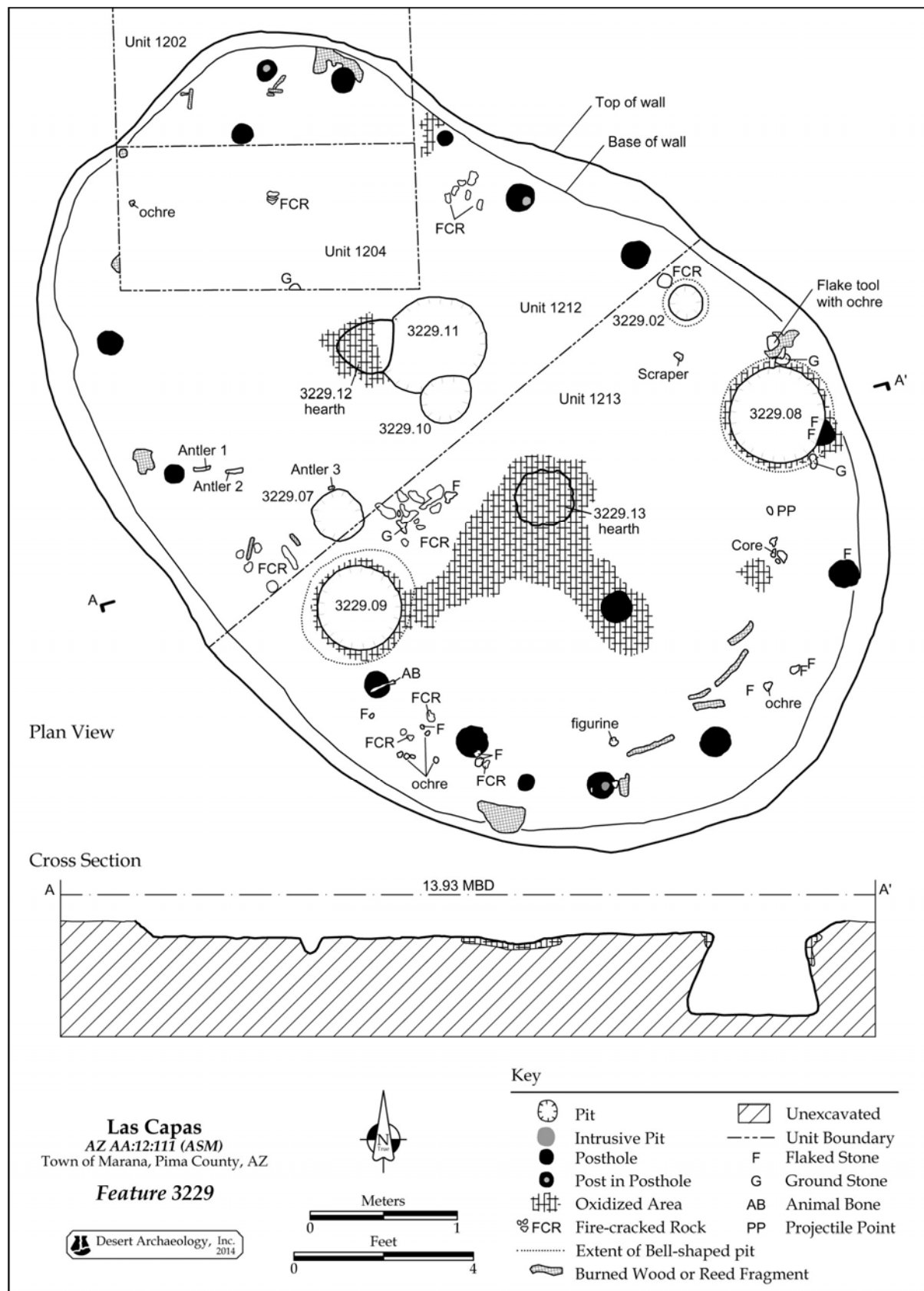


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 3229, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

were located near the northeastern wall of the structure, and a third bell-shaped pit Feature 3229.09, was near the southwestern wall. Another small pit, Feature 3229.07, was just north of Feature 3229.09.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504. The 9 cm of excavated fill was a uniform, brown, moderately hard, mottled silt with a crumbly texture. The internal fill easily “popped” off the floor surface. The fill contained an abundance of small to medium pieces of burned daub, some of which contained reed impressions, as well a moderate density of charcoal flecks. Burned construction materials (stringer and thatching remnants) were also encountered throughout the fill, with the highest density concentrated in the southeastern half of the structure.

Artifact density throughout the fill was high, and included 159 pieces of flaked stone, 208 pieces of faunal bone, 85 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 22 ground stone fragments, 15 pieces of fire-cracked ground stone, and 2 pieces of burned ochre. The structure also contained artifacts directly on the exposed floor surface. These included 24 pieces of flaked stone distributed along the southeastern perimeter of the foundation pit, and 42 pieces of fire-cracked rock, some of which were in a cluster near the center of the structure, while the rest were evenly distributed around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. Five pieces of fire-cracked ground stone were present on the exposed floor surface, as were 40 pieces of faunal bone concentrated primarily to the southwest, several pieces of ochre, and a San Pedro style projectile point stem.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504. The structure was constructed within a large primary foundation pit. The walls of the foundation pit were almost completely removed by mechanical stripping, but were likely not formally prepared. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was in good condition, with minor bioturbation located in the north-central portion, and it was relatively flat, sloping slightly upward around the walls of the foundation pit. The floor contained widespread oxidation. There were burned construction materials directly on the exposed floor surface, in the form of stringers, thatching, and large pieces of daub that contained reed or grass impressions.

In total, 16 postholes were identified and excavated. Fifteen formed a ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin, while one was located in the southeastern part of the structure. The postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 18 cm in diameter and 20 cm in depth. Several of the postholes contained the remains of burned reed fragments, as well as artifacts. Based on the presence of these burned reed fragments, this structure was likely constructed of wall support posts, which were bent or bowed to form a dome. These wall support posts were probably connected by horizontal stringers, and this framework was, in turn, covered by reed or grass thatching and subsequently sealed with earth and mud. No structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This structure was constructed within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 504. No extramural features intruded into this structure, nor did the structure intrude upon any other features. Several extramural features that originated within the same stratum were within a 3-m radius of Feature 3229; the highest density of

these extramural features was located to the north of the structure. Feature types included small and bell-shaped pits and one house-in-pit (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the abundance of artifacts directly on the floor surface, it does not appear the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The fact that no large intact pieces of ground stone were present within the structure may, however, indicate the structure was partially cleaned out. The presence of widespread oxidation across the floor surface, as well as the presence of in situ burned construction materials, indicates this structure burned. No postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Feature 3229 likely functioned primarily for habitation, based on its size and usable floor space, despite the multiple internal features. The presence of many internal features may indicate food or material storage was important to the occupants, as well as interior domestic activity. The lack of remodeling suggests the structure had a single, long-term occupancy. The circumstances in which the structure burned, ceremonial or otherwise, could not be determined. This was the largest structure excavated in Locus E.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 3229, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 3229.02 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.24 | 0.22 | 0.36 | 0.33 | 0.29 | — | — | — | 7 | 2 | — | — | — | 0.0210 |
| 3229.07 | Small pit | 0.36 | 0.33 | 0.20 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 3229.08 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.52 | 0.80 | 0.76 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 3 | — | 0.1929 |
| 3229.09 ^a | Bell-shaped pit | 0.62 | 0.37 | 0.60 | 0.94 | 0.81 | — | — | — | 9 | — | — | 17 | — | 0.2335 |
| 3229.10 | Small pit | 0.35 | 0.29 | 0.41 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 7 | — | — |
| 3229.11 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.60 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 5 | 3 | — | 12 | — | 0.0792 |
| 3229.12 | Hearth | 0.30 | 0.24 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3229.13 | Hearth | 0.42 | 0.36 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0024 |

^a A C14 sample was collected from Feature 3229.09

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 3229, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 3149 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 3207 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 3120 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3169 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3350 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3406 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3418 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3424 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3430 | House-in-pit | Southeast | — |
| 3426 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3251 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 3252 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 3259: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.31 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface was discovered during mechanical stripping. The feature was defined by the limits of compact soil and oxidation. It had been stripped directly to its surface, and no fill remained. The extramural surface was irregularly shaped, and measured 1.45 m by 82 cm. It was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals working upon it during its use-life.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Several extramural features were excavated within a 3-m radius before the surface was identified. These features may have been related to, or originated from, the extramural surface, as it likely extended past the identified feature boundaries (Table 1).

Functional Inferences

Feature 3259 likely functioned as an extramural activity area. The surface may have been contemporaneous and used in conjunction with two nearby houses-in-pits, Features 3407 and 3155.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 3259, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 3157 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3242 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3428 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3258 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3260 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3261 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3295 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3297 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 3339 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3357 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3337 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 3340: House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.15-14.37 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered when mechanical stripping exposed the northern half of the structure. After a profile of the bisected feature was drawn (Figure 3), the remaining cultural overburden was removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and defining the feature boundaries. This circular-shaped house-in-pit measured 3.65 m north-south by 3.50 m east-west, and contained 9.84 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. This feature was in generally good condition, and both internal features and postholes were identifiable on the exposed floor. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Three internal features were identified. Feature 3340.05, an informal hearth, was located in the south-central portion of the structure, and measured 80 cm north-south by 50 cm east-west, with an average depth of 2 cm. This feature contained no internal fill; it was simply a highly oxidized depression in the floor surface. No artifacts were associated with this feature.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3340, post-excavation, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

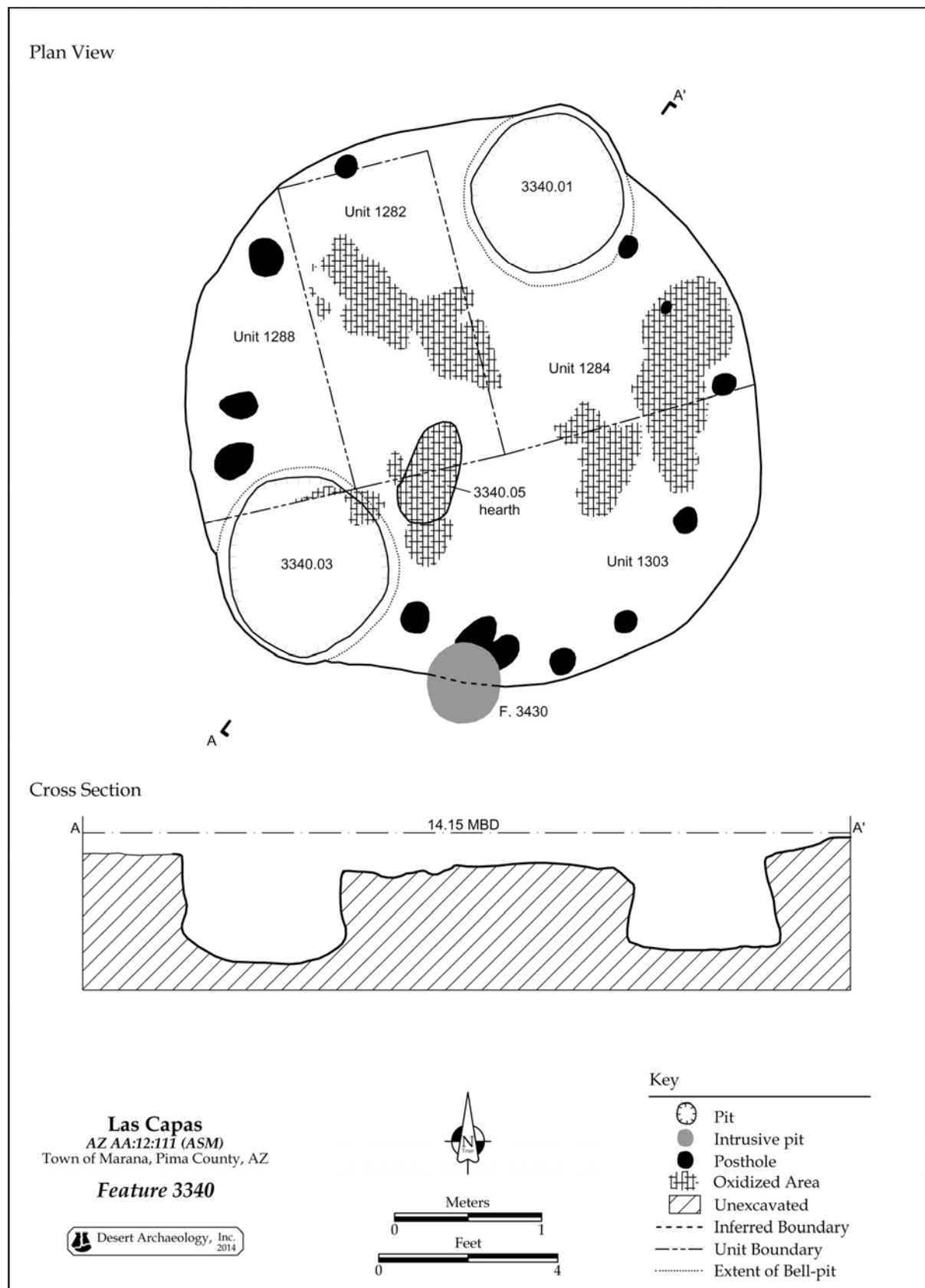


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 3340, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

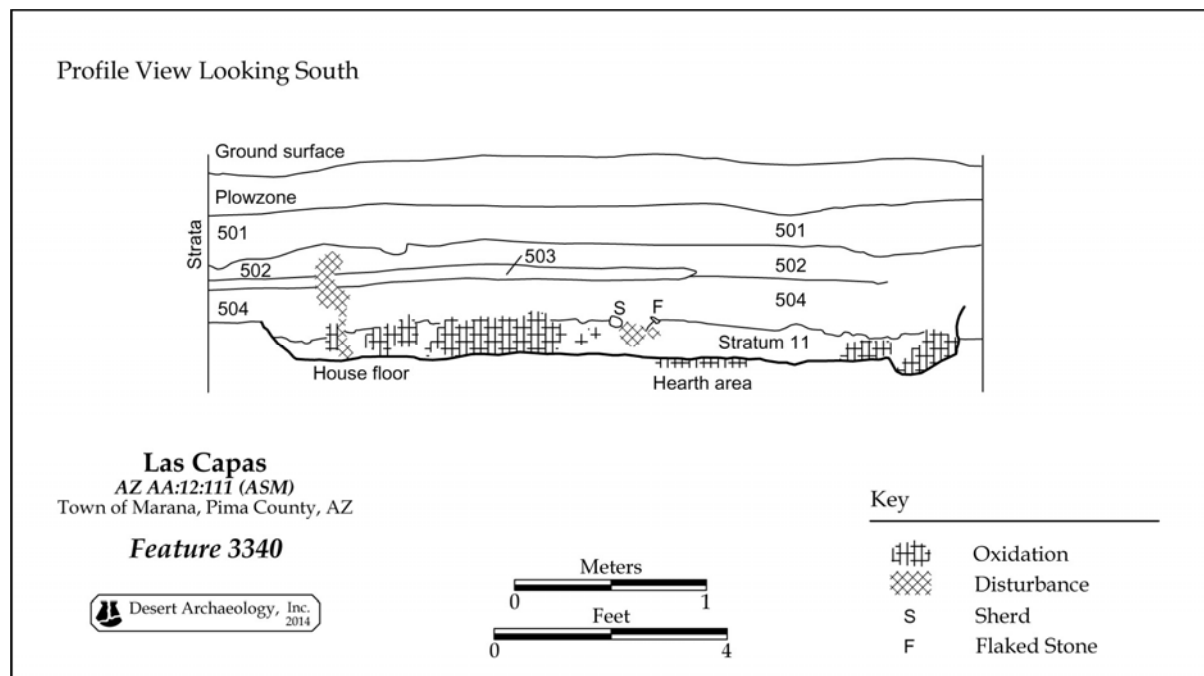


Figure 3. House-in-pit Feature 3340, profile in south wall of stripping balk, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3340.01, a large bell-shaped pit, was located in the northern portion of the structure. Its opening measured 99 cm north-south by 95 cm east-west, it had basal measurements of 1.14 m north-south by 1.05 m east-west, and average depth of 59 cm. The fill of this feature had four stratigraphic layers. The upper 10-14 cm consisted of a uniform, brown, moderately hard silty loam that contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. The next 12-15 cm consisted of a uniform, light brown, loosely consolidated silty loam with a slightly smaller amount of charcoal flecks than the stratum above. The next 10-12 cm were a uniform, grayish-brown, loosely consolidated silty sand with a small amount of charcoal flecks throughout. The final 12-15 cm consisted of a uniform, very loose, brown, subangular sand with very sparse charcoal flecks. Artifacts recovered throughout the fill of Feature 3340.01 included 165 pieces of flaked stone, 3 pieces of ground stone fragments, and 32 pieces of faunal bone. Very small amounts of red ochre were observed within the fill, but were not collected.

Feature 3340.03, another large bell-shaped pit, was located in the southern portion of the structure. Its opening measured 1.10 m north-south by 1.07 m east-west, it had basal measurements of 1.22 m east-west by 1.17 m north-south, and an average depth of 53 cm. The internal fill consisted of a fairly uniform, moderately hard, brown silty clay, mottled with ash, charcoal, and burned daub throughout. A thin pocket of ash was present within the fill approximately 35 cm from the surface, and the entire base of the feature was stained black by charcoal. Artifact density within the fill was low, consisting of 29 pieces of flaked stone, 4 ground stone fragments, and 6 pieces of faunal bone throughout.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504. The 22 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, very light brown, moderate to loosely consolidated silt with a large amount of charcoal flecks and burned material (remnants of burned reed thatching and fallen, burned posts). The fill also contained a large density of burned daub chunks distributed throughout, some of which measured 10-15 cm in

diameter. Artifact density in the fill was low, and consisted of 41 pieces of flaked stone, 29 pieces of faunal bone, 8 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a fire-cracked ground stone fragment. No artifacts were directly on the exposed floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504. The structure was erected within a primary foundation pit. The foundation pit walls were not formally prepared, and they sloped upward to an average of 15 cm above the exposed floor surface; the walls likely continued higher but were partially removed by mechanical stripping. The floor surface of the structure was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was relatively flat, but it sloped slightly upward at the interior perimeter of the foundation pit walls.

Twelve postholes were identified and excavated. These formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The postholes ranged from circular to oval shaped, and were straight walled, averaging 15 cm in diameter and 17 cm in depth. Five of the postholes contained burned in situ post remnants. The postholes probably held upright wall posts, which were bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit. The posts were likely connected with horizontal stringers and covered with reed or grass thatching and sealed with earth or mud. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 503. This structure did not intrude upon, nor was it intruded on by any extramural features. Several extramural features that also originated within Stratum 504 were located within a 3-m radius of this house-in-pit, including bell-shaped pits, small pits, and houses-in-pits (Table 1).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts on the exposed floor surface, Feature 3340 was almost certainly cleaned out prior to abandonment. This structure also showed strong evidence that it burned, with widespread oxidation across the floor surface, large amounts of burned material in the fill, and in situ burned posts. It was unclear if the structure was intentionally burned, but it is likely the burning occurred after abandonment. No postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Based on the presence of large bell-shaped pits, the primary function of this feature was likely storage. The presence of the hearth indicates some degree of interior domestic activity occurred within the structure. The lack of remodeling evidence suggests this structure had a single occupation during its use-life. Given the close proximity of this structure to two additional houses-in-pits that originate within the same stratigraphic layer, the three may have been contemporaneous and in use at the same time. The fact that all three structures exhibited the same degree of burning and no remodeling evidence may indicate they were also abandoned at the same time.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 3340, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 3229 | House-in-pit | Northwest | — |
| 3406 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 3426 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 3343 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3344 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3345 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3345 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3430 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3431 | House-in-pit | South | — |

Feature 3396: House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus G
Elevation: 12.49-12.59 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figure 1) was identified during mechanical stripping in Locus G. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to expose the floor surface and foundation pit walls. The structure was located on the eastern edge of the locus, with about 25 percent covered by the unexcavated balk. The excavated portion measured 3.21 m northeast-southwest by 1.90 m northwest-southeast. The floor area of the structure was 4.74 m², while the usable floor surface measured 4.39 m². No internal features were associated with the floor.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 10 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a soft, medium brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecking throughout. The fill contained a low density of artifacts, including 32 pieces of faunal bone, 82 pieces of flaked stone, 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a piece of ochre. The fill was also heavily disturbed, with a large amount of rodent and root disturbance.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The oval-shaped structure contained four perimeter postholes and three central postholes within the excavated portion. The four perimeter postholes had an average diameter of 12 cm and an average depth of 8 cm. The average diameter of the interior postholes was 12 cm, and their average depth was 11 cm. The floor surface was defined by Stratum 505, and it consisted of unprepared, moderately hard, light brown sandy silt with no oxidation or evidence of burning.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The structure and postholes originated in Stratum 505. A number of extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 505 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 1). These extramural features consisted of small pits and one bell-shaped pit. Based on location and elevation, these features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 3396.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not show any signs of having burned. The low density of artifacts in the feature fill, in conjunction with the lack of a floor assemblage, may indicate the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The visible profile in the wall of the balk indicated the feature was filled with naturally deposited sediments. Artifacts in the fill were probably related to cultural debris within these natural deposits, not a trash-filling episode. There was no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Feature 3396 may have functioned as a habitation structure. The lack of floor features and the large amount of usable floor space may substantiate this interpretation. The absence of internal features indicates little domestic activity occurred within the structure. Feature 3396 was the only feature found in Stratum 505 within Locus G.

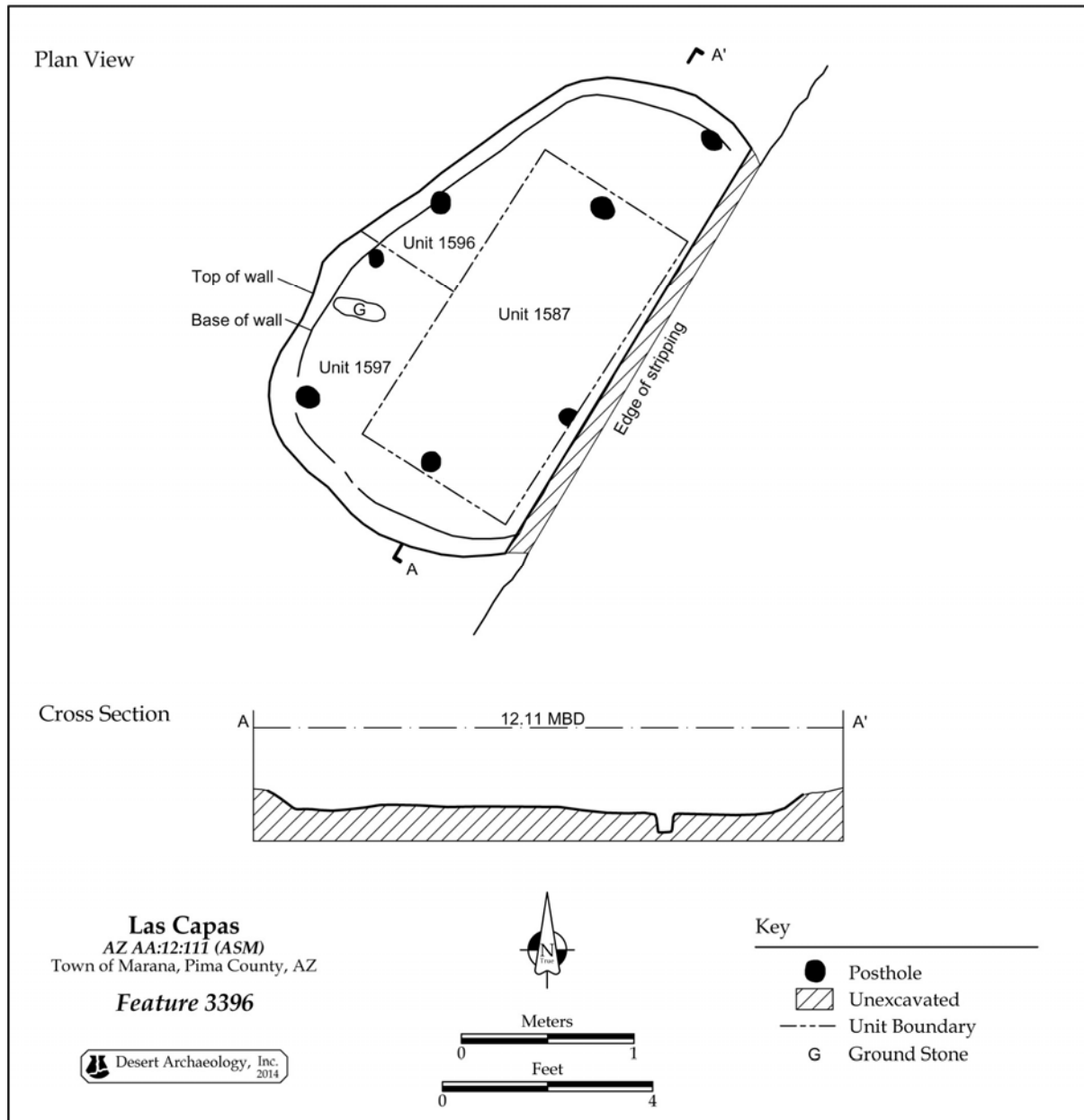


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 3396, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 3396, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 3394 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 3395 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 3517 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 3521 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3522 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3520 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 3397 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3518 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3524 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3519 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3368 | Small pit | West | — |
| 3388 | Small pit | West | — |
| 3399 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 3407: House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.34-14.64 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and feature boundaries. The oval-shaped structure measured 3.10 m southeast-northwest by 2.90 m northeast-southwest, with 7.09 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. A very small part of the structure at its eastern edge was not excavated, because it was outside the stripped area of Locus E. Postholes and internal features were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit contained three internal features. Feature 3407.01, a small bell-shaped pit, was located in the western part of the structure. It measured 33 cm in diameter, with a basal measurement of 38 cm north-south by 35 cm east-west, and an average depth of 25 cm. The fill consisted of a uniform, medium brown, moderately hard, slightly blocky silty clay. Sparse small pieces of burned daub were located at the top of the feature, but no artifacts were found within the fill.

Feature 3407.02, a small pit, was located in the eastern part of the structure. Only half of this feature was excavated, as the other half was outside of the stripped limits of Locus E. This feature had an estimated length of 45 cm east-west by an established width of 25 cm north-south, and an average depth of 16 cm. The internal fill consisted of a uniform, medium brown, moderately hard silty loam, with sparse amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. No artifacts were present within this feature.

Feature 3407.03, an informal hearth area, was located in the south-central portion of the structure. This irregularly shaped feature measured 70 cm east-west by 47 cm north-south, and had an average depth of 4 cm. The internal fill consisted of a grayish-brown, loosely consolidated silt with a moderate amount of ash and charcoal flecks throughout. No artifacts were recovered.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This structure originated within Stratum 504. The 30 cm of excavated fill consisted of five stratigraphic layers. The first 1-2 cm was a uniform, light brown hard silt. The following 7-8 cm consisted of uniform, medium brown, mildly hard sandy silt, with clay inclusions and sparse amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. The next 10 cm was a uniform, brown, moderately hard sandy silt with moderate amounts of charcoal flecks; ash and oxidized soil was noted throughout this stratum. The subsequent 5-10 cm consisted of a uniform, light brown, moderately hard sandy silt, that contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. The final 1-2 cm above the floor was a uniform, loosely consolidated, reddish sand with small pockets of ash throughout.

Artifact density was low throughout the fill, and artifacts were confined primarily to the upper three stratigraphic layers. Artifacts included 23 pieces of flaked stone, 3 pieces of faunal bone, 4 pieces of

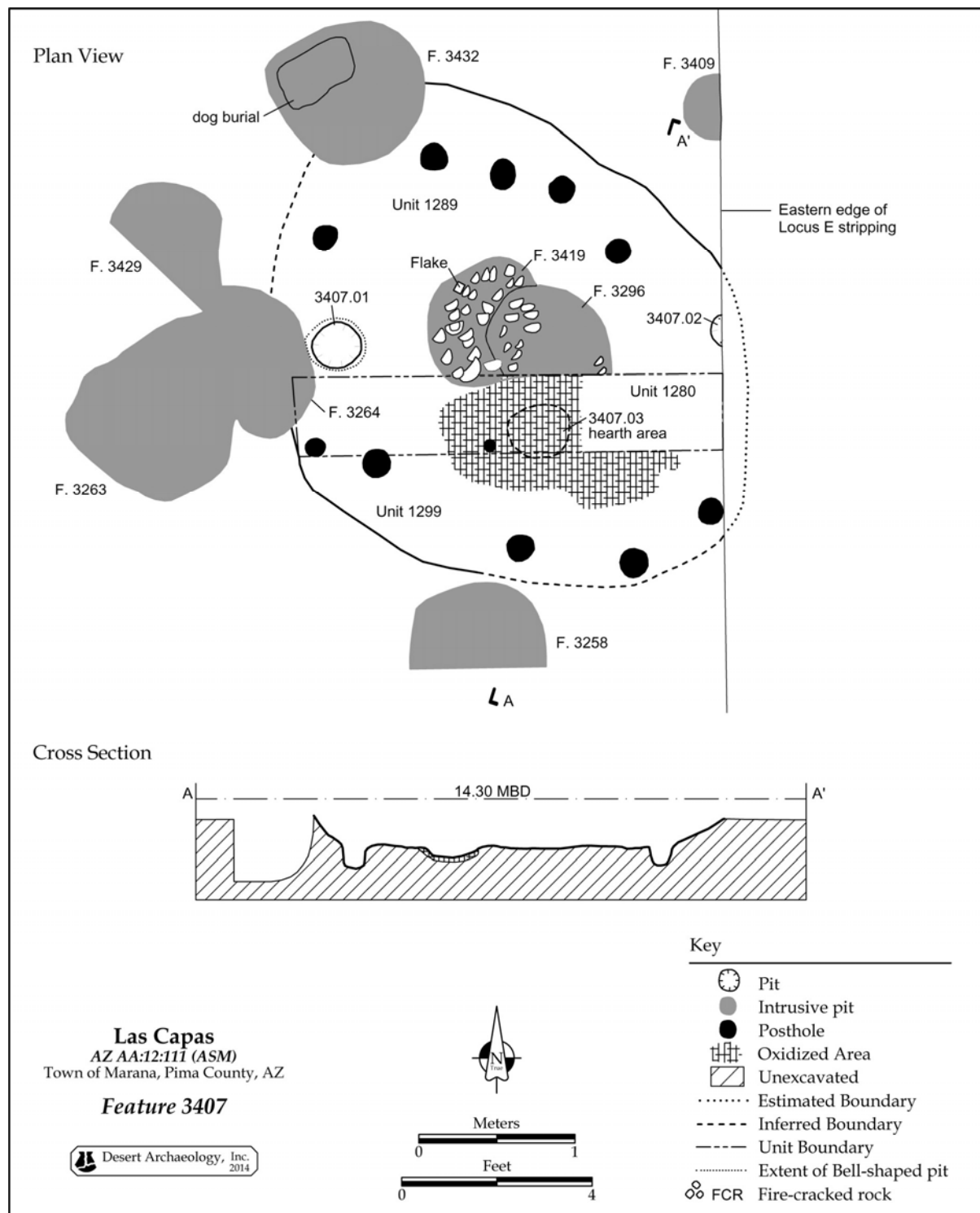


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 3407, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

broken ground stone, 1 piece of ochre, 113 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 4 fragments of fire-cracked ground stone. No artifacts were directly on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, postholes, and internal features were built by excavation into Stratum 504. The structure was built within a primary foundation pit. The walls of this pit were not formally prepared, and they sloped upward to an average height of 15 cm above the floor surface. The walls of the foundation pit likely extended higher, but were partially removed by intrusive features, and by mechanical stripping. The floor surface of Feature 3407 was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface contained slight patches of oxidation and was relatively flat, sloping upward at the perimeter of the foundation pit basin.

Eleven postholes were identified and excavated within the structure. The postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 15 cm in diameter and 15 cm in depth. The postholes formed a ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. These postholes likely held wall supports, which were bent or bowed to form a dome and connected by horizontal stringers. This framework was, in turn, likely covered with reed or grass thatching.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by Stratum 503. Several extramural pits intruded into the structure and cut through its floor surface. These features originated in the uppermost portion of Stratum 504 and postdate the structure. Feature 3264, a bell-shaped pit, was intrusive into the western edge of the structure. Feature 3432, a small pit that included a dog inhumation, intruded into the northwestern part of the structure. A roasting pit, Feature 3419, and small pit Feature 3296, intruded into the approximate center of the structure.

Several extramural features that originated within Stratum 504 were located within a 3-m radius of this house-in-pit, with a particularly high concentration south of the feature. Feature types included small and bell-shaped pits, as well as one roasting pit (Table 1). Although it originated within Stratum 505, Feature 3155, a house-in-pit, was found directly northeast of Feature 3407.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts on the exposed floor surface, this structure was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment. Although there was light oxidation across the floor surface, Feature 3407 does not appear to have burned. The stratigraphy of the internal fill suggests the depression left by the structure after abandonment was filled in by natural deposits. Based on the number of features intrusive to this structure, this area likely saw a postabandonment reuse. The intrusive roasting pit Feature 3419, in particular, appears to be the source for the abundance of burned material, as well as fire-cracked rock, within the house-in-pit fill.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of this structure was likely habitation. This is based on the small number of internal features and their small size. The lack of remodeling evidence indicated this structure saw a

single occupancy over its use-life. The irregular shape of the hearth area may also be an indication that the single occupancy was long term and that the size and nature of the hearth area represented multiple usages over time. Due to the shape, the originating stratum, and the elevation of this structure, it was likely contemporaneous with the small cluster of houses-in-pits located in the southern portion of Locus E: Features 3229, 3431, and 3430. Feature 3407 was not contemporaneous with Feature 3155, a house-in-pit, although the structure was in close proximity to Feature 3407, it was much earlier in origin.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 3407, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 3157 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3242 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3428 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3258 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3260 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3261 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3295 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 3297 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 3339 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3357 | Small pit | South | — |
| 3264 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 3265 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3266 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3267 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3268 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 3337 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 3421: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.26 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was discovered in Trench 112; it was mechanically stripped directly to the surface, and no internal fill remained. What remained of the irregular-shaped surface measured 2.20 m east-west by 1.80 m north-south, and was defined by the limits of oxidation and compaction of the soil. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted over time by individuals performing regular outdoor activities upon it. Oxidation on the surface was concentrated along the eastern portion of the feature. The surface exhibited some of rodent disturbance.

Internal Features

A single internal feature was identified as likely associated with Feature 3421. Bell-shaped pit Feature 3421.01 was visible in the north wall of Trench 112, and was situated within the southern portion of the excavated area. This bell-shaped pit was only profiled; it averaged 56 cm in depth and measured 64 cm at the opening, constricting to a neck measurement of 48 cm before expanding to a basal measurement of 85 cm. The fill of Feature 3421.01 was stratified with four distinct layers. The upper 12 cm consisted of brown, mildly hard silt. The following 12 cm was grayish-brown, loose silty sand, and the base of this stratum was highly oxidized. The next 17 cm was reddish-brown, mildly hard silt that contained small amounts of oxidized soil and small chunks of burned daub throughout. The final 14 cm consisted of a grayish-brown loose silt with small amounts of ash and charcoal flecks throughout. No artifacts were visible within the profile.

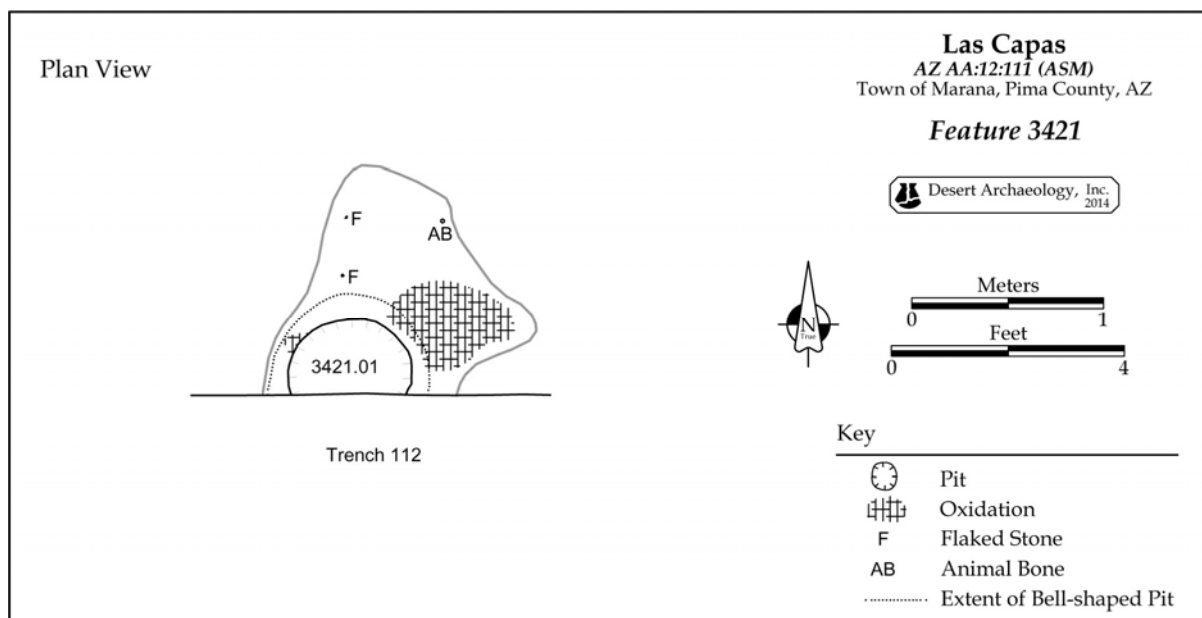


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 3421, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Because the feature was mechanically stripped to its surface, no internal fill was available to excavate. Few artifacts were present directly on the surface, but these included three pieces of flaked stone and a single deer antler fragment, all located in the eastern, oxidized, portion of the feature.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface was located within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. This surface was neither intrusive to, nor was intruded upon by any extramural features. Several extramural features that originated within Stratum 504 were located within a 3-m radius of the surface, and included several pit features, as well as a house-in-pit (Table 1).

Functional Inferences

Feature 3421 likely functioned primarily as an outdoor activity area. It is unclear what activities may have occurred on this surface, but the presence of Feature 3421.01, a bell-shaped pit, suggests storage was one function. Given that this feature is in close proximity to Feature 3407, a house-in-pit that originated within the same stratum, the extramural surface may have been associated with that structure.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 3421, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-------|
| 3418 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3423 | Small pit | North | — |
| 3424 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 3171 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 3350 | Small pit | East | — |
| 3229 | House-in-pit | South | — |
| 3406 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |

Feature 3431: House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus E
Elevation: 14.19-14.29 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and defining the boundaries of the feature. This oval-shaped house-in-pit measured 3.85 m northwest-southwest by 3.35 northeast-southwest, with 9.63 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Both internal features and postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained three internal features. Feature 3431.01, a hearth, was located near the center of the structure. It measured 36 cm north-south by 30 cm east-west, and had an average depth of 6 cm. Its internal fill consisted of a uniform, grayish-brown, loosely consolidated silt, with a large amount of ash and small amounts of burned daub. Artifact density was low, and consisted of four pieces of flaked stone.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 3431, mid-excavation, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

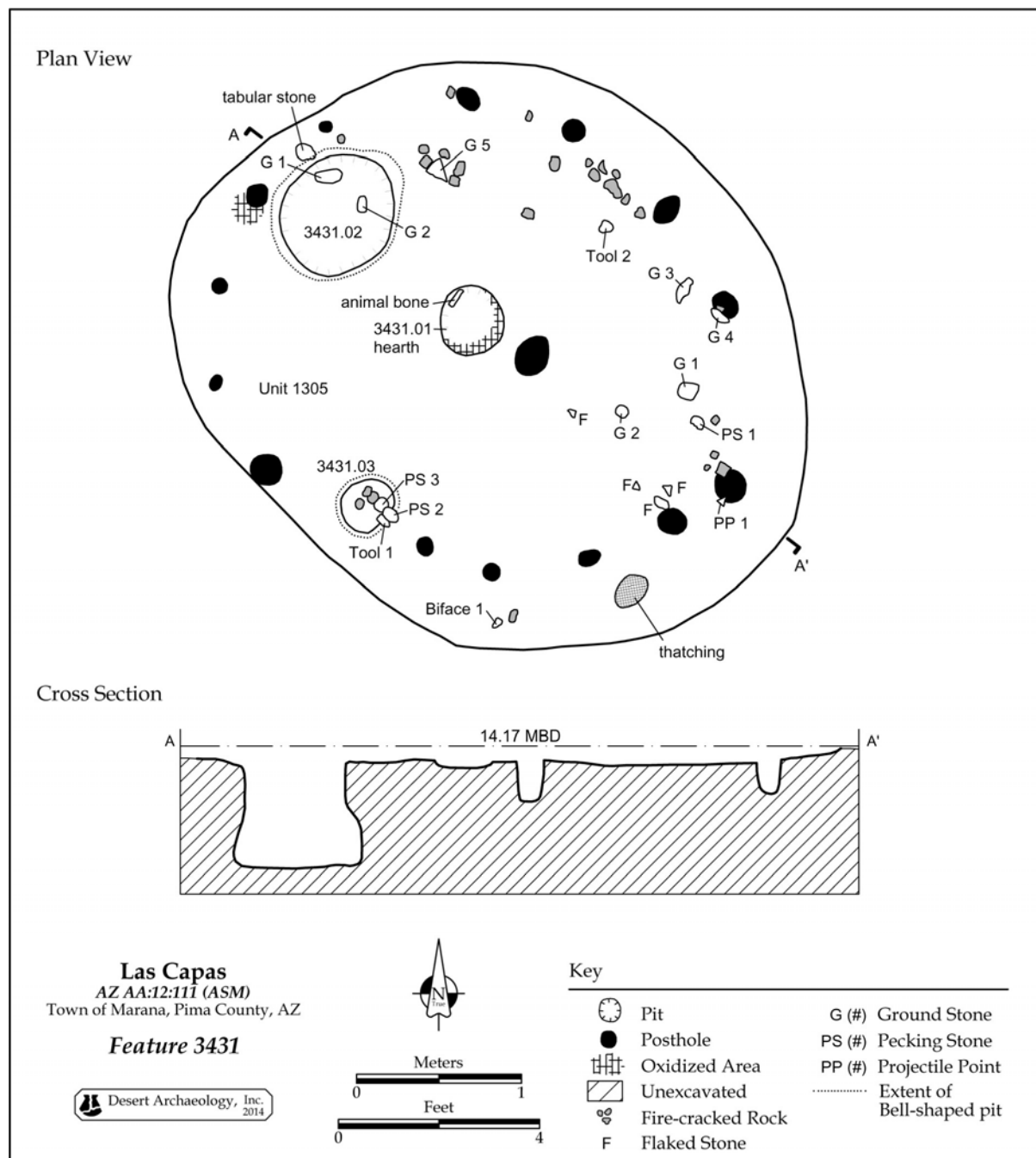


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 3431, Locus E, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 3431.02, a bell-shaped pit, was located in the northwestern portion of the structure. This feature measured 85 cm north-south by 77 cm east-west at the opening, with a neck measurement of 86 cm east-west by 60 cm north-south, and a basal diameter of 95 cm. This bell-shaped pit averaged 68 cm in depth, and the fill was composed of three stratigraphic layers. The first 5-28 cm of fill consisted of uniform natural alluvium that was dark brown in color, moderately hard, and devoid of artifacts. The next 10-30 cm consisted of a grayish-brown, uniform, loosely consolidated silt that contained ash and sparse amounts of charcoal flecks and daub throughout. This layer also contained one complete one-hand mano and two pieces of fire-cracked rock. The bottom 5-10 cm of fill was very

loosely consolidated, grayish-brown silty loam that included a moderate to high amount of ash, charcoal flecks, and daub. Artifact density in the bottom two stratigraphic layers was high, and consisted of 63 pieces of flaked stone, 44 pieces of faunal bone, and 6 additional pieces of fragmentary ground stone.

Feature 3431.03, a small bell-shaped pit, was located in the south-central portion of the structure. It measured 36 cm northeast-southwest by 31 cm southwest-northeast at the opening, had a neck measurement of 30 cm northeast-southwest by 25 cm northwest-southeast, and a basal measurement of 36 cm northeast-southwest by 33 cm northwest-southeast. This feature had an average depth of 20 cm, and its fill was comprised of two layers. The upper 12 cm consisted of a uniform dark brown, moderately hard silty clay that was deposited naturally and that was devoid of artifacts. The remaining 14 cm consisted of a brown, slightly hard silty loam with modest amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact density in the fill was low, consisting of three pieces of flaked stone. Two ground stone polishers and another ground stone tool were present at the opening of the pit.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This structure originated within Stratum 504. The 10 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a uniform, light brown, slightly hard silt that contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks, ash, and burned daub throughout. Artifact density in the fill was moderate, and consisted of 48 pieces of flaked stone, 27 pieces of faunal bone, 3 ground stone fragments, 9 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 3 fire-cracked ground stone fragments, and a piece of raw ochre. Artifacts directly on the floor surface included 16 pieces of flaked stone and flaked stone tools, 11 pieces of fragmented ground stone, 18 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 11 fragments of fire-cracked ground stone, and a complete bone awl. These artifacts were located closer to perimeter of the foundation pit: none were in the center of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit was built by excavation into Stratum 504. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit. The walls of the foundation pit sloped upward to a height of 5 cm above the average floor surface, and likely extended higher, but were almost completely removed by mechanical stripping. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was relatively flat but sloped upward around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. Oxidation was present across the entire floor surface.

In all, 15 postholes were identified and excavated. Fourteen of these formed a ring around the perimeter of the foundation pit. One additional posthole located near the middle of the structure likely represented a central support. The postholes were all circular in shape, and averaged 14 cm in diameter and 15 cm in depth. One posthole contained a remnant of a burned post. Based on the in situ post, as well as the presence of burned thatching material on the floor surface in the southeastern corner, this structure was likely constructed of upright wall posts, which were bent to form a dome shape. The posts were probably connected by horizontal stringers and covered with reed or grass thatching. No evidence of remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

House-in-pit Feature 3431 originated within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by Stratum 503. This structure was not intrusive into, nor was intruded upon

by any extramural features. Only a few features that originated within Stratum 504 were located within a 3-m radius of this structure. House-in-pit Feature 3430, and small pit Feature 3343, were located to the north, and small pit Feature 3426, and house-in-pit Feature 3229, were located to the northwest.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the abundance of artifacts in direct contact with the floor surface, Feature 3431 does not appear to have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was ample evidence that the structure burned, with widespread oxidation on the floor surface, as well as burned architectural elements and burned daub within the fill. It is unknown if the structure was burned intentionally. No postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 3431 was likely habitation, based on the small number of internal features. The presence of the bell-shaped pits indicated some form of storage occurred within the structure. The presence of a large number of ground stone and fire-cracked ground stone fragments in the fill and on the floor surface also suggests interior domestic activity occurred. The lack of remodeling evidence suggests the structure saw a single occupancy over its use-life. This structure was feasibly contemporaneous with Features 3229 and 3430, both houses-in-pits, which share similar characteristics of a single occupation and evidence of burning. All of these structures almost certainly operated as part of a collective unit, based on their close proximity to each other and evidence suggesting they were occupied and abandoned at the same time.

Feature 3530: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus G
Elevation: 13.34-13.73 mbd

General Description

Feature 3530, a possible house-in-pit, was identified in the central portion of Locus G2 and was profiled in the east wall of Trench 239 (Figure 1). The trench had been excavated by Desert Archaeology, Inc., personnel in 1998, and designated Trench 174. The feature originated in Stratum 506.01, and it measured 1.56 m in length and 39 cm deep. Feature 3530 was only visible in the east wall of the trench, suggesting only the edge of the possible structure was cut by the backhoe trench. The floor consisted of a slightly hard, medium brown silty clay. While the western and eastern edges of the surface were clearly visible, the central portion was difficult to define. There appeared to be both naturally deposited sediments and trash-filling episodes represented within the fill. The naturally deposited sediments were hard and clay rich, with some charcoal flecking. The trash-filled deposits consisted of slightly hard silty clay, with a moderate density of charcoal flecking, animal bone, and fire-cracked rock. The feature may have been a large basin-shaped pit rather than a house-in-pit.

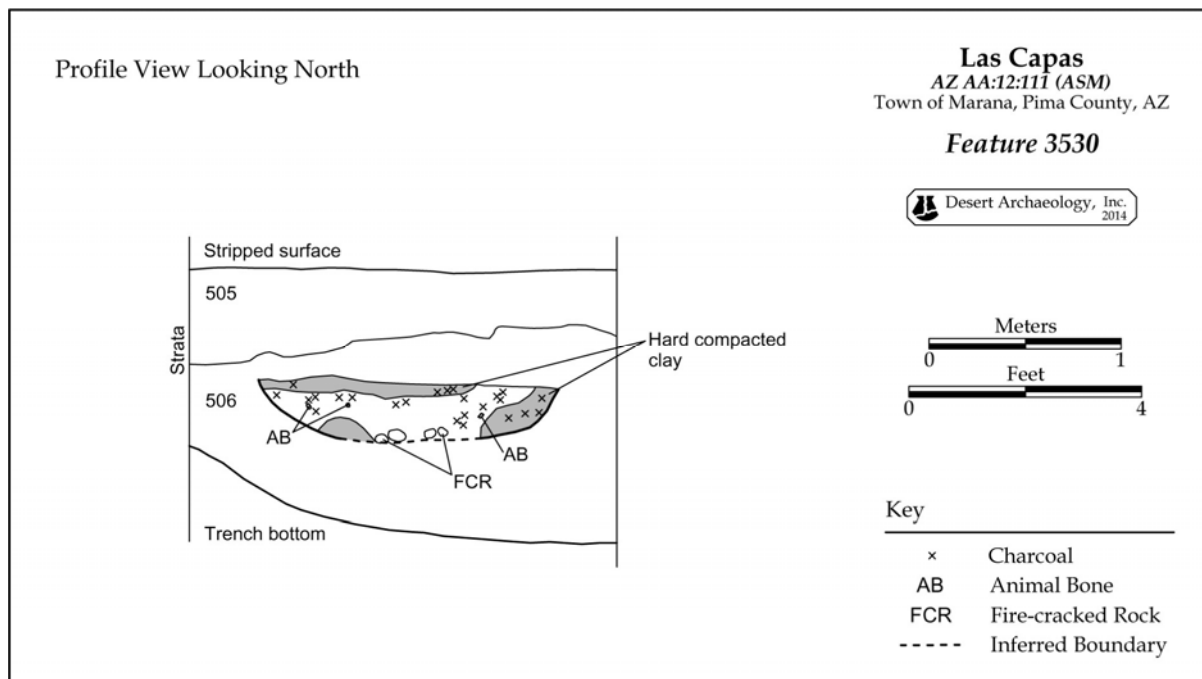


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 3530, profile in north wall of Trench 239, Locus G, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 4014: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus A
Elevation: 12.52-12.60 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during mechanical excavation of the far northeastern portion of Locus A. The feature was subsequently excavated by hand to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. The feature was a circular house-in-pit, with the superstructure constructed within the foundation pit, which measured 4.75 m east-west by 4.45 m north-south. The total floor area of the structure was 16.47 m² while the usable floor surface was 13.72 m² when fully excavated. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Three informal hearths were excavated, all located in the central portion of the structure. Although these hearths were clustered together, they were discrete features that overlapped. A shallow, irregularly shaped, ash-filled cleanout pit was excavated just north of the hearth area. Seven small



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4014, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

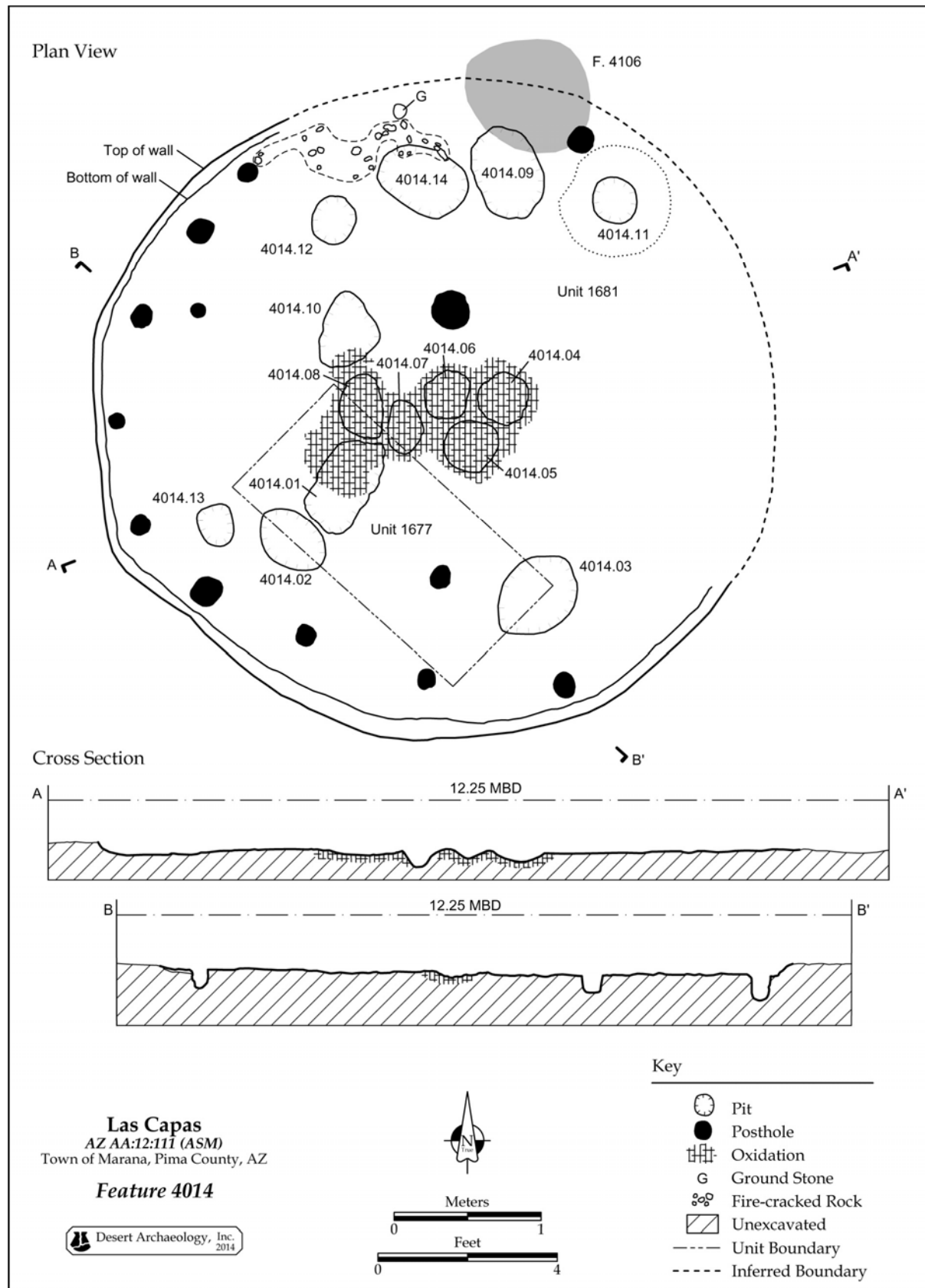


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 4014, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

pits were excavated: one pit was interpreted as a basketrest and the rest may have been used as storage features. A bell-shaped pit, which probably functioned as a storage feature, was excavated (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 8 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, slightly hard, grayish-brown, silty clay. The eastern portion of the feature had been mechanically excavated below the floor surface of the structure, exposing a sandy alluvial deposit. A large rodent run was present in the eastern portion of the structure. The fill directly above the floor surface contained a moderate to high density of artifacts, including 19 flakes, 77 pieces of faunal bone, 13 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a piece of ground stone. Artifacts found on the floor included 21 pieces of fire-cracked rock and a single ground stone fragment. The floor surface contained a large amount of animal, root, and rodent disturbance.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The 12 perimeter postholes had an average diameter of 15 cm and an average depth of 15 cm. These postholes likely held posts that functioned as wall supports. Three centrally located postholes were present in a triangular arrangement (see Figure 2). The average diameter of the three central postholes was 27 cm, with an average depth of 18 cm. The central location and large size of these postholes in relation to those on the perimeter indicate they may have held roof support posts. This pattern is similar to that seen in Feature 4054, which also contained three roof support postholes in a triangular layout.

The foundation pit in the eastern portion of the feature was destroyed during mechanical excavation. No roof or wall fall was found during excavation of the feature. The floor consisted of a mildly compacted, unprepared, undulating surface that was consistent across the extent of the structure. The floor was not formally prepared, although it was compacted, likely by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. This also accounts for the presence of small charcoal flecks embedded in the surface. No evidence of structural remodeling is present. The feature had a depth of 8 cm, with the edges gently sloping toward the center of the structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within Stratum 504.01. Several possibly contemporary pits were concentrated in a 3-m radius north of the structure, all of which originated in Stratum 504.01 (Table 2). These extramural features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 4014. A portion of the foundation pit wall was truncated by a small intrusive pit, Feature 4106, in the northern part of the structure.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence indicating the structure burned. Rather, it seemed to have decayed over time and was filled in with naturally deposited sediments and cultural debris. The low density of artifacts associated with the floor of the structure suggests the house was cleaned out prior to abandonment.

Functional Inferences

Feature 4014 appears to have functioned as a habitation structure, based on the presence of several hearths. Feature 4014 was similar to Feature 4054 in several respects: both features had a triangular interior posthole arrangement to support their superstructure, and both structures contained ash-filled clean-out pits located adjacent to their hearth. The structures were located in the northern portion of Locus A, which contained a large number of possibly contemporary structures that originated in Stratum 504.01.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4014, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4014.01 | Ash pit | 0.62 | 0.54 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4014.02 | Small pit | 0.54 | 0.41 | 0.14 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 6 | — | 0.0162 |
| 4014.03 | Small pit | 0.54 | 0.41 | 0.14 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0090 |
| 4014.04 | Small pit | 0.55 | 0.39 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0036 |
| 4014.05 | Hearth | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0030 |
| 4014.06 | Hearth | 0.30 | 0.24 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0026 |
| 4014.07 | Small pit | 0.30 | 0.24 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0045 |
| 4014.08 | Hearth | 0.46 | 0.30 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0029 |
| 4014.09 | Small pit | 0.48 | 0.47 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | 0.0035 |
| 4014.10 | Small pit | 0.56 | 0.50 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0040 |
| 4014.11 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.30 | 0.31 | 0.48 | 0.76 | 0.75 | 0.30 | 0.31 | — | 46 | 2 | 1 | 35 | — | 0.1276 |
| 4014.14 | Small pit | 0.57 | 0.48 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0215 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4014, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 4007 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4010 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4011 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4012 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4013 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4046 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 4047 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4049 | Small pit | Southeast | — |

Feature 4030: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus A
Elevation: 12.54-12.57 mbd

General Description

Feature 4030 (Figures 1 and 2), a house-in-pit, was identified during mechanical excavation of the northeastern portion of Locus A. The feature was subsequently excavated by hand in remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. This circular pit structure measured 3.75 m north-south by 3.50 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 11.37 m², and the usable floor surface was 10.64 m². The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure constructed within the primary foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Feature

A hearth, Feature 4030.01, and a bell-shaped pit, Feature 4030.04, were found to be associated with the floor surface of the structure. The hearth, located near the center of the feature, was heavily oxidized and appeared to have a raised apron. The hearth had an oval shape, measuring 37 cm north-south by 32 cm east-west, and had a depth of 5 cm. No artifacts were associated with the hearth.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4030, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

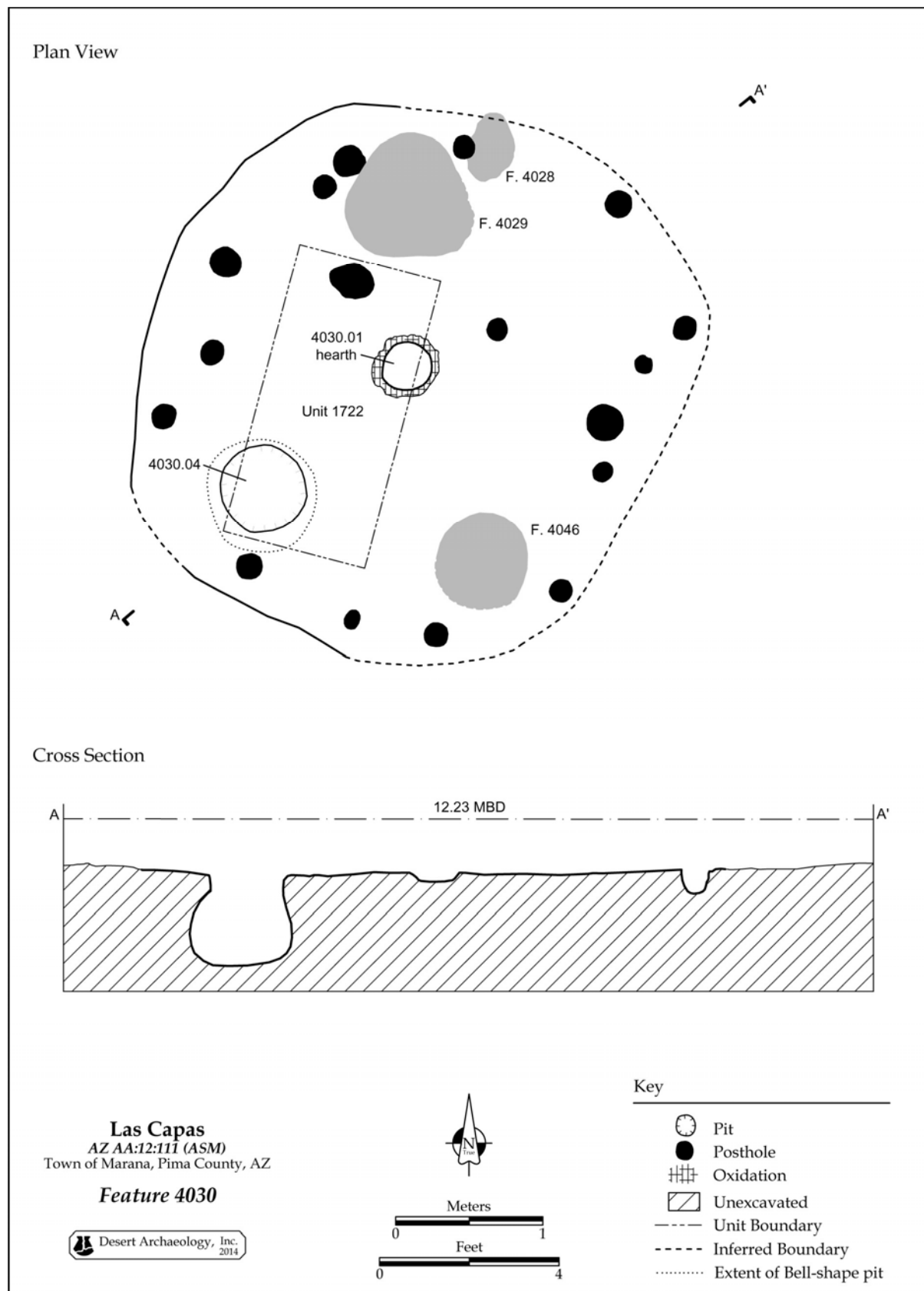


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 4030, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

The bell-shaped pit was located in the southwestern corner of the dwelling. This pit had an upper measurement of 65 cm by 63 cm, a basal measurement of 87 cm by 83 cm, and the neck had a width of 58 cm; the pit was 69 cm deep. The fill of Feature 4030.04 contained a moderate density of burned structural debris, including charcoal and burned daub. A moderate density of artifacts was present in the pit, including 16 flakes, 30 pieces of faunal bone, a piece of ground stone, and 16 pieces of fire-cracked rock.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 3 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, moderately hard, grayish-brown, silty clay with a high density of charcoal flecking and a low density of small burned daub flecks. The fill also contained a low density of artifacts, including 20 flakes and 32 pieces of faunal bone. Some root, rodent, and insect disturbance were present in the fill and floor of the feature.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The 15 perimeter postholes averaged 19.0 cm in diameter and 11.0 cm in depth, and likely held upright wall support posts. Two central postholes were also present in the structure (see Figure 2). The average diameter of the central postholes was 22.5 cm, while their average depths were 14.0 cm. Based on their size and location within the structure, the interior postholes likely contained main roof support posts.

The foundation pit in the eastern portion of the structure was destroyed by mechanical excavation. The feature boundary was inferred from the posthole pattern. The floor consisted of a mildly compact, unprepared, undulating surface that was consistent across the length of the feature. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. This mode of compaction also accounts for the presence of small charcoal flecks embedded in the surface. No evidence of structural remodeling is present. The structure is similar in size, shape, and elevation to Feature 4014, a house-in-pit located directly east of Feature 4030. Both structures contained three central support postholes in a triangular layout and at least one internal bell-shaped pit.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The structure originated within Stratum 504.02. Within a 3-m radius, several possibly contemporary pits were present that originated in Stratum 504.02. Most of these features were located northwest of the structure, including several small pits and a bell-shaped pit (Table 1). These extramural features may have been used for storage or other activities related to the structure. There were no contemporary structures that originated in Stratum 504.02 in Locus A. Several features that originated in Stratum 504.02 intruded into this structure, including three small pits, Features 4173, 4176, and 4142, and bell-shaped pit Feature 4140.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not exhibit any evidence of burning, but rather it likely deteriorated after abandonment and was buried by washed-in sediments and cultural debris. The absence of a floor assemblage, as well as the low density of artifacts in the floor fill, seems to indicate the house was cleaned out prior to abandonment. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Feature 4030 appears to have functioned as a habitation structure, based on the presence of a hearth and the limited amount of internal subsurface storage pits. It was the only structure found to have originated in Stratum 504.02 in Locus A, which indicated there was not a substantial community in the immediate area during the given time interval.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4030, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 4033 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 4136 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4139 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4174 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4177 | Small pit | Northeast | — |

Feature 4034: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus A
Elevation: 12.59-12.68 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during backhoe stripping of the northeastern portion of Locus A. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor surface and internal features. This small, circular pit structure measured 3.30 m north-south by 2.80 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 7.27 m², while the usable floor surface was 6.03 m². The feature was a house-in-pit, with the superstructure assembled within the foundation pit. Although several gaps were present in the perimeter posthole arrangement, no entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

An informal hearth, two small pits, and two bell-shaped pits were associated with the floor surface of the structure. Feature 4034.03, a small internal pit, may have functioned as a basketrest based on the size and shape of the feature (see Figure 2). Several of the structures in Locus A that originated in Stratum 504.01 contained similar circular and ovate, shallow, basin-shaped pits that were interpreted as basketrests. The bell-shaped pits may have functioned as storage features. Informal hearths, like



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4034, post excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

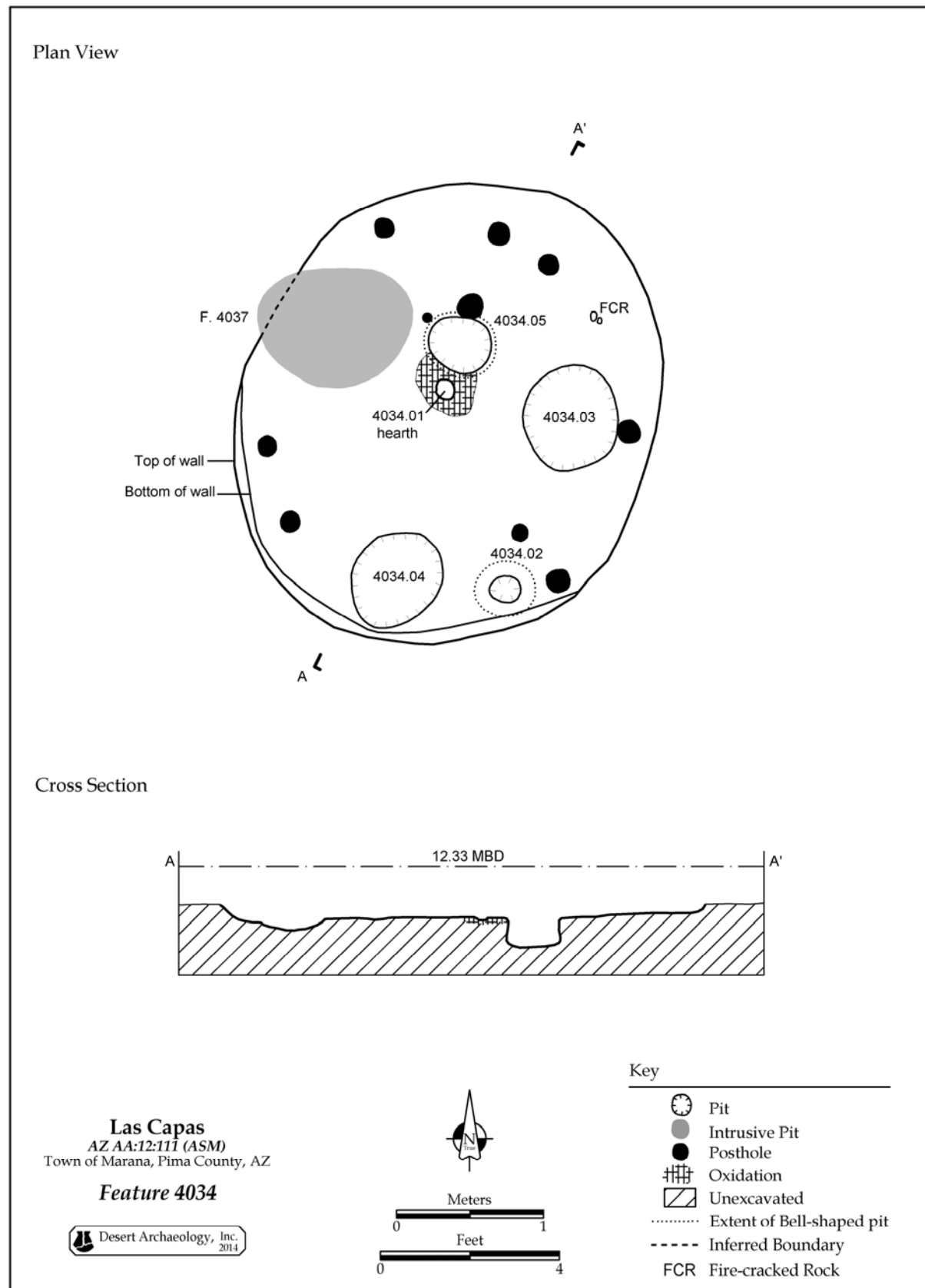


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 4034, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

the hearth found in Feature 4034, were quite common among contemporary houses in the area. Table 1 provides details about the internal features.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated within Stratum 504.01, with the base of the feature defined by Stratum 504.02. The 9 cm of cultural fill excavated within the feature consisted of uniform, slightly hard, brown, sandy silt with some clay content. The fill contained a moderate density of charcoal and a low density of burned daub. Artifact densities were low, and included 2 flakes, 10 pieces of faunal bone, and 2 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The northeastern portion of the structure contained a moderate amount of bioturbation, and was mechanically excavated to the floor surface, leaving no intact fill. No artifacts were associated with the floor.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the pit basin. The average diameter of the perimeter posts was 12 cm, and the average depth was 9 cm. The postholes along the perimeter of the feature likely held upright wall supports that formed part of the superstructure. Two centrally located postholes were also present, which likely held roof support posts. The central postholes had an average diameter of 13 cm and an average depth of 8 cm. The foundation pit in the eastern portion of the feature was destroyed by mechanical excavation. No roof or wall fall was noted during excavation of the feature. The floor consisted of a mildly compact, unprepared, fairly level surface that was consistent across the extant of the feature. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. No evidence of structural remodeling was present. The feature had a depth of 9 cm, and the floor surface sloped gently down from the edges of the foundation pit toward the center of the feature.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Within a 3-m radius of Feature 4034, were several possibly contemporary pits that originated in Stratum 504.01. These include Feature 4031, a roasting pit located north of the structure, Feature 4040, a small pit to the west, Feature 4039, a small pit to the south, and Feature 4107, a small pit located to the southwest. These extramural pits may have been contemporary features and related to extramural activities associated with this pit structure. Feature 4037, a small pit, intruded upon the western portion of the structure (see Figure 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not appear to have burned; rather, it likely deteriorated over time, and the foundation pit was filled by washed-in sediments and cultural debris. The absence of a floor assemblage, as well as the low density of artifacts in the feature fill, indicate the house was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Although Feature 4034 had a hearth, it may have been used primarily for storage. The small size of the structure, specifically when compared with other nearby habitation structures, as well as the large

number of internal subsurface pits, implies the structure was used for storage. This feature may have been used by the inhabitants of two nearby habitation structures, Features 4013 and 4030. The presence of a hearth may indicate a habitation episode in the structure.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4034, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4034.01 | Hearth | 0.46 | 0.42 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4034.02 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.20 | 0.19 | 0.27 | 0.43 | 0.35 | 0.43 | 0.35 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0200 |
| 4034.03 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.58 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0170 |
| 4034.04 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.60 | 0.20 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0440 |
| 4034.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.45 | 0.38 | 0.21 | 0.47 | 0.41 | 0.45 | 0.45 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0300 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4034, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 4037 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4039 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4040 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4053 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4054 | House-in-pit | South | Overlies Feature 4051 |
| 4058 | House-in-pit | South | — |

Feature 4051: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus A
Elevation: 12.46-12.65 mbd

General Description

Feature 4051 (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during mechanical excavation of the northeastern portion of Locus A. After the feature was identified as a possible structure, it was hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. The moderately sized, circular pit structure measured 4.70 m north-south by 4.20 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 17.02 m² while the usable floor surface measured 16.58 m². The feature was a house-in-pit, as the superstructure was built within the foundation pit. The feature had a depth of 12 cm with steep sloping edges. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined. This structure appeared to have been remodeled, expanding its footprint outward in the latter of the two iterations.

Internal Features

The structure contained a bell-shaped pit, Feature 4051.02, which was located in the western part of the feature. It measured 45 cm by 45 cm, with basal measurements of 58 cm by 54 cm. The pit fill was



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4051, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

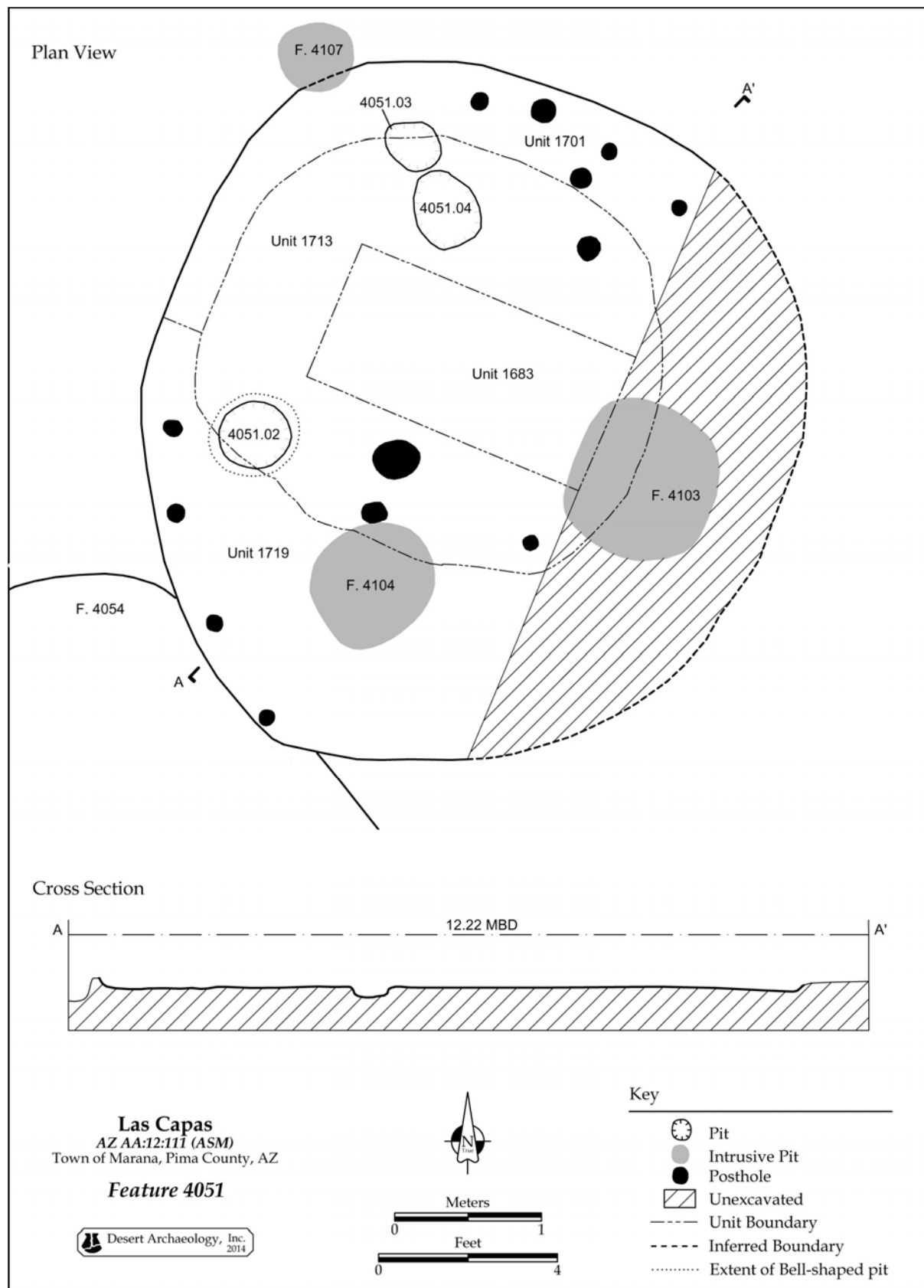


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 4051, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

a uniform, dark brown silty clay with little charcoal flecking. A low density of artifacts was found, including 14 flakes, 4 pieces of animal bone, and 7 pieces of fire-cracked rock. This pit likely functioned as a storage feature.

Feature 4051.03 was a small, irregular basin-shaped pit in the northern part of the structure that measured 41 cm by 32 cm, with a depth of 17 cm. The pit contained no artifacts, and may have functioned as a central support posthole.

Feature 4051.04 was a small pit located just south of Feature 4051.03, and it measured 56 cm by 46 cm. The fill of this feature consisted of dark brown, silty clay, with little charcoal flecking and sparse burned sediment inclusions. No artifacts were found in the fill.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated within Stratum 504.01. The 12 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a uniform, slightly hard, reddish-brown, silty clay with some alluvial sands noted. A low density of charcoal flecks was present in the feature fill. A moderate amount of rodent disturbance was present in the far southern portion of the feature. Artifact densities in the feature fill were low, and consisted of 14 flakes, a single piece of faunal bone, and three pieces of fire-cracked rock. No artifacts were associated with the floor.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure appeared to have been remodeled over its use-life. The structure contained a distinct row of postholes around the perimeter of the pit basin. The nine perimeter postholes averaged 11 cm in diameter and 7 cm in depth. These postholes likely held upright wall support posts within the later iteration. Feature 4051.01, a centrally located posthole, may have contained a roof support post. This posthole measured 29 cm by 25 cm, and had a depth of 8 cm; it contained a river cobble and several fragments of fire-cracked rock at its base, which may have been used to shore up the post. Three additional postholes were found within the interior of the house-in-pit, near the perimeter of a depression in the floor. These postholes suggest the house-in-pit may have been remodeled.

Feature 4051 is larger than the majority of the other structures in Locus A within Stratum 504. The floor surface contained a shallow depression in the center of the feature. The floor consisted of a mildly hard, unprepared, undulating surface, which was consistent across the extent of the feature. The floor surface contained a shallow depression in the center of the feature. There was no evidence the floor burned. The floor was not formally prepared, and it appeared to have been formed by individuals over the use-life of the structure, which accounts for the presence of small charcoal flecks embedded in the surface. No roof or wall fall was noted during excavation of the feature.

