The Shell House at Cilwendeg, Boncath, Pembrokeshire.

An archaeological investigation August 2003

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By

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Summary

An archaeological survey and excavation was undertaken at the 19th century Shell House at Cilwendeg, Boncath in Pembrokeshire, in August 2003. The project was intended to inform a programme of restoration being undertaken by the Temple Trust. A detailed survey was undertaken of the interior of the building,which includes a series of shell-decorated panels and a bone decorated floor. Large quantities of artefacts relating to the internal decoration were recovered from the excavation of a forecourt area. It seems likely that much of this material originated from the ceiling as well as from the wall panels. The forecourt was flanked by two large soil banks associated with rockeries comprising small quartz boulders. These banks were faced with further rows of quartz boulders. The excavation also investigated the character of the access path to the Shell House. The information from the survey and excavation has allowed some suggestions to made about the possible appearance and character of the internal ceiling, the coloured glass used in the windows, the quantities of shells used in the wall panels and the external garden features.

Introduction

This report details the results of an archaeological survey and excavation undertaken by Cambria Archaeology at the Cilwendeg Shell House in August 2003. The work was undertaken on behalf of the Temple Trust who intend to repair and restore the building and to secure public access to the site. The Shell House, that lies in the grounds of the mansion and farm at Cilwendeg (NGR SN 2233 2870), is located (3) between Newchapel and Boncath in northeast Pembrokeshire (Fig. 1). The site is approached from the west by a drive off the B4332. Cilwendeg is listed in the register of landscapes, parks and gardens of special historic interest in Wales (Cadw 2002, 186-190) and the Shell House itself is a Grade II* listed building.

The site

The buildings of the present estate at Cilwendeg were largely the work of Morgan Jones and his nephew, also Morgan Jones, during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. Much of the family wealth derived from the income obtained from the Skerries lighthouse off the coast of Anglesey. The core of the present mansion house was probably built in the 1780s by the elder Morgan Jones. However, the younger Morgan Jones was responsible for many of the splendid farm buildings, the majority of which were constructed between 1826 and 1840. The most extravagant of these buildings was an elaborate fowl house built in 1835 complete with sawn slate nesting boxes. More detailed descriptions of the history of the estate and the buildings appear elsewhere (Orbach nd; Cadw 2002; Fleming 2002).

The Shell House lies within a small area of woodland to the southwest of the main mansion. It is probable that it was built during the time of the younger Morgan Jones

during the 1820s or 1830s. It has now fallen into disuse although it was partly restored in 1991. The entrance façade is in rough quartz, with clasping corner buttresses of locally quarried slate ashlar. The central doorway is flanked by two windows. The façade is in good condition. It has a stepped parapet topped with large angular quartz blocks although two have fallen. Two other quartz blocks were formerly located on the two corner buttresses. Other elevations were cement rendered when the roof was rebuilt in 1991. The windows are to a gothic design, as was the now missing door. Internally the ceiling has completely collapsed. The internal wall faces are plastered and decorated with panels of inlaid shells although other decorative materials have also been used including polished stones, minerals, small fragments of cut coloured glass and small quartz crystals. However, the shell panels are in poor condition. The floor of bone- and tooth-decorated motifs is beginning to break up. Unwanted material from the 1991 restoration, including shell, bone, glass and plaster, was swept out of the building into an external forecourt. This forecourt is flanked by crescent-shaped garden features, and is approached by a slate-gravel path.

Objectives

The general objective of the archaeological investigation was to inform the programme of repair and conservation. Within this general objective it was hoped that the archaeological work could help clarify a number of specific issues:

1 - to inform a reconstruction of the form and decoration of the original ceiling.
2 - to inform an accurate restoration of the shell panels.
3 - to recover artefacts and shells from the plaster dump in front of the Shell House for possible reuse in the restoration.
4 - to determine the character and form of the raised garden features in front of the building.
5 – to determine the character and form of the access path to the building.
6 – to recover fragments of window glass that might indicate the original colour schemes used in the window and door panes.

Methodology

Topographic survey

A topographic survey of the grotto and its immediate environs was undertaken using an EDM theodolite with attached data recorder. Data manipulation and output was using MS Geosite.

Building survey

The front external elevation of the Shell House and internal elevations and floor were all drawn at a scale of 1:10. In addition all internal features and panels were recorded using digital photography (see attached CD). Several elements of the shell panels were drawn at 1:1 allowing the preparation of a composite drawing of a (nearly) complete shell panel. A detailed examination was also made of a dump of roof

timbers (1016) to the northeast of the building. This dump was photographed (Plate 4) and drawn at a scale of 1:20.

Archaeological Excavation

The main area of excavation (Area 1, Fig. 2) was located in the forecourt in front of the building and measured 10m x 8m. This area included the cobble apron, associated with the former verandah, that lay immediately in front of the building entrance. This feature was cleaned and features relating to the verandah roof were recorded. A mound of debris that had been deposited in the forecourt was divided into 2m grid squares and fully excavated. The raised crescent-shaped garden features flanking the forecourt were also cleaned and examined. Two further trenches (Areas 2 and 3) were excavated across the line of the approach path in order to determine its character (Fig. 2; Area 3 not shown).

All the features and deposits were recorded using an open-ended numbering system and all significant features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (not less than 1:20) and photographed in both 35mm and digital format.

The excavation results

The cobble apron (1011) in front of the building was overlain by a thin layer of silty loam (1007) much of which had been trodden into the surface between the cobbles. This overlying material was gridded and excavated and small quantities of coloured glass and other material were collected. The majority of the coloured glass fragments were green although small quantities of blue, purple and orange glass were also recovered. The exposed cobble surface comprised small white or light coloured cobbles set within diagonal lines of darker grey cobbles. The surface was edged with slate kerbs with a notched decoration (Plates 1 and 2). Traces of four pillar bases, which presumably supported the roof of the verandah, were identified at the front of the cobble apron. These comprised a double brick cement foundation that, in two cases, were overlain by a notched slate block with a central spindle hole.

