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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT
AREA F

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

by
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A report of archaeological survey carried out
under the auspices of the United States Department
of the Interior, National Park Service, Northeast
Region.

Contract No. CX-⁴2000-6-00²¹/₁₈

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DSC ARCHEOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

An archaeological survey of Area F, Independence National Historical Park, was undertaken in an effort to document and archaeologically demonstrate the cultural resource potential, or lack thereof, of this portion of historic Philadelphia. Documentary evidences and archaeologically recovered evidences clearly demonstrate that Area F contains much in situ cultural material.

In accordance with the above, formulation of recommended approaches and methodologies relative to the archaeological investigation of Area F is now possible. Archaeological approaches and methods utilized need be those which will guarantee a rapid, phased excavation of the total site area; comprehensive, rather than salvage excavations, are indicated.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Peter Messick, Field Supervisor; assistant, Art Carver; and part-time assistants, Doris Weiland, Juliette Cartwright, Rachel Most, Judy Chase, Michael Nicolazzo, Andrea Lindsay, and Lynn Colgan.

The overall project, and future archaeological investigations as well, greatly benefited from that documentary research compiled by Ms. Betty Cosans; her assistance was much appreciated. A sincere thank you is extended Doris Weiland for final map preparations and coordination of this report, and Barbara Uphoff for her assistance in preparing this report for Xerox.

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INTRODUCTION

In accordance with contractual arrangements, documentation was compiled on the location and character of historical structures within Area F. Within budgetary limitations, archaeological testing was undertaken in an effort to establish the presence of archaeological evidences which would require attention should construction be indicated within the site area.

Those portions of the site area archaeologically excavated were selected in accordance with the following considerations:

- 1) documentary evidences
- 2) an effort not to disturb newly laid asphalt on parking areas
- 3) an effort not to reduce parking convenience nor capability
- 4) excavations were not initiated within standing structures; in accordance with documentary evidences, basal portions of features should be uncovered upon demolition of buildings and/or upon removal of concrete basement slabs.

Archaeological investigations, though minimal, were most successful. Sound recommendations relative to the archaeological potential of Area F, and suggested approaches and methodologies which will best insure recovery of archaeological data, are now possible.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Documentary data were compiled by Ms. Betty Cosans. Portions of the Historic Structure Report of "Area F" prepared in 1974 by Jerome A. Greene, Historic Preservation Team, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, are here included for ease of referral.

Area F contains historic structures relating to the early development of the City of Philadelphia and is therefore classified as Third Order of Significance. Included within Area F is the Thomas Bond House, home of a distinguished surgeon and general practitioner during the eighteenth century, and potentially an important example of contemporary colonial architecture. The other structures at 125 and 127 Second Street and at 114 Front Street display characteristics of nineteenth century commercial architecture, especially in their facades. As the site of earliest settlement in Pennsylvania, Area F also harbors latent archaeological significance that may bear on overall American growth and thus dictate redetermination of the zone's Order of Significance.

The ground comprising the historic district designated Area F lies within the zone of earliest habitation by Europeans in Pennsylvania. Holland initiated exploration and settlement of the lower Delaware River Valley as early as 1623, although Dutch hegemony ebbed with subsequent intrusions by Sweden, and finally, by England. The latter power, whose title to the region antedated those of her competitors, eventually emerged the successful contender following the conclusion of hostilities with Holland in 1674, whereby the Dutch relinquished their claims and designs on the area.

Among the first to buy Philadelphia lands were Samuel Carpenter and Christopher Taylor, each of whose selections included lots encompassed by the present Area F district. Each lot lay within a block later bounded north and south by Chestnut and Walnut Streets, respectively, and east and west by Front and Second Streets. Each ran in length 396 feet and contained a width of 102 feet bordering Front and Second Streets.⁴ Most of Area F is today included in the early Christopher Taylor holdings, and the southern boundary of the historic zone, present-day Sansom Street, parallels the line dividing his property from Carpenter's.

Guided by the tenor set by Penn in establishing the colony, Taylor dedicated half of his waterfront property to the faith and there erected the first Quaker Meeting House. The southern half he sold to Thomas Hooten who had obtained a land warrant from Governor Penn in 1682. The westward part of Hooten's lot today provides the greatest concentration of interest in Area F, for here the historically and architecturally significant Thomas Bond House was eventually constructed.

Thomas Hooten, a London candle-maker, originally held an entire propriety in West New Jersey. During the 1670's he disposed of these eastern holdings and in the early 1680's applied for property in the Philadelphia vicinity. His acquisition of a portion of Taylor's front lot resulted from a warrant granted him by William Penn in 1682.⁵ The surveyed dimensions of Hooten's property were as follows:

... a City Lott running N: 72^d [degrees] W: by Sam: Carpenters Lott 396 foot thence N: 18^d E: by the second Street from Delaware 51 foot thence S: 72^d E: by Christopher Taylers Lott 396 foot thence S: 18^d W: by Delaware front Street 51 foot⁷

At the east end of his section, facing Front Street, Hooten built a house. By an indenture between him and Samuel Carpenter in the spring of 1682, their neighboring lots were divided by an alley running between their properties from Front to Second Street. Hooten surrendered an average of eight feet along the 396 foot length of his southern boundary in the transaction, while Carpenter contributed eleven from along his northern line. Alternately termed Hooten's, or Carpenter's Alley, the lane reflected the ownership of its adjacent properties through the years. Today it is called Sansom Street.⁸

The subsequent history of the Hooten lot can be traced from pertinent deeds and deed abstracts. Sometime between his securing title to the property and his death in 1694, Thomas Hooten transferred his lot, apparently to one Elizabeth Paxton. The record of conveyance appears incomplete from the time of Hooten's ownership until the late 1730's, although fragmentary data contained in later documents suggests that Alexander Paxton inherited the land upon his mother's death.⁹

The property changed ownership frequently between 1739 and 1746, partially because of Paxton's indebtedness, including that to the prominent Philadelphia attorney and realtor, Andrew Hamilton. In lieu of payment, Paxton assigned to Hamilton a mortgage covering a portion of the original lot, now divided by writ of partition. Hamilton imparted the mortgage to Thomas Venables, who paid off Paxton's debt, paid Paxton an additional £500, and thereby assumed title. Venables also acquired an adjoining portion from Paxton, that immediate corner lot bounded south and east by Norris's Alley and Second Street on which the Bond home was ultimately built.¹⁰ On August 4, 1743, Venables conveyed these holdings to Thomas Hopkinson, a well-known Philadelphia government figure, and to Nathan Levy, a city merchant. In return for "Nineteen Pounds twelve Shillings" yearly rent, Levy received the corner lot,

Containing in Breadth on Second Street Twenty one and a quarter Feet little more or less, and in Length or Depth Eighty feet, Bounded toward the North and East with Lotts, granted or intended to be granted to Thomas Hopkinson [,] towards the South with an Alley of Twenty feet wide extending from Second Street to Front Street, ... and towards the West with Second Street ¹¹

Significantly, this indenture obliged Levy to erect, within seven years, a "good and Substantial Dwelling House" valued at £100. Moreover, if Levy should fall behind in his payments, the property would revert to its former owner.¹² Levy retained the lot for seven years, but never complied with the building clause. Instead, on March 25, 1751, probably with the approval of Thomas Venables' widow, Rebecca, who continued to receive ground rent, Levy sold the property to Dr. Thomas Bond, Rebecca Venables' son-in-law and a longtime Philadelphia resident and physician. Bond had previously purchased the northern and eastern adjacent lots from Thomas Hopkinson.¹³

Thomas Bond Held the property until his death in 1784. On the adjoining lots facing on Second Street he built two three-story brick houses. The first, situated on the ground purchased from Hopkinson, Bond built sometime around 1757. The other structure, presently standing as number 129 South Second, was completed about 1771.¹⁴ This building Bond bequeathed to his son, Venables, who sold it to James S. Cox by an indenture dated June 5, 1786. A successful merchant and insurance underwriter, Cox initially lived in the house and later rented it, maintaining the property until 1821, when he died.¹⁵ The period of the Bond and early Cox ownerships represents the focal point of interpretive interest in the structure on which this report basically concentrates.

The chain of title to the lot following Cox's tenure reveals frequent changes in its ownership. In April, 1824, John Cox, acting executor for his father's estate, deeded the ground and buildings to John Markoe, the deceased's son-in-law. Markoe sold the property July 3, 1835, to an upholsterer, Alphonso Le Jambre, for \$7,000. The following year Le Jambre conferred it to Benjamin Eldridge, who located a leather business in the structure. Eldridge paid \$9,000 for both the lot and building, but apparently suffered financial adversity at the location, for records of the district court show that he defaulted on his personal debts. Consequently, his property was seized and sold by the sheriff "by public vendue or outcry at the Philadelphia Exchange. . ." on September 18, 1843. The auction realized \$2,800 and gave the deed to the highest bidder, Thomas Pritchett.¹⁶

Pritchett operated the building as a hides and leather store for some years. His family retained the property until April, 1884, when Frederick Sylvester bought it from William C. Pritchett. On March 22, 1915, the Orient Building and Loan Association acquired the mortgage, valued at \$6,000, from Frederick Sylvester. The Association held the property for five years, selling it in 1920 to George Soeder, who owned it over the next thirty-two years. In 1952, Soeder and his wife sold it to Manny Morgenstern. Ten years later Morgenstern deeded the land and structures to Emerson C. Custis for \$12,500. Custis's widow holds the title today.¹⁷

The other buildings extant in the Area F acquisition zone, 125 and 127 South Second Street, and 114 South Front Street, are of more recent development than the Bond House. Philadelphia County deed abstracts

trace the ownership of the adjoining structures at 125 and 127 South Second back to at least 1865, although expert opinion places their construction in the 1840-1860 period.¹⁸ Their lots date back to Christopher Taylor's time. Later owners of the land at 127 South Second through the 1840's include the Paxtons, Thomas Hopkinson, Thomas Bond, James Starr, and Thomas Pritchett. Owners of the property at 125 South Second through 1820 include the Paxtons, Stephen Armitt John Davis, and Charles Willing.¹⁹

Just when the previous structures situated on these premises were demolished remains unknown. At some time between 1850 and 1865 these lots were consolidated with those facing on Front Street, and a deed of December 29, 1865, conveyed them, with their current buildings, from E.C. Mitchell to Franklin Fell. The Fell estate held the lands until 1904, when Frederick Sutton obtained them. In 1915, after Sutton's death, they went to Milton W. Orme, who also acquired contiguous lots the next year from the estate of J. Alpheus Vansant. Orme sold his holdings May 10, 1916, to A. Gordon Norris, who in turn sold them seven years later to George C. Ryder and his wife. On August 9, 1940, ownership passed to the Grant Building and Loan Association which transferred the property to Joseph Querns in 1945.

The property rapidly passed through several owners in the mid-1940's. Querns sold it to Isadore Dresner; Dresner sold it to Louis Bernstein, who conveyed it to Joseph L. Rosenberg. In 1946 Aaron Brandlow bought the property and in 1953 delivered it to the Hancock Manufacturing Corporation, a plumbing concern. In 1962, the corporation sold the land in six parcels, one of which encompassed 125 and 127 South Second Street. Louis Gross, vice president of the organization, purchased the land for the City of Philadelphia, a transaction sanctioned by an ordinance of the city council and approved by the mayor. Contemplating the future construction of a parking garage on the property to serve visitors to Independence National Historical Park, the city transferred it to the Redevelopment Authority of Philadelphia by deed dated February 1, 1971.²⁰

The present building at 114 South Front Street was probably erected in the late 1840's or early 1850's, judging from an insurance survey of January 21, 1856. Hugh Catherwood acquired the lot, measuring approximately 20½ by 151 feet, from Frederick Lennig in September 1855. Alfred Tucker next bought it from Catherwood's estate in 1886. In 1923, Hemphill and

Company, Incorporated, owned the ground, keeping it until 1947. By deed of April 30 of that year, Harry E. Gerhard took possession, but in 1951 his executors sold the property to William L. Hunter and William J. O'Brien. Four years later these owners sold to Keer, Maurer Company, which operated a foreign freight forwarding business in the building. On January 15, 1973, Keer, Maurer sold the lot and structure to Joseph M. Spivack for \$75,000.²¹ Current plans envision its incorporation within the Area F historic district.

Dr. Thomas Bond bought the land at present number 127 South Second Street from Thomas Hopkinson on September 16, 1746. This lot fronted 21 feet 3 inches on the street and ran 82 feet 6 inches in depth. At the same time he bought additional ground to the immediate east measuring $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width and running 42 feet 8 inches south to Norris's Alley. In 1751 Bond acquired the land at the northwest corner of Second Street and Norris's Alley (present number 129 South Second) from Nathan Levy, which with his previous acquisitions constituted a total tract measuring 42 feet 8 inches by 102 feet.²²

On the first mentioned lot Bond built a dwelling house around 1757. Based on an insurance survey of the structure made in 1769, this house stood three stories high and was fairly fashionable for the day, with a kitchen of one story connected at the rear. Bond lived in this home for many years.²³ The house eventually constructed on the corner property, and presently standing as the Thomas Bond House, was built in about 1771, some twenty years after Bond acquired the lot. This structure was surveyed June 6, 1786, shortly after James Cox bought it from Venables Bond. The survey described the house as

Situate on the north east Corner of 2d Street & Norises alley -- 21 by 43 feet 3 storys high 14 & 9 inch walls . . . Chimney Brests Surbase & Scerting in each Story Single Cornice Round in first Story passage wainscut pedistal high Board Newel Stairs -- plaistered partitions -- garot plastered modillion eaves -- painted inside & out. Shingling about 15 years old²⁴

Fire insurance surveys detailing the physical attributes of the now vacant brick buildings at 125 and 127 South Second Street have not been located and materials describing their history seem nonexistent.³¹

The latter structure was constructed on the Second Street lot Thomas Bond purchased from Thomas Hopkinson in 1746 on which Bond built his first dwelling house. Displaying granite piers at the first level, the present five-story warehouse building measures 21 feet 4½ inches at the front, while that at 125 South Second measures 20 feet by 128 feet 6¼ inches. The facade of this warehouse is cast iron with an arcade design at the first two levels. The upper stories consist of iron fashioned to resemble ashlar stonework.

The brick store at present 114 South Front Street measured 20 feet 6 inches in width and 73 feet in depth at the time of its construction in the 1840's or 1850's. Today it is 21 feet 6 inches by 50 feet 2 inches. The granite pier and lintel facade remains essentially the same as it appeared in 1856, the date of its insurance survey. Occupied then as a liquor store, the four-story structure had a counting-room measuring 13 feet by 18 feet 6 inches attached at the rear. Resurveys of the building in 1861, 1885, and 1892 revealed a few internal modifications, mainly in the cellar, and some substantial changes in its outward appearance. Today it retains its nineteenth century character except for the concrete steps and skirting apparently added recently.³² (Greene 1974: 3-17)

AREA F: HISTORICAL REPORT

by

B. Cosans

January, 1977

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5. _____, Philadelphia Contributionship Surveys (Cont.), ms, microfilm, INHP. LS (loose surveys), SB#1 (Survey Book #1).
6. _____, Philadelphia County Deedbooks (DB), ms, City Archives.
7. _____, Philadelphia County 18 d Provincial Tax 1769, 1774, ms, microfilm, City Archives.
8. _____, Philadelphia County Tax Assessors' Ledger Books, Walnut Ward, 1781-1800. ms, City Archives.

II. Maps

1. Clarkson & Biddle, "Map of Philadelphia", 1762.
2. Franklin Fire Insurance Map: 1938.
3. Hexamer & Locher Survey: 1860
4. Holme Plan, Andrew Sowle ed., London, ca. 1687.
5. Sanborne Fire Insurance Map: 1958

Area F is the designation for land in Philadelphia which has been acquired by the National Park Service to provide parking facilities for Independence National Historical Park. Located on the east side of the park: Area F is bounded on the north side by Ionic Street, on the south by Sansom Street, on the east by Front Street, and on the west by Second Street. Gatzmer Street, a small east/west street running parallel to the bounding streets, cuts through the middle of Area F.

Front Street and Second Street were among the original streets of the city and are shown on the Holme Plan in their present location. The small streets which bound and cut through Area F were developed privately and do not appear on Penn's plan for Philadelphia. As the city was originally laid out, Area F was part of the larger block bounded by Chestnut Street on the north and Walnut Street on the south. The creation of the small streets was part of the development of this larger block.

