

# Compiling Excavated Archaeological Data at a Large-Scale: Preliminary Results

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## The Problem

A vast amount of excavated archaeological data are collected and reported at great cost to the public. Excavated data from select, well-known or stratified flagship sites is sometimes used in later analyses. Data from the more numerous, but smaller, often single component sites or sites found not eligible for NRHP listing are rarely used in later analyses.

There are a number of interrelated reasons for this:

- Some previously collected data is poorly analyzed and reported.
- Even when well-reported, compiling large amounts of previously collected, quantitative data is difficult and time-consuming.
- Use of previously excavated data is not required or even encouraged in most CRM efforts.
- Many archaeologists view sites not eligible for listing on the NRHP as meaning having no useful archaeological information.

## Methods

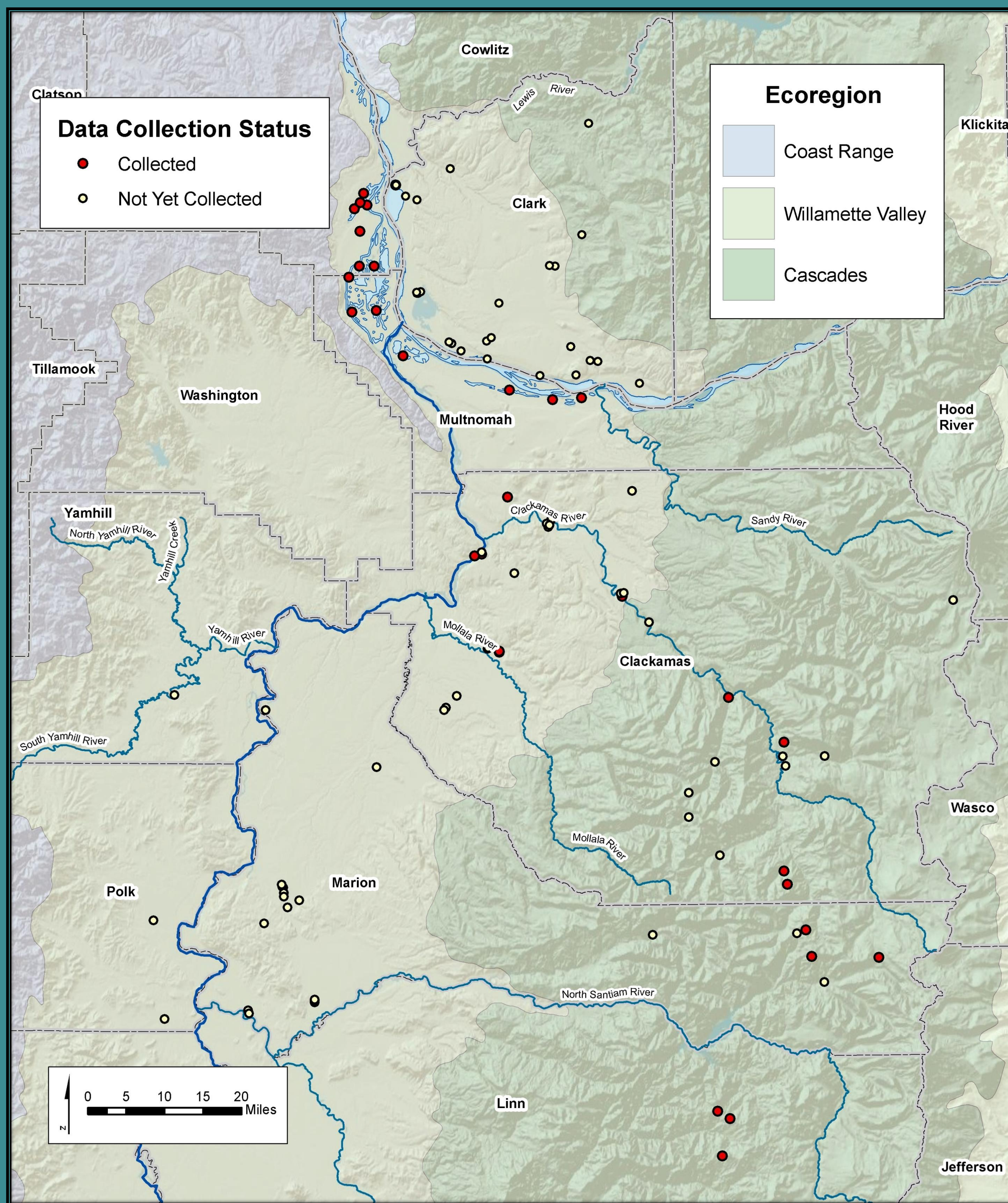
1. Mined through archeological reports from sites in the Willamette Valley, Portland Basin and nearby Cascades, gathering pertinent data (listed below).
2. Input data into an excel spreadsheet.
3. Simplified collected data for preliminary presentation.
4. Created graphs and tables based on the simplified data.



