CUMBERLAND/GLOUCESTER STREETS SITE
Archaeological Investigation 1994

Volume 3 Part 2
Trench Reports

Prepared for
The Sydney Cove Authority

September 1996
This is **Volume 3** of a 6 volume set of reports. This volume consists of 2 individual parts containing the trench reports for the Cumberland/Gloucester Streets site, Archaeological Investigations 1994, the Rocks.

These reports are presented in the following order within the 2 parts of **Volume 3**

The bolded reports are those contained in this part of the 2 parts of **Volume 3**.

### VOLUME 3  TRENCH REPORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Part</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area A</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area B</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area C</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area D</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area E</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Area F</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area J</td>
<td>Martin Carney</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0 INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 LOCATION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 AREA / VOLUME</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 OBJECTIVES</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 METHODOLOGY</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 CONSTRAINTS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION/DUTIES</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 AREA D</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.1 The Byrne Property</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASES</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 AREA D - PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 AREA D SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT OCCUPATION</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.1 Demolition and Post Demolition - Phases 6 to 11</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.2 Berry's Terraces - Phase 5-7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.3 The Plymouth Arms - Phases 4-7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.4 Byrne Occupation - Phases 2-7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.5 European occupation before the Byrnes - Phase 2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.6 Aboriginal Occupation - Phase 1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.7 Natural Features - Phase 1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 MATRIX</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 CONTEXT LISTS</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.1 Context List - Area D</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.0 RESULTS</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 SIGNIFICANCE OF SURVIVING FEATURES</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1.1 Reports</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1.2 Published Sources</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 APPENDICES</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.1 Soil samples</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.2 Mortar Samples</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 PLANS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Area D retains highly significant archaeological material. The significance of this material as an archaeological resource cannot be overstated. It is perhaps the most significant archaeological resource surviving in Sydney.

The material excavated and recorded was not only chronologically diverse, perhaps dating as early as the 1790s and ranging up to the 1990s, but also in nature. Occupation material was excavated from hotels, shops, homes and industrial complexes.

Area D contained structural features and occupation material from the early European occupation period for the Byrne and Kelly property. Subsequent subdivision of this property from the c.1850s resulted in further building along the north west side of Cumberland Street which were also recorded during the excavation of this area.

The analysis of the material excavated in area D when combined and compared with the rest of the site, and other material, will not only tell the story of this land, but will add markedly to the picture of the Rocks and Sydney.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report provides an overview of the features excavated in Area D of the Cumberland/Gloucester Streets site in the Rocks, Sydney. A list of contexts/units is contained in section 3.5.1. Specific information about any individual contexts should be sought in the original context sheets. A full list of photographic details is included elsewhere in the volume series. A list detailing plan numbers of the various locations of the site, documented in this report is included in section 5.0.

This report identifies the physical events observed, that were systematically removed from the site. In some cases these are interpreted, and in a lessor number these are aligned with historical events. In all but a few cases the sequence of these events are not open to re-interpretation as simply one event preceded another in the stratigraphic matrix; the date (within parameters), significance or interpretation of the deposits/features is at this point in time open to interpretation.

Area D (aside from initial clearing under the supervision of Matthew Kelly) commenced on September 1, 1994.

1.1 LOCATION

Area D was on the northern side of Cribbs Lane, fronting Cumberland Street. It was bounded on the north by Area J, and on the east by Area E.

1.2 AREA/VOLUME

This area comprised approximately 315 square metres. Only the cellar fill (50%) of the hotel and slab over the Byrne house/terraces were removed by machine. Approximately 80 cubic metres of deposit was manually removed from area D.
1.3 OBJECTIVES

Area D was a construct, being based on property boundaries finally defined in the 1860s. The area at that time comprised two terraces and the adjoining, 'original', Australian Hotel (formerly the Plymouth Arms and Hibernian Hotel), however, all of that land was originally a portion of the Byrne grant, and was specifically selected for excavation as the location of the original Byrne home.

1.4 METHODOLOGY

Deposits were removed, where possible, in the reverse order to their creation. It was impossible to pursue this methodology in all cases as 'hard surfaces' and structural remains remained unexcavated at the request of the Sydney Cove Authority.

Each identified event was allotted a separate context number. Lenses within contexts were noted as a part of the main context description. Occupation material was appended with an alpha-numeric one metre square grid reference relating to the structure, while deposits extending over the site grid lines were given a site grid reference, being area, context and Easting and Northing.

The open area removal of deposits by definition must limit the number of sectional drawings created, however sections were drawn, where they were created, by the site planning team. Indicative sections were drawn for all areas in the supervisors diary. These sections were part of a cumulative process, and were constantly added to.

Plans were made of all structural features and all but a few discrete deposits. Featureless deposits assuming the whole area within a structure or area were not planned (what can you plan?) and the context numbers simply nested one above the other within the relevant area. Rubble fills were not planned, but photographically recorded. Levels were taken of each area recorded by the planning team. All planning was undertaken by the planning team, except errors or omissions discovered during a final check of the plans by the area supervisor. The planning team were assisted by various people in the recording of levels.

Photographs were requested of all features and contexts before and after they were excavated, except in the case of some 'spits', which are an archaeological construct. In one instance colour slides were not taken because of camera fault. Photographs of in-situ features /artefacts /work in progress were randomly requested. All photographs, except for one day, were taken by Patrick Grant.
In accordance with site strategy all open or yard areas were excavated on five metre site grids. Any internal 'occupation' deposits were excavated in 10cm spits (where applicable), and one metre grids, the grids were aligned to the room excavated, not the site grid, for the sake of sanity. All occupation material and cess pits (except capping fills) were sieved (wet or dry dependant on the conditions - see individual context sheets), and yard areas sample sieved to varying degrees (see individual contexts). The deposit removed from yard areas, while largely not sieved was closely sifted for artefacts. Fills were less closely sifted. The nature of deposits was recorded on the site context sheets.

Occupation material was volumetrically quantified, while open areas were measured cubically (depth times area). Volume was measured down to quarter buckets of a known capacity.

Soils samples were collected from all occupation and yard areas, some were collected from fills. Mortar, Render and Paint samples were collected were it was possible. (see context list for a full list of soil samples - building material samples should be sought in the Building Materials Artefact Report prepared by Kevin Barnes). Full scientific descriptions of the various soils collected is therefore available through the various samples collected. Only minute portions of undisturbed soil strata were encountered, the largest proportion of deposits below the 1917 levelling were occupation, fill, or redeposited topsoil.

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

Hard surfaces, including cement, walls and paving of all kinds were not removed at the request of the Sydney Cove Authority. It is therefore likely that significant and representative archaeological material has been left unexcavated, especially as the areas left unexcavated were not targeted by research design or any methodological process, but simply the fact that a 'hard' surface covered them. The area under the terraces facing Cumberland Street, in front of the Byrne house, are likely to have retained significant occupation material both for the terrace phase and earlier. These were not excavated as they were set aside for site access and spoil removal.
1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION/DUTIES

This area was supervised by Martin Carney with the assistance of Kevin Barnes. Matthew Kelly undertook some of the initial supervision of 'Area D'. A constant stream of volunteers gave their time, however several stayers deserve special mention. They are special but in no order, Bob Fails, Sue, Pam Gait, Karyn McLeod, Katia Davis, Stravos Venetsanakos, Emma Thompson, Walter, Kerry Ireland, Pat Tunks, Celia Jones, and Dennis.

Graham Wilson provided invaluable information on the geology and soils of the area throughout the excavation.

All of the various 'specialists' constantly gave their time to identify or date the various finds of the day.
2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The following historical data is drawn largely from documents written by Grace Karskens for Godden Mackay. Additional research was undertaken by all of the specialist artefact team. All of the material below, except that separately referenced, was extracted from *Cumberland Street/Gloucester Streets Site, The Rocks An Historical Discourse* by Grace Karskens for Godden Mackay.

2.1 AREA D

Area D was entirely within the original Byrne Property, other parts of the Byrne property were examined in Area H, J and E.

2.1.1 The Byrne Property

Richard Byrne, stonemason, arrived in 1800, his wife Margaret Kelly in 1804. They appear to have met in 1805 on Richard's return from Norfolk Island, and though never married had a family of six children during the period of 1806-1818. By 1809 (but probably 1806) the couple had a good sized property on the northern side of Cribbs Lane. The property was bordered by Cribbs Lane, Cumberland Street and a rock face on the east. By 1811 the property boasted two houses, it seems the northern one was sold that year. Both structures can be seen on Harpers 1823 plan.

The occupancy details of the northern structure (possibly sold in 1811) are vague, though it is clear that the property was granted to William Williams in 1838. By 1845 two shops had been built in front of the earlier house by the property's trustee Edward Davies. At the rear a stone house is described, possibly the original Byrne construction but probably its replacement.

If the 1823 and 1834-35 plans are compared it is clear that in 1823 the northern house is closer to Cumberland Street than the Byrne house, while it is evident in 1834-35 that the Byrne house is closer to Cumberland Street. The likely solution is that the original timber house was extended at the rear by a stone addition some time after 1823, and that the timber house was demolished at the completion of the stone house or before 1834. In 1845 the shops took up the place where the original timber house once stood. They were all demolished during the resumptions, some time before 1915. The stone "Williams" house shown in 1835 was not identified in the archaeological record, presumably having been removed by post 1917 activity.
The Byrne family remained in the original house up to the 1850s, and the house was finally demolished about 1860-61. Richard Byrne became a publican in Cumberland Street in 1832, dying shortly afterwards. During the period 1823-34 the Byrne house was extended south towards Cribbs Lane. Karskens has indicated that this may have been caused by the licensing of the family home as a hotel, but there is little other evidence to support this thesis.

In 1842-44 Patrick Byrne sold the portion of the family allotment at the corner of Cribbs Lane and Cumberland Street. Thomas Share who had recently completed a hotel on the opposite corner, purchased the land and built a new structure there. It was finally licensed as the *Plymouth Arms*. The construction of the new hotel caused the destruction of the southern extension of the original Byrne house, reducing it to almost its former size. The hotel was later named the *Hibernian* and the *Australian*, it was finally resumed and demolished shortly after 1915.

In 1861 Byrne sold off the remaining portion of the property to Robert Berry (Thomas Share's successor). Berry immediately demolished the old house and erected two terraces. Archaeological evidence indicated that the rear wall foundations of the terraces were set upon the original front wall (Cumberland Street) foundations of the Byrne house. The original house occupied largely what was to become the yards of the terraces. The terraces were demolished between 1911 and 1915.
3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Photographic references refer to black and white prints referenced thus (B18.10) referring to Black and White roll number 18 negative 10. References to the various contexts will be found as such D048-052, D016 and etc. Four digit numbers like 2035 refer to the test trenching undertaken before the main excavation. Site plans and sections ran in numerical order for the whole site, and are referenced simply as for example 'plan 45' or 'section 107'.

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASES

A group of archaeological phases was agreed upon by the team in order to answer research design questions. The phases are largely based on historically defined milestones across the site. It is impossible for all of the excavated material to fit within the defined phases. Where excavated material runs across several phases it is simply described as say for example 'phases 2-3'. If an excavated deposit is even partially included within a phase it is described as within that phase, however in these instances a likely date is also supplied.

3.2 AREA D - PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

The pursuit of the original Byrne House in Area D was frustrated by later features, principally the terraces that replaced it and post-1917 constructions. However, intact occupation material belonging to the original house period (c1809-1860?) was located in the western (Cumberland Street) half. The deposits of the eastern half were badly disturbed by later features, yet structural elements were identifiable. The wooden structure was built on a sandstone base, no doubt to level the rocky terrain. The amount of brick rubble and mortar identified in the demolition was a clear indicator that at least some parts of the structure were brick (though possibly only the chimneys).

3.3 AREA D SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT OCCUPATION

3.3.1 Demolition and Post Demolition - Phases 6 to 11

The post demolition phase in area D was represented by a series of structural features and levelling fill. The structures are represented by D006-009, 010-011, 020-022 & 074, the fill by D001 & 003. Only the last two provided an artefactual
assemblage. All of the structural features were recorded in plan and photograph, but not removed. (B32.2-6)

3.3.2 Berry’s Terraces - Phase 5-7

The back wall of the terraces (D004), a portion of the rear yard and an 1880s enclosure (D010) were recorded. The only deposits related to the terrace occupation it appears were disturbed fills over the original Byrne House created in the 1860s to level the yard of the terraces (D043). Internal deposits related to the terrace occupation while likely to survive, were outside the study brief. Occupation deposits of the yards and 1880s extensions appear to have been largely cut away for the laying of concrete slabs (D074). (B56.33-34)

3.3.3 The Plymouth Arms - Phases 4-7

Excavation in the Plymouth Arms was restricted to the clearing of demolition fills (D001) and the recording of exposed features (see area D context table). Most of the yard area of the hotel was disturbed by later features, undisturbed areas were 'hard' surfaces. It was made clear through excavation and reference to documentary material that at the time the hotel was built it forced the demolition of a post-1823, pre-1835, extension to the original Byrne house. Some occupation material of the extension probably resides under the yard surface of the former hotel, another portion of the material was destroyed by the installation of the hotel's cellar (D013). (B34.31-32, B48.14-22)

3.3.4 Byrne Occupation - Phases 2-7

Occupation material related to the Byrne House was encountered as expected in the yards of the former Berry terraces. The remaining structure was a sandstone foundation, seemingly formed in two halves (D037, 041, 047, 051, 057, 062-063, 080-84). The sequence of the halves was not confirmed by excavation as the joining points were largely destroyed by later developments, however both portions were in place by 1835. Only the western half was the least disturbed and fully excavated. The halves may have simply been sequential, structural features in the original construction. The excavation of occupation material (D045, 061) in the western half found, other than a few 1799 farthings there was little evidence to support a pre 1820s date of occupation for the structure, though material post dating the 1820-30s was abundant. The occupation material had been highly compressed by its use as a yard surface and the later laying of a concrete slab, so much occupation material will be included in the demolition layers (D039, 040, 042, 044) because of the compression of deposits. The occupation material, should date before c1860, while demolition/occupation material will include the period 1807?-1860, and the few artefacts included at the time of demolition.
A midden (D046, 050, 052-054) of artefacts deposited outside the Byrne house, in a nook created by a chimney (D051) may have been deposited by occupants of the 'Williams' house. D052-54 appear to have been cut for the foundation trench of the 1845 terraces. (B56.30-36, B57.1-3, B62.27-36)

3.3.5 European occupation before the Byrnes - Phase 2

No deposits were observed that clearly predated the original Byrne structure, however in the adjoining area (J) next to a chimney base of the Byrne House a feature was observed that may have been a post hole (D079), cut into the stratigraphic level preceding the construction of the Byrne House. The feature was however largely beneath the foundation of the adjoining terraces (J003, 016-017), and therefore not excavated. If the feature is a post hole then it is a part of an early structure. It may be any early and unknown structure or simply a boundary fence post (presumably dating to the period after 1811). (B62.31)

3.3.6 Aboriginal Occupation - Phase 1

No evidence of the aboriginal occupation of the area was observed.

3.3.7 Natural Features - Phase 1

Apparently undisturbed natural top soil (D071) was encountered below floor levels in the western portion of the Byrne House. Shelves of natural bedrock were also recorded beneath the western half of the Byrne house. (B66.31-36, B67.1, B68.16-36)
### 3.4 MATRIX - Byrne House, Berry's Terraces and Hotel (with correlates to Williams shops)

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Phase XI

Phase VIII - X

Phase VII

Phase III-VI
3.5 CONTEXT LISTS

The following list is broken down into seven columns. Column one is the context number. Column two is the significance of the unit to answer research questions during by artefact analysis (see definitions - Godden Mackay). The third is the relative significance of the unit. A brief description follows in column four. Column five records the nature of any samples taken. Column six gives a site location based on property numbers defined in 1880. Column seven provides a phase and thus specific matrix identification. Sub phases are located on the individual phase matrix.

3.5.1 Context List - Area D

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</tbody>
</table>
4.1 SIGNIFICANCE OF SURVIVING FEATURES

Area D retains significant pre-1820 material beneath the Berry terraces, and perhaps the eastern wing of the Byrne House (though it may be disturbed). The occupation deposits of the Berry terraces are probably of moderate significance.
5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY

5.1.1 Reports

Carney, Martin D.
Archaeological Assessment of the Properties Located at 20, 22, 28 & 30 Merriman Street and 28, 37, & 53 Kent Street Millers Point. September 1993
Godden Mackay Pty Ltd & Grace Karskens

The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site, The Rocks - An Historical Discourse. May 1994
Godden Mackay Pty Ltd & Grace Karskens

The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site, Archaeological Investigation - Archaeological Assessment and Research Design, April 1994

5.1.2 Published Sources

Historical Records of Australia. Sydney, 1914
Mann D.D. The Present Picture of NSW, London 1811
Sands Sydney Directory 1858-59
Sydney Gazette

5.2 APPENDICES

5.2.1 Soil samples

See context sheets for nature of samples taken. The existence of samples is noted in the context list in section 3.5. Samples were taken from clean, un-sieved portions of the subject deposit. Multiple samples were taken in some instances.

5.2.2 Mortar Samples

Many more mortar samples remain to be taken, but they would involve the destruction of standing features, should their destruction be inevitable then an extensive sampling strategy should be employed. The existence of mortar samples for structures should be sought on the specific unit sheets.
6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 PLANS

The following are the numbers of the plans for Area D.

103
173
104
101
99
100

6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS

All photographs are referred to by reference in the text of Section 3.
CUMBERLAND/GLOUCESTER STREETS SITE
Archaeological Investigation 1994
Trench Report - Area E

Nadia Iacono

September 1996
## CONTENTS

### SYNOPSIS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION / SITE DESIGNATION

1.2 AREA / VOLUME

1.3 OBJECTIVES

1.4 METHODOLOGY

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT

3.2.1 Phase 1 Pre European Pre - 1788

3.2.2 Phase 2 Initial European Settlement 1788 - c.1810

3.2.3 Phase 3 Consolidation c.1810 - c.1833

3.2.4 Phase 4 Transition c.1833 - c.1851

3.2.5 Phase 5 Intensive Occupancy c.1851 - c.1880

3.2.6 Phase 6 Decay? c.1880 - c.1900

3.2.7 Phase 7 Clearance c.1900 - c.1916

3.2.8 Phase 8 Engineering Works c.1916 - c.1924

3.2.9 Phase 9 Engineering Works c.1924 - c.1950

3.2.10 Phase 10 Bus Depot c.1950 - 1972

3.2.11 Phase 11 Sydney Cove Authority c.1972 - c.1994

3.2.12 Phase 12 Recent activity 1994

3.3 MATRIX - AREA E

3.4 LIST OF CONTEXTS

3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS

3.6 ARTEFACTS - GENERAL

3.7 DISCUSSION OF ARTEFACTS AND CONTEXT RELATIONS

4.0 RESULTS

5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 ENDNOTES

5.2 SOURCES

5.3 APPENDICES

6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 PLANS

6.2 SECTION DRAWINGS

6.3 PHOTOGRAPHS

### PAGE

i

1

1

2

2

3

4

4

5

6

6

9

9

10

11

11

12

13

13

13

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Trench E, located in the central area, north of Cribbs Lane on the Cumberland/Gloucester Street site, contained evidence of former building and occupation activity dating back as early as c.1805. Excavation revealed the remains of four small terrace houses built along the Cribbs Lane frontage in the mid 1850s. Terrace 2, situated between Terrace 3 and a walkway separating it from Terrace 1 was excavated to bedrock, and associated yard deposits also investigated.

The terraces appear to have been constructed directly onto yard surfaces which are part of the earlier Byrne/Kelly property situated on this side of the site. Two of the earliest known occupants on the site, Margaret Kelly and Richard Byrne, owned property bound by Cumberland Street in the west and Cribbs Lane in the south from c.1805 - c.1860. Trench E incorporated the yard area of this property.

A large cesspit constructed of sandstone blocks during the Byrne/Kelly phase was exposed in the northern area of the trench. Artefacts recovered from fill inside this cesspit were significantly later in date than the structure itself, indicating reuse of the cesspit by the occupants of the later c.1850s constructed Cribbs Lane terraces.

Remains of a truncated box drain were also revealed immediately south of, and almost butting the cesspit on an north-south alignment. A shallow well, less than 1 metre deep and constructed of sandstone blocks and capping stones, was also exposed and recorded during excavations in Trench E. Both the well and artefacts recovered from fill inside it, date the structure to the site's early settlement period. It was located in the central area of both the trench and the original Byrne/Kelly yard, and like the cesspit, probably built by Byrne himself, who was a stonemason. None of these structures appear on early plans of the site.

The western face of the property's eastern boundary wall and an abutting, but slightly later constructed retaining wall further north east, were also revealed during excavation of Trench E. These walls divided the property from others located on Gloucester Street below in the east.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION / SITE DESIGNATION

The Cumberland/Gloucester Streets site comprises the vacant block of land immediately south of the Australian Hotel and running between Cumberland Street and Gloucester Street, the Rocks.

Within the site, Trench E was situated on the north side of the site, north of Cribbs Lane. This trench was located between trench D in the west, F and G to the east and H further north.

Trench E incorporated the remains of three terraces fronting Cribbs Lane in the south. The eastern boundary was defined by a sandstone wall running north-south with a significant drop to trenches F, G and part of H below (fronting Gloucester Street). To the north the boundary originally incorporated vacant land rear of properties 108-114 Cumberland Street and rear of the Cribbs Lane terraces. This area was later eliminated from the trench and the excavation area reduced to the boundary of the Byrne property cesspit in the north. The western boundary between trenches D and E was defined by the eastern property boundary of buildings 108-114 Cumberland Street.

1.2 AREA / VOLUME

Initially Trench E covered an area roughly rectangular in shape. The area of excavation was later reduced in accordance with the objectives to be accomplished (see 1.3 below).

Dimensions of the initial area of excavation were:
West boundary: c.22.60 m   East boundary: c.21.00 m
North boundary: c.10.70 m   South boundary: c.11.00 m

Dimensions of the reduced area in which excavation was completed were:
West boundary: c.16.50 m   East boundary: c.14.50 m
North boundary: c.7.30 m   South boundary: max. 5.60 m

The volume of material deposit removed during excavation of Trench E was 87.5m³ cubic metres.
1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives in excavating Trench E were as follows:

To investigate the degree of survival of deposits associated with the occupation of one of the Cribbs Lane terraces, as well as building techniques, materials used and the relationship between the building and its external yard surfaces.

If undisturbed, to excavate spilt/spatially the occupation remains of one of the three Cribbs Lane terraces.

To locate and excavate 50% of the yard area associated with the Byrne property to bedrock. This involved investigation of deposits associated with outbuildings on the Byrne property and the possible function, building technique and materials used in construction of these structures.

1.4 METHODOLOGY

Following the excavation in May 1994 of two test trenches within the area later occupied by Trench A it was decided to remove by mechanical excavator all deposits lying above an horizon recognised as belonging to the Engineering works period or to deep fill associated with the Plague clearance. This resulted in the removal of all post-1917 soft deposits and slab surfaces, leaving intact, where possible, structural remains dating to the period between c.1917 and c.1923. The deposits removed by machine were cleared under archaeological supervision, deposit by deposit. Each deposit thus removed was provided with a unit number and was sampled during excavation.

Bulk removal of deposits by hand was only undertaken during the clearing operations following machine excavation.

Generally an open area excavation approach was used in trench E. The methodology employed in this trench ranged from spilt-spatial excavation of occupation deposits through to bulk excavation of large volumed deposits or deposits considered to be of low significance. Of the remains of the three Cribbs Lane terraces in this area, No.2 Cribbs Lane was the only one fully excavated.
All occupation deposits were removed using a spit/spatial methodology. Early external surfaces were removed by unit and by square in accordance with the five metre site grid. Artefacts, where they existed, were collected from all deposits, the aim being a 100% collection rate where possible. All occupation deposits, cesspit and refuse-pit fills were sieved. Bulk removal of deposits by hand was only undertaken during the clearing operations following machine excavation. The majority of excavation was carried out by hand with the supervised assistance of volunteers.

The underfloor deposits [E032-035] in the north and south rooms of Terrace 2 fronting Cribbs Lane were excavated in 5cm spits within one metre by one metre squares in alpha-numeric sequence (1).

Two one metre square sondages were excavated in terraces 1 and 2 in order to determine which of these contained the least disturbed interior deposits. Whilst results from these sondages were not conclusive the terrace 2 deposits appeared more intact. Excavation of terrace 2 and associated remains commenced after appraisal of results from the two sondages.

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

On the whole constraints encountered during excavation of trench E took the form of disturbance of early deposits by later phases of building and demolition activity in areas. The greatest of these was extensive installation of storm water and sewer services to the 1860s terraces and surrounding buildings later in the century (c.1860s?). Disturbance during the engineering works phase 1917 - 1933 also impacted upon earlier deposits. This took two main forms, the first being concrete support piers for the engineering works structures. These had been cut through earlier deposits and remained in situ during excavation of trench E. Levelling fill for the engineering works also altered sub surface deposits and features. The above constraints were not specific to trench E. A number of sub surface deposits in E were disturbed by more recent activity in the area. Earlier deposits in trench H and the far north area of trench E were disturbed in the 1950s during preparation of the area for the bus parking depot installed at that time. The fill in this area combined material from all phases up to 1950.

Trench E was used as a spoil dump and sieving area for the first half of excavation prior to the opening of the north side of the site for excavation. Water, sieving and excavator machine activity across the area had a significant impact on sub surface deposits, contaminating these in some areas.

Hence the removal of late deposits within Trench E left some earlier deposits exposed and consequently disturbed by more recent machine activity in this area prior to archaeological excavation.
The availability of information contained in the individual artefact reports regarding the assemblage from this trench would greatly assist in a comprehensive assessment of the archaeological evidence for this area. This material was unfortunately unavailable at the time of writing. Results from the excavation are discussed in further detail in the Artefact Reports contained in a separate volume of this report.

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report has been prepared by Nadia Iacono. The historical context for the report was derived from research provided by Grace Karskens in the Historical Discourse for the site. Photographs referred to in the body of the report were taken by Patrick Grant while the majority of plans and sections were prepared by Franz Reidel and Christina Kanellakis. The historical basis for the interpretation of events revealed by excavation is derived primarily from the research provided by Grace Karskens supplemented by documentation provided by members of the excavation team.

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many able hands assisted in the excavation of this area. Outside of the other team members particular thanks go to the following whose efforts made the excavation a memorable one. Katia Davis, Neringa Lisankaite, John Meadows, John Bridges, Jenni Lindberg, Michael Stieber, Mark Dunn, Leslie Walker and Lyn Collins.
Two of the earliest known occupants on the study site were Margaret Kelly and her husband Richard Byrne, who had built two weather board and shingled houses, one on the Cumberland Street/Cribbs Lane corner c.1805; this corner was still in situ in the early 1860s, at which time the Cribbs Lane terraces were constructed. The Byrne family occupied this area of the site until at least 1851. Their property (Lot 9 and possibly Lot 8 Section 75) included a yard area east of Cumberland Street and the house. This yard area and associated outbuildings was located within Trench E. By 1811 the Byrnes owned two houses on the site, the house on the corner of Cribb's and Cumberland Streets and one adjacent to the north. In October of 1811 they advertised both houses for sale as “Cumberland Street No 74...all weather board, shingled, and glazed throughout, lofty and very commodious, with three fireplaces, and an extensive allotment of garden ground well-fenced in”(2). The Byrnes sold the northern house to a William Williams in 1811 and remained in the corner one.

