



St Michael's Mount,
Stewards House Floors,
Cornwall
Archaeological recording



St Michael's Mount, Stewards House Floors, 2019R071

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A rapid visit was made by Jo Sturgess (CAU buildings specialist) during the works. Her comments have been incorporated within this report regarding the standing fabric of the building.

CAU archaeologists Carolyn Royall and Anthony Angove assisted with some of the excavation and recording and Carl Thorpe dated the finds. The author is very grateful to Steve Hebdidge who washed and catalogued the finds. Darren (one of the Mount's gardeners and an avid metal detectorist kindly scanned the rooms), and Ian Henn of Mainmast Conservation confirmed and commented on the gunpowder, cannon, musket and pistol balls.

The Project Manager and lead archaeologist was Anna Lawson-Jones. James Parry (NT) made site visits while the work was in progress and provided backing and initial records associated with the previous years' work in Room 7.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Cornwall Archaeological Unit and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

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1 Summary

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) undertook a programme of archaeological excavation and recording beneath Stewards House, which is a Grade II Listed Building in St Michael's Mount village, close to the head of the causeway. The project took place during the summer of 2019 and formed part of an extensive programme of floor removal, replacement and restoration work (PA17/01686).

Significant features identified include cobbled floors (recorded across the ground floor plan of Stewards House – Rooms 3, 4, 6 and 7), associated with external yard and internal/open fronted structure flooring, plus stone post-pads, posthole settings and surface drains. In addition, a large unusually well-preserved internal earth and lime floor (found beneath northern rooms 3 and 4) was uncovered, flanked to the east and west by early cobbling which included features associated with probable Civil War/17th century material.

In Room 4 the remains of a sunken wooden barrel were found, which had originally been used for fish storage/small-scale fish processing (with preserved bones and scales at its base). This had then been backfilled with a broken pantile deposit before having a likely pouch or bag of pistol and musket balls placed on top beneath a wooden barrel lid (the rim of which survived as a clear impression. Most surprising was the discovery of a rectangular cut, still partially lined with wood, containing a dense undisturbed store of gunpowder with two pistol balls placed on its top. This has been interpreted as a magazine box. Two unstratified, differently sized cannon balls were found in the overlying deposits.

The magazine box, stash of gunpowder, pouch of ammunition, plus the other musket, pistol and cannon balls are all considered likely to be of mid-17th century Civil War, or soon after, date. Both the barrel and the box had been sunk through pre-existent cobbled flooring, suggesting that at least some of the floors predate, perhaps significantly, the 17th to 18th centuries.

In addition, earlier features and deposits were suspected and/or recorded beneath the cobbled (and earthen) floors. These largely remain unexcavated, with the exception of those seen in two test pits dug in to the floor of Room 4 and 6. On the basis of a recently excavated medieval skeleton found beneath the adjacent Shop at a very similar level, some of these earlier features possibly to date to the 13th century or earlier, including a small surviving area of low-lying cobbling in the eastern side of Room 6.

The largely intact floors, associated features and likely Civil War finds, and deposits are considered to be significant, particularly given their discovery beneath a Grade II Listed Building and proximity to a recently excavated medieval skeleton found beneath the Island Shop on St Michael's Mount, Cornwall's most iconic, most frequently visited site.

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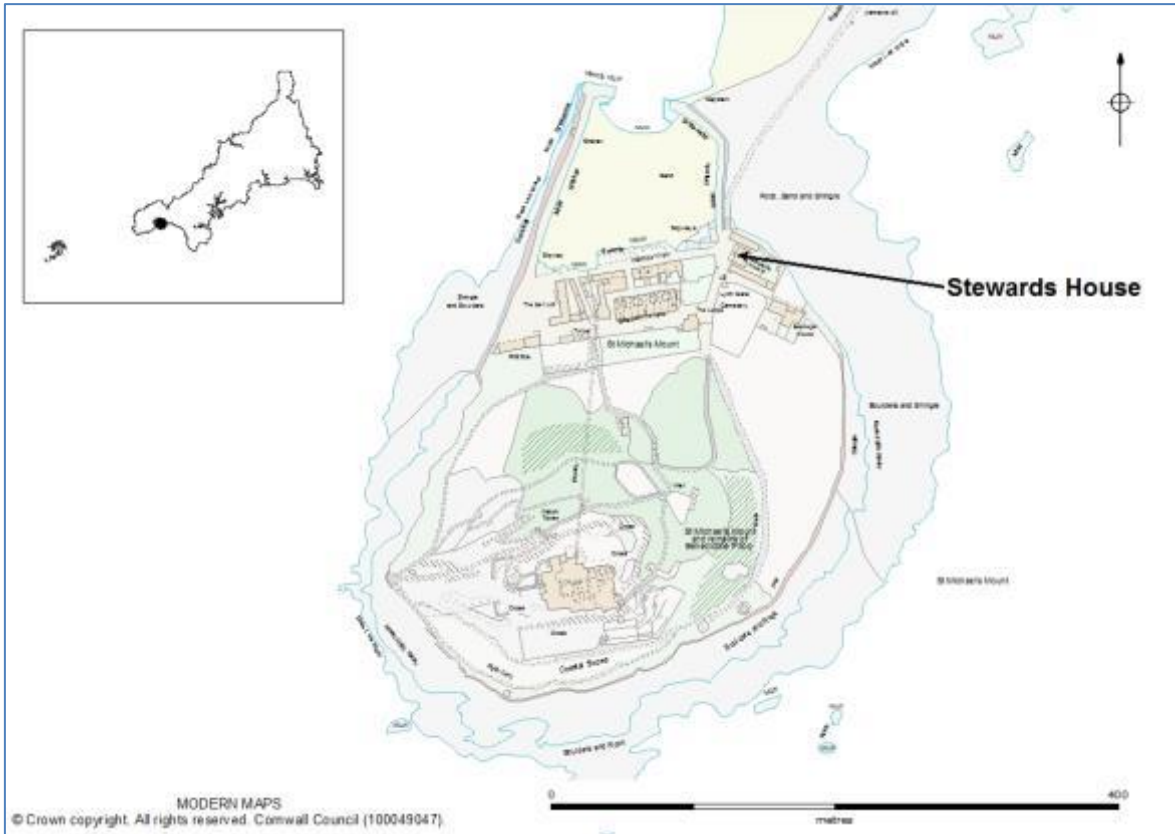


Fig 1 Location map showing St Michael's Mount and Stewards House.

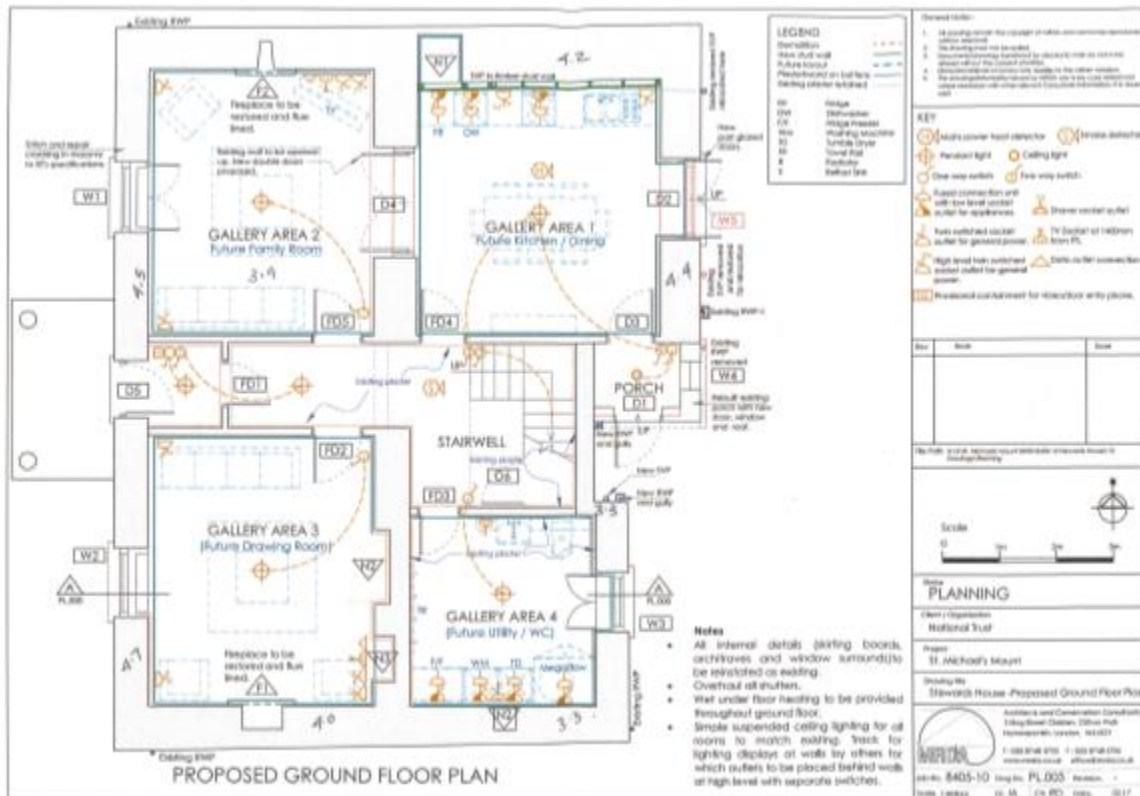


Fig 2 Architect plan showing the ground floor rooms of Stewards House, as supplied by the client. The room numbers were subsequently altered.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) was commissioned by Mr Garry Earley of Cornish Heritage Builders to undertake a programme of archaeological excavation and recording, both during and after significant floor level reduction works within Stewards House, a Grade II Listed Building (Fig 1).

A cobbled floor was already known to exist beneath the southern front room (Room 7, Fig 4); the adjacent Shop had recently been found to overlie a medieval skeleton; and recent trenching works to the west and south of both buildings had already revealed a range of overlying deposits and features of all dates (Lawson-Jones 2017; 2018; 2019). This work was preceded by earlier archaeological work (Herring 1993;2000) which shows a similar density of archaeological and documented remains across many parts of the island.

2.2 Location and setting

Project fieldwork was entirely confined to the four internal ground floor rooms of Stewards House, located within the eastern side of St Michael's Mount village at SW51567 30074 (Figs 1 and 2). The area is low-lying and prone to storm surge inundation.

Stewards House lies on the eastern side of the harbour and overlooks the head of the causeway linking the island to Marazion and the mainland. It is surrounded by other Listed Buildings, including the Change House, adjacent Shop, harbour, sea walls, and the 19th century graveyard and associated monuments.

Stewards House was formerly occupied by the Steward of the Mount. It is a distinctive, large, late 18th/early 19th century, white painted building with probable 20th century Doric-style columned porch. It has a small Listed, grassed, wall-enclosed front garden. The windows have all been replaced as has the slate roof, although both chimneys appear original (Jo Sturgess, pers comm).

The back garden has now fallen in to disarray following the removal of paving and a former greenhouse, which ran along the inner edge of the sea wall. The sea wall at this point retains the blocked remains of former windows, which extend east from the Change House (at the head of the causeway). It is now known, on the basis of excavation work associated with this project, that there is the potential for a considerable amount of well-preserved archaeology to extend in to the garden area.

Inside, the building retains many late 18th and early 19th century elements including: original doors, a fine original late 18th century staircase, remnant horsehair plaster, beams and other woodwork – some with later graffiti; an original brick arched and granite quoined open kitchen fireplace with repeated subsequent infilling and reuse (in Room 4); a previously unknown early Victorian fireplace (in Room 6); and a variety of differently dated stone, red brick and timber walls and foundations were also seen. The wall foundations cut through all underlying earlier floors and features. Given the relative size and grandeur of Stewards House, its low-lying setting, storm susceptible location and the variability of underlying deposits, these foundations have survived remarkably well despite their shallow depth.

Archaeological excavation and recording work focussed on features revealed following the removal of 20th century concrete floors and earlier backfill. The features included a fine series of well-preserved floors (cobbled and earthen). These represent an 18th century and earlier landscape of internal and external floors and open fronted buildings. The character and original appearance of any associated superstructure is uncertain, but excavation has shown: a post-supported open-fronted building which looked east (in Rooms 6 and 7 see Fig 4); plus, internal multi-phased floors consisting of a series of cobbled floors and a large internal repeatedly repaired earth and lime floor (recorded in Rooms 3 and 4, see Fig 6).

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The floors, cut features, fills and underlying contexts suggest a changing range of activities on the site, which included fish storage and processing, Civil War activity and the stowing of weaponry; small-scale smithing (given the metallic splashes on cobbled flooring), and probable market activity associated with the sites adjacent harbour-side and causeway location. It seems likely that the immediate area supported a combination of modest commercial (perhaps covered/open fronted stalls, etc.) and domestic activity.

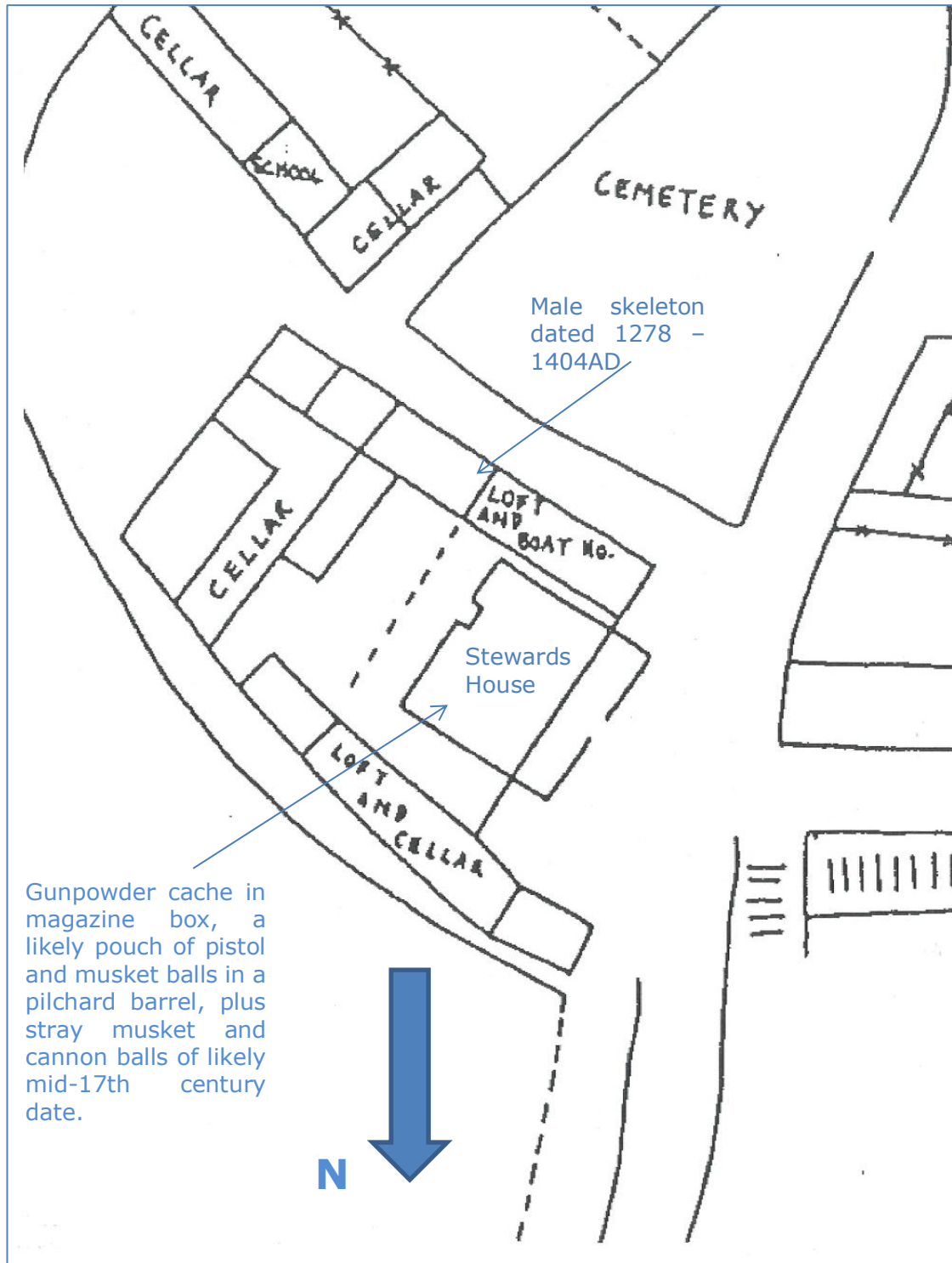


Fig 3 Village map dated to 1834 showing the positioning of Stewards House with contemporary uses of adjacent plots and buildings marked. Reference has been made to pre-Stewards House remains including a nearby medieval skeleton and Civil War associated artefacts beneath the house. Approximate north shown.

