EVENT PRN 54427

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS LTD.

Aberglasney Mansion, Llangathen, Carmarthenshire.

Archaeological Watching Brief

By
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CAP Report No. 370

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Aberglasney Mansion, Llangathan, Carmarthenshire.

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Prepared for:
Aberglasney Restoration Trust

On behalf of:

CAP Report No: **370**

Project No:

ACAHM PRN:

Date: **16th May 2005**

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THE INSTITUTE OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGISTS (IFA)

Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief

The Standard

An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the *Code of conduct, Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology*, and other relevant by-laws of the IFA.

Definition of an archaeological watching brief

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

This definition and *Standard* do not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains *in situ*.

Purpose of a watching brief

The purpose of a watching brief is:

- to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.

- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site.

The Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief was formally adopted as IFA approved practice at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 14th October 1994.

Non Technical Summary

The following report is the result of work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. on behalf of the Aberglasney Restoration Trust, as part of a condition attached to the proposed development work within the interior of the house at Aberglasney. This report follows on from the results gathered from an earlier archaeological evaluation undertaken in May 2004. The report has only one main component; the recording of results gathered from a watching brief on the reduction of the ground levels along the exterior east and southern walls around the back of the house and within the interior rear southern and central parts of the house. The watching brief was designed to determine, excavate and record all significant archaeological deposits exposed during the proposed ground works.

Most significantly, the watching brief within the interior of the former Aberglasney Mansion, managed to expose and record the former existence of a fairly extensive cobbled floor together with the remains of a sunken well/spring in the later c.1800 south wing extension of the house. The extent of the cobbled floor and the position and character of the sunken well/spring, seems to imply that this part of the house was formerly an open courtyard area prior to the late 18th century.

Further patches of former cobbled floor were also uncovered along the edge of the external east wing wall, along the interior corridor of the south wing and the adjoining room.

The only other significant features exposed were a series of late 18th century culverts, again in the area of the south wing. Each of these culverts appeared to have formerly flowed along a main culvert that led to a series of drainage channels in the basement.

1 Introduction

1.1 General Introduction and Planning Background (Figs. 1 & 2)

Aberglasney Restoration Trust have been granted Planning Permission (TG/03911) and Listed Building Consent (TG/03912) to undertake a program of development within the house at Aberglasney, Llangathen, Carmarthenshire (NGR: SN5812213 – Fig. 1). The work has been granted consent with the following conditions (3 and 4) relating to archaeological matters:

3. No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a program of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

4. No site works/developments shall be undertaken until the implementation of an appropriate program of building recording and analysis has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

The work to the house will involve ground works for garden beds and the insertion of drainage. Above ground a selection of walls will be reduced in height and areas of the interior roofed over in glass.

A site meeting was held on the 8 April 2004 at Aberglasney House to discuss a suitable archaeological response to the proposed ground works. At the meeting were Lucy Bourne (Development Control Officer, Cambria Archaeology), Kevin Blockley (Director, Cambrian Archaeological Projects) and Graham Rankin (Director, Aberglasney Gardens) and Elwyn Couser (Project Manager, Aberglasney Gardens). It was agreed at the meeting that the best way forward was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site by trial trenching. This archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken in May 2004 (CAP Report No: 312). Following on from this work, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the ground works for the proposed development

between the months of June - July 2004. This report details the results of that watching brief. Previous work on the house has been published. (Blockley et al. 2002 8-13)

1.2 Soils and Geology

The underlying geology is a mudstone/shale which shows signs of uplift with the bedding planes now lying vertically (SSEW 1983). The geological deposits are overlain by a series of fluvial deposits that vary from low energy heavily reduced lacustrine/pond clays to unsorted higher energy sand and gravel deposits. The geological inclusions in the fluvial deposits are predominately of a local provenance, consisting mainly of rounded mudstone/shale fragments, apart from some gravel mixed deposits which contain more intermixed geology, reflecting a larger catchment area (Halfpenney 2002).

2 Aims and Objectives

The aims of the archaeological watching brief were to reiterate the archaeological results gathered from the previous archaeological evaluation report and to ensure the observation and recording of any further archaeological deposits and features that may become exposed during the proposed ground works within the interior of the house as well as along the exterior edges of the east and south wing walls of the house.

The purpose of a watching brief is, according to the Institute of Field Archaeology guidance notes:

- to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.
- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.
- A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site.

In accordance with IFA's *Standards and guidance*, that the primary objective of this assessment was to ensure that any previously unrecorded archaeological features and deposits exposed during the ground disturbance works and subsequent development of the site were adequately recorded and interpreted.

3 Methodology

All ground level reductions by the contractors within the interior of the house were undertaken by hand, using a shovel and pick, and a small Kubota excavator using a 0.50m wide bucket. Once significant archaeology was exposed standard archaeological excavating and recording techniques were undertaken.

Recording of all significant archaeology was in three formats:

i) *Photographic record* - Photographs were taken in 35mm Colour slide, colour print and black and white

and digital formats.

ii) *Drawn record* - Site drawings, plans and sections, were produced at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 on drafting film, where deemed necessary. Rectified photography was also used where deemed appropriate.

iii) *Written record* - Written records were produced using a continuous numbering sequence for all contexts.

An environmental sampling and sampling and processing strategy was in place should the archaeological deposits warrant it. However, in this instance it was not felt that the deposits encountered required sampling.

All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* and current Health and Safety legislation.

4 Results of the Watching Brief

It had been proposed that the ground level within the proposed areas of the interior of the house (the east and southern wings) was to be reduced to between 800mm to 1000mm, so as to reinstate a drainage system and to allow a solid surface on which to lay top soil, flagstone paths and garden beds, as required as part of the proposed development.

A series of 7 archaeological evaluation trenches had already been undertaken in Rooms 4, 8, 14 and Areas 6, 9, 10 and 16 (see CAP Report No: 312), the results of which will be summarised at the beginning of each section of this part of the report. The ground level in Room 11 also had to be reduced. A former evaluation had not been performed in this room as the present floor at the time was modern concrete. Because of this fact, this room was put solely under watching brief conditions during the actual ground work itself. The ground level along the exterior edge of the east and southern wing walls of the house also had to be reduced. These areas were also placed under watching brief conditions.

In order to undertake the archaeological watching brief in an ordered manner, each Room or Area under watching brief constraint was excavated sequentially until finished to the required depth. Each room or area will be discussed in the order in which the work was undertaken.

In the following, numbers contained within brackets ( ), refer to context numbers allocated during both the previous evaluation and the watching brief. A detailed list of all contexts is given in Appendix I of this report. All associated finds are detailed in Appendix II.

Area 9 (Proposed 'Atrium Garden') (see Fig 3 and plates 1-6)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 7'

"Evaluation trenching in this area revealed two 19th century ceramic drain pipes running in a northeast/southwest direction, the natural clay was also revealed at the base of the trench, 0.3m below the present ground surface. 3m to the north of the southern end of the trench the foundation remains of an east/west running wall measuring 0.3m wide by 0.6m long and surviving to a depth of 0.5m was also located. One fragment of 19th century pottery and a fragment of clay pipe stem were located in the fill of the foundation trench for the wall indicating further possible partitioning of the courtyard in the 19th century. Immediately to the south of the wall an area of compact mortar, containing 2 fragments of late 19th century pottery, and fragmentary remains of a cobbled floor surface were revealed. Deposit continues beneath the cobbled surface and is probably the bedding medium for the cobbled surface which has been larger robbed. Over the majority of the trench the natural clay was located directly beneath the overburden suggesting that any courtyard surface that may have covered this area had been removed." (EVANS 2004 CAP Report No: 312)

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 3, plates 1-6)

For the requirements of the proposed development, the ground level in this area had to be reduced to a depth considered adequate for the insertion of a flagstone path and top soil for select bedding plants. The depth considered adequate in this area varied from between 0.30m – 0.50m, the depth of the natural clay and silt/mudstone surface as exposed in the earlier evaluation trench.

At the far north end of this area, ground work exposed the remains of a former 18th century culvert (7.11), flow orientated in a north-south direction. No capping stones were evident laying over the top of the culvert channel, as such the channel itself, which was approx. 0.25m in width x 0.30m in depth, was filled with a mud/silt deposit (7.12). Within this fill (7.12) was recovered late 18th century and early 19th century material in the form of both pot and glass fragments. Removal of a section of the channel fill at the far north end revealed that the upper northern end of the culvert had a slate base, however along the rest of the channel's base no slate was evident. The northern end also butted up directly to the external wall of Area 1a, and did not lie beneath the wall, which implies that this culvert was most likely for the drainage of rain water that ran from the roof through a former vertical drain down-pipe, now absent, that once lined the external wall. Along the base of the external wall of Area 1a the ground works exposed part of the walls foundation trench (7.13), which revealed that this wall had been built atop a wider base (7.14).

Inspection at the southern end of this early culvert revealed that the culvert ran beneath the south-west wall of the courtyard area (Area 16), and as such pre-dates it. This wall is thought to be Victorian in date, c. 1840's-50's. Directly overlying this end of this early culvert, the remains of an early-mid 20th century drain pipe had been laid (7.16), orientated east-west. This pipe had been partly laid using concrete. Further north-west along the base of this wall, the remains of another 19th century ceramic drainage pipe was exposed, orientated northeast-southwest (7.18). At the base of the opposite wall the ground works exposed the remains of a 19th century rain run-off drain constructed from red-brick (7.10). This drain appears to have replaced the earlier 18th century culvert. A 19th century ceramic drainpipe adjoined this drain which led to a further square drain inter-connecting point toward the centre of the area (7.15). This again was constructed of red brick and was approx. 1m x 0.50m in area. The stump of a further ceramic drainpipe was also exposed protruding from the external wall of Room 15 (7.17). The remains of two further ceramic drainpipes (7.19 + 7.20), both approx. 6 inch in diameter and orientated north-south, were also evident at the southern end of the connecting drain (7.15), but only the tops of these pipes were exposed, as the depth of the ground level in this area was considered adequate for the proposed development. With regards the 18th century culvert (7.11) and the 19th century drain pipes (7.13 / 7.15 / 7.19 / 7.20), again, only the tops of these features were exposed, as the ground level was considered adequate for the proposed development. As such, the remains of each of these features will be *preserved in situ* beneath the proposed deposit of top soil.

Ground works at the far southern end of this area exposed no archaeological features other than the natural mud/siltstone bedrock itself, which was at a higher level than the natural at the far north end. Lack of further features in this area is also due to the fact that much of this area has been destroyed from the insertion of modern plastic drainpipes. In the central area however, the former evaluation trench had already exposed what appeared to be the foundation remains of a wall (7.7 + 7.8), but on further removal of the surrounding earth from around the feature, it appeared that this feature was not much larger than what had already been exposed in the evaluation. Further inspection of this feature from the east end showed that it did appear to have a scarred end, as if it had once been keyed-in to an adjoining wall. Further cleaning and examination of the far east wall however, didn't appear to show any indication of an earlier cross wall at the base of its foundations and no evidence of any scarring. Although this feature alone does appear to imply an earlier external cross-wall there is no further evidence to corroborate this interpretation, as such, this may imply that this feature may have been part of a small step arrangement or else a plinth for a plant or statue. Considering the ground height difference from the southern and northern ends, this interpretation may well be the more likely.

AREA 6 (see Fig. 6)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 2'

" Two rough pitched stone cobbled surfaces (2.2 & 2.3) were located directly beneath the overburden (2.1) at the northern and southern ends of the trench. A wooden beam was revealed abutting the northern set of cobbles in alignment with the northern edge of the doorway to the east, this beam is probably the remains of the staircase depicted in Area 6 – Blockley/Halfpenney 2002 (Fig. 2). To the south of the wooden beam two shallow pits (2.4/2.5 & 2.6/2.7) filled with masonry waste were revealed. Both of the pits contained pottery dating to the late 19th/early 20th century" (EVANS 2004 CAP Report No: 312).

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 4)

For the requirements of the proposed development, the ground level in this area had to be reduced to a depth considered adequate for the insertion of a pathway. This depth varied from between 0.30m – 0.50m. This was the depth of the natural clay and silt/mudstone surface as exposed in the earlier evaluation trench.

