

## Chapter 3

# The high medieval period (c AD 1225-1550)

*by Kate Brady and Steven Teague*

### PERIOD 3: EARLIER MEDIEVAL PERIOD (c AD 1225-1375)

#### Dating Evidence

The ubiquitous Bristol Redcliffe ware (fabric BPT118, Cotter, Chapter 6) ware formed the dominant local glazed ware industry and comprised about 28% of the pottery assemblage from this period. However, the defining fabrics of Periods 2, Ham Green ware and Ham Green Redware, continued to dominate, accounting for over 63% of the assemblage. These fabrics continued in production until the end of the 14th century or the first part of the 15th century. The main period of production for Bristol Redcliffe ware was probably c 1250-1400, but the industry is thought to have continued, on a diminishing scale, as late as the early 16th century. Imported French wares (fabrics BPT 39 and BPT155-6) from Saintonge comprised a significant minority of the assemblage (3%) and date to no later than about 1400, though a small number of sherds (Polychrome wares) can be dated to a more refined range of c 1280-1350. The lack of later medieval wares such as Tudor ware (1380-1525) apart from where it occurs as intrusive sherds (mainly in garden soils, see below), would suggest that Period 3 ends no later the mid-late 14th century. Roofing tiles, generally dated to the 13th-14th centuries, became much more prevalent during this period, and much of this material was probably freshly used for houses occupying the street frontages.

#### Law Ditch 3604 (Groups A1.9 and A1.39) (Figs 2.4 and 3.2-3.4)

The Law Ditch was again recut in this period, as ditch 3604, although much of it had been removed by later stone revetments. What remained suggests that it was a much shallower channel, measuring little over 0.55m in depth, and seems to have clogged up rapidly with silt. The earliest of these layers (3273) contained an elm brush back with the remains of copper alloy bristles attached (SF 3063). The ditch then appears to have been deliberately levelled with clay and sandstone rubble (3178-3108) before being replaced by a stone-revetted channel.

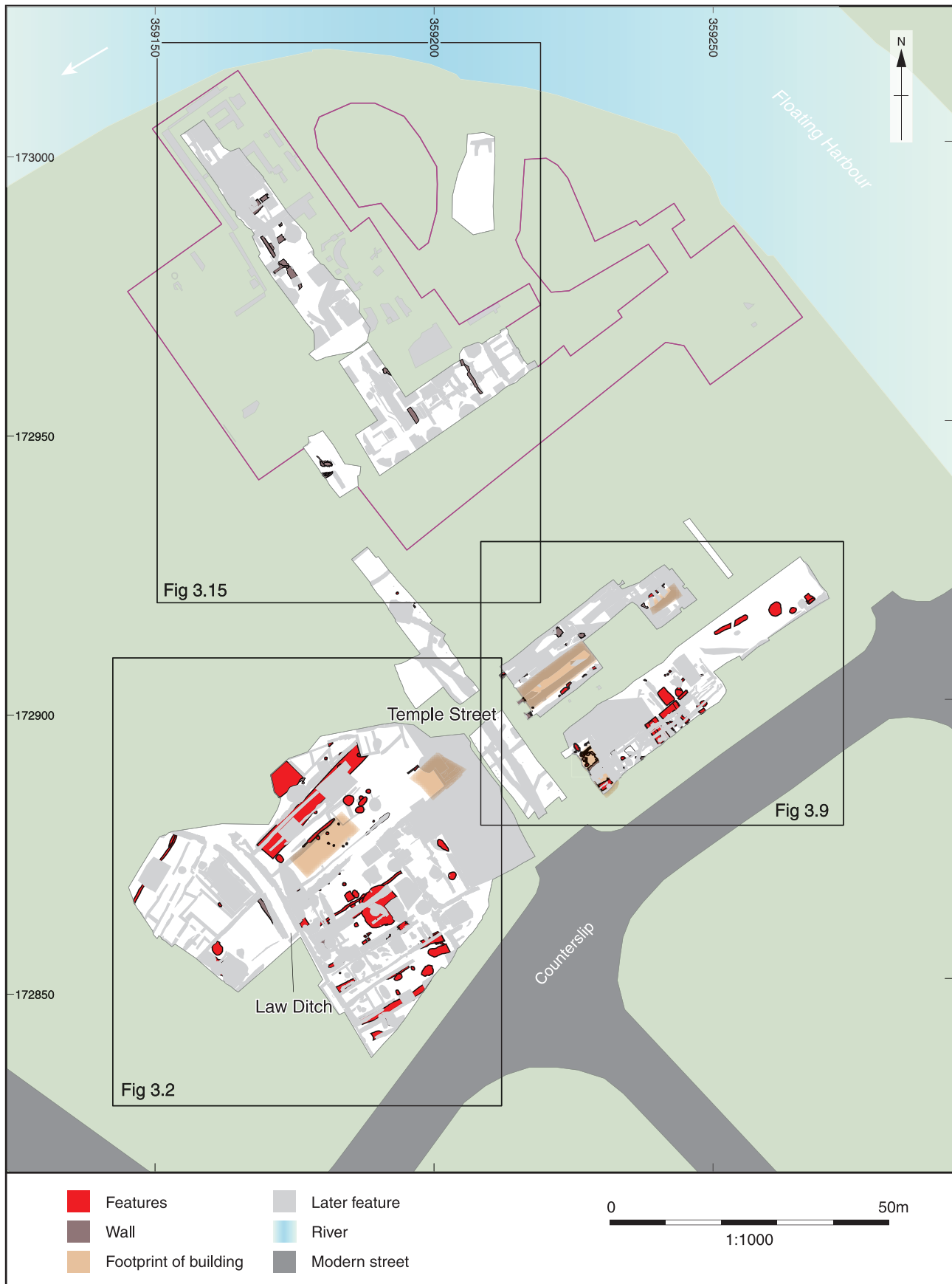
Two elements suggest that at least part of the ditch sides were defined by walls in this period for the first time. On the west side of the ditch, a stretch of wall (3211, Figs 2.4 and 3.4) was cut through by a Period 4 wall and was the earliest phase in the sequence of wall construction. The wall was constructed of roughly hewn sandstone bonded with a reddish sandy mortar. It was aligned NW-SE and was 5.1m in length, 0.4m in width and c 2m in height. The wall had been truncated on the eastern side by a later wall, which had caused its partial collapse. The north-western extent had a flat end, showing that it had been built to end here and was not truncated, probably respecting a property boundary. On the eastern side of the ditch was a cut (4683) filled with large amounts of disturbed sandstone blocks, either the foundation of a NW-SE aligned wall or a robber cut that had removed one. It had been truncated at both ends by later activity but may represent the remains of one of these earliest phases of stone wall defining the edges of the ditch. It is clear that in this phase other parts of the ditch were not defined by walls, as evidenced by cut 4691, and this may be because individual property holders were responsible for the section of the ditch where their property backed onto it, a continuation of the likely scenario in Period 2, where only part of the ditch was revetted by timber stakes.

#### The Redcliff Fee

To the west of the Law Ditch were a small number of features that are thought to represent activity at the back of properties fronting onto St Thomas Street, within the Redcliff Fee (Figs 3.2-3). The boundary of one of these properties may have been delimited by shallow gullies 3293 and 3399 (Group A1.50). To the south, adjacent rubbish pits 3210 and 3796 (Group A1.48) and garden soil 3120 suggest that this part of the area remained external during this period. Shallow pit 3210 contained much stone rubble, a crested ridge tile and a number of nails, possibly from nearby buildings. Pit 3796 was notable for containing a large quantity of pottery and a writing stylus made from a goose radius. It is possible that two postholes



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*



*Fig. 3.1 Plan of all Period 3 features*

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(4361 and 4359) situated just to the west of the pits may have formed part of a structure that continued beyond the limit of excavation to the west.

### The Temple Fee

#### Temple Street

Surviving towards the northern part of Area 2 was a small area of rough stone cobbles (6106, Group A2.4), that may have represented a remnant of the street surface that had otherwise been removed by modern truncation (Fig. 3.5). It comprised fairly coarse cobbles, 0.14m thick, but they were not sufficiently well packed to provide a robust surface, so this deposit may have represented make-up for an overlying surface or perhaps a localised repair. However, the silt between the cobbles had been stained green, which could suggest that it had either been trampled upon or that liquid (such as cess thrown onto the street) had leached down from overlying levels.

#### West of Temple Street

The area continued to be divided into separate plots by the sequence of drainage ditches and gullies running NE/SW across the site, which in the main represented the continuation of the boundaries established during Period 2 (Table 3.1). There is a possibility that Property TSW2 was enlarged northwards and subdivided into parts, designated TSW2(N) and TSW2(S). In compensation it seems that the north boundary of Property TSW3(N) may have been moved slightly northwards, again apparently delimited by a lane. These plot boundaries were to remain unchanged from Period 4 onwards, although some of the plots were to become amalgamated by this period. The most convincing of the possible boundaries of Periods 2-4 are set out in Table 5.1, which also shows the degree of continuity across the periods. The tenements are described below working from the south-west edge of the site northwards.

#### Property boundaries (Figs 3.2-3)

Period 2 ditch 4926, that defined the boundary between properties TSW1 and TSW2, was recut as ditch 4830 on the same alignment, albeit slightly off-set to the south of the earlier ditch. It was recut to a similar depth of c 0.6m and contained much rubbish, including a number of cattle and sheep horncores. Similarly, the Period 2 ditch (7241) that delimited the northern side of TSW2 was also recut (as 4154 and 7080), again slightly off-set to the south and cutting across earlier pit 4431, which had straddled the tenement boundary during Period 2. The west end of the ditch seems to have been lined with wooden planks (Structure 7001), forming a channel 0.39m deep. They were held in position by vertical stakes, although at the point where the ditch joined the Law Ditch, the western end was also lined with timber, suggesting that a sluice gate controlled

drainage at this point. There is some evidence that it either had been remodelled or had a cover.

It is possible that Period 2 property TSW3(S) was encroached upon by TSW2 during Period 3. The northern extent of TSW2(N) may have been delimited by a shallow and discontinuous ditch. The eastern section of the ditch had been recut as ditch 7007, a much narrower gully. These gullies may have been replaced by a fence as several post/stake-holes (4784, 4786, 4788, 4790, 4904 and 4901) lay on its alignment. This boundary became much more discernible from Period 4 (below).

The boundary between properties TSW3(N) and TSW3(S) was initially defined by gully 4918, which corresponded closely with the alignment of the boundary between the two properties during Period 2. A narrow lane, c 1.6m wide, was then added to the north side of the boundary, defined by gully 4813/7292, which truncated several pits within TSW3(N).

The lane, defined by two parallel gullies, that had defined the boundary between Properties TSW3(N) and TSW4 during Period 2, was shifted slightly northward and was now delimited by a combination of postholes and parallel sections of gully. Two postholes had recut earlier stakeholes, which may have been used to mark out the post line.

The boundary between TSW4 and TSW5S is not clear during this period and they may have formed a single plot (hereafter referred to as plot TSW4).

As in Period 2, a substantial ditch (4515) marked the boundary between TSW5S (now part of TSW4) and TSW5(N) (hereafter referred to as TSW5). The ditch was recut to a wider profile in Period 3 and was moved slightly further south. It measured up to

Table 3.1 Period 3 properties and property boundaries on the west side of Temple Street

Property	Evidence
Property TSW1	Pits (Group A1.31)
Boundary	Ditch 4830 (Group A1.32)
Property TSW2(S)	Pits and posthole (Group A1.33)
Boundary	Ditches 4154 and 7001/7080 (Group A1.33)
Property TSW2(N)	Posthole (Group A1.34) and garden soils
Boundary	Ditches 4750/7018/7007 (Group A1.34)
Property TSW3(S)	Pits and well (Group A1.36)
Boundary	Lane – gullies 4918 and 4813/7292 (Groups A1.36 and A1.337)
Property TSW3(N)	Pits (Group A1.38)
Boundary	Lane – postholes 4402/4170/4172/4174 (Group A1.40) and gully 4240/4224 (Group A1.42)
Property TSW4	Building 4820 (Group A1.46) and pits (Group A1.44)
Boundary	Ditch 4515 (Group A1.45)
Property TSW5	Postholes and shallow pits (Group A1.47)

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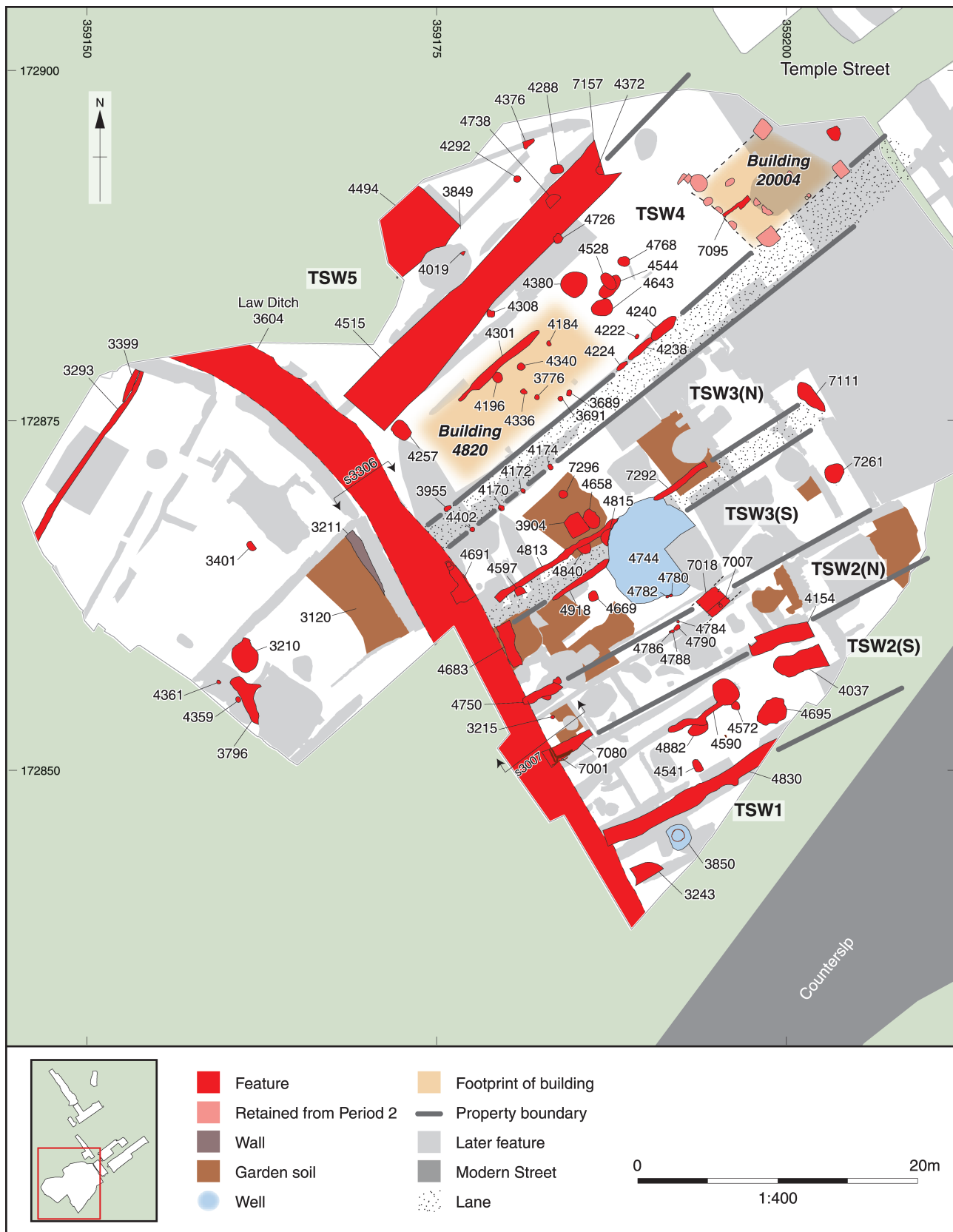


Fig. 3.2 Plan of Period 3 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

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Fig. 3.3 Group plan of Period 3 features west of Temple Street, Area 1



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

2.72m in width and 0.86m in depth and had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. It probably also served as a drainage ditch as its earliest fills comprised clean alluvial clay, with occasional blueish-grey patches. The ditch was levelled with dark grey brown/black clay silt containing a great deal of domestic refuse, presumably deposited after the ditch had ceased to be used for drainage.