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Before 1834 (see Fig 3), Stewards House had been built and the surrounding area supported cellars and lofts associated with fishing, net and boat repairs, probable storage and domestic accommodation. In the past, as now, this part of the island would have seen a near continuous through-flow of people, ranging over the years from medieval pilgrims to traders, fishermen to gentry, locals to tourists.

During excavation work a moderate number of finds were found including occasional rusted ironwork (including nails and a huge decayed door lock or padlock); organic material in the form of wood, bones, shells and fish scales; 17th and 18th century ammunition including scrap lead which had been hoarded with the pistol and musket balls ready for reuse; as well as construction and domestic related tiles, bricks, glass and pottery.

The recorded floors themselves appear to have been maintained and kept largely clear of debris build-up and stray finds such as coins, suggesting both frugality and constant use. The site was then overlain by compacted sandy soils and rubble which were largely devoid of finds and appeared to have been laid down in quick succession. The impression is of localised clearance and possible landscaping.

3 Archaeological results

The results from the excavation and recording are presented here by the ground floor room numbers 3, 4, 6 and 7 (as allocated by the developer).

A total of 71 contexts were recorded; Room 3 contained 9 contexts, Room 4 contained 23, Room 6 contained 27 and Room 7 contained 12. Of these there were 21 cuts, plus 9 cobbled floor contexts (representing at least four phases), and 2 earth and lime floors representing a single floor spanning Rooms 3 and 4. Other contexts describe fill and layer deposits, including contexts found beneath, within and above the recorded cobbled and earthen historic floor levels.

Contexts are listed numerically and described in Appendix 1. They were issued from a continuous sequence of 1 to 71. Cuts are given in square brackets, for instance [1], deposits in round brackets, (2), and structures without brackets, 3. Cuts are additionally shown in bold in Appendix 1. Finds are listed by room and described in Appendix 2.

Further artefactual and context details can be found in the paper archive which includes a site notebook, context sheets and field drawings. Finds are currently stored in 3 finds archive boxes, and photographs have been stored electronically (paper copies have been included with the paper archive).

In the following text, contexts for each room are briefly discussed and described in approximate chronological order, from earliest to latest. Contexts discussed are shown on individual room plans along with selected photographs. Where contexts obviously extend below or beyond the rooms, or where cuts cut through other contexts, this is stated. Figure 4 shows the footprint of Stewards House with the archaeological room plans inserted in their correct positions. This clearly demonstrates that the underlying cobbled surfaces and earth and lime flooring have been cut across by the later house's wall foundation trenches.

It is possible to visually follow alignments between the rooms, for example the earthen floor spans Rooms 3 and 4 with early cobbling to its east and west, and later cobbling running along its southern edge. This is overlain by the hallway which lies to the immediate south. Running along the western side of Room 3 and 7 was a shallow sloping surface drain defined on its eastern side by slightly larger aligned cobbles. To the south of the hallway in Room 7 was a line of dense clay with timber beam slots which extends east beneath the hall and stairwell and west beyond the front of Stewards House. To the south of this was cobbling associated with a covered, open fronted structure extending between Rooms 6 and 7, and to the south again, external yard cobbling ran across the southern half of Rooms 6 and 7.

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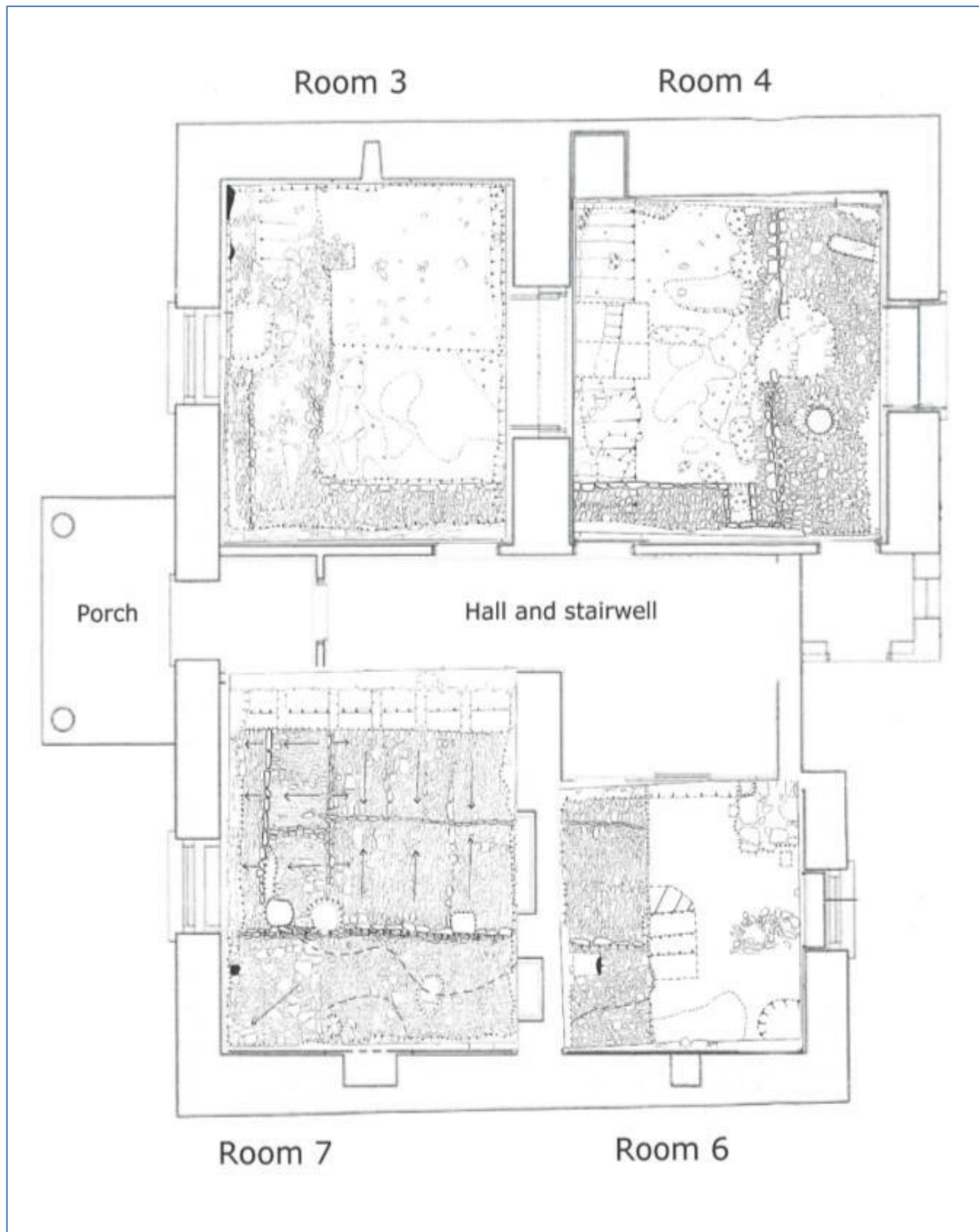


Fig 4 Plan showing the architect's ground floor plan of Stewards House with the recorded plans of the cobbled floors, earth and mortar floors, Civil War and later features inserted in to the current, overlying buildings' footprint.

3.1 Room 3 – northwest ground floor room

Room 3 measured 4.65m (north to south) by 4m. It had a window, a door, a fireplace in the northern wall and had had its eastern wall removed to allow full access to adjacent Room 4. Other blocked alterations were seen in some of the room's walls (Fig 5).

This rectangular front room produced evidence for two phases of cobbling, one of which includes several different phases including a drain, underlying cobbles and an entrance way. A distinct and surprisingly well-preserved, compacted earth and lime floor covered a significant amount of the interior, extending north and east of the room walls.

The earthen floor was sealed by an overlying layer of temporary informal surfaces. These and the underlying cobbled and earthen floors were cut by Stewards House wall foundation trenches. Subsequent rubble and concrete infilling then occurred, which raised the internal Room 3 floor level, but also preserved the peripheral shelf which had supported the original plank flooring.

Early western cobbling (51) and probable entrance way

The western multi-phased swathe of cobbling was less well-preserved than the southern cobbles and patchier, with apparent changes, repairs and up-keep related alterations which in its final phase incorporated both the overlying earth and lime floor and the later southern cobbling (Fig 6 and 7). In its southern half the western side of this cobbling ran parallel with the front wall of Stewards House, sloping down towards the wall's foundation cut.

This slope, with its slightly raised eastern edge probably represents an insertion or amendment to cobbling (51). It acted as a drainage channel – probably for the floor to its immediate east. Interestingly, its alignment appears to continue south in to Room 7 – beyond the intervening hall and pre-Stewards House internal wall foundations (shown running along the northern edge of Room 7 in Fig 4). Located centrally within the western side of Room 3 and marking the northern terminal of the most obvious part of the drainage channel was a probable entrance way. North of this the eastern edge of the drain channel alignment appeared to continue, although its slope/function had ceased, and the eastern edge was less sharply defined, and was probably earlier.

The worn entrance way with compacted ground, smoothed, scuffed and missing cobbles and a concave profile was noted at the junction between these two different drain alignment halves. It projected from beneath the front window for this room of Stewards House, (but was not centrally positioned to it). No evidence was seen for the door setting itself. A similar feature was noted due east in Room 4, suggesting opposing entrances in to an approximate 9m wide contemporary, internal floor space.

East of the drain channel, cobbling (51) was in a clearly worn state with gaps in the cobbling and remnant pockets of compacted silty clay, earth and occasional lime and charcoal flecks. This implied that earth and lime floor (49) may have continued up to the drain, overlying cobbles (51) originally, but that later use of the area – resulting in the formation of (48) being disturbed or worn away, leaving patchy underlying cobbling.

In the north-eastern corner of this room, against and beneath the western front wall of Stewards House was a series of animal burrowed voids, which extended up through layer (48). This marked long abandoned, post-cobble floor disturbance, which probably took place after the construction of Stewards House, within the dry, safe, warm space that would have existed beneath the house's original timber floors. The level of this original timber flooring was still partially visible as a piecemeal, crumbling horizontal shelf running around the periphery of the room's wall foundations. It was approximately 0.2m lower than the latest timber flooring (removed to enable these works).

Earth and lime floor (49)

The southern half of earth and lime floor (49) was revealed beneath layer (48). It was hard, largely flat and consisted of frequent patches and repairs. It typifies an internal, working class, probable domestic floor of the later medieval and early post-medieval period. The patches are shown as a series of amorphous spreads, consisting of reddish,

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greyish, cream, brown and near black patches reflecting the constituents of the floors make-up (including clays, loams, lime and charcoal patches, see Fig 5).

This floor shows a clearly defined southern edge, marked by the neat cobbled edge of (50). The western edge merges with and occasionally overlies earlier, quite patchy western cobbling (51), which at its northern end appears to edge the earthen floor. The eastern edge of (49) has been cut through (or possibly fractured away by the weight of later, thick Room 3 and 4 dividing walling).

The northern part of the earth and lime floor was not fully revealed, although a small sondage was excavated which revealed that earlier, patchy cobbling did indeed extend beneath the earthen floor.

Clearly this area was overlain by a whole series of different floors, with different phases of repair, probable changes in function, and likely amendments to associated /contemporary structures and alignments.

Later southern cobbling (50)

The southern cobbles, overlain by layer (48), were neat and undamaged (Fig 7). They represent the latest of the cobbled surfaces recorded in this room, with their western end merging in to multi-phased swathe of cobbles (51). The northern edge was marked by a neat linear, end-on arrangement of uniformly sized and shaped edging cobbles, which marked the junction with earthen floor (49).

The southern side of the cobbles disappeared beneath the stone foundations of the internal (partially repaired) stud wall dividing Room 3 from the (unexcavated) hallway. A thin, up to 1cm thick very dark silty, slightly sandy compact layer was recorded between the cobbles and the overlying foundations. Originally this dark greasiness continued across the cobbles, almost certainly reflecting former fish processing residue. However, this may have been relatively short-lived, or actively cleared since thicker dark greasy deposits were recorded during trenching works along the village streets (Lawson-Jones 2017; 2018).

Overlying layer (48)

Overlying both stretches of cobbling (50) and (51), and earth and lime floor (49) was layer (48). This consisted of a 0.1-0.15m thick, mixed and compacted series of silty earth, small clay pockets and thin sandy layers. Fragments of clay, charcoal, lime plaster, and occasional small cobbles, broken slate, and small waste iron pieces represent continuing use of the immediate area following the cessation of floor maintenance. Layer (48) represents an informally built-up floor surface, possibly following abandonment of the earlier structure or its ongoing use as an external area or open sided building. The thin layers of sand may well reflect storm surges, or episodes of sand blow. Very occasional squashed bone and smashed shells suggest proximity to domestic or possibly harbour-side market or spread midden waste. This deposit was recorded across all the historic floors in Room 3.

Stewards House foundation trenches [56]

Layer (48) was cut through by foundation trench [56]. It consisted of (45), which was a loose, generally silty, sandy loam with occasional slate and redbrick. It was very clear, contrasting with the compacted flat layer (48) and cutting through underlying earth and lime floor (49) and cobbling (51). The trench was most obvious on the eastern and northern sides of Room 3. On the western and southern sides, the current Stewards House walls were set upon slightly wider stone foundations, which in turn appeared almost directly overlie cobbling (50). The lack of cobbles in the south-western corner of the room suggests that trench [56] removed the cobbles here but did not extend lower.