Actually, the entire block bounded by Chestnut and Walnut Street should be documented in the context of the archaeological investigation of Area F. Limiting the documentation of the site to the limits of Area F creates a problem in site measurement that cannot be resolved internally, and prevents the use of valuable documents which must be considered in the context of the whole block.

According to the initial surveys of land on the Area F block, the block was laid out as a rectangle measuring 396' east/west and 510' 3" north/south.(Fig. 2) At the present time, however, the block is not a rectangle. As Fig. 1

illustrates, the difference between modern and historic block dimensions ranges from +3.48' along Chestnut Street to -3.5' along Second Street. Determining where those changes occurred on the block, during what historical periods, and how they affect site-related dimensions can be a critical factor in feature identification since the variations noted in Fig. 1 are sufficient to result in the assignment of a wall or brick-lined pit to the wrong property.

Without whole-block documentation, it was virtually impossible to retrieve information about the Area F site from 18th century tax assessors records. The Area F block was one of the most heavily populated areas in the 18th century city and constituted a political ward in itself--Walnut Ward. 18th century assessors books simply list the residents of a ward, they are not organized in any way. However, the assessor usually walked systematically up and down streets or around blocks. Given whole-block documentation, it is generally possible to determine exactly how the assessor worked and to correlate his records with historical properties. It was impossible to do this for the Area F site alone. In 1774, there were 105 households in Walnut Ward and in 1795, there were 171 households. Without reference to corners etc. only a handful of Area F residents could be identified. Not only was valuable information about the site lost, but it was impossible to take advantage of one of the most useful tools in constructing briefs of title: the individual taxed for a given property in a given year.

MODERN BLOCK DIMENSIONS (Franklin Map:1938) Fig. 1

Second St. (Chestnut to Walnut).....	506.75' (-3.5')
Front St. (Chestnut to Walnut).....	509.00' (-1.25')
Chestnut St. (Front to Second).....	401.48' (+3.48')
Walnut St. (Front to Second).....	398.76' (+2.76')

INITIAL DISTRIBUTION OF LAND (1682-1684)

The first lot laid out on the Area F block was that of Samuel Carpenter. (Fig. 2, Lot 1) On 29/10 mo./1682, a warrant was issued ordering the Surveyor General to lay out a 102' x 396' front lot for Carpenter. Carpenter's survey was made two days later. (W&S, v.III, p.221) The bounds of the survey were expressed in angles by degrees as was common among early urban surveys where there were few existing reference points to use in locating property. However, two aspects of Carpenter's survey point to the fact that the streets were already located and the block set out in assigned lots prior to the date of the survey. First, Carpenter's lot was an interior property. However, the surveyor left sufficient space north and south of Carpenter's lot to accomodate the other individuals assigned to the block according to the Holme Plan. Second, Carpenter's survey mentions the land of Greenway and Taylor in describing the north and south bounds of this lot. Neither of these lots were laid out when Carpenter's survey was made.

The second lot to be laid out on the Area F block was a 102' x 396' lot for Christopher Taylor lying on the north side of Carpenter's lot. (Fig. 2, Lot 2) The warrant to lay out Taylor's lot was issued on 29/11 mo /1682, a month after Carpenter's warrant was issued. Taylor's lot was surveyed two days later. (W&S, v.III, p.222) Like Carpenter's survey, Taylor's lot was described in angles by degrees. Several months later, on 10/2 mo /1683, Taylor sold

the south half of his front lot to Thomas Hooten. (PB A-1-59) Although Hooten was not a First Purchaser, he is included among the original grantees of land on the Area F block because his purchase was made before clear title to the land had been established. Like the First Purchasers on the block, Hooten followed the procedures for establishing title to his lot (warrant, survey, return, and patent). Hooten's half of the lot is designated 2S on Fig. 2 while the part retained by Taylor is designated 2N.

The third lot to be taken up on the Area F block was that of Nathaniel Allen. (Fig. 2, Lot 3) On 5/4 mo./1683, a warrant was issued for the survey of Allen's front lot, and a week later, a lot of 40' 9" x 396' was laid out for him near the north end of the block. (W&S v. II, p.11) The lot surveyed for Allen was also an interior lot but unrelated to the two lots previously surveyed. In this case, however, the surveyor dispensed with describing the bounds by angles and simply included the linear dimensions on the assumption that the compass orientation of the lot was known, the angles were 90° at the corners, and the bounds ran either parallel or perpendicular to the street. As was the case with previous surveys, property owners not yet assigned land on the block were cited in the description of bounds.

The fourth property to be laid out was a 71' x 396' lot for Griffith Jones at the south end of the block fronting Walnut Street. (Fig. 2, Lot 4) The warrant and/or survey for this property could not be found. The dates given are those recorded on his patent. According to Jones' patent, his warrant was issued on 24/4 mo./1683, and the survey returned a week later. (PB A-1-38) This was the first corner lot to be laid out. Jones was also the only original purchaser whose name does not appear among the purchasers located here on the Holme Plan or whose rights to the land cannot be traced to an individual located here on the Holme Plan. (W&S v. II, pp.144-45) According to the Holme Plan, Robert Greenway and Alexander Parker were to be located here. Since Greenway was

later located on the north side of Jones, it must be assumed that Jones either rightfully or wrongfully took up the lot originally assigned to Alexander Parker.

The fifth lot to be laid out was the corner lot on the north end of the block fronting Chestnut Street (Fig. 2, Lot 5) On 11/12 mo/1683, Mercy Jefferson of Rhode Island, per her attorney Thomas Phillips, conveyed Edward Jefferson's rights to a 30' x 396' lot on Chestnut Street to Humphrey Morrey. (DB E-1v5-226) Jefferson is one of the individuals entitled to land at the north end of the block according to the Holme Plan. (W&S v.11,pp.144-145) However, there are no records to show the lot was actually laid out for Jefferson although a house was standing on the property when it was purchased by Morrey. This is the first structure mentioned on the Area F block. The same day Morrey obtained the deed from Phillips, he was issued a warrant for a front lot 42' x 396'. Morrey's warrant included the 30' he had purchased from Jefferson plus 12' granted him in his own right. (W&S, v.II, p.87) Since the property on the south side of Jefferson's lot had not been laid out, the extra 12' was probably taken from the vacant land on the south side of Jefferson's 30' lot.

About two and a half weeks after Morrey obtained his warrant, John Love was granted a warrant for his front lot 20' x 396' on the south side of Morrey. (Fig. 2, Lot 6) Love's lot was surveyed the same day his warrant was issued. (W&S v.II, p.80)

On 2/5 mo/1684, a warrant was issued jointly to William Sharlow and William Wood for a 102' x 396' front lot bounded by Allen's lot on the north and Taylor's lot on the south. (Fig. 2, Lot 7) As tenants in common, Sharlow and Wood held undivided rights to the land which was laid out as a single lot one week after the warrant was issued. (W&S v.III, p.219) William Sharlow alone is mentioned as the purchaser entitled to this lot according to the Holme Plan. (W&S v.II, pp.144-145) There is no record of how or

when he obtained his half interest in the property.

The last lot to be laid out on the Area F block was granted to Robert Greenway who obtained a warrant for the survey of his front lot on 17/12 mo/1684. (Fig. 2, Lot 8) Greenway's lot of $30\frac{1}{2}'$ x 396' was laid out either the same day the warrant was issued or the following day when the survey was returned. The survey in this case was found but was not dated. (W&S v.II, p.51)

Thus, by the end of 1684, all the lots on the Area F block were laid out to their respective owners and at least one of the properties already included a structure. For the most part, Area F block owners promptly obtained patents for their properties.

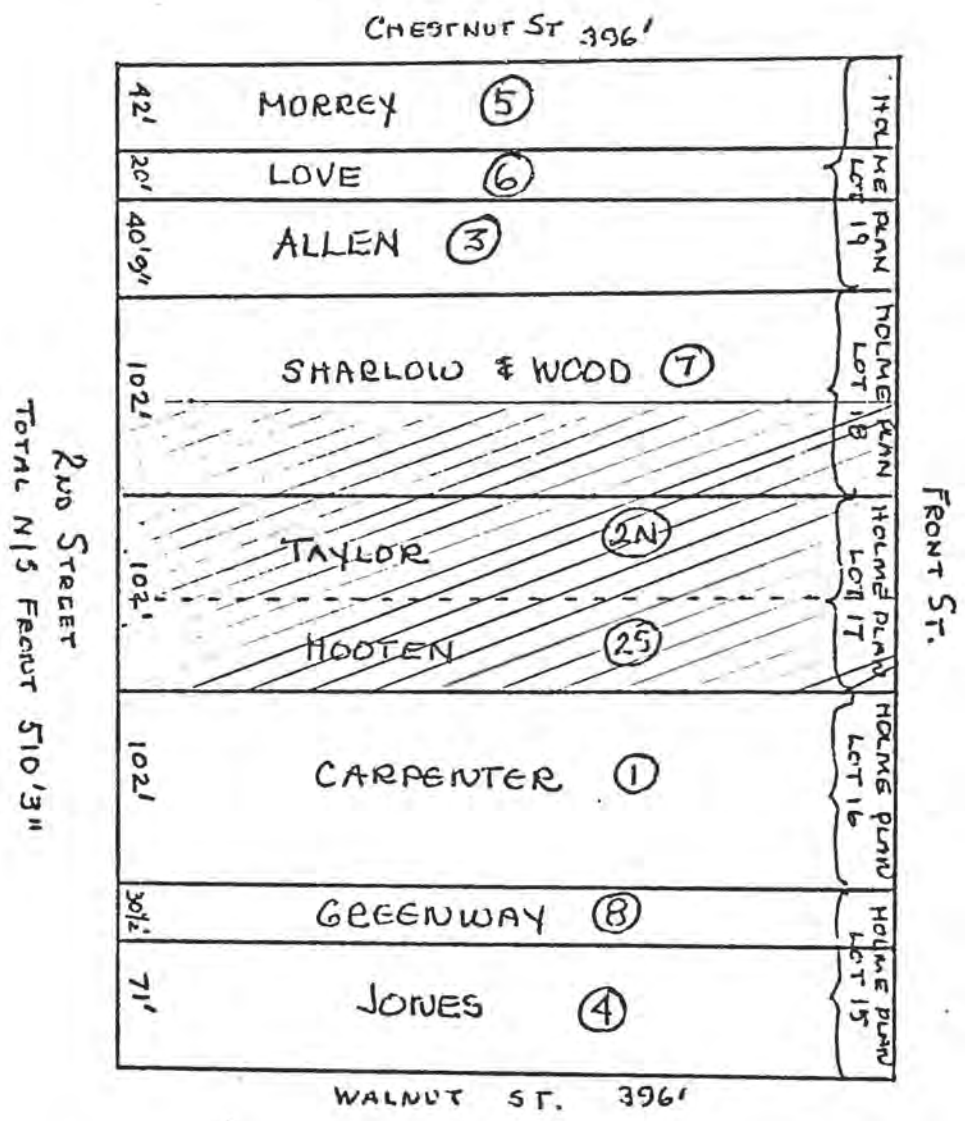
Christopher Taylor is one of the few landowners on the block who neglected to obtain his patent. This is rather strange since he was Penn's Registrar General. A patent for his front lot (Fig. 2, Lot 2N) was finally obtained by his heirs on 26 May 1691, despite the fact that the property had been sold by Taylor before his death. (PB A-7-167, DB E-1v5-129)

Area F (shown cross-hatched in red on Fig. 2) included all of Christopher Taylor's front lot (2S and 2N) and the south half of Sharlow and Wood's front lot (Lot 7). Development of the Area F site was underway by 1685.

LOT DESIGNATIONS IN BRACKETS = DIVISIONS ON HOLME PLANS

HBM I - INITIAL DISTRIBUTION OF LAND ON AREA F BLOCK 1682-1684

Area F



THE AREA F SITE (1684-1688)

Initial development of the Area F site was undertaken prior to the establishment of the small streets which presently bound and cut through the site and centered on the east or Front Street side of the property. The establishment of Morris Alley (Gatzmer Street) and Carpenter-Hooten Alley (Sansom Street) mark the end of this period of block development.

Thomas Hooten who had purchased the south half of Christopher Taylor's front lot in 1684 was the only original grantee who actually participated in the development of the Area F site. Sometime before 1691, Hooten began construction of a brick dwelling on the southeast corner of his lot. This dwelling is first mentioned in 1691 when Hooten mortgaged the house and the land it stood on to Thomas Lambert of Nottingham in the Province of West Jersey. (DB E-2v5-185) The mortgage agreement described the property as:

...all that his dwelling house built of bricks wherein he now liveth standing in the ffront Street with all the Backsides, Courtyards, Entreys, Alleys etc...with free and undisturbed Egress and Regress at all times to fetch and bring Water from a Pump standing in other Land of the sd. Thomas Hooten next unto the sd. dwelling house adjoining...

However, in 1692, when Hooten and his neighbor to the south, Samuel Carpenter, established the alley along their common boundary, Hooten's house was described as

unfinished. (DB F-10-28) Apparently the description of the property in the mortgage was not entirely accurate. A check of the deeds indicated that Hooten owned no other city land of record.

Hooten's house was probably built fronting the street with its south wall standing on the north side of what is now Sansom Street, six feet north of the south line of the property. It does not appear that the house was deliberately sited to accomodate the alley since it was necessary to allow for the house in running the north line of the alley. (DB F-10-28) The size and dimensions of the house are not recorded. However, from partition of the property in 1740, it appears the structure was no more than $22\frac{1}{2}'$ in breadth on Front Street while the dwelling and out-buildings extended no more than 100' in depth. (Fig. 7) According to the mortgage description, the well was located on the adjoining property, but it does not indicate whether it was north or west of the house. Apparently the well ceased to be used by 1740, since access was not included in mid-18th century deeds to the property.

By 1699, Hooten was dead. He died without issue and the property passed to his widow, Elizabeth Hooten, who subsequently married Alexander Paxton. On 20 July 1717, Paxton mortgaged the property to Richard Draftgate of London. (DB F-1-90) The mortgage was subsequently assigned to Andrew Hamilton of Philadelphia by Draftgate's heirs. The mortgage was either paid or cancelled to Hamilton's satisfaction and, on 16 Dec. 1729, he granted clear title to Elizabeth Paxton, widow. (DB H-13-437) Three years later, Elizabeth Paxton also died and, according to her will, the proerty was to be equally divided among her children: a son, Alexander; a daughter Elizabeth married to Edward Jones, and a daughter Rebecca married to Thomas Venables. (DB H-13-437) On 10 Mar. 1739/40, Alexander Paxton (the son) mortgaged his undivided third of the estate to Andrew Hamilton. (DB G-1-117) Shortly

thereafter, Thomas and Rebecca Venables obtained a writ of partition and the estate was divided among the three heirs. It was only after partition of the estate in 1740 that more intensive development of the property was undertaken.

On 3/8 mo/1685, Thomas Lloyd purchased the north part of Christopher Taylor's front lot. (DB E-1v5-129) Lloyd erected a dwelling on the property and, on 4/3 mo/1687, sold the house and lot to Anthony Morris. (DB E-1v5-523) Lloyd's dwelling probably stood at the southeast corner of the property on the south side of Gatzmer Street. The dimensions and construction of the building are not known. The house probably fronted on the street and was no more than 16'3" in depth while the dwelling and its backbuildings extended no more than 77' in depth. Apparently Lloyd continued to live in the house after he sold the property to Morris. In 1693, he was listed in a petition to the Provincial Council along with other residents of the Area F block along Front Street. (P.C. v.1683-1700, p.382)

Shortly after Morris purchased the north part of Taylor's lot from Lloyd, he also purchased the adjoining south half of Sharlow and Wood's lot. There is no date recorded for the partition of this property. However, by 1687, the property had been divided, William Wood was dead, and Morris purchased the property from Wood's son Joseph. (DB E-1v5-647) With the acquisition of these two lots, Morris owned a piece of land 102' in breadth and 396' in depth, extending from Front Street to Second Street in the middle of the Area F block. Morris's concepts of land use were completely urban and he quickly undertook the development of the property with full realization of its value as prime urban real estate.

On 2/2 mo/1687, Morris sold Alexander Beardsley a lot 20' x 396' along the north line of his property. (DB E-2v5-94) Beardsley erected a brick house on the east end of the lot fronting Front Street. In 1693 he was also listed as

a resident of the block. (P.C. v.1683-1700, p.382)

By 1688, Morris had undertaken construction of his own dwelling on the east end of the property fronting Front Street. Morris sited his house 12' north of the north wall of the house erected by Thomas Lloyd with the north wall of his dwelling on the property line that had formerly divided Taylor's and Wood's lots. Apparently Morris allowed for establishment of the alley (now Gatzmer Stree) in the siting of his house. In the partition of his estate in 1729, Morris's dwelling was described as: (DB F-4-489)

My messuage and lot late in possession of Rachael Reiner with the Garden within the fence (Except what I took for a wood yard on the north side)... to my wife for her natural life or her remarriage, then to revert to the Estate to be purchased by other heirs for 100 £ (Cheaper than the real value)..

