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A CULTURAL RESOURCE STUDY OF THE OAKMONT II PROJECT

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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List of Abbreviations

AMSL	above mean sea level
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
BFSA	Brian F. Smith and Associates
BMF	Bedrock milling feature(s)
Cat no	catalog number
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
FAR	fire-affected rock
FGM	fine-grained metavolcanic
LPW	lithic production waste
MGM	medium-grained metavolcanic
OHP	(State) Office for Historic Preservation
SCIC	South Coastal Information Center
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
STP	Shovel test pit
TU	Test unit
USGS	United States Geological Survey
YBP	years before present

1.0 MANAGEMENT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT

Brian F. Smith and Associates (BFSA) conducted a cultural resource survey and evaluation program for the Oakmont II Project located in the community of Lakeside in an unincorporated portion of San Diego County, California. The property is situated east of Flinn Springs Road and north of Olde Highway 80, Interstate 8, and Los Coches Creek. Specifically, the property is located on the USGS *Alpine* quadrangle in an unsectioned portion of the El Cajon Land Grant, Township 15 South, Range 1 East of the San Bernardino Meridian. The proposed Oakmont II Project plans for the subdivision of the 103-acre property into 20 lots for single-family residential use (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 396-020-13).

The County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use required a survey of the entire Oakmont II Project area, and an evaluation of a previously recorded site within the project boundaries (SDI-5079). In accordance with County of San Diego guidelines, archaeological records searches were reviewed and a pedestrian survey and a testing program were conducted in order to relocate and evaluate Site SDI-5079 as well as to locate, record, and evaluate any newly discovered cultural resources present within the property. BFSA was contracted by Crew Engineering, Inc. to conduct the cultural resource survey, the subsequent significance evaluation program, and to prepare a technical report to be submitted to the County in accordance with Section 15064.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and County guidelines enforced as of June 2006..

A total of five prehistoric cultural resource sites were evaluated during the current investigation. These included the previously recorded Site SDI-5079, and four sites discovered during the current study, all of which consist of bedrock milling stations. Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) forms were submitted for the four discovered sites, which were assigned permanent trinomials (SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903). A number of bedrock milling features were located in close vicinity to Site SDI-5079. It was determined during the current investigation that the boundaries of the site should be expanded to include the additional bedrock milling features, and consequently, all appropriate DPR forms were submitted to the SCIC to update Site SDI-5079. Archaeological records searches, conducted at the SCIC at SDSU and at the San Diego Museum of Man, were reviewed as a part of the current study. A records search was also conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission of the sacred lands files but did not list any sensitive sites in the project area. No limitations or constraints were encountered during the current study.

This report includes all data relevant to the evaluation of the cultural resources and impact analysis. All collections, notes, photographs, and other materials related to this project will be eventually submitted to the San Diego Archaeological Center for permanent curation.

2.0 UNDERTAKING INFORMATION/INTRODUCTION

The Oakmont II Project (APN 396-020-13, Tentative Map 5421, Log No. 05-14-003) is located in the community of Lakeside in an unincorporated portion of San Diego County, California (Figure 2.0–1). Specifically, the project area is in Township 15 South, Range 1 East of the El Cajon Land Grant, San Bernardino Meridian (Figures 2.0–1 and 2.0–2). The 103-acre project boundaries are depicted in Figure 2.0–2 on the appropriate portion of the USGS *Alpine* 7.5-minute Quadrangle map and on the project development map in Figure 2.0–3.

The archaeological survey and significance evaluation program for The Oakmont II Project was required by the County of San Diego in conformance with the County of San Diego guidelines enforced as of June 2006 and CEQA, Section 15064.5. Site SDI-5079, located within the current project boundaries, was first identified and recorded in 1977 and updated during a 1985 study (Hatley 1977; Berryman 1985). Because so much time had passed since the site was previously evaluated and because the previous studies covered less than the current project area, the County of San Diego required a new survey of the The Oakmont II Project area. The proposed project consists of the subdivision of the 103-acre property into 20 lots for single-family residential use. BFSA was contracted by Crew Engineering, Inc. to conduct records searches and a field reconnaissance and, subsequently, to conduct significance testing of cultural resources present on the property.

BFSA conducted the archaeological surveys, reviewed the records searches, and conducted significance evaluations of all cultural resources identified within the project area. The archaeological survey covered the entire 103-acre property, with significance testing performed at cultural resource sites within the project boundaries. Five prehistoric sites were evaluated as part of the current project, which included Sites SDI-5079, SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903 (Figure 2.0–4). Testing focused on Sites SDI-5079 and SDI-17,900 as these two sites are within areas of proposed development. Minimal testing was conducted at the remaining sites, SDI-17,901 SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903, which are all located in areas designated for open space easements. Fieldwork was conducted on May 8, 9, and 31 and June 8, 2006. Project personnel included Principal Investigator Brian F. Smith, Project Archaeologists Seth Rosenberg, Richard Greene, and Nora Collins, and Field Technicians Ryan Carpenter, Brad Comeau, Andrew Hoge, Ryan Robinson, Matthew Smith, Damien Tietjen, and the report production staff.

The five sites evaluated are of limited significance under CEQA and County guidelines. Three sites (SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903) are located in areas planned as open space easments, while two sites (SDI-5072 and SDI-17,900) are both in areas of planned development. Measures to mitigate impacts to the two sites within the development area are discussed in Section 7.0. Monitoring of grading is recommended due to the substantial prehistoric activity in the area evidenced by the number of milling sites on the property and in the surrounding area.

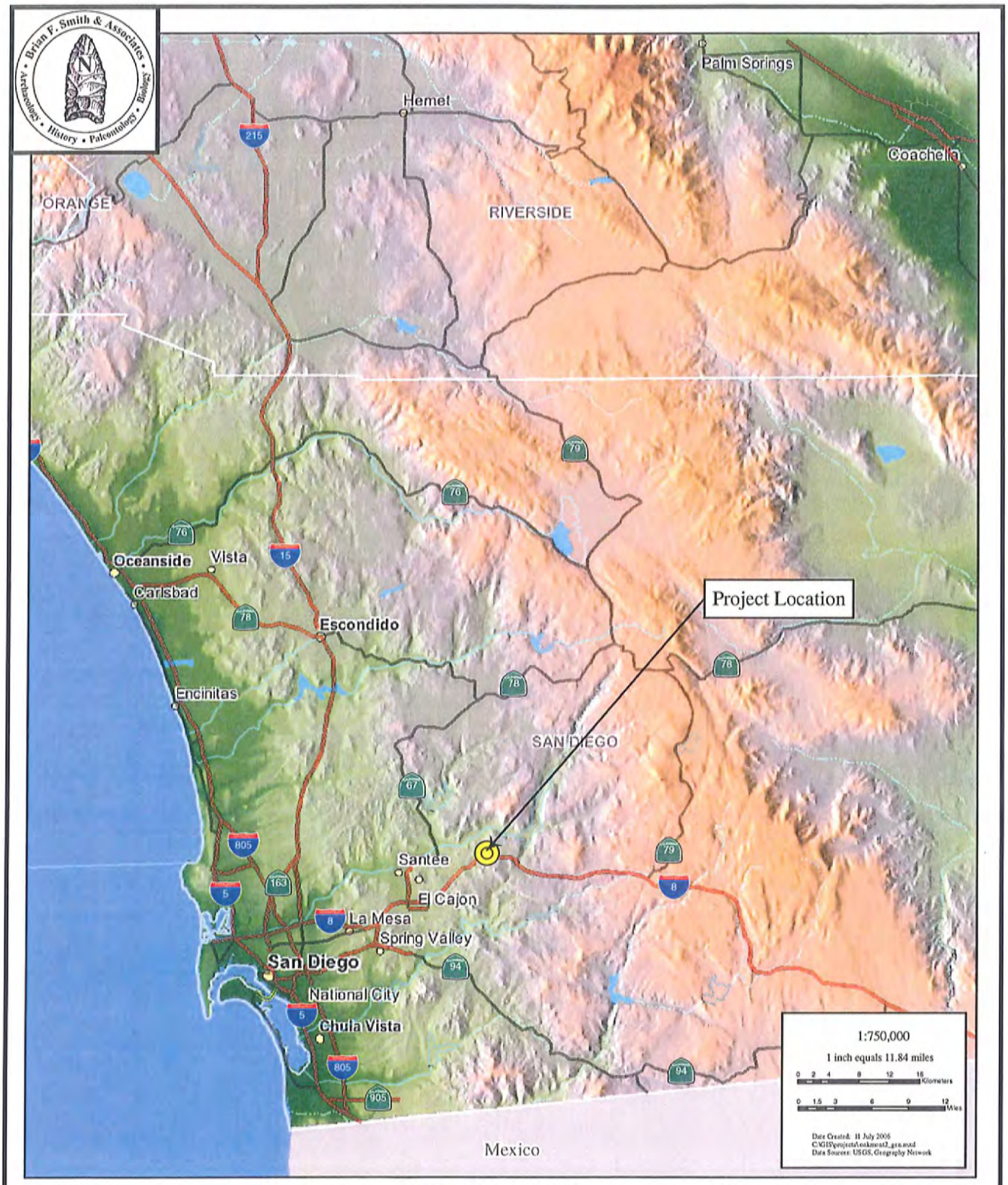

Figure 2.0-1
General Location Map

The Oakmont II Project

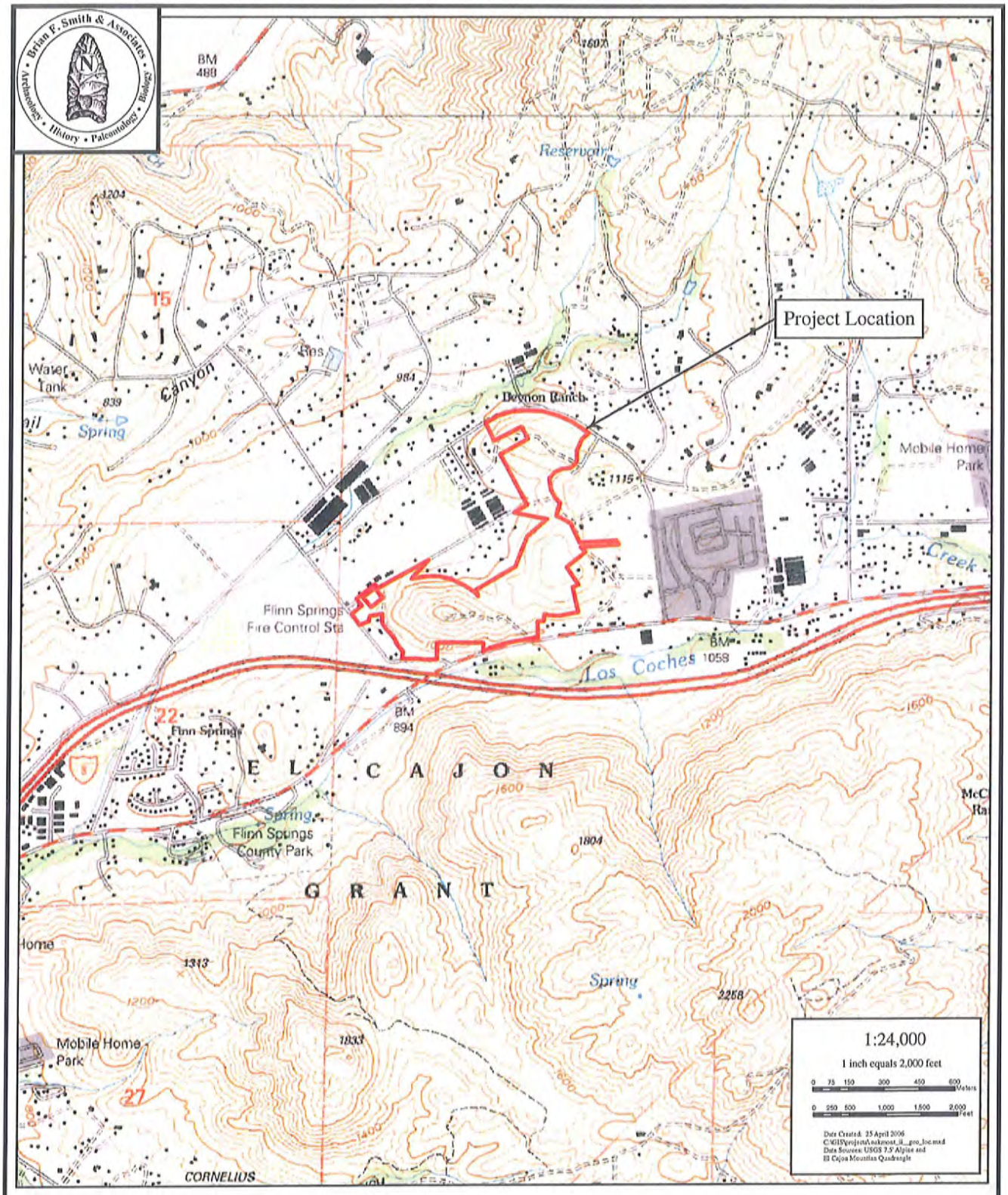

Figure 2.0-2
Project Location Map

The Oakmont II Project

USGS 7.5' *Alpine* Quadrangle

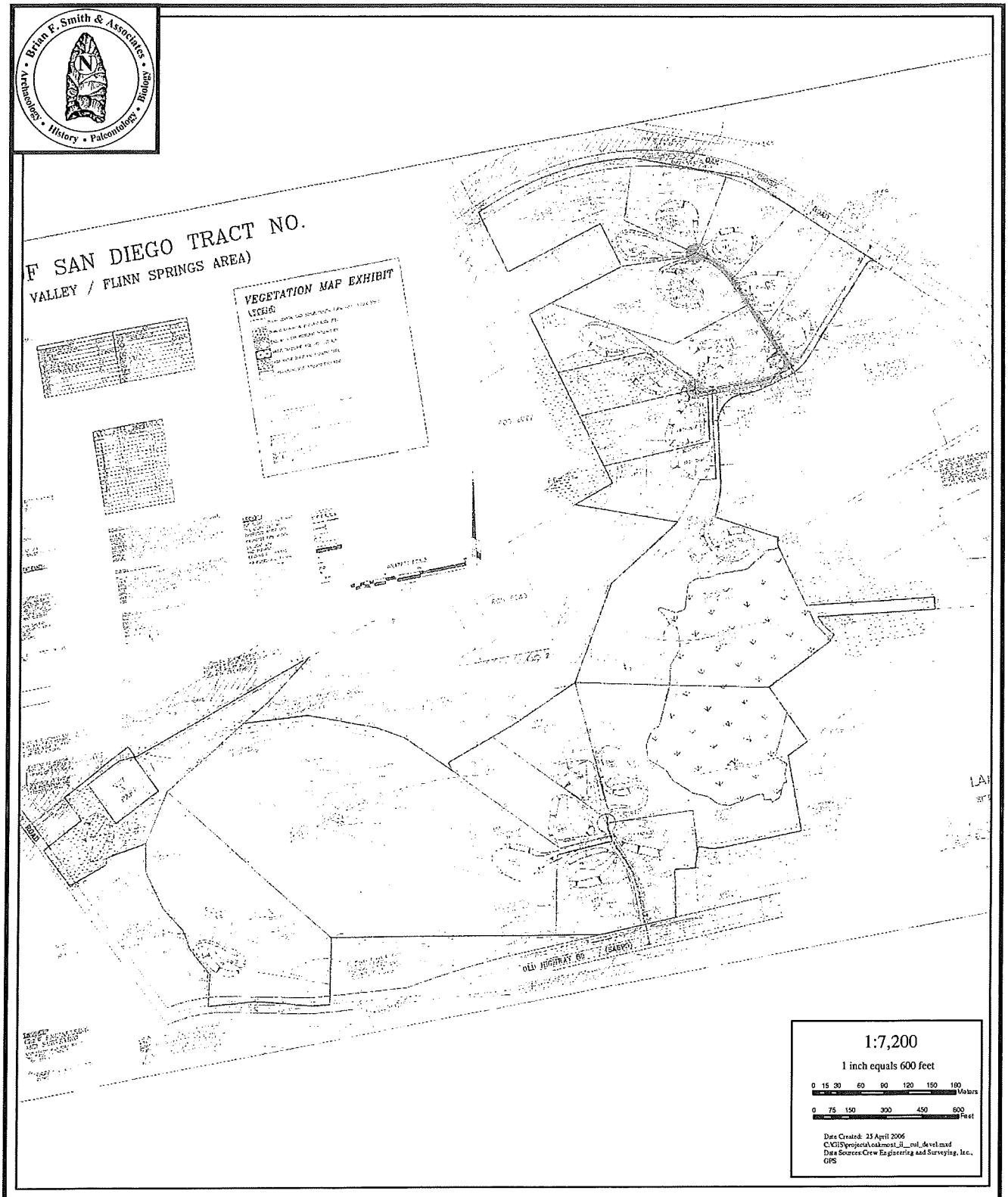

Figure 2.0-3
Project Development Map

The Oakmont II Project

Figure 2.0–4
Cultural Resources Location Map
(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

3.0 SETTING

The project setting includes both physical and biological contexts of the proposed project, as well as the cultural setting of prehistoric and historic human activities in the general area.

3.1 Natural Setting

The 103-acre Oakmont II Project area is located in the community of Lakeside in an unincorporated portion of San Diego County, California (Figures 2.0–1 and 2.0–2). The property is situated east of Flinn Springs Road and north of Olde Highway 80 and Interstate 8. The topography within the project area includes moderately sloping knolls with intermittent drainages. Elevations range from the highest point on Mt. Flinn Springs at 1,236 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in the southwestern portion of the parcel to 300 feet AMSL. The habitat at the project is characterized by moderate to rugged terrain associated with the foothills region of San Diego County. A general overview of the project area is presented in Plate 3.0–1.

San Diego County lies in the inland foothill region located in the Peninsular Range Geomorphic Province of southern California. The current Oakmont II Project lies on mesozoic undated granitic rocks (Jennings 1977). This formation is overlain by soils of the Cieneba Fallbrook association, which are very rocky, excessively drained to well drained, coarse sandy loams usually found on nine to 75 percent slopes. Specific soils include sandy loams, rocky sandy loams, and stony clays, the majority of which are eroded (Bowman 1973).

