

**Rescue excavation and recording at Erven 1258 and 1263,
Simonsplein, Stellenbosch
September/October 2003**

HWC Permit No: 2003/09/APM 001

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Prepared for
Weidebosch Development Trust – Daan Derksen
c/o Jan van Rensburg, Taylor van Rensburg van der Spuy (TV3) Architects and Planners,
Stellenbosch

By
Harriet Clift
7 Pypies Plein
Devils Peak, 8001
Tel: 021 4621996
Cell: 072 5305598
Email: hclift@adept.co.za

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Executive Summary

Erf 1258 and Erf 1263 originated as Portion 8 of the 1783 subdivision of the Old Kerkhof of Stellenbosch.

Stone foundations, cobbled floor surfaces, three wells and a possible water trough were uncovered on Erf 1258. These features date to the mid to late 19th century. A large cobble floor situated underneath a small cobble floor is estimated to date to the early 19th century.

Erf 1263 was very disturbed and little archaeological material was preserved in tact.

2. Legislation

According to the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999, all archaeological sites and buildings, structures and features older than 60 years are protected. It is therefore an offence to destroy, damage, remove, alter or remove from its original position, or collect any archaeological materials without a permit issued by the relevant heritage authority (SACPI). The NHA in this case is Heritage Western Cape.

The "Guidelines to Archaeological Permitting Policy" (2002) states that "permits to destroy archaeological sites in the course of construction or development will be issued only after a survey, usually with Phase 1 and Phase 2, has been done by a qualified archaeologist and the data has been supplied to the appropriate heritage authority. Furthermore, the developer should remain in contact with the authority of the heritage authority agency. Furthermore, the developer should remain in contact with the authority of the heritage authority agency. Furthermore, the developer should remain in contact with the authority of the heritage authority agency.

It must be stressed that where developments have been proposed for potentially sensitive areas, the appropriate archaeological assessment must be included in order to fulfil the legal requirements. There are three levels of assessment:

1. The desktop or desktop study;
2. The specialist assessment (archaeological/structural/geomorphological) which is usually part of an Environmental Impact Assessment;
3. Heritage Impact Assessment.

Brief

Erf 1258¹ and Erf 1263² form part of the Ou Kerkhof, one of the oldest town blocks of Stellenbosch. At the time of the excavation, this block is in the process of redevelopment with a proposed inner-block pedestrian route and basement parking linking a number of erven (Pistorius & Harris 2003).

A Heritage Study was commissioned by the co-ordinating architects, Taylor van Rensburg van der Spuy (TV3) Architects and Planners, and was produced by Penny Pistorius and Stewart Harris in April 2003. The study focused mainly on the architectural development of the block and suggests where archaeological material may be present. At the time that the report (Pistorius & Harris 2003) was produced, archaeological work was being carried out by Mary Patrick and Hennie Vos on two other erven forming part of the Ou Kerkhof block.

In the case of erf 1258 and erf 1263, the archaeologist was first approached in September 2003, after the outbuildings had been demolished and the site was virtually cleared of modern building rubble. The initial archaeological brief was to monitor erven 1258 and 1263 during the mechanical excavation for basement parking. Once monitoring started, it soon became apparent that *in situ* foundations and floor surfaces were indeed present. The developer was informed that a Phase 2 archaeological excavation would be required to expose and record the findings.

2. Legislation

According to the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999, all archaeological sites and buildings, structures and features older than 60 years are protected. It is therefore an offence to destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect any archaeological material without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources agency (HRA). The HRA in this case, is Heritage Western Cape.

The 'Guidelines to Archaeological Permitting Policy' (2002) states that 'permits to destroy archaeological sites in the course of earthmoving or development will be issued only after a survey (usually both Phase 1 and Phase 2) has been done by a qualified archaeologist and sites have been sampled to the satisfaction of the heritage resource agency. Practitioners should remind the developer to apply for this permit'. In retrospect, it is uncertain as to how permission was obtained to go ahead with the mechanical excavation of the site for basement parking without the relevant archaeological assessment.

It must be stressed that where developments have been proposed for historically sensitive areas, the appropriate archaeological assessment must be included in order to fulfil the basic legal requirements. There are three levels of assessment:

- the Scoping or Baseline study;
- the specialist assessment (archaeological/architectural/environmental/etc) which is usually part of an Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Heritage Impact Assessment.

¹ No 61 Plein Street, Pikkie Blommaert.

² No 65 Plein Street, the Pharmacy.

The archaeological assessment of a site falls under the level of the Specialist assessment. Archaeological potential, unlike architectural potential, is not visibly obvious and is difficult to predict. The first phase in this assessment would be a Phase 1 Archaeological Investigation, which encompasses a review of the archival sources, including maps, plans, photographs and a basic summary of the ownership of the site, and possibly shovel testing. Based on the findings of the Phase 1, the archaeologist will make recommendations as to whether or not further investigation would be needed.

If *in situ* features are found, a Phase 2 Archaeological Investigation needs to take place. This would include partial or full excavation of the site. Based on the findings, i.e. the significance of the site, recommendations could be made to preserve the site and the development proposal needs to be modified appropriately. In cases where the archaeology is in tact, but not uniquely significant, the finds would be recorded and the artefacts collected. All archaeological reports form the basis of the SAHRA's National Inventory of Archaeology (Malan 2003).

Ideally, when archaeology is integrated into the process of redevelopment, rather than an exercise of minimum compliance with heritage regulations, there is potential for design enhancement. The development proposal for Simonsplein made provision for linking the inner courtyards of the erven involved in the development. This proposal could have been adapted to include the intact foundations and floor surfaces as an interpretative feature in the walkway, had the archaeology been considered early enough in the planning process.

3. Methodology

Owing to the time constraints under which the work was to be done, it was not possible to do a desktop study of the historical development of the erven and their owners, until after the excavation was completed. However, the Heritage Study (Pistorius & Harris 2003) provided background information and a concise map chronology.

It was agreed to focus on Erf 1258 initially as construction piling was taking place on Erf 1263 and access was impossible until the piling was completed.

A 1m x 1m grid was laid out across Erf 1258 and the area was cleared using shovels. Material was collected in 4m x 4m quads as well as test trenches and recorded according to their position on the 1m² grid.

In areas where no *in situ* features were present, test trenches were run (east to west), one per quad, to the depth of the natural yellow/black clay of the area. The quads tested by the test trenches were then mechanically excavated and artefactual material collected and described as 'general'.

After the excavation was completed, Hennie Vos, with the help of his assistant Klasie Links, supervised and monitored the subsequent mechanical excavation of the site. Where material was found in localised dumps during the mechanical excavation, it was excavated manually and labelled according to the position on the grid. The remainder of the material collected was described according to general location.

4. Site history

Erven 1258 and 1263 form part of the Ou Kerkhof of Stellenbosch, which is bounded by Plein Street to the north, van Ryneveld Street to the east, Church Street to the south and Andringa Street to the west (Figure 1 and 2).

The church was built in 1687 and the surrounding ground used as a cemetery (Figure 3). On 17 December 1710, a fire swept through Stellenbosch, destroying large parts of the village, as well as the church. The church was not rebuilt until 1717, owing to the lack of funds. According to Pistorius & Harris (2003:12) burials in the churchyard continued in recognition of a regulation decreeing that all the dead of the village and the district were to be buried in the 'Kerkhof'.

In 1717 the church (the Moeder Kerk) was rebuilt in its present location (Figure 4). One of the reasons for this new location was that the church would be upwind from the southeaster and enjoy a degree of protection from runaway village fires (Smuts 1979:250). It is assumed that the old burial ground was discontinued once a new location was found for the church. It is unclear whether the graves were moved from the old site. During archaeological excavations in the 1970/80s in the area of Ouwe Werf, Hennie Vos recorded that only one grave was found, which dated to the early 18th century (Vos 1993:21). As far as it is known, no other graves were found during the excavations by Mary Patrick and Hennie Vos, which took place earlier in 2003.

In 1783, the Ou Kerkhof was subdivided into 10 residential erven and sold. Portion No 8 of the Ou Kerkhof was sold to Paulus Johannes Fick on 10 October 1783 (SgD 34/1783 – lost). This erf measured 82 square Roods and 82 square Feet. At the death of Paulus Fick, the erf passed onto his widow, Magdalena Hartog. In 1818, the erf was resurveyed on behalf of the executors of the estate of Magdalena Hartog, before it was passed onto their son Johannes Abraham Fick (Figure 5: SgD 14/1818). Although this survey diagram does not show details of dwellings or other features on the erf, it does indicate the communal passageway which gives access from the street to the courtyard behind the house. An 1817 survey of Stellenbosch shows two rectangular dwellings facing onto Plein Street (Figure 6).