When Margaret Kelly died, sometime before 1845, the property passed to her son Patrick Byrne. The building described in the 1845 Rates books as “wood shingled" is most likely the same dwelling constructed by Patrick’s father before 1811. Patrick continued to live in this, his parents' old four roomed house, until sometime after 1851. By the time of his departure from the site Patrick Byrne had sold part of the land around the house (Lot 9 Section 75) to Thomas Share. By 1844 Share had built the "Plymouth Arms" Hotel on the corner of Cumberland Street and Cribbs Lane. Hence the Cribbs Lane terraces were constructed in the mid 1850s - early 1860s, on land sold by Patrick Byrne to Thomas Share (3). These terraces were all located within Trench E. The block consisted of four small terraces, three brick/shingled, two storeys with four rooms, and one on the west end of stone and shingles, one storey above street level with two rooms.

The original Byrne house was demolished by 1863 being replaced by two small terraces on Cumberland Street frontage (within Trench D). In 1915 the Cribbs Lane terraces were demolished after the realignment of Cumberland Street. Refer to Appendix 5.3.1 for a detailed schedule of building and allotment development for Section 75, Lots 8 and 9.
3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

The primary features exposed during excavation in Trench E were the remains of one of the Cribbs Lane terraces and associated occupation and yard deposits. Additionally cesspits, property boundary walls, possible outbuilding remains and yard deposits associated with the earlier Byrne house located to the north west in Trench D were also exposed.

The uppermost deposits exposed in Trench E after clearance of spoil consisted primarily of engineering works remains. These included support piers [E008, 009], and levelling fills [E001, 003, 004]. A drainage line [E145] in a cut [E012] with fill [E013] containing introduced material and demolition [E005] from an earlier phase ran on a north-south alignment through this trench, crossing under Cribbs Lane and connecting further south to services located in Carahers Lane. The connection was not complete, having been removed in the north prior to commencement of excavation.

Clearance of engineering levelling fills revealed surviving footings for the Cribbs Lane terraces in the north area of the trench. Further discussion of the terraces in this section of the report will be limited to Terrace 2, the only completely excavated one of these buildings (See Section 1.4 for reasons). Building demolition [E005, 006] covered these footings. Beneath the demolition was occupation deposit of varying thickness in the north [E032,034] and south rooms [E033,035] of the terrace. This deposit was excavated spit spatially in alpha-numeric order. The spits were 50mm deep and a total 100mm of deposit was removed in each room. The terraces appear to have been constructed on earlier yard surfaces [E036,037,047,048] relating to the Byrne occupation in the area. A clear distinction between the underfloor deposits and earlier top most yard surfaces below was not apparent. Cuts [E056, 092] for the terrace foundations [E024,026-029, 031,151] were revealed during excavation of the earliest of these deposits [E047,048] (Ph.B37:27, B38.33).

A number of yard surfaces were associated with the occupation phase of the terrace [E025, 041, 042, 043, 055, 075, 076, 095]. Stormwater/sewer lines were exposed during excavation of these and deposits further north [E146, 148 -150]. These all connected to a main pipe [E147] which ran southward below a walkway separating terraces 1 and 2 crossing Cribbs Lane and continuing along Carahers Lane, presumably to service the terraces there. The main line was not exposed further north of the Cribbs Lane terraces yards at any time during excavation of the site. The cut for this service was exposed during excavation of a terrace yard.
surface [E055] in the south end of Trench E. Further north and north-east, the junctions for this service were exposed during initial clearance of overburden [E001].

A sandstone wall [E118], partially exposed prior to archaeological excavation, represents the eastern boundary of the Byrne property. The foundations of this wall were not exposed in Trench E, however its base course is visible above bedrock in Trench G in the east. The wall was likely retained as the property boundary for the eastern most of the later Cribbs Lane terraces. The eastern face of this wall drops dramatically to the buildings fronting Gloucester Street further east. The wall is 850mm high and approximately 6 metres long.

A retaining wall [E078] butts this earlier wall further north-east. This retaining wall sits on bedrock [E136]. Against its eastern face deposits resembling cesspit fill were encountered [E080, 109]. The earliest of these fills [E109] contains glassware that would appear to date the fill to post 1853(4). These deposits were enclosed by returns of the wall in the north and south creating a space 95cm by 1.10 metres wide. The two deposits were separated by a thin deposit of mortar [E143]. Traces of white wash were visible on the eastern face of the south return and coloured paint on the west and north wall interior faces.

Further north west of this retaining wall a cesspit was exposed below overburden [E001] and a deposit resembling redeposited C horizon loam [E071]. The cesspit [E077], a substantial 3.90 m by 1.60 m structure was constructed of sandstone blocks bonded by a brown loam and shell mortar mix. It was cut into bedrock in the east (Ph.B46.18). The cesspit itself appears to have been constructed during the Byrne occupation phase and reused by the later Cribbs Lane terrace occupants. It retained traces of Roman cement on its interior faces. Deposit contained in the cesspit indicate a single filling event. Analysis of the artefacts confirmed this unit as contemporary with the later terrace occupation phase. No evidence of internal separations for use by the three terraces was evident. These may have consisted of weatherboard divisions constructed above the structure's remaining walls and/or foundations.

Previous machine excavation had removed a significant amount of material associated with the terrace yards and deposits extending further north. At commencement of excavation in Trench E, north of the rear terrace foundations, approximately 2.30m of Terrace 2 yard in the west and 500mm in the east remained horizontally intact. This then dropped c.1 metre in the north. Hence some deposits relating to the earlier Byrne yard surfaces were already exposed within the trench (Ph.B17A.32).

At this level, a deposit of substantial depth, breadth and consistency was excavated across the area of Trench E [E066, 131,132]. This deposit consisted of a matrix of
yard loam consistent with deposits exposed below the foundation cuts within Terrace 2 [E116] and associated yard deposits [E117]. Constituents within this matrix varied slightly across these areas. In the central yard area, within this loam [E066] a set of sandstone pathway/edging stones [E065] were exposed on an east-west alignment. They did not lead to any remaining structures in Trench E, however their alignment was the same as that of the cesspit [E077] directly to their north. They likely led from the Byrne house in the west (Trench D). They terminated just west of the boundary wall [E118] in the east.

The yard loam [E066] was renumbered [E132] south of the cesspit [E077]. Between the cesspit and the northern row of edging stones [E065], the yard loam [E132] mixed and interfaced with several other deposits [E108, 120, 124, 128] in an area approximately 2 metres by 1.50 metres wide. This ‘pit’ extended slightly south across a gap between removed edging stones. Excavation of these deposits (as a sondage [E120]), revealed remains of a sandstock brick and sandstone constructed feature [E140] south of the cesspit [E077]. It resembled a short box drain and ran on a north-south alignment. Its west side sat on bedrock and its east on a fine light grey loam [E129]. The structure may predate the cesspit and rather than butt it (a slight gap exists between them) it may have been cut by the cesspit in the north.

South of this feature [E140] a shallow well [E138] was exposed. Removal of yard loams [E131, 137] revealed this circular feature comprising of six courses of sandstone blocks, packed into a cut bedrock ledge in the west. The rest of the structure was surrounded by sandstone rubble in a soft sandy matrix [E129] (Ph.B61.6). The sandstone blocks and capping stones were bonded together with loam rather than mortar. The well was 1.20 metres in width and varied in depth from 420mm in the east to 600mm in the west. Its capacity to hold water is questionable as it was not cut into bedrock. It held a deposit [E139] containing early Nineteenth Century artefacts, in a matrix of yard loam similar to that in the surrounding area [E137] rather than the dark humic deposits usually encountered in well excavations. The well probably relates to the Byrne occupation phase on the site. However an earlier construction phase is possible. A large Near Eastern style faience bead was retrieved from basal fill within this structure.

Clearance of overburden [E001] revealed the base foundation course of a very deteriorated ashlar sandstone structure [E103] situated on the border of Trenches D and E in the far north-west of Trench E. An associated deposit of pale yellow mortar [E090] was spread out on all sides of the structural remains and was also visible below the structure. Dump deposits [E063, 067] and an ash surface [E099] below these overlay the mortar deposit [E090]. These deposits above the mortar are likely to represent vacant land used as rubbish dumping area in the mid to late Nineteenth Century. This area is located at the rear of the mid 1800s Cumberland Street terraces located in Trench D and the Cribbs Lane terraces located in Trench
The sandstone remains [E103] and mortar deposit [E090] appear to be evidence of a structure (at this stage of unknown function) attached to the east side of the Byrne house. The later ash surface [E099] and mortar deposit [E090] are cut [E045] by a late Nineteenth or early Twentieth Century stormwater/sewer pipe [E146]. The service runs across Trench E in an east-west direction, its destination having been removed further east in the trench prior to excavation.

3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT

3.2.1 Phase 1 Pre European  Pre-1788

The earliest phase of development recognised in Trench E was that represented by the presence of bedrock and natural soil horizons [E136, E126, E127]. The natural topography of the Rocks area was well illustrated in the sandstone outcrops across Trench E. Generally the rock slope was higher in the south sloping somewhat to the north. Pockets of natural moist grey sandy loam sat in crevices within the sloping sandstone across the area [E128,129, 133]. Within this grey deposit in some places black charcoal patches were exposed. These may represent remains of local flora, blackbutts, angophora and kunzeas plentiful in the area prior to European invasion (5).

Presence of the Cadigal people, Aborigines occupying the area for centuries before the arrival of Europeans, is well documented and supported by archaeological evidence (6). Though one silcrete and more worked flint pieces were recovered during excavation none of these were provenanced to pre-European deposits. Most came from later underfloor deposits and introduced fill (7).

3.2.2 Phase 2 Initial European Settlement  1788 - c.1810

Phase 2 includes surfaces that appear to predate early structures in the Byrne yard area. Deposits relating to this phase are represented by activities associated with filling and levelling of the site prior to building work associated with outbuildings in the Byrne property yard area. A disturbed 'A' horizon [E142, 135] was associated with this site preparation, located in areas across the central yard. This phase also covers the initial Byrne occupancy of the site from c.1805. Precise construction dates for structures exposed in the Byrne yard are not known. None of these features appear on early site plans. They are likely to date to either Phase 2 or 3. They are discussed in Phase 3.
3.2.3 Phase 3 Consolidation c.1810 - c.1833

Phase 3 saw the formal alienation of land and occupation of the southern half of the site by George Cribb. Construction of outbuildings in the Byrne yard are also ascribed to this period. These include a cesspit [E077], a property boundary wall [E118] and butting retaining wall [E078]. A feature which appeared to be the remains of a box drain [E140] constructed of sandstock bricks, sandstone and brick pieces ran on a north-south alignment between this cesspit and a shallow sandstone block constructed "well" like feature [E138].

An advertisement for the sale of the Byrne property with "an extensive allotment of garden ground well-fenced in" (2) in 1811 is supported by the archaeological remains. These include a well constructed sandstone block wall along the eastern property boundary [E118] as well as a number of yard loams attributed to this and the following phase. These loams were removed across the south, east and central areas of Trench E [E066, E130-132] including the interior of the Cribbs Lane terrace where they had to a large extent remained in situ. The later terraces were constructed directly onto this loam [E047, E048, E116, E119]. Two adjacent rows comprising small oval sandstone blocks on an east-west alignment were exposed in the central yard area. These appear to line a pathway in tamped earth from the house toward the yard [065].

Between the cesspit and the northern row of edging stones [E065], the yard loam [E132] mixed and interfaced with several other deposits [E108, 120, 124, 128] in an area approximately 2 metres by 1.50 metres wide. This 'pit' extended slightly south across a gap between removed edging stones. Excavation of these deposits (as a sondage [E120]), revealed remains of a sandstock brick and sandstone constructed box drain [E140] south of the cesspit [E077]. The fill [E108, 120, 124, 128] above the drain was loose, containing voids and evidence of rodent activity in the organic material within it. The structure probably predated the cesspit, being cut by it rather than abutting. Missing pathway stones were observed during excavation of the area above the later exposed pit likely having been removed during laying of pipes directly across this area during the later Cribbs Lane terrace phase.
3.2.4 Phase 4 Transition c.1833 - c.1851

Subdivision of part of the southern half of the site, extension of the Byrne house west of area E and development of Gloucester Street to the east define this phase of the site's development. No contexts within Trench E could be specifically attributed to this phase, however alterations/additions to earlier structures and disturbed deposits were observed during the excavation process. These may be clarified during final analysis as relating to this period in the occupation of areas represented in Trench E. These contexts include the pathway lining stones [E065] (described above) set into a yard loam [E066] across the central yard area and covering the earlier box drain [E140] and well structure [E138].

3.2.5 Phase 5 Intensive Occupancy c.1851 - c.1880

This phase represents the construction and occupation of three terraces and a raised one storey structure in the south area of the trench facing south onto Cribbs Lane. These houses were built directly onto earlier yard deposits formerly owned by the Byrne family. A number of terrace yard surfaces are related to this terrace occupation. It appears that the cesspit [E077] was reused during this phase providing for at least two to three of the structures constructed during this time. Late in this phase or the next sewage and drainage services were provided to the terraces and surrounding buildings [E146-150].

Stratified occupation deposits were excavated within the underfloor areas of the ground floor rooms of the middle terrace. In the phase between construction and demolition of this terrace there is no evidence to suggest alteration or extensions were made to the two storey structure.

Artefacts recovered from the underfloor deposits suggest intensive domestic occupation of the building occurred during this and the preceding phases prior to its demolition in 1915. Plans and photographs of the study site taken at the turn of the century present the set of three terraces with doors which opened directly onto the lane. Their yard area was substantial, luxurious in comparison to the yards of the houses south across Cribbs Lane on Cumberland Street in Trench A.

At least eight stratified yard surfaces were associated with the occupation phase of the terrace. Stormwater/sewer lines laid sometime after c.1865 were exposed cutting through some of these and connecting to Carahers Lane terraces further south and to the cesspit and Cumberland Street terraces to the north and west respectively. These lines were certainly laid after 1861 when the Byrne house was demolished, though their precise date is not known. The considerable number of yard deposits, intact in the area directly outside the "back door" area, suggests that this property was relatively well maintained.
Concentrated in a patch against the eastern boundary wall [E118] a series of stratified deposits representing demolition, occupation and construction activity were exposed [E104, E105, E106]. These contexts are likely to represent an out building, possibly a laundry, associated with the occupation of the terraces.

The base foundation course of an ashlar sandstone structure [E103] situated on the border of Trenches D and E in the far north-west of Trench E was exposed in the course of excavation. Though its function is unknown these remains may represent a feature once part of the Byrne house and demolished during the period when extensions were added in c.1834. Though deteriorated they may otherwise indicate demolition of a cesspit or fireplace area attached to one of the Cumberland terraces constructed over the top of the original Byrne house in Trench D. A deposit of pale yellow mortar [E090] fanned around the structural remains and was also visible below the feature. Both the 1885 Trigonometric and 1880 Dove plans indicate a small feature in this area resembling a cesspit. The 1890 Metropolitan Detail Series Plan Section 74 and 75 indicates an even larger structure, its eastern end jutting into this area of trench E from Trench D. The sewage/water lines described below separated this feature from brick rubble, ash and mortar demolition slightly north. It is possible that construction of these lines disturbed the relationship between these two areas of material [E103 and E072, 073, 082, 085].

In the far northern area of the trench a succession of gravel and loam surfaces [E062, 063, 067, 068, 074] were excavated. These surfaces relate to an area behind the rear yards of the Cribbs Lane terraces to the south and the Cumberland Street terraces to the west in Trench D. This may have been a vacant space used by surrounding tenants as a rubbish dumping area. Sewage/water lines cut through these deposits connecting to lines for the terraces to the west [E146]. West of these surfaces, on the border between Trenches D and E a series of burnt brick, rubble and ash demolition deposits were excavated [E072, 073, 082, 085] above a rubble dump area [E067] and a hard gravel surface [E074]. These deposits likely evidence demolition of a cesspit or fireplace related to the Cumberland Street terraces immediately west in Trench D [E103].

3.2.6 Phase 6 Decay? c.1880 - c.1900

This phase represents the last period of residential and domestic occupation on the study site.

Within Trench E contexts attributable to this phase are not distinct from those of the preceding phase. The Cribbs Lane terraces would have been only thirty years old at the most in 1880. The miscellaneous artefacts from underfloor deposits in the middle terrace reflect a consistency in living standard during the terrace's occupation.
3.2.7 Phase 7 Clearance  c.1900 - c.1916

This phase is represented by demolition of most remaining structures and the Plague epidemic. The Cribbs Lane terraces and associated structures were demolished in 1915, somewhat later than other buildings on the site. A photograph taken in c.1901 of Cumberland Place (formerly Cribbs Lane) depicts the outside of the terraces with a down pipe between the middle and eastern terraces. Though no one is recorded in the Rates or Sands directory as occupying No.6 in 1901, a head is visible at the top storey window (8).

Demolition deposits were exposed across the middle terrace [E005, E006]. This context had been compressed by subsequent deposits related to the Engineering Works phase. Evidence of demolition activity was also apparent in the disturbance of deposits surrounding a robbed course of the back northeast wall of the terrace [E023].

3.2.8 Phase 8 Engineering Works  c.1916 - c.1924

Deposits related to phases 8 and 9 were not immediately distinct of one another in Trench E. Adaptation of the area for use as Engineering Workshops resulted in compression of deposits created by demolition in the preceding Clearance phase as well as introduced levelling fills [E001, 003, 004], sewage and drainage services [E145]. Construction of support piers [E008, 009] and a surface of bitumen were placed over the area in preparation for this new phase of occupation. The 1934 Land Titles plan of the buildings indicate lavatories in the northwest of the trench and the frame of a shed in the area of the western most Cribbs Lane terraces.

3.2.9 Phase 9 Engineering Works  c.1924 - c.1950

See above.

3.2.10 Phase 10 Bus Depot  c. 1950-1972

This phase saw re-leveling of the site using a combination of fills and deposits from previous phases in some areas. Once levelled a surface of concrete was placed across the top of the fills. The only evidence for this phase detectable in Trench E was located in the far north of the trench represented by disturbance to deposits within phase 5 [E062, 063, 067, 068] indicated by modern rubbish such as 1970 beer and fruit drink containers.

3.2.11 Phase 11 Sydney Cove Authority  c.1972 - c.1994

This phase saw the reuse of surfaces already existing on the site. No detectable changes were made to the site during this phase.
3.2.12 Phase 12 Recent activity 1994

This phase saw the use of Trench E north of Cribbs Lane as a dump and sieving area during excavation of the southern side of the site. Phase XI is represented by disturbance of exposed deposits in the trench, evidence of sieving activity [E040] and overburden [E001].

Refer to the table located in Section 3.4 and matrix located in Section 3.3 for specific development sequence of deposits encountered during excavation.
3.4 LIST OF CONTEXTS

See following table for details.

Key to abbreviations of categories in the List of Contents:

The category of “address” in the table contains abbreviated names for each of the areas excavated in Trench E. The following list is an explanation of these names:

- **NY**: North yard area
- **T2**: Terrace 2 - Cribbs Lane
- **T2Y**: Terrace 2 yard area
- **CY**: Central yard area
- **T2 North Room**: Terrace 2 - north room
- **T2 South Room**: Terrace 2 - south room
- **All Areas**: All areas of trench E
- **T1**: Terrace 1 - Cribbs Lane
- **T1sg**: Terrace 1 sondage
- **T2sg**: Terrace 2 sondage
- **T3**: Terrace 3 - Cribbs Lane

The category “CS” relates to the relative significance of contexts. See section 3.5 for details.

The category “D/S” describes the nature of each context - whether structure or deposit.
### Area E - List of Contexts

<table>
<thead>
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<th>CNTX</th>
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<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>E083; E137?</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>E142</td>
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<td>S</td>
<td>2 EY</td>
<td>E126; 127</td>
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</table>
3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS

These ratings are located within the context list in Section 3.4 in the field: "Context Significance" abbreviated as CS.

In order to assist in understanding the relative significance of excavated contexts, the following numerical ratings are provided:

1. High significance
2. Moderate significance
3. Some significance
4. Little or no significance
5. Not assessed

Of the areas which remain unexcavated, the same ratings apply. These areas include the following:

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<th>Ref</th>
<th>Area / Item</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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<td>Terrace 3</td>
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<td>Western area of Trench E - Byrne yard</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Northern area of Trench E - vacant land</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Area immediately north and east of cesspit E077</td>
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</table>
3.6 ARTEFACTS - GENERAL

Excavation of Trench E produced a substantial sized artefact assemblage considering the size of the area investigated. The assemblage was larger than those of Trenches F - J and D though smaller than the densely occupied areas of trenches A, B and C.

There appeared to be little relationship between the artefacts from this area and those recovered from the northern half of the site associated with the George Cribb butchery and related land of the first half of the Nineteenth Century. Artefacts dating to the early occupation period in Trench E were predominantly associated with domestic occupation by the Byrne household. The artefacts were associated with activities conducted in the yard and outbuildings associated with the Byrne phase of occupation, underfloor deposits being contained within Trench D to the west.

The majority of artefacts from Trench E were related to phases 5 to 7, the period of subdivision and erection of the Cribbs Lane terraces, intensive occupation of these and associated yards and outbuildings, and the subsequent declension and Plague visitation period in the site’s history. These artefacts reflected a range of activities predominantly associated with domestic occupation of terrace 2. No specialised manufacturing or “cottage industry” activity could be ascribed to the use of this terrace. The miscellaneous artefacts consisted in the main of sewing, personal and decorative adornments, eating and serving utensils and refuse, clothing, hygiene and recreational remains (9).

The general condition and quality of the underfloor assemblage from terrace No. “2” on Cribbs Lane was relatively consistent in comparison to those from the Carahers Lane terraces excavated in Trench B. The comparative quantity of artefacts recovered from these two sets of terraces and the houses on Cumberland Street in Trench A is also of interest. The distribution, quality and quantities from these three areas clearly reflect the space and conditions available to the occupants of these dwellings. Contemporary plans and photographic documentation of the area demonstrate that the yard areas of these properties varied substantially. A large area of backyard space was incorporated in the Cribbs Lane terraces compared to the reduced and cramped yards of the dwellings on Carahers Lane and Cumberland Street in the latter Nineteenth Century. Cesspits for the Cribbs Lane terraces were set well away from the houses, unlike those of the Carahers Lane buildings, reflecting differing standards of hygiene being incorporated into the design and construction of structures within close proximity and being erected within months to years of one another.
3.7 DISCUSSION OF ARTEFACTS AND CONTEXT RELATIONS

Yard loams associated with Byrne ownership of the area contained in Trench E [E066, 130, 132, 116, 117] produced artefacts including early recreational pieces (marbles, lead counters). These deposits, some of which remained intact below the later constructed terraces are pre-1850 in date.

Fill [E081] within the Byrne cesspit [E077] contained artefacts post dating 1850, indicating that the cesspit had been cleared at the time of Cribb terraces construction and reused for their purposes. Examination of parasite and macrobotanical remains in the fill sample [E081] collected from this feature supported this conclusion (see specialist reports by McPhail and Everett in Volume 4). No organic material whatsoever was identified, concluding that the cesspit had "at some time in the past [undergone] a thorough cleaning out and all "typical" cesspit contents were removed..." (10).

Deposit [E080, 143,109] was exposed against the east side of a retaining wall [E078] joining the Byrne boundary wall in the east [E118]. This refuse was dumped in two individual events separated by a thin lens of mortar [E143]. A registered ceramic piece dated 1842 and other artefacts indicate that the dumping event occurred no earlier than 1850. In formation and appearance the material was of a cesspit-like nature though the structure contained no eastern wall. The material indicates dumping of earlier rubbish likely removed from elsewhere in the vicinity (the Byrne cesspit?) just prior to or during the construction phase of the Cribbs Lane terraces.

Artefacts from underfloor deposits in the middle terrace on Cribbs Lane [E032-035] constituted of a wide range of artefacts. Distinction between those related to occupation of the dwelling and Byrne yard loam upon which it was built was somewhat obscure in the lower spits removed. However the assemblage was predominantly domestic in nature and contained a wide range of artefacts including ceramic, glass, metal, miscellaneous and bone remains. The presence of children in this house was evident in a range of items including safety pins, doll's ceramic tea set fragments, marbles and small thimbles. A large collection of pins and other sewing related items were recovered as well. On the whole this assemblage indicated occupants with a modest and comfortable living standard.
4.0 RESULTS

The following information addresses the general and site specific questions developed in the Research Design.

4.1 Aboriginal artefacts/sites

Whilst evidence of worked flint pieces were recovered from Trench E none of these were exposed within contexts prior to phase 3 Consolidation of the site. Most were recovered from underfloor contexts and deposits likely to have been introduced loams.

4.2 Impact of industrial revolution and rise of class.

No occupation deposits relating to the period c.1790 to c.1835 were contained in Trench E apart from the yard area of the Byrne property. Material recovered from here included a substantial cesspit almost 4m long and 1.60m wide. This was the largest of such structures exposed on the site. Richard Byrne is recorded as a stone mason. The size, construction techniques and materials used for this structure indicate availability of space and materials such as pozzoli (Roman cement) which was used to line the interior. The pozzoli lining the cesspit interior most likely dates to c.1850s -c.1860s or later. It was probably applied to the cesspit during the construction period for the Cribbs Lane terraces when the cesspit was adapted for reuse by the terraces. The feature was cleaned out prior to or during this construction phase. The size also illustrates personal choices being made in relation to size, design, style and construction of features on one's private property.

4.3 Women's occupations and lives.

Margaret Kelly, partner of Richard Byrne and mother of their seven children, all born in the dwelling in Trench D, may be to some extent considered visible in early material evidence from area E. Remains of sewing implements and clothing closures such as early buttons and eye hooks were recovered from yard loams in this area. Perhaps these were lost during activities performed in the yard such as gardening, collecting vegetables for cooking or sewing in the spacious outdoor area which her family occupied overlooking the harbour. Two faience beads one being quite large and hand made, three marbles and a glass bead were present in fill [E139] within a small "well" like feature in the yard [E138]. Certainly sufficient numbers of sewing related tools were recovered from underfloor deposit in the house located in Trench D indicating that Margaret Kelly and/or other female
members of the household repaired and probably made most of the clothing for the family.

Underfloor deposits from the middle Cribbs Lane terrace attest to the presence of women occupying this dwelling during its existence. These deposits relate to the phases from 5 to 7. Numerous beads, buttons, sewing tools, children's toys and decorative pieces were retrieved during excavation of these contexts. Occupation records for this property indicate Jane Stirling residing here from 1861 and Sarah McKinley and her partner John from 1877 to at least 1890.

4.4. Standards of living in urban areas.

A number of observations are offered in regards this question and the structural and artefactual evidence available.