The general biological setting observed consists of coastal sage scrub interspersed with introduced grasses and weeds. Faunal resources in this area would have provided needed protein in the aboriginal diet and included rabbit and other rodents, deer, reptiles, insects, and birds that would have thrived in what once was a diverse biological community. The natural setting during the prehistoric occupation of this valley offered a rich nutritional resource base. Fresh water was probably obtainable from the nearby drainage to the south of the project area, and various tributaries during most of the year. This part of the valley has a shallow water table and water was probably obtainable even in dry years by digging shallow wells in the drainage bed.

Plate 3.0–1: Overview of the northern portion of the project area, facing southwest.

3.2 Cultural Setting

This area of eastern San Diego County has a very rich and extensive record of both prehistoric and historic activity. The cultures that have been identified in the general vicinity of the project include the Paleo-Indian manifestation of the San Dieguito Complex, the Archaic Stage and Early Milling Stone Horizons represented by the La Jolla Complex, and the Late Prehistoric Kumeyaay Indians.

The prehistoric record of San Diego County has been documented in many reports and studies, several of which represent the earliest scientific works in this region concerning the recognition and interpretation of the archaeological manifestations present. Malcolm Rogers initiated the recordation of sites in the area during the 1920s and 1930s, using his field notes to construct the first cultural sequences based upon artifact assemblages and stratigraphy (Rogers 1966). Subsequent scholars expanded the information gathered by Rogers and offered more academic interpretations of the prehistoric record. Moriarty (1966, 1967, 1969), Warren (1964, 1966), and True (1958, 1966), all produced works that critically defined the various cultures that were present in this region (Moratto 1984).

The San Dieguito Complex

The San Dieguito Complex represented the remains of a group of people who occupied sites in this region between 10,000 and 8,000 years before the present (YBP), and who were related to or contemporaneous with the Paleo-Indian groups in the Great Basin area and the Midwest. The artifacts recovered from San Dieguito sites duplicate the typology attributed to the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (Moratto 1984; Davis et al. 1969). These artifacts generally included scrapers, choppers, bifaces and large projectile points, with few or no milling tools. Tools recovered from sites of the San Dieguito Complex, along with the general pattern of their site locations, indicate that the San Dieguito were a wandering, hunting and gathering society (Moriarty 1969; Rogers 1966).

The San Dieguito Complex is the least understood of the cultures that have inhabited the San Diego County region. This is due primarily to the fact that San Dieguito sites rarely contain stratigraphic information or datable material. Currently, controversy exists among researchers that centers upon the relationship of the San Dieguito to the subsequent cultural manifestation in the area, the La Jolla Complex. Firm evidence has not yet been discovered to indicate whether the San Dieguito "evolved" into the La Jolla Complex, if the La Jolla Complex moved into the area and assimilated the San Dieguito people, or if the San Dieguito retreated from the area due to environmental or cultural pressures. Recent identification of the San Dieguito assemblage as an inland manifestation of the La Jolla Complex may clarify the relationship of coastal and inland assemblages as a function of lithic sources and subsistence media (Byrd and Serr 1993; Pigniolo 1996), but the origins of the earliest local inhabitants remain unclear.

The La Jolla Complex

Approximately 9,000 to 8,500 YBP, a major cultural tradition was established in the San Diego region, primarily along the coast, which at that time was located farther west than at present due to the lowering of sea level during the end of the last ice age. This Encinitas tradition has been locally called the La Jolla Complex (the Archaic Stage), and radiocarbon dates from sites attributed to this culture span a period of over 7,000 years in this region. The La Jolla Complex is best recognized for its flexed burials, grinding tools, and pattern of shell middens that are closely associated with the marine resources of the area (Shumway et al. 1961; Smith and Moriarty 1985). Recently, increasing numbers of inland sites focusing on terrestrial subsistence have been identified as dating to the Archaic Period (Cárdenas 1986; Smith 1996).

The tool typology of the La Jolla Complex displays a wide range of sophistication in the lithic manufacturing techniques used to create the tools found at their sites. The scraper was the dominant flaked tool type, created either by splitting cobbles or by finely flaking quarried material. After about 8,200 YBP, milling tools appear in La Jolla sites. Inland sites of the La Jolla Complex generally lack marine-related food refuse, contain large quantities of milling tools and food bone, and the lithic tool assemblage shifts slightly, all of which suggest a seasonal migration from the coast to the inland valleys (Smith 1986).

The Late Prehistoric Kumeyaay Indians

Approximately 1,100 YBP, the Kumeyaay Indians, a Yuman-speaking people from the Colorado River region, moved into the western part of San Diego County (Kroeber 1925). Firm evidence has not been recovered to indicate whether the La Jolla were present when the Kumeyaay Indians migrated into the coastal zone, although stratigraphic information recovered from Site SDI-4609 in Sorrento Valley suggests a hiatus of 650 ± 100 years between the occupation of the coastal area by the La Jolla Complex (1,730 ± 75 YBP is the youngest date for the La Jolla Complex at SDI-4609) and the Kumeyaay Indians (1,085 ± 65 YBP is the oldest date for the Kumeyaay at the same site) (Carrico and Taylor 1983; Smith and Moriarty 1983).

The Kumeyaay Indians were a seasonal hunting and gathering people with cultural elements that were very distinct from the La Jolla Complex, including cremation, the use of bows and arrows, and adaptation to the use of the acorn as a main food staple (Moratto 1984). Along the coast the Kumeyaay made use of the marine resources available by fishing and collecting shellfish for food. Seasonally available plant food resources, including acorns, and local game were also sources of nourishment for the Kumeyaay. The presence of the Kumeyaay Indians in this part of San Diego County is manifested by traces of Late Prehistoric extractive sites.

3.3 Results of the Records Search Review

Archaeological records searches were conducted at the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) at SDSU and the San Diego Museum of Man (Appendix II). Sixteen cultural resource studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project, and two surveys within the project area, though it is not clear from the site forms how much of the current project area was previously surveyed (Table 3.0–1). In 1977, M. J. Hatley located and recorded Site SDI-5079/W-1222, which is within the Oakmont II Project boundaries. The site consisted of a single bedrock milling basin and a light surface scatter spread over a wide area. J. Berryman of TMI Environmental Services relocated the site in 1985, but was not able to relocate the surface artifacts originally noted. No other previously recorded sites are located within the project boundaries; however, 15 cultural resource sites are located within a one-mile radius (Table 3.0–2). The majority of these sites are bedrock milling sites (N=10). The remaining sites consist of artifact scatters, a midden deposit with lithic tools, and a habitation site, which has produced over 60 milling surfaces, groundstone tools, fire-affected rock, and a rock enclosure (Appendix II).

TABLE 3.0–1
Previous Studies within a One-mile Radius of The Oakmont II Project

Mooney-Lettieri and Associates, Inc.
1982 Draft Environmental Impact Report for Gilboa Estates Mobile Home Park Major Use Permit MUP# P81-109 EAD LOG#81-14-122. Mooney-Lettieri and Associates, Inc. Submitted to Dr. Normal Mann. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Multi Systems Associates, Inc.
1976 Environmental Impact Report Quail Canyon Estates, Lakes, California. MSA, Inc. Submitted to Creasar & Warwick Development Inc. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Van Horn, David M. And William D. McCrawley
1978 Mapping Operations at SDM-W-1123 (SDI-4666) on the Oakridge Property Near Alpine, San Diego County, Ca. Archaeological Associates, Inc. Submitted to Advance Planning and Research Associates. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Apple, Stephen A. and Keith R. Olmo
1980 An Investigation of Archaeological Resources Quail Canyon Estates, Lakeside, California. MSA, Inc. Submitted to Quail Canyon Estates. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Cupples, Sue Ann
1975 An Archaeological Survey of the San Diego River Valley. Sue Ann Cupples. Submitted to unknown. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

A.D. Hinshaw Associates
1987 Crestridge Specific Plan EIR EAD LOG#87-GP-1 Supplemental Information. A.D. Hinshaw Associates. Submitted to Crestridge Development Corporation. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Bull, Charles
1976 Results of an Archaeological Survey of the Oakridge Properties. Charles Bull. Submitted to National Pacific Development. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Mooney-Lettieri and Associates, Inc.
1982 Draft Environmental Impact Report for Gilboa Estates Mobile Home Park Major Use Permit MUP#P81-109 EAD LOG#81-14-122. Mooney-Lettieri and Associates, Inc. Submitted to Dr. Norman Mann. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Craig R. Lorenz and Associates
1988 Quail Canyon Specific Plan SP77-01 Phase 3, TM 4627, LOG 76-14-155 Lakeside Community Plan Area County of San Diego, California. Craig R. Lorenz and Associates. Submitted to Jaric Enterprises. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Craig R. Lorenz and Associates
1989 Quail Canyon Specific Plan SP77-01 Phase 4, TM 4809 RPL, Log#88-14-144 Lakeside Community Plan Area County of San Diego California. Craig R. Lorenz and Associates. Submitted to Jaric Enterprises, Inc. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Craig R. Lorenz and Associates
1988 Quail Canyon Specific Plan SP77-01 Phase 3, TM 4627, LOG 76-14-155 Lakeside Community Plan Area County of San Diego California. Craig R. Lorenz and Associates. Submitted to Jaric Enterprises, Inc. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Carrico, Richard
1978 Archaeological Investigations at Lake Jennings Ranch Unit 1, Sites SDI-5552(LJR-6) and SDI-5553 (LJR-7). Unknown. Submitted to Unknown. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Clifford, James and Brian F. Smith
1998 An Archaeological Survey for the Saksa Lot Split Project. Brian F. Smith and Associates. Submitted to Paul and Paula Saksa. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Russell, Glenn S.
2000 Archaeological Survey and Site Significance Evaluation for the Chimney Rock Project, TM 5189RPl, Lakeside. Glenn Russell. Submitted to County of San Diego. Unpublished report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

Cook, John R. and Christopher Write
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Bull, Charles S.
1977 An Archaeological Survey for Blossom Valley Estates. Charles S. Bull. Submitted to Blossom Valley Enterprises. Unpublished Report on file at SCIC, San Diego State University, San Diego, Ca. 92182.

TABLE 3.0–2
Archaeological Sites Located within a One-mile Radius of The Oakmont II Project

Sites	Description
SDI-15,823/P-37-019069	surface lithic scatter
SDI-11,295/W-4276	isolated bedrock milling feature
SDI-9873/W-3450	bedrock milling features and small midden deposit
SDI-9872/W-3449	midden deposit with lithic tools and FAR
SDI-8915	bedrock milling and rock shelter
SDI-8403/W-2864	low-density artifact scatter
SDI-8402/W-2863	bedrock milling features and lithic scatter
SDI-8397/W-2858	bedrock milling feature
SDI-5800/W-1826	low-density artifact scatter (mano, olla sherd, and flakes)
SDI-5554/W-2846	bedrock milling features and flakes
SDI-5553	bedrock milling features
SDI-5552	bedrock milling features, TBW sherds, flakes
SDI-5550	bedrock milling feature
SDI-5079/W-1222	bedrock milling feature with lithic scatter
SDI-4678/W-1017	habitation site with bedrock milling features, projectile points, manos, TBW sherds, midden, FAR, and a rock enclosure

4.0 RESEARCH DESIGN

Because this report treats a survey and test of prehistoric archaeological deposits encountered during the field reconnaissance, no detailed research design was prepared. The archaeological investigation focused on the potential significance of newly discovered resources and updating the boundaries of a previously recorded site. Nevertheless, the recovered data provided the basis for interpretation of site function within a subsistence area. The resultant data will aid in the understanding of just how these resources came into being. In this way, the present study will contribute to the overall understanding of how such resources were developed and where additional resources with similar characteristics might be expected, an exercise known as predictive modeling. The circumstances surrounding the creation of the sites can be formulated into a testable hypothesis for the occurrence of like deposits, then tested on the many similar projects currently underway or planned for the eastern San Diego County area.

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The cultural resources study of the The Oakmont II Project consisted of reviewing records searches, an intensive cultural resource survey of the entire 103 acres, the detailed recordation of all identified archaeological sites, an archaeological testing program, and the significance evaluation of all identified cultural resources. This study was conducted in conformance with the County of San Diego guidelines and CEQA, Section 15064.5 criteria. Approximately 125 person-hours were expended for fieldwork. Specific definitions for archaeological resource type(s) used in this report are those established by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO March, 1995). The report format follows the Archaeological Resource Management Report (ARMR) guidelines, as required by the County of San Diego.

5.1 Institutional Records Searches

Archaeological records searches were conducted by SCIC at SDSU and the San Diego Museum of Man (Appendix II). One previously recorded cultural resource was identified within the project boundaries (SDI-5079). Fifteen previously recorded cultural resources are located within a one-mile radius of the project area. Most of these previously recorded sites are bedrock milling stations. The results of the records searches are discussed in detail in Section 3.3 of this report.

5.2 Field Methodology

5.2.1 Field Survey

The archaeological survey of the Oakmont II Project was conducted on May 8 and 9, 2006. Project personnel for this phase of the project included archaeologists Seth Rosenberg, Nora Collins, and Brad Comeau. An archaeological reconnaissance consisting of a series of parallel transects spaced at five-meter intervals was carried out to relocate the previously recorded site as well as identify any additional cultural resources that might be located within the project boundaries. All road cuts and cleared areas were intensely scrutinized for the presence of artifacts, midden soil, and/or features. All natural features, such as bedrock outcrops and seasonal drainages, were examined in greater detail for cultural resources. During the field survey, nearly 90 to 95% of the ground was covered with thick grass and weeds. Disturbances within the project area included modern debris scattered throughout the property and four to five dirt roads. There also was some evidence of previous plowing in the southern fifth of the northern portion of the property. Four additional prehistoric resources were found during the reconnaissance. All newly identified cultural resources were recorded according to the Office of Historic Preservation's (OHP) manual, Instructions for Recording Historical Resources using

DPR 523 forms (Appendix I). The locations and brief descriptions of archaeological sites identified within the project area were noted.

5.2.2 Testing and Significance Evaluation

The archaeological testing and significance evaluation program for sites located within The Oakmont II Project area was conducted on May 31 and June 8, 2006. Project personnel included Project Archaeologists Richard Greene and Nora Collins, and Field Technicians Ryan Carpenter, Ryan Robinson, Matthew Smith, Andrew Hoge, and Damien Tietjen. The initial significance testing of the five resources consisted of identification and collection of surface artifacts and the mapping and recordation of bedrock milling features. All bedrock milling features, surface artifacts, and excavations were mapped using a Trimble Geo XT Global Positioning System (GPS) unit equipped with TerraSync software. The bedrock milling features were given alphabetic designations and recorded, drawn, and photographed.

In order to assess the surface concentrations of artifacts on the surface of Site SDI-5079, four surface scrapes were made, whereby a one square meter area was cleared of vegetation, and all artifacts located on the surface within the square were collected. All collected artifacts were bagged, labeled, and returned to the BFSA laboratory for further analysis.

A series of shovel tests was excavated in the areas defined by the location of bedrock milling features in order to determine the boundaries and location of any subsurface cultural deposits that might be present. The pattern of shovel test pits was somewhat random in order to determine the extent of the site boundaries, but generally the tests were placed on the higher elevations and around milling features. The quantity and placement of shovel tests at each site varied according to the abundance and extent of surface artifacts and cultural features, the general morphology of the landform on which the site was located, the limitations imposed by bedrock and vegetation, and whether or not the site was in an area planned for open space. Consequently, one to five STPs were excavated at Sites SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903, and a series of 15 STPs were excavated at Site SDI-5079. The shovel test series consisted of excavations 30 centimeters in diameter that proceeded, in decimeter levels, to a culturally sterile soil horizon or solid rock. As both sites are in areas of project development and would be potentially impacted by project development, qualitative testing of subsurface cultural material was conducted through the excavation of three one-meter-square test units at SDI-5079 and one at SDI-17,900. Test units were excavated in decimeter levels to bedrock or a culturally sterile soil horizon. All excavated soils were sifted through one-eighth-inch mesh screens. Artifacts recovered through subsurface excavations were bagged, labeled, and returned to the BFSA laboratory in Poway for cataloging and further analysis.

5.3 Laboratory Procedures

A variety of laboratory methods were used to study the specimens and information recovered during the testing program. Recovered artifacts were returned to the laboratory of BFSA and, in keeping with generally accepted archaeological procedures, were cleaned, identified, and cataloged. After cataloging, identification, and analysis, the collections were marked with the appropriate provenience and catalog information then packaged for permanent curation. Documentation of the cultural resources included submitting the appropriate site record (DPR) forms with attachments (Appendix II), as well as a copy of the report, to SCIC at SDSU.

5.4 Native American Consultation

A record search of the Sacred Lands Files of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was requested by BFSA (Appendix III). The record search indicated that no Native American recorded sacred sites or land forms are located within the current project area. The analysis of site components within the project did not indicate any Native American religious, ritual, or other special activities at this location. Therefore, no further Native American consultation was requested.

5.5 Recordation and Curation

After cataloging, identification, and analysis, the collection was marked with the appropriate provenience and catalog information, then packaged for permanent curation. All collections, notes, photographs, and other materials related to this project will be curated at the SDAC. As part of the investigation, a California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 Form was completed for each cultural resource that had been tested and submitted to SCIC at SDSU for the assignment of a permanent trinomial and/or primary number (Appendix I).

6.0 RESULTS

The archaeological survey for the Oakmont II Project resulted in the identification of five prehistoric sites, four of which had not been previously recorded. The sites are referred to as Sites SDI-5079, SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, SDI-17,903 (Figure 6.0–1). Previously recorded Site SDI-5079 was relocated and its site boundaries were expanded during the current study and updated site forms were submitted to SCIC. The majority of sites (Sites SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, SDI-17,903) are small, prehistoric bedrock milling stations lacking associated surface artifacts, although a single quartz flake was identified during the field survey at Site SDI-17,901, but could not be relocated during the test phase, possibly due to vegetation cover. The largest of the sites, SDI-5079, consists of eight bedrock milling features with a small amount of lithic production waste (N=13) and a single utilized flake. Sites SDI-5079 and SDI-17,900 are both located in areas of proposed development, while Sites SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903 are within areas designated for open space easements.

The following narrative describes these cultural resources, including the details of the artifact recovery from test excavations at SDI-5079. The field investigations and testing methods were conducted using the standard methodologies described in Section 5.0. The five archaeological sites located within The Oakmont II Project boundaries were tested for significance according to CEQA (Section 15064.5) criteria and the Resource Protection Ordinance, Section 21083.2 of the California Public Resources Code. The evaluation of the significance of these sites is presented in Section 7.0. Archaeological site record forms filed with SCIC are provided in Appendix I.

