

## A MEDIEVAL AND SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY HOUSE AT WALDERTON, WEST SUSSEX, DISMANTLED AND RE-ERECTED AT THE WEALD AND DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

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*The village of Walderton lies on the southern slopes of the South Downs at the south end of Stoughton parish, at a point where a tributary joins the River Ems (Fig. 1). The descent of Walderton Manor is known from at least 1244 but it was divided before the seventeenth century, two manors being referred to in 1623.<sup>1</sup>*

*There are no early detailed maps of the area and the original layout of the village can only be deduced from its form on a survey of 1818;<sup>2</sup> the Stoughton Tithe Map of 1849; surviving buildings; and earthworks indicating the former sites of houses and field boundaries (Fig. 2). Only two timber-framed medieval houses appear to survive today in the village, Downland Cottage and Mount Pleasant Cottage, and in both cases little more than the original roof timbers are present since both have been underpinned in brick and flint, probably in the first half of the seventeenth century. A third timber-framed building, henceforth in this report referred to as Walderton Cottage (Site 1), had also been underpinned in brick and flint and this was dismantled in 1980 for re-erection at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, at Singleton. During and immediately after the dismantling an archaeological excavation was undertaken to determine the extent and period of occupation on the site. Whilst this was in progress a field survey of the village was undertaken and several house sites were recorded as earthworks, both in the field to the east of Walderton Cottage and in the field, referred to on the Stoughton Tithe Map as 'Pildare', to the south of Manor Farm (Fig. 2). The latter example was surrounded by a bank and a ditch and lay close to the top of the hill. In 1981 an excavation was undertaken on this house site (Site 2) prior to destruction by ploughing, in an attempt to determine the nature of occupation on it.*

*This report concerns the investigations on the two sites and includes a brief account of the history of the ownership of Walderton Cottage based on documents retained with the deeds of the property.*

### SITE 1: WALDERTON COTTAGE

#### *PERIOD 1: Medieval (circa 1270–1400)*

The earliest occupation on the site was represented by a gully and a collection of pottery sherds<sup>3</sup> sealed beneath the earliest recognisable floor surfaces of Periods 2, 3 and 4. The gully, which was about 20 cm wide and 24 cm deep, was traced over a distance of 9 m from the western extremity of the excavation almost as far as the Period 2 wall (Fig. 3), but the nature of the gravel into which it was cut made identification impossible beyond this point. There was, in fact, little to differentiate the gully fill from the surrounding gravel except that the gully contained oyster shell with its gravelly fill and this gave it a slightly whiter appearance. Whilst it could be argued that the gully may have carried a sill beam for a timber-framed building it

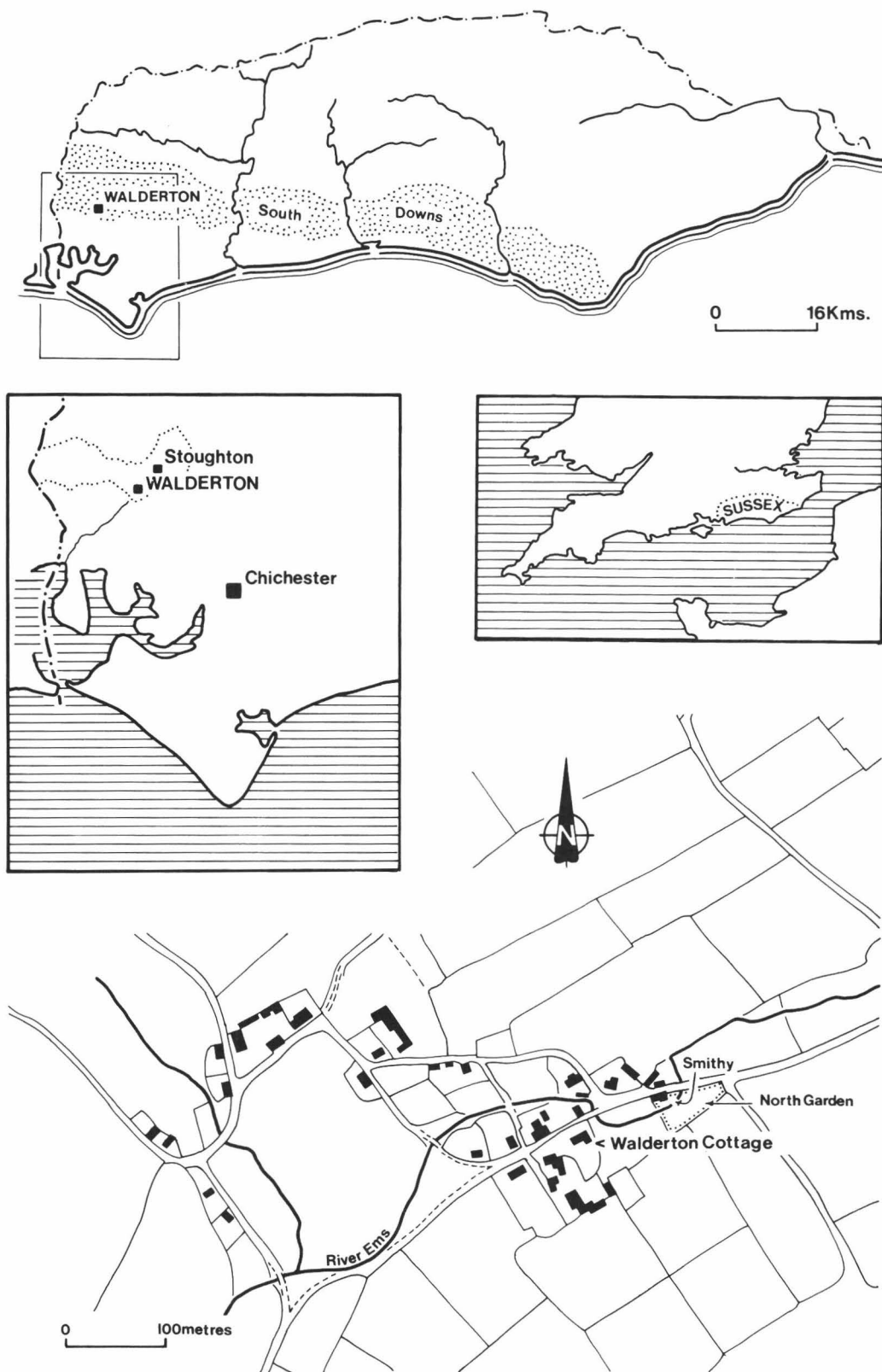


Fig. 1. The Location of Walderton Cottage. The plan of the village of Walderton (below) is based on the Stoughton Tithe Map of 1840.

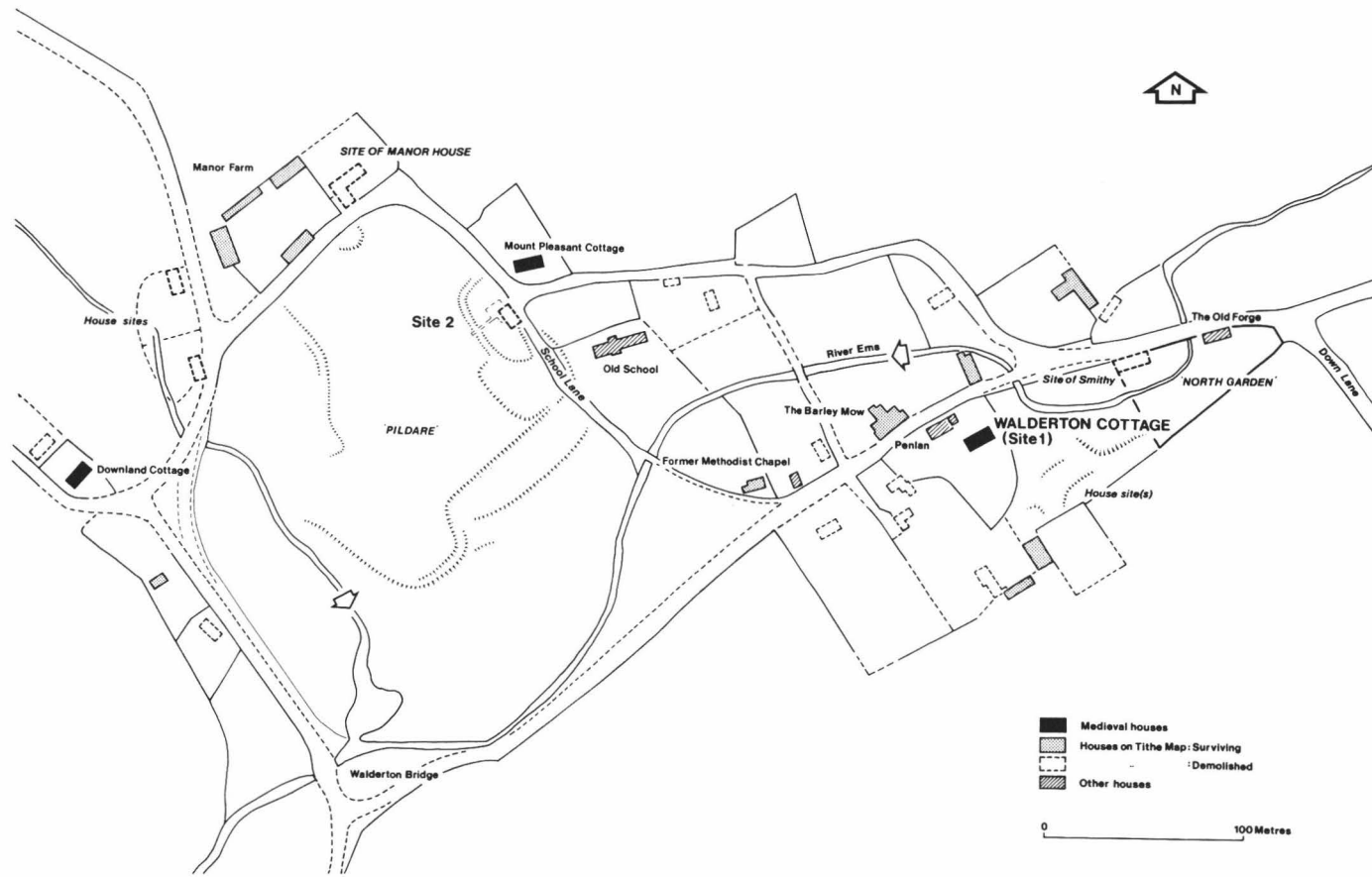


Fig. 2. Walderton, showing the location of the two sites investigated and the older buildings in the village.

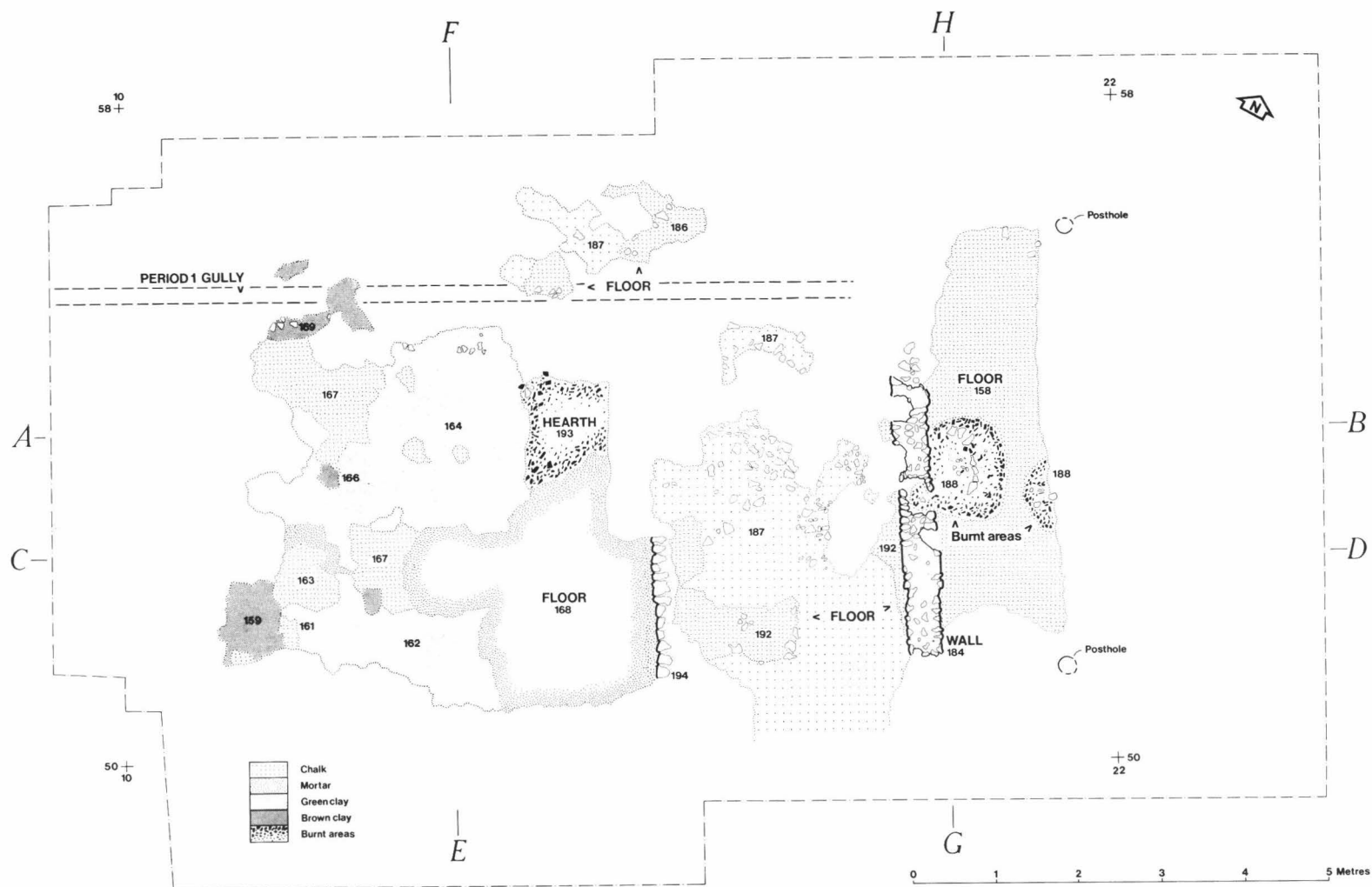


Fig. 3. Periods 1 and 2a: Ground plan as revealed by excavation.

seems more likely that it represents a drainage channel associated with agricultural activity prior to the construction of the first recognisable building on the site.

The small group of pottery from the gravel (Layers 160, 190 and 191) underlying the earliest floor levels of Period 2, was sealed in places only by the floors of Periods 3 and 4 and can, therefore, not be regarded as an uncontaminated group. Much of the material is medieval, ranging in date from the late thirteenth to the fifteenth century, but it includes several Painted Ware sherds (Fig. 21, No. 8) and a vessel with external strapping (Catalogue No. 18 — not illustrated), which could push the date into the first part of the sixteenth century. Assuming, however, that the late material is intrusive, the small amount of medieval pottery together with the early material which appears as residual in later levels (see p. 80) would suggest occupation or use of the site in the medieval period, perhaps between about 1270 and 1400, for which the only identifiable feature was the gully.

*PERIOD 2: Later medieval (circa 1400–1550)*

The earliest recognisable house plan was preserved at ground level in the form of a wall; three or four floor surfaces, two of which were separated by a line of flints; and two postholes which may or may not be related to this period (Fig. 3).

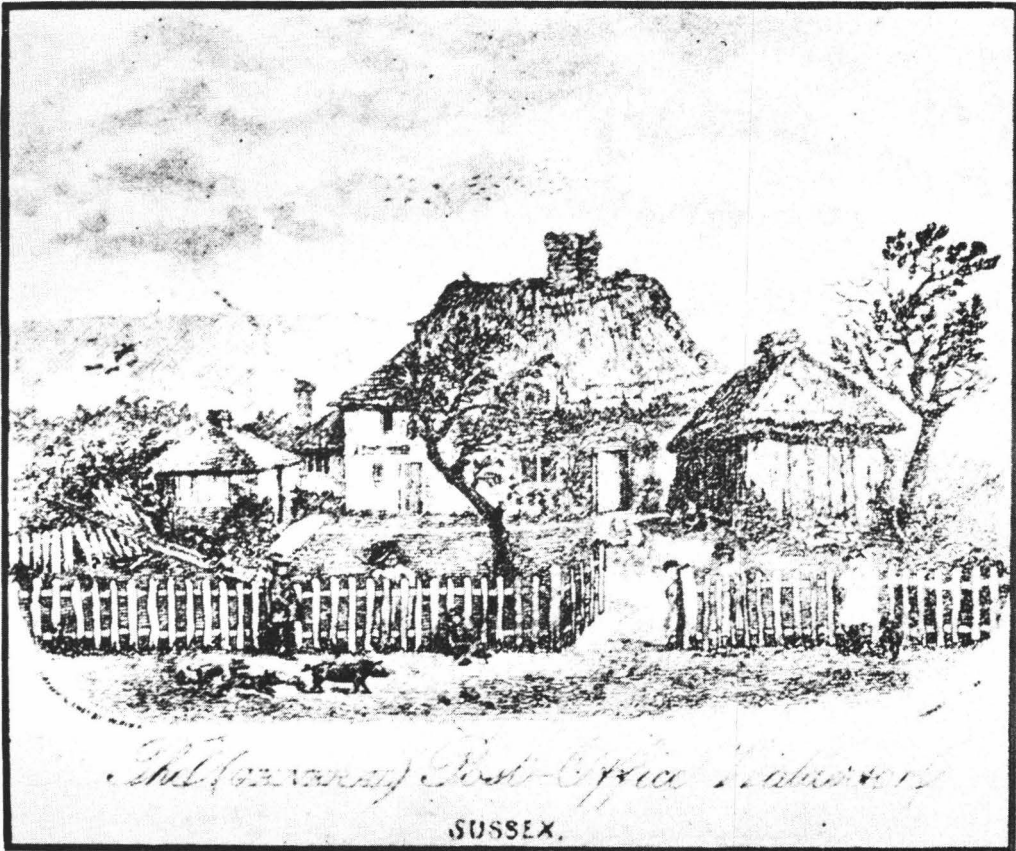


Plate I. Walderton Cottage, from a drawing made at the end of the nineteenth century. This shows the east end in use as a Post Office. The building in the right foreground is the shop, built between 1874 and 1898 and extended as a house in 1901 (see p. 84). Reproduced with the kind permission of Mr. M. Uniacke.

The wall (Layer 184) comprised one course of flints in yellow mortar, about 48 cm wide, which was traced over a distance of 4.4 m. Abutting the east side of the wall was a puddled chalk floor (Layer 158) over large unmortared flint nodules (Layer 189). The floor was overlaid by two areas of burning (Layer 188), which both contained fragments of brick, tile, and pottery, and one of these partially overlay the wall. To the west and north-west of the wall were patches of chalk rubble (Layer 187) over the surface of which were the remains of a puddled chalk floor or floors (Layers 186 and 192).

The wall, burnt areas and floors were overlaid by a further puddled chalk floor (Layer 127) and this was cut by the foundation trenches of Period 3 wall footings (Figs. 4 and 5). At the bottom of the foundation trenches two postholes, each about 20 cm in diameter, were cut a few centimetres into the underlying gravel. Whilst they may relate to this, or an earlier period, their character and position suggests that they are more likely to relate to a later phase of reconstruction (see p. 62).

The line of flints in yellow mortar (Layer 194), set in a shallow foundation trench, separated the chalk floor (Layer 192) from a further series of floor surfaces to the west. The earliest, immediately over the natural gravel, was green clay (Layers 162 and 164), up to 10 cm thick, and this was overlaid by patches of brown clay (Layers 159, 166 and 169) and chalk (Layers 161, 163 and 167) which are probably best seen as repairs to a worn surface. Partly overlying these and immediately adjoining the west side of the line of flints was a more extensive floor surface of broken flint in a hard yellow mortar (Layer 168). An area of burning to the north of this contained brick and tile fragments (Layer 193) and this is probably best seen as the remains of a hearth. These features were overlaid by the Period 4 wall footing and floor surfaces (Layers 172 and 175).

The later medieval pottery associated with these features<sup>4</sup> can be used to date them. The floors are dated by material lying both in and on them, and in view of the way in which many of the sherds appear to have been broken and then crushed into the floor surfaces, it seems likely that these, and the spindle whorl (Fig. 23 No. 2) can be considered to have been dropped while the floors were still in use.

At the east end the puddled chalk floors (Layers 127 and 158) and the two burnt areas (Layer 188) produced material (Catalogue Nos. 33–51) with a date range from the fifteenth to sixteenth century probably from about 1400 to 1550. This includes a rim sherd of a necked bowl in Painted Ware (Fig. 21 No. 11); neck and body sherds of a large Painted Ware pitcher (Fig. 21 No. 12); the bunghole of another Painted Ware pitcher (Fig. 21 No. 14); two thumbled base sherds (Fig. 21 Nos. 18 and 27); a rim sherd from a jug with splashes of external glaze (Fig. 21 No. 21); and a rim sherd from a shallow dish with an applied thumbled strap decoration (Fig. 21 No. 22).