The forecourt area in front of (i.e. south of) the cobble apron was overlain by a series of plaster and soil dumps (1002, 1008, 1009 and 1010) forming a deposit up to 0.2m thick. The area to the northeast of the forecourt, adjacent to the building, contained a higher proportion of plaster fragments and shell debris (1008). All these dumps were systematically excavated and the finds collected and recorded using the 2m grid. Numerous lumps of plaster were collected from these dumps and examined. Many of the fragments had wooden lath impressions on the reverse side suggesting they originated from the ceiling of the Shell House rather than from the walls. Of these, three of the larger fragments had shells attached to the smooth face suggesting that part at least of the ceiling was decorated with shells. Three shell types were identified on these fragments of possible ceiling plaster – cockles, mussels and limpets. None of the possible ceiling fragments had any indication of a curve that might be suggestive of a domed ceiling. However, all the fragments were very small and none were more than 0.2m long. Several large slate slabs were recovered from the plaster dumps including one large piece (visible in Plate 3). These clearly originated from the roof of the verandah.

The shell and plaster dumps contained significant quantities of other items, many of which were presumably used as decoration in the ceiling and wall panels. These items included polished stone and marble objects, fragments of facetted quartz crystal, small pieces of coal and gunflints. In addition, several hundred small fragments of coloured glass were recovered. The vast majority of these were less than 30mm long. It seems likely that these exceeded the quantity that might be accounted for by the window and door panes and, consequently, the majority were presumably used as decoration in the ceiling or walls. This suggestion is supported by traces of plaster adhering to one side of several of the glass fragments and the fact that many appeared to have been cut into diamond or triangular shapes. The majority of the glazed pottery fragments that were recovered came from a single, large, earthenware storage jar with an internal brown glaze. Full quantifications of all the shells and other items recovered from the excavation are provided in Appendix 1. Following the excavation, this material was all washed and stored in finds bags by context, grid square and material.

The underlying forecourt surface was a compacted silty loam with no evidence of any artificial surface material, suggesting that this may have originally been a lawned area. However, an area of olive grey clay and slate fragments formed a rectangular area of hardstanding (1012) immediately in front of the cobble apron approximately 2m long by 1m wide. This may have originally formed a step up to the verandah.

To either side of the forecourt were raised earth banks (1013 and 1014) associated with areas of small, angular quartz boulders. These areas of quartz formed what appeared to be small, irregular-shaped rockeries. The inner face of each of the two banks was defined by a row of larger quartz boulders (1017 and 1018) forming a kerb either side of the forecourt (Plates 7-9).

The approach path was excavated at two locations. In Area 2, immediately to the south of the forecourt, the path comprised a thin layer, approximately 2m wide, of small slate fragments (Fig. 2, 1016). This surface widened as it entered the 'mouth' of the forecourt (1015). However, there was no evidence for the slate surface of the path to the north of the large tree stump that lay just beyond the southern entrance to the forecourt. In Area 3, located approximately midway along the access path to the Shell House, the gravel surface of the path was again approximately 2m wide with no evidence for any flanking kerb (Plate 10).

The survey of the Shell Panels and floor

Each of the shell panels were individually numbered starting with Panel 1 on the east side of the doorway and ending in Panel 19 on the west side of the doorway (Figs 4-6). The panels below the windows are numbered Panels 20 and 21. The individual panel numbers are indicated on the internal elevation drawings. A series of digital photographs were taken of all the shell panels (see Plates 5 and 6). A number of repeated motifs were apparent on all the shell panels. These included floral designs, generally around a specific object such as a conch shell or a polished stone. On all the larger panels a series of mussel shell pairs were used to create a border in the form of a gothic arch. The foot of all the larger panels was defined by a row of large oval otter shells and a row of large oyster shells with worm-cast surfaces.

An estimate of the percentage of original shells surviving on each panel is indicated in Table 1. A drawing at 1:1 was made of Panel 1 and parts of Panels 4 and 5. The major shell types on Panel 1 were counted and an estimate was made of the total number that would have originally been present (Table 2). By combining the recorded elements of Panels 4 and 6 it was possible to obtain a similar estimate for a composite side panel (Table 3). These allowed an estimate of the average number of shells of the major shell types by square meter. By multiplying this by the total area of shell panels (20.55sq m) the estimated total numbers of shells originally required for the Shell House walls was 13, 502 (Table 4). Of course this assumes that the proportion of shell types present was consistent throughout all the panels. However, it could be seen that this was not always the case. For example the large oval otter shells were over-represented on the corner panels. Nevertheless, it does give an indication of the large number of shells that were needed.

Trying to match this estimated total with the total numbers recovered from the excavation was difficult. In general only complete shells were retained and quantified. Inevitably the more fragile shells (for example mussels, otter shells and razors) were under-represented in the shells that were recovered.

Elevation	Shell Panel	Area Sq m	% shells remaining
Front	1	1.08	75
Front	2	0.54	75
Front	18	0.54	50
Front	19	1.08	50
Front	20	0.42	75
Front	21	0.42	0
Right	3	0.51	65
Right	4	1.10	50
Right	5	1.10	40
Right	6	1.10	50
Back	7	0.85	60
Back	8	1.00	75
Back	9	1.60	25
Back	10	1.05	5
Back	11	1.66	10
Back	12	0.88	20
Left	13	0.85	50
Left	14	1.10	0
Left	15	1.10	0
Left	16	1.10	0
Left	17	0.51	10
Windows x 4		0.96	60
		Total 20.55	

Table 1: approximate percentage of shells remaining on each panel

Panel 1	No surviving	Estimated original total
Mussel	232	290
Cockles	112	140
Oysters	46	58
Razors	8	10
Whelk/Periwinckle	66	83
Limpet	90	113
Otter Shells	43	54
Total		

Table 2: number of surviving shells and an estimate of the total original shells on Panel 1

Panel 4/6	No surviving	Estimated original total
Mussel	203	305
Cockles	84	126
Oysters	33	50
Razors	5	8
Whelk/Periwinckle	60	90
Limpet	62	93
Otter Shells	26	39
Total		

Table 3: number of surviving shells and an estimate of total original shells on a composite of Panels 4 and 6

	No/sq m	Estimated original total ie No/sq m x 20.55
Mussel	271	5569
Cockles	121	2487
Oysters	41	843
Razors	8	164
Whelk/Periwinckle	79	1623
Limpet	94	1932
Otter Shells	43	884
Total		**13,502**

Table 4 – estimate of the total numbers of shells used in the shell panels

In addition to the shell decoration, numerous other items were used as decoration in the panels but generally in very small quantities. These included fragments of window glass and facetted quartz crystal. These were particularly noticeable in the panels associated with the window recesses. Other common items included fragments of cut and polished stone and, as indicated above, these were often used as the central focus for floral motifs. The detailed 1:1 drawings of several panels (Archive Drawings 11-14) and a series of digital photographs, provide more detail of the individual elements and motifs. However, it is noticeable that the number and variety of decorative items collected from the shell dump in the forecourt (especially from dump layer 1008) seems to far exceed the number of items that might have originally been present in the wall panels. This leads to the conclusion that at least some of these items were used in the ceiling.