6.1 Field Investigations — Site SDI-5079

6.1.1 Site SDI-5079 Description

Site SDI-5079 is located approximately 80 meters north of Olde Highway 80 and 500 meters west of Oak Creek Road (Figure 2.0–4). The site lies within an area of proposed development on top of the saddle between Mt. Flinn Springs and a large knoll. Elevations at the site are between 324 and 336 feet AMSL. Vegetation consists of dense, non-native grasses and coastal sage scrub. Disturbances included dirt roads cutting through the center and the western portion of the site and a moderate amount of scattered modern debris. Site SDI-5079 encompasses an area of approximately 6,553 square meters (70,536 square feet), although prehistoric activity areas are much smaller in size. Site SDI-5079 was originally recorded in 1977 (Hatley 1977) as a bedrock milling basin and associated surface artifacts (one core and several flakes over 1,400 square meters; Appendix II). The site was relocated during a 1985 survey conducted by TMI Environmental; however, only the bedrock milling basin was found at that time. The site was never evaluated for significance. The current study identified the previously recorded bedrock milling feature (BMF A) along with seven newly identified bedrock

milling features (BMFs B – H), surface artifacts (N=8; Table 6.1–1), and a negligible subsurface deposit (N=7; Table 6.1–1). All of the bedrock milling features are located on granite outcrops. Midden soil was observed adjacent to BMF A in the northern portion of the site and BMF D along the southeastern edge. A map of Site SDI-5079 is illustrated in Figure 6.1–1, and the setting is shown in Plates 6.1–1 and 6.1–2.

Site SDI-5079 consists of three separate bedrock milling feature loci within a 6,553-square-meter area (70,536 square feet). Bedrock milling features A, B, and C are located in the northern portion of the site, BMFs D, E, and F are located in the southeastern portion of the site, and BMFs G and H are situated along the western border (Figure 6.1–1). The majority of the milling surfaces were slicks (N=13) but also included two basins. Milling surfaces range in size from 10 by 14 by <1 centimeters to 27 by 19 by <1 centimeters. Measurements for individual grinding surfaces are presented in Table 6.1–1. The ground areas in between and surrounding these features were examined in detail for the presence of surface artifacts. Three flakes were located adjacent to BMF D in the southeastern portion of the site, and one flake was located in the northwestern portion of the site. Three of the flakes were of medium-grained metavolcanic material, and one was of fine-grained metavolcanic material. A small amount of midden soil was observed around the bedrock milling features in the northern and southern portions of the site. Figure 6.1–1 shows the locations of the bedrock milling features. Photographs and drawings of all the bedrock milling features are presented in Plates 6.1–3 to 6.1–10 and Figures 6.1–2 to 6.1–9.

Four surface scrapes were completed in an effort to locate the originally recorded lithic scatter (Hatley 1977), as there was a possibility the dense vegetation at the site was concealing surface artifacts. The four surface scrapes were placed in areas where ground visibility was particularly limited (0–5%). Three of the surface scrapes were negative for cultural material. Surface Scrape 3 produced three medium-grained metavolcanic flakes. Surface scrape locations are shown on Figure 6.1–1, and a summary of surface recovery is provided in Table 6.1–3. Generally, the surface scrapes confirmed that the surface of the site did not contain a significant quantity of artifacts.

Subsurface Excavation

The potential for subsurface archaeological deposits at Site SDI-5079 was investigated by excavating a series of 15 shovel test pits (STPs) and three one-meter-square test units. Figure 6.1–1 presents the locations of all excavations and surface scrapes conducted at Site SDI-5079. The shovel test pits were generally placed around the groups of bedrock milling features, where midden soil was observed, and within the positive surface scrape. Bedrock, boulders, and vegetation confined the placements of the shovel test pits. All of the shovel test pits were excavated in decimeter levels to a culturally sterile level unless solid rock was encountered (Table 6.1–4). All but one of the shovel test pits were negative for cultural resources. One

medium-grained metavolcanic flake was located in STP 15, which was excavated within Surface Scrape 3. The shovel test continued to 30 centimeters but each subsequent level was culturally sterile.

Three one-meter-square test units were excavated at Site SDI-5079. Test Unit 1 was placed in a cleared area immediately north of BMFs A, B, and C, Test Unit 2 was placed in midden soil located adjacent to BMFs A and B, and Test Unit 3 was placed adjacent to BMF D, where three surface artifacts were found. Test Units 1 and 2 each produced a single artifact, one medium-grained metavolcanic flake and one medium-grained metavolcanic utilized flake, respectively. Both of these artifacts were located in the 0 to 10 centimeter level. Test Unit 3 produced six medium-grained metavolcanic flakes between 0 and 30 centimeters. A summary of test unit recovery is provided in Table 6.1–5. Test Unit profiles are provided in Figures 6.1–10 through 6.1–12. The locations of the bedrock milling features, surface scrapes, shovel test pits, and test units are presented in Figure 6.1–1. Total artifact recovery from Site SDI-5079 is summarized in Table 6.1–2.

6.1.2 Discussion and Summary

The testing demonstrated that Site SDI-5079 consists of bedrock milling, a sparse surface artifact scatter, and a minimal subsurface deposit extending to maximum of 30 centimeters. The bedrock milling features and lithic artifacts representing Site SDI-5079 indicate that the site was likely a seasonal food-processing site. All bedrock milling features were photographed, drawn, and mapped. Although no culturally diagnostic artifacts were recovered from the site, a Late Prehistoric assignment is suggested by the presence of bedrock milling. The site is considered significant in accordance with the criteria listed in CEQA, Section 15064.5, and the County's guidelines because it has the potential to yield information. However, the recordation of information and curation of artifacts have exhausted all research potential associated with this site.Recommendations for Site SDI-5079 are discussed in Section 7.0.

Figure 6.1–1
Excavation Location Map, Site SDI-5079

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

Plate 6.1–1: Overview of Site SDI-5079, looking southwest.

Plate 6.1–2: Closeup of Site SDI-5079, showing BMFs A, B, and C, facing southwest.

Plate 6.1–3: View of BMF A, Site SDI-5079, facing north.

Plate 6.1–4: View of BMF B, Site SDI-5079, facing north/northeast.

Plate 6.1–5: View of BMF C, Site SDI-5079, facing north.

Plate 6.1–6: View of BMF D, Site SDI-5079, facing north/northeast.

Plate 6.1–7: View of BMF E, Site SDI-5079, facing north.

Plate 6.1–8: View of BMF F, Site SDI-5079, facing north.

Plate 6.1–9: View of BMF G, Site SDI-5079, facing north.

Plate 6.1–10: View of BMF H, Site SDI-5079, facing north.

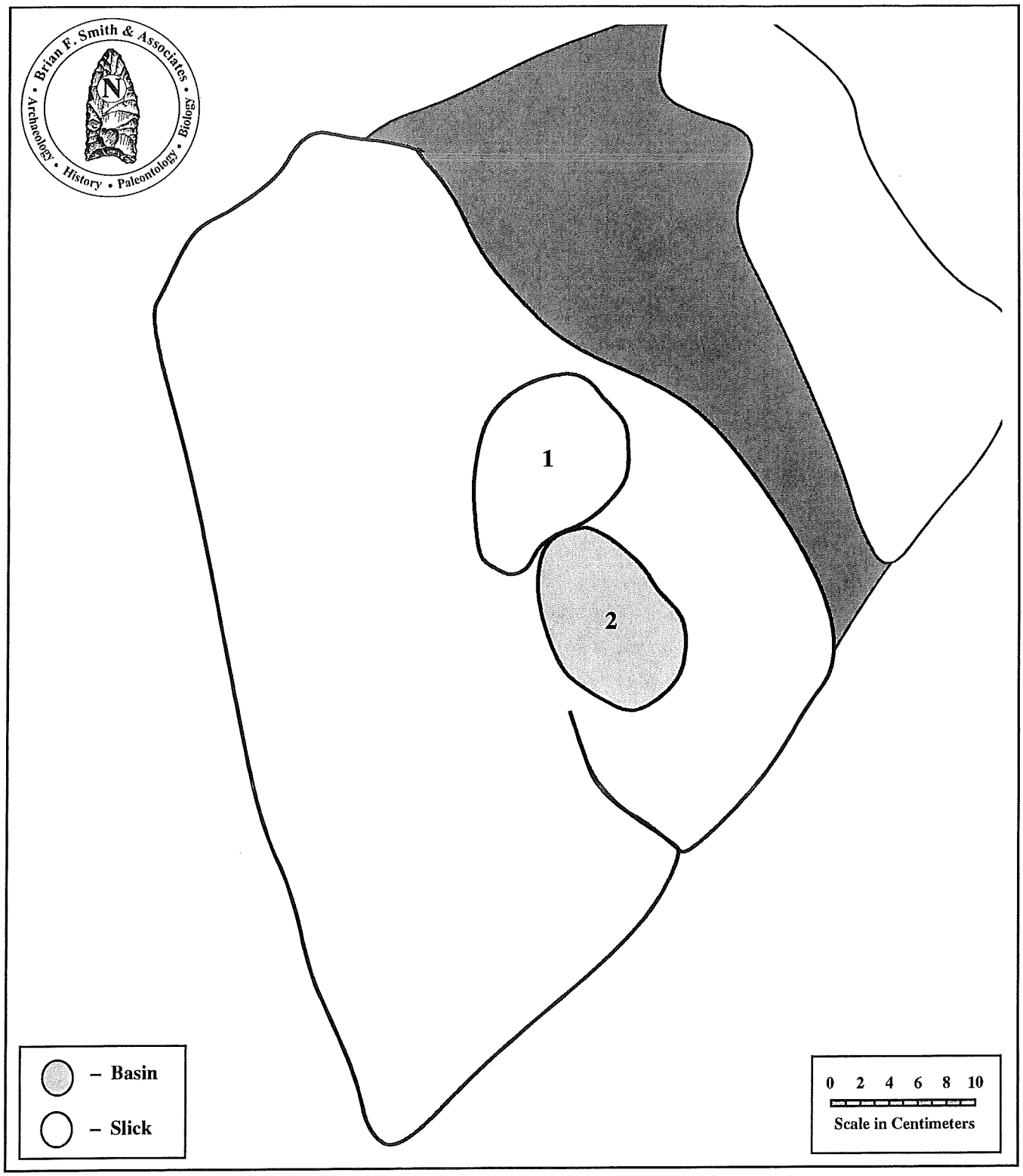


Figure 6.1–2
Bedrock Milling Feature A
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

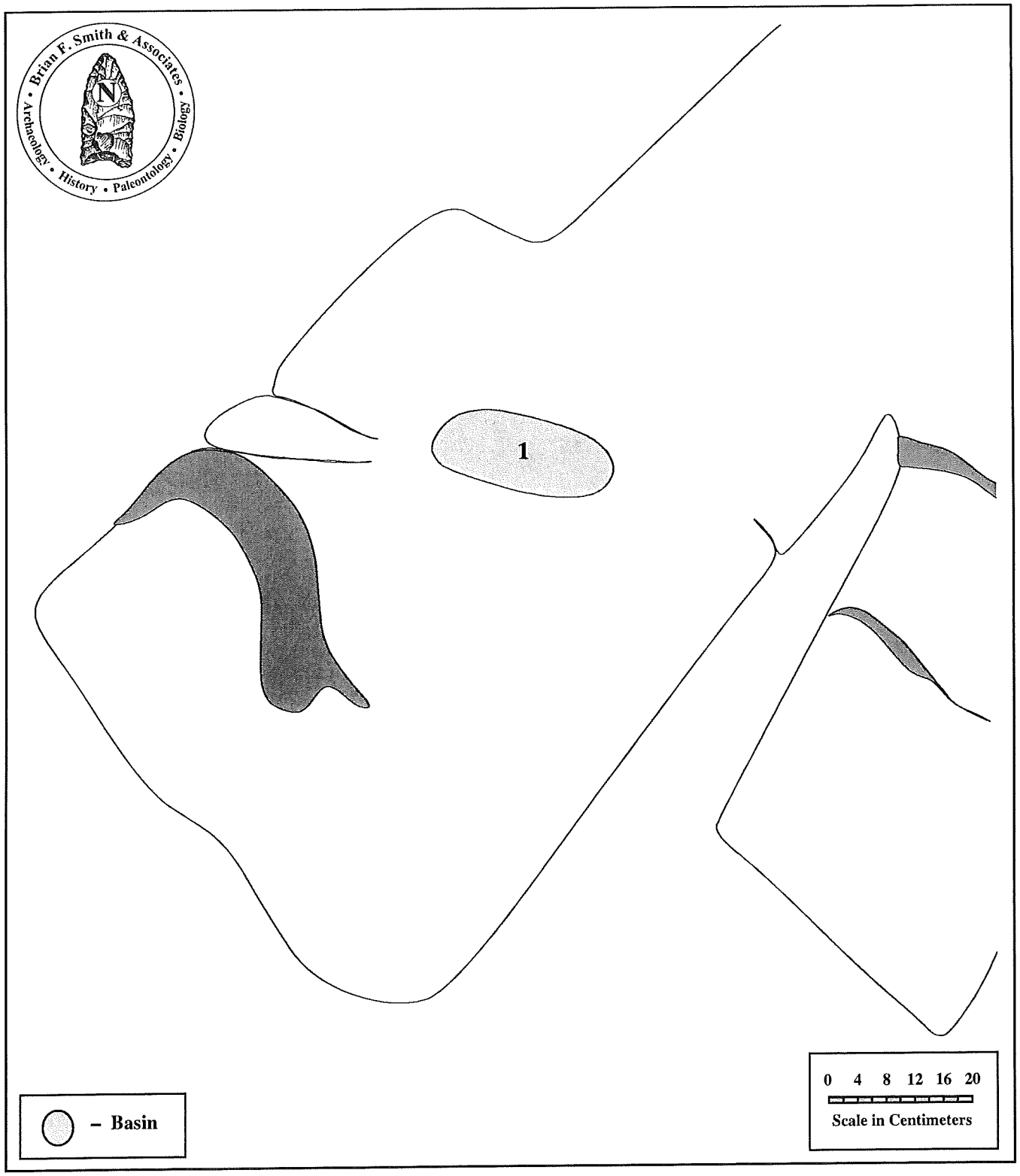


Figure 6.1–3
Bedrock Milling Feature B
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

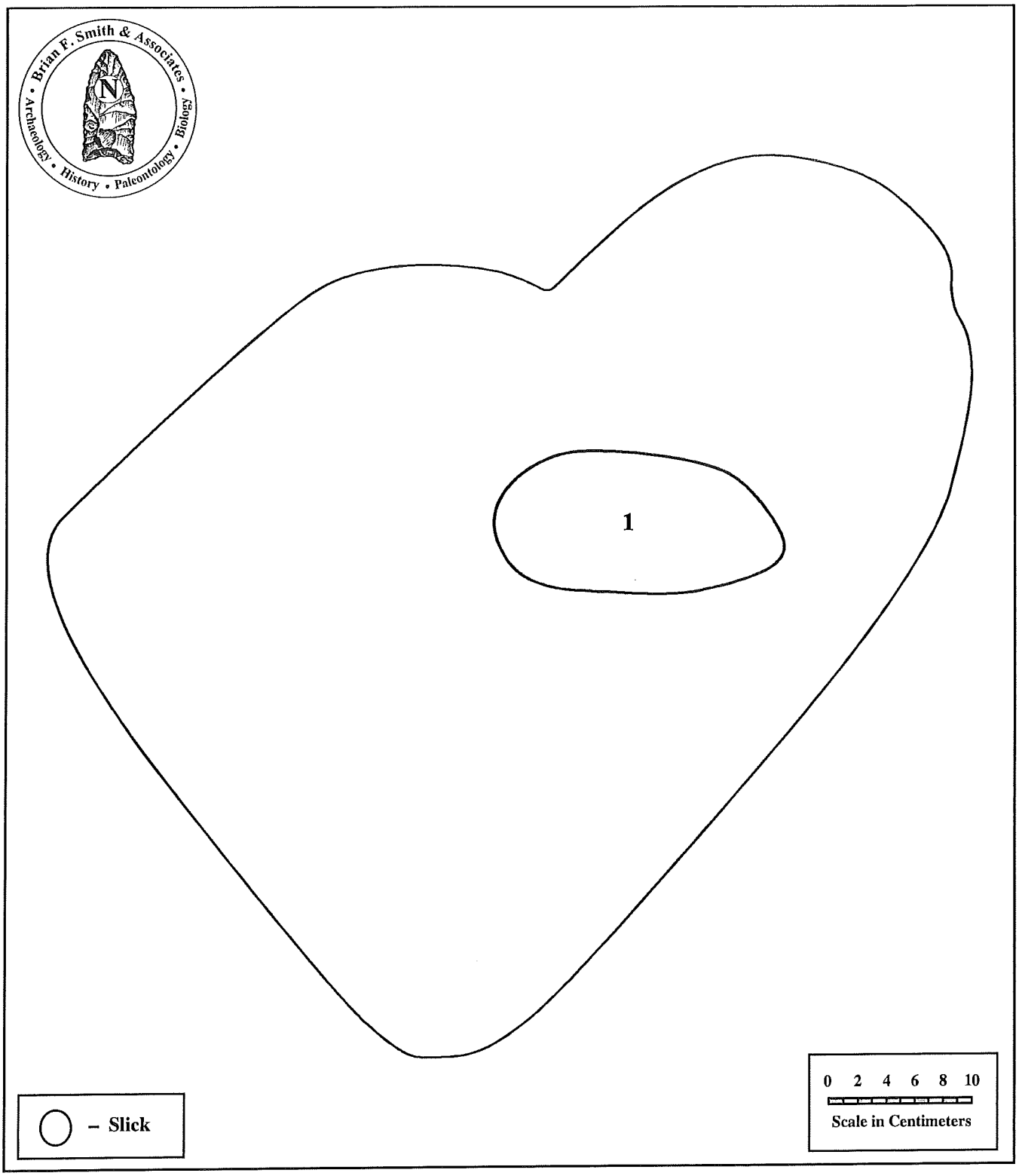


Figure 6.1–4
Bedrock Milling Feature C
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

