Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(741)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. PH 0.16m deep. Brown sandy soil with closely packed IF.	
(746)	PHASE pre-5/5 645. PH 0.20m deep. Brown soil.	
750	PHASE pre-5/5 Orange stony surface—weathered natural or floor.	
805	PHASE pre-5? (806,807). PH 0.22m deep. Grey brown soil, IF.	
(806)	PHASE pre-5? 805. PH 0.29m deep. Grey brown sandy silt, IF.	
(807)	PHASE pre-5? 805. PH 0.29m deep. Grey brown sandy silt, IF.	
808	PHASE pre-5? Orange grey silty sand, IF. Weathered natural.	
841	PHASE pre-5/5 ?PH 0.10m deep. Green brown soil.	
842	PHASE pre-5/5 ?PH 0.16m deep. Green brown soil, IF.	
(843)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. ??PH 0.20m deep. Light green brown soil.	
(844)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. PH 0.20m deep. Post pipe—green brown loose soil; packing—light green brown soil, IF.	
(845)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. ?SH 0.14m deep. Dark green brown soil.	
(846)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. ??PH 0.06m deep. Dark green brown soil.	
(847)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. ??PH 0.10m deep. Dark green brown soil.	
(848)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. ???PH 0.08m deep. Dark green brown soil, IF.	
(849)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. ?PH. Light brown soil, dark brown sand, IF.	
(850)	PHASE pre-5/5 640. PH 0.60m deep. Dark green brown soil.	
B36	PHASE 6Dii Robber of E wall, House 3.	

House 4

by J H Williams with R Hunter

Summary

The importance of House 4 lies in the interesting development of the stone house in the 13th to 15th centuries. A few Early/Middle Saxon features were located but formed no regular plan. Little evidence survived for the Late Saxon/early post-Conquest period although a timber building parallel to the street can be postulated. Sometime, probably in the 13th century, a substantial stone building was constructed with its gable end fronting onto the street (Phase 6A). Subsequently, probably at the time of the general rebuilding of the street *c.* 1410-20, the front was remodelled and extended eastward making the house L-shaped (Phase 6B). Phase 6C saw some internal modifications and probably the further extension of the house northward. Later in the 15th century (Phase 6D) the rear of the house became derelict with only the front portion continuing in use. Effectively after some 200 or more years the house had changed its axis through 90 degrees. Burnt debris at the front of the house argues for its destruction by fire *c.* 1500. After that there is little sign of activity on the site prior to Victorian times.

Phase 2?

Fig. 29

Only a limited area of this phase survived because of disturbance by later medieval and modern intrusions.

380, an orange brown sandy soil with ironstone fragments, lay above the bright orange weathered ironstone substratum and merged upwards into 363 which was similar in consistency to 380 but rather browner. Both levels probably represent buried soils formed naturally on top of the substratum but the nature of the soil (e.g. whether it was plough-soil) was unclear. 380 contained some 57 sherds almost exclusively Early/Middle Saxon, but the pottery from 363 was far more mixed and 363 probably belongs to Phase 4 or 5. A series of post-holes (493 etc., 503 etc.) and depression 502, of similar character to Phase 2 features elsewhere on site, were only recognised as cutting the substratum but should probably be seen as contemporary with 380. They are marked on Fig. 29 with a dashed outline. The post-holes formed no obvious pattern apart from the north-south line of 503 etc. This latter group, however, is somewhat less securely stratified than the other features.

Phases 4 and 5

Fig. 29

Post-holes and pits cutting 363 and overlaid by Phase 6A walls and soil level 117 can be securely assigned somewhere within Phase 4/5. It is also reasonable to include a number of pits lying within the area of the Phase 6A building and containing post-Conquest pottery. As, however, the Phase 6A floor levels were eroded away during Phase 6A, no evidence remains of the relationship between the pits and the construction of the Phase 6A building. A number of post-holes etc. centred on co-ordinates 153/262 can either be Phase 4/5 or Phase 6A.

As with Phase 2 the problems of later disturbance have made interpretation difficult. A number of general comments can, however, be made. The large number of post-holes recognised seems to indicate that there were several sub-phases. The post-holes are concentrated along the street frontage, possibly indicating a fence or building associated with the street, and additionally there is a slight change of texture in the underlying level 380 to the north and south of the lines formed by post-holes 456-8 and 469, 470. The case against buildings being present is the absence of further lines of post-holes to the north and parallel to the street, but since such post-holes (based on dimensions of clear timber buildings of similar date elsewhere on site) would probably lie between northings 263 and 264, later disturbance could have removed all trace. It is perhaps significant that the pits, although far from numerous, are

concentrated to the north of where buildings may have been sited. The post-holes in the northern half of the area form no readily discernible pattern. Pit 187 is very large but there is no obvious reason for its size. It could have been a quarry pit but would only have produced an inferior shaley stone.

Comparatively little Late Saxon material was found compared with areas to the east and west. This is possibly important in relation to a pre-street situation as an open area lying between post-built timber halls and Grubenhäuser (see below p. 140). It is arguable, though on less secure grounds than elsewhere, that in the post-Conquest period there were rectangular buildings flanking the street.

Although the evidence is by no means clear, it would seem that in this area there was relative quiet during Phase 4 with intensification of activity during Phase 5.

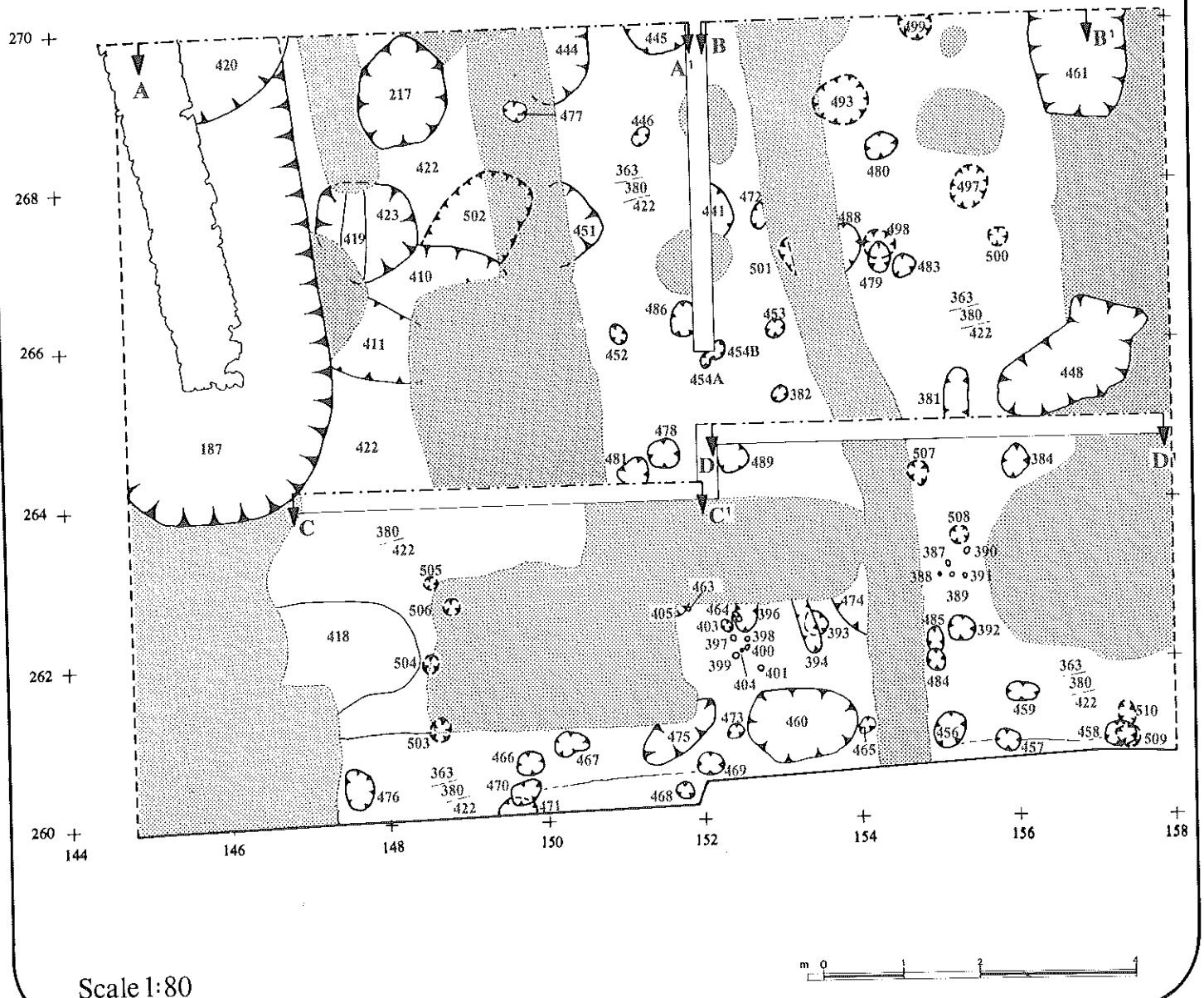
Phase 6A

Fig. 30; Pl. 6

The first stone building was exceptional for the street in the high quality of its masonry and in that its gable end fronted the street. To the east of the house was an open area bounded by a wall ((511) = 61) at its east edge. Only a very small piece remained (not on plan, but see Fig. 31: section DD[1]); the wall was apparently rebuilt in Phase 6B and the surviving wall (77) = 13 dates to that time. The stone building itself measured some 12 × 5m. Its walls, 0.90-1.00m thick, were more substantial than others in the street and the internal faces were neatly coursed with individual blocks well squared. Walls 1, (95) = 1 and (101) = 1 are clearly one build, but the south portion of 1 and (101) = 1 were only represented by robbers. Wall (274) = 61 was slightly narrower but still well made; the front boundary wall of the yard (61) continued the line of wall (274) = 61 but was of slightly cruder construction. Where a wall did not need extra deep foundations because of underlying pits but rested on or immediately above the weathered ironstone substratum, the lowest floor level was lower than the bottom of the wall's basal course. This is clearly illustrated at co-ordinates 150/263.5 where underpinning for the walls survived although the wall itself was totally robbed. Presumably the floor level had been worn down through constant cleaning. Pits lying within the building and first visible as cutting the substratum are all regarded as being pre-Phase 6 although there is no clear stratigraphical proof. Subsequent to the initial erosion of the floor area layers built up within the house. The earliest floor (294), itself worn away in places

Fig 29

House 4 Phases 1 to 5



and dipping sharply from the front wall to the centre of the room, was overlaid by a mixed soil and stone deposit (285). This is regarded as a build-up for floor 266, a somewhat burnt surface on which lay two coins, one of Richard II and one of Edward III (Nu19,20).

To the east of the building was an extremely patchy and thin dirty clay surface (300), concentrated at co-ordinates 153/268 and not apparent to the south of northing 264. The clay was probably associated with a circular oven (301) which was badly disturbed. Although the oven lay outside the building it may have been covered and included on the Phase 6A (inset) plan are post-holes which were not sealed by clay 300 and thus may be either Phase pre-6 or 6A. A build-up of brown loam of garden soil type (117) overlay the remains of the oven and clay level. The soil had certainly accumulated by the end of Phase 6A as it was cut and overlaid by the robber of wall (101) = 1.

Phase 6A may well have been a lengthy one on the evidence of the considerable erosion of the floor within the house and possibly the build-up of soil level 117. The soil level was extremely well mixed and showed no tip lines; possibly it was a true garden soil.

At the end of Phase 6A the building underwent modification. Certainly the southern half of wall (101) = 1 was so completely removed that not even the lowest course survived. Layer 218 in fact represents both the robbing of the wall itself and the spreading of the debris over the interior of the house prior to the construction of the Phase 6B building. The apparent removal of only that portion of wall (101) = 1 not necessary for the Phase 6B structure

suggests that Phase 6B followed closely on Phase 6A and perhaps the two actions were co-ordinated. Wall (274) = 61, however, was also reconstructed from two courses up (and slightly to the south) but this may have been necessary anyway in order that the whole front of the house, now increased in length, could be of uniform construction. Pit 297 and pit 371, in both of which there were several cattle horn cores, and probably pit 298, which contained a large number of horn cores, cut through layer 218 and pre-dated Phase 6B. This perhaps suggests a slight time lapse between the disuse of Phase 6A and the erection of Phase 6B, but on balance there is little to support a possible period of dereliction between Phases 6A and 6B.

Phase 6A was probably constructed soon after 1250. The pottery from pit 187 precludes an earlier date but a fairly long time-span is suggested by the substantial erosion of the floor and also the early chronology of House 3 (cf. p. 30). Coin evidence indicates Phase 6A continued to the very end of the 14th century.

The collection of horn cores from this phase and also the probably later pit 331 is perhaps indicative of horn-working on the site (see below p. 328).

Phase 6B

Fig. 32; Pls. 7 and 8

With Phase 6B the house underwent a radical change. The front of the house was completely reconstructed and extended although the rear or at least its foundations continued in use. The main axis of the house was now parallel to the street and additionally the rebuilt front section conformed in plan and dimensionally with the other stone houses along the street. The quality of the masonry, however, was inferior to that of the Phase 6A building.

For descriptional purposes Phase 6B can be divided into 4 elements: the front area of the house, the rear of the house, the yard area and the drain.

The walls of Phase 6B were narrower and somewhat cruder, both in coursing and in the finishing of the faces, than those of Phase 6A. Wall 1 may or may not have continued in use at the front of the house but wall 15 was certainly set into it. At this

PLATE 7 *House 4: Phase 6B/?C drain B22.*

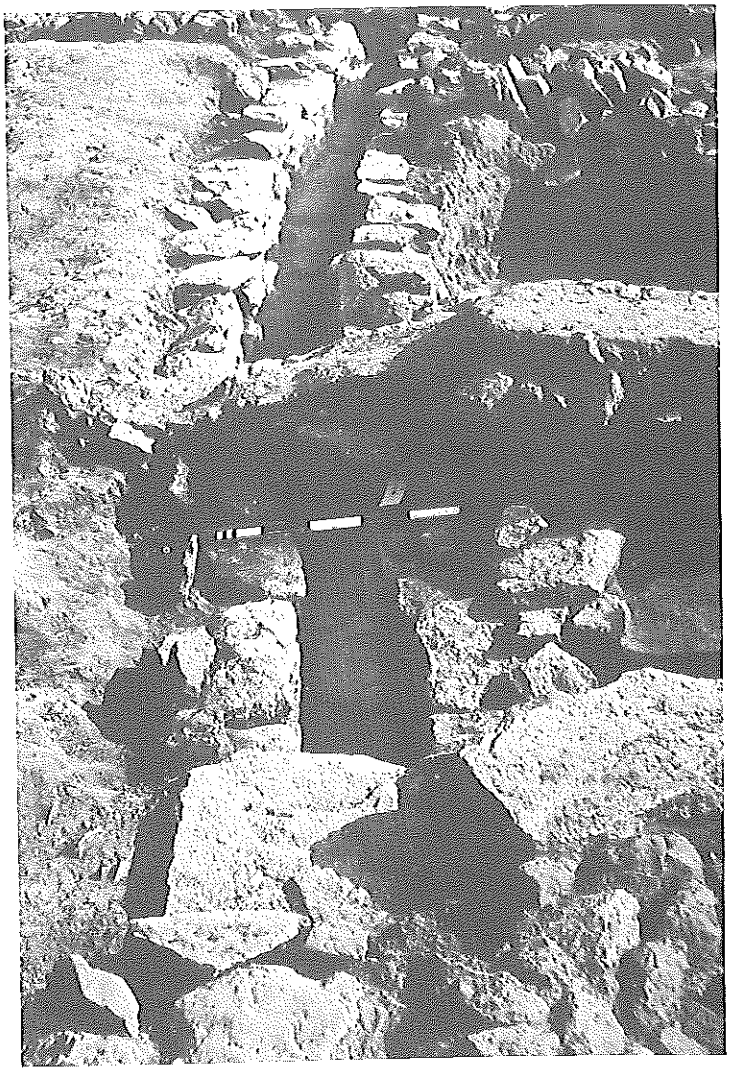
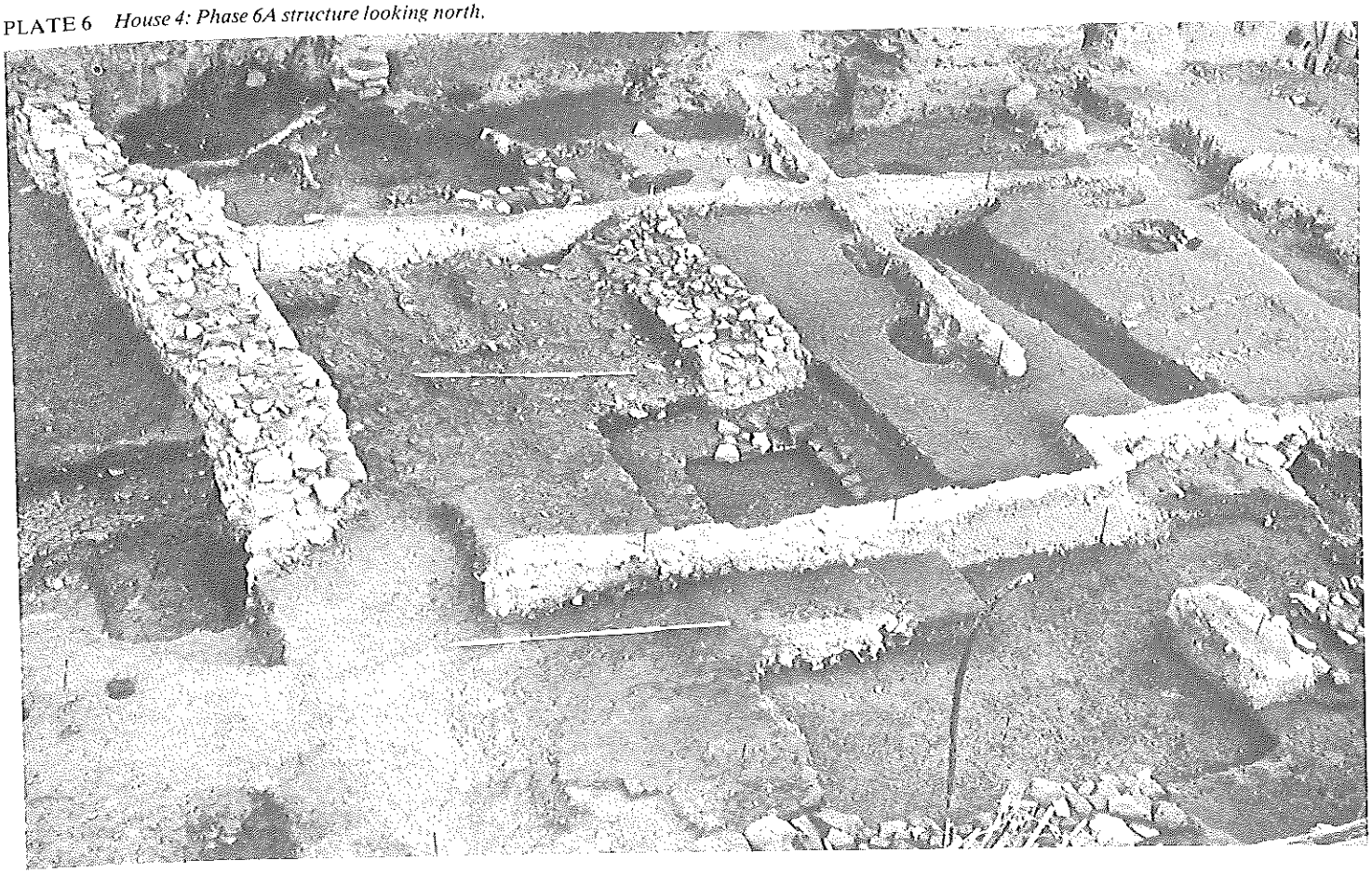


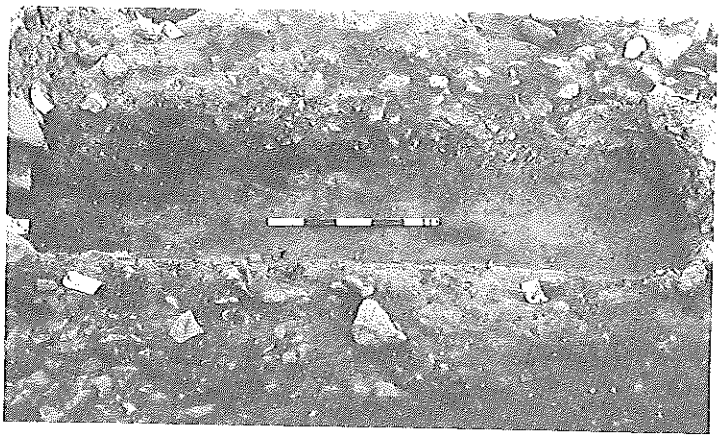
PLATE 6 *House 4: Phase 6A structure looking north.*



junction there was a slight change of angle on the west side of wall 1 possibly indicating a rebuild but this is not clear. Nor was it evident from the surviving stratigraphy how House 3 was now related to House 4 either chronologically or structurally. The front wall (13) was slightly further north than its predecessor and was clearly bonded with wall (77) = 13 which formed the eastern boundary of the plot.

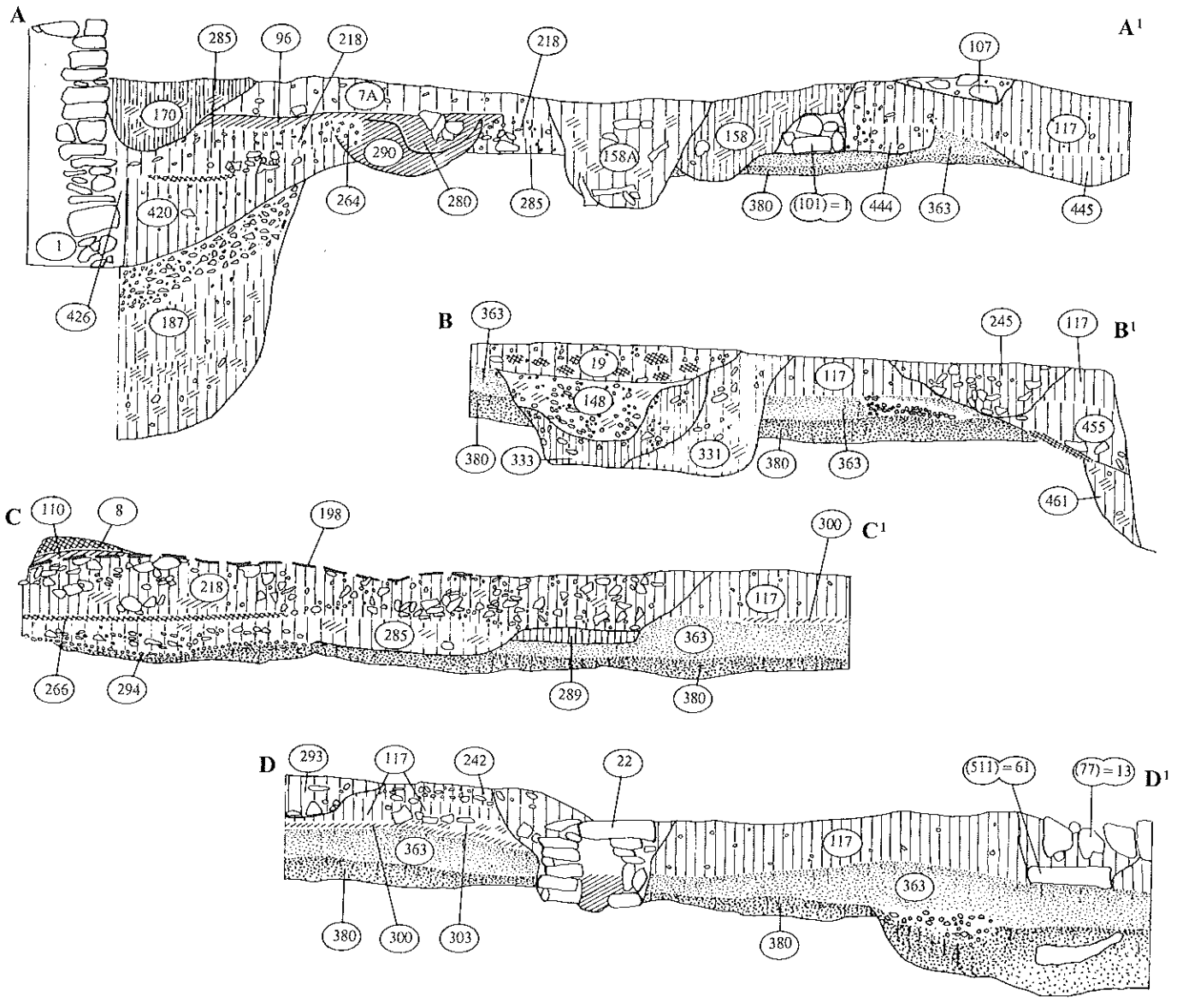
Evidence for internal arrangements was meagre. The floors were of beaten earth (198) and remnants of a hearth survived at the west end. Wall 241, partitioning the front area roughly into two halves (room 1 to the west and room 2 to the east), probably dates to this period as does a curious (?)drain feature (127) to the south of it. From the circular arrangement of stones a channel proceeded under wall 13 towards the street. The feature's function is unclear as it is peculiarly placed for a garderobe or similar, lying completely central to the front area and opposite wall 241.

PLATE 8 *House 4: Phase 6B trough B290.*



House 4 Sections

Fig 31



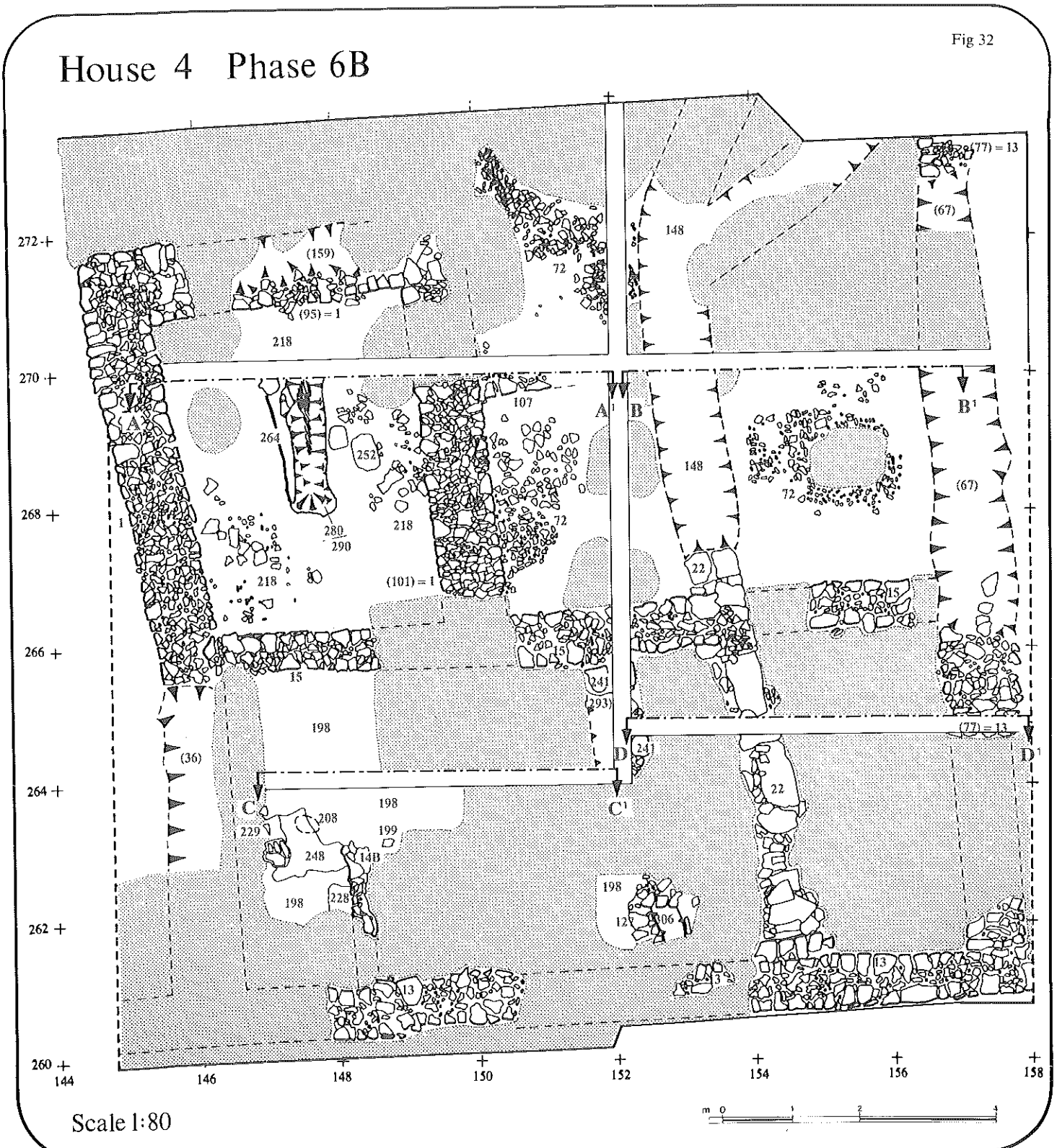
Scale 1:40

m 0 0.5 1 2

There was no firm evidence to indicate the rebuilding of the Phase 6A walls 1, (95) = 1 and (101) = 1 at the rear of the house although some reconstruction may have been necessary above ground level. No floor as such was recognised (cf. 198 at the front of the house) and the stone spread 218 must have acted as a rough surface. Pits 297, 298 and 371, all recognised as cutting 218, were, however, assigned to the very end of Phase 6A in that 298 was overlaid by wall 15. Trough 280 should, however, be included within Phase 6B with the house once more in use although purely on stratigraphical grounds it is contemporary with the pits. The trough was a shallow elongated bowl of dark blue clay measuring 2.00m long × 0.90m wide (externally), 0.50m wide (internally) × 0.30m deep. Two pieces of lead were found on its surface. The function of the trough is unclear. Soil samples from its fill were analysed by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory but no organic matter survived. The possibility of its use in metal-working cannot, however, be entirely dismissed: Oakley (below, p. 248) suggests that copper alloy pins and lace tags may have been made in House 4, although the evidence is somewhat inconclusive. Alternatively, the trough may have been connected with horn-working, although the pits which contained horn cores (notably 114 and 298) were apparently not contemporary.

Fairly compact spreads of small stones (72), much disturbed by later features, formed a rough yard at the rear of the house. Drain 22 was probably overlaid by the yard but the subsequent robbing of the drain (148) removed the relevant stratigraphy. Wall (77) = 61 formed the eastern boundary of the plot and the western boundary was probably defined by a fence or wall continuing the line of wall 1 northwards. Remnants of a possible wall (107) only a single course deep, projected eastwards from wall (101) = 1, but its

Fig 32



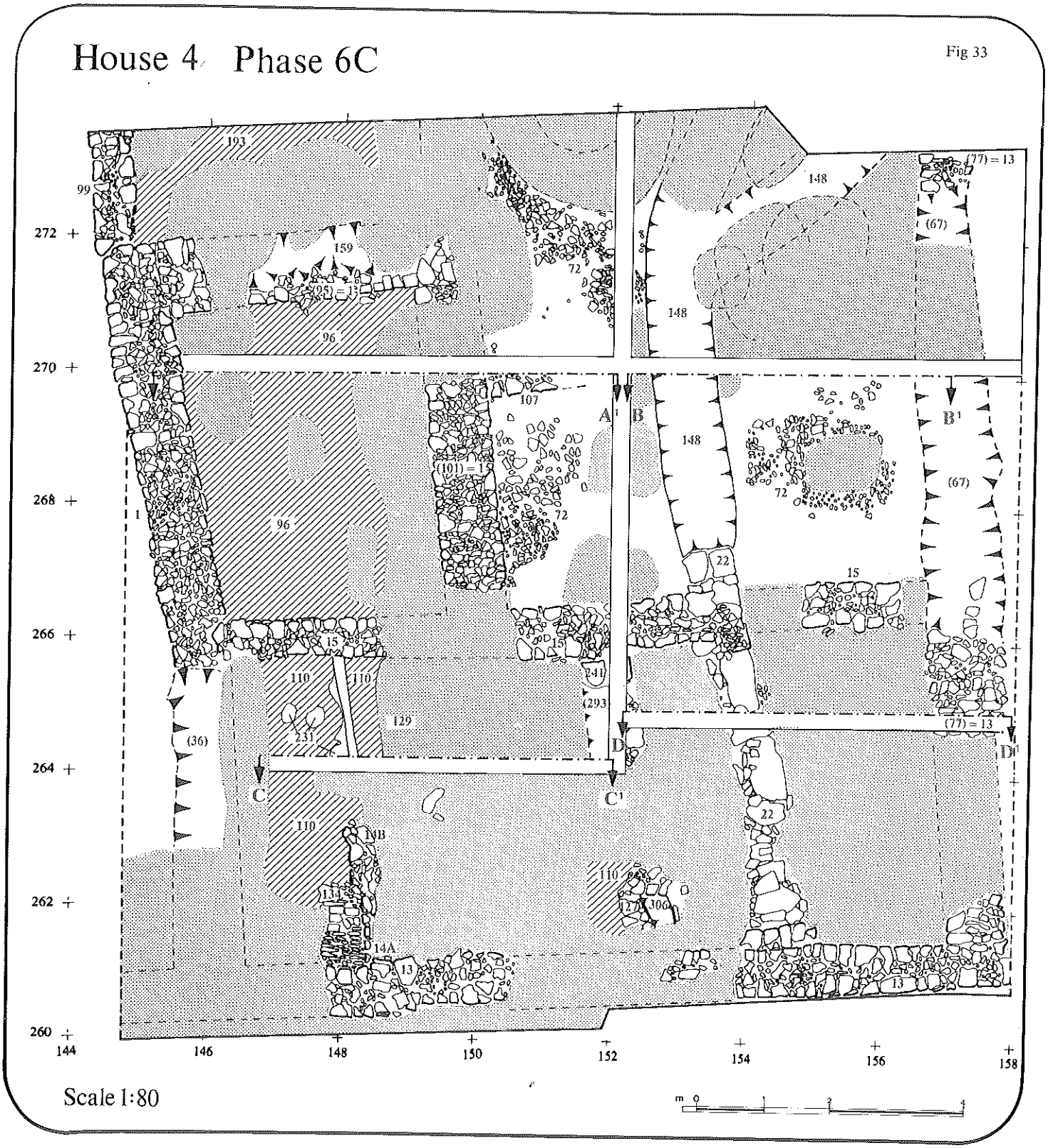
extent and purpose is unclear. The area to the north of wall (95) = 1 may well have contained rubbish pits. The Phase 6C clay floor (193) certainly lay on top of pits but these were not excavated and could have been pre-Phase 6.

The drain ran down to the road from two feeder channels at the rear of the house. The street itself was not excavated but since the drain did not reappear to the south of the street it is assumed that it either turned along the street or emptied into a gutter. The latter alternative is unlikely in view of the relative heights of drain and street. The drain survived intact below the house itself but was completely robbed out in the yard area. The function of the drain was not clear; there was no inlet in its surviving length although there may have been in the robbed section, but certainly it was fed from beyond the north of the house. The outer case of the drain was formed of limestone blocks with some ironstone, up to six courses deep, pitched slabs also being used in some places. Heavy limestone slabs formed a capping. Two main layers were visible within this stone case:

a a substantial clay level, in places almost of U-shaped profile, with a complete void between itself and the limestone capstone; the clay had cracked and on excavation comprised sections 0.15-0.45m long.

b a lower deposit of greenish yellow cess-like material continuous along the whole length of the drain.

At the sides and top of this layer were traces of timber. It would appear that within the stone casing there was a wood-lined box channel capped with clay. Presumably the U-shaped formation of the clay occurred through the initial collapse of the wooden drain roof while the clay still adhered to the sides of the stone casing. The



drain itself and the drain robber contained a relatively large number of fish bones.

The Phase 6A front wall (61) was disturbed and replaced by the construction of the drain and walls 13 and 15 both overlay the drain and were later than it. Thus the drain either belongs to the end of Phase 6A or more likely to the beginning of Phase 6B.

A *terminus post quem* for the construction of Phase 6B was clearly provided by two coins on the Phase 6A floor (Nu19,20) which were perhaps deposited in the second decade of the 15th century. The dating seems to be confirmed by the pottery sequence.

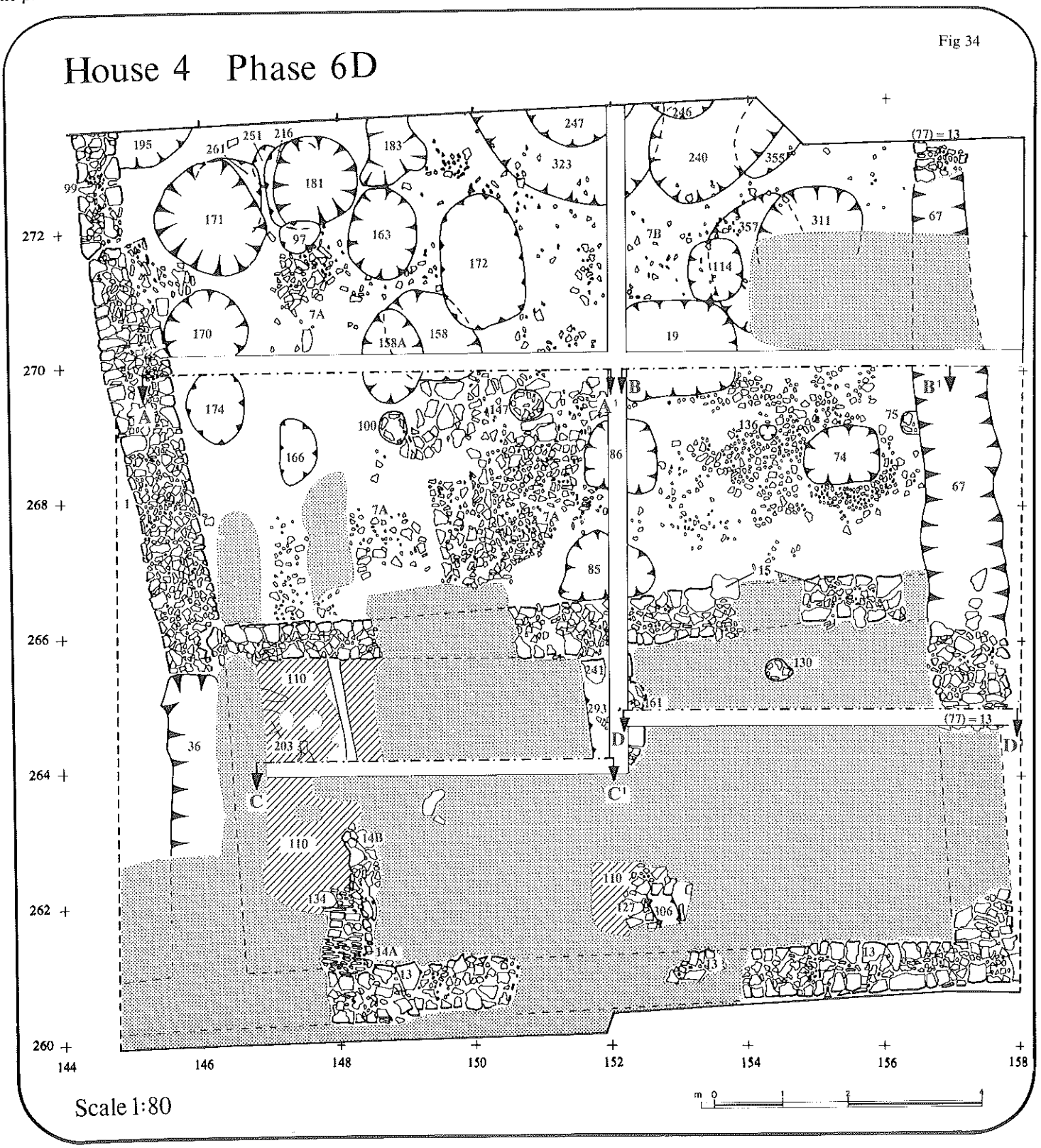
Phase 6C

Fig. 33

Phase 6C saw the provision of clay floors in all the existing rooms, the probable addition of a further room at the rear of the house and the robbing of drain 22 in the yard area.

The front of the house was floored with a yellow blue and grey clay. The floor was in places much eroded and there was also patching, some of which should be attributed to Phase 6D. A fine hearth (14a and 134), bedded on sand and constructed of bricks laid flat with ironstone and limestone set on end, replaced the Phase 6B hearth. A thick layer of charcoal and ash spread over it but somewhat surprisingly wall 14a showed few signs of burning, perhaps indicating that there was some sort of protective shield behind the fire. To the north of walls 14a and 14b and continuing their line were the remains of a timber sill beam, possibly the base of a timber partition. It is difficult, however, to consider 14a and 14b as such a partition, firstly because the insubstantial nature of the foundation would not be sufficient to support a heavy fireproof partition and secondly because the hearth would be serving an

Fig 34



extremely limited area. Drain(?) 127 probably continued in use in Phase 6C as clay floor 110 butts right up against it.

Room 3 (bounded by walls 1, 15, (101) = 1 and (95) = 1) was well floored with a thick layer of yellow grey clay subsequently eroded in several places. To the north a further room (room 4) was possibly tacked on to the building. On the basis of the stratigraphy it is only possible to assign it to either Phase 6B or 6C. The presence, however, of the clay floor (193), similar to that in rooms 1-3, and the rather crude masonry of wall 99 which includes some larger limestone blocks like those used in drain 22, favours Phase 6C. No east wall was found for room 4 but the concentration of rubble in pit 183 suggests it lay somewhere in that area.

The yard section of drain 22 was robbed out almost certainly during Phase 6C but possibly at some stage in Phase 6B. Limestone slabs similar to those used in the drain were found scattered over the Phase 6D yard (7a) and, as noted above, were also used in wall 99.

