

3 The excavation: the South Sector

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Natural (Illus 17, 18 and 19)

Natural deposits over almost all of the South Sector, except in Area 1, comprised grey and light brown sand and silt stained with loam (C3869, C5352, C4797). In Area 1 the natural comprised yellow sand (C3891). The two sands were not mixed but could be peeled from each other. The natural was not excavated, but in Areas 1 and 2 two trial trenches were excavated by machine showing that the sand was some 0.5m deep and overlay thin (0.01–0.07m) alternating bands of clay and sand, which extended to a depth of some 0.8m and which overlay natural gravel. The thin alternating bands of sand and clay and the gravel were also observed in the sides of deeper pits in Areas 3 and 4. A sondage, 0.7m deep, was excavated by hand into the natural sand in Area 3, in a series of 10cm spits; it showed that the sand was composed of sands of different grade, texture and colour and that it was permeated both by an unidentified black staining (which was also evident in the natural in Area 4) and by worm and root holes. The sand also thickened towards the E and S, in the latter case probably due to the general lie of the ground surface, which rose some 0.5m from S to N over the 45m of the excavation trench (Illus 18). The sands were probably natural flood deposits from the frequent flooding of the River Tay. Finds recovered from these natural deposits were probably mixed in from flooding or trampled in during the early occupation. Leather fragments from C3869 provided radiocarbon dates of $1060 \pm 35\text{BP}$ and $910 \pm 35\text{BP}$ (calibrated at 95.4 per cent probability, as are all subsequent dates, to AD 890–1030 and AD 1030–1210 respectively) (Appendix 6).

Phase Ia (Illus 17)

A possible frontage building (MC003), with a midden to its rear, Midden 0, and two backland buildings, Building 14 and Building 28, were apparent in the natural deposits.

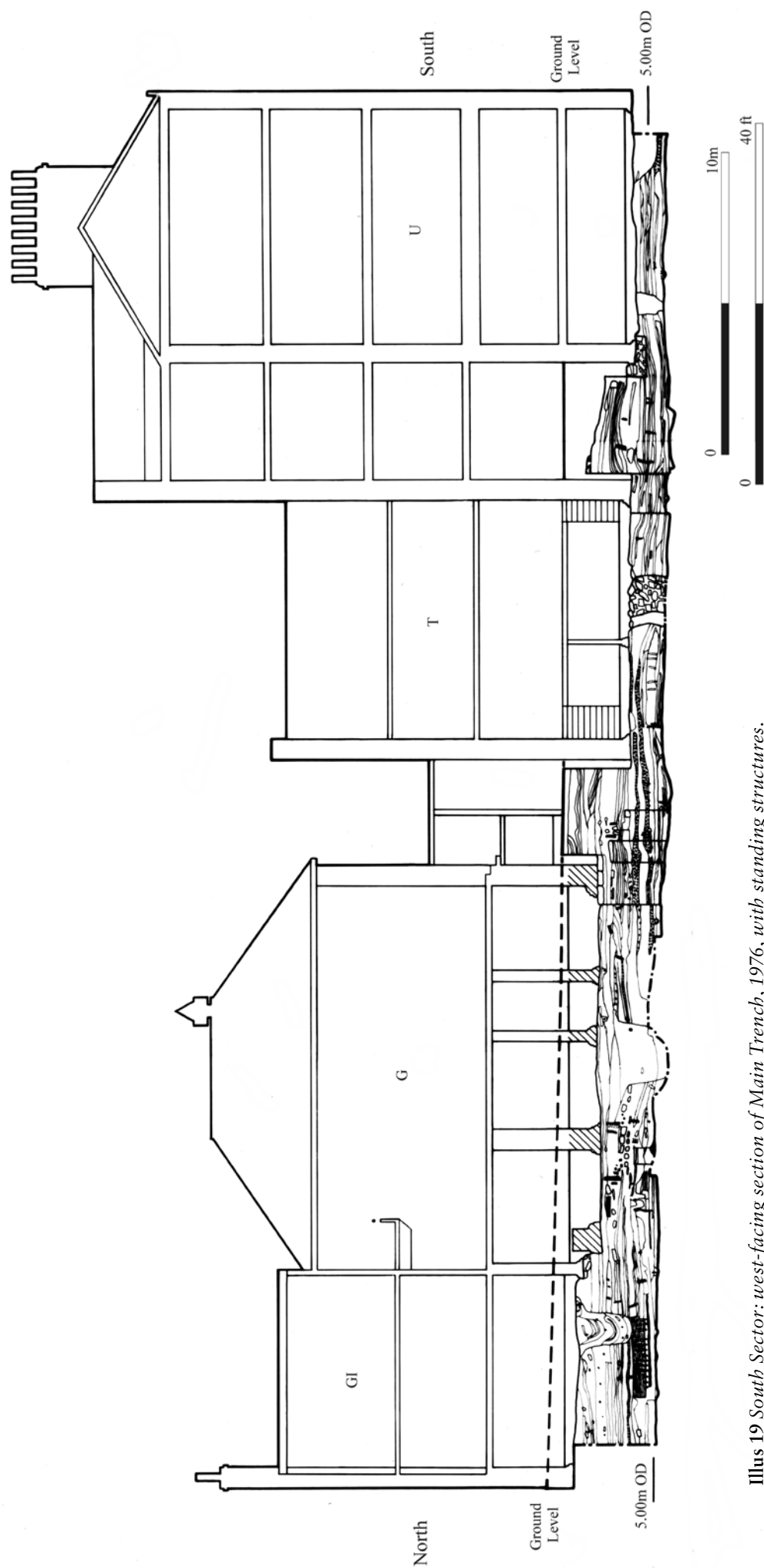
Although Area 1 unfortunately was largely destroyed by later features, some features were still detected. These comprised a gully (T3864), 0.41m deep, at right angles to High Street, with a posthole at its N end (PH3862), 0.2m deep, and four postholes along the frontage (PH3890A–D), up to 0.57m deep. There were also 64 random postholes (PH3854), of which the largest (PH3855) was 0.3m deep. These features may have formed part of the earliest building on the street frontage, underneath Building 17 (The buildings, this volume). The gully followed the line of the property boundary between Rig V to the W and Rig VI to the E, and may be the earliest manifestation of that boundary;

it may have represented the course of a wall between two adjacent buildings as did similar gullies on the same line in Buildings 17 and 15 (The buildings). The length of the gully and location of the larger postholes at its front and rear suggest that any such building would have been of similar dimensions to Buildings 17 and 15.

Further to the N, on the E edge of the excavated area, was a line of stakes (SA3791) with burnt tops bordering a layer of ash (C3790). These may have been the W edge of a building, Building 14 (The buildings), although they may equally have been a boundary within the area behind the putative building on the street frontage. In support of the latter view is the absence of any apparent floor and occupation levels for this ‘building’.

To the rear of the putative building on the street frontage was a stake alignment (SA3818), possibly the remains of a property boundary in line with gully T3864, with a group of random stakes (PP3844) nearby. Also to the rear of this ‘building’, above the natural, were deposits of grey/white sand with lenses of loam and peat (C3865, C3867, C3868) (not illustrated). These may also have been natural deposits (Blanchard 1978), but finds of leather and animal bone suggest they may have been midden deposits, possibly the earliest layers of Midden 0, which succeeded them.

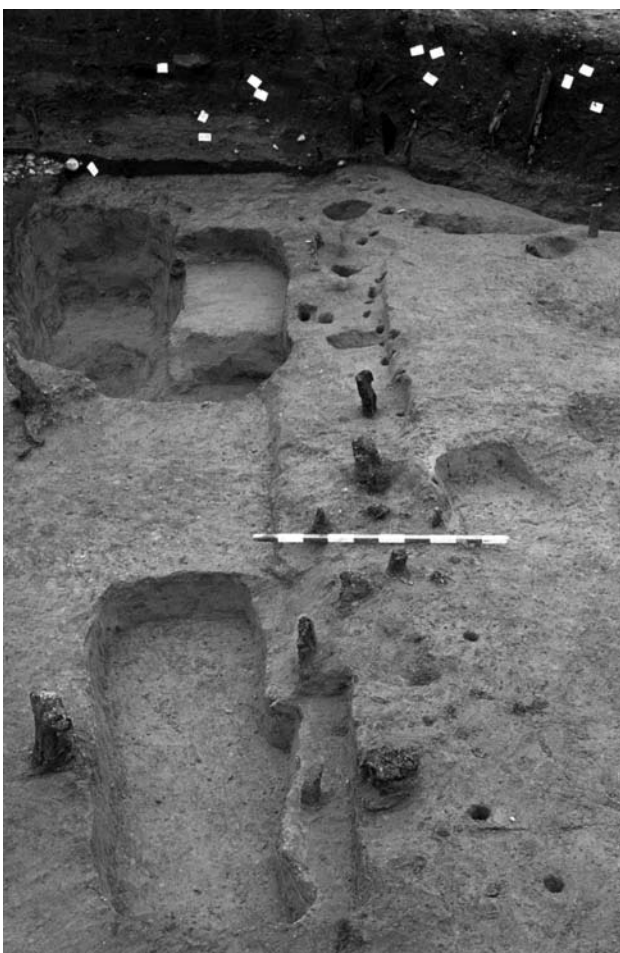
The earliest features in Midden 0 were several pits (Pits 3858, 3776, 3789, 3840 and 3841) and a gully (T3852), which were cut through these earlier deposits. The pits and gully were then sealed by various layers of sand, dung and other organic material. If SA3818 was a property boundary, then Pits 3858 and 3776 would be in Rig V and Pits 3840 and 3841 and gully T3852 would be in Rig VI. Pit 3789, the latest in the sequence is largely within Rig VI, but extends into Rig V. Pits 3789 and 3841 were deeper (1.76m and 1.36m respectively) than the others, and, along with Pit 3840 (0.89m deep) were cesspits, their fills being rich, soft, yellowish-brown organic material with grasses and seeds. The purpose of the other pits is not known. The upper fills of Pit 3789 comprised hard-packed loam and sand (C3835) and peaty loam (C3826), probably levelling to seal the cess material; these layers produced respectively a fragment of a worked bone casket mount (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 1) and a ‘poor quality’ dress ring with glass mount (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 3; The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 70). Fill C3835 also contained the neck and head of a horse. The purpose of gully T3852 is unclear; it may have been the robber trench of a timber lining for a steeping pit, as its fill (C3822) contained the remains of disarranged wattle, possibly the remains of a discarded lining.



Illus 19 South Sector: west-facing section of Main Trench, 1976, with standing structures.



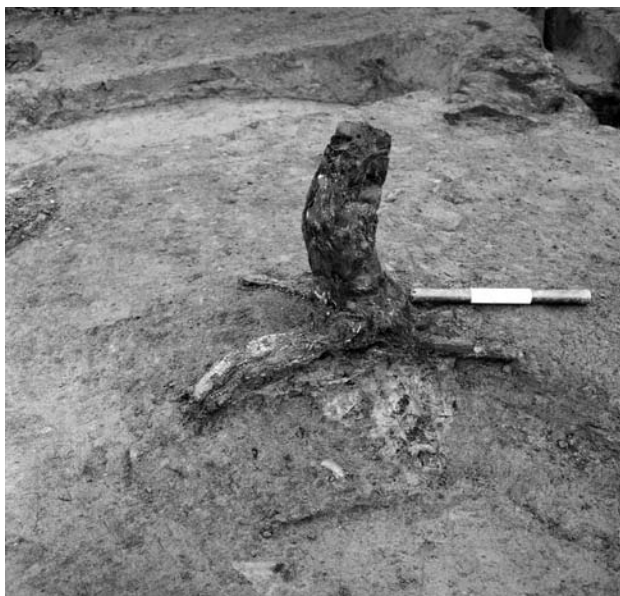
Illus 20 South Sector: hurdle MW5347 in Pit 5337, looking east. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 21 South Sector: the west wall of Building 28, looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

Because of later pits no features were identified in Phase Ia in the central area of the excavation trench, although some of the pits may have been dug in this phase, as they were cut directly into the natural sand (Pits 4571, 5096, 5155, 5157, 5332, 5337). Only the northern edge of Pit 4571 survived later intrusions. These pits were large and deep (Pit 5332 was not excavated, but the others were 1.65m, 0.93m, 2.78m, 2.19m and 2.25m respectively). There was some slumping around the edges of the pits. The general lack of finds in the pits suggests that they were not rubbish pits: Pit 4571 produced one potsherd and one bone fragment; Pit 5155 produced 11 sherds of pottery, 52 bones, 17 pieces of leather, two pieces of textile, three mussel shells and a cockle shell. Pit 5337 produced most finds, although it was not fully excavated: 59 sherds of pottery, 226 bones and ten mussel shells, as well as two wooden platters (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 9, 10), five leather soles and other pieces of leather, 11 woollen textile fragments, as well as pieces of silk yarn, woollen yarn, woollen cord and another cord, probably of horsehair (The textiles); there were also two pieces of chalk and a piece of flint (The miscellaneous finds (Flint): A11069). Pits 4571, 5155, 5157, 5332 and 5337 were used as cesspits, but may originally have been quarry pits. Within the upper fills of Pit 5337 were deposits of sand with abundant mussel fragments, sandy loam, and ash, possibly to seal the cess material. Pit 5096, which had a gully on its N edge, was predominantly filled with layers of silt and sand, including patches of burnt sand, and some ash; it was probably an industrial pit. From it was recovered a flax-breaking mallet (The wood: Wood Cat No 6).

Pit 5337 had a sloping stake and wattle hurdle (MW5347; Illus 20) on its E side. The hurdle was 2.64m long and 2.6m high along its slope; some of the stakes were paired, but the wattle was not closely woven and was packed in places with moss. Behind the wattle was a layer of sand, which was not excavated. The hurdle may have been a lining to stabilise the E side of the pit after the sand had slumped into the pit; it is unlikely to have been originally a vertical lining on the E edge of the pit pushed in by the collapse of the side of the pit, as the hurdle was intact, not broken, despite the lower part of the hurdle bulging in places as if pushed by the sand behind. In addition to the hurdle in the pit, there were the remains of a 'lid' for the pit in the form of another stake and wattle hurdle and nine horizontal timbers. Several of the timbers had been flattened by the weight of later deposits, which had built up above them. Two of the timbers showed evidence of being reused: one was an oak stake, another was a birch timber with pegs in it. Two radiocarbon dates from finds from this pit produced contradictory dating evidence. Carbon on a sherd of a cooking pot from the fill of this pit produced a radiocarbon date of 960 ± 40 BP (calibrated date AD 990–1170). A piece of leather produced a



Illus 22 South Sector: tree stump TS/PP4529A, looking east. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

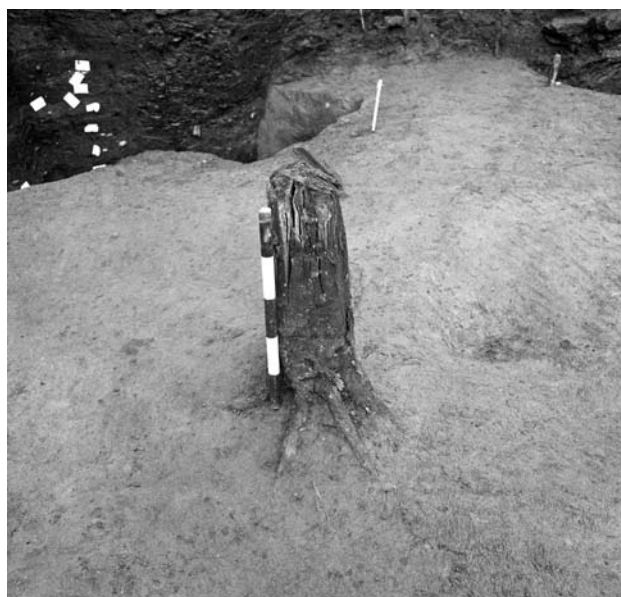


Illus 23 South Sector: tree stump TS/PP4634, looking west. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

radiocarbon date of 700 ± 35 BP (calibrated date AD 1250–1320).

At the northern end of the excavation trench was Building 28 (The buildings). This comprised posts and postholes in the natural outlining the W, N and S sides of a building (Illus 21), for which no definite floor and occupation levels were identified. However, as the 'interior' of the building was slightly lower (0.1m) than the natural sand to the W, it may be that the deposits of sand, loam, woodchips, peaty loam and gravel (C4533, C4549, C4788, C4789, C4799) in the depression were the floor/occupation levels. Notable among these posts were four tree stumps (TS/PP4529A, TS/PP4629, TS/PP4634, TS/PP4642) (Illus 22, 23). (TS/PP4634, although assigned to Phase Ib, probably forms part of this group of posts/tree stumps.) TS/PP4642 was part of the alignment of posts and postholes (PA/PW4605), which formed the W wall of Building 28. Presumably they were posts that had not been seasoned long enough to dry out the sapwood, and consequently they took root. They are unlikely to pre-date the building as they would have been felled during its construction. Around the roots of two of them (TS/PP4529A, TS/PP4634) was grey clay, but the roots of the other two spread out just under the surface of the natural sand. This would suggest that they were inserted into the natural at that level. Excavation of the clay around TS/PP4634 left an oval hole, 0.25m by 0.2m across and 0.1m deep, presumably its posthole.

To the W of Building 28 was another tree stump, TS2329 (Illus 24), whose roots spread out below the surface of the natural sand, with a tap root thrusting straight down for 0.1m. The other posts and postholes to the W of Building 28 formed no obvious pattern, although PW4591 and PW4632 (with PH5151 in Phases



Illus 24 South Sector: tree stump TS/PP2329, looking north. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

Ib–Id) form a line, possibly the boundary between Rigs V and VI.

Phase Ib (Illus 25)

This phase is marked by the appearance of the first definite frontage structure, B17, with a midden, M2.1a, to its rear.

Building 17 (Illus 26) at the S end of the excavation was the first recognisable building on the street front-

age. As it sat astride the boundary between Rigs V and VI, it may have been two adjacent structures, with the foundation trench, T3816, and its double lines of stakes and posts, WW3816, forming a common wall between them. However, it is also possible that they formed a single structure (The buildings). The end of the building was marked by a fire. To the S of the building was a foreland, composed of clayey loam with a rotted stake and wattle hurdle (MW3803) under gravel (C3802). The hurdle was the earliest example on the site of a wooden walkway to prevent feet sinking into mud. The most striking example was MW3614 in Path 5.3a (Phase If); MW2160 in Path 1a (Phase Vd) was the latest.

To the N of the E part of Building 17, in Rig VI, was an open area containing midden and yard deposits (MC006, M2.1a). The earliest of these (MC006) was an extensive deposit of organic silty loam with lenses of sand (C3822), which filled the earlier gully (T3852), sealed Building 14 and was bounded by both sets of stakes SA3818 and PP3844 (Illus 17). It may have been a levelling deposit to seal the earlier pits in this area. Contemporary with, and to the N of, C3822 was an extensive deposit of silty sand with lenses of peat, which extended into Area 3 (C3759, C3770, C3798, C5173, C5176). The most important find from C3822 was a fragment of silk (The textiles: Textile Cat No 4), which provides evidence for the early far-flung trade connections between Scotland, if not Perth, and the Byzantine, Islamic (including Spain) or Chinese worlds. Two fragments of worked bone casket mounts from C3770 (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat Nos 2, 3) may be from the same object as the fragment found in Pit 3789 (Worked Bone Cat No 1). Cut into Pit 3789 (Phase 1a) were a gully, T3774, on N/S alignment, possibly part of the boundary between Rigs V and VI, and a pit (Pit 3755), 1.41m deep. The lower fills of the pit comprised sand and clay, and peat; the upper fills of heather and straw mixed with dung, and yellow dung. This suggests that, while it was last used as a cesspit, its primary purpose was different. The paucity of finds (31 potsherds, some 61 bone fragments and some leather) suggests that it was not a domestic rubbish pit.

Midden 2.1a comprised hard-packed loam with some silt (C3817) and contained a rough alignment of large unworked stones (MF3814). The stones may have formed a rough path from Building 17 into its backland, serving a similar purpose to the timber walkways mentioned previously, to prevent feet sinking into the muddy yard/midden.

No changes at the N end of the excavation can be discerned in this phase.

Phase Ic (Illus 27)

In this phase B15 replaced B17 on the frontage. M2.1b replaced the earlier midden.

Building 15 replaced Building 17 and, like its predecessor, it may have been two adjoining buildings, with a common wall in between them (T3765A and B),



Illus 26 South Sector: Building 17 on the frontage, looking east. (© Alder Archaeology)

one in Rig V, the other in Rig VI. However, it is also possible that these two units formed a single building (The buildings). Like its predecessor, Building 15 burned down. A new foreland, of clayey loam and rotted wood (C3786) under sand with a lens of gravel (C3785), replaced the earlier one.

Pit 3805 presents a problem. This was a very deep (2.25m), vertical-sided pit right on the street frontage (Illus 18), a very strange place to dig such a pit. Its position means that it could not have been in contemporary use with either Building 17 or 15. Its primary fill was grey-blue clay, above which was yellow-green dung and straw and very hard-packed loam. Although latterly it was used as a cesspit (with the loam acting as a cap or seal), its original purpose is not known. It would be too deep to be a posthole and the lack of finds – 4 potsherds, 99 mammal bones, 1 mussel, 1 wooden bowl stave (The wood: Wood Cat No 2), 1 piece of coal and 1 piece of flint (The miscellaneous finds (Flint): A9704) means it was not a rubbish pit. It may have been a public well on the edge of the street, with the clay as a lining. Its stratigraphical relationships are not clear, except that it was sealed by a floor (C3781) of Building 15. Slumping around its edges confused its relationships to adjacent contexts, although it appeared to be cut through the destruction layer of Building 17. Perhaps it implies that Building 15 did not immediately replace Building 17, but that there was a period when there was a 'gap site' on the early street frontage, similar to present day 'gap sites'. Even so, its depth on the edge of the street would have been dangerous to say the least.

Behind Building 15 was Midden 2.1b, which occupied both Rigs V and VI. It comprised layers of sand, silt, dung and other organic matter, and ash. Radiocarbon dates of 840 ± 35 BP and 975 ± 35 BP (calibrated dates AD 1150–1270 and AD 990–1160 respectively) were obtained from leather fragments from this midden. Above the midden and gully T3774 were more deposits of sand, loam and dung (MC013), another midden. Cut through these deposits, and through the earlier Pit 3755, was a gully, T3757, on

N/S alignment. Parallel to it to the W was a second gully, T3747. Radiocarbon dates of 1050 ± 40 BP and 1065 ± 55 BP (calibrated dates AD 890–1030 and AD 810–1050 respectively) were obtained from carbon on two sherds of cooking pot from the fill of T3747. These trenches were successors to the earlier gully T3774. They may represent robber trenches of wattle fences. Alternatively, they may be robber trenches of linings for the gullies if the latter served as channels, perhaps for some industrial purpose.

In Rig V, was an oval pit (Pit 3772), 0.58m deep, filled with dung, ash and peat, and loam with gravel. It was probably a cesspit. Apart from one leather upper of a shoe, only animal bones were recovered from its fill.

No changes at the N end of the excavation can be discerned in this phase.

Phase Icc (Illus 28)

Buildings 8, 9 and 10 were built in the backlands and Path 5.1 was created between them. In the backlands, the barrel well may have been constructed.

Building 15 on the street frontage remained in use, but two, possibly three, new buildings were constructed in the backlands behind it.

In Rig V to the rear of Building 15 was Building 10, while in Rig VI, situated at the junction of Building 10 and Building 15, was a small square building, Building 9, which may have served as a back porch between Building 15 and its backyard; it may also have led on to Path 5.1, which certainly provided access to Building 8. All three buildings were destroyed by fire.

Building 8, also in Rig VI, may have been constructed at this time, although, as there was no evidence that it was destroyed by fire, it may not have been constructed until after the fire. It opened on to the gravel of Path 5.1. This was the earliest definite remains of a sequence of paths leading from the frontage into the backlands of Rig VI (but see Phase Ib above, MF3814). It did not, however, extend to the street itself, but commenced at the rear of Building 15. It also avoided the site of Building 9 which implies that that building was probably either still in use or its site was undeveloped if it had burnt down. The path was bordered by a wattle fence (WW3711). The area between the fence and the boundary fence with Rig V was probably used as an animal pen. The path did not survive much beyond the N end of Building 8, but may have swung across the rig (like later paths) to approach Building 16 at the N end of the excavation.

Beyond these backland buildings, no discernible change is evident except at the N end of the site, where Building 28 in Rig VI was replaced by a midden (MC 023b), which extended into the N end of Area 3. In Rig V another midden (MC023a) accumulated. The boundary between the two rigs was formed partly by a fence (WW4462B) and partly by the remains of two sections of a possible trench (T4753, with post PW4765; T4497; not illustrated).