Reduction of the ground level in this room fully exposed the remains of a cobbled surface (2.2 + 2.3) as had been already partly exposed in the former evaluation trench. Once the overburden had been fully removed the remains of the exposed cobbled floor was cleaned and recorded. As hinted at in the former evaluation, the northern area of this room (2.2) had very few remaining cobbles, however there were enough to suggest that this area was cobbled. But the far southern end (2.3) was almost fully intact. Along the north-west edge of this cobbled area the remains of an approx. 1m length of wooden beam was further exposed, approx. 0.15m x 0.15m in width (2.9). Because of the good survival and preservation of the cobbled floor in this southern area, this wooden beam adds further weight to the interpretation that there was once a staircase and possibly a partitioned cupboard under the stairs that lay over this space, the far northern area having been open as a passageway, and the former cobbles here likely removed during re-building work at some stage in the 19th century. During cleaning of the intact cobbled surface at the far southern end, a few fragments of late 18th century material were recovered from between the cobbles themselves. Closer inspection of this surface also revealed that at the far west end was an approx. 0.30m x 0.50m patch of cobbling that had been deliberately laid in a pattern (2.10). Discerning what this pattern actually depicted is very speculative as it appears to have been functionally repaired along its edge at some time. However, it is very likely that the pattern is only a small part of a former larger rectangular criss-cross pattern with circular swirling cobbles within the open areas, similar to the cobbled surface now fully exposed and partly re-instated in the main cloister garden. This surface (2.3) was likely contemporary in date with the former cart entrance now blocked in within this room. The blocking-in of this cart entrance was most likely completed at the time of the creation of the former staircase in this room/area. It seems that the former cobbled floor in the far north-west end of this room was removed at some time after the construction of this stairway, but the cobbled surface at the far southern end remained intact because its removal was thought unnecessary as well as awkward, because it was obscured by the staircase. If this interpretation is correct then this may imply that the construction of the staircase and the likely cupboard beneath the stairs, partly destroyed the greater part of the cobbled floor and the likely much larger pattern of cobbles and yet helped preserve what cobbles and pattern remained.

At the far east end of this cobbled surface, the cobbles stopped abruptly for a gap of approx. 0.20m and then were replaced by a series of flagstones. These features demarcate the beginning of the former flight of stairs.

The shallow 'masonry pits'(2.5 + 2.7) exposed in this room during the former evaluation and consequently during the watching brief, are likely pits having been created during the earlier removal of this part of the cobbled floor. These pits were later filled with rubble as core-work for the creation of a new floor.

Once recorded the remaining cobbled surface was lifted and the cobbles kept for re-use in other areas of the Aberglasney grounds. On removal of this surface it was noted that the cobbles had been laid within a bed of ash/sand/fine charcoal/grit. This had been laid directly on top of natural clay and bedrock.

The ground level of this room was reduced only approx. 0.30m from its former modern level.

ROOM 8 (see Fig. 5 and plates 9-14, plate 31)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 3'

"This trench measured 2m by 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.5m. After the removal of the overburden (3.1) a rough pitch stone cobbled surface (3.2) was revealed. Excavation of a small section of the cobbles located a fragment of 17th/18th century pottery (North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware) within the bedding material for the cobbles (3.3). The natural clay (3.4) was located directly beneath the cobble bedding medium. At the western end of the trench the cobbled surface and natural clay had been cut (3.6) through and a stone culvert(3.7), dating to the 19th century, constructed at a depth of 0.3m below the present ground surface." (EVANS 2004 – CAP Report No: 312).

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 5, plates 9-14, plate 31)

For the requirements of the proposed development, the ground level in this room had to be reduced to a depth considered adequate for the insertion of a pathway and garden soil beds. This depth varied from between 0.30m – 0.50m. This was the depth of the natural clay and silt/mudstone surface as exposed in the earlier evaluation trench.

Following the complete removal of the light debris and overburden (3.1a) from the floor surface of this room, it was revealed that the whole floor of this room was once covered in large sandstone flagstones (3.1b), the largest measuring approx. 1.5m x 1m in size. Unfortunately at least 60% of the flagstones had already been previously *robbed*. The date of this floor level was likely early to mid 19th century. Following the recording of this floor surface the remaining flagstones were removed to expose the bedding deposit beneath (3.1c), which consisted of an ash, sand and fine soil mix. The very large thick flagstone in front of the hearth was left in situ. The depth of this deposit was approx. 0.10m. From this deposit was recovered mid 19th century material in the form of glass and pottery sherds.

This bedding deposit (3.1c) was removed to expose the cobbled surface beneath which covered the whole of the floor area of this room (3.2). The now exposed cobbled floor was cleaned back by trowelling and then the loose material swept away. This revealed that across the centre of the room in an east-west direction, the cobbled surface had been punctured through at one time or another for the insertion or the repair of a culvert (3.7), part of which had already been exposed in the earlier evaluation. Following the insertion of the culvert the cobbles had not been re-inserted, which suggests that the culvert post-dates the cobbled floor. Once cleaned and recorded in plan, a square feature demarcated by large stone slabs sunken into the cobbled floor was noted (3.11), which appeared to be contemporary in date with the cobbled floor. This feature was excavated and turned out to be the remains of a sunken well or spring (3.11).

The Well (Figs. 5 and 9)

The fill of this well was removed by hand, which caused problems as the well/spring was continuously filling with water. This fill was significant in terms of its character, as its uppermost deposit consisted of river pebbles (3.12), the largest being approx. 0.20m in diameter, and the smallest approx. 0.04m in diameter. This deposit continued for approx. 0.60m, but finally cleared whereupon a thin deposit of fine grit/sand/charcoal/mortar was reached (3.13). Following this a 0.30m thick deposit of rubble was removed (3.14). Below this was a further residual deposit of silty grit and sludge, as would have been expected (3.15). Within this last thin deposit was discovered small fragments of window lead, window glass, a few animal bones (part of a sheep's jaw and bird bones), and two small fragments of blue-white ceramic, one of these marked with the word 'Victory' above the mast of a ship with an English flag. This suggests a portion of an early 1800's Commemorative pot. Although this dateable material doesn't give a precise date for the construction of the well and cobbled floor, it does however give us a potential date for the fill of the well, and as such suggests that the well/spring pre-dates the 1800's. The bedrock base of the well was reached at approx. 0.90m in depth. No deliberately constructed water inlets were exposed at the base of the well. Water seemed to percolate through the base of the side walls and the bedrock itself, mainly from the north-east side.

The questions that arise however with this feature, are, why was the well filled in and why with river pebbles at the uppermost point?

The culvert adjoining the well, as already stated above, appears to post-date the well/spring, as the cobbled surface has been punctured through. Added to this, part of the top south corner edge of the well has also been damaged and not repaired to the same quality workmanship as the rest of the top of the well. This may suggest that the culvert was inserted at sometime after the early 1800's as an overflow, to drain water away should the well become too full. This may have been done at the same time as the laying of the later floor level (3.1b) and the construction of the south wing extension. Another possibility however, is that the course of the culvert originally had upper inspection capping stones and not cobbles, which have since been robbed, thus giving the impression of damaged cobbles.

Because of the wells form and character and the character, form and extent of the cobbled floor itself, it seems that this area was, prior to the 1800's, an open and exposed courtyard area. This interpretation is corroborated by the fact that the exposed cobbles appear to continue beneath both the north and east walls of this room.

The fill of the well with select river pebbles would appear to have been deliberate and may have been done so as to allow percolated water in the well to flow in freely and yet act as a filter to stop the culvert from becoming blocked. If this is the case then this implies that the fill of the well was performed at the same time as the insertion of the culvert, if the culvert post-dates the well that is. If this were the case then this further suggests that the initial original well was formerly left open with no fill.

However, It would seem very likely that there was also formerly a stone slab covering the opening with a hand water pump on top, since *robbed*. This is speculative of course, but if this were the case then this may suggest a further reason why during excavation that no stone cover was exposed and why the river pebbles were openly exposed and covered with later bedding deposit (3.1c). Again if a stone slab cover and water hand pump had formerly been the case, then the river pebbles would have helped not only to filter the water but also to support the pumps lower stem. The presence of a stone cover would also explain why such a small sample of dateable material was recovered from the fill of the well.

Post-holes (Fig. 5, plate 31)

Approx. 2.5m south-east of the well, cleaning of the cobbled floor also exposed the remains of a small approx. 0.30m deep post-hole (3.16 + 3.18) punctured through the cobbles. Removal of the silty clay fill of this post-hole managed to recover the stump remains of the former post itself (*see plate 31*). A further much shallower post-hole, approx. 0.20m, was also exposed 2m further west (3.19 + 3.21). These post holes suggest the former presence of a small structure in this area.

Cobbled floor (Fig. 5)

Recording and closer inspection of the cobbled floor showed that at the far west end of the room there was formerly a flagstone path, the majority of the slabs having been robbed at some time however. These flagstones appear to have been laid directly upon the natural shale/mudstone clay bedrock (3.4), as was the rest of the cobbled floor. This former path appears to have run alongside the north-west wall and continued toward Room 11. The furthest part of this former path however has been removed and most of it destroyed by the insertion of modern drain-pipes in Area 10. A further flagstone with indications for a series of further flagstones, was also exposed toward the centre of the room. The former function of these is unclear, but it could be possible that they formed a hard and flat surface for a possible water trough or seat.

The cobbled floor came to an abrupt end at the far south-west end, marked by the edge of natural bedrock (3.22), worked to the same level as the cobbled floor. The cobbled floor along both the bases of the south and north walls were covered extensively in construction mortar and render, which again suggests that this work was undertaken at the same time as the construction of the south wing kitchen extension.

Because of the sheer extent and character of the cobbled surface with a sunken well, it was decided that the ground level would not be reduced any further for the proposed development and the cobbled floor along with the well would be kept exposed as a feature.

The Culvert (Fig. 5)

As a greater part of the culvert had already been excavated as part of the earlier evaluation, and dateable material had already been recovered from this feature, it was decided that the full length of the culvert fill need not be removed. However a small trench at the far north-west end was excavated so as to ascertain the condition, character and direction of the culvert channel in this area. Inspection at this point revealed that the culvert was only partly silt filled and its direction turned southwards toward Area 10 and Room 11, where its continuation had been completely destroyed, as already mentioned, by modern drain-pipes.

AREA 10 (see Fig. 6 and plates 15-16)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 4'

"This trench measured 2m by 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.4m. After the removal of the overburden (4.1) a small area of rough pitch stone cobbling (4.2) was revealed along the western side of the trench which is at the same height and of the same style as the cobbles revealed in Trench 3. To the east of the cobbled surface a cut for a modern service trench (4.5) (excavated during archaeological watching brief in 1999) was revealed. Excavation of cut (4.5) revealed that the cobbled surface (4.2) sat directly above the natural yellow clay (4.3) which in turn lay directly above the natural shale bedrock (4.6)." (EVANS 2004 – CAP Report No: 312)

Results of Watching Brief (Fig.6, plates 15-16)

For the requirements of the proposed development, the ground level in this room had to be reduced to a depth considered adequate for the insertion of a flagstone path. This depth varied from between 0.30m – 0.40m. This was the depth of the natural clay and bedrock as exposed in the earlier evaluation trench.

Initially the overburden (4.1) was removed. This consisted of ash/sand/charcoal and other misc. other modern material. This exposed fully the remains of the cobbled surface (4.2 + 4.6) which had been cut through by the insertion in 1999 of modern plastic drainage pipe. This cobbled surface, which ran alongside both the east and west walls of this narrow corridor, were cleaned and recorded in plan. From between the cobbles late 18th and early 19th century material was recovered in the form of pot fragments. Once the cobbled surface had been recorded, the cobbles were removed and kept for future re-use. Once these were removed, the thin underlying cobble bedding deposit of ash/fine charcoal and sand was also removed, exposing the natural yellow clay and bedrock beneath (4.3 + 4.6). The far north end of this corridor had been heavily destroyed of all interpretable evidence because of drain insertion of all periods.

ROOM 11 (see Figs. 7a, 7b, plates 10-12, 17-22)

Summary of previous evaluation

No former evaluation had been undertaken in this room because of its thick covering in modern concrete.

Results of Watching Brief (Figs. 7a, 7b, plates 10-12, 17-22)

Initially the modern concrete base (11.1) in this room was removed with the aid of a jack-hammer. This overburden was approx. 0.20m thick. After removal of this deposit, directly beneath was a 0.20m deep ash, charcoal and dark sand deposit (11.2). Dateable material from this deposit included 19th century pottery and glass fragments. This deposit appeared to cover the full extent of this room. On closer inspection and during removal of this deposit a small patch of cobbles (11.3) was exposed at the far west end directly below the base of the fireplace. This implied that the ash/charcoal deposit was in fact a bedding deposit for a cobbled floor. No other cobbles were exposed in this room except this small patch. These were recorded in plan. Further removal of this deposit also exposed the remains of an earlier stone hearth (11.4) beneath the present one and also the remains of an air duct or flue for part of a later red brick oven. (11.5). Both of these features would

appear to be contemporary in date to the exposed cobbled surface. This interpretation is supported solely by the fact they appear to be at the same level. From within the opening of the air duct was recovered the broken remains of a late18th century bottle, complete with neck and base.

