

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INVESTIGATIONS OF THE
CITY LINK DEVELOPMENT SITE
FOOTSCRAY 1989**

Andrew Wilson

with contributions by

Dr Damaris Bairstow

Dana Mider

and

Barbara Fitzroy



Preface

Footscray has a very rich and diverse history which, as far as European settlement is concerned began along the banks of the Maribymong River over 150 years ago. Thus, it is fitting that the re-birth of Footscray's economic development with the Quay West project should happen at the same location.

The archaeological project, and what was then called "the City Link site" in Footscray, is significant in a number of aspects. The project represents a new approach to Victoria's heritage based on the understanding that heritage is not owned by a particular group, but by a broad range of people including historians, archaeologists, artists, developers and local government. This project is significant in that it involved such a wide range of people.

As a result, the City of Footscray and its community are richer, for we know far more about the origins and people who were the first post-contact settlers in Footscray. Finding the earliest building in Footscray was an unexpected bonus. Everyone who visited the site, from the Premier to Footscray residents, were excited by the foundations of the old building inside those of the newer "Stanley Arms".

This project would never have been achieved without the hard work and imagination of Wendy Morris (Urban Design, Department of Planning and Housing) and Iain Stuart (Victorian Archaeological Survey).

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Introduction

The three blocks bounded by Hopkins, Napier, Moreland and Maribyrnong Streets adjacent to the Maribyrnong River, within the City of Footscray, form the City Link Development Site. The 7.5 hectare area is the subject of a multi-use development, undertaken jointly by the Council of the City of Footscray and City Link Properties Pty Limited. [See Figure 1]

The historical significance of the development area as the putative landing place of surveyor Charles Grimes in 1803, the location of the river crossing established by William Lonsdale in 1839, and the origin of the settlement of Footscray over the following decades, was recognised from the outset. Accordingly an Archaeological and Heritage Survey was initiated by the developers in conjunction with the then Ministry for Planning and Environment and the Victoria Archaeological Survey.¹

The Heritage Study, undertaken by the team of historians, established the detailed history of European settlement in the area, placed it within its wider social, industrial and political contexts and identified places of historical significance within the area.²

In consultation with the historians and the Victoria Archaeological Survey the archaeological team decided to investigate four sites within the development area. These were the sites of the Bridge Hotel, 1855, the Pickett Cottages, 1872-5, the Stanley Arms Hotel, 1854, and Kepert's Tannery, 1885. [See Figure 2]

Throughout the investigation, consultation between the historians and archaeologists continued as the excavation raised new questions and suggested new avenues of inquiry. Similarly, the on-going historical research suggested new types of evidence that the archaeologists might look for as the investigation proceeded.³

The formal end of the investigation will not mean that the study of the site is complete. Continuing work on the area and the attention focused on the site by the City Link investigation will inevitably mean that new information will come to light. Hopefully, this may increase our understanding of the site and expand, or even correct, conclusions arrived at on the basis of the present study.

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1. Wendy Morris of the Urban Design Unit of the Victorian Ministry for Planning and Environment was largely responsible for the successful integration of heritage issues into the development proposal. See Wendy Morris 1989 *The Urban Design Process in Action: Testing the 'Responsive Environments' Approach in Melbourne Australia* Unpublished M. A. Thesis, Joint Centre for Urban Design, Oxford Polytechnic, and Iain Stuart 1988 'How the West was Won: The City Link Project - Pioneering Urban Archaeology in Melbourne's Western Region' in NSW Department of Planning (ed.) *Urban Digs: Historical Archaeology Guidelines Seminar Papers*.
 2. Alan Mayne, Andrew May & John Lack 1989 *Heritage Survey - Quay West Development Site: Report*. This archaeological report should be read in conjunction with the *Quay West Heritage Survey Report*. The City Link Development was renamed Quay West.
 3. For an account of this and a discussion of broader issues considered by the historians see Andrew May and Alan Mayne 1990 'Consulting the Past: The Footscray City Link Heritage Study' in *Victorian Historical Journal* 61.2-3:193-207.

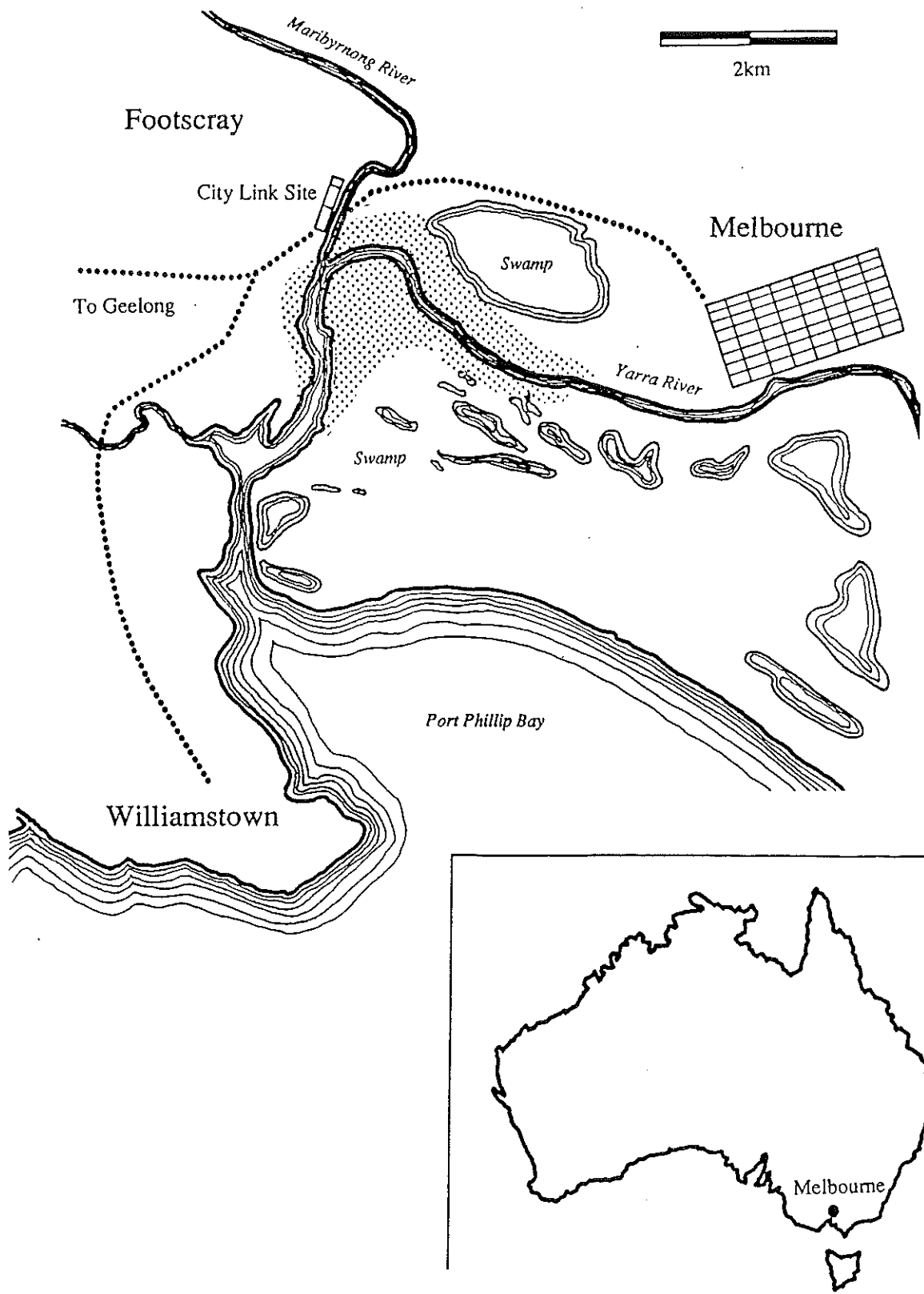


Figure 1

Map showing the location of Melbourne and the City Link Site. The relationship between Footscray, Melbourne and the original course of the Yarra is shown as it was in the 1840s. The route from Melbourne to Footscray, Williamstown and Geelong, as documented on historic maps, is indicated by a dotted line

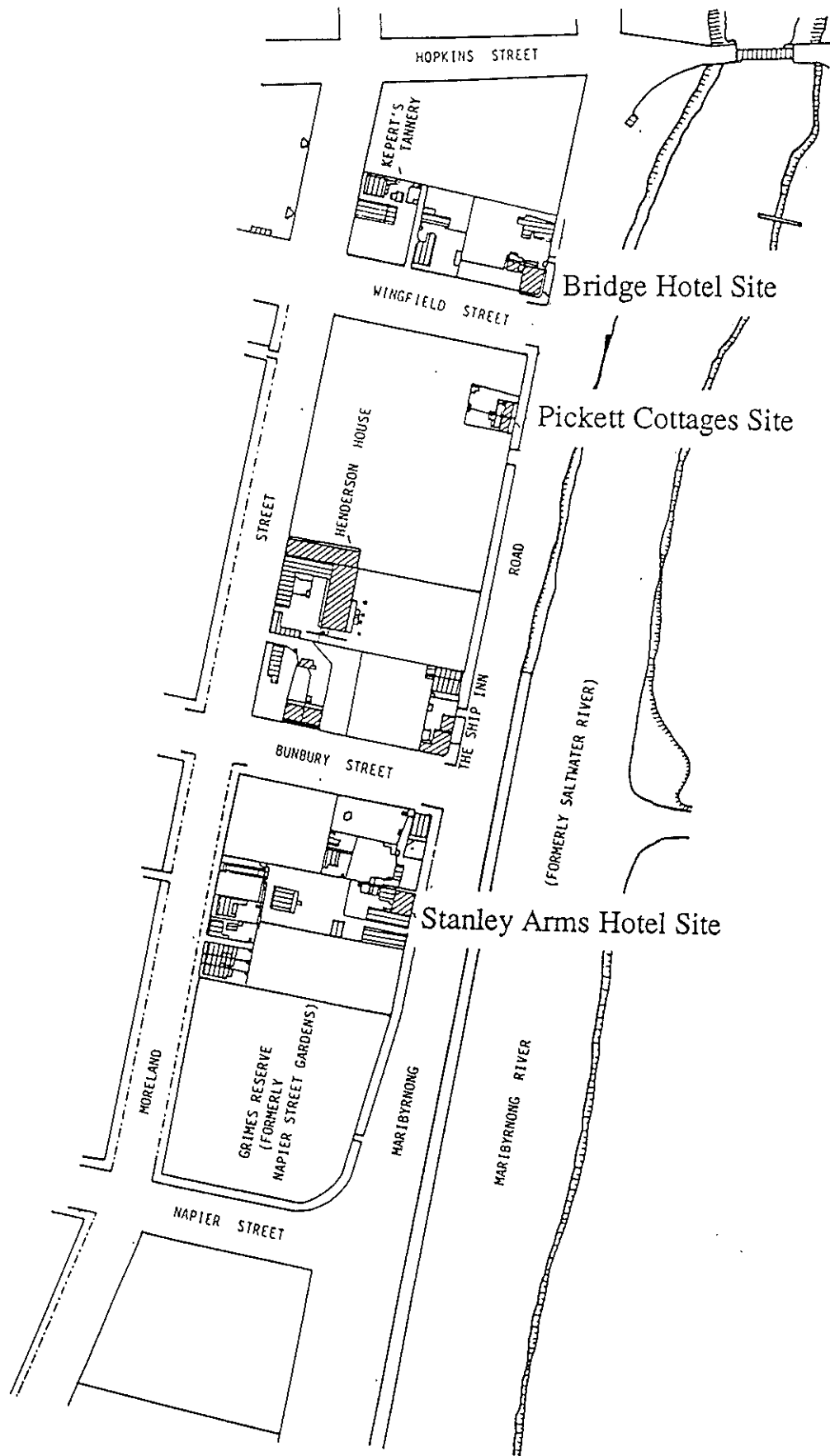


Figure 2

Location Plan based on the 1895 Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Plan showing the three sites excavated during the archaeological investigation. Plan courtesy of the Victoria Archaeological Survey

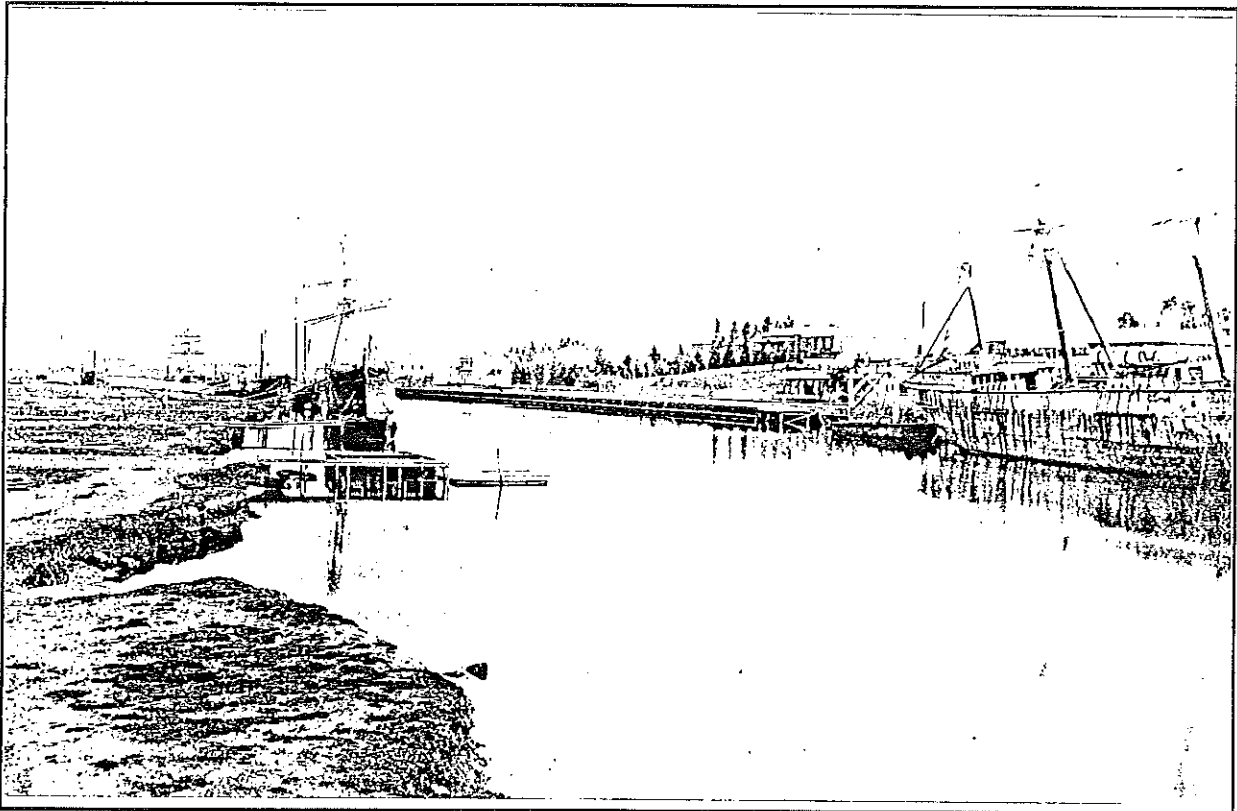


Figure 3

*The Maribyrnong River in about 1879, looking southwest. The Bridge Hotel is visible on the right and the Pickett Cottages can be seen at centre right below Henderson House. The Ship Inn is visible at centre left and further south, partly obscured by a ship, is the only known view of the Stanley Arms Hotel. Reproduced from George Seelaf. (ed.) 1989 **Footscray: A Pictorial History of the Municipality from 1959 to 1988***

The archaeological aims of the investigation were to locate and reveal significant structures and archaeological deposits and recover artefacts related to the industrial and domestic occupation of the area. The archaeological deposits and excavated artefacts were then analysed in order to further our understanding of the archaeology and history of the City Link Site within the broader context of the history of Footscray and of Melbourne.⁴ [See Figure 3]

The investigation was designed to record and recover as much significant information and material as is possible and priority was given to sites likely to be affected early in the development program. Each site was sampled widely enough to provide an adequate information base to support the interpretation of past human activity. Budgetary constraints meant that only a preliminary analysis of the excavated material could be undertaken. The analysis was sufficient to identify and interpret the sites and structures.

However, the project also had broader aims. Archaeology is one of the few areas of heritage where the interested as well as the expert can contribute together. The Victoria Archaeological Survey has a policy of encouraging public involvement in excavations and the archaeological team felt strongly that recovery of evidence of the past is not the exclusive domain of the professional archaeologist. Consequently, the archaeological project was organised to include as many volunteers as possible.[See Figure 4]

4. Damaris Bairstow, Andrew Wilson, David Bannear & Barbara Fitzroy 1989 *City Link Archaeological Project Brief*. The formal statement of the aims of the project were derived from the draft brief formulated by Iain Stuart of the Victoria Archaeological Survey.



Figure 4

Volunteers excavating the kitchen of the southern part of the Pickett Cottages. Photograph Number M04.16 by Richard Moline

The project also aimed at bringing the excavation to as wide an audience as possible, even if they were not able to participate directly. Therefore, visitors were always welcome at the sites and two special public tour days were organised to give people the chance to see the whole process of the rediscovery of the past. Visitors included school, college and university groups, historians, archaeologists, architectural historians and tourists. The site also played host to a Department for Planning and Environment Urban Design Unit workshop on Archaeology and Urban Planning.

A special class of visitors were those who had photographs, records or personal knowledge of the area as it was in the past. Contact details of these visitors were recorded so that the historians could conduct follow-up oral history interviews.

Media coverage, co-ordinated by the Victoria Archaeological Survey, was seen as another means of sharing the archaeology. Those who could not visit the site personally were able to learn about the project from fifteen newspaper articles and six television news items including a nationally televised segment on the ABC's *7.30 Report*. Items on the excavation have also appeared in *VAS News* and the *Australian Society for Historical Archaeology Newsletter* and in the Papers from a NSW Department of Planning Workshop on Urban Archaeology.

After the extensive preparations the investigation of the four sites proceeded smoothly but, as so often happens in archaeology, not entirely as predicted.

The Bridge Hotel Site and the Pickett Cottages Site were successfully located and excavated. Both buildings had been demolished to ground level but substantial remains survived, as well as deposits related to their occupation.

The Keper's Tannery Site was investigated by mechanical auger and was found to have been built over by substantial buildings in the 1960s, so no excavation was undertaken.

Access to the Stanley Arms Hotel Site was only possible after two weeks work on the other sites. The remains of a mid-nineteenth century hotel were soon located, but as excavation proceeded it became clear that an earlier building had occupied the same site.

The potential significance of the earlier structure required a more sensitive approach to the excavation, with a consequent need to take longer and recover more information in order to interpret the unknown building. City Link Properties readily agreed to fund a second stage of excavation to allow for appropriate examination of the unexpected building.

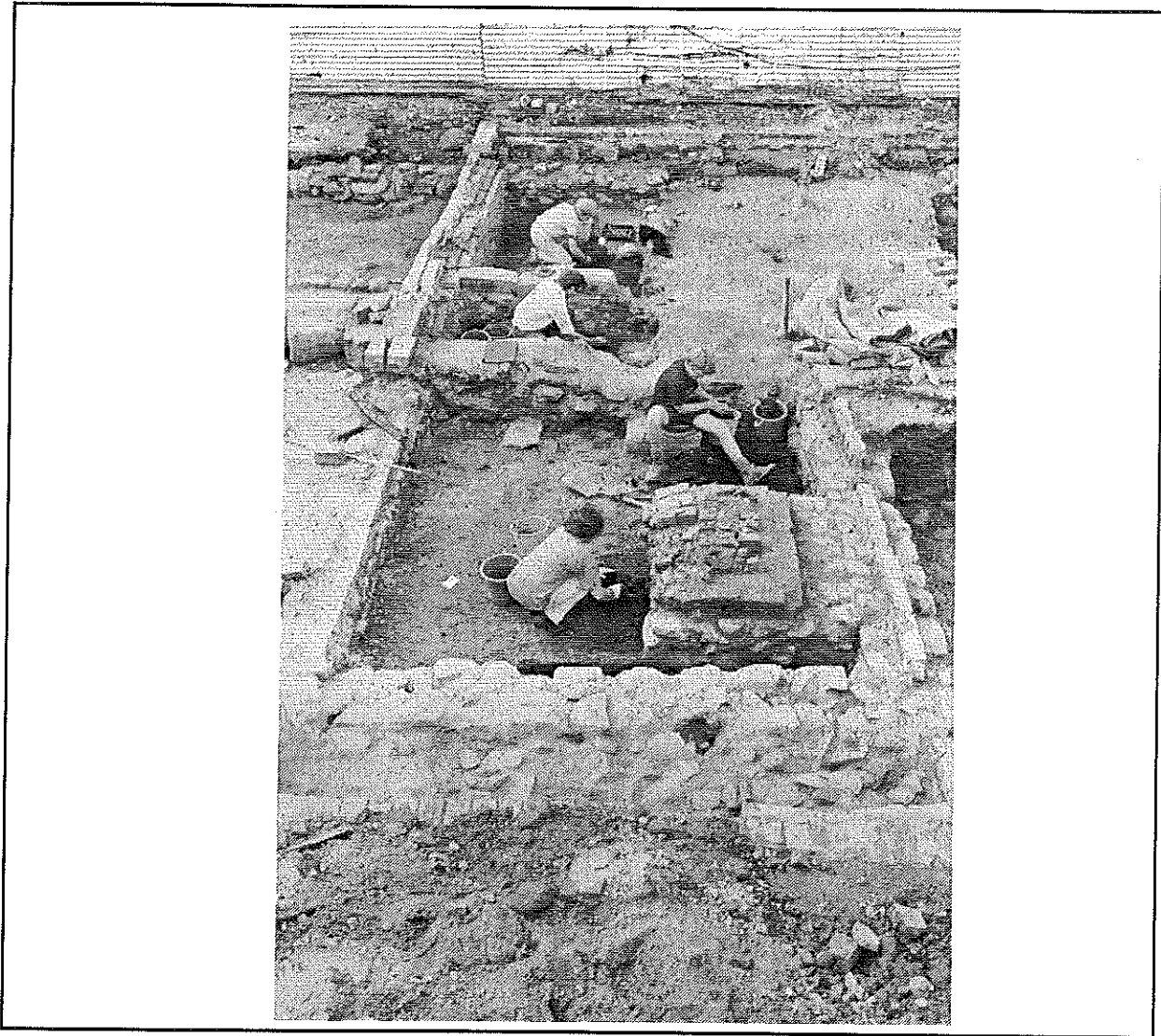


Figure 5

Volunteers excavating the earliest deposits within the Victoria Hotel, Footscray's earliest building, on the Stanley Arms site. Photograph Number M44.21 by Andrew Wilson

The scarcity of historical records before the 1850s meant that careful examination and analysis of the archaeological remains held the only chance of identifying the building. Analysis and interpretation of the archaeological and historical evidence indicates that the building was occupied, and presumably built, by Benjamin Levien in mid-1840 and licensed in October of that year as the Victoria Hotel. With the possible exception of any makeshift accommodation for the original puntman some months earlier, the Victoria Hotel was the first building in Footscray. [See Figure 5]

The Bridge Hotel Site

Introduction

The block at the northern corner of Wingfield and Maribyrnong Streets was purchased from the Crown by John Orr for seventeen pounds ten shillings in 1850 and conveyed to James Maher in 1853. The building later known as the Bridge Hotel entered the historical record in 1855 when James Maher was granted a licence for the Footscray Punt Hotel. Until 1863 the Hotel was variously described as the Footscray Punt Hotel, the Footscray Punt Inn, the Footscray Hotel and the Punt Hotel, but in that year it was first named the Bridge Hotel, a reference to the Hopkins Street bridge built in 1863. It would continue to trade as the Bridge Hotel until it was delicensed in 1931, and would retain the name for more than a century until its demolition in 1966-7.⁵ [See Figure 6]

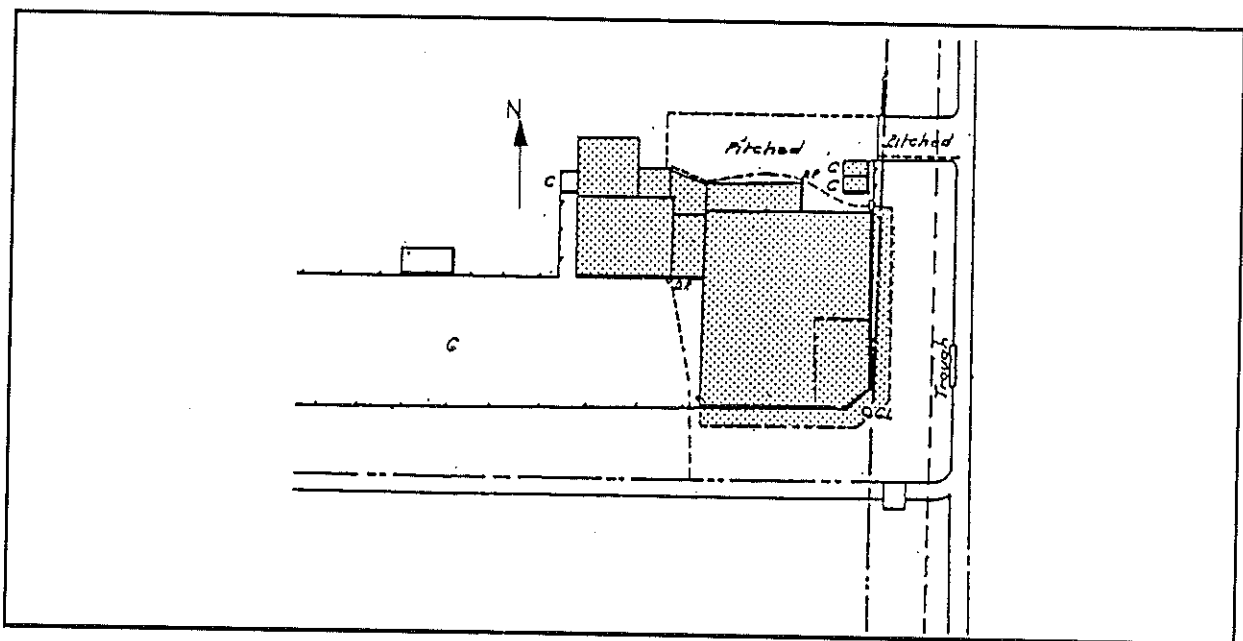


Figure 6

Detail of the 1895 Metropolitan Board of Works Plan showing the Bridge Hotel, with the buildings indicated by added tone

The Hotel was located at the southeastern corner of the allotment, on the corner of Wingfield and Maribyrnong Streets and it was placed at the bottom of the slope of Wingfield Street, and looked across the River at the traffic moving up and down Maribyrnong Street to the bridge. At the time of its construction the Bridge Hotel was one of two or three hotels right on the river frontage and with its careful siting and imposing appearance it was well placed to compete with its rivals.

The Hotel was two stories high, with a shallow cellar and was built of brick, on stone foundations with a slate roof.⁶ When described in the first Valuation Book for the area in 1882-83 it is said to be a stone Hotel of eight rooms.

5. Throughout the excavation records the Bridge Hotel Site is referred to as Area 1. The archaeological information on which this report is based, can be located in the Appendices by references in these footnotes.

Mayne, May and Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.50, and Hypercard File Location Code 3.1.

6. George Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History of the Municipality from 1959 to 1988* p.45 (upper), p.58 (upper) and p.136 (upper) and Maie Casey & others (eds) 1975 *Early Melbourne Architecture 1840 to 1888* p114, photograph 4.

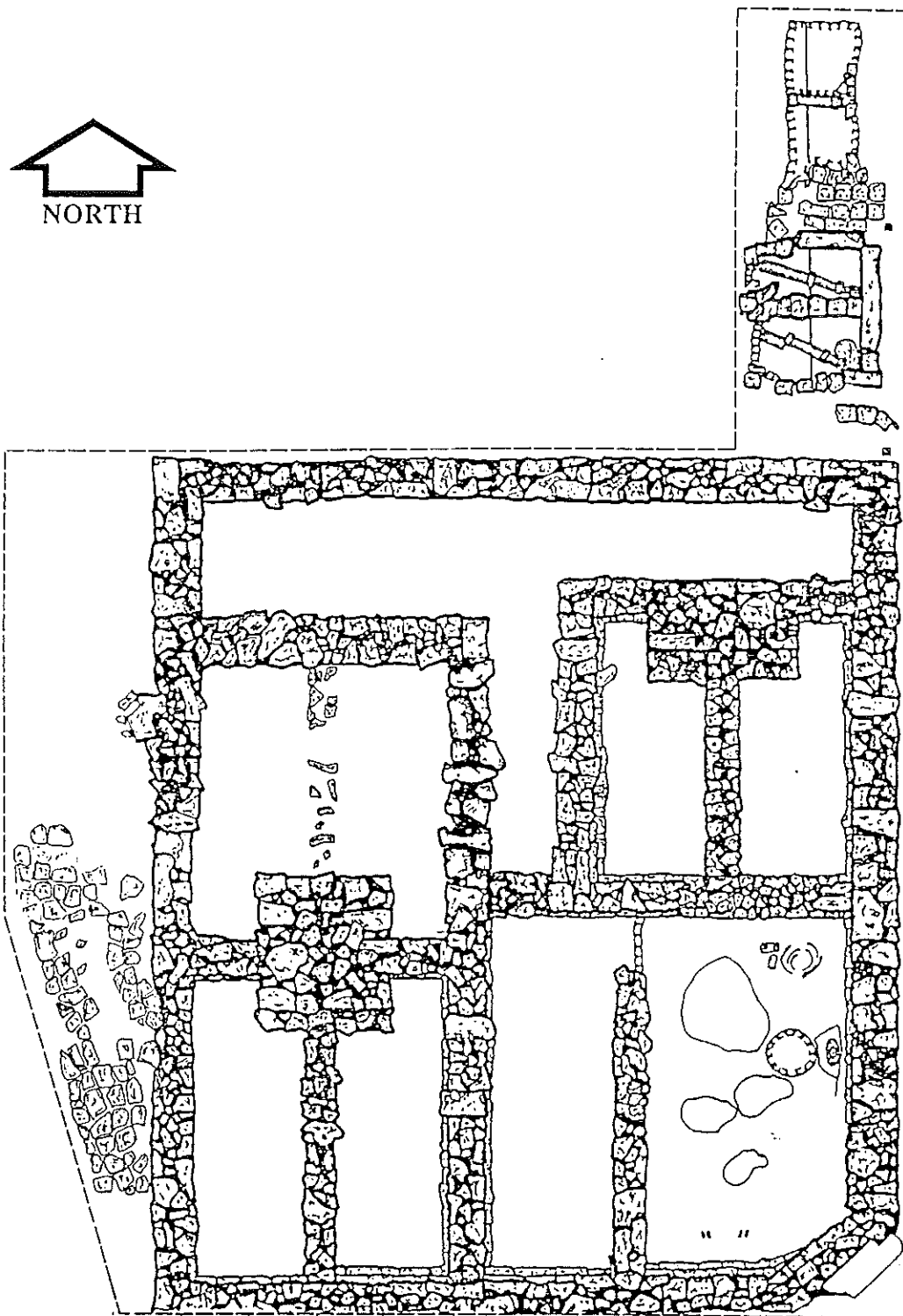


Figure 7

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel. Measured and drawn by Dana Mider and Andrew Wilson, detailed by Nicholas Arnold from photographs by Richard Moline. Scale 1:100

Three years later the valuation lists twelve rooms. Some subdivision of rooms may have taken place in response to needs not anticipated during construction, however such discrepancies are often the result of variations in the counting system; some assessments count kitchens and service rooms, others do not. The building was indeed of brick, although its walls were rendered and scored to resemble stone.⁷ [See Figure 8]

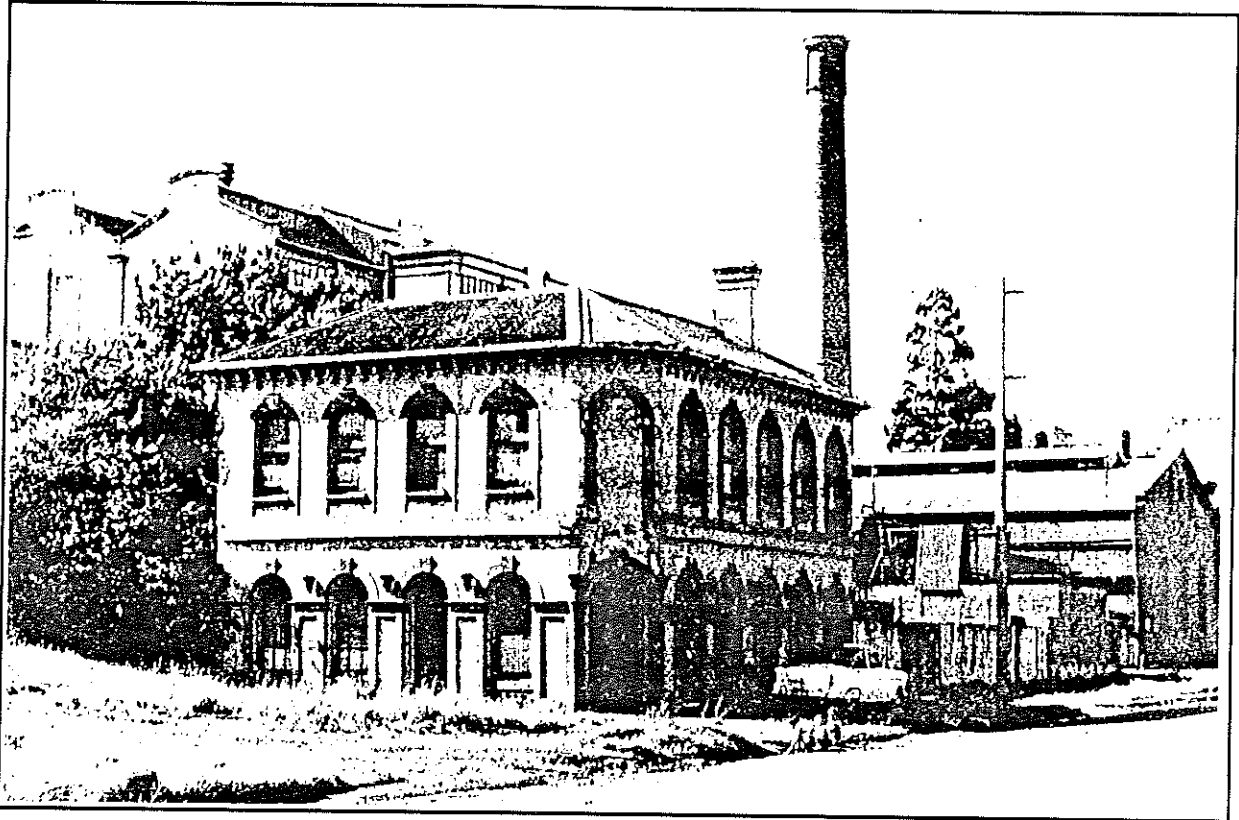


Figure 8

The Bridge Hotel in the 1960s prior to its demolition in 1968. Reproduced from George Seelaf (ed.) 1989 Footscray: A Pictorial History of the Municipality from 1959 to 1988

The Bridge Hotel was built in a restrained early Italianate style. The applied ornament is heavy, but it is limited to expressing structural features. The strongest decorative feature is the arcade-like treatment of the window and door openings on both the southern and eastern facades. The openings are emphasised with an applied arch and each is linked at the springing point to form panels. Between each arch is a projecting corbel which may have supported brackets for the balcony. The treatment of the upper storey openings is lighter and the false panelling was omitted. There is no parapet, although a heavily bracketed cornice emphasises the top of the facade.⁸

The Bridge Hotel was a typical urban hotel of its time. The main entrance to the bar was through a doorway in the splayed corner of the building. The bar was small, (5 metres by 5 metres), by modern standards but not unusual for the time.⁹ Below the eastern part of this

7. Mayne, May and Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.50 and Hypercard File Location Code 3.1.

8. See the section on Ornament quoted from John Lim, Peter Nassau and Paul Reid 1964 *Footscray 1835 - 1859* Unpublished Thesis, Faculty of Architecture, University of Melbourne in Mayne, May and Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.46.

9. J. M. Freeland 1966 *The Australian Pub* p. 73.

room was the cellar, (3 metres by 5 metres), which was not deep enough to stand up in, but served the purpose of keeping the drinks cool. The cellar was loaded through a bay under the easternmost window of the southern facade, and access from the Hotel was through a hatch at the northern end. [See Figure 9]

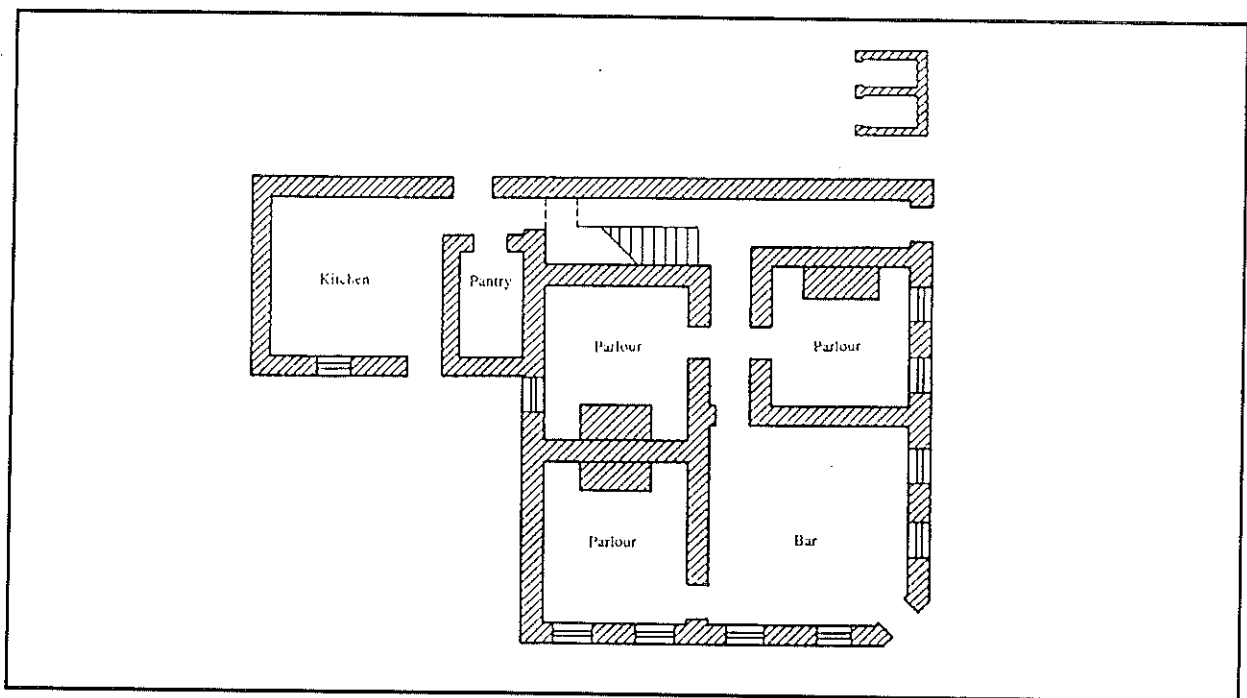


Figure 9

The Bridge Hotel, reconstruction of the Ground Floor Plan. Scale 1:200

From the bar a central hallway extended to the north to the stairwell in the northwestern corner of the main building. To the west of the hall were two rooms with fireplaces, (each 3.5 metres by 4.25 metres) and to the east of the hall was a similar room, (3.5 metres by 4 metres). These three rooms would have been 'parlours', where patrons refreshed themselves, engaged in games or occasionally held a semi-private function.

At the northern end of the eastern facade a doorway led to the stairwell from the east. This doorway would have constituted the 'private' entrance to the Hotel. The staircase could be approached from the north-south hall or the eastern entrance, and would have risen from the left, with a storage cupboard below the rise. A landing against the western wall would have provided for the return. Under this landing would have been a door giving access to the service wing.

Upstairs the original configuration of the rooms is unclear. The only plan that exists is from a 1964 architectural thesis which records a layout that is unlikely to be original.¹⁰ A speculative reconstruction using the 1964 plan provides four large rooms, (two approximately 5 metres by 4 metres and two approximately 4 metres by 4 metres), as well as two small rooms, (4 metres by 2 metres) [See Figure 10]. Clearly the major function of all these rooms was bedrooms for the licensees, their families and hotel guests. However, by the end of the life of the building the small northeastern room was occupied by a bathroom and toilet.¹¹

10. Lim, Nassau & Reid 1964 *Footscray 1835 - 1859*.

11. Archaeological Excavations of the City Link Development Site, Oral History Records 1989.

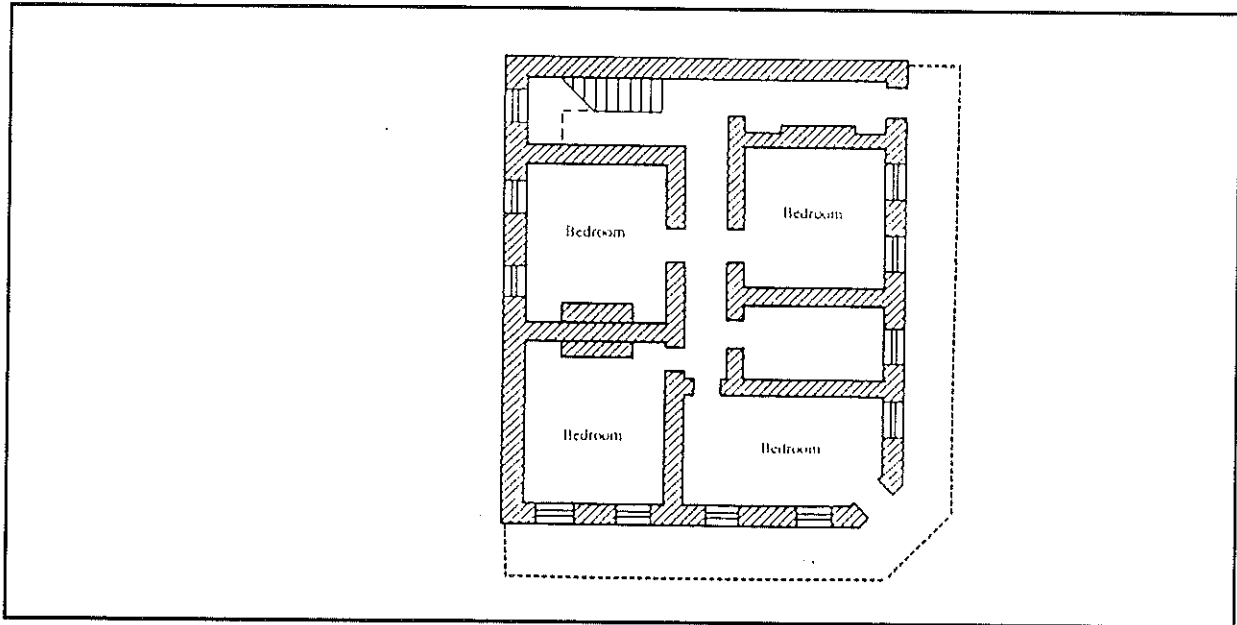


Figure 10

The Bridge Hotel, reconstruction of the First Floor Plan. Scale 1:200

Originally there was also a cantilevered balcony which wrapped right around the eastern and southern facades. This was reached by a door at the northern end of the eastern facade, and probably from another in the splayed corner. The balcony is indicated on the 1895 Metropolitan Board of Works Plan but had been removed by the 1920s.¹²

The Hotel had a slate roof which ran in an 'L' shape along the length of the southern and eastern facades to unify the corner composition. From the southwestern corner of the building the roof returned north to cover the northwestern part of the building. A central north-south box gutter would have drained to the north.¹³ Late in the life of the building a galvanised corrugated iron roof was installed, covering the original slates.¹⁴

Only the main block of the Hotel survived until the archaeological investigation. The ground floor service wing which extended west from the northern end of the western wall was built at a higher level up the slope and being shallower was removed during the post-demolition levelling of the site. However, the wing is recorded on the Metropolitan Board of Works 1895 Detail Plan and the 1964 Thesis so it is possible to provide some description.

12. Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History* p.136 (upper) unfortunately does not show the balcony, while p.58 (upper) shows the building without its balcony as does Casey & others (eds) 1975 *Early Melbourne Architecture* p114, photograph 4.

13. The description quoted from Lim, Nassau & Reid 1964 *Footscray 1835 - 1859* in Mayne, May and Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.46 is confirmed by reference to the historic images. The secondary ridge is clearly visible in photographs from the north such as Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History* p.58 (upper) and p.136 (upper).

14. The corrugated roof is clearly visible in Casey & others (eds) 1975 *Early Melbourne Architecture* p114, photograph 4.

The doorway under the stairs led to the kitchen, past a small pantry/scullery, (2 metres by 3 metres). The kitchen was large, (5 metres by 5 metres), with its fireplace against the western wall.¹⁵ A door in the southern wall of the kitchen led to a bluestone paved yard, some of which was revealed during the excavation. To the north of the kitchen was a further outbuilding reached via a small verandah sheltering a door opposite the pantry/scullery. It would have contained the laundry and presumably the bathing facilities. A toilet is shown against the western wall in the 1895 Plan.

A pair of toilets is also shown in the yard north of the main building against the eastern fence. These toilets were investigated during the excavation, and were presumably for the Hotel patrons. The excavation made it clear that these toilets did not originally have cess pits, so some form of pan system must have been used, and the waste may well have been disposed of in the river. They were connected to the sewer some time after 1895, and they appear to have survived until the demolition in 1966.¹⁶

The Bridge Hotel had seven owners, but considerably more licensees and occupants during its 111 year history. James Maher ran the Hotel he had built in 1855 for only two years before selling it. There followed a succession of licensees, including Mrs Leah Thorpe in 1864 who in 1866 become the licensee of the rival Stanley Arms Hotel. Most licensees stayed for between five and ten years, although there were periods of quick changeover in the late 1870s, at the turn of the century and again in the early 1920s. The occupants, mostly the publican's family, usually number less than ten but in 1884 sixteen occupants are listed. The Hotel was delicensed in 1931 and the last publican, Elizabeth Tognini, the wife of the James Tognini who had owned the building since 1908 and died in 1920, stayed on using the building as a residence, and possibly a boarding house. It was bought by Michaelis, Hallenstein and Company in 1937, when it was leased to the Grenfell and later the Ryan families as a residence until its demolition in 1966.¹⁷

Construction of the Bridge Hotel 1855

The Hotel was constructed using normal nineteenth century building techniques. The walls were built of brick on quarried bluestone foundations. Only the foundations and the shallow cellar survive. No part of the superstructure of the buildings survived its demolition in 1966. [See Figure 11]

Presumably the stone would have been procured from one of the quarries or stone finishing enterprises in the area. The foundations were formed using the normal 'rubble fill' method. Roughly shaped stones were used to define the outer edges of the foundation walls, using their flattest side as the external face. The hollow core of the wall and any gaps between the stones were then filled with small stone rubble packed in with large amounts of mortar.

While the techniques used were standard the manner in which construction proceeded was not. Rather than excavate to create the foundations and the cellar on a site that was already close to the level of the river and subject to flooding, the builders chose to begin construction of the eastern wall at the lowest point and then built in successive layers back up the slope. Apart from basic levelling, little excavation seems to have been undertaken for the cellar and foundations.

15. The service wing and the kitchen chimney are visible in Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History* p.58 (upper)

16. These toilets are just visible between the Hotel and the driveway gate in Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History* p.45 (upper).

17. Mayne, May and Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.50, 74 and 81, and Hypercard File Location Code 2.8.

When the levelling of the cellar area was complete, a layer of grey river sand was put down.¹⁸ The sand formed the bedding for a layer of quarried bluestone blocks which were closely packed to support the cement floor of the cellar.¹⁹ Cement was used to form the floor of the cellar and to waterproof the walls as well.²⁰ Only when the walls had been built was a vast amount of fill deposited around the southern, eastern and northern sides of the building to raise the level of Maribymong Street to that of the newly constructed doorways.²¹



Figure 11

An overall view of the remains of the Bridge Hotel at the completion of the excavation, looking south. Photograph Number M27.19 by Andrew Wilson. Scale in 200mm divisions

18. Unit 1.75, for details see Appendix 1.1.

19. Unit 1.74, for details see Appendix 1.1. The tops of the blocks were not particularly smooth, and there was no evidence of wear on the small section uncovered. This leads to the conclusion that they were not laid as the original paving, but were laid to support the cement floor, Unit 1.73.

20. Unit 1.73, for details see Appendix 1.1 and Appendix 2.1.

21. Units 1.6 to the east and 1.32 to the north of the building, for details see Appendix 1.1.

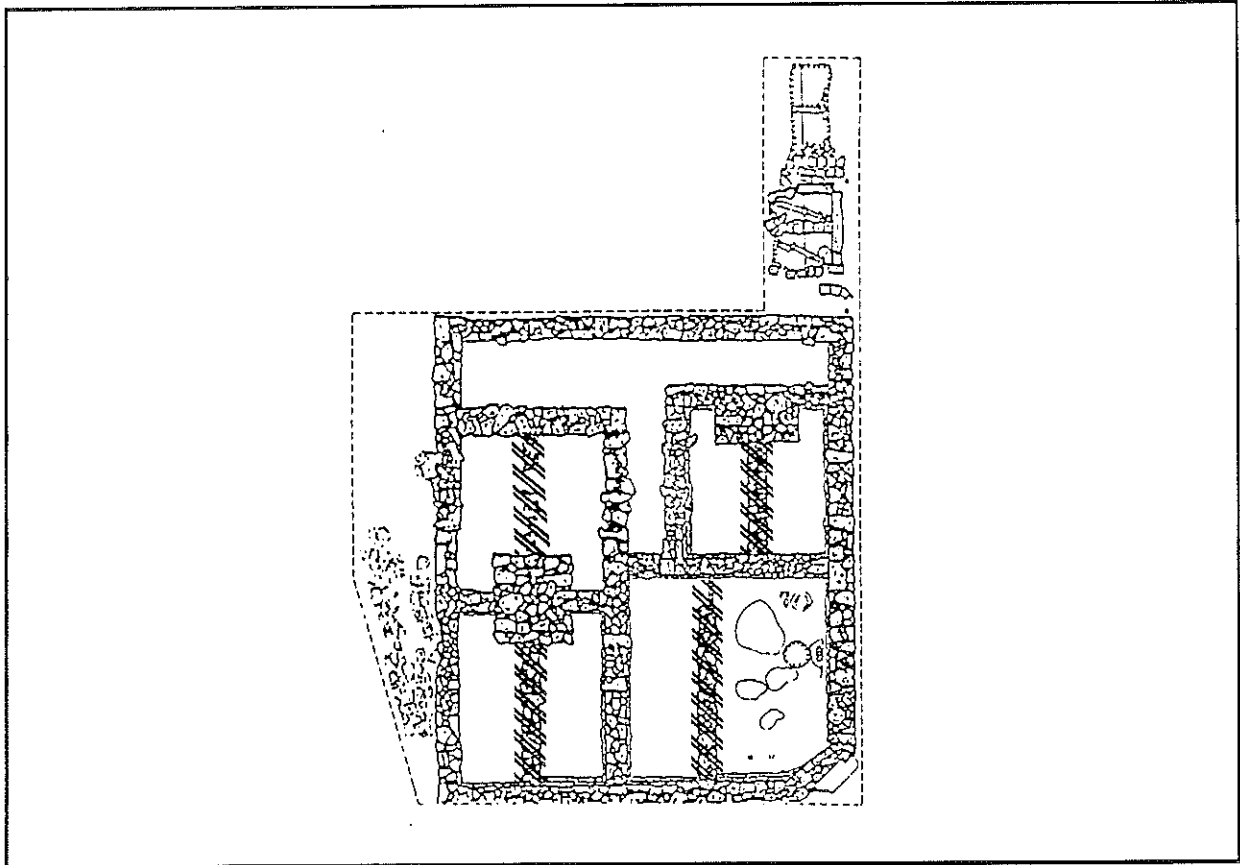


Figure 12

Plan of the Bridge Hotel remains; the sleeper walls are indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

In addition to the foundations of the brick walls, 'sleeper walls' which supported the wooden floors (and therefore appear to divide the rooms in half at foundation level) were also constructed of stone. [See Figure 12]

Occupation of the Bridge Hotel 1855 - 1966

The excavation recovered material from several deposits which have provided evidence directly related to the every day activities of those who lived and worked in the Hotel. Most of the objects recovered relate to later rather than earlier occupation, many being deposited during the demolition. This lack of early material indicates the quality of construction of the building, (so that little if anything was lost through gaps in floorboards), and the quality of life of those who occupied the Hotel. The lack of lost and casually discarded objects indicates a high level of cleanliness and hygiene, and this corresponds with the building's primary role of serving refreshment to the public. In addition to recovering artefacts,²² examination of the surviving structure also provided information about life and work in the Bridge Hotel.

22. Artefacts is a term used by archaeologists to describe any material brought onto the site by human action except structures. Generally it refers to small portable objects, household items and food refuse. Fragments of broken ceramic and glass objects are often referred to as 'sherds'.

In the northwestern corner of the surviving building the excavation revealed a black silty deposit which had come from within or below the pantry/scullery, a small room between the Hotel proper and the kitchen.²³ [See Figure 13]

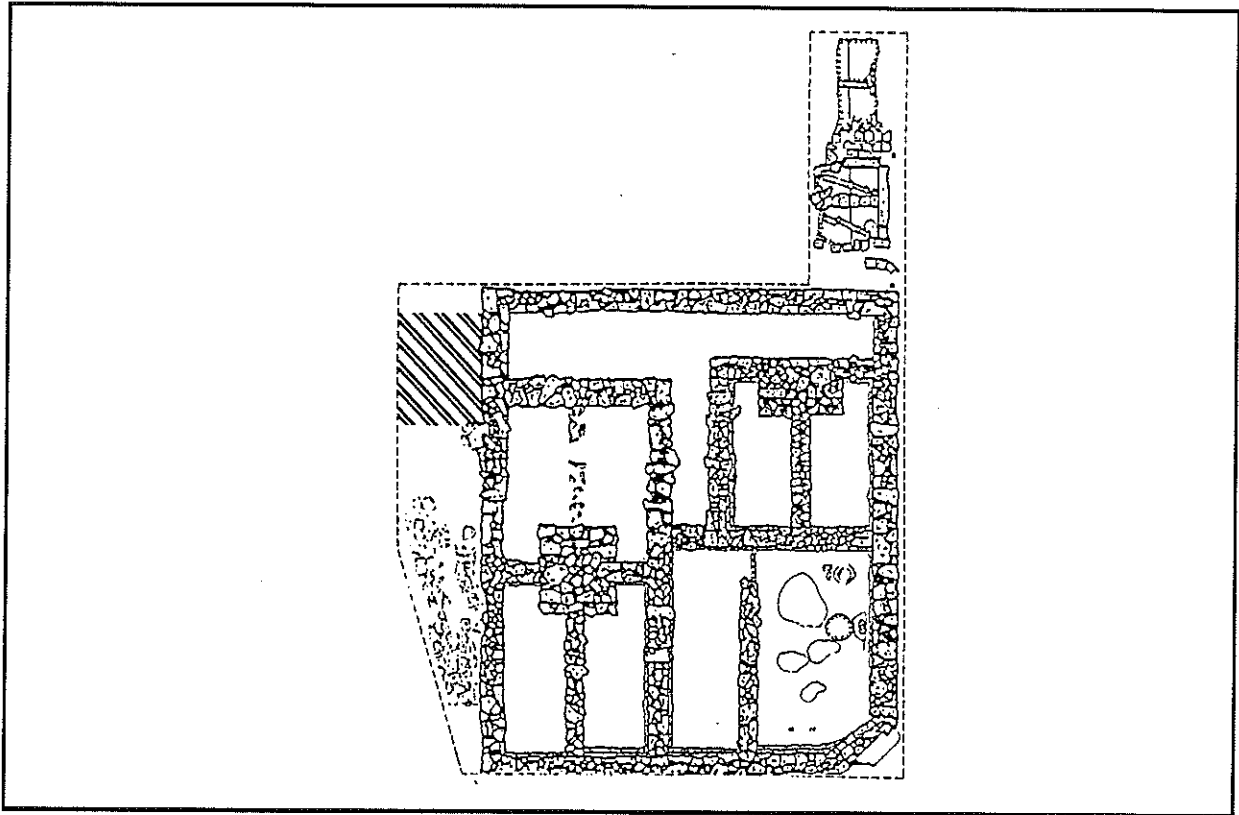


Figure 13

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel; the location of the deposit from the pantry/scullery is indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

Of the 1425 artefacts within the deposit less than 20% were building materials, indicating that the deposit had accumulated during the occupation of the building although it had been at least partially redeposited during the demolition. Three quarters of the remaining artefacts were bottle glass, two thirds of these were olive glass characteristic of nineteenth century beer and spirit bottles, the remainder being aqua, clear and green tinted glass used for soft drinks or food and sauces. The ceramics were almost entirely tablewares; stoneware ginger beer and stout bottles were absent. The tablewares include plates, bowls and cups, predominantly earthenware, with very small proportions of vitreous stoneware (often called Hotelware) and porcelain. Almost half of the sherds were undecorated, and a quarter were blue transfer printed. Few other types of artefact were present; several marbles and buttons, a knife, a 1910 sixpence, and a small number of bones including sheep, cattle, rabbit, chicken, cat and rat remains. [See Figure 14]

23. Unit 1.69, for details see Appendix 1.1 and Appendix 2.1.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE CITY LINK SITE

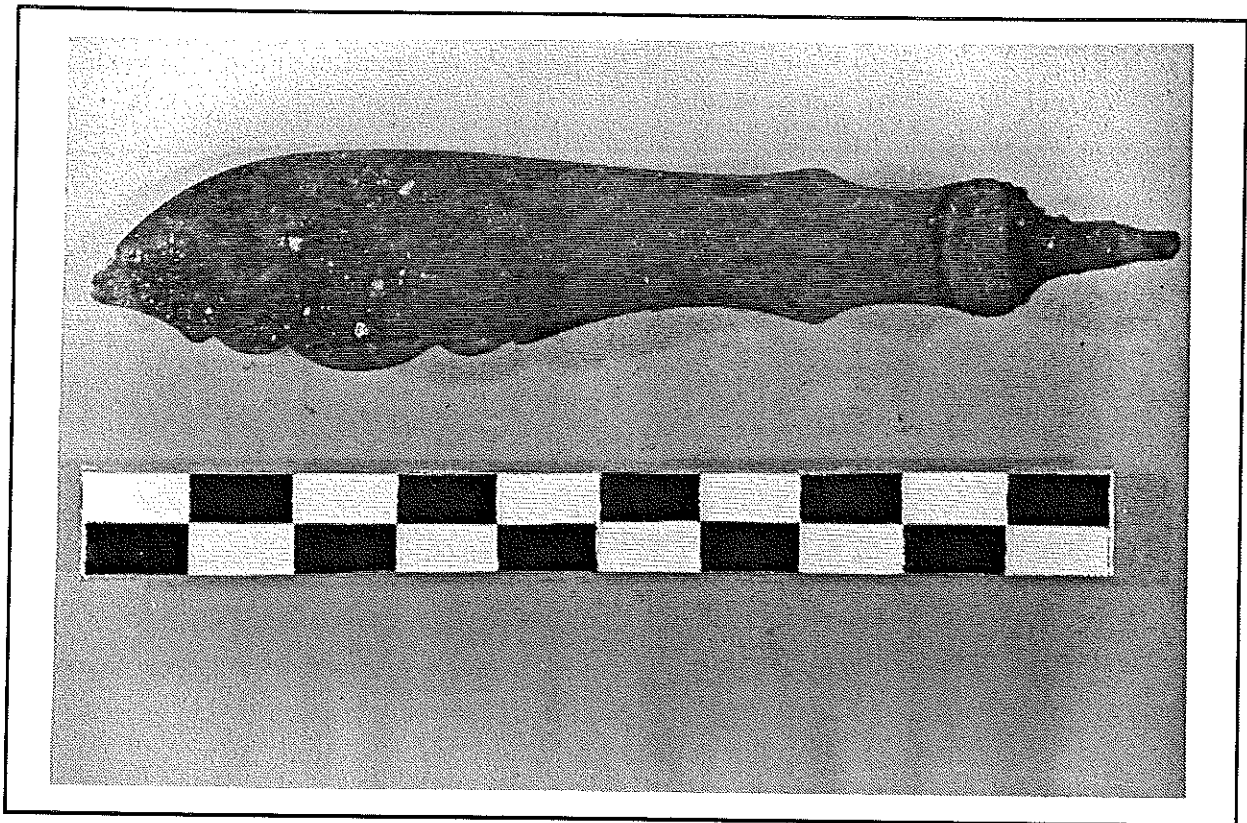


Figure 14

A Fish Knife recovered from the pantry/scullery deposit. Photograph Number M22.18 by Barbara Fitzroy. Scale in 10mm divisions

The dark grey soil fill from within the toilet cubicles contained a group of 649 artefacts that were predominantly domestic rather than structural. These fills were deposited when the sewerage pipes were installed, some time after 1895.²⁴ [See Figure 15]

24. Units 1.31 and 1.39, for details see Appendix 1.1 and Appendix 2.1. No drainage is shown on the 1895 Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Plan and stoneware drain pipes were found during the excavation, therefore the date of deposition must be after the Plan. No historical information on the connection of sewerage has survived; personal communication David Ellson 1989.

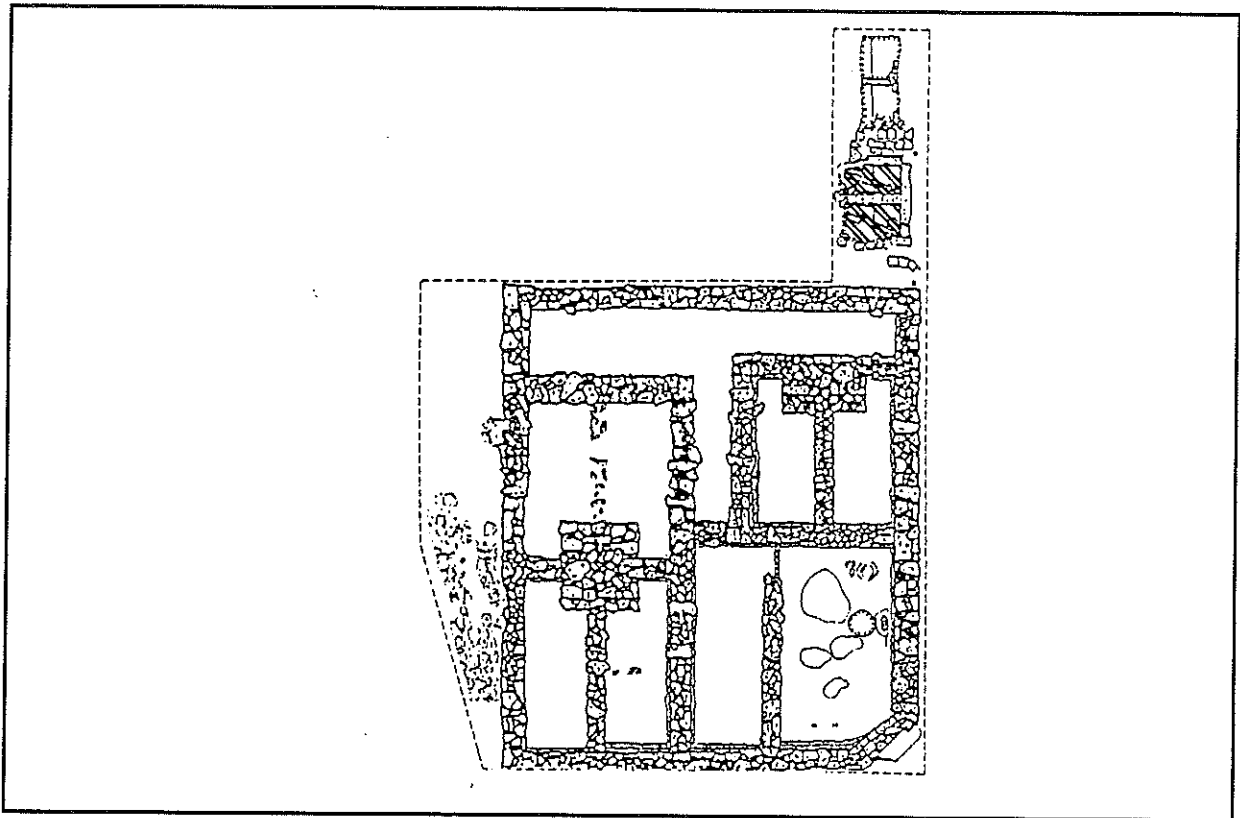


Figure 15

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel; the location of the deposits from within the toilet cubicles are indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

Occupation of the main Hotel Building 1895 - 1966

Three quarters of the artefacts were bottle glass, with a similar proportion of this being olive glass from grog bottles. Small proportions of the nearly clear colours (usually aqua) used for soft drinks, foods and sauces were also present. The tablewares were also similar to those recovered from the pantry deposit, the majority being earthenware plates, bowls and cups, mostly undecorated or plain white with an embossed pattern. One quarter were blue transfer printed, but black, dark grey, green and multicoloured prints were also present. [See Figure 16] Several clay tobacco pipes were also recovered. In contrast with the pantry/scullery deposit, almost half the artefacts were bones. More than half of these were sheep, with cattle, pig, rabbit, chicken and fish present in decreasing proportions. A few rat and cat bones were also recovered.

Of the bones from the major food animals, cattle, sheep and sheep/pig/goat,²⁵ 65% were from better quality cuts and joints, while 7% were from poorer cuts or waste. The remainder were vertebrae. The high proportion of remains from good cuts is a pattern which reflects the purchase of commercially butchered fresh meat, rather than butchering on site. This standard urban pattern reflects the growth of the Footscray township as a retail and service centre.

25. The bones considered here include the category sheep/pig/goat. This group consists of bones of a size normal for these three animals that are too fragmentary to identify to species, so their food value can be assessed but they cannot be regarded as evidence of the presence of a particular species.

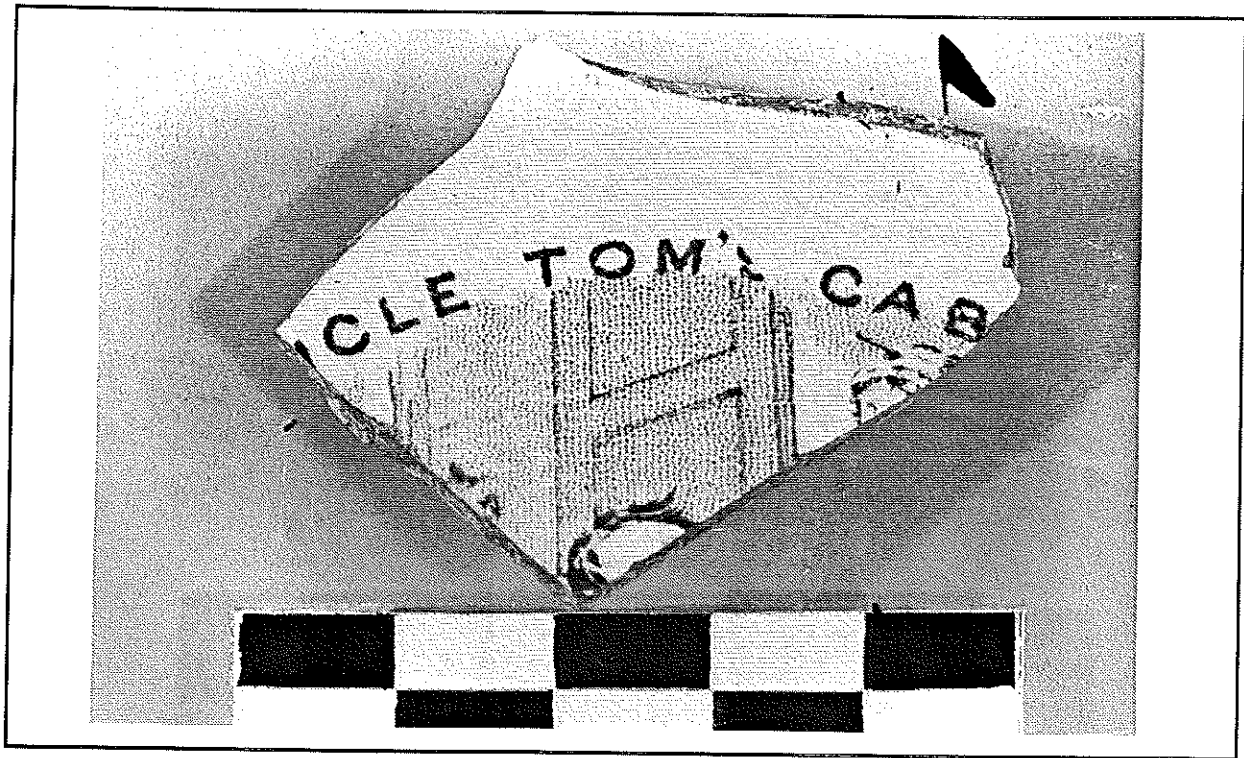


Figure 16

A fragment of a plate bearing a scene from Uncle Tom's Cabin the novel by Harriett Beecher Stow. Such a plate must have been made after the novel achieved enormous popularity in the 1850s, and the presence of such artefacts can help date deposits as well as documenting trends in popular culture. Photograph Number M32.24 by Damaris Bairstow. Scale in 10mm divisions

Occupation Evidence from the Cellar 1855 - 1966

Even though the building had not been used as an hotel for more than thirty years, the cellar was clean and empty of rubbish at the time of the demolition. The cellar floor was the only surviving occupation surface to be examined during the investigation and it bore evidence of its years of service as one of the major working areas of the Hotel. The original surface had been cement, and a small circular sump to collect water or spillages had been included in the original construction.²⁶ [See Figure 17]

26. The cement surface is Unit 1.73, the sump is Unit 1.88, for details see Appendix 1.1.

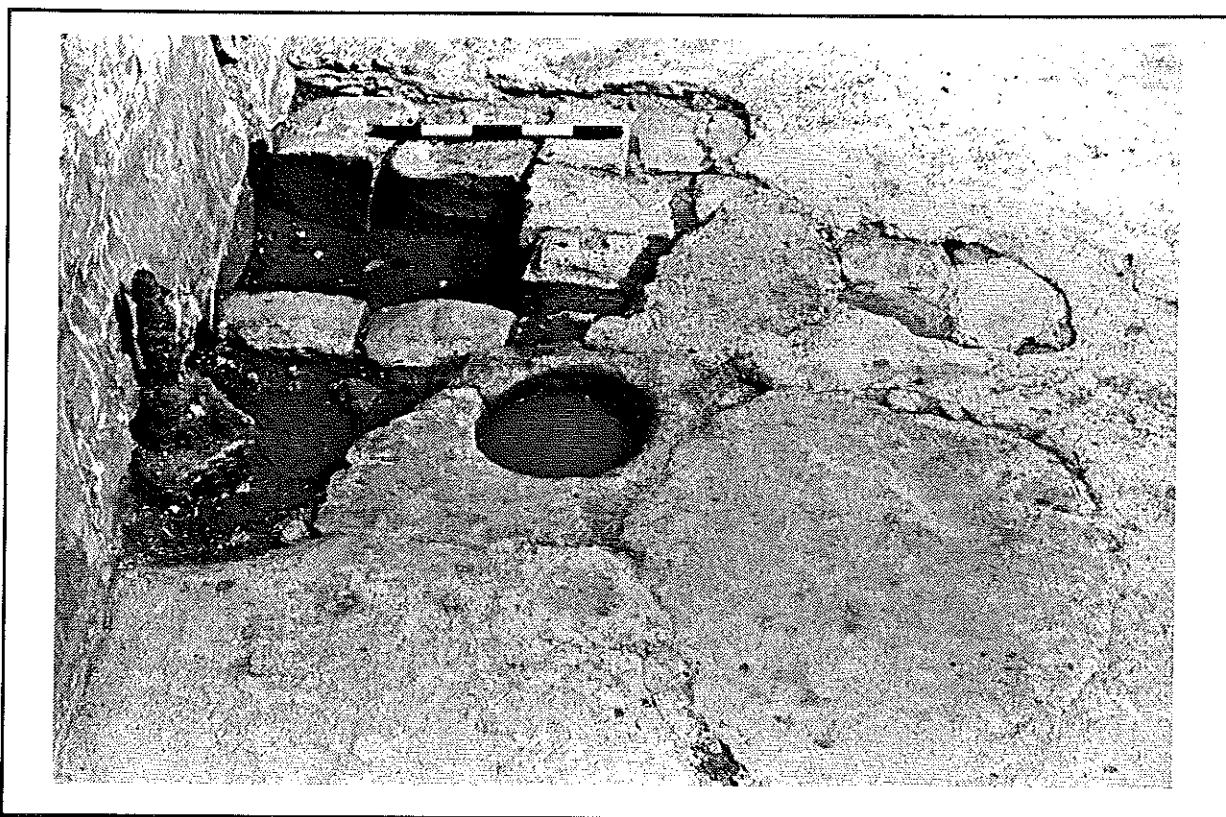


Figure 17

The circular sump, water connection and cement patches in the floor of the Bridge Hotel cellar. Part of the cement floor was removed during excavation to reveal the bluestone foundation below. Photograph Number M36.12 by Richard Moline. Scale in 100mm divisions

The constant use of the floor had worn it over the years and repairs had been required. Most of the original cement surface had been covered by a new layer, and the new surface was itself patched in places.²⁷ The walls of the cellar had been whitewashed.²⁸

Despite the repair and renewal scars left by the moving of casks were clearly visible. At the southern end of the cellar indentations left by the ramp used to slide barrels into the cellar were found.²⁹ The delivery hatchway was below the easternmost window of the southern facade, so most, if not all of the draught beer dispensed in the pub over 76 years would have entered the building at this point. Most of the cellar area would have been taken up with storage, but at the northern end of the cellar floor a rectangular mortice in the cement indicated another activity area.³⁰ At this point the floor surface was marked with circular scratches, indicating that at this point the barrels had been turned on their ends to be hoisted through a hatch in the bar room floor and the mortice provided a seating for a prop or guide which assisted in this process. [See Figure 18]

27. The new cement surface is Unit 1.72, the patches are Unit 1.87, for details see Appendix 1.1.

28. Unit 1.91, for details see Appendix 1.1.

29. Unit 1.90, for details see Appendix 1.1.

30. Unit 1.94, for details see Appendix 1.1.

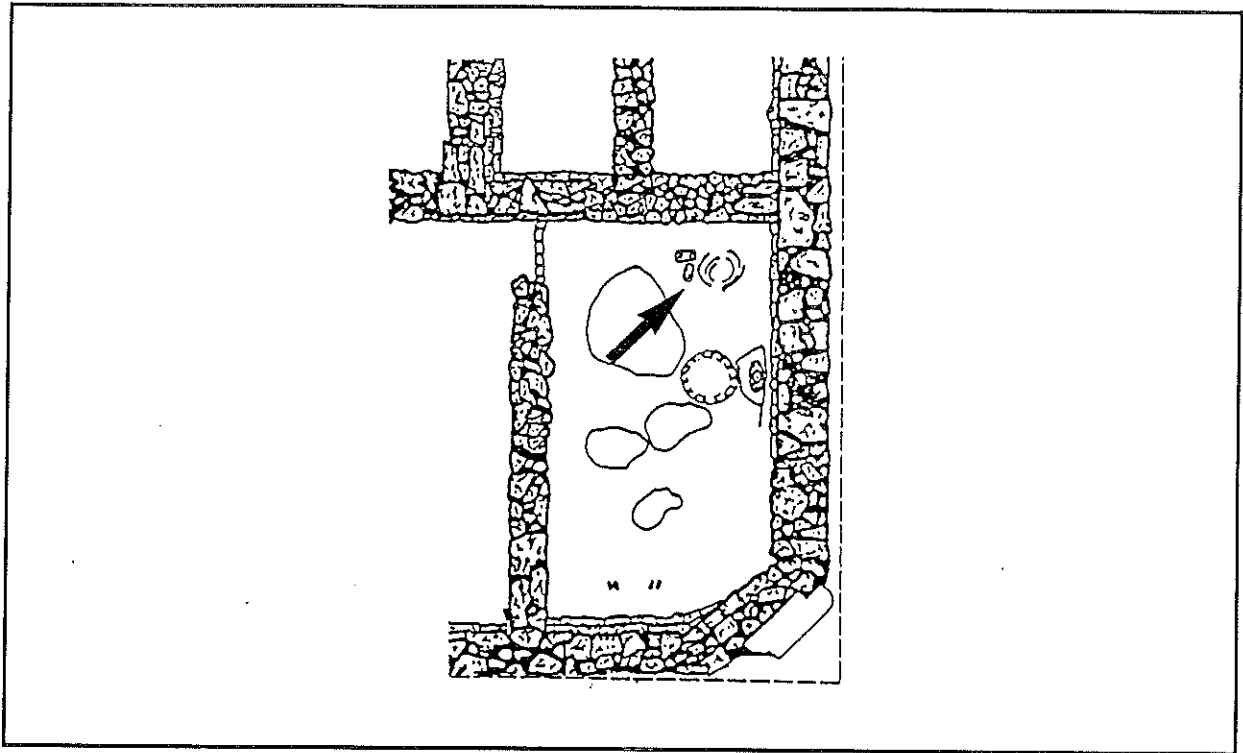


Figure 18

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel cellar, the location of the scratches and the seating for the prop are indicated with an arrow. Scale 1:100

A step had been formed by leaving a gap in the northern wall of the cellar at this point, confirming that this was the access way from the Hotel into the cellar.³¹ [See Figure 19]

31. Unit 1.89, for details see Appendix 1.1.

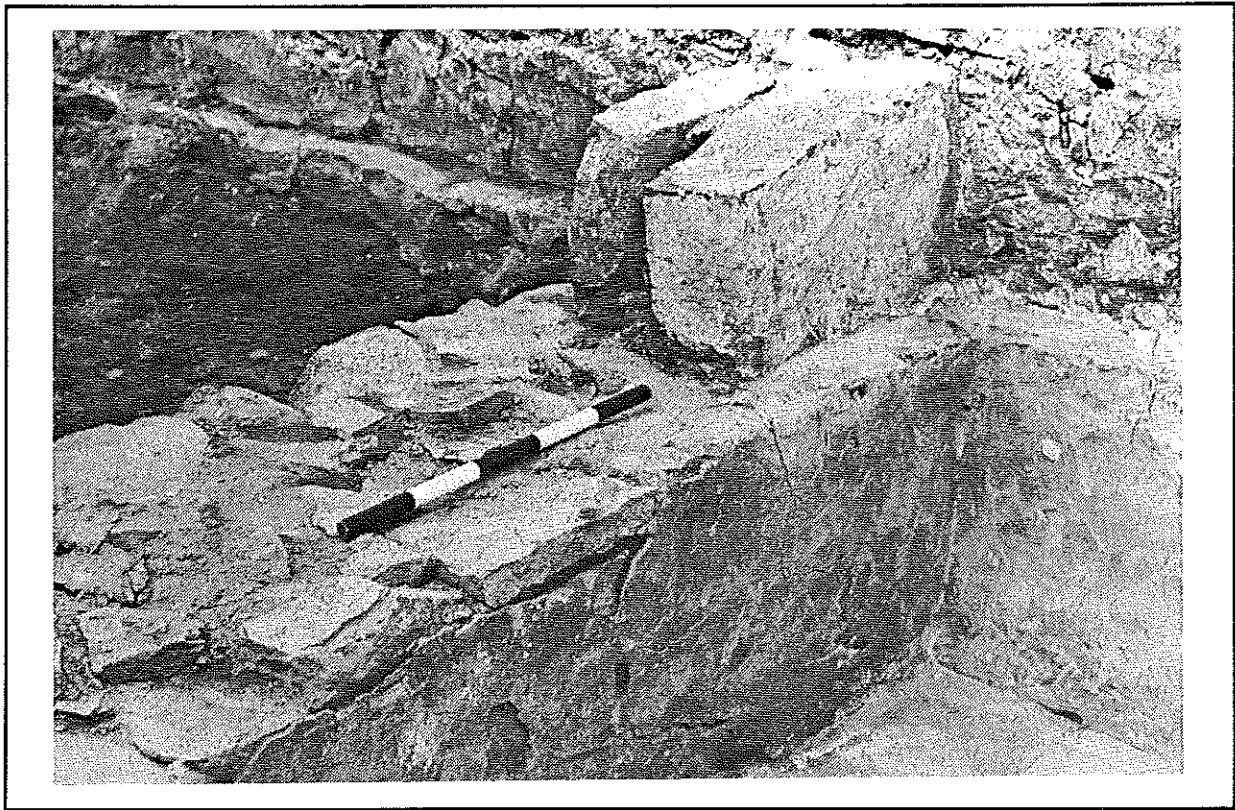


Figure 19

This step cut into the northern wall of the Bridge Hotel cellar provided access from within the bar. Photograph Number M36.15 by Richard Moline. Scale in 100mm divisions

Occupation Evidence from the Stairwell 1855 - 1966

In the stairwell of the Hotel the deposit resulting from the initial stage of demolition provided some evidence for activities within the building.³² [See Figure 20]

About 90% of the artefacts from the deposit were fragments of glass bottles and jars, including 11 whole bottles. Less than 1% was olive glass, the vast majority were clear, with small proportions of aqua and green tinted glass. Most of these clear, or almost clear, glass vessels were jars or wide mouth bottles, indicating that they were for food storage, with most of the dated examples being early twentieth century. It is difficult to think of any interpretation other than the cupboard under the stairs was used to keep empty jars and bottles used for preserves and pickles. Given the paucity of occupation debris in the other demolition deposits it is clear that when the Hotel was vacated these were among the few items left behind.

32. Unit 1.78, for details see Appendix 1.1 and Appendix 2.1.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE CITY LINK SITE

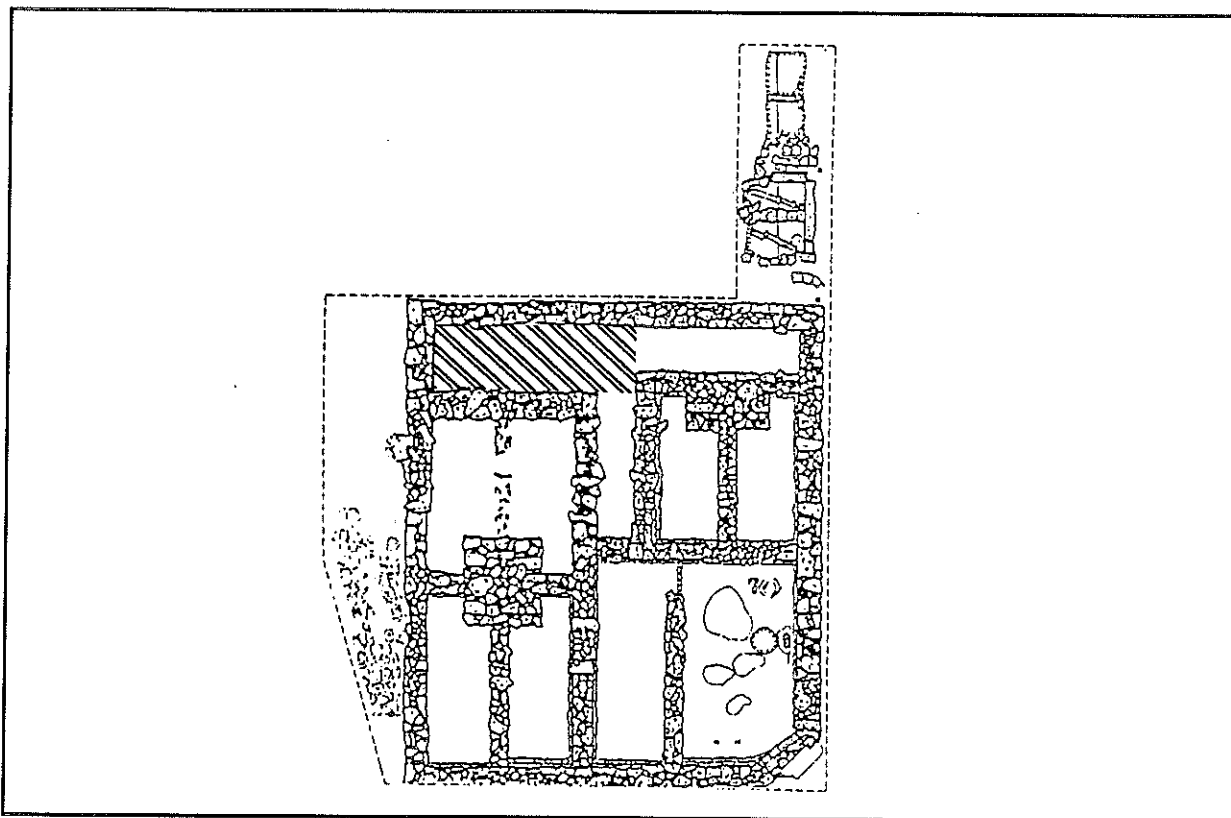


Figure 20

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel; the location of the deposit from below the stairs is indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

Occupation Evidence from the Initial Demolition 1855 - 1966

The initial stage of demolition involved the removal of the internal woodwork and fittings, prior to the demolition of the walls. During this process about one thousand small objects fell into the underfloor spaces between the foundation walls, and remained there to provide the only other archaeological clues about life in the building.³³ [See Figure 21]

33. The deposits resulting from the initial stages of demolition are Units 1.41, 1.58, 1.66, 1.70, 1.71, 1.77, 1.78, 1.79 and 1.80. Unit 1.78 is uncharacteristic of this group and has been discussed separately; it is excluded from this analysis. For details of the individual Units see Appendix 1.1 and for the grouped analysis see Appendix 2.1.