In the central area the puddled chalk floor (Layer 186) and the rubble chalk layer (Layer 187) included a small group of sherds (Catalogue Nos. 52–60) which range in date from the late thirteenth to the fifteenth century. Even assuming that some of this material is residual from Period 1, a slightly earlier date than the east end seems likely.

At the west end the earliest, clay, floor surface (Layers 162 and 164) included some residual late thirteenth century sherds but most of the material is centred on the late fourteenth and fifteenth centuries (Catalogue Nos. 19–32), typified by sherds from two vessels in a fine sandy fabric (Fig. 21 Nos. 19 and 20), one with splashes of glaze, and part of the handle of a jug (Fig. 21 No. 28). Two sherds from a repair to this floor (Layer 168) cannot be dated with any degree of accuracy.

# SECTIONS

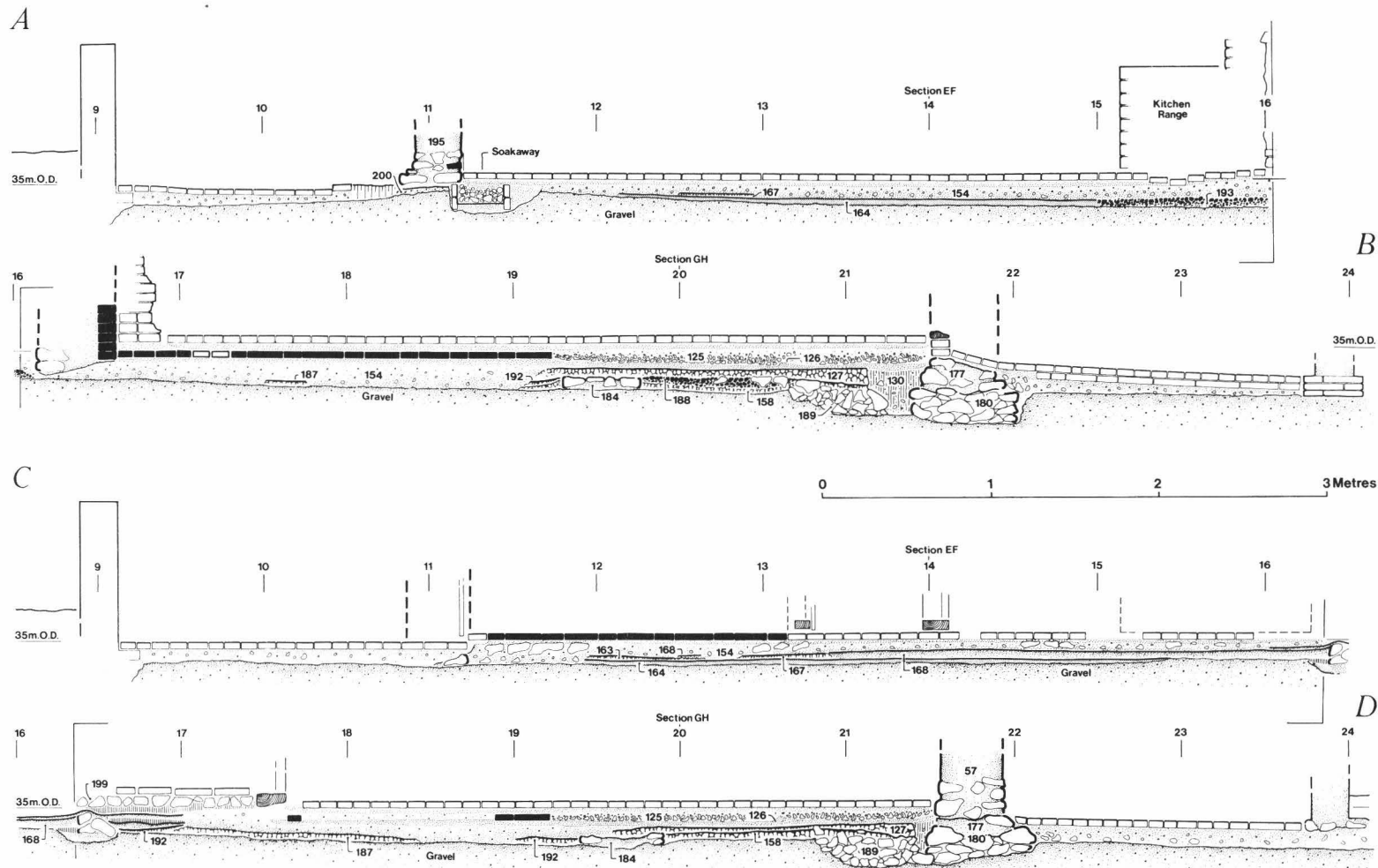


Fig. 4. Archaeological sections, east-west.

## SECTIONS

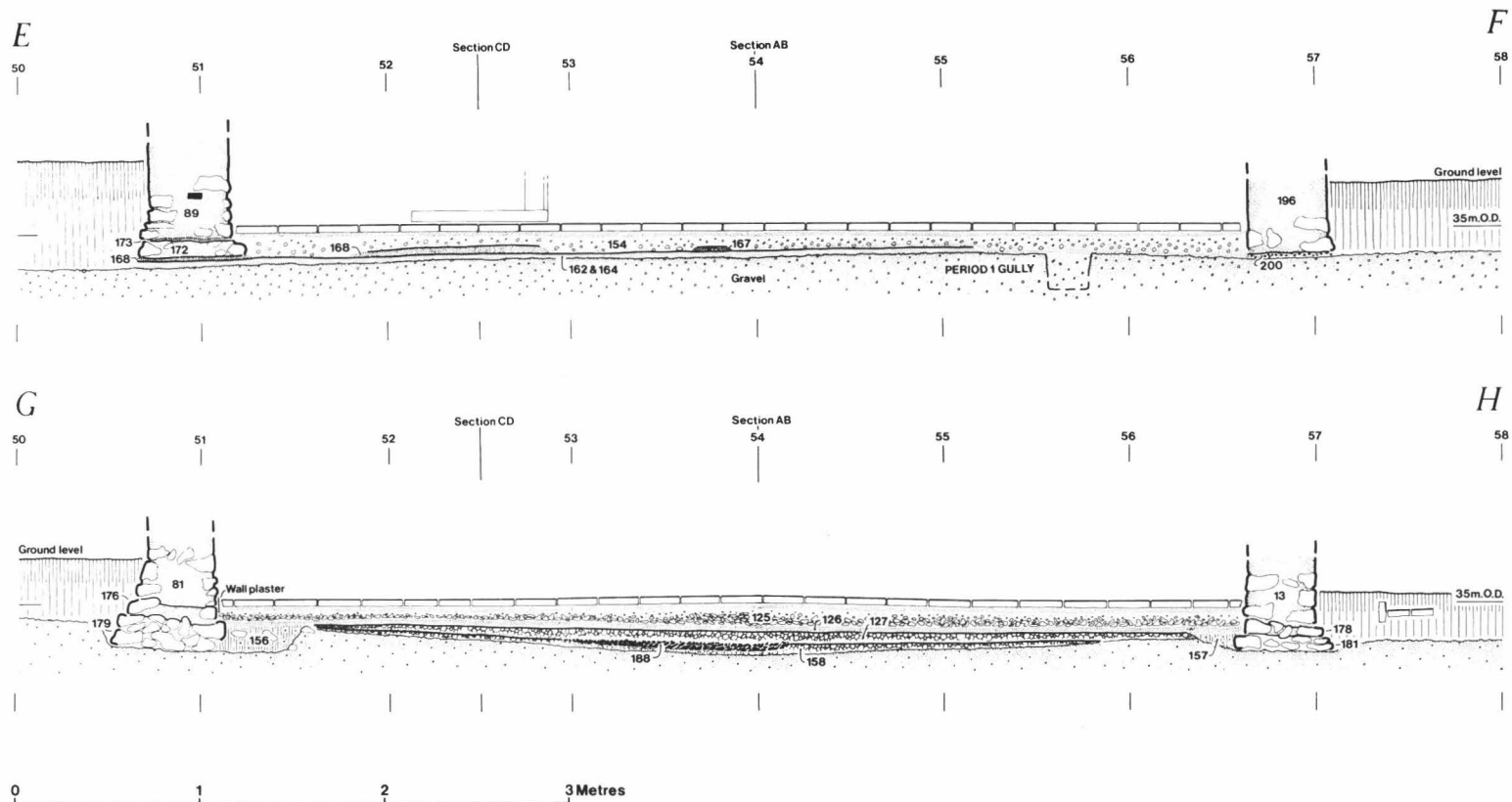


Fig. 5. Archaeological sections, north-south.



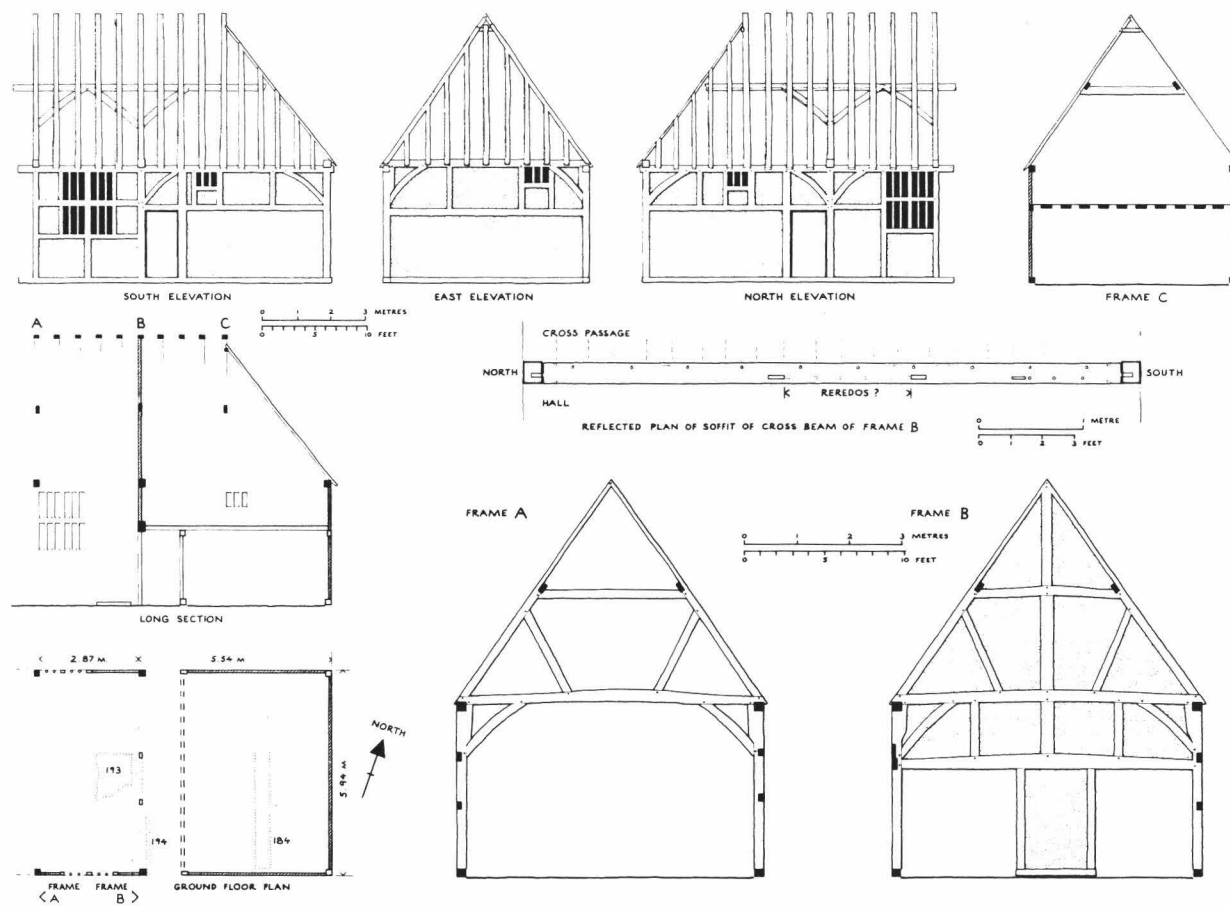


Fig. 6. Period 2b: The timber-framed building. Frames are shown reconstructed as far as the evidence allows. In the ground floor plan the archaeological layer numbers are shown.

Thus it seems likely that the earliest recognisable house plan on the site dates from c. 1400–1550. It extended over an area at least 10 m long and 6.3 m wide and enclosed at least three rooms. The western room contained a hearth, indicating that it functioned as an open hall. There was no evidence to indicate the nature and extent of the surrounding walls but two divisions survived as a wall footing and a line of flints. The significance of these features will be discussed after consideration of the evidence offered by the surviving medieval building.

### *The Timber-Framed Building*

The earliest part of the surviving building was a timber-framed structure (Fig. 6). The wall plates, tie beams, trusses and rafters of this building were largely intact but below wall-plate level the only external remains were the short surviving sections of four of the six main posts and a length of rail in the south wall (re-used in the seventeenth century as the mantel beam of the chamber fireplace). The central cross-frame of the two-bay building also retained its framing and infill panels from the tie beam down to the main cross beam at first floor level (Fig. 9). The original east end tie beam survived but was re-used at the west end of the building during the radical alterations of the seventeenth century.

The roof contained two full trusses with tie beams, A and B (Figs. 8 and 9). Truss A was originally an open frame with no infill panels but containing a collar and two raking struts, while B was a closed truss with a central stud above and below the collar in addition to the raking struts. The side purlins were clasped between collar and diminished principal rafters, and wind-braced to the two main trusses. The original roof was fully hipped at the east end, the top of the hip being taken on an intermediate truss C.



Plate II. Walderton Cottage, a view of the north side in about 1950. This shows the east outshot and the corrugated tin extension in use as a Post Office. Reproduced with the kind permission of Mr. M. Uniacke.

From the evidence of mortices and surviving timbers the plan of the building consisted of an open hall at the west end, which was heavily soot-blackened from the open fire, and a ground floor room at the east end, probably with a cross passage dividing the two. The upper floor at the east end covered the cross passage as well as the ground floor room to give a large upper chamber.

The main uncertainty in this interpretation concerns the west end of this timber-framed structure. Originally truss A was not infilled above the tie beam and contained no framing at all below except for a diagonal brace at each side. Its upper face faced into the hall (as also did that of truss B). Both the wall plates continued for exactly 42 cm beyond the west face of the posts of truss A and in that distance neither plate had a stave hole, mullion mortice, scarf joint, or rafter seating. Also the remains of the main posts of frame A, of which 117 cm survived beneath the wall plate on the north side and 97 cm on the south side, had no mortices or other evidence to suggest that the timber-framed structure continued towards the west. The only conclusion that can be drawn is that the building depended on another, presumably earlier, structure to close or continue the west end of the hall. The axis of this structure could either have been in line with or at right angles to the surviving building. The only clue we have to its form is that at the western end of each wall plate there is a mortice in the top surface which might indicate a vertical post rising to a higher roof level of the earlier structure. At ground level, however, the lowest floor of the hall (Layers 162 and 164) continued without change for a further 2 m beyond the west side of truss A, indicating that the adjoining structure added at least that distance to the west end of the open hall. This suggests that the adjoining structure is likely to have been in line with the surviving building rather than forming a cross wing to it.

The cross beam of frame B at first floor level also presents a difficulty. Dividing the cross passage from the hall this would normally show evidence for short screens at each side of a wide central opening. In this case, however, the mortices, stave holes, and chamfers beneath the beams do not suggest any unambiguous interpretation (Fig. 6). There are three mortices, quite cleanly marked and cut but not pegged. From south to north along the soffit of the beam, in the first 92 cm there are three cleanly drilled stave holes before the first mortice, with a roughly chopped hole near the south end. The next gap of 82 cm between stud mortices has no stave holes and may well represent a doorway, whereas the next gap is nearly 122 cm long and has six roughly chopped shallow stave holes which almost certainly represent inserted wattle and daub infill. The chamfer on the east side is continuous between stops at each end but that on the west side (facing the open hall) disappears for the length of this 122 cm gap. The absence of chamfer combined with the absence of original stave holes suggests this as the position of a length of reredos wall behind the open fire but no supporting evidence of comparable examples in this area can be cited. The final gap between the third mortice and the north end also contains no original stave holes but was chamfered on both sides. A possible interpretation of this evidence would be that the central 122 cm gap represents an original reredos wall flanked by two wide openings (Fig. 6), into one of which a doorway was later inserted. Although this is a most unconventional arrangement the interpretation is supported by the position of the area of burning (Layer 193) interpreted archaeologically as a hearth in periods 2 and 3 (Fig. 3). Pushing speculation even further, a series of seven peg holes which are set in a meandering line on the west (hall) face of the beam in the position of the reredos wall might conceivably have been used for hook-pegs from which to hang meat for smoking (Fig. 9).

The existence of opposed doorways in the north and south walls on the east side of frame B is suggested but not proved by mortices in the wall plate at each side, the positions of which

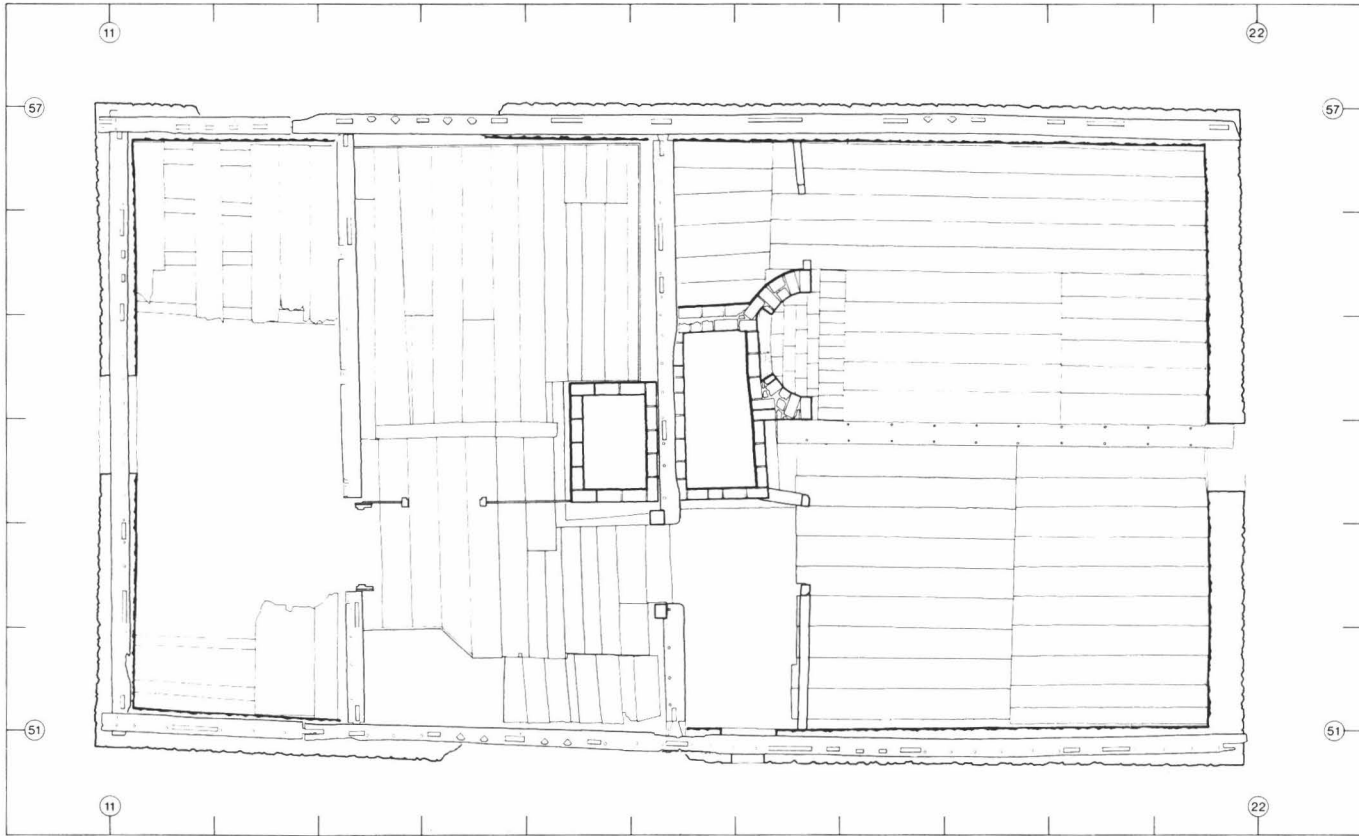


Fig. 7. Plan at 38 m O.D., as found. The wall plates and tie beams are shown in reflected plan so that the mortices and stave holes are seen.

