

## Chapter 4

# The Post-medieval and modern periods (c AD 1550-2000)

by Steven Teague

### PERIOD 6: EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL (c AD 1550-1700)

#### Dating evidence

The principal dating evidence continued to be pottery, the defining fabric of which was the ubiquitous red earthenware domestic crockery (fabric BPT280). Although it can only be generally dated to 1550-1900, much of it occurred in contexts where it was associated with more closely dated fabrics such as English tin-glazed earthenware (fabric BPT99, c 1650-1800) and occasionally Frechen stoneware (fabric BPT286, c 1550-1750). Several contexts contained chronologically diagnostic clay pipes that dated from 1610 onward, notably production wasters from the Flower Hunt family (1651-90) found in an oven/kiln from property TSE1(S).

#### The Law Ditch (Figs 4.1-3)

No alterations to the Law Ditch were attributed to Period 6 and it is likely that the Period 4 culvert continued in use.

#### The Redcliff Fee (Figs 4.2-3)

##### *Property boundaries*

Properties LDW1-3 continued to be defined by the walls that had been built during Period 4. Period 6 features were limited to a well in LDW1 and drains in LDW1 and LDW3.

##### *Property LDW1 (Group A1.88)*

At some point after oven 3230 was demolished (Period 4, above), a stone-lined drain (3085) was constructed. This appeared to divide into two branches close to the western edge of the excavation area. The northern branch of the drain fed into a second drain (3266), which had been extensively robbed. It is notable that the drains appeared to avoid well 3082, suggesting that it was still in use. The drains were constructed with sandstone bonded with a fine sandy white mortar and some of the capping stones remained intact on drain 3085.

No dating evidence was recovered, although they pre-dated the construction of Period 8 wall 3145.

##### *Property LDW3 (Group A1.88)*

A stone-lined drain (3008) ran approximately parallel to property boundary wall 3025 for a length of over 16m. It appears to have been constructed late in Period 6, since clay pipe fragments datable to 1680-1710 were recovered from the construction trench. It was built with sandstone bonded with red sandy mortar and capped with sandstone slabs and flowed from south to north, into the Law Ditch. A second drain (3010) fed into drain 3008 from the south-east, apparently leading from the boundary wall. Drain 3010 had silted up by the very beginning of the 18th century, since it contained a group of clay pipe fragments datable to 1680-1710.

#### The Temple Fee

##### *West of Temple Street (Figs 4.2-3)*

##### *Property boundaries*

The properties continued to be divided by the walls that were built during Period 4.

##### *Property TSW1 (Group A1.86)*

A shallow hollow (3408) and a pit (3046) were the only features that could be attributed to this period. Both were filled with rubble and may have derived from the robbing of Period 4 features.

##### *Property TSW2*

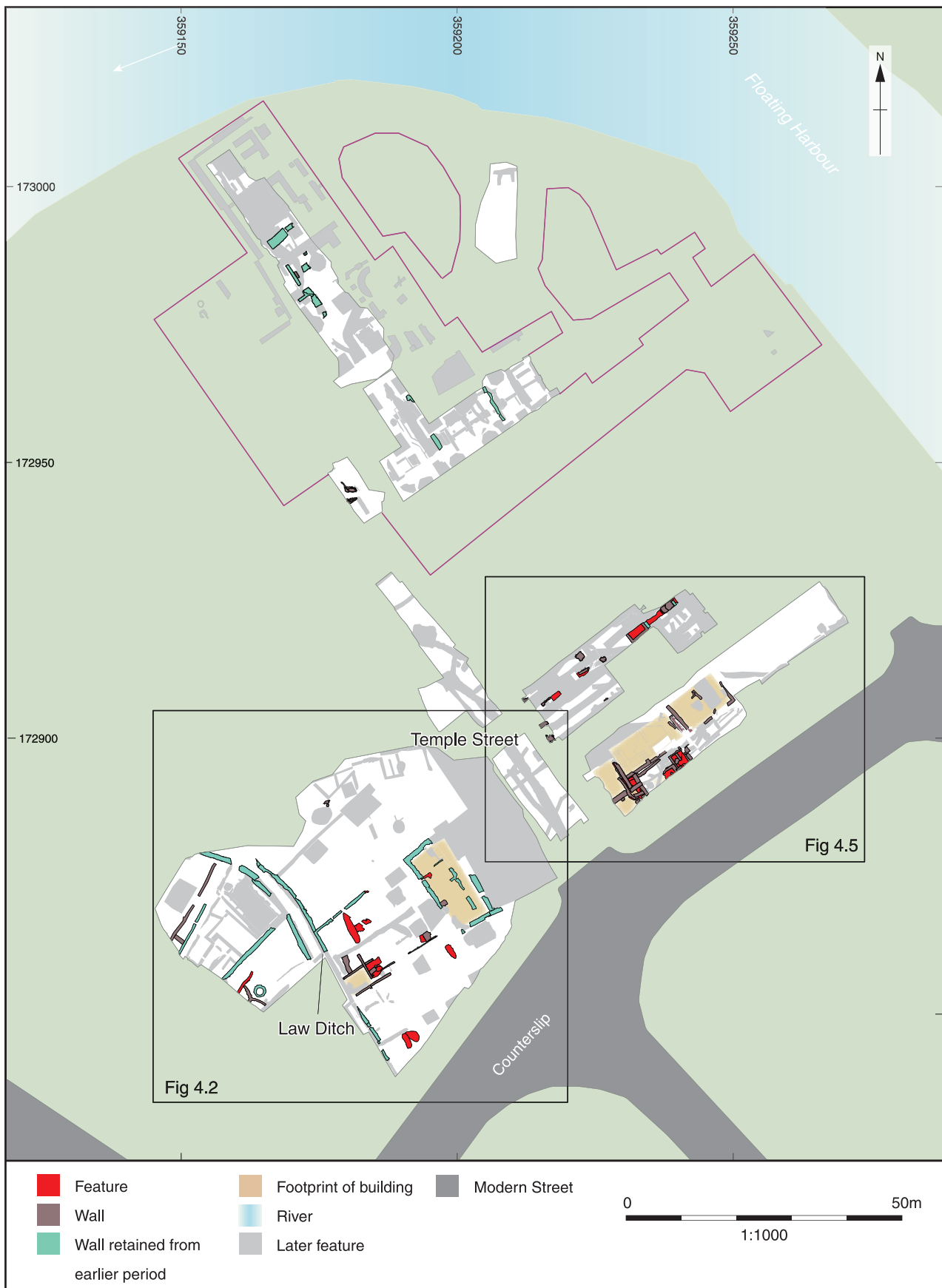
##### *Building 7202 (Group A1.87)*

Activity within this property was represented by robber trench 3831, which removed part of Period 4 wall 3991, perhaps indicating that Building 7502(N) was demolished at this time.

##### *Property TSW3*

Period 4 Buildings 7240 and 7503 both continued in use. Building 7503 was modified by the addition of a wall (3497, Group A1.87) to the north-east side.

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*



*Fig. 4.1 Plan of all Period 6 features*



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The width of the new wall, 0.7m, was far greater than the walls of the existing building, suggesting that it served as a foundation for a structure such as a staircase. The wall was abutted to its north by a path (3496) that measured 1.1m wide and led from the building towards the frontage area. It comprised well-packed, coarse sandstone rubble that probably represented the base for a cobbled surface that did not survive. Further elements of it were revealed further east (4135) and here it sealed a rubbish pit levelled with charcoal that contained a large group of clay pipe fragments including stamped bowls of Richard Berryman that probably date to the period 1620-50. In the northern part of the property robber trench 3485 cut across Period 5 path 3611.

#### *East of Temple Street* (Figs 4.1 and 4.4)

This period saw a substantial enlargement of the built-up area of properties TSE1 and TSE2, with buildings extending back from the frontage across the former yard area. The large stone-founded frontage building constructed in Period 4 (20034) seems to have remained in use, although it underwent considerable modification. Properties TSE1(S) and TSE1(N) can be tentatively identified with two documented properties, Nos 6 and 7 Temple Street, while property TSE2 probably corresponds to Nos 4 and 5 (Fig. 5.6, Leech, DVD section 03). The structures to the rear appear to have been separated by walls that re-established the division between properties TSE1(S) and TSE1(N) that had been apparent during Periods 2 and 3.

#### *Property TSE1(S) (No. 7 Temple Street)*

##### Building 20034 (Group A5.22) (Figs 4.4-7)

As far as it can be ascertained, Building 20034 continued in use, although it underwent extensive remodelling and was extended to the rear.

The possible Period 4 partition wall represented by robber trench 2415 was replaced by a substantial wall (2138) located immediately to the south-east, which also formed part of an extension added to the rear of the southern part of the building formed by walls 2139 and 2140. Wall foundation 2138 measured 0.90m in width and comprised large roughly hewn sandstone blocks surviving to four courses and bonded by pink lime mortar. The substantial nature of this wall would be consistent with a party wall rather than an internal partition, suggesting that it divided two separate dwellings (Nos 6 and 7?). Wall 2139 abutted wall 2138. It measured 0.80m wide to the north of wall 2138, but was narrower to the south, at 0.62m, and it was constructed using the same materials as wall 2138. Stone-lined drain 2137 was contemporary with these alterations. It ran parallel to Period 4 wall 2219 and passed through wall 2138 before turning sharply eastwards and probably exiting through the rear wall of the extended building (2139). It had been extensively robbed but its base measured

c 0.30m wide and comprised large rectangular sandstone slabs edged with small rectangular sandstone blocks. Its fill contained a clay pipe bowl dated to c 1610-40 as well as a book clasp and sherds from a 16th-century glass beaker.

Within the north room, a possible fireplace (2380), 1.5m wide, was inserted into the rear wall of the building. It was constructed on a foundation of roughly cut sandstone blocks bonded by a fine pinkish brown sandy mortar reminiscent of the walls of the extension to the building and therefore suggesting contemporaneity. The base and sides of the fireplace may have been lined with stone slabs, fragments of which survived *in situ*. A second smaller hearth (2286) located at the junction with party wall 2138, comprised a rectangular recess in the wall measuring 0.70m in width. Only its base survived, consisting of small rectangular fire-blackened sandstone blocks set on their sides in a sandy bedding.

The south room contained three rectangular stone-built hearths (2136, 2222 and 2266). All had been built with thin sandstone slabs edged with coursed small blocks, and all were heavily blackened by fire (Fig. 4.7). Hearth 2136 was built directly over the capping stones of drain 2137, which survived at this point, so it is possible that the drain remained in use after the hearth was built. Wall 2217 appeared to comprise a late addition to the room, since it abutted wall 2139 and appeared to respect the line of drain 2137. However, it did not stand for long, since the room was levelled with mortar rubble that contained clay pipe stems datable to 1690-1730 and a copper alloy thimble of mid-17th century date.