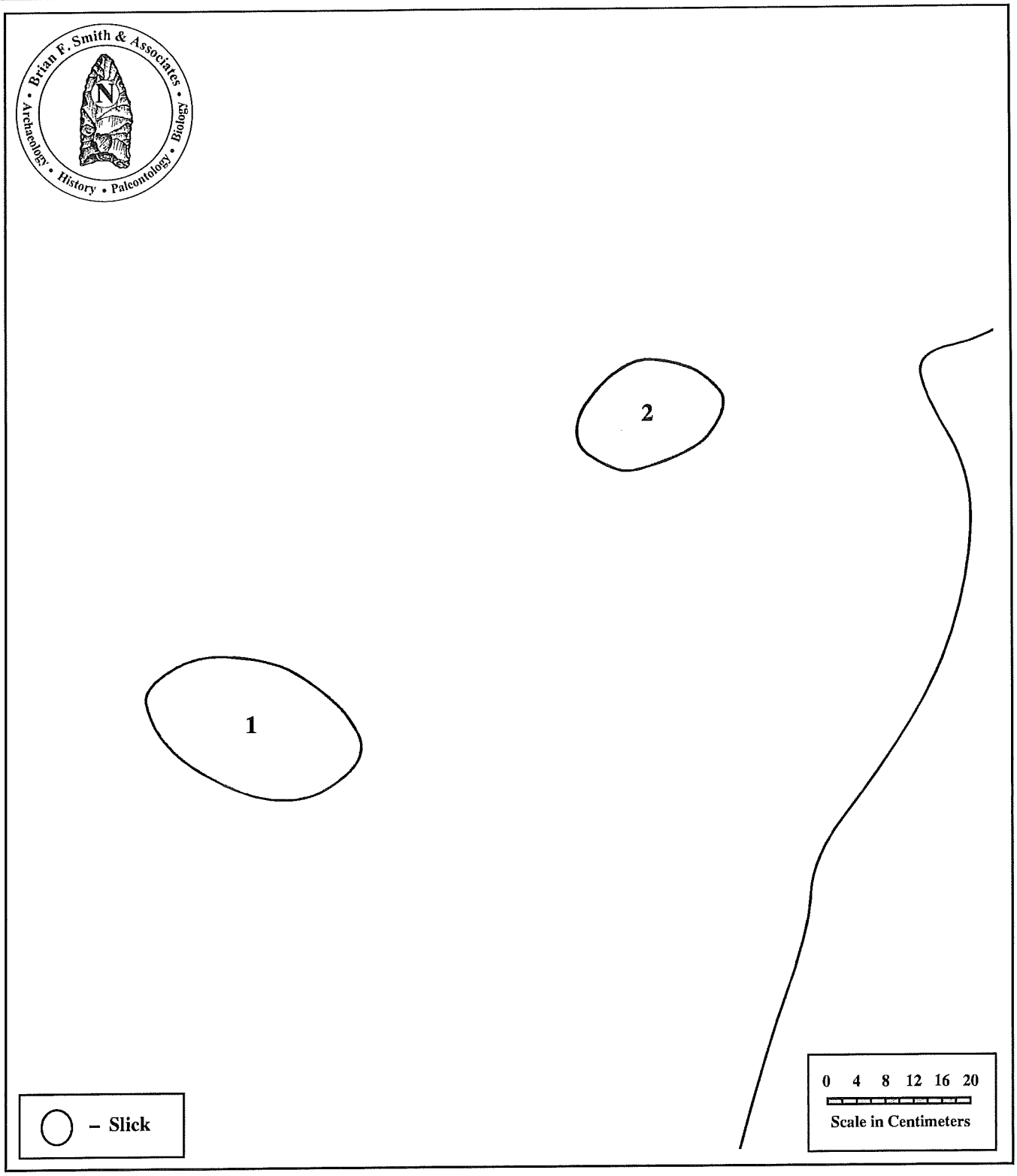


Figure 6.1–5
Bedrock Milling Feature D
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

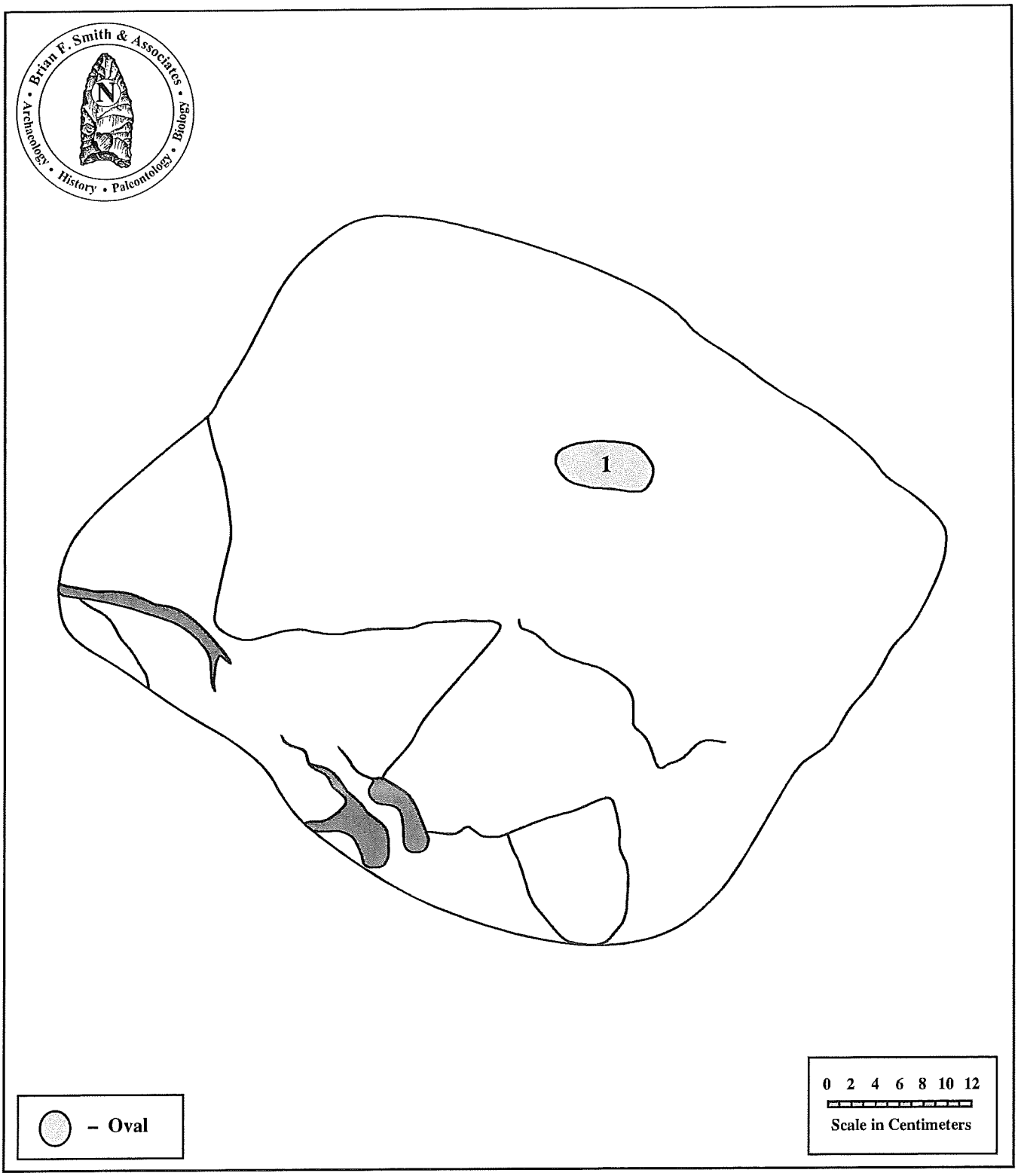


Figure 6.1–6
Bedrock Milling Feature E
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

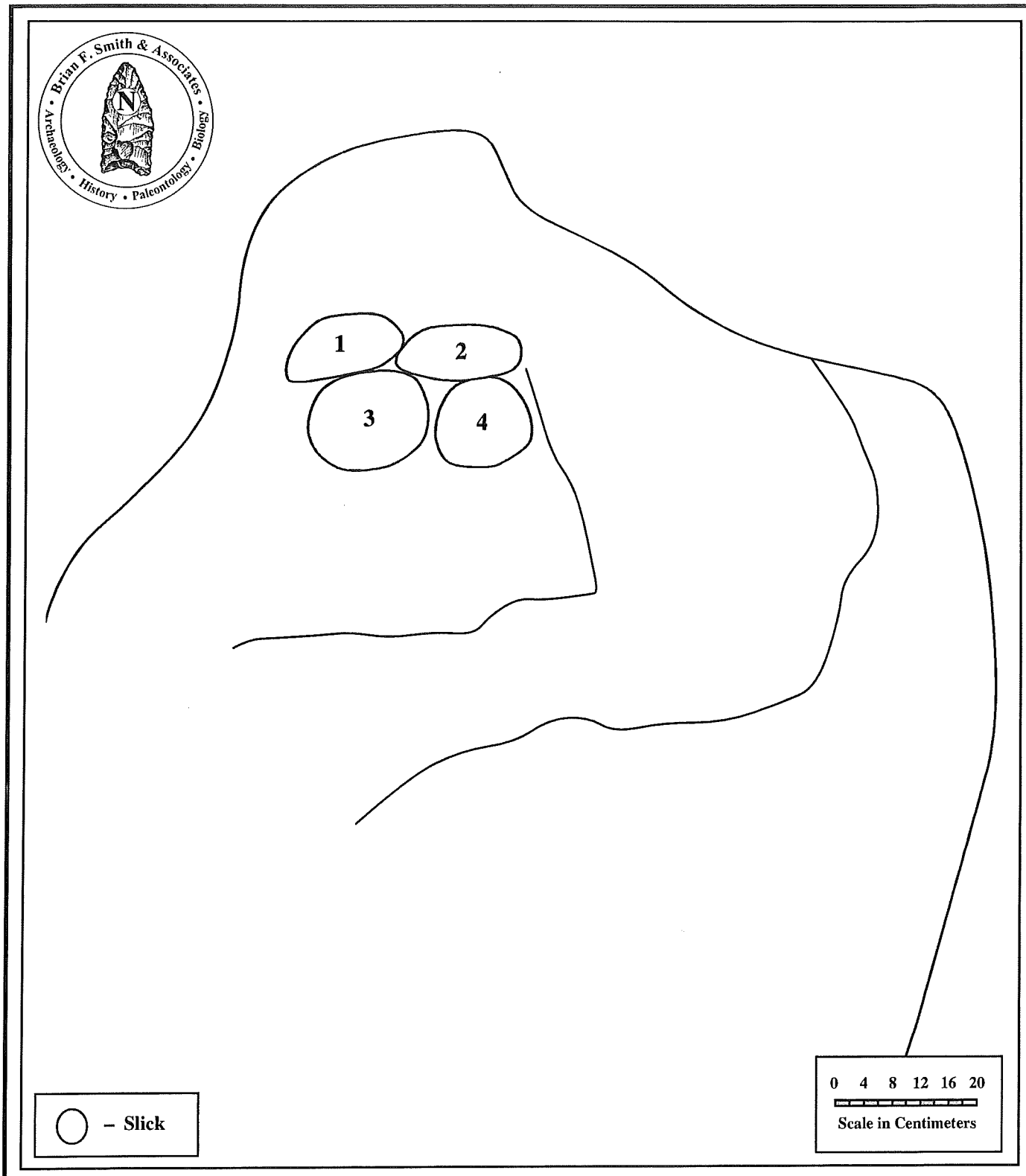


Figure 6.1–7
Bedrock Milling Feature F
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

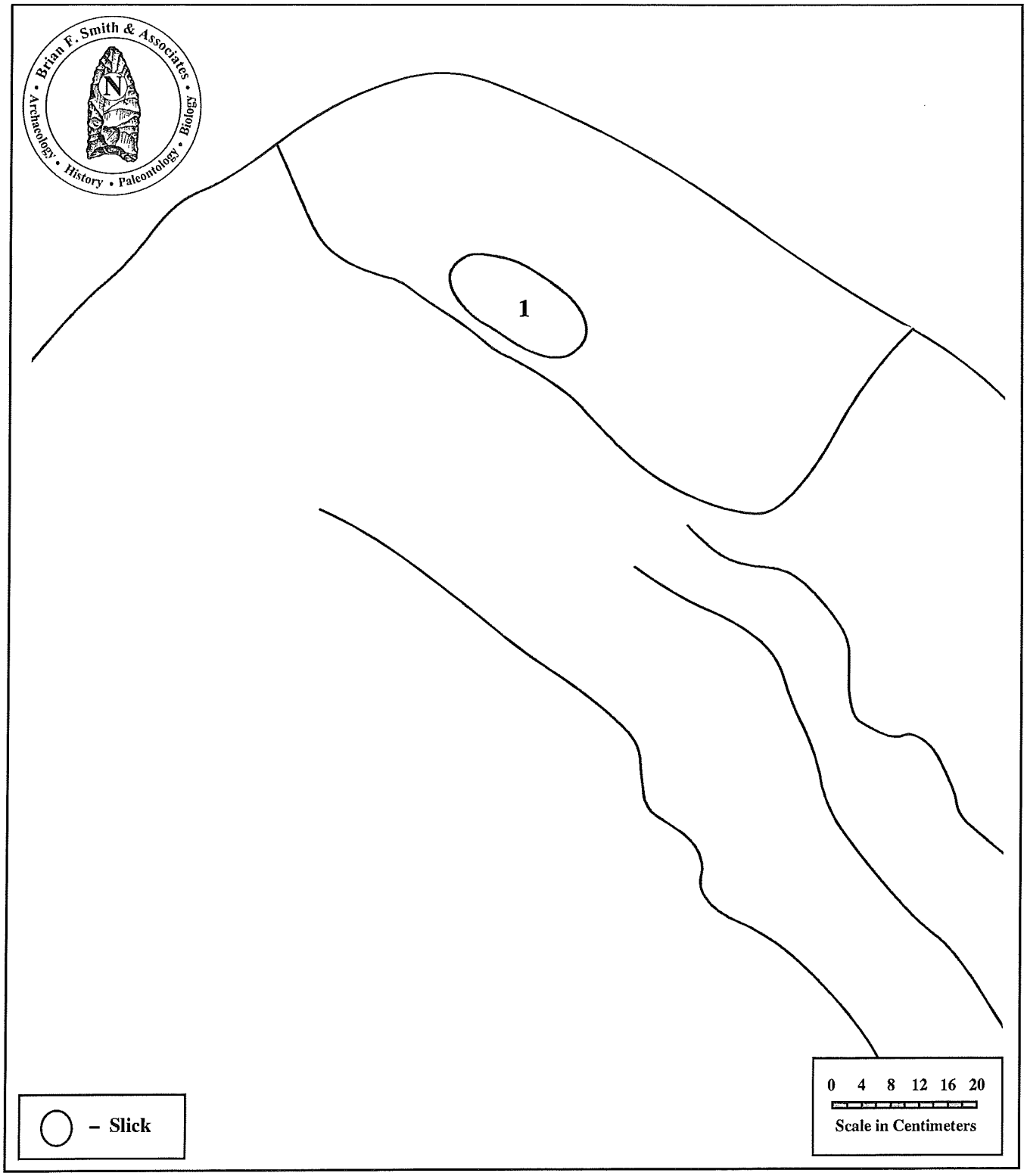


Figure 6.1–8
Bedrock Milling Feature G
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

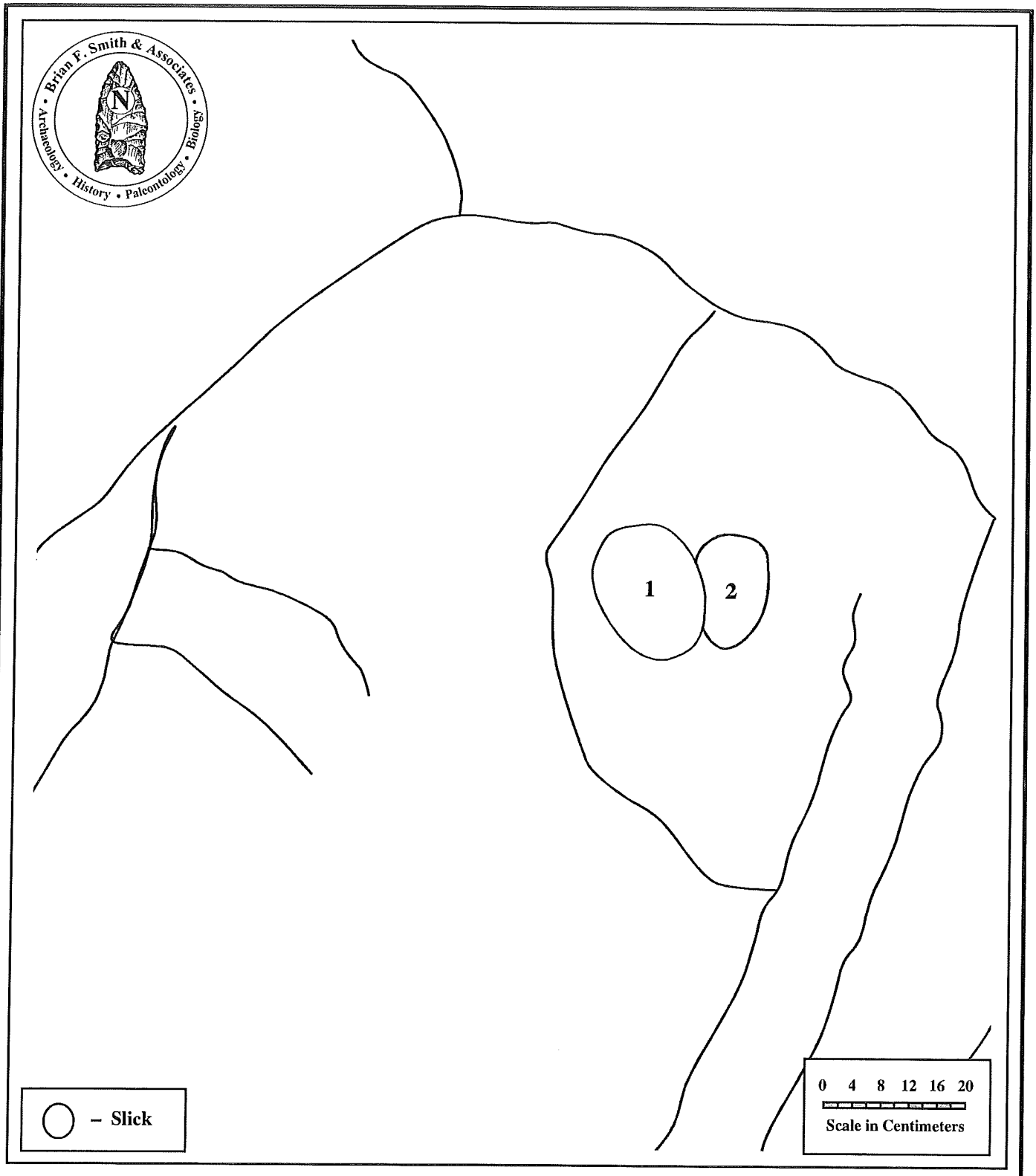
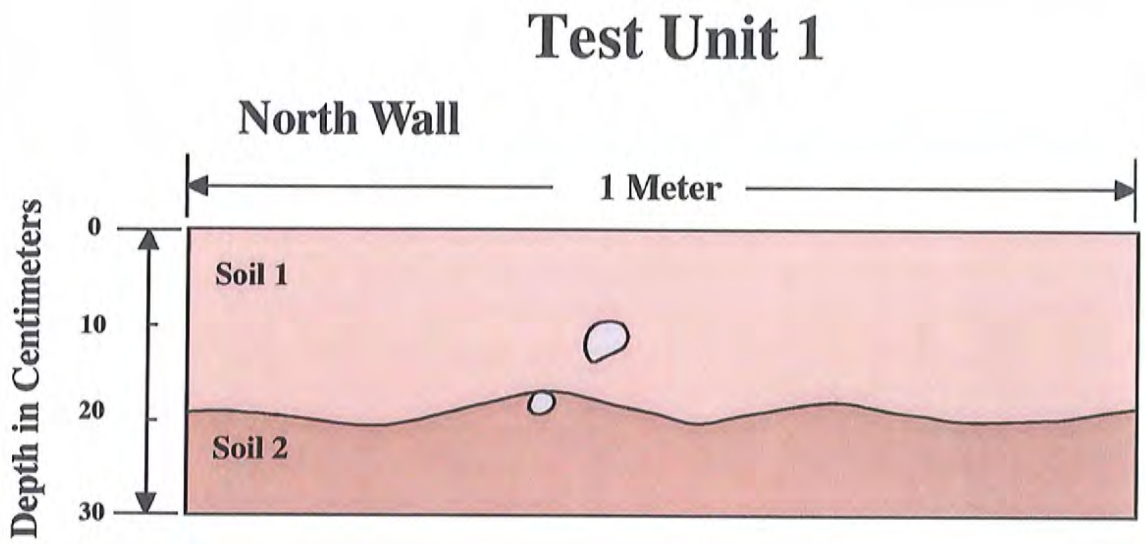


