

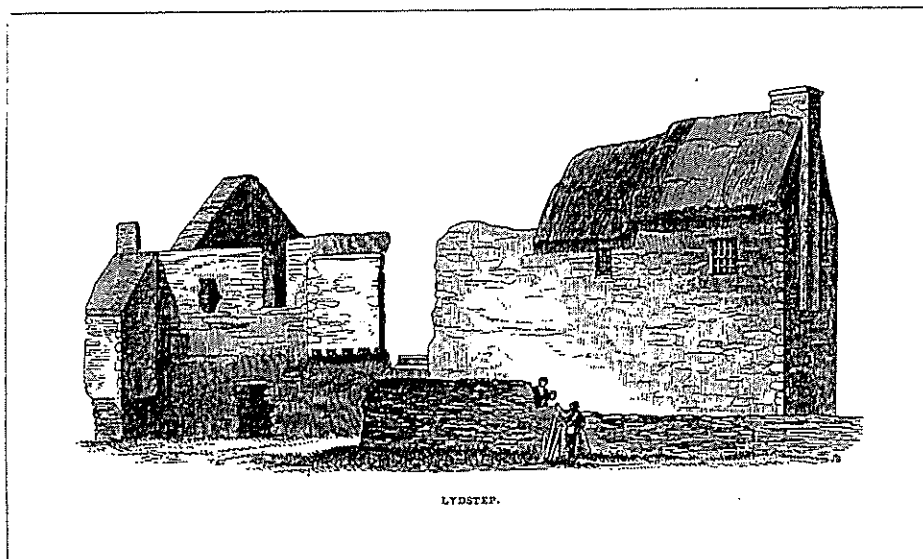
ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY
DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

LYDSTEP PALACE

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND
STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS**

**JUNE 1996
(Dyfed PRN 4222)**

PART 1



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LYDSTEP PALACE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS, JUNE 1996

PART 1

Contents

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Summary	4
1.2 Development proposals and commission	4
1.3 Purpose and methodologies of the record	5

2.0 LYDSTEP PALACE

2.1 Location	6
2.2 Site history	6
2.3 Site description	12

3.0 THE SURVEY EVIDENCE

3.1 Phase I	15
3.2 Phase II	18
3.3 Phase III	19
3.4 Phase IV	20

3.5 Phase V	20
3.6 Phase VI	22
3.7 Phase VII	23
3.8 Phase VIII	24
 4.0 CONCLUSION	 25
 5.0 FUTURE MANAGEMENT	
5.1 The Scheduled Area	26
5.2 Archaeological potential	27
5.3 The visual setting	28
5.4 Further archaeological work - recommendations	29
 6.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION	 30
 7.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	 30
 8.0 REFERENCES	 31

FIGURES

(in Part 1)

Fig. 1. Lydstep Palace: Location maps

Fig. 2. Lydstep Palace and the 'Longstone'

Fig. 3. Lydstep Palace in 1867, from the west

Fig. 4. Lydstep Palace showing Scheduled Area

(See Part 2 of this Report for Figures 5 -24, and Plates 1 -12)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Summary

In advance of emergency works which will form the first stage of a programme of consolidation, Pembrokeshire County Council commissioned a standing building survey to be undertaken on Lydstep Palace, near Tenby, Pembrokeshire.

Lydstep Palace is a free-standing, rectangular building of the local Carboniferous Limestone comprising a first floor over a vaulted basement, having affinities with the late-medieval hall-house which was once a widespread component of the South Pembrokeshire landscape. It is large in scale, however, approximately 18m by 6m. It stands alone, with no surviving contemporary ancillary buildings or boundary wall, although later structures lie against both ends of the building. It is substantially intact, though an area of the first floor has been truncated.

The Palace has undergone considerable and changing use almost continuously since the medieval period. Eight main structural phases have been identified. Medieval work appears to be of a single main phase with some late medieval alterations. There may have been a period of abandonment at the end of the medieval period, before occupation, of a much diminished status, resumed. Many of the more superficial features - windows, doors etc - belong to this post-medieval use. The palace was not finally abandoned until the mid 20th century.

The primary function of the Palace during the medieval period was doubtless residential, but an administrative/judicial role, within a manorial context, has been proposed.

Close analysis of the map evidence during the preparation of this report suggests that only half of the Palace building is technically scheduled (see 5.0).

1.2 Development proposals and commission

The Palace, Lydstep, was acquired by the then South Pembrokeshire District Council in 1995, with a view to consolidating the building so that it might be put to future usage, as yet to be decided.

T Marmara, SPARC Link Officer, contacted Dyfed Archaeological Trust, and a site meeting was arranged for 19 July 1995. Following discussions, a programme of archaeological work was proposed to accompany the site clearance and consolidation work.

After further discussion with Cadw Inspector of Ancient Monuments, R Turner, a programme of work was planned in three stages:

- Stage I - superficial clearance and vegetation stripping. Archaeological watching brief, analytical building survey and documentary research. Following the above, emergency propwork in order to render the unstable areas of the building safe
- Stage II - After consideration of the results of the above, the consideration of options for re-use and the preparation of a Scheduled Monument Consent application; further consolidation
- Stage III - Depending on the nature of proposals, the need for archaeological excavation would be evaluated.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust were invited to submit costings for Stage I of the proposals. These were submitted 4 September 1995 and duly accepted. As Pembrokeshire County Council, the authority requested that the archaeological work and clearance go ahead 24 April 1996. the work was completed in June 1996. The propwork followed, and was complete by August, thus closing Stage I.

The need to maintain an archaeological watching brief was evaluated during clearance and judged unnecessary in view of the superficial nature of the work. This report therefore deals with the results of the building survey and research.

1.3 Purpose and methodologies of the recording

The 1996 archaeological recording comprised:

- the recording of the internal and external fabric of the Palace prior to emergency works
- the undertaking of sufficient preliminary documentary research to enable the Palace to be understood in its context

All features and structures were subject to a measured survey. Structural recording was based on drawn, annotated elevations and plans at 1:20 scale, in which selected areas of masonry (including all surrounds, alterations etc) were drawn stone-by-stone, accompanied by comprehensive photography. Roof and floor structures were also fully recorded. Final annotated archive drawings comprise two plans and sixteen elevation drawings, all at 1:20. Reductions of all drawings are contained within this report. The evidence suggests eight main constructional phases which are shown on the plans. Levels respect an arbitrary datum.

The survey archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, maintained by RCAHM(W), Crown Buildings, plas Crug, Aberystwyth SY23 1NJ.

2.0 LYDSTEP PALACE

2.1 Location

Lydstep Palace (Dyfed PRN 4222; Scheduled Ancient Monument Pe 403) is situated at NGR SS 0863 9836, approximately 5.5 km SE of the town of Tenby. It lies within the parish of Penally, whose western boundary, shared with Manorbier parish, runs a mere 20m west of the building.

The site approximately 60m above sea level, on a slight south facing slope which forms the east end of a low ridge of Carboniferous Limestone, itself an arm of the general east-west ridge that dominates the South Pembrokeshire peninsula. The ground slopes steeply down to the west to a wide bay, Lydstep Haven, which has cut through an outcrop of softer Millstone Grit.

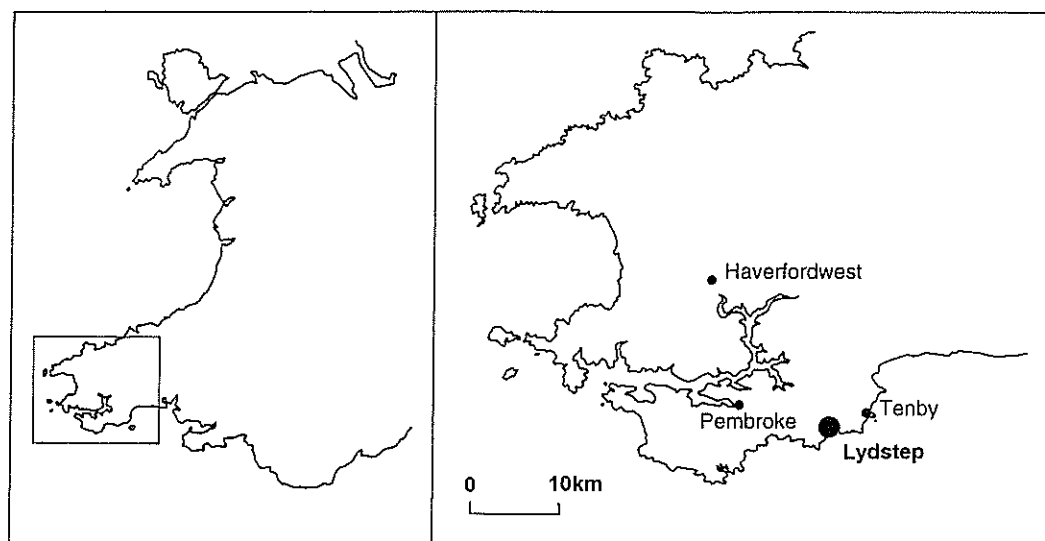


Fig. 1. Lydstep Palace: Location map

2.2 Site history

Lydstep Palace, despite its apparent scale and visibly medieval origins, has little recorded history. This may at first appear unusual, but given the variety of contexts which may exist for the establishment of such a building, and the comparative frequency with which similar masonry structures formerly occurred in South Pembrokeshire, is not unexpected.

Furthermore Lydstep lay within the medieval holding of Manorbier, a mesne lordship or honorial barony of the earldom of Pembroke. The mesne lordship represents 'a class of medieval holding which almost inevitably leaves little trace upon recorded history; only in rather unusual circumstances did lordships of this kind come into the king's hands' - and thus be subject to the rigid administrative and fiscal scrutiny of a

crown holding - 'while their owners were often people of little consequence...' (King and Perks, 1970, 84). However, at the close of the medieval period the lordship of Manorbier descended to the crown, and in the early 17th century was subject to three important surveys.

Sources for the medieval history of the lordship, in which Lydstep receives some attention, include these 17th century surveys, analysed by Walker, 1992. The earlier manorial history is summarised in King and Perks, 1970, while medieval and early post-medieval references to Lydstep occur in Owen, 1897. The Palace building and its contemporary use are discussed in three late 19th century accounts (Barnwell, 1867, 1877, 1881); a brief structural description occurs in Smith, 1988.

Local traditions

The Palace, Lydstep, has been known under this name since at least the early 19th century. All accounts of the building from this period use the name, while the building is depicted as 'the Palace' on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890.

The antiquarian Richard Fenton, writing in 1811, does not specifically mention the building but notes the presence of late medieval stone buildings (Fenton, 1903, 243). Lydstep village was the subject of a series of views by the Tenby-based artist Charles Norris during the first half of the 19th century but all are catalogued under the title 'old buildings at Lydstep' - the Palace is not specifically named (Norris Collections, Cardiff City Library and Tenby Museum and Art Gallery). However Barnwell, writing in 1867, does use the name 'Palace' but confuses it with the name 'Palace of Arms' which was formerly applied to a second stone building in the village (Barnwell, 1867, 366). The confusion is cleared up by the Tenby-based antiquarian Edward Laws, writing in 1888, who tells us that 'I was taught many years ago by my nurse, who was a native of Lydstep, that according to traditional usage the house on the northern side of the road was 'The Palace' (Laws, 1888, 188). The 'Palace of Arms' applied to a similar building, now gone, that stood on the opposite side of the A4139.

The name appears to be a purely local tradition, that undoubtedly arose through confusion and comparison with palatial structures occurring nearby in the district. In particular at Lamphey, just 6.5 km NW of Lydstep lies the well-known residence of the Bishops of St Davids which is a palace in the strictest sense of the term, ie an example of a very high status, non-defended building complex belonging to the greatest magnates, secular or ecclesiastical. And indeed one local tradition further links Lydstep Palace with the Bishops of St Davids, claiming its origins as a hunting lodge built by the 14th century bishop Henry Gower. The connection is secondary and appears to be based on the prevalence of stone structures locally attributable to Gower, a bishop with a taste for expansive building works. Episcopal holdings in the district were extensive, and well-documented in the form of *The Black Book of St Davids* (Willis-Bund, 1902) and other contemporary inventories (Fenton, 1903, Appendix 1 323-6; summarised by Rees, 1932) none of which display any evidence to suggest that Lydstep ever fell under episcopal ownership or jurisdiction.

(An alternative local tradition has Lydstep Palace as the seat of the 6th century 'King of Dyfed', Aircol Lawhir, demonstrating the dubious nature of such oral history. However, it will be seen below that as a cultural feature of some importance, the *site* of the Palace, at least, may have a very long history.)

The medieval settlement

In an attempt to define the context for the Palace it is useful firstly to examine the nature of medieval settlement at Lydstep.

That Lydstep was known at least as a geographical location during the early medieval period is demonstrated by the name itself, which is widely accepted as being of Scandinavian derivation (Davies, 1982, 118). The second element of the name is probably the Old Norse *hǫp*, 'inlet' or 'bay', referring to Lydstep Haven, while the first element may be derived from a personal name such as the Old English *Hlúd* (Charles, 1992, 698). However, the presence or nature of any pre-Norman settlement at the site is unknown; the context of the Scandinavian place-names of Pembrokeshire is still a matter of some debate but it is doubtful that, in the majority of cases, any form of Norse settlement need be implied..

The Lydstep area lay within the commote of Maenor Pyr which formed part of the Cantref Penfro. The commote and its environs appear to have occupied a position of some importance during the pre-Norman period, at least in the cultural consciousness of Dyfed. A recognised religious centre existed at Penally, while the Penally/Lydstep/Manorbier district has strong associations with the cult of St Teilo. An 11th century document, said to be a copy of a 6th century original, lists several locations in the district one of which, 'Pwll Arda', has been tentatively identified as Lydstep (Kissock, 1993, 6).

With the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in South Pembrokeshire at the close of the 11th century, Cantref Penfro was re-organised as the Lordship of Pembroke and the greater part of Maenor Pyr granted to one Odo de Barri who, by the early 12th century, appears to have established a barony of Manorbier based on Manorbier Castle (King and Perks, 1970, 84). The barony corresponded to the present parishes of Manorbier and Penally.

The medieval barony retained its status within the lordship of Pembroke throughout the medieval period and remained in de Barri hands for most of it. However, the line became extinct in 1392 and by 1461 the barony was in the hands of the crown, as the 'Manor of Manorbier' (Walker, 1992, 132).

Contemporary references to Lydstep by name are sparse. In 1362 one 'Johannes Loudeshope' (John of Lydstep) held a knight's fee of Sir John Carew at Jeffreyston within the Barony of Carew (Owen, 1897, 334 n.2), but this tells us nothing of Lydstep itself. However, the indications are that Lydstep was formally constituted as a 'vill', ie a manorial settlement, of the mesne lordship and certainly properties are indicated at Lydstep in the early 17th century surveys (Walker, 1992, 153-5). As a settlement, though, Lydstep appears not to have been of any great importance, the

manor being held in four divisions - Manorbier itself, Jameston, Manorbier Newton and Penally (Owen, 1897, 419 n.98). The village morphology, moreover, suggests little nucleation and certainly no planned elements.

Longstone Court

That Lydstep occupied a place in the medieval barony, however, can be demonstrated. At present, the most convincing context for the establishment and usage of the Palace, and its surroundings, is in an administrative/jurisdictional role.

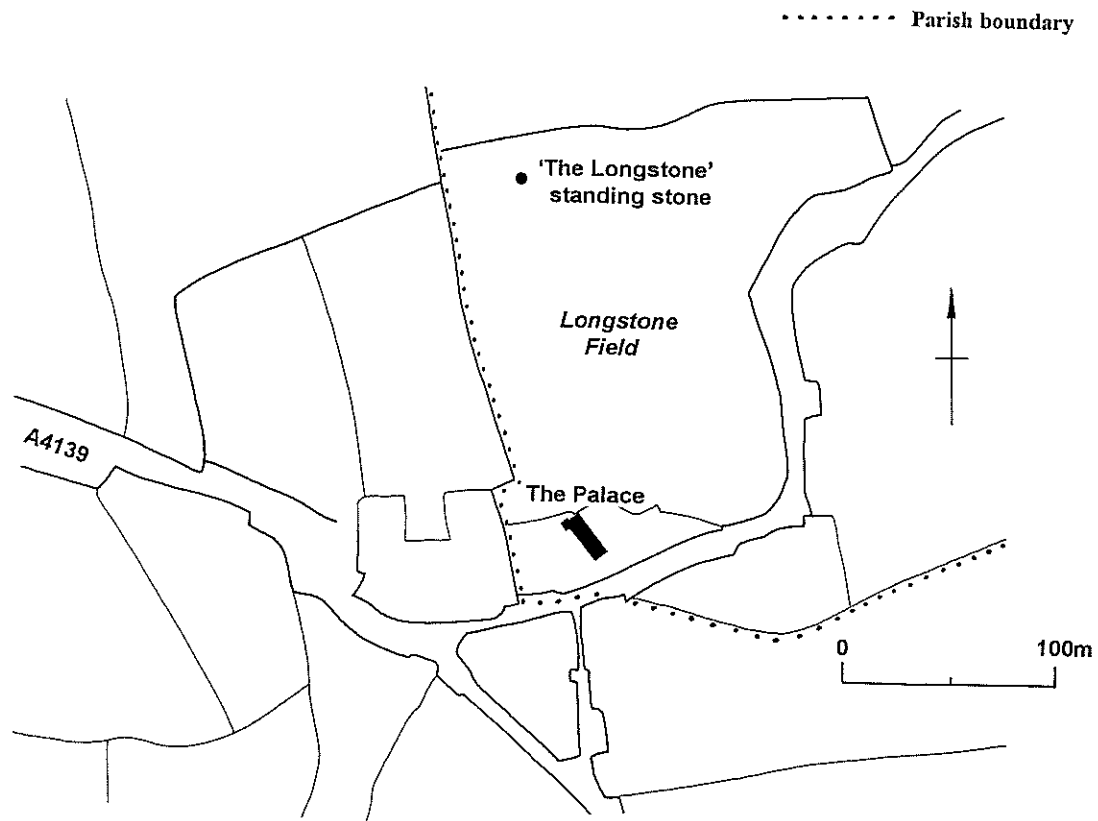
The Elizabethan antiquarian George Owen of Henllys noted that the Hundred of Castlemartin (the successor to the Lordship of Pembroke) comprised, *inter alia*, the joint manor of 'Maner byr and Longstone' (Owen, 1897, 400). As early as 1811 Richard Fenton recognised that the court of the manor of Manorbier was held at a place called Longstone; however, he made no attempt to identify it (Fenton, 1903, 439). Indeed the 17th century surveys of the manor of Manorbier referred to above, which were taken in 1601, 1609 and 1618, state that the freeholders of the manor owed suit every fortnight at the 'Court of Langstone' (Walker, 1992, 135).

Recent work on these surveys undertaken by R F Walker of Aberystwyth University has suggested a location for Longstone (Walker, 1992, 135). The field immediately north of Lydstep Palace is termed 'Longstone Park' on an estate map of 1772 (HRO D/Bush/6/26), after the standing stone that lies on its eastern boundary which, significantly, forms the parish boundary between Manorbier and Penally. Walker suggests that it was here that the freeholders court was held. The site was well marked by the stone as both a physical and cultural feature, and straddling the boundary between the two parishes, occupied a central position within the manor. The 17th century custom appears to reflect a much earlier situation, established at the same time as the medieval barony, if not earlier. It also suggests that at first the court met in the open air. Might this practice have been superseded by the construction of a hall specifically for this purpose - the Palace?

The Palace and its environs

It must be stressed that the above interpretation, along with those provided below, are at present only speculative. However, they may provide a model for the function of Lydstep and the Palace within the manorial framework, a function hitherto unknown. However, notwithstanding its administrative rôle, the Palace's function would have been primarily that of private residence rather than public building.

The Palace lies almost alongside the A4139 where the road describes a curious rounded double dog-leg through the present village (Fig. 2). It is depicted as following the same line on the earliest estate maps of the area and it is apparent that it is following a diversion around a significant feature, rather than merely dictated by the topography. The line of the road, moreover, is mirrored by the joint northern boundaries of the fields that lie north of the road, defining a large subrectangular



*Fig. 2. Lydstep Palace and the 'Longstone';
Boundaries shown as in 1841*

enclosure (now subdivided by further boundaries). The palace occupies a position at the southern end of the enclosure thus formed.

Might the enclosure represent an area demarcated at an early date as the site for administrative and fiscal purposes? The 'Court at Longstone' may have been attended by a large number of freehold tenants who would require a space in which to gather; moreover, the setting aside of a piece of ground as a physical expression of a particular status is not unknown. The construction of the Palace as a collection point for rents would not automatically put an end to this function, but might indicate the beginning of the enclosure being given over to agricultural purposes.

The parish boundary runs N-S through the enclosure dividing it into two equal halves, significantly, given the central location within the manor. And the alignment of the boundary on the standing stone (from the Bronze Age?) suggests that it was used as a marker when the land divisions were laid out. It may in fact be possible, given recent work on South Pembrokeshire field systems which suggests that the N-S co-axial boundaries originated in the prehistoric period (Murphy, 1993, 12-13), that these divisions originated at the time of the stone's erection - or that the stone itself is of medieval date. If not, a further possibility is that there may be at least a cultural memory of the stone's prehistoric importance in any medieval re-use as a meeting place.

Taking all the above into account, however, it must be stressed that the Palace did not stand alone as the only large medieval masonry building at Lydstep; the former 'Palace of Arms' has been noted above, as has Fenton's 1811 assertion that the area formerly abounded with masonry domestic structures.

Later history

The later history of the Palace site is as equally unknown. In 1670 the manor was conveyed to the Philipps of Picton Castle (King and Perks, 1970, 91), but by the 18th century the Palace site and its surroundings east of the parish boundary were in the hands of the Meyricks of Trefloyne.

Any importance that the Palace possessed had, by the early 19th century, entirely diminished, but its use as a dwelling continued; the tithe map for Penally Parish, of 1841, depicts the building and the field within which it then lay as a 'cottage and garden' occupied by one Thomas Lewis, a Meyrick tenant. There appears never to have been any connection between the Palace and Lydstep House, the mansion that still stands on the foreshore of Lydstep Haven, occupied by the Adams family in the 19th century (Lewis, 1833). It must be concluded that, as a higher status dwelling, the Palace had a short history.

Charles Norris shows, without any great detail, the building as ruinous c.1840 (Cardiff City Library, Charles Norris Collection). Barnwell, writing in 1877, describes it as 'now subdivided into two or three tenements, and occupied by poor persons' (Barnwell, 1877, 313) and indeed in an earlier paper had illustrated the Palace with its (then) thatched roof (Barnwell, 1867, opp. 367 - Fig. 3). Laws, in 1888, calls it 'a peculiarly forlorn ruin', continuing that 'a portion of it has for many years been utilised as a cottage, and the squalor of this comparatively modern dwelling adds to the desolate air of the place' (Laws, 1888, 188).

The RCAHM(W) description of 1925 hints, but does not specify, that the building was at that time unoccupied, describing it as a ruin long used as a quarry (RCAHM(W), 1925, 214). However, local verbal sources suggest that part of the building was in use into the 1930s and beyond, supported by structural evidence for mid-20th century occupation.