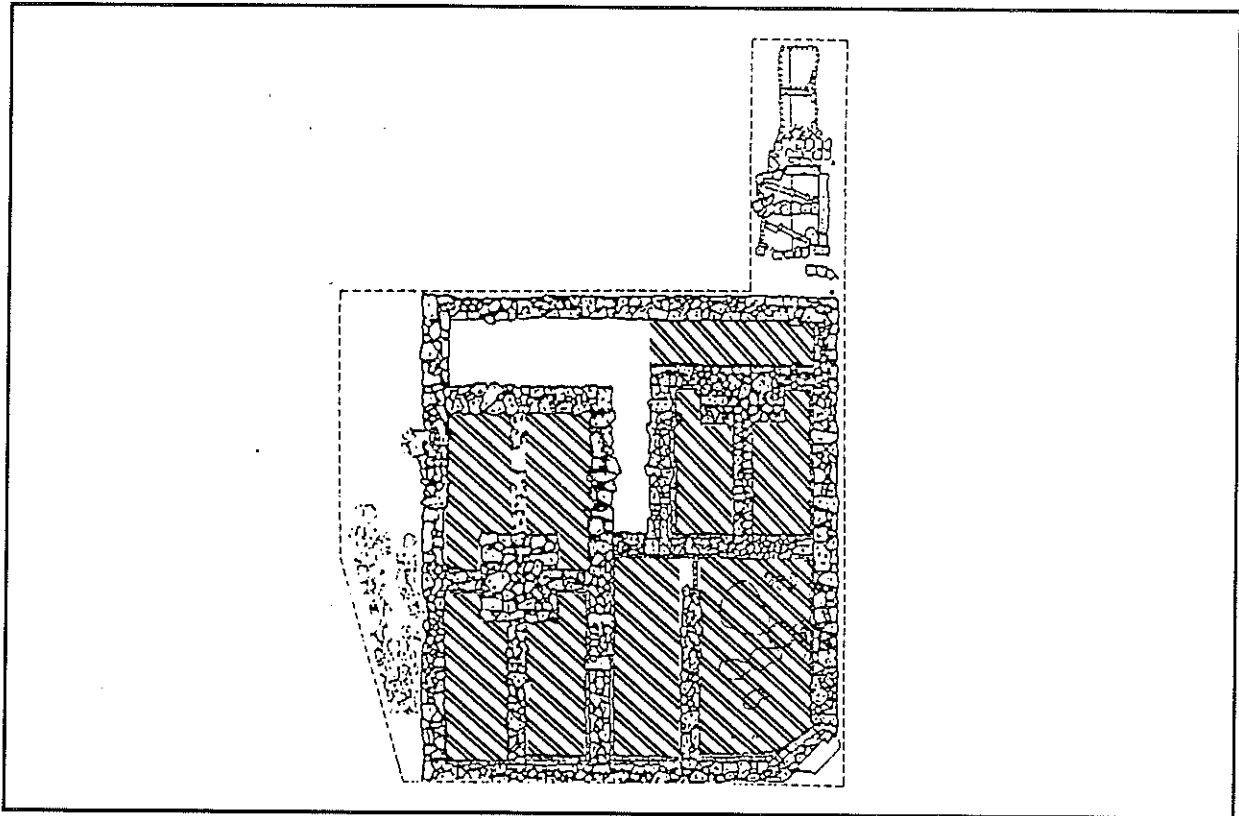


Figure 21

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel; the location of the deposits from the initial demolition of the building are indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

More than a third of the objects found were glass bottle fragments, half of which was clear glass, and a third aqua or green tinted glass with olive and amber pieces making up most of the remainder. This seems to indicate that while most of the bottles were of twentieth century date, some nineteenth century material had not been cleared away. Twenty two whole bottles were recovered, and these include milk bottles as well as stoneware ginger beer bottles. [See Figure 22]

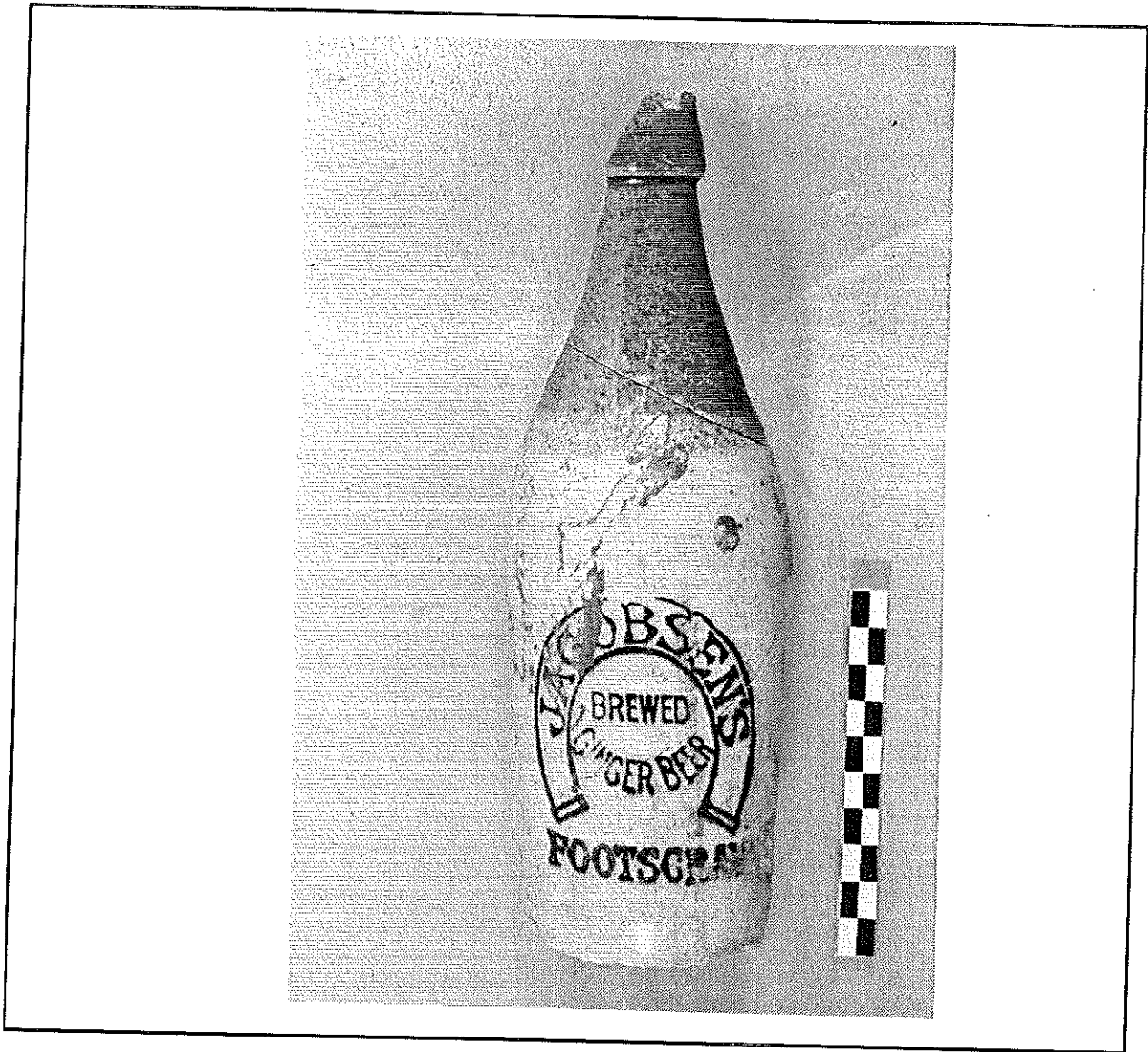


Figure 22

A salt glazed stoneware bottle from Jacobsen of Footscray recovered from within the demolition rubble of the Hotel. Photograph Number M29.14 by Barbara Fitzroy. Scale in 10mm divisions

Fragments of stemmed glasses, tumblers and clay tobacco pipes were also present, as would be expected in an Hotel. Only a small number of food-related ceramics were present and most of these were decorated with a dark grey or blue transfer prints. Other items related to every day life in the building were 32 beads, 24 buttons, 18 coins (all small denominations ranging in date from 1897 to 1949), 13 marbles, a key and a gold ring. We may never know which occupants of the Hotel lost or discarded these objects. However, the marbles indicate that the building was a family home as well as an Hotel, and the beads remind us of the presence of homemakers. [See Figure 23]

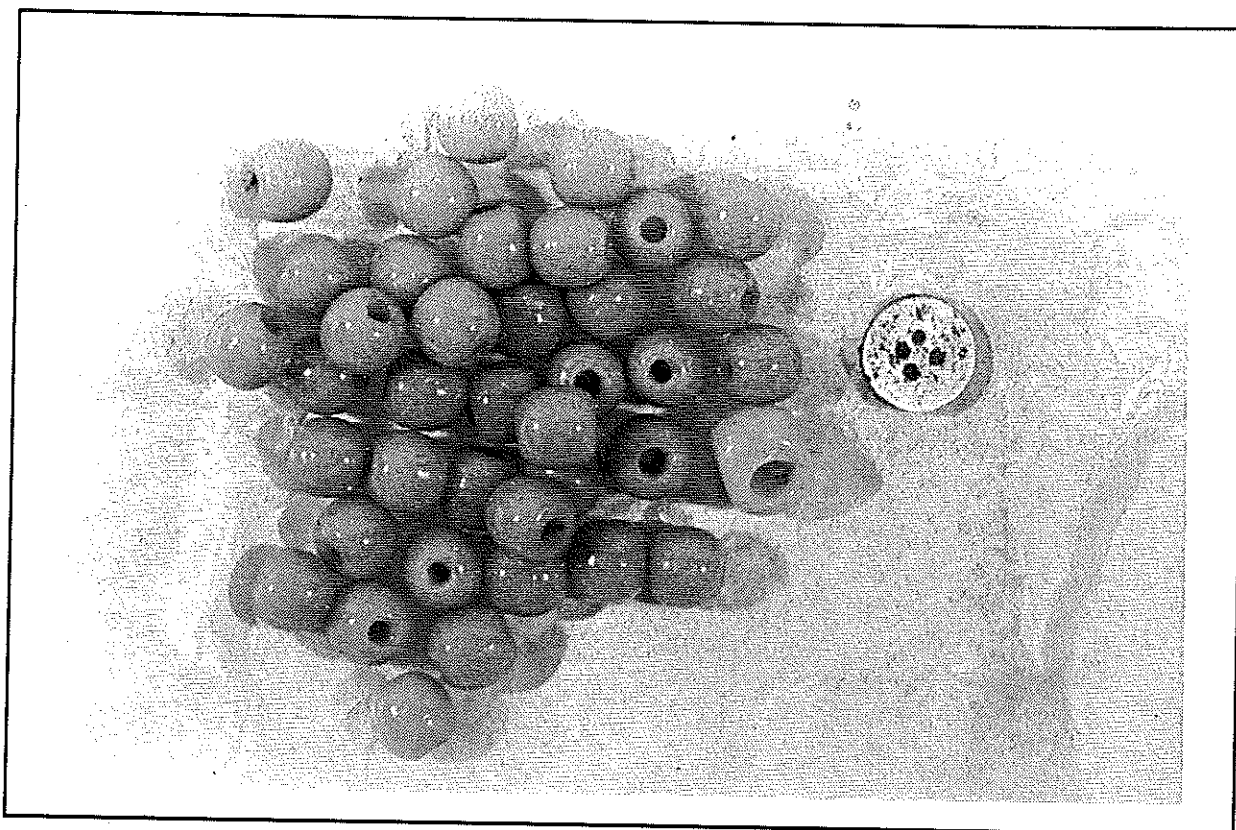


Figure 23

A group of Blue Glass Beads and a button recovered from within the demolition rubble. Such objects serve as a reminder of the importance of women in the history of the Hotel. Photograph Number M37.16 by Barbara Fitzroy

Animal bones constituted the remaining quarter of the artefacts from the initial demolition. The majority were sheep and pig bones, with cattle, rabbit and chicken, as well as large and small birds also represented. Again, the major food species show a predominance of bones from the major cuts, indicating reliance on retail butchering. Bones from rats were present in considerable numbers. Presumably they occupied the underfloor spaces of the building while the humans lived above!

Demolition of the Bridge Hotel 1966 - 1967

By contrast with the deposits from the initial demolition of ceilings and woodwork, the material from the demolition of the walls contained very few small objects. These deposits do, however, tell us something about the destruction of the building.³⁴ They make it clear that the building was knocked down with no thought to the reuse of any of the building materials. Up to 12% of the demolition rubble was reusable bricks, but in the mid 1960s these soft salmon coloured bricks were not seen as a useful or reusable commodity, and the demolition would have been by machines.³⁵ [See Figure 24]

34. The deposits resulting from the second stage of demolition are Units 1.3, 1.21, 1.60 and 1.67. For details of the individual Units see Appendix 1.1 and for the grouped analysis see Appendix 2.1.

35. This figure of 12% contrasts with the demolition of the Pickett Cottages in 1897-8 where re-usable bricks constitute only 0.5% of the demolition rubble.

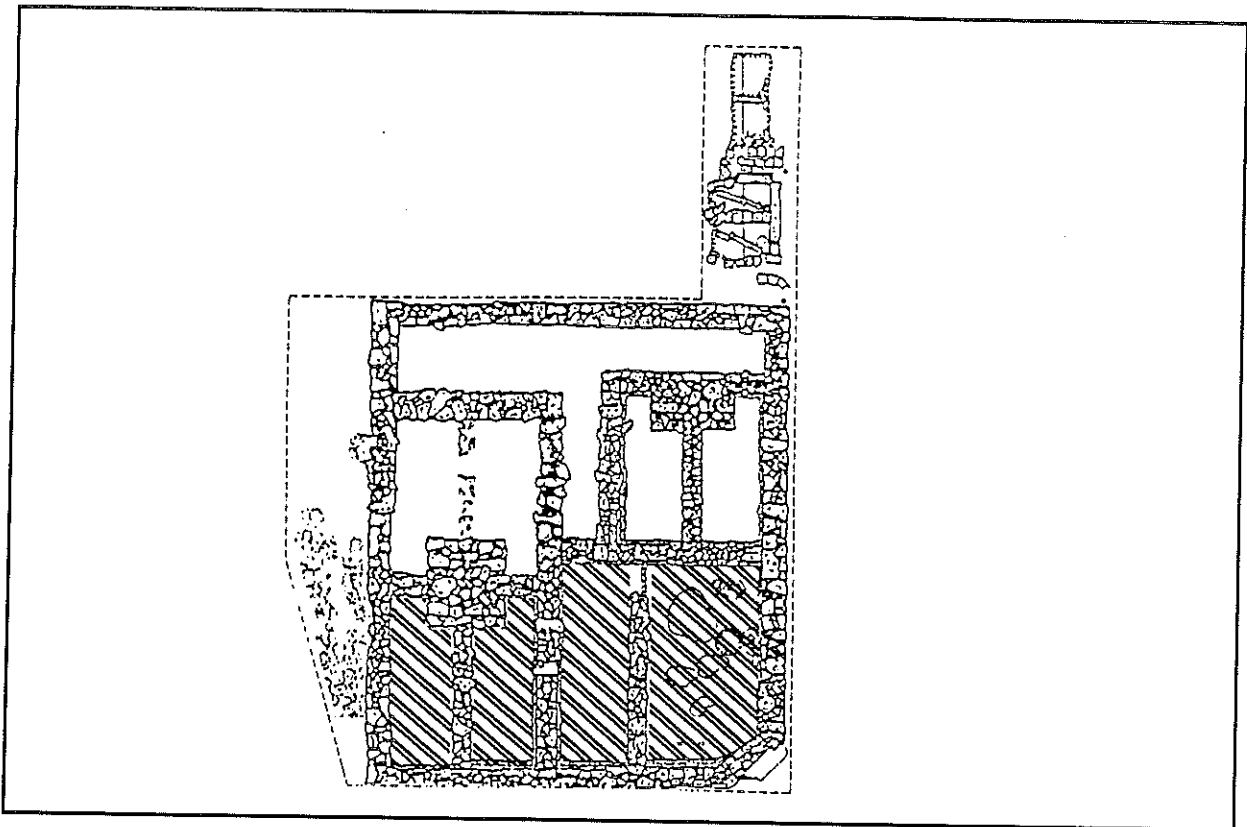


Figure 24

Plan of the excavated remains of the Bridge Hotel; the location of the deposits from the second stage of demolition of the building are indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

Tin Shed 1967

Immediately after the demolition of the building the site was levelled and a galvanised iron shed erected on the site. The shed was on a wooden frame which rested on wooden sole plates set directly into the hard dry rubble deposits which resulted from the demolition and formed an ideal base. Nine of these small wooden plates, each 300mm long by 150mm wide and 38mm thick were found in place over the western part of the site.³⁶ [See Figure 25] They are the only evidence of the building which replaced the Bridge Hotel and provided the reason for its destruction.

The demolition of the Michaelis Hallenstein Tannery resulted in some filling of the site,³⁷ although it remained abandoned until the Commonwealth Employment Project Scheme.

36. Units 1.49, 1.50, 1.51, 1.52, 1.53, 1.54, 1.55, 1.56 and 1.57, for details Units see Appendix 1.1.

37. Units 1.8, 1.11 and 1.13 for details see Appendix 1.1.

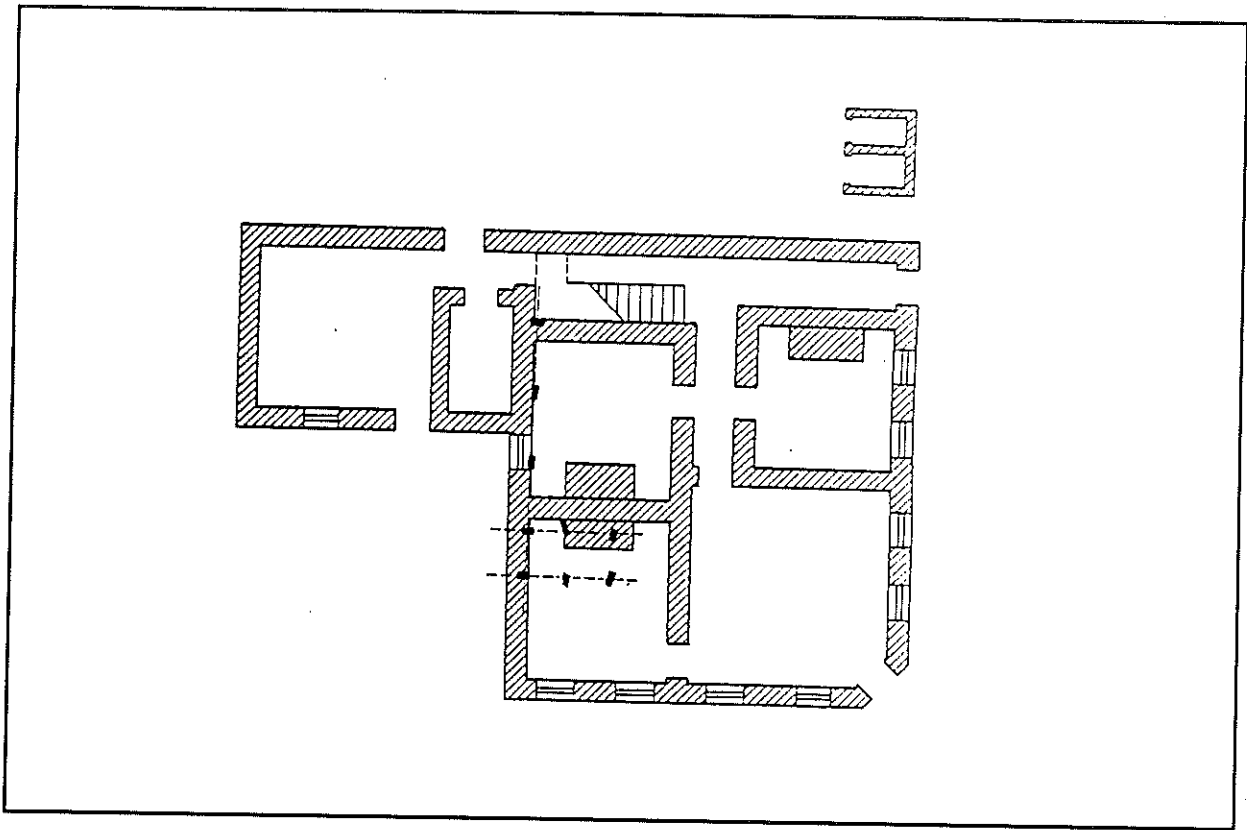


Figure 25

Plan of the Bridge Hotel with the locations of the sole plates from the later Tin Shed superimposed. The Plates were set out on a grid, indicated by the broken lines. Scale 1:200

CEP Scheme 1987 - 1988

During 1987-1988 a scheme to create a park on the vacant Michaelis Hallenstein Tannery site was undertaken with Commonwealth Employment Project funding. In the course of landscaping, considerable amounts of fill and topsoil were introduced to the site covering the remains of the Hotel with up to two metres of soil. These most recent deposits were the first to be excavated during the investigation of the site.³⁸ [See Figure 26]

38. Units 1.1 and 1.4 for details see Appendix 1.1.
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE CITY LINK SITE



Figure 26

The site of the Bridge Hotel at the beginning of the excavation. Mechanical excavators were used to remove the recent overburden. The machine operator should be supervised and guided by archaeologists at all times to avoid damage to the remains. Photograph Number Mo1.11 by Richard Moline.

The Pickett Cottages Site

Introduction

The block at the southern corner of Wingfield and Maribyrnong Streets was purchased from the Crown by William Pickett for eighteen pounds in 1850. The land was inherited by William Pickett's son William in 1858 who sold it, along with several other allotments, to his mother Margaret Pickett in September 1872 for one hundred pounds. A pair of semi-detached cottages were constructed in Maribyrnong Street for Margaret Pickett between 1872 and 1875, at a cost of about three hundred pounds.³⁹ [See Figure 27]

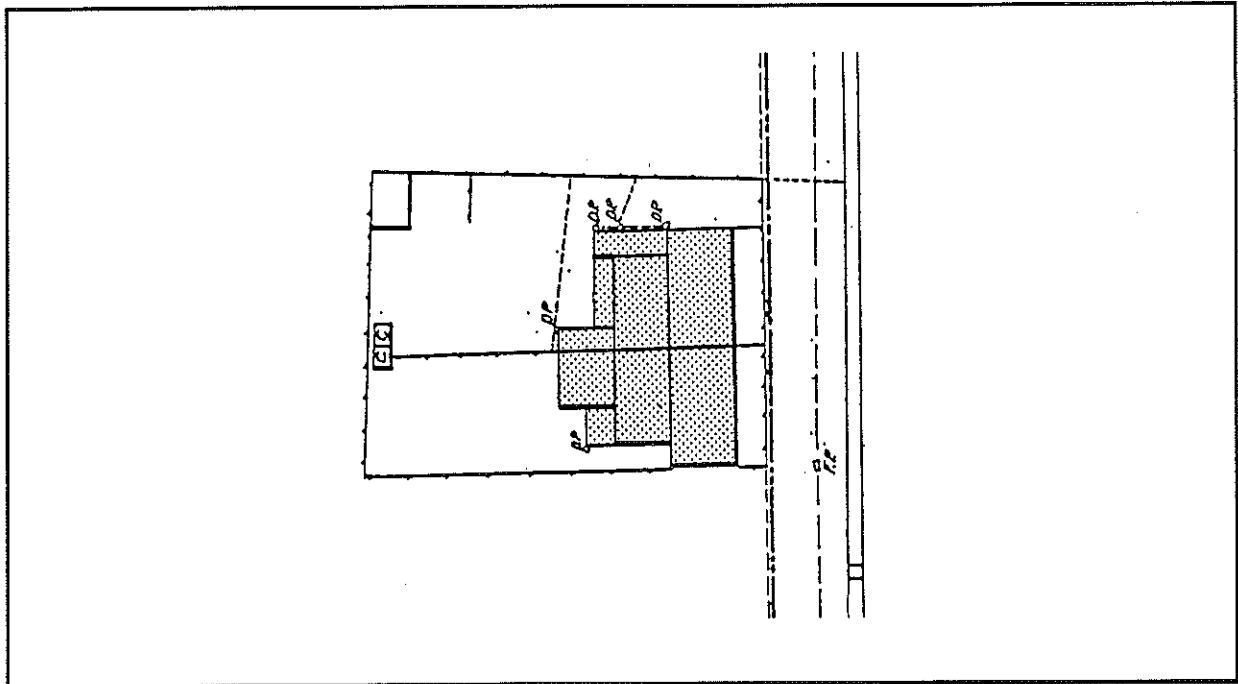


Figure 27

Detail of the 1895 Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Plan showing the Pickett Cottages, with the buildings indicated by added tone

The cottages were located near the northeastern corner of the allotment, at the bottom of the slope looking east and facing the River directly across Maribyrnong Street.

Presumably these cottages were intended to form part of the gradual infill of the block, in the pattern of much of western Footscray, but this did not occur. They were purchased by William Mitchell and David Newell, contractors, and demolished in 1897-1898, having stood for a maximum of 25 years.⁴⁰

39. Throughout the excavation records the Pickett Cottages Site is referred to as Area 2. The archaeological information on which this report is based can be located in the Appendices by references in these footnotes.

The cost and date of building are given in an affidavit sworn by John Delahunty dated 10 April 1876 and reproduced on pages 40-2 of Joan Carstairs and Maureen Lane 1988 *Pubs, Punts and Pastures: The Story of Pioneer Irish Women on the Salt Water River*, and the cottages are also mentioned in a list of Mary Pickett's assets dated 26 June 1875 reproduced on page 32. See also Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.77, and Hypercard File Location Code 2.8.

40. Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.77, and Hypercard File Location Code 2.8.

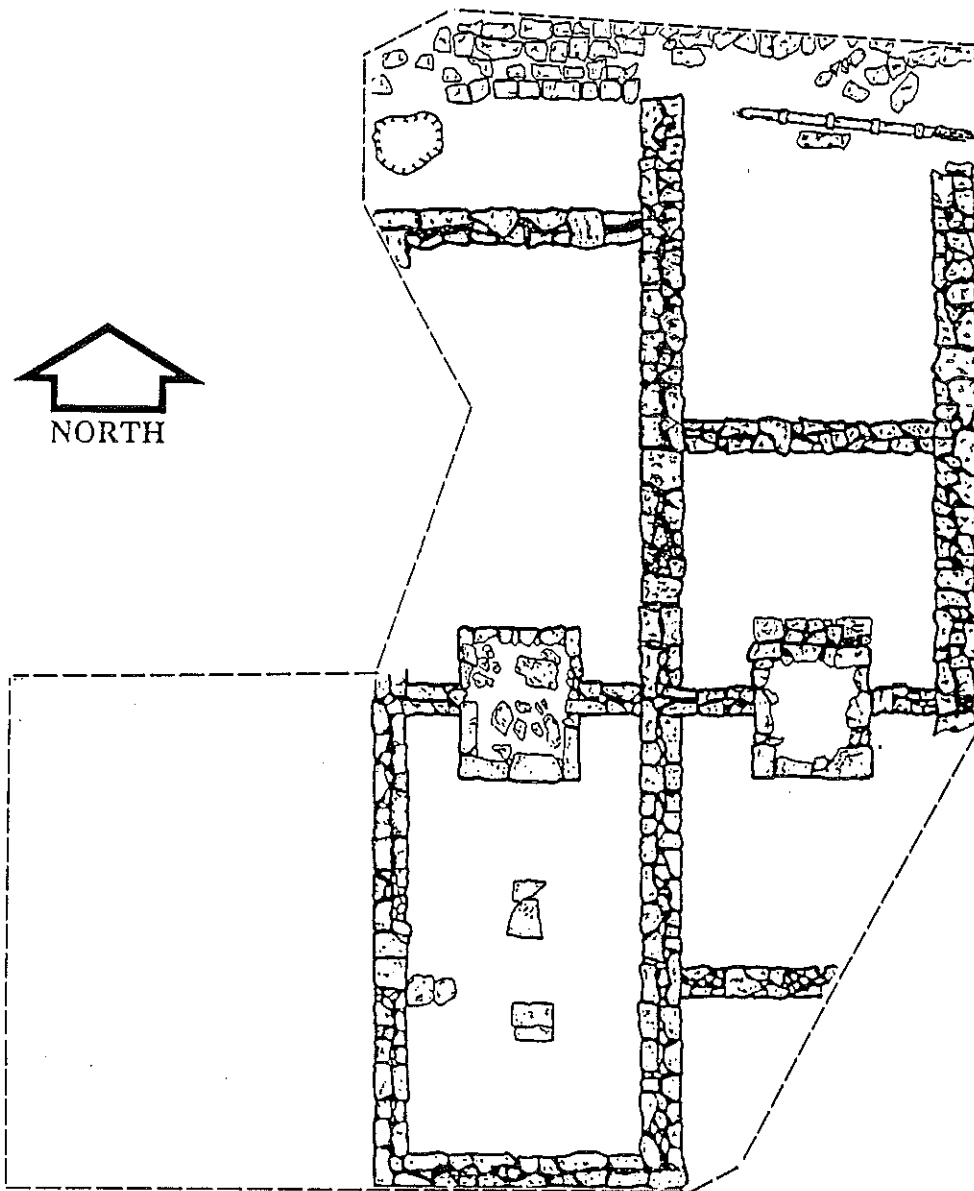


Figure 28

Plan of the excavated remains of the Pickett Cottages. Measured and drawn by Nicholas Arnold, detailed by Nicholas Arnold and Andrew Wilson from photographs by Richard Moline. Scale 1:100

The cottages were single storey, built of brick, on stone foundations and with a slate roof. They were sturdy and plain and lacked the Italianate decoration and detailing characteristic of many of the small houses of Footscray.

The cottages are described in the first Valuation Book for the area in 1882-3 as a single house of nine rooms. The design and layout of the buildings clearly shows that they were constructed as a pair of semidetached cottages. The surviving photograph and etching show that each cottage had a door placed centrally within its half of the building with a window on each side of the door. However, it is possible that they could have both been occupied by a single family.⁴¹ [The cottages are visible in Figure 3 on page 16]

Both cottages consisted of three major rooms with a service wing at the rear. [See Figure 29] The front door opened onto the outer front room, presumably a parlour, (3 metres by 3.5 metres), with a window in the eastern wall, near the door. The other front room, (3 metres by 3 metres), was equipped with a fireplace and would have been the main bedroom. It also had a window in the eastern wall and would have been reached by a doorway from the parlour. Another doorway led from the parlour into the kitchen, (3 metres by 5.5 metres), which was located behind both front rooms. These rooms would have been the major living area in both cottages, and the centre of family activities; meals would have been cooked and eaten there. Each cottage had a total floor area measuring 36 square metres. Only these three main rooms of each cottage were excavated as the depth of fill over the western part of the site made it impossible to excavate the less substantial service structures.

Although these structures were not excavated, the historical records, (in this case the 1895 Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Detail Plan), provide us with a good indication of their layout. In the southern cottage the door from the kitchen led to a small verandah which gave access to a small service wing, (3 metres by 3 metres). This would have housed the laundry and possibly a bathroom, and would have been constructed of timber.

In the northern cottage, the kitchen door led to a longer verandah, and a small additional room along the southern property line. The recess formed by the kitchen being 1.5 metres shorter than the two front rooms was filled in to form a room 3 metres long to which piped water was connected. This was presumably the bathroom or laundry, although there is no evidence on which to base a definite conclusion.

The toilets were located against the rear fence of each allotment and they are also depicted on the Metropolitan Board of Works Detail Plan. An attempt was made to excavate the toilets, but no evidence of them appears to have survived later earthworks.

The investigation did make it clear that these toilets did not have cess pits, as there was no evidence for any excavation below the site of the toilets. It is presumed that some form of pan system was used, and the waste may well have been disposed of in the river.

The 1895 Metropolitan Board of Works plan shows the southern cottage with a yard approximately 113 square metres in area. The northern block was wider, allowing access past the side of the building, the yard being approximately 216 square metres, with an outbuilding in the northwestern corner. Each of the cottage allotments was completely fenced, although the alignment was somewhat irregular.

The occupants of the cottages were short term tenants, mostly working class families with up to seven children. The occupations of the breadwinners include fellmongers, slaughtermen, boilermakers, coopers, carriers and labourers, and the majority of their surnames suggest an

41. Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History* p.63 (lower) p.136 (upper).

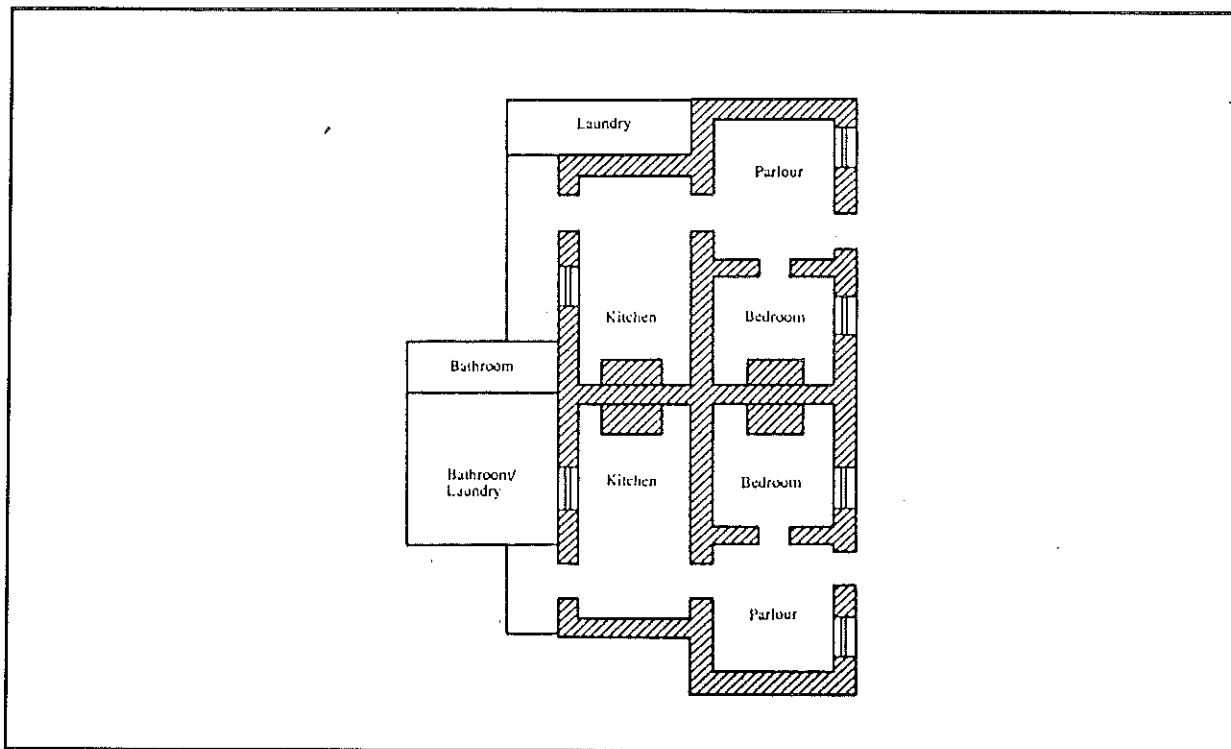


Figure 29

The Pickett Cottages; reconstruction of the Ground Floor Plan. Scale 1:200

Irish ancestry. During the industrial decentralisation of Melbourne in the late nineteenth century it was the labour of people like these, and the presence of their families that changed Footscray from a backwater on the fringe of the metropolis to a thriving independent community.⁴²

During this industrial expansion Footscray attracted a high proportion of Melbourne's noxious trades, abattoirs, tanneries, fellmongeries and boiling down works. This had an immediate effect on the local environment, especially the Maribyrnong River, the pollution of which accelerated rapidly during the 1870s and 1880s. The fact that the cottages were often vacant and that tenants only stayed for short periods may well have been a direct reflection of the deteriorating state of the nearby river.⁴³

Construction of the Cottages 1872 - 1875

The cottages were constructed using standard nineteenth century building techniques. The walls were built of brick on quarried bluestone foundations. Only these foundations survive. No part of the superstructure of the cottages survived the demolition. [See Figure 30]

As with other buildings in the area, the stone most probably came from one of the local quarries or stone finishing enterprises. The foundations were formed using the normal 'rubble fill' method. Roughly shaped stones were used to define the outer edges of the foundation walls, using their flattest side as the external face, the hollow core of the wall and any gaps between the stones were then filled with small stone rubble packed in mortar.

42. Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.77-8, and Hypercard File Location Code 2.8. The industrial expansion of Footscray is discussed in detail in John Lack 1985 "'Worst Smelbourne": Melbourne's Noxious Trades' in Graeme Davidson, David Dunstan & Chris McConville (eds) *The Outcasts of Melbourne* p.172-200.

43. Lack 1985 "'Worst Smelbourne": Melbourne's Noxious Trades' p.199-200 suggests that the workers were to some extent manipulated into accepting their deteriorating living conditions as an inevitable result of their employment.

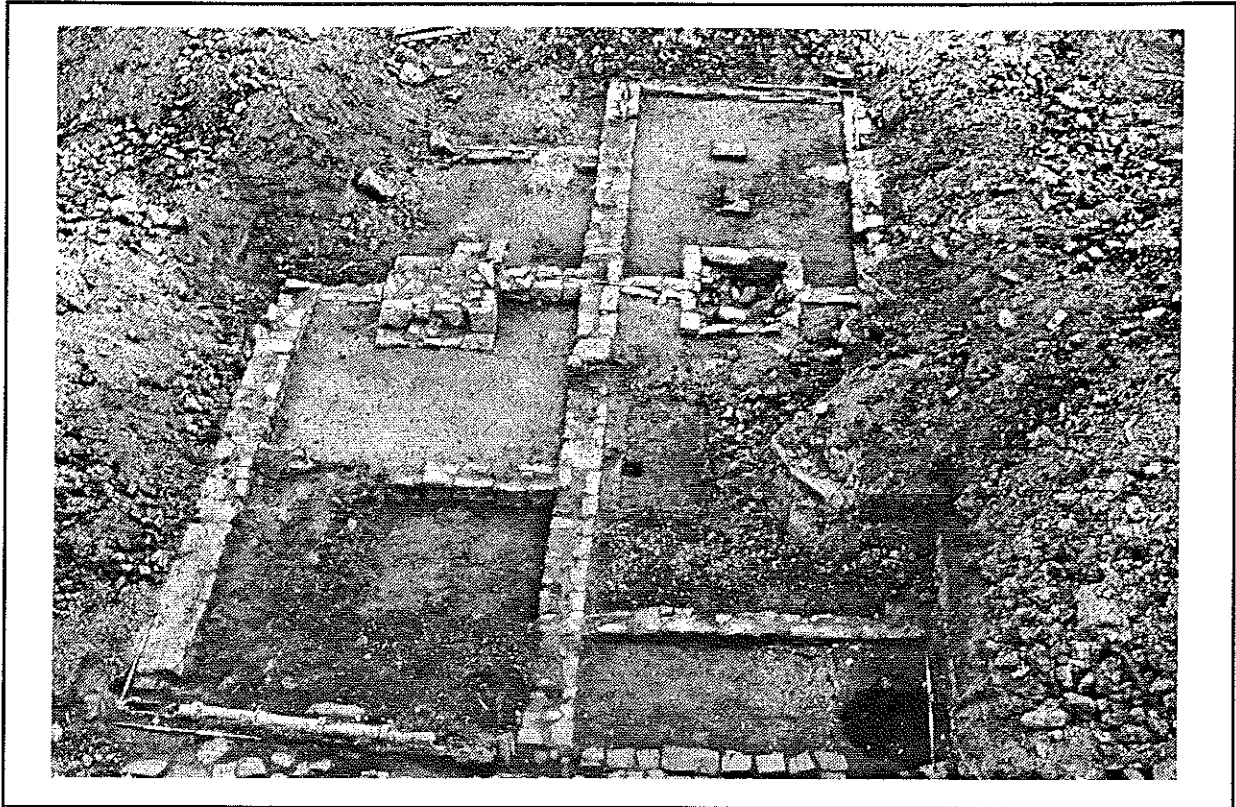


Figure 30

An overall view of the remains of the Pickett Cottages at the completion of the excavation, looking south. Photograph Number M27.23 by David Bannear. Scale in 200mm division

All of the deposits associated with the demolition of the building include pieces of roofing slate, making it clear that at least the front section of the cottages had a slate roof.⁴⁴ [See Figure 31]

Two deposits were revealed during excavation which may also relate to the construction of the cottages. In the southwestern corner of the bedroom of the southern cottage was a mound of yellow mortar. This may be a barrow load of unused mortar dumped in the underfloor space during construction.⁴⁵ The whole of the underfloor space of the bedroom of the northern cottage was spread with mortar. Again this may have been a way of disposing of unwanted building material, or it may have been an attempt to control damp.⁴⁶

44. These deposits, Units 2.6, 2.12, 2.13, 2.30, 2.31 and 2.32 are discussed in detail below.

45. Unit 2.39, for details see Appendix 1.2 and Appendix 2.2.

46. Unit 2.37, for details see Appendix 1.2 and Appendix 2.2. Both mortars were the same colour but gave different textures and pH reading.