Metadata and Descriptions	
Site and assemblage information	
ID	Unique identification number for every assemblage
Site No.	Complete site trinomial
Short No.	Shortened trinomial
Component	Component name
Name	Final assemblage name
County	County
Citation	Full report citation
Organization	Entity that did the work
Year	Report year
Reason for work and NRHP status result	
DR	Evaluative testing, testing for eligibility, evaluation
ET	Data recovery
T	Testing for unclear purposes, may or may not be evaluative
Ex	Excavation, use if excavation was not clearly data recovery
E	Eligible for listing on the NRHP
NE	Not eligible for listing on the NRHP
Unk	Unknown status
Excavation information	
Probe	Number of shovel probes excavated in site
50x	Number of 50 x 50s excavated in site
TU	Number of 1 x 1s excavated in site
1/8	1/8 inch screen
1/4	1/4 inch screen
1/4 - 1/8	1/4 screen with standardized 1/8 subsampling
Unk	Unknown screen size
Area Exc	Total area excavated (by component)
Vol Exc	Total volume excavated (by component)
Excavation results	
Features Yes	Present
Features No	Absent
Oven	Oven count
FCR	FCR count
Hearth	Hearth count
Open	Open count
Structures Yes	Structures are present
Structures No	Structures are not present
Unk	Unknown
Tool Types	Tool classes recovered
Deb Total	Total debitage
Deb Obs	Total obsidian
Deb Chert	Total chert
Deb Bas	Total basalt
Deb Other	Total other
Fauna Yes	Present
Fauna No	Absent
C14 Yes	C14 dates were taken
C14 No	C14 dates were not taken
Rpt Age Max	Reported Max Age (years before present)
Rpt Age Min	Reported Min Age (years before present)
Age Deter	How age was determined, points, radiocarbon, other
Compilation project tracking	
Recorder	Intern last name
Rec Com.	Comments, questions or problems

Tool Classes and Descriptions	
Tool Class	Definition
<b>Flaked Stone Tools</b>	
Biface	Biface, knife, preform, unknown stage
Biface-early stage	Pressure flaked
Biface-late stage	Whole projectile points
Point Whole	Point tip
Point-Mid	Point midsection
Point-Base	Point base
Scraper	Scraper/Uniflask
Drill	Drill
Graver	Graver
Used flake	Used flake, no intentional modification
Worked flake	Worked flake, Uni/Bif unknown
Uniflask	Uniflask/ worked flake
Biiflask	Bifacially worked flake
Microblade	Microblade
<b>Cobble Tools</b>	
Chopper	Cobble chopper
Split/Flaked Cob	Split / flaked cobble, spall, tested cobble
Core	Core, type unknown
CoreBipolar	Bipolar core
CoreBifacial	Bifacial core
CoreMicroblade	Microblade core
CoreUnid	Unidirectional/standardized core
CoreAmorph	Amorphous/unstandardized core
Hamerstone	Hammerstone
Anvil	Anvil
Battered Cob	Battered cobbles
<b>Ground Stone Tools</b>	
Edge-grnd Cob	Edge-ground cobble
Abrazar	Abrazar
Mortar	Mortar, grinding slab
Pestle	Pestle, handstone/mano
Netweight	Netweight

This project is the result of an internship between Portland State University and WillametteCRA.



Example of the database.