This dwelling remained in the Morris family into the 19th century. As late as 1782, the premises was still referred to as the "Mansion House Lot". (DB D-6-54) The dwelling erected by Morris ca. 1688 was probably the same structure insured by Deborah Morris in 1788. The Morris house was far from the modern concept of a mansion. It was two stories high, built of brick, 22' in front on the street, and 44' deep. The interior was described as "very plain and mostly old." In the late 18th century, the property also included a brick kitchen 15' x 16', two stories high. The kitchen may have been added at a later date. (Cont. SB#1, p.135) The house lot probably extended no more than 180' west of Front Street.

Thus, by 1688, four substantial houses stood on the east or Front Street side of the Area F block. All but one were owner occupied. It was only after 1692, that the alleys played a significant role in the development of the site. Until 1740, the impetus for development was centered on the Morris property.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALLEYS (1688-1692)

Although Ionic Street, Gatzmer Street, and Sansom Street lie within 150' of each other, they represent three entirely different concepts of land use. Fig. 4 indicates the names by which these streets were known at various periods of time.

Sansom Street, the south bound of Area F, was the only one of the three alleys associated with the site that was established by deed. On 22/4 mo/1692, Thomas Hooten and Samuel Carpenter agreed to set aside a strip of land on their common boundary to be kept open as an alley leading from Front Street to Second Street. Carpenter was to allow 6' to the extent of his dwelling and then $8\frac{1}{2}'$ to Second Street on the south line of his property. (DB F-10-28) This alley was apparently set aside for the convenience of the two adjacent properties. No attempt was made to develop the frontage on either the north or south side of the alley until the mid-18th century.

Gatzmer Street, running east/west through the middle of Area F, was created by Anthony Morris wholly within his own property. When Morris acquired Lloyd's lot, a house of approximately 16' front already stood at the southeast corner of the property. In siting his own dwelling at the northeast corner of this lot, Morris left a 12' space between the two structures. It would seem that this was deliberate

and Morris intended, from the beginning, to utilize the alley frontage as a source of income producing property. The alley is first mentioned as such in 1692, when Morris sold Thomas Wharton a small lot fronting Second Street on the north side of the alley. (DB F-4-480) The first subdivision on the alley was made in 1696/7. (DB F-1-110)

A date for the establishment of Ionic Street, the north bound of Area F, is more difficult to determine. This small street, called Taylor's Alley in the mid-18th century, was located wholly on the north part of Sharlow's portion of the lot formerly held jointly with William Wood. As late as 9 Sept. 1738, there was no mention of the alley on this property. (G-3-552)

The first mention of Taylor's Alley (sans name) appeared in a deed dated 26 May 1743 in which the south bound of the property was described as "a 13' alley dividing this from George Gray's lot." (DB G-11-290) A deed dated 9 Dec. 1761, mentions the same alley as an alley 10' wide called Taylor's Alley and goes on to state: (DB H-15-200)

Although a part of the alley is now crooked and somewhat circular at the east end, it is to be made straight and continued at the same line to Front Street as it is now laid out and begun in Second Street as soon as the houses and buildings now standing there next Front Street shall be pulled down or demolished...

The Clarkson and Biddle Map of 1762, shows Taylor's Alley extending approximately half way into the middle of the block from Second Street. Although this alley cannot be documented until the mid-18th century, the description above has the characteristics of an alley which developed through customary use. It probably started to be used as a way through the block when street front development made it necessary to "go 'round the long way" to get to Second Street.

One of the mysteries of the Area F site is why

this alley never provided the kind of impetus to development provided by Morris Alley in the early 18th century and Norris Alley (Sansom Street) in the mid-18th century. It was not until well into the 19th century that the development of the alley front on the north side of Area F site was undertaken.

NAMES OF AREA F ALLEYS EXTRACTED FROM HISTORICAL DATA

Sansom Street

Late 17th-early 18th century -	Carpenter's Alley
	Hooten's Alley
	Carpenter-Hooten Alley
1720's & 1730's	Paxton's Alley
1740's to the 19th century	Norris Alley
ca. 1860	Gothic Street
late 19th-early 20th century	Sansom Street

Gatzmer Street

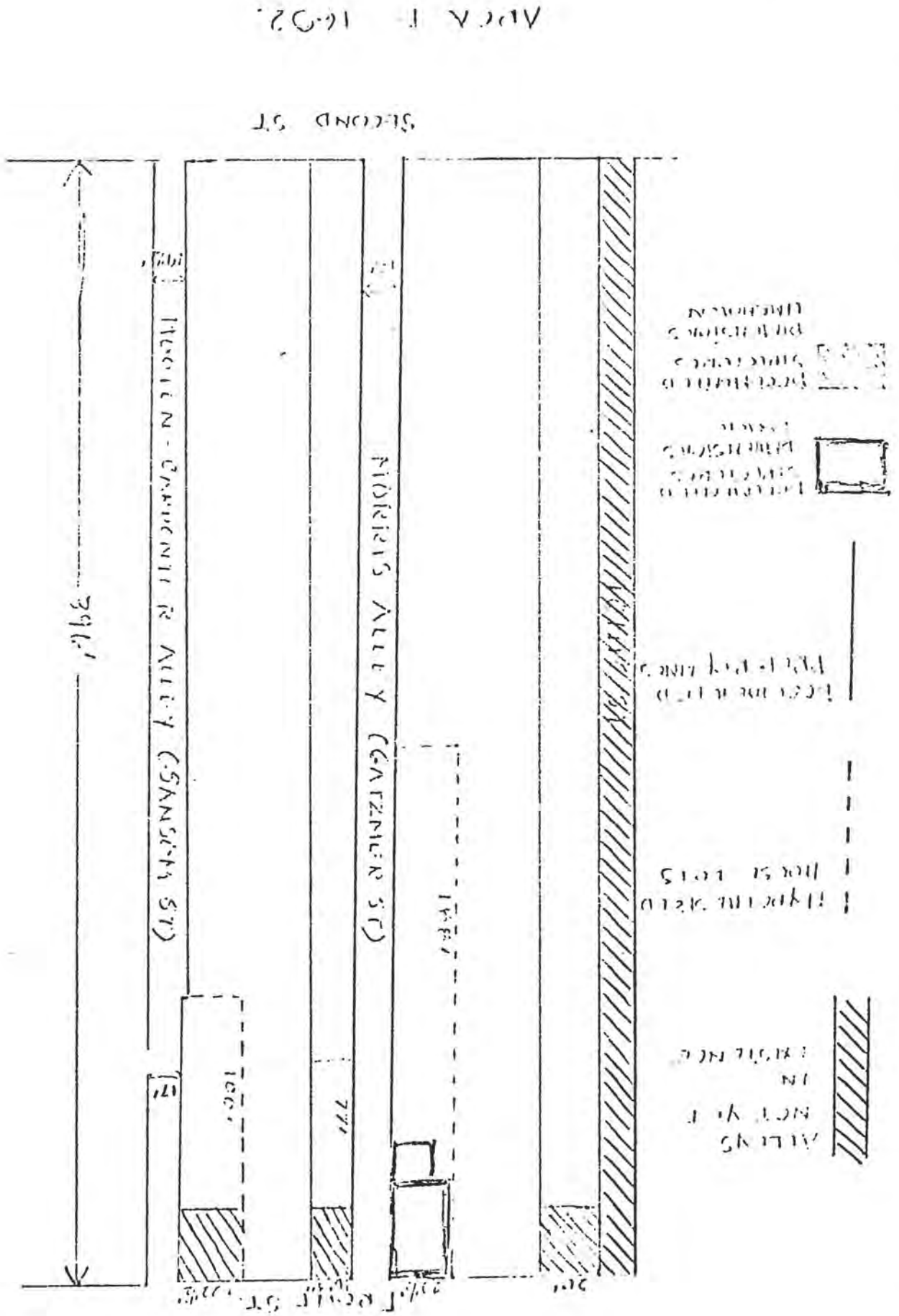
late 17th-mid-18th century	Morris Alley
mid-18th-century-19th century	Gray's Alley (except in Morris family deeds where it continued to be called Morris Alley)
by 1860	Gatzmer Street

Ionic Street

mid-18th century-mid-19th c.	Taylor's Alley
late 19th century-early 20th century	Ionic Street

Fig. 4

Figure 5.



THE AREA F SITE (1692-1740)

Between 1692 and 1740, Thomas Hooten's property underwent no substantial changes. As was discussed above, the land passed to various individuals by inheritance but none of them chose to subdivide or otherwise develop what had become valuable property. As far as can be determined from existing documents, Hooten's dwelling at the southeast corner of the property was the only structure standing on the 51' x 396' lot in 1740 when the property was partitioned among Elizabeth Paxton's heirs.

Alexander Beardsley, owner of the brick house and lot on the north side of the Area F site, died ca. 1696. According to Beardsley's will, his widow Margaret was granted life rights to the house and lot on Front Street, and after her death, it was to go "...to the use and behoof of George Gray, his grandson and son of his eldest daughter Mary..." (DB E-7v10-133) Apparently, Beardsley's bequest constituted an entail on the premises. By 1715, Margaret Beardsley was dead and, on 4 February 1715, the above-mentioned George Gray granted Henry Hodge the east part of the property 20' in breadth on Front Street x 296' in depth including the dwelling for life. (DB F-4-458) Six days later, he granted Hodge the rest of the property consisting of a vacant lot, 20' x 100' on Second Street. (DB E-7v10-133) Thirteen years later, Hodge granted the messuage and two lots to George Gray's

eldest son, also George Gray. (DB F-4-458) The second George Gray also died leaving the property to his eldest son, the third George Gray. (DB H-20-118) It would seem that the entail placed on the property by Beardsley was probably the reason this property was not more intensively developed at an earlier date. It was not until 1761, that the third George Gray finally broke the entail placed on the property by his great-great grandfather and sold the Second Street front of the lot to James James who immediately undertook its development. (DB H-20-118)

The most significant changes to occur on the Area F site during the period 1692-1740 was the intensive development of Anthony Morris's property.

At the partition of Anthony Morris's estate in 1729, only three properties on the Area F site remained in his possession; the dwelling house and lot previously discussed, a lot on the north side of the dwelling house lot fronting Front Street, and a lot fronting on the south side of Morris Alley. (DB G-8-98, F-4-489) In addition to the three properties in the Area F site, Morris's estate also included ground rents on ten lots. (DB F-4-480) Five other lots had apparently been sold outright or at some point, the ground rents had been extinguished. Morris's subdivisions are shown in Fig. 6. Unfortunately, it was impossible to provide complete documentation for all these small lots. However, some documentation has been found for all the properties. The major problem seems to have been failure to record deeds. It was often by chance that a property was picked up in the mid-18th century under a totally unfamiliar name. Another problem seems to have been the fact that Morris apparently let some lots out on rent for term, recovered the property and let it out again to someone else. For example, Edmund du Castle is frequently mentioned in the bounds to early deeds relating to the north side of Morris

Alley yet the land was subsequently let or sold to others with no record of du Castle's ownership or tenancy. In 1705, William Trent is mentioned in bounds as the owner of the second lot from the corner of Second Street and Morris Alley, south side, but, in 1720, Morris sold the property to John Lee. (DB F-4-493) For reference purposes, Morris's subdivisions have been numbered in chronological sequence on Fig. 6.

Sometime before his death ca. 1721, Morris erected two small tenements on the Front Street lot north of his dwelling. (Fig. 6, Lot1) These two dwellings and a lot 31' x 205' were devised to his eldest son, Anthony Morris, in 1729. (DB F-4-489) This property remained in the Morris family until 1777. (DB D-6-533, 536) He also erected two more tenements on the south side of Morris Alley behind the Lloyd house and lot. (Fig. 6, Lot2) In 1729, these dwellings and a lot 68' in breadth on the alley x $16\frac{1}{2}$ ' deep were devised to his daughter, Sarah Morris. (DB G-8-98)

The first subdivision to be sold by Anthony Morris was located on Second Street at the north side of Morris Alley. (Fig. 6, Lot3) On 20/10 mo/1692, Thomas Wharton purchased a lot 20' in breadth on Second Street x 46' in depth on Morris Alley. (DB F-4-480) Wharton erected a brick house on the lot and, on 11/6 mo/1701, he sold the house and lot to Thomas Everdon. (DB E-3v6-52) During the next 27 years, the property passed by inheritance to Nathaniel Everdon, his sister Martha Kinnerly and, finally, to her eldest son, William Kinnerly, who sold the property to Stephen Anthony on 29 Oct. 1728. (DB F-5-24) The property remained in the Anthony family for the rest of the 18th century. The brick house erected by Thomas Wharton was probably the same small brick house which Widow Anthony insured there in 1765. According to her insurance survey, the house was 20' x 28', 2 story, with a backbuilding 18' x 18', 3 story, almost new. Apparently the backbuilding was added.

(Cont. LS-994) At the time the insurance survey was made, a dram shop was kept on the premises.

The second property to be subdivided by Morris actually consisted of two lots. (Fig. 6, Lot 4a&4b) On 5 Mar. 1696/7, Morris sold John Redman a lot on the east side of Wharton's lot extending 50' in breadth on the north side of Morris Alley and 20' in depth. (DB F-1-110, Lot 4_a) Sometime before 1700, Redman also acquired a lot on the north side of this lot measuring 36' x 30'. This lot was probably sold to Redman after Lot 5 was sold to John Fleckney. (Fig. 6) On 4/1 mo/1700, John Redman sold both lots to Margaret Cook. Two years later, Margaret Cook sold the lots to Joshua Carpenter. (DB F-1-110) By 1702, at least one house was standing on the property. When John Budd purchased a lot on Morris Alley in that year, it was described as beginning 40' east of Mary Cook's house. (DB F-4-480) On 4 Nov. 1717, Morris extinguished the ground rents. (DB F-1-110) No trace of the property could be found after 1717.

The third lot to be sold by Morris was located on Second Street north of Wharton's lot. (Fig. 6. Lot 5) On 1/2 mo/1697, Anthony Morris sold John Fleckney a lot 30'9" in breadth on Second Street x 60' in depth. (DB H-13-407) Fleckney erected a frame dwelling on his lot. By 1699, Fleckney was dead. He died intestate and, by law, the property descended to his daughter, Elizabeth Hooten, then widow of Thomas Hooten, soon-to-be wife of Alexander Paxton and owner of the house and large lot on the south side of the Area F site. On 30 Jan. 1699, Elizabeth Fleckney conveyed the premises to her daughter. (DB H-13-407) On 26 Dec. 1701, Alexander Paxton and Elizabeth his wife, conveyed the property to Barsheba Bowers who conveyed the property back to Paxton on 5 Dec. 1705. (DB H-13-407) The property remained in the Paxton family until 17 April 1741 when Elizabeth Paxton's heirs sold the property to George Gray (the second) who also owned the property on the north side of this lot. (DB H-13-407) On 12 Mar. 1761, George Gray (the third) sold both

Fleckney's lot and the Second Street front of his own lot to James James. (DB H-20-118) Three months later, James subdivided the property and sold Stephen Anthony a dwelling and lot 15'11" in breadth on Second Street x 60' in depth. This property was located on the north side of the Wharton lot which Anthony already owned. (DB H-17-40) This dwelling was apparently the same house which Fleckney had built 1697-99. In 1765, Widow Anthony also insured this building. It was described in her survey as frame and plastered, 14' x 30', two story, with a kitchen 15' x 9', 1 story. (Cont.-LS-995) Again, it is quite possible the kitchen was added at a later date.

The fourth lot which Morris sold was located on the north side of Morris Alley, 40' east of Mary Cook's house. (Fig. 6, Lot6) This lot was granted to John Budd on 21 Dec. 1702. (DB F-4-480) A dwelling was standing on the property by 1704. (DB F-1-70) This property was not picked up again in the deed records for nearly fifty years until William Gray sold both this property and the lot next east in 1750-51. (See Lot 9)

The fifth lot which Morris sold was the Lloyd house lot on Front Street and the south side of Morris Alley. (Fig. 6, Lot7) On 25 Dec. 1703, Richard Armitt purchased a messuage and lot 16'3" in breadth on Front Street and 77' in depth on the south side of Morris Alley. (DB I-3-344) Unfortunately, no subsequent record of this property was found in the deed records. Richard Armitt is listed in the bounds of adjoining properties well into the 18th century so perhaps, the property remained in the Armitt family for many years.