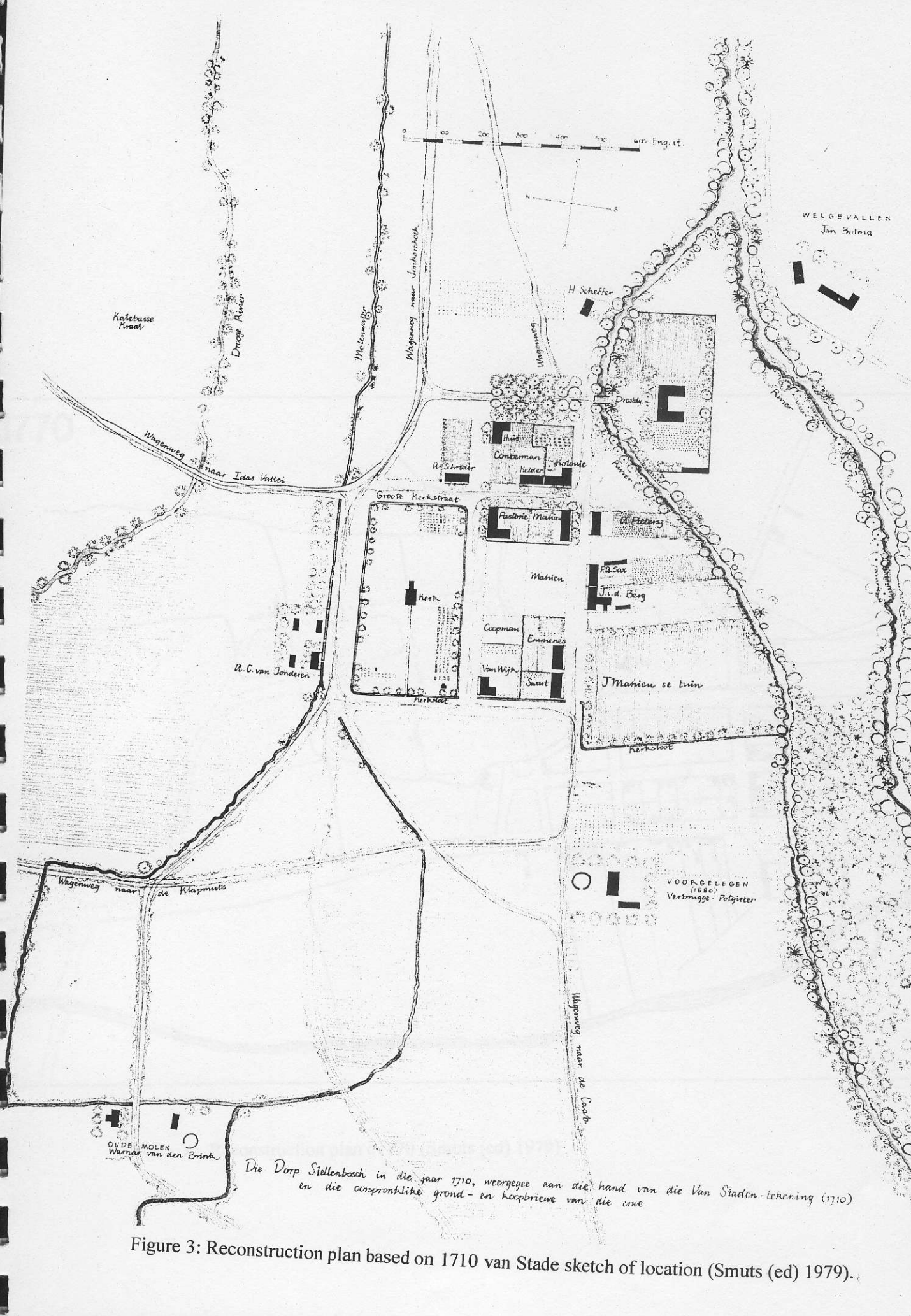
In 1820, 'Portion 8 of the Ou Kerkhof' was subdivided.

Erf 1263

This portion, measuring 33 square Roods 30 square Feet and 114 square Inches was sold by Johannes Abraham Fick to Banewyn Homberg de Vries for the sum of 7000 Gulden (T2, 3/03/1820 Figure 7). Once again the survey diagram does not indicate structures, but does indicate another access passage, this time between the dwellings indicated on the 1817 survey (Figure 6). It is stated on the diagram that the access through this passage is to remain free for both the owner of the subdivision (Erf 1263) as well as the owner of the remainder of the erf (Erf 1258).

De Vries sold Erf 1263 in 1821 to Jacob Cats for the price of 7600 Gulden. Erf 1263 was owned by the Cats family until the end of the 19th century.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Erf 1263 was bought by the Trustees of the Bloemhof Boarding Establishment. The Bloemhof School was situated on the corner of Plein Street and van Ryneveld Street, on the site of the present ABSA building. At the turn of the century, the



Die Dorp Stellenbosch in die jaar 1710, weergegee aan die hand van die Van Staden-tekening (1710) en die oorspronklike grond- en koopbriewe van die ewe

Figure 3: Reconstruction plan based on 1710 van Stade sketch of location (Smuts (ed) 1979).

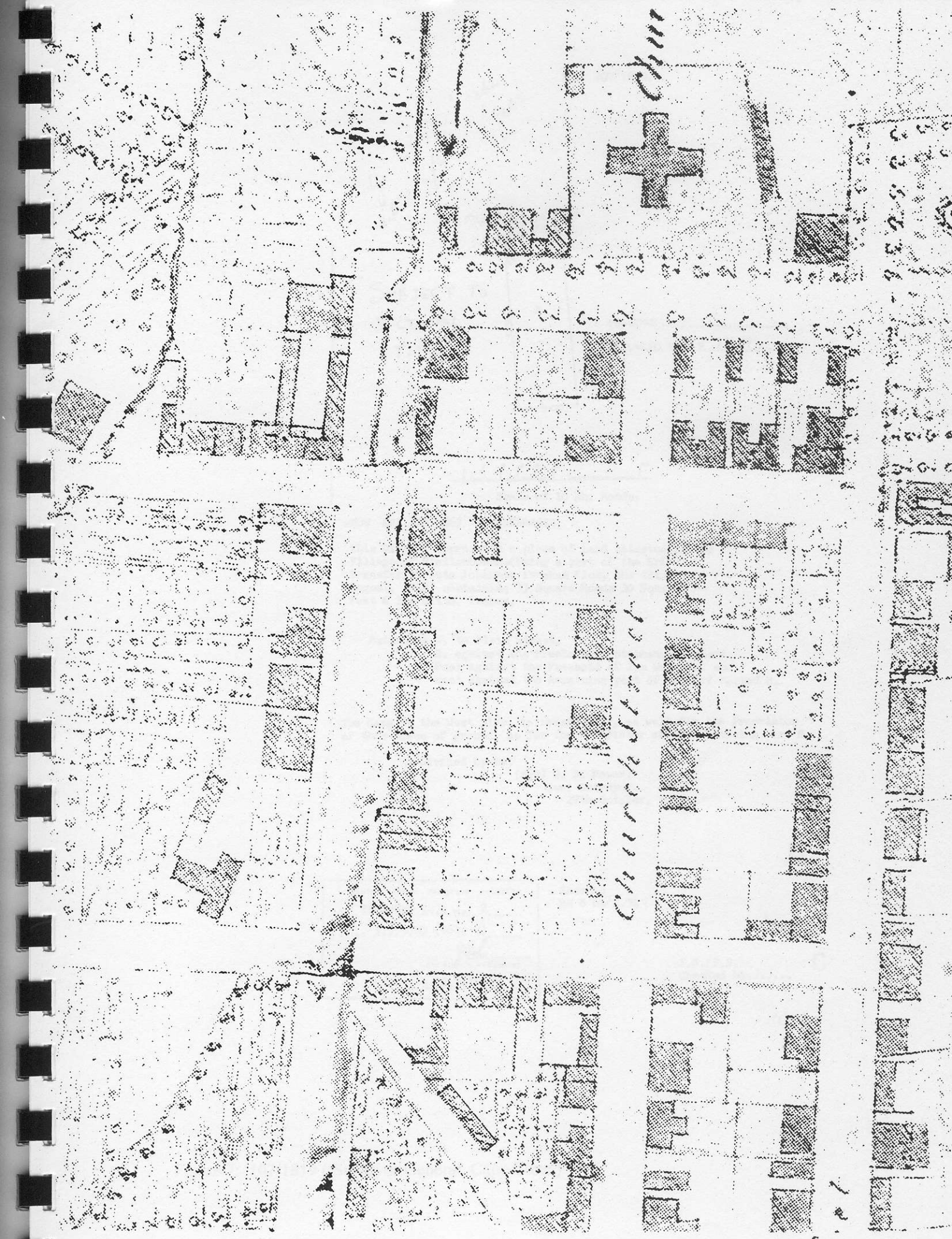


Figure 6: 1817 Hertzog survey – original housed in CA (M2/726) (Smuts (ed) 1979)

Trustees bought up a number of houses, mostly along van Ryneveld Street, to be used as boarding facilities for their students (Vos & Heydenrych 1994).

In 1910, Erf 1263 was bought by Petrus Le Roux and his business partner Gustav Stierlin, who traded under the name of *Le Roux & Stierlin*³. Le Roux changed business partners in 1919 and business continued as *Le Roux & Hauptfleisch*. In 1930 JC Hauptfleisch bought the erf from the business. Four years later, the insolvent estate of Hauptfleisch sold the erf to JJB Myburgh for the sum of £1800.

Erf 1258

In August of 1820, the remaining portion of 'Portion No 8' was sold by Johannes Abraham Fick to Johannes Jacobus de Graaf (T288, 18/08/1820). The remaining extent measured 49 square Roods 51 square Feet and 30 square Inches. The transfer history of the erf from this point is unclear, but it changed hands at least twice before being bought by MH Basson in 1920.

In 1944, Basson sold the erf to the United Building Society for the sum of £7500. Three years later, it was sold to *Die Eikestadwinkel Bpk* which would later become *Pikkie Blommaert Bpk*.

5. Archaeology

This section of the report will focus mainly on Erf 1258. The reason for this is that the archaeological record of Erf 1263 was very poorly preserved. The historical maps indicate that there was a structure on Erf 1263 by 1817. This building was destroyed in the 1960s when the present three-storey Pharmacy was built (Pistorius & Harris 2003). At the rear of the building was another double-storey building, also built in the 1960s. A very small section of foundation and packed cobble flooring dating to the 19th century is all that survived of the 19th century structure.

5.1. Excavation (Figure 8)

The archaeology of Erf 1258 was very well preserved. A number of foundations and floor surfaces were exposed, as well as three wells, one possible water trough and one square drain filled with large cobbles, building rubble and an assortment of metal implements including spades and the remains of an old bath (Photograph 1).

At some stage during the recent history of the building on Erf 1258, which housed *Finley's Bar* and the *Pikkie Blommaert* clothing store, the southern wall was demolished and rebuilt. At the time of the excavation, the scars of two unplastered walls were visible on the *Finley's* part of the building (NS Wall 1 and NS Wall 7 – Photograph 2). These walls are 0.55m thick and rest on foundations averaging a thickness of 0.65m. They run southwards from the edge of the building for 10m until meeting an east/west wall at J (EW Wall J). The area enclosed by these foundations is intersected by another east/west wall at D (EW Wall D). The thickness of the foundations as well as the colour of the clay mortar (grey) suggests that these features date to the late 18th, early 19th century⁴.

³ The exact nature of this business is unknown.

⁴ According to Hennie Vos, 18th century foundations are characterised by a grey or brown lay mortar. 19th century foundations are in turn characterised by a yellow clay mortar.