Since World War II, however, the Palace has been largely unoccupied, the only building activity associated with it being blocking of various doorways. The 1996 programme of works is being undertaken with a view to giving a fine medieval building a new lease of life.

2.3 Site description

Lydstep Palace is a fine example of a late medieval first floor hall-house over a vaulted basement. As a type, this form of building has been subject to considerable discussion over the last century, and has been summarised by Smith, 1988. The description below is a brief summary of the building as it existed in June 1996, as an introduction to Section 3.0; it takes into account descriptions by Barnwell (1867; 1877; 1881), Laws (1888), Cadw (1980; 1987) and Smith (1988).

The hall-house in Pembrokeshire

The vaulted masonry hall-house still survives in an unusually dense concentration in South Pembrokeshire, and has been seen as the defining late medieval building type of the area. Even George Owen, writing in 1609, was moved to note the unusually widespread frequency of the type, stating that ‘most houses of any account were builded with vaults verye stronglye and substanciallye wrought’ (Owen, 1892, 77).

It appears that such buildings were particularly concentrated in the immediate district. The antiquarian Richard Fenton, writing in 1811, notes that the Lydstep area ‘was formerly thickly studded with houses, above the rank of such as farmers might have been supposed to inhabit, most of them being surrounded with a court entered by an arched gateway, and many built on arches’ (Fenton, 1903, 243). The majority of these have now gone.

In summary, the South Pembrokeshire hall-house is a combination of one or all of the following features - construction from the local Carboniferous Limestone, one or more vaulted ground floor chambers (normally, but not exclusively, barrel vaults), a first floor main entry, unusually early fireplaces (frequently with corbelled flues), corbel tables generally, a marked sparseness of architectural detail coupled with a generally massive aspect, and massive chimneys of varying shapes. Some of these features are found in masonry buildings from lower down the social scale, where lateral out-shuts are also frequent, though they lack the first floor hall. Some or all of them are to be seen in the equally distinctive ecclesiastical architecture of the area, which is normally assigned to the late 14th-early 16th century. Of course, their presence in lower-status buildings may often post-date this period by a considerable amount.

The origins of this distinctive regional style have been subject to much discussion. Smith’s assertion that it owes its origins to the initial stages of the Anglo-Norman conquest (Smith, 1988, 24) must be treated with scepticism - the earliest examples are unlikely to pre-date the 14th century, while recent work by Dyfed Archaeological Trust at Newport, in the north of the county (Murphy, 1994), has demonstrated that at least some of the medieval town-houses remained of clay throughout the 13th century (indeed, the clay or ‘clom’ house was a distinctive feature of South-west Wales until comparatively recently). Unfortunately close dating of the masonry, in the absence of architectural detail, is difficult. However, recent work by Dyfed Archaeological Trust at the Old Priory on Caldey Island (Ludlow, forthcoming) has concluded that at least one of the vaulted buildings is 14th century, and the remainder 15th-early 16th

centuries. The regional style probably owes as much to the local availability of good building stone as any other factor, but economic factors also doubtless played a part in the form of the richness of the surrounding agricultural land. The defended hall-house, with thicker walls and crenellations - a sub-type equally prevalent within the region (Carswell, West Tarr etc) - may owe at least part of its development to the threat of coastal pirate raids that marked the late 14th and 15th centuries (Ludlow, forthcoming).

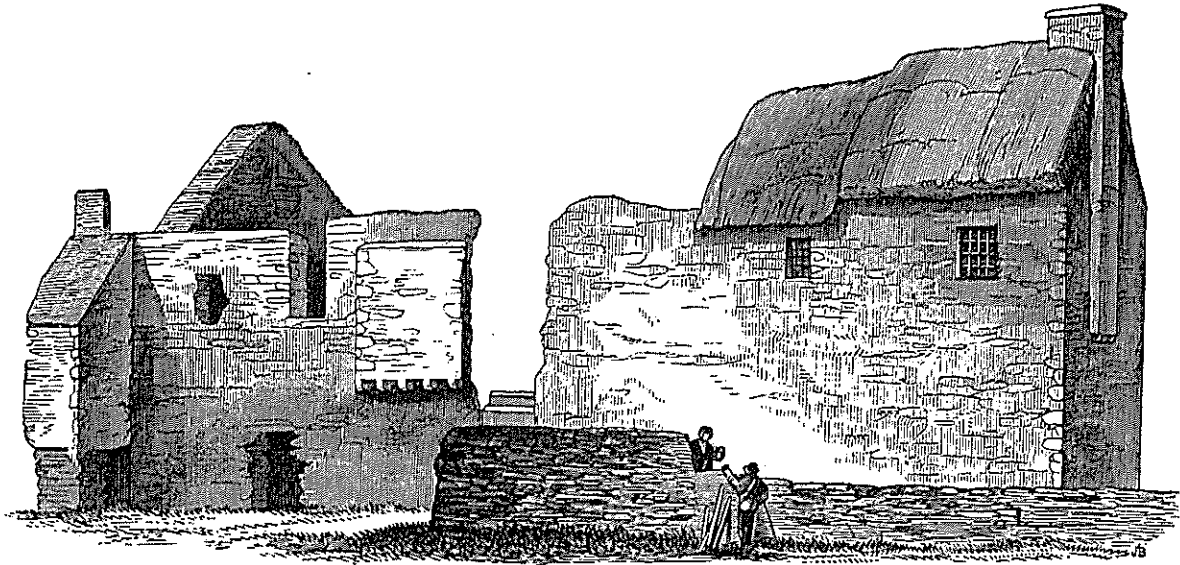
General description of the Palace

Lydstep Palace is a free-standing, rectangular two-storey building of the local Carboniferous Limestone. It is large in scale, approximately 18m by 6m - larger than many a castle great hall of a similar period - and rather long, and in this latter respect it superficially resembles the town houses of the later medieval period. It stands alone with no surviving contemporary ancillary buildings or boundary wall, although later structures lie against both ends of the building - pens to the north, and a cottage to the south.

The ground floor survives substantially intact. It comprises three (originally two?) chambers, all barrel vaulted, the northernmost chamber with a transverse vault. There are a number of openings through the east face, some of them primary. At the north end is a secondary square projection, also of two storeys produced laterally as an outshut on the west face, which appears to have housed a latrine. A number of secondary features - fireplaces etc - are now present, but in its primary form the accommodation was basic and appears to have been used solely for storage. There is no evidence of any communication between the ground floor and the first floor.

The first floor has survived less well. Much of the east and north faces are now gone. Internal arrangements comprise a large northern chamber, and two smaller southern chambers, both secondary in their present form. The southernmost displays a large fireplace and chimney on the south wall. Few of the openings on this floor are original, the chambers having been used as dwellings into the present century, though there is much structural evidence for former openings. The NE outshut displays a vaulted cat-slide roof; it is now occupied by a modern bread oven but possessed a fireplace and chimney by 1867 (Fig. 3). The slate gable roofs are likewise modern, as are the upstands; the latter, however, are depicted with thatched roofs in 1867 (Fig. 3).

The building in its present form is little unchanged from its condition as described by Barnwell. Already by 1867 the first floor east wall had gone; rather more survived of the northern gable and he describes an 'opening in the gable (which) appears to have been a large window; but from the absence of any architectural features, and from its ruined condition, it is impossible to conjecture anything of its character (Barnwell, 1867, 367). He also suggests, but does not state, that only the northern of the two first floor cross walls was then present. As in 1996, only this southern section of the upper floor - which was then occupied - was roofed. His accounts of 1877 and 1881 add little additional information, likewise that of Laws, 1888.



LYDSTEP.

*Fig. 3. Lydstep Palace in 1867, from the west
(from Barnwell, 1867)*

Smith (1988, 27) suggests the presence of an external stair to the present large breach in the first floor west wall, but the opening appears to be secondary and resulting from collapse. His plan on the same page also omits two of the internal cross-walls. The Cadw descriptions of 1980 and 1987 are taken from Smith.

Condition of the Palace, 1996

A modern garden lies against the west side of the Palace, where there has been a considerable build-up of garden soil which unfortunately conceals the bottom 2m of the external face of the wall. A low flower border has been established against the northern half of the east side; the remainder here is tarmacked.

At the beginning of 1996 the building was in poor condition, the south gable wall with the chimney in a highly unstable condition and the upper floor cross walls, with their timber lintels, little better. No door/window frames survived, though the roof timbers were mainly intact if in poor condition and the slates partly missing. Much of the northern half of the first floor lay beneath a considerable soil build-up, possibly sealing archaeological deposits. The building was substantially covered with ivy, and some young trees.

3.0 THE SURVEY EVIDENCE

(Figs. 5 - 24; Plates 1 - 12)

The primary purpose of the survey was to undertake a detailed record of the standing fabric of Lydstep Palace prior to consolidation work, which would inevitably significantly affect its capacity for interpretation.

A secondary purpose was to attempt a structural analysis of the building, its chronology and phasing, and function. The latter aspect, however, is only the first part of what will be an on-going interpretational component of the consolidation project and at this stage, cannot be seen as being final.

When reading this section, please refer to Figs 5 - 24 which are copies of annotated reductions of the 1:20 field survey drawings of June 1996, comprising a plan at ground and first floor level, elevations of all four external faces, and elevations of all internal walls. Also please refer to Plates 1 - 12, selected copies of scaled photographs taken in June 1996 of all parts of the building. For convenience these are bound separately.

3.1 Phase I

The greater part of the Palace building as it exists today appears to be of a single build. There is no structural evidence that the building has developed by the process of extension, and despite its superficially disproportionate length the basic ground plan belongs to Phase I. Neither have there been any significant additions.

A rectangular, two-storey building measuring 18.1m N-S by 6.3m E-W was constructed from the local Carboniferous Limestone. The ground floor walls were thick - the west wall 1.3m, the remainder 1m - in order to carry the vaulting. On the first floor, the walls are only 0.6m thick proving that the building was never intended to carry a parapet (crenellated or otherwise) and was always gabled.

The external elevations are characterised by the many square sockets let into the walling, some of them through-sockets. While some of these represent missing stones, the majority appear to be 'putlog holes' for scaffolding during the construction of the building.

Such detail as was present, and survives - the doorway surrounds, and the remains of one primary window surround - suggest a construction date in the late 14th or 15th centuries.

The ground floor

The ground floor was divided into two chambers, to the north a smaller square chamber (**Room 1**) with a transverse (E-W) vault, and to the south a larger, rectangular chamber, with a longitudinal (N-S) vault. The southern chamber is now divided into two (**Rooms 2 and 3**) but the dividing wall can be seen to butt against the

side walls and is a later insertion. All vaults are plain barrel-vaults with semi-circular arched profiles.

Room 1 measures 3.9m N-S by 4.6m E-W. That the vaulting is primary is confirmed by the fact that both the side walls (ie east and west walls) are built up against the soffits of the vault profile, with a visible joint. From the first, Room 1 displayed a multiplicity of openings in contrast to the southern room. Of the two present entries through the east wall, the southern is unaltered and certainly primary, featuring a surround of roughly squared limestone with a full-centered semi-circular arched head. The entry to the north is, at present, a rough breach with exposed corework all around; that it was a doorway, and primary, is however demonstrated by the presence of a rectangular cut-out in the north wall to receive the opened door. The doorway at the west end of the north wall leads to a projecting rectangular chamber (the **Latrine**), demonstrably secondary (see below), but the doorway itself is similar to that through the east wall and appears primary; in addition the exterior wall here appears to be thickened suggesting that an external feature of some description was present here from the first. In the west jamb of the doorway is a further opening of uncertain original form but now defined by two vertical rebates, with masonry infill, possibly an altered Phase I opening. The present doorway through the south wall into Room 2 is a secondary rough breach of uncertain date - it may be fairly recent. Room I was and is the better lit of the two original ground floor rooms, displaying lights in both east and west walls. The west wall is pierced by three lights - two narrow loops with splays and segmental heads (the northern of which has badly weathered, only the northern reveal and springer surviving) flank the remains of a smaller splayed light with a square head (possibly secondary); all three are obscured by garden soil build-up externally. Between the two doorways in the east wall is a further, larger splayed loop, also with a segmental head, and a robbed surround; it too is rather weathered. Flooring in Room 1 appears to be some form of rammed gravel/small cobbling, beneath a thin layer of later debris - the remnants of a thicker layer that was largely cleared in 1996. This surface may be lower than the original floor - the surviving threshold stones of the two eastern doorways stand proud of it, whilst the footings of the north wall appear to lie above the present level. The medieval floor, then, has possibly been lost.

Rooms 2 and 3 taken together measure 10.6m N-S by 4.6m E-W and in Phase I were united. Rather more alteration has occurred than in Room I but the Phase I arrangements can still be ascertained. Of the two entries through the east wall only the southern is original, the northern being a later rough breach. The external opening for the southern doorway has been obscured by recent blocking but appears to have been largely robbed anyway; internally the doorway is represented by an asymmetric segmental arch incorporating, in its southern jamb, one of the corbels from the south wall. The room is now lit by a light in each of the west and east walls; only that in the west wall is primary and has itself been altered by later narrowing (and partial blocking), but the original splay still survives in the northern reveal. An area of blocking to the north in the same wall (now in Room 2), visible internally, appears to mark the site of a second, similar light - the quoining for the northern reveal can be seen. The two lights have the same internal width but the sill of the northern light appears to have been higher. Again, the external openings are concealed by garden soil build-up. The interior face of the south wall has been altered by the later insertion of

fireplaces both internally and externally, and the subsequent collapse of the central section of wall. However, the three offsets, over a corbel table, that carry the southern half of the internal face into the body of the room are primary and may have been intended as support for the Phase I chimney on the first floor (see below). The floor in Rooms 2 and 3 lies beneath a considerable build-up of debris.

The first floor

The first floor conforms to that of the ground floor in that it is not jettied out beyond the ground floor walls, though certain features are corbelled out. The northern end gable wall has substantially gone, along with the northern half of the west wall of this floor. Where they survive the walls, as noted above, are thinner than in the ground floor demonstrating that this floor always lay beneath a timber gabled roof. Only the southern gable upstand survives to any degree, however; the present internal gables on the dividing walls are, like the roof itself, of recent construction and of a much lower pitch than the original roof. Most of the interior walls lie beneath later plaster, and structural evidence is thus largely confined to the exteriors.

The first floor is now divided into three spaces, to the north a large rectangular space (**Room 4**) and to the south two smaller, rectangular chambers (**Rooms 5 and 6**). However, the structural evidence suggests that in its original form the entire first floor was a single chamber, possibly subdivided by (moveable?) timber screens. However, for ease the upper floor will, like the ground floor, be described from north to south.

It is the northern space (now **Room 4**) that has been the most damaged by time and stone quarrying, but Barnwell interpreted the remains of an opening in the northern gable wall, now gone, as having formerly been a large window (Barnwell, 1867, 367) - a primary feature? The west end of this wall was later altered when the projecting Latrine chamber was added. In this area the west wall has been truncated almost to the level of the top of the vault, which itself is concealed beneath a considerable thickness (up to 0.3m?) of spoil, which may conceal surviving medieval floor surfaces. A short length of the wall survives at the southern end of this space, however, and displays the southern jamb and internal slightly splayed reveal of a ?Phase I entry, later blocked. 5.5m to the north the external face at ground floor level displays projecting stones which may be toothing for an ancillary structure of some kind, possibly associated with an external stair to a second first floor doorway. The opposite, west wall has survived more-or-less to its full height, and comprises a number of features. At the north end the joint with the later Latrine can be seen internally, though this has been subject to still later disturbance and alteration. 3m to the south is a splayed light, its head and surround gone by 1867 (Barnwell, 1867, opp.367) but probably Phase I. South of this, a 2.5m N-S section of the wall has been corbelled out externally with a corresponding internal recess. Corbelled features such as this are not uncommon in buildings of this nature, and this has the appearance of a fireplace; however, Barnwell's view appears to depict an external summit *beneath* the level of the wall-head (Barnwell, 1867, opp.367). Whatever its purpose, the feature appears to be primary. The large breach south of the projection has always been interpreted as a doorway; however, only corework is exposed in its sides, and two blocked doorways are present not far to the south, making unlikely that an entry would be an original

feature here. Steps have been cut into the vault immediately inside the opening, however, demonstrating that it has been used as an entry; it is suggested here that it represents secondary use of an existing breach that may be fairly late.

The two blocked doorways to the south in this west wall have retained their external rubble surrounds, and their sills; the northern of the two has lost its head, while the southern was converted into a window. Neither doorway is then possible to date; one or both of them may be secondary insertions. However, the northern doorway lies directly on the line of the cross wall between Rooms 4 and 5, proving that the doorway predates the wall (and therefore that the wall cannot be primary - it also lies above the secondary cross wall on the ground floor). It is possible, then, that at least this doorway is Phase I, reached by an external ?timber stair, and it may be that the second doorway is also from this phase, the doors representing access to areas of the upper floor divided by a timber partition during Phase I. The remaining features of what is now **Room 5** are all later, but a slight difference in build, visible externally beneath the window in the opposite (east) wall, appears to define a rectangular area - a further blocked doorway?

The present **Room 6** is defined by a second cross wall, of slender nature and poor construction. It too is secondary. However, some features survive from Phase I in this area. In the south wall can be seen the remains of a large fireplace which must be primary, unless the entire gable wall was rebuilt when the fireplace was established. Internally, indeed, the fireplace is of standard medieval form, with a projecting hood, carried on corbels, that is now largely gone. The massive square stack, however, resembles rather later forms, and is very similar to a chimney dated to the 17th century at Caldey Priory (Ludlow, forthcoming); it may have been later remodelled, but as a type these stacks may be fairly conservative. Externally, it is carried on a two-tier corbel table, and is in poor condition. The square window in the west wall of Room 6 is a later insertion; however, it has been inserted against the southern end of the rather massive limestone surround of a blocked two-centred arched window, visible externally. This window represents the most firmly dateable detail in the entire building; it is very similar to the original windows at Loveston Church, Pembrokeshire, where they are of undoubted late 14th century date. In this, the window is of somewhat earlier form, in conventional terms, than the ground floor doors, but all are here regarded as contemporary and defining Phase I as late 14th century at the earliest. The east wall also displays a blocked window, but the nature of its surround suggests that it is secondary. Floors in both Rooms 5 and 6 are also later.

3.2 Phase II

Succeeding phases are all represented by rather minor works, the form of the building having been dictated in phase I. However, at the end of the medieval period (and while the building still fulfilled a high-status role) improvements were apparently thought necessary, resulting in the construction of the Latrine, a two-storey projecting block on the NW corner of the building. The cross wall between Rooms 2 and 3 may also belong to this phase.

Much of the external lime finish appears to be original, being cut by inserted features etc, and may belong to Phase I or Phase II.

The Latrine

The Latrine is constructed from a very similar fabric to the Phase I building, the coursing, rough quoining etc being identical. However, that it was a secondary construction is demonstrated by the joints that are visible between it and the Phase I work throughout both external and internal walls. It comprises a square projection from the western third of the north wall of the Palace, also of two storeys, and produced laterally on the west face as an outshut with a vaulted catslide roof. It may have replaced an earlier structure (see above).

The structure has undergone later alteration which, superficially, makes its original function difficult to interpret. At ground floor level the structure comprises a square chamber, entered through the ?Phase I doorway from Room 1, with a small, square-headed light of 15th-16th century form at the north end, and a plain, small square recess in the east wall. The west wall does not - and apparently has never - featured a recess to correspond with the lateral outshut here, suggesting that the outshut houses a shaft from a former latrine on the first floor. Externally, the footings are exposed all round the outshut where it was built against an existing bank; however, it may be suggested that the void now present beneath this wall may have formerly featured an exit for the latrine shaft. The area on the first floor which would have housed the latrine itself is now occupied by a bread oven. Directly above the ground floor light lies an identical light.

Rooms 2 and 3

The cross wall between Rooms 2 and 3 is of somewhat irregular construction and has been altered at its eastern end, apparently as the result of collapse when the present opening was inserted. It is demonstrably a secondary insertion (see above), but is, in the absence of any detail, impossible to date. However, the wall is of similar construction to Phase I and II work and the south face of the original section displays a socket similar in style to the 'putlog holes' seen in the Phase I fabric. The division of the ground floor southern room into Rooms 2 and 3 is therefore tentatively assigned to Phase II.

3.3 Phase III

Phase III is represented by a single feature, the blocked window visible externally in the east wall of what is now **Room 6**. That the window is an insertion is demonstrated by the rough cut-out for the embrasure, infilled with small rubble around the remains of the surround. The surround now comprises just the jambs, each representing a single roughly cut piece of local Old Red Sandstone; the head has gone but appears to have been a lintel stone. Internally, the reveals are visible beneath the later plaster finish. The window is difficult to date; in its massive form it is similar to the Phase I

window on the opposite (west) wall, but nowhere else in the building is Old Red Sandstone represented. A 15th-16th century date for its insertion is suggested.

3.4 Phase IV

Phase IV appears to represent a period of use of the building, perhaps after a period of abandonment, and such use to which it was now being put was of a much lower status than in previous phases. Very little building activity can be assigned to this phase, but has been the period has been assigned a phase on the basis that some of the minor works of uncertain date may belong here. It is regarded as belonging broadly to the 18th and early 19th centuries.

(The cottage built against the southern gable wall was initially assigned to this phase, various aspects of its form and construction suggesting an 18th - early 19th century date; however, it is not shown by Barnwell (Barnwell, 1867, opp.367) in a view within which it would be prominent. The cottage is associated with a pen, and a corresponding series of pens lie against the north end of the building and presumably belong to the same phase.)

The only fabric which can with any certainty be assigned to Phase IV is in the blocking of the doorway in the east wall of what is now **Room 4**. The doorway must have been blocked prior to the demolition/collapse of the remainder of the east wall at this level, which appears to have taken place prior to the succeeding phase (see below), and features a dark mortar of post-medieval type seen nowhere else in the fabric.

However, at least some of the internal finishes, particularly on the ground floor (see below), belong to this general phase.

3.5 Phase V

In contrast, much structural evidence for the occupation of the Palace is represented in Phase V. The fabric that constitutes this phase can be broadly assigned a 19th century date, and accords more-or-less to the structure of the building as it was when illustrated by Barnwell, 1867, and described as mean tenements.

Fabric from Phase V occurs in almost all the main elements of the palace.

The ground floor

Phase V is not represented in **Room 1**.

The dividing wall between **Rooms 2 and 3** displays evidence for having been breached at its south end and rebuilt in white mortar, rather roughly, above the opening that was inserted. The opening was given jambs of fair quality, and a timber lintel. The whole construction was inserted through the Phase IV white render finish on both faces of

this wall. At a subsequent period, a curious low curved wall was constructed against the north face of the opening; the stump of a similar wall can be seen against the south face. The structure now lies beneath rubble debris but appears not to have been completed. It may represent an unfinished hearth/bread oven, reusing the opening as an unfinished hatch. The blocking of the Phase I light through the west wall of Room 2 is also inserted through a Phase IV finish.