Once all of the former cobble bedding deposit (11.2) had been removed, the small patch of remaining cobbles was lifted, only to reveal the remains of an early culvert (11.6). This was orientated north-south and appeared to run directly beneath the south wall and fireplace of this room. The remains were only approx. 1m in length. No capping stones were present covering the channel and hence the channel was filled with a silty clay fill. A section of this was removed to reveal that the channel had a slate base. Once the culvert and channel had been cleaned and recorded, a section of the culvert's slate base was removed in the hope of recovering some dateable material. This was successful, in that a small piece of 17th/18th Green Devonshire Tempered Ware was recovered directly below the removed slate base. This lay directly on top of natural clay and bedrock. Clearance of the rest of the cobble bedding deposit (11.2) in this room revealed that this deposit lay directly above the natural clay and bedrock (11.10).

However on removal of the small patch of cobbles in this room and the exposing of the 18th century culvert, and further ground reduction, a cut trench feature was also exposed along the western edge of already exposed bedrock (11.9 + 11.8). This trench was approx. 2.5m in length x 0.50m wide x 0.50m deep and filled with rubble. The function of this trench is uncertain, however it is likely because of its position in relation to the orientation of the culvert from Room 8, that this trench may have been a sump, or else a former wall foundation trench. A 0.50m square section of fill of this cut trench was removed, only to expose its full depth. No dateable material was recovered nor any features indicating any former construction work. The bedrock base of this trench was very clean with no evidence of any former foundations.

ROOM 14 (see Fig. 8, plates 23-27)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 5'

"This trench measured 2m by 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.4m. After the removal of the overburden (5.1) a deposit of loose brown/black silty clay with masonry waste inclusions (5.2) was revealed. To the north of the trench a slate flagstone floor slab was visible sat directly on deposit (5.2) indicating that it was probably laid as a hardcore makeup/leveling deposit for the latest floor surface within the room. Excavation of deposit (5.2) revealed three further slate flagstone floor slabs (5.3) in the southern section of the trench 0.2m below the present ground surface. Lying directly beneath the flagstones (5.3) the foundation remains of an earlier wall (5.5) were located on the eastern side of the trench, which in turn sat directly on the natural clay (5.6). Patches of charcoal rich mortar (5.4), typical of the19th century, were located on the upper surface of the foundations (5.5) indicating a 19th century date for the lower set of flagstones (5.3). The foundations (5.5) were composed of large stone slabs covered in a white/pink lime mortar and ran in a north/south direction along the eastern side of the trench. The location of the wall foundations within the area of the original courtyard (prior to its later sub-division), suggests a probable pre-19th century date, without further excavation it is not possible to ascertain the exact extent, nature and date of the wall foundations. On the western side of the trench deposit (5.2) continued to a depth of 0.4m where the natural clay (5.6) was located." (EVANS 2004 – CAP Report No: 312).

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 8, plates 23-27)

Ground level reduction by hand initially removed all of the overlying overburden (5.1), in the process revealing the full extent of the earlier flagstone floor. The only remnants of this former flooring were exposed at the far southern end of the room. This included a total of 5 full flagstones with small segments along the western edge. The majority of these flagstones were covered in heavy layers of lime-wash. These flagstones were cleaned and then recorded in plan. Two of these flagstones were lifted to reveal the bedding deposit beneath (5.4). The remaining flagstones were left in situ and further clearance of the underlying deposit (5.4) was undertaken. This revealed further the full extent of the possible earlier wall foundation feature (5.5) as exposed in the former evaluation trench. This feature, as noted previously, only seemed to occupy the east side of the room. The west side of the room had no further features and reached a depth of 0.40m whereupon natural clay

and bedrock became exposed.

ROOM 15 & CORRIDOR

Summary of previous evaluation

No former evaluation had been undertaken in this room.

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 13)

In the early 20th and late 19th century this small room appears to have been a toilet. Once 0.10m of overburden (15.1) in this room had been removed, the remains of a wooden parkay flooring (15.2) was exposed. This flooring was removed and exposed the underlying bedding deposit of grit, ash and sand (15.3). This deposit was approx. 0.10m in depth. Once cleared this exposed the natural clay and bedrock beneath (15.4 + 15.5). No significant archaeology was exposed in this room. All dateable material in the form of glass and pottery sherds recovered was mid-late 19th century.

It appears that this room was formerly part of Room 14, which had later becoming partitioned.

The Corridor (Fig. 13)

For the purposes of convenience, the same and continuation of context numbers in Room 15 have been used in this area.

Outside of Rooms 14 and 15 runs a long corridor that had exposed a wooden parkay floor (15.2). As a consequence of the proposed development, the ground level in this room also had to be reduced by approx. 0.50m. Once the parkay flooring was lifted, the underlying ash/sand/grit/charcoal and general debris filled deposit was exposed (15.3). On clearing this loose deposit, the broken remains of a complete partly green glazed roofing ridge tile was recovered, likely 17th/18th century in date. Further removal of this loose deposit exposed a fairly compacted ash/grit/charcoal deposit (15.6), that had been used to cover the remains of an 18th century culvert (15.7) that ran the whole length of the corridor. This culvert was complete with capping stones. At the far north end of the corridor, the largest of the exposed capping stones was lifted. This exposed a 1m deep narrow inspection hole (15.8), the opening of which was approx. 0.30m x 0.35m. On further inspection of the inside of this hole it was observed that this point was in fact a junction point, with evidence of an earlier culvert aligned north-south, that likely formerly linked up with the 18th century culvert remains in Area 9 (7.11). The section that appeared to join this area of the culvert appeared to have been completely destroyed however by the insertion of a later 19th century and early 20th century drainage system in area 16. From within the inspection hole, a further culvert on the south-west side was observed that appeared to dive downwards at an approx. 60° angle. This implied that this culvert was that which lined up with the grating in the basement cellar. It appears that this culvert is the source of the flooding of the basement. In the base of the inspection hole water was still evident, however not actively running through the culvert system itself, but more percolating through its walls.

A further section of this culvert was inspected at the far southern end of the corridor, in the area where the culvert appeared to have formerly adjoined the remains of the culvert in Room 11 (11.6). Inspection at this point confirmed that the culvert here had been extensively damaged from former ground works. Several capping stones were also removed along the culverts length so as to ascertain the culverts character and form, as well as to try and gather any potential dateable material. This revealed that the greater part of the channel for this culvert was considerably narrower and shallower than other culverts in and around the house. The channel was only approx. 0.15m in depth x 0.15m in width. Recovered dateable material from the silt fill (15.9) of the culverts channel included 18th century glass-ware and slipware pottery fragments.

Because of the compacted deposit overlying this culvert as well as harsh conditions, this culvert was cleaned back as best as was possible and only recorded photographically.

AREA 16 (Fig. 13)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 6'

"This trench measured 2m by 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.4m. After the removal of the overburden (6.1) a surface of concrete with parkay wooden floor segments was revealed covering the whole of the excavation area. A small slot (0.2m wide by 1m long) was excavated through the concrete to a depth of 0.4m. A deposit of masonry waste (6.2) dating to the 19th century was revealed directly beneath the concrete. This deposit extended to a depth of 0.35m where a deposit of dark brown silty clay (6.3) was encountered. No archaeological features or dating evidence was revealed during the excavation of deposit (6.3) which in turn lay directly above the natural yellow clay (6.4)." (EVANS 2004 – CAP Report No: 312)

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 13)

For the requirements of the proposed development, the ground level in this area had to be reduced to a depth considered adequate for the insertion of a flagstone path. This depth varied from between 0.30m – 0.40m. This was the depth of the natural clay and bedrock as exposed in the earlier evaluation trench.

Following the results of the earlier evaluation, the overburden (6.1) was removed from this room, which fully exposed the remains of the concrete and wooden parkay flooring (6.1b). This floor was lifted to expose the rubble masonry waste deposit below (6.2) Removal of the rubble deposit revealed that almost the entire floor area at this level had been home to a complex network of varying periods of one 18th century culvert and a series of 19th and early 20th century ceramic drainpipes. Each of these pipes and the culvert however had been severely damaged from consequent ground work. The 18th century culvert remains was likely a continuation of the culvert from Area 9 (7.11). The masonry deposit (6.2) in this area was intermixed with both 18th and 19th century material, in form of glass and pottery fragments. Only 0.20m of this deposit was removed, as the form of the deposit and the depth was considered adequate for the proposed development. Therefore the ground level of this room was not taken down to natural (6.3 + 6.4)

ROOM 4 (Plate 28)

Summary of previous evaluation – 'Trench 1'

"This trench measured 2m by 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.1m. After the removal of the overburden (1.1) the foundations of a 19th century partition wall (1.2) were located running in a north/south direction in the centre of the trench. This wall probably relates to the later 19th century partitioning of the earlier open courtyard. To either side of the wall the natural clay (1.3) was revealed directly beneath the overburden. A small pit filled with masonry waste (1.4/1.5) was located cut into the natural clay in the southeast corner of the trench." (EVANS 2004 – CAP Report No: 312)

Results of Watching Brief (Plate 28)

Initial clearance of this room involved the clearance of the overburden (1.1) and the removal of the apparent foundations of a 19th century partition wall (1.2). Removal of this feature revealed that it may have been just a large piece of fallen masonry from one of the upper wall elevations. After lifting the feature, the natural clay (1.3) was exposed, with no evidence beneath to suggest a cut for a foundation trench, nor a continuation of the feature itself. As the natural clay was exposed at such a shallow level, the ground level was reduced a further 0.20-25m as deemed necessary for the proposed development. At this depth the natural bedrock was partly exposed and also revealed that both the south and west walls of this room had been constructed directly on top of the natural clay and bedrock, with no foundation trench apparent. No dateable material was recovered from the groundwork in this room other than 19th century material.

well preserved cobbled floor and sunken well in part of the South wing (Room 8) and the remains of cobbled surfaces in Area's 6 and 10 and a small patch of cobbles in Room 11 . The watching brief also managed to record the existence of a network of several 18th century culvert remains, in the inner courtyard area (Area 9), in Room 11 and along the corridor adjacent Rooms 14 and 15.

6 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; Kevin Blockley for his help and advice during the compilation of this report. Also thanks to all of the staff of the Aberglasney Restoration Trust for their help and co-operation on site. Also thanks to the staff of John Weaver Contractors.

7 References and Bibliography

Blockley, K. and Halfpenney, I., 2002, *Aberglasney House and Gardens: Archaeology, History and Architecture*, BAR 334.
Evans, P., 2004, *Evaluation Trenching at Aberglasney House*, CAP Internal Report no. 312

BASEMENT (Plates 32-35)

Summary of previous evaluation

No former evaluation had been undertaken in the basement.

Results of Watching Brief (Plates 32-35)

The clearance of the overburden in the cellar basement was hindered by flooding of water seeping in through the culvert grating in the north-east wall adjacent the former wine bins. This flooding made interpretation during clearance impossible. However a vigilant eye was kept on all material removed from the floor surface. In terms of dateable material, this mostly included the broken remains of 19th century glass bottles. The removal of debris from the floor also exposed the remains of a drainage channel that began directly below the grating already mentioned in the north-east wall. This shallow channel, approx. 0.10m in depth x 0.30m wide, hugged the north-east wall and continued along the north partition wall, eventually crossing the floor and continuing through to a water drainage outlet on the southern side of grate of the bench opposite the main cellar steps. This outlet is similar in form to that already exposed on the north side of this bench.

EXTERNAL EAST AND SOUTH WINGS (Fig. 12, Plates 29-30)

Summary of previous evaluation

No former evaluation had been undertaken in this area.

Results of Watching Brief (Fig. 12, Plates 29-30)

For the requirements of the proposed development, the ground level in this area had to be reduced to a depth considered adequate for the insertion of a flagstone pathway and steps. This depth varied from between 0.50m – 1m.

Ground level reduction along the base of the external east wing elevation exposed the remains of a cobbled surface, approx. 3m in length x 1.30m in width (101). From the remains exposed it was apparent that this cobbled surface once formed part of cobbled pathway that likely continued along the whole of the back of the east wing However what had been exposed only represented a fraction of what had formerly likely existed. Along the north-east edge of the cobbling a line of iron residue was evident, approx. 5 inch in width. This likely represented the remains of a later iron drainage pipe since rusted away (102). Toward the 2nd window opening in the central area of the east wing the cobbled surface was absent, however in the ground worked section it was apparent that a lead water-pipe (103) was present lying directly below the cobbled surface. This lead pipe was similar in form to that also exposed in Room 8. This suggested that this cobbled floor (101) was most likely either late 18th century or else early 19th century in date

The cobbled surface was cleaned back and recorded in plan and then lifted. Below this surface was a cobble bedding deposit of ash/charcoal/sand and soil mix (104). Below this deposit was the fill (105) of the cut for the east wing wall.