Stratigraphic Relationships

A number of possibly contemporary pits that originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 4051. These features included several small pits and house-in-pits. Many of the features within the immediate area in this stratum overlapped one another, which may suggest the area experienced a substantial amount of extramural activity.

Three small pits that originated in Stratum 504.01 intruded on the pit structure. Feature 4103 intruded into the southeastern portion of the structure, Feature 4104 intruded into the southwest, and Feature 4107 intruded into the northern edge, truncating the foundation pit wall. This structure intruded into the far northern edge of Feature 4054, another house-in-pit that also originated in Stratum 504.01.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not show signs of having burned. After abandonment, the feature likely deteriorated and was buried by washed-in sediments and cultural debris. The absence of a floor assemblage, as well as the low density of artifacts in the feature fill, indicate the house was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There is no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Feature 4051 likely functioned as a habitation structure. Although a hearth was not identified in the structure, the small number of storage pits and the large amount of usable floor space suggest it was used as a dwelling. The structure may have experienced light domestic activity, based on the limited internal features.

Feature 4054: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus A
Elevation: 12.49-12.64 mbd

General Description

Feature 4054 (Figures 1 and 2), a house-in-pit, was identified during mechanical excavation of the central portion of Locus A. Once identified, the feature was hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. This feature originated in Stratum 504.01, with the base of the feature defined by Stratum 504.02. The oval-shaped pit structure measured 4.90 m east-west by 3.10 m north-south. The total floor area of the structure was 13.31 m², while the usable floor surface was 12.53 m². Feature 4054 was a house-in-pit, with the superstructure built within the primary foundation pit. Although gaps in the posthole arrangement were present, no formal entry could be identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Feature

An irregularly shaped, heavily oxidized informal hearth with a depth of 9 cm was located in the approximate center of the structure. Immediately northwest of the hearth was a small, circular, basin-shaped pit, which functioned as a clean-out pit for the nearby hearth. The fill of the clean-out pit consisted of soft, gray, ashy silt, with a moderate density of charcoal. The upper portion of the pit



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4054, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

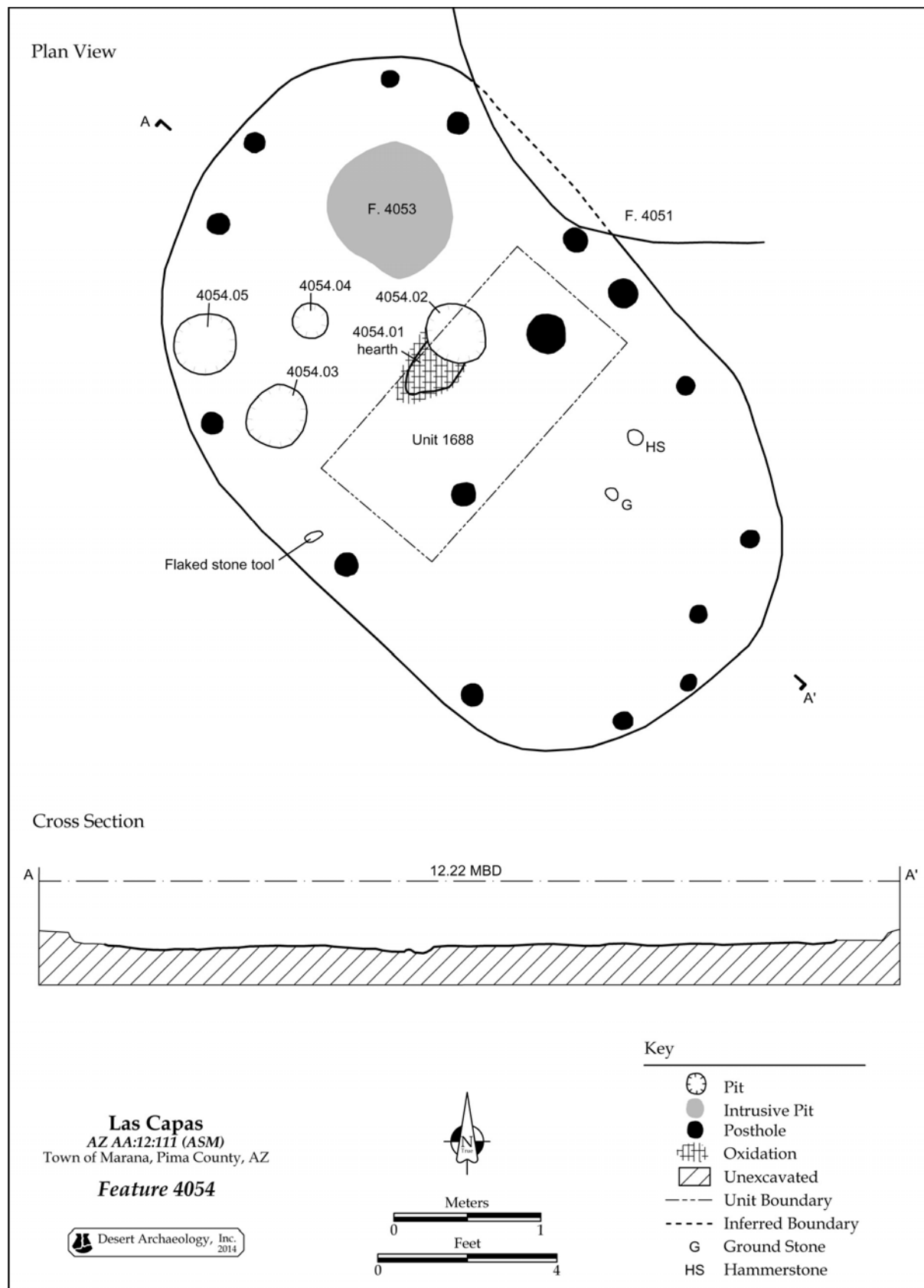


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 4054, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

was heavily oxidized, suggesting reoccurring use of the hearth while the clean-out pit was in use. A bell-shaped pit, which may have functioned as a storage feature, was present in the far southwestern portion of the structure. A small, circular, basin-shaped pit was excavated 50 cm west of the bell-shaped pit; based on the features size and shape, it appeared to have functioned as a basketrest. Details of the internal features are presented in Table 1.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 15 cm of excavated fill consisted of uniform, soft, light grayish-brown, silty clay. The fill contained a low density of small charcoal flecks and a small amount of burned daub. A low density of artifacts, including 14 flakes and 17 pieces of faunal bone, was present in the fill. The floor assemblage consisted of a piece of ground stone, a hammerstone, and a stone tool. A large amount of the fill and the floor surface of the feature had been disturbed by insects and other bioturbation.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure contained a single row of postholes within the perimeter of the pit basin. The 14 perimeter postholes had an average diameter of 13 cm and an average depth of 11 cm, and they may have held posts that functioned as wall supports. Three central postholes, which may have held roof support posts, were present in a triangular arrangement (see Figure 2). The central postholes averaged 13 cm in depth and 20 cm in diameter. No roof or wall fall was noted during excavation of the feature. The floor consisted of a mildly compact, unprepared, fairly level surface that was consistent across the extent of the feature. That portion of the floor surrounding the hearth was heavily oxidized. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. No evidence of structural remodeling was present.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within Stratum 504.01, while the base of the feature was defined by Stratum 504.02. Several possibly contemporary pits that originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius (Table 2). These pits may have functioned as storage for Feature 4054, or as features for extramural activities.

Feature 4053, a small pit that originated in Stratum 504.01, intruded on the northeastern portion of the structure. Feature 4051, a house-in-pit within Stratum 504.01, intruded into the far northern edge of the dwelling. The structure intruded into Feature 4058, a house-in-pit within Stratum 504.01 located to the west.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence the structure burned. The structure was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment, as only a limited floor assemblage was found upon excavation. After abandonment, the structure likely deteriorated and filled with washed-in sediments and cultural debris.

Functional Inferences

Feature 4054 appears to have functioned as a habitation structure. This is suggested by the hearth and the nearby clean-out pit, both of which show evidence of extensive use. The presence of a floor

assemblage, although limited in scope, also indicates the structure was used for habitation. The oval shape of the feature was unique among the more common circular-shaped structures found surrounding the dwelling.

Feature 4054 shared structural characteristics with some of the surrounding pithouses. Feature 4034 also had a clean-out pit adjacent to its hearth, located in the center of the structure, while Feature 4014 contained a similar pattern of three central support postholes in a triangular arrangement.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4054, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4054.01 | Hearth | 0.23 | 0.14 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4054.02 | Ash pit | 0.43 | 0.38 | 0.19 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0163 |
| 4054.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.43 | 0.41 | 0.31 | 0.48 | 0.46 | 0.43 | 0.41 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0483 |
| 4054.05 | Small pit | 0.43 | 0.40 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0099 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4054, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 4102 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 4051 |
| 4103 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4104 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4070 | Small pit | South | Intrusive into Feature 4058 |
| 4108 | Small pit | South | Intrusive into Feature 4058 |

Feature 4092: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.01
Locus A
Elevation: 12.46 mbd

General Description

This oxidized extramural surface (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during backhoe stripping in the southeastern portion of Locus A within Stratum 504.01. The area was stripped to the level immediately above the occupational surface, requiring only minimal hand-excavation in order to expose the surface. The feature measured 2.70 m east-west by 2.40 m north-south upon excavation and likely extended beyond the excavated area, because the surface was located along the edge of the stripped area. The surface consisted of a compact, unprepared and level surface that was consistent across the length of the feature.

Internal Features

Three bell-shaped pits and seven small pits originated at the occupational surface. Most of the internal features were clustered in the central and southeastern part of the extramural surface. The pits likely functioned as extramural activity and storage features. The internal pits surrounded a



Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 4092, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

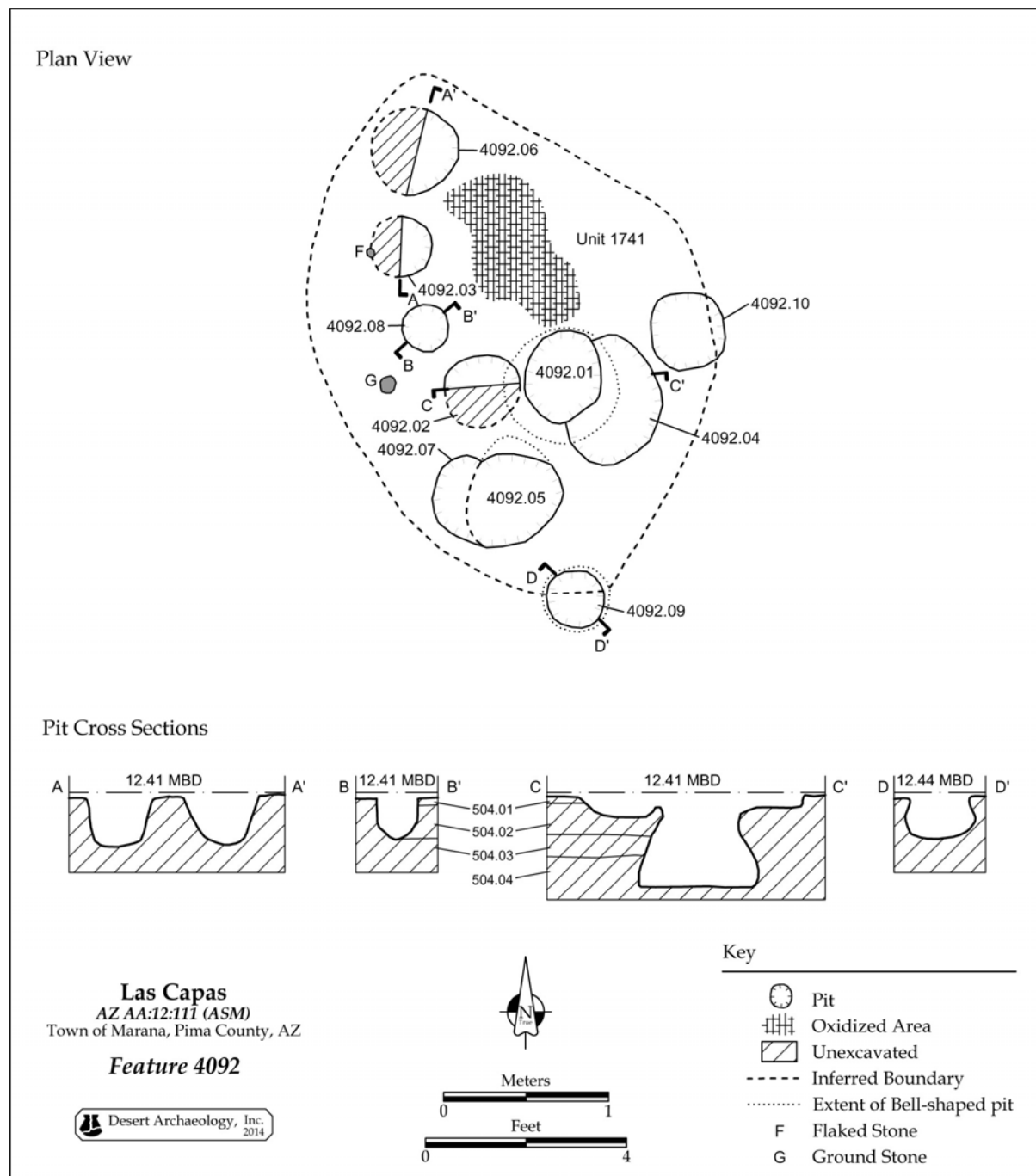


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of extramural surface Feature 4092, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

discrete oxidized patch in the eastern portion of the surface, which was interpreted as an informal hearth. Table 1 provides details about the internal features.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The minimal amount of fill (less than 1 cm) associated with the surface consisted of grayish-brown, moderately compact, silty clay with some sand content. A low density of artifacts, including two

flakes and 38 pieces of faunal bone, were associated with the feature fill. A mano and a flake were associated with the extramural surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 4092 originated in Stratum 504.01. Several possibly contemporary pits were located within a 3-m radius that also originated in Stratum 504.01 (Table 2). Based on the location and elevation, these features may have been used in conjunction with the extramural surface.

Functional Inferences

A substantial number of pits originated from this occupational surface. Several of these features overlapped others, which may indicate long-term use of the surface. The lack of postholes indicates no superstructure was erected. Although a small patch of oxidation was present, it was not considered to be a hearth. The surface is located about 20 m south of a cluster of habitation and storage structures in Locus A that originated in Stratum 504.01, including Features 4014, 4034, 4051, and 4058.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4092, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4092.01 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.68 | 0.46 | 0.54 | 0.71 | 0.70 | 0.46 | 0.46 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.1717 |
| 4092.02 | Small pit | 0.50 | 0.48 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0151 |
| 4092.03 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.27 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4092.04 | Small pit | 0.78 | 0.58 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0249 |
| 4092.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.62 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.60 | — | 0.62 | 0.52 | — | 4 | — | 3 | 52 | — | — |
| 4092.06 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.44 | 0.30 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4092.07 | Small pit | 0.58 | 0.52 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0237 |
| 4092.08 | Small pit | 0.32 | 0.27 | 0.25 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0170 |
| 4092.09 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.22 | 0.42 | 0.40 | 0.38 | 0.38 | — | 2 | 2 | — | 11 | — | 0.0257 |
| 4092.10 | Small pit | 0.52 | 0.49 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 0 | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 4092, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-------|
| 4074 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4075 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4077 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4079 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4080 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4085 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4097 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4098 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4152 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4101 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 4153 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |

Feature 4282: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus A
Elevation: 14.17-14.23 mbd

General Description

This pit structure (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during mechanical excavation of the far southwestern portion of Locus A. It was originally identified as cultural debris from a cluster of pits surrounding an oxidized area. Upon further investigation, the feature was identified as a pit structure. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to expose the floor and internal features of the structure. The oval-shaped pit structure measured 3.60 m north-south by 2.70 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 8.40 m², and the usable floor surface measured 6.42 m². The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure built within the foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

An informal hearth and five small pits were associated with the floor surface. Feature 4282.02, a small, circular-shaped basin pit located in the western portion of the structure may have functioned as a basketrest. Four small pits, Features 4282.03, 4282.04, 4282.09, and 4282.10, were defined as floor



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4282, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

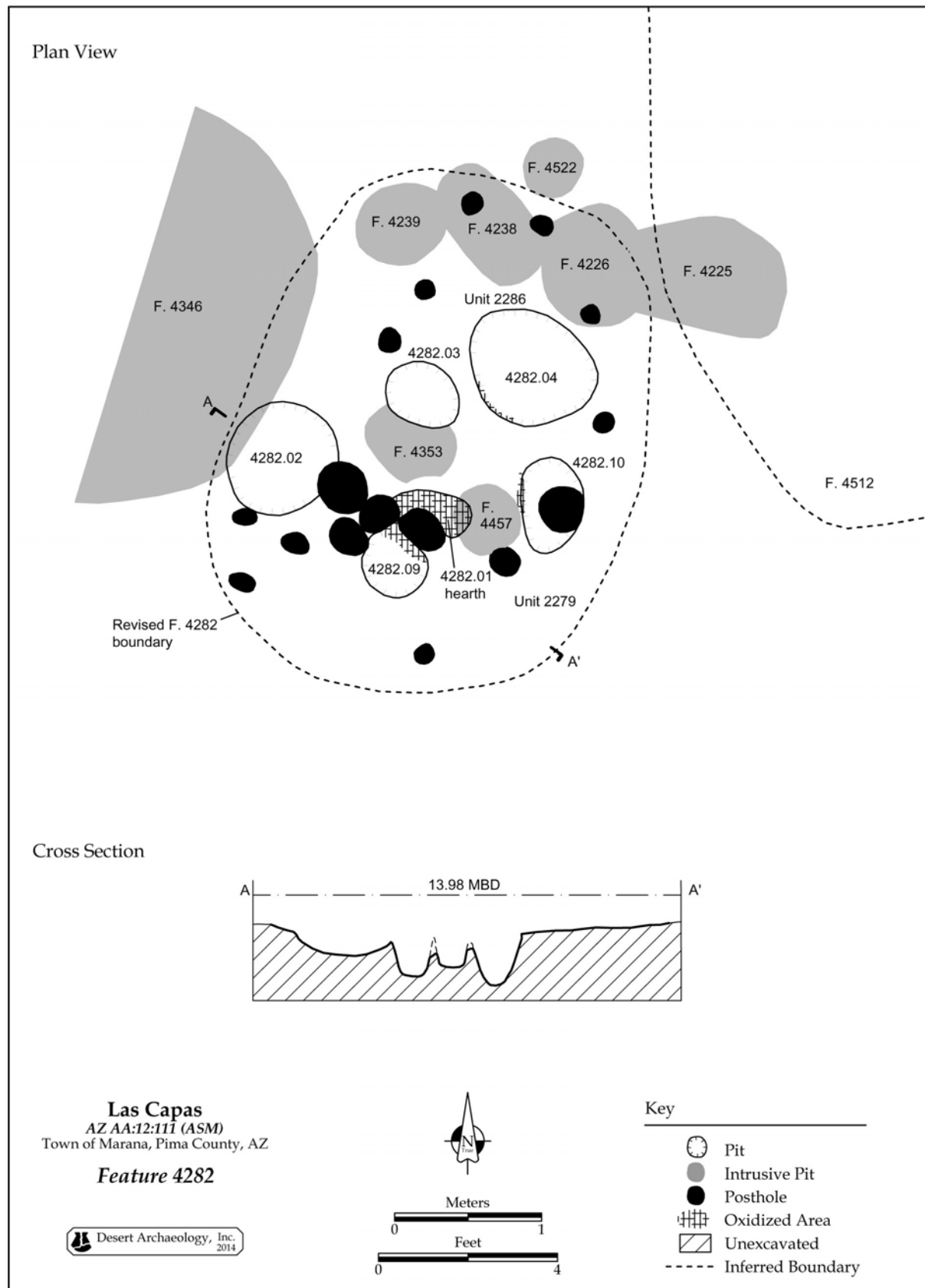


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 4282, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

features, based on their relative elevations, even though they were excavated prior to the identification of the structure. Feature 4282.04 contained two projectile points. Features 4282.05, 4282.06, 4282.07, and 4282.08 were small, round, and deep circular-shaped pits, which probably functioned as central support postholes. The overlapping nature of some of the interior features and postholes may indicate a reconfiguration of the internal floor space. Table 1 provides details of internal features.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 6 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of grayish-brown, soft, sandy silt with some clay content. The fill contained a very high artifact density, including 240 flakes, 472 pieces of faunal bone, 2 pieces of ground stone, a complete Empire-style projectile point, and a ceramic figurine fragment. A core and a projectile point were present on the floor surface. Intact portions of the floor exhibited bioturbation.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The structure contained a single row of postholes in a D-shaped pattern around the perimeter of the pit basin; the postholes likely held upright wall support posts used to form part of the superstructure. The average diameter of the 11 perimeter posts was 18 cm and the average depth was 10 cm. Features 4282.05, 4282.06, 4282.07, and 4282.08 were interpreted as central supports after excavation of the structure was completed, but may represent remodeling of the central support posthole arrangement (see Figure 2). The structure was stripped to its floor surface, or immediately above, during mechanical excavation, obscuring the boundary of the foundation pit. The location of the walls was inferred from the posthole pattern.

The undulating floor consisted of mildly compact, light brown, sandy silt and was consistent across the extant of the surface. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. This mode of compaction also accounts for the presence of small charcoal flecks embedded in the surface. Oxidation on the floor surface was contained within the hearth area. No roof or wall fall was noted during excavation of the feature.

Stratigraphic Relationships

A high density of possibly contemporary extramural pits that originated within Stratum 506.01 was found within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Four small pits intruded into the structure. Feature 4346, a dark stain of occupational debris, intruded on the western edge of Feature 4282 and partially obscured the wall of the foundation pit. The stain of cultural debris was not investigated further due to its location along the edge of the baulk. Table 3 provides intrusive feature numbers and locations. Feature 4512, a house-in-pit that originated in Stratum 506.01, was located 2 m northeast of Feature 4282, and may have been contemporary.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

No evidence was found that the structure burned. Oxidation was restricted to the hearth area. The structure likely deteriorated, and was buried by washed-in or intentionally dumped cultural debris. The large number of extramural pits that surrounded the structure may also have been associated with the high density of artifacts in the structures fill.

Functional Inferences

Due to the original misidentification of the structure, it was difficult to determine if the structure was used in a habitation or storage context. However, the presence of a hearth suggests it was used as a habitation structure.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4282, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4282.02 | Hearth | 1.25 | 0.95 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4282.03 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.69 | 0.14 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0354 |
| 4282.04 | Small pit | 0.45 | 0.38 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 10 | — | — | 6 | — | 0.0322 |
| 4282.04 | Small pit | 0.95 | 0.82 | 0.44 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 281 | 3 | — | 134 | — | — |
| 4282.09 | Small pit | 0.45 | 0.39 | 0.34 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 19 | — | — | 23 | — | 0.0469 |
| 4282.10 | Small pit | 0.60 | 0.45 | 0.33 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 22 | — | — | 20 | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4282, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 4225 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4227 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4228 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4231 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4232 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4233 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4236 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4237 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4283 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4497 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4561 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4653 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4278 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4341 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4553 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4554 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4556 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4651 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4275 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4279 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4319 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4514 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 4546 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4547 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4280 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4295 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4296 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4297 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4298 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4299 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4516 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4548 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4227 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4229 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4327 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4512 | House-in-pit | Northeast | — |

Table 3. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 4282, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 4226 | Small pit | North | 506.01 |
| 4238 | Small pit | North | 505 |
| 4239 | Small pit | North | 506.01 |
| 4346 | Occupational debris | West | 506.01 |
| 4652 | Small pit | West | 506.01 |

Feature 4434: House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus A
Elevation: 14.15-14.22 mbd

General Description

This pit structure was identified in the profile of the northwestern wall of Locus A (Figures 1 and 2). The feature was excavated by hand to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. This elliptical structure had a length of 4.50 m, while the length was estimated to be about 4.00 m. Postholes were identified and indicate the structure was a house-in-pit assembled within the foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Feature

Six small, basin-shaped pits were found to be associated with the floor surface (Table 1). Complete excavation of three of the pits was not possible due to their location against the edge of the excavation block. These pits may have been used for internal domestic activity. A hearth and other internal features may have been present but were unexposed in the unexcavated portion of the structure.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4434, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

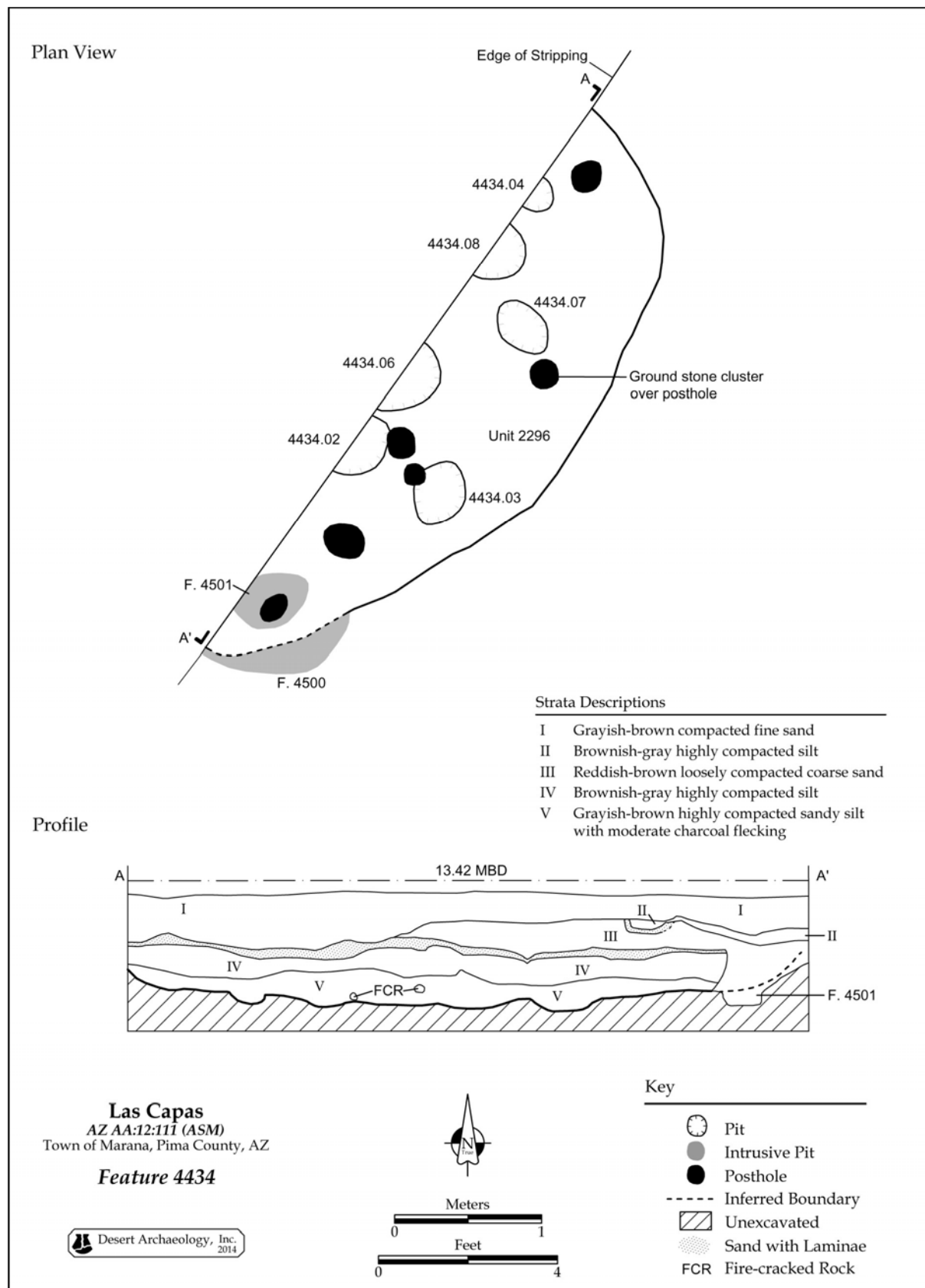


Figure 2. Plan view and profile of house-in-pit Feature 4434, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 7 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a uniform, soft, grayish-brown, fine sandy silt, with a moderate density of small charcoal flecks. A moderate density of artifacts was present in the fill directly above the floor surface, including 59 flakes, 147 pieces of faunal bone, an Empire-style projectile point, a hammerstone, and 34 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The floor assemblage consisted of a broken metate and two pieces of fire-cracked rock. The floor surface was heavily disturbed by bioturbation but remained relatively intact.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The structure contained six postholes, which were located near the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin (see Figure 2). The perimeter postholes averaged 18.0 cm in diameter and 9.5 cm in depth, and likely held upright wall support posts. A single, centrally located posthole was found with a diameter of 22.5 cm and a depth of 8.0 cm. The central posthole may have held a roof support post.

The floor consisted of a moderately compacted, unprepared surface that sloped upward toward the walls of the structure. The unprepared floor surface was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The foundation pit walls sloped to approximately 7 cm above the floor surface. No evidence was found to indicate the structure was remodeled or burned. Evidence of construction and remodeling was limited, however, as most of the feature was outside the stripped area and remained unexcavated.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within Stratum 506.01. Within a 3-m radius of this Structure were several possibly contemporary features that originated in Stratum 506.01 (Table 2). Based on the location and elevation of these surrounding extramural features, they may have functioned as storage for Feature 4434.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence found that indicated the structure burned. After abandonment, the structure likely deteriorated and was filled with washed-in sediments and cultural debris. Although artifacts remained on the floor surface, they were limited in number and were broken, and the structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Feature 4500, a small pit originating in Stratum 506, intruded on the far western portion of the structure, obscuring a portion of the wall.

Functional Inferences

The function of the structure was unclear, because the feature was only partially excavated. The high density of internal pits may indicate the feature was used for storage, although this evidence was inconclusive.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4434, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4434.02 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.22 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0032 |
| 4434.03 | Small pit | 0.51 | 0.40 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0085 |
| 4434.04 | Small pit | 0.27 | 0.25 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0021 |
| 4434.06 | Small pit | 0.64 | 0.34 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0057 |
| 4434.07 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.33 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0048 |
| 4434.08 | Small pit | 0.30 | 0.18 | 0.19 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | 0.0081 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4434, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 4401 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4402 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4406 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4500 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4510 | Small pit | South | — |
| 4432 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4436 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4437 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4435 | Large pit | North | — |
| 4474 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4431 | Large pit | East | — |
| 4447 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4448 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4482 | Small pit | East | — |

Feature 4512: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus A
Elevation: 14.17-14.18 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was originally thought to be cultural debris from a large cluster of pits located north and south of the feature. After it was exposed for several weeks, with a portion of the floor exposed during mechanical excavation, the feature was identified as a structure. The remaining fill associated with the structure was excavated by hand to expose the entire floor and internal features. The oval-shaped house-in-pit measured 5.20 m north-south by 3.80 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 15.41 m², and the usable floor surface measured 15.07 m². These measurements were inferred by the posthole pattern within the structure, due to the destruction of the foundation pit during mechanical excavation. The irregular shape of the structure (see Figure 2) was similar to several structures that were excavated in Locus D within Stratum 504,



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4512, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

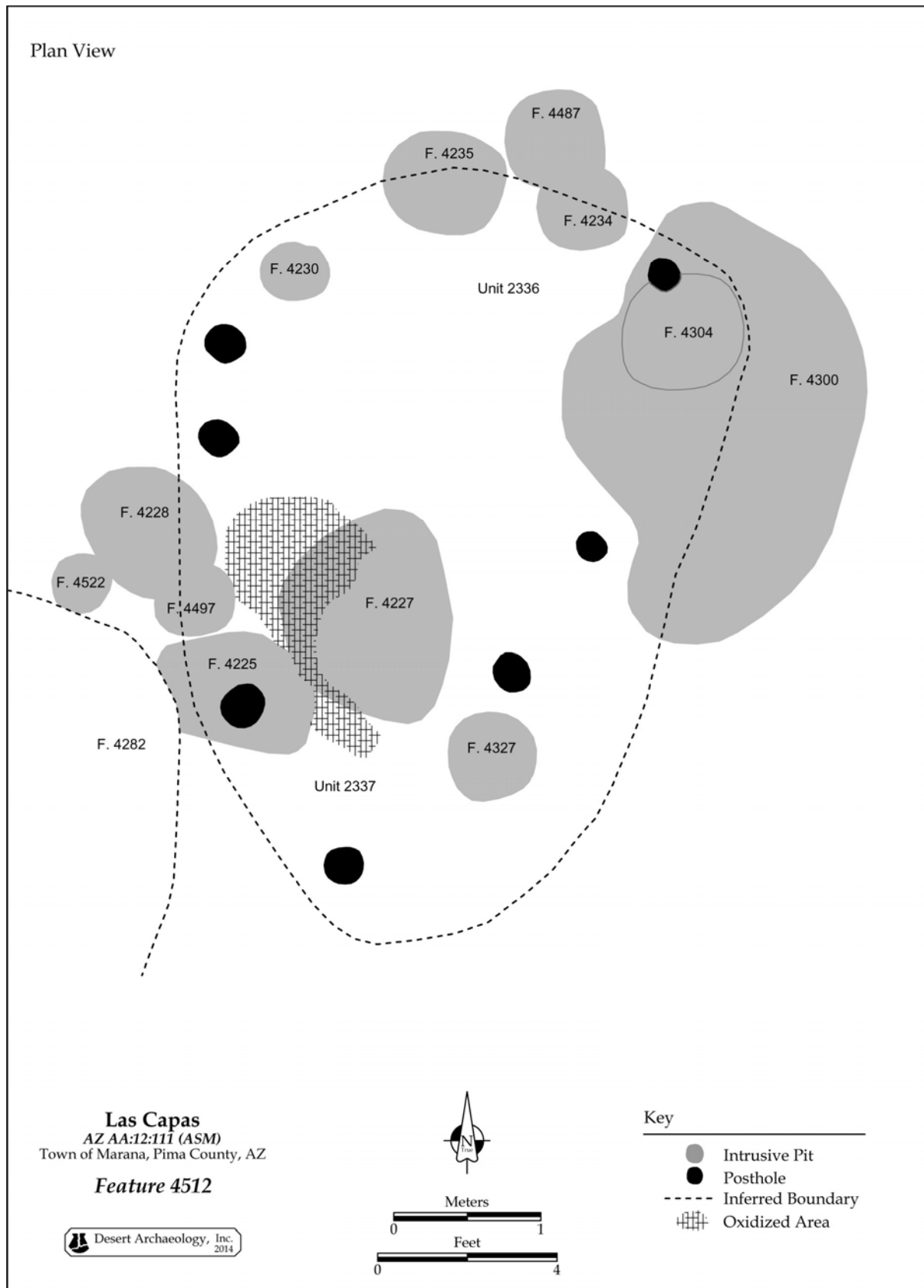


Figure 2. Plan view of house-in-pit Feature 4512, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

such as Features 13771 and 13467. Feature 4512 was presumed to be a house-in-pit, because postholes were only identified within the assumed foundation pit. No entry was found, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

An informal hearth, which consisted of an oxidized patch of floor, was present in the southern portion of the structure. This oxidized area was intruded upon by several extramural pits. A number of intrusive features were excavated prior to the identification of the structure. The relationship of these features to Feature 4512 could not be determined. These include Features 4230, 4304, and 4237. Table 1 provides a list of intrusive feature numbers and locations.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Due to mechanical overstripping, only a small amount of internal fill remained intact. The fill consisted of a soft, dark brown, sandy silt with some clay inclusions. The fill also contained a small amount of charcoal flecks, concentrated around postholes and the oxidized portion of the feature. A moderate density of artifacts was found in the feature fill, including 113 pieces of flaked stone, several pieces of animal bone, and a complete Empire-style projectile point. No floor assemblage was present.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This feature contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit. The seven excavated perimeter postholes had an average diameter of 23 cm and an average depth of 12 cm. No central support postholes were identified. The structure was mechanically stripped to, or immediately above, the floor surface, obscuring the boundary of the foundation pit. The location of the foundation pit walls were inferred from the posthole pattern.

The floor consisted of light brown, moderately compact silty clay. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. No preserved structural material was noted during excavation of the feature. No evidence of structural remodeling was found.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 4512 originated within Stratum 506.01. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Feature 4282, an extramural surface, was located immediately southwest of the dwelling. Several clusters of pits that also originated in Stratum 506.01 intruded into the northern, southwestern, and central parts of the structure (see Table 1).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Except the hearth, there was no oxidation or other evidence that the structure burned. The structure likely deteriorated and was buried by washed-in sediments and cultural debris. The lack of a floor assemblage indicated the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Due to the disturbed nature of the feature, as well as the original misidentification of the structure, it was difficult to determine if the structure was used in a habitation or storage context. The feature was located within a large cluster of possibly contemporary structures and extramural features in the central portion of Locus A.

Table 1. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 4512, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 4230 | Small pit | Northwest | 506.01 |
| 4234 | Small pit | North | 506.01 |
| 4235 | Bell-shaped pit | North | 506.01 |
| 4304 | Small pit | North | 506.01 |
| 4489 | Bell-shaped pit | North | 506.01 |
| 4327 | Small pit | Southeast | 506.01 |
| 4225 | Small pit | West | 506.01 |
| 4228 | Small pit | West | 506.01 |
| 4497 | Small pit | West | 506.01 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4512, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 4506 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4507 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4508 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4536 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4537 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4538 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 4575 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4576 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4240 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4243 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4244 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4246 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4247 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4248 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4249 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4491 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4567 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4573 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4574 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4575 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4579 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4303 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4308 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 4314 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4485 | Small pit | Northeast | — |

Table 2. Continued.

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|---|
| 4549 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4569 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 4301 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4307 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4309 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4486 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4496 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4504 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4522 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4524 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4527 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4529 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4543 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4556 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4581 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4583 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4280 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 4291 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4292 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 4293 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 4294 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4295 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4296 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4297 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4298 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 4302 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4327 | Roasting pit | Southeast | — |
| 4348 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4656 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4225 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4226 | Small pit | Southwest | Intrusive into pit structure Feature 4282 |
| 4228 | Small Pit | Southwest | — |
| 4233 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4237 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4238 | Small pit | Southwest | Intrusive into pit structure Feature 4282 |
| 4239 | Small pit | Southwest | Intrusive into pit structure Feature 4282 |
| 4497 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4231 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4232 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4236 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4240 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 4242 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 4283 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4561 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4653 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 4584: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus A
Elevation: 14.17-14.23 mbd

General Description

This feature (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping of the southwestern portion of Locus A, in Stratum 506.01. The pit structure was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. The circular-shaped pit structure measured 3.25 m north-south by 3.55 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 9.28 m², while the usable floor surface measured 8.24 m². The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure constructed within the foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined. A high density of charcoal, oxidized sediment, and burned daub was present in the fill of the structure.

Internal Features

An informal hearth, two bell-shaped pits, and three small pits were associated with the floor surface. The hearth was heavily oxidized; it was located in the central portion of the structure. The bell-shaped pits, Features 4584.03 and 4584.05, feasibly functioned as internal storage features. Based on



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 4584, post-excavation, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

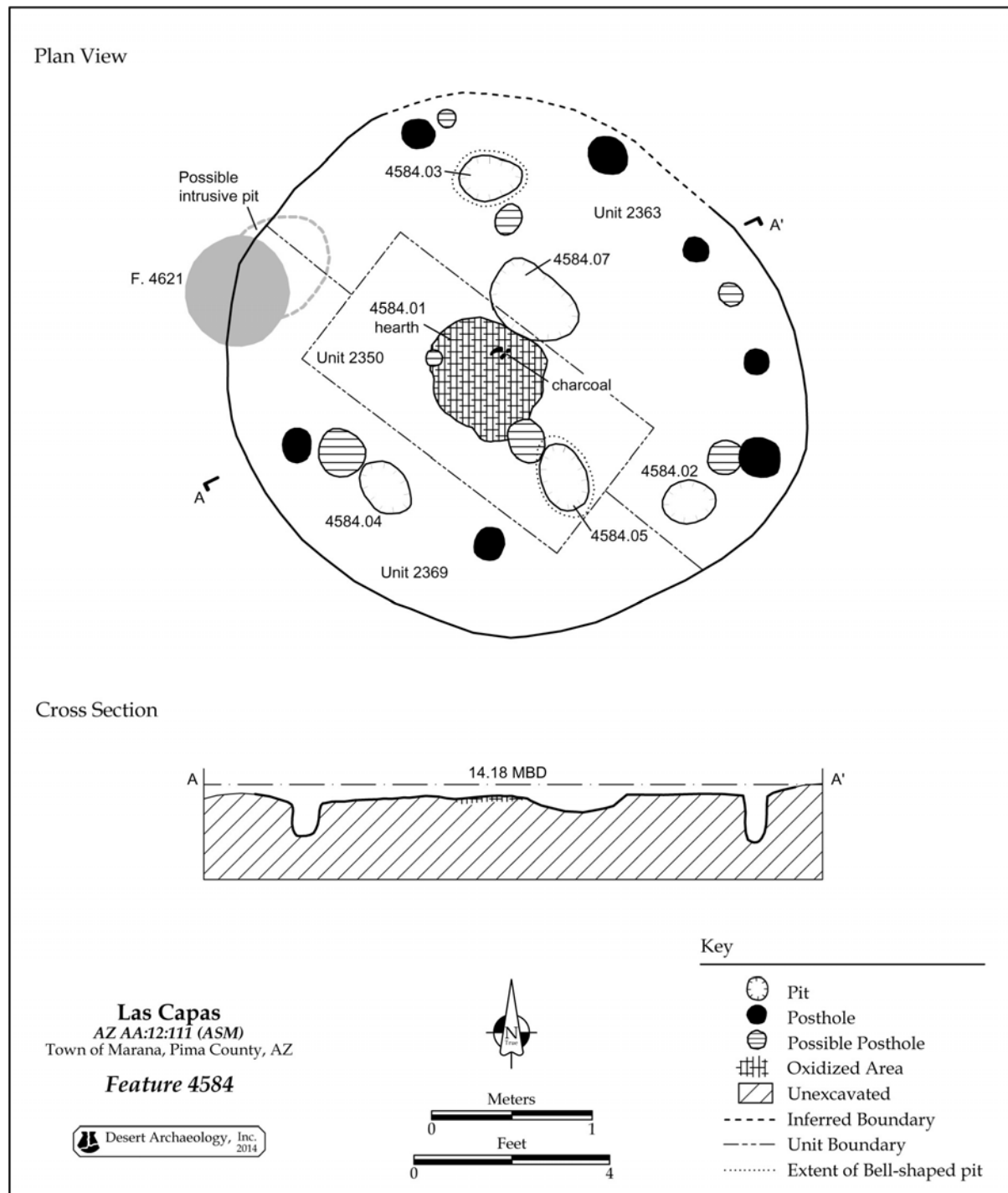


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 4584, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

the size, shape, and location of Features 4584.02 and 4584.04, they may have been large postholes rather than small pits.. Feature 4584.07 was located just north of the hearth and seemingly functioned as a clean-out pit where ash from the hearth was deposited. The floor features contained a substantial amount of burned structural debris. Table 1 provides details about internal features.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 5 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a uniform, slightly hard, medium brown, silty clay with some fine sand inclusions and patches of dark clay. The fill also contained a high density of burned structural debris including moderately sized charcoal inclusions, oxidized sediment, and small flecks of burned daub. No artifacts were associated with the floor surface. A moderate amount of root, rodent and insect disturbance was noted. A moderate to low density of artifacts was present, including 20 flakes, a bifacial flake, a tabular knife, and 31 pieces of faunal bone.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the pit basin. Seven postholes were excavated, and seven possible postholes were identified and mapped during post-excavation backhoe stripping. Although no posts were preserved, evidence from other structures in Stratum 506.01 around the site indicates the perimeter postholes likely held upright wall posts that were bent or bowed to form the basis of the superstructure. Three possible postholes that were noted near the center of the structure may have held posts that supported the central part of the superstructure. The average diameter of the excavated postholes was 17 cm, and the average depth was 20 cm.

The floor consisted of a moderately compact, unprepared surface, with the floor sloping gently upward toward the walls of the structure. The floor shows evidence of burning, with oxidized patches present across the surface, but concentrated in the center of the structure. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The integrity of the surface was compromised by extensive root, insect, and rodent disturbance. Feature 4014, a structure in Stratum 504.01 in Locus A, had a similar round shape with a gently sloping floor towards the walls of the structure, as well as a clean-out pit located next to the hearth. No evidence of remodeling was present.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 4584 originated in Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural pits that originated in Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). These pits may have been used in conjunction with Feature 4584.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The oxidation across the floor surface, as well as the substantial amount of burned structural debris within the feature fill, suggests the structure burned. The lack of a floor assemblage and the low density of artifacts in the fill of the internal features indicate the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The high density of burned material, including charcoal, oxidized sediment, and burned daub, in the fill of the floor features indicates they were open when the structure burned.

Functional Inferences

This feature likely functioned as a habitation structure, which was suggested by the presence of a hearth, as well as by the substantial amount of usable floor space. The inclusion of several interior pits further suggests domestic activities took place within the structure during its use-life. Feature 4584 was the only pit structure in Locus A in which evidence of burning was found.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 4584, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 4584.01 | Informal hearth | 0.73 | 0.71 | 0.02 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4584.02 | Small pit | 0.36 | 0.31 | 0.34 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0199 |
| 4584.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.40 | 0.32 | 0.36 | 0.44 | 0.38 | 0.38 | 0.38 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0417 |
| 4584.04 | Small pit | 0.34 | 0.30 | 0.33 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0264 |
| 4584.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.44 | 0.32 | 0.17 | 0.57 | 0.52 | 0.44 | 0.44 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0239 |
| 4584.07 | Small pit | 0.58 | 0.54 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | 7 | - | - | 2 | - | 0.0148 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 4584, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 4454 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4592 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4603 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4604 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4621 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 4383 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4600 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4602 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4610 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4616 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4618 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 4619 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4620 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4622 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4623 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4646 | Small pit | North | — |
| 4393 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4609 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4661 | Small pit | East | — |
| 4669 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 4660 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 4318 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 4320 | Large pit | Southwest | — |
| 4323 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4515 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4533 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 4607 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4612 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 4615 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 4659 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 4324 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 4325 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4347 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4456 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4586 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 4587 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4588 | Small pit | West | — |
| 4613 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 7007: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.28-12.40 mbd

General Description

This pit structure (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered while stripping the far west-central portion of Locus B. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to expose the floor and internal features. The structure had been bisected by a backhoe trench during initial testing by Trench 225. This oval-shaped house-in-pit measured 4.81 m northeast-southwest by 3.85 m southeast-northwest. The total floor area of the structure was 16.13 m², while the usable floor surface measured 12.28 m². No entry was found, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Small pit Feature 7007.03 was found in the southern portion of the structure, and was excavated. The pit was likely used as a storage feature. The circular, basin-shaped pit measured 46 cm by 42 cm, and had a depth of 14 cm. No artifacts were present in the fill, which consisted of a moderately compact, dark brown, silty loam with a low density of charcoal flecks. No hearth was identified, although one may have been removed by backhoe Trench 225, which disturbed the central part of the feature.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7007, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

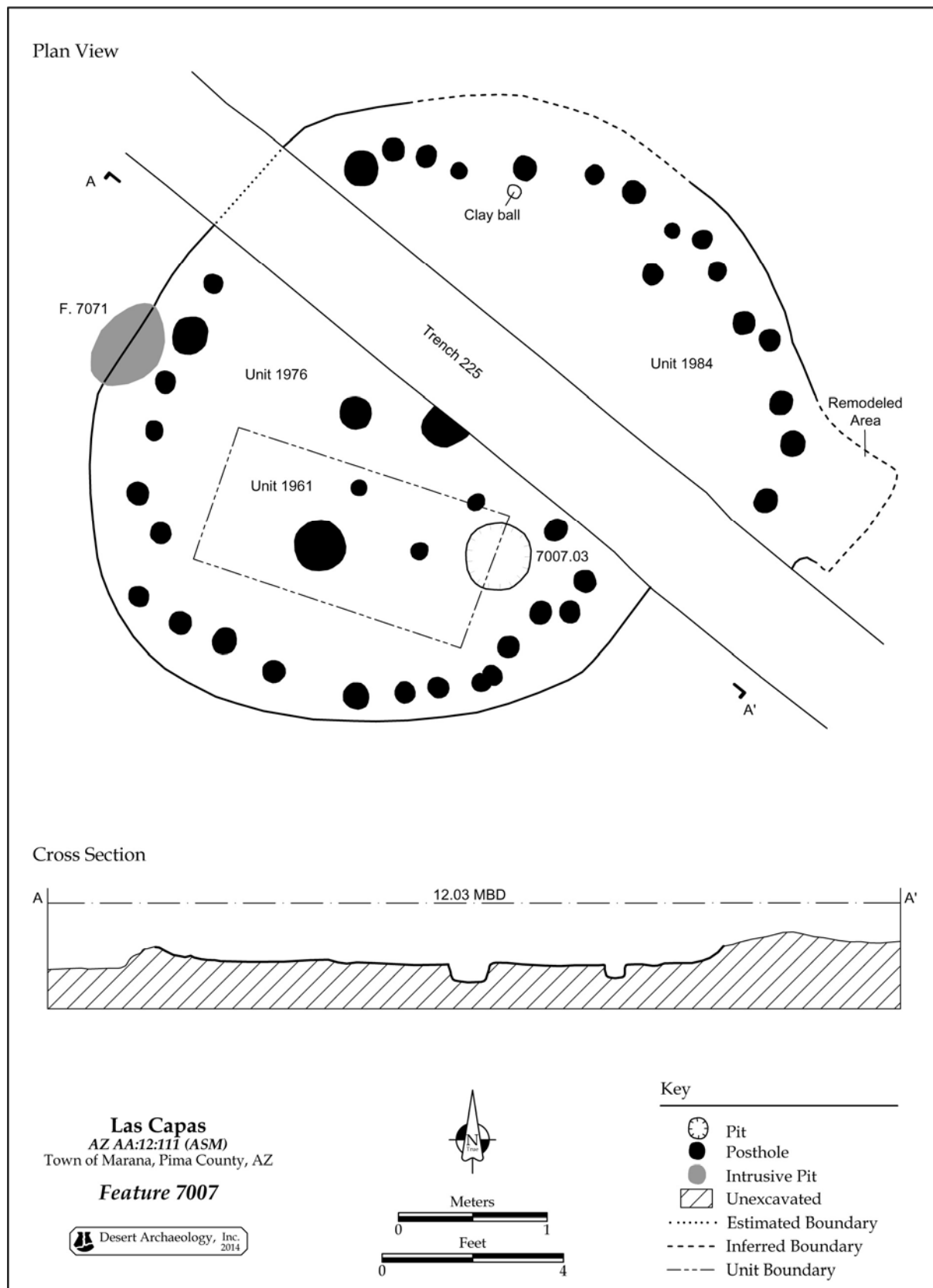


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7007, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The feature originated in Stratum 504.01. The 12 cm of excavated fill consisted of uniform, hard, dark brown, silty loam, with a low density of small charcoal flecks. The fill contained a small amount of artifacts, including 12 flakes and 18 pieces of faunal bone. No artifacts were associated with the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This feature contained a single ring of 34 postholes around the interior perimeter of the pit basin, which likely held posts that bent or bowed to form a dome-like superstructure. Several centrally located postholes were also excavated, two of which may have held posts that supported a central beam of the superstructure. The portion of the structure northeast of Trench 225 had a more irregular shape and posthole pattern. This end of the house appears to have been extended in a remodeling episode (see Figure 2). The 42 excavated postholes had an average diameter of 13 cm and an average depth of 10 cm. The floor consisted of an unprepared, compact surface that was fairly level across the extent of the structure. No evidence of burning was visible. The unprepared floor surface was compacted by occupation over the use-life of the structure. The integrity of the floor surface was compromised by rodent disturbance and bioturbation in some areas.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Several extramural pit features that originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure. Three small pits, Features 7097, 7098, and 7175 were located southwest of the structure. Feature 7176, a small pit, was located west of the structure. These small pits may have functioned as storage features that were contemporary to the pit structure. Feature 7071, a small pit, intruded into the western edge of the pit structure.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence found to indicate the structure burned. After the structure was abandoned, it likely deteriorated and was buried by washed-in sediments and cultural debris. The absence of a floor assemblage, as well as the low density of artifacts in the feature fill, indicates the house was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There is no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7007 probably functioned as a habitation structure, based on the ample amount of usable floor space and the small, shallow nature of the internal features. Although no hearth was noted, a backhoe trench cut through the central part of the structure and may have stripped away the hearth. Based on evidence of structural remodeling or expansion, the structure likely had a single long-term occupation or multiple occupations during its use-life.

Feature 7009: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.31-12.38 mbd

General Description

Feature 7009 (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during backhoe stripping of the central portion of Locus B in Stratum 504.01. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor surface and internal features. The western half of the oval-shaped pit structure tapered inward slightly. The feature measured 5.20 m east-west by 4.00 m north-south, with a total floor area of 14.99 m²; the usable floor surface measured 8.74 m². There was no evidence the feature burned. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Four small pits were associated with the floor surface of the structure. Feature 7009.04 may have been a central support, but was excavated as a small pit. Feature 7009.01, a small, shallow, basin-shaped pit, may have functioned as a basketrest. Features 7009.02 and 7009.03 may have functioned as storage features (Table 1).



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7009, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

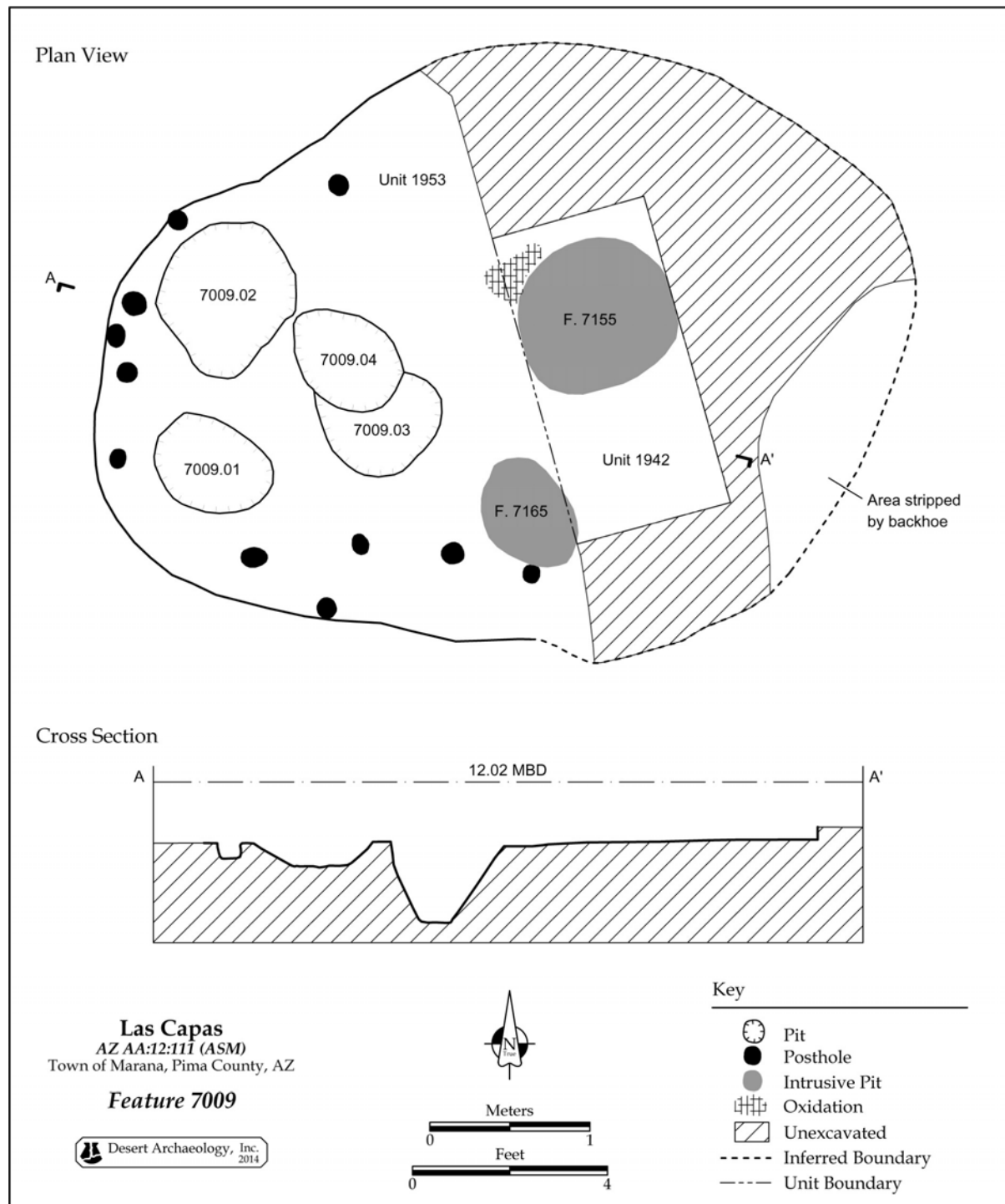


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7009, Locus A, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 7 cm of excavated feature fill consisted of a mildly hard, dark brown, silty clay, with a moderate density of charcoal and a low density of oxidized sediment. No preserved structural material, such as burned posts or daub, was noted during excavation. A single flake was collected from the fill. No

artifacts were associated with the floor surface. A moderate amount of root and rodent disturbance was present in the fill.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure contained a single row of postholes around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The 11 postholes had an average diameter of 11 cm and an average depth of 8 cm. Based on evidence in other nearby structures, the perimeter postholes likely held upright posts that were bent or bowed over the foundation pit to form part of the superstructure. Feature 7009.04 may have functioned as a central support posthole, but the disturbed nature of the feature made it difficult to define it as such. Feature 7009.04 intruded on Feature 7009.03. Both features were small pits in the approximate center of the structure (see Figure 2). The floor surface consisted of an unprepared, moderately compact, fairly level surface with heavy root and rodent disturbance. The low density of charcoal flecks embedded in the surface may be attributed to occupation during the use-life of the structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 7009 originated in Stratum 504.01. Several extramural pits that originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure. These nearby extramural features included primarily small pits and one roasting pit (Table 2). These pits may have been used for extramural activities in conjunction with Feature 7009.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not show any signs of having burned. The depression left after abandonment was likely filled with washed-in sediment and cultural debris. The lack of a floor assemblage, as well as the low density of artifacts associated with the structure, indicates it was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Feature 7165, a small pit, intruded into the southern portion of the structure.

Functional Inferences

It was difficult to discern if the feature functioned as either a storage structure or a habitation structure. Evidence that the structure was used for storage included the presence of several internal pits and the lack of a hearth. However, the large size of the structure and the substantial amount of usable floor space indicate the dwelling may have been used for habitation. The shape of Feature 7009 is similar to Feature 7282, a structure found within Stratum 504.02 in Locus B.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7009, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7009.01 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.58 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0255 |
| 7009.02 | Small pit | 0.94 | 0.86 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.1016 |
| 7009.03 | Small pit | 0.85 | 0.65 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0318 |
| 7009.04 | Small pit | 0.80 | 0.60 | 0.51 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7009, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 7234 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7144 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7145 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7167 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 7177 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7168 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 7010: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.34-12.39 mbd

General Description

Feature 7010 (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered when backhoe Trench 243 cut through the structure. This house-in-pit was uncovered during backhoe stripping in the central portion of Locus B, and was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and expose the floor features. The northern portion of the feature was destroyed during mechanical stripping, and the feature boundary in this area could not be determined. The preserved area of the oblong-shaped pit structure measured 5.00 m east-west and 3.30 m north-south. The total estimated floor area within the preserved part of the structure was 16.66 m², and the usable floor surface was estimated to be 7.87 m². No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Two small pits were associated with the floor surface. Feature 7010.01 was a small, circular, shallow, basin-shaped pit located in the western part of the structure. The feature measured 47 cm by 45 cm. The feature fill consisted of dark grayish-brown, clayey silt; no artifacts were found in the fill. The pit



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7010, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

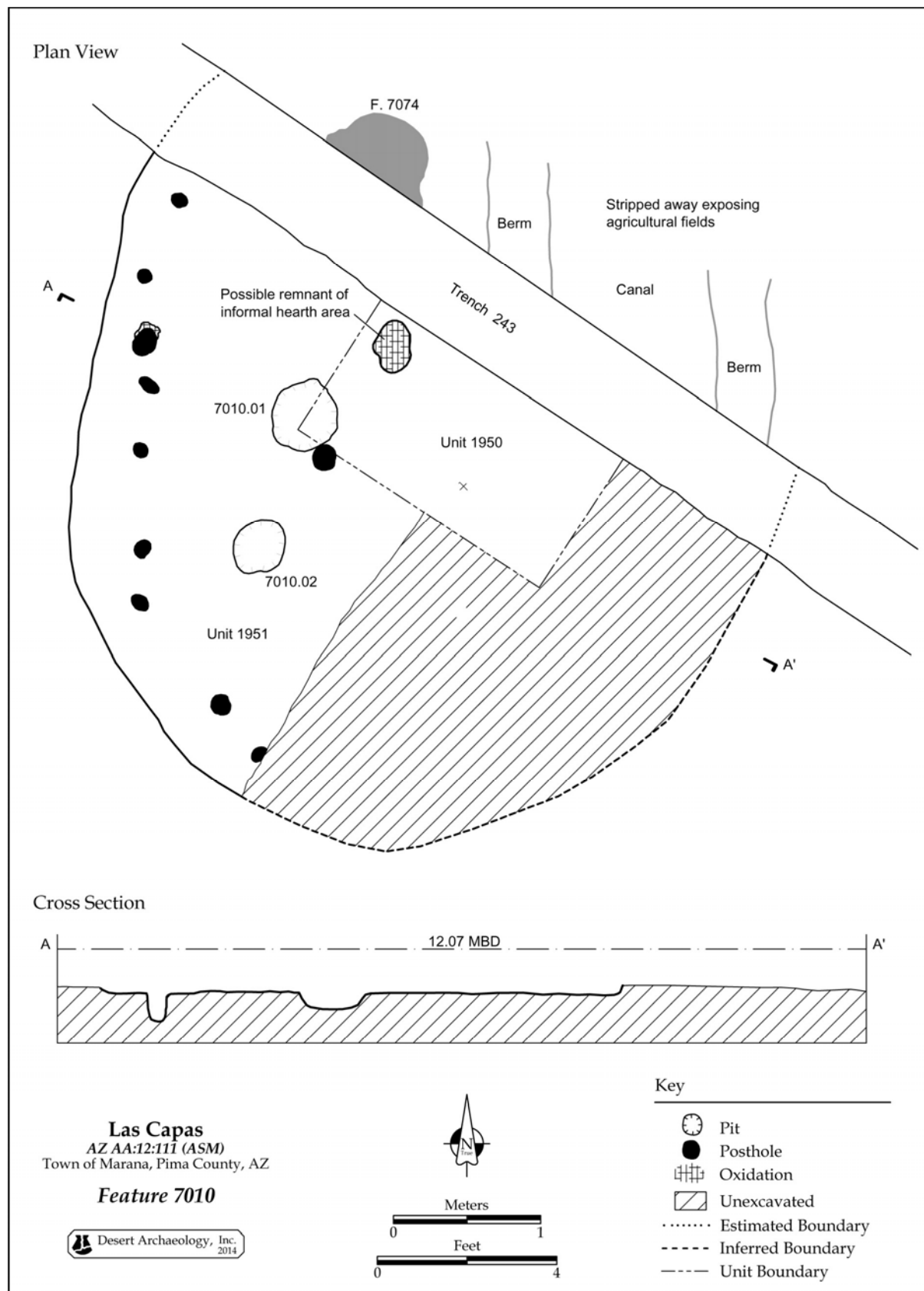


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7010, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

may have functioned as a basketrest, based on the size and shape. Feature 7010.02 was a small, circular, basin-shaped pit, which may have functioned as a storage feature. The feature fill consisted of slightly hard, grayish-brown, blocky clay-rich silt. A single flake and a piece of fire-cracked rock were present in the fill.

A small amount of oxidation was present on the floor surface alongside Trench 243 in the central portion of the structure. This oxidation may be related to a hearth area that was destroyed during mechanical excavation.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 5 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, hard silty clay, with a low density of charcoal flecks and oxidized sediment. A small number of artifacts, including seven flakes, five pieces of faunal bone, and a single piece of fire-cracked rock was present in the fill. No artifacts were associated with the floor surface of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The structure contained a single ring of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. These postholes likely held upright posts that were bent or bowed to form a dome-like superstructure over the foundation pit. The average depth of the 10 excavated postholes was 10 cm, and the average diameter was 11 cm. Two postholes (see Figure 2) appeared to be more substantial than the others; their depths were more than twice that of the other posts. The floor consisted of an unprepared, moderately compact, fairly level surface with heavy root and rodent disturbance. The low density of charcoal flecks embedded in the surface may be attributed to occupation during the use-life of the structure. No evidence of remodeling was noted.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated in Stratum 504.01. A number of possibly contemporary extramural pits originating in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 1). Based on location and elevation, these features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 7010.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence the feature burned. No preserved structural material, such as burned posts or daub, was noted during excavation. The structure likely deteriorated after abandonment and was buried by washed-in flood deposits and cultural debris. There is no evidence of postabandonment reuse. Lack of a floor assemblage indicates the feature was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment.

Functional Inferences

The limited number of internal features and large usable floor space within the excavated structure indicate it was likely used for habitation. Feature 7010 probably functioned as a short-term seasonal habitation, which may have been associated with nearby agricultural fields. No hearth was present in the excavated area, although one may have been destroyed by the backhoe trench. The feature was significantly disturbed during mechanical stripping, and the preserved part of the structure was only partially excavated. The limited floor area exposed made interpretation of this feature difficult.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7010, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 7234 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7071 | Roasting pit | Northeast | — |
| 7073 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 7145 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7144 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7155 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7165 | Small pit | South | — |

Feature 7024: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.44-12.47 mbd

General Description

Feature 7024 (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered when backhoe Trench 241 cut through the structure. This house-in-pit was uncovered during backhoe stripping of the far northern portion of Locus B. The structure was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features. The oval-shaped pit structure measured 5.10 m north-south by 4.90 m east-west. Total floor area of the structure was 18.92 m², while the usable floor surface measured 11.59 m². The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure built within the foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Three small pits and a hearth were associated with the floor surface of the structure. The hearth, Feature 7024.03, was a small, oval-shaped feature with a very shallow depth. Oxidation was present around the hearth area, especially west of the feature. The hearth was constructed on top of Feature

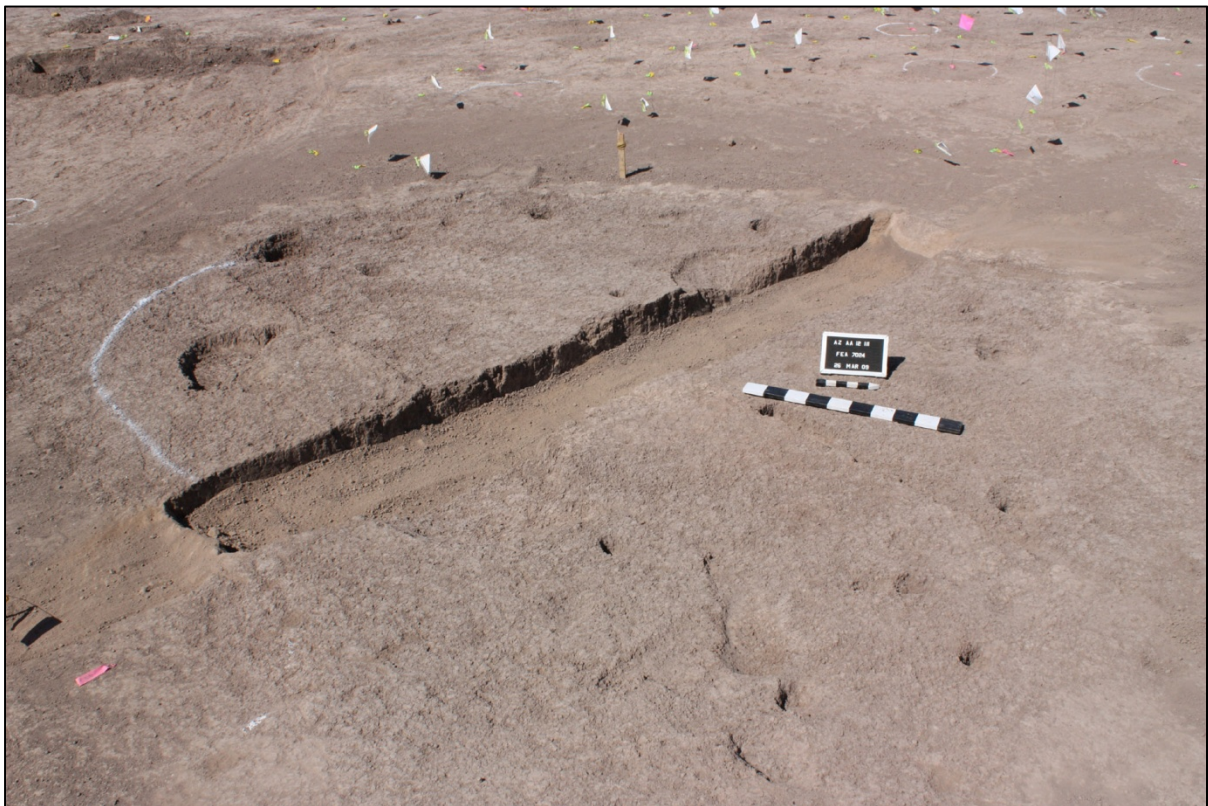


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7024, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

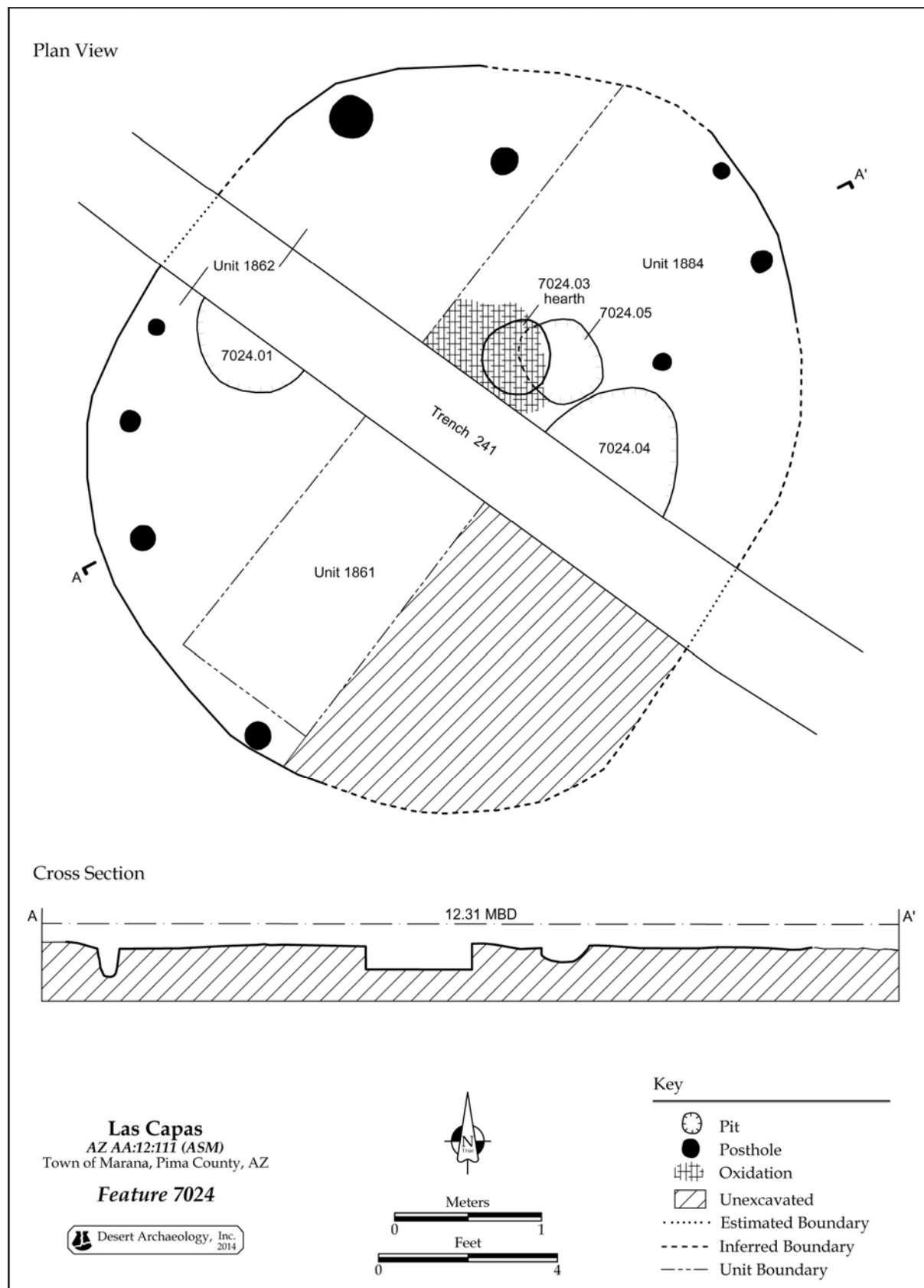


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7024, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

may have functioned as a basketrest, based on the size and shape. Feature 7010.02 was a small, 7024.05, a small pit near the center of the structure. Feature 7024.04, a small pit, was located just south of Feature 7024.05, and Feature 7024.01, a small pit, was located in the western portion of the structure. These small pits probably functioned as internal storage features (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 3 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a slightly hard, grayish-brown, silty clay with pockets of coarse brown sand. A moderate to high density of charcoal and a low density of burned daub was noted in the fill. A very low density of artifacts was present in the fill, including only two flakes. Heavy bioturbation disturbed both the fill and floor surface of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the pit basin. The perimeter postholes likely held upright posts that formed part of the superstructure. The nine postholes averaged 8 cm in depth and 16 cm in diameter. The hearth was constructed atop a small internal pit, Feature 7024.05, which indicates the structure was slightly remodeled.

The floor surface consisted of an unprepared, moderately compact, silty clay. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by the individuals who occupied the surface during the use-life of the structure, which accounts for the presence of flecks of charcoal and burned daub embedded in the floor surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated in Stratum 504.01. Several possibly contemporary extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure. Feature 7312, a small pit, was located west of the structure. Features 7027 and 7029, two small pits, were located northeast of the pit structure. These pits may have functioned as storage features for the habitation structure.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The substantial amount of burned cultural debris within the feature fill, including moderate to high densities of charcoal and low to moderate densities of burned daub, suggest the structure burned. The lack of a floor assemblage, the low density of artifacts in the feature fill, and the missing in situ burned posts suggest the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7024 probably functioned as a habitation, based on the oxidized hearth, the large amount of usable floor space and the small number of internal storage features. Few internal features suggest the structure experienced little interior domestic activity. Based on the originating stratum, the feature may have been used in conjunction with the nearby agricultural fields, perhaps as a seasonal dwelling. The evidence of slight remodeling indicates the structure may have been used long-term or had a secondary occupation. The size and circular shape of the structure are similar to Feature 7075, a house-in-pit in Locus B within Stratum 504.01, which also contained a hearth and several small pits.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7024, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7024.01 | Small pit | 0.85 | 0.40 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0231 |
| 7024.03 | Hearth | 0.51 | 0.40 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0032 |
| 7024.04 | Small pit | 0.89 | 0.06 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0308 |
| 7024.05 | Small pit | 0.67 | 0.67 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0235 |

Feature 7070: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.36-12.43 mbd

General Description

Feature 7070 (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered when backhoe Trench 242 removed the northeastern edge of the structure. This house-in-pit was uncovered in the central portion of Locus B during backhoe stripping, and was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose structural elements and floor features of the pit structure. The oval-shaped structure measured 4.65 m northeast-southwest by 4.10 m southeast-northwest. The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure built within the foundation pit. The floor consisted of a mildly compacted surface of grayish-brown silty clay. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Two small pits were associated with the floor surface. Feature 7070.01, a small, elliptical-shaped pit measured 58 cm by 50 cm. The fill consisted of a light to medium brown, blocky clay-rich silt, and it contained 10 flakes, 2 pieces of faunal bone, and 7 pieces of fire-cracked rock. Feature 7070.04, another

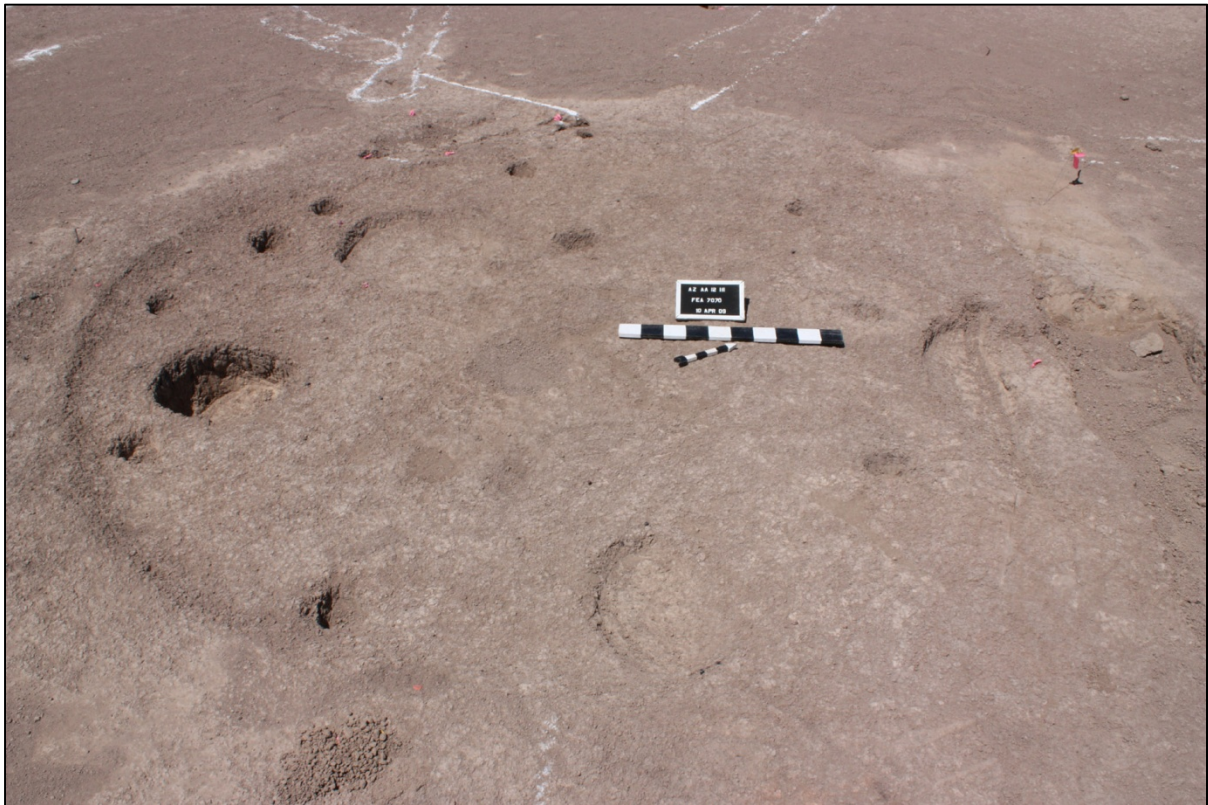


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7070, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

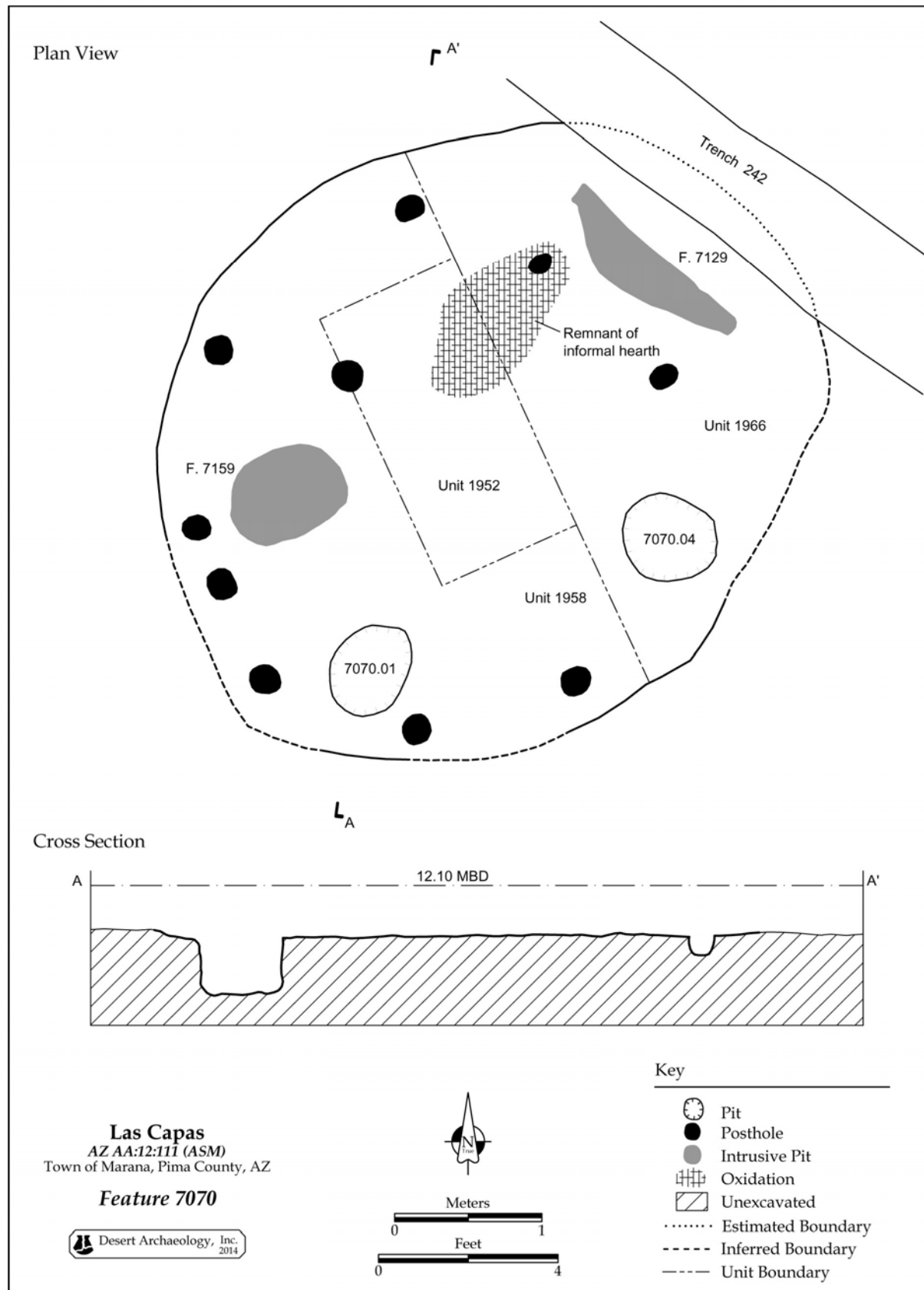


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7070, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

small, elliptical-shaped basin pit, measured 63 cm by 56 cm. The fill consisted of a uniform, soft, light brown clay-rich silt with abundant charcoal flecking, and it contained a single flake and four pieces of fire-cracked rock.