Illus 29 *South Sector: the barrel well, Well 4774, looking north.* (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 30 *South Sector: detail of the barrel MW4772.* (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

The most important feature in Rig V was the barrel well, Well 4774 (Illus 29). This comprised an oval pit, some 2.7m deep, at the base of which was an oak barrel (The wood: Wood Cat No 7) set against the W side of the pit, which was not fully excavated. The barrel (Illus 30) was composed of 18 staves, held together by at least six wooden hoops and around which was woven wattle, 5–15mm diameter. About 0.2m from the outside of the barrel was a stake and wattle fence (WW4800), about 3.86m in circumference, with up to three rows of wattle (stakes 25–40mm diameter, 150–200mm apart; wattle 20mm diameter). The space between the

fence and the barrel was packed with moss, twigs and heather; the space between the fence and the edge of the pit was filled with grey clayey silty loam. The pit was then filled with mixed clay and turf, the space above the barrel being left open to form a well-shaft, 0.75m diameter. No definite lining for the well-shaft was found, although broken pieces of wattle, possibly the remains of a lining, were found pressed down into the waterlogged fill of the barrel. After the well had gone out of use, it became a cesspit, the shaft being filled with reddish brown and yellowish-brown straw and dung with patches of clay. Few finds were recovered from the well-pit or shaft. The barrel, a reused French wine barrel, has been dated by dendrochronology to 1136 or later (Crone 2005, 72). A radiocarbon date of 895 ± 55 BP (calibrated to AD 1020–1250) was also obtained from the barrel.

It is possible that the barrel well was part of Building 16b in Phase Id–IIa, with the well-shaft being part of Pit 4726. The well was located in the baulk between Areas 3 and 4, which was only partially excavated at the end of the 1976 excavation. At the end of that excavation, it was not expected that there would be another phase of excavation and the planning grid pegs were removed. Excavation of the baulk was resumed in early 1977 at the start of the second phase of excavation, with planning by means of offsets. It was then that the barrel well was discovered. Any discrepancies between Pit 4726 and the well shaft may therefore be more apparent than real.

Within Rig VI two pits were found. Pit 4525 was a cesspit, 0.67m deep, but Pit 4531, 0.44m deep, was probably a storage pit; its fill, of white sand with flecks of clay, produced only one potsherd and one bone. The carbon adhering to a sherd of a cooking pot from Pit 4525 was radiocarbon dated to 1085 ± 40 BP (calibrated date AD 880–1030).

Phase Id (Illus 31)

B15 on the frontage was replaced by pits; B10 was replaced by M14b(a); B16 and B16a were built in the backland; and B16b replaced the barrel well.

After the destruction by fire of Building 15 no more structures are apparent on the street frontage. That such an important location should not be occupied by buildings is inconceivable. Unfortunately, any frontage structures after Building 15 have been destroyed by the post-medieval cellars of Buildings U and V (Architecture Survey). All that survived on the frontage were miscellaneous features – pits, postholes and trenches – cut down into the earlier deposits.

In Rig V the earliest of these features was a line of three postholes (PH3743A–C), cut into the foreland of Building 15. These may have been ‘robbing pits’ for removing any stumps of frontage timbers of that building (see Illus 28). Alternatively, they may have contained posts for a successor building. Nearer to, and parallel with, the street was a shallow (0.21m)



Illus 32 *South Sector: two possible wall trenches of frontage buildings, T3071 and T3053, looking north-east. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

trench, T3071 (Illus 32), which was cut into a gravelly layer (C3080). At the E end of T3071 was a posthole (PH3021), 0.24m deep. These features were sealed by a gravel surface (C3069). Cut through the upper gravel was another trench parallel to the frontage (T3053), 0.81m deep, on the S edge of which were a post (PP3024) and two rotted timbers (MW3025).

The location of all these features on the same line as the front walls of Buildings 17 and 15 and the putative building, MC001, suggests that they were the frontage of one or more successor structures to the W part of Building 15, although no other definite elements of it/them survived. The site of the rear wall(s) was disturbed by later cesspits, although a posthole, PH3808, 0.48m deep, filled with sand and gravel, may have been the only element of such a wall to survive. The two gravel layers may have been successor forelands to those in front of Buildings 17 and 15.

The presence of three large cesspits (Pits 3040, 3125 and 3142, 1.39m, 1.84m and 1.29m deep respectively) (Illus 33), on the site of the W part of Building 15 is a puzzle. It might suggest that there was a period when there was no structure on the frontage, which left a ‘gap site’ presumably during a phase of economic downturn, similar to that which may have intervened between the destruction of Building 17 and the construction of Building 15, when Pit 3805 was dug (see above).

Pit 3040 was sealed beneath deposits of sand and clay. It is possible that the ‘seal’ was in fact a sequence of later floors and occupation levels which had slumped into the pit. This is suggested by the presence of two apparent hearths (H3068, H3072) within the ‘seal’ of the pit. On the edge of the pit, in one of its ‘floor’ levels, were three postholes (PH3084A–C; not illustrated).



Illus 33 *South Sector: Pits 3040 (left), 3125 (right background) and 3142 (right foreground) on the frontage, looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

The sealing layers contained more finds than the cess material. Pit 3125 had a similar 'seal' of possible sand and clay floor and occupation levels above its organic fill. The few finds from this pit came from the primary fills rather than the 'seal'. Like Pit 3040 it had a group of postholes (PH3136A–C; not illustrated) cut into one of its 'floor' levels. Pit 3142 was also capped by a sandy 'seal' and produced few finds.

Building 10 may have continued in use in this phase or, if it had burnt down, its site became a midden (M14b(a)), composed of layers of clay, sand, dung and wood-chips. A sequence of four pits, of unknown purpose, cut the midden as it built up. The earliest were Pit 3686, 0.64m deep, filled with dung, and Pit 3830, 1.82m deep, filled with dung and 'peat'. Pit 3654 (not illustrated) was 0.58m deep and had alternating fills of straw, dung and sand. Only the edge of Pit 3777, 0.75m deep, extended into the excavation area; its fill was sand and gravel. Few finds were recovered from any of the pits, with the exception of Pit 3830, which contained 364 animal bones, including several articulated bones. These latter were from the carcase of a 'bow-legged' dog (Smith 1998, 864 and Illus 2). Two fox and eight cat bones were among the 68 identifiable bones from this pit. Knife cuts on a right femur (and on a left femur from another fill of the pit) indicate that the dog had been skinned. Other unusual bones in this pit were from cat and fox (The environmental remains). The lack of finds in the pits indicates that they were not rubbish pits. Midden 14b(a) extended as far as the northern end of Building 10.

Beyond M14b(a) Pit 5337 had gone out of use. The only other evident change in Rig V was the appearance of the possible structure, Building 16b, at the N end of the rig. This 'structure' comprised a floor of sand

and a N wall, its E wall being the W wall of Building 16 in Rig VI. The floor was cut by a cesspit (Pit 4726), the fill of which contained some animal bone chippings and a tally stick (The wood: Wood Cat No 60). A shallow (70mm) V-sectioned runnel led into the pit. It is possible that the cesspit was, in fact, the well-shaft of the barrel well; if so, then the well could have formed part of Building 16b. A wood fragment from the occupation (C5054) on the floor produced a radiocarbon date of 750 ± 35 BP (calibrated date AD 1165–1235). To the N of B16b lay the yard or garden with the tree stump TS2329.

To the rear of the frontage, the S end of Rig VI was unchanged, but at the N end of the rig Building 16 had been erected (Illus 34), with another building (Building 16a) beyond it. The doorway of B16 was in its S wall, although there was no trace of a path approaching it from the S. Among the finds from the building was a collection of 67 small pieces of flint in the SE corner of the building. These included three possibly worked flakes or fragments, one quartzite pebble, one jasper pebble and one piece of fossilised wood; the rest were natural pieces (The miscellaneous finds (Flint): A10447). The flints were presumably deliberately collected, although why is not known as they were too small to be of practical use. They may have been collected by or for a child, perhaps from the chalk ballast (see Discussion).

The relation between Building 16 and Building 16a is not clear. At first it was thought that B16a could be slightly earlier because the N wall (WW4504) of B16 sloped northwards, appearing to be later than the S wall (WW2381) of B16a; the gap between the two walls was filled with deposits of sand and loam. However, in retrospect, it seems likely that these deposits filled the gap after the construction of the two walls. Both buildings would therefore be contemporary. Set centrally along the gap was a square posthole (PH4578), 0.16m across and 0.13m deep, filled with a rotted post. The post may have been a ridge post for either B16 or B16a. If the former, then its southern counterpart may have been Pit 4742.

Phase 1e (Illus 35)

B6 replaced B8 and P5.2 replaced P5.1.

Few changes are evident in Rig V in this phase, except that Pits 3125 and 5096 had gone out of use. More midden (M14b(c)) accumulated over the site of Building 10. Pit 3627, 0.98m deep, which was cut through the earlier midden, had fills of alternating layers of dung, sand and ash. It had a line of stakes along its S and E edges. A shard of vessel glass was found in the midden (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 71).

It was in Rig VI that the most important changes took place, with the construction of the earliest phase of Building 6 replacing Building 8. The new building opened on to a new path, P5.2, which replaced the earlier P5.1. Building 6 (The buildings) may have



Illus 34 South Sector: Building 16 (Phase 1), looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

formed the rear wing of a building on the frontage, of which the only elements to survive were a sand floor, C3078, with a hearth, H3098. The front wall of this putative 'building' may have been formed by the linear Pit 3064. This feature was possibly a robbing trench although it had been severely truncated by modern intrusions. However, if this was a front wall of a building, why was there no corresponding rear wall? The trench, T6515, which seems to have been a robber trench for the wall between Building 6 and the frontage building, did not extend further W, parallel to Pit 3064. The two timber door jambs (PW3700E, F) of Building 6 provided radiocarbon dates of 955 ± 35 BP and 1050 ± 35 BP (calibrated dates AD 960–1030 and AD 865–935) (Appendix 6); the former jamb also produced a dendrochronological felling date of 1150/1

(Appendix 5). Both jambs had a peg hole in them and the lower threshold timber had four pegs in it, suggesting that the timbers of the doorway were reused.

Path 5.2 did not extend to the street but began behind the putative frontage building. Its S end could well have been limited by the wall of Building 9, if either that building was still in use or its wall still survived as a boundary. Its S end occupied the full width of Rig VI between Building 6 and the boundary with Rig V, whether that boundary was the wall of Building 10 or Midden 14b(c), but its N end narrowed to the E side of the rig like its predecessor, P5.1. Also like its predecessor, it did not extend as far as Building 16.

The area between the narrowing of the path and the boundary with Rig V was occupied by Midden 14b(b), a deposit of organic loam with heather and plant remains

(C3622). The southern part of the midden included a burnt area. The midden included Pit 3625, a large cess/rubbish pit, which was cut into the W edge of P5.2. This midden is noteworthy for the relative quality and quantity of finds recovered from it. Apart from large amounts of leatherwork and wood artefacts, textile fragments were recovered. Although most were Wool-Yarns, it did also include one Silk-Twill (The textiles: Textile Cat No 46) as well as two pieces of Wool-Tabby (2 Ply Yarn) (Textiles Cat Nos 47 and 48). Considering its size, relatively little pottery was recovered from the midden by comparison with the animal bones.

Pit 3625, which was not fully excavated, produced few finds for its size and depth (1.86m) when compared with the midden deposit C3622, but among its finds were two bowl staves and a hoop for a staved bowl, as well as a turned bowl (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 34, 39, 38 and 36 respectively). Goat hair was identified in the pitfill (The textiles: A7342).

No other major changes are evident in Rig VI in this phase beyond Building 6 and P5.2.

Phase If (Illus 37)

B6 and B16 were rebuilt and P5.3 laid down.

In Rig V little change is evident except for Pits 2609 and 5259 in the backlands. Pit 2609, 1.63m deep, was filled with layers of black and grey sand. For its size it contained few finds and was, therefore, not a rubbish pit, although several pieces of worked wood were recovered from it, including a decorated handle (The wood: Wood Cat No 64) which has parallels with early 12th-century pegs or children's toys from Trondheim. The pit was unusual in containing more sheep/goat bones (31) than cattle (10) (The environmental remains). Pit 5259, 0.74m deep, was a cesspit cut into Pit 2609. It was filled with dung and heather (C5019=C5261) and dung, straw and woodchips (C4487=C5293=C5255). Discarded within the pit were a curved plank, 2.3m long, 0.23m wide and 30mm thick, broken into several pieces, and a decayed timber with peg holes, 1m long, 0.15m wide and 40mm thick. These timbers may have been part of a floor/lid above the pit. The pit contained few finds apart from a large quantity of animal bone (588 pieces), of which 205 were identifiable: in addition to 108 cattle bones and 33 sheep/goat bones, there were 5 pig bones, 11 horse bones, 22 dog bones, 4 cat bones, 1 fox bone and 1 small mammal bone. There were also 20 bird bones, of which most were domestic fowl, with one each from goose, duck and widgeon (The environmental remains).

In Rig VI Buildings 6 and 16 were both rebuilt, with B6 being shortened in length. No structural remains of a frontage building is evident, although a possible sand floor extended to the frontage on the S side of the robbed out S wall of B6 and/or N wall of the frontage building. The striking aspect of this rig is the creation of a new path, P5.3a, which extended all the way to the street. In the absence of any structural remains,



Illus 36 *South Sector: succession of floor and occupation layers of Building 6 (Phase 1) in east section. Contexts 3619 and 3621 are in vertical plane, the rest horizontal (scale in centimetres). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

it is not clear whether the path crossed the frontage in an open passage or through a pend in a building. Like its immediate predecessor, P5.2, this new path extended across the full width of Rig VI between B6 and the boundary with Rig V, but crossed over to the E side of Rig VI further into the backland. Again, like its predecessor, it did not extend as far as Building 16. Contained within the gravel at its S end, in front of B6, was a hurdle (MW3614; Illus 38), 12.2m long and 1.5m wide, some of the stakes of which were in pairs or groups of three. Above the gravel 'occupation', deposits (P5.3b) had accumulated. These comprised dung, loam and sand with straw, woodchips, ash and turf. From these deposits was recovered a worked bone casket mount (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 10). The gravel was bordered on its W side in the backland by a fence, WW5316, which extended into the backlands for 7.54m; the fence was constructed after the gravel path was laid out, as the gravel spilled over on to the W side of the fence. The fence, which was partly sloping and partly horizontal, was unusual in that its uprights were in groups of two, three, or four (Illus 39). On the W side of the gravel, between it and the boundary with Rig V, was an area of mixed dung, heather and woodchips (C3604), which sealed Pit 3625 and was probably a midden for Building 6, Phase 2. A bone pin, decorated with a thistle head, was recovered from this midden (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 9).

Immediately to the N of B6 was the edge of Pit 3636, 0.27m deep, filled with mixed peat and heather under clay and dung. As only three leather soles were recovered from the fill, it was not a rubbish pit, but probably a cesspit for the occupants of the rebuilt B6.



Illus 38 South Sector: wattle hurdle MW3614 in Path 5.3a, looking east (doorway of Building 6 in background and roof posts of Building 5 in foreground). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 39 South Sector: wattle fence WW5316 with groups of two, three or four uprights, looking east. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

Phase IIa (Illus 40)

This phase was marked by the construction of Building 5.

In Rig V Building 5 (Illus 41) replaced M14b(c). This building is of crucial importance for dating the earlier phases of the excavation as two of the large oak posts from the E wall were dated by dendrochronology to AD 1150–51 and a further two oak posts from the N wall provided the same dendrochronological dates of AD 1150–51. A third oak post from the N wall provided an estimated date of AD 1155±9, which fits with the other four posts from this building. All the dates provide a construction date for this building of about 1150 (Appendix 5). The size of the uprights along the N and E walls implies a strong, well-built structure that could have lasted for a considerable length of time, until it was burnt down in a fire, possibly as late as Phase IIff. The burning was evident in the charring of the E wall, which had a bank of ash on its E side (C3597) and some of the burnt uprights. Unfortunately, it is not clear whether the building extended as far as the street or was erected behind a separate building on the street frontage.

No substantial change is evident in Rig VI in this phase, although it is possible that Building 6 was abandoned during this phase. Various layers of sand



Illus 41 *South Sector: the north room of Building 5 (in Area 2), looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

and organic loam (MC051) lay above, if they were not part of, that building. Set into them was an undressed log (MW3606), on a N/S alignment, bounded on the E by four vertical planks and on the W by two stakes. The purpose of this feature is unknown, but it resembles a doorway, although no walls adjoined it. Cut into these deposits (MC051) was the robber trench (T6515) of the S wall of B6/N wall of the probable frontage building.

Various other features and deposits (MC065) overlay the E side of B6. They lay below either a modern cellar or machine disturbance and, therefore, cannot be definitely linked to the site chronology. Some of these features were probably structural, belonging either to B6 or the probable frontage building, or their successors (The buildings).

At the E end of, but later than, T6515 was Pit 3908, 0.8m deep, extending S from which was another trench (T3907), over 1.89m deep (it was not fully excavated) (Illus 42). On the N edge of T6515 was a stone-packed posthole (PH6508; Illus 42). Together these features may form robbed structural elements of a frontage building. Two partially burnt parallel wattle fences, WW6513A–B, 0.15m apart, could be associated with four posts, PA3875. Dung (C6509) lay between the fences. The fences and posts could have been part of a wall of a building that formed the boundary between Rigs VI and VII, similar to the E wall of Building 5, which formed the boundary between Rigs V and VI. Deposits of sand and organic loam could be either floors/occupation levels in such buildings, with a hearth

(H3879), composed of burnt clay, ash and charcoal. Areas of horizontal wattling (MW6502, MW6504, MW6520) could be parts of fallen walls (Illus 42). The most interesting find from this group of features and deposits was a broken sword hilt of tenth-century date (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 118; The wood: Wood Cat No 75), presumably a residual find.

Phase IIb (Illus 42)

In this phase Building 23 was erected, two new paths (P2.1 and P5.4) were created and Building 16 was replaced by Midden 1.1f.

Building 23 was constructed at the N end of Building 5. It comprised two rooms, the North room having a horizontal hurdle laid over seven timber beams (MW2622; Illus 43) underpinning its E wall, which slumped over the underlying Pits 2609 and 5259. Possibly to counteract the slumping, the E wall had been strengthened by the addition of two sections of a second fence (WW4483) on its outer face. The timbers underneath the hurdle extended as far as, but not under, this second fence. Between the fences, and overlying the timbers of the hurdle, was a horizontal round (undressed) timber (MW5225), 70mm diameter, which extended from the N wall of Building 5 almost as far as the doorway (MW2601) into Building 23. The N end of the building was destroyed by a later pit, but the doorway towards the N end of the E wall opened on to Rig V. Ash over parts of the building and charring on the inner threshold of the doorway indicate that the building burned down, probably at the same time as the adjoining B5 to the S.

The doorway of Building 23 opened on to a new gravel path (P2.1), the earliest phase of a sequence of paths that continued into the mid- or later 13th century. This path extended N from the N wall of Building 5 and lay between Building 23 on the W and a boundary fence (WW2631), which continued beyond the surviving end of the path. Probably because of the slumping over the underlying Pits 2609 and 5259, a sequence of layers and patches of sand, ash, dung, turf and stones (P2.1a) built up in the hollow caused by the slumping before the gravel itself (P2.1b) was laid down. Set into the gravel surface of the pathway was a line of stones, probably stepping stones (C2619). Found within the gravel was a possible fragment of a stone drain (Márkus 2008, Inventory No PHSE/x/7). There is no clear evidence for a boundary fence between Rigs V and VI extending N of Path 2.1.

In Rig VI a new path (P5.4a) replaced P5.3. The new path was bordered by a fence (WW5305), which was 18m long and continued beyond the end of the path. The S end of the path was bordered by a horizontal timber. Like its predecessors, the gravel path extended diagonally across Rig VI. The path also spilled over on to the site of Building 6, as well as on to the W side of fence WW5305. Cut into the path was an oval pit (Pit 3610), 0.25m deep, filled with loam and woodchips.



Illus 43 *South Sector: hurdle MW2622 in Building 23, looking west. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

As only 13 animal bones were recovered from its fill, it was not a rubbish pit.

On the E side of the path, in Area 1 Extension, was a group of deposits of sand, dung and ash (MC071). Their relationship to the path was not determined because of lack of time to excavate them, but they may have been later than the path. The earliest feature in this area was Pit 3911, filled with peat, over 0.49m deep (not fully excavated). Two successive pits, Pit 3901, 0.55m deep, and Pit 3909, 0.42m deep, may have been cesspits. Pit 3901 was noted to contain many mussel shells.

The W side of the path continued in use as a midden (MC054a, MC061), although there was no successor to B6. This midden was bordered on its E side by a fence, WW5281 (not illustrated); this seems to have been a 'rough and ready' fence as some of the wattle appeared to be reused stakes. Within the midden was a cesspit (Pit 5267), possibly 0.69m deep, but the base was unclear as it merged with the earlier cesspit (Pit 5332). This cesspit, the N edge of which was unclear, had the remains of a wattle lining on both its W side (MW5277) and its E side (MW5284) and was filled with green and black dung and straw (C5266). Above and sinking into the pitfill was a wooden 'lid', consisting of six horizontal timbers (MW5086, MW5210A–E) on N/S alignment, on top of which was horizontal hurdle (MW5265). North of the pit was a Y-shaped timber, one branch of which was shorter than the other. Underneath this and two adjoining timbers was another roughly dressed round timber with a V-shaped notch cut into one end; the limits of the notch were buckled inwards, but it was about 120mm deep and 50mm wide. At the base of the notch was a shallow rounded groove (width 20mm) – possibly the remains of a peg hole (Perry 1983).

At the N end of the excavation, Building 16 had gone out of use and been replaced by a midden, M1.1f,

comprising layers of dung, sand and mixed sand and loam, which was enclosed within the area of the former building. Within the midden was a cesspit (Pit 2383), 0.6m deep, filled with dung.

Phase IIc (Illus 44)

Buildings 4, 7 and 27 were constructed.

No changes are apparent in Rig V, but in Rig VI two new buildings were constructed. Of these the most complete was Building 4. This comprised a rectangular room with a byre attached to the S end and an open area or 'courtyard' attached to the N end, flanked on its E side by a continuation of the main E wall of the building. The building was constructed hard up against the E wall of Building 5, which served as the boundary between Rigs V and VI. Within the courtyard, attached to the N wall of the building, were two short fragments of wattle fences (WW5250 and WW5206), which may have provided partitions or stalls for animals. The courtyard would have been divided into two narrow stalls flanking a wider central stall. Alternatively, the wider central partition may have itself been divided in two by a lost fence, creating four roughly equal stalls. There was nothing to suggest that the courtyard had been roofed.

A number of interesting finds were recovered from this building. From the construction/levelling deposit of the building were recovered a prick spur dating from the 11th century (Williams 2002, 117 n37) (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 122) and a lathe-turned wooden lid (The wood: Wood Cat No 89). Three bucket staves (of which two were identified as oak) were found in the floor of the building (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 85–87). An oak boat frame (MW5202; The wood: Wood Cat No 88) was found adjacent to the N wall of the main room. A fragment of silk tablet weave (The textiles: Textile Cat No 80) was recovered from the courtyard. Unusual among the animal bones in Building 4 were four heron bones (The environmental remains).

On the E side of the courtyard area of Building 4 was Building 7, of which only the W wall, 6.4m long, and NW corner survived along with part of a floor. It is even possible that it was not a building at all, but an animal pen or yard. Only 0.5m width of the building lay within the excavated area.

Between the two buildings, above the gravel of P5.4a, was a layer of dung and sand with woodchips and heather, which served as a path (P5.4b). An oak claw thole from a boat was found in the path (The wood: Wood Cat No 84).

Also to the E of Building 4, but S of Building 7, was Building 27. This building lay at the W side of Rig VII and comprised a number of features and deposits that were recorded, but not excavated, at the end of the second season of excavation in 1977. Together they appeared to form the floors and structural elements of a building (The buildings). This final level in Area

9 was at the base of the modern cellar of Building T (Architecture Survey), which was the starting level for the excavation of most of Area 2 in the first season of excavation. Consequently, it is not certain how these two areas relate to each other, especially as the removal of the E wall of the cellar had disturbed any links between them. All that is certain is that B27 was apparently later than the gravel of P5.4a. How this building related to Building 7 is not clear. B7 was in Rig VI, while B27 was in Rig VII. If they were contemporary, then B7 must have been a very narrow building. Alternatively, if both rigs were under a common ownership and B27 belonged to a later phase, then B7 could have been a full width building. That Building 4 was built so close to B5 could indicate that B7 was already in existence when B4 was built, hence the location of B4 and the narrow path between it and B7.

The sand floors of B27 were some 13m long by some 3.5m wide – the W side of the building was destroyed by cellars or machine disturbance, while the E side was not excavated. No definite side or end walls were identified, although two lines of posts or stakes (SA9590, SA9591) may have been part of the W wall. Alternatively, two fragments of wattle fences (WW3922, WW9592) may have formed the W wall. A fence (WW9543) and larger posts (PP9543, PP9562B) divided the building into two rooms. Two lines of wattle fences (WW9528 and WW9578) and a line of posts (PA9583) may have been the E wall; PA9583 perhaps as roof supports, WW9528 and WW9578 being the remains of its lateral wall. These were unexcavated features to the E of the floors. If they did form the E wall, then the width of B27 would have been some 4m to SA9590 or 4.6m to WW9592, which would fit the standard width of most of the timber buildings from this excavation.

Phase IId (Illus 45)

Building 4 was replaced by a midden (M1.1d). Building 7 was replaced by a path (P3.0). Middens 1.1c and 10 were deposited in the backlands.