In **Room 3** an earlier finish again lies beneath the constriction of the embrasure of the Phase I light through the west wall. The constriction comprises a heavily rendered new southern reveal. Earlier finishes are not evident on the east wall where a small, square window was inserted; the extent of the infill around the breach for the window can be seen externally, characterised by white mortar bonding. Barnwell noted the small fireplace that lies immediately to the south of this window, and recognised its post-medieval date (Barnwell, 1867, 367). He noted that the flue rose within the wall but neither this, nor the chimney which he saw, are apparent at a higher level. Finishes within Room 3 lie under a considerable deposit of soot.

Barnwell's description makes it clear that the **Room 4** was a roofless ruin and that its east wall was already truncated by 1867 (Barnwell, 1867, 367). The north wall stood substantially more intact than today. The **Latrine** outshut appears to have been used as a fireplace, the chimney of which exited through the vault, and indeed was later replaced by a bread oven (see below) - rather surprising usage in what was effectively an open yard. He notes the presence of the breached entry and steps at the south end of the east wall.

Barnwell describes **Rooms 5 and 6** together as 'the cottage' and it is not clear whether he had access to their interiors; there is a slight suggestion that the cross wall between the two was not then present. Both he and Laws, 1881, make it clear that it was a dwelling(s) of utmost poverty. They note that neither the roof over Rooms 5 and 6, nor its line, reflect the original and it seems that the present low-pitched configuration already existed. The roof was then thatched; the slate roof and its timbers are later. At least, then, the wall between Rooms 4 and 5 was standing by 1867, and appears to be from its construction a 19th century feature; it is certainly more solid than the wall between 5 and 6. All Phase V work here, however, lies beneath later internal finishes.

A doorway led from Room 4 into **Room 5** at the west end of the north wall; this had a simple timber lintel that has now rotted out. The opening in the same wall to the east is as a result of collapse. It is suggested that it was during this period that the two Phase I doorways through the west wall were blocked, the southern becoming a window - the mortar bonding in the infill is similar to Phase V work on the ground floor. A similar window was inserted through the east wall in the area of a possible blocked doorway (see above). A further window was inserted through the west wall of what is now **Room 6**; all have or had timber lintels and conform to a 19th century pattern. The two western windows are shown by Barnwell with 16-pane timber frames which have now rotted out but their impressions remain; it appears that they remained *in situ* until the building was finally abandoned this century. The Phase II window in the east wall of Room 6 appears to have been retained during this phase (see below).

3.6 Phase VI

Phase VI represents a continuation of Phase V occupation but with fabric that can be assigned to the late 19th-early 20th century, and in this sense constitutes a discrete building period. The nature of the occupation, and of the materials used, remained much the same.

A cottage was built against the south gable wall of the Palace, and pens against the north wall; the earliest significant additions for which there is structural evidence.

The buff external finish of parts of the east wall can be assigned to this phase.

The ground floor

Phase VI building activity was minor on the ground floor. The only significant construction was the blocking of the opening between **Rooms 2 and 3**.

The first floor

On the first floor, Phase V is represented by a number of minor works. The existing fireplace within the **Latrine** outshut was replaced by a bread oven, while an area of internal collapse of the west wall immediately to the south was infilled, a timber lintel carrying the wall top.

The wall between **Rooms 5 and 6**, with its flimsy construction, may belong to this phase. It displays a doorway with a timber lintel at its west end, over which much of the wall has collapsed. A further, wider opening with a timber lintel was present at the east end of this wall but was later infilled.

The Phase III light in the east wall of **Room 6** is now blocked by masonry bonded with a similar material to that used as external render, which survives in areas, on the east wall. The render overlies Phase V work and with the blocking is assigned to Phase VI.

The southern cottage

Bonded by an entirely different lime mortar is the ruinous gabled building that lies against the south wall of the Palace. However, it is not shown in Barnwell's view of 1867 (Barnwell, 1867, opp.367 - see above) but was present by 1890 (Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First Edition, Pembs Sheet XLIV.1), and thus has to be assigned to Phase VI.

It was a single storey gabled building built from Carboniferous Limestone of slightly different composition than the Palace itself (and thus from a different quarry). The southern gable survives almost in full, with a central fireplace and square stack, as

does the west wall which appears to feature a blocked window. The east wall has fared less well but the sill of a window is present towards its south end; a doorway must also have been present in this wall. Nothing of the roof now survives, while the floor lies beneath a considerable body of debris; there is no evidence for cross walls. The whole appears to represent a cottage.

The cottage impacted upon the southern gable wall of the Palace considerably. A fireplace was let into the wall from the cottage at ground floor level, the presence of which has led to the subsequent collapse and instability here. The lime mortar and slate roof crease for the cottage can also be seen on this wall, and the sockets made to receive the ends of the gable-roof purlins. The cottage was still a roofed building in 1908 (Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Second Edition, Pembs Sheet XLIV.1).

The narrow enclosure south of the cottage appears to represent a pen for the keeping of pigs.

The northern pens

A complex of similar walls now lie north of the Palace north wall, and appear to be of similar date. The walls appear never to have been much higher than today and are narrow. Building(s) in this location are vaguely suggested on the OS maps of 1890 and 1908 (Ordnance Survey 1:2500, First and Second Editions, Pembs Sheet XLIV.1), but it is suggested here that the walls represent further pens for pigs.

3.7 Phase VII

Oral sources suggest that the Palace was inhabited until after World War II, a view confirmed by the structural evidence. Phase VII represents this last period of occupation.

No large scale building work was undertaken during this phase but the superficial work gave the Palace much of its 1996 appearance. **Rooms 5 and 6** received the present timber 'A'-frame roof, and the slates that were removed in June 1996. The internal pink plaster finishes in the two rooms overlie all other material and belong to this phase; lying beneath the same finish is the infill of the eastern wide opening through the Phase VI cross wall between the two rooms. Beneath the debris at the south end of **Room 6** can be seen a portion of its Phase VII concrete screed floor.

On the ground floor, meanwhile, a hearth/oven, now in a fragmentary condition, was inserted through the south wall of **Room 3** into the body of the cottage fireplace, which by now must have been disused.

The low masonry-revetted flower border along the east walls of the Palace and cottage presumably also belongs to Phase VII.

3.8 Phase VIII

Phase VIII represents all post-occupation activity at the Palace up to 1996. It is a phase of minimal works, confined to the blocking, in breeze-blocks, of the Phase I door into **Room 3** and the construction, in the same material, of a doorway out of a breach through the east wall of **Room 2**.

During this post-war period the property immediately west of the Palace has been laid out as an ornamental garden. This has involved the build up of at least 2m of garden soil along almost the entire length of the west wall of the Palace, concealing much structural evidence and considerably diminishing the scale of the building from this viewpoint.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Lydstep Palace represents a structure that has undergone considerable and changing use almost continuously since the medieval period. Eight main structural phases have been identified. Medieval work appears to be of a single main phase with some late medieval alterations. There may have been a period of abandonment at the end of the medieval period, before occupation, of a much diminished status, resumed. Many of the more superficial features - windows, doors etc - belong to this post-medieval use.

The medieval work is characteristic of the late 14th - 16th centuries. The basic form of the building was established from the first. There is no physical evidence for an earlier building on the site. Neither is there structural evidence for any ancillary structures associated with the Palace building. However, it must be stressed that only the above-ground component of the total archaeological resource is visible, and subject to recording.

Despite post-medieval alteration, the Palace retains many medieval features, although part of the first floor has now gone. Four ground floor doorways and a number of lights survive, to varying degrees, from this period.

The primary function of the Palace during the medieval period was doubtless residential, but an administrative/judicial role, within a manorial context, has been proposed. Above two vaulted cellars lay what appears to have been a single large chamber reached by a number of external stairways, within which rents etc may have been assessed and collected. The building may have succeeded an open-air meeting ground, centering on a standing stone which lies near a hedgebank representing the boundary between Manorbier and Penally parishes, and possibly surrounded by a large enclosure bank. None of the boundaries immediately adjacent to the Palace, however, are earlier than the post-medieval period.

As an administrative centre, the Palace probably went out of use during the 17th century as the jurisdictional power of the manorial court waned. It was re-used as a domestic habitation from at least the mid-19th century and probably earlier, although some stone robbing - particularly from the first floor, half of which could not be re-used - had taken place. Occupation may have at first been little more than squatting; at any rate in terms of social status it represented a sharp break from the building's medieval use. Post-medieval alterations are largely superficial, represented mainly by openings, but have contributed to the collapse of certain elements of the building. Furthermore, entirely new buildings were added to both end walls. The palace was not finally abandoned until the mid 20th century.

5.0 FUTURE MANAGEMENT

Lydstep Palace represents a valuable example of a vaulted hall-house of demonstrable medieval date, that has not undergone any major alteration. Its size sets it somewhat apart from many other examples of the type; moreover, the administrative role suggested by the sources represents a rare opportunity to ascribe a function to an example of what are normally undocumented buildings.

The proposed programme of works is therefore to be commended, in association with the proper programme of accompanying archaeological work.

It has been mentioned in passing above that the above ground evidence for any field monument only presents a part of the story. Below ground archaeology will enable more informed interpretations to be made. In addition, finishes still obscure areas of the interior fabric, notably within Rooms 5 and 6. The conclusions presented in this report must therefore be regarded as provisional.

The strategy regarding the cottage must take into account the visual impact that it will have on the Palace building, and the potential for the presence of below-ground archaeology within it. It is suggested here that, in all management considerations, both the cottage and the pens to the north of the Palace be regarded as one complex and treated equally.

5.1 The Scheduled Area (Fig. 5)

Close analysis of the Cadw Scheduled Ancient Monument Form (copy held in Dyfed Sites and Monuments Record) indicates that only half of the Palace building is, at present, scheduled (SAM Pe 403).

This is as a result of the misinterpretation of the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, a common enough occurrence and due to the fact that the ground data is only infrequently resurveyed. The 1964 edition 1:2500 map, on which the scheduled area is marked, was a direct copy in this area of the Second Edition 1:2500. The Second Edition map was published in 1908, at a time when only half of the first floor of the Palace (Room 4) was roofed, but while the Phase VI (late 19th - early 20th century) cottage to the south was roofed. As a result, the map shows the northern half of the building as an open enclosure ie not hatched, while the cottage is hatched. It is the hatched areas that are scheduled.

Fig. 5 shows the scheduled area in relation to the Palace and the cottage. It is recommended that Cadw be advised, and that the scheduled area be revised to take in the entire building. It is not, at this stage, recommended that the scheduled area be extended any further than this, but further archaeological work may alter the situation.

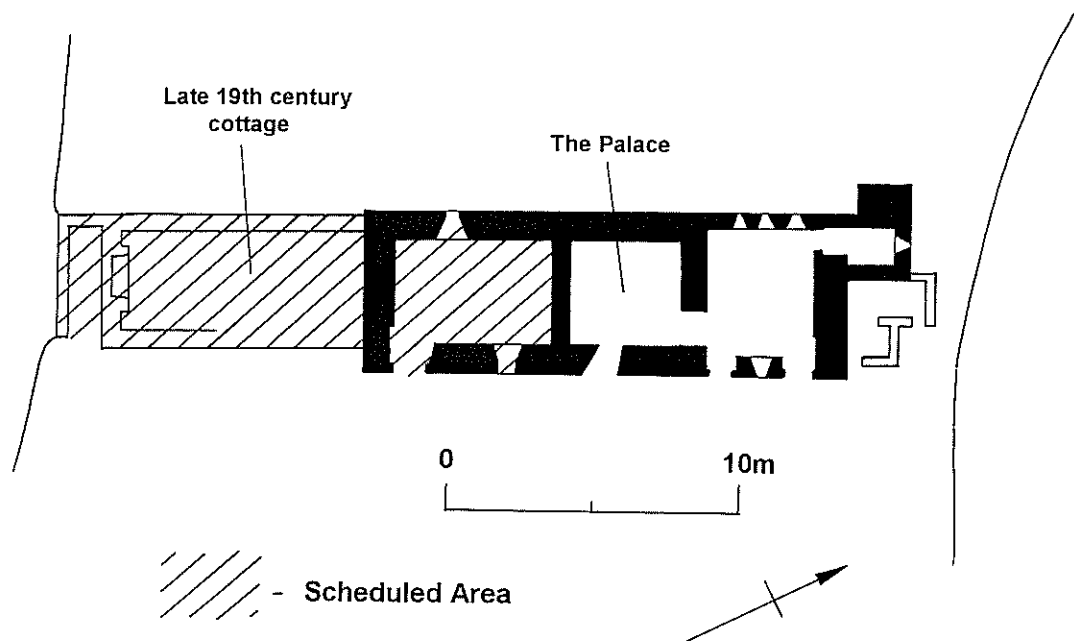


Fig. 5. Lydstep Palace showing the Scheduled Area

5.2 Archaeological potential

The requirement to take the below-ground archaeological component into account needs to be assessed against the potential survival of below-ground deposits. This is, of course, an aspect that can only be resolved through evaluation excavation, but the archaeological potential of certain areas can be suggested.

The building interior

On the ground floor it appears that floor levels in Rooms 1 and 2 now lie at a lower level than the medieval surfaces, which have therefore been lost. the footings of some of the walls are exposed internally, and the thresholds now lie proud. However, evidence of earlier structures may lie at a still lower level, and the situation in Room 3 cannot at present be assessed.

On the first floor, Room 4 lies under up to 0.3m of spoil, soil and organic debris. This was partially excavated by the clearance contractors in May 1996 and the top of the vault below, and later steps, were exposed. Elsewhere within the room the situation is unknown and the survival of medieval flooring is a possibility. The floors in Rooms 5 and 6 are also obscured by debris; Room 6 at least displays a 20th century concrete screed but underlying features may survive.

The building exterior

Map evidence suggests that there was never any significant accretion of later buildings (and services) to the east and west of the Palace, while field evidence indicates that truncation of surfaces has not occurred in these areas. To the west of the Palace, in fact, there has been a considerable build-up of soil (mainly 20th century) concealing up to 2m of the Palace wall and sealing any archaeology that may be present. The archaeological potential is therefore good.

Within the cottage to the south there may have been some disturbance of earlier deposits; the area lies under a considerable thickness of debris and cannot at present be assessed.

The hedgebank leading off from the NW corner of the latrine appears to be post-medieval and is not shown in 1840 (Tithe map, Penally parish). However, the establishment of its relationship to the Palace may be a research objective if any disturbance is planned in this area.

5.3 The visual setting

The Palace suffers the disadvantage of being partly concealed behind modern development. This cannot be resolved; there are, however, aspects of the visual setting which may be addressed here and which may have archaeological implications.

The strategy regarding the cottage must take into account the visual impact that it will have on the Palace building, and the archaeological implications.

The pitch of the present roof upstands is rather lower than would have been the case when the Palace was first built. Aesthetically, if re-roofing is considered an option, rebuilding the upstands with a higher pitch might be considered.

It may be mentioned, in passing, that it would benefit the Palace's visual aspect enormously if the landowner to the west could be persuaded to reduce the level of his garden terrace along the west wall.

5.4 Further archaeological work - recommendations

The provisional nature of the conclusions contained within this report has been noted above. Any further consolidation must be accompanied by a programme of archaeological recording. This applies also to such superficial work as the removal of 19th - 20th century finishes, which will expose structural fabric, and clearance of debris to expose floors.

Decisions regarding the necessity or desirability for intrusive archaeological work do not form part of this stage of the project, and no recommendations shall be made.

However, it would be desirable, if excavation is recommended, to build it into a research programme involving analysis of more detailed source material, and possible trial excavation on selected nearby boundaries within the suggested enclosure. The Palace forms a component of a landscape - at this stage it can only be suggested, not proved, that the landscape focused on the Palace as an administrative centre.

6.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive, indexed according to the National Monuments Record (NMR) material categories, will be deposited with the NMR, maintained by RCAHM(W), Crown Buildings, plas Crug, Aberystwyth SY23 1NJ. It contains the following:

- A.** Copy of the final report
- B.** Field notebook
- C.** Field drawings
- D.** Photographs (CS)
- G.** Source documentation
- J.** final publication drawings
- L.** General admin.
- M.** Project correspondence

There is no material for classes **E**, **F**, **H**, **I**, **K**, and **N**.

7.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are offered to:- Tony Marmara of PCC /SPARC for commissioning the record; the site contractors for their cooperation; Gareth Evans at NMR for his assistance; my colleagues at DAT for assistance and advice.

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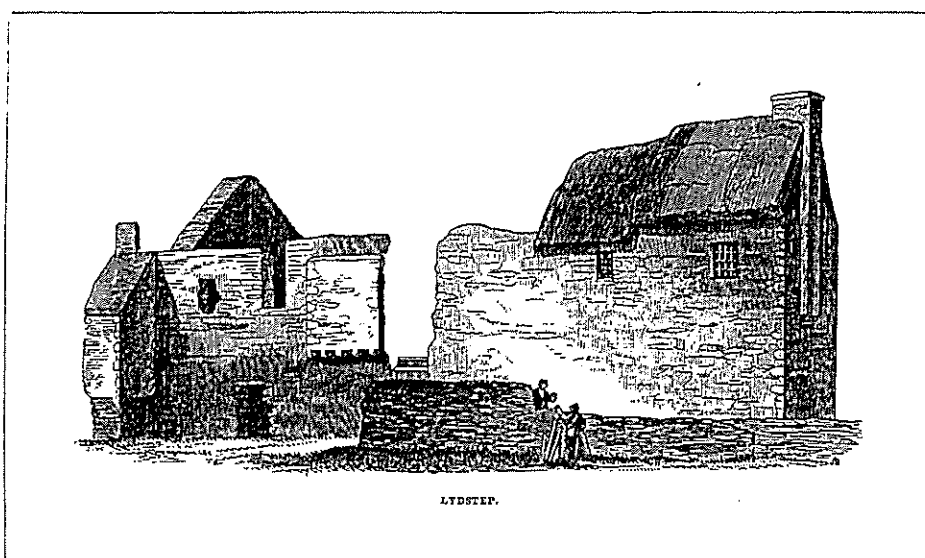
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DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

LYDSTEP PALACE

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND
STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS**

**JUNE 1996
(Dyfed PRN 4222)**

PART 2 - ILLUSTRATIONS



ARCH. CAMB. Vol. XIII.

**Prepared for Pembrokeshire County Council
by N D Ludlow**

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LYDSTEP PALACE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS, JUNE 1996

PART 2

Contents

FIGURES

(in Part 1)

- Fig. 1. Lydstep Palace: Location maps
- Fig. 2. Lydstep Palace and the 'Longstone'
- Fig. 3. Lydstep Palace in 1867, from the west
- Fig. 4. Lydstep Palace showing Scheduled Area

(in Part 2)

- Fig. 5. Lydstep Palace: Plan at ground floor level
- Fig. 6. Lydstep Palace: Plan at first floor level
- Fig. 7. Lydstep Palace: External elevation of north face
- Fig. 8. Lydstep Palace: External elevation of east face
- Fig. 9. Lydstep Palace: External elevation of west face
- Fig. 10. Lydstep Palace: External elevation of south face
- Fig. 11. Lydstep Palace: Internal elevation of east face
- Fig. 12. Lydstep Palace: Internal elevation of west face

- Fig. 13. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation A-A, facing south
- Fig. 14. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation A-A, facing north
- Fig. 15. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation B-B, facing south
- Fig. 16. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation B-B, facing north
- Fig. 17. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation C-C, facing south
- Fig. 18. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation C-C, facing north
- Fig. 19. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation D-D, facing south
- Fig. 20. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation D-D, facing north
- Fig. 21. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation E-E, facing south
- Fig. 22. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation E-E, facing north
- Fig. 23. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation F-F, facing south
- Fig. 24. Lydstep Palace: Section/elevation F-F, facing north

PLATES

Plate 1a - Lydstep Palace: General view from east

Plate 1b- Lydstep Palace: General view from west

Plate 2a - Lydstep Palace: West wall exterior - north end

Plate 2b - Lydstep Palace: West wall exterior - centre

Plate 2c - Lydstep Palace: West wall exterior - south end

Plate 3 - Lydstep Palace: North wall exterior

Plate 4a - Lydstep Palace: South wall exterior

Plate 4b - Lydstep Palace: South wall - gable upstand and chimney

Plate 5a - Lydstep Palace, Room 1: East wall south doorway, external view

Plate 5b - Lydstep Palace, Room 1: East wall north doorway, external view

Plate 5c - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: North wall - west end

Plate 5d - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: North wall - east end

Plate 5e - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: West wall

Plate 5f - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: East wall

Plate 5g - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: South wall

Plate 6a - Lydstep Palace, Room 2: East wall modern doorway, external view

Plate 6b - Lydstep Palace, Room 2 interior: North wall

Plate 6c - Lydstep Palace, Room 2 interior: West wall

Plate 6d - Lydstep Palace, Room 2 interior: South wall

Plate 7a - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: North wall

Plate 7b - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: West wall

Plate 7c - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: East wall - north end

Plate 7d - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: East wall - south end

Plate 7e - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: South wall

Plate 8a - Lydstep Palace, Room 4 interior: West wall - north end

Plate 8b - Lydstep Palace, Room 4 interior: West wall - south end

Plate 8c - Lydstep Palace, Latrine interior: North wall

Plate 9a - Lydstep Palace, Rooms 5 and 6: View of roof from NW

Plate 9b - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 exterior: North wall

Plate 10a - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 interior: West wall

Plate 10b - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 interior: East wall

Plate 10c - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 interior: South wall