Feature 7070.01 likely functioned as a storage feature, while Feature 7070.04 may have functioned as a basketrest. A distinct patch of oxidation was present on the northern portion of the floor surface; it could be considered an informal hearth.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 7 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of undifferentiated, slightly hard, grayish-brown silty clay with a low density of charcoal and burned daub. Extensive root, rodent, and insect disturbance was present in the floor and fill of the structure. A low density of artifacts was present, including 11 flakes and 8 pieces of faunal bone. No artifact assemblage was present on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The feature contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. Based on evidence in other structures within Locus B, the perimeter postholes likely held upright posts that were bent or bowed to form a dome-like superstructure over the primary foundation pit. The average diameter of the seven perimeter posts was 18 cm, and their average depth was 12 cm. Three interior postholes were also identified; they averaged 17 cm in diameter and 13 cm in depth. Several structures in Locus A had three interior postholes, including Features 4014 and 4054; both of these structures also originated in Stratum 504.01. The floor of Feature 7070 was not formally prepared, but rather was compacted over the use-life of the structure. Compaction by occupation also accounts for the charcoal flecks embedded in the surface.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence the structure burned. The low density of artifacts, as well as the absence of a floor assemblage, suggested the feature was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7070 likely functioned as a habitation structure. Although no formal hearth was present, the large amount of usable floor space and small amount of internal storage capacity suggest it was used for habitation. The two structures in Locus A that share similar attributes with this house-in-pit, Features 4014 and 4054, appeared to have been used for habitation as well.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7070, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 7163 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7172 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 7067 | Roasting pit | Southwest | — |
| 7068 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7069 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7066 | Roasting pit | West | — |

Feature 7075: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.44-12.47 mbd

General Description

Feature 7075 (Figures 1-4) was uncovered during backhoe stripping of the central portion of Locus B. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features of the structure. The circular-shaped pithouse measured 4.90 m north-south by 4.80 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 19.19 m², while the usable floor surface measured 17.26 m². The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure constructed within the foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

A bell-shaped pit and seven small pits were associated with the floor surface. The bell-shaped pit Feature 7075.01 probably functioned as a storage feature. Most of the small pits likely functioned as storage features, or were used for internal domestic activity; although Features 7075.04 and 7075.07, both very shallow pits, may have functioned as basketrests (Table 1).



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7075, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

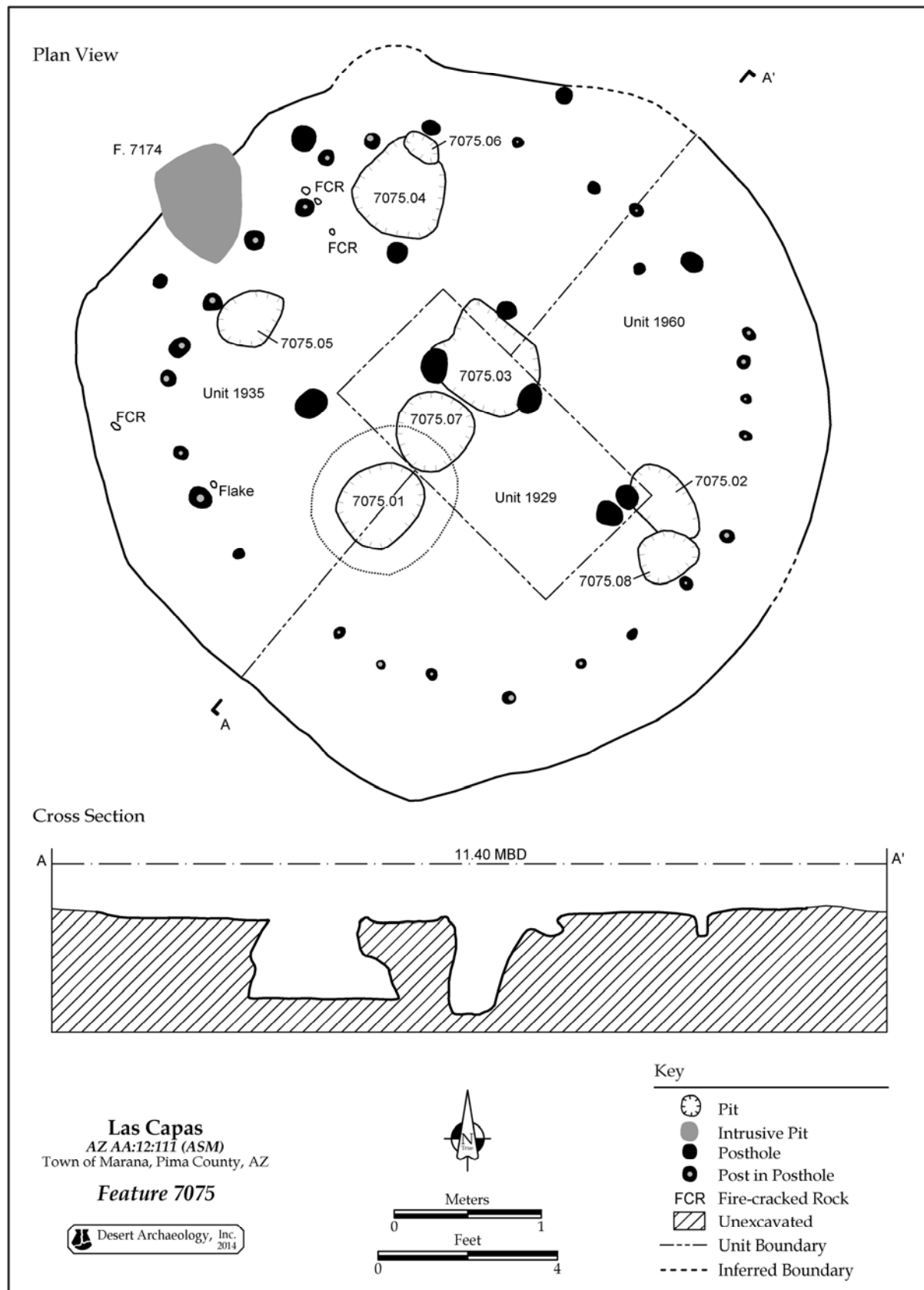


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7075, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

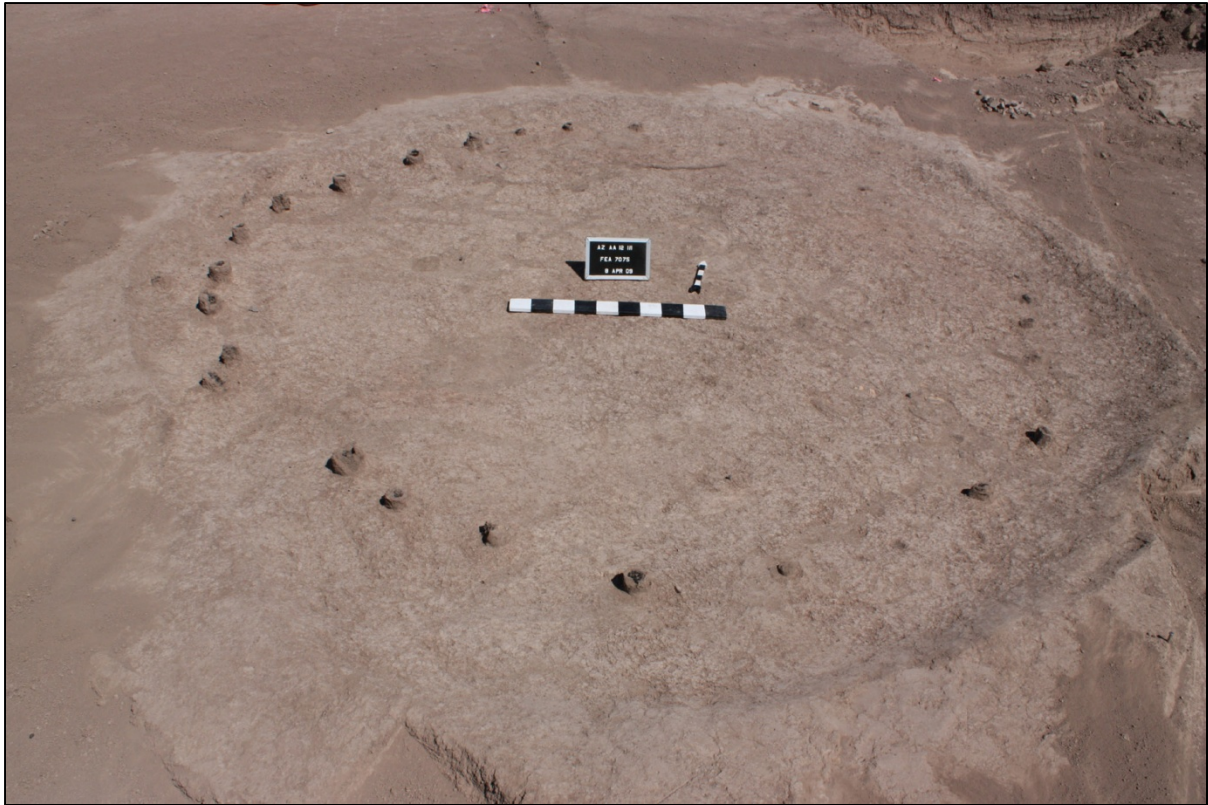


Figure 3. House-in-pit Feature 7075, mid-excavation, in situ posts intact, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).



Figure 4. House-in-pit Feature 7075, detail of in situ posts, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 11 cm of cultural fill was excavated in two distinct stratigraphic levels. The upper 3-4 cm of fill was defined by a loosely to moderately hard, light brown silty clay, with moderate charcoal inclusions and a large amount of burned structural debris, including roof and wall fall and ash. A low density of artifacts was present, including 6 flakes, 2 pieces of ground stone, and 28 pieces of fire-cracked rock. A moderate amount of insect and rodent disturbance was present. The lower 7 cm of fill was comprised of a moderately hard, light brown silty clay with a moderate density of charcoal, a low density of burned structural debris, and a low density of artifacts, including 16 flakes, 23 pieces of faunal bone, and 21 pieces of fire-cracked rock.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The feature contained a single row of postholes around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The remains of burned in situ posts, preserved in the several of the postholes, suggests upright posts were bent or bowed to form a dome-like superstructure over the primary foundation pit. Seven centrally located postholes were also excavated; these likely held roof support posts. The 31 excavated perimeter posts averaged 13 cm in depth and 11 cm in diameter. The average depth of the central postholes was 12 cm, and their average diameter was 14 cm. Two postholes intruded into a small internal pit, Feature 7075.03, which indicated a remodeling episode, possibly to shore up the superstructure after the initial construction of Feature 7075.03. Two internal features were found to overlap other small internal pits: Feature 7075.08 intruded into Feature 7075.02 and Feature 7075.06 intruded into small pit Feature 7075.04, showing evidence of remodeling. The floor surface consisted of an unprepared, moderately compact, fairly level surface with heavy root and rodent disturbance. The low density of charcoal flecks embedded in the floor may be attributed to occupation during the use-life of the structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 7075 originated in Stratum 504.01. Several possibly contemporary extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Based on location and depth, these pit features may have been used for extramural activities related to Feature 7075.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts directly on the floor surface, the structure appeared to have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. In total, 23 burned posts were found in situ (see Figures 3 and 4,) and the upper stratum of the feature fill contained a high density of charcoal, ash, and burned daub. This evidence suggests the structure burned after abandonment. None of the floor features appeared to have been open when the structure was burned. As most of the burned structural materials were found in the upper portion of the feature fill and not on the floor surface or within the fill of the internal features; the foundation pit may have accumulated cultural debris prior to burning of the superstructure. There is no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Although the feature is fairly large, the house-in-pit may have been used as a storage structure. This is evidenced by the large number of internal pit features, as well as the lack of a hearth. The pit

structure was one of the best preserved pithouses within Stratum 504.01 in Locus B. Because none of the floor features appear to have been in use when the structure was burned, the possibility of either a postabandonment burning episode or remodeling is likely. This structure is similar to Feature 7024, a house-in-pit in Locus B within Stratum 504.01 that had similar dimensions, a circular shape, and contained several small pits.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7075, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7075.01 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.67 | 0.48 | 0.52 | 1.11 | 0.90 | 0.67 | 0.48 | — | 14 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.2697 |
| 7075.02 | Small pit | 0.59 | 0.42 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0156 |
| 7075.03 | Small pit | 0.62 | 0.54 | 0.64 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 7075.04 | Small pit | 0.72 | 0.71 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0107 |
| 7075.05 | Small pit | 0.44 | 0.37 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7075.06 | Small pit | 0.31 | 0.22 | 0.19 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0102 |
| 7075.07 | Small pit | 0.51 | 0.50 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0040 |
| 7075.08 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.30 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0057 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7075, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7065 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 7063 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7172 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 7128 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 7067 | Roasting pit | Southwest | — |
| 7069 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7068 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7066 | Roasting pit | West | — |

Feature 7082: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.01
Locus B
Elevation: 12.26 mbd

General Description

This oxidized extramural surface (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during backhoe stripping near the far eastern edge in the central portion of Locus B within Stratum 504.01. Most of the overburden was mechanically stripped away, requiring only minimal hand-excavation to expose the occupational surface. A distinct boundary could not be determined, but the inferred extent of the feature was 1.85 m by 1.25 m. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted during the use-life of the feature. It consisted of very compact, light brown silty clay that was uniform across the feature.

Internal Features

A hearth, Feature 7082.01, an ash-filled pit, a roasting pit, and three small pits were associated with this extramural surface (Table 1). The ash-filled pit Feature 7082.03, located just south of the hearth,



Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 7082, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

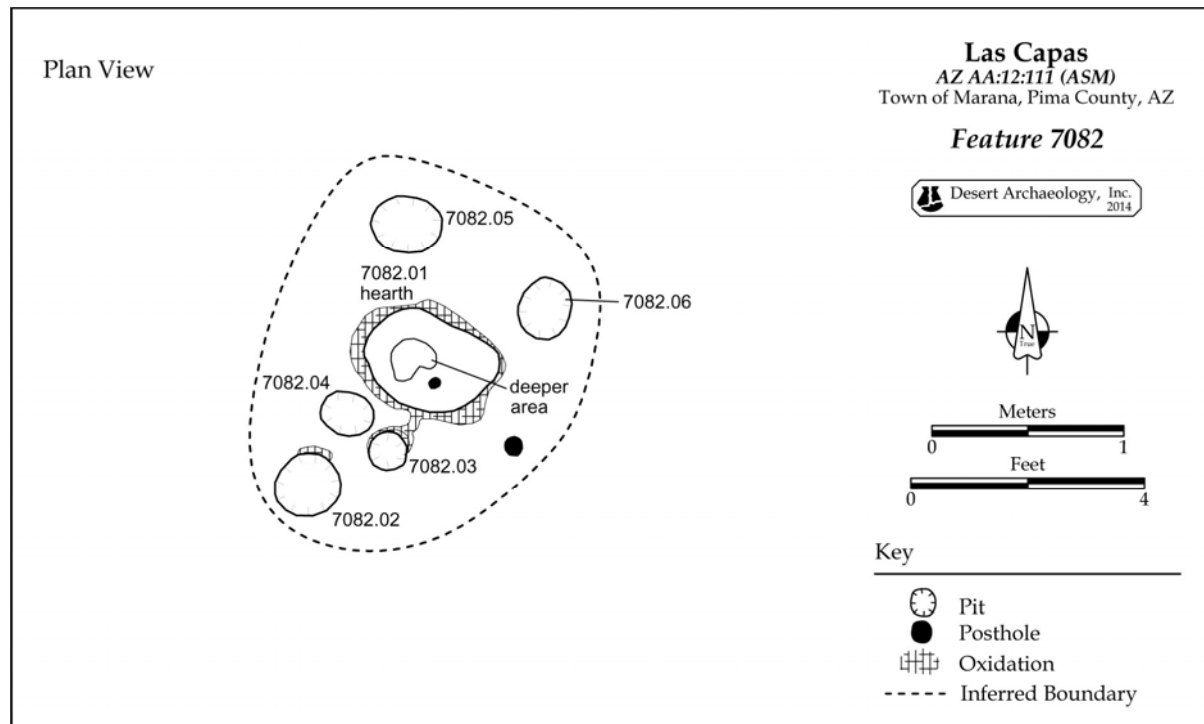


Figure 2. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 7082, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

probably functioned as a clean-out pit for the hearth area. The small pits may have been used in various extramural activities, while the roasting pit, Feature 7082.02, was likely used for food preparation.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Feature 7082 originated in Stratum 504.01. Mechanical excavation stripped the feature to the approximate extramural surface, preserving very little internal fill. No artifacts were found to be associated with the fill of the feature or the surface itself.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Several possibly contemporary pits that originated in Stratum 504.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the extramural surface (Table 2). These small pits were concentrated north of the extramural surface.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7082 was likely used for extramural activities, including food preparation and processing. Two postholes were identified, but it is unlikely this feature had any other architectural elements. The surface was located near the eastern edge of the central portion of Locus B, adjacent to a cluster of pits within Stratum 504.01. Several houses-in-pits and extramural surfaces were located to the north and west. The assemblage of internal features, with a clean-out pit adjacent to the hearth, is similar to other structures originating in Stratum 504.01: Feature 4014 and Feature 4054.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7082, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7082.01 | Hearth | 0.70 | 0.50 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7082.02 | Roasting pit | 0.35 | 0.33 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0036 |
| 7082.03 | Ash pit | 0.20 | 0.20 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0013 |
| 7082.04 | Small pit | 0.28 | 0.22 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0026 |
| 7082.05 | Small pit | 0.36 | 0.29 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 0.0071 |
| 7082.06 | Small pit | 0.32 | 0.27 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0054 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.01 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 7082, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 7085 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7086 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7077 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7080 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7081 | Small pit | Northeast | — |

Feature 7245: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus B
Elevation: 12.68-12.77 mbd

General Description

This pit structure (Figures 1 and 2) was identified during backhoe stripping of the far southern portion of Locus B. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor and internal features of the structure. The large, oval-shaped structure measured 7.30 m east-west by 5.55 m north-south (estimated). The feature was a house-in-pit, as the superstructure was constructed within the foundation pit. The floor consisted of an unprepared, moderately compact, silty clay surface with embedded charcoal flecks. The surface contained several distinct areas of oxidation. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Four small pits were associated with the floor surface. Feature 7245.01, located in the southern part of the structure, and Feature 7245.04, in the northeastern part, were small, shallow, and circular basin pits which may have functioned as small storage features. Features 7245.02 and 7245.03, both located in the far eastern portion of the structure, may have functioned as basketrests (Table 1).

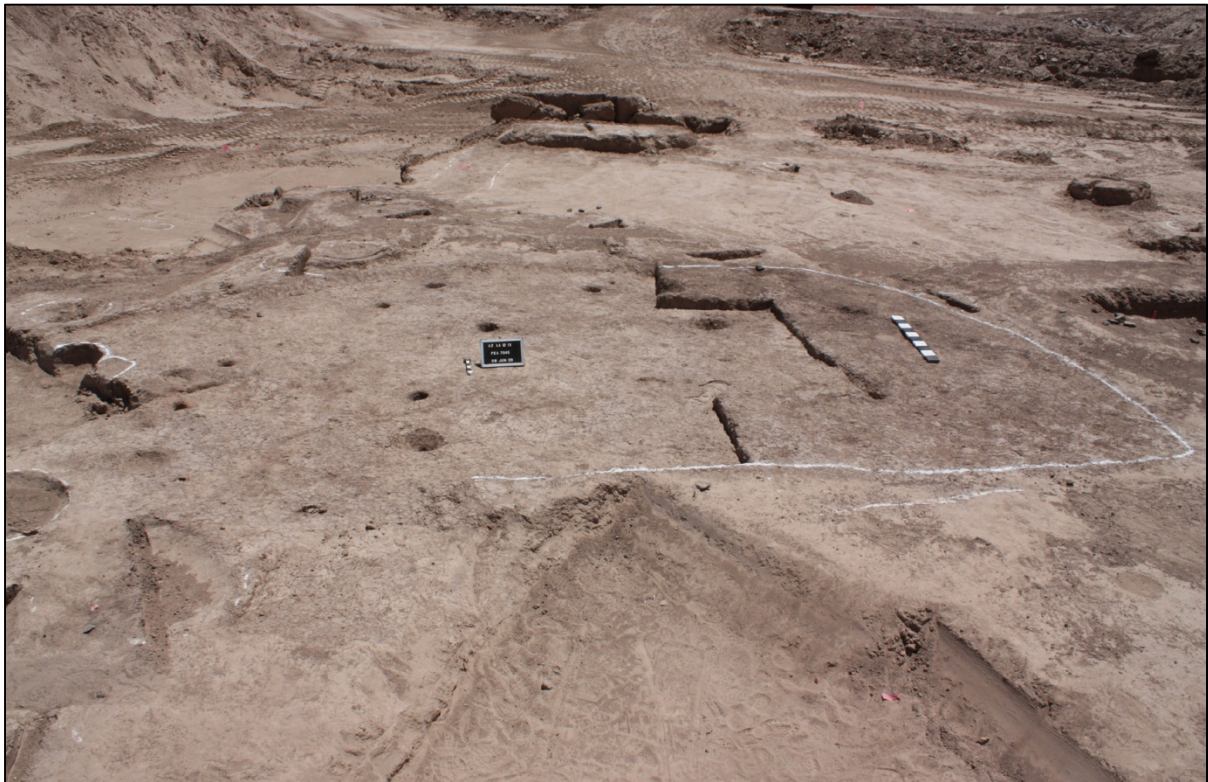


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7245, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

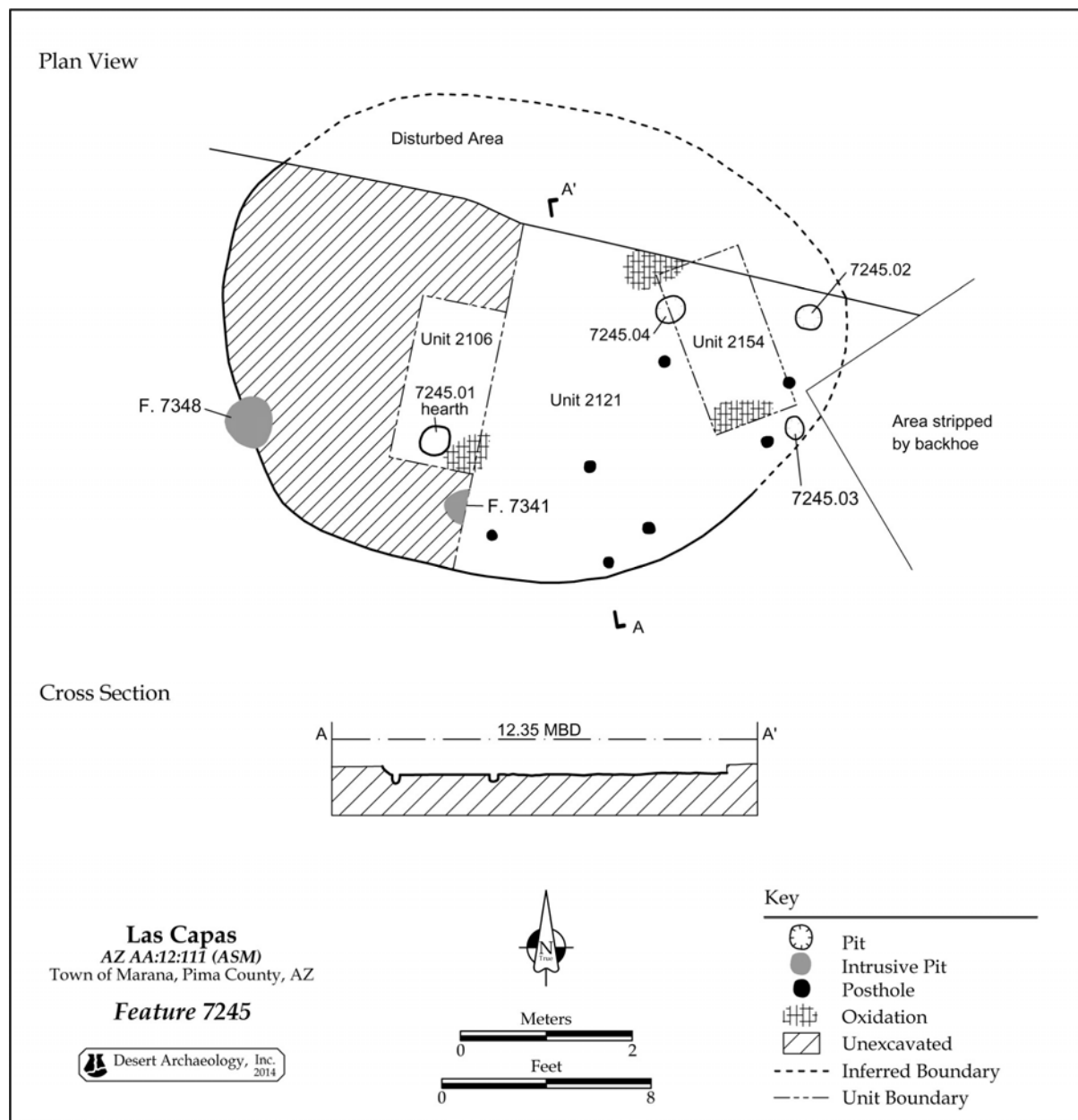


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7245, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 9 cm of internal fill consisted of soft, dark brown silty clay that contained a moderate density of burned structural debris, including ash, charcoal, and burned daub. The burned structural debris in the lower portion of the fill was concentrated near the interior perimeter of the foundation pit and may represent wall fall. Artifact density in the fill was moderate, with 71 flakes, 30 pieces of faunal bone, 15 pieces of fire-cracked rock, a burned reed remnant that was collected as a ^{14}C sample, and 2 pieces of burned daub with reed impressions. No artifacts were found directly on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This pit structure appeared to have a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The average diameter of the five perimeter posts was 13 cm, and their average depth was 9 cm. The perimeter postholes likely held upright wall posts that may have bent or bowed to form a dome-like superstructure over the foundation pit. Two centrally located postholes were noted; these averaged 14 cm in diameter and 7 cm in depth. The central postholes may have held posts that functioned as roof supports. The presence of burned daub, including large chunks with burned organic impressions, may indicate the superstructure included some sort of botanical thatching. No evidence of remodeling was present.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The feature originated in Stratum 504.02. Several extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Based on location and relative elevation, these pits may have been used in conjunction with Feature 7245. Feature 7438, a small pit, intruded into the southwestern portion of the structure, while Feature 7341, another a small pit, intruded on the southern portion of the structure.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure appeared to have been cleaned out and burned. The moderate to high density of burned structural debris present throughout the house-in-pit suggests the feature was at least partially burned. Although no in situ burned posts were present, the postholes contained a dark, charcoal-rich fill with burned structural debris. The lack of a floor assemblage suggests the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7245 likely functioned as a habitation structure, based on the large amount of usable floor surface. The feature is very large, measuring about 7.30 m along the long axis. Structures of this size were rare across the site. Feature 3229, a burned pit structure that originated in Stratum 504.02 in Locus E, was a similar shape and size to Feature 7245.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7245, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7245.01 | Small pit | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0073 |
| 7245.02 | Small pit | 0.32 | 0.30 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0040 |
| 7245.03 | Small pit | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0016 |
| 7245.04 | Small pit | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.31 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7245, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| 7261 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7262 | Ash pit | North | — |
| 7263 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7264 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7266 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7250 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7309 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7310 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7356 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7248 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7349 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7348 | Small pit | West | — |
| 7354 | Small pit | West | — |
| 7355 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 7282: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus B
Elevation: 12.73-12.88 mbd

General Description

This poorly preserved house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was uncovered during mechanical excavation near the midpoint of Locus B, along the western end of the locus. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and expose the floor and internal features of the structure. The feature originated in Stratum 504.02 and measured 6.45 m northeast-southwest by an estimate 4.20 m southeast-northwest. The total floor area was estimated at 22.15 m², while the usable floor surface was estimated at 17.61 m². The feature was cut by a backhoe trench, Trench 243, on its southern end and by a canal, Feature 41, on the western edge of the structure. The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure constructed within the foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

A single small pit located in the northern portion of the structure was associated with the floor surface. The shallow, circular, basin-shaped pit measured 30 cm in diameter and had a depth of 5 cm.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7282, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

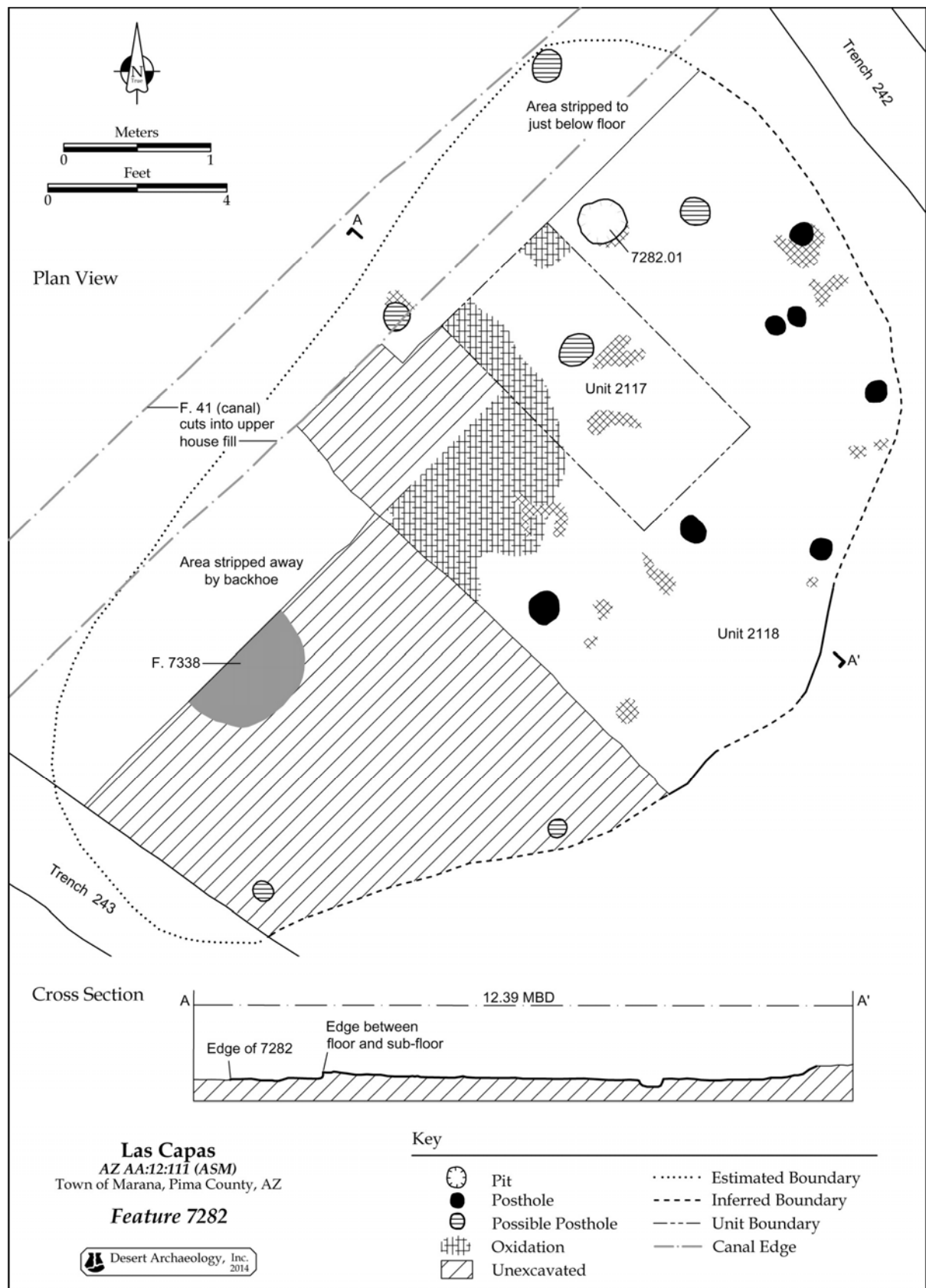


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7282, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

The feature fill consisted of a brown silt with charcoal and burned daub inclusions, which indicated the pit was open when the structure burned. No artifacts were present in the feature fill. The feature may have functioned as a basketrest. Patches of oxidation within the feature were attributed to postabandonment burning and not from use as an informal hearth.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 15 cm of cultural fill was excavated in two distinct strata. The first level was an average of 10 cm deep, and was comprised of a hard, brown silt with some clay content. The stratum contained a moderate to high density of burned structural debris, including charcoal, burned daub, and oxidized soil, as well as a single flake. The second stratigraphic level was an average of 5 cm deep, and consisted of moderately hard, brown silt with some clay content. The fill directly above the floor surface was void of artifacts, and contained a large amount of burned structural debris, including oxidized sediment, charcoal, and burned daub.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The feature appeared to have a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin, and several interior postholes. The average diameter of the 7 excavated postholes was 18 cm and their average depth was 6 cm. Six possible postholes were not excavated. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. This accounts for the presence of small charcoal flecks embedded in the floor. A substantial patch of oxidation was present on the central portion of the floor, but appeared to be related to postabandonment burning rather than formal treatment of the floor surface. Due to bioturbation, rodent disturbance, and mechanical over-excavation, only a small portion of the foundation pit wall remained intact along the eastern portion of the structure (see Figure 2). The feature was also cut by backhoe Trench 243 and by canal Feature 41, obscuring the edges of the structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Several extramural pits that originated in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure. Two small pits, Features 7290 and 7294, and a roasting pit, Feature 7289, were located east of the pit structure. Feature 7288, a small pit, was located northeast of the dwelling. These pit features may have functioned as extramural storage and thermal features related to Feature 7282.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure appears to have been cleaned out before abandonment and subsequently burned. Although no in situ burned posts were present, the feature fill contained a high density of charcoal, burned daub, and oxidized sediment. The low density of artifacts in the fill and lack of artifacts on the floor indicate it was cleaned out. The floor feature appears to have been open when the structure was burned. There is no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

The postholes identified on the floor surface indicate there was a superstructure; however, the function of this feature was difficult to determine as it was highly disturbed by bioturbation,

mechanical overstripping, and an intrusive canal. Based on the scarcity of internal features and the amount of usable floor space within the excavated area of the house, Feature 7282 may have functioned as a habitation structure. The feature had an oval shape, with the southern portion of the structure more narrow than the northern portion. Feature 7009, a structure in Locus B that originated in Stratum 504.01, had a similar shape. Features 13771, 13475, and 13467, three pit structures that originated in Stratum 504.04 in Locus D, also had a similar shape, as one side of each structure tapered inward. All three of these structures had an entry at the point where the structure began to narrow. Feature 7282 may also have had an entry where the feature began to narrow in width, but it was not identified.

Feature 7543: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.56-14.75 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit was discovered during mechanical stripping. This feature was stripped completely down to the floor surface, leaving no fill. This house-in-pit was circular in shape and measured approximately 4.00 m across. Due to mechanical overstripping, only a fraction of the structure remained intact. Postholes were identified on the floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Only one possible floor feature was identified in the northeastern portion of the exposed structure. Feature 8098, a small pit, was discovered prior to the identification of Feature 7543 as a house-in-pit. Given the poor state of preservation, it is difficult to positively determine if Feature 8098 was associated with the structure or was intrusive.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated within Stratum 506.01. No fill was excavated, and the nature of the internal stratigraphy of the structure could not be determined. No artifacts were present on the preserved portions of the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit and postholes were likely built by excavation into Stratum 506.01. This structure is assumed to have had of an initial primary foundation pit, although any evidence of one was removed by mechanical stripping. Only a small portion of the floor remained. The preserved portions of the floor surface were not formally prepared, but rather were compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The preserved portions of the floor surface were heavily burned, and were identified as very hard, blackened silt with highly oxidized patches.

Ten postholes were identified, and were assumed to have formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of a foundation pit basin. While no in situ burned posts were identified within any of the postholes, this structure was assumed to have been built similarly to other better preserved house-in-pits excavated within the same stratum. The postholes likely held upright wall posts, which were either bent or bowed to form a dome over the foundation pit. These posts were likely connected with horizontal stringers, and this framework was covered in a grass or reed thatching. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 7543 originated within Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as from deposits from Strata 506 and 505. A large number of extramural pits that originated in

Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 7543. These extramural features included several small and bell-shaped pits, roasting pits, and a large pit (Table 1).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the lack of artifacts on the floor surface, this structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. The evidence of heavy burning on preserved portions of the floor surface may demonstrate the structure burned, although given the poor preservation of the structure this could not be positively determined. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7543, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7519 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7520 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7527 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7528 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7529 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8099 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8100 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7523 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7524 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 7530 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7538 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 7659 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8101 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8102 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8103 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8104 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7532 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7537 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 7540 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7566 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8121 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 8169 | Large pit | Southwest | — |
| 8195 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8200 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8201 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8202 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9201 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 7701: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.50-14.51 mbd

General Description

Feature 7701, a house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2), was identified during excavation of Feature 7701.05, a bell-shaped pit. The structure was subsequently hand-excavated to expose the floor and internal features of the structure. The small oval-shaped house-in-pit originated in Stratum 506.01, and measured 3.30 m north-south by 2.40 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 6.54 m², while the usable floor surface measured 4.91 m².

Internal Features

A hearth, a small pit, and two bell-shaped pits were identified as floor features (Table 1). The small, circular, basin-shaped hearth was intruded upon by a several small pits. A small, ash-filled clean-out pit, Feature 7701.02, intruded into the southern edge of the hearth, indicating a remodel episode. Two additional features intruded into the hearth (Table 2).



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7701 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

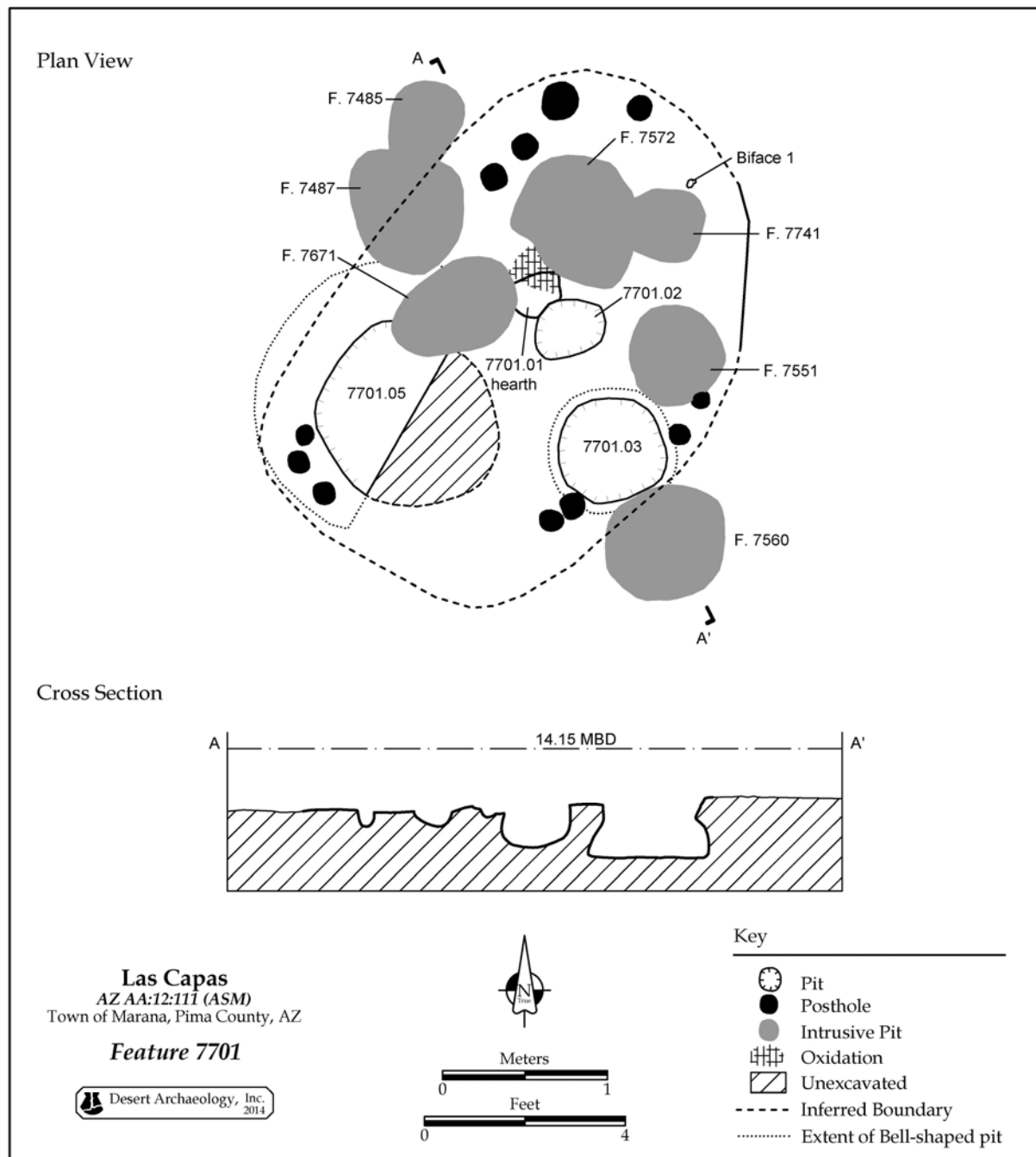


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7701, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

The internal, bell-shaped pits were located in the southern half of the structure and probably functioned as storage features. Several of the pits located within the structure were deemed intrusive, due their excavation prior to identification of the structure. These pits may have been internal features, but could not be identified as such.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Most of Feature 7701 required minimal hand-excavation to expose the floor surface. The 1 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of a soft, grayish-brown, sandy silt, with a low density of mica, charcoal flecks, and small burned daub inclusions. The fill contained a low density of artifacts, including six pieces of faunal bone and 18 flakes. A biface was found on the floor surface in the northeastern part of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The feature contained a single row of postholes. The average diameter of the 11 perimeter postholes was 12 cm, and their average depth was 11 cm. Although no remains of posts were found in situ, the postholes likely held upright wall posts that formed part of the superstructure. The floor surface consisted of a moderately compact, light brown, sandy silt. The extent of the floor was inferred by the location of the postholes, because the walls of the foundation pit were completely stripped away during mechanical excavation. No preserved structural material, such as burned posts or daub, was noted during excavation. There was evidence of remodeling, as the ash-filled pit, Feature 7701.02, intruded into the southern edge of the hearth.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The feature originated in Stratum 506.01 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural features that originated in Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 3). Based on location and elevation, these features may have been used in association with Feature 7701.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The nature of the abandonment of the structure is difficult to discern due to overexcavation by the backhoe, as well as the late identification of the structure. The low density of artifacts in the fill and on the floor indicates the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was no evidence to indicate the structure burned. Oxidation on the floor surface was only associated with the hearth and a bell-shaped pit. There was no evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7701 likely functioned as a storage structure. This is indicated by the small size of the structure, especially when compared with other nearby habitation structures, and to the large number of subsurface storage pits. The size and assemblage of floor features were similar to Feature 4034, a possible storage structure that originated in Stratum 504.01 of Locus A. Feature 4034 measured 3.30 m by 2.80 m, while Feature 7701 measured 3.30 m by 2.40 m. Both Feature 7701 and Feature 4034 had a hearth, two small pits, and two bell-shaped pits.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7701, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7701.01 | Hearth | 0.34 | 0.31 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7701.02 | Small pit | 0.49 | 0.41 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| 7701.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.60 | 0.57 | 0.40 | 0.74 | 0.72 | 0.60 | 0.57 | — | 19 | — | — | 9 | — | 0.1374 |
| 7701.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 1.15 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.18 | — | 0.84 | — | — | 79 | — | — | 31 | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 7701, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| 7485 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7487 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 7671 | Small pit | Northwest | Intruded into hearth Feature 7701.01 and Feature 7701.05; may be an internal feature of Feature 7701 |
| 7572 | Small pit | Northeast | Intruded into hearth Feature 7701.01; may be an internal feature of Feature 7701 |
| 7741 | Small pit | Northeast | May be an internal feature of Feature 7701 |
| 7551 | Small pit | Southeast | May be an internal feature of Feature 7701 |
| 7560 | Small pit | Southeast | — |

Table 3. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7701, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7488 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7493 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7494 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7506 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7480 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7481 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7485 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7489 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7492 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 7502 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7505 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8110 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8115 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7472 | Roasting pit | Northeast | — |
| 7473 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7474 | Roasting pit | Northeast | — |
| 7475 | Large pit | Northeast | — |
| 7476 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7484 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7486 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7662 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7663 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8117 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7483 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7495 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7496 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7497 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7500 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 7504 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7509 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8129 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8125 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8126 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8127 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8128 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7491 | Small Pit | West | — |
| 7681 | Small Pit | West | — |
| 7682 | Small Pit | West | — |
| 7683 | Small Pit | West | — |
| 8122 | Small Pit | West | — |
| 8131 | Small Pit | West | — |

Feature 7754: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 14.12-14.16 mbd

General Description

The extramural surface (Figure 1) was identified while exploring a cluster of extramural pits. A heavily oxidized surface was exposed in the middle of the pit cluster, and several of the previously excavated pits appeared to originate at the surface. The surface was located in the southwestern portion of Locus B, amid a very high density of cultural features. The feature measured 4.18 m north-south by 3.59 m east-west. The surface consisted of a heavily oxidized, moderately compact surface with embedded charcoal flecks.

Internal Features

Twelve pits were associated with the surface, most of which were only half excavated, with profiles drawn and measurements recorded (Table 1). Three of the pits in the western portion of the surface, roasting pit Feature 7754.01, small pit Feature 7754.05, and bell-shaped pit Feature 7754.12, were hand-excavated completely.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The extramural surface originated in Stratum 505. The small amount of fill associated with the surface was defined by uniform, soft, light brown sandy silt with heavy oxidation, ash, and mottled charcoal concentrated toward the center of the feature. Artifact densities were high, and included 193 flakes, 2 bifaces, 1 San Pedro style projectile point, the distal end of a projectile point, 1 core, 53 pieces of faunal bone, and 3 ceramic figurine fragments. Some root and insect disturbance was noted during excavation.

Stratigraphic Relationships

A large number of extramural pits that originated in Stratum 505 were located within a 3- m radius of the feature (Table 2). Most of these features were small pits, with several bell-shaped pits also present. Based on their elevations and proximity to Feature 7754, these pits may have been used in conjunction, as well as in the same time frame as the extramural surface.

Functional Inferences

Based on the density of pits that surrounded the surface, as well as the fact that these features overlapped one another, the area was likely heavily used over time. The area was probably used for extramural activities, such as flintknapping, food preparation, and storage. The lack of postholes indicates no superstructure was erected.

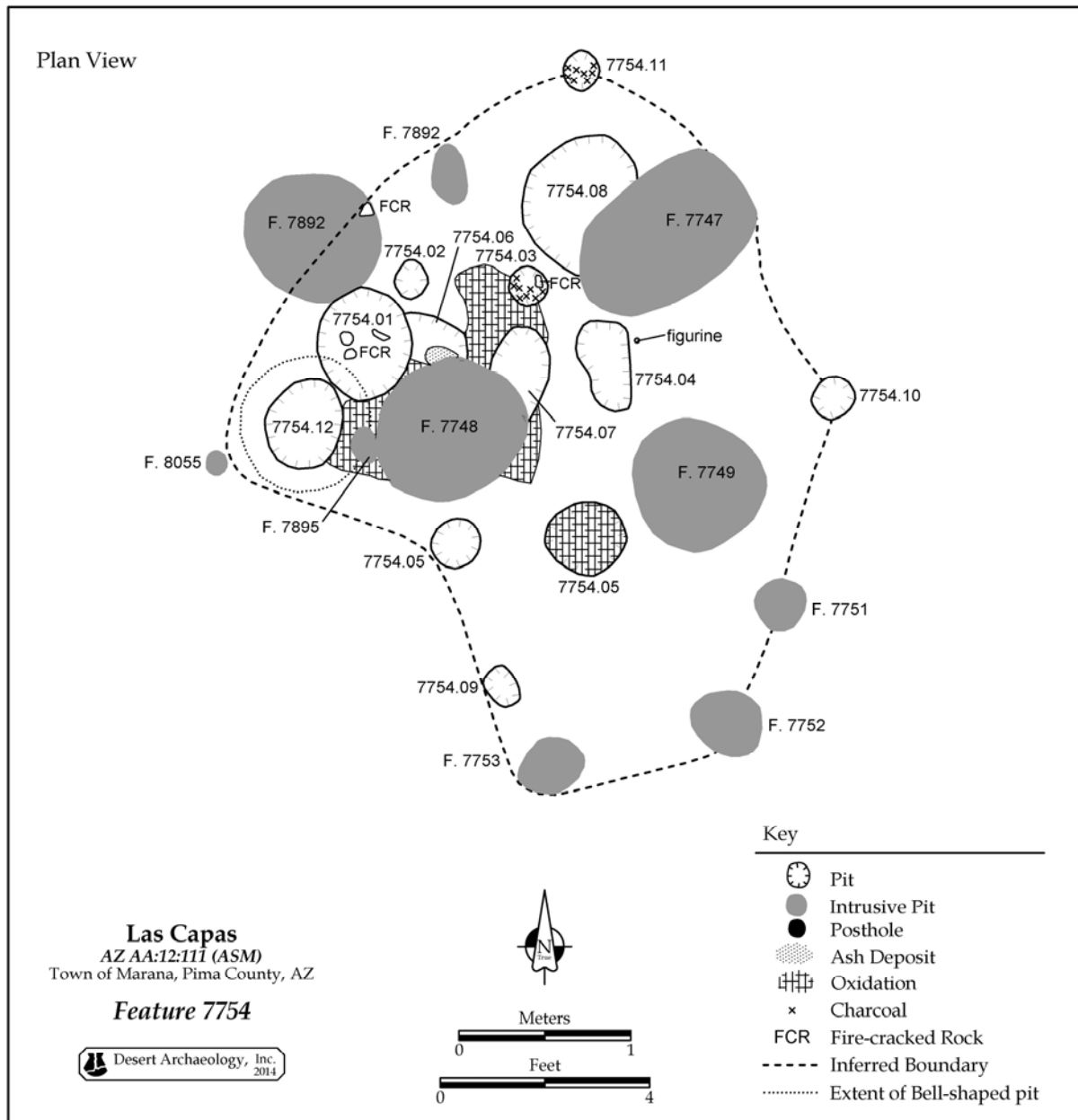


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 7754, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7754, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7754.01 | Roasting pit | 0.57 | 0.67 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 19 | — | — | — | — | 0.0260 |
| 7754.02 | Small pit | 0.20 | 0.19 | 0.19 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.03 | Roasting pit | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.04 | Small pit | 0.54 | 0.33 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.05 | Small pit | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.28 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | — | — | — | — | 0.0239 |
| 7754.06 | Roasting pit | 0.52 | 0.39 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.07 | Roasting pit | 0.56 | 0.35 | 0.14 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.08 | Small pit | 0.80 | 0.66 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.09 | Small pit | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.10 | Small pit | 0.26 | 0.25 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.11 | Small pit | 0.24 | 0.22 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7754.12 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.34 | 0.29 | 0.36 | 0.40 | 0.40 | — | — | — | 23 | — | — | 25 | — | 0.0252 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 7754, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8405 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8407 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8408 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8409 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7897 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8042 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8057 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8384 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8385 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8401 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8403 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8404 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8406 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8387 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8388 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8389 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8390 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8396 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8056 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8391 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8436 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 7750 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8347 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8438 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7806 | Roasting pit | Southwest | — |
| 7840 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8267 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8268 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8269 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8415 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 7777: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.04
Locus B
Elevation: 14.50 mbd

General Description

Feature 7777 is an extramural surface identified and profiled in the south wall of Trench 243 (Figure 1). Trench 243 was originally excavated by SWCA (SWCA Trench 21) and is located in the west-central portion of Locus B. The feature originated in Stratum 504.04. Only a small portion of the surface was visible in the trench wall. Feature 7777 was defined by a distinct, unprepared, and oxidized surface. A small pit, Feature 7775, and two bell-shaped pits, Features 7776 and 7778, originated at the surface. The extramural surface appeared to partially cap Feature 7776, suggesting the pit originated at the surface but was subsequently filled while the surface remained in use. The extramural surface and the pits were not excavated.

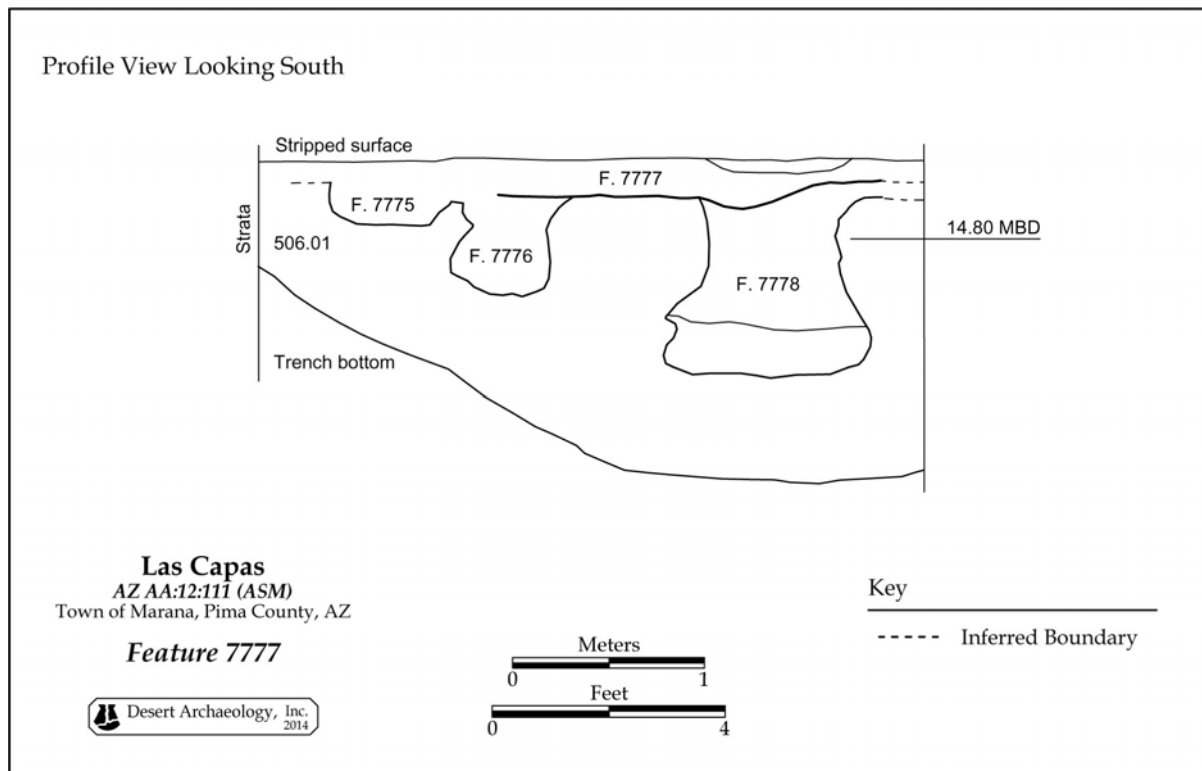


Figure 1. Profile of extramural surface Feature 7777, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 7780: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.53-14.70 mbd

General Description

Feature 7780 (Figures 1 and 2), a house-in-pit, was identified in the profile of Trench 243 (SWCA Trench 22) located in the central portion of Locus B, along the eastern edge of the stripped area. The overburden was removed during mechanical excavation, leaving a good portion of the feature fill intact. The structure was subsequently hand-excavated to expose the floor and internal features. The circular house-in-pit originated in Stratum 506.01 and measured 4.90 m north-south by 4.40 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 17.48 m², while the usable floor surface measured 12.78 m². The feature was disturbed by Trench 243; the portion of the structure that extended northeast of the trench was not well defined. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Two small pits and three bell-shaped pits were identified as floor features (Table 1). Feature 7780.01, a small pit, was truncated by Trench 243, and may have functioned as a central support posthole. Small pit Feature 7780.02 and the three bell-shaped pits may have functioned as storage features.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7780 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

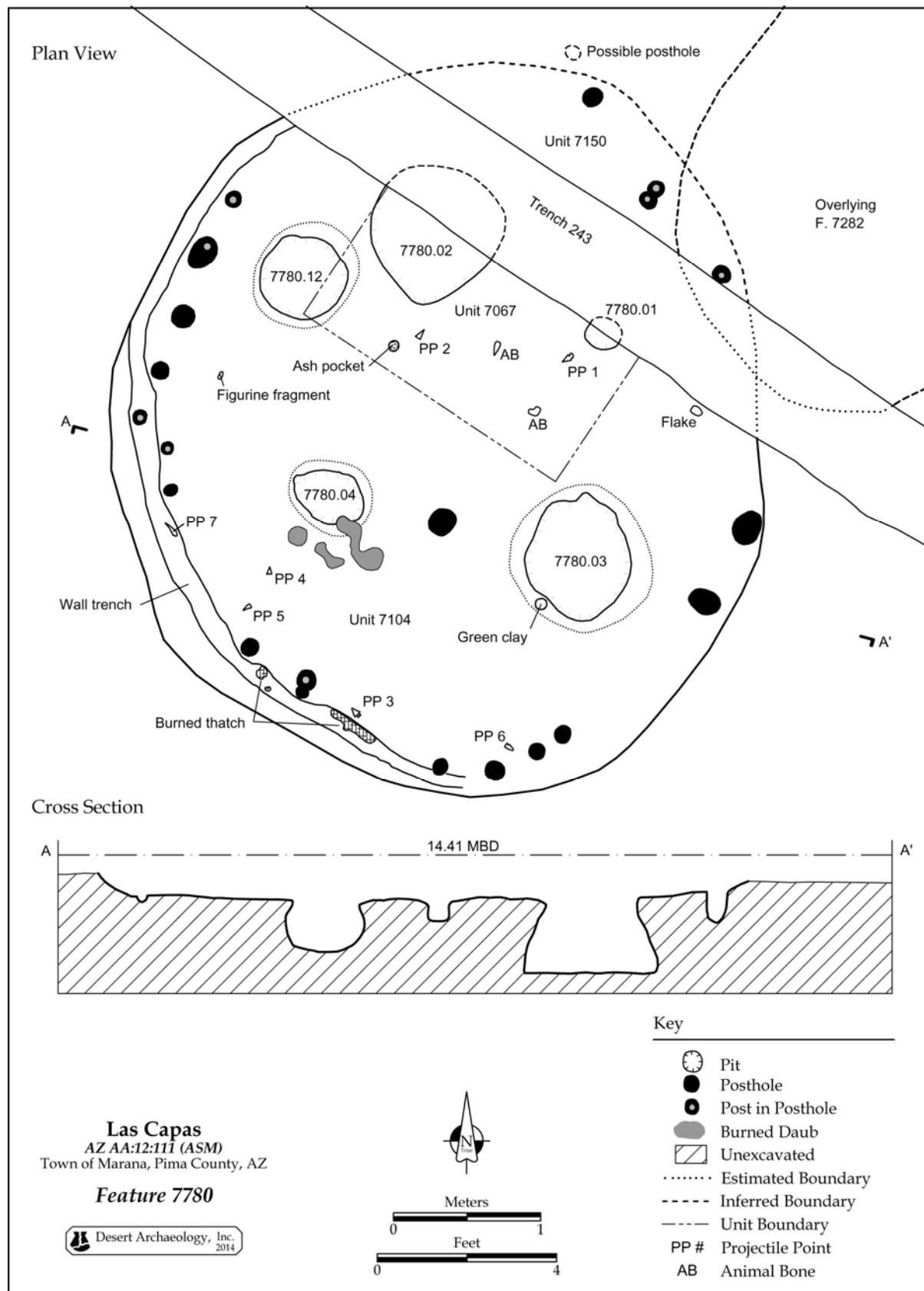


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7780, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Features 7780.02, 7780.03, and 7780.04 contained substantial amounts of burned structural debris, including charcoal flecks and burned daub, which may indicate the features were open when the structure burned. No hearth was found; however, a swath of the floor surface was removed by Trench 243, which may have contained floor features.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 17 cm of fill consisted of a soft, grayish-brown, fine-grained silty clay with some charcoal flecking and a high density of burned daub. Large chunks of burned daub with reed impressions were noted in the upper portion of the fill, and a sample was collected. A moderate density of vitrified organic material (slag) was also noted in the upper portion of the fill and was collected. A very high density of artifacts was present in the fill, including 770 flakes, 515 pieces of faunal bone, 10 projectile points (9 projectile points were in the upper portions of the fill), a ceramic figurine fragment found in the upper portion of fill, approximately 55 pieces of fire-cracked rock, a possible incipient sherd, and six pieces of ground stone, including a stone pendant. A substantial floor assemblage was present, with seven projectile points, two pieces of faunal bone, a ceramic figurine fragment, and a small, circular cake of unmodified dark green clay.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The feature had a wide foundation pit with gently sloping edges. The house-in-pit contained a single row of postholes around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The average diameter of the 20 perimeter posts was 16 cm, and their average depth was 13 cm. Eight of the perimeter postholes contained in situ burned posts, which were collected for species identification. These posts were likely bent or bowed to form a dome-like superstructure and then covered with reed thatching. One central posthole was identified and excavated; it was 20 cm in diameter and 18 cm in depth; very similar to Feature 7780.01. The two likely held upright posts that functioned as roof supports.

A partial floor groove was present along the western edge of the structure on the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. Burned upright reeds were found in situ within the floor groove near postholes with preserved in situ posts. The preserved reeds and chunks of burned daub with reed impressions indicate the superstructure was covered with reed thatching. The walls of the foundation pit were preserved only in the southwestern portion of the structure. The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the structure. This also accounts for the presence of charcoal flecks embedded in the surface. The floor was a moderately hard surface, and about 30-40 percent of the surface showed signs of oxidation. No evidence of structural remodeling was present.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 7780 originated in Stratum 506.01. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural pits were present within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Based on location and elevation, these extramural pits may have been used in conjunction with Feature 7780.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The high density of burned structural debris in the feature fill, as well as the presence of usable artifacts on the floor surface, indicate a catastrophic burn. Some of the floor pits contained roof fall, indicating they were open when the structure burned. The depression left by the foundation pit after

abandonment appears to have been used for disposal of refuse, based on the extremely high density of artifacts in the feature fill.

Functional Inferences

Based on the ample amount of usable floor space, this feature probably functioned as a habitation structure. The nature of the internal features indicates domestic activities occurred. The presence of three bell-shaped pits may represent a limited capacity of storage within the structure. A wide array of projectile point styles, including Cortaro, Empire, and San Pedro, were found on the floor surface. The large amount of lithic debitage and projectile points within the fill, as well as the projectile points found on the floor surface, suggest flintknapping took place near the structure or by its inhabitants. However, flintknapping probably did not occur within the structure itself.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7780, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7780.01 | Small pit | 0.23 | 0.12 | 0.19 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0027 |
| 7780.02 | Small pit | 0.80 | 0.60 | 0.22 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | 1 | — | 15 | — | 0.0053 |
| 7780.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.82 | 0.61 | 0.50 | 0.97 | 0.91 | 0.74 | Unknown | — | 36 | — | — | 16 | — | 0.2715 |
| 7780.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.49 | 0.40 | 0.31 | 0.52 | 0.48 | 0.48 | Unknown | — | 3 | — | — | 27 | — | 0.0542 |
| 7780.12 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.37 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.70 | 0.69 | — | 7 | — | — | 14 | — | 0.1141 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7780, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 7903 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7904 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7905 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8441 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8557 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8559 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8560 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9302 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8188 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 8610 |
| 8700 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 8610 |
| 8733 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 8610 |
| 8807 | Roasting pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 8610 |
| 8839 | Roasting pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 8610 |
| 7779 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 7781 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8014 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9242 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8048 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8049 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9221 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 9222 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9227 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9228 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9229 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9230 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9231 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 9232 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8061 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 8068 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |

Feature 7831: House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 14.08-14.11 mbd

General Description

Feature 7831, a house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2), was uncovered during mechanical stripping of the southern portion of Locus B. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and expose the floor and internal features. The oval-shaped pit structure measured 5.80 m north-south and 4.50 m east-west. Most of the fill was removed during mechanical excavation and required only minimal hand-excavation to expose the floor. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Two small pits and three bell-shaped pits were associated with the feature. Features 7831.08 and 7831.09, small bell-shaped pits, were located in the northwestern portion of the structure. Small bell-shaped pit Feature 7831.01 was near the center of the structure. These three features were likely used for storage. The two small pits were located in the southern portion of the floor. Feature 7831.02 was



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7831 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

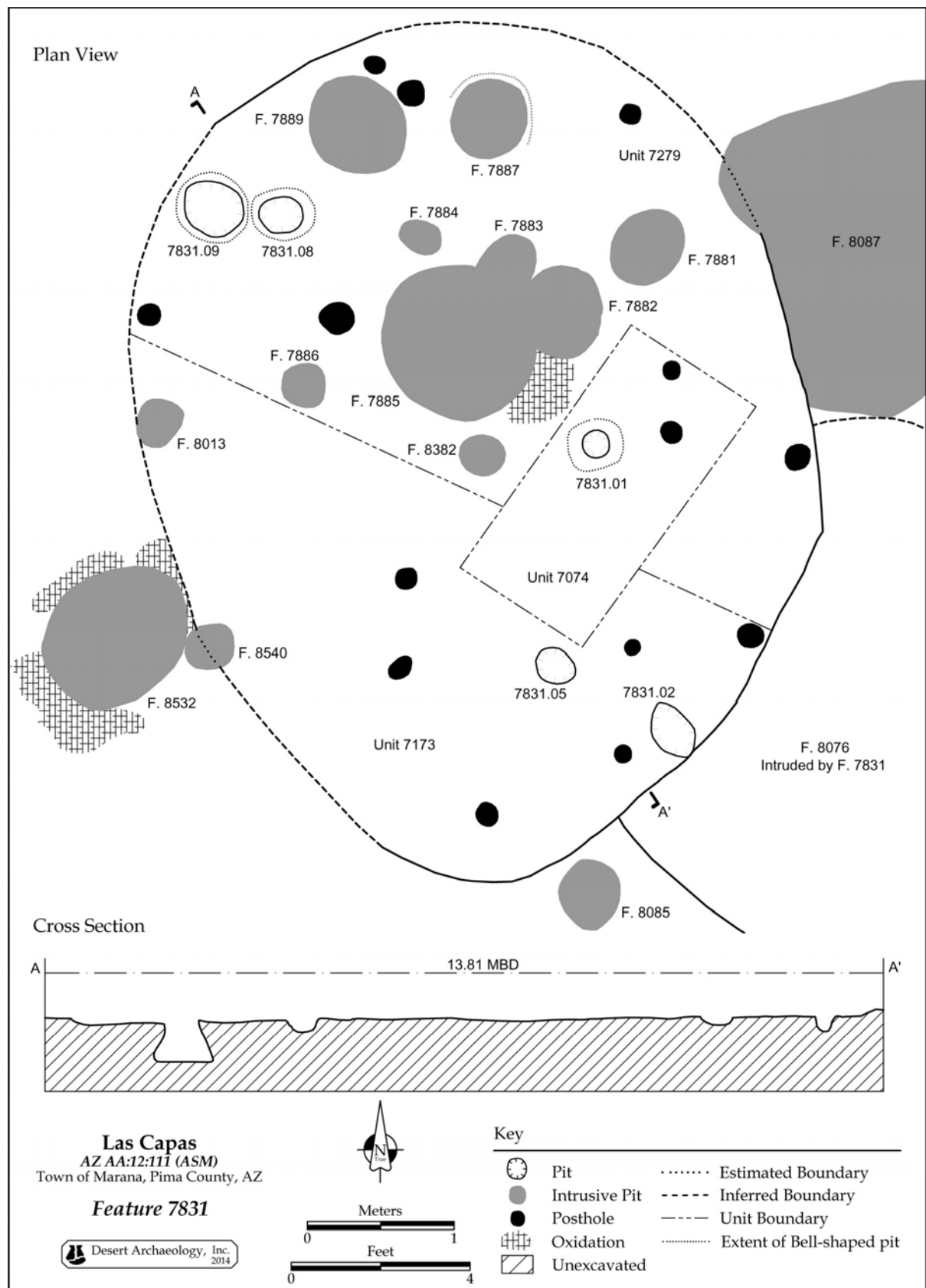


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 7831, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

a deep and oval-shaped pit; Feature 7831.05 was an ovate, basin-shaped pit that may have functioned as a basketrest (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This pit structure was located among a cluster of features within Stratum 505. The 3 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, moderately hard, grayish-brown, silty sand with a moderate density of charcoal flecks, a low density of small pieces of burned daub, and a low density of ash that was concentrated in the center of the structure. The feature contained a high density of artifacts, including 346 flakes, 261 pieces of faunal bone, 1 shell pendant, and 8 pieces of fire-cracked rock. A ^{14}C sample of a possible legume was collected. Heavy root, rodent, and insect disturbance was noted across the feature.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The pit structure had an irregular ring of 12 postholes around the perimeter of the pit basin. These perimeter postholes had an average diameter of 15 cm and an average depth of 11 cm. The perimeter postholes are assumed to have held wall support posts that may have been covered in thatching. Two centrally located postholes were noted; these averaged 18 cm in diameter and 10 cm in depth and may have held roof support posts. The floor in the eastern portion of the feature consisted of an unprepared, undulating surface of light brown, moderately compact sandy silt. The floor in the western portion of the structure consisted of an undulating, unprepared surface of brown, mica-rich, silty sand. This portion of the floor surface was heavily disturbed by bioturbation and mechanical over stripping. Most of the foundation pit was destroyed during mechanical excavation, obscuring the walls of the feature. No preserved structural material was noted in the fill.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The structure, internal features, and postholes originated in Stratum 505. A number of extramural pits were located within a 3-m radius of the structure that also originated in Stratum 505 (Table 2). Based on location and elevation, these features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 7831. The structure intruded into Feature 8076, a pit structure located immediately to the east. A large number of pit features intruded into the house-in-pit structure, mostly in the northern half (Table 3). The high density of intrusive features disturbed a substantial amount of the foundation pit walls and floor surface.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not show any signs of having burned. Oxidation on the floor surface was attributed to an intrusive roasting pit, Feature 7885. The remains of the structure likely deteriorated after abandonment, and may have been partially buried by naturally deposited sediments. However, the extremely high density of artifacts in the fill indicates the depression left after the structure was abandoned was reused for trash disposal. The high density of intrusive features suggests the area was heavily used for extramural activity after the structure was abandoned.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7831 probably functioned as a habitation structure. Stratum 505 represents a time period in which rapid flood deposits, heavy rainfall, and overall instability occurred. This differs from Strata

504 and 506, which were defined by periods of stability and reasonable, predictable rainfall. The extremely high density of cultural features within Stratum 505 in the southern portion of the locus may indicate a more stable area, or perhaps a high point. This portion of Locus B contained the highest density of cultural features that originated in Stratum 505 among all excavated areas within the site.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7831, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7831.01 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.23 | 0.22 | 0.36 | 0.43 | 0.34 | — | — | — | 10 | — | — | 6 | — | 0.0278 |
| 7831.02 | Small pit | 0.41 | 0.25 | 0.31 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | — | — | — | — | 0.0250 |
| 7831.05 | Small pit | 0.26 | 0.24 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0013 |
| 7831.08 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.30 | 0.29 | 0.27 | 0.49 | 0.48 | — | — | — | 8 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0342 |
| 7831.09 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.40 | 0.39 | 0.23 | 0.50 | 0.48 | — | — | — | 9 | — | — | 16 | — | 0.0358 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 500 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7831, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7768 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7807 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8752 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8753 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8754 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8071 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8743 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8744 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8745 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8746 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8085 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8343 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 8728 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8729 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8730 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8535 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 8536 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8724 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8725 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8726 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8613 | Small pit | West | — |

Table 3. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 7831, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 7881 | Bell-shaped pit | North | 505 |
| 7882 | Roasting pit | North | 505 |
| 7883 | Roasting pit | North | 505 |
| 7884 | Small pit | North | 505 |
| 7885 | Roasting pit | North | 505 |
| 7886 | Bell-shaped pit | North | 505 |
| 7887 | Bell-shaped pit | North | 505 |
| 7889 | Small pit | North | 505 |
| 8382 | Bell-shaped pit | North | 505 |
| 8087 | Large pit | Northeast | 505 |
| 8532 | Roasting pit | Southwest | 505 |
| 8540 | Small pit | Southwest | 505 |
| 8013 | Small pit | West | 505 |

Feature 7862: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.67-14.76 mbd

General Description

This structure (Figures 1 and 2) was originally identified in SWCA Trench 22 ?? during their 2001 excavations (renamed Trench 244 for the current project). The feature was located in the southwestern portion of Locus B. Feature 7862 was hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose structural elements and floor features of the pit structure. The circular-shaped structure measured 2.10 m north-south by 1.63 m east-west. The total floor area was 2.83 m², while the usable floor surface measured 1.35 m². The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure constructed within a foundation pit. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Four small pits were associated with the floor surface (Table 1). All the pits had basin-shaped profiles and may have functioned as either storage features or basketrests. The feature fill in the pits contained high densities of charcoal and burned daub, indicating they were open when the structure burned. Feature 7862.03 intruded into Feature 7862.02, showing evidence of remodeling.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 7862 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

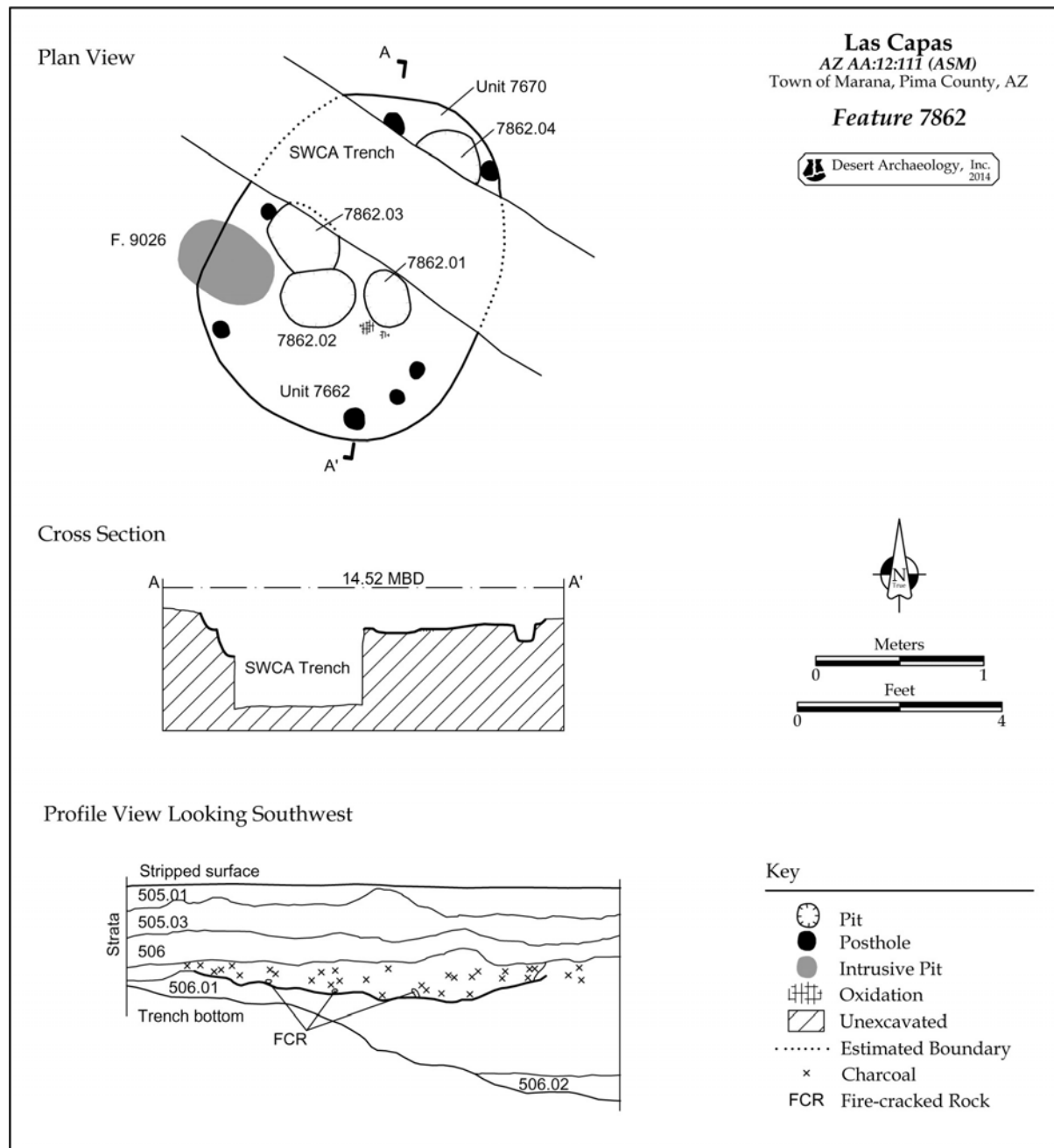


Figure 2. Plan view, cross section, and profile of house-in-pit Feature 7862, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Most of the structure was excavated south of Trench 244. The 6 cm of fill excavated south of the trench consisted of a grayish-brown, moderately compact sandy silt with some clay content. Abundant charcoal, burned daub, ash, and oxidized sediment inclusions were present. A low density of artifacts, including 29 flakes, 2 bifaces, 2 cores, 29 pieces of faunal bone, 1 ceramic figurine fragment, and 2 pieces of ground stone were collected.