The only change evident in Rig V is the midden (M10) at the N end of the excavation, which may have begun to accumulate at this time, although it is stratified later. It comprised dung and organic material, including peat, straw, moss, heather, turf, and woodchips, as well as a sand surface and an ash spread. The midden continued in use into Phase IIg and was bounded in its later phases by the W wall of Building 12. Within the midden was a tree stump (TS2329), which may have been growing since Phase Ia. To the S of this tree were two small pits (MF2372A, C), 0.36m and 0.32m deep respectively, each of which contained a tree stump (TS4606A–B). As the pits were too large for the size of the tree (TS4606A, 130mm diameter; TS4606B, 120mm long by 100mm across), it is likely that the stumps were in fact planted as saplings in an existing yard or garden, although the roots of these trees spread out just below the surface of the natural

sand. The pits were filled with sand. In the case of TS4606A, the sand was not level with the ground surface from which MF2372A was cut, but sloped up towards the top of the tree stump, which was 110mm above the surface. Between these two saplings was a square posthole (PH2372B), also filled with sand. Confirmation that this may have been a garden or yard where produce was grown is suggested by the finding of a sickle, a scythe and a weedhook in it (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 170, 171 and 183).

There was a group of three successive pits at the NW corner of the excavation. The earliest was Pit 4554, 1.31m deep, filled with sand (C4585), dung and woodchips (C4553). The sand was probably slumping or silting in an open pit. Few finds were recovered from the fills. Pit 4552, 1.06m deep, was filled with 13 layers of dung, sand and loam, which contained few finds apart from a quantity of leather from one fill: 8 soles or parts thereof, 13 uppers, 3 rands, 24 offcuts and 22 scraps. Presumably these were rubbish from a leatherworker's workshop. The latest pit (Pit 2330), 0.75m deep, was filled with four layers of dung, which contained 18 leather offcuts and 112 bones, of which only 18 were identifiable (9 cattle, 3 sheep/goat, 4 pig and 2 domestic fowl). Its topmost fill contained a turned wooden bowl (The wood: Wood Cat No 114). Slightly to the E of these pits was a clay-filled pit (Pit 2359), 0.38m deep, possibly a robbed posthole relating to a fence, (WW2316; not illustrated), the boundary between Rigs V and VI. Extending into the W section was the edge of Pit 2312, 0.49m deep, the fill of which was indistinguishable from the layers above and below the pit. However, the W section (see Illus 18) showed that there was a thin layer of sand around its sides and base; this may have filtered into the pit from the sand surface (C2309) into which the pit was cut, indicating that the pit was left open before being backfilled.

In Rig VI, after Building 4 went out of use, its site was covered by a series of midden deposits (M1.1d) over the byre and main room. These comprised dung, sand and organic material, including straw, grass and heather. From this midden was recovered a knife handle and blade (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 148; The wood: Wood Cat No 101).

It is possible that Midden 1.1a, which covered the site of the courtyard of B4, may date from this phase, although stratigraphically it is later.

At the northern end of the excavation was Midden 1.1c. This comprised brown loam, dung and sand, which also filled a large pit (Pit 5005), which was not fully excavated (at least 2m deep). Some slumping was evident around the sides of the pit. It was not possible to distinguish the pitfill from the overlying midden. Several important finds were recovered from the pitfill/midden: a leatherworker's knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 138), a jet crucifix (Miscellaneous finds: Misc finds Cat A10331); a wooden bobbin, exceptionally finely turned and possibly imported (The wood: Wood Cat No 91), a bowl stave, possibly of an imported softwood (The wood: Wood Cat No 89). Other finds

from the midden included a padlock key (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 132), and an unusual piece of woollen textile with parallels to Scandinavia (The textiles: Textile Cat No 97).

It is surprising that no oysters were recovered from either Midden 1.1c or Midden 1.1d in Rig VI, in contrast to 21 oysters, 19 mussels (including one pearl mussel) and 3 periwinkles from Midden 10 in Rig V; only 4 mussels and a limpet were found in the latter and 27 mussels and a periwinkle in the former.

Building 7 was replaced by a gravel path (P3.0). The path was separated from Midden 1.1c by a fence (WW5208). This fence may have continued S as WW 4467, the S end of which extended diagonally across Rig VI, maintaining the earlier tradition established by P5.1 in Phase Icc–Id. Path 3.0 was the earliest version of a sequence of three paths, which ran along the E side of Areas 3 and 4 and which seem to have succeeded the earlier sequence of paths coded as Path 5. There was no surviving evidence that Path 3 extended as far S as Areas 1 or 2, although clearly there must have been access to the backlands behind any buildings that may have fronted High Street.

Phase IIe (Illus 46)

Building 12 was erected at the N end of the site. Path 3.1 replaced Path 3.0 and Midden 1.1b replaced Midden 1.1c. Midden 1.1a was laid down.

(Phases IIe and Ilee have been combined. They were originally considered to be separate phases on the basis that there was a Phase 1 of Building 12, which was larger than Phase 2 of Building 12. However, Phase 1 is now considered to be only the construction phase of Building 12, not a separate building phase; see The buildings).

The only change evident in Rig V in this phase is Pit 4695 in the backlands, which may have been in use from this phase as a cesspit. This pit, 2.13m deep, had the remains of a possible timber lining, consisting of a fragmentary hurdle and a horizontal timber (MW2244) on E/W alignment on its N side (a second timber was recorded in the W section) and fragments of wattle (MW4663) on its E side. The pit was filled with layers of dung with much moss and some sand, peat and lenses of black and yellow material (ash?). Apparently sunk into the pit were two upright timbers surrounded by gravel: a post, 1.05m high and 100mm in diameter, and a Y-shaped stake, upright, but bent at the Y-fork, 0.94m high and 90mm in diameter. Several items of worked wood were recovered from the pit: a wooden patten for the left foot of a child or young adult (The wood: Wood Cat No 169), parts of five turned bowls, of which four were identified as of ash, (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 170, 171, 175, 177, 178), part of a turned platter of ash (The wood: Wood Cat No 176) and fragments of a board (The wood: Wood Cat No 172). Also found in the pit was an iron knife blade (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 316).



Illus 47 South Sector: hurdle MW2284 in Building 12, looking east. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 48 South Sector: two adjoining curvilinear fences, WW4499 and WW4501, in Midden 1.1a, looking north. (© Courtesy RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

In Rig VI, Midden 1.1d continued in use and Midden 1.1a accumulated now if not in the previous phase, but Midden 1.1c was replaced by Midden 1.1b and Building 12. Building 12 was not built up against the boundary fence with Rig V (WW2316; not illustrated), but was separated from it by a gap of about 1m. There was a fence (WW4645) linking the building with the boundary. This building had a construction/floor level (C2341) which extended beyond the N and E walls of the building. The N wall seems to have been situated along the line of Pits 2339 and 2340, which were probable postholes. However, the position of a hearth (H2366) so close to the wall line must mean that either the hearth belongs to the construction phase of the building and was not in use when the N wall was erected, or that a previously longer building was shortened. In addition to this hearth the building contained three other hearths, successively H2344 in the earlier phase, and H2357, which was succeeded in the same location by H2276 (Illus 52).

The building, like its successor, Building 13, may have been a metalworker's smithy – metalworking debris was found inside the building. There were two pits in the building, neither of which contained much in the way of finds; Pit 2348 may have been the site of a quenching trough for the smithy. The building was approached from the S by Path 3.1, the successor to Path 3.0; the path continued along the E side of the building. A gap in the W boundary fence of the path provided access to the probable site of the doorway in the S wall, on the assumption that the doorway of Building 12 was in the same location as that of Building 13. In the latest occupation of the building a hurdle (MW2284) was laid at the probable entrance (Illus 47, 52). Some of the roof supports (PP2328A–B, PP2360A–D) of the E and W walls had buckled,

presumably under the weight of the roof. These posts may have been incorporated into the successor building, B13, their longer use causing them to weaken. Three posts, PP2368 in the W wall and PP2388B and PP2388D in the E wall, had woodworm holes in them. A single row of wattle (WW2352) in the NW corner of the building acted as a division between different layers to its N and S and was probably the remains of an internal store cupboard in that corner. Reused in the E wall of the building were two ash bucket staves (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 128 and 129), while a splayed bucket stave was recovered from Pit 2345 (The wood: Wood Cat No 122). A stone mortar was found in the building (Stone Cat No A9537).

Access to Building 12 was provided by a new gravel path, P3.1, which extended along the E side of the building beyond the limit of excavation. The southern part of the path was separated from Middens 1.1d, 1.1a and 1.1b by fences WW4467 and WW5208, which had bordered P3.0. A gap between the N end of WW5208 and B12 provided access to the presumed site of the doorway of the building in the S wall. Where there was a gap between the two fences (WW4467 and WW5208), the gravel had spilled W for about a metre. The gap may imply a gateway in the fence through which animals may have been led to pasture on the North Inch during the day, with the middens serving as holding pens during the night. Various small fragments of wattle fences (for example, WW4499, WW4501 in M1.1a; Illus 48) could have been for separating animals or for keeping animals from entering into particular areas of the middens/yards. Finds of note recovered from the middens were an oak boat frame (The wood: Wood Cat No 113) from M1.1b and a stone mortar from M1.1a (Stone Cat No A10965).

No changes are apparent in Rig VII in this phase.

Phase II_f (Illus 49)

The southern end of Path 3.1 was incorporated into Midden 1.1e.

No changes are evident in this phase in Rigs V and VII. The only change apparent in Rig VI is the incorporation of the S end of Path 3.1 into Midden 1.1e, the successor to Midden 1.1a. This new midden comprised dung, organic material including straw, heather, grass and woodchips, and sand. Cut into the midden as it built up was a pit (Pit 4445), 0.15m deep, filled with brown sand and black charred material; it was probably a hearth, as the sand layer, from which the pit was cut, was burnt around the edge of the pit. From the midden were recovered a barrel stave, a mug stave and a possible piece of furniture (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 103, 105 and 104). The barrel stave is unusual in that, although a hardwood, it is not of oak.

Phase II_{ff} (Illus 50)

Building 21 was erected in the backland of Rig VI. No changes are evident in Rigs V and VII in this phase.

Building 21 (Illus 51) was erected over Midden 1.1d and Midden 1.1e, to the S of Midden 1.1b. It comprised a single room with a small extension to the N, or two rooms if WW5189 and WW5198 formed an internal wall. The E wall was not excavated, but may have been WW7369, which was not fully excavated at the end of the second season of excavation in 1977 and which was jointed to a later fence (WW2608). The W wall was disturbed by the W wall of the later Building 2. The N wall seemed to be of double wattle construction (WW7370, WW7371), while this was less certain in the S wall (WW5189/WW5198, SA5197/PA5195). Near the N wall was a black organic layer containing a hurdle (MW2660), overlying three horizontal burnt timbers (MW2627, MW2628, MW2629); together they possibly formed part of a collapsed roof (Illus 153). The building was burnt down, possibly as part of a fire horizon with the neighbouring buildings, Buildings 5, 23 and 27. Building 12, the possible smithy, ironically seems to have escaped this fate. Various layers of ash and burnt material (C3581=C4438=C4444; C3579=C4437=C4440; C3576=C4420=C4421=C4423) to the S of WW5189 could have been either part of the destruction material from this conflagration over an external yard or floor, occupation and destruction levels in a south room. Not many finds were recovered from the building, which may have been a store, byre or latrine, but found within the building was a decorated bronze pin (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 164).

Phase II_g (Illus 52)

'Building 26' replaced Building 5. Several new middens, M1.2, M6a, M6b, M12 and M13, were laid down.

In Rig V Building 5 was covered by a series of layers of ash, charcoal, loam, sand and dung, approximately 0.8m thick, which may have formed the floor and occupation levels of a building. They are grouped together collectively as Building 26. However, as no structural elements survived, it is possible that these formed a sequence of yard or midden surfaces (The buildings). Several important finds were recovered from these layers, including a knife handle and blade (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 423; The wood: Wood Cat No 207), an axe (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 425), a padlock key (Metal Cat No 421), a spade (Metal Cat No 422) and a ceramic roof finial (The ceramic building material: Ceramic Cat A4750).

To the N and E of 'Building 26' was Midden 6b, bounded to the N by a fence (WW2585 and SA2587). Within the midden was a dump of oyster and mussel shells. A number of finds of interest were recovered from the midden: a wooden club with nails, possibly a mace (The wood: Wood Cat No 191), an iron awl (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 357), a riveted leather strip (The leather: Leather Cat No 1214; The metalwork: Metal Cat No 280), a glass mount, possibly from a book cover or decorated metalwork (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 76). To the S of the building, on an island of archaeology left between two post-medieval cellars, was Midden 12, composed of peaty loam with sand lenses. Recovered from it were a bronze buckle and an iron hasp (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 353 and 354). Both these middens were within Rig V.

In Rig VI Midden 6a replaced Building 21. It was bounded on its N side by a fence (WW2608), which had southward returns at both ends (WW2621 and WW7369). The latter fence was not fully excavated. The midden comprised several layers of organic material with lenses of sand and ash. Among its finds were an iron buckle pin (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 335), a wooden spindle (The wood: Wood Cat No 182), and a leather sheath (The leather: Leather Cat No 1116).

To the N of Midden 6a was the large Pit 2648, 3.3m deep, the sides of which were disturbed by slumping. The lower part of the pit was filled with peat (C5186) and sand with patches of clay, turf and dung (C5183). Around the S and E sides of the pit was a hurdle (MW5166); it is not clear whether this was a lining for the pit or part of a 'lid', or if it had been discarded into the pit. Above the hurdle was a thick layer of organic material (C2611). No distinction could be made between this fill of the pit and the general midden material outside the pit. Within C2611 in the pit were three undressed timbers, one of which was curved (possibly warped by the weight of the pitfill) (MW4471A-B, MW4404) and two hurdles (MW4472, MW4469), all on E/W alignment. These may have formed a collapsed 'lid', which had sunk into the pit under the weight of later material, although the timbers did not extend fully across the pit and the hurdles, which appeared to be intact, extended neither



Illus 51 *South Sector: northern part of Building 21, looking east.*
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the length nor the width of the pit. Around the top of the SW corner of the pit was a fence (WW4495; not illustrated), which may have been the remains of a screen around the pit. The pit may have been a quarry pit used as a cesspit. Found within the midden were a knife blade (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 215), a fish hook (Metal Cat No 217), a padlock key (Metal Cat No 222), a decorated hook (Metal Cat No 226), a hinge fragment (Metal Cat No 229), a bronze buckle (Metal Cat No 232), a handle loop (Metal Cat No 235) and three links of a chain (Metal Cat No 239). Among wooden finds of note from the midden were a turned lid, possibly reused as a weight (The wood: Wood Cat No 130), an oak shovel blade (The wood: Wood Cat No 133), a possible fragment of a chair (The wood: Wood

Cat No 134), a possible counter (The wood: Wood Cat No 135) and a turned bowl of ash (The wood: Wood Cat No 137). Notable leather finds included a dagger sheath (The leather: Leather Cat No 739), as well as 20 soles and 11 uppers and, from Pit 2648, a fragment of an object with a bronze lock, for example a purse, wallet, satchel or trunk (The leather: Leather Cat No 828; The metalwork: Metal Cat No 234). In addition, 12 pieces of textile, all woollen, (The textiles) and a stone mortar (Stone Cat No A10567) were found in this midden.

At the N end of Rig VI Building 12 seems to have remained in use.

Midden 13 replaced Building 27 in Rig VII. It comprised various layers of peat, sand, ash and dung and

was bounded on its E side by fence WW9446. Cut into the midden as it built up was Pit 9493, 0.48m deep, filled with yellowish-green dung, which contained few finds. Unusually, almost one quarter of the identified bones from this midden were cat bones (The environmental remains), presumably from a cat burial. Fence WW9446 lined the W side of a gully or ditch (T9518), the other side of which was lined by fence WW9445. No cut edges for the gully were identified and it would appear that the gully was formed by the accumulation of deposits against the outer faces of the fences, with the gully itself being kept largely clear, presumably serving as a drain. The gully contained an organic fill (C9521), in which was a dump of mussel shells.

Phase IIIh (Illus 53)

Building 13 and P3.2 replaced Building 12 and P3.1. Midden 11 replaced Midden 10.

The only change evident in Rig V was the replacement of Midden 10 by Midden 11. This midden or yard, comprising loam with patches of peat and sand, extended over the boundary with Rig VI and lay to the N of Building 13 in that rig. It is possible that the rigs were in joint ownership at this time and that the midden forms an external levelling surface contemporary with the construction of B13. Recovered from the midden were a padlock key and bolt (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 237 and 244), a dress ring (Metal Cat No 243), a needle (Metal Cat No 240), and a comb tooth (Metal Cat No 247).

In Rig VI Building 13 replaced B12, incorporating or reusing some of its predecessor's structural elements. The E wall seems to have been reused completely, while a new W wall was erected (WW2315), although the roof posts of the W wall of the earlier building were reused. The W wall had partially fallen westwards. At the N end the wattle was of very fine construction (5mm diameter), possibly a repair. A new S wall (WW4662) was erected with a doorway at its E end (Illus 126). It is possible that the door jambs (PP4666A–B) and doorsill (MW4666C) were reused from B12. No definite N wall was located: the presumed N wall is based on the edges of floor patches. If this is so, then the N wall was not parallel to the S wall. Fence WW2273 may have been the remains of the N wall, but the W wall continued beyond it. However, such a continuation of a wall beyond a building has already been seen in B28, B4 and B12 and may have no significance. As mentioned above, under B12, some of the roof posts had buckled under the weight of the roof. This buckling may have been due to the continued use of these posts long past their 'use by' date. This prolonged use of these timbers raises the question of the importance of B13 as well as of the local availability of new timber. From the metalworking debris found in it, the building, like its predecessor, seems to have been a smithy. A fragment of a stone mortar (A9151) was found in a pit (MF2320) that may have served as a quenching trough.

There were two successive hearths in the building. (A third hearth (H2322) was in use after the building was demolished as it overlay the site of the S wall.) Building 13 was destroyed by fire.

At the entrance to the building was a gravel path (P3.2) with a very large stone slab (C4669) outside the threshold and some larger stones nearby. The path continued along and beyond the E side of the building, but there were no remains of the path further S, where Midden 1.2 continued in use.

No changes are evident in Rig VII.

Phase IIIi (Illus 54)

Midden 1.3 replaced Building 13 and Midden 1.2. No changes are evident in Rigs V and VII.

In Rig VI, after the destruction of Building 13 by fire, its site, Midden 1.2 and Path 3.2 were replaced by Midden 1.3. This comprised organic material, including dung, heather, peat and moss with woodchips and a small area of large stones. A small hearth (H2254; not illustrated) was found within the midden; it consisted of an area of black charred material and pale brown ash and burnt sand with pieces of burnt clay. The charred material was the midden material burned by the fire of the hearth. Found within the midden was a boat frame (The wood: Wood Cat No 153), as well as several items of worked wood: a possible chair leg fragment (Wood Cat No 143), a T-bar handle, possibly from an auger (Wood Cat No 144), a perforated disc (Wood Cat No 145), a 'knife' (Wood Cat No 150) and a spar from a door (Wood Cat No 151). One piece of worked horn and an object of worked bone were also found: a decorated terminal of horn and a pin-beater (The worked bone: Worked Bone Cat Nos 14, 15). Metal objects included a knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 257), two padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 264, 265) and a padlock bolt (Metal Cat No 276). Among leather objects found in the midden were the sole and upper of a child's ankle boot (The leather: Leather Cat Nos 897 and 898), as well as another 13 soles and 12 uppers or parts thereof.

In the midden was a possible structure (CG173; The buildings). This comprised two parallel fence lines (WW2489 and WW2605), 1.7m apart, with some larger posts (PP2470, PP4453). Post PP4653 (Illus 56 and 59–61) may also have been associated with the N wall. Fence WW2489 was recorded as set in a trench filled with grey clay (C2509), but this may have been a clay daub for the wall (The buildings). Between the two fences was a shallow pit (Pit 2504), 0.35m deep, filled with black organic loam with tiny woodchips and grass, brown sand, pale grey sand, hard dark brown clay and orange, grey and black burnt clay and sand. The pit may have been a latrine within a shelter (Illus 55). Post PP2470 was an oak post with a roughly dressed and burnt base; around it were packing stones (C2594). This post provided a dendrochronological date of 1193–4 (Appendix 5). This date ties in well with



Illus 55 South Sector: possible structure (CG173) with Pit 2504, looking north-west. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 57 South Sector: stone hearth H2220 in Midden 1.4a, looking west. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

the date of 1180–95 for the silver penny of William the Lion found in the fence (The metalwork: Coins and tokens). Found among the packing stones around post PP2470 was a glass vessel shard, probably of Roman origin and presumably residual (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 74). How this find reached the site is unknown, but other Roman artefacts have been found in Perth (Bowler 2004, 11). There is a Roman fort at Bertha, at the confluence of the River Tay and the River Almond, and other Roman forts are known in the area (Grassy Walls at Scone and Carpow, near Newburgh), as well as the nearby Roman signal system along the Gask Ridge. The glass is not evidence for the former belief that Perth was of Roman origin.

Phase IIIa (Illus 56)

Building 19 was erected and Midden 1.3 was replaced by Middens 1.4a and 1.4c.

The only change evident in Rig V is that, to the N of Midden 6b, Midden 1.4c extended into this rig from Rig VI.

In Rig VI, to the N of Midden 6a, which was unchanged, Midden 1.3 was replaced by Midden 1.4c and Midden 1.4a. Midden 1.4c comprised a thick layer of organic material with ash and pebbles (C2462A). Within it were some large stones (C2488) and a lens of woodchips (C2537); it also contained 28 articulated bones from the skeleton of a cat (C2507). Altogether 84 cat bones were identified from this midden, a surprisingly high number and the most cat bones from any feature in the excavation. No pits were identified cut into or sealed by the deposits in the midden. This midden, in Area 3, was the equivalent of Midden 1.4a (Phase IIIa–IVa) and of Midden 1.4b (Phase Ivb–IVcc)

in Area 4. Several metalwork finds of interest were recovered from the midden. These included a weapon (an arrowhead) (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 822); tools – three awls, a knife, two comb teeth (Metal Cat Nos 850, 857, 884, 896, 855 and 907); and domestic fittings – four candlesticks (Metal Cat Nos 833, 846, 847 and 849), a hook (Metal Cat No 823), a swivel hook and ring (Metal Cat No 859), a hinge pivot (Metal Cat No 900) and a hasp (Metal Cat No 903). Personal items included a decorated pin (Metal Cat No 848), two brooches (Metal Cat Nos 832 and 866), a mount (Metal Cat No 862), five padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 836, 872, 897, 898 and 908), two barrel padlocks (Metal Cat Nos 858 and 905), and a padlock bolt (Metal Cat No 899). Among stone artefacts re-covered were two hones, a whorl and a stone roof tile (Stone Cat Nos A5344, A7427, A5182 and A5966). A shard of vessel glass (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 86) was also found.

At the N end of the excavation, Midden 1.4a comprised layers of loam with woodchips, pebbles, stones, sand, clay, peat and turf. A small hearth (H2252; not illustrated), 0.6m long by 0.51m across and 0.06m deep, comprised ash and burnt sand with charred material and burnt stones. A larger oven (H2220; Illus 57) comprised a circular pit, some 2.3m diameter and 0.3m deep, lined with two courses of roughly dressed stones. Enclosed by the stones was an area of grey, black, yellowish-brown and very dark greyish-brown burnt clay, burnt sand and ash (C2233). One of the lower stones, which was cracked, was wedged between two small stones set on edge. Only one of the stones, in the upper course, showed evidence of burning. Nevertheless, this feature was clearly an oven or kiln and can be compared with the stone-lined pit or oven (Pit 276) in Area 5 (North Sector). The Becket ampulla (Metalwork: Metal Cat



Illus 58 South Sector: Building 19, looking north. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

No 1039) was found in this midden. Above the W edge of the midden was a strip of sand (C2214), possibly the remains of a yard surface.

Also within Midden 1.4a was a line of posts (PA 2204), which may have formed one side of an enclosure or even a structure with similar post alignments (PA 2205 and PA2274; Illus 64). Two of the posts in PA2204 were reused, one having a peg hole, the other having a peg hole and two pegs. The latter post also had a stone set on edge beside it, but no post pit was apparent. A trench (T4660), 0.8m deep, at the S end of PA2204 may have been to renew the S end of the alignment; it contained two posts with packing stones, one squared (PP4651, 900mm high, 130mm wide, 100mm thick), the other round (PP4652, 690mm high, 80mm diameter). Neither post was straight; both were slightly curved, with the squared post having a shallow groove, 55mm wide, 10mm deep, across one side. The midden also contained a line of three sloping, unexcavated posts (PP2270; not illustrated) in the E limit of excavation.