The depth of the ground level in this area was approx. 1m, 0.50m below the east wing wall foundations. Because of the shallowness of these foundations the ground level was raised a further 0.60m.

5 Conclusion

The archaeological watching brief during the ground level reduction within and around the Aberglasney mansion managed to record the existence of several significant features, the most significant being the

preserved cobbled floor and sunken well in part of the South wing (Room 8). Dateable material recovered from the bottom of the well seems to imply that this cobbled surface and well, with accompanying culvert, is most likely associated with the mid 17th - late 18th century period.. Further remains of a preserved cobbled surface were also exposed in Areas 6 and 10 as well as a small patch of cobbles in Room 11. Again, these cobbled surfaces imply a mid 17th - late 18th century date with an area of open courtyard where the present Room 8 or Kitchen area resides.

The watching brief also managed to record the existence of a network of several mid 17th – late 18th century culvert remains, in the inner courtyard area (Area 9), in Room 11, along the corridor adjacent Rooms 14 and 15, and lastly in the basement cellar. The function of this network of late 18th century culverts appears to be associated with the carrying away of water from the east wing of the house. This is an area that is prone to excessive flooding. The purpose of the well or spring in Room 8 and the possible sump in Room 11 also implies that flooding in the rainy season was a major problem in this area. The water that collected in these culverts appears to have been drained away along the corridor adjacent Rooms 14 and 15 and then cascaded down into the basement, whereupon the water was further channelled out through the rear west wall of the basement.

The remains of a narrow strip of preserved cobbles were also exposed along the base of the East Wing Wall. Unfortunately much of this cobbled surface had been extensively destroyed from former service trenching.

6 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; Kevin Blockley for his help and advice during the compilation of this report. Also thanks to all of the staff of the Aberglasney Restoration Trust for the help and co-operation on site. Also thanks to the staff of John Weaver Contractors.

7 References and Bibliography

Blockley, K. 2004. *Specification for an Archaeological Field Evaluation, Watching Brief and building recording at Aberglasney House, Llangathen, Carmarthenshire.* CAP Specification No. 551.

Blockley K and Halfpenny I, *Aberglasney House and Gardens: Archaeology, history and architecture*, BAR, 2002).

Evans, P. 2004. CAP Report No: ??? *Aberglasney Mansion, Llangathen, Carmarthenshire: Evaluation.*

Soil Survey of England and Wales. 1983. *Soils of England and Wales: Sheet 2 Wales.* SSEW.

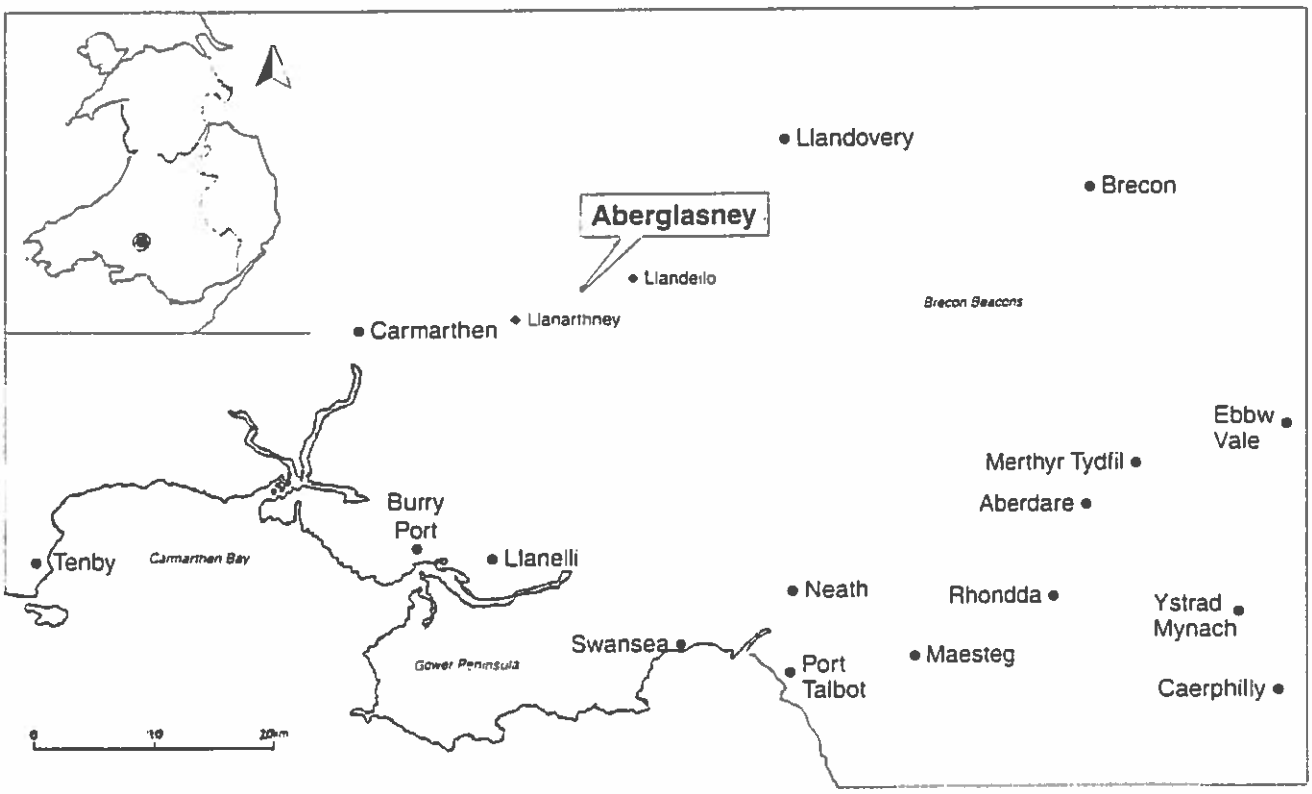


Fig. 1. Location plan of Aberglasney

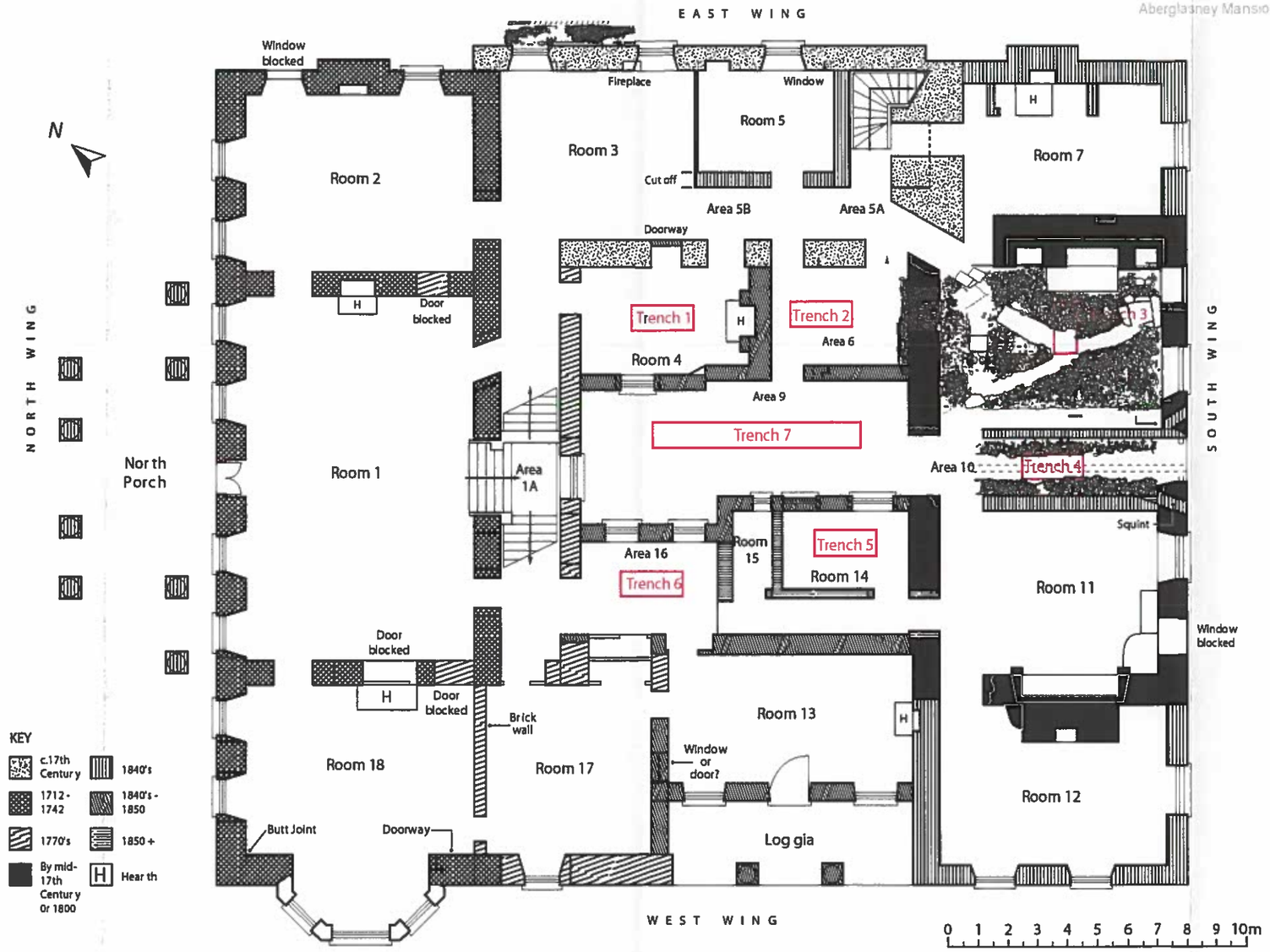


Figure 2: **Trench location plan from former evaluation trenches with archaeological watching brief additions included.**