The end of Phase 6C is defined by the disuse of the two rear rooms and the robbing of parts of walls (95) = 1 and (101) = 1.

Phase 6C belongs somewhere in the 15th century.

PLATE 9 *House 4 (with House 3): Phase 6Di.*

Phase 6D

Fig. 34; Pl. 9

Phase 6Di represents the continuing use of the front portion of the house with the whole of the area to the north of wall 15 now a rough yard cut by many pits. It could be argued, in that there are no major constructional works in this phase—no new walls or floors—that Phase 6Di does not really exist and that all the buildings in their Phase 6C state went out of use contemporaneously. The distribution of the Phase 6D features, however, fails to support this thesis.

Rooms 1 and 2 remained the same as in Phase 6C with possibly some more floor patching. Rooms 3 and 4 were no longer in use and to the north of wall 15 the whole of the back area became a rough yard whose poor surfaces (7a/b) contrasted with the tightly packed stone cobbling (72) in Phase 6C. The area was cut by a large number of pits and layer 7, rather than being a deliberately laid surface, should perhaps be considered as a gradual accumulation of material during Phase 6D, at least partly accounted for by the spreading of material from the pits. In stratigraphical terms layer 7 is really an artificial horizon, being the soil accumulation to the north of wall 15 from the level that pit features could be identified down to clear structural elements of Phase 6C. Meaningful stratigraphical separation of soil lenses within 7 was impossible but, subsequent to the excavation, layer 7 has been divided into 7a and 7b on purely locational grounds. 7a is the area of layer 7 where pits clearly cut through Phase 6C structural features (i.e. walls and floors of rooms 3 and 4), while pits cutting 7b only cut the area of the Phase 6C yard and could therefore belong to Phase 6C. The pottery from the '7b pit group' is consistent with either a Phase 6C or 6D date.

It should be noted that the stone scatter does not extend into the front area of the house, that no pits cut rooms 1 and 2, and that pit 86 respects the north face of wall 15.

A series of post-holes (100, 147, 136, 75) possibly represents a lean-to shed in the yard area. Similarly posts 161 and 130 are possibly part of reconstructed internal arrangements of the house. Post-hole 161, however, cuts 293 (robber of wall 241) and perhaps 130 and 161 are part of a post-Phase 6D timber structure. In fact there is no stratigraphical reason why all these post-holes should not be post-Phase 6D. An interesting collection of iron tools was found in pit 171. The horn cores in pit 114 (see p. 328) perhaps suggest horn-working.

Phase 6Di came to an end with the destruction of the house by fire (Phase 6Dii). Various patches of burning and ash to the south of northing 266 are probably a destruction deposit similar to those in other houses in the street. The burnt levels did not occur in rooms 3 or 4. Subsequently there is little sign of activity prior to the 19th century.

Phase 6D dates to the later part of the 15th century, a date supported by the pottery and a counter (Nu37).

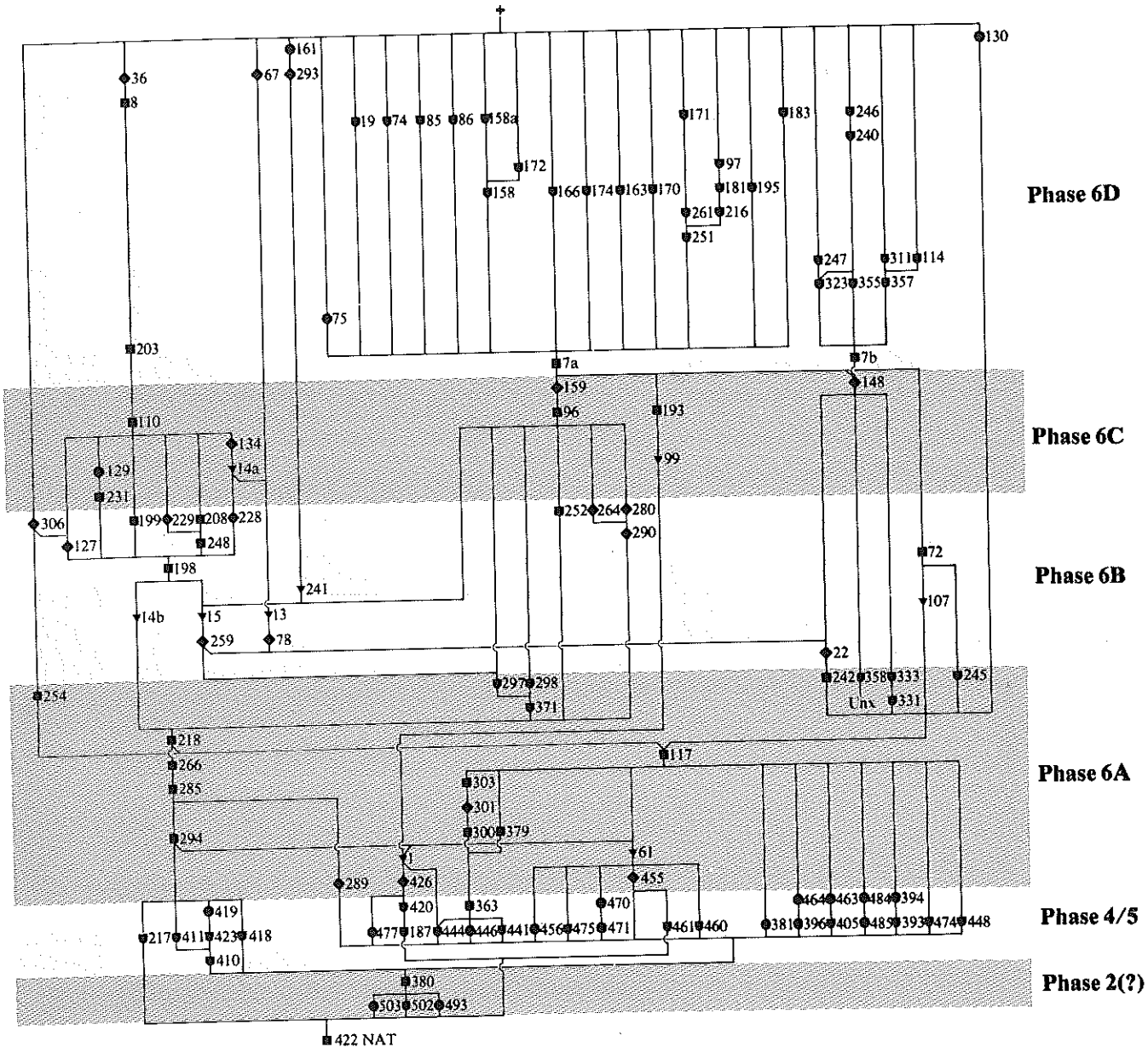
Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
1	PHASE 6A =(95,101,211,227,438). Well made ironstone wall *c.* 1.00m thick. 1 itself major property boundary between Houses 3 and 4; E face (interior) finely finished; W face (exterior) rather rougher; deep foundations where overlying pit 187; abutted by wall 99; cut into and abutted by wall 15. 95 (N wall) and 101 (E wall) only survive as a single course. 101 part robbed in Phase 6A but N section retained in Phases 6B-C.	AF4.
7a	PHASE 6Di =(16,49,69,73,79,92,94,102,152,160,167,173, 182,194,219). General level of various lenses of dark brown loamy soil, patches of cobbling and clay. Probably a gradual accumulation of material in yard area during Phase 6D, partly as a result of digging successive pits; division into various individual components meaningless; pits recognised at different stages in removal of 7a but homogeneity of yard make-up and possibility of contamination from above lessens significance of this. Stratigraphically pits are therefore all regarded as cutting through base of 7a which overlies Phase 6C structural elements, (95, 101), yard (72), and drain rob (148—probably Phase 6C). Pottery from 7a not published because of problem of contamination.	Cu31,97,157-67,262-6; Pb34;Fe48; H9;GL12;cus; WB68.
7b	PHASE 6Di/?6C =(188,189,190,192,201,262,315,353). General level of dark brown loamy soil with concentrations of rubble and possible yard surface remnants. Less stone than in 7a. No firm stratigraphical links with either Phase 6C or D elements. Therefore, although possibly 7a = 7b, considered more appropriate to isolate 7b so as to allow alternative solution. Overlies drain rob (148).	Cu168;Fe94; cus.
8	PHASE 6Dii =(39,60,132,133,207,225,369). General destruction level for Phase 6D building. Burnt red clay and charcoal occurring in patches to S of northing 266.0. NOP.	
13	PHASE 6B =(77,416). Ironstone wall. Bonded into wall 77, abutted by hearth 14a/134, overlies drain 22. Slightly S of equivalent wall of Phase 6A (61). Apparently continues E as part of House 5.	SW27.
14a	PHASE 6C Ironstone wall. Single block width, largely unburnt. Partition or threshold of hearth 134. Abuts wall 13, abutted by hearth 134, continues alignment of 14b and 129.	
14b	PHASE 6B Rather crude ironstone wall. Single block width, heavily burnt. Partition or threshold of hearth 228. Cut by wall 14a. Reused in conjunction with hearth 134. Abutted by 110, 134, 198, 228, 248.	
15	PHASE 6B =(235,263,272,284,313,320). Ironstone wall. In Phase 6B-C cross wall in W half of house and rear wall in E half. In Phase 6D rear wall for whole building. Cut into wall 1.	Pb31;GL13.
19	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.30m deep. Ash, charcoal, clay and animal bone fragments.	Cu267;Fe84, 113.
22	PHASE 6B/?C =(38, 162, 295, 316, 317, 318, 342, 346, 349). Drain, chiefly limestone construction, some ironstone; limestone capstones. Upper fill:—grey/green/blue clayey soil; lower fill:—green yellow cess-like soil. Construction of drain involved cutting and replacing of Phase 6A front wall (61). Overlaid by walls 13 and 15. Drain flows N-S.	
36	PHASE 6Diii Robber of wall 1, 0.60m deep. Ironstone rubble, dark brown soil, CF.	
61	PHASE 6A =(274,296,511). Ironstone wall fronting street through Phase 6A. Slightly narrower than wall 274. Abutted by soil layer 117.	
67	PHASE 6Diii Robber of wall (77) = 13, 0.45m deep. Orange brown soil, clay patches and ironstone rubble.	
72	PHASE 6B/?C =(146,154,224). Intermittent cobbled yard. Stones tightly packed.	
74	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.50m deep. Bowl shaped. Red stained clayey loam, CF (*c.* 0.10m deep), overlies loose rubble.	Cu88,169.

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
75	PHASE 6Di (100,136,147). PH 0.25m deep. Soft black loamy fill, CF, stone packing.	
78	PHASE 6B =(113,210,260). Construction trench for walls 13 and (77)=13. Ironstone rubble, dark brown soil. 210/260 are soil levels between walls 13 and 61. NOP.	
85	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.70m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark grey clayey soil, CF.	Fe72.
86	PHASE 6Di =(139). Pit 0.75m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark grey clayey soil, CF, bone and rubble; lens of light grey clay and charcoal.	Cu170;Fe17.
96	PHASE 6C =(253,265). Yellow grey clay floor in room 3. Abuts walls 1, 15, (95, 101)=1.	cus;WB93.
97	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.25m deep. Bowl shaped. Clayey soil, CF.	Fe91.
99	PHASE 6C Ironstone and limestone wall. Higher concentration of thin-bedded limestone than in other walls—derived from drain rob (148)? Abuts and continues line of wall 1—does it replace an earlier wall? Forms W wall of room 4 which becomes obsolete in Phase 6D. Probably abutted by clay floor 193.	
(100)	PHASE 6Di 75. PH 0.06m deep. Charcoal fill, stone packing.	
107	PHASE 6B/?C =(312). Ironstone wall fragment abutting wall 101.	
110	PHASE 6C =(122,128,200,209). Mixed yellow/blue/grey clay floor. In room 1 of Phase 6C building and retained in Phase 6D. Not present in room 2 where presumably eroded away. Abuts walls 14b and 15, hearth 134, sill beam 129 and (?)garderobe 127.	Cu156,260.
114	PHASE 6D/?C Pit 0.79m deep. Bowl shaped. Filled predominantly with horn cores and bone; some grey clay but little soil.	
117	PHASE 6A =(119,131,149,150,151,153,156,165,220,221, 236,244,273,277,279,305). Well mixed dark brown soil. Overlies oven 301 and surface 300; cut by 218, rob of wall (101)=1, and by drain 22. Accumulated during latter part of Phase 6A?	Cu13,154-5; Fe12,79; SW35;WB29, 70.
127	PHASE 6B? =(141). Setting of flat stones surviving in a semicircle around a stone lined straight-sided passage, 2-3 courses high. Possible drain (garderobe?); certainly not flowing N; area to S disturbed. No surviving lining to sides or bottom. Contains fill 306.	
129	PHASE 6C Timber sill beam—partition continuing line of wall 14. Abuts wall 15; abutted by clay floor 110.	
130	PHASE 6D PH 0.07m deep. Soft black soil fill; stone packing.	
134	PHASE 6C =(232). Hearth of brick and ironstone, heavily burnt. Overlain by thick charcoal level. 134 includes sand-bedding for hearth (232). Abuts walls 13 and 14a. Abutted by clay floor 110.	
(136)	PHASE 6Di 75. PH? Stone-free area in patch of cobbling 7a. Dark brown soil. Depth undefined.	
(147)	PHASE 6Di 75. PH 0.20m deep. Soft black soil, CF; stone packing.	
148	PHASE 6C/?B Robber of drain 22. Upper fill—small IF in brown soil; lower fills more green and rubbly. Overlaid by 7a and 7b.	Cu54,295; Pb32.
158	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.60m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown clayey soil, grey clay patches, CF, IF.	Cu171-84,268; Pb10;Fe28, 46,117;WB44.
158a	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.70m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown clayey soil, grey clay patches, CF, IF, animal bone.	
159	PHASE 6C Robber of wall (95)=1. Soft brown clayey soil. Overlaid by 7a.	
161	PHASE 6D PH 0.27m deep. Charred wood to depth 0.13m, soft brown soil fill, charcoal, limestone packing? Cuts cross wall 241 and probably its robber (293).	
163	PHASE 6Di =(186). Pit 0.53m deep. Bowl shaped. Black clayey soil, IF. Lenses of orange ironstone, charcoal and grey clay.	
166	PHASE 6Di Pit?—possible bowl shaped depression *c.* 0.15m deep. Pink/grey clay, charcoal.	Fe92.
170	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.80m deep. Bowl shaped. Black loam, charcoal, ash and grey clay patches.	Cu185,269; Fe13;H10.
171	PHASE 6Di =(185). Pit 0.57m deep. Bowl shaped. Medium brown clayey soil, CF, IF. Charcoal and ash layer at 0.45-0.48m. Several iron objects at base.	Nu37;Cu39, 186-90,270; Fe40,7,55,7, 61,3,93,111.
172	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.18m deep. Bowl shaped. Light grey clay lining with brown soil, stone and charcoal fill.	Pb33.
174	PHASE 6Di Pit? *c.* 0.20m deep. Black clayey soil, charcoal and clay patches.	
181	PHASE 6Di =(223). Pit 0.57m deep. Bowl shaped. Loose rubble and clay, some cut ironstone blocks presumably from wall (95)=1. Some limestone slabs at top.	
183	PHASE 6Di Pit, shallow. Bowl shaped. Black clayey soil, CF.	
187	PHASE 5 =(310,427-432,434-437,439). Quarry pit? 1.60m+ deep. Multiple fills: loose dark brown soil in upper levels becoming grey and orange with more ironstone and clay deeper down. Cut by wall 1.	Cu6,153,258; cus.
193	PHASE 6C =(197,222). Mixed yellow and grey clay floor. Overlaid by yard 7a.	
195	PHASE 6Di Pit 0.30m+ deep. Bowl shaped. Loose dark brown soil with stones.	
198	PHASE 6B =(239,250,292). Beaten medium brown earth floor evident in SW corner of house abutting walls 14b, 15 and 127 but becoming eroded to the N.	Cu15,41;cus; T1.
199	PHASE 6B Grey ash and charcoal overlying floor 198. Related to hearth 228 or feature 229?	

Fig 35

House 4 Sequence diagram



Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
203	PHASE 6Di =(204). Patches of dark blue clay. Possible resurfacing of floor 110.	
208	PHASE 6B Area of ash and charcoal overlying clay 248. Related to hearth 228?	
216	PHASE 6Di Pit remnant. Bowl shaped? Total depth not established. Compacted clayey fill.	
217	PHASE 5 =(407). Pit 1.80m deep. Flat-bottomed, straight-sided. Layers of grey brown soil and redeposited natural. Red ash and charcoal 0.35-0.55m.	Cu8;SW9.
218	PHASE 6A =(234,267,268,275,286,287). Medium to dark brown sandy soil, M, CF and frequent IF. Rob of wall (101)=1 and spread of rob over Phase 6A floor levels to form build-up for Phase 6B floors (198). Cuts general soil level 117. Top of 218 forms Phase 6B floor itself in room 3.	Cu20;Fe23, 71,103,9.
228	PHASE 6B Hearth. Burnt sand, soil and ironstone. Abuts wall 14b, overlies floor 198. Replaced by hearth 134.	
229	PHASE 6B =(230). Setting of burnt ironstone and charcoal partially destroyed by later disturbance. Possible hearth feature.	
231	PHASE 6C =(233,237,238). Build-up for clay floor 110. Medium-brown compacted soil, IF.	
240	PHASE 6D/?C =(249). Pit 0.45m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown loose soil, IF, overlying grey/green compacted soil.	Cu79.
241	PHASE 6B-D Ironstone wall abutting 15.	
242	PHASE 6A =(243). Scatter of limestone roof slates. Overlies soil level 117 but cut by drain 22. Destruction debris from Phase 6A building?	
245	PHASE 6A? Pit 0.30m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown soil, tile and animal bone.	
246	PHASE 6D/?C Pit 0.30m+ deep. Bowl shaped. Grey ash and charcoal.	Cu261.
247	PHASE 6D/?C Pit 0.85m+ deep. Bell shaped. Loose dark brown soil, IF.	
248	PHASE 6B Clay flooring overlying 198.	
251	PHASE 6Di Pit fragment. Bowl shaped? Dark brown, loose, stony soil fill.	
252	PHASE 6B Thin spread of ash and charcoal.	
254	PHASE 6A? =(256). Mortar, ironstone rubble and limestone slates. Cf. 242.	
259	PHASE 6B =(314,351,368). Construction trench for wall 15. Dark brown soil, IF. NOP.	Cu259.
261	PHASE 6Di Pit fragment. Bowl shaped? Compacted dark brown clayey soil.	
264	PHASE 6B Trough fill. Orange brown compacted soil, IF.	
266	PHASE 6A =(276,304,309). Burnt floor surface. Compacted black clayey earth. Dipping downwards and petering out to N.	Nu19-20; Cu3,93;H7.

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
280	PHASE 6B Trough fill. Loose black clayey fill containing lead frags.	Pb15,6.
285	PHASE 6A =(345,352,372,374,375,414,415,424). Dark brown clayey soil, some ironstone rubble. Build-up for floor 266.	Fe7,90,108.
289	PHASE 6A Compacted brown soil—possible remains of construction trench for (101)=1.	
290	PHASE 6B =(291). Trough. Blue grey clay.	
293	PHASE 6Diii Robber of wall 241. Dark brown, loose, stony soil.	
294	PHASE 6A =(373,408,409,412,413,417,425). Burnt floor surface. Compacted earth. Good surface at S end of building but fragmentary and disturbed to N. Overlying and dipping into pre-Phase 6 pits.	
297	PHASE 6A Pit *c.* 0.30m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown soil, IF, M, CF, clay lenses.	
298	PHASE 6A =(370). Pit 0.37m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown soil, IF, M, CF, much animal bone, especially horn cores.	
300	PHASE 6A =(307,362,364,377). Compacted medium brown clayey soil. Iron-pan in places. Probable outdoor surface associated with oven 301.	
301	PHASE 6A =(302,490). Oven almost totally destroyed. Burnt ironstone surround, burnt clay floor with soil bedding. Overlies surface 300.	
303	PHASE 6A Mixed clay, rubble and burnt ironstone. Debris of oven. NOP.	
306	PHASE 6B-D Fill of drain feature 127. Greenish grey soil.	
311	PHASE 6D/?C Pit 0.24m deep. Bowl shaped. Loose greenish soil and rubble.	
323	PHASE 6D/?C =(324,335,338). Pit 0.30m+ deep. Mixed rubble in dark brown greenish soil.	
331	PHASE 6A? Pit 0.80m+ deep. Bowl shaped. Dark loose cess-like soil, charcoal and tightly packed bone.	
333	PHASE 6A? Pit 0.60m+ deep. Straight-sided. Thick charcoal round edges—timber lined? Dark brown soil, stone and charcoal.	W2;WB98.
355	PHASE 6D/?C =(356). Pit. Bowl shaped? Soft dark soil with CF and small stones overlying more compacted soil.	cus.
357	PHASE 6D/?C Pit 0.30m+ deep. Bowl shaped. Tightly packed limestone and ironstone.	
358	PHASE 6A? Pit segment. Bowl shaped? Orange brown sandy soil.	
363	PHASE 4/5 =(378,386,440,447,462). Medium brown sandy soil. Not present in western half of House 4 area, i.e. removed through construction and use of Phase 6A building. Underlying Phase 6A levels. Compacted under wall 101.	Nu1;fs;H3.
371	PHASE 6A Pit *c.* 0.40m deep. Bowl shaped. Dark brown soil, IF, CF, clay and animal bone.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
379	PHASE 6A Scatter of limestone and ironstone underlying soil level 117. Contemporary with 300?	
380	PHASE 2 =(442,491). Orange brown sandy soil, IF.	WB55,105.
381	PHASE 6A/pre-6 (382,384,387-392,397-401,403,404,481). PH 0.19m deep, dark brown soil, IF.	
(382)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown soil. CF.	
(384)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF.	
(387)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil, charcoal.	
(388)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(389)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(390)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil, charcoal.	
(391)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil, charcoal.	
(392)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. PH 0.19m deep. Dark brown soil, IF, clay flecks, M.	
393	PHASE 6A/pre-6 Shallow depression 0.04m deep. Dark grey soil, M, IF.	
394	PHASE 6A/pre-6 Slot 0.12m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF.	
396	PHASE 6A/pre-6 SH. Dark brown soil with charcoal.	
(397)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(398)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(399)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(400)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(401)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Dark brown soil.	
(403)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. Shallow depression 0.05m deep. Dark brown soil, charcoal.	
(404)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. SH. Burnt stone and charcoal.	
405	PHASE 6A/pre-6 Shallow depression 0.05m deep. Brown black soil, ash.	
410	PHASE 5/pre-5 Shallow depression 0.05m deep. Brown soil.	
411	PHASE 5? Pit. Mixed black and brown soil, IF.	
418	PHASE 5? Pit 0.15m deep. Bowl shaped. Grey brown soil, IF, LF.	
419	PHASE 5? Slot? 0.02m deep. Grey brown soil, IF.	
420	PHASE 5 =(421). Pit 0.80m deep. Dark brown soil, IF, bone, charcoal.	
422	=(450,492). Natural.	
423	PHASE 5? =(433). Pit 0.09m deep. Red iron-stained soil, IF.	
426	PHASE 6A =(487). Construction trench for wall 1. Dark brown soil. NOP.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
441	PHASE 4/5 (445). Shallow depression *c.* 0.02m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
444	PHASE 4/5 (451). Shallow depression *c.* 0.03m deep. Dark brown soil.	
(445)	PHASE 4/5 441. Shallow depression 0.20m deep. Dark brown soil.	
446	PHASE 4/5 (452,453,454A,454B,472,478-480,483,486,488, 489). PH 0.14m deep. Dark brown soil.	
448	PHASE 4/5 Pit 1.6m deep. Dark green/brown soil, IF, charcoal, bone.	fs;W13.
(451)	PHASE 4/5 444. Depression 0.16m deep. Dark brown soil.	
(452)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown soil, M, CF.	
(453)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.09m deep. Dark brown clayey soil, CF.	
(454a)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.07m deep. Dark brown soil, M, CF.	
(454b)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown soil, M, CF.	
455	PHASE 6A Construction trench for (511)=61, IF. NOP.	
456	PHASE 4/5 (457-459,465-469,473,476). PH 0.08m deep. Brown sandy soil, burnt IF, CF.	
(457)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.10m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
(458)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.34m deep. Brown sandy soil, CF.	
(459)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.05m deep. Brown sandy soil, CF, burnt IF.	
460	PHASE 4/5 Pit 0.40m deep. Brown/grey clayey soil, CF, M.	
461	PHASE 4/5 Pit segment 0.54m+ deep. Grey brown clayey soil, IF, CF, M.	WB36.
463	PHASE 6A/pre-6 SH. Loose grey brown soil.	
464	PHASE 6A/pre-6 SH. Loose brown black soil, CF.	
(465)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.06m deep. Dark brown clayey soil, CF.	
(466)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.21m deep. Dark brown clayey soil, CF.	
(467)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.09m deep. Dark brown clayey soil, IF.	
(468)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.16m deep. Dark brown soil.	
(469)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.21m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF, LF.	
470	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.35m deep. Dark brown soil, IF, CF.	
471	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.32m deep. Dark brown soil, IF, CF.	
(472)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.16m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF.	
(473)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.15m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, ash.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
474	PHASE 4/5 Depression. Dark brown soil.	
475	PHASE 4/5 Depression, 0.16m deep. Black clayey soil, IF.	
(476)	PHASE 4/5 456. PH 0.20m deep. Brown clayey soil, CF, IF, M.	
477	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.18m deep. Red brown soil, IF.	
(478)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.20m deep. Black brown soil, CF, IF.	
(479)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.15m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
(480)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.17m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF.	
(481)	PHASE 6A/pre-6 381. PH 0.14m deep. Brown black soil, CF, IF.	
(483)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.11m deep. Dark brown sandy soil.	
484	PHASE 6A/pre-6 PH 0.23m deep. Green brown sandy soil, LF, CF, IF, M.	
485	PHASE 6A/pre-6 PH 0.24m deep. Grey brown soil, CF, M.	
(486)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.28m deep. Grey clayey soil, CF, limestone blocks.	
(488)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.16m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
(489)	PHASE 4/5 446. PH 0.10m deep. Grey brown sandy soil.	
493	PHASE 2? (497-501,507-510). PH 0.26m deep. Green brown sandy soil, IF, LF.	
(497)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.22m deep. Green brown soil, ironstone blocks.	
(498)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.24m deep. Green brown soil, ironstone and limestone blocks.	
(499)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.07m deep. Orange brown sandy soil, IF, M.	
(500)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.06m deep. Green brown soil, IF.	
(501)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.08m deep. Green brown soil, IF.	
502	PHASE 2? Pit 0.35m deep. Orange brown sandy soil, IF.	
503	PHASE 2? (504-6). PH 0.17m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF, IF.	
(504)	PHASE 2? 503. PH 0.14m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, LF, CF.	
(505)	PHASE 2? 503. PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF. IF, M.	
(506)	PHASE 2? 503. PH 0.10m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF, M.	
(507)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.10m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF.	
(508)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, IF.	
(509)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.18m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, LF, CF, IF.	
(510)	PHASE 2? 493. PH 0.09m deep. Orange brown sandy soil, ironstone blocks.	

Houses 5 and 6(?)

by J H Williams with R Hunter

Summary

The area was very badly disturbed and only a very general picture of the house development is possible. Post-holes and pits indicate occupation during Phases 4 and 5 but no buildings were securely identified. In Phase 6 one or two stone buildings with their long sides along the street were erected.

Introduction

The area was only partially excavated because of considerable modern disturbance. Cellars at the east end had completely removed any stratigraphy there, and further west deposits were severely eroded or cut by other intrusions. Accordingly the area was roughly cleaned down to reveal the general pattern of the medieval stone buildings and a limited area was further excavated to pre-stone building levels. No sequence diagram has been drawn as this would be meaningless and the phasings given are fairly loose.

Pre-Phase 4

Fig. 36 inset

No Early or Middle Saxon pottery was recovered, although layer D4 may have been a continuation of House 4 layer 363 or 380.

Phases 4 and 5

Fig. 36 inset

Several post-holes and pits belonging to these phases were excavated. The post-holes formed no clear building although an east-west alignment is apparent along northing 266. Gully B52 was also orientated east-west.

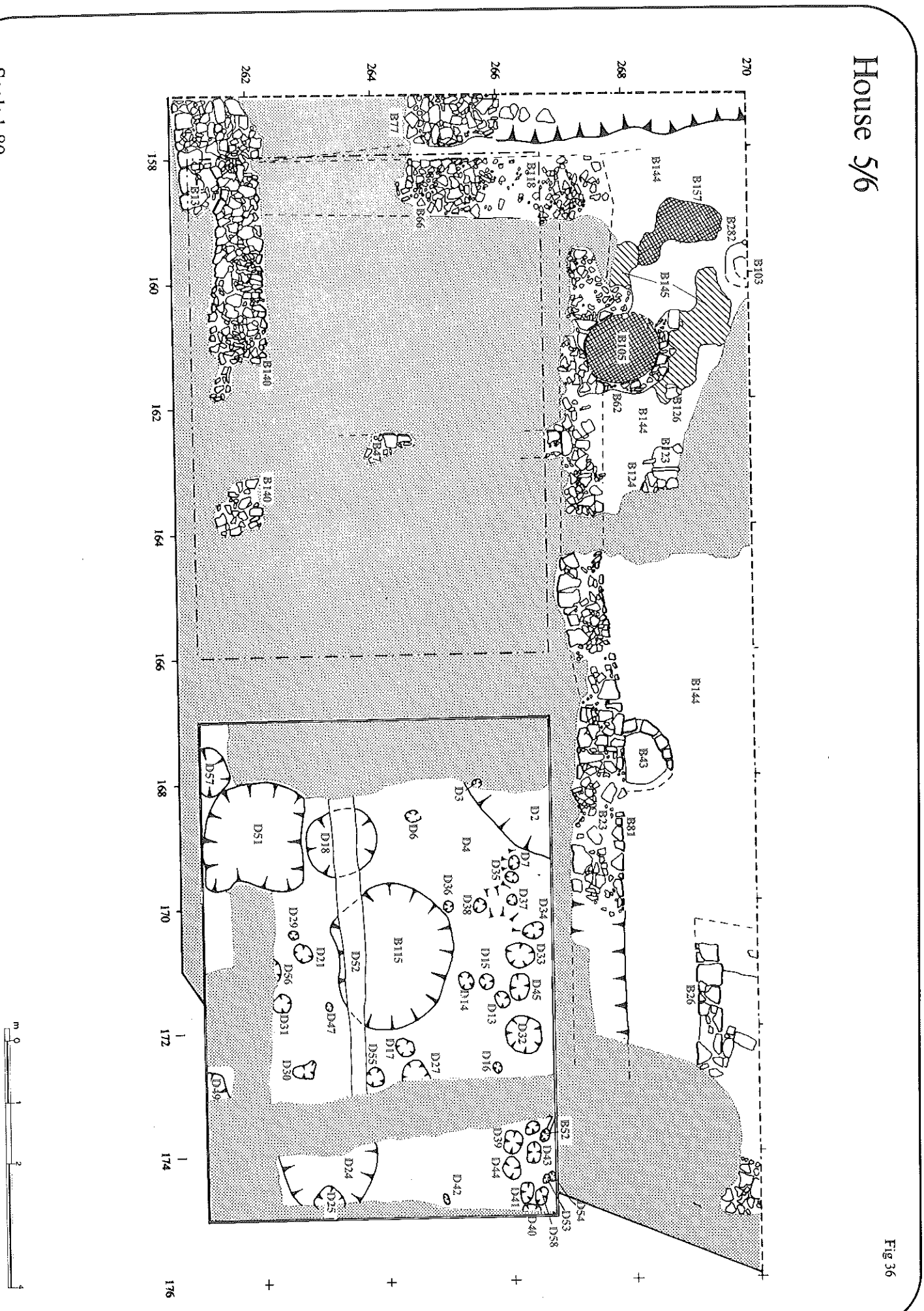
Phase 6

Fig. 36

It is impossible on the evidence recovered to be very precise about the development of the area during Phase 6 or even the transition between Phases 5 and 6. The main structural elements were walls B13, 66, 81 and 140 which indicated a building or buildings fronting on to the street and possibly of more than one phase. There is sufficient room for two modules 8×4 metres as elsewhere along the street and the rear wall does in fact have a slight kink at easting 166. There is, however, no evidence for a north-south wall at this point either internally or externally. Wall B47 is a partition.

To the rear of the house was an oven B62 and associated burnt layers. The area was probably pitted but this was not investigated. To the east a small alley led on to Freeschool Street to the south of House 7.

The chronology of the house within Phase 6 is difficult. The ceramic evidence is uninformative and only relative dating is possible. Wall B13, the House 4, Phase 6B wall, continued into House 5 and overlay wall B140 which must therefore be equivalent to House 4, Phase 6A, although not necessarily the beginning of that phase; the junction between B61 and B140 is somewhat ambiguous. It is also not clear whether wall B66 was contemporary with either B13 or B140 or later than B13. Perhaps it is best to regard B66 and 81 as equivalent to House 4, Phase 6B with the rear wall of the house continuing the line of the rear walls of Houses 1-4, although the double north-south wall B66 and B(77) = 13 would be a unique arrangement for the street. Wall B81 has relatively shallow foundations and also apparently lacks the rebuilds of the rear wall of House 3. In this case wall B140 served purely as a boundary wall with or without timber buildings to the north.


House 5/6
Scale 1:80
Fig 36

Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(B13)	PHASE 6i Ironstone wall of House 4 extending E into House 5.	
B23	PHASE 6ii Yellow grey clay, ironstone, CF. Robber of wall B81.	
B43	PHASE 6i Semi-circular arrangement of ironstone abutting wall B81.	
B47	PHASE 6i Burnt ironstone and limestone wall fragment.	
B52	PHASE 4/5 =(D19). Slot 0.15m deep. Dark grey soil, CF, M.	
B62	PHASE 6i Burnt ironstone and limestone wall of oven.	
B66	PHASE 6i Ironstone wall bonded into wall B140. Forms W boundary wall of House 5.	
B71	PHASE 6i Brown earth and ironstone rubble. Construction trench for wall B140. NOP.	
B81	PHASE 6i =(137). Ironstone and limestone wall.	
B103	PHASE 6? Burnt red clay—oven or hearth?	
B105	PHASE 6i =(106). Red clay, charcoal. Fill of oven B62.	
B115	PHASE 5? =(B142; D11). Pit 0.50m deep. Brown earth, IF, CF.	ts.
B118	PHASE 6ii =(D1). Ironstone rubble and soil. Robber of wall B66.	
B123	PHASE 6i PH unexc. Black soil, limestone packing.	
B124	PHASE 6i =(125). ?PH unexc. Grey clay, IF, CF.	
B126	PHASE 6i ?PH unexc. Soft black soil, stone packing.	
B140	PHASE 6i Ironstone wall fronting street. Overlaid by B13.	
B144	PHASE 4-6? =(155,271; D59). Dark brown 'garden' soil.	Pb48;H14-5.
B145	PHASE 6i Grey and yellow clay, CF.	
B157	PHASE 6i =(270). Dark red burnt soil, burnt stone and charcoal. Rake-out from oven.	
B282	PHASE 6? Mixed clay surrounding B103.	
D2	PHASE 4/5 Pit 0.25m + deep. Loose grey brown soil.	
D3	PHASE 4/5 SH; soft brown soil, LF.	
D4	PHASE 4? =(D5, 20, 26, 50). General level of orange sandy soil. Cf. B380 in House 4.	
D6	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.14m deep. Brown sand and charcoal.	
D7	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.09m deep. Dark brown sandy soil.	
D13	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.09m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D14	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.12m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D15	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.10m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D16	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.09m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D17	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.14m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D18	PHASE 4/5 Pit *c.* 0.70m deep. Brown clayey soil, limestone blocks.	
D21	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.07m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D24	PHASE 4/5 Pit *c.* 0.50m deep. Dark brown soil, IF, CF.	
D25	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.24m deep. Dark brown soil, IF, CF.	
D27	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.15m deep. Brown sandy soil, charcoal layer at base, IF.	
D29	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.05m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D30	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.20m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, IF.	
D31	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.12m deep. Dark brown sandy/clayey soil, CF.	
D32	PHASE 4/5 =(46). PH 0.26m deep. Black brown soil, CF, IF.	
D33	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.20m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, LF.	
D34	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.30m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, M.	
D35	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
D36	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown soil, IF.	
D37	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.10m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D38	PHASE 4/5 ?PH 0.05m deep. Dark black brown clayey soil, IF.	
D39	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.26m deep. Brown sandy soil, limestone packing, IF.	
D40	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.11m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF.	
D41	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.05m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, IF.	
D42	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.06m deep. Dark brown sandy soil.	
D43	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.07m deep. Brown sandy soil, LF, M.	
D44	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.07m deep. Brown sandy soil, CF.	
D45	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.23m deep. Brown sandy soil, CF.	
D47	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.05m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D49	PHASE 4/5 PH or pit 0.16m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D51	PHASE 4/5 Pit 0.60m deep. Green brown soil.	Cu100;ts.
D52	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.06m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
D53	PHASE 4/5 SH. Brown sandy soil, M.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
D54	PHASE 4/5 SH. Brown sandy soil, M.	
D55	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.09m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
D56	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.07m deep. Dark brown sandy soil.	
D57	PHASE 4/5 Pit *c.* 0.30m deep. Loose green brown soil, IF, CF, M.	
D58	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.16m deep. Brown sandy soil.	

House 7

by J H Williams

Summary

The early levels of House 7 are difficult to understand because of their ephemeral traces possibly as a result of disturbance through cultivation during the 12th to 14th centuries. Six post-holes of Middle Saxon or earlier date were recognised (Phase 2). A Grubenhaus belonged probably to the early part of the Late Saxon period (Phase 4). Also in Phase 4, a timber building was erected at the north end of the area and was associated with a metalled surface. Phase 5 probably saw the establishment of Freeschool Street proper but the rest of the area seems to have been cultivated, waste ground or an unsurfaced yard. Late in the 15th century (contrast the rest of the site) a large stone house was erected (Phase 6), only to be burnt down *c.* 1500.

Phase 2?

Fig. 37

Phase 2 levels displayed the same characteristics as other early levels. Six post-holes were recognised cutting through the weathered ironstone substratum. They were all filled with a light brown silty sand very similar to layer 159 and may have been cut from some point within 159. The small quantity of pottery suggests a pre-Late Saxon date.

Phases 4 and 5

Fig. 37

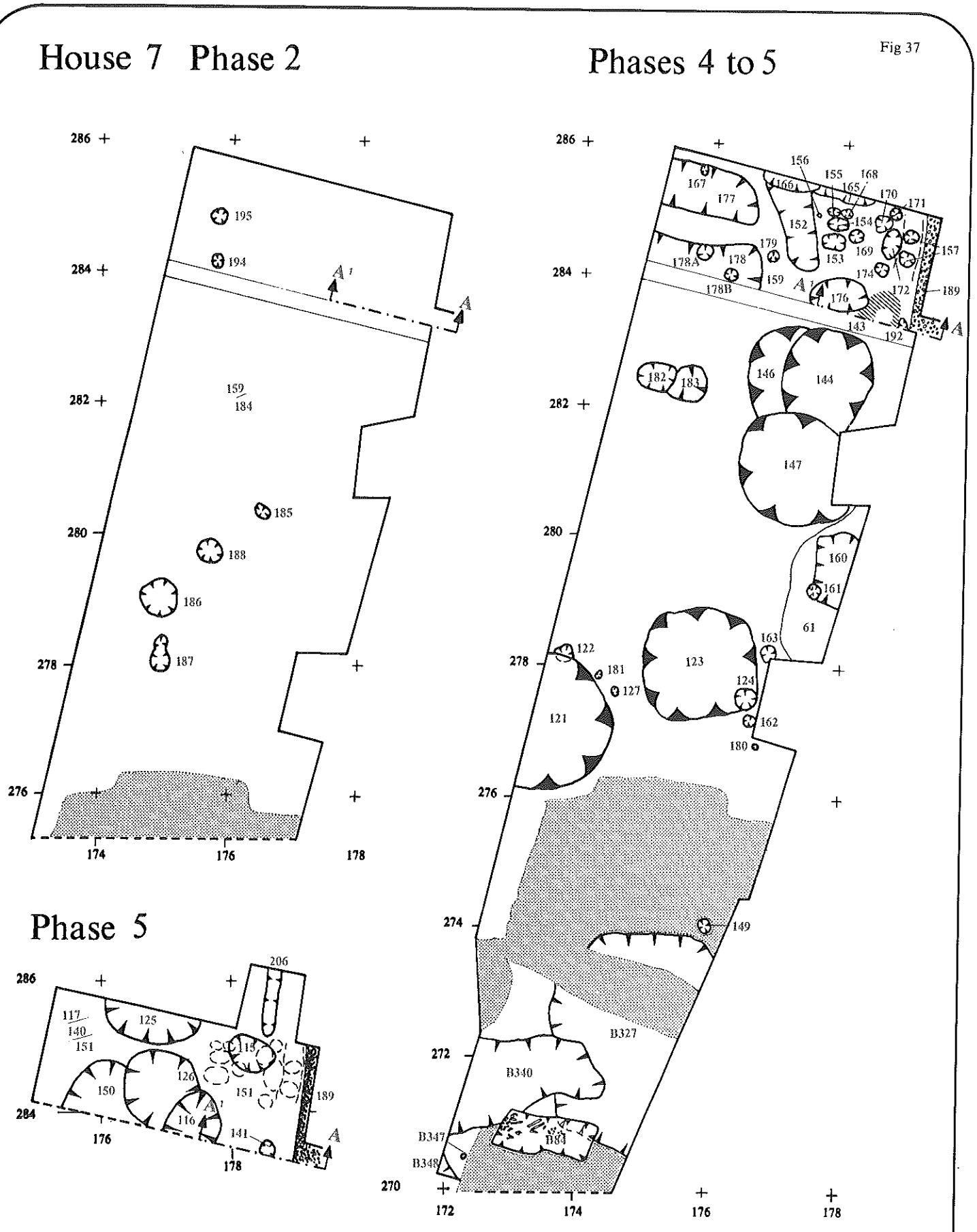
Below the Phase 6 levels a thick homogeneous layer of 'garden soil' (20) *c.* 0.75m thick extended over the whole of the undisturbed area of the house and to the rear of the house. To the south of northing 281 features were only recognised at the base of 20 and cutting 159 but in the limited area to the north subdivisions within the soil build-up could be distinguished because of the presence of a thin, rather harder lens (140). Additionally at this point a small area with a good stratigraphical sequence survived below wall 6. The northern area, therefore, forms the basis of the sequence and an attempt is made to relate to it the isolated features to the south.