*Property TSW1 (Figs 3.2–3)*

Period 3 saw the earliest evidence for activity within Property TSW1, comprising pits 3243 and 3850 (Group A1.31). The former was a shallow scoop containing sandstone rubble but pit 3850 was a deep feature lined with two reused timber cask bodies (Fig. 3.6). It may have originated as a well, although it was later used as a cesspit. Detailed descriptions of the timbers and the results of analysis of the casks can be found in Chapter 6. The feature was not excavated to its full depth due to safety issues regarding access, so only the upper cask (3944) was fully excavated and removed. The top of the lower cask (7026) was revealed and left *in situ*. The cut had vertical sides and was excavated to a depth of 2.8m. The casks had been placed end on end and the gap between them and the cut backfilled with silty clay (3953/3954). The upper cask was made from 26 staves and measured 0.9m in diameter around the top, and 0.96m in diameter around the belly. It was held together by 17 withy hoops of which five were kept for analysis. A bung hole and two smaller holes (possibly tap holes) were cut through one stave and there were also internal marks on some of the staves, presumably relating to the assembly process (Allen, Chapter 6 and DVD section 02.13). Other holes near the ends of some of the staves may have been used to secure the withy hoops. The lower cask, of which 0.8m was revealed, was constructed of 24 staves and the partial excavation of the fill within it revealed markings on the insides, as with the upper cask. Three of the earliest excavated fills (7068, 4720 and 4596) within the casks were sampled for environ-

mental remains (samples 3331, 3333 and 3245, Chapter 7) and all of these samples produced an abundance of evidence for large amounts of cess deposited in the feature, suggesting that it had been used as a cesspit. This included mineralised cereal bran, mineralised organic concretions, large numbers of mineralised fly pupae and trickling filter flies and mineral replaced seeds. Significant amounts of moss recovered from the sample may represent have been used for sanitary purposes. A notable assemblage of remains suggesting textile processing was also found in these samples. These remains included frequent madder root fragments, weld seeds (*c* 900 seeds in sample 3245), fragments of fuller's teasel achenes and a flax seed. Fill 4596 also contained six fragments of leather (five of which were from shoes), animal bone and two cattle horncores. Above this were clay deposits including sandstone (4717, 4718 and 4719) that had probably been added to seal pungent smells.

*Property TSW2(S) (Figs 3.2–3)*

The density of the pits (Group A1.33) was much reduced compared to Period 2. Two shallow and somewhat irregular pits (4037 and 4695) measured 0.26–0.30m in depth. Both contained a large quantity of animal and fish bone and pottery in relation to their size, suggesting that they were used to deposit kitchen waste. However, both pits also produced several horncores, suggesting that they were originally associate with the possible tanning activities undertaken here during Period 2. In contrast small oval pit 4882 was slightly deeper at 0.42m in depth, and contained a series of dark silty organic and woody deposits, capped with layers of clay. It contained little rubbish, suggesting it served a different, possibly industrial function.

*Property TSW2(N) (Figs 3.2–3)*

There was little evidence for activity within this possible property during this period. Garden soils (A1.34) were recorded throughout the part of the



Fig. 3.4 Period 3 Law Ditch wall 3211 and later replacement, looking north-west. Scales 2m



Fig. 3.5 Localised survival of the Period 3 cobbled surface of Temple Street (6106). Scale 1m



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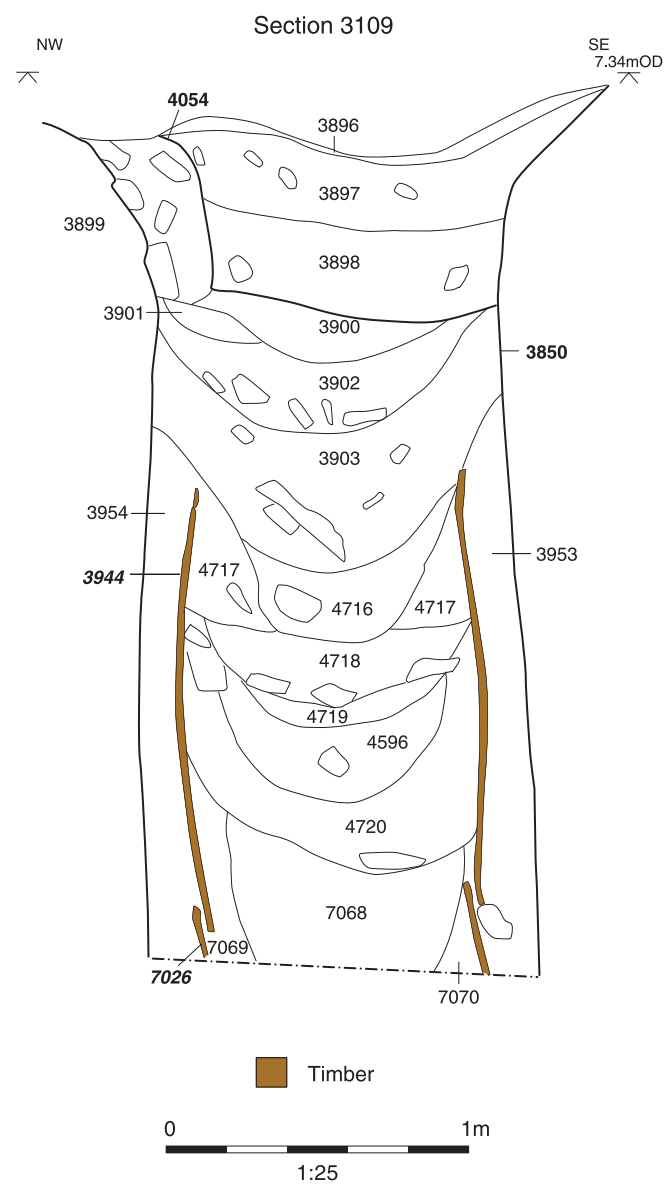


Fig. 3.6 Photographs and section of Period 3 well 3850, TSW1



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

plot that was exposed, suggesting that it remained open and undeveloped.

*Property TSW3(S) (Figs 3.2-3 and 3.7)*

Property TSW3(S) (Group A1.36) contained a single pit (7261) and a stone-lined well (4744) and several postholes (4669, 4780 and 4782). The areas of garden soil that also survived in patches throughout the length of the exposed area of the property suggest that it remained external and undeveloped. Circular pit 7261 was 0.82m deep and contained a primary fill of soft dark grey clay with black and blue clay lenses, suggesting that it contained standing water. It produced several cattle and goat horncores, together with two leather shoe fragments (SF 3205 and SF 11030). The low density of refuse throughout and the nature of its earliest fill suggest that the pit served an industrial function. To the west was stone-lined well 4744 (Fig. 3.7), whose large construction trench truncated the gully (4918) that defined the northern edge of the property. However, the structure of the well itself lay to the south of the boundary, which could therefore have been reinstated after the well was constructed. The circular well shaft measured *c* 1.4m in diameter and was built with roughly finished sandstone blocks in an irregular coursing. It was excavated to a depth of 2m, its fills comprising backfilled material of mortar and stone rubble, likely to have originated from the demolition of a nearby structure, or from the upper levels of the well itself.

*Property TSW3(N) (Figs 3.2 and 3.8)*

Only three pits (3904, 4658 and 7111) and a posthole (7296) were found within the exposed part of the



Fig. 3.7 Period 3 well 4744, TSW3(S), looking north-east. Scales 1m and 2m

property (Group A1.38), all of which were sealed by a thin garden soil. Pit 3904 (Fig. 3.8) was a subrectangular feature measuring 1.6 x 1.3m and 1.4m deep, with a rectangular stepped base. The narrower lower part of the cut was covered with the remains of a timber structure (Timbers T3050-3056) of criss-crossed timbers dividing the upper part of the feature from the lower section, which may have functioned as a sump or similar. Unfortunately, the timbers were very poorly preserved and not suitable for further analysis. From the step to the top of the feature the cut was lined with firm yellow-green clay, which covered the edges of the timber structure, holding it in place. This created a deep narrow shaft 0.7m wide, subdivided by the timber structure into two sections. The feature was filled with five brownish grey silty deposits

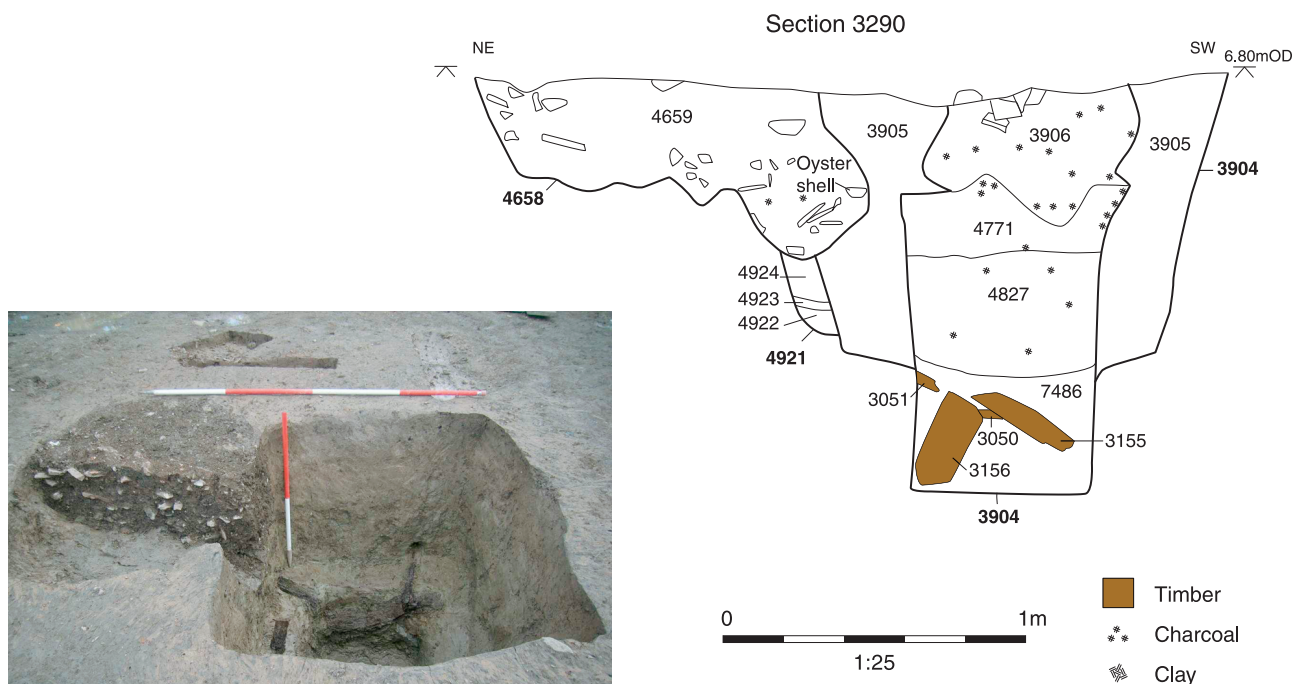


Fig. 3.8 Section and photograph of Period 3 pits 3904 and 4658, TSW3(N), looking south-west. Scales 1m and 2m

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containing general household rubbish, presumably after its original use had ceased. Its original function is unclear, although the design suggests that there was a need for a sump in the base. Circular pit 4658, measuring 0.57m in depth, cut through the clay lining of pit 3904 on its north side and it seems possible that the two pits were associated. The pit was backfilled with sandstone rubble, most likely building debris, which contained a curved edge binding, made of copper alloy (SF 3180). Shallow rubbish pit 7111 was notable for containing several charcoal and white mortar lenses within its upper fill, perhaps from overlying floor levels from a subsequent structure that occupied the area (see Building 7240, Period 4).

#### *Property TSW4 (Fig. 3.2)*

It is possible that TSW4 and TSW5(S) merged into one property with a lane running along its south side. Period 2 structure 4820, located towards the rear of the tenement, seems to have continued in use or been modified/rebuilt. Similarly, the area immediately to the east of the structure continued to be set aside for pits (4528, 4544, 4630 and 4768). The status of the structure(s) that occupied the frontage is unknown though it is possible that Structure 20004 continued in use as a possible beamslot (7095) that may have partitioned the structure into two parts was attributed to this phase.

#### *Building 4820 (Groups A1.44 and A1.46)*

As with Period 2 the precise configuration of Building 4820 is difficult to ascertain given the available evidence, although it seems to have occupied much the same footprint as before. What is clear is that the area occupied by the structure continued to be devoid of pits. Shallow flat-bottomed gully 4301 occupied the same position as Period 2 beamslot 4609, suggesting that the beam had been replaced. Most of the postholes were fairly small, around 0.4m in diameter, implying that they supported minor posts and that the major upright posts of the structure remained in their original positions. Two of the postholes contained one or two fragments from iron nails, and one (3776) contained a copper alloy buckle frame with a cast decoration (SF 3027). Shallow pit 4257, located close to the south-west corner of the building, could have contained a more substantial post. It was later filled with refuse that included an iron arrowhead, a looped handle made of fine twisted wire, and a copper alloy sheet fragment with a pin or nail hole. It is possible that postholes 3689, 3691 and 4222 were the remains of a fence located along the southern edge of the tenement rather than part of the building.