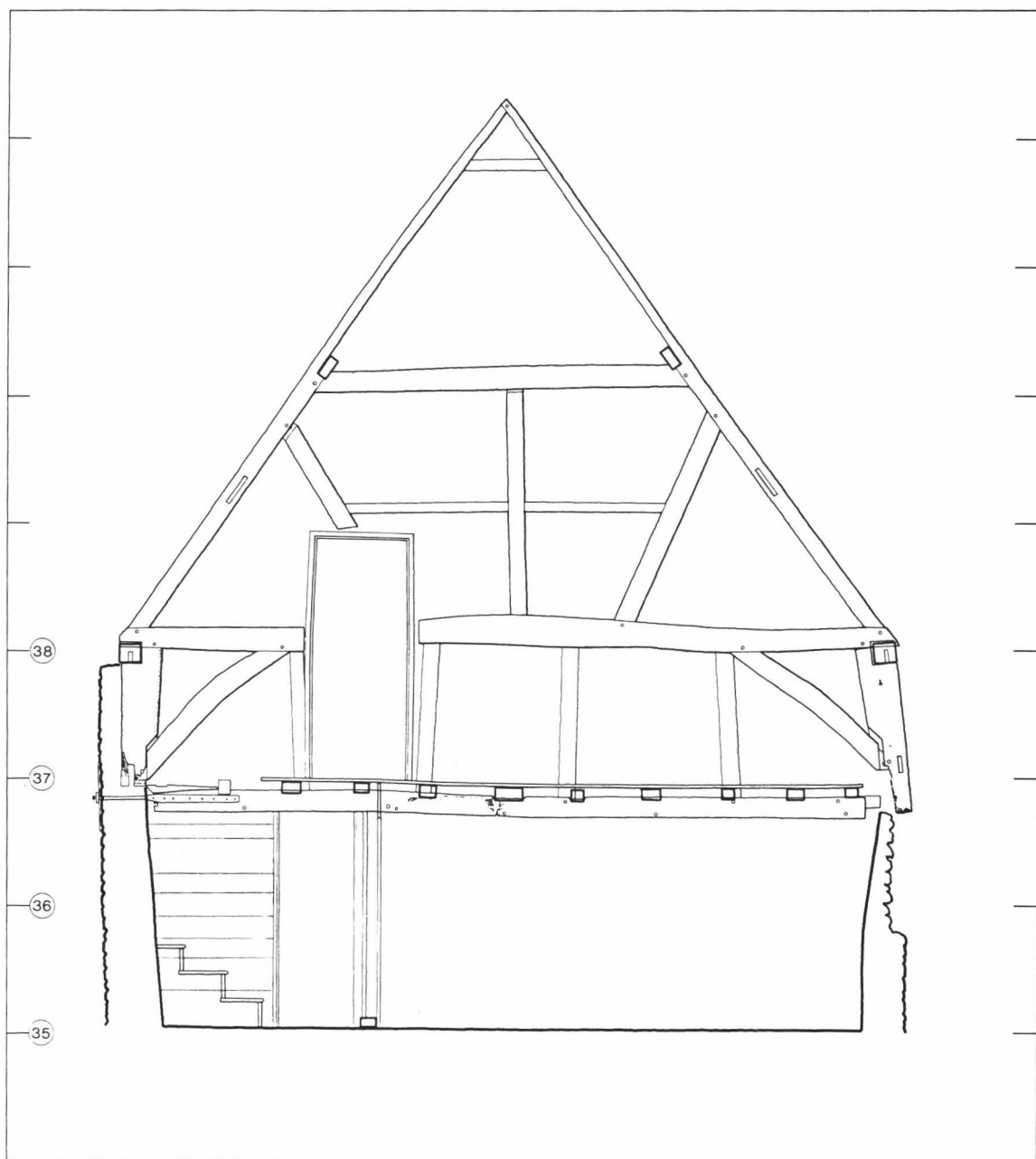


Fig. 8. Frame A, as found, east face.

would yield doorways 97 cm wide (Fig. 6). In timber-framed medieval houses the position of a main doorway is sometimes marked by a stud in the first floor frame as well as the ground floor: in this case the substantial length of the bay between cross frame B and the east end wall

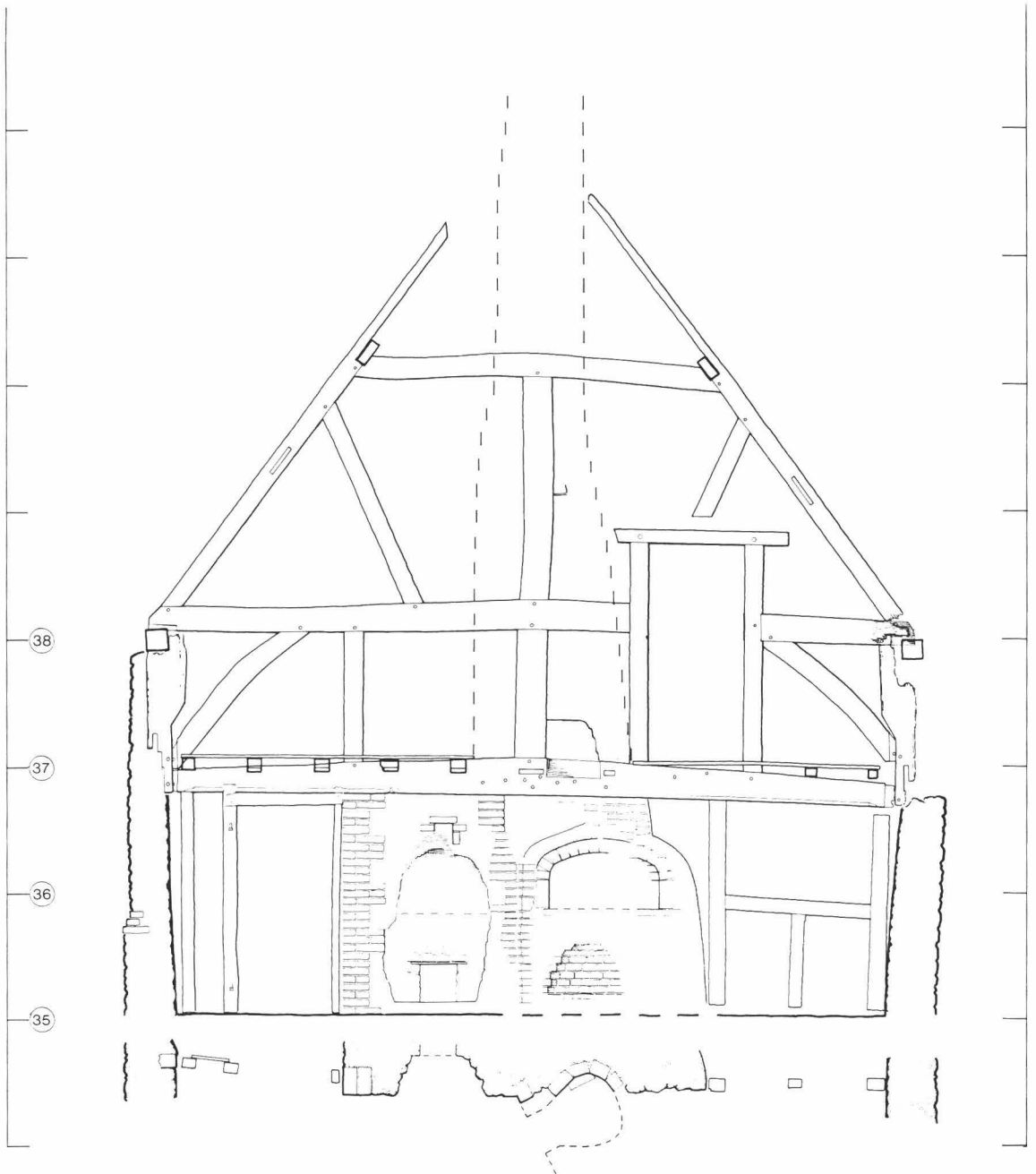


Fig. 9. Frame B, as found, west face. The frame is shown after removal of the chimney inserted in, or soon after, 1797.

(5.33 m) suggests that the studs forming the east side of the doorways may have been full-height, thus reducing the length of the mid rail (Fig. 6).

The original upper floor at the east end had not survived but its form was clear from mortices in the eastern face of the main cross beam of frame B. These were about 30 cm long at 59 cm centres, 3.8 cm deep and with the bottom of the mortice approximately 3.8 cm from the chamfered soffit of the beam. The floor structure must therefore have consisted of unusually wide joists spaced only 25 cm apart, strongly suggesting that the floor boards were laid parallel in rebates in the top edges of the joists rather than transversely over the top of the joists in the more usual way.

The windows on either side of the open hall were the very common double-height arrangement with twelve lights and diagonally-set mullions, but for some reason they were not opposite one another, the window on the south side being positioned centrally in the bay while that on the north side occupied the western half of the bay and abutted frame A. The chamber windows were also unevenly placed with the north window roughly central but the east and south windows off-centre, possibly suggesting a stair position in the south-east corner of the building. The mullion mortices in the east and south windows of the chamber were rectangular,  $7.6 \times 3.8$  cm (Fig. 7), possibly indicating that these mullions were moulded and that the south and east were the more important elevations of the building.

In summary the earliest surviving phase of the timber-framed house consisted of an open hall, ground floor room, undershot cross passage, and chamber, added as an extension to a pre-existing building to the west. The suggested arrangement of an open fire built against a reredos wall between the hall and cross passage is extremely unusual but is supported by architectural and archaeological evidence.

The wall base revealed archaeologically (Layer 184) is most unlikely to belong to this phase as it would have formed a transverse partition wall within the lower bay of the house, an arrangement for which few if any precedents could be found. The line of flints in yellow mortar (Layer 194) also conflicts with the architectural evidence as it lies in the position of the suggested opening into the hall beneath the southern end of frame B. It is therefore likely that Period 2 consisted of two phases, and a possible interpretation of these is shown diagrammatically in Fig. 18. In Period 2a the wall (Layer 184) is suggested as the east end wall of the house, with an extension to the east under an outshot roof. In Period 2b the surviving timber-framed building is shown as replacing the eastern bay of the earlier hall and the east end of the earlier house, the open hearth in the hall remaining in the same position in the two phases. The upper chalk floor (Layer 127), sealing the earlier wall (Layer 184), and the yellow mortar floor (Layer 175 and Fig. 11) can then be seen as features of the Period 2b reconstruction.

### *PERIOD 3: Post-Medieval to Seventeenth Century (circa 1550–1620)*

The archaeological features associated with the alteration of the building immediately after Period 2 are difficult to understand because they cannot be stratigraphically related to each other and because they cannot be directly associated with alterations to the surviving building. They are grouped together here because they clearly pre-date the rebuilding of the house in brick and flint in Period 4.

During this period the building covered an area measuring some 11.0 x 6.4 m and no obvious trace of an internal division was observed at ground level, but all external wall lines were represented (Fig. 11).

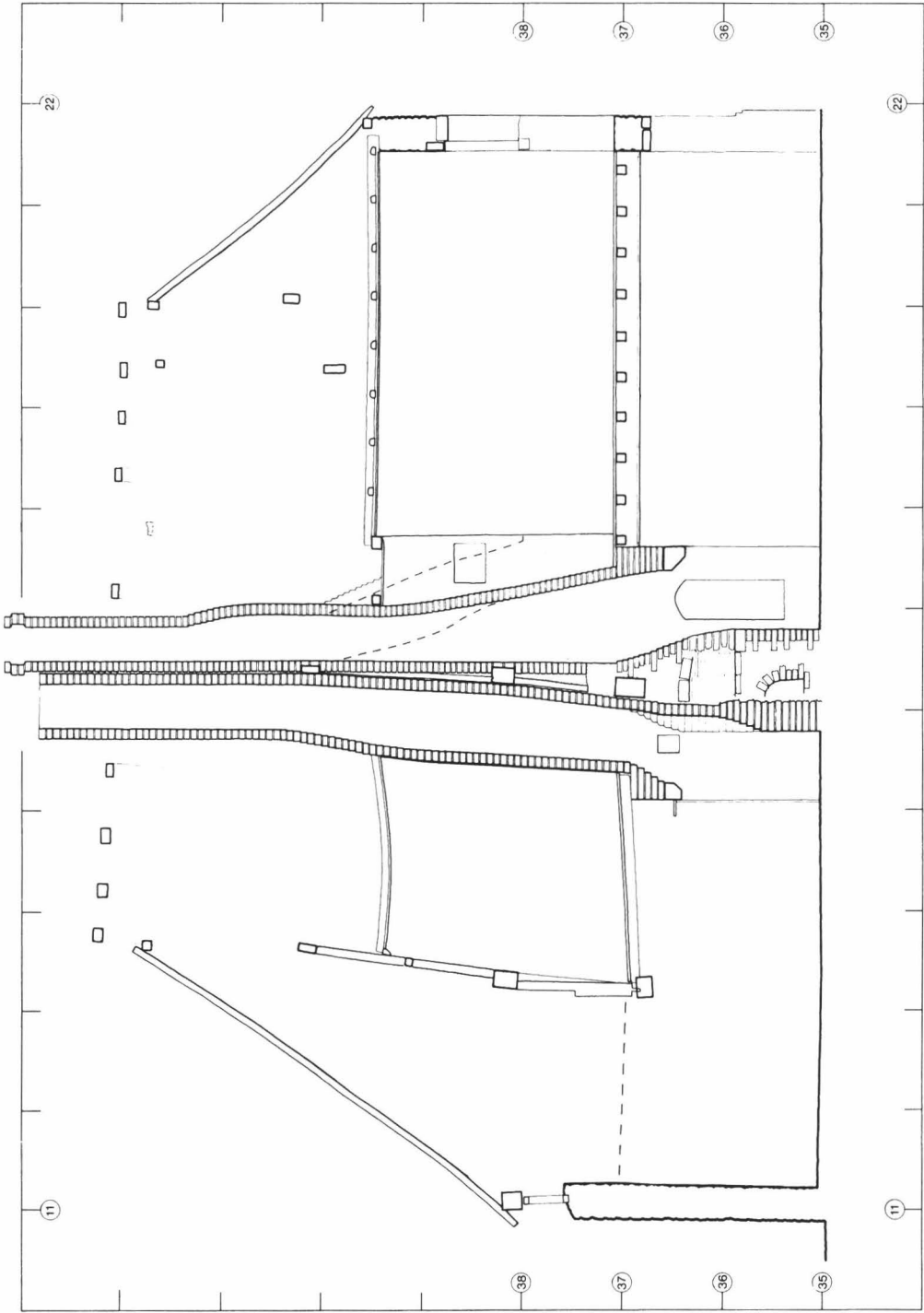


Fig. 10. Long section, as found, looking north.



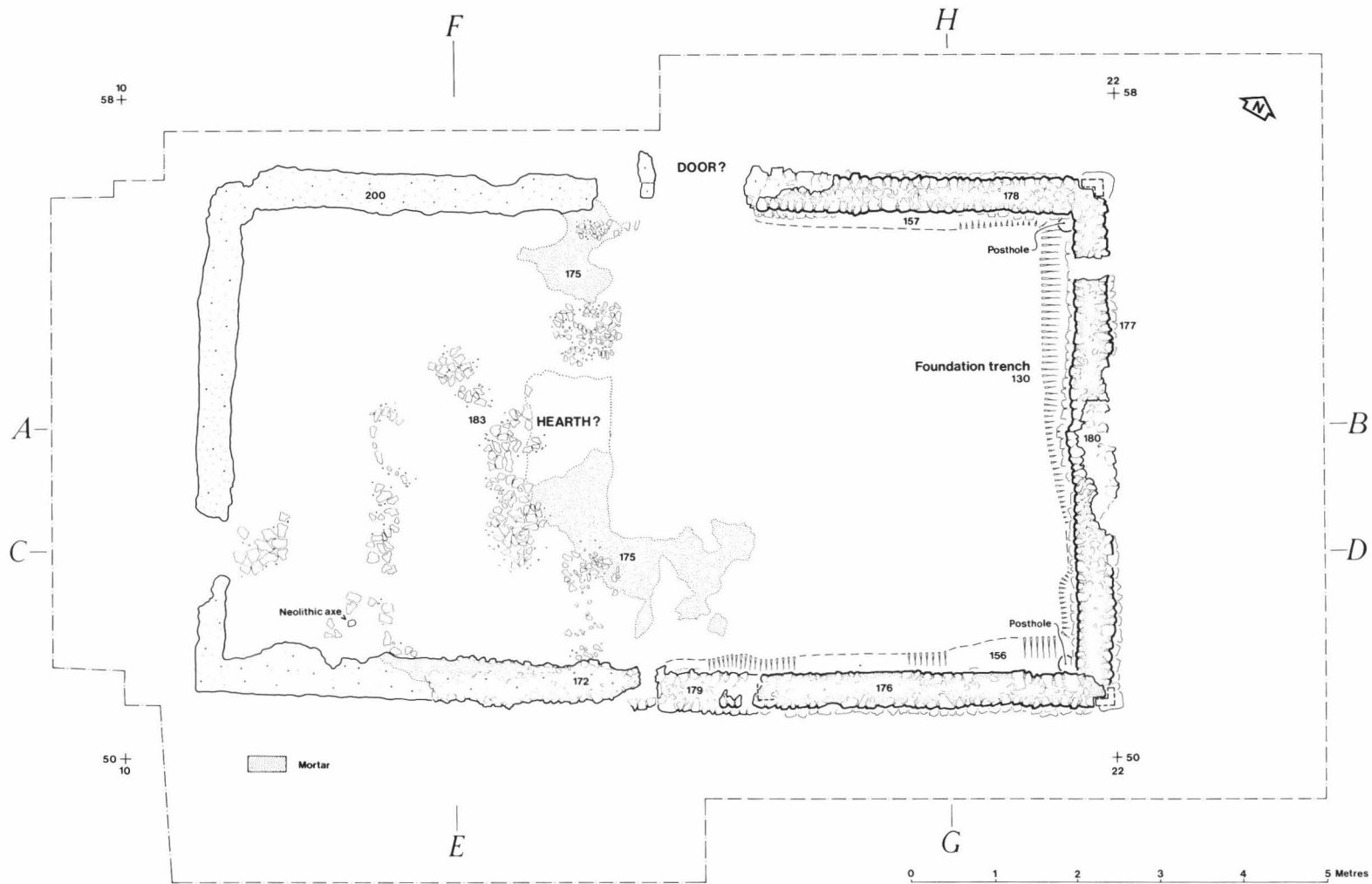


Fig. 11. Periods 2b and 3: Ground plan as revealed by excavation.

The walls of the eastern half of the building were provided with substantial flint foundations (Layers 179, 180 and 181), up to 60 cm wide, laid without mortar in a trench (Layers 130, 156 and 157) cut through the chalk floors of the Period 2 building. On the north side the foundations terminated in a block of brown sandstone which probably represented one side of a doorway — the other side also being represented by a similar block of stone. The foundation supported a wall, up to 46 cm wide, which survived as from one to two courses of flint in a yellow mortar (Layers 176, 177 and 178). Whether this wall represents the remains of a plinth-wall which supported the sill beam of a timber-framed building could not be determined, but the top of it, where overlaid by the flint wall of the Period 4 rebuilding, survived up to 12 cm higher on the south wall than on the north and east walls.

On the internal angles at the north-east and south-east corners, traces of shallow postholes were observed cut into the bottom of the foundation trench (see p. 50). These may have either supported the bases of timber scaffolding during a period of rebuilding or have been the remains of earlier postholes.

The lines of the walls at the western end may have been represented by a patchy layer of clay and gravel (Layer 200), over the floors of the Period 2 structure and the natural gravel and sealed beneath the Period 4 walls. However, on the south side there were traces of a flint footing (Layer 172) which included some mortar. This, again, overlaid the Period 2 floors and was sealed by a layer of soil (Layer 173) and the flint wall (Layer 89) of the Period 4 reconstruction.

Within the enclosed area there were no features which could be directly related to the surrounding walls, but it seems likely that the open hearth of Period 2 may have remained in use until the insertion of the fireplace in Period 4. Two patches of yellow mortar (Layer 175) represent floor surfaces, also in use prior to the insertion of the Period 4 fireplace, that to the south sealing the Period 2 floors and line of flints (Layer 194). These are probably best seen as belonging to the Period 2b reconstruction (see above).

Elsewhere it was difficult to differentiate between the floor surfaces of Period 3 and the make-up for the brick floor of Period 4. At the west end the Period 2 floors and the two patches of yellow mortar (Layer 175) were overlaid by flint cobbles mixed with mortar (Layers 154, 155 and 183) containing pottery and part of a Neolithic stone axe (see p. 81 and Fig. 23 No. 1). At the east end the Period 2 chalk floor (Layer 127) was overlaid by orange/brown mortar (Layer 126) which on a line about 90 cm from the inner face of the east wall survived in the form of a pronounced ridge (Fig. 19). The ridge would appear to indicate the former existence of some internal feature at the east end of the building but it is not clear whether this belongs to Period 3 or Period 4.

The post-medieval pottery from these features<sup>5</sup> can be used to date them. The wall foundations at the east end are dated by pottery associated with them and by material in the fill of the foundation trenches in which they were laid. Much of this material is residual and includes a rim sherd from a Painted Ware jug (Fig. 21 No. 13); part of the slashed handle of a Painted Ware jug (Fig. 21 No. 15); the rim of a bowl (Fig. 21 No. 24); the rim of a lid (Fig. 21 No. 25); a body sherd from a green glazed vessel with herring-bone decoration (Fig. 21 No. 26); and the thumbed base of a late-medieval jug (Fig. 21 No. 29). The latest material which provides the closest dating is a group of sherds (Catalogue Nos. 77 to 80), all of the seventeenth century, which closely resemble material from kilns recently located at Crane Street, Chichester<sup>6</sup> and at Graffham near Midhurst<sup>7</sup> and these include a rim of a small bowl with internal brown/green glaze (Fig. 22 No. 30); and base sherds from two vessels (Fig. 22 Nos. 34 and 35), one of which (No. 34) has an internal olive-green glaze.