The size and materials used for the Byrne/Kelly cesspit [E077] described in question 1 reflect the expansive yard area. This was the largest cesspit exposed on the site and one of the earliest. It was likely to have been constructed by Byrne himself. Were rapidly expanding family and their requirements in his mind? Its solid construction rendered it incorporated into the later design for the terraces built on the Byrne/Kelly land after it was sold and subsequently subdivided. In addition the construction of the small "well"-like feature to its south [E138] indicates likely access to carted water though the ability for this sandstone block structure to retain water is doubted. The remains of a set of pathway edging stones across the yard area oriented east-west to the harbour [E065] tells of pride in appearance of a garden probably well maintained. Certainly it was described as so in an advertisement (see Section 2).

The eastern boundary wall constructed during the Byrne/Kelly occupation (Phases 2-4) in Area E was solidly constructed and unaltered at the time of excavation [E118]. It was constructed prior to 1823 being indicated on the early James Harper Plan of Sydney of that year.

Though the 1850s constructed terraces in Trench E are of an unusual rhomboid shape, utilizing the available space along Cribbs Lane, their yard area is far more generous than the Carahers Lane terraces further south which were constructed in the same approximate period. The size of the rooms are small, but not by contemporary standards for worker's accommodation. The houses were two storey and appear taller than surrounding dwellings in the available photographic evidence. The placement of cesspits at the furthest end of the yards contrasts starkly with those of the Carahers Lane houses where the cesspits shared the same walls as kitchens. Excavation of these within Trench B evidence complex problems with drainage and seepage into the interior of the houses. This contrast in design and housing conditions raises questions regarding the attitude of landowners building for purposes of tenancy and their attitudes to living standards
as well as to the policing of building construction regulations during the middle of the Nineteenth Century.

4.5. The Rocks as a separate space.

There was little in terms of structural or depositional evidence within Trench E that could adequately address this question. The miscellaneous artefact assemblage from this trench indicated access, use and discarding of imported items as well as locally made and home made pieces. The well documented character of the Rocks and its proximity to the wharves and foreshores giving it a strong connection to whaling and maritime based interactions is known to have impacted upon the character of the area. The survival of items such as buttons embossed with naval insignia and adornments and buttons of shell are archaeological evidence supporting these connections.


No housing structures from the early period of site occupation were exposed during the excavation of Trench E though associated structures were. The size of the Byrne/Kelly cesspit is possibly the only immediate indicator of the lack of governance visible in the structural remains exposed in this trench [E077]. The lack of regulations regarding sizes of structures is indicated by the unorthodox generosity of its size.

The unaltered eastern boundary wall of the property [E118] may also indicate that this construction was considered adequate by the government when the area was later formalised.

The later Cribbs Lane terraces (Phase 5-7) were constructed without alteration to the lane sitting flush against it. Drainage and water services were added to the buildings some time after 1961 indicating that enforcement of certain standards decreed by the government were being attended to by property owners.
5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 ENDNOTES

1. Section 1: The middle of the three remaining Cribbs Lane terraces will be described as “Terrace 2” in this report.


3. Section 2: Clarification of more precise construction dates for Cribbs Lane terraces are needed. In the Historical Discourse Karskens writes that Byrne “appears to have left sometime after 1851” and that “By then Share had also built three small, plain terraces along the northern side of Cribbs Lane...[which ] would have stood quite close to the southern end of the old Byrne house.” (p.58). In Appendix 1 of the Historical Discourse the terraces are dated to 1861. The terraces are visible in the Macarthur photographic panorama dated 1857 (Macarthur Album, Mitchell Library, PXA 4358-1). They also appear in the Woolcott and Clarke plan of 1854 (Woolcott & Clarke's Map of the City of Sydney (1854) SCA HP 331).

4. Section 3: Personal comment - M. Carney.


6. Section 3: ibid, p.7

7. Section 3: Iacono, The Cumberland /Gloucester Street Site, the Rocks - Miscellaneous Artefact report, April 1996, Section 5.14

8. Section 3: Figure 21 in Karskens, G: The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site, The Rocks - An Historical Discourse, April 1994

9. Section 3: No information was available from the individual artefact reports, apart from the Miscellaneous report for incorporation of additional information at the time of writing.

10. Section 3: Everett, The Cumberland/Gloucester Street Site Archaeological Investigation, Examination of Cesspit and Well Samples for Parasite and Macrobotanical Remains, April 1995, Section 5.2

12. Section 5.3.1 (Appendix): ibid p.52

13. Section 5.3.1 (Appendix): ibid p.52

14. Section 5.3.1 (Appendix): ibid p.49

15. Section 5.3.1 (Appendix): ibid p.50

16. Section 5.3.1 (Appendix): ibid p.50

17. Section 5.3.1 (Appendix): ibid p.50
5.2 SOURCES

Claire Everett
The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site Archaeological Investigation, Examination of Cesspit and Well Samples for Parasite and Macrobotanical Remains, report prepared for Godden Mackay Pty Ltd, The Sydney Cove Authority and The Heritage Council of NSW, April 1995

Godden Mackay Pty Ltd in conjunction with Grace Karskens
The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site Archaeological Investigation, Archaeological Assessment and Research Design, report prepared for The Sydney Cove Authority and The Heritage Council of NSW, April 1994

Nadia Iacono

Grace Karskens
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Terry Kass
Historical analysis, 1788 to c.1850 - Cumberland Place Site, The Rocks, Sydney, produced as sub-consultant to E.A.Higginbotham, for Develco Pty Ltd, March 1989.

Graham Wilson
Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street List of Site Occupants, 1995
5.3 APPENDICES

5.3.1 Building and Occupation sequence

Trench E History and Phasing Chronology Section 75 Lots 8 and 9

LOT 9

1805 Two timber and shingled houses on Lot 9 and probably Lot 8; Lot 9: 1805 - 1851; Lot 8: c1807 - 1811

1807 Margaret Kelly claimed possession of this land since 1807 by James Templeton, in 1834 (A.O.2/1783, Mem 211) (11)

1811 Advertised for sale (Lot 8 sold to William Williams) The Byrnes continued to live on Lot 9 in the south until 1850s Richard dies c.1832-33

pre 1834 House extended - "single storey, 4 rooms; spirit license 1832 Free hold title enquiry.

1835 5 August: Town Grant to Margaret Byrne, Cumberland Street (Grants, Bk.39 No. 71) (12) Margaret dies before 1845

1843 Patrick Byrne (son of Margaret & Richard) sells corner block to Thomas Share. Remains in old house at rear of Cumberland Street - hence family occupation: c1805 - 1851

1845 -1851 House owned by Patrick Burns(sic), wood shingled, 1F 4R, 23.6 x 86, "Middling repair", £26 (RAB, 1845, No. 356) (13)

1844 Share builds Plymouth Arms hotel etc on Cumberland St corner

1848 Patrick Byrne lives in parents timber house until at least 1848. House still on the site in 1861. Byrne must have sold it to Thomas Share's successor Robert Berry soon after.

1850s Robert Berry buys 2 corner bldgs and 4 terraces in Cribbs Lane from widow of Thomas Share - "Berry's Lane"

1861 Four small terraces built along Cribbs Lane

1863 By 1863 the old stone house at rear demolished to make way for 2 small terraces built by Share
Rates indicate that the kitchen remains - see Dove 1880 plans also.

1880
Kitchen remains indicated at rear in Dove plans?

1911
Cumberland Street terraces demolished

1915
Hotel and Cribbs Lane Terraces demolished after Cumberland Street realignment

LOT 8

c1805
Timber house, glazed windows, three fireplaces built by Richard Byrne

1811
For sale Lot 8 sold to William Williams

1838
19 July Town Grant to William Williams of 11 perches (14)

1839
Conv & Grant of Annuity. W. Williams to Adolphus William Young (trustee) for Edward Davies (purchaser) in exchange of annuity of £54/12 p.a. paid for life by Davies to Williams. (15)

1845
3 shops owned Edward Davis, one brick, slated 2F 4R, 16x43, £26; stone shingled, 1F 3R 28x43, "bad repair", £15; brick, slated, 2F 4R, 18 x 26.6, "no outhouses", £26 (RAB, 1845, Nos. 357-9) (16)

1848
House, brick shingled, 2F 4R, 16.5 x 26, £26; (17)

1839-1845
Edward Davies builds 2 brick and slate conjoined shops in front of old house

by 1863
Old stone house demolished, remains in Rates

1880
Dove plans shows remains of kitchen?

1911
Shops and rear buildings demolished for Cumberland Street realignment

The Rates and Sands information for the block of terraces on Cribbs Lane is scant and inconsistent. The lane appears under different names in different periods. These include: Berry's Lane, Maori Lane, Cumberland Place and Cumberland Lane.
CUMBERLAND/GLOUCESTER STREETS SITE
Archaeological Investigation 1994
Trench Report - Area F

Dominic Steele

September 1996
CONTENTS

SYNOPSIS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION/SITE DESIGNATION

1.2 AREAVOLUME

1.3 OBJECTIVES

1.4 METHODOLOGY

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

3.1.1 Phase 1: Pre-European Pre-1788

3.1.2 Phase 2: Initial European Settlement 1788-c1810

3.1.3 Phase 3: Consolidation c1810-c1833

3.1.4 Phase 4: Transition c1833-51

3.1.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy c1851-1880

3.1.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900

3.1.7 Phase 7: Clearance c1900-1916

3.1.8 Phase 8: Engineering Works c1916-1924

3.1.9 Phase 9: Engineering Works c1924-1950

3.1.10 Phase 10: Bus Parking Depot c1950-1972

3.1.11 Phase 11: SCA c1972-1994

3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT/OCCUPATION

3.2.1 Phase 1: Pre-European Pre-1788

3.2.2 Phase 2: Initial European Settlement 1788-c1810

3.2.3 Phase 3: Consolidation, c1810-c1833

3.2.4 Phase 4: Transition, c1833-51

3.2.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy, c1851-c1880

3.2.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900

3.2.7 Phase 7: Clearance, c1900-1916

3.2.8 Phase 8: Engineering Works c1916-1924

3.2.9 Phase 9: Engineering Works c1924-1950

3.2.10 Phase 10: Bus Parking Depot, c1950-1972

3.2.11 Phase 11: SCA, c1972-1994

3.3 TRENCH F EXCAVATION MATRIX

3.3 TRENCH F EXCAVATION MATRIX (CONT.)

3.4 TRENCH F LIST OF EXCAVATION CONTEXTS

3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS

3.6 ARTEFACTS

3.7 DISCUSSION OF CONTEXTS/ARTEFACTS
## CONTENTS CONT...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.0 RESULTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESPONSE TO THE RESEARCH DESIGN</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANN ARMSDEN - HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL VISIBILITY</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVIDENCE FOR GEORGE TALBOT'S BAKERY ENTERPRISE</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTEXTUAL HISTORICAL EVIDENCE</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUMMARY</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION</strong></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.1 SOURCES</strong></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.2 APPENDICES</strong></td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS</strong></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.1 PLANS</strong></td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS</strong></td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations which were conducted in the area of the study site which incorporated Lot 10, section 75. The primary archaeological features identified are associated with a substantial semi-detached house of stone constructed between c1810-1823 by one of the first historically identified occupants of the study site, Ann Armsden and her second husband, the baker George Talbot. This house replaced an earlier shingled and weatherboard structure built by Armsden and her first husband, George Legg. The earlier dwelling is dated to c1795. Construction of the second house followed extensive preparation and modification of the sandstone topography in this area which, according to historical documentation, was the initial focus of European (Armsden-Legg) occupation.

The evidence for the Armsden-Talbot dwelling consists primarily of the structural remains of a small rectangular house fronting on to Gloucester Street. It was constructed sometime after c1810. It is annexed by a wing of two rooms extending to the rear of the main house which were added prior to 1823, and possibly by c1815.

Excavation also revealed a relatively large rectangular water cistern cut into the sandstone bedrock, along with the remains of a large sandstone recessed hearth/oven. Contemporary in their construction with the Armsden-Talbot period of occupation (c1810-1822), this water source and hearth/oven appear to be associated with George Talbot's bakery business.

A variety of structural and depositional evidence suggests that the rear wing additions were constructed specifically for the purposes of this bakery. The physical evidence therefore has significance for the information it reveals about the manner in which 'home-spun' or 'cottage-based' trade and industry was established within residential contexts during this early period of Sydney's history.

The available documentary information provides no indication that Talbot pursued his bakery business from the Armsden-Talbot residence in Lot 10. The extent to which activity related to (commercial scale) baking occurred on-site cannot be fully elucidated through the surviving physical evidence alone. Further historical research is required to place in context the archaeological interpretations presented here.
The archaeological evidence revealed in Trench F also bears testimony to the archaeological and historic visibility of Ann Armsden during the first two decades of the Nineteenth Century. She is one of the first historically identified occupants of the site and remains historically 'visible' right up until her re-location to Millers Point in 1822. Combined with the extensive archaeological remains, the combined historical archaeological evidence serves to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the earliest periods of use and development of the site, which is otherwise largely dominated by the activities of the ex-convict butcher, George Cribb.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION/SITE DESIGNATION

This report describes the archaeological excavations which were conducted in Trench F. These investigations were located in the north-east of the site, situated on the corner block north of Cribbs Lane (Lot 10, Section 75). The trench is bounded to the east by Gloucester Street, to the west by Trench E and to the north by Trench G.

1.2 AREA/VOLUME

Trench F is approximately trapezoidal in shape. The longest of its two near parallel sides, which fronts onto Gloucester Street, measures around 11.0m. The longest perpendicular boundary runs parallel with Cribbs Lane and measures almost 13.0m. The western boundary of the trench is approximately 5.5m long. The northern boundary, which it shares with Trench G, is approximately 11.0m long. The total excavation area comprises c90m².

Prior to the commencement of manual excavation, between 0.5m and 1.0m of rubble fill and soil overlying the excavation area was removed by mechanical bulk excavation. Manual excavation removed deposits from across the entire area of the trench to a further depth, varying between 0.60m in the eastern portion of the trench to over 3.0m in particular sections located in the west of the trench.

The approximate volume of deposit removed from Trench F through controlled (manual) excavation is estimated to be in the order of 75 m³.

Excavation in Trench F was thorough. Archaeological features and deposits were removed and sandstone bedrock exposed across the entire excavation area. Approximately 90% of the total area available for excavation was investigated and completed.

Three deposits were not considered to warrant total excavation. These were subsequently sampled. The first was a virtually sterile sandstone rubble in-fill deposit within a water cistern. This was half sectioned to its base. The second deposit was the fill of a sewerage trench. It represents the provision of services to the Armsden-Talbot house following the conversion of the above mentioned cistern to a toilet in the 1860s. The trench fill was examined via a 1m x 0.5m test trench. The third deposit consists of one small area which represents the in-filling of a crevice in the sandstone bedrock. It was considered to represent a 'hard surface'.

In-fill deposits of similar composition and contemporary date located in adjacent areas of the trench were fully excavated.

These sampling procedures were considered commensurate with the questions addressed during excavation in Trench F.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

Based on the historical context developed for the site by Karskens (1994), five major research questions have been outlined. The general themes encompassing the research objectives for the Cumberland/Gloucester Streets excavation are outlined below. Further detail and discussion of these research questions are available in the Cumberland/Gloucester Streets site Archaeological Assessment and Research Design (1994), and Historical Discourse (Karskens 1994).

- The impact of the industrial revolution and the rise of class.
- What can the site tell us about women's occupation and lives?
- Can the site make a contribution to the debate on standards of living in the urban areas where people lived?
- Was the Rocks a separate space, in a social/cultural sense, in the larger city?
- The Rise of Governance: What was the nature of the relationship between people and government? How did it change over the historical period?

With particular reference to the area investigated in Trench F, excavation was also directed towards examining a number of more specific issues.

For example, in relation to the stone and semi-detached Armsden-Talbot house (Lot 10 Section 75), can the building's construction date from 1810-1822 be narrowed down? Furthermore, was it preceded on this site by a weatherboard and shingle house built in c1795, as described by Ann Armsden in 1809?
1.4 METHODOLOGY

Following the excavation in May 1994 of two test trenches within the area later occupied by Trench A it was decided to remove by mechanical excavator all deposits lying above an horizon recognised as belonging to the Engineering works period or to deep fill associated with the Plague clearance. This resulted in the removal of all post-1917 soft deposits and slab surfaces, leaving intact, where possible, structural remains dating to the period between c.1917 and c.1923. The deposits removed by machine were cleared under archaeological supervision, deposit by deposit. Each deposit thus removed was provided with a unit number and was sampled during excavation.

The remaining pre-1917 deposits were removed by hand during the period between June and October 1994. All occupation deposits were removed using a spit/spatial methodology. Early external surfaces were removed by unit and by square in accordance with the five metre site grid. Artefacts, where they existed, were collected from all deposits, the aim being a 100% collection rate where possible. All occupation deposits, cesspit and refuse-pit fills were sieved. Bulk removal of deposits by hand was only undertaken during the clearing operations following machine excavation.

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

Few serious difficulties were encountered during the excavation of Trench F. Sufficient personnel were generally available to undertake the various tasks required. A number of people who assisted in the excavation had an appropriate level of skill and/or experience to render supervision of the area relatively straightforward.

Little time was lost due to inclement weather or through delays resulting from planning backlog, labor deficiencies or stratigraphic complexities.

Towards the completion of excavation, the disposal of spoil and the location of wet sieving activities became a logistical problem. Areas of the site previously available were either filled with spoil and/or were opened for excavation. These factors however, provided only minor setbacks to the procedure and progress of the investigations in this trench.

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report was completed by Dominic Steele. The historical information referred to in the following section has been largely extracted and summarised from that compiled in the Historical Discourse (Karskens 1994).
1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank all the interested and motivated people for the assistance they offered during the excavation of this trench. In particular, I am indebted to John Bridges, Mark Dunn, Ian Ellis, Mac North and Pat Tunks. They toiled long and hard. With their cheerful outlook and dedication they made the tasks of excavation, recording and interpretation highly enjoyable.
2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This brief historical review focuses upon the occupancy and activities of Ann Armsden. The relevant Lots are Nos 10 & 11, Section 75. The Lots were formerly located on the corner of Cambridge (now Gloucester) street, north of Cribbs Lane. More detailed descriptions of the developments in the sequence of occupation of these allotments than are outlined here, are available in Karskens (1994).

Excavation Trench F encompasses what was formerly Lot 10, Section 75. Archaeological investigations in Trench G were located to the north of Trench F, in order to examine Lots 11 and 12.

One of the early occupants of the study site identified through historical documentation is Ann Armsden. She arrived with the second fleet (Lady Juliana 1790) and lived on what became the corner of Gloucester Street and Cribbs Lane (Lot 10, Section 75) from about c1795 until 1823.

Between c1795 and 1807 Armsden lived in this location (26 Cambridge Street) with her first husband, George Legg, who was a shoemaker. Their dwelling was described as 'a shingled and weatherboard house fenced in back and front'.

Following the accidental death of George in 1807, she remained in the timber and shingle house.

Armsden married George Talbot, a baker, in 1810. Prior to moving into the Armsden residence on Gloucester Street, Talbot had established a bakery by 1804 near the windmill at the top of the Rocks and was living in Prince Street.

A muster conducted in 1822 indicates that Armsden and Talbot were still living alone in this residence at that time.

Harper's plan of 1823 shows a house that followed a slightly different street frontage to the present Gloucester Street alignment. With an unusual and acute angled corner to Cribbs Lane, the main section to the house is shaped like a rhombus and fronts onto the street. Two rectangular wings were located at the rear of the house.

The couple appear to have replaced the earlier Armsden/Legg timber structure with two semi-detached stone dwellings at sometime before 1822. The southern house (described above), occupied by the couple prior to their re-location to Miller's Point, appears to have been sold to a convict clerk named Hugh Hector Innes Noble in 1822.
During the period between 1815 and 1822, the couple sold the northern semi-detached stone house (24 Cambridge Street, Lot 11, Section 75) to the convict blacksmith, Edward Chanhells.

A plan was drawn up of the southern corner house in 1868, when the title was converted to Torrens. It shows the southern house of roughly the same configuration as the 1823 plan. A portico on the front near the dividing wall shown in Russell's 1834 plan was absent. The buildings three front rooms, one very small and oddly shaped, were arranged along the street frontage in the old manner, with a wing of two rooms extending to the rear.

The pre-1822 buildings, reached by a flight of steps cut into the rock, remained on the site for over sixty years. The height of the houses, set on a rock ledge well above the street, seems to have confused the rate assessors over the years, for they marked them down alternately as having one or two stories, with each having five rooms. This may suggest that the house was one and a half stories in height; it may have had loft space, which was present in other early Rocks houses. The materials were also changed periodically from brick to stone, although it seems more likely to have been rendered stone, like the Whaler's Arms opposite, and as mentioned in the sale advertisement of 1829. The shingles were replaced with iron on the corner house by 1882, but appear to have remained on the northern house until this time.

The southern corner house appears to have stood until c1896. A photograph dated to 1901, shows the space formerly occupied by the Armsden/Talbot house, used for hanging out washing. The northern house was demolished by c1882. In 1891 the house was replaced by three two-storey terraces. These terraces were rapidly demolished following resumptions for the purposes of realignment of Gloucester Street in 1915.
3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

The primary features exposed during excavation in Trench F consist of footings and deposits associated with the southern semi-detached house constructed by Ann Armsden and George Talbot, which replaced the earlier shingled and weatherboard Armsden-Legg dwelling.

These features consist largely of the structural remains of a small rectangular dwelling fronting onto Gloucester Street which was constructed some time after c1810. A wing of two rooms extending to the rear of the main house were added prior to 1823.

Investigations in Trench F also revealed a rectangular water cistern cut into the sandstone bedrock. Contemporary in its construction with the Armsden-Talbot period of occupation (c1810-1822), this water source appears to be associated with George Talbot’s bakery business. Other structural and stratigraphic evidence suggests that the rear wing additions were also associated with the activities of this bakery.

Generally, the rear wing additions and the water cistern contrast with the evidence for domestic habitation clearly represented by the main house fronting onto Gloucester Street. The nature of this evidence is reviewed in subsequent sections.

The available documentary information (see Section 2.0) provides no indication that George Talbot pursued his bakery business from the Armsden-Talbot residence in Lot 10. The extent to which activities associated with baking occurred on-site cannot therefore be fully elucidated solely through the physical evidences which survive. Further historical research is required to place in context the archaeological interpretations presented here.

Occupation deposits bearing considerable quantities of habitation refuse associated with the use of these structures during the period c1810-1896 have also been identified. The majority of the remains however, derive from sub-floor contexts within the ‘main’ house fronting onto Gloucester Street, and appear to have been deposited during the period c1840-1870.

Finally, evidence associated with the subsequent conversion of the water tank into a toilet, following the provision of water and sewerage services during the period c1865-1874, have also been identified during excavation.
The nature of the various archaeological deposits and features identified, in conjunction with the available documentary evidence, indicates that at least ten distinct periods of construction and occupation activity can be defined for the area of Lot 10 occupied by Trench F. Listed below, they are discussed in this report as sub-phases to the appropriate principal phases of occupation and development identified for the Cumberland/Gloucester Streets site.

3.1.1 Phase 1: Pre-European Pre-1788

3.1.2 Phase 2: Initial European Settlement 1788-c1810
   I  Pre-construction: site preparation. c1810
   II First construction phase; Armsden-Talbot house. c1810
   III Second construction phase; Armsden-Talbot house. c1810

3.1.3 Phase 3: Consolidation c1810-c1833
   IV Construction of Chanhells semi-detached house. c1810-15
   V Rear wing additions; Armsden-Talbot house. pre 1823

3.1.4 Phase 4: Transition c1833-51

3.1.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy c1851-1880
   VI Occupation: Armsden-Talbot house. c1810-96
   VII Service installation. c1865-74

3.1.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900
   VIII Late Nineteenth Century modifications. c1874-96
   IX Demolition. c1896

3.1.7 Phase 7: Clearance c1900-1916

3.1.8 Phase 8: Engineering Works c1916-1924
   X Post demolition activities. post 1900

3.1.9 Phase 9: Engineering Works c1924-1950

3.1.10 Phase 10: Bus Parking Depot c1950-1972

3.1.11 Phase 11: SCA c1972-1994
3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT/OCCUPATION

3.2.1 Phase 1: Pre-European Pre-1788

The pre-European evidence identified in Trench F is represented by sandstone bedrock (F014, F032, F050, F058). Post 1788 modification of the sandstone in this area of the site has removed all overlying natural soil horizons. European modification has also largely obscured the nature of the natural topography of the ridge-line, which is clearly evident in other areas of the study site.

An infill deposit, F035 consists largely of loam, which may be a remnant top soil deposit. A small silcrete flake was retrieved from this deposit. Its provenance suggests the artefact is Aboriginal in origin.

3.2.2 Phase 2: Initial European Settlement 1788-c1810

Sub-phase I

It is clear that the problems imposed by the rugged topography of the ridge-line strongly defined the manner in which European settlement of the Rocks developed. Excavation in the study area has revealed extensive evidence for both the nature of adaptation to the steep and rocky terrain at various periods of time, and for the activities associated with the modification of this physically imposing environment.

Prior to the construction of the Armsden-Talbot house (see Sub-phase II), considerable effort appears to have been expended to level the construction site. This consisted of removing the eroding and weathered surface of the bedrock (F014), in addition to and any ridges and irregularities. Comparable to the site preparation evident in Trench A (Nicholas’ terraces), a broad blade adze has been employed to shear material off along tabular bedding planes.

To the rear (west) of what became the Armsden-Talbot house, in areas which were initially external yard spaces (described in Sub-phase III), the bedrock (F050, F058) displays the more distinctive ‘sparrow pecking’ of pick marks.

Site preparation also appears to have included some provision to control drainage and water run-off. A relatively narrow but deep drainage channel (F046) which has been picked out of the previously levelled bedrock, runs approximately parallel (but external) to the front of the Armsden-Talbot house facing onto Gloucester Street.

Given that the site chosen for the construction of this house has exploited the natural terracing of the bedrock (which generally shelves down from west to east), drainage and water run-off at this lowest point on the Gloucester Street frontage is likely to have been problematic. Water run-off is likely to have been exacerbated following the levelling of the bedrock.
The various activities associated with site-preparation in Lot 10, Section 75, prior to the construction of the Armsden-Talbot house have removed any physical evidence for the shingle and weatherboard dwelling described by Armsden in 1809 and which had previously occupied the site from c1795.

Sub-phase II
Extensive evidence survives of the southern semi-detached structure built by Ann Armsden and George Talbot in c1810. The dwelling is an irregularly aligned rectangular building of stone set on a rock ledge fronting onto (and well above) Gloucester Street. It measures approximately 8.3m x 4.2m. Originally either single storeyed or one and a half storeys with loft space, it has two rooms (the internal division being a stud wall) and was entered from Gloucester Street. During its initial period, it also included an open yard area to the rear, where two later rooms were subsequently added.

The stone footings of the building have been mortared directly upon the prepared bedrock (F014). The eastern wall (F013), runs at an oblique angle to Gloucester Street and has been completely robbed out. It is represented by a basal mortar smear. Following the re-alignment of Gloucester Street and the straightening of the rock platform facing the street in the c.1930s, the south-east corner of the building was destroyed. The flight of steps leading to the house from the street, cut into the sandstone ledge upon which the house stood, have also been removed as a result of these works (see Karskens 1994, Figure 14).