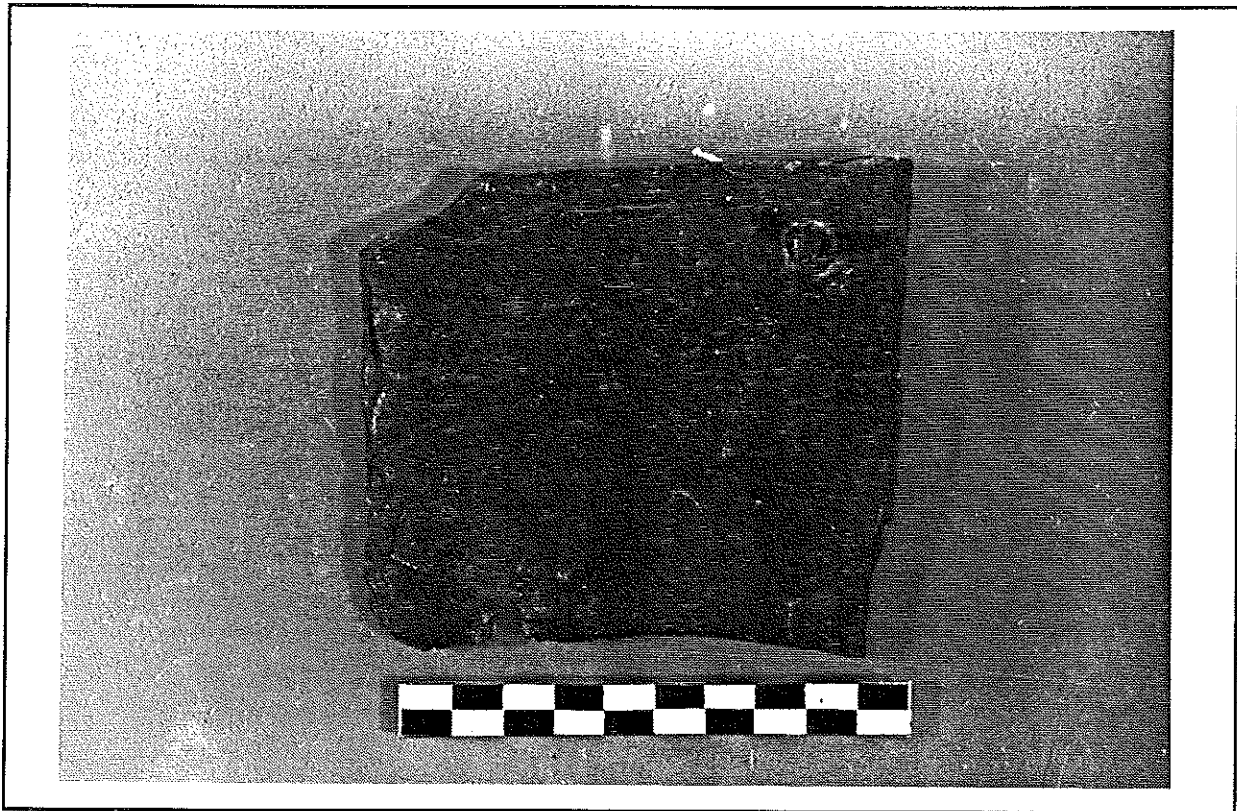


Figure 31

A piece of a Roofing Slate recovered from deposits which resulted from the demolition of the Cottages in 1897-98. Such fragments provided the only evidence for the roofing material of the building. Photograph Number M08.05 by Brabara Fitzroy. Scale in 10mm divisions

Occupation Evidence from the Northwestern Room 1875 - 1898

The excavation did not recover a great deal of evidence directly related to the every day activities of those who lived in the cottages. One important reason for this was the relatively short time the cottages were lived in.

At some time during the life of the northern cottage a pit was dug to service the water pipe under the small northeastern room (presumably the bathroom). Presumably this was to fix a leak or blockage or to install a new standpipe.[See Figure 32]

The dark grey soil fill of this pit included 1107 artefacts which must have either come out of the hole as it was dug or were nearby and became incorporated into the backfilling.⁴⁷ A quarter of the artefacts were shells, an equal mix of cowrie and cockle, with a similar proportion being building materials, mostly nails and sheet iron.

The remaining objects are presumably household refuse, about half of it glass from broken bottles, as well as fragments of earthenware plates and bowls, 3 pieces of clay smoking pipes, 18 buttons and a collar stud. Of the bones found, half were sheep bones, with cattle pig and rabbit also represented.

47. Unit 2.36, for details see Appendix 1.2 and Appendix 2.2. Comparison of these artefacts with any in original pipe trench fill (Unit 2.42) would clarify this, but this fill was not excavated.

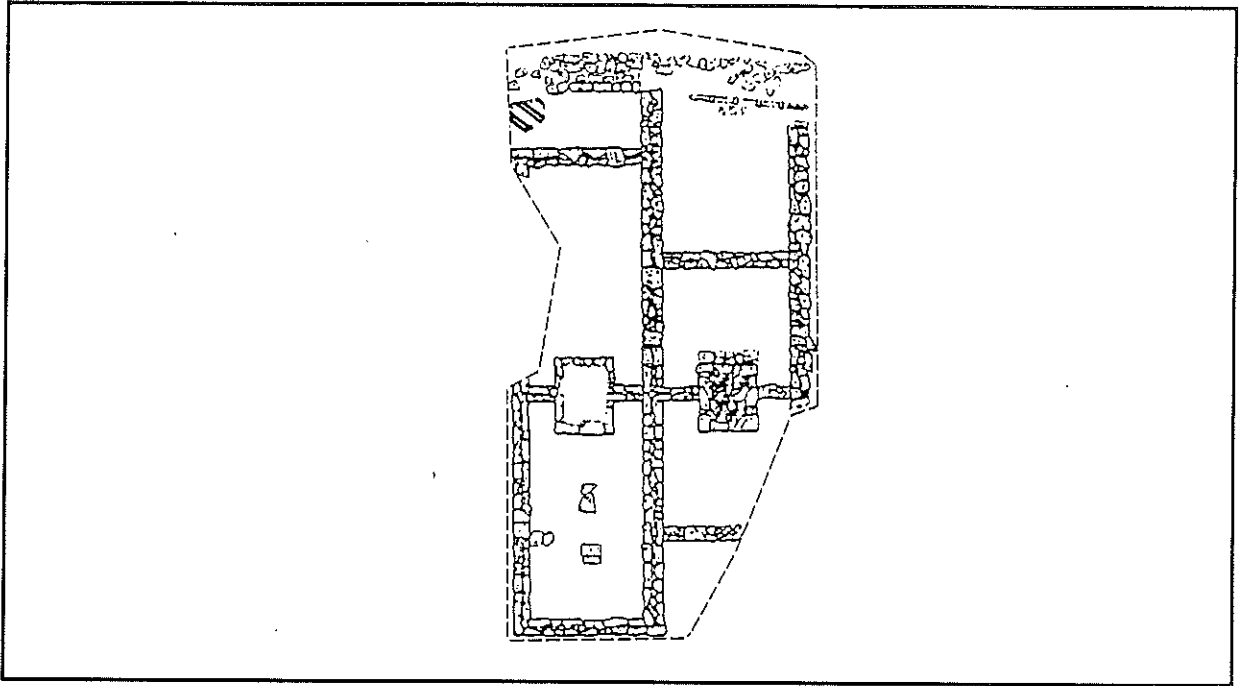


Figure 32

Plan of the excavated remains of the Pickett Cottages; the location of the service pit for the water pipe is indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

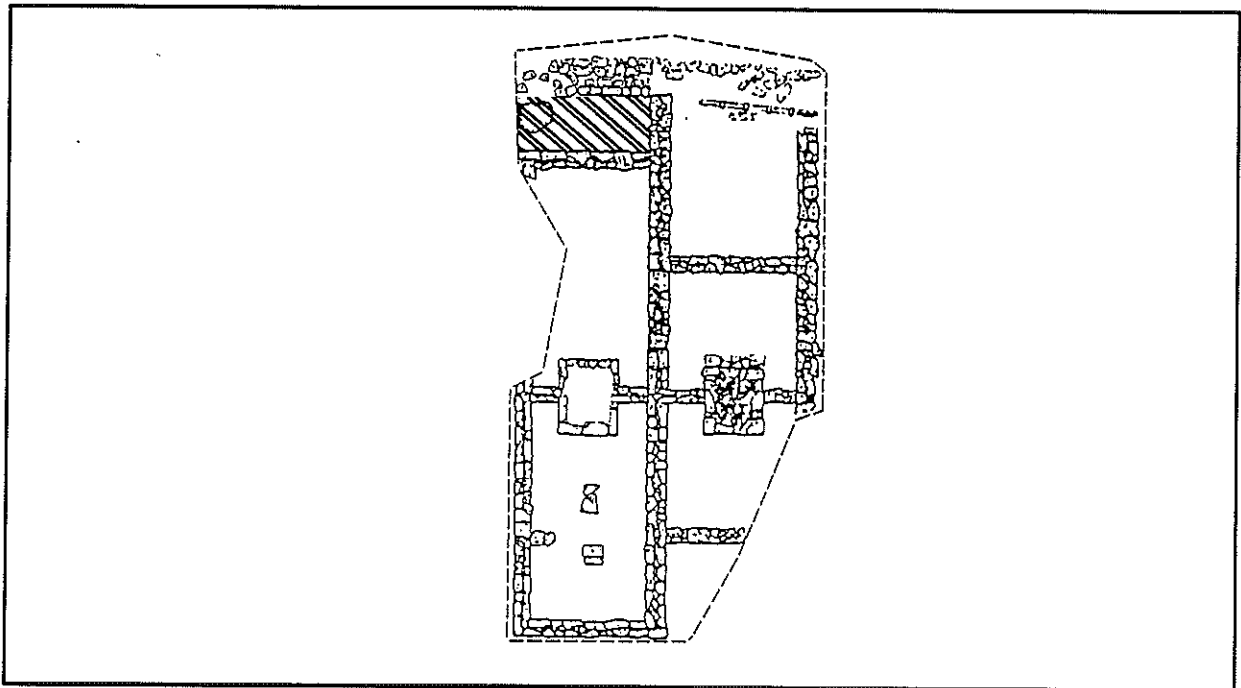


Figure 33

Plan of the excavated remains of the Pickett Cottages; the location of the layer of shells is indicated with hatching. Scale 1:20

After the filling of this service pit a layer of shells was used to create a floor or perhaps a dry surface in the room to support a wooden floor.⁴⁸ [See Figure 33]

The deposit included thousands of pieces of shell and these constituted more than 70% of the artefacts, the remainder being a small amount of normal domestic rubbish. Two thirds of the shells were cockles, with pipies and sea snails making up the other significant proportions.⁴⁹ It is likely that these shells were derived from a naturally occurring concentration of shells in the local soil and were simply used as a convenient form of gravel.⁵⁰ [See Figure 34]

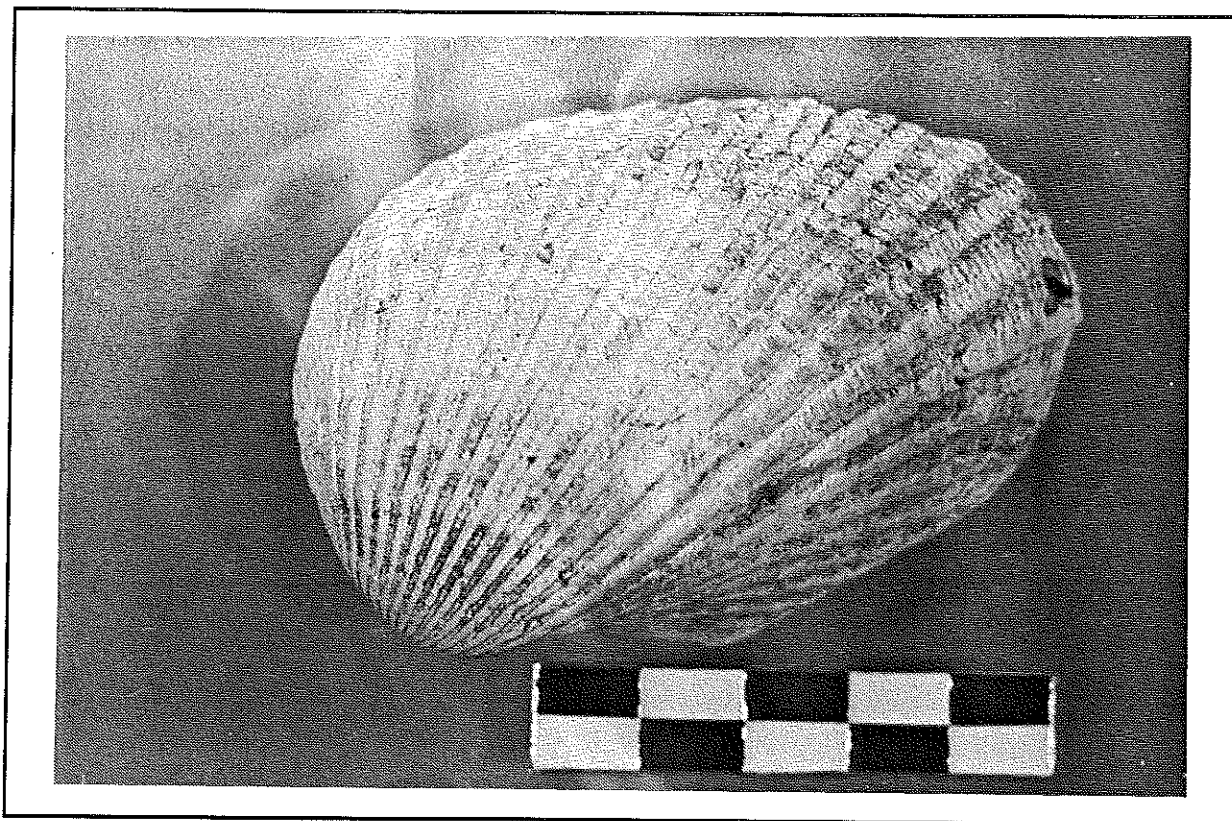


Figure 34

One of the thousands of shells recovered from deposits in the Pickett Cottages. The shell were used like gravel and were probably derived from naturally occurring deposits nearby. Photograph Number M08.23 by Damaris Bairstow. Scale in 10mm divisions

48. Unit 2.34, for details see Appendix 1.2 and Appendix 2.2. In NSW shells (often from aboriginal middens) were burnt to produce lime during the first 40 years of European settlement. This was not the case in Victoria as limestone deposits were available immediately. If this deposit had been derived from a midden, aboriginal artefacts of some type would be expected but none were present. Examples of the use of shell grit as gravel or flooring were found at Port Essington, off the coast of the Northern Territory. These were interpreted as a local variation of a common British building practice; see Jim Allen 1986 'The Archaeology of Nineteenth Century British Imperialism' in Robert Schulyer (ed.) *Historical Archaeology: A Guide to Substantive and Theoretical Contributions* p.141.

49. These proportions, which are so different from the service pit (Unit 2.36), confirm that the pit was not dug through this layer but that layer was deposited after the pit had been filled.

50. I am grateful to Iain Stuart of the Victoria Archaeological Survey for his advice on this issue.

Spread over the layer of shells and the adjacent bluestone paving was a black silty deposit containing 622 items of household rubbish and building materials.⁵¹ As this layer was spread across the paving it is unlikely to have been deposited when the cottage was occupied. [See Figure 35]

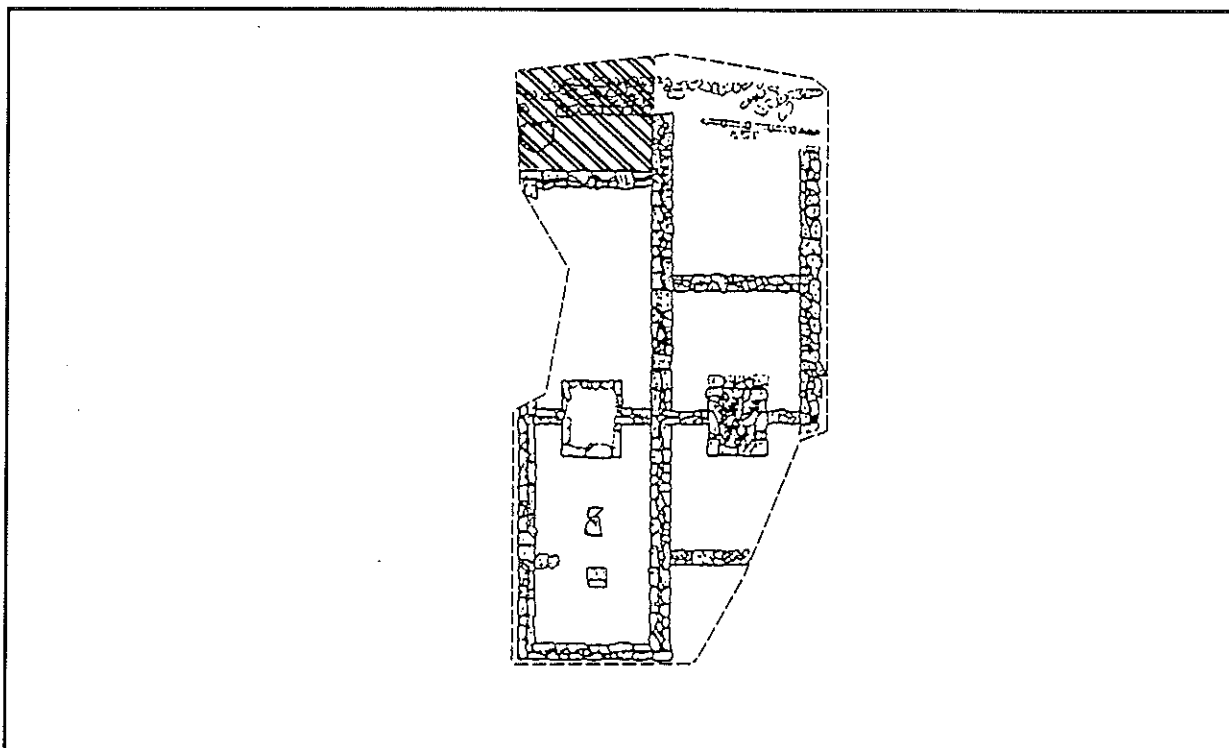


Figure 35

Plan of the excavated remains of the Pickett Cottages; the location of the layer of household rubbish is indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

Its mixture of nails and slate, as well as bottle glass and plate fragments, is consistent with the cleaning out of the house before demolition, and this is supported by the absence of window glass. If this is the case the deposit would date to just before the demolition of the cottages in 1897-8.

The most thoroughly investigated of the deposits related to the occupation of the cottages was from the kitchen of the southern cottage.⁵² [See Figure 36]

The deposit consisted of the whole of the material that fell into this space during the demolition, as well as anything that found its way under the floor during the occupation of the cottage. More than half of the 4346 artefacts from this deposit were fragments of plaster and mortar from the demolished walls as well as other demolition rubble.

More than half the household artefacts were fragments of glass bottles. Of these, half were olive or green tinted glass typical of nineteenth century alcohol bottles, although later colours, truly clear glass, amber and emerald green were also present.

51. Unit 2.33, for details see Appendix 1.2 and Appendix 2.2.

52. Unit 2.12, for details see Appendix 1.2 and Appendix 2.2.

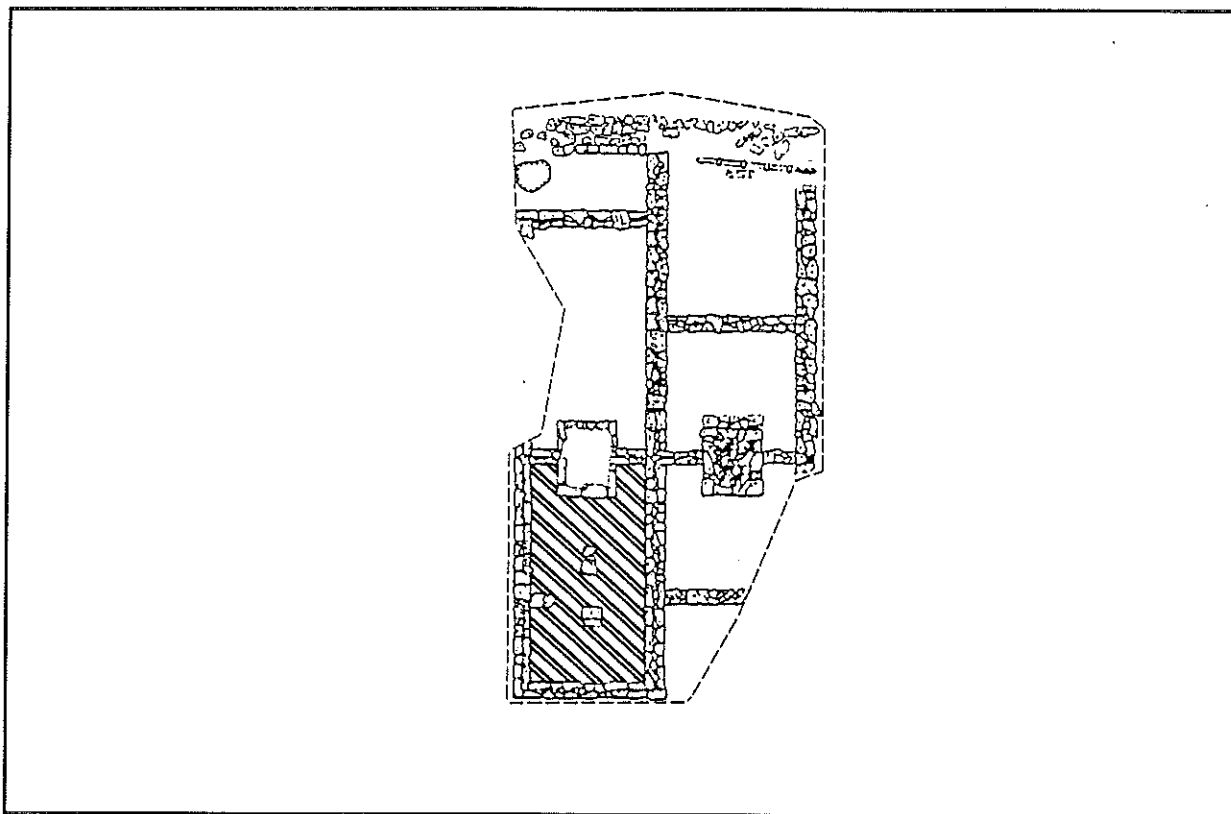


Figure 36

Plan of the excavated remains of the Pickett Cottages; the location of the deposit contained within the kitchen of the southern cottage is indicated with hatching. Scale 1:200

Cups, plates and platters were represented in small numbers as were clay smoking pipes. Apart from eight buttons and the winder from a fob watch. The only no other artefacts which may represent activities within the house were bones. [See Figure 37]

In all, 620 bones were recovered, about half of which could be identified. Well over half the identified bones were from sheep, with cattle, bird, pig and rabbit making up the other food bones. There were small numbers of cat, dog and rat bones, but no native species were present.

Of the bones from the major food animals, cattle, sheep and pig, 77% were from better quality cuts and joints, while 40% were from poorer cuts or waste. The remainder were vertebrae, which while they can be purchased separately for use in soup or stock, are often incorporated within larger good quality cuts. The high proportion of bones from better quality cuts is consistent with the purchase of commercially butchered fresh meat. The bones from the service pit and rubbish deposit exhibit the same pattern, although there are too few bones to use this as the basis for firm conclusions.

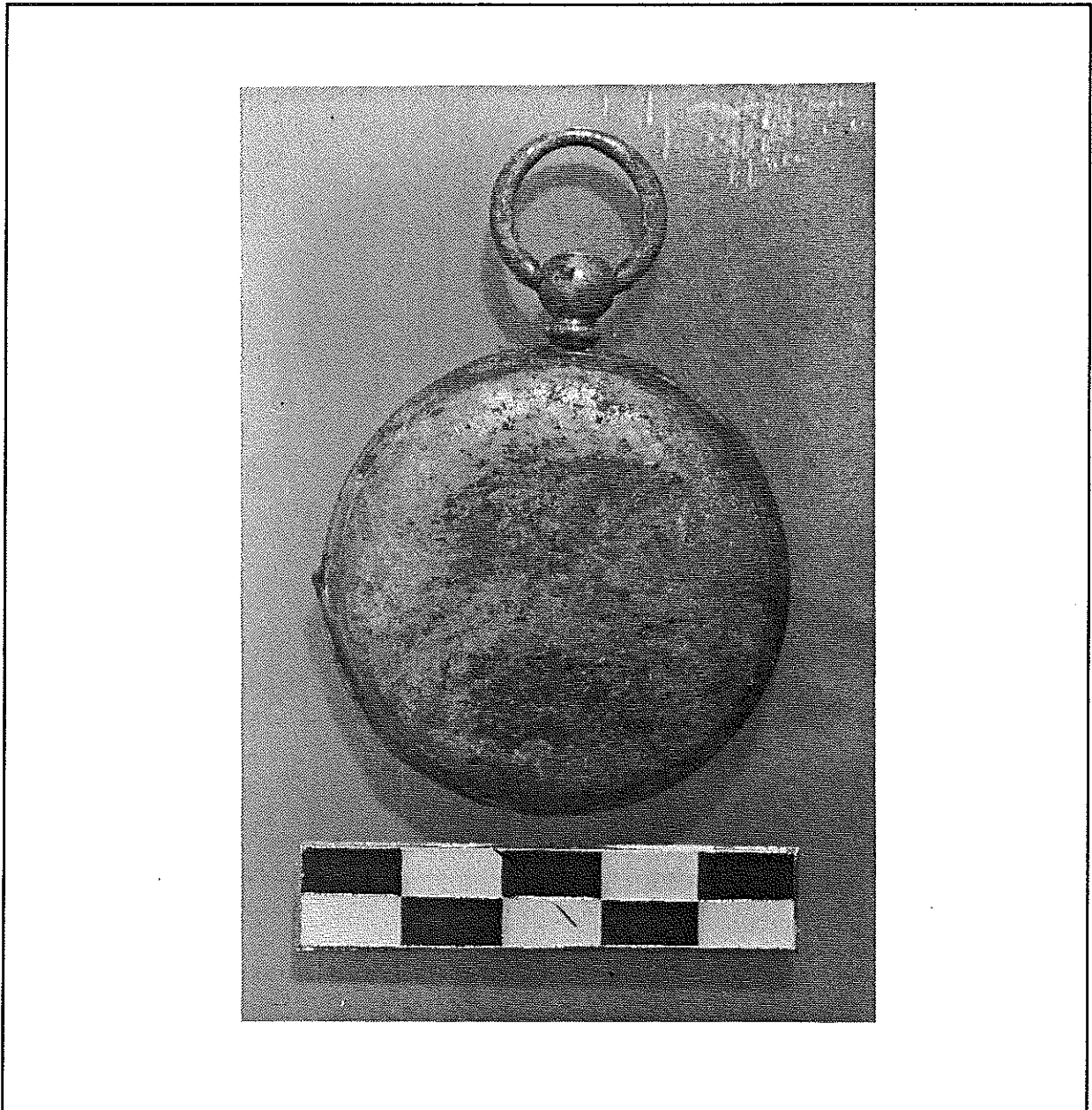


Figure 37

The case of a pocket watch recovered from the Picket Cottages. Photograph Number M35.30 by Barbara Fitzroy. Scale in 10mm divisions

The complete absence of small items which characteristically fall through floor boards, such as pins and coins, would seem to indicate that the floors of the cottages were completely sealed. It is possible that floor coverings prevented objects falling through, but given the status of the occupants as short term tenants and the function of the room as a kitchen and general purpose room a more likely explanation is that the floors were constructed using tongue and groove floor boards.

It seems clear that these artefacts were deposited either during demolition, or found their way under the house from openings in the walls. On this basis, there appears to be no reason to assume a relationship between the function of the artefacts and the place where they were recovered, so that artefacts found below the floor of the kitchen were not necessarily used in that room.

All the other occupation material from the demolition deposits exhibits a similar pattern. There is no discernible difference in the type of material from the two cottages. This is not surprising considering that while they were separate dwellings, the heads of the working class families who lived there all had similar occupations, and therefore similar incomes and life styles.⁵³ [See Figure 38]

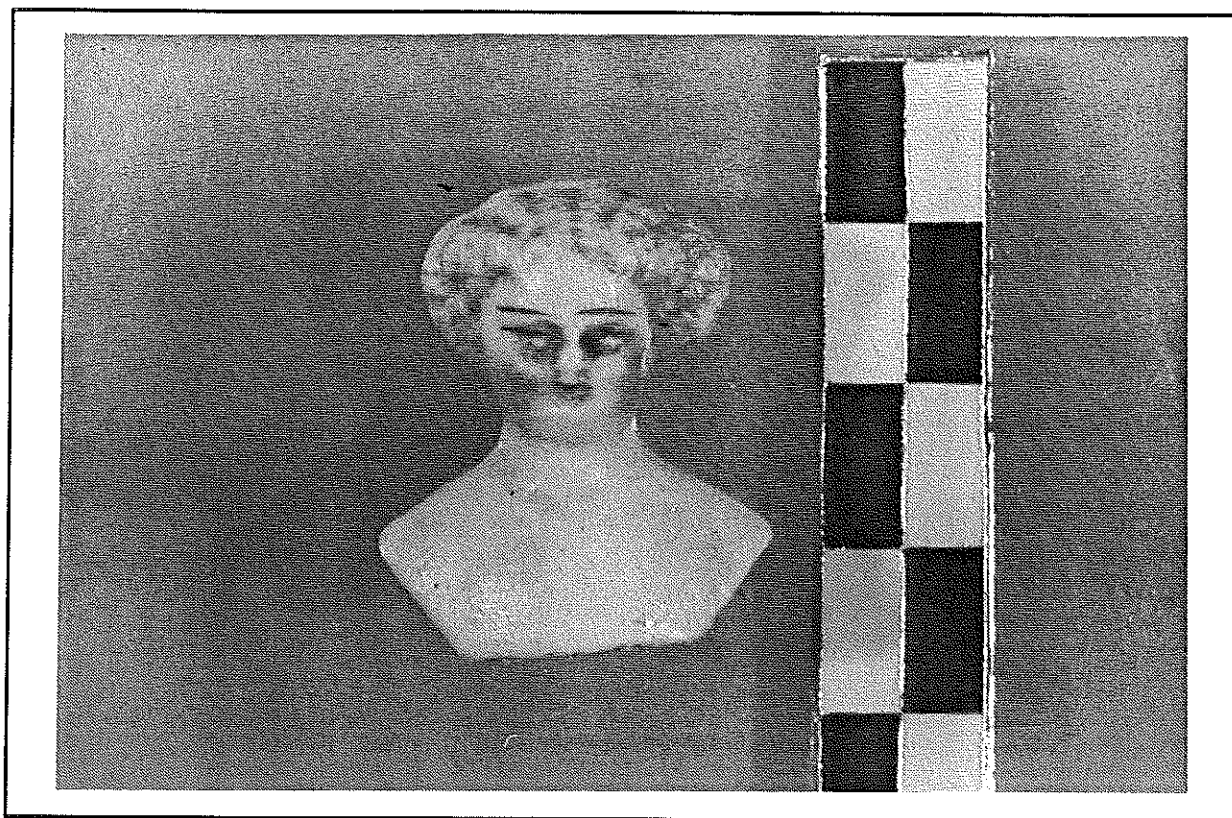


Figure 38

A porcelain Doll's Head from the northern cottage. During its 25 year life the cottage was home to seven families with children. Photograph Number M34.20 by Barbara Fitzroy. Scale in 10mm divisions

Demolition of the Cottages 1897 - 1898

The deposits which resulted from the destruction of the cottages confirm their deliberate and careful demolition. Reusable bricks made up only 0.5% of the demolition rubble which covered the remains of the cottages.⁵⁴ Presumably the buildings were demolished by hand and much of the building materials were conserved and used elsewhere, leaving only the non-reusable materials covering the foundations of the walls.

The presence of small amounts of roofing slate fragments in all of the demolition deposits indicates that the slates were also salvaged for reuse.

53. See Appendix 1.2, the demolition deposits from the southern cottage are Units 2.6, 2.12 and 2.13; those from the northern cottage are Units 2.30, 2.31 and 2.32.

54. This contrasts with the rubble from the mechanical demolition of the Bridge Hotel which included 12% reusable bricks.

Later Use of the Site 1898 - 1988

After the demolition of the cottages in 1897-8 the use of the site is unclear. Fills were introduced and the site was levelled. A stoneware drain pipe was installed in a trench almost along the alignment of the northern wall of the northern cottage, removing most of the wall in the process.⁵⁵ Similarly, earth moving activity cut away the southeastern corner of the southern cottage.

Finally, recent fill deposits were used to bring the site up to its present level.⁵⁶ [See Figure 39] The presence of late nineteenth century artefacts in these deposits do not indicate that the deposits are of this date. The levelling and filling deposits result in part from the disturbance of earlier deposits on the site, and the introduction of fills from elsewhere. Therefore the artefacts they contain do not provide us with the date of deposition (or redeposition) on the site, but rather indicate their original date of creation which is independent of their presence on the site.



Figure 39

David Bannear and Robyn Annear clearing the site of the Pickett Cottages in the initial stages of excavation. More than a metre of recent fill covered most of the site. Photograph Number M01.35 by Richard Moline

55. Units 2.15, 2.16 and 2.46, for details see Appendix 1.2.

56. Units 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, for details see Appendix 1.2.

The Stanley Arms Hotel Site

Introduction

The investigation of the Stanley Arms Hotel Site was initiated to study remains of the Hotel of that name known to have occupied the site from 1854 onwards. However, early in the investigation evidence of the demolition of two different buildings on the site was revealed. The later building was clearly the Stanley Arms, however the earlier building could not be readily identified from historical records. It related to the establishment of Lonsdale's punt, the origins of Footscray and a time when few historical records were made, and fewer have survived. Only careful examination of the physical evidence that survived on the site allowed for the successful interpretation of the surprise discovery.⁵⁷

The site was located at the bottom of the slope looking east and facing directly towards the Maribyrnong River. It was placed where the escarpment first turned to the southwest away from the river bank. This is precisely the point at which the road to Williamstown and Geelong met the River. [See the location of the site shown in Figure 1 on page 14] To leave the river bank any further north meant a steep climb up the escarpment, but from the Stanley Arms Site the road followed the base of the escarpment as it gently fell away to the southwest, in the direction of Williamstown.

The fall off in the escarpment at this point was, in fact, the reason why the punt was established there in March 1839. This was the northernmost point at which the river crossing was practicable above the junction with the Yarra, so that a road could be formed between the swamps to the south and the escarpment to the north. The Stanley Arms Site was therefore ideally situated to attract all traffic between Melbourne and the west as it turned onto or off the river bank.⁵⁸

The establishment of the punt across the then Saltwater River in March 1839 is well documented.⁵⁹ From the beginning it was thought that the punt would have to be combined with a licensed hotel in order to make it financially viable and in October 1840 Benjamin Levien announced in the *Port Phillip Gazette* that he had obtained such a licence. It is clear that Levien had been living on the River since at least July 1840 and that the building for which the licence was granted was the wooden house that he occupied. In November 1840 Levien again advertised his house, this time under the name 'Victoria Hotel', announcing that his new punt was almost ready for service and offering accommodation, food and drink as well as stabling and the use of cattle yards and sheep pens. [See Figure 41]

Levien's punt was close to the old punt but neither location can be determined with any precision. The original punt did require earthworks to allow access from the riverbank but the banks have been extensively remodelled and no visible evidence remains.⁶⁰

57. Throughout the excavation records the Stanley Arms Site is referred to as Area 3. The archaeological information on which this report is based can be located in the Appendices by references in these footnotes.

Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.48-49, and Hypercard File Location Code 3.1.

58. For a discussion of the importance of geographical and transport factors in the location of wayside inns and the relationship between such inns and the establishment of towns see Freeland 1966 *The Australian Pub* p.91-92.

59. For a complete discussion of the punt and the identity of the original puntman see Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.9-18.

60. See *Port Phillip Gazette* 11 May 1839 quoted in Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.17.

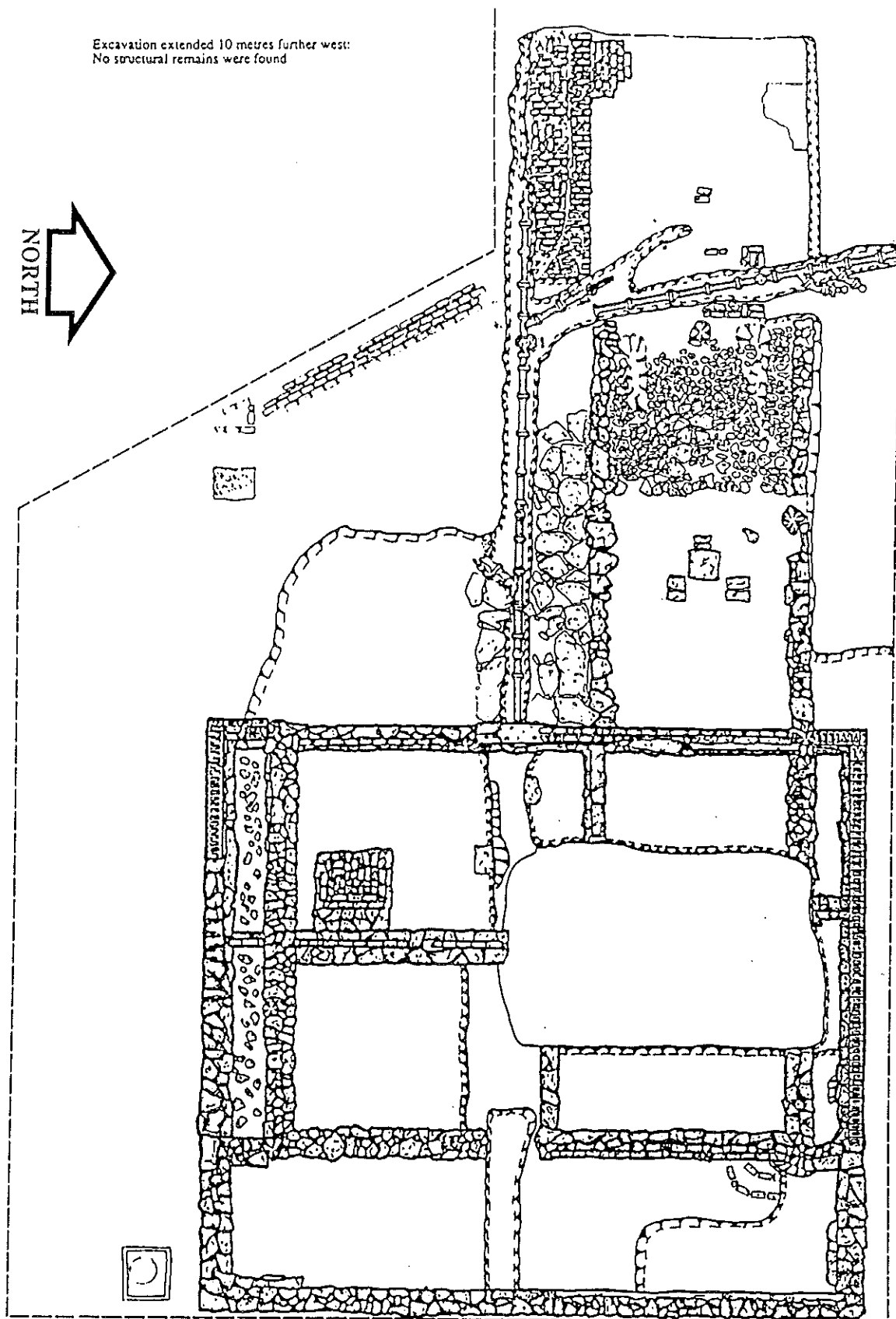


Figure 40

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria Hotel and the Stanley Arms Hotel showing the foundations of the buildings and the later lines of drain pipes cut across the site. The rectangular pit dug to install the petrol storage tank in the 1960s is visible in the centre of the northern part of the main building. Measured and drawn by Dana Mider and Andrew Wilson, detailed by Nicholas Arnold and Dana Mider from photographs by Andrew Wilson. Scale 1:100

SALT WATER RIVER.—VICTORIA HOTEL.—The undersigned begs to acquaint his Friends and the Public generally, that his house is now open, and that he can offer superior accommodation to such gentlemen as may favor him with their patronage. Superior Wines and Spirits, &c. always on hand. Stabling, Cattle Yards and Sheep Pens are now in readiness, and a paddock well secured for horses, &c. Pic Nics, or Fishing Parties, provided at the shortest notice; also a large and safe boat on hire for the purpose, which will be sent to Melbourne if required. Pigeons in any quantity, for shooting matches, always in readiness.—Fowling Pieces and Fishing Tackle lent on hire.

B. G. LEVIEN.

N.B.—The new Punt is now nearly completed, and will be able to contain a ten bullock team, and has gates for the security of sheep, &c., and is provided with lamps for night.

Figure 41

A contemporary advertisement for Benjamin Levien's Victoria Hotel, published in 1840 in the Latest Information with Regard to Australia Felix by George Arden of Melbourne

In 1841 the Victoria Hotel was listed in the Census, as a wooden house inhabited by 16 people. These included Benjamin Levien and his wife Eliza and their two sons and two daughters, possibly another family group headed by a female, five single males and two male assigned convicts. It is possible that the listing includes travellers staying at the Hotel. The Census entry gave the religion of Benjamin Levien, his wife and family as Jewish.⁶¹

The last mention of Levien's Victoria Hotel in the historical records was in 1842 although he continued to live on the river bank and maintain an active interest in the punt until 1845 when he set up a punt on the Barwon River.