#### *Pits north-east of Building 4820 (Group A1.44)*

The area between Buildings 4820 and 20004 seems to have been set aside for rubbish disposal. In contrast to most of the Period 2 pits, the Period 3 pits were circular or oval and measured no more than 1.5m across. None was more than 1.12m deep and all but pit 4544 contained a reasonable amount

of rubbish. Pit 4768 was notable for containing fragments of 13th-14th century ridge tile and plaster that may have originated from the demolition or alteration of one or other of the possible buildings on the property. Only pits 4380 and 4544 indicated a different usage and contained evidence for a clay lining suggesting a function similar to the Period 2 industrial pits in this area. Insect remains recovered from the pits included species indicative of the inclusion of both wet and dry settlement waste and the inclusion of rotting/fermenting fruit or vegetable matter. Before the end of this period, garden soils had covered the pits and Building 4820, suggesting that activity in this area had ceased.

#### *Property TSW5 (Figs 3.2–3)*

Property TSW5 largely contained a scattered group of small and circular shallow pits and postholes (4019, 4372, 4288, 4376 and 4738, Group A1.47). Two of these (4372 and 4738) were cut through the fills of ditch 4515, perhaps suggesting that the boundary ditch had been replaced with a fence. Others to the north may have been part of a post-built structure, and postholes 4292 and 4726 were quite substantial. The only rubbish pit within the property in this period was pit 4288, measuring 1.05m across and 0.22m deep, which contained a large quantity of domestic refuse including a large and varied fish bone assemblage.

At the western edge of the excavation area, part of a large and possibly rectangular feature (4494) was recorded in the sections left by the removal of a post-medieval structure. It measured at least 5.0 x 4.5m and 0.30m deep, and was filled with very compact, redeposited clay. Its size suggests that it formed part of a terracing episode, possibly in preparation for the construction of a structure. Located immediately to the south-east was a patch of coarse stone rubble (3849) bonded by clay silt, possibly the remains of a wall footing.

#### *East of Temple Street*

##### *Property boundaries (Fig. 3.9)*

It is likely that the boundaries that were established during Period 2 continued in use unchanged and that Period 2 Buildings 2602 and 20018 continued to occupy separate properties (TSE1(S) and TSE1(N)). Robbed out wall 2528/2030, which extended back from the rear corner of Building 2602, probably marked part of the boundary between the tenements. The boundary between TSE1(N) and TSE2 again probably lay within the unexcavated strip between Excavation Areas 4 and 5.

##### *Property TSE1(S)*

##### *Building 2602 (Group A5.11) (Figs 3.10–11)*

The building continued in use from Period 2, with some minor modifications, although by the end of Period 3 the walls of its rear part had been robbed, suggesting a reorganisation of this area. There was some doubt as to whether the building extended up



## From Bridgehead to Brewery

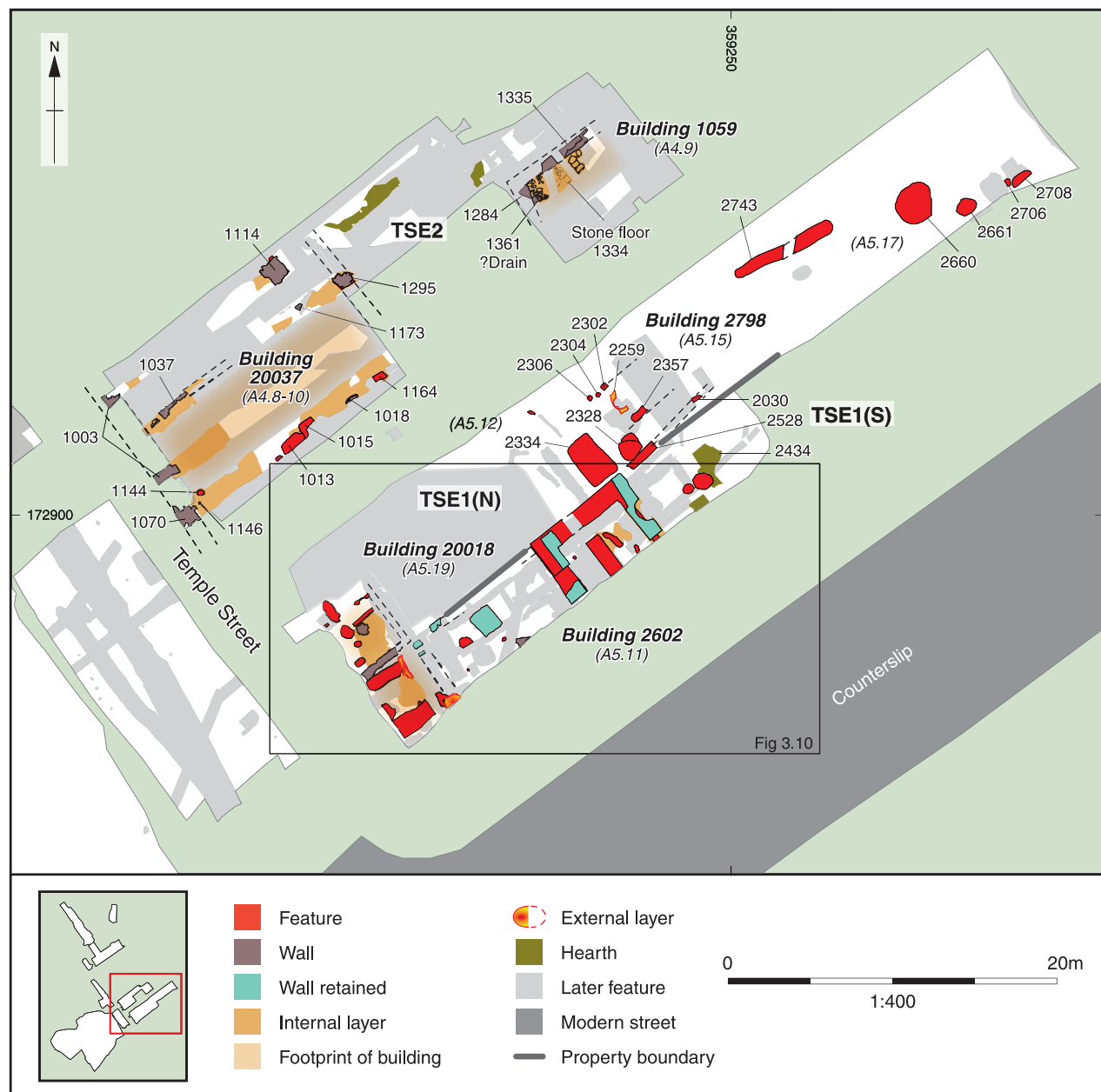


Fig. 3.9 Plan of Period 3 features east of Temple Street, Areas 4 and 5

to the street frontage during Period 2 or whether it was a two-roomed structure that was set back somewhat within the tenement, but no such doubt existed in Period 3, when a western room was clearly defined fronting onto the street (Fig. 3.10). The room was defined to the north-west by robber trench 2416, which extended alongside the south wall of the adjacent Building 20018. It contained the base of a rectangular stone-built hearth that measured *c* 1.55m across (2464, Fig. 3.11). The north-eastern extent of the hearth had been removed by a later wall foundation but it was probably built against and possibly within the north-eastern wall of the room, defined by wall fragment 2716. The hearth comprised a single course of roughly hewn sandstone blocks that had been blackened by use. It

was edged using similar blocks that had not been burnt, suggesting the walls of the hearth once stood proud of the base. It was abutted by an extensive spread of trampled charcoal-rich silt (2588), the density and thickness of which increased close to the hearth. It contained largely domestic food remains including a significant quantity of fish bones, largely herring. An elongated pit (2462), 0.30m deep, was probably a contemporary rake-out pit and contained thin lenses of burnt sand, clay and charcoal. The rake-out pit also contained a large quantity of animal and fish remains and small quantities of iron-working debris including hammerscale, possible tap slag, iron shavings and small flat pieces of melted lead. Also present was a significant quantity of cattle and goat/sheep horncores, suggesting the continua-

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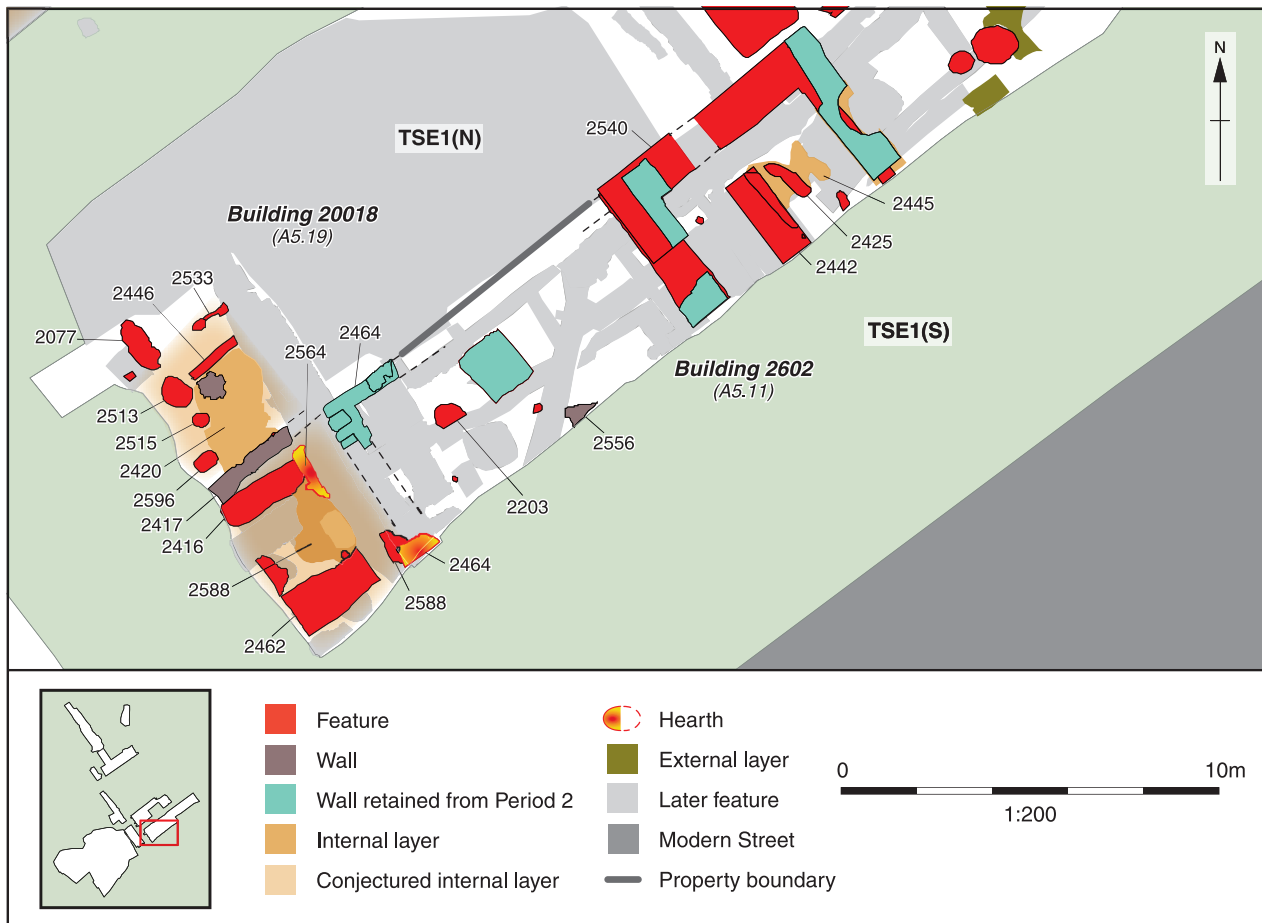


Fig. 3.10 Plan of Period 3 buildings 2602 and 20018, TSE1(S) and TSE1(N)



tion of the industrial or craft activity that occurred within the building during Period 2. A second heavily robbed hearth (2564) was located close to the north-eastern corner of the room.

Little activity was found within the adjoining room of the building, although a small pit (2203) contained thick lenses of charcoal-rich silts that presumably derived from a nearby hearth. The room also contained a large stone post-pad (2556), which may be evidence for an internal partition.

In the east room, the Period 2 pits had been infilled by this period and there was evidence for its subsequent subdivision or remodelling (Groups A5.13 and A5.15). A robber trench (2442) measuring 0.56m in depth and containing abundant stone fragments, lay equidistant between the west and east walls of the room. A thin spread of charcoal-rich silt (2445) covered a good part of the room east of the robber trench and overlay shallow gully 2425, but otherwise no floor levels survived. The robber trench contained a large quantity of charred oat/brome caryopses, suggesting that oat straw was probably utilised here for animal fodder or bedding (Jones, Chapter 7). The fact that the oats had been

Fig. 3.11 Hearth 2464, Period 3 Building 2602, TSE1(S), looking south-east. Scale 1m

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

burnt could imply that it had subsequently been used as kindling for a nearby hearth.

The building appears to have been demolished later in Period 3 and its walls largely robbed of their stone, presumably for reuse elsewhere. Fragments of crested ridge tiles were found throughout the fills of the robber trenches and presumably derived from the roof. A notable fragment came from a ceramic louvre (fitted on top of a roof hole to allow for ventilation, such as over a kitchen) which was found within robber trench 2416.

#### Features behind Building 2602 (Group A5.17) (Fig. 3.9)

The area immediately to the rear of Structure 2602 appears to have remained external. An accumulation of charcoal-rich silty clay (2434) that was rich in domestic rubbish and a number of cattle horncores suggests dumping over a sustained period, perhaps continuing from Period 2. The only features in this area were shallow rubbish pits (2660, 2661 and 2708).

#### *Property TSE1(N)*

##### Building 20018 (Group A5.19) (Fig. 3.10)

Period 2 Building 20018 continued in use and was substantially remodelled and probably rebuilt using stone footings. Its south-east extent was defined by 0.68m wide wall foundation 2417, which was slightly off-set and to the south of the beamslot that defined the corresponding wall of the Period 2 timber structure. Two courses of sandstone rubble survived, bonded by reddish sandy clay that contained charcoal flecks. It is possible that the redness of the bonding was the result of contact with intense heat and that the inside face of the wall formed the back of a hearth at this point. Postholes 2077, 2513, 2515 and 2596 extended on an alignment perpendicular to the wall and may represent an internal partition. Further divisions are implied by parallel beamslots 2446 and 2533, which could have marked the line of a narrow passage within the eastern room.