The southern wall (F002) incorporates the remains of a fireplace (F021, F043). The northern and western walls (F003, F012) have been largely robbed out, but are buttressed by sole plates (F016, F020) mortared directly onto the bedrock (F014). The sole plates, consisting of 90mm wide lengths of timber were set in mortar on top of 250mm wide sandstone dwarf foundation walls (see B26.18-20). Similar floor supports have been recorded in both the later 1850-60s terraces fronting onto Cribbs Lane (Trench E) and those adjacent to Carahers Lane (Trench C).

Sub-phase III
This sub-phase is dominated by the activities associated with the modification of the open yard area to the rear of the southern Armsden-Talbot house following its construction. These activities took place prior to the addition of the rear wings and the construction of the semi-detached stone (Chanhells) house to the north.

Documentary information indicate these activities occurred during the period c1810-1815. Refer to the illustrations B30.31-33.

This modification takes a number of forms. The bedrock (F032) displays extensive ‘sparrow pecking’ associated with levelling. In addition, crevices along the rear wall of the Armsden-Talbot house (F003) and areas further to the west are in-filled. This is represented by units F049, F033-035. The hollows and crevices have been filled.
predominantly with sandstone rubble and sandstock brick fragments in a matrix of loam. This loam may be remnant top soil (see Sections 3.6 and 3.7). The in-filling has also incorporated a number of large and well hewn flat sandstone blocks which have produced an even, level surface.

A number of fragments of finished plaster occur in the in-fill deposits, in addition to a number of other smears on the surface of the bedrock (F032) to the rear of the Armsden-Talbot dwelling. This area may have for a time functioned as an open yard area. This evidence is suggestive of a relatively short time lapse between the construction of the main house and the subsequent preparation of the site and construction represented by Phase 3.

3.2.3 Phase 3: Consolidation, c1810-c1833

Sub-phase IV
This phase of occupation and development is represented by the construction of the northern semi-detached (Chanhellis) stone dwelling and the addition of a water cistern (F045) to the rear yard of the southern house.

The construction of this cistern, within its chronological context, is significant for a number of reasons. It is one of the earliest water sources identified in the study area. 'Cribb's well' (C336) located in the yard of the 'Bird in Hand' Hotel, the two circular rock-cut 'tanks' situated (C384, C385) in the yard of the 'butchers shop', along with the rectangular cistern (C209) located in the south-east corner of Trench C are comparable in date.

Furthermore, it should be noted that F045 is an extremely well constructed water storage tank specifically designed to hold a relatively large quantity of water (a maximum capacity of 26505 litres), as opposed to a well or tank sunk to retain water seepage or rainfall etc. It is likely that this water source was initially associated with the business activities of George Talbot, the baker. The evidence upon which this interpretation is based is reviewed in Section 4.0.

Construction of the northern semi-detached stone house, sold to Edward Chanhellis between 1815 and 1822, is represented by two walls in Trench F (F027, F026=065). These abut the northern and western walls of the southern Armsden-Talbot house (F003, F012), and are constructed upon the in-fill deposits F033-035 and F049 described in the previous phase.

A number of differences are evident in the construction of the northern and southern houses. The mortar used for the construction of the southern house, sampled and compared from a number of contexts (F002, F003, F013, F016, F021), is a distinctive creamy-white in colour with a fine beach-like sand component. The bonding from the east-west Chanhellis footing (F028) is a yellow shell-lime mortar with a distinctively coarser sand fraction. The Chanhellis walls are also less robust than the those of the
southern house, and contain a greater proportion of field stone, as opposed to large and well-hewn blocks.

It is plausible that the stone materials for the construction of both the northern and southern semi-detached houses were quarried on-site. The terracing associated with the construction of the three dwellings fronting onto Gloucester Street in c1888-91 has however, largely removed the deposits and structural features related to the northern dwelling.

The rear wall (F030) of the southern Armsden-Talbot house butts the western wall (F027) of the Chanhells structure and represents the western property boundary of the southern semi-detached house. It is substantial in size and is bonded with a yellow shell-lime mortar similar to that described for the Chanhells structure (F026). It differs both from that used for the Armsden-Talbot house, in addition to the bonding employed for the later rear wing additions (Sub-phase V).

It is likely that this rear room, consisting of the space defined by the three walls F030, F067 and F026, was roofed but open sided at the time the northern semi-detached structure was erected. A rectangular cut-out (F068) in the bedrock (F058) may have accommodated a timber member supporting a roof.

This room, covered but open-sided and with access to the yard at the rear of the Armsden-Talbot house, may have functioned as a semi-detached laundry/shed with a stone floor. Its primary significance is that it accommodates a water cistern (F045). With the subsequent addition of the rear wing (see Sub-phase V), this space and this water source is enclosed.

The water cistern has been picked-out of the sandstone bedrock (F058). Rectangular in shape, it measures 1.55m x 0.90m and is 1.90 m deep. Located in the north-west corner of the trench, it is orientated squarely with the corner provided by the Chanhells footing F065 and the rear Armsden-Talbot out-building wall F030.

For this comparatively early period, and with only the tank and two wells in Trench C and H for comparison, this cistern is surprisingly well constructed and regular in its dimensions. A considerable amount of effort was clearly expended in picking-out and carefully shaping this tank from the relatively intractable sandstone bedrock. A single course of sandstock bricks which are mortared to the bedrock around the edges of the tank are also mortared to the western wall (F030). Refer to illustration B32.36. This also supports the likelihood that this tank was excavated during this period of construction.

**Sub-phase V**
The two rooms extending to the rear of the Armsden-Talbot house were added by 1823. In addition, the small and oddly shaped room possessing an acute angle to
Cribbs Lane and the small triangular yard are also added by this time, following the establishment of Cribbs Lane some time after c1811.

The southern house, in its current form as revealed through excavation, appears on Harpers plan of 1823. Reference should also be made to the more detailed surveyor's plan of 1868 (Karskens 1994).

On the basis of the available documentary information, the archaeological evidence reviewed below suggests that these rear additions were constructed specifically for purposes associated with George Talbot's bakery. Various activities associated with baking appear to have been conducted on-site between c1810 and 1822, following Talbot’s marriage to Ann Armsden and the couples subsequent relocation to Millers Point.

The completion of the rear wings was achieved through the construction of two walls, F029 and F031. Erected on bedrock, they butt the rear wall of the Armsden-Talbot house (F003) and the southern wall of the Chanells building.

These additions firstly served to enclose what was previously a semi-detached open-sided outbuilding covering the water cistern. Secondly they operated to create an enclosed room between the cistern and the main house fronting Gloucester Street, in what was formerly an open yard space.

These footings are appreciably less robust in size in comparison with those of the Armsden-Talbot and Chanells constructions. The bonding is also inferior in quality. They also incorporate a variety of re-used materials such as charred sandstock bricks and well dressed and painted sandstone blocks.

The remains of a large dressed sandstone structure F038/066 is abutted by the north-south wall (F029) dividing the two rooms of the addition. This consists of a large rectangular (1.4m x 0.5m) and finely finished sandstone 'plinth' (F066). It has either been carefully keyed into the pre-existing Chanells wall F026 or has been repaired through the addition of an equally well-finished triangular piece of sandstone, which is 10cm wide, and which overlies the in-fill deposits F032-035 of Phase 2. In the approximate centre of this plinth, there is incorporated a smaller, and equally well-finished sandstone block (F038).

These sandstone blocks appear to reflect a 'hearth stone'. This large structure has been mortared to the bedrock (F032). It shows evidence for charring, which suggests it may have been a large recessed hearth constructed onto the party wall, and servicing the middle room. Refer to the illustrations B32.20-22 and B32.30.

The considerable size of this hearth, its robust nature and quality of finish, when compared to the 'economical' structure into which it has been housed suggests this
hearth/oven was constructed for the purposes of baking to a greater scale than that required by one couple in an average domestic circumstance.

The middle room, in addition to the western room accommodating the cistern, both give access into the adjacent yard. However, it is curious that there is no access between these two additions.

This further supports the likelihood that the middle room (furnished with an oven) may have served the primarily function of baking and perhaps other domestic purposes, while the western room is likely to have functioned as an out-house/laundry. The absence of occupation deposit in this room, in comparison with that identified in the main house fronting onto Gloucester Street, is likely to be resultant of it having a stone floor throughout its history. The middle room produced only a thin smear of occupation deposit.

The small triangular room between Cribbs Lane and the Armsden-Talbot house fronting onto Gloucester Street appears to have been incorporated into the property, along with the triangular yard space indicated in Harper's plan, during the period immediately following the construction of the lane.

This has been achieved through the construction of what is essentially a retaining wall (F005). It runs approximately parallel with Cribbs Lane and serves to appropriate and enclose the spaces left between the original Armsden-Talbot house, the rear wing additions and the lane. In a number of places, this wall has incorporated bedrock into its construction, while in others it has been built entirely from large hewn sandstone blocks bonded to the prepared bedrock surface of the yard (F050). Refer to illustration B31.16A.

3.2.4 Phase 4: Transition c1833-51

Subdivision of part of the southern half of the site, extension of the Byrne house and the development of Gloucester Street define this phase of site occupation and development.

However, excavation in Trench F failed to identify any archaeological evidence which can be definitively assigned to this site phase.

3.2.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy c1851-c1880

Sub-phase VI
It is difficult to adequately 'phase' the occupation of the Armsden-Talbot dwelling. Represented in the most detail by the deposits which accumulated as a consequence of a range of activities carried out within the domestic sphere, these occupation deposits are likely to span the full life of the structure; approximately 85 years.
The occupation deposits from the middle room, on the assumption that this room at least initially was used for activities associated with baking, may produce an artefact assemblage of different character than that from the main house. Analysis of the artefacts from these units will clarify this issue and may provide a more detailed chronology.

However, at this stage, the occupation deposits retrieved from the 'main house' and the middle room of the rear wing have been grouped together and have been provisionally allocated to this phase.

The occupation deposit in the 'main house' varied in thickness from 1-2mm to a maximum of 100m in some areas. Generally, it was found to be between 30mm and 50mm thick. In the east of this structure, in a strip running parallel with the concrete retaining wall F018, the deposit has been largely washed away (see B25.34). This highlights the issue of drainage and water run-off raised in the discussion of Phase 2.

Occupation deposit in the 'middle room' consisted of a thin smear, which was completely absent in places (refer to B29.11). Initial usage of this room (during the Armsden-Talbot phase), and its subsequent use as a 'semi-detached out-building' may explain the paucity of occupation deposits in this room.

Contexts F015 and F017 represent surface cleans in the 'main house' and F023 in the 'middle room'. These units may therefore contain some materials (such as plaster and timber fragments) associated with the demolition of the building in the Late Nineteenth Century which have been pressed into the surface. The floor boards, in addition to the roofing materials, appear to have been removed prior to demolition.

Contexts F019 and F028 are deposits in the 'main house' and 'middle room' respectively. These were divided in to squares according to a 1m grid and excavated in 50mm levels. Despite the paucity of deposit recovered, in comparison with other sub-floor contexts investigated in the study area, a relatively large quantity and wide range of artefacts were recovered. These consisted largely of 'typical' domestic household refuse; such as glass, ceramic, bone, shell and kaolin.

Sub-phase VII
During the period c1865 and 1874, the Armsden-Talbot house was provided with water and sewerage services. Consequently, the water cistern (F045) was back-filled and converted into an enclosed toilet. No services are indicated on the available sewerage plans for the period 1861-65. An 1874 three-pence from a fill deposit (F044) overlying the sewerage drain trenches (see Sub-phase VIII) provides an approximate 'terminus post quem' for these activities. The following illustrations should be referred to: B32.37, B33.0 and B.33.1.
The sewerage pipe (F055) which connects with the toilet down-pipe (F037) constructed over the cistern has been laid in a trench cutting the bedrock (F058) in the west room, in addition to the bedrock in the yard (F050). The water cistern has been back-filled with the up-cast material from this installation. This consists of c1.5m of sandstone rubble and a 400mm thick clay capping. A poorly constructed single course of re-used sandstock bricks, butting F030 and F065, represents the brickwork employed to convert the cistern into an enclosed cubicle-toilet. The remainder of the west room is likely to have functioned as a laundry.

The sewerage pipe runs from the converted cistern through the middle of the west room and into the yard where it runs parallel to the retaining wall (F005) which butts Cribbs Lane. The surface of this trench has been made flush with the bedrock floor surface in the west room and yard through the addition of packed clay and bitumen. It cuts the retaining wall (F005) and joins up with a ceramic down-pipe located at the eastern end of Cribbs Lane. The Whaler's Arms sewerage is also connected to this down-pipe. It is likely to have originally discharged into the sewerage mains in Gloucester Street.

The water pipes F062 and F039 follow a similar alignment to the sewerage. Connected to the water mains running under Carahers Lane, these pipes run to a water tap/faucet located in the eastern corner of the yard. This is drained by a concrete lined down-pipe with an iron grate (F040) which has been cut into the bedrock (F058) following the installation of the sewerage pipe. This in turn is connected to the small diameter ceramic drain (F006) which is located in the small triangular room and drains into Gloucester Street. This water pipe also serves to discharge water run-off from the corner of the Armsden-Talbot Structure and the yard collected by the down-pipe structure F008. The yard at this time may have been covered with an iron roof (see Phase 6).
3.2.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900

Sub-phase VIII
The fill deposit F042 identified in the toilet/laundry represents an interface unit between the demolition deposit F025 and the artefact rich deposit F044. Both deposits post-date the installation of the services and appear to date to the 1880s. Fragments of two plates of identical pattern bear registration diamonds dating to 1882 and an 1882 penny were also recovered from this deposit.

The irregular structure F054 appears to represent a base to accommodate a copper or a hearth either constructed, modified or repaired during this phase. It comprises irregular sandstone pieces, re-used sandstock bricks and at least one dry-pressed brick. The lowest of its courses is stratigraphically below F044.

It is unlikely but not implausible that this room had a pre-existing fireplace within close proximity to the water cistern. An alternative interpretation however is that F054 represents the conversion of the previously constructed recessed hearth servicing the middle room into a copper-support, given that this room is likely to have served as a toilet/laundry.

The stone buttress F041 located in the south-west corner of the yard post-dates the cement rendering of the exterior walls (F067) of the rear wing additions. It incorporates a 'check-out', possibly to support a timber bearer for a tin roof covering the yard. The shingles of the original Armsden-Talbot house were replaced with iron by 1882 (Karskens 1994). The yard may have been similarly covered at the same time. The various structures associated with the control of water run-off described for the previous phase suggests this is likely to have been the case. What appears to be a demolition deposit (see Sub-phase IX) investigated in the yard (F024) produced large quantities of materials which are suggestive of the this replacement in roofing materials, such as iron nails and sheeting.

Sub-Phase IX
Historical information indicates that the Armsden-Talbot house was demolished around 1896 (Karskens 1994). These events are represented by units F007, F009, F022, F024 and F025 (see B29.8). Prior to demolition, the floor boards appear to have been salvaged along with roofing materials. A photograph dated to 1901, shows the space formerly occupied by the Armsden-Talbot house, used for hanging out washing (see Karskens 1994; Figure 14).

The relatively level and cleared area depicted, provides little indication of the comparatively extensive survival of archaeological deposits and structural features as revealed through excavation.

Karskens (1994;60) makes the comment of the Armsden-Talbot house that,
the materials were also changed periodically from brick to stone, although it appears more likely to have been rendered stone, like the Whaler's Arms opposite, and as mentioned in the sale advertisement of 1829.

The demolition units previously described all produced large quantities of sandstock brick, many of which are charred. It is possible that the main house fronting onto Gloucester Street was of stone, while the rear wings had footings of stone and a brick superstructure. It is also possible, but remains to be demonstrated, that these bricks derive from the demolition of the adjacent 1860s terraces fronting onto Carahers Lane (Trench E). Analysis of the building materials from these units will hopefully clarify this issue.

3.2.7 Phase 7: Clearance c1900-1916

This phase is reflected by the outbreak of Bubonic Plague in Sydney, the subsequent demolition of most of the remaining structures within the study area, levelling of the site and the introduction of fill.

No evidence for these clearance activities have been identified through excavation in Trench F.

3.2.8 Phase 8: Engineering Works c1916-1924

Deposits related to site phases 8, 9 and 10 are not immediately distinguishable from one another in Trench F. Use of the study site as Engineering Workshops resulted in the infilling and compression of Clearance phase demolition deposits and introduced fill materials. For the purposes of discussion, Sub-phase X is discussed here. It is possible however, that the deposits revealed through excavation in Trench F may have accumulated as a consequence of later Nineteenth Century activities.

Sub-phase X

The final phase of activity identified in Trench F is represented largely by deposits created during filling and levelling operations using material brought in from locations off-site. These over-burden deposits are F001, F010 and F011. They relate either to the variety of post c1917 engineering works and machinery shops or the subsequent 'parking yard' of the Department of Motor Transport after 1951.

As previously described, these units were largely removed through mechanical bulk excavation. A concrete retaining wall F018 appears to have been constructed along the eastern boundary of the trench following the re-alignment of Gloucester Street in 1915 and the straightening of the rock platform facing the street in the 1930s.
3.2.9  Phase 9: Engineering Works  c1924-1950

See above.

3.2.10  Phase 10: Bus Parking Depot  c1950-1972

See above

3.2.11  Phase 11: SCA  c1972-1994

This phase saw the continuity of use of the pre-existing surfaces across the site. No changes were made to the site during this phase which were identified through excavation in Trench F.
3.3 Trench F Excavation Matrix

Phase

8

6

5

001——011——010

007——009——022——025——024

008

006

007

009

022

025

024

042

044——052

059

061

060

037

036

040

062

039

051

057

055

056

017——015

023

019

028
3.3 Trench F Excavation Matrix (cont.)

Phase

005

| 026 065 |
| 027 030 |
| 067     |

| 049 033 |
| 034     |
| 035     |

| 045 068 |
| 016 020 |
| 021 043 |

| 002 003 012 013 046 |
| 014     |
3.4 TRENCH F: LIST OF EXCAVATION CONTEXTS

001 Mixed fill overburden; overlying original construction (same as 010, 011)
002 Sandstone footing; south wall of original construction
003 Sandstone footing; west wall of original construction
004 Context not used
005 Sandstone retaining wall; Parallel with Cribbs Lane
006 Ceramic drain (water run-off discharge)
007 Mixed clay loam fill deposit
008 Sandstone and sandstock brick drain/down pipe
009 Demolition fill in 'east room' (same as 022, 025, 024)
010 Mixed fill overburden in yard (same as 001, 011)
011 Mixed fill overburden in 'middle and west room' (same as 001, 010)
012 Sandstone footing; north wall original construction
013 Mortar smear; remnant of east wall, original construction
014 Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in 'east room'
015 Occupation deposit, 'east room' surface clean (same as 017)
016 Timber and stone plinth/soul plate in 'east room'; same as 020
017 Occupation deposit, 'east room' surface clean (same as 015)
018 Retaining wall; concrete/rubble (post 1930)
019 Occupation deposit, 'east room'; spit/spatial excavation (cf 017, 015)
020 Timber and stone plinth/soul plate in 'east room'; same as 016
021 Sandstone hearth/fireplace; 'east room'
022 Demolition fill in 'middle room' (same as 009, 024, 025)
023 Occupation deposit, 'middle room' surface clean
024 Mixed rubble demolition fill in yard; (same as 009 et al)
025 Demolition fill 'west room' (same as 022, 009, 024)
026 Sandstone footing; Nth wall of 'Chanhells' semi-detached house
027 Sandstone footing; Wst wall of 'Chanhells' semi-detached house
028 Occupation deposit, 'middle room'; spit/spatial (cf 023)
029 Sandstone footing; nth-sth dividing wall between 'middle and west room'
030 Sandstone footing; west wall of 'rear (west) room addition'; original construction
031 Sandstone footing; est-wst wall of rear wing additions
032 Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in 'middle room'
033 In-fill/occupation deposit (spit 2) 'middle room'
034 In-fill/occupation deposit (spit 3) 'middle room'
035 In-fill/occupation deposit (spit 4) 'middle room'
036 Sandstock brick wall, 'rear (west) room addition'
037 Earthenware toilet component
038 Structure; sandstone hearth
039 Fe water pipe
040 Structure; down pipe
041 Structure; sandstone buttress
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>042</td>
<td>Fill deposit in toilet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>043</td>
<td>Structure; hearth/fireplace, original construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>044</td>
<td>Fill deposit in toilet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>045</td>
<td>Structure; water cistern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>046</td>
<td>Primary cut; drainage channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>047</td>
<td>Context not used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>048</td>
<td>Context not used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>049</td>
<td>Structure; sandstone in-fill deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>050</td>
<td>Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>051</td>
<td>Service trench fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>052</td>
<td>Fill deposit in water cistern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>053</td>
<td>Fe water pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>054</td>
<td>Structure; sandstone hearth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>055</td>
<td>Ceramic sewerage pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>056</td>
<td>Primary cut; service trench</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>057</td>
<td>Service trench fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>058</td>
<td>Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in 'west room'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>059</td>
<td>Structure; sandstone threshold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>060</td>
<td>Fill deposit in water cistern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>061</td>
<td>Structure; brickwork in 'toilet'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>062</td>
<td>Fe water pipe</td>
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<td>063</td>
<td>Fill deposit in water cistern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>064</td>
<td>Fill deposit in water cistern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>065</td>
<td>Sandstone footing; nth-sst wall of 'Chanhells' semi-detached house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>066</td>
<td>Structure; sandstone hearth/plinth construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>067</td>
<td>Sandstone footing; sst-wst wall of rear room addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>068</td>
<td>Cut out; supporting notch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>069</td>
<td>Structure; brickwork associated with water cistern</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS

Excavation in Trench F produced a range of artefacts from a variety of depositional contexts. A considerable proportion of these artefacts derive from sub-floor accumulations of household refuse and other such contexts closely associated with habitation and household garbage disposal. Other remains have been retrieved from deposits associated with demolition, site preparation and construction (such as in-filling), and other activities during periods of occupation hiatus in the study area.

The excavation contexts considered most useful for analytical purposes, on the basis of the artefacts they produced, are indicated below. The five ranks upon which this priority listing is based is also indicated. The structural units considered to be of primary interpretive and cultural significance are also listed under category 1. The less significant structural features are listed under category 5.

1. **Units critical to understanding the development of the site or answering research questions.**

002 Sandstone footing; south wall of original construction
003 Sandstone retaining wall; Parallel with Cribbs Lane
005 Sandstone footing; west wall of original construction
012 Sandstone footing; north wall original construction
013 Mortar smear; remnant of east wall, original construction
015 Occupation deposit, 'east room' surface clean (same as 017) 16 Timber and stone plinth/soul plate in 'east room'; same as 020
017 Occupation deposit, 'east room' surface clean (same as 015)
019 Occupation deposit, 'east room' spilt/spatial excavation (cf 017, 015)
020 Timber and stone plinth/soul plate in 'east room'; same as 016
023 Occupation deposit, 'middle room' surface clean
025 Sandstone footing; Nth wall of 'Chanhells' semi-detached house 027 Sandstone footing; Wst wall of 'Chanhells' semi-detached house
028 Occupation deposit, 'middle room'; spilt/spatial (cf 023)
029 Sandstone footing; nth-sth dividing wall between 'middle and west room'
030 Sandstone footing; west wall of 'rear (west) room addition'; 031 Sandstone footing; est-wst wall of rear wing additions
033 In-fill/occupation deposit (spit 2) 'middle room'
034 In-fill/occupation deposit (spit 3) 'middle room'
035 In-fill/occupation deposit (spit 4) 'middle room'
038 Structure; sandstone hearth of original construction
043 Structure; hearth/fireplace, original construction
045 Structure; water cistern
065 Sandstone footing; nth-sth wall of 'Chanhells' semi-detached house
066 Structure; sandstone hearth/plinth construction
067 Sandstone footing; sth-wst wall of rear room addition
2. Units that will contribute significantly to understanding the history of the site or that answer specific chronological/stratigraphic problems.

- 042 Fill deposit in toilet
- 044 Fill deposit in toilet
- 051 Service trench fill
- 052 Fill deposit in water cistern
- 057 Service trench fill
- 060 Fill deposit in water cistern
- 063 Fill deposit in water cistern
- 064 Fill deposit in water cistern

3. Units unlikely to provide information related specifically to the site or to specific questions.

- 007 Mixed clay loam fill deposit
- 009 Demolition fill in 'east room' (same as 022, 025, 024)
- 022 Demolition fill in 'middle room' (same as 009, 024, 025)
- 024 Mixed rubble demolition fill in yard; (same as 009 et al)
- 025 Demolition fill 'west room' (same as 022, 009, 024)

4. Units created during filling and levelling operations using material from off-site.

- 001 Mixed fill overburden; overlying original construction (same as 010, 011)
- 010 Mixed fill overburden in yard (same as 001, 011)
- 011 Mixed fill overburden in 'middle and west room' (same as 001, 010)

5. Structural units (walls, cuts, drains, posts etc)

- 006 Ceramic drain (water run-off discharge)
- 008 Sandstone and sandstock brick drain/down pipe
- 014 Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in 'east room'
- 018 Retaining wall; concrete/rubble (post 1930)
- 021 Sandstone hearth/fireplace; 'east room'
- 032 Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in 'middle room'
- 036 Sandstock brick wall, 'rear (west) room addition'
- 037 Earthenware toilet component
- 039 Fe water pipe
- 040 Structure; down pipe
- 041 Structure; sandstone buttress
- 046 Primary cut; drainage channel
- 049 Structure; sandstone in-fill deposit
- 050 Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in yard
053 Fe water pipe
054 Structure; sandstone hearth
055 Ceramic sewerage pipe
056 Primary cut; service trench
058 Bedrock; prepared bedrock surface in 'west room'
059 Structure; sandstone threshold
061 Structure; brickwork in 'toilet'
062 Fe water pipe
068 Cut out; supporting notch
069 Structure; brickwork associated with water cistern

3.6 ARTEFACTS

Trench F produced a relatively modest sized artefact assemblage in comparison with the extensive collections retrieved from some of the other excavation areas. This is particularly the case for Trenches A, B and C.

The nature and composition of the material from Trench F also differs from that recovered from these three excavation areas. This is particularly with reference to the extensive assemblages of artefacts associated with the Cribb butchery. Cribb’s activities dominated the southern portion of the study site during the first part of the Nineteenth Century.

The majority of the artefacts from Trench F consists of what may be considered as typical household refuse which has been generated through a wide range of activities conducted within the domestic realm. Sub-floor accumulations of material deposited during the occupation of the Armsden-Talbot residence dominate the artefact assemblage.

Three of the ten sub-phases of occupation and development identified for Trench F produced the bulk of the artefacts. These relate to the pre 1823 in-filling of the site prior to the construction of the two semi-detached stone dwellings (Sub-phase III), occupation of the southern Armsden-Talbot house (Sub-phase VI) and deposits associated with late Nineteenth Century (c1880s) occupation of this residence (Sub-phase VIII). The principal contexts are outlined below.
3.7 DISCUSSION OF CONTEXTS/ARTEFACTS

The in-fill deposits F033-035 are pre 1823 in date. On the basis of previous discussion, they likely to have been deposited shortly before c1810-11. Unit F033 in particular, produced a large quantity of animal bone and charcoal, in addition to a number of whole (and un-used) and fragmentary sandstock bricks.