In September 1843 William Cook was granted a hotel licence for the Saltwater River, near the Punt. His establishment was to become known as the Bush Inn, although it is not clear if it was set up in competition to the Victoria or whether it was only established after the original hotel had ceased trading. Certainly Levien and Cook were in direct competition as puntmen.⁶² From this time there were two buildings on the riverbank which had operated as hotels, and although the Bush Inn continued to operate, the building which housed the Victoria Hotel reverted to being the Levien residence.⁶³

On 13 January 1848 the Bush Inn was burnt to the ground. The structure was of timber board and burnt with great rapidity. Contemporaneous accounts estimate the loss to the publican, including stock and household effects, as in excess of four hundred pounds.⁶⁴

61. For the interpretation of the Census entry see Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.22-24.

62. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.25-29.

63. See the analysis and conclusions in Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.25-29 and especially p.32-33.

64. Quoted in Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.31. This account mentions that the five casks of rum were lost in the fire, although the Bush Inn only had a beer and wine licence. This, along with the constant recycling of bottles, means that there is little possibility of identifying the remains

In November 1849 the rebuilt Bush Inn, also referred to as the 'Punt Inn' and 'Salt Water Punt Hotel' was 'materially damaged' again, this time by flood. Soon afterwards the licensee applied successfully to move the hotel further up the River to the crossing point opposite the present Flemington Racecourse.⁶⁵

Although the location of the Bush Inn is not known, it can be said with certainty that the early building excavated on the Stanley Arms Site did not burn down, nor did it appear to have been destroyed by flood, so it was not the Bush Inn.⁶⁶ It therefore follows that if the early building is from the 1840s it is likely to be the only other known building, the Victoria Hotel.

There are no known images, plans or detailed descriptions of the Victoria Hotel, but it would have been similar to many wayside inns of the same period.⁶⁷ The archaeological evidence revealed a building 7 metres by 9 metres, divided in half along its north-south axis, and presumably unevenly on its east-west axis. [See Figure 42]

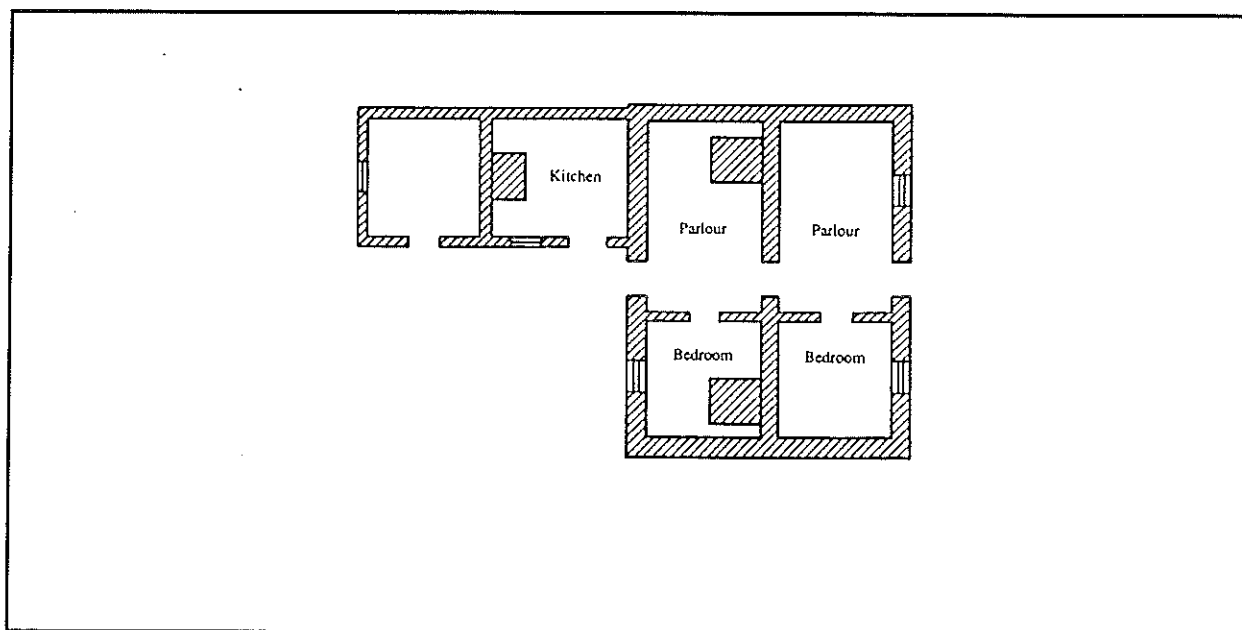


Figure 42

The Victoria Hotel, conjectural reconstruction of the Ground Floor Plan. Scale 1:200

The result is probably four rooms, two large (5 metres by 3.5 metres) and two small (3.5 metres by 3.5 metres). The two western rooms had fireplaces. The identification of the function of these rooms is purely conjectural. There were two wooden additions to the northwestern corner of this original structure. The first was presumably a kitchen (4 metres by 3.5 metres) with a fireplace against its western wall. The second may have been a later kitchen, but no evidence of fireplaces or other functional features was recovered.

It is clear that the building was constructed two rooms deep, this is not the standard form for a dwelling and suggests that its use as a wayside inn was planned from the start. As well as the excavated building, stables and yards for holding livestock would have been important facilities offered to travellers.

65. The *Argus* quoted in Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.32.

66. The evidence concerning fire is particularly clear because a small fire within the building left a good example of what evidence of a fire would survive on the site. The evidence for fire was localised within one small area of the excavated structure. When excavated, the wooden structures on the site were still firmly anchored in their stone bases and post holes, indicating that the building had not been structurally damaged by floodwaters.

67. For a description of the type see Freeland 1966 *The Australian Pub* p.90-5.

The survey which set out the Footscray Township allotments was carried out in late 1848 or early 1849, and the allotments began selling in 1850.⁶⁸ The presence of buildings in the area before subdivision and sale by the Crown is unorthodox but not unusual. The surveyor, Lindsay Clarke, would have set out the streets and blocks using a compass. Presumably he laid out the allotments so that any existing buildings, including Levien's hotel, were within one allotment to avoid the complex legal disputes that would arise if old buildings sat astride the new boundaries.

The allotment which corresponds to the Stanley Arms Site was sold to John Clark in 1850 for twenty pounds. In 1854 he mortgaged the land for 600 pounds, a value at considerable variance with the purchase price. In September of the same year Clark received a new licence for the Stanley Arms Hotel. There is no historical record of any activity on the site between Levien's departure in about 1845 and Clark's mortgage and licence.

In the period of rapid change that came with the gold rushes, competition increased. In 1855 the new Bridge Hotel opened further north on Maribyrnong Street, and in 1859 the Ship Inn opened only 50 metres away. The nature of the river frontage was changing too, with the opening of the first bridge in 1863. From this time on the importance of the punt would have diminished.⁶⁹

John Clark remained the licensee until 1859, when his licence application was initially refused 'on the grounds that the house was not commodious enough'.⁷⁰ The same year, Clark took out a 300 pound mortgage on the site from Charles Shuter.

In 1859 Edward Walters became the licensee, followed the next year by A. Clark who was in turn succeeded by Mrs Thomas during 1863 and 1864. Charles Shuter was listed as the vendor when the site was sold in 1864, so it is clear that John Clark defaulted on the 1859 mortgage and lost the property.⁷¹

The 1864 sale by Charles Shuter was to a Mr Elliott for 225 pounds. He immediately mortgaged the property for 350 pounds, and having held it for two years sold it to Samuel Jones for 410 pounds. Later in 1866, Jones sold the pub to Michael Bourke for 700 pounds. In 1868 Michael Bourke in turn sold the property to Joseph White for 400 pounds, a considerable reduction in value.⁷²

After the 1868 sale the apparently fluctuating value of the Stanley Arms Hotel stabilised. Joseph White remains owner and frequently the licensee until 1872. In 1873 Martin Pasquan, the new owner, in applying for a licence referred to six rooms, which is consistent with the description of the Stanley Arms in the R. K. Cole Collection having 'Ground floor - Spacious bar; Bagatelle-room, 3 parlours, long room & kitchen; 1st Floor, 6 comfortable bed-rooms', that is six public rooms downstairs and a kitchen.⁷³

68. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.39-42.

69. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.42.

70. *Herald* 20 April 1859, quoted in Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.49.

71. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.42.

72. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.49 & Hypercard File Location Code1.3.

73. Quoted in Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.49.

The introduction of annual records and descriptions in the Rate Books in 1882-83, and the surviving photograph of the same year confirm that the Stanley Arms had reached its final form by this time. [The building is visible in Figure 3 on page 16] The rate book descriptions are consistent with the 1873 licence application and the Cole description, indicating that the building was in fact complete by 1873. Prior to this the major change in value occurs in 1866, when the selling price changes from 410 pounds to 700 pounds within six months. Presumably this sudden increase in value reflects the completion of the Hotel in its final form. This interpretation is supported by the fact that the property had been sold in 1864 for 225 pounds and mortgaged for 350 pounds, presumably to finance improvements. If this is the case, the 1866 sale price of 410 pounds may well reflect improvements in progress but not completed, and the sudden jump to 700 pounds is best explained as the result of increased expectations of financial returns from the completed building. That these expectations were never realised is shown by the later drop in value to 400 pounds in 1868, with no major fluctuations after that date.⁷⁴

The Stanley Arms Hotel was two stories high, with no cellar, and was built of brick, on stone foundations with a slate roof. The only known illustration gives little idea of the architectural style of the building.⁷⁵ [See Figure 3]

The image does make it clear that the Hotel was built in a restrained early Italianate style. There appears to be little applied ornament and the strongest visible decorative feature is the low parapet on the eastern facade, emphasised by a string course. The walls were rendered and scored to resemble stone and the visible window openings are rectangular.⁷⁶

The interior layout of the Stanley Arms Hotel is difficult to interpret in detail because recent activities on the site have removed one third of the remains.⁷⁷ Using the description from the R. K. Cole Collection it is possible to assign functions to rooms suggested by the surviving remains. [See Figure 43]

The Long Room is certainly an appropriate description of the eastern extension of the building (2.5 metres by 10.5 metres). Immediately along the central hall, the largest room may well have been the bar (5 metres by 3.5 metres), the remainder of the ground floor being occupied by three parlours, (two 3 metres by 4 metres and one 2.5 metres by 4 metres), the smallest of these reached by a doorway under the stairs. In the western extension there is ample space for a Bagatelle Room⁷⁸ (7 metres by 3 metres) and a kitchen (4 metres by 3 metres), with access via a brick paved verandah. All of these identifications, and the openings between them, are conjectural, but they do answer the requirements of the description and are within the pattern and size of rooms provided in the Bridge Hotel. Upstairs there is ample room for six bedrooms opening off a central east-west hall, the staircase rising over the back door which is south of the central axis of the building.

74. This interpretation, of course, disregards the possibility of factors other than the perceived value of the property influencing the sale prices. Further historical research may well provide evidence that will refine or correct these dates.

75. George Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History of the Municipality from 1959 to 1988* p.136 (upper).

76. The overall appearance would probably been very similar to the Junction Hotel constructed nearby in the 1850s. It is illustrated in George Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History of the Municipality from 1959 to 1988* p.37 (lower right).

77. The main building occupies an area of 110m², of this 5m² were removed by the digging of a drain trench through the site in about 1918, 17.5m² were removed by the installation of a petrol storage tank in the 1960s

78. Bagatelle was a popular nineteenth century game played with a cue and similar to modern pinball.

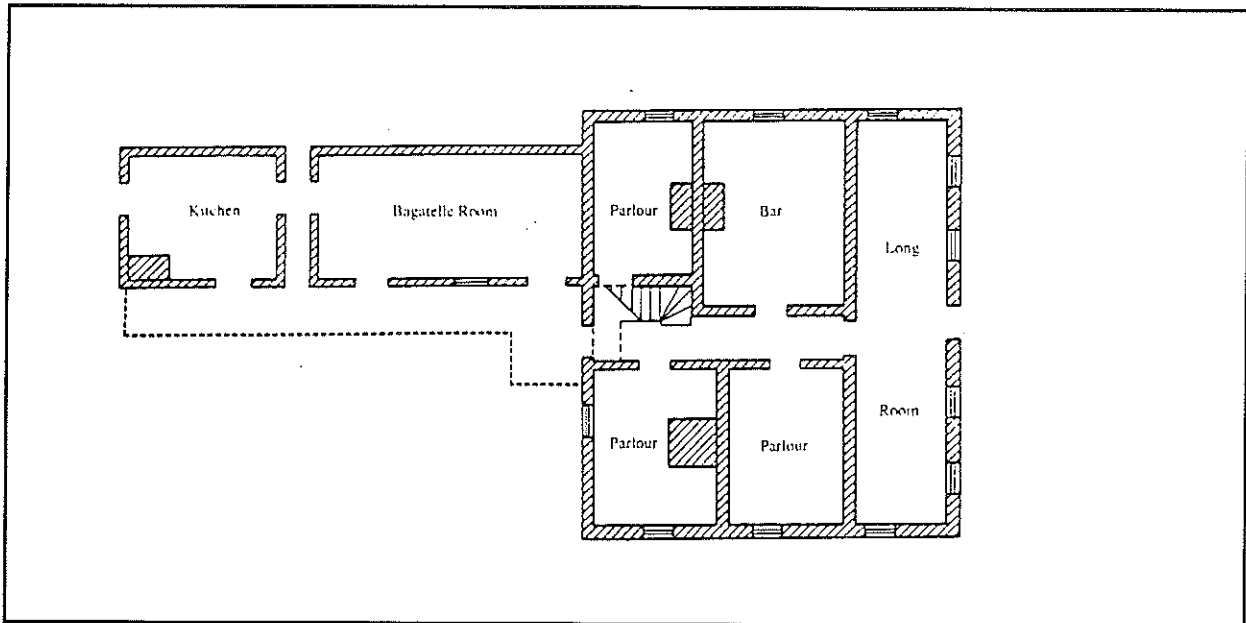


Figure 43

The Stanley Arms Hotel, conjectural reconstruction of the Ground Floor Plan. Scale 1:200

The Hotel had a hipped slate roof which ran in an 'U' shape with its base along the length of the eastern facade and the two arms running west, with their ridges terminating in the chimney stacks. A central east-west box gutter would have drained to the west.⁷⁹

The 1895 Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Plan shows an additional small building west of the kitchen and on the same alignment, with a smaller building and toilet attached. Levelling of the site has removed all evidence of this structure. Another toilet is shown aligned with the southern wall of the main building, and its concrete floor was located, but very little remained.⁸⁰ [See Figure 44]

The Stanley Arms had 10 owners and 23 changes of licensee between 1854 and 1920. In 1873 the Hotel was sold to Mrs Anna Fenton, the wife of James Fenton, himself a publican. Mrs Fenton remained the licensee and occupant for ten years. She was the first of three long term owners that would characterise the remaining history of the Hotel. After 1888 the hotel had only two owners, Albert Wood until 1906, and Walter and Mary Scott until 1925. Publicans normally changed every year or two until the Scotts became licensees and owners. With the exception of the mid 1880s when the building is occupied by up to 10 people, five or six is the normal number of occupants, presumably the publican's family and perhaps some staff. From 1895 to 1915 the Hotel is also described as the Shamrock Brewery, a development presumably related to the ownership of Albert Wood, a St Kilda brewer.⁸¹

79. The roof is visible in aerial photographs of the building before its demolition. There is no detailed view of the roof, the chimney stacks are visible in Seelaf (ed.) 1989 *Footscray: A Pictorial History* p.136 (upper) and there is a view from the roof on p.137 (upper).

80. The concrete floor is Unit 3.73, for details see Appendix 1.3.

81. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.74,81 and Hypercard Location Code 1.3.1.

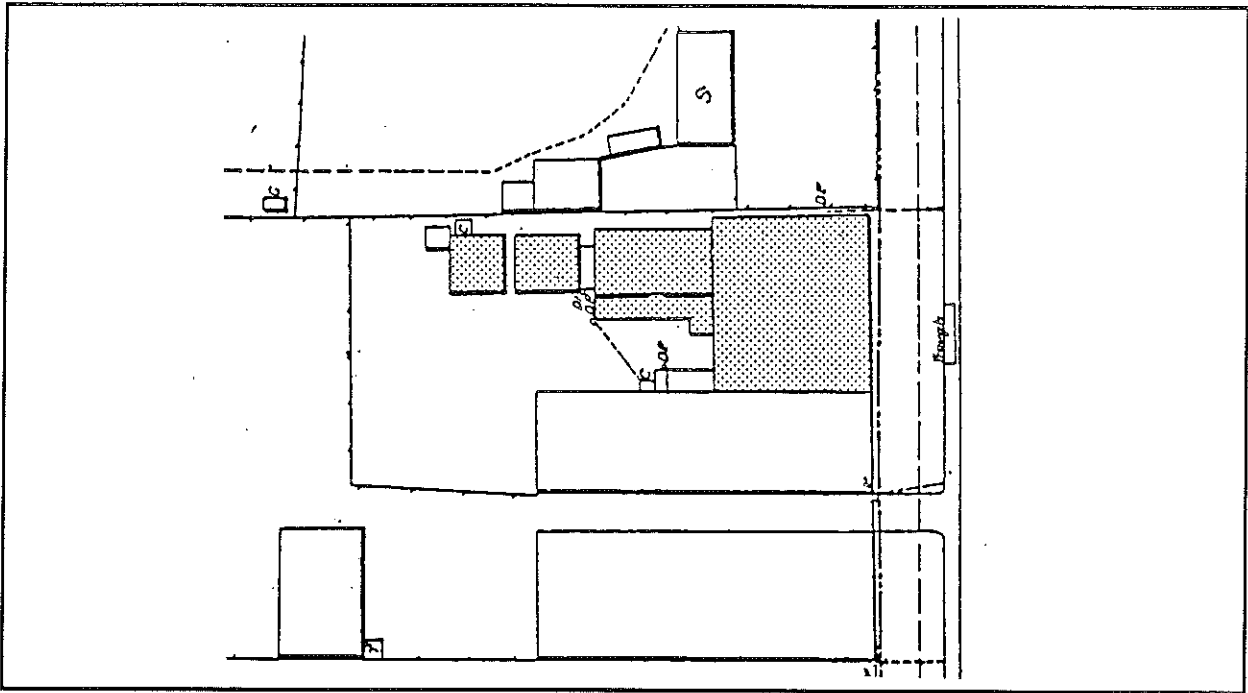


Figure 44

Detail of the 1895 Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Plan showing the Stanley Arms Hotel, with the building indicated by added tone

The building ceased to be licensed in 1920 and John R. Bell and Company, wire nail manufacturers purchased the Hotel in 1926. It was used for storage from the 1940s onwards, although it was also still occupied by tenants.⁸² The building was finally demolished in 1964, and nothing survived above the foundations.⁸³ [See Figure 45]

82. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.81,84 and Hypercard Location Code 1.3.1.

83. See Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.88 and Hypercard Location Code 1.3.1.

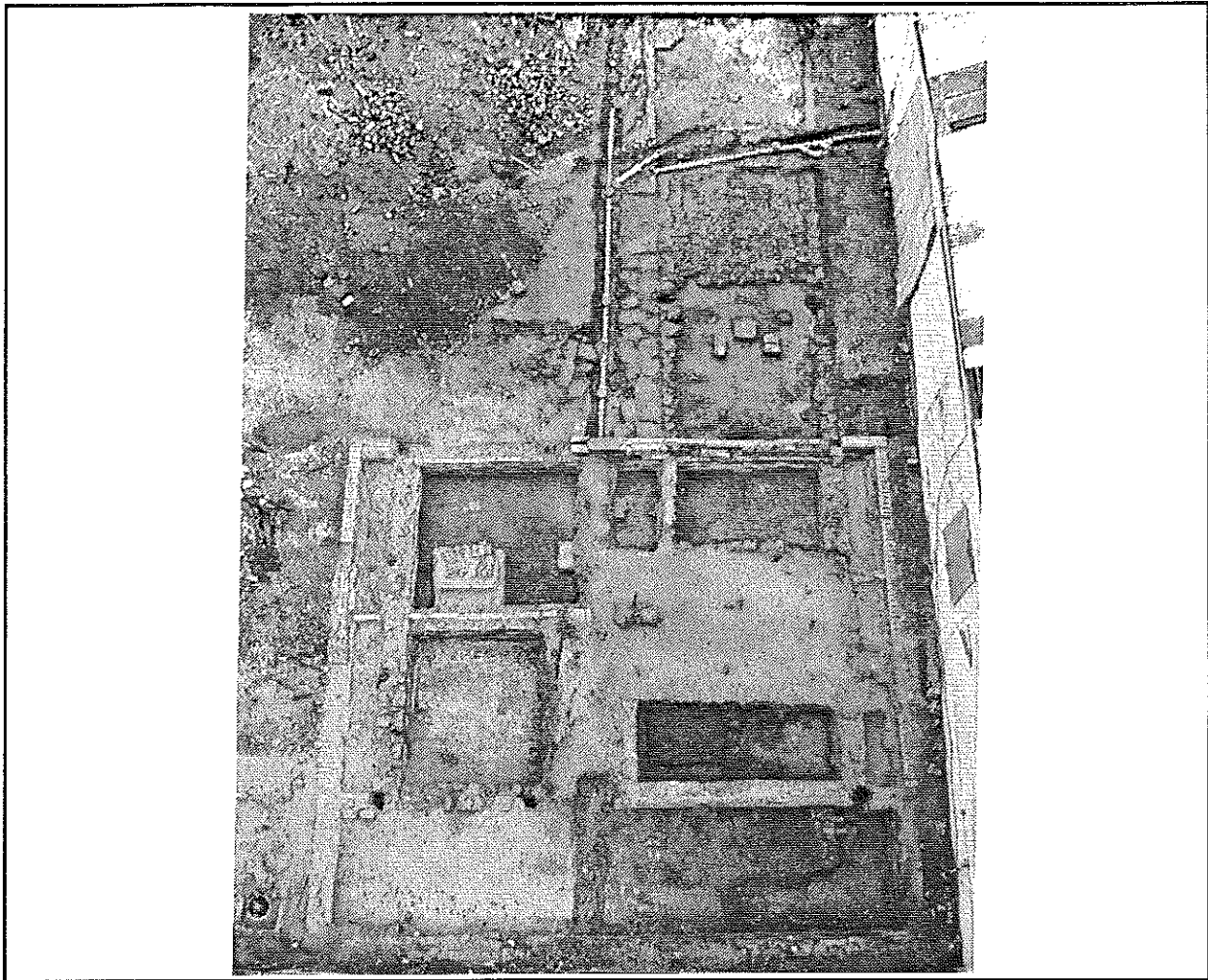


Figure 45

An overall view of the remains of the Victoria Hotel and the Stanley Arms Hotel at the completion of the excavation, looking west. Photograph Number M52.09 by Andrew Wilson. Scale in 200mm divisions

Construction of the Wooden Building 1840

The earliest structure uncovered on the site was a two or four room wooden framed building, built on a substantial unquarried bluestone plinth which raised it 600mm above the natural ground level. [See Figure 46]

Among the first activities involved in the construction of the building was the digging of the holes in which were set the twelve major posts which formed the structural frame. As the filled holes were later buried beneath the bluestone plinth their investigation meant dismantling part of the structure. However, their potential importance to the interpretation of the building meant that this was necessary. A small part of the structure was dismantled and the original northeastern corner posthole was partially excavated. The excavation revealed a hole 400mm deep and 700mm in diameter. When the post was set the hole had been backfilled with the soil that had been taken out of it.⁸⁴ Despite the shallow hole there was no rubble packing or other attempt to stabilise the post. It is clear that the bluestone plinth was built up around the posts and kept them upright and rigid, making deep postholes unnecessary.⁸⁵

84. The timber post is Unit 3.69 and the fill of the hole Unit 3.140, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3..

85. In no way did the posts act as piles to support the stone structure on unsound ground, nor were they designed to anchor the stone structures to counter lateral forces, such as might be expected from floods.

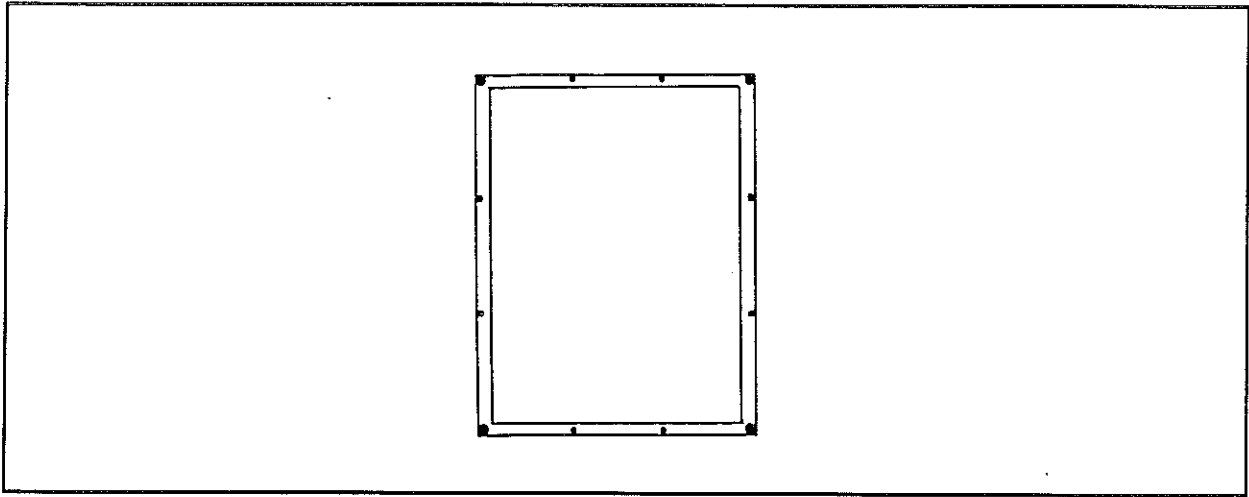


Figure 46

Schematic Plan of the first building constructed on the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the stone plinth with wooden posts. Scale 1:200

The plinth filled the gaps between the posts with uncoursed, unquarried bluestone, bonded with a dirt-like mortar, leaving the posts partially exposed in the external face. In addition to the external walls there was a central north-south dividing wall (no posts included), with a fireplace base bonded to its south western face.⁸⁶

No evidence of the superstructure survived, but the presence of handmade nails supports the conclusion that it was probably weatherboard cladding with a shingle, or possibly bark, roof.⁸⁷

Construction of the First Western Extension 1840 - 1850

The second stage of construction was a one room extension added to the northwestern corner. This was also built on unquarried bluestone foundations and had two wooden posts at the western end. [See Figure 47]

The posts were evenly spaced along the external walls of the building, with those at the corners approximately 300mm in diameter, and those along the walls approximately 200mm in diameter. The distribution of the posts indicates that they did not correspond to window or door openings.

The excavation of the northwestern posthole revealed a hole 450mm deep and 500mm in diameter. When the post was set in the hole it had also been backfilled with soil, but there was no rubble packing or other attempt to stabilise the post. There were no equivalent posts on the eastern end of the extension, indicating that the extension was intergrally linked to, and structurally supported by, the original building.⁸⁸

86. It is assumed that the central wall extended the length of the building and that the northern half had been removed by twentieth century excavations. The reconstruction also assumes another fireplace attached to the northwestern face of the central wall.

87. The absence of any soil based deposits associated with the demolition indicate that a form of packed earth or dried brick construction had not been used.

88. The timber post is Unit 3.65 and the fill of the hole Unit 3.136, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3.

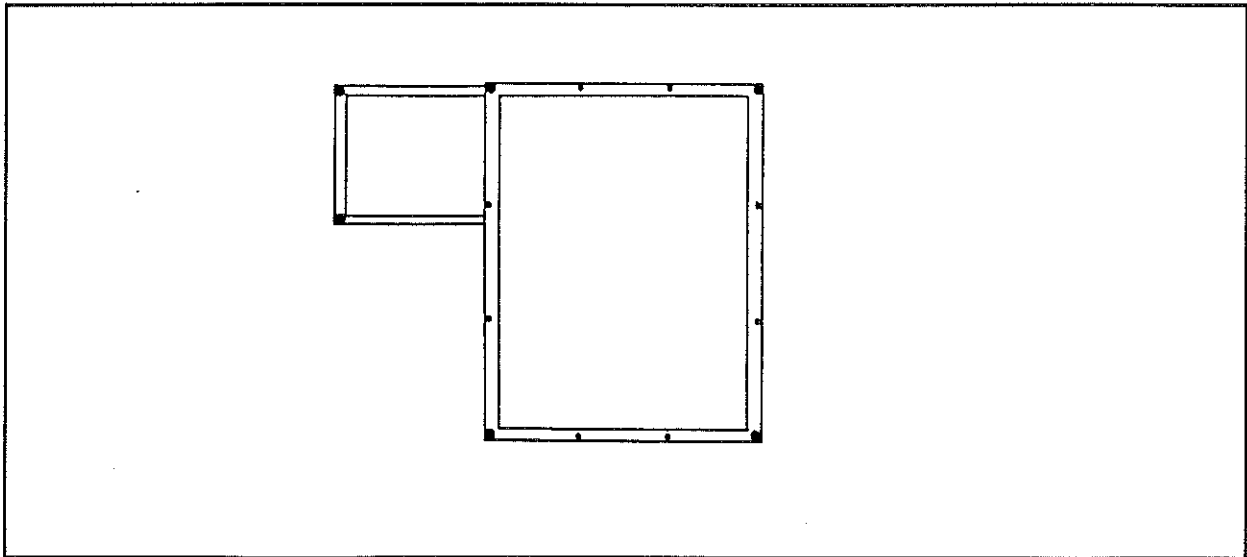


Figure 47

Schematic Plan of the second stage of construction on the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the first western extension. Scale 1:200

The foundations were of unquarried bluestone and were not bonded. They were constructed up the natural slope starting at the western wall of the original building and rising to the west. All evidence of the western wall of the extension was removed by later modifications.

No evidence of the wooden superstructure survived, but the outline of the southern wall plate or skirting was indicated by bitumen stains on the brick paving.⁸⁹ As with the original building, the extension was probably clad with weatherboards, with a shingle, or possibly bark, roof.

The similarity in materials and building techniques suggests that the extension was built soon after the original structure.

Construction of the Second Western Extension 1840 - 1850

The third stage of construction was another one room extension added to the existing western extension. This was also built on unquarried bluestone foundations but had no posts forming part of the structure. [See Figure 48]

The lack of posts indicates that this room was constructed with a rigid wooden frame and was structurally supported by the earlier extension.

The foundations were made of unquarried stone and were not bonded. They were constructed along a relatively level part of the natural slope and served to keep the timber wall plates off the ground. All evidence of the western wall was removed by later drain pipe trenches. Either at the time of construction or perhaps later, the wall between this and the earlier extension was removed to create a single room.

No evidence of the wooden superstructure survived, but remains of a wooden floor were found in the northwestern corner of the room.⁹⁰

89. The bitumen sealing is Unit 3.63, for details see Appendix 1.3.

90. The floor is Unit 3.146 for details see Appendix 1.3.

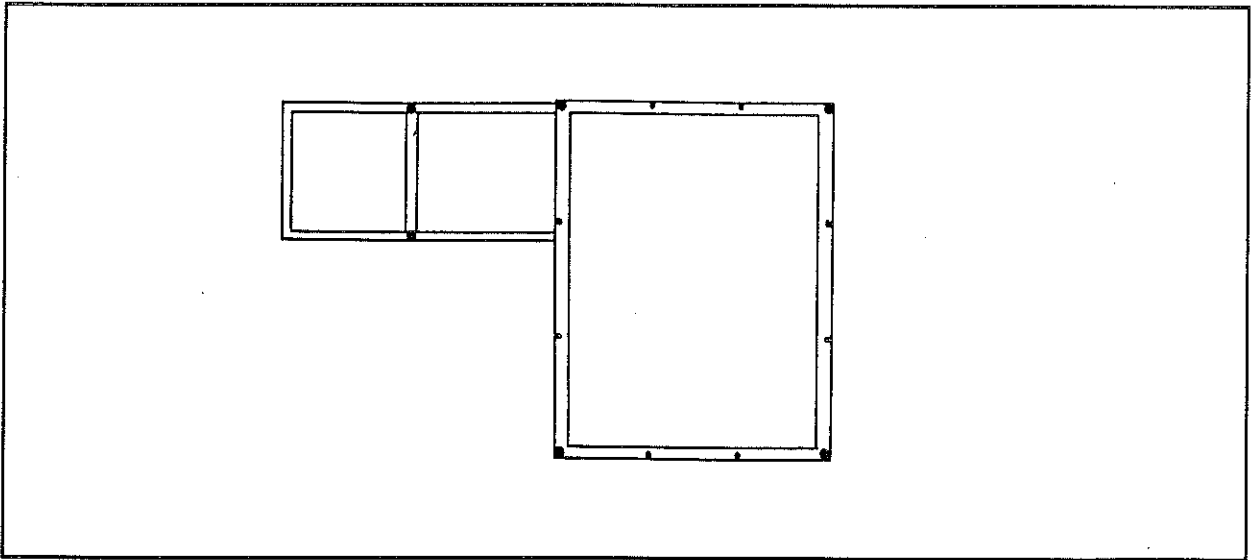


Figure 48

Schematic Plan of the third stage of construction on the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the second western extension. Scale 1:200

Although the building materials are similar to the original structure, the difference in building technique, suggests that this extension was probably built some time after the completion of the first extension. As with the original building, and the first extension, it was probably clad with weatherboards and presumably had a shingle roof.

Construction of the Brick Building 1850 - 1854

The fourth stage of construction was the rebuilding of the original structure, in samel brick,⁹¹ on the original unquarried bluestone plinth. The wooden posts were cut off level with the top of the bluestone plinth and the brickwork laid directly over them. [See Figure 49]

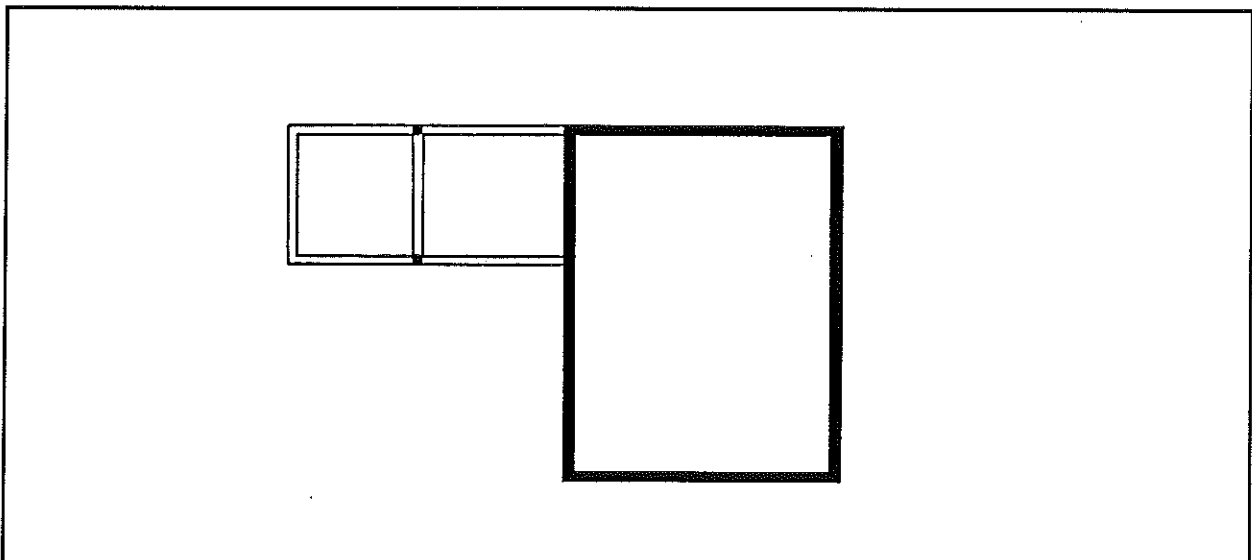


Figure 49

Schematic Plan of the fourth stage of construction on the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the rebuilding of the original structure in brick. Scale 1:200

91. 'Samel' is a general term used to describe nineteenth century salmon coloured handmade bricks. These bricks are often incorrectly referred to as 'sandstock', but not all handmade bricks are sandstock bricks.



Figure 50
Scored render recovered from the demolition of the 1854 brick Stanley Arms building. The dark coloured render was scored to resemble stone. Photograph Number M56.18 by Andrew Wilson. Scale in 10mm divisions

The form of the building remained unchanged, and the western extensions were retained. It is possible that much of the original timber was re-used, and the roof may simply have been dismantled, reconstructed and reclad.

The brick superstructure survived up to two courses in some places, clearly showing that the new brick walls had been laid directly over the truncated wooden posts. The brick walls were rendered with a dark render, which was not only scored to resemble stone, but was also inscribed with decoration. [See Figure 50]

The result of rebuilding would have been a building of identical size, but more substantial, and more suitable for use as a pub in the 1850s. The rebuilding may have been necessary because of neglect or even the partial or complete demolition of the original wooden building during the period after Benjamin Levien's departure about 1845 and John Clark's purchase of the property in 1850. Along with the brick construction, the area around the building was raised approximately half a metre, effectively burying the plinth.

Construction of the Eastern Extension 1858 - c.1866

The fifth stage of construction was the addition of an extension to the east (that is the front) of the hotel using machine-made bricks on roughly dressed quarried bluestone foundations. This extended the building three metres to the east and one metre to the north and south, making it conform to the allotment boundaries laid out in the survey of Footscray in 1849. [See Figure 51]

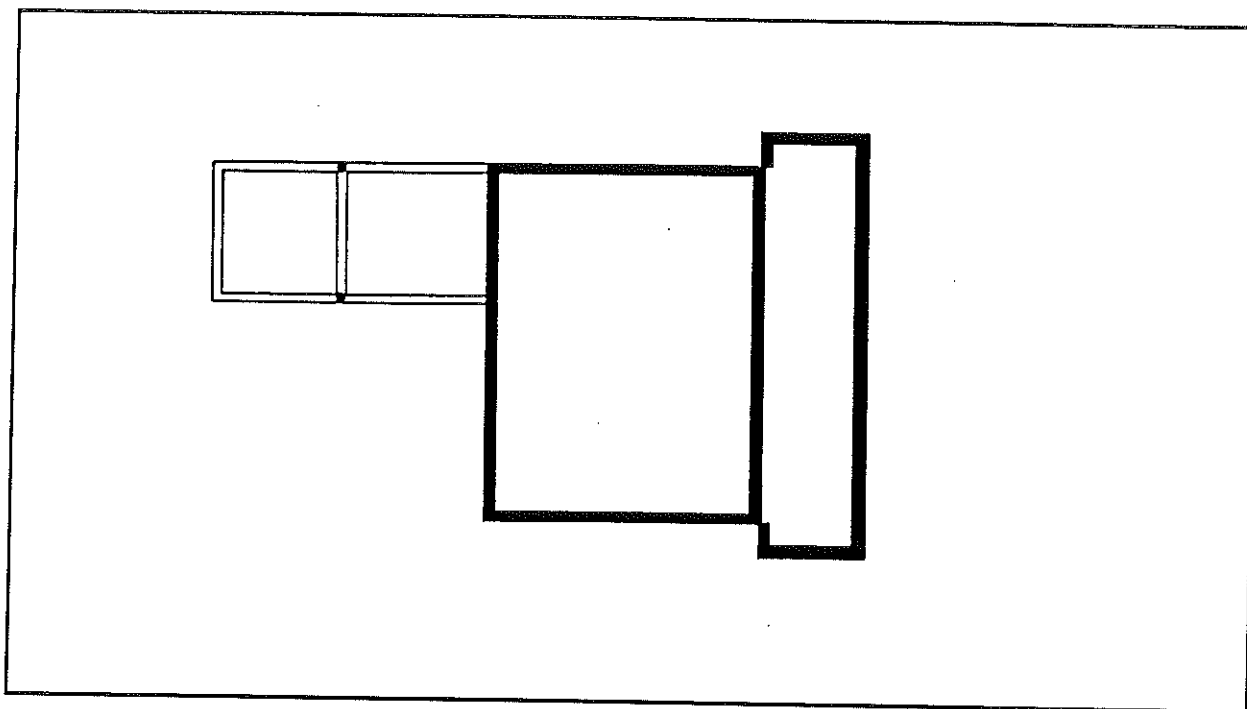


Figure 51

Schematic Plan of the fifth stage of construction on the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the eastern extension, built to conform to the 1848 survey boundaries. Scale 1:200

This extension is the first in the sequence of the development of the building which uses the 'rubble fill' method seen in the other buildings investigated. By the time of its construction, quarried stone, rather than the unquarried material used earlier, was presumably available from one of the local quarries or stone finishing enterprises.

It is also the first use of machine-made bricks, indicating that these had become available by the time of construction. The extension was rendered and scored to resemble stone.

The unusual size and shape of this extension makes it clear that it was the initial stage in a planned redevelopment of the hotel as a two storey structure. It is unclear if the extension was initially built to a height of one or two stories, although the latter is more efficient in terms of the overall scheme. The absence of any later changes to the foundations, and their similarity to those of the final extensions, indicate they were intended to take a two storey structure from the outset.