The structure was floored with a 0.14m thick layer of compacted clay (2420) that had been scorched to an orange-red colour, probably as the result of a nearby hearth. It was overlain with several spreads of charcoal-rich silts that were presumably associated with the use of the hearth. One deposit (2500) had evidence for smithing, as it contained small quantities of broken hammerscale flakes/spheres and iron shavings, together with fragments of fired clay. It also contained evidence for food preparation and consumption and included a significant quantity of fish (largely herring and eel but also a variety of other marine fish) and animal bone, some of which had been burnt. Further evidence for floors was recorded slumped into the top of the infilled Period 1 roadside ditch (2074, 2075, 2085 and 2086, Fig. 2.10).



Fig. 3.12 Period 3 pit 2334, TSE1(N), looking north-east. Scale 2m

##### Building 2798 (Group A1.15) (Fig. 3.9)

Towards the rear of the property were fragmentary remains of a small and slightly built timber structure, most likely a small outbuilding with an industrial or craft function. Its north-western wall may have been delimited by a line of three closely spaced shallow postholes (2302, 2304 and 2306) and a possible beamslot (2357), 0.07m deep, may have represented the corresponding wall to the south-east. A spread of fire-reddened clay (2259) represented a floor or hearth contained within the structure. Recovered from it was a quantity of small off-cuts of lead, possibly waste from metalworking activity.

##### Pits (Group A5.12) (Figs 3.9 and 3.12)

The area between Buildings 2798 and 20018 seems to have remained external and contained two pits (2328 and 2334) that were dug up against the boundary wall of the property. The larger pit (2334, Fig. 3.12) was rectangular and 1.26m deep. Its basal fill comprised 0.30m of redeposited but largely sterile alluvial clay, indicating that the pit was left open for a significant period, and contained standing water, presumably for an industrial function. The fills above comprised thick dark brown/black fibrous organic clays that contained abundant small wood and bark fragments (samples 2010 and 2011, Jones, Chapter 7), fragments of tanning slaking (calcium hydroxide or slaked lime) and 18 cattle and sheep/goat horncores. The pit was deliberately capped with thick brown clay, probably in order to seal off the malodorous organic remains, before being levelled with stone rubble-rich clay that contained fragments of 13th- or 14th-century roof tiles. A parchment pricker/stylus made of bone was also recovered.

The smaller pit (2328) was vertical-sided and 0.73m deep and seems to have been used as a cesspit. Its basal fill contained the mineralised remains of fig seeds and a variety of cereals as well as a wide variety of fish remains (sample 2017, Jones, Chapter 7). Within the deposit were several large limestone blocks, possibly the remains of a stone lining. Its backfill contained 13 horncores of cattle and goat, suggesting tanning waste.



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*Property TSE2***Building 20037 (Groups A4.8-A4.10) (Fig. 3.9)**

Period 3 saw more evidence for a stone-built structure occupying the street frontage, although the extent of modern disturbance within this area rendered understanding its layout problematic. Unlike its predecessor, Period 2 Building 1408, the new building seems to have occupied the street frontage for the full width of the tenement. Prior to its construction the area was levelled by the deposition of an accumulation of dark grey organic-rich silty clays, which survived in the top of the Period 2 roadside ditch 1009 (1007-8 and 1234, Group A4.8, Fig. 2.9) before a thick dump of clean redeposited alluvial clay was laid (1006). The accumulations were notable for containing at least 29 smithing hearth bottoms, run and tap slag and slag dribbles. Other industrial waste included 20 mainly cattle horncores and a small amount of primary leather and bone manufacturing waste. Other objects included parts of five leather turnshoes and a piece of leather that had three parallel cuts possibly representing a tanner's mark. A notable find, a scallop shell pilgrim badge, was also found within deposit 1007.

The building was c 17m long but its width was not established as the south-eastern wall was not located within the area of the excavation. Its front wall (1003) was 1.1m wide, constructed along what had previously been the western side of Period 2 roadside ditch 1009. It could be traced for a length of at least 9.5m, but it was not certain whether the



*Fig. 3.13 Posthole 1013, Period 3 Building 20037, TSE2, looking north-west. Scale 1m*

northernmost surviving segment belonged to this structure or pertained to a separate building. It is probable that the rear wall of the building was represented by wall foundation 1295, which had similar dimensions. The north-eastern side of the building was represented by wall footing 1037, although here it was more shallow founded compared to the other walls. Substantial wall footing 1114, to the north, could have supported an external wall but was offset from the line of wall 1295 and may alternatively have formed part of an adjacent building. All the wall foundations were constructed with large roughly squared sandstone



*Fig. 3.14 Riverfront wall 5088 with Period 7 Structure 5014 in the foreground, looking south-east. Scales 1m and 2m*



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

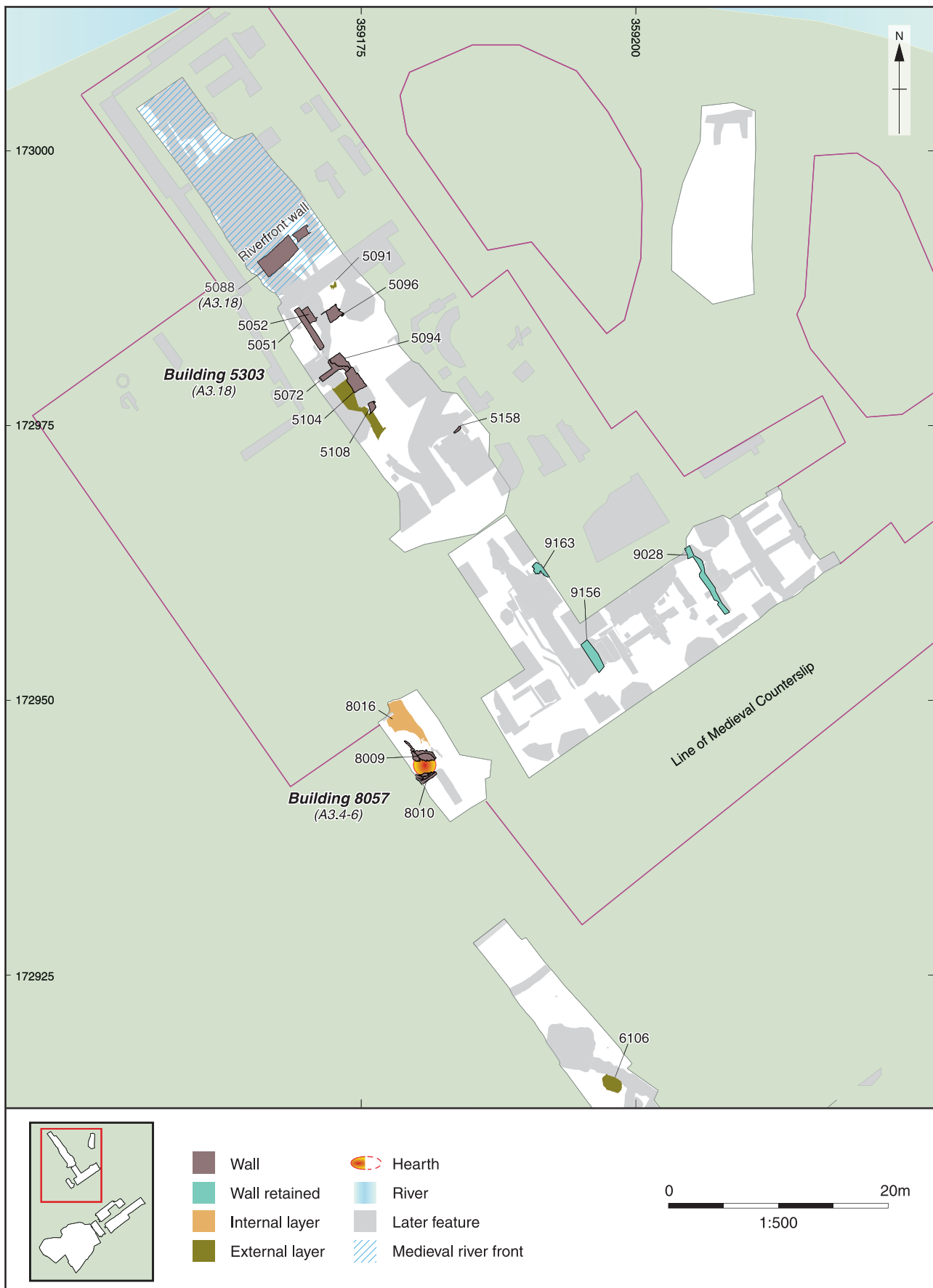


Fig. 3.15 Plan of Period 3 features north of Counterslip, Area 3 and the northern end of Area 2

## Chapter 3

blocks though only wall 1037 contained bonding, a pink/orange mortar.

A line of substantial postholes (Group A4.10) may have formed part of its south-eastern wall or perhaps a timber-built precursor. They comprised three large rectangular or square vertical-sided postholes (1015, 1018, and 1013) all of which had been partially removed by a modern piling trench. The least disturbed posthole (1013, Fig. 3.13) measured 1.45m across and 0.65m deep, although the deepest (1018) was 1.05m deep. All three had been lined with roughly cut rectangular sandstone that was bonded by whitish mortar. This formed packing for a circular postpipe, the surviving evidence from posthole 1013 suggesting that the post measured c 0.50m in diameter. Prior to the construction of the packing, the pit had been lined with hard red clay, perhaps in order to provide waterproofing. During the removal of the southernmost part of wall 1003, a void for a circular post was recorded (1070) suggesting that the wall was built around an extant post. This was on the same alignment as the other three posts, suggesting they formed part of the same structure. Given their substantial nature it is likely that these postholes were load bearing and could have supported the wall of a building of two storeys or more, although no further evidence for this was found.

A series of internal floor deposits survived largely along the western side of the building where they had sunk into the top of earlier ditch 1009. They



Fig. 3.16 Sandstone floor 1334, Period 3 Building 1059, TSE2, looking north-east. Scale 1m



Fig. 3.17 Walls 5051 (under scale) and 5096, Period 3 Building 5303, looking north-west. Scales 2m



*From Bridgehead to Brewery*



*Fig. 3.18 Plan of all Period 4 features*

## Chapter 3

comprised a sequence of thin layers of charcoal-rich silts and hard light clay, the charcoal suggesting sweepings from nearby hearths (1005, 1132-3, 1141-2, Fig. 2.9). They were rich in food remains, particularly fish, fowl and other bird bones, oysters, mussels and cockle shells, suggesting the preparation of food. The latest surviving floor sequence comprised a group (1005) of nine thin lenses of brown, grey and red silty clay which produced a silver penny of Henry II (SF 1000, AD 1154-1189, but may have remained in circulation until AD 1247 (see Scott, Chapter 6). However, the presence of three sherds of Malvernian ware (c 1380-1550) from this latest sequence, if not intrusive, suggests that these floors continued to accumulate up to the end of the 14th century or beyond.

#### Building 1059 (Group A4.9) (Figs 3.9 and 3.16)

Fragmentary remains of a further and presumably separate stone structure behind the frontage building were located c 11m to the north-east of Building 20037 and had been largely destroyed by modern foundation trenches. The structure was defined on two sides by wall foundation 1335 and possible wall foundation 1284. Both walls were composed of roughly cut sandstone blocks and were at least 0.70m in width with pinkish red mortar bonding wall 1335. A sandstone floor (1334, Fig. 3.16) was situated within the walls, constructed from roughly squared slabs with a flat upper surface, bonded together with clay. Traces of a possible drain (1361) were found, apparently built into the floor and located immediately alongside the face of the wall. Overlying the floor were several deposits containing sandstone, ridge tiles and slate fragments that probably represented demolition debris.

#### North of Counterslip

##### Building 8057 (Groups A3.4-6) (Fig. 3.15)

As in Period 2, the building was evidenced by ovens and occupation surfaces rather than by structural features. Oven 8009 (Group A3.5) appears to have been built as a replacement for Period 2 oven 8002 and was located slightly further south. The oven was partly truncated but survived to a maximum height of two courses and measured c 2m in diameter internally, possibly with an opening on the west side. On the north-west side of the structure were the partial remains of a flue, extending c 1.5m from the oven and represented by a single course of flat rectangular stones bonded with a cream and pink mortar. The floor of the oven and the flue were replaced twice, each time using flat rectangular edge-set stones, though the latest floor was bonded with a creamy yellow mortar. A crudely constructed N-S aligned wall (8010), 0.40m wide and presumably associated with the use of the oven, projected off the north side of the oven and was constructed after the last phase of the floor was laid. To the north of the oven were the remains of a stone floor surface

(8016, Group A3.4). A layer of demolition rubble (8015, Group A3.6) overlay the oven and the possible floor, suggesting the building in which they were contained was demolished.

##### Riverfront wall 5088 (Group A3.18) (Figs 3.14-15)

This period probably saw the replacement of the Period 2 riverside timber revetment 5256 with a substantial stone wall (5088) located about 2m further north. The wall measured 1.7m in width and survived to a height of 2.9m, with a slightly battered profile. It was constructed of roughly hewn sandstone in a random coursing and does not appear to have been mortared. The stones were faced on the exposed north-west face, but not on the south-east. It was cut through layers of river-deposited alluvium that were contemporary with the earlier revetment, but which had continued to accumulate into Period 3. The area to the south of the new riverside wall was raised by the dumping of silty clay layers of redeposited alluvium in order to reclaim some of the riverfront area and to level the ground surface prior to a new phase of construction.