The sixth lot sold by Morris was located on the north side of Morris Alley, east of Redman's lots. (Fig.6, Lot8) On 1 Mar. 1704, Morris sold Richard Hill a lot 40' in breadth on Morris Alley x 50' in depth bounded east by John Budd. (DB F-1-70) In 1717, Morris sold the rent on this lot to Hill. (DB F-1-23) There is no trace of this property in the deed

records until 1749. In 1748, Thomas Broadgate died seized of a dwelling and lot on the north side of Morris Alley, 20' in breadth x 50' deep which he left to his daughters Mary Snow and Sarah Green. The bounds of this property (John Budd east and Richard Hill west) confirm that this was, indeed, the east half of Hill's 40' lot. On 13 Sept. 1749, Peter Snow and Mary, his wife, conveyed their half interest in the property to Mary's sister, Sarah. (DB H-9-64) No further record was found for this property or for the west half of the lot still called Richard Hill's in 1749.

During 1705, Morris sold five lots on Morris Alley (one on the north side and four on the south side). On 8 Oct. 1705, Morris sold Thomas England a lot extending 38' on the north side of Morris Alley x 50' in depth, located on the east side of Budd's lot. (DB F-4-480, Fig. 6, Lot 9) On 20 April 1720, John Wilson sold the same lot with a dwelling to William Gray. (DB H-3-31) No link could be found between England and Gray, and no evidence that Morris had recovered the property and sold or let it on rent to someone else. Eight years later, on 29 June 1738, Gray mortgaged the dwelling and lot to George Sharswood for 150£ (DB F-10-229) On 8 Oct. 1750 and 17 Aug. 1751, Gray sold not only the 38' lot but also the 20' lot next west, formerly the property of John Budd. (DB H-2-88, H-3-131) There is no record of when or how Gray obtained the second property. However, at some time after 1738, Gray erected a substantial commercial bakery on the two lots. Perhaps the mortgage money received in 1738, financed this enterprise. In 1750, Gray sold Mary Weyman all of the 38' lot and the north or rear half of the 20' lot formerly belonging to John Budd. The 38' lot included a brick dwelling and a smaller frame dwelling fronting the alley with a brick bakehouse behind. The back end of the 20' lot included a wooden grainery and "free use of a certain house of ease or necessary house on the east side of the first described lot." (DB H-3-31) This is one of the few instances where access to a privy on another property was granted by

deed. The following year, Gray sold the front part of the 20' lot to John Dixon. This lot included "a certain brick building or cooper's shop." (DB H-2-88) This was probably the structure erected ca. 1702-1704 by John Budd.

On 1 Aug. 1705, Morris sold Peter Stretch a lot fronting 27' on the south side of Morris Alley x 18'6" deep. (Fig. 6, Lot 10) No west bound was given, but the east bound was described as the "then Morris house where Elizabeth Benn lived." (DB F-4-480) The same day, Morris also sold Thomas England another lot on Morris Alley fronting 27' on the south side of the alley, on the east side of Stretch's lot. (DB F-4-480, Fig. 6, Lot 11) There is no further record on this lot until 1753 when it appears as the property of William Gray. It should be noted that Gray also appeared as the owner of England's property on the north side of Morris Alley (Lot 9) in 1720. On 26 Jan. 1753, Gray sold this lot to Hugh Forbes. (DB H-18-48) The previous year, Forbes had also purchased one of the subdivisions of Elizabeth Paxton's estate fronting on Norris Alley and backing on the west end of this lot. On 1 May 1762, Forbes sold an 8' strip at the west end of this lot to Mary Newport as part of the property on Norris Alley. (DB H-18-48) It was never stated in the deed whether this lot was to be used for access to Morris Alley or for building purposes.

On 1 Sept. 1705, Morris sold Hugh Dubrow and Daniel Radley the corner lot fronting Second Street on the south side of Morris Alley. (Fig. 6, Lot 12) This lot extended 20' in breadth on Second Street and 97' in depth on Morris Alley. (DB F-4-480) On 4 May 1733, Daniel Radley sold this lot, apparently still vacant, to Stephen Armitt for 50 £. (DB D-13-449) No record of this property could be found after 1733.

Finally, on 1 May 1705/6, Morris sold Richard Armitt a lot extending 28' in breadth on the south side of Morris Alley x 18'6" in depth. (DB E-3v6-5, Fig. 6, Lot 13) No

structures were mentioned and no further record of the property could be found.

Morris sold no lots in the Area F site for the next fifteen years. On 14 May 1720, he sold John Lee a lot on the south side of Morris Alley east of Radley's lot. (Fig. 6, Lot 14) Lee's lot extended 30' in breadth on Morris Alley x 19' in depth. On 6 Nov. 1747, John Lee sold James Carr the east half of his lot measuring 15' in breadth x 19' in depth on which he had erected a brick dwelling. This deed also mentions a dwelling on the west half of the property occupied by George Bullock. (DB G-8-493) No further record of this property could be located.

Shortly before his death, Anthony Morris made his final land sale in the Area F site. On 19 April 1721, he sold Richard Tomlinson a dwelling and lot on the south side of Morris Alley located on the east side of John Lee's lot. (Fig. 6, Lot. 15) Tomlinson's lot extended 45' in breadth on the alley and 19' in depth. (DB H-21-402) On 4 April 1724, Tomlinson sold the property to John Lack/Lock. On 19 Sept. 1730, Lack/Lock sold the premises to James Carr. (DB H-21-402) In 1745, Carr purchased a small strip of land from John Hallowell, then owner of part of Elizabeth Paxton's estate on the south side of Carr's lot fronting Norris Alley. This small strip measuring 1'6" north/south and 12'2" east/west was ground on which the south end of Carr's dwelling stood. (DB H-21-402) This actually locates Carr's dwelling at the east end of the lot. (See Fig. 8) Carr died intestate leaving a widow Mary who subsequently married Thomas Fisher, a daughter Sarah Cooper, and a daughter Mary Craft. By law, the property was vested in the daughters, the widow entitled to her dower thirds for life. On 6 Aug. 1751, Sarah Cooper granted her step-father her undivided half of the property for life and after his death to her mother, Mary Fisher. (DB H-21-402) On 6 Mar. 1765, Thomas Fisher and Mary, his wife, and Henry Craft and Mary, his wife, sold the dwelling, the 45' x 19' lot

and the 1'6" x 12'6" strip at the back end of the property to Patrick Farrel. (DB H-21-402) No further record of this property could be found. Patrick Farrel, cooper, was taxed here in 1774 for a dwelling, kitchen, and workshop. (1774 Prov. Tax, Walnut Ward)

It must be noted at this point, that the south side of Morris Alley did not run on a straight line perpendicular to Front and Second Street but sloped off the perpendicular nearly 4' from Front Street where the breadth of Lot 7 is given as 16'3" to Second Street where Lot 12 is described as 20' in breadth. This slant of the south line is consistent and is reflected in the varying dimensions of the interior lots. From east to west: Lot 2 is 16'6" in depth; Lots 10, 11 and 13 are 18'6" in depth; and Lots 14 and 15 are 19' in depth. Apparently the north line of Morris Alley ran nearly true to the perpendicular. Dimensions of the lots on the north side of the alley vary from 50' in depth to 50'6". Thus, despite the fact that the alley is described as a 12' alley, in reality it narrowed down to approximately 8' at Second Street.

The final period of colonial development, 1740-1776, involved the two properties on the north and south side of Morris's property. There is no evidence that mid-18th century landowners on the Morris property, including the Morris's family, undertook any extensive rebuilding and redevelopment of their properties. The late 17th and early 18th century dwellings on this property apparently stood well into the 19th century.

Sheet 43
 22.14.1.11
 EXISTENCE

KNOWN
 PROPERTY LINES

THEORETICAL
 PROPERTY LINES
 SECOND
 STREET
 SECTION
 SECTION

PROPERTY LINES
 & LOTS
 PREVIOUSLY

Overlaid Privies

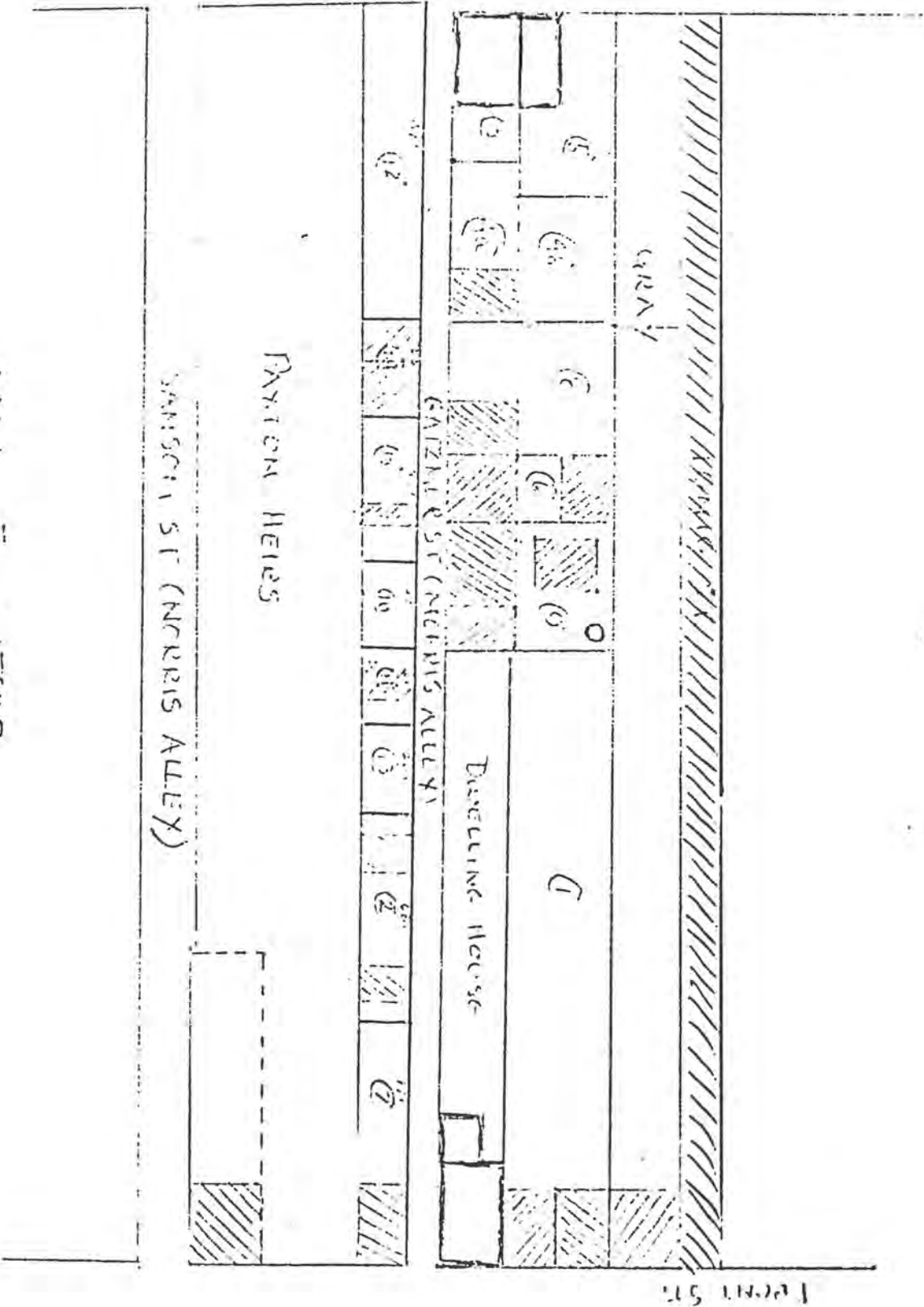


Figure 6.

THE AREA F SITE (1740-1776)

During the period 1740-1776, the Hooten/Paxton estate was the focal point of urban development. As was discussed below, no further development of the property was undertaken after the construction of Hooten's house on the southeast corner of the property ca. 1692. In 1740, this property was finally partitioned among the heirs of Elizabeth Paxton. No records of the partition survive, but the division of land among Elizabeth Paxton's heirs has been reconstructed from subsequent deed records. (Fig. 7)

According to Elizabeth Paxton's will, the property was to be divided equally among her three children: a son, Alexander; a daughter, Elizabeth, married to Edward Jones; and a daughter, Rebecca, married to Thomas Venables. (DB H-13-437)

Alexander Paxton received his third as a single large parcel of undeveloped land fronting $42\frac{1}{2}'$ in breadth on Second Street and 158' in depth on Norris Alley (Sansom Street). Elizabeth and Edward Jones received their third in three undeveloped parcels of land: a lot fronting 60' on Norris Alley, a lot fronting 20' on Norris Alley, and a lot fronting 20' on Front Street x 98' in depth, located on the north side of Hooten's

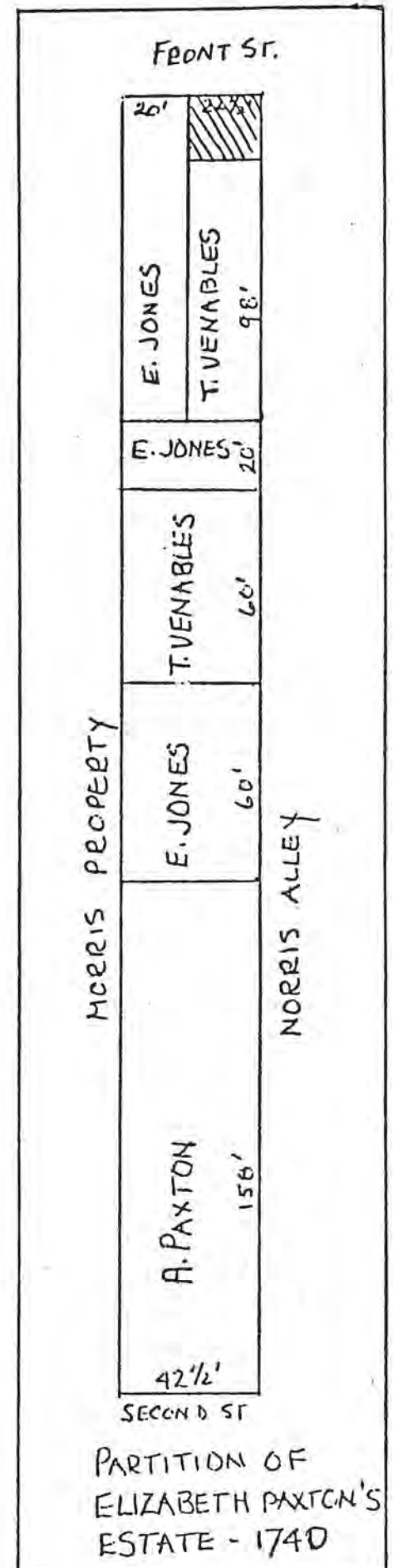


Figure 7.

dwelling house lot. Thomas and Rebecca Venables received only two parcels of land, one of which included Hooten's dwelling: an undeveloped lot fronting 60' on Norris Alley and the house site extending $22\frac{1}{2}$ ' in breadth on Front Street and 98' in depth on Norris Alley. The development of this property will be considered in terms of these subdivisions. (Fig. 6)

On 18 June 1741, Alexander Paxton sold his third part of Elizabeth Paxton's estate to his brother-in-law, Thomas Venables. (DB G-1-350) On 4 Aug. 1743, Venables subdivided the property and sold it as four lots: two fronting Second Street and two lots fronting Norris Alley. Nathan Levy purchased the corner lot fronting $21\frac{1}{2}$ ' on Second Street and 80' in depth on Norris Alley as well as a lot at the west end of the property fronting $39\frac{1}{2}$ ' on Norris Alley at the east end of the Second Street lots. (DB G-6-467, D-18-178) On 16 Sept. 1746, Hopkins sold Thomas Bond his lot fronting Second Street and the adjoining west half of the $39\frac{1}{2}$ ' lot on Norris Alley. (DB H-21-285) On 25 March 1751, Bond purchased Nathan Levy's corner lot on Second Street and Norris Alley. (DB D-18-178) These purchases gave Bond a lot fronting $42\frac{1}{2}$ ' on Second Street x $99\frac{1}{2}$ feet in depth on Norris Alley. Bond subsequently erected two houses on the Second Street front of the property. Bond's corner house is the only historic building still standing on the Area F site. A great deal of detailed historical research on this property, the house, and its occupants has been undertaken by INHP.