Although only a small portion of the structure was located north of the trench, a large amount of feature fill was preserved there. The 15 cm of internal fill consisted of undifferentiated, dark grayish-brown,

moderately hard sandy silt with some clay inclusions. There were abundant charcoal flecks, ash, and a small amount of burned daub present throughout the fill. The upper 8 cm of fill contained a low density of artifacts, including 15 flakes, 1 piece of faunal bone, 1 piece of ground stone, and 38 pieces of fire-cracked rock. Within the lower 7 cm of fill, artifact density declined, including only five flakes and eight pieces of fire-cracked rock. No artifacts were directly on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The feature had a single row of postholes around the interior perimeter of the pit basin. The average diameter of the seven perimeter posts was 10 cm, and their average depth was 8 cm. These postholes likely held upright posts that may formed a dome-like superstructure over the foundation pit. Some of the foundation pit wall remained intact, with the deepest portion measuring 15 cm above the floor surface. Although there was evidence the structure burned, no charred in situ posts were preserved. The floor consisted of continuously compacted, medium brown, sandy silt with some clay content and a small amount of oxidation across the surface. The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. This also accounts for the high density of charcoal flecks embedded in the surface. One internal pit, Feature 7862.02, overlapped another, Feature 7862.03, indicating some restructuring of the internal floor space occurred.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The feature originated in Stratum 506.01. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural pits were present within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Based on location and elevation, these extramural pits may have been used in conjunction with Feature 7862.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The abundance of burned structural material and oxidized sediment in the fill suggests the structure burned. The four internal pits appear to have been open when the structure burned, based on the inclusion of burned structural material in the fill of these features. Noticeably higher densities of artifacts were present in the upper portions of the feature fill, while no artifacts were found on the floor surface. This may indicate the structure was cleaned out before abandonment and subsequently filled with trash.

Functional Inferences

Feature 7862 most probably functioned as a storage structure. The lack of a hearth and the presence of several internal pits indicate the feature was used for storage. The small size of the structure, specifically when compared with nearby habitation dwellings within Stratum 506.01, also implies it was used as a storage feature. The feature may have been used in conjunction with nearby habitation structures Feature 8417 and Feature 8244.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 7862, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 7862.01 | Small pit | 0.34 | 0.26 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0028 |
| 7862.02 | Small pit | 0.44 | 0.34 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 0.0086 |
| 7862.03 | Small pit | 0.47 | 0.35 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 0.0052 |
| 7862.04 | Small pit | 0.43 | 0.22 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0040 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 7862, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7760 | Burial | Northwest | — |
| 8152 | Roasting pit | Northwest | — |
| 8153 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8154 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8156 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8157 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9296 | Hearth | North | — |
| 8150 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8158 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8159 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 9285 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 9304 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9305 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9306 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9307 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9340 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9344 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9364 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9365 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9366 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9367 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9368 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 9451 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 8992 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8995 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8996 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 8998 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9000 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9001 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9287 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9310 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9374 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9406 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8427 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8429 | Roasting pit | Southeast | — |
| 9025 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9033 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9035 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9347 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9032 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8419 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8419 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8420 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9027 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9028 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 9029 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9030 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 9031 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 7860 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 7861 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |

Feature 7977: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 14.13-14.16 mbd

General Description

This oxidized extramural surface (Figure 1) was identified during mechanical excavation of the southern portion of Locus B. The area was stripped to the level immediately above the extramural surface, requiring only minimal hand-excavation to expose the surface. The excavated portion of the feature was a rectangular unit that measured 3.40 m east-west by 1.60 m north-south. The surface was defined by a consistently compact, sandy silt with embedded charcoal flecks.

Internal Features

A small pit, a roasting pit, and two small bell-shaped pits originated at this extramural surface. Two additional possible pits were not excavated. These features were distributed across the extent of the excavated surface. The small pit, Feature 7977.01, measured 74 cm by 44 cm, and was located several centimeters east of a heavily oxidized roasting pit. The small pit contained a soft, grayish-brown ashy fill with a moderate density of charcoal chunks and flecks. A low density of artifacts, including 8 flakes, 3 pieces of faunal bone, and 8 pieces of fire-cracked rock, were found in the excavated fill. The pit may have functioned as a clean-out pit for the nearby roasting pit, Feature 7977.02, which

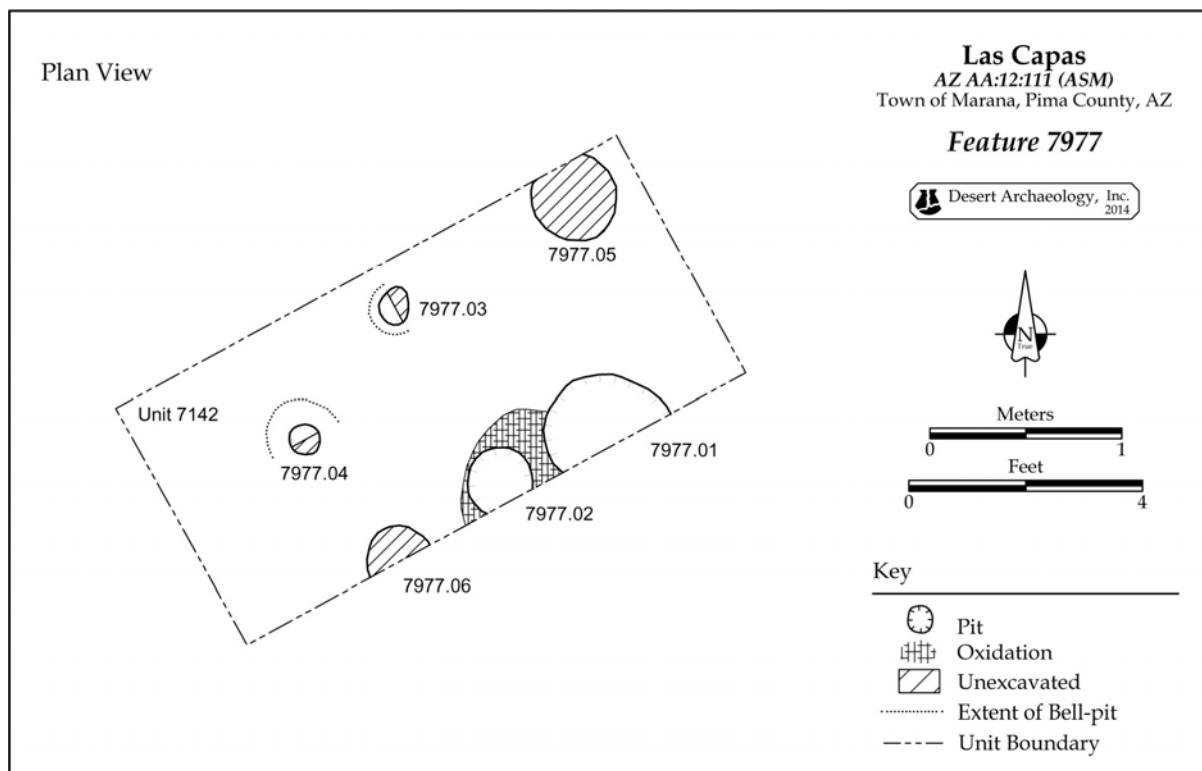


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 7977, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

measured 41 cm by 32 cm. Its fill consisted of ashy sandy silt, with a high density of charcoal chunks and flecks and nine pieces of fire-cracked rock.

The two small bell-shaped pits, Features 7977.03 and 7977.04, were originally identified as postholes due to the small size of the pit openings. Feature 7977.03 had a top measurement of 20 cm by 17 cm and a basal length of 32 cm by 32 cm (estimated). The fill was defined by a uniform, light brown silty sand. A low density of artifacts included a complete mano, four pieces of faunal bone, and two pieces of fire-cracked rock. Feature 7977.04 had a top measurement of 19 cm by 18 cm and a basal measurement of 45 cm by 45 cm (estimated). The fill consisted of a uniform, light brown sandy silt with little charcoal flecking. A single piece of faunal bone and two fire-cracked rocks were present.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The extramural surface originated in Stratum 505. The minimal amount of fill associated with the surface consisted of moderately compact, pale brown, sandy silty-clay with a low density of charcoal flecks and a large amount of root and rodent disturbance. A moderate density of artifacts, including 39 flakes, 14 pieces of faunal bone, 42 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 1 piece of unmodified shell, were collected.

Stratigraphic Relationships

A large number of extramural pits that originated in Stratum 505 were located within a 3-m radius of the Feature 7977. These included numerous small pits and several bell-shaped pits (Table 1). Based on their elevation and proximity to Feature 7977, these pits may have been used in conjunction with, and in the same time frame, as the extramural surface. No intrusive features were present.

Functional Inferences

This extramural surface probably functioned as an area for numerous extramural activities, such as food production and processing. The lack of postholes indicates no superstructure was erected. This extramural surface was among a cluster of features within Stratum 505, including houses-in-pits.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 7977, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7833 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 7980 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8456 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8457 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8465 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8466 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8718 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8719 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8280 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8446 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8447 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8454 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8455 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8468 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8488 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8720 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8721 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8784 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7832 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7835 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8449 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8540 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8549 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7976 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 7978 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 7984 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7985 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 8461 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7969 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 7973 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7978 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 8092 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8462 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8463 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8716 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8717 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8464 | Small pit | South | — |

Feature 8011: Extramural Surface
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 13.54-13.59 mbd

General Description

This oxidized extramural surface (Figure 1) was uncovered during mechanical stripping of the central portion of Locus B. The feature was originally thought to have been a pit structure, but upon excavation, was determined to be an extramural surface with a large number of pits. The surface measured 3.90 m east-west by 3.35 m north-south, and consisted of extremely compact, brownish-tan, silty clay with a large amount of root and rodent disturbance. The southern portion of the surface was heavily oxidized. No artifacts were associated with the surface.

Internal Features

Three small pits, two bell-shaped pits, and six postholes associated with the extramural surface were at least partially excavated (Table 1). The excavated features were concentrated in the northeastern portion of the surface. Three additional possible pits were not excavated. Heavy oxidation on the surface was probably related to thermal activity within the floor pits and not to a burning episode. The postholes did not form a distinct pattern but may have been related to a ramada-type superstructure.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 5 cm of fill associated with the extramural surface consisted of undifferentiated, moderately hard, pale brown silty clay. A large amount of root, insect, and rodent disturbance was present in the fill. A thick layer of ash was present immediately above the occupational surface, possibly related to pit clean-out. A high density of artifacts was present, including 166 flakes, 44 pieces of faunal bone, and 18 pieces fire-cracked rock.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 8011 originated in Stratum 506.01. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural pits were present within a 3-m radius of the extramural surface (Table 2). Based on their location and elevations, these pits may have been used in conjunction with Feature 8011.

Functional Inferences

This feature was likely used for extramural activities, such as food preparation and storage. This area contained an unusually high density of cultural features for the stratum, including pit structures, extramural surfaces, and pits. The internal pits may have functioned as storage features for the nearby pit structures.

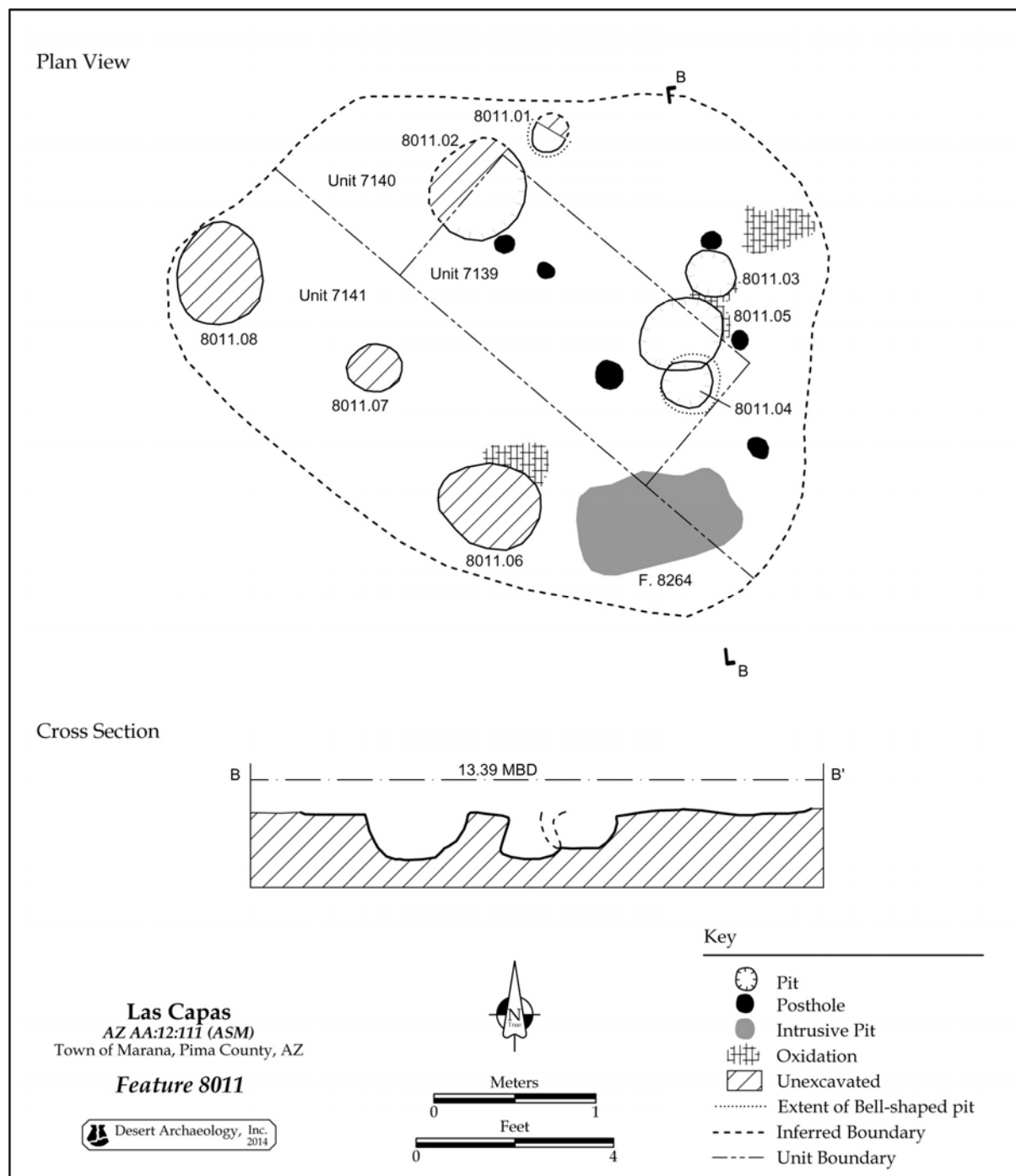


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of extramural surface Feature 8011, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8011, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8011.01 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.25 | 0.20 | 0.28 | 0.30 | 0.30 | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | 0.0141 |
| 8011.02 | Small pit | 0.62 | 0.55 | 0.25 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | 0.0446 |
| 8011.03 | Small pit | 0.30 | 0.27 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 5 | — | — | 5 | — | 0.0042 |
| 8011.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.31 | 0.30 | 0.26 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0234 |
| 8011.05 | Small pit | 0.51 | 0.48 | 0.21 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0404 |
| 8011.06 | Small pit | 0.60 | 0.55 | Unexcavated | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8011.07 | Small pit | 0.33 | 0.32 | Unexcavated | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8011.08 | Small pit | 0.60 | 0.55 | Unexcavated | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 8011, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| 7906 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8188 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8574 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 8700 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 8732 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8733 | Roasting pit | Northwest | — |
| 8807 | Roasting pit | Northwest | — |
| 8888 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7418 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7907 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 7970 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8571 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8752 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8848 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9316 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7908 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7909 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7910 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7940 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7948 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7959 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8845 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8850 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7943 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7944 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7945 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7946 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8022 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8844 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7775 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7776 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7777 | Extramural surface | South | — |
| 7778 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7783 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7947 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8014 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8021 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8533 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8849 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8852 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9375 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7281 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7779 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 9242 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8839 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 8890 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8012: House-in-pit
Stratum 506
Locus B
Elevation: 14.55-14.70 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently excavated by hand to expose the floor surface and to establish feature boundaries. This oval-shaped house-in-pit measured 4.35 m east-west by 2.85 m north-south, with 9.12 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Postholes and internal features were both identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit contained four internal features. Feature 8012.01, a hearth, was located near the center of the structure. The hearth had a substantial pile of fire-cracked rock and spall over the top (Figures 3 and 4); however, it had little depth and consisted of a highly oxidized depression on the floor surface. Feature 8012.09, a small pit, was located in the southeastern portion of the structure. Feature 8012.11 was located 8-10 cm directly east of the hearth. This feature was slightly oxidized and



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8012 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

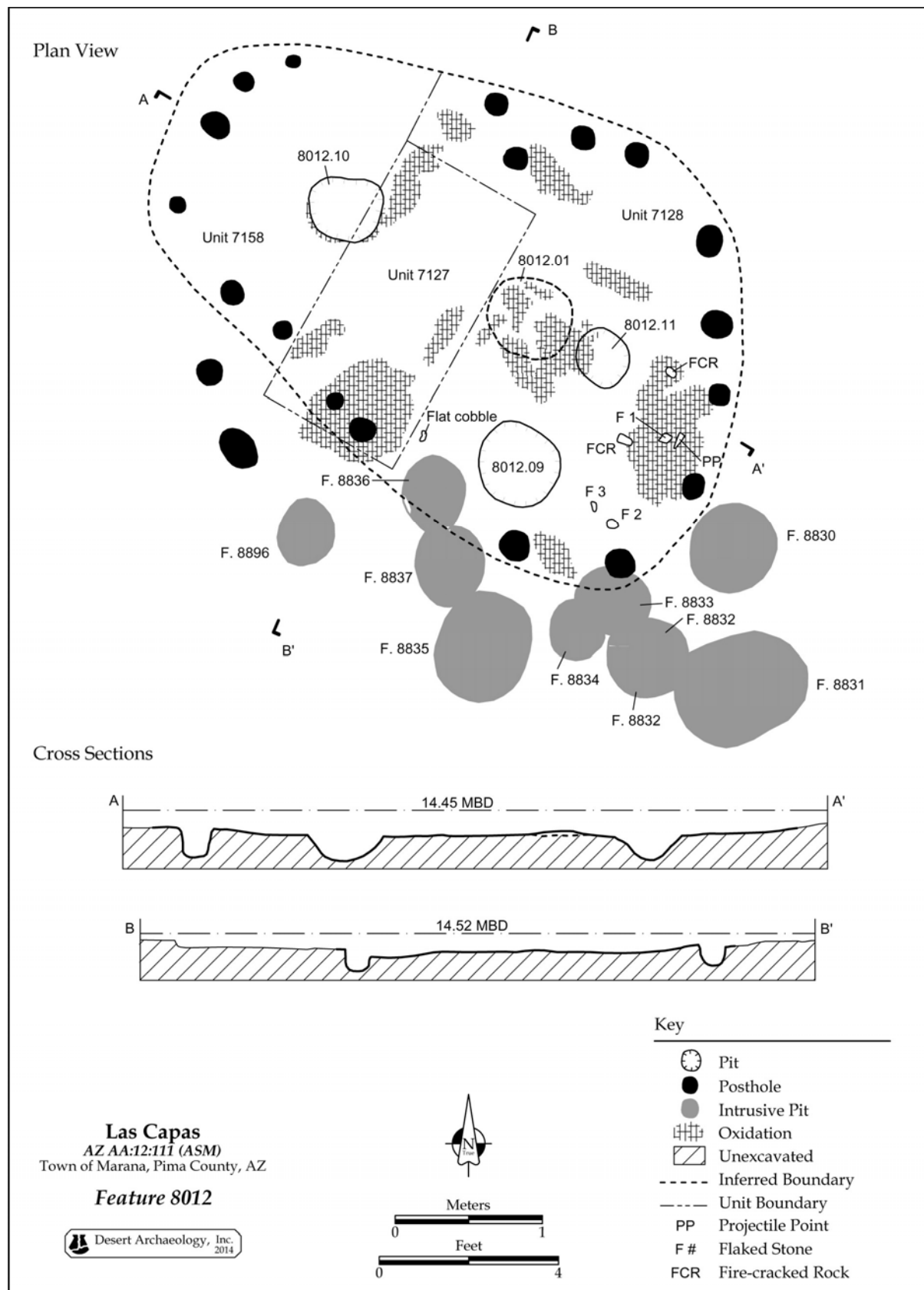


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8012, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

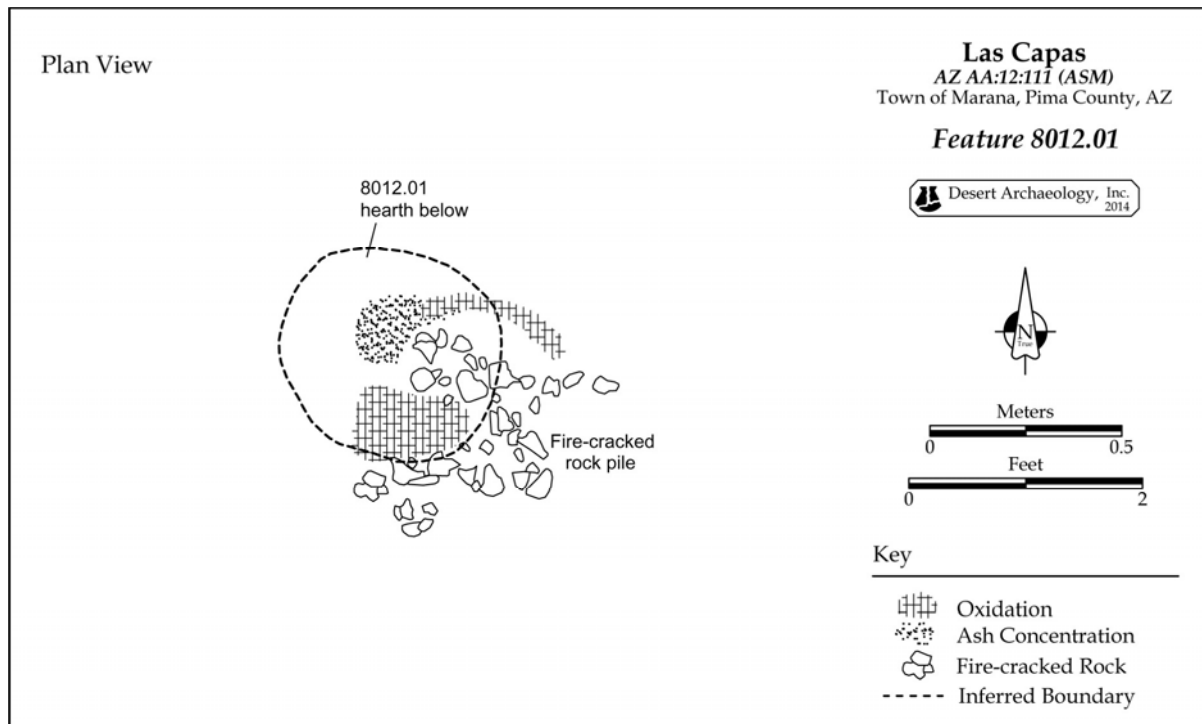


Figure 3. Plan map of hearth Feature 8012.01, pre-excitation, detailing fire-cracked rock pile, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

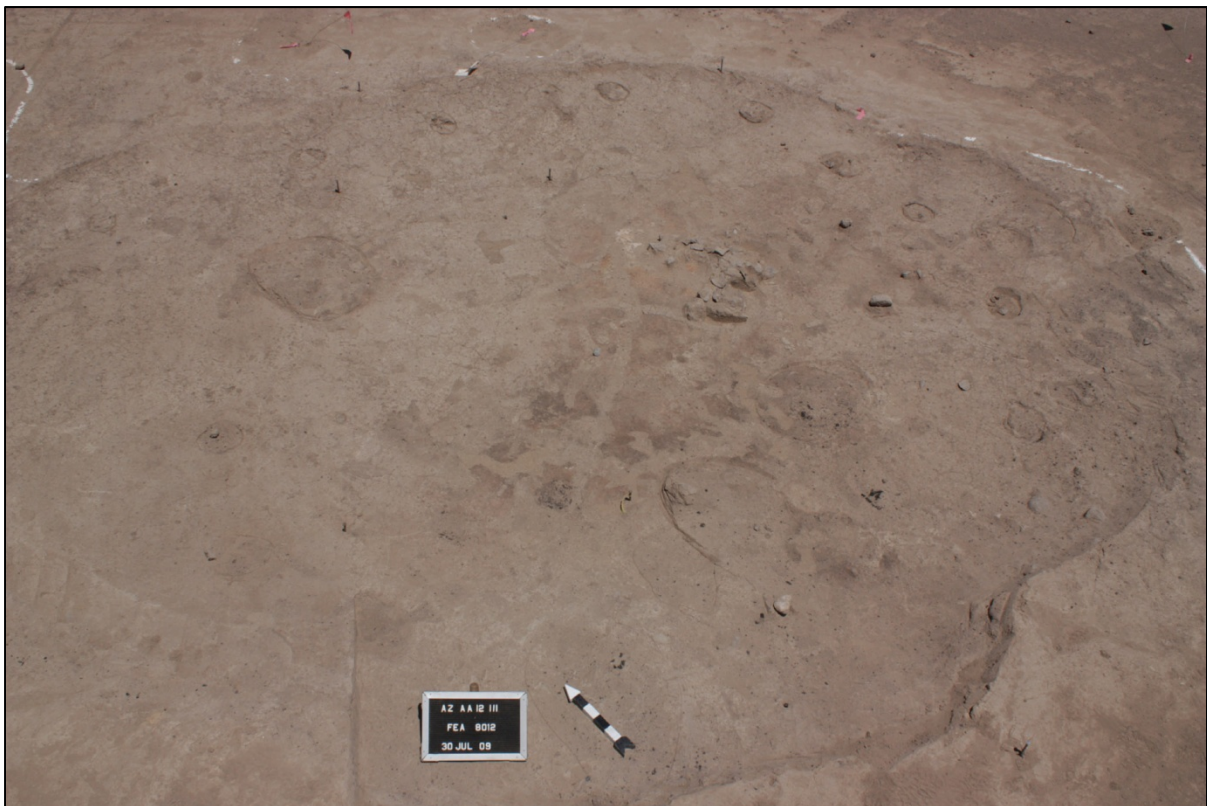


Figure 4. House-in-pit Feature 8012, mid-excitation, showing fire-cracked rock pile over the hearth (near top of photo), Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

contained a large tabular stone at its base. Feature 8012.10, a small pit, was located in the west-central portion of the structure (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated in Stratum 506.01. The 10 cm of excavated internal fill was uniform and consisted of a brown, loosely consolidated, fine-textured silt. The fill contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks and ash, as well as small pieces of burned daub evenly distributed throughout the eastern half of the structure. The western half of the structure consisted of the same silty fill, although it was devoid of burned materials.

The artifact density was high throughout the upper 5 cm of fill, consisting of 509 pieces of flaked stone, 80 pieces of faunal bone, 29 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 1 piece of fire-cracked ground stone. The artifact density for the lower 5 cm of fill just above the floor surface dropped slightly for the eastern portion of the structure, while the western portion saw a significant drop in density. Artifacts within the lower 5 cm of fill in the eastern portion consisted of 187 pieces of flaked stone, 53 pieces of faunal bone, and 22 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The lower 5 cm of fill in the western portion contained 35 pieces of flaked stone and two pieces of faunal bone.

Several artifacts were in direct contact on the exposed floor surface. All the floor artifacts were confined to the eastern portion of the structure, and included an unworked, flat cobble in the south and an Empire style projectile point in the east (Figure 5). Also present were also three pieces of flaked stone, two in the southeast and one directly west of the projectile point, and two pieces of fire-cracked rock (see Figure 2).



Figure 5. Empire style projectile point and flaked stone on floor surface of house-in-pit Feature 8012, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 506. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit. The foundation pit walls were informally prepared, and while almost completely removed by mechanical stripping, the pit walls sloped upward to approximately 5 cm above the average floor surface. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the floor surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor was in fair condition and was relatively flat, slightly sloping upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin.

In total, 18 postholes were identified and excavated. These postholes formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The postholes were circular in shape, straight-walled, and averaged 15 cm in diameter and 17 cm in depth. Although none of the postholes contained in situ burned structural materials, they probably held upright wall supports which were bent or bowed, forming a dome over the foundation pit. The wall posts likely held interwoven horizontal stringers and a covering of reed or grass thatching. This is based on the small amount of much burned daub present, and in contrast with the in situ burned architectural elements identified in Feature 7780, a house-in-pit, which is in close proximity to Feature 8012. No remodeling evidence was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within the lower portion of Stratum 506, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 505. Three small extramural pits, Features 8833, 8836, and 8837, intruded into the southeastern edge of the structure. These intrusive features originated from the upper portions of Stratum 506.

Several extramural features, including small and bell-shaped pits, were located within a 3-m radius of the structure and originated within Stratum 506 (Table 2). Although located just outside the 3-m radius, two notable house-in-pits were located in close proximity to the structure: Feature 7780, a circular house-in-pit was located to the west, and Feature 8058, a smaller, circular house-in-pit, was located to the south. Both of these features originated in the same stratum as Feature 8012.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

This house-in-pit was likely partially cleaned out prior to abandonment, based on the small number of artifacts on the floor surface. This structure also showed signs of having been burned, whether intentionally or not is unknown. The pattern of oxidation across the floor surface and a high amount of burned material that extended beyond the eastern edge of the structure suggest it collapsed to the east. No structural postabandonment reuse was identified. However, the large cluster of extramural pits located to the south indicated the area where the structure stood was subject to postabandonment activity, such as extramural pit excavation.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of this structure appears to have been habitation. This is based on the presence of the hearth, as well as the size of the feature, which contained an ample amount of usable floor space. Based on the lack of remodeling evidence, it is likely the structure had a single occupation over its use-life. A multitude of extramural pits, including bell-shaped pits, roasters, and small pits, surrounded the perimeter of this house-in-pit, indicating an abundance of outdoor domestic activity

had taken place, including storage and food preparation. Based on its originating stratum, shape, internal fill, and artifact content, this structure was likely contemporaneous with several house-in-pits, including Features 7780, 8058, 8247, 8417, and 8059, as well as ramada Feature 8176 and extramural surface Feature 8245.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8012, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8012.01 | Hearth | 0.57 | 0.50 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8012.09 | Small pit | 0.57 | 0.54 | 0.17 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | 10 | - | - | 1 | - | 0.0274 |
| 8012.10 | Small pit | 0.52 | 0.50 | 0.19 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 0.0259 |
| 8012.11 | Small pit | 0.38 | 0.37 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 0.0110 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8012, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 7778 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8014 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8015 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8830 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8831 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8832 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8834 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8835 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8837 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8896 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9238 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9239 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9257 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 9259 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9292 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9231 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 9232 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9233 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9234 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9252 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9254 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 8047: Occupational Debris
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.50-14.58 mbd

General Description

This area of occupational debris was discovered during mechanical stripping. A 1-m by 2-m unit was excavated by hand, exposing the natural alluvial surface under the cultural debris. The area of occupational debris was visible as an irregularly shaped dark stain on the stripped surface, which measured 4.10 m north-south by 2.50 m east-west. Only a sample excavation was done, and the feature may have extended beyond the excavated boundary, as well as the visible stain. Several extramural pit features were visible on the natural surface of Stratum 506.01. No evidence was present indicating the surface had any architectural elements, such as postholes or a foundation pit basin, associated with it.

Internal Features

The distinct outlines of five pit features were visible on the surface within the excavated unit. These pit features were not excavated, and their types and functions are unknown.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This area of occupational debris originates within Stratum 506.01. The 8 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, brown, loosely consolidated, fine silty clay that contained a moderate to high amount of charcoal flecks and charcoal staining throughout. Artifact density within the fill was low, and consisted of 21 pieces of flaked stone, 8 pieces of faunal bone, and 59 pieces of fire-cracked rock (24 pieces of which were greater than 5 cm in diameter). The artifacts were evenly distributed throughout the excavated fill. No artifacts were present at the bottom of the 8-cm-deep level.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This area of occupational debris originated within Stratum 506.01 and was buried by deposits from Strata 506 and 505. No features were identified as directly intrusive into the occupational debris. The area of occupational debris overlaid several extramural pit features, which included multiple small pits, a bell-shaped pit, and a roasting pit (Table 1). Numerous extramural features that also originated within Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the occupational debris. Most of these features were concentrated west and south of Feature 8047, and consisted primarily of small pits, although a several bell-shaped pits and roasting pits were also present (Table 2).

Functional Inferences

This area of occupational debris appears to have been a low spot in the natural topography in which burned materials and artifacts accumulated after being washed in during a flooding event. Burned material and artifacts are present throughout the occupational layer of Strata 506 and 506.01 within Locus B. The pits underlying the occupational debris were likely open when the cultural debris was

deposited; the fill of these underlying pits was distinctly different than the natural Stratum 506.01, and was comprised of the same washed-in occupational debris as the overlying accumulation itself.

Table 1. Extramural features underlying occupational debris Feature 8047, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 9113 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9114 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9115 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9116 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9117 | Roasting pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9118 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9119 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9122 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9123 | Bell-shaped pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9124 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9125 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9126 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |
| 9131 | Small pit | Underlying | 506.01 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 8011, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| 7906 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8188 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8574 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 8700 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 8732 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8733 | Roasting pit | Northwest | — |
| 8807 | Roasting pit | Northwest | — |
| 8888 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 7418 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7907 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 7970 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8571 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8752 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8848 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9316 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7908 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7909 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7910 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7940 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7948 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 7959 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8845 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8850 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7943 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7944 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7945 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7946 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8022 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8844 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 7775 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7776 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7777 | Extramural surface | South | — |
| 7778 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7783 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7947 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8014 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8021 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8533 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8849 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8852 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9375 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7281 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 7779 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 9242 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8839 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 8890 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8058: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.55-14.70 mbd

General Description

This feature (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered within the north wall of Trench 225 during mechanical trenching. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation to expose the floor surface and feature boundaries. This circular-shaped house-in-pit measured 3.86 m north-south by 3.65 m east-west, with 9.02 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Postholes and internal features were both identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit had three internal features. Small pit Feature 8058.01 was located near the center of the structure. The roughly oval, basin-shaped pit measured 90 cm north-south by 73 cm east-west, with a depth of 39 cm. The fill was of a uniform, grayish-brown, loosely consolidated, granular clayey silt that contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact density was low, consisting of a broken biface (possible preform), 8 pieces of flaked stone, 3 small faunal bones, and 2 pieces of fire-cracked rock.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8058 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

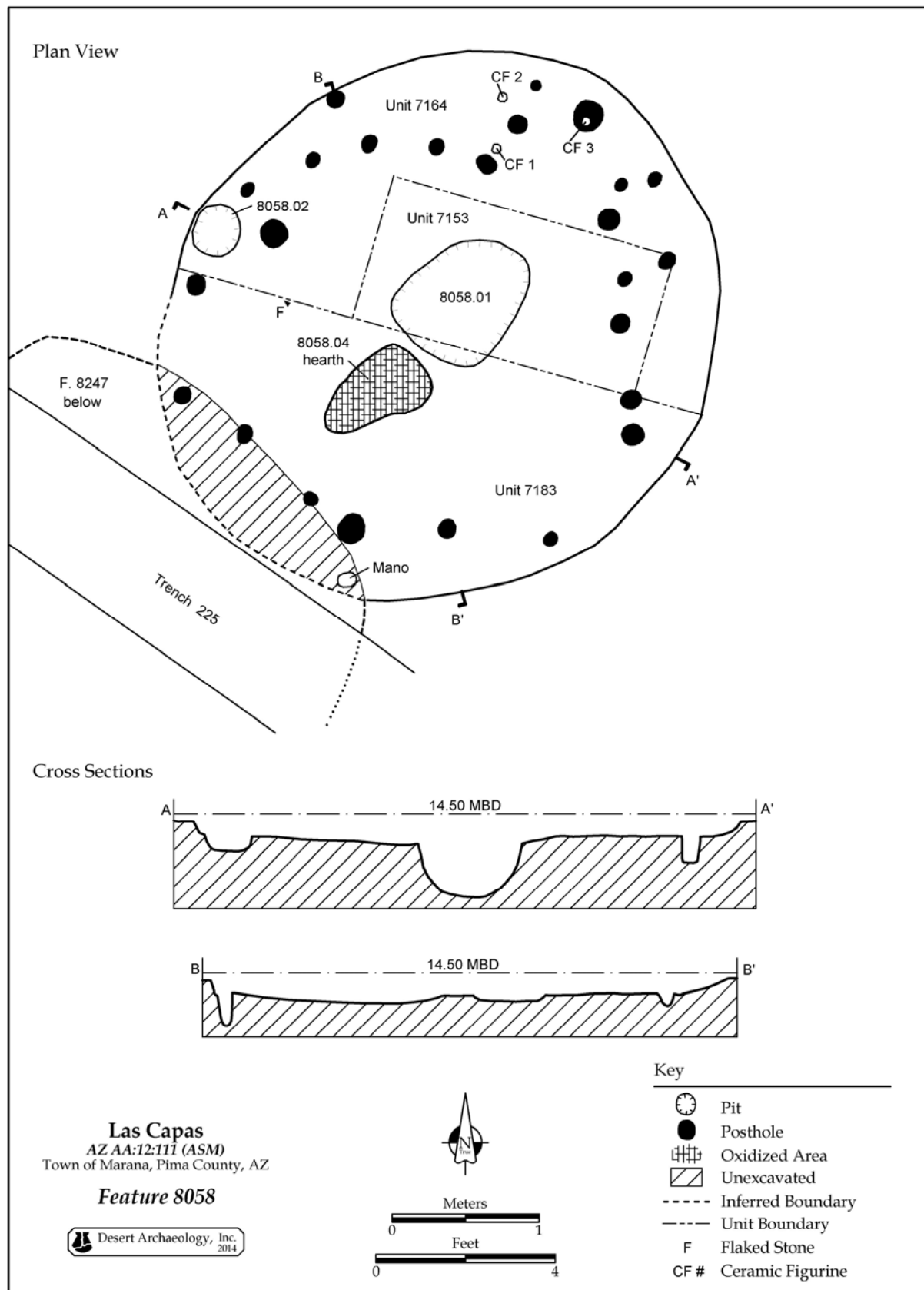


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 8058, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 8058.02, another small pit, was located in the western part of the structure, against the foundation pit wall. This circular basin-shaped pit measured 33 cm north-south by 32 cm east-west, and had an average depth of 9 cm. The internal fill consisted of a uniform, slightly hard, grayish-brown clayey silt that contained very sparse calcium carbonate veins throughout. Artifact density in the fill was low, consisting of one piece of flaked stone.

Feature 8058.04, an informal hearth, was located in the central portion of the structure, just southwest of Feature 8058.01. This irregular, slightly oval-shaped hearth measured 75 cm north-south by 45 cm east-west, with an average depth of 3 cm. Feature 8058.04 was a highly oxidized patch on the exposed floor surface that contained a slight depression and that was filled with loosely consolidated ash; no artifacts were present.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 506.01. The 15 cm of internal fill consisted of two distinct layers. The upper 10 cm of fill consisted of a light brown, uniform, somewhat granular and loosely consolidated silty loam. Artifact content was high, consisting of 179 pieces of flaked stone, 74 pieces of faunal bone, 1 piece of shell, 1 fragment of fire-cracked ground stone, 13 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 6 ceramic figurine fragments, 5 of which were concentrated in the northern part of the structure.

The remaining 5 cm of fill consisted of moderately hard, brown silty loam containing a high amount of burned daub inclusions, some of which were greater than 5 cm in diameter, as well as a high amount of ash and charcoal flecks throughout. The artifact density for this lower 5 cm was slightly lower than the upper 10-15 cm, but remained high, consisting of 122 pieces of flaked stone, 56 pieces of faunal bone, and 26 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The artifacts recovered from the bottom 5 cm of fill seemed to be concentrated around the perimeter of this stratum, near the edges of the structure.

Only a few artifacts were directly on the exposed floor surface. These included one piece of flaked stone, a complete quartz one-hand mano, and a piece of burned daub containing reed or grass impressions recovered from the southern portion of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit was built by excavation into Stratum 506.01. This structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit containing informally prepared walls. The preserved portions of the foundation pit walls rose to a height of approximately 15 cm above the average floor surface. These walls likely extended higher, but were removed by mechanical stripping.

The floor surface of the structure was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the course of the structure's use-life. The floor was relatively flat and sloped upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The floor was highly oxidized across a majority of its exposed surface except the southeastern corner, which contained lightly oxidized patches.

In all, 25 postholes were identified and excavated within the structure. These postholes were all circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 13 cm in diameter and 13 cm in depth. Most of the postholes formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. However, in the northern portion of the structure, postholes were identified interior to the perimeter ring, which may be representative of some remodeling.

Based on the size of the postholes, as well as evidence from similarly shaped houses-in-pits that were excavated within the same stratum and located nearby, the superstructure likely consisted of upright wall posts, which were bent or bowed to form a dome and that were connected by horizontal stringers covered with reed or grass thatching.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506.01 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 506 and Stratum 505. Feature 8247, a house-in-pit that originated in Stratum 506.01, intruded into the southwestern portion of Feature 8058.

Several extramural features that also originated in Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of this structure, including small and bell-shaped pits, a ramada, and house-in-pit (Table 1). The largest concentration of extramural features was located to the east of the structure. Feature 8012, a house-in-pit located to the north and originating within the same stratum, was just outside the 3-m radius but is worth noting as a possibly related feature.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the lack of artifacts on the exposed floor surface, this structure appears to have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. The high amount of ash and burned daub in the lower stratum of the internal fill, as well as the widespread oxidation upon the floor surface, indicates the structure was burned, although whether it was intentional or catastrophic in nature is unknown. No substantial evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 8058 was likely habitation, based on its size and the scarcity of internal features, which left ample usable floor space. The few internal features may also represent that few interior domestic activities occurred within the structure. Although the structure contained evidence of remodeling, it likely contained a single occupancy over its use-life. One interesting aspect of this feature was the number of ceramic figurine fragments recovered from its fill. These figurines were all recovered from the upper portions of the internal fill, which may represent natural flood deposits overlying the roof fall. However, because most of the figurines were concentrated in a single area, they appear to have been purposefully placed there.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8058, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-------|
| 9250 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9251 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9254 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9255 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9257 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9265 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8175 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9099 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9103 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9104 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9105 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9259 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9262 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9263 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9264 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9264 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9265 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9266 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9436 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9437 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9453 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9537 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9538 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9709 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8176 | Ramada | South | — |
| 8274 | House-in-pit | South | — |
| 9268 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9269 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9248 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8059: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.49-14.61 mbd

General Description

Feature 8059 (Figures 1-6) was uncovered during backhoe stripping of the central portion of Locus B. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose floor features. The oval-shaped house-in-pit measured 3.80 m north-south by 4.50 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 12.01 m², while the usable floor surface measured 11.14 m². The feature was mechanically excavated to the uppermost floor surface, requiring minimal hand-excavation. The structure had three distinct floor surfaces, with discrete layers of fill in between. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Internal features distinct to each of the floor surfaces – the upper floor (Stratum 20), the middle surface (Stratum 20.01), and the lower surface (Stratum 20.02) – were identified (Table 1). The upper floor contained an informal hearth, Feature 8059.01, located in the east-central portion of the structure.

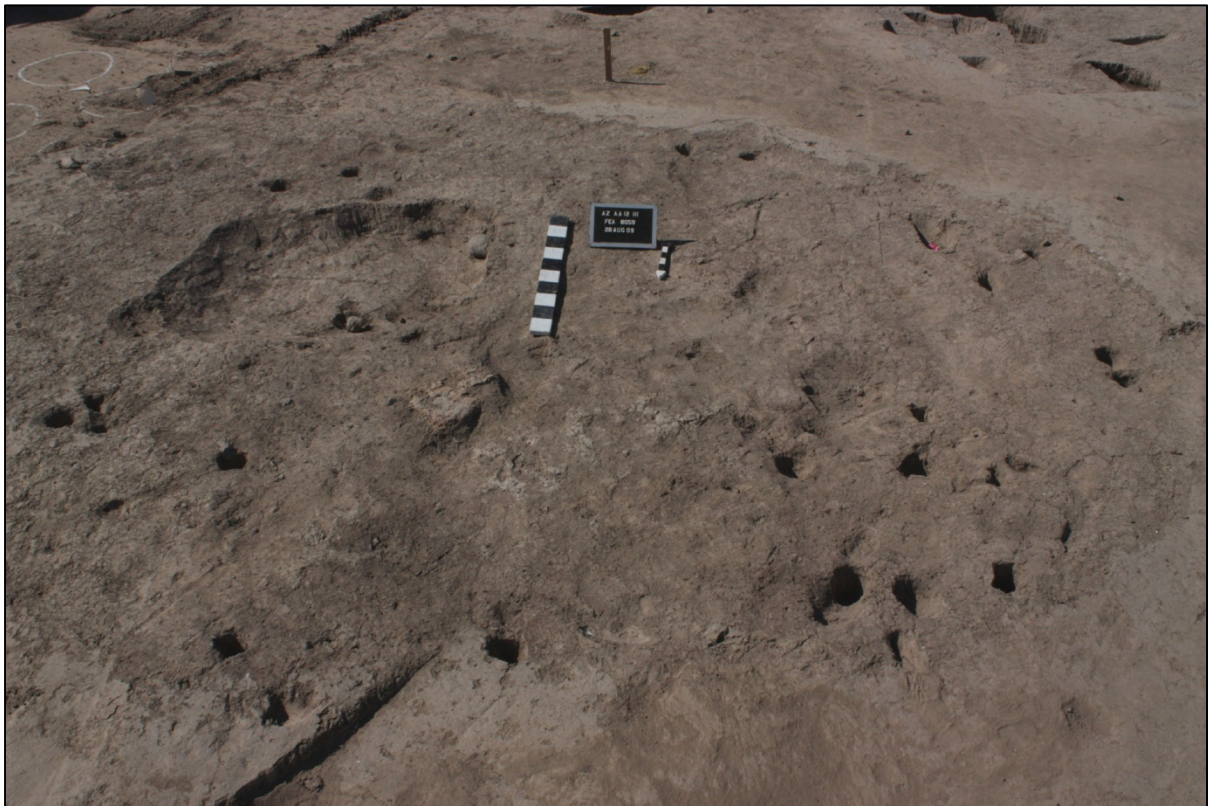


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8059, Stratum 20, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).



Figure 2. House-in-pit Feature 8059, Stratum 20.01, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).



Figure 3. House-in-pit Feature 8059, Stratum 20.02, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

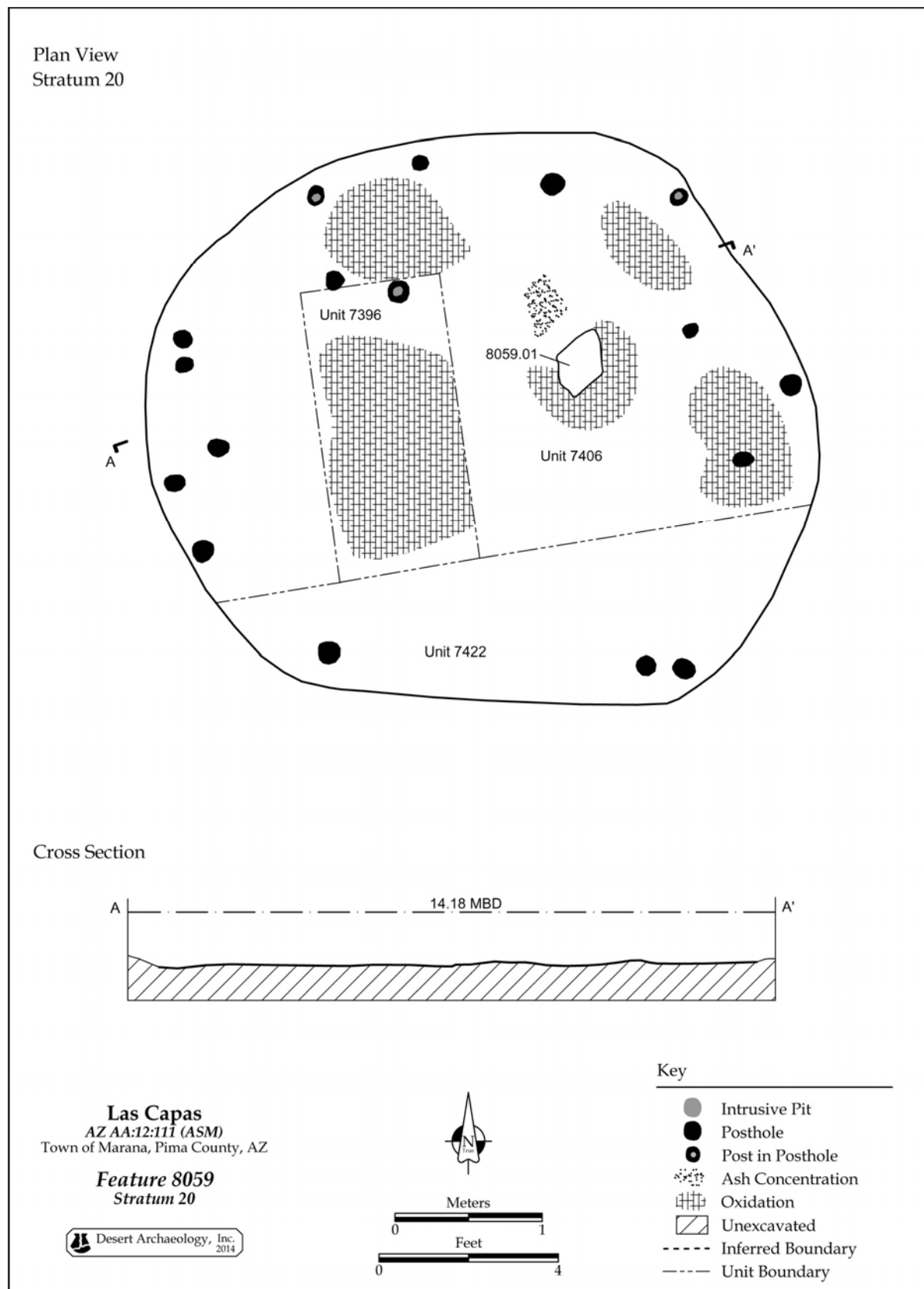


Figure 4. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8059, Stratum 20, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

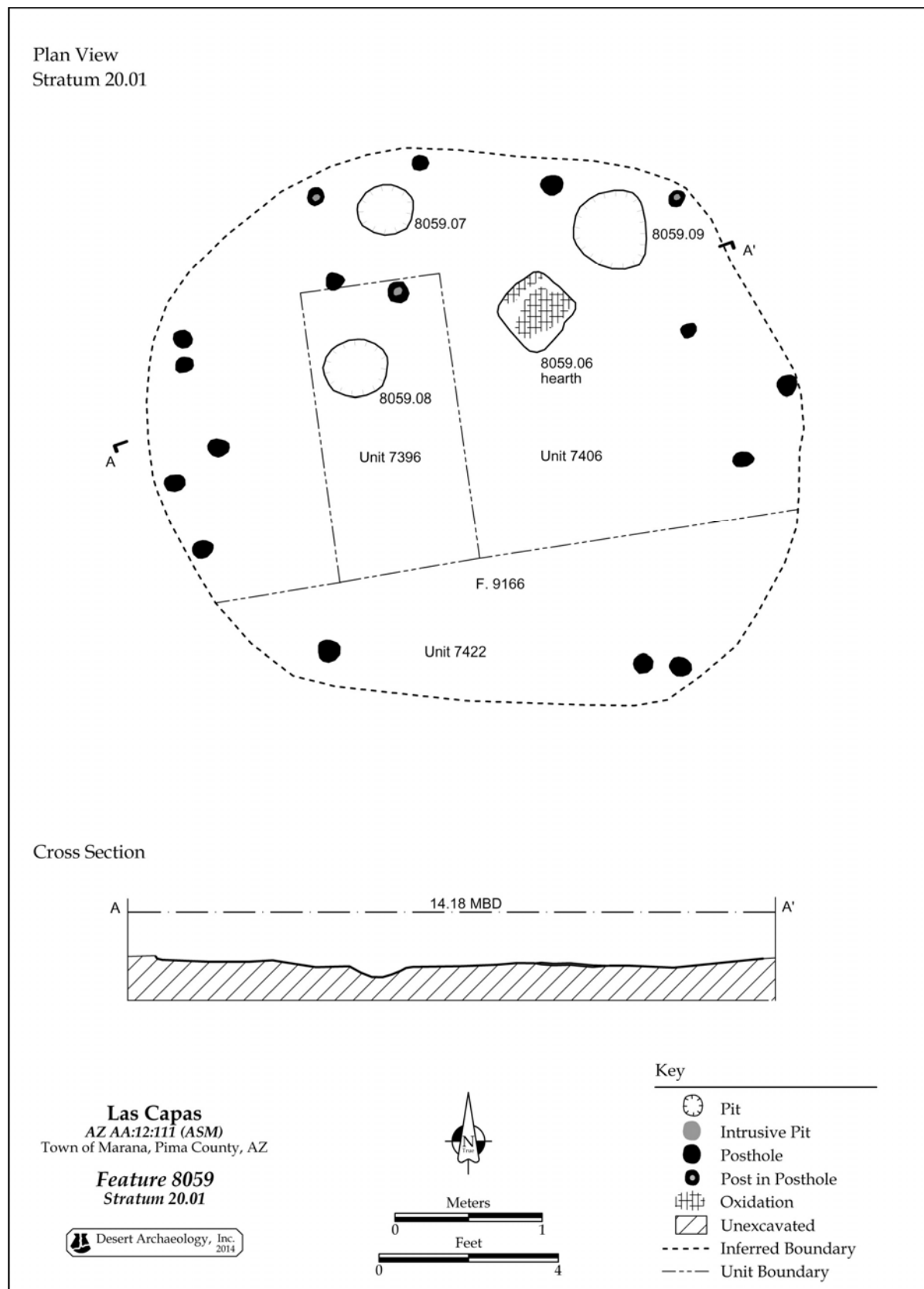


Figure 5. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8059, Stratum 20.01, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

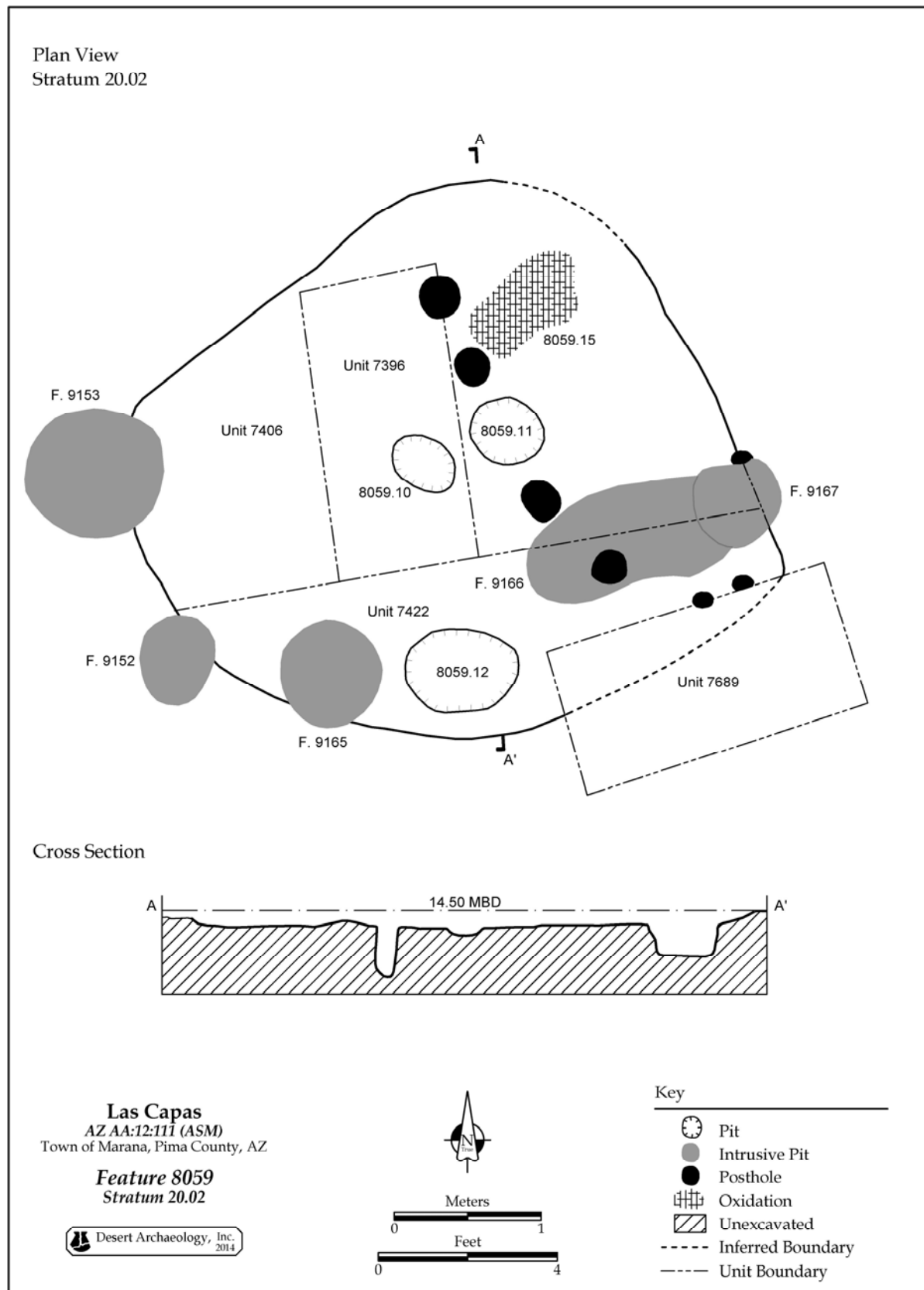


Figure 6. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8059, Stratum 20.02, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Floor features related to Stratum 20.01 included an informal hearth, Feature 8059.06, located in the northeastern part of the feature. Feature 8059.07, a small, oval, basin-shaped pit, was located to the northwest and Feature 8059.09, a small, irregular, basin-shaped pit, was to the northeast. Feature 8059.08, a small, circular, shallow basin-shaped pit in the west-central part of the structure, may have functioned as a basketrest.

Several floor features related to Stratum 20.02 included an informal hearth, Feature 8059.15, which was below and extended some 30 cm west of the informal hearth in Stratum 20.01. Feature 8059.10 and Feature 8059.11 were small, oval-shaped pits with basin-shaped profiles, located near the center of the structure. Another small, oval-shaped basin pit, Feature 8059.12, was present near the southern edge of the structure in Stratum 20.02.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 3 cm of excavated cultural fill above the uppermost floor surface, Stratum 20, consisted of a uniform, very soft, ashy, brown silt. The fill contained a moderate density of burned structural debris, including ash, charcoal, and burned daub. A high density of a porous vitrified organic substance (slag) was found and was collected as a macrobotanical sample. Artifact densities were extremely high, with a large amount of flaked stone, including an Empire style projectile point, a substantial amount of faunal bone, a small bone bead, fire-cracked rock, and a ceramic figurine fragment.

The 5 cm of fill excavated above the intermediate floor surface, Stratum 20.01, consisted of moderately compact, silty clay with some mica inclusions, a moderate density of charcoal flecks, vitrified organic material (slag), and burned daub. A moderate density of flaked stone, including the distal end of an Empire style projectile point, a moderate density of faunal bone, and a handstone fragment, were present in the fill.

An average of 4 cm of fill was excavated above the lower floor surface, Stratum 20.02. The fill in the western portion of the structure consisted of a light brown, mildly compact, silty clay with a low density of burned material. The fill in the southern and eastern portions of the structure consisted of a dark, grayish-brown silty clay with a large amount of burned material, including charcoal flecks, oxidized sediment, and fire-cracked rock. Densities of flaked stone and faunal bone were moderate in the fill, although a higher concentration was present in the southern portion of the feature. The lower floor was constructed in a dish shape, as the floor surface sloped to a low point in the center of the feature. During each subsequent remodeling episode, the floor surface became more level, eventually becoming relatively flat.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The upper two floor surfaces of this oval-shaped pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the perimeter of the pit basin. It was not possible to distinguish between postholes used for Strata 20 and 20.01, but the lower surface, Stratum 20.02, had a distinct posthole pattern. The average diameter of the 14 perimeter posts relating to the two upper floors was 11 cm, and their average depth was 12 cm. Two of the burned perimeter posts were preserved in situ, indicating the postholes held upright wall posts that formed part of the superstructure. Two internal postholes associated with the upper floors averaged 14 cm in diameter and 11 cm in depth; these postholes likely held upright roof support posts. One of the internal posts was preserved in situ and was collected for species identification.

The shape of the structure at the lower surface, Stratum 20.02, was irregular, and the floor sloped inward toward a low point in the center. The posthole pattern related to this surface was irregular, with

several large, deep postholes located near the center and few postholes located on the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. The average diameter of the three perimeter posts was 12 cm, and their average depth was 11 cm; the four central support postholes averaged 25 cm in diameter and 27 cm in depth.

The high densities of burned material and structural debris, including ash, burned daub, and vitrified organic material (slag) – in conjunction with in situ burned posts – indicate the uppermost floor surface burned. The lower floor surfaces did not show signs of having burned. All three floors were unprepared and consisted of moderately compact, silty clay. The upper floor had patches of oxidation across the surface, while oxidation on the lower floors was confined to the hearth areas.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated in Stratum 506.01. Within a 3-m radius of the structure, there were several possibly contemporary extramural pits that originated in Stratum 506.01 (Table 2). Based on location and relative elevation, these features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 8059.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure shows clear evidence that the uppermost floor burned. The high density of burned structural debris, in conjunction with several in situ burned posts, suggests a burning episode related to the last habitation phase of the structure. The absence of a floor assemblage indicates the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment and did not burn catastrophically. The high density of artifacts in the fill was likely related to either washed-in debris associated with the large number of nearby extramural pits or was a result of trash disposal within the foundation pit between the distinct periods of occupation.

Functional Inferences

Feature 8059 likely functioned as a habitation structure. The absence of a floor assemblage on the uppermost surface suggests the structure was cleaned out after the last occupational episode. The lower occupations appear to have been filled with trash prior to remodeling, as distinct, artifact-rich fill was present between floor surfaces. The large amount of slag found in the structure may be due to food production that occurred within the feature.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8059, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8059.01 | Hearth | 0.30 | 0.28 | 0.01 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8059.06 | Hearth | 0.46 | 0.43 | 0.01 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8059.07 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.32 | 0.21 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0211 |
| 8059.08 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0058 |
| 8059.09 | Small pit | 0.56 | 0.51 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8059.10 | Small pit | 0.47 | 0.36 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0089 |
| 8059.11 | Small pit | 0.51 | 0.48 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0128 |
| 8059.12 | Small pit | 0.83 | 0.51 | 0.23 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 19 | — | — | 11 | — | 0.0510 |
| 8059.15 | Hearth | 0.83 | 0.44 | 0.03 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8059, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8184 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 9145 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 9270 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 9443 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 9444 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8045 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8046 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8185 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8190 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9108 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9109 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9110 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9111 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 9130 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9132 | Rock-filled pit | North | — |
| 9439 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9440 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8277 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 9134 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9136 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9294 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8275 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8276 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8298 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8299 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8861 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9417 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9418 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8251 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 8864 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 8865 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8867 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8886 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 9017 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9018 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 9196 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 9197 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 8257 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8523 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8526 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8671 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8868 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9019 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9354 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 9356 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9357 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9420 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |

Table 2. Continued.

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 9457 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9457 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8259 | Large pit | Southwest | — |
| 8481 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 8665 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8713 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 8957 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9152 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9355 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9419 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9435 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9153 | Small pit | West | — |
| 9271 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 9272 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |

Feature 8076: House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 14.00-14.05 mbd

General Description

Feature 7831, a house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2), was uncovered during mechanical stripping of the southern portion of Locus B. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and expose the floor and internal features. The oval-shaped pit structure measured 5.80 m north-south and 4.50 m east-west. Most of the fill was removed during mechanical excavation and required only minimal hand-excavation to expose the floor. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Three small pits, two bell-shaped pits, and a hearth were associated with the floor surface. Both the bell-shaped pits and the small pits probably functioned as storage features (Table 1). The floor around the hearth was heavily oxidized. The fill of Features 8076.02, 8076.03, and 8076.07 was distinct from the fill of the other subfeatures; they appear to have been filled prior to the collapse of the structure.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8076 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

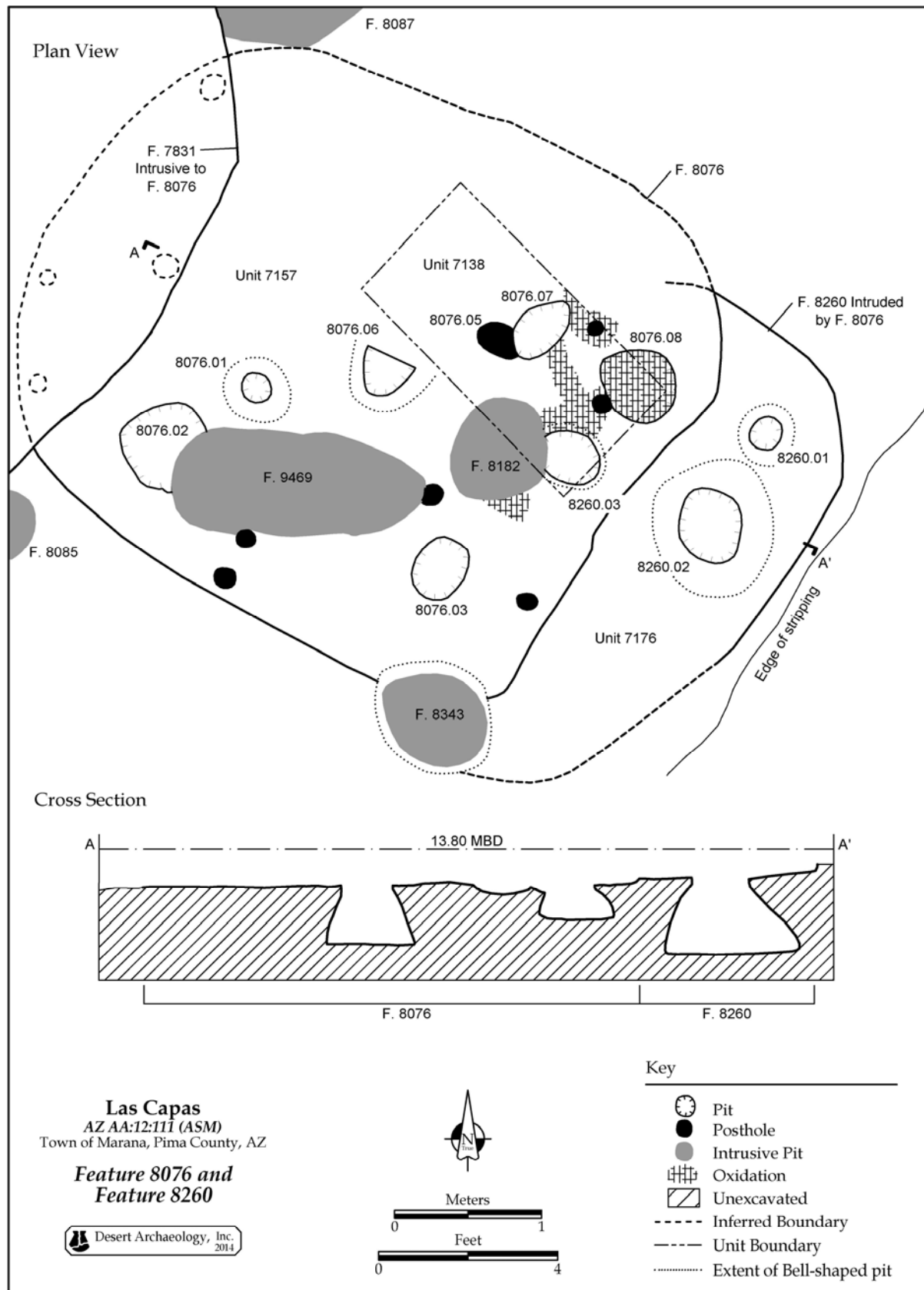


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8076, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 5 cm of excavated feature fill consisted of an undifferentiated, moderately hard, light to medium brown sandy silt with a moderate amount of charcoal and a sparse amount of daub. High densities of artifacts, including 292 flakes, 254 pieces of faunal bone, 2 complete shell pendants, a ceramic figurine fragment, and 9 pieces of fire-cracked rock, were present in the fill. Root and rodent disturbance were present across the feature. One piece of flaked stone was found in direct contact with the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The pit structure contained five postholes near the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The average diameter of these perimeter posts was 14 cm, and their average depth was 16 cm. Two central postholes were identified; they averaged 19 cm in diameter and 27 cm in depth. Four of the postholes excavated with Feature 7831, an intrusive house-in-pit located to the west, may be related to Feature 8076. Feature 8076.05, a posthole, intruded into Feature 8076.07, a small pit, which suggested the house was remodeled. Only a small portion of the foundation pit remained intact, due to disturbance from intrusive features. The floor surface was defined by Stratum 505, and was compact sandy silt with oxidation concentrated around the hearth.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The structure, internal features, and postholes originated in Stratum 505. A number of extramural pits were located within a 3-m radius of the structure that also originated in Stratum 505 (Table 2). Based on location and elevation, these features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 8076. Several features intruded into Feature 8076, including a house-in-pit, an extramural surface, and multiple pits (Table 3).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

There was no evidence suggesting the structure burned. Given that there was only one flake on the floor surface, the structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment and deteriorated over time. The depression left after the structure was abandoned appears to have been filled with dumped-in refuse.

Functional Inferences

The disturbed nature of Feature 8076 limited the amount of information that could be interpreted. The fill of several internal pits, Features 8076.02, 8076.03, and 8076.07, was distinct, suggesting they had been filled prior to the collapse of the structure. The presence of a hearth and the assemblage of internal features on one side of the feature, leaving ample usable floor space, suggest the structure was used for habitation. The presence of several internal pits, including two bell-shaped pits, may indicate a substantial amount of internal domestic activity occurred in the structure.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8076, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8076.01 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.23 | 0.22 | 0.34 | 0.43 | 0.42 | 0.20 | — | — | 12 | — | — | 22 | — | 0.0309 |
| 8076.02 | Small pit | 0.63 | 0.58 | 0.22 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0631 |
| 8076.03 | Small pit | 0.63 | 0.62 | 0.21 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0644 |
| 8076.06 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.40 | 0.32 | 0.39 | 0.40 | 0.32 | 0.40 | 0.32 | — | 67 | 1 | — | 27 | — | 0.0545 |
| 8076.07 | Small pit | 0.47 | 0.27 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 0.4373 |
| 8076.08 | Hearth | 0.59 | 0.54 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8076, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 8082 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 8071 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8072 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8083 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8743 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8746 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8755 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8756 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7881 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7882 | Roasting pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7883 | Roasting pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7884 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7885 | Roasting pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7887 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7889 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8382 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8748 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8750 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8751 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8752 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 7886 | Bell-shaped pit | East | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 7890 | Small pit | East | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8013 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8382 | Bell-shaped pit | East | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8532 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8540 | Small pit | East | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8749 | Small pit | East | Intrusive into Feature 7831 |
| 8085 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8728 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8729 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8730 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8343 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8956 | Small pit | South | Intrusive into Feature 8260 |
| 8957 | Small pit | South | Intrusive into Feature 8260 |
| 8735 | Small pit | Southwest | Intrusive into Feature 8260 |
| 8736 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8737 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8738 | Small pit | Southwest | Intrusive into Feature 8260 |
| 8739 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8740 | Small pit | Southwest | Intrusive into Feature 8260 |
| 8084 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 8761 | Small pit | West | — |

Table 3. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 8076, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 8182 | Roasting pit | East | 506.01 |
| 8260 | Extramural surface | East | 505 |
| 8343 | Bell-shaped pit | South | 505 |
| 7831 | House-in-pit | West | 505 |

Feature 8176: Ramada/Brush Kitchen
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.55-14.60 mbd

General Description

This ramada or brush kitchen (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and feature boundaries. This subrectangular-shaped structure measured 3.90 m east-west by 2.80 m north-south. Internal features and postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

While only three internal features were centrally located within the posthole pattern of the ramada: hearth Feature 8176.01 and small pits Feature 8176.02 and 8176.03, four additional pits were also associated with Feature 8176. The pits located outside the posthole pattern were associated based on the fact that they originated from the same surface as the ramada and all contained fill consistent with that of the ramada and the central internal features. Features 8176.09 and 8176.10 were bell-shaped pits located near the eastern corner of the ramada. Feature 8176.11, a small pit, was located



Figure 1. Ramada Feature 8176, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

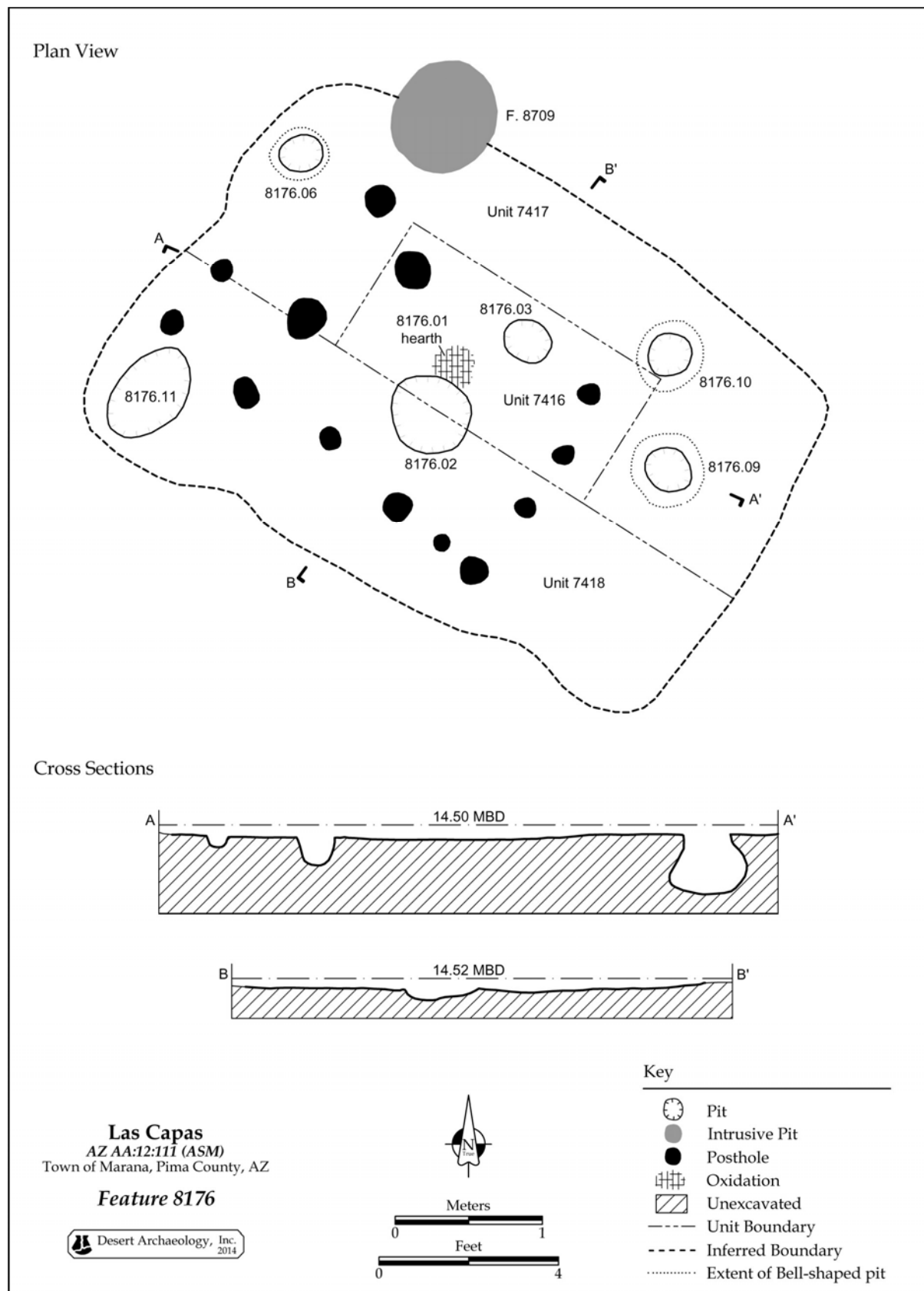


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of ramada Feature 8176, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

near the western corner, while Feature 8176.06, another bell-shaped pit, was located near the northern corner. All three bell-shaped pits were similar in size, as well as in artifact content (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated within Stratum 506.01. The 5 cm of excavated cultural fill was a brown, uniform, loosely consolidated silt that contained extremely sparse charcoal flecks, but no daub. Artifact density within the fill was moderate, and consisted of 123 pieces of flaked stone, 36 pieces of faunal bone, 1 biface, and 21 pieces of fire-cracked rock. All of these artifact types were evenly distributed throughout the fill.

Several postholes also contained artifacts. Feature 8176.04 contained 13 pieces of faunal bone and six pieces of flaked stone. The proximal end of a biface was recovered from the fill of Feature 8176.05. Feature 8176.08 contained a large amount of fire-cracked rock. Feature 8176.07 contained one piece of flaked stone, and posthole Feature 8176.12 contained two fragments of fire-cracked ground stone.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The ramada floor, the internal features, and the postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 506.01. The floor surface was in poor condition and was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The surface was relatively flat, but contained a slight depression in the center. It showed no signs of oxidation, except the hearth area. No foundation pit walls were present, and it appeared, based on the elevation, that this ramada was constructed on either a small mound or a high spot on the natural topography.

Thirteen postholes were identified and excavated. Twelve of these formed a single rectangular ring, and one posthole was identified in the central part of the feature. These postholes were all circular shaped, straight walled, and averaged 16 cm in diameter and 14 cm in depth. The nature of the architecture that covered the feature is unknown. Based on the rectangular-shaped perimeter row of postholes, this feature likely consisted of uncovered walls, which were open-air, and a light roofing of woven reed mats, based on the lack of daub and charcoal in the internal fill, and by the very small area of the posthole arrangement.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 8176 originated within Stratum 506.01 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 505. No extramural features were identified as intrusive into the ramada. Several extramural features that originated in Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the ramada, including small and bell-shaped pits, roasting pits, a large pit, houses-in-pits, and an extramural surface (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts in direct contact with the floor surface, this feature was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. The lack of oxidation on the floor surface, as well as the lack of any burned material in the fill, indicated the feature did not burn. No postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

This feature likely functioned as a ramada, based not only on its small size, but also on its unusual shape. The ramada also appears to have been situated in the center of a ring of houses-in-pits within Locus B. The feature likely contained structural elements, but not nearly as substantial as those used in surrounding houses-in-pits. The ramada appears to have been used in a single occupation, as neither evidence of remodeling nor postabandonment reuse was present. Based on the stratigraphic layer it originated within, artifact content, and elevation, this ramada was almost certainly contemporaneous with the several surrounding houses-in-pits, including: Features 8245, 8259, 8058, 8244, and 8417.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8176, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8176.01 | Hearth | 0.30 | 0.25 | — | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8176.02 | Small pit | 0.60 | 0.50 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8176.03 | Small pit | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.16 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | 10 | — | — |
| 8176.06 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.30 | 0.25 | 0.24 | 0.40 | 0.35 | 0.30 | 0.25 | — | 10 | — | — | 10 | — | — |
| 8176.09 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.34 | 0.26 | 0.38 | 0.54 | 0.48 | 0.34 | 0.26 | — | 23 | — | — | 13 | — | — |
| 8176.10 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.32 | 0.27 | 0.37 | 0.50 | 0.44 | 0.32 | 0.27 | — | 20 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 8176.11 | Small pit | 0.54 | 0.41 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of ramada Feature 8176, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------------|----------|-------|
| 8058 | House-in-pit | North | — |
| 8709 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9266 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9267 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9268 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9269 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8170 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9244 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9270 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9271 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9272 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 8169 | Large pit | South | — |
| 8245 | House-in-pit | South | — |
| 9273 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 8247 | Extramural surface | West | — |
| 8711 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8808 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 8809 | Small pit | West | — |
| 9279 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8244: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.49-14.69 mbd

General Description

House-in-pit Feature 8244 (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping, as well as in the profiled walls of Trench 244. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and feature boundaries. Trench 244 truncated the entire northeastern one-third of the structure. Based on the excavated portion, the structure was inferred to have an oval shape measuring 3.88 m northwest-southeast by a projected 2.55 m northeast-southwest once fully excavated. Internal features and postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Three internal features were present within the intact portion of the structure. Feature 8244.01, a small pit, was located in the approximate center of the structure. The entire northern half of this feature was removed by Trench 244; it measured 96 cm east-west by an estimated 70 cm north-south, with a depth of 23 cm. The internal fill of Feature 8244.01 was a uniform, brown, moderately hard clayey silt that contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and oxidized soil throughout. Artifact



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8244 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

density within the fill of this feature was very low, and consisted of 7 pieces of flaked stone, 14 pieces of faunal bone, and 1 figurine fragment.

