

# Phased & Confused

A Ceramic Analysis of 11MS99 the Gehring Site

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# The American Bottom

- 175 Square Miles
- Floodplain between Alton, Illinois and Kaskaskia River
- Northern boarder is near confluence with the Missouri and Illinois Rivers.
- Consecutive Occupations from Archaic to Historic Times
- Best Known for Cahokia
  - Largest Prehistoric Site North of Mexico

Gehring



Cahokia



10000

# 11MS99

## “The Gehring Site”

- First discovered in 1963
  - Munson and Harn survey
- Excavated in the early 70’s
  - Dr. Sid Denny
- Mound Hunting in 1994
  - Maher
- SIUE Field Schools
  - 2009 – Dr. Holt
  - 2010/2011 – Dr. Vogel



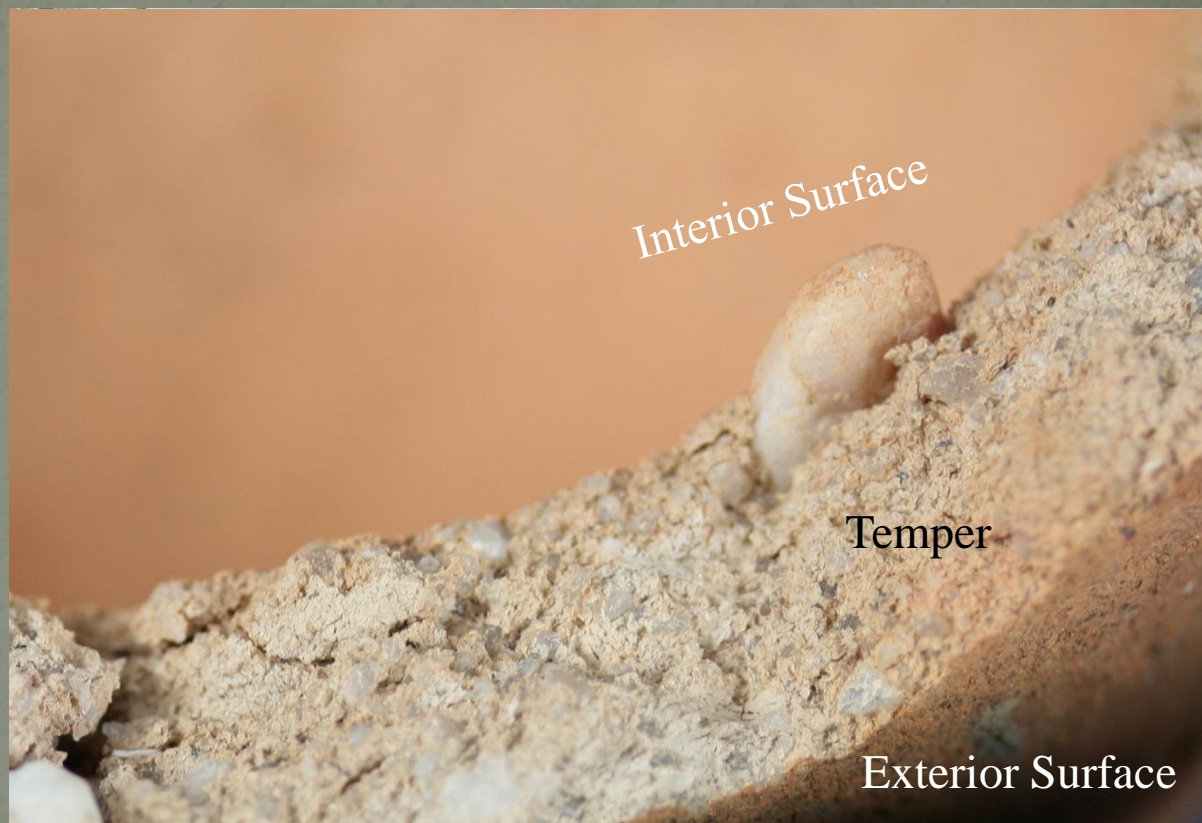
# Why Pottery?