##### Building 20036 (Group A5.18)

Located 7m to the rear of the main frontage building was a small rectangular structure (20036; Figs 4.5 and 4.8) that measured 2.2 x at least 2.7m. Its northern extent had been truncated by Period 7 drain 2786 and it was built over Period 4 garden soils. It was subdivided into two approximately equal parts. Its exterior walls (2122) measured 0.40m in width and were constructed with roughly squared stone blocks bonded by red/pink mortar. The internal partition wall (2191) abutted wall 2122 and was of a similar width and construction. Fragmentary remains of a stone slab floor survived within the south-west room, supported upon a bedding of firm orange sand that extended into the north-east room and contained a clay pipe stem datable to 1610-1710. A stone step on its north-east side led to possible garden bed features separated by a slate path (2023) that measured 1.0m in width. On the south-east side of the path were at least two areas of bedding that were marked out by a rectangular arrangement of thin stone slabs (2349) that had been driven vertically into the underlying Period 4 garden soils. The north-west edge of the path was marked by a narrow and roughly built stone wall (2387).

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

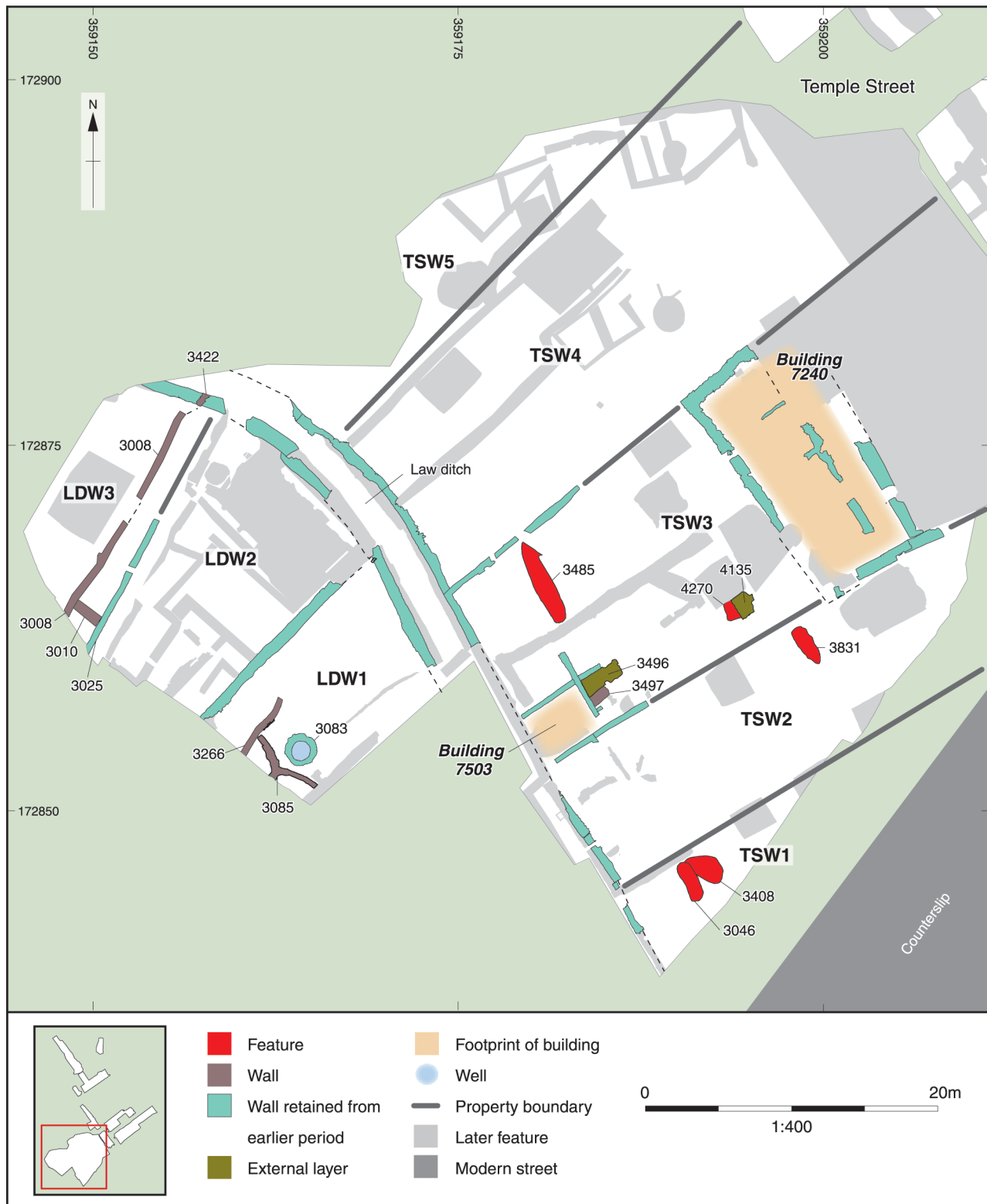


Fig. 4.2 Plan of Period 6 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

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Fig. 4.3 Group plan of Period 6 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

## From Bridgehead to Brewery

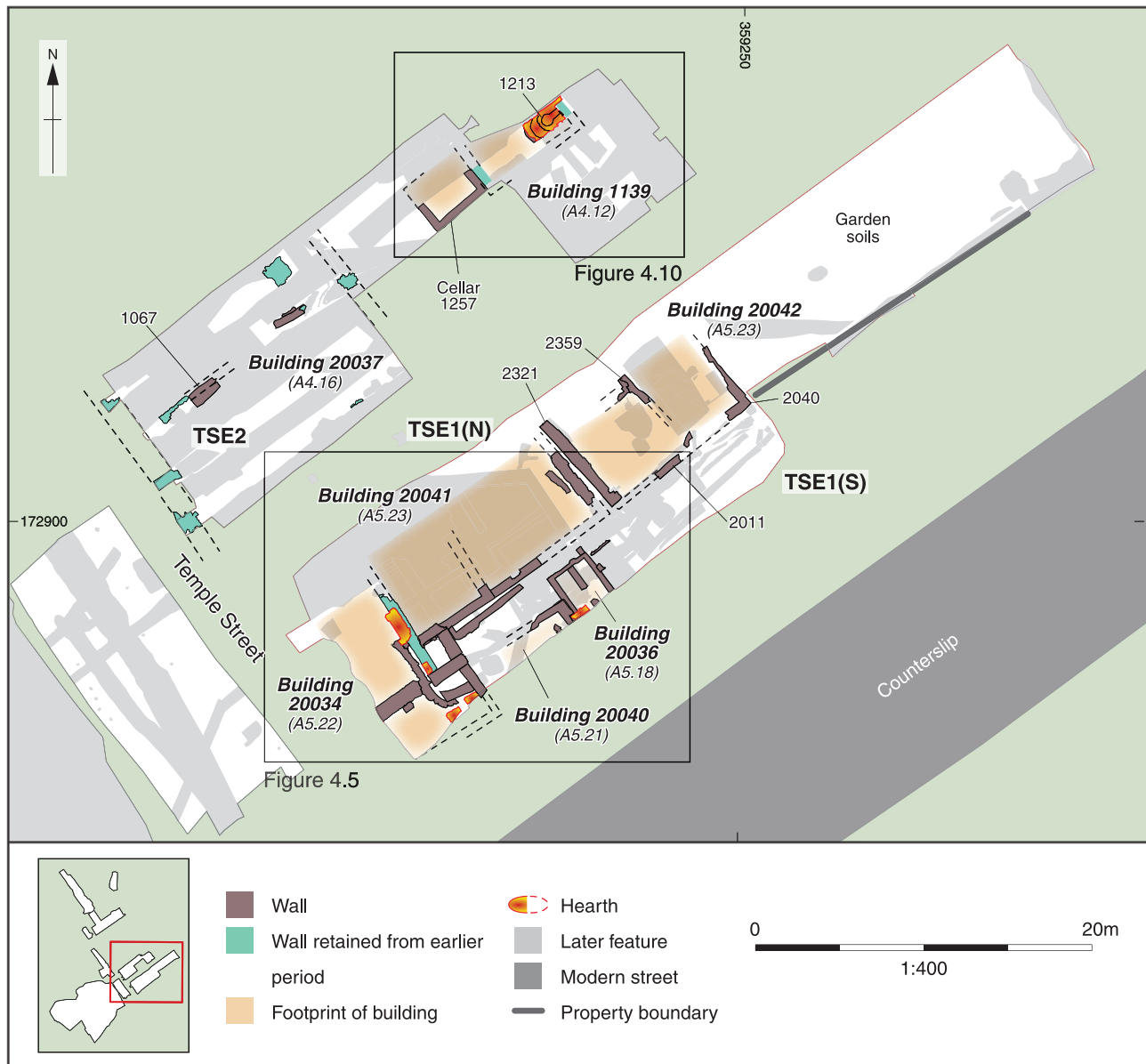


Fig. 4.4 Plan of Period 6 features east of Temple Street, Areas 4 and 5

Building 20040 (Group A5.21) (Figs 4.5–6 and 4.9)

After Building 20036 was demolished it was covered with 0.32m of limestone and pinkish mortar rubble prior to the construction of a second building (20040) on its south-west side. Only the north-east corner of the structure survived within the excavated area, and the east wall abutted and slightly overlay the west wall of Building 20036. It was built of large roughly cut sandstone blocks bonded with white chalk mortar. The north-east wall, at 0.64m, was considerably wider than the north wall, which only measured 0.40m wide, and it is suggested that its wider part marked the position of a staircase base. A small stone feature (2155) may have formed part of this stair-base and comprised mostly flat sandstones set upright on edge. A rectangular stone-lined hearth or oven

(2192; Fig. 4.9) was subsequently built into the (exterior?) face of the north-east wall. It comprised a rectangular pit measuring 1.1 x 0.34m and 0.29m deep that was lined on its north-west, north-east and south-east sides with thin (0.05 m) vertically-set stone slabs bonded together by lime mortar. The base of the feature comprised similar slabs laid horizontally. The whole structure had a reddish discolouring due to subjection to intense heat. There was a fine deposit of charcoal at its base that was presumably deposited during its final use before the feature was backfilled with brick and stone rubble. This infill (2194) contained a small group of probable production wasters from a clay tobacco pipe kiln including two bowls, each marked FLO/WER.H/VNT. One of the bowls had slaggy concretion adhering and others had traces of fired pipe clay adhering, possibly the result of