Feature 8244.02, a small pit, was located in the western portion of the structure. This feature measured 88 cm east-west by 77 cm north-south, with an average depth of 46 cm. Feature 8244.02 had fairly straight walls, and was surrounded by postholes. The internal fill of this feature was uniform, brown, moderately hard clayey silt that contained a large amount of charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact density within the feature was high, consisting of 72 pieces of flaked stone and 119 pieces of faunal bone.

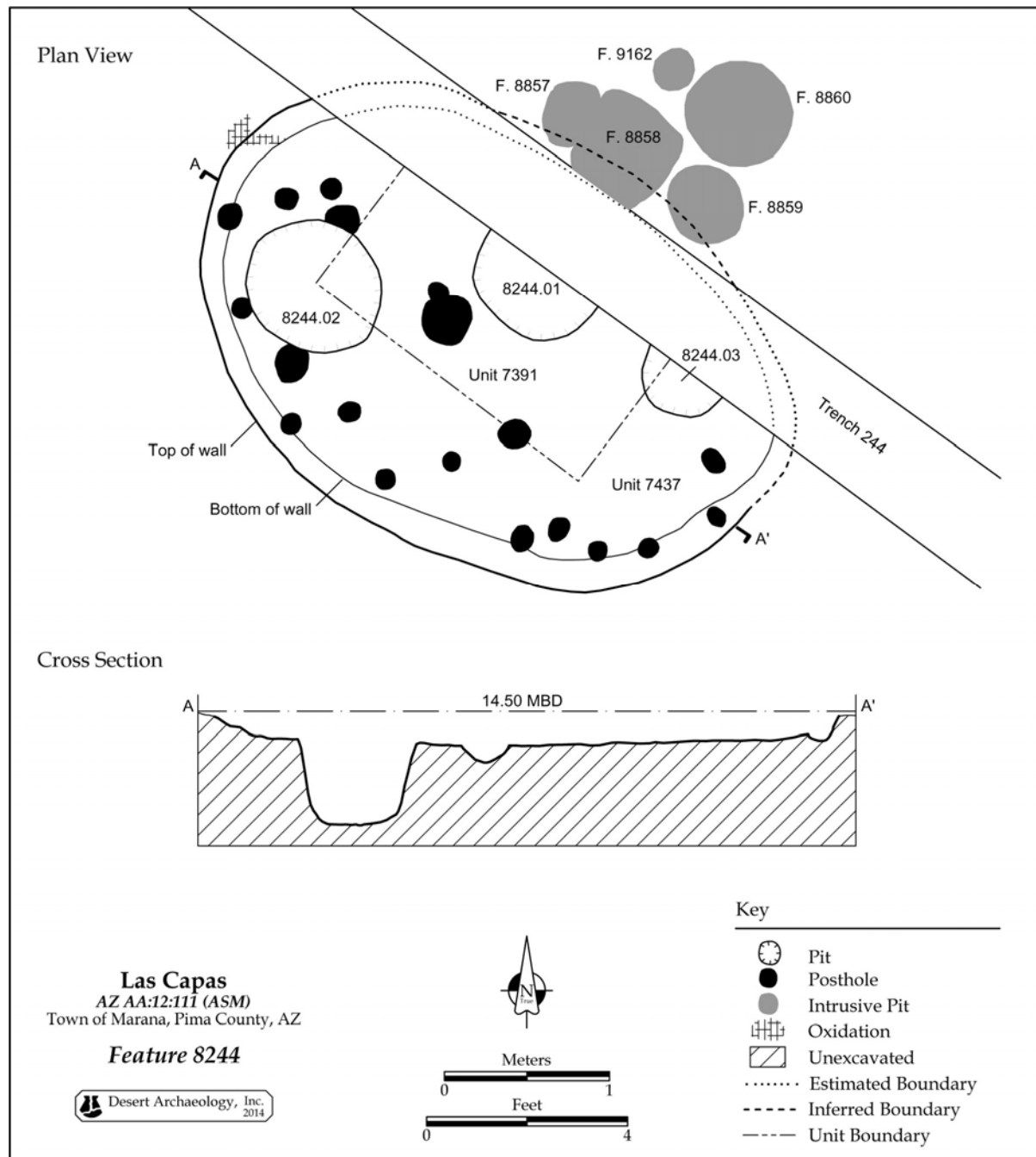


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8244, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 8244.03, a small pit, was located in the eastern portion of the structure. The northern half of this pit was truncated by Trench 244. This feature measured 50 cm east-west by an estimated 30 cm north-south, with an average depth of 17 cm. The internal fill consisted of a uniform, brown, moderately hard clayey silt, which contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact density within the fill of this feature was low, and consisted of five pieces of flaked stone and 10 pieces of faunal bone.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506.01 and was buried by additional deposits from this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 505, 504, 503, 502, and 501. The 20 cm of excavated fill was stratified. The uppermost stratum averaged 5-10 cm in thickness, and consisted of a uniform, dark brown, moderately hard clayey silt with high amounts of charcoal flecks and daub throughout. The lower 10-15 cm of fill consisted of a uniform, dark brown, mildly hard clayey silt that contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and intermittent patches of oxidized soil throughout.

Artifact density in both strata of fill was high, yielding 147 pieces of flaked stone, 178 pieces of faunal bone, 3 ground stone fragments, 74 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 4 fragments of fire-cracked ground stone, and 1 figurine fragment. While the artifact density was relatively high throughout both strata, there did appear to be a slight drop in density within the lower 10-15 cm of fill. The density of the fire-cracked rock was drastically greater in the upper 10-15 cm of fill and almost nonexistent in the lower portions. No artifacts were in direct contact with the exposed floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, the internal features, and the postholes were built by excavating into Stratum 506.01. The structure was erected within a primary foundation pit, the walls of which did not form the house walls and that were not formally prepared. The foundation pit walls sloped upward to a height of 20 cm above the average floor surface.

The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. Although bioturbation was obvious on the surface, the floor was generally in good condition. The floor surface was unburned and relatively flat, sloping upward slightly around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The only oxidation identified on the floor surface was attributed to a natural root burn.

Nineteen postholes were identified and excavated. These postholes formed two rings around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin; three of the postholes were centrally located and likely contained central support posts. The postholes were all circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 13 cm in diameter and 8 cm in depth. It should be noted, however, that three of these postholes may represent rodent disturbance or erosion events. None of the postholes contained preserved burned posts. Based on other structures excavated within the same stratum in Locus B, this structure was likely built of wall support posts, which were likely bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit, then connected with horizontal stringers and covered with a grass or reed thatching. Based on the double row of postholes identified, this structure was also structurally remodeled during its use-life.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was built within Stratum 506.01 and buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 505. This feature neither intruded, nor was intruded upon, by any extramural

features. Three small pits, Features 8857, 8858, and 8859, were located just north of the projected structure boundary and may represent either intrusive or internal features, given that Feature 8244 had an unclear boundary in this area. Additionally, one internal pit, Feature 8244.02, may represent an intrusive feature, as it cuts through possible postholes.

Within a 3-m radius of this structure were several extramural features that originated within Stratum 506.01 (Table 1). These included small pits, bell-shaped pits, and extramural surfaces, most of which were clustered north of Feature 8244.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the lack of artifacts directly on the floor surface, the structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Despite the large amounts of charcoal and other burned materials within the fill, this structure did not appear to have burned. It appears that once the structure was abandoned, a thin layer of natural alluvium filled in the depression. After abandonment, this depression seems to have been used to dump refuse and pit clean-out.

Functional Inferences

Feature 8244 functioned for habitation, with an emphasis on storage, based on the size and number of internal features. Based on evidence of structural remodeling, this structure either had two short-term occupations, or a single long-term occupation. Given the architectural elements, elevation, and originating stratum, Feature 8244 is likely contemporaneous with the many structures excavated within Stratum 506.01 at Locus B.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8244, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8172 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8173 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9282 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9283 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9287 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9288 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9289 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9290 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9291 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8168 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8245 | House-in-pit | Northeast | — |
| 9199 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8921 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 8922 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8925 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8926 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7830 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8993 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8994 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8995 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8996 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 8997 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8998 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8999 | Small pit | West | — |
| 9348 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8245: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.48-14.65 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the surface. The house-in-pit was oval in shape, and it measured approximately 4.40 m northeast-southwest by 3.65 m northwest-southeast, with 10.21 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. The surface was defined by soil compaction, artifact density, and oxidation. Internal features and postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit contained 18 internal features (Table 1). It is highly likely, however, that a majority of these internal features were not contemporaneous and were intrusive into the structure, based on the internal fill of certain features. For example, internal Features 8245.03, 8245.05, 8245.08, 8245.17, and 8245.18 had fill comprised of a dark brown, loosely consolidated silt with no oxidation; these features



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8245, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

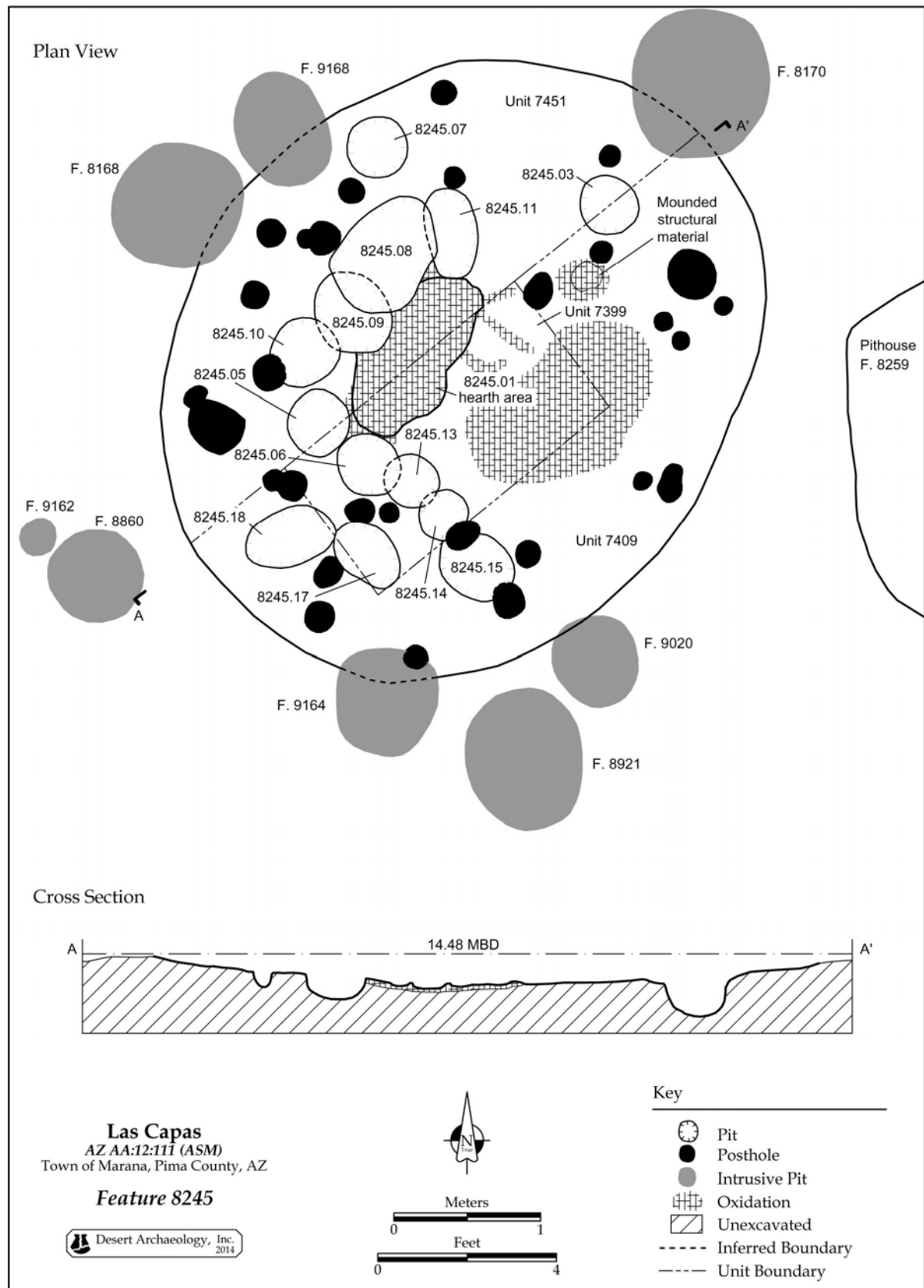


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8245, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

were capped by the fill above the surface and were only identifiable on the exposed floor surface. These features were likely directly associated with the structure. Conversely, many of the internal features were thermally altered and contained a light brown to tan silt and clay laminated fill. These pits likely represent features associated with postabandonment reuse of the structure, because many of these pits intruded not only upon each other, but also into postholes and other features within the structure.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506.01. The 17 cm of excavated internal fill consisted of a generally uniform, light brown, loosely consolidated silty loam, although compaction of the fill seemed greater in the 5 cm just above the surface. The fill contained a small amount of charcoal flecks throughout; however, the lower 5 cm contained a higher density of charcoal flecks, as well as small to moderately sized pieces of burned daub throughout. Artifact density within the fill was high, and included 210 pieces of flaked stone, 63 pieces of faunal bone, 9 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 1 piece of fragmented ground stone, 1 figurine fragment, 1 projectile point fragment, and a possible Empire style projectile point. While the artifacts were mostly evenly distributed, a slight drop in density was noted in the lower portion of the fill. No artifacts were in direct contact with the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The house-in-pit itself was in poor condition, and was riddled with bioturbation. The structure was oxidized in the central and southeastern portions, and contained a slight depression in the center, which sloped slightly upward around the perimeter of the feature.

In total, 26 postholes were identified, although some of these were likely caused by rodent disturbance, or they were too truncated by intrusive features to be positively identified. The postholes were all primarily circular-shaped, and averaged 16 cm in diameter and 13 cm in depth. They formed a tentative single ring around the interior perimeter of the structure. Two rings of postholes could be present due to the irregular nature of the pattern; however, the bioturbation and numerous internal features disturbed the postholes, leaving insubstantial evidence of this arrangement.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. Feature 9164, a small pit that originated within the upper portions of Stratum 506.01, intruded into the southern portion of the structure, truncating posthole Feature 8245.04. Several extramural features that originated within Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure, and include small and large pits, bell-shaped pits, roasting pits, a ramada, and a house-in-pit (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts in direct contact with the surface, this feature was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment. Although the oxidation was widespread in the central and southeastern portion of the structure, it is difficult to determine if that was as a result of the structure burning, use of the surface for food preparation, or a combination of the two.

Functional Inferences

This house-in-pit was likely used for habitation, based on the presence of an informal hearth in the center of the structure. The high density of internal pits and the large number of postholes suggest this structure may have been used over a long duration. The elevation and stratigraphic context of this feature indicate it was likely contemporaneous and used in conjunction with the high density of structures and extramural surfaces located to the north and northwest.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8245, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8245.01 | Hearth | 1.12 | 0.77 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8245.02 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.34 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0064 |
| 8245.03 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.39 | 0.22 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 0.0180 |
| 8245.05 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.41 | 0.17 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 7 | — | — | — | — | 0.0168 |
| 8245.06 | Small pit | 0.44 | 0.41 | 0.17 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 7 | — | — | — | — | 0.0161 |
| 8245.07 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.40 | 0.30 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0377 |
| 8245.08 | Small pit | 0.90 | 0.60 | 0.33 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0933 |
| 8245.09 | Small pit | 0.56 | 0.49 | 0.27 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 18 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0388 |
| 8245.10 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.45 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0260 |
| 8245.11 | Small pit | 0.61 | 0.36 | 0.18 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0207 |
| 8245.13 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.39 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0033 |
| 8245.14 | Small pit | 0.34 | 0.32 | 0.25 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0214 |
| 8245.15 | Small pit | 0.54 | 0.44 | 0.26 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0323 |
| 8245.17 | Small pit | 0.50 | 0.40 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 10 | — | — | — | — | 0.0157 |
| 8245.18 | Small pit | 0.58 | 0.32 | 0.14 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 6 | — | — | 3 | — | 0.0136 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8245, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-------|
| 8169 | Large pit | North | — |
| 8176 | Ramada | North | — |
| 9273 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 9450 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8170 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8259 | Large pit | East | — |
| 9350 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9020 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8244 | House-in-pit | South | — |
| 8921 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 9199 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8168 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8859 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8860 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 9162 | Small pit | West | — |
| 9282 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8247: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.58-14.66 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping, as well as within the profiled wall of Trench 225, which removed much of the northern portion of the feature. Remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and estimated feature boundaries. Due to overstripping, intrusive features, and the general insubstantial nature of the structure, the measurements were estimated based on posthole locations, extent of the floor surface identified, and artifact densities. This circular to slightly oval-shaped house-in-pit had estimated measurements of 3.92 m east-west by 3.50 m north-south, with 7.68 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Postholes and internal features were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Nine internal features were present within the structure (Table 1). These were all concentrated in the southeastern portion of the structure, although the hearth was more centrally located. Except one very small bell-shaped pit and the hearth, all the internal features consisted of small basin-shaped pits.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8247 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

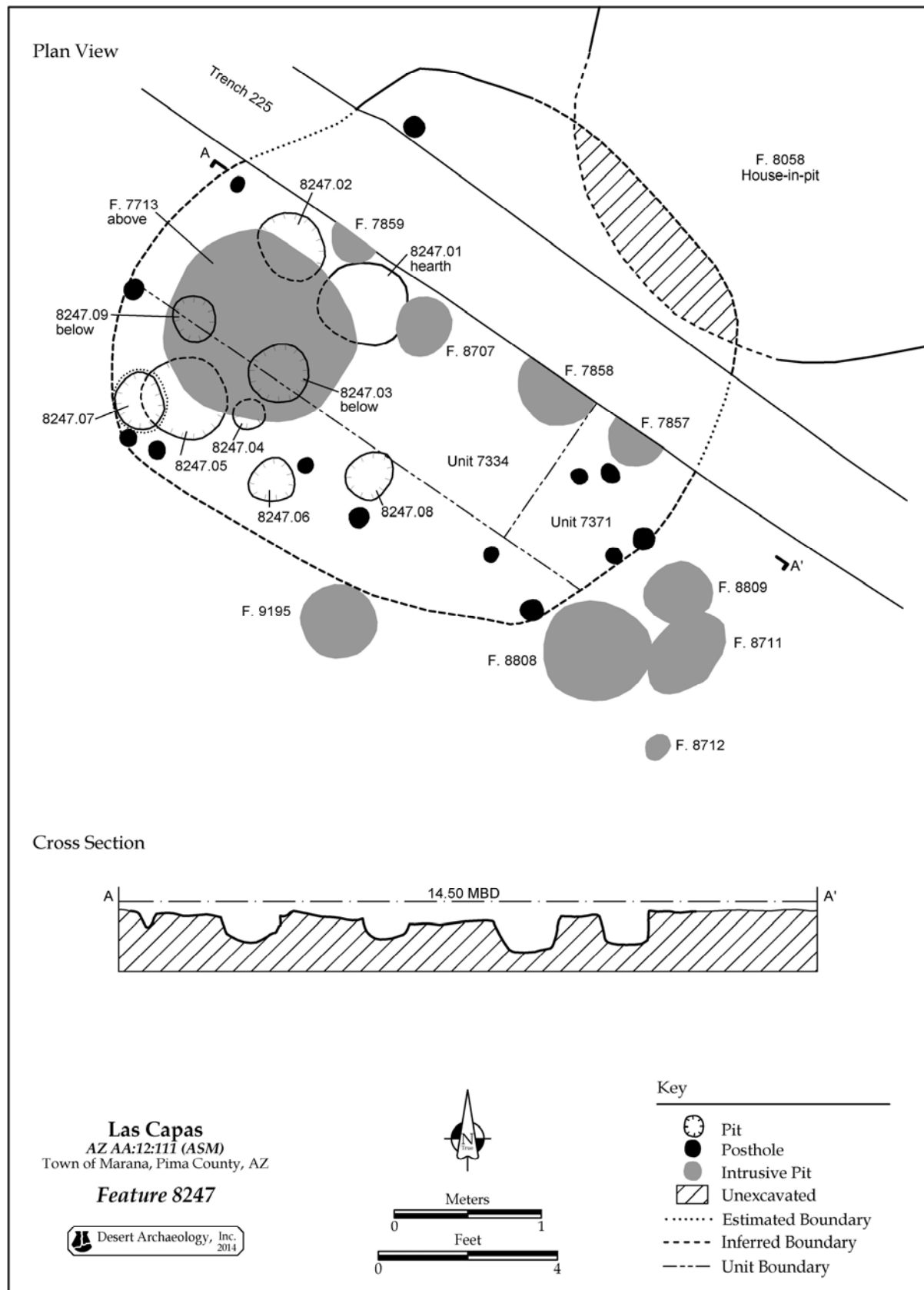


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8247, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 506.01. The 8 cm of excavated internal fill was a uniform, dark brown, moderately hard, slightly blocky silty clay that contained sparse charcoal flecks and small pieces of daub throughout. Artifact density within the internal fill was high, and consisted of 230 pieces of flaked stone, 77 pieces of faunal bone, 23 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 1 fragment of a marine shell pendant, a figurine fragment, and a corn cob. No artifacts were identified as being in direct contact on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, the postholes, and the internal features were built by excavation into Stratum 506.01. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit, although only a small portion of the foundation pit wall was identifiable in the western portion of the structure, because most of the foundation pit walls were removed by mechanical stripping. The intact portion of the foundation pit wall sloped upward to an average height of 10 cm above the average floor surface. These walls likely extended higher and all the way around the structure.

The floor surface was in fair condition and was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The floor surface contained patches of light oxidation concentrated in the central and southwestern portions, and it contained a slight depression in the center, sloping upward slightly around the inside perimeter of the foundation pit basin.

In total, 13 postholes were identified and excavated within the structure. They formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit walls. The postholes were all circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 13 cm in diameter and 13 cm in depth. Although these postholes were devoid of burned materials, based on other houses-in-pits excavated within the same stratum, they likely contained upright wall support posts held together by stringers and covered in reed thatching. These wall support posts were likely bent or bowed to form a dome over the foundation pit.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506.01 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 506 and 505. Within a 3- m radius of this structure were several extramural features that originated within the same stratum, including small and bell-shaped pits, as well as a ramada and a house-in-pit (Table 2). Six features that originated within Strata 505 and 506.01, primarily small pits and one house-in-pit, intruded into Feature 8247 (Table 3).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts on the floor surface, this structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Although the floor displayed patches of oxidation, the structure did not appear to have been burned; this is also supported by the lack of large amounts of burned material in the fill. It appears that once the structure was abandoned, the depression left by the primary foundation pit filled in naturally and was later used for the excavation of various pits, but not reoccupied.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 8247 was almost certainly for habitation. This conclusion is based on the size of the feature, the amount of usable floor space, and the lack of large internal storage pits. The number of small pits as internal features suggests the structure saw a fair amount of interior domestic activity over its use-life. This structure contained no evidence of remodeling, and likely had a single short-term occupation. This is indicated by the presence of Feature 8058, a house-in-pit, which intruded into the northeastern portion of this structure and originated within the same geomorphic stratum. Feature 8247 was likely contemporaneous with the multitude of other structures excavated within the Stratum 506.01, but was not occupied for as long a time.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8247, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8247.01 | Hearth | 0.71 | 0.61 | 0.02 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0045 |
| 8247.02 | Small pit | 0.48 | 0.39 | 0.22 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0216 |
| 8247.03 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.39 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 0.0085 |
| 8247.04 | Small pit | 0.21 | 0.19 | 0.14 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0196 |
| 8247.05 | Small pit | 0.62 | 0.55 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | 0.0327 |
| 8247.07 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.40 | 0.33 | 0.29 | 0.43 | 0.36 | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | 7 | — | 0.0196 |
| 8247.08 | Small pit | 0.33 | 0.32 | 0.23 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0191 |
| 8247.09 | Small pit | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.32 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0226 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8247, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8058 | House-in-pit | Northeast | — |
| 9225 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9247 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 9248 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9249 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9268 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 9269 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8176 | Ramada | Southeast | — |
| 8711 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8712 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8808 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 8809 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 8160 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8163 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8164 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8165 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9195 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9276 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9277 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9279 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8143 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8144 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8145 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8148 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 8149 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8162 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8163 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 9276 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Table 3. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 8247, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 7713 | Bell-shaped pit | West | 505 |
| 7859 | Small pit | Northwest | 506.01 |
| 8707 | Small pit | Central | 506.01 |
| 8058 | House-in-pit | Northeast | 506.01 |
| 7857 | Small pit | Southeast | 506.01 |
| 7858 | Small pit | Southeast | 506.01 |
| 8708 | Small pit | Southwest | 506.01 |

Feature 8260: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 13.99-14.01 mbd

General Description

This feature (Figures 1 and 2) was identified while excavating Feature 8076, a house-in-pit that intruded on and destroyed much of Feature 8260. The surface was located in the far southern portion of Locus B. Feature 8260 was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the occupational surface and internal features. The surface measured 3.62 m by 1.32 m, and was defined by a very compact, oxidized silty sand. This area contained an unusually high density of cultural features for the stratum, including structures, extramural surfaces, and pits.

Internal Features

Three bell-shaped pits originated at the extramural surface. Feature 8260.01 had a top measurement of 24 cm by 23 cm, a basal measurement of 60 cm by 52 cm, and a depth of 27 cm. The fill consisted of a lightly compacted silt with charcoal inclusions. It contained 21 pieces of flaked stone and 18 pieces of faunal bone.



Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 8260 (far right; Feature 8076 in foreground), post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

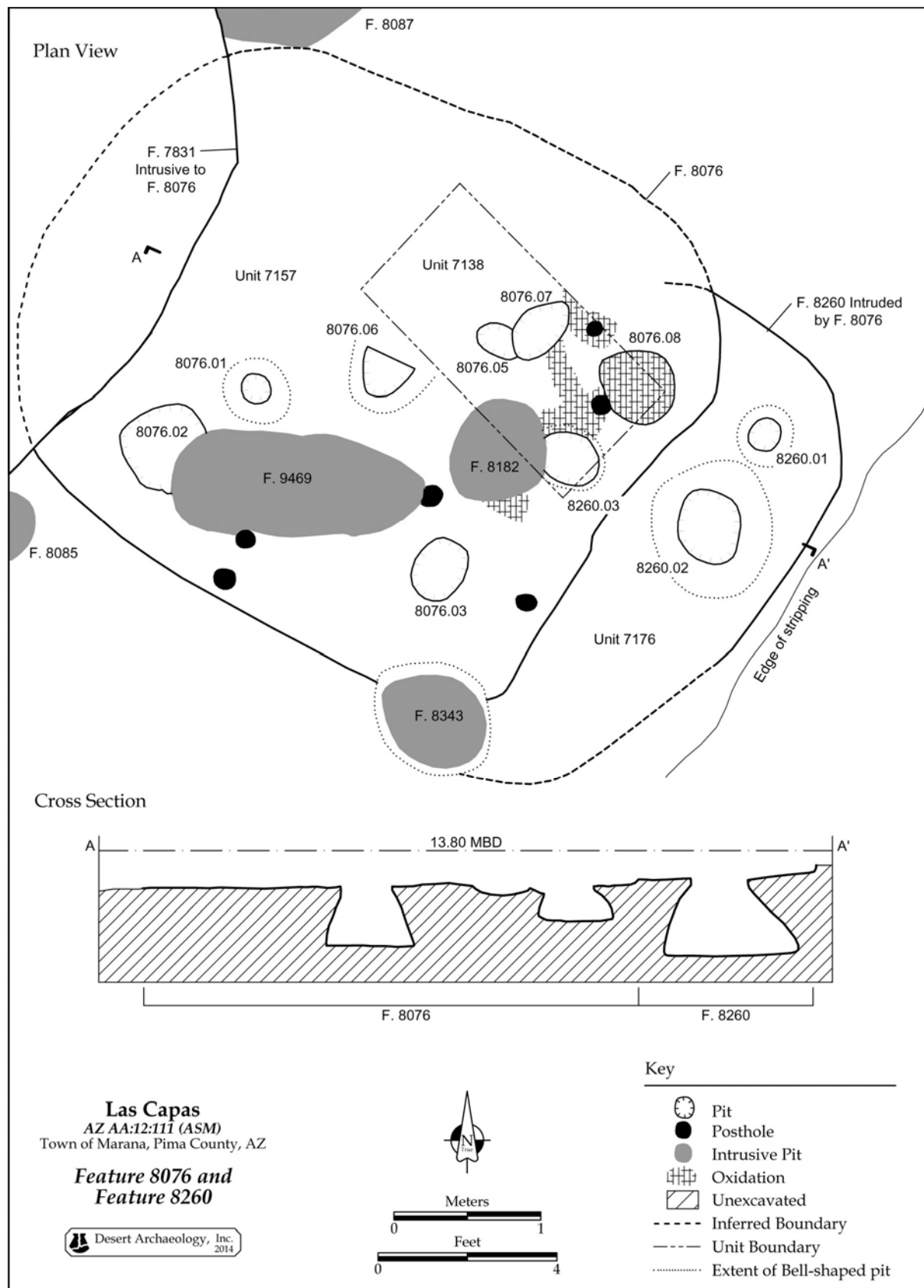


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of extramural surface Feature 8260, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 8260.02 had a top measurement of 48 cm by 46 cm, a basal measurement of 96 cm by 92 cm, and a depth of 52 cm. This feature fill consisted of mildly compact, brown sandy silt with little charcoal flecking. A moderate density of artifacts was found, including 67 pieces of flaked stone, 48 pieces of faunal bone, 1 piece of fire-cracked rock, and 1 ceramic figurine fragment.

Feature 8260.03 had a top measurement of 39 cm by 36 cm, a basal measurement of 51 cm by 48 cm, and a depth of 27 cm. The fill consisted of soft, silty sand with a high density of charcoal flecking; only a single piece of fire-cracked rock was found in the fill. These pits may have functioned as storage features for nearby pit structures Feature 8076 and Feature 7831.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The extramural surface originated in Stratum 505. The minimal amount of fill associated with the extramural surface consisted of a slightly hard, brown silty sand with a thin lens of gray ash, a low density of charcoal flecking, and oxidized sediment. A moderate density of artifacts was found, including 66 flakes, 95 pieces of faunal bone, 1 piece of shell, and 3 pieces of fire-cracked ground stone.

Stratigraphic Relationships

A large number of extramural pits located within a 3-m radius of the feature also originated in Stratum 505 (Table 1). Most of these features were small pits, along with several bell-shaped pits. Based on their originating stratum, these pits may have been used in conjunction with, and in the same time frame as, the extramural surface. House-in-pit Feature 8076 intruded on the northwestern portion of the surface. Several small pits, Feature 8182 and Feature 8343, also intruded into this extramural feature.

Functional Inferences

This extramural surface probably experienced moderate use for extramural activities, such as storage of food and other goods, and it may have been associated with nearby structures. The lack of postholes indicates no superstructure was erected. The oxidation on the surface may have been related to extramural thermal activities. The southeastern area of Locus B contained an unusually high density of cultural features originating in Stratum 505, including structures, extramural surfaces, and pits. The pits may have functioned as extramural storage features for nearby pit structures, primarily Feature 8076.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 8260, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8084 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8243 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8082 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8083 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8076 | House-in-pit | East | — |
| 8343 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |

Feature 8417: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.60-14.69 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation to expose the floor surface and to establish feature boundaries. This circular-shaped structure measured 4.25 m east-west by 4.05 m north-south once fully excavated. Although this structure was affected by many intrusive features, bioturbation, and mechanical disturbance (in the northern portion of the structure), internal features and postholes were still identifiable once the floor was exposed. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained 13 internal features (Table 1), including 8 small pits, 4 bell-shaped pits, and 1 informal hearth. The fill of all the internal features consisted of a uniform, grayish-brown, loosely consolidated silt. Several of these internal features contained burned structural debris within their fill.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8417 post-excavation (note house-in-pit Feature 8873 in background), Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

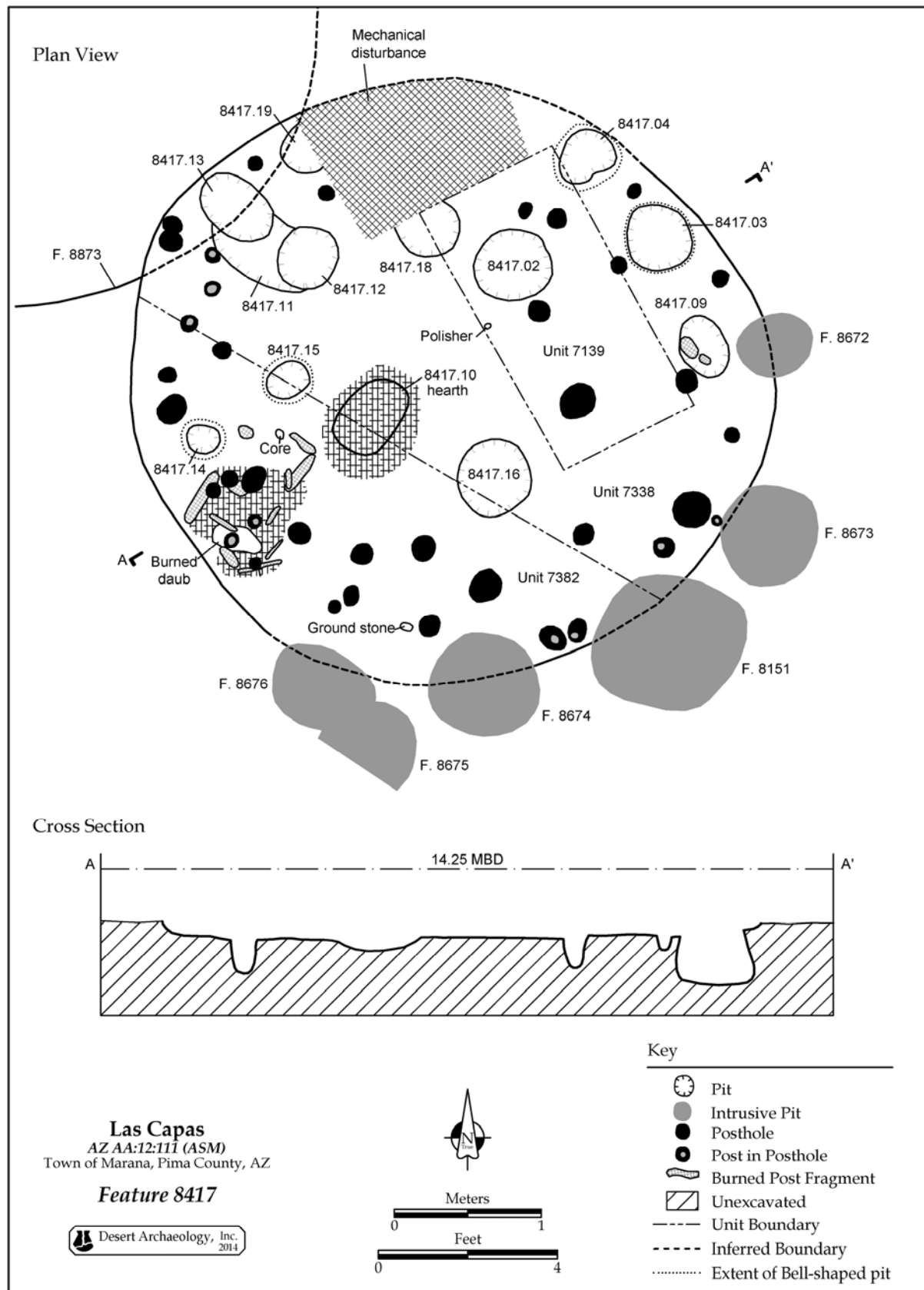


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8417, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated within Stratum 506.01. The 9 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, dark brown, moderately hard silty clay that contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks, small pieces of daub, and burned structural material throughout.

Artifact density was moderate in the upper portions of the fill, and was high in the lower 5 cm of the internal fill. Artifacts recovered included 349 pieces of flaked stone, 79 pieces of faunal bone, 62 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 1 piece of fire-cracked ground stone, 1 marine shell fragment, 1 piece of ochre, 1 complete figurine, and 2 figurine fragments. Only three artifacts were found in direct contact with the exposed floor surface: a core tool, a polisher, and a ground stone fragment.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, the internal features, and the postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 506.01. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit. The walls of the foundation pit were not formally prepared, and they sloped upward to an average of 9 cm above the floor surface. The walls may have continued higher, but they were partially removed by backhoe stripping.

The floor surface of the structure was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The floor surface contained a great deal of bioturbation; however, the intact portions were heavily oxidized. The floor surface was somewhat uneven, likely due to the bioturbation. The floor appeared to be depressed in the center of the structure, and sloped slightly upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin.

In all, 38 postholes were identified and excavated in the exposed floor surface. The postholes were primarily circular in shape, and averaged 16 cm in diameter and 15 cm in depth. They roughly formed two rings around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. A few centrally located postholes were found, which were likely constructed to hold central support posts. Based on the fact that several of the postholes contained in situ remains of burned wall support posts (found only in the postholes of the outer ring), as well the presence of burned structural elements within the fill (stringers remnants, daub), it is likely this structure was constructed of wall support posts connected by horizontal stringers and covered by a reed or grass thatching. The daub found within the fill did not appear to have been a part of the framework covering, and it likely represents a mixture of naturally burned sediments that were packed around the outside perimeter of the framework for additional stabilization and water control.

Based on the two rings of postholes, the feature was likely expanded at some point. Further, the number of internal features present and the fact that some of them intruded upon each other, are indicators that changes were made in the use of interior floor space.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 505. Several extramural features that originated in the upper portion of Stratum 506.01 intruded into the southern and eastern edges of the structure. These intrusive features (Table 2) consisted primarily of small pits and also a house-in-pit, Feature 8873. Within a 3-m radius of the structure were several extramural features located within Stratum 506.01, including small pits, bell-shaped pits, roasting pits, and primary inhumations (Table 3).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the sparse amount of artifacts located on the exposed floor surface, this structure was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment. The large amounts of burned daub and structural material within the fill and on the floor surface indicate the structure was burned. The structure does not appear to have been partially or completely filled in when the burning occurred. The two rows of postholes, as well as the large number of internal features present, indicate the structure was subject to remodeling. Additionally, in situ burned posts were present only in the outer ring of postholes, indicating the structure had been remodeled before it burned.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of this structure was likely habitation. The many internal features found were representative of internal domestic activity. The several bell-shaped pits may represent an emphasis on storage within the structure. Based on the remodeling evidence, this structure may have had a single long-term occupation or several shorter-term occupations during its use-life. Given the fact that the original internal features and hearth were incorporated into the structural expansion during remodeling, the former appears more likely.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8417, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8417.02 | Small pit | 0.56 | 0.53 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0155 |
| 8417.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.54 | 0.46 | 0.36 | 0.52 | 0.51 | — | — | — | 36 | — | — | 8 | — | 0.0726 |
| 8417.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.41 | 0.36 | 0.32 | 0.46 | 0.44 | — | — | — | 48 | — | — | 30 | — | 0.0440 |
| 8417.09 | Small pit | 0.48 | 0.34 | 0.31 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8417.10 | Hearth | 0.56 | 0.50 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0117 |
| 8417.11 | Small pit | 0.77 | 0.46 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 7 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0278 |
| 8417.12 | Small pit | 0.48 | 0.38 | 0.22 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0315 |
| 8417.13 | Small pit | 0.53 | 0.35 | 0.25 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0243 |
| 8417.14 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.23 | 0.18 | 0.29 | 0.33 | 0.32 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 0.0167 |
| 8417.15 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.31 | 0.21 | 0.30 | 0.32 | 0.25 | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0171 |
| 8417.16 | Small pit | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.28 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0396 |
| 8417.18 | Small pit | 0.44 | 0.40 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0074 |
| 8417.19 | Small pit | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.21 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Table 2. Extramural features intrusive into house-in-pit Feature 8417, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| 8151 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8673 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8674 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8676 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8873 | House-in-pit | West | — |

Table 3. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 8417, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------------|----------|-------|
| 8079 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9202 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9203 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9204 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9205 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9209 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 9293 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8141 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8142 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9334 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7760 | Primary inhumation | South | — |
| 7860 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7861 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 8152 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 8153 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9336 | Small pit | South | — |
| 9441 | Primary inhumation | South | — |
| 9335 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8470: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 14.72-14.82 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping, as well as within both walls of Trench 245. The remaining cultural overburden was hand-excavated, exposing a possible floor surface and feature boundary. This subrectangular to oval-shaped feature measured 3.35 m east-west by 1.85 m north-south once fully excavated. Possible internal features and postholes were identified. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Four internal features were identified in Feature 8470 (Table 1); all were small, basin-shaped pits. Two pits were located near the northeastern edge of the structure and two were in the western half. The fill of all the internal features was a uniform, dark brown, mildly hard, silty clay containing various densities of charcoal flecks and ash inclusions. The only pit to display a high degree of oxidation was Feature 8470.01, which was located in the western part of the house at the southern edge of Trench 245. No hearth was identified; however, the central portion of the house, which may have contained internal features, was removed by the trench.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8470 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

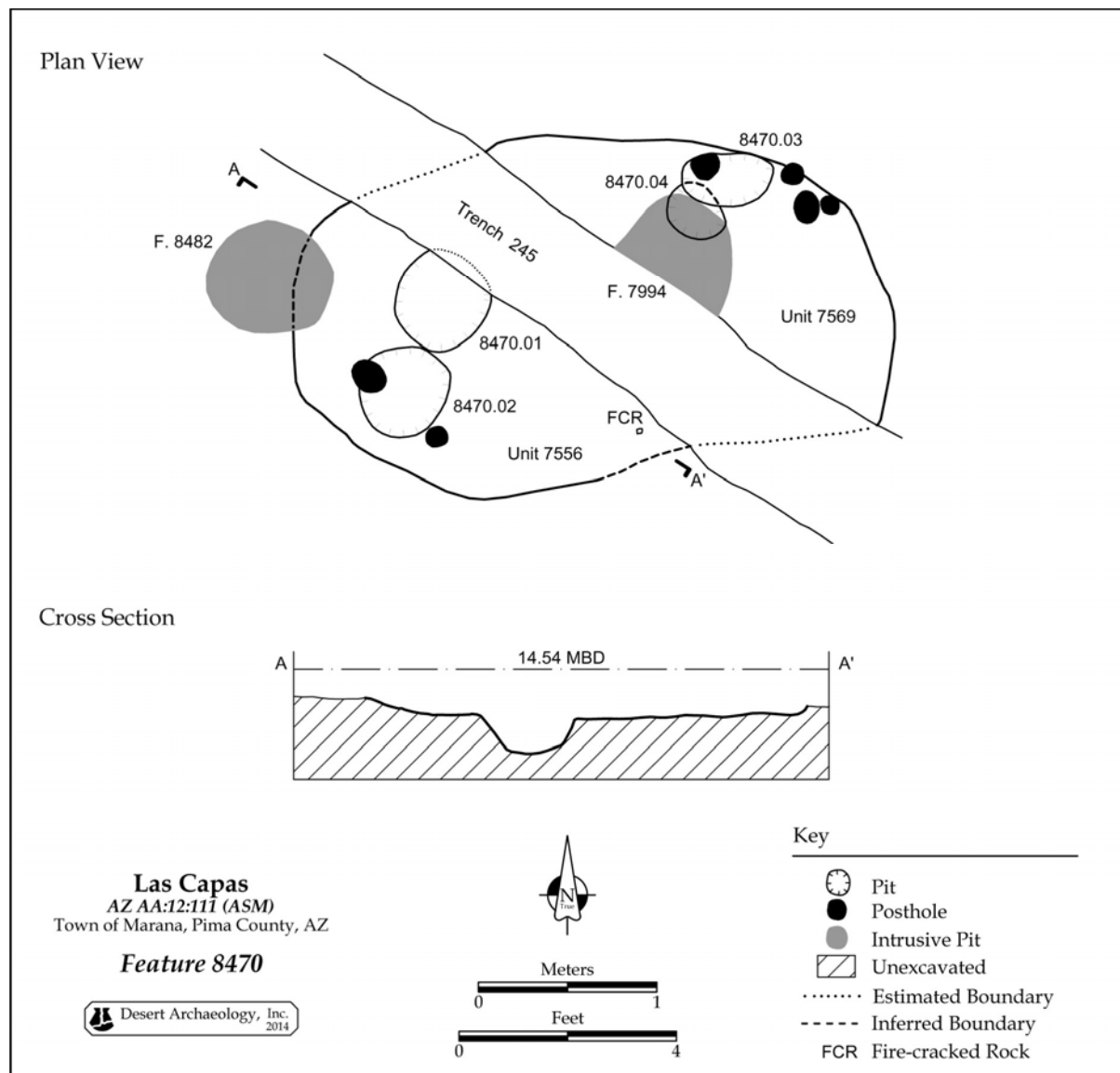


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8470, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 10 cm of excavated fill in this possible house-in-pit was a uniform, dark brown, silty clay that contained sparse charcoal flecks throughout. The northeastern half of the feature contained a much higher density of charcoal in the upper 4 cm of fill; likely a result of pit clean-out. Artifact density in the fill was fairly high, and consisted of 104 pieces of flaked stone, 9 pieces of faunal bone, 1 ground stone fragment, 1 fragment of fire-cracked ground stone, and 27 pieces of fire-cracked rock. Almost all of the fire-cracked rock was located in the upper 4-5 cm of fill in the northeastern half of the feature, while the rest of the artifacts were evenly distributed across the feature within the upper 5-8 cm of fill. No artifacts were identified on the exposed floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This possible house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 505. The feature contains very little architectural evidence, and its exact method and style of construction are unknown. It was likely constructed within a primary foundation pit, with a series of upright wall posts around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit, held together with horizontal stringers. This framework may have been covered with reed or grass thatching. The exposed floor surface was not formally prepared, showed no signs of oxidation, and contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks embedded throughout. This surface appeared to be the natural alluvium of Stratum 505 used as the floor surface.

Six postholes were identified and excavated. These postholes were all circular in shape, and averaged 13 cm in diameter and 6 cm in depth. The postholes formed no distinguishable pattern, but were irregularly placed throughout the structure. Some of the postholes were located at the bottom of internal features and could be attributed to pit erosion or rodent disturbance.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 505 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. Two small extramural pits, Features 8482 and 7994, intruded into this feature. Feature 8483, a roasting pit located to the south, was the only extramural feature that originated in Stratum 505 within a 3-m radius of this possible structure.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Given the lack of artifacts in association with the floor surface, if this feature was indeed a structure, it was cleaned out prior to abandonment. No apparent postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Given the absence of distinguishing characteristics found within this feature, it was difficult to determine the function. The pits identified within the feature boundaries may have been excavated into the natural alluvium, and their clean-out and use caused the surrounding soil to exhibit a dirty, charcoal-stained appearance similar to house-in-pit stains observed during mechanical stripping. It should be noted that the majority of the house-in-pit features throughout all strata excavated within Locus B contained solid evidence of architectural elements, such as well-defined postholes and foundation pit walls.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8470, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8470.01 | Small pit | 0.52 | 0.50 | 0.21 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 10 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0286 |
| 8470.02 | Small pit | 0.52 | 0.50 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0123 |
| 8470.03 | Small pit | 0.50 | 0.30 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | 3 | — | 0.0094 |
| 8470.04 | Small pit | 0.35 | 0.28 | 0.17 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |

Feature 8610: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.63-14.75 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation. The possible house-in-pit measured approximately 2.95 m north-south by 2.91 m east-west. Feature boundaries were somewhat unclear and were defined by the extent of charcoal, daub, and artifact densities in the overlying fill, as well as by soil compaction noted during excavation. Only a few internal features were identified, as well as one possible interior posthole. Neither definite perimeter postholes nor an entry were identified, and the orientation of the feature could not be determined.

Internal Features

This possible house-in-pit contained a total of three internal features, all of which were located in the approximate center of the surface. These included Feature 8610.01, an informal hearth, that measured 88 cm north-south by 70 cm east-west. The hearth consisted of a highly oxidized stain upon the floor surface with no associated artifacts. Feature 8610.02, a small pit, was located southwest of the hearth area. This feature measured 30 cm east-west by 27 cm north-south, with an average depth of 15 cm.



Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 8610, post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

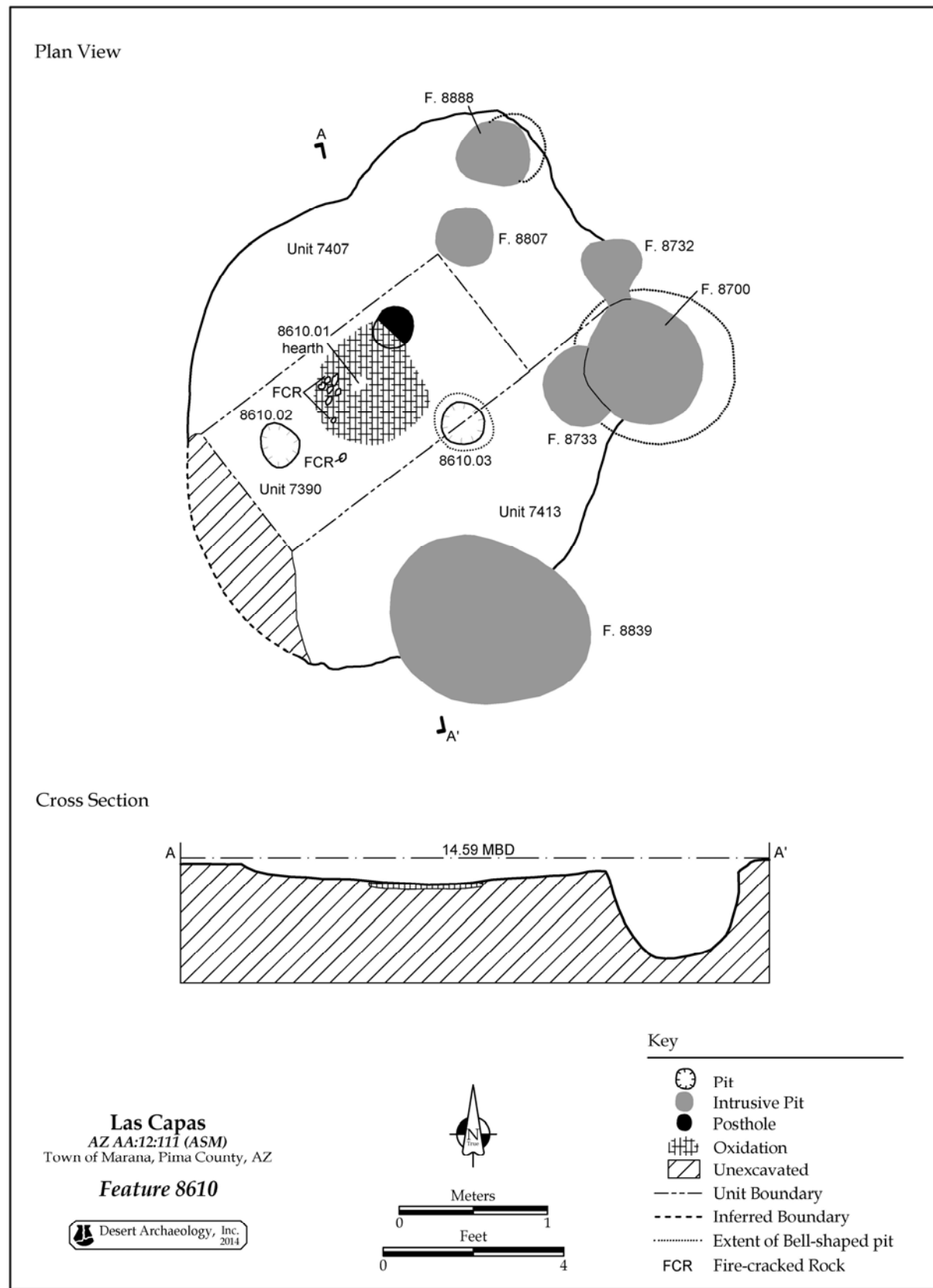


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of possible house-in-pit Feature 8610, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

The internal fill consisted of two stratigraphic layers. The upper 5 cm were brown, mildly hard, silty clay with sparse amounts of small charcoal flecks throughout. The lower 10 cm of fill consisted of a light brown, loosely consolidated silt with a small amount of charcoal flecks throughout. No artifacts were recovered from this feature.

Feature 8610.03, a small bell-shaped pit, was located southeast of the hearth area. This feature measured 29 cm east-west by 28 cm north-south at the opening, and had a basal measurement of 40 cm east-west by 36 cm north-south; the average depth was 26 cm. The fill of Feature 8610.03 was comprised of two distinct strata. The first 13 cm of fill was a brown, mildly hard, silty clay that contained very sparse charcoal flecks. The remaining 15 cm was light brown, loosely consolidated silt with a small amount of charcoal flecks. Artifacts located within the fill included eight pieces of flaked stone and seven pieces of faunal bone.

A single possible posthole was identified at the northern portion of the hearth. This posthole was estimated to be circular in shape, averaged 27 cm in diameter, and was an average of 29 cm deep. This posthole was capped by hearth Feature 8610.01, and could reflect slight remodeling of the structure.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This possible house-in-pit originated in Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. The 12 cm of excavated internal fill was uniform, and consisted of a light brown, mildly hard, clayey-silt. The fill contained a moderate to high amount of charcoal flecks, ash, burned daub, and fire-cracked rock throughout, although the densities were greater in the lower portions of the fill. Very sparse amounts of slag were also encountered within the fill. These inclusions decreased drastically in frequency in the eastern one-third of the feature.

Artifact density within the fill was high, and consisted of 461 pieces of flaked stone, 165 pieces of faunal bone, 1 figurine fragment, 1 ground stone artifact, 31 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 2 fragments of fire-cracked ground stone. These artifacts were evenly distributed throughout the fill except the fire-cracked rock, which became more prevalent in the lower portions of the fill.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. Several extramural features that originated from the upper portions of Stratum 506.01 intruded into this structure. Intrusive features included two small pits, two roasting pits, one large pit, and one bell-shaped pit (Table 1). Several extramural features that also originated in Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of this structure. These included small and bell-shaped pits, extramural surfaces, and a house-in-pit (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Although the feature fill was rich with burned materials, no widespread oxidation was identified in the structure. The fill likely contained burned material as a result of clean-out episodes from nearby and intrusive roasting pits. The lack of a floor assemblage suggests the possible house-in-pit was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The remaining foundation pit depression was likely used to discard refuse after abandonment, based on the large number of artifacts within the fill.

Functional Inferences

While this feature was somewhat ephemeral and small in size, the presence of a hearth suggests the structure was used for habitation. A high degree of disturbance and several intrusive features likely obscured additional structural elements within this feature.

The stratigraphic context of this possible house-in-pit within Stratum 506.01 indicates it was in use during the same time, and thus, was contemporaneous with houses-in-pit Features 8012 and 7780 excavated south and southeast of this feature.

Table 1. Extramural features intrusive into possible house-in-pit Feature 8610, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 8807 | Roasting pit | North | 506.01 |
| 8888 | Small pit | North | 506.01 |
| 8700 | Bell-shaped pit | East | 506.01 |
| 8732 | Small pit | East | 506.01 |
| 8733 | Roasting pit | East | 506.01 |
| 8839 | Large pit | South | 506.01 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of possible house-in-pit Feature 8610, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|-------|
| 7386 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7417 | Occupational debris | North | — |
| 7418 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7424 | Small pit | North | — |
| 7425 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 7755 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8571 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8572 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8573 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8574 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 7907 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 7908 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 7909 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7970 | Small pit | East | — |
| 8011 | Extramural surface | East | — |
| 8847 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 9316 | Small pit | East | — |
| 7779 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 7780 | House-in-pit | South | — |
| 9242 | Small pit | South | — |
| 7902 | Small pit | West | — |
| 7903 | Small pit | West | — |
| 7904 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 7905 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8441 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 8557 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 8559 | Small pit | West | — |
| 9301 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8731: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus B
Elevation: 14.06-14.09 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface was recognized during mechanical excavation as a dark stain with oxidized sediments (Figure 1). Hand-excavation revealed a heavily oxidized surface. One internal feature and a posthole were identified and excavated on the exposed surface. Most of the feature was stripped away by the backhoe; the remaining portion measured 3.00 m north-south by 1.15 m east-west.

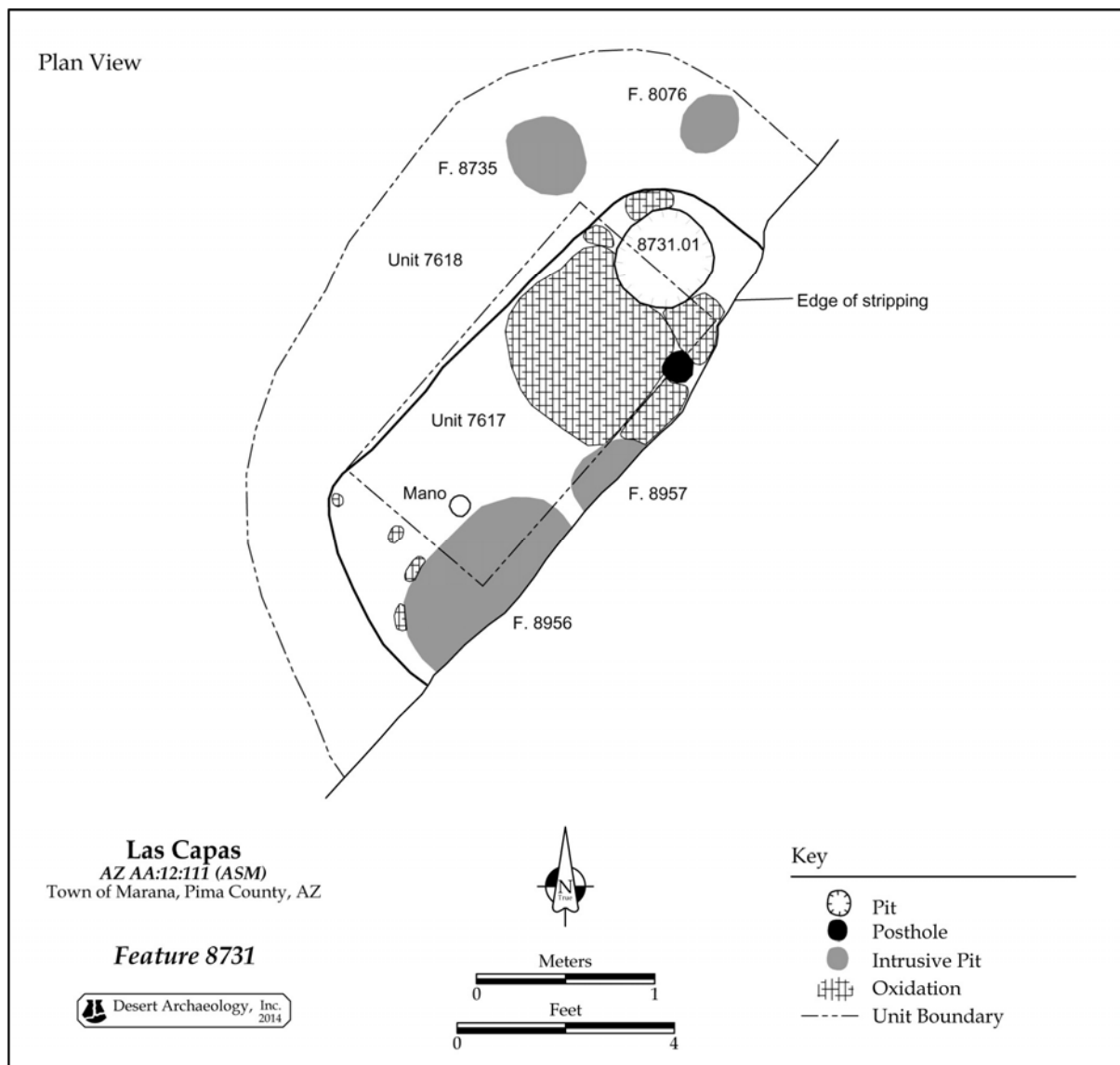


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 8731, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Features

A small pit and a single posthole originated at the extramural surface. The small, elliptical pit measured 59 cm by 54 cm, and had a depth of 17 cm. The pit fill was medium gray to light brown in color and was a mix of fine, silty sands with a high density of ash and charcoal inclusions. A moderate density of artifacts was present in the fill, including 6 pieces of flaked stone, 7 pieces of faunal bone, 1 fire-cracked mano fragment, and 6 pieces of fire-cracked rock. Oxidation continued from the extramural surface into the feature, along the walls and base of the pit. Based on the substantial amount of ash and charcoal in the fill, the pit probably functioned as a clean-out for a nearby informal hearth. A single, ash-filled posthole was also excavated. More postholes may once have been present, but were stripped away during mechanical excavation. The posthole suggests the feature had a ramada-style superstructure.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The extramural surface originated in Stratum 505. The 3 cm of fill left intact after mechanical excavation consisted of a soft, dark grayish-brown silty sand with abundant ash and moderate charcoal inclusions. A low density of artifacts was present, including 34 flakes, 2 pieces of faunal bone, and 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted through use. It consisted of a slightly hard, light to medium brown, silty sand with heavy patches of oxidation and some embedded charcoal flecks. A one-hand mano was the only artifact associated with the surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Several extramural features that originated in Stratum 505 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 8731 (Table 1). These features included predominantly small pits, in addition to several bell-shaped pits. Based on their originating stratum, these extramural features may have been used in conjunction with, and in the same time frame, as the extramural surface. No intrusive features were present.

Functional Inferences

Feature 8731 probably experienced moderate use related to extramural activities. The surface may have been used in conjunction with two nearby pit structures, Features 7831 and 8076. The presence of a single posthole suggests a superstructure had been erected. Heavy oxidation across the surface indicates thermal activity occurred. The area may have been used as a ramada or a brush kitchen. Although this feature bordered another extramural surface, Feature 8260, their relationship was unclear. Feature 8260 was stripped away prior to identification of Feature 8731, leaving little evidence to interpret the relationship between the two extramural surfaces. They might have been a single feature.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 8731, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8343 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 8735 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8736 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8738 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8741 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8742 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8744 | Small pit | North | — |
| 8084 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 8737 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8739 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8740 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8729 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8728 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8730 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8767: Extramural Surface
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.55-14.64 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was identified during mechanical stripping of the far southwestern portion of Locus B. The surface measured 5.85 m north-south by 3.85 m east-west, and surface consisted of an unprepared, medium to dark brown clay, with a moderate to loose compaction and some embedded caliche and charcoal flecking. The surface was defined by a dramatic decrease in artifact and charcoal inclusions.

Internal Features

A single shallow, elliptical, basin-shaped pit was found to originate from the extramural surface. The pit measured 98 cm by 68 cm, and was 15 cm deep. The pit fill consisted of loosely compacted, dark brown, silty clay, with a moderate to low density of caliche, charcoal flecking, and small pieces of burned daub. A moderate density of artifacts was present, including: 83 pieces of flaked stone, 7 pieces of faunal bone (including a burned long bone), 9 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a ground stone fragment. The top 7-10 cm of fill contained a higher density of flaked stone debris than the fill directly above the floor surface. A moderate amount of root and insect bioturbation was noted.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The feature fill was excavated in two stratigraphic levels. The top 6 cm consisted of undifferentiated, moderately hard, medium brown silty clay, which became more compact and blocky toward the edges of the feature. Some caliche and charcoal flecking were present. A large number of artifacts were present in the level, including: 568 pieces of flaked stone, 5 bifaces, 1 projectile point, 46 pieces of faunal bone, 35 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 1 piece of fire-cracked ground stone. The bottom 3 cm of fill had a similar composition and compaction to the upper fill, but with lower artifact densities, including: 119 pieces of flaked stone, 1 biface, 8 pieces of faunal bone, 17 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 1 piece of fire-cracked ground stone. A moderate amount of root, rodent, and insect disturbance was noted in both levels. Several artifacts were present on the extramural surface, including 17 flakes and 7 pieces of fire-cracked rock.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 8767 originated in Stratum 506.01. A number of possibly contemporary extramural pits were present within a 3-m radius of the extramural surface (Table 1). These pits may have been used in association with activities that occurred on this extramural surface.

House-in-pit Feature 7245 was very nearby to the northeast, but originated in Stratum 504.02, and would have been built some time after this extramural surface was abandoned and buried by intervening strata.

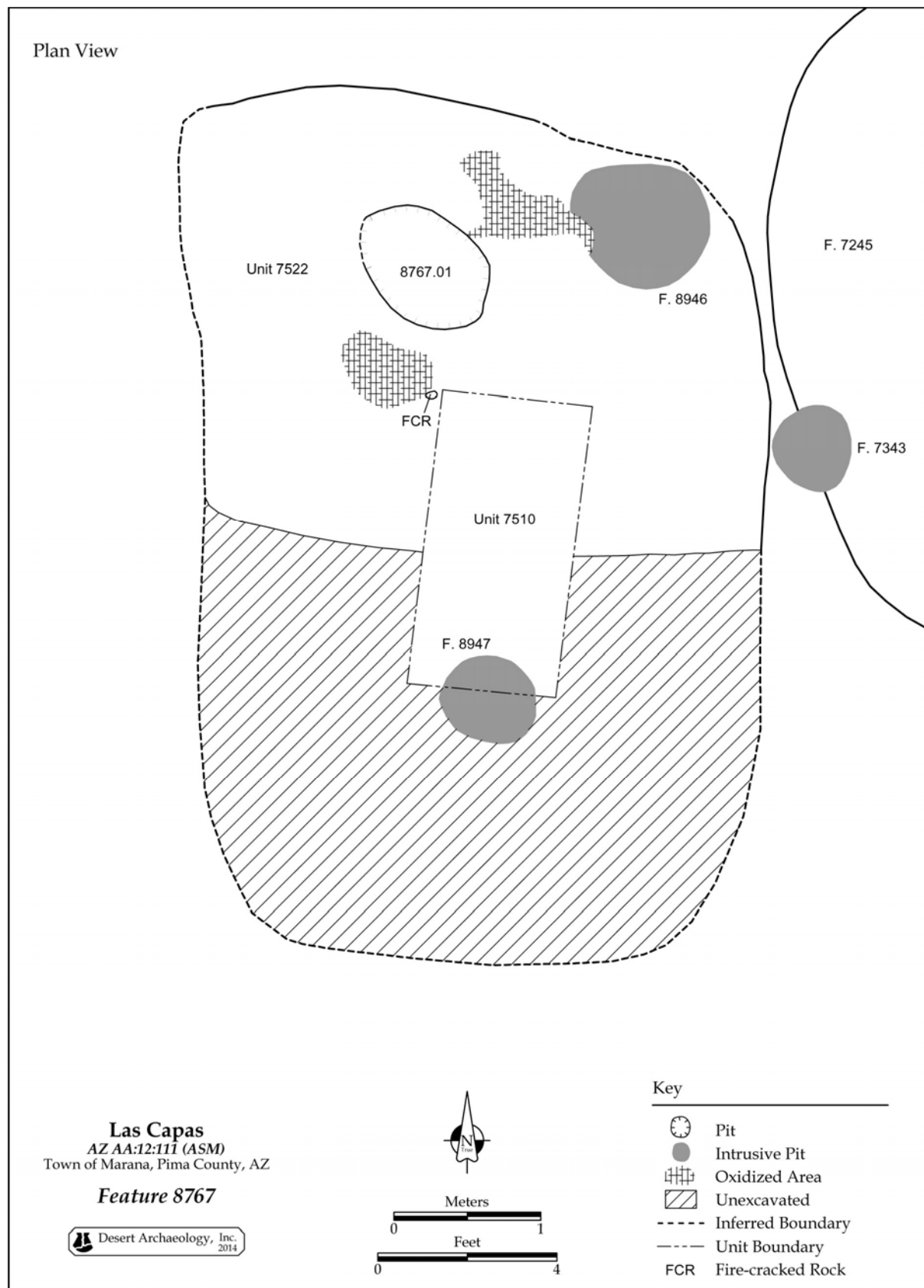


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 8767, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Functional Inferences

This extramural surface was probably used for outdoor activities, possibly in conjunction with nearby habitation structures. The lack of postholes indicates no superstructure was erected. The presence of six bifaces, a projectile point, and an extremely high density of lithic debitage indicates flaked stone manufacturing likely occurred in the area.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 8767, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 9198 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 8649 | Large pit | Northeast | — |
| 9372 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 8768 | Small pit | East | — |
| 9090 | Small pit | South | — |
| 8773 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8782 | Roasting pit | Southwest | — |
| 9359 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 8774 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8776 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 8777 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8781 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 8873: House-in-pit
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.60-14.66 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping and during the excavation of Feature 8417. The remaining cultural overburden was hand-excavated, exposing part of the floor surface and feature boundaries. The northeastern corner of the structure was disturbed due to stripping, and the entire western half of the structure lay outside the stripped boundary of Locus B. This structure was assumed to be circular in shape, measuring 4.60 m in diameter if fully excavated. Postholes and internal features were present on the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained four internal features (Table 1), including an informal hearth, two small pits, and one bell-shaped pit. The fill of all these features was a uniform, grayish-brown, moderately hard silty clay. Feature 8873.01 was shallow and had an oxidized rind, and partially overlaid the bell-shaped pit, Feature 8873.02.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 8873 post-excavation, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

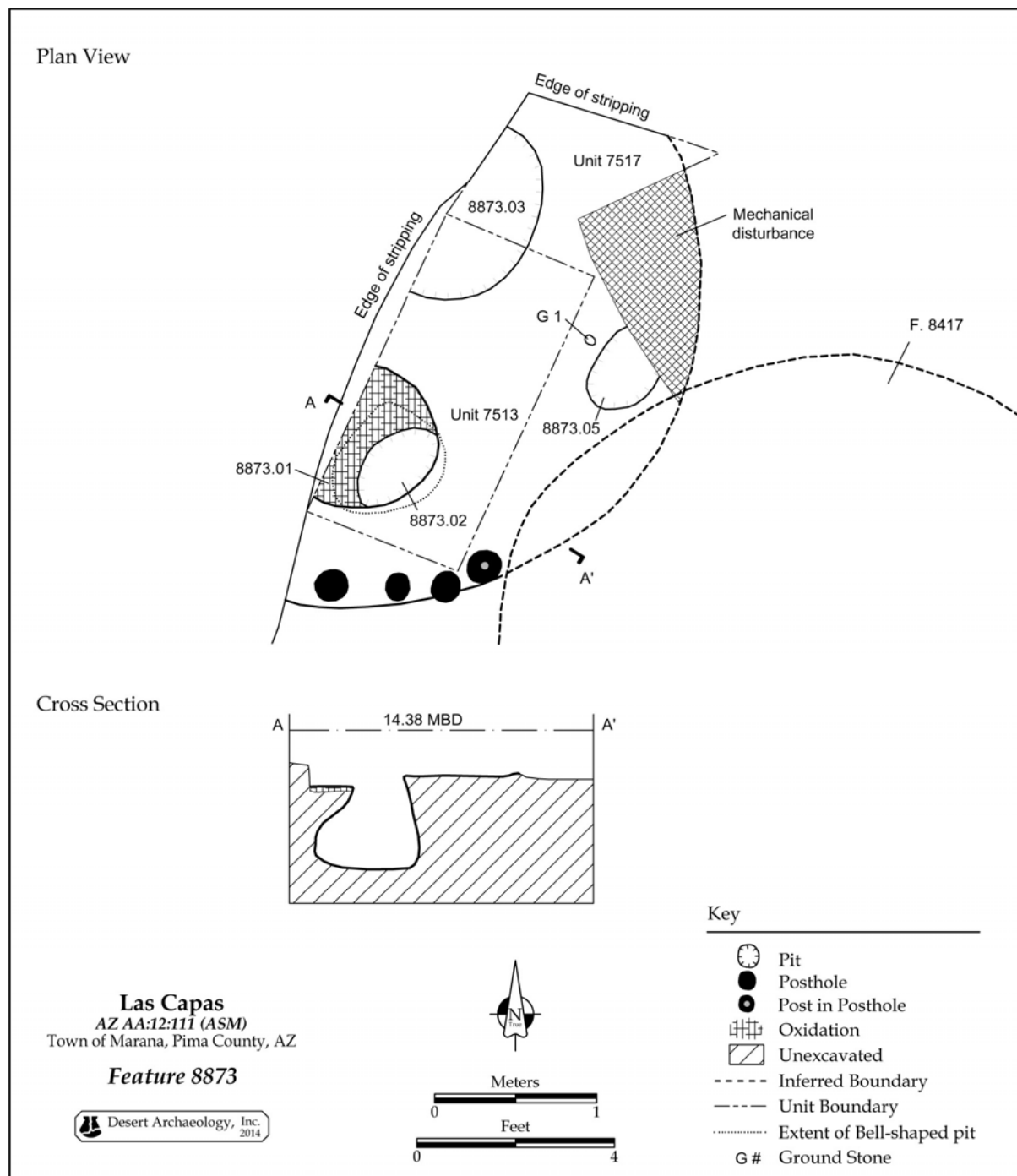


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 8873, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated in Stratum 506.01. The 6 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, grayish-brown, moderately hard silty clay, which contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and small pieces of daub, as well as very small amounts of slag and ash throughout. Artifact density in the fill was low, and consisted of 30 pieces of flaked stone, 3 pieces of faunal bone, 8 pieces of fire-cracked

rock, 1 piece of ochre, and 1 figurine fragment. A ground stone fragment was the only artifact identified in direct contact with the exposed floor surface; it was located in the eastern portion of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, the internal features, and postholes were built by excavating into Stratum 506.01. Although half the structure was unexcavated, due to its extension beyond the stripped boundary, the primary foundation pit was still identifiable in the exposed portion. The structure was likely erected within this primary foundation pit. The visible foundation pit walls were not formally prepared, and they sloped upward to a height of 6 cm above the floor surface. The foundation pit walls likely continued higher at some time, but were removed by mechanical stripping.

The exposed floor surface was in fairly good condition. It was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over the use-life of the structure. The exposed floor was generally flat, contained light oxidation throughout, and sloped upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. Although the floor surface was lightly oxidized, this oxidation did not continue up the remaining portions of the foundation pit.

Four postholes were identified and excavated. They were all located near the southern portion of the structure. The western part of the structure was not exposed; however, the evidence in similar features suggests the posthole pattern would have continued to form a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. One posthole appeared to have been excavated into the foundation pit wall itself. The postholes were all circular in shape, and averaged 14 cm in diameter and 15 cm in depth. One contained the remnant of an in situ burned post. These postholes likely held upright wall posts, which were either bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit. The posts likely held horizontal stringers and a covering of reed or grass thatching. No evidence of remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This structure was constructed in Stratum 506.01, and it was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 505. While no extramural features were identified as being intrusive or overlying this structure, it intruded into the northwestern edge of Feature 8417, another house-in-pit. A single extramural feature that originated within Stratum 506.01 was found within a 3-m radius of this structure. Feature 9202, a small pit, was located northeast of Feature 8873. Because the entire western half of Feature 8873 was outside the stripped boundary of Locus B, there may have been additional extramural pits and possible houses-in-pits located nearby, that were not exposed.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the sparse number of artifacts found on the exposed floor surface, the structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Although light oxidation was present across the floor, and slag was present within the fill, this structure did not appear to have been subject to intense burning. Only one burned post was present within a posthole to suggest burning. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Based upon the large number of internal features identified and the projected diameter of Feature 8873, it appears that its primary function was storage. The high degree of oxidation present within

Feature 8873.02 suggests some domestic activity, such as food preparation, occurred within the structure. This structure, based on its bottom elevation, is slightly later in origin than the house-in-pit it intruded upon, despite the fact that they originate within the same stratum. There is a 3 cm difference between the bottom elevations of the two structures, indicating that Feature 8873, the later of the two structures, may have been constructed only a short time after Feature 8417 was abandoned. Although the two structures were not occupied at the same time, the similar architectural attributes and elevations suggest they were nearly contemporaneous and a product of the same occupational phase within Stratum 506.01.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 8873, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8873.01 | Hearth | 0.92 | 0.55 ^a | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | 2 | — | 0.0185 |
| 8873.02 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.61 | 0.35 | 0.58 | 0.70 | 0.55 | — | — | — | 16 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.1363 |
| 8873.03 | Small pit | 1.17 | 0.59 ^a | 0.17 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | 1 | — | 7 | — | 0.0614 |
| 8873.05 | Small pit | 0.48 ^a | 0.41 | 0.06 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0062 |

^a Indicates an estimated measurement.

Feature 8972: Extramural Surface
Stratum 506.01
Locus B
Elevation: 14.61-14.67 mbd

General Description

Extramural surface Feature 8972 (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing almost half of the compacted surface. This extramural surface was somewhat oval in shape, and would measure approximately 5.47 m northeast-southwest by 3.35 m southeast-northwest if fully excavated. This extramural surface was apparent from the compacted soil and light patches of oxidation, but also had a well-defined edge. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface over its use-life. The outdoor activities that occurred on this surface appear to have created a slight basin shape to the surface.

Internal Features

A single shallow, elliptical, basin-shaped pit was found to originate from the extramural surface. The pit measured 98 cm by 68 cm, and was 15 cm deep. The pit fill consisted of loosely compacted, dark brown, silty clay, with a moderate to low density of caliche, charcoal flecking, and small pieces of burned daub. A moderate density of artifacts was present, including: 83 pieces of flaked stone, 7 pieces of faunal bone (including a burned long bone), 9 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a ground stone fragment. The top 7-10 cm of fill contained a higher density of flaked stone debris than the fill directly above the floor surface. A moderate amount of root and insect bioturbation was noted.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This extramural surface contained two directly related internal features. Feature 8972.01, an informal hearth, was located in the southwestern portion of the excavated area. The hearth measured 34 cm north-south by 31 cm east-west, with 2 cm of depth. The internal fill consisted of a uniform, loosely consolidated, ashy gray-brown silt that contained no artifacts.