Further information about the remainder of Hopkin's Norris Alley property and Nathan Levy's Norris Alley property have not been located to date.

In 1744, Edward Jones subdivided his 60' lot on Norris Alley into four lots of 15' each. On 10 April, he sold the three westernmost lots to Thomas Hallowell, James Trueman, and John Hallowell. (H-13-433, 449) On 1 July 1745, he sold the easternmost lot to Christopher Marshall.

(DB H-13-449) The same day he sold the fourth lot to Marshall, Jones also sold the ground rents on all four properties to Israel Pemberton. (DB H-13-449) No further records were found for Marshall's lot.

In March 1752, Thomas Hallowell sold his lot with dwelling to Hugh Forbes. (DB H-18-48) A year later, Forbes also purchased a lot on the south side of Morris Alley from William Gray. (DB H-18-48) This lot abutted the east end of the Norris Alley property. On 1 May 1762, Forbes sold the house and lot on Norris Alley to Mary Newport along with a small lot north/south 18'6" x east/west 8' at the west end of his Morris Alley lot. (DB H-18-48, Fig. 8) Mary Newport was taxed here in 1774. (Prov. Tax:1774, Walnut Ward)

On 20 Sept. 1757, James Trueman sold his dwelling and lot on Norris Alley to John Pemberton. (DB H-13-442) No further record of this property was found.

The only deed records that could be found for John Hallowell's lot was the sale of a small strip of land along the north line to accomodate the rear wall of James Carr's house which fronted on the south side of Morris Alley. (DB H-21-402)

On 18 Nov. 1741, Thomas Venables sold his 60' lot on Norris Alley to Henry Schleydon with the condition that "within the space of two years to build a good and substantial dwelling house 200 £ or more in value." (DB I-1-355) On 1 Oct. 1745, Schleydon also purchased a lot on the south side of Morris Alley from Sarah Morris on rent. This lot, located at the west end of Sarah Morris's property, was 22'5" in breadth on Morris Alley x 16'6" in depth. (DB I-1-362, Lot 2, Fig. 8) This lot apparently included neither of the two structures on Sarah Morris's property. Schleydon fulfilled the conditions of the deed and built a substantial dwelling. However, before 1755, he had converted his large brick dwelling to a sugar house. On 10 Oct. 1755, Schleydon sold his sugar house and the 60' lot on Norris Alley to James Child

and Mathias Shade. (DB I-1-353) On 9 April 1760, Shade sold out to his partner Child. (DB I-1-353)

Meanwhile, Child was also consolidating his interests in the east end of the Paxton estate by buying up other properties. By 1743, Edward Jones had erected a dwelling on his lot fronting Front Street. (G-6-507) On 13 Aug. 1760, Jones and his sister-in-law, Rebecca Venables, sold Child Jones' House and lot on Front Street as well as the vacant 20' lot on Norris Alley east of the sugar house lot. (H-18-190, Fig. 7)

Within three years, Child found himself in financial difficulties. On 10 October 1763, his estate was assigned to Samuel Neave, Francis Richardson, and Jeremiah Warder as trustees empowered to sell his properties to settle his debts. (DB I-1-348) Two months later, Child's properties on the Area F site were sold at public sale in the London Coffee House. William Allison purchased all three properties: the dwelling and lot on Front Street, the vacant 20' lot on Norris Alley, and the sugar house and lot. (I-1-348,358) Allison's deed for the sugar house included an inventory of the tools belonging to the business. It lists:

copper coolers	shovels
cullenders	buckets
cisterns	pokers
stoves	spades
kettles	trowels
moulds	scrapers
sugar pots	ropes
ladles	300 bushels coal
basons	parcel of lime
	large quantity of clay

Schleydon's sale of the sugar house in 1755 did not include the sale of his lot on the south side of Morris Alley. On 24 May 1764, his heirs sold the premises back to Sarah Morris, who, in turn, sold it to William Allison on 12 October. (DB I-1-346,366) In 1774, Allison was taxed for

both the dwelling on Front Street and the sugar house. (Prov. Tax:1774, Walnut Ward) In 1795, he was taxed for the dwelling house alone. No mention of a sugar house could be found in Walnut Ward at this time. (Tax Ass. Led.: Walnut Ward, 1795)

Apparently Thomas and Rebecca Venables kept the old dwelling and lot at the corner of Front Street and Norris Alley. Rebecca Venables is listed as owner by bounds in the 1760's but the property could not be traced in the deed record beyond this point. (Every deedbook until 1800 was read)

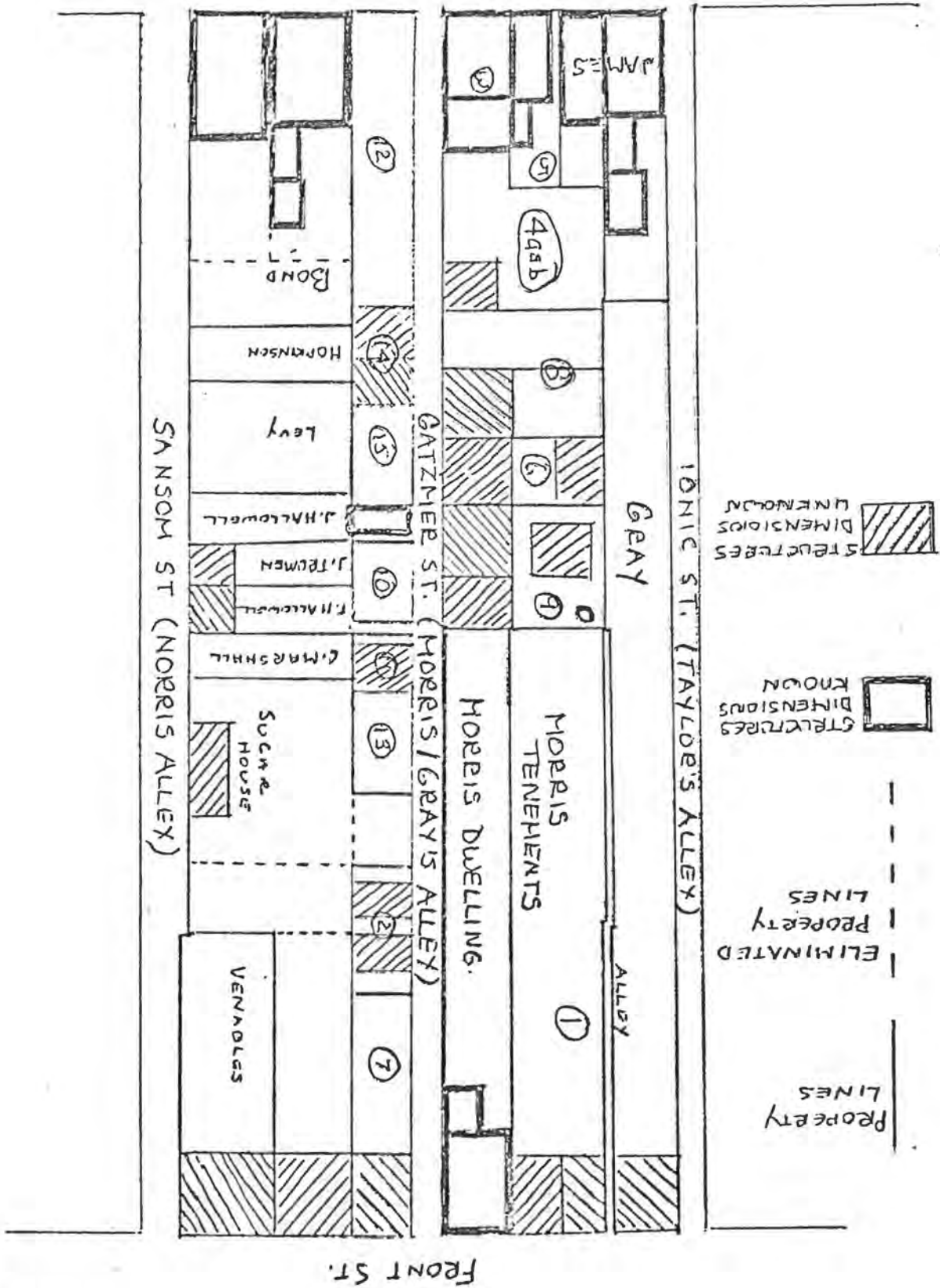
Another area to be developed during the period 1740-1776 was the Second Street front of the Beardsley/Gray property on the north side of the Area F site. As was discussed above, the creation of Taylor's Alley had no effect on the development of the property on the north side of the Area F site until the 19th century. On 12 Mar. 1761, George Gray (the third of that name) sold James James the east end of the 20' lot fronting Second Street at the north side of Area F and also the lot next south (Fig. 8, Lot 5) This lot fronted 50'9" on Second Street and continued at that width for 60' at which point it narrowed to 20' and continued at that width for another 57'. (DB H-20-118) At the time James purchased the property, a small late 17th century house stood on the south side of the property fronting the street. On 30 June 1761, this small dwelling and a lot 15' 11" on Second Street x 60' in depth was sold to Stephen Anthony. (DB H-17-40, See p.22 above) James then erected two new brick houses on the remainder of the lot, both of which he insured in 1763. The southernmost house was 15' x 38', 3 story, new. No mention is made of backbuildings or a basement kitchen. The northernmost house on Taylor's Alley was more elaborate. It was described as 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 36', three story, with a staircase 14' x 9', three story; and a kitchen 22' x 13', two story. (Cont. LS-806, 807, 808) On 16 April 1764, James sold the southernmost house to James Stuart. The northernmost house

had already been sold to John Rielly. (DB H-19-269)

Minimal changes could be documented for the Morris properties on Front Street. On 22 Nov. 1775, an alley was established between the north side of the tenant house lot and George Gray's house. (DB I-15-206)

Area F 1740-1776

→ N



THE AREA F SITE (1776-1800)

By 1776, the initial development of the Area F site was virtually completed. Although there are documentary gaps for many properties, it does not seem likely that these properties were actually undeveloped. Since all deedbooks to 1800 were read, it can be said with some certainty, that the problem appears to be one of unrecorded deeds. This was a particular problem in dealing with the small lots fronting the alleys. By comparison, the tax lists would seem to indicate that there were few open spaces in the Area F site by the last quarter of the 18th century. However, the period 1776-1800 produced the first evidence of rebuilding and reuse of the land.

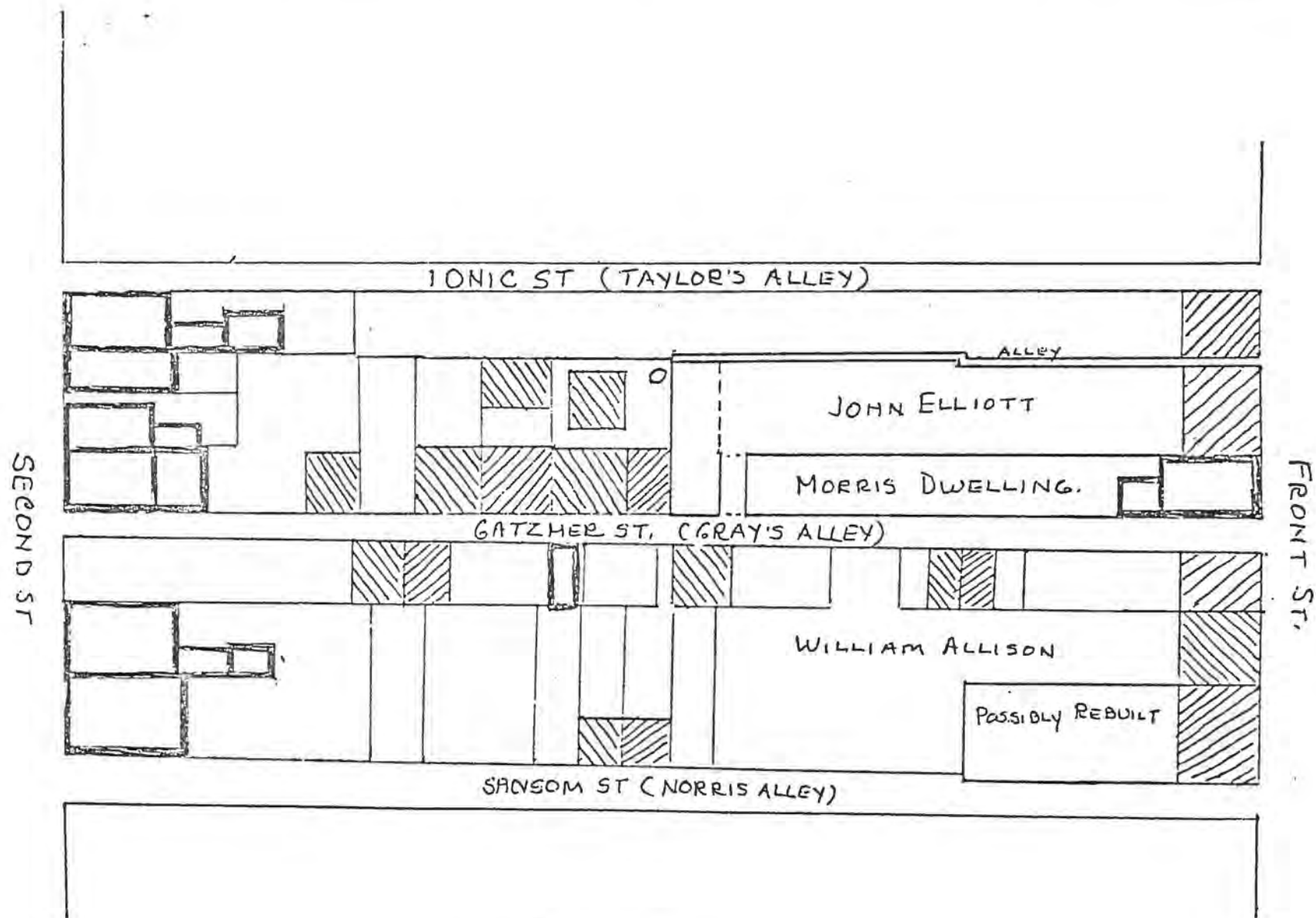
One of the first properties to undergo redevelopment was the property north of the Morris dwelling on Front Street. This property had been in the Morris family since 1687. In 1729, the depth of this lot was described as 205'. It was also hypothesized that the depth of the Morris dwelling house lot next south was 180'. This difference was really unimportant as long as the land remained in the Morris family. Once the family contemplated disposal of the property, it was necessary to confirm the west bound of this lot.

On 23 July 1777, Ann Gibbs purchased the northernmost half of the lot on the north side of the dwelling house lot from the heirs of the third Anthony Morris. (DB D-6-533)

The lot purchased by Ann Gibbs was 17'9" in breadth on Front Street and 180' in depth. It also included the alley on the north side, created in 1765. (Fig. 7) A week later, Ann Gibbs purchased the south half of this property from Samuel Morris. (DB D-6-536) This lot was 13'3" in breadth by 180' in depth, and included rights to a small piece of ground 8' wide running across the back end of the dwelling house lot. On 19 July 1782, Ann Gibbs sold both properties to John Elliott. (D-6-539) Elliott apparently took down the two old tenements (before 1721) and erected a new house on the property. He was taxed here in 1795. (Tax Ass. Ledg., Walnut Ward, 1795) On 17 Oct. 1782, Deborah Morris also conveyed to Elliott the 8' strip of land across the back end of the dwelling house lot. (DB D-6-541)

However, establishing the rear or west line of the Morris properties at 180' from Front Street left an overplus of approximately 20' between this property line and the first subdivision on the north side of Morris Alley. Apparently this was a case of unrecorded deeds in the historical context. It seems that the 20' lot had been granted to William Gray who died seized of the premises. Gray's widow, Mary, subsequently married Edward Shippen of Lancaster. She died intestate and, by law, the property descended to Martha Gray, Mary Shippen's daughter by William Gray. On 4 Sept. 1782, Martha Gray sold this 20' vacant lot on Morris Alley to Benjamin Rush. (DB D-9-340) A year later, on 16 Aug. 1783, Rush sold the property to John Elliott. (DB D-8-530)

It is also possible that the old Hooten house was taken down and replaced by a new dwelling. The 1795 Tax Assessors Ledger for Walnut Ward lists James McCrea for an unfinished house. The entry for McCrea appears just below that for William Allison.