Figure 6.1–9
Bedrock Milling Feature H
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project



1 Light brown (10YR 6/3) silty loam

2 Light brownish yellow (10YR 6/4) silty loam

– Rock

0 10 20 30 40 50

Scale in Centimeters

Figure 6.1–10
North Wall Profile of Test Unit 1
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

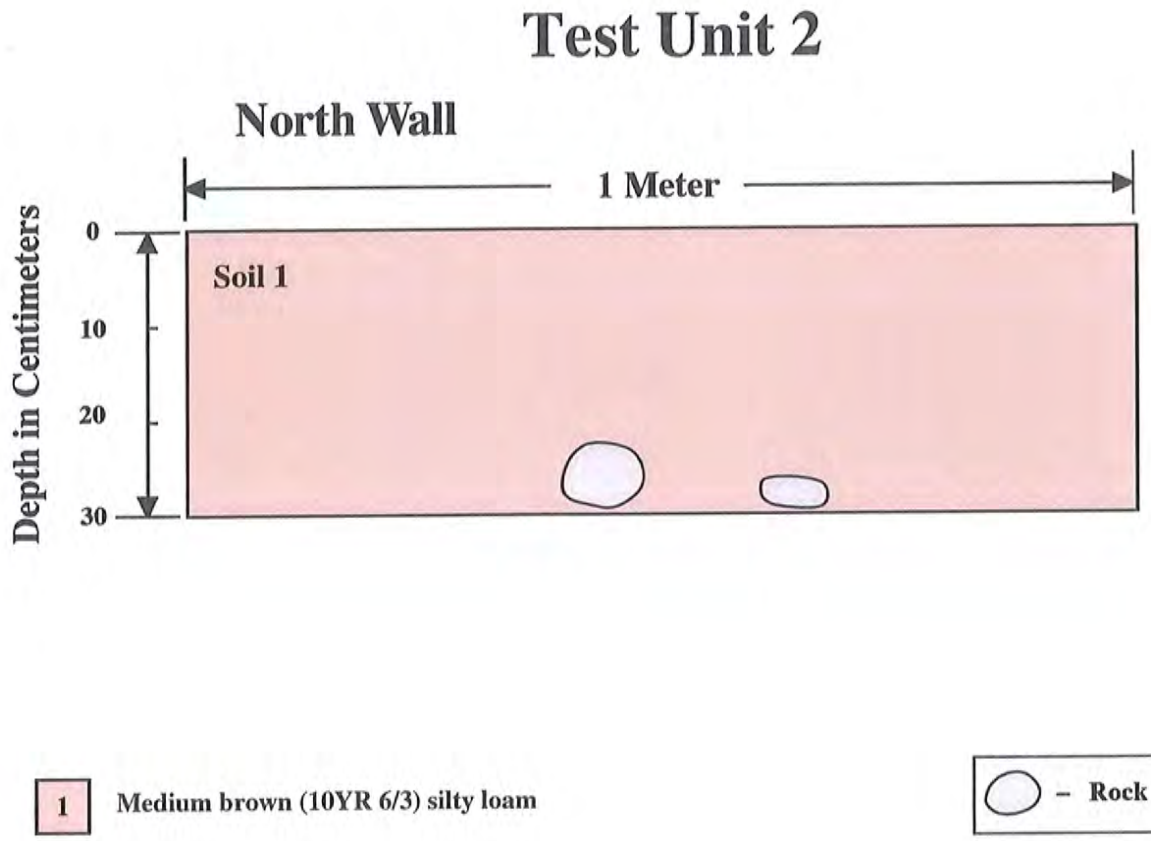


Figure 6.1–11
North Wall Profile of Test Unit 2
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

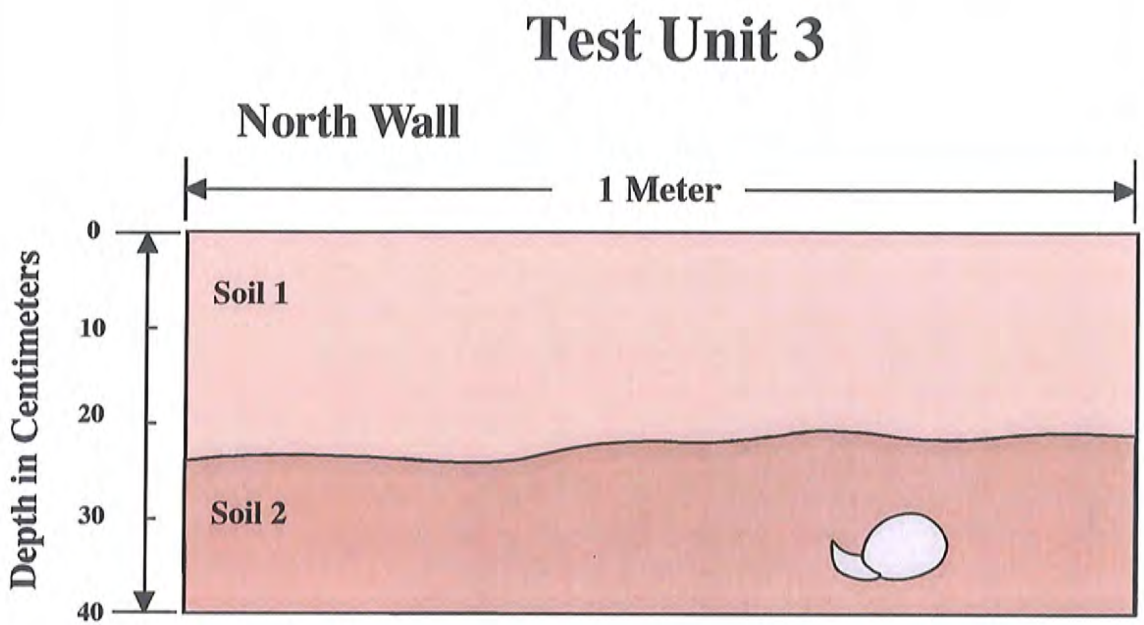


Figure 6.1–13
North Wall Profile of Test Unit 3
Site SDI-5079
The Oakmont II Project

TABLE 6.1–1
Bedrock Milling Feature Data
Site SDI-5079

Feature	Surface	Type	Dimensions
A	1	Slick	15 x 10 x <1 cm.
	1	Basin	16 x 8 x 1 cm.
B	1	Basin	23 x 13 x <1 cm.
C	1	Slick	11 x 20 x <1 cm.
D	1	Slick	27 x 19 x <1 cm.
"	1	Slick	20 x 11 x <1 cm.
E	1	Slick	22 x 12 x <1 cm.
F	1	Slick	10 x 14 x <1 cm.
	1	Slick	10 x 15 x <1 cm.
	1	Slick	15 x 16 x <1 cm.
	1	Slick	12 x 13 x <1 cm.
G	1	Slick	11 x 17 x <1 cm.
H	1	Slick	14 x 19 x <1 cm.
	1	Slick	15 x 9 x <1 cm.

TABLE 6.1–2
Summary of Artifact Recovery
Site SDI-5079

Artifact Catergory	Surface	Shovel Tests	Test Units	Total	Percent
Lithic Production Waste:					
Debitage	2	-	-	2	13.34
Flakes	6	1	5	12	80.00
Precision Tools:					
Utilized Flake	-	-	1	1	6.67
Total	8	1	6	15	100.00
Percent	53.34	6.67	40.00	100.00	

Rounded numbers may not add to 100%.

TABLE 6.1–3
Surface Recovery Data
Site SDI-5079

Recovery Location	Quantity	Recovery	Material	Cat. No.
BMF D	1	Flake	FGM	1
BMF D	1	Debitage	MGM	2
BMF D	1	Debitage	MGM	3
Surface Scrape 1	2	Flakes	MGM	6
Surface Scrape 3	3	Flakes	MGM	7

TABLE 6.1–4
Shovel Test Excavation Data
Site SDI-5079

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
1	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	
2	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	
3	0-10	No Recovery
4	0-10	No Recovery
5	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	
6	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	
7	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	
8	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	No Recovery
9	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
10	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
11	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
12	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
13	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
14	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
15	0-10	1 Flake, MGM
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	No Recovery

TABLE 6.1–5
Test Unit Excavation Data
Site SDI-5079

Test Unit	Depth	Quantity/ Weight	Recovery	Material	Cat. No.
1	0-10	1	Flake	MGM	4
2	0-10	1/23.8	Utilized Flake	MGM	5
3	0-10	2	Flake	MGM	11
	10-20	1	Flake	MGM	12
	20-30	1	Flake	MGM	13
	30-40	1	No Recovery		

6.2 Field Investigations — Site SDI-17,900

6.2.1 Site SDI-17,900 Description

Site SDI-17,900 is located in the central portion of the project area along the eastern property boundary (Figure 2.0–4). The site is approximately 480 meters north of Olde Highway 80 and approximately 380 meters west of Oak Creek Road at an elevation of 330 to 335 feet AMSL. The site covers approximately 220 square meters (721.78 square feet). Vegetation at the site consists primarily of coastal sage scrub and mixed non-native grasses and weeds. Disturbances in the vicinity included scattered modern garbage, a dirt road, and some walking trails. A map of this resource is illustrated in Figure 6.2–1, and the setting is shown in Plates 6.2–1 and 6.2–2. The evaluation of the site consisted of recording the bedrock milling features and excavating five shovel test pits and a single test unit.

Site SDI-17,900 consists of three bedrock milling features, identified as BMFs A, B, and C. These features are located immediately above a drainage on a low-lying bedrock outcrop. Each of the bedrock milling features contains milling slicks of approximately the same size (Table 6.2–1). Bedrock Milling Feature A has two slicks, the first measures 16.0 by 23 by <0.1 centimeters, and the second slick measures 27 by 17 by <1 centimeters. Bedrock Milling Feature B contains one milling slick that measures 16 by 21 by <1 centimeters. The milling slicks on Bedrock Milling Features C measure 18 by 23 by <1 centimeters and 19 by 13 by <1 centimeters, respectively. The surface in between and surrounding these features was examined in detail for the presence of surface artifacts. No artifacts were observed, though a small amount of shallow, light-colored organic soil was observed between BMFs B and C. Photographs and drawings of all the bedrock milling features are presented in Plates 6.2–3 to 6.2–5 and Figures 6.2–2 to 6.2–4.

Subsurface Excavation

The potential for subsurface archaeological deposits at Site SDI-17,900 was investigated by excavating a series of five shovel test pits (STPs) and a single one-meter-square test unit. Bedrock, boulders, and dense vegetation confined the placements of the shovel tests; the majority was placed along the accessible southeastern perimeter of the bedrock milling features. A single shovel test (STP 2) was placed in the area between BMF A and BMF C where dark organic soil was observed. All of these tests were excavated in decimeter levels to a culturally sterile level unless solid rock was encountered (Table 6.2–2). Two STPs were located in areas where bedrock was not immediately encountered and, therefore, were excavated to a greater depth to ensure the absence of a cultural deposit. The test unit was placed in an exposed area between the shovel test pits and the BMFs. Excavation of the test unit extended to a depth of 10 centimeters, where solid rock was encountered; no artifacts were recovered and no subsurface deposits were identified at Site SDI-17,900. No additional test units were completed due to the

lack of surface artifacts and the lack of subsurface recovery. The locations of the STPs and the test unit are presented in Figure 6.2–1, and a Test Unit profile is provided in Figure 6.2–5.

6.2.2 Discussion and Summary

The bedrock milling features representing Site SDI-17,900 indicate that the site was occasionally used to process resources, primarily plants. Although no temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered, the presence of bedrock milling suggests a Late Prehistoric assignment for the site. No surface artifacts were identified, and the testing of Site SDI-17,900 indicates that the site lacks a subsurface cultural deposit. All bedrock milling features were photographed, drawn, and mapped. The site is considered significant in accordance with the criteria listed in CEQA, Section 15064.5, and the County's guidelines because it has the potential to yield information. However, the recordation of information and curation of artifacts have exhausted all research potential associated with this site. Recommendations for Site SDI-17,900 are discussed in Section 7.0.

Figure 6.2–1

Excavation Location Map, Site SDI-17,900

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

Plate 6.2–1: Overview of Site SDI-17,900, looking east.

Plate 6.2–2: Overview of Site SDI-17,900, looking south.

Plate 6.2–3: View of BMF A, Site SDI-17,900, facing north.

Plate 6.2–4: View of BMF B, Site SDI-17,900, facing west.

Plate 6.2–5: View of BMF C, Site SDI-17,900, facing north.