The central area of the floor consisted of octagonal, lime-concrete tiles inlaid with animal bone and tooth decorative motifs. Smaller slate tiles were set into the corners of the concrete tiles. The floor was drawn at a scale of 1:10 and a series of overlapping digital photographs were taken. The combined information from these two recording formats was used to produce a detailed archive drawing of the floor. It is noticeable that the central tiles are less worn than the outer tiles. This seems to suggest that the central area of the room may have been protected from general wear and tear by some form of floor covering or a table.

Discussion

The ceiling

The pattern of notches, sockets and ledges on the internal front and rear elevations gives possible clues as to the original form of the ceiling. Of particular interest is the series of notches immediately above the modern concrete lintel, the stone shelf immediately above these notches and six beam sockets higher up, three on each of the walls. The lower notches are now partly filled with concrete. However, it is possible to identify slight angled surfaces in a number of them suggesting that they may have housed angled ceiling battens, attached to a wooden wall-plate that was subsequently replaced by the concrete lintels. Unfortunately, no traces of this wall-plate or any corresponding notches were recovered. It seems possible that the main part of the ceiling was supported on the wall ledges 0.2m above the level of the concrete lintels. The very central area of the ceiling may then have been raised further using the six beam sockets. The intention might have been to create a tiered effect in the ceiling.

As indicated in the excavation results, none of the possible ceiling plaster fragments exhibited any traces of a curve, suggesting that the ceiling panels were flat. However, a number were decorated with shells. The plaster dumps also contained a higher proportion of faceted crystal quartz than was apparent in any of the surviving wall panels hinting that these decorative elements may have originated from the ceiling. The numerous fragments of glass fragments, especially from the plaster dumps, suggests that glass was also used for ceiling decoration. In fact many of the glass fragments had traces of plaster attached to them indicating that they were not from window glass.

Further information, relating to the roof and possibly the ceiling, is provided by the dump of timber to the northeast of the building (Plate 4). An attempt was made to lift these. However, the material was so fragile that the elements were recorded (Archive Drawing No. 8) and left *in situ*. Several of the timbers clearly still articulate with each other and give an indication of the original pitch of the roof prior to its replacement in 1991.

The windows

Using the evidence from both the surviving fragments of glass still attached to the window frames (Fig. 3) and the few fragments that were collected from the surface of

the cobble apron (see Appendix 1, 1007) it is possible to suggest the colour scheme that was used in the windows. Small notches in the window frames suggest that each was divided into seven distinct panels. Two of the panels in the west window have traces of green glass and one has traces of purple glass. Three of the panels in the east window have traces of green glass and one has traces of purple glass. There are no traces of glass in either of the diamond-shaped panels at the apex of each of the windows. Over half of the glass fragments recovered from the surface of the cobble apron were green with smaller numbers of blue, purple and orange. By combining this evidence it is suggested that the lower two panels of each window were green, the middle two panels purple and the upper two panels were also green. The diamond-shaped panel at the very top of each window may have been blue or orange.

The forecourt and access path

The excavation in front of the Shell House has provided a significant amount of new information regarding the associated garden features and access path. In summary, several small rockeries, consisting of small quartz boulders were set into the top of the two raised earth banks either side of the forecourt. These raised banks were faced with a further row of quartz boulders. The absence of the access path in the interior of the forecourt appears to suggest that this area may have been lawned. There was no evidence for any other surface feature apart for a rectangular area of hard standing leading up onto the verandah of the Shell House.

Acknowledgements

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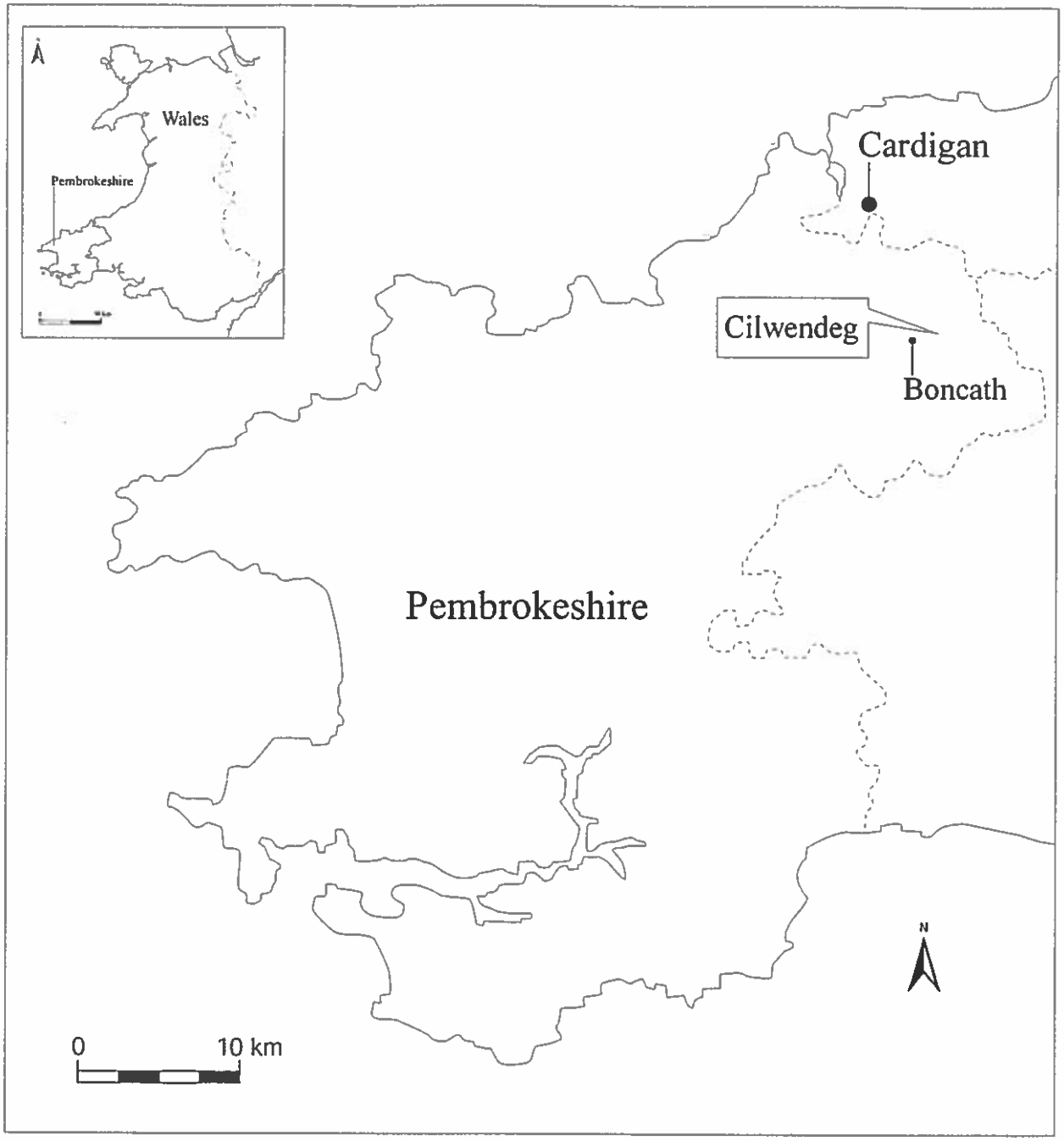
Wales
Pembrokeshire
Cardigan
Cilwendeg
Boncath
Pembrokeshire
N
0
10 km