46

AREA F- 1800

ELIMINATED
PROPERTY
LINES

PROPERTY LINES

STRUCTURE
DIMENSIONS
ORIGINAL

STRUCTURE
DIMENSIONS
REBUILT

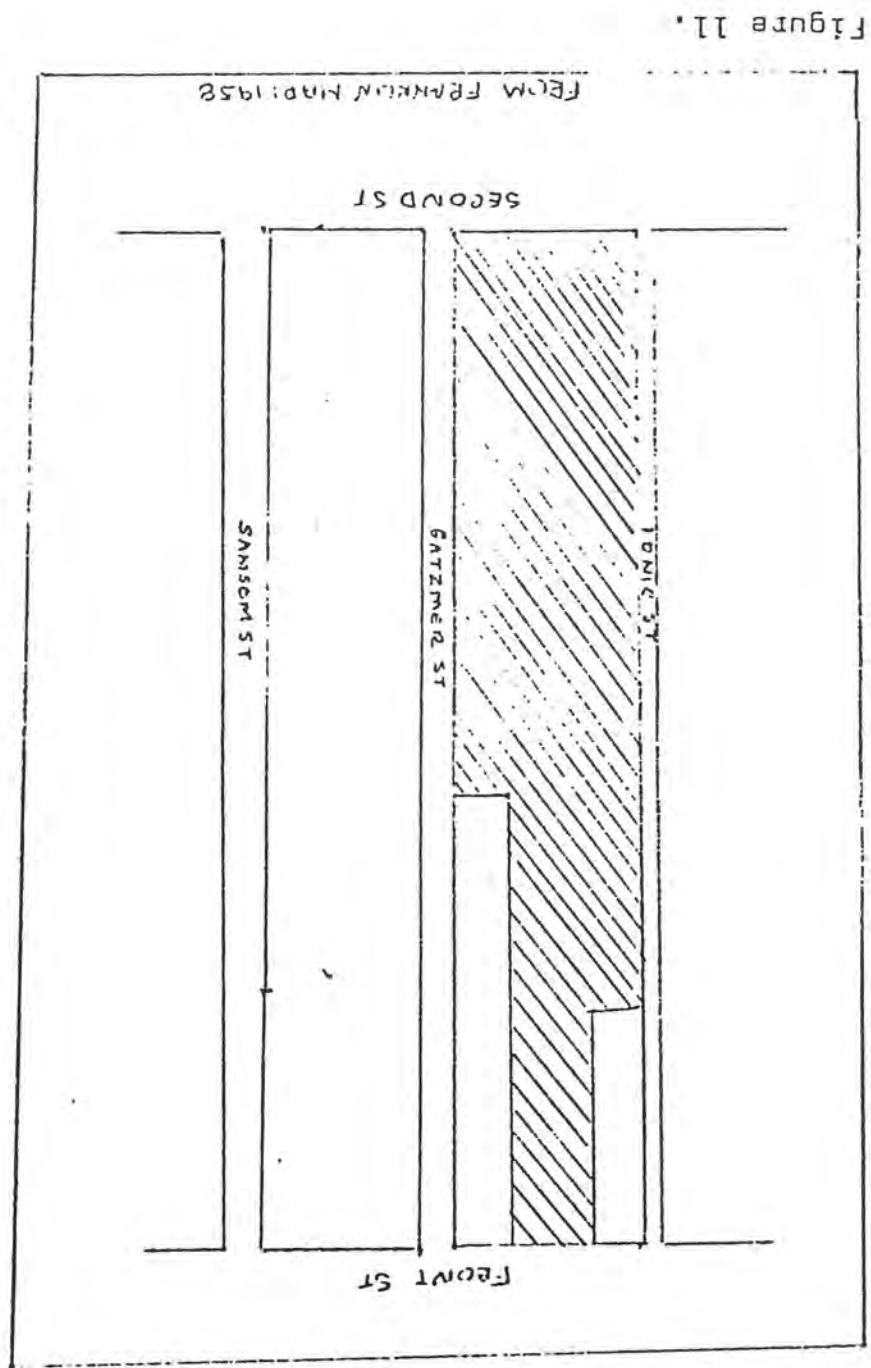
Figure 9.

THE AREA F SITE AFTER 1800

The 1860 Hexamer and Locher Map of the Area F block indicates that most of the property lines existing in 1800 still existed. (Fig. 9, Fig. 10) Also, many 18th century buildings were probably standing, especially on the north side of Sansom Street (Gothic Street) and both sides of Gatzmer Street. The most substantial area of new development by 1860, was the building over of the south side of Taylor's Alley. (Fig. 10) Since 19th century rebuilding tended to follow 18th century property lines, there is a good chance that walls were re-used or incorporated into later structures as was the case at Franklin Court. The degree to which brick-lined and wood-lined privy pits survived depends entirely on how much cellars were deepened during redevelopment.

More recently, a large building was erected on the north side of Area F. This structure extended from the north side of Gatzmer Street (Morris Alley) to the south side of Ionic Street (Taylor's Alley). This structure narrowed on an irregular line toward the east side of the block extending over the lot formerly the Morris tenant houses and Elliott's house. The site of the Morris dwelling site and the Beardsley house site (both 17th century buildings) were not taken up by this structure. (Fig. 11) The site of this structure did include two 17th century house sites and two mid-18th century house sites fronting Second Street and all the 18th

century sites on the north side of Gatzmer Street. How much archaeological evidence remains on this portion of the Area F site can only be determined by examination of the cellar of this building.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY: APPROACHES AND METHODOLOGIES

The archaeological survey as an investigative procedure, attempts to establish the presence of and/or locate and delimit, archaeological evidences, utilizing specific approaches and methodologies; documentary evidences, present and future use of the site area need be considered. Interpretations based upon a survey are seldom conclusive or irrefutable; rather, questions are posed by data uncovered. A survey lends itself very well to the task of formulating recommendations concerning overall archaeological potential, and should suggest those approaches and methods which would best insure recovery of archaeological data.

As noted in Figures 12, 14, 15, 16, and 35, Area F is that area between Second and Front Streets, extending from the south curb of Ionic Street to the south curb of Sanson Street. Portions of the site which were excavated were selected in accordance with documentary evidences, consideration of newly laid asphalt on parking areas, and attempts to avoid reducing parking convenience or capability. Excavations within standing structures north of Gatzmer Street were not initiated due to 1) budgetary limitations, and 2) the fact that certain structures were not the property of INHP. (all structures within Area F are now the property of INHP).

A coordinate system was established over the site area, datum (Bench No. 1) located at the northeast edge of

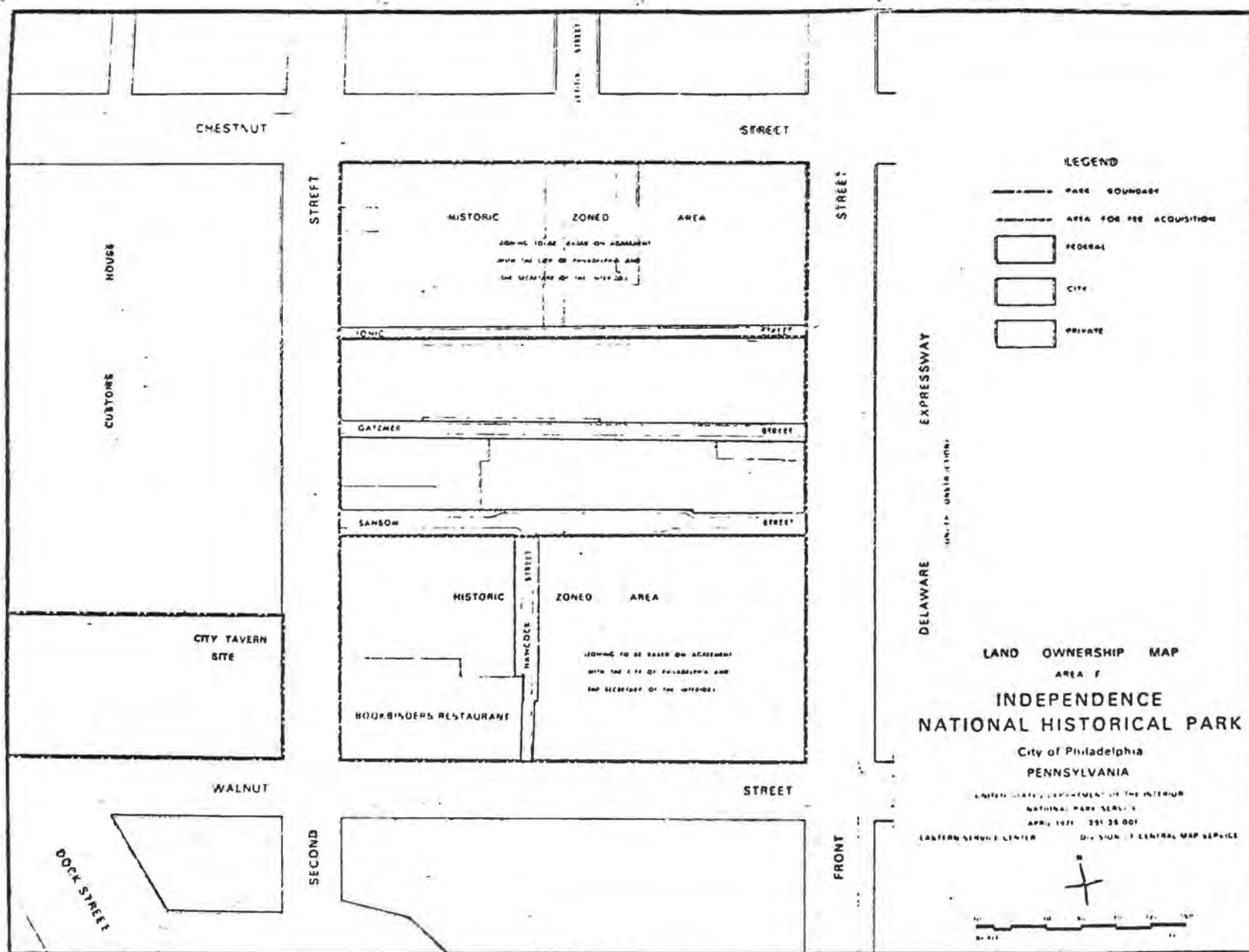


Figure 12. Area F, Land Ownership Map. (Greene 1974:89)

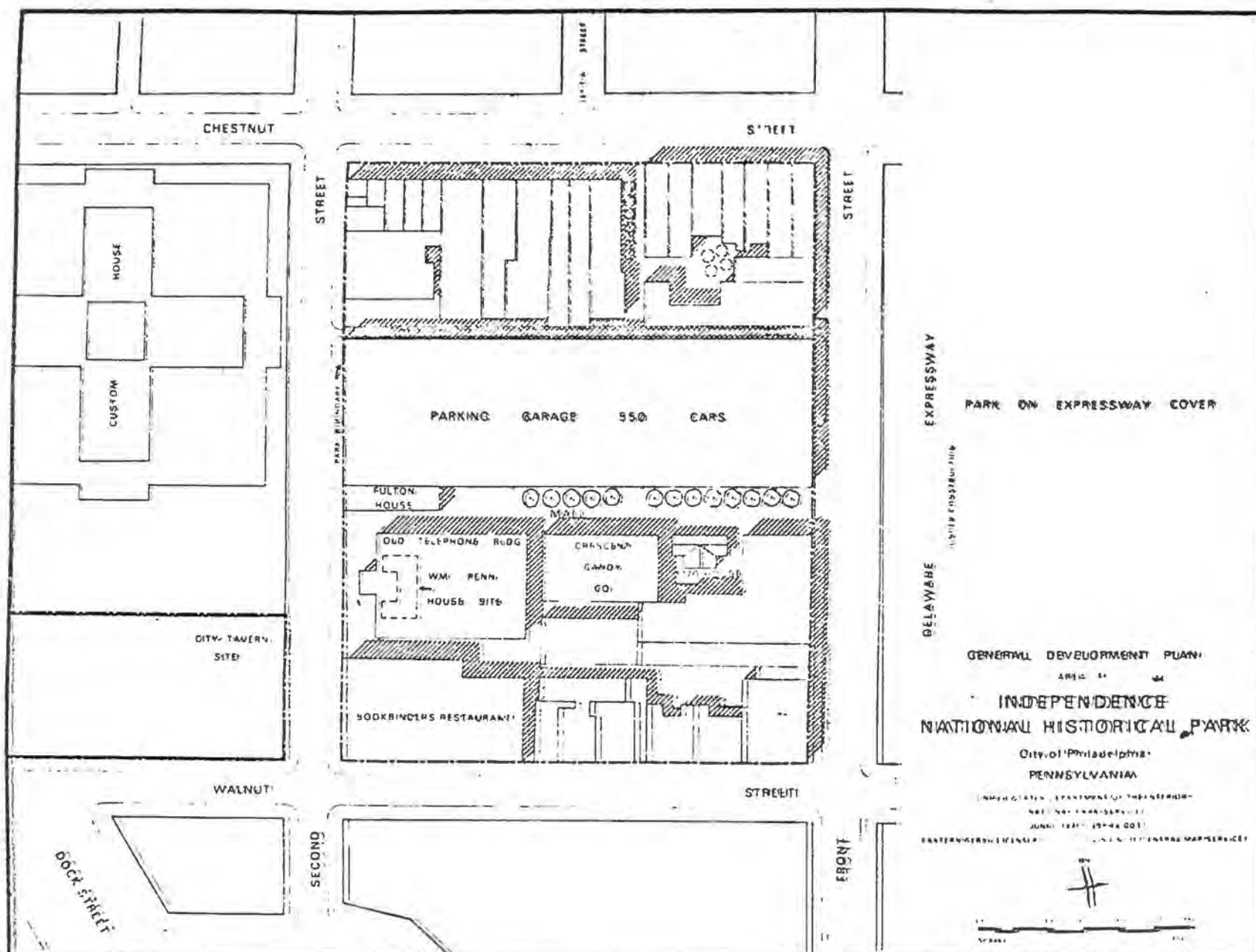


Figure 13: Area A, General Development Plan. (Greene 1974:119)

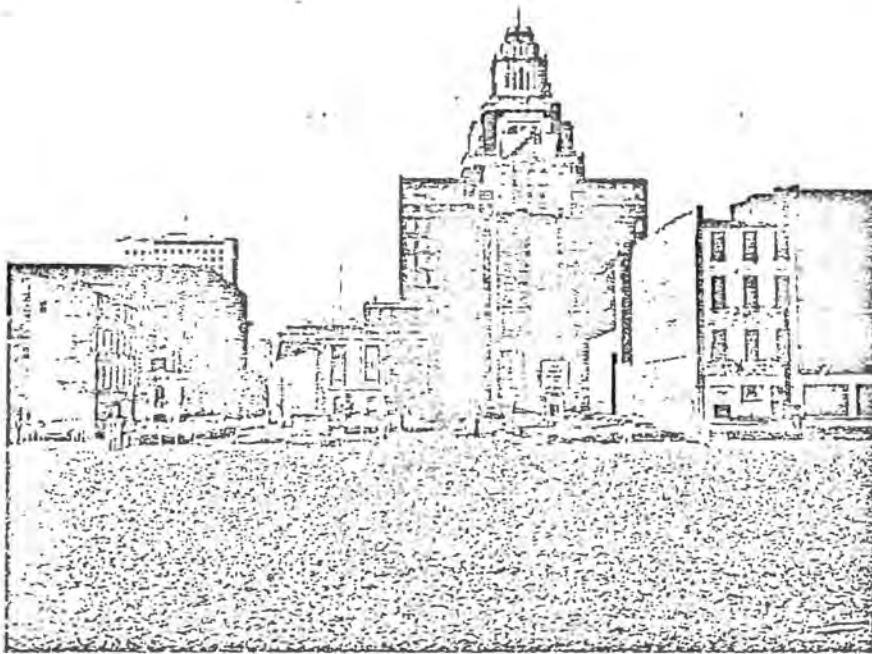


Figure 14. (above)
Area F; Gatzmer Street
lower center, view west.



Figure 15. (left)
Portion of Area F,
Gatzmer Street at left,
Bond House at right,
view east.

Gatzmer Street, the base coordinate is aligned with the exterior south wall of the Yoh Building; elevations were also controlled from this location. Measurements were recorded in feet and tenths of feet. Excavation areas (Location Nos. 1, 2, and 3) were cordoned off for pedestrian safety and security. Vegetation, primarily sumac, removed from one portion of the site area, was not archaeologically significant. Portions of the curbing and cobble were removed from Gatzmer (Location No. 1) and Sansom Streets (Location No. 2) and the areas excavated; each excavation was expanded in a northerly direction in an effort to locate, where possible, foundations and stratigraphic evidences, see Figure 16 and 17-29. North of Gatzmer Street and 30-45 feet west of Front Street (Location No. 3), excavations were initiated in an effort to determine whether or not structural evidences relating to the seventeenth century Anthony Morris House were intact (see Figure 16 and 30-32).