##### Building 5303 (Group A3.18) (Figs 3.15 and 3.17)

Located immediately to the south of the riverfront wall were fragmentary remains that may pertain to a riverside building or one located on the rear part of one of the properties that fronted onto Counterslip (Building 5303). At least two phases of construction were apparent, although the extent of



Fig. 3.19 Period 4 Law Ditch culvert 3065, looking south-east. Scales 1m and 2m



## From Bridgehead to Brewery



Fig. 3.20 Plan of Period 4 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

## Chapter 3

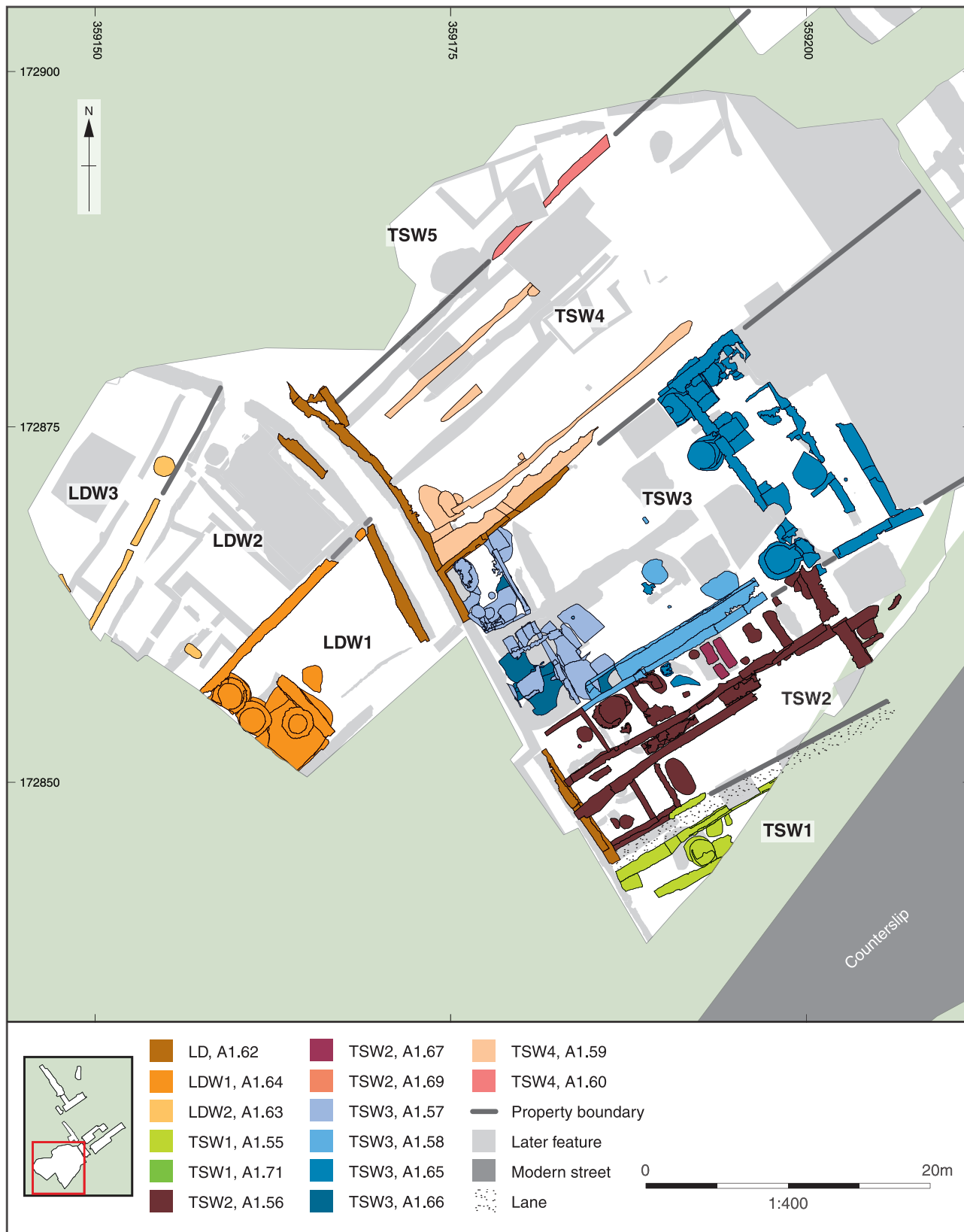


Fig. 3.21 Group plan of Period 4 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

## *From Bridgehead to Brewery*

later disturbance rendered interpretation of the surviving remains problematic. Walls 5108/5104 and wall fragment 5096 probably defined the north and west sides of the building. Both were c 1.2m wide, a width suggestive of load-bearing walls, and were well built using square-cut sandstone blocks bonded with an orange sandy mortar. Two less substantial walls (5051 and 5072) to the west were both half the width and constructed with roughly finished sandstone blocks bonded with a creamy white lime mortar. It is possible that these walls were a later addition to the structure. A stone pad (5094) may have been a threshold that joined the two structures. A small patch of stone surface (5091) may have formed part of the surface of a yard between the building and the riverside wall.

### **PERIOD 4: LATER MEDIEVAL PERIOD** (c AD 1375-1500)

#### **Dating evidence**

In contrast to Period 3, Bristol Redcliffe ware became the dominant pottery fabric, accounting for over 44% of the pottery assemblage at the expense of Ham Green and Bath A wares, all of which more-or-less ceased production by around 1400, although Minety ware (NW Wilts) may have continued into the 16th century. Although Bristol Redcliffe ware continued in production throughout the 15th century, more discernible late medieval wares such as Malvernian ware and Tudor Green wares, were introduced from c 1380. Though present in small numbers (less than 1.5% of the pottery from this period), they occurred in key contexts that date a major phase of stone building construction within properties TSW1-3 on the west side of Temple Street. Similarly, on the east side of the street, Malvernian ware was present in the early levels associated with new stone buildings (Buildings 1139 and 20034) constructed within properties TSE1 and TSE2.

#### **Law Ditch 3065 (Group A1.62) (Figs 3.18-21)**

The Period 3 Law Ditch (3604) was remodelled as a stone-lined culvert (3065, Group A1.62) measuring 2.1-2.7m in width and surviving to a depth of c 1.7m. Its internal deposits had largely been removed by a later channel and culvert (Fig. 2.4).

The culvert walls appeared to have been constructed in separate sections whose ends corresponded with the boundaries of the adjacent properties. Small variations in the construction method between walls suggests that they were built in separate episodes, although they were all constructed of roughly hewn sandstone blocks, randomly coursed and bonded with reddish sandy mortar. This suggests that although broadly contemporary, the walls were built either by individual property owners to their own method, or that the walls were built at different times

throughout this period, and not as a single construction event. The relationship of the culvert to the adjoining property boundaries varied; the western channel wall (3116) was recorded as abutting wall 3105, which defined the north-western boundary of St Thomas Street property LDW1, whereas the eastern culvert wall (3486) was contemporary with the wall that delimited the north-western boundary of Temple Street property TSW3(N). A wall (4631) that projected slightly away from the east culvert wall may have represented a stone structure such as a pier base for a small bridge, although no corresponding feature was observed on the other side of the ditch. A square pit filled with stone rubble and mortar (3830) may have represented robbing of part of this possible structure.

#### **The Redcliff Fee (Figs 3.20-21)**

##### *Property boundaries*

It was not until Period 4 that the boundaries of the properties to the rear of St Thomas Street became discernible, defined by stone walls. It is likely that they replaced earlier features such as fences or shallow ditches that did not otherwise survive. Two wall foundations (3025 and 3105) were identified, dividing three properties (LDW1-3). Their alignments corresponded closely with those of boundaries depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (Fig. 4.22). Both walls were constructed of roughly hewn unfaced sandstone, with a reddish brown mortar surviving in wall 3105.

##### *Property LDW1 (Group A1.64) (Figs 3.20-3)*

At the west end of the exposed area of the property was a stone-lined well (3083, Fig. 3.22) that seems to have later been enclosed to the east by a sandstone wall foundation (3110), since the wall clearly cut the construction cut of the well. The construction cut (3099) was extremely large, measuring 5.2m in



Fig. 3.22 Period 4 well 3083 after excavation of the construction cut, LDW1, looking north-east. Scale 2m



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diameter, within which was a well shaft with an internal diameter of 1.3m. The shaft was constructed from sandstone blocks bonded with a reddish brown sandy mortar, and was excavated to a depth of 2m.

Two circular ovens (2330 and 3232) were constructed, cutting the western side of the construction cut of the well (Fig. 3.23). They appeared to have been in use at the same time. Oven 3232 was built against property boundary wall 3105, which had been partially rebuilt at this location. Each oven had an internal diameter of *c* 1.8m and the better preserved example (3232) survived to a height of 0.56m in places. Their walls were constructed of regularly coursed sandstone blocks, bonded with pale reddish, fine sandy mortar. Each oven had an opening on its south-western side, presumably for a stokehole, although these would have lain immediately outside the excavated area. There was evidence that the stokehole of oven 3232 had been rebuilt. Both ovens were floored with edge-set sandstone slabs that had been heavily blackened through use. Analysis of a charcoal sample taken from oven 3232 (sample 3002, Challinor, Chapter 7) revealed that a mixture of wood species was used for fuel, dominated by beech and oak but also including hazel, alder, poplar / willow, ash and field maple.

*Property LDW2 (Group A1.63)*

This property appears to have remained open during this period and a garden soil that had been accumulating since Period 3 covered the area. Shallow rubble-filled pit 3470 cut this deposit and may date to this period.

*Property LDW3 (Group A1.63)*

This property also appears to have remained open, since garden soils were recorded within this area and were cut by rubble-filled shallow pits 3441 and 3388. Pit 3388 was notable for containing spherical and flake hammerscale along with vitrified hearth lining, suggesting smithing debris.



Fig. 3.23 Period 4 ovens 3232 and 3230, LDW1, looking north-east. Scale 2m

## The Temple Fee

### West of Temple Street

#### Property boundaries

During Period 4 there was evidence for the probable amalgamation of some property fronting the west side of Temple Street to form larger properties, of which substantial remains survived (Figs 3.20-1). It was notable that some of the features identified as potential boundary ditches and gullies in Periods 2 and 3 were retained in Period 4 as stone-built paths and drains. Table 3.2 summarises the extrapolated boundary features of Period 4, which are described below, and shows the degree of continuity across the periods. As before, the individual properties are described working from the south-west edge of the site northwards. Properties TSW1 and TSW2 were separated by a lane 1.1m wide, defined on the north side by wall footing 3168 (partly robbed by robber trench 3390) and on the south side by a stone-lined drain (3018, Fig. 3.24). The drain was constructed from sandstone blocks with a flagstone capping. A small blocking wall (3115) was later inserted at the point where it fed into the Law Ditch, suggesting that the drain had ceased to be used. Period 3 properties TSW3(N) and TSW3(S) were amalgamated into a single property (TSW3) that was divided from TSW2 by wall 3036 and from TSW4 by

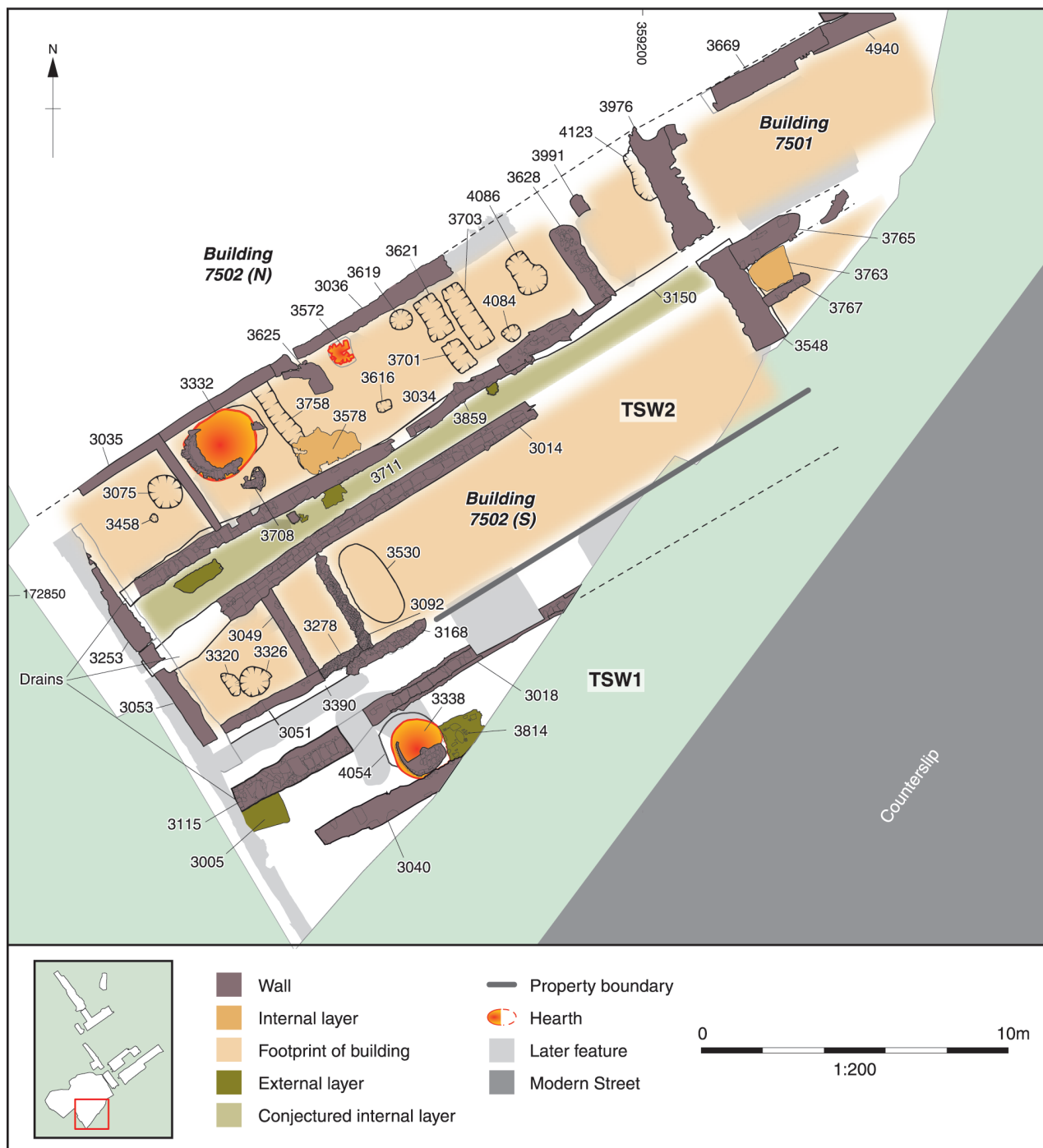


Fig. 3.24 Period 4 drain 3018, looking south-west. Scale 2m

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

*Table 3.2 Period 4 properties and property boundaries on the west side of Temple Street*

<i>Property</i>	<i>Evidence</i>
Property TSW1	Wall 3040 and oven 3338, drain 3018 (Group A1.55)
Boundary	Lane - walls 3168 and 3018 (Group A1.55)
Property TSW2	Buildings 7501 and 7502 and associated features (Groups A1.56, A1.67 and A1.69)
Boundary	NW wall of Building 7502(N) and SE wall of Building 7240 (Groups A1.56 and A1.59)
Property TSW3	Buildings 7204 and 7503 and associated features (Groups A1.57, 58, 65 and 66)
Boundary	Wall 3486 (Group A1.62)
Property TSW4	Path 3746, gullies 4513, 3751 and 3790 (Group A1.59)
Boundary	Wall 4032 (Group A1.60)
Property TSW5	No activity





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wall 3486/4866. Both boundaries were preserved into the later 19th century, when they were recorded on the 1st Edition OS map. The ditches that had marked the boundary between properties TSW4 and TSW5 during Periods 2 and 3 were replaced by dry stone wall 4032.