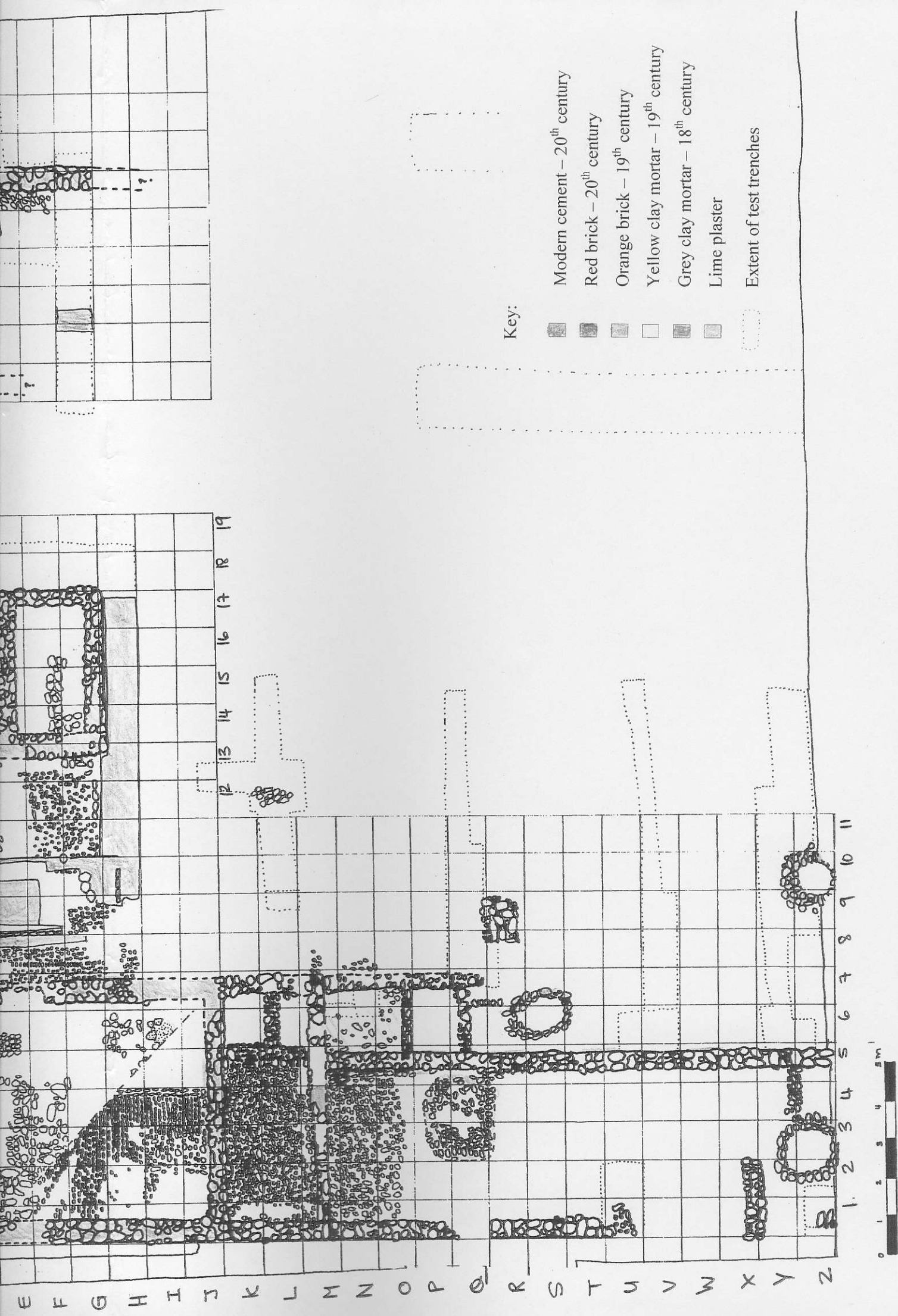
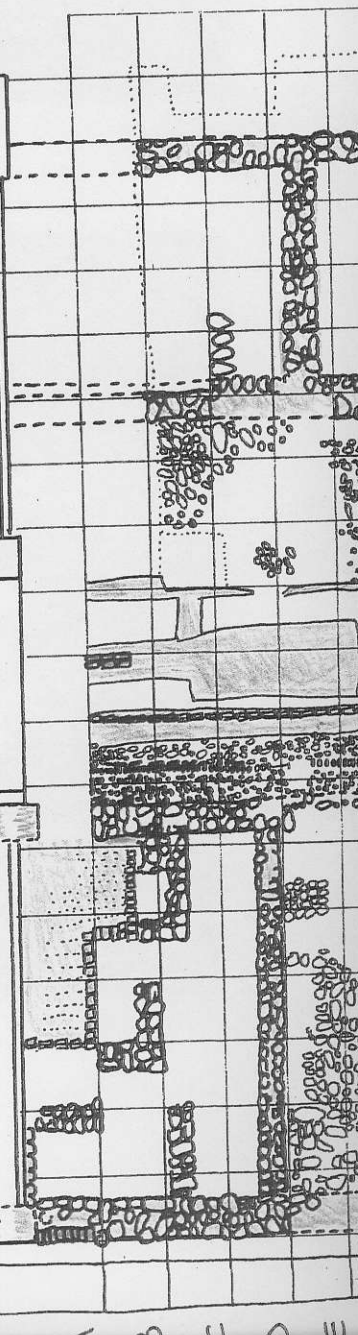
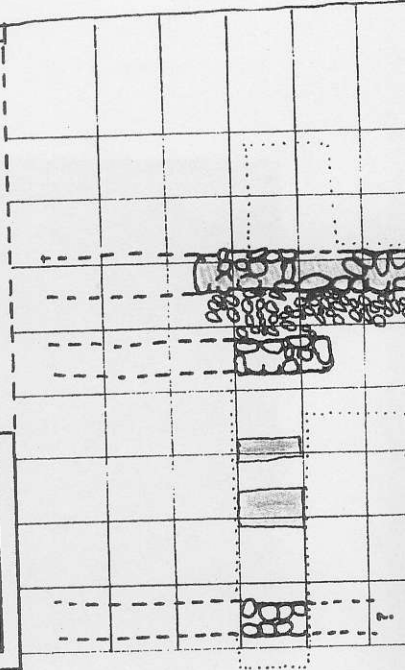
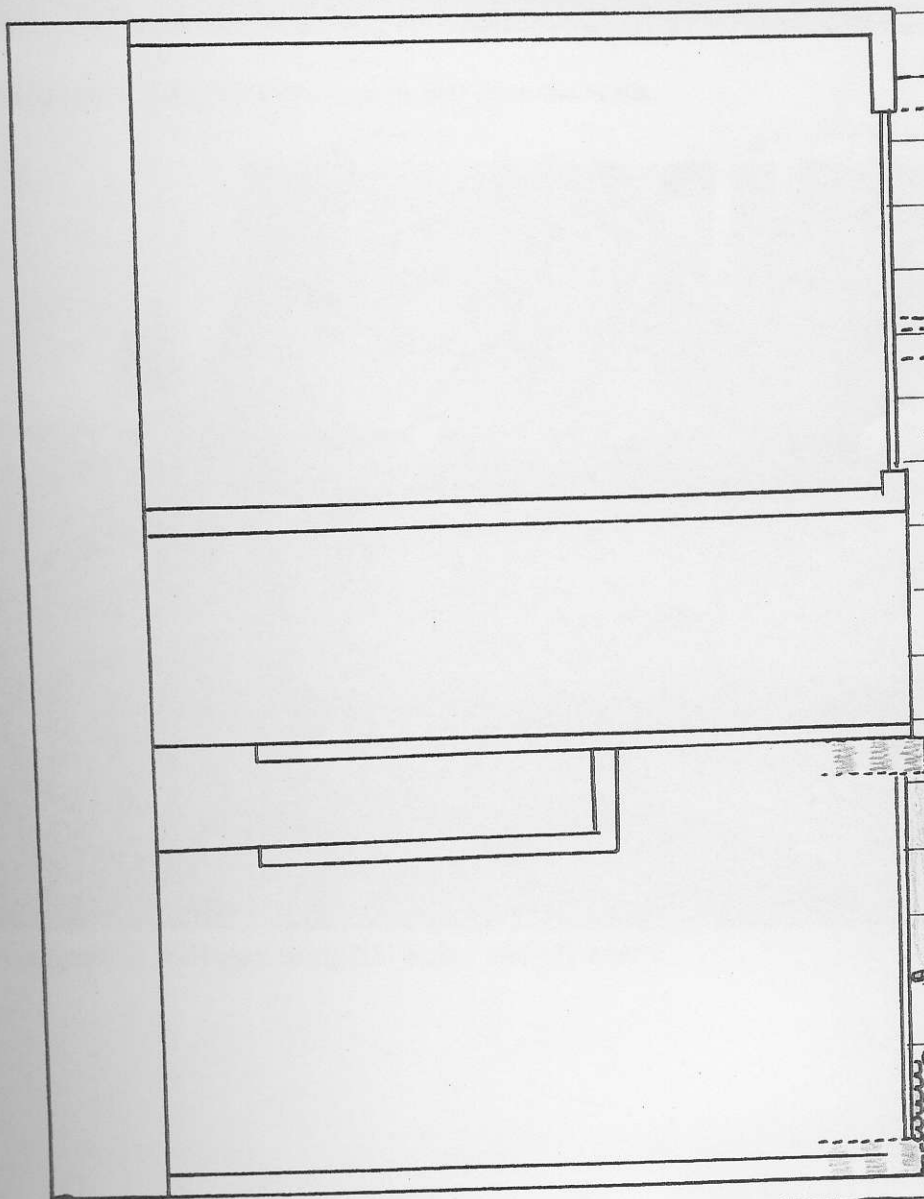
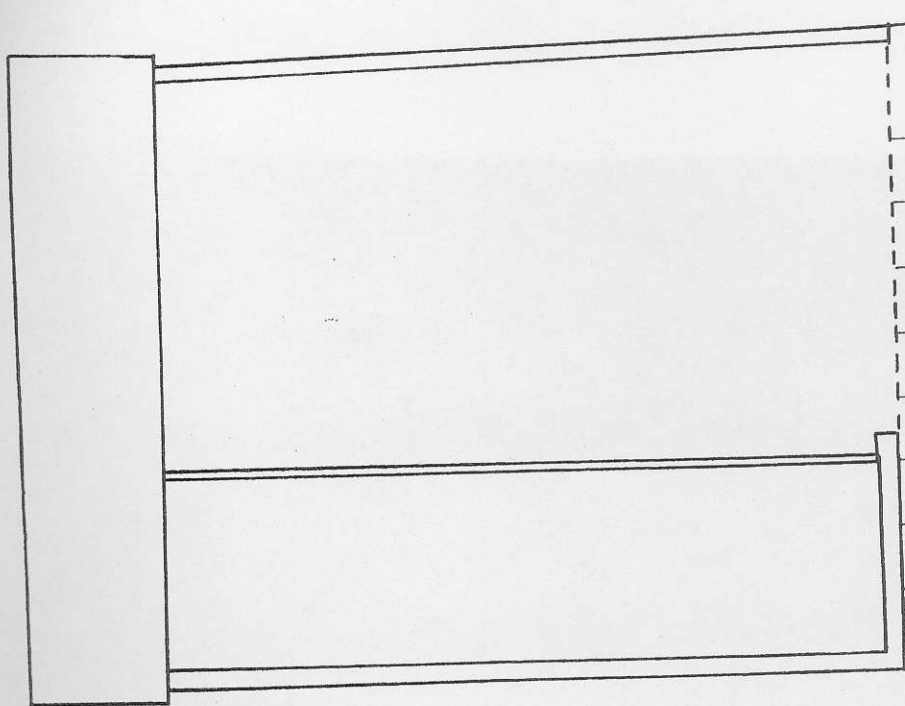
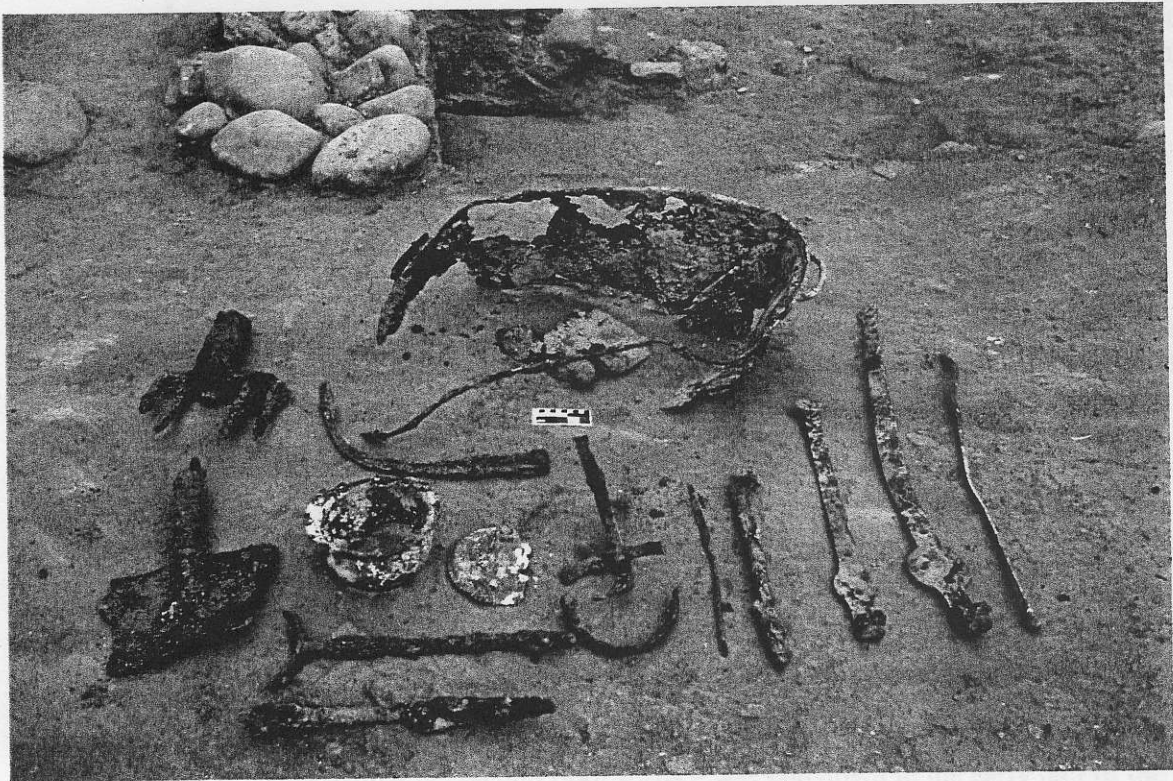


