

## **Layer 1 (bottom layer)**

### **Stratigraphy Card**

#### **Bone Fragments**

Native Americans found some of the large, heavy animal bones valuable for making tools, but not the vast majority of bones from wild game. Often, especially in times when food was scarce, bones were broken to remove the marrow inside them and then boiled to extract the grease. After butchering an animal and removing the meat, Native Americans processed the remaining bones for their nutritional value. In archeological sites this process is evident from the quantities of battered and crushed bone fragments found.

From the earliest known human habitation in Kansas, around 10,000 B.C., people hunted for food. Hunting cultures produced remains similar to these during any period in time. After European-Americans hunted the bison almost to extinction, around 1875, Native Americans could no longer depend on hunting for their main source of food. As this traditional food source disappeared so too did the quantities of bone fragments resulting from it.