The occupation deposits from both the main Armsden-Talbot house (F015, F017, F019), and the middle room of the rear wing addition (F023, F028), were limited in extent and shallow in depth in comparison with other sub-floor contexts investigated in the study area (Carahers Lane terraces for example). However, the density of artefacts recovered, particularly from F019, is relatively high.

The assemblage from the Trench F sub-floor contexts comprise of a wide range of artefacts of bone, shell, glass, ceramic, and metal. These represent a range of items used and/or consumed during the use of the residence. Food refuse is well represented by animal bone, seeds and shells, as are other items such as crockery, alcohol bottles and preserve containers, pins and smoking pipes. More unusual is a small but articulated shark or ray vertebral column which was also recovered from beneath the floor-boards (see B30.12).

In comparison with the general size range of materials retrieved from the Carahers Lane under-floor deposits for example, the artefacts from these equivalent units in Trench F are noticeably smaller. The reasons for this difference in deposition is presently unclear.

The majority of the dateable artefacts from these sub-floor contexts are post c1850 in date. Re-flooring and/or evidence for possible clean-out(s) of the sub-floor spaces during the long occupation of this structure is inferred by the evidence.

The fill deposits F042 and F044 produced a large and compositionally varied artefact assemblage. These deposits (especially F044) also contain a large number of artefacts useful for dating purposes. Items include coins, base-marked ceramics and registered design bottle forms. From an assessment of the material retrieved the assemblage's deposition date range clusters tightly around the 1880's.

Discussion of the various artefact components excavated from Trench F are reviewed in more detail in the specialist artefact reports.
RESPONSE TO THE RESEARCH DESIGN

The questions developed in the research design, both broad and site specific, can be addressed with varying degrees of success by the archaeological evidence identified in Trench F. Many of these questions can only be adequately assessed through an analysis of the full range of archaeological and documentary information available. Consideration of the large and complex excavated artefact assemblage, in conjunction with an assessment of contextual information revealed both through excavation and historical research is required.

The primary results revealed through investigations in Trench F, in combination with what may subsequently prove to be the principal areas of discussion to benefit from a synthesised overview, are therefore outlined below.

Excavation attempted to determine whether the construction of the Armsden-Talbot dwelling could be narrowed down from the date range indicated by historical research; c1810-1822. No irrefutable evidence for the date of construction was revealed during excavation. A sufficient body of evidence is however available to infer a period of construction which dates to shortly after c1810.

The main house fronting onto Gloucester Street is likely to have been erected shortly after c1810, following the marriage of Ann Armsden to George Talbot. The rear wings subsequently added, but the semi-detached stone house sold to Edward Chanhells between c1815 and 1822.

The retaining wall, which butts Cribbs Lane and serves to enclose the yard and create the small triangular room annexing the main house, is likely to have been constructed approximately contemporary with Cribbs Lane. If the lane was constructed shortly after the establishment of the Cribb butchery on-site, the sequence of Armsden-Talbot construction development described in Sub-phases I to V in Section 3.2, is likely to have been completed in a few years immediately after c1810.

The occupation deposits from the Armsden-Talbot house are likely to contain artefacts spanning the period c.1810-96. However, preliminary analysis of these artefacts, in addition to those with tight provenance to the pre 1823 in-fill deposits (Sub-phase III), suggest a shorter chronology.

Activities associated with the preparation of the site for the construction of the southern house, in addition to those associated with the construction of the three
terraces replacing the northern dwelling in 1888-91, removed any evidence for the shingle and weatherboard structure built on the location of these two allotments by Ann Armsden in c.1795.

ANN ARMSDEN - HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL VISIBILITY

Despite that excavation in Trench F failed to identify the early dwelling of Ann Armsden, investigation in this portion of the study area holds particular importance for examining aspects of women's occupation and lives in the Rocks during this poorly understood period of Sydney's history.

Ann Armsden has both historical and archaeological significance. She has prominence as the earliest 'identified' occupant of the study area. She also remains prominent and 'visible' in the historical documents as an individual throughout her approximate 28 year stay on-site. This is despite many personal difficulties which appear to have arisen following the death of her first husband.

The archaeological 'visibility' of the structural remains revealed in Trench F bears further testimony to her achievements. The scale of construction represented by the two substantial semi-detached stone buildings built on Lots 10 and 11 shortly after c1810 is clearly impressive. This is particularly important for this early period.

Few contemporary structures, either on-site or in adjacent precincts in the Rocks, are comparable to the Armsden-Talbot/Chanhell's buildings.

Parameters of difference can be identified on a number of levels. These include the extensive efforts which were expended in preparation of the Armsden allotment prior to construction, and the impressive size of the two semi-detached dwellings when combined. Also of note is the high quality of the construction which is reflected by the Armsden-Talbot footings fronting onto Gloucester Street and the surviving Chanhells stone walls, along with the precise and labour-intensive construction and the water cistern.

EVIDENCE FOR GEORGE TALBOT'S BAKERY ENTERPRISE

The activities of George Talbot, the baker, also appear to be well represented by the archaeological evidence identified in Trench F.

The addition of the rear wings annexing the Armsden-Talbot house shortly after c1811 appear to have been specifically built for the purposes of Talbot's bakery business. Central to this argument is the construction of a large and well built recessed oven and the provision of an equally substantial water storage tank. The
tank imparts a sense of regularity in design and professional construction. The cistern and oven combined provide compelling evidence for this suggestion.

The argument is further supported by the comparatively poor construction of the footings of the rear wings. This suggests the rear additions were purpose built for reasons other than those requirements which arise solely out of the conditions necessitated by domestic habitation. The principal reasons for consideration are outlined below.

PRINCIPAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

The footings of the rear wing are neither substantial in size nor is their bonding of good quality. There is also no access between both the two rooms of the rear addition, and directly between the rear wing and the main house. The yard appears to have acted as a thoroughfare. Furthermore, both rooms of the rear addition had, at least initially in the case of the middle room, stone floors for the majority of their use.

This evidence is neither suggestive nor compatible with a likelihood that the outbuildings were constructed for the primary purposes of (comfortable) domestic-habitation. A more utilitarian function for these rear wing additions to the house fronting onto Gloucester Street is implied.

Combined, the water tank and large recessed oven, may perhaps reflect evidence for a 'cottage industry' and/or the pracices associated with a domestic 'back-up' component of a business largely operated elsewhere.

In context, the postulated evidence for activities associated with George Talbot's bakery are both historically and archaeologically significant. Evidence for other early trade and manufacturing practices identified on-site, derive largely from 'Cribb period' structures and deposits. Comparable archaeological evidence to the Armsden-Talbot 'baking enterprise', from the later 'Berry's oven' is presently unclear.

CONTEXTUAL HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Baking at a commercial scale, and the operation of this trade from within what are principally domestic residences, during the early years of the Nineteenth Century appears to have been quite common in the Rocks. At least on the basis of numerous advertisements and notices reported in the Sydney Gazette.

For example, in March 4 1804, Thomas Reiby advertises for sale 'a dwelling house in the Rocks with three spacious rooms, two well floored, the other used as a
kitchen paved; a capital bakehouse and oven; two large stock yards fenced in'. A more detailed description is contained within a notice listed by the Gazette for April 8, 1804 for a 'House on The Rocks, to be let or sold if required',

*undeniably situated for trade or business, together with an excellent bakehouse, with every utensil necessary to carry on an extensive business, a large garden capable of supplying a family throughout the year, and containing also some very good fruit-trees, convenient stock yard, and the prospect agreeable and extensive. The premises - weatherboarded and shingled and fit for the immediate reception of a family desirous of embarking in trade.*

The evidence revealed from Trench F may therefore have wide historical importance. As a consequence of the recurrent threat of famine during the colonies 'hungry years', the baking industry came under government regulation in 1801. A General Order of May 1801 regulated the quality, composition and weight of loaves and prescribed penalties for breaches of the ordinance (*HRNSW* 4, 364, 367).

George Talbot had established a bakery business by 1804 near the windmill at the top of the Rocks (Karskens 1994). In 1806 he was 'approved' as a baker by the Bench of Magistrates (*Sydney Gazette* 13 April, 1806). In 1807 (*Sydney Gazette* 18 January, 1807) all bakers were licensed, and the Bench of Magistrates decided that all bread should be of a standard weight and that 'an average of the price of wheat should be taken weekly, in order to assize the price of the ensuing week'.

By 1821, just prior to George Talbot and Ann Armsden re-locating to Miller's Point, there were 52 licensed bakers in Sydney, including 8 in Pitt Street, and 6 each in George, Clarence, Cambridge and Kent Streets. Besides proximity to the windmills and residential areas, the other factor determining the site of these concerns was the need to have a supply of clean water or be within close proximity to wells (Walsh 1969:252).

Although Talbot possessed a cart license (Karskens 1994), it is likely that the logistical difficulties involved in securing a plentiful and reliable water source and transporting it through the steep topography of the Rocks terrain prompted the couples' investment in the construction of the sizeable water cistern. It is not clear however, to what extent the couple pursued baking as a commercial undertaking from this residence. Further documentary research may clarify this issue.

**SUMMARY**

The establishment of 'home-spun' or 'cottage-based' trade and industry is by no means a characteristic development of early life in the Rocks. There can be little
doubt however, that the Rocks rapidly developed as a separate community, in both a social and cultural sense, from the larger city of Sydney.

Physically adapting to the contours of the natural ridge-line and the exposed bedrock produced irregular building practices and street lines, terraced streetscapes and a host of problems for garbage disposal such as a lack of space and access for garbage removal and sanitation control.

Adaptation to the difficulties imposed by the immediate environment or the radical modification of the immediate environment appear to be the primary structuring process behind the location and orientation of the initial, and hence subsequent, occupation in the study area.

The extensive pre-construction preparation of the two allotments investigated in Trench F (in addition to those in Trench G) prior to the construction of the two semi-detached stone dwellings provides detailed evidence for this. The removal of imposing sandstone shelves characteristic of the study site and the levelling of this bedrock, the quarrying of stone on-site for construction and the extensive provision for drainage and water run-off are all well represented in Trench F.

The irregular building practices and un-managed street developments which appear characteristic of the Rocks development are also evident in the sequence of occupation identified in Trench F and illustrate a lack of governance during the period.

As a consequence of the 'organic growth' of the Armsden-Talbot residence and a lack of building regulation, the structure itself and the property allotment boundaries display, by at least Harper's plan of 1823, an unusual alignment to both Gloucester Street and Cribbs Lane. The fact that even in 1868, the irregularities provided by the alignment of the building and its construction resulted in a confused and somewhat inaccurate assessment of the residence, indicates that both the establishment of governance and the relationship between authorities and residents was slow to develop in the Rocks community.

Further evidence for this is indicated by the fact that the small triangular room between Cribbs Lane and the Armsden-Talbot house fronting onto Gloucester Street appears to have been incorporated into the property, along with the triangular yard space indicated in Harper's plan, during the period immediately following the construction of Cribbs Lane. This was achieved through the construction of a retaining wall which served to appropriate and enclose the spaces left between the original Armsden-Talbot house, the rear wing additions and the lane.
5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 SOURCES

Godden Mackay Pty Ltd. 1994. The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site Archaeological Investigation; Archaeological Assessment and Research Design. Report for The Sydney Cove Authority and the Heritage Council of NSW.


Historical Records of New South Wales

Sydney Gazette
5.2 APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Schedule of building and allotment development for Lots 10 and 11 Section 75.

1795-c.1810 Weatherboard and shingled house built by Ann Armsden and George Legg; replaced c1810.

c1811-1823 Two stone shingled semidetached houses built on site by Ann Armsden and George Talbot; one sold after 1815 to Edward and Mary Chanhells; but could have been other owners.

c1882 North house demolished.

1891 North house replaced by three two-storey terraces.

c1896 South house demolished, vacant space used for hanging out washing.

1915 Three terraces demolished after resumptions and for realignment of Gloucester Street.
6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 PLANS

The following plans record the nature, range and relative phasing of the various structural features and archaeological deposits identified through excavation in Trench F. They are listed according to sheet number.

Sheet No. 93 97 98 106 154

Plan number 189 is a elevation of the western footing 030 which includes a profile through the water cistern 045.

6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS

The monochrome illustrations referred to in the text are listed below. Although the majority of these have been inserted into the text in locations for discussion of particular phases, many of the illustrations depict general views and are inclusive of a wide range of structures and deposits in particular locations of Trench F. Many are therefore applicable to the discussion of multiple phases. The listing below represents a sample of the more informative illustrations of the extensive archive which is available.

B25. 34
B26. 18-20
B29. 8,11
B30. 12,31-33
B31. 16A
B32. 20-22,30,36-37
B33. 0,1,37
CUMBERLAND/GLOUCESTER STREET SITE
Archaeological Investigation 1994
Trench Report - Area G

Dominic Steele

September 1996
CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION
   1.1 LOCATION/SITE DESIGNATION  1
   1.2 AREA/VOLUME  1
   1.3 OBJECTIVES  2
   1.4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY  3
   1.5 CONSTRAINTS  4
   1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION  4
   1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS  4

2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT
   2.1 INTRODUCTION
      2.1.1 Phase 1: Pre-European Pre 1788  6
      2.1.3 Phase 3: Consolidation, c1810-c1833  6
      2.1.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy, c1851-c1880  6
      2.1.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900  6
      2.1.7 Phase 7: Clearance c1900-1916  6

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE
   3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES  7
   3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT/OCCUPATION
      3.2.3 Phase 3: Consolidation c1810-c1833  8
      3.2.4 Phase 4: Transition c1833-1851  14
      3.2.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy c1851-c1880  14
      3.2.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900  16
   3.3 AREA G EXCAVATION MATRIX  19
   3.3 AREA G EXCAVATION MATRIX CONT...
   3.4 TRENCH G : LIST OF EXCAVATION CONTEXTS  21
   3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS  26
   3.6 ARTEFACTS  32
   3.7 DISCUSSION OF CONTEXTS/ARTEFACTS  32

4.0 RESULTS
   4.1 RESPONSE TO THE RESEARCH DESIGN  33
   4.2 THE ROCKS AS A SEPARATE COMMUNITY: ENVIRONMENTAL ADAPTATION  34

5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION
   5.1 SOURCES  35
   5.2 APPENDICES
      5.2.1 Appendix 1  35

6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS
   6.1 PLANS  36
   6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS  36
GODDEN
MACKAY

SYNOPSIS

The primary archaeological features recorded in Trench G comprise of a variety of structural elements associated with at least four phases of construction and occupation in Lots 11 and 12. These span the period c1811-1915.

The earliest of these remains consist of footings of the Chanhells semi-detached residence. Excavation also revealed evidence for the Whale Fishery Hotel. The remains include sandstone footings which represent the rear, south-west corner of the hotel, and a semi-circular water catch-basin which was excavated from the sandstone bedrock located in the hotel's rear yard. Also revealed are the remains of a substantial 'box drain' which has also been channelled into the bedrock.

Remains of the three c1865 terraces which replaced the Whale Fishery Hotel in Lot 12 and evidence for the c1891 buildings, erected following the demolition of the Chanhells dwelling have also been identified. This evidence consists largely of the rear footings of these structures and their yard spaces.

Investigations in Trench G revealed evidence for extensive modification of the original bedrock topography. Quarrying and terracing carried out in this portion of the site by c1830 bears testimony to this modification. The significance of the evidence of environmental impact of this scale on the part of the occupants of the study site during the first decades of the Nineteenth Century is an area which requires further consideration.

The control of drainage and water run-off appears to have been a problem requiring specific attention through out the full period of occupation in Lots 11 and 12. The scale of excavation and terracing carried out appears to have compounded pre-existing problems of water run-off and slope-wash from the higher elevated ridge-line to the west.

Evidence exists for the provision of extensive drainage facilities which were installed prior to the commencement of construction during each subsequent phase of occupation.

Best illustrated by the irregular and un-regulated building practices of the Whale Fishery Hotel, the available evidence indicates that the nature of drainage and water run-off strongly influenced the nature of occupation and development in this portion of the study area.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION/SITE DESIGNATION

This report describes the archaeological excavations which were conducted in the portion of the study area designated as Trench G. These investigations were located in the north-east of the site and encompass Lots 11 & 12, Section 75. Situated north of excavation Trench F (Lot 10), Trench G is bounded to the east by Gloucester Street and to the west by Trenches E and H. The trench extends to the northern boundary of the study site which is represented by the current Australian Hotel.

1.2 AREA/VOLUME

Trench G is approximately rectangular in shape. The southern portion of the trench, which shares a baulk with Trench F, is approximately square. It measures 11.0m by 11.5m. It is annexed by a rectangular strip which runs north-south and parallel with Gloucester Street.

The area which was excavated in this portion of the trench measures approximately 16.0m by 3.5m. The total excavation area investigated in Trench G comprises approximately 185 m².

Prior to the commencement of manual excavation and recording, between 1.5m and 3.0m of rubble fill and soil overlying the excavation area was removed by mechanical excavation.

These deposits relate either to the range of post 1917 engineering works and machinery shops on-site or the post 1951 use of the site by the Department of Motor Transport. Considerable disturbance of these introduced deposits from recent street works in Gloucester Street and the accumulation of modern garbage in the trench mitigated this approach (see Section 1.4).

Manual excavation consisted largely of shovel-cleaning between 5cm and 50cm of the remaining unstratified deposit to reveal sandstone bedrock across the entire excavation area. The volume of deposit removed from this trench through controlled (manual) excavation is therefore a quantification of limited meaning.
1.3 OBJECTIVES

On the basis of the historical context (and accompanying report) developed for the site by Karskens (1994), five major research questions have been outlined. These general areas which encompass the research objectives of the Cumberland Street excavation are outlined below. Further detail and discussion of these research questions is available in the Cumberland Street Archaeological Assessment and Research Design (1994) and Historical Discourse (Karskens 1994).

- The impact of the industrial revolution and the rise of class.
- What can the site tell us about women’s occupation and lives?
- Can the site make a contribution to the debate on standards of living in the urban areas where people lived?
- Was the Rocks a separate space, in a social/cultural sense, in the larger city?
- The Rise of Governance: What was the nature of the relationship between people and government? How did it change over the historical period?

With particular reference to the area investigated in Trench G, excavation was also directed towards examining a number of more specific questions. These are listed below.

- How old were the houses shown on the 1823 plan on Lot 11; the two houses of the Doyle and Flowers families and the part-house on Lot 12, Section 75? Did they have garden spaces at the front?
- Were the earlier houses shown on the 1823 plan on Lot 11 Section 75 (Doyle’s and Flowers’) incorporated into the c.1828 Whale Fishery hotel building or not?
- If remnants of part of the long house marked on Lot 12 Section 75 (Sarah Gill’s house, occupied by Bryan and possibly Atkinson 1822) can be located, was this a single house or a series of conjoined houses?
1.4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The methods employed to record the extensive range of structural features, in addition to the few archaeological deposits identified in Trench G, differed from those generally used in other excavation areas.

Minimal stratigraphic excavation of deposits was required in this trench. Works associated with the re-alignment of Gloucester Street in 1915, and the later construction and subsequent removal of a retaining fence along the street and the eastern boundary of Trench G, had previously disturbed any intact archaeological deposit in that portion of the trench. In addition, the accumulation of garbage in this eastern area over recent years further reduced the archaeological integrity of these introduced fill deposits which had been used to in-fill and raise the level of the site in either c.1917 and/or 1951.

Following the removal of varying amounts of unstratified over-burden, large areas of bedrock were exposed across the trench.

The archaeological procedures therefore involved recording of an extensive series of structures and features in plan which were cut into the bedrock. These include features such as drainage channels, cut-outs accommodating supporting bearers and a variety of in-fill deposits.

A similar range of features were also evident in elevation. These include standing structural elements (such as walls, doorways etc) and a complex array of drainage grooves, cut-outs, plaster and render patches and ‘shadows’ indicative of the location of former structural elements. These occur in large numbers across an extensive bedrock elevation between 1.5m and 3.0m high. It constitutes the western boundary of the Trench. This long vertical sandstone terrace was, for the purposes of recording, divided into ‘panels’ of various lengths. The sandstone bedrock exposed in plan and the features which cut it, were similarly divided into panels. These generally correspond to the panels established for the vertical terraced sandstone face.

Without extensive evidence for stratigraphy provided by layered deposits and indications of relative dating revealed by artefacts, the information relevant to establishing and dating the nature of sequential development in Trench G included the identification and recording of stratigraphic relationships of structural elements, building materials, their manufacturing and construction technology, evidence for architectural style, orientation and layout of structures, and direct dates (date plaques). This information has been used in conjunction with the available historical documentation.

The procedural methodology followed in order to determine the relative phasing of these various features, and where applicable, the evolutionary development of the various structures identified, is outlined by Davies (1987).
1.5 CONSTRAINTS

Problems encountered during the excavation of Trench G were presented largely by the nature of the archaeological evidence revealed. A considerable amount of time and patience was required to record the extensive range of small features evident in plan and elevation. Stratigraphic uncertainties which exist in the absence of archaeological deposits, have resulted in the fact that many of the features recorded in Trench G cannot be adequately phased or interpreted in a manner comparable to other excavation areas investigated in the study area.

Despite the absence of stratified deposits, excavation and recording in Trench G was time consuming. Removal of the relatively large quantities of over-burden required extensive labour. This was largely furnished through a number of school groups who visited the site.

Extensive liaison between excavation recorder and planner was also required in order to ensure what was perceived and recorded on-site was transferred onto plan and vice-versa.

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report was completed by Dominic Steele. The historical information referred to in the following section is largely extracted and summarised from that compiled in the *Historical Discourse* (Karskens 1994).

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A number of people deserve particular praise for their efforts in Trench G. In particular, I would like to thank John Bridges, Julie Drew, Lillian Frank, Celia Jones and Mac North.
2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This brief historical review focuses upon the occupants of Lots 11 & 12 Section 75, and the developments in the sequence of occupancy in this portion of the study area. Detailed information of the occupancy developments of these allotments are recorded in Karskens (1994).

Between c1811-1823 a stone and shingled semi-detached dwelling was constructed on the southern portion of Trench G (Lot 11), by Ann Armsden and George Talbot. At some time after 1815 this structure was sold to Edward and Mary Chanhells. There is likely to have been a sequence of owners following this sale (see Karskens 1994).

The origins of the houses standing on Lot 12, adjacent and to the north of the Chanhells residence, are obscure. Harper's plan of 1823 shows a detached rectangular structure standing close to the Chanhells house, and a square structure to the north again. The southern one was either owned or let by the Irish publicans Patrick Doyle and Catherine Browne by 1822, the northern by Irishman James Flowers, his wife Mary Holmes and their two children.

These two houses in Cambridge Street (now Gloucester) may have been demolished about 1828 and replaced by a hotel, a larger building fronting what later became the street alignment, with a rear wing. Alternatively the Doyle and Flowers houses may have been incorporated in the hotel; archaeological investigations may resolve this point. The building was opened as a hotel called the 'Whale Fishery' in 1830, by a mariner Jasper (or Gaspard) Tunn.

This hotel was a two storey structure of stone and shingles. It was recorded in the Rate books between 1845 and 1863 as having five rooms, and was described variously as a house, a shop or both. In 1863 it was noted as 'out of repair, large front'. It seems to have been demolished shortly after and by 1865, when the sewerage map was drawn up, the three plain fronted terraces, two small and one larger, had appeared on the site. They remained there until the demolitions of 1907, and by then had been flanked on either side by other terraces, similarly plain but slightly larger.

The southern (Chanhells) house on Lot 11 was demolished by c1882. In 1891 the house was replaced by three two-story terraces. These terraces were rapidly demolished following resumptions for the purposes of the re-alignment of Gloucester Street in 1915. The site was used from c1917 for various engineering works and
machinery shops. From 1951 to the early 1970s, the Department of Motor Transport used the site a bus terminus.

The various archaeological and features identified, combined with documentary evidence, indicates that a number of distinct periods of construction can be defined for the area of Lots 11 and 12. Listed below, they are discussed in this report as subphases according to the appropriate principal phases of occupation and development identified for the Cumberland Street site.

2.1.1 Phase 1: Pre-European Pre 1788
2.1.2 Phase 2: Initial European Settlement 1788-c1810
2.1.3 Phase 3: Consolidation, c1810-c1833
   I Pre-construction site preparation c1811
   II Construction of the Chanhells semi-detached stone dwelling on Lot 11 c1811
   III Construction of the Doyle and Flowers houses on Lot 12 c1822
   IV Replacement of Lot 12 structures by the Whale Fishery Hotel c1828
2.1.4 Phase 4: Transition c1833-1851
2.1.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy, c1851-c1880
   V Whale Fishery demolished and replaced by three very small terraces c1865
2.1.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900
   VI Chanhells house demolished and replaced by three two-story terraces c1891
2.1.7 Phase 7: Clearance c1900-1916
   VII Terraces replacing Whale Fishery and Chanhells house demolished 1915
   VIII Later Twentieth Century modifications 1915
2.1.8 Phase 8: Engineering Works c1916-1924
2.1.9 Phase 9: Engineering Works c1924-1950
2.1.10 Phase 10: Bus Parking Depot c1950-1972
2.1.11 Phase 11: SCA c1972-1994
3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

The primary features identified and recorded in Trench G consist of structural elements associated with at least four separate phases of construction and occupation in Lots 11 and 12.

The archaeological remains span the full (historically documented) date range of occupation of these allotments, prior to their resumption for the purposes of re-aligning Gloucester Street. Namely, for the period c1811-1915.

The earliest of these remains comprise components of three sandstone footings of the semi-detached Chanhells residence. Excavation also revealed evidence for sandstone footings, a threshold and a number of 'check-outs' associated with the rear wall and yard of the Whale Fishery Hotel. Other evidence for activities associated with the hotel include a circular water catch-basin excavated from the sandstone bedrock, and extensive remains of a substantial 'box drain' channelled into the rock.

Excavation failed to identify evidence for the Doyle and Flowers structures. Extensive quarrying, site preparation and ultimately street works in the post c1823 period appear to have removed structural elements and deposits associated with these buildings.

Remains of the three c1865 terraces which replaced the Whale Fishery in Lot 12 are also represented, albeit to a limited extent. This evidence consists of numerous services which cut the bedrock in their rear yards, along with a miscellany of cut-outs and drainage channels which are evident on the sandstone elevation representing the western boundary of these yards. The 1891 terraces in Lot 11 are represented by extensive remains. It primarily consists of rear rooms and yard areas. Although street works dated to c1915 have removed the buildings street frontage, the extent and height to which their rear footings have survived is quite surprising.

Excluding the demolitions referred to in Sub-phase VII, of the six periods of occupation and development recognised in the historical documentation, all but one (Sub-phase III) could be identified in the archaeological record. The nature and extent however, of the surviving evidence for the various phases tends to vary quite considerably. The primary archaeological evidence identified in Trench G is reviewed below.
3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT/OCCUPATION

3.2.1 Phase 1: Pre-European  Pre-1788

The pre-European evidence identified in Trench G is represented by sandstone bedrock. Post 1788 modification of the sandstone in this area of the site has removed all overlying natural soil horizons. European modification has also largely obscured the nature of the natural topography of the ridge-line, which is clearly evident in other areas of the study site.