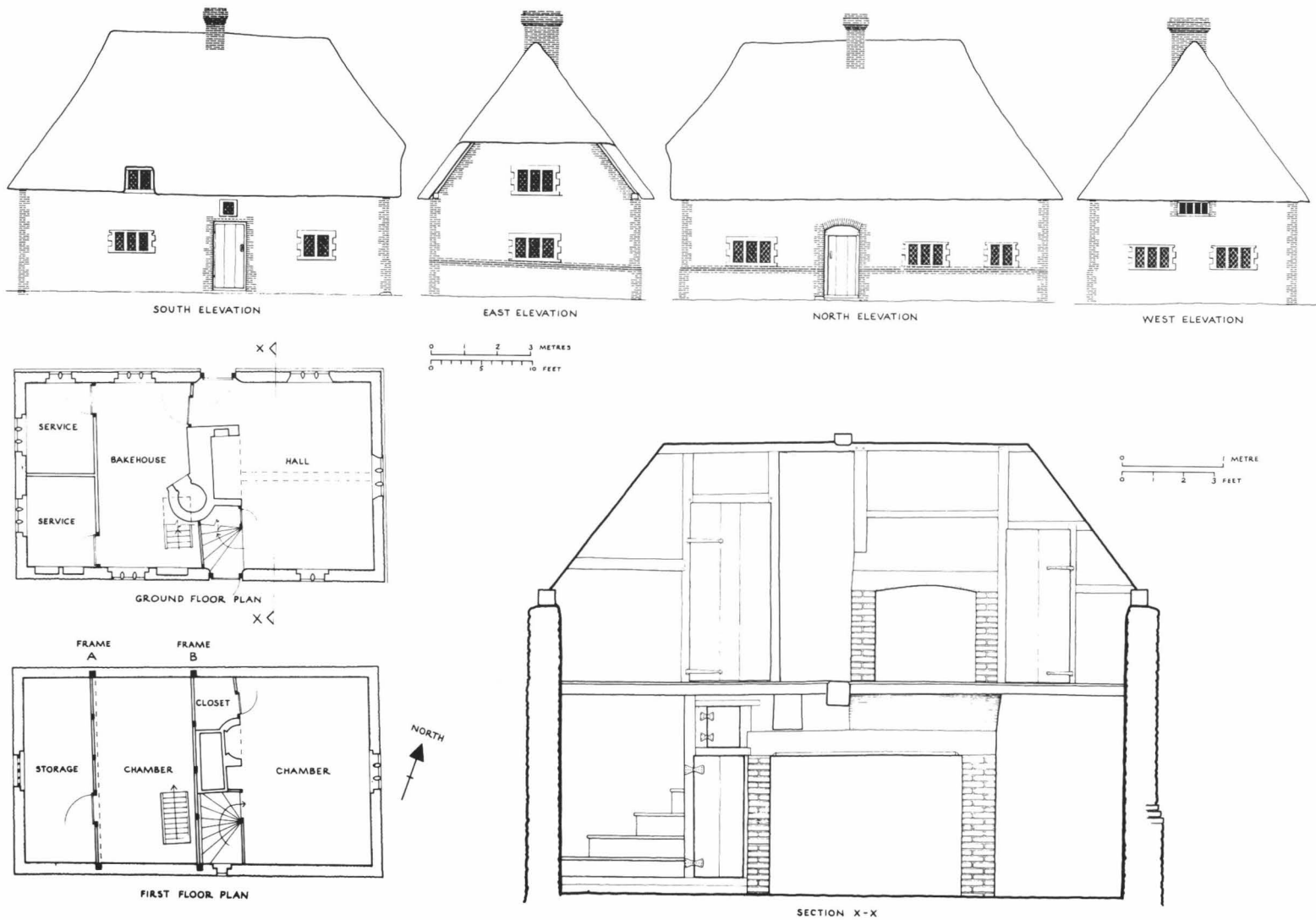


Fig. 12. Period 4: The seventeenth century house.

The wall footings at the east end appear to have been constructed in the first quarter of the seventeenth century but it is difficult to relate these to the surviving remains of the building above ground, because they are too late in date to represent the original plinth wall of the medieval timber-framed building but pre-date the footings of the seventeenth century rebuilding. They are perhaps best interpreted as a phase of underpinning or repair to the medieval building. The flint footing on the south side at the west end may date from the same time or a little earlier and may be related to alterations which could be observed in the surviving medieval structure. At some point while an open fire was still being used in the hall frame A was converted from an open to a closed frame (Fig. 8). The roof truss was filled in with extra framing members and wattle and daub panels. A beam was inserted at first floor level with studs and panels between it and the tie beam above. It was impossible to tell from the assortment of rotted and altered mortices underneath the inserted first floor beam whether the frame was also closed below first floor level in this phase, but the absence of any archaeological evidence for a division along this line at ground level suggests that it was not. The infilling of the truss retained heavy sooting. Below the tie beam the sooting was largely removed when the wall was plastered in the seventeenth century but some small patches remained.

The purpose and result of this alteration is not clear, partly because it is not known whether there were simultaneous alterations west of this frame involving the adjoining structure. The two main possibilities are that either the whole of frame A was closed as a reaction to demolition or alteration of the structure beyond, or that an upper chamber was inserted above the western part of the open hall. In view of the lack of archaeological evidence for a partition at ground level the latter interpretation seems more likely (Fig. 18). In this case it is probable that the walls at the west end were established at this stage on the lines which they retained in the seventeenth century rebuilding, producing the traces of footings found archaeologically. Slight traces of soot adhering to the soffit of the floor joists running between frame A and the west wall suggest that they may date from this alteration rather than from Period 4.

#### *PERIOD 4: Seventeenth Century*

The seventeenth-century refurbishment amounted almost to a complete rebuilding (Figs. 12 and 18). The exterior walls were entirely rebuilt in flint and brick, a new upper floor was inserted in the open hall and the east end, and a brick chimney stack was built in the position of the earlier cross passage with hearths serving the ground floor room and chamber at the east end and an oven in the middle room (the old open hall). The internal walls, whether wattle and daub or new brick and flint work, were plastered and white painted. A brick floor was laid on top of the earlier floor levels. The roof was modified to give a half hip at the east end, and was re-thatched.

The work of rebuilding was carried out in identifiable stages. First, the walls of the east end ground floor room were rebuilt including the east jambs of the north and south doorways. The next operation must have been the building of the ground floor part of the chimney stack, onto which the spine beam of the new floor in the east end rested. Then the rest of the walls were built up to support the original wall plate and encase the four surviving fragments of main posts. Finally the chimney was completed. This sequence was shown by the unmistakable yellow colour of the sand in the mortar used in the bricks in the ground floor part of the east end walls (Figs. 16 and 17), by the existence of a horizontal straight joint at the level of the upper floor in the east end, and by the re-use of two pieces of the original timber frame in new

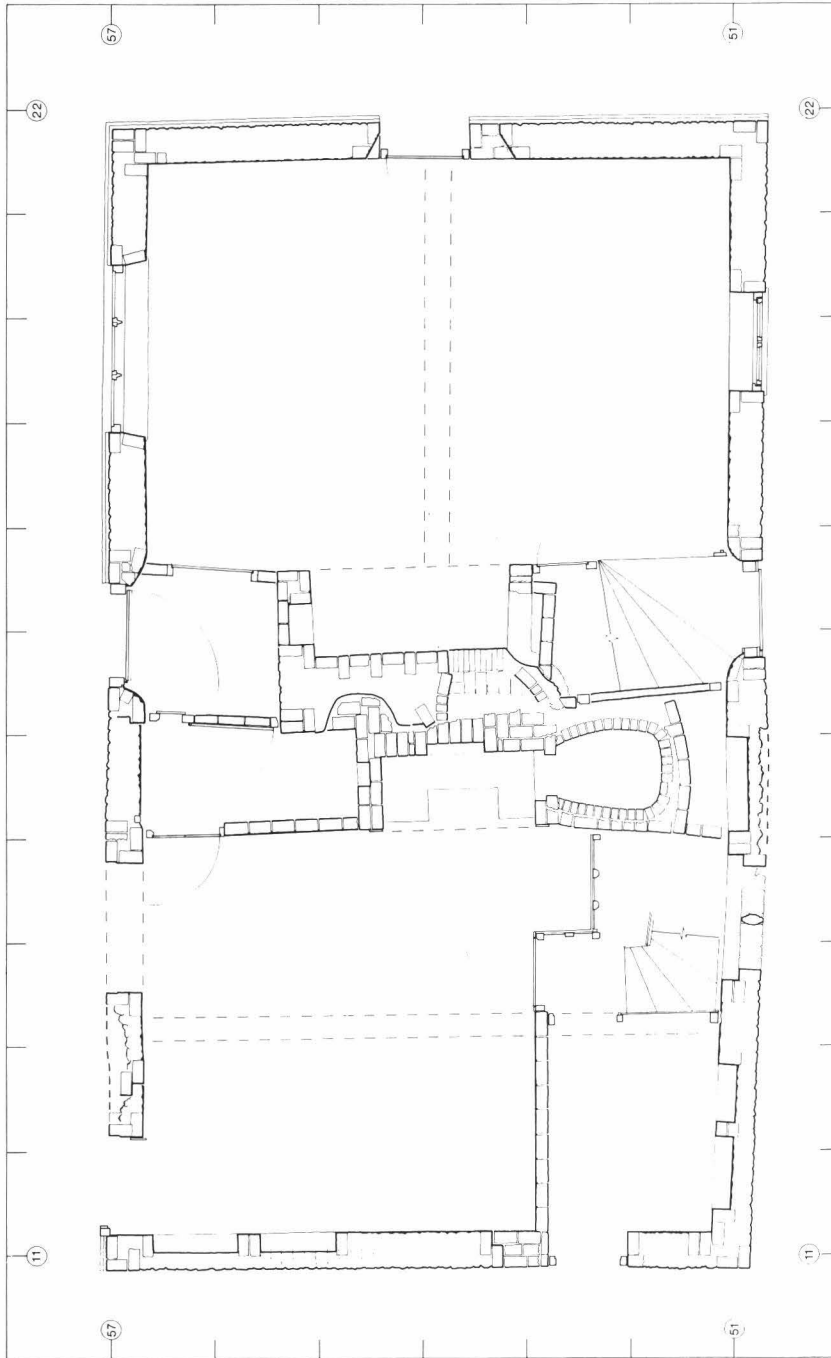


Fig. 13. Plan at 36 m O.D., as found.

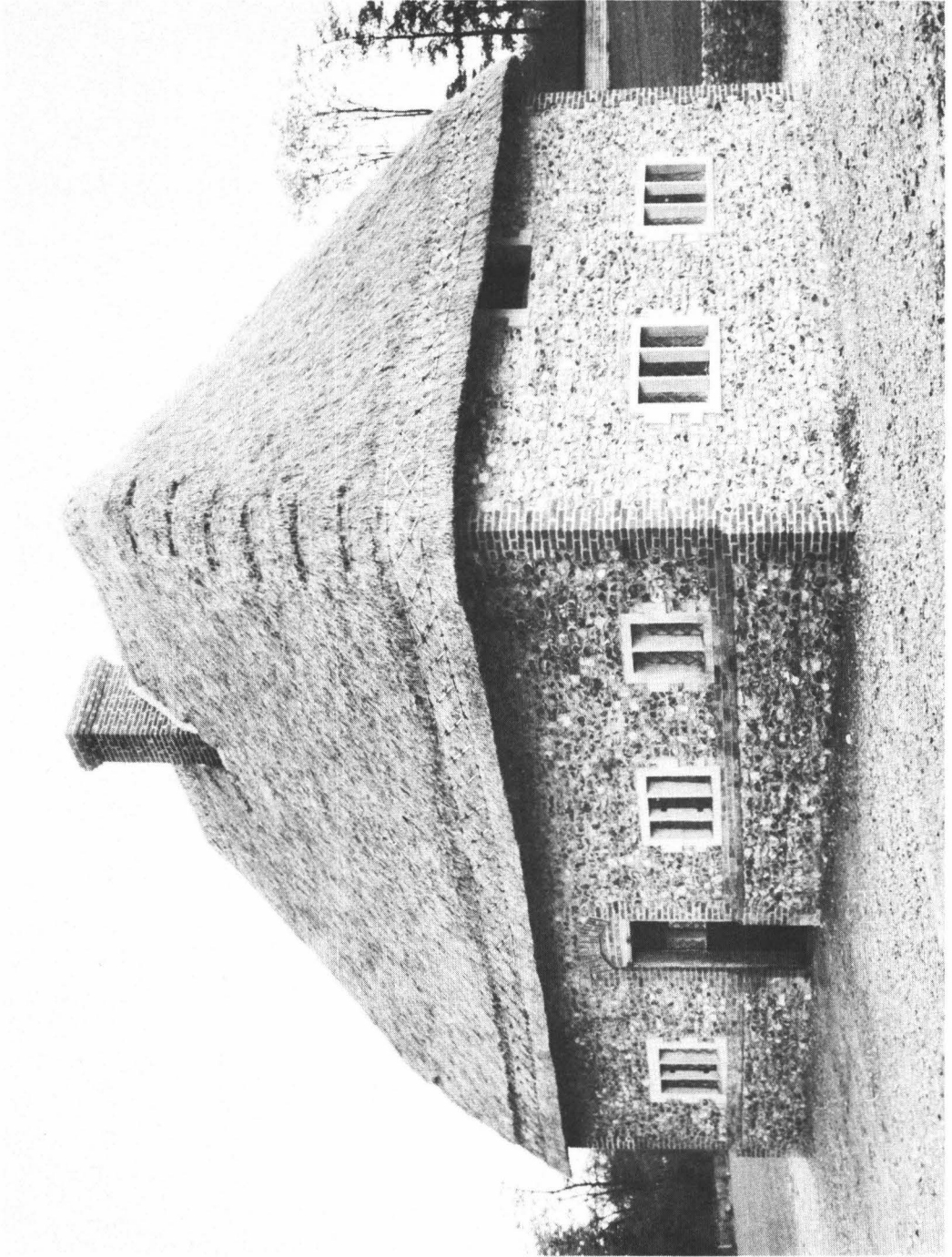


Plate III. Walderton Cottage, as reconstructed at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum. North and west elevations.



Plate IV. Walderton Cottage; as reconstructed at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum. South and east elevations.

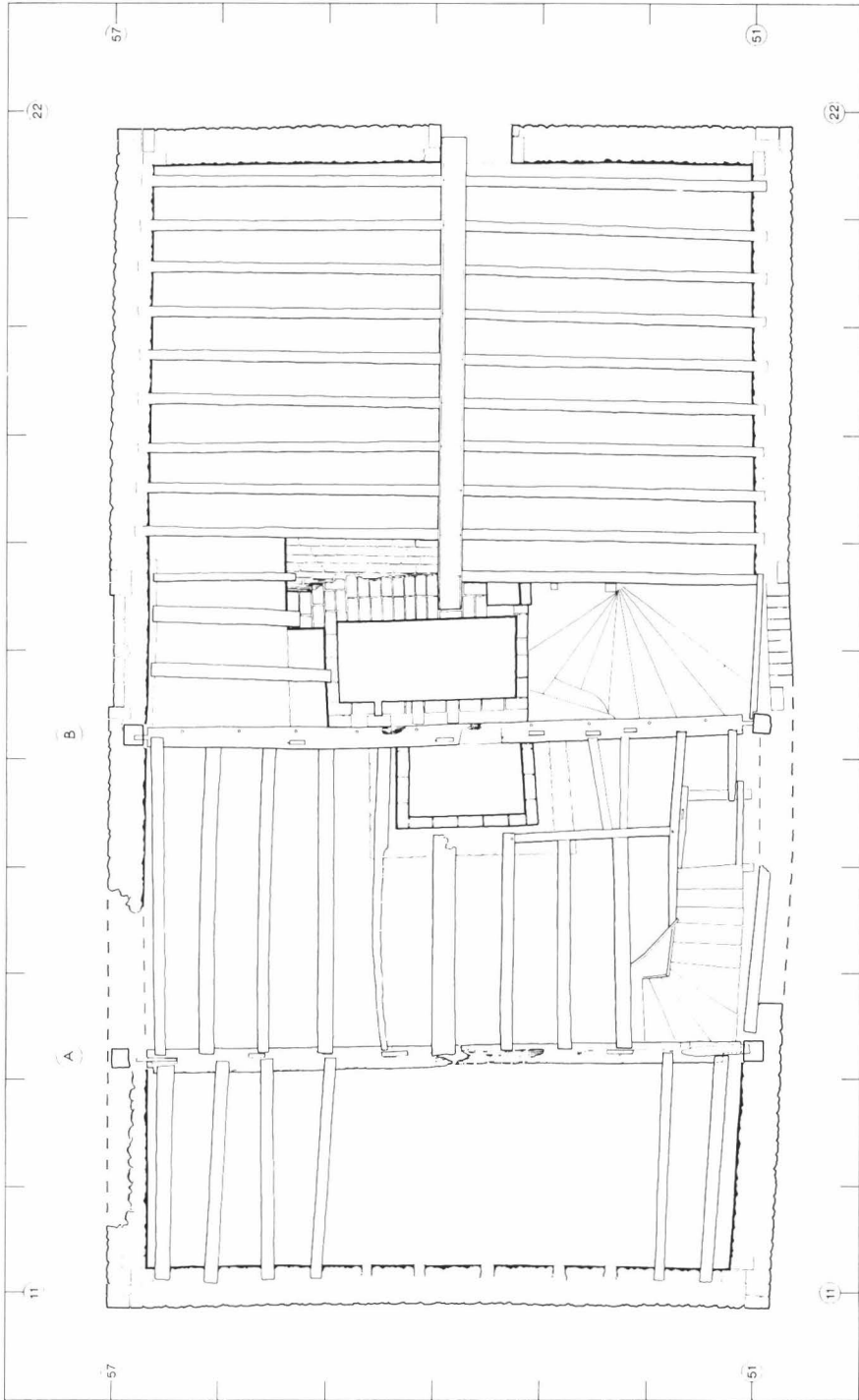


Fig. 14. Plan at 37 m O.D., as found.



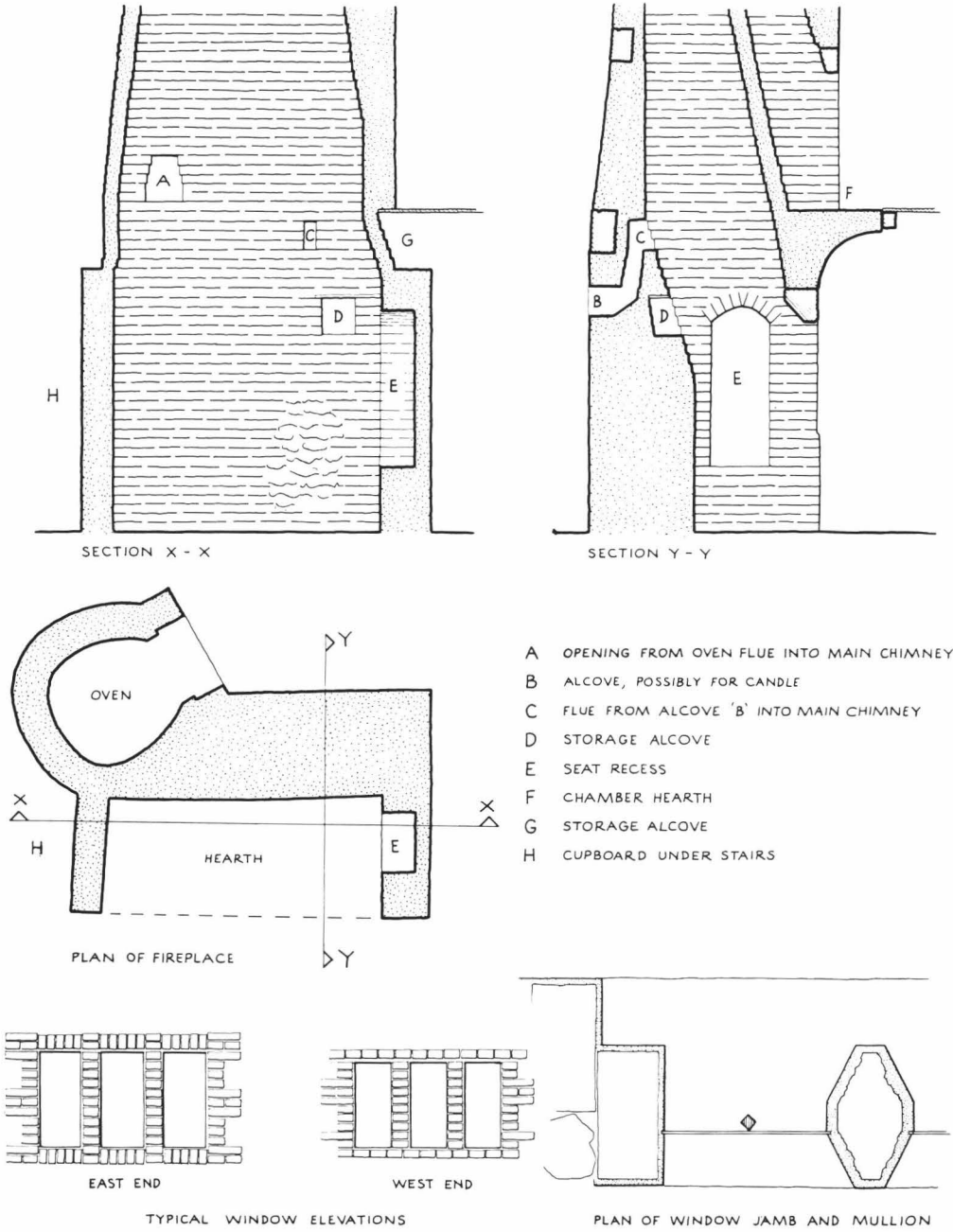


Fig. 15. Period 4: Chimney and window details.

positions: a rail from the south wall as the mantel beam of the chamber fireplace and the medieval east end tie beam re-used in the equivalent position at the west end. This tie beam was joined to the ends of the original wall plates by two timbers which were also re-used but could not be related to the surviving medieval building (Fig. 7).