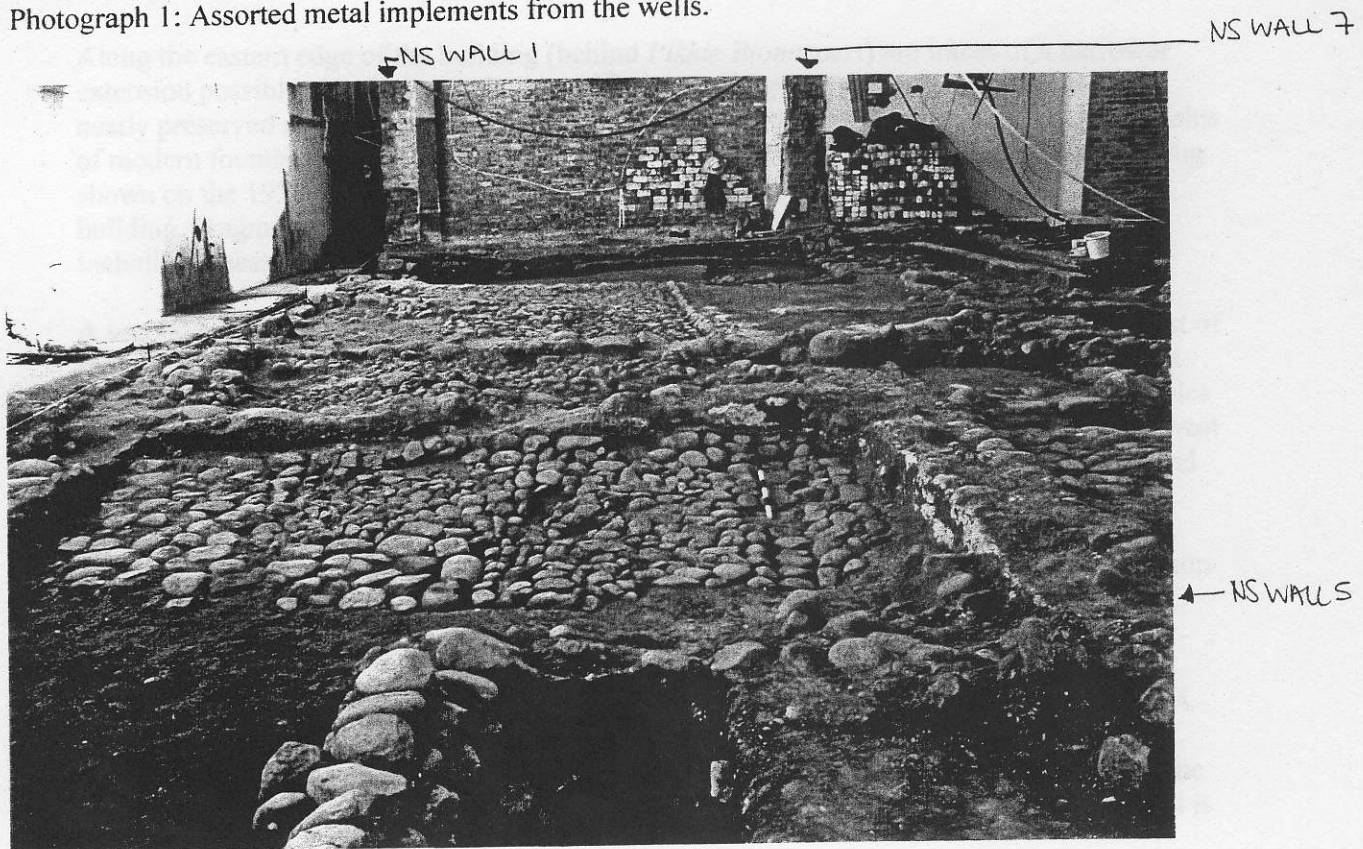
Figure 8: Plan of archaeological features

Sinausplein 1258
2/10/03 HC
Checked HV 19/10/2003





Photograph 1: Assorted metal implements from the wells.



Photograph 2: Wall scars being NS Wall 1 and NS Wall 7

Room1⁵ (Photograph 3) contained a number of stone features which extended underneath the existing building. There were no artefacts found around these features that may have given a clue as to their function. A patch of water washed soil near one of these features suggest that this may at one stage have been an exterior part of the building, and as such these features would predate the enclosure of the space by EW Wall D. A test pit at A1 indicated that the wall foundations, of the original south wall of the building as well as NS Wall 1, were substantial, extending down to between 0.55 and 0.7m below the surface. Some Chinese porcelain was found in this test pit.

Traces of a 19th century brick floor with a red clay plaster, about 0.3m below the surface, are visible along the southern edge of the existing building. It is uncertain how far south this floor extended.

The remains of two cobbled floor surfaces were uncovered in Room2. A large cobble floor, about 0.55m below the surface, seemed to be contemporary to the late 18th century foundations which enclosed it (Photograph 4). A small test section dug underneath the large cobble floor unearthed some Chinese porcelain, but no refined earthenware, confirming this date.

A floor surface, consisting of smaller cobbles packed in a distinct linear pattern was situated above the large cobble floor, 0.3m below the surface (Photograph 4). The inclusion of pearlware and cream coloured ware in the ceramic assemblage sandwiched between these two floor surfaces suggests that the second floor surface was laid down in the early half of the 19th century.

Along the eastern edge of the building (behind *Pikkie Blommaert*) are traces of a narrower extension possibly also dating to the late 18th century (Figure 9). These features are not as neatly preserved as those on the western half of the site. Slabs of cement, possibly the remains of modern foundations enclose the older cobble foundations. It seems as if the squat building shown on the 1938 aerial photograph (Figure 10) therefore included parts of a much older building. Fragmented portions of cobbled floor surfaces are also preserved in this area, including a neatly packed furrow just to the east of NS Wall 7 extending from A8 to G8.

A second set of foundations extend southwards from EW Wall J. These foundations consist of large cobbles with yellowish clay mortar. The east/west wall at M (EW Wall M) was about 0.6m thick and extended to a depth of 0.35m. Another foundation consisting of small cobbles set in yellow clay mortar transects Room3. A small cobble floor surface is situated to the west of this small cobbled foundation. This cobbled floor was seemingly haphazardly packed and very uneven (Figure 11). A localised dump (KL) was found underneath this cobbled floor during the post excavation monitoring period. A test pit at L4 revealed a small informal fireplace. Scorching on this and other cobbled surfaces suggest that it was perhaps a common practice for people to make small fires outside formal fireplaces, either to cook food or for warmth.

To the south of EW Wall M is an area which is possibly best described as the 'backyard'. A large cobbled foundation set in yellow clay mortar, running north-south and more or less lining up with the small cobbled foundation at 5m, continues to the southern boundary of the erf (NS Wall 5). A parallel foundation runs along the western passageway. This foundation is

⁵ The term 'room' is being used loosely and refers to an enclosed space, rather than necessarily a habitation space.