Post-dating both layer (48) and (55)/[56] was an upper deposit of building rubble or build-up material which was overlain by concrete to produce a later 20th century floor level. The brick, stone, slate, concrete building rubble and the concrete were removed before archaeological recording in the room began.

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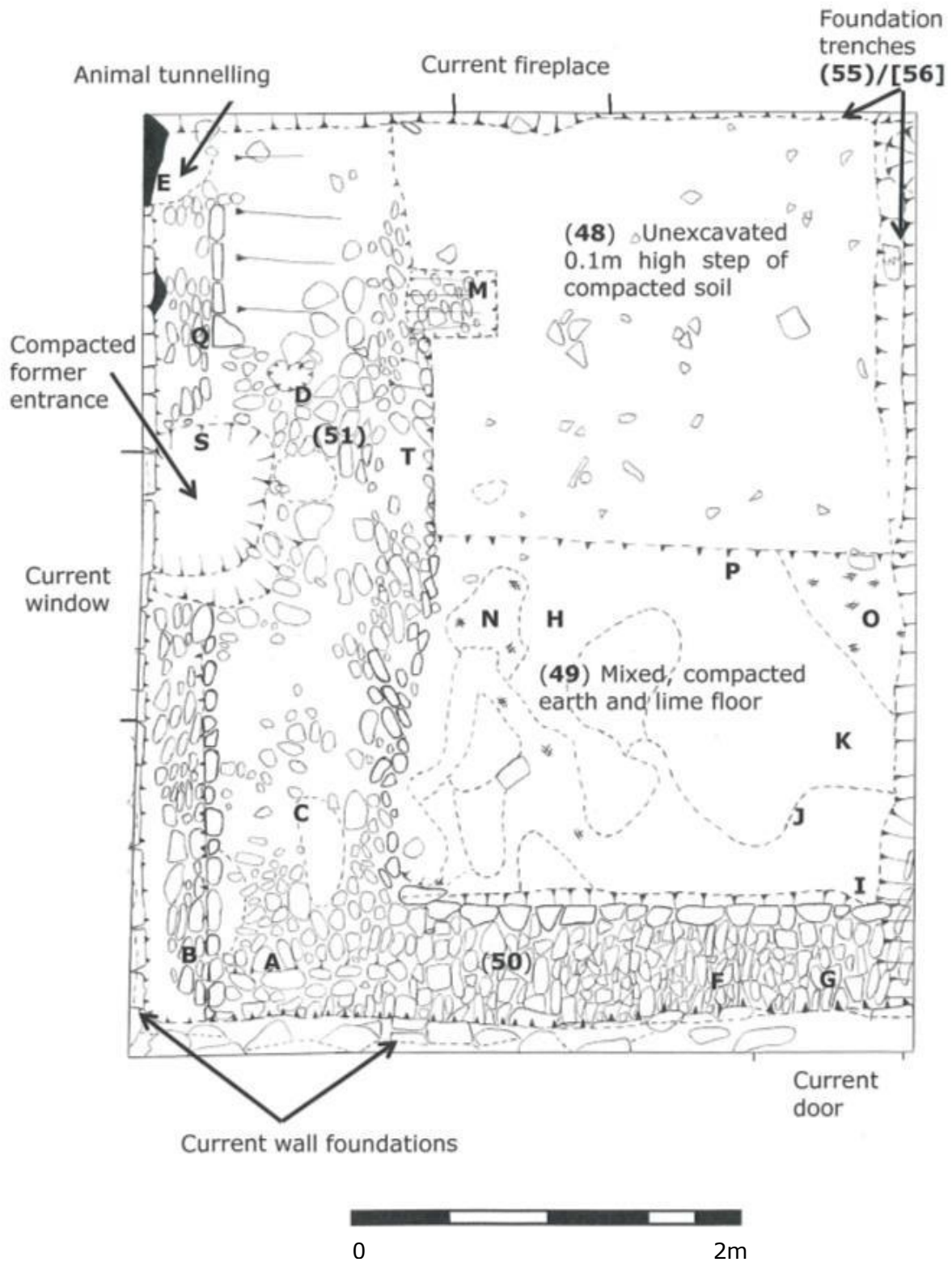


Fig 5 Plan of Room 3 cobbled surfaces, earth and lime floor, a compacted depression suggesting the position of a former entrance and other contexts, plus alphabetical A-T metal detector find spots (L and R were discarded).

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Fig 6 Top - Looking across the southern half of Room 3 showing the cobbled floor and earth and mortar floor. Left - looking at the northwest corner of the room showing earlier phases of cobbling. Bottom right - section through the deposits overlying these newly exposed floors.



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Fig 7 Top left – Looking south along the western side of Room 3; Top right – Looking east along cobbling (50); Bottom – Looking west across Room 3 showing cobbling, earth and lime flooring, the unexcavated step of material overlying the earthen floor (right) and the not yet fully excavated western side of the room (top of photo).

3.2 Room 4 – northeast ground floor room

Room 4 measured 4.25m (north to south) by 4.35m. It had a window, two doors, a huge original (filled in) fireplace in the northern wall and had more recently had its western wall removed to allow full access to adjacent western Room 3. Other blocked alterations were seen in some of the room's walls (see Figs 8a and 9).

This rectangular backroom produced evidence for two different phases of cobbling – the earlier with two discrete features cut into it (a sunken barrel and a box, both containing Civil War associated material) and a possible former entrance way; the later included a post setting and formed the southern border of a compacted earth and lime floor (Figs 9 and 10).

A test pit was cut through the earth and lime floor against the western edge of the room to look at the underlying reason for the linear subsidence recorded along the western side of the earth and lime floor (Fig 8b). It confirmed a considerable depth of underlying features and deposits. A large original kitchen fireplace was recorded in the northern wall of this room.

Early drain/ditch [61] and later pit [59]

A 1m² test pit was cut through earth and lime floor (33), where it sloped down along the western side of the room. It revealed a small number of underlying contexts, including probable pit [59] and more significantly linear north to south running ditch or culvert [61] (Fig 8b).

Pit [59] directly underlay the 0.7m wide internal western wall of Room 4. The pit measured 0.6m, by 0.3m by 0.35m deep and contained silty fill (58), which did not contain any diagnostic finds. It cut the upper fill of ditch [61], which was a near sheer-sided cut containing a basal fill of stone rubble with voids (63) and upper soil and stone fill (60). It is likely that the lower ditch fill acted as a French drain. The cut where excavated measured 1m by 0.55m wide by 0.8m deep – reflecting much the same dimensions as many of the stone lined culverts recorded during earlier trenching works carried out elsewhere in the village (Lawson-Jones 2017; 2018). From the bottom up, ditch [61] cut through natural brown and ginger clay (64), overlain by grey sandy silt layer (62), which produced a piece of medieval pottery and possible pieces of crushed shell. Both (62) and upper ditch fill (60) were overlain by a 0.15m thick deposit composed of compacted silty, sandy, occasionally limey layers, which merged with overlying earth and lime floor (33).

Ditch [61] significantly predated all contexts in the room. Its alignment probably caused the distinct downward slope of cobbling (65) and earthen floor (33) along the western side of the room. Its presence does not appear to have been known about when the internal dividing wall was built, since the walls foundations only extended down 0.15m below the surface of earthen floor (33), although pit [59] may have been seen.

Earlier cobbling (27), internal room division and possible entrance way (28)

The earliest cobbled surface revealed in this room was cobbling (27), which formed a broad swathe in the eastern half of the room. Its eastern edge had been partially cut away by Stewards House's foundation trenches, although the cobbling clearly continued east in to today's rear garden area. It also extended south under the hall and north beneath the wall and fireplace (see below). To the west it merged with earthen floor (33).

Clearly visible as a linear (but slightly staggered), raised line of large arranged cobbles with a centrally positioned narrow, 0.05m inset. This marked the edge of a light-weight, short-lived internal room division – perhaps a wattle and daub-like construction supported by narrow wooden uprights.

The uneven area of compacted disturbance (28) and missing cobbles, which partially overlay this linear setting, may represent a worn entrance; although it was not as clearly defined as that identified in Room 3. If it was an entrance, it would have opposed the other when these original floors were in use.

The south-western part of this early swathe of cobbling appeared to merge with later cobbled surface (65) and post setting [32].

Magazine box [26] and contents

Rectangular cut [26] was located in the north-eastern corner of Room 4, possibly cutting through cobbling (27). It had contained a wooden box or wood-lining which had largely rotted away; although it was still recognisable as a very soft, brown organic deposit adhering to the lower sides and base of the cut (Fig 10).

The cut itself measured 0.7m by 0.2m by 0.1m deep. The eastern end had been cut away by probable late 18th century Stewards House wall foundation trench [24]. The ragged northern edge suggested that it cut through and so post-dated the cobbles. The layer above the cobbling (the equivalent of (48) in Room 3) had been removed and it was not possible to confirm that the box had ever extended above the cobbled surface.

Contained within the wood container was a 1.8-kilogram deposit of undisturbed gunpowder and a single lead pistol ball found at the base (25). The box clearly functioned as a magazine box, while the contents have been ascribed a likely mid seventeenth century Civil War date (Ian Henn of Mainmast Conservation, pers comm). It is likely that this represents a private, defence-related stockpile. Sadly, the pistol itself had long gone and most of the gunpowder has had to be disposed of for Health and Safety reasons. A small sub-sample was retained in the hope that it could be radiocarbon dated, but its charcoal content had been too powdered and mixed during the production process to be useful.

Wooden barrel [30] and contents

Circular cut [30] appeared contemporary with cobbling (27) (Fig 10). The top would originally have been near flush with the top of the cobbling. On excavation the cut was found to open into a wooden barrel, which had been sunk into the floor. The barrel wood (36) was slightly better preserved than nearby magazine box [26], and as a result the internal upper rim marking the original lid support could still be seen, as were at least two very thin iron rings encompassing the outer girth of the barrel. The barrel had a 0.35m diameter and a 0.45m depth.

Within the barrel three very different fills were recorded. Organic basal fill (35) was 0.08m deep and consisted of mid-reddish-brown, slightly gritty silt with large numbers of fish scales and small fish bones. This fill reflects past, possibly domestic, small-scale, rather than commercial-scale pilchard processing residue, which was probably produced before the approximate 1750-1880 Cornish pilchard industry boom (Noall 1972, 12).

The barrel appeared to be on its own and was markedly smaller than the two largely intact, closely positioned pilchard processing barrels discovered in 2016 behind Elizabeth Terrace (Lawson-Jones 2017), which had 0.6m and 0.72m diameters and appeared stratigraphically later in date.

The main barrel fill (36) consisted of 80% broken pantiles. Pantiles were distinctive red roofing tiles which were introduced to Cornwall as a part of mid/late 18th century coastal trade. A 0.45m depth of broken tiles were removed from the barrel. Given the sites location, close to the harbour, these pantiles could have been either used for roofing or were inadvertently introduced as ship ballast.

Above this post-barrel-use pantile fill was a deposit of 12 pistol and musket balls, plus 11 pieces of scrap lead. These were found within a centred, compact deposit suggestive of a firearms stash of ammunition and the raw material for making more pistol / musket balls, which was probably originally contained within a pouch.

Later cobbling (65) and post setting [32]

This cobbling was recorded as a narrow 0.5m to 0.6m wide 'path' along the southern side of the western half of the room. Originally it extended south beneath the unexcavated hall and west in to Room3 – merging with cobbling (50). Its far western 0.9m length dropped down markedly as a result of subsidence, while at its eastern end, before merging with earlier cobbling (27) there was a rectangular post setting (Fig 10).

Post setting [32], measuring 0.5m by 0.4m by 0.2m deep, had its western, eastern and southern edges defined by carefully positioned cobbles. These merged seamlessly with the northern cobble defined edge of cobbling (65) at its junction with earth and lime floor

(33). As with Room 3 this cobbling seemed to post-date at least the latest phases of the earth and lime floors' ongoing repairs. The post setting will have originally supported the roof, although due to a lack of other supports the details, arrangement and dimensions of this are not known.

Earth and lime floor (33)

This section of earth and lime flooring continues on in Room 3 as (49). In this room (Room 4) the overlying layers were removed prior to the rooms recording. Given that this was the only room to produce two cannon balls, it is likely that it was covered by a reasonably early landscaping layer, which was subsequently sealed by later rubble and concrete. None of the thin temporary flooring layers (recorded in Room 3 as (48)) were noted here, but they may well have existed towards the base of the landscaping / cannon ball layer.

Earth and lime floor (33), like (49) was smooth, compacted and patchy, with differently coloured and textured resurfacing and repairs. Its entire western 0.9m had subsided by up to 0.15m in the north to 0.25m in the south against the edge of the internal dividing wall between Rooms 3 and 4. This was found to directly reflect the position of an underlying, much earlier linear channel (probably a drainage ditch or culvert – see cut [61] above). Along the line of subsidence, the earth and lime floor had cracked revealing the internal layers and washes of lime, silty sand and clay, etc. There was no obvious evidence for major repairs, suggesting that the main subsidence took place after the cessation of use of the earthen floor as an internal, covered space.

Kitchen fireplace

A notably large, filled in red brick arched fireplace was recorded in the northern wall of Room 4 (Fig 9). It spanned most of the room's width and internally was 2.8m wide. To either side of the formerly open fireplace were granite quoin-stones, which survive on the eastern side but historically have been largely removed on the western side due to the later insertion of a door into the adjoining building. The base of this door is in line with the latest Stewards House flooring level and clearly post-dates the fireplace, implying that the fireplace predates the main body of Stewards House.

The fireplace in its original form overlay both cobbling (27) and the earthen floor (33), both of which continue under the northern wall and beneath the fireplace. The lowest eastern quoin, when put in place, resulted in the dislodging and damage of the north-eastern part of cobbling (27) (Fig 8a).

Following its original use as an open kitchen fireplace, probably with a spit and roasting attachments and possibly a side oven on its western side, it was partially filled in. This probably coincided with the emergence of Stewards House much as we see it today. In place of the open fireplace was a smaller range set into the former hearth (Jo Sturgess, pers comm). This was then superseded by a later external boiler.

Given the likely late 18th century date for Stewards House, based on the fine, original and complete staircase (Jo Sturgess, pers comm) it is likely that the original large, open kitchen fireplace dates to this approximate or slightly earlier date. This would mean that an open fire roared and sparked just 0.3m away from the forgotten stash of gunpowder in its shallowly sealed magazine box.