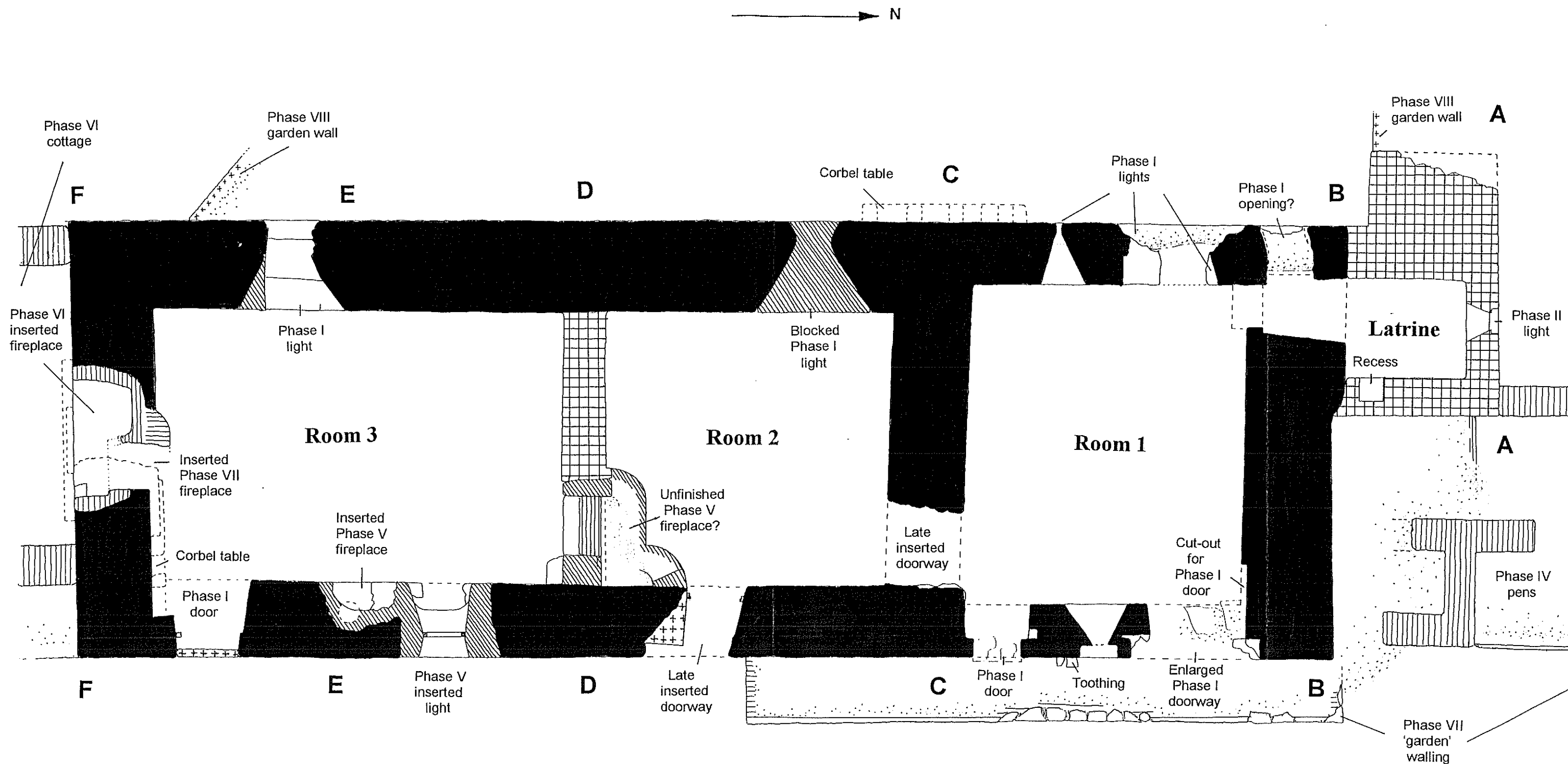
Plate 11a - Lydstep Palace, Room 6 interior: North wall

Plate 11b - Lydstep Palace, Room 6 interior: East wall

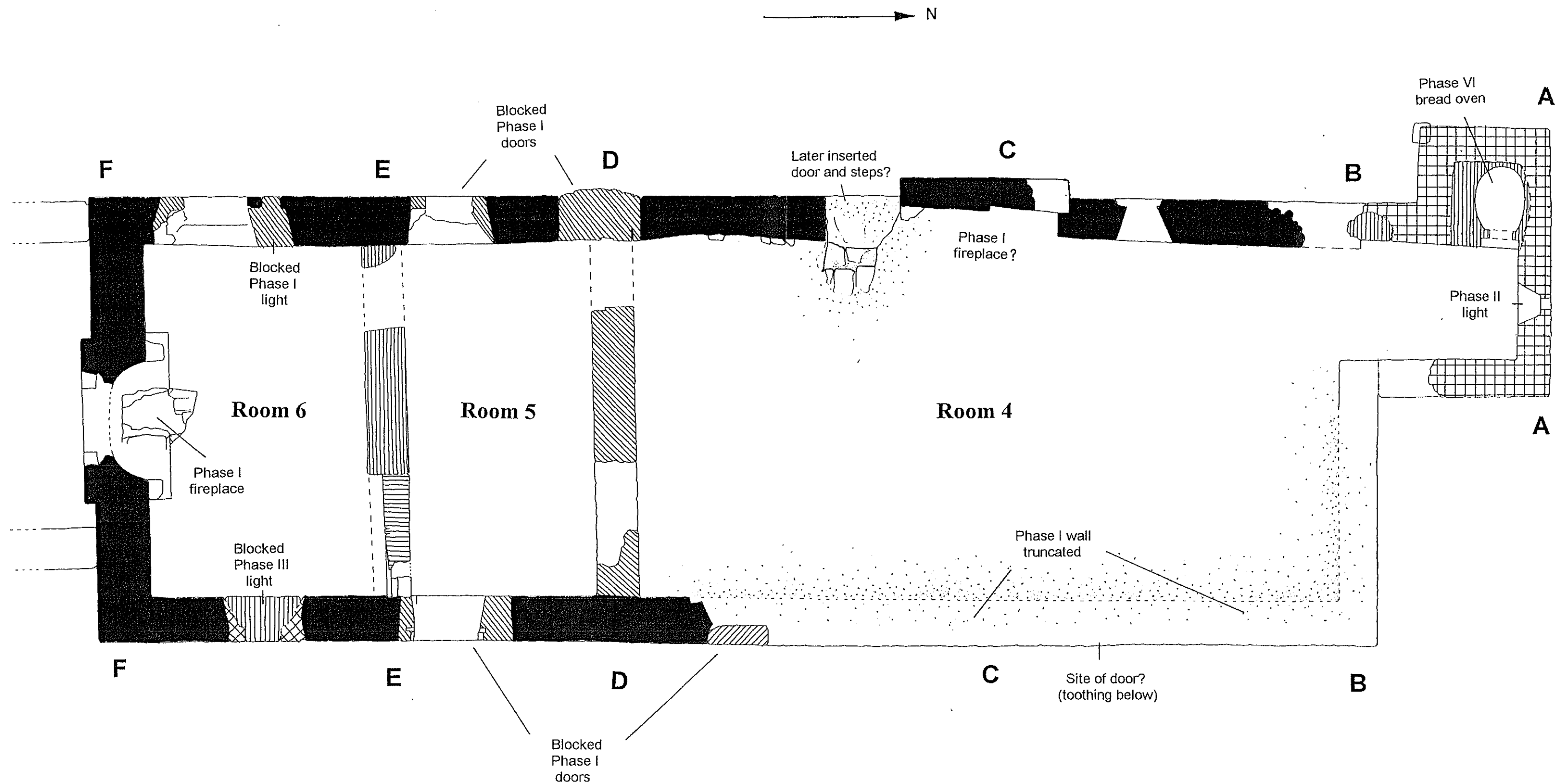
Plate 11c - Lydstep Palace, Room 6 interior: South wall

Plate 12 - Lydstep Palace: The Phase VI cottage, from east

**Lydstep 'Palace':
Plan at ground floor level**



**Lydstep 'Palace':
Plan at first floor level**



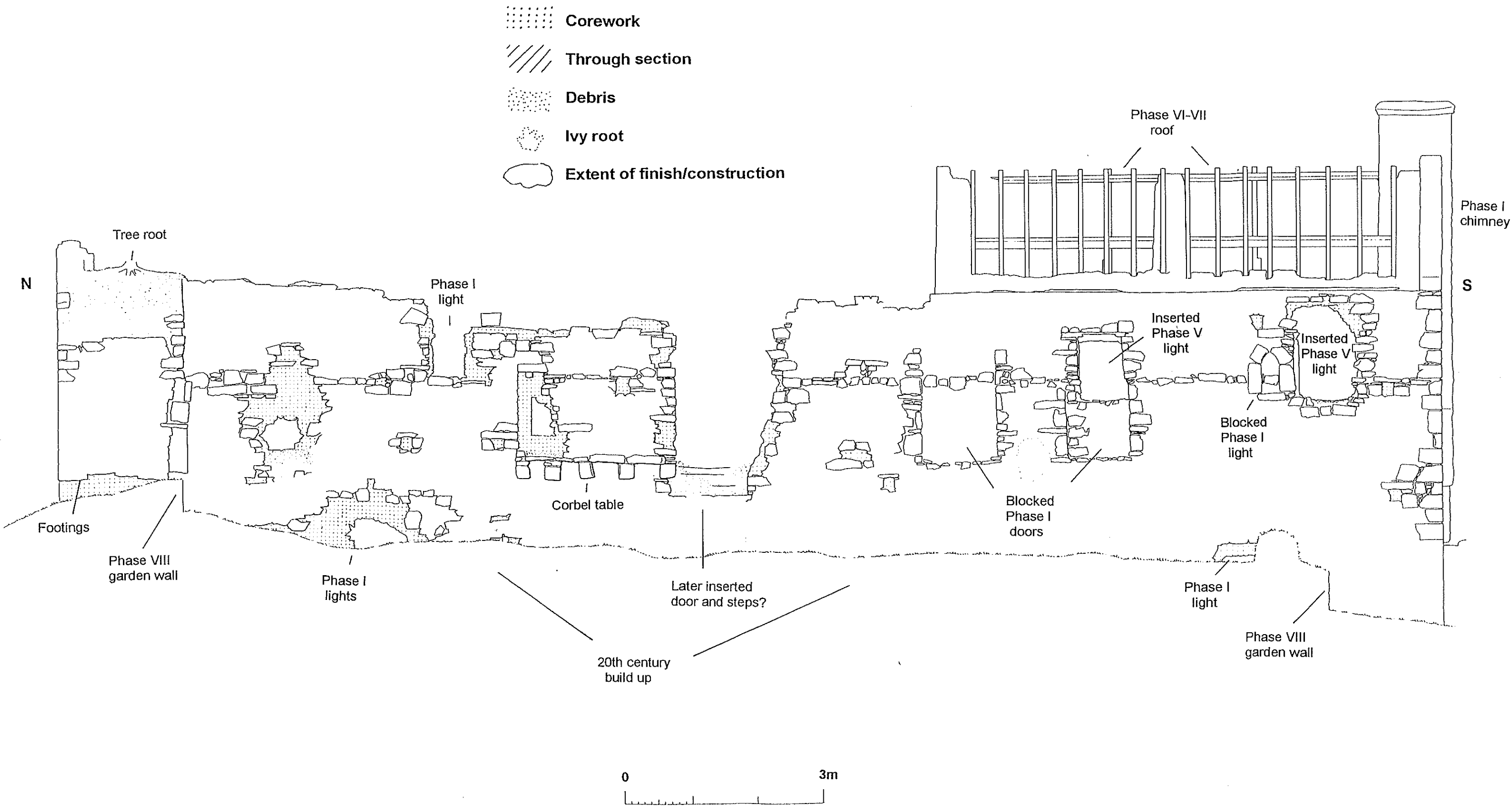
■ Phase I - 14th-15th century
 ▤ Phase II - 15th century
 ▦ Phase III - 15th-16th century
 ▧ Phase IV - late 18th-early 19th century

▨ Phase V - 19th century
 ▩ Phase VI - late 19th-early 20th century
 ▪ Phase VII - 20th century
 ▫ Phase VIII - late 20th century

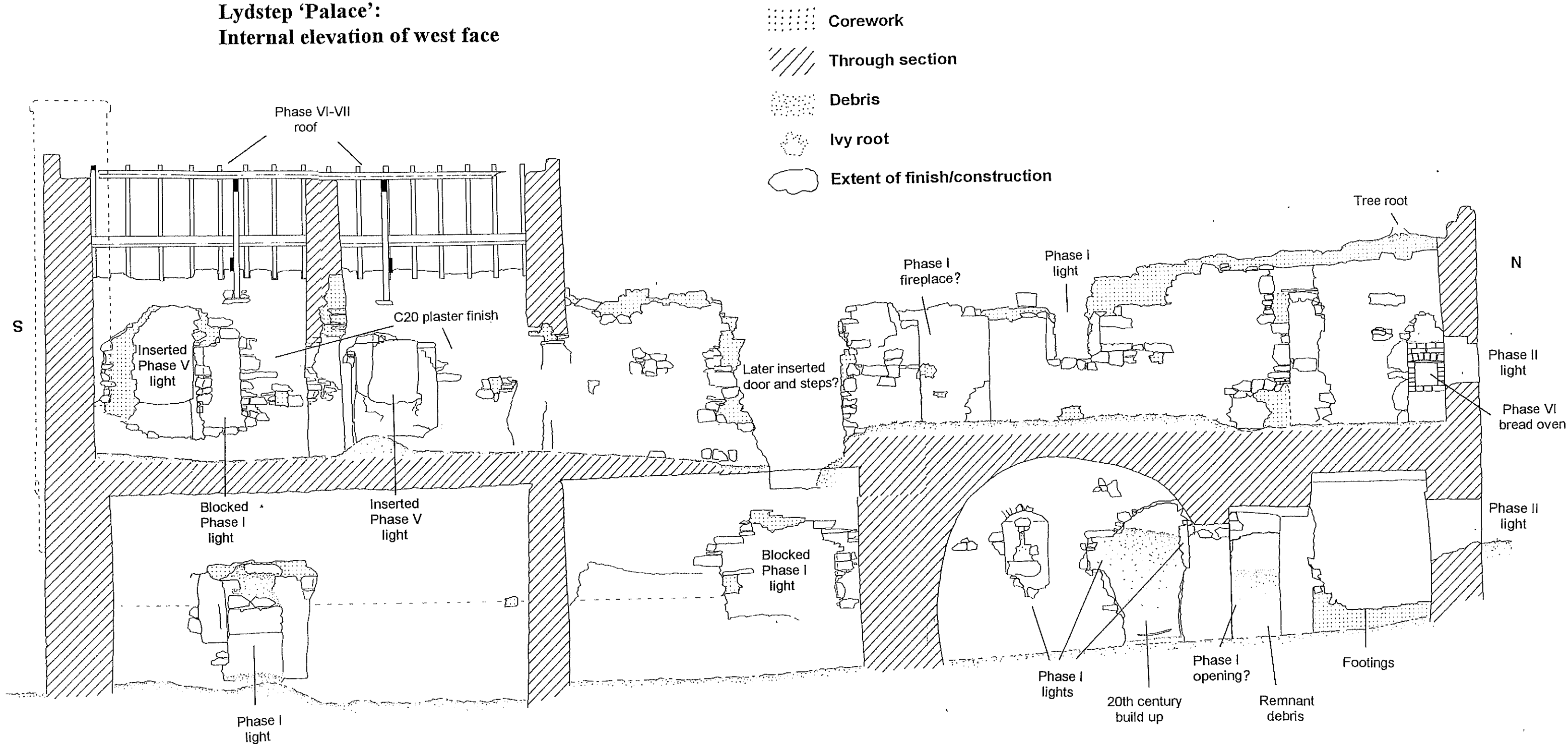
▬ Debris

0 3m

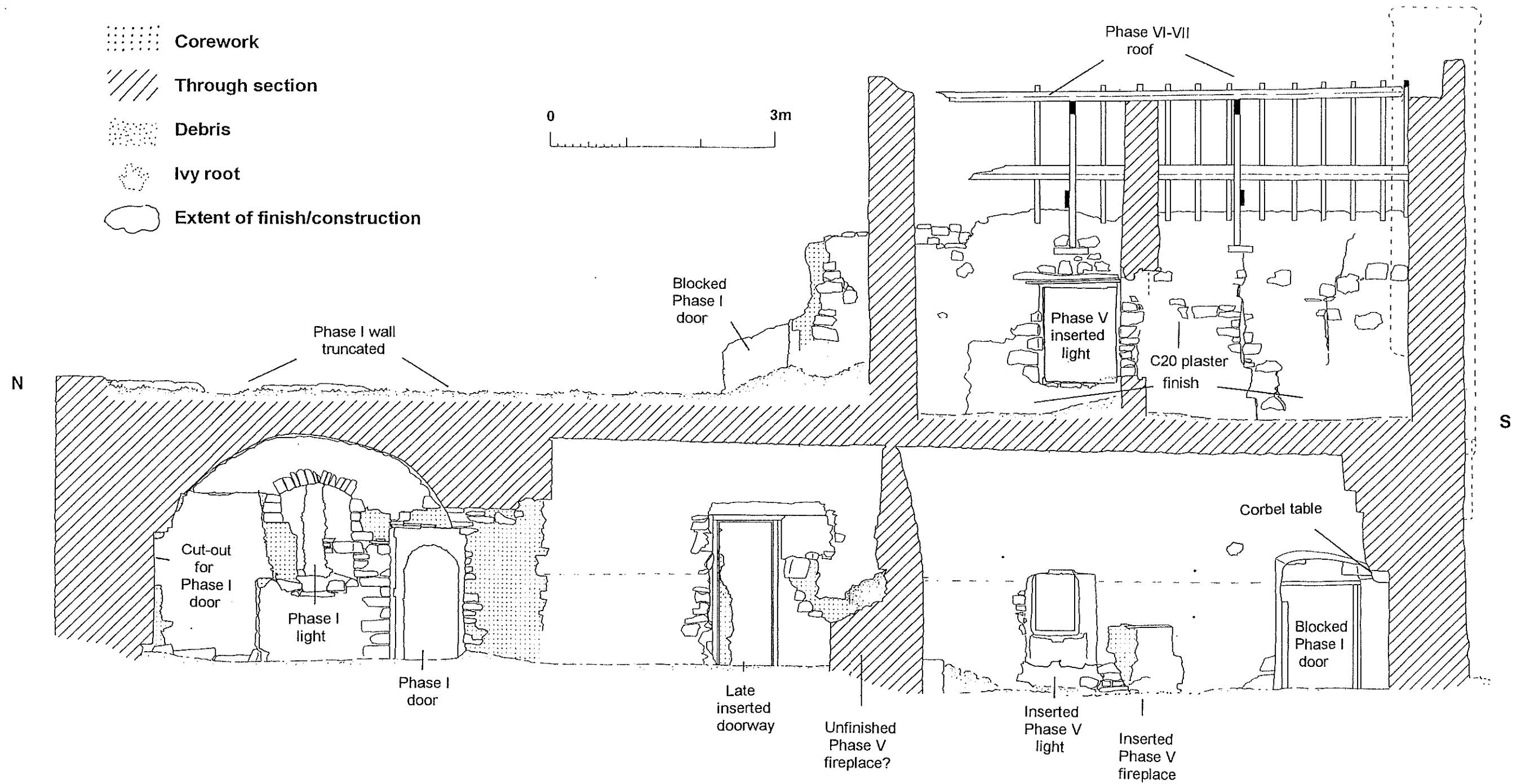
Lydstep 'Palace':
External elevation of west face



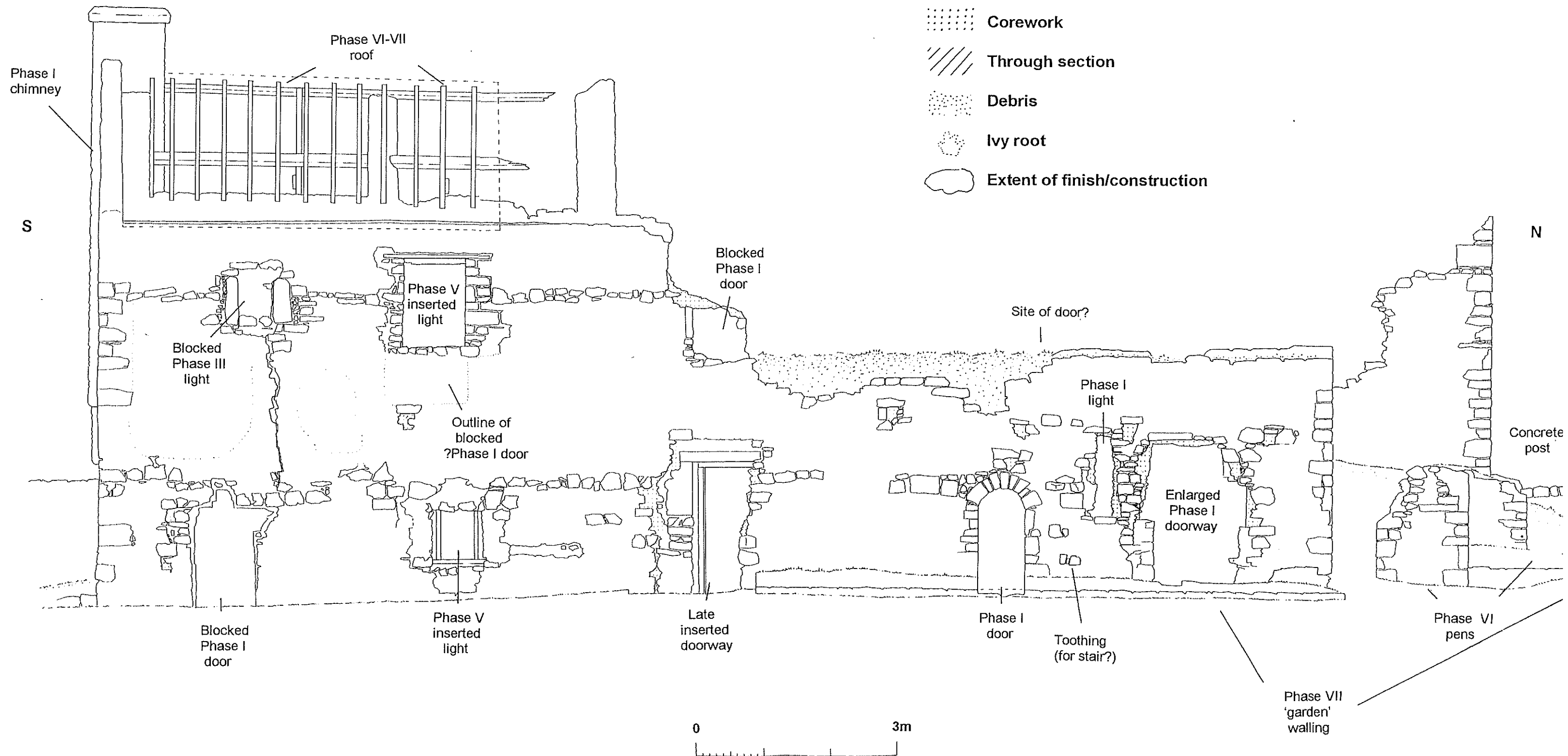
Lydstep 'Palace': **Internal elevation of west face**