*Property TSW1 (Group A1.55) (Fig. 3.25)*

A shallow sandstone-built wall foundation (3040), 0.8m in width, ran along the axis of the property and may have been part of a building, although if so the rest of the structure must have lain beyond the trench. A circular oven (3338) had been constructed against the north-eastern side of the wall, where it also cut a pit (4054). The oven measured 1.58m in diameter and survived to a height of 0.3m, constructed from roughly hewn sandstone blocks in an irregular coursing, bonded by a hard pinkish mortar. It had a flagstone floor, over which charred remains of its fuel survived, predominantly beech and oak with smaller amounts of birch (see sample 3017, Jones, Chapter 7). A stone surface (3814) abutting both wall 3040 and the oven was probably the remains of a rake-out surface. The remains of a cobbled stone surface (3005) close to the Law Ditch also probably dates to this phase.

*Property TSW2 (Group A1.56)*

It was not clear whether the two properties evident in Period 3 remained separate entities or were merged into one, as no clear boundary was found between them. The street frontage was occupied by a single building (7501) but to the rear the property was bisected by a path (3711) that was flanked by stone drains (3859 and 3014). Two buildings, 7502(N) and 7502(S), were located on either side of the path. The path, as well as an internal wall that subdivided Building 7501, corresponded with the boundary between Period 3 properties TSW2 and TSW3 and with a boundary shown on the 1st Edition OS map (Fig. 4.20). This arrangement may indicate that the property was under a single ownership but possibly retained two tenancies, each utilising a set of outbuildings to the rear accessed via a shared pathway. The path (3711, Fig. 3.26) was well built and founded upon a base of compacted stone rubble 0.14m thick, over which was a surface of flat stone slabs. The surface was largely worn away and only a few areas of it survived. The path measured *c* 1m in width and extended right to the rear boundary of the property. Both drains were of a similar construction, comprising walls of roughly hewn sandstone blocks with bases of neatly shaped sandstone slabs, bonded by pinkish white mortar and clay.

*Building 7501 (Fig. 3.25)*

The rear of the building was revealed, showing that it extended at least 9.5m from the street frontage and was over 8.5m in width. Its back wall consisted of

two separate stretches of wall foundation (3548 and 3976), each *c* 1.0m in width, that were slightly askew to each other. There was a gap of *c* 0.3m between the two walls that probably allowed drain 3859 to pass through them, though it had been robbed within this area (3150). The north side of the building appears to have been formed by two lengths of wall (3669/4940) shared with the adjoining Building 7240. Wall 3765, which divided the building into two, measured 0.80m in width, substantial enough to represent a party wall separating the building into two dwellings. Wall 3767, measuring 0.3m in width, was probably a partition wall within the southern dwelling. All the walls were of a similar construction, comprising sandstone rubble bonded with a reddish brown mortar. The only evidence for internal deposits was a patch of floor or make-up layer (3763) comprising compacted yellowish brown silty clay.

*Building 7502(S) (Fig. 3.25)*

The building lay on the south side of path 3711 and abutted the wall that divided the property from TSW1 (3168). It extended to the edge of the Law Ditch but no evidence was found for the north-western side, which fronted onto path 3711, and the north-eastern end did not survive, as contemporary levels did not survive here. Two rooms were identified at the rear, south-western end of the building, delineated by walls 3049 and 3092, the eastern room



*Fig. 3.25 (facing page) Plan of Period 4 buildings 7501 and 7502, TSW1 and TSW2*

*Fig. 3.26 Period 4 path 3711, flanked by drains 3014 and 3859, TSW2, looking south-west. Scale 2m*

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

being a later addition. Its walls were all of a similar width of *c* 0.4m and constructed from roughly hewn sandstone rubble bonded with a pale greyish-white sandy mortar, although latter addition 3278 utilised a greyish red sandy mortar. No internal surfaces survived within the structure.

Within the western room were two shallow pits, 3326 and 3320, that were 0.12m and 0.24m deep respectively. It was not certain whether they were contemporary with the building or were dug prior to its construction. The larger pit (3326) was filled with domestic refuse, including an appreciable amount of herring and common eel bones together with demolition debris. Located immediately to the east of the surviving structure was a large oval pit (3530), 0.5m in depth, which had been also used to deposit domestic refuse and building rubble. This included several ceramic ridge tiles and an encaustic bichrome floor tile fragment, suggesting demolition or modification of nearby structures.

**Building 7502(N) (Fig. 3.25)**

To the north of the path the north range was better preserved and appeared to have occupied the whole length of the property, from Building 7501 to the Law Ditch. It was *c* 3.3m wide, from the path to the boundary with property TSW3 (3036) and was divided into a central room, *c* 5.0m wide, flanked on either side by two smaller rooms that measured *c* 3.0-3.5m wide. No evidence was found for a wall on the side that faced onto the path. Only two of the internal walls survived, the other partitions being represented by shallow, rubble-filled robber trenches (3758, 3621, and 3703). All the wall foundations were constructed with sandstone rubble though the bonding of the westernmost room comprised loose red sand that contrasted with the pinkish-white mortar bond of boundary wall 3036. The westernmost room contained a circular pit (3075) and a posthole (3458). The pit measured 1.1m in diameter and 0.5m deep, and had a clay lining, suggesting a function that involved holding liquid. The adjacent room contained a substantial and largely robbed circular oven (3332) measuring *c* 1.9m in diameter. Only the western part of its wall lining of sandstone blocks survived and the interior elements had been completely removed. The fragmentary remains of another possible oven (3708) were situated just to its south east. Within the central room were the remains of a small circular hearth (3572) measuring 0.8m in diameter. It was constructed with a base of large, flat, unshaped sandstone pieces, with rectangular shaped sandstone blocks forming a low wall around its edge. The floor of the hearth was scorched. To the west of the hearth a short section of curvilinear wall (3625), comprising flat slabs, may have defined the hearth working area or was perhaps the base of a flue or a drain. This room had a sandstone slab floor (3578), part of which remained in the south-west corner and overlaid robber trench 3758, suggesting the room had been amalgamated with the room to

the west. The room also contained a posthole (3616) and a small shallow pit 3619, both filled with demolition rubble. The room to the east of the central room contained only a shallow rubble-filled pit (4086) and a possible posthole (4094) and the easternmost room contained evidence of a partition wall (3991).

**Property TSW3 (Fig. 3.27)**

Period 3 properties TSW3(S) and TSW3(N) were amalgamated into a single large tenement (TSW3) which measured some 17m wide. The area towards the Temple Street frontage was occupied a single structure (Building 7240) that extended across the entire width of the tenement. Similarly, an outbuilding occupied the full width of the rear of the property, hard against the culverted Law Ditch. The area between the buildings appears to have been an open yard, with a well-built stone path (3525) along the southern edge.

**Building 7240 (Group A1.65) (Figs 3.20–21 and 3.27)**

Towards the north-eastern end of the excavated area were the remains of the rear part of a large stone building that had fronted onto Temple Street (Building 7240). Severe truncation by post-medieval cellars had destroyed the street frontage. The remaining walls survived at foundation level and defined a structure measuring *c* 17.2 x 8.5m that occupied the full width of the property. Walls 3669 and 4940 formed the south side and were shared with the adjoining Building 7501 in TSW2. Wall 3669 abutted wall 4940, which might suggest that Building 7240 was an extension to a pre-existing building whose western limit had been formed by wall 4942. Its western and northern walls (3707 and 4099) were of single build, the west wall incorporating four ovens that projected from its exterior side. The wall foundations all measured 0.75-0.95m in width and were constructed with roughly hewn sandstone rubble bonded by pinkish sandy mortar. A corridor *c* 1.8m wide ran along the eastern side of the surviving part of the building, defined by walls 3164, 7307 and 3684 and partly rebuilt as wall 7307. On the west side of the corridor were four equal-sized rooms that each measured *c* 3.5m in width, defined by narrow walls 4350, 7036 and 3779. Remnants of stone surfaces demonstrate that the building had a cobbled floor (7188/4978) built on a mortar bedding over the underlying Period 3 garden soils.

Each of the four rooms contained the remains of a stoking/rake-out chamber that served one of the four large circular ovens or hearths built onto the outside of the building (Figs 3.28-30). The three surviving ovens (4100, 3651 and 7210) were of identical construction, with surrounding walls built with roughly hewn rectangular/square sandstone blocks, bonded with a pinkish white crumbly mortar. Each oven had an internal diameter of 1.9-2.0m with a *c* 0.70m opening on its east side that lead through the wall of the building and into the



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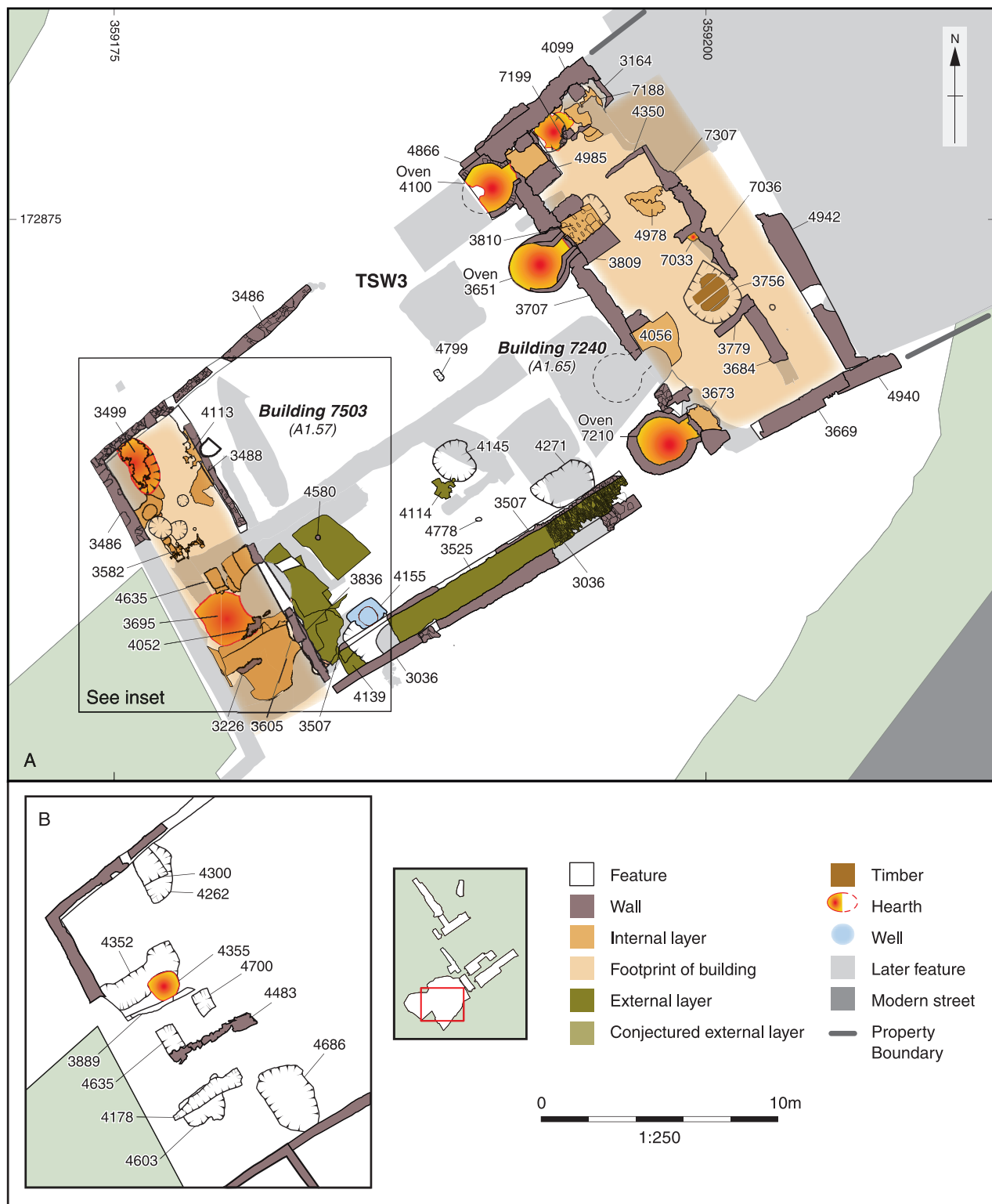


Fig. 3.27 Property TSW3. a) Plan of Period 4 buildings 7240 and 7503; b) Plan of features predating Building 7503

firing/stoking chamber within. The oven floors comprised packed smaller edge-set stones, which survived in oven 4100 and partially in oven 3651 but had been robbed from oven 7210. The wall of oven 3651 had later been refurbished with a new inner lining. The four stoking/rake-out chambers (4985,

3809, 4056 and 3673) were also of similar construction and comprised two retaining walls aligned with the oven openings. The wall foundations were up to 1.0m wide suggesting they supported a load-bearing feature such as a chimney. The chambers were each floored with rectangular/squared sandstone slabs

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

Fig. 3.28 Oven 4100, Period 4 Building 7240, TSW3, looking south-west. Scales 2m

and smaller blocks laid on edge. These floors were level and contiguous with the oven floors, as demonstrated by the surviving floors within ovens 4100 and 3651. All were heavily blackened through use. Analysis of charcoal associated with ovens 3651 and 4100 revealed a variety of wood species used for fuel, including beech, oak, alder, hazel, hawthorn and elm, as well as heather and gorse (samples 3151 and 3275, Challinor, Chapter 7).

The remains of two largely robbed ovens or hearths (7199 and 7033) were found within the

building. Oven 7199 was robbed at the time when the north wall of the building was constructed, suggesting that it predated it. Possible oven fragment 7033 had been built into the north corner of one of the central rooms. Shallow pit 3756 contained the base of a timber barrel (Fig. 3.31) consisting of four planks of oak. The barrel base sat upon a layer of clay, which was also found around its edges, suggesting that it had been sealed to make it watertight. It had been placed in the north-east corner of one of the rooms and presumably held liquid of some sort.