All excavations were hand struck. In accordance with standard procedure, records were maintained throughout the excavation period. Soil samples and samples of structural materials were obtained where possible. All excavations were backfilled; curbing and cobble were replaced (see Archaeological Evidences section).

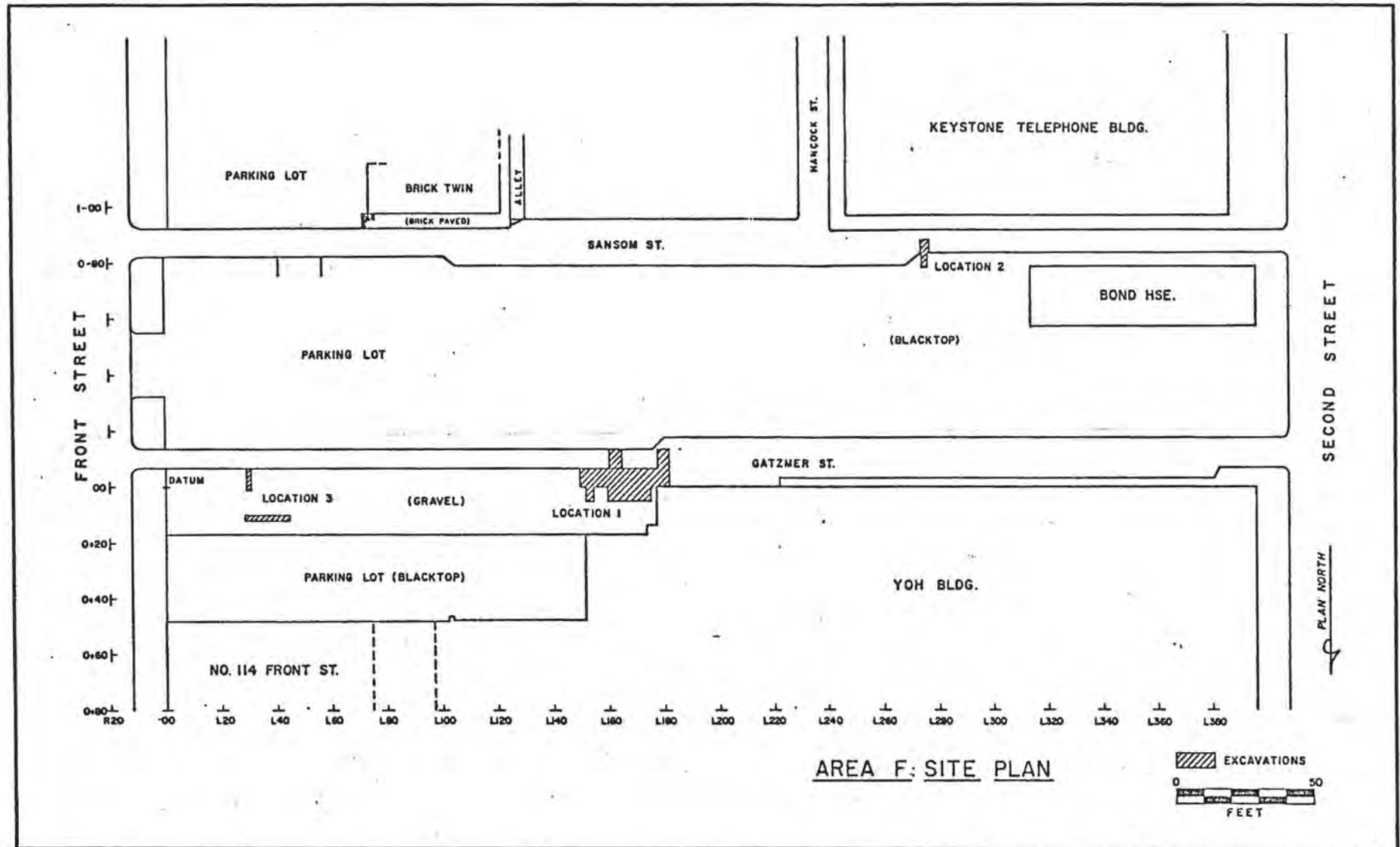


Figure 16. Area F Site Plan.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCES

Structural and stratigraphic evidences uncovered during the archaeological survey of Area F are here described through illustrated plan and profile views, and selected photographs. Artifacts were, with minor exceptions, recovered from twentieth century disturbed soil and/or rubble. Soil samples and, in particular, lime and Portland mortar samples, were of interpretive value. Structural evidences therefore were of prime importance in formulating recommendations for continued archaeological investigations within Area F.

Location 1: As noted in Figure 16, this portion of Area F is located within and north of Gatzmer Street (also known as Morris Alley and Gray's Alley). A portion of this excavation was initiated, by design, immediately east of a small alley established in 1782 by Anthony Morris. Figure 17 reveals nineteenth and/or twentieth century construction in what would have been that alley. Immediately to the east, lime-mortar stone foundations were uncovered, indicating that early structural evidences do indeed remain intact and, in this particular situation, are in excellent condition. A basement within the small alley contained anthracite coal, and a basement immediately east of the small alley was rubble filled; basement floors were not examined. Stratigraphic evidences, as noted in Figure 18, will be of value in delimiting the original Morris/Gray's Alley, and associated structural evidences. Excavations within Gatzmer Street revealed

several metal pipes which were installed parallel to the alley, see Figure 17 and 22. It is suggested that Gatzmer Street be archaeologically examined below this pipe disturbed area.

Location 2: As noted in Figure 16, this portion of Area F is located within and immediately north of Sansom Street (also known as Paxton's Alley and Norris Alley), and east of the Bond House. Excavations uncovered a lime-mortar stone foundation, having an east-west orientation; additional portions of this excavation were negative for pertinent data. Although the General Development Plan map does not indicate parking garage construction in this portion of Area F, it is recommended that the area be archaeologically excavated. Evidences indicate that early structural remains are intact, and in excellent condition; basement floors were not exposed.

Location 3: As noted in Figure 16, this portion of Area F is located near Front Street, north of Gatzmer Street. Excavations were initiated in an effort to locate structural remains of the Anthony Morris House, which faced Front Street. A 1788 insurance survey describes this building as a two story brick structure, with a brick kitchen, and "mostly old" inside; Betty Cosans suggests that the building was constructed in the seventeenth century. One north-south trench and one east-west trench were hand excavated, in an effort to locate the rear foundation and/or the south foundation which parallels Gatzmer Street; excavations were somewhat difficult and funds depleted. At a maximum depth of 6.5 feet however, what I believed to be a stone alignment perhaps associated with the rear foundation was uncovered. At a depth of 4.3 feet, a stone concentration was uncovered which may be a portion of the southernmost foundation (see Figures 30-32). The utilization of power equipment will aid in resolving these questions; see section on Interpretation and Recommendations.

As noted, artifacts were primarily recovered from twentieth century disturbed fill and rubble. An extensive

examination of these artifacts and preparation of plates for this report was not deemed necessary at this time to formulate sound recommendations relative to future archaeology within Area F, including approaches and methods.

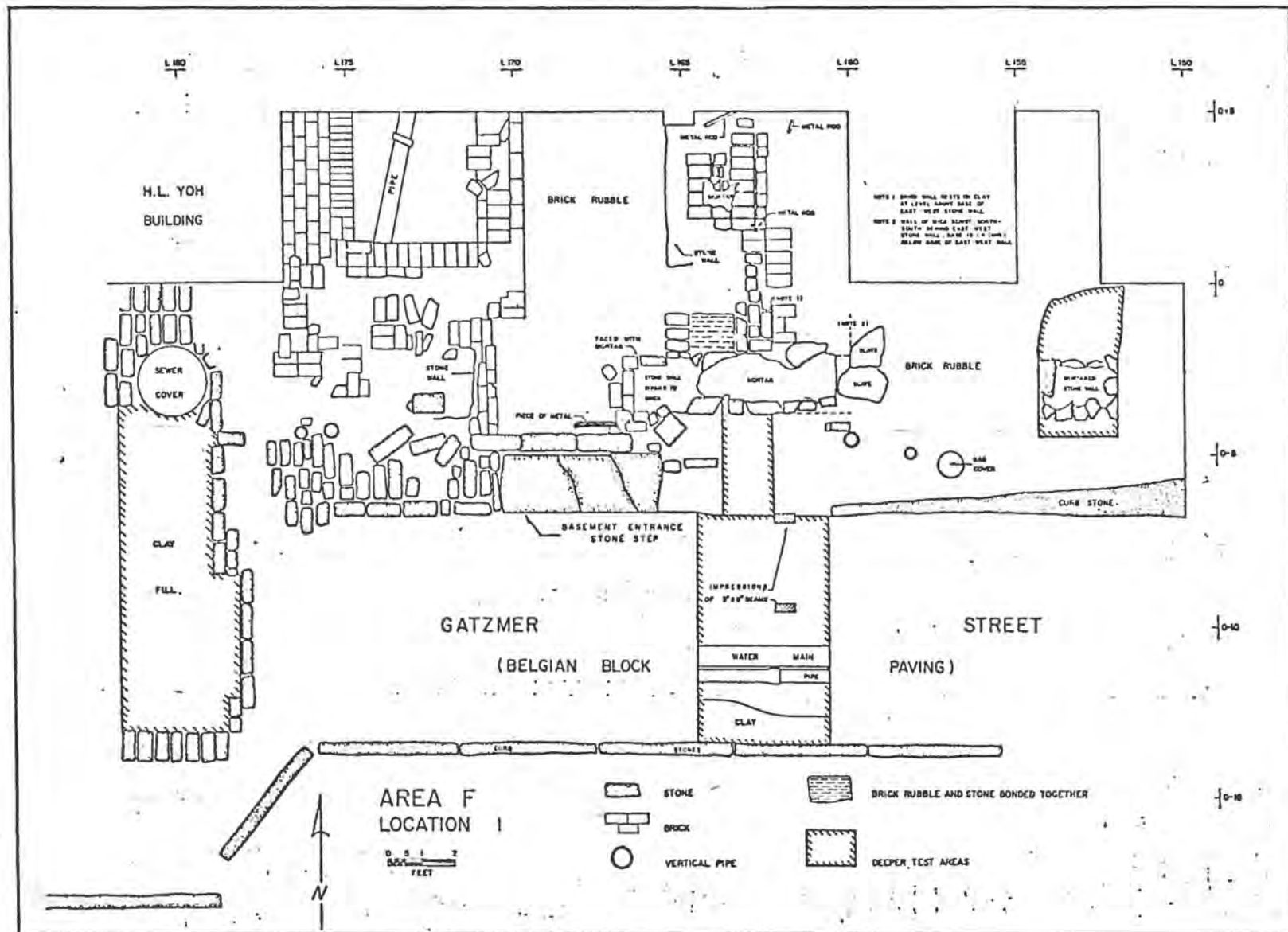


Figure 17. Excavation Location No. 1, plan view.

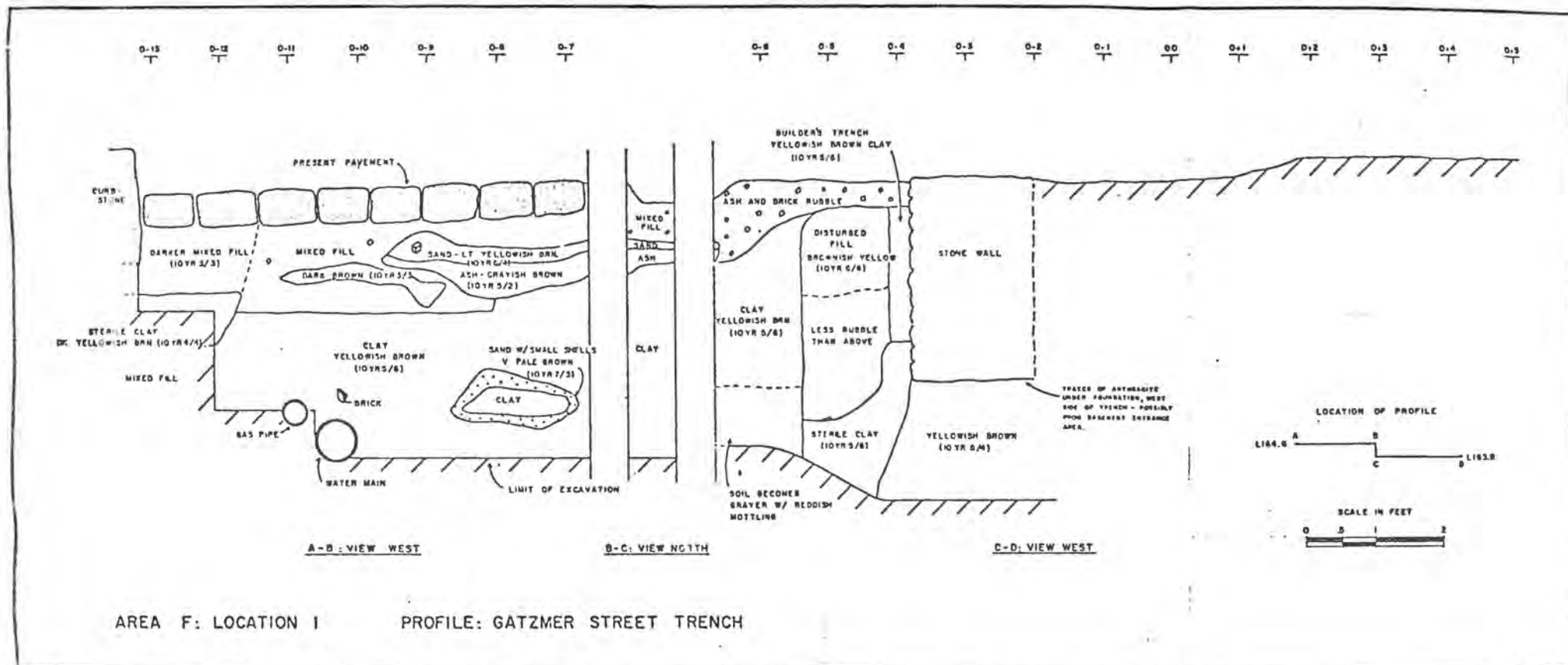


Figure 18. Excavation Location No. 1, profile.

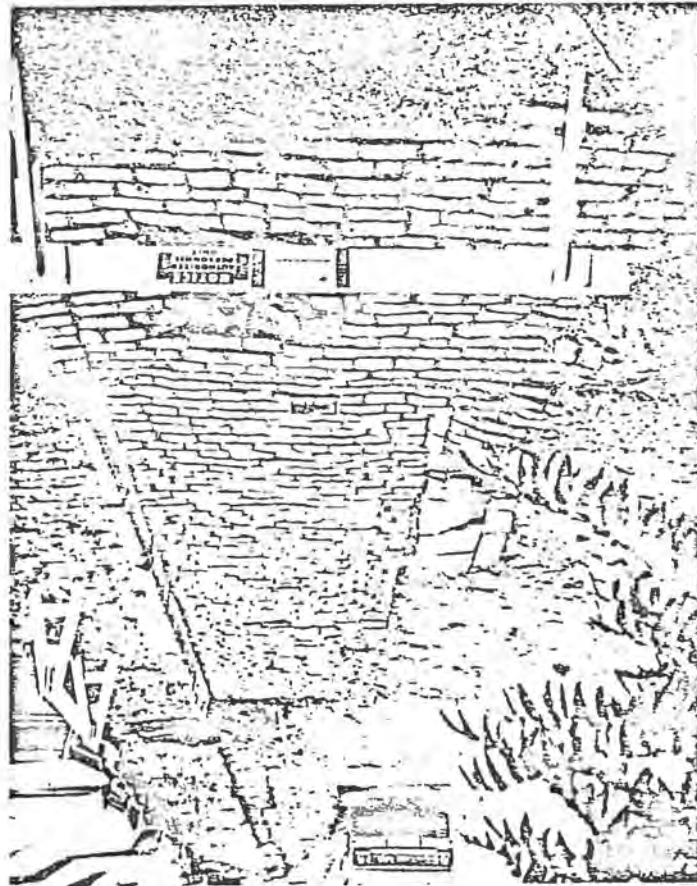
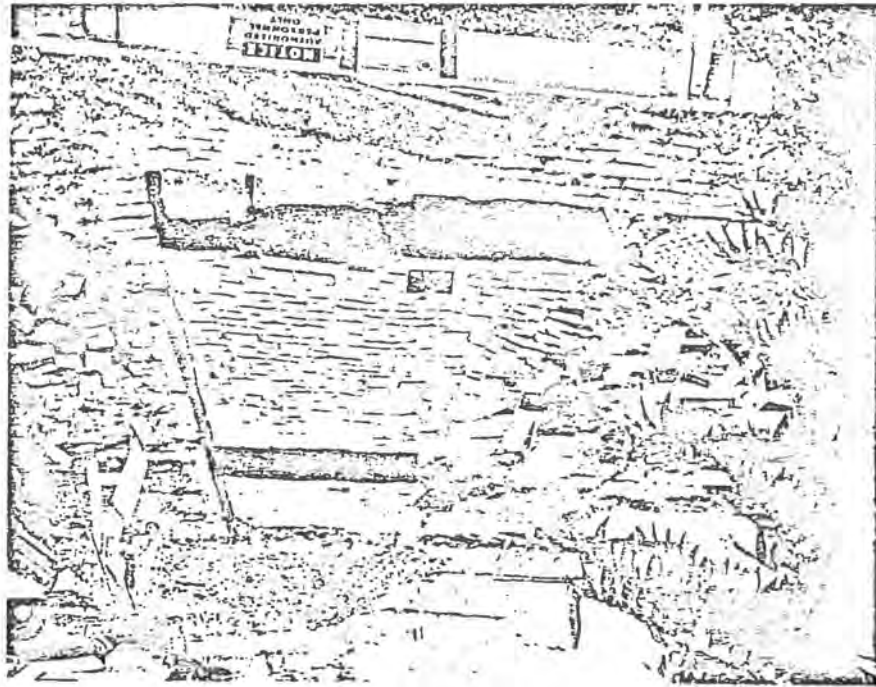


Figure 19. (left)
Excavation location
No. 1, view east;
note barriers, cobble
and curbing.
Figure 20. (below)
Excavation location
No. 1, view east.