Fig. 1

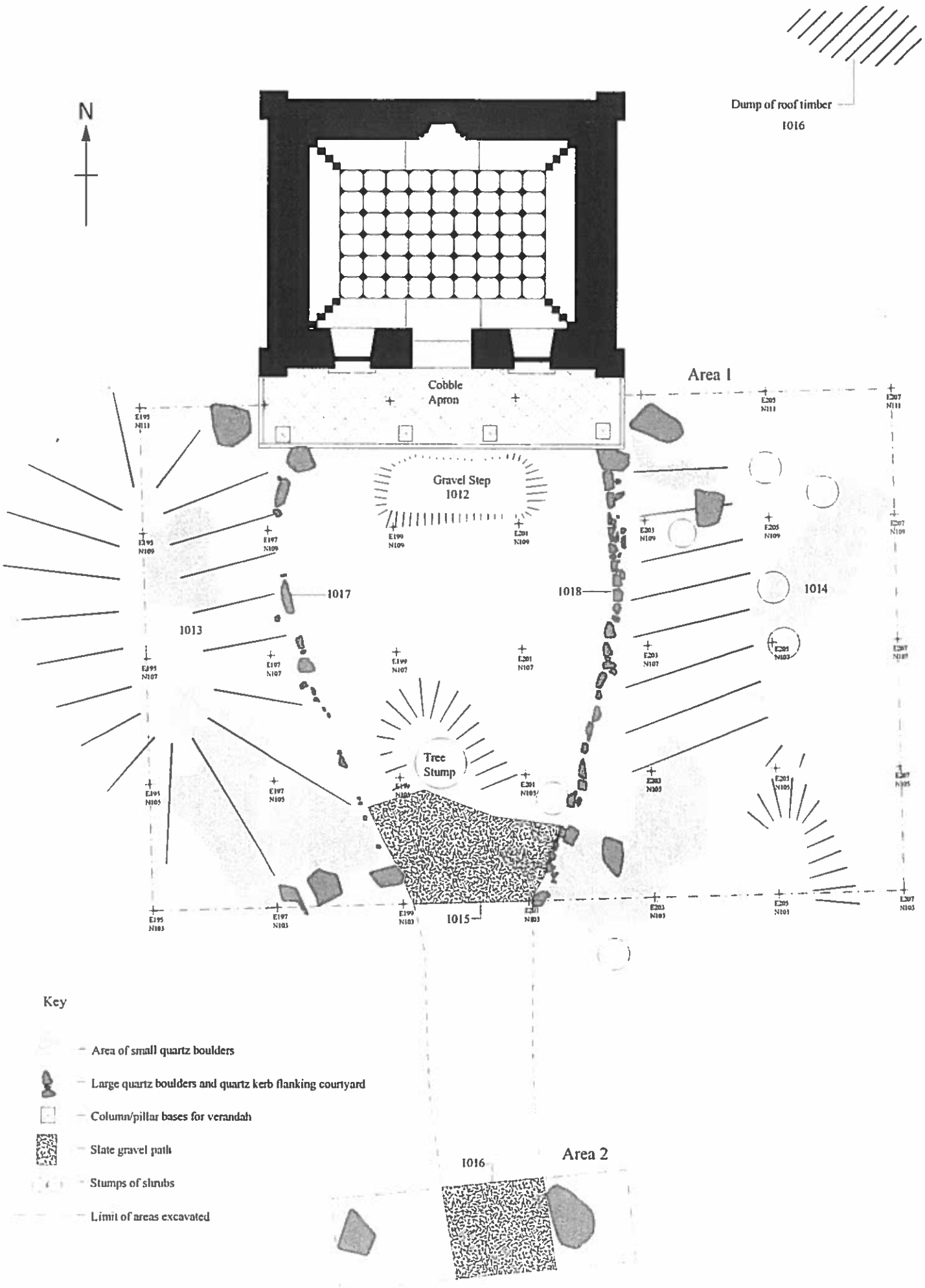
N
Dump of roof timber
1016
Cobble
Apron
Area 1
Gravel Step
1012
1017
1018
1014
1013
Tree
Stump
1015
Area 2
1016
Key
Area of small quartz boulders
Large quartz boulders and quartz kerb flanking courtyard
Column/pillar bases for verandah
Slate gravel path
Stumps of shrubs
Limit of areas excavated
0
3 m