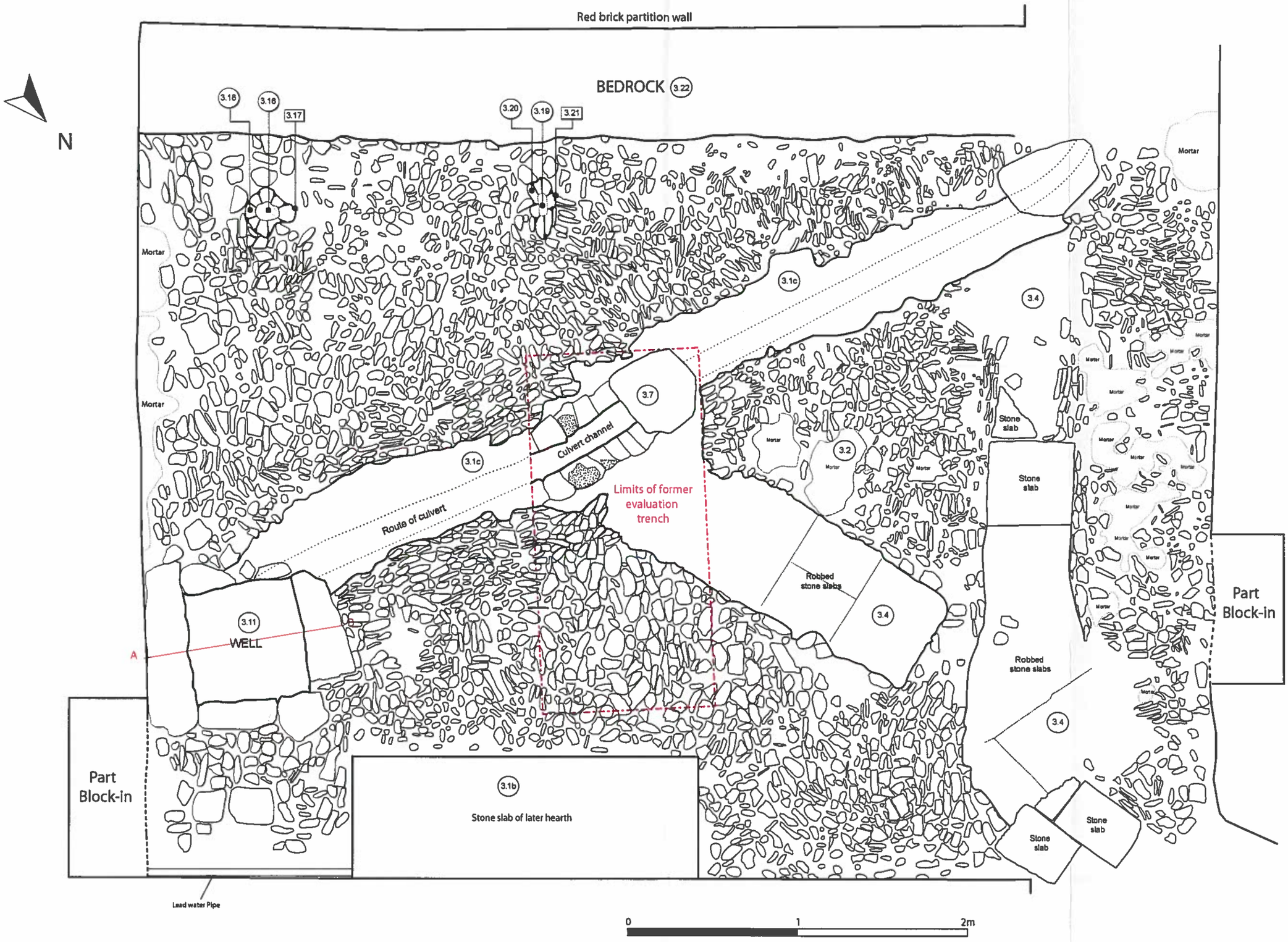
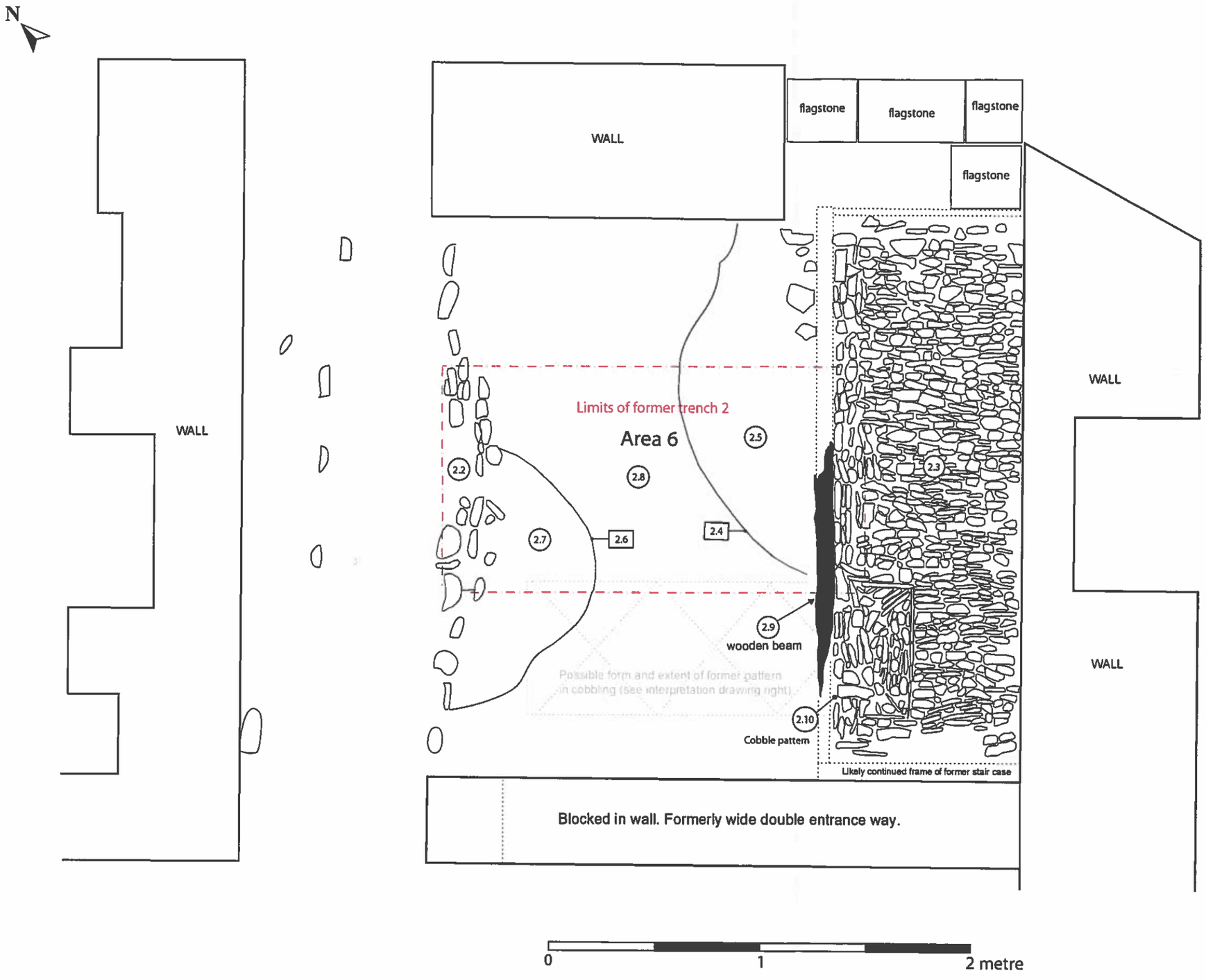
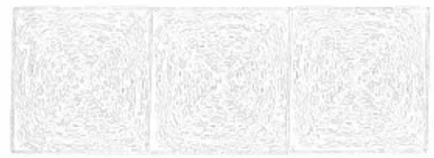


Figure 5. **Exposed cobble floor and well/spring, with culvert remains in Room 8. (Former evaluation trench outlined in red).**



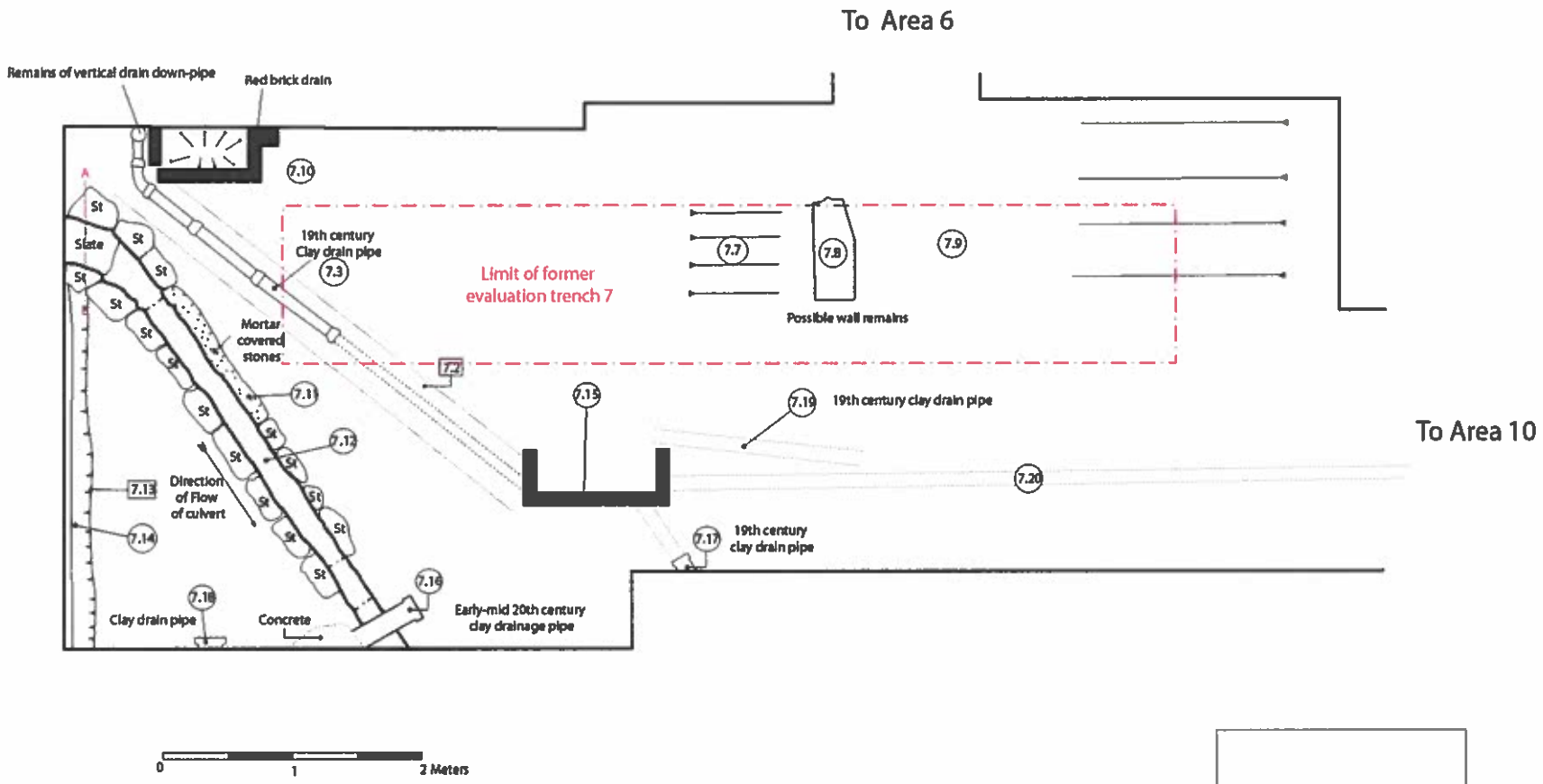
Contexts

2.1 = Overburden
2.2 = Cobbled surface
2.3 = Cobbled surface
2.4 = Cut for masonry pit
2.5 = Fill of masonry pit
2.6 = Cut of masonry pit
2.7 = Fill of masonry pit
2.8 = Natural clay



Interpretative drawing of Possible form and extent of former cobble patterning in Area 6 in 18th century.

Figure 4. **Area 6 after initial overburden clearance and partial ground level reduction**



Section drawing through late-18th century overflow drain.

Figure 03: **Ground plan of Area 9 ('Atrium Garden') after ground clearance to required level.**