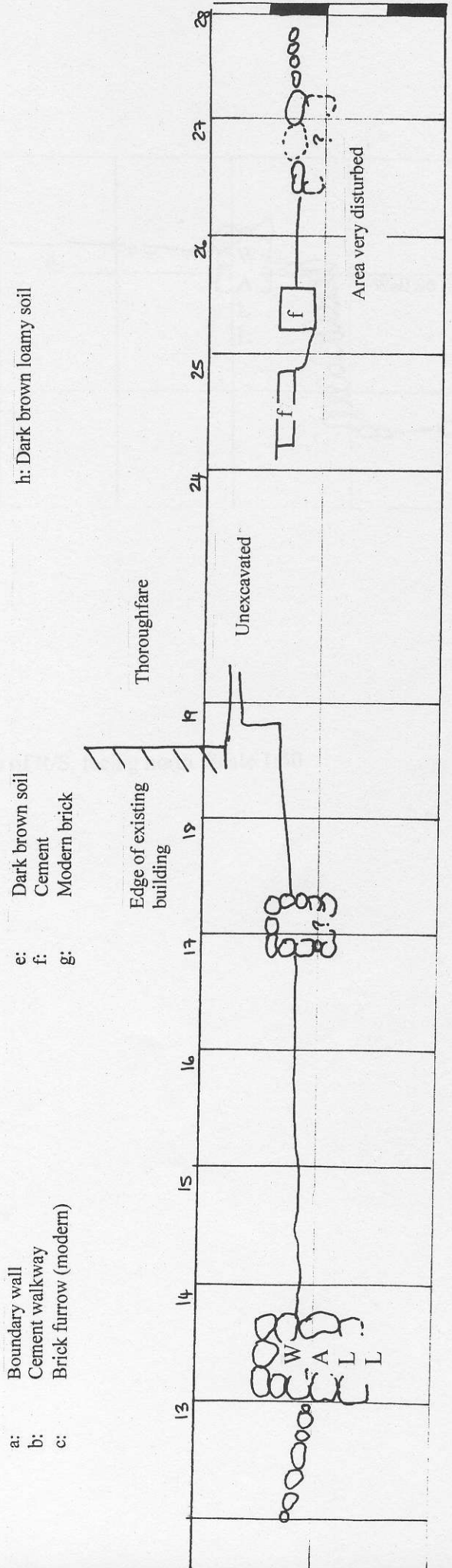
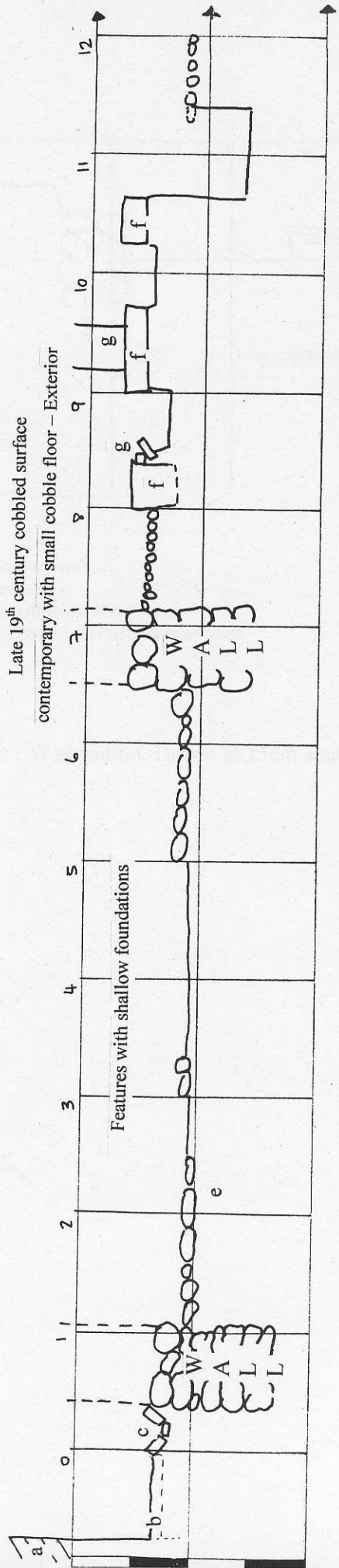
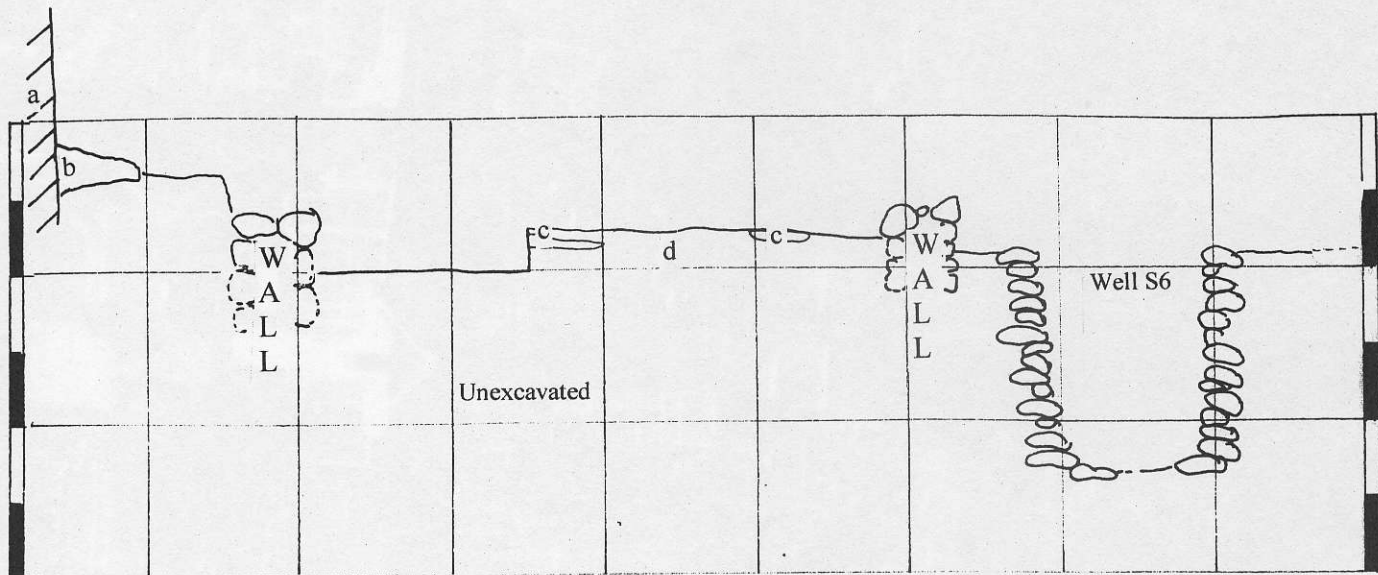


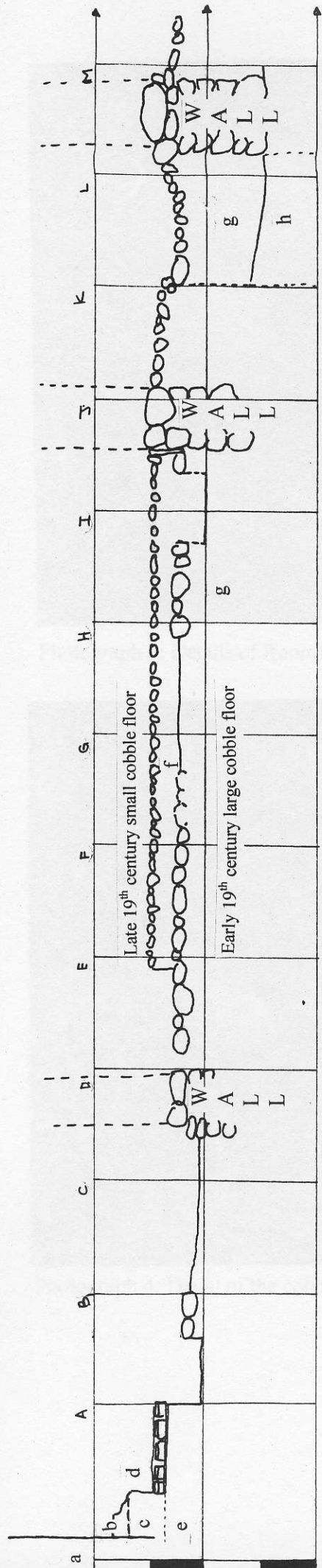
Figure 9 i: EW elevation. Drawn at 40cm south of B/C, facing north. Scale 1:50.



- a: Boundary wall
- b: Cement
- c: Concentration of charcoal
- d: Dark brown soil with orange brick

Figure 9 ii: EW elevation. Drawn at 25cm south of R/S, facing north. Scale 1:50.

Figure 10: 1978 Aerial photograph (Fig Survey, Ministry)



- a: Wall of existing building
- b: Cement fill
- c: 19th century brick rubble fill
- d: 19th century brick and plaster floor
- e: Dark brown soil