Fig. 2

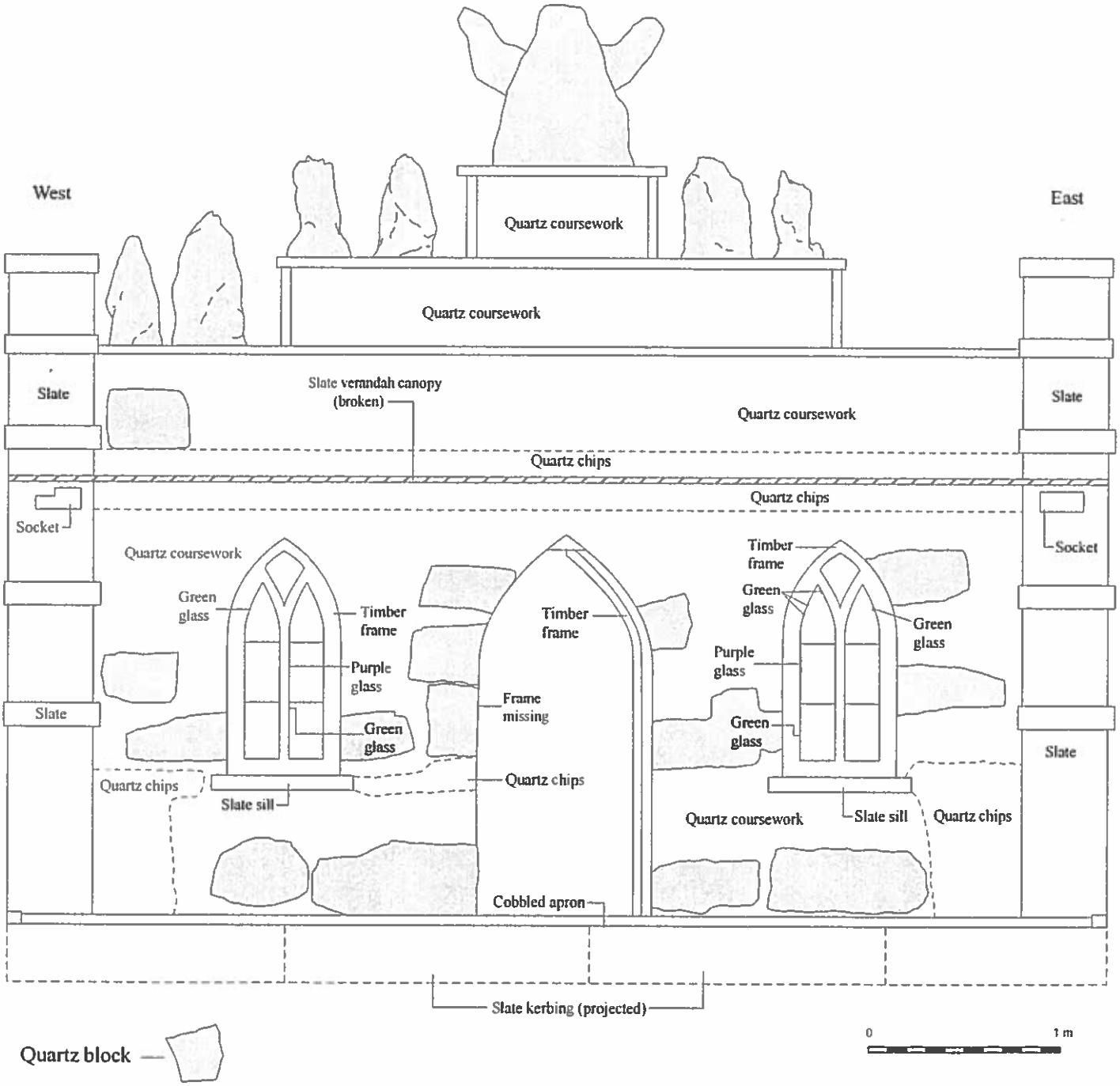
West
East
Quartz coursework
Quartz coursework
Slate
Slate verandah canopy (broken)
Quartz coursework
Slate
Quartz chips
Quartz chips
Socket
Socket
Quartz coursework
Green glass
Timber frame
Purple glass
Green glass
Timber frame
Frame missing
Timber frame
Green glass
Green glass
Purple glass
Green glass
Slate
Slate
Quartz chips
Slate sill
Quartz chips
Quartz coursework
Slate sill
Quartz chips
Cobbled apron
Slate kerbing (projected)
Quartz block
0
1 m