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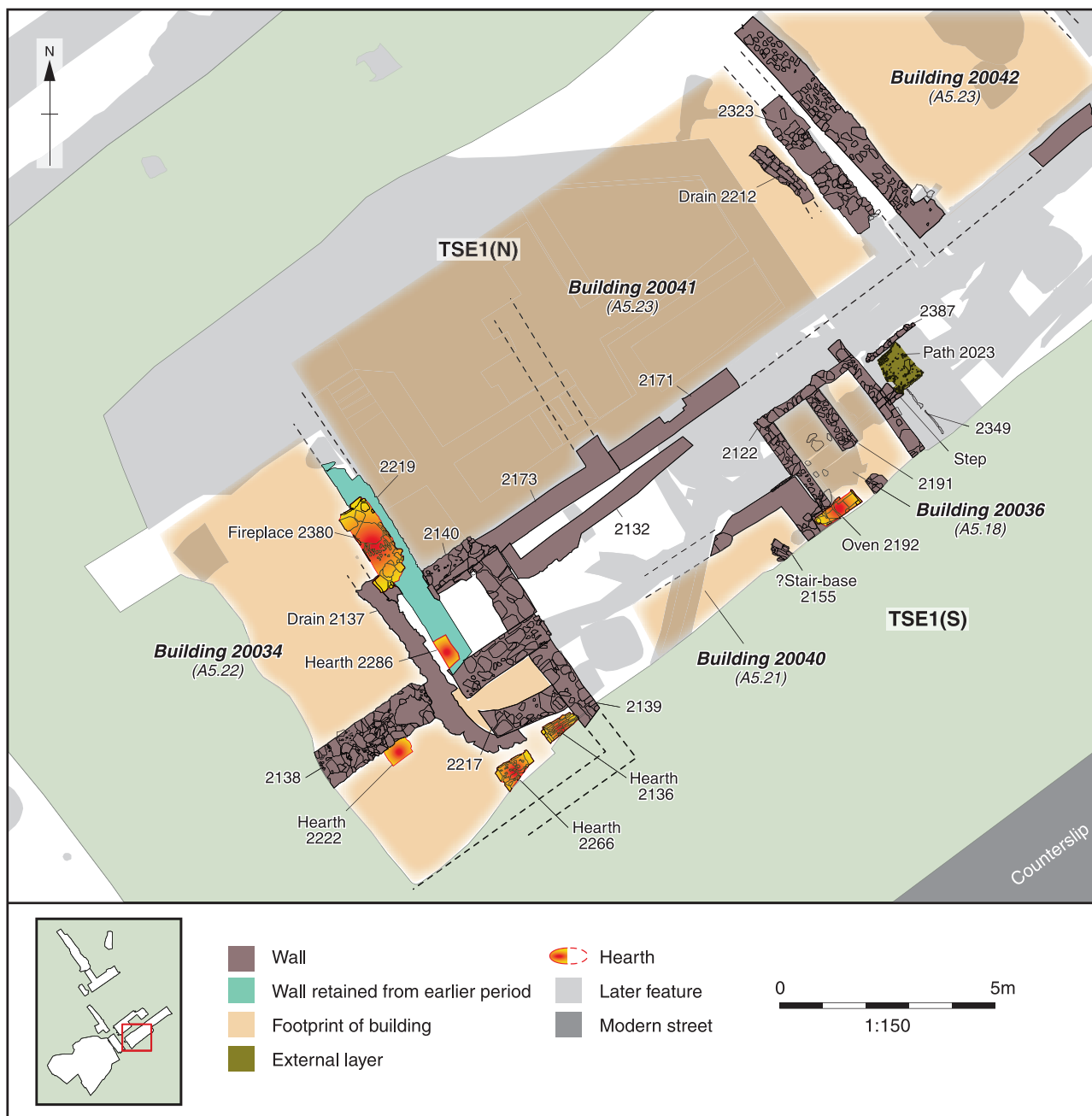


Fig. 4.5 Plan of properties TSE1(S) and TSE(N), Period 6

having being built into a kiln muffle. The Flower Hunt family are known to have operated a pipe manufacturing business in Bristol at Castle Street from 1651 to 1690 (Higgins, chapter 7).

*Property TSE1(N) (No. 6 Temple Street) (Fig. 4.10)*

The area behind the north side of the frontage of Building 20034 appears to have been occupied by a range of buildings for a distance of 24m. At least two large stone buildings (20041 and 20042) were identified, although both had suffered much truncation from Victorian cellars. Their south-eastern walls formed a straight alignment that probably represented the boundary between TSE1(S) and

TSE1(N). Building 20041 abutted wall 2219 of frontage Building 20034.

**Building 20041 (Group A5.23) (Fig. 4.5)**

The building was originally restricted to the footprint defined to the north-east and south-east by wall 2173. Wall 2173 was constructed of roughly hewn sandstone blocks bonded by pinkish lime mortar. It survived c 0.54m above its foundation level and had been rendered with white plaster on its internal (north-west) side. The wall appeared to have been part of the same build as the north wall of the extension to Building 20034 (2140), implying that the extension was



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

Fig. 4.6 Period 6 features in property TSE1(S), showing Buildings 20040, 20036 and the rear of Building 20034, cut by Period 7 drain 2063, looking north-east. Scales 1m and 2m



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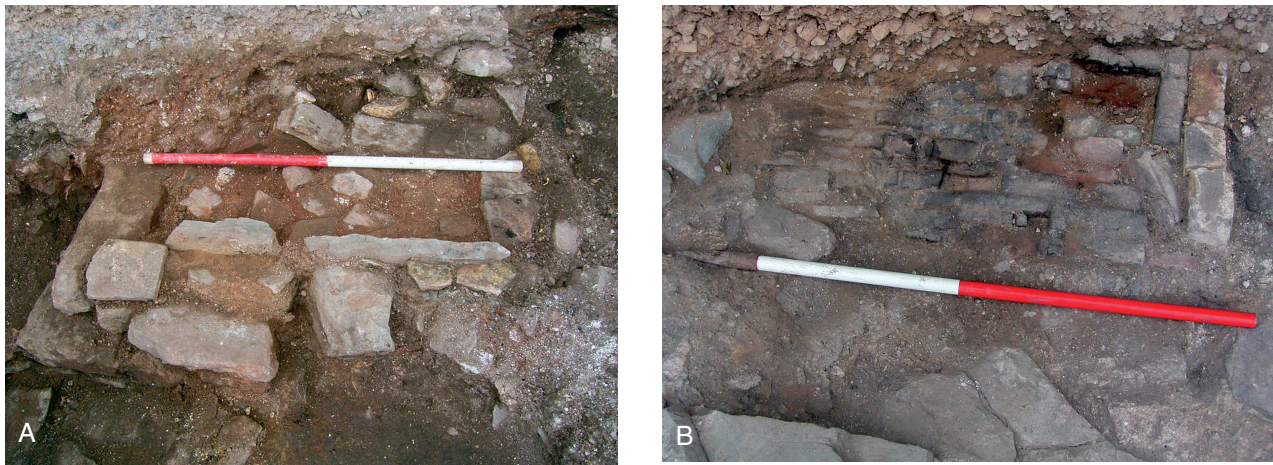


Fig. 4.7 Hearths within the south room of Building 20034, TSE1(S): a) 2266, looking south-east, scale 1m; b) 2136, looking south-east. Scale 1m



Fig. 4.8 Period 6 Building 20036, TSE1(S), looking south-west



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*



Fig. 4.9 Oven 2192 built into the north-east wall of Period 6 Building 20040, TSE1(S), looking south-west

built at the same time. Contemporary with the construction of wall 2173 was wall 2132, which ran approximately parallel and lay *c* 0.30m further south-east. It was 0.44m wide and comprised roughly finished limestone blocks bonded with mortar identical to that used for wall 2173. It was faced on its north-west facing side but was founded more deeply. The gap between the walls had been filled with compacted red clay. One possibility is that it represented the remains of a robbed drain that fed from Building 20034 (which would account for the facing on its north-west side). The building was subsequently extended eastward by up to 8.3m by the addition of a second room defined by walls 2171 and 2323. Though both walls were constructed with roughly hewn sandstone or limestone blocks, their mortar bonding showed some variation. Wall 2171 utilised reddish brown mortar whereas wall 2323 exhibited yellowish brown lime mortar. A narrow stone-lined drain (2212) parallel to wall 2323 may have been contemporary with the building.

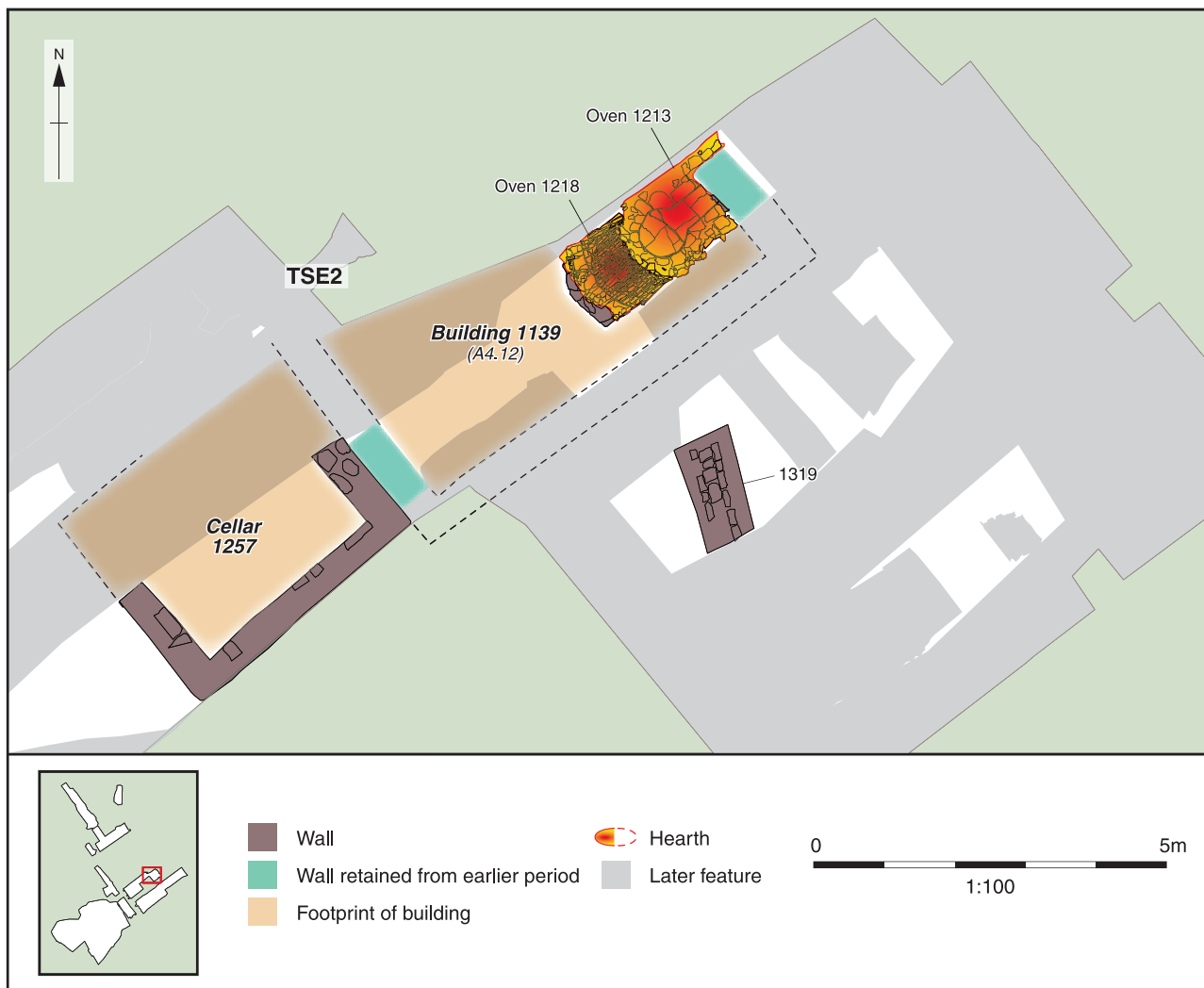


Fig. 4.10 Plan of Period 6 building 1139, TSE2

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## Building 20042 (Group A5.23) (Fig. 4.4)

To the rear of Building 20041 were the remains of one or more buildings defined by walls 2040, 2011 and 2321. If these were a single building, it measured 9.0m (NE-SW) across internally. The walls were of similar construction and size, measuring 0.76-0.86m in width and constructed of largely unsquared sandstone blocks bonded with a greyish mortar that contained charcoal flecks. Wall 2011 had plaster on its north-west (internal) face. Wall fragment 2359 may represent an internal wall that divided the building into two approximately equal parts, or alternatively it may have formed an original external wall of a smaller building that was later extended by the construction of wall 2040.