The walls were constructed of flint, with brick quoins and plinth offset courses. The external flints were roughly coursed (Figs. 16 and 17), the courses averaging 8 cm except in the eastern gable where they were only 6 cm. The external flint work contained a proportion of knapped flints, rather more on the north and east elevations than on the south and west. The thickness of the north, east and south walls varied between 33 cm and 36 cm, while the south wall was noticeably thicker at 38 cm. The plinth only existed on the north and east walls, and the offset averaged 6 cm. No moulded or chamfered bricks were used, the window mullions and sills being formed of bricks roughly cut to shape (Fig. 15). An intriguing and unexplained feature was that the plinth on the east elevation was built sloping down 14 cm from south to north (Fig. 17). The bricks varied between 21 x 10 x 4 cm (8¼ x 4 x 1¾ in) and 22 x 11 x 6 cm (8¾ x 4¼ x 2¼ in) in size (the average can be taken as 22 x 10 x 5 cm, 8½ x 4 x 2 in), and were laid in courses varying between 5.7 and 6.3 cm, the overall average being about 6.2 cm.

The structural differences between the east and west ends noted in the dismantling continued to be observed down to ground level. At the east end the brick and flint walls, some 40 cm thick at ground level, were laid almost directly upon the flint walls of the Period 3 alteration although on the south and east sides they did not coincide precisely leaving a step which indicated the junction of the two (Figs. 4 and 5). The lowest courses of brickwork on the outside of the north-east and south-east quoins were set, but not mortared, into the Period 3 wall and did not continue into the inside faces of the wall. The east jamb of the south door survived intact but the remaining door jambs of the north and south doors had been rebuilt at their lowest levels.

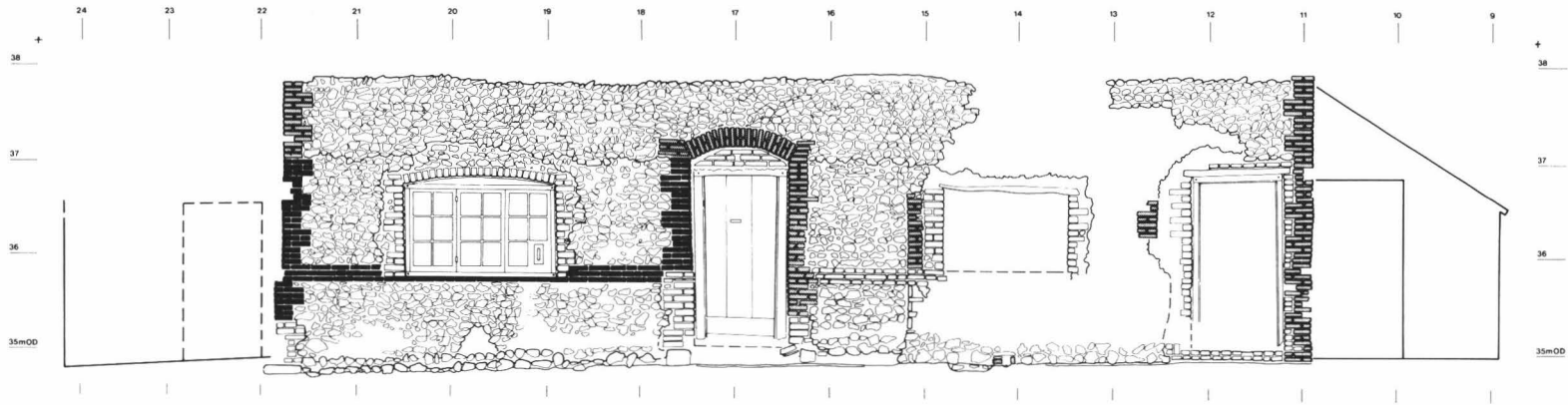
At the west end the brick and flint walls, varying between 36 and 44 cm in thickness at ground level, had no foundations but were built directly on traces of the Period 3 walls. On the south side layers of soil (Layers 173 and 174) were recorded between the two. The north-west and south-west quoins were constructed in brick through the full width of the wall down to their lowest courses.

The design of the brick mullion windows differed slightly between the east and west ends (Fig. 15). Those at the east end are arguably better detailed than those at the west end and this may be an expression of the superior status of the eastern half of the house, the dwelling as opposed to the service rooms. There were sufficient fragments surviving to indicate that all the window mullions and surrounds had originally been plastered. In one case (the upper window in the east end) the surviving original plaster even preserved the impression left by the glass but sadly no fragments of glass survived. No traces of plaster were found on the quoins, plinth offset, or door jambs.

The accommodation created by these alterations seems to have been in two halves separated by the new chimney stack and the remains of the earlier cross frame B and intercommunicating only via the lobby inside the north doorway. The eastern half provided two heated living rooms. An inventory of 1634 that probably refers to this site (Appendix 3) mentions a Hall and Chamber, with fireplace equipment in the Hall at least (the document is incomplete). It is likely that this describes the house after the reconstruction and gives valuable evidence that the two eastern rooms were known as the Hall and Chamber and were used for living and sleeping respectively. A winding staircase positioned between the chimney stack and

# WALDERTON COTTAGE

## NORTH ELEVATION



## SOUTH ELEVATION

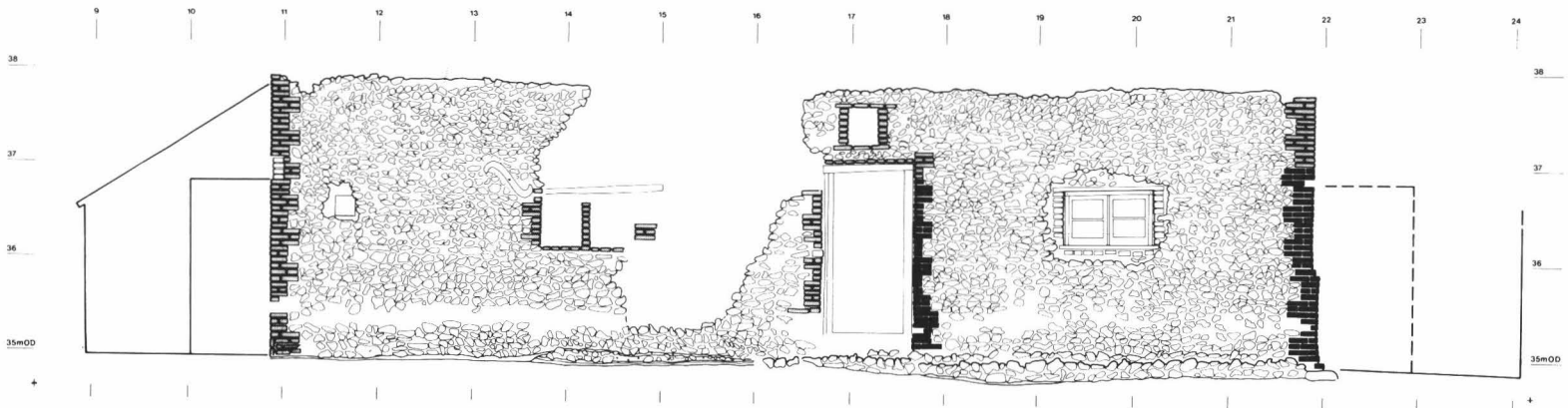
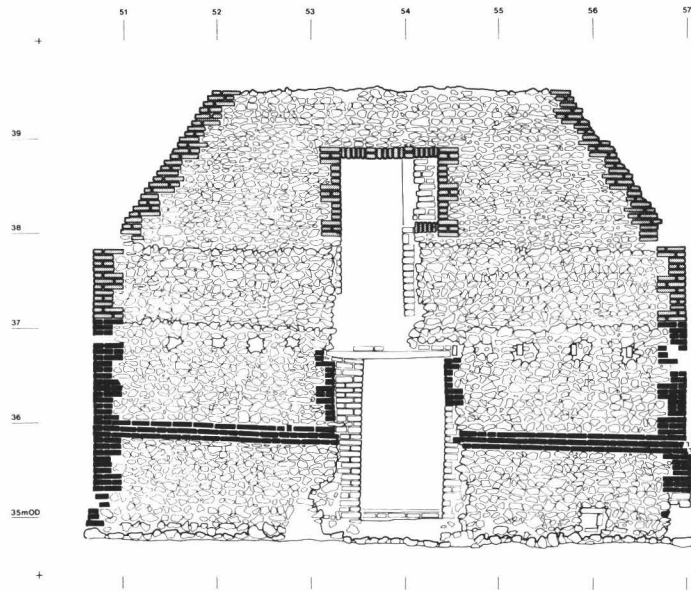


Fig. 16. North and south elevations, as found. The two phases of the Period 4 brickwork are shown in black (Phase 1) and stippled (Phase 2).

# WALDERTON COTTAGE

## EAST ELEVATION



## WEST ELEVATION

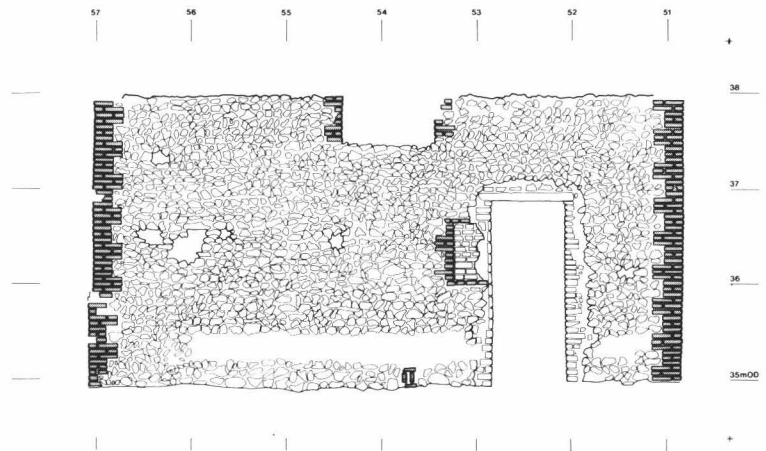


Fig. 17. East and west elevations, as found. The two phases of the Period 4 brickwork are shown in black (Phase 1) and stippled (Phase 2).

the south doorway provided access between the two rooms. Most of the original treads and risers of this staircase survived intact under later re-covering. The western half of the house probably provided five unheated rooms, three downstairs and two upstairs. Of these the only one which can be interpreted functionally is that which occupied the position of the earlier open hall. This contained an oven, of which only fragmentary remains survived due to successive rebuildings but which can be reconstructed with some confidence (Fig. 15). As it opened into a room rather than an inglenook it was provided with a flue which broke through into the main volume of the chimney just above first floor level (Fig. 9). The old hall had therefore become the bakehouse: it did not contain a hearth so cannot have been a full kitchen. The rest of the ground floor accommodation, between frame A and the west end wall, probably consisted of two rooms side by side: there was no surviving evidence for the central partition between them but the inserted beam in frame A had mortices which suggest that in this phase there were two doorways beneath, one at each end. The staircase in this half of the building rose over the oven in the bakehouse, its position being clearly indicated by the remains of the trimmed floor joists. In the chamber above the bakehouse the only recognisable seventeenth century features were the white plastered walls and ceiling and the evidence of a dormer window set on top of the south wall plate. Access to the west end chamber was through an opening, 107 cm square, in the inserted infill framing of frame A. As this end chamber had an unglazed wooden window below the west end tie beam and such inconvenient access that it may be assumed that its function was mainly storage.

The chimney provided hearths for the two dwelling rooms on the east, and an oven for the bakehouse on the west. The ground floor hearth originally possessed a brick alcove or seat in its north flank wall and, adjacent to it on the back wall of the hearth, a storage recess 23 cm square (Fig. 15). The hearth area originally measured approximately 191 cm wide by 79 cm deep, the brick floor being continuous with the brick floor of the room. Having been able to examine and record each course in plan — the bricklayer's view — it is possible to assert that the back wall was originally built without a projecting section of brickwork behind the fire: this was added later, presumably to repair the fire-damaged original brickwork. The upper hearth, serving the chamber, possessed concave sides characteristic of the seventeenth century. There was fairly clear evidence that the brick surfaces inside the chamber fireplace had originally been painted with a thin skim of white limewash but there was no evidence for decorative designs having been painted on this or any of the other original surfaces of this phase.

The ground floor fireplace was flanked on the south side by original doors opening into a cupboard under the winding stairs; the doors retained their original butterfly hinges. Upstairs there was a timber-framed partition surrounding the brick front of the fireplace (Fig. 12). This contained a doorway entering the room from the stairs, an open alcove between this doorway and the fireplace, and on the north side a smaller doorway leading into a closet above the entrance lobby.

Although there was no stratigraphic evidence in the excavation to date the fireplace (Layer 143), the evidence of the dismantling showed that it was constructed at the same time as the brick and flint walls. Its lowest courses of re-used brick and flint were laid in a foundation trench cut through earlier floors but there were no traces of the original oven noted at a higher level during the dismantling.

The floor of the building was mainly brick paviers (Layers 123, 129 and 141) laid on mortar (Layers 126 and 154) though at the west end these had been mostly removed and replaced during the nineteenth century. The former position of a partition under the medieval

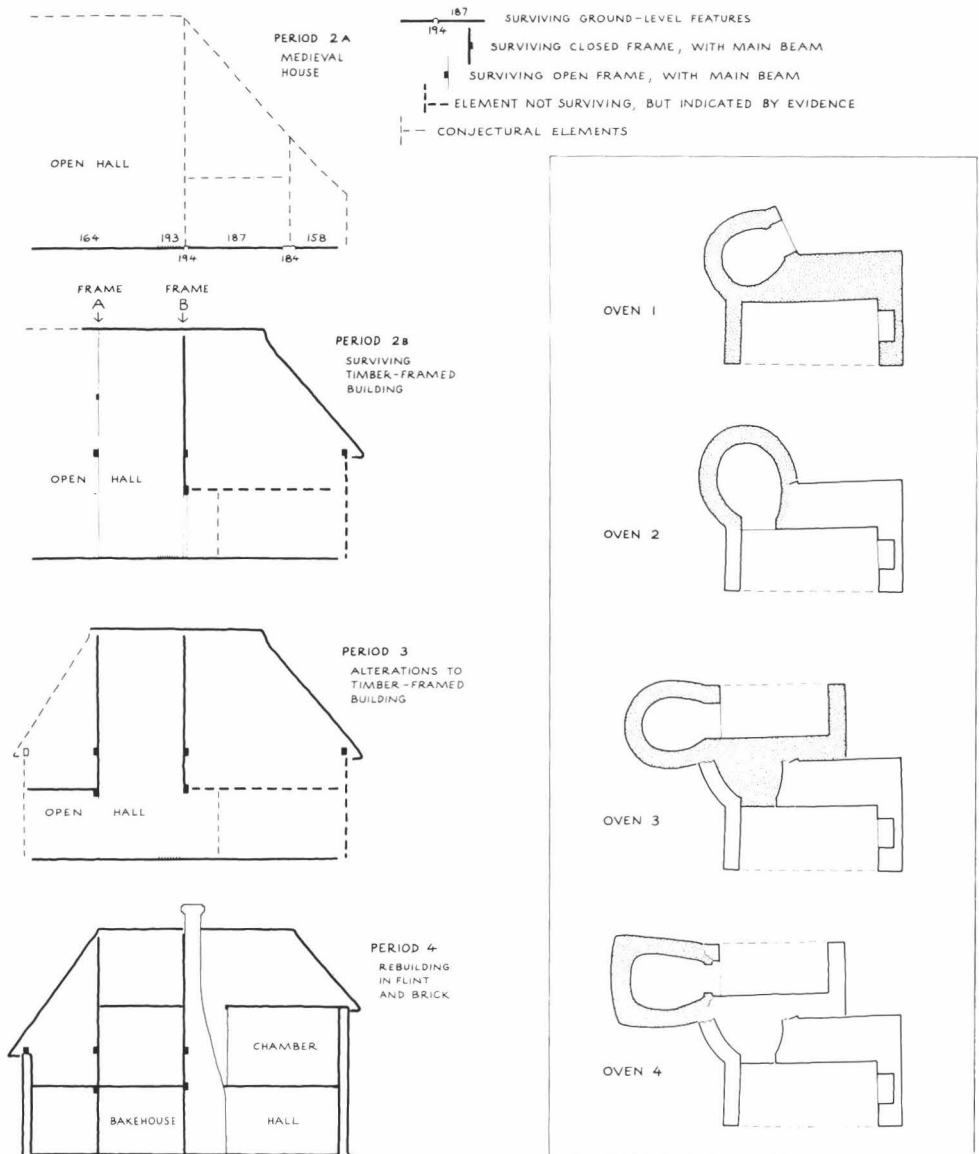


Fig. 18. Left: diagrams showing phases of development of the house. The diagrams are based on the long section looking north (Fig. 10). Right: phases of oven rebuilding.

frame A may be indicated in the west end by extending the distinctive pattern of surviving paviers (Fig. 19).

In the east end only part of the floor was covered by paviers (Layer 129) but a spread of bedding mortar (Layer 126) further east suggests that the floor was formerly more extensive. A ridge of mortar some 90 cm from the east wall may indicate the former existence of an internal feature in either Period 3 or Period 4.

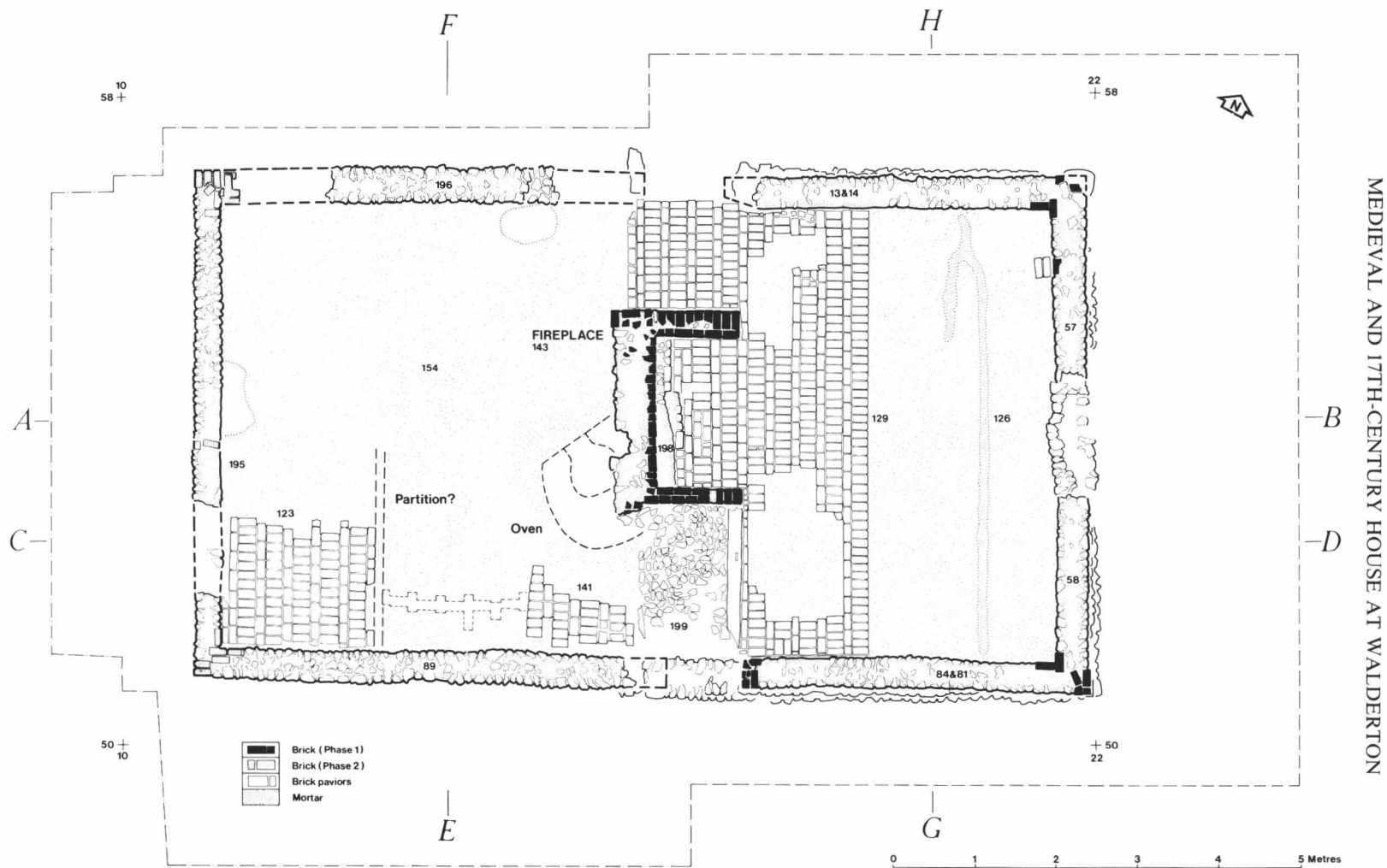


Fig. 19. Period 4: Ground plan as revealed by excavation.