The W side of Rig VII remained unchanged, with Midden 13 remaining in use. However, on the E side of this rig a new building was constructed, Phase 1 of Building 19 (Illus 58). Only the W side of the building lay within the excavated area. The earliest floor and occupation levels of this building had not been fully excavated at the end of the second season of excavation. The W wall comprised a wattle fence (WW9512) in the north room and a stake alignment (SA9559) in the south room. The fence started to curve to the E at its S end, apparently forming an internal wall that divided the building into two rooms, although the internal wall was not fully uncovered. In the south room lay a hurdle (MW9535; Illus 124), possibly a collapsed wall, although its location at a possible entrance is comparable to hurdles MW2284 in Building 12 (Illus 47) and MW2499 in Building 2 (Illus 63). A gap at the N end of the W wall may have been an entrance from outside (in Phase 2 of the building there was a stepped doorway here). The building was destroyed by fire: the south room was covered in ash and the stakes of the W wall of the north room were burnt.

On the W side of the building was a yard or path (P8.0), composed of layers of mixed loam, dung, sand, woodchips, stones, pebbles and roots. These were bounded on the W by gully T9518, which probably served as a drain, and its revetting fence (WW9445).

Phase IIIb (Illus 59)

Building 19 (Phase 1) was rebuilt as Building 19 (Phase 2a). No changes are evident in Rigs V and VI in this phase.

In Rig VII after the burning of Phase 1 of Building 19, that building was rebuilt on almost the same lines as Phase 2a (The buildings). A new W wall (WW9433), with larger external roof posts (PP9483), had doorways at each end from P8.0 into two rooms that were divided by a new internal wall, WW9477. The doorway into

the south room, MW9482, comprised a single dressed, threshold timber, while the doorway into the north room comprised two wooden steps (MW9564), an outer threshold (MW9517) and an inner threshold (MW9565). The timbers of the N doorway were not fully excavated. The inner threshold was a natural round timber with a peg at its S end, while the other timbers had been dressed. Each room had hearths, H9508 in the south room, and H9575 in the north room. Among the finds from the north room were a piece of cord, probably of horse hair (The textiles: Textile Cat No 174), and a tankard stave (The wood: Wood Cat No 169).

Phase IIIc (Illus 60)

Building 19, Phase 2, was reconstructed internally and P8.1 laid down. No changes are evident in Rigs V and VI in this phase.

In Rig VII, Building 19 was reconstructed internally (Phase 2b), with a new partition (WW9432) replacing the earlier partition. The two entrances continued in use from the previous phase. There was no hearth in the south room, but H9577 (not illustrated) replaced H9575 in the earliest floor level in the north room. No later hearths were found within the excavated area of the north room of Building 19. It is possible that the south room was not rebuilt as a roofed structure, since a layer of yellowish-brown straw (C9443), which formed the earliest occupation in the south room in this phase, extended across the line of the W wall as far as fence WW9445. Subsequent 'floor' and 'occupation' levels in the south room could have been in an open pen or yard attached to the north room.

On the W side of the building a double gravel pathway (P8.1a and P8.1b) was laid down over Midden 13 and P8.0 respectively. The paths were separated by the open ditch (T9518), which remained in use. The W path is significant because it was the earliest clearly metalled version of the vennel that was known variously as Bunch's Vennel or Peebles Vennel in the 16th century, Meeting-house Lane in the 18th century, and Parliament Close in the 19th and 20th centuries and which survived until the demolition of the standing structures on the site in 1975–6. It was presumably the successor to the earlier sequence of paths (P5 and P3), which lay further W and which did not continue after the demise of Building 13 in Phase IIh. The purpose of the double pathway, separated by a gully and apparently within the same rig, is not clear. It would have taken up almost half of the width of Rig VII, and may even have been wider than B19. Subsequent versions of Path 8 only occupied the site of the W pathway, the site of P8.1b being incorporated within later buildings. This may imply that there was a realignment of the rig boundary between Rigs VI and VII, perhaps effected if they were under a common ownership. It is possible that from being a private path within a rig, P8 became a common path between two

adjacent rigs. Certainly, the line of the gully T9518 became the building line for the later buildings on the E side of Parliament Close from Building 18 (see below, Phases Iva–IVb) up until 1975–6.

Four pits were cut into the W path. Of these features, one (PH9458) was definitely a post-pit, 0.46m deep, with the socket (PH9460) for the post clearly visible at the E side of the fill of the post-pit. It is possible that the other features were also post-pits, although no building could be identified. It is possible that they formed part of the E side of a building, which had been destroyed by the post-medieval cellar of Building T (Architecture Survey). Both paths and the ditch were sealed and filled with layers of dung (P8.1c). This build-up on the pathways contained large amounts of animal bone and some 25 pieces of leather, including 6 soles or parts thereof and 6 uppers or parts thereof.

Phase IIIc (Illus 61)

Building 19 was replaced by Midden 15.

No changes in Rigs V and VI are apparent in this phase, although it is possible that Building 20 was erected in Rig VI, with Path 4 laid down in Rig V. Unfortunately, these features only survived in an isolated baulk left between two post-medieval cellars and cannot be fitted with certainty into the site chronology. They are discussed in Phase IVa.

In Rig VII, Building 19 was succeeded by a series of midden deposits, Midden 15, predominantly peat, but including ash, dung, straw and woodchips. The midden extended over the site of Path 8.1b. Cut into the midden as it built up were four pits and two postholes. The earliest features were a posthole (PW9402) and Pit 9464. The posthole, 0.63m deep, contained an upright, dressed post (PP9427), 180mm x 140mm and 750mm high, probably reused as it had a groove, 5mm wide and 5mm deep, along one side; it was presumably a reused grooved plank. Pit 9464, 0.58m deep, was filled with mixed sand, loam, ash and dung. Pit 9415, 0.7m deep, contained two horizontal timbers at its base, cut at both ends; the timbers were 860mm long and 150mm diameter and 440mm long and 120mm diameter. The pit was filled with loam with peat, woodchips and sand. Beside the pit were the truncated remains of another posthole (PH9428). Both these features were truncated by Pit 9423, 0.44m deep, which was filled with mixed loam and sand. On the edge of this complex of features, and truncated by later pits, was the shallow (2mm) edge of another pit or posthole (Pit 9399; not illustrated). The midden deposits and features within them contained few finds, but among them were a padlock key from Pit 9415 (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 349), a bronze buckle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 347), a glass bead (Miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 75) and a duck feather (The environmental remains).

To the W of the midden were the truncated remains of a gravel path (P8.2a; not illustrated).

Phase IVa (Illus 62)

Buildings 2, 3 and 18 were constructed and Paths 2.2 and 3.3 were laid down.

In Rig V, Building 3 was constructed N of 'Building 26'. Only the E side of the building extended into the excavated area. The walls were of stake and wattle construction and were double walls where they had slumped over earlier pits, presumably the extra wall being a repair. The building was divided into two rooms, but how the north and south rooms related to each other and how the south room related to 'B26' is not clear because of later pits. There was a doorway (MW4474) in the S wall of the north room, but it is not clear if this was an internal door between two rooms within a single building or an external door into a separate northern building. Along the E side of B3 was a gravel path (P2.2). There were few finds from the north room, the most notable being a basketwork storage hamper (MW2227) (The wood: Wood Cat No 198). Within the north room were two horizontal timbers of unknown purposes (MW2231G), 1.13m long, 300mm wide, 20mm thick, under the basket and MW2231H, 510mm long, 205mm wide above the basket. The south room produced far more finds of pottery and animal bone. Among the metalwork were a buckle plate (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 461), shears (Metal Cat No 462) and a comb tooth (Metal Cat No 467). Wood finds included an oak bucket stave (Wood Cat No 218) and a turned lid (Wood Cat No 219). A piece of silk yarn (The textiles: Textile Cat No 223) and a stone hone (Stone Cat No A7808) were also found in the south room. An unusual find was a riveted leather fragment that was nailed to a piece of wood (The leather: Leather Cat No 1692; The metalwork: Metal Cat No 459).

On the E side of Building 3 and 'Building 26' was a gravel path (P2.2), which continued beyond the N limit of excavation; from it, or its successor P2.3, was recovered a stone mortar (Stone Cat No A8175). Its E edge was bordered by a stake and wattle fence (WW2221), 23.05m long, which also continued beyond the northern trench boundary. This fence formed the boundary between Rigs V and VI. Path 2.2 may have been the N continuation of Path 4, which only survived on an isolated baulk between two post-medieval cellars.

In Rig VI, also on the isolated baulk between two post-medieval cellars, was Building 20. The building, therefore, cannot be tied into the site stratigraphy with any certainty, although it is stratified later than Buildings 4, 5 and 27. Two hearths within the building possibly suggest that it was a domestic building. It was destroyed by fire, possibly at the same time as Buildings 2 and 18 (Phase 1b). Finds recovered from it include a brooch (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 427), a piece of silk tablet weave (The textiles: Textile Cat No 217), a club (The wood: Wood Cat No 212) and a bone toggle (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 19).

To the N of Building 20 was Building 2 (Illus 63). This building was divided into two rooms by an internal



Illus 63 South Sector: N end of Building 2, with hurdle MW2499, looking east.
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partition (SA2499). The north room was entered by a doorway (MW2589) in the E wall giving access on to a gravel path, P3.3, on the E side of the building. In front of the doorway, but largely separated from it by an intrusive pit, was a hurdle (MW2499), similar to those found at the entrances to B12 and the south room of B19. The south room may have been entered from a porch at the W end of the S wall (The buildings), in which case there may have been access from P2.2 through a gap in the boundary fence in the area destroyed by the cellar. An area of burning (H2798) in the SE corner of the building may have been the site of a hearth, although its proximity to the walls may imply that it was part of the destruction level of the building. The building was destroyed by fire, probably in the same fire that destroyed B18 (Phase 1b) and B20. The

most interesting finds from the building were recovered from the destruction level, previously interpreted as a secondary floor. Finds of metalwork included a knife blade with a wooden handle (The wood: Wood Cat No 215; The metalwork: Metal Cat No 455), a decorative copper strip (Metal Cat No 449), a fragment of shears (Metal Cat No 450), an arrowhead (Metal Cat No 451), two horseshoes (Metal Cat Nos 453 and 454) and a rim fragment from a metal vessel (Metal Cat No 456). Wooden artefacts included a possible gaming piece (The wood: Wood Cat No 213) and a pegged door fragment (Wood Cat No 214). A possible stone mortar was also found (Stone Cat No A9464).

On the E side of Building 2 was a gravel path (P3.3). This was the last in the sequence of paths along the E side of the 1976 excavation. In sub-sequent

phases the paths followed the line of Parliament Close slightly to the E. Path 3.3 was bordered on its E side by a wattle fence (WW7360). This fence, which was not fully excavated, formed the boundary between Rigs VI and VII. It was 9.3m long and had some of its uprights grouped in pairs, with one group of three uprights. Finds from the path included a complete, but distorted, pair of shears (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 458) and a glass bead (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 79).

To the N of Building 2 Middens 1.4c and 1.4a remained in use.

In Rig VII a new building was erected – Phase 1a of Building 18. This building was erected over not only the site of Building 19 but also of Path 8.1b. Path 8.2a may have continued in use from Phase IIId, as no metallised path could be associated with this phase of B18. The N wall (WW7328) and the N end of the W wall (WW7393) were of stake and wattle construction, but most of the W wall was robbed or destroyed when the later sill-beams of Phase 2 of Building 18 were inserted. Two postholes (PH9303 and PH9383) are probably robbing pits for posts of the W wall. The E wall was represented by the N end of an unexcavated fence that was observed underneath the E wall of Building 18 (Phase 2) and that appeared to be jointed to the N wall. The building seems to have had an aisle on both the W and E sides. The N wall was in two parts with an almost central gap between them that may have served as a doorway into a yard to the N of the building. At the W side of this entrance was a group of three posts, two squared, one round, possibly one side of a doorway; the E side of the doorway was destroyed by a later pit. This building was divided into three rooms; the partition between the north and middle rooms was indicated by a series of shallow gullies, that between the middle room and the south room by a single gully. The large middle room or hall was the main living room of the building and may itself have been subdivided by an E/W partition (T9582). There were two hearths in the S part of the middle room (H9369 and H9408; not illustrated). A gully (T9363) may have enclosed a cupboard or private space. Both the north and south rooms had gravel floors, the central room being floored with sand. Few finds were recovered from Phase 1a of Building 18.

The area to the N of Building 18 (Phase 1a) was not fully excavated and, therefore, cannot be directly related to the building. It appears to have comprised a midden or yard with various wattle fences and pits (MC126, MC130, MC132, MC133). These features are earlier than Building 18 (Phase 2) and presumably relate to Phase 1a and/or Phase 1b of Building 18. Fence WW7374 enclosed an area to the W and N of B18; it may have continued further N as WW7395, but the corner between them was obscured by a timber (MW7376). Both the timber and parts of WW7374 were burnt, suggesting that they had been burnt at the same time as Buildings 2, 18 (Phase 1b) and 20. As the gap between WW7374 and the rig boundary fence WW7360 was only about 0.3m, it is not clear how they

related to each other. Another fence (WW7362) lay about 0.2m to the N of WW7374 and may have turned N as WW7378; again, how the two fences related to each other is unclear. It is possible that WW7374/WW7395 and WW7362/WW7378 may have formed successive fences rather than contemporary fences in the area N of B18. Layers of sandy loam and clay and sand lay immediately N of the N wall of B18 (Phase 1). Further N were layers of loam, clay, gravel, sand and organic material (C7358, C7361, C7363, C7373, C7375, C7391, C7394).

Cut through the N part of the yard/midden to the N of B18 (Phase 1) were two, possibly three, pits. The earliest (Pit 7402) was not fully excavated and may have been simply a midden rather than a pit, as it was over 4.74m long (extending into the N limit of excavation). It was filled with yellowish-brown and black organic loam (C7342) and reddish-brown clayey loam (C7336). Pit 7339, 0.41m deep, was lined with black and brown clay (C7338, 2mm thick), in which were embedded straw and plant remains. The pit must have been an industrial pit for steeping material in water or some other liquid before being filled in with yellowish-brown organic loam (C7337). Pit 7357 was not fully excavated. Its fill of soft dark brown clayey loam with straw and seeds (C7356) was capped by a series of timbers (MW7349; Illus 66), which acted as a lid for the pit. Above the lid was dark brown loam (C7347), presumably levelling to counteract slumping of the pitfill and lid. The timbers comprised two round poles, across which were laid six planks and four flat fragments. Most of the timbers had pegs or peg holes and some had slots, indicating that they were reused. The planks and flat fragments were neither pegged together nor to the poles. Two of the planks were curved, probably from the weight of soil above. One plank and one of the flat fragments had woodworm holes. (For a fuller discussion of two of the timbers, see *The wood*: Cat Nos 248–51).

‘Pit 7402’ produced many metal artefacts for personal use, including a knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 512), four needles (Metal Cat Nos 514, 521, 534 and 535), two padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 516 and 520), a hinge (Metal Cat No 519) and a buckle (Metal Cat No 528). Three fragments of silk (The textiles: Textile Cat Nos 233–235), one of which may have been woven in Spain in the 13th century, were also recovered from the ‘pit’. A glass linen smoother (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 81) and a bone double-sided comb (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 23) were also found in the ‘pit’. An ampulla (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 431), a needle (Metal Cat No 433), two arrowheads (Metal Cat Nos 430 and 436), two padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 428 and 429) and part of a lock mechanism (Metal Cat No 432) were found in the yard. A large quantity of leather, including over 400 offcuts and 29 scraps from ‘Pit 7402’ and another 92 offcuts from a midden deposit (C7363) to the W of this pit, suggests that leatherworking was practised in the yard. Two peg tiles, one in Pit 7357, the other in the yard, may have come from the roof of B18 (Phase 1) (The

ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A01–1411 and A01–1424 respectively).

Phase IVaa (Illus 64)

Building 11 was built and Path 2.2 was replaced by Path 2.3. Building 18 was reconstructed internally.

In Rig V the only evident change was the blocking of the N end of Path 2.2 by a yard or building (MC143, MC152). A squared threshold timber (MW2257), 1.32m long and 100mm wide, supported by three stakes on its S side, was laid across the path as the entrance to the yard or building. Lying across the threshold was a fallen gate (MW2226), 940mm long, 670mm wide (Illus 28), composed of a wattle hurdle (about 30 rows of wattle, 10–20mm diameter) enclosed by a frame, of which parts remained on its N and E edges. The wattle was woven round the edge of the N frame (380mm long, 80mm wide) while the stakes were inserted into the E frame (600mm long, 80mm wide), which also had a peg (20mm diameter) in it. To the S of the threshold were two horizontal timbers: MW2256, of triangular cross-section with an oblique cut at one end (480mm long, 80mm wide and 35mm thick); and MW2231B, an oak cask head (The wood: Wood Cat No 193). Overlying the gate and cask head was a plank or board (MW2231A), 650mm long, 300mm wide, 30mm thick. Within the yard or building were layers of loam with sand and woodchips, above which was a hard surface of grey sand (C2203). Above the sand was an occupation deposit of loam. The area was bounded on the E by the W wall of Building 11, but no S wall survived if there was a building here. The yard or building may have served as a leatherworker's workshop as 57 offcuts were found in it as well as leather objects, including 4 soles, 8 uppers and a knife sheath (The leather: Leather Cat No 1360). A gold-capped, decorated lead button (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 394), an awl (Metal Cat No 420) and a glass linen smoother (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 78) were also recovered from it.

With the blocking off of the N end of Path 2.2, a new gravel path (P2.3) was laid down which led up to the threshold timber (MW2257). There was no evidence that the new path was diverted into the W limit of excavation, the gap between the N end of B3 and the yard/building being only some 0.6m. Scattered along both edges of the path were a number of squared and round timbers of unknown purpose: MW2231C, 485mm long, 100mm wide, 50mm thick; MW2231D, which had a rebate at one end, 600mm long, 140mm diameter; MW2231E, 300mm long, 200mm wide, 30mm thick; MW2231F, which had two stepped recesses on one side (boat frame?), 820mm long, 100mm wide, 100mm thick; and MW2231I, 700mm long, 120mm wide, 110mm thick.

The north room of Building 3 was cut by two pits (Pit 2526A and Pit 2228), whose relationship to each other was not determined, each being excavated in different areas. As the pits lay just inside the entrance

of the room, they were presumably dug after the room had gone out of use, unless the room served as a latrine pit, with the pits being cesspits. Pit 2526A, 0.69m deep, was filled with dark brown clay with some sand, dark brown mixed clayey loam, very dark brown clay and black organic material; from it was recovered a stone mortar of probable Purbeck marble (Stone Cat No A5678). Pit 2228, 0.68m deep, was filled with brown peaty clay and very dark grey mixed ash and dung with brown humus.

After B3 and the pathway had gone out of use, they were covered by layers of loam and woodchips (C2216=C2518=C2522 and C2215=C2512). From them were recovered an arrowhead (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 409), a padlock key (Metal Cat No 410) and a wooden spoon (The wood: Wood Cat No 202).

In Rig VI the only evident change was the construction of Building 11 (The buildings) at the N limit of excavation. Only the SW corner of the building (Illus 65) was excavated. Both walls appeared to be set in trenches, but, as Murray (*ibid*) has pointed out, this may be deceptive for cladding, some 200–300mm thick, on the walls. At the SW corner of the building both walls had sections of double walling, possibly a repair.

In Rig VII, Building 18 was altered internally as Phase 1b, the W and N external walls remaining in use. The north room and N end of the middle room were combined as a new north room and the south room and S end of the middle room combined as a new south room. The north room was floored with sand, but no floor was evident in the south room. No certain partition was found, although WW9365 may be the remains of such a partition, the rest being destroyed by a later intrusion. In one of the occupation levels in the south room was a concentration of hazelnuts (C9307). On the E side of the building were two wattle fences (WW9278 and WW9311), which may have formed a corner of a private room or cupboard in the north room, the deposits enclosed by the fences being quite different from those in the main rooms. The corner of the fences was destroyed by a group of intersecting postholes, probably for the robbing/replacement of a corner post or aisle post. It was in one of these postholes that the most remarkable and unusual find for a medieval building was made: an Early Bronze Age barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead (The miscellaneous finds: Flint A06–0041), possibly placed there as a talisman for the building (Hall 2002). At the NW corner of the building was a wattle wall (WW7332), possibly enclosing a storage space. Phase 1b of B18 was destroyed by fire, the scorching affecting not only the floor of Phase 1b, but that of Phase 1a as well. The fire may have been part of a widespread fire that also burnt down Buildings 2 and 20, although neither Building 3 nor Building 11 showed evidence of having been burnt.

A variety of finds, both personal and work-related, were found in Phase 1b of B18. Personal items included three buckles (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 484, 486 and 487), a padlock key (Metal Cat No 482) a hone (Stone Cat No A06–0085), a turned bowl (The wood:



Illus 65 *South Sector: Building 11, looking south-west.* (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

Wood Cat No 221), a stave of an oak splayed bucket (Wood Cat No 223) and an oak strainer (Wood Cat No 224). Among the work-related items were two shears (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 458 and 475), a fragment of tongs (Metal Cat No 475), a hammer with wooden handle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 475; The wood: Wood Cat No 225) and a leather-worker's knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 491), as well as a glass linen smoother (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 80) and a stone whorl (Stone Cat No A06-0078).

Phase IVb (Illus 66)

Rigs V and VI became the sites of a series of middens. Building 18 was rebuilt.

Rigs V and VI seem to have been combined under a common ownership in this phase, as the middens that developed in this phase after the fire destruction of Buildings 2 and 20 did not respect the rig boundary. In the baulk between the two post-medieval cellars, Building 20 and Path 4 were succeeded by M5. This midden was subdivided into various stratigraphical segments on the basis of their relationship to a later path, P1c (see Phase Vd). The earliest parts of the midden were M5a, which crossed the boundary between Rigs V and VI, suggesting that the rigs may have been combined under a single ownership. The midden comprised deposits of sand, loam, clay, ash, gravel and woodchips. Cut into the midden as it built up was a cesspit (Pit 3540), 2.28m deep, filled with hard-packed, greasy, rich reddish-brown organic material. A wooden gaming counter, decorated with

a floral design, (The wood: Wood Cat No 399) was found in the pit. Found in Midden 5a was a stone mortar (Stone Cat No A4043) of 'white fine-grained powdery limestone', probably derived from the same source as the chalk specimens (NMRS PHSAE 2003/144, box 8/A/4, folder 1).

In Rig V, above 'Building 26' and the S end of Building 3 was another midden (M1.4g). This comprised layers of loam and gravel, organic material, burnt sand and a concentration of oyster and mussel shells. Among metalwork from this midden were a spearhead (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 804), a fragment of caulking (Metal Cat No 806) and an awl (Metal Cat No 821). Wooden finds included a possible button (The wood: Wood Cat No 315), a bowl stave (Wood Cat No 316) and a strainer (Wood Cat No 318). Also found were a worked bone die (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 35) and three stone roof tiles (Stone Cat Nos A5392a, A5392b and A5082).

In Rig VI, Midden 1.4d replaced B2. It comprised organic loam with pebbles, dung, bracken and straw, two dumps of stones and sand. The earlier deposits in the midden (C2476=C2790, C2524=C2553=C2796) were originally interpreted as later occupation deposits of Building 2, but it seems likely that they were deposited within the remains of that building after it had burned down. Cut into the midden as it built up were two pits (Pit 2566 and Pit 2801). Although adjacent, the relationship between them was not established as each was in a different area and was excavated at a different time. Pit 2801, 0.96m deep, may be the earlier pit, as it seems to have been truncated by Pit 2566; it was filled with dark brown loam with much organic material and dung. Pit 2566, 1.22m deep, contained two layers of organic material (in which an intact egg was found, Illus 67), above which were several timbers and a fragmentary stake and wattle hurdle. Above the timbers were two more organic layers, one containing straw and grass. The timbers and wattle were probably a 'lid' for the pit which had collapsed into the pit under the weight of later deposits. The wattle was largely intact along the W side of the pit, where it lay on the ground, and on the E side, but was very fragmentary in between. A timber along the E edge of the pit was supported by a number of pegs, 15mm in diameter. As Pit 2801 contained few finds, it was not a rubbish pit and was probably a cesspit that was replaced by Pit 2566. The latter pit contained many finds and was latterly used as a rubbish pit. Among its finds were a stone mould (Stone Cat No A8074), a wooden cog wheel (The wood: Wood Cat No 313) and two turned bowls, one with a maker or owner's device on the base (Wood Cat Nos 308 and 312). Metal finds from the midden deposits included a knife blade (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 772), a barrel padlock (Metal Cat No 774), a bell clapper (Metal Cat No 775), a curry comb (Metal Cat No 782) and two brooches (Metal Cat Nos 783 and 798). Wooden finds included a shovel blade (The wood: Wood Cat No 305) and an oak cask head (Wood Cat No 299). Other finds recovered from Midden 1.4d included



Illus 67 South Sector: the second egg found in the excavation, in situ in Pit 2566.

a decorated knife sheath (The leather: Leather Cat No 3047), a bone bobbin (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 33), an antler double-sided comb (Worked bone Cat No 34), six pieces of flint, none showing evidence of having been deliberately worked (The miscellaneous finds: Flint A5331, A8145, A8215a and b, A8321, A12407) and two stone mortars of probable Purbeck marble (Stone Cat Nos A8221 and A8450). A fragment of worked stone, possibly a window sill, was also recovered from the midden (Márkus 2008, Inventory No PHSE/x/11).