Site No.	Comp	Year	Org	Citation	Cause	NRHP Status	Probe	50x	TU	Screen	Area Exc	Vol Exc	Feat	Hearth	Oven	Struc	Fauna	Points	Handmade Tools	Uniflask	Microblade	Core	Deb	FCR	C14	Max BP	Min BP	Average Age	Recorder
35-CLA-100	2001	ODT	Maill 1997	ET	NE	0	14	2	1/8	5.5	2.9	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	203	9	No	700	200	450	KNL
35-CLA-14	2001	PGE	Ceting 2001	ET	E	27	0	0	Unk	12.7	0.9	No	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	4	145	0	No	2000	100	1050	KNL	
35-CLA-20	1990	PSU	Burchnard et al. 1990	DR	E	10	0	13	1/4-1/8	13.0	4.3	No	0	0	0	0	3	16	6	2	24	345	0	No	4000	1000	2500	JD	
35-CLA-21	1990	PSU	Burchnard et al. 1990	DR	E	66	0	33	1/4-1/8	40.0	14.4	No	0	0	0	0	14	38	5	0	43	1119	0	No	4000	1000	2500	JD	
35-CLA-22	1990	PSU	Burchnard et al. 1990	DR	E	43	0	8	1/4-1/8	12.7	18.2	No	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	3	91	0	No	4000	1000	2500	JD	
35-CLA-22	1990	PSU	Burchnard et al. 1990	DR	E	22	0	28	1/4-1/8	30.4	18.2	Yes	2	0	0	0	21	61	14	2	77	1449	0	Yes	4000	1000	2500	JD	
35-CLA-223	2006	PGE	Ceting 2006	ET	E	10	0	25	1/8	29.7	15.3	No	0	0	0	0	60	1	0	0	0	26	0	No	1500	1000	4000	KNL	
35-CLA-223	2009	ODT	Bland et al. 2009	ET	NE	2	4	0	1/8	1.9	1.4	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	No	Unk	Unk	Unk	KNL	
35-CLA-334	2009	ODT	Bland et al. 2009	ET	NE	2	4	0	1/8	1.9	1.4	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	No	Unk	Unk	Unk	KNL	
35-CLA-335	2009	ODT	Bland et al. 2009	ET	NE	2	4	0	1/8	1.9	1.4	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	No	Unk	Unk	Unk	KNL	
35-CLA-336	2009	ODT	Bland et al. 2009	ET	NE	2	4	0	1/8	1.9	1.4	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	No	Unk	Unk	Unk	KNL	
35-CLA-55	1985	ANOSU	Letow 1985	DR	E	0	0	108	Unk	108.0	36.0	No	0	0	0	0	0	23	322	45	9	376	36166	0	No	8000	4000	6000	JD
35-CLA-74	1997	USPS	Savill et al. 1999	EX	E	0	0	29	1/8	28.5	26.5	Yes	1	0	0	0	110	164	13	0	177	85,000	0	Yes	1500	500	1000	KNL	
35-DO-3	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	20.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	116	742	186	23	951	1027	0	Yes	1750	700	1225	JD	
35-DO-3	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	20.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	116	742	186	23	951	1027	0	Yes	1750	700	1225	JD	
35-DO-4	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	18.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	19	71	28	8	107	104	0	Yes	1500	1000	1250	JD	
35-DO-4	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	22.0	22.2	Yes	Unk	Unk	No	0	19	71	30	7	108	1004	0	Yes	1750	700	1225	KNL	
35-DO-5	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	35	351	192	4	547	882	0	Yes	700	0	350	JD	
35-DO-5	1973	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	16.2	Yes	Unk	Unk	Yes	Yes	35	35	192	4	547	882	0	Yes	700	0	350	KNL	
35-DO-6	2014	WCRA	Passo et al. 2014	ET	E	18	0	3	1/4-1/8	6.6	6.3	Yes	5	1	No	Yes	7	22	3	5	30	349	1723	Yes	500	100	300	PS	
35-DO-7	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	4.0	4.8	No	0	0	0	0	29	233	33	2	298	394	0	Yes	700	0	350	JD	
35-DO-7	1973	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	4.0	4.8	Yes	Unk	Unk	Yes	Yes	29	233	33	2	270	284	0	Yes	700	0	350	KNL	