A light brown soil (151) overlay 159 and was in turn overlaid by an area of metalling 189 and a grey clay 143, both associated with post-hole 192. Post-hole 192 would appear to represent the wall line of a timber building with 143, overlaid by grey ashy deposit 142, as the remnants of a floor. Further post-holes (153, 157 etc.) were only recognised below 151 but the fills of the post-holes were so similar to 151 that it is quite probable that some or all of the post-holes were associated with the postulated building or its replacement, for in Phase 5 the structure seems to have been rebuilt further west with its wall line represented by post-hole 141. It could be argued that 157 and 192 were contemporary, with 141, 171, 172 and 174 later.

Layer 61 to the south was very similar to layer 142 and may well have been contemporary with it. In which case it is likely that metalling 189 and the associated timber building were of Late Saxon date in that 61 was cut by pit 160 which was clearly Late Saxon. The metalling and the timber building appear to respect roughly the same line as the later stone building and its associated street. In fact the earlier line more closely respects the north-south axis of the site grid. Was 189 a yard or an early street? This is exactly the same problem as that of the early metalling of St Peter's Street itself.

Pits 123, 144, 146, 165, 166 etc. were all of roughly the same period but how they relate to the building is unclear. Presumably they are either earlier or later rather than contemporary. Pit 160, however, as previously noted, was later. Sunken-floored hut B327, rather more irregular in shape than those in the House 10 area and with its single surviving post outside the sunken floor, was merely overlaid by the general spread 20. It seems best, however, to

Fig 37


House 7 Phase 2
Phases 4 to 5
Phase 5
Scale 1:80
286
284
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174
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178
172
195
194
159
184
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186
187
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153
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178A
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178B
159
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143
192
182
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144
147
160
161
61
122
181
127
121
123
163
124
162
180
149
B327
B340
B347
B348
B84

PLATE 10 *House 7: Phase 6.*


Fig 38
House 7 Phase 6
286
284
282
280
278
276
274
272
270
268
166
168
170
172
174
176
178
3
63
56
49
106
107
34
17
106
78
93
78
130
17
20
54
77
20
30
31
45
86
B26
Scale 1:80
m 0 1 2 4

regard it as contemporary with similar structures to the south which are attributed to the earlier part of the Late Saxon period and it may be earlier than the other Late Saxon features discussed above.

A hard brown surface (140) overlay the timber structures (at the north end) and a few shallow pits were recognised cutting it (115, 116, 125, 126, 150) although they may well have cut from a higher level. Post-hole 141 is also regarded as cutting from this level, indicating a Phase 5 timber structure roughly on a similar alignment to that of Phase 4 but the stratigraphy is ambiguous and it is possible that the later timber (?)building was also Phase 4. The pits in turn were overlaid by the upper part of soil 20 which merges in the east into 128 in the area of the road. 20 elsewhere embraces the whole of the build-up between 159 and the Phase 6 levels. Pits such as 121 or 147 may well have been cut through it during its accumulation. The character of 20 is very similar to that found to the rear of the houses along St Peter's Street where it is interpreted as soil accumulated through the constant digging of pits and the turning over of the soil; the soil was extremely well mixed. Since the stone building (Phase 6) was not erected until the 15th century the area of House 7 would appear to have lain waste or been used as a garden for some considerable time. The fairly thick deposit 128 overlying 189 had little in common with other road deposits on the site suggesting waste (as 20 itself) rather than build-up on surface 189. This perhaps supports the idea that 189 was a yard rather than a road although this would be a remarkable coincidence. Nevertheless, at some time during the accumulation of soil 20, metalling 139, which was probably the first Freeschool Street proper, was laid down to be resurfaced several times before Phase 6.

Thus the following sequence for Phases 4 and 5 is possible.

Phase 4:

1 Grubenhaus B327.
2 Timber building associated with metalling or road 189. Roughly contemporary with them (either before or after) a few pits. During Phase 4 occurred the beginning of the build-up of layer 20.

Phase 5:

1 Possible further timber building; build-up of 20 with some pit digging.
2 Further build-up of 20 with establishment of Freeschool Street proper.

Phase 4 occurs somewhere within the Late Saxon period and the Phase 5 levels represent activity of some sort from the end of the 11th century through to the middle of the 15th century.

At the south end of the area a much disturbed human burial (B84) was found below a modern cellar and cutting the fill of Grubenhaus 4. Its precise date is uncertain, lying somewhere between the Late Saxon and Early Modern periods. The body had apparently been placed in a roughly east-west orientation with the head at the west end. The burial is unlikely to have been associated with St Peter's Church but could conceivably relate to St Gregory's Church to the east. It would, however, have lain at the other side of Freeschool Street to the church unless it pre-dated the street.

Phase 6

Fig. 38; Pl. 10

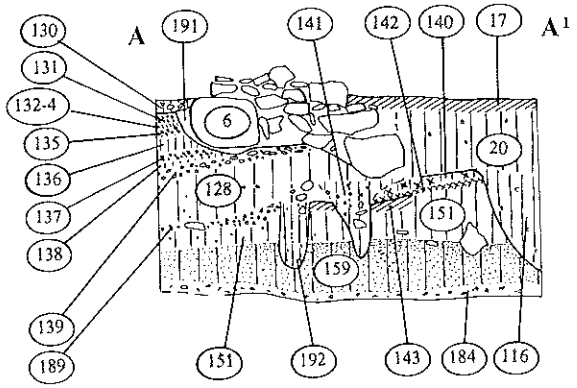
Some time in the 15th century, probably a little later than the general redevelopment of St Peter's Street, House 7 was reconstructed in stone. The surviving stone remains are interpreted as a single property measuring 16×6m externally, considerably larger than the houses fronting St Peter's Street. Wall 3 was bonded into wall 6 but wall 8 formed a butt joint with wall 6. The foundations of wall 8 were fairly deep, (*c.* 0.75m) at its north end, but became very shallow towards the south. Although there was no firm joint wall B26 was regarded as the south wall of the building, a narrow alleyway thus being formed between Houses 6 and 7. Within the house itself the line of stones (93) probably represented a partition. Wall 49 perhaps formed the base for some features set against the north wall. The functions of post-holes 55, 56 and 100 is unclear. To the south wall 45 and stone surface 31 belonged to Phase 6 assuming that layer 51 which sealed it was contemporary with the destruction level further north (23). The purpose of 31 and 45 is, however, unclear. Remains of two levels of clay floor (17 and 78) were noted.

The pottery evidence suggests that Phase 6 is unlikely to have been constructed before the very end of the 15th century and this is confirmed by the late 15th century counter (Nu39) present in layer 20 (Phase 5). The house would appear to have been burnt down in the same fire as that which destroyed St Peter's Street *c.* 1500. A further counter (Nu40) dated to *c.* 1520 was found among the destruction rubble but it is impossible to say whether the counter was dropped at the time of the conflagration or somewhat later.

A possible 17th century group from pit 63 at the north end of the area is described in the pottery section.

Fig 39

House 7 Section



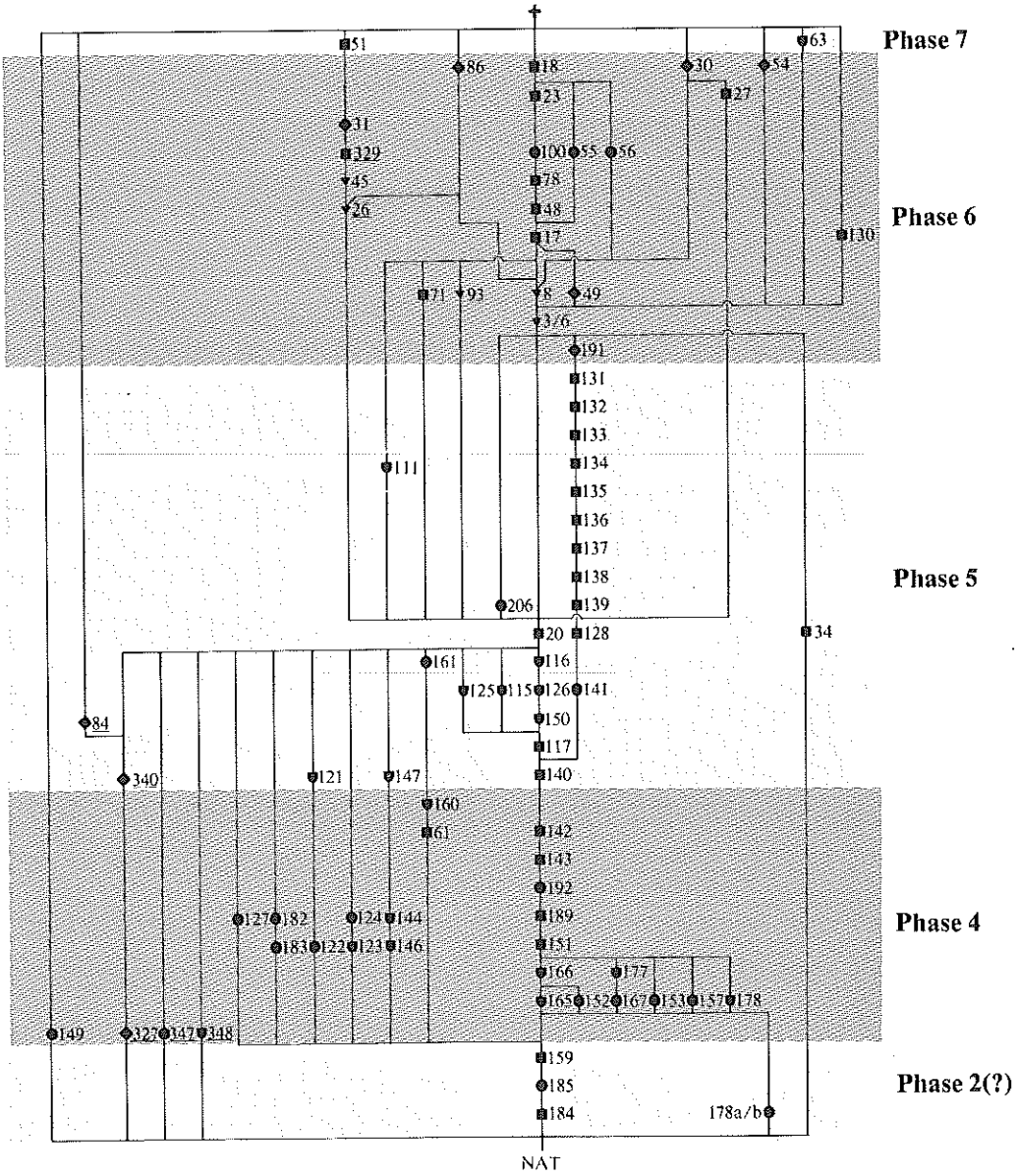
Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
3	PHASE 6i =(4,59,60,64,65,94,114). Ironstone wall. Rubble core.	fs.
6	PHASE 6i =(102,103,118,119). Ironstone wall. Burnt on W face.	Fe77.
8	PHASE 6i Ironstone wall. Foundation up to 0.90m deep.	Cu95.
17	PHASE 6i =(19,66,70,74,75,87,110). Clay floor up to 0.10m thick. Surface burnt in places.	Cu193;Q3.
18	PHASE 7 =(22,72,76,81). Rubble layer overlying 23. NOP.	Cu106,196; ts;AF1.
20	PHASE 5 =(73,85,87,95,108,109,120,B326,B330,B336). 'Garden soil' within house below Phase 6 floor. Dark brown soil, IF etc. In most places to be regarded as going down to natural (cf. 34, part of which probably =20) but in NE corner of house sequence (140-142-151) distinguished within 'garden soil' and kept separate on sequence diagram (Plan—Phase 6).	Nu39;Cu40, 293;Fe18; FS/CuS; SW3;GL14; CP;WB60.
23	PHASE 6ii =(97,98). Burnt clay and charcoal debris. NOP.	Nu30; Cu117-9;Fe25.
27	PHASE 6ii Black ash deposit. NOP.	Nu40.
30	PHASE 6iii Robber of wall 8. IF in brown soil.	Cu28;Fe73; ts.

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
31	PHASE 6i? =(B328). Paving of ironstone blocks and limestone slabs set in grey clay *c.* 0.10m thick.	
34	PHASE 5-6 Brown 'garden soil' to rear of house. Possibly same as 20 but upper levels presumably contemporary with stone building.	
45	PHASE 6i? =(58). Mainly ironstone (some limestone) wall bedded in grey clay. Cf. 31.	
48	PHASE 6i Light green brown sandy soil. Make-up for clay floor 78. NOP.	Cu192.
49	PHASE 6i-6ii =(84); (106,107). Shallow trench containing stone blocks at E end forming face on S side—burnt. W end robbed; filled with clay soil, ironstone rubble and charcoal; possible post setting (106) and SH (107) in bottom. Best to regard as internal arrangement of house. (Robbing regarded as part of 18 on sequence diagram.)	Cu194-5.
51	PHASE 6ii? =(B33). Mixed layer, charcoal, grey clay etc. NOP.	
54	PHASE 6iii Brown soil, IF. Robber of 6.	GL24;CP.
55	PHASE 6i PH 0.50m deep. Pink brown clayey soil, charcoal etc.	Cu25,99.
56	PHASE 6i PH 0.13m deep. Mixed earth, IF, charcoal.	
61	PHASE 4 Grey ashy floor (?) level. Same as 142?	
63	PHASE 7 =(205). Segment of pit. Brown soil, bone, shell.	Fe97-9; GL25,59-60,4.
71	PHASE 6i =(101). Light brown sandy soil 0.01m thick. Make-up for floor 17. NOP.	
77	PHASE 6i Patch of green sand. ?=48 or 71. NOSD.	
78	PHASE 6i =(96,99). Patch of clay flooring.	
86	PHASE 6iii Robbing ? of S extremity of wall 8.	CP.
93	PHASE 6i Single line of ironstone burnt on top and S face. Partition?	
100	PHASE 6i PH 0.36m deep. Clayey soil, M, CF, IF, brick frags.	M
(106)	PHASE 6i 49. Possible post setting at base of 49.	
(107)	PHASE 6i 49. Burnt SH at base of 49.	
111	PHASE 5 Pit 0.18m deep. Hard ironstone rubble. NOP.	Cu50.
115	PHASE 5 Pit. Brown black soil, some ash.	
116	PHASE 5 Pit. Dark brown soil, stones, M.	
117	PHASE 5 Thin lens of green soil.	
121	PHASE 5 Pit at least 1.60m deep. Dark brown soil over ironstone band over dark brown soil	Cu68;Pb8; Fe5,15; FS/FB;SW5, 24-5,30; WB31,74.
122	PHASE 4/5 PH. Compact dark brown soil, occasional stones.	
123	PHASE 4 Pit at least 1.00m deep. Straight sides at top sloping at bottom. Various soil fills.	Fe32,56; TS/FB; GL23;W12; WB69.
124	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.22m deep.	
125	PHASE 5 Pit. Green brown soil, CF, IF.	
126	PHASE 5 Pit. Dark brown soil, M, CF.	GL15.
127	PHASE 4/5 (162,163,180,181). ?PH 0.05m deep. Dark brown soil.	
128	PHASE 5 'Garden soil' below 6 (see section). Part of 20. NOP.	
130	PHASE 6i Road surface. Brown soil with ironstone.	
131	PHASE 5 Packed ironstone road metalling.	
132	PHASE 5 Brown soil, ashy flecks.	
133	PHASE 5 Patch of yellow ironstone road metalling.	
134	PHASE 5 Road surface. Sandy brown soil.	
135	PHASE 5 Tightly packed ironstone metalling.	
136	PHASE 5 Road surface. Brown soil.	
137	PHASE 5 Tightly packed ironstone road metalling.	
138	PHASE 5 Road surface. Brown sandy soil.	
139	PHASE 5 Tightly packed ironstone road metalling.	
140	PHASE 5 =(193). Hard brown surface, charcoal etc. Only recognised at N of area. Intermediate level in 'garden soil' deposits through which some pits were cut.	
141	PHASE 5 =(175). PH 0.40m deep. Brown soil, M.	
142	PHASE 4 Thin and patchy grey ashy deposit, CF. NOP.	
143	PHASE 4 Grey clay floor.	
144	PHASE 4 =(145). Pit at least 0.70m deep. Straight sides, rounded bottom. Green mixed soil, IF, CF, over green brown soil IF, LF.	Cu17; Fe120-1.
146	PHASE 4 Pit at least 0.60m deep. Brown soil, charcoal lenses over light brown soil, IF, over dark brown soil, CF.	
147	PHASE 5 =(148). Pit at least 1.50m deep. Grey brown sandy soil, IF, CF.	
149	PHASE 4? PH at least 0.20m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF. Associated with B327?	
150	PHASE 5 Pit. Dark brown soil, IF, CF, M.	
151	PHASE 4 =(190). Light brown soil, M, limestone at E end. Only recognised to N of area because of (a) pits, (b) road levels etc. in E baulk, (c)	

Fig 40

House7 Sequence diagram



Horizontal deposit(e.g.floor, general layer)

Wall

Timber feature(e.g.post hole, slot)

Pit

Other

B prefixed numbers are underlined but C numbers are not

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
	separation from levels above by 142 and 143. Otherwise very similar to 20 above. In sequence diagram 151 is shown overlying various PHs but it is likely that the PHs were not recognised at a higher level. Based on section, PHs at E edge of trench almost certainly cut 151.	
152	PHASE 4 Slot 0.20m deep. Brown sandy soil, yellow flecks.	
153	PHASE 4 (154-6,168-172,174,176,179). PH 0.15m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
(154)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.11m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
(155)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.13m deep. Brown sandy soil.	
(156)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.05m deep. Brown soil, IF, M.	
157	PHASE 4 Slot with PHs within, 0.10m deep; PHs 0.10m deep below base. Grey brown soil, limestone, CF, M.	
159	PHASE 2? =(164). Orange sandy soil, IF, CF.	
160	PHASE 4 Pit. Brown sandy soil, occasional stones.	
161	PHASE 5 PH. Brown sandy soil, limestone packing.	
(162)	PHASE 4/5 127. PH 0.17m deep. Patchy brown and yellow sandy soil.	
(163)	PHASE 4/5 127. PH 0.05m deep. Brown sandy soil, CF, M.	
165	PHASE 4 Pit 0.50m deep. Brown soil, white clay.	
166	PHASE 4 Pit 0.50m deep. Dark brown soil, much charcoal.	
167	PHASE 4 PH 0.35m deep. Dark brown soil.	WB3.
(168)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.04m deep. Grey brown soil, CF.	
(169)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.10m deep. Dark brown soil.	
(170)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.06m deep. Green brown sandy soil, CF.	
(171)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.12m deep. Green brown sandy soil, CF, M.	
(172)	PHASE 4 153. PH 0.19m deep. Green brown soil, CF.	
(174)	PHASE 4 153. ?PH 0.09m deep. Brown sandy soil, CF.	
(176)	PHASE 4 153. Depression 0.10m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF.	
177	PHASE 4 Depression 0.19m deep. Mottled brown sand, CF, M.	
178	PHASE 4 Depression 0.17m deep. Brown soil, mortar and charcoal. Two PHs in base of 178 (0.10m deep below base of pit) labelled 178a and b.	
(179)	PHASE 4 153. ?PH/SH 0.07m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
(180)	PHASE 4/5 127. PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown soil, CF.	
(181)	PHASE 4/5 127. ?PH 0.05m deep. Black soil, much charcoal.	
182	PHASE 4/5 PH. Brown sandy soil, CF, M.	
183	PHASE 4/5 PH. Dark brown soil, IF, CF, M.	
184	PHASE 2? Weathered ironstone immediately above natural.	
185	PHASE 2? (186,187,188,194,195). PH. Light brown silty sand.	
(186)	PHASE 2? 185. PH 0.26m deep. Light brown silty sand, CF.	
(187)	PHASE 2? 185. PH 0.52m deep. Loose, silty light brown sand.	
(188)	PHASE 2? 185. PH 0.17m deep. Loose light brown sand.	
189	PHASE 4 Hard surface of packed ironstone metalling.	
191	PHASE 6i Construction trench E of wall 6. NOP.	
192	PHASE 4 PH 0.35m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, IF, M.	
(194)	PHASE 2? 185. PH 0.23m deep. Light brown silty sand.	
(195)	PHASE 2? 185. PH 0.11m deep. Light brown silty sand.	
206	PHASE 5 Slot 0.15m deep. Brown soil, M.	
B26	PHASE 6i? Ironstone wall. S wall of House 7?	
B84	PHASE 5 =(B90). Burial—disturbed bones.	
B327	PHASE 4 (343,344,366,367,376). Used in sequence diagram as collective number for all levels within Grubenhaus 1. Sequence—340-327-343-344-366-367-376. Burnt charcoal: destruction level?	FS/TS.
B329	PHASE 6i? Stiff grey clay below C31. NOP.	GL77-8.
B340	PHASE 4/5 =(359). Gully cutting charcoal fill of Grubenhaus. Black loamy fill, much animal bone.	FB/FS.
(B343)	PHASE 4 327. Orange brown patchy level. Lens within general burnt layer 327? Cf. Grubenhaus. NOP.	
(B344)	PHASE 4 327. Extremely burnt layer within Grubenhaus. NOP.	
B347	PHASE 4? Small shallow PH.	
B348	PHASE 4? Depression. Brown soil, IF, CF.	
(B366)	PHASE 4 327. Patchy grey-off white clay floor within Grubenhaus. NOP.	
(B367)	PHASE 4 327. Dark green brown soil—occupation layer within Grubenhaus. NOP.	
(B376)	PHASE 4 327. Creamy white clay, burnt patches, lowest floor level within Grubenhaus. NOP.	

House 8

by J H Williams with A Boddington

Summary

House 8 is particularly important for the sequence it provides up to and including Phase 5. The prehistoric ditch located in House 1 continued its course diagonally north-east to south-west through the House 8 area (Phase 1). A timber post-in-slot building overlay the infilled ditch and dated to the Early/Middle Saxon period (Phase 2). Two mortar mixers and their debris also belonged to the Middle Saxon period (Phase 3). In Phase 4 successive timber buildings were associated with a metalled yard and several pits. The pattern of occupation integrated well with the area to the north and the House 1 and House 8 areas should probably be regarded as the same complex at this time. With Phase 5, there is a clear reorganisation of the area with a true street laid out east-west along the line of the present street and with a lane running south along the line of Narrow Toe Lane (see Fig. 72). The two periods of building contrast with the apparently frequent rebuilding of Phase 4. A possible period of dereliction was followed by the solitary stone building of Phase 6 which may well go with the general rebuilding of *c.* 1410-20. Some post-medieval levels were also examined.

Phase 1

Figs. 8 and 41

The prehistoric ditch (316) first excavated in the House 1 area was also present in the House 8 area. A full discussion is given under House 1, Phase 1.

Fig 41

House 8 Phases 1 to 3

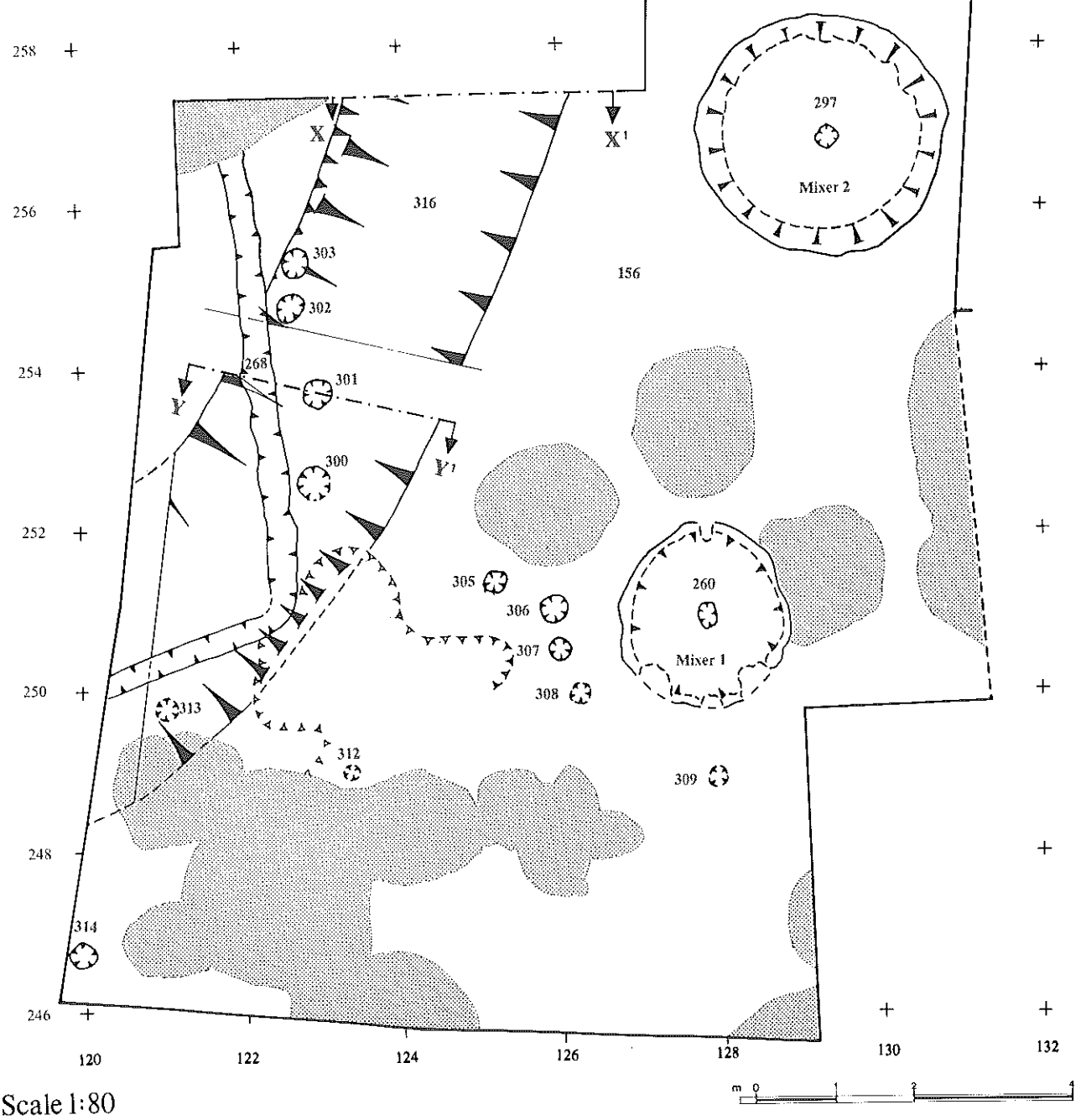


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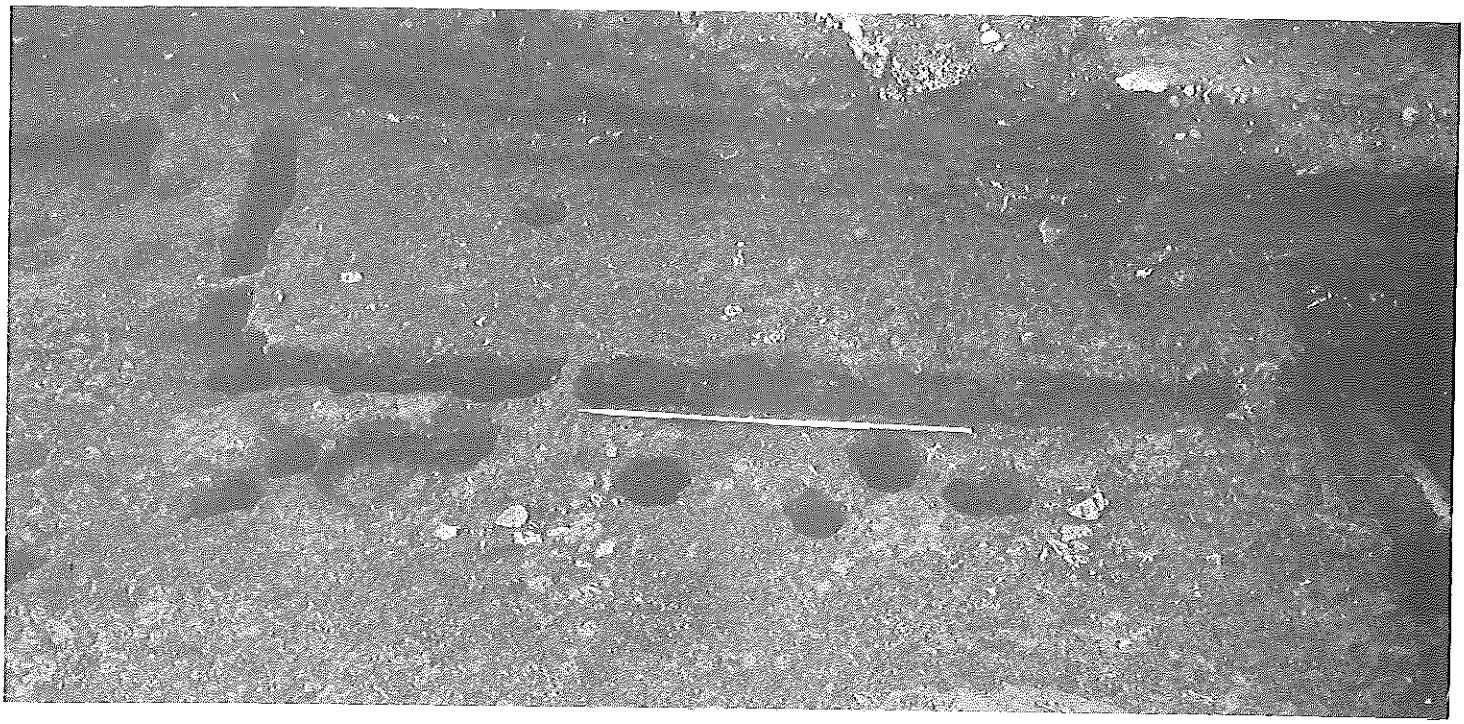
PLATE 11 *House 8: Phase 2 timber building from the east.*



Phase 2

Fig. 41; Pl. 11

A thin level of light brown clayey earth with frequent limestone fragments (156) extended over the whole of the area and overlay the infill of the Phase 1 ditch. The deposits were well weathered and perhaps indicate that some considerable time had elapsed between the use of the ditch and the subsequent occupation. A faint iron-pan was present in places on top of 156.

To the west a probable timber building was represented by a continuous slot (268) and individual post-holes but no floor levels were found. The fact that the slot was deepest at the south, downward end seems to indicate that the site sloped at that period and has not been subject to subsequent major erosion. The slot and post-holes were extremely difficult to locate and were identified rather by differences in texture than by any marked colour distinction. Slight variations in the fill of the slot suggest spaced post-in-slot construction rather than continuous planking; in the southern half of 268 three patches of soft earth, lacking in ironstone, alternated with patches where there were frequent ironstone fragments. These soft patches, identical in fill to the post-holes alongside the slot, were spaced *c.* 0.75m apart. One of the soft patches contained some limestone slabs (packing?) and limestone packing was also noticed at the north end of 268 where the slot cut down into the natural bedrock. Whether the post-holes alongside the slot were part of the slot-building (buttresses?) or represent a separate phase is impossible to determine, nor is it possible to ascertain the total plan of the building or buildings involved.

Phase 2 pre-dates Phase 3 which would appear to belong to the 8th century. Associated material is Saxon but it is impossible to give a precise date.

Phase 3

Fig. 41; Pl. 12

The Phase 2 structures were well sealed by the debris of Phase 3. Two mortar mixers (1 and 2) were constructed within the area. The archaeological evidence for the interpretation of the mixers is discussed in a separate section (p. 118). No features associated with the mixers were identified.

A series of sand deposits and lime slurries spread over the whole of the area. The sand varied slightly in hardness and in colour on either side of a pale red brown and was relatively stone free. The slurry was soft and chalky, in fact almost a pure lime. At the

PLATE 12 *House 8: Phase 3, mortar mixers 2 and 3.*

outhern end of the site only a single thin layer of sand was resent but at the northern end of the area, overlying mixer 2, was deep build-up 0.35m thick comprising sand 291, slurry 273, sand 72 and slurry 55. 55 was in places sealed by a further sand level 267.

The spreads of slurry, from their evenness and continuity, would eem to have been deposited wet and then settled and this is onfirmed by the patterns of vegetable matter impressions on the nderside of the slurry which are both extensive and unbroken. t is possible that the slurry represents spillage from mixing, perhaps rior to mixing rather than from mixing, as such a soft slurry, with o aggregate or sand, would not have been really suitable for onstructional purposes. Apparently identical material (N188) was, owever, found within the church where it had the appearance of being a floor deposit. It could be argued that this material also was spillage but from what? Either mixing was taking place within the church—but is this probable when there was a separate, defined mixing area?—or the lime slurry was, after all, a mix perhaps used as a whitewash for the walls. Whatever the use of the slurry its presence both in the church and in association with the mixers is a useful link.

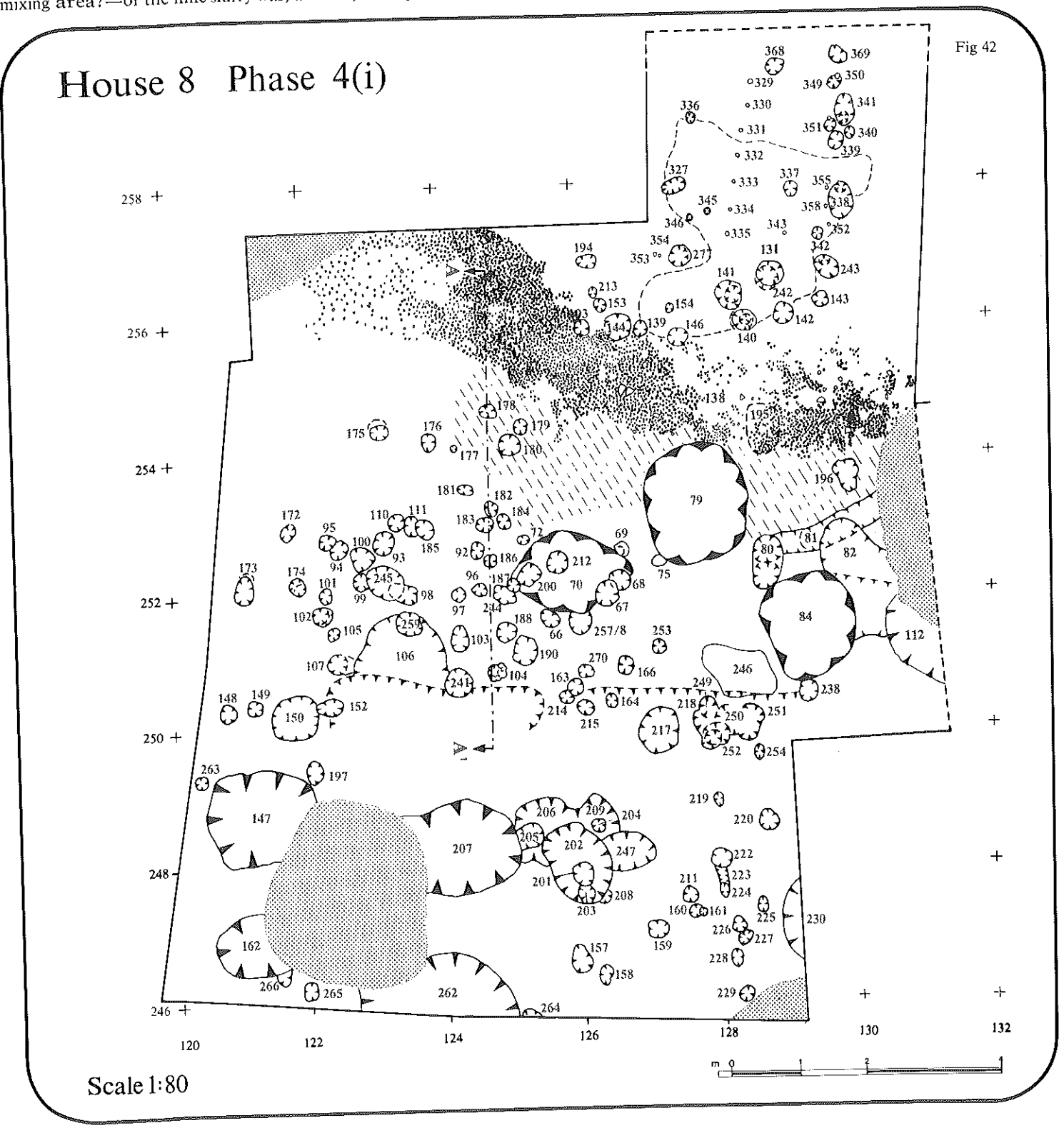
55 and 273 extended over the top of mixer 2 but not over the top of mixer 1. It is possible that these deposits were associated with mixer 1, thus suggesting that mixer 1 was a replacement for mixer 2. In fact, a mix was never completed in mixer 1 (see below p. 121).

The mixers and associated debris produced radiocarbon dates of AD 670±95 (RC1), AD 680±65 (RC2) and AD 900±70 (RC3). An absolute date at the beginning of the 8th century is suggested for the mixers.

Phase 4

Figs. 42-4; Pl. 13

Phase 4 by definition comprises timber buildings pre-dating the laying out of the road along the line of St Peter's Street yet



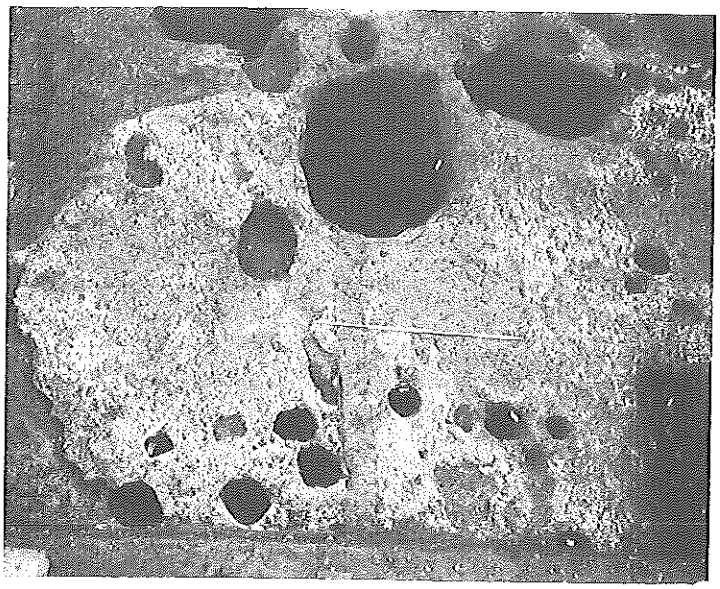
subsequent to Phase 3. It is possible to firmly attribute to Phase 4 those post-holes securely sealed beneath the metalling of the Phase 5 road (108 etc.); additionally it is argued below that the limestone and soil spread 57 marks the end of Phase 4 and therefore features overlaid by this layer are, at latest, Phase 4; (cf. House 1, Phase 4C); several post-holes pre-dating Phase 6 and contemporary with road metalling 129 or overlying 236/9 (regarded as the equivalent of 57) must be considered as Phase 5. There is, however, a large number of post-holes in the southern half of the area (south of northing 250) which cannot on stratigraphical grounds be assigned either to Phase 4 or 5; at the time of excavation, severe limitations of time dictated that the upper levels in the southern area should be removed mechanically in order to concentrate effort on the earlier features. Further post-holes were only overlaid by Phase 6 levels and cut 55/56 and in the absence of contrary evidence it is assumed that they belong to either Phase 4 or 5.

The stratigraphical evidence for separating out sub-phases or even distinguishing the major Phases 4 and 5 is severely limited as noted above. Nevertheless, if the evidence of the artefacts is also considered and certain assumptions made, a plausible sequence can be postulated.

The following factors are crucial to the understanding of the area:

1 Several post-holes could be separated out on stratigraphical grounds as Phase 5 (62 etc.; 51 etc.; 76 etc.;) and other post-holes were assigned to that phase, (a) on the basis of their position coinciding with the eastern edge of 108 and (b) on the basis of their position continuing the line of 76 and 234. These structures are more fully discussed under Phase 5.