Final Construction of the Stanley Arms c.1866

In the final stage of construction of the main building, new walls on quarried bluestone foundations are built one metre outside the original northern and southern walls. They extended west from the eastern extension and joined the back wall of the original building. [See Figure 52]

The foundations were similar in construction to those of the eastern extension, although they used a greyer cement similar in appearance to Portland cement. They were not keyed into the eastern extension or the back wall of the original building, so their addition to the building is clearly indicated where they are butted up against the older renders. [See Figure 53]

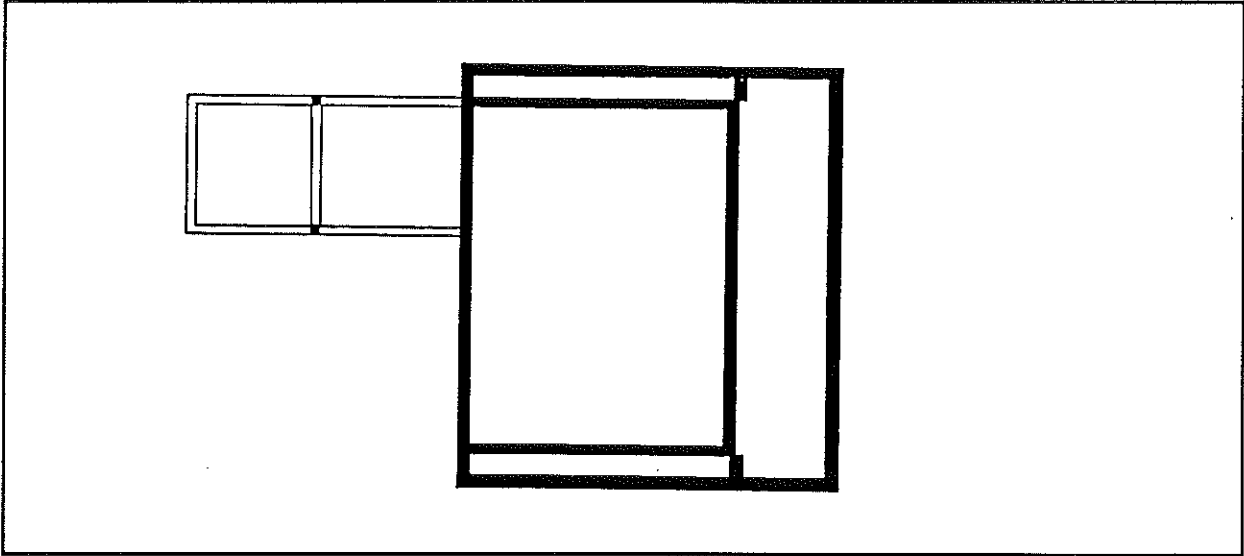


Figure 52

Schematic Plan of the sixth stage of construction on the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the new side wall built to support a new two storey structure designed to enclose the 1854 building before its demolition. Scale 1:200



Figure 53

The northwestern corner of the main Stanley Arms building showing the complex sequence of construction. The 1840 stone plinth can be seen in the foreground; it is capped by the 1854 brickwork and external render. The 1866 wall, capped with machine made bricks, is visible to the right. It runs parallel to the early plinth and turns to butt up against the original mortar just to the left of the photographic scale. Photograph Number M42.36 by Richard Moline. Scale in 100mm divisions

These foundations formed the base of a two storey structure which matched the eastern extension and was built to envelop the original building before it was dismantled. This would have allowed the hotel to operate without interruption during the redevelopment.

The alignment of the final two storey structure provides evidence for the early date of the original building. The eastern extension and the final building stage were planned to bring the building into conformity with the town survey property boundaries laid out in 1848-49. This survey would have been laid out with a magnetic compass. The Victoria Hotel would also have been set out using a compass in 1840, at least eight years before the town survey.

The phenomenon of magnetic declination is the gradual change in the location of magnetic north, as defined by a compass, in relation to true north. In the 1840s in southeastern Australia, magnetic north was shifting to the east at the almost imperceptible rate of about ten degrees every 350 years.⁹² Careful measurement of the original and final buildings reveals a difference in alignment of a range and direction commensurate with the shift in magnetic north over the decade. This supports the proposition that the original Victoria Hotel building was constructed a decade before the survey.

Construction of the Final Western Extension c.1850 - c.1866

The construction of the final western extension cannot be placed within the general sequence of development because it has no structural links with the building. It was a wooden framed building with wall plates set into the ground. It had a mortar floor which was later covered with cement. [See Figure 54]

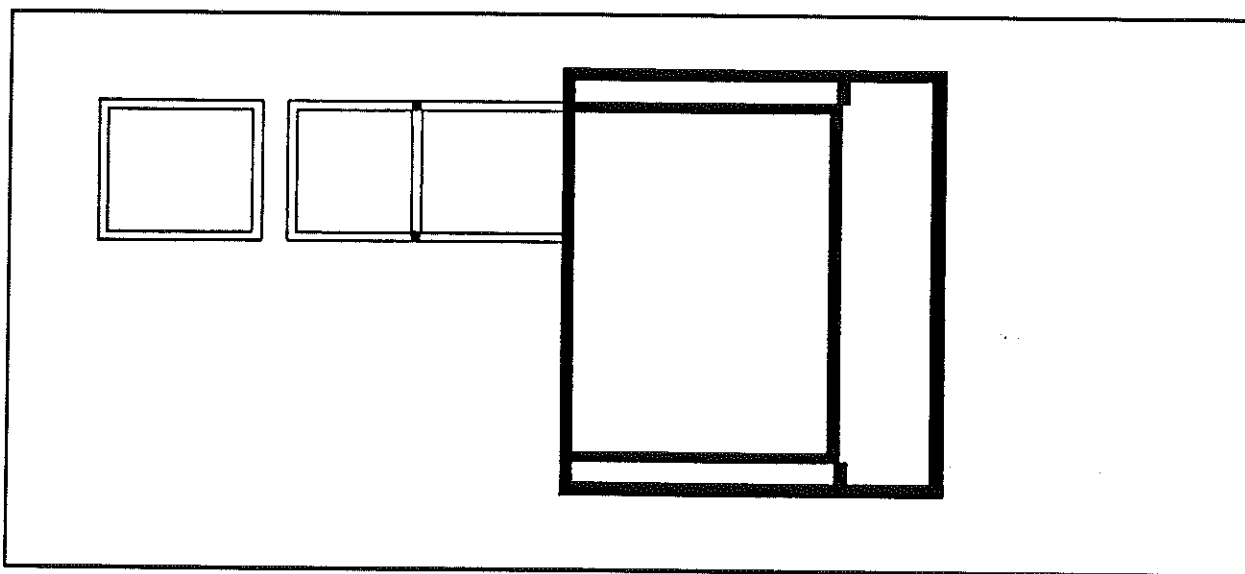


Figure 54

Schematic Plan of the Stanley Arms Hotel Site; showing the final western extension. Scale 1:200

92. Personal Communication, Charles Barton, Australian Bureau of Mineral Resources.

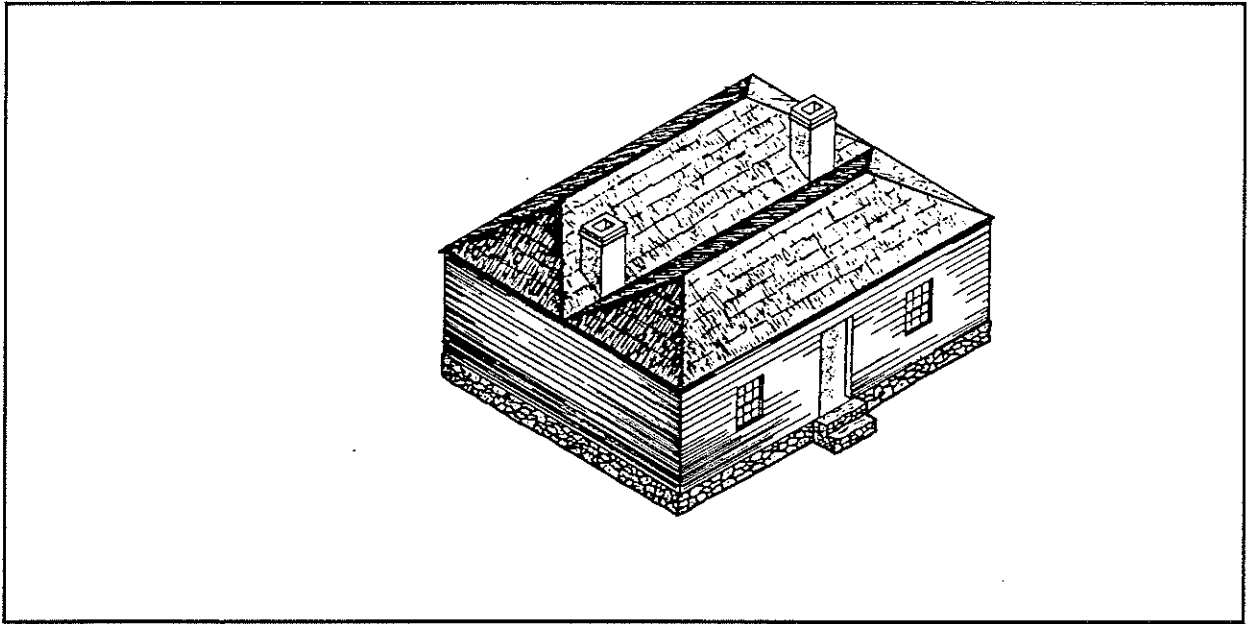


Figure 55

A speculative reconstruction drawing of the Victoria Hotel in 1840, based on the excavated remains. The original structure was built of weatherboard on a stone plinth, with a bark or shingle roof. Isometric projection by Andrew Wilson. Scale 1:200

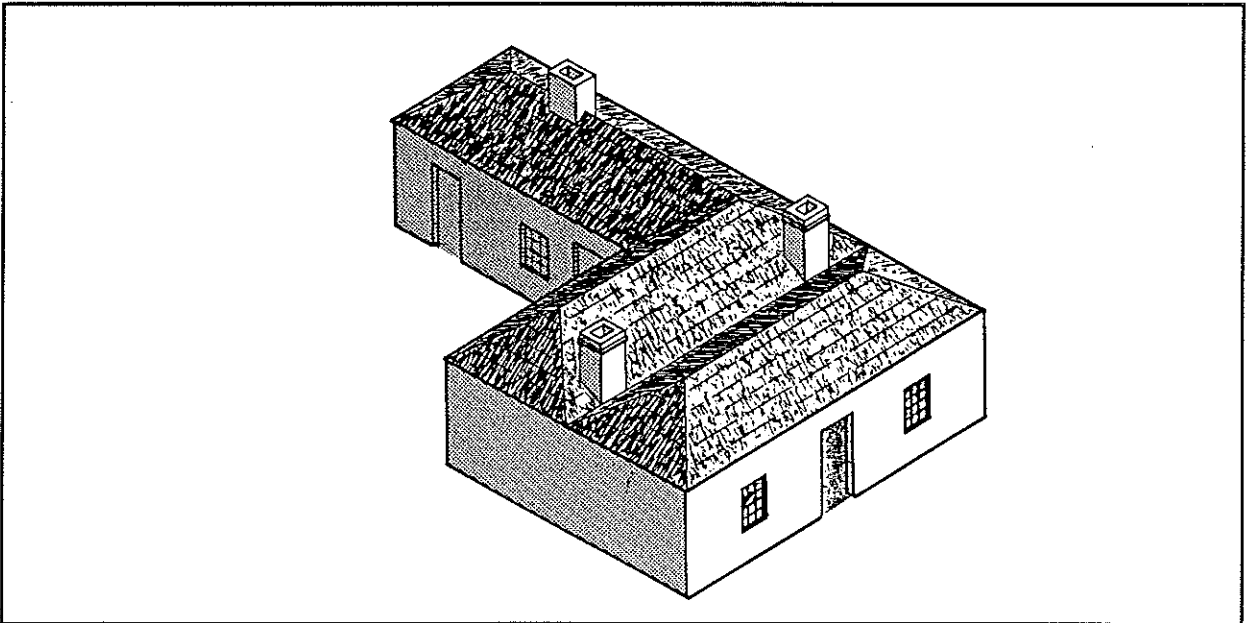


Figure 56

A speculative reconstruction drawing of the Stanley Arms Hotel in 1854, based on the excavated remains. The original Victoria Hotel has been rebuilt in rendered brick, but its western extensions remain in wood. The stone plinth is no longer visible because the level of the ground around the building has been raised by half a metre. Isometric projection by Andrew Wilson. Scale 1:200

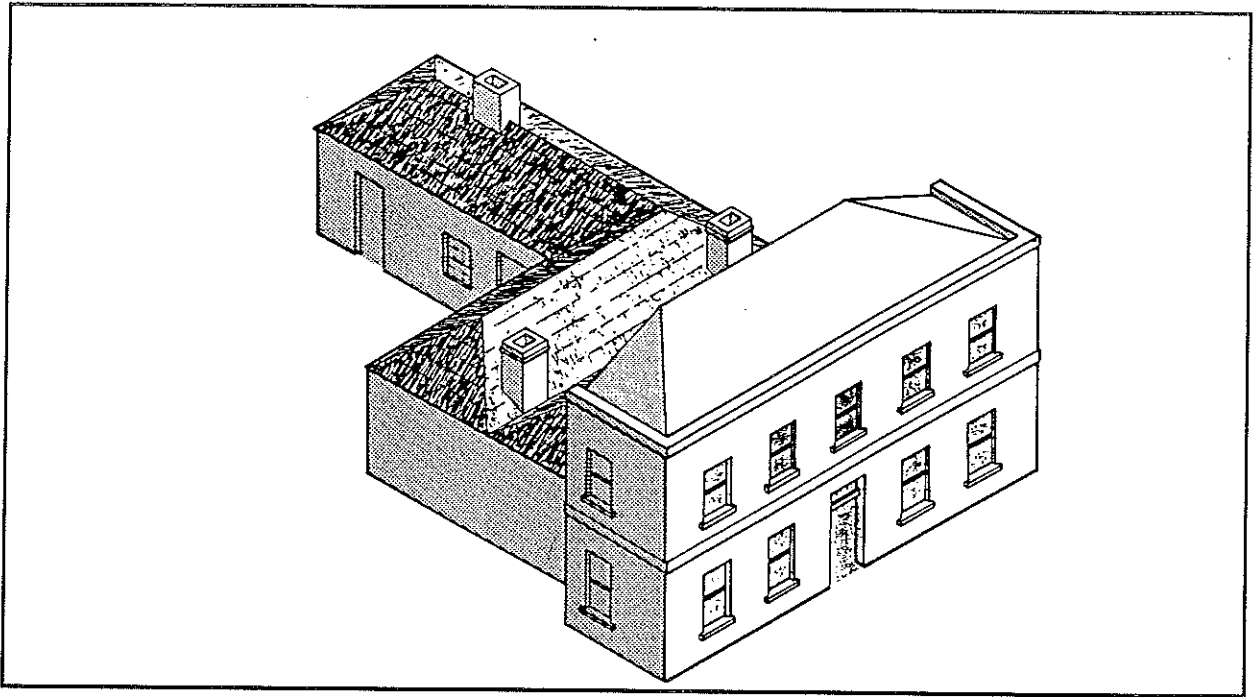


Figure 57

A speculative reconstruction drawing of the Stanley Arms Hotel in 1859, based on the excavated remains. The two storey eastern extension has now largely obscured the original building. The eastern extension, which was designed to conform to the 1848 property boundary, was the first part of a planned two stage building program. Isometric projection by Andrew Wilson. Scale 1:200

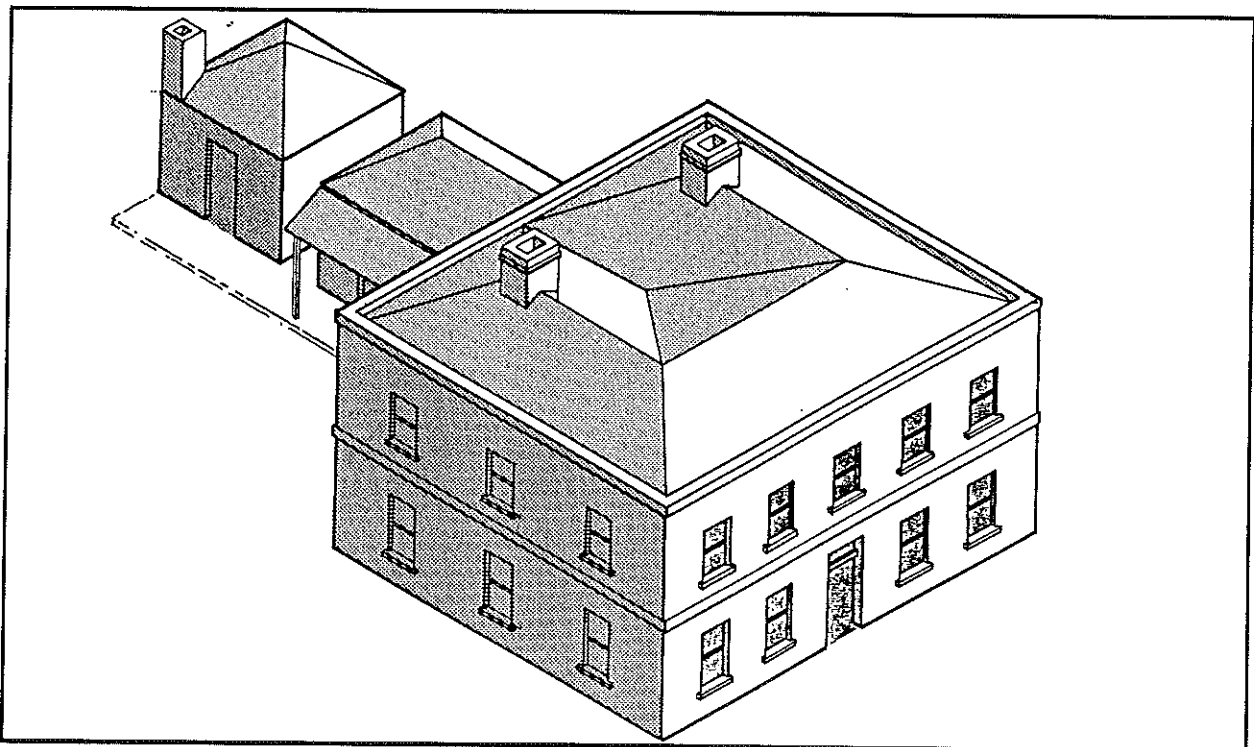


Figure 58

A speculative reconstruction drawing of the Stanley Arms Hotel in 1866, based on the excavated remains. The original building has now been enclosed within the new two storey structure and has been demolished. This allowed the Hotel to retain its licence and continue operating while it was completely rebuilt in response to competition from its neighbours, the Ship Inn and the Bridge Hotel. Isometric projection by Andrew Wilson. Scale 1:200

It was constructed on the same alignment as the other western extensions and must have been built after the second extension. After its construction it was linked to the second extension by the brick verandah paving, and by a brick paved walkway. A brick fireplace base survived in the southwestern corner of the single room structure. It presumably served as a kitchen and ended its days as a laundry.⁹³ [See Figures 52, 53, 54 and 55]

Occupation 1840 - 1854

The earliest deposit to reveal information about the European occupation of the Stanley Arms Site was the fill of the posthole in the northeastern corner of the original building.⁹⁴ [See Figure 59]



Figure 59

The post in the northeastern corner of the Victoria Hotel. The post was set in a hole 400mm deep and the stone plinth which formed the foundation of the building was built up around it to a height of 600mm. Photograph Number M49.27 by Andrew Wilson. Scale in 200mm divisions

The soil dumped back into the hole after the post had been set contained one piece of a butchered sheep scapula and one piece of a clay pipe stem. These amounted to 0.0014% of the whole deposit. A short time later, when the western extension was added to the back of the building, the fill of a posthole of half the size included five pieces of glass and part of a willow pattern plate, constituting 0.034% of the deposit.⁹⁵ [See Figure 60]

93. The Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Sewerage Plan finalised in 1918 indicates the building was being used as a laundry. I am grateful to David Ellson Snr for his follow-up research which included supplying this plan.

94. Unit 3.140, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3. The posthole fill was half excavated in order to leave a standing section.

95. Unit 3.136, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3. Again, only half the posthole was excavated.

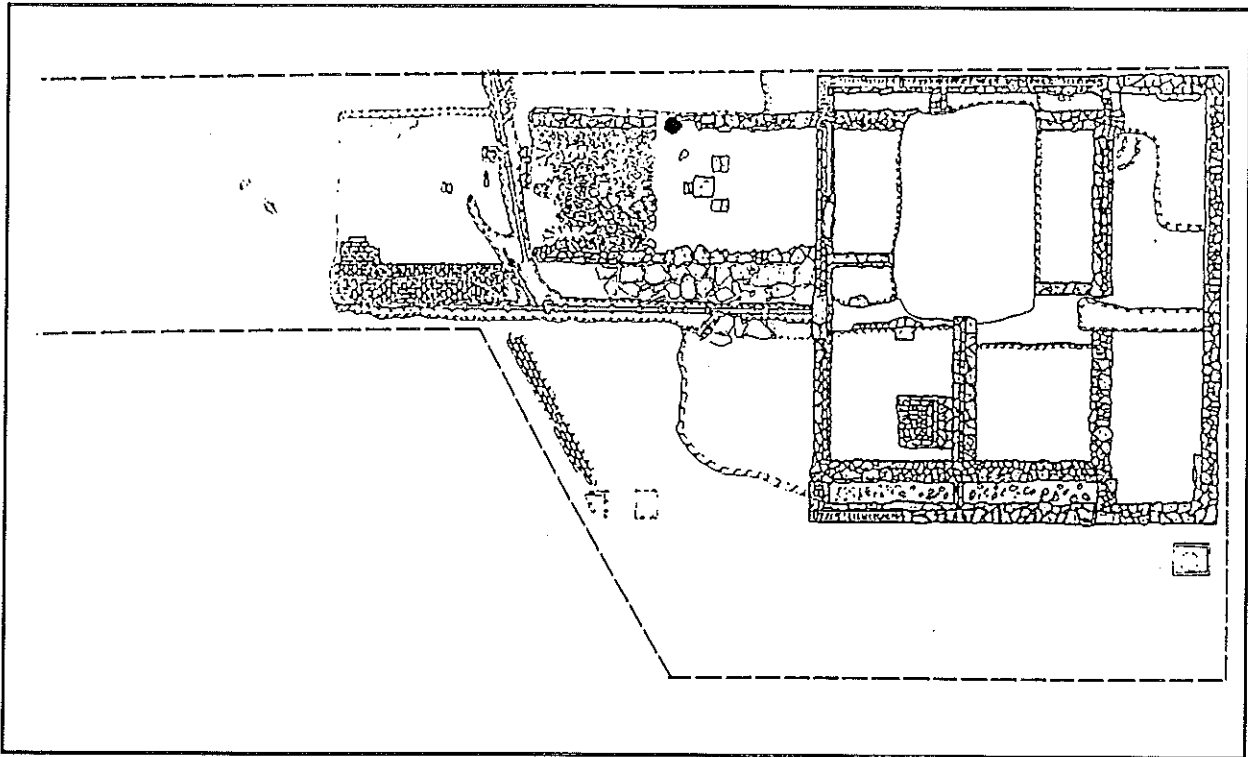


Figure 60

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the posthole for the northwestern corner of the first western extension is indicated in black. Scale 1:200

These earliest deposits illustrate the scarcity of material culture during the initial occupation of the site, and contrast dramatically with the later deposits, some of which are made up of more than 10% artefacts.

A considerable amount of material related to the occupation of the original building was recovered from deposits within the structure. These deposits were buried by the demolition rubble of the single storey brick Hotel about 1866, and so contain nothing from the later building. The most significant of these occupation deposits was in the southwestern corner of the original building, around the base of the fireplace.⁹⁶ [See Figure 61]

It was sealed sometime between 1861 and about 1866 by another deposit resulting from a fire in the room above.⁹⁷ The early deposit contained 1099 artefacts, more than three quarters of them food bones. Apart from the bones two thirds of the other artefacts in the deposit were bottle glass, 83% olive glass from alcohol bottles and almost 17% from chutney and pickle bottles. One glass stopper bore the name 'Wybrow's' of London, a well known manufacturer of bottled pickles, fruits and sauces. There were a few small pieces of blue transfer printed earthenware from cups or bowls, five fragments of drinking glasses and three pieces of clay smoking pipes. There were also many pieces of handmade nails, a bead and one coin, an 1839 shilling, bearing the head of the newly crowned Queen Victoria.

The bones recovered from the deposit were soft and fragmentary, almost all of those that could be identified were from sheep or sheep/pig/goat. This second group consists of bones of a size normal for these three animals that are too fragmentary to identify to species. Their food value can be assessed, but they cannot be regarded as evidence of the presence of a particular species. Apart from the sheep bones, four cattle, two bird and one chicken bone were present. No pig and no rabbit bones were positively identified.

96. Unit 3.124, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3.

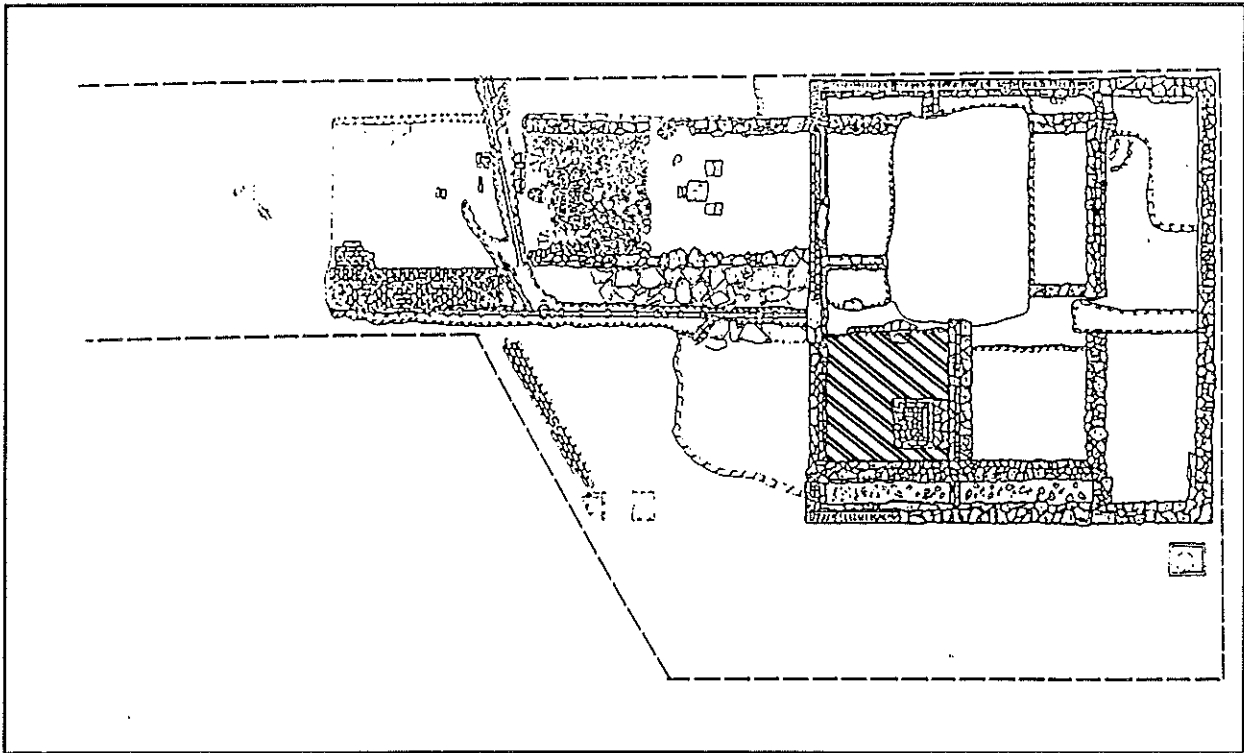


Figure 61

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the deposit in the southwestern corner of the original building is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

The absence of rabbit bones is significant because rabbits were only introduced into Victoria in December 1859 and reached plague proportions within the next decade. They quickly became a widely used inexpensive source of meat.⁹⁸ All the other occupation deposits, sealed by the demolition only a few years later, contain rabbit bones; confirming the earlier sealing of this deposit and illustrating how dramatic and widespread was the impact of the introduced and uncontrolled species.⁹⁹

The absence of identified pig bones from this deposit also has important implications for the dating and identification of the site. Benjamin Levien identified himself and his family as Jews in the 1841 Census, but the extent to which their faith may have been reflected in their every day lives, and the extent to which it might be reflected in the archaeological record is difficult to know.¹⁰⁰

97. Unit 3.129, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3, and the discussion below.

98. See Paul Ashton and Kate Blackmoore 1987 *On the Land: A Photographic History of Farming in Australia* p.85-86.

99. All occupation related assemblages from the Bridge Hotel Site and the Pickett Cottages Site also contain rabbit bones. Their absence from Unit 3.124 cannot satisfactorily be explained by other factors; as other small bones were recovered from the deposit, the other occupation deposits have identical soil conditions and (apart from the early sealing) identical depositional histories.

100. See Leslie Stewart-Abernathy and Barbara Ruff 1989 'A Good Man in Israel: Zooarchaeology and Assimilation in Antebellum Washington, Washington, Arkansas' in *Historical Archaeology* 23.2:96-112 for a well documented case of an identifiable and well regarded Jewish family whose ethnicity was not reflected in the archaeological record.

There are some indications that the Levien family were not fully 'assimilated' like many of their fellow Anglo-Jewish immigrants. The Census entry itself is one 'clue', as the members of the Levien family constitute a considerable proportion of the Jewish population of Port Phillip, six out of a total of 57. Benjamin and most of his family, including his parents, came to Australia after Benjamin's youngest brother was transported in 1832. Benjamin and his wife Eliza arrived in 1840 and the birth of their son, Joanas Felix, at Williamstown in 1840 is well documented as the birth of the first Jewish child in Victoria.¹⁰¹ As the family did not live in Melbourne they do not seem to have participated officially in the Jewish organisations that developed there in the 1840s, culminating in the laying of the foundation stone for the first Synagogue in 1847.¹⁰² When the family was settled in Geelong in the 1870s they were active members of the community there. Their daughter was a Sabbath School teacher and Eliza gained something of a reputation for campaigning against Sabbath breaking. What little evidence there is, would seem to indicate that the Levien family practiced the tenants of their faith and this may well have included *kashrut*, the complex system of dietary laws, although to what extent is unclear.¹⁰³

Given this context, the absence of identifiable pig bones from this early deposit may be a direct reflection of the lifestyle of the Levien family.¹⁰⁴ The proscription of pork and other foods is one of the few ways in which the practice of their faith would be likely to leave evidence in the archaeological record.¹⁰⁵

Of the bones from the major food animals that were present in the deposit around the fireplace, (cattle, sheep and sheep/pig/goat), 23% were from better quality cuts and joints, while 41% were from poorer cuts or waste, the remainder were vertebrae. The high proportion of poor or waste material is not consistent with the purchase of commercially butchered fresh meat. It may indicate butchering on site or dependence on very cheap cuts.

This is the opposite pattern to every other deposit containing food bones on the Stanley Arms Site, and the other sites. Considered with the other factors which indicate that this deposit is from the early occupation of the site, the inclusion of the poor quality cuts would support the conclusion that during these early years meat was being butchered on site. This is consistent with the Levien's 1840 advertisement which includes reference to cattle yards and sheep pens, and it would also be in line with Jewish dietary preferences.¹⁰⁶

101. See J.S. Levi and G.F.J. Bergman *Australian Genesis* p.297.

102. See J.S. Levi and G.F.J. Bergman *Australian Genesis* p.299-302.

103. For a discussion of *kashrut* see 'Dietary Laws' in *Encyclopedia Judaica* and Stewart-Abernathy & Ruff 1989 'A Good Man in Israel' in *Historical Archaeology* 23.2:100.

104. There is no doubt that pork was available in Melbourne at the time. The *Port Phillip Patriot* of 18 February 1841 complained that '*swine of all descriptions, shapes and sizes have been permitted to stray about the streets of Melbourne, until they have become a public nuisance*', quoted in James Grant & Geoffrey Searle 1978 *The Melbourne Scene 1803-1956* p.44. I am grateful to Iain Stuart of the Victoria Archaeological Survey and Mark Staniforth of the Australian National Maritime Museum for their advice and assistance with this question.

105. It is probably worth noting here that rabbit is also proscribed by *kashrut*, although its absence is better explained by the early date of the deposit. See 'Dietary Laws' in *Encyclopedia Judaica*.

106. On the issue of butchering ones own meat see Stewart-Abernathy & Ruff 1989 'A Good Man in Israel' in *Historical Archaeology* 23.2:100.

Occupation 1840 - 1866

Immediately to the north of the fireplace was an occupation deposit which had accumulated against the fireplace base and the north-south dividing wall.¹⁰⁷ The deposit appeared to have been piled up or dumped into the angle of the wall and fireplace base. [See Figure 62]

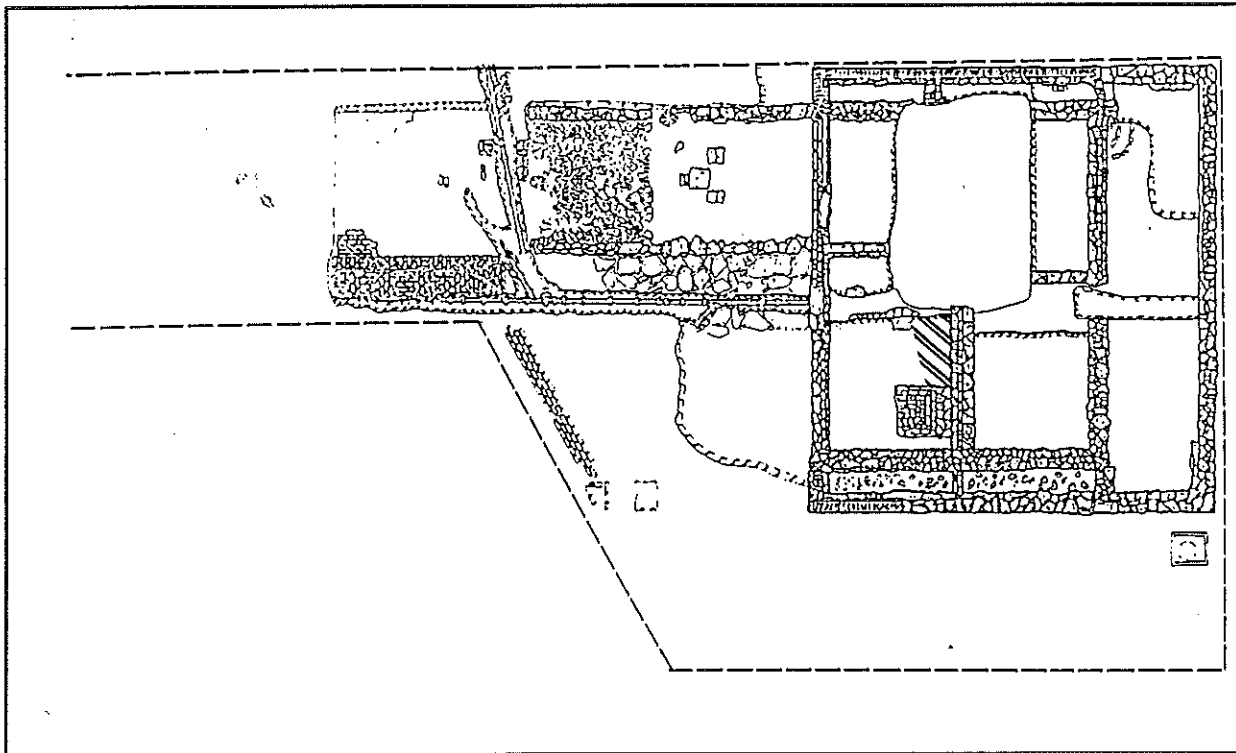


Figure 62

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the deposit accumulated against the fireplace is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

The concentration of 958 artefacts within the deposit was extremely high; they amounted to 11.43% of the weight of the deposit. Almost 90% of the artefacts were bottle glass, and almost all of this was olive glass from alcohol bottles. Nearly clear glass, indicative of chutney, pickle and sauce bottles, amounted to only 5% of the total. Of the few identified bones, the majority were sheep or sheep/pig/goat, with cattle, chicken, rabbit and rat also present. These bones were mostly from better cuts, but there were too few to draw firm conclusions from this. Four pieces of black transfer printed earthenware from cups or bowls were recovered, as well as twelve fragments of glass tumblers and six clay tobacco pipes. Also present were handmade nails and a short section of thick cable made from a copper based alloy. This multistrand cable presumably had some maritime use, but to identify it as the punt cable is probably too fanciful. The other occupation deposit on the western side of the original building contained 1675 artefacts.¹⁰⁸ [See Figure 63]

107. Unit 3.128, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3.

108. Units 3.125 and 3.126, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3. These deposits were excavated independently as they were separated by a later east-west wall, Unit 3.122, but as they ran under the wall they are discussed here together.

Bone made up less than a quarter, sheep and sheep/pig/goat accounting for more than two thirds of the total. Cow, rabbit, bird, chicken and fish were present. Rat and mouse bones were also identified. Of the bones from the major food animals, 46% were from better quality cuts and joints, while 14% were from poorer cuts or waste, the remainder were vertebrae. This pattern is the opposite of that in the southern occupation deposit and is consistent with the purchase of commercially butchered fresh meat. Bottle glass constituted 40% of the artefacts, 83% being olive, the remainder being nearly clear glass characteristic of chutney and pickles. The few pieces of earthenware were cups or bowls, mostly blue transfer printed, but with red and black transfer prints, banded and handpainted pieces also present. One piece of a glass tumbler was also found. The other household items were 5 beads, 9 buttons, 4 thimbles, 64 pins and 35 pieces of clay smoking pipes. Building materials included more than two hundred handmade nails.

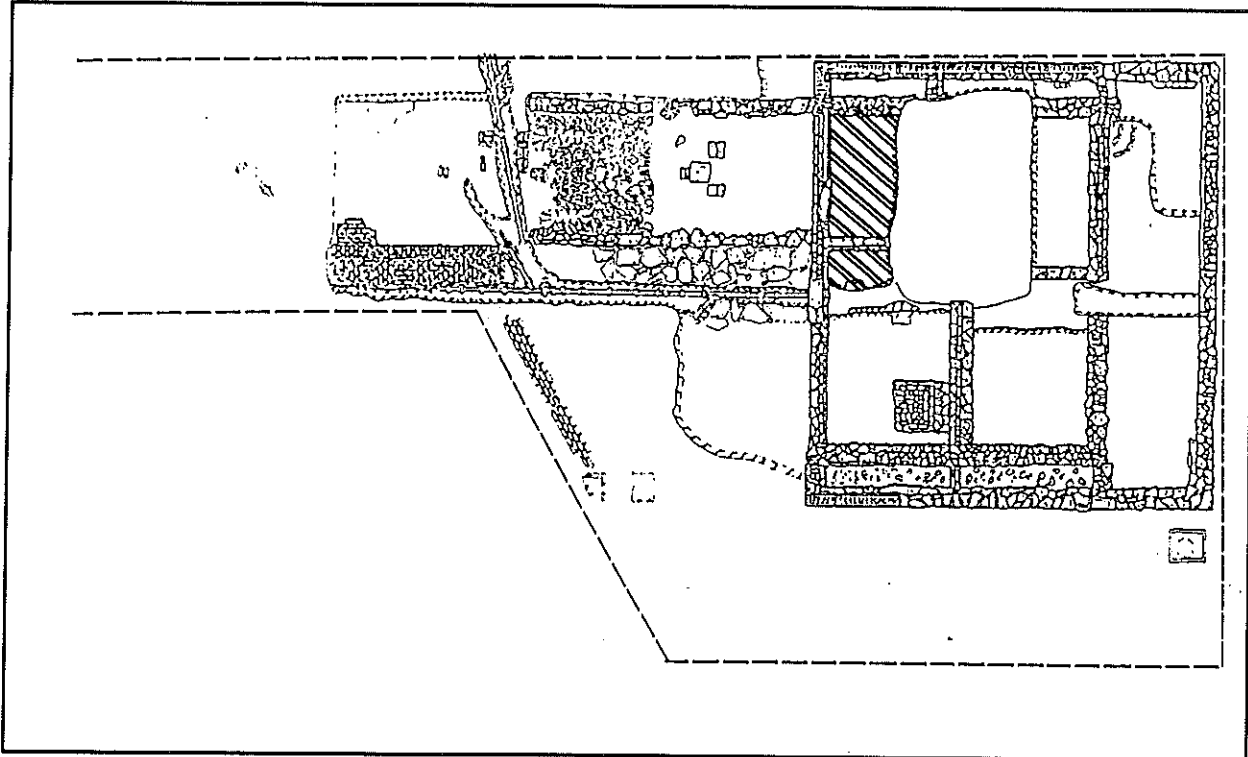


Figure 63

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the remaining occupation deposit on the western side of the original building is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

The occupation deposit from the northeastern area of the original building had considerably fewer artefacts, in all only 198 objects were recovered.¹⁰⁹ [See Figure 64]

About a quarter of these were glass, all of it from olive glass alcohol bottles except for one piece of a glass tumbler. As well as the few fragments of earthenware cups and bowls similar to those present in the other occupation deposits this deposit included several sherds from a blue transfer printed willow pattern serving platter. [See Figure 65] Also present were six pieces of clay smoking pipes, a button and ten handmade nails.

109. Units 3.127 and 3.130, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3. These deposits were excavated separately but are discussed together here.