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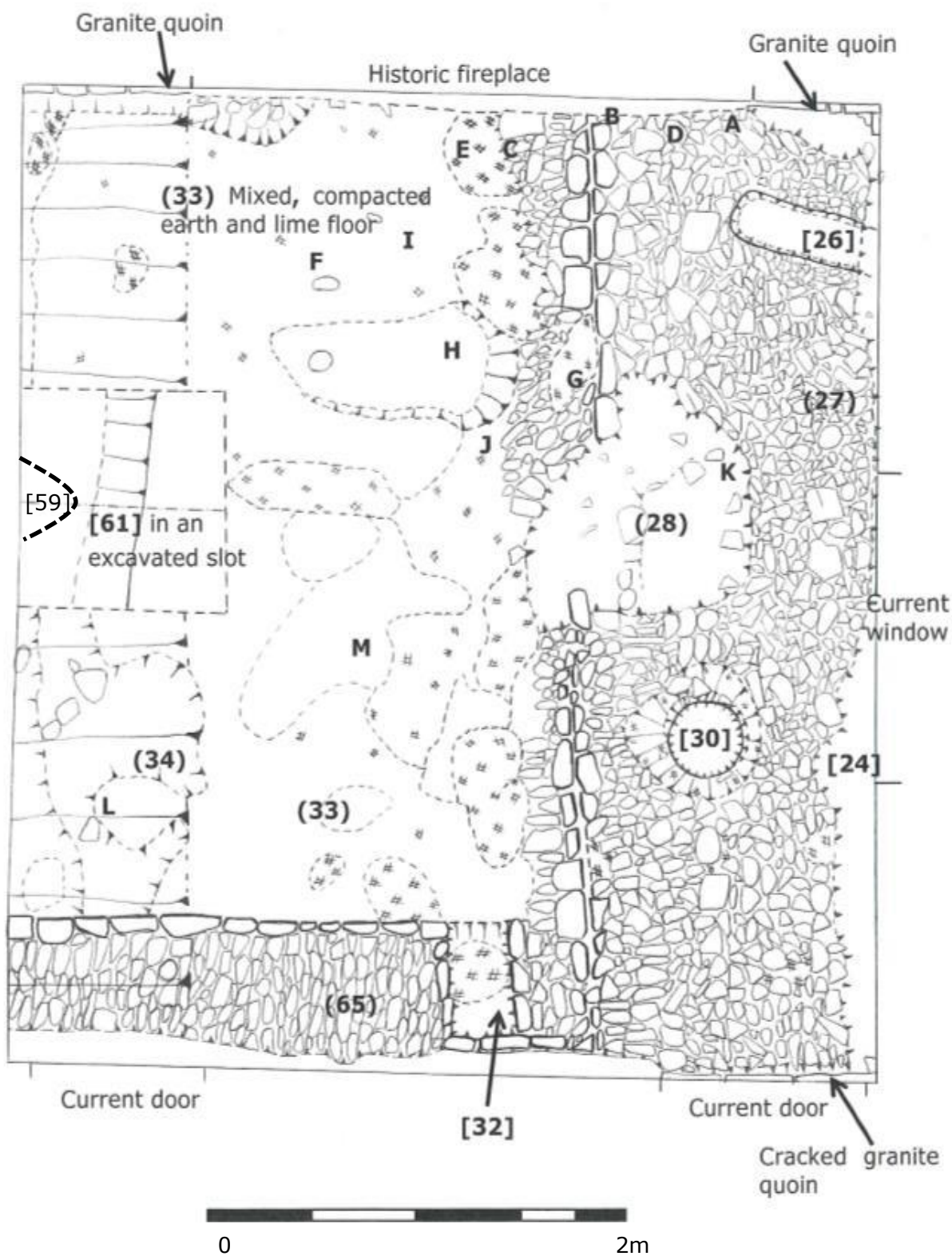


Fig 8a Plan of Room 4 cobbled surfaces, internal earth and lime floor, sunken barrel [30], sunken magazine box [26], post hole [32] and other contexts, plus alphabetical A-M metal detector find spots.

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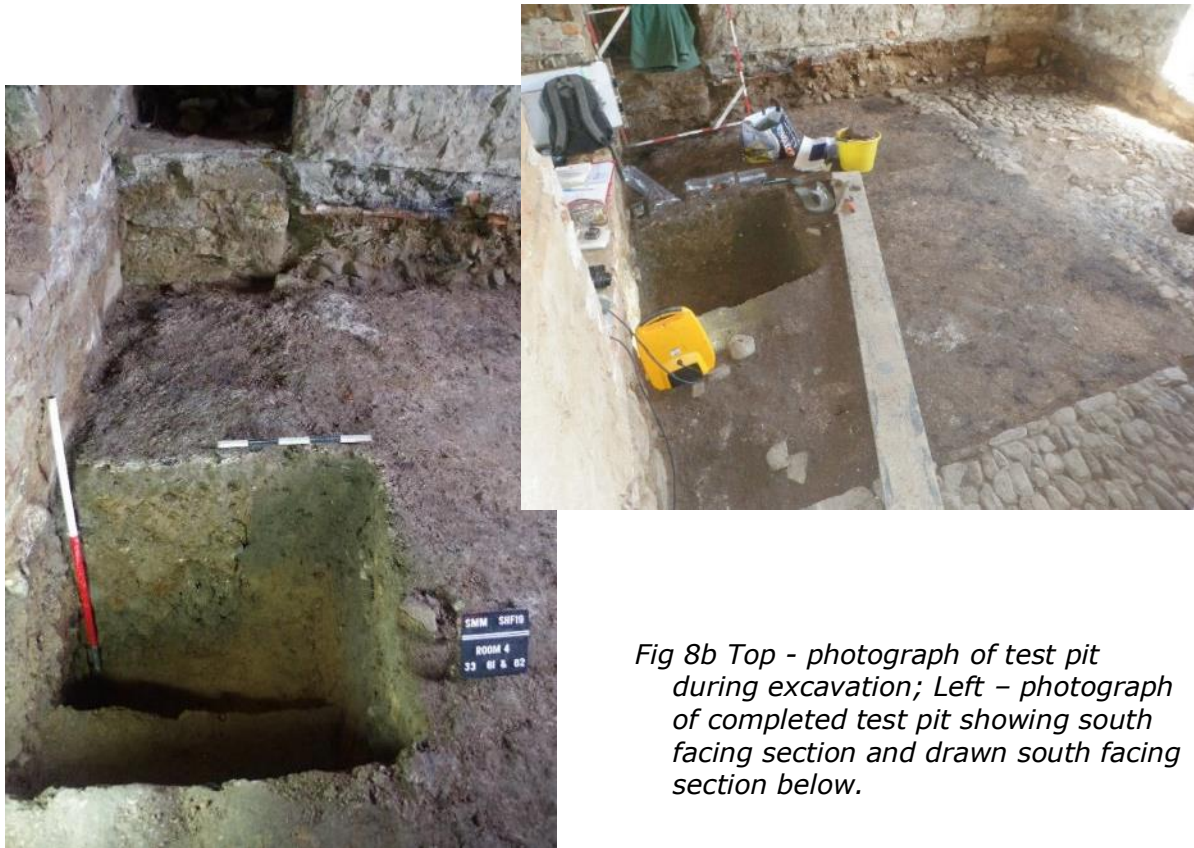
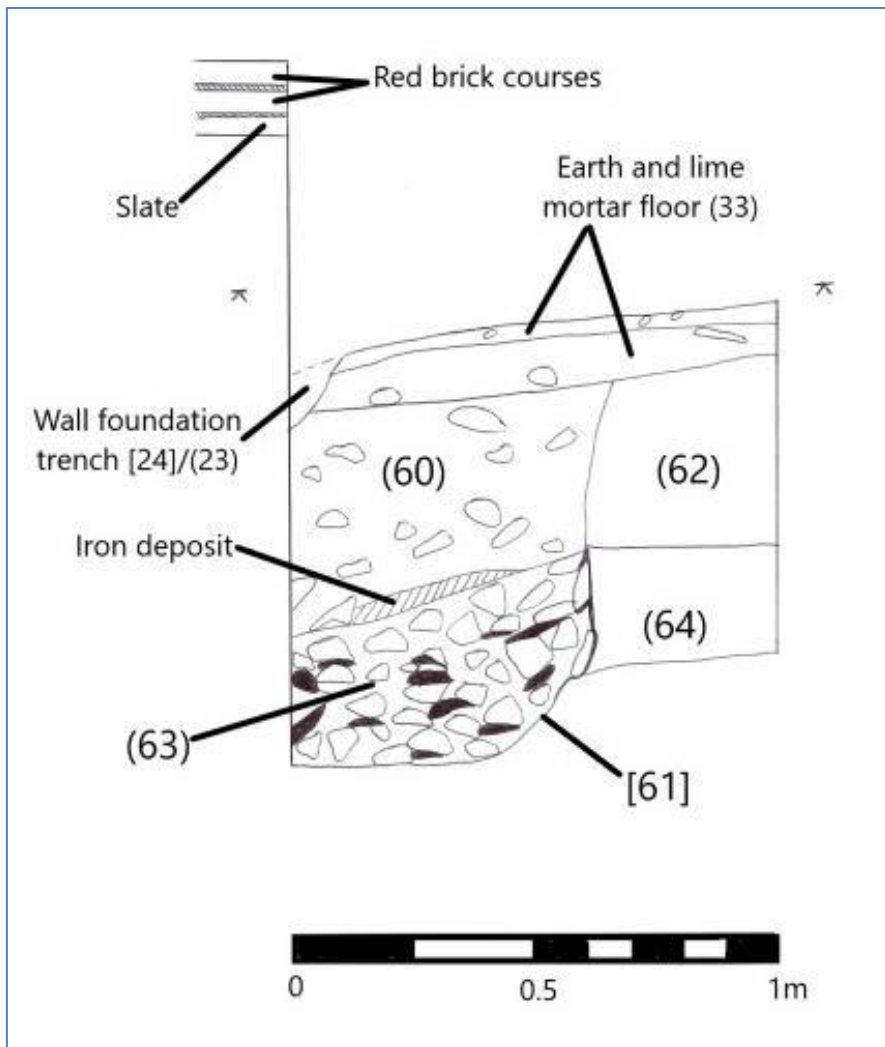


Fig 8b Top - photograph of test pit during excavation; Left - photograph of completed test pit showing south facing section and drawn south facing section below.



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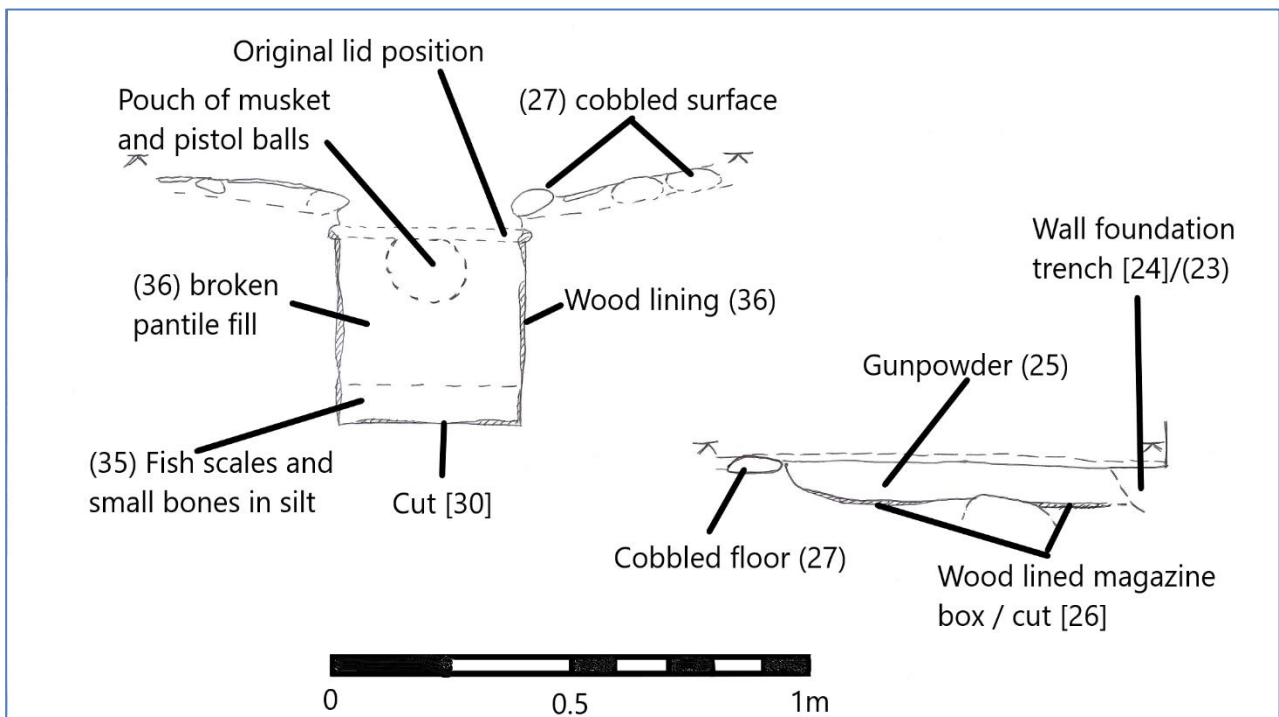
Fig 9 Top – Looking south across Room 4 floors – note the cobbled surface and earthen floor dropping down to the right; Middle – Looking north towards the fireplace showing adjacent Room 3 (left) and layers overlying the cobbled and earth floors (beneath the fireplace); Bottom – Looking east across Room 4 showing the floors.



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Fig 10 Top left – fully excavated barrel [30] with cobbles (27); Top right – magazine box [26] with unexcavated gunpowder deposit (25) spilling north in to cobbles (27); Left - post socket [32] and cobbles (65); Bottom – sections through barrel [30] and box [26].



3.3 Room 6 – southeast ground floor room

Room 6 measured 3.25m (north to south) by 3.1m (Fig 11). It had a window, a door, and a recently re-discovered Victorian fireplace in its southern wall. Other blocked alterations were seen in some of the room's walls.

This small, square backroom post-dates the other three ground floor rooms. Historic mapping suggests a late 19th century date. The main western swathe of cobbled surfacing had been cut through prior to this extension being built (resulting in a 0.2m deep section exposing underlying floor deposits). A test pit excavated centrally along this cut edge, revealed a considerable number of deep, pre-cobbling contexts including a probable drain and later culvert (Figs 12-14). A patch of early cobbling survived to the east.

In the north-east corner was a lime mortar and stone block of walling. In the south-west of the room was external cobbling with an associated post setting (which revealed a void). In the north-west of the room was internal slightly higher cobbling. The interpretation of internal and external cobbling is based on the presence of a continuous step, which in Room 7 incorporates post-pads, etc., defining a former open-fronted building, which extends in to this room, (see Fig 4). In the south-east corner part of a probable large pit underlay this south-eastern corner of Stewards House.

Test pit contexts – stone filled drain [41], infilled culvert [37] and void [52]

The 1.5m long, 0.7m wide, 0.7m deep test pit was dug against the eastern cut edge of the main Room 6 cobbles. The east facing section (cut [14]) showed that cobbles (13) and (68) overlay dense sandy clay (39). Clay (39) overlay levelling or build-up clay (57) and the top of cut [37] (Figs 12-14).