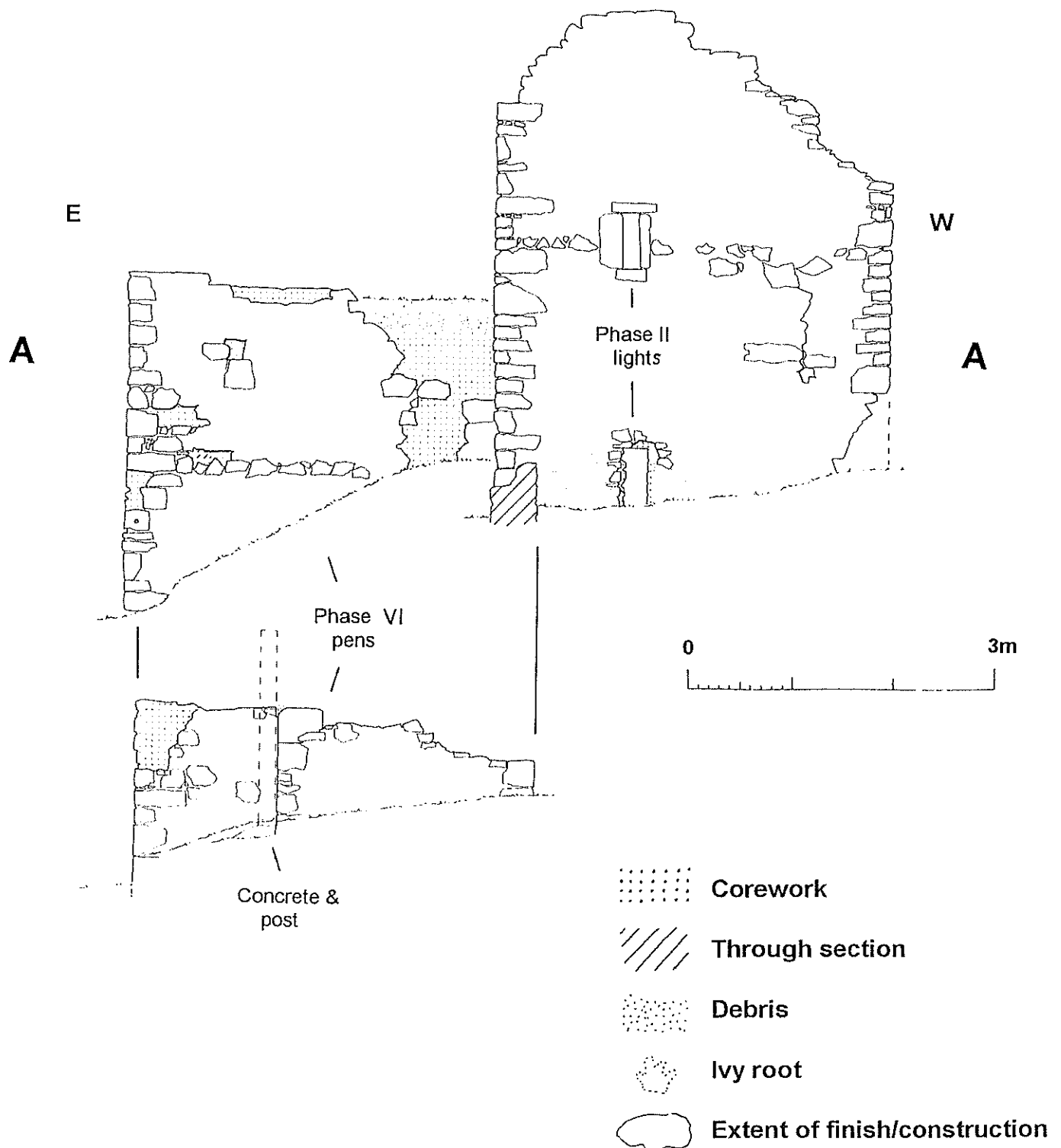
Lydstep 'Palace':
Internal elevation of east face



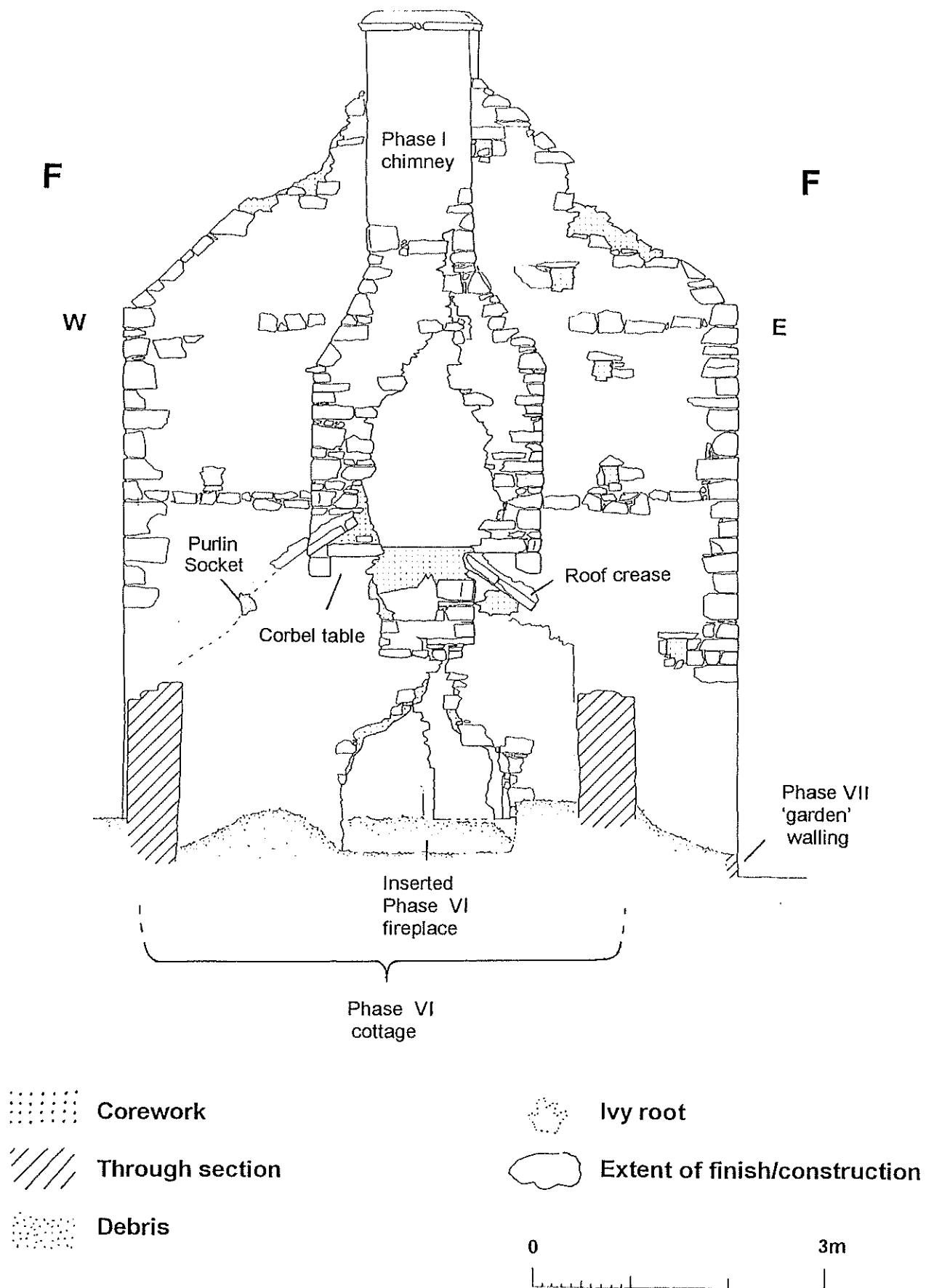
Lydstep 'Palace': **External elevation of east face**



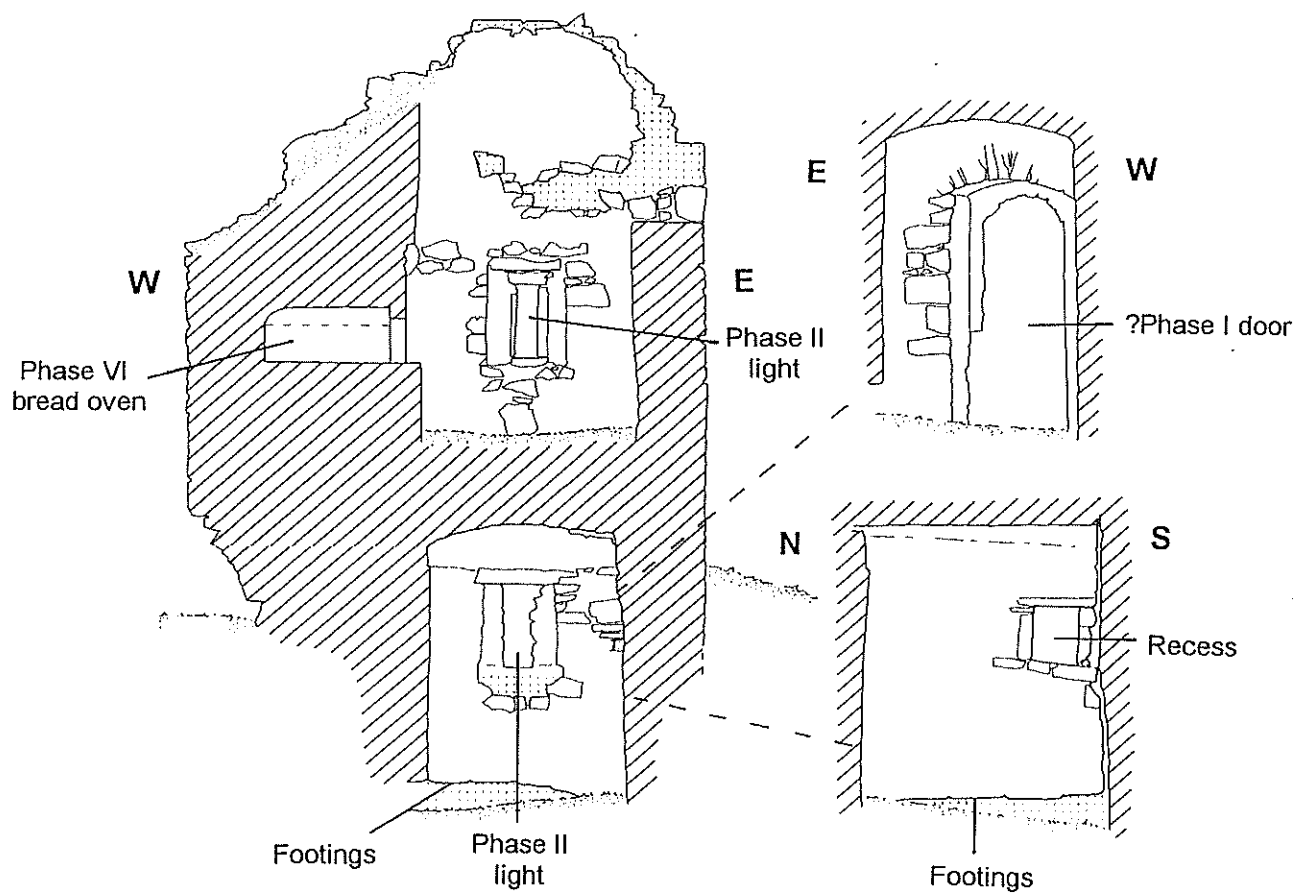
Lydstep 'Palace': **External elevation of north face**


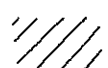





Lydstep 'Palace': **External elevation of south face**



Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation A-A, facing north**

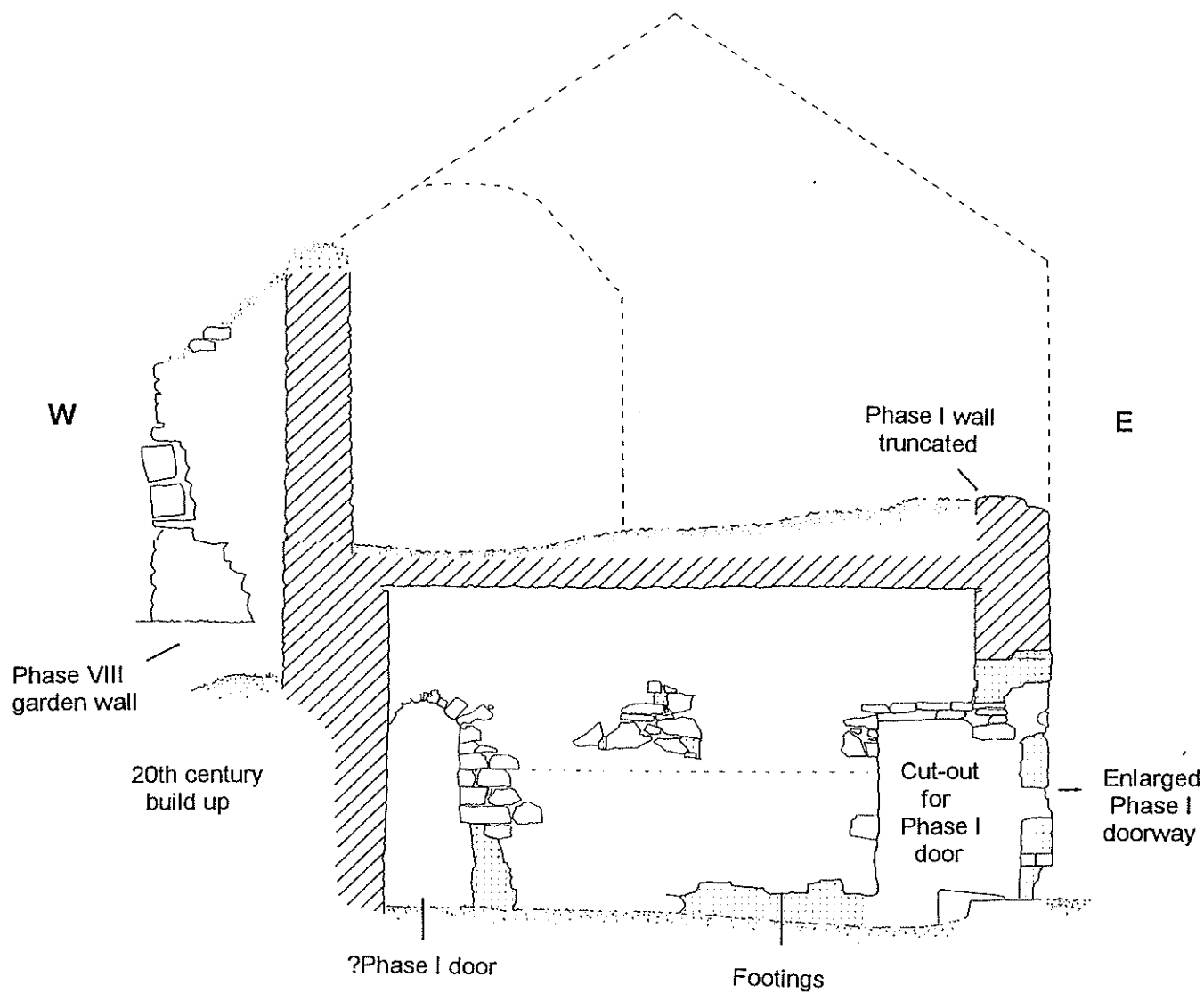







-  Corework
-  Through section
-  Debris
-  Ivy root
-  Extent of finish/construction

0 3m



Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation B-B, facing north**

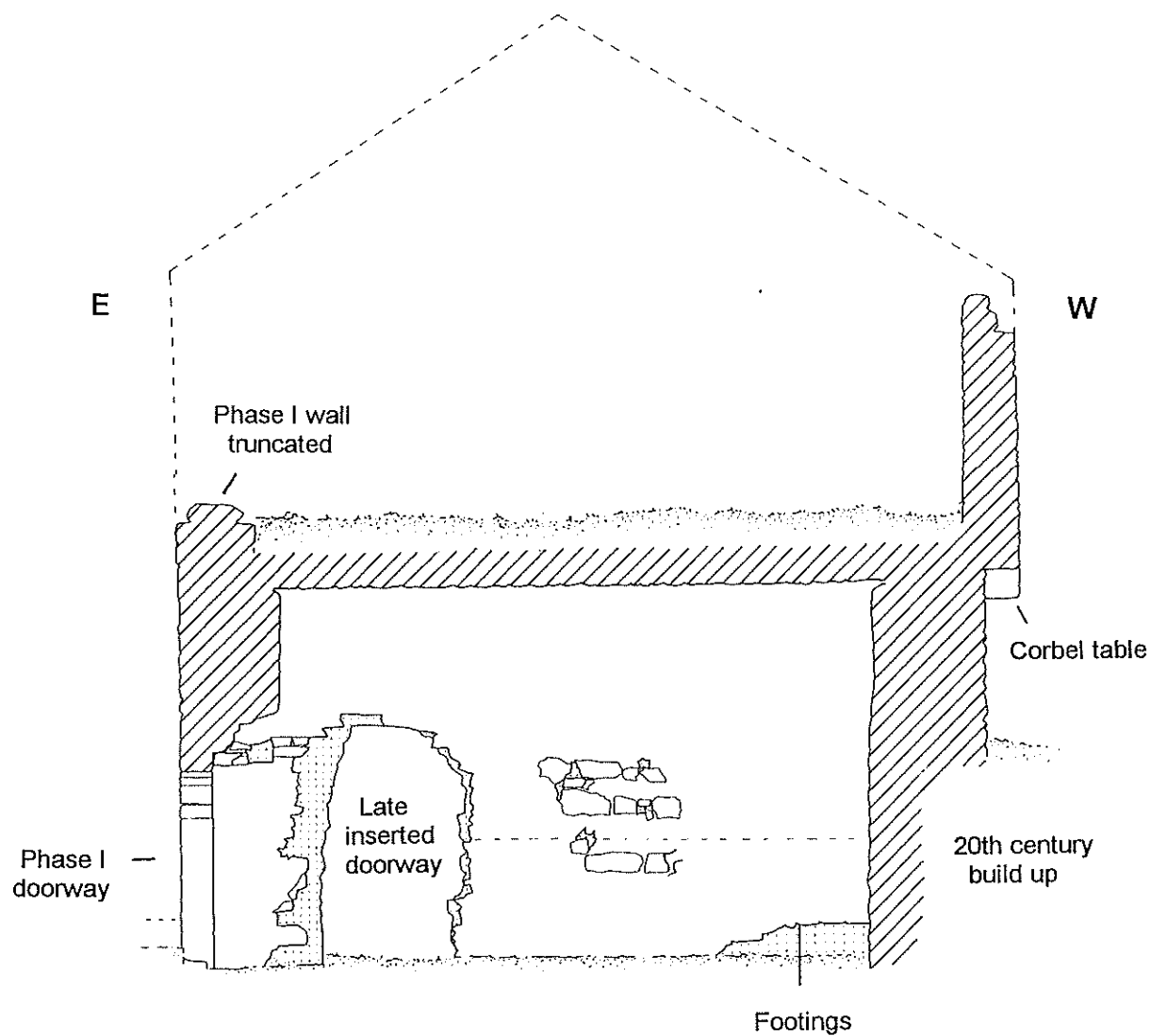







-  Corework
-  Through section
-  Debris
-  Ivy root
-  Extent of finish/construction

0 3m



Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation C-C, facing south**

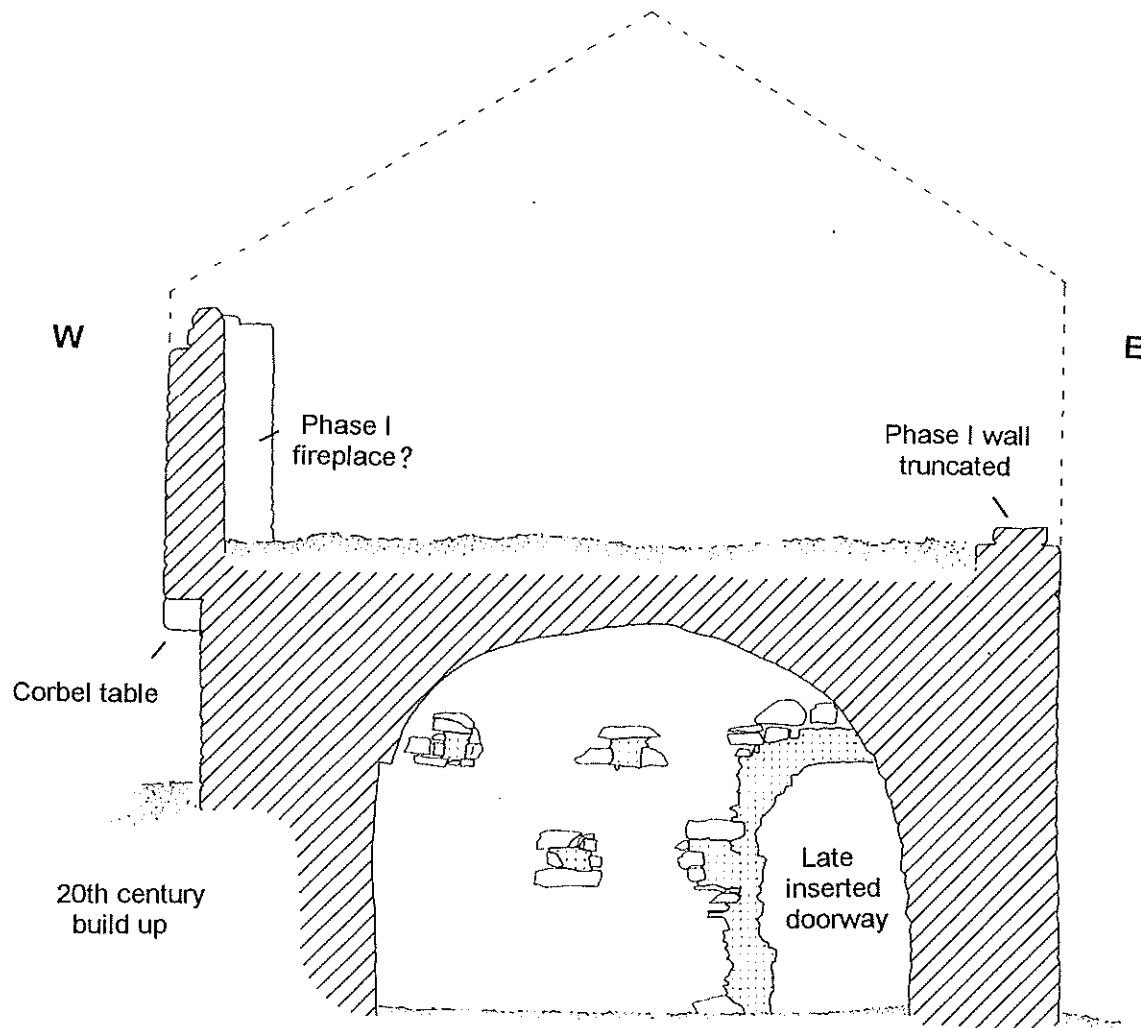


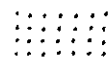
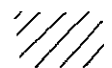



-  Corework
-  Through section
-  Debris
-  Ivy root
-  Extent of finish/construction