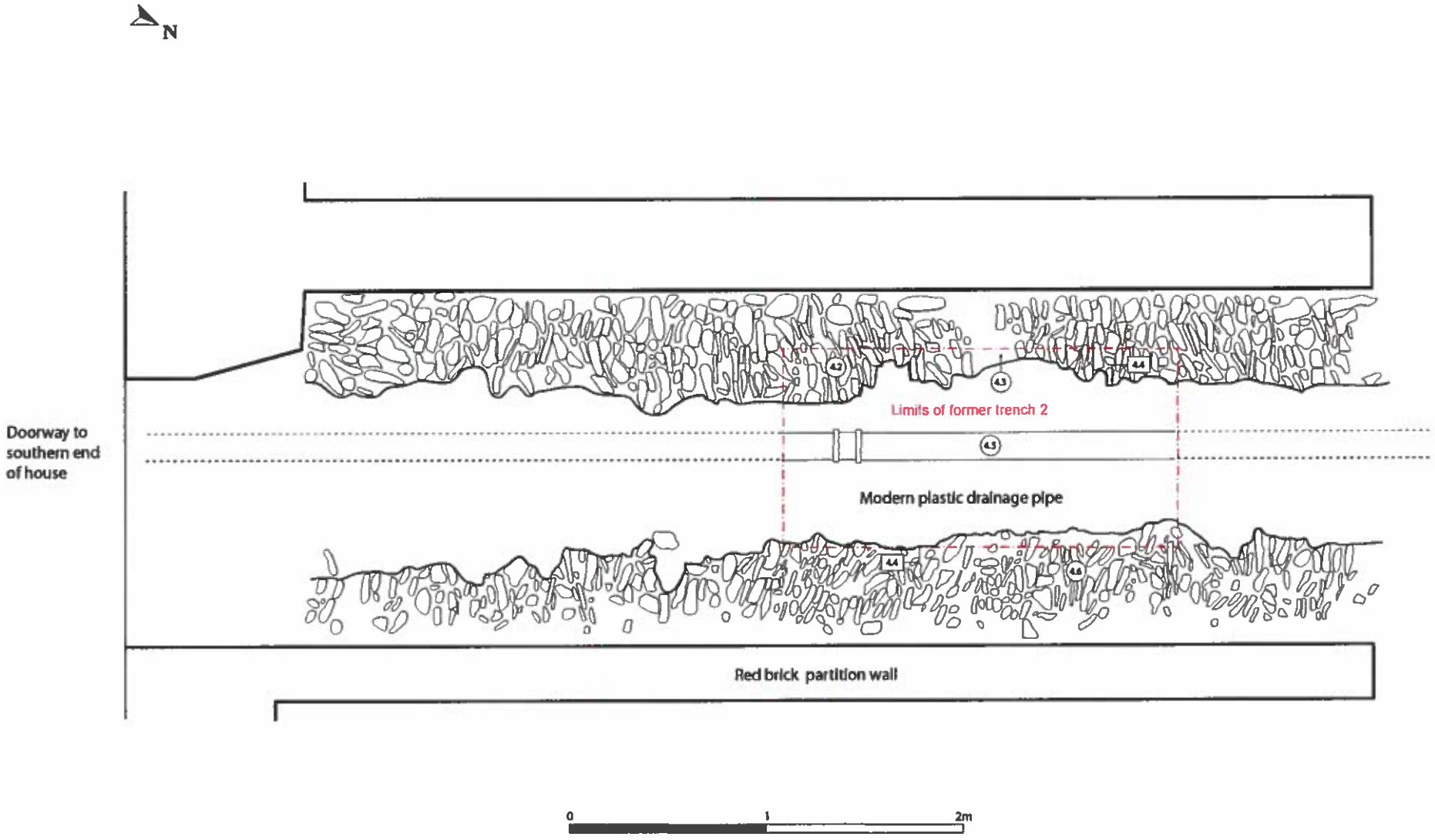


Figure 6: **Exposed remains of cobbled floor along corridor in Area 10.**

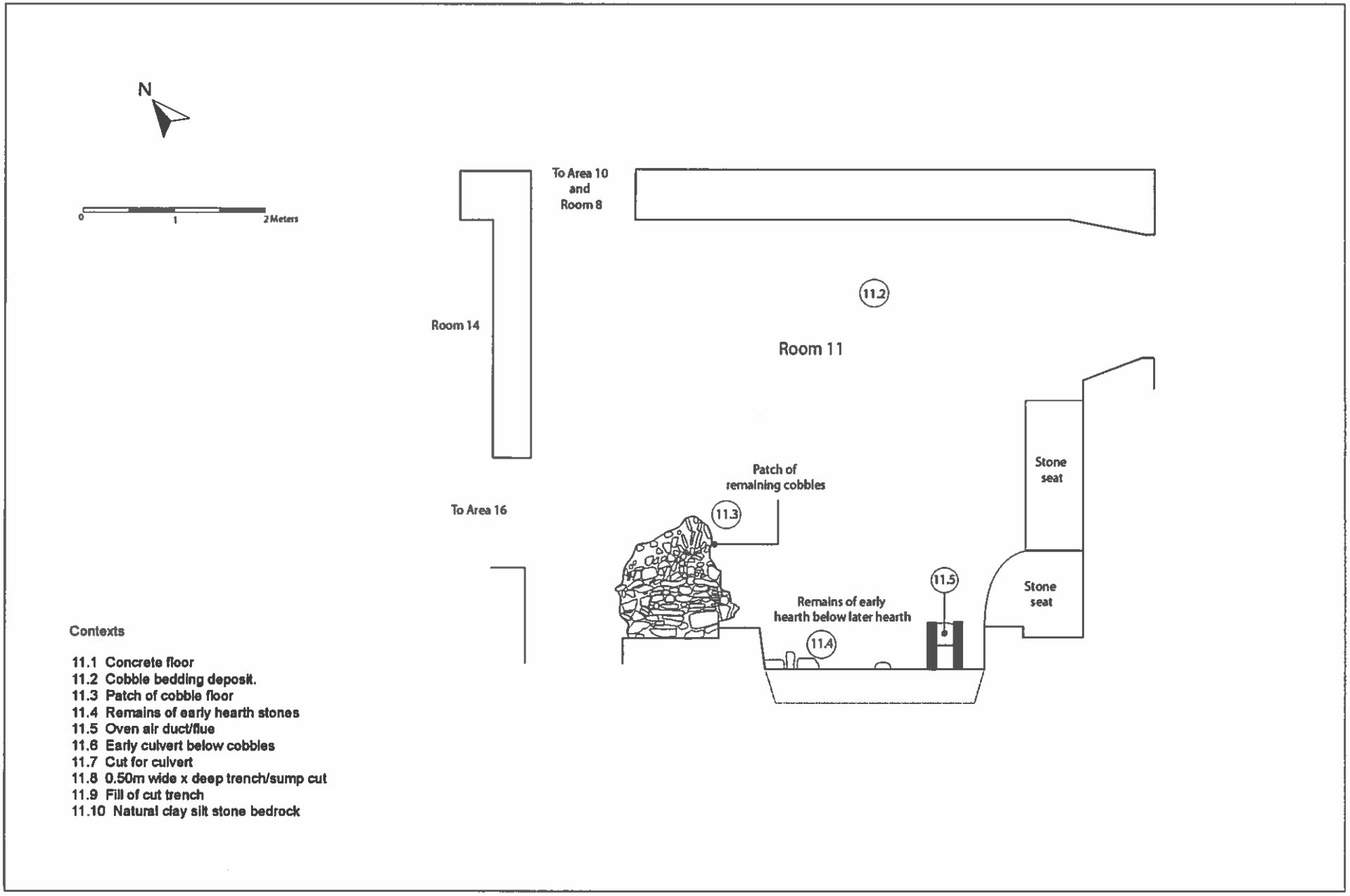


Figure 7a: ***Ground Plan of Room 11 after removal of concrete floor covering.***

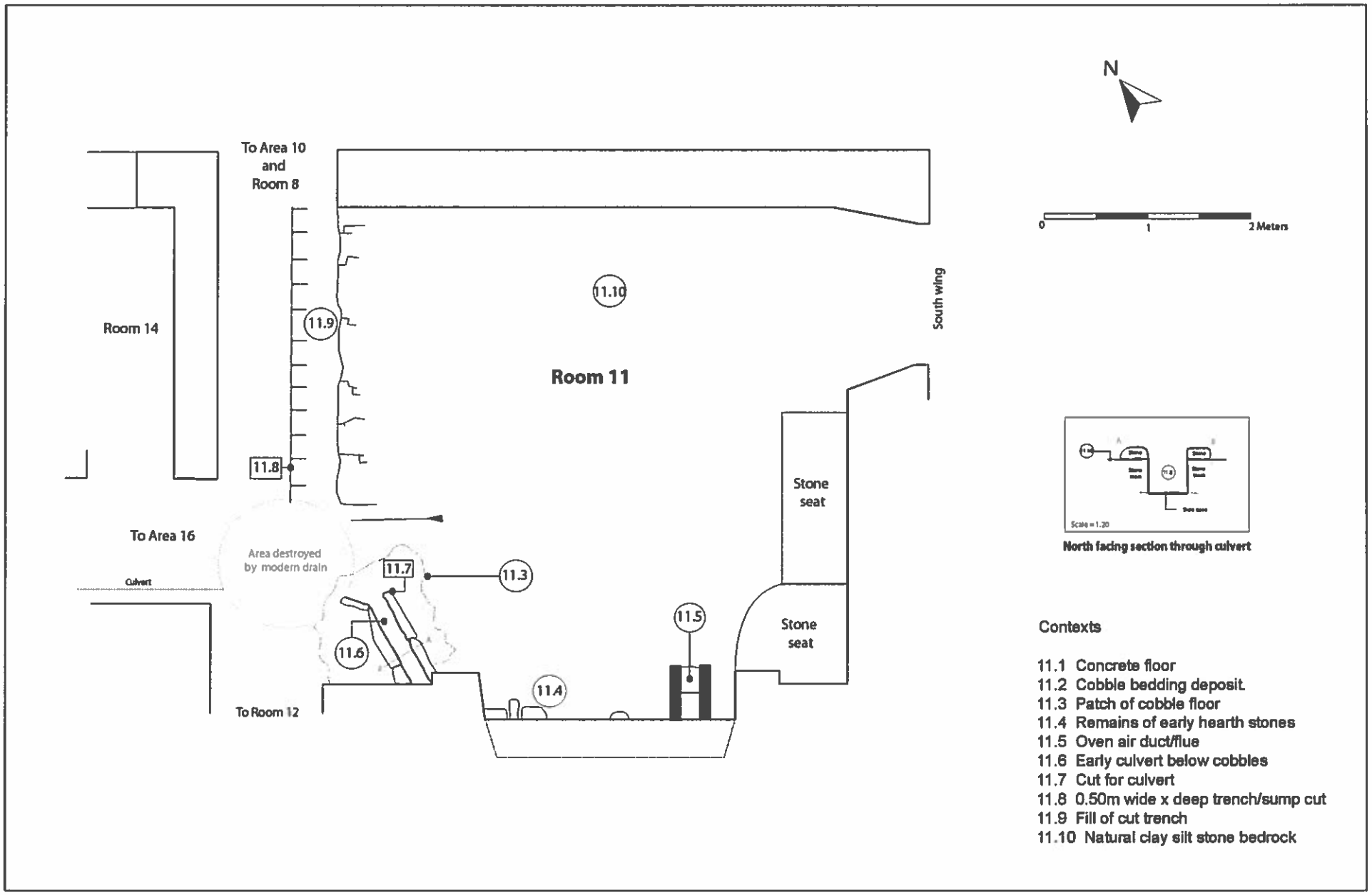


Figure 7b: **Ground Plan of Room 11 after removal of cobbles and cobble bedding deposit.**