Fig.3

Internal front elevation

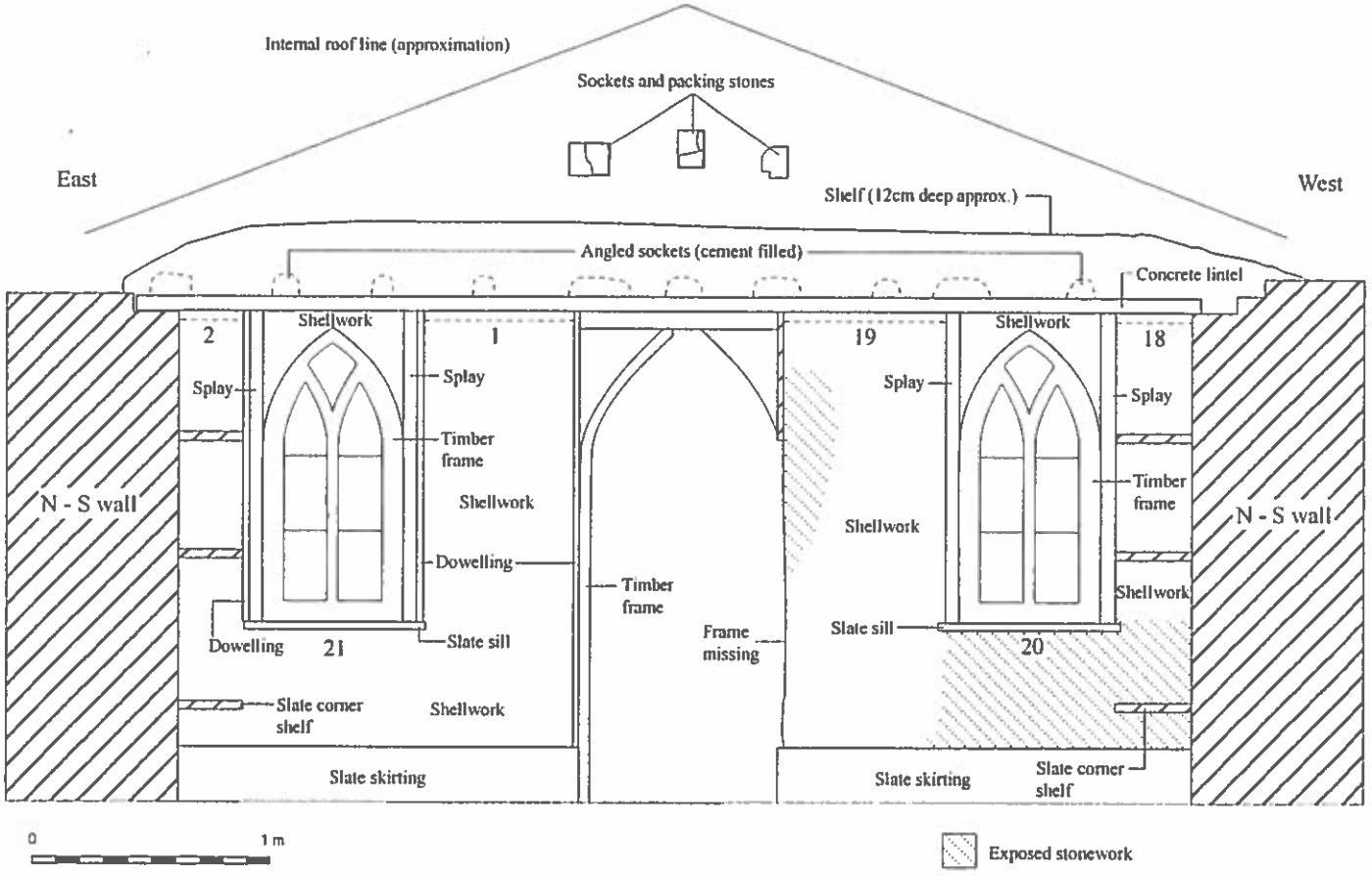

Fig.4

Internal back elevation

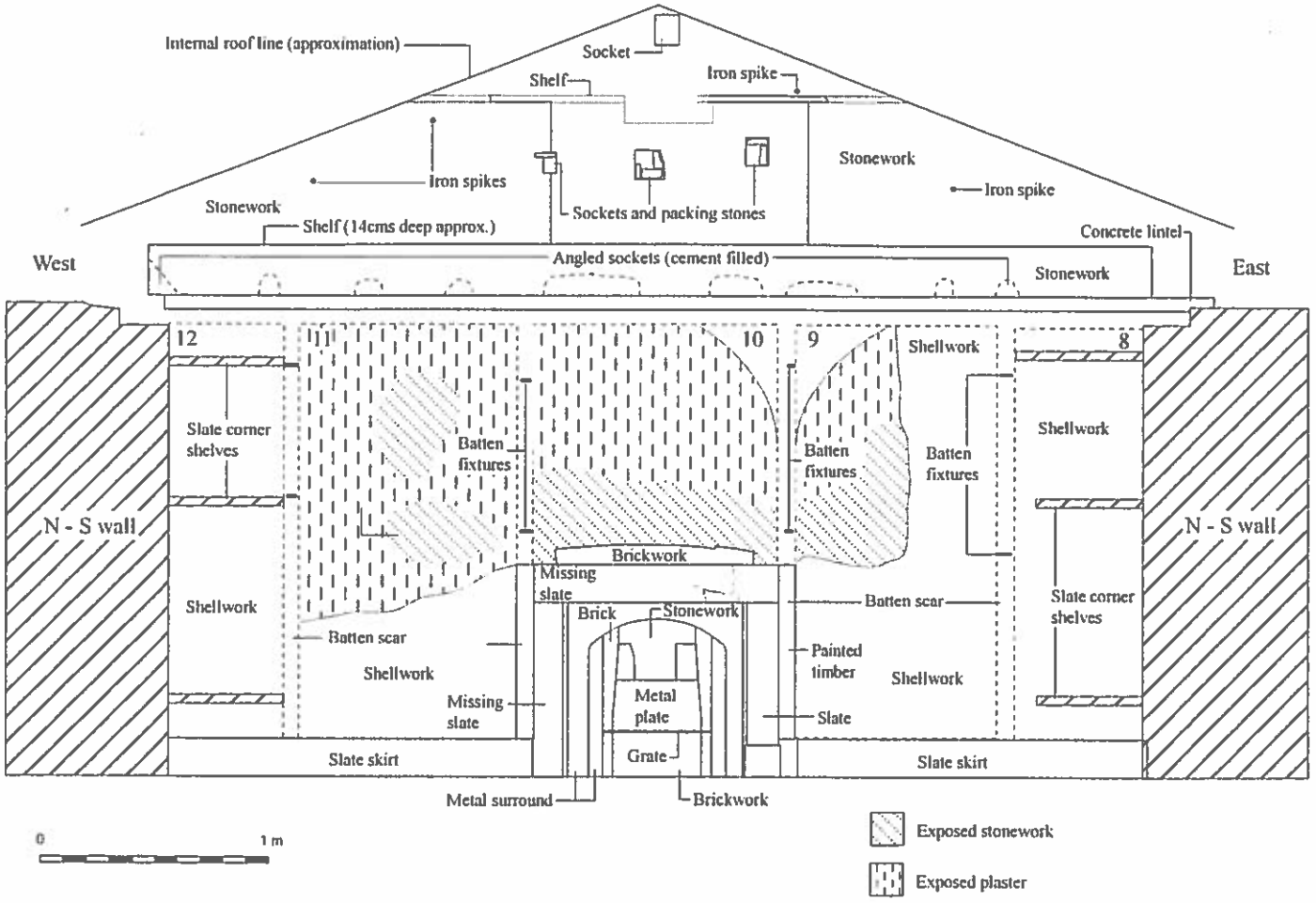

Fig.5

Internal elevation - East wall

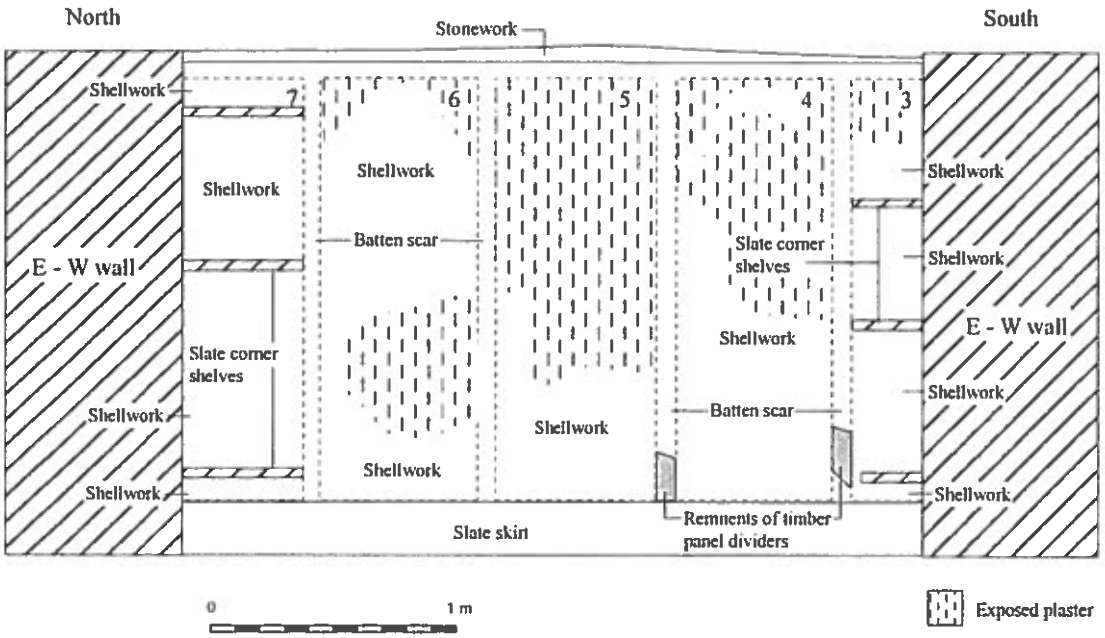

Fig. 6

Appendix 1

Finds quantifications

1007 (soil overlying cobble apron)

	197/109	199/109	201/109	197/111	199/111	201/111	Totals
Common Blue Mussell							
Common European Cockle	1						1
Prickly Cockle							
Oyster (small)	1				2		3
Oyster (large with wormcasts)							
Oyster (flat)							
Common Periwinkle		1					1
Dwarf Periwinckle		1					1
Otter Shell	5		1		3		9
Common European Razor							
Dog Whelk	1	8			4		13
Common Whelk							
Limpet	1	6	1		2		10
European Bittersweet							
Screw Shell							
Venus Clam							
Green glass	25	19		3	4	4	55
Blue glass	2	2		1	1	1	7
Dark blue glass		2					2
Purple glass	4	1		2		2	9
Orange glass	5	5					10
Red glass							
Clear glass	4				2		6
Other window glass							
Bottle glass		7					7
Glass slag							
Faceted crystal quartz	2	2	2		1		7
Opaque quartz	1	11	2		2		16
Other		8			1		9
Fe Nails	3	20	3		10		36
Cu Nails	1	5					6
Other metal object							
Marble cube							
Marble tile							
Gun flint							
Other flint							
Glazed pottery							
Other pottery							
Polished stone							
Bone	1	9					10
Bitumen		2					2
Gun cartridge			1				1

1008 (Plaster dump)

	199/107	199/109	201/105	201/107	201/109	**Totals**
Common Blue Mussel	6			38	12	**56**
Common European Cockle	53	34	36	161	98	**382**
Prickly Cockle	11	4	5	25	21	**66**
Oyster (small)	18	19	32	78	37	**184**
Oyster (large with wormcasts)	11	5	6	35	7	**64**
Oyster (flat)	2	7	8	14	4	**35**
Common Periwinkle	4	1	1	9	20	**35**
Dwarf Periwinckle	12	3		9	6	**30**
Otter Shell	15			24	6	**45**
Common European Razor	3	4	1	7	5	**20**
Dog Whelk	65	22	44	171	72	**374**
Common Whelk	12	3	5	25	7	**52**
Limpet	62	35	29	109	112	**347**
European Bittersweet		1	3	8	7	**19**
Screw Shell	1		1	3		**5**
Venus Clam	14	1	1	11	5	**32**
Scallop		1		5	6	**12**
Coral				1		**1**
Freshwater pearl mussel		1		5	2	**8**
Snail shell	3	2				**5**
Green glass	11	41	9	21	27	**109**
Blue glass	15	22	2	29	7	**75**