Feature 8972.02, a roasting pit, was located near the southeastern edge of the excavated area. The feature measured 80 cm north-south by 30 cm east-west, and 31 cm deep. The smaller dimension represents only the width excavated; the extent of the pit was obscured by the unstripped bulk. The pit fill consisted of loosely consolidated, brown, fine-textured silt that contained large amounts of charcoal flecks and ash throughout. The excavated portion of the feature had a highly oxidized rind around its lip and base. Artifact density was low, and consisted of small pieces of flaked stone, faunal bone, and fire-cracked rock.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This extramural surface originated within Stratum 506.01. The 6 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, brown, loosely consolidated, fine-textured silt that contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. The fill also contained small, sporadic pockets of a loose, tan, fine-textured sand and dark brown clay, likely caused by rodent and root disturbance. Artifact density within the fill was low,

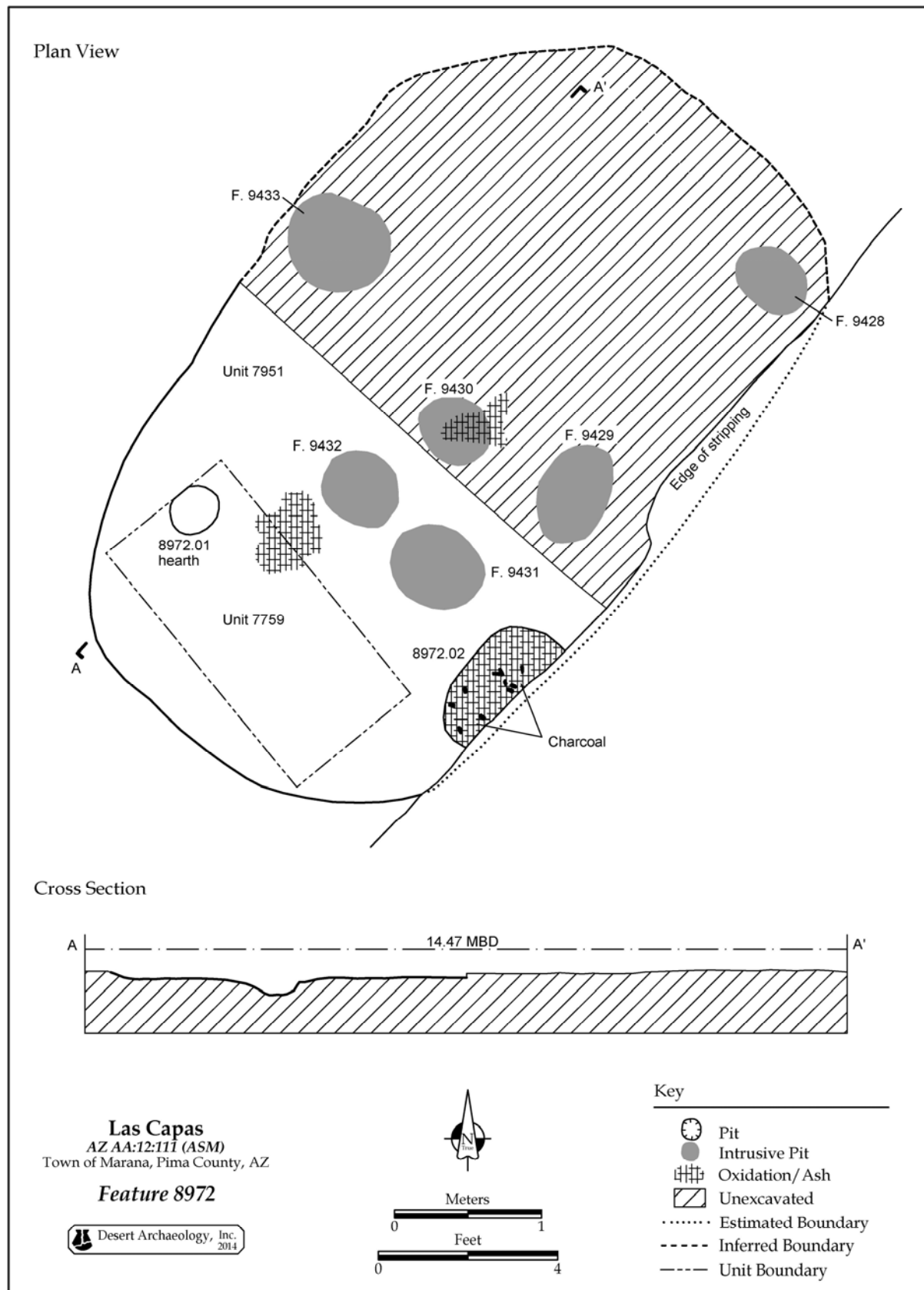


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of extramural surface Feature 8972, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

and consisted of 18 pieces of flaked stone, 1 core fragment, 10 pieces of burned and unburned faunal bone, and 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock. No artifacts were in direct contact with the surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 8972 originated within Stratum 506.01, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 506 and 505. This surface did not intrude into any extramural features, but was intruded on by several features, all of which originated from the upper limits of Stratum 506.01, and cut through the extramural surface (Table 1). Several extramural features that originated within Stratum 506.01 were located within a 3-m radius of this extramural surface. These included several small pits, a roasting pit, and a bell-shaped pit, as well as an area of occupational debris.

Functional Inferences

Based on the compaction of the surface, as well as the presence of a hearth and roasting pit associated with it, the feature likely functioned as an outdoor activity area. The hearth and the roasting pit indicate the area was used for food processing and preparation. This extramural surface appears to have been filled in by natural deposits from Stratum 506.01, but the area was still extensively used for the excavation of numerous small pits.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 506.01 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 8972, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 9386 | Small pit | North | — |
| 9387 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 8968 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 8980 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8973 | Small pit | West | — |
| 8974 | Occupational debris | West | — |
| 9428 | Small pit | Within surface boundary | Intrusive |
| 9429 | Roasting pit | Within surface boundary | Intrusive |
| 9430 | Small pit | Within surface boundary | Intrusive |
| 9431 | Small pit | Within surface boundary | Intrusive |
| 9432 | Small pit | Within surface boundary | Intrusive |
| 9433 | Small pit | Within surface boundary | Intrusive |

Feature 12160: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus C
Elevation: 12.33-12.40 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was identified in the far northeastern portion of Locus C during backhoe stripping. The feature was subsequently hand-excavated to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose structural elements and floor features within the pit structure. The oval-shaped pit structure measured 4.70 m north-south by 3.90 m east-west. The total floor area of the structure was 14.47 m², while the usable floor surface measured 13.27 m². Trench 223 was located about 50 cm southwest of the structure, and a modern pipeline trench was located against the northern boundary of the structure. The feature was a house-in-pit with the superstructure built within the foundation pit. A moderate amount of bioturbation and insect disturbance affected the integrity of the floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

An informal hearth and three bell-shaped pits were identified as floor features. The hearth and two of the bell-shaped pits were located in the center of the house. Oxidation in the upper portions of the



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 12160, post-excavation, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

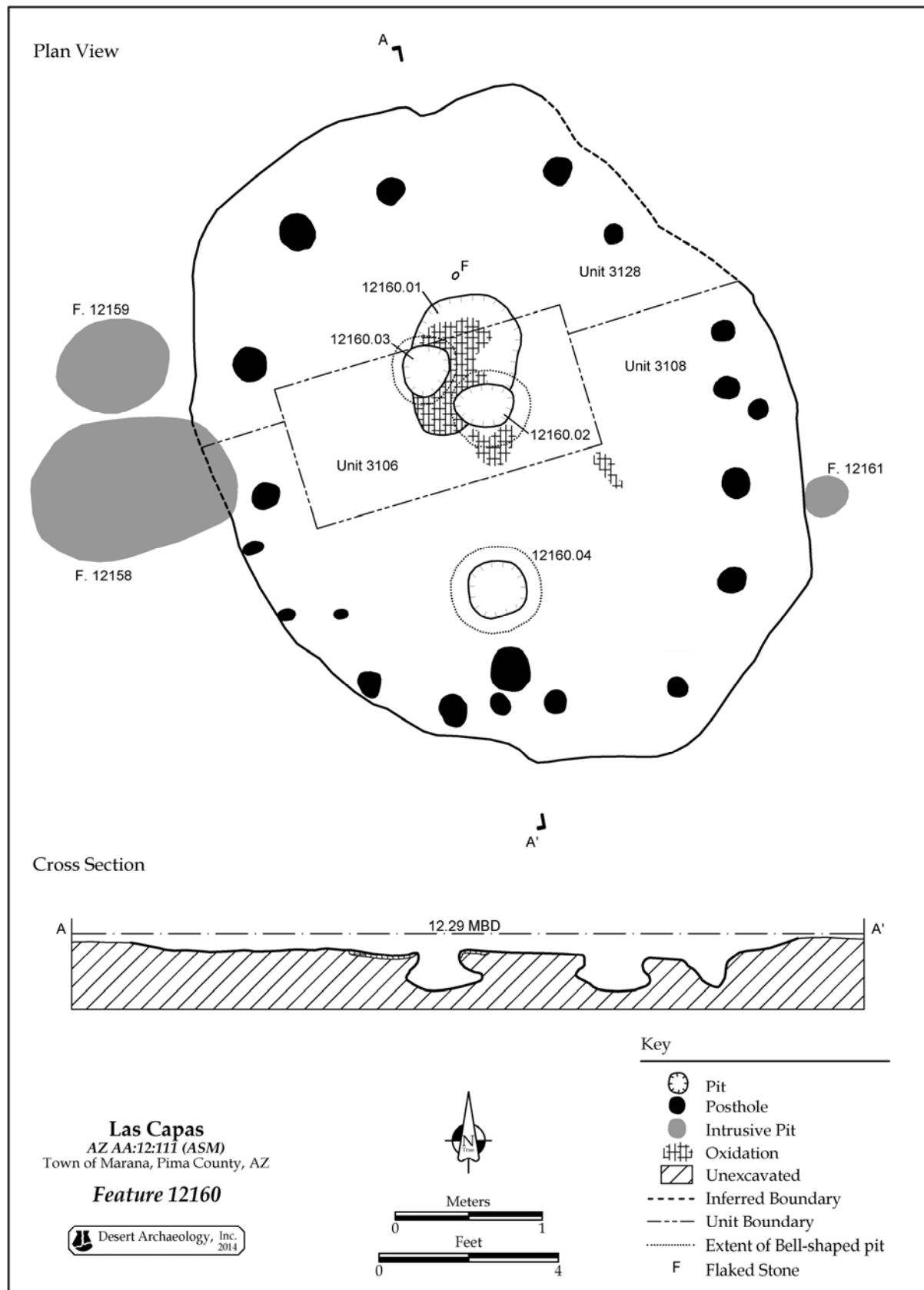


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 12160, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

two bell-shaped pits suggests these features were open when the adjacent hearth was in use. The third bell-shaped pit was located in the southern part of the structure. Oxidation was limited to the hearth and adjacent area of the floor (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 7 cm of cultural fill was excavated in two stratigraphic levels. The first level consisted of moderately hard, light brown, silty clay with a low density of charcoal flecks. The second level consisted of a light brown, soft, sandy silt with abundant white silt laminae and patches of dark clay. A moderate density of artifacts was present in the lower fill, including 65 flakes, 53 pieces of faunal bone, and 28 pieces of fire-cracked rock. No artifacts were associated with the floor. A moderate amount of bioturbation, in the form of rodent and insect disturbance, was present.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the interior perimeter of the pit basin. The average depth of the 20 excavated perimeter postholes was 16 cm and their average diameter was 17 cm. Although no preserved posts remained in situ, the superstructure was likely formed by upright posts that were bent or bowed to form a dome over the foundation pit. The structural elements of the house are similar to those of Feature 12184, located several meters southeast of Feature 12160. Both features were fairly round houses-in-pits that originated in Stratum 504.02 and had a single ring of interior perimeter postholes. Similarities between the internal features were noted as well: the hearths were located in the central portion of each structure, and each contained at least one bell-shaped pit. The floor was not formally prepared, but was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. This also accounts for the substantial amount of charcoal embedded in the surface. The floor consisted of a moderately compact and undulating surface, with varying depths across the extent of the structure. No roof or wall fall, such as burned post fragments, thatching, or daub, was noted during excavation.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated in Stratum 504.02. Several extramural pits originating in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of the structure (Table 2). Based on location and relative elevation, these features may have functioned as storage pits for Feature 12160. Feature 12192, a habitation structure, was located just southeast of Feature 12160. Feature 12158, a small pit, intruded on the western edge of the structure and disturbed a portion of the wall.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not appear to have burned. The depression left by the foundation pit after the structure was abandoned likely filled with washed-in cultural debris. The lack of a floor assemblage suggests the feature was cleaned out prior to abandonment.

Functional Inferences

Feature 12160 may have functioned as a habitation structure. Features 12160 and 12184 were the only structures identified in Locus C within Stratum 504.02, and these two structures shared several

internal attributes, including the presence of at least one hearth and one bell-shaped pit. Because the houses-in-pits were located on the far northwestern edge of the stripped area, it is possible additional structures were present to the northwest, but outside the locus.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 12160, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 12160.01 | Hearth | 0.75 | 0.57 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 12160.02 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.42 | 0.30 | 0.26 | 0.65 | 0.55 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 0.0494 |
| 12160.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.34 | 0.30 | 0.23 | 0.53 | 0.42 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0293 |
| 12160.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.45 | 0.41 | 0.23 | 0.60 | 0.51 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 0.0443 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 12160, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 12001 | Small pit | South | — |
| 12162 | Small pit | South | — |
| 12183 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 12222 | Small pit | South | — |
| 12223 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 12230 | Large pit | South | — |
| 12157 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 12163 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 12158 | Small pit | West | — |
| 12159 | Small pit | West | — |
| 12208 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 12184: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus C
Elevation: 12.29-12.37 mbd

General Description

Feature 12184 (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during backhoe stripping in the far northeastern corner of Locus C. After identification, the feature was excavated by hand to remove overlying cultural debris and to expose the floor surface and internal features. The length of the house-in-pit could not be determined, as Trench 223 truncated the southern edge and a modern utility trench intruded into its northern end. The preserved area of the feature measured 4.35 m east-west by 3.90 m north-south. The total floor area of the structure was 12.82 m², while the usable floor surface measured 11.75 m². No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Three shallow, circular, basin-shaped hearths were located in the central portion of the structure. Heavy oxidation was limited to the area in and around the hearths. A bell-shaped pit was located in the far southeastern portion of the structure; this most likely functioned as a storage feature.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 12184, post-excavation, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

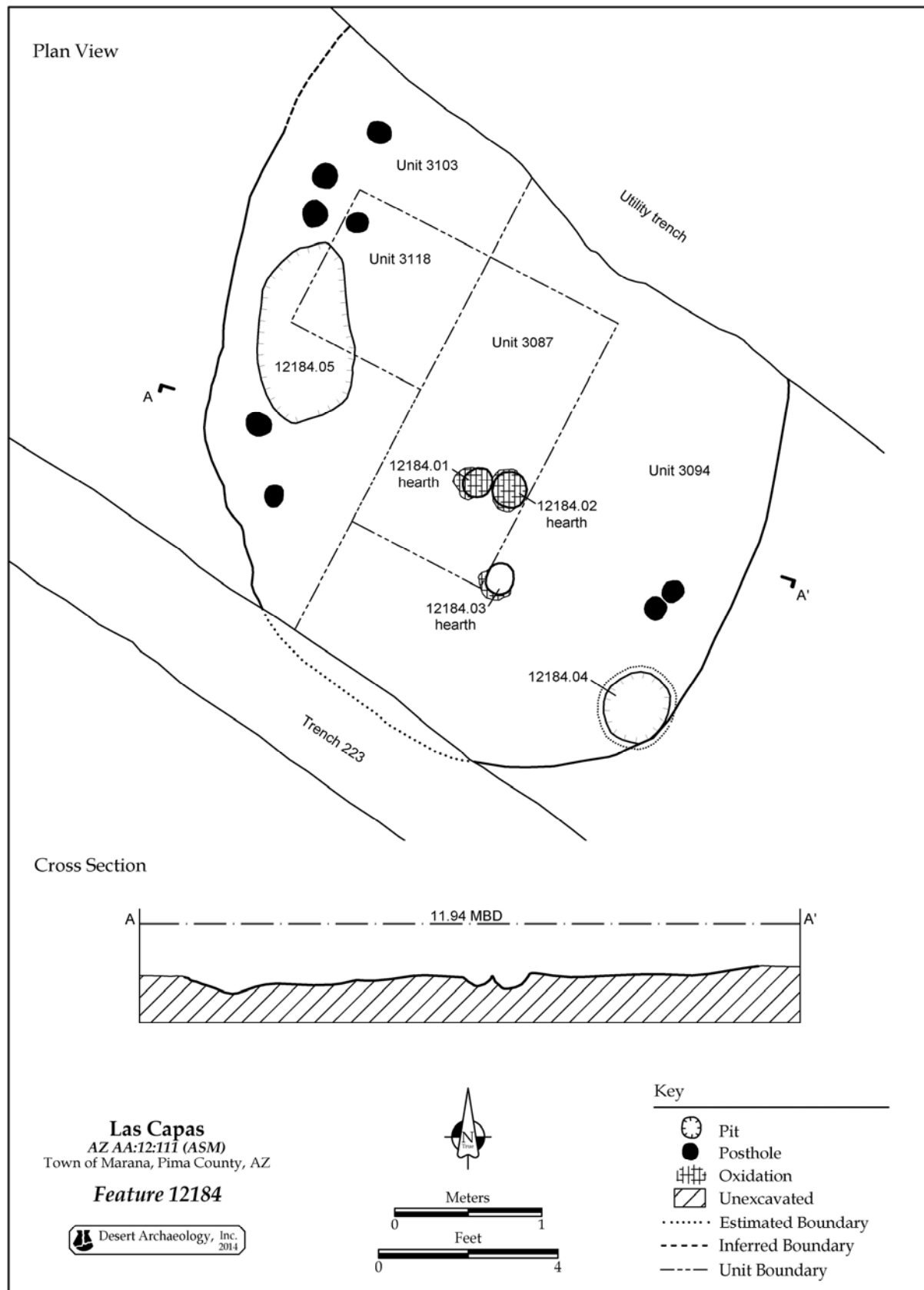


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 12184, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

A shallow, irregularly shaped pit of unknown function was excavated in the western portion of the dwelling (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The 5 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of undifferentiated, soft, light brown silty clay, with thin white silt laminae and patches of dark clay. The feature fill was uniform throughout, except the hearth area, which contained a moderate to high density of oxidized sediment and charcoal flecks. The feature contained a very low density of artifacts, including a single piece of flaked stone, a faunal bone fragment, and five pieces of fire-cracked rock. A single piece of fire-cracked rock was present on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit structure contained a single row of postholes around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The eight excavated postholes had an average depth of 8 cm and an average diameter of 14 cm. The postholes likely held upright posts that formed the superstructure over the foundation pit. The structure had no evidence of remodeling. The floor consisted of a moderately compact, unprepared, brown silty clay, which was fairly level and consistent across the extent of the surface. The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. This also accounts for the presence of charcoal flecks embedded in the surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

The structure, internal features, and postholes originated in Stratum 504.02. A large number of possibly contemporary extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 12184 (Table 2). Based on location and elevation, these pits may have been used as storage features related to Feature 12184. Feature 12160, a house-in-pit, was located about 1.5 m west of the structure and may also have been contemporary.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure did not appear to have burned, as it lacked burned structural debris in the fill, widespread oxidation, or in situ burned posts. The depression left after the structure was abandoned appeared to have filled with washed-in flood deposits. The lack of a floor assemblage, as well as the extremely low density of artifacts, indicates the structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The feature did not show any signs of postabandonment reuse.

Functional Inferences

Based on the presence of multiple hearths and ample usable floor space, Feature 12184 likely functioned as a habitation. Features 12160 and 12184 were the only structures identified in Locus C within Stratum 504.02, and they share several attributes, including the presence of one or more hearths and a bell-shaped pit in each structure. The structures were located on the far northwestern edge of the locus. More structures may have been located northwest of the features, but would have been outside the stripped area of Locus C.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 12184, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 12184.01 | Hearth | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0024 |
| 12184.02 | Hearth | 0.26 | 0.25 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0031 |
| 12184.03 | Hearth | 0.19 | 0.18 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0013 |
| 12184.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.56 | 0.49 | 0.40 | 0.60 | 0.55 | 0.56 | 0.49 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 0.0949 |
| 12184.05 | Small pit | 1.21 | 0.58 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.0551 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 12184, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 12161 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 12186 | Small pit | East | — |
| 12219 | Small pit | East | — |
| 12220 | Small pit | East | — |
| 12227 | Small pit | East | — |
| 12225 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 12226 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 12185 | Large pit | South | — |
| 12187 | Small pit | South | — |
| 12188 | Small pit | South | — |
| 12189 | Small pit | South | — |
| 12230 | Large pit | Southwest | — |
| 12162 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 12163 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 12183 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 12222 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 12223 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 13037: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 501
Locus D
Elevation: mbd not recorded

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in the east wall of Trench 103. This possible structure was very difficult to identify, as it was located within the modern plowzone and contained no defined boundaries. The feature was identified approximately 20 cm below the ground surface, and measured roughly 3.50 m in length, with an average thickness of 20 cm. The feature was visible as a loosely distributed area of charcoal flecks and small pieces of burned sediment. Due to the location of this feature within the modern plowzone, it may have been representative of either cultural materials being tilled up through plowing or an area of occupational debris, rather than a structure.

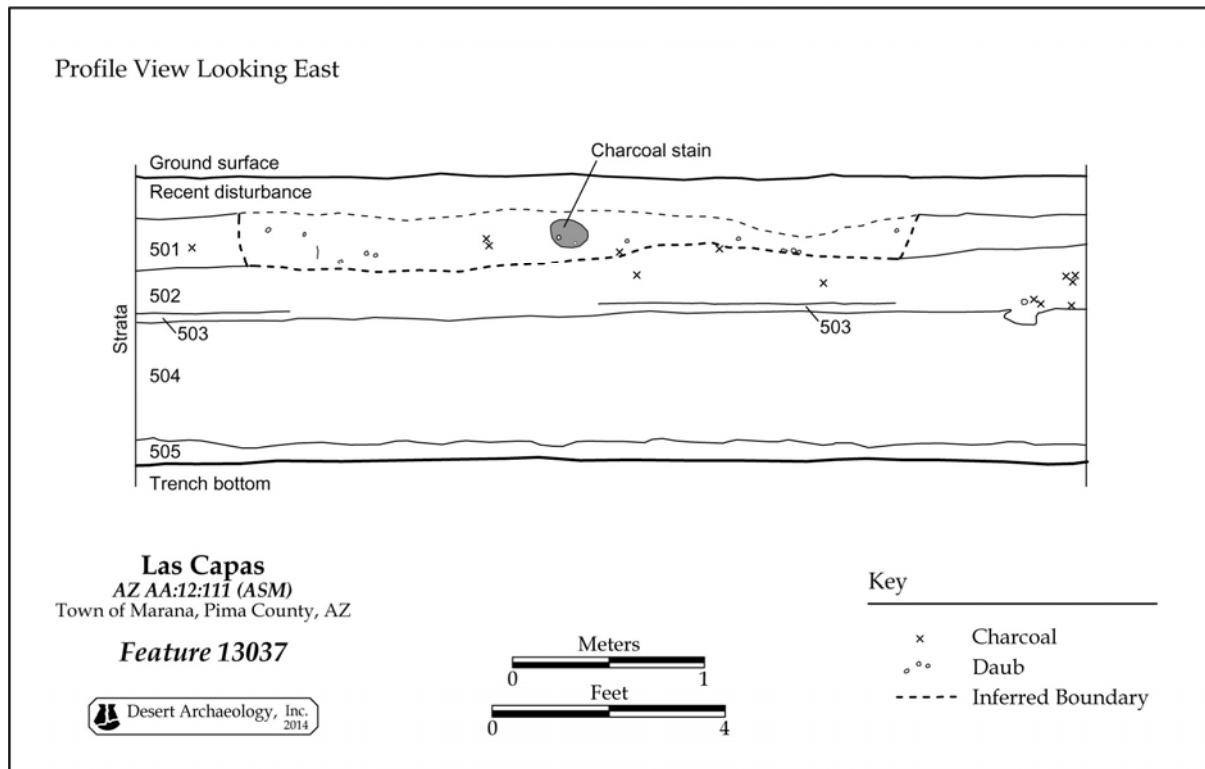


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 13037, profile in east wall of Trench 103, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13056: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus D
Elevation: 13.03-13.23 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible within both the west and east walls of Trench 103. This feature was observed 55 cm below the ground surface, and measured 2.88 m in length along the east wall, 2.35 m in length along the west wall, and averaged 20 cm in thickness. This feature was visible as a large, undefined area of charcoal staining in both walls of the test trench. Below this undefined stain was a well-defined, basin-shaped roasting pit that contained a high charcoal density and oxidation with visible burned corncobs and fire-cracked rock. Based on the size of the roasting pit, the undefined area of charcoal staining was almost certainly a result of clean-out episodes from the roaster, as opposed to a structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504 and cut into the top of Stratum 505. The feature was buried by additional deposits of Stratum 504, as well as by deposits from Stratum 503 and the modern plowzone.

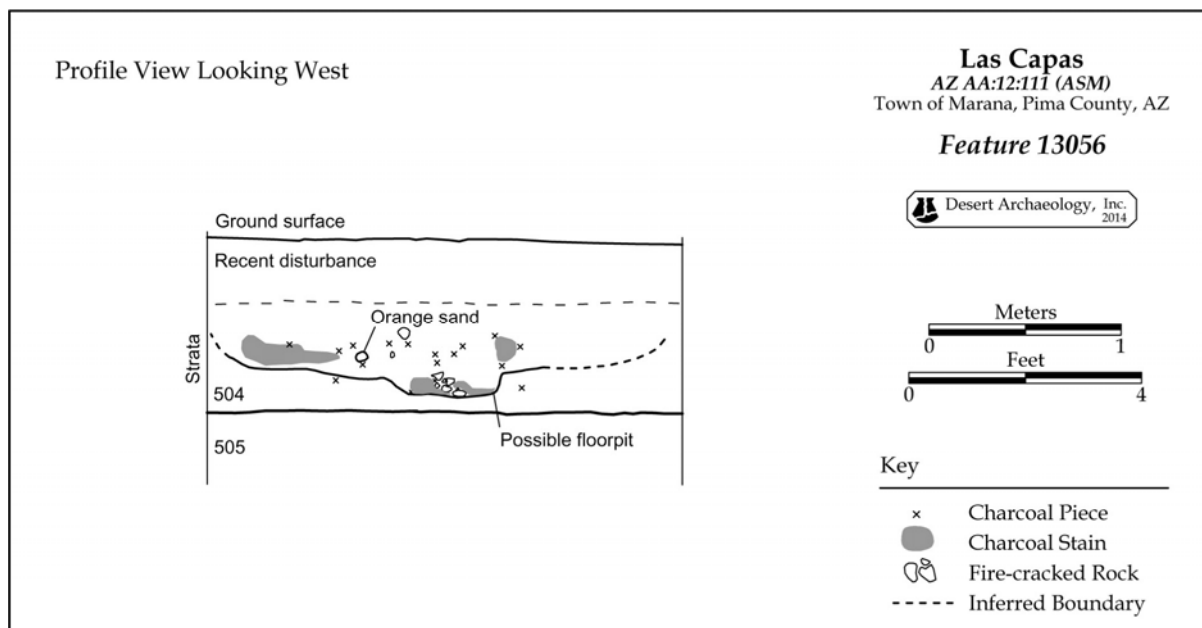


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 13056, profile in west wall of Trench 103, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13074: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504
Locus D
Elevation: mbd not recorded

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching within the west wall of Trench 103. This surface was 60 cm below the ground surface and the feature measured 1.54 m in length and averaged 17 cm in depth. The feature was visible as a linear lens of charcoal-flecked soil that contained small amounts of burned daub. No artifacts were visible within the profiled wall.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface originated within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits from that stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. While not determined to be associated with the extramural surface, a small concentration of charcoal flecks, measuring 5 cm in diameter, was located in Stratum 505.

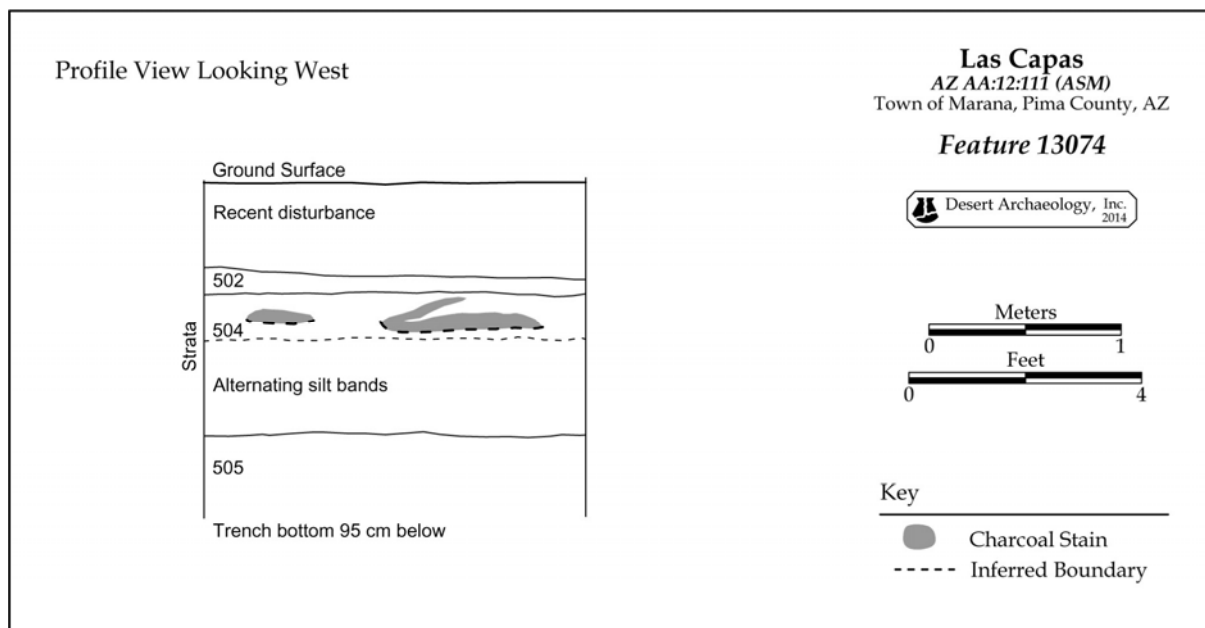


Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 13074, profile in west wall of Trench 103, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13088: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus D
Elevation: 13.44-13.57 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching within the eastern wall of Trench 106. This possible structure was identified 80 cm below the ground surface, and it measured 1.80 m in length, with an average thickness of 13 cm. This feature was visible as a linear lens of charcoal flecking with undefined edges. A well-defined small pit originated from this lens and extended below it; this small pit may have represented an internal feature. Feature 13088 may have represented an area of occupational debris, given that the lens contained such undefined edges.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. No extramural features were noted in profile in close proximity to this feature.

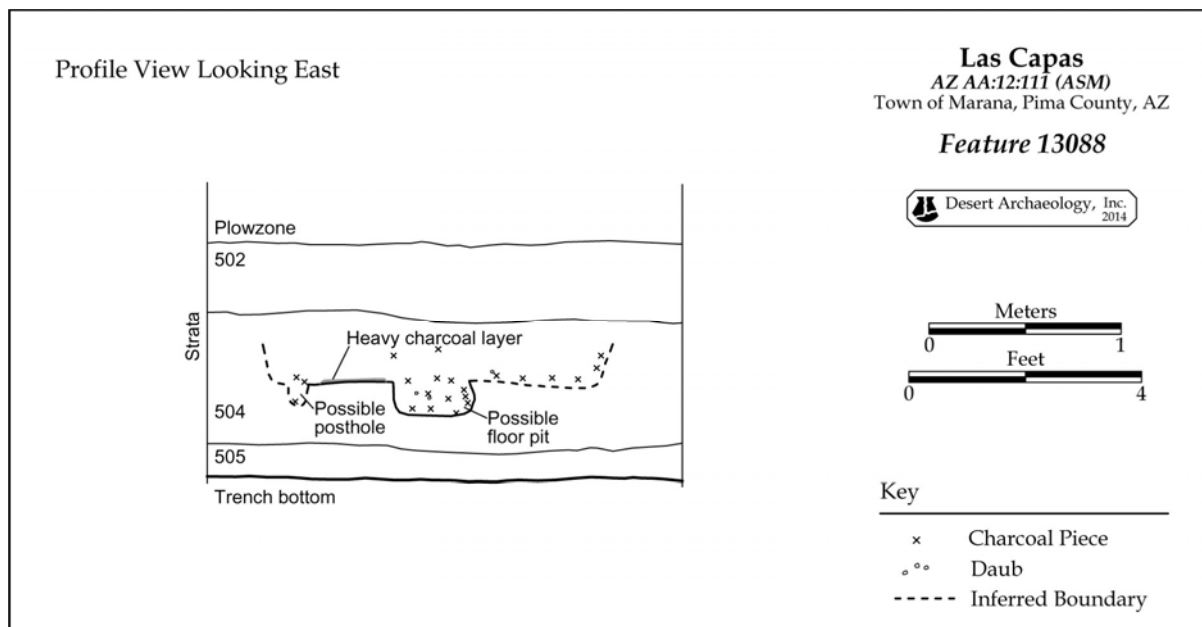


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 13088, profile in east wall of Trench 106, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13089: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus D
Elevation: 13.49-13.74 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching. The feature was present in both walls of Trench 106, although the better preserved and profiled portion was in the eastern wall. This possible house-in-pit was observed 87 cm below the ground surface. The feature measured 2.00 m in length along the eastern wall, 1.88 m in length along the western wall, and averaged 25 cm in thickness. This possible structure was visible as a linear lens of dark brown, blocky textured, silty clay that contained large amounts of charcoal flecking throughout, with a fairly well-defined bottom but indistinct wall edges. The profile in the eastern wall contained what may have been an internal pit that originated from the lens and extended below it.

Two pieces of fire-cracked rock and one piece of flaked stone were visible within the feature fill in the eastern wall. No oxidized soil was present. Based on the indistinct edges, this feature may have been an area of occupational debris.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. Directly north and south of Feature 13089 along the eastern wall of the test trench were indiscrete areas of mild charcoal flecking within Stratum 504.

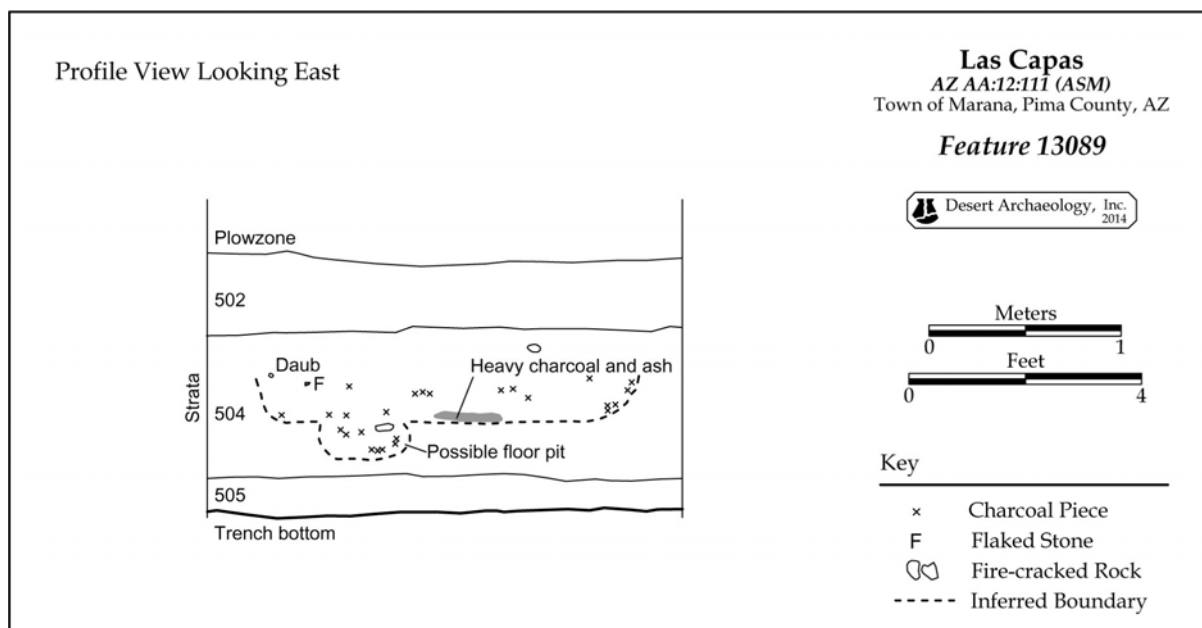


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 13089, profile in east wall of Trench 106, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13218: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.86-13.90 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was observed in both walls of Trench 110, which bisected the structure. The feature was subsequently exposed by hand-excavation of the overlying cultural strata. The structure was in poor condition due to mechanical overstripping and disturbance by numerous intrusive features; however, based on slight soil differences, as well as the identification of a hearth and internal features, the structure appeared to be oval in shape. The structure measured 4.65 m northwest-southeast by 2.90 m northeast-southwest, with 11.48 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Neither postholes nor an entry were identified, and the exact orientation of structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

Five internal features were associated with the structure (Table 1). These included an informal hearth in the southeastern portion of structure along Trench 110, three small pits (one along the western side of Trench 110, the rest located in the eastern portion of the structure), and a large bell-shaped pit located in the far western portion of the structure.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13218, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

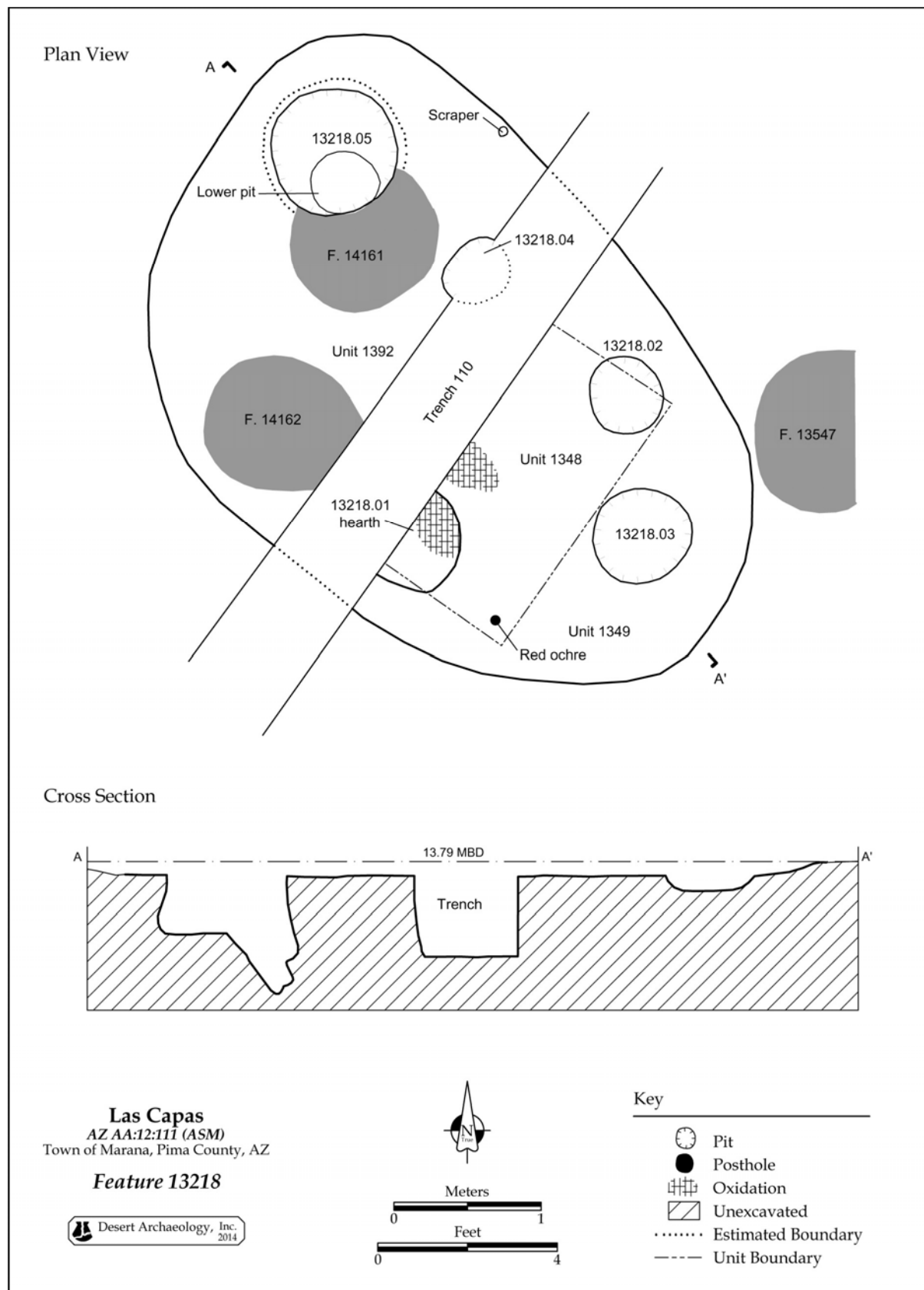


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 13218, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This structure originated within Stratum 504.02. The 4 cm of internal fill consisted of uniform, moderately hard, dark brown silty clay that contained a small amount of charcoal flecks. Artifact density within the fill was moderate, consisting of 41 pieces of flaked stone, 35 pieces of burned faunal bone, and a small piece of red ochre. This structure contained artifacts directly on the floor surface, including small pieces of red ochre near the hearth area, 1 flaked stone tool in the western part of the structure, 3 small pieces of flaked stone, and 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock evenly distributed throughout.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure and internal features were built by excavation into Stratum 504.02. Based on other structures from the same stratum, this feature was likely built within a primary foundation pit. The exact architectural elements could not be determined due to the generally disturbed nature of the structure. Feature 13218 was probably constructed of wall posts connected by stringers and covered with reed thatching. The portions of the floor that remained intact were not formally prepared, but rather, were compacted by individuals occupying the floor surface during the use-life of the structure. More detail is unknown because much of the floor surface and nearly all the foundation pit walls, were removed during mechanical stripping. No evidence of remodeling was noted.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This structure was constructed within Stratum 504.02 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504.01 and 504. Feature 13548, a house-in-pit, intruded upon the southern portion of Feature 13218. Bell-shaped pit, Feature 13547 also intruded on Feature 13218 in the northeast. Numerous extramural features that originated in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 13218, including several small and bell-shaped pits, a roasting pit, and an animal burial (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The structure appears to have been partially cleaned out prior to abandonment, based on the few artifacts associated with the floor surface. This structure displayed signs, within the intact portions of the floor, that it had burned, but the structure did not appear to have burned catastrophically, and the oxidation could be attributed to hearth use. Based on the number of overlying and intrusive extramural pits that cut into this structure, the depression left by the structure after abandonment likely filled in naturally with flood deposits. This area was, in turn, used for the excavation of miscellaneous pits during later occupations in the upper portions of Stratum 504.

Functional Inferences

The primary use of Feature 13218 appeared to be habitation, based on presence of a hearth area. There was evidence of a need for substantial storage within the structure, based on the large size of the internal bell-shaped pit, Feature 13218.05. The number of internal features may be indicative of either a large amount of interior domestic activity or multiple short-term occupations and abandonment episodes during the use-life of the structure. This house-in-pit appears to have been directly associated with the extensive field cell network located immediately to the east and also within Stratum 504.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13218, Locus B, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13218.01 | Hearth | 0.72 | 0.60 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | — | — | 10 | — | — |
| 13218.02 | Small pit | 0.56 | 0.50 | 0.20 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | — | — | 20 | — | 0.0293 |
| 13218.03 | Small pit | 0.67 | 0.63 | 0.20 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0442 |
| 13218.04 | Small pit | 0.50 | 0.40 | 0.52 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13218.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.96 | 0.85 | 0.92 | 1.08 | 0.96 | — | — | — | 87 | 3 | — | 35 | — | 0.6694 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 13218, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| 13662 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 13752 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14022 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 14023 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 14024 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14316 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14318 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14310 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13499 | Possible house-in-pit | North | — |
| 13748 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 14319 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13899 | Small pit | East | — |
| 13547 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 13997 | Small pit | South | — |
| 13324 | Roasting Pit | South | — |
| 13628 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 14324 | Small pit | South | — |
| 13672 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13838 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13854 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13878 | Animal burial | Southwest | — |
| 13881 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 14162 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13799 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 13367 | House-in-pit | West | — |
| 13628 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 13800 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |

Feature 13281: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus D
Elevation: 13.75-13.87 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible within the west wall of Trench 116. This feature was observed 61 cm below the ground surface, measured 1.28 m in length, and averaged 12 cm in thickness. This possible structure was visible as a linear lens of dark brown, blocky textured, hard silty clay that contained a small amount of charcoal flecks throughout and oxidation on the well-defined bottom. The edges of the feature were difficult to identify, and no artifacts were visible within the profiled wall.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within the lower, siltier portion of Stratum 504, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. The dark brown, blocky, silty clay that comprised the feature fill stood out in contrast to the brown, fine-textured silts that composed the lower portions of Stratum 504. This may indicate Feature 13281 was filled with washed-in deposits from the upper portions of Stratum 504.

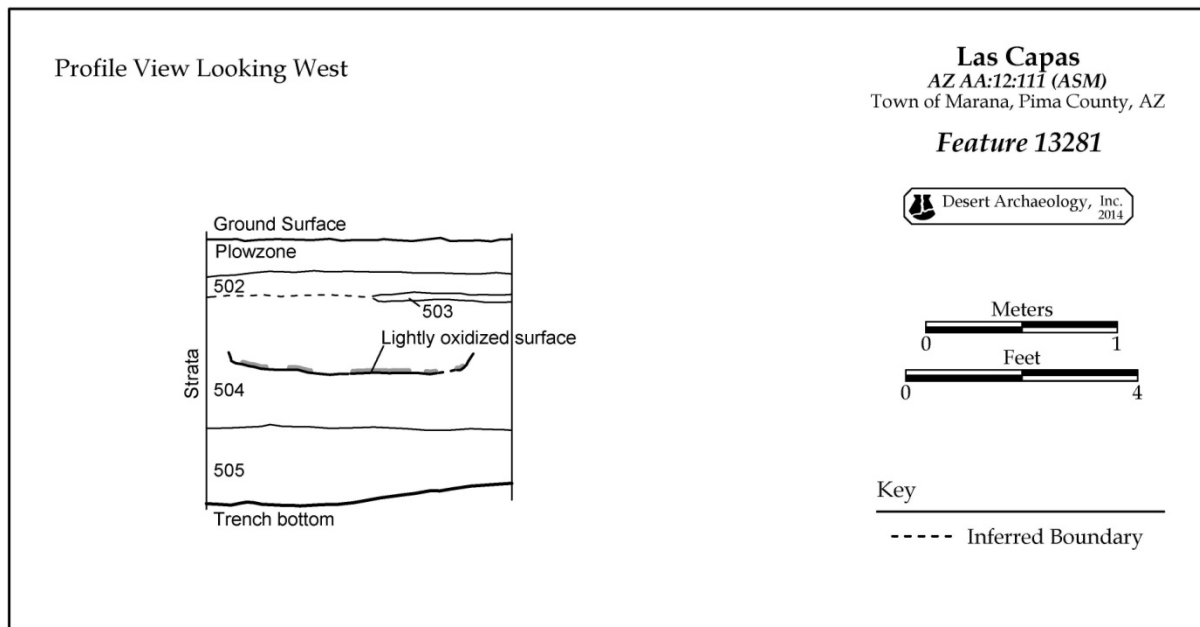


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 13281, profile in west wall of Trench 116, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13288: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504
Locus D
Elevation: 13.51-13.64 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was visible in the east wall of Trench 116. This possible house-in-pit was observed 58 cm below the ground surface, measured 1.65 m in length, and averaged 13 cm in thickness. The feature was visible as an linear lens of sparse charcoal flecks. No artifacts were visible within the profiled wall. Given the undefined edges and small visible dimensions, this feature may have been an area of occupational debris rather than a structure.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. Feature 13289, a small pit, was located above the eastern boundary of the possible house-in-pit and did not appear to intrude into Feature 13288.

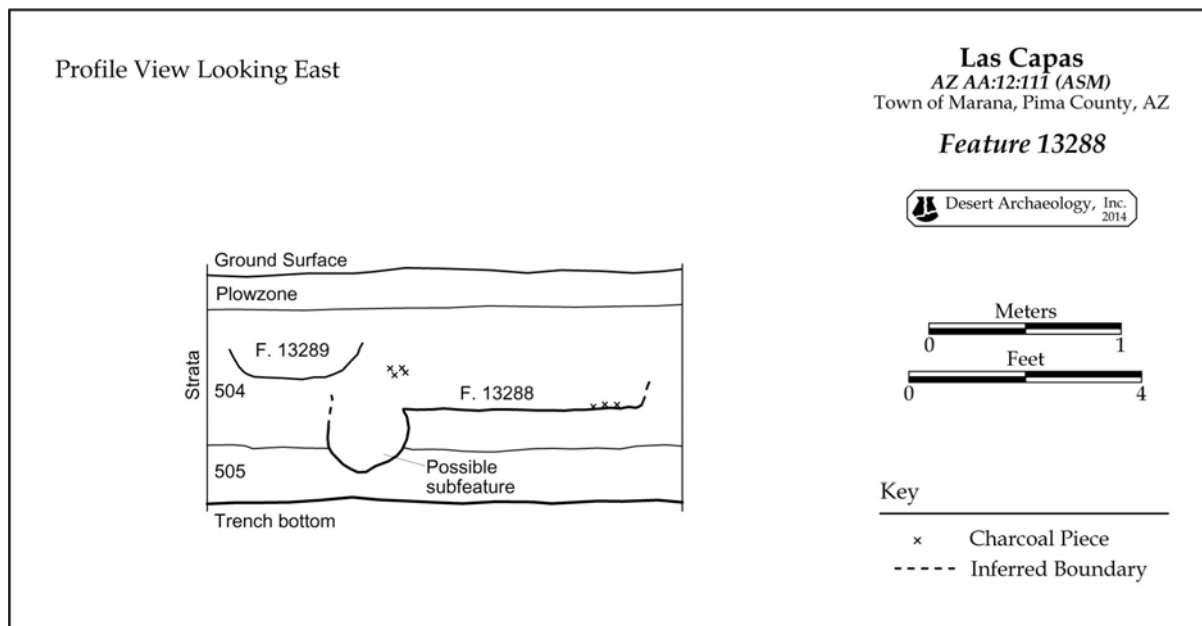


Figure 1. Possible house-in-pit Feature 13288, profile in east wall of Trench 116, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13294: House-in-pit
Stratum 502.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.19-13.26 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The structure was subsequently excavated by hand to remove the remaining cultural overburden, to establish feature boundaries, and to expose the floor surface. The structure was subrectangular in shape, and measured 3.80 m east-west by 3.00 m north-south (including the entry), with 7.93 m² of usable floor space. Postholes and internal features were identified in the floor surface. An entryway that extended northward was also identified in the central northern boundary. The entryway was slightly ramped, oblong in shape, and contained four postholes within its boundary, two on the eastern side, and two on the western side.

Internal Features

Two internal features were identified. Feature 13294.01, a hearth, was located in the western portion of the structure. The hearth was roughly circular in shape, and measured 38 cm north-south by 32 cm east-west, with an average depth of 11 cm. The hearth walls were highly oxidized, and its fill was of loosely consolidated, charcoal-flecked ash; one small piece of flaked stone was recovered from the fill.

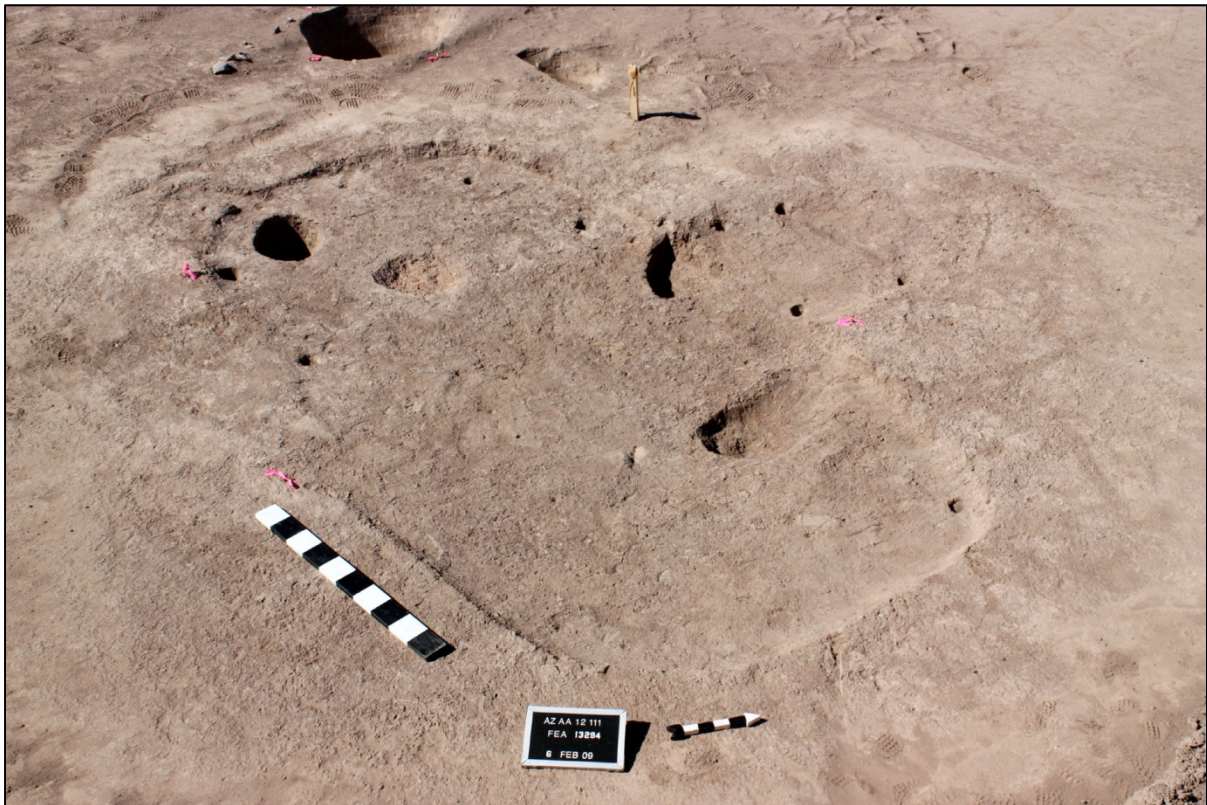


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13294, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

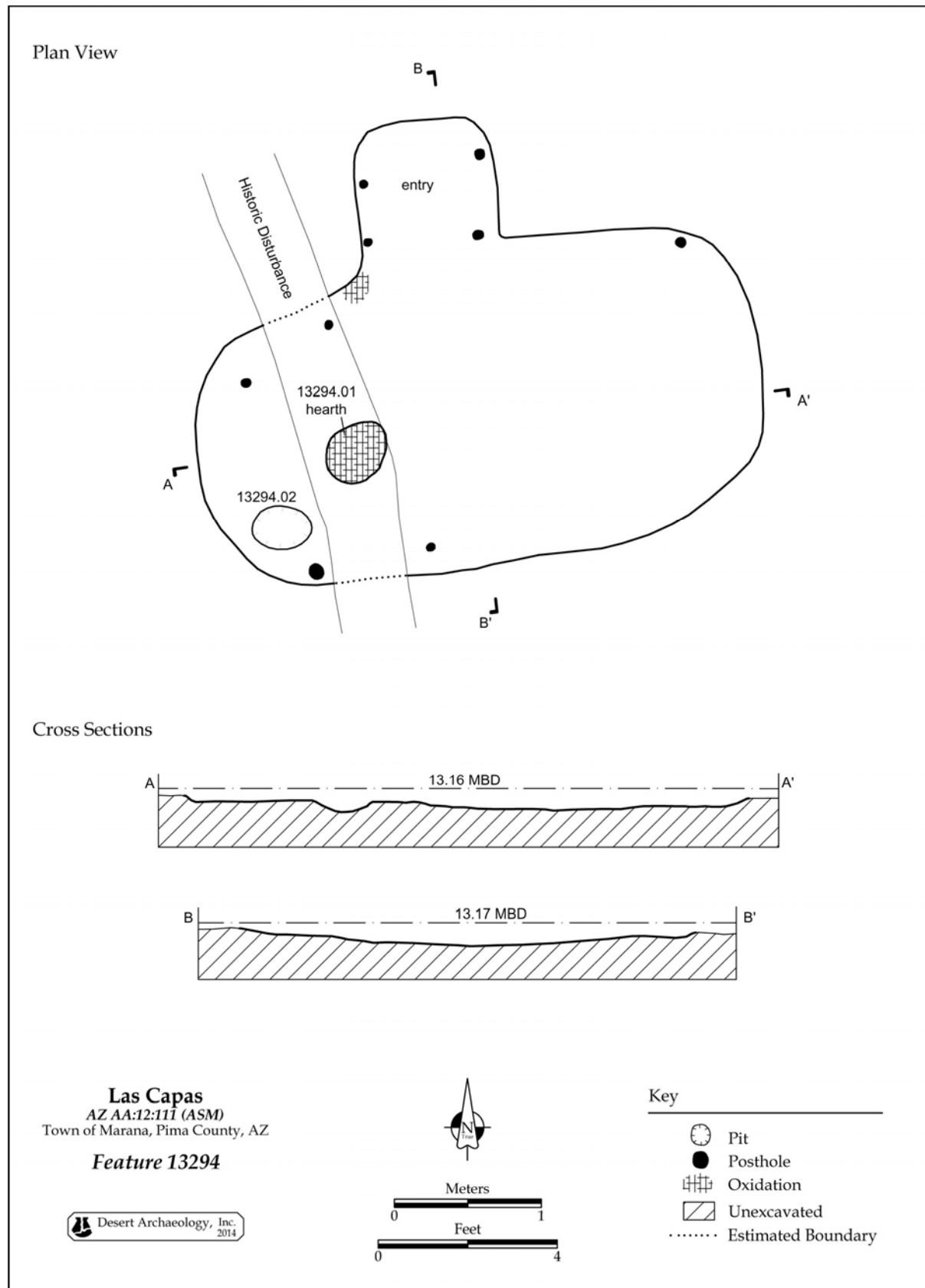


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13294, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Feature 13294.02, a small pit, was located southwest of the hearth, near the corner of the structure. This small pit was circular in shape, and measured 35 cm east-west by 32 cm north-south, with an average depth of 23 cm. The internal fill was a uniform, light brown silt that contained sparse charcoal flecks throughout. One sherd was recovered from the pit fill.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated in Stratum 502.02. The 6 cm of excavated internal fill consisted of a uniform, light brown to tan, loosely consolidated, fine-textured silt with small, concentrated clay patches in its lower portions. The fill also contained modest amounts of small charcoal flecks and daub throughout. Artifact density within the fill of the structure was low, and included of four pieces of flaked stone and 10 pieces of faunal bone, evenly distributed throughout. No artifacts were in direct contact with the floor.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 502.02. Feature 13294 was constructed within a primary foundation pit. The walls of the foundation pit were not formally prepared, and they sloped gradually to an average of 5 cm above floor surface. The foundation pit walls may have extended higher, but were removed by mechanical stripping. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the floor surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor was relatively flat, and it sloped slightly upward around the perimeter of the pit walls.

Five postholes were identified and excavated within the structure, forming a singular ring around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin. The postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 6 cm in diameter and 8 cm in depth. These postholes likely functioned as supports for wall posts, which may have been bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit. The posts were likely covered by reed thatching; no interior postholes were present. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified, nor was there any evidence of postabandonment reuse.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit originated in Stratum 502.02, and was buried by additional deposits of Stratum 502.02, as well as deposits from Strata 502 and 501. Feature 13295, a small pit that also originated within Stratum 502.02, was located within 3 m to the west of the structure. Three additional extramural pits, Features 13333, 13810, and 13811, and house-in-pit Feature 13296, were found within Stratum 502.02; these features were located outside the 3-m radius but were noted as possibly related to Feature 13294.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the lack of artifacts on the floor surface, this structure appeared to have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. The structure showed no signs of having burned. Although slightly oxidized patches were present on the floor surface, this was likely a result of hearth use. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 13294 was habitation. The few internal features may indicate the structure saw little in the way of interior household activities. The lack of structural remodeling is also an indication the structure had a single occupancy during its use-life. This evidence suggests the structure functioned as a fieldhouse, perhaps used during a single growing or harvest season.

Based on the stratigraphic layer this structure originated in, as well as the presence of the sherd within Feature 13294.02, this structure was determined to represent a Hohokam occupation at Locus D. Although no diagnostic artifacts were recovered, sherds recovered from Feature 13296, a house-in-pit located southwest of Feature 13294, were determined to be from the Early Rincon phase (A.D. 950-1000). Based on the similar architectural elements within these structures, as well as the same originating stratum, these features were likely contemporaneous.

Feature 13296: House-in-pit
Stratum 502.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.19-13.35 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently excavated by hand, exposing the floor surface and feature boundaries. This oval-shaped house-in-pit measured 3.00 m east-west by 2.90 m north-south (including the entry), and contained 5.58 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Internal features and postholes were both identified on the exposed floor surface. A rectangular-shaped, possibly ramped entryway was identified in the north-central portion of the feature. The entry measured approximately 80 cm east-west by 60 cm north-south, and extended northward.

Internal Features

This structure contained four internal features, two hearths and two small pits. Feature 13296.01, a hearth, was located near the center of the structure. It was circular in shape, and was 27 cm in diameter, with an average depth of 11 cm. It had a highly oxidized rind, and contained a large amount of loosely consolidated, charcoal-flecked ash in the fill. No artifacts were present within this feature. A second hearth, Feature 13296.02, was located in the northeastern part of the structure, against the foundation



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13296, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

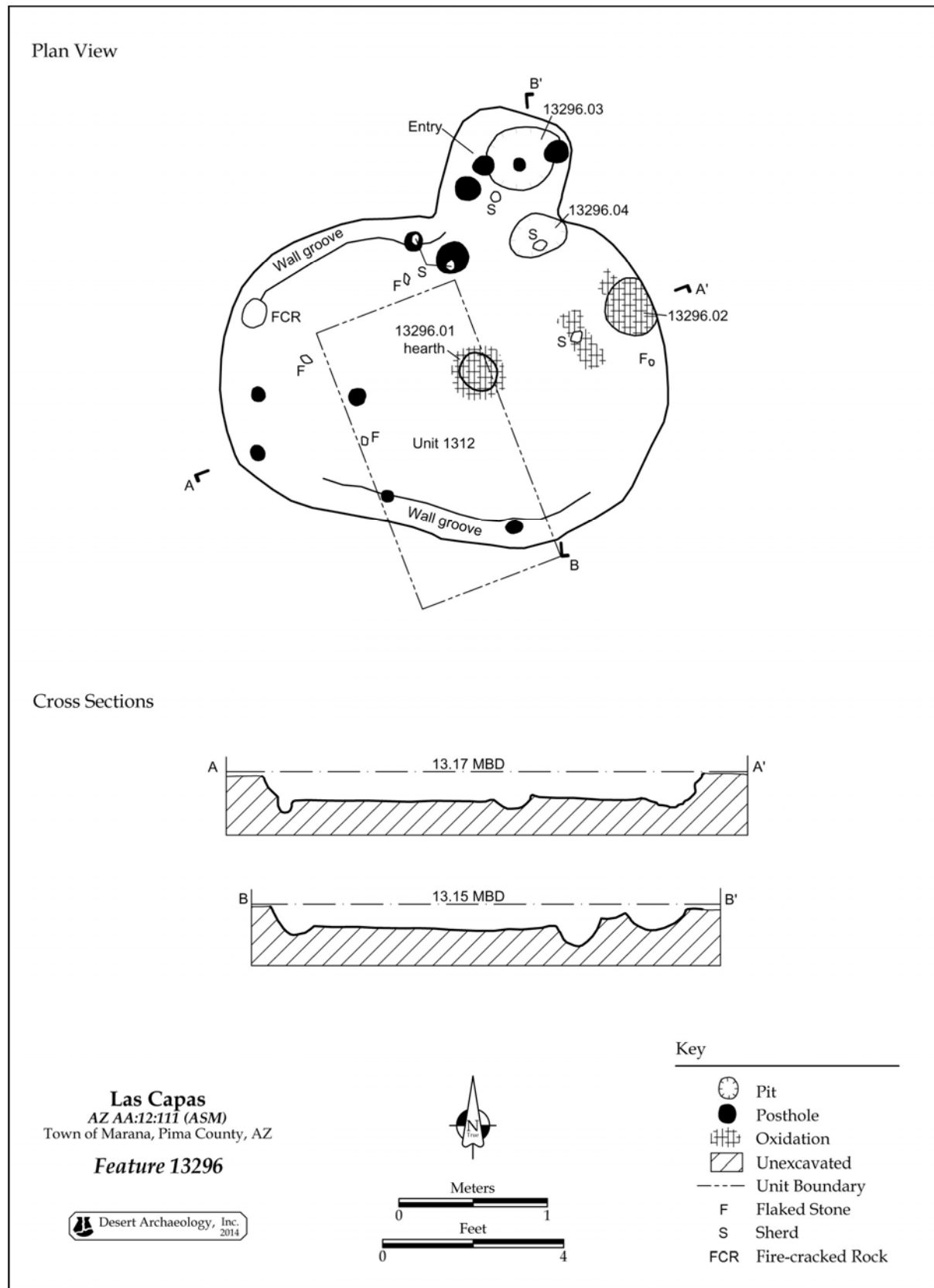


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13296, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

pit wall. Feature 13296.02 was circular in shape, and it measured 40 cm north-south by 36 cm east-west, with an average depth of 22 cm. It had a highly oxidized rind, which continued up part of the foundation pit wall. Fill consisted of a loosely consolidated mix of charcoal-flecked ash, devoid of artifacts.

Feature 13296.03, a small pit, was located within the entryway. It measured 51 cm north-south by 42 cm east-west, with an average depth of 19 cm. One piece of flaked stone and one ceramic sherd were recovered from the fill. Feature 13296.04 was another small pit, located where the eastern side of the entry met the house-in-pit. It measured 25 cm north-south by 35 cm east-west, and was 11 cm deep.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated in Stratum 502.02. The 16 cm of fill excavated from the structure was uniform, consisting of loosely consolidated, light brown silt that contained sparse amounts of small charcoal flecks and small pieces of burned daub throughout. The fill also contained sporadic pockets of subangular gravel throughout, particularly within the lower levels.

The artifact density for the upper 10 cm of the fill was moderate, consisting of 49 pieces of flaked stone, 4 pieces of ground stone, 71 ceramic sherds, 3 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 2 fragments of fire-cracked ground stone. Most of the sherds recovered from the upper 10 cm were plain ware; however, one possible Rincon phase decorated sherd was recovered. The artifact density within the lower 6-10 cm of fill was slightly higher and included of similar artifact types: 60 pieces of flaked stone, 4 pieces of faunal bone, 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock, 34 ceramic sherds, and 2 fragments of fire-cracked ground stone. Several artifacts were located directly on the exposed floor surface, including three pieces of flaked stone distributed in the western portion of the structure, as well as one ceramic sherd in the eastern portion of the structure and another sherd in the entryway, both of which were plain ware.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 502.02. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit with informal walls. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The surface was relatively flat and sloped slightly upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit walls. The floor surface contained what appeared to be wall grooves along the interior perimeter of the foundation pit in the northwestern and southeastern portions of the feature. The grooves almost certainly held posts that formed part of the superstructure; this was particularly evident for the southeastern groove, which contained two postholes.

In all, 11 postholes were identified and excavated. Most formed a singular ring within the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. The postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and had an average diameter of 13 cm, with an average depth of 13 cm. Due to the lack of any substantial roof fall or large amounts of burned daub within the fill, this house-in-pit probably consisted of a wall post-and-stringer framework covered in reed thatching.

No evidence of major structural remodeling was identified. The entryway may have been altered, based on Feature 13296.03, the small pit located within the entryway, which had postholes superimposed on its edges. It is unclear whether the entryway was an expansion of the existing structure. Based on the composition of the fill and the artifact density of Feature 13296.03, the pit appears to have been contemporaneous with the house-in-pit and may have, at one time, contained a stone slab for water control.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 502.02 and was buried by additional deposits of the same stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 502.01. Small pit Feature 13357 was located slightly more than 3 m west of this structure. Feature 13357 was the only extramural pit that originated within Stratum 502.02 within a close proximity to Feature 13296.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the few artifacts in contact with the exposed floor surface, this structure may have been partially cleaned out prior to abandonment. This structure showed no signs of having burned, and oxidation on the floor surface was likely due to hearth use. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

This feature likely functioned primarily for habitation, based on the small number of internal features. The structure appears to have seen some form of internal domestic activity, based on the presence of two hearths. Due to the absence of major structural remodeling, this structure is assumed to have contained a single occupancy. The characteristics of this feature may indicate it served as a short-term fieldhouse that was used during the Hohokam occupation within Locus D. Diagnostic ceramics recovered from the house-in-pit were determined to relate to the Early Rincon phase, and this structure is likely contemporaneous with Feature 13294, a nearby house-in-pit located in the same stratum.

Feature 13325: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.87-13.91 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the boundaries and floor surface. This circular-shaped structure measured 3.20 m north-south by 3.40 m east-west, with 6.7 m² of usable floor space when completely excavated. Several internal features were located within the exposed floor surface, although no postholes were identified. No formal entryway was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained nine internal features, including an informal hearth Feature 13325.01, which was centrally located within the structure, and four small pits, Features 13325.02, 13325.04, 13325.06, 13325.09, located in the northwestern half of the structure. The structure also contained two bell-shaped pits, Features 13325.03 and 13325.08, located in the southeast half, and two small ash pits, Features 13325.05 and 13325.07, located north of the hearth (Table 1).



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13325, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

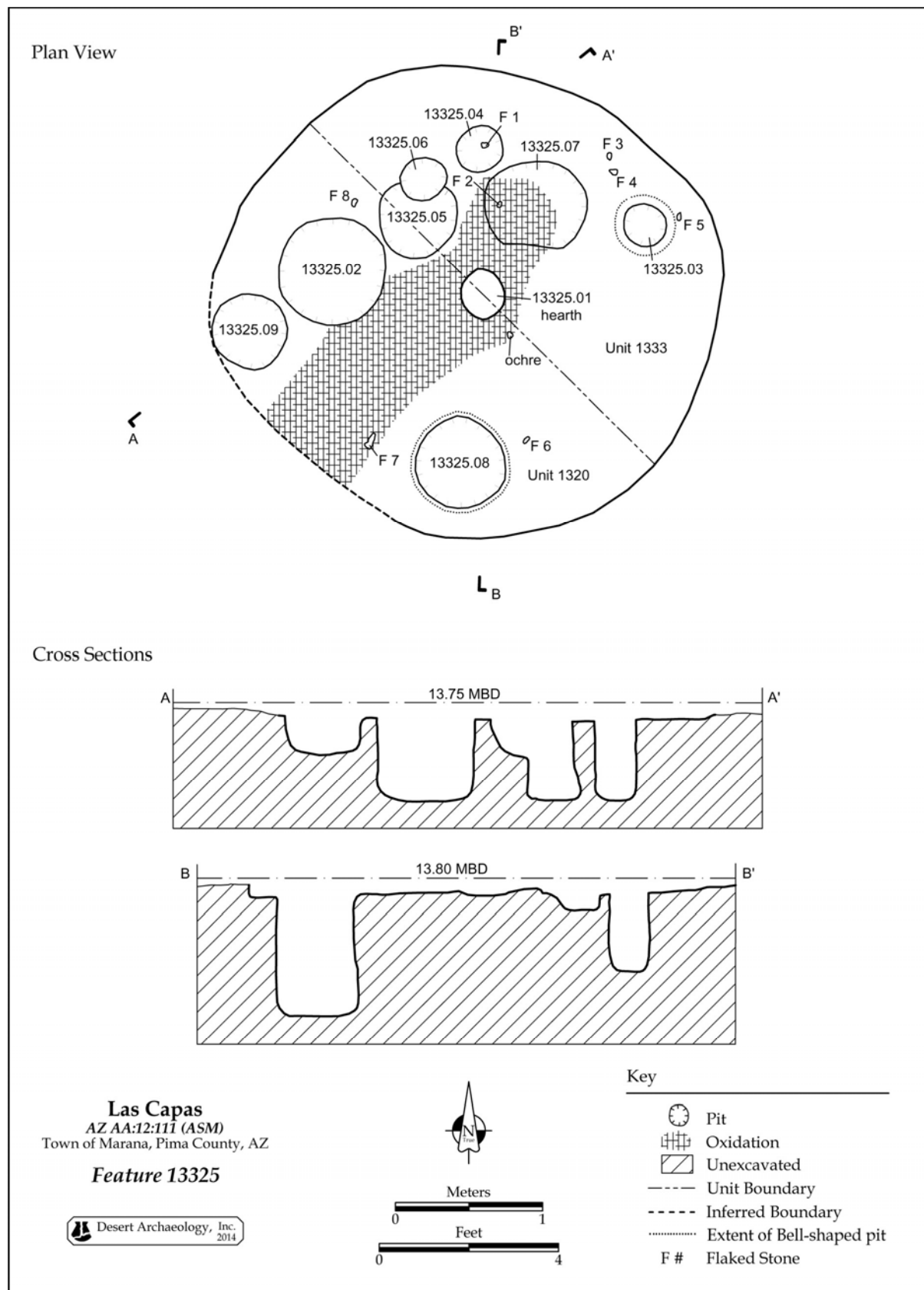


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13325, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Feature 13325 originated in Stratum 504.02. The 4 cm of excavated cultural fill was uniform, reddish-brown, subangular blocky clay with moderately hard compaction; the fill contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and very sparse ash and daub throughout. The cultural fill easily “popped” off the partially oxidized floor surface. This fill contained a low artifact density of 48 small pieces of flaked stone and 33 pieces of faunal bone, some of which showed signs of having burned. Artifacts in direct contact with the floor consisted of one small piece of yellow ochre and eight pieces of flaked stone.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit and internal features were built by excavation into the clay-rich field deposits of Stratum 504.02. The structure was likely constructed within a primary foundation pit and contained no formally prepared walls. The partially oxidized floor sloped upward around the perimeter of the foundation pit to a height of 4 cm above the floor surface. The foundation pit walls likely extended higher, but were removed during backhoe stripping. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure.

No postholes were visible in the floor surface; however, the presence of the unprepared floor surface, in conjunction with the tightly clustered series of internal features, indicates this was probably a structure built with a series of upright wall posts around the perimeter of the foundation pit, connected by stringers. This framework would have been covered with reed thatching. No evidence of structural remodeling was found. The high number of internal features may indicate changes in the floor plan and use during the use-life of the structure, but these were not interpreted as evidence of structural remodeling.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This structure was constructed within Stratum 504.02 and was buried by additional deposits of the same stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504.01, 504, and 503. Within a 3-m radius of this structure were several extramural pits, also located within Stratum 504.02 (Table 2). Most of these extramural pits were concentrated to the north and northwest. These features included small and roasting pits. Feature 13996, located to the northwest, was not excavated, and the nature of the pit is unknown.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The lack of artifacts in direct contact with the floor surface indicates this structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. The structure showed no signs of having been burned. Oxidation on the floor surface was mainly around the hearth area and was almost certainly a result of hearth use. Neither significant roof fall nor large amounts of burned daub were present within the fill. Artifacts within the fill of the feature suggest the abandoned structure was not used for refuse disposal, but was filled by flood or field deposits, which carried in cultural materials found in low densities throughout Stratum 504.

This structure possibly saw postabandonment reuse. This is based on the number of internal features present, as well as the fact that some of these pits intruded upon each other. This may represent one or more short-term abandonment and reuse episodes throughout the use-life of the structure.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 13325 was likely storage, based on the bell-shaped pits located within the structure. The number of internal features may also indicate the structure saw a high degree of interior domestic activity, or had multiple short-term occupation and abandonment episodes. This structure is slightly smaller than other nearby structures, Features 13218 and 13548, excavated within Stratum 504.02 in Locus D. Based on the depth of this structure within Stratum 504.02, it likely represents the latter of the two occupations identified within this stratum, and is contemporaneous with house-in-pit Feature 13548.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13325, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13325.01 | Hearth | 0.30 | 0.30 | — | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13325.02 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.70 | 0.56 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 41 | 1 | — | 18 | — | 0.1437 |
| 13325.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.30 | 0.25 | 0.51 | 0.42 | 0.34 | — | — | — | 7 | — | — | 26 | — | 0.0436 |
| 13325.04 | Small pit | 0.32 | 0.30 | 0.55 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 6 | — | — | 12 | — | 0.0415 |
| 13325.05 | Ash pit | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.24 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 8 | — | — | — | — | 0.0360 |
| 13325.06 | Small pit | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.53 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0375 |
| 13325.07 | Ash pit | 0.66 | 0.61 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 6 | — | — | — | — | 0.0211 |
| 13325.08 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.64 | 0.61 | 0.88 | 0.68 | 0.66 | — | — | — | 41 | — | — | 88 | — | 0.2900 |
| 13325.09 | Small pit | 0.50 | 0.46 | 0.23 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0415 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 13325, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| 13662 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 13752 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14022 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 14023 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 14024 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14316 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14318 | Bell-shaped pit | Northwest | — |
| 14310 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13499 | Possible house-in-pit | North | — |
| 13748 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 14319 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13899 | Small pit | East | — |
| 13547 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 13997 | Small pit | South | — |
| 13324 | Roasting Pit | South | — |
| 13628 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 14324 | Small pit | South | — |
| 13672 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13838 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13854 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13878 | Animal burial | Southwest | — |
| 13881 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 14162 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13799 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 13367 | House-in-pit | West | — |
| 13628 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |
| 13800 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |

Feature 13367: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus D
Elevation: 14.16-14.34 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. Three excavation units were placed in the northwestern portion of the feature and a profile was drawn (Figure 3). The feature was subsequently exposed by hand-excavation to remove the remaining cultural overburden and to establish feature boundaries. This circular-shaped house-in-pit measured 3.35 m north-south by 3.55 m east-west, with 8.51 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Internal features and postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No formal entry was identified and orientation of structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained four internal features directly associated with the floor surface. These included an informal hearth, Feature 13367.01, in the west-central portion of the structure, an ash-filled pit Feature 13367.02 to the east, a small pit Feature 13367.04 to the northeast, and a bell-shaped pit Feature 13367.03 to the west (Table 1).