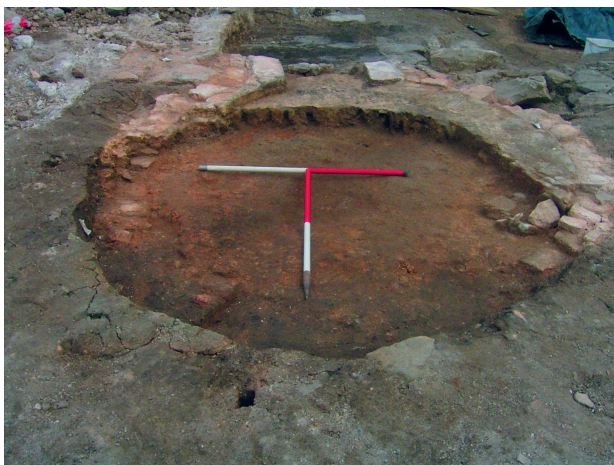


Fig. 3.29 Period 4 Building 7240, TSW3: a) Oven 3651, looking north-east, scales 1m; b) Rake-out surface 3810, looking north-west. Scales 1m and 2m



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Fig. 3.30 Oven 7210, Period 4 Building 7240, TSW3, looking south-east. Scales 1m and 0.5m



Fig. 3.31 Base of timber cask in pit 3756, Period 4 Building 7240, TSW3, looking south-west. Scale 1m

#### Features predating Building 7503 (Group A1.57) (Fig. 3.27)

The rear area of the property, adjacent to the Law Ditch, appears to have seen the earliest development during this period. This initially comprised a group of shallow pits associated with robber cuts suggesting the presence of an ill-defined structure, which was succeeded by the more clearly defined remains of stone-walled Building 7503. An arrangement of small rectangular pits (4300, 4635 and 4700), measuring between 0.10-0.23m in depth, may be the remains of a post-built structure that occupied approximately the same footprint as the later stone building. Narrow slots 4178 and 3889 may have held beams or narrow walls that divided the structure into three parts.

A possible oven (4355) was located within the central part of the possible building. It had been mostly robbed and survived as a circular pit *c* 1.1m in diameter and 0.56m deep, with a projecting slot on its south-eastern side that may have been a rake-out pit. Remnants of its lining, comprising burnt sandstone, survived around the base of the pit and along the side of the raking-out pit, set in a lining of greenish clay. Shallow pit 4352 may have been associated with the robbing of the feature or possibly of some structural element attached to it. The pit contained large amounts of demolition debris, comprising sandstone blocks, mortar and small amounts of ceramic ridge tile. An iron slag block from the upper fill, along with a small amount of copper slag or melted waste, attests to some metal working in the vicinity. Stone drain 4483 may have been associated with this activity. A shallow scoop (4603) located towards the south side of the structure contained charcoal-rich silt, probably sweepings from the nearby oven. It was rich in herring bones, charred free-threshing wheat and barley grains, together with burnt animal bone fragments, suggestive of domestic kitchen waste. Three lead tokens were also recovered from this deposit. Subrectang-

ular pit 4686, 0.75m deep, probably lay outside the structure and was also filled with domestic refuse. A sample from one of its fills (sample 3256) contained several species associated with dyeing and textile processing activity. Fragments of madder root, charred weld seeds and charred achenes of fuller's teasel were identified and suggest that this activity was taking place within the property, if not within this specific building.

#### Building 7503 (Group A1.57) (Fig. 3.27)

The possible earlier structure was replaced in stone and extended to occupy the full width of the property, but otherwise occupied the same footprint as before, against the culvert Law Ditch at the rear edge of the property. The wall of the culvert (3486) was integral to the south-west wall of the building and the north-east wall was represented by wall 3488/3605, a narrow and shallow sandstone foundation bonded by red sand-based mortar, which was of identical construction to wall 3486. To the south, it appears to have shared wall 3035 with the adjoining Building 7502 on TSW2. A small remnant of wall 3226 may have formed part of a partition within the south part of the building. In all, the building measured *c* 14m x 4.5m.

The interior floor surface of the building was stone (4113), which survived in patches above a clay make up/levelling layer. Within the interior of the building were the partial remains of two largely robbed ovens. Only the floor remained of oven 3499, located in the north-west corner of the building. The sandstone floor overlay a clay bedding layer and was constructed of small roughly hewn edge-set blocks, interspersed with occasional larger slabs laid flat. The base of the oven wall survived on the north-eastern side as a single course of flat roughly hewn sandstone. Situated *c* 8m to the south-east, a very small part of a stone structure with a curved wall remained (4052) that had been largely removed by a robber cut (3695). This is likely to be the heavily robbed remains of another oven.

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

## Yard between Buildings 7503 and 7240 (Group A1.58)

At least part of this backyard area was covered with a stone surface, evidenced by a surviving area of cobbles adjacent to Building 7503 and isolated patch 4114. A barrel-lined well (4155) was located near the southern corner of the yard, close to Building 7503. It was constructed within a square construction cut 1.4m across and the shaft had an internal diameter of 0.80m and a depth of c 4.3m. The bottom part of the well was lined with stone, which may have been included to reduce contamination of the well by the material into which the feature was dug. Above this, two casks (7343 and 7477) had been placed one on top of the other. The lower cask (7477; Fig. 3.32) was constructed from 22 staves, had several markings on it and was held together by the fragmentary remains of at least five ash hoops. Four holes appear to have been cut to assist handling during insertion into the cut. It also had incised markings, peg holes, tap holes and bung holes, suggesting that it had been well used prior to its use as a lining. The upper cask (7343) consisted of 25 staves held together by the fragmentary remains of nine ash hoops. The cask had rotted above the level of the water table, and consequently only the lower three quarters of the cask remained. Four fills of the well were recorded, and all contained wood chippings of bark, roundwood and heartwood. A stone pathway (3525) ran along the southern boundary of the property and

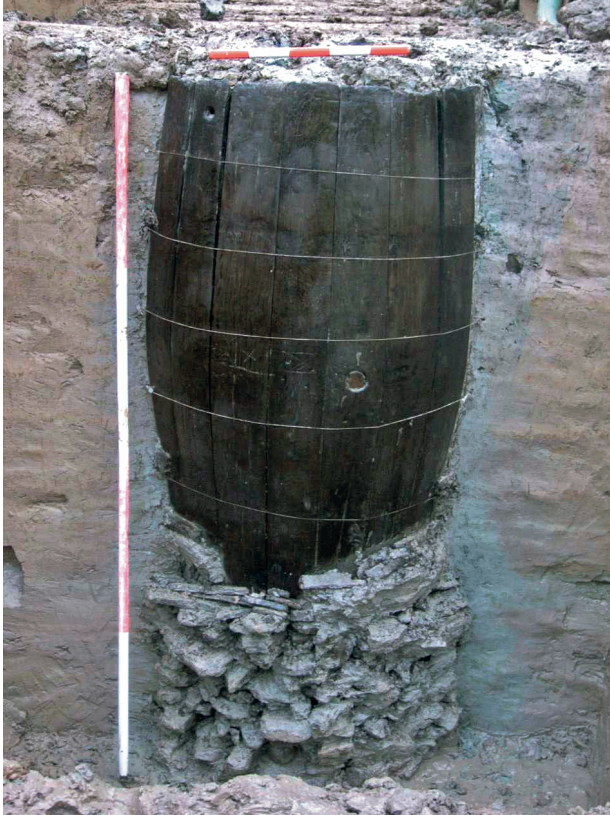


Fig. 3.32 Cask 7477 in Period 4 well 4155, TSW3, looking south-east. Scale 2m

post-dated the infilling and levelling of well 4155. It predated oven 7210 (see Building 7240, above) and presumably provided access from the frontage area to Building 7503 or its timber precursor. However, there was no surviving evidence that it originally extended beyond the SW wall of Building 7240. It measured c 1.0m in width and was well constructed, comprising tightly packed sandstone slabs and blocks with a narrow retaining wall (3507) on its NW side. Two rubbish pits (4145 and 4271) and three postholes/stakeholes (4799, 4778 and 4580) were also situated within the yard.

*Property TW4 (Group A1.59) (Figs 3.20–21)*

In contrast to the neighbouring properties to the south, very little activity was evidenced on property TSW4. It is possible that gullies 3571 and 3790 marked subdivisions within the area or served as simple drains. Both were notable for containing a fish bone and marine shells, suggesting that domestic occupation lay close by. A path (3746) constructed from stone slabs and cobbles ran along the southern edge of the property. It was flanked on its north side by a drainage gully (4513) that led to a cluster of intercutting shallow pits (4127, 3928 and 3908) located at the rear of the property. The pits may have served as soakaways for the gully, as there was no evidence that it drained into the Law Ditch. The assemblages from the charcoal-rich fills of the pits are suggestive of metalworking waste and included lumps of iron and copper alloy, strips (including a vessel waster), plate fragments, an iron slag block and a fragment of melted copper waste or slag.

*Property TSW5 (Figs 3.20 and 3.21)*

No Period 4 features were recorded within this property.

*East of Temple Street (Fig. 3.33)**Property TSE1*

## Building 20034 (Group A5.20) (Figs 3.33–5)

Period 3 properties TSE1(N) and TSE1(S) were merged into a single property (TSE1) and the buildings that had stood on the street frontage (Buildings 2602 and 20016, above) were demolished, apparently simultaneously, and replaced by a single, more substantial stone structure (Building 20034, Figs 3.34–5). The rear wall of the new building measured 0.70m in width and comprised large roughly hewn sandstone blocks bonded by pinkish brown sandy mortar. The above ground part of its north-east side had been faced with lime mortar. The wall was set within a foundation trench that measured 0.56m deep and at least 1.0m in width. Wall 2340 probably represented the street frontage wall of the building and comprised roughly cut stones bonded with a greyish pink sandy mortar. Robber trench 2415, 1.1m wide and 0.43m deep,



## Chapter 3

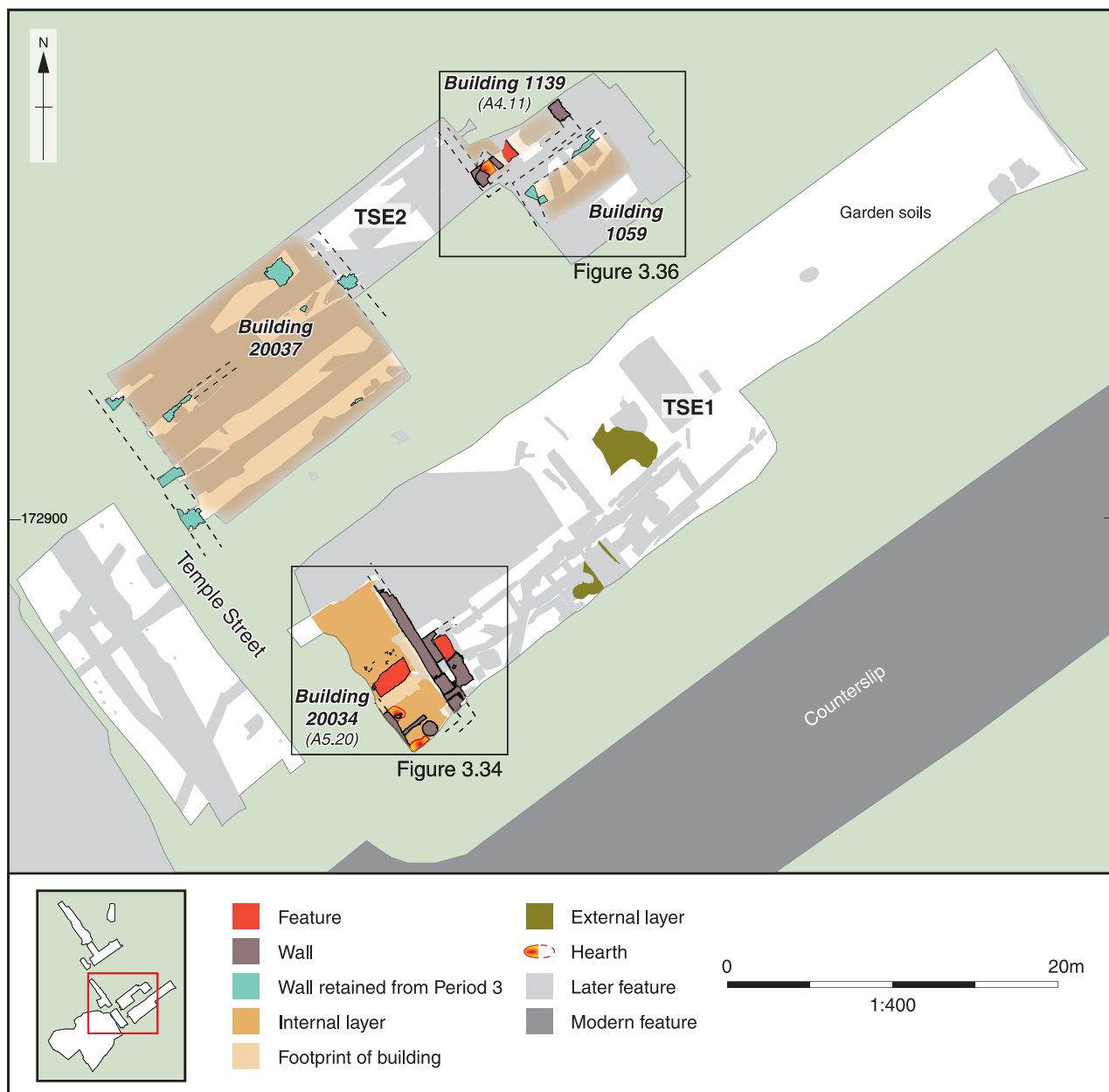


Fig. 3.33 Plan of Period 4 features east of Temple Street, Areas 4 and 5

appears to have removed a major internal wall that divided the structure into two distinct elements at approximately the same position where Period 3 Buildings 2602 and 20016 had joined, suggesting that this division may have been maintained in the new arrangement. A stone-lined drain (2279) fed from the southern room of the structure, through an opening in the north-east wall and ran alongside its exterior face before turning off at right-angles to the north-east at a point corresponding to the location of robber trench 2415. The drain was much disturbed by a post-medieval drain installation, but it comprised large sandstone slabs at its base with the lining consisting of blocks of similar stone, bonded by brown sandy mortar. The internal width of the drain measured c 0.35m and any infill had

been removed by later activity. Located immediately against the north-east side of drain 2279 was a wall foundation (2573). Due to the complexity of the sequence of structural remains in this area it was unclear whether this wall represented the base of an external staircase or similar feature, or was part of a separate building. It certainly predated the 'annexes' that were added to the rear of Building 20034 during Period 6 (Chapter 4, below).