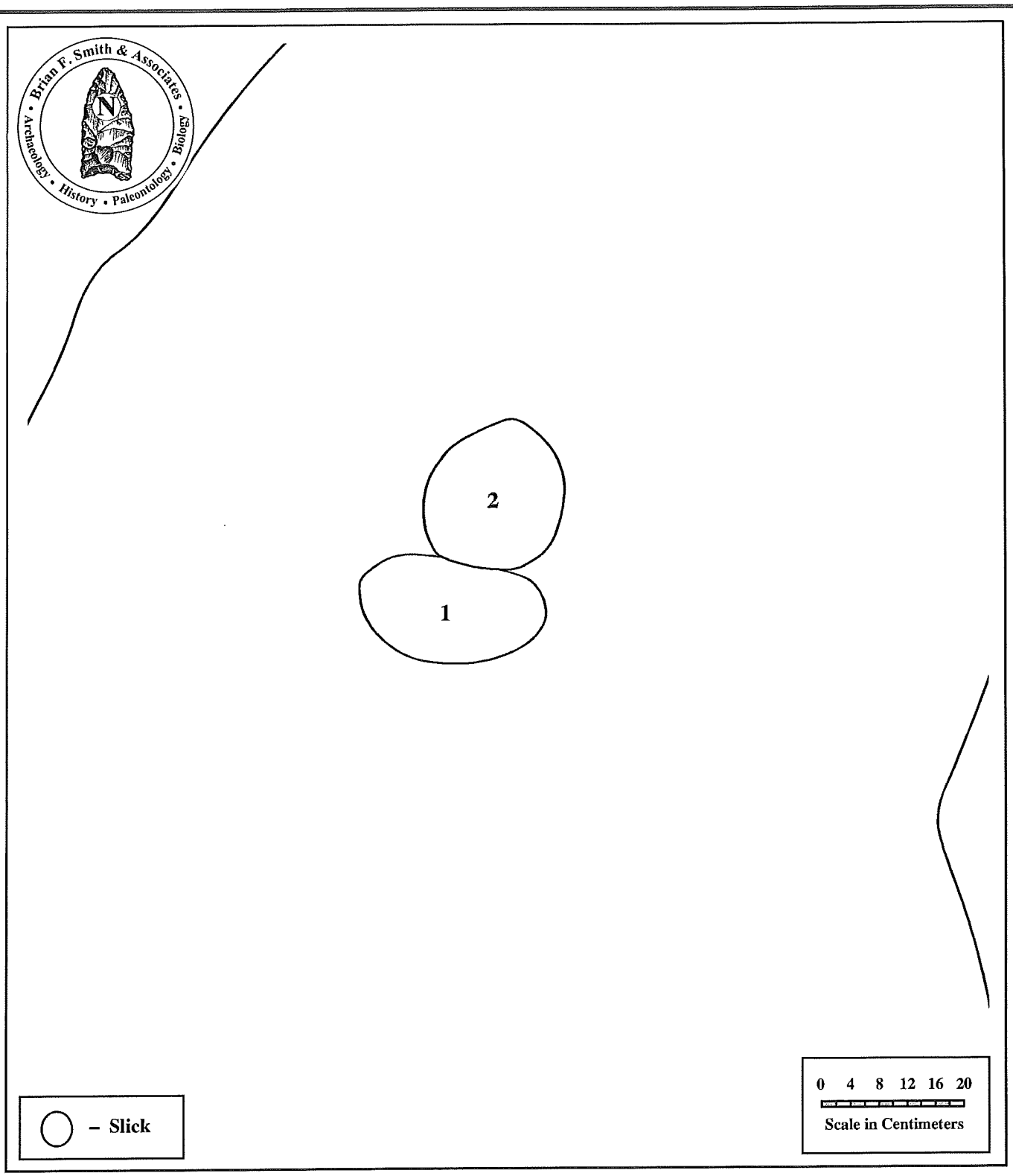


Figure 6.2–2
Bedrock Milling Feature A
Site SDI-17,900
The Oakmont II Project

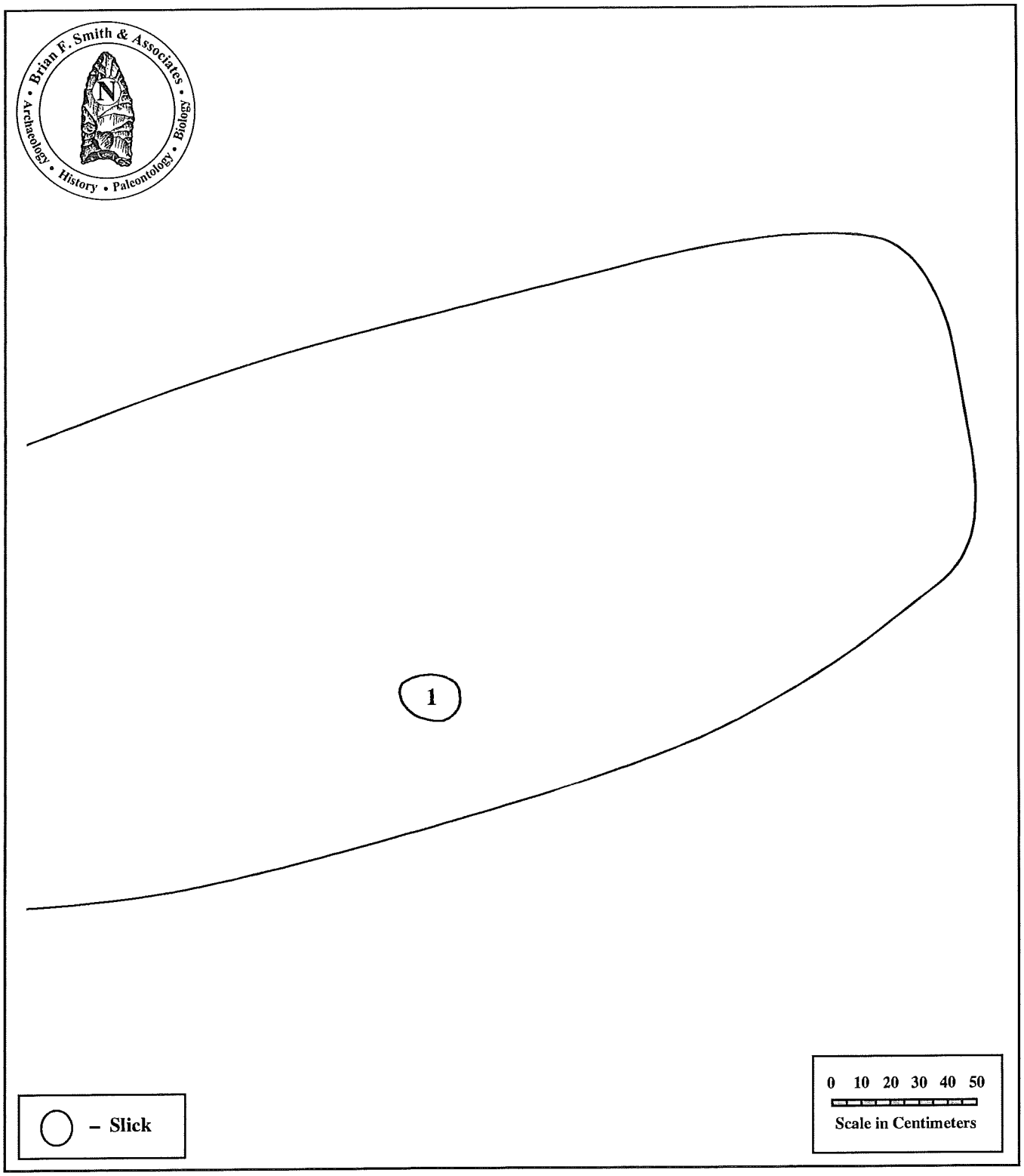


Figure 6.2–3
Bedrock Milling Feature B
Site SDI-17,900
The Oakmont II Project

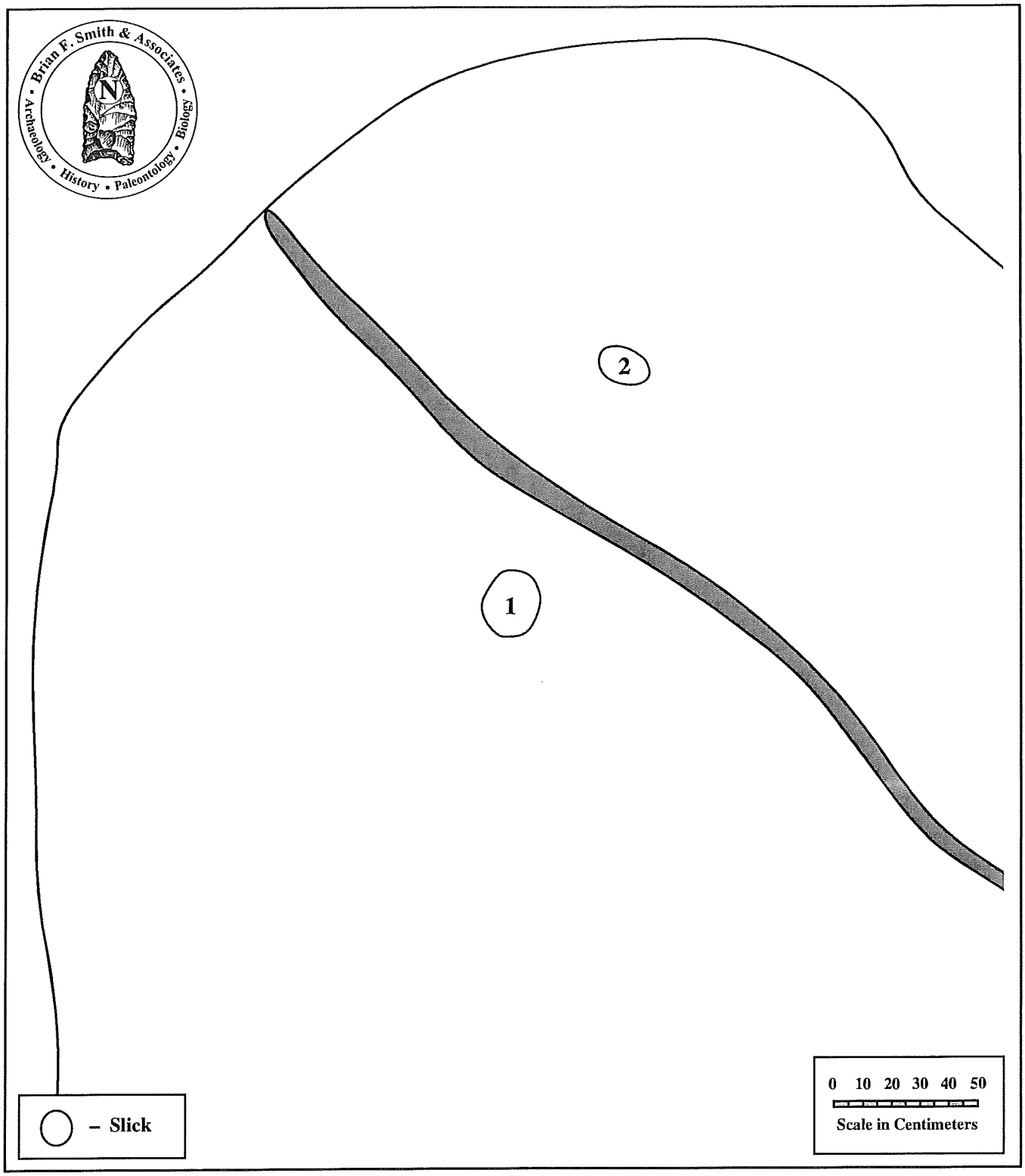


Figure 6.2–4
Bedrock Milling Feature C
Site SDI-17,900
The Oakmont II Project

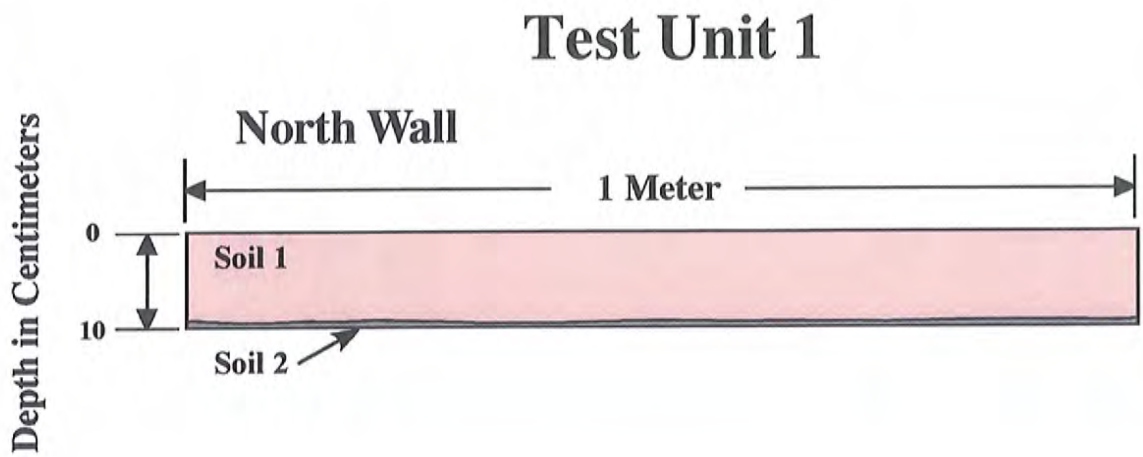


Figure 6.2–5
North Wall Profile of Test Unit 1
Site SDI-17,900
The Oakmont II Project

TABLE 6.2–1
Bedrock Milling Feature Data
Site SDI-17,900

Feature	Surface	Type	Dimensions
A	1	Slick	16 x 23 x <1 cm.
	2	Slick	27 x 17 x <1 cm.
B	1	Slick	16 x 21 x <1 cm.
C	1	Slick	18 x 23 x <1 cm.
	2	Slick	19 x 13 x <1 cm.

TABLE 6.2–2
Shovel Test Excavation Data
Site SDI-17,900

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
1	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
2	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
3	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	No Recovery
	30-40	No Recovery
	40-50	No Recovery
	50-60	No Recovery
4	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
5	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
	20-30	No Recovery
	30-40	No Recovery

TABLE 6.2–3
Test Unit Excavation Data
Site SDI-17,900

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
1	0-10	No Recovery

6.3 Field Investigations — Site SDI-17,901

6.3.1 Site SDI-17,901 Description

Site SDI-17,901 is located in the central portion of the project area approximately 350 meters west of Oak Creek Road, 350 meters north of Olde Highway 80 and is approximately 120 meters southeast of Site SDI-17,901 (Figure 2.0–4). The setting at Site SDI-17,901 is a bedrock outcrop on a gently slope at an elevation of 355 feet AMSL. The site encompasses approximately 58 square meters (624 square feet). Vegetation at the site consists primarily of non-native grasses and weeds. Site SDI-17,901 is located in an area planned for open space, and as a result testing was minimal, as the site will not be impacted by project development. A map of this resource is illustrated in Figure 6.3–1, and the setting is shown in Plate 6.3–1. The evaluation of the site consisted of recording the bedrock milling features and excavating two shovel test pits.

Site SDI-17,901 consists of two bedrock milling features (BMFs A and B; Table 6.3–1). During the field reconnaissance, a quartz flake was observed six meters east of BMF A, but was not relocated during the testing phase. BMF A is a large boulder containing two slicks measuring 28 x 17 x <1 and 14 x 22 x <1 centimeters, respectively. BMF B is a small boulder with a single slick, which measures 24 x 15 x <1. No other artifacts were observed on the surface or in the subsurface test excavations. Photographs and drawings of all the bedrock milling features are presented in Plates 6.3–2 and 6.3–3 and Figures 6.3–2 and 6.3–3.

Subsurface Excavation

The potential for subsurface archaeological deposits at Site SDI-17,901 was investigated by excavating two shovel test pits (STPs). Both of the tests were excavated in decimeter levels to 20 centimeters, where solid rock was encountered (Table 6.3–2). No subsurface deposits were identified at Site SDI-17,901. No additional shovel tests or test units were completed due to the lack of subsurface recovery and because Site SDI-17,901 in an area planned as open space and, therefore, will not be impacted by project development. The locations of the BMFs and the STPs are presented in Figure 6.3–1.

6.3.2 Discussion and Summary

The bedrock milling features representing Site SDI-17,901 indicate that the site was occasionally used to process resources, primarily plants. One surface artifact was identified during the field survey but not collected, as it was not relocated during the testing phase. No other surface artifacts were located, and the testing indicates that the site lacks a subsurface cultural deposit. Although no temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered, the presence of bedrock milling suggests a Late Prehistoric assignment for the site. All bedrock milling features were photographed, drawn, and mapped. The site is considered to have limited significance in accordance with the criteria listed in CEQA and the County's guidelines because the site yielded

information.

Figure 6.3–1
Excavation Location Map, Site SDI-17,901
(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

Plate 6.3–1: Overview of Site SDI-17,901, looking southeast.

Plate 6.3–2: View of BMF A, Site SDI-17,901, looking north.

Plate 6.3–3: View of BMF B, Site SDI-17,901, looking north.