Dark blue glass	4	20			1	**25**
Purple glass	11	21	7	11	10	**60**
Orange glass	14	14	6	30	8	**72**
Red glass				3		**3**
Clear glass	7	5				**12**
Other window glass						
Bottle glass	2	12	2	5	2	**23**
Glass slag				3		**3**
Faceted crystal quartz	4	1		9	3	**17**
Opaque quartz	13	2	1	27	5	**48**
Other	1		1	1	1	**4**
Fe Nails	12		7	12	8	**39**
Cu Nails	6			9	6	**21**
Other metal object	1	1		2	4	**8**
Marble cube				3		**3**
Marble tile		1	1	3		**5**
Gun flint	1		2	6	1	**10**
Other flint	1		6	10	1	**18**
Glazed pottery	56	1	46	93		**196**
Other pottery	31	2	46	44		**123**
Polished stone						
Bone			4			**4**
Bitumen		1	18	14		**33**
Gun cartridge			1			**1**

Mortar	7	1		9	24	**41**
Other rock	2					**2**
Lead object		1				**1**
Coal		3		1	2	**6**
Slate		1				**1**

1002 (Plaster and soil dump)

	197/ 105	197/ 107	197/ 109	199/ 105	199/ 107	199/ 109	201/ 105	201/ 107	201/ 109	**Totals**
Common Blue Mussel						2			4	**6**
Common European Cockle		1	3		16	26	4	8	30	**88**
Prickly Cockle					3	8			2	**13**
Oyster (small)		3	4		9	20	1	2	14	**53**
Oyster (large with wormcasts)		1			5		1	1	2	**10**
Oyster (flat)	1	1			6	6			2	**16**
Common Periwinkle						4		1	6	**11**
Dwarf Periwinckle					2	4			5	**11**
Otter Shell			1			3		3	1	**8**
Common European Razor			1						2	**3**
Dog Whelk		1	4		13	46		4	47	**115**
Common Whelk					4	2			3	**9**
Limpet			1		13	40		7	47	**108**
European Bittersweet					3				2	**5**
Screw Shell					1	2				**3**
Venus Clam		1				7	1		1	**10**
Scallop					1				1	**2**
Coral			1							**1**
Freshwater pearl mussel										
Snail shell		1			1	1			1	**4**
Green glass	13	9	8	2	14	16	1	2	5	**70**
Blue glass	5			1	7	11		2	7	**33**
Dark blue glass			1	1	3	6				**11**
Purple glass	7	2	2	6	7	5		1	5	**35**
Orange glass	1	2		5	6	6	1	1	4	**26**
Red glass										
Clear glass	2	3			2	1			2	**10**
Other window glass								1		**1**
Bottle glass	1	3	1	1	1	4				**11**
Glass slag						1			2	**3**
Faceted crystal quartz		1			2				4	**7**
Opaque quartz		1				2				**3**
Other			1			5		1	1	**8**
Fe Nails		3	5		12	14			7	**41**
Cu Nails					2	6			3	**11**
Other metal object	1	1	5		6	3			1	**17**
Marble cube						1			1	**2**