0 3m



Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation C-C, facing north**

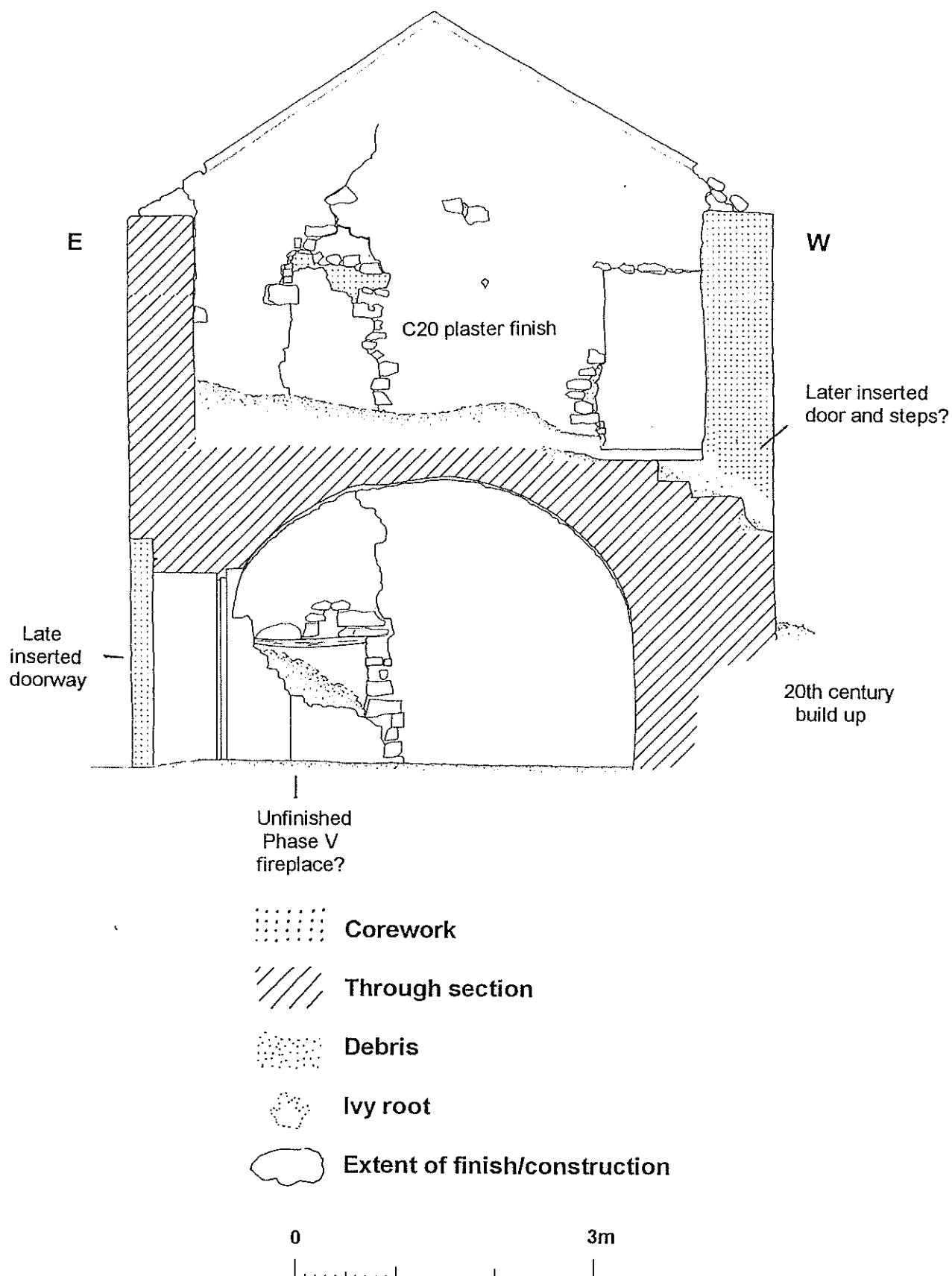


-  Corework
-  Through section
-  Debris
-  Ivy root
-  Extent of finish/construction

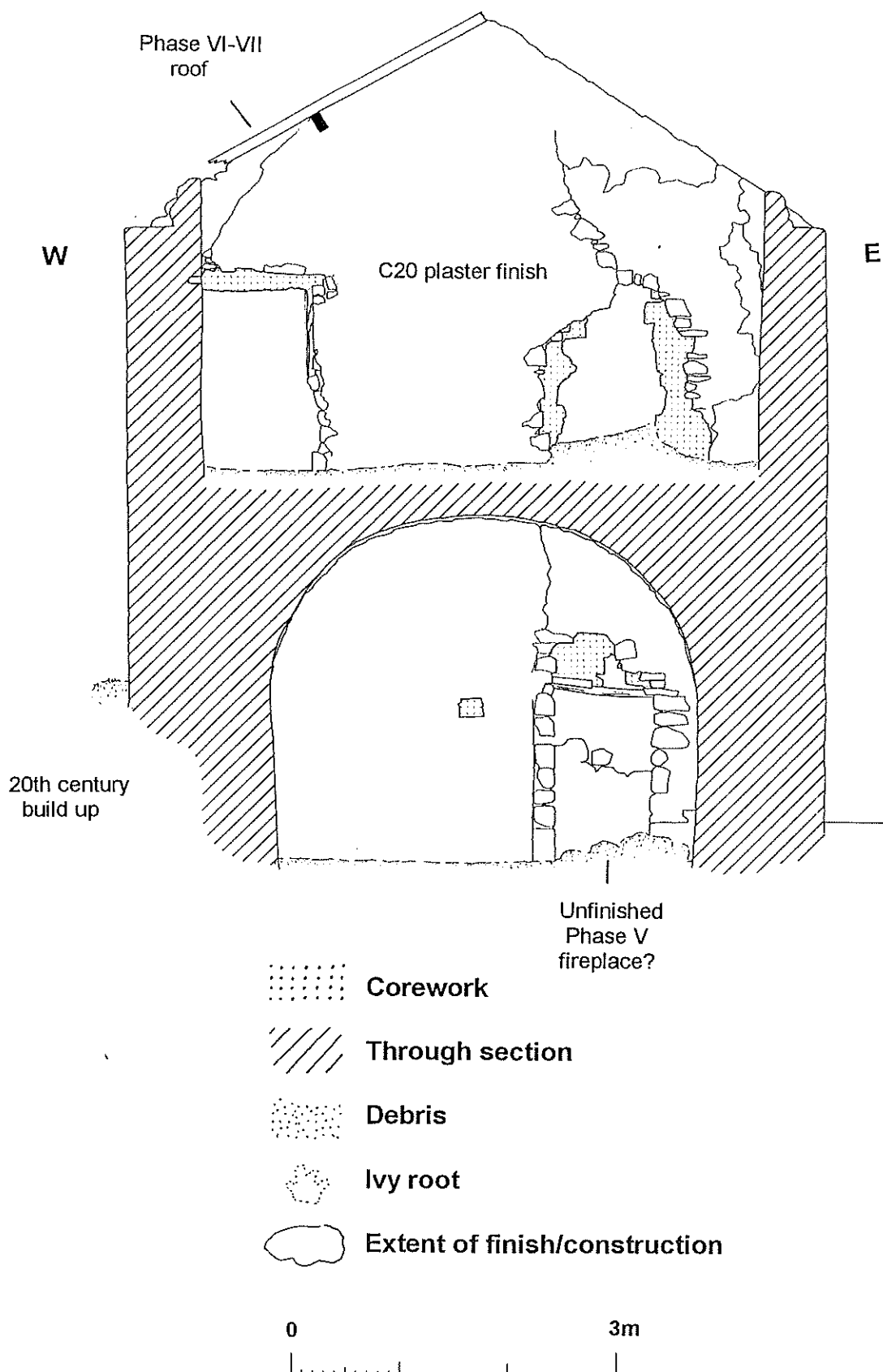
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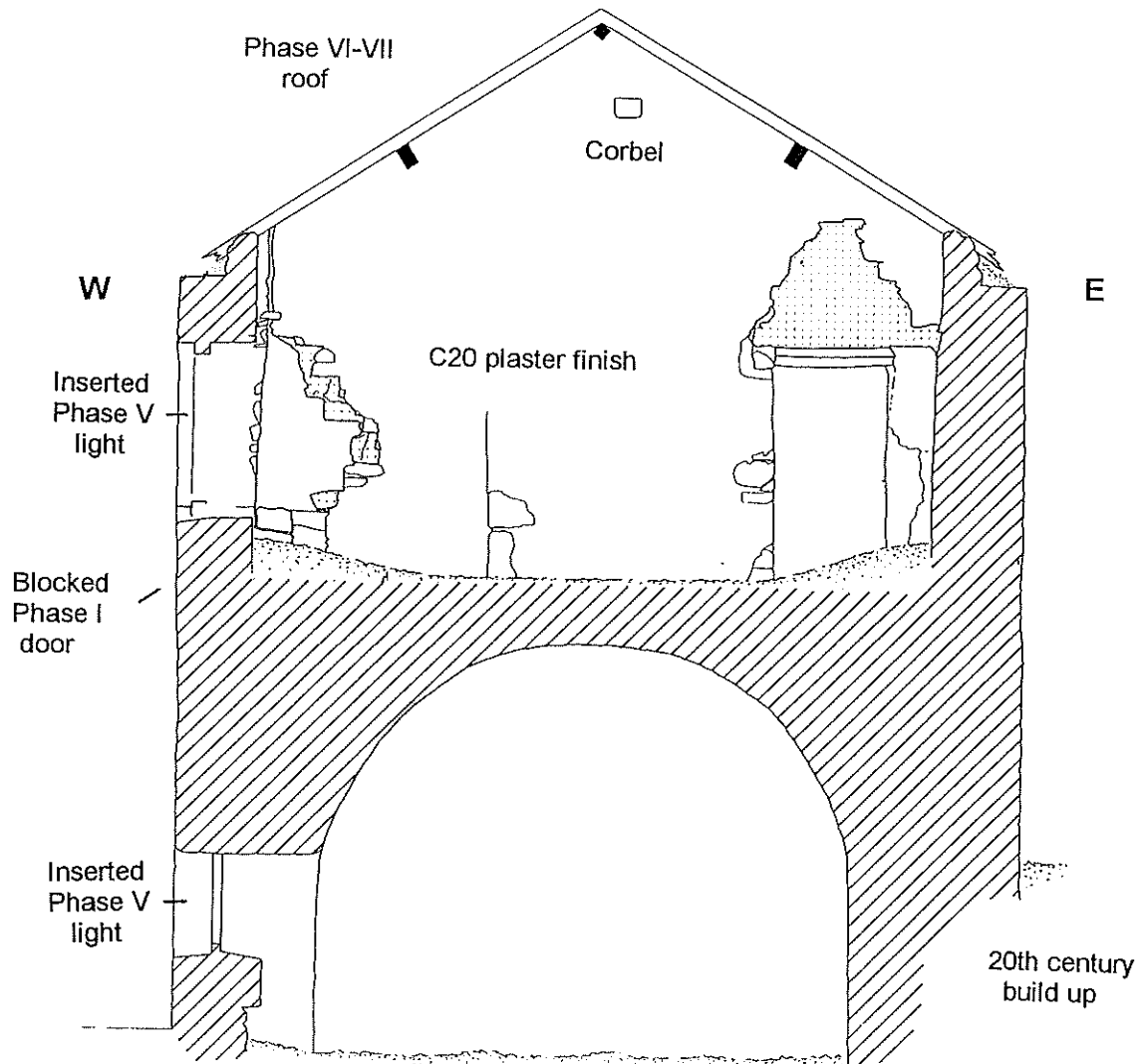
Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation D-D, facing south**

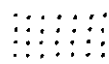



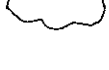


Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation D-D, facing north**



Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation E-E, facing south**

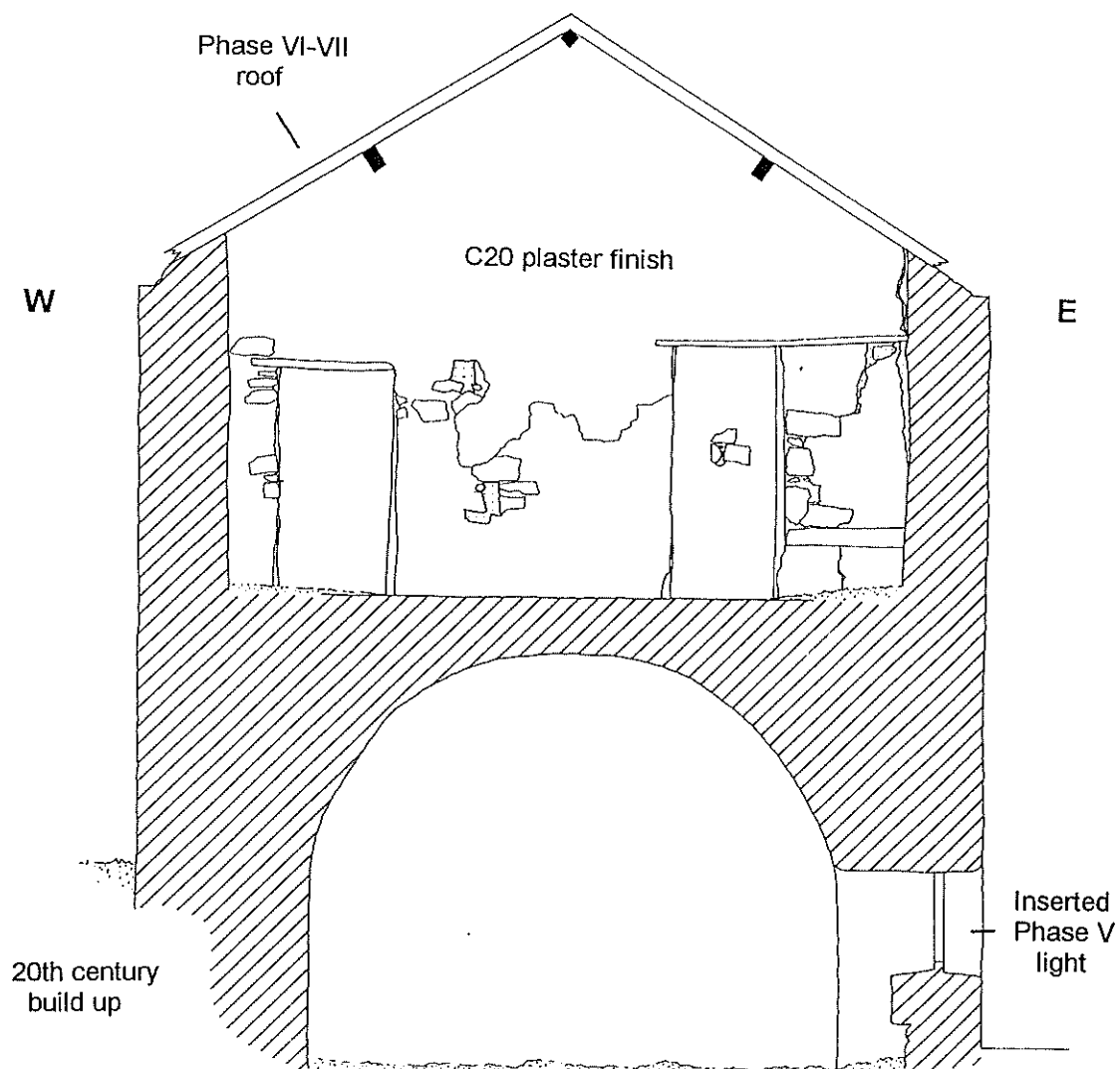



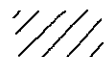
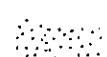
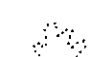
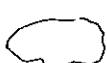
-  Corework
-  Through section
-  Debris
-  Ivy root
-  Extent of finish/construction

0 3m



Lydstep 'Palace': **Section/elevation E-E, facing north**



-  Corework
-  Through section
-  Debris
-  Ivy root
-  Extent of finish/construction