PLATE 13 *House 8: Phase 4A, south edge of building 1 from the north.*



2 Within Phase 4 there were several clear building alignments. (See also Fig. 76a.)

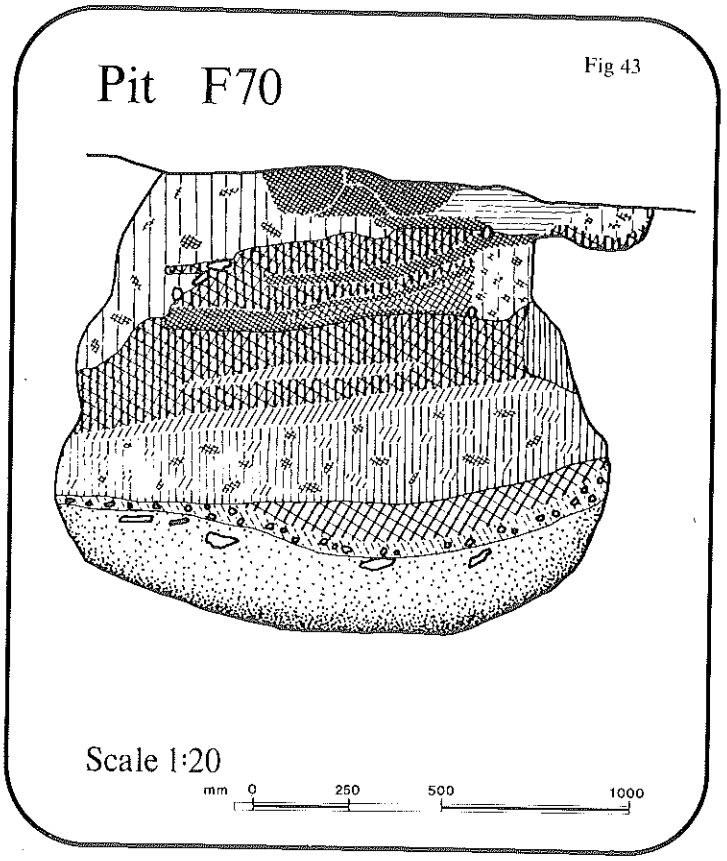
a (Phase 4, building 1) To the north of metalling 138 and underlying the Phase 5 road (129) a series of post-holes defined a roughly rectangular building measuring 6.6×4m. Metalling 138 stopped along the line of post-holes 144, 146, 140 and 142 and to the north of this line a thin grey green stain on the underlying mortar and sand layer was the sole remains of internal occupation deposits. The northern edge of the building probably lay in the House 1 area (see Phase 4, House 1). The apparent double line of post-holes along the southern edge of the building and the presence of a line of stake-holes as well as other post-holes internally, suggests more than one phase of building.

b (Phase 4, building 3) Post-holes 175-80 possibly represent the north wall of a small timber structure. It is possible to offer many combinations of post-holes from those present to form buildings of various sizes and shapes. A small rectangular structure 3×2m with 175, 180, 103 and 105 as corner posts is put forward as possibly the most plausible. This utilises posts 175-80 and fits in best with surplus post-holes from building 4.

c (Phase 4, building 4) To the south was an alignment of post-holes (220-264) clearly set at 45° to the trench. On eliminating the post-holes of the postulated building 3, the remaining post-holes seem either to respect or be at right angles to this diagonal alignment. Assuming that these alignments constitute the side walls of rectilinear buildings several of these buildings apparently only have two sides but later interference is almost certainly responsible. Between northings 250 and 251 there is a sharp drop varying locally between 0.15 and 0.30m which would have removed all but the deepest post-holes. A series of timber buildings possibly four in number and aligned north-east to south-west would not appear unreasonable. No floor levels survived from buildings 3 and 4. 206/9, however, was probably a hearth for one of the sub-phases of building 4.

3 Metalled surface 138 clearly extended over a greater area than that surviving and was certainly present south of northing 254 where a heavy iron-staining on the top of lime slurry 55 betrayed its presence. It was clearly associated with building 1 and was possibly contemporary with building 3. Gully 81 which terminated in post-hole 80 defined the probable southern extent of the yard. Although post-hole 195 was apparently overlaid by metalling 138 (the post itself which did not survive need not have been!) it seems possible that posts 80 and 195 formed part of a gate structure associated with building 1; 81 possibly held a fence—the whole unit would then have been building(s) plus enclosure.

4 The House 8 area was clearly at some time during Phase 4 part of the same iron-working complex as that in the House 1 area (see above p. 15). Pits 70, 207 and 202 contained large quantities of slag and slag was also present in pit 106/post-hole 259 and pit 79. Pit 70 (Fig 43) is, in fact, interpreted as a non-slag-tapping furnace by Cleere (see below p. 278). It seems probable that all the slag-containing pits are roughly contemporary.



5 The pottery from Phase 4, where present in quantity, with the exception of layer 57 which falls right at the end of the phase, is consistently of the ratio high St Neots type/low Northampton ware, which may possibly be significant chronologically. Pits 82, 84, 106, 112, 147, 162, 262, 202, 247, 206 have too few sherds for any meaningful comment, but on the basis of

stratigraphical position or the presence of slag 106, 202, 247 and 206 must be regarded as early.

6 The stone scatter and green earth 57 may belong to the second half of the 10th century or possibly later. The stone could be a random scatter but there appears to be a straight edge defining its northern extent from post-hole 144 eastwards. Similarly the western limit forms a roughly straight line along easting 125.5. The stone could represent the rough foundations of a building and it is interesting to note that the stone is in fact limestone such as is associated with the prehistoric ditch and the 8th century church and is foreign to the site. On balance 57 seems to represent a period of inactivity which was also noted in the House 1 and House 2 areas.

If one adopts the considerations above as the basis of argument and then makes a few further assumptions, it is possible to develop a sequence within Phase 4 for House 8. The assumptions which have to be made are that

a pits do not normally lie within buildings or freshly metalled areas.
b all the slag-containing pits are contemporary.
c the basic sequence identified in the House 1 area is valid also for the House 8 area, i.e. that building 1 pre-dates metal-working on the site.

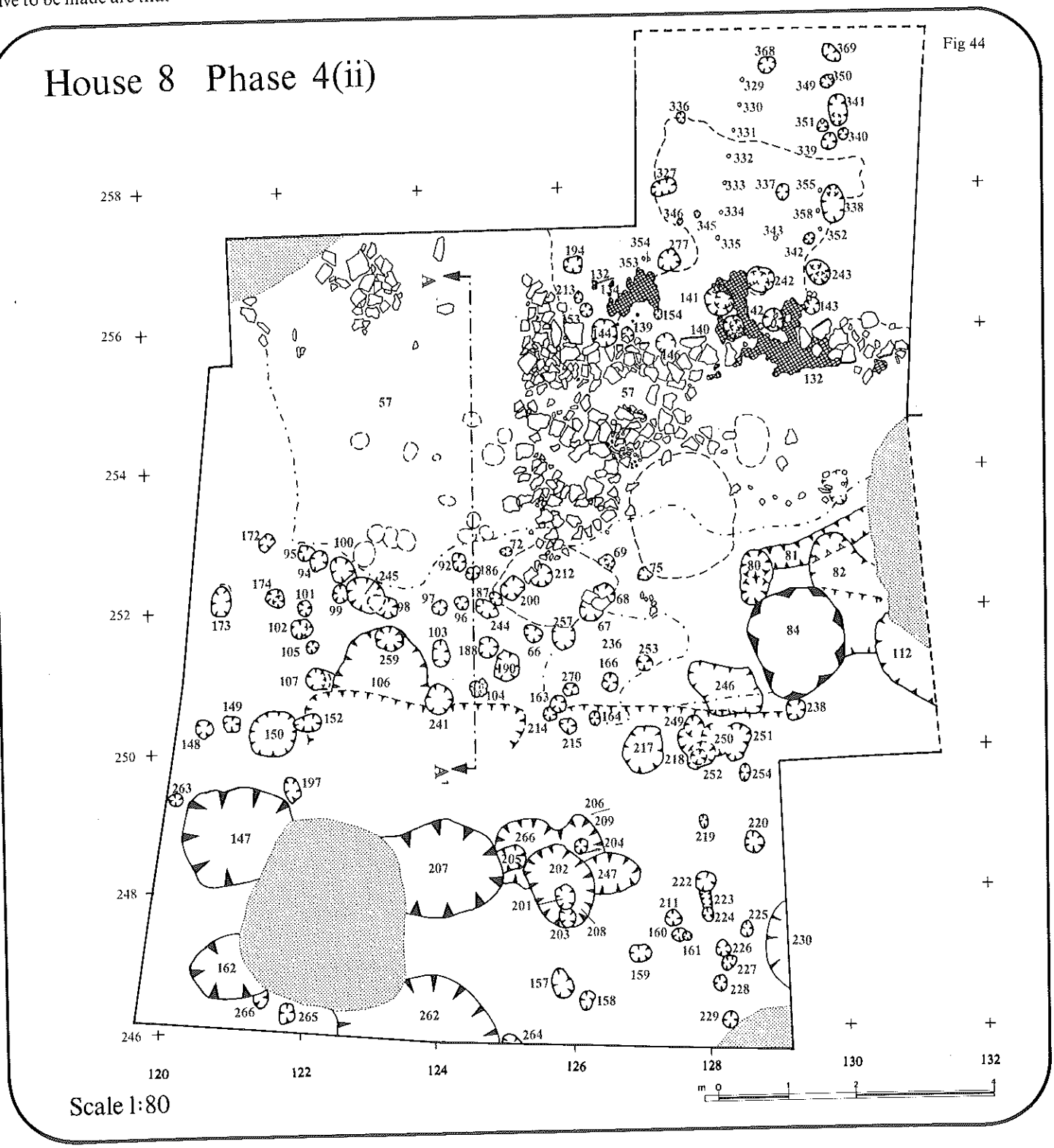
The sequence for the area (see Fig. 76) is then as follows:

A Building 1 is associated with metalling 138 and is probably one of several buildings within an enclosure entered through a gate formed by posts 80, 195 and 140. Building 3 is possibly contemporary.

B A workshop in House 1 is engaged in metal-working (building 2). Pit 70 may have been used as a furnace and certainly as a receptacle for slag and other slag-containing pits are contemporary.

C In the south of the area a succession of timber buildings were laid out diagonally to the site grid. The position of these buildings within the sequence is based on one or more of post-holes 67, 200, 212 being part of these diagonally aligned structures.

Fig 44



D Level 57 was deposited—this was probably a period of dereliction but possibly a building should be seen in the stone scatter. A certain amount of burning (132) overlay this layer.

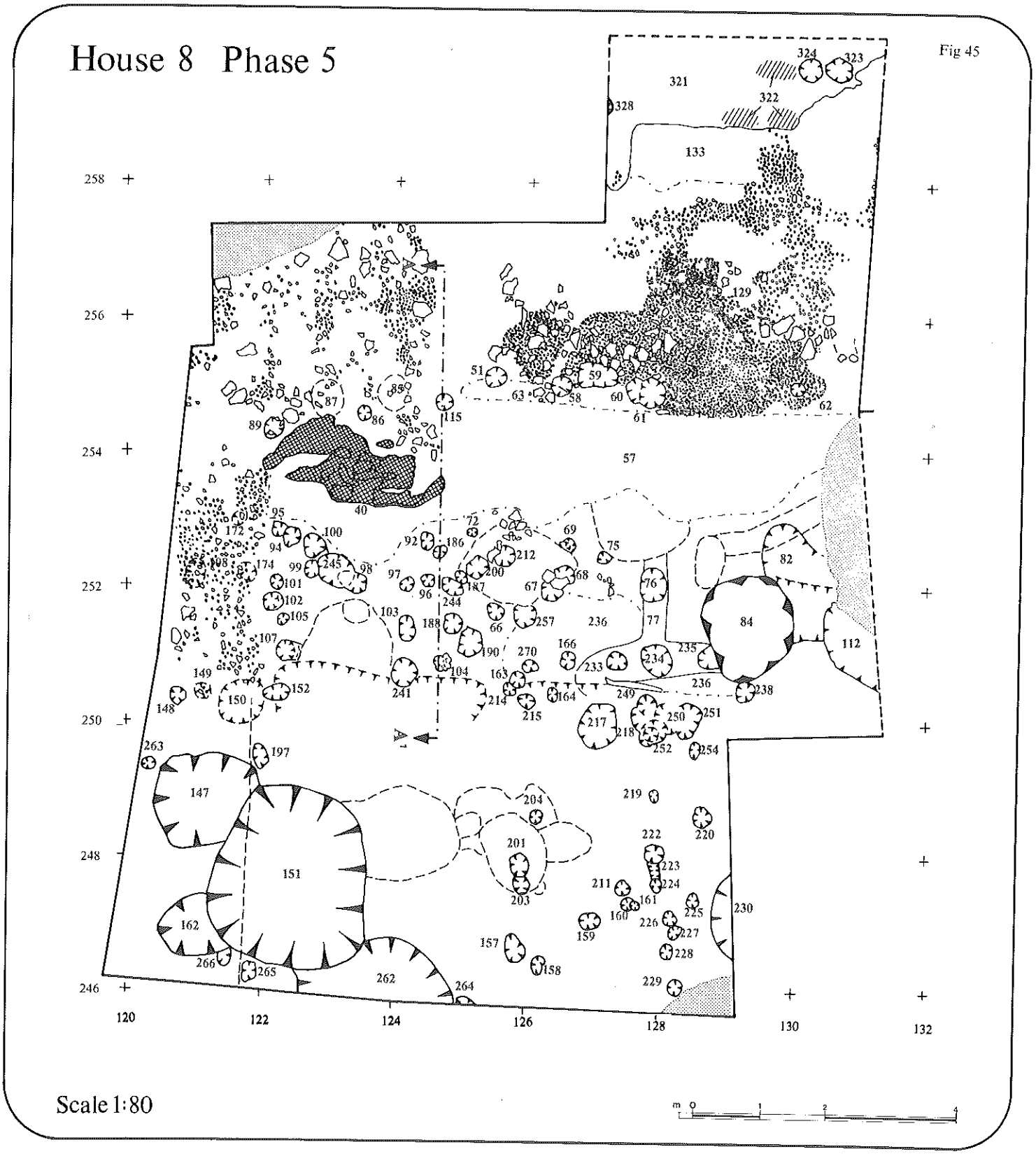
The position of buildings 3 and 4, and also several of the pits, within the framework is by no means certain but the postulated sequence seems to offer the best solution on the evidence available. Perhaps this is in any case of lesser significance compared with the overall view of the occupation of the area. Clearly there was no street but rather we are dealing with a reasonably sized unit, entered by a gate and possibly enclosed by a fence, extending across the line of the later street and encompassing at least the House 1 and House 8 areas. The wider significance of this will be discussed in the synthesis.

The coin evidence for House 1 suggests that Phase 4 commenced at the beginning of the 10th century or possibly a little earlier. The duration of the phase is uncertain but Phase 4D, a period of dereliction, may well belong to the 11th century, perhaps starting even in the late 10th century.

Phase 5

Fig. 45

Phase 5 by definition saw the establishment of a metalled street along the line of the present street and with rectangular timber buildings on either side. The road was formed of a compacted mass of ironstone fragments (129) on which mud (19) had accumulated over the years. Narrow Toe Lane (in the form of 108) would appear to have been of contemporary formation to St Peter's



reet. However, there is a break between 108 and 129 and whereas 9 rests on top of the general level 57, 108 rests directly on 55/56. fades out where 108 begins and the possible anomaly is most sily explained by differential erosion in the steeply sloping orth-west corner of the area. Certainly lines of post-holes seem to set along the edges of 129 and 108 to form a structure and ie character of 108 is very similar to 129 while differing from iat of the earlier metalling 138.

The difficulty of separating Phase 4 and 5 structures except n the area where post-holes were overlaid by or cut general level 57 as already been noted but certain theses may nevertheless be ostulated. At the south edge of 129 two series of post-holes, set oughly in an east-west line, were visible (89, 86, 115, 58, 60 and 7, 85, 51, 59, 61). There were no post-holes west of easting 122. The xcavated depths of 86 and 89 were less than 0.05m but a comparison f the spot heights of the bases of these post-holes with the rest of he series suggests that differential erosion of the ground surface nay have been responsible.

Some difficulty is encountered in putting all these post-holes nto a sequence. It is fairly clear that road 129 was associated with he post-holes and that 19 was the build-up on top of the road. The post-holes were, however, visible in 19; this need not imply that the post-holes were cut from that level but rather that the posts survived from 129 while 19 accumulated gradually. Because of the fairly subtle distinction in colour and texture between post-holes and road build-up, further clarification of the matter is impossible. Nor is it possible to determine which of the two series of post-holes was primary.

Along the outside of Narrow Toe Lane a north-south line of posts may be traced and further walls of Phase 5 structures can be suggested by extending the lines of 61, 76 and 234 southwards to 219 etc. and the line of 235, 234, 233 westwards. A rectangular pattern of post-holes emerges but it is difficult to say anything further about the character of the structures. No well defined floor level survived except for a thin spread of clay and a hearth (40) sitting on top of 57. Pit 151 on pottery evidence is Phase 5.

The Phase 5 dating evidence is limited and the phase can only really be located as occupying some or all of the period between Phase 4 and 6, i.e. between the late 11th century and early 15th century, although it is probable that the area was derelict towards the end of this period (see below).

Phase 6

Fig. 47

At the end of Phase 5 there was possibly a period of dereliction; the stone house was not constructed until *c.* 1410-20 and then it encroached slightly both north and west on to earlier streets which were now reconstituted. Layer 32, a 'garden soil' which contained various tip lines, was either a deliberate make-up for the floor or an accumulation during a period of inactivity.

Only one period of building survived in Phase 6—the house itself was 4m deep and probably 10m long assuming that the wall fragment 78 marks the eastern boundary. Internal arrangements were unclear. (20) = 3 was possibly a partition but could be later; evidence for further division was lacking. To the west was a floor of crushed ironstone fragments (18) overlaid by occupation debris (13) and burnt material (14) which could be from the destruction of the building. If wall 78 marks the eastern boundary, pit 65 sits outside the building in the corner formed by the boundary wall and the house.

Only limited comment can be made on the yard area for cursory examination only was possible in order that the earlier deposits should be treated properly. Late medieval and later features to the south of northing 250, after initial cleaning, were removed by mechanical excavator.

Yard 4 is earlier than wall 7, which is Phase 7, and could possibly go with Phase 6, but no firm dating evidence was recovered. Wall 37 which underlay wall (33) = 7 is possibly Phase 6.

Phase 6 is thought to belong to the wholesale rebuilding of the street *c.* 1410-20. The house plan appears to be of the standard type and the presence of 14th century pottery in level 32 perhaps supports the idea. There is no evidence to indicate that occupation of Phase 6 continued into the 16th century.

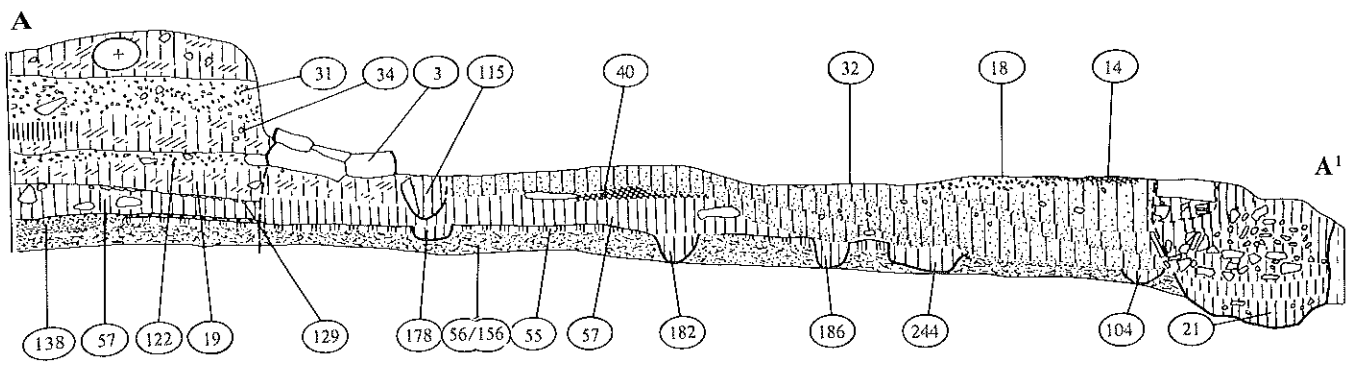
Phase 7

Fig. 47

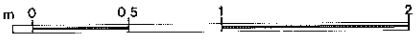
In the initial clearing, traces were recovered of a wall (1) at the front of the house together with walls of cottages (7) which can partly be seen on Fig. 47.

Fig 46

House 8 Section

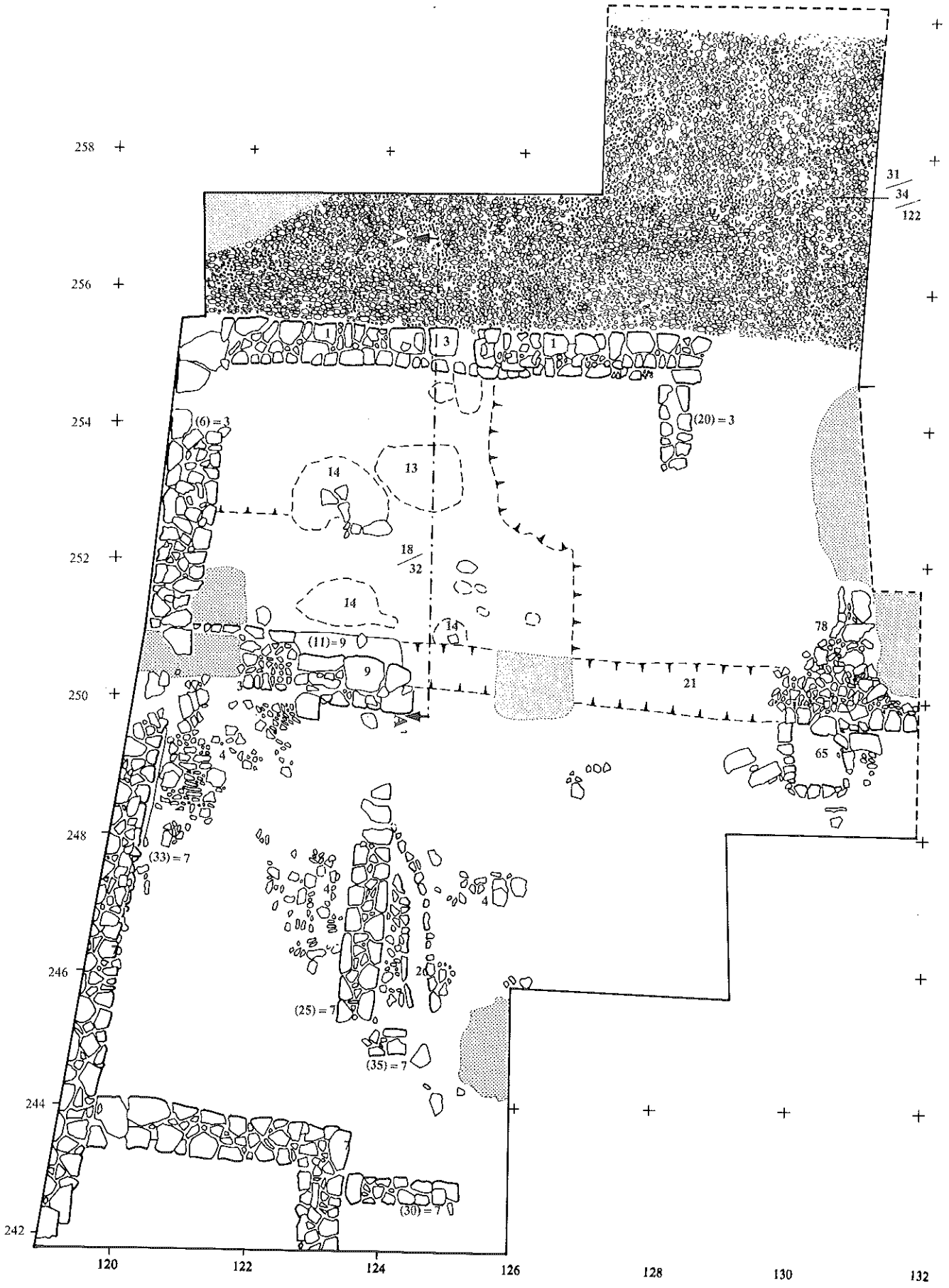


Scale 1:40



House 8 Phases 6 and 7

Fig 47



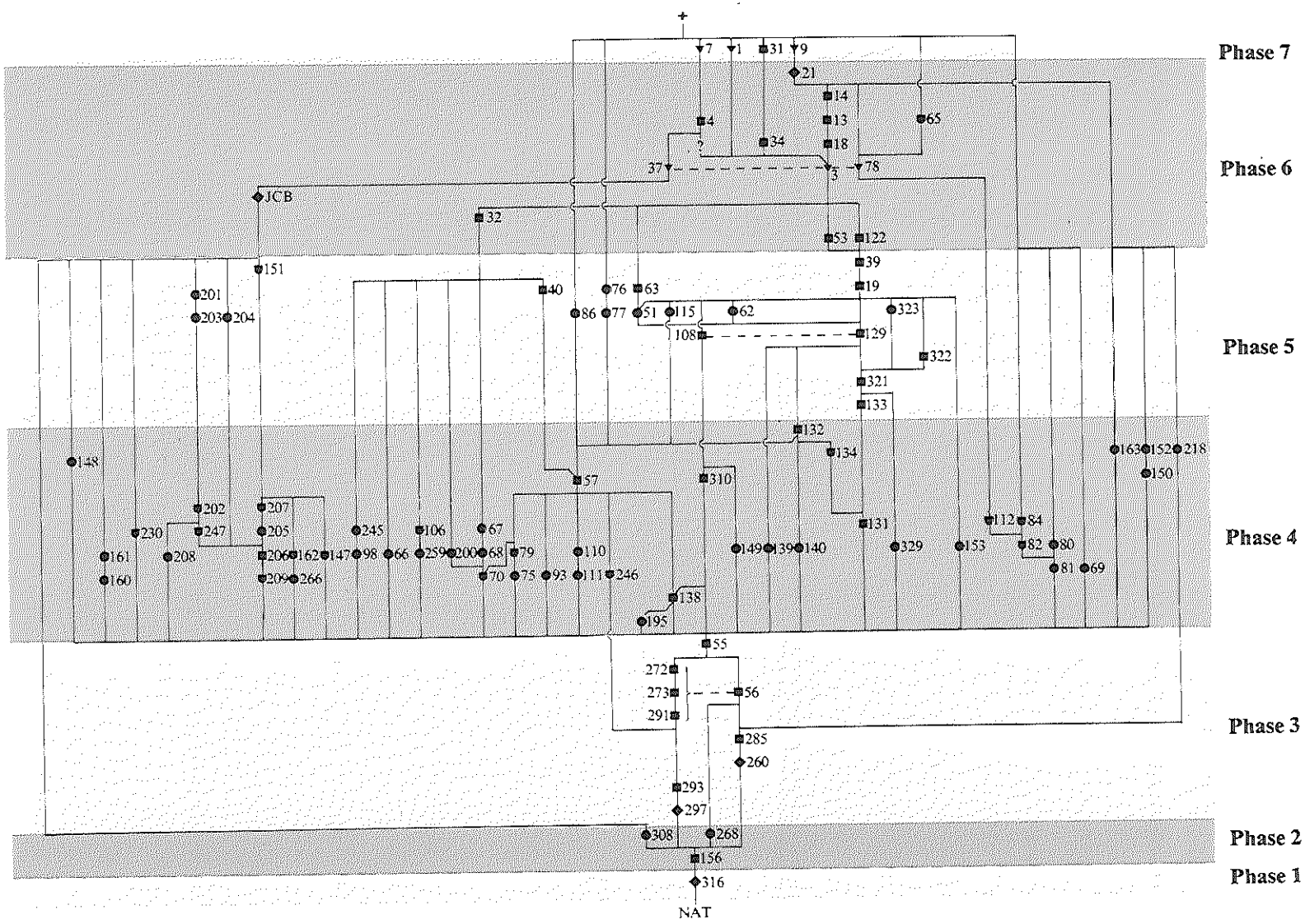
Scale 1:80

Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
1	PHASE 7 =(2). Ironstone wall.	
3	PHASE 6i =(6,10,20,36,168). Ironstone wall contemporary with floor level 13 and road 122. Group includes construction trenches 36 and 168.	ts.
4	PHASE 6/7 =(5,23-4,27); (26). Pitched and flat ironstone and limestone forming yard surface. Cut by Phase 7 walls. Group includes drain 26.	
7	PHASE 7 =(25,28-30,33). Ironstone wall. Mortar matrix. Probably contemporary with walls 1 and 9. Cuts yard 4.	Nu43.
9	PHASE 7 =(11). Ironstone wall. Mortar matrix. Includes construction trench 11.	WB99.
13	PHASE 6i Thin dirty clay level. Occupation deposit on floor 18.	
14	PHASE 6ii? =(15-17). Burnt ironstone, limestone, clay and ash on floor 18. Probably destruction deposit though 17 could be a hearth.	
18	PHASE 6i Crushed ironstone floor (?) abutting wall 3 etc.	ts.
19	PHASE 5 =(113,127-8,320). Mixture of green brown and blue dirty soils and clays overlying metalled surfaces 108 and 129. NOP.	Pb38;FB/FS; SW16;WB13, 53,76.
21	PHASE 6iii =(22,52,54). Brown soil, IF. Robber of Phase 6 walls.	
(26)	PHASE 7? 4. Drain formed by stones of 4.	
31	PHASE 7 =(119). Hard ironstone road surface.	
32	PHASE 5-6 Brown earth, IF. Make-up for 18? Various tip lines—see section.	FS/TS; GL50;WB88.
34	PHASE 6i =(121,125). Dark brown soil, IF. Road deposit.	
35	PHASE 7? Small length of ironstone wall, relationship uncertain. NOSD.	
37	PHASE 6i Rough ironstone wall below 4 and 7. NOP.	
39	PHASE 5 =(49,50). Mixture of brown and black earth, stone and slag. Road deposit. NOP.	
40	PHASE 5 =(46,47). Red and white burning, charcoal and clay. Hearth within building.	
51	PHASE 5 (58-61). PH recorded depth 0.18m. Brown earth, IF, LF.	ts.
53	PHASE 6i Patches of IF, similar to road surfaces but underlying (6)=3. Possible redeposit in construction of (6)=3. NOP.	
55	PHASE 3 =(199,267,269). Spread of white lime slurry, very thin at S of area and up to 0.30m thick at N extent. Probably spread while liquid and subsequently set. Includes thin brown sand layers 267 and 269 immediately above 55. Area of 55 to S of 191 was heavily iron-stained; probably originally overlaid by 138 subsequently worn away. NOP.	
56	PHASE 3 =(155, 210, 274, 276, 282, 284, 287-8, 311). Collective number for a series of deposits of light brown silty sand. Relationships between each other vague but best regarded as a series of tips associated with mortar mixers and overlaid by 55. At N end deposits thicken and include lime slurry wedge 273. 272, 273 and 291 are part of this general deposit though described separately and isolated on matrix. NOP.	RC1-2; TS/FB.
57	PHASE 4D =(64,114,135-137). Cf. also 236. Green brown soil with large limestone blocks embedded. Seals large areas of Phase 4 and clearly overlaid by Phase 5 road (129) etc.	Cu69;ts.
(58)	PHASE 5 51. PH recorded depth 0.18m. Brown grey earth, LF, CF, M.	
(59)	PHASE 5 51. PH recorded depth 0.23m. Brown earth, IF, LF.	
(60)	PHASE 5 51. PH recorded depth 0.36m. Brown grey earth, IF, LF. Relationship with 61 indeterminate.	
(61)	PHASE 5 51. PH recorded depth 0.20m. Brown grey earth, IF, LF.	
62	PHASE 5 (85,87). PH recorded depth less than 0.10m. Brown grey earth, IF.	
63	PHASE 5 Light green brown soil, IF, LF. Possibly internal Phase 5 deposit. N edge coincident with N extent of Phase 5 building.	
65	PHASE 6i Ironstone lined pit within 78. Light brown soil fill.	
66	PHASE 4/5 (72,92,94-97,99-105,107,166,186-8,190,241, 244,257). PH 0.19m deep. Dark grey burnt soil, clay flecks. On sequence diagram 66 represents all PHs overlaid by soil 32 and cutting mixer deposits 55,56; includes examples belonging to Phases 4 and 5.	
67	PHASE 4/?5 PH 0.13m deep. Brown grey earth, M, CF.	
68	PHASE 4/?5 PH 0.46m deep. Green brown earth, clay, CF, M.	
69	PHASE 4/?5 (238). PH 0.11m deep. Brown grey earth, IF, CF.	
70	PHASE 4B Pit, see section. Contains burnt levels and slag.	FB/FS; WB64.
(72)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.06m deep. Loose brown earth.	
75	PHASE 4A/B PH. Brown earth, IF, CF.	
76	PHASE 5 (233-5). PH 0.40m deep. Brown grey earth, IF, CF.	
77	PHASE 5 =(237). Thin strip of light brown grey earth following line of 76, 233-5. Relationship to 79 and 84 uncertain. Recorded as cut by them but this most unlikely. Problem possibly caused by subsidence in pits.	
78	PHASE 6i Ironstone wall. Continuation of 10.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
79	PHASE 4B Pit. Straight-sided, excavated to 1.55m depth only. Dark brown grey earth over brown/grey clayey earth with lenses of burnt material over dark green earth.	Cu12;FS; W14.
80	PHASE 4A? Double PH 0.40m deep. Brown grey earth, IF, CF, M.	
81	PHASE 4A? Slot 0.15m deep. U-shaped profile. Grey brown earth, IF, CF, M.	
82	PHASE 4? Depression 0.10m deep. Brown earth.	
84	PHASE 4? Pit. Straight-sided, excavated to 1.24m depth only. Various lenses of brown earth, black soil, charcoal, mortar and clay.	
(85)	PHASE 5 62. Possible PH, recorded depth 0.05m. Green brown earth, IF.	
86	PHASE 5 (89). Possible PH, recorded depth less than 0.05m. Brown grey earth, IF.	
(87)	PHASE 5 62. Possible PH, recorded depth less than 0.05m. Brown earth.	
(89)	PHASE 5 86. Possible PH, recorded depth less than 0.05m. Brown grey earth, IF, LF.	
(92)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.15m deep. Brown grey earth, IF, M.	
93	PHASE 4 (146,175-184,193,196,253,270). PH 0.12m deep. Dark grey earth, CF, M. On sequence diagram 93 represents all PHs overlaid by 57 and cutting 55/56 and comprises, therefore, only PHs of Phase 4.	
(94)	PHASE 4/5 66. PH 0.11m deep. Grey brown earth, CF.	
(95)	PHASE 4/5 66. PH 0.09m deep. Grey brown earth, CF.	
(96)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.14m deep. Grey earth, brown flecks.	
(97)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.09m deep. Grey brown earth, CF, M.	
98	PHASE 4/?5 PH 0.20m deep. Brown earth, M.	
(99)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.12m deep. Grey brown earth, IF, CF.	
(100)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.34m deep. Grey brown earth, IF.	
(101)	PHASE 4/5 66. PH 0.12m deep. Grey brown earth, M.	
(102)	PHASE 4/5 66. PH 0.14m deep. Brown earth, M, IF.	
(103)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.14m deep. Grey brown earth.	
(104)	PHASE 4/?5 66. PH 0.14m deep—possibly 4 or 5 SHs *c.* 0.03m deep around edge. Grey brown earth, CF.	
(105)	PHASE 4/5 66. PH 0.12m deep. Grey brown earth.	
106	PHASE 4B =(109). Pit 0.20m deep. Brown grey clayey earth with some burning.	TS.
(107)	PHASE 4/5 66. PH 0.80m deep. Light grey earth.	
108	PHASE 5 Packed ironstone with limestone—road surface? Cf. main text for full discussion.	WB12.
110	PHASE 4 (185). PH 0.29m deep. Dark grey earth.	
111	PHASE 4 PH 0.15m deep. Dark grey earth, limestone packing, CF.	
112	PHASE 4? Edge of pit—brown earth, CF, M.	
115	PHASE 5 PH 0.24m deep. Light grey brown soil, limestone packing.	
122	PHASE 6i =(126). Hard ironstone surface, some limestone—road.	TS.
129	PHASE 5 =(130,326). Compact ironstone surface with some limestone, clayey matrix; surface badly eroded.	
131	PHASE 4A =(145,347,356,357a). Fine green stain up to 0.03m thick, to N of PHs 143-4 etc. Clearest overlying white lime slurry but also present over sand. Occupation spread on floor? Although immediately adjacent to PHs (cf. plan) no relationship shown on plan as this was uncertain during excavation because of the nature of the deposit.	
132	PHASE 4D Extensive but patchy level of burning.	
133	PHASE 5? =(325). Light brown sand, M, CF.	ts.
134	PHASE 4D Shallow pit, 0.10m deep. Containing several SHs and much burning.	
138	PHASE 4A =(191,271). Compact surface of small IF. 0.01-0.04m thick. Probably extended S to 81; heavily iron-stained and overlying 55.	
139	PHASE 4A (141-4,242-3,277,327,330-5,338-9,342-3,345-6, 351-5,358). PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown clayey earth. On sequence diagram 139 represents all PHs cutting 55/56 and overlaid by road surface 129, and comprises therefore only PHs of Phase 4.	
140	PHASE 4A PH 0.64m deep; post pipe 0.13m diam. Light brown earth, CF, M.	
(141)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.50m deep; post pipe void 0.16m diam. Light brown earth, M.	
(142)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.22m deep. Grey brown earth, M.	
(143)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.30m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
(144)	PHASE 4A 139. PH. Brown earth, ashy grey earth, CF, M.	
(146)	PHASE 4A 93. PH 0.35m deep. Brown earth, M.	
147	PHASE 4? (262). Pit 0.65m deep. Dark brown earth, much charcoal, over black earth, much charcoal, over brown earth, IF, LF.	
148	PHASE 4/?5 (157-9,197,211,219,220,222-9,254,263-5). PH 0.12m deep. Brown earth, CF, M. On sequence diagram 148 represents all PHs exposed by mechanical removal of yard 4 etc. and cutting 55/56. Their position in Phases 4 or 5 is based on factors other than stratigraphical ones.	ts.
149	PHASE 4 (172-4). PH 0.12m deep. Brown earth, CF.	
150	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.25m deep. Grey brown earth, CF.	

House 8 Sequence diagram



ayer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
24)	PHASE 5 323. PH 0.08m deep. Green brown earth.	
27)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.17m deep. Light grey clayey earth.	
28)	PHASE 5 323. PH 0.24m deep. Dark grey earth, CF.	
29	PHASE 4A (336,349,350,368,369). SH 0.11m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
30)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.08m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
31)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.08m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
32)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.12m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
33)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.11m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
334)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.11m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
335)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.13m deep. Light brown loose earth.	
336)	PHASE 4A 329. PH 0.05m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
337)	PHASE 4A 153. PH 0.09m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
338)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.22m deep; post pipe 0.15m diam. Light brown earth, M; post pipe—brown earth and burnt sand.	
339)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.19m deep. Light brown green earth.	
340)	PHASE 4A 153. PH 0.20m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
341)	PHASE 4A 153. PH 0.21m deep; post pipe 0.15m diam. Light brown earth; post pipe—burnt sand.	
(342)	PHASE 4A 139. PH 0.13m deep. Green brown earth, CF.	
(343)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.08m deep. Green brown earth, CF.	
(345)	PHASE 4A 139. SH. Green brown earth, CF, M.	
(346)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.17m deep. Green brown earth, CF, M.	
(349)	PHASE 4A 329. PH 0.06m deep. Light green brown earth, CF.	
(350)	PHASE 4A 329. SH 0.13m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
(351)	PHASE 4A 139. a) PH 0.04m deep. Light brown earth. b) SH 0.10m deep. Light brown earth. b cuts a.	
(352)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.08m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
(353)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.05m deep. Grey green clayey earth.	
(354)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.05m deep. Grey green clayey earth.	
(355)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.15m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
(358)	PHASE 4A 139. SH 0.04m deep. Light brown earth, M.	
(368)	PHASE 4A 329. PH 0.32m deep. Light brown earth.	
(369)	PHASE 4A 329. PH 0.11m deep. Light brown earth.	

House 9

by J H Williams

Summary

The earliest activity in the House 9 area was represented by mortar mixer 3 (Phase 3). The early Phase 4 metalled surface found in House 8 extended east and was probably bounded by a timber building to the south (Phase 4). During the latter part of Phase 4 and beginning of Phase 5 there was little activity—only limited pitting. A timber building was probably erected in the 13th century. A stone house (Phase 6) was constructed *c.* 1410-20 on top of a soil build-up, possibly indicating a period of dereliction (Phase 5-6 transition), and the house underwent several minor internal modifications before it was destroyed by fire *c.* 1500.

Phase 3

Fig. 49

Mortar mixer 3 was uncovered in the south-west of the area but no associated features were found. The mixer is discussed fully on page 123.

Phase 4/5

On the basis of the stratigraphy alone the boundary between Phase 4 and Phase 5 is rather obscure. A mass of post-holes was overlaid by soil level 123 which was clearly post-Conquest but had little internal dating evidence. The case is therefore argued from associated evidence in other areas.

Phase 4

Fig. 49; Pl. 14

To the north a fine spread of metalling (138) extended east-west the full width of the area and sat immediately above the weathered ironstone substratum. The metalling was identical with that of F138 and the southern edges of both were consistent in alignment. The deposits must be regarded as being the same and of early 10th century date (see p. 74f.). Several post-holes along the southern edge of the metalling in the present area were probably the northern edge of a building (building 6; Fig. 76a) associated with the metalling. The southern edge of the building may have been represented by the line of post-holes along northing 250 or that along northing 249. Both these lines probably extended further east where the ground had been cut away in subsequent occupation. Either or both of these lines of post-holes may, however, have been associated with the later Phase 5 building in that they were both only sealed by late deposits. Most of the other post-holes could have belonged to either Phase 4 or Phase 5 (although not the later Phase 5 building) but it seems best to regard them as probably Phase 4. Only a limited number contained pottery and this was mainly of post-Conquest type but post-holes are very susceptible to collecting later pottery at the time of the withdrawal or decay of the posts. An Edmund Memorial penny (Nu10) was found in a Phase 5 pit. Pits 147 and 148 were both of Late Saxon date but the pits were perhaps later than the metalling and associated building. There would thus appear to have been one or more buildings flanking a metalled area in the first part of the Late Saxon period with limited later pitting. This pitting would appear to have been the only activity in the late 10th and early 11th century and tends to confirm the derelict aspect of the site at this time argued elsewhere.