*Property TSE2 (Nos. 4-5 Temple Street)*

## Building 20037 (Group A4.16) (Fig. 4.4)

As with the preceding periods, there was little surviving evidence for activity of this date along the frontage. However, it is most likely that Period 3 stone Building 20037 continued in use and did not undergo modifications that left any surviving remains. The only structural feature that may belong to this phase was a short length of a shallow NE-SW aligned wall foundation (1251), possible an internal division. Running along its north-east edge was slight evidence of a stone-lined drain, largely destroyed by a modern pile trench. It is possible that shallow rubble-filled pit 1067, which was located approximately on the same alignment, could have been a robber trench, possibly removing wall 1251.

## Building 1139 (Group A4.12) (Figs 4.4 and 4.10-11)

Period 4 Building 1139 continued in use into Period 6. Modifications in this period comprised the removal of the Period 4 hearth 1379, and the insertion of two successive ovens (1218 and 1213). The building was extended to the south-west with the addition of a small rectangular stone-lined cellar (1257). The cellar probably did not extend further north than Period 7 cellar 1138, which is likely to have formed part of the adjoining property (see below). Cellar 1257 was constructed with roughly squared sandstone blocks, faced on their exposed sides and bonded with a slightly pinkish white mortar. At the top of the south-east wall the stones were slightly pitched suggesting the springing for a vaulted ceiling. The cellar infill was removed to a depth of 1.0m but its floor level was not reached. Although it can be dated stratigraphically to the post-medieval period, no other dating evidence was recovered, although the lack of brick in its construction suggests that it was built before the 18th/19th centuries. To the south of the building were the remains of a stone-lined drain (1319) aligned approximated N-S and at an angle to the structure (which may be contemporary).

Circular oven 1218 (Fig. 4.11) was built within a pit that was 0.72m deep and which had largely been levelled with layers of compacted and coarse sand and sandstone fragments in an attempt to stabilise the underlying soft ground. This formed the base for the construction of the oven wall, which lined the edges of the pit and consisted of large rectangular Pennant sandstone blocks laid on edge on a bed of fine sand. The estimated internal diameter of the oven was about 1.3m. The floor of the oven was also constructed of small sandstone slabs set on edge and into the underlying sand base. The faces of the stones had been heavily discoloured by heat. The later oven (1213) survived almost complete and was of key-hole shape. It had cut away the north-east part of oven 1218 and was built up against the north-east wall of Period 4 Building 1139. It had an open flue at the north-east side that seemed to have been formed through an opening through the north-east wall of Building 1139. The opening was lined on the north-west side with a short stretch of wall that was of the same build but was off-set from the flue; the corresponding wall on the south-east did not survive. The walls of the oven were formed with roughly coursed Pennant sandstone blocks, poorly cemented with white mortar. Its floor comprised large flat slabs of the same stone, with a shallow circular depression caused by wear, presumably from repeated fuelling and cleaning-out. The internal faces of the oven bore evidence of heat, with



Fig. 4.11 Oven 1213 with earlier oven 1218 to the rear, Building 1139, TSE2, looking south-west



discolouration and cracking/flaking suggesting sustained or repeated exposure to very high temperatures. On the base of the opening through the wall of Building 1139 was a 0.15m-thick deposit of spent fuel (coal) and ash that contained clay pipes datable to 1650-1710 and part of a glass dish of similar date.

## PERIOD 7: LATE POST-MEDIEVAL PERIOD (c AD 1700-1800)

### Dating evidence

Although pottery, clay pipes and, increasingly, glass vessels continued to be the principal form of dating evidence, cartographic evidence also played an important part in this period. Structures on the west side of Temple Street, predating the construction of Bath Street during the 1780s, were clearly discernible. Similarly, on the east side of the street, activity predating the construction of Phillip Street in the 1830s was also evident. House numbers used are those used in Leech's documentary research (Fig. 5.6 and DVD section 03)

### The Law Ditch (Groups A1.97 and A1.102) (Figs 4.12-13)

The culvert was given an additional internal stone lining on its sides and possibly its base (3856 and 3430, Fig. 2.4), reducing its dimensions to c 1.6m wide and c 1.1m deep. It is not possible to be certain that the relining/rebuilding of the channel occurred contemporaneously though this would seem likely, particularly where it was exposed within the central part of the excavated area. Here, the re-facing comprised roughly squared sandstone blocks bonded by a fairly hard white/grey mortar that formed a smooth internal face. The re-facing was stratigraphically earlier than the construction of cellared building 3333 (Period 8, below), which entailed the demolition of this part of the earlier medieval culvert while the Period 8 rebuild was retained and its south side faced with brick to form the internal face of the cellar.

### The Redcliff Fee

#### *Property boundaries*

Properties LDW1-3 continued to be defined by the walls that had been built during Period 4. No features of this date were identified within LDW1 or LDW3.

*Property LDW2, No 10 St Thomas Street (Group A1.96) (Fig. 4.13)*

This area was extensively developed during the 19th century, rendering the identification of earlier features problematic. A fragment of wall (3492) stratigraphically earlier than the construction of

Period 8 cellared building 3333 during the 19th century, may have been part of an earlier cellared structure that the later building replaced. Though undated, it was constructed with a mortar whose off-white/grey colour was consistent with a fairly late date, since similar walls on the site were dated no earlier than the 18th century. A heavily truncated stone-lined drain (3153) lay parallel to the wall and presumably drained into the Law Ditch.

### The Temple Fee

#### *West of Temple Street (Figs 4.13-14)*

*Property TSW1, Nos 157-8 Temple Street (Group A1.89)*

The only features that could be assigned to this period were part of a shallow stone-lined pit (6590) and a fragment of drain (3002). It is likely that these features lay within a tenement identifiable as Nos 157-8 Temple Street. Pit 3590 was constructed against the boundary with TSW2 and may have been the truncated remains of a shallow cellar. Its walls comprised roughly hewn limestone blocks bonded with a pink sandy mortar suggesting a pre-19th century date, and the remains of a flagstone floor were apparent.

*Property TSW2*

No features were identified within TSW2, which comprised the yard to the rear of No. 159 Temple Street.

*Property TSW3 (Figs 4.13-4.15)*

A cellared building (7195) was constructed on the street frontage, which had removed any evidence for earlier buildings in this location. The building can be identified with Nos 160-163 Temple Street and another building, No. 164, was subsequently added to its north side. The only features in the yard to the rear of the building were wells, a drain and a small cellar.

*Building 7195, Nos 160-64 Temple St (Group A1.91)*

Whatever medieval or early post-medieval buildings occupied the street frontage were replaced by a range of cellared buildings, although the rear part of the earlier structure (7240) appeared to have been retained within the new design, since its walls corresponded with the arrangement depicted on the 1st Edition OS map of 1883 (Fig. 4.20). The full extent of the complex was exposed (Fig. 4.15) and comprised three identical elements (or tenements), each measuring 3.3m wide and extending back for 11.7m from the street frontage. Each structure survived to a maximum depth of 1.93m and was subdivided into two rooms, the smaller of which was located at the rear. The walls of the structures comprised roughly hewn rectangular stone blocks (sandstone where identified) bonded by grey lime mortar with large inclusions of charcoal flecks. The internal faces were rendered

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Fig. 4.12 Plan of all Period 7 features