3.2.2 Phase 2: Initial European Settlement  1788-c1810

Excavation in Tench G failed to identify any archaeological evidence which can be assigned to this phase of site occupation.

3.2.3 Phase 3: Consolidation  c1810-c1833

Sub-phase I
A characteristic of Trench G, and one unique to this north-eastern portion of the study site, is the extent to which the original topography of the sandstone bedrock has been modified through quarrying activities and terracing. The nature and scale of these modifications are evident when comparing Trench G with other largely un-modified areas of the site which have been revealed through excavation (eg. Trenches B and C).

The southern portion of Trench G (Lot 11) is dominated by a 3m high sandstone elevation (G134, G150, G112). This height is inclusive of the north-south Chanhells footing (G121, G149) which was constructed above the bedrock in c1811-23. The sandstone bedrock in this allotment was terraced in c1888. It was carried out in preparation for the construction of the three two-storied terraces built by 1891 (Sub-phase VI). These works destroyed the greater portion of the Chanhells structure which butted the Armsden-Talbot residence in Lot 10. The later terraces incorporated the resultant sandstone elevation into the western boundary of their largely enclosed rear yards (see B35.6-7 and B42.25-26A).

The northern portion of Trench G (Lot 12) has also undergone substantial quarrying during various periods of its occupation. These works have created an equally extensive sandstone terrace which is comparable to the one in Lot 11.

These quarrying activities appear however, to have occurred considerably earlier than those in the adjacent southern block.

Harper's plan of 1823 depicts what appears to be the alignment of this terraced bedrock elevation. It is represented by various bedrock 'panels' (G102, G012-14, G018, G040, G049-050).
This elevation would initially have been to the rear of the Doyle and Flowers' houses. It is possible that the quarrying of the bedrock in this northern lot, was at least in part, carried out prior or contemporary with the Doyle-Flowers period of occupation. Certainly, these works were completed prior to the construction of the Whale Fishery Hotel in c1828.

The stone materials used for the construction of the hotel are likely to have been procured on-site. Stone procurement for the purposes of construction, may therefore explain the extent of quarrying in this portion of the site. A substantial volume of stone has been removed, and the subsequent efforts involved in terracing and finishing this area to create a straight and dressed-face 'retaining wall' following the completion of these activities is commensurate with this suggestion.

For the greater part of the historical period considered here, Lot 12 and its occupant structures were located at a considerably lower level than the adjacent Lots 10 & 11. The latter's buildings were located on a rock ledge well above Gloucester street.

This difference in elevation may explain the confusion on the part of the rate assessors over the years who variously recorded the latter properties incorrectly (see Karskens 1994;60).

At present, the timing of the activities which have resulted in the drastic modification of the pre-existing topography in this area of the site cannot be determined with greater precision. However, despite this, the primary significance of the evidence lies with the scale of the works undertaken for this early period. This issue is further reviewed in Section 4.0.

Sub-phase II
The report for excavation area F details the extensive evidence which survives of the southern semi-detached structure built by Ann Armsden and George Talbot in c1811. Documentary information and archaeological evidence indicates that the northern dwelling was constructed and sold to Edward and Mary Chanhells between c1811-15. To place this brief review of the limited archaeological remains which survive of the northern house, reference should be made to the Trench F excavation report.

The Chanhells structure is represented by the southern wall (G154) whose equivalent context in Area F is F026/065, the extensive north-south footing G121/149 (=F027), and the remains of an east-west return (G057).

These footings are both substantial and are in a good state of preservation. This is evident in a number of illustrations; B35.1-4 and 11. It is difficult to positively correlate the range of cut-outs, plaster smears and other ancillary features cutting, butting and adhering to these three walls with this initial construction period of the Chanhells building (Sub-phase II) or its subsequent occupation which spanned the period c1811-1882. The dwelling was replaced between 1888-91 (Sub-phase VI).
A large number of these small ‘cut-outs’, plaster traces and render smears are reflective of various structures and features installed into the semi-enclosed rear yards of the 1891 terraces. They have been affixed onto the pre-existing sandstone footings and bedrock elevation.

Two rectangular check-outs (G110 and G111) which cut G057 (see B35.32-33 and B42.22A), appear to have accommodated timber joists, and therefore are likely to reflect the original level of the Chanhells flooring. A number of less regular recessed check-outs cut into the north-south footing G121/149 and may also be contemporary with this phase. Unless however, in the case of these small and numerous features, evidence is present to indicate their clear association with these pre-existing footings, they have generally been phased to the construction of the terraces and rear yards in c1891 described in Sub-phase VI.

Sub-phase III
Excavation in Trench G failed to locate the Doyle and Flowers structures. Their origin and occupational history remain obscure. A number of factors appear to be responsible for the archaeological invisibility of these buildings.

The levelling and terracing of the bedrock in this allotment and/or other activities associated with site preparation and use appear to have removed completely the evidence for these former structures. These works may either have taken place prior to the construction of the Whale Fishery Hotel or during subsequent phases. It also is likely that the activities associated with the demolition of the c1865 terraces (which were subsequently erected in this location) following resumption for the purposes of re-aligning Gloucester Street in 1915, may have removed archaeological deposits. This is further suggested by the distribution of the deposits and structural remains associated with Sub-phase V discussed below.

The buildings may also have been of materials of poor survival potential such as weatherboard and shingles. Following the removal of any pre-existing top-soil, which is likely to have occurred as a result of the quarrying and levelling of the site, the likelihood that evidence for a timber structure may survive (such as in the form of post holes etc) decreases markedly.

Consequent of site preparation in the adjacent allotment (Lot 10), excavation failed to recover evidence for the timber dwelling of Ann Armsden and George Legg. Here it is argued that the stone materials for the construction of the two detached houses were quarried on-site. This construction therefore subsequently removed evidence for the former building. The scale of the quarrying discussed in Sub-phase I and the construction of the Whale Fishery Hotel from stone materials procured on-site may explain the extent of sandstone terracing in Trench G.
Sub-phase IV
The Whale Fishery Hotel is represented by a variety of features. These include sandstone footings, a small circular catch-basin which has been excavated into the bedrock for the collection of water, a substantial and well constructed 'box drain' which has likewise been channelled into the stone and a number of minor drainage channels and grooves associated with the primary drain.

Excluding the features associated with water provision and drainage/run-off control, the surviving structural elements of the Whale Fishery Hotel consist principally of sandstone footings which represent the rear south-west corner of the building. Context G099 is an approximately 1.60m long section of the rear wall of the hotel. It is orientated north-south and consists of a basal course of sandstone blocks which have been bonded to the bedrock with a yellow shell-lime mortar. It also comprises a threshold (G100) which consists of two well worn blocks and a square cut-out supporting notch (G098), perhaps for a bearer supporting a lintel. The stone threshold gives access into a small yard to the rear of the hotel (see B36.35 and B39.24).

A small portion of this rear wall, which is represented by a single sandstone block of an upper course, has been incorporated into the construction of the later 1891 brick terraces (see B36.19).

Context G101 is a 3.5m section of an east-west wall return which defines the south-west corner of the hotel. It consists of two courses of hewn sandstone blocks up to 450mm x 250mm x 100mm in dimension. They display extensive amounts of 'fresh' mortar on their upper-exposed face. It is therefore likely that a small portion of this wall was inadvertently removed during the bulk excavation of the Trench.

The unusual feature of this sandstone wall (G101) is that it has been constructed directly over the major 'box drain' structure G059/066. This principal external footing therefore provides a 'capping' over this active drain. This relationship is clearly illustrated by B40.17-18 and 24-26.

The construction of this drain is described below. The significance of evidence for what appears to represent both irregular and 'economical' construction and building practices is reviewed in Section 4.0.

The rear yard of the Whale Fishery Hotel incorporates a number of features (see B42.19-20A). Context G056 is a small section of stonework (1.0m x 0.75m) which displays traces of whitewash and plaster on its external face (which fronts the yard). It has been constructed on top of the terraced bedrock elevation (G050), and has also been keyed into the pre-existing Chanhells east-west return (G057). The vertical bedrock panel G050 is also cut by two parallel and distinctive narrow-rectangular cut-outs (G054, G055). The location and orientation of the three features when
combined, appear to reflect evidence for a wall which has been keyed into the rear yard of the hotel, where it butts the Chanells house (see B36.20-21).

Also in the yard is a downwardly sloping horizontal drainage channel (G052) which has been incised into the bedrock elevation G050 (see B36.21). Picked-out, a little over a metre above the bedrock surface of the yard, it is V-shaped in section and approximately 4.5cm deep. It conjoins with a narrow-vertical and recessed channel of similar dimensions (G051). These drainage channels serve to divert water run-off from elevated areas above the hotel down the rock face G050 and into the rear yard of the hotel. Traces of ferrous over-lie this vertical drainage groove (G053) and may represent the modification of this drain during later occupation to incorporate an iron gutter pipe.

The catch-basin (G033) located in the yard of the Whale Fishery is likely to have functioned either to gather and control water run-off from adjacent but more elevated areas, and/or to tank rain water for consumption. Excavated from the bedrock of the yard surface, it is an irregular oval in plan. It measures approximately 1.1m by 0.85m and is almost 600mm deep. Excess water over-flowing the limited capacity of this 'tank' appears to have been be drained off into the principal 'box drain' (G066) by the drainage channel G037. The difference evident in the construction of the 'overflow' channel (G037) and the catch-basin and their relative stratigraphic relationship (G037 cuts G033) suggests the drain was installed some time after the catch-basin and an adjacent unidentified structure (see below).

The basal deposit of fill (G036) in the catch-basin consists of a matrix comprising largely of yellow shell-lime mortar and small fragments of hewn sandstone blocks. This material appears to be associated with the demolition of the hotel. The operational life of this structure therefore appears to have been restricted to the activities of the hotel.

Adjacent to the catch-basin, the sandstone bedrock (G094) has been modified through the excavation of a relatively large and deep square cut-out (G092) This may possibly have accommodated a timber support. There is also at least two irregular sandstone blocks (G093) which have been laid upon a pre-existing drainage gutter (G095). These features combined may represent the construction of a small structure in the yard of the hotel and/or the erection of a covering over the catch-basin. The drainage channel (G037) which diverts excess water from the basin (as well the yard) into the 'box drain' has been picked out - around this structure. These various features are illustrated by B40.5-7.

The 'box drain' (G059/066) consists of an extensive channel which has been excavated from the levelled sandstone bedrock. Regular in its construction and alignment, it (G066) runs from the northern boundary of Trench G to the southern wall of the Whale Fishery Hotel, where it curves ninety degrees and returns (G059)
on an east-west orientation. It is rectangular in cross-section and is approximately 250mm wide and 200mm deep (see B47.9-11).

The structure's north-south component appears to have served to drain the yard of the Whale Fishery and possibly areas of the allotment located to the north. The extent to which the hotel extended to the north was not determined through excavation.

A number of picked-out minor drainage channels (such as G065, G022-070 and G084), in addition to a few natural gullies cutting the sandstone bedrock both in plan and elevation, feed into this principal drain. Generally, it has proved difficult to determine whether these drainage features are contemporary with this 'box drain' and therefore the Whale Fishery hotel or the later c1865 terraces.

A number of these features have been cut however, by later services trenches and drains associated with the usage of the yards by the 1865 structures. This stratigraphic relationship therefore provide at least circumstantial evidence for the previously mentioned drainage features being contemporary with the earlier period(s) of site usage.

The drain G066 runs through the Whale Fishery yard parallel with and immediately external to the rear wall and doorway of the hotel. It is likely that it was initially capped with stone or timber and made flush with the door-step and yard surface. Its east-west alignment (G059) as previously mentioned, has been incorporated into the construction of the Whale Fishery southern wall. The eastern portions of the drain and the footings have been destroyed as a consequence of the works associated with the re-alignment of Gloucester Street. It is likely however, that the drain discharged water run-off directly into what was formerly Cambridge Street.

The structural elements and features associated with the former Whale Fishery Hotel are situated on the lowest part of the study area. The extensive provision of drainage channels and gutters, over-flow diversions and a catch-basin to control drainage and water run-off, from the more elevated parts of the site bears testimony to the likelihood that this issue was highly problematic during the early period. The difficulties are likely to have been exacerbated as a consequence of the extensive levelling and terracing of the bedrock which occurred in this portion of the site prior to the hotel construction.

The available evidence indicates that the nature of drainage and water run-off in this portion of the site influenced both the building practices of the initial construction, and various activities carried out during the subsequent occupation of the Whale Fishery Hotel.
3.2.4 Phase 4: Transition c1833-1851

Excavation in Tench G failed to identify any archaeological evidence which can be assigned to this phase of site occupation.

3.2.5 Phase 5: Intensive Occupancy c1851-c1880

Sub-phase V
In 1863 the Whale Fishery Hotel was noted as 'out of repair' and by 1865 it had been demolished and replaced by three 'plain fronted terraces'. It is unclear to what extent rising damp, water damage and erosion of the sandstone footings, possibly resultant of the 'irregular' building practices described in the previous phase, hastened the deterioration of this structure.

Excavation failed to identify direct physical evidence for the terraces themselves which fronted onto Gloucester Street. See the illustrations in Karskens of this street frontage in 1901 and 1907 (1994: Figure 24 and 26). Given that bedrock was exposed across the entire area available for excavation in Lot 12, their absence in the strip of Trench G adjacent to the street is likely to be resultant of the works associated with the re-alignment of Gloucester Street. The buildings were demolished following their resumption in c1907.

The archaeological features which do survive for this phase of occupation and development in Lot 12 occur in the rear yards of the terraces. The various deposits and features are located either upon or adjacent to the terraced sandstone elevations described in Phase 3. This evidence consists principally of services (primarily sewerage) installed for the three terraces on this allotment in c1865. Also present are contemporary services which are associated with occupation in more elevated locations. These trenches run through Trench G. Evidence for late Nineteenth Century modifications to these service complexes is also apparent.

The principal structural element identified for this phase consists of the remains of a sandstock brick wall (G058) which butts both the stone wall of the Chanhells building (G057) and the bedrock elevation (G050). It is located in the former rear yard of the Whale Fishery Hotel. Constructed upon a crude sandstone rubble base-course (context G103, which may perhaps be associated with an earlier phase), the wall comprises a single thickness of sandstock bricks in an irregular stretcher arrangement. The twenty surviving courses of brick (which comprise a variety of brick types, many of which have been re-used) are bonded by a yellow-pink shell mortar and display traces of white-wash and cement render in places. The poorly constructed wall displays evidence for repair in places, in the form of portland cement patches and the addition of at least one dry-pressed brick.
This wall is neither robust nor well constructed. The likely weight bearing capacities of this structure suggests it represents a yard wall or the remains of an out-building located in the yard of the southern-most 1865 terrace (see B36.20 and B42.20-21A).

The various bedrock panels in elevation which comprise the western boundaries of the 1865 terrace yards, display a miscellany of features. Their relative phasing is complex. For example, the northern panel G018 which is a little over 4.0m long, is cut by at least fifteen recessed check-outs, notches and drainage grooves. It also comprises an engraved 'memorial plaque' (G027), in addition to a complex pattern of weathered white-wash or white plaster overlying previous applications of pink plaster (see B42.16A and B36.25).

Most of these features are likely to relate to the post Whale Fishery occupation of Lot 12.

The plaque however, may have been engraved during an earlier period. A number of the small circular cut-outs adjacent to the plaque may also be contemporary. Phasing many of these features according to a more detailed chronology is proving more problematic. As previously mentioned, unless compelling evidence is available to correlate particular features with the earliest periods of occupation, they have largely been grouped according to this phase.

The primary sewerage installations (G067, G069, G071, G075, G076, G078, G080) for the three 1865 terraces is represented by a 'mains' trench which cuts the bedrock yard surfaces of all three structures. It is aligned parallel with the pre-existing 'box drain' G059/066. There is generally an absence of surviving property divisions (eg. G068) in this area of the trench. The various features associated with each of the adjacent structures can however, be spatially defined and therefore grouped by residence according to the property divisions inferred by the arrangement of service lines connected to the principal trench, toilet down-pipes and drain-surrounds etc. These are variously represented for example, by contexts G083, G088 and G089. Reference should be made to illustrations B39.22-24.

This array of service installations in Trench G is complicated by the addition of various ceramic down-pipes which are set into brick covered and cement rendered recesses cut into the bedrock elevations (eg. G002-006 and G042-045, G081 and G082). These services originate in adjacent allotments (eg. the Byrne house) and run through Trench G to connect with the mains in Gloucester Street (see B36.25 and 34).

Subsequent modifications to the installation of this sewerage 'complex' includes the provision of water faucets, down-pipes and improved drainage facilities in these yards.
3.2.6 Phase 6: Decay? c1880-c1900

Sub-phase VI

The remains of the three two story brick terraces which replaced the Chanhells semi-detached stone dwelling in c1891 represent some of the most extensive and impressive structural elements to have survived in the study site. The front portions of these houses facing the street were destroyed following the street works associated with the re-alignment of Gloucester Street. See the illustrations of the front of these structures in 1901 and 1907 provided by Karskens (1994: Figures 24 and 26). The rear rooms however, in addition to their yard areas, are reflected by extensive archaeological remains. This is particularly the case for the rear walls providing access into the yards (see illustrations B40.13-22,24-26 and B41.10-16 for general views).

The construction of these terraces is fairly typical of the period. The virtually square rear rooms, each with a fire-place attached, have been built upon levelled bedrock. In places, in-filling has been required before the brick footings have been laid. Brick pier supports for timber joists and mortared timber soul-plates are abundant. Tongue and groove floor-boards have prevented the accumulation of sub-floor occupation deposits. Likewise, the absence of deposits in the yards is resultant of sandstone bedrock and concrete surfaces. Each of the yard areas displays evidence for cubicle toilets, water and sewerage pipes and substantial drainage down pipes.

The quarrying of the sandstone bedrock in this area (upon which the former Chanhells residence was constructed) occurred during the period 1888 and 1892. A small plaque with the inscription '1888' (G141) cuts the bedrock elevation G150. A considerable gap in time exists between the demolition of the Chanhells dwelling, identified as c1882 on the basis of historical documentation (Karskens 1994), and the quarrying activities. The reasons for this delay, and the extensive volume of sandstone removed during these activities are likely to be found in the desire of the authorities (enforced by regulation) to have the new buildings fronting onto Gloucester Street on the same level as the street, as opposed to the elevated position of the adjacent block.

As a corollary to the discussion presented in Sub-phases I and IV, the control of drainage and water run-off appears to have continued to present itself as a problem requiring specific attention in this late Nineteenth Century period of occupation. The extensive scale of excavation and terracing carried out appears to have compounded pre-existing problems. Evidence exists for the provision of a number of drainage facilities; installed prior to the commencement of construction of the three terraces.

Context G122 is a sloping horizontal drainage channel which has been incised into the bedrock elevations G150 and G134. It has been picked-out of the bedrock face parallel with, and just below the full length of the Chanhells footing G121/149. A similar horizontal channel (G109) runs parallel with the east-west Chanhells footing.
(G057) and runs into G122. Approximately V-shaped in section and 70mm wide and 60mm deep, the drains slopes gently downwards from both the north and the south, to a point located approximately in the middle of the this sandstone elevation. It joins with a relatively wide vertical and recessed channel of similar dimensions (G136). These drainage channels serve to divert water seepage and run-off from elevated areas above the yard down (and possibly through the Chanhells wall) and into the rear yard of these terraces (see B42.25-27A). The sloping surfaces of the yards are supplied with large drainage gutters (G201, G202) which serve to drain water away from the rear of the terraces. Similar drainage facilities are evident in the rear yard of the Whale Fishery Hotel (Sub-phase IV).

3.2.7 Phase 7: Clearance c1900-1916

This phase is reflected by the outbreak of Bubonic Plague in Sydney, the subsequent demolition of most of the remaining structures within the study area, levelling of the site and the introduction of fill.

Sub-phases VII & VIII

The three terraces described above had a relatively short life span. They were resumed in 1915 and were shortly afterwards demolished as a consequence of the re-alignment of Gloucester Street. The three 1865 terraces located to the north in Lot 12 had been previously pulled-down in 1907.

An indication of the extensive nature of these street works can be inferred from the complete absence of structural features and archaeological deposits along the eastern boundary of Trench G which borders the current alignment of Gloucester Street. The bedrock in this area of the trench has been further levelled and cleared; adding to the extensive clearance resultant of the activities described in Sub-phases I to IV. The front rooms of the southern 1891 terraces and almost all of the 1865 structures to the north have been seriously impacted by these works.

On the other hand however, the substantial quantities of in-fill materials (eg. G001) transported onto the site and related either to levelling activities associated with Clearance, the variety of post c1917 engineering works and machinery shops, or the subsequent 'parking yard' of the Department of Motor Transport after 1951, has inadvertently ensured the survival of extensive archaeological remains in the areas adjacent to the sandstone elevations which are located in the west of Trench G.

3.2.8 Phase 8: Engineering Works c1916-1924

Deposits related to site phases 7 to 10 are not immediately distinguishable from one another in Trench G. Use of the study site as Engineering Workshops resulted in the infilling and compression of Clearance phase demolition deposits and introduced fill materials. For the purposes of discussion, it is possible however, that the deposits
revealed through excavation in Trench G (G001) may have accumulated as a consequence of later Nineteenth Century activities.

3.2.9 Phase 9: Engineering Works c1924-1950
See above.

3.2.10 Phase 10: Bus Parking Depot c1950-1972
See above

3.2.11 Phase 11: SCA c1972-1994
This phase saw the continuity of use of the pre-existing surfaces across the site. No changes were made to the site during this phase which were identified through excavation in Trench G.
3.4 TRENCH G: LIST OF EXCAVATION CONTEXTS

001 Unstratified fill
002 Primary cut (contains 003-005)
003 Brick structure
004 Ceramic down-pipe
005 Fill
006 Structure; cement render
007 Drainage channel (part of 004)
008 Drainage groove; vertical
009 Cut-out; linear
010 Cut-out; rectangular
011 Cut-out; rectangular
012 Bedrock panel; in elevation (E-W)
013 Bedrock panel; in elevation (N-S return of 012)
014 Bedrock panel; in elevation (same as 064 horizontal panel)
015 Cut-out; rectangular
016 Cut-out; linear (cf 009)
017 Bedrock panel; in elevation (E-W)
018 Bedrock panel; in elevation (same as 074 horizontal panel)
019 Cut-out; rectangular
020 Cut-out; rectangular
021 Cut-out; rectangular
022 Drainage groove; vertical (same as 070)
023 Check-out; rectangular
024 Cut-out; square
025 Cut-out; square
026 Cut-out; rectangular
027 Plaque; rectangular with inscription
028 White-wash patch
029 Cut-out; circular
030 Cut-out; circular
031 Cut-out; circular
032 Cut-out; rectangular
033 Catch-basin (in bedrock)
034 Fill (above 033)
035 Fill (within 033)
036 Fill (within 033)
037 Structure; horizontal drainage gutter
038 Fill of drainage gutter 037
039 Drainage gutter; vertical
040 Bedrock panel; in elevation
041 Primary cut (contains 042-44)
042 Ceramic down-pipe
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>087</td>
<td>Structure; drain surround</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>088</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>089</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>090</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>091</td>
<td>Structure; drain surround</td>
</tr>
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<td>092</td>
<td>Cut-out; rectangular ('Whale Fishery')</td>
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<tr>
<td>093</td>
<td>Structure</td>
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<td>Sewer pipe</td>
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<td>Sandstone threshold ('Whale Fishery')</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>Bedrock panel; in elevation</td>
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<td>103</td>
<td>Sandstone footing (for 058 c.1865 terrace)</td>
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<td>104</td>
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<td>109</td>
<td>Drainage channel; horizontal (c.1888)</td>
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<td>Cut-out; rectangular (Chanhells)</td>
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<td>Sandstone footing (Chanhells, Same as 149)</td>
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<td>Structure; toilet, 1891 terraces</td>
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131 Cut-out; square
132 Cut-out; square (part of 133)
133 Structure; brick wall (1891 terraces)
134 Bedrock panel; in elevation
135 Cut-out; square
136 Drainage channel; vertical
137 White-wash patch
138 Cut-out; square
139 Cut-out; square
140 Cut-out; square
141 Plaque; rectangular with inscription ('1888')
142 Cut-out; square
143 Cut-out; circular
144 Structure; cement render
145 Structure; fe roofing
146 Cut-out; rectangular
147 Cut-out; rectangular
148 Structure; brick wall
149 Sandstone footing (Chanhells, Same as 121)
150 Bedrock panel; in elevation
151 Cut-out; rectangular
152 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
153 White-wash/plaster patch
154 Sandstone footing (Chanhells, Same as 121)
155 Bedrock panel; in elevation
156 Structure; brick/cement toilet (1891 terrace)
157 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
158 Structure; staircase (1891 terrace)
159 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
160 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
161 Sandstone footing (Armsden-Talbot c.1811)
162 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
163 Structure; pier support (1891 terrace)
164 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
165 Structure; fire-place (1891 terrace)
166 Structure; hearth-stone (1891 terrace)
167 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
168 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
169 Structure; incised groove ('Whale Fishery')
170 Structure; soul plate (1891 terrace)
171 In-fill deposit; pre 1891 construction
172 Bedrock; southern 1891 terrace
173 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
174 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td>Structure; fire-place (1891 terrace)</td>
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<tr>
<td>176</td>
<td>Structure; pier support (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>177</td>
<td>Structure; soul plate (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>178</td>
<td>Structure; threshold (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>179</td>
<td>Structure; threshold (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>180</td>
<td>In-fill deposit; pre 1891 construction</td>
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<td>181</td>
<td>Bedrock; middle 1891 terrace</td>
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<td>182</td>
<td>Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>183</td>
<td>Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>184</td>
<td>Structure; threshold (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>185</td>
<td>Bedrock; southern 1891 terrace</td>
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<td>186</td>
<td>Structure; pier support (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>187</td>
<td>Structure; fire-place (1891 terrace)</td>
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<td>188</td>
<td>Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)</td>
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<tr>
<td>189</td>
<td>Fill (service trench)</td>
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<td>190</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
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<tr>
<td>191</td>
<td>Primary cut (contains 189, 190, 212)</td>
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<tr>
<td>192</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
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<tr>
<td>193</td>
<td>Primary cut (contains 197, 215)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>194</td>
<td>Cut-out; rectangular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>195</td>
<td>Sewerage pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>196</td>
<td>Primary cut (contains 195, 197)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>197</td>
<td>Fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>198</td>
<td>Cut-out; rectangular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>199</td>
<td>Structure; concrete slab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Structure; concrete slab</td>
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<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>Ceramic down-pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>203</td>
<td>Structure; concrete yard surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>204</td>
<td>Structure; concrete yard surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Structure (toilet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>206</td>
<td>Cut-out; rectangular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>207</td>
<td>Bedrock; in plan (5th 1891 terrace)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>208</td>
<td>Bedrock; in plan (middle 1891 terrace)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Primary cut (contains 210-11)</td>
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<td>210</td>
<td>Fe water pipe</td>
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<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Fill (service trench)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>212</td>
<td>Fe water pipe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>213</td>
<td>Bedrock; in plan (ninth 1891 terrace)</td>
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<tr>
<td>214</td>
<td>Structure; concrete drain surround</td>
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<tr>
<td>215</td>
<td>Fill (service trench)</td>
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<tr>
<td>216</td>
<td>Fe water pipe</td>
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<tr>
<td>217</td>
<td>Structure; Fe sheeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>218</td>
<td>Structure; Concrete</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Excavation in Trench G identified a small number of deposits which produced artefacts. The majority of the artefacts provenanced to this trench derive from the unstratified over-burden unit G001. There are however, a number of contexts which produced building materials. This material is important to the interpretation of the sequence of construction and development in Trench G. The structural elements identified in Trench G which are considered to be of primary importance but produced no samples are also listed under category 1.

