

and fall, although it should be noted that only a tiny portion of the site has been investigated to date.

A number of early mound sites also have been found in Florida, where both earth and shell were commonly used as construction material (Russo 1994b, 1996b; see Fig. 7). At the Horr's Island site on the southwest Florida coast, for example, a complex arrangement of mounds was constructed between 4600 and 5000 cal. B.P. (Fig. 7). Analysis of

subsistence remains indicates that this site was occupied year round, the earliest evidence for true sedentism in the region. Apparently, the abundant local marine resources allowed this sedentary lifestyle. Other early mounds dating to between ca. 5500 and 4000 cal. B.P. have been found in northeast Florida at Tomoka (Piatak 1994) and Tick Island (Aten 1999; Russo 1994b:106–108), in the lower Missouri River valley at sites of the Nebo Hill culture, and at Helton and Titterington phase

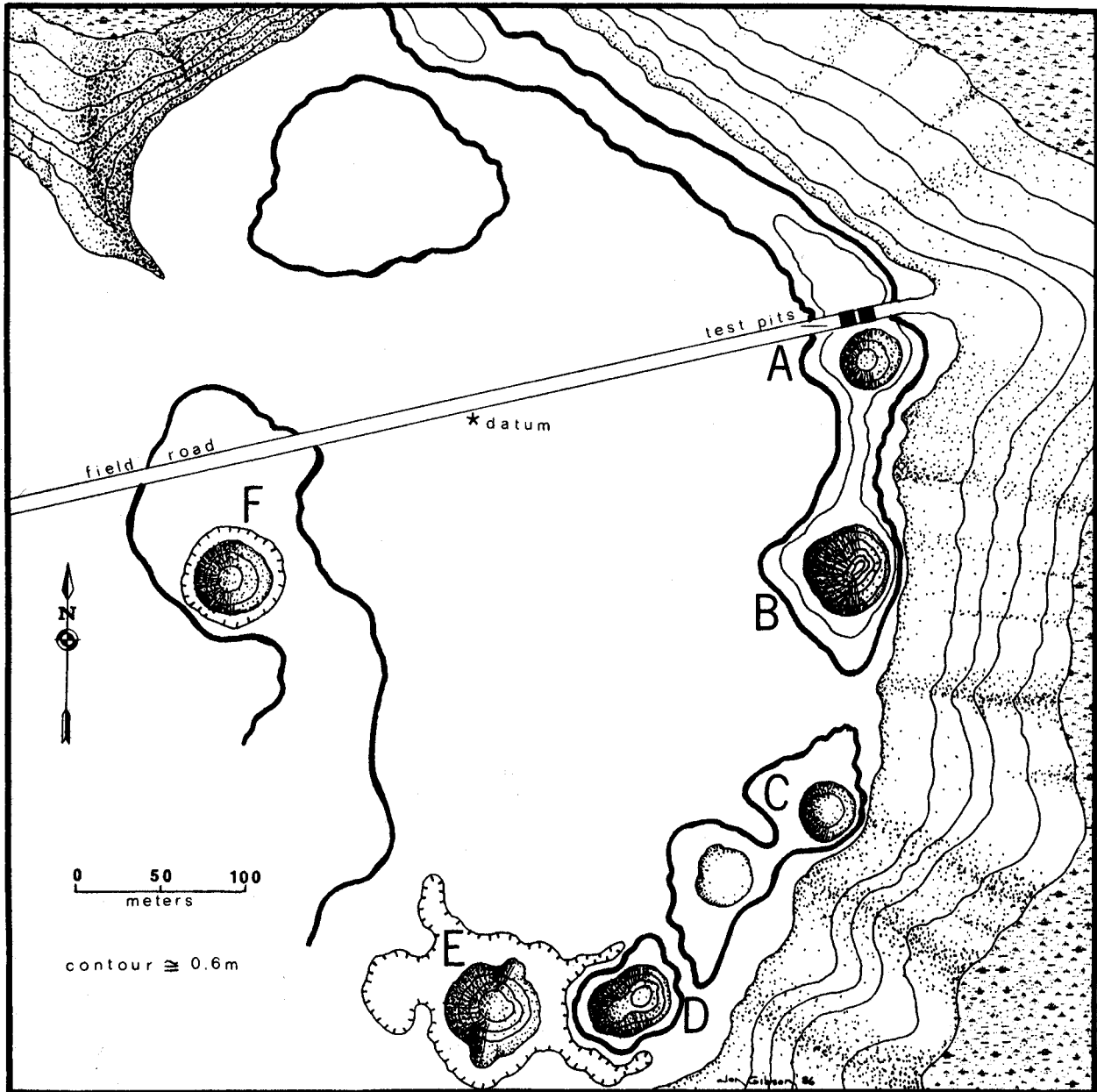


Fig. 3. The Caney Mounds, Louisiana (drawn by Jon Gibson, adopted from Gibson 1994:173, courtesy *Southeastern Archaeology*).