- f: Early to mid 19th century fill
- g: Brick and yellow/brown clay fill
- h: Black/Yellow *in situ* clay
- j: Brown soil with charcoal
- k: Rubble fill

i: Boundary wall

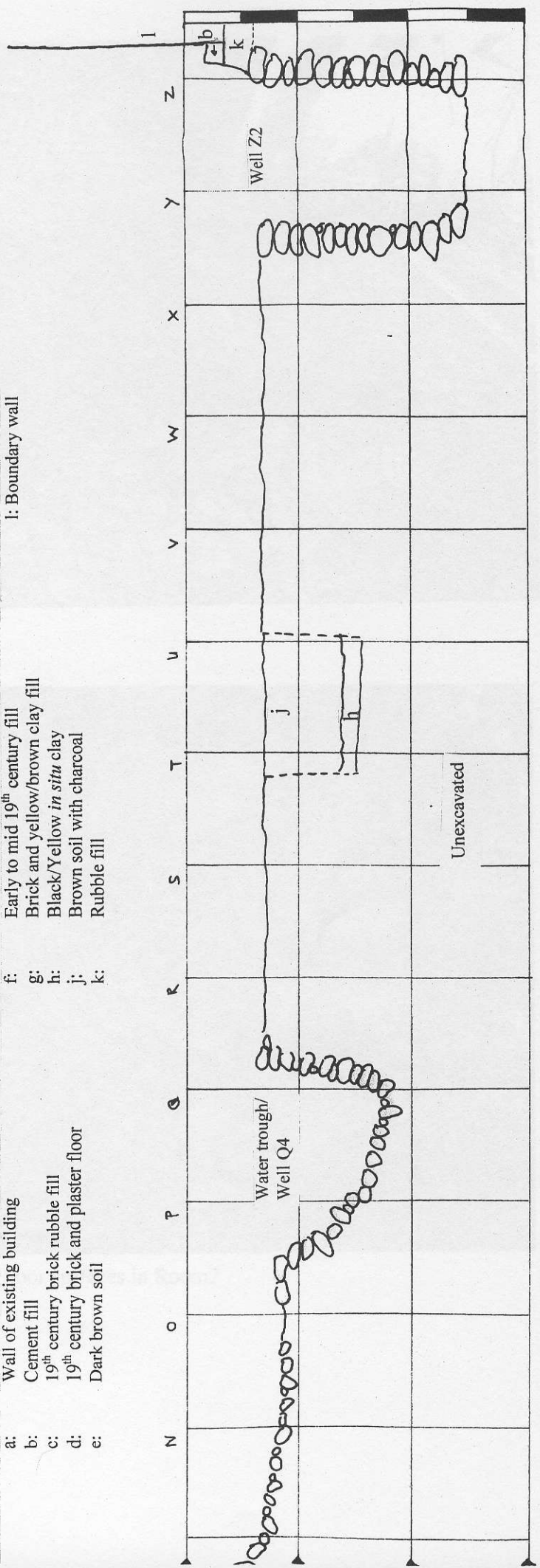
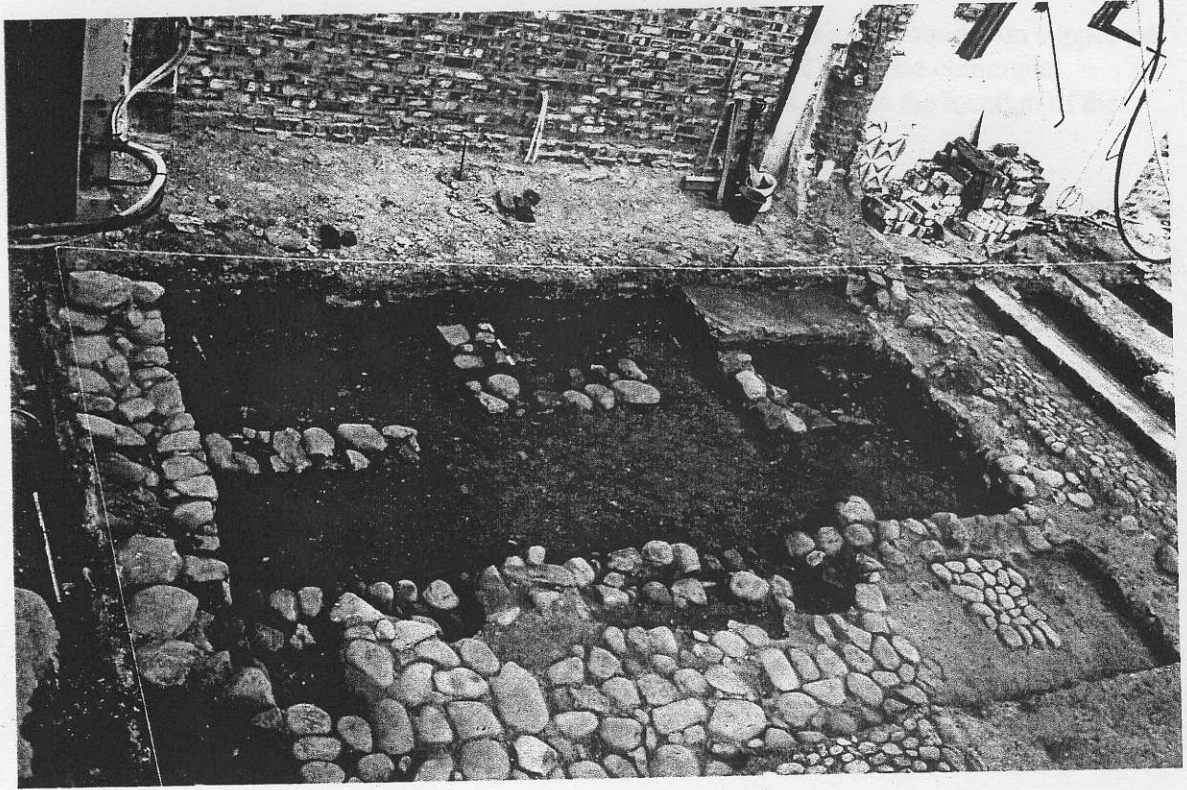


Figure 11: NS elevation. Drawn at 3 / 4m, facing east. Scale 1:50.



Photograph 3: Details of Room 1



Photograph 4: Detail of the cobbled floor surfaces in Room 2

shallow and it is possible that from this point (N1 and southwards), the foundation supported a boundary wall. The access gate into the 'backyard' of Erf 1258 from the communal passageway may have been at Q1. The gap in the foundation as well as the location of the present access gate to the neighbouring erf supports this theory.

The fill in this 'backyard' area is rich in charcoal. A (burnt) bible, an 1858 coin, an assortment of degraded cloth as well as a concentration of fish bones were found under the remains of a spade in W2. The date on the coin indicates that the fire must have taken place after 1858. It is known that Stellenbosch was struck by three major fires and in 1875 one destroyed nearly all the houses along this stretch of Plein Street (Vos & Heydenrych 1994).

Just to the south of EW Wall M is another cobbled surface. This surface follows the natural slope of the ground and ends at what seems to be a cobble lined water trough (Q4) (Photograph 5). This feature seems to have been partially filled with cobbles and then used as a dump.

Against the southern boundary was a well⁶ (Well Z2) (Photograph 6). The sides of the well were packed with large cobbles set in a brown mortar. Well Z2 was filled with artefacts dating to the mid to late 19th century as well as a very high proportion of bone. Bits of cloth and shoe leather were also excavated. The cloth was not kept.

On the eastern side of NS Wall 5, are two more wells, Well Z9 and Well S6.

Well Z9 is significant in that the bricked wall which would have surrounded the well above the ground had been partially preserved (Photograph 7). It is more usual to find only the subterranean cobbled shaft. This well is positioned underneath the wall dividing Erf 1258 and Ouwe Werf. The artefacts in Well Z9 also dated to the mid to late 19th century. Large pieces of metal were also found in this well.

Well S6 (to the right of the wheelbarrow in Photograph 4), also cobble lined, contained a large proportion of bottles, mostly mineral water bottles. The northern section of the well had collapsed at some stage and may provide the reason for its use as a dump.

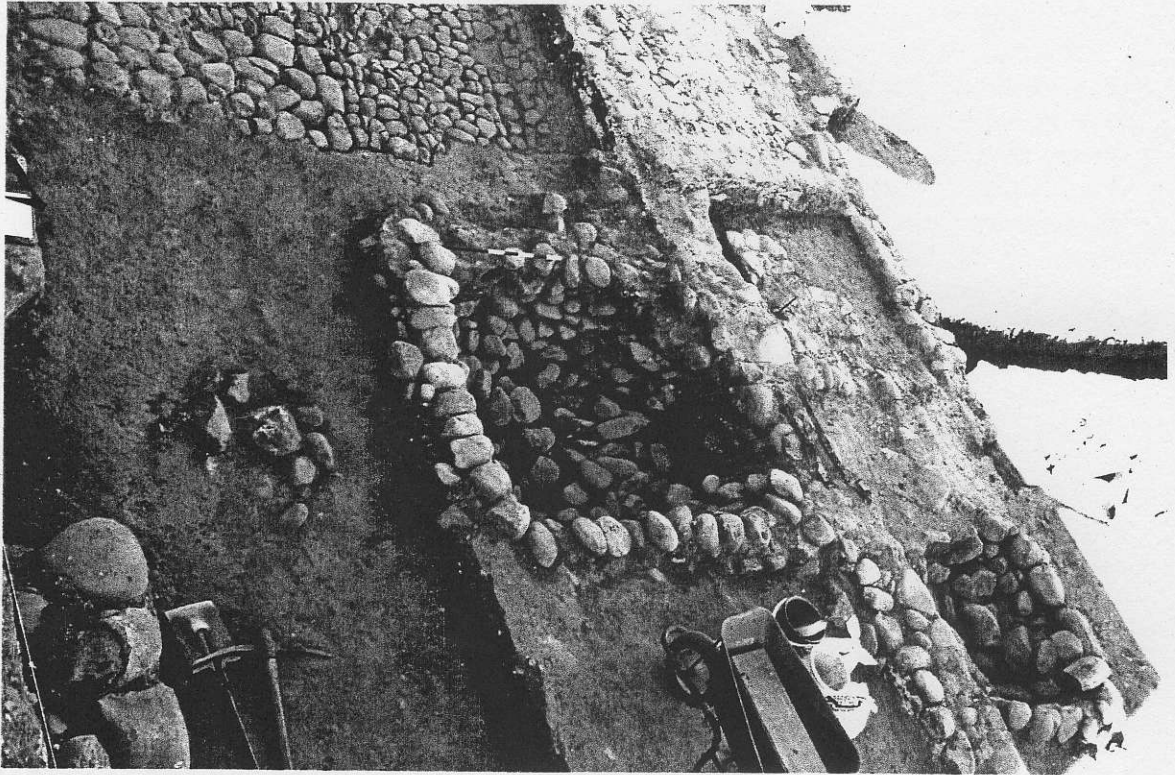
A square feature at R9 may have been a type of drain. The hole was filled with large cobbles, building rubble as well as an assortment of metal including what may have been corrugated iron roof sheets.

The remaining area of the site was tested by test trenches. No *in situ* features were located. The mechanical excavator was monitored while the remaining areas of the site were cleared.