Probable culvert [37] was 0.35m wide and 0.6m deep. It contained a basal fill of broken pantiles and cobbles in dirty sandy clay (44). Above (44) was a dump of soft grey clay and then upper fill (42), which was loose sandy clay-silt. To the south of [37] was dense mixed deposit (4), which was revealed lying across the eastern two thirds of Room 6. This was shown in the cut [14] eastern edge of cobbles (13) to be overlain by (46) in the southern part of the room.

To the north, culvert [37] cut the fills of drain [41]. Drain [41] was 0.5m wide and 0.45m deep. It contained a basal layer of very sandy clay and broken pantiles (40), and an upper fill of very sandy clay and large cobbles (38), overlain by (57). The very stony fill (the cobbles of which can be seen as a pile in lower Fig 12, and *in situ* in upper Fig 13) may suggest that it had acted as a French drain prior to silting up and being replaced by the adjacent culvert. The northern edge of [41] cut through redeposited soft silty grey clay (43). This could be seen dropping down towards the north. A 0.55m length of it was exposed in the test pit, at the northern end of which a small patch of mixed, pale overlying silty sand with lime (47) was recorded. Again, landscaping or levelling layer (57) extended across these two contexts.

The dense clean reddish clay seen beneath culvert [37], drain [41] and context (43) was the natural geology – as seen during recent trenching works outside Stewards House (Lawson-Jones 2017;2018).

Early cobbling (15)

A small, remnant, damaged patch of cobbled surface was recorded on top of layer (4), which extended across the entire eastern and central part of the room. The cobbling measured 0.9m by 0.55m wide and was revealed following hand clearance of overlying trample (12). It extended beneath the eastern wall of Room 6 but had lost all other sides (mid left Fig 13). Its date is uncertain, except to say that it predated the better preserved internal and external cobbling (13) and (68) recorded to its west.

Layer (4), into which cobbling (15) appeared to have been set included charcoal flecks and fragments of soft, worn, handmade redbrick. This layer was not excavated and can be seen in Figs 12 and 13). Metal detecting identified a bronze nail and part of a bronze buckle within this layer (see Fig 11).

Masonry block 3 (and test hole or sondage results)

A 0.9m by 0.8m by 0.3cm high, freestanding block of lime-like mortar and uncut stone and a soft broken brick was recorded in the north-east corner of the room (mid Fig 12). It sat on layer (4) and had a rotted-out timber upright against its western edge, close to the northern wall of the room. This masonry block was not bonded with either the northern or the eastern walls of Room 6, although they all touched. It could not be ascertained whether the walls or the block came first. The purpose of this block was not determined.

The two 0.2m by 0.25m deep test holes revealed dense natural red clay at their base, with thin compacted, wet grit overlying and then 0.2m deep layer (4) above.

External cobbling (13) and post setting [9]

A 1.35m by 1.2m area of neat well-preserved cobbling (13) was recorded in the south-western corner of the room. It had been blackened and discoloured by an open fire located beyond the eastern side of Room 6. The resultant colour differentiation between internal and external cobbling can be seen in Figure 12. This was bounded by an original 0.1m step up on the north, which was cut by an original Stewards House wall and foundation trench [6] on the west, and a later extension wall on the south. Its eastern side was cut away by [14]. The northern step between the inner and outer cobbling was marked by closely set, long narrow, edge-side-up cobbles (see Fig 11 to the immediate north of [9]). This arrangement may have been designed to deflect water from the internal cobbled space.

The cobbled floor included carefully edged post setting [9], defined by long cobbles again positioned on edge. The post setting contained two similar gritty clay fills (10) and (11). When basal fill (11) was removed a void was revealed, which when explored was found to be rotted *in situ* timber setting [52]. The void was rectangular and measured 0.18m by 0.11m by 0.44m deep. It underlay cobbles (13) and clay (39) to the east of [9] and cut through levelling or build-up clay (57) and underlying (4) (see test pit contexts above). At the base of the void was soft brown organic silt (53), which was recorded via probing and represents *in situ* rotted wood.

Internal cobbling (68)

This internal cobbling has been interpreted as the floor of an open fronted structure, which originally had a long, open south-facing front, which extended west in to Room 7 and beyond. It had been cut away on the northern and western edges by foundation trench [6], which was associated with the construction of original Stewards House external walling. Its eastern side had been cut away by cut [14], and its southern side was defined by the 0.1m step up from lower external cobbles (13). Running along the edge of this southern step was a line of larger, flat, broad waterworn stones (see Fig 11), which continued on in to Room 7. Positioned 0.3m to 0.4m south of the room's northern wall was another distinct line, this time of long 0.12m to 0.3m cobbles placed on edge. This too, extended through in to the next room.

Wet disturbance (7)

Underlying the south-eastern corner of the rooms and the walls to either side was an initially clearly visible 0.55m by 0.5m patch of very soft, wet ground, which when cleaned back revealed stones/cobbles (lower Fig 13). This deposit was consistently waterlogged and appeared to contain either a former organic or an ash-based content. It flooded after rain as if a small spring had been triggered, and its initially well-defined edges gradually expanded outwards. This deposit was interpreted as the likely top fill of a poorly-defined, possibly deep and potentially partially tidal pit.

Wall foundation trenches [6]

Recorded running along the base of the northern and western wall of this room was wall foundation trench [6], filled with mixed redeposited loose context (5). The width of this trench was variable. When running along the base of the northern wall it had a relatively regular 0.2m to 0.15m width. When running along the western wall it was more variable and narrower – possibly as a direct result of the cobbling.

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No clearly defined foundation trench was recorded on the southern and eastern sides of the room, despite the southern wall running along a 1.2m width of external cobbling. This lack of foundation trench seems to concur exactly with the differences in date between these walls. The original 'L' shape of Stewards House, as seen during map regression shows that the late 18th/early 19th century northern and western walls predate the probable later 19th century date of the southern and eastern walls. Clearly the original build had more substantial foundations than the later build, which is marked internally by the smaller size of the room, the lower upper floor levels, and externally by alterations within the roof, which are visible from the back garden.

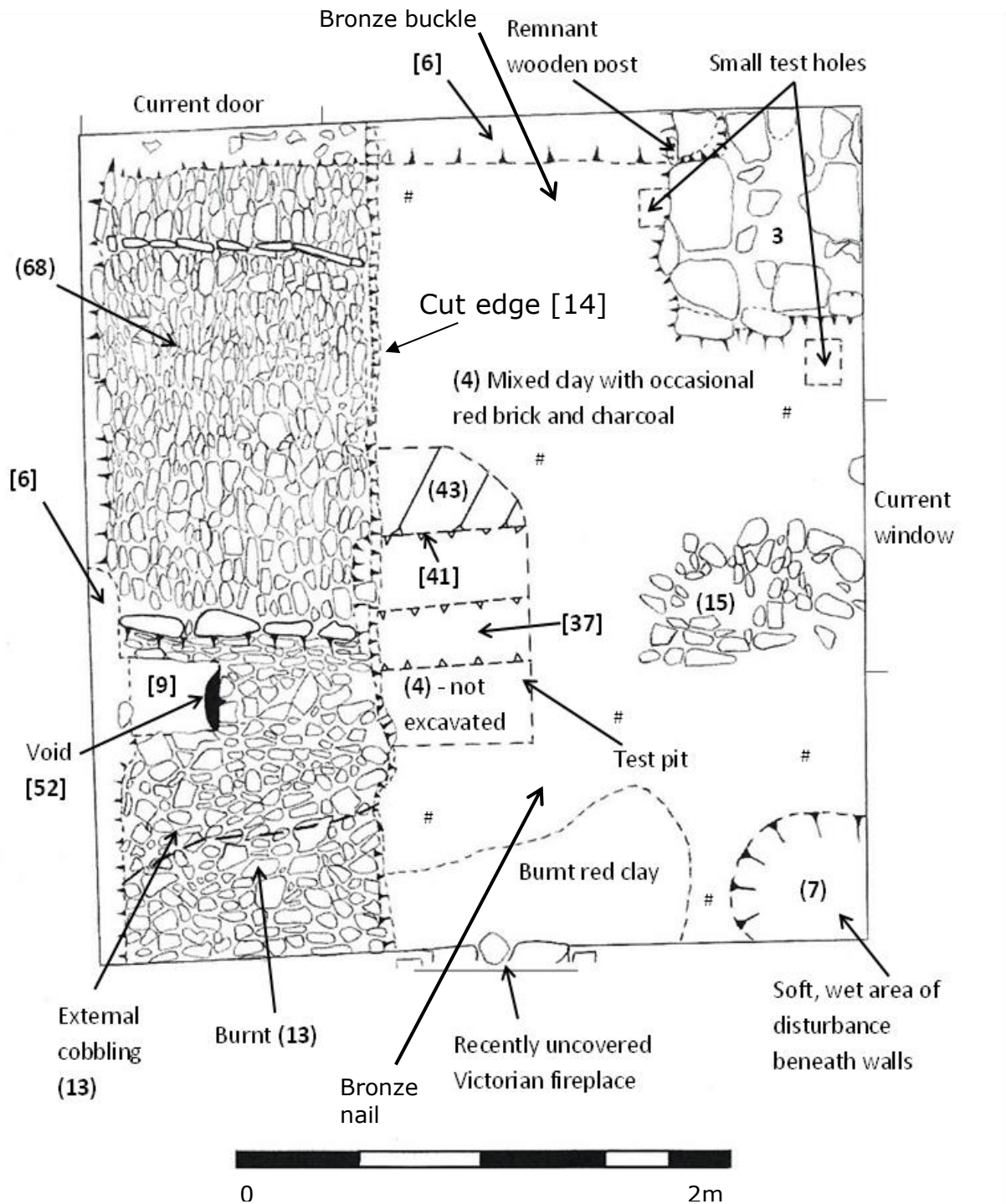


Fig 11 Plan of Room 6 showing internal (upper), external (lower) and earlier remnant cobbling (15); masonry block 3, unknown pre-Stewards House walling pit disturbance (7), and all features revealed by test pit, including ditch [41] and culvert [37].

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Fig 12 Top – looking southeast across Room 6 showing internal, external and remnant cobbling and fireplace; Middle left – looking down on post support [9] with void in upper edge; Middle right – looking northwest across cobbles and showing masonry block; Bottom – showing test pit during excavation and post slot [9].

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Fig 13 Top left – early cobbles (15); top right – waterlogged context (7); middle – looking west towards the excavated test pit in Room 6.

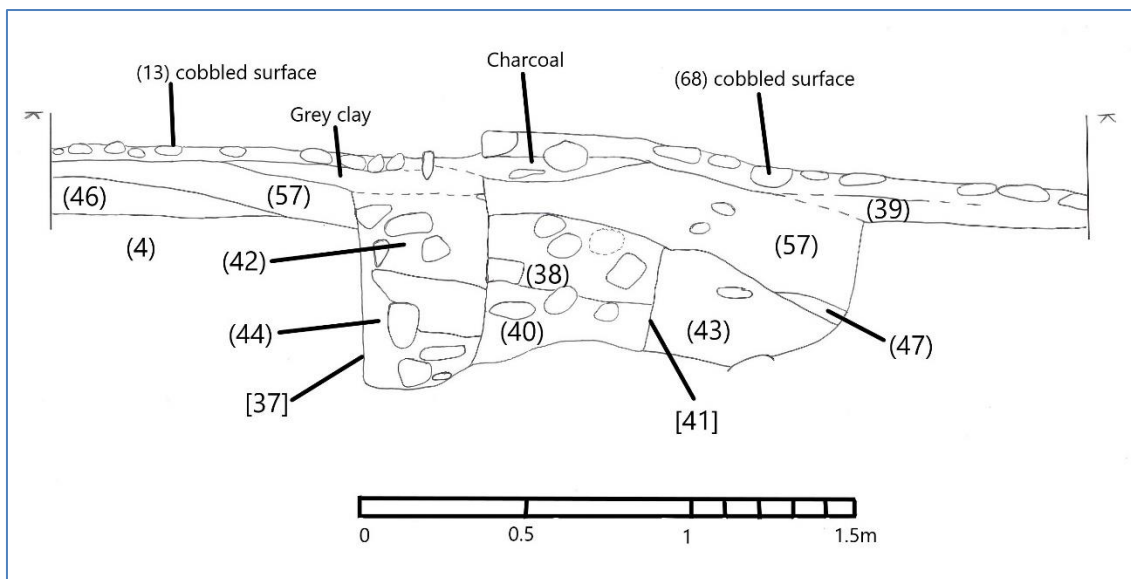


Fig 14 Drawn section through the Room 6 test pit showing all contexts identified.

3.4 Room 7 – southwest ground floor room

Room 7 measured 4.7m (north to south) by 4m (Fig 15). It had a window, a door, a culvert-like wall opening, and a wood burner set within the original north wall fireplace opening. Other blocked alterations were seen in some of the room's walls.

During floor works this rectangular front room was found to overlie an almost entirely cobbled surface (Fig 16). The cobbling consisted of external (southern) and internal (central and northern) floors, the junction between which was marked by a shallow step with post-pads, probable posthole and slot associated with a former open-fronted building (Figs 17 and 18). A shallow cobble-surfaced drain ran along the west edge of the internal cobbling (continuing north beneath the hallway and in to Room 3).

Running along the entire northern end of the room was dense clean brown clay cut by a series of parallel beam slots overlain by a shallow horizontal east to west aligned timber beam impression. This timber wall foundation extends east and west of the room. The Stewards House wall foundation trenches cut through all Room 7 floor surfaces.

External cobbling (71), burning, disturbance (18) and lower void

The external (lower) cobbling runs along the southern 2.9m of the room and is separated from the internal cobbling by a shallow, but distinct cobble defined 0.1m to 0.12m high step. This continued east in to Room 6 (where it was seen in the test pit's east facing section, Fig 13 top). As in Room 6, the lower part of the step is marked by a parallel alignment of linear, cobbles on edge, probably denoting former surface drainage. This then merges with the less ordered, but still neat and tightly fitted cobbling to its south. This southern cobbling belongs to two different phases, given differences in cobble size and positioning and the abrupt stop of heat-discoloured cobbles and more intense heat blackened cobbles, which indicates that this south western corner of cobbling is later than the remaining southern external cobbles (see Fig 15).

The heat-discoloured cobbles do not relate to the former hearth/current wood burner (shown in upper Fig 16 and Fig 18). It appears to be directly associated with a number of small splats of molten iron (two of which are shown as two black dots on one of the cobbles northeast of the void, and as five dots southeast of posthole (20)). It is possible that the heated cobbles and the iron droplets reflect the position of a former smithy.

Cutting through the differentially heated cobbling were two patches of disturbance. The smallest most southerly disturbance appeared recent and was probably the result of recent floor works. The larger oval depression (18) could be a posthole associated perhaps with a lean-to or other superstructure linked to the open-fronted main structure; or a later pit dug from above through layers overlying the cobbling – perhaps in association with the construction of Stewards House.

