ABSTRACT

The 1996 excavations at the Mississippi period Wickliffe Mounds (15BA4) provided an opportunity to compare a new dating technique, Oxidizable Carbon Ratio, to a well-documented ceramic and 14C sequence. Wickliffe Mounds chronology was defined in three periods: Early, A.D. 1100-1200; Middle, A.D. 1200-1250; and Late, A.D. 1250-1350. OCR samples from three stratified test units produced midden dates from A.D. 1104 to 1348, in sequence except where mixed soils (e.g. mound fill) incorporated earlier deposits. The OCR data prompted a minor revision in the inception date of the Middle Wickliffe period, and gave valuable perspectives on stratigraphic and other chronological analyses.