Midden 1.4c remained in use to the N of Midden 1.4d, but a new midden (M1.4b), replaced B11 and the possible building or yard on its S side. This comprised layers of turf and humic loam with woodchips. Recovered from them were a barrel padlock (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 909), a buckle pin (Metal Cat No 912), a hone (Stone Cat No A8875) and an oak oarport cover from a ship (The wood: Wood Cat No 330).

To the E of M1.4d, Path 3.3 remained in use, with the fence (WW7360; not illustrated) as the property boundary, while a new path (P8.2b) replaced P8.2a in Rig VII. The new path comprised gravel and stones with soil and turf building up between the deposits. In addition to the extensive layers of gravel, there was evidence of patching repairs outside the entrance to Building 18 (Phase 2). Finds from P8.2b include a leatherworker's knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 597), a strap with a buckle attached (The leather: Leather Cat No 2554; The metalwork: Metal Cat No 599), an arrowhead (Metal Cat No 601), a padlock key (Metal Cat No 602) and a hinge (Metal Cat No 603). A forked implement (The Worked Bone: Cat No 27) and a ridge tile and pegged tile (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A01-1456 and A01-1104) were also found.

In Rig VII, Building 18 (Phase 1) was replaced by Building 18 (Phase 2), a building of partial sill-beam construction. The ash, burnt sand, charcoal, burnt daub and loam of the destruction level of Phase 1 was levelled out as a surface (C6176=C9261, C7321=C9193, C9283, C9330). The remains of the earlier building were cleared away and sill-beams, of which three or four survived, were laid directly on the new gravel pathway along the W side of the building; only the N end of sill MW9169 rested on a stone. It is not clear if sills MW7276 and MW7277 formed one broken sill or two adjacent sills. The sills had a groove, 30–60mm wide and 20–50mm deep, to contain vertical planks. One plank (250mm wide, 20–50mm thick, 70mm high) survived in MW9180 and five planks in MW7277, all broken off flush with the top of the sill. One of the latter planks, a tongued and grooved oak plank, is discussed elsewhere (The wood: Wood Cat No 256). There is evidence that the sills were pegged to the ground: MW7277 had two pegs (20mm diameter, 15mm apart) in its groove, of which one, possibly both, extended through the sill into the ground, as well as a peg hole; MW7276 had a peg (30mm diameter); MW9169 had a possible peg hole (45mm long, 20mm wide) cut through it. The N end of the W wall was of stake and wattle construction (WW7282), as were the N and E walls (WW7243; WW7308/WW6175); the S wall was destroyed by a post-medieval cellar. The sills were separated by posts set in pits but were not jointed to the posts. The N end of sill MW9180 and the S end of sill MW9169 were broken where they abutted post PW9360. The N end of sill MW7277 had a lap joint on its E (internal) side to fit against post PP7281 (Illus 68). The E wall had additional posts and miscellaneous timbers along it. Some of these were posts or buttresses (PP6151, PP6152, MW6154, PW6179, PW6170, PP6160), possibly to counteract instability in the E wall as a result of slumping at its N end (Illus 69). Other wooden finds were an oak thole or rowlock from a boat (MW6155; Wood Cat No 254) and an oak hewn platter (MW6158; Wood Cat No 255), as well as horizontal timbers (MW6153, MW6157); their structural significance must be negligible. The entrance to the building was across a threshold timber (MW9212), 1.07m long, 180mm wide, 120mm thick, laid over MW9169, whose groove continued under the timber. The ground inside the threshold was strengthened by an area of gravel (MF9164) in which was a curved horizontal timber (MW9173; 1.1m long, 130mm wide, 70mm thick); the apex of the timber extended under the threshold timber. A line of posts, postholes and robber pits (PP9467, PH9167, PH7237, PP7315) along the E side of the building formed an aisle. A line of posts and postholes (SA9114, PH9108, PH9115) may have formed a screen by the W wall, if they do not post-date the building altogether. Attached to the N wall was an enclosed latrine accessed from the building.

The occupation of the building was subdivided into two phases based on the reconstruction of the interior of the building. In Phase 2a the interior seems to have



Illus 68 *South Sector: post PP7281 between sill-beam MW7277 and wattle fence WW7282 in Building 18 (Phase 2), looking west. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

comprised a single open main hall. No partition was apparent, but differences in the deposits at each end of the hall suggest that there may have been either a partition of which no trace survived or at least different functions at each end of the hall. If the partition was founded on a sill, as in the W wall, then removal of the sill would remove all trace of the partition. Four tongued and grooved planks (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 284 and 290–2) found in an occupation deposit of the building may have come from such a partition (or from the W wall), but its location is unknown. The hall had two hearths. In the S part of the hall was an oval stone hearth (H9158), composed of burnt sandstone slabs. Set centrally in the hearth was an oval posthole (PH9204), 110mm deep. At the N end of the hall was H7303 (not illustrated, but below later hearth H7293), consisting of two burnt stones, truncated by a later pit. In the N end of the hall was a small pit (MF7305), 0.18m deep, which contained 50 fragments of pegged tile, of which 19 conjoined to form two tiles (The ceramic building material) (Illus 70). These fragments, either not used or broken during repairs to the roof, indicate that part of the roof of the building was tiled, possibly around a smoke vent.

In Phase 2b, the N end of the hall was separated from rest of the building by a partition (SA7295), of which only three stakes and a slightly curving plank set on edge survived; the plank had been reused as it had a peg, 7mm diameter, near one end. At the end of Phase 2b, a new partition was erected, Wall 7220, a stone sill to support a timber wall. The hall seems to have had a partition on its E side (WW6174/WW9121). This partition seems to have been a successor to the similar partition in Phase 1. How far the partition extended across the hall is unknown. As the surviving



Illus 69 *South Sector: timbers and posts along E wall of Building 18 (Phase 2), including oak claw thole MW6155 (The wood: Wood Cat No 254). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

remains of the partition only extended as far as the line of the aisle along the E side of the building, perhaps the partition formed a division in the aisle rather than the hall. Underneath the partition, lying on the surface of the ash destruction layer of Phase 1, was a wooden object (The wood: Wood Cat No 265) with a stake of the fence through its rectangular hole (Illus 66 and 149). A short fragment of wattle (WW9151) by the W wall may have been the remains of another partition separating a south room from the hall; it marked a difference in layers to N and S. As in Phase 2a, the hall had two hearths at each end. At the S end, if not in the south room, was H9129, set in a clay and sand floor (C9107). Above the floor was an occupation layer containing an abundance of hazelnuts (C9082). At the N end, above the earlier hearth H7303, was an area of burnt clay with a large flat stone that was blackened on both sides (H7293). Cut through H7293 was Pit 7290, filled with loose dark yellowish-brown organic loam with straw. The shallow depth (0.36m) of the pit and lack of finds in the pit mean that it was not a rubbish pit, but probably a storage pit. As there was a separate latrine at the N end of the building, it is unlikely to have been a cesspit, especially as it lay at the N end of the hall. Above the pit was a floor of grey ash (C7235=C9096), in which was set a hearth of white ash and burnt clay (H7287; not illustrated). It was on this floor that the stone sill, Wall 7220, was set. Four contexts in B18 are recorded in site notes as having an abundance of hazelnuts: C9307 in the south room of Phase 1b; C9241 in the destruction/construction levels between Phases 1 and 2; C9196 in the S part of the hall in Phase 2a; and C9082, an occupation level on Floor 9107 in the south room of Phase 2b. These are the only instances where hazelnuts are recorded in the site



Illus 70 *South Sector: pit MF7305 filled with tile fragments in Building 18 (Phase 2a). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

records as a component of contexts, although hazelnuts were an occasional find in many other contexts. Their presence shows that the inhabitants of B18 were making use of seasonal resources in their diet. Occupation C9241 was adjacent to hearths H9243, H9244 and H9254 (not illustrated) in the clearance/reconstruction between Phases 1 and 2 of B18. As hazelnuts are an autumnal crop, perhaps the destruction, clearance and reconstruction of B18 happened in the autumn/winter. Occupation C9307 was possibly associated with hearth H9369; occupation C9196 was probably associated with hearth H9158; and occupation C9082 was adjacent to hearth H9129. The hazelnuts were presumably roasted in the hearths and the shells discarded.

The plank from sill MW7277 (Wood Cat No 256) is described as 'too insubstantial for a major structural purpose', which, together with the lack of jointing to the posts and the wattle walls used in the N and E walls, suggests that the sill and plank construction may have been simply a façade to impress passers-by on the path and had no load-bearing strength. Even the threshold timber (MW9212) of the doorway was laid on top of but not jointed to sill MW9169. The threshold had a V-shaped joint at its N end and an L-shaped joint at its S end, although there was no evidence for door posts. Presumably the door was affixed to the adjacent upright plank at the N end, where a peg hole, 30mm diameter, probably acted as the pivot for the door. Adjacent to the NE corner of the timber was a vertical plank, 40mm wide, 20mm thick, and underneath the timber, on the E side of the sill, was a small plank set on edge, 140mm long, 10mm thick and 110mm high, supported by a peg or stake, 10mm diameter; presumably both planks were to stabilise the threshold.

If the sills and planks had no structural purpose other than to act as a screen wall, then the roof must have been supported by other means. The posts between the sills were presumably linked by wall plates fitting over the tops of the upright planks, the plates then supporting the roof. Additional support for the roof may have been provided by a row of posts (PH7297, PH7278, PH9371, PW9265, PH9113, PH9083, PH9105) just inside the W wall. Only PH9371 and PW9265 can be definitely associated with B18. The rest are stratified later than the building, but can be interpreted as robbing pits for the reuse of posts after the sill-beam building had gone out of use. Certainly the area alongside the sills was heavily disturbed and the S end of the W wall had been destroyed. A corresponding line of possible postholes or 'robber pits' can be seen on the E side of the building (PH7255, PH7237), forming part of the E aisle of the building. However, as both lines of 'robber pits' continued beyond the N wall of the building (PH7285, PW7267H; Pit 7339[?], PH7260), it is possible that these postholes belong to a successor building not otherwise identified.

Attached to the E end of the N wall of Building 18 (Phase 2) was a latrine, comprising a cesspit (Pit 7314) enclosed by a fence on its W side. The latrine was accessed from the north room/hall of the building through a doorway (door post PP7315, door sill MW 7318). The pit, 0.67m deep, was lined with dark brown clay, in which were embedded straw and plant remains, and filled with yellowish-green dung and reddish-brown clayey loam. It was in this pit that the third complete egg of the excavation was found (Illus 71), although unfortunately it was subsequently broken. Several timbers, some with rivets, were recovered from the pit (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 271–8 and 280), including two boat timbers (Wood Cat Nos 271 and 272); a bucket stave (Wood Cat No 279) and a bowl stave (Wood Cat No 282) were also recovered from the fills. Towards the end of B18 (Phase 2), the latrine went out of use and the area N of the building was replaced by a yard or midden of reddish-brown clayey dungy loam (C7268).

Many finds were recovered from Phase 2 of Building 18 – personal, tools, domestic and military. Among personal items are four glass beads (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat Nos 82–5), a jet ring (Stone Cat No A10–0016), a brooch (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 645), a barrel padlock (Metal Cat No 634), two padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 620 and 723), a child's shoe sole (The leather: Leather Cat No 2747) and a fragment of silk (The textiles: Textile Cat No 271). Tools include two comb teeth (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 633 and 726), an awl (Metal Cat No 640), a wooden shovel blade (The wood: Wood Cat No 293), a stone hone (Stone Cat No A08–0574), two knives including one with a wooden handle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 660 and 661; The wood: Wood Cat No 267), a wooden handle (Wood Cat No 259), a bone whorl (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 28), two stone whorls (Stone Cat Nos A06–0067, A06–0066) and a bone needle (The worked bone: Worked



Illus 71 South Sector: the third egg found in the excavation, in situ in Pit 7314. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 72 South Sector: box lid with iron clasps (The wood: Wood Cat No 294) in situ in Building 18 (Phase 2b). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

bone Cat No 29). Domestic finds include a candlestick (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 627), a copper alloy vessel (Metal Cat No 646), a hasp (Metal Cat No 650), a hinge pivot (Metal Cat No 651), a box lid with iron straps (The wood: Wood Cat No 294; Illus 72), four bowl staves (Wood Cat Nos 257 and 260–262) and two bucket staves (one splayed) (Wood Cat Nos 258 and 268). Military items are perhaps more surprising finds from an apparent burgess's house: an arrowhead, a spearhead, a gilded spur, chain mail and a lancehead (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 557, 619, 703, 708 and 724). The gilded spur 'indicates an owner of wealth and rank who was probably a knight' and probably dates from the late 13th century (The metalwork: Spurs report).

The E wall of B18 formed the boundary between Rig VII and Rig VIII. The latter rig contained a yard or midden deposit, C6169=C6171, composed of organic loam with fragments of wood. It was not fully excavated.

Phase IVc (Illus 73)

Building 18 and Path 8.2b were replaced by Midden 9a and Path 8.3 respectively. Path 3.3 was replaced by Middens 1.4f and 1.4h. Midden 9b was the earliest feature recorded in Area 10.

No change is evident in Rig V. In Rig VI in the isolated baulk between the post-medieval cellars a group of midden deposits was identified (M5e), but they should probably be regarded as part of Midden 5a; they comprised layers of loam, some organic material, straw, ash, clay, burnt clay and pebbles.

Further N a new midden, Midden 1.4f/1.4h, replaced Path 3.3. This midden comprised layers of organic loam with many pebbles. The midden contained an abundance of leather offcuts (119, also 22 scraps) in addition to many soles and parts of shoes, perhaps suggesting that leatherworking was practised in this rig. Other finds included three peg tiles (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A01–1297, A01–1308 and A01–1309), a buckle fragment (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 574), a spur fragment (Metal Cat No 582), a padlock key and a barrel padlock (Metal Cat Nos 584 and 586), a fish hook (Metal Cat No 587), a comb tooth (Metal Cat No 594), a willow and straw basket (The wood: Wood Cat No 252) and several stone pot lids (Stone Cat No A06–0100).

In Rig VII, Path 8.3 succeeded Path 8.2b. This comprised layers of gravel and loam with larger stones and two patches of flat broken pinkish schist stones in pink and white mortar. Among these schist stones was a stone mortar of white limestone (Stone Cat No A06–0099). A knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 934) was also recovered from the path. To the E of the path Midden 9a replaced B18 (Phase 2). Between the path and the midden was a line of seven round posts, each set in an oval post pit (PW7267A–G), overall length 5.26m (Posts: 100–140mm diameter). (An eighth, subrectangular post pit (PH7267H) lay 2m further N and may have formed part of this feature or been a posthole associated with the line of possible robber pits of B18 (Phase 2).) A key escutcheon was recovered from one of the post pits (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 937). Between the two northern posts was a short (0.66m) length of wattle fence (WW7256). Together the fence and posts formed a boundary between the path and the midden.

Midden 9a comprised layers of loam and dung with deposits of grass, straw, woodchips, gravel, stones, ash and clay. Parts of the midden continued into Rig VIII as Midden 9b, suggesting that these two rigs may have been combined under a single ownership, although the rigs were separated by a wattle fence,

WW6072. Incorporated into the fence was a round post (PW6166), diameter 130mm, height 960mm, around which the wattle was woven; the post was set in a posthole, 0.26m deep. To the N of WW6072 was a possible continuation: fence WW7252 and posts SA 7253. Adjoining the W side of WW6072 was a short (0.4m long) fence (WW9065), at whose W end was a short (0.44m long) northward return (WW9064). The purpose of these two small fences is unclear. There were many other features within the midden, including the possible robber pits for posts of Building 18 (Phase 2) (see above).

A cesspit (Pit 7230), some 1m deep, was filled with yellowish dung with straw, wattle fragments, much moss, some peat and some seeds; burnt material, including daub, with several stones; and dark brown dungy and organic loam. It contained few finds but among them was a possibly imported turned bowl (The wood: Wood Cat No 342). Pit 7239 was only 0.18m deep and may have held a container. Pit 9026, 0.68m deep, was filled with dark brown loam; yellow ash; dark brown dung with patches of ash; and yellow and grey ash. This pit may have been a cesspit with the ash to mop up any liquid. Pit 9078, 0.48m deep, was filled with reddish-brown dung with gritty sand; its fill contained a knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 993). Two hearths (H7224 and H9131) and one possible hearth (Pit 9074) also lay within the midden (not illustrated). The latter hearth contained a burnt stone, grey ash and much metal slag, and may have been a metalworking feature.

Many finds were recovered from the midden. Among metal finds are a pilgrim token of St Andrew (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 947), a key (Metal Cat No 940), a hasp (Metal Cat No 953), a padlock bolt (Metal Cat No 971), a knife (Metal Cat No 974) and a possible weight (Metal Cat No 989). Wooden finds include a socketed handle (The wood: Wood Cat No 334), a possible toggle (Wood Cat No 337), a turned lid fragment (Wood Cat No 338), a barrel hoop fragment (Wood Cat No 340), a turned container fragment (Wood Cat No 341), a willow basket (Wood Cat No 349) and a spindle (Wood Cat No 350). Other finds include floor and peg tiles (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A01–1099 and A01–1033), a bone whorl (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 36) and two stone whorls (Stone Cat Nos A06–0055 and A06–0013), a fragment of silk (The textiles: Textile Cat No 323) and three shards of window glass (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat Nos 87–9).

In Rig VIII, Midden 9b was the continuation of Midden 9a from the W side of fence WW6072. It comprised deposits of dung, organic material, loam, sand, clay, ash, charcoal, gravel and stones. It was subdivided by Bogdan into M9b(a) and M9b(b) on the basis that the contexts in the former were recorded as being cut by Building 50, while the relationships of the building to the contexts in the latter were not established. The subdivision is purely stratigraphical and arbitrary as both parts of the midden were in the same location. In this report the midden is treated

as a single midden. Within it were several features, including wattle fences, posts, postholes, pits and horizontal timbers. The latter included a fragment of a partially charred oak cask-head (The wood: Wood Cat No 358) and a possible club (Wood Cat No 359). The earliest feature was a trench (T6163), 0.15m deep, filled with pink ash and charcoal. This trench was on the line of the miscellaneous timbers and posts outside the E wall of B18 (Phase 2); it may have robbed out some other timbers of that wall. From its fill was recovered a padlock key (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1016). Another trench (T6142), 0.1m deep, on E/W alignment may have robbed a fence subdividing the midden. It was cut by Pit 6127, 0.84m deep, which contained yellowish-brown organic material, including straw, with wood chips; mixed grey sand and brown loam; grey ash; and brown organic material with some wood fragments. The pit contained few finds and was probably a cesspit. Pit 6132, 1.22m deep, was also probably a cesspit. It was filled with organic loam; disarranged wattle fragments; soft organic loam; soft light brown loam; and grey ash. The ash may have been a 'cap' for the organic fill, while the wattle may have been discarded into the pit. Its fill contained 13 cat bones, presumably from the skeleton of a cat, as well as a peg tile (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat No A01–1205). The latest pit was Pit 6025, 0.45m deep, which contained grey sand with some stones, mortar and clay flecks; and small stones, some pebbles and three large stones. It may have been a pit to bury building debris, possibly from the construction of B50.

Finds from the midden included a ridge tile (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat No A01–0681), a stone tile (Stone Cat No A01–1137), a bone whorl (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 31), a stone whorl (Stone Cat No A06–0062), a pivot stone (Stone Cat No A06–0064), a glass linen smoother and a glass vessel shard (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat Nos 90 and 91). Metal finds included a brooch (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 998), a buckle (Metal Cat No 1012), scales (Metal Cat No 1014) (Illus 74), two padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 737 and 739), a candlestick (Metal Cat No 738), a padlock bolt (Metal Cat No 741) and an eagle mount (Metal Cat No 1017). Wooden finds included a turned candleholder (The wood: Wood Cat No 360) and two oak bucket staves (Wood Cat Nos 297 and 298).

Phase IVcc (Illus 75)

Building 1 and possibly Building 50 were constructed.

In Rig V, Building 1 replaced M1.4g and was constructed against the E side of the rig boundary. Of the walls only the E wall survived, a stone foundation (Wall 2745) for a timber sill, with a corner post (PP2469) at its N end. The post produced a dendrochronological date of AD 1236±9 or later (Appendix 5), but as the post had no bark or sapwood it is probably much later. There was no trace of the N wall, but the N end



Illus 74 South Sector: scales (The metal: Metal Cat No 1014) *in situ* in Midden 9b(b). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

of the building was indicated by the gravel of Path 6, which ran along the E side of the building, extending westwards round the N end. The building was divided into two phases on the basis of a change in the internal arrangements. Internally in Phase 1a the building comprised a short north room and a longer south room, separated by a line of stakes (SA2458) which had clay cladding (C2425). At the W end of the alignment was a possible posthole (MF2479), 0.27m deep, for a larger upright in the partition, filled with loose brown clay and very decayed wood; the feature also contained two decayed stakes from the alignment. The south room (Illus 76) contained a stone hearth (H2769), 530mm long, 430mm wide and 140mm thick, in the upper surface of which was a circular depression, 260mm diameter, 40mm deep. Around the stone was an area of red burnt clay; some stakes and a posthole nearby may have been a screen for the hearth. A large squared upright nearby may have been a roof ridge support; if the building was about 4m wide, it would have been central between the E and W walls. At the N end of the room was a pit or oven, lined with dressed stone blocks (Pit 2460), 0.29m deep, with a flue or rake-out hole (Pit 2787), 0.22m deep, on its S side. At the base of the pit, the floor was brown sand, above which was a layer of pebbles one course deep. Above that were deposits of sand, clay and burnt sand with red tinges. Pit 2787 was filled with mixed loam and clay. A shard of modern glass found in C2425, cladding for SA2458, is intrusive.

Finds from the earlier phase of the building include a possible yarn-winder (The wood: Wood Cat No 394), a leatherworker's knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1129), two awls (one from the foundation trench for the E wall and, therefore, possibly residual from an earlier phase) (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1120 and 1127) and a buckle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1128).

To the S of B1, within Rig V, was Path 7 in the isolated baulk between two post-medieval cellars. If it does belong to this phase, then its presence would limit the S end of B1. Beside the path was a post (PP3527),



Illus 76 *South Sector: south end of Building 1(a), looking north.*
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probably part of the boundary between Rigs V and VI. To the N of B1 Middens 1.4c and 1.4b continued in use.

In Rig VI, Midden 5 continued in use in the isolated baulk between the two post-medieval cellars. Further N, alongside B1, was Path 6, which comprised two successive gravel surfaces, separated by an organic layer with wood fragments which had built up between them. This path can be seen as the successor to the Path 2 sequence, although the latter lay in Rig V. From the path were recovered a brooch (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1046), a hasp (Metal Cat No 1047) and a buckle (Metal Cat No 1117). A bone pin (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 39) and an antler double-sided comb (Worked Bone Cat No 40) were also recovered.

To the E of P6, Middens 1.4e and 1.4i were continuations of the earlier Middens 1.4d and 1.4h, composed of deposits of gravelly loam, dung, organic

debris, sand, ash and clay. Within the midden was a small (0.4m x 0.2m) hearth of red burnt clay with three stones (H2781; not illustrated). Four postholes around the hearth may have held a screen. Pit 2446, 0.76m deep, was filled with hard-packed sand and soft clay; it possibly held a container before being used as a rubbish pit. Cut by the pit was a disarranged horizontal wattle hurdle (MW2472; not illustrated) under which was an undressed horizontal timber (MW2494; not illustrated). A key (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1021), a brooch (Metal Cat No 1037), a hinge (Metal Cat No 1038) and a toggle (The wood: Wood Cat No 369) were found in the middens.

To the N of Midden 1.4e, Middens 1.4c and 1.4b continued in use. That they lay in both Rigs V and VI suggests that the rigs were under a common ownership.

No change is evident in Rig VII.



Illus 77 *South Sector: Buildings 50 (foreground) and 51 (background), looking north.*
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In Rig VIII, M9b continued in use, but it is possible that Building 50 could have been constructed this early. This stone-built structure lay directly under modern rubble. It was later than some of the layers of Midden 9b (Phase IVc) but earlier than the construction of Building 51 (Phase Vd) (Illus 77). As the property on which it stood was described as a yard in 1719, when acquired by Robert Watson, Minister of St Madoes (Buildings D, L, Architecture Survey), it had been demolished by then, if not long before. In 1675, the property is described as an ‘inner tenement of land now altogether ruinous’ formerly occupied by James Gairne [Gairdner in 1695], John [McNiven? – Gowan in 1695] and David Slight [Flight in 1695], baxters, with a yard. In 1695, the inner tenement was still ruinous (PKCA, B59/8/25, ff288–91; B59/8/26, ff72B–73B). It is not clear whether the ruinous inner tenement was

B50 or B51 (see Phase Vd) or a succeeding building.