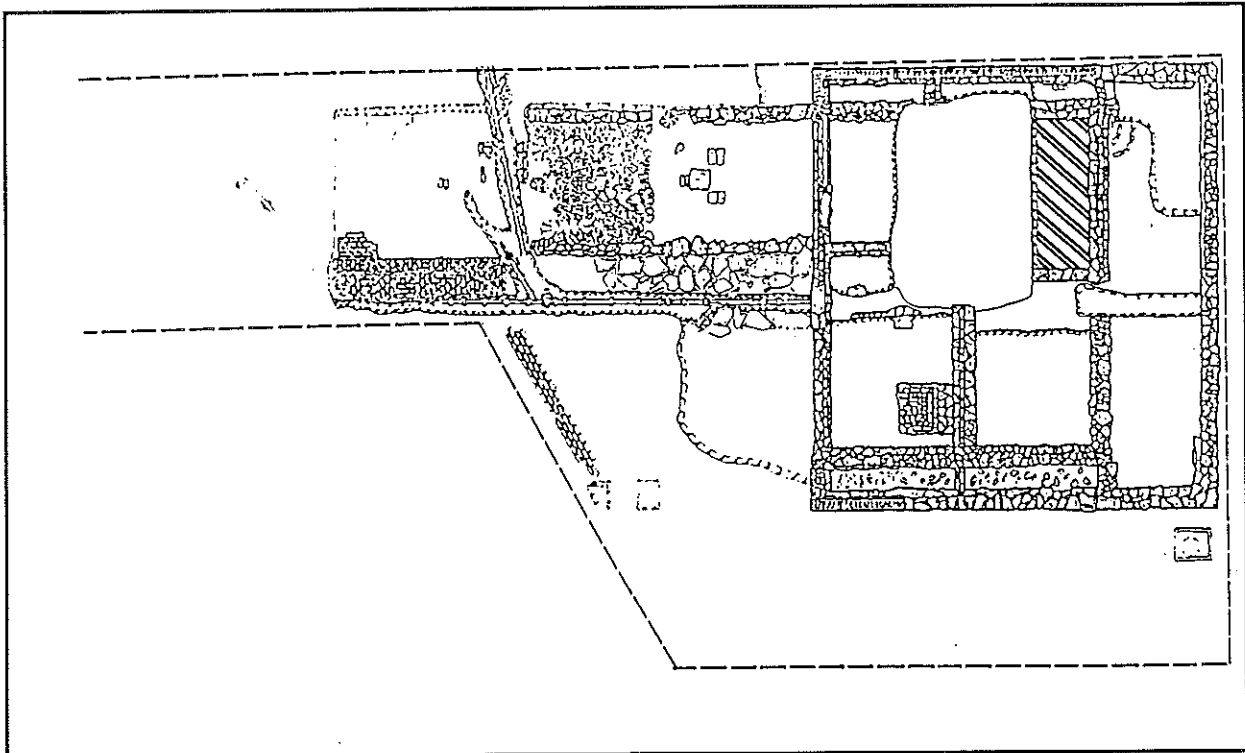


Figure 64

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the remaining occupation deposit in the north eastern part of the original building is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

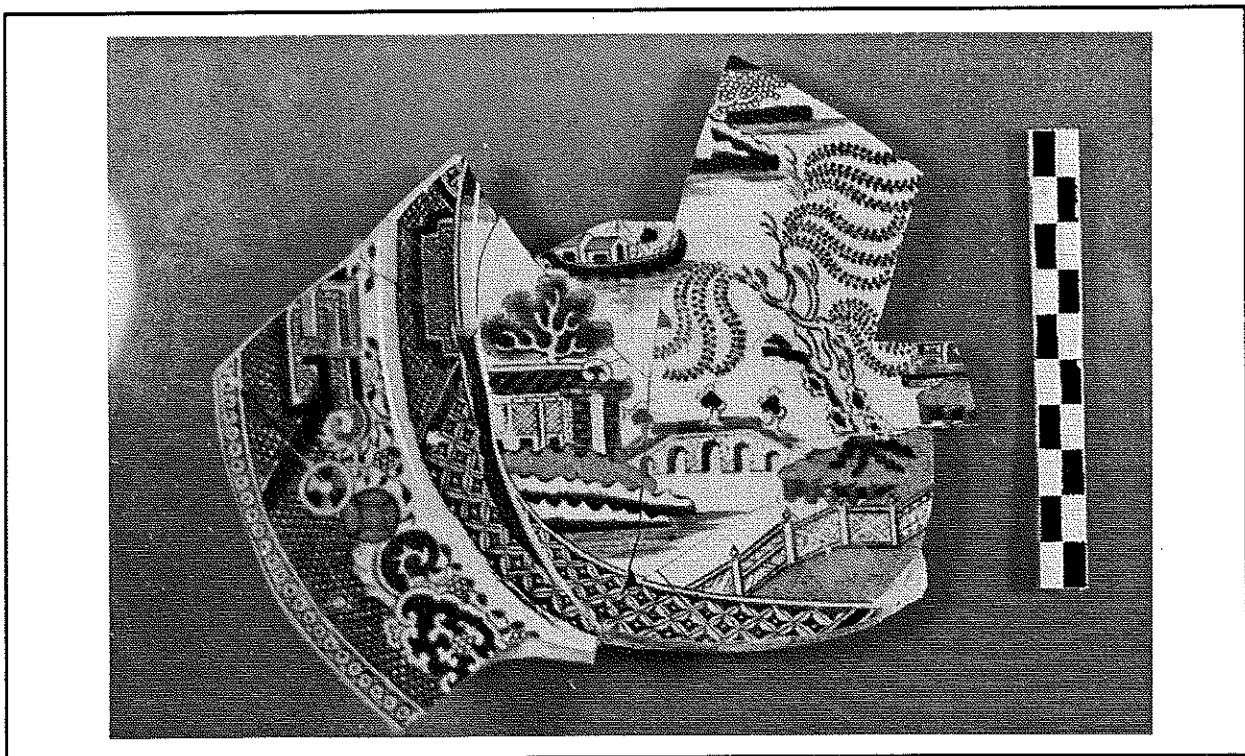


Figure 65

Parts of a blue transfer printed earthenware Willow Pattern Serving Platter from the eastern occupation deposit of the original building. This was the largest example of domestic ceramics recovered from the building; ceramics were few and bottle glass predominated. Photograph Number M55.04 by Andrew Wilson. Scale in 10mm divisions

Half of the artefacts from the deposit were bone, and of those identified about half were sheep or sheep/pig/goat, and most of the remainder were from cattle. One rabbit bone and one rat bone were also identified. There were more bones from better quality cuts of the major food animals than from the poorer cuts. However, while the pattern is consistent with the other deposits there are too few bones to use as the basis for strong conclusions.

These deposits, which appear to relate closely to the occupation of the original building provide us with a unique body of evidence concerning life in Footscray during a period when historical records were scarce or nonexistent.

The most striking feature of the deposits is the presence of the large amount of bottle glass in the underfloor areas. More than 46kg of bottle glass was recovered and a count of bottle lips and bases gives a minimum number of 104 bottles, although these represent fragmentary remains of a much larger number. [See Figure 66] It is clear that the bottles could not have fallen through the floorboards, however rough and primitive they might have been.

The presence of these bottles may have been the by-product of the abandonment or even partial demolition of the building after Benjamin Levien had left the district and before John Clark obtained a licence for the Stanley Arms in 1854. The removal of the floor boards and the robbing of other building materials may have meant that the building became a convenient place to dispose of bottles, and its derelict state may also explain why the price the block fetched at auction in 1850 does not reflect the value of the building.

Equally, the bottles may have been deposited during the rebuilding of the wooden Victoria Hotel as the brick Stanley Arms by Clark in about 1854. The removal of the wooden superstructure, including the floor boards, would have revealed the area within the stone foundations up to half a metre lower than the surrounding ground level. Broken bottles, from the period of the earlier Hotel, and from around the site, could well have been dumped there. While whole bottles were a valuable commodity reused again and again, once broken a bottle was no more than a nuisance.

An alternative explanation is that the broken glass was placed under the floor to discourage rats and other vermin, in the same way that broken glass has been imbedded in the tops of walls as a simple, durable and inexpensive means of preventing them being scaled.

The soil matrix of these occupation deposits, which is consistently a black sandy clay, may be flood borne sediment deposited within the building during the many floods suffered by early residents of the area. With the exception of this material there is no other evidence of floods, and certainly no direct evidence of structural damage to the building, although the replacement of the wooden frame by the brick building after a life of only about 14 years may be a reflection of this.¹¹⁰

The complete lack of machine made nails is consistent with a building of early 1840s date, and this is difficult to reconcile with the idea that there was no building on the site until after the purchase of the land from the crown in 1850.¹¹¹ The presence in the deposits of large numbers of handmade nails is best interpreted as the result of the dismantling of the original wooden framed building, either during its abandonment in the late 1840s or immediately before its replacement with the brick building about 1854.

110. There were floods in 1839, 1842, 1848 and 1849. The Bush Inn, which burnt down in January 1848 and must have been rebuilt, was severely damaged by flooding in December 1849. Mayne, May & Lack 1989 *Quay West Heritage Survey Report* p.33-5.

111. See Robert Varman 1980 'The nail as a criterion for the dating of buildings and building sites' in *Australian Society for Historical Archaeology Newsletter* 10.1



Figure 66

David Ellson Sr and David Ellson Jr excavating broken bottles from the deposits within the Victoria Hotel. The bottles are typical early nineteenth century 'black' glass bottles made to contain wine, beer and spirits. Photograph Number M44.15 by Andrew Wilson

Also of significance is the proportions of the cuts of meat represented by the types of bones. They are consistent with the purchase of butchered meat and the majority represent large cuts and joints, suitable for feeding many people at once.

The most striking aspect of these deposits is the absence of the pattern of domestic ceramics and other goods which are characteristic of nineteenth century domestic sites. Rather than plates and tea cups it is tumblers, alcohol, chutney and sauce bottles, clay smoking pipes and bones from large joints which predominate. While this pattern is not what is found on normal domestic sites it matches closely what would be expected from a frontier hotel where the major activities involve providing food, refreshment and shelter to travellers.¹¹²

112. See, for example, Julia King 1988 'A Comparative Midden Analysis of a Household and Inn in St Mary's City, Maryland' in *Historical Archaeology* 22.2:17-39 and Diana Rockman and Nan Rothschild 1984 'City Tavern, Country Tavern: An Analysis of Four Colonial Sites' in *Historical Archaeology* 23.2:96-112

Occupation 1861 - c.1866

Late in the occupation of the original building a fire occurred in the room in the southwestern corner of the original building, around the base of the fireplace. This fire resulted in a deposit which covered most of the area of the room and consisted of 40% charcoal along with a wide variety of household and personal items. The artefacts constituted 1.1% of the deposit and most of them had been damaged by the fire.¹¹³ [See Figure 67]

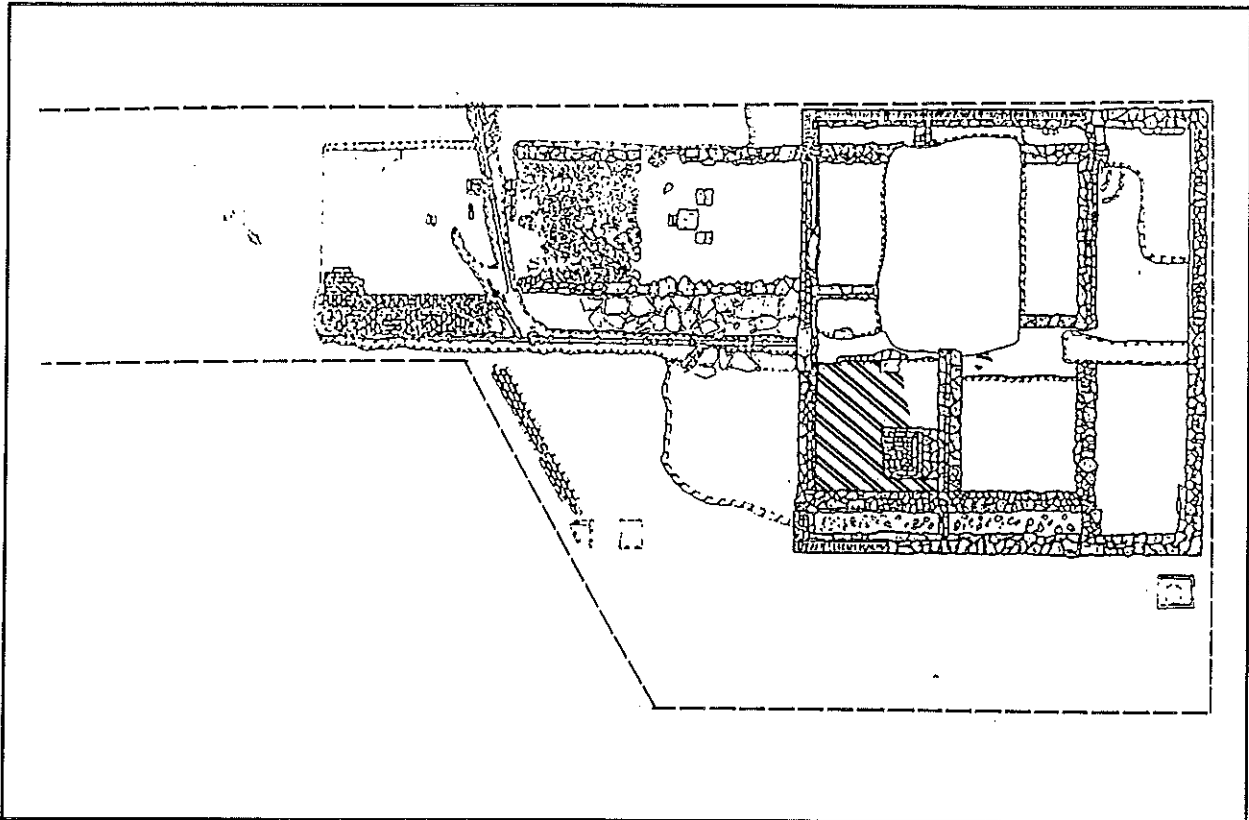


Figure 67

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the deposit which resulted from a fire in the southeastern room of the original building is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

The deposit contained 1269 artefacts, more than a third of these were related to the structure. These included more than 350 pieces of handmade nails, presumably from burnt floorboards and fittings in the room.

Of the 263 bones in the deposit half were identified and almost all of these were from sheep or sheep/pig/goat. Four bird, three chicken and three rabbit bones were present. Three rat bones were also found. Of the bones from the major food animals, sheep and sheep/pig/goat, 61% were from better quality cuts and joints, while only 16% were from poorer cuts or waste, the remainder were vertebrae. The high proportion of good quality cuts is consistent with the purchase of commercially butchered meat.

113. Unit 3.129, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3. The fact the deposit is the result of a fire, rather than the cleaning of a fireplace or stove, is made clear by the rebuilding of the floor within the room on reused same brick piers. The piers are Units 3.131 - 3.135, for details see Appendix 1.3. Piers are not present in any of the other rooms.

The most important aspect of the artefacts from this deposit is not the amount of material but the range of domestic objects present. Unlike almost all the other deposits on the site the artefacts in this deposit were not discarded or lost, they were destroyed by the fire. [See Figure 68] This gives us the opportunity to see, however imperfectly, what kind of objects were present in the room on an ordinary day in the early 1860s.



Figure 68

Examples of Melted and Burnt Glass from the fire of the early 1860s in the Stanley Arms Hotel. Photograph Number M52.22 by Dana Mider. Scale in 10mm divisions

As with the other deposits already discussed bottles predominate, they account for more than a third of the household vessels, but unlike the other deposits, 14 of the bottles were whole. There were less than 30 pieces of ceramics and these were virtually all cups and or bowls. Most were decorated with blue transfer prints, there were some mauve and black prints as well as handpainting and gilding. There were 18 fragments of clear glass tumblers and one stemmed glass and 26 pieces of clay smoking pipes. [See Figure 69] A knife and fork were also recovered from among the ashes.

Among the other items were 20 buttons, eight pins and three pieces of bobbin as well as two beads, an ear-ring and a broach. An 1861 penny, clearly burnt, indicated the earliest possible date of the fire.

Although these artefacts cover a broader range than many of the other deposits they do not represent a normal domestic assemblage. The recovery of sewing items, as well as the ear-ring and broach, are indicative of the presence of women. There were two female publicans, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Leah Thorpe, during this period but it is equally possible that these objects are from a male publican's wife. The preponderance of bottle glass, smoking pipes and drinking glasses, as well as the relative scarcity of domestic ceramics remain clear indicators of the building's primary role as a pub.

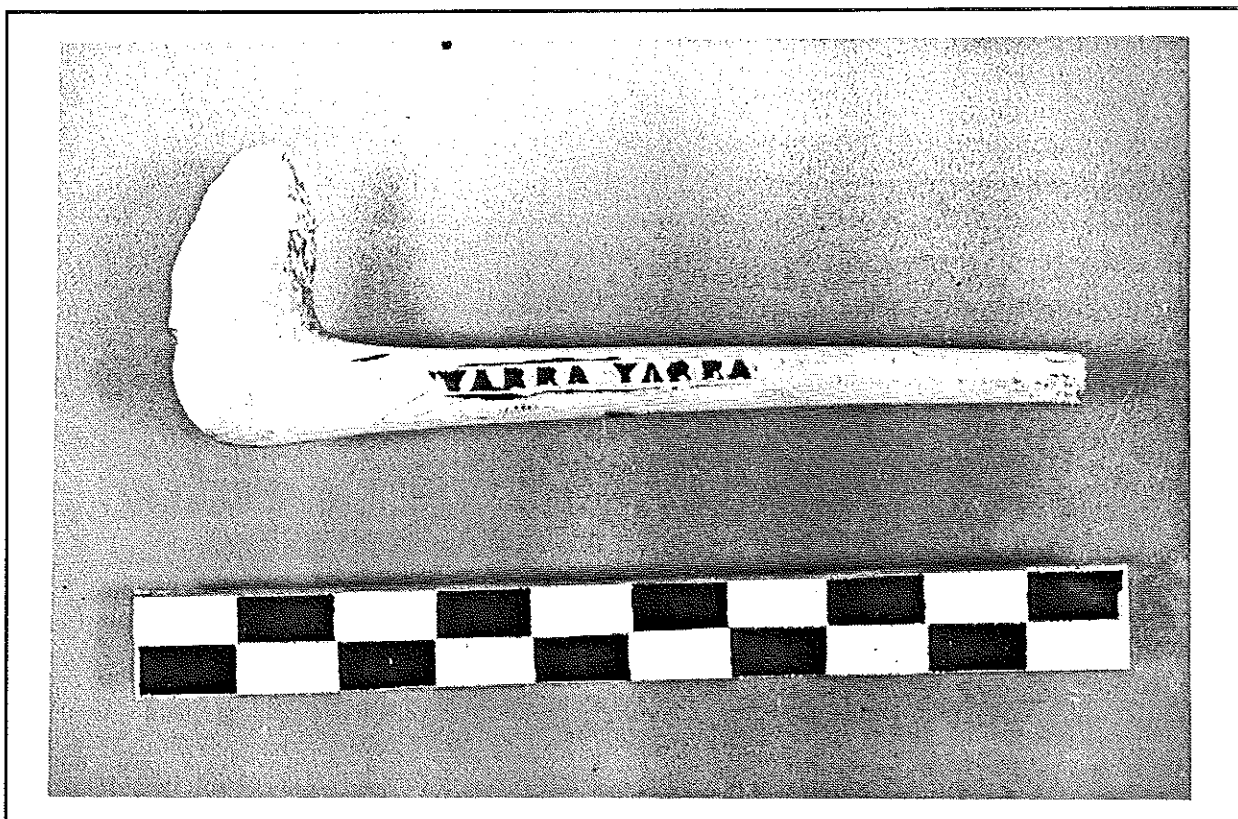


Figure 69

A clay smoking pipe, also from the 1860s fire, inscribed with the name Yarra Yarra. Almost all such pipes were made in Britain, but the manufacturers were quick to identify their products with their often distant markets. Photograph Number M55.06 by Andrew Wilson. Scale in 10mm divisions

Occupation c.1840 - c.1918

A considerable number of artefacts related to the occupation of the western extension were recovered from within the structure, which presumably served as a kitchen immediately after its construction in the early 1840s. These deposits were buried during the demolition of the western extension before 1918, and so could contain material from the whole life of the building. However, replacement of the floor in the late nineteenth century and changes in waste disposal practices mean that the majority of the artefacts in the deposit were early in date. The most significant of these deposits was that within the first extension, it was similar to the occupation deposits within the original building.¹¹⁴ [See Figure 70]

In all 6811 artefacts were recovered, representing 5.29% of the total deposit. More than three quarters of these were glass bottles; more than 90% from olive bottles used for alcohol. There were the remains of a minimum of 142 bottles in the deposit, and more than 77kg of glass. This is similar to the pattern found within the original building. The remainder of the glass included pieces of ten stemmed glasses and 45 tumblers. Pieces of 57 clay smoking pipes were recovered.

114. Unit 3.60, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3.

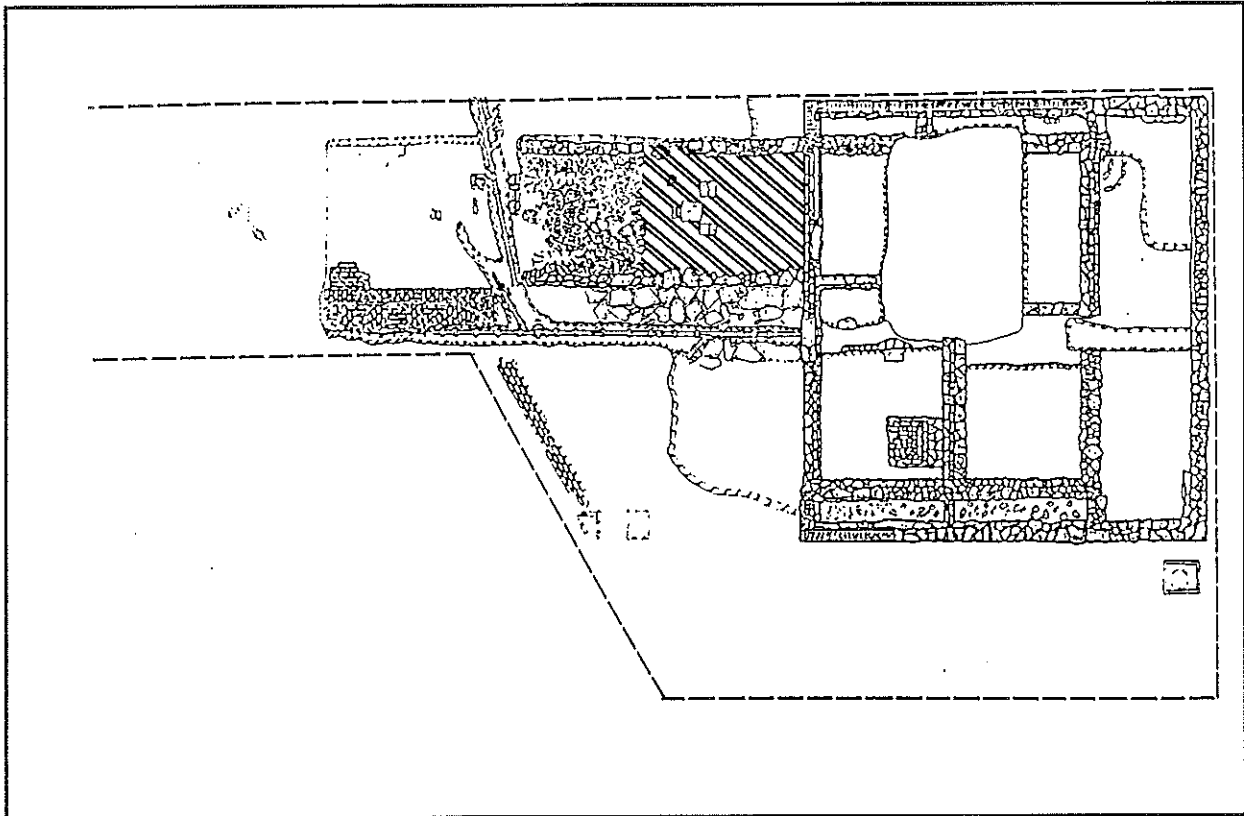


Figure 70

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the deposit within the first western extension is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

Other household items included ceramic sherds; 46 from plates, 23 from saucers, 13 from cups and 116 from cups or bowls. More than half of these pieces were earthenware, with vitreous stoneware and porcelain present in equal quantities. One third of the decorated ceramics were blue transfer printed, with brown, green, black, mauve and red transfer prints also represented. Several sherds of hand painted ceramics were also found, including two pieces of oriental export porcelain.

A spoon, a marble and two pins as well as beads, buckles and 12 buttons were recovered, but all these items represent only 1% of the artefacts. Of the 527 bones found, half were from sheep or sheep/pig/goat. Small numbers of rabbit, cattle, pig, chicken, larger fowl (possibly goose or turkey), bird, fish and deer bones were present. Two cat and two rat bones survived to remind us of what must have been years of under-floor conflict!

Of the bones from the major food animals cattle, sheep and sheep/pig/goat, 63% were from better quality cuts and joints, while 14% were from poorer cuts or waste, the remainder were vertebrae. The low proportion of poor or waste material is indicative of the purchase of commercially butchered fresh meat and consistent with the pattern found in most of the deposits.

Another group of artefacts related to the occupation of the western extension were recovered from within the second extension, which presumably served as a kitchen, skullery or pantry after its construction in the 1840s. This deposit was also buried during the demolition of the western extension about 1918, and contains a similar accumulation to that in the first extension, although it would have started later because of the later construction date.¹¹⁵ [See Figure 71]

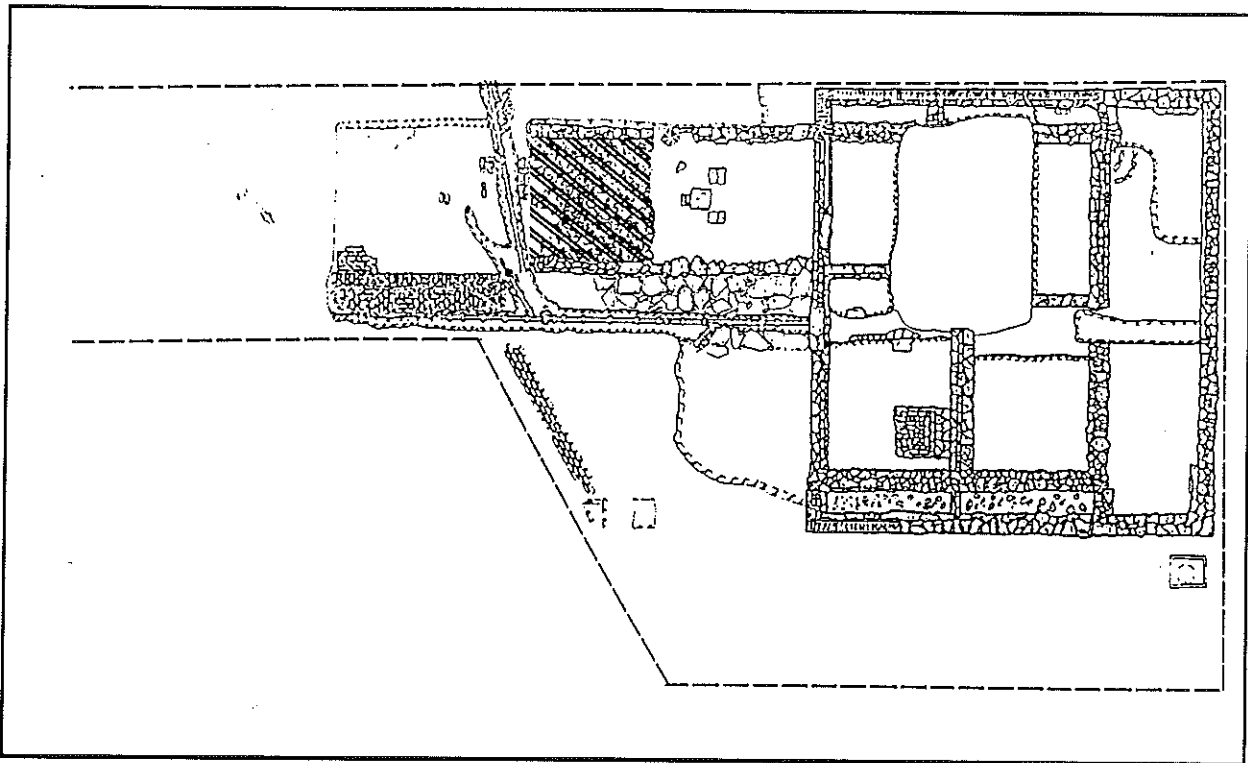


Figure 71

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the deposit within the second western extension is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

The overall pattern of artefacts in the two deposits was very similar. Fewer artefacts, 965, were recovered from the second extension and they constituted 2.01% of the deposit. Two thirds of these were olive glass bottles fragments. Pieces of 3 tumblers and 3 smoking pipes were also found.

The household ceramic sherds included 17 from plates, 2 from saucers, 23 from cups or bowls and one from a chamber pot. Most of these were earthenware, with vitreous stoneware and porcelain present in small quantities. The decorated ceramics were largely blue transfer printed, with brown, green, black, mauve and grey transfer prints present. Several sherds of hand painted ceramics were also found, including three pieces of oriental export porcelain, along with five pins, three beads and two buttons.

Of the 167 bones more than half were from sheep or sheep/pig/goat. Small numbers of rabbit, chicken, bird and pig bones were present, as well as cat and rat bones. The bones from the sheep groups were again consistent with the purchase of commercially butchered meat.

115. Unit 3.91, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3.

Demolition of the Samel Brick Building c.1866

When the external structure of the final stage of the Stanley Arms was completed about 1866 the 1854 brick building, which had been rebuilt on the plinth of the Victoria Hotel, was demolished. The rubble from this demolition effectively sealed all the objects deposited within the building during its occupation.¹¹⁶ [See Figure 72]

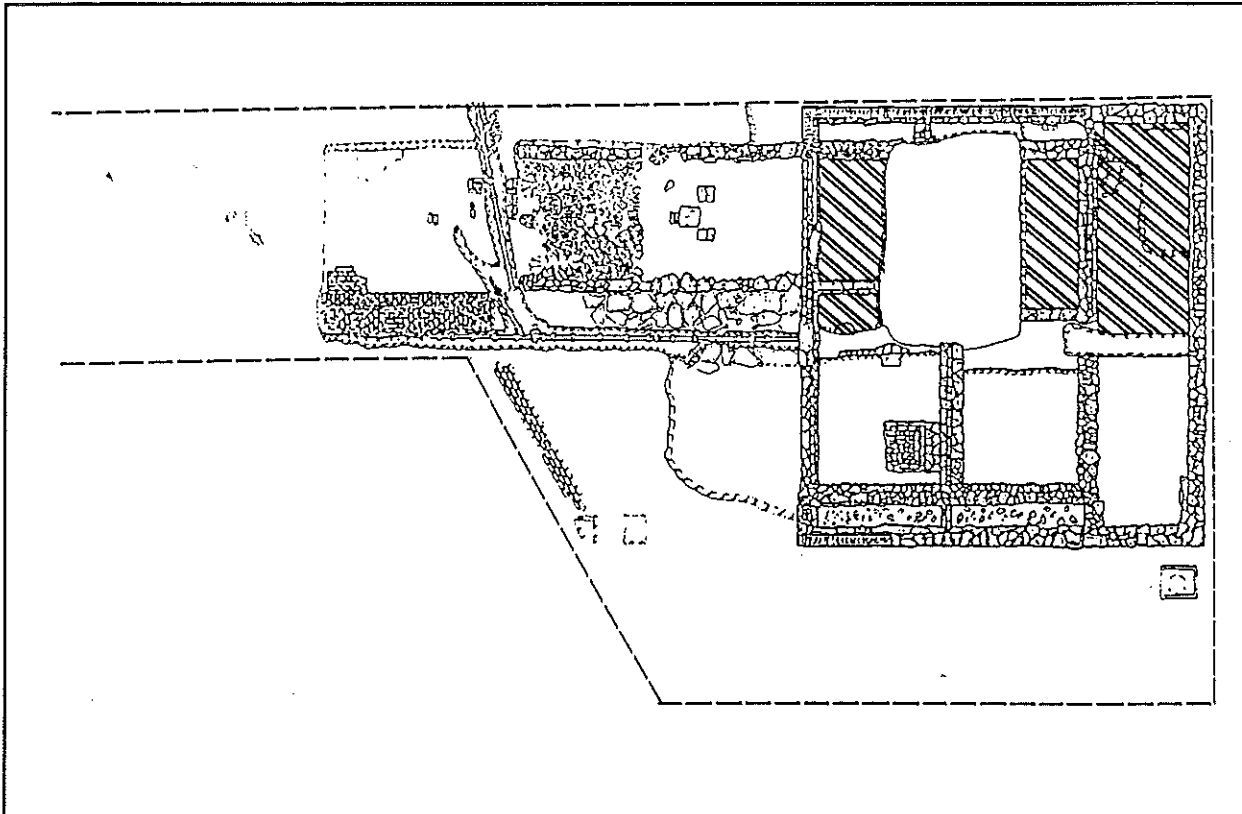


Figure 72

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of those deposits from the demolition of the brick building in 1866 which were analysed in detail are indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

The rubble provides an opportunity to examine the demolition process. As well as the artefacts inevitably included in the demolition deposits, 21.6% of the rubble was reusable building materials. This very high proportion of wasted material has several possible explanations.¹¹⁷ It may have been that the soft samel bricks used in 1854 were not considered reusable because of the availability of the machine-made bricks used in the new structure. Another factor may have been a desire to fill the deep underfloor area of the new building, which was a legacy of the 1840 stone plinth and the later raising of the ground level all around the building. Finally, as the Hotel was still operating, there may have been a need to demolish the old building as quickly as possible, using the underfloor space as an easy place to dispose of most of the rubble. In fact, some combination of these factors probably played a part.

116. The deposits resulting from the demolition discussed here are Units 3.16, 3.55, 3.114 and 3.121 for details of the individual units see Appendix 1.3 and for the grouped analysis see Appendix 2.3.

117. By contrast the demolition deposits from the Bridge Hotel and the Pickett Cottages had proportions of 12% and 0.5% respectively.

Demolition of the Kitchen 1895-1918

Some time between 1895 and 1918 the first and second western extensions were demolished. As they had been constructed up the natural ground slope in the 1840s. Their removal left a considerable hole, up to 600 mm deep at the eastern end, and this was filled in to bring the area up to the level of the surrounding yard. The material used seems to have been largely derived from the demolition of the structure and perhaps from a clean-up of the site. The deposit filled the whole area of the building.¹¹⁸ [See Figure 73]

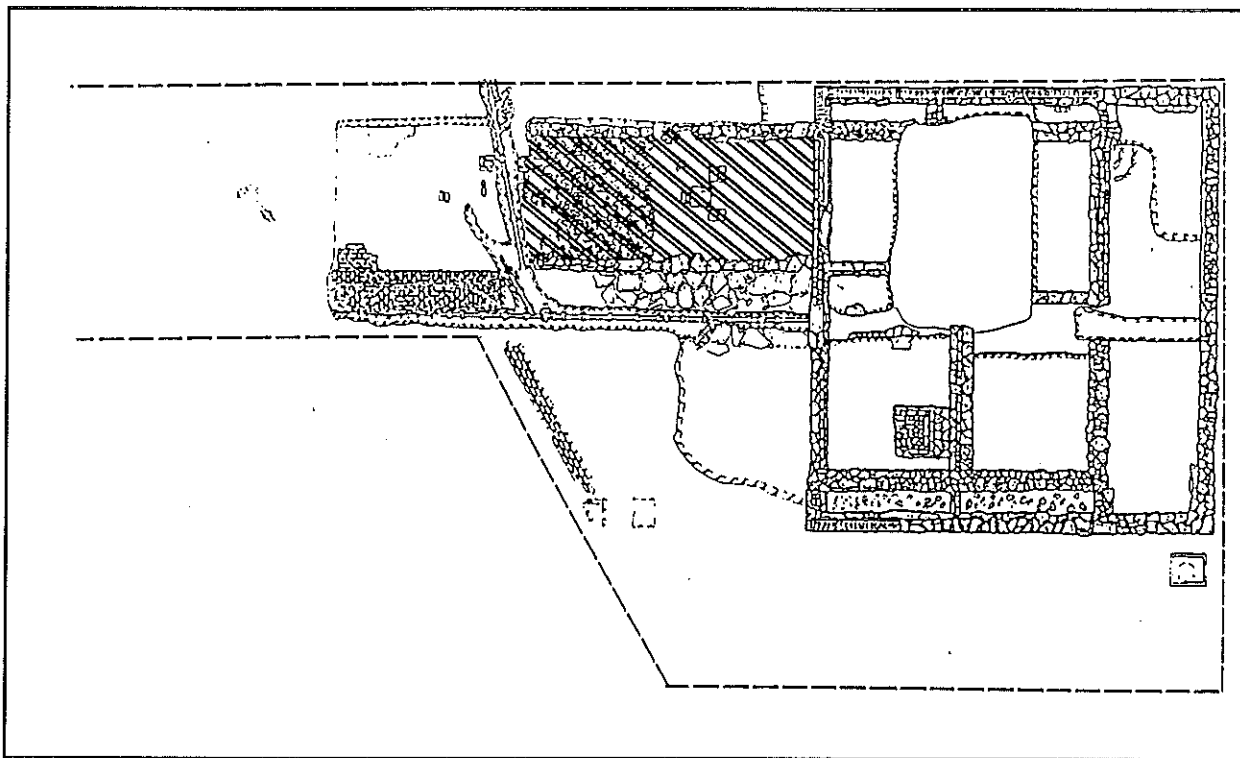


Figure 73

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of the deposit resulting from the demolition of the western extension is indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

In all 17128 artefacts were recovered from the fill. This is the largest number of artefacts from any deposit in the investigation, however they constituted only 1.18% of the deposit, showing that despite the vast total, the deposit was not comparatively rich in artefacts.

More than half the artefacts were building materials, presumably derived from the demolished structure, and more than three quarters of these were plaster. The ratio of plaster to mortar recovered was 79:1 indicating that the building was constructed of wood but had been fully lined with plaster.¹¹⁹ Of the 1262 nails recovered 16.8% were late nineteenth or early twentieth century wire nails, confirming the long life and continuous adaptation of the building.

118. Unit 3.25, for details see Appendix 1.3 and Appendix 2.3. The dates are derived from two Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works plans. The 1895 Plan which shows the western extension in place, and the 1918 Sewerage Plan which shows a new building running north-south along the back of the main building. This arrangement is confirmed by the later aerial photographs.

119. This ratio is the opposite of what would be expected from a brick or masonry building, which would yield far more mortar than plaster in demolition. For example, from Unit 3.55, part of the demolition rubble of the 1854 brick building, the ratio of plaster to mortar was 1:70.

The 2536 fragments of bottle glass also testify to the survival of the building into the twentieth century. A minimum number of 101 bottles were recovered. The proportion of olive glass, 72%, is lower than in the other deposits discussed. Of more significance is the presence of two 'modern' glass colours; emerald green and amber. The inclusion of 1.4% of amber glass, almost all in the form of beer bottles, clearly represents the last phase of the buildings existence. Pieces of 40 tumblers and two stemmed glasses were also found.

There were 1419 fragments of household ceramics recovered. These included 611 from plates, 120 from saucers, 119 from cups and 167 from bowls and 229 from cups or bowls. Other shapes represented were chamber pots, egg cups, pitchers, platters, dish covers and teapots. Two thirds of these pieces were earthenware, with vitreous stoneware accounting for almost all the remainder. The high proportion of vitreous stoneware, marketed under names such as ironstone, granite and hotel ware, also indicates the late date of the sealing of this deposit. In the later nineteenth century these wares, which were more durable than earthenware, became increasingly popular and increasingly affordable.¹²⁰

Almost 30% of the fragments were plain white, with 15.7% decorated with blue transfer prints, 7.3% with black, 3.1% with blue/grey and 2.2% with brown. Green, mauve, polychrome and red transfer prints were also present in small quantities. A wide variety of gilded, embossed and hand painted ceramics were recovered, including six pieces of oriental export porcelain. Three cartridge cases, four marbles, a domino, a knife, a thimble, three beads, 21 buttons and 25 fragments of smoking pipes were also recovered.

A total of 1290 bones were found in the deposit, half of these were from sheep or sheep/pig/goat. Smaller numbers of rabbit, cattle, chicken, pig, bird, large fowl (possibly goose or turkey) and fish bones were present, as well as four cat and five rat bones.

Of the bones from the major food animals (cattle, sheep, pig and sheep/pig/goat), 74% were from better quality cuts and joints, while 9% were from poorer cuts or waste, the remainder were vertebrae. This is the lowest recorded proportion of poor or waste material indicating clearly the selective purchase of commercially butchered fresh meat.

The most striking aspect of the artefacts from this deposit is that the hotel material, bottles, glasses and pipes, no longer predominates and the household ceramics balance the glass to give a pattern much more consistent with normal domestic waste. The lifestyles of those who lived in the Stanley Arms of the early twentieth century, and the objects they used, were very different from those of Benjamin Levien and his family in the Victoria Hotel of the 1840s.

120. 'Ironstone China' was patented by Charles Mason in July 1813, but it was not until the second half of the nineteenth century that similar wares became widely available and relatively inexpensive. See Godden 1980 *Mason's Ironstone Wares* p.104 and Majewski & O'Brian 1987 'The use and misuse of Nineteenth Century Ceramics in Archaeological Analysis' in Schiffer (ed.) *Advances in Archaeological Method and Theory*, Volume 11.

Demolition of the Stanley Arms Hotel 1964

By the time of its demolition in 1964 the Stanley Arms Hotel was almost a century old. The demolition removed all above ground traces of the building and left a small amount of rubble which was used in the levelling of the site.¹²¹ [See Figure 74]

This rubble also provides an opportunity to examine the demolition process and contrast it with the demolition of 1866. Reusable building materials amounted to 9.5% of the rubble. This proportion is very much lower than the 21% of the 1866 demolition and accords well with the almost contemporaneous demolition of the Bridge Hotel.¹²² Presumably the demolition was carried out using machines.

