

Jenrette Site Activity Sheet Answers

Features 78 and 96 are food-preparation pits. *Features 113 and 114* are smudge pits. *Features 71 and 77* are storage pits reused as trash pits. A more detailed consideration of each feature follows.

Feature 71 has a size and shape that suggest it had first been used as a storage pit. The hole is round and deep, with straight sides and a flat bottom. The soil and artifacts excavated from the pit had been discarded as village trash. (Artifacts: pottery sherds, chipped stone flakes, deer bones, glass trade beads, pipe.)

Feature 77 has straight side walls and a flat bottom. A large number of artifacts, including pottery fragments, animal bone, charcoal, and deer antler fragments, were found in this pit. Its size and shape suggest it was originally constructed as a storage pit, but later filled with trash. (Artifacts: deer antler, grinding stone, pottery sherds, deer bones.)

Feature 78 is a shallow basin containing two layers of fill. The bottom layer, which was put in first, had fired clay and ash left from the fires built to cook food. The top layer was dark organic soil that resulted from discarded bone and other food remains put there after the food was eaten. (Artifacts: fire-cracked rocks, pottery sherds, charcoal, deer bones.)

Feature 96 is a rounded basin containing rich dark brown soil with many animal bones, pottery fragments, charcoal, and mussel shell. The pit was used first to prepare food; then artifacts were thrown into it after feasting. (Artifacts: turtle shell, deer antler, deer bones, pottery sherds, mussel shells, charcoal.)

Feature 113 is a shallow basin located just inside the palisade line. Its size, location and shape, along with the presence of charcoal and burned corn cobs suggest that this was a smudge pit. (Artifacts: ash, charcoal, charred corn cobs.)

Feature 114 is a small pit located just outside of the palisade. Several corncob fragments and pieces of charcoal were found in the pit, suggesting it had been a smudge pit used to prepare and tan hides. (Artifacts: charred corn cobs, charcoal.)