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

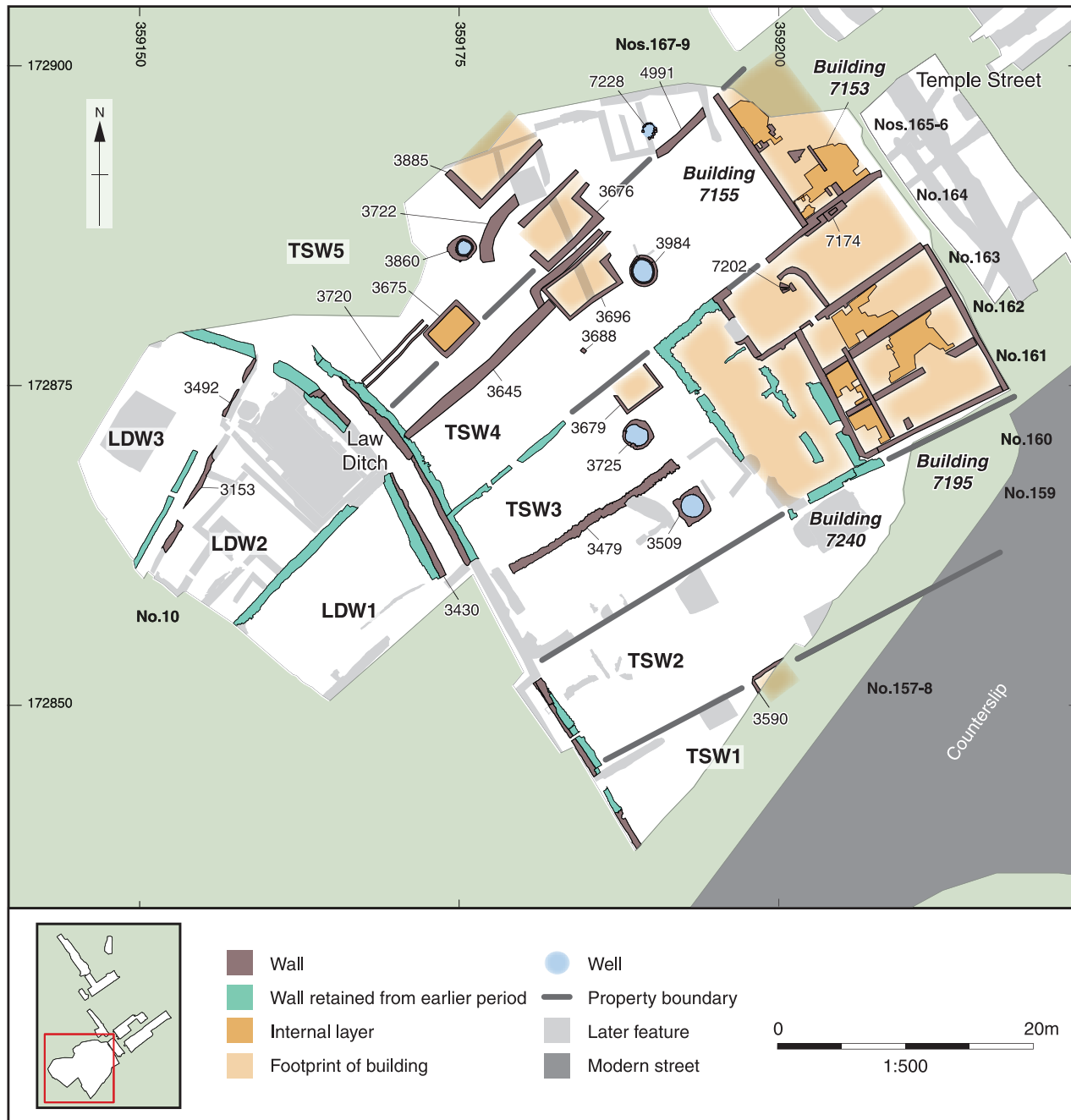


Fig. 4.13 Plan of Period 7 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

with whitish limestone wash. Where they had not been subsequently robbed, each room was floored with large flagstones up to 0.45m across. Each dwelling was accessed from the street via a door located in the north-east wall, although no evidence for any steps leading into them survived. There was access between adjoining cellars by means of doorways located centrally in the walls of the larger rooms, as well as doorways between the rooms of each dwelling. There was also evidence for a door allowing access between the smaller room of the northern dwelling and that of the larger cellar (No 164 Temple Street). All these

doorways had subsequently been blocked with stone and/or red brick.

#### No. 164 Temple Street (Group A1.92)

The extent of the excavated structure corresponded with the footprint of a building depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (Fig. 4.20). The cellar was slightly trapezoidal in plan, in order to utilise the full width of the property. It measured up to 5.9m wide and at least 15.9m long, extending across the line of Period 4 building 7240, which would imply that this building had been demolished by this time. There was no evidence for a wall on the street frontage,



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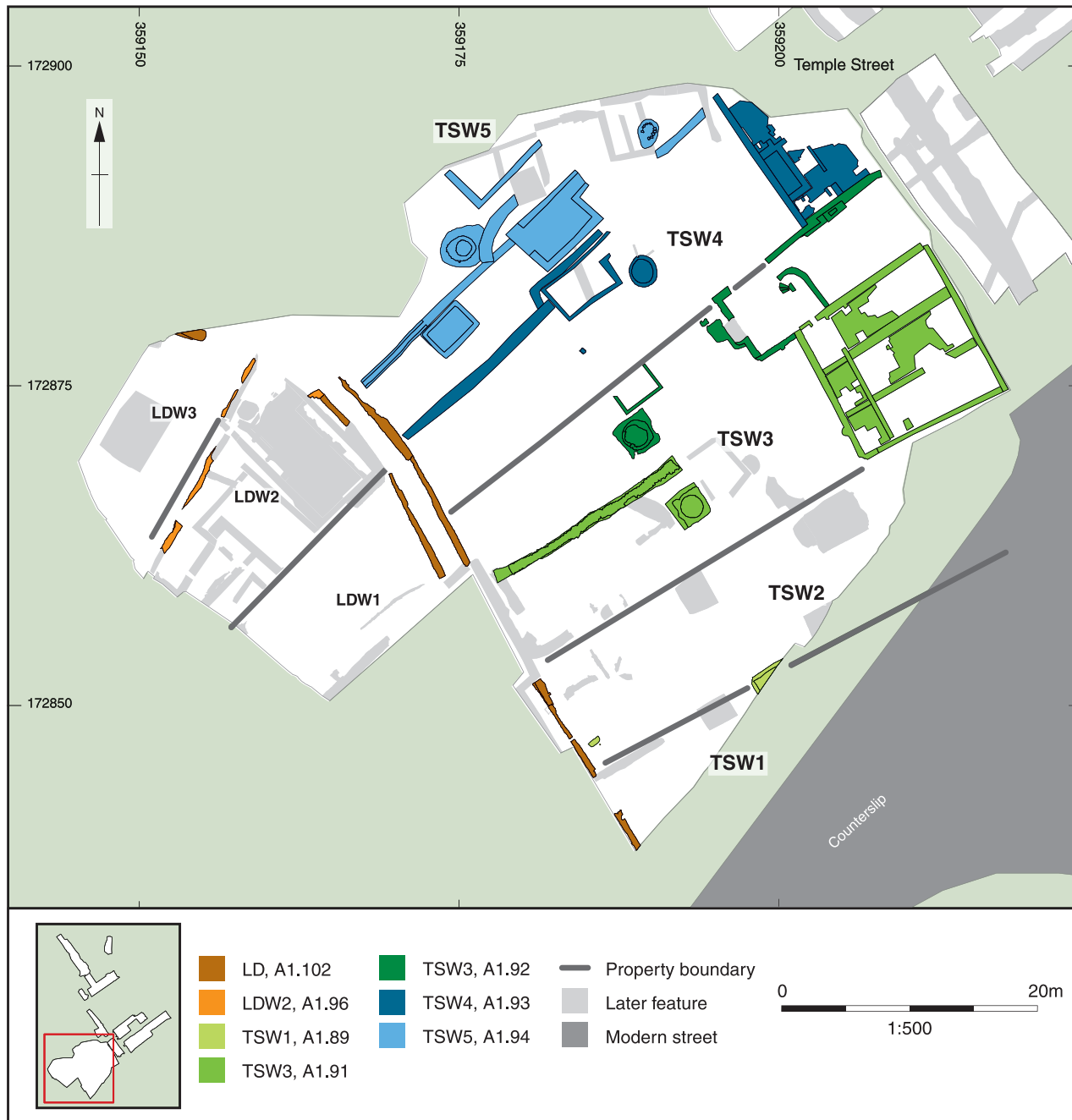


Fig. 4.14 Group plan of Period 7 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

possibly because it had been removed or had projected further than the excavation area. The walls were of a similar construction to the neighbouring cellars, built with roughly hewn sandstone blocks bonded by grey lime mortar, and it was similarly floored with flagstones. The remains of a stone-built spiral staircase (7202) and stairwell occupied a central position towards the rear of the cellar, providing internal access to it from above. The base of the stair was located opposite a blocked doorway in the wall of the adjacent cellar. Built into the north wall was a large, brick-built projecting fireplace (7174).

Features to the rear of Nos 160-4 Temple St (Groups A1.91 and A1.92) (Figs 4.13–14)

To the rear of Building 7195 were two large circular stone-lined wells (3509 and 3725), separated by a stone-lined drain (3479). Well 3725 was excavated to a depth of 0.8m and was constructed with limestone blocks bonded by pinkish lime mortar. It had later been capped with a red brick and limestone vault, which had collapsed into it. The infill of the well contained a large fragment of 18th- or 19th-century ceramic pantile, although it is probable that the well is considerably earlier. Well 3509 was not excavated

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

Fig. 4.15 Structure 7195, Nos 161-4 Temple Street, Period 7, looking south-west. Scales 2m

but measured 1.76m in diameter and was constructed with dressed sandstone blocks, the whitish mortar bonding them suggesting a late post-medieval date. Drain 3479 extended back from Building 7240 and presumably drained into the Law Ditch. Clay pipes from its silting suggest it was in use during the 18th and early 19th centuries. A small rectangular cellar (3679) was built against the north edge of the property. It measured 3.5m across and 1.5m deep and was well constructed with rectangular sandstone blocks bonded with hard mortar. The lack of brick in its construction suggests a date for its construction before the 19th century.

*Property TSW4 (Figs 4.13–14)*

Buildings 7153 and 7155 (Nos 165 and 166 Temple Street) (Group A1.93)

A pair of cellars (7153 and 7155) occupying the frontage was partially exposed, their extents corresponding with Nos 165-166 Temple Street (Fig. 4.20). This was the most northerly property on Temple Street that was not demolished to accommodate the construction of Bath Street during the 1780s, although the rear part of the tenement had been truncated and given over to properties that

fronted onto the new street. The southern cellar (Building 7153) was built against (and therefore subsequent to) the north side of Building 7195. It was similar to the cellars to the south, with walls constructed with roughly hewn sandstone and flagstone floors, though it was shallower at c 1.0m deep. It was subsequently extensively remodelled, with brick partitions and the addition of a water tank on its west side.

Several features (Group A1.93) were identified whose alignments suggest that they predated the laying out of Bath Street during the 1780s and they probably formed part of the rear of No. 166 Temple Street (Fig. 5.6). Stone-lined drain 3645 extended for a distance of over 15m before emptying into the Law Ditch and probably served buildings located towards the street frontage. Later the drain was diverted when a shallow cellar (3696) was inserted towards the north, the diverted drain skirting around the north side of the cellar. The cellar measured 4.5 x 2.7m internally and was 0.45m deep, constructed with roughly hewn sandstone with a hard lime mortar. Both the drain and the cellar were filled with material of a late 18th- or early 19th-century date, the clay pipe evidence from the drain dating to 1780-1800 and that from the cellar to 1790-



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1820. Such dates strongly suggest that both features were levelled when Bath Street was constructed. An undated and unexcavated well lined with Bath Stone (3984) may have been of similar date, since it had been cut by the corner of a cellar that was aligned on, and therefore contemporary with Bath Street. However, it had been infilled with modern hardcore that would suggest that it remained in use until fairly recently. Close by was a small stone-lined sump (3688) that contained a large quantity of clay pipe fragments dated to 1700-50 and contemporary glass decanter fragments.

*Property TSW5 (Figs 4.13–14)*

The street frontage lay beyond the excavation area but activity to the rear appeared to have started again, after being absent from this property during Periods 4-6. Several cellars and a drain had alignments or stratigraphic relationships that indicated a date before the laying out of Bath Street. They are likely to have belonged to three very narrow tenements that are recorded in documentary and cartographic sources (Nos 167-9 Temple Street, Figs 4.20 and 5.6).

*No. 167 Temple Street (Group A1.94)*

This tenement contained three cellars (3675, 3676 and 4991). Cellar 4991, which lay closest to the street frontage, had been largely destroyed but probably represented a continuation of the cellars arranged along the Temple Street frontage. Only its south-eastern wall remained, which was constructed with sandstone, and a fragment of its flagstone floor survived at a depth of c 1.1m. It seemingly predated a stone-lined well (7228) that contained early 18th-century wine bottle fragments and the remains of a wooden bucket. Cellar 3676 was constructed with well-faced sandstone blocks and had a stepped entrance on its north-east side. The smallest cellar of the three (3675) was located toward the rear of the property and was of similar construction, with a depth of at least 1.25m. This cellar appears to have predated the construction of cellar 3676, since a stone-lined drain (3720/3722) that abutted its north side was later diverted when cellar 3676 was built. The drain ran along the northern boundary of No. 167 and ultimately fed into the Law Ditch. The backfill of the cellars and the drain contained closely dated material including pharmaceutical bottles, clay pipe fragments and pottery, all of which dated from around the time of the construction of Bath Street in the 1780s.