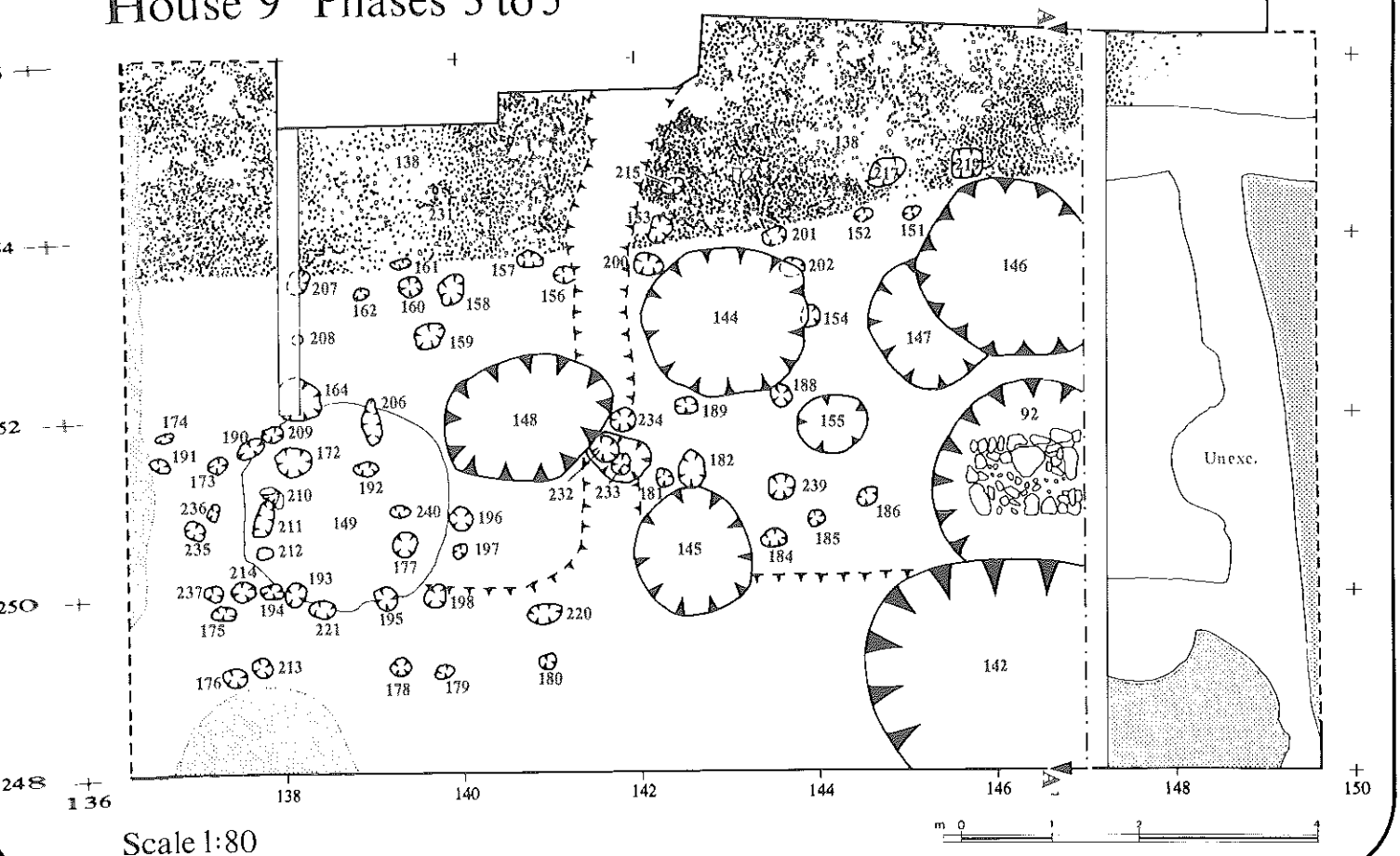
Phase 5

Fig. 50

Pits 144, 145 and 146 were the earliest post-Conquest features and these were sealed by a thin green layer 123. This level was much harder than the green layers in stratigraphically similar positions in Houses 1, 2 and 8 and moreover the associated pottery was

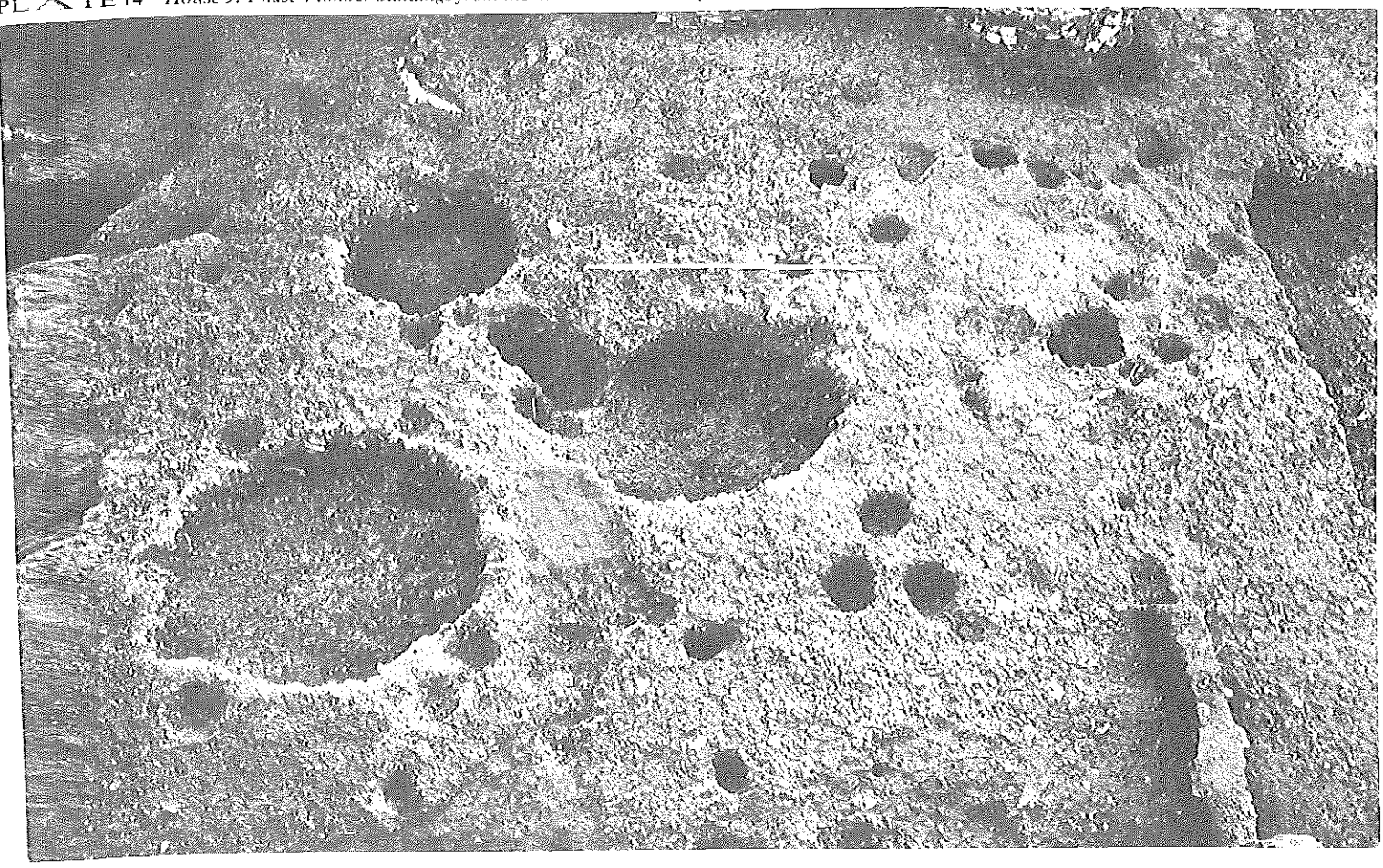
Fig 49

House 9 Phases 3 to 5



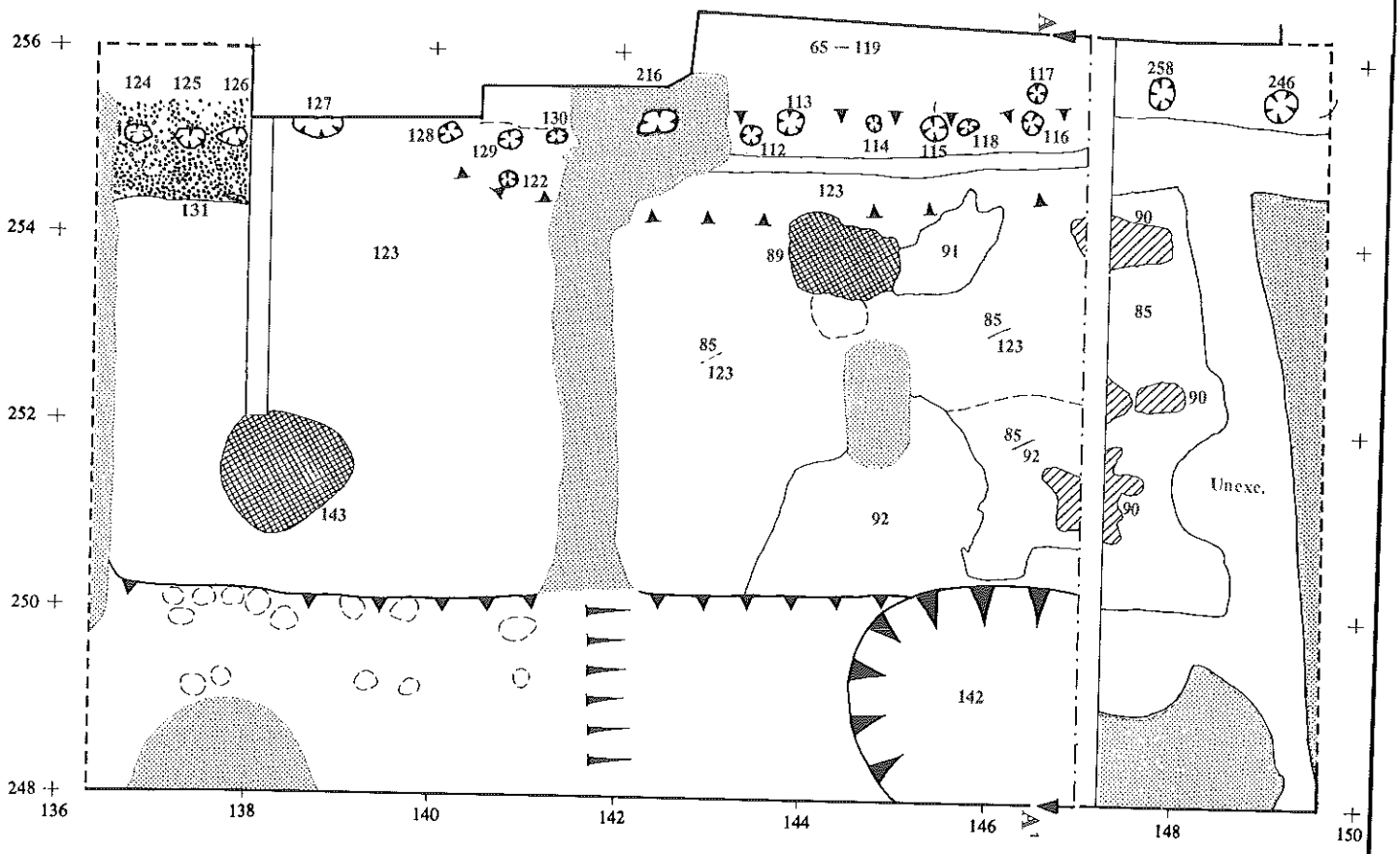
Scale 1:80

PLATE 14 *House 9: Phase 4 timber buildings from the north. The outline of mortar mixer 3 can be made out top right.*



House 9 Phase 5

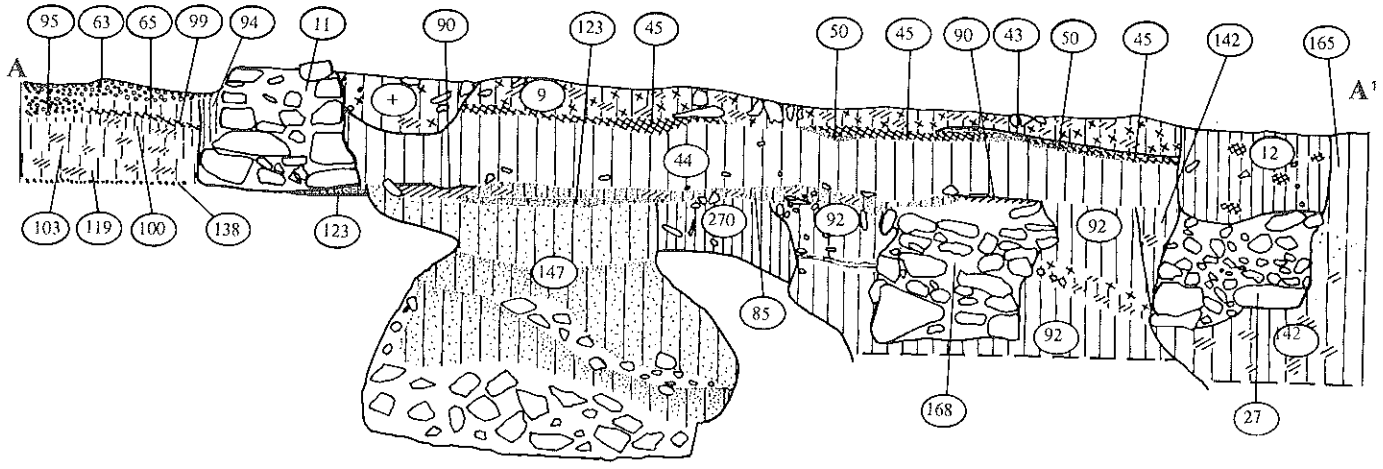
Fig 50



Scale 1:80

House 9 Section

Fig 51



Scale 1:40

Fig 52

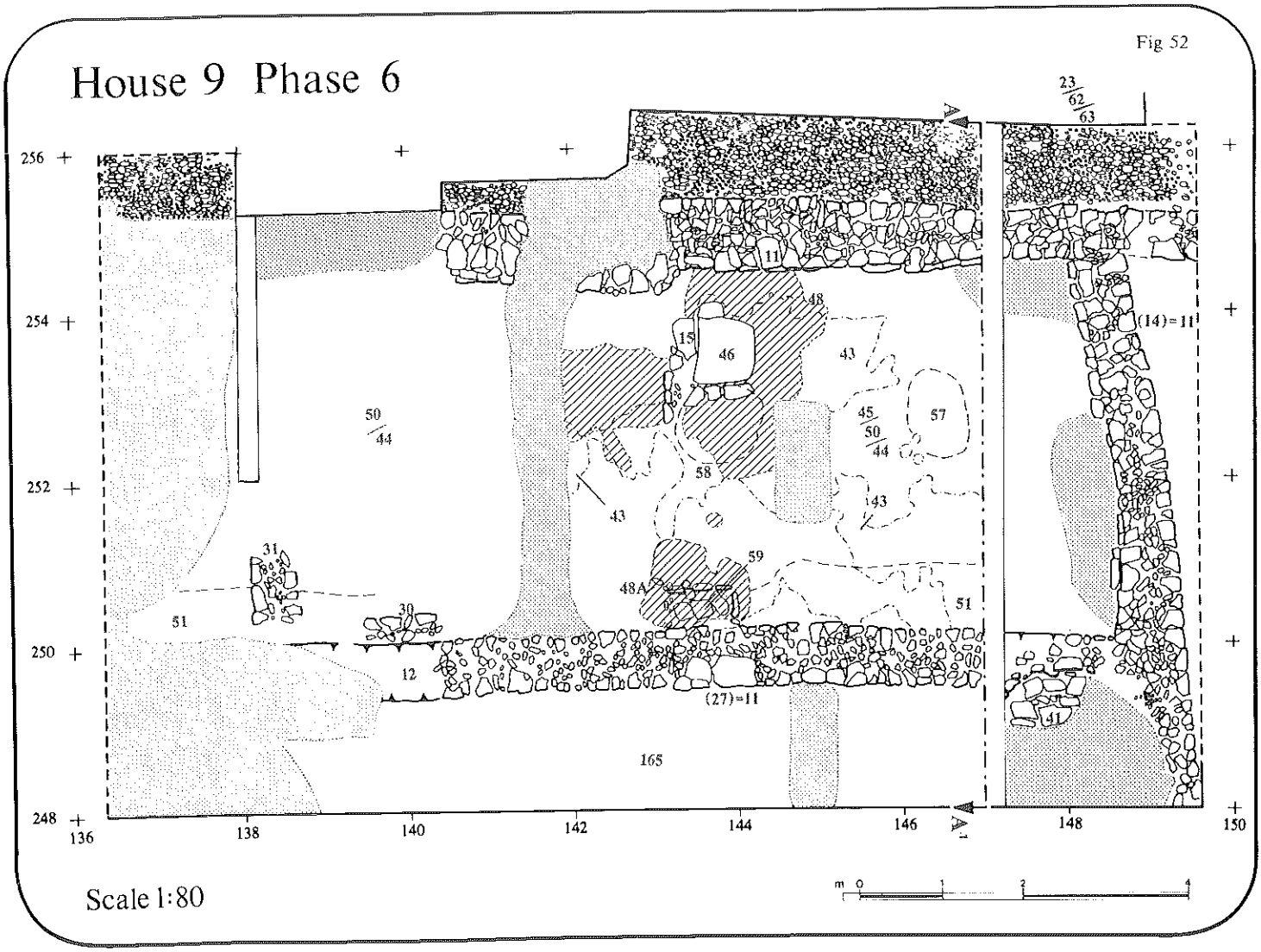
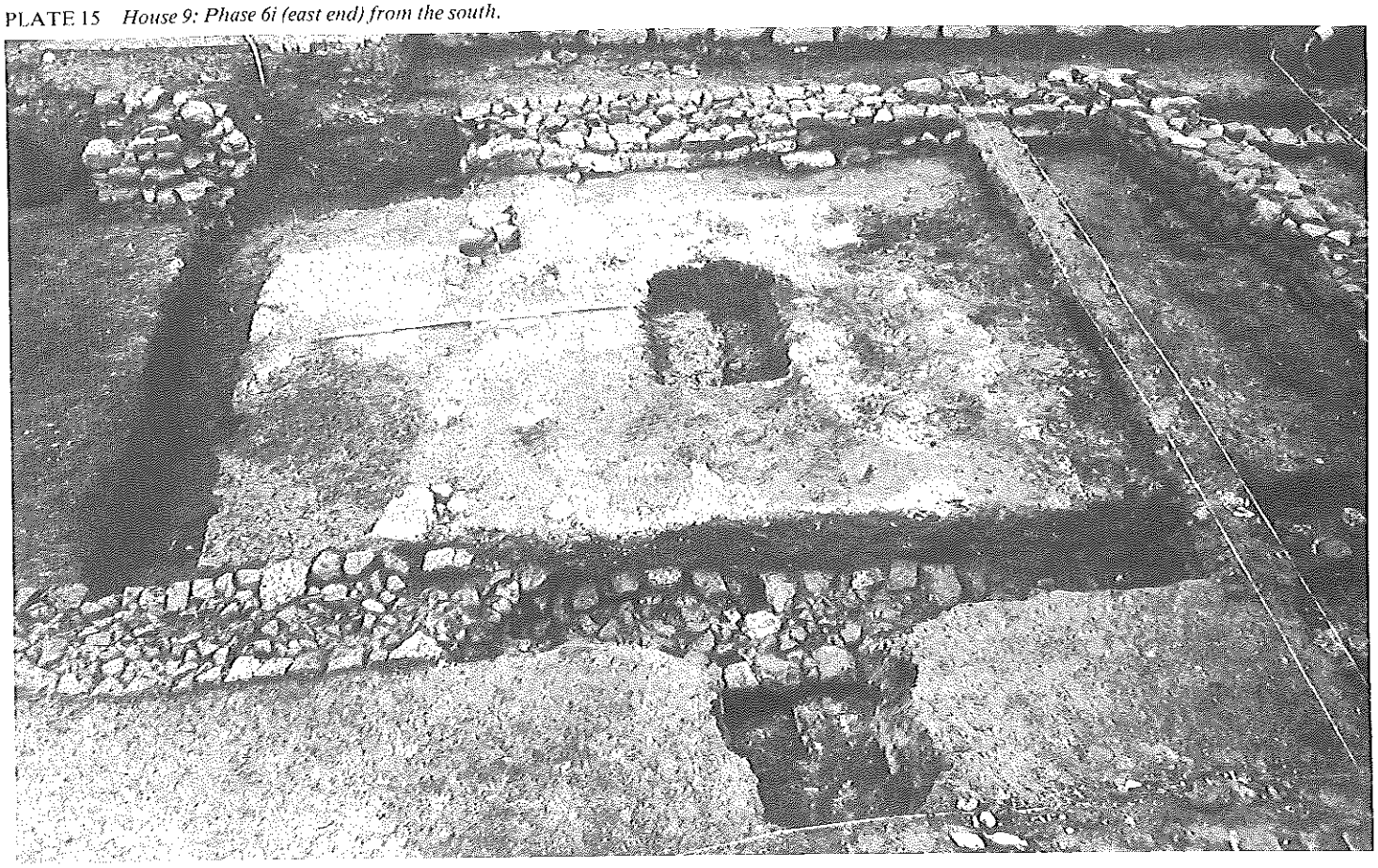


PLATE 15 *House 9: Phase 6i (east end) from the south.*



somewhat later. 123 may, however, have been related generically to the green deposits in other areas, i.e. an accumulation during inactivity. The postulated 'dereliction period' of the end of Phase 4 probably continued into the beginning of Phase 5 and it was only in the 13th century that the area saw rebuilding and then only of a single period.

A series of post-holes cut 123 and lay below the north wall of the Phase 6 building (11). The hard and rather patchy thin brown layer 85 may have been a floor with burnt patches 89 and 143 as hearths. The south wall of the building could have been formed from those post-holes on or to the south of northing 250 but no evidence survived for east or west walls which must have lain to the west of easting 138 and the east of easting 147. A fairly substantial structure, possibly 5 × 8m, is perhaps indicated.

Some of the northern post-holes cut a thin metalled level 131 which was possibly all that remained of the Phase 5 street. In contrast with the sequence between Houses 1 and 8 where three metalled surfaces were distinguished associated respectively with Phases 4, 5 and 6, only two metalled surfaces were present to the north of House 9. 138 was clearly Phase 4 with 63 Phase 6. In between was a sticky brown green soil. It would appear that the Phase 5 surface had been virtually completely churned up as a result of weather etc., with 131 alone surviving.

The stratigraphical position of the possible hearths is certain but the posts to the north could be associated with the Phase 5-6 transition and those at the south could be anywhere between Phase 4 and Phase 5-6 transition. It seems reasonable, however, if somewhat tentative to argue for a timber building which on the evidence of pit 92 is unlikely to have been earlier than the 13th century.

Phase 5-6 transition

Overlying 85 was a brown soil level (44) *c.* 0.30m thick which extended over the whole of the area. It may well represent a soil build-up, possibly a period of dereliction, although it could have been a dump prior to the erection of the Phase 6 building. Unlike layer 32 in House 8, no tip lines were visible. The absence of pits is also striking. A patchy and very thin sand spread (50) was found on top of 44; it may have been a floor or levelling deposit before the Phase 6 floor. The pottery within the transition phase is very mixed but pieces as late as the late 14th century are present.

Phase 6

Fig. 52; Pls. 15-7

Sometime probably *c.* 1410-20 a stone building was erected on the site *c.* 5m deep from the street and possibly 12m plus long. The walls were constructed of rough ironstone ashlar with rubble core.

PLATE 16 *House 9: Phase 6i, trough G59.*

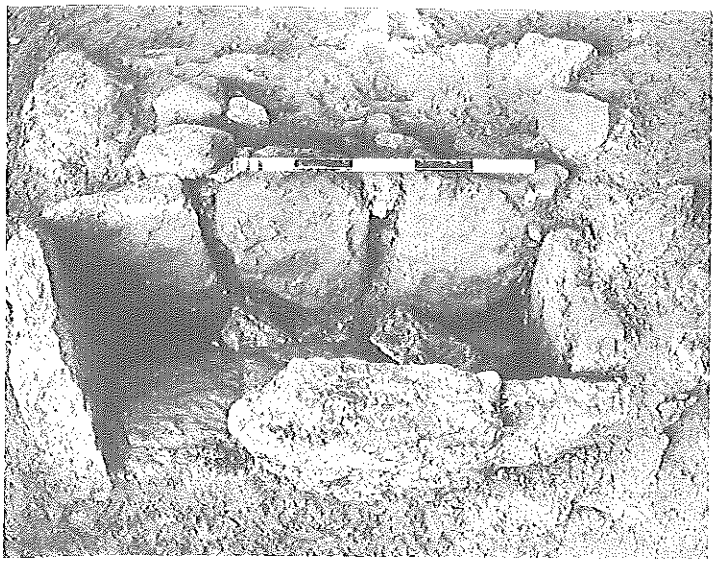


PLATE 17 *House 9: Phase 6i, oven G41.*

The house was a single build with walls 11 and (14) = 11 joining well and the same apparently being the case with (14) = 11 and (27) = 11. The building may have been subdivided into rooms by partitions 15 and 31. 31 and 30 are in fact somewhat problematical. Both lie on top of 51 which extended the whole length of the southern wall. 51 should probably be seen as a construction trench for (27) = 11 in which case 30 and 31 are both later than (27) = 11. They would both appear to have been Phase 6 in that 12, the robber of (27) = 11, cut through 30. 31 as noted above could well have been a dividing wall but the precise function of 30 is unclear; it could not have extended further east than partition 15 on the evidence of the floor levels surviving there.

A small trough *c.* 0.90 × 0.50m and lined with limestone and clay (59) lay immediately to the north of wall 27. A circular oven (41) lay outside the building in the angle of walls 14 and 27.

Floor levels did not survive in the western portion of the house but in the east a three phase sequence was recognised. The earliest floor was purely a burnt earth level which was only present to the east of 15. This was succeeded by a grey clay level associated with hearth 46. Grey clay also extended over the top of trough 59 but was it (48a) contemporary with the grey clay spread 48? The hearth and the clay were then overlaid by a mortar floor (43).

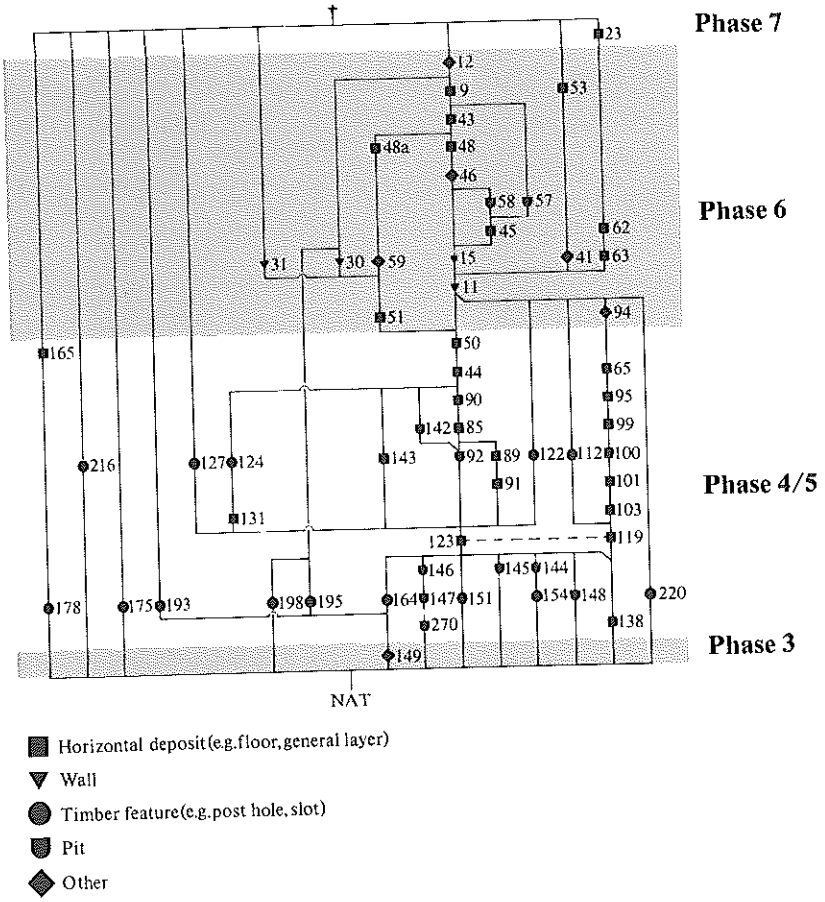
House 9 provided the best evidence for the destruction of the street by fire with the internal faces of the house all burnt and a destruction deposit *c.* 0.30m thick. The limited pottery evidence is consistent with a date *c.* 1500 for the destruction.

Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
9	PHASE 6ii =(37,38). Thick deposit of burnt red clay, charcoal and ash up to 0.30m thick. Several burnt timbers. Destruction level of house. NOP.	Cu87,115,277; Fe19,110;W5.
11	PHASE 6i =(14,18,27,47,93). Ironstone wall with some limestone. Rough ashlar faces with rubble core. S face of wall 11 burnt. (14) = 11 composed of large ironstone blocks; rubble core; burnt W face. Wall bows outward *c.* 0.20m at centre. (14) = 11 is reconstructed sometime post-1500, i.e. continuing use of (14) = 11 in post-medieval period.	Cu276;Fe107; H11,39; SW32;AF5.
12	PHASE 6iii =(19,26). Brown grev soil and stone. Robber of wall (27) = 11.	Cu49;GL74; CP.
15	PHASE 6i Insubstantial foundations of ironstone running N-S. Partition wall with hearth 46 built up against it.	

Fig 53

House9 Sequence diagram



Horizontal deposit(e.g.floor, general layer)

Wall

Timber feature(e.g.post hole, slot)

Pit

Other

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
23	PHASE 7? Hard and compacted ironstone road surface *c.* 0.10m thick.	
30	PHASE 6i Fragment of ironstone wall. Virtually no stratigraphical links. Sits roughly on line of 51 and is cut by 12. Regarded as part of Phase 6 internal arrangements, cf. 31.	
31	PHASE 6i Fragment of faced ironstone wall. Rubble core. Regarded as part of internal arrangements of Phase 6.	
41	PHASE 6i Circular ironstone oven built into S face of wall 27 and W face of wall 14. Much disturbed by post-medieval features.	
43	PHASE 6i Hard mortar floor partially eroded; in places burnt red.	Cu112.
44	PHASE 5-6 =(56). Dark brown thick soil level.	Cu37,103,8, 275;Fe14;fs; SW21,36; GL16,36; WB18.
45	PHASE 6i Red and black burnt soil to E of 15.	fs.
46	PHASE 6i Flat limestone slabs forming a hearth.	
48	PHASE 6i Fairly clean grey clay floor with burning round hearth 46.	Fe62.
48a	PHASE 6i Grey clay overlying 59. Difficulties in reconciling chronologically with 48—possibly redeposited 48.	
50	PHASE 5-6 =(55). Thin level of light brown sand—floor level.	fs;H36.
51	PHASE 6i =(52,61). Orange gravelly deposit *c.* 0.04m deep. Regarded as foundation trench for 27.	
53	PHASE 6ii Compact burnt soil, clay and ironstone. Probably destruction level of oven 41. NOP.	
57	PHASE 6i Shallow pit 0.20m deep. Light brown sand, ironstone, limestone and clay.	
58	PHASE 6i Pit 0.20m deep. Black soil, ash, burnt stones.	
59	PHASE 6i Rectangular trough lined with limestone and grey clay. Light green fill; sealed by grey clay 48a. Overlaid by mortar 43.	
62	PHASE 6i Black organic material *c.* 0.03m thick on road.	
63	PHASE 6i Road surface of compacted ironstone and gravel.	
65	PHASE 5 Light brown soil on road.	
85	PHASE 5 Brown speckled surface, white clay, ash.	Fe11,85; GL38; WB46-7.
89	PHASE 5 Heavily burnt ironstone, clay and limestone—hearth?	Fe38.
90	PHASE 5 =(139). Patches of hard white clay—floor?	
91	PHASE 5 Yellow sandy patch, mortar, ironstone.	
92	PHASE 5 =(136,168,169,170). Pit at least 1.00m deep. Dark brown grey soil. In centre a large pile of ironstone rubble resembling foundations—roughly faced N and S but not E and W. No linkage with wall 14. No structural function obvious.	Cu4,7;Fe67; SW4,15.
94	PHASE 6 Dark brown soil, construction trench for wall 11. NOP.	
95	PHASE 5 Hard packed ironstone and limestone road surface.	
99	PHASE 5 Burnt soil *c.* 0.02m thick—road deposit.	
100	PHASE 5 Dark green soil—road silt.	WB17.
101	PHASE 5 Patch of ironstone road. NOP.	
103	PHASE 5 Green silty soil—road deposit.	
112	PHASE 5 (113-8,258). PH 0.10m deep. Brown soil.	
(113)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.10m deep. Brown soil.	
(114)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.10m deep. Brown soil.	
(115)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.30m deep. Brown soil.	
(116)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.10m deep. Brown soil.	
(117)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.15m deep. Brown soil.	
(118)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.12m deep. Brown soil.	
119	PHASE 5 =(120). Pale green clayey soil.	Cu203;WB14.
122	PHASE 5 =(230); (129-30). PH 0.12m deep. Brown soil.	
123	PHASE 5 =(135,137). Green sandy soil.	Q1.
124	PHASE 5 (125-6). PH 0.18m deep. Brown soil.	
(125)	PHASE 5 124. PH 0.20m deep. Brown soil.	
(126)	PHASE 5 124. PH 0.18m deep. Brown soil.	
127	PHASE 5 (128). PH 0.18m deep. Brown soil.	Cu107.
(128)	PHASE 5 127. PH 0.15m deep. Light brown soil.	
(129)	PHASE 5 122. PH 0.14m deep. Light brown soil.	
(130)	PHASE 5 122. PH 0.09m deep. Light brown soil.	
131	PHASE 5 Patch of fine ironstone metalling—remnants of road surface?	
138	PHASE 4 Compacted natural ironstone—yard or lane?	
142	PHASE 5 Pit, steeply sloping sides, at least 1.30m deep. Grey black sticky soil.	
143	PHASE 5 Patch of burnt clay and stone—hearth?	ts.
144	PHASE 5 Pit. Light green soil.	

no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
	PHASE 5 Pit, steep sides, flat bottom, 0.75m deep. Various lenses of brown and orange brown sand.	Nu10;Cu92; Fe53;H6.
	PHASE 5 Pit, straight sides, slightly undercut, flat bottom, 1.20m deep. Many lenses of brown soil, charcoal, ironstone, etc.	Nu4;FB.
	PHASE 4 Pit, steep sides, flat bottom, 0.37m deep. Brown sand, ironstone rubble, burning.	?FB/FS.
	PHASE 4 Pit, steep sides, flattish bottom, 0.70m deep. Mixed lenses of brown soil and burnt layers.	Cu10;ts.
	PHASE 3 =(238,241-4,264-6,268-9). Mixer 3, see page 123.	
	PHASE 4? =(205); (152-3,155-62,173-4,181-2,184-6,189, 191,196-7,200-1,207-8,215,217,219,231,235-6, 239). PH. Pale green soil.	
2)	PHASE 4? 151; =(204). PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
3)	PHASE 4? 151; =(199). PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
	PHASE 4? =(203); (188,202). PH 0.18m deep. Pale grey soil.	
5)	PHASE 4? 151; =(187). ?PH 0.06m deep. Black soil.	
6)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
7)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.30m deep. Yellow green soil.	
8)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.18m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
9)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.12m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
0)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.15m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
1)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.04m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
2)	PHASE 4? 151. ?PH 0.03m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
4	PHASE 4? (172,177,190,192,206,209-12,240). ?PH 0.05m deep. Pale green grey soil.	ts.
5	UNPHASED Brown soil etc. Rapid removal of soil to S of wall 12/27 down to natural to expose features cut into natural. Kept separate on sequence diagram from 11, 142 etc.	Cu9,43; Fe105;TS; H16;Q2.
68)	PHASE 5 =92.	ts.
72)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.19m deep. Dark grey soil.	
73)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.05m deep. Dark grey soil.	
74)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.05m deep. Dark grey soil.	
75	PHASE 4/5 (176,213-4,232-4,237). PH 0.10m deep. Light green soil.	
76)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH 0.05m deep. Dark grey soil.	
77)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.04m deep. Dark grey soil.	
78	PHASE 4/5 (179,180). PH 0.10m deep. Grey green soil.	
79)	PHASE 4/5 178. PH 0.03m deep. Grey green soil.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(180)	PHASE 4/5 178. PH 0.10m deep. Grey soil.	
(181)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.05m deep. Pale green soil.	
(182)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.18m deep. Pale green soil.	
(184)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.05m deep. Light grey soil.	
(185)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.15m deep. Pale green soil.	
(186)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.08m deep. Green soil.	
(188)	PHASE 4? 154. PH 0.11m deep. Pale green soil.	
(189)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.07m deep. Pale green soil.	
(190)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.10m deep. Dark grey soil.	
(191)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
(192)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.10m deep. Green grey soil.	
193	PHASE 4/5 (194,221). PH 0.10m deep. Burnt soil and ash.	Cu294;ts.
(194)	PHASE 4/5 193. PH 0.04m deep. Grey ashy fill.	
195	PHASE 4/5 =(222). PH 0.20m deep. Dark green soil.	
(196)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.12m deep. Pale green soil.	
(197)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.04m deep. Pale green soil.	
198	PHASE 4/5 PH 0.30m deep. Dark green soil.	
(200)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.18m deep. Pale green soil.	
(201)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
(202)	PHASE 4? 154. PH 0.32m deep. Pale green soil.	
(206)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.08m deep. Grey green soil.	
(207)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
(208)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
(209)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.15m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
(210)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.14m deep. Pale green soil, limestone packing.	
(211)	PHASE 4? 164. ?PH 0.05m deep. Pale green soil.	
(212)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.05m deep. Pale green soil.	
(213)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
(214)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH 0.10m deep. Green soil.	
(215)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.15m deep. Pale green soil.	
216	PHASE 5? PH 0.20m deep. Dark grey soil.	
(217)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.25m deep. Pale green soil.	
(219)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.20m deep. Green brown soil.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
220	PHASE 4? PH 0.15m deep. Green soil.	
(221)	PHASE 4/5 193. PH 0.08m deep. Pale green soil.	
(231)	PHASE 4? 151. SH 0.20m deep. Green soil.	
(232)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH 0.48m deep. Grey soil.	
(233)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH. Grey soil.	
(234)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH 0.37m deep. Dark grey soil.	
(235)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green soil.	
(236)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
(237)	PHASE 4/5 175. PH 0.10m deep. Pale green sandy soil.	
(239)	PHASE 4? 151. PH 0.12m deep. Grey brown soil.	
(240)	PHASE 4? 164. PH 0.16m deep. Dark brown soil.	
246	PHASE 5 PH. See House 10.	
(258)	PHASE 5 112. PH 0.15m deep. Loose grey earth and stone.	
270	PHASE 4 Pit (only in section). Brown soil. NOP.	

House 10

by J H Williams

Summary

Many aspects of House 10 are of interest. The earliest features are three Grubenhäuser which probably belong to the 10th century and several pits were contemporary. After a possible interval of dereliction a rectangular timber building of at least three sub-phases was erected fronting on to the street. These timber structures centre on the 12th century. After a further interval of dereliction the area was occupied as part of the general street rebuilding *c.* 1410-20. There was apparently no house but a walled area containing a couple of drying ovens which fell out of use and were replaced by a stone trough towards the end of the century. The area may not have suffered the effects of the fire *c.* 1500. In the late 16th and early 17th centuries a small tannery or tawyer's workshop occupied the site.

Phase 4/5

Figs. 54-5; Pls. 18 and 19

There is a lack of vertical stratigraphy for the early development of the area which renders interpretation rather difficult and hinders a detailed sequential breakdown. There are, however, sufficient relationships to enable a tentative scheme to be prepared.

Three Grubenhäuser were all cut by later features and presumably lay at the beginning of the sequence. The associated pottery included a large percentage of Northampton ware and the Grubenhäuser, therefore, may perhaps be dated to the middle of the 10th century. Also clearly of Late Saxon date were pits K158, 160, 168, 187, 188, 189. Pit K158 contained a similar pottery assemblage to the Grubenhäuser and a coin of Athelstan (Nu11) was found in pit K160. Other pits, however, seemed to belong to the T1 horizon (p. 215).

Bearing in mind that Grubenhaus 2 was sufficiently long-lived to necessitate complete rebuilding, also that Grubenhäuser 2 and 3 are unlikely to have been contemporary because of their close proximity, it seems reasonable to suggest that the Grubenhäuser and at least some of the pits were archaeologically contemporary.