Only the NW corner of the building was excavated. The building is divided into two phases on the basis of an internal partition in the latter phase. The W and N walls were set in foundation trenches, neither of which was fully excavated. The clay-bonded foundations supported mortar-bonded walls, composed of a rubble core between stones with dressed external faces. Incorporated into the foundations of the W wall was a quern stone (Stone Cat No A06–0073). A number of construction deposits (clay, sand) and features in the building were noted, including a line of 10 postholes (PH6000; not illustrated) adjacent to the N wall, probably for scaffolding posts. A circular area, 0.56m diameter, of white and orange burnt sand and clay with ash and pieces of burnt bone may have served as a cooking hearth (H6009; not illustrated) during

the construction. The earliest floor level was of clay (C7043), and covered the interior of the building. Above the floor were patches of sand (C7045), possibly a floor repair, and burnt material (C7044), probably raked out from the hearths. Cut into the floor were several features, including postholes (PH7041A–C), hearths (H7058, H7056), pits (Pit 7039, MF7046) and two gullies (T7040, MF7042); they need not all have been contemporary. The hearth (H7056) had four stakeholes around its edge, probably to hold a frame to suspend a pot over the hearth. The purpose of the postholes and gullies is unclear. The gullies were at approximately right angles and may have screened off part of the interior. The postholes, which each had a padstone, may have supported an upper floor. If postholes PH7041A and PH7041C supported a screen, they are unlikely to have been contemporary with the hearths, as the hearths lie between them. The later phase of this building is described in Phase Va. Two shards of window glass (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat Nos 99, 100) were recovered from the interior of the building. A hinge pivot (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1477) was recovered from one of the external wall foundations.

Midden 9b continued in use to the N of B50.

Phase Va (Illus 78)

Building 34 was constructed and Buildings 1 and 50 were reorganised internally. Midden 8 and Path 8.4 replaced Midden 9 and Path 8.3.

In the isolated baulk between the cellars of Buildings U to the S and Building T to the N, a new group of midden deposits and features was identified (M5c). This consisted of peaty loam with patches of sand, on top of which was a cracked rectangular stone slab. Two decayed posts (PP3527 and PW3538) formed no pattern. A possible pin-beater from a warp-weighted loom was found in the midden (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 38).

In Rig V the internal arrangements of Building 1 were altered. A new partition wall was constructed on a different line from the earlier SA2458, enlarging the north room. A new sand floor (C2779) was laid down and the new partition wall (MW2752) was set on it and pegged to the E wall. The new partition comprised a grooved timber sill with a row of stakeholes along its length, presumably for a wattle fence (Illus 79). On the S side of the partition there were several postholes (PH2766) of unknown purpose. Different floor and occupation levels occurred on either side of the timber sill.

The building burned down at the end of its existence and was covered in layers of ash and burnt clay, in which was a decayed timber (MW2747), 500mm long, 100mm wide. The stones of the E wall partially fell over the adjacent P6. Amongst the tumble from the wall was found one of the most important finds of the excavation: a heavily worn fragment of an embroidered

silk hairnet with attached braid (The textiles: Textile Cat Nos 351 and 352), decorated with *lacis* network in a cross-crosslet design. The *lacis* network (and two other contemporary fragments) are unique in the archaeological record in Britain and this Perth example may have originated in Germany about 1300. Few other notable finds were recovered from the building: a buckle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1117) from the demolition over P6 and a decorative strip from the north room (Metal Cat No 1141).

Midden 1.5a replaced Middens 1.4c and 1.4b to the N of B1 and, like them, it extended into Rig VI. Its main component was a thick (up to 0.5m) layer of dark brown silt and clay with lenses of sand, pebbles and organic material (C2404). This deposit extended over most of Area 3 and lay directly underneath the cellars of the post-medieval/modern Old Parliament House/Masonic Hall (Building G, Architecture Survey); hence the finding of post-medieval glass and clay pipe stems within it; these post-medieval finds were noted in the context description but were not retained. In addition to the intrusive finds, it is probable that C2404 was really at least two different layers: one sealing B1, B34 and P6, the other contemporary with those buildings and path. Vast quantities of finds were recovered from the midden: over 32kg of bone and over 3000 sherds of pottery, as well as large numbers of mollusc shells. In addition to large quantities of leather shoes/soles, etc, there were 430 offcuts, indicating leatherworking. Two very important objects were found in the midden, both indicative of the high status and wealth of the owner: another piece of silk hairnet decorated with *lacis* embroidery (The textiles: Textile Cat No 370) with a pattern of lozenges and bird motifs, and a copper alloy mirror case (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1186). Both objects are well worn, indicating prolonged usage. Other metal objects of interest were recovered: a curry comb (Metal Cat No 1155), two padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 1181, 1189), a knife (Metal Cat No 1182), a decorated pin (Metal Cat No 1187), a comb tooth (Metal Cat No 1159), a chain (Metal Cat No 1191), a buckle (Metal Cat No 1193), and two vessel fragments (Metal Cat Nos 1177 and 1196). Also found were a mug or bowl base (The wood: Wood Cat No 401), and a cask-head (Wood Cat No 421), as well as 18 wooden pins, a leather toggle (The leather: Leather Cat No 4495), another piece of silk (The textiles: Textile Cat No 362) and a possible stone whorl (Stone Cat No A3815). The leather offcuts and wooden pins indicate that industry or craft working was taking place in Rigs V and VI, which seems at variance with the high quality of some of the objects found – *lacis* netting, silk, mirror case, decorated pin and decorated sheaths. But this juxtaposition is not unusual in this or any burgh then or until the flight of the wealthier classes to new suburbs from the late 18th century onwards.

In Rig VI on the E side of P6 a new building was constructed (B34). The W side of the building was excavated in the first season (1976), the E side in the second season (1977). The W, N and E walls were built



Illus 79 *South Sector: Building 1(b): sill-beam MW2752, looking east.*
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on timber sill foundations. The S wall was destroyed by a post-medieval cellar. The timbers on the W side were recorded as being set in foundation trenches, but these are now considered to be deceptive, the product of the build-up of layers inside and outside the building. The timbers on the W side were too decayed to record, but were noted to contain stakes (MW2431, MW2432) and a fragmentary wattle fence (MW2430). The timbers on the E side were in a better state of preservation and were up to 130mm wide. No groove for a plank wall was present, although pegs or stakes were recorded. The timbers on both sides were covered in strips of clay up to 0.52m wide, although the S end of the W wall (MF2759) was up to 0.8m wide. These were probably the remains of a thick clay daub, partially collapsed, applied to wattle walls. Both the NE and NW corners appear to have been different. The NE corner formed

a right angle, with two sill-beams separated by, but not apparently jointed to, a round post (PP7189), 165mm x 140mm x 490mm. By contrast the NW corner was curved (Illus 80) and no large corner post survived. The curving of the corner would suggest a wattle fence rather than sill-beam construction. Perhaps, as in the case in Phase 2 of B18, the sill-beams at the front of the building were intended to impress, the less important rear being of wattle construction. Paths extended along both the W and E walls of the building, with a probable entrance of small pebbles on the W side (MF2420). This may have been a back or private entrance, with the probable main entrance being on the E side of the building, approached from Path 8.4. Although this path lay in Rig VII, it may have been a communal path. Features in the interior of the building were a posthole (PH2455), a hearth (H2413) and two posts along the E

side of the building (PW7246A–B). The location of the posthole at the entrance in the W wall must have been awkward and this feature could post-date the building. To the N of the building lay two deposits of loam (C7191, C7299) forming a ‘courtyard’. This courtyard was only identified in Area 7, the equivalent deposits in Area 3 being included within M1.5a.

Finds from B34 included a vessel fragment (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1051), a padlock bolt (Metal Cat No 1052), a pair of tweezers (Metal Cat No 1056), a buckle (Metal Cat No 1060) and a dress ring (Metal Cat No 1063). A stone whorl (Stone Cat No A4500) was also found in the building. Finds from the external courtyard included two sheaths, one decorated, the other plain (The leather: Leather Cat Nos 3717, 3718) and a piece of silk net (The textiles: Textile Cat No 336). Nearly 100 leather offcuts were recovered from the courtyard, evidence of leatherworking (see also next two paragraphs).

In Rig VII, Path 8.4 and Midden 8a replaced Path 8.3 and Midden 9a respectively. The path comprised successive layers of gravel with ‘occupation’ layers of soil in between. There was also a layer of large stones. At the N end of the path, and set within it, was a pit (Pit 7216), 0.56m deep). The purpose of this feature is unknown and its location within the path is unusual to say the least; it was presumably a pit for an upright post. Two postholes (PH7214 and PH9029), would have been part of a boundary fence between the path and the adjacent midden. Finds from the path show a variety of domestic and craft industry taking place in Rigs VI/VII (see also preceding and next paragraphs). Leatherworking is indicated by an awl with handle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1102; The wood: Wood Cat No 378) and two other awls (Metal Cat Nos 1090 and 1109). A stone mould (Stone Cat No A06–0040) hints at metalworking, while a quern (Stone Cat No A06–0047) could be for domestic grinding of grain. Other finds include a padlock bolt (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1093), an arrowhead (Metal Cat No 1103), a knife (Metal Cat No 1108), a possible cloth bale seal (Metal Cat No 1114) and a tube with leather attached (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1104; The leather: Leather Cat No 4151). Five pieces of silk were also found in the path (The textiles: Textile Cat Nos 339, 342–4 and 346).

Midden 8a comprised layers of loam, turf, dung, ash, sand, pebbles and stones and mortar. The sand and mortar may have formed working surfaces within the midden. Within the midden were a number of features. An amorphous pit (Pit 7183; Illus 81), 0.4m deep, was filled with blueish-black clayey loam and clayey loam with organic material. The purpose of the pit is unknown, but it was backfilled as a rubbish pit. The pit contained 77 leather offcuts, which, together with 177 other offcuts recovered from the midden and another 104 from the adjacent path, suggests that leatherworking was practised in the rig. A small oval pit (Pit 7197), depth not recorded, produced only one find – a piece of metal – and was clearly not a rubbish



Illus 80 *South Sector: north-west corner of Building 34, looking north-east (scale in centimetres). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

pit; it may have been a posthole. Various postholes and posts formed no discernible pattern. A gully (T7193; Illus 1), up to 0.43m deep, may have been a drain (it followed the same course as T7072, part of the industrial area, B53 – see Phase Vb). A shorter gully (T7206) may have served a similar function. It is even possible that T7193 replaced T7206 and obliterated most of it. From T7193 were recovered a decorated sheath (The leather: Leather Cat No 5220), an unfinished bone die (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 49), a padlock key (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1303) and a buckle (Metal Cat No 1304). From the earlier gully were recovered a brooch (Metal Cat No 1327) and a tankard stave (The wood: Wood Cat No 489). Two shallow depressions (MF7202 and MF7212), 0.15m deep and (0.12m deep respectively, were presumably working areas. The former was filled with white sand and stones, the latter with loose silty loam, some schist stones, organic material and patches of white sand. An oval area of stones and burnt clay nearby may have been a hearth (MF7203; not illustrated). A depression adjacent to the path (T7109; not illustrated), 0.14m deep, filled with pebbles and stones, may have been a worn access to the midden. The most important find from this midden was a carved anthropomorphic handle of walrus ivory (The worked bone: Worked

bone Cat No 46). Many other personal items were recovered including a padlock key (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1279), a padlock bolt (Metal Cat No 1287) and a barrel padlock (Metal Cat No 1296). Dress accessories include a brooch and a buckle (Metal Cat Nos 1320 and 1332), a toggle (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 51) and a stone bead (Stone Cat No A10–0015). Some work-related items were found, indicative of various crafts being carried out on or near the rig. A possible rough-out (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 47) suggests that bone working was being carried out nearby. A possible pin-beater (Worked Bone Cat No 45), three needles (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1277, 1281 and 1285) and two stone whorls (Stone Cat Nos A06–0022 and A06–0026) indicate that textile weaving was also practised. A comb tooth (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1318) for dressing flax or wool was also found.

In Rig VIII, Building 50 was reordered internally as Phase 1b. A new sand floor (C7026) was laid down and a stone wall erected on it, dividing the building into two rooms. As the wall was only about 0.4m wide, it presumably served as a stone foundation for a timber sill, as in the E wall of Building 1. A pivot stone (Stone Cat No A06–0010) at the E end of the wall would have held a door post. Various occupation deposits and a hearth (H7031; not illustrated) lay on the floor. Most finds from this phase of the building were pottery, animal bones and shells. A tankard stave (The wood: Wood Cat No 544), found in the interior of the building, may be part of the same vessel as 11 other staves recovered from Pit 7013, which lay immediately to the N of the building. As the pit apparently cut part of the demolition of the building, it should probably be regarded as part of the clearance of Building 50, although it may well be contemporary with the building.

Much of the area to the N of Building 50 was machine-disturbed, but at the N end of Area 10, adjacent to Sondage 2003, was Midden 8b, a thick (up to 0.4m) layer of dark brown loam, excavated as two spits. This deposit was the continuation of Midden 8a in Rig VII. It contained a stone whorl (Stone Cat No A06–0027), a vessel fragment (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1485) and a T-bar handle from a light boring bit or gouge (The wood: Wood Cat No 545).

Phase Vaa (Illus 81)

Building 24 and Midden 4 replaced Building 1. Midden 1.5b replaced Building 34.

In Rig V, in the isolated baulk between the cellars of Buildings U to the S and Building T to the N, a new stratigraphical group, M5b, was identified within M5. This comprised gravel in loam with patches of sand.

Further N a clay-bonded stone wall, possibly of a building (B24), was constructed over the S end of B1. However, only this one wall was excavated of this possible building. Its narrowness (0.3–0.5m) suggests that, if it was a building wall, then it may have been

a stone foundation for a timber sill. Along its E side was a gravel path (P9). There was no evidence that the path extended beyond 'B24' and it may have only served this building.

The middle part of B1 was covered by a new midden, M4, which only survived in the isolated baulk between the post-medieval cellars of Building T to the S and Building G to the N. The midden was subdivided into various stratigraphical segments on the basis of their relationship to a path (P1b) that lay within the baulk. The earliest parts of the midden were M4a, which extended into Rig VI above P6 and B34, and M4b, which lay only within Rig V. The midden deposits comprised layers of silt with ash, clay, burnt clay, loam, sand, charcoal and organic material. Finds recovered from the midden included a possible bobbin (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 66), three stone whorls (Stone Cat Nos A3108, A4502), a hone (Stone Cat No A1071), a buckle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1495), a brooch (Metal Cat No 1526) and a barrel padlock (Metal Cat No 1539).

The post-medieval cellar of Building G had removed most of the archaeological deposits above the N end of B1 and B34; what little survived formed part of Midden 1.5a. In Area 7 its equivalent, M1.5b, accumulated above Building 34 and Path 8.4 and extended into Rig VII. This comprised deposits of loam, clay, stones and pebbles. A wide variety of finds was recovered from M1.5b. A rough-out (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 44) indicates bone working. A mould (Stone Cat No A06–0023) indicates metalworking. A comb (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1214) and a comb tooth (Metal Cat No 1264) indicate textile working. An auger bit or chisel (Metal Cat No 1228) indicates woodworking. Some 78 offcuts indicate leatherworking. The purpose of 40 wooden pins remains unclear; they could have been used in textile working, leatherworking, or for binding bales of wool. Three items further indicate the wealth of possible owners of the rig: a pewter mirror case (Metal Cat No 1211), a bridle bit (Metal Cat No 1234) and a spur fragment (Metal Cat No 1270). Other personal items include two decorated sheaths, one with spirals, lozenges, shields and *fleurs-de-lys*, the other with zig-zags, as well as a plain sheath (The leather: Leather Cat Nos 3869, 3875 and 3984). A key (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1210), two padlocks (Metal Cat Nos 1218 and 1239) and three padlock keys (Metal Cat Nos 1250, 1251 and 1260) reveal the need for security. House furnishings include a hinge (Metal Cat No 1216) and two turned bowls (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 432 and 452), as well as a fragment of window glass (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 97). A knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1252), a brooch (Metal Cat No 1256), a button or disc (The wood: Wood Cat No 423) and a toggle (Wood Cat No 471) are personal items. A pivot stone or quern stone (Stone Cat No A06–0038) was also found.

No change is evident in Rig VIII.

Phase Vb (Illus 82)

A metal workshop, Building 53, with an adjacent path, P8.5, was established in Rig VII. Midden 3 replaced M1.5b in Rigs V and VI.

In Rigs V and VI there is little change from the previous phase except at the N end of these rigs. There, in the raised baulk left by the cellar of Building G, a new midden (M3) developed. Like the similar middens in the isolated baulks to the S (M4 and M5), with which it was contemporary, M3 was subdivided into various stratigraphical groups on the basis of their relationship to a path (P1a; see Phase Vd). The earliest part of the midden (M3a) was composed of layers of loam, some dungy, with sand and burnt material. The major deposit in the midden was a thick (0.3m) layer of loam removed as three spits (C2176, C2177, C2179). Within the midden were three stakes (PP2185A–C; not illustrated) forming no pattern, and two parallel trenches (T2180 and T2187; not illustrated), 0.2m deep and up to 0.33m deep respectively. Only the W edge of the former trench lay within the excavation. The purpose of the trenches is unclear: they could be robber trenches of an otherwise unrecognised building or of boundaries within the midden. The trench (T2187) could even have been a boundary between Rigs V and VI. Working tools found in the midden include four comb teeth (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1543, 1544, 1561 and 1565), an awl (Metal Cat No 1551), a reamer or drill (Metal Cat No 1552) and shears (Metal Cat No 1562). A stone mould (Stone Cat No A3855) and a hone (Stone Cat No A5180) were also found. An unfinished handle of walrus ivory (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 58) indicates bone working on or near the site. A brooch decorated with rosettes (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1677) was also found. Domestic furniture includes a possible ridge tile (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat No A4850 [Tile marked A4849]) and a candlestick (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1566).

In Rig VII a new path (P8.5) was laid down above Midden 1.5b and Midden 8a was replaced by a metalworking area, 'Building 53'. The new path comprised two layers of large stones separated by a gravel layer. The N end of the path was bordered to the E by a kerb of two stone slabs set on edge end to end (not illustrated). Occupation levels of loam built up before and after the gravel was laid down. Most of the finds from the path, which included a buckle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1410), came from these occupation levels.

The metalworking area comprised two hearths enclosed by flimsy wattle structures. Two successive structural phases were identified. In Phase 1 the workshop was divided into three separate areas. In the S area a stone hearth (H7137) was set in mortar and clay. The stone, very soft and fragmentary, was severely affected by intense heat and was covered by burnt clay. The hearth was enclosed on three sides by two stake

alignments to the W (SA7124) and E (SA7102) and a wattle fence (WW7145) to the N. The fence was daubed with clay (C7146) and had some larger posts (PP7147, PP7104, PP7178) along it for support. No large posts were evident along the two side walls and it is unlikely that the structure was roofed; it is more likely to have been an open workshop, enclosed by low screens and open to the S.

In the central area was an earthen floor of compacted ash and soil (C7113). Set into the floor was a stone hearth (H7117), set in clay. The stone was edged to the N and E by thin slabs set on edge and had been cracked in pieces by the intense heat. Above it was red, pink and white ash. The hearth was enclosed by stakes to the W (SA7151) and E (SA7148); underneath the W screen was a dump of oyster shells (C7150). Some larger posts (PW7181, PW7198) and postholes (PH7132A, PH7154A) supported the screens. Other postholes (PH7154, PH7094, PH7132) formed no pattern, but may have been screens. The S end of the central area was covered with ash and charcoal (C7141) and contained an ash-filled pit (Pit 7142), 0.35m deep, and an area of charcoal and slag (C7144). The pit may have held a quenching trough or an anvil, before serving as an ash pit. Its fill contained a brooch (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1352), a buckle pin (Metal Cat No 1353) and a key (Metal Cat No 1360).

The N area contained several floor and occupation levels of ash and organic soil (C7153, C7123, C7114, C7110, C7115, C7107, C7106). Cut into the lowest floor were six postholes (PH7153) as well as a larger one (PH7127), 0.23m deep, forming no pattern. Four other postholes on NE/SW alignment (PH7123) were cut into the occupation layer on the lowest floor. They may relate to something beyond the N limit of excavation. The N area was separated from the central area by a stone-lined drain (D7080) on E/W alignment (Illus 83). The drain was set in a trench (T7100), about 0.35m deep, that was lined for most of its length (but not at the E end) by stone slabs set on edge (C7134); on the N side some of these fallen inwards. Between some of the slabs were vertical stakes or posts. On the N side a plank set on edge was supported by three stakes. Towards the W end of the drain a board (not retained), 575mm long, 20mm thick and 150mm high, was set on edge across the drain; it was perforated by six peg holes, two at the S side, four at the N side, and was grooved along its bottom edge. At the E end of the drain were two roughly dressed round posts (PP7121), 0.44m apart, which supported but were not fixed to a plank on edge (MW7120). This plank (not retained), 740mm long, 50mm thick and 11mm high, had an oblique cut at one end and contained two peg holes at its N end and one peg hole at its S end (diameters 10mm). To the W of PP7121 was an oak sluice (MW7149) comprising a sliding perforated board held between two vertical grooved planks; the planks each had an additional groove on their E edge (Illus 84). For more information on the sluice see The wood:



Illus 83 *South Sector: Building 53 (Phase 1) with drain D7080 in foreground, looking south.*
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Wood Cat No 496. The base of the sliding board was supported by a horizontal board affixed to the uprights and perforated by six peg holes. An additional board slotted above the perforated board. As excavated, the sluice would appear to have been in a raised, ie open, position; it had been blocked by stones and wood in its latest phase. Most, if not all, of the timbers of the sluice appear to have been reused or modified. To the W of the sluice, and separated from it by a thin board set on edge, was a stake set centrally along the sluice. For most of its length the drain was capped by stone slabs, laid both lengthwise and crosswise; the easternmost capstone was apparently a reused stone roof slab, shattered and with a peg hole, diameter 20mm, at its E end. Above the capstones was a layer of ash (C7096). The E end of the drain was covered by a wooden lid

(MW7126), composed of two adjacent boards, 960mm long, 340mm and 180mm wide, fastened together by two wooden straps, each perforated by four peg holes (Illus 85). The larger board had two peg holes, the smaller board had one. (Unfortunately, the drain cover is currently in separate locations. Only one of the straps has been reported in *The wood*: Wood Cat No 494. The large board is on display in the National Museums of Scotland, and the small board is in Perth Museum and Art Gallery.) Supporting the lid was a reused horizontal plank (MW7155) laid across the drain trench. The plank was perforated by three peg holes, diameter 25mm, including one slanting hole bored through its thickness, and the remains of another peg hole, diameter 25mm, bored across its width on its upper surface. The fill of the drain was dark brown

clayey loam (C7081). The E end of the drain adjoined a N/S gully (T7152), 0.28m deep, filled with greyish-brown clayey loam (C7125, C7129).

How the drain functioned is not clear. It served the two metal workshops, although the source and destination of the water is not certain. The drain sloped slightly from Path 8.5 at the W towards the adjoining gully (T7152), which sloped gradually from S to N. Presumably the drain was fed by rainwater from the path. The deepest part of the gully was at the junction with the drain, perhaps from scouring or cleaning out of the sluice, although the drain cover (MW7126) was presumably intended to allow easy access to the sluice for raising, lowering or cleaning it. If the gully served as a water channel, it is not clear whether the drain fed the gully or the gully fed the drain. The gully may also have served as a boundary ditch between Rigs VII and VIII. Finds from the gully included two candlesticks (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1339 and 1340), a chain (Metal Cat No 1341), a brooch (Metal Cat No 1342), a knife (Metal Cat No 1348) and a socketed handle (The wood: Wood Cat No 497).

Metal finds of interest from Phase 1 of the workshops include a padlock bolt and three barrel padlocks (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1350, 1376, 1400 and 1402), a brooch (Metal Cat No 1371), a comb tooth (Metal Cat No 1372), a chain (Metal Cat No 1377), two keys (Metal Cat Nos 1383 and 1389), scissors (Metal Cat No 1394) and a lead dress ring, possibly a toy ring, (Metal Cat No 1395). A piece of silk cord (The textiles: Textile Cat No 391) and a turned gaming piece (The wood: Wood Cat No 504) were also found in the workshops. A turned wooden round box with lid, decorated with horn-like plates (Wood Cat No 502), may have been a mirror case, but, unfortunately, it did not survive conservation apart from the decorated plates.

In Rig VIII, after M8b went out of use, no developments were identified in this phase because of machine disturbance.

Phase Vbb (Illus 86)

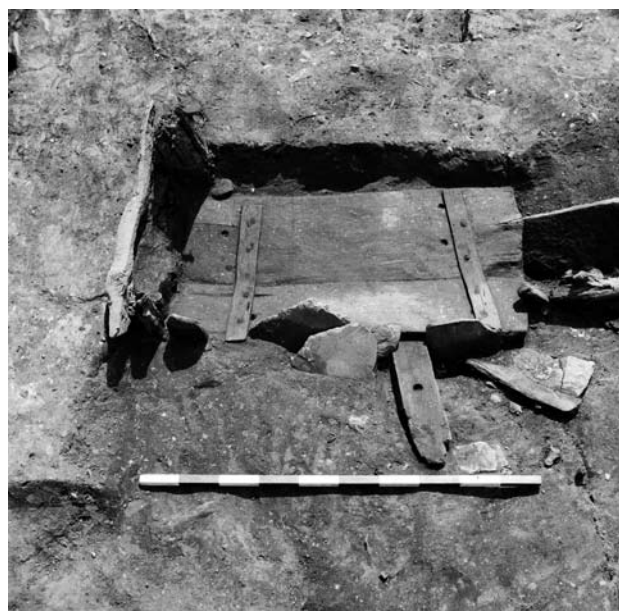
The workshops of 'Building 53' were rebuilt.