*No. 168 Temple Street (Group A1.94)*

The only feature attributable to this property was a stone-lined well (3860), which, although undated, appeared to have been extant when drain diversion 3722 was built.

*No. 169 Temple Street (Group A1.94)*

The southern part of a cellar (3885) was exposed at the edge of the excavated area and had been cut by

the rear wall of a structure fronting Bath Street. It was constructed with sandstone and was 1.05m deep, with the remains of stone steps on its north-eastern side. It had a flagstone floor that had been largely removed prior to backfilling, which was dated by clay pipe fragments to around the time of the construction of Bath Street.

*East of Temple Street (Fig. 4.16)**Property TSE1(S), No. 7 Temple Street (Group A5.25)*

It is likely that Building 20034 continued in use and any modification to it did not leave any evidence. A network of stone-lined drains was laid to the rear that may have led from Temple Street, possibly skirting around the extant structure and extending towards the north-east alongside the boundary with Property TSE1(N). The main drain (2063) cut across the south-western part of Period 7 Building 20040, which must have been demolished by this time. A number of subsidiary drains fed into it, one arm of which (2169) led from an opening in the north-east wall of Building 20034 and probably linked with Period 6 drain 2060 within the building. The drain also incorporated several deeper drain holes along its length in the area immediately adjacent to Period 6 buildings 20041 and 20042. It is not clear whether or not these were later additions, but presumably they served as rainwater run-offs from the adjacent structures. The westernmost part of the main drain contained clay pipes dated to c 1680-1720 whilst further north-east it contained predominantly 19th-century material. This could suggest that the western part had ceased to function at an early date whereas elsewhere the drain had been regularly maintained for a longer period.

*Property TSE1(N), No 6 Temple Street (Groups A5.24 and A5.25)*

Inserted into the north-east part of Period 6 Building 20042 was a small 1.7m deep stone-built cellar (2105) that was divided into two rooms. It was constructed with roughly squared stone blocks bonded by hard white mortar, and the beginnings of brick springers survived on its north-east and south-west walls, as well as on its internal partition wall, indicating a vaulted ceiling. The structure was accessed from the north-east side, where the remains of the base for a spiral staircase survived. Both rooms were paved with flagstones, although in the north room these had been largely removed and replaced with a rough brick and stone floor that had subsequently been robbed. The thickness of the bricks used in the springers (55mm or c 2¼ inches) suggested that it was constructed prior to the 1784 Brick Tax. The rubble infill contained parts of two probable sugar moulds dating to the 1830s. One was probably a waster and the other was stamped 'G. COX/POTTER/BRISTOL', the name of a potter who was an apprentice in Bristol during Jan 1803.

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

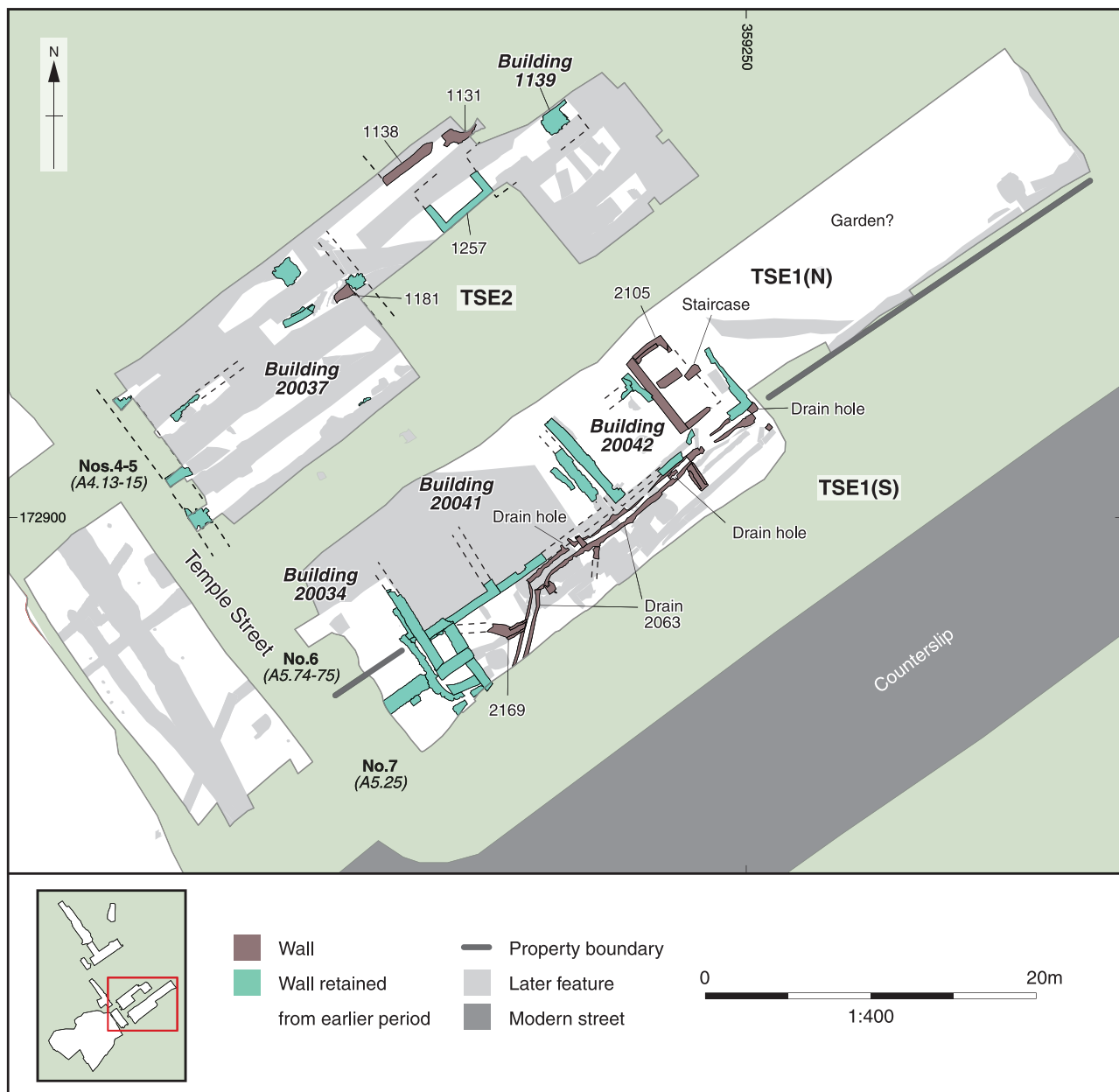


Fig. 4.16 Plan of Period 7 features east of Temple Street, Areas 4 and 5

*Property TSE2, Nos 4-5 Temple Street (Groups A4.13 and A4.15)*

Period 3 buildings 1139 and 20037 may have continued in use, since no evidence was found for any replacements. A 0.40m deep stone-lined pit (1181, Group A4.15) filled with charcoal, that was constructed against the north-east wall of the building, may date to this period.

Part of one or more cellared structures (1131 and 1138, Group A4.13, Fig. 4.16) were exposed at the edge of the excavation area and probably lay within the rear part of a property that fronted onto Counterslip (Fig. 5.6). The southern cellar (1138) was at least 1.25m in depth and was built with roughly squared limestone blocks bonded by hard

grey mortar, faced with plaster. There was a trace of a brick springer for a vaulted roof surviving at the top of the wall. The second cellared structure (1131) was built with rectangular blocks of sandstone bonded by white mortar, and was no more than 0.55m deep.

*North of Counterslip (Fig. 4.17)*

Very limited evidence survived relating to the tenements that fronted onto the north side of Counterslip, which in this period could be related to documented properties. To the rear of the tenements, a large stone structure, possibly a quay or pier, was constructed projecting out from the riverside wall.

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Fig. 4.17 Plan of Period 7 features north of Counterslip, Area 3

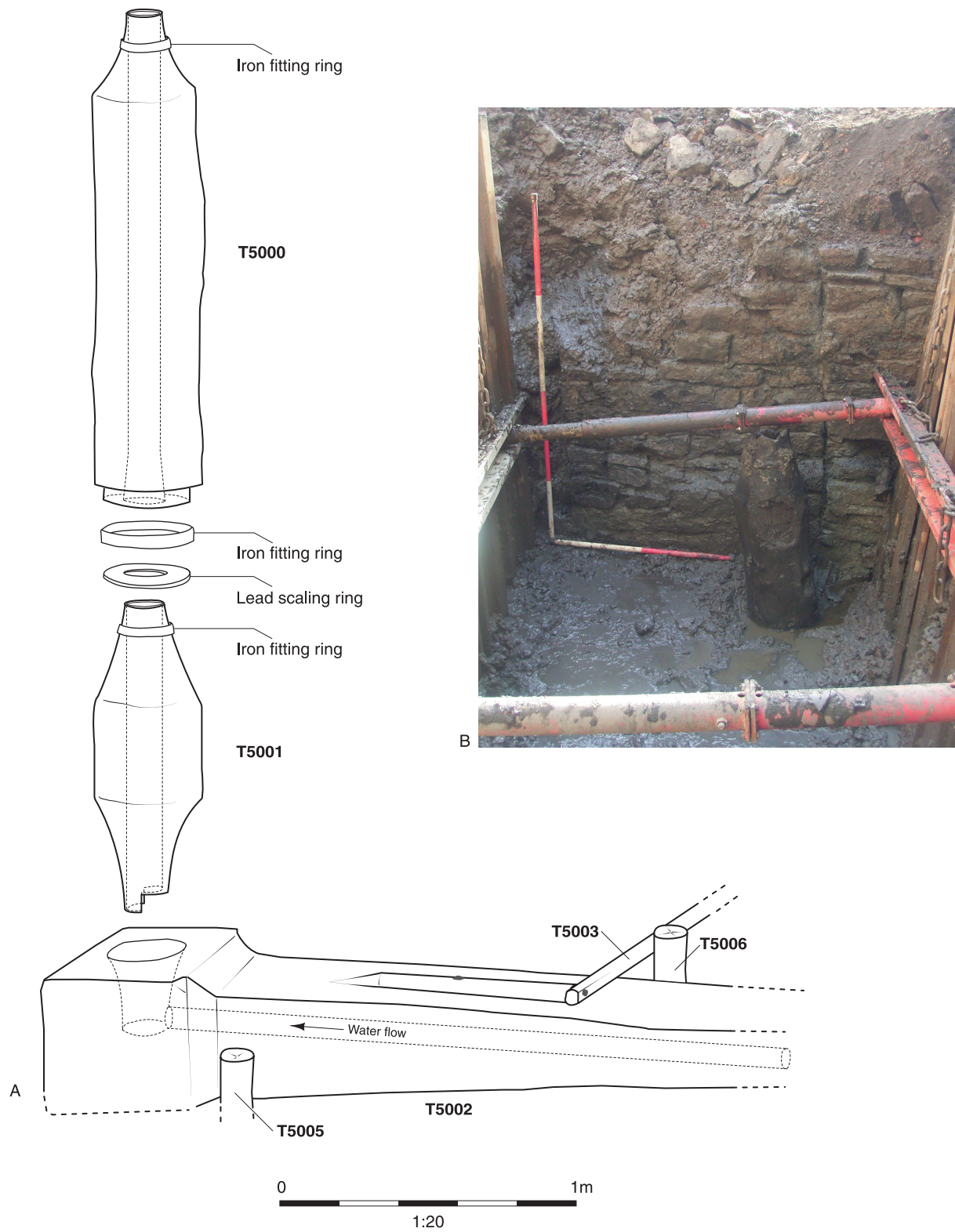
*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