The sloped, cobbled drain shown on the western side of internal cobbling (22) does not continue in to this external southwestern part of cobbling. However, a deep void was recorded underlying this area, on the immediate edge of the wall foundation trench. This was 0.55m deep. The upper 0.3m depth was voided; the lower 0.25m depth was filled with very soft organic silt (probably rotted wood). This probably represents a rotted *in situ* post. Like post [52] in Room 6, this underlay and so predates the cobbled surface.

Post-pads 69 and 70, posthole (20) and possible structural disturbance [19]

Running along the upper edge of the step dividing the (higher) internal cobbling from the (lower) external cobbling were three features representing part of the former open-fronted building's roof support. Post-pad 69 was a large, flat-topped stone measuring 0.4m by 0.33m, which stood 0.03m above the surrounding internal cobbling and 0.15m above the adjacent external cobbling. It is the westernmost post-support and was positioned at the southwestern corner of the structure – as suggested by the shallow cobbled surface drain which runs up the western side of the room. Post-pad 70 is positioned 2.25m further east. It too, is a large, flat topped stone at the upper edge of the step, measuring 0.35m by 0.26m and is 0.06m above the surrounding cobbling, 0.12m above the lower cobbling. It supported a second post for the open-fronted structure. Between these two post-pads, closest to 69, was probable posthole [20]. This

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had similar proportions in plan to the post-pads and was 0.16m deep. It appeared quite roughly defined and is likely to be later than the two post-pads since the cobbling had been cut away, resulting in a ragged edge. This may represent repair or replacement work for a failing post support.

Internal cobbling (22), cobble patterning and drainage channel

A 5m wide stretch of neat, well-fitted internal cobbling (22) runs between the southern low internal/external step and the northern clay and timber settings [2]. It extends east in to Room 6 (where it was cut by later [14]) and appeared to stop just short of Room 7's western wall, whose foundation trench cuts through a shallow surface drain contemporary with the internal cobbling. This drain, although shallow and neatly cobbled seems to mark the western end of the open fronted building which cobbling (22) was associated with.

Cobbling (22) ends neatly and abruptly against the southern edge of the clean brown clay and beam slots [2]. It appears to have abutted a former timber framed wall or other timber structure supported by the beam slots and an overlying horizontal timber beam setting.

The cobbled surface itself shows a series of distinct lines formed either by edge-side up cobbles or larger flatter cobble alignments. These give the effect of dividing this formally open-sided structure flooring, visually at least, in to compartments or sections. No associated upright timber divisions, such as post, or stake-holes were found. Slight variations in slope between these alignments suggest that the covered space was susceptible to minor drainage issues, possibly associated with the storage of merchants or traders' goods (given the formerly busy, nearby harbour) or perhaps the covered space was linked to local trades such as black smiths (see above) or market stalls holders selling fish, particularly pilchard-associated produce.

Horizontal beam and beam slots [2]

A 0.55m wide band of very dense, clean, brown clay was recorded running along the northern edge of this room. It was cut by six, north to south aligned and fairly regularly 0.4m to 0.55m spaced, 0.12 to 0.15m wide, 0.12m to 0.15m deep beam slots. The slots extended beneath the current/original northern stone wall foundations and beneath the cobbling for at least 0.1m. Excavation of these slots showed that the timber in the slots rotted *in situ*. Broken slates were found within the slots, which in the westernmost one appeared to suggest a slate lined timber setting.

These slots are considered likely to have supported either a timber framed wall, very similar to the extant superseding one (shown in Fig 16-bottom and Fig 17-upper), standing on stone foundations; or possibly some other timber mounted structure such as a long trough, launder or other supportive frame, potentially associated with fish processing. Overlying the beam slots was a distinct linear impression left by a long horizontal beam or plank. This had compressed the underlying clay, and either been removed or simply incorporated in to (if left *in situ*) the overlying, later Stewards House stone wall foundations.

Since the cobbling appeared to abut the clay and beam slots, logically this would imply that the two (the cobbling and the timber framework) are broadly contemporary. However, the clay and slots do appear to have continued west across the top of the surface drain running along the western edge of the room.

Wall foundation trenches [17]

Ragged wall foundation trenches run along the base of the southern, eastern and western walls of this room. They were filled with a mix of redeposited broken handmade red brick and slate, and occasional dislodged cobbles, mortar fragments and dirty lumps of silt, clay and sand. This mix was recorded in all the foundation trenches in all the rooms. It reflects the different deposits through which they were cut. In the north-western corner of the room electrical services had been pushed through from outside, disturbing a probable seventh beam slot.

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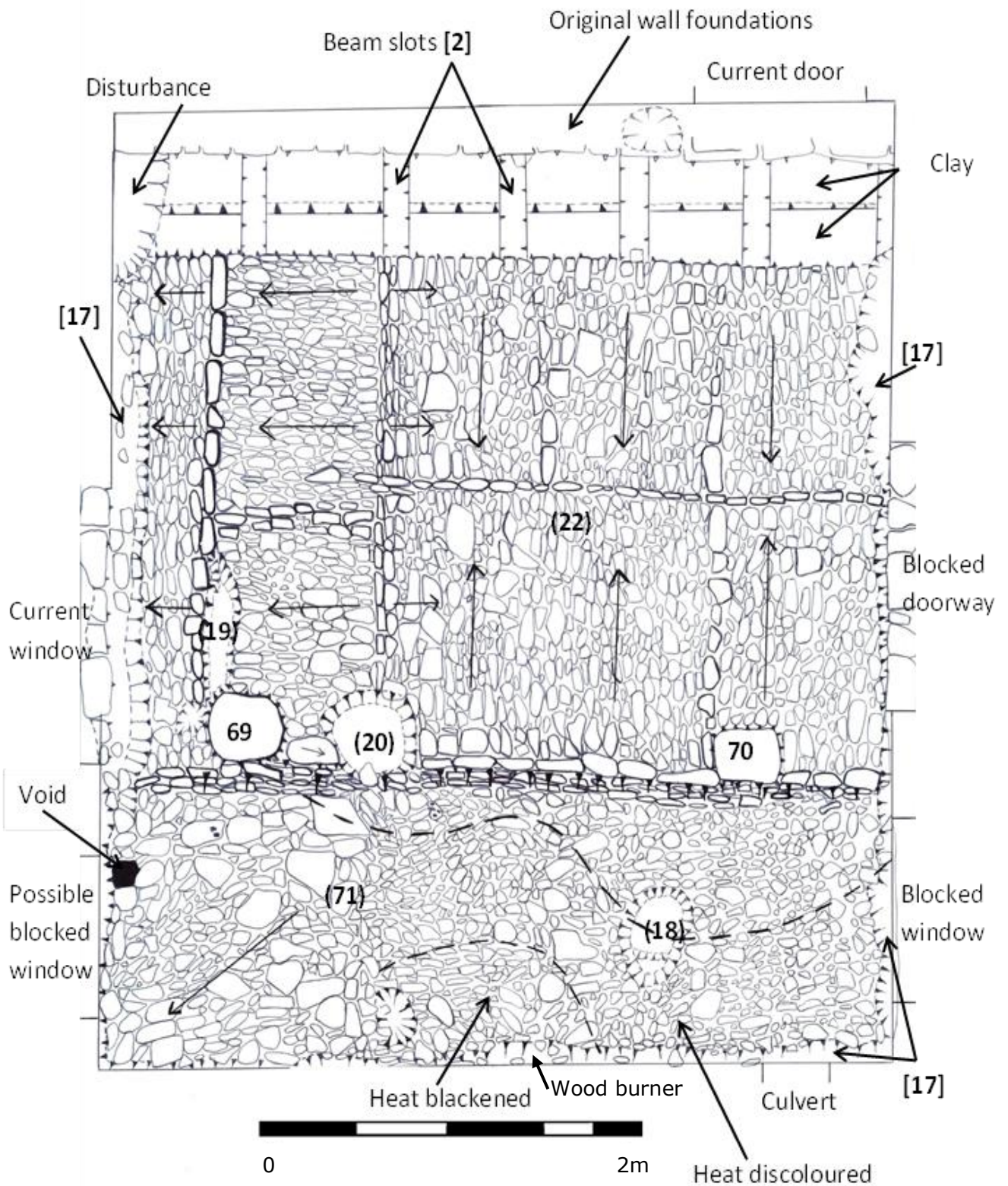


Fig 15 Plan of Room 7 showing internal (upper (22)) and external (lower (71)) cobbling; various patches of disturbance, post-pads 70 and 71 and beam slots [2] in clay.

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Fig 16 Top – Looking south across Room 7 from the door, showing the internal cobbling in the foreground, two post-pads and the culvert (?) opening in the south wall. Bottom – Looking northwest across Room 7 showing part of the external cobbling and post-pad 70 in the foreground, [19], [20] and 69 on the left, patterning of the internal cobbled surface and beam slots [2] to the upper right.



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Fig 17 Top – Looking north towards the clay and beam slots [2] (note the piecemeal wall repairs and overlying wall foundations). Left – Looking east along clay, beam slots [2] and plank impression. Bottom – Looking north from the southwestern corner of the room, showing post-pad 69, adjacent posthole (20), slot [19] and sloped surface drain on the left.



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Fig 18 Three working shots taken during; Top - clearance and cleaning, Middle - photographing, and Bottom - planning of Room 7.

3.5 Ground floor hallway, stairwell and implications of its alignment

The ground floor hallway and stairwell were not excavated. The flooring of the hall was protected throughout the works and retains its ornately tiled floor (set in concrete), while the stairwell houses a fine late 18th century quarter-turn or 'L'-shaped staircase.

As referred to in the preceding section, a number of excavated floor features clearly continue beneath the hallway and stairwell; including cobbled surfaces between all the rooms, a drain between Rooms 3 and 7, and the clay and beam slot settings seen in Room 7.

The intact tiled floor is seen as a component part of the Grade 2 Listed Building status for Stewards House and so is unlikely to be lifted or removed. As such, the junction between Rooms 3 and 4 with Rooms 7 and 6 will remain uncertain. At the moment it is felt likely that the clay and beam slot settings either mark or are very close to a wall separating the southern roofed or covered open-fronted building recorded in Rooms 6 and 7, from the roofed and enclosed earth and lime floors and cobbling seen in Rooms 3 and 4.

In fact, the timber slots seen in Room 7 run exactly in line with the southern wall of the hallway, while the narrow southern band of cobbling seen in Rooms 3 and 4 runs parallel to the northern side of the hall. This might suggest that Stewards House was constructed in keeping with existing plots and perhaps underlying patterns of buildings and yards.

4 Discussion

The results from the excavation and recording are summarised here by approximate period.

4.1 Medieval (AD 410-1540)

There is the potential for some, even many, of the contexts and features revealed beneath the cobbling to date to the medieval period. Although these were only exposed within Rooms 4 and 6 following the excavation of a test pit in each room, archaeology of this date clearly underlies the whole of Stewards House, and indeed has recently been shown to extend beyond (see Lawson-Jones 2019 and Fig 3).

Room 4 produced evidence for an early ditch/drain [61], cut by a later pit [59], which was overlain by cobbling and the earth and lime floors, before being built over by internal Stewards House walling. During excavation work a variety of medieval material was identified including a (possibly early) medieval rim sherd – from fill (62) in [61], a piece of 11th to 13th century pottery and medieval roof tile. Other miscellaneous metalwork and undiagnostic slate, tile, shell and stone was uncovered but this is not closely datable (Appendix 20).

Room 6 did not produce any categorically medieval finds although it is impossible that some of the finds were not of this period given the depth of cut features and deposits beneath the cobbled surfacing in this room. The small deep remnant cobbling identified on the eastern side of the room may well be medieval in date given the depth and proximity of the recently excavated 14th century medieval skeleton from beneath the adjacent Island Shop. Reference was made to disturbed cobbling during the skeleton's excavation. Features recorded in a test pit, positioned to look at below cobble archaeology include a ditch/drain [41], a culvert [37] and a posthole void [52].

4.2 Post-medieval (AD 1540-1900)

Stewards House is late 18th early 19th century in date and is shown on mapping as having been largely extant by at least 1834, while much of the recorded flooring beneath Stewards House appears to date to at least the 17th and 18th century. This includes most of the cobbled and earthen floors and many of the associated features. The archaeology beneath all four rooms has revealed change in terms of past activity, layout and structural

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appearance. The identification of at least three phases in the cobbled surfaces clearly infers change and renewal.

The next earliest cobbling was located to east and west of the large internal earth and lime floor in Room 3 and 4. Both floor types were entwined at their junction and showed piecemeal repair. Inserted through the eastern cobbling was the barrel with basal fish residue, pantile infill and an upper pouch of scrap lead, pistol and musket balls and to its north the magazine box filled with gunpowder. Each contained material broadly linked to the Civil War or soon after, suggesting that these particular floors were in use around the 17th possibly early 18th century.

Running along the southern side of Rooms 3 and 4 was a narrow strip of more recent cobbling which appeared to overlap with the earlier floors' use. The more recent cobbling included a post setting and clearly respected the earlier floors, which it neatly abutted. It ran south beneath the hall and stairwell.

On the immediate southern side of the hallway, in Room 7, a very well-preserved thick, clean clay deposit was recorded which contained a series of beam slots with an overlying horizontal indent indicative of the base of a timber framed wall. The date of this is uncertain and its northern edge was not seen, but a neat junction with cobbling to the south was recorded. The beam slots partially extended beneath this cobbling, suggesting that the cobbles post-dated the wall, but possibly not by long.

The historic timber framed wall clearly continued east and west of where it was recorded. It is possible that it relates to the open fronted structure recorded to the immediate south. Interestingly it follows the same alignment as the later Stewards House internal wall division, which itself shows a number of phases. The shared alignment might suggest a deliberate replacement of one wall with another, but no clear evidence for the sharing of foundations was seen, and in fact the later wall has shifted slightly north of its predecessor.

In Rooms 6 and 7 an open fronted building, which looked out to the east was identified. This was defined by a low step running east to west between internal covered cobbling in the north and external yard cobbling to the south. Interestingly, a number of small molten iron splatters were found on the external and some of the internal cobbles, as well as heat blackening suggesting small-scale smithing activity. The decorative-looking alignments within the northern cobbling of Room 7 are functional and reflect shallow surface drainage, but they may also have loosely defined areas within the covered open-fronted space.

Running along the step separating the covered from the open cobbled floor were two stone post-pads, a shallow probable posthole or post support and a rectangular probable post support, which directly overlay a voided or rotted *in situ* posthole (in Room 6). It is possible that the void located in Room 7 could relate to a line of pre-cobbled surface post supports or an early culvert, as suggested by the test pit dug in Room 6.

The finds for this broad post-medieval period from across Stewards House, range from handmade bricks and tiles to roof slates, loose uncut granite and cobbles, occasional glass shards (vessel and window), clay pipes, a variety of pottery, largely fragmented metalwork, hoarded scrap lead, musket and pistol balls, plus two cannon balls. These finds came from recorded stratified deposits and from the 0.4m deep unstratified, largely unrecorded infill layers.