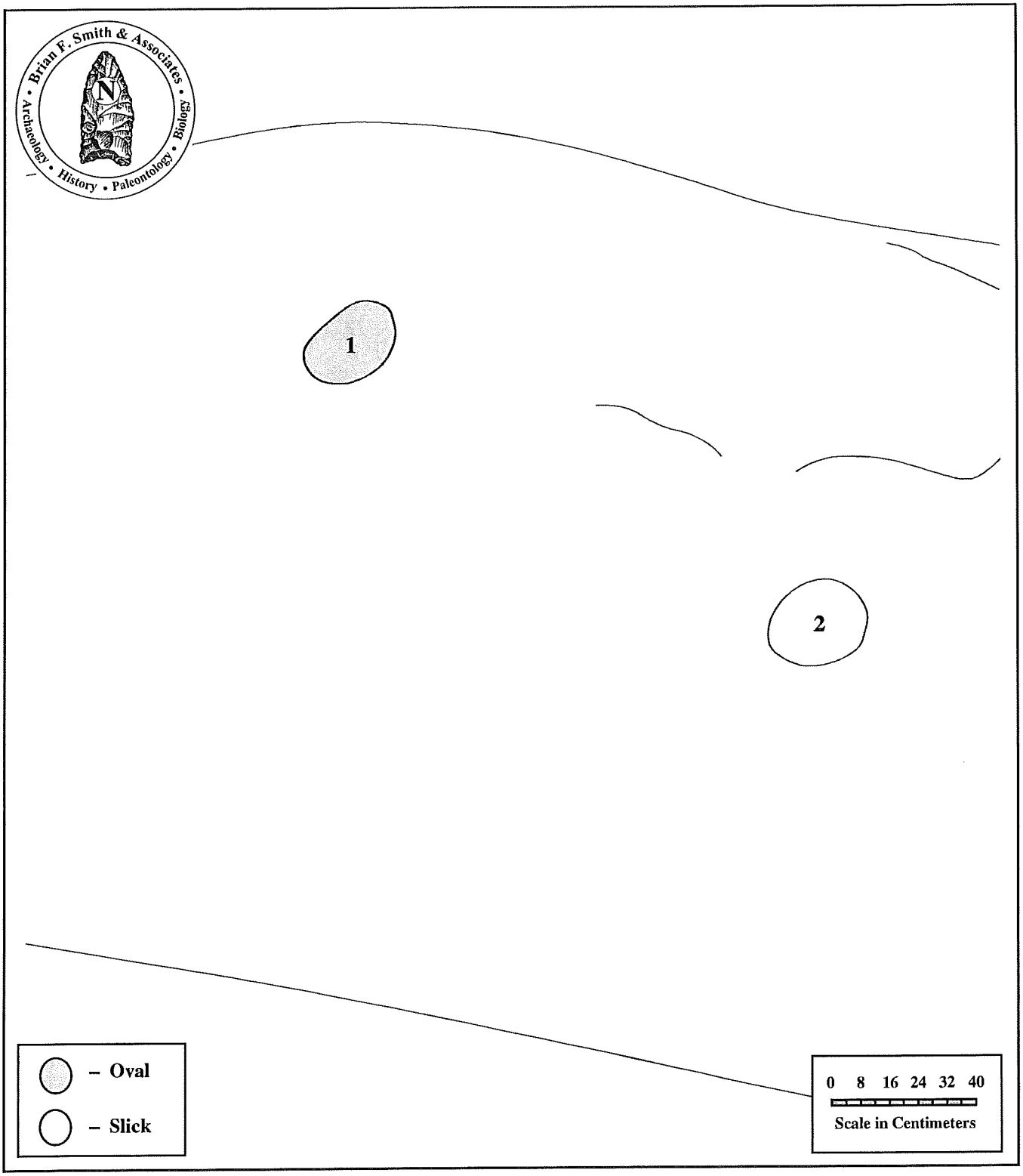


Figure 6.3–2
Bedrock Milling Feature A
Site SDI-17,901
The Oakmont II Project

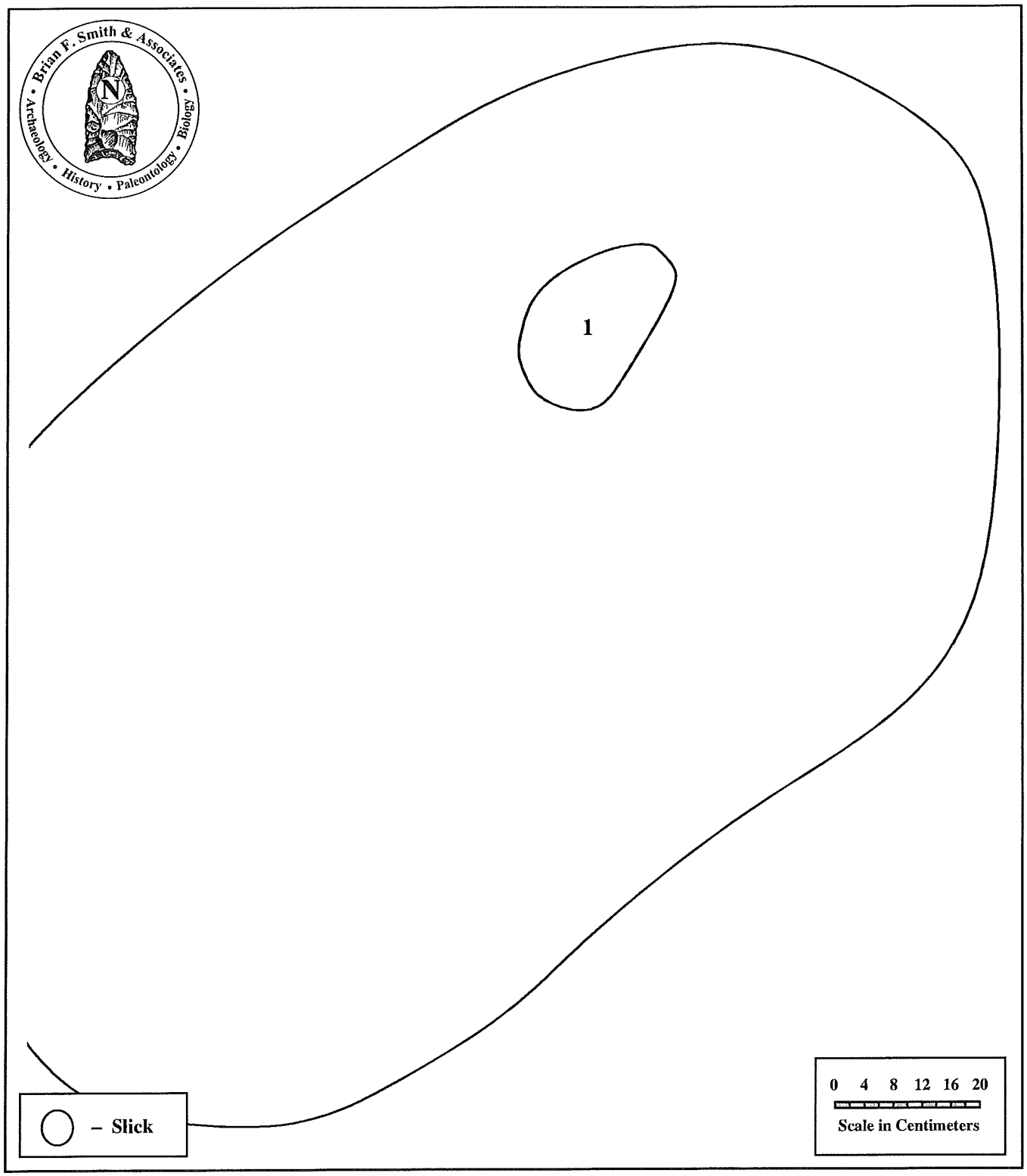


Figure 6.3–3
Bedrock Milling Feature B
Site SDI-17,901
The Oakmont II Project

TABLE 6.3–1
Bedrock Milling Feature Data
Site SDI-17,901

Feature	Surface	Type	Dimensions
A	1	Slick	28 x 17 x <1 cm.
	2	Slick	14.0 x 22.0 x <0.1 cm.
B	1	Slick	24.0 x 15.0 x <0.1 cm.

TABLE 6.3–2
Shovel Test Excavation Data
Site SDI-17,901

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
1	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery
2	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery

6.4 Field Investigations — Site SDI-17,902

6.4.1 Site SDI-17,902 Description

Site SDI-17,902 is located on the southwest side of Mt. Flinn Springs in the southwestern portion of the project area (Figure 2.0–4). The site lies at an elevation of 300 feet AMSL on a moderately steep slope approximately 75 meters north of Olde Highway 80 and Interstate 8. Vegetation at the site is very dense and consists of coastal sage scrub. The site encompasses approximately five square meters (16 square feet). Site SDI-17,902 is located in an area planned for an open space easement and therefore will not be impacted. As a result, testing was minimal at the site. A map of this resource is illustrated in Figure 6.1–1, and the setting is shown in Plate 6.4–1. The evaluation of the site consisted of recording the bedrock milling feature and excavating a single shovel test pit.

The bedrock milling feature (BMF A) at Site SDI-17,902 is located on a large bedrock outcrop and contains two milling slicks, which measure 26 x 20 x <1 centimeters and 23 x 15 x <1 centimeters, respectively (Table 6.4–1). Many of the exposed bedrock boulders at the site are extensively exfoliated, suggesting that more milling features may have been present but are now unidentifiable. The area surrounding the bedrock milling feature was thoroughly inspected; however, no surface artifacts were observed. Additionally, the moderately steep topography at the site lessened the likelihood for artifacts to remain in situ. A photograph of the feature is presented in Plate 6.4–2 and a drawing is presented in Figure 6.4–2.

Subsurface Excavation

The potential for subsurface archaeological deposits at Site SDI-17,902 was investigated by excavating a single shovel test pit. The STP was excavated in decimeter levels to 20 centimeters, where solid rock was encountered (Table 6.4–2). No subsurface deposit was identified at Site SDI-17,902. The locations of the BMF and the STP are presented in Figure 6.4–1.

6.4.2 Discussion and Summary

The bedrock milling feature representing Site SDI-17,902 indicates that the site was occasionally used to process resources, primarily plants. No surface artifacts were identified, and the moderately steep topography at the site lessened the likelihood of artifacts remaining in situ. The testing of Site SDI-17,902 indicates that the site lacks a subsurface cultural deposit. Although no temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered, a Late Prehistoric assignment is suggested by the presence of bedrock milling. The bedrock milling feature was photographed, drawn, and mapped. The site is considered to have limited significance in accordance with the criteria listed in CEQA, Section 15064.5, and the County's guidelines.

Figure 6.4–1

Excavation Location Map, Site SDI-17,902

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

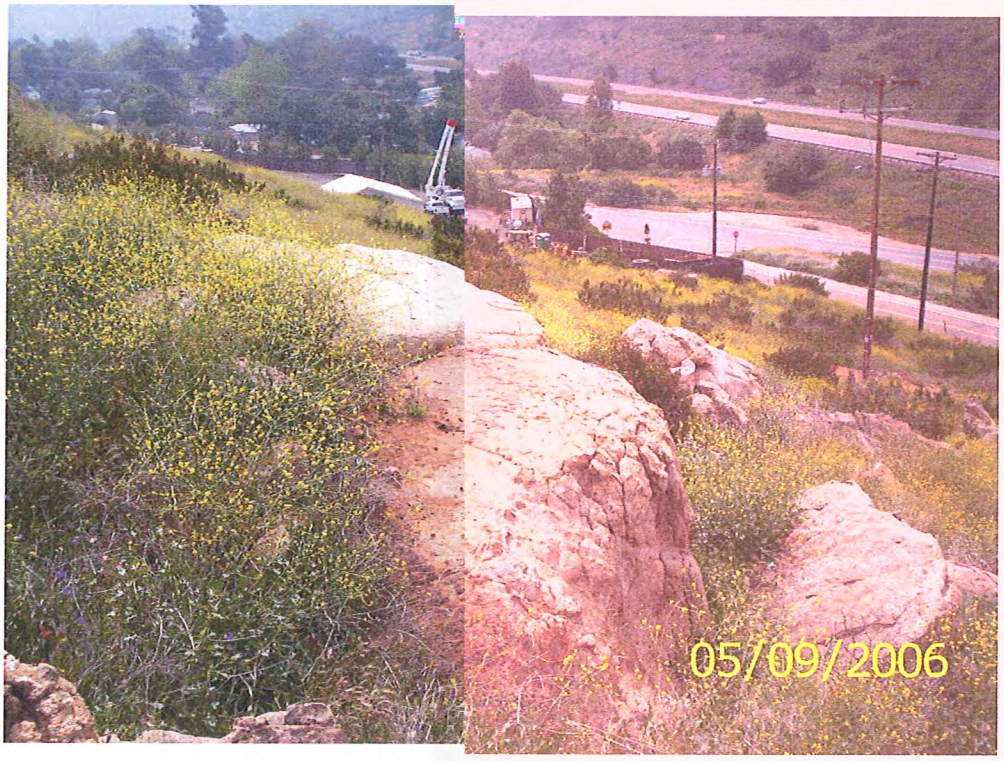


Plate 6.4–1: Overview of Site SDI-17,902, facing southeast.

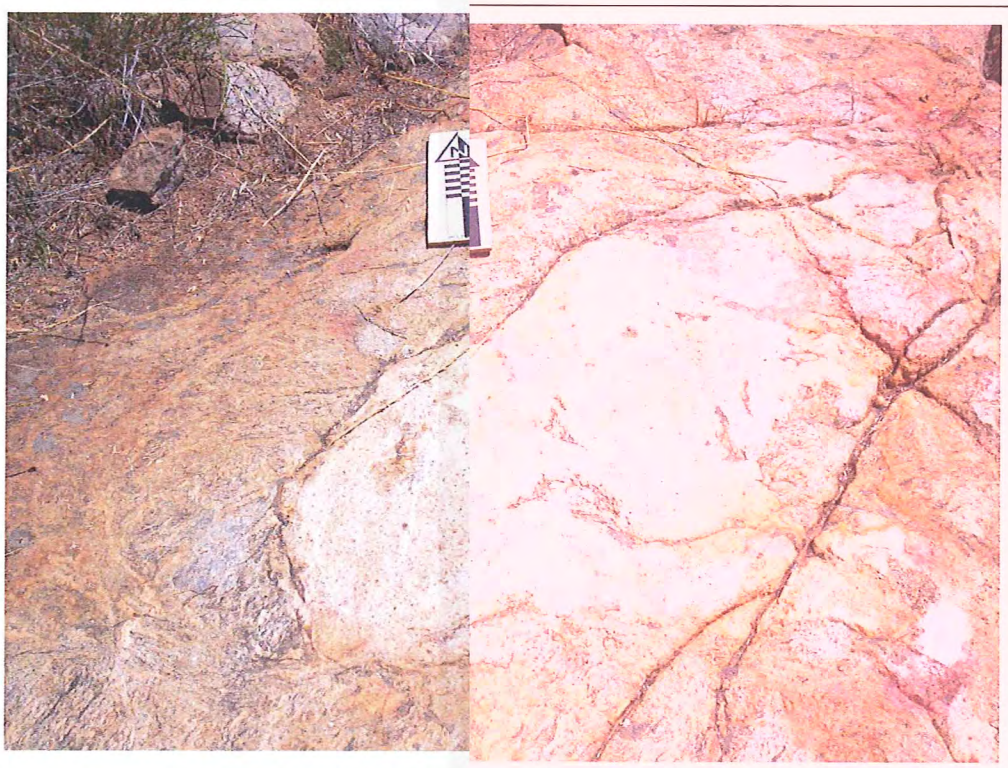


Plate 6.4–2: View of BMFA, Site SDI-17,902, facing north.

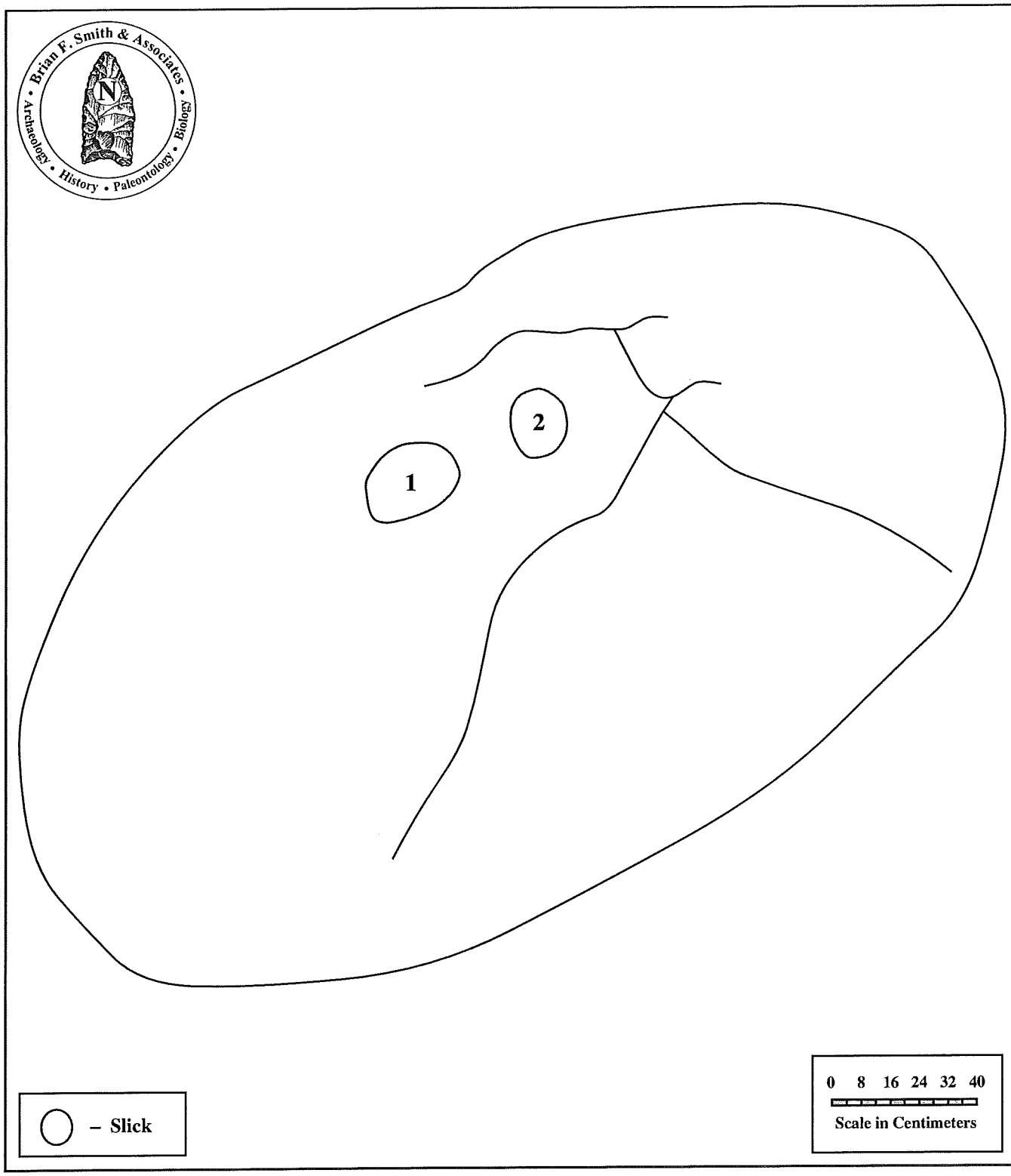


Figure 6.4–2
Bedrock Milling Feature A
Site SDI-17,902
The Oakmont II Project

TABLE 6.4–1
Bedrock Milling Feature Data
Site SDI-17,902

Feature	Surface	Type	Dimensions
A	1	Slick	26 x 20 x <1 cm.
	2	Slick	23 x 15 x <1 cm.

TABLE 6.4–2
Shovel Test Excavation Data
Site SDI-17,902

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
1	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery

6.5 Field Investigations — Site SDI-17,903

6.5.1 Site SDI-17,903 Description

Site SDI-17,903 is an isolated bedrock milling feature located in the southern portion of the project area (Figure 2.0–4). The site lies at an elevation of 307 feet AMSL in the southwestern portion of the saddle between Mt. Flinn Springs and a large knoll overlooking Olde Highway 80. Vegetation at the site consists of non-native grasses and weeds. The site encompasses approximately five square meters (16 square feet). Site SDI-17,903 is located in an area planned as an open space easement and will not be impacted by project development; therefore, testing was minimal. A map of this resource is illustrated in Figure 6.5–1, and the setting is shown in Plate 6.5–1. The evaluation of the site consisted of recording the bedrock milling feature and excavating a single shovel test pit.

The bedrock milling feature (BMF A) at Site SDI-17,903 is located on a small, low-lying boulder and contains two milling surfaces (Table 6.5–1). The milling surfaces includes a slick that measures 25 x 14 x 0.2 centimeters and a slick that measures 14.0 x 18.0 x <0.1 centimeters. The area surrounding the bedrock milling feature was thoroughly inspected; however, no surface artifacts were observed. A photograph of the feature is presented in Plate 6.5–2 and a drawing is presented in Figure 6.5–2.

Subsurface Excavation

The potential for subsurface archaeological deposits at Site SDI-17,903 was investigated by excavating a single shovel test pit in an accessible area adjacent to the bedrock milling feature. The STP was excavated in decimeter levels to 20 centimeters, where solid rock was encountered (Table 6.5–2). No subsurface deposit was identified at Site SDI-17,903. The locations of the BMF and the STP are presented in Figure 6.5–1.

6.5.2 Discussion and Summary

The isolated bedrock milling feature representing Site SDI-17,903 indicates that the site was occasionally used to process resources, primarily plants. No surface artifacts were identified, and the testing of Site SDI-17,903 indicates that the site lacks a subsurface cultural deposit. Although no temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered, a Late Prehistoric assignment is suggested by the presence of bedrock milling. The bedrock milling feature was photographed, drawn, and mapped. The site is considered to have limited significance in accordance with the criteria listed in CEQA, Section 15064.5, and the County's guidelines.

Figure 6.5–1

Excavation Location Map, Site SDI-17,903

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

Plate 6.5–1: Overview of Site SDI-17,903, facing southeast.

Plate 6.5–2: View of BMF A, Site SDI-17,903, facing north.