Fig. 4.18 Period 7 wooden water pump 5146; a) Exploded diagram of the pump assemblage; b) The top of the pump assemblage as initially exposed, with the riverside wall behind, looking south-east. Scales 1m and 2m



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*Property A (Group WB603)*

Part of a cellared structure at least 1.3m in depth was revealed during the watching brief, defined to the north and west by walls 10046 and 10048. The sandstone blocks were bonded by an orange-red mortar that suggested a pre-Victorian date, although traces of greyish (?19th-century) mortar on top of one wall suggested later reuse or repair. The alignment of wall 10048 corresponded with the edge of Hawkins Lane as depicted on 19th-century maps (Fig. 5.6).

*Nos 3/4 Counterslip (Group A3.11)*

The Period 2 boundary wall (9156) that divided Nos 3-4 from the apparently vacant No. 2 was rebuilt during the post-medieval period, although this episode could not be closely dated (9076). A stone pad (9096) bonded with similar pinkish orange mortar may have been contemporary.

*No. 6 Counterslip (Group A3.12)*

Part of an undated cellared building (Building 9183) pre-dated walls of the enlarged Finzel's Sugar Refinery, datable after 1839, which had been built directly over it. Part of the south-west wall and two internal walls were revealed but the full extent of the structure continued beyond the excavated area. Its walls measured 0.6-0.7m wide and 1.45m high, constructed from roughly coursed sandstone bonded by grey mortar, indicating a late post-medieval date. Two walls had a cream render and showed evidence for repair with red bricks, each measuring 70mm thick (2¾"), a size suggesting a date after the Brick Tax of 1784.

*Riverside structures (Group A3.19)*

A substantial rectangular stone structure (5014) was built against the face of Period 3 river revetment wall 5088 (Fig. 3.14). It was defined by walls 5168 and 5145 which were contemporary in build, and its north-east extent was probably represented by a wall that was observed during the watching brief (10033). All three walls were built with roughly squared sandstone blocks bonded by a very hard pink sandy mortar. The exterior face of the north-west wall (5145) was exposed for a depth of 5m which, revealing at least 20 courses of rough ashlar facings, suggests that this exposed face was above the contemporary level of the river bed/bank. The purpose and date of this structure is uncertain, although it may have been a projecting riverside structure such as a quay or pier. A gap in wall 5145 at its junction with wall 5168, subsequently blocked, may indicate the location of a slipway-type structure. A possible wooden platform (5174) was located against the south-west side of the structure at its junction with riverside wall 5088. Only a small part of the platform was exposed, measuring c 1.7m wide and constructed with four horizontal oak planks (Timbers T5010-13) sat on a large oak beam (T5015), which had been reused from a boat and

was held in place by a vertical post on each side (T5010 and 5014).

A wooden water pipe and pump assembly (5146, Fig. 4.18) was located against the north-west side of the structure. It was constructed from bored logs, fitted together with male/female cone joints, which were not identifiable to species in the field and unfortunately were not sampled, although elm is normally the timber of choice for hollowed wooden water pipes as it is more resistant to splitting than oak. The base (T5002) was more than 2.5m long and extended at a downward angle towards the north-west, presumably to the centre of the channel where water would be available even at low tide. This element was held in place by wooden stakes on either side (T5005 and T5006) and had an expanded carved head, roughly subrectangular and measuring 0.5m across, with a tapered housing into which the vertical part of the pipe fitted. The lower vertical section (T5001) comprised a joiner 1.0m long that tapered at both ends to engage with sockets in T5000 above and T5002 below. Above this was a longer section (T5000) that measured 1.7m, the junction with T5001 sealed with lead and iron fitting rings. The upper end of T5000 was tapered to engage with a further piece, which had been lost to truncation. There was evidence for the pipe having originally been attached to the wall by means of a metal strap secured by large nails. A horizontal element (T5003) was of uncertain function but may similarly have been intended to hold the assembly in place. The pipe was clearly a pump intended to draw water up rather than to drain to a lower level, since the conical shaping of the joints was oriented such that water would have been forced out through the joints if pressure were applied down through the pipe but not if water were drawn up through it. The upper part of the assembly was missing but would have comprised a pump with a piston that was pushed down the pipe and then drawn up to raise water from the river.

Abutting the exterior side of Structure 5014 were a sequence of alluvial and organic silts that probably represented material accumulated on the bank of the river. The earliest deposit was a dark brown-black humic layer (5163 and 5165) up to 1.0m thick that contained frequent grasses, reeds and roots. Within the layer was a thick dump of blue clay that was probably deposited from the riverside and contained pottery and clay pipes dating from c 1690-1720. Above were a series of thick dumped layers of clay and rubble that may have been deposited over an extended period of time in order to reclaim the riverbank for the construction of later buildings.

**PERIOD 8: MODERN PERIOD (c AD 1800-2000)**

The arrangements of streets that had been established early in the development of the suburb during the medieval period was altered with the construction of Bath Street during the 1780s and

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## Chapter 4



Fig. 4.20 Plan of Period 8 features west of Temple Street, Area 1, superimposed on the 1st Edition OS map (1883)

Fig. 4.19 (facing page) Plan of all Period 8 features



## From Bridgehead to Brewery



Fig. 4.21 Brick culvert 4485 inserted into the Law Ditch, looking north-west. The brick arch spanning the culvert is part of wall 3259, the foundation of a 19th century public house. Scale 1m

Philip Street during the 1830s (Figs 4.19–20 and 4.22–23). The first of these extended from Temple Cross to Bristol Bridge and was intended to improve access from the suburbs south of the river to the city centre. Its construction entailed the demolition of properties on the west side of the north end of Temple Street. The line of the road was crossed by Area 2 and the rear of properties that fronted onto it were recorded in Area 1. Phillip Street continued the line of Bath Street eastward and extended across Areas 4 and 5, cutting obliquely across tenements that had formerly stood here.

### The Law Ditch

A brick-built culvert (4485, Group A1.97) was inserted, cutting through the base of the former stone-lined channel (4486, Figs. 2.4 and 4.21). The date of this modification was uncertain, although it was constructed with red bricks whose size (110 x 80 x 220mm) was consistent with a 19th-century date. The culvert appears to have been built before 19th-century walls 3145 and 3259 (Period 8, below), since their foundations were constructed with arches to span the culvert. The culvert was eventually infilled and its drainage function reduced to a ceramic pipe.

### The Redcliff Fee

*Properties LDW1-3*

Nos. 9-10 St Thomas Street (Group A1.98)  
(Figs 4.20 and 4.22)

Large cellared building 3333, which probably served an industrial function, was constructed between Ashmead's map of 1828 and the 1st Edition OS map of 1883. The building measured in excess of 11m long and 5.5m wide, with a depth of 1.1m. Long stone platforms along the side walls may have

been machine bases and an array of stone-lined channels within the structure may have served as flues to cool the machinery above. Later the structure was floored with concrete, suggesting a change in use and also indicating that it continued to be used into modern times. There were remains of further structures to the south that correspond to structures depicted on the 1883 map and are presumed to be of 19th-century origin, although at least one predated the construction of the cellar. These included a small brick-lined cellar (3027) contained within the boundaries of No. 9 St Thomas Street, and a length of two walls (3145 and 3259) corresponding to the north and east walls of a building that is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map as a public house, which extended over the culverted Law Ditch (Fig. 4.21).

### The Temple Fee

*Temple Street (Group A2.6) (Fig. 4.22)*

A number of features associated with the street's infrastructure were identified. A large brick-built culvert (6006) of probable late 19th- or early 20th-century date ran along the centre of the street and a second culvert (1271) may have been the continuation of either culvert 1198 or 1028, both of which ran along Phillip Street. It contained a series of ceramic pipes at its base, each confined within a section of its length that had been lined with roughly hewn sandstone blocks. Its purpose was uncertain but it may have represented a feeder from the main culvert used to supply water to adjacent buildings. A drinking fountain was shown attached to the wall of No 1-2 Temple Street immediately adjacent to the feature on the 1883 OS map. The purpose of three small stone-lined pits (6011, 6026 and 6029), one at least of which predated the culvert, was problematic given their location within the main part of the street. One (6029) was filled with a soft black coal-like substance that contained a tightly dated assemblage of clay pipes and pottery that suggests that it was filled between 1830 and 1840. They may be pillar bases, possibly for the installation of lamp posts, although these are not depicted at the relevant locations on the 1883 OS map. However, a number of small, unidentified rectangular features are depicted close to the edge of the pavement, one of which corresponds with the location of pit 6011.