- Frequent Style Change
- Specific to time period
- Specific to geography
- May indicate use patterns of site
- May indicate trade patterns



# Methods:

- Excavation
- Ceramic Analysis:
  - Surface Decoration
    - Exterior Surface
  - Temper
  - Wall Thickness
  - Rim Diameter



# Feature 171

- Woodland Pit Feature
- Thick Pottery
- Cordmarking
- Nodes
- Cement Hollow phase
  - 150BC to AD 1



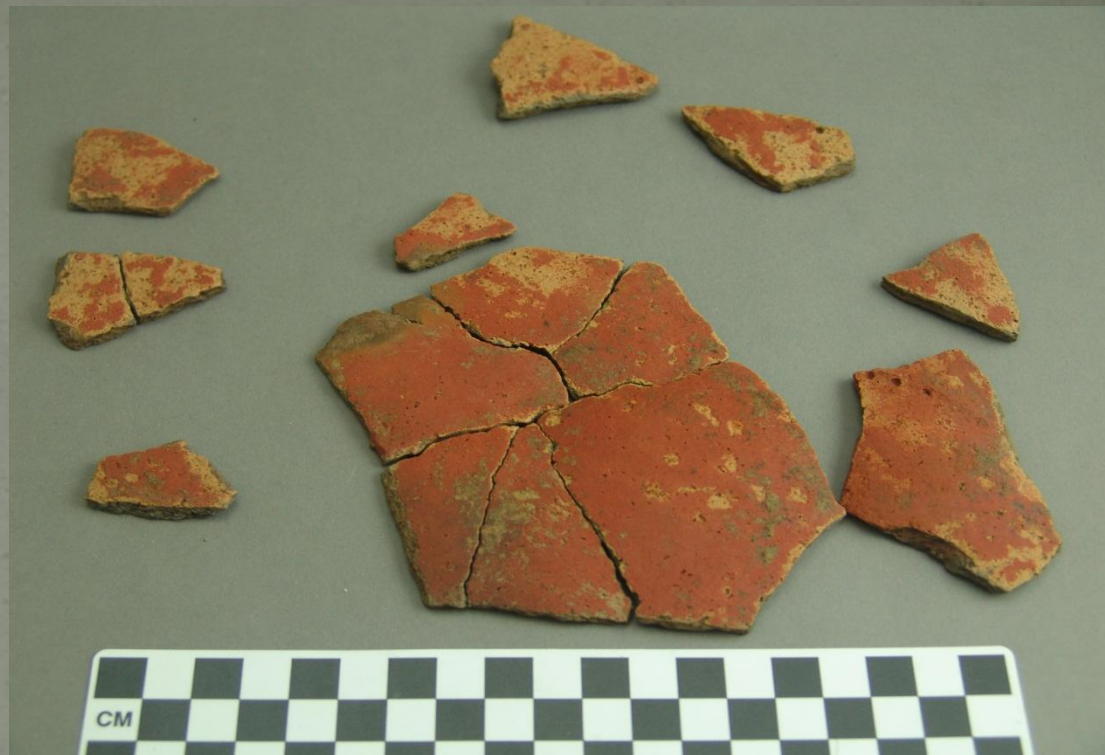
# Feature 182

- Mississippian Pit Feature
  - Looted!
- Thin Pottery
- Madison County Shale
  - Bluff Jars
- Effigy Head (Owl?)
- Edelhardt Phase
  - AD 950 - 1000



# Feature 161

- Mississippian House
- Shell Temper
- Red Slip Pottery
- Seed Jar
  - Punctates
- Lohmann Phase
  - AD 1000 – 1050