The only change evident in this phase is the reconstruction of the metal workshop in Rig VII. The two flimsy structures were demolished and replaced by a single stake and wattle fence (WW7103), which divided the area into two. The E end of the fence had fallen to the N, while the W end only survived as stakes. The fence was recorded as set in a shallow (depth 0.04m), clay-filled foundation trench (T7105), but this was probably caused by the build-up of deposits on either side of it. The fence was daubed with clay (C7047). A large post (PP7104) may have continued in use from the previous structure as a support for the fence. No side walls were evident to enclose the hearths.

In the S area a stone hearth (H7111) replaced the earlier hearth and, like its predecessor, it was



Illus 84 South Sector: sluice MW7149 in situ in Building 53 (Phase 1), looking west (scale in centimetres). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 85 South Sector: drain cover MW7126 in situ in Building 53 (Phase 1), looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

shattered by intense heat. Above it was ash and burnt clay (C7101), which spread W as far as a stone kerb (MF7074), which comprised three slabs set on edge end to end. Above the ash were two earthen surfaces (C7099 and C7071).

To the N of the fence was an earthen surface (C7093), set into which were an ash-filled gully (T7091), 0.15m deep, and a hearth (H7092) of red, orange and black clay and ash filling a depression. Above these was a levelling deposit (C7090) for a sand surface (C7089), on which was an occupation deposit (C7088) of silty loam with bracken and twigs. Further N, covering the drain, was mixed clay and ashy loam with some twigs (C7095). Above C7088 was a sequence of deposits of burnt clay (C7087), ashy loam (C7084)

and loam with wood fragments and some ash (C7083). A new floor of sand (C7077) was bounded by the fence (WW7103) to the S. On it were a shallow gully (T7076; not illustrated), 0.14m deep, and a clay-lined depression, a possible hearth (H7075). The gully was probably a worn area at an access point to 'Building 53' adjacent to P8.5. The gully and the hearth were filled by an extensive ash layer (C7034), above which was more ash (C7062). Above that was another hearth (H7069; not illustrated), comprising an oval depression, 0.05m deep, lined with yellow clay (C7068) and filled with ash (C7067). The hearth was under loam with some wood fragments and ash (C7063).

Along the E side of the N area was a gully (T70720, filled with dark brown clayey loam, possibly a replacement boundary ditch for the earlier gully (T7152). Set into it was a line of squared posts (PA7009), probably the remains of a boundary fence between Rigs VII and VIII. One of the posts was a reused timber: it had a mortise, 100mm long, 15mm deep, and a peg, diameter 10mm, near its base. These posts lay under the machine-clearance of the 1977 excavation and could belong to this phase or a later phase.

As in the previous phase, the workshop 'Building 53' produced a wide variety of interesting finds. The most important is an ampulla from the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1418). Working tools included three knives with handles (Metal Cat Nos 1415, 1430 and 1462), two awls, including one with a handle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1419 and The wood: Wood Cat No 514; Metal Cat No 1417), three comb teeth (Metal Cat Nos 1431, 1460 and 1464), three stone whorls (Stone Cat Nos A06-0021, A06-0028 and A06-0025), a bone whorl (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 56), a bone pin and a bone needle (Worked Bone Cat Nos 54 and 57) and two stone hones (Stone Cat Nos A06-0036 and A06-0037). Domestic items include four padlock keys (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1421, 1429, 1434 and 1575), a barrel padlock (Metal Cat No 1461), a hinge pivot (Metal Cat No 1452), two wooden spoons (The wood: Wood Cat Nos 516 and 536), a bucket stave (Wood Cat No 533), a probably imported mug stave (Wood Cat No 535) and two stone pot lids (Stone Cat Nos A06-0042a-b). Personal items include three brooches (The metalwork: Metal Cat Nos 1423, 1440 and 1463), a double-sided comb (The wood: Wood Cat No 541) and three bone dice (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat Nos 52, 53 and 55). A shard of glass (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 98) was from the foot of a stemmed vessel.

Phase Vc (Illus 87)

The metal workshops of 'B53' were replaced by Midden 7.

The only change evident in this phase is the replacement of the metal workshop, 'Building 53', and P8.5 by Midden 7. This comprised layers of loam and clay. Because of machine-disturbance it only survived in

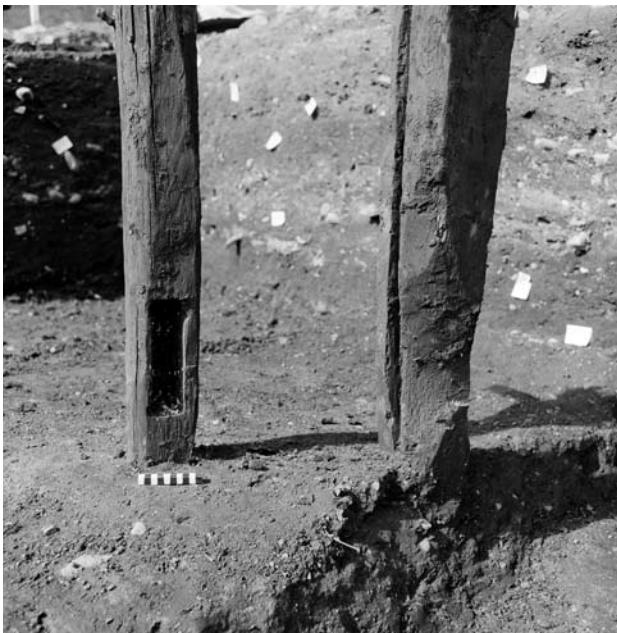
Area 7. Finds from it included a knife with handle (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1576 and The wood: Wood Cat No 561), a brooch (Metal Cat No 1578), a hinge pivot (Metal Cat No 1580), a barrel padlock (Metal Cat No 1582) and a possible burnisher (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 59).

Phase Vd (Illus 88)

Buildings 51 and 52 were erected. Paths 1 and 8.6 were laid down.

In Rig V, B24 and P9 may have continued in use. In the isolated baulks left by the post-medieval cellars new stratigraphical groups were identified in Middens 3, 4 and 5. Midden 5d comprised layers of loam, peaty loam, gravel, clay and sand. A hone (Stone Cat No A6316) was found in it. Midden 4e comprised deposits of clay, organic loam, mortar, burnt clay and sand, and silt. Finds from M4e included a rim sherd with slag attached (perhaps a crucible – The medieval pottery: A3886), a ridge tile (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat No A1346) and a bone trial piece or offcut (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 65). There was an oval pit (Pit 2721), depth 0.14m, filled with clay (not illustrated). A rectangular pit (MF2713), 0.4m deep, was lined on three sides by clay-bonded stones. The fills were dark brown silt with much wood staining under greyish-brown clayey silt with patches of mortar. The purpose of this pit is unclear and it is not clear if the wood staining was a floor for the pit or wood discarded into it. At the N end of the rig, M3c comprised a series of deposits and lenses of loam, clay, wood fragments, schist stones, dung, straw, heather and silt. A group of posts (PP2143A–G; PP2162A–C) may have been part of a boundary fence with Rig VI; most of these posts were reused, having pegs, peg holes, nails, a mortise or a groove (Illus 89). Within M3c were two articulated bones, the radius and *os magnum* from the lower right leg of a horse (C2165). Also recovered from the midden were two ridge tiles (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A1106 and A3050), two stone tiles (Stone Cat Nos A1107 and A3051), an oak porringer stave (The wood: Wood Cat No 588) and a shard of window glass from a patterned window, possibly from an ecclesiastical building (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 101).

In Rig VI, a gravel path, Path 1 extended the length of the 1976 excavation trench, but it only survived in the raised baulks left by the post-medieval cellars. It bordered the boundary between Rigs V and VI and may have been a common path between them. At the S end of the path was a group of unworked sandstone blocks forming no apparent feature (C3507; not illustrated). It is possible that gravel deposits C3500 and C3501 were a secondary resurfacing of the S end of the path rather than midden deposits of M5f, as both of the other surviving sections of the path (P1a, P1b) had been resurfaced. To the E of the path was M5e, composed of loam, clay, ash, burnt clay and straw. Post-



Illus 89 South Sector: nail (at top) and mortise in post PP2143F and groove in post PP2143D in Midden 3b, looking north-west (scale in centimetres). (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)



Illus 90 South Sector: timbers MW2160, in Path 1a with post PP2143A–G to right, looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

medieval glass (not retained) was noted in one of the deposits, indicating recent disturbance, either during construction of the cellars or during demolition and machining prior to the excavation.

In the middle surviving section, P1b was bordered on its E edge in its later phase by a rotted timber (not illustrated). The timber had a row of nails along it. On its E side was M4c, which comprised four layers of loam. The earliest of these layers (C2712) sealed the earliest gravel surface of the path and underlay the later gravel resurfacing; that it extended slightly into Rig V indicates that the two rigs could have been combined under a single owner.

At the N end of the excavation trench P1a comprised three layers of gravel/cobbles. The lowest gravel (C2169) was sealed by layers of silt (C2168) and clay (C2166) that had built up over it. Above the silt more gravel (C2167) had been laid down and at its N end, which had slumped over an underlying pit, there was a layer of heather and clayey loam (C2159), which was a bedding for a group of eight roughly dressed horizontal timbers (MW2160) laid side by side (Illus 90). The timbers varied in length from 780mm to 1002mm and in diameter from 20mm to 100mm. They probably acted as a firm foothold in a wet depression in the path. The whole path was resurfaced with another layer of gravel (C2146) and cobbles (C2135), which at its N end had spilled westwards into Rig V (C2158). Again at the N end of the path, slumping had taken place over the underlying pit. Two levelling deposits of heather (C2127) and loam (C2125) formed the basis for a stone repair (C2105) to the path. This comprised six roughly dressed large slabs laid two abreast with smaller stones to the S. The large number of finds recovered from P1a

suggests that the path and its 'occupation' levels formed part of the midden (M3) in which it lay. Finds from P1a included three ridge tile fragments (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A3205a–b and A4336), a copper hook (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1595), two keys (Metal Cat Nos 1596 and 1597), a mug stave of Scots pine (The wood: Wood Cat No 566), a spatula (Wood Cat No 567) and a die (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 62). Also found was a sheath decorated with a stamped all-over pattern of a bird (hawk?) seated on a perch enclosed within a lozenge (The leather: Leather Cat No 5395).

On the E side of P1a was midden M3b, consisting of a thick layer of loam that was excavated in 10cm spits, with deposits of heather, straw, moss, grass, wood fragments, ash and pebbles. A layer of small coal chips (C2119) may have been the dross remains of a pile of coal. There was also an alignment of stone fragments and mortar, possibly a path (not illustrated). Finds from M3b included a knife blade with wooden handle (The wood: Wood Cat No 563; The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1586); a wooden spatula (Wood Cat No 575); and two bone bobbins (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat Nos 60 and 61).

Much of Rig VII was disturbed by machining at the start of the 1977 excavation. All that survived was a small 'island' at the N end of Area 7. There the remains of two clay-bonded stone walls of Building 52 were excavated (Illus 91). The narrowness of these walls suggests that they would have supported timber sills for wooden walls. The walls bordered a clay floor. On the W side of the building was a gravel path (P8.6). A bridle bit (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1621) was recovered from the floor.

In Rig VIII, B50 may have continued in use or it may have been demolished at the end of the previous phase; it lay immediately under modern demolition. Pit 7013 seems to have cut part of the demolition of the building, although it could just as well have been part of the construction of the building, with the pit being contemporary with B50. In addition to the 11 tankard staves from the same vessel as a stave found in B50, the pit contained another tankard stave (The wood: Wood Cat No 601), a spatula fragment (Wood Cat No 610), a turned bowl of ash wood (Wood Cat No 611), a ladle (Wood Cat No 614) and a bone die (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 64).

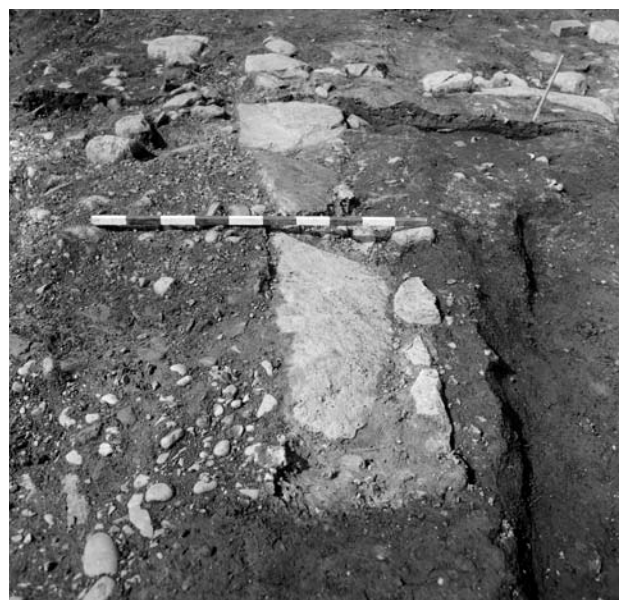
To the N of Pit 7013 lay the SW corner of B51. This consisted of two clay-bonded stone walls set in foundation trenches. The S wall had been partially robbed by a later trench (T7008; not illustrated), 0.69m deep. The W wall continued beyond a machine sondage, underneath the course of Wall 7010, the back wall of Building DII (Architecture Survey), where it appeared to have been robbed out by T7025. No occupation levels for the building survived. A knife was recovered from T7008 (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1622). As Building DII (see Architecture Survey) dated to the late 18th century, B51 must have been demolished before then. In 1675, the rig is described as an 'inner tenement of land now altogether ruinous' with a yard and in 1695, the inner tenement was still ruinous (PKCA, B59/8/25, ff288–91; B59/8/26, ff72B–73B). It is not clear whether the ruinous inner tenement was B50 or B51 or a succeeding building.

Phase Vdd (Illus 92)

Building 24 and Path 9 went out of use. Path 1 was covered by midden deposits.

In Rig V, B24 and its adjacent path went out of use and were covered by layers of loam and silt with much ash (MC173). These were probably equivalent to M4b and M4e. The only other changes evident occurred in the raised baulks between the post-medieval cellars in Rigs V and VI, where Path 1 was covered by midden deposits. These deposits had been truncated by machine and general clearance prior to the start of the excavation. At the S end of the path, it is possible that, as noted previously (see Phase Vd), M5f is actually a resurfacing of the path. Although no structures survived in these rigs, two ridge tile fragments (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A1031a–b) were found.

In Rig VI, Pit 2111, 1.94m deep, was cut down through Midden 3. As the pit lay directly underneath modern machine-clearance and was unsealed, it could be later than M3 rather than contemporary with it. Two phases of use were evident in the fills. In the earliest phase, two deposits of dark grey dung and straw (C2138, C2137) were sealed by reddish-brown dung and peat (C2136). Above them was a lining of burnt clay and wattle (C2117). Above the lining the



Illus 91 South Sector: Building 52, looking north.
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Illus 93 South Sector: the first egg found in the excavation, in Pit 2111 in Midden 3e. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

fills were completely different from the lowest fills: greenish-grey clayey loam (C2129), yellow and grey mixed clay and loam (C2116), reddish-brown peaty clay (C2115), greyish-brown clayey loam with patches of sand (C2114), reddish-brown clay (C2113) and soft greyish-brown clayey loam (C2112). The pit was clearly a cesspit in its primary phase, with the clay lining marking a change of use. The burning of the lining was presumably after its secondary use was ended, when it was infilled with various small lenses. It was from the cess fills that the first of the three eggs found during the excavation was recovered (see Environmental Report) (Illus 93). Also recovered from the

pit were a ridge tile and a tile fragment (The ceramic building material: Tile Cat Nos A1433 and A1642), two stone tiles (Stone Cat Nos A2234 and A2642), a knife (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1625), a possible club (The wood: Wood Cat No 618) and a hone (Stone Cat No A1863). The finding of 68 leather offcuts in the lowest fills of the pit suggests that leatherworking was taking place in the rig.

Most of Rig VII was disturbed by machine-clearance except in Area 8, which was not excavated after initial cleaning and recording. A hearth (H8011), consisting of reddish-brown burnt material with burnt clay under black ashy loam, was enclosed by stone walls to the W and E (Walls 8010 and 8009 respectively); both walls were set in trenches of similar width. Nearby were various burnt deposits (C8001, C8002, C8003, C8004, C8008, C8020), possibly derived from the hearth, as well as coal fragments (C8005, C8015) that may have been fuel for the hearth. These features lay under Building J (Architecture Survey) and presumably formed an industrial area. They may even have formed part of Building J, which was built between 1715 and 1725 and included a brewhouse on its ground floor. Dumps of corroded metal objects (C8015) and leather scraps (C8006, C8018) were recorded but not retained.

Period VI (Illus 94 and 95)

This period consists of the structural remains of the standing structures and other modern features.

This period was divided by Bogdan into Phases Via–Vif, but these are described here as a single period spanning the post-medieval and modern periods from the late 16th century. The features in this period are the remains belonging to the standing structures that were recorded in 1975 in the architecture survey prior to the excavation. The drawings of the survey and the drawings prepared for publication with the architectural report in Fascicule 1 as originally proposed (Table 3) now form part of the site archive in the NMRS. Only the remains of Buildings G, GI, GII and T are discussed here in detail because of their relation to the ‘Old Parliament House’ (hereafter OPH); the other structural remains are summarised at the end.

Building T

The cellar of Building T lay to the N of Building U. The walls were mortar-bonded. The E wall was jointed to the N and S walls and to the partition (Wall 2722). Another partition wall (Wall 2723) was jointed to both the S wall and Wall 2722, dividing the cellar into SW, SE and N cellars. Only a short stub survived of the W wall (Wall 2734), jointed to the N wall. The N wall was set in a foundation trench whose fill included bricks. Four shards of a late 18th- or early 19th-century wine bottle were found in the wall (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat Nos 103–6). A short area of yellow clay in the NW

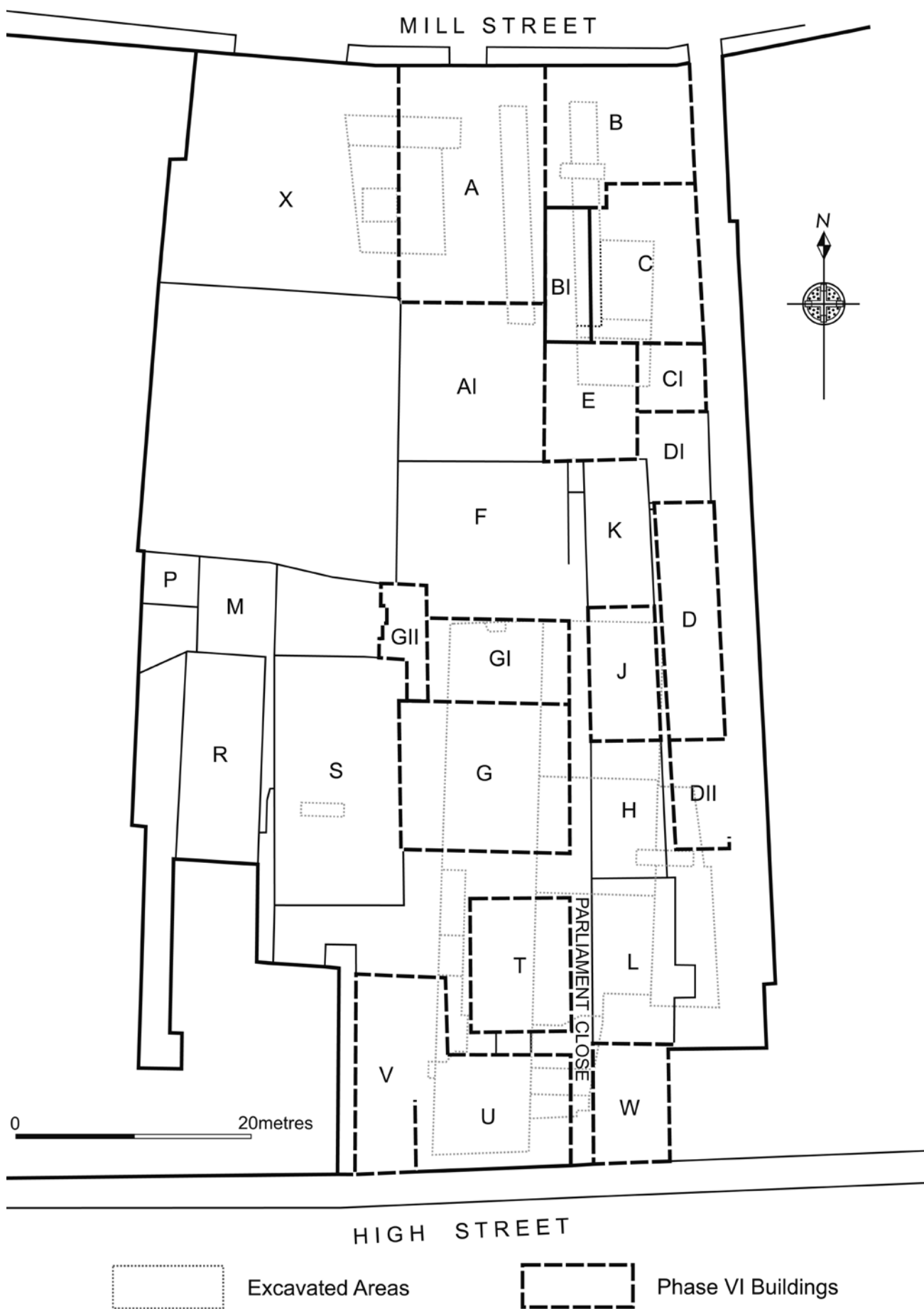
corner, bounded by the N and W walls, was either a floor or bedding for a floor. Within the SE cellar was a stone-lined well (Well 3819), which had been sealed beneath the floor at the time of the architecture survey in 1975. The well was filled with slates and bricks and contained many glass bottles (Glass Cat Nos 108–42). Also found in the well was a medieval bone whorl (The worked bone: Worked bone Cat No 67). A stone whorl was found in the trench for the well (Stone Cat No A6035). Stone stairs at the SE corner gave access to the SE cellar. No archaeological remains of stairs into the other cellars survived.

The S wall presents a problem, because it was clearly originally shorter than the N wall and had been extended at some stage by the addition of Wall 2733, which was only half the width (0.6m) of the rest of the S wall (1.2m). The 2m section at the W end of the partition (Wall 2722) was also less well constructed than the rest of the wall and may indicate a change of build during construction. There is no evidence that the building, built in 1811–12 by John Duncan, was extended during the 19th or 20th centuries. This means one of two things: either Duncan extended an existing cellar – of the S wing of the OPH/Building G – or Duncan altered his building plan during the construction of the cellar, after the construction of the S wall but before the construction of the N wall. The first theory was held by Bogdan, the latter by the present writer.

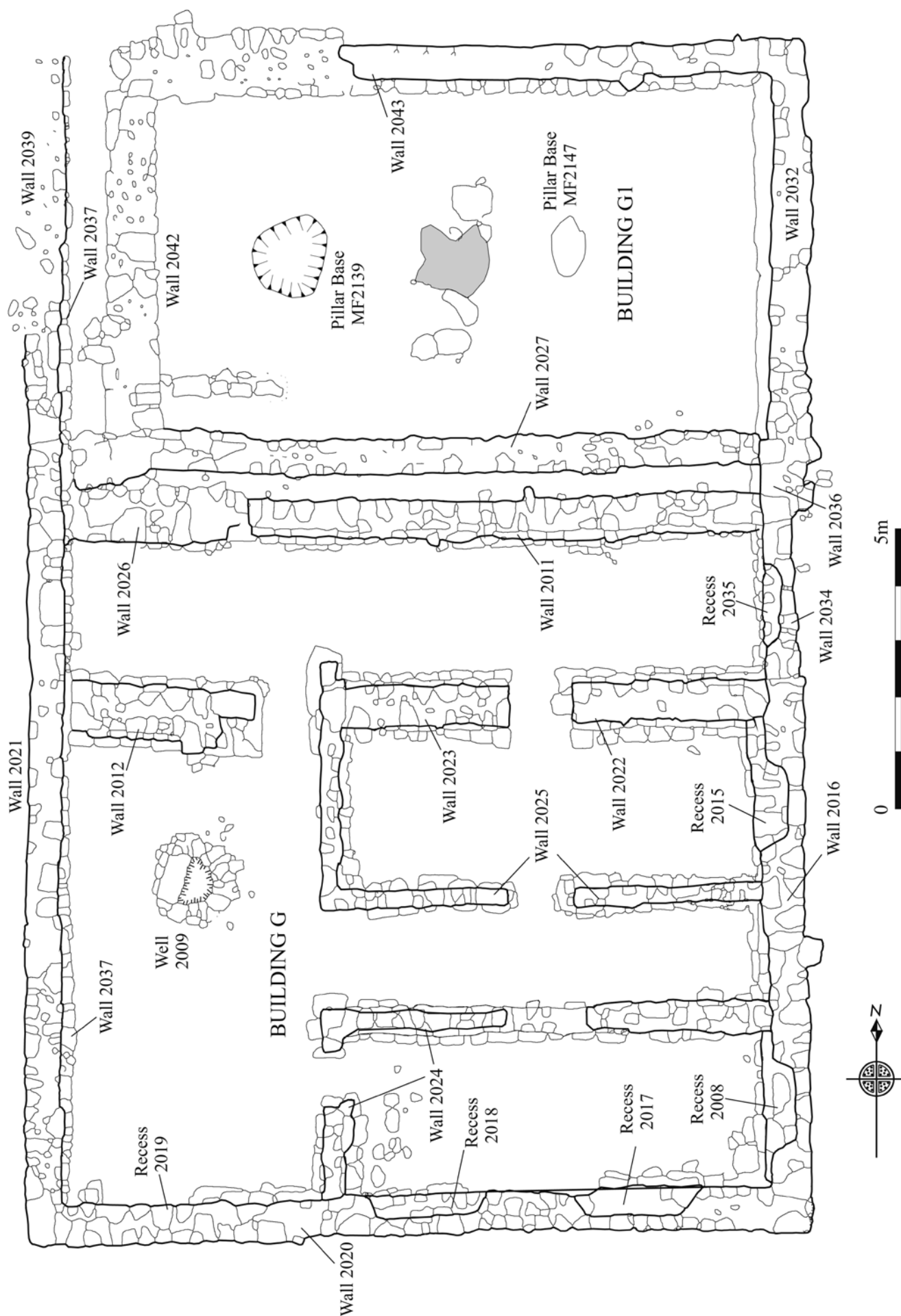
If the cellar of Building T was part of the OPH, then there is the question of how the two wings related to each other. The cellar of Building G formed a sub-basement only partially below the ground surface, while the cellar of Building T was wholly below the ground surface. Between the two cellars was a baulk of undisturbed soil (Midden 4) at ground level (Illus 19). There was no connection between the two sets of cellars at cellar or ground level; each was part of an independent building, presumably separated by a ground level passage or pend between Parliament Close to the E and a courtyard in the angle of the S and N wings. The only known link between the OPH and the S wing is a blocked doorway at first-floor level, shown in Dr Davidson’s sketch of the OPH drawn before its demolition around 1816 (Illus 10). The only description of the cellars of the S wing is in 1727 when they are described as south, middle and north cellars, clearly a different arrangement from that surviving in 1975. If the E wall of the cellar had formed part of the S wing of the OPH, then there is no evidence of scarring on it from the earlier partitions. It is more likely that Duncan built a wholly new building in 1811–12, but altered his building plan during its construction, perhaps when he surreptitiously discovered the coin hoard.