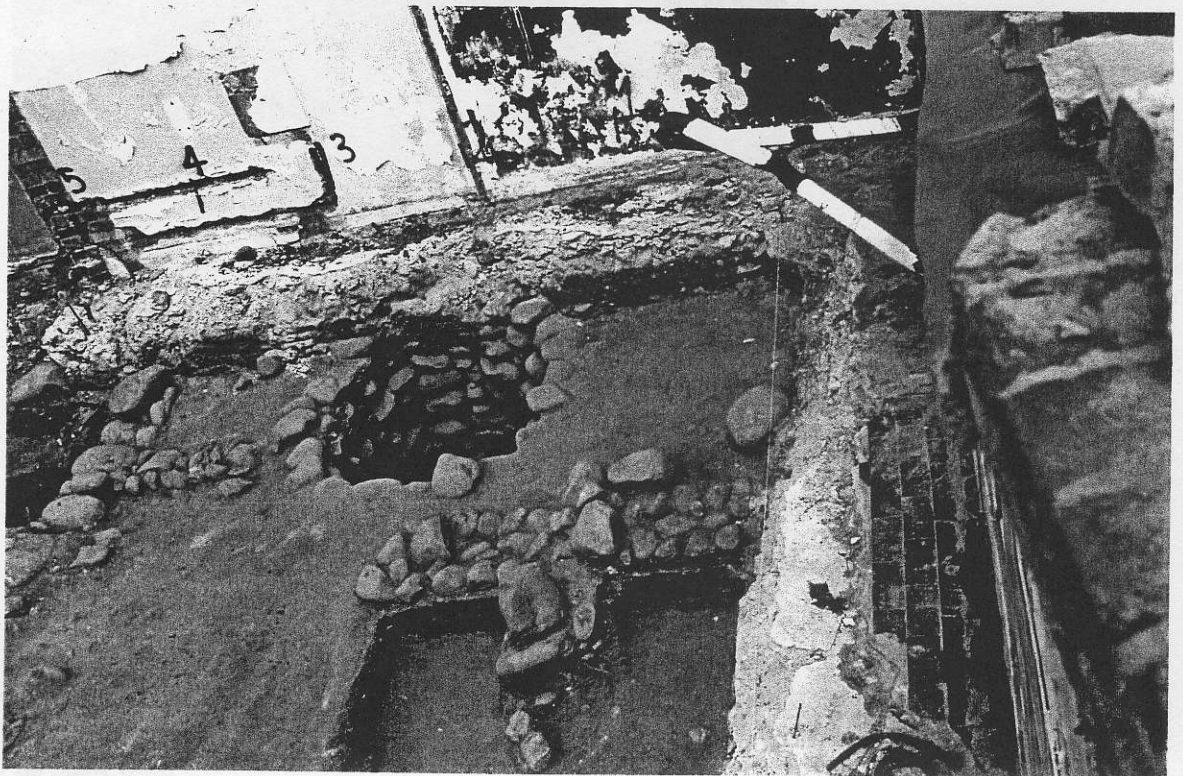
5.2. Artefacts

The preliminary artefact analysis indicates a mid to late 19th century occupation date for the majority of the site. Ceramics found above and below the large cobbled floor indicated that this feature dates to the late 18th/early 19th century.

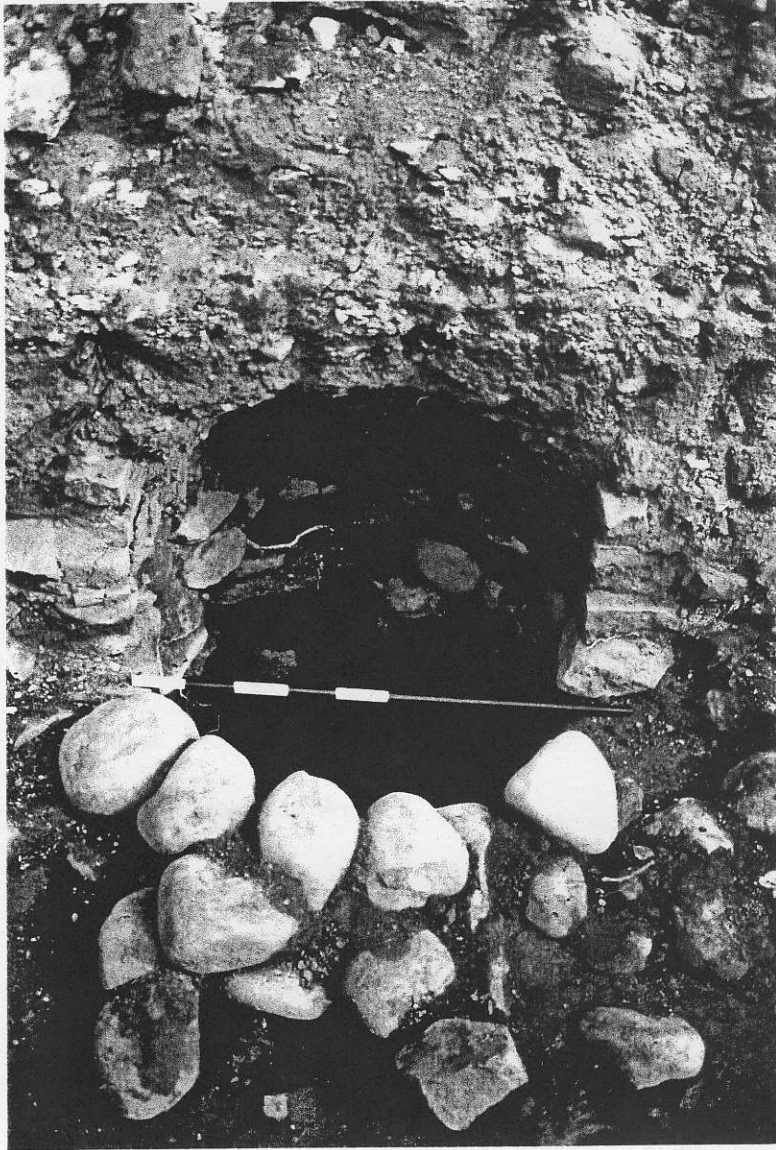
⁶ Artefacts found in wells give an indication of when the wells ceased to be used.



Photograph 5: Water trough at Q4



Photograph 6: Well Z2



Photograph 7: Well Z9. The curved 'roof' is artificial and not part of the structure of the well. Note the bricks along the right hand side of the photograph and along its back wall.

5.2.1. Ceramics

Ceramics found on archaeological sites are a useful method of periodizing deposits – both through the presence and absence of certain types and their relative proportions. Ceramics found on archaeological sites are classed in three main categories: earthenware, stoneware and porcelain. Categories can then be further subdivided by ware type and decoration. Key types, useful for dating, were either manufactured for a specific period of time, and/or have been associated with certain time periods in the history of the western Cape, based on their presence in other archaeological assemblages. For example, Chinese and Japanese porcelain dominate Cape assemblages until the end of the 18th century. After 1795 and the occupation of the Cape by the British, the Cape opened as a market for British manufactured refined earthenwares. The intense competition between British potters led to a fast evolution in styles and wares; a white earthenware covered with a clear yellow-green tinted glaze known as cream coloured ware was manufactured between 1760s to c1820s. Similarly, a white earthenware, but with a slightly blue tinted glaze, known as pearlware, was manufactured between 1775 and the late 1840s (Klose & Malan 2000).

The bulk of the ceramics of this assemblage is British manufactured refined industrial wares dating to the mid to late 19th century. Chinese porcelain has been found under the large cobble floor surface and in the test pit at A1. Relatively small amounts of Chinese porcelain have also been found in test pits in disturbed areas.

Small ink bottles (stoneware) were common on this site.

5.2.2. Glass

A large variety of wine bottles, round and square, as well as a good collection of mineral water bottles was found. Medicinal bottles, poison bottles are also present. Tableware (wine glasses, tumblers and decorative bowls) and fragments of coloured glass lampshades are present. With the exception of an 18th century bottle lip found in the wall of the water trough at P4, the bottles support a mid to late 19th, possibly early 20th century date for the site.

5.2.3. Stone

A gunflint was found in Well Z2.

5.2.4. Bone

The bone has not been analysed by a specialist. The majority of the bone shows evidence of butchering and cut marks. Bones from cattle and sheep dominate the assemblage. Fish, bird and pig are present.

A number of loose human teeth were found in the surface layers in three locations. Some of these teeth had fillings, while others had huge cavities. It is my impression that these teeth are the result of extractions as there were no obviously human bones found in association with these teeth.

5.2.5. Shell

The shell component in the assemblage is very small and includes alikreukel and white mussel. During the 17th and 18th century, it was common for shell to be burnt on site for the making of lime plaster. According to Hennie Vos (pers comm. 2003) this practice was discontinued by the 19th century.

6. Conclusion

Historically, Stellenbosch was an agricultural town and early trades included smithies⁷, mills, bricklayers, carpenters and the odd wagon maker. Due to the control that the Dutch East India Company exercised (or tried to) over the economic activities of the freeburghers, it was only after 1795, when the Cape was occupied by the British, that Stellenbosch experienced a boom in commercial development. Dr HAJB Hammerschmidt who lived in Stellenbosch for a few years in the 1860s, described the town as having 'one bank, one hotel⁸, ten liquor shops, two distilleries, three wheat mills, one brick and tile factory, one cheap butcher, an omnibus company ...a post office, an auctioneer's office, one brewery, three fruit and tree nurseries and five chemist's shops' (Smuts (ed) 1979:213). It is certain that, although not mentioned by Hammerschmidt, a number of general stores must have served the needs of the town.

Stellenbosch had experienced three major fires in its history; 1710, 1803 and 1875 (Vos & Heydenrych 1994). The fire of 1710 destroyed the first church.

In 1783, the Ou Kerkhof was subdivided and the first dwellings were built. In 1803 another fire swept through the village destroying many of the houses. The remains of the original dwelling house would be situated under the existing building (Pikkie Blommaert and Finleys). The remains of the late 18th century foundations which extend southwards from this building probably date to the rebuilding phase after 1803. The large cobble floor dates to the late 18th early 19th century with pearlware, cream coloured ware present in the associated deposits. Chinese porcelain is present in the deposits underneath this floor surface.

An 1817 survey of the village by Hertzog (Figure 6), as well as a map drawn in 1859 by Hager (Figure 12), shows two rectangular structures on the site. In a reconstruction representing c1860, Fransen (Figure 13⁹) drew the structure on Erf 1258 as a U-shaped building, while the structure on Erf 1263 is rectangular with a L-shaped extension at the rear.

A 1938 aerial photograph shown an enlarged eastern wing behind Pikkie Blommaert. The archaeological record shows that this enlargement was built on cement foundations. A small shed was built to the east of the NS Wall 5 and the floor surface was plastered with cement. Underneath the cement was crushed red brick and rubble.