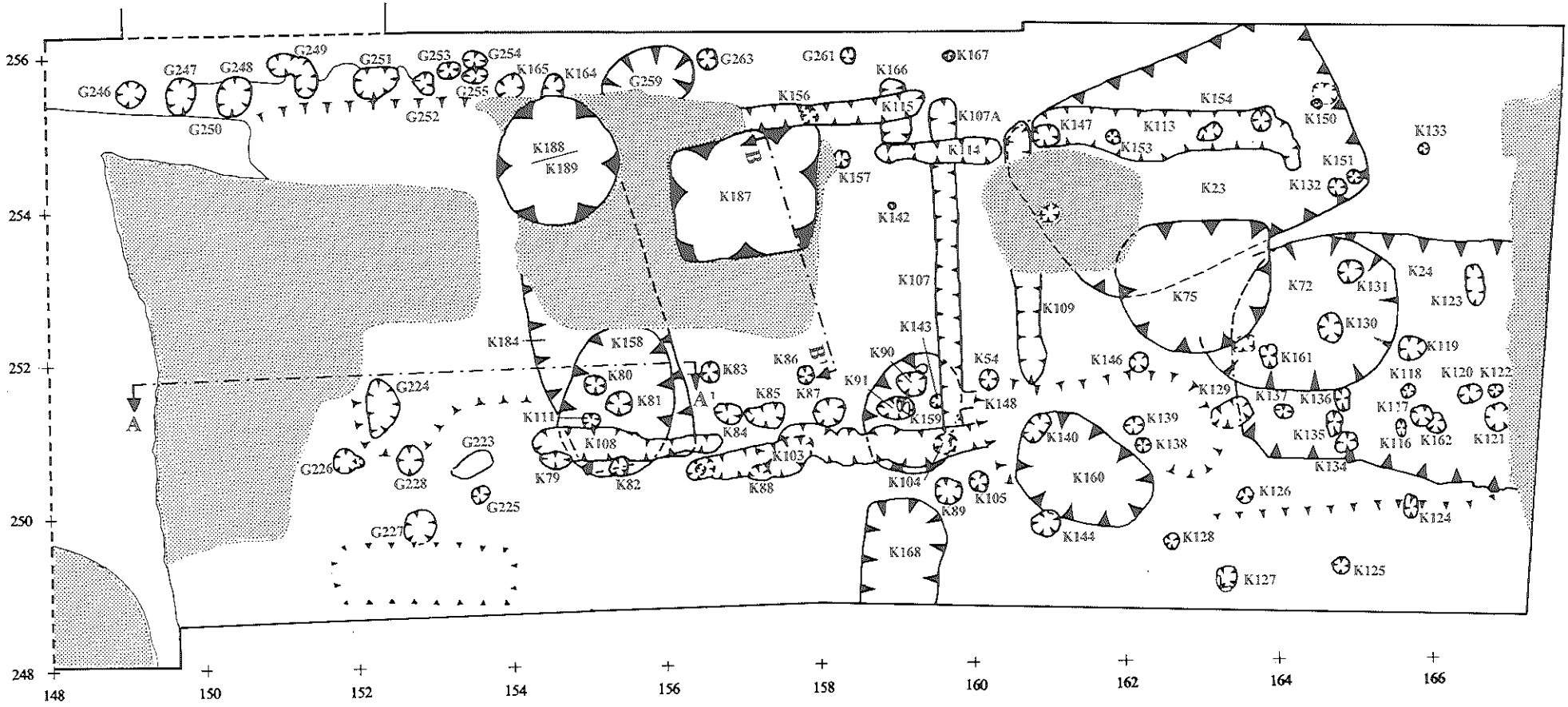
A large number of post-holes and slots seemed to form rectangular timber buildings fronting the present street. At least two phases were represented by (a) alignments of individually set posts and (b) posts-in-slot, but it is quite probable that more than one phase was present in (a). Post-holes and slots cut many of the pits and Grubenhäuser but no example of the reverse can be demonstrated. The rectangular timber buildings would thus appear to belong to a distinct phase later than the Grubenhäuser and pits. It is difficult, however, to date the timber buildings precisely since the small quantities of pottery found in individual post-holes may have been contemporary with the post-holes or may have slipped in later. There were 23 sherds of post-Conquest date in slot K113 which cut Grubenhaus 2, which was clearly Late Saxon; post-holes K130-1 and 161 cut pit K72 of 12th or 13th century date; also post-holes G246-261 continued the line of the later Phase 5 building in the House 9 area rather than the earlier probably Phase 4 building, although metalled street surfaces were absent in the area. On balance all the rectangular timber buildings may well have been of post-Conquest date.

The Grubenhäuser warrant closer examination (Fig. 55). All three were rectangular hollows with steep sides cut into the ironstone substratum. Grubenhaus 2A measured 4.30×2.80×0.60m deep (2B measured 3.60×2.80×0.50m), Grubenhaus 3 measured at least 3.60×3.20×0.50m deep, but Grubenhaus 4 was somewhat smaller, if a little deeper, measuring at least 3.60×1.80×0.65m deep. All three were simple two-post structures.

Grubenhaus 2 had the most complex sequence of fills. It would appear that after initial accumulation of debris in the bottom a deposit of ironstone fragments was dumped at the east end of the Grubenhaus, the east end then being redefined and shortened and a new eastern post cut. Further levels of debris then built up inside

House 10 Phases 4 and 5

Fig 54



Scale 1:80

m 0 1 2 4

the smaller hut. Phosphate analysis (p. 337) of the bottom layer (K177) was positive, suggesting occupation, and the quantities of animal bone and pottery probably supports this thesis. Grubenhaus 3 was similar to Grubenhaus 2 but lacked the complex internal stratigraphy. Grubenhaus 4 was packed with ironstone fragments over a thin dark soil level (K185). This primary fill also provided a positive phosphate reading and interestingly produced a Late 5th/early 6th century brooch (Cu1) as well as Late Saxon pottery. There was no evidence to support the 'raised plank floor' thesis; indeed the 'sticky' occupation deposits on the floor of Grubenhaus 2 strongly argue that the floor was at the sunken level.

There are interesting assemblages of iron-work and bone-work from Grubenhäuser 2 (Fe33,78;WB15,23,43,48,51,63) and 3 (Fe34; WB1,16,49,50,65,66) which include knives, antler-working debris, comb fragments and implements (pig fibula pins and toggles) possibly associated with textiles but the evidence is insufficient to positively identify these structures as workshops.

Soil samples were taken from pit K189, the contexts being considerably wetter than elsewhere on site. Interestingly, a rather waste environment, yet with livestock present, is probably indicated.

The rather irregular disposition of the Grubenhäuser and associated pits does not lend support to an organised settlement pattern.

The rectangular timber buildings have been attributed to the post-Conquest period. No individual plan is recoverable but the structure appears to have been set long side on street and probably measured *c.* 5m wide with a length perhaps in the region of *c.* 10m. The use of the two techniques—individual post-holes and post-in-slot—is interesting. The associated pottery discussed above suggests a post-Conquest date. Considering that Phase 6 was not constructed until soon after *c.* 1400 it must be questioned whether House 10 was continuously occupied during the post-Conquest period.

House 10 Grubenhäuser

Fig 55

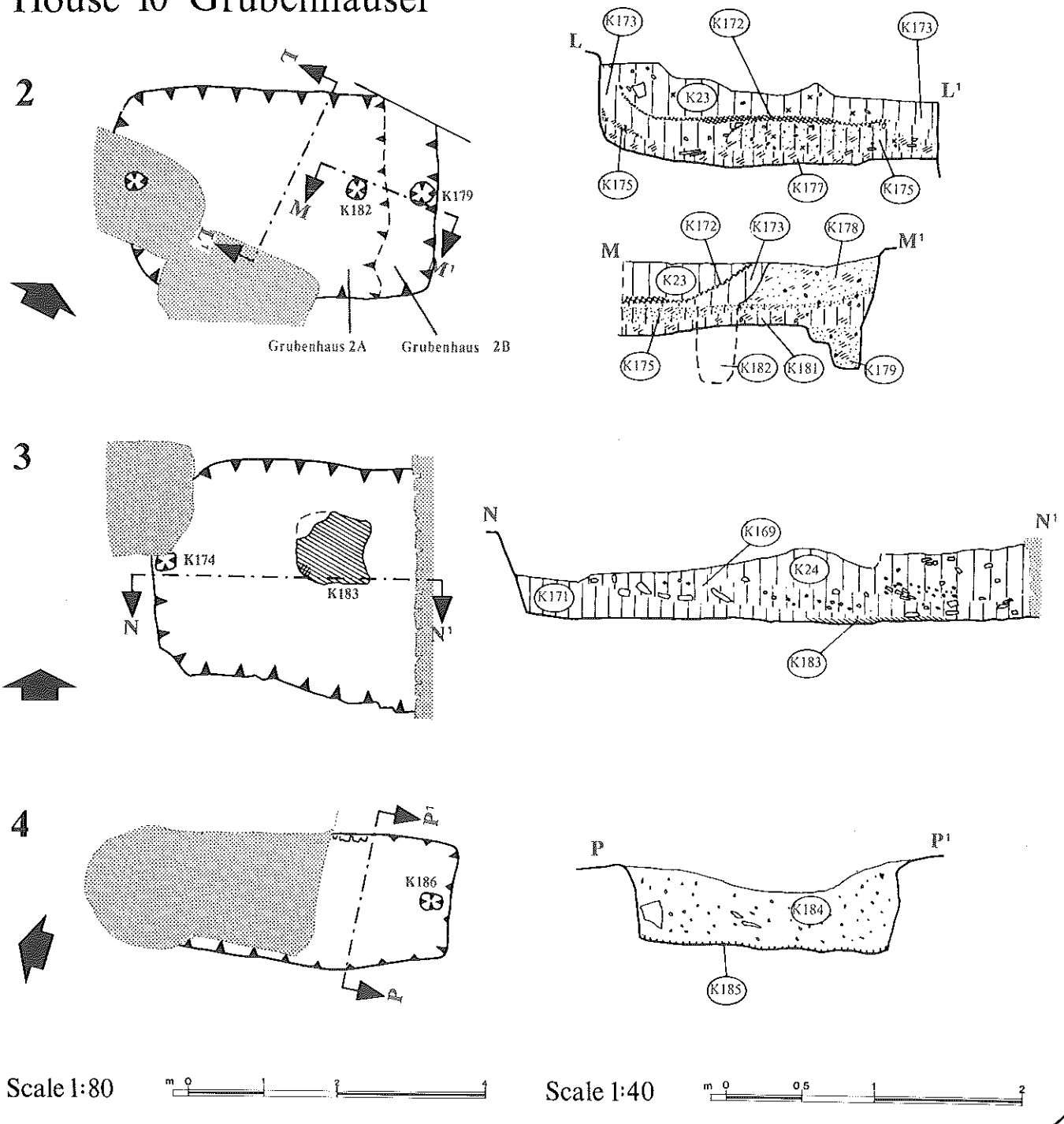


PLATE 18 *House 10: Phase 4, Grubenhäuser 2 and 3.*

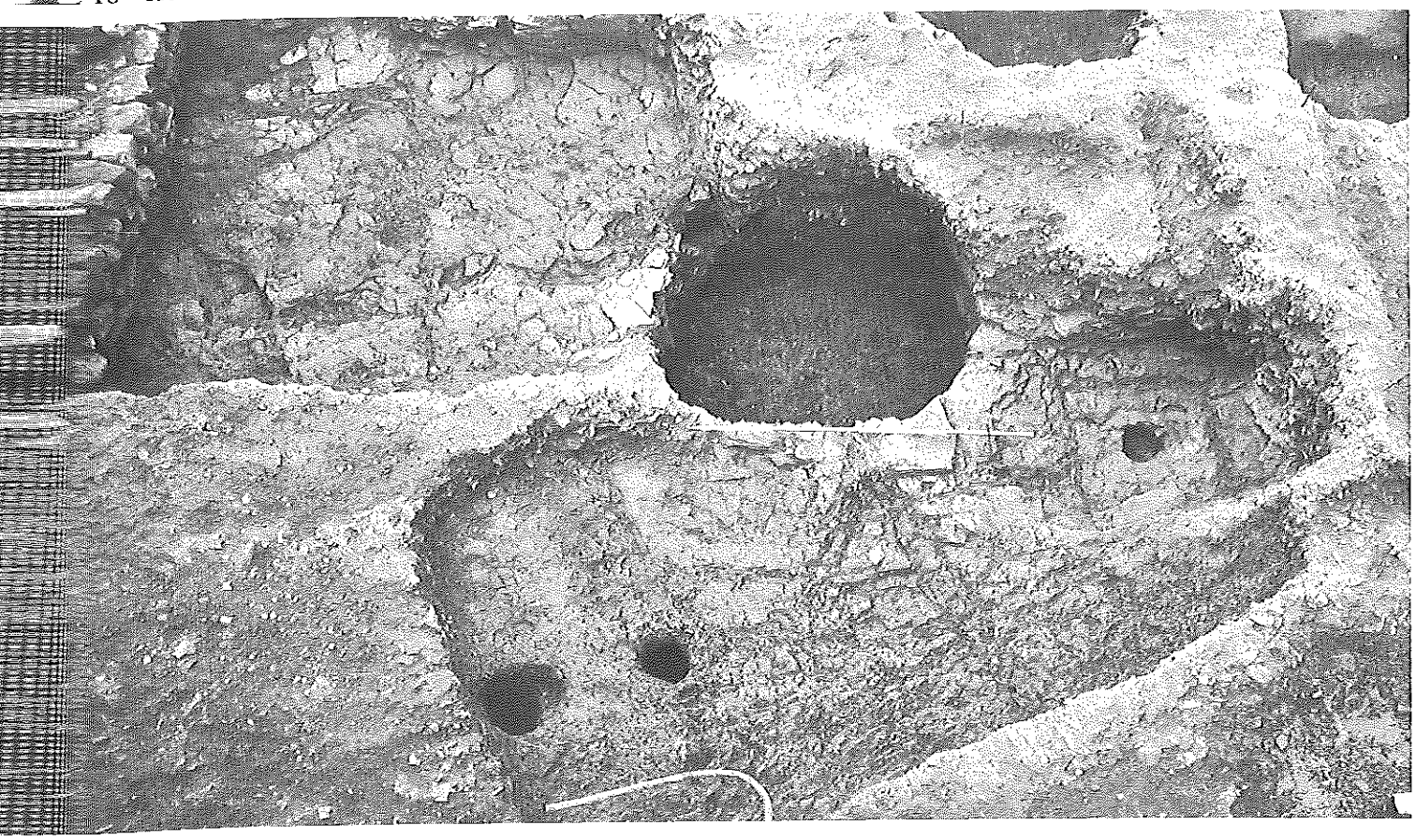


PLATE 19 *House 10: Phase 4, Grubenhaus 4.*

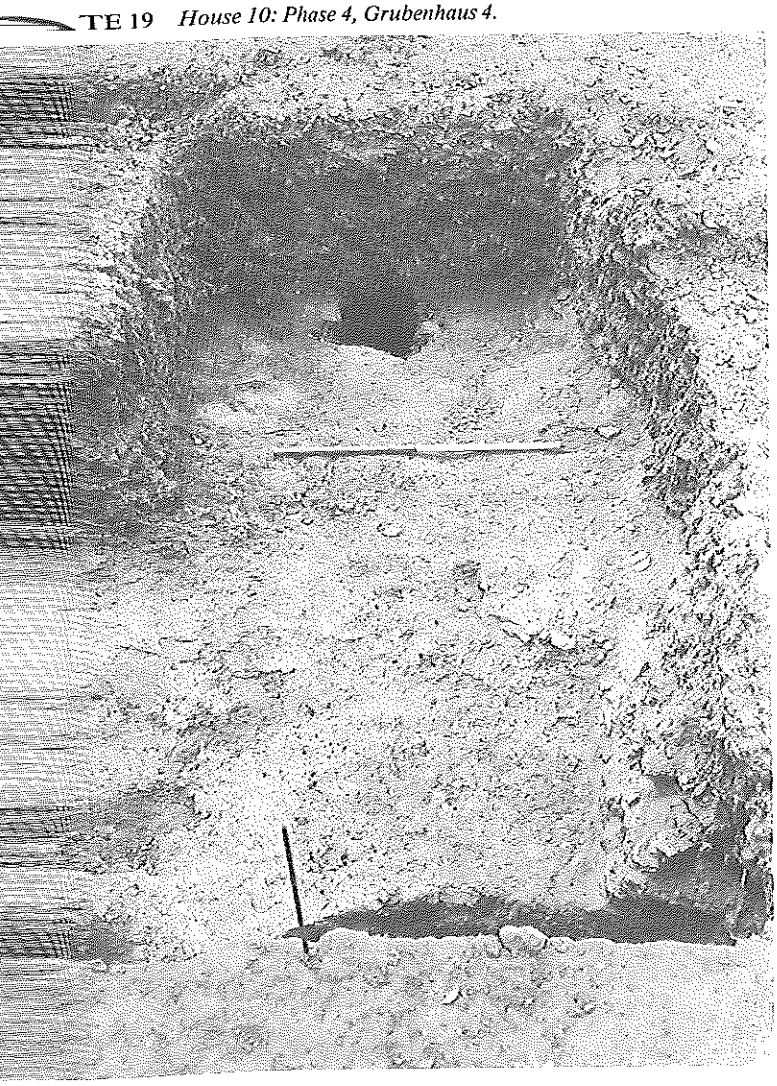
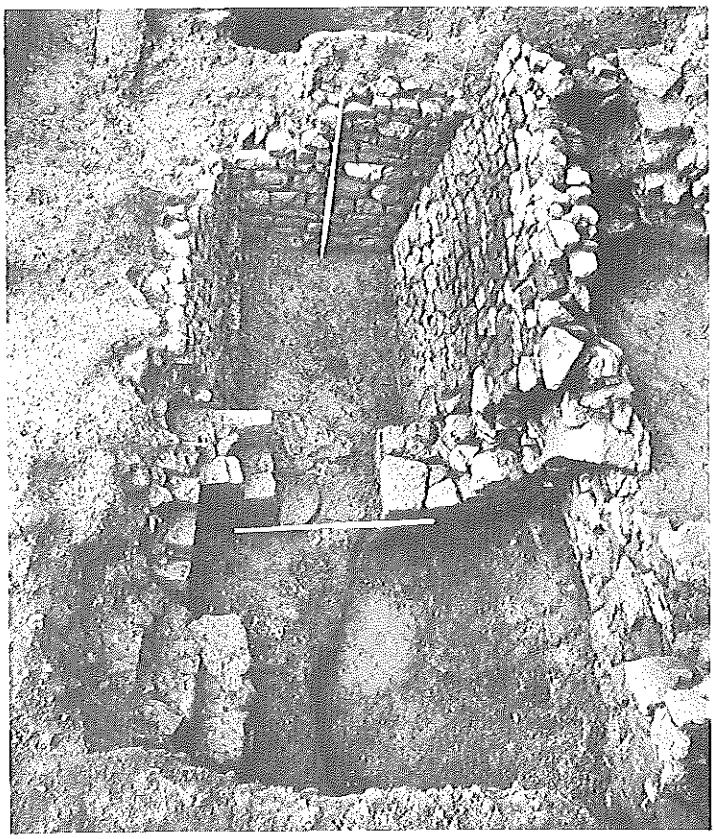


PLATE 20 *House 10: Phase 6Ai, drying oven 1.*



Phase 6

Nothing survived of Phase 6 east of easting 160 because of the severe erosion of archaeological levels and to the west there was little beside walls and cut features. Wall G(83) = 14 continued the line of the front wall of House 9 but the area appeared to be open rather than a house site.

PLATE 23 *House 10: Phase 6B, trough G109.*

Soil samples for analysis were taken from the trough but no meaningful results were obtained. It is tempting, however, to wonder if the trough was used in skin processing, the subsequent use of the area.

The trough was probably constructed *c.* 1470 on the basis of the pottery evidence, and the area as a whole may possibly have survived the early 16th century fire for which there is no evidence here and continued in use up till the middle of the century when the tanning or skin-dressing workshop was set up. It is even conceivable that the trough was constructed after 1500.

Towards the end of the 15th century, possibly in the first half of the 16th century, the west wall of the trough began to collapse with wall 14 bowing outwards, and the trough was filled in. The wall, however, continued to bow through Phase 7 (see below).

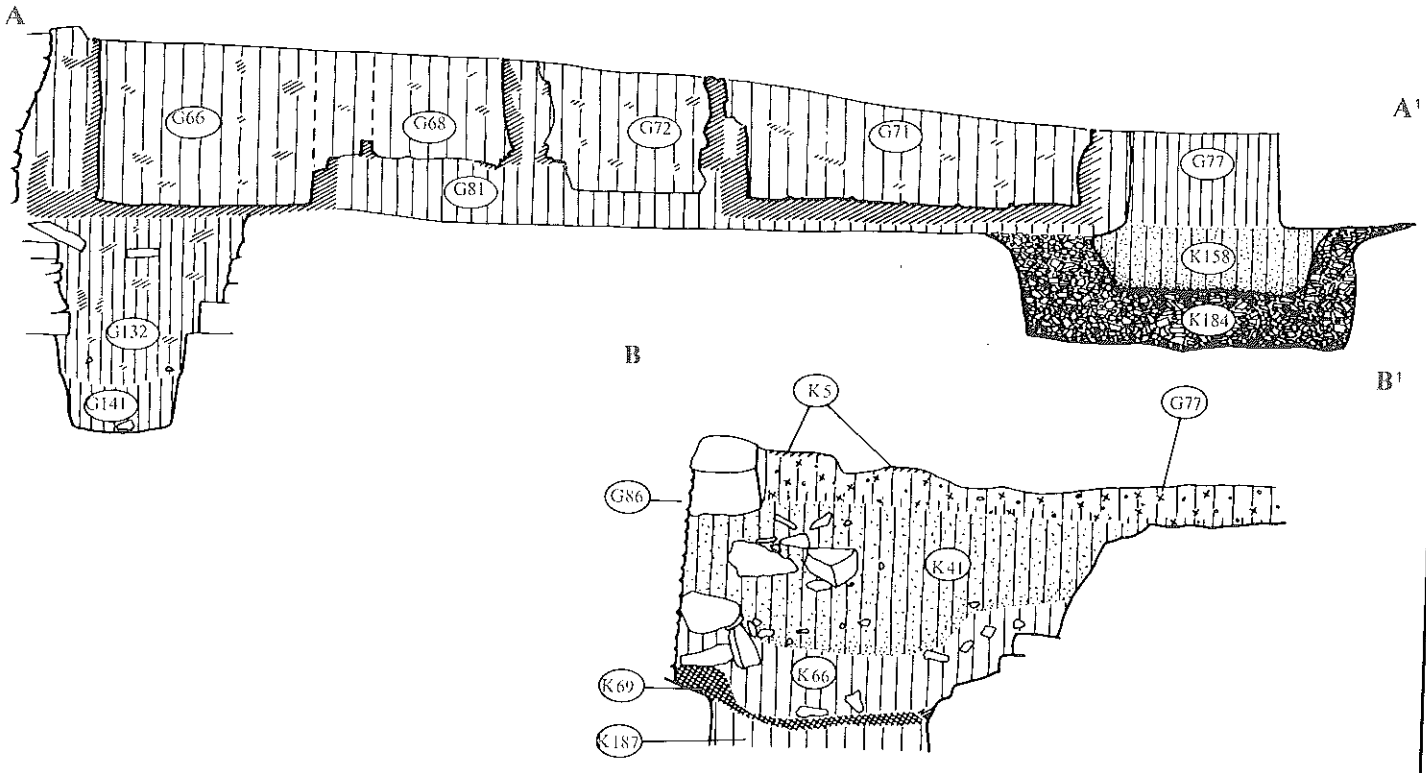
Phase 7

Figs. 59-60; Pls. 24 and 25

The Phase 7 levels in House 10, comprising mainly cut features, formed a most interesting industrial complex tentatively identified as a small tannery or skin-dressing workshop. The house, occupying some 20m of street frontage, can be divided into two unequal parts separated by wall G88. To the west in an apparently uncovered area were a series of clay lined pits which are individually described in the layer list (see also Fig. 60 and Pls. 24 and 25). To the east of wall G88 a probably roofed area was covered with a clay floor, in the centre of which was set a shallow clay lined trough K16, a small stone trough K65 and a stone lined pit K28. Levels at the extreme east end of the area had been considerably eroded. The pottery and coins (Nu24,42) suggest that the workshop was functioning from the latter part of the 16th century through to the middle of the 17th century. The west wall of the complex had survived from Phase 6 but it is uncertain whether Phase 7 followed

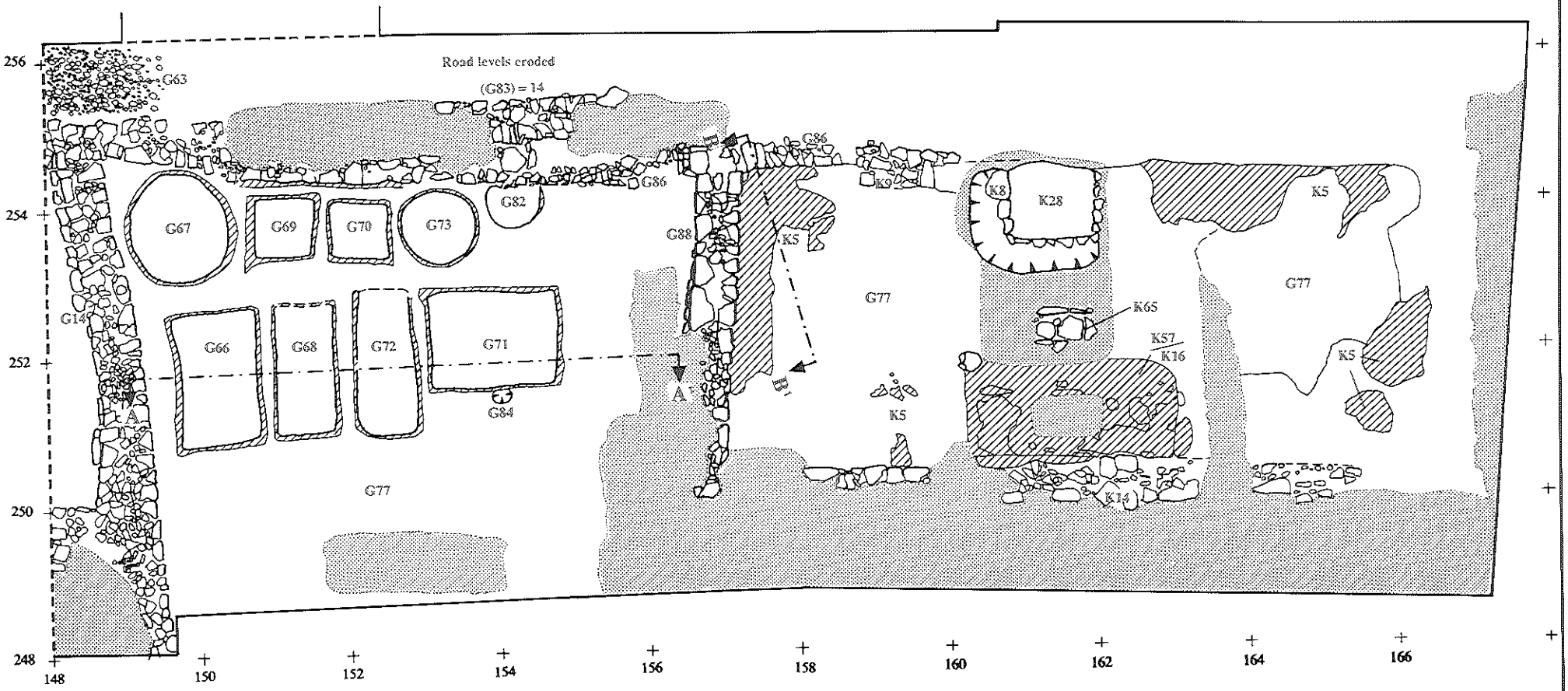
House 10 Sections

Fig 58



House 10 Phase 7

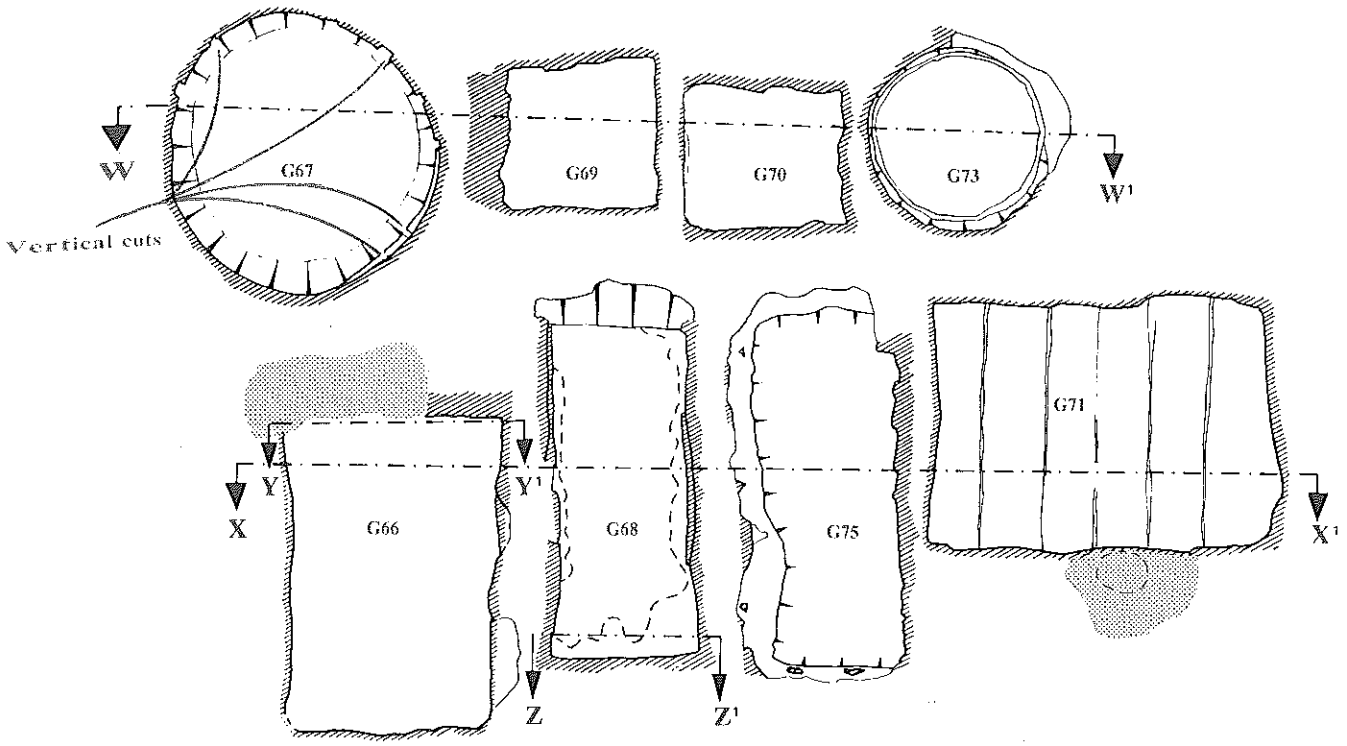
Fig 59

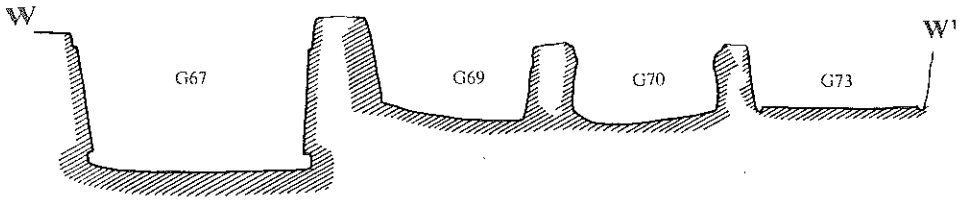


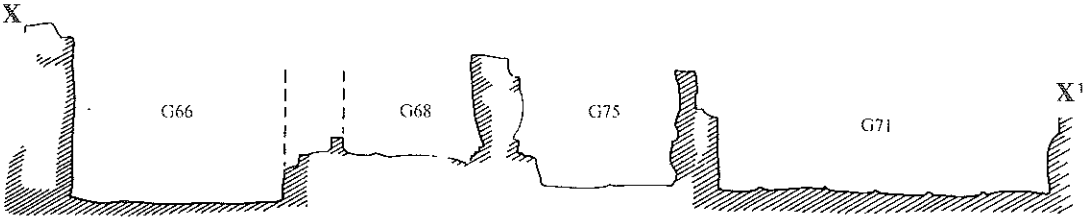
Scale 1:80

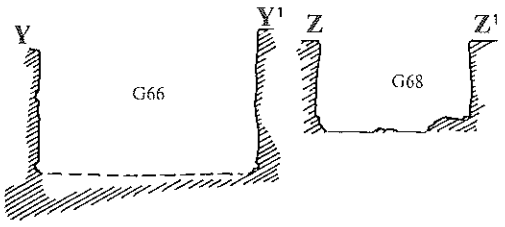
House 10 Tannery

Fig 60

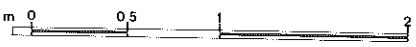




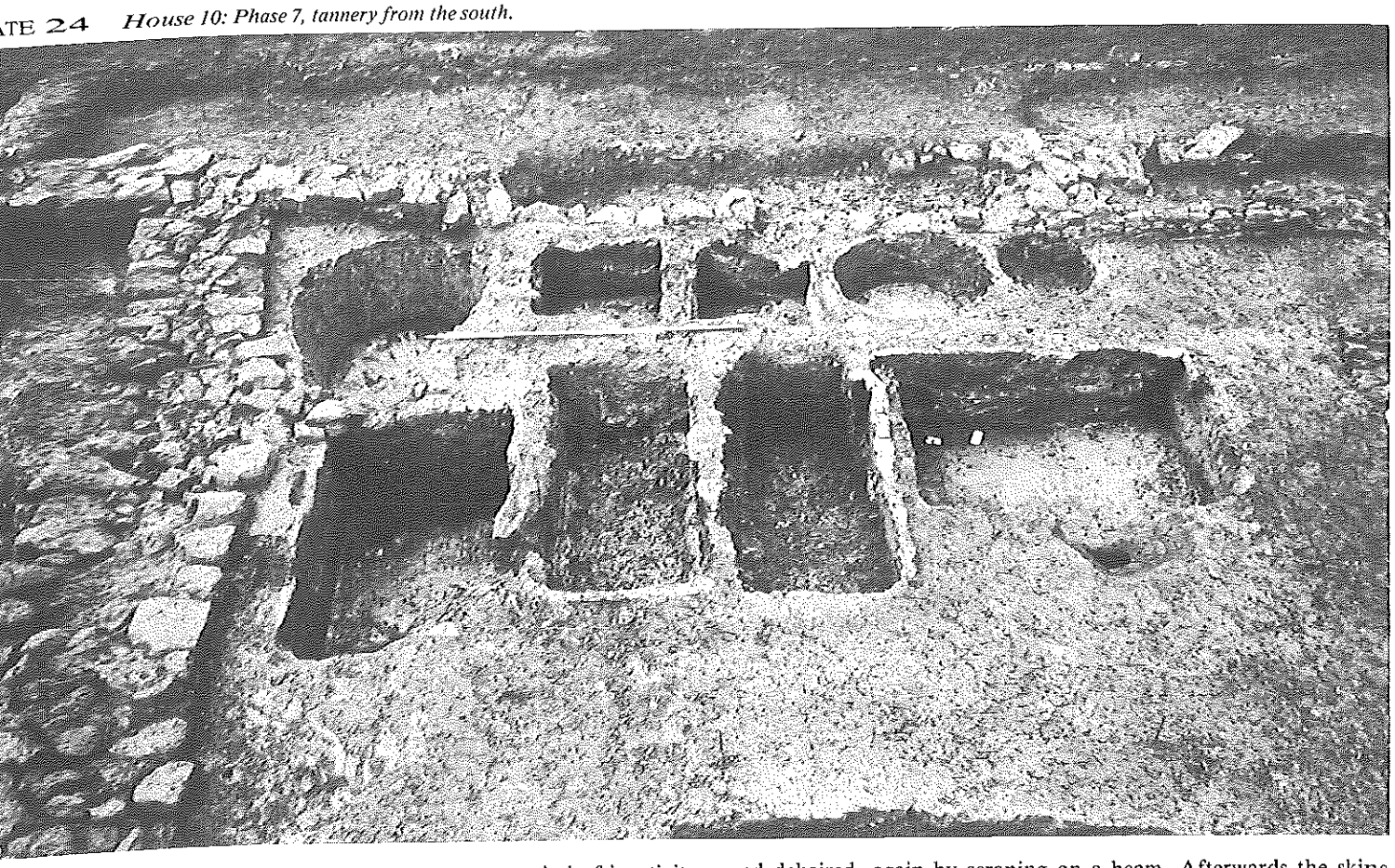




Scale 1:40



ATE 24 *House 10: Phase 7, tannery from the south.*



mmediately on Phase 6 or whether there was a period of inactivity n between. A quantity of glass vessels was associated with this house phase.

At the time of excavation the possibility of the remains being part of a small tannery was recognised and numerous soil samples were taken from the pits and subjected to scientific analysis through the A.M. Laboratory.

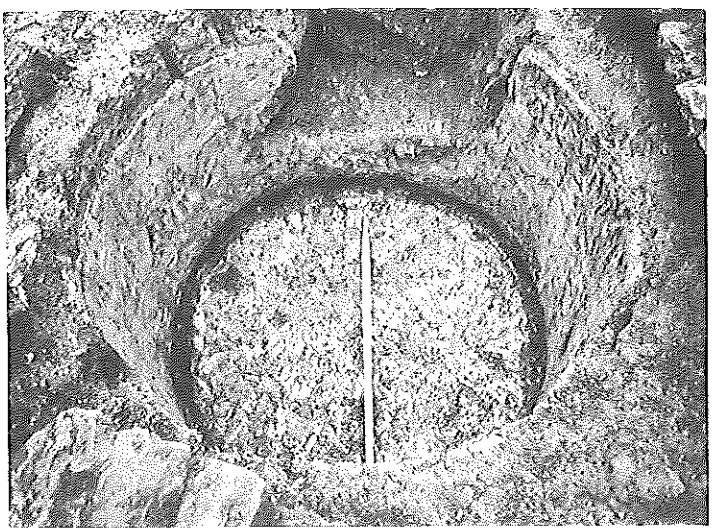
The results were, however, as would be expected in the circumstances, inconclusive. Examination by Dr John Evans, at North-East London Polytechnic, failed to reveal any material of vegetable nature or, indeed, organic structure (less than 3%) of any significance. Extraction with a variety of solvents, ranging from water through acetone to pyridine, with and without concentrated hydrochloric acid, produced no tannin colour reaction with iron salts. This does not necessarily mean the pits never contained tannin liquor as tannins are under certain conditions easily broken down by bacteria to water soluble materials which could then be leached away; or tans may be degraded and/or combined with other residues to give compounds no longer reacting in this way. No hydroxyproline (indicative of skin or leather) was detected.

The traditional process of tanning has been fully covered in several modern works (Clarkson 1960a; Clarkson 1960b; Forbes 1966; Jenkins 1973; Reed 1972; Stanford 1958-60) and only a brief summary is given here. Leather manufacture converts a decaying skin into a relatively strong, flexible and imputrescible membrane. The skin is formed of three layers, the outer layer or epidermis, the middle layer or corium and the under layer or flesh. The tanner is concerned with the removal of the outer layer and the flesh and the conservation of the corium, a fine network of intermeshing fibres which gives the leather its unique character.

After initial cleaning the hides were soaked in pits containing mixtures of lime and water of increasing strength which destroy the epidermal layer and loosen surface hair. The liming also separates the fibres of the corium allowing the tanning agents to penetrate. Liming can take a few days to several weeks depending on the type of leather being produced. It might also be replaced by some other more or less controlled putrefaction process. The skins were then 'fleshed' or scraped on a beam to remove the flesh and dehaired, again by scraping on a beam. Afterwards the skins were 'bated' or 'pured' by immersing in a mixture of bird droppings and cold water or dog dung and warm water and this helped to make the skins soft and porous.

The actual tanning involved the soaking of hides in tanning liquors usually derived from oak bark for between six and 18 months until the skins became leather. The tan solutions were made by leaching crushed bark with cold water. The hides were moved from pit to pit in solutions of increasing strength over a period of months. They might be held vertically in 'suspenders' or laid flat in 'handlers'. Finally they were placed horizontally in fresh strong tan solutions with layers of bark between the skins and left there for several weeks. The whole tanning process could take a long time, even years, and the Leather Act of 1563 (Clarkson 1960a: 54) laid down minimum times of 12 months for outer sole leather and nine months for uppers. After tanning the leather would be dressed and made supple by the currier through the application of greases.

PLATE 25 *House 10: Phase 7, tanning pit G67.*



If House 10 was, in fact, a tannery it was apparently very small but it is possible that further pits lay outside the excavated area. The eastern part of the area may well have been the beam house where the liming, dehairing and fleshing were carried out and the western part may have formed the main pit complex. Pit K28 could not have held liquid unless it was lined but trough 16 could have contained water or lime. Several patches of what was thought during excavation to be mortar were found between eastings 162 and 166; on reflection they could easily be residues from liming. The precise function of the western group of pits can only be guessed at. G67 could possibly have been a suspender with pits G66, G68, G71 and G72 as handlers and layers. Pits G69, G70 and G73 are somewhat small for hides but may have been suitable for calf or sheep skins. The identification of the timber lining to pits G69 and 71 as oak (cf. use of oak bark for tanning) is of interest. The situation of the tannery at a distance from the river is somewhat surprising but native tanneries in North Africa were sometimes supplied with water through wells (Brunot 1923: 85).

To the author's knowledge no exactly comparable pit complex has been excavated, although odd pits have been tentatively identified as tanning pits and direct comparisons can only be made with tanneries from other countries or different ages. Diderot's ideal tannery of the 18th century (1958: Pls. 389-400) comprised four main elements: a) a washing platform near the river with four tubs, b) a liming shop with four round cisterns 5ft 6ins (1.68m) diam. × 5ft (1.52m) deep, c) a larger shop with eight tubs for curing in a leaven of barley water (for better grade hides as a substitute for liming) and six for preliminary soaking in tannic solutions, and d) a courtyard containing 12 round tanning cisterns 8ft (2.44m) diam. × 10ft (3.05m) deep. A practical treatise by Villon on the leather industry of the 19th century (1901: 130) suggested handlers in series of eight arranged in two, four or six rows with each pit 4ft (1.22m) diam. × 6-7ft (1.83-2.13m) deep. Tanning pits for laying away, made of oak and bound with iron, were 10ft (3.05m) deep × 8-9ft (2.44-2.74m) diam. (*ibid:* 137). In a traditional tannery at Hereford the 'old' liming pits were 3ft (0.91m) deep and the 'new' pits 6ft (1.83m) deep. Tan pits were 4-6ft (1.22-1.83m) deep. Most of the old pits were puddled with clay and lined with thick elm planking (Stanford 1958-60).

The pits of the Rhaeadr tannery (Jenkins 1973; also pers. comm. Mr J G Jenkins), now reconstructed at the Welsh Folk Museum at St Fagans, are all 7ft (2.13m) deep, the leaching pits measuring 7ft 6ins (2.29m) × 4ft 6ins (1.37m) and the 'floater' pits 5ft (1.52m) × 3ft (0.91m).