Marble tile		1								1
Gun flint						1			2	3
Other flint					3	2			1	6
Glazed pottery	2	1		17	24		24			68
Other pottery	5	1	3	12	8	1	15			45
Polished stone		1			1					2
Bone						1				1
Bitumen		1	2							3
Gun cartridge										
Mortar			1		2				2	5
Other rock					1					1
Lead object										
Coal		1	3		3	3		1	2	13
Slate										

1009/1010 (Plaster dump)

	1009 199/107	1010 199/107	1010 201/107	1010 201/109		**Totals**
Common Blue Mussel	4					4
Common European Cockle	28	2	5			35
Prickly Cockle	6					6
Oyster (small)	13	1	1			15
Oyster (large with wormcasts)	1					1
Oyster (flat)	3					3
Common Periwinkle	1					1
Dwarf Periwinckle	2	1				3
Otter Shell						
Common European Razor						
Dog Whelk	12	5	7	2		26
Common Whelk	4					4
Limpet	13	2	4			19
European Bittersweet	2					2
Screw Shell	1					1
Venus Clam	4		1			5
Scallop	1					1
Coral						
Freshwater pearl mussel						
Snail shell						
Green glass	2	9	2	1		14
Blue glass	2	14	1			17
Dark blue glass						
Purple glass	5	7	6	1		19
Orange glass	5	5	1			11
Red glass		2				2
Clear glass	2	6				8
Other window glass						
Bottle glass						

Glass slag						
Faceted crystal quartz	1					1
Opaque quartz	5					5
Other						
Fe Nails		10				10
Cu Nails	1					1
Other metal object		13				13
Marble cube						
Marble tile						
Gun flint						
Other flint						
Glazed pottery	1	6	2			9
Other pottery	10	5				15
Polished stone						
Bone						
Bitumen			1			1
Gun cartridge						
Mortar						
Other rock						
Lead object						
Coal						
Slate						

1003/1004 (cleaning off rockeries)

	1003 195/105	1003 195/107	1003 195/109	1003 197/103	1003 197/105	1004 201/103	**Totals**
Common Blue Mussel							
Common European Cockle		1					1
Prickly Cockle							
Oyster (small)							
Oyster (large with wormcasts)							
Oyster (flat)	1					2	3
Common Periwinkle							
Dwarf Periwinckle							
Otter Shell							
Common European Razor							
Dog Whelk		1					1
Common Whelk							
Limpet	1						1
European Bittersweet		1					1
Screw Shell							
Venus Clam	1						1
Scallop							
Coral							
Freshwater pearl mussel							
Snail shell							

Green glass	1	7	1	1			10
Blue glass	2	2			2		6
Dark blue glass		3					3
Purple glass	1	4			1		6
Orange glass					1		1
Red glass							
Clear glass		2		1			3
Other window glass							
Bottle glass					1		1
Glass slag		1					1
Faceted crystal quartz		7					7
Opaque quartz							
Other							
Fe Nails							
Cu Nails							
Other metal object							
Marble cube							
Marble tile							
Gun flint							
Other flint							
Glazed pottery				16	1	2	19
Other pottery	2		1	11	3		17
Polished stone							
Bone							
Bitumen	2						2
Gun cartridge							
Mortar		6					6
Other rock							
Lead object							
Coal							
Slate							

Appendix 2

List of archive drawings

Drawing No. 1: External front wall elevation of Shell House at 1:10
Drawing No. 2: Internal front wall elevation of Shell House at 1: 10
Drawing No. 3: Internal back wall elevation of Shell House at 1:10
Drawing No. 4: Internal side (east) wall elevation of Shell House at 1:10
Drawing No. 5: Internal elevation (detail) of fireplace at 1:5
Drawing No. 6: Internal plan of Shell House floor at 1:10
Drawing No. 7: Plan of Shell House at 1:20
Drawing No. 8: Plan of dump of roof timbers to the northeast of Shell House at 1:20
Drawing No. 9: Plan of external courtyard prior to removal of plaster and shell dump (1008) at 1:20
Drawing No. 10: Plan of external courtyard after excavation at 1:20
Drawing No. 11: Detail of Shell Panel 4 (lower section) at 1:1
Drawing No.12: Detail of Shell Panel 6 (Middle Section) at 1:1
Drawing No.13: Detail of Shell Panel 6 (Upper Section) at 1:1
Drawing No.14: Detail of Shell Panel 1 at 1:1
Drawing No. 15: Composite of Shell Panels 4 and 6 at 1:1

Appendix 3

Selected photographs

Plate 1 The cobble apron (1011) during excavation

Plate 2 The cobble apron (1011) after excavation (looking northeast)

Plate 3 - The forecourt during excavation

Plate 4 - The dump of roof timber (1016)

Plate 5 - Shell Panel 1 to the east of the doorway

Plate 6 - Shell Panel 4 in the east wall

Plate 7 - The forecourt after excavation looking north

Plate 8 - The forecourt after excavation looking northwest

Plate 9 - The east rockery (1014) and kerb (1018) looking northeast

Plate 10 - The pathway in Area 3 during excavation

The Shell House at Cilwendeg, Boncath, Pembrokeshire.

An archaeological investigation August 2003

REPORT NUMBER 2003/109

This report has been prepared by Gwilym Hughes

Position Director

Signature ..... Date 3/10/03

This report has been checked and approved by Ken Murphy on behalf of Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Position Principal Archaeologist

Signature ..... Date 3/10/03

pp K. Murphy

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report