To the south of the fireplace there were no traces of a floor but a layer of flint nodules (Layer 199) which would have been located under the staircase.

The rebuilding of the cottage in flint and brick can be dated by the latest pottery sealed in and under the walls and by pottery sealed beneath the brick floors.<sup>8</sup> Three comparatively large sherds were found built into the south wall near the south-west angle (Layer 89) and these comprise the base of a seventeenth century pipkin with internal green glaze (Fig. 22 No. 36); a rim sherd of a sixteenth century vessel in Painted Ware fabric with traces of glaze and external white painted decoration (Fig. 21 No. 17); and the rim of a seventeenth century pipkin with dark green glaze on the inside (Fig. 22 No. 31). Two of these (Nos. 31 and 36) were probably made in the Crane Street, Chichester, kiln.<sup>9</sup> Soil beneath this wall (Layers 173 and 174), which sealed features belonging to Period 3, contained medieval to seventeenth century sherds including a rim sherd from the same seventeenth century pipkin as No. 31 (i.e. Catalogue No. 114); the rim of a thirteenth or fourteenth century storage jar or cooking pot (Fig. 21 No. 2); and part of a late sixteenth century dish which is probably late Painted Ware (Fig. 21 No. 9).

Three sherds were recovered from the west wall (Layer 195) and these included a fragment from a late sixteenth or seventeenth century stoneware jug, possibly from Raeren, Germany (Catalogue No. 116); and a seventeenth century sherd with internal brown glaze (Catalogue No. 118). A single sherd from the north wall at the west end (Layer 196) was featureless.

The east wall (Layer 57) included two sherds — a residual fourteenth century piece with applied strap decoration (Fig. 21 No. 4); and a body sherd from a sixteenth or seventeenth century vessel with internal green glaze, probably from the Graffham area.<sup>10</sup>

Sealed beneath the surviving brick floor in the south-west corner, in a layer of mortar and flint nodules (Layer 155), was a quantity of medieval and late medieval sherds, including a substantial part of a fourteenth century cooking pot with internal green glaze (Fig. 21 No. 5); and pieces from another medieval cooking pot (Fig. 21 No. 6), as well as a rim sherd from a seventeenth century plate with scalloped rim with 'Tudor Green' glaze (Fig. 22 No. 32), of a type produced at both Crane Street, Chichester, and Graffham;<sup>11</sup> Painted Ware sherds; and another probable seventeenth century sherd, probably from Graffham.

There was no archaeological evidence to date the fireplace with any degree of accuracy but the repair to the back wall (Layer 198) included sherds from a seventeenth or eighteenth century slipware dish with internal orange glaze over white slip decoration (Fig. 22 No. 37) which may have been produced in the Crane Street kiln.<sup>12</sup>

### *PERIOD 5: Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century*

A number of alterations were made to the house in this period, including subdivision of rooms at the west end, repeated rebuilding of the oven and the addition of a new fireplace, the formation and alteration of door and window openings, and the addition of an outshot at the east end and a porch on the north front. It was impossible to date most of these alterations or to deduce precisely how the pattern of life in the cottage evolved, but the main change seems to have occurred in, or soon after, 1797 when a new fireplace was built in the west end (see below). The cottage was probably divided into two dwellings at this time although the documentary evidence does not refer to a sub-division until 1837.

The four successive ovens provide the clearest sequence of events and some other alterations can be associated with them (Fig. 18). The first oven, which was integral with the Period 4 chimney, survived as four fragments: a section of its flint base under the spiral stairs; the line of bricks remaining where its angled front joined the main west face of the chimney,





Plate V. Walderton Cottage, the Period 4 oven, as reconstructed at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum.

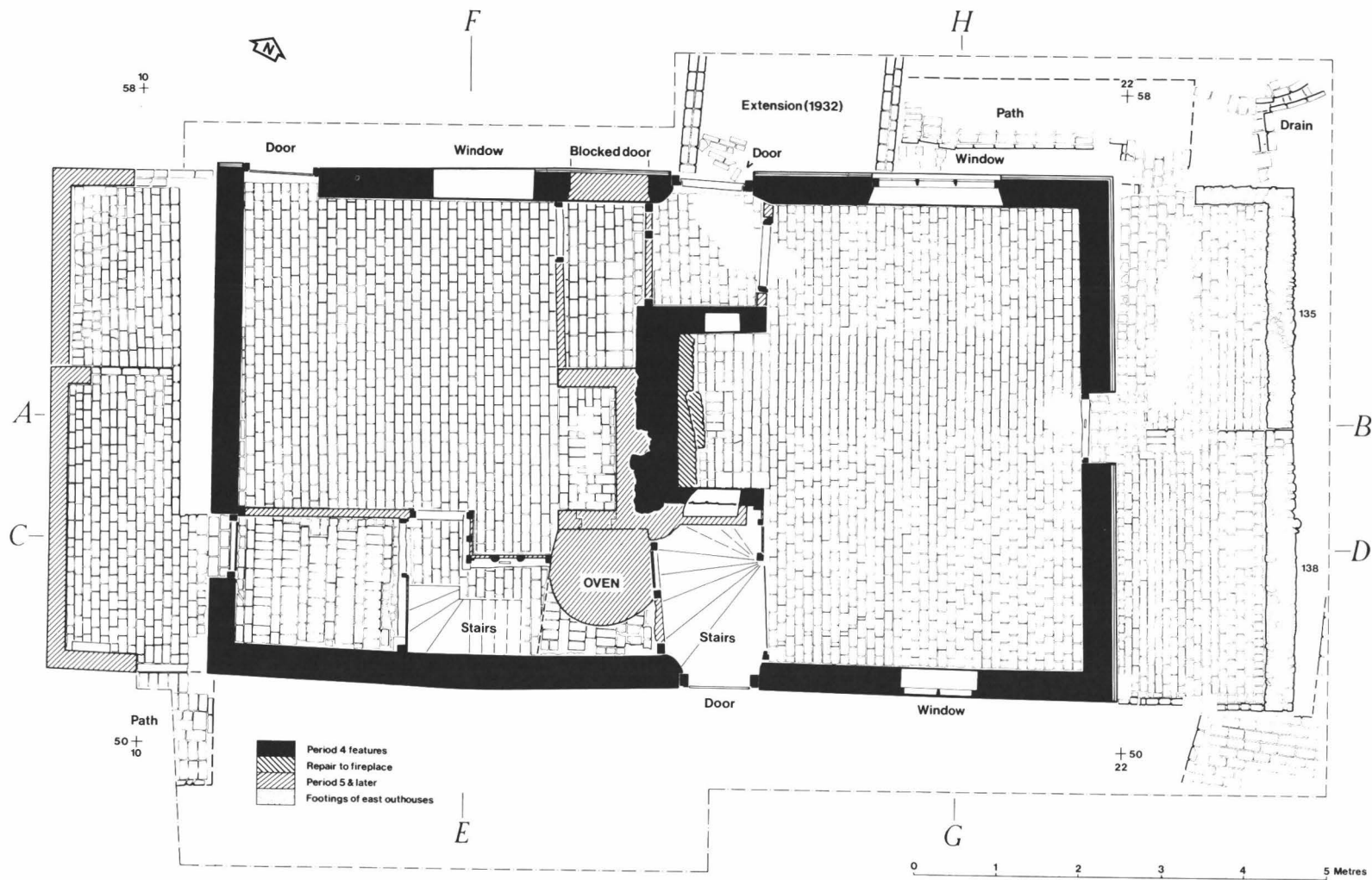


Fig. 20. Period 5 and later: Ground plan.

including a brick on edge which is interpreted as representing its floor; the opening provided for its flue to enter the main flue of the chimney; and part of the under-oven chamber, including some bricks of its floor (Fig. 9). To the north of this oven the west face of the chimney had contained an alcove which also had its own, very narrow, flue leading into the main flue. The height of this alcove is unknown, as only the top survived, but its width was 15 cm: its purpose has been suggested as for standing a candle or lamp (Figs. 9 and 15).<sup>13</sup>

The first rebuilding of the oven (Fig. 18, Oven 2) is undated but probably early or mid eighteenth century. Its form was changed so that it opened into the inglenook fireplace, and the floor and dome were completely rebuilt on the same base as the original oven. Possibly at the same time, the west face of the chimney below the candle recess was hollowed out to insert a partially recessed copper. The upper part of this recess was plastered and fragments of the firebox below the copper survived, but the arrangement of its flue was not clear. The house at this stage still only had the two hearths of Period 4 and must therefore have been in single residential occupation. It is possible that this rebuilding of the oven entailed also the removal of the Period 4 stairs which had risen over the original oven, and that the doorway in frame B at the top of the spiral stairs was inserted in order to give access to the chambers at the west end. In order to form this doorway the tie beam of frame B was cut, and the spiral stairs were provided with two extra steps at the top to lead up to the door, the piece of tie beam cut out being re-used as the top tread of these extra steps. The door frame was made of oak, approximately 10 cm square, the jambs being tenoned and pegged to the head and tenoned into the cross beam of frame B.

The third oven (Fig. 18, Oven 3) was built as part of a completely new hearth and chimney inserted into the middle room on the west side of frame B. A penny of 1797 which was found built into the chimney just below first floor level shows little evidence of use and can be assumed to fix the building of this chimney at that date or a little after. The second oven was dismantled, together with the base and under-oven chamber of Period 4, to give a roughly level face on the west side of the original chimney against which the new chimney was built. The remains of the second oven were blocked up and remained concealed until dismantled in 1980.

The hearth of the new chimney, heating the ground floor room, originally measured 145 cm wide by 71 cm deep. In its north side wall was an original opening into the main flue: this was probably designed to receive the flue from a copper which would have stood in the small room adjoining the north side of the fireplace (Fig. 13). The brick wall dividing this room from the main living room contained some re-used paviers, possibly indicating that the Period 4 floor was taken up and replaced at this time. In the south wall of the fireplace were the openings into the third oven and its associated under-oven chamber. This oven was built on a base consisting mainly of chalk. The pattern of the surviving floor joists (Fig. 14) suggests that a new staircase was built above it, rising from west to east and similar in form to the stairs which were later built a little further west above the fourth oven, which survived until dismantling.

The provision of a new chimney and staircase suggests that at this stage the building was divided into two separate dwellings but it is not clear which of the three external doorways inserted in the western half of the cottage would have been used as the main entrance to the new dwelling. Two of these doorways were in the north wall, one at its west end and one next to the Period 4 north doorway. The former would have opened into the north-west corner of the room formed by the removal of the partition which is believed to have existed beneath Frame A in Period 4. The latter would have led into the small room containing the copper, but it had later been blocked with brick and flint and might either pre-date or post-date this set of alterations.

The third doorway was inserted through a window of Period 4 at the south end of the west wall and led into a small room in the south-west corner of the house. It could not be established whether this room and doorway were formed at this stage or were contemporary with the last major alteration in this area, the building of the fourth oven.

The base of the third oven was retained but enlarged slightly to form the base for the fourth oven, and this arrangement survived until dismantling (Figs. 13 and 18). A new staircase was also built at this time. In its final form the dwelling in the western half of the cottage consisted of a main room 3.8 m square, heated by a cooking range inserted into the hearth, lit by a nineteenth century window in the north wall, and with access from the door in the north-west corner, together with the small rooms north of the fireplace and in the south-west corner. The main room was also provided with an alcove adjoining the south side of the fireplace, which was possibly intended for a fireside chair. Upstairs the space between frames A and B was divided into a landing and bedroom by a boarded partition (Fig. 7), and a doorway had been provided from the landing into the west end bay by cutting through the tie beam of frame A. The door in frame B had been nailed shut, and the door leading west from the Period 4 north entrance lobby had been bricked up with the door still in place.

#### THE FINDS

##### a. *The Pottery*<sup>14</sup>

The pre-eighteenth century pottery has already been discussed within the context of the layers in which it was found, but it remains to give a brief account of the three principal assemblages.

The medieval material, perhaps dating from c. 1270 to c. 1400 A.D., mainly survived as residual in later layers. It includes (Fig. 21 Nos. 1–7) the rim of a small cooking pot of grey fabric with chalk and flint inclusions (Fig. 21 No. 1); the rim of a storage jar or cooking pot of a coarse sandy fabric with splashes of internal glaze (Fig. 21 No. 2); the thumb base of a jug in a pale grey sandy fabric (Fig. 21 No. 3); a sherd of a fine grey fabric with applied strip (Fig. 21 No. 4); part of a cooking pot of fine grey fabric, oxidised buff, with applied strip and internal green glaze (Fig. 21 No. 5); another cooking pot with applied strip (Fig. 21 No. 6); and a sherd from a green glazed anthropomorphic jug showing the right shoulder and arm of what was probably a squatting human figure with hands raised up to the shoulders (Fig. 21 No. 7).

The late medieval material, perhaps dating from about 1400 to about 1550, includes a group of Painted Ware vessels (Fig. 21 Nos. 8–18) and other wares (Fig. 21 Nos. 19–29). The Painted Ware vessels like those found at Chichester,<sup>15</sup> are generally fine grey fabrics with a little sand tempering. They are usually oxidised buff and have sometimes been given a terminal reduction to black on the outside, perhaps to enhance the white slip decoration, applied to the outside with a brush or rag. Several of the vessels have splashes of glaze indicating that they were fired in a batch with glazed wares. They may have been produced in the Graffham area<sup>16</sup> and probably date from about 1450 to the early sixteenth century. They include rim sherds from two bowls with splashes of internal glaze (Fig. 21 Nos. 8 and 9); another rim sherd (Fig. 21 No. 10), the rim of a necked bowl (Fig. 21 No. 11); body and neck sherds from a large pitcher (Fig. 21 No. 12); a neck sherd from another pitcher (Fig. 21 No. 13); the bung-hole from a jug (Fig. 21 No. 14); part of a slashed handle with splashes of white paint (Fig. 21 No. 15); part of another slashed handle (Fig. 21 No. 16); a neck sherd with traces of glaze near the rim (Fig. 21 No. 17); and a base sherd (Fig. 21 No. 18).

The other late medieval material includes a rim sherd of a fine sandy fabric (Fig. 21 No. 19); body sherds from a vessel in a fine sandy grey fabric with splashes of glaze (Fig. 21 No. 20); a rim sherd of a jug in a fine light grey fabric with splashes of external glaze (Fig. 21 No. 21); a rim sherd from a shallow dish of a handmade soft black fabric, with coarse sand, and an applied thumb strap decoration (Fig. 21 No. 22); rim sherds from two cooking pots in grey sandy fabric (Fig. 21 Nos. 23 and 24); a lid sherd in a black sandy fabric (Fig. 21 No. 25); a body sherd from a jug in a sandy fabric with exterior herring bone decoration and green glaze (Fig. 21 No. 26); base sherds from two pitchers with thumb bases (Fig. 21 Nos. 27 and 29); and part of a rod handle in a pale grey fabric with flint inclusions (Fig. 21 No. 28).

The post-medieval material, perhaps dating from c. 1550 to 1620, is almost all from either the Crane Street kiln at Chichester, or the kilns in the Graffham area.<sup>17</sup> It is all of a fine sandy fabric and includes (Fig. 22 Nos. 30–36) the rim of a small bowl with internal brown/green glaze (Fig. 22 No. 30); the rim of a pipkin in hard dirty white fabric with internal dark green glaze (Fig. 22 No. 31); the rim of a plate in a pale creamy/buff fabric with 'scalloped' rim and 'Tudor Green Glaze' (Fig. 22 No. 32); the base of a goblet-shaped cup in a pale grey fabric with olive green glaze internally and externally (Fig. 22 No. 33), the full form of which is known on the Hampshire-Surrey border;<sup>18</sup> base sherds from two jars with internal olive green glaze (Fig. 22 Nos. 34 and 35); and the base of a pipkin with dark green internal glaze (Fig. 22 No. 36).

Later pottery from the site includes a seventeenth or eighteenth century slipware dish of a reddish/buff fabric with internal orange glaze over white slip decoration (Fig. 22 No. 37) found in the repair to the fireplace (see p. 76) which may have been produced in the Crane Street kiln at Chichester;<sup>19</sup> and part of a small salt glazed stoneware vessel (Fig. 22 No. 38), probably made in Staffordshire in about 1730–50.<sup>20</sup>

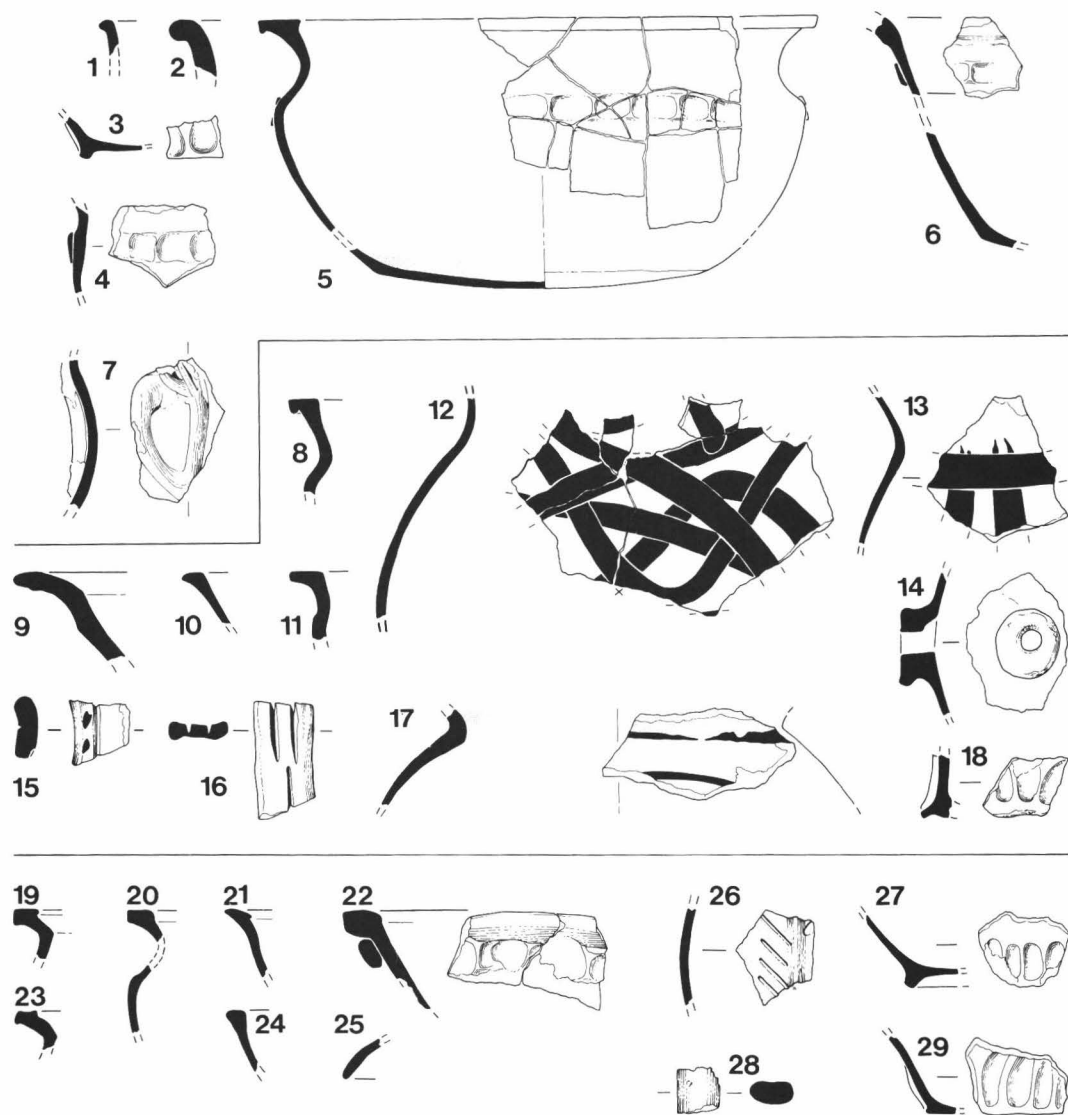


Fig. 21. Walderton, Site 1: Medieval and late medieval pottery Scale 1/4.

*b. Stone Objects*

1. Part of a Neolithic stone axe (Fig. 23 No. 1), 100 x 65 x 32 mm, recovered from layer of flint cobbles and mortar (Layer 154) under the brick floor of the seventeenth century house.

Dr. A. R. Woolley, of the Department of Mineralogy, British Museum (Natural History), has arranged for the implement to be thin sectioned and has kindly provided the following note.