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13367, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

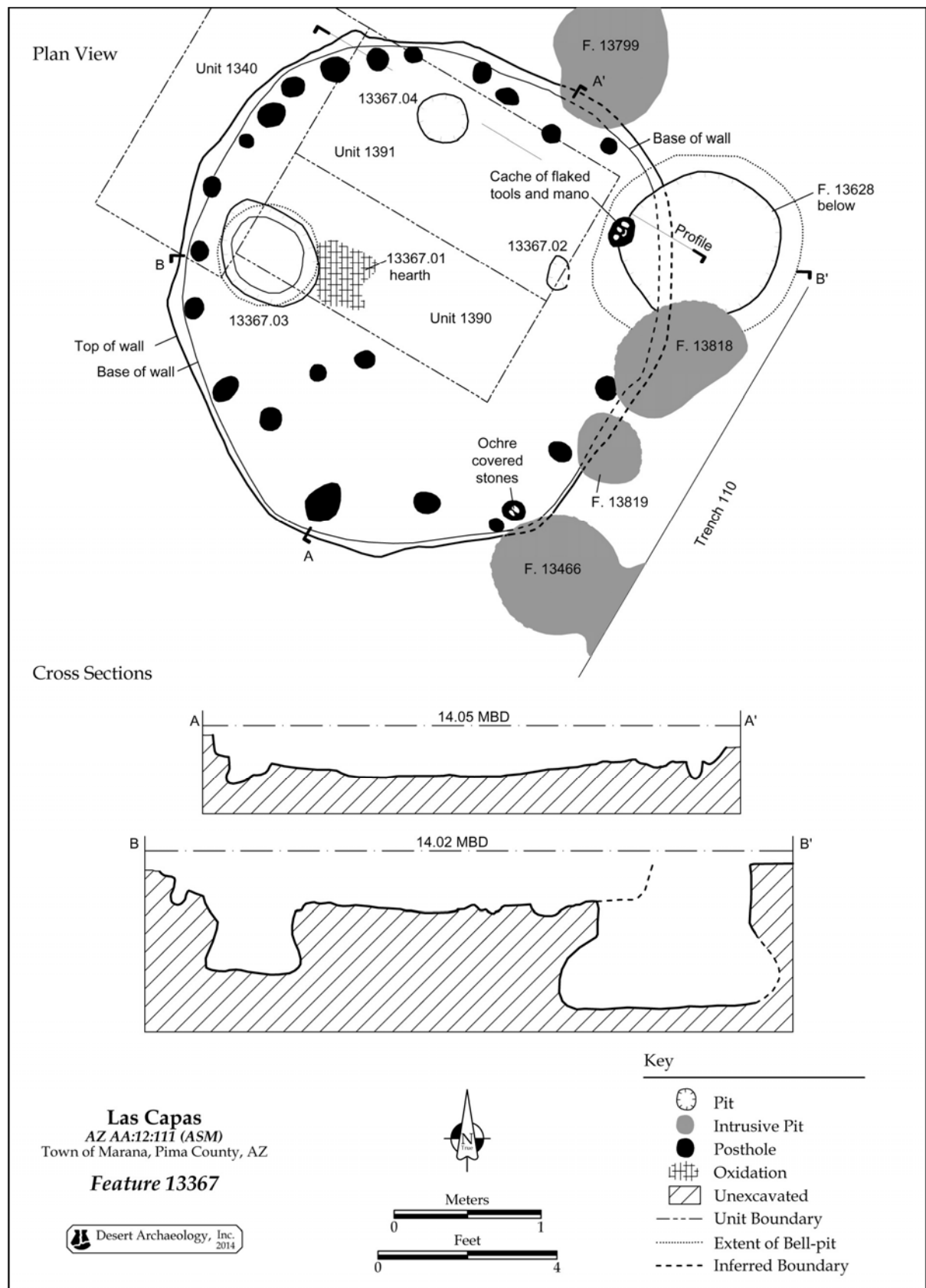


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13367, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

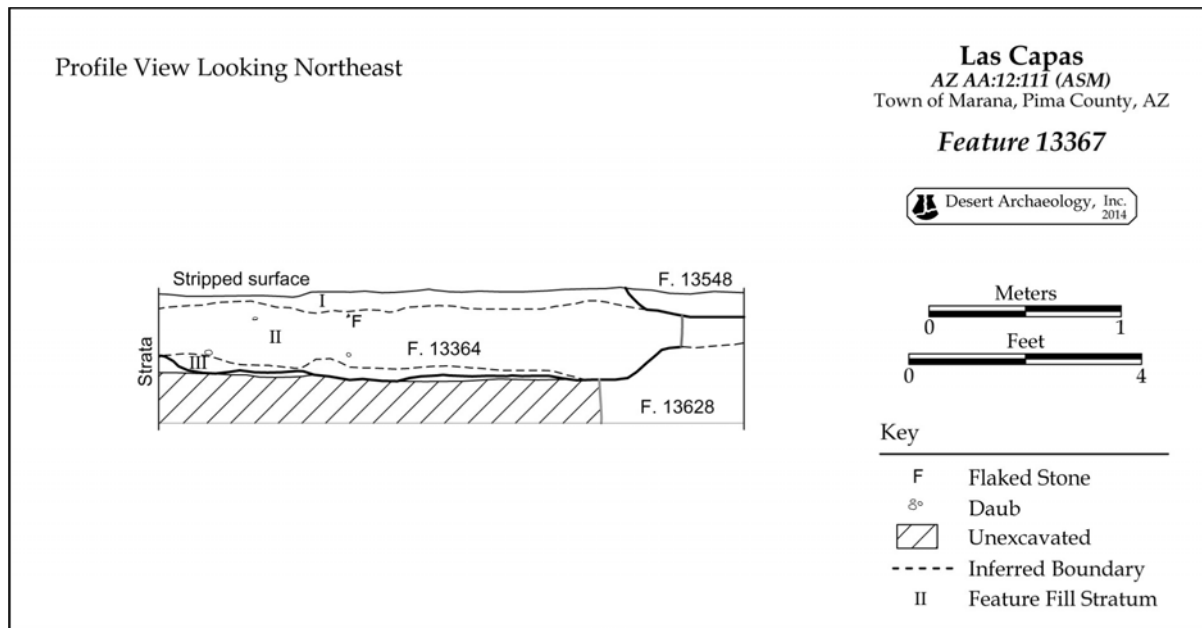


Figure 3. House-in-pit Feature 13367, profile through Unit 1391, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated in Stratum 504.04 and cut into the very top of Stratum 505. The fill was composed of three stratigraphic layers. The upper 10-15 cm was a dark brown, loosely consolidated clay-rich soil that contained a moderate amount of flaked stone and faunal bone, as well as a moderate amount of charcoal flecks throughout. One complete bone awl and one piece of marine shell were also present. The next 30-35 cm consisted of a subangular, brown, moderately hard, silty clay that contained a light distribution of flaked stone and animal bone, as well as a moderate amount of charcoal flecks and very sparse pieces of burned daub throughout. The remaining 10 cm of fill above the floor surface consisted of grayish-brown, loosely consolidated, sandy silt that was devoid of artifacts or burned materials (Table 2).

Although the upper levels of the fill contained a high density of artifacts, they did not appear to be associated with the structure and were likely deposited as refuse or as a result of flooding. No artifacts were present on the floor surface, but several postholes contained what appeared to be caches. One contained three ochre-covered smooth river cobbles (Figure 4), and one contained a mano and various flaked stone tools (Figure 5). These posthole caches may be the result of a ceremonial placement before construction or were placed after abandonment.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The structure, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04, and just into the top of Stratum 505. This house-in-pit was constructed within a primary foundation pit, and contained no formally prepared walls. The floor itself was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. A portion of the floor was oxidized, primarily in the central part of the house as a result of hearth use. The floor sloped slightly upward around the perimeter, and the foundation pit walls rose to a height of 25 cm above the floor.



Figure 4. Posthole in Feature 13367 with ochre-covered cobble cache, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).



Figure 5. Posthole in Feature 13367 with stone tool cache, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

In total, 23 postholes were identified and excavated. Twenty-one of the postholes formed a single ring inside the perimeter of the foundation pit, while two postholes were located in the interior, near the hearth area. The postholes averaged 14 cm in diameter and 15 cm in depth. All the perimeter postholes were angled toward the interior of structure, while the interior postholes were perpendicular to the house floor, indicating a central support framework. The perimeter postholes likely held wall support posts connected by stringers, for a framework covered by reed thatching. This conclusion is supported by the lack of burned daub or substantial roof fall in the fill.

Based on the cohesive posthole pattern, the structure does not appear to have been remodeled. The quantity of artifacts recovered from the fill indicates the depression left after abandonment may have been used as a refuse dump, or had a moderate amount of cultural materials deposited through postabandonment flooding episodes.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This structure was constructed within Stratum 504.04 and was buried by additional deposits of Stratum 504.04, as well as from Strata 504.03 and 504.02. This house-in-pit overlies a large bell-shaped pit, Feature 13628, constructed earlier within Stratum 505, and containing a moderate amount of burned corncobs. The only feature that originated in Stratum 504.04 and that was within a 3-m radius of Feature 13367 was a house-in-pit, Feature 13467, located to the southwest.

Functional Inferences

This feature probably functioned as a habitation structure, as was suggested by the presence of an informal hearth, and by the few internal features. The small number of internal features may also indicate the structure saw little interior domestic activity. The lack of any structural remodeling evidence indicates the structure had a single, long-term occupancy during its use-life. Feature 13367 was unique, being the only structure that originated within Stratum 504.04 in Locus D that had a circular shape. The other structures excavated in Stratum 504.04, which were relatively close to Feature 13667, were subrectangular and had well-preserved entryways. Feature 13367 may have represented a transitional phase in architecture during the occupation of Stratum 504.04.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13367, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13367.01 | Hearth | 0.41 | 0.45 | — | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13367.02 | Ash pit | 0.65 | 0.43 | 0.18 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13367.03 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.90 | 0.66 | 0.51 | 0.72 | 0.72 | 0.65 | 0.57 | — | 15 | 1 | — | 39 | — | 0.2228 |
| 13367.04 | Small pit | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.35 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0223 |

Table 2. Artifact counts, by excavated unit, for house-in-pit Feature 13367, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Unit No. | Level | Stratum | Depth (m) | Ceramics | Flaked Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire- cracked Rock | Other |
|----------|-------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 1340 | 1 | 4 | 0.05 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| | 1 | 10 | - | 1 | 8 | - | - | - | - |
| | 2 | 4 | 0.02 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2 | 10 | - | - | 10 | - | - | - | - |
| 1390 | 1 | 10 | 0.46 | - | 45 | 1 | 39 | - | - |
| 1391 | 1 | 10 | 0.20 | - | 30 | - | 17 | 1 | - |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.20 | - | 39 | - | 33 | - | - |
| | 3 | 10 | 0.04 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| | 4 | 10 | 0.04 | - | 5 | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| 1410 | 1 | 10 | 0.20 | - | 35 | - | 6 | 2 | - |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.07 | - | 23 | - | 3 | - | 1 |
| 1432 | 1 | 10 | 0.30 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.05 | - | 7 | - | 5 | - | - |

Feature 13467: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus D
Elevation: 14.08-14.23 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and structure boundaries. This subrectangular-shaped structure measured 4.50 m southeast-northwest by 2.56 m northeast-southwest, with 9.46 m² of usable floor space when completely excavated. Internal features and postholes were visible on the floor surface. A rectangular-shaped, possibly ramped entryway, measuring 95 cm northeast-southwest by 55 cm southeast-northwest, was located in the south-central portion of the structure, and it opened to the southwest.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit contained two internal features. Feature 13467.01, an informal hearth, was an irregular-shaped oxidized stain on the floor surface; it was centrally located within the structure. This feature measured 70 cm north-south by 35 cm east-west, and averaged only 2 cm in depth. The fill



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13467, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

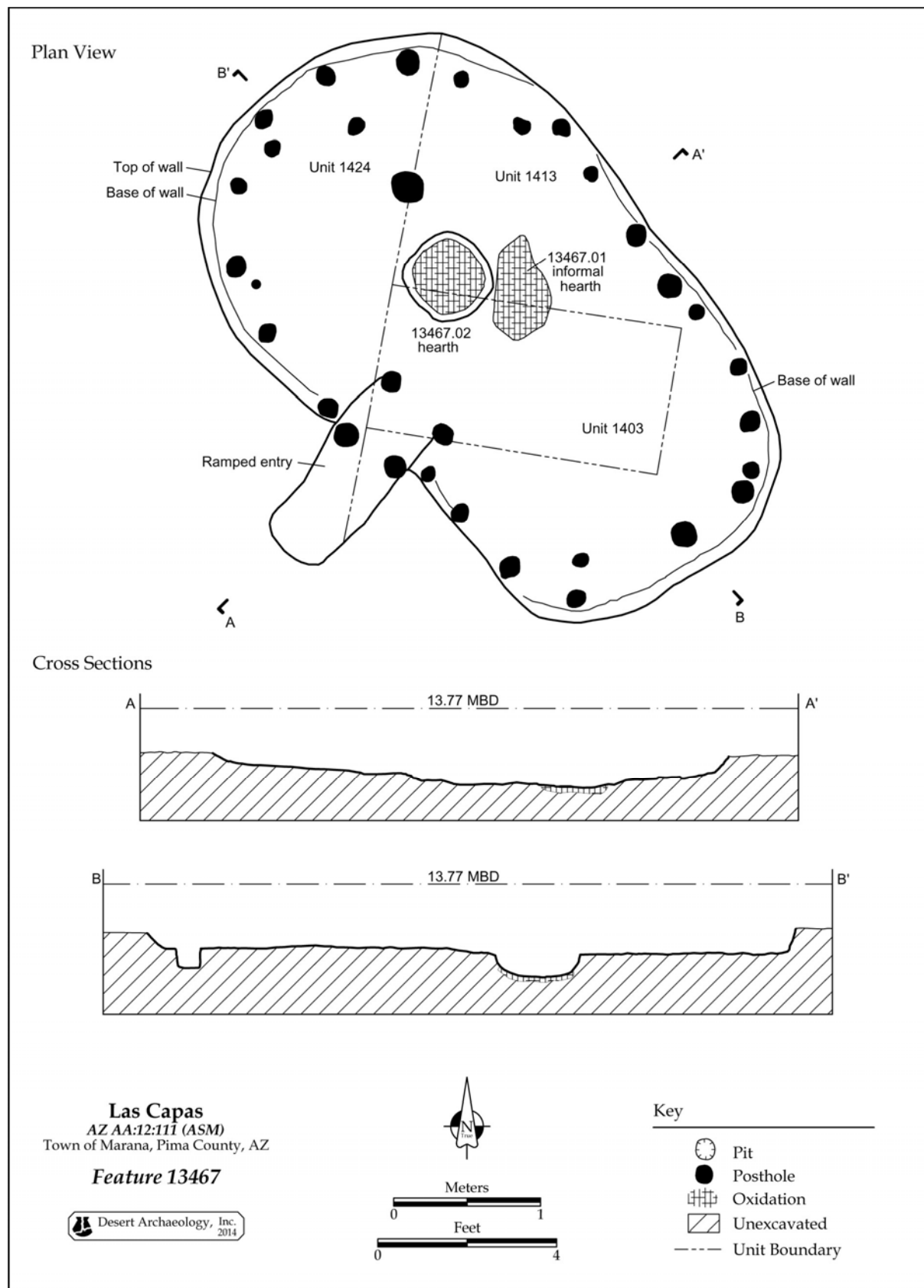


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13467, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

consisted of a uniform, loosely consolidated silt that contained ash and a sparse amount of charcoal flecks. No artifacts were present within the fill of Feature 13467.01.

Feature 13467.02, another hearth, was also centrally located, directly west of Feature 13467.01. It was circular in shape, and measured 60 cm in diameter, with an average depth of 12 cm. The fill consisted of a fine-textured, loosely consolidated, light brown silt, with a 2-6-cm deep layer of ash and small charcoal at the oxidized bottom of the hearth. This feature contained a moderate amount of artifacts, all of which were concentrated in its upper fill, including 12 pieces of flaked stone, 7 pieces of faunal bone, a single complete bone awl located just above the ash layer, and a burned corncob, which was recovered from the screen.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated in Stratum 504.04. The 15 cm of excavated cultural fill was uniform, light brown, moderately hard silty clay. The fill also contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks and daub throughout. The upper portions of the fill contained a low artifact density, consisting of 25 pieces of flake stone and 58 pieces of faunal bone. The lower portions of the fill contained no artifacts. No floor assemblage was present.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04 and cut into the top of Stratum 505. This structure was erected within a primary foundation pit. The foundation pit walls were not formally prepared, and they sloped upward to a height of 15 cm above the average floor surface. These walls may have extended higher, but were removed during mechanical stripping.

The exposed floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was in generally good condition, contained light patches of oxidation throughout, and was relatively flat, with slight undulations in the center. The floor sloped upward slightly around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit.

In total, 32 postholes were identified and excavated on the exposed floor surface. Four postholes were located within the interior of the structure, while the rest formed a ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. Two of the interior post holes were located immediately inside of the entry; the other interior postholes were located in the northwestern portion of the structure. The postholes were circular in shape, and averaged 11 cm in diameter and 11 cm in depth. The perimeter postholes likely supported wall posts, which were bent or bowed, forming a dome-shaped framework connected by horizontal stringers. The lack of substantial roof fall or large amounts of burned daub in the fill suggests the framework may have been covered by reed thatching. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 504.04, cut just into the top of Stratum 505, and was buried by additional deposits from Stratum 504.04. The structure was within a 3-m radius of two structures that originated in the same stratigraphic layer. The structures were Feature 13475 to the northwest and Feature 13367 located to the northeast. No extramural pits were identified in a 3-m

radius within Stratum 504.04, although there were extramural features in this stratum elsewhere within Locus D.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

This structure showed signs of having been slightly burned, although this was likely due to domestic activities, such as hearth use, rather than being catastrophic in nature. This is also supported by the lack any roof fall or widespread oxidation across the entire floor surface. The structure was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment, based on the lack of artifacts on the exposed floor. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 13467 was likely habitation. This is based on the lack of internal pits, the ample amount of usable floor space, and the centrally located hearths. This may also indicate the structure saw little interior domestic activity during its use-life. The lack of remodeling evidence also indicates this structure saw a single occupancy before its abandonment. Based on the architectural elements, as well as the stratum in which it originated, this feature appears to be contemporaneous with Features 13771, 13667, and 13475, all houses-in-pits situated in Locus D.

Feature 13475: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus D
Elevation: 14.05-14.34 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and feature boundaries. This roughly subrectangular house-in-pit measured 4.50 m southeast-northwest by 2.60 m northeast-southwest, and contained 10.32 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. Internal features and postholes were both identified in the exposed floor surface. An entry was identified, located centrally in the northeastern wall of the structure. The entry was rectangular in shape, measured 1.95 m north-south by 67 cm east-west, and extended northeast of the structure. The entry may have been ramped at one time, and it contained a distinct bend to the west midway along its length.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit had two internal features in the floor. Feature 13475.01, an informal hearth, was located near the center of the structure. It was irregular in shape, and measured 59 cm north-south by 48 cm east-west. The hearth was not formally prepared, but was simply an oxidized depression, 3 cm



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13475, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

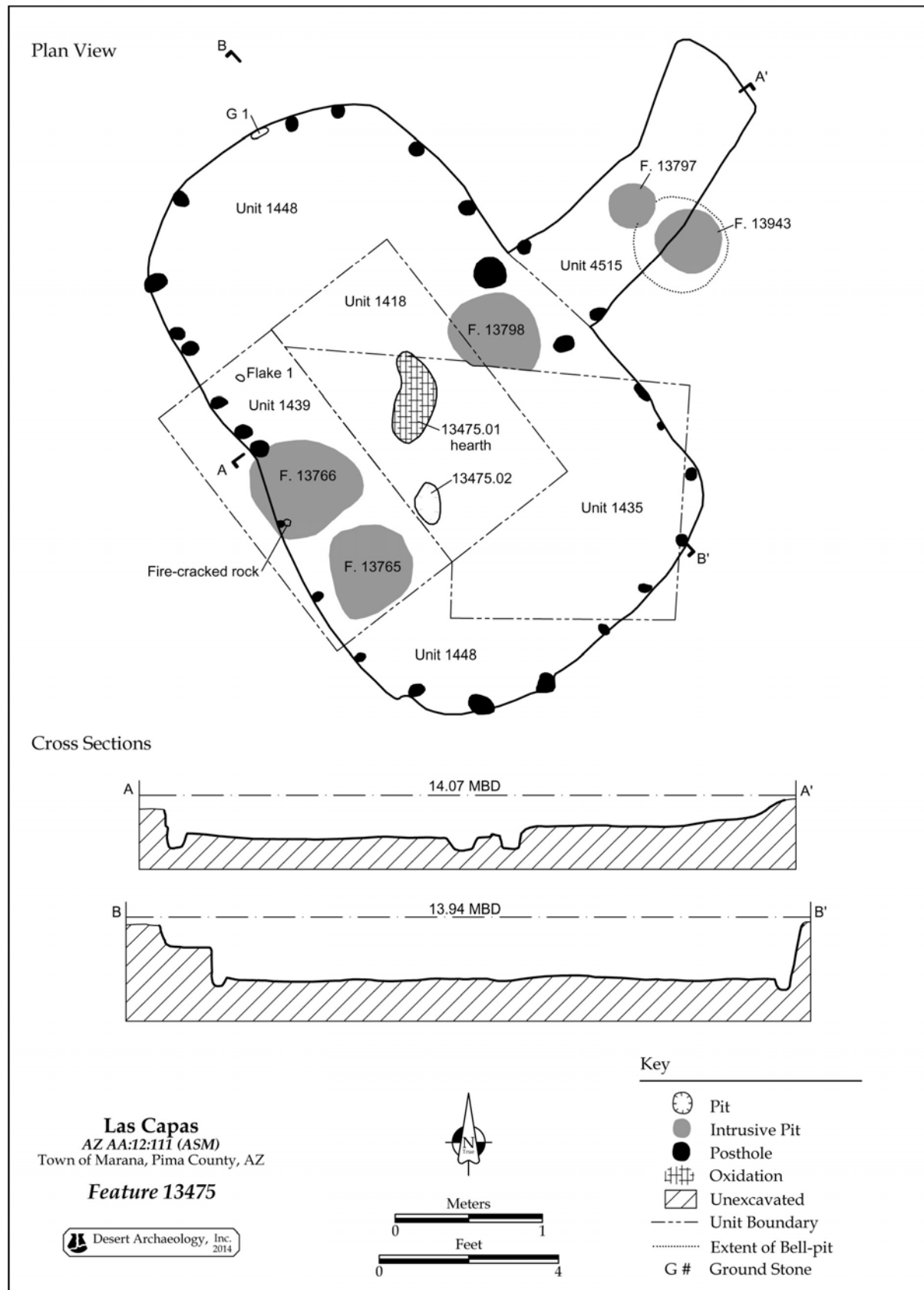


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13475, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

deep, with a thin layer of ash over the top. No associated artifacts were present. Feature 13475.02, a small pit, was located south of the hearth. Feature 13475.02 was oval in shape and it measured 27 cm north-south by 19 cm east-west, with an average depth of 4 cm. The pit fill was uniform, consisting of brown, moderately hard, blocky clay with no artifacts or other inclusions. Given its proximity to the hearth and its shallow depth, this internal feature likely functioned as a basketrest.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Feature 13475 originated within Stratum 504.04 and cut into the top of Stratum 505. The 29 cm of excavated fill consisted of three distinct stratigraphic layers and contained moderate densities of artifacts (Table 1). The upper 10 cm consisted of a uniform, dark brown, moderately hard clay with sparse charcoal flecks throughout. The remainder of the fill was a brown, loosely consolidated silty clay with modest amounts of charcoal flecks throughout. This stratigraphic layer also contained a 10- to 15-cm-thick layer of a red loosely consolidated granular sand with very sparse charcoal flecks throughout. This layer of red sand was not continuous; it occurred only intermittently. Only two artifacts were on the exposed floor surface, a single piece of flaked stone in the western part of the structure and a one-hand mano located in the northwestern part of the structure, against the foundation pit wall.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04. This structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit, and it did not contain formally prepared walls. The foundation pit walls sloped upward to a height of 20 cm above the average floor surface, although they may have continued higher before mechanical stripping. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was relatively flat, but sloped slightly upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit walls. It had light oxidation confined to the hearth area.

In all, 27 postholes were identified and excavated within the exposed floor surface. Twenty-five postholes formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit, and two postholes were located immediately inside the entryway. The postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 15 cm in diameter and 8 cm in depth. These postholes probably held wall support posts, which were bent or bowed to form a dome over the foundation pit. Horizontal stringers likely connected the posts, and this framework was, in turn, covered with reed thatching. No evidence of the entry being covered was identified, and no remodeling evidence was found.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 504.04 and was buried by additional deposits of the same stratum, as well as from deposits of Strata 504.03 and 504.02. Five extramural features that originated in Stratum 504.02 intruded into this structure (Table 2). Overlying the north-central portion of the structure was a small pit, Feature 13798. No other extramural features within Stratum 504.04 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 13475.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts on the floor surface and in situ burned structural members, this structure was almost certainly cleaned out prior to abandonment. The structure showed no signs of

having burned. Based on the stratigraphy within the fill, the depression left by Feature 13475 after abandonment was probably filled in by natural flood deposits. The later occupation within Stratum 504.02 appears to have used the area around this feature to excavate several small pits. No structural postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Feature 13475 likely functioned primarily for habitation. This inference is based on the presence of the informal hearth, the lack of an abundance of internal features, and ample usable floor space. The limited number of internal features may also indicate that little domestic activity occurred within the structure during its use-life. Based on the lack of structural remodeling, this structure was probably occupied only a single time. The structure was almost identical in shape, size, floor space usage, and construction as Features 13771 and 13467, both houses-in-pits in Locus D. All of these structures were contemporaneous, based on the stratum in which they were located, as well as their uniform architecture. This architectural style was only identified within Locus D, and may be representative of a unique architectural tradition within this particular part of Locus D.

Table 1. Artifact counts, by excavated unit, for house-in-pit Feature 13475, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Unit No. | Level | Stratum | Depth (m) | Flaked Stone | Faunal Bone | Ground Stone | Fire-cracked Rock | Fire-cracked Ground Stone |
|----------|-------|---------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1418 | 1 | 10 | 0.42 | 10 | 13 | – | – | – |
| 1435 | 1 | 10 | 0.34 | 51 | 23 | – | 47 | 19 |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.03 | – | – | – | – | – |
| 1439 | 1 | 10 | 0.09 | 9 | 10 | – | 9 | 3 |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.25 | – | – | – | – | – |
| | 3 | 10 | 0.05 | – | – | – | – | – |
| 1448 | 1 | 10 | 0.38 | 7 | 32 | 1 | 17 | 6 |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.05 | 1 | 2 | – | – | 1 |
| 4515 | 1 | 10 | 0.06 | 1 | – | – | 1 | – |

Table 2. Extramural features intrusive from Stratum 504.02 into house-in-pit Feature 13475, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 13467 | House-in-pit | South | 504.02 |
| 13765 | Small pit | South | 504.02 |
| 13766 | Small pit | South | 504.02 |
| 13797 | Small pit | Entryway | 504.02 |
| 13943 | Bell-shaped pit | Entryway | 504.02 |

Feature 13499: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.84-13.91 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing a possible floor and estimated feature boundaries.

The preservation of the structure was very poor due to multiple intrusive features, as well as mechanical overstripping. The shape is roughly circular, with measurements of approximately 4.30 m north-south by 3.90 m east-west, and 12.31 m² of usable floor space. Internal features and possible postholes were identified in the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and an orientation for the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504.02. The 7 cm of excavated fill was uniform and consisted of a dark brown, moderately hard, blocky clay that contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks and small pieces of daub evenly distributed throughout the fill.

Artifacts included 47 pieces of flaked stone and 50 pieces of faunal bone present throughout the fill. Several artifacts were also identified in direct contact with the exposed floor surface. These included an Empire or possibly an early San Pedro projectile point located in the northern part of the structure and directly north of a posthole. Six pieces of flaked stone were distributed across the floor surface, and a flaked stone scraper was located next to Feature 13499.03. A complete bone awl was found on the floor surface in the northwestern part of the structure.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This possible house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.02. The structure was likely built within a primary foundation pit, although no portion of the pit walls remained intact. They were likely removed during mechanical stripping. The floor surface was in very poor condition; it was riddled with rodent and insect disturbances. The limits of the floor surface were defined by slight oxidized patches, soil compaction, and artifact density. The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was relatively flat, with a slight depression in the center of the excavated area.

Four postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. All were circular in shape, straight-walled, and averaged 16 cm in diameter and 18 cm in depth. The postholes were confined to the western half of the structure, and no pattern could be determined. These postholes may have held posts supporting beams; however, given the limited number of identified postholes, it is difficult to determine the exact architectural elements of this possible structure. No remodeling evidence was identified.

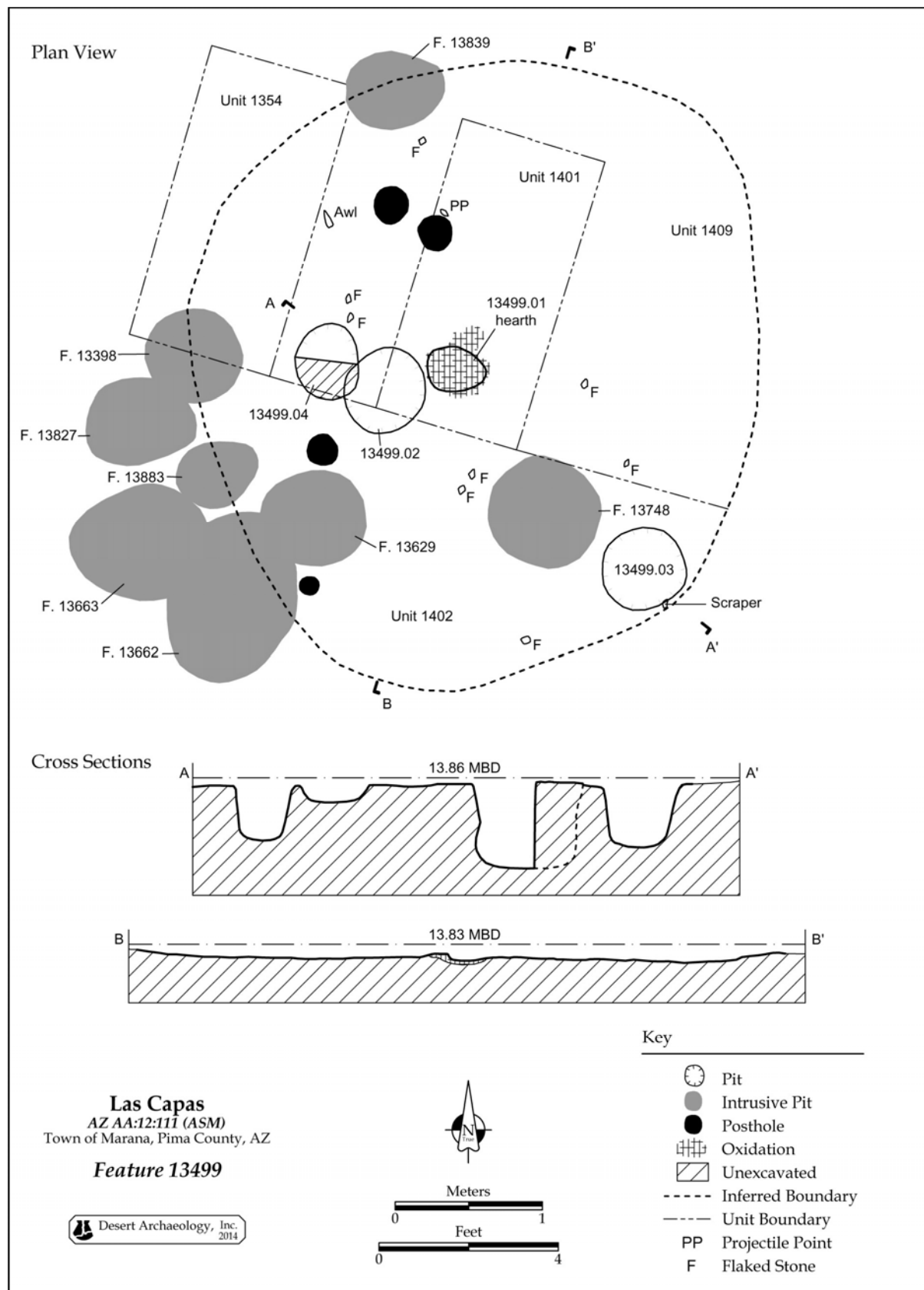


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 13499, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible house-in-pit was located within Stratum 504.02 and buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 504.01. Six extramural features were identified as being intrusive into the possible structure; most of these were concentrated in the southwestern portion of the structure (Table 2).

Within a 3-m radius of this structure, several extramural features originated within the same stratum, most of which were located south and southwest of Feature 13499. Feature types located within the 3-m radius included bell-shaped pits, small pits, roasting pits, and one animal burial (Table 3).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the few artifacts located directly on the floor surface, this possible structure may have been partially cleaned out prior to abandonment. There is little evidence to indicate any burning occurred. It does not appear this feature experienced any postabandonment reuse, structurally or otherwise, based on the limited number of postholes identified and a lack of overlying extramural features. Although this structure had a number of intrusive extramural features, these were confined to the periphery of the feature. Only one occurred entirely within the structure.

Functional Inferences

Due to the insubstantial nature of Feature 13499, a primary function is difficult to determine. Based on the number of internal features, this structure may have functioned for habitation throughout its use-life, with an emphasis on interior domestic activities. The presence of two overlapping internal features indicates the possibility of more than one occupation over the use-life of the structure. This possible structure appeared to contain postholes, although these did not form any discernible patterning indicative of a house structure. The limited number and irregular arrangement of the postholes suggest this feature functioned as an extramural surface, with some form of structural element, such as a ramada or a brush kitchen. Based on the internal fill from Feature 13499, it was likely contemporaneous with house-in-pit Feature 13325 and both represent the later of two occupations identified within Stratum 504.02.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13499, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13499.01 | Hearth | 0.40 | 0.35 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13499.02 | Small pit | 0.60 | 0.57 | 0.15 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | 6 | — | 0.0027 |
| 13499.03 | Small pit | 0.55 | 0.51 | 0.45 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | — | — | 3 | — | 0.0991 |
| 13499.04 | Roasting pit | 0.68 | 0.42 | 0.34 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 0.0763 |

Table 2. Extramural features intrusive into possible house-in-pit Feature 13499, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 13839 | Small pit | Northwest | — |
| 13748 | Bell-shaped pit | Southeast | — |
| 13629 | Roasting pit | Southwest | — |
| 13662 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13883 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13398 | Bell-shaped pit | West | — |

Table 3. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of possible house-in-pit Feature 13499, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 14259 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 14261 | Small pit | North | — |
| 14264 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13381 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 13382 | Roasting pit | East | — |
| 13473 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13474 | Roasting pit | Southwest | — |
| 13663 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13679 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13752 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 13877 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13878 | Animal burial | Southwest | — |
| 14016 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 14021 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 14024 | Bell-shaped pit | Southwest | — |
| 14028 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 14065 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 13548: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.87-13.95 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical trenching and was profiled in the eastern wall of Trench 110. Surface stripping was needed to identify the structure, and remaining cultural overburden was removed by hand-excavation. Due to several intrusive features and overstripping, a definite shape was difficult to determine. Based on the arrangement of postholes, and location of a hearth area, the structure was oval-shaped. It measured roughly 3.70 m northeast-southwest by 5.40 m northwest-southeast, with 14.02 m² of usable floor space. No entryway was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure had three internal features identified on the exposed floor surface. Feature 13548.01, a hearth, was located in the southeastern portion of the structure. It was roughly circular, and it measured 56 cm by 52 cm, with an average depth of 16 cm. The fill consisted of a loosely consolidated ash, giving way to a highly oxidized bottom and sidewalls. No artifacts were present. Feature 13548.02, another



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13548, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

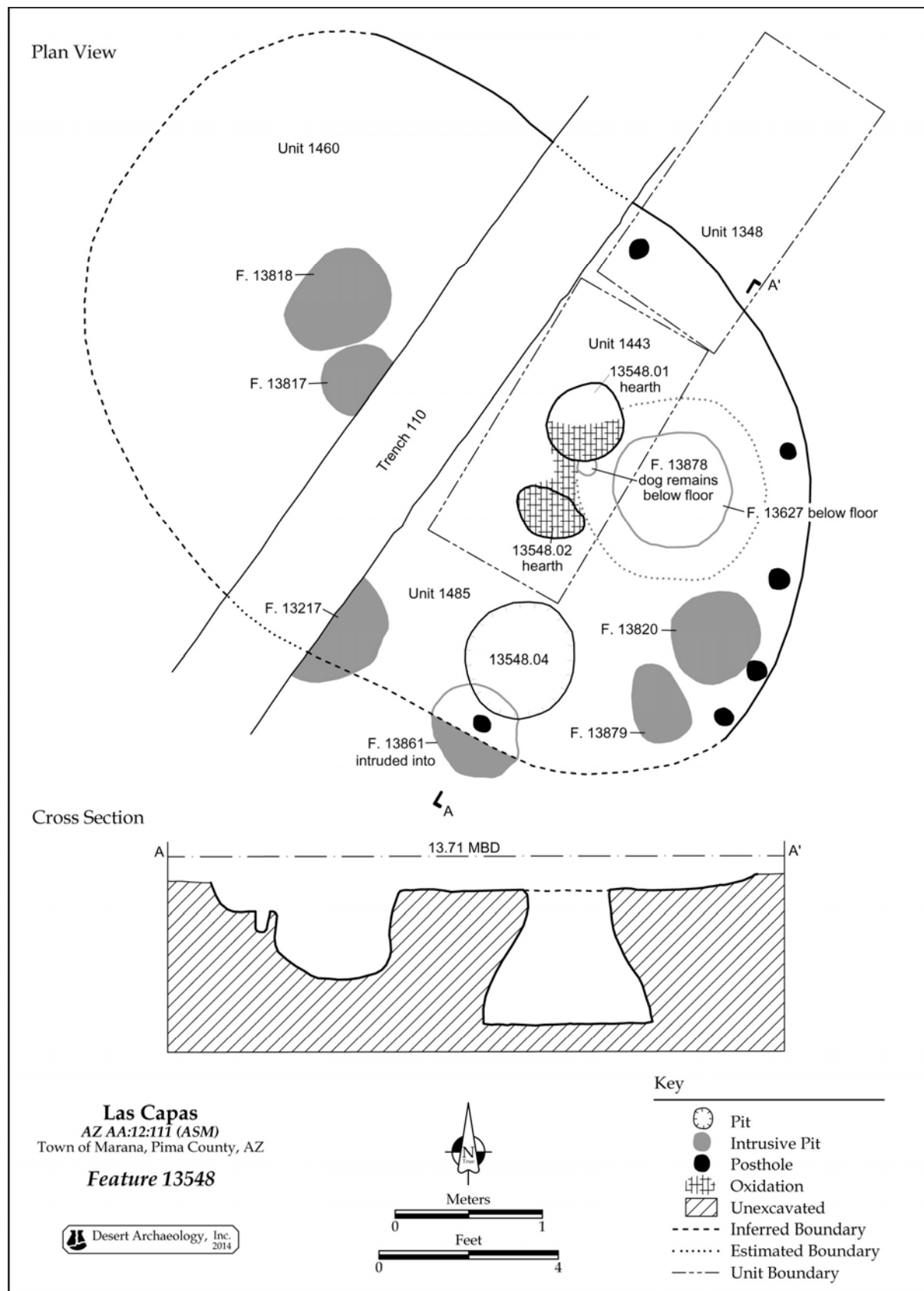


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 13548, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

hearth, was centrally located within the structure. It had an irregularly oval shape and was oxidized, measuring 54 cm by 38 cm, with an average depth of 8 cm. Its fill consisted of loosely consolidated ash and contained no artifacts.

Small pit Feature 13548.04 was located near the southern corner of the structure. It measured 81 cm by 70 cm and had an average depth of 51 cm. Artifacts recovered from the fill included 34 pieces of flaked stone, 12 pieces of faunal bone, 1 piece of ground stone, 3 fire-cracked ground stone fragments, and 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Feature 13548 originated in Stratum 504.02. The 8 cm of excavated cultural fill was a uniform, grayish-brown, moderately hard, subangular structured, silty clay with modest amounts of charcoal flecks and small pieces of burned daub throughout. The artifact density within the fill varied. The eastern half of the structure contained a high artifact density of 96 pieces of flaked stone, 77 pieces of faunal bone, and 17 pieces of fire-cracked rock. Artifacts in this eastern half were denser in areas where internal features were located. The western half of the structure contained a very low artifact density, consisting of 30 pieces of flaked stone and 7 pieces of faunal bone, distributed throughout, but concentrated in the upper 5 cm of the fill. No artifacts were found in direct contact with the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.02. The structure was likely built within a primary foundation pit, which did not have formally prepared walls. Most of the foundation pit wall was removed during mechanical stripping and portions were truncated by intrusive features, but what remained sloped up to a height of 5 cm above the floor surface. The floor was in very poor condition due to bioturbation and mechanical overstripping. It was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. Intact portions of the floor were relatively flat and contained some oxidation around the hearth areas.

Six postholes were excavated, all of which were located in the eastern half of the structure, and that formed a single row around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin. These postholes were circular in shape, and averaged 12 cm in diameter and 18 cm in depth. Based on similar evidence in nearby structures, as well as the lack of roof fall and substantial amounts of burned daub in the fill, this structure likely contained wall support posts bowed together, forming a dome over the primary foundation pit. This framework would have been covered with a reed thatching. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 504.02 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504.01 and 504. The northeastern portion of this structure partially intruded into Feature 13218, another house-in-pit that originated in Stratum 504.02, as well as into Feature 13861, a small pit that originated within Stratum 504. Two roasting pits, Features 13820 and 13217, and Feature 13879, a small pit, originated in Stratum 504 and intruded into the southern portion of Feature 13548. The western portion of Feature 13548 overlaid the southeastern portion of Feature 13367, a structure that originated in Stratum 504.04.

Several extramural features that originated in Stratum 504.02 were within a 3-m radius of Feature 13548 (Table 1). These nearby features may have been used in conjunction with Feature 13548.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

This structure appears to have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. This is supported by the lack of artifacts on floor, as well as the lack of evidence suggesting the structure burned. The depression left by the foundation pit after abandonment was filled in by natural alluvial and field deposits, and was used by later occupations for the excavation of various pits. No structural postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 13548 appears to have been habitation. This is supported by the presence of the hearths, and by the minimal number of internal features. This evidence also suggests that little internal domestic activity occurred within the structure. This structure may have seen a single occupancy during its use-life, based on the lack of remodeling.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 13548, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 13799 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 13800 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 13626 | Small pit | East | — |
| 13997 | Small pit | East | — |
| 14137 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 13880 | Roasting pit | Southeast | — |
| 13325 | House-in-pit | South | — |
| 14258 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 13217 | Roasting pit | West | — |

Feature 13580: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.25-13.29 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and edges of the structure. This oval-shaped structure measured 3.86 m east-west by 3.45 m north-south, with 9.5 m² of usable floor space. All evidence of a foundation pit wall was stripped away. The floor surface was in poor condition due to the mechanical stripping, but also as a result of a natural root burn near the center of the structure. Several internal features were present, as well as a distinct posthole pattern. No formal entryway was identified, and the orientation could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained five internal features associated with the floor. An informal hearth area, Feature 13580.01, was centrally located, and ash-filled pit Feature 13580.02 was nearby to the south. Two small pits, Features 13580.03 and 13580.04, were near each other to the east, and a bell-shaped pit, Feature 13580.05, was located in the western portion of the structure (Table 1).



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13580, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

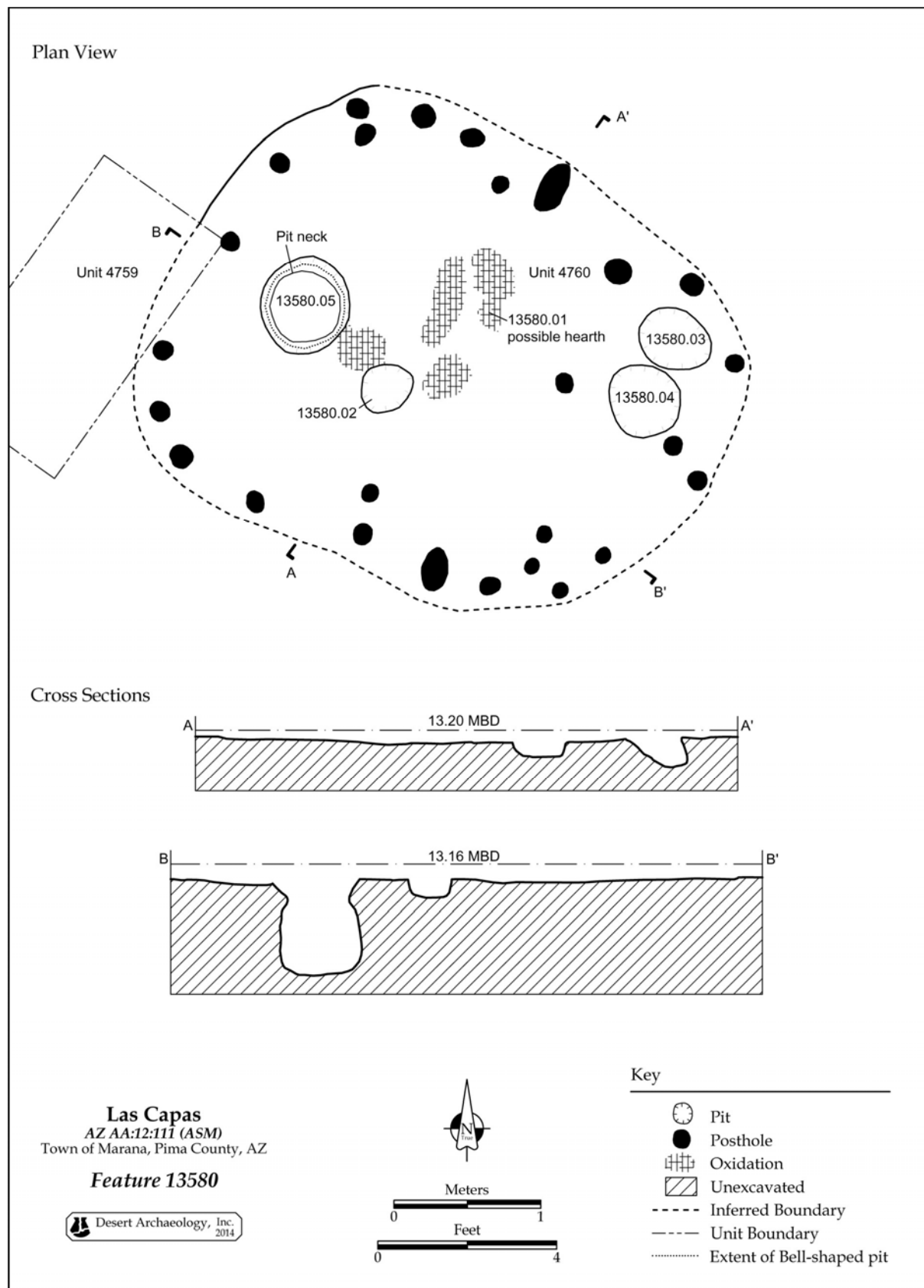


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 13580, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Due to mechanical stripping, only 4 cm of cultural fill remained, and it was confined primarily to the center of the structure. This fill consisted of a loosely consolidated, tan silt that contained a large amount of charcoal flecks and other burned materials in the center (likely due to the natural root burn). Charcoal inclusions were far less abundant in the fill closer to the edges of the feature. Artifact density in the fill was extremely low, consisting of three small pieces of flaked stone. No artifacts were present on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.02. This structure was likely constructed within a primary foundation pit without formally prepared walls; this foundation pit was all but removed by mechanical stripping. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor appeared slightly basin shaped in the center of the structure.

In total, 26 postholes were identified and excavated. Most of the postholes were in two rows, forming an inner and outer ring around the interior perimeter of the pit basin. Due to the sparse amount of excavated fill, it was difficult to determine if any roof fall was present. This structure was likely constructed of upright wall posts that were bent or bowed to form a dome, connected with stringers, and covered with reed thatching. Evidence of structural remodeling was present with the two rings of postholes; they imply that either a structural expansion occurred during the use-life of the feature, or a new structure was placed over a smaller preexisting one.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was built into Stratum 504.02 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. The structure neither intrudes into nor is intruded upon by extramural features. Five extramural features that originated in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 13580, all clustered north of the structure, and included mostly small pits and one bell-shaped pit (Table 2).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of floor artifacts and the lack of in situ burned posts, this structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Although a high degree of burned material and oxidation was present in the center of the structure, it was likely a result of a natural root burn located there and not a sign of catastrophic burning. No evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of this structure was habitation, based on the ample usable floor space, and the relatively few internal features. The number of interior features may suggest there was abundant interior domestic activity during a single, long-term occupation, while the two rings of postholes indicate the structure was altered, suggesting multiple occupations over the use-life of the structure. Based on its originating stratum and architectural similarities, this house-in-pit is likely contemporaneous with Feature 13596, another house-in-pit. Feature 13580 was among the few structures found in the southeastern section of Locus D.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13580, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13580.01 | Hearth | 0.80 | 0.55 | — | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13580.02 | Ash pit | 0.37 | 0.33 | 0.12 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0077 |
| 13580.03 | Small pit | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.17 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0164 |
| 13580.04 | Small pit | 0.68 | 0.42 | 0.34 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13580.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.65 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.57 | 0.55 | 0.49 | 0.49 | — | 10 | 1 | — | 12 | — | 0.1685 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 13580, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|----------|-------|
| 13597 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13578 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13577 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 13576 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13575 | Small pit | North | — |

Feature 13596: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.07-13.26 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently excavated by hand, exposing the floor surface and establishing the boundaries. This roughly oval-shaped structure measured 4.20 m east-west by 3.20 m north-south, and contained 9.56 m² of usable floor space when completely excavated. Several internal features and postholes were excavated. While no formal entry was identified, a rectangular-shaped burned area was present in the north-central portion of the floor surface that extended northward, past the established feature boundary by 1.50 m. This may have been a remnant of an entryway, although it was too insubstantial to clearly identify, and the exact orientation of the structure could not be determined.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13596, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

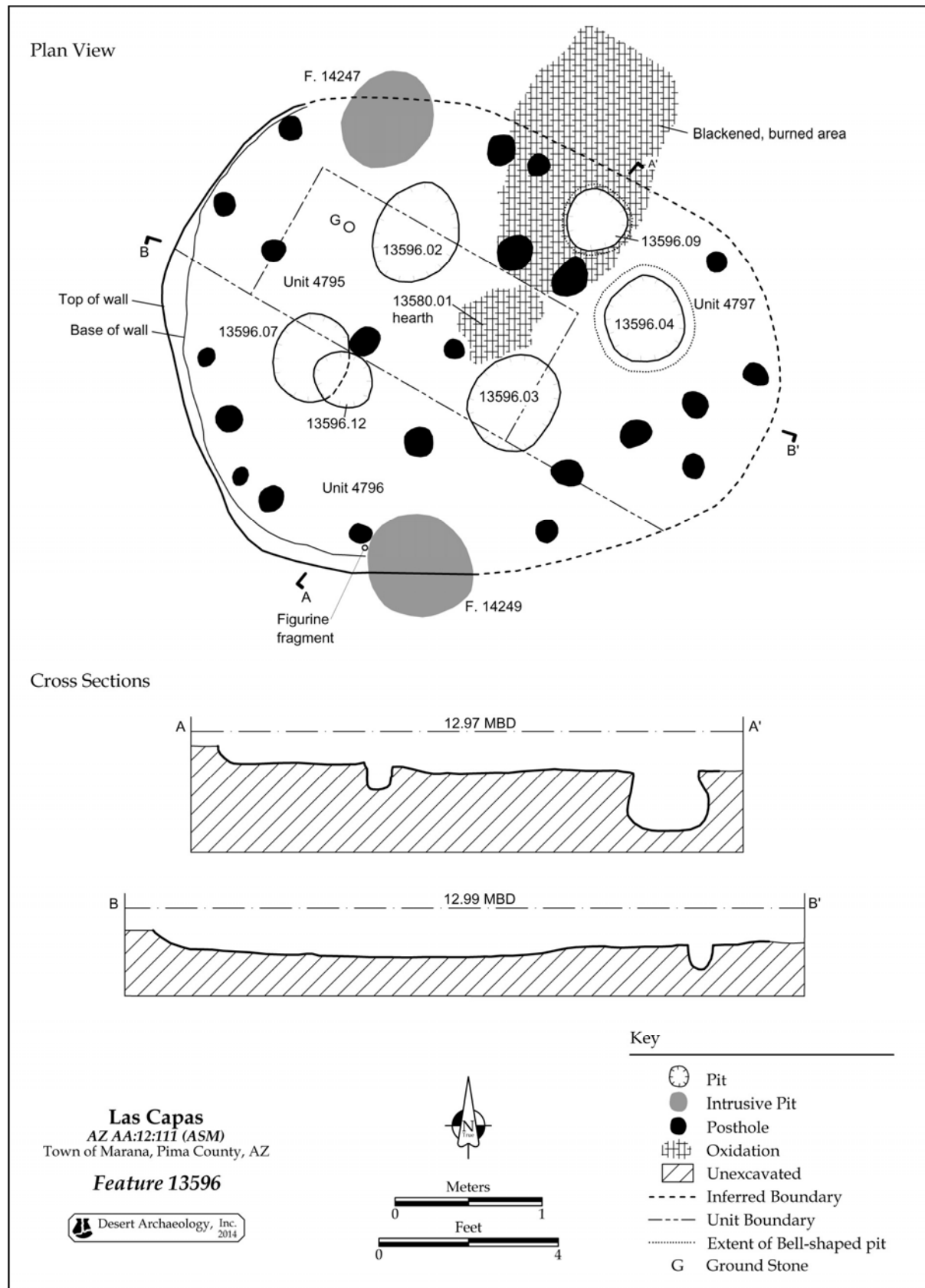


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13596, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Features

This structure had seven internal features. These included an informal hearth, represented by oxidation near the center of the structure, and a small pit, Feature 13596.03, directly south of the hearth that may have functioned as a basketrest. Three small pits, Features 13596.02, 13596.07, and 13596.12, were located in the western half of the structure and two bell-shaped pits, Features 13596.04 and 13596.09, were located in the eastern half of the house-in-pit (Table 1).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated in Stratum 504.02. The 19 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, light brown, fine-textured, loosely consolidated silt. The fill contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks and small pieces of daub throughout. Artifact density was moderate throughout the fill, and included 97 pieces of flaked stone and 6 pieces of faunal bone. Three figurine fragments were concentrated in the eastern portion of the structure. One pecking stone was in direct association with the floor and was located just west of Feature 13596.02.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.02. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit, which did not have formally prepared walls. Only a small part of the foundation pit walls remained intact along the western portion of the structure, it sloped upward to a height of 10 cm above the floor surface, and likely extended higher, but was removed by mechanical stripping. The floor surface was in fair condition and generally unburned; it was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor was fairly flat and sloped upward slightly around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit basin.

In all, 22 postholes were identified and excavated. Seventeen of the postholes formed two rings around the perimeter of the foundation pit basin; the remaining five were situated within the interior of the structure, possibly functioning as central post supports. The postholes were generally circular in shape, averaging 16 cm in diameter and 15 cm in depth. Although no architectural elements were preserved, these postholes probably held wall posts, which were bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit. These posts were likely connected with horizontal stringers, with the entire framework covered by reed or grass thatching. The two rings of postholes, and one central posthole that was intrusive into an internal pit, indicate this feature was structurally remodeled during its use-life.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was constructed within Stratum 504.02, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504.01, 504, and 503. Two extramural features were intrusive into the structure. Feature 14249, a bell-shaped pit, intruded the southern edge, while small pit Feature 14247 intruded the northern edge. Both of these features originated within the upper portion of Stratum 504.02.

Four extramural features that also originated in Stratum 504.02 were found within a 3-m radius of the structure. These included three small pits located to the north, Features 13868, 13867, and 14275. Feature 13594, a large pit, was located northeast of Feature 13596.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The small number of artifacts on the exposed surface, as well the lack of in situ burned structural elements, indicate this structure was cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was no evidence the structure burned, and the light patches of oxidation were likely caused by use of the hearth. It is unclear if the structure experienced postabandonment reuse. Based on the presence of the two intrusive features and the density of cultural artifacts in the fill, the depression left by the abandoned foundation pit may have served as a refuse dump. The concentration of artifacts in the eastern part of the feature indicates the fill was intentionally dumped rather than naturally deposited.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 13596 was likely habitation. This structure contained a larger number of internal features than other structures in Stratum 504.02. This may indicate an abundance of internal domestic activities occurred within the structure. The presence of remodeling evidence indicates this structure saw either multiple occupations or a single long-term occupation during its use-life. This is further substantiated by the fact that one of the internal features intruded upon another. Based on the stratum this house-in-pit originated in, as well as similarities between architectural elements, this structure is likely contemporaneous with Feature 13580, another house-in-pit.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13596, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13596.01 | Hearth | 0.60 | 0.50 | — | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13596.02 | Small pit | 0.70 | 0.54 | 0.21 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0416 |
| 13596.03 | Small pit | 0.64 | 0.60 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0181 |
| 13596.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.55 | 0.49 | 0.51 | 0.68 | 0.66 | 0.56 | 0.50 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 17 | — | 0.1439 |
| 13596.07 | Small pit | 0.65 | 0.60 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 0.0184 |
| 13596.09 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.42 | 0.39 | 0.38 | 0.48 | 0.48 | — | — | — | 5 | 7 | — | — | — | 0.0588 |
| 13596.12 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.40 | 0.41 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 4 | — | — | 4 | — | 0.0515 |

Feature 13771: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus D
Elevation: 13.91-14.20 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The overlying cultural fill was subsequently hand-excavated, exposing the floor surface and boundaries of the feature. This roughly subrectangular structure measured 4.90 m northwest-southeast by 3.90 m northeast-southwest, with the southern half wider than the northern half. It contained 11.49 m² of usable floor space, fully excavated. Internal features and postholes were clearly identifiable in the exposed floor surface. The structure had a roughly rectangular, possibly ramped, entry that measured 2.0 m by 60 cm, and was centrally located in the northeastern wall of the structure (Figures 3 and 4).

Internal Features

The structure had three internal features (Table 1). The two hearths, Feature 13771.01, located centrally, and Feature 13771.02, located to the north, were unprepared and contained no depth, but were visible as highly oxidized stains on the floor surface. Feature 13771.02 contained a trivet-like



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13771, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

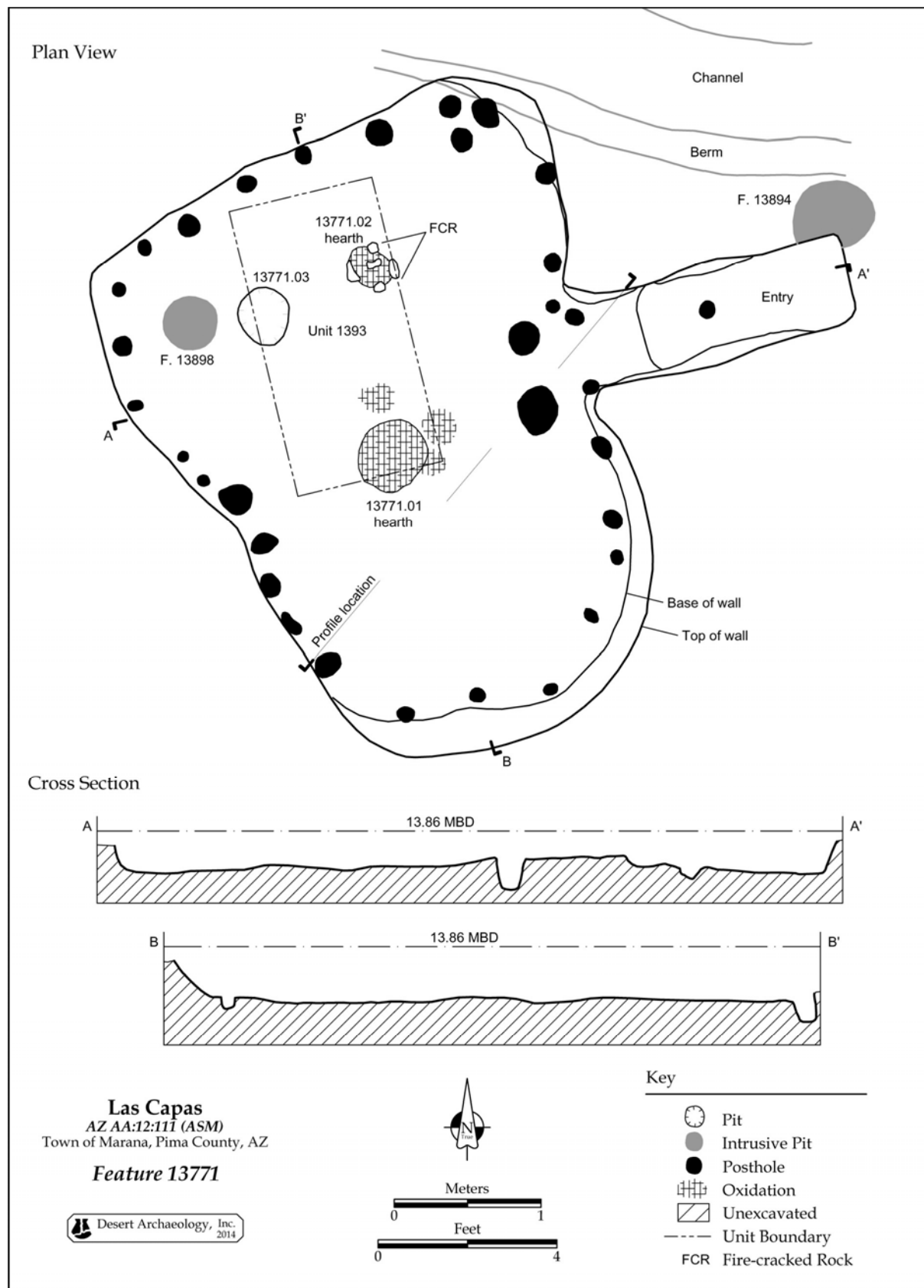


Figure 2. Plan view and cross sections of house-in-pit Feature 13771, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

formation of fire-cracked rock. Feature 13771.03, a small pit, was located in the northern portion of the structure, and may have functioned as a basketrest.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The structure originated in Stratum 504.04 and partially cut into the top of Stratum 505. The 25 cm of excavated cultural fill consisted of two distinct strata (Figure 5). The upper 20 cm was dark brown, subangular, loosely consolidated clay that contained moderate amounts of flaked stone, faunal bone, and fire-cracked rock (Table 2), as well as moderate charcoal flecks throughout. Artifacts in this stratum were likely a result of cultural debris within flood and field deposits that were naturally deposited after the structure was abandoned.



Figure 3. House-in-pit Feature 13771, entryway detail, pre-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).



Figure 4. House-in-pit Feature 13771, entryway detail, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

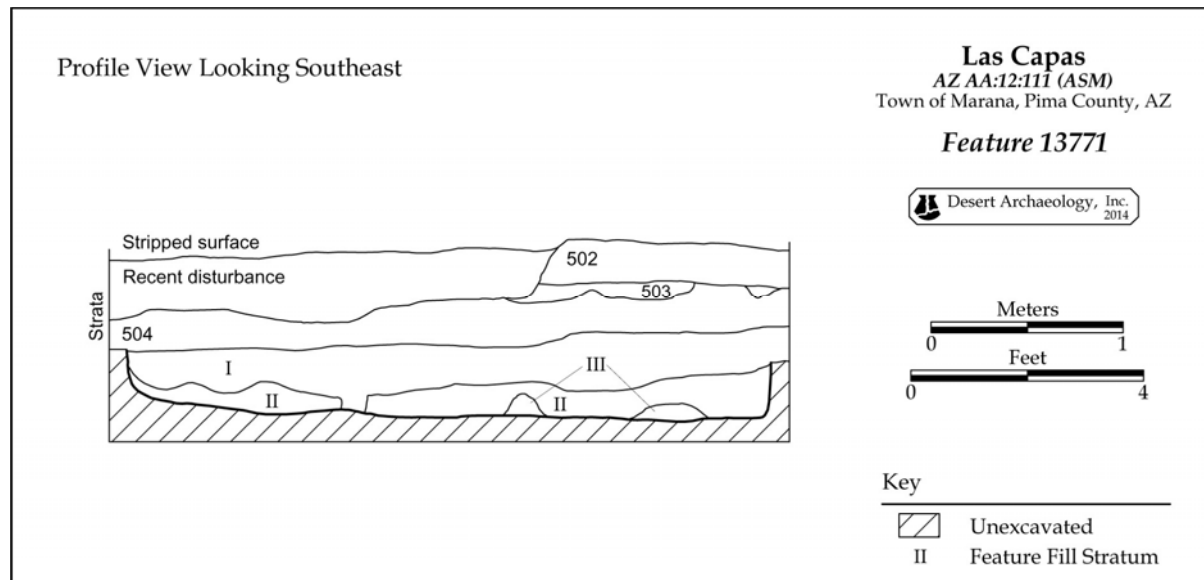


Figure 5. House-in-pit Feature 13771, profile, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

The remaining 5 cm of fill was light brown, slightly mottled, loosely consolidated silty clay with small amounts of charcoal flecks and cultural artifacts. Artifact types included flaked stone, bifaces, and faunal bone. The cultural fill of this stratum easily “popped” off the slightly oxidized, compacted floor surface. No artifacts were associated with the floor.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal pits, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04, and just into the top of Stratum 505. The feature was constructed within a primary foundation pit that had informally prepared walls. The walls of the foundation pit sloped upward to a height of 25 cm above the average floor surface, and likely once extended higher, but were removed by mechanical stripping. Parts of the floor were slightly oxidized, primarily around hearth areas. The floor was relatively flat, sloping slightly upward around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure.

Most of the 33 excavated postholes formed a single ring around the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. The postholes were circular to slightly oval-shaped and averaged 12 cm in diameter and 12 cm deep. These postholes likely held wall support posts connected by stringers. The lack of substantial amounts of burned daub in the fill suggests a covering of reed thatching was likely woven around this framing. The two postholes with the largest diameters were located adjacent to the entry, just inside the perimeter ring. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature originated within Stratum 504.04 and was buried by additional deposits from this stratum, as well as from Strata 504.03, 504.02, and 504.01. Feature 13898, a roasting pit, originated in Stratum 504.02 and was overlying the structure in the north. Feature 13894, a roasting pit, also originated in Stratum 504.02 and partially overlaid the northeastern corner of the entry. The southern

bank of a canal that also originated in Stratum 504.02 overlaid the northern corner of the structure. No extramural features that originated from Stratum 504.04 were identified within a 3-m radius of Feature 13771. The lack of extramural features near this structure was uncommon among the houses-in-pits within Stratum 504.04. Based on the interior fill, as well as the elevations of this structure, it was likely contemporaneous with Features 13475, 13467, and 13367, all houses-in-pits in Locus D.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

The lack of a floor assemblage indicates this structure was likely cleaned out before abandonment. Materials used for construction, such as posts, were also apparently removed prior to abandonment and possibly reused elsewhere, based on the lack of architectural remains found in situ. This house-in-pit showed no signs of having burned, and the slight oxidation on floor surface was likely due to hearth use. Further, the internal stratigraphy of the feature indicates the foundation pit, internal features, and postholes were filled in by naturally deposited sediments. The area in which Feature 13771 was located was likely used for agricultural purposes after the structure was abandoned, based on the presence of a canal within Stratum 504.02.

Functional Inferences

Feature 13771 appeared to have been used primarily for habitation, based on the few internal features. This could also indicate that few domestic activities occurred within the structure. It appears this structure had a single occupation during its use-life, based on the lack of any structural remodeling evidence. Feature 13771 represents an early phase of occupation within Stratum 504.04 in Locus D, and was contemporaneous with Features 13475 and 13467, both houses-in-pits in Locus D. The feature also represents a distinct architectural style, which was only identified in excavations at Locus D.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13771, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13771.01 | Hearth | 0.50 | 0.49 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0051 |
| 13771.02 | Hearth | 0.30 | 0.25 | — | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13771.03 | Small pit | 0.40 | 0.36 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 0.0075 |

Table 2. Artifact counts, by excavated unit, for house-in-pit Feature 13771, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Unit No. | Level | Stratum | Depth (m) | Flaked Stone | Faunal Bone | Ground Stone | Fire-cracked Rock | Fire-cracked Ground Stone |
|----------|-------|---------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1393 | 1 | 10 | 0.10 | 14 | 2 | - | 28 | - |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.10 | 11 | 7 | - | 7 | - |
| | 3 | 10 | 0.05 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| | 4 | 10 | 0.05 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1459 | 1 | 10 | 0.25 | 59 | 6 | - | - | - |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.06 | 25 | - | - | - | - |
| 1496 | 1 | 10 | 0.25 | - | - | - | 7 | - |
| | 2 | 10 | 0.06 | 32 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 1 |

Feature 13897: House-in-pit
Stratum 502
Locus D
Elevation: 13.20-13.53 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was removed by hand-excavation to expose the floor surface and to establish feature boundaries. This feature was highly disturbed, as a modern utility trench truncated the southeastern portion of the structure. Additionally, the entire western two-thirds of the structure were mechanically stripped down to a subfloor level, and only portions of internal features were visible.

Based on the one-third of the structure preserved, this structure was assumed to have been subrectangular in shape. The feature measured approximately 2.50 m northwest-southeast by 2.25 m northeast-southwest, with 4.41 m² of usable floor space. Internal features and two postholes were identified. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit had two internal features. Feature 13897.01, a hearth, was located in the northern part of the structure; it was oval-shaped, measuring 34 cm north-south by 30 cm east-west, and had an



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 13897, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

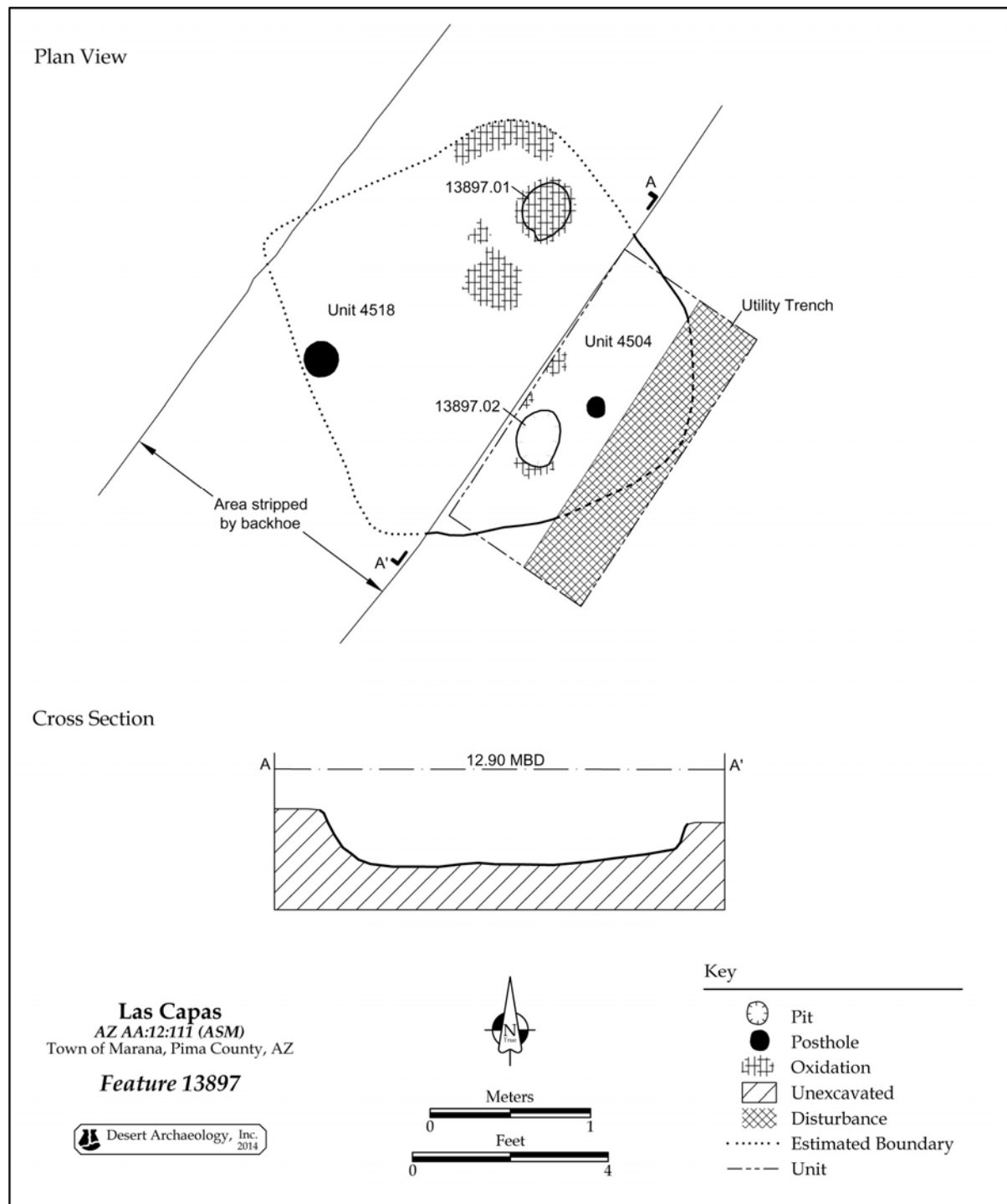


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 13897, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

average depth of 7 cm. Feature 13897.01 was identified in that portion of the structure stripped down to subfloor level, and it likely had a greater depth before mechanical stripping. The hearth, while not formally prepared, exhibited a high degree of oxidation on the base and sidewalls. The internal fill consisted of a loosely consolidated gray ash, with charcoal flecking throughout. No artifacts were identified in this feature.

Feature 13897.02, an ash pit, was located in the southern portion of the structure within the intact, exposed floor surface. This feature was oval-shaped, and measured 35 cm east-west by 26 cm north-south, with an average depth of 10 cm. The fill consisted of a uniform, grayish-brown, loosely consolidated ashy silt with modest amounts of small daub and charcoal flecks throughout; no artifacts were present. This feature had slight oxidation around its southern edge.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Feature 13897 originated in Stratum 502. The fill excavated over the intact portion of the floor surface was a uniform, yellowish-tan, loosely consolidated fine-textured silt, that contained no burned materials. Artifact density within the fill was very low, consisting of 12 pieces of flaked stone. No artifacts were in direct contact with the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 502. Because so little of the structure was left intact, neither formally prepared walls nor evidence of a foundation pit were identifiable. The intact part of the floor surface had patches of oxidation and did not appear to be formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. All evidence of foundation pit walls was removed during mechanical stripping, although they were likely present.

Two postholes were identified within the house-in-pit. One was identified in the intact portion of the floor surface, and was circular in shape and straight walled, with a diameter of 12 cm and a depth of 12 cm. The other posthole was identified in the western portion of the estimated floor area. This posthole was circular in shape, straight walled, and measured 20 cm in diameter and 20 cm in depth. Given its size and location, this posthole may represent a main support.

This structure likely contained additional postholes, based on evidence in other structures excavated in Stratum 502 in Locus D. Feature 13897 is assumed to have been constructed similarly of wall support posts connected by stringers and covered by reed thatching. No remodeling evidence was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This structure was constructed in Stratum 502 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. The feature contained no intrusive or overlying extramural features, although its southeastern portion was truncated by a modern utility trench. Only one extramural feature was identified in Stratum 502 within a 3-m radius of this structure. Small pit Feature 13927 was located northeast of the structure. Further northeast were two houses-in-pits, Features 13294 and 13296, as well as several extramural pits that also originated in Stratum 502 and were contemporaneous with Feature 13897.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Due to the lack of artifacts on the exposed floor surface, this structure was likely cleaned out prior to abandonment. Based on the intact portions of the structure, there was no evidence it burned. Neither was evidence of postabandonment reuse identified.

Functional Inferences

This house-in-pit likely functioned primarily for habitation. The lack of substantial internal features within its estimated boundary may indicate the structure saw little interior domestic activity. Although the structure was heavily disturbed, evidence found in other structures in Locus D that originated in the same stratum, suggest this structure experienced a short-term, single occupation. Based on diagnostic ceramic sherds recovered, this structure was determined to be associated with the Hohokam Rillito Phase (A.D. 850-950).

Feature 13964: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.70-13.76 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently excavated by hand, exposing the surface. The excavated portion of this surface measured 5.13 m north-south by 5.05 m east-west, and it likely extended beyond these boundaries. This irregularly shaped surface was primarily defined by the limits of oxidized soil. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface and performing regular outdoor activities. Numerous possible internal features were identified that likely originated from the surface. No architectural elements, such as postholes, were noted.

Internal Features

Eight possible features were identified on the surface that may have been internal features. They included hearths, small pits, and a bell-shaped pit. Hearth Feature 13964.01 was centrally located. An informal hearth, Feature 13964.03, was also identified in the northern portion of the excavated area and was intrusive into Feature 13964.06, a small pit (Table 1). Some of the small pit features may have originated in the upper portions of Stratum 504, and had their tops removed by mechanical stripping.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This extramural surface originated within Stratum 504.02. The 9 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, pale brown, loosely consolidated silt with a moderate amount of charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact density within the fill was high, and included 451 pieces of flaked stone, 20 pieces of faunal bone, 26 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 2 pieces of shell. Artifacts were also present directly on the surface. These included 54 pieces of flaked stone, which were primarily concentrated in two separate clusters in the northern portion of the surface. Other artifacts in contact with the surface included eight pieces of faunal bone and 11 pieces of fire-cracked rock clustered in the northern portion of the surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 13964 originated within Stratum 504.02, and was buried by additional deposits of that stratum, and by deposits from Strata 504 and 503. This extramural surface neither intruded into nor was intruded upon by any other extramural features. A natural channel running roughly east-west was located just east of the extramural surface. Only two extramural features that originated from Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of this feature. Feature 13695, a roasting pit, was located to the northwest, and Feature 13963, a possible natural sinkhole, was located to the southeast. Very few features of any type were located in this area of Locus D.

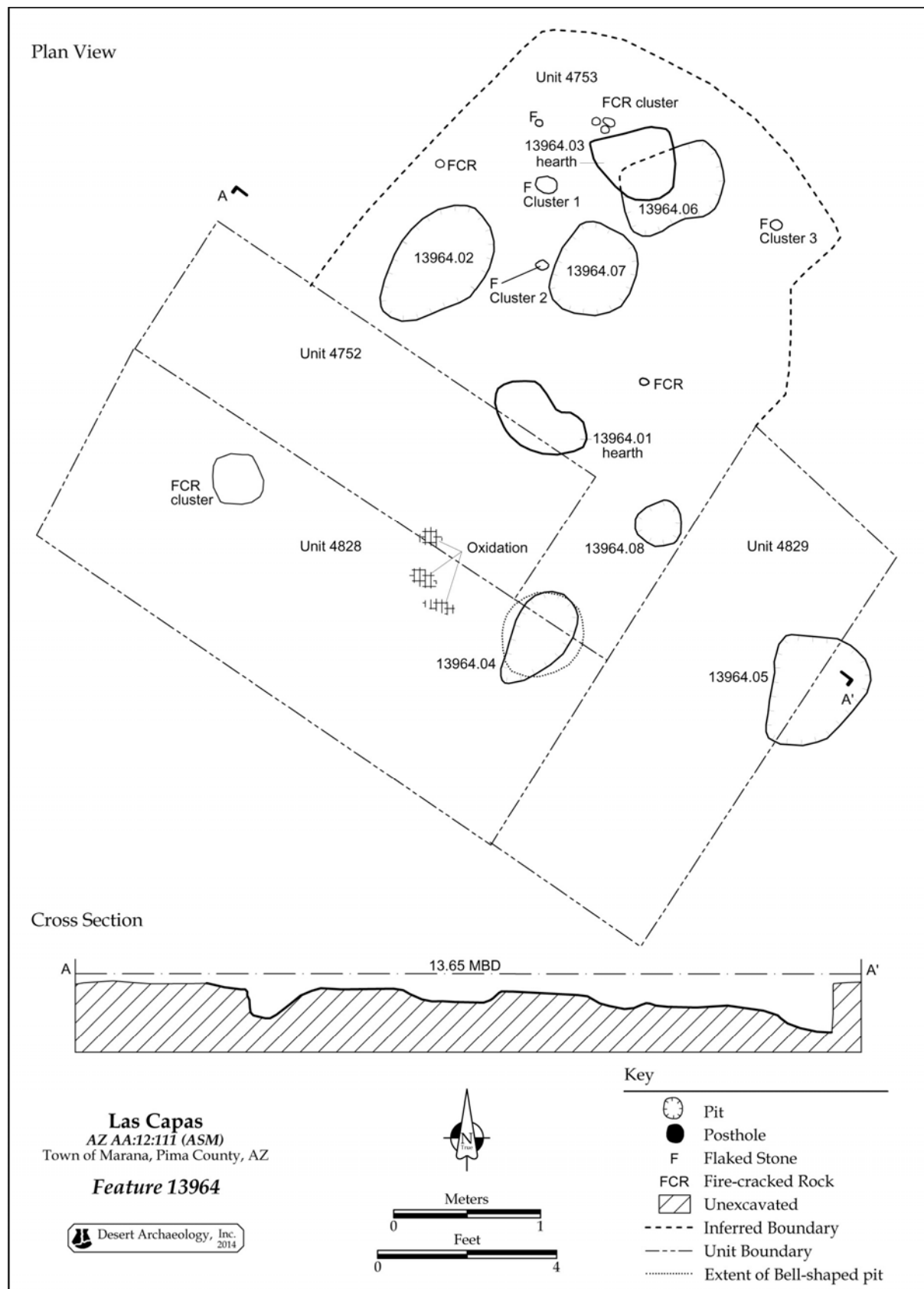


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of extramural surface Feature 13964, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Functional Inferences

This portion of Locus D likely had a primary function as an outdoor activity area. The high density of flaked stone in the fill and directly on the surface may imply the area was used for flaked stone production. Although this surface contained many internal features, not all of these could be definitively associated with the surface, and some may have originated in the upper portions of Stratum 504.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 13964, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 13964.01 | Hearth | 0.59 | 0.47 | 0.07 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0102 |
| 13964.02 | Small pit | 0.71 | 0.55 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 55 | — | — | 5 | 5 | 0.0879 |
| 13964.03 | Hearth | 0.58 | 0.55 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 0.0067 |
| 13964.04 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.76 | 0.57 | 0.52 | 0.62 | 0.54 | — | — | — | 70 | — | — | 21 | 11 | 0.1568 |
| 13964.05 | Small pit | 0.86 | 0.78 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 12 | — | — | — | 1 | 0.0281 |
| 13964.06 | Small pit | 0.78 | 0.74 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 11 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 0.0332 |
| 13964.07 | Small pit | 0.71 | 0.60 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0223 |
| 13964.08 | Small pit | 0.38 | 0.37 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0037 |

Feature 14064: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.86-13.95 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation in two units. The excavated area measured 4.10 m north-south by 2.00 m east-west. The surface was defined by soil compaction and the presence of a hearth. It was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during its use-life. The surface was relatively flat and contained no oxidation. It extended beyond the boundaries of the excavated area and the southwestern portion of the surface was removed by mechanical stripping. This surface was located in an intensively used outdoor activity area in the northwestern portion of Locus D, and it originated within Stratum 504.02.