0 3m



Lydstep 'Palace': Section/elevation F-F, facing south

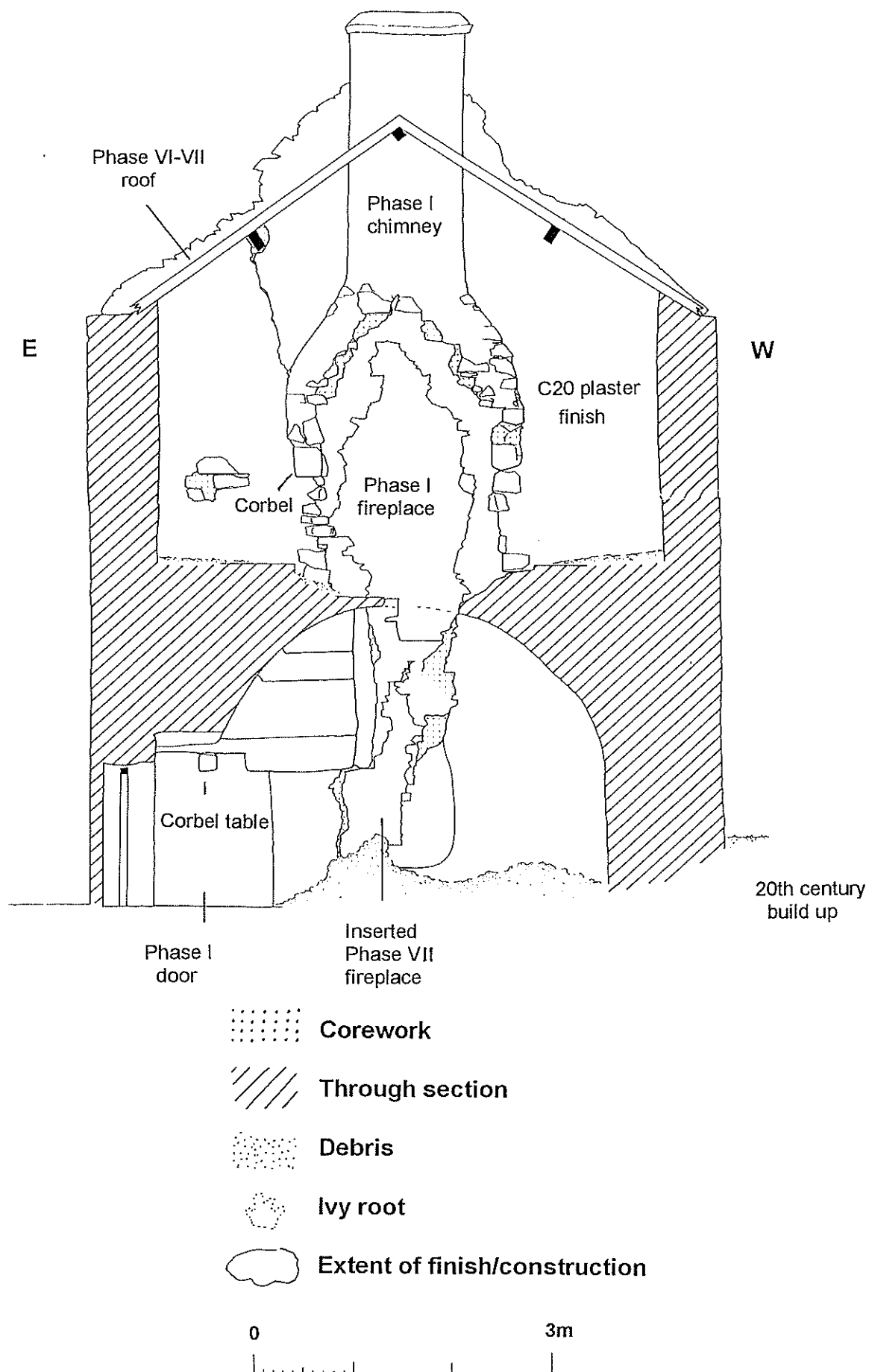


Plate 1a - Lydstep Palace: General view from east



Plate 1b- Lydstep Palace: General view from west

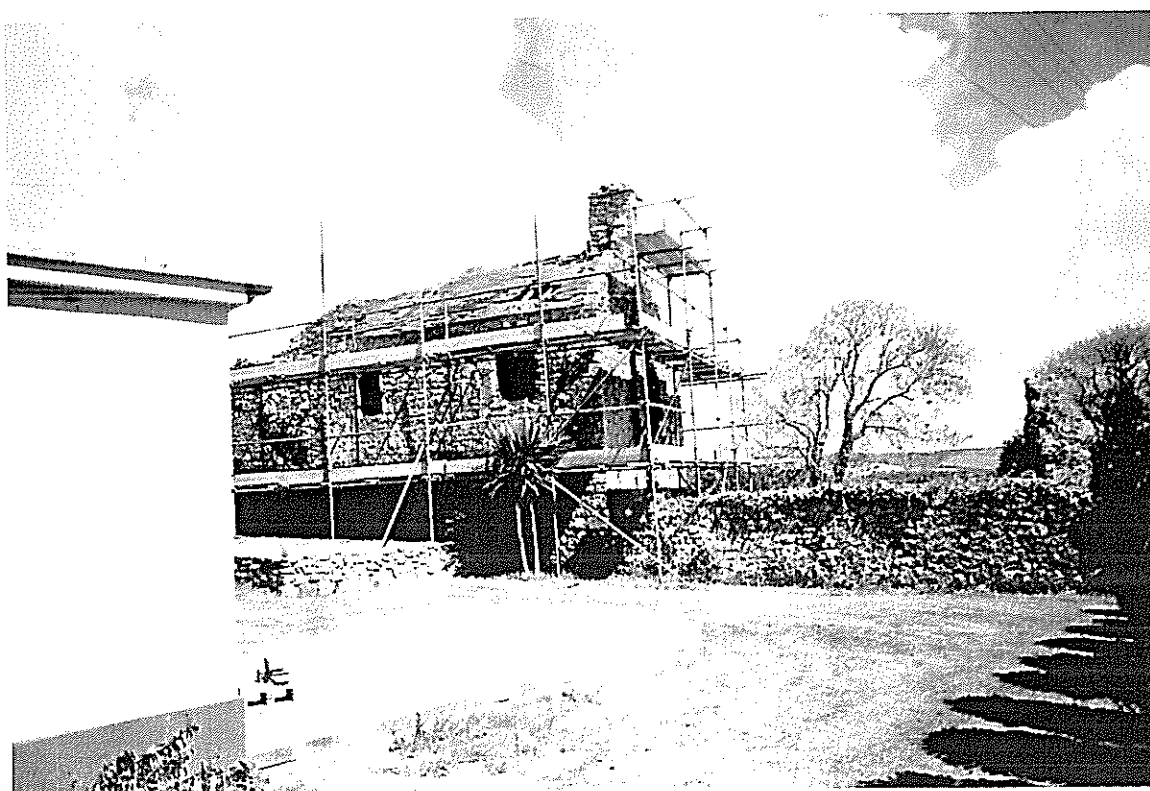


Plate 2a - Lydstep Palace: West wall exterior - north end

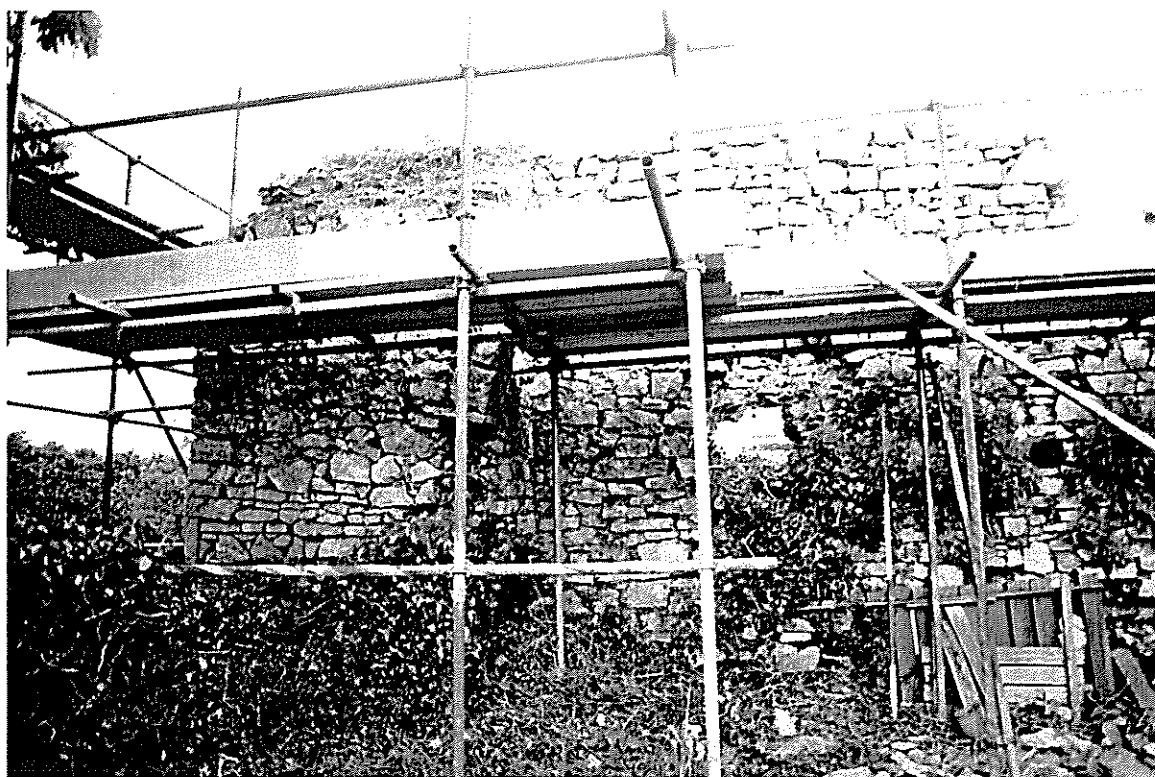


Plate 2b - Lydstep Palace: West wall exterior - centre

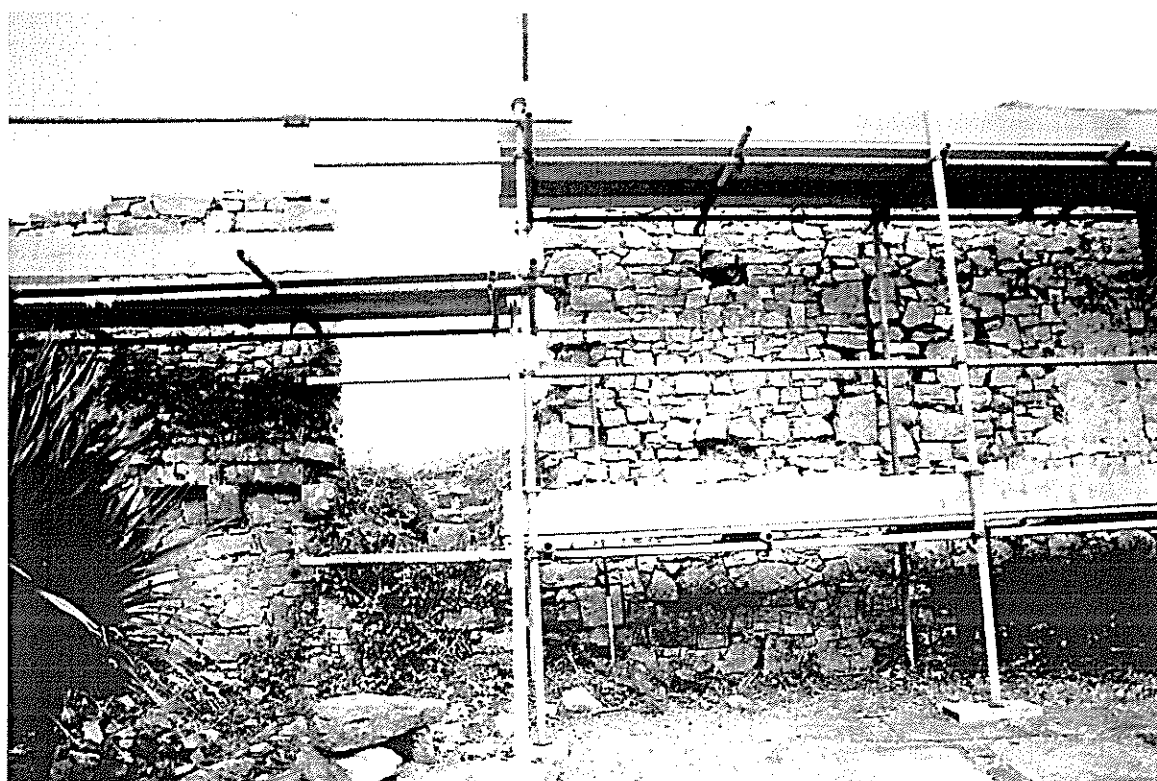


Plate 2c - Lydstep Palace: West wall exterior - south end

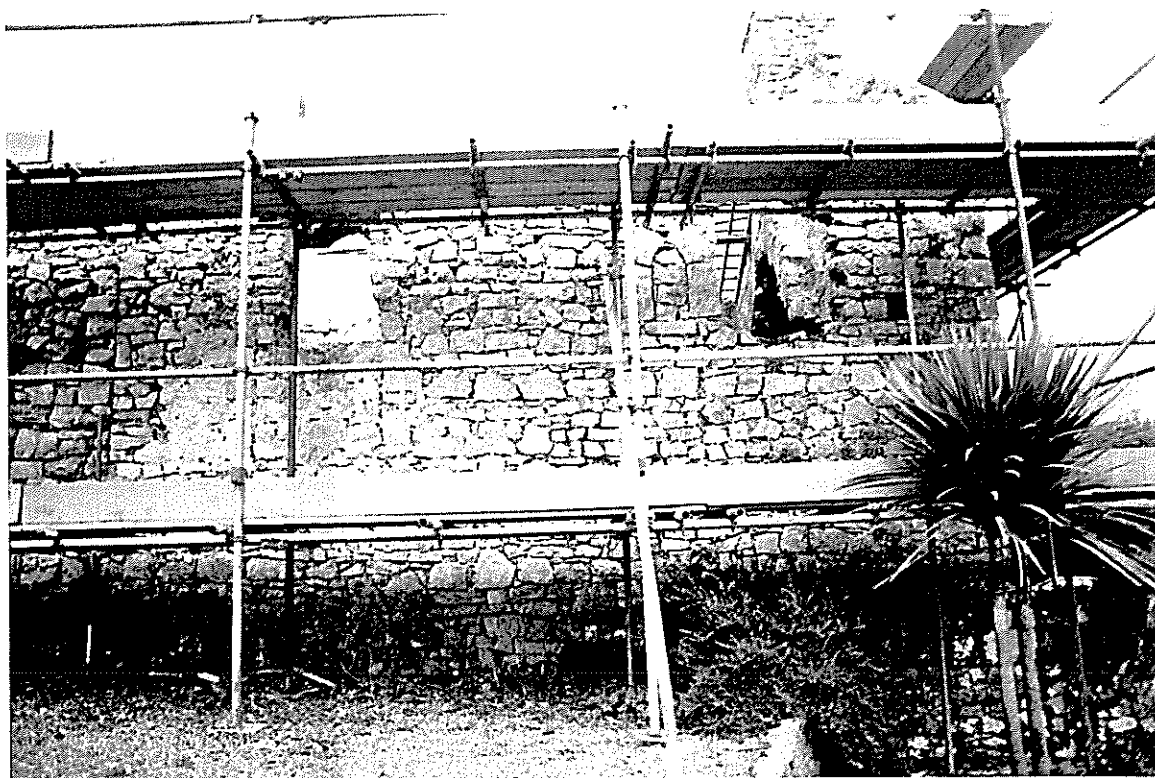


Plate 3 - Lydstep Palace: North wall exterior

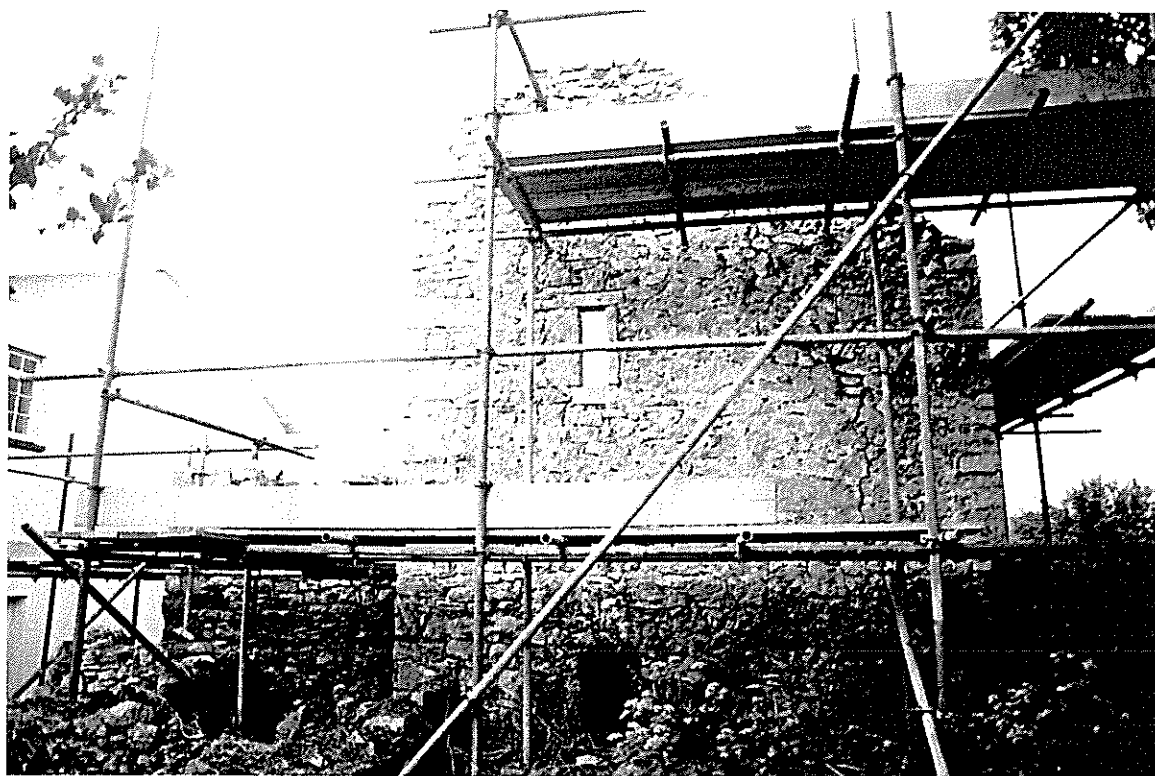
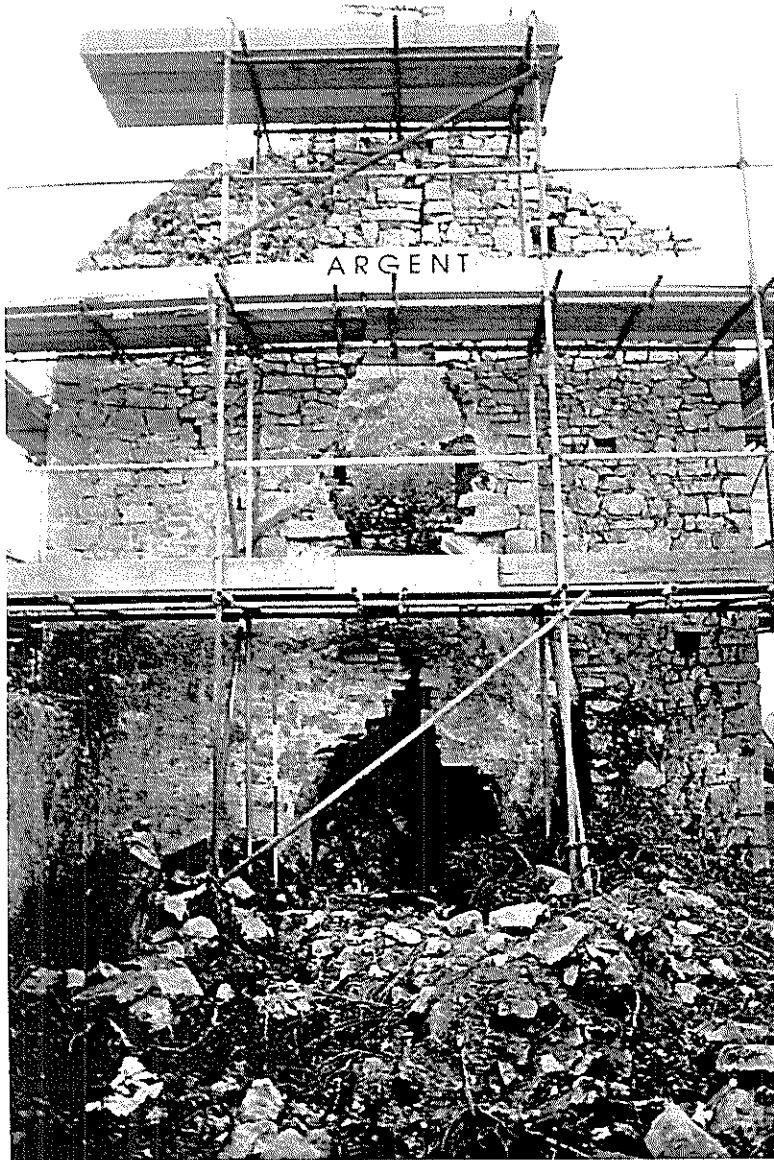
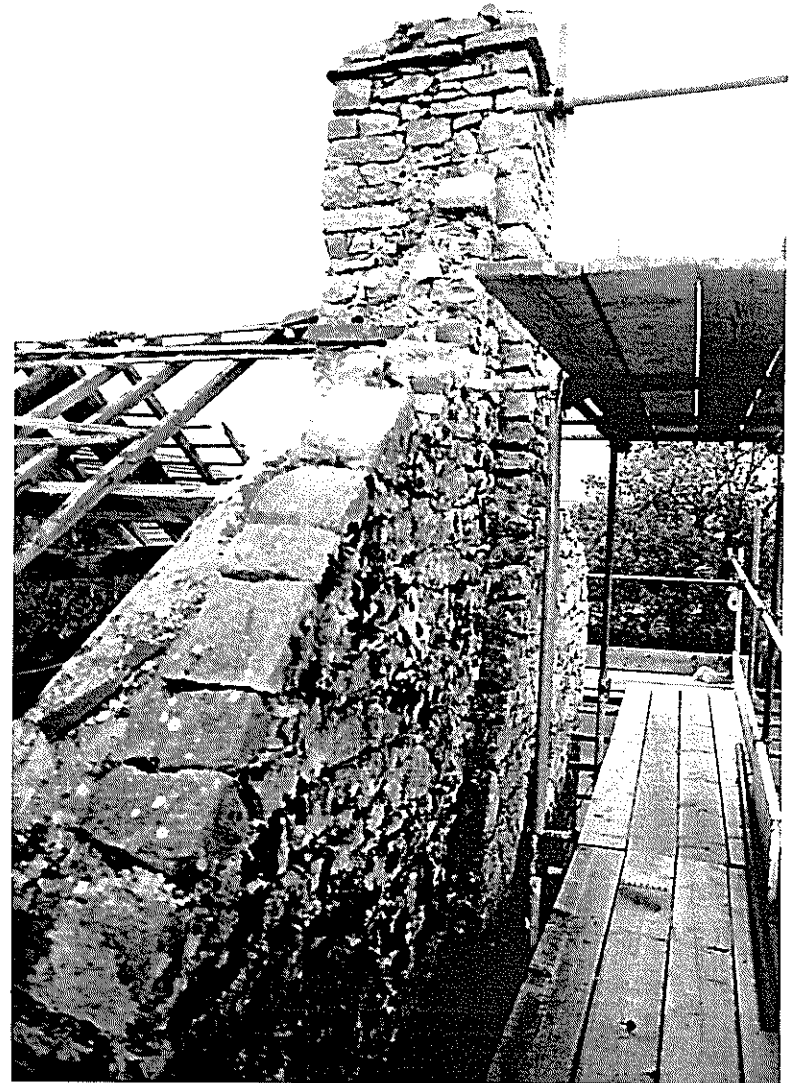


Plate 4a - Lydstep Palace: South wall exterior



**Plate 4b - Lydstep Palace: South wall
- gable upstand and chimney**



**Plate 5a - Lydstep Palace, Room 1:
East wall south doorway, external view**



**Plate 5b - Lydstep Palace, Room 1:
East wall north doorway, external view**

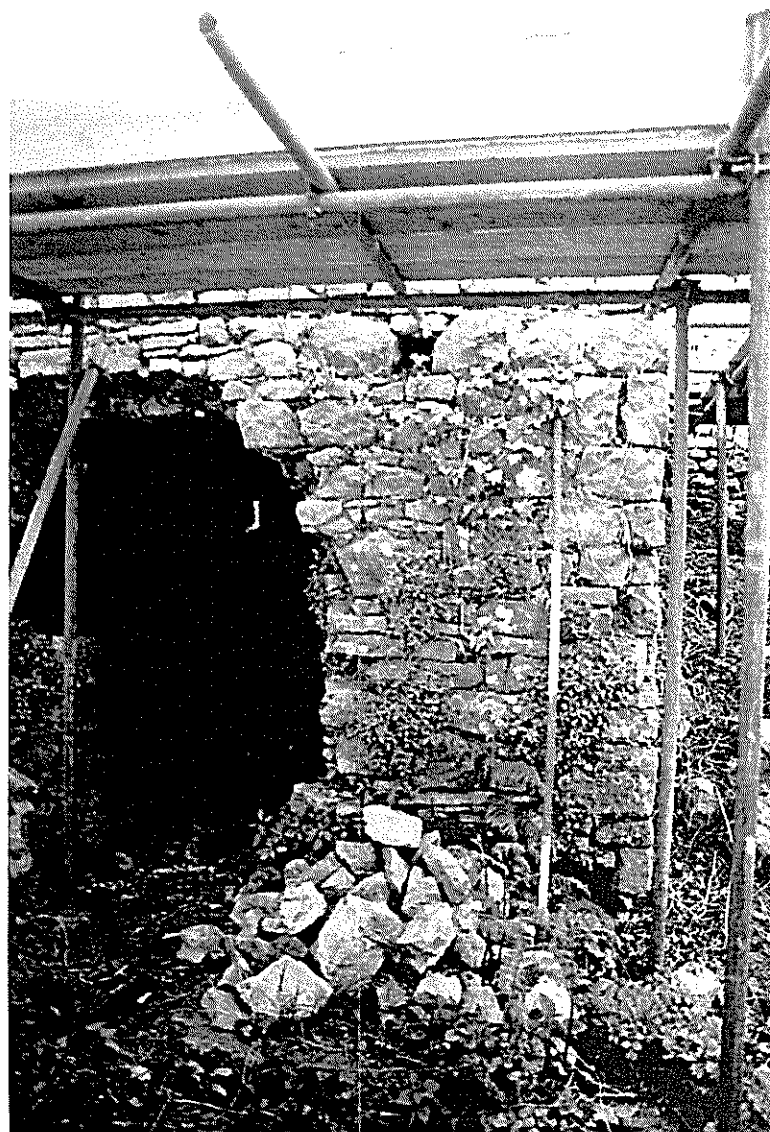


Plate 5c - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: North wall - west end



Plate 5d - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: North wall - east end

