Supplemental Text 2. Chi-square comparison of site occupation and mound construction variables across five river basins.

To test for intra-regional variation in temporal patterns of mound site occupation and mound construction, we compared the frequency of sites having one single phase-length occupation or mound construction episode with the frequency of sites having multi-phase-length occupations or mound construction episodes and with the frequency of sites having phase-length gaps between occupations or mound construction episodes in five river basins: the Upper Tennessee basin, the Middle Tennessee basin, the Middle Cumberland basin, the Black Warrior River basin, and the Lower Yazoo basin. Site samples were small and in many cases there was no information available for a particular variable in a basin. Of 16 chi-square tests comparing paired site occupation variables, only one -- comparing the number of sites in the Black Warrior River basin and the Lower Yazoo Basin with one single phase-length occupation and the number of sites having multi-phase-length occupations -- was significant at the .05 level (chi-square= 4.8909, p-value= .026999, p>.05). In this case, the larger than expected number of sites in the Black Warrior River basin with multi-phase-length occupations is probably due to the refined chronology available for dating sites in the Moundville polity. The available evidence suggests that there is a high degree of uniformity across the ALMSTN region among the mound site occupation variables being considered in this paper. There is less evidence for uniformity among mound construction variables. Chi-square tests could be run on only four comparisons of mound construction variables due to empty cells, but the results in all tests were not significant at the p <.05 level.