Native tanneries in North Africa are of interest. At Rabat (Brunot 1923: 85) one tannery had a) 22 rectangular lime pits 1.50m × 0.60m × 0.80-1.00m deep, b) 22 hemispherical vats 1-2m diam. for sheep skins and, c) six rectangular tanning pits 2m long × 1m wide × 1m deep for cow hides. Tanneries at Fez (Guyat *et al.* 1935: 172), in addition to clear water pits for freshening up and rinsing, had a) round or rectangular lime pits 0.75m × 0.50m × 0.50-0.60m deep, b) round tanning pits 0.80-1.00m diam × 1.00m deep in the form of truncated cones.

A Roman tannery at Pompeii had 15 round vats 1.25-1.60m diam. × 1.50m deep (Mau 1899: 390).

It can be seen that both round and rectangular pits were interchangeable for all processes of tanning and the St Peter's Street pits are perfectly compatible in size with those discussed above, although rather fewer in number.

Inventories of the 16th and 17th centuries can throw light on the relative size of tanneries of the time as, for example, one attached to an indenture for a tanyard at Cotterstock, Northants. and dated 1573 (NRO J xix 8b) which lists four great cisterns, six long cisterns, 12 round vats, six vats for handling, two beams, two beam knives and two knives for scotching bark.

Clarkson (1960a: 176ff; 1960b: 247ff) has used tanners' inventories and wills to consider the status of tanners and contrasts as an example of wealth John Neall of Lincolnshire (died 1567) who had a total estate of more than £1300 and over £700 invested in his tanning business (Lincs. A.O. Inv. 85/147) with examples at the other extreme where the tanner rented workshops and premises for a modest sum. John Peake, a tanner at Beccles, Suffolk, rented a tannery, equipment and dwelling house for £6 a year (PRO Court of Requests, Req. 2/90/30) and in 1588 an Essex man leased a tannery and house for £3 (PRO Court of Requests, Req. 2/66/44). Obviously the St Peter's Street tannery would have been at the lower end of the scale and Dr Clarkson has kindly provided references to inventories of apparently comparable size:

Rich and Bayne, Gateshead 1565: 10 vats, 3 tubs, 2 'soes'.
(Surtees Soc. 1906: 30)

Henry Tampion, Bourne, Lincs., 1588: 5 vats, 1 cistern, 4 handlers.
(Lincs A O Inv. 74/488)

William Parker, Bourne, Lincs., 1588: 10 tan vats.
(Lincs A O Inv. 76/294)

Alex. Durne, Horncastle, Lincs., 1599: 3 vats, 1 handling, 1 'sooe'.
(Lincs A O Inv. 95/181)

John Doddington, Grantham, Lincs., 1616: 8 vats, 2 cisterns, 6 handlers, 3 wooden troughs. (Lincs A O Inv. 118/135)

John Barton, Bourne, Lincs. 1618: 8 tan vats.
(Lincs A O Inv. 121/282)

It would appear that small tanneries may well have had less than a dozen pits and the general small size of many units is corroborated by the occupation census of Gloucestershire for 1607 (Clarkson 1960a: 189 citing Tawney and Tawney 1934-5: 59). Of 142 tanners, 113 were master craftsmen and 28 were employees and of the master craftsmen 95 were one man operations.

The discovery of a 16th-17th century tannery in Northampton would not be unexpected. A number of Midland towns, notably Leicester, Nottingham and Northampton, had prominent leather industries (Clarkson 1960a: 104ff); a *'vicus tannatorum'* is recorded in Northampton as early as the reign of Edward I (VCH Northants 2: 310) and a Tanners Strete in St Gregory's parish is recorded in 1545 (PRO, Grants, Henry VIII E.318 20/1098). In the early 16th century approximately a quarter of Northampton's working population was employed in the leather industry (Hoskins 1965: 80). The constitution of the company of Whitawyers and Tanners was enrolled in the town records in 1566 (Cox 1898: 295) and various ordinances relating to the tanners and their trade are preserved (Cox 1898: *passim*) and are discussed fully by Clarkson (1960a: 106ff).

The precise location of the Northampton tanneries cannot generally be fixed although it is clear that tanneries must have existed close to the river. St Peter's parish did however have associations with tanners. In a will of 1487 Richard Harpoll of Northampton, tanner, left XII^{d} each to the altars of St John the Baptist, St Mary, St Nicholas and St Katherine and III^{s} III^{d} to the Rood, all in St Peter's Church (Serjeantson 1904: 62). Also Thomas Judkins, a tanner and bailiff of the town in 1588, probably resided in St Peter's parish as his children were baptised there (VCH Northants 2: 310). A tannery 'at the back of St Peter's church' was advertised for sale in 1729 (Northampton Mercury: 29 Feb 1729). Rather later the earliest Poll Books record the following tanners:

1768:	Samuel Sturgiss	—	The Green
	Charles Hunt	—	behind St Peter's
	William Boxton	—	behind St Peter's
1774:	William Boxton	—	The Green
	Charles Hunt	—	The Green
	William Pettitt	—	The Green
	Samuel Sturgiss	—	The Green
1784:	Joseph Cooper	—	The Green
	William Pettit	—	The Green
	Samuel Sturgiss	—	behind St Peter's
	John Sumpter	—	The Green

The pattern is repeated with the later Poll Books of 1790, 1796, 1818 and 1824. The examples quoted, however, need not necessarily have had their work places attached to their residences.

Tawing involved the converting of small skins into leather or the preparation of fur skins through impregnation of the skin with alum. Similar results were obtainable through 'oil tanning' (Clarkson 1960a: 57; Clarkson 1960b: 247; Veale 1966: 25). These

processes were considerably less complex operations than tanning. The skins were first prepared possibly by smoking and all fat was removed. After cleaning the thin layer of flesh was removed and then the skins were placed in troughs and soaked in oil which was beaten or trodden into the skin thus converting it into leather. This last process might be repeated several times. Veale (1966: 26) describes a 14th century skinner treading skins in a barrel 5½ft (1.68m) deep and Mr R Thomson (pers. comm.) has indicated that tubs of this size and smaller were used until the beginning of this century.

The small number of pits in the St Peter's Street complex as well as their small size perhaps supports tawing rather than tanning for the tawyer usually handled smallish skins and the process required fewer vessels.

Veale (1966: 38) indicates that Northampton apparently held an important position in the fur trade in the 13th century and the Northampton company of Whitawyers and Tanners has been mentioned above.

The interpretation of House 10, Phase 7 as a tannery or tawyer's workshop must indeed remain tentative but the cumulative comparative evidence is such as to make either a reasonable proposition.

Layer list

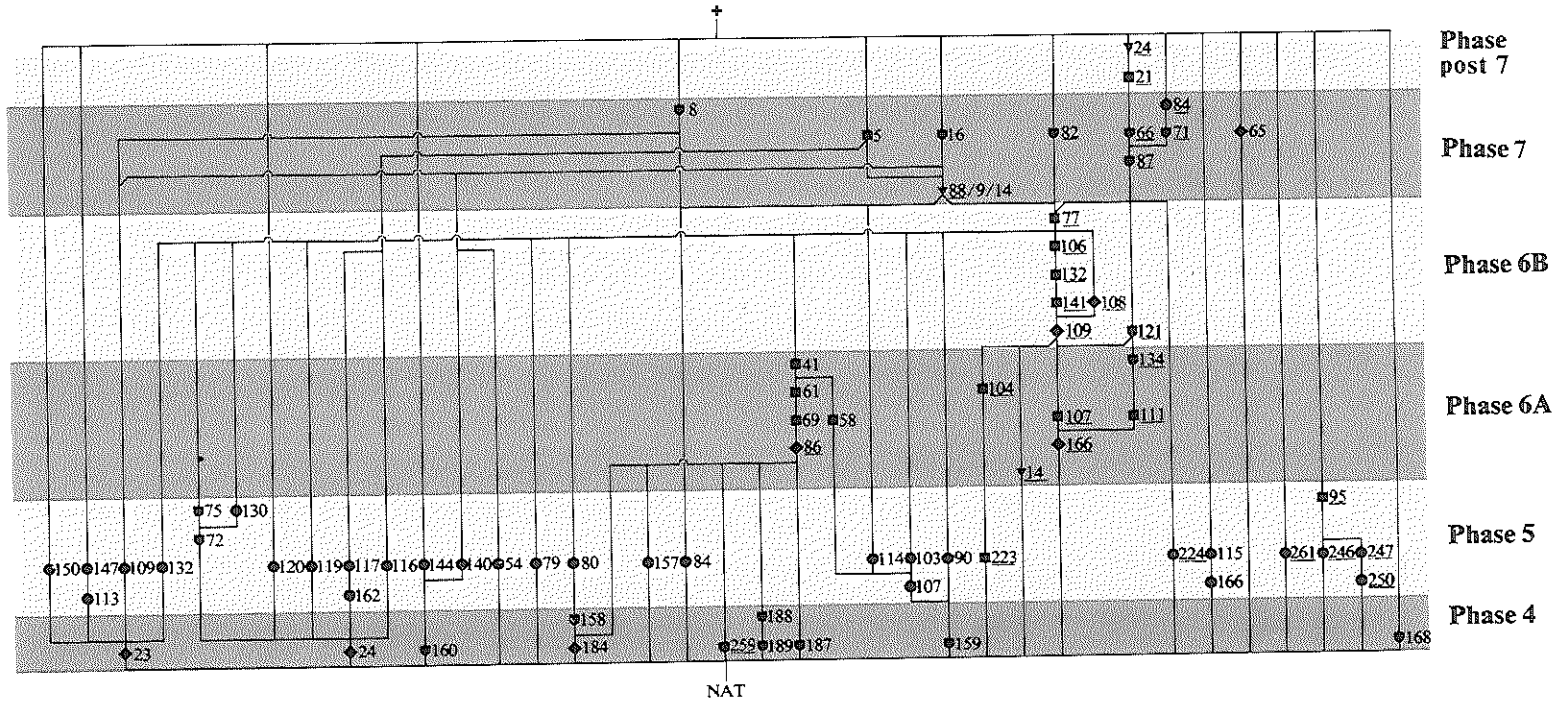
Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
G14	PHASE 6Ai =(36,83). Ironstone wall. (In House 9 G(14)=11.)	
G21	PHASE post-7 =(33). Brown soil, blue clay etc. overlying pits G66/7. NOP.	Cu248;Fe81, 101;cus; GL33,68; FT11.
G24	PHASE post-7 =(32,34). Ironstone walling to E of G14 and overlying infilled pits G66 and 67. Interpreted as buttressing against collapse of wall G14 eastwards. Note, therefore, wall G14 still standing at this date. NOP.	
G63	PHASE 6 See House 9.	
G66	PHASE 7 (67-70,72-3). Rectangular clay lined pit 0.85m deep. Grooves at base of pit and *c.* 0.35m up—0.05m high×0.03m wide—possibly traces of internal bracing. Filled with fine grey soil, carbon, bone and pot; no tip lines.	Cu282;GL30; FT8.
(G67)	PHASE 7 66. Circular clay lined pit, 1.00m deep. Traces of internal bracing—D-shaped slot 0.07m×0.05m, flat side innermost, around inside of base; 2nd slot 0.65m from base, 0.03m deep; also 9 shallow vertical slots from top of pit to bottom of upper slot. Fill as G66.	
(G68)	PHASE 7 66. Rectangular clay lined pit 0.40m deep. Traces of internal bracing in S, E and W sides (N side badly disturbed); slot around inside of base; 2nd slot *c.* 0.03m×0.03m at 0.35m from base. Filled with light grey sticky soil.	Cu220-30; Pb41;Fe115; GL27,65,8, 72,5,91;FT9.
(G69)	PHASE 7 66. Rectangular clay lined pit 0.50m deep. Traces of timber bracing; slot 0.03m×0.03m around inside of base; on N and S sides internal step *c.* 0.02m deep at 0.30m from base; on E and W sides internal step at 0.40m from base; wooden uprights in all 4 corners. Filled with sticky grey soil.	Fe65;GL31, 85;CP;W8.
(G70)	PHASE 7 66. Rectangular clay lined pit 0.45m deep. At 0.27m from base of pit clay walls overhang *c.* 0.03m possibly indicating timber bracing. Filled with sticky grey soil.	Cu231,283; GL91;CP.
G71	PHASE 7 Rectangular clay lined pit. Traces of wood lining in side of pit but no slots. Shadow impressions of 6 planks *c.* 0.30m wide on bottom. Several nails at bottom of pit. Filled with various lenses of sticky grey soil, ash etc.	Nu24,42; Cu104,232-44, 284-7;Fe21-2; GL32,56; CP2;W9.
(G72)	PHASE 7 66. Rectangular clay lined pit 0.45m deep, badly disturbed. Shallow slot *c.* 0.40m above base in E side. Filled with light grey sandy soil, clay, bone, etc.	GL63.
(G73)	PHASE 7 66. Circular clay lined pit 0.35m deep. Shallow slot *c.* 0.03m×0.03m around inside of base. Shadow impressions in sides suggest vertical wooden planking. Filled with sticky grey soil.	Cu245-6,288; GL69,73.
G77	PHASE 6B/C =(K25,33,35,37,40,48,49). Green grey soil spread over most of area to W of easting 162. Dump or soil accumulation over earlier stone pits. Accumulated both during and after Phase 6B although on sequence diagram it is shown to be later than the infill of trough G109.	Nu25; Cu210-2; Fe75,116; W6.
G82	PHASE 7 D-shaped clay lined pit 0.25m deep. Filled with sticky brown/grey/blue clay.	H38.
G84	PHASE 7 PH 0.30m deep. Grey soil, ash and clay.	
G86	PHASE 6Ai =(102;K4,55,62-4,68,73-4,76-7). Drying oven 1, sunk into ironstone substratum. Oven itself *c.* 1.70m square×*c.* 1.00m deep lined on 3 sides by sloping walls of neatly coursed small ironstone blocks. At E end heavy protruding buttresses of ironstone separated oven from stokehole. Stokehole unlined at E end; at S ironstone steps set in clay led down to stokehole floor; at N neatly coursed ironstone wall and relieving arch presumably supported continuation of (G83)=14. Relieving arch necessary because of stokehole and pit K187 below. Burning present at end of oven nearest stokehole. Ash deposit over floor of stokehole.	
G87	PHASE 7 =(96-8,229). Construction level for clay pits. Sticky grey brown soil, lumps of blue clay, M, CF. NOP.	Cu213-9; GL17,51,70; T4;FT6,10.
G88	PHASE 7 =(K47). Ironstone wall.	
G95	PHASE 5? Metalled road surface.	
G104	PHASE 6A? =(105). Brown green soil level.	Cu52,280; Fe52;ts; FT2-3.
G106	PHASE 6B Top fill of trough G109. Sticky brown soil, IF, CF.	
G107	PHASE 6Aii Dark green brown soil with large ironstone pieces. 'Destruction' deposits at W end of drying oven 2.	Cu281;Fe44.
G108	PHASE 6B =(171). Stone drain, flows northwards.	
G109	PHASE 6B =(110,256). Stone trough 2.30m×0.70m×1.30m deep. Lower 0.50m cut into ironstone bedrock. Upper levels lined with small blocks of coursed ironstone. W wall inserted underneath existing wall G14 but proved unstable, collapsing into pit with wall G14 bowing outwards at centre. At S end of E wall an original semi-circular step(?) subsequently blocked off.	AF3,8-9.
G111	PHASE 6Aii Dark green soil. 'Destruction' deposit at E end of drying oven 2.	Cu27;Fe39.

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
G121	PHASE 6Aiii/B Rectangular pit 0.70m deep. Sticky green and brown soil, IF.	GL88.
G132	PHASE 6B =(133,140). Green clayey soil, IF, CF. Fill of trough G109.	GL4-5;FT4.
G134	PHASE 6Aiii/B Circular pit, straight sides, *c.* 1.45m deep. Green sandy soil, IF, CF. Lenses of burnt material and orange sand.	Cu208-9; H33;GL39.
G141	PHASE 6B Dark green soil, primary fill of trough G109.	
G166	PHASE 6Ai =(167). Drying oven 2 sunk into ironstone substratum. Considerably disturbed by construction of trough G109 and pits G121 and 134. Oven itself probably 1.20m N-S × 1.00m E-W × 1.00m deep, with sloping sides of coursed small ironstone blocks; floor of large ironstone flags heavily burnt. Junction between stokehole and oven less marked than in oven 1—at least no buttresses survived. Stokehole apparently lined with walls splaying apart to the E.	
G223	PHASE 4?/5 (225-8). Ash layer 0.03m thick.	
G224	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.03m deep. Brown earth.	
(G225)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH 0.08m deep. Light brown soil.	FT5.
(G226)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH *c.* 0.10m deep. Brown soil.	
(G227)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH 0.20m deep. Light brown soil.	
(G228)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH 0.03m deep. Light brown soil.	
G246	PHASE 4?/5 (252-5). PH 0.14m deep. Dark grey soil, limestone packing.	
G247	PHASE 4?/5 (248-9,251). PH 0.19m deep. Dark brown soil.	
(G248)	PHASE 4?/5 247. PH 0.17m deep. Dark grey brown soil.	
(G249)	PHASE 4?/5 247. PH 0.14m deep. Dark green brown soil.	
G250	PHASE 4?/5 Slot, steep sides, flat bottom, 0.10m-0.25m deep. Green brown soil, IF.	
(G251)	PHASE 4?/5 247. PH 0.23m deep. Dark green brown soil, IF.	
(G252)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.15m deep. Grey brown soil.	
(G253)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.11m deep. Dark green soil.	
(G254)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.04m deep. Dark green soil.	
(G255)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.07m deep. Green sandy soil.	
G259	PHASE 4 Pit 0.60m deep. Green soil.	ts;WB71.
G261	PHASE 4?/5 (263;K83,105,124-8,133,164-5,167). PH 0.10m deep. Light green sandy soil.	
(G263)	PHASE 4?/5 261. PH 0.36m deep. Light green soil.	
K5	PHASE 7 =(15,17,29,30). Grey clay, flecks of yellow and blue. Floor 0.01-0.03m thick.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
K8	PHASE 7 =(11);(28). Stone lined pit *c.* 1.30m deep. Lining missing to N and badly disturbed to S.	
K9	PHASE 7 Ironstone wall with buttress continuing the line of relieving arch of oven G86.	
K14	PHASE 7 =(39). Ironstone and limestone wall.	
K16	PHASE 7 =(56);(57). Blue grey clay shallow trough. *c.* 0.20m deep. Clay lining 0.04m-0.08m thick.	
K22	=(78). Natural.	
K23	PHASE 4 (172-3,175-82). Top layer (dark grey green soil) of Grubenhaus 2 used as collective number for Grubenhaus 2. See individual numbers and page 92.	ts;WB23,43.
K24	PHASE 4 (169-71,174,183). Top layer (yellow green soil) of Grubenhaus 3 used as collective number for Grubenhaus 3. See individual numbers and page 92.	
(K28)	PHASE 7 8. Clayey earth, some stone; fill of K8.	Cu247,89; Fe100;GL53, 87;WB32; FT7.
K41	PHASE 6Aii =(50,52-3,60). Brown soil, rubble and clay; rubble probably associated with destruction of drying ovens.	
K54	PHASE pre-6 =(141);(138-9). PH 0.07m deep. Grey soil.	Pb9.
(K57)	PHASE 7 16. Brown stony earth, fill of K16.	
K58	PHASE 6Ai? Patches of cream mortar *c.* 0.01m thick. Floor level of Phase 6Ai.	
K61	PHASE 6Aii (66). Brown earth with much ironstone rubble. Primary fill of drying oven 1.	
K65	PHASE 7? Shallow trough lined with limestone slabs and clay (cf. G59, House 9). Possibly associated with clay lined pits.	
(K66)	PHASE 6Aii 61. Grey brown earth with much ironstone rubble in stokehole of drying oven 1. Primary collapse.	
K69	PHASE 6Ai =(70). Burnt level with ash on floor of drying oven 1.	
K72	PHASE 5 Oval depression 0.20m deep. Brown earth, IF.	
K75	PHASE 5 Pit 0.55m deep. Grey green soil, CF, IF.	Fe4.
K79	PHASE 4?/5 (85-7,142,146). PH 0.06m deep. Brown earth.	
K80	PHASE 4?/5 (81-2,108,111). PH 0.09m deep. Brown sandy earth.	
(K81)	PHASE 4?/5 80. PH 0.18m deep. Brown sandy earth.	
(K82)	PHASE 4?/5 80. PH 0.12m deep. Brown earth.	
(K83)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.11m deep. Brown earth.	
K84	PHASE 4?/5 (89). PH 0.14m deep. Brown earth.	
(K85)	PHASE 4?/5 79. PH 0.13m deep. Grey earth.	

House10 Sequence diagram

Fig 61

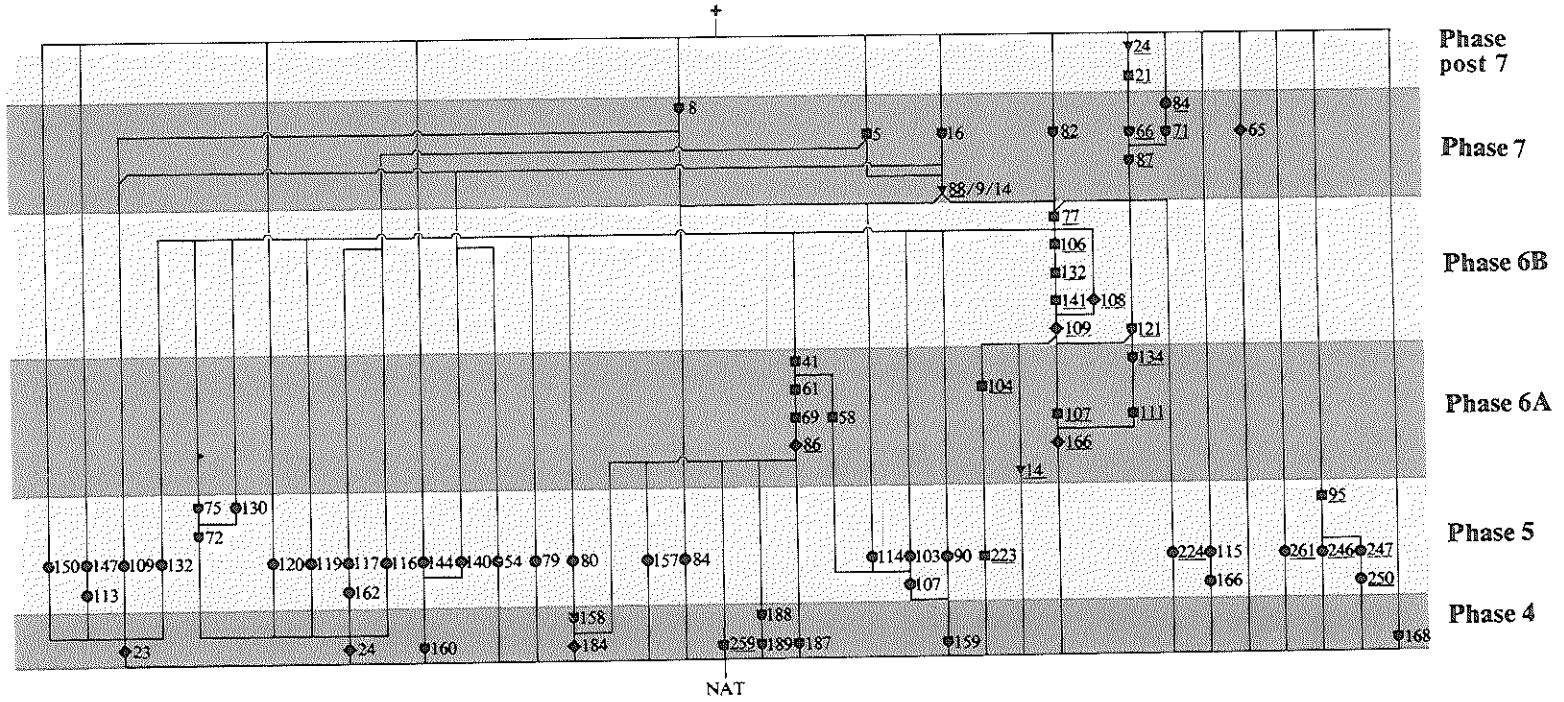


Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
G121	PHASE 6Aiii/B Rectangular pit 0.70m deep. Sticky green and brown soil, IF.	GL88.
G132	PHASE 6B =(133,140). Green clayey soil, IF, CF. Fill of trough G109.	GL4-5;FT4.
G134	PHASE 6Aiii/B Circular pit, straight sides, *c.* 1.45m deep. Green sandy soil, IF, CF. Lenses of burnt material and orange sand.	Cu208-9; H33;GL39.
G141	PHASE 6B Dark green soil, primary fill of trough G109.	
G166	PHASE 6Ai =(167). Drying oven 2 sunk into ironstone substratum. Considerably disturbed by construction of trough G109 and pits G121 and 134. Oven itself probably 1.20m N-S × 1.00m E-W × 1.00m deep, with sloping sides of coursed small ironstone blocks; floor of large ironstone flags heavily burnt. Junction between stokehole and oven less marked than in oven 1—at least no buttresses survived. Stokehole apparently lined with walls splaying apart to the E.	
G223	PHASE 4?/5 (225-8). Ash layer 0.03m thick.	
G224	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.03m deep. Brown earth.	
(G225)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH 0.08m deep. Light brown soil.	FT5.
(G226)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH *c.* 0.10m deep. Brown soil.	
(G227)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH 0.20m deep. Light brown soil.	
(G228)	PHASE 4?/5 223. PH 0.03m deep. Light brown soil.	
G246	PHASE 4?/5 (252-5). PH 0.14m deep. Dark grey soil, limestone packing.	
G247	PHASE 4?/5 (248-9,251). PH 0.19m deep. Dark brown soil.	
(G248)	PHASE 4?/5 247. PH 0.17m deep. Dark grey brown soil.	
(G249)	PHASE 4?/5 247. PH 0.14m deep. Dark green brown soil.	
G250	PHASE 4?/5 Slot, steep sides, flat bottom, 0.10m-0.25m deep. Green brown soil, IF.	
(G251)	PHASE 4?/5 247. PH 0.23m deep. Dark green brown soil, IF.	
(G252)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.15m deep. Grey brown soil.	
(G253)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.11m deep. Dark green soil.	
(G254)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.04m deep. Dark green soil.	
(G255)	PHASE 4?/5 246. PH 0.07m deep. Green sandy soil.	
G259	PHASE 4 Pit 0.60m deep. Green soil.	ts;WB71.
G261	PHASE 4?/5 (263;K83,105,124-8,133,164-5,167). PH 0.10m deep. Light green sandy soil.	
(G263)	PHASE 4?/5 261. PH 0.36m deep. Light green soil.	
K5	PHASE 7 =(15,17,29,30). Grey clay, flecks of yellow and blue. Floor 0.01-0.03m thick.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
K8	PHASE 7 =(11);(28). Stone lined pit *c.* 1.30m deep. Lining missing to N and badly disturbed to S.	
K9	PHASE 7 Ironstone wall with buttress continuing the line of relieving arch of oven G86.	
K14	PHASE 7 =(39). Ironstone and limestone wall.	
K16	PHASE 7 =(56);(57). Blue grey clay shallow trough. *c.* 0.20m deep. Clay lining 0.04m-0.08m thick.	
K22	=(78). Natural.	
K23	PHASE 4 (172-3,175-82). Top layer (dark grey green soil) of Grubenhaus 2 used as collective number for Grubenhaus 2. See individual numbers and page 92.	ts;WB23,43.
K24	PHASE 4 (169-71,174,183). Top layer (yellow green soil) of Grubenhaus 3 used as collective number for Grubenhaus 3. See individual numbers and page 92.	
(K28)	PHASE 7 8. Clayey earth, some stone; fill of K8.	Cu247,89; Fe100;GL53, 87;WB32; FT7.
K41	PHASE 6Aii =(50,52-3,60). Brown soil, rubble and clay; rubble probably associated with destruction of drying ovens.	
K54	PHASE pre-6 =(141);(138-9). PH 0.07m deep. Grey soil.	Pb9.
(K57)	PHASE 7 16. Brown stony earth, fill of K16.	
K58	PHASE 6Ai? Patches of cream mortar *c.* 0.01m thick. Floor level of Phase 6Ai.	
K61	PHASE 6Aii (66). Brown earth with much ironstone rubble. Primary fill of drying oven 1.	
K65	PHASE 7? Shallow trough lined with limestone slabs and clay (cf. G59, House 9). Possibly associated with clay lined pits.	
(K66)	PHASE 6Aii 61. Grey brown earth with much ironstone rubble in stokehole of drying oven 1. Primary collapse.	
K69	PHASE 6Ai =(70). Burnt level with ash on floor of drying oven 1.	
K72	PHASE 5 Oval depression 0.20m deep. Brown earth, IF.	
K75	PHASE 5 Pit 0.55m deep. Grey green soil, CF, IF.	Fe4.
K79	PHASE 4?/5 (85-7,142,146). PH 0.06m deep. Brown earth.	
K80	PHASE 4?/5 (81-2,108,111). PH 0.09m deep. Brown sandy earth.	
(K81)	PHASE 4?/5 80. PH 0.18m deep. Brown sandy earth.	
(K82)	PHASE 4?/5 80. PH 0.12m deep. Brown earth.	
(K83)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.11m deep. Brown earth.	
K84	PHASE 4?/5 (89). PH 0.14m deep. Brown earth.	
(K85)	PHASE 4?/5 79. PH 0.13m deep. Grey earth.	

House10 Sequence diagram

Fig 61



Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(K86)	PHASE 4?/5 79. PH 0.09m deep. Orange brown sandy earth.	
(K87)	PHASE 4?/5 79. PH 0.12m deep. Orange brown earth.	
(K88)	PHASE 4?/5 103. PH, probably part of 103.	
(K89)	PHASE 4?/5 84. PH 0.15m deep. Orange brown earth.	
K90	PHASE 4?/5 (91,143). PH 0.15m deep. Orange brown earth, CF.	
(K91)	PHASE 4?/5 90. PH 0.30m deep. Orange brown earth.	
K103	PHASE 4?/5 (88,104). Slot 0.30m deep. Grey orange soil, IF.	
(K104)	PHASE 4?/5 103. PH within 103.	
(K105)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.05m deep. Grey soil.	
K107	PHASE 4?/5 (148). Slot 0.05m-0.10m deep. Grey earth.	
(K108)	PHASE 4?/5 80. Slot 0.05m-0.20m deep. Orange brown earth.	
K109	PHASE 4?/5 Slot *c.* 0.20m deep. Dark brown earth, burning, CF.	
(K111)	PHASE 4?/5 80. PH 0.07m deep. Grey brown silty soil.	
K113	PHASE 5 Slot *c.* 0.25m deep. Dark grey green soil, CF.	Cu206.
K114	PHASE 4?/5 Slot *c.* 0.15m deep. Grey brown earth, CF.	SW19.
K115	PHASE 4?/5 (156). Slot 0.05m deep. Green soil.	
K116	PHASE 4?/5 (118). PH 0.08m deep. Grey green earth.	
K117	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.22m deep. Dark grey green soil.	
(K118)	PHASE 4?/5 116. PH 0.10m deep. Grey green soil.	
K119	PHASE 4?/5 (129,136). PH 0.14m deep. Grey green soil.	
K120	PHASE 4?/5 (121-3,134-5,137). PH 0.21m deep. Grey green soil, CF, M.	
(K121)	PHASE 4?/5 120. PH 0.10m deep. Grey green soil, CF.	
(K122)	PHASE 4?/5 120. PH 0.06m deep. Grey green soil, CF.	
(K123)	PHASE 4?/5 120. PH 0.07m deep. Grey green earth, M.	
(K124)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.08m deep. Grey green earth.	
(K125)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.16m deep. Grey earth.	
(K126)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.16m deep. Red brown earth, CF.	
(K127)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.17m deep. Grey clayey earth, limestone packing.	
(K128)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.07m deep. Orange grey soil.	
(K129)	PHASE 4?/5 119. PH 0.05m deep. Dark grey brown soil, CF.	
K130	PHASE 5 (131,161). PH 0.06m deep. Dark grey green earth, CF.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(K131)	PHASE 5 130. PH 0.13m deep. Grey green earth, CF.	
K132	PHASE 4?/5 (151). PH 0.16m deep. Grey green soil, IF.	
(K133)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. ?PH 0.02m deep. Grey soil.	
(K134)	PHASE 4?/5 120. PH 0.21m deep. Grey green soil, IF.	
(K135)	PHASE 4?/5 120. PH 0.18m deep. Dark green soil, CF.	
(K136)	PHASE 4?/5 119. PH 0.20m deep. Post pipe 0.08m diam. Grey green soil, CF.	
(K137)	PHASE 4?/5 120. PH 0.12m deep. Grey brown soil.	
(K138)	PHASE 4?/5 54. PH 0.08m deep. Orange grey soil.	
(K139)	PHASE 4?/5 54. PH 0.04m deep. Orange grey soil.	
K140	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.10m deep. Grey soil.	
(K142)	PHASE 4?/5 79. ?PH 0.05m deep. Grey soil.	
(K143)	PHASE 4?/5 90. PH 0.05m deep. Red/black burnt soil.	
K144	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.15m deep. Grey earth, limestone packing.	
(K146)	PHASE 4?/5 79. PH 0.11m deep. Orange grey soil.	
K147	PHASE 5 (153,154). PH 0.40m deep. Sticky green brown soil and stones.	
(K148)	PHASE 4?/5 107. E extension of slot 107. Grey earth.	
K150	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.05m deep. Dark grey soil.	
(K151)	PHASE 4?/5 132. PH 0.06m deep. Dark grey green soil.	
(K153)	PHASE 5 147. PH 0.30m deep. Grey green sticky earth, IF.	
(K154)	PHASE 5 147. PH 0.15m deep. Grey green sticky earth.	
(K156)	PHASE 4?/5 115. PH within 115.	
K157	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.11m deep. Green grey sandy soil.	
K158	PHASE 4 Pit 0.50m deep. Orange grey sandy soil, IF.	
K159	PHASE 4 Pit 0.55m deep. Green brown soil, IF.	
K160	PHASE 4 Pit 0.90m deep. Grey brown soil, CF, IF.	Nu11;ts.
(K161)	PHASE 5 130. PH 0.10m deep. Grey clayey earth, CF.	
K162	PHASE 4?/5 PH 0.21m deep. Dark grey green soil.	
(K164)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.25m deep. Green brown silty soil.	
(K165)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.14m deep. Green brown silty soil.	
K166	PHASE 4?/5 Slot or PH 0.09m deep. Green soil.	
(K167)	PHASE 4?/5 G261. PH 0.08m deep. Orange green sandy soil.	
K168	PHASE 4 Pit 0.50m deep. Light green grey/orange soil, IF.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(K169)	PHASE 4 24. Light green silt, many IF. (Same level as K170.)	WB49.
(K170)	PHASE 4 24. Same level as K169.	WB66.
(K171)	PHASE 4 24. Yellow green soil, many IF.	RC9;Fe34; GL41;WB1, 16,50,65.
(K172)	PHASE 4 23. Thick layer of charcoal with red burning towards centre.	RC7; WB48,63.
(K173)	PHASE 4 23. Yellow green sandy clay, IF.	
(K174)	PHASE 4 24. PH at W end of Grubenhaus 3, 0.50m deep below floor. Light green soil, CF.	
(K175)	PHASE 4 23. Yellow brown sandy clay with ironstone, CF.	Fe78;WB51.
(K176)	PHASE 4 23. Soft yellow sandy soil lens within 177.	
(K177)	PHASE 4 23. Grey brown to grey green clay. Occupation level (Grubenhaus 2A?).	RC8;Fe33; H34;WB15.
(K178)	PHASE 4 23. Tightly packed orange clayey sand and ironstone. Perhaps deliberate dump before shortening Grubenhaus.	
(K179)	PHASE 4 23. PH at E end of Grubenhaus 2A, 0.30m deep below floor. Green yellow sandy clay, IF.	
(K180)	PHASE 4 23. PH at W end of Grubenhaus 2A & B. 0.20m deep below floor. Orange brown clayey soil.	
(K181)	PHASE 4 23. Grey brown clay. Occupation level, Grubenhaus 2A. Possibly the same as K177.	
(K182)	PHASE 4 23. PH at E end of Grubenhaus 2B, 0.55m deep below floor. Light green sticky soil.	
(K183)	PHASE 4 24. Thin patch of blue clay.	
K184	PHASE 4 (185,186). Top layer (closely packed IF) of Grubenhaus 4 used as collective number for Grubenhaus 4.	
(K185)	PHASE 4 184. Thin dark soil level (occupation deposit?) on floor of Grubenhaus 4.	Cu1.
(K186)	PHASE 4 184. PH at S end of Grubenhaus 4, 0.44m deep below floor of Grubenhaus. Loose brown soil.	
K187	PHASE 4/?5 Pit 2.10m deep, below floor of drying oven 1; probable original depth 3.10m. Timber lined? Various lenses of brown, brown orange and grey soils and clay.	Cu2;Pb49; Fe9,35;FB; H1;W1.
K188	PHASE 4/5 Pit 1.70m deep, various lenses of green and brown soils overlaid by grey clay at 0.95m depth. Dump of ironstone overlaid by possible metal-working hearth—ash and clay overlaid by another ironstone deposit. Top of pit green brown sandy soil. (K188.1 = Phase 5; K188.2 = Phase 4.)	Cu207;Pb50; FS/FB;GL42; W15;WB79.
K189	PHASE 4 Pit 2.30m deep. Brown clayey soil.	WB92.

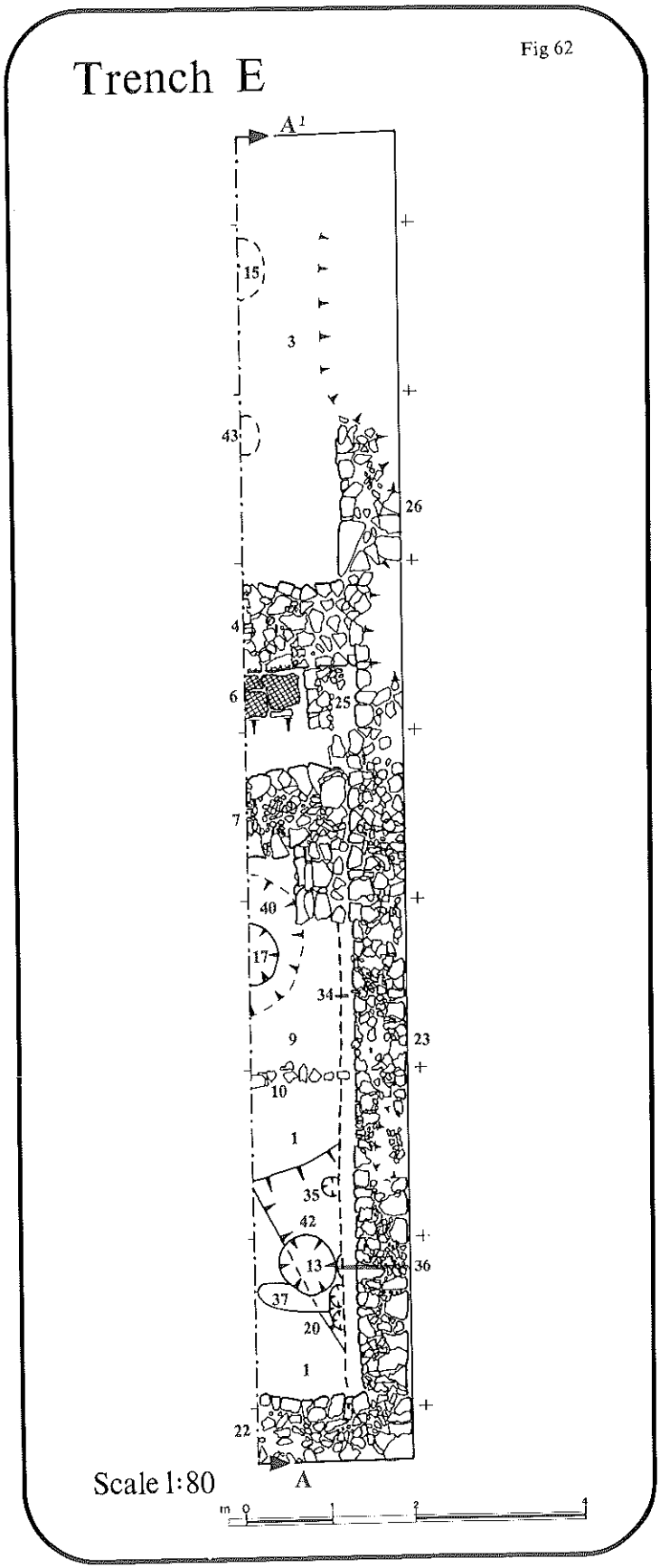
Trench E

by J H Williams

Summary

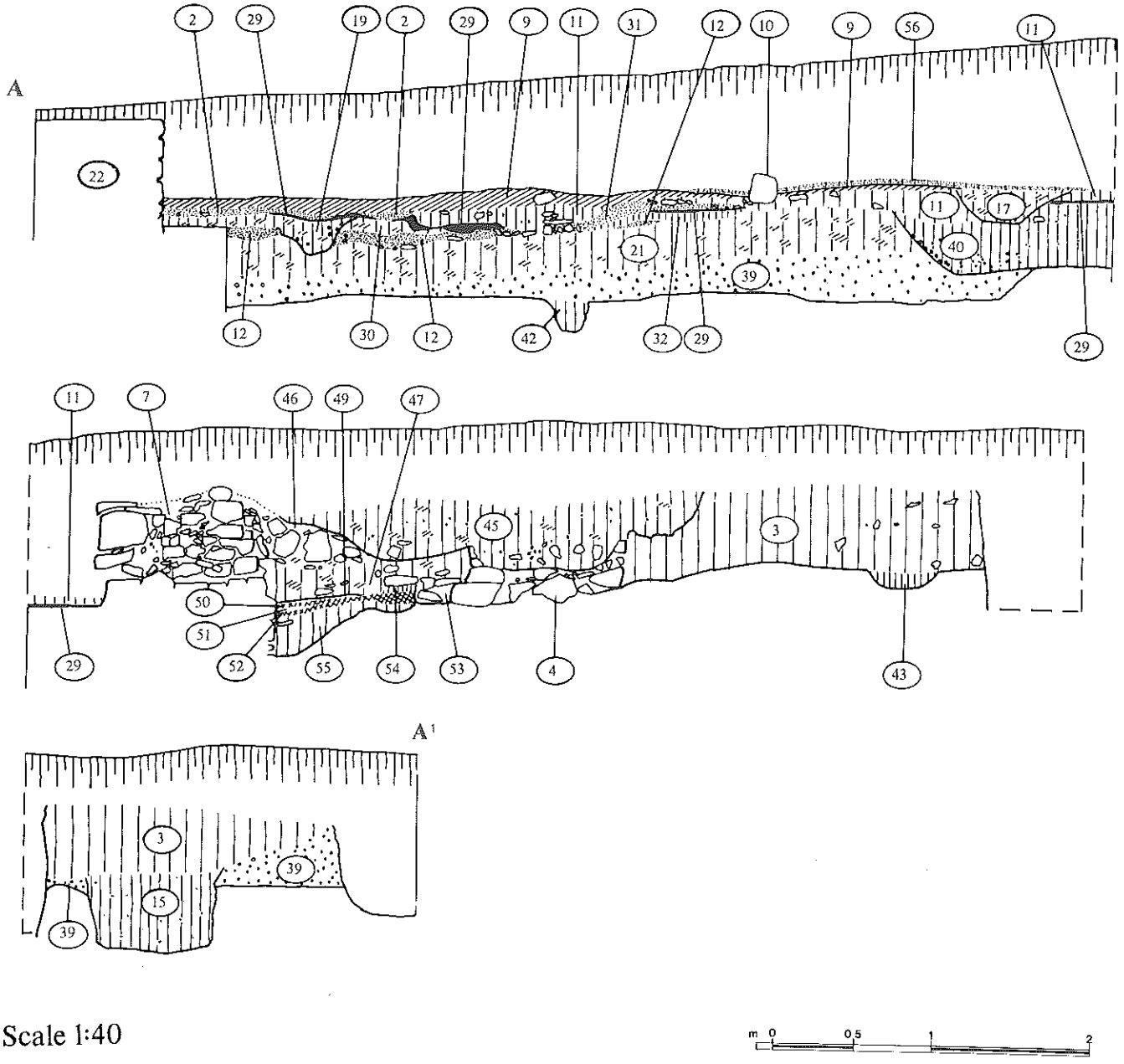
Trench E was positioned in the angle of Freeschool Street and the Green in the only undisturbed location fronting the Green. Occupation stretching back to pre-Conquest times was indicated but actual buildings found related only to the late medieval period.