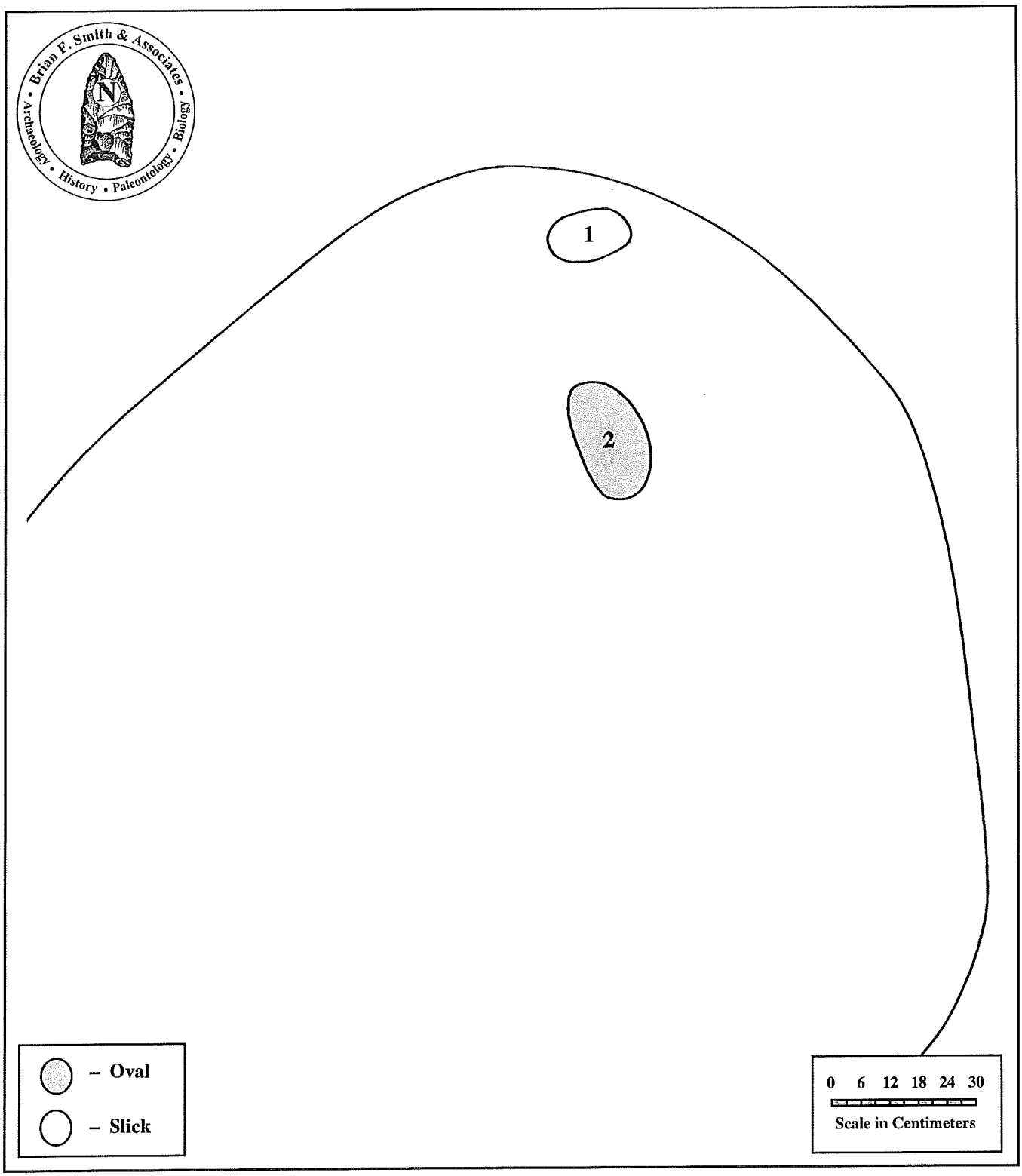


Figure 6.5–2
Bedrock Milling Feature A
Site SDI-17,903
The Oakmont II Project

TABLE 6.5–1
Bedrock Milling Feature Data
Site SDI-17,903

Feature	Surface	Type	Dimensions
A	1	Slick	14 x 18 x <1 cm.
	2	Slick	25 x 14 x <1 cm.

TABLE 6.5–2
Shovel Test Excavation Data
Site SDI-17,903

Shovel Test	Depth	Recovery
1	0-10	No Recovery
	10-20	No Recovery

7.0 DISCUSSION/MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological study for the Oakmont II Project consisted of archaeological records searches, an intensive archaeological survey of the entire property, and a testing and evaluation program for five prehistoric sites. The methods used during this investigation were in accordance with CEQA, Section 15064.5 and the County of San Diego archaeological guidelines.

7.1 CEQA and County of San Diego RPO Guidelines

The cultural resources tested within the project were evaluated according to the criteria presented in Section 15064.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, and the County of San Diego guidelines (Resource Protection Ordinance). The characteristic that was consistently cited for the sites evaluated as significant following the testing program was the potential of the sites to yield information that would be applicable to numerous regionally important research topics. None of the prehistoric sites that were tested contained the wide spectrum of feature types, ceremonial areas, cultural deposits, or elements of the material culture that would represent a focused occupation by sizeable populations for many centuries. However, all of the sites did provide some information relevant to the prehistoric occupation of the area.

The evaluation criteria utilized for the project from Section 15064.5 is summarized below:

Determining the Significance of Impacts to Archaeological and Historical Resources

As part of the evaluation of resources at the Oakmont II Project, the term "historical resources" as described in CEQA shall include the following:

(1) A resource listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (pub. Res. Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4850 et seq.).

(2) A resource included in the local register of historical resources, as defined in section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant.

(3) Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific,

economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California may be considered to be an historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) including the following:

a. Is associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
b. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
c. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
d. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

(4) The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, not included in a local register of historical resources (pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code), or identified in an historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resource as defined in Public Resources Code sections 5020.1(i) or 5024.1.

In addition, CEQA also states that impacts to a local community, ethnic, or social group must also be considered. If a resource is determined to be not important under these criteria, it is assumed that the resource cannot be significantly impacted and, therefore, mitigating measures are not warranted. However, any resources found to be important according to these criteria must be assessed for project-related actions that could directly or indirectly impact such resources. Impacts that adversely affect important resources are considered to be significant impacts for which mitigating measures are warranted.

Resources within the project were also evaluated against the listing information included in the County of San Diego's Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO). Sites that are considered to be regionally important may be eligible for RPO status. The criteria for RPO-eligible sites is as follows:

Significant prehistoric or historic sites: Location of past intense human occupation where buried deposits can provide information regarding important scientific research questions about prehistoric or historic activities that have scientific, religious, other ethnic value of local, regional, state, or federal importance. Such locations shall include, but not be limited to: any prehistoric or historic district, site, interrelated collection of features or

artifacts, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or the State Landmark Register; or included or eligible for inclusion, but not previously rejected, for the San Diego County Historical Site Board List; any area of past human occupation located on public or private land where important prehistoric or historic activities and/or events occurred; and any location of past or current sacred religious or ceremonial observances protected under Public Law 95-341, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act or Public Resources Code Section 5097.9, such as burial(s), pictographs, petroglyphs, solstice observatory sites, sacred shrines, religious ground figures, and natural rocks or places which are of ritual, ceremonial, or sacred value to any prehistoric or historic ethnic group.

7.2 Recommendations

The archaeological survey of the proposed project area resulted in the relocation of one previously recorded prehistoric site (SDI-5079), and the identification of four previously unrecorded prehistoric sites (SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903). All five of these resources were subjected to a testing and significance evaluation program. Sites SDI-17,900 and SDI-17,901 are located in the northeastern portion of the project area, Site SDI-5079 is situated in the central portion of the project area, SDI-17,902 is in the southwestern portion, and SDI-17,903 is in the southern portion of the project area (Figure 7.0–1). The locations of Sites SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, SDI-17,903 correspond to areas planned as open space easements and, therefore, were subjected to a minimal testing program consisting of one to two shovel test pits. Sites SDI-5079 and SDI-17,900 are located in areas planned for development and were subjected to a thorough testing program that consisted of excavating a series of shovel test pits and one to two test units. Four of the sites (SDI-17,900, SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, SDI-17,903) are interpreted as small, limited-use resource processing areas that were utilized during the Late Prehistoric Period. The remaining site, Site SDI-5079, exhibits characteristics of a Late Prehistoric seasonal food-processing site. The testing and evaluation program of the five sites are considered to have limited significance under CEQA Section 15064.5 and the County's guidelines dated prior to June 2006. The locations of the five cultural resources within The Oakmont II Project proposed development plan are shown on Figure 7.0–1.

Excavations conducted at Sites SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, SDI-17,903 were negative for cultural material; therefore, the detailed recording of all bedrock milling features at each site has exhausted their research potential. Though Sites SDI-17,901, SDI-17,902, and SDI-17,903 are located in areas that will be designated open space, in order to prevent access, temporary fencing is recommended during any grading activities within 100 feet of these sites.

Sites SDI-5079 and SDI-17,900 are located in areas planned for development. At Site SDI-17,900, the subsurface excavations were negative for cultural material. Therefore, the

testing program, which included detailed recording of all bedrock milling features and excavating a series of five shovel test pits and a standard one-meter-square test unit has exhausted all research potential at Site SDI-17,900. Testing at SDI-5079 included mapping, photographing, and recording all bedrock milling features, conducting four surface scrapes, and excavating 15 shovel test pits and three one-meter-square test units. The testing demonstrated that Site SDI-5079 consists of bedrock milling, a sparse surface artifact scatter, and a minimal subsurface deposit extending to a maximum of 30 centimeters. Site forms have been submitted to SCIC to update Site SDI-5079 and all artifacts will be curated at the San Diego Archaeological Center. These mitigation measures have exhausted the research potential of Site SDI-5079.

The prehistoric sites within the current project area are located in an environment that would have offered many natural resources to its prehistoric inhabitants. The sites are located near Los Coches Creek and other seasonal drainages, therefore the area would have offered an environment of consistent food and water in prehistoric times, and is an ideal location for the procurement of a variety of plant and vertebrate animal resources. The extensive use of this area by Late Prehistoric peoples is represented by the number of bedrock milling sites identified within one mile of the current project area, including a significant occupation site, SDI-4068, which has produced over 60 milling surfaces including mortars, groundstone, pottery, fire-affected rock, midden, and a rock enclosure (Records Search, Appendix II). These sites probably represent small campsites and resource processing areas that were used by Late Prehistoric foragers on a seasonal basis in their annual settlement and subsistence cycle. Due to the frequency of use of the area evidenced by the abundance of milling sites within the project boundaries as well as the number of similar sites and a habitation site within a mile of the project, a high potential for prehistoric resources and deposits remains. Furthermore, the dense vegetation cover within the project boundaries may have concealed surface artifacts and additional bedrock milling features. Monitoring by a qualified archaeologist is therefore recommended for all ground altering activities at the Oakmont II Project.

7.3 County Requirements for Project Approval

Prior to approval of grading permits or improvement plans, or prior to the Recordation of the Final Map, whichever comes first, the applicant shall:

Provide evidence to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use that the cultural resource evaluation of The Oakmont II Project (TM5421/Log No. 05-14-003) entitled, "A Cultural Resource Study of the Oakmont II Project" prepared by Brian F. Smith dated July 11, 2006 including the Confidential Appendix has been submitted to the South Coastal Information

Center. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the South Coastal Information Center identifying that the cultural resource evaluation has been received.

Grading Monitoring

Prior to Approval of Grading of Improvement plans, the subdivider shall:

A. Implement a grading monitoring to mitigate potential impacts to undiscovered buried archaeological resources on the Oakmont II Tentative Map, TM5421/Log No. 05-14-003 to the satisfaction of the Planning Director. This program shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following actions:

   a. Provide evidence to the Department of Planning and Land Use that a County certified archaeologist has been contracted to implement a grading monitoring program to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use (DPLU). A letter from the Project Archaeologist shall be submitted to the Director of Planning and Land Use. The letter shall include the following guidelines:

      a. The consulting archaeologist shall contract with a Native American monitor to be involved with the grading monitoring program.

      b. The County certified archaeologist/historian and Native American Monitor shall attend the pre-grading meeting with the contractors to explain and coordinate the requirements of the monitoring program.

      c. The consulting archaeologist shall monitor all areas identified for development.

      d. An adequate number of monitors (archaeological/ historical/Native American) shall be present to ensure that all earth moving activities are observed and shall be on-site during all grading activities.

      e. During the original cutting of previously undisturbed deposits, the archaeological monitor(s) and Native American monitor(s) shall be

onsite full-time. Inspections will vary based on the rate of excavation, the materials excavated, and the presence and abundance of artifacts and features. The frequency and location of inspections will be determined by the Principal Investigator.

f. During the cutting of previously disturbed deposits, the archaeological monitor(s) and Native American monitor(s) shall be onsite as determined by the Principal Investigator of the excavations. Inspections will vary based on the rate of excavation, the materials excavated, and the presence and abundance of artifacts and features. The frequency and location of inspections will be determined by the Principal Investigator in consultation with the Native American monitor.

g. Isolates and clearly non-significant deposits will be minimally documented in the field and the monitored grading can proceed.

h. In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeologist shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operations in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The archaeologist shall contact the County Archaeologist at the time of discovery. The archaeologist, in consultation with the County staff archaeologist, shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. The County Archaeologist must concur with the evaluation before construction activities will be allowed to resume in the affected area. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the consulting archaeologist and approved by the County Archaeologist, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.

i. If any human bones are discovered, the Principal Investigator shall contact the County Coroner. In the event that the remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Most Likely Descendant, as identified by the Native American Heritage

Commission, shall be contacted in order to determine proper treatment and disposition of the remains.

j. Before construction activities are allowed to resume in the affected area, the artifacts shall be recovered and features recorded using professional archaeological methods. The Principal Investigator shall determine the amount of material to be recovered for an adequate artifact sample for analysis.

k. In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, all cultural material collected during the grading monitoring program shall be processed and curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

l. In the event that previously unidentified cultural resources are discovered, a report documenting the field and analysis results and interpreting the artifact and research data within the research context shall be completed and submitted to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use prior to the issuance of any building permits. The report will include Department of Parks and Recreation Primary and Archaeological Site forms.

m. In the event that no cultural resources are discovered, a brief letter to that effect shall be sent to the Director of Planning and Land Use by the consulting archaeologist that the grading monitoring activities have been completed.

B. Provide Evidence to the Director of Planning and Land Use that the following notes have been placed on the Grading Plan:

1. The County certified archaeologist/historian and Native American monitor shall attend the pre-construction meeting with the contractors to explain and coordinate the requirements of the monitoring program.

2. During the original cutting of previously undisturbed deposits, the archaeological monitor(s) and Native American monitor(s) shall be onsite full-time to perform full-time monitoring as determined by the Principal Investigator of the excavations. The frequency inspections will depend on the rate of excavation, the materials excavated, and the presence and abundance of artifacts and features.

3. During the cutting of previously disturbed deposits, the archaeological monitor(s) and Native American monitor(s) shall be onsite as determined by the Principal Investigator of the excavations. Inspections will vary based on the rate of excavation, the materials excavated, and the presence and abundance of artifacts and features. The frequency and location of inspections will be determined by the Principal Investigator in consultation with the Native American monitor.

4. In the event that previously unidentified potentially significant cultural resources are discovered, the archaeological monitor(s) shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt ground disturbance operation in the area of discovery to allow evaluation of potentially significant cultural resources. The Principal Investigator shall contact the County Archaeologist at the time of discovery. The Principal Investigator, in consultation with the County staff archaeologist, shall determine the significance of the discovered resources. The County Archaeologist must concur with the evaluation before constr5uction activities will be allowed to resume in the affected area. For significant cultural resources, a Research Design and Data Recovery Program to mitigate impacts shall be prepared by the consulting archaeologist and approved by the County Archaeologist, then carried out using professional archaeological methods.

5. The consulting archaeologist shall monitor all areas identified for development.

6. If any human bones are discovered, the Principal Investigator shall contact the County Coroner. In the event that the remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Most Likely Descendant, as identified by the Native American

Heritage Commission, shall be contacted in order to determine proper treatment and disposition of the remains.

7. Prior to rough grading inspection sign-off, provide evidence that the field grading monitoring activities have been completed to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the Project Archaeologist.

8. Prior to Final Grading Release, submit to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use, a final report that documents the results, analysis, and conclusions of all phases of the Archaeological Monitoring Program. The report shall also include the following:

    a. Department of Parks and Recreation Primary and Archaeological Site forms.
    b. Evidence that all cultural materials collected during the grading monitoring program has been curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other archaeologists/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence shall be in the form of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

In the event that no cultural resources area discovered, a brief letter to that effect shall be sent to the Director of Planning and Land Use by the consulting archaeologist that the grading monitoring activities have been completed.

Curation

Prior to approval of grading permits or improvement plans, or prior to the Recordation of the Final Map, whichever comes first, the applicant shall:

Provide evidence to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use that all archaeological materials recovered during the Brian F. Smith (2006) archaeological investigations of the property, including all significance testing as well as grading monitoring activities, have been curated at a San Diego facility that meets federal standards per 36 CFR Part 79, and therefore would be professionally curated and made available to other

archaeologist/researchers for further study. The collections and associated records shall be transferred, including title, to an appropriate curation facility within San Diego County, to be accompanied by payment of a letter from the curation facility identifying that archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid.

Temporary Fencing

Prior to approval of grading permits or improvement plans, or on the Final Map, whichever comes first, the applicant shall:

A. Prepare and implement a temporary fencing plan for the protection of archaeological sites(s) CA-SDI-17901, CA-SDI-17902, CA-17903 during any grading activities within one hundred feet (100') of archaeological sites CA-SDI-17901, CA-SDI-17902, or CA-SDI-17903, as shown on Figure 7.0–1 of the study entitled "A Cultural Resources Study of the Oakmont II Project" prepared by Brian F. Smith, dated July 11, 2006. The temporary fencing plan shall be prepared in consultation with a qualified archaeologist, and submitted to the Director of Planning and Land Use for approval. The fenced area shall include a buffer sufficient to protect the archaeological site. The fence shall be installed under the supervision of the qualified archaeologist prior to commencement of grading or brushing and be removed only after grading operations have been completed.

B. Provide Evidence to the Director of Planning and Land Use that the following notes have been placed on the Grading Plan:

1. In the event that construction activities are to take place within 100 feet of archaeological sites CA-SDI-17901, CA-SDI-17902, or CA-SDI-17903, the temporary fencing plan shall be implemented under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist.

Figure 7.0–1

Project Development Map with Cultural Resources

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

8.0 PERSONNEL

The archaeological assessment for the Oakmont II Project was directed by Brian F. Smith and conducted by field supervisor Richard Greene, Seth Rosenberg, Nora Collins, Ryan Carpenter, Brad Comeau, Andrew Hoge, Ryan Robinson, Matthew Smith, and Damien Tietjen. Laboratory analysis was conducted by Kent Smolik and Sara Moreno. Site forms were completed by Nora Collins. The text of this report was prepared by Alison Gonzalez and edited by Dylan Amerine and Brian F. Smith. The report graphics were prepared by Damien Tietjen and Clint Callahan. Amanda Erb was in charge of report production.

9.0 CERTIFICATION

The information provided in this document is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and has been compiled in accordance with the guidelines of the County of San Diego and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

July 11, 2006

Brian F. Smith
Principal Investigator

Date

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