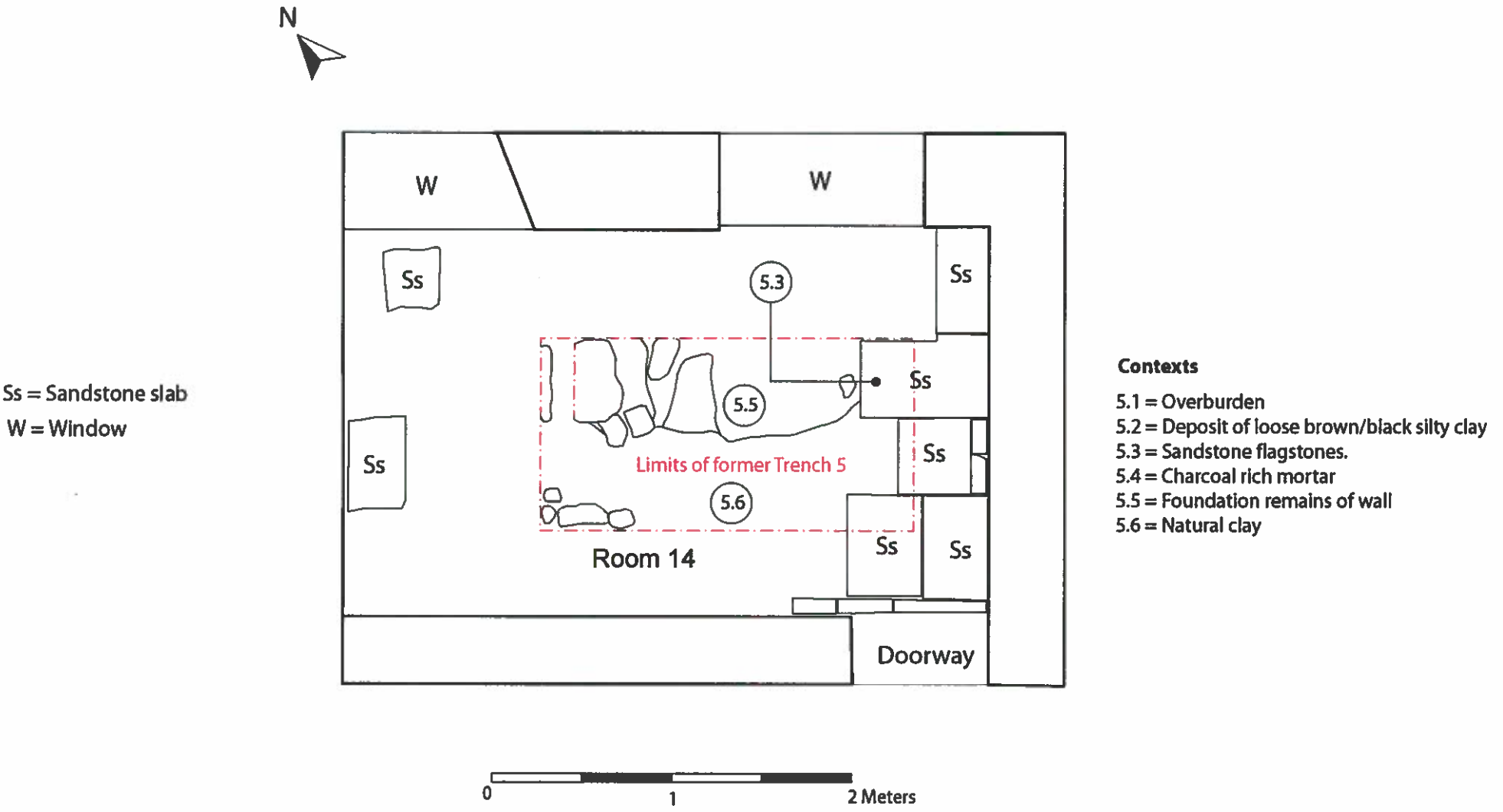


Figure 8: **Ground plan of Room 14 after ground level reduction**

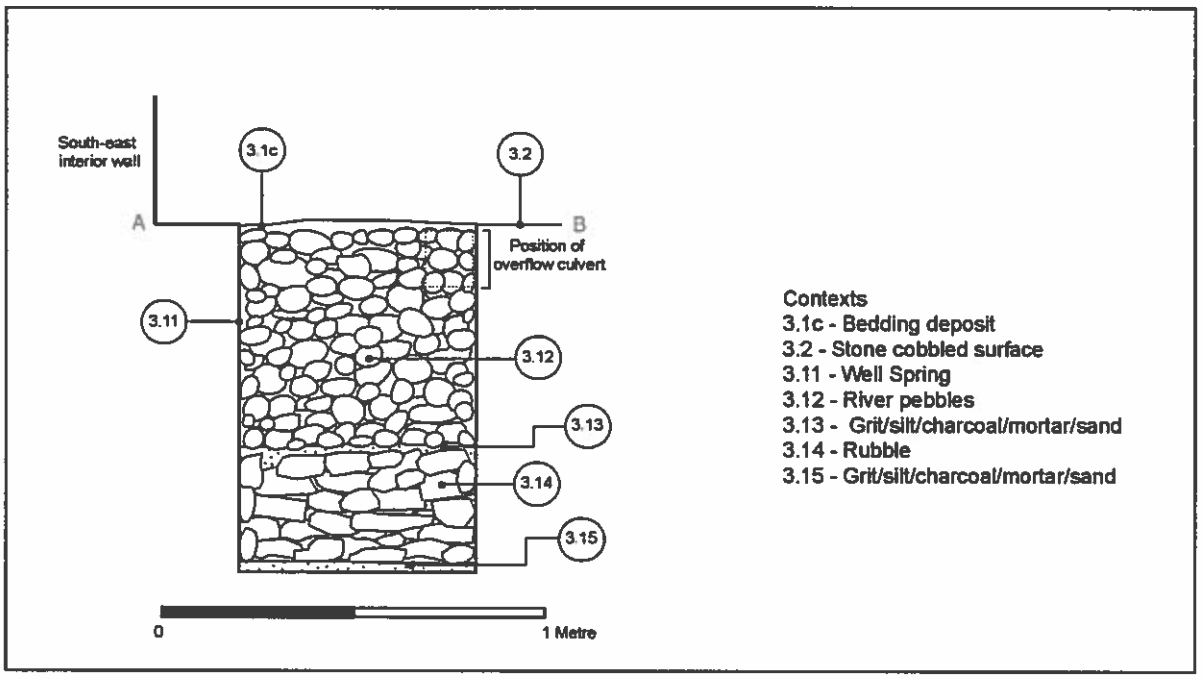


Figure 9. **North facing section through Well/Spring showing fill and position of overflow culvert.**

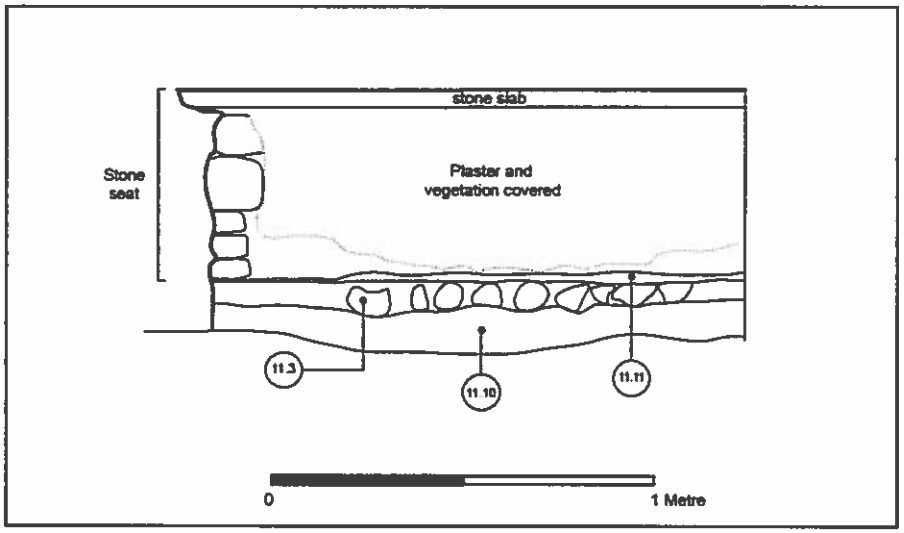


Figure 10: **North-west facing section below stone seat after ground level reduction in Room 11.**

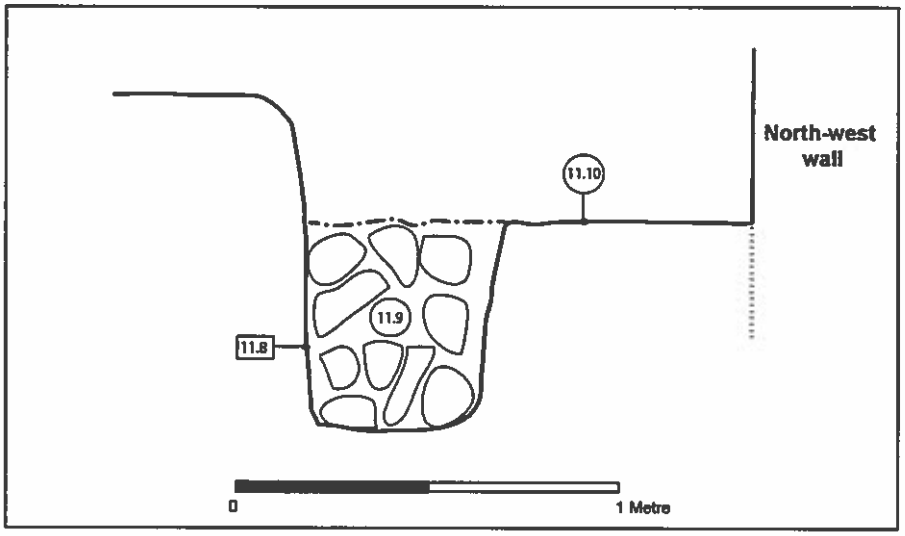


Figure 11: **North-east facing section through deep cut trench/sump, showing rubble fill. Room 11**

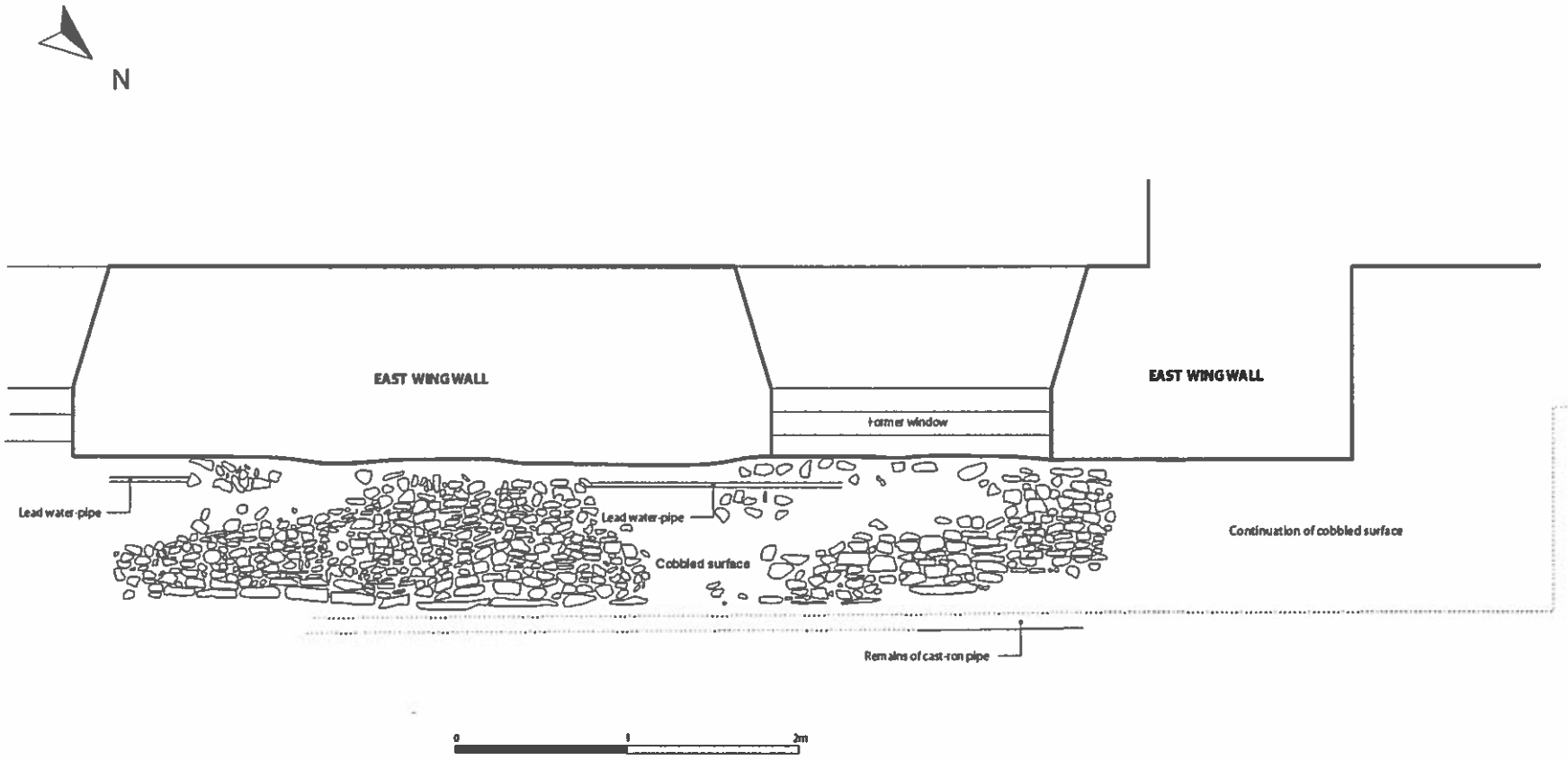


Figure 12: **Cobled surface exposed alongside east-wing of house.**

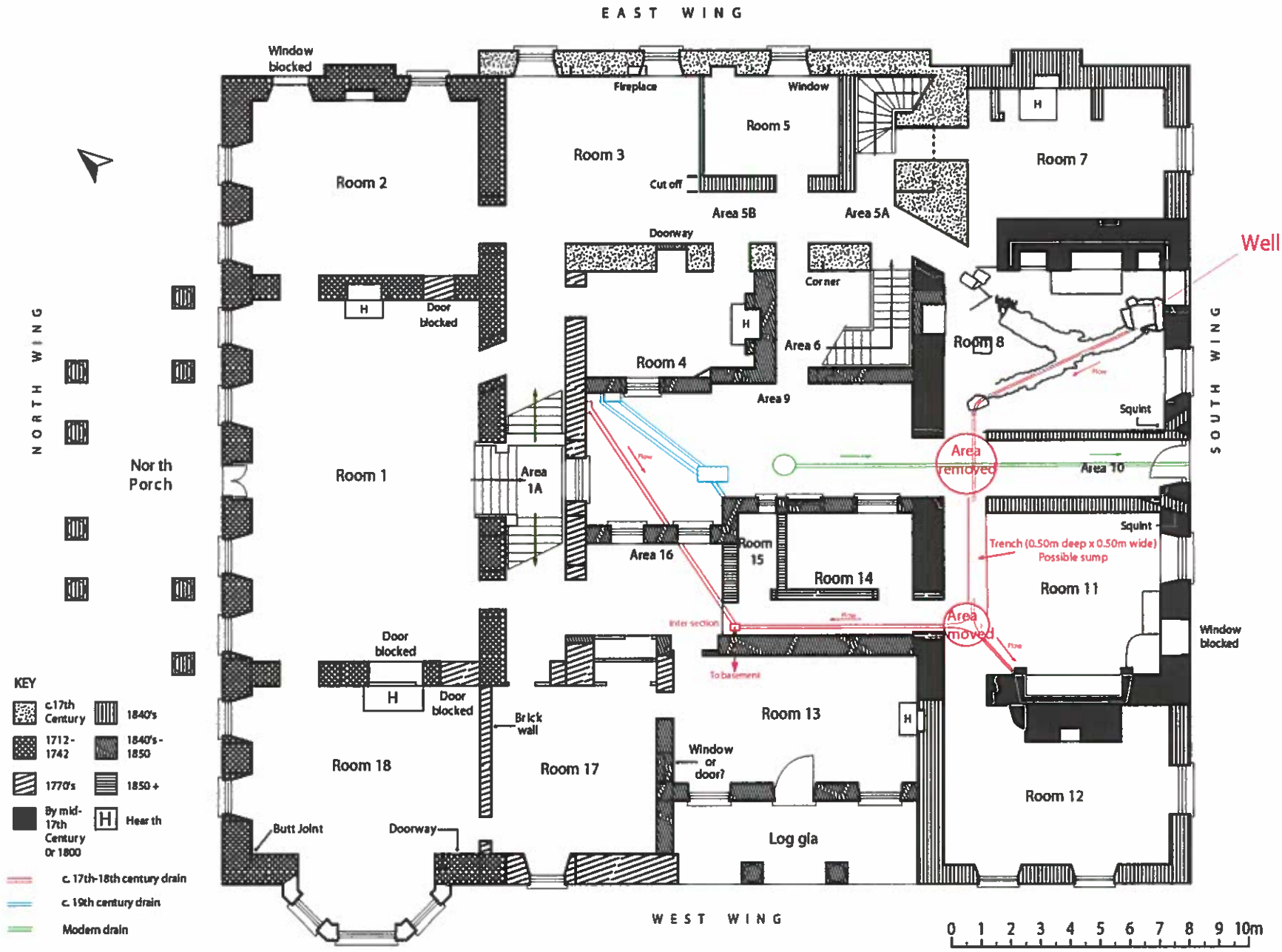


Figure 13: Route of drains as exposed in Archaeological Watching Brief during ground work on interior .