35-DO-13	1976	OSMA	Petigrew 1976	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	2.0	1.6	No	0	0	0	0	12	230	49	6	237	494	0	No	2000	1500	1750	KNL	
35-LN-301	1989	WNF	Nilson 1989	ET	E	0	0	2	1/8	2.0	2.6	No	0	0	0	0	3	12	2	1	15	620	0	No	1500	100	800	KNL	
35-LN-302	1989	WNF	Nilson 1989	ET	E	0	0	2	1/8	2.0	2.6	No	0	0	0	0	3	12	2	1	15	620	0	No	1500	100	800	KNL	
35-LN-373	1990	IA	Flenniken et al. 1990	ET	E	0	0	20	6	3mm	11.0	6.6	No	0	0	0	4	13	0	0	3	1177	0	No	8000	4000	6000	JD	
35-MA-119	1993	AD	Draper et al. 1993	ET	E	0	0	73	11	1/8	29.3	13.7	No	0	0	0	0	11	32	3	0	35	1151	0	No	2000	3000	4000	JD
35-MA-22	1991	WNF	Churchill and Jenkins 1991	ET	E	0	0	21	6	1/8	23.3	8.6	No	0	0	0	22	70	53	4	167	627	0	Yes	700	0	350	KNL	
35-MA-48	1984	CMSSAS	Jenkins and Churchill 1983	ET	NE	0	0	16	2	1/4	6.0	2.4	No	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	0	8	13	0	No	6000	2000	4000	NJ
35-MU-1	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	29.6	No	0	0	0	0	78	638	269	13	920	995	1	Yes	1800	500	1150	JD	
35-MU-1	1973	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	29.6	No	0	0	0	0	78	638	269	13	920	995	1	Yes	1800	500	1150	JD	
35-MU-1	1973	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	29.6	No	0	0	0	0	78	638	269	13	920	995	1	Yes	1800	500	1150	JD	
35-MU-234	2014	WCRA	Solimano et al. 2014	DR	E	0	0	1	1/8	14.8	40.5	Yes	2	2	No	10	34	24	6	64	657	1996	Yes	3900	1000	2450	PS		
35-MU-4446	2006	CAAC	Petigrew 2006	DR	E	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	28.5	11.6	Yes	6	0	0	0	55	189	49	2	240	3754	2714	Yes	2000	100	1050	NJ	
35-MU-458	1989	OSMA	Bland and Connolly 1989	ET	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	9.8	No	0	No	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	15	0	0	Yes	500	100	1050	NJ	
35-MU-58	1989	OSMA	Bland and Connolly 1989	ET	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	9.8	4.4	Yes	1	1	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	29	0	Yes	2000	1800	1900	NJ
35-MU-9	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	0	0	0	1/2-1/4	8.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	22	144	94	4	242	827	0	Yes	700	0	350	JD	
35-MU-6	1973	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	1	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	17.9	No	0	0	0	0	22	144	94	4	242	827	0	Yes	700	0	350	KNL	
35-MU-9	1981	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	1	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	110	952	209	15	1176	2862	0	Yes	2250	1750	2000	JD	
35-MU-9	1973	UO	Petigrew 1981	EX	Unk	1	0	0	1/2-1/4	12.0	No	0	No	0	0	0	110	952	209	15	1176	2862	0	Yes	2250	1750	2000	KNL	
35-CLA-00376	2011	ANWY	Dunk et al. 2011	ET	E	0	0	12	Unk	12.0	28.8	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	Yes	110	458	111	14	583	2662	0	Yes	4000	500	2500	NJ	
Museum Site	1987	JWAAC	Woodward 1987	ET	E	0	0	25	Unk	25.0	0.0	Yes	0	0	0	0	16	34	45	3	82	1546	0	No	2000	100	1050	JD	

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## Results

Data from 40 assemblages representing 36 individual sites have been compiled. At least 50 additional excavated sites can be added to the database. Some basic and preliminary patterns in the excavated data are possible.