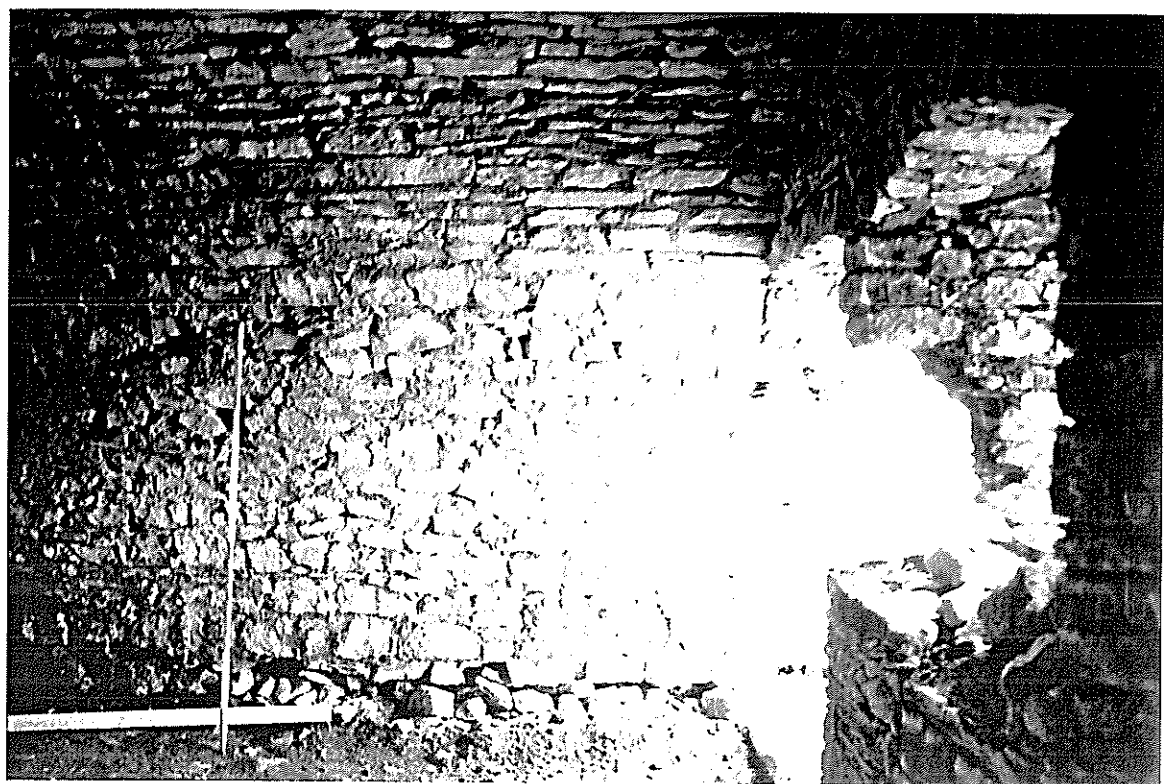


Plate 5e - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: West wall



Plate 5f - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: East wall



Plate 5g - Lydstep Palace, Room 1 interior: South wall



**Plate 6a - Lydstep Palace, Room 2:
East wall modern doorway, external view**

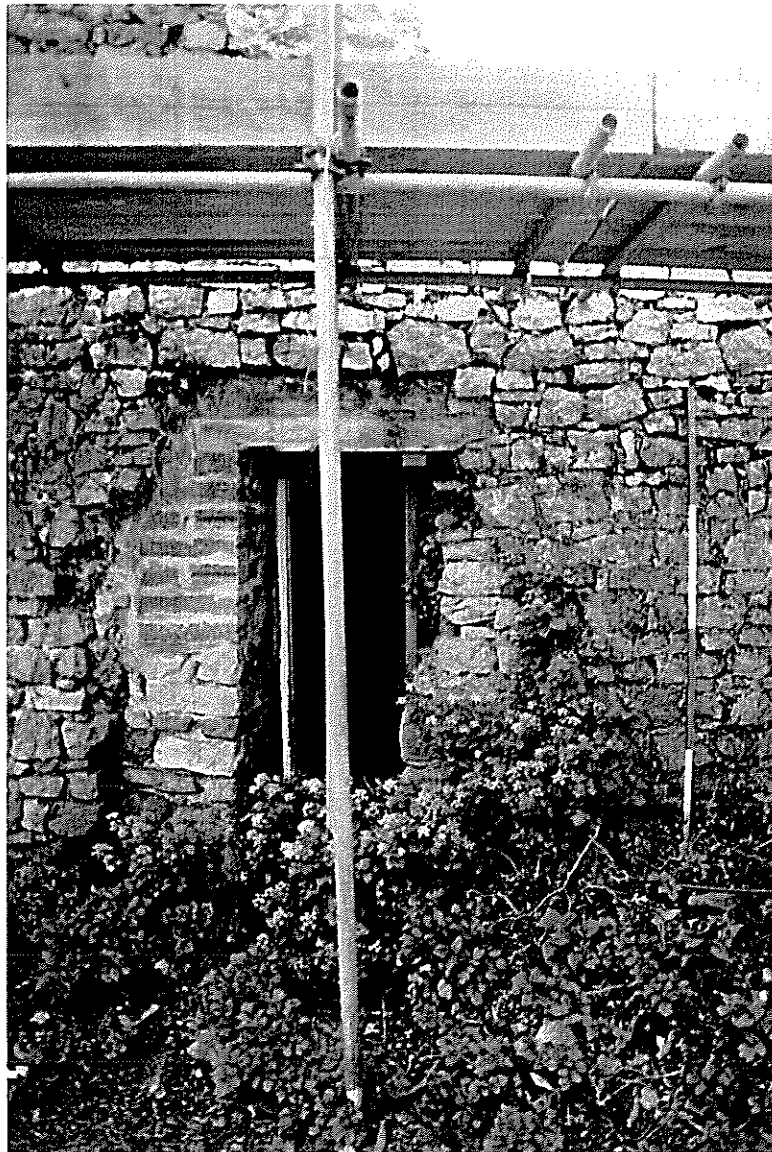


Plate 6b - Lydstep Palace, Room 2 interior: North wall

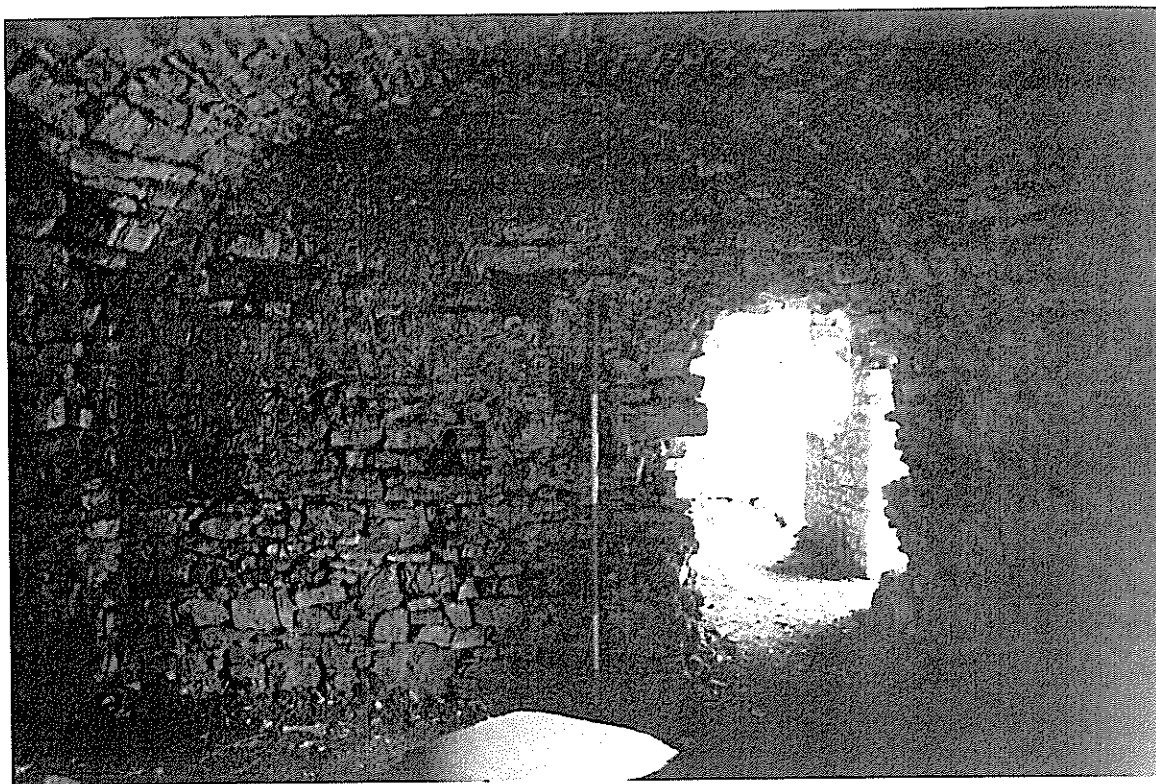


Plate 6c - Lydstep Palace, Room 2 interior: West wall



Plate 6d - Lydstep Palace, Room 2 interior: South wall

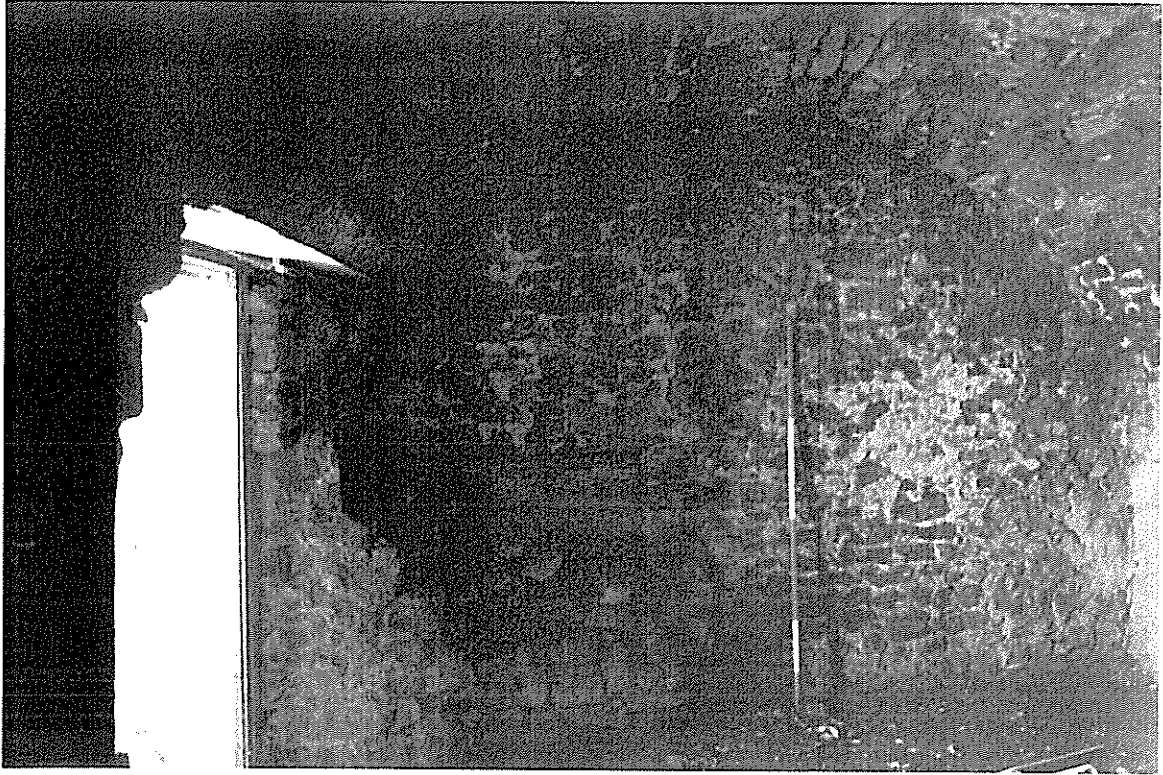


Plate 7a - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: North wall

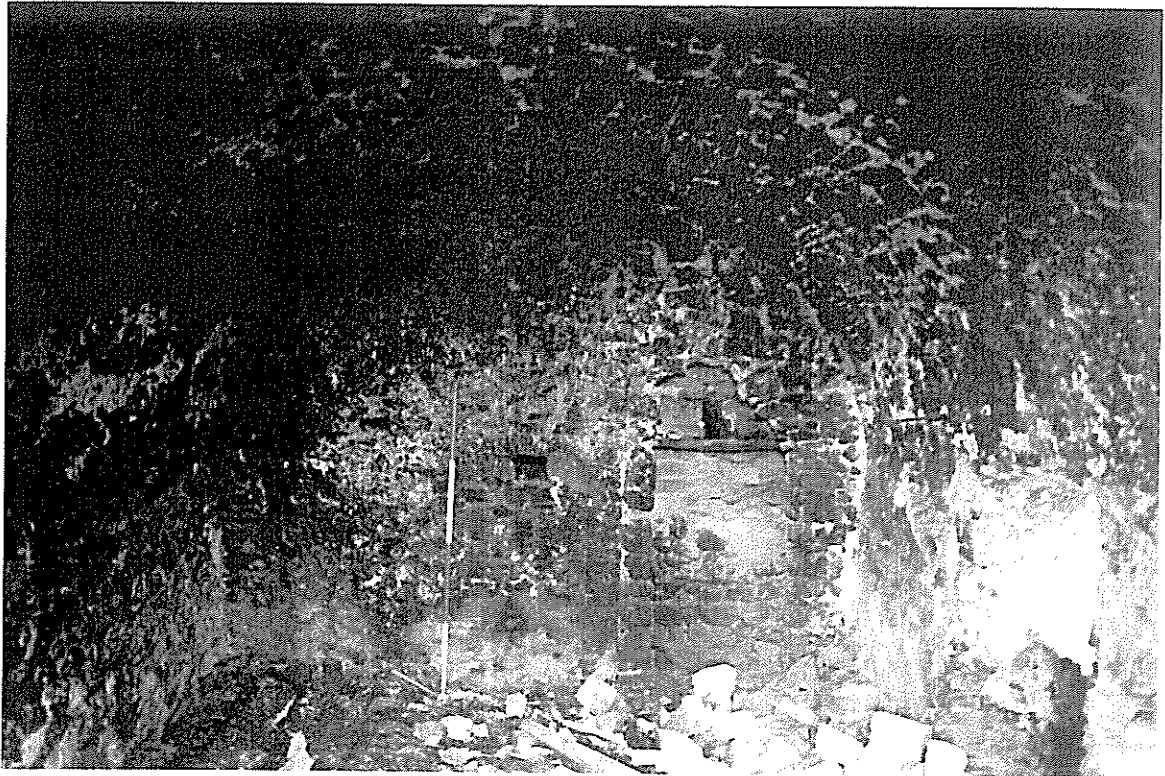


Plate 7b - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: West wall



Plate 7c - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: East wall - north end

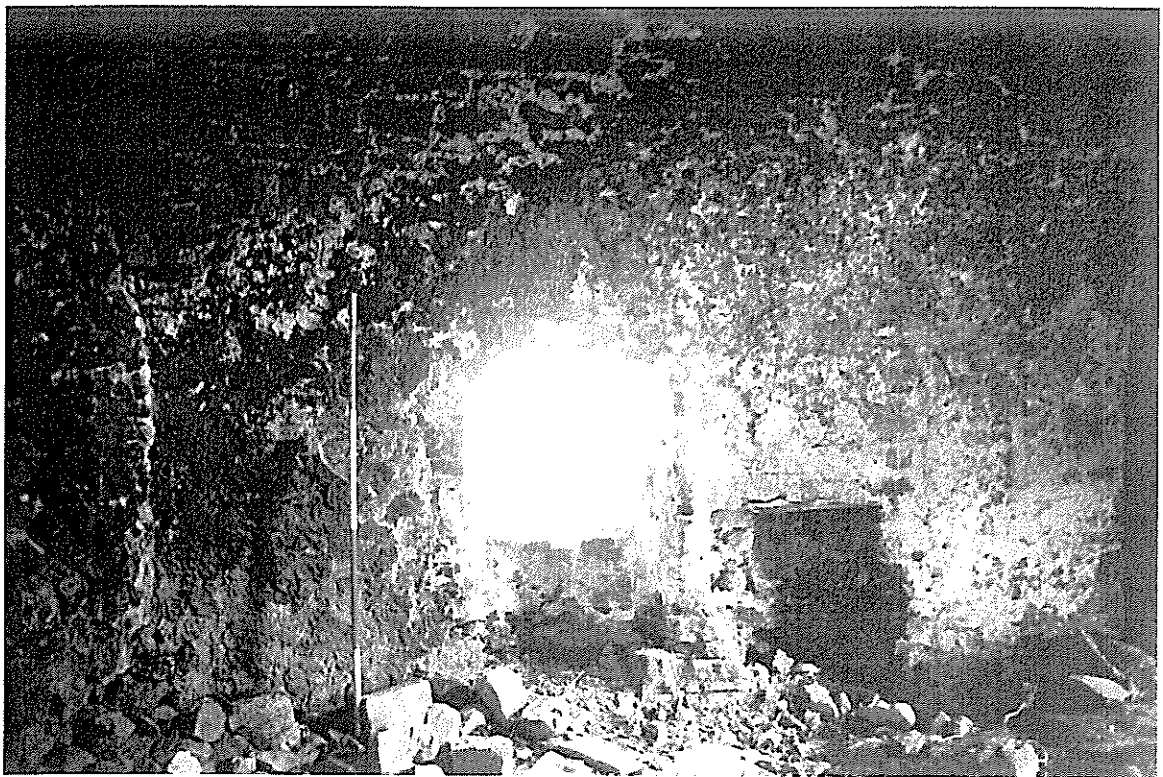


Plate 7d - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: East wall - south end

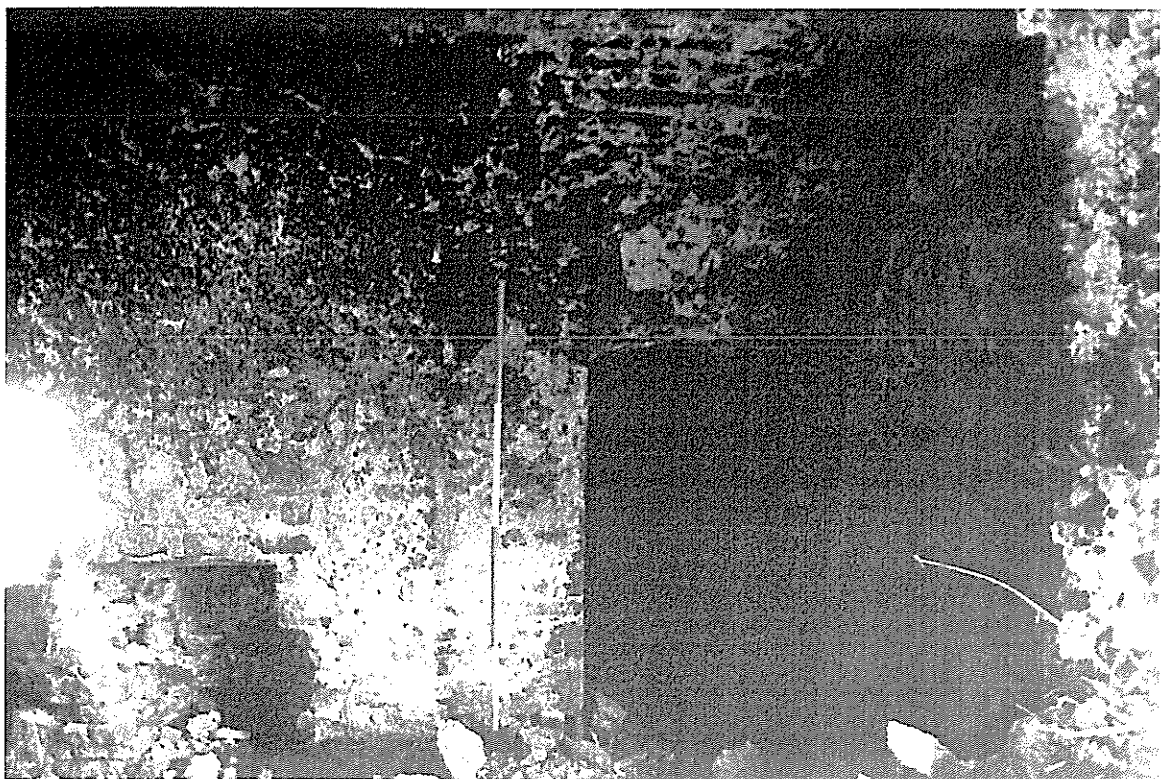


Plate 7e - Lydstep Palace, Room 3 interior: South wall



Plate 8a - Lydstep Palace, Room 4 interior: West wall - north end



Plate 8b - Lydstep Palace, Room 4 interior: West wall - south end

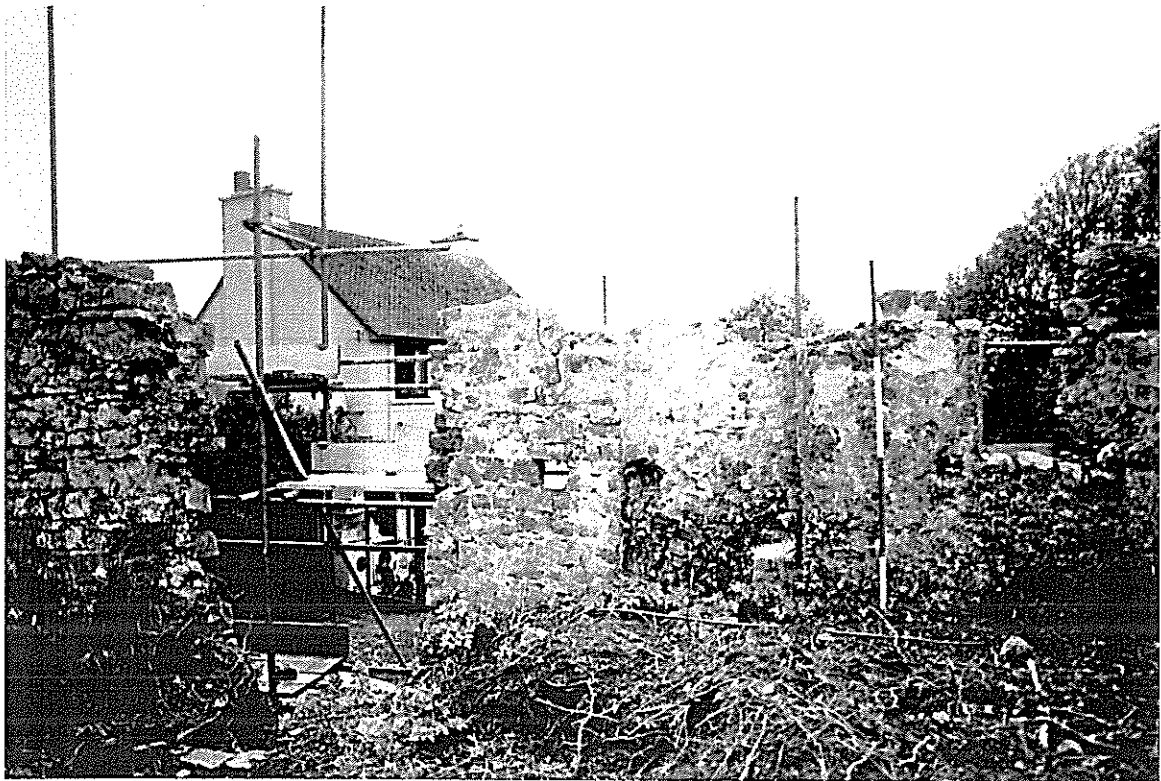


Plate 8c - Lydstep Palace, Latrine interior: North wall



Plate 9a - Lydstep Palace, Rooms 5 and 6: View of roof from NW



Plate 9b - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 exterior: North wall



Plate 10a - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 interior: West wall



Plate 10b - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 interior: East wall

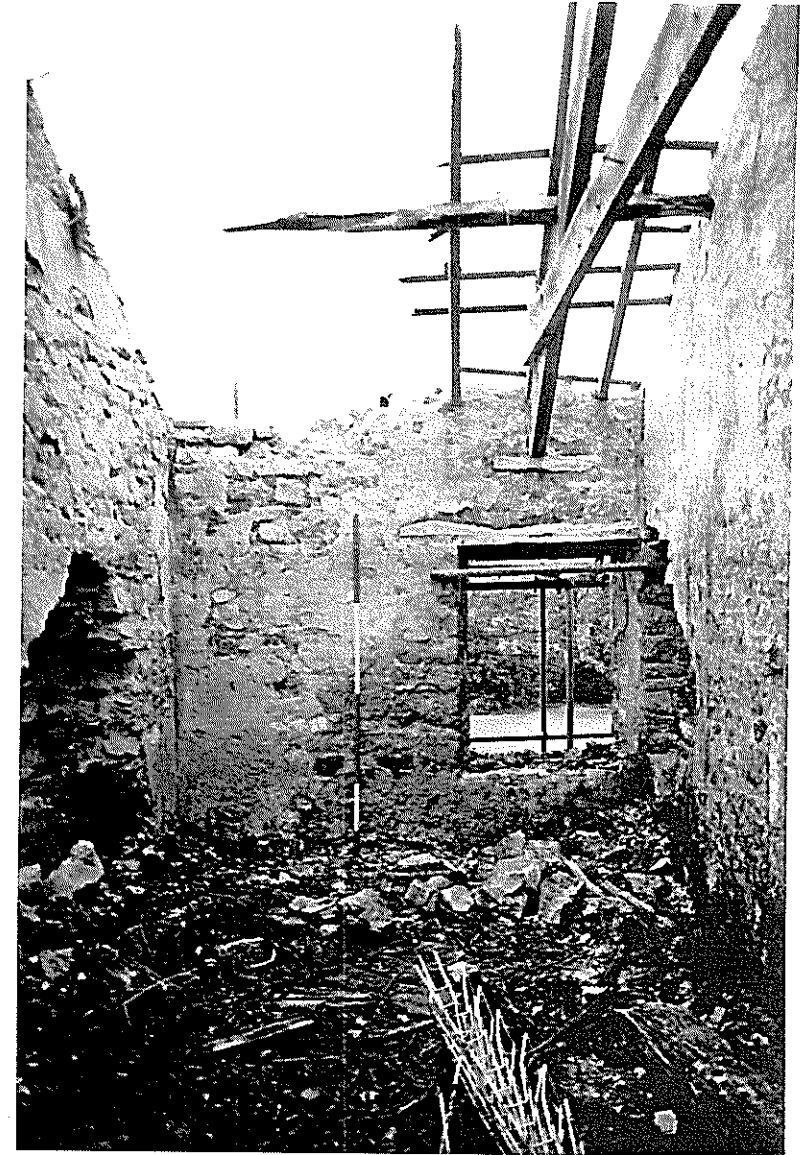


Plate 10c - Lydstep Palace, Room 5 interior: South wall



Plate 11a - Lydstep Palace, Room 6 interior: North wall



Plate 11b - Lydstep Palace, Room 6 interior: East wall



Plate 11c - Lydstep Palace, Room 6 interior: South wall



Plate 12 - Lydstep Palace: The Phase VI cottage, from east