The excavation contexts considered most useful for analytical purposes are indicated below. The five ranks upon which this prioritized listing is based are as follows:

1. Units critical to understanding the development of the site or answering research questions.

027 Plaque; rectangular with inscription
033 Catch-basin (in bedrock); 'Whale Fishery'
034 Fill (above 033)
035 Fill (within 033)
036 Fill (within 033)
037 Structure; horizontal drainage gutter
038 Fill of drainage gutter 037
054 Cut-out; horizontal ('Whale Fishery')
055 Cut-out; horizontal ('Whale Fishery')
056 Sandstone footing ('Whale Fishery')
057 Sandstone footing (Chanhells)
059 Structure; sandstone 'box drain' (same as 066)
060 Fill (box drain)
066 Structure; sandstone 'box drain' (same as 059)
092 Cut-out; rectangular ('Whale Fishery')
094 Bedrock panel; in plan ('Whale Fishery')
098 Cut-out; rectangular ('Whale Fishery')
099 Sandstone footing ('Whale Fishery')
100 Sandstone threshold ('Whale Fishery')
101 Sandstone footing ('Whale Fishery')
108 Structure; sandstone wall ('Whale Fishery')
110 Cut-out; rectangular (Chanhells)
111 Cut-out; rectangular (Chanhells)
2. Units that will contribute significantly to understanding the history of the site or that answer specific chronological/stratigraphic problems.

- 058 Structure; brick wall (c.1865 terraces, cf 103)
- 073 Structure; brick wall (c.1865 terraces)
- 103 Sandstone footing (for 058 c.1865 terrace)
- 109 Drainage channel; horizontal (c.1888)
- 141 Plaque; rectangular with inscription ('1888')

3. Units unlikely to provide information related specifically to the site or to specific questions.

- 005 Fill
- 043 Fill
- 072 Fill
- 077 Fill
- 171 In-fill deposit; pre 1891 construction
- 180 In-fill deposit; pre 1891 construction
- 189 Fill (service trench)
- 197 Fill
- 211 Fill (service trench)
- 215 Fill (service trench)

4. Units created during filling and levelling operations using material from off-site.

- 001 Mixed fill/over-burden

5. Structural units (walls, cuts, drains, posts etc).

- 102 Bedrock panel; in elevation
- 002 Primary cut (contains 003-005)
- 003 Brick structure
- 004 Ceramic down-pipe
- 006 Structure; cement render
- 007 Drainage channel (part of 004)
- 008 Drainage groove; vertical
- 009 Cut-out; linear
- 010 Cut-out; rectangular
011 Cut-out; rectangular
012 Bedrock panel; in elevation (E-W)
013 Bedrock panel; in elevation (N-S return of 012)
014 Bedrock panel; in elevation (same as 064 horizontal panel)
015 Cut-out; rectangular
016 Cut-out; linear (cf 009)
017 Bedrock panel; in elevation (E-W)
018 Bedrock panel; in elevation (same as 074 horizontal panel)
019 Cut-out; rectangular
020 Cut-out; rectangular
021 Cut-out; rectangular
022 Drainage groove; vertical (same as 070)
023 Check-out; rectangular
024 Cut-out; square
025 Cut-out; square
026 Cut-out; rectangular
028 White-wash patch
029 Cut-out; circular
030 Cut-out; circular
031 Cut-out; circular
032 Cut-out; rectangular
039 Drainage gutter; vertical
040 Bedrock panel; in elevation
041 Primary cut (contains 042-44)
042 Ceramic down-pipe
044 Structure; brickwork
045 Structure; cement render
046 Cut-out; circular
047 Cut-out; circular
048 Drainage channel; vertical
049 Bedrock panel; in elevation (E-W return)
050 Bedrock panel; in elevation
051 Drainage channel; vertical
052 Drainage channel; horizontal
053 Structure; fe sheeting
061 Bedrock panel; in plan
062 Cut-out; rectangular
063 Cut-out; rectangular
064 Bedrock panel; in plan (same as 014 vertical panel)
065 Drainage gutter; plan
067 Primary cut (contains 069,071,072)
068 Primary cut (contains 073)
069 Ceramic down-pipe
070 Drainage channel; in plan (same as 022)
GODDEN
MACKAY

071 Ceramic sewerage pipe
074 Bedrock panel; in plan (same as 018 vertical panel)
075 Primary cut; contains (076-078)
076 Ceramic sewerage pipe
078 Ceramic down-pipe
079 Cut-out; circular
080 Ceramic down-pipe
081 Primary cut (contains 082; cf 041/042)
082 Ceramic sewerage pipe
083 Structure; (toilet)
084 Drainage channel (contains 085)
085 Drainage channel
086 Ceramic down-pipe
087 Structure; drain surround
088 Ceramic down-pipe
089 Ceramic down-pipe
090 Ceramic down-pipe
091 Structure; drain surround
093 Structure
095 Drainage channel
096 Cut-out; rectangular
097 Fe water pipe
104 Structure; brick wall (1891 terraces)
105 Structure; brick wall (1891 terraces)
106 Structure; brick wall (1891 terraces)
107 Structure; brick wall (1891 terraces)
112 Bedrock panel; in elevation (E-W return)
113 Cut-out; square
114 Cut-out; horizontal
115 Cut-out; horizontal
116 Cut-out; horizontal
117 Mortar smear
118 Structure; brick (1891 terraces)
119 Cut-out; rectangular
120 Cut-out; rectangular
122 Drainage channel; horizontal
123 Cut-out; horizontal (1891 terraces)
124 Cut-out; rectangular
125 Cut-out; rectangular
126 Cut-out; rectangular
127 Structure; toilet, 1891 terraces
128 Structure; brick wall, 1891 terraces
129 Cut-out; rectangular
130 Cut-out; rectangular
131 Cut-out; square
132 Cut-out; square (part of 133)
133 Structure; brick wall (1891 terraces)
134 Bedrock panel; in elevation
135 Cut-out; square
136 Drainage channel; vertical
137 White-wash patch
138 Cut-out; square
139 Cut-out; square
140 Cut-out; square
141 Cut-out; square
142 Cut-out; square
143 Cut-out; circular
144 Structure; cement render
145 Structure; fe roofing
146 Cut-out; rectangular
147 Cut-out; rectangular
148 Structure; brick wall
150 Bedrock panel; in elevation
151 Cut-out; rectangular
152 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
153 White-wash/plaster patch
155 Bedrock panel; in elevation
156 Structure; brick/cement toilet (1891 terrace)
157 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
158 Structure; staircase (1891 terrace)
159 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
160 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
162 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
163 Structure; pier support (1891 terrace)
164 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
165 Structure; fire-place (1891 terrace)
166 Structure; hearth-stone (1891 terrace)
167 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
168 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
170 Structure; soul plate (1891 terrace)
172 Bedrock; southern 1891 terrace
173 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
174 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
175 Structure; fire-place (1891 terrace)
176 Structure; pier support (1891 terrace)
177 Structure; soul plate (1891 terrace)
178 Structure; threshold (1891 terrace)
179 Structure; threshold (1891 terrace)
181 Bedrock; middle 1891 terrace
182 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
183 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
184 Structure; threshold (1891 terrace)
185 Bedrock; southern 1891 terrace
186 Structure; pier support (1891 terrace)
187 Structure; fire-place (1891 terrace)
188 Structure; brick wall (1891 terrace)
190 Ceramic down-pipe
191 Primary cut (contains 189,190, 212)
192 Ceramic down-pipe
193 Primary cut (contains 197,215)
194 Cut-out; rectangular
195 Sewerage pipe
196 Primary cut (contains 195,197)
198 Cut-out; rectangular
199 Structure; concrete slab
200 Structure; concrete slab
201 Ceramic down-pipe
202 Ceramic down-pipe
203 Structure; concrete yard surface
204 Structure; concrete yard surface
205 Structure (toilet)
206 Cut-out; rectangular
207 Bedrock; in plan (sth 1891 terrace)
208 Bedrock; in plan (middle 1891 terrace)
209 Primary cut (contains 210-11)
210 Fe water pipe
212 Fe water pipe
213 Bedrock; in plan (n th 1891 terrace)
214 Structure; concrete drain surround
216 Fe water pipe
217 Structure; Fe sheeting
218 Structure; Concrete
219 Structure
220 Cut-out
221 Cut-out
222 Cut-out
3.6 ARTEFACTS

Few stratified deposits were identified through excavation in Trench G. Works associated with the re-alignment of Gloucester Street in 1915 appear to have largely removed deposits and structures from the eastern portion of the trench.

The western sections of the trench, comprising portions of Lots 11 and 12, appear to have been used as yard spaces for much of their occupational history. The exposed sandstone bedrock yard surfaces in these areas has restricted the accumulation of archaeological deposit. Consequently, Trench G produced a limited artefact assemblage.

The majority of the artefacts recovered from this excavation derive from materials introduced onto the site. These were used to in-fill and raise the level of the site for various purposes between c1900 and 1951.

A smaller component of the artefact assemblage from Trench G consists of building materials. These have accurate provenance and may prove useful during the artefact analysis phase of the project.

3.7 DISCUSSION OF CONTEXTS/ARTEFACTS

Analysis of the building material samples retrieved from a variety of contexts of different dates may also contribute to our understanding of the nature and sequence of occupation and development represented by the remains identified in Trench G.

The artefacts from two other excavation contexts also deserve mention. Excavation of the catch basin (G033) associated with the Whale Fishery Hotel, revealed at least two distinct fill deposits (G035 and G036). The basal deposit appears to comprise demolition materials form the Whale Fishery Hotel. Analysis and comparison of this material will confirm or deny this suggestion. The over lying deposit may therefore relate to the occupation and use of the terraces which replaced the hotel.

The fill (G060) of the 'box drain' structure G059/066 may produce artefacts deposited contemporary with the hotel or those useful for establishing the period in which the drain fell out of use.

Discussion of the various artefact components excavated from Trench G are reviewed in more detail in the specialist artefact reports.
4.1 RESPONSE TO THE RESEARCH DESIGN

The questions developed in the research design can be addressed with varying degrees of success by the archaeological evidence identified in Trench G. The evidence can be used to examine at least two of the principal questions outlined in the research design. These are the issues of whether the Rocks constituted a separate space, community and/or environment from the larger city of Sydney during the Nineteenth Century and the absence of governance which characterised much of its developmental history.

A summary of the pertinent evidence is provided below.

The principal features recorded in Trench G consist of structural elements associated with at least four phases of construction and occupation in Lots 11 and 12. These archaeological remains span a large proportion of the historically documented period of use of these allotments. That is during the period c1811-1915.

The earliest of these remains comprise components of the Chanhells residence. Excavation also revealed a variety of evidence for the Whale Fishery Hotel. This includes sandstone footings representing the rear south-west corner of the hotel, a semi-circular water catch-basin excavated from the sandstone bedrock located in the rear yard and extensive remains of a substantial 'box drain' channelled into the bedrock.

Excavation failed to identify evidence for the Doyle and Flowers structures. Extensive quarrying, site preparation and ultimately street works in the post c1823 period appear to have removed structural elements and deposits associated with these buildings.

These structures do not appear, on the basis of the available evidence, to have been incorporated into the construction of the Whale Fishery. The date of their first appearance on-site therefore remains obscure.

Remains of the three c1865 terraces which replaced the Whale Fishery in Lot 12 and evidence for the c1891 buildings erected following the demolition of the Chanhells residence are confined largely to the western portion of the excavation area. These remains comprise the rear footings of these structures and their yard spaces.
4.2 THE ROCKS AS A SEPARATE COMMUNITY: ENVIRONMENTAL ADAPTATION

Investigations in Trench G revealed evidence for the extent to which the physical environment of the Rocks shaped the way in which occupation adapted and developed both physically and culturally. The extensive quarrying and terracing carried out in this portion of the site by c1830 bears testimony to this. The significance of this evidence for environmental impact of this scale on the part of the occupants of the study site during the first decades of the Nineteenth Century is an area which requires further consideration.

The control of drainage and water run-off appears to have been a problem requiring specific attention throughout the full period of occupation in Lots 11 and 12. The scale of excavation and terracing carried out appears to have compounded pre-existing problems. Even following the extensive quarrying and levelling of Lot 11 in c1888, which is reflective of the emergence of 'governance', the same constraints which are apparent throughout the occupational history of this portion of the study area are still evident during the late Nineteenth Century.

Evidence exists for the provision of extensive drainage facilities which were installed prior to the commencement of construction during each subsequent phase of site-usage.

In a discussion of the Rocks during the latter half of the Nineteenth Century, Fitzgerald (1987:63) comments that,

*In some instances, street levelling had left courts, already closed in on three sides, below the level of the main streets, which aggravated the drainage problems. Other streets had no such problems, such as the high streets of the Rocks. All their rubbish was simply washed down into the houses in the streets below... The common observation that the wealthy choose elevated positions for their housing, leaving depressions for the poor is well represented by the 'clustering' of the slums in the city's western wards.*

The available evidence indicates that the nature of drainage and water run-off in this portion of the site strongly influenced building practices of the initial construction phases, and the manner in which various activities were carried out during the subsequent periods of occupation. The irregular building practices and un-managed works which appear to have characterised the occupation of this area of the study site are best represented by the Whale Fishery Hotel.
5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 SOURCES

Davies, M. 1987. The archaeology of standing structures. In The Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology. 5:54-64.


Godden Mackay Pty Ltd. 1994. The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site Archaeological Investigation; Archaeological Assessment and Research Design. Report for The Sydney Cove Authority and the Heritage Council of NSW.


5.2 APPENDICES

5.2.1 Appendix 1

Schedule of building and allotment development for Lots 11 and 12 Section 75.

c1811-1823 A stone and shingled semi-detached houses built on southern portion of site (Lot 11) by Ann Armsden and George Talbot, is sold after 1815 to Edward and Mary Chanhells; but could have been other owners.

by 1823 Two houses on northern portion of site (lot 12), southern one rectangular, northern one square, occupied by the Irish Doyle (1822-1827) and Flowers (1822-?) families.

c1828 Both northern houses replaced by the stone and shingled Whale Fishery Hotel, licensed in 1830.

by 1863 Whale Fishery derelict, demolished.

by 1865 Whale Fishery replaced by three very small terrace houses.

c1882 Southern (Chanhell) house demolished.

1891 Southern (Chanhell) house replaced by three two-story terraces.

1907 Terraces replacing Whale Fishery demolished after resumptions.

1915 Three terraces replacing southern (Chanhell house) demolished after resumptions and for realignment of Gloucester Street.
6.1 PLANS

The following plans record the nature of the various structural features and archaeological deposits identified through excavation in Trench G. They are listed according to sheet number.

Sheet No.  
97  
114-117  
126  
150  
153  

The following sheet numbers are elevations of the extensive range of standing structures which survive in Trench G. These are also listed according to sheet number.

Sheet No.  
123.1 & 2  
155-157  

6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS

An extensive archive of monochrome photographs exists for the structures identified and recorded in Trench G. The illustrations referred to in the text are listed below.

It should be noted that the majority of these have been inserted into the text in locations for the discussion of particular structural elements. Many of the illustrations however, depict general views and are inclusive of a wide range of structures and deposits in particular locations of Trench G and are therefore applicable to the discussion of multiple phases and features.

B35. 6-7,32-33  
B36. 19-21,25,34-35  
B39. 22-24  
B40. 5-7,13-22,24-26  
B41. 10-16  
B42. 16A,19-22A,25-27A  
B47. 9-11
CUMBERLAND/GLOUCESTER STREET SITE
Archaeological Investigation 1994
Trench Report - Area H

Dominic Steele

September 1996
# CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION
1.1 LOCATION/SITE DESIGNATION  1
1.2 AREA/VOLUME  1
1.3 OBJECTIVES  2
1.4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY  2
1.5 CONSTRAINTS  3
1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION  4
1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS  4

2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT  5

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE  6

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES  6
3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT/OCCUPATION  6
3.3 TRENCH H EXCAVATION MATRIX  8
3.4 TRENCH H EXCAVATION CONTEXTS  9
3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS  9
3.6 ARTEFACTS  10
3.7 DISCUSSION OF CONTEXTS/ARTEFACTS  11

4.0 RESULTS  12

5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION  15

5.1 SOURCES  15
5.2 APPENDICES  15

6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS  16

6.1 PLANS  16
6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS  16
Investigations in Trench H indicate that works associated with the re-alignment of Cumberland Street, and use of the site during subsequent Twentieth Century periods (c1917-1951), have severely impacted upon pre-existing archaeological deposits and features in this portion of the study site.

Historical documentation indicates that this area of the site was extensively used for various residential and commercial purposes from c1805. However, the virtual absence of archaeological evidence for this long sequence of occupation appears to be the result of impact through these Twentieth Century works.

The principal archaeological feature recorded in Trench H consists of a substantial rock-lined well. Excavated into the sandstone bedrock, investigation of the back-fill deposit contained within this structure has also produced a large and compositionally varied artefact assemblage.

The well is likely to be associated with a stone and shingled house constructed on Lot 8, Section 75, by c1822. The precise date of construction of the well has yet to be determined, but may date to shortly after c1811.

The well is approximately 3.0m deep, is straight-sided and has an irregular flat base. Cylindrical in design, it also comprises a series of steps which have been excavated from the adjacent bedrock, and which descend to the opening of the well.

Although analogous historical references exist for this form of well construction, no comparable archaeological examples have been identified in the Rocks to date.

The well was back-filled some time shortly after c1850. This fill consists of an artefact rich deposit which comprises a large and varied assemblage of house-hold refuse.
1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION/SITE DESIGNATION

This report describes the archaeological excavations which were conducted in the portion of the study area designated as Trench H. These investigations were located to the north of Cribbs Lane, in an area adjacent to the northern boundary of the study site.

The trench is bounded to the west by Trench J and to the east by the northern portion of Trench G. The southern boundary of this trench is delineated by the baulk of Trench E. The area which was investigated encompasses portions of Lot 8, Section 75.

1.2 AREA/VOLUME

Trench H is approximately rectangular in shape. The eastern boundary of the trench runs along the sandstone elevation of Trench G, and measures approximately 12m. The southern baulk, which it shares with Trench E, is approximately 11m long. The total area which was investigated in Trench H comprises of approximately 130 m².

Prior to manual excavation and recording in Trench H, between 1.0m and 2.5m of rubble fill and soil overlying the excavation area was removed through mechanical bulk excavation. These deposits relate either to the range of post 1917 engineering works and machinery shops on-site or the post 1951 usage of the site by the Department of Motor Transport.

Manual excavation consisted largely of shovel-cleaning between 5cm and 50cm of the remaining over-burden to reveal sandstone bedrock across the entire excavation area.

A sandstone well was revealed adjacent to the northern boundary of Trench H. The remainder of the area investigated revealed an absence of stratified deposits or structural features.

Archaeological deposits removed from this well constitute the only controlled manual excavation carried out in this portion of the site. The volume of deposit removed from this context is estimated to be in the order of 10m³.
1.3 OBJECTIVES

On the basis of the historical context developed for the site by Karskens (1994), five major research questions have been outlined. These general areas which encompass the research objectives of the Cumberland Street excavation are outlined below. Further detail and discussion of these research questions is available in the Cumberland Street Archaeological Assessment and Research Design (1994) and Historical Discourse (Karskens 1994).

- The impact of the industrial revolution and the rise of class.
- What can the site tell us about women's occupation and lives?
- Can the site make a contribution to the debate on standards of living in the urban areas where people lived?
- Was the Rocks a separate space, in a social/cultural sense, in the larger city?
- The Rise of Governance: What was the nature of the relationship between people and government?. How did it change over the historical period?

With particular reference to the area investigated in Trench H, excavation was also directed towards examining a number of more specific questions. These are listed below.

- How old was the later Williams' house on Lot 8 shown on the 1823 plan?. Did it have a garden space at the front?
- Was the Williams house (Lot 8, Section 75) preceded by a timber house, one of two built by Richard Byrne and advertised by him in 1811?
- Did the remnants of the stone Williams house survive until at least 1880 at the rear of the shops on Lot 8, Section 75? If so for how long? What was it used for?

1.4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

Limited stratigraphic excavation of deposits was required in this trench. As previously mentioned, mechanical bulk excavation was employed to remove the introduced fill deposits which had been used to in-fill and raise the level of the site in either c1917, for the purposes of the various engineering and machinery shops on-site, or in c1951 when the site was used as a bus parking terminus by the Department of Motor Transport. Works associated with the re-alignment of Cumberland Street in c1911, in
addition to the periods of site usage mentioned above, appear to have largely removed evidence for pre-existing occupation and activity in this portion of the site.

Following the removal of the introduced over-burden in Trench H, bedrock was exposed across the entire surface of the trench. Few archaeological features or deposits were revealed. The only archaeological feature of note identified was a sandstone well.

Deposits from the well were excavated initially in 10cm levels and wet screened through nested sieves of 5mm and 2.5mm mesh. Soil samples were retained for every 10cm unit. However, as a result of the difficulties which were encountered in screening the dense and clayey deposit through the fine mesh, only the 5mm sieve was subsequently employed.

No stratified deposits were identified during excavation of the well. The deposit revealed itself to be homogenous for its full depth. It comprised a dark-black humic unit, with a high clay content. Large artefacts of timber (such as posts etc) and metal (including ferrous sheets and miscellaneous bars etc) measuring over 50cm in length were observed to be orientated vertically and therefore to be associated with numerous excavation spits. Distinction of the depositional events (and an inferred chronological sequence) was consequently not considered likely to be determined from small arbitrary excavation units.

For these archaeological reasons, in combination with a number of more practical constraints (see below), the deposits from the well were considered to represent a single stratigraphic and depositional unit and was therefore excavated accordingly.

Deposit samples continued to be retained each 100mm for the full depth of deposit.

These may be used to determine whether the deposit displays any significant changes in composition with depth which were not indicated by standard Munsell colour and texture criteria or observed in artefact distribution, character and composition.

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

Time constraints and the difficulties involved in wet screening the deposits from the well influenced the methodological decisions described above. The scheduling of excavation in the northern portion of the site determined that the completion of excavation of the well was a priority context. The considerable time involved in removing deposits, particularly as the depth of excavation increased, was further compounded by the back-log of this material which occurred at the wet sieves. Its dense humic-clay nature made wet screening arduous and time consuming.
Excavation therefore sought to remove the full depth of the deposit in the well as rapidly as possible. This material was stock-piled on plastic sheeting in an area adjacent to where the wet sieving was conducted.

Artefacts of metal, timber and other organic materials which were observed to require immediate conservation treatment of a nature which could be rapidly carried out on-site (eg. the prevention of drying out of materials etc) were treated accordingly. The remainder of the stock-piled deposits was eventually passed through the screens over ensuing days.

For safety reasons and to ensure the super-structure of the well did not suffer any deterioration from its excavation and exposure, immediately following the completion of excavation and its thorough recording, it was back-filled with clean fill materials.

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report was completed by Dominic Steele. The historical information referred to in the following section is largely extracted and summarised from that compiled in the Historical Discourse (Karskens 1994).

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A number of people deserve praise for their efforts in Trench H. In particular, for their willingness to work long and hard in the rather unpleasant wet and cramped environment of the well. I would like to especially thank Mark Dunn, Sam Gore and Mac North. In addition to their physical assistance, their cerebral contributions to the interpretation of the well showed a great deal of lateral thought and artistic flair.
2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This brief historical review focuses upon the occupants of Lot 8, Section 75, and the developments in the sequence of occupancy in this portion of the study area.

Detailed information of the occupancy developments of this allotments are recorded in Karskens (1994).

Richard Byrne, an Irish stonemason, and his partner Margaret Kelly had settled on a small allotment directly behind Ann Armsden's house, in what later became Cumberland Street by c1805. By 1811 they had built and owned two houses on the site of Lot 9 and probably Lot 8. They were both advertised for sale in October of that year. They are described as 'all weatherboarded, shingled and glazed throughout, lofty and very commodious, with three fireplaces, and an extensive allotment of garden ground well-fenced in.

The Byrnes sold the northern house (Lot 8), but remained in the corner house (Lot 9).

By c1822 the house built by Richard Byrne between 1807 and 1811 appears to have been either replaced by a stone and shingled dwelling or incorporated into the later structure. The occupation of the house up to this time included Samuel Fowler and Honor Chanhells; she was the daughter of Edward and Mary Chanhells in Lot 11, Gloucester Street. Who leased or owned the house after them is unknown. In 1838 the town grant was awarded to one William Williams.

Williams sold the house through a trustee in 1839 to Edward Davies. By 1845 Davies had built two brick shops on the site, while the old stone house still extant behind was also rated as a shop. Dove's plan of 1880 shows what may be a surviving remnant of the old house to the rear of the shops.

The shops and the rear building were demolished for the Cumberland Street realignment in 1911.
3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

The primary archaeological feature identified and recorded in Trench H consists of a substantial well (H007, H014) which has been excavated into the sandstone bedrock (H006). This well is located adjacent to the northern boundary of the study area.

On the basis of currently available information, it appears that during some point after c1850 the well was back-filled with various materials, following its discontinuation as a water provider. Excavation of this deposit (H002) produced a substantial and compositionally varied artefact assemblage. The artefacts comprise largely of domestic habitation refuse. This evidence is reviewed below.

Investigations in Trench H also identified a number of deposits (H008-012) and evidence for one small pit (H004) in the southern portion of Trench H. These features were not excavated. They were all observed in the section provided by the baulk of Trench E.

3.2 SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT/OCCUPATION

The well (H007) has been excavated (picked) from the exposed sandstone bedrock (H006). It is circular in plan with a diameter of between 0.95m and 1.10m. It is straight-sided and has an irregular flat base. The upper-most portion of its north-eastern side is incomplete. Dependant from where measurements are taken (see below), the well is between c2.65m and 3.0m deep.

An extensive archive of monochrome illustrations of this important archaeological feature exist and should be referred to. These include B38.13-14,16-17,20-23 and B39.27-28. Reference should also be made to the east-west profile the well (Sheet No. 143).

In its construction, the well displays an unusual feature which has no comparable archaeological parallel identified in the Rocks to date. This consists of four steps (H015) which have been cut out of the surrounding sandstone bedrock, and which lead down to the edge of the well. It is not clear whether works associated with the re-alignment of Cumberland Street or subsequent periods of site use during this century have removed more extensive evidence for access to this well from areas located in more elevated positions.
These steps are approximately 300mm wide and are arranged in an 1.2m long regular rectangular channel which slopes down to the well. The bottom step cuts the sandstone surface of the well-cut. It consists of two squared blocks which have been keyed into the rim of the well (see B38.17). A deposit (H003), separate from the fill of the well (H002), and bearing a small quantity of artefacts overlies these steps.