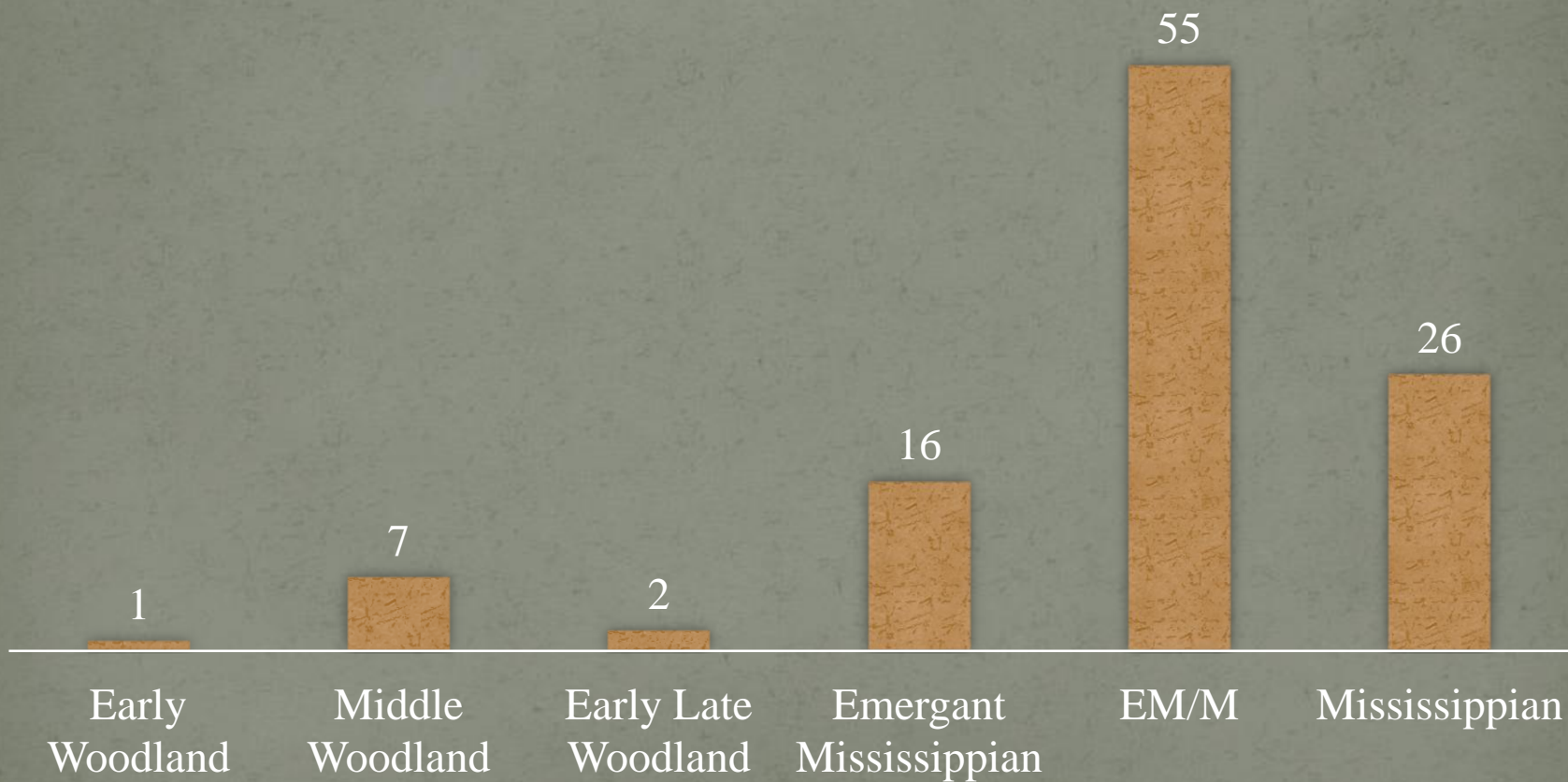
# Feature 189

- Undetermined Feature
- Small ceramic count
  - Only 49 body Sherds



# Results:

Number of Sherds Per Period



# Results:

## Number of Sherds Per Period



# Acknowledgements

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- Dr. Greg Vogel
- The Anthropology Department
- The 2011 Field School
- Kate Jamruk, Kelsey Wofford, and James Sanders

# Photo Credits

- These photos were taken by either:
  - Dr. Vogel and the camera he let us use during field school
  - Kelsey Wofford
  - Google Earth
  - <http://scnapr.info/pottery%20website/pottery%20basics/Analysis/Analysis%20Terms.htm>





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