4.3 Modern (AD 1901–present)

Modern activity relates to visible structural repairs and alterations to the upstanding fabric of Stewards House, some of which have been referred to in this report. The presence of a huge post-medieval kitchen fireplace in Room 4, which had undergone a series of changes in more recent times exemplifies this. In addition, Victorian fireplaces were recorded as having been previously removed in Room 3, hidden behind plastering in Room 6 or changed to incorporate a wood burner in Room 7. In addition, numerous

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changes could be seen in the plaster stripped walls including filled in doors and windows, plus wall, window and ceiling repairs many of which are recent in date.

Floors too had changed, with remnant floor board impressions occasionally noted around the periphery of rooms attesting to the former presence of floor boards, and their removal and replacement with solid concrete flooring. In Room 3 the breaking up and removal of concrete revealed plastic sheeting known to have been put in position approximately 35 years ago. As referred to above, layers had built-up over the historic floors. Some of these appeared gradual and may have actually encompassed working surfaces, while others appeared to represent wholesale infilling or levelling. In Room 4 the earlier layers included two cannon balls and in Room 3 they included patchy lime spreads. In Room 6 things were less clear because the eastern side of the room had been cut away and refilled in the past, meaning that only half the cobbled floor survived. The northern side had been cut by Stewards House foundation trenches, but not in the south and east where the house had been extended at a later date, but with less substantial foundations.

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5 References

5.1 Primary sources

Ordnance Survey, MasterMap Topography

5.2 Publications

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5.3 Websites

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/> Online database of Sites and Monuments Records, and Listed Buildings

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Appendix 1: Table of contexts

* Cut feature numbers are in bold

Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
1	7	D	Fill of [2]	6 x 0.7m long, 0.12-0.15m wide, 0.12-0.15m deep beam slot fills. Soft dark greyish brown, silty and friable with occasional small stones, rotted wood and broken slates.	19 th century
2	7	C	Beam slots	6 x 0.7m long, 0.12-0.15m wide, 0.12-0.15m deep. Partially extend beneath current stone wall foundations and by up to 0.1m below the cobbling (22). A series of 6 or 7 short straight beam trenches running north to south along the northern end of the room. Overlain by a plank/beam impression supporting a probable former wall.	
3	6	B	Masonry block	0.9m long, 0.8m wide, 0.3m+ high. Free-standing masonry block of uncut stone and lime-rich mortar. Abutted against but not bonded with the north and east walls of Room 6.	
4	6	D	Layer	Approximately 0.2m deep layer of probable made ground. Clayey mid brownish grey with a wide range of finds.	
5	6	D	Fill of [6]	0.05-0.15m wide, 0.15m deep. Mid orangey brown sandy silty clay. Friable with occasional cobbles.	
6	6	C	Foundation trench	0.05-0.15m wide, 0.15m deep. Not fully excavated. Patchy fill (5). Variable width recorded.	
7	6	D	Possible pit fill	Damp dark friable greyish brown silty clay. Friable. Soft fill of ill-defined cut feature.	
8	6	D	Natural clay	Mid reddish compact friable brown sandy clay. Patchy survival of probable natural clay 0.53m below the top of the removed concrete floor.	
9	6	C	Square post support	0.33-0.3m by 0.18. Square post support hole for part of an open fronted structure. Formed within external, lower cobbled surface (13) and partially defined by carefully arranged cobbles. Void [52] visible on one side of its base.	
10	6	D	Fill of [9]	0.1m deep. Mid reddish-brown compact fill with moderate small stones. Upper fill of [9].	
11	6	D	Fill of [9]	0.08m deep. Dark compact reddish-brown gritty clay with moderate stones. Lower fill.	
12	6	D	Infill / fill of [14]	3.3m long, 1.8, wide, up to 0.23m deep. Remnant trampled fill of eastern side of room and cut [14]. Dark compact friable grey brown sandy clay loam. Occasional stone.	
13	6	B/D	External cobbled surface	1.35m long, 1.2m wide, 0.15m deep. Neat, broadly patterned, beach-derived cobbled surface set in mid grey hard compact sandy silty clay. Associated with internal cobbles (68). Southern half heat discoloured with occasional charcoal flecking. Same as (71) in Room 7.	

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Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
14	6	C	Cut away east half of Room 6	3.3m long, 2+m wide, 0.15-0.2m deep. Cuts east edge of cobbles (13). Above earlier cobbling (15)/(4). Filled with (12).	
15	6	B/D	Remnant cobbled surface	0.9m long, 0.55m wide, c0.10-0.15m deep. Remnant cobbled floor in east side of room, set within clay and sand matrix. Cut by east wall foundation [6]. Above (4), under (12)/[14].	
16	7	D	Fill of [17]	0.3-0.17m wide, 0.15m deep. Mid brownish loose, friable grey sandy silty clay loam. Occasional stone and charcoal. Mixed redeposited fill.	
17	7	C	Foundation trench	0.3-0.17m wide, c0.15m deep. Unexcavated. Variable dimensions and ran around periphery of Room 7.	
18	7	C/D	Oval disturbance	0.55m long, 0.35m wide, 0.22m deep oval area of damage or disturbance cut through cobbles (22) in east side of room. Mid yellowish friable brown silty clay.	
19	7	C/D	Rectangular disturbance	0.75m long, 0.18m wide, 0.25m deep linear area of disturbance or possible late slot cut through cobbles (22). Mid brownish yellow loose silty sandy clay. Undated.	
20	7	C/D	Oval posthole?	0.42-0.38m, by 0.16m deep. Slightly ovoid probable/possible late posthole. Mid grey brown soft loose silty loam. Occasional small stones. Related to 69, 70 and? (19).	
21	7	C/D VOID	Culvert collapse or rotted post	Probing revealed a 0.25m deep void over 0.25m deep silt within a feature of unknown plan. Recorded as a small collapsed/voided area in the southwest corner of Room 7. Possibly an underlying culvert associated with void seen in Room 6?	
22	7	B/D	Internal cobbled surface	4m long, 2.6m wide, c0.15-0.2m deep. Cobbled surface set within sandy clay bonding. Well-preserved internal cobbled surface of former open sided building. Neat, semi-decorative with drainage associated slope and linear patterning. Associated with external cobbled surface (71). Same as (68) in Room 6.	
23	4	D	Fill of [24]	0.2-0.3m wide, 0.1m deep. Runs around much of the periphery of Room 4. Mid reddish brown mixed & loose silty, gritty clay. Occasional stones. Loose and mixed with occasional building rubble.	19 th to 20 th century
24	4	C	Foundation trench	0.2-0.3m wide, 0.1m deep. Runs around much of the periphery of Room 4. Cut through gunpowder magazine slot (25)/[26] & cobbles (27).	
25	4	D	Magazine box fill	0.7m long, 0.2m wide, 0.1m deep. Dark black compact friable gunpowder. Fill of rectangular wood-lined cut or magazine box [26]. Located in northeast corner of Room 4 near the early kitchen fireplace. East end truncated by foundation trench [24]. Pure black, pungent, soft distinctive well-defined fill.	17 th /18 th century
26	4	C	Magazine box cut	0.7m long, 0.2m wide, 0.1m deep. Very clearly defined (because of its fill) steep sided feature running east-west in the northeast corner of Room 4. Truncated at east by foundation trench [24].	

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Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
27	4	B/D	Early, eastern cobbled surface	4.3m long, 1.6m wide, 0.10m deep. Beach cobbles set within dark blackish brown compact, fine sandy clay/silt. Appeared to predate earth and lime floor (33). Both (33) and (27) were then used together. Compacted, worn and quite well-preserved. Remnants of floor-use related residue found between cobbles including A to N finds. Cut by [26].	14/15 th to 18/19 th century
28	4	C/D	Worn entrance?	1.5m long, 1.2m wide, 0.1m deep. Mid grey brown compact gritty sandy silty clay. Irregular large shallow area of repeated compression and possible slight disturbance in cobbled floor (27). Did not extend below cobble depth. Possible entrance area linking cobbling (27) with earth and lime floor (33).	18 th to 19 th century
29	4	D	Main fill of [30]	0.35m diameter, 0.45m deep. Mid reddish grey, loose and gritty. Loose gritty fill 80% broken pantiles. Probably former ship ballast. Contained within a wood-lined barrel. NOTE: 12 pistol / musket balls plus 11 lead fragments were deposited in a probable pouch/bag in the top of this fill. The lead fragments included a piece for holding the flint in position for a flint-lock mechanism.	Probable 17 th and 18 th century
30	4	C	Barrel	0.35m diameter, 0.45m deep. Small timber-lined barrel. Sunk through cobbled surface (27), circular. Top missing. Wood lining (36) rotted <i>in situ</i>, plus 2 fills (35) and (29). Originally used in fish storage/processing, the residue from which remained at the base (35). Barrel was then filled with broken pantiles (29), before having a deposit of pistol/musket balls – probably contained within a pouch or bag inserted in to the top.	
31	4	D	Fill of [32]	0.45m long, 0.35m wide, 0.2m deep. Light and dark yellowish and black compact sandy clay & charcoal spread. Contemporaneous with cobbled floor [27]. Possibly removed and filled in during use of subsequent earth and lime floor.	18 th to 19 th century
32	4	C	Post hole / support	0.45m long, 0.35m wide, 0.2m deep. A rectangular slot probably designed to support a structural post.	
33	4	D	Earth, mortar and lime floor	3.7m long, 2.6m wide, 0.1-0.15m deep in Room 4. Continued in to Room 3 as (48). Variable black, brown, white & yellow brown compact sandy silty clay. Occasional stones, bones and pot. Edged by cobbled (65) at south of room but appears to overlay cobbles (27) in east. An internal, covered floor space spanning Room 3 and 4. The floor had sunk or collapsed down 0.15m along the length of Room 4's western wall.	
34	4	C/D	Disturbance in south-west room corner	An irregular approximately 1.8m by 1.4m by 0.1m deep run of vaguely rounded disturbance (or possible collapse) associated with a linear depression running up to the west side of Room 4. They disturb/cut through the underlying earth and lime floor (33). Filled with a mid-grey brown friable silty/sandy clay loam. Possibly associated with (58).	

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Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
35	4	D	Basal fill of [30]	0.35m diameter, 0.08m deep basal fill of barrel [30]. Mid red-brown friable gritty silty soft clay. Contained many scales and small fish bones - the residue from either fish processing or possibly fish storage. Sampled, but organic material rotted on contact with air.	
36	4	B/D	Wood lining of barrel	Dark reddish black/brown plastic greasy decayed wood and fine silt/clay. Poorly preserved but clearly visible in patches. A rim was clearly visible running around the upper circumference of the barrel suggesting an original lid that was flush with the original cobbled surface.	
37	6	C	Culvert under cobbles	0.35m wide, 0.6m deep. Probable culvert filled with lower (44) and upper (42). Ditch [37] cuts through rubble filled ditch [41] fills on its south side.	
38	6	D	Upper fill of [41]	Large rounded cobbles (15-20cm) in ditch [41]. Cobbles appeared to have been a deliberate fill to allow drainage.	
39	6	D	Clay levelling	Grey brown compacted sandy clay under cobble flooring (13) and (68). Appeared to represent a deliberate levelling deposit. Overlay [37]/(42).	17 th to 18 th century
40	6	D	Lower fill of [41]	0.25m deep. Mid greyish brown friable sandy clay which developed around and collected at the base of ditch [41]. Included pantiles.	17 th - 18/19 th century
41	6	C	Ditch/drain	0.5m wide, 0.45m deep. Cobble filled ditch/drain, possibly cut by culvert [37]. Filled with (38) and (40).	
42	6	D	Upper fill of [37]	Mid greyish brown loose sandy clay. Upper fill of possible culvert [37].	18 th century
43	6	D	Deposit	Redeposited soft silty grey clay, which was cut by the northern side of ditch [41].	18 th century
44	6	D	Lower fill of [37]	Mid greyish brown friable silty sandy clay with brick fragments. Large quantity of pantile pressed into bottom.	
45	4	D	Post-use/room backfill	Approximately 4m long, 4m wide, 0.4m deep. Mid grey brown compact & friable sandy/loamy clay. Removed to reveal archaeological deposits. Overlay cobbles (27), (65) and earthen floor (33) and underlay the concrete floor which was used until recently. Included a mix of finds including brick, stone, lime, shell, bone, iron, china and 2 cannon balls. Interestingly the lower half appeared to show foundation trench [24] cutting through it. The upper half abutted Stewards House walling.	17 th to 19 th century
46	6	D	Build-up/natural	Mid reddish brown compact sandy clay. Similar to (8), possibly part of (4). Under (4). Redeposited.	
47	6	D	Lime/sand deposit above (43)	Light greyish brown loose/friable sandy silty clay. Contained soft white inclusions – possibly lime. It immediately overlay (43) and underlay (4). Contained a large piece of pantile. Dipped north mirroring (43).	18 th /19 th century

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Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
48	3	D	Earthen surface	3.7m long, 2m wide, 0.1-0.18m deep. Mid/dark reddish grey/brown hard compact sandy clay with loam. Occasional small stones. A compacted used surface overlying cobbles (51), charcoal (66), (67) and overlying earth lime flooring and repairs (49). Hard and distinct from overlying (54).	18 th to 20 th century
49	3	D	Earth, mortar and lime floor	2.7m long, 1.8m wide, 0.08-0.14m deep. A compacted, very hard and smooth, internal earth, mortar and lime floor with frequent repaired patches. Included charcoal flecks, crushed shell, etc. Appeared to merge with (51) or partially overlay it. Defined on southern edge by cobbles (50). Same as (33) in Room 4.	18 th to 19 th century
50	3	B/D	Cobbled surface	2.8m long, 0.5m wide, c0.15m deep. Narrow, linear band of visible cobbling extending south beyond the edge of Room3. Later than western cobbling (51). Cobbles set in mid brownish grey hard, compact sandy clay. Occasional charcoal. Ran west from door and formed neat edging against which earth and lime floor (49) abutted. A thin 1cm thick greasy black deposit overlay the spaces between the cobbles, which was sealed by (45).	18 th to 19 th century
51	3	B/D	Cobble and earthen surface	Approximately 4-4.5m long, 1.4m wide. Mid grey hard and compact lime-rich clay silt compacted deposit which merged with remnant cobbling to form a remnant floor surface which also merged with earthen floor (49). Partially underlay cobbles (50) in the south. The general area seemed slightly disturbed. Cut through by wall foundation trench [56]. Overlain by probable former entrance area (see Fig 5). Appears to incorporate part of a north-south drain or channel, which ran up the western side of Room 3 and contained a similar greasy black/charcoal-like deposit to that recorded as overlying (50).	
52	6	C	Voided timber slot	0.18m long, 0.11m wide, 0.44m deep. A rotted-out timber post was recorded beneath cobbled surface (13) as a void. It was visible in the eastern basal edge of post setting [9].	
53	6	D	Basal silt of [52]	0.18m long, 0.11m wide, 0.08m deep. Basal fill of posthole void [52]. Not excavated. Possibly linked to south edge of [37].	
54	3	D	Infill above (48)	Approximately 4m long, 4m wide, 0.1-0.15m deep. Mid/dark red/grey/brown/white & yellow compact, friable sandy clay/loam. Mixed, multi-coloured flecked dense heavy infill deposit over (48) under 40+ year old plastic sheets, concrete floor above. Layer included much brick, slate, tile, stone, cobbles, bone, ironwork, etc.	17 th to 20 th century
55	3	D	Foundation trench fill	0.1-0.25m wide, 0.15+m deep. Mid grey-brown flecked, friable sandy silt and clay, with pebbles, stone and slate. Very mixed and occasionally loose rubble fill of the Steward's House internal and external wall foundation trenches. Some loose building debris.	