Plate 01: *Exposed rain overflow culvert in Area 9 (Looking northward)*

Plate 02: *Part of exposed rain overflow culvert in Area 9 (Looking north-west)*

Plate 03: *Remains of stone stump fullly exposed in Area 9 (looking eastwards)*

Plate 04: *Remains of mortared stone stump exposed in Area 9 (looking south-east)*

Plate 05: *Remains of stone stump fullly exposed and east side wall in Area 9 (looking north-eastwards).*

Plate 06: *Area 9 after reduction of ground level (looking northwards).*

Plate 07: *Remains of exposed sandstone slabbed floor in Room 8 (looking northwards).*

Plate 08: *Remains of exposed sandstone slabbed floor in Room 8 (looking southwards).*

Plate 09: *Exposed cobbled floor in Room 8 (looking southwards).*

Plate 10: *Remains of exposed cobbled floor in Room 8 (looking eastwards).*

Plate 11: *Exposed cobble floor in Room 8 (looking southwards).*

Plate 12: *Remains of exposed cobbled floor in Room 8 (looking northwards).*

Plate 13: *Exposed cobble floor in Room 8 (looking westwards).*

Plate 14: *Exposed sunken well/spring within cobbled floor in Room 8. Note removed river pebble fill at side*

Plate 15: *Exposed cobble floor in Area 10 (looking north-west).*

Plate 16: *Exposed cobble floor in Area 10 (looking south-east).*

Plate 17: *Remains of patch of cobbled floor in Room 11 (looking south).*

Plate 18: *Remains of culvert channel exposed beneath patch of cobbles (looking south).*

Plate 19: *Remains of exposed air duct for brick oven in earlier hearth (looking south-west).*

Plate 20: *Remains of exposed earlier hearth beneath later hearth in Room 11 (looking south-west)*

Plate 21: *Remains of possible former cobbled floor exposed beneath later stone seat arrangement in Room 11(looking south-east).*

Plate 22: *Rubble-fill section removed from cut trench (possible drainage sump). (looking south)*

Plate 23: *Remains of exposed sandstone slabbed floor in Room 14 (looking south-east).*

Plate 24: *Remains of exposed sandstone slabbed floor in Room 14 (looking south).*

Plate 25: *Remains of exposed cobbled floor in Area 6 (looking south-west).*

Plate 26: *Section of patterned cobbled floor in Area 14 (far south-west end).*

Plate 27: *Remains of culvert exposed along corridor outside Room 14 (looking south-east).*

Plate 28: *Photo showing shalllowness of bedrock beneath fireplace in Room 4 (looking south-east)*

Plate 29: *Cobbled floor exposed during ground work at external east side of house. (looking south-east)*

Plate 30: *Cobbled floor exposed during ground work at external east side of house. (looking south)*

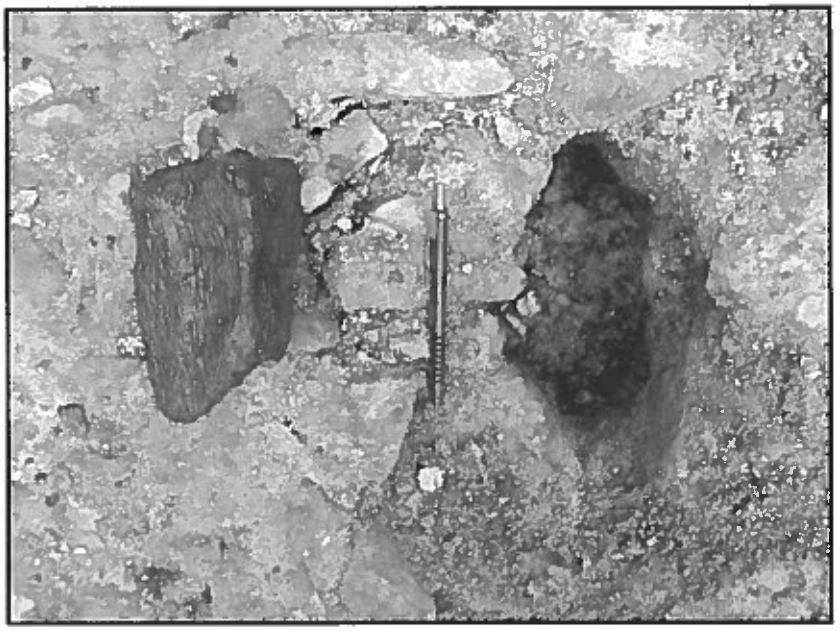


Plate 31: *Post-hole and remains of wooden post stump exposed within cobble floor in Room 8.*

Plate 32; *Area of basement at side of entrance steps.*
Showing blocked single culvert running west from beneath stone steps
(looking east)

Plate 33: *Twin culverts at base of stone steps into basement cellar.*
Culvert runs west from beneath steps and other basement room.
(looking east)

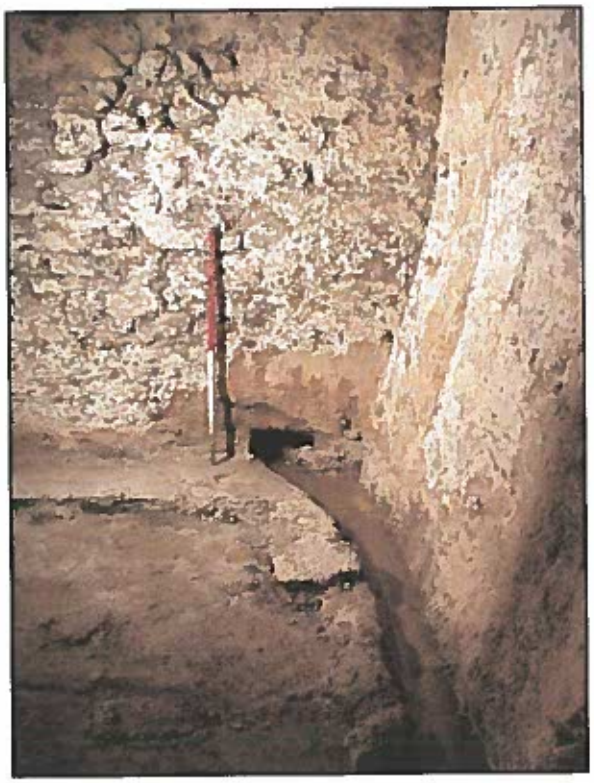


Plate 34: *Back room in basement showing culvert running parallel to back wall and continuing beneath wall and stone steps. (looking north)(looking north)*

Plate 35: *Back room in basement after clearance of floor debris (looking south)*

APPENDIX I:
Context Register

SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS

Area 9 *(Evaluation Trench 7)*

7.1 Overburden
7.2 Cut for pipe trench
7.3 2 ceramic 19th century drain pipes
7.4 Natural clay
7.5 Cobbled floor surface
7.7 Fill of foundation trench
7.8 Foundation remains of wall
7.9 Compact mortar
7.10 Drain
7.11 Culvert
7.12 Surface at base of culvert(beneath)
7.13 Cut for foundation of S facing wall.
7.14 Wall
7.15 Drain
7.16 19th century Drain pipe
7.17 19th Century drain pipe.
7.18 19th Century drain pipe.
7.19 19th Century drain pipe.
7.20 19th Century drain pipe.

Area 6 *(Evaluation Trench 2)*

2.1 Overburden
2.2 Cobbled Surface
2.3 Cobbled Surface
2.4 Cut for masonry pit
2.5 Fill of masonry pit
2.6 Cut for masonry pit
2.7 Fill of masonry pit
2.8 Natural clay
2.9 Reamins of wooden beam for former partition.
2.10 Cobbled floor patterning.

Room 8 *(Evaluation Trench 3)*

3.1 Overburden
3.1b Stone slab for later hearth
3.1c Fill covering 18th century culvert channel
3.2 Cobbled surface
3.3 Bedding material for cobbles
3.4 Natural Clay
3.5 Rubble and stone backfill
3.6 Cut for culvert
3.7 Stone Culvert
3.8 Silty fill of culvert
3.9 Pit of masonry waste
3.10 Cut for pit 3.9
3.11 Well
3.12 Upper Fill of well (river pebbles)
3.13 Below upper fill of well (grit/charcoal/martar/sand)
3.14 Upper lower fill of well (rubble).
3.15 Lower fill of well (grit/charcoal/mortar/sand).
3.16 Fill of post hole
3.17 Cut for post hole
3.18 Post hole.
3.19 Fill of post hole
3.20 Post hole
3.21 Cut for post hole
3.22 Natural bedrock

Room 11 *(No earlier evaluation)*

11.1 Modern concrete floor
11.2 Charcoal/grit bedding deposit beneath modern concrete.
11.3 Patch of remaining cobbled surface
11.4 Remains of early hearth
11.5 Air duct of early oven in hearth
11.6 Remains of culvert
11.7 Cut for culvert
11.8 Cut for possible 'sump'
11.9 'Sump'
11.10 Natural bedrock

Room 4 *(Evaluation Trench 1)*

1.1 Overburden
1.2 Foundations of 19th Century partition wall
1.3 Natural Clay
1.4 Fill of masonry pit
1.5 Cut for pit filled with masonry waste

Area 10 *(Evaluation Trench 4)*

4.1 Overburden
4.2 Stone cobbled surface
4.3 Natural Clay
4.4 Cut for Pipe trench
4.5 Pipe and sand
4.6 Natural shale bedrock

Room 14 *(Evaluation Trench 5)*

5.1 Overburden
5.2 Deposit of loose brown/ black silty clay
5.3 Flagstones
5.4 Charcoal rich mortar
5.5 Foundation remains of wall
5.6 Natural clay

Area 16 *(Evaluation Trench 6)*

6.1 Overburden
6.2 Deposit of masonry waste
6.3 Dark brown silty clay deposit
6.4 Natural clay

APPENDIX II:
Finds Catalogue

SUMMARY OF FINDS

ABERGLASNEY MANSION, LLANGATHEN, CARMS (AB/05/WB)

Key to Pottery Fabric Abbreviations:
ND – North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware, C17-C18

CONTEXT 11.6

Pottery

FABRIC TYPE	NUMBER OF SHERDS	WEIGHT (g)	DATE (CENTURY)
ND	1	2	Early 17 – mid 18

CONTEXT 3.15

Pottery

FABRIC TYPE	NUMBER OF SHERDS	WEIGHT (g)	DATE (CENTURY)
Blue white ceramic	1	1	Early 18th

CONTEXT 2.3

Pottery

FABRIC TYPE	NUMBER OF SHERDS	WEIGHT (g)	DATE (CENTURY)
ND	2	2	Early 17 – mid 18

APPENDIX III:
Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

ABERGLASNEY MANSION

ARCHIVE DESTINATION – ABERGLASNEY

Site Name:	**Aberglasney House**
Site Code:	**ABG 2004**
PRN:	**N/A**
NPRN :	**N/A**
SAM:	**N/A**
Other Ref No:	**CAP Report No. 370**
NGR:	**SN5812213**
Site Type:	**Post-medieval house**
Project Type:	**Watching brief**
Project Officer:	**Richard Jones**
Project Dates:	**June-July 2004**
Categories Present:	**N/A**
Location of Original Archive:	**Aberglasney House**
Location of duplicate Archives:	**N/A**
Number of Finds Boxes:	**N/A**
Location of Finds:	**Aberglasney House**
Museum Reference:	**N/A**
Copyright:	**CAP Ltd**
Restrictions to access:	**None**