Fig 62



Trench E Section

Fig 63



Pre-Phase 6

Figs. 62-3

Various layers, pits and post-holes were excavated (see layer list and Figs. 62-3) but detailed discussion is unnecessary.

Phase 6

Figs. 62-3

A stone building was erected, measuring 10m north-south and formed of walls 22, 23 and 4. The front portion of the house was floored with clay (1 and 9) and possibly divided into two rooms by a (?) partition wall 10. Stone slabbing 6 abutted wall 4 and both the slabbing and wall were much burnt, possibly indicating that 6 was in fact a hearth. The relationship of 9 to construction trench 34, i.e. closely overlying, seemed to indicate that 1 and 9 were the earliest floors relating to the stone building. The building should probably be dated to the late 14th century on the evidence of a single groat of Edward III (Nu17) found in layer 2. To the north of wall 4 was a garden or yard area enclosed, at least on one side, by wall 26 which abutted wall 4.

Wall 7 was inserted at a later stage, abutting and partially overlying wall 23, and was clearly later than 47, a soil build-up on top of the possible hearth. It is quite possible that 7 was part of a post-medieval structure. No contemporary floor levels survived.

Assuming that it faced south on to the Green, the stone building is interesting in that either it was a very substantial building or, in contrast to the houses on St Peter's Street, had its gable end fronting the street.

Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
1	PHASE 6i Blue grey clay floor abutting 23.	
2	PHASE pre-6 Red brown patchy sand. NOP.	Nu17.

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
	PHASE 6 Brown earth—garden soil.	
4	PHASE 6i =(5). Substantial ironstone wall bonded into 23. Offset overlaid by paving slabs (6).	
6	PHASE 6i Ironstone paving slabs. Hearth for Phase 6i?	
7	PHASE 6ii/7 =(8). Substantial ironstone and limestone footings abutting 23.	
9	PHASE 6i Blue clay abutting 23.	
10	PHASE 6i Line of small stones—dividing wall?	
11	PHASE pre-6 =(14,16). Brown soil, patches of burning, IF. NOP.	Cu71;GL7, 54-5,57-8,84.
12	PHASE pre-6 Clean orange sand. NOP.	
13	PHASE pre-6 Pit 0.20m deep. Dark brown sticky soil, overlaid by 2, cuts 11.	
15	PHASE pre-6 or 6 Pit. Soft brown soil.	
17	PHASE pre-6 =(18). Pit. Mottled orange brown sandy clay.	
19	PHASE pre-6 Vague cut feature. Mixed sticky brown soil, burning, CF, IF. NOP.	
20	PHASE pre-6 Small pit. Soft brown soil. Cuts 19, below 2.	
21	PHASE pre-6 =(33). Sticky brown clay. NOP.	H24.
22	PHASE 6i Ironstone wall with blue clay matrix. Bonded with 23.	
23	PHASE 6i =(24,28). Ironstone wall, blue clay matrix. Pitched stone foundations at S end.	
25	PHASE 6ii? Fragmentary wall abutting 23 and above 6. Probably contemporary with 7.	
26	PHASE 6i? Ironstone wall—garden wall? Abuts 23.	
29	PHASE pre-6 Dark fibrous band. NOP.	
30	PHASE pre-6 Sticky brown soil. NOP.	
31	PHASE pre-6 Stony orange sand. NOP.	
32	PHASE pre-6 Dark brown loamy soil. NOP.	
34	PHASE 6i Soft dark soil—construction trench for 23.	
35	PHASE pre-6 PH 0.20m deep. Sticky brown earth. Cuts 21, below 11.	
36	PHASE pre-6 PH 0.15m deep. Soft dark brown soil. Cuts 21, below 32.	
37	PHASE pre-6 Slot 0.17m deep. Dark clayey soil. Cuts 21, below 31.	TS/FS/FB.
38	PHASE 6ii =(41). Soft brown soil. Narrow construction trench for wall 7. NOP.	
39	PHASE pre-6 Orange gravel. NOP.	TS/FS/FB.
40	PHASE pre-6 Pit. Dark brown soil.	
42	PHASE pre-6 Pit. Light brown soil, cuts natural, below 39.	
43	PHASE pre-6/6 Pit. Soft brown earth.	
44	PHASE 6i Piece of wall 0.60×0.40m in angle of 4 and 23. Bonded into 4 but abutting 24; below 6. Probably an internal buttress in angle of 4 and 23 and contemporary with both. NOP.	
45	PHASE 6iii Mixed stones, soil, clay, etc. Robber of wall 4. NOP.	
46	PHASE 6ii Large stones, clayey soil. Probably collapse of wall 7. Possibly part of robber 45. NOP.	
47	PHASE 6i Brown soil and clay. Build-up subsequent to disuse of wall 4 and floor 6. NOP.	
48	PHASE 6ii Dark soil and mortar. Construction trench for wall 7. NOP.	
49	PHASE pre-6 Baked pink clay. NOP.	
50	PHASE pre-6 Blue and red burnt soil. NOP.	
51	PHASE pre-6 Pink brown soil. NOP.	
52	PHASE pre-6 Blue grey ash. NOP.	
53	PHASE 6ii Brown soil, IF. Narrow construction trench for wall 7. NOP.	
54	PHASE pre-6 Brown soil. NOP.	
55	PHASE pre-6 Brown soil—pit? NOP.	
56	PHASE 6ii? Light grey sandy soil. NOP.	

Area N

by J H Williams with R Hunter

Summary

Towards the end of the 1974 excavations, when development was thought to be imminent, trench L was mechanically cut to see if the mortar mixers could in any way be related to an earlier phase of St Peter's church. The encouraging results led to the opening up of area N when more time became available.

A series of timber slots and post-holes may represent early church structures which were succeeded, probably in the early 8th century, by a stone church. The limited area of excavation precludes useful observations for most of the medieval period but it is possible that a tanning complex existed in the area from the 15th to the 17th centuries.

Phase 2

Fig. 64; Pl. 26

The weathered natural 141 was cut by various slots and post-holes and two distinct sub-phases may possibly be identified on the basis of the presence or absence of mortar flecks in the various features. All the slots were mortar-free as were the various post positions tentatively identified within them—post-holes 213-216 were not recognised until the slot fill was removed and post-holes 154 and 156-9 had little of the slot surviving above them. The small portion of the plan surviving is rather enigmatic—perhaps a door existed to the east of slot 160 but little can be said about other arrangements. It is, however, noticeable that the slots respect the alignment of the later churches and a religious function for the building seems perfectly feasible.

Post-holes 145-6, 148-51, 168-9, 207 which all contain mortar are probably later—certainly 145 and 146 cut the earlier slot. The post-holes form two very irregular lines possibly making a further timber structure. No finds came from the Phase 2 layers except for the skull of a dog in pit 180 and some fragmentary bone.

Phase 3

Fig. 64; Pls. 27-30

The extreme east end of a stone building was defined by stone walls and foundations 3, 189 and 185. The structure was almost certainly the east end of a church, stone buildings of this period being rare and the walls, lying immediately to the east of the present

PLATE 26 *Area N: Phase 2, timber slots at east of trench, from the west.*

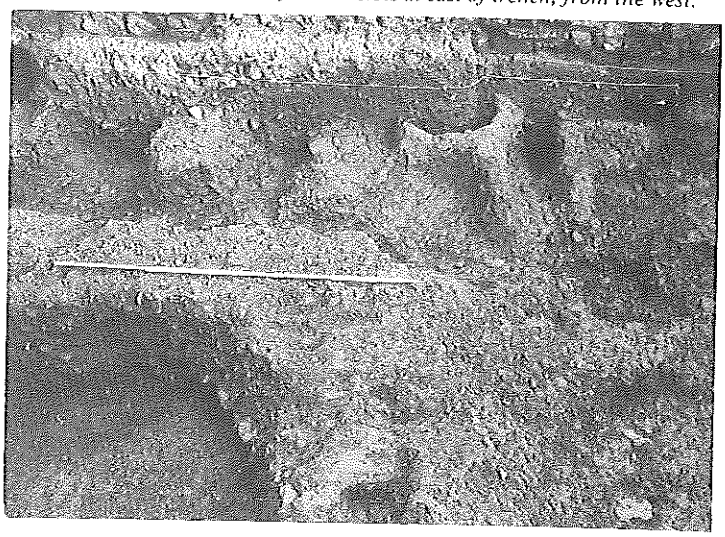
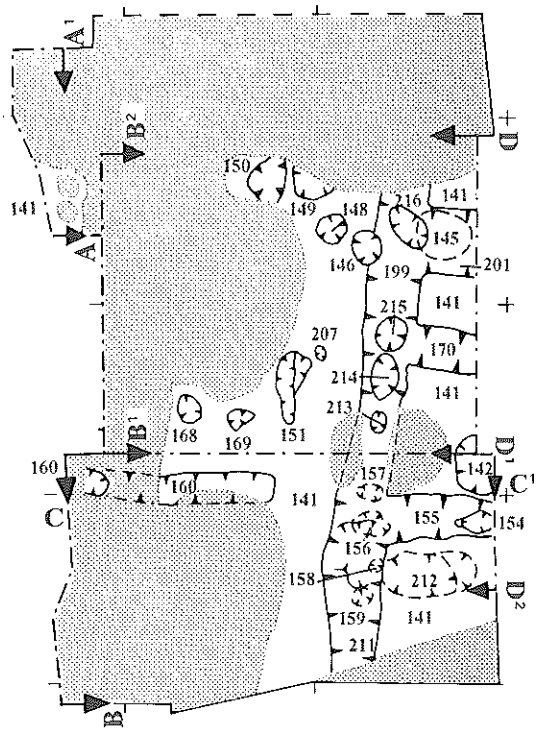


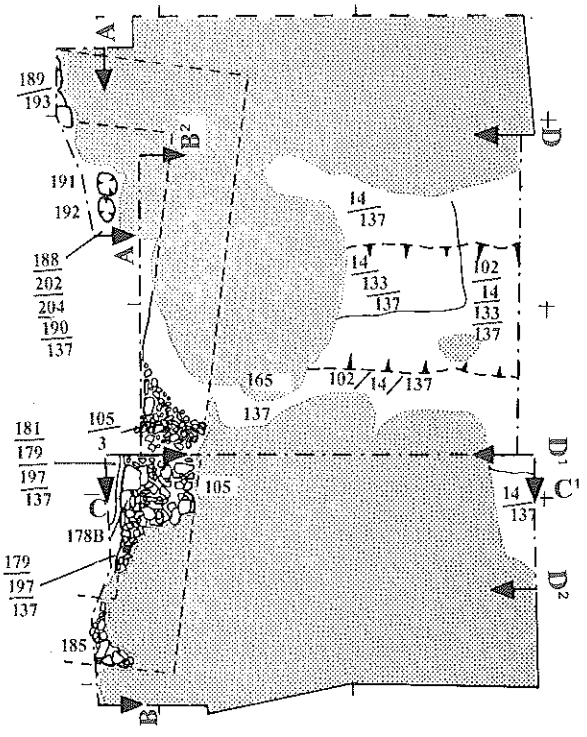
PLATE 27 *Area N: west baulk with east wall of St. Peter's church beyond. The Phase 3 walls can be seen in section.*

Fig 64

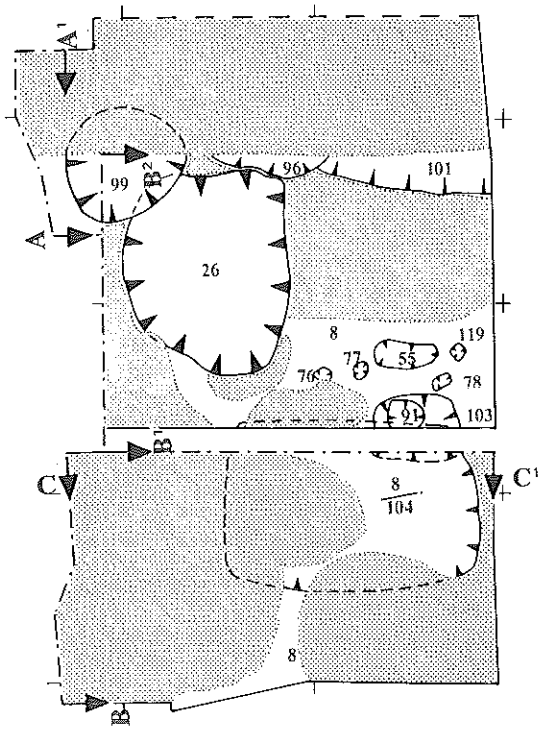
Area N Phase 2



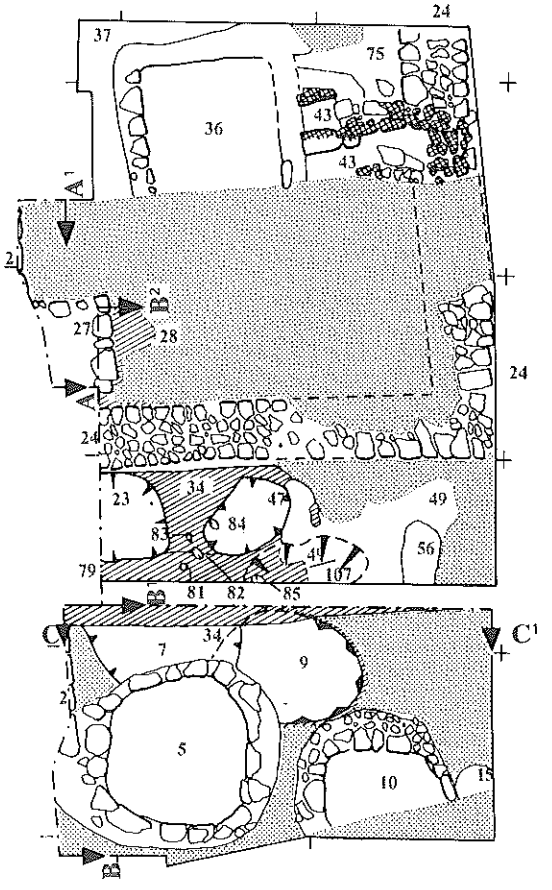
Phase 3



Phases 4 to 5



Phases 6 to 7



Scale 1:80

m 0 1 2 4

PLATE 28 *Area N: Phase 3, south east corner of the stone church. Two courses of stone wall can be seen centre right above rubble foundations.*

PLATE 29 *Area N: Phase 3, north wall of the church in section with mortar (?) floor N188 to the south.*

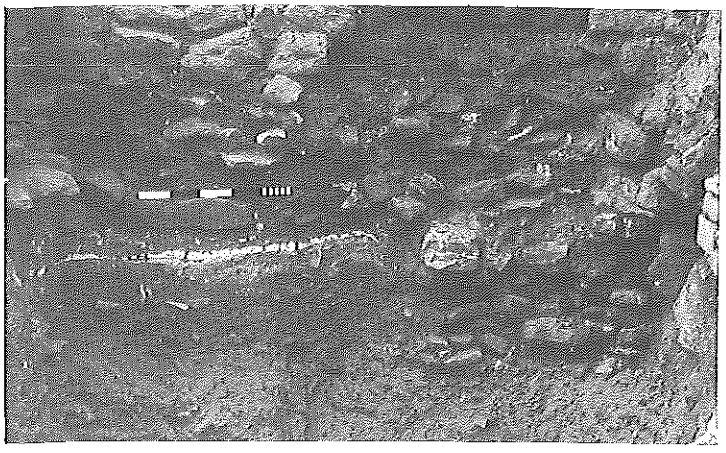
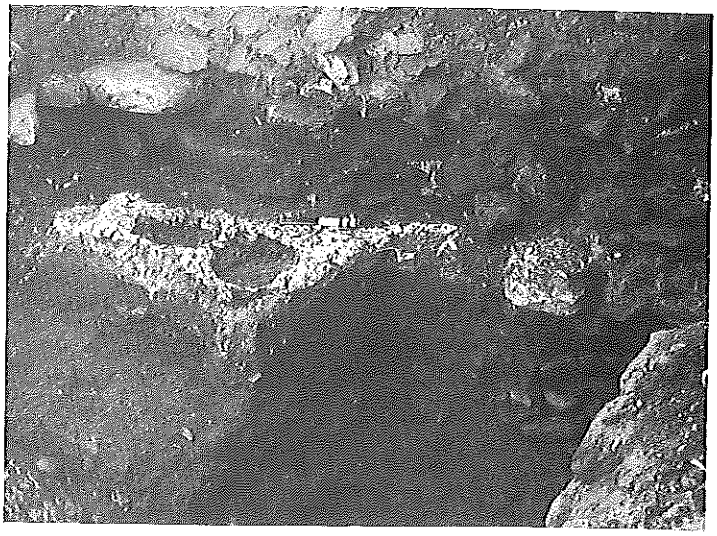


PLATE 30 *Area N: Phase 3, mortar (?)floor N188, cut by two post-holes, with the north wall of the church.*



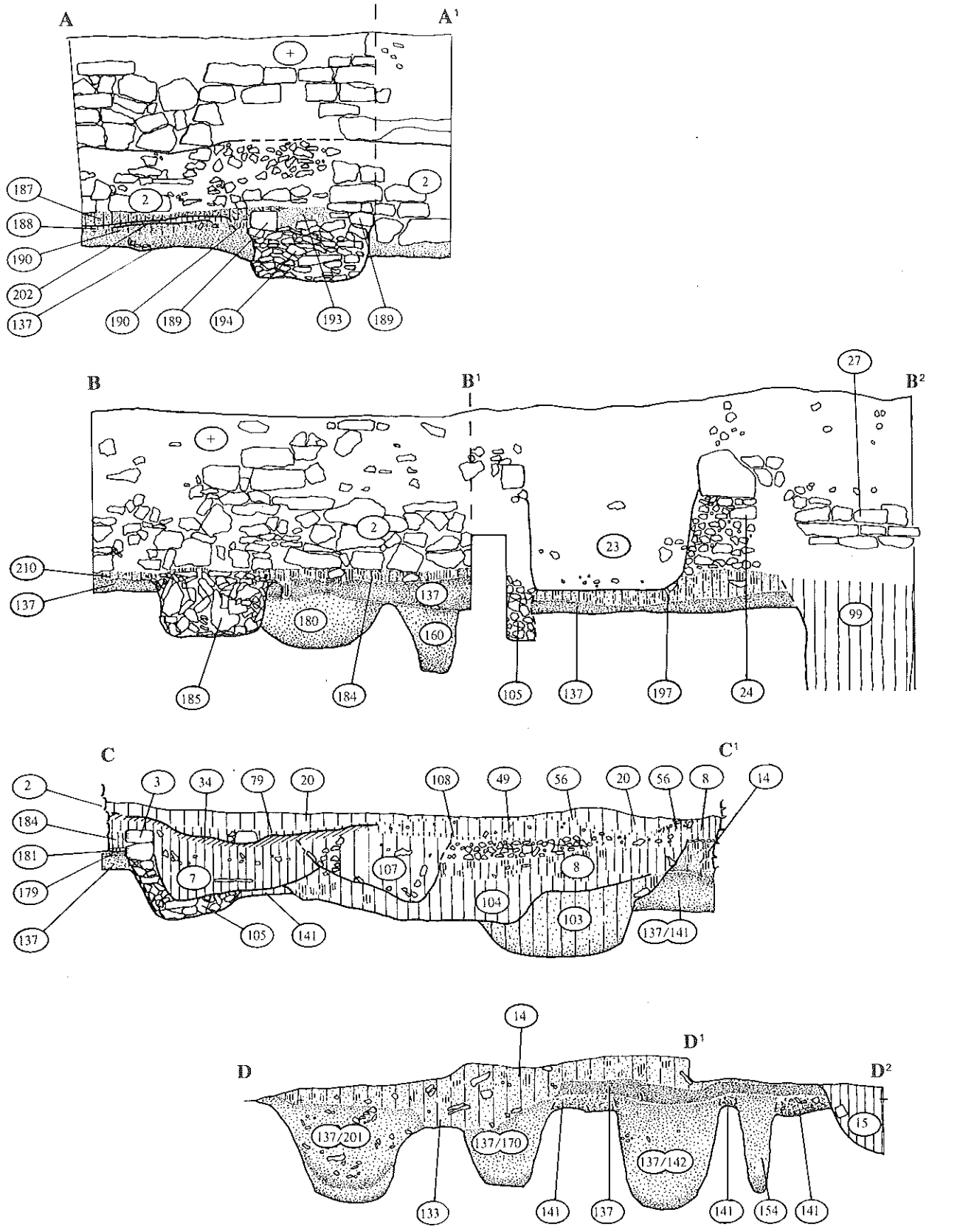
St Peter's church, respected its east-west alignment. The foundations, *c.* 0.50m deep × 0.80m wide were of unbonded rubble with a small amount of soil. The walls above were slightly wider and formed of squared limestone blocks set in a yellow sand. The blocks are of oyster-rich cemented limestone similar to the Upper Estuarine Limestone of Northamptonshire, the nearest outcrops of which occur 2 km south of the River Nene at Hardingstone and 3 km northwards at Hopping Hill (pers. comm. Dr D Sutherland). The east wall had a thin mortar rendering on its inner face (178b), *c.* 0.02m thick. Inside the building were traces of a slurry very rich in lime (188). This may have been laid as a floor, although it would not have been very durable, or alternatively it may have been spillage, perhaps from coating wall plaster. Post-holes 191 and 192, which cut through the lime slurry, are interesting as being possibly related to an altar or altar screen.

Outside the building was a thickish deposit of sand, mortar and tile, probably construction but possible destruction debris. A shallow depression 133, running east-west, was also filled with the same debris and can possibly be regarded as an extremely shallow robbed-out foundation trench, but is more probably non-structural. The mortar levels 14 and 133 cannot be related to the walls because of extensive pitting. Over the top of 14 was a yard surface 102 almost certainly associated with the stone structure.

Finds from the phase are sparse comprising mainly bone, tile and

Fig 65

Area N Sections



mortar. A radiocarbon determination of AD 740±85 was derived from animal bone in the mixed mortar level 14. This date is fairly consistent with two of the dates derived from bone associated with the mortar mixers which are thought to be contemporary. Analyses were carried out on the various mortars associated with the church and comparisons were made with samples from the mixers. The full results are described on page 131. Although it is not possible to conclusively match the mortars it is most interesting that the lime slurry N188 is very similar to that immediately adjacent to mixers 1 and 2 (F(145b)=131) and the wall rendering N178b provides a reasonably close match with the mortar from mixer 3. The sand used in mortar type 11 which is only found in the area of the church is also compatible with that used in the mixers.

There is no good evidence as to how long this church stood. The present church dates to the second half of the 12th century and it would appear from the relationship of the early foundations to the present church that even if the site was derelict for some time its religious significance continued. The site as a whole underwent reorganisation in the 10th century but it is impossible to say whether the original stone church survived unaltered through to the Norman period or whether there was one or more intermediate structures.

Phases 4-5?

Fig. 64

Because of the limited area of trench N the post-church levels are for the most part meaningless. Phase 4-5? comprised a series of pits and post-holes possibly from Late Saxon to 14th century date. Pit 104 measuring 2.70×1.80×0.30m deep was much disturbed but its sub-rectangular shape suggests it may possibly have been a sunken-floored building.

Phases 6/7

Fig. 64

The later evidence from area N is rather tantalising providing a mere glimpse of the development of what was possibly the rear portion of House 1 or more probably, in view of the destruction of House 1 *c.* 1500, part of a property fronting Marefair. At least five sub-phases can be distinguished.

i Two pits: clay lined (?)tan pit 9 cut by pit 7.

ii Two stone lined pits, 5 and 10, containing Tudor pottery—possibly also tanning pits.

iii A possible building formed of walls 2 and 27 and floors 34, 28 and 79.

iv A building in the north half of the trench defined by wall 24 which had an oven or kiln with two phases of flue set into it. The central pedestal is common in pottery kilns but a more domestic use is more probable in this case. A possible drying oven (L5)=N217 was cut by trench L.

v Clay bonded stone lined pit 36 was also quite possibly a tanning pit(?) and dated to the 17th century.

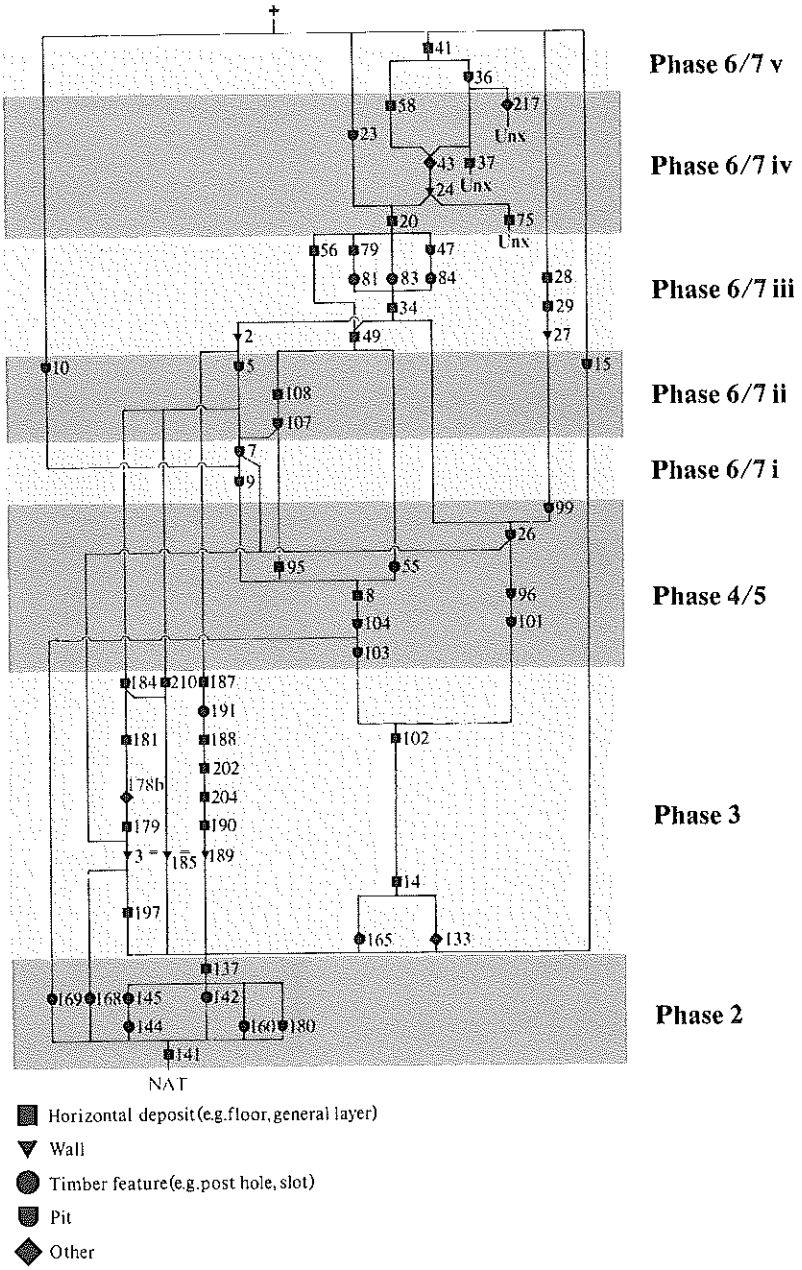
Samples from pits 9 and 36 were analysed for evidence of tanning but the results were inconclusive. It is clear, however, that the pits were designed to contain liquid. If the pits were indeed tanning pits it is interesting in that the St Peter's Street area then becomes a tanning complex which would be rather unusual in view of its elevated position in relation to the river.

Layer list

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
2	PHASE 6/7iii Substantial ironstone and limestone wall with ironstone rubble core.	
3	PHASE 3 (4,105);=(178). E wall of church. Limestone blocks bedded and bonded in yellow sand (4) and overlying loose unbonded foundation rubble of ironstone and limestone 105. Two courses of W face surviving *in situ*. Abutted by plaster rendering 178b.	
(4)	PHASE 3 =(178a); 3. Yellow sand. Bedding for wall 3 overlying foundation 105. NOP.	
5	PHASE 6/7ii =(6,19). Stone lined pit 1.40m deep. Long thin ironstone slabs. 0-1.00m, mixed brown soil with lenses of stone and charcoal. 1.00-1.40m, grey brown clayey soil.	Cu61;GL52.
7	PHASE 6/7i =(106,117,118). Pit 0.55m deep. Dark brown loose soil, some ironstone and light brown sandy soil, M, CF.	
8	PHASE 4/5 =(12,13,17,21,22,35,53,54,57,59,86-89,92-94, 112,115). General layer of mixed character, chiefly dark brown loose soil, IF, CF, M, burnt stone, clayey in places.	Pb43.
9	PHASE 6/7i =(111). Tanning(?) pit 0.35m deep. Vertical sides and flat bottom. Grey clay lining, traces of wood staining on sides, decayed wood on floor. Fill of brown sand and ironstone, CF, IF.	W7.
10	PHASE 6/7ii =(11). Stone lined pit 0.40m deep. Limestone and ironstone lining. Fill of mixed dark brown soil, CF, M.	
14	PHASE 3 =(18,32,113,120-132,164). Yellow brown and white packed mortar in orange brown sandy soil, some tile and bone. Construction or ? destruction deposit.	
15	PHASE 6/7ii Pit. Dark brown and black soil. Unexcavated.	
20	PHASE 6/7iv General layer of brown soil and sticky green sand, CF. NOP.	
23	PHASE 6/7iv Pit 0.40m deep. Vertical sides and flat bottom. Brown soil and ironstone rubble, CF, M, traces of wood.	
24	PHASE 6/7iv =(25,33,44). Ironstone and limestone walls with rubble core. Two courses surviving. S and E walls of structure containing kiln 43.	
26	PHASE 4/5 =(90,97,98,100). Pit *c.* 1.00m+ deep. Deep, steep-sided, not fully excavated. Fine, loose, dark brown soil, IF, CF, M.	
27	PHASE 6/7iii Ironstone and limestone wall. ?Contemporary with wall 2.	
28	PHASE 6/7iii Grey white clay floor with occasional iron staining, CF. Abuts 27.	
29	PHASE 6/7iii Ironstone slabs. ?Make-up for floor. NOP.	
34	PHASE 6/7iii =(51,80). Floor of grey clay and patches of packed stone, M.	
36	PHASE 6/7v =(38,39,45). (?)Tanning pit 1.26m deep. Ironstone lining set in stiff, blue green clay. Fill of light brown soil with ironstone, M.	GL26;AF2.
37	PHASE 6/7iv Dark brown soil with grey clay, IF, CF, M. Unexcavated.	
41	PHASE 6/7v Hard-packed ironstone surface abutting E side of tanning pit 36. NOP.	

Area N Sequence diagram

Fig 66



Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
43	PHASE 6/7iv =(60-74). Oven or kiln with two phases of flue construction. Phase A: circular chamber with narrow flue to W end replaced by large rectangular flue/stoking area in Phase B. Pedestal in centre of chamber ?also replaced in Phase B. Walls of ironstone and limestone construction, heavily burnt. Red and pink burnt clay floor. Fills of ash, charcoal and soil.	
47	PHASE 6/7iii =(48,206). Pit 0.45m deep. Brown, clayey soil with ironstone, M, some traces of wood.	
49	PHASE 6/7iii =(50,52). Mixed brown soil, IF, M. ?Make-up for floor 34.	
55	PHASE 4/5 (76-78,91,119). PH 0.45m deep. Loose green sandy soil, clay patches, burnt and unburnt ironstone, M.	
56	PHASE 6/7iii =(109). Light brown soil with burnt stone and clay, CF, M.	
58	PHASE 6/7iv Brown soil with burnt limestone and ironstone. Oven/kiln debris. NOP.	
75	PHASE 6/7iv Green brown soil. Unexcavated.	
(76)	PHASE 4/5 55. PH. Dark brown soil.	
(77)	PHASE 4/5 55. PH. Dark brown soil.	
(78)	PHASE 4/5 55. PH. Rectangular. Dark brown soil.	
79	PHASE 6/7iii Hard burnt surface of small ironstone pieces. ?Resurfacing of floor 34.	
81	PHASE 6/7iii (82). SH 0.05m deep. Dark brown loose soil.	
(82)	PHASE 6/7iii 81. SH 0.05m deep. Rectangular. Dark brown loose soil with ironstone.	
83	PHASE 6/7iii (85). SH 0.05m deep. Dark brown loose soil with ironstone.	
84	PHASE 6/7iii SH 0.10m deep. Compact dark brown soil with ironstone.	
(85)	PHASE 6/7iii 83. SH 0.05m deep. Dark brown loose soil with ironstone.	
(91)	PHASE 4/5 55;=(110). PH 0.28m deep, post pipe diam: 0.18m. Brown soil with patches of clay, limestone and burnt ironstone packing.	
95	PHASE 4/5 Loose ironstone rubble. NOP.	
96	PHASE 4/5 Pit. Loose dark brown soil, CF, IF. Depth not establishable.	
99	PHASE 4/5 Pit 0.90m + deep. Stiff green soil, M. IF.	
101	PHASE 4/5 Pit. Dark brown, sticky soil, CF, M. Depth not establishable.	
102	PHASE 3 Surface of small fragments of tightly packed limestone and ironstone. ?Contemporary with stone church.	Pb51.
103	PHASE 4/5 =(116). Pit 0.70m deep, bowl shaped. Layers of green-brown sandy and clayey soil becoming more orange, red and gritty towards base.	WB34.
104	PHASE 4/5 =(114). ?Pit 0.30m deep. Well-mixed dark brown loam with ironstone and limestone, shell flecks, M.	
(105)	PHASE 3 =(162,174);3. Ironstone and limestone rubble in dark brown soil. Foundation for wall 3.	
107	PHASE 6/7ii Pit 0.50m deep. Mixed brown soil, clay flecks, M, CF, IF.	
108	PHASE 6/7ii Thin layer of yellow sandy soil with burnt ironstone, CF. NOP.	
(119)	PHASE 4/5 55. PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown sandy soil.	
133	PHASE 3 =(134-136). Yellow, brown and white packed mortar in orange brown sandy soil, some tile and bone. ?Fill of robber trench and/or part of construction or ?destruction deposit 14.	RC4.
137	PHASE 2/3 =(138-140, 166, 172, 182, 186, 195). General layer. Orange brown sandy soil, IF, M, some tile and bone.	
141	PHASE 2 =(161,171,173). Orange brown sandy soil with much ironstone and very few mortar flecks. ?Disturbed natural.	
142	PHASE 2 (148-151,207);=(200). PH 0.75m deep. Dark brown soil overlying grey brown sandy/clayey soil, very wet, IF, M.	
144	PHASE 2 (154-159,170,199,201,211,213-216);=(147,177). Dark brown soil, gritty and stony in places. General layer forming upper fill of slots 199 and 201 before they were properly recognised. Used as collective number for slots and PHs within slots. NOP.	
145	PHASE 2 (146). ?PH 0.30m deep. Dark brown gritty soil, M. Large limestone block tilted upright, ?packing.	
(146)	PHASE 2 145. ?PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown gritty soil, M.	
(148)	PHASE 2 142. PH 0.08m deep. Dark brown gritty soil, M.	
(149)	PHASE 2 142. PH 0.13m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, M.	
(150)	PHASE 2 142. PH 0.26m deep. Dark brown soil, CF, M.	
(151)	PHASE 2 142. PH 0.12m deep. Dark brown soil, M.	
(154)	PHASE 2 144. PH 0.70m deep. Dark brown loose soil.	
(155)	PHASE 2 144. Slot 0.60m maximum deep. Dark brown loose soil.	
(156)	PHASE 2 144. ?PH. Dark brown loose soil.	
(157)	PHASE 2 144. ?PH. Dark brown loose soil.	
(158)	PHASE 2 144. ?PH. Dark brown loose soil.	
(159)	PHASE 2 144. ?PH. Dark brown loose soil.	
160	PHASE 2 =(183). Slot 0.45m deep. Orange brown shaley sandy soil, softer and less stony towards bottom.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
165	PHASE 3 PH 0.23m deep. Grey brown soil, M, CF. Limestone packing.	
168	PHASE 2 ?PH 0.09m deep. Dark brown sandy soil, CF, M.	
169	PHASE 2 (212). ?PH 0.07m deep. Dark brown clayey soil, M, CF.	
(170)	PHASE 2 =(198);144. Slot 0.60m max. deep. Dark brown soil, no stone.	
178b	PHASE 3 Mortar or plaster facing abutting W face of wall 3. Thickness *c.* 0.02m.	
179	PHASE 3 Yellow silty sand mixed with brown soil. Construction deposit.	
180	PHASE 2 ?Pit 0.40m deep. Orange brown sandy dirty soil. Contained dog skull. NOP.	
181	PHASE 3 Patchy white and greenish white mortar. Floor remnants.	
184	PHASE 3 =(196). Mixed sand and mortar in dark brown grey soil. NOP.	
185	PHASE 3 Ironstone and limestone rubble in dark brown grey soil. Foundation for S wall of church.	
187	PHASE 3 Grey brown sandy soil with mortar, CF. NOP.	
188	PHASE 3 White lime slurry. Up to 0.02m thick.	
189	PHASE 3 (193,194). N wall of church. Limestone and ironstone blocks bedded and bonded in yellow sandy mortar 193 and overlying foundation rubble of ironstone and limestone 194. One course surviving.	
190	PHASE 3 =(203). Grey brown, very sandy mortar in dark brown soil. ?Construction deposit.	
191	PHASE 3 (192). PH 0.08m deep. Grey brown sandy soil with mortar, CF.	
(192)	PHASE 3 191. PH 0.09m deep. Grey brown sandy soil with mortar, CF.	
(193)	PHASE 3 189. Yellow sand. Bedding for wall 189.	
(194)	PHASE 3 189. Limestone and ironstone rubble in dark brown soil. Foundation for wall 189. NOP.	
197	PHASE 3 Grey brown sandy soil, MF. ?Construction deposit.	
(199)	PHASE 2 144. Slot 0.50m deep. Dark brown soil, wet and clayey, some IF.	
(201)	PHASE 2 144. Slot 0.70m maximum deep. Grey brown, sandy/clayey soil, some IF.	
202	PHASE 3 Light grey yellow hard-packed mortar floor. ?Earlier floor.	
204	PHASE 3 Light grey yellow mortar floor. ?Earlier floor.	
(207)	PHASE 2 142. SH 0.11m deep. Dark brown soil, M.	
210	PHASE 3 Grey brown soil with mortar and sand. NOP.	

Layer no.	*Phase and description*	*Finds*
(211)	PHASE 2 144. ?Slot 0.20m deep. Dark brown dirty soil, some IF.	
(212)	PHASE 2 169. ?PH 0.45m deep. Dark brown dirty soil, some IF.	
(213)	PHASE 2 144. PH. Dark brown soil, gritty and stony. Assumed to have cut 199 but not recognised until slot itself removed.	
(214)	PHASE 2 144. PH. Dark brown soil, gritty and stony. See 213.	
(215)	PHASE 2 144. PH. Dark brown soil, gritty and stony. See 213.	
(216)	PHASE 2 144. PH. Dark brown soil, gritty and stony. See 213.	
217	PHASE 6/7iv ?Fragment of drying oven. Sloping ironstone walling. Unexcavated. NOP.	