Building G

The cellars of Building G lay to the N of Building T (Illus 96). The W wall was of two phases. The earliest phase comprised a clay-bonded wall (Wall 2037) that extended both N and S beyond the end walls



Illus 94 South and North Sectors: plan of buildings described in Period VI (South Sector) and Phase 18 (North Sector).



Illus 95 South Sector: plan of cellars of 'Old Parliament House'/Masonic Hall (Buildings G and G1), Period VI.



Illus 96 *South Sector: remains of wall foundations of 'Old Parliament House'/Masonic Hall (Buildings G and GI), looking north-west. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)*

of Building G. It was a property boundary between Rigs IV and V that became incorporated into the foundations of that building. Above it was a mortar-bonded wall (Wall 2021), although there were large earth-filled gaps between the two phases of walling. At its S end, Wall 2021 was jointed to the upper part of the S wall (Wall 2020) of Building G. This S wall was also of two phases and was the only wall of Building G of which the foundations were actually excavated by hand; the others were removed by machine. The earlier phase was set in a foundation trench (T2409), c0.7m deep, that was filled with small angular stones and mortar (C2400=C2026). The wall comprised large undressed foundation stones (one brick was incorporated into them) on which were set roughly dressed slabs and stones. The lower wall may have been jointed to the earlier phase of the E wall (Wall 2016), but at its W end it stopped raggedly some 2.2m short of the W wall, the gap between them being filled with mortar and loam with pebbles and small stones (Illus 97). The later phase comprised large dressed stones and slabs bonded with mortar that were jointed to Wall 2016 to the E and Wall 2021 to the W; the later phase was simply built over the gap at the W end of the lower phase. The later phase contained two recesses (Recesses 2017, 2018), 0.55m and 0.4m deep respectively, and the possible remains of a third (Recess 2019); these recesses were the lower parts of the cellar windows

in the external elevation of the S wall of the Masonic Hall (see Architecture Survey). The E wall (Wall 2016) may also have been constructed in two phases. The lower courses consisted of large, unshaped blocks, loosely mortared, while the upper courses consisted of horizontal slabs, well faced and strongly mortared. Three bricks were recorded at the bottom of the upper courses at the S end of Recess 2015. The wall contained two recesses (Recesses 2008, 2015), 0.8m and 0.83m deep respectively, the lower parts of the cellar windows in the E elevation. Both recesses had been reconstructed by filling in the lower part of the recess with earth and small rubble over which were laid thin (30mm thick) stone slabs. The bases of the recesses were at the same depth as those in the S wall. At its N end the E wall was jointed with Wall 2022. Wall 2022 and Wall 2023, though separate segments on either side of a doorway, 1.2m wide, were of similar construction, each being built in three parts. The lowest part, up to 1.45m wide, consisted of large stone footings, above which was an upper offset of roughly dressed stones and soft mortar, up to 0.95m wide. Above that was the wall proper, of well-dressed and well-mortared stones, 0.7m wide. Both walls incorporated reused stones, including one with a metal protrusion in it. The facing stones at the sides of the doorway extended to the base of the wall. Underneath Walls 2022 and 2023 was a mortar-filled feature (MF2033), which was destroyed when the



Illus 97 South Sector: west end of south wall (Wall 2020) of 'Old Parliament House'/Masonic Hall (Building G), showing two phases of construction, looking south. (© Courtesy of RCAHMS. Licensor www.rcahms.gov.uk)

cellar walls were removed by machine; it was too wide and short to be a foundation trench for these walls. Continuing the line of Walls 2022 and 2023 was a very shallow wall (Wall 1012), which butted against Wall 2037, the earlier phase of the W wall; it may have been jointed to Wall 2021, the later phase of the W wall, but the demolition of the Masonic Hall had removed any evidence of jointing. Wall 1012 comprised large, unshaped stone blocks that were not well laid, above which rested stones of irregular size and shape, bonded with very soft mortar. One of the stones was reused, having a lead-filled hole on one face. The lower courses formed an offset, 0.2m wide, on each side.

The interior of the cellar of the Masonic Hall/ Building G was divided by partitions into four (originally five) cellars and an entrance passage. The

S cellar, on the S side of the entrance passage, was formed by an E/W wall with a N/S return (Wall 2024). The E end may have been jointed in its upper courses to Wall 1016, but the N/S return was not jointed to the surviving remains of Wall 2020. The lower offset foundation of the wall was 0.8m wide and comprised large, irregularly spaced stone footings, on which rested a roughly built and mortared upper offset foundation, 0.46m wide, above which was the faced wall, 0.31m wide, of roughly faced stones bonded with very gritty mortar. There were two doors in the wall, one in each part of the wall. The doorway in the E/W wall was 1.4m wide with the upper offset continuing underneath. The doorway in the N/S wall was 1m wide, but the offsets did not continue under the doorway; this latter doorway was not an original feature as no doorway is

shown here in the 1893 Dean of Guild plan (Illus 98). The gap in the two offsets under the doorway may have been caused by the removal of stones when the doorway was constructed, presumably in 1893, although no alterations are indicated in this location on the plans. On the N side of the passage was another cellar, the wall of which (Wall 2025) was of similar construction to Wall 2024, but slightly narrower – lower offset foundation 0.6–0.8m wide, upper offset foundation 0.39m wide, faced wall 0.3m wide. The doorway in the E/W wall was 1.2m wide, but the offsets did not continue underneath it. The upper courses of the E end of the wall may have been jointed to the upper courses of Wall 2016, but the relationship to Wall 2023 is unclear. It would appear that the N end of Wall 2025 cut across Wall 2023; the Dean of Guild plan (Illus 98) shows that it continued as far as Wall 2011, where a straight joint indicated where the two walls formerly adjoined. At the N end of Wall 2025 was a reused ashlar block, with a droved face and drafted margins, a technique that became common in the 18th century (R Fawcett pers comm) (Márkus 2008, Inventory Nos PHSE/wb-15 and wb-37).

Within the W cellar was a drystone well (Well 2009), internal diameter 0.9m, depth not recorded. The well, which was empty, was capped by two large stone blocks and was abutted by rubble deposits of stone and mortar (C2424, C2454). These may have been either compressed demolition rubble or levelling of a depression around the well or the fill of the construction trench for the well. It is not clear if the well was originally within the cellars of the OPH or if it was constructed in 1818–19. It was mentioned in the advertisement offering the cellars for lease in 1819 (*Perth Courier*, 25 March 1819, p1, col 4). As a ‘relatively modern’ bottle shard (The miscellaneous finds: Glass Cat No 102) was found in the rubble around the well, the well may have been constructed as part of the Masonic Hall.

Abutting the corner of Walls 2022 and 2016 was Wall 2034. The lower courses were offset and loosely mortared and contained one orange-brown brick (not modern); the upper courses were well dressed and consisted of flat slabs with some large blocks bonded with very gritty mortar. Within the wall was a recess (Recess 2035), up to 0.4m deep, the base of a window in the E elevation of Building G. The base of the recess was at the same height as the raised bases of the recesses in Wall 2016 (see above). At its N end Wall 2034 was jointed to Wall 2011.

The lower part of Wall 2011 comprised offset unmortared, irregularly shaped stones, above which was an upper offset of large, roughly dressed, but not faced mortared stones, above which were flat, smallish slabs with some large stones, well-mortared and well-dressed. Some stones in the wall were reused. Within the wall was the straight joint, opposite the N end of Wall 2025. The W end of Wall 2011 terminated in a pair of faced stones, the lower of which was reused, forming one side of a probable doorway; the lower

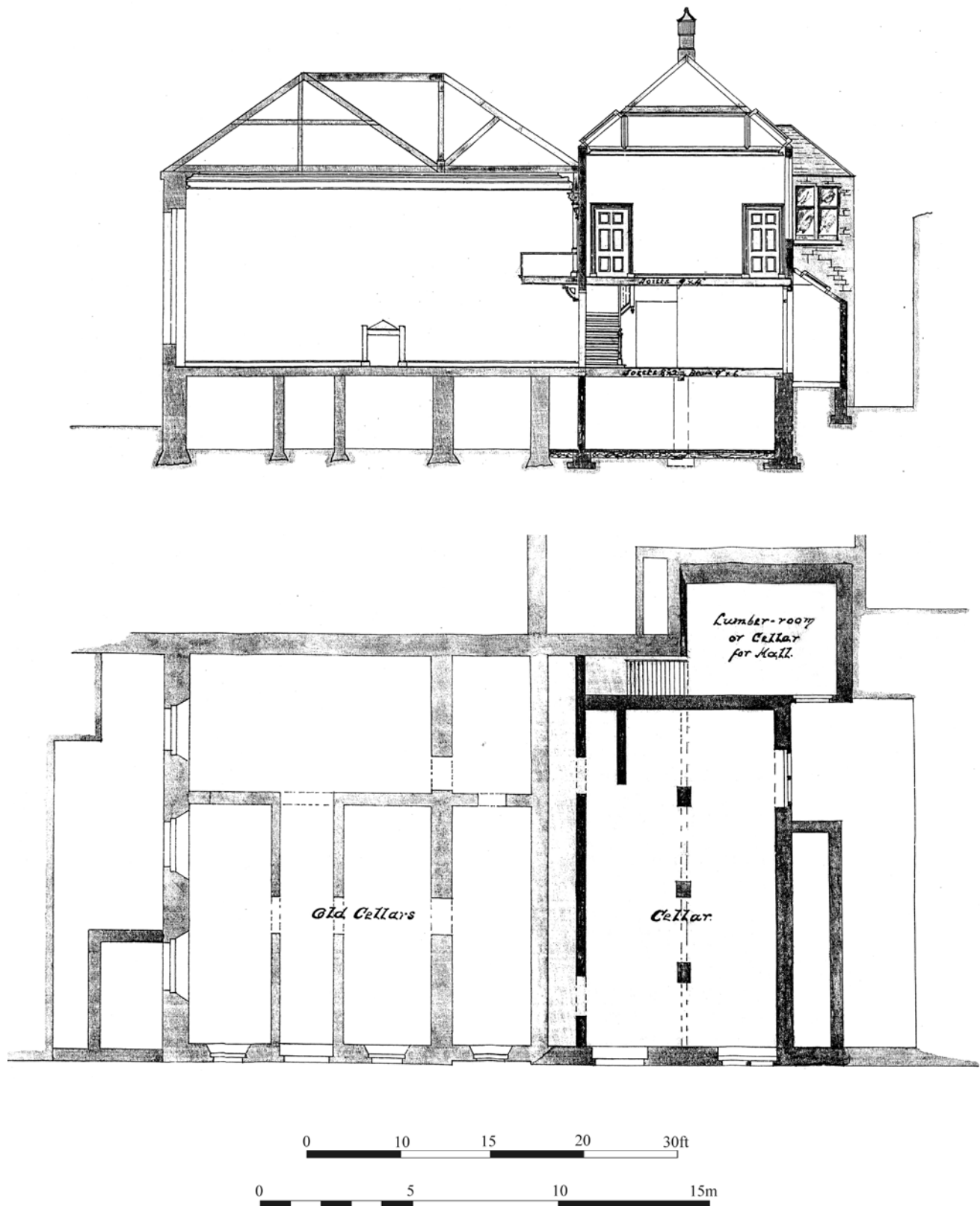
offset continued as a threshold for the doorway. The doorway was blocked with roughly built rubble (Wall 2026) consisting of large unshaped blocks bonded with gritty mortar; the rubble did not extend as far as the W wall (Wall 2037), a gap, 0.1m wide, between them being filled with earth.

Buildings GI and GII

The wall remains of Buildings GI and GII were not recorded in as great detail as the cellar walls of Building G since little more than their top surfaces were visible. Abutting the corner of Walls 2034 and 2011 to the S and Walls 2027 and 2032 to the N was a short section of stone wall (Wall 2036) built on concrete foundations. Wall 2032 was also laid on concrete foundations and comprised well-dressed stone blocks with some bricks bonded with mortar. Wall 2027, which was abutted by Walls 2032 and 2036 at its E end and by Wall 2042 at its W end, comprised large stone blocks, not well-faced, bonded with yellow mortar. Wall 2042 incorporated a reused stone. Wall 2043 had stone footings. Wall 2039 was a roughly built wall of bricks and stones constructed over the earlier boundary, Wall 2037. Two areas of brown clay (MF2147) and yellow and green clay with stones (MF2139) were the foundations of pillar bases in the basement of Building GI. Parallel to the S wall of Building GI was a drainpipe trench (T2118; not illustrated). It would appear from a section drawing of the Masonic Hall among the Dean of Guild plans (Illus 98) that the original intention was that the cellar of Building GI would be at the same depth as the cellar of Building G, ie partially below ground level; this, however, was not carried out and the cellar of the extension was at ground level (Illus 19). If the intended lowering of the cellar floor had taken place, then the archaeological deposits that formed Midden 5 would have been removed.

Discussion of ‘Old Parliament House’/Masonic Hall

The cellar walls of Building G present an even greater problem than those of Building T because there is clearly evidence of the remains of a building predating the construction of the Masonic Hall in 1818–19. The upper parts of the W (Wall 2021), S (Wall 2020) and E (Wall 2016) walls clearly belong to the Masonic Hall. The lower parts of these walls must therefore belong to the earlier building, the OPH. The shallow wall (Wall 2012) also belongs to the Masonic Hall, as presumably do the cellar partitions, Walls 2024 and 2025. Walls 2022, 2023 and 2011 are much deeper than Wall 2012. As the base of the doorway between Walls 2022 and 2023 is at the same level as the blocked doorway at the W end of Wall 2011, these doorways must have been in contemporary use in a building before the construction of the Masonic Hall. These three walls must also therefore belong to the OPH, with the blocking (Wall 2026) at the W end of Wall 2011 being part of the Masonic Hall. Relating the surviving foundations



Illus 98 South Sector: section through Masonic Hall and plan of basement (Building G) from Dean of Guild plans, 1893 (DGP/1893/6c and 6e). (Reproduced by permission of Perth and Kinross Council Archive, A K Bell Library)

to Dr Davidson's drawing of the OPH (Illus 10) also presents problems. The arrangement of the cellars in the Masonic Hall bears little resemblance to the ground floor/sub-basement as depicted by Davidson: a pend (4), a modern bakehouse (5), a cellar (6). It cannot even be said with certainty that the OPH had a below-ground cellar. Both the bakehouse and cellar could have been at ground level, although the doorways into both are shown as lower than the entrance to the pend, which could imply they were leading down into a below-ground interior. However, the two windows on either side of the bakehouse would suggest a ground-level interior. Nor is it clear how the window below the chimney vent related to the demolished S wing, unless it opened on to the presumed pend between the N and S wings. Moreover, from the way that the chimney vent (8) in the drawing partially obscures the window (1) and possibly the doorway to the modern bakehouse (5), it appears that not all of the S wing of the OPH was demolished, there still being a projection from the N wing. No archaeological evidence for such a projection was found, Wall 2020 being a straight line.

The reconstructed plan of the OPH (Illus 99) is an attempt to reconcile Davidson's drawing with the archaeological evidence. The W side of the pend, '4 An entry through the house to a back court', was presumably founded on the earlier boundary, Wall 2037. The E side of the pend must have been formed by a wall from near the W end of the earlier phase of Wall 2020 to a presumed continuation of the line of Walls 2022 and 2023. Such a wall would have left the well, if it predates the Masonic Hall, inside the cellar of the building rather than obstructing the pend. These presumed walls would have been removed when the Masonic Hall was constructed in 1818–19 and the area of the former pend was included within the cellars of the new building. Attached to the N wall of the OPH in Davidson's drawing is a low block containing '10 Another Cellar' and '7 The entry up a broad stair'. The latter was presumably the main entrance into the main hall, which was at first-floor level, although why it should be at the back of the building rather than in the angle of the north and S wings is not clear. Perhaps the back entry was a later modification in the 18th century. This is suggested by the cartographic evidence: Rutherford (1774) shows only a narrow extension attached to the centre of the N wall of the building, while Reid (1808) shows a much larger extension reaching as far as Parliament Close itself (see *Architecture Survey*, Figs 4 and 5). Walls 2034 and 2011 formed the E and N walls of '10 Another Cellar', presumably constructed in the late 18th century. The blocked doorway (Wall 2026) at the W end of Wall 2011 presumably was an entrance down steps into the cellar from the back court. Presumably the doorway between Walls 2022 and 2023 was inserted when '10 Another Cellar' was built.

The walls of Buildings GI and GII can be summarised. Wall 2027 is the foundations for the new gable wall of the Phase 2 Masonic Hall as built in 1893; it

may have been built on the foundations of the back wall of the external stair of the Phase 1 Masonic Hall. Wall 2036 blocked the former entry to this stair from Parliament Close. In the reconstruction of the Masonic Hall in 1893, the previous gable (Wall 2011/2026) was concealed beneath the floor of the cellar of Building G, while Walls 2012, 2022 and 2023 were lowered to the cellar. The new gable (Wall 2027) meant that the first-floor hall of the Masonic Hall could be enlarged to become a square. Walls 2032, 2043 and 2042 were the foundations of the 'School/Old Scotch Independent Meeting House', dating from the mid-19th century and shown on the OS First Edition in 1863 (see *Architecture Survey*, fig 6); they were reused as the foundations for the extension to the Masonic Hall in 1893. Wall 2039 was the foundation of the wall of a building to the W, incorporated in 1893 into Building GII, which enclosed the irregularly shaped open area between adjacent buildings; it was built over the earlier boundary (Wall 2037).

Building V

In Rig V, part of the N wall of the cellar of Building V was recorded (Wall 3010). Attached to its N side was Wall 2738, the E wall of the stairwell of that building. (Although Building V lay in Rig IV, its stairwell lay in Rig V butting against the W cellar of Building U.) The wall was set in a foundation trench (T2738). Pit 2743, 1.43m deep, was filled with bricks, stones and mortar. Its fill contained a buckle pin (The metalwork: Metal Cat No 1652) and a bridle bit (Metal Cat No 1653). Near-by were a possible hearth (H2740), an area of burnt clay and charcoal, and a drainpipe trench (T2754).

Building U

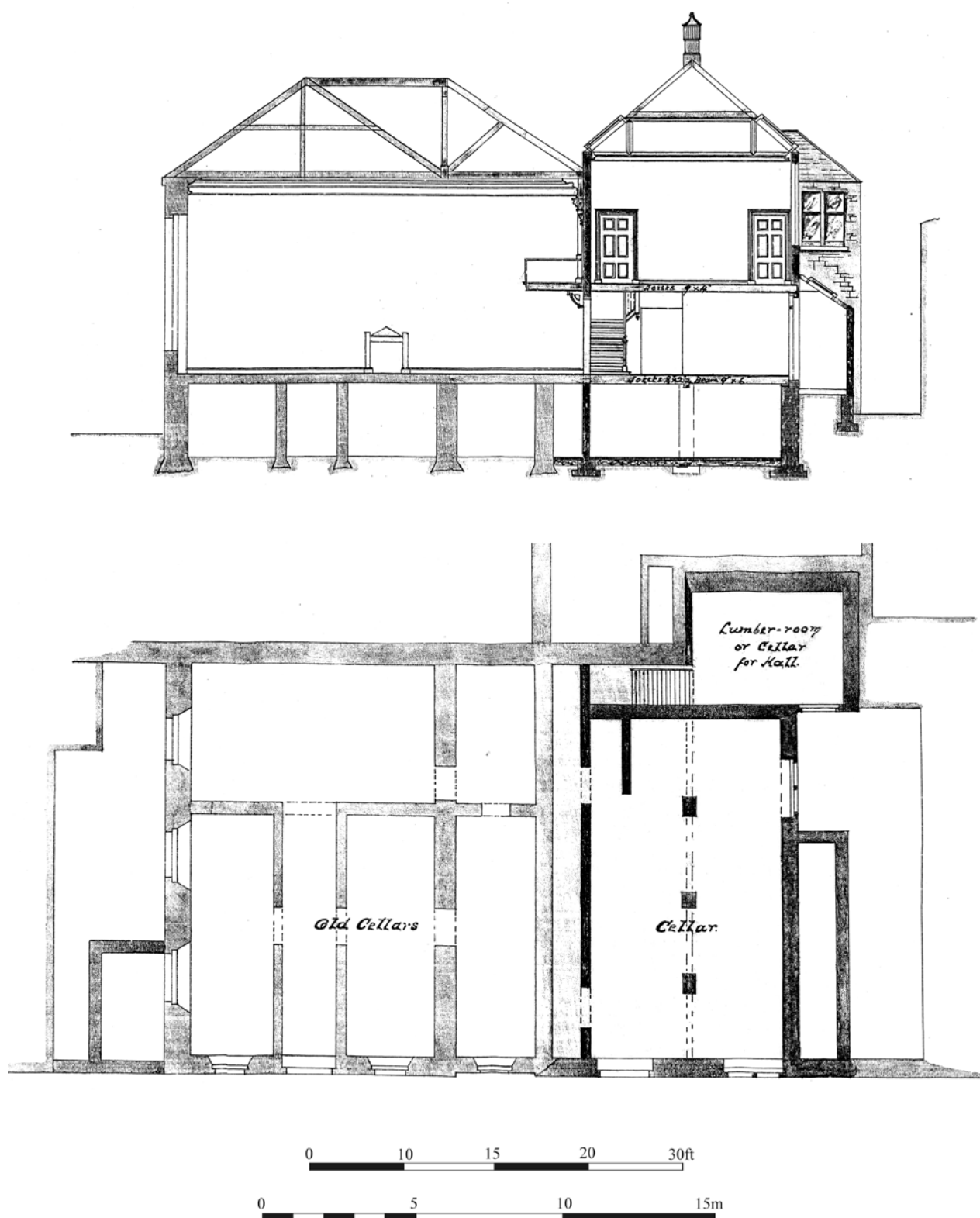
Two cellar walls of Building U were recorded: the N wall (Wall 3010) and a partition wall (Wall 3009). At the base of the cellar was a square stone-lined sump (D3008), 1.45m deep; some bricks were incorporated into it. The upper courses were mortared, but not the lower ones. The sump was fed by two stone drains that entered at the SW and SE corners. The sump lay directly underneath the slab floor of the cellar and had been backfilled with a dump of glass bottles (not retained).

Building W

In Rig VII a trench on N/S alignment (T3923) may have been the foundation trench or a modern robbing trench for the NW wall of the cellar of Building W. It was filled with loose stones and boulders.

Building J

In Rig VII on the E side of Parliament Close were the remains of the W wall (Wall 8007) of Building J, an early 18th-century structure with a ground-floor brewhouse and living accommodation above. The wall,



Illus 99 South Sector: reconstruction of Old Parliament House foundations (Buildings G and T).

which was set in a trench (T8021) of similar width, was not excavated. The hearth (H8011) flanked by Walls 8010 and 8009 could have been part of the brewhouse.

Extending along Parliament Close was a drainpipe trench (T7014).

Buildings D and DII

In Rig VIII the W wall (Wall 7010) of Buildings D and DII was recorded but not excavated.