'Axe (Number 5033, Sussex County Number 172) from Medieval cottage at Walderton, West Sussex. A fine grained rock consisting of irregular, inclusion-filled crystals of cordierite, somewhat turbid, usually irregular but sometimes prismatic, crystals of andalusite, set in a matrix of brown biotite, feldspar, probable quartz and ore. The rock is a cordierite-andalusite-biotite hornfels and probably came from the aureole of one of the granites of Devon or Cornwall, but could also conceivably originate in the aureole of the Skiddaw granite of Cumbria. The rock is a very close match with Sussex 29, and also Hampshire 72 and Kent 47.'

2. Medieval spindle whorl, 35 mm in diameter and 18 mm high of hard chalk, decorated with incised lines (Fig. 23 No. 2). Found on clay floor (Layer 164) of Period 2a medieval house.

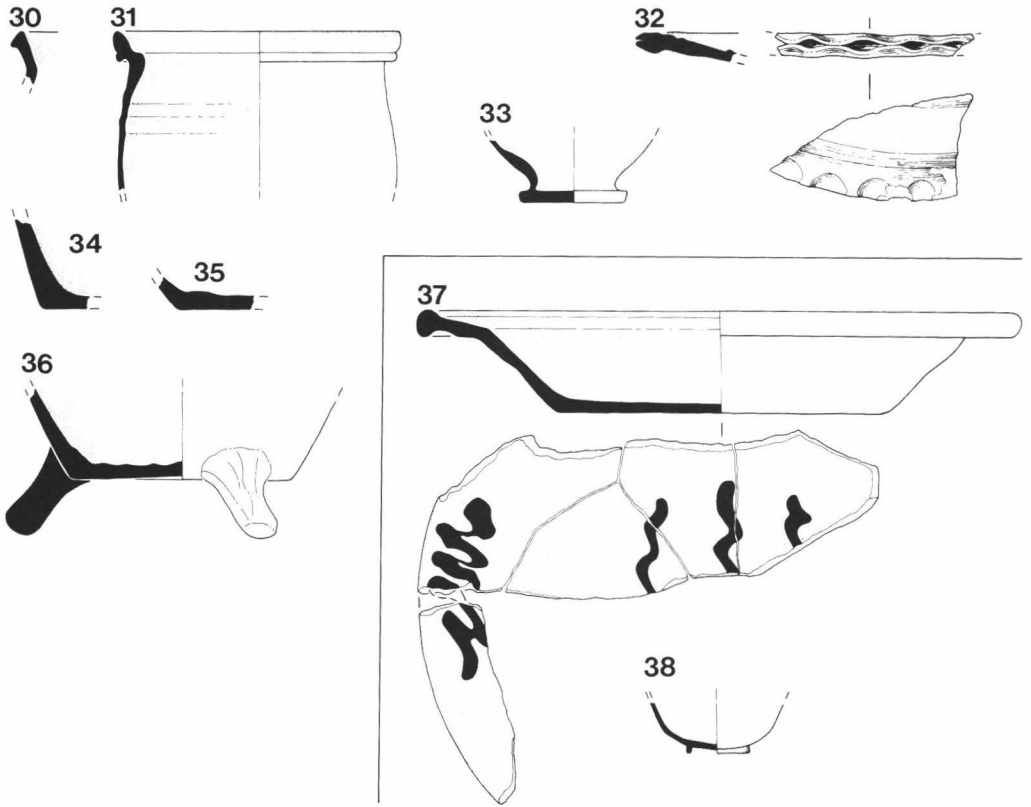


Fig. 22. Walderton, Site 1: Post-medieval pottery. Scale 1/4.

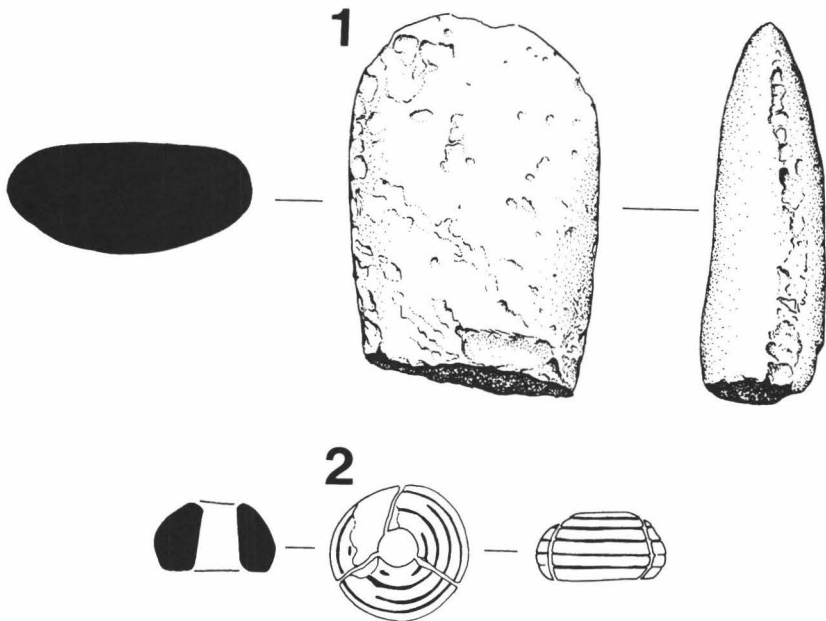


Fig. 23. Walderton, Site 1: Small finds. Scale 1/1.

3. Stone pillar base, 16 cm in diameter and 7 cm high, with two round mouldings, of a type encountered locally as for example in the remains of the late medieval Chapter House at Hardham Priory. Probably of Sussex 'Winkle stone'. Found in a nineteenth century context in the rubble underpinning of the north doorway of the seventeenth century house.

c. *Coins and Token*

1. These were all found in eighteenth or nineteenth century contexts
2. Victoria half farthing 1844.
3. George II copper coin 2.3 cm in diameter 1736 or 1756.
4. Illegible copper token 1.0 cm in diameter.
5. Almost illegible copper token 3.2 cm in diameter and 3 mm thick.<sup>21</sup>

It is probably a penny token issued by the Parys Mine Company, of Anglesey, between 1787 and 1791 of which large numbers are known to have been minted. The catalogue entry for this coin<sup>22</sup> is as follows:

Obv. Druid's head left in wreath of oak

Rev. PMCO cypher

Edge legend — various forms which includes that which appears in part in the Walderton example — ON DEMAND IN LONDON (LIV)ERPOOL (OR ANG)LESEY.

OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF WALDERTON COTTAGE

In January 1980 the cottage was in the ownership of two people, the west end was held by Miss Ruth Mills and the east end was held by Mr. R. G. Hurst, and since they both retained documents relating to a property, or properties, in Walderton it seems likely that the documents relate to the cottage dismantled for re-erection at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum. It is conceivable that some, or all, of the documents have descended with the wrong property but, in view of the internal consistencies in the ten documents and the supporting evidence from other sources, this seems unlikely, and in this discussion it is assumed that the five documents retained by Hurst (Appendix 1 *Hurst Nos. 1-5*) and the five retained by Miss Mills (Appendix 2 *Mills Nos. 1-5*) all refer to the cottage.

In 1614 the property was held by JOHN CATCHLOW or CATCHLOVE (*Hurst No. 1* and *WSRO Add MS 6888*) and it was described as a house, garden, and orchard of about half an acre. There was another house to the east which no longer survives, although the 'house platforms' noted in the adjoining field (Fig. 2) may indicate its former site.

It is possible that the John Catchlove referred to is one of the sons of William Catchlove who made his will on 25 March 1585 (*WSRO STCI/13 f184b*). In this he bequeathed to his sons John, Edward, William and Robert, and his daughters Joan, Jane and Mary, but there is no specific reference to his property, and it is not clear whether the son John is the one referred to in the 1614 lease (*Hurst No. 1*). Indeed the picture is confused by the fact that there was more than one John Catchlove in Walderton at that time, one died in 1634 (see below) and another was, according to the parish register, buried on 16 September 1640.

The 1614 lease also refers to another piece of land called 'North Garden' which was also held by John Catchlove and this can be identified further east (Fig. 2). 'North Garden' is referred to again when another lease of 1614 is recited in a lease of 15 April 1682 (*WSRO Raper Archives Uncatalogued Box PP, Accession Number 652*) and here it specifically states that there was a dwelling on the land in 1614. This property descended through John Thorndon, John Thorndon (junior), Joan (his wife), then to their daughter Alice, who married John Scardeville, of Funtington, and then, in 1682, to Edward Lock, blacksmith, of Walderton. There are surviving probate inventories for John Thorndon, dating to 24 February 1657 and Edward Lock, 16 June 1690 (*WSRO Ep1/29/189/31* and 35) and the house, shop, forge and adjoining orchard, are shown in an undated plan (*WSRO Raper Archives*). According to the Stoughton Tithe Map, of 1840, the blacksmith's shop and garden were then owned and occupied by James Cook. The old smithy survived until rebuilt a little further east some time between 1874 and 1898 (*Ordnance Survey Plans*). This new building is now a house called The Old Forge.

A property leased to a John Catchlove is referred to in conveyances of 18 May 1610 (*WSRO Add MS 5441-2*) and 16 May 1623 (*WSRO Add MS 5445*). It is not clear which of the two properties, Walderton Cottage or 'North Garden', is referred to, but the earlier document describes it as a 'messuage, barn, garden, gateroom and certain common now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Catchlove and John Catchlove'. In his will, made on 7 May and proved on 21 June 1634, John Catchlove left all his goods to his two daughters, Katherine and Martha (*WSRO STCI/18 f.326*) and the Bishop's transcripts covering baptisms, marriages, and burials in Stoughton parish from 1625-1671 includes an entry for his burial on 27 May 1634. A probate inventory of John Catchlove, made on 20 June 1634, though incomplete (*WSRO Ep.1/29/189/12*; Appendix 3; and Plate 6) indicates that his house included a 'halle' and a 'chamber', but again it is not clear which property is referred to.

The cottage was leased by William Catchlove to NICHOLAS POWELL on 15 March 1645/1646 (*Hurst No. 2*) and is described as in the earlier lease. It is probably the same William who appears in Lowes' description of the Manor of Walderton which comprises a list of the copyhold lands with acreages and state of cultivation, and a list of quit rents (*WSRO Add MS 5434*). This is undated but is thought to be mid-seventeenth century. It includes the entry:

'William Ketchlow — 2 hay, 2 harvest days and 2 capons if demanded — as quit rent payable to the Lord of the Manor'

There is a gap in the documentation between the lease by William Catchlove of 1645/6 and the will of Mathew Catchlove [senior] in 1730 (see below), but it is possible that it passed to Mathew from Mathew Catchlove the elder, of Walderton — possibly his father — who, in his will dated 1 September 1725 (*WSRO STCI/33f.320*), left his messuage, tenement and garden in Walderton to his son Mathew and also bequeathed to his son Edmund, his wife Elizabeth, his daughter Sarah, and two daughters of his late son William — Sarah and Susanna.

The property was leased to RICHARD PAY, of Westbourne, by Elizabeth Page, of Emsworth, and Mathew Catchlove [junior], of Westbourne, on 19 April 1759, when the house, garden, and orchard, then occupied by JOHN TRIPP (*Hurst No. 3*), were described as they had been in 1614. This particular lease also recites that of 1614 (*Hurst No.*

*I* and *WSRO Add MS 6888*), as well as the will of Mathew Catchlove [senior], dated 5 March 1730, and a mortgage by Mathew Catchlove [junior] to Elizabeth Page dated 28 December 1751. In his will Mathew Catchlove [senior] bequeathed to his wife Mary, his sister Sarah, his sons Mathew, Edmund and Francis and his daughter Mary, and it was his son Mathew Catchlove [junior] who received the message or tenement at Walderton then occupied by John Tripp (*WSRO STCI/35 f.48*). A probate inventory for Mathew Catchlove [senior] survives (*WSRO Ep.I/29/189 No. 177*) but it is clear from the above that he did not live at Walderton.

The Land Tax Returns from 1780 to 1786 record a RICHARD PAY as an owner of property in Walderton but this must have been a descendant to whom the property had passed through the wills of Richard Pay, dated 30 April 1770, and then the will of WILLIAM PAY, dated 16 May 1775, who left it to his daughter, PRISCILLA PAY wife of John Russell (Recited in *Hurst No. 4*). The property was subsequently leased to WILLIAM CLEVERLY by Richard Pay and John Russell on 14 March 1787 (*Hurst No. 4*) although it is John Russell's name which appears in the Land Tax Returns from 1787 to 1793.

On 10 April 1793 the property was leased to THOMAS LOWE, of Westbourne, by William Cleverly and John Russell and his wife Priscilla (*Hurst No. 5*). It is described as before and was in use as a poorhouse for the tything of Walderton but this need not necessarily imply that it accommodated anything more than a family whose rent was paid by the overseers of the poor in the parish of Stoughton. Thomas Lowe, Low or Loe, is recorded in the Tax Returns from 1794–1831 and died on 7 March 1837. In his will, dated 22 February 1837 (Recited in *Mills No. 3*) he divided the property between his son, THOMAS LOWE [junior] and his daughter JANE, wife of Thomas MILLS. The will actually describes details of the arrangement of the property and how this was to be divided —

'... all that tenement or cottage adjoining the said washhouse and garden and also the shoemakers shop and the ground in front thereof used by the said Thomas Mills and which said cottage and ground were then in the said testators occupation unto his daughter Jane the wife of the said Thomas Mills and the said testators declared to be his will . . . his said son Thomas Low should have and enjoy eight feet of land in width from the back door of the tenement so demised to the said Jane Mills to the two boundary posts belonging to himself and Mr. Tube at the south-west end of the said premises and that the said Thomas Low was not to have any garden ground at the back of the said two tenements and that the said Thomas Low and Jane Mills should use the said washhouse as tenants in common'.

It appears that Thomas Low [junior] received the west end of the cottage whilst Jane Mills received the east end, together with the shoemaker's shop, and they shared the washhouse. The ownership of the two parts of the building can then be traced through the descendants of Thomas Lowe [senior] to the present day.

Thomas Lowe [junior] was born in about 1796 and appears to have spent his working life as a farm labourer. He married Mary Ann in about 1830 and they had three children according to the Census Population Returns for 1841 — Jane, Thomas and Louisa. He died on 15 January 1869 and in his will, dated 5 March 1869 (*Mills No. 1*) he left the tenement and garden to his wife. By the time that the 1871 census was compiled the west end of the divided property was occupied by MARY ANN LOWE, then a 74 year old widow, whilst the east end was occupied by THOMAS MILLS.

Thomas, born in 1820, was the eldest son of Thomas Mills, born in 1792, who married Jane Lowe on 17 January 1819. Both Thomas Mills [senior] and Thomas Mills [junior] were cordwainers or shoemakers, and Thomas [junior] inherited the property from his father who died in about 1857. His mother died later, in 1881.

Mary Ann Lowe died on 24 October 1876 and in her will, made on 24 January 1871, she left her property to her daughter, LOUISA, wife of Alexander McBAIN, of London, in trust to sell it and divide the proceeds equally between herself and her three sisters (*Mills No. 2*). Louisa and Alexander McBain leased a message and garden in Walderton to THOMAS MILLS, shoemaker of Walderton, on 25 August 1877 (*Mills No. 3*) and the document specifically refers to this as 'being part of a house, garden, and orchard . . . with the highway to Stoughton on the north and west . . .'. The lease recites the 1614 lease to John Catchlove (*Hurst No. 1* and *WSRO Add MS 6888*), the assignment to Thomas Lowe in 1793 (*Hurst No. 5*), and the wills of Thomas and Mary Ann Lowe. Since the east end of the property can be shown to have descended continuously through the Mills family from 1837 until 1975 it seems likely that the August 1877 lease refers to the west end of the house which was leased to Thomas Mills for just a few years so that he held the whole property from August 1877 to August 1881. On 5 August 1881 it was probably the west end which was leased to JAMES STENNING by Alexander McBain and Michael Burke (*Mills No. 4*) and it was probably the same end which was leased to WALTER MILLS by Michael Burke and his wife, Elizabeth, on 21 May 1885 (*Mills No. 5*). Walter Mills was born in 1841 as one of the nine children of Thomas Mills and Jane Lowe.

By 1900, therefore, it was Walter 'Gaffer' Mills, the local blacksmith, who owned the west end, whilst the east end was owned by the Thomas Mills who was born in 1820. Thomas was not only the local shoemaker, he became parish clerk in about 1860, and was the first postmaster of Walderton from 1874 until he died in 1901. The east end of the property then descended through his son THOMAS 'Donkey' MILLS (1861–1946), his son THOMAS MILLS (1886–1958) and then his sister, MARY BROWN. It was sold to Mr. and Mrs. R. Hurst in about 1977.

The western half of the cottage descended from Walter 'Gaffer' Mills to CHARLES MILLS and then RUTH MILLS. It was occupied by LUCY MILLS, who married a Mr. SMITHERS, and that part of the house has not been occupied since about 1930.

A small brick building was built, as a shop, to the north of the cottage between 1874 and 1898 (Plate 1), according to the Ordnance Survey maps of those dates, and in 1901 this was extended by Walter 'Gaffer' Mills as a house for one of his sons, CHARLES MILLS (1868–1952), who became postmaster in about 1904, and his wife Annie. Miss RUTH MILLS, daughter of Walter 'Sammy' Mills has lived in this house, now called 'Penlan' since 1967.

#### APPENDIX 1

*An Abstract of the Documents in the Possession of Mr. R. G. Hurst in 1980*

*No. 1* This is a copy, probably eighteenth century, of an original which is in the West Sussex Record Office (WSRO



ADD MS 6888).

25 March 1614

A Ten thousand year lease by Hugh Speke, of Chichester, and Mathew Woodward, of London, to John Catchlow, of Walderton, husbandman.

House, garden, and orchard (½ acre) adjoining the house of Edward Pay, to the east, the garden of Robert Catchlove, to the south, and the highway to Stoughton to the north and west.

Also a plot called North Garden (½ acre) adjoining a garden of Edward Pay to the south, a field of Edward Pay to the east, near the end of the lane leading from Walderton to the downs, commonly called Down Lane.

Both properties being in Walderton, and in the occupation of John Catchlow.

Rent: Six harvest days work or 1s; and 2 capons at Easter, or 6d.

Consideration: 'diverse good causes'

No. 2 15 March 1645/6

A Mortgage for £20 by assignment of a one thousand year lease, by William Catchlove, of Walderton, husbandman, to Nicholas Powell, of Westbourne, tailor.

Property as in No. 1.

No. 3 19 April 1759

An Assignment of a ten thousand year lease by Elizabeth Page of Emsworth, spinster, and Mathew Catchlove, of Westbourne, husbandman, to Richard Pay, of Westbourne, baker.

House, garden and orchard in occupation of John Tripp

Consideration: £35.18.4d to Elizabeth Page

£27.1.8d. to Mathew Catchlove

Recites: 25 March 1614 Ten thousand year lease

5 March 1730 Will of Mathew Catchlove the elder

28 December 1751 Mortgage for £30 by Mathew Catchlove to Elizabeth Page.

No. 4 14 March 1787

Mortgage for £20 by assignment of Ten thousand year lease by Richard Pay, of Westbourne, cordwainer and John Russell, of Midlavant, labourer, and Priscilla, his wife, to William Cleverly, of Midlavant, yeoman.

Property as before

Recites: 30 April 1770 Will of Richard Pay

16 May 1775 Will of William Pay

No. 5 10 April 1793

Assignment of Ten thousand year lease by William Cleverly, of Stedham, yeoman, and John Russell, of Midlavant, labourer, and his wife, Priscilla to Thomas Lowe, of Westbourne, labourer.

Property, as before, now rented by the Overseers of the Poor for the parish of Stoughton and used as a Poorhouse for the Tything of Walderton.

Consideration: £27.10s.0d. to William Cleverly

£25.0s.0d. to John Russell

#### APPENDIX 2

##### *An Abstract of the Documents Retained by the Solicitor of Miss R. Mills in 1980*

No. 1 5 March 1869

Probate of the Will of Thomas Lowe, of Walderton, leaving the tenement and garden in which he lives to his wife, Mary Ann.

Will made 3 January 1863

Testator died 15 January 1869.

No. 2 26 February 1877

Probate of the Will of Mary Ann Lowe, of Walderton, widow, leaving her property to her daughter, Louisa, wife of Alexander McBain, now residing at Molcomb Street, Belgrave Square, in trust to sell it and divide the proceeds equally between herself and her three sisters.

Will made 24 January 1871

Testatrix died 24 October 1876

No. 3 25 August 1877

Assignment of 10,000 year lease by Louisa McBain, and her husband, Alexander McBain, of Shepherds Bush, Middlesex, gent., to Thomas Mills, of Walderton, shoemaker.

Messuage and garden in Walderton, being part of a house, garden and orchard (½ acre) with the highway to Stoughton on the north and west which is mentioned in the early deeds.

Consideration: £100

Recites: 25 March 1614 10,000 year lease by Hugh Speke and Mathew Woodward to John Catchlove, husbandman.