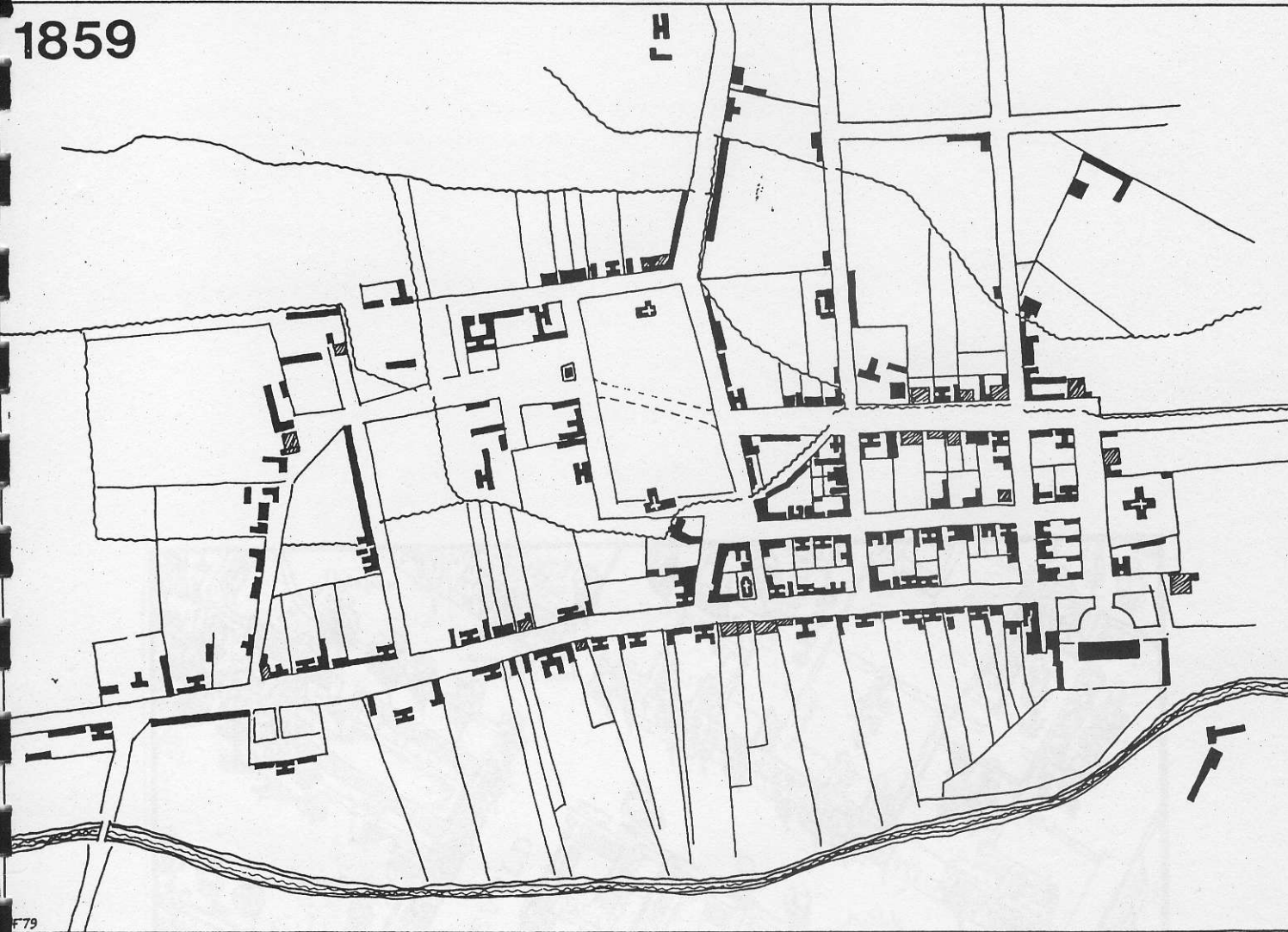
The significance of this site lies in its potential to contribute towards the understanding of the development of this block in the context of the changing townscape of Stellenbosch. In the case of Erf 1258, foundations and floor surfaces spanning the 19th century development of the site were uncovered intact. The fact that the artefacts can be directly linked to a specific household within a controlled geographic area is also significant. For instance, most 19th century archaeological assemblages found or salvaged during building projects in Cape Town

⁷ Smiths supplied farmers with hoes, ploughs etc.

⁸ Presently Ouwe Werf, it was known in the mid 19th century as Wium's hotel.

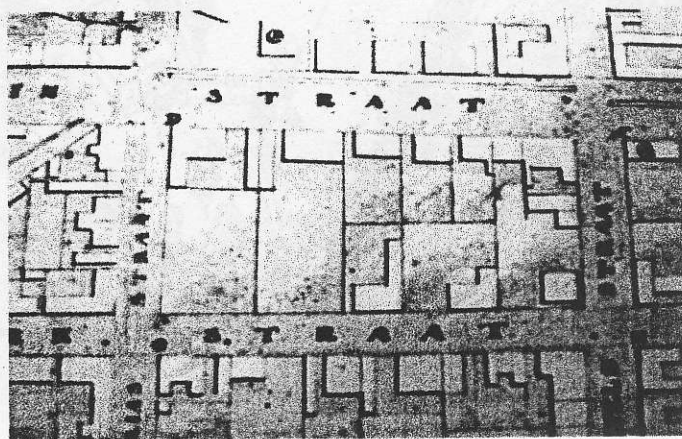
⁹ Vos & Heydenrych 1994

1859



F79

(i)



(ii)

Figure 12: 1859 Hager map
i. A reconstruction by H Fransen (Smuts (ed) 1979)
ii. Original housed in Stellenbosch museum (Pistorius & Harris 2003)

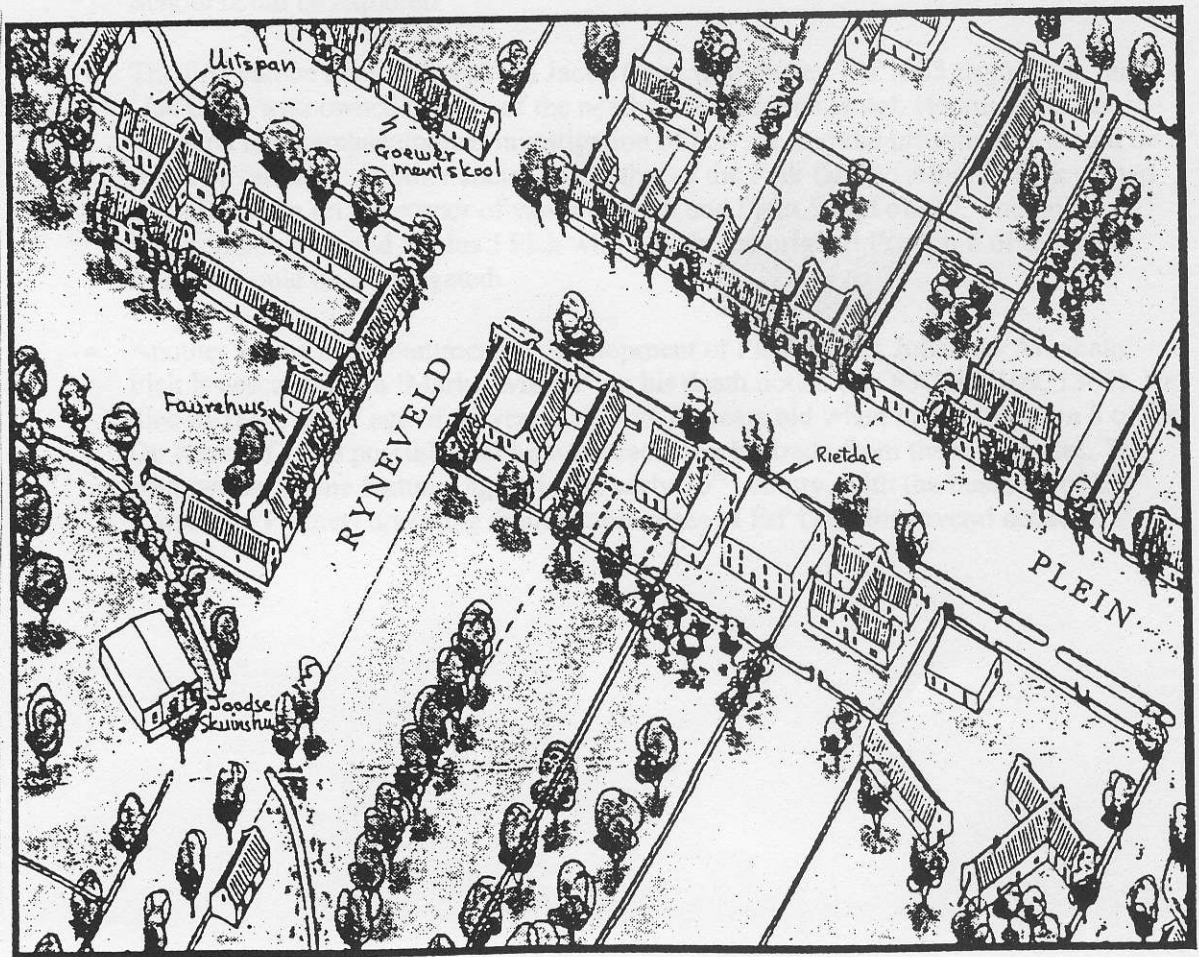


Figure 13: 'Bird's eye view' reconstruction of site c1860 by H Fransen (Vos & Heydenrych 1994)

are dumps, or not linkable to specific households. By the middle of the 19th century, Stellenbosch had developed into a town with small businesses and shops on almost all the streets (Smuts (ed) 1979:204-210).

7. Recommendations

Interest in an interpretative display has been voiced. Though not included within this brief, some comments and suggestions can be offered.

- It is recommended that the interpretative display is approached holistically and includes the archaeology and history of the block as a whole.
- The site can be tied into the broader socio-economic network of 19th and early 20th century Stellenbosch. For example, the links that the site had with the Bloemhof School could be explored.
- The link can be explored between Jacob Cats, who owned Erf 1263 from 1820, and 'Jan Cats' who owned the site of the nearby Stellenbosch Hotel. Hennie Vos was involved in an archaeological investigation of that site and the information should be readily available. Another social link is that of the Fick family. Athonie Fick owned the ABSA site on the corner of van Ryneveld and Plein Street c1730. The link between this Fick and Paulus J Fick who bought the original Portion 8 of the Ou Kerkhof could be investigated.
- Another theme is the commercial development of Plein Street. Johannes Abraham Fick is described as a 'Market Master' on his death notice (MOOC 6/9/109, 1366). He died in 1864, at the age of 68 years. He was 24 years old when he sold Portion 8 of the Ou Kerkhof. It is possible that he was practicing his trade from these premises. The commercial theme features again in the early 20th century, with the business of Le Roux (and Partner) operating from the premises of Erf 1263 for several decades.

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