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Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
56	3	C	Foundation cut	0.1-0.25m wide, 0.15+m deep. Not fully excavated due to risk of wall destabilisation. Steep straight edges, hugging walls in Room 3. Mixed fill (55). Cuts (48), but not overlying (54).	
57	6	D	Clay levelling under (39) and (13)/(68)	Mid brown dense sandy clay. Underlying cobbles and (39). Cut by [37] and probably [52]. Overlies (46), (38), (43), (47). Appears to be a deliberate attempt to stabilise/build-up the area, perhaps in preparation for building / cobbling.	
58	4	D	Fill of [59]	0.6m long E-W, 0.3m wide N-S, 0.35m deep. Mid grey brown friable silt. c75% stone. Possibly the same as (34) which was seen in plan as disturbance in earth and lime floor (33). Fill of [59] which post-dated (60). Finds include residual material.	15 th to 20 th century
59	4	C	Pit under west wall	0.6m long, 0.3m wide, 0.35m deep. Probable pit (or infilled disturbance/ collapse), above (60). Possibly associated with (34). Filled with (58). Only north part excavated, west side abutted by internal wall foundation trench [24]/(23). East side defined by upper part of drain cut [61] (abuts (62) silt).	
60	4	D	Upper fill of [61]	0.5m long, 0.55m wide, 0.35m-0.45m deep. Mid brownish grey friable sandy silty clay, approximately 65% stone. Upper fill of [61]. Over (63). Under (58)/[59]. Contained residual early find.	Early Med sherd
61	4	C	Pit under west wall under [59], culvert	1m long, 0.55m wide, 0.8m deep. A linear drain or culvert predating earth and lime floor (33), cobbling (65) and foundation trenches (23)/[24]. Contained two fills (plus later (34), (58), [59]). Cuts earliest contexts (62) & (64). The overlying floors visibly drop down towards [61] due to subsidence beneath the weight of Stewards House internal walling.	
62	4	D	Thick grey sandy silt	1m long, 0.5m wide, c0.4m deep. Dark grey dense and compact sandy silt. Extended beneath earth and lime floor (33). Only partially excavated. Overlies sandy redeposited clay (64) over natural hard clay/rock. Cut by [61].	11 th to 13 th century
63	4	D	Lower fill of [61].	1m long, 0.55m wide, 0.3-0.35m deep. Dark grey heavy and friable clayey silt. About 80% stone. Lower fill of infilled drain or culvert. Contained voids. Looked like a blend of (62) and (64) had leached into original stony fill. Very few cobbles, but much broken angular local stone.	18 th to 20 th century
64	4	D	Redeposited natural clay	1m long, 0.45m wide, 0.23m deep. Mid ginger brown dense sandy clay. Redeposited natural. Overlies non-sandy hard clay. Occasional small shell disturbed where cut by [61]. Possibly natural.	

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Context no.	Room no.	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Feature	Description	Retained finds period
65	4	B/D	Cobbles/ floor/ surface	2.5m long E-W, 0.5m wide, c0.15m deep. Dark grey compact clay silt with cobbles pressed in to the top. Occasional overlying charcoal. Narrow edged neat cobbled floor extending south beneath foundation wall. Later than cobbled floor (27) to north. At western end drops down towards west wall and cut [61].	
66	3	D	Charcoal layer	Approximately 0.03m deep. Dark black friable/compact, thin layer of charcoal on top of earth floor (49). Visible in section through overlying (48).	
67	3	D	Layer	Approximately 0.1m thick Mid-light yellowish red compact sandy clay over (66).	
68	6	B/D	Internal cobbled surface	Internal upper cobbling for an open fronted structure – same as (22) in adjacent Room 7. Neat, but slightly irregular and in good condition. Eastern side cut away by [14].	
69	7	B	Post-pad	One of a pair of post-pads in Room 7 which supported a post at the front of an open-fronted structure. Set in to and part of cobbling (22). Positioned on the inner edge of the step separating the inner covered and outer cobbled yard.	
70	7	B	Post-pad	One of a pair of post-pads in Room 7 which supported a post at the front of an open-fronted structure. Set in to and part of cobbling (22). Positioned on the inner edge of the step separating the inner covered and outer cobbled yard.	
71	7	B/D	External cobbled surface	Same as (13) in Room 6. External cobbled yard surface at the front of an open-fronted structure which ran east to west across Rooms 6 and 7.	

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Appendix 2: Table of Finds

Area	Context Number	Type (Material)	Provisional Identification	Period
Room 3	U/S	Iron, clay pipe, brick, tile, stone, marine, pottery, glass, bones	12 x ironwork including nails, chisels broken pieces and a very decayed large padlock; 3 x pipe stems; 2 x handmade red brick fragments; 2 x handmade red tiles; 6 x holed slates; 1 x oyster shell; 8 x Pearlware china; 2 x green glass; 12 x bones (9 x butchered cattle, 2 x bird/chicken, 1 x un-butchered sheep/goat).	17 th to 20 th century
	A	Iron, marine	1 x screw, 1 x limpet.	
	B	Iron, wood	2 x fragments (1 melted on to stone), 1 x rotting wood	
	C	Iron	3 x pieces (1 melted on to stone)	
	D	Iron	1 x discarded nail fragment	
	E	Bone	1 x butchered animal	
	F	Iron	1 x nail	
	G	Iron	1 x nail	
	H	Marine, bone	2 x limpet shells, 1 x probable bird bone	
	I	Iron	1 x piece	
	J	Marine	1 x fish scale	
	K	Stone, glass	1 x greywacke sharpening stone, 1 x green glass piece	
	M	Metal	1 x metal piece	
	N	Bronze	1 x bronze nail	
	O	Clay pipe	2 x clay pipe pieces	18 th century
	P	iron	1 x tapered fragment	
	S	Stone, clinker, pottery	1 x modern brick fragment, 1 x cobble, 1 x iron-rich clinker, 1 x modern decorated Pearlware	19 th to 20 th century
	T	Bone, pottery, iron	1 x possible bird bone, 1 x modern stoneware, 1 x unidentified iron object	19 th to 20 th century
	(48)	Stone, brick, tile, mortar, pottery, iron, marine, bone, clay pipe, coal	2 x slate, 1 x modern brick, 7 x tiles, 1 x mortar lump, 1 x modern stoneware, 1 x white stoneware jar, 1 x fused nails, 1 x common winkle, 3 x butchered pig bones, 2 x clay pipe stems, 1 x coal	

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Area	Context Number	Type (Material)	Provisional Identification	Period
	(49)	Iron, marine, clay pipe	3 x nails, 1 x unknown iron piece, 1 x limpet, 1 x decorated clay pipe bowl.	18 th to 19 th century
	(50)	Tile, pottery	1 x pantile, 1 x Barnstaple ware	18 th to 19 th century
Room 4	U/S – NE corner (45)	Cannon balls	1 x cannon ball (4", 8lb weight) 1 x cannon ball (2", 2lb weight)	17 th /18 th century
	U/S	Pottery, bone, iron, clay pipe, tile, stone, glass, mortar, marine	1 x green glaze Barnstaple ware, 1 x rat skeleton, 10 x nails (one fused to rock), 1 x chisel, 2 x unknown, 8 x bone (2 x pig, 3 x cattle, 1 x bird, 2 x rabbit), 4 x clay pipe stems, 9 x Bridgewater tiles, 2 x modern Pearlware pot, 2 x N Devon Barnstaple ware, 3 x notched and 1 x holed slate, 1 x green/brown glass, 1 x mortar lump, 1 x limpet	17 th to 19 th century
	U/S –SF3	Lead	1 x ½" with 0.6oz weight	17 th /18 th century
	A	Iron, marine	1 x nail, 1 x large pin head, 1 x bag of fish scales and bones = pilchards and sardines	
	B	Clinker	3 x clinker industrial waste	
	D	Tile, stone, glass, coal, pottery, iron	2 x medieval roofing tiles, 4 x roof slates, 1 x picture glass, 2 x coal, 1 x glazed Barnstaple ware, 3 x variable nails	14 th /15 th to 18 th /19 th century
	E	Clinker	3 x clinker	
	F	Clinker	1 x clinker	
	G	Glass	1 x thin greenish roll-topped glass vessel shard	
	H	Clinker, glass	2 x clinker, 1 x green glass with rolled rim	
	I	Tile, iron	5 x floor tiles, 2 x small iron pieces	
	J	Tile	5 x Bridgewater ridge tiles	18 th to 19 th century
	K	Marine, tile	1 x bag of fish scales – pilchard and sardine, 4 x Bridgewater roof tiles	18 th to 19 th century
	L	Clinker, pottery	5 x clinker, 1 x stoneware	17 th to 18 th century
	M	Glass, clinker, mortar	1 x rim and neck of wine bottle, 5 x clinker with attached mortar	
	N	Iron	1 x large iron object	
	(23)	Pottery, marine	11 x modern Pearlware, 1 x oyster shell	19 th to 20 th century
	(25)	Lead	1 x musket ball ½, 0.6oz weight	17 th /18 th century

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Area	Context Number	Type (Material)	Provisional Identification	Period
	(28)	Clay pipe, glass, stone, flint, coal, mortar, snail, tile, clinker	2 x clay pipe stems, 6 x coloured glass shards, 3 x slates, 1 x flat circular stone – possibly used? 1 x flint core, 13 x clear glass shards, 3 x coal, 1 x mortar with roof slate impression, 1 x common land snail shell, 2 x drain pipe or roof tile, 3 x clinker	18 th to 19 th century
	(29)/[30]	Mortar, stone, tiles	1 x mortar with tile imprint, 1 x very dark heavy cobble, 24 x pantiles (various shapes)	c18 th century
	(29)/[30]	Lead	11 x scraps of lead including pieces designed to hold the flint in place for a flintlock pistol or musket, 12 x pistol and musket balls	17 th /18 th century
	(31)/[32]	Clinker, tile	3 x clinker, 1 x Bridgewater tile	18 th /19 th century
	(35)/[30]	Marine	1 x bag of fish scales and small bones – pilchard and herring (decayed on exposure to air)	
	(58)	Iron, flint, glass, marine, mortar, clinker, stone, pottery, tile, bone, clay pipe, brick	7 x rafter staples, nails and unknown, 3 x flint/chert (core and waste), 4 x glass (bottle and window), 6 x limpets and winkle shells, 1 x clinker, 1 x mortar, 8 x small pebbles, 1 x cobble with sea encrustation, 1 x broken brick, 25 x variable post-medieval pottery, 2 x medieval tile, 2 x roof tiles, 2 x butchered long bones, 4 x clay pipe stem and bowl pieces, 1 x red brick fragment	15 th to 20 th century
	(60)	Tile, marine, stone, bone, pottery, iron	1 x pantile, 1 x medieval roof tile, 8 x limpet shell, 2 x roof slates, 3 x rodent bones, 1 x early medieval pot rim, 1 x modern nail	11 th to early 20 th century
	(62)	Marine, pottery, stone	3 x limpet, 1 x upper greenstone derived ware (previously SW chert tempered ware, 1 x greenstone piece	11 th to early 13 th century
	(63)	Stone, brick, tile, iron, wood, pottery, marine	2 x pebbles, 1 x notched slate, 1 x modern brick, 4 x Bridgewater tiles, 1 x miscellaneous metal fused to wood, 6 x modern wood, 3 x cream and white Pearlware sherds, 14 x limpet pieces	18 th to 20 th century
Room 6	U/S –above cobble clearance	Clay pipe, flint, marine, iron, pottery, tile, stone, mortar, bone	14 x clay pipe stems and bowl, 1 x flint blade, 2 x crab shell, 7 x nails, screws and small tube, 1 x porcelain insulator part, 4 x stoneware, 1 x post-medieval red earthenware, 7 x modern Pearlware, 1 x decorated N Devon Barnstaple ware, 2 x N Devon Gravel tempered ware, 1 x terracotta floor tile, 1 x slate, 1 x red brick fragment, 5 x mortar pieces, 6 x butchered bone including pig and cattle (one with probable tally marks), 7 x fish and conger eel jaw bones, 1 x bird bone, 1 x bone with nail through it, 1 x miscellaneous stone tool with ?worked edge	18 th to 20 th century
	U/S –upper cobbled surface	Stone, iron, clay pipe	3 x roofing slates, 2 x iron pieces, 3 x clay pipe stems	18 th century

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Area	Context Number	Type (Material)	Provisional Identification	Period
	U/S –lower cobbled surface	Clay pipe, pottery, marine, brick, mortar, clinker, bone, tile	4 x clay pipe stems, 1 x exterior glazed N Devon Barnstaple ware, 1 x modern pot, 1 x crab shell, 3 x red brick fragments, 1 x mortar lump, 1 x clinker, 1 x bone fragment, 2 x pantile pieces with attached mortar	17 th to 19 th century
	U/S – SF1	Bronze	1 x bronze 1" nail	
	U/S – SF2	Bronze	1 x bronze buckle	
	(7)	Stone	1 x stone, 1 x pebble	
	(10)	Daub, bone	3 x red daub lumps, 2 x butchered bone	
	(11)	Coal	2 x coal	
	(39)	Pottery, stone, marine	1 x N Devon Barnstaple ware sherd, 3 x possible copper ore???, 1 x bag of fish scales and small bones (pilchard, herring and limpet fragments)	17 th to 18 th century
	(40)	Brick, stone, mortar, clinker, iron, tile, clay pipe,	2 x modern brick, 2 x early handmade brick, 1 x quartz pebble, 1 x mortar piece, 1 x clinker, 4 x iron pieces, 1 x iron-rich stone, 12 x Bridgewater roof tiles, 5 x clay pipe stems and bowl parts, 1 x nail	17 th to 19 th century
	(42)	Stone, iron, clay pipe, marine	3 x slates (one holed and one with mortar), 3 x nails, 2 x clay pipe stem and bowl, 1 x dog whelk	18 th century
	(43)	Clay pipe	1 x clay pipe stem	18 th century
	(47)	Tile	1 x Bridgewater roof tile	18 th /19 th century
Room 7	U/S	Iron, stone, clay pipe, wood, brick, tile, clinker, pottery	6 x nails, 19 x roof slates, 2 x stones, 1 x clay pipe stem, 2 x modern wood, 4 x modern brick fragments, 4 x Bridgewater tiles, 1 x clinker, 1 x utilized struck chert, 1 x quartz borer, 4 x mixed sherds	17 th to 19 th century
	(1)	Stone, pottery	1 x holed slate, 1 x modern stoneware	19 th century
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