Internal Features

Two internal features were identified as being directly associated with the extramural surface. Feature 14064.01, an informal hearth, was located in the center of the excavated area. This feature was irregular in shape, and had a highly oxidized bottom and rind. It measured 40 cm north-south by 36 cm east-west, with an average depth of 7 cm. The fill of the hearth consisted of a loosely consolidated, gray ash that contained charcoal flecks throughout. No artifacts were present within the fill. Feature 14064.02, a small pit, was located in the far northwestern corner of the excavated area. This feature was irregular in shape, and measured approximately 71 cm north-south by 53 cm east-west, with an average depth of 15 cm. The feature fill consisted of a uniform, brown, loosely consolidated, silty clay that contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks, and a moderate amount of small burned daub pieces, some of which measured 5 cm in diameter. No artifacts were present.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This extramural surface originated in Stratum 504.02. The 9 cm of excavated fill was a uniform, dark brown, moderately hard, blocky textured silty clay with very sparse charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact content was fairly high, consisting of 86 pieces of faunal bone and 89 pieces of flaked stone. While these artifacts were distributed throughout the excavated units, a higher density of both artifact types occurred around Feature 14064.01. The southern portion of the fill also contained a burned piece of ochre and a high density of fire-cracked rock. One vesicular basalt ground stone fragment was present directly on the extramural surface, but it was not collected.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface was formed within Stratum 504.02, and was buried by additional deposits of the same stratum. Several extramural pits that originated from the upper portions of Stratum 504.02 intruded on Feature 14064, and included small pits, roasting pits, and bell-shaped pits (Table 1). Several extramural features that originated in Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of the extramural surface. These included small and bell-shaped pits, roasting pits, a possible house-in-pit, and an extramural hearth (Table 2).

Functional Inferences

This extramural surface likely served as an area where many outdoor activities occurred. Based on the number of bell-shaped pits that surrounded this surface, as well as the high density of fire-cracked rock, faunal bone, and flaked stone found within the fill and on the surface, this feature was used for food processing and preparation. Based on its elevation and close proximity to several houses-in-pits, this surface may be directly associated with several of them, including Features 13548, 13218, and 13325, as well as possible house-in-pit Feature 13499.

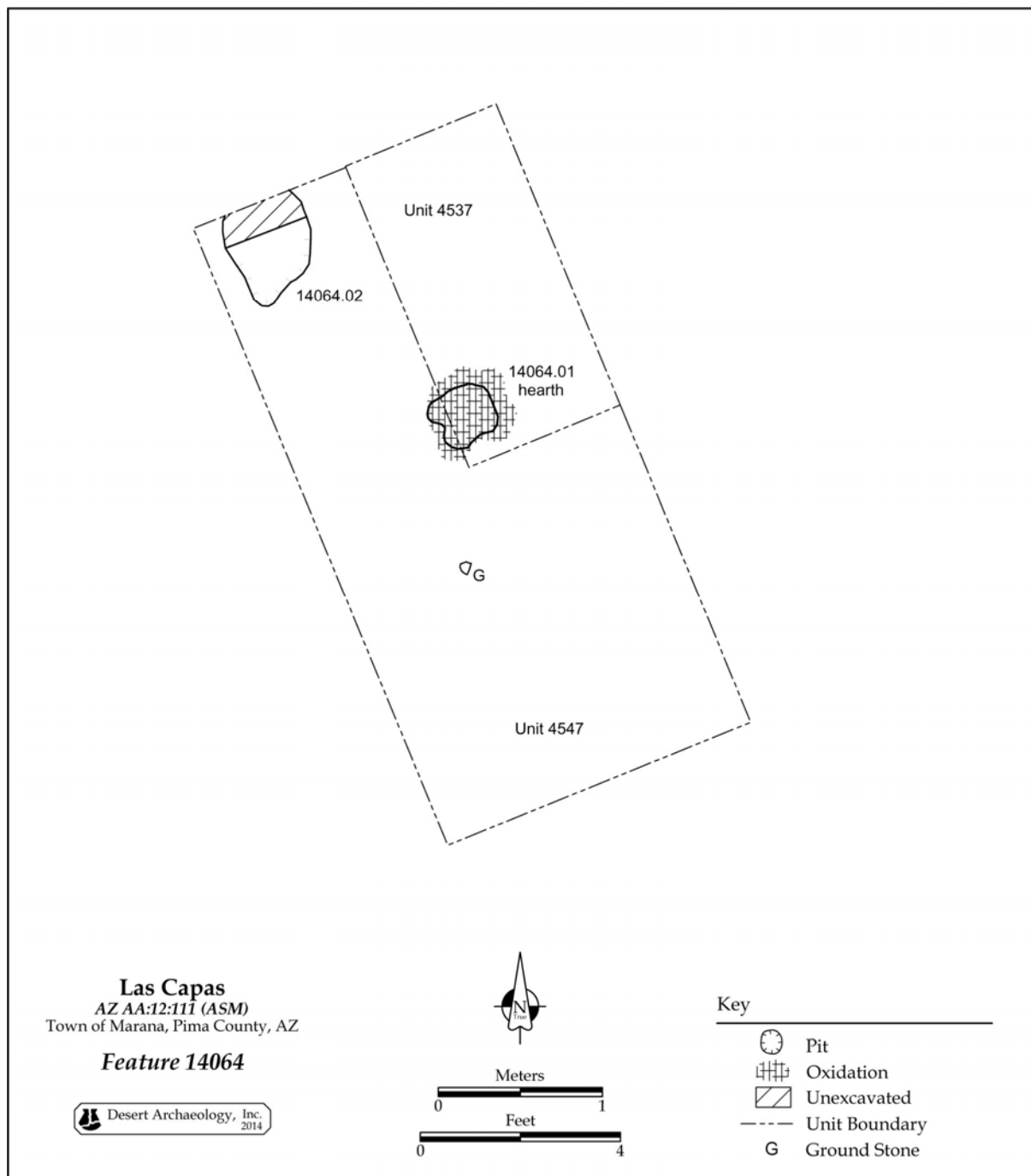


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 14064, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Table 1. Extramural features intrusive from Stratum 504.02 into extramural surface Feature 14064, Locus D Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 14016 | Small pit | East | 504.02 |
| 14017 | Small pit | East | 504.02 |
| 14065 | Small pit | East | 504.02 |
| 13662 | Small pit | South | 504.02 |
| 13663 | Small pit | South | 504.02 |
| 14021 | Bell-shaped pit | South | 504.02 |
| 14022 | Small pit | South | 504.02 |
| 14023 | Small pit | South | 504.02 |
| 14024 | Bell-shaped pit | South | 504.02 |
| 13474 | Roasting pit | West | 504.02 |
| 13679 | Bell-shaped pit | West | 504.02 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 14064, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| 13750 | Roasting pit | North | — |
| 13753 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 13754 | Small pit | North | — |
| 14263 | Small pit | North | — |
| 14264 | Small pit | North | — |
| 14259 | Roasting pit | Northeast | — |
| 14260 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 14261 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 13398 | Bell-shaped pit | East | — |
| 13499 | Possible house-in-pit | East | — |
| 13883 | Small pit | East | — |
| 13470 | Roasting pit | South | — |
| 13472 | Extramural hearth | South | — |
| 13473 | Small pit | South | — |
| 13477 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 13746 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 13747 | Small pit | South | — |
| 13752 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 13962 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |

Feature 14207: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.56-13.79 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and the feature boundaries. This circular-shaped structure measured 2.54 m north-south by 2.48 m east-west, with 5.06 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. The structure contained a few postholes and one internal feature within the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained an informal hearth, Feature 14207.01, located in the northern portion of the structure. It was irregular in shape, measuring 30 cm north-south by 36 cm east-west. The hearth had no depth, and was identified as a highly oxidized stain on the floor surface. No artifacts were associated with the hearth.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 14207, post-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

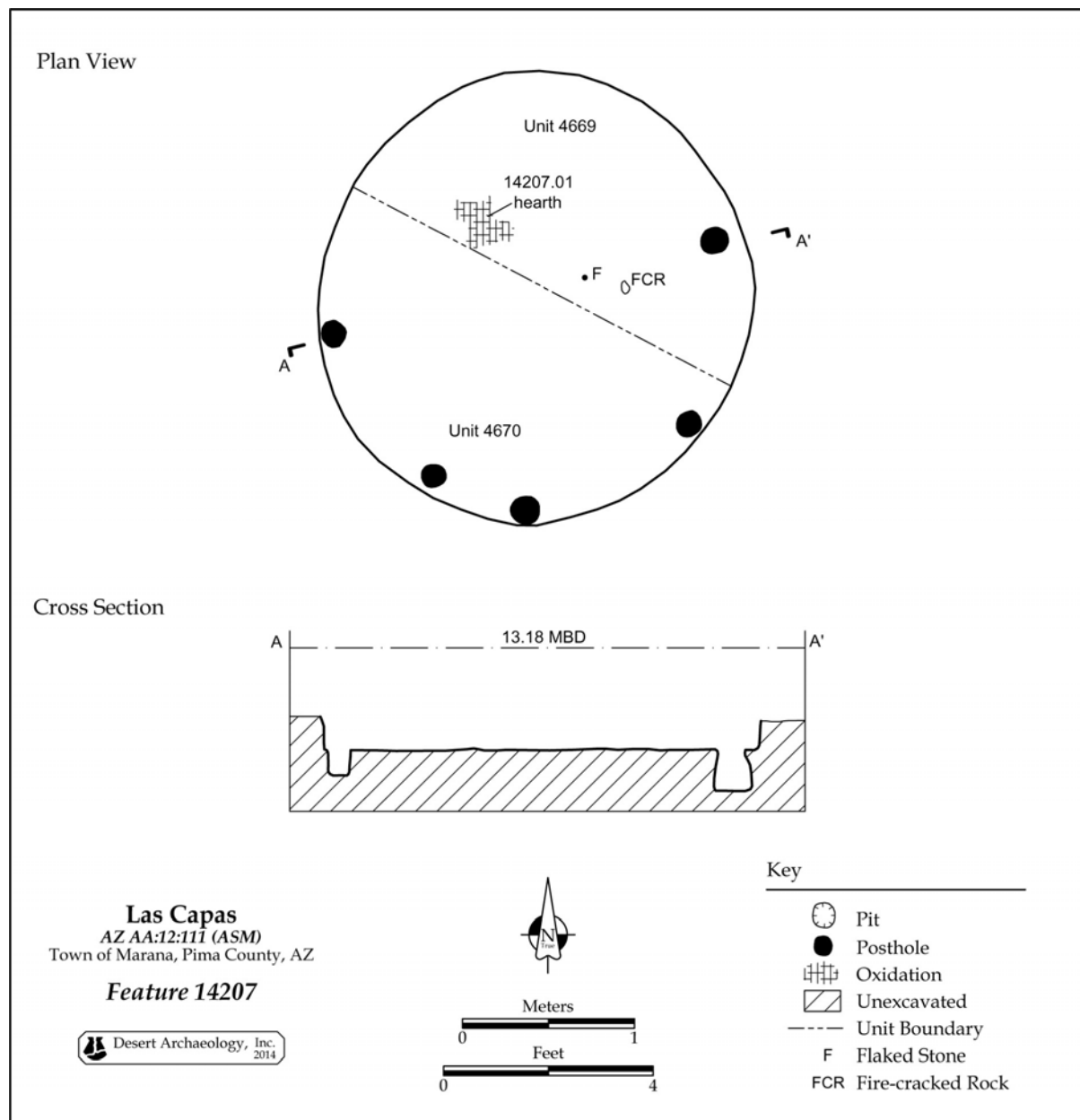


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 14207, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

Feature 14207 originated in Stratum 504.02. The 23 cm of excavated fill was uniform, gray-brown, loosely consolidated silt, which contained sparse dark brown clay inclusions throughout. A small amount of charcoal flecks was also present throughout. The fill contained no evidence of burned roof or wall material. Artifact density was very low, and was confined to the upper 20 cm of feature fill.

Artifacts within the upper 20 cm of fill included 31 pieces of flaked stone and 40 pieces of faunal bone. A possible Cienega-style projectile point was identified in the southern half of the feature at the stripped surface; however, given the elevation of the artifact, it was not directly associated with the

structure. One small piece of flaked stone was in direct contact with the floor surface near the center of the structure, and a single piece of fire-cracked rock was also in contact with the floor nearby.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal features, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.02. The structure was constructed within a primary foundation pit, which did not contain formally prepared walls. The foundation pit walls sloped upward to a height of 30 cm above the floor surface, and may have extended higher, but they were partially removed by mechanical stripping.

The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The surface was relatively flat but sloped upward around the perimeter to the foundation pit walls. The floor had light patches of oxidation confined to the hearth area, which were likely a result of hearth use.

Five postholes were identified in the southern part of the structure. The postholes were circular in shape, averaged 14 cm in diameter and 18 cm in depth, and formed a single ring within the interior perimeter of the foundation pit. Given that the fill in this structure was devoid of burned construction materials, such as daub, it was likely constructed of wall support posts that were bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit, interwoven with horizontal stringers, and covered with reed thatching.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit was built within Stratum 504.02 and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum. Few extramural features that originated from Stratum 504.02 were exposed within a 3-m radius of this structure. Two small pits, Features 13488 and 13487 were located to the north, and small pit Feature 14213 was located southwest of the structure. Feature 14208, a large pit similar in shape and depth to Feature 14207, was located just outside the 3-m radius within Stratum 504.02; it may have been excavated as a foundation pit for a structure that was never constructed.

Functional Inferences

The primary function of Feature 14207 was likely habitation. Based on the small size and the lack of either structural remodeling or internal features, this was likely a temporary structure that had a single, short-term occupancy, perhaps as a fieldhouse. The lack of internal features may also indicate little interior domestic activity occurred within the structure. Although the possible Cienega-style projectile point recovered from the stripped surface could not be directly associated with the structure, the structure itself possesses many attributes associated with Cienega-style pit structures, such as its very circular shape and vertical foundation pit walls. Feature 14207 was the only structure of this type excavated within Locus D, and it was located in an area almost devoid of structures.

Feature 14241: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.73-13.94 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation. This surface was located in the west-central portion of Locus D, originated within Stratum 504.02, and represented an area of intensive occupation within this stratigraphic layer. The surface was defined by the limits of oxidation, artifact density, and compaction of the surface, although it might have extended beyond the excavated area. The excavated surface measured approximately 4.50 m east-west by 3.90 m north-south. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during its use-life. The surface was partially oxidized around the internal features, and contained a depression in the center of the excavated area.

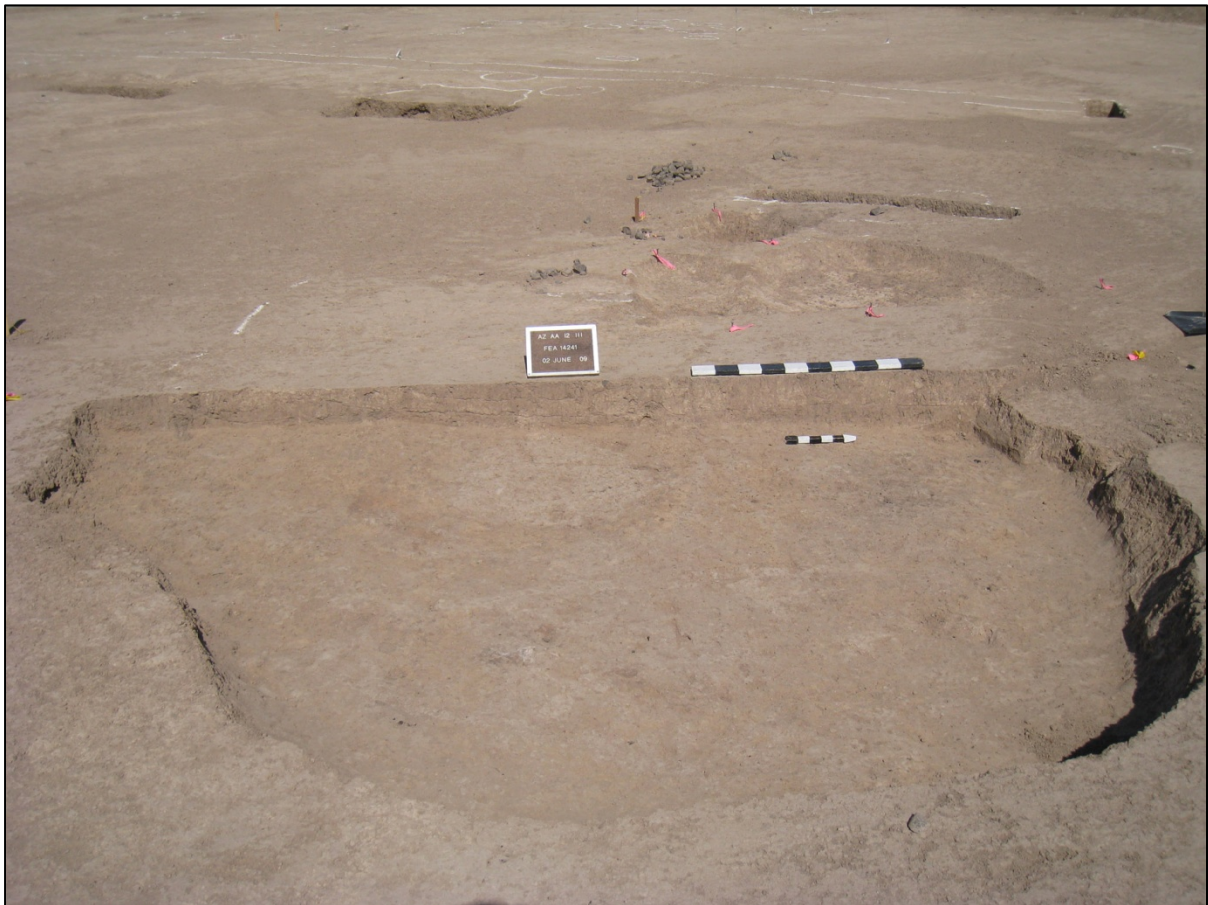


Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 14241, mid-excavation, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

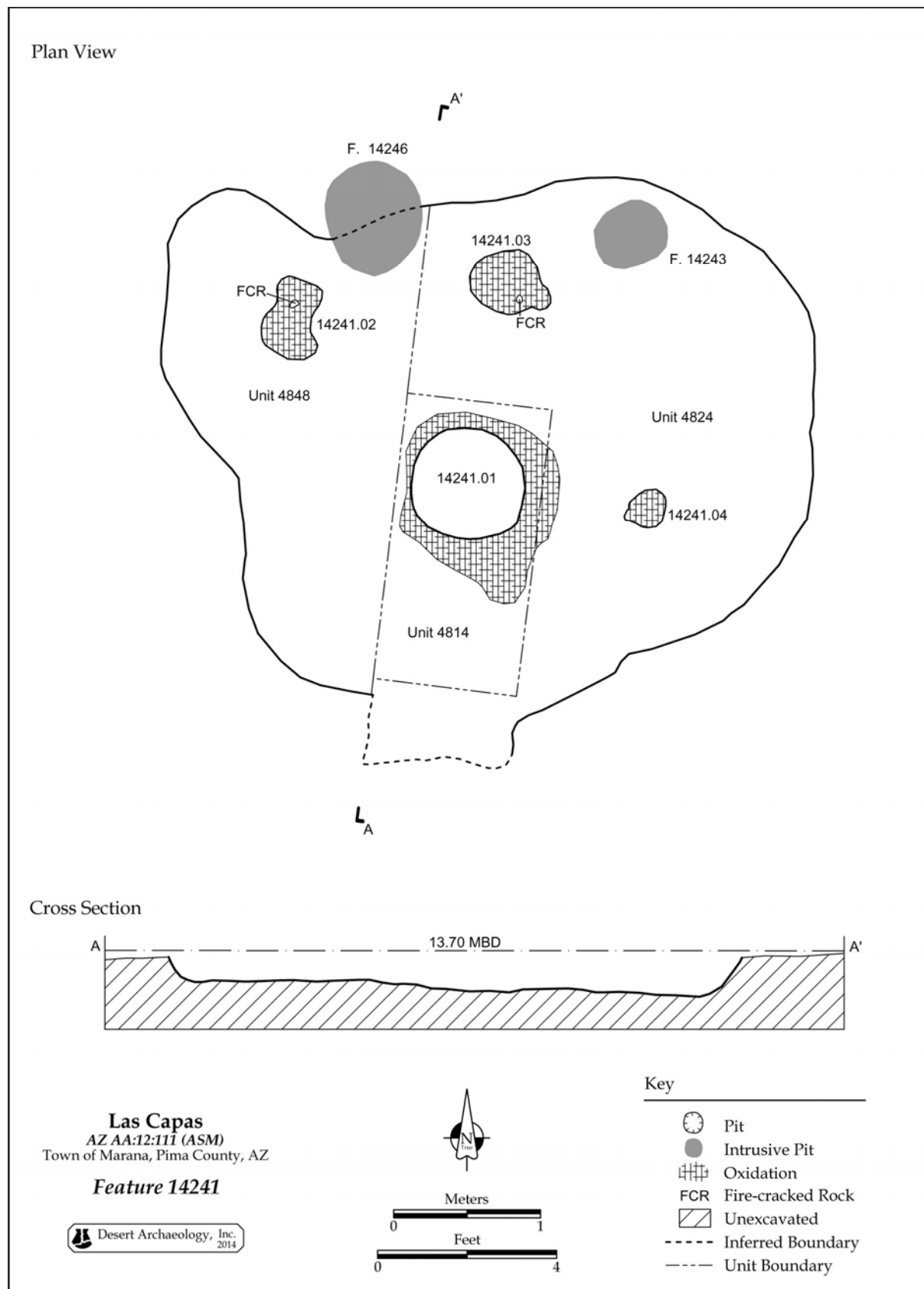


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of extramural surface Feature 14241, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Features

This extramural surface contained four internal features. Feature 14241.01 was located near the center of the excavated area. It had a diameter of 80 cm, a highly oxidized rind, and was initially thought to be a well. The feature was excavated to a depth of 1.10 m and it appeared the fill continued. After the extramural surface was recorded, a backhoe trench was excavated to fully expose the feature in profile. Once the stratigraphy of the feature was visible, it was determined that Feature 14240.01 represented a natural piping vent, not a well.

Feature 14241.02, an informal hearth, was located in the northwestern portion of the surface. It was irregular in shape, and measured 57 cm north-south by 33 cm east-west. The feature had no depth, but was identified as a highly oxidized stain on the extramural surface. One piece of fire-cracked rock was lying directly on the oxidized surface. No other artifacts were associated with the feature.

Feature 14241.03, an informal hearth, was located in the northern portion of the surface. It was irregular in shape, and measured 47 cm east-west by 36 cm north-south. The feature averaged 3 cm in depth, and its fill consisted of loosely consolidated gray ash. No associated artifacts were present.

Feature 14241.04, an informal hearth, was located in the southeastern portion of the surface, and east of the natural piping vent. It was circular in shape, measuring 29 cm north-south by 27 cm east-west, with an average depth of 2 cm. This feature contained some ash, but no artifacts.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This extramural surface originated in Stratum 504.02. The 21 cm of excavated fill contained four distinct stratigraphic layers. In the first 10 cm, and confined to the center of the surface overlying the piping vent, there was a uniform, brown, blocky-textured silty clay that contained small amounts of charcoal flecks throughout.

The next 15 cm consisted of a uniform, fine-textured, loosely consolidated, tan silt lamina, with very sparse amounts of charcoal flecks concentrated in the northern portion of the excavated area. The next 5 cm consisted of a uniform, light brown, loosely consolidated, fine-textured sandy silt that contained sparse amounts of charcoal flecks throughout, as well as small amounts of ash. The remaining 5 cm consisted of a uniform, granular, loosely consolidated, reddish sand with very small charcoal flecks throughout.

Artifact density was low, and consisted of 60 pieces of faunal bone and 34 pieces of flaked stone, both of which were distributed throughout the feature fill. One possible San Pedro style projectile point fragment was recovered, overlying the piping vent at a depth of 13.86 mbd. No artifacts were in direct association with the surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface was formed in Stratum 504.02, and was buried by additional deposits of that stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 504.01. One extramural roasting pit was intrusive into the surface and another was overlying. These pits originated in the upper portions of Stratum 504.02, and included Feature 14243, which was overlying, and Feature 14246, which intruded into the northwestern portion of the surface. Within a 3-m radius of the surface were several additional extramural pits that originated within Stratum 504.02. These included several small pits and roasting pits, which were clustered primarily to the west (Table 1).

Functional Inferences

Although Feature 14241 contained few artifacts on the surface and contained little oxidation beyond the hearth areas, it likely saw substantial activity. This is based on the presence of the three informal hearths, as well as the density of pits surrounding the surface. The multiple hearths may suggest an emphasis on food preparation in the area. Early interpretations of Feature 14241.01 as a well were later clarified, and the feature was determined to be a natural piping vent. The oxidation surrounding the piping vent was likely the result of a natural burn.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.02 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 14241, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| 13419 | Small pit | North | — |
| 13420 | Small pit | West | — |
| 13985 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 13986 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 13987 | Small pit | West | — |
| 13988 | Roasting pit | West | — |

Feature 14251: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.02
Locus D
Elevation: 13.73-13.94 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was discovered in the sidewall of Feature 13846, a roasting pit. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand, exposing an extramural surface. As excavated, this oval-shaped surface measured 2.85 m by 2.20 m, although it may have extended

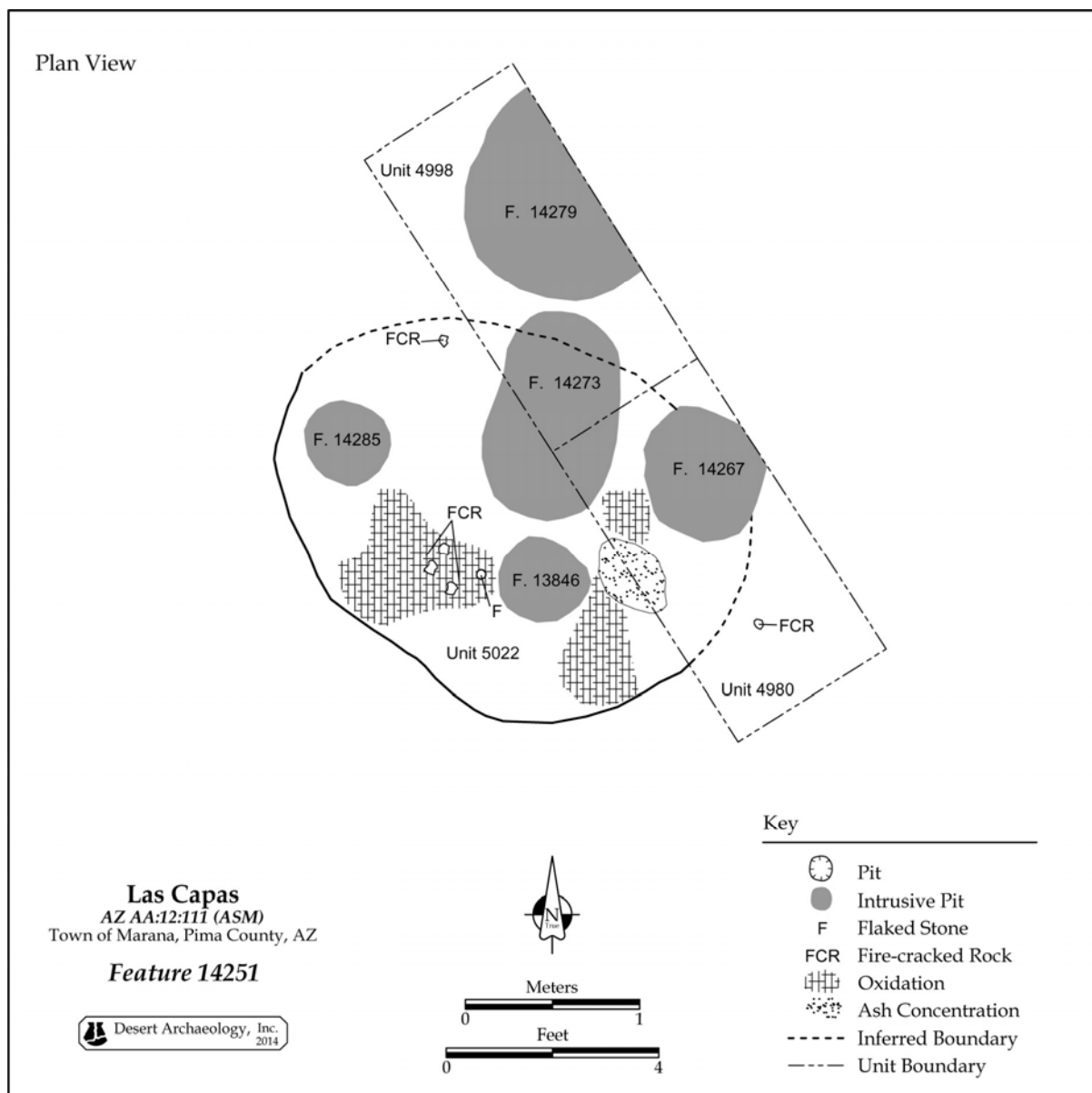


Figure 1. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 14251, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

farther. The feature was defined by the limits of highly compacted soil, oxidation, and artifact content. The surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals using the surface during its use-life. No internal features were determined to originate from the surface, although several extramural features were overlying and intrusive into the surface. No postholes were identified.

Internal Features

This surface had no internal features. Some highly oxidized areas and small concentrations of ash and fire-cracked rock were observed on the surface, but were not thought to be hearths.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This surface originated from Stratum 504.02. The 15 cm of excavated fill consisted of pale brown, moderately hard silty clay, intermixed with a reddish, granular sand and small pockets of a dark brown, moderately hard, blocky, crumbly clay. Charcoal flecks occurred in low densities throughout the fill. Artifact density was low, consisting of 17 pieces of flaked stone, 12 pieces of faunal bone, 20 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a single fragment of fire-cracked ground stone. One flaked stone tool was present on the extramural surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This extramural surface formed within Stratum 504.02, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504.01, 504, and 503. Several features overlaid and intruded into the extramural surface, including small pits and roasting pits (Table 1). No features that originated within Stratum 504.02 were located within a 3-m radius of this surface.

Functional Inferences

Feature 14251 likely functioned primarily as an outdoor activity area. The surface was located within, and was likely associated with, an extensive field network within Stratum 504.04 in Locus D. The surface appeared to have been inundated by field clays, as well as by natural channel deposits, which may account for the artifacts found within the feature fill. This extramural surface appeared to have been used to excavate small pits and roasting pits during later occupations in the upper portions of Stratum 504.02, as well as from occupations within Strata 504.01 and 504.

Table 1. Intrusive and overlying features in extramural surface Feature 14251, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location Within Feature | Originating Stratum | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 14285 | Small pit | Northwest | 504 | Intrusive |
| 14279 | Small pit | North | 504.02 | Intrusive |
| 14273 | Small pit | Central | 504.01 | Intrusive |
| 13931 | Roasting pit | East | 504 | Overlying |
| 14267 | Roasting pit | East | 504 | Intrusive |
| 13846 | Roasting pit | South | 504.02 | Intrusive |
| 13847 | Roasting pit | South | 504 | Overlying |

Feature 14360: Extramural Surface
Stratum 504.04
Locus D
Elevation: 13.75-13.85 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden in the southwestern half was subsequently removed by hand-excavation; the surface was defined by the limits of compacted soil, oxidation, and artifact content. This irregularly-shaped surface was estimated to measure 5.40 m by 3.50 m if fully excavated, although the surface could also extend beyond the excavated area. Several internal features were identified, but the surface had neither postholes nor an entryway, and no orientation of the feature could be determined.

Internal Features

This extramural surface had several associated internal features, including roasting pit Feature 14360.01, and five small pits (Table 1). Feature 14360.03 intruded into Feature 14360.04, suggesting the surface was either used over a long-term occupation or over multiple occupations of the area.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This extramural surface originated in Stratum 504.04. The 9 cm of excavated fill was a light brown, loosely consolidated silty clay with sparse amounts of charcoal flecking throughout. The upper fill in the western portion of the feature contained a large mass of loosely consolidated, dark brown blocky clay, and small pockets of this same clay were intermixed in the lower portion of the fill in this half of feature. Artifact density throughout the fill was moderate, and consisted of 276 pieces of flaked stone, 48 pieces of faunal bone, and 4 pieces of fire-cracked rock. No artifacts were in direct contact with the surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 14360 originated within Stratum 504.04, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 503 and 502. This extramural surface was located on a natural levee, directly south of a natural channel, which ran roughly east-west. Two features intruded into the extramural surface: small pit Feature 13441, intruded into the southern portion, while Feature 13412, another small pit, intruded into the north. Both of these features originated from Stratum 504. Several extramural features that originated within Stratum 504.04 were within a 3-m radius of the extramural surface. These were all clustered to the north, and included roasting pit Feature 14362, and two small pits, Features 14384 and 14359.

Functional Inferences

This extramural surface likely functioned as an outdoor activity area. The surface was not formally prepared, but was likely compacted by individuals using the surface over its use-life. Given the

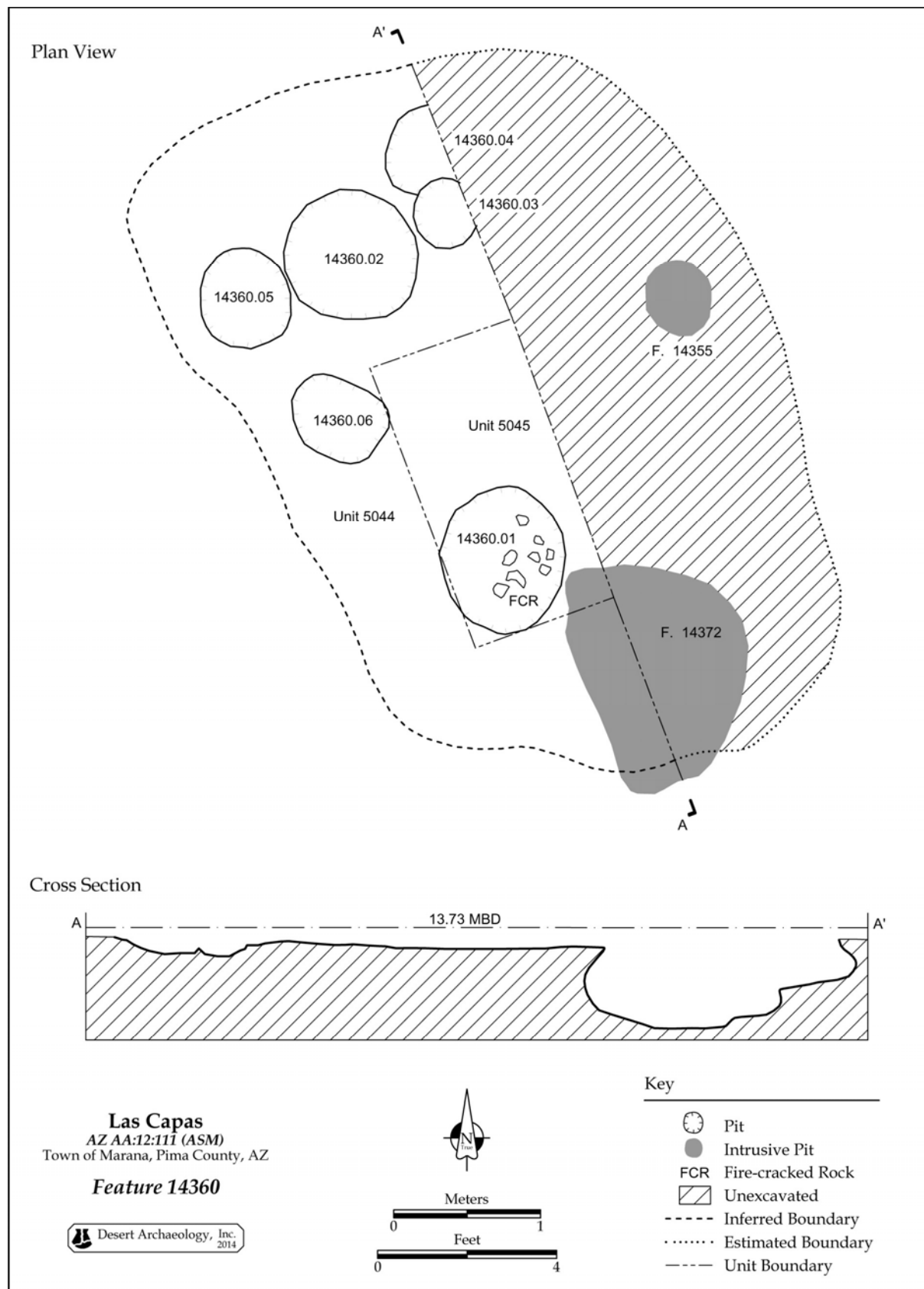


Figure 1. Plan view and cross section of extramural surface Feature 14360, Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

moderate amount of flaked stone artifacts recovered from the fill, this surface may have been used for stone tool production. The clay-rich deposits found in the fill appear to have been a result of breeches in a natural levee due to erosion.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 14360, Locus C, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 14360.01 | Roasting pit | 0.87 | 0.80 | 0.09 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 14360.02 | Small pit | 0.92 | 0.90 | 0.08 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 14360.03 ^a | Small pit | 0.44 | 0.41 | 0.11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 14360.04 ^b | Small pit | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.10 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 14360.05 | Small pit | 0.71 | 0.61 | 0.20 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 9 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 14360.06 | Small pit | 0.66 | 0.52 | 0.13 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | 7 | — | — | — | — | — |

^a Intruded on by Feature 14360.04^b Intrudes on Feature 14360.03

Feature 14373: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus D
Elevation: 13.95-14.01 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing a floor surface and possible feature boundaries. This feature was highly disturbed by natural flooding events and by intrusive agricultural features, leaving only one-third of the feature intact. Based on the intact portion of the feature, the shape was assumed to be oval or subrectangular. The approximate dimensions of the feature, including that portion destroyed by flooding events, was estimated to be 3.80 m north-south by 2.20 m east-west once fully excavated. A single internal feature and a few postholes were visible in the preserved portion of the exposed floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This structure contained a single internal feature located in the southwestern portion of the intact floor surface. Feature 14360.01, an informal hearth, was oval in shape and contained no depth; the

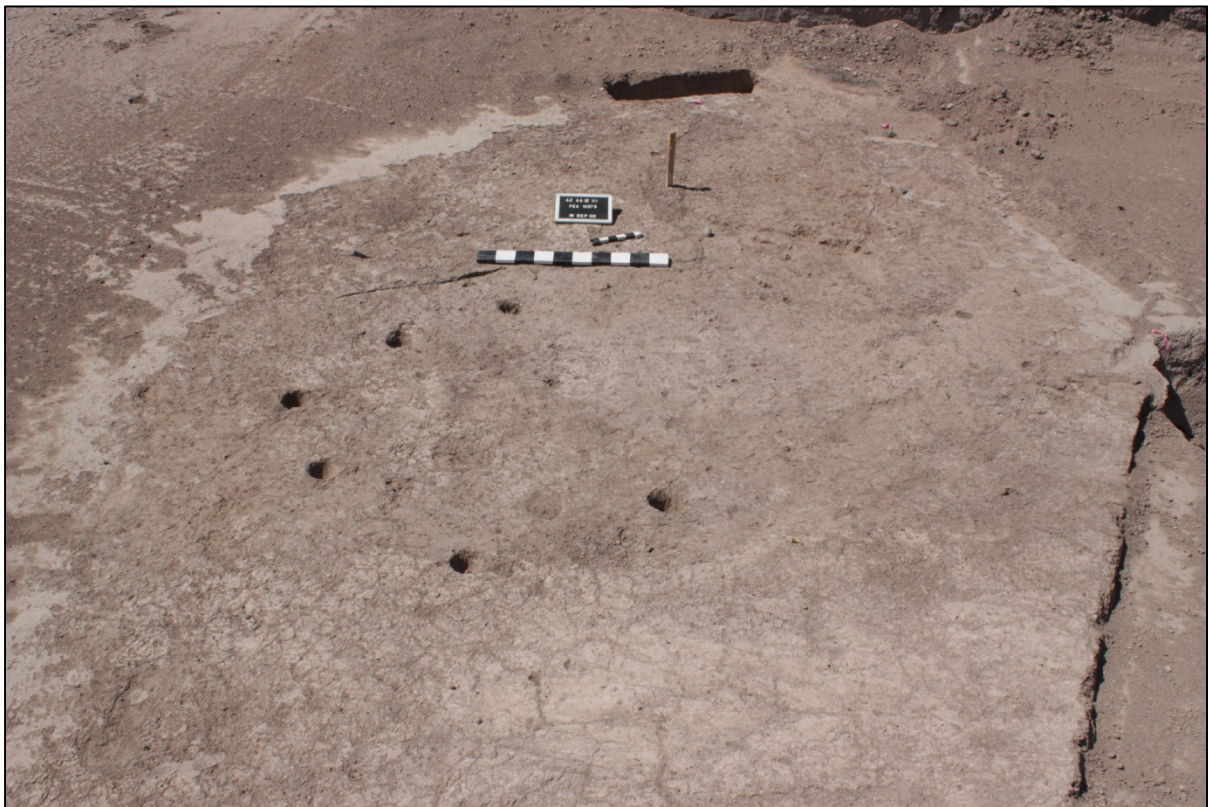


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 14373, post-excavation (note canal in foreground and possible field berm and natural channel near north arrow), Locus D, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

hearth consisted of a highly oxidized stain on the floor surface that measured 41 cm north-south by 25 cm east-west. No artifacts were associated with this internal feature.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This feature originated in Stratum 504.04. The 6 cm of excavated internal fill over the preserved portion of the structure was a uniform, brown, loosely consolidated silty clay that contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks throughout. The fill in the remainder of the excavated area consisted of reddish, granular sand that was deposited naturally along with large pockets of dark brown, moderately hard blocky clay in the northeastern portion of the estimated structure boundary. Artifact density was low, and artifacts were confined to the fill over the preserved portion of the feature. Artifacts included 16 pieces of faunal bone and 10 pieces of flaked stone, distributed evenly throughout the fill. No artifacts were in direct contact with the floor.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This structure, internal feature, and postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04. All evidence of feature walls was removed by mechanical stripping. However, based on evidence in other structures excavated within the same stratigraphic level in Locus D, this structure was likely constructed within a primary foundation pit, which did not contain formally prepared walls. Only one-third of the floor surface remained intact in the southern portion of the feature. The floor was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor surface was highly oxidized and relatively flat.

Six postholes were identified and excavated in the preserved portion of the exposed floor surface. The postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 10 cm in diameter and 7 cm in depth. These postholes likely formed a single ring around the perimeter of the foundation pit. These postholes also likely held a series of wall support posts, which would have been bowed or bent to form a dome over the foundation pit. Horizontal stringers may have been connected to the wall post frame, with the entire structure covered by reed or grass thatching.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This feature was constructed within the lower portions of Stratum 504.04 and was buried by additional deposits from this stratum. This feature was intruded upon in its southeastern boundary by the western bank of a canal, which originated in the upper portions of Stratum 504.04 and that was constructed after feature 14373. A possible field berm and small natural channel intruded on the western portion of the structure, and both features also originated in the upper portions of Stratum 504.04. The reddish granular sand is thought to have been deposited from the possible field berm and natural channel. The dark brown clay found in the assumed northeastern portion of the structure is thought to have been deposited by the canal.

Only one extramural feature was identified that originated in Stratum 504.04 and was located within a 3-m radius of the structure. Feature 14357, a small pit, was located north of the structure. Although no other extramural features were identified from the same stratum as the structure, the area was disturbed by flooding and later agricultural activity, and thus, more features may have existed that were not preserved.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Given the lack of artifacts on the floor surface, this structure was probably cleaned out prior to abandonment. There was evidence on the floor surface that the structure burned; however, given the small amount of fill excavated and the fact that so little of the structure remained intact, it was difficult to determine the nature and degree of burning. Based on the presence of agricultural features that intruded on this structure, the area likely experienced intensive agricultural activity within Stratum 504.02 after this structure was abandoned, by later occupations.

Functional Inferences

Although Feature 14373 was severely disturbed, enough architectural elements remained to support the idea that this was a structure. It appears to have functioned primarily for habitation, based on evidence in similar and contemporaneous structures located within the same stratigraphic level: Features 13771, 13667, 13475, and 13467, all houses-in-pits in Locus D. The structure may have contained a single occupation during its use-life, based on the lack of remodeling evidence.

Feature 23584: Possible Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.13 mbd

General Description

This possible extramural surface was initially discovered during mechanical stripping. The immediate area was subject to flooding and was covered by backfill before being mechanically stripped again later. A 1-m by 2-m control unit was subsequently excavated by hand in a single level over the area. Dimensions of the surface could not be determined from the area sampled with the control unit. The surface within the unit was defined by a highly compact soil and an oxidized informal hearth area.

Internal Features

This feature contained a single informal hearth area that measured approximately 40 cm north-south by 30 cm east-west. It was a highly oxidized stain on the exposed surface, and had no depth.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The extramural surface originated within Stratum 505 and was mechanically stripped nearly to the floor, leaving only 2 cm of fill. The excavated fill consisted of a uniform, tan, loosely consolidated sandy silt that contained small, intermittent pockets of a red, granular loosely consolidated sand. No artifacts were present either in the fill or on the surface itself.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

The surface was not formally prepared, and was likely compacted by individuals occupying the surface during its use-life. Although the extent of the feature is unknown, it likely extended beyond the excavated area.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This possible extramural surface originated within Stratum 505, and was buried by additional deposits from this stratum, as well as by deposits from Strata 504, 503, and 502. Feature 23716, a hearth, was identified as intrusive into the center of the possible surface. Several features that originated within Stratum 505 were within a 3-m radius of this possible extramural surface. These included bell-shaped pits, small pits, a roasting pit, a canid burial, and a prehistoric trash concentration (Table 1).

Functional Inferences

Given the sampling strategy and the poor condition of the possible feature, it was difficult to determine a primary function. Based on the many bell-shaped pits in close proximity, it may have functioned as a storage area where goods and foodstuffs were concentrated. The activity of individuals excavating bell-shaped storage pits, as well as intensive foot traffic, may have caused a surface to form over time.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 23584, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|---------------------------------|----------|-------|
| 23702 | Small pit | North | — |
| 23705 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 23706 | Small pit | North | — |
| 23717 | Prehistoric trash concentration | North | — |
| 23719 | Small pit | North | — |
| 23765 | Bell-shaped pit | North | — |
| 23559 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23561 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23563 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23664 | Bell-shaped pit | South | — |
| 23719 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23699 | Small pit | West | — |
| 23700 | Roasting pit | West | — |
| 23703 | Small pit | West | — |
| 23802 | Canid burial | West | — |

Feature 23618: Extramural Surface
Stratum 505
Locus F
Elevation: 13.19-13.22 mbd

General Description

This extramural surface (Figures 1 and 2) was uncovered during mechanical stripping of the central portion of Locus F. The area was stripped to the level immediately above the occupational surface, requiring only minimal hand-excavation to expose the feature. The feature measured 3.70 m north-south by 3.50 m east-west. The surface was defined by Stratum 505, which consisted of moderately compact, grayish-brown silty sand, with extensive oxidation concentrated around two hearths. Root, rodent, and insect disturbance was noted across the extent of the surface.

Internal Features

Two hearths, two small pits, and a bell-shaped pit originated at the extramural surface (Table 1). The hearth Features 23618.01 and 23618.02 were small, heavily oxidized, basin-shaped pits with dark, charcoal-rich, ashy fill. One of the small pits, Feature 23618.04, may have functioned as a basketrest. Feature 23618.05 was a large, deep, bell-shaped pit in the center of the structure, which probably functioned as a storage feature. The pit fill was stratified, with the top 20 cm defined by a brown,



Figure 1. Extramural surface Feature 23618, post-excavation, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

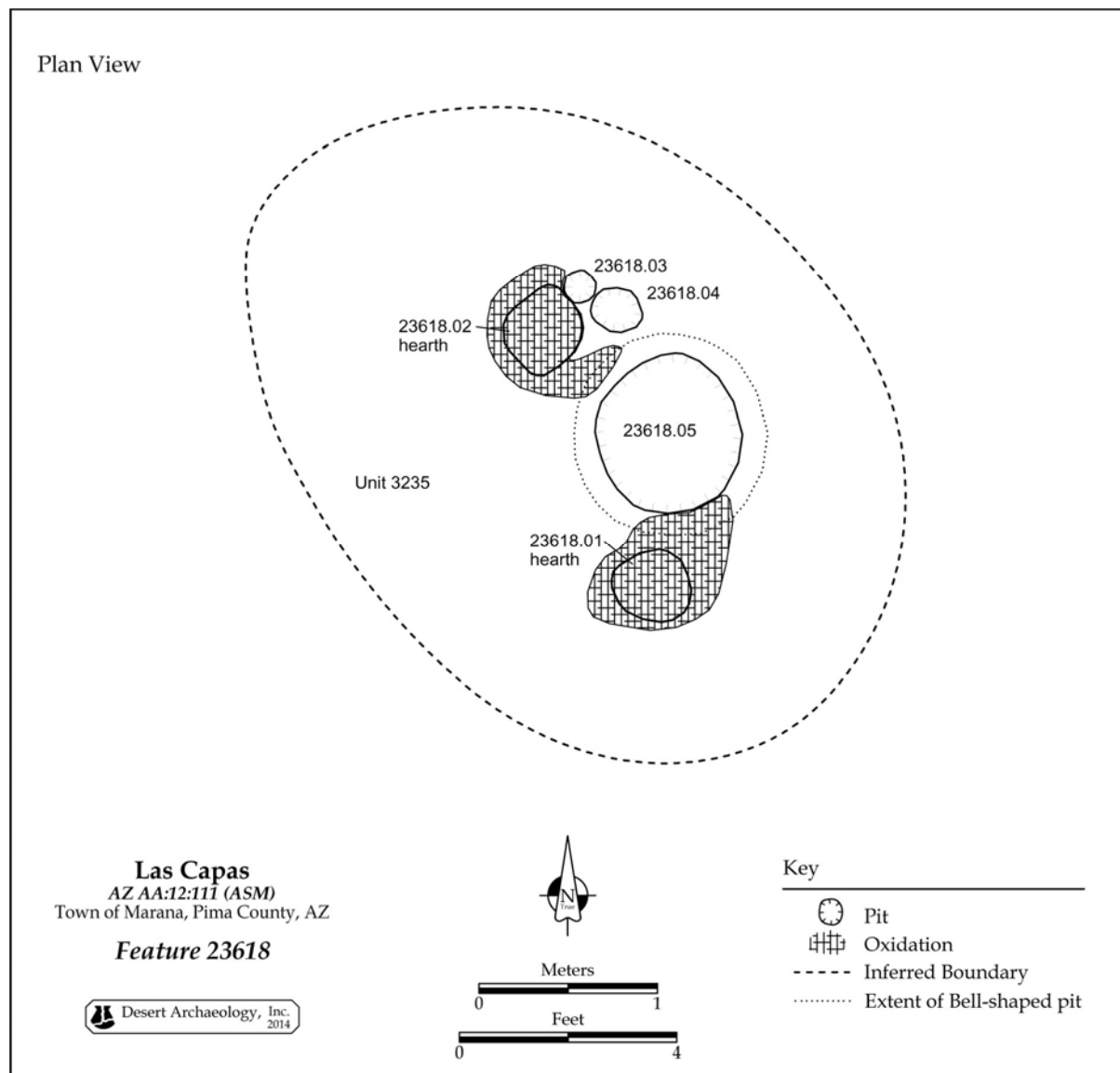


Figure 2. Plan view of extramural surface Feature 23618, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

loosely compacted silty sand with a moderate amount of mica inclusions. The bottom 42 cm of fill consisted of a dark grayish-brown, loosely compacted coarse sand. A moderate density of flaked stone and faunal bone was present. A large chunk of burned daub with reed impressions was collected in the lower stratum of the pit, indicating the feature was probably trash filled.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

The minimal amount of fill associated with the surface consisted of a soft, brown, silty sand. It contained a low density of artifacts, including four pieces of faunal bone and a shell pendant. No artifacts were associated with the extramural surface.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 23618 and its internal features originated in Stratum 505. Several possibly contemporary pits that also originated in Stratum 505 were located within a 3-m radius (Table 2). Most of these features were small pits, and they may have been used in conjunction with structures located in Locus F.

Functional Inferences

Feature 23618 probably functioned as an area for extramural activities, such as food preparation and storage, based on the presence of two heavily oxidized hearths and a bell-shaped pit. The extramural surface may have been associated with several small pits, a hearth, and a bell-shaped pit located in close proximity and originating in the same stratum.

Table 1. Internal features of house-in-pit Feature 23618, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Basal Length (m) | Basal Width (m) | Neck Length (m) | Neck Width (m) | Ceramic | Flaked Stone | Ground Stone | Shell | Faunal Bone | Fire-cracked Rock | Volume (m ³) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 23618.01 | Hearth | 0.47 | 0.44 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0054 |
| 23618.02 | Hearth | 0.46 | 0.44 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0042 |
| 23618.03 | Small pit | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.18 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0085 |
| 23618.04 | Small pit | 0.32 | 0.28 | 0.05 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.0023 |
| 23618.05 | Bell-shaped pit | 0.86 | 0.80 | 0.62 | 1.12 | 1.10 | — | — | — | 30 | — | — | 23 | — | 0.4048 |

Table 2. Extramural features originating in Stratum 505 and located within a 3-m radius of extramural surface Feature 23618, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 23617 | Bell-shaped pit | Northeast | — |
| 23688 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 23692 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 23580 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23581 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 23599 | Small pit | Southwest | — |
| 23689 | Small pit | Southwest | — |

Feature 23670: House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus F
Elevation: 13.10-13.14 mbd

General Description

This house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation, exposing the floor surface and boundaries of the structure. This oval-shaped house-in-pit measured an estimated 5.10 m southeast-northwest by 4.50 m southwest-northeast, with 19.34 m² of usable floor space once fully excavated. The estimated measurement was due to mechanical overstripping of the southern one-third of the structure, which removed the floor surface and other attributes of the feature. Postholes and internal features were identified on the preserved floor surface. No entry was identified, and the orientation of the structure could not be determined.

Internal Features

This house-in-pit contained four internal features. Hearth Feature 23670.01 was located in the southern portion of the structure. It was irregular in shape, measuring 60 cm in length and 46 cm in width, and it averaged 5 cm in depth. The fill consisted of uniform, gray, loosely consolidated ash,

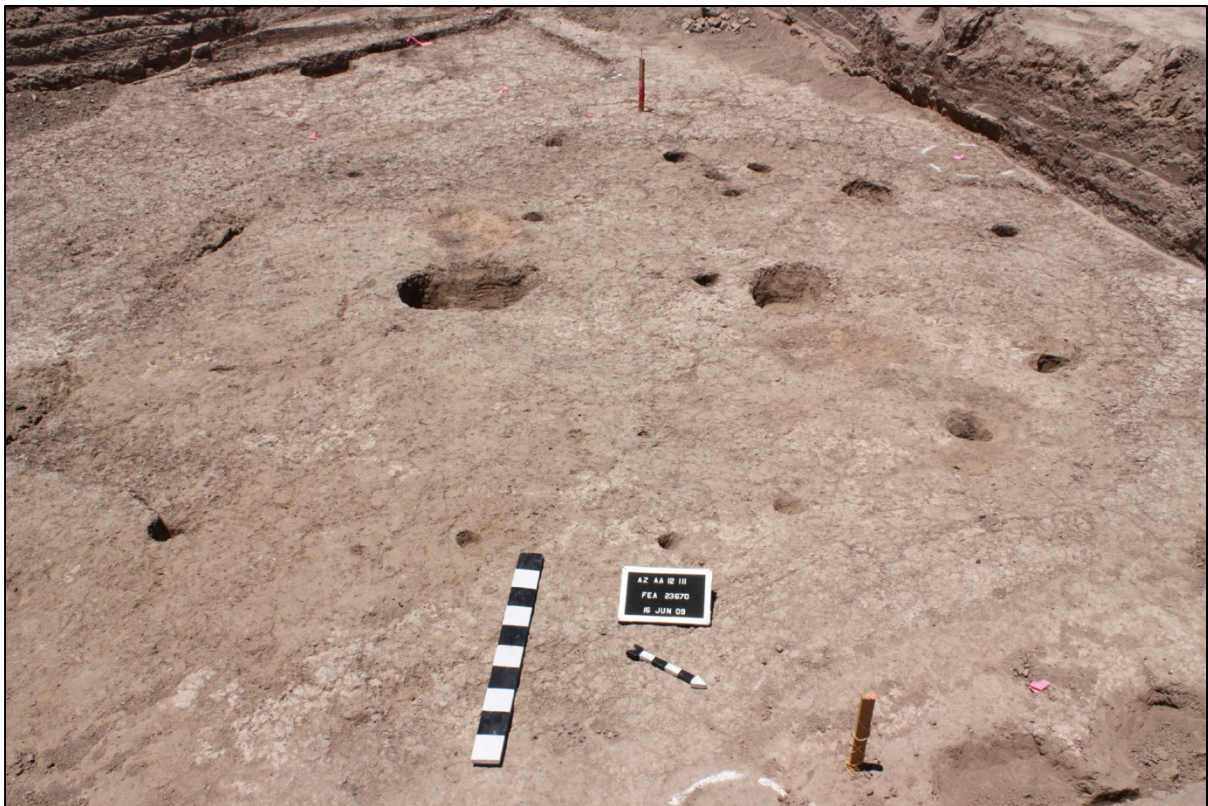


Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 23670, post-excavation, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

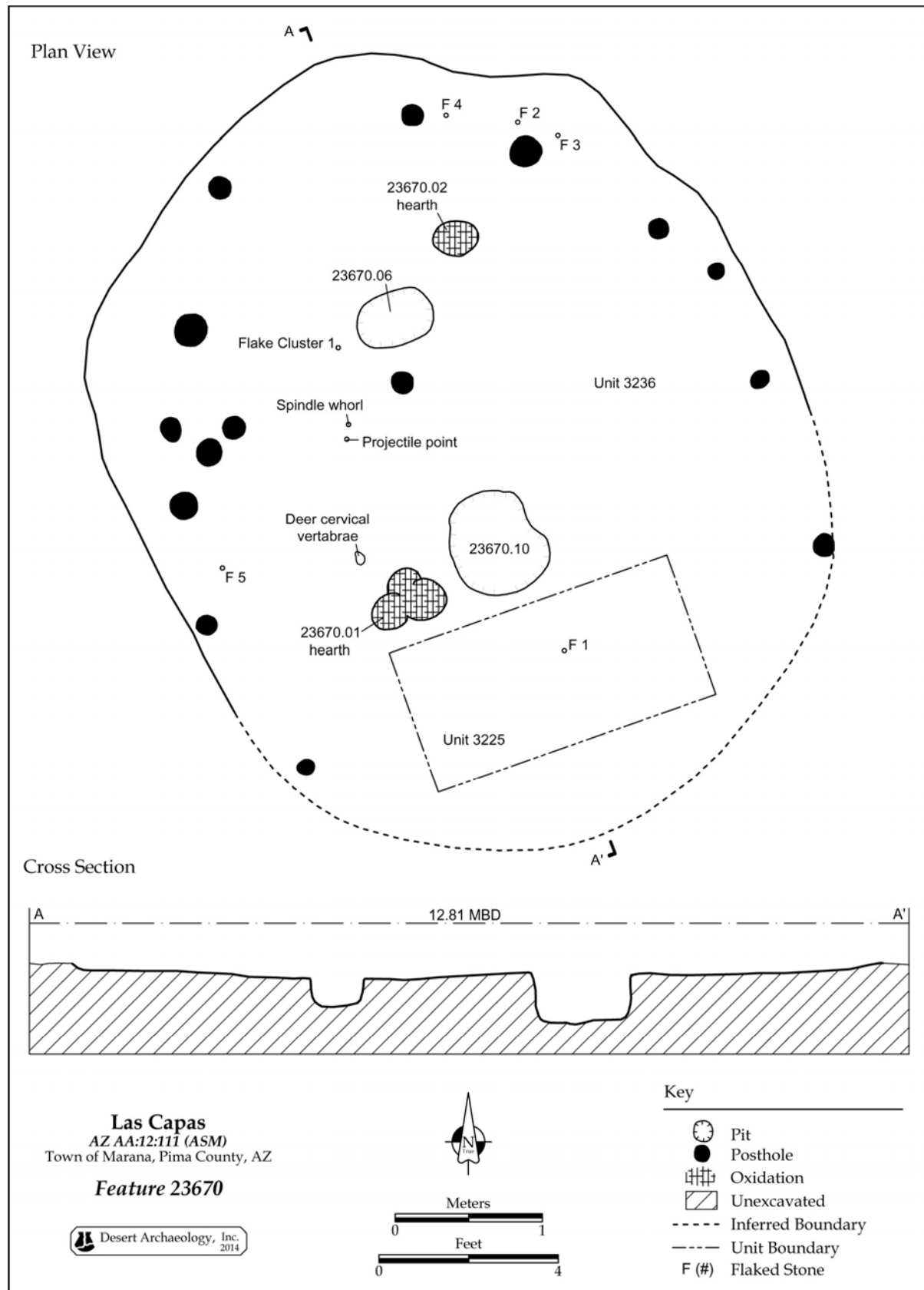


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 23670, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

and it contained no artifacts. The hearth bottom was heavily oxidized. A second hearth, Feature 23670.02, was located in the northern portion of the structure. Feature 23670.02 was almost circular in shape, measured 30 cm north-south by 28 cm east-west, and averaged 8 cm in depth. The internal fill was a loosely consolidated, grayish-brown, ashy silt, with no artifacts.

Feature 23670.06, a small pit located in the north-central portion of the structure was oval in shape, straight walled, and had a flat bottom. This feature measured 53 cm north-south by 40 cm east-west, and averaged 21 cm in depth. The internal fill consisted of a uniform, dark grayish-brown, moderately hard, slightly blocky silty clay, that contained sparse charcoal flecks. A single piece of flaked stone was recovered from the feature fill. Feature 23670.10, another small pit, was located in the south-central portion of the structure. Feature 23670.10 was irregular in shape, measured 75 cm east-west by 66 cm north-south, and averaged 39 cm in depth. The internal fill consisted of a uniform, dark grayish-brown, moderately hard, slightly blocky silty clay. Artifacts recovered from the fill included seven pieces of flaked stone and a single, small piece of red ochre.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504.04. The 4 cm of excavated fill consisted of uniform, brown, loosely consolidated, slightly crumbly sandy silt, with a small clay content. Artifact density in the fill was low, and consisted of 16 pieces of flaked stone, 11 pieces of faunal bone, 7 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and a piece of hematite. Several artifacts were directly on the exposed floor surface. These included 15 pieces of flaked stone, all distributed across the western two-thirds of the structure. Several of these flakes formed a tight cluster directly southwest of Feature 23670.06. Other artifacts in direct contact with the floor surface included a complete spindle whorl and a complete San Pedro style projectile point located in the central part of the structure, and a deer cervical vertebra near Feature 23670.01.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This house-in-pit, postholes, and internal features were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04, and cut just into the top of Stratum 505. The structure was built within a primary foundation pit. The foundation pit walls were not formally prepared, and they sloped upward around the perimeter to a height of 4 cm above the average floor surface. These walls likely continued higher, but were removed by mechanical stripping. The floor surface was not formally prepared, but rather, was compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The floor was comprised of the pale brown, sandy silt of Stratum 505, and was relatively flat, slightly oxidized, and sloped slightly upward at the foundation pit basin.

In total, 15 postholes were identified and excavated. The postholes were all circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 15 cm in diameter and 12 cm in depth. Most of the postholes were located along the interior perimeter of the foundation pit and formed a single ring. Given that the southern one-third of the structure was removed by stripping, postholes were not identified in this part of the structure. A single posthole was located in the interior, and may have contained a central support. Two of the postholes held burned post remnants and three postholes contained fire-cracked rock.

Based on the burned wood present in two of the postholes, they likely held wall support posts, which were bent or bowed to form a dome over the primary foundation pit. It is assumed, based on the lack of roof fall or substantial amounts of burned daub within the fill, that the framework was covered with a reed or grass thatching. No evidence of structural remodeling was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504.04 and cut into the top of Stratum 505. The structure was buried by additional deposits of Stratum 504.04, and by deposits from Strata 504 and 503. Feature 23670 neither intruded upon nor was intruded on by any extramural features. Several extramural features that originated in Stratum 504.04 were within a 3-m radius of Feature 23670. These included four small pits and a possible house-in-pit, and they may have been contemporaneous with Feature 23670 (Table 1).

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the number of artifacts present on the floor surface, the structure does not appear to have been fully cleaned out prior to abandonment. The presence of burned wood in two of the postholes, as well as the slight oxidation across the floor surface, suggests the structure burned. No postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

Based on the large size of the structure, as well as the ample usable floor space, this structure probably functioned primarily for habitation. Evidence of interior domestic activity included two hearths, as well as numerous flaked stone artifacts within the fill and on the floor surface. The lack of remodeling evidence suggests the structure saw a single occupancy over its use-life.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.04 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 23670, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| 23576 | Small pit | Southeast | — |
| 23571 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23572 | Small pit | South | — |
| 23725 | Possible house-in-pit | Southwest | — |
| 23741 | Small pit | West | — |

Feature 23725: Possible House-in-pit
Stratum 504.04
Locus F
Elevation: 13.10-13.18 mbd

General Description

This possible house-in-pit (Figures 1 and 2) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation. This possible structure was circular in shape, and the excavated area measured 2.80 m east-west by 1.80 m north-south. The entire southwestern third of the structure was obscured by excess bulk and was outside the locus boundary. The western edge was removed to subfloor level by mechanical stripping, and was highly disturbed by erosion and bioturbation. Only two possible postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface. No entry was found, and orientation of the possible structure was unknown.

Internal Features

No internal features were identified. Given the overall poor condition of the structure, and the fact that some of the feature remained unexcavated, internal features may once have existed, but could be identified.



Figure 1. House-in-pit Feature 23725, post-excavation, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

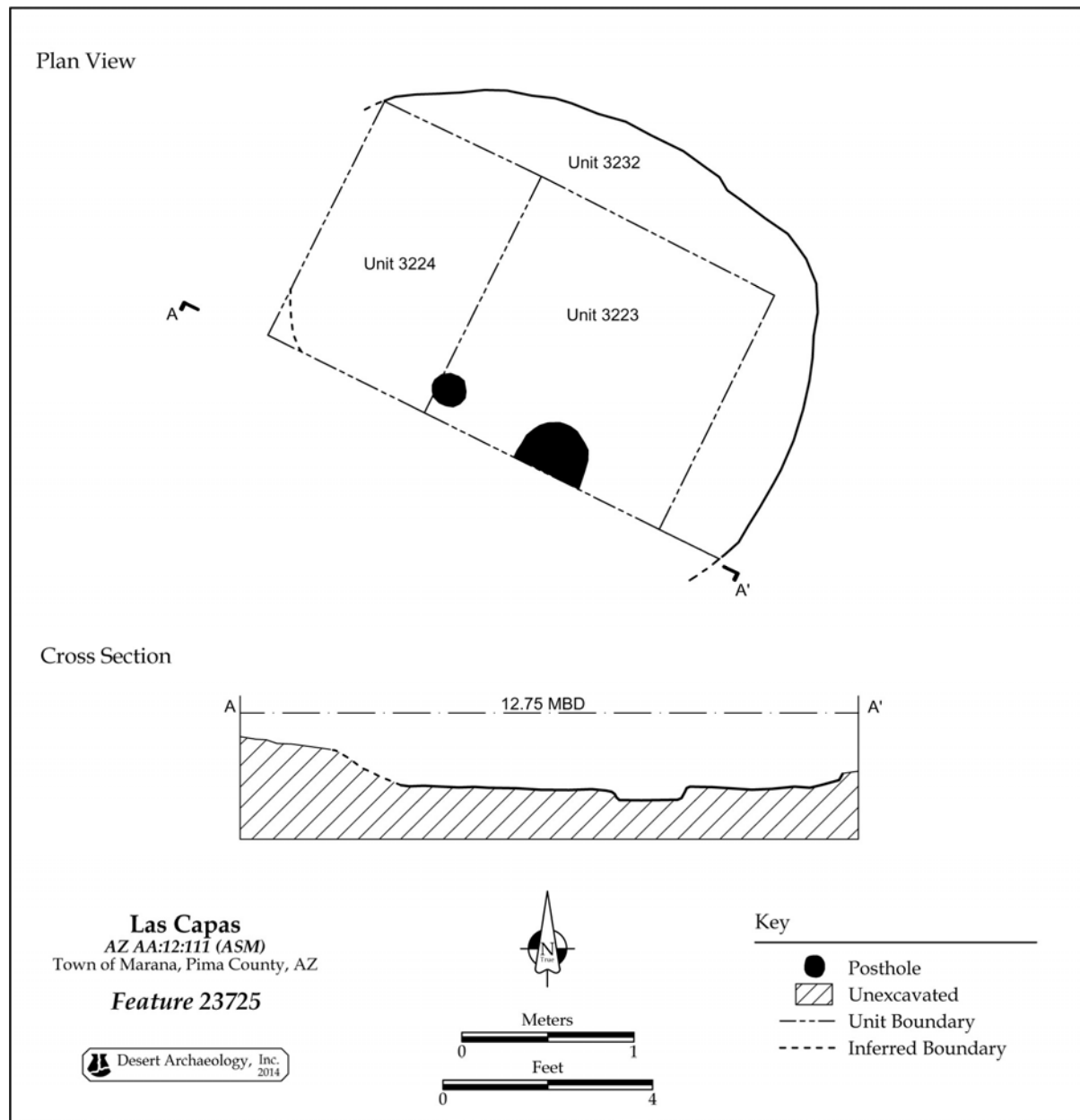


Figure 2. Plan view and cross section of house-in-pit Feature 23725, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This possible house-in-pit originated within Stratum 504.04. The 8 cm of excavated fill consisted of a uniform, brown, moderately hard, slightly blocky silty clay that contained sparse charcoal flecks throughout. Artifact density throughout the fill was high, and consisted of a complete San Pedro style projectile point, more than 1,859 pieces of flaked stone (most of which were very small microflakes), 1 mano, 16 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 25 pieces of faunal bone. While artifacts were present throughout the fill, the greatest density occurred within the center of the structure. No artifacts were on the floor surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This possible house-in-pit and associated postholes were built by excavation into Stratum 504.04. This structure may have been constructed within a primary foundation pit. Although very little of the pit walls were preserved, the small intact portions indicated they were not formally prepared and may have sloped upward. The floor surface was in very poor condition, and only portions were intact. The intact portions were not formally prepared, but rather, were compacted by individuals occupying the surface during the use-life of the structure. The exposed surface showed no signs of having burned.

Two postholes were identified on the exposed floor surface; both located in central portion of the structure, against the unstripped bulk. These postholes were circular in shape, straight walled, and averaged 32 cm in diameter and 7 cm in depth. No artifacts were present in either posthole. No postholes were identified along the perimeter of the structure, possibly due to the poor preservation of the feature. Without identifiable postholes, an exact construction method could not be determined. No remodeling evidence was identified.

Stratigraphic Relationships

Feature 23725 originated within Stratum 504.04, and was buried by additional deposits of Strata 503 and 502. This possible structure neither intruded upon, nor was intruded on by any extramural features. Several extramural features that originated within Stratum 504.04 were located within a 3-m radius of Feature 23725 (Table 1). These included a house-in-pit and several small pits.

Abandonment and Postabandonment Evidence

Based on the lack of artifacts directly on the floor surface, this structure may have been cleaned out prior to abandonment. No evidence within the fill or on the floor surface suggested it had been subject to burning. The extremely high density of flaked stone within the fill suggests the depression left after the structure was abandoned was used to dump lithic refuse. No other evidence of postabandonment reuse was identified.

Functional Inferences

This exact function of this structure is unknown. Very few architectural elements remained, and the lack of identifiable internal features or perimeter postholes may suggest it functioned as an extramural surface. This may be supported by the fact that it was in close proximity to Feature 23670, a well-preserved house-in-pit. The high density of flaked stone recovered from Feature 23725 may indicate that, if it was an extramural surface, its primary activity was stone tool production.

Table 1. Extramural features originating in Stratum 504.04 and located within a 3-m radius of house-in-pit Feature 23725, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).

| Feature No. | Feature Type | Location | Notes |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| 23571 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 23670 |
| 23572 | Small pit | Northeast | — |
| 23576 | Small pit | Northeast | Intrusive into Feature 23670 |
| 23670 | House-in-pit | Northeast | — |
| 23741 | Small pit | Northeast | — |

Feature 23733: Occupational Surface
Stratum 502
Locus F
Elevation: 12.42-12.43 mbd

General Description

This occupational surface (Figure 1) was discovered during mechanical stripping. The remaining cultural overburden was subsequently removed by hand-excavation. This irregular-shaped surface measured 2.30 m north-south by an 2.00 m east-west, and likely extended beyond the excavated boundary. The surface was defined by the limits of compacted soil, oxidation, and artifact content. Part of the southern boundary was outside the stripped area of Locus F, and the entire western boundary of the surface was obscured by the backfill created by mechanical stripping. A portion of the surface was truncated by a hand-trench, dug to observe the stratigraphic profile of the surface.

Internal Features

No internal features were identified. Two oxidized patches on the surface itself may have been representative of informal hearths, although they could not be positively identified as such.

Internal Strata and Artifact Content

This surface originated within Stratum 502. The feature was mechanically stripped almost to the floor surface, and only 1 cm of internal fill remained. The excavated fill consisted of a uniform, moderately hard, grayish-brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks in low densities throughout. Artifact density was very low throughout the feature. Artifacts included a quartz flake, a faunal bone, and a possible faunal bone awl fragment. A concentrated pocket of unidentified burned seeds was found near the center of the excavated area; it was unclear if the seeds were associated with the occupational surface. No artifacts were on the exposed surface.

Construction and Remodeling Evidence

This occupational surface was not formally prepared, and it contained no architectural elements. The surface was created by individuals compacting the soil through recurrent outdoor activities. The exposed surface consisted of very hard, grayish-brown sandy silt with patches of oxidation.

Stratigraphic Relationships

This occupational surface originated within Stratum 502, and was buried by additional deposits of this stratum, as well as by deposits from Stratum 501. Feature 3402, a well that originated in Stratum 501, intruded into the occupational surface. Only one feature that originated within Stratum 502 was present within a 3-m radius of the occupational surface: Feature 23734, a small pit, which was located northeast of the surface. Several small pits that originated from Stratum 501.02 were present within a 3-m radius of the occupational surface, including Features 3459 and 3460. Feature 3448, a small pit that originated in Stratum 501, was located within 3 m of the occupational surface.

Functional Inferences

Feature 23733 likely functioned primarily as an occupational surface. This surface was used as an area where various domestic activities likely occurred (food preparation, tool manufacture, and so forth). This is based on the lack of architectural attributes, as well as the compaction of the soil and oxidized patches found.

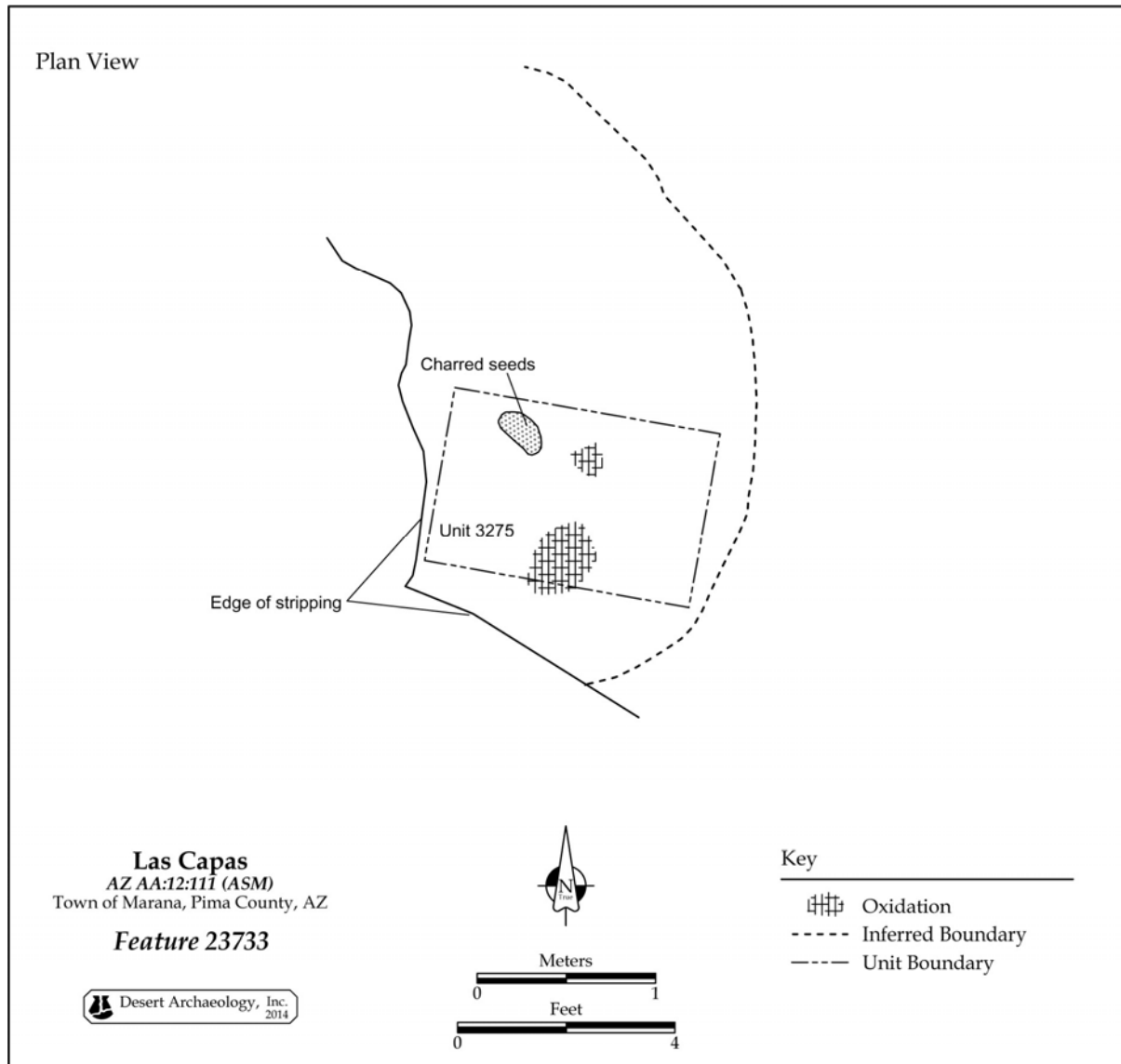


Figure 1. Plan view of occupational surface Feature 23733, Locus F, Las Capas, AZ AA:12:111 (ASM).