10 April 1793 Assignment by William Cleverly and John and Priscilla Russell to Thomas Lowe.

5 March 1869 Will of Thomas Lowe

26 February 1877 Will of Mary Ann Lowe.

Endorsed: 27 August 1877 Assignment of 10,000 year lease by James Dridge Newell to Alexander McBain.

Consideration: £100

No. 4 5 August 1881

Assignment of 10,000 year lease by Alexander McBain, now of Eastbourne, gent., and Michael Burke, of

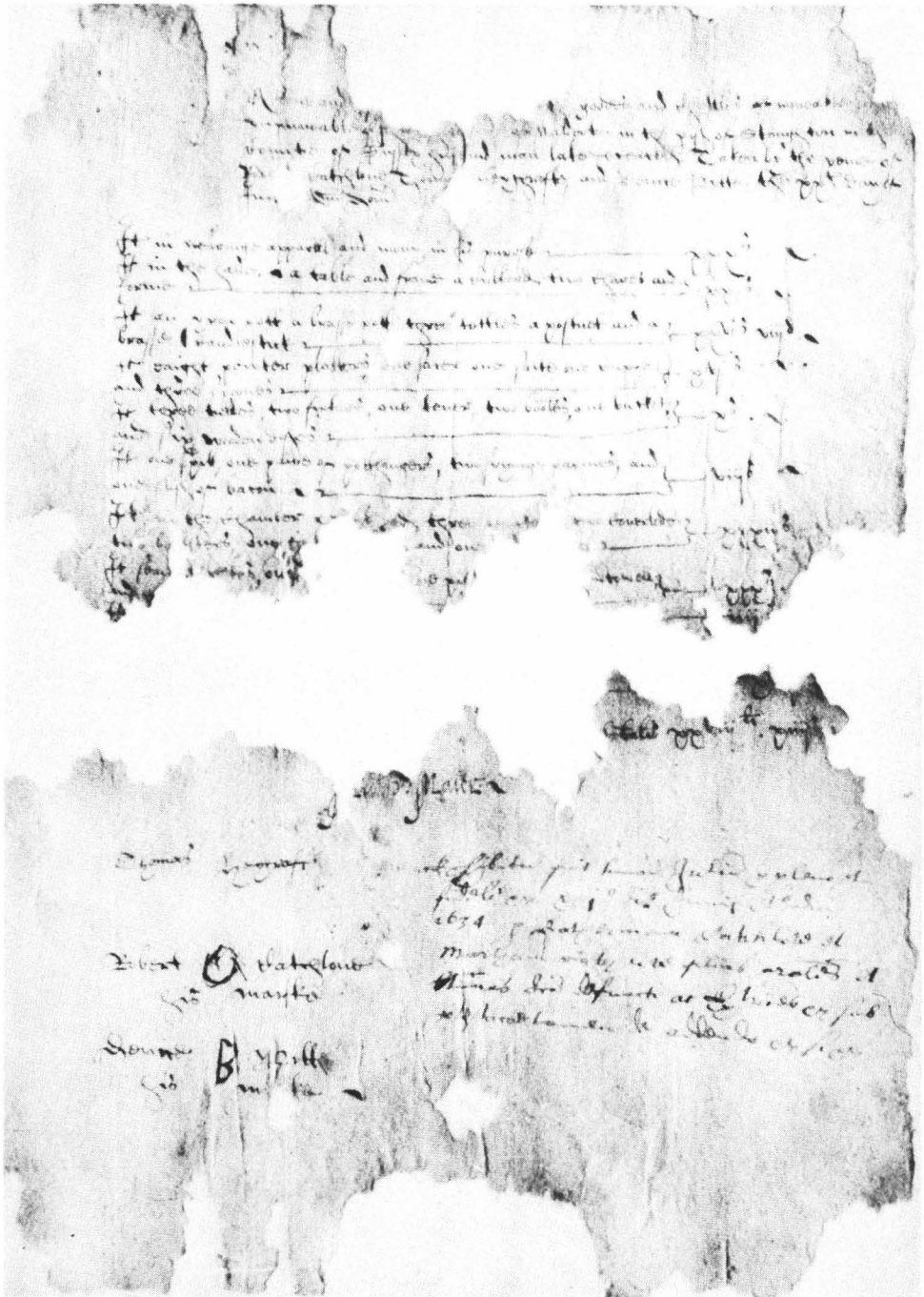


Plate VI. Walderton Cottage; The Probate Inventory of John Catchlove, 1634 (see Appendix 3). Reproduced with the kind permission of the County Archivist.



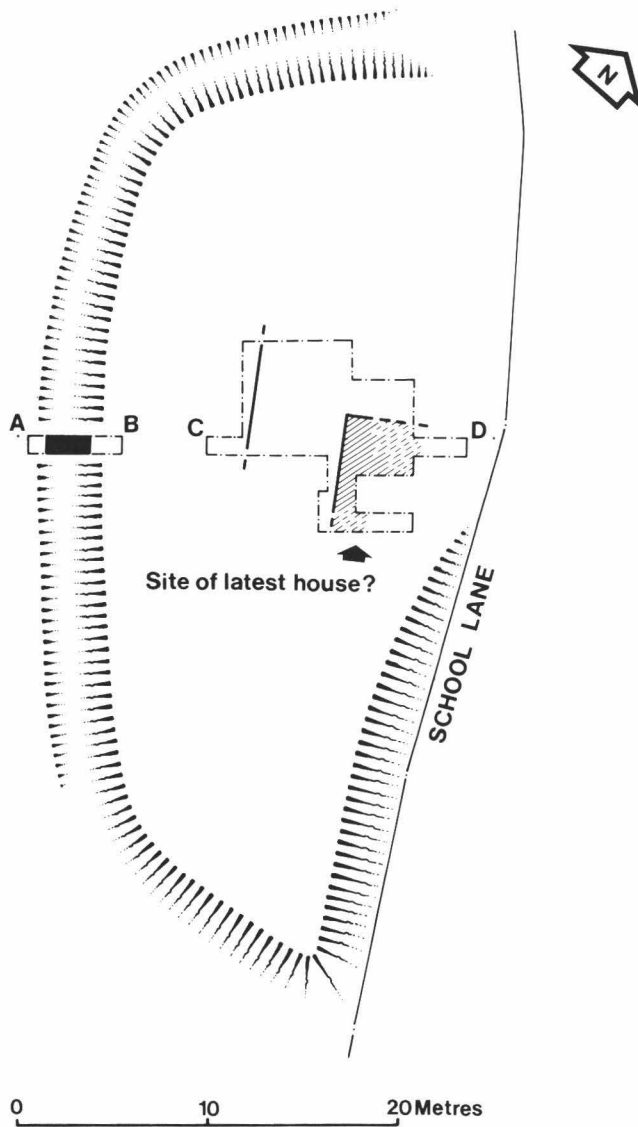


Fig. 24. Walderton, Site 2: Location of trenches.

postholes. The trench was extended to the north and south in an attempt to determine the precise plan of any buildings but this proved impossible despite the fact that the pottery in the topsoil indicated occupation from the medieval period through to the mid-nineteenth century (Fig. 27).

Cut into the underlying chalk were a series of postholes and pits none of which could be dated (Fig. 26) and these appeared to form no obvious plan or plans. What appeared initially to be traces of a flint wall at the western end of the main area of excavation turned into a spread of

flint and some mortar with a few pieces of brick and tile. Further east a spread of flint, chalk lumps and brick may represent material associated with the west wall of the building demolished in the nineteenth century, i.e. the one shown on the Tithe Map. The nature of the remains would appear to indicate that the house or houses represented in the area excavated were not built with foundations which penetrated into the underlying chalk, and were therefore presumably of light, probably timber-framed, construction with later additions in brick, flint, and chalk. A few pieces of slate and roofing tile were found but insufficient to suggest that either of these materials were used for roofing the main structure(s). It appeared that the latest house had been taken down and most of the building materials used in its construction removed from the site.

The section through the surrounding earthwork (Fig. 25 A-B) indicated that the site had initially been surrounded by a small ditch, c. 0.9 m wide and 0.3 m deep, cut into the underlying chalk and filled with loam (Layer 1) which had later been sealed by up to 0.4 m of loam (Layer 2) through which a much larger ditch, 1.6 m wide and 0.7 m deep, had been cut. No dating evidence was obtained from these ditches which were sealed by modern ploughsoil.

## SITE 2: SECTIONS

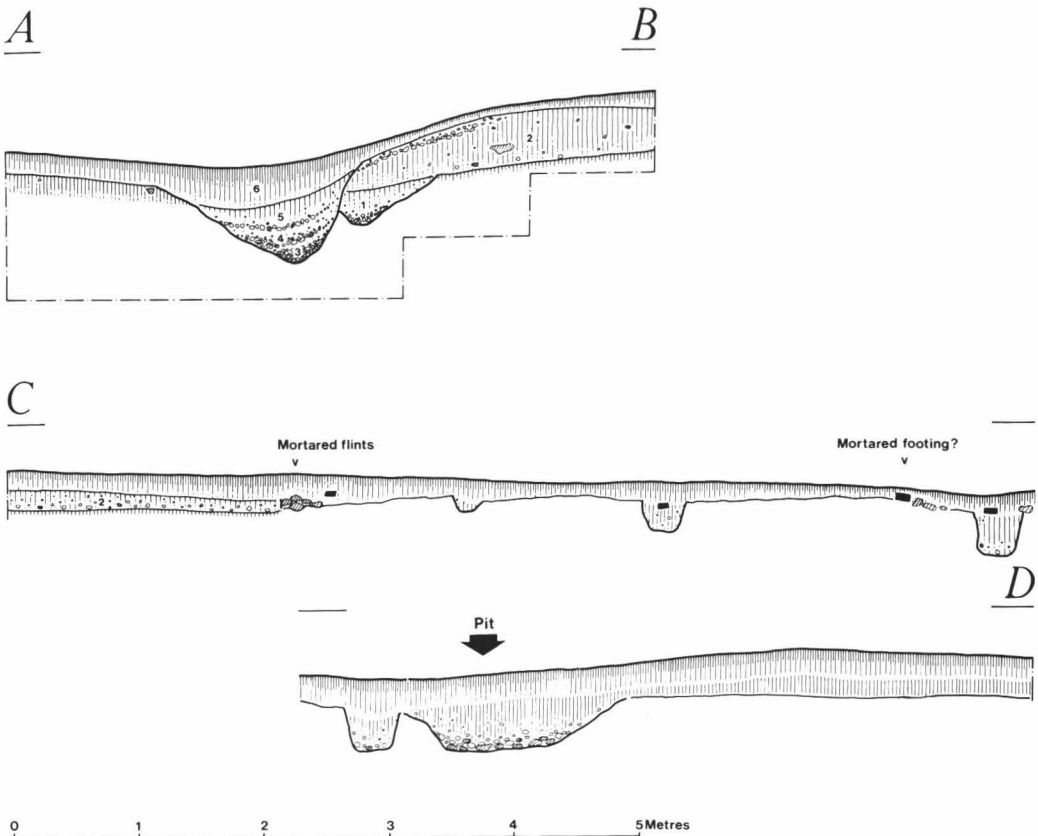


Fig. 25. Walderton, Site 2: Sections.

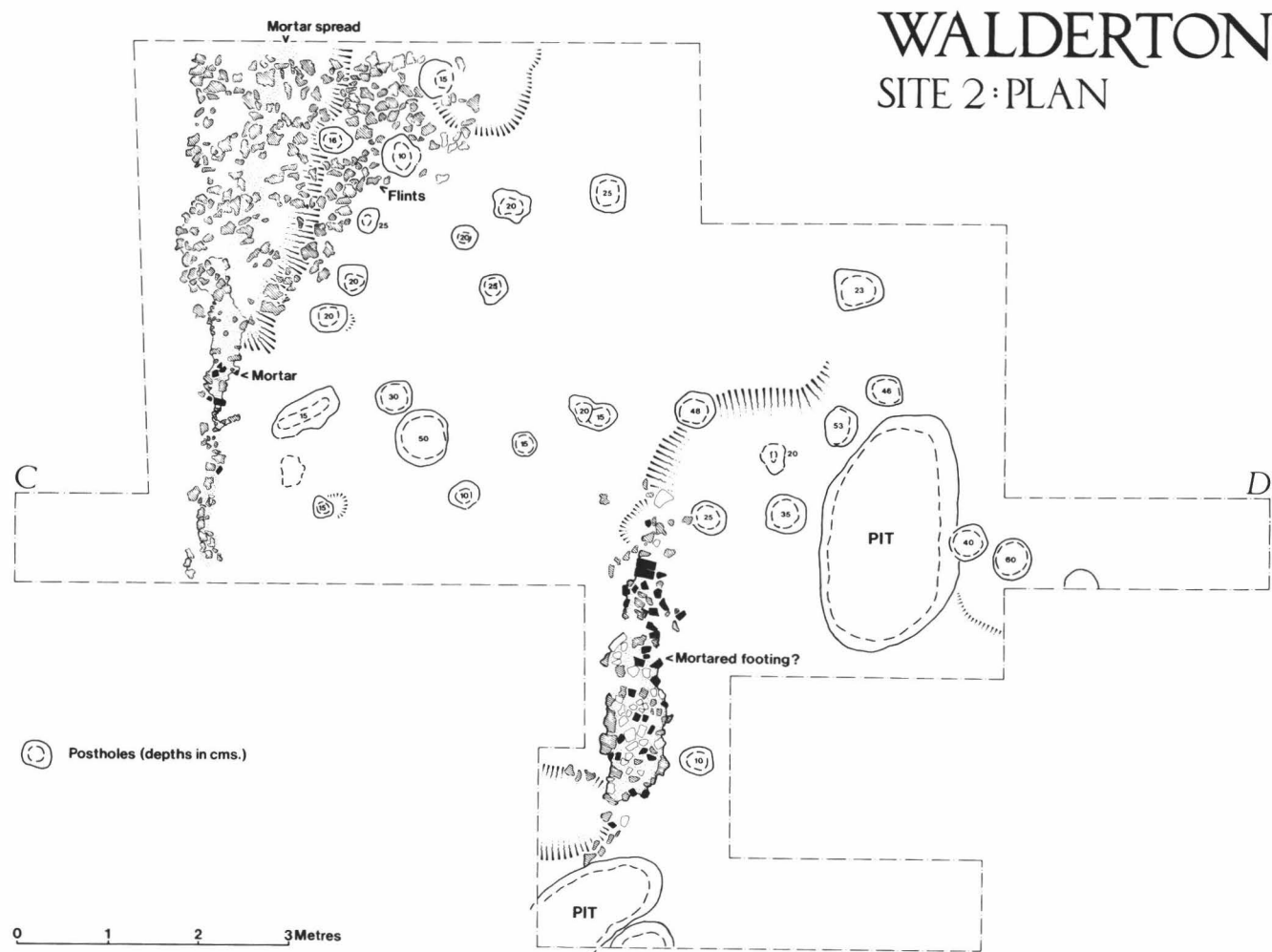


Fig. 26. Walderton, Site 2: Plan. Brick fragments are shown solid black; flints are hatched; and chalk lumps are shown open.

THE POTTERY

A substantial amount of unstratified pottery was retrieved from ploughsoil over the area excavated and much of this is considered to be contemporary with the occupation of the house site. It includes a whole range of material which might be expected to accumulate as rubbish thrown out as garden refuse from a site occupied at least from the late thirteenth or fourteenth down to the middle of the nineteenth centuries A.D., and represented are an early group of sandy ware fabrics, some glazed, others painted (Nos. 1-21); a group of late sixteenth and seventeenth century material, probably derived from the Graffham and/or Chichester kilns<sup>23</sup>; sherds from seventeenth and eighteenth century slipware dishes; early and late stonewares; and a range of later porcelains and china.

Examples from the early group are described and illustrated (Fig. 27). All are of a light buff sandy ware fabric and probably date from the late thirteenth through to the middle of the sixteenth century, the later material being typified by the four examples of Painted Ware (Nos. 11, 12, 16 and 17).

1. Rim and neck sherd of a jug, about 11 cm in diameter, with splashes of external green glaze.
2. Rim of a bowl c. 40 cm in diameter.
3. Rim of a bowl, c. 20 cm in diameter, with traces of green glaze.
4. Rim of a bowl, c. 20 cm in diameter, reduced black externally.
5. Rim of a bowl c. 40 cm in diameter.
6. Rim of a bowl.
7. Rim of a bowl.
8. Rim of a bowl c. 20 cm in diameter.
9. Rim of a bowl.
10. Rim of a bowl with splashes of green glaze.
11. Rim sherd of a Painted Ware bowl, c. 30 cm in diameter, with white slip on inside of rim.
12. Rim sherd of a Painted Ware bowl, c. 14 cm in diameter, with a mottled green external glaze and white slip on the rim.
13. Rim sherd of a bowl, c. 34 cm in diameter, with applied strap decoration.
14. Base sherd of a bowl, c. 18 cm in diameter, with thumb impressed decoration and some external green glaze.
15. Bung hole from a pitcher with external green glaze.
16. Painted Ware body sherd with white slip decoration.
17. Painted Ware body sherd with white slip decoration.

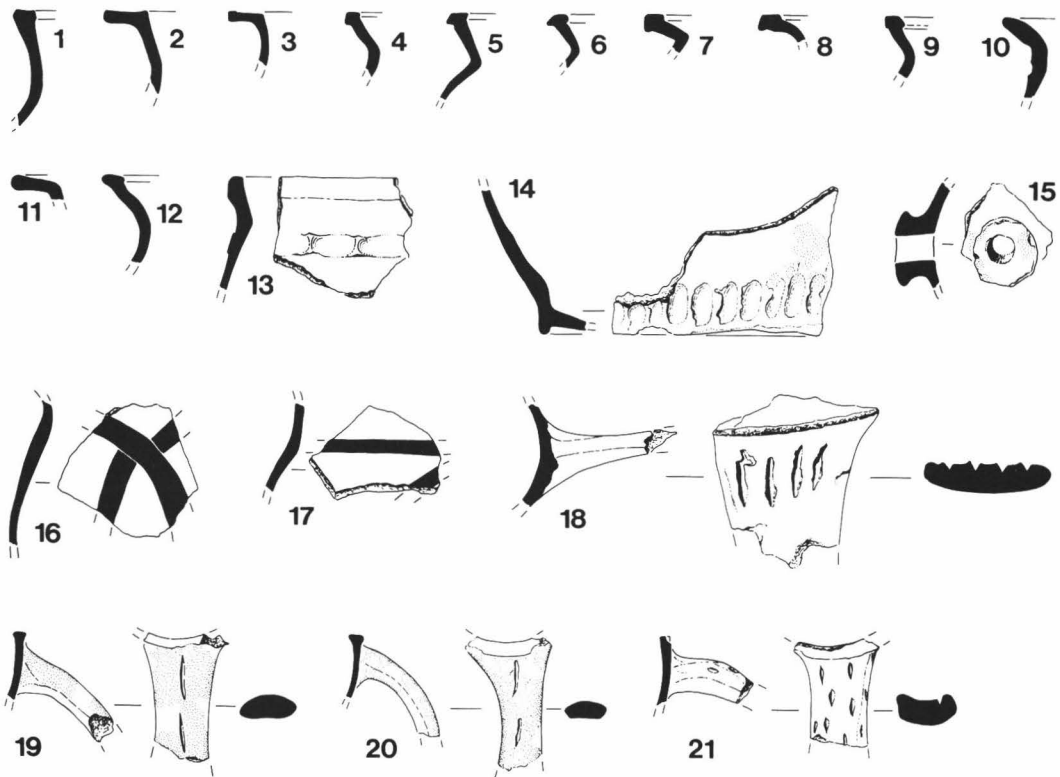


Fig. 27. Walderton, Site 2: Medieval pottery. Scale 1/4.

18. Slashed handle of a large dish or bowl.
19. Rim sherd and slashed handle of a bowl or skillet with external green glaze.
20. Rim sherd and slashed handle of a bowl or skillet with external green glaze.
21. Rim sherd and slashed handle of a bowl or skillet.

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The site records are retained by the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum and the finds have been presented to Chichester District Museum by the owners.

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- <sup>4</sup>Aldsworth and Down 1981 op. cit. Nos. 19-60.
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- <sup>9</sup>Down 1981.
- <sup>10</sup>Aldsworth and Down 1976; Streeten 1981.
- <sup>11</sup>Down 1981; Aldsworth and Down 1976; Streeten 1981.
- <sup>12</sup>Down 1981.
- <sup>13</sup>We are indebted to James Ayres for this suggestion.
- <sup>14</sup>Aldsworth and Down 1981.
- <sup>15</sup>Down, A. 1978 *Chichester Excavations* 3 p. 363.
- <sup>16</sup>Aldsworth and Down 1976; Streeten 1981.
- <sup>17</sup>Down 1981.
- <sup>18</sup>Holling, F. W. 1971 A Preliminary note of the pottery industry of the Hampshire-Surrey borders *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 68 pp. 57-88 Fig. 2 No. B1a.
- <sup>19</sup>Down 1981.
- <sup>20</sup>We are indebted to Mrs. Sheila Morgan for identifying this piece.
- <sup>21</sup>We are indebted to Mrs. Anne Bone, of Chichester District Museum, for identifying this item.
- <sup>22</sup>Seaby, H. A. (ed) 1961 *British Copper Coins* p. 194.
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