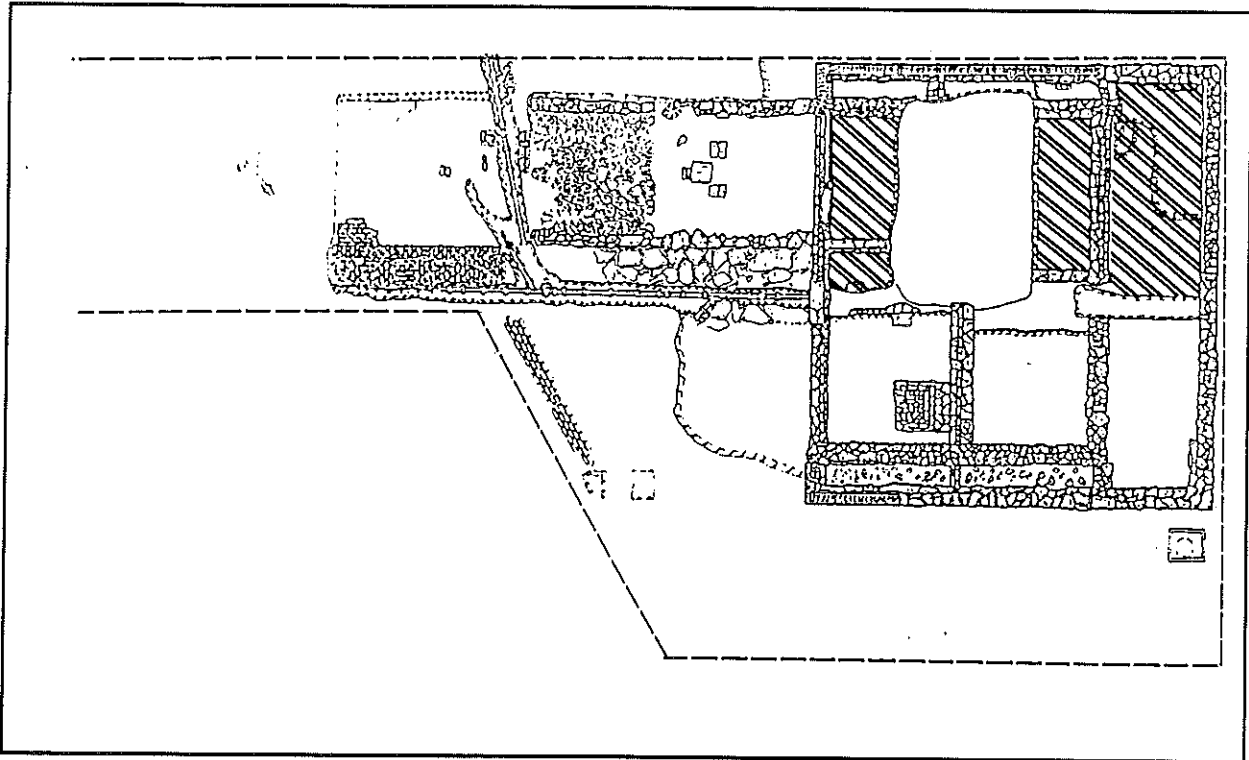


Figure 74

Plan of the excavated remains of the Victoria and Stanley Arms Hotels; the location of those deposits from the demolition of the two storey Hotel in 1964 which were analysed in detail are indicated by hatching. Scale 1:200

Later Use of the Site 1964 - 1989

After the demolition of the Hotel in 1964 the site was mechanically levelled. This removed much of the historical deposit from the western end of the site where the natural slope was cut away. At the eastern end, the accumulation of fills and rubbles acted to protect the remains.

A petrol storage tank was installed in the northeastern part of the site, removing ten square metres of the remains. A small wooden building was erected near the tank and the whole site was covered with concrete to form a surface for vehicles. The removal of this concrete from almost all of the site was the first stage in the excavation of the site and the discovery of the Victoria Hotel.

121. The deposits resulting from the demolition discussed here are Units 3.14, 3.20, 3.50 and 3.120 for details of the individual units see Appendix 1.3 and for the grouped analysis see Appendix 2.3.

122. The Bridge Hotel demolition rubble had a proportion of 12% reusable building material.

Conclusions

Introduction

The sites discussed in this Report cover the whole range of the history of Footscray since the European settlement of the area. Not only do they include the earliest occupation on the river bank, but they refer to the establishment of the town, the boom of the gold rushes, the industrialisation and growth of the later nineteenth century, and the consolidation, decline and reassessment of the twentieth century.

The development which sponsored the investigation is part of this process of change, reflecting both the continuity and diversity of the history of the area. The importance now placed on the archaeological remains, and the recognition of their potential to contribute to the development, is itself an expression of the reassessment of the value of Footscray, and of western Melbourne generally.

The Sites

The investigation of the Bridge Hotel provided a strong impression of the continuity of the occupation of the building over more than a century. Throughout its life the building was well kept and even when it had ceased being a pub, the cellar was clean and free of rubbish at the time of demolition in 1967.

The Pickett Cottages illustrate well the human cost of the growth and industrialisation of Footscray in the later nineteenth century. These speculative cottages appear to have failed to attract tenants, probably because of the condition of the nearby river. Their short life and demolition reminds us that the pattern of workers housing so characteristic of Footscray is only true in retrospect.

The Stanley Arms Hotel Site, of course, revealed the earliest European building in Footscray. The identification of the remains as those of the Victoria Hotel is based on a variety of evidence, recovered archaeologically and interpreted within the framework provided by historical documents.

The most basic evidence is the form of the building and the materials from which it was made. The structure was built two rooms deep from front to back. This form of 'double pile' construction is unusual in isolated houses, and suggests that from the beginning the building was intended to be more than just a simple house. All the materials used in the initial construction imply an early construction date. These include the unquarried bluestone blocks, the undressed timber posts, the loam based mortar, the thin window glass made using the 'crown' technique and the handmade nails. The siting of the building right at the point where the road to Williamstown and Geelong turns away from the riverbank, the ideal position to catch passing trade, also supports the idea that the building was one of the earliest, if not the first, in the area. The circumstantial evidence provided by the change in alignment between the early building and the 1848 town survey, which conforms to the shift in magnetic north, also supports an early date. The general pattern of artefacts from the building, and especially the preponderance of early glass bottles, indicates that the building was not a normal dwelling, and most likely an hotel.

The lack of pork and rabbit bones in some early deposits within the building provides circumstantial evidence for an early date, and for the identification of the building as the Victoria Hotel, because it was owned and occupied by a Jewish family. The strongest evidence for the identification of the remains as this particular hotel is the fact the only other identified hotel in the area, the Bush Inn, burnt down in January 1848. The careful and complete

excavation of the early building on the Stanley Arms Site indicated that it did not burn down, and therefore cannot be the Bush Inn. There remains the possibility that the structure could be an hotel as yet unidentified in the historical records, but the best interpretation of all the available evidence is the excavated building is indeed the Victoria Hotel.

The Victoria Hotel was clearly built as a wayside inn, and its complex sequence of development parallels the development of Footscray itself. It also gives us a glimpse of the life members of an ethnic minority struggling to maintain their identity in isolation. The sequence of deposits on the site dramatically document the impact of the rabbit on Australian life, and reflect more generally the changes in the environment brought about as a result of European settlement.

The Bridge Hotel and the Stanley Arms, in particular, illustrate the progression of settlement in the area. The Victoria Hotel began with a precarious speculative existence, linked to the punt and completely dependant on passing trade. Like so many such wayside inns it served as a focus for the development of a settlement. As the settlement grew so did the competition for custom, and other hotels, including the Bridge Hotel were established. The hotels served as the hub of the emerging community. They were not only places of refreshment, but the venues for social events, public meetings and even inquests.

Later, changes in circumstances, including the growth of rail and road transport, meant the focus of the community changed and the hotels, relying largely on maritime trade, began their slow decline. Change in attitudes to drinking meant that the hotels lost the licences around the time of the First World War. The buildings changed their uses and were eventually demolished, despite some efforts to save them.

Areas for further Investigation

The investigation of the three sites discussed in this Report has shown clearly the potential of historical archaeology to contribute to our understanding of the past. The archaeological investigation has revealed not just more, but different information about past life in the development area. This is certainly true of the discovery of the Victoria Hotel, which would not have been possible without careful excavation. However, it is also true of the other sites, where the investigation has given us insights into the every day lives of ordinary people.

The Stanley Arms Site is an example of how archaeology can look at periods, places and issues poorly served by historical documents. It also reminds us that archaeological sites are rarely if ever typical or predictable, however thorough the preparation and historical research which precedes excavation.

In addition to the sites already investigated there are other sites within the development area which have potential for further investigation. One is the obvious site of the Ship Inn at the corner of Bunbury and Maribyrnong Strets. Another is the site of the Bush Inn, the unlucky contemporary of the Victoria Hotel, which may well be on the opposite corner of that intersection. Others sites include buildings related to the punt, such as accommodation for the puntman, some of which appear on historical plans. These sites, like those discussed in this Report, will contain information about life in early Footscray that can only be recovered by archaeological excavation. Their investigation should be programmed to precede the redevelopment of this area, and as they are all in close proximity they could all be excavated as part of a single season.

The artefact collection recovered from the sites is as significant as the sites themselves. In accordance with the project brief, the analysis of the artefacts undertaken for this Report was highly selective and aimed only at the basic identification and interpretation of the sites. The collection retains extensive potential for further study to provide much more information about past activities on the sites. This especially true of the artefacts from the Stanley Arms Site. In addition to their interpretive potential, further analytical and conservation work will be required on the collection in order to make it suitable for display.

Archaeological Methods

Introduction

Historical archaeology recovers physical evidence of past human activity and uses this, along with written and oral evidence, to develop the broadest possible interpretation of the past. The archaeological evidence is in the form of buried structures and deposits and these have to be systematically uncovered, examined, recorded and interpreted, along with any objects they contain. If these deposits are not excavated correctly, many objects will be found but a great deal of the potential evidence will be lost.

Written records are created for a particular purpose, most often as a record of an event or transaction. Because of this, and because most surviving records tend to be of an official nature they rarely tell us about the every day lives of ordinary people. For example, we know about the earliest pubs in the area almost exclusively from their licences, these were granted annually and record for us the identity of the publican and the general location. They tell us nothing about the pub or its role in the local community.

On the other hand, oral history can give us an intimate view of life in the past through the recollections of an individual. This is limited by the span of memory and filtered by personal perception. For example, some visitors to the site who knew and even lived in the buildings being excavated found it difficult to reconcile the surviving foundations with their memories of a standing building.

The physical evidence recovered by archaeology can often relate to every day activities, and things which people build, lose or discard can be free of the bias of records or the limits of memory. However, archaeological evidence has its own limitations, the most important of which is what evidence survives. For example, most food scraps decay when buried, but given the right soil conditions bones can survive indefinitely. Therefore, evidence for all the food eaten on the site has not survived, but by recovering and examining the bones from the sites we have been able to see what meats different households ate and whether they purchased their meat already butchered or slaughtered it themselves.

In interpreting the physical evidence the archaeologist uses written and oral history to provide context. For example, newspaper reports tell us that one of the early hotels, the Bush Inn, burnt down. Examination of the remains shows that the early hotel excavated on the Stanley Arms Site did not burn down, so it cannot be the Bush Inn.

By using the historical records found and interpreted by the historians, the recollections of those who knew the sites, and the evidence of past activity locked in the structures and deposits buried on the site it has been possible to learn far more about life in early Footscray than if we had used documents, memory or objects alone. This process will continue as new evidence comes to light and as the interpretation of the existing evidence is developed and refined.

The Excavation Process

The archaeological excavation ran for eight weeks, in two seasons, between January and April.

There were eight professional staff in the first season and three in the second season. The professional team had the privilege of working with 200 volunteers during the course of the project. Their direct contribution in labour and time amounted to 61.6% of the work. However, the wide range of expertise and experience they brought to the project cannot be measured, except in that so many of the successful findings of the investigation are a result of their commitment and endeavour. In all, more than three and a half work years were expended on the excavation. [See Figure 75]

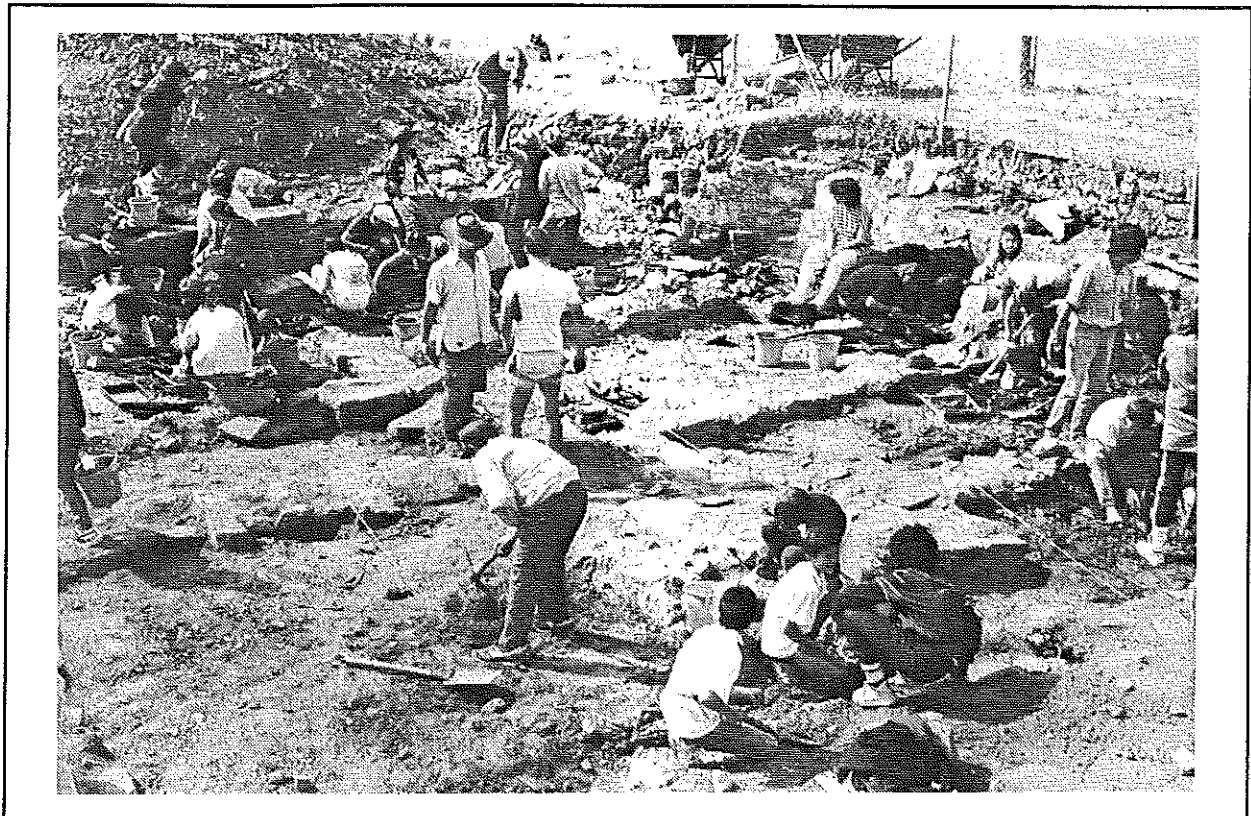


Figure 75

Volunteers, including a group of school students, excavating the southern rooms and cellar of the Bridge Hotel. Photograph Number M15.10 by Richard Moline

Although the excavation of the Stanley Arms Site was carried out with greater sensitivity in the second season when its greater significance was identified, the process of excavation on all of the sites can be described in general terms.

The excavation was carried out using an open area technique. In this approach the area excavated is not in accordance with a predetermined module but is as large as practicable in order to expose for investigation complete functional areas, such as whole buildings or at least whole rooms. The exposure of whole functional areas greatly enhances the successful interpretation of the excavated remains, and interpretation is the final aim of the investigation.

It is not normally possible, or even desirable, to excavate the whole of a site. The investigations were limited to part of the sites, and were targeted to retrieve an adequate sample of the most significant material. If the sample recovered is not adequate then the interpretation would be unsuccessful or unreliable. For example, excavating only one room of a house would not necessarily provide information to identify the uses of the other rooms. Every attempt was made to make the samples from the City Link sites large enough and broad enough to support the interpretation of past human activity on site.

The location of each of the three sites to be excavated was plotted from historic plans. A notional one square metre grid was then located over the site from survey points. [See Figure 76] Individual metre squares within the grid, called Quadrats, were identified using an alpha-numeric code. The notional grid was not used to define the excavated area but enabled one or more square metres of large deposits to be sampled and their artefacts to be kept separately.¹²³



Figure 76

Roger Cummins, David Ellson Snr and David Ellson Jnr documenting the precise location of the Pickett Cottages Site by measuring from survey points. Photograph Number M01.34 by Richard Moline

In the course of excavation, each separate deposit of soil, fill or demolition rubble was removed separately and completely to reveal the deposits below. Each deposit was planned, photographed¹²⁴ and described before removal, and the potential significance of the deposit determined how it was excavated and what was recovered from it. Each deposit, or other component of the site, such as a wall or pit, is assigned an individual Stratigraphic Unit Number, and all records and material related to that deposit are identified using this number.¹²⁵

Mechanical excavation was used where possible to remove deposits of little interpretive value, especially the recent fills which covered the sites. In most cases, one or more Quadrats of these deposits was carefully excavated by hand and the remainder was cleared mechanically.

123. For a detailed description of the excavation and recording system used in the excavation and analysis see Judy Birmingham & Andrew Wilson 1987 *Regentville Interim Report 3: The 1987 Field and Analysis Season*.

124. Most of the photography of the deposits and structures during excavation was carried out by Richard Moline. Dick's consistency and persistence, often under difficult conditions, provided an indispensable documentary record of the sites.

125. The plans and descriptions of each of the Stratigraphic Units are presented in Appendix 1 to this Report.

The Quadrat samples of significant deposits were quantified by weighing and broken into different sized components by sieving in graded sieves, to enable their precise description and interpretation. Using this technique it is possible, for example, to identify different types of rubble and determine if a building has been mechanically demolished, demolished by hand or allowed to collapse.¹²⁶

Almost all the structural remains uncovered during the excavation were left in place on the site.¹²⁷ When fully exposed, they were planned and recorded in detail, so that the development of the buildings, as well as any evidence of change or use, could contribute to the understanding of the site. [See Figure 77]

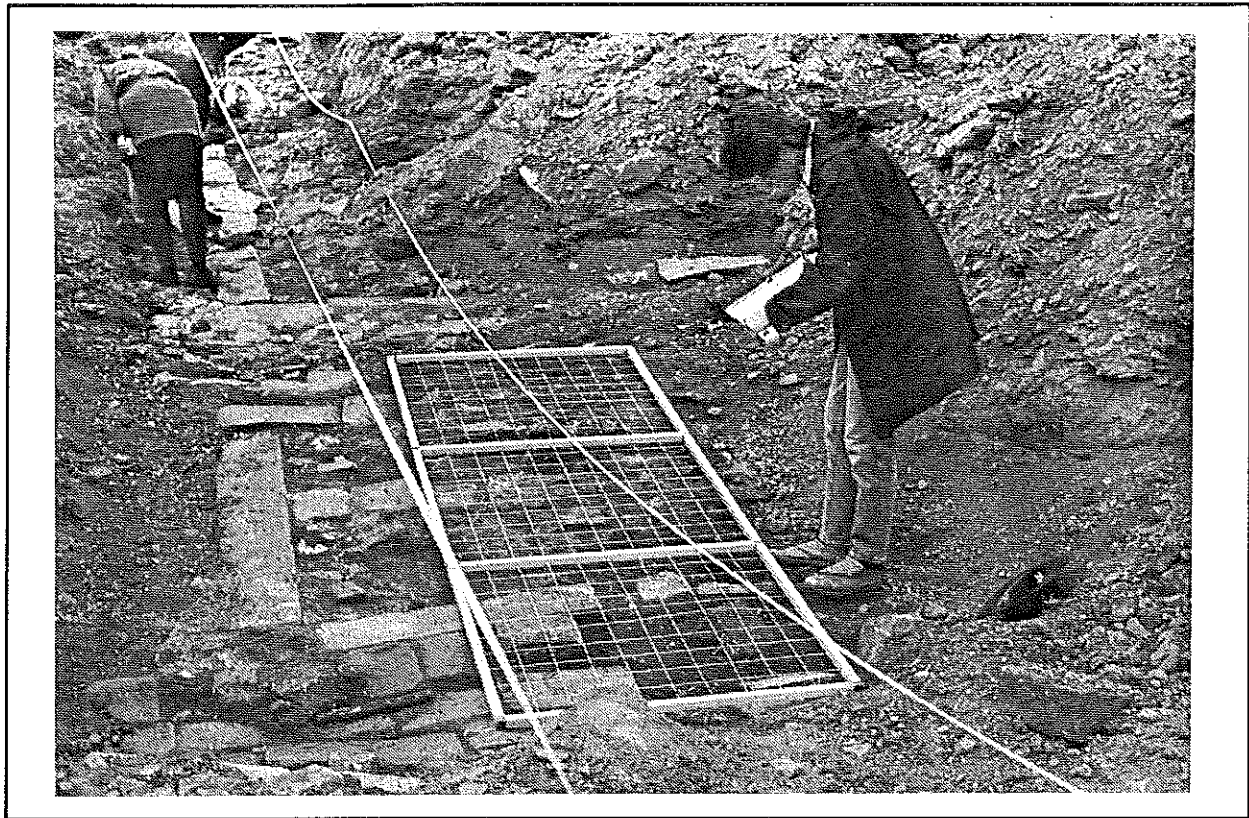


Figure 77

Andrew Wilson drawing a plan of the toilets of the Bridge Hotel. The grid frame has been placed across the remains and the details of the structure are drawn to scale on squared paper. Photograph Number M04.08 by Richard Moline

The excavation of the Bridge Hotel Site uncovered an area of 185 square metres and removed 463 cubic metres of soil in 117 separate stratigraphic units. The investigation of the Pickett Cottages Site revealed an area of 198 square metres and meant the removal of 356 cubic metres of soil in 49 stratigraphic units, and in the course of the excavation of the Stanley Arms Hotel Site an area of 460 square metres was investigated and 556 cubic metres of soil were removed in 220 units.

Therefore, the project excavated a total area of 843 square metres in 376 separate stratigraphic units, amounting to 1375 cubic metres of soil. [See Figure 78] Half the stratigraphic units investigated were structures of some kind, 25% were fills introduced onto the sites and 9% were rubbles from the demolition of buildings.

126. The results of these measurements are presented in Appendix 4 to this Report.

127. The exceptions to this policy were the wooden sole plates from the shed over the remains of the Bridge Hotel and part of the Stanley Arms Hotel that was dismantled in order to excavate a posthole. The dismantled section of the Stanley Arms Hotel was recorded and labelled so that it can be re-erected.

The Artefact Collection

The artefacts recovered from each deposit were kept separate and identified with the Stratigraphic Unit Number of that deposit. When deposits were thought to be of major importance for interpretation, the whole deposit was excavated in one square metre Quadrats. This made it possible to record the distribution of the deposit and artefacts across a room or area. In this case the artefacts from each Quadrat within the Unit were kept and labelled separately.

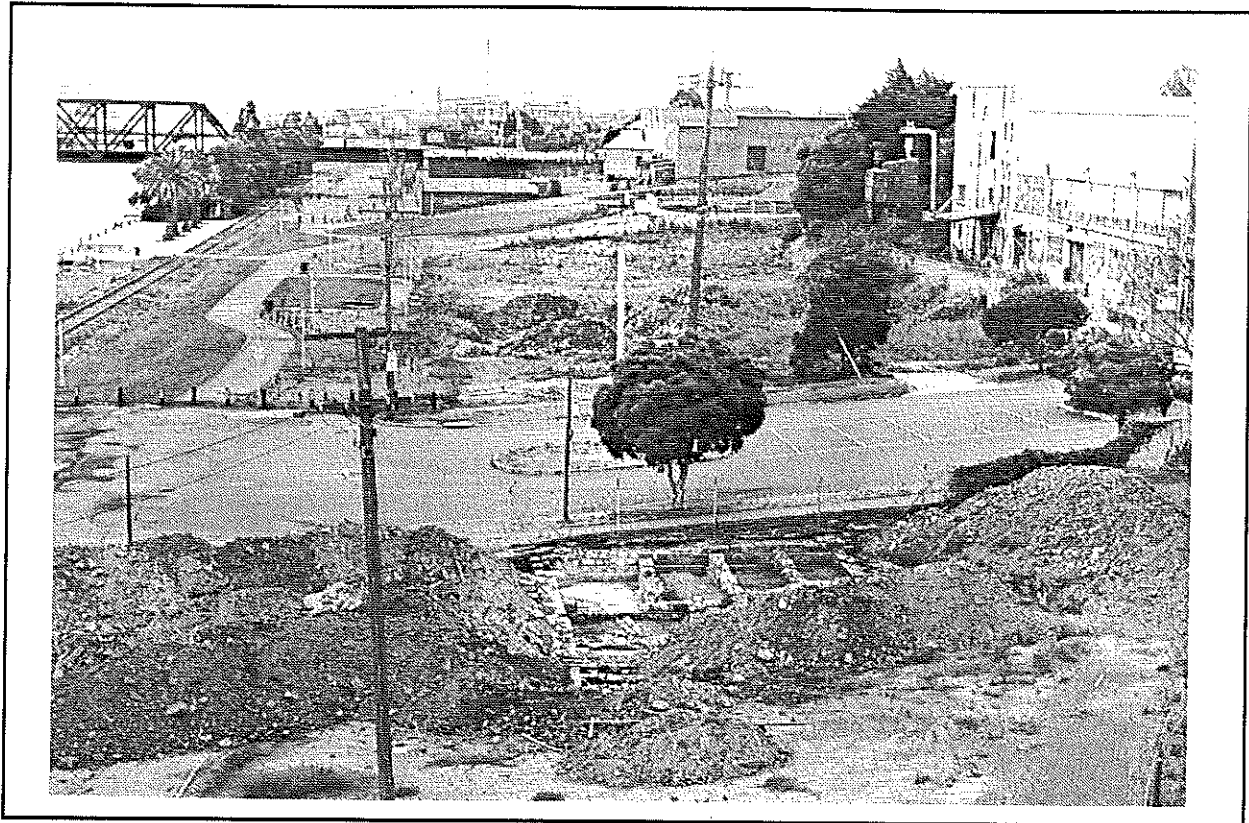


Figure 78

An overall view of the Bridge Hotel Site (foreground) and the Picket Cottages Site (middle ground) at the completion of excavation. The amount of soil excavated from the sites is clearly visible. Photograph Number M27.21 by David Bannear

The artefacts, consisting of all material introduced onto the site by human action, were processed in the Laboratory while the excavation proceeded. After recovery, the artefacts from each Unit or Quadrat were cleaned, dried and sorted into identical groups. At this stage artefacts with little interpretive potential were culled from the collection by the professional staff, always with regard to the significance of the deposit from which they were recovered. Building materials which were present in large quantities, such as plaster and mortar, were quantified at this stage and a sample was retained for future examination or analysis. [See Figure 79]

In all, 201767 artefacts, weighing 2 050 328.5 grams, were recovered and are stored in 13353 bags within 72 storage boxes. The excavation of the Bridge Hotel Site recovered 21710 artefacts from 38 separate deposits. The Cottages Site yielded 38413 artefacts from 21 deposits and the Stanley Arms Hotel Site resulted in 141626 artefacts from 86 deposits.



Figure 79

Dana Mider and David Ellson Jr washing artefacts prior to processing. The artefacts from each different deposit are kept in a separate labelled tray. Photograph Number M44.12 by Andrew Wilson

Almost three quarters of the artefacts recovered were related directly to the buildings and structures. Objects normally used in domestic situations accounted for 14.8% of the total, although proportions varied widely between the different types of sites. On the Cottages Site, objects used for food and drink storage (mostly glass bottles) constituted 2.6% of the artefacts, on the Bridge and Stanley Arms Hotels sites they were 14.4% and 12.2% respectively, clearly reflecting the predominance of bottles on the pub sites. Food related refuse (mostly bones) amounted to 4.8% of the total artefacts.

Of more than two hundred thousand artefacts, only 776, or 0.38%, had inscriptions, and after follow up documentary research only 217, or 0.10%, could be assigned firm dates. This figure includes 43 coins and tokens. Clearly, the successful interpretation of the material excavated from nineteenth century sites such as City Link depends on recognising patterns within the overall mass of material, not on the detailed assessment of important, individual objects which represent a minute proportion of the evidence on the site. The remaining artefacts were then described in the Artefact Inventory, counted, weighed, bagged, labelled and packed for storage. Some groups of artefacts, especially animal bones, require special expertise in sorting and identification, so these were inventoried by those with the appropriate skills.¹²⁸ Artefacts with interpretive potential such as marked ceramics or coins were photographed before

128. Most of the 8200 bones from the excavation were sorted and identified by Diana Coultas. The analysis of the bone remains which have formed such an important part of the interpretation of the site would not have been possible without her skill and dedication. Any errors in the interpretation are, of course, the responsibility of the author.

packaging, and artefacts requiring conservation treatment or further examination were packaged separately. Conservation and cleaning of some of the artefacts was undertaken by Maggie Barron of the Victoria Archaeological Survey. Normally, within three days of their excavation artefacts had been fully processed and packed for storage.¹²⁹ [See Figure 80]

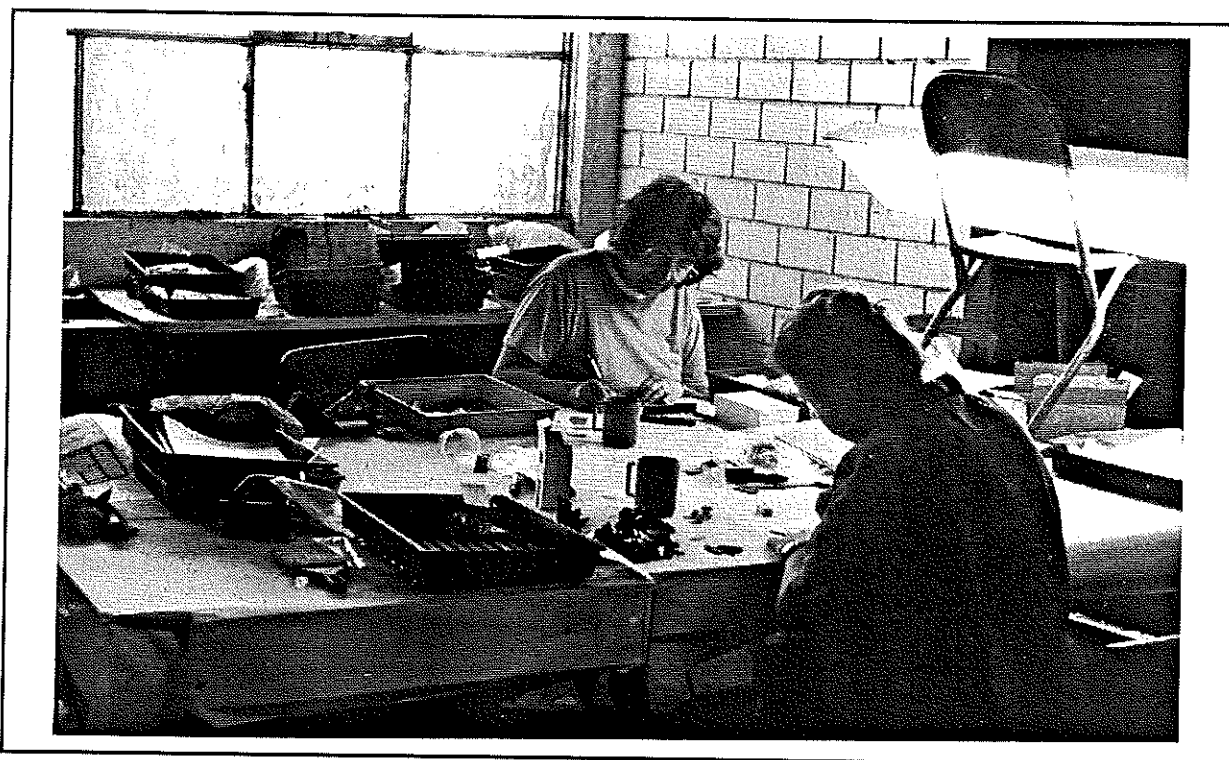


Figure 80

Diana Coultas and Dana Mider sorting, classifying, describing, and bagging artefacts in the laboratory. More than two hundred thousand artefacts were processed during the excavation and the results entered onto a computer database to assist with analysis and interpretation. Photograph Number M49.26 by Andrew Wilson

The Artefact Inventory was entered onto a version of the *MINARK* Scientific Database System to facilitate the computer assisted analysis and interpretation of the material.¹³⁰ The database contains approximately 2.2 million pieces of information and the analysis and production of this report involved 690 separate computer printouts. The analysis process involved the manipulation, production and assessment of 101 043 220 separate pieces of information.

The writing of the report has involved a full work year, in addition to the more than three and one half expended on the excavation. In all, the Report and its supporting documents amount to more than 2000 pages, yet the conclusions they present are based on only a fraction of the information collected from the sites. Much of the effort in compiling this report has gone into ensuring that the information collected from the sites was checked and verified by those who collected it. Future efforts will see the work presented here refined, corrected, reassessed and expanded as the full potential of the database is explored.

129. The complete Artefact Inventory and List of Contents of the Storage Boxes form Appendix 3 to this Report. The results of the computer manipulations undertaken to interpret the various deposits discussed in this report are presented in Appendix 2.

130. The *MINARK* program was developed by Dr Ian Johnson' of Quantitative Systems Pty Limited. The version used was based on that developed by the author and used at the Centre for Historical Archaeology at the University of Sydney. It was tested and modified to suit the City Link Site during the first two weeks of the excavation.

publication. Martin Carney who provided information on bottles from his private research which is unavailable elsewhere. Jeffery Jones, the Emanuel School Library, Sydney, who supplied research on Benjamin Levi and his family. Suzy Coleman, Professor Alan Crown of the Department of Semitic Studies, University of Sydney, Masha Eisenberg and Suzanne Rutland who helped with matters Jewish. Dr Miles Lewis, Department of Architecture, University of Melbourne, who visited the site and advised on building technique and form.

When the report had reached its final stages several people provided helpful comments on the draft. These included Diana Coultas, Christopher Douglas, John Lack, Andrew May, Wendy Morris and Iain Stuart.

It is not possible to conclude without acknowledging the special role that Wendy Morris and Iain Stuart have played in the project. Their involvement went well beyond their official duties and what success the project may have achieved is a tribute to their commitment, faith and generosity.

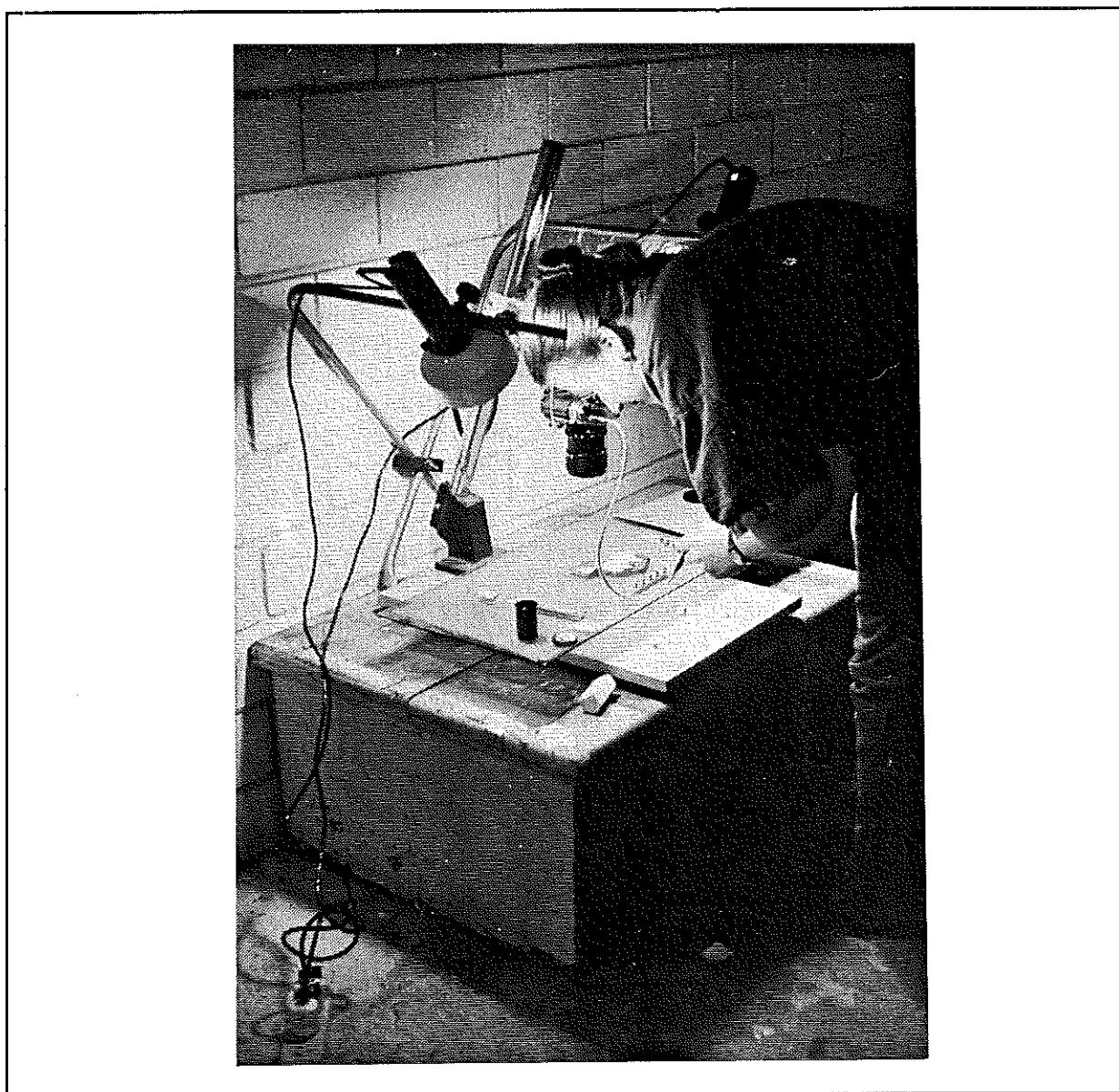


Figure 81

Dana Mider photographing artefacts prior to their bagging and storage. All artefacts with potential for further research were photographed as they were processed in the laboratory. Photograph Number M49.24 by Andrew Wilson

Excavation Team

The excavation was carried out largely by volunteers working under the guidance of a team of professional consultant archaeologists. The professional team was responsible for the direction of the excavation and the form in which the excavation and the artefacts were recorded. However, volunteers participated in every aspect of the investigation.

The following is a list of those who participated in the work on site.

Professional Team: First Season

Project Manager: Damaris Bairstow
Systems Manager: Andrew Wilson
Site Supervisor: David Bannear
Laboratory Supervisor: Barbara Fitzroy

Administrative Officer: Robyn Annear

Assistant Archaeologist: Nicholas Arnold
Assistant Archaeologist: Dana Mider
Assistant Archaeologist: Roger Cummins

Professional Team: Second Season

Project Manager: Damaris Bairstow
Systems and Site Manager: Andrew Wilson
Laboratory Supervisor: Dana Mider

Volunteers

Miradia Alievska
Mark Allen
Matthew Anderson
Ida Angerosa
Anne Balloch
Jim Bates
Val Bell
Geoff Bellamy
Benjamin Brazil
Gideon Brazil
Marcus Brazil
Steve Brazil
Andrew Breaden
Anne Brown
Tal Brown
Brunswick Grammar School Year 7
Hilary Bullock
Jodie Camenzuli
Jeffrey Camilleri
Geoffrey Carstairs
Sherri Caruaha
Andrew Ciaurella
Mary Chennells
Chunki
Melissa Clavan
Anne Chithgroe
John Terrence Clithgroe
Janet Cohen
Janet Cole
Diana Coultas
Joyce Irene Coupe
Roy Cred
Margaret Crouch
Matthew Devlin
Marcello Diamante
Anne Don
Pearl Donald
Louise Dowell
Janet Downing
Draino the cat
Maria Drossos
David Ellson (Snr)
David Ellson (Jnr)
David Evans
Vivienne Evans
Josephine Fazzolari
Susan Finch
Ella Foley-Teuben
Elizabeth Georgievska
Arthur Georgopoulos
Gary Gibson
Valentino Gikovski
Chris Glynn
Jenny Gough
Mary Gough
Nigel Gough
Simon Gough
Anne Gregory
Gladys Grigg
Zina Haddad
Mike Hall
Shane Harris
Margaret Harry
Bernard Hennemair
Bronwyn Higgs
Dorothy Hirt
Brian Hodge
Sally Hogan
Sheryl Holian
Margaret Hookey
Chris Hooper
Martin Humberger
Kieran Hosty
James Howard
Hunki
Ruth Irving
Tony Jenner
Linda Johnston
Paula Johnstone
Kylie Keen
Chy Kith
Betty Knight
David Kronic
Steven Last
Gi Lay
Shelley Lewis
Rosemarie Liendl
Tchung Lim
Mark Lovell
Chris Lumsden
David Lumsden
Julia Lumsden
John McCormick
Kerrie McCormick
Timothy McCormick
Alistair McDonald
Greg MacPherson
Robin Marks
Russell Maunder
Pia Meronen
David Milburn
Chris Minas
Sophie Minas
Jeffrey Mish
Richard Moline
Wendy Morris
Rowena Moyle
Cynthia Munro
Paul Murrain
Rhonda Nankivell
Peter Nener
Barish Nezif
Jeff Niemski
Daniel O'Callaghan
Archie Pardalis
Robin Paris
Muriel Perry
Susie Petrovska
Pigeon
Ian Pitt
Margaret Reid
Suzi Ristevska
Chris Risteviski
Brian Ross-Soden
Caroline Stanley Russell
T. Russell
Lynette Russell-Cook
Spiros Sahanis
Sally Salter
Timothy Sangster
Fiona Schutt
Scrawny the kitten
Skerrick the kitten
Margory Sherwood
Tanya Simic
Aneta Slaveska
Bradley Smith
Sonia Spence
Andrew Starczak
Mandi Stelling
Iain Stuart
Anthony Summers
Jason Thompson
Chris Topouzis
Dean Turner
Mark Tweg
Bridget Upjohn
Marian Uren
Nicholas Uren
Rebecca Vandersluys
Jim Vaux
Corey Vella
Debbie Vella
Ray Vella
Christine Vrantzis
Srecko Vuzem
Cathrine Waldron
Robynne Waldron
David Walker
Diane Walker
Narelle Welsh
Peter Westmore
Nicole White
Ann Williams
Arthur Gibbs Wilson
Siria Wilson
Anne Woodman
John Zefara



Figure 82

Team party at the end of the First Season, none of the headgear was worn by its owner. Left to Right; Russell Walker, Damaris Bairstow (front), David Walker, Chris Hooper (front), Diana Coultas, Andrew Breaden, Nicholas Arnold (front), Diane Walker (middle), Dana Mider (front), Robyn Annear, Brabara Fitzroy (front) Jan Downing, Wendy Morris (front), Roger Cummins, Pearl Donald (front), Andrew Wilson and David Bannear. Photograph by Tony Jenner.

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