*West of Temple Street (Fig. 4.20)*

*Properties TSW1-5, Nos 159-66 Temple Street (Groups A1.93 and A1.95)*

The Period 7 cellared buildings on the street frontage at Nos 161-64 continued in use and may not have been finally demolished until the construction of the Courage Brewery in the second half of the 20th century. At some point, the doors that provided access between the cellars were blocked with stone

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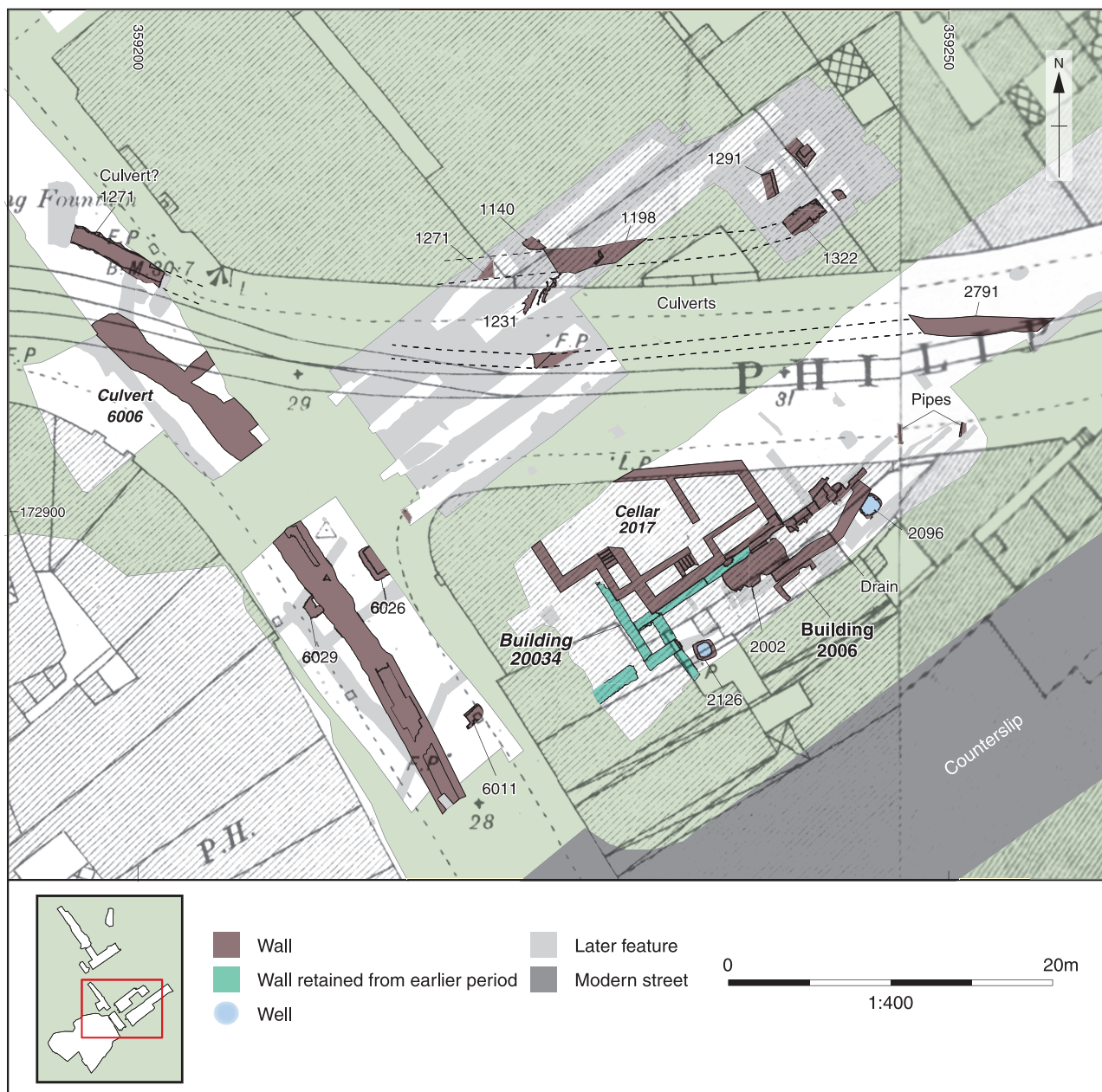


Fig. 4.22 Plan of Period 8 features east of Temple Street, Areas 2, 4 and 5, superimposed on the 1st Edition OS map (1883)

and/or brick, although it was not certain whether they were all blocked at the same time. Nevertheless, this suggests a change in their original function, perhaps for a more private or domestic use. A brick-built fireplace (7085) probably serving the ground floor was built into the south-west wall of the larger cellar (No. 164) and brick-built partitions and a possible water tank (7004) were added within the cellar of No 165. A shallow rectangular cellar (3557) is the only structure that was identified, although a modern date (possibly associated with the Courage Brewery) is feasible given that its alignment is at odds with that of the structures depicted on the map. Further small and shallow cellars were recorded within properties Nos 159 and 160 and

were probably storage chambers or coal bunkers within buildings that have not otherwise survived.

#### East of Temple Street (Fig. 4.22)

##### Nos 6-7 Temple St (Group A5.24)

The main frontage building of Periods 6 and 7 (Building 20034) showed no sign of modifications, and is assumed to have remained in use. The system of stone-lined drains that crossed the area during Period 7 was replaced by new drains and soakaways and the south-western part of the area was surfaced with cobbles and bricks (2002). A small outhouse (Building 2006) and a stone-lined well (2096) also



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Fig. 4.23 Plan of Period 8 features north of Counterslip, Area 3, superimposed on a 1879 plan of Finzel's Sugar Refinery



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date to this time. A second stone-lined well (2126) located towards the south-east corresponds with a pump marked on the 1st Edition OS map.

#### ***Bath Street (Group A1.95) (Fig. 4.20)***

The orders for the compulsory purchase of properties in Temple Street were issued in 1786 for the construction of Bath Street, one of a number of schemes to improve access from the suburbs south of the river to Bristol Bridge. Most of the building leases for the new street, principally for houses on its south side, had been issued in May 1789, with work on the new buildings starting by the following year. According to the 1st Edition OS map of 1883, all properties on Temple Street north of No. 164 were completely demolished, with the exception of Nos 165 and 166, where the Temple Street frontage was retained. The orientation of the new Bath Street structures was at almost right-angles to those that formerly occupied Temple Street and as such they were easily recognised, especially where they overlay cellars that were open until the end of the 18th century. A number of walls were briefly recorded whose outlines corresponded with structures depicted on the 1883 map and can also be tied in with the earlier 1828 Ashmead map. The rear walls of the main structures within Nos 15 and 16 Bath Street and elements of No. 17 were identified, all constructed with local sandstone and seemingly cellared. Additionally, a boundary wall located between Nos 15 and 16 (4068) and a possible water tank (7004) shared between Nos 16 and 17 were identified.

#### ***Philip Street (Groups A4.6 and A5.24) (Figs 4.22)***

A red brick culvert (2791/1028) ran along the centre of the street. A second similar culvert (1322/1198), constructed with brick with a roughly built arched roof of sandstone ran parallel *c.* 4.5m to its north-east, where it would have lain beneath the frontages of properties on the north side of the street. The two culverts may have been linked by a smaller stone and brick culvert or drain (1271), into which a ceramic pipe was later inserted. Fragments of three wall foundations of sandstone blocks bonded in mortar similar to culvert 1322 corresponded closely with the walls of structures depicted on the 1883 map. Two drains (1140 and 1291) constructed of brick and sandstone may have led from the buildings and into the culverts, or simply drained on to the street.

A large cellared building (2017) occupied the corner of Temple Street and Philip Street. Its north wall corresponded with the frontage of the newly formed street as depicted on the 1883 map. Three or possibly four rooms were exposed with steps leading down into the cellar from its south-east and south-west sides. It is not clear why there was need for two separate stairs unless there was no access between the two rooms and they formed separate

cellars. The whole structure was apparently of a single build and comprised walls of roughly squared stone blocks bonded with very hard dark grey cement whose inner sides had been plastered over. It survived to a depth of 1.45m and had a flagstone floor.

#### ***North of Counterslip (Fig. 4.23)***

#### ***Finzel's Sugar Refinery (Groups A3.20 and WB604) (Fig. 4.23)***

Much of the Finzel's Sugar Refinery was investigated, the earliest buildings of which lay to the east and had been destroyed by a modern basement, apart from a single wall fragment (11002). Only the lowest course of the wall survived and comprised un-mortared and roughly hewn sandstone aligned approximately E-W with evidence for two returns on its south side. The alignment of these walls does not correspond to the 19th-century depictions of the enlarged refinery but agree roughly with the northern extent of the original sugar house as depicted on Ashmead's map of 1828 (Fig. 1.11). Where possible the structural remains of this date have been tied in to the 1879 survey of the refinery (Fig. 4.23). Unless otherwise indicated, all walls were constructed with sandstone or limestone and were bonded with light-mid grey lime mortar.

#### ***The Boiler House***

The evidence for this part of the refinery was revealed during the watching brief. The main feature revealed was the remains of a circular chimney stack (10069, Fig. 4.24) that was contained within the boiler house towards the south-west part of the refinery. The chimney was constructed with red brick supported on a concrete foundation measuring 2m deep, the timber shuttering for the construction trench of which still survived. This corresponded exactly with the circular feature labelled 'stack 150' on the 1879 survey and can also be seen on an



Fig. 4.24 Chimney stack base 10069, Finzels Sugar Refinery, looking east. Scales 1m



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

undated mid-late 19th century engraving. The remains of two parallel walls (10076 and 10077) that may have supported the boilers within the south-east part of the room were also revealed. A brick-built channel (5119) with a curved floor and an arched roof that extended from the south-west side of the boiler house probably served as a below ground flue associated with the boiler house and the chimney stack and was later blocked, presumably after the refinery ceased to operate in 1881.

*The Liquor Cistern*

This rectangular room occupied the north-west part of the refinery and also incorporated a small room at its north end that housed steam engines. The south-west, north-west and south-east walls were recorded and were in good agreement with the 1879 survey, the south-west wall corresponding to the external wall of the refinery. Contained within the south-west corner of the room was a rectangular arrangement of walls that are not indicated on the plan and may have supported an installation or some form of equipment associated with the process that was occurring in this part of the refinery. The south-west wall of the installation (5010) was supported on a series of brick-built

pillars, presumably in order to distribute the load of the attached installation. Along the top of the structure was a line of small square holes/voids  $c$  0.1m in size and spaced approximately 0.70m apart, along with six metal fastenings that were spaced  $c$  1.55m apart, all of which may have been used to attach heavy machinery. A corresponding wall on its opposite side also showed some evidence of fixings for machinery.

Within the part of the room that housed the steam engine a number of foundations that would have supported it were identified (Fig. 4.25). These included large rectangular stone blocks up to 1.5m across with small square holes and iron fittings that protruded from their upper surface, whose purpose was presumably to secure the base of the steam engine. A brick-lined culvert ran along the south-west side of the engine room and may have supplied water to the engine. There were also drains and ducts that passed through the north-west wall of the room that would have aided drainage and ventilation.

*Other Rooms*

Parts of the packing room, filter room and a warehouse were revealed on the Counterslip



Fig. 4.25 Wall 5010 with iron fastenings (for machinery?), Finzels Sugar Refinery, looking west. Scales 1m and 2m

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frontage, the general layout of the excavated remains being in good agreement with the 1879 survey. The warehouse contained at least two small adjoining cellars along its south-west side, which probably held raw materials since it was located well away from the packing room. The filtration room contained a series of pier bases with interconnecting walls that may have been machine bases. This room also included a small enclosed area that contained a hoist – a large stone pad found within this area may have marked the position of this piece of machinery. The room also contained a numbers of drains that ran along its south-western side which may have served the wash house that was located on the floor above it.

### *The Old Porter Brewery*

The watching brief revealed a number of undated features to the west of Finzel's Sugar Refinery, within the area occupied by the George's and Co. Porter Brewery during the 19th century. Part of a cellared building was revealed whose walls roughly correspond to a structure depicted on the Plumley and Ashmead map of 1828 and which are also roughly indicated on the 1879 survey of the refinery. A brick-lined well and a drain were also revealed and would have occupied an open area depicted on the earlier map. The well appears to be a later modification of an earlier stone-lined version and may therefore may have originated before the 19th century.