The construction of this well is likely to be associated with the occupation of the stone and shingle dwelling which appears to be on-site by c1822. Harper’s plan suggests the house built by Richard Byrne between 1807 and 1811 was either replaced by a stone and shingled dwelling or incorporated into the later structure. The occupation of the house up to this time included a variety of leases. In 1838 the town grant was awarded to William Williams.

The back-fill of the well (H002) represents a change in the function of the well. This deposit accumulated when the structure ceased to operate as a water provider and was subsequently utilised as a repository for the disposal of house-hold refuse generated as a result of a variety of activities conducted in the domestic realm.

The conversion of the well from water-source to garbage container is likely to be dated to shortly after c1850. On the basis of the available sewerage plans, the majority of allotments in the study area appear to have been furnished with sewerage services by the mid to late 1860s. Preliminary assessment of the range of artefacts recovered from the numerous cess pits identified on-site supports this likelihood.

The back-fill deposit of this well is has provenance to Site Phase 5 (Intensive Occupancy, c1851-c1880).

Only one other well (excluding a number of water cisterns) has been identified in the study area. Located in Trench C, ‘Cribb’s well’ appears to have been sealed quite early (eg. in the pre 1820 period).

It is reasonable to assume that water is likely to have been installed during this general mid Nineteenth Century period of service provision. In the absence of more conclusive historical documentation and the possibility of directly dating the well itself (from its relative stratigraphic context or the nature of its construction, ie. from the brickwork and mortar associated with a lining or a domed covering etc), analysis of the artefacts from its back-fill deposits and those covering the sandstone steps leading down to the well, provide an indication of the timing of deposition and the relative period over which the deposits accumulated.
3.3 TRENCH H EXCAVATION MATRIX

Site Phase 5 (Intensive Occupancy, c1851-c1880)

Modern over-burden

Well back-fill

Well structure

Bedrock
3.4 TRENCH H EXCAVATION CONTEXTS

- 001 Unstratified
- 002 Fill deposit, of well (007)
- 003 Fill deposit, above well steps (015)
- 004 Primary cut, for pit (005)
- 005 Fill of pit (004)
- 006 Sandstone bedrock
- 007 Structure, sandstone well
- 008 Yellow-brown loam (in section)
- 009 Charcoal-ash lens (in section)
- 010 Orange-yellow sandy loam (in section)
- 011 Light grey-loam (in section)
- 012 Light brown sandy loam (in section)
- 013 Bedrock (in section)
- 014 Primary cut, for well (007)
- 015 Structure; sandstone steps of well

3.5 RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTEXTS

Excavation in Trench H identified a small number of deposits which produced artefacts. The majority of artefacts from this trench derive from the back-fill deposits (H002) excavated from the well (H007). The structural elements comprising the well (H007, H014 and H015) also represent the primary archaeological features identified from investigations conducted in this area of the site. The relative significance of the contexts recorded are listed according to the five criteria outlined below.

1. Units critical to understanding the development of the site or answering research questions.

- 002 Fill deposit, of well (007)
- 003 Fill deposit, above well steps (015)
- 006 Sandstone bedrock
- 007 Structure, sandstone well
- 014 Primary cut, for well (007)
- 015 Structure; sandstone steps of well
2. Units that will contribute significantly to understanding the history of the site or that answer specific chronological/stratigraphic problems.

005 Fill of pit (004)
008 Yellow-brown loam (in section)
009 Charcoal-ash lens (in section)
010 Orange-yellow sandy loam (in section)
011 Light grey-loam (in section)
012 Light brown sandy loam (in section)

3. Units unlikely to provide information related specifically to the site or to specific questions.

4. Units created during filling and levelling operations using material from off-site.

001 Unstratified

5. Structural units (walls, cuts, drains, posts etc).

004 Primary cut, for pit (005)
013 Bedrock (in section)

3.6 ARTEFACTS

Excavation of the well deposits (H002, H003) produced a large and compositionally varied artefact assemblage. Assessment of the material retrieved from these excavation units (conducted on-site), indicates the remains from these c1850-1860s contexts appear to reflect the disposal of domestic refuse which associate with a wide variety of house-hold activities. They also appear to have been conducted over a relatively short period of time.

Ongoing analysis of this assemblage will contribute to the corpus of archaeological information associated with mid Nineteenth Century urban residential contexts, which is currently being developed from the Cumberland/Gloucester Street excavation. The information which is embodied in this data relates to issues such as the nature and range of material culture available during this period, the nature of refuse disposal practices prevalent in this precinct and the range of behaviours which may be represented by an artefact collection of secure provenance.
3.7 DISCUSSION OF CONTEXTS/ARTEFACTS

Excavation of the well revealed a substantial collection of artefacts. This include a wide variety of artefacts of wood, animal bone, shell, leather, metal, glass, kaolin and various organic materials. Metal remains, animal bones and seeds and organic artefacts of wood and leather however, dominate the assemblage. The preservation of all fabric types is generally quite good. The preservation of an extensive range of organic materials is likely to be the product of the waterlogged and humic-rich anaerobic environment of the well deposits.

The metal artefacts consist of a variety of unidentified ferrous sheet fragments, in addition to numerous nails and spikes. A large number of identified artefacts, such as cutlery pieces and a near complete cast-iron cauldron, are also represented.

The organic materials recovered include animal bones, shells, seeds and pits, leather artefacts of timber. Food refuse is represented by a wide range of cattle and sheep bones (including a few skull fragments), fish bones and scales, rock oyster shells and a variety of smaller gastropods (such as periwinkles etc) and an unusually large collection of peach and pumpkin seeds. The assemblage also comprises a large quantity of leather off-cuts, in addition to a number of complete shoes.

Analysis of this assemblage, in conjunction with the artefacts from the fill deposit (H003) over lying the sandstone steps which butt the well, will provide a clear understanding of the nature and timing of the accumulation of refuse in the well.

Excluding the unstratified deposit H001, the only other excavation context to produce artefacts in Trench H is the fill (H005) of the pit (H004) observed in section. Preliminary examination of a small quantity of glass recovered from this unit may date to the c.1840/50 period.

Discussion of the various artefact components excavated from Trench H are reviewed in more detail in the specialist artefact reports.
The questions developed in the research design can be addressed with varying degrees of success by the archaeological evidence identified in Trench H. Excavation failed to identify any structural remains or occupation deposits associated with the Williams house built of stone, or the preceding one of timber built by Richard Byrne. The site-specific questions addressing the age and longevity of the Williams house, and its relationship to the earlier Byrne dwelling can therefore not be adequately assessed on the basis of the archaeological remains revealed in this portion of the site.

The extensive artefact assemblage from the well is likely to contribute information concerning the five principal research questions outlined in Section 1.4. In addition, a variety of other research avenues are likely to be identified and developed on the basis of this material. Detailed discussion of these issues therefore is contingent upon the forthcoming analyses of the various components of this large assemblage.

This brief discussion will therefore place the evidence revealed from the excavation of the well in context. A summary of the pertinent evidence is provided below.

The history of the water supply in the Rocks is relevant to the presence and use of the well in this allotment. The supply of a sufficient quantity of clean water in Sydney in general, and the Rocks precinct in particular, appears to have been a continuous problem to the average residential setting during the first half of the Nineteenth Century. Developments in the spatial distribution of building in the Rocks and rapidly increasing population levels, continually out-paced schemes to alleviate the problems of water shortage and supply.

Prior to water service installation in this 'Byrne's-Williams' allotment, the securing of an adequate supply of water for domestic use was left to the individual occupant. In the discussion of an excavation of a well located in an 'outer suburb' of Sydney and pertinent to a later Nineteenth Century context, Petocz (1984:16) points out that;

Water carting was not a government-run system and because not every residence contained a well/cistern, water was delivered on a regular basis and stored in barrels or drums. The cost involved in the construction of a well was also borne by the individual house owner, with the work being carried out by a small very small group of professionals known as 'well sinkers'. The laying down of mains proceeded extremely slowly: a copy of Sydney Morning Herald dated the 8/2/1851 noted that of a total of 8000 houses, only 1000 were
linked to the mains, with the balance relying either on water carters, or private resources.

The extent to which this situation described by Petocz applies to the present circumstance is uncertain. However, the evidence represented by the deep and soundly constructed well in the 'Byrne-Williams' allotment is significant and should not be over-looked. The transportation of water in this area of the Rocks to residences without semi-permanent water provisions such as wells/cisterns through carting, is likely to have been a difficult proposition because of the steep and irregular topography and therefore costly.

Excavation in the study area identified few water sources which are comparable to the well revealed in Trench H. However, where they do occur, a number of parallels can be drawn with the 'Byrne-Williams' well. They appear to be associated either with longevity of occupation and development by individuals or families on particular allotments and/or they are associated with conspicuous business enterprise. For example, the substantial well identified on the site of the Cribb butchery and the large water cistern, possibly constructed for purposes associated with activities of the 'home-spun' Armsden-Talbot bakery, display both of these characteristics.

As Karskens (1994:12) points out, 'the better houses had their own wells of good water; these were often left uncovered, a menace to small children and drunks'. Aside from water carted from sources located in lower areas of Sydney, the other water sources available in the Rocks were 'public wells'. The possibility that the well identified in Trench H may have functioned as a communal water source, and subsequently serving as an accessible refuse disposal location, is an area requiring further historical research. Were water wells located to the rear of private domestic residences commonly made available to communal access on a commercial basis.

Also requiring further research is the frequency of occurrence of wells and cisterns, their topographical location and the nature of well and cistern construction in the Rocks during the first decades of the Nineteenth Century. For example, the Sydney Gazette (March 23, 1806) records;

A coroner’s inquest assembled on Thursday last on the body of an infant daughter of Wm. O’Neal on the Rocks whose death was occasioned by her falling into a well the night before, behind her father’s house. The child was five years old, and in the frequent habit of taking water from the well, by means of several steps descending into it; from which it is supposed she slipped in by some grievous accident, and never afterwards recovered sufficient breath to give the slightest alarm.
This information suggests the area immediately surrounding the entrance to the well was both relatively steep and possibly consisted of exposed bedrock. The covering of the well was also unlikely to have consisted of a semi-enclosed brick 'bee-hive' dome.

The significance of this historical event, in the context of the well identified in Trench H, lies with the information concerning the construction of the 'several' steps descending into the well.

No comparable archaeological examples of wells excavated into sandstone bedrock and with carefully excavated steps have been identified to date in the Rocks.
5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 SOURCES

Godden Mackay Pty Ltd. 1994. The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site Archaeological Investigation; Archaeological Assessment and Research Design. Report for The Sydney Cove Authority and the Heritage Council of NSW.


Sydney Gazette

5.2 APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Schedule of building and allotment development for Lot 8 Section 75.

C1805 Timber house, glazed windows, three fireplaces, built by Richard Byrne and put up for sale in 1811.

By 1822 Probably a stone, shingled house, leased; later granted to William Williams in 1838.

1839 Edward Davies builds two brick and slate 1845 conjoined shops on the site, in front of the old house.

By 1863 Old stone house demolished, although remnants of the kitchen noted in Rate Books.

1880 Dove map shows what may be a remnant of the old house at the rear.

1911 Shops and rear building demolished for Cumberland Street re-alignment.
6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 PLANS

The general size, nature and details of the construction of the well is indicated by the east-west profile of this structure; see Sheet No. 143.

6.2 PHOTOGRAPHS

An extensive archive of monochrome photographs exists for the structures identified and recorded in Trench H. The illustrations referred to in the text are listed below.

B38.13-14,16-17,20-23

CUMBERLAND/GLOUCESTER STREETS SITE.
Archaeological Investigation 1994
Trench Report - Area J

Martin Carney

September 1996
CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION
  1.1 LOCATION
  1.2 AREA / VOLUME
  1.3 OBJECTIVES
  1.4 METHODOLOGY
  1.5 CONSTRAINTS
  1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION / DUTIES

2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT
  2.1 AREA J
    2.1.1 The Byrne Property

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE
  3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASES
  3.2 AREA J - PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

4.0 RESULTS
  No archaeological evidence was found that could have been the later Williams' stone house.
  4.2 SIGNIFICANCE OF SURVIVING FEATURES

5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY
  5.1.1 Reports
  5.1.2 Published Sources

5.2 APPENDICES
  5.2.1 Soil samples
  5.2.2 Mortar Samples

6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS
  6.1 AREA J PLANS
  6.2 AREA J PHOTOGRAPHS
Area J retains highly significant archaeological material. The significance of this material as an archaeological resource can not be overstated. It is perhaps the most significant archaeological resource surviving in Sydney.

The material excavated and recorded on the site was not only chronologically diverse, perhaps dating as early as the 1790s and ranging up to the 1990s, but also in nature. Occupation material was excavated from hotels, shops, homes and industrial complexes.

Excavation in Area J was restricted to exposure of 1900s ground levels following mechanical removal of subsequent demolition and fill strata. The rears of 1845 terraces and parts of their associated yards were exposed as the only undisturbed features in Area J. However the major part of these terraces appear to remain preserved within an area outside the site excavation boundary.

Evidence for the pre-1835 stone Williams’ house appears to have been completely destroyed by later activity.

The pre-1823 Fowler/Byrne structure (possibly the house sold by the Byrnes in 1811) is likely to remain intact beneath the surface of the 1845 terraces. This area remains unexcavated, at the time of excavation having been the main access and toilet area for the site.
This report provides an overview of the features excavated in Area J of the Cumberland/Gloucester Streets site in the Rocks, Sydney. A list of contexts/units is contained in Section 3.5. Specific information about any individual contexts should be sought in the original context sheets.

This report identifies the physical events observed, that were systematically removed from the site. In some cases these are interpreted, and in a lessor number these are aligned with historical events. In all but a few cases the sequence of these events are not open to re-interpretation as simply one event preceded another in the stratigraphic matrix; the date (within parameters), significance or interpretation of the deposits/features is at this point in time open to interpretation.

Excavation in Area J commenced on June 7, 1994.

1.1 LOCATION

Area J was located on the northern side of Cribbs Lane fronting Cumberland Street.

1.2 AREA /VOLUME

Almost all of the material removed from Area J was removed by machine, though a small amount of excavation, to pre 1917 ground surface, was undertaken by hand. This area comprised approximately 96 sq metres. Only perhaps five percent of the 192 cubic metres (estimate) was excavated by hand.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

Area J adjoined Area D in the north and was specifically selected to identify remains of the original 'Williams' home.
1.4 METHODOLOGY

Deposits were removed, where possible, in the reverse order to their creation. It was impossible to pursue this methodology in all cases as 'hard surfaces' and structural remains remained unexcavated at the request of the Sydney Cove Authority.

Each identified event was allotted a separate context number. Lenses within contexts were noted as a part of the main context description. Occupation material was appended with an alpha-numeric one metre square grid reference relating to the structure, while deposits extending over the site grid lines were given a site grid reference being area, context and Easting and Northing.

The open area removal of deposits by definition must limit the number of sectional drawings created, however sections were drawn, where they were created, by the site planning team. Indicative sections were drawn for all areas in the supervisors' diary. These sections were part of a cumulative process, and were constantly added to.

Plans were made of all structural features and all but a few discrete deposits. Featureless deposits assuming the whole area within a structure or area were not planned (what can you plan?) and the context numbers simply nested one above the other within the relevant area. Rubble fills were not planned, but photographically recorded. Levels were taken of each area recorded by the planning team. All planning was undertaken by the planning team, except errors or omissions discovered during a final check of the plans by the area supervisor. The planning team were assisted by various people in the recording of levels.

Photographs were requested of all features and contexts before and after they were excavated, except in the case of some 'spits', which are an archaeological construct. In one instance colour slides were not taken because of camera fault. Photographs of in-situ features /artefacts /work in progress were randomly requested. All photographs, except for one day, were taken by Patrick Grant.

In accordance with site strategy all open or yard areas were excavated on five metre site grids. Any internal 'occupation ' deposits were excavated in 10cm spits (where applicable), and one metre grids, the grids were aligned to the room excavated, not the site grid, for the sake of sanity. All occupation material and cess pits (except capping fills) were sieved (wet or dry dependant on the conditions - see individual context sheets), and yard areas sample sieved to varying degrees (see individual contexts). The deposit removed from yard areas, while largely not sieved was closely sifted for artefacts. Fills were less closely sifted. The nature of deposits was recorded on the site context sheets.
Occupation material was volumetrically quantified, while open areas were measured cubically (depth times area). Volume was measured down to quarter buckets of a known capacity.

Soils samples were collected from all occupation and yard areas, some were collected from fills. Mortar, Render and Paint samples were collected were it was possible. (see context list for a full list of soil samples - building material samples should be sought in the Building Material report prepared by Kevin Barnes in Volume 4). Full scientific descriptions of the various soils collected is available through the various samples collected. Only minute portions of undisturbed soil strata were encountered, the largest proportion of deposits below the 1917 levelling were occupation, fill, or redeposited topsoil.

1.5 CONSTRAINTS

Hard surfaces, including cement, walls and paving of all kinds were not removed at the request of the Sydney Cove Authority. It is therefore likely that significant and representative archaeological material has been left unexcavated, especially as the areas left unexcavated were not targeted by research design or any methodological process, but simply the fact that a 'hard' surface covered them.

The terraces in Area J are likely to have retained significant occupation material both from the terrace period and earlier. These areas were not excavated as they were set aside for site access and spoil removal.

1.6 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION/DUTIES

These areas were supervised by Martin Carney with the assistance of Kevin Barnes. A constant stream of volunteers gave their time, however several stayers deserve special mention. They are special but in no order, Bob Fails, Sue, Pam Gait, Karyn McLeod, Katia Davis, Stavros Venetsanakos, Emma Thompson, Walter, Kerry Ireland, Pat Tunks, Celia Jones, and Dennis.

Graham Wilson provided invaluable information on the geology and soils of the area throughout the excavation.

All of the various 'specialists' constantly gave their time to identify or date the various finds of the day.
2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The following historical data is drawn largely from documents written by Grace Karskens for Godden Mackay. Additional research was undertaken by all of the specialist artefact team. All of the material below, except that separately referenced, was extracted from 'Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site, The Rocks An Historical Discourse' by Grace Karskens for Godden Mackay.

2.1 AREA J

Area J was entirely within the original Byrne Property, other parts of the Byrne property were examined in areas D, E and H.

2.1.1 The Byrne Property

Richard Byrne, stonemason, arrived in 1800, his wife Margaret Kelly in 1804. They appear to have met in 1805 on Richard's return from Norfolk Island, and though never married had a family of six children during the period of 1806-1818. By 1809 (but probably 1806) the couple had a good sized property on the northern side of Cribbs Lane. The property was bordered by Cribbs Lane, Cumberland Street and a rock face on the east. By 1811 the property boasted two houses, it seems the northern one was sold that year. Both structures can be seen on Harpers 1823 plan.

The occupancy details of the northern structure (possibly sold in 1811) are vague, though it is clear that the property was granted to William Williams in 1838. By 1845 two shops had been built in front of the earlier house by the property's trustee Edward Davies. At the rear a stone house is described, possibly the original Byrne construction but probably its replacement.

If the 1823 and 1834-35 plans are compared it is clear that in 1823 the northern house is closer to Cumberland Street than the Byrne house, while it is evident in 1834-35 that the Byrne house is closer to Cumberland Street. The likely solution is that the original timber house was extended at the rear by a stone addition some time after 1823, and that the timber house was demolished at the completion of the stone house or before 1834. In 1845 the shops took up the place where the original timber house once stood. They were all demolished during the resumptions, some time before 1915. The stone "Williams" house shown in 1835 was not identified in the archaeological record, presumably having been removed by post 1917 activity.

The Byrne family remained in the original house up to the 1850s, and the house was finally demolished about 1860-61. Richard Byrne became a publican in
Cumberland Street in 1832 dying shortly afterwards. During the period 1823-34 the Byrne house was extended south towards Cribbs Lane, Karskens has indicated that this may have been caused by the licensing of the family home as a hotel, but there is little other evidence to support this thesis.

In 1842-44 Patrick Byrne sold the portion of the family allotment at the corner of Cribbs Lane and Cumberland Street. Thomas Share who had recently completed a hotel on the opposite corner, purchased the land and built a new structure there. It was finally licensed as the *Plymouth Arms*. The construction of the new hotel caused the destruction of the southern extension of the original Byrne house, reducing it to almost its former size. The hotel was later named the *Hibernian* and the *Australian*, it was finally resumed and demolished shortly after 1915.

In 1861 Byrne sold off the remaining portion of the property to Robert Berry (Thomas Share's successor). Berry immediately demolished the old house and erected two terraces. Archaeological evidence indicated that the rear wall foundations of the terraces were set upon the original front wall (Cumberland Street) foundations of the Byrne house. The original house occupied largely what was to become the yards of the terraces. The terraces were demolished between 1911 and 1915.
Photographic references refer to black and white prints referenced thus (B18.10) referring to Black and White roll number 18 negative 10. References to the various contexts will be found as such J003, 01 etc. Four digit numbers like 2035 refer to the test trenching undertaken before the main excavation. Site plans and sections ran in numerical order for the whole site, and are referenced simply as, for example 'plan 45' or 'section 107'.

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASES

A group of archaeological phases was agreed upon by the team in order to answer research design questions. The phases are largely based on historically defined milestones across the site. It is impossible for all of the excavated material to fit within the defined phases. Where excavated material runs across several phases it is simply described as say for example 'phases 2-3'. If an excavated deposit is even partially included within a phase it is described as within that phase, however in these instances a likely date is also supplied.

3.2 AREA J - PRIMARY EXCAVATED FEATURES

Excavation on area J was restricted to the exposure of the 1900s ground level after mechanical removal of demolition and later fills. The only undisturbed features uncovered were the rear sections of the 1845 terraces and a portion of their yards (though the majority of the terraces appears to have been preserved under the site access, not available for excavation.) The area of the location of the pre 1835 stone 'Williams' house was completely destroyed by previous activity. A large area of clean sand was observed during monitoring of 1917 fill removal. This may identify the cavity of a former petrol or oil tank.

It is likely that the pre 1823 Byrne/Fowler structure, (probably the house sold by the Byrnes c.1811) is protected beneath the 1845 terraces. This formed part of the site access/toilet area and was not available for excavation.

The well excavated in area H (H002) is probably related to the 'Williams' house. A small amount of material excavated next to a chimney stack (outside) of the Byrne house has every likelihood of being deposited from the 'Williams' side. By 1845 access to the tiny nook was restricted by the terraces (See area D).
3.2.1 Area J - Sequence of Development/Occupation - Phase 2-7

The only archaeological evidence identified that may shed light on the phasing of area J was a single post hole beneath the foundations of the 1845 shops. The post hole is likely to relate to a boundary fence dated after 1811 or when the Byrne building was sold off in 1811. (B56.11-29)

A midden (D046, 050, 052-054) of artefacts deposited outside of the Byrne house, in a nook created by a chimney (D051) may have been deposited by occupants of the 'Williams' house. D052-54 appear to have been cut for the foundation trench of the 1845 terraces. (B60.30-32)

3.2.2 Aboriginal Occupation - Phase 1

No evidence of the aboriginal occupation of the area was observed.

3.2.3 Natural Features

Bedrock, probably manually levelled, was observed to the east of the surviving portions of the 1845 terraces. However it may have also been levelled by the action that removed all trace of the pre-1835 stone Williams house.
3.3 Area J Matrix - Williams Shops

The Area J Harris matrix should be read in conjunction with the matrix for Area D.

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Phase VIII-XI

Phase VII

Phase V & VI
3.4 Context Lists

The following lists are broken down into seven columns. Column one is the context number. Column two is the significance of the unit to answer research questions during by artefact analysis (see definitions - Godden Mackay P/L). The third is the relative significance of the unit. A brief description follows in column four. Column five records the nature of any samples taken. Column six gives a site location based on property numbers defined in 1880. Column seven provides a phase and thus specific matrix identification. Sub phases are located on the individual phase matrices.

3.4.1 Context List - Area J.*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>S1</th>
<th>S2</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Sample</th>
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<td>001</td>
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<td>Fill</td>
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<td>116 &amp; 117</td>
<td>8-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Demolition</td>
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<td>116 &amp; 117</td>
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<td>003</td>
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<td>mortar</td>
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<td>006</td>
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<td>Drain pipe</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Pathway</td>
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<td>Wall</td>
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<td>Drain pipe</td>
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<td>014</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Loam</td>
<td></td>
<td>116 &amp; 117</td>
<td>5-6</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Cut</td>
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<td>017</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>116 &amp; 117</td>
<td>9-11</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Post hole</td>
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<td>116</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Loam (below 014)</td>
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<td>116 &amp; 117</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* No volumes were recorded for area J - only 017 was excavated.
The following section repeats research questions and provides answers. Questions are only reproduced where they can be answered by the data recovered to date. Of the questions posed in the research design (Godden Mackay P/L and Grace Karskens), Sections 11.1 and 11.2 were outside the scope of reporting at this time. All of the following questions are drawn from section 11.3.

4.1 QUESTIONS

1. How old were the houses shown on the 1823 plan, (non relevant section deleted) Lot 8 (later Williams' house). Did they have garden spaces in front?

No archaeological evidence was found that could have been the later Williams' stone house. The area where a garden may have existed was not selected for excavation because of site access restrictions.

2. Was the Williams house (Lot 8 sec. 75) preceded by a timber house, one of the two built by Richard Byrne and advertised by him in 1811.

The Williams house was clearly preceded by another house (see Section 2 for discussion). The nature of both its construction and constructor were not identified and the location of the structure was not available for excavation (being situated beneath the site access).

3. Did remnants of the stone Williams house (lot 8 sec 75) survive until at least 1880 at the rear of the shops? If so for how long? What was it used for?

No archaeological evidence was found that could have been the later Williams' stone house.

4.2 SIGNIFICANCE OF SURVIVING FEATURES

Area J is likely to retain significant occupation material dating from the period of the 1845 shops, as well as later pre 1881 structures.
5.0 SUBSIDIARY DOCUMENTATION

5.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY

5.1.1 Reports

Carney, Martin D.
Archaeological Assessment of the Properties Located at 20, 22, 28 & 30 Merriman Street and 28, 37, & 53 Kent Street Millers Point. September 1993
Godden Mackay Pty Ltd & Grace Karskens
The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site, The Rocks - An Historical Discourse. May 1994
Godden Mackay Pty Ltd & Grace Karskens
The Cumberland Street/Gloucester Street Site, Archaeological Investigation - Archaeological Assessment and Research Design, April 1994

5.1.2 Published Sources

Mann D.D. Historical Records of Australia. Sydney, 1914
McCormack, T. The Present Picture of NSW, London 1811
Sands Sydney Directory 1858-59
Sydney Gazette

5.2 APPENDICES

5.2.1 Soil samples

See context sheets for nature of samples taken. The existence of samples is noted in the context list in section 3.5. Samples were taken from clean, un-sieved portions of the subject deposit. Multiple samples were taken in some instances.

5.2.2 Mortar Samples

Many more mortar samples remain to be taken, but they would involve the destruction of standing features, should their destruction be inevitable then an extensive sampling strategy should be employed. The existence of mortar samples for structures should be sought on the specific unit sheets.
6.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 AREA J PLANS

The following are the numbers of the plans for Area J.

176
175
174
103

6.2 AREA J PHOTOGRAPHS

All photographs are referred to by reference in the text of Section 3