The room north of the robber trench had a floor of greyish white mortar that was constructed on a 0.32m thick layer of mixed brown silty clay make-up. The make-up layer contained a great deal of domestic refuse, probably residual, but notably included large fragments from a ceramic louvre and part of a possible finial. The southern part of the

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

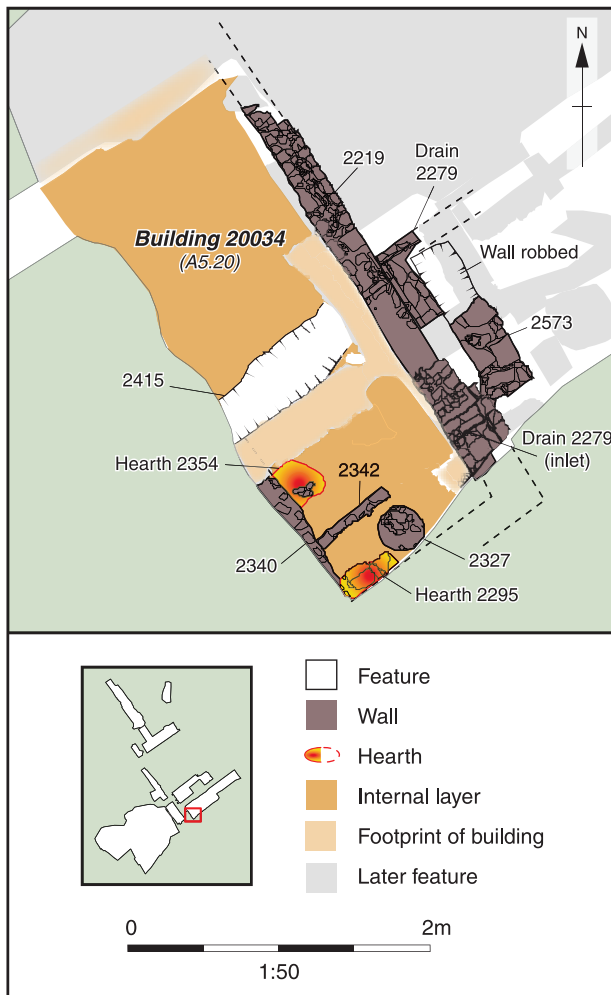


Fig. 3.34 (left) Plan of Period 4 Building 20034, TSE1

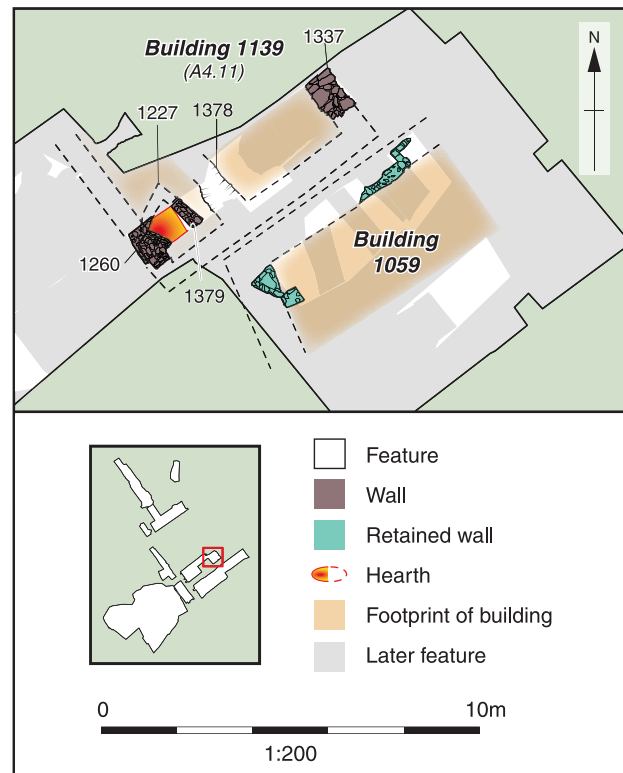


Fig. 3.36 Plan of Period 4 buildings 1059 and 1139, TSE2



Fig. 3.35 Period 4 Building 20034, TSE1, looking north-west. Scales 1m and 2m



## Chapter 3



Fig. 3.37 Plan of all Period 5 features

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

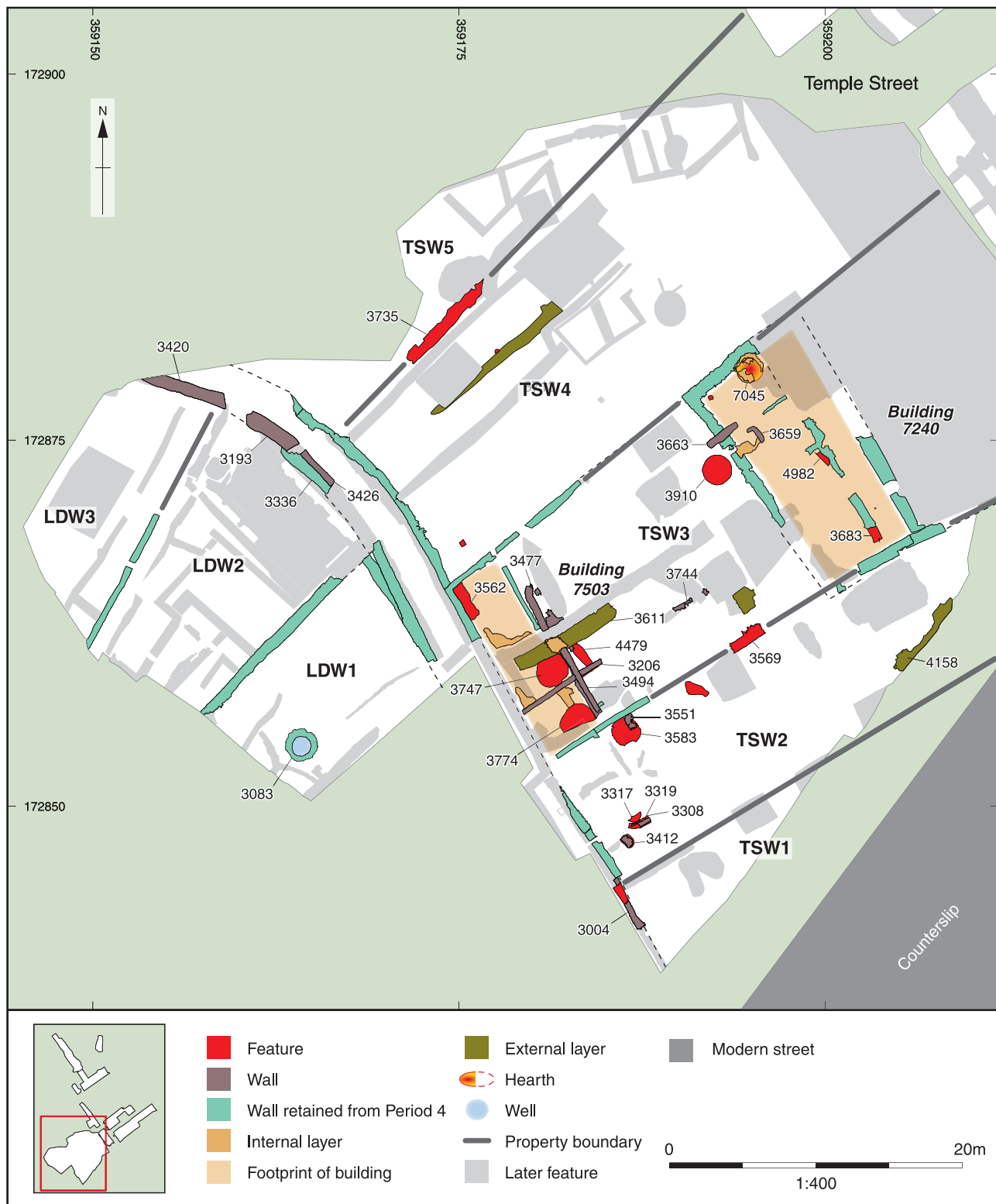


Fig. 3.38 Plan of Period 5 features west of Temple Street, Area 1



## Chapter 3



Fig. 3.39 Group plan of Period 5 features west of Temple Street, Area 1

*From Bridgehead to Brewery*

building contained part of a second, narrower wall (2342) that may have been the base of an internal partition, its flimsy construction suggesting that it supported a timber superstructure. Two stone-built hearths (2295 and 2354) had been built against wall 2342, one on each side of wall 2342. Both hearths contained a thin layer of charcoal or ash on the surface and the limited evidence, including a small amount of fish and animal remains, suggests a domestic function. Immediately adjacent to hearth 2295 was a shallow circular pit (2327), 0.80m in diameter and 0.17m deep, filled with large, hewn sandstone blocks. Since there was no evidence for any underlying pit that would suggest a levelling event it is possible that the feature may have formed the base for an installation associated with the use of the adjacent hearth, perhaps the base for an oven or chimney. A 0.22m-thick layer of fire-hardened orange-red clay that was recorded overlying it may have formed the base of the feature. There was no evidence for floor levels in the southern part of the building, although a trampled mid-brown/black silty clay layer, 0.04m thick, covered most of the area (though it is unclear whether this deposit was contemporary or post-dated the room). It contained a small quantity of domestic refuse.

The area behind Building 20034 appeared to have remained open and Period 3 features were covered by a 0.20-0.33m thick garden-type soil.

*Property TSE2 (Figs 3.33 and 3.36)*

No evidence for activity in this period was found towards the frontage and it is probable that Period 3 Building 20037 continued in use without significant modifications.

*Building 1139 (Group A4.11) (Fig. 3.36)*

Towards the rear of the area were the remains of a substantial stone structure that may have represented a modification or extension of Period 3 Building 1059 or was possibly a separate structure altogether; no relationship between the two survived the extensive modern disturbance within this area. The north-eastern extent of the structure was probably defined by substantial wall foundation 1337 that comprised large irregular Pennant sandstone blocks set in a trench 0.80m wide and 0.42m deep, with little evidence for bonding. No evidence was found for its continuation further to the south-east, which would suggest that its return to the south-west coincided with a modern pile trench at this point. If so, it would have respected the line of the north-west wall of Period 3 Building 1059. It is possible that the south-west wall of Building 1139 was formed by wall 1260, whose outer edge had been removed by Period 6 cellar 1257/1258. The surviving part of the wall measured at least 0.50m in width and was set in a construction trench 0.26m deep. It was constructed with roughly hewn sandstone blocks that were bonded with reddish brown sandy clay. A square stone hearth

(1379) was built against the inside face of this wall and floored with a well-built surface of small rectangular fire-reddened stone blocks (1227), some of which were set on their edge. It butted wall 1260 but its north-eastern extent had been robbed. Immediately to the north-east was a shallow, flat-bottomed pit (1378) that may have formed the base for a structure such as a stone floor that had subsequently been removed.

*North of Counterslip*

No new features were attributed to this period in Area 3. It is unlikely that occupation here had ceased, however, and the properties fronting onto the street, as well as the riverside wall and Building 5303, probably continued in use.

**PERIOD 5: LATER MEDIEVAL TO EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL TRANSITION (c AD 1500-1550)****Dating evidence**

Activity was attributed to this period on the basis of small quantities of Cistercian-type wares (fabric BPT93), dated to c 1480-1600, which were generally associated with much larger quantities of Tudor Green ware and Malvernian ware, which were the defining fabrics of Period 4 but continued in use until c 1550. This material mostly occurred in demolition deposits on properties TSW1-3 and the re-facing of the Law Ditch culvert seemed to represent the only new activity. In practice, it is likely that this activity does not represent a discrete period but was contemporary with the latest Period 4 activity elsewhere on the site.

**The Law Ditch (Group A1.83) (Figs 3.37-9)**

The further sections of culvert wall that were built within the Law Ditch generally had the effect of reducing the width of the channel, the new walls being built further into the ditch. Wall 3426 was situated inside Period 4 culvert wall 3336 and may have functioned as a repair to shore up the earlier wall, and wall 3004 was similarly situated. Further to the north-west, walls 3193 and 3420, at 0.92m and 0.9m in width, were wider than the earlier walls. All were constructed of roughly hewn sandstone blocks in a random coursing, bonded with a pinkish sandy mortar that differed from the reddish or pinkish sandy mortar that characterised the previous medieval culvert walls and the harder white lime-based mortar of the post-medieval walls.

**The Redcliff Fee**

There was no evidence for new structures or other activity within properties LDW1-3, although it is possible that Period 4 well 3083 in LDW1 remained in use during this period.



## Chapter 3

**The Temple Fee****West of Temple Street** (Figs 3.38-9)*Property TSW1*

No activity in this period was identified in TSW1.

*Property TSW2 (Groups A1.73 and A1.74)*

It is probable that Period 4 Buildings 7501 and 7502 were demolished during this period. The only evidence for continued activity were stone drain remnants 3319 and 3412, which were contained within the western room of Building 7502(S). However, thick layers of demolition rubble covered the building, and robber cut 3583 removed stone from oven 3332. Similarly, demolition deposit 4158 overlay the west wall (3767) of Building 7501, suggesting that at least the rear part of the frontage building had been demolished.

*Property TSW3***Building 7240** (Group 1.85)

Building 7240 appeared to have continued in use, although the associated ovens had ceased to function. Oven 3651 was robbed (3910) and the void was then backfilled and levelled with clay, and the stoking/rake-out chamber for oven 4100 was blocked by the construction of wall 3659. This wall differed from the walls of the oven and of the medieval building, being constructed of sandstone with a smoother finish, bonded with a hard white lime mortar. Part of wall 3684 was robbed and robber cut 4982 removed most of the stone from Period 4 oven 7033. A new circular oven (7045) was cut through the north wall of the building, built into a recess in the north-east corner of the northern

room. It measured c 1.4m in diameter and unlike the earlier ovens it was constructed from sandstone and brick bonded with pale pink mortar. Wall 3663 was added onto either side of the west wall of the building. It was made of different stone (limestone?) to the main wall, and with a different (lime-based) mortar. Its function was uncertain, although it may have formed the base of a drain that fed through the wall of the building.

**Building 7503** (Groups A1.78 and A1.79)

Building 7503 appears to have been substantially modified or rebuilt. Several robber cuts removed parts of the original structure (3562, 3747 and 4479), after which levelling/make-up layers were laid down prior to the construction of new walls. The new walls (3206 and 3494) were distinctly different in construction to the earlier walls, most noticeably in the use of a white lime mortar. Wall 3206 extended further east than the original eastern extent of the building, which had been rebuilt as wall 3494. This new arrangement suggests that the southern part of the structure had four rooms. To the north of 3494, the north east wall of the original structure appears to have been retained since a new drain (3477) was built alongside it. A cobbled path (3611) extended from within the structure into the yard area to the north-east.

*Properties TW4 and TSW5 (Groups A1.84 and A1.99)*

There was little surviving evidence for activity within these properties. It is possible that the wall that previously defined the boundary between the properties in Period 4 had been removed by robber trench 3735. A possible path (3713) located a few metres to its south may have also been in use during this period.