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TABLE 2
CORRELATION OF FOREIGN LITHICS, STEATITE, AND CERAMICS
FROM JAKETOWN PHASE SITES

	Site Name	Tenn. R.	U. Miss. & Ohio R.	S.E. Mo.	ST	FT	ALX
1	Savory (Sh518)	x	x	-	x	-	-
	Cloverdale (Bo573)	x	x	-	-	-	-
	Teoc Creek (Cr504)	x	x	-	x	x	-
	Hebe (Ws521)	x	x	-	-	-	-
2	Tackett (Qu567)	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Norman (Qu518)	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Swan Lake (Co647)	x	x	x	x	-	-
	Meredith (Co543)	x	x	x	x	-	-
	Bramlett (Co551)	x	x	x	-	-	-
	Jaketown (Hu505)	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Joe George (Qu577)	x	x	x	x	x	-
	Falls (Lf507)	-	x	x	x	x	x
	Neill (Lf500)	-	x	x	x	x	x
	Gamer (Co521)	x	x	x	-	-	-
3	Waller (Yz585)	x	x	x	x	-	-
	Asack (Su536)	-	-	x	-	x	x
	Goss (Co649)	-	-	x	-	x	-
	School Section (Co544)	-	-	x	-	-	-
	Lightline Lake (Lf504)	-	-	x	-	x	-
	Slate (Hu655)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Jacks (Ti510)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	W. E. Smith (Ti508)	-	-	-	-	-	x
	Barnes (Co542)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Page (Co583)	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Kinklock (Su526)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Henderson (Qu517)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dump Lake (Yz622)	-	-	-	-	x	x
	Blue Lake (Qu531)	-	-	-	-	-	x
	Murphey (Lf518)	-	-	-	-	x	x
	Milner (Yz515)	-	-	-	-	-	-

Key to Abbreviations: Tenn. R., Tennessee River; U. Miss. & Ohio R., Upper Mississippi and Ohio rivers; SE Mo., Southeast Missouri; ST, Steatite; FT, Fiber-tempered pottery; ALX, Alexander pottery

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Gibson's (1973) analysis of materials from the Poverty Point site led him to hypothesize shifts in raw materials reaching the site. At the outset, all source areas were used, but Ouachita Mountain and Tennessee River source areas were exploited most extensively. The Great Lakes region (copper) was subsequently added. Later, there was increasing emphasis on dark cherts from the Midwest and less emphasis on the Ouachitas. In the final stage, midwestern sources were still actively exploited, but use of the Tennessee River and Ouachitas source areas declined considerably.

The principal differences between the Jaketown and Poverty Point phases, in terms of resource area exploitation, seem to be that the Ouachitas were always important in the Yazoo Basin but declined in importance in the Maçon Ridge locality as the Poverty Point phase developed. Further, the Poverty Point phase remained active in the midwest source areas when these materials ceased to appear in the Yazoo Basin. The former difference would hold true regardless of how well the chronological sequences coincide, the latter is much more dependent on such coincidence. Abandonment of the Tennessee River source area by the Jaketown phase is shared only in degree by the Poverty Point phase, as the latter apparently remained somewhat active there to the end.

It is interesting to note that the complete shift of the Mississippi River into its present meander stage by 650 B.C. (Saucier 1981) may have coincided with the abandonment of the Tennessee River source areas by the Jaketown phase. That would suggest that the Yazoo Basin had direct access to those areas prior to that shift, but that the Poverty Point phase was no longer, if ever, dependent on the Yazoo Basin for a link to the Tennessee River.

Gibson (1984:45) has noted the apparent continued preference for steatite vessels when the occupants at the Poverty Point site had obvious knowledge of ceramic vessels. Wheeler and Alexander sherds are not reported from any of the sites surrounding Poverty Point (Webb 1982), so it appears clear that the Poverty Point population around the type site were willing to bear the cost of obtaining steatite to fashion their vessels. The apparent loss of a direct water route link to the steatite source area may have escalated the

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cost of obtaining stone vessels to a prohibitive level and could account for the more widespread acceptance of ceramic vessels in the Yazoo Basin.

If the Yazoo Basin occupants could not or would not pay the price, either in effort or exchange value, of obtaining materials from the Tennessee River, Upper Mississippi and Ohio basins, and southeast Missouri source areas, they continued to traffic in items from the Ouachitas. Presumably, the river shift had no effect on the route to the west. The appearance of Alexander ceramics in the Yazoo Basin and in the Tombigbee River Valley suggests an overland route to the east lay open as well.

Although the seriation may well reflect temporal differences in utilization of source areas, the effects on site assemblages of functional or hierarchical differentiation may be a fruitful avenue for future research.

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