Figure 21. (left)
Excavation Location
No. 1, view north; note
disturbance below Gatzmer
Street cobble.

Figure 22. (below)
Excavation Location
No. 1, view south; pipes
within Gatzmer Street.

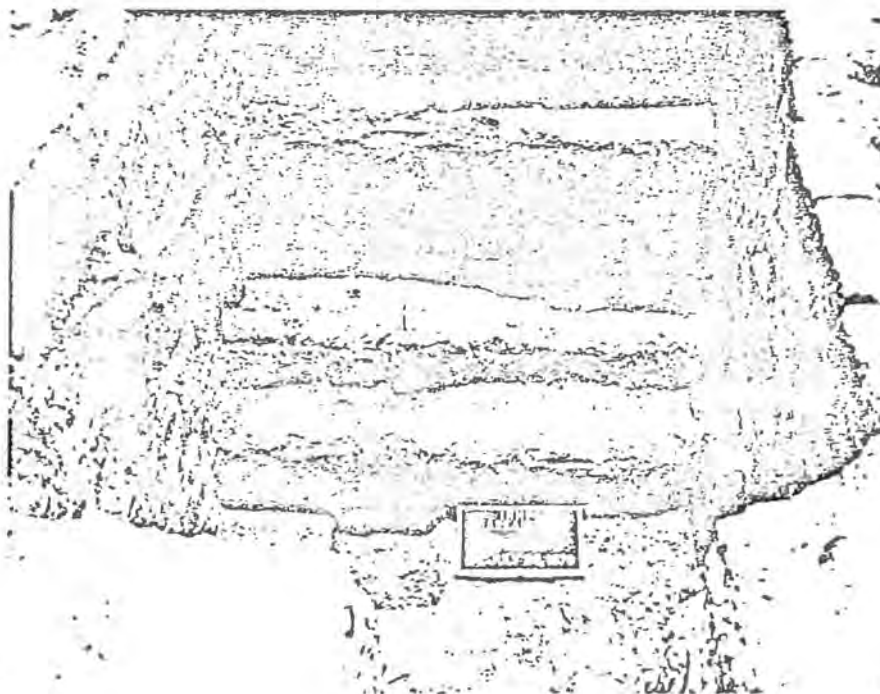




Figure 23. (above)
Excavation Location
No. 1, view west;
alley established in
1782 located upper
center to upper right.



Figure 24. (left)
Excavation Location
No. 1, view north; note
lime-mortar stone foun-
dation, upper center,
impression of wood beam,
lower center.

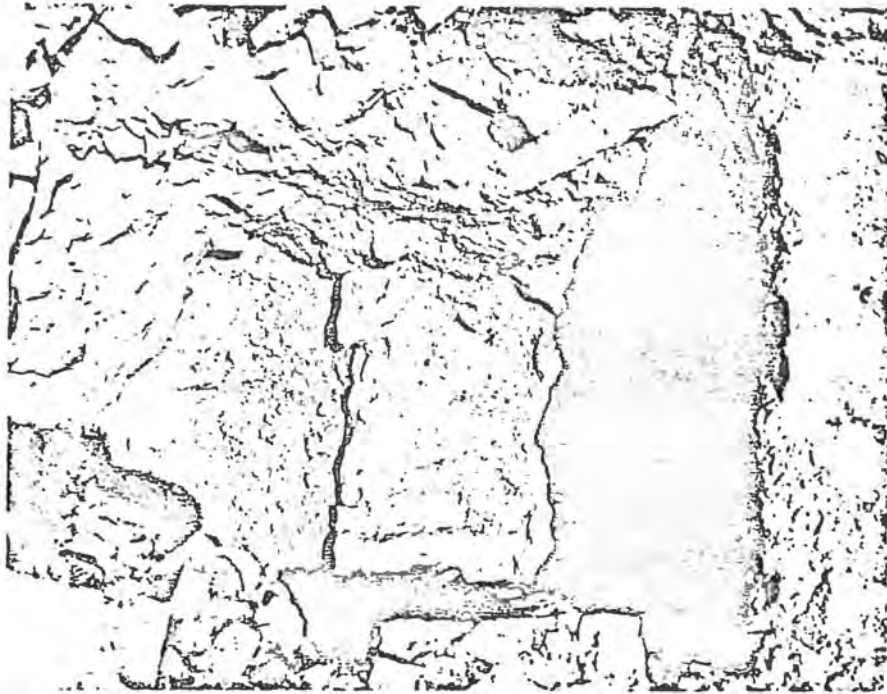


Figure 25. Excavation Location No. 1, view east; lime mortar stone foundation, rubble filled basement at left of foundation.

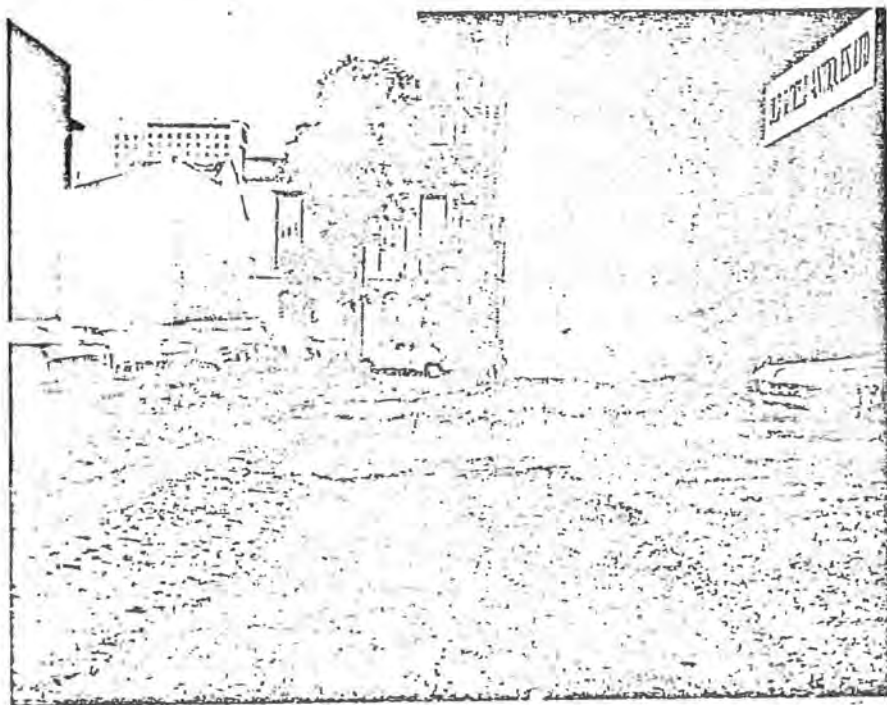


Figure 26. Excavation Location No. 1, view west; excavations backfilled, cobble and curbing replaced.

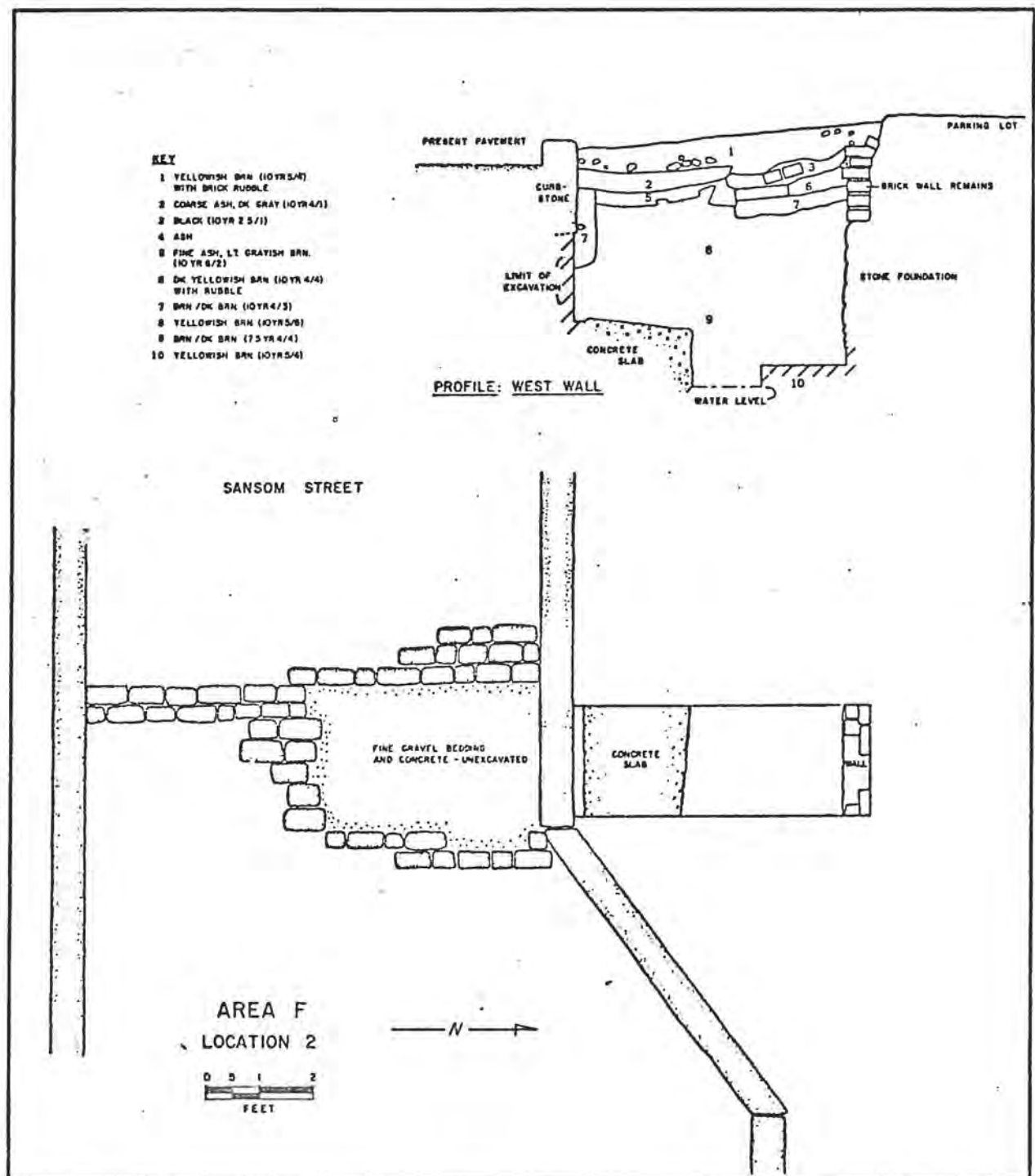


Figure 27. Excavation Location No. 2, plan and profile.

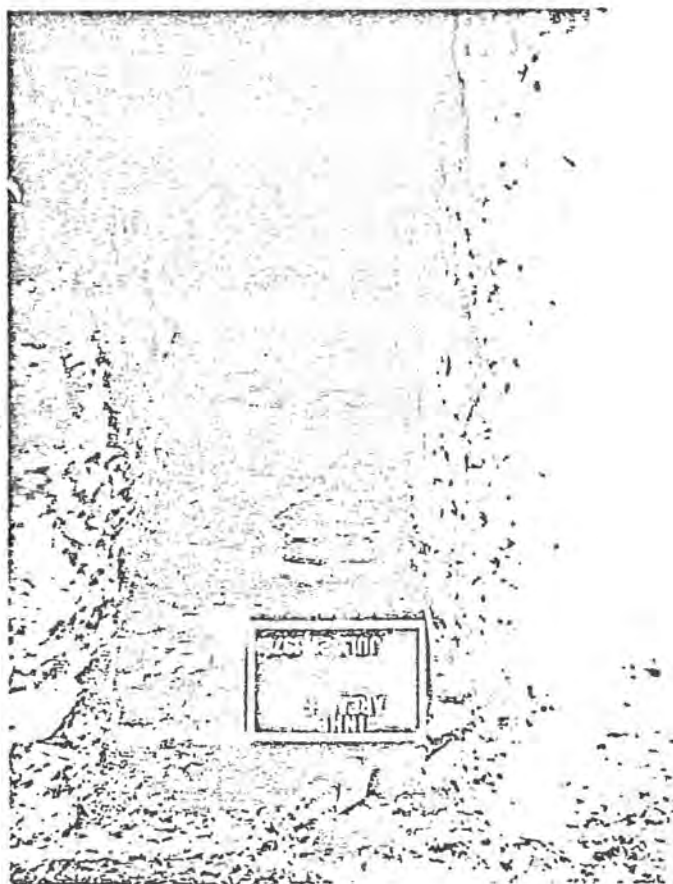
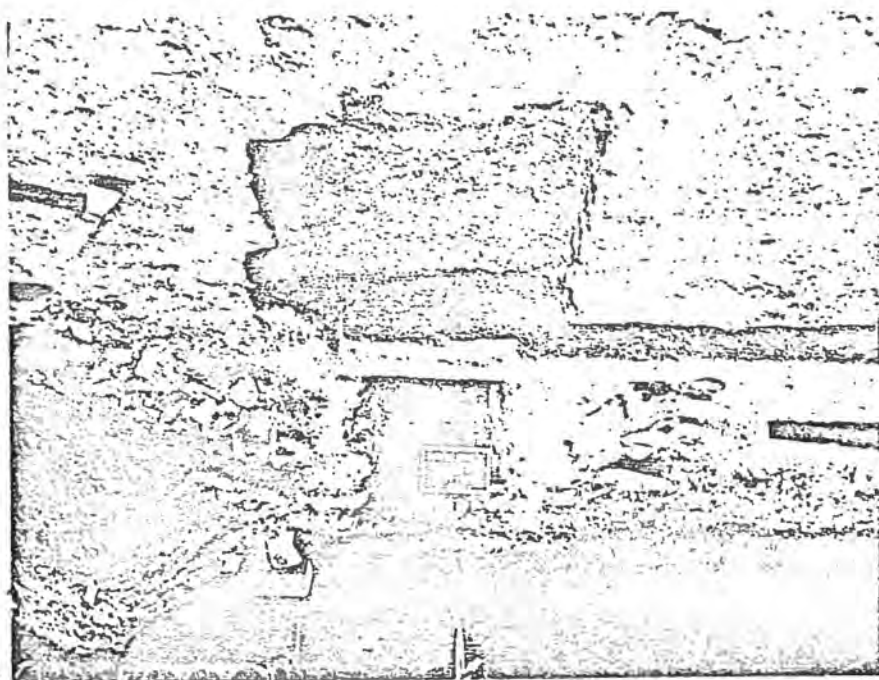


Figure 28. (above)
Excavation Location
No. 2, view north;
note lime-mortar stone
foundation upper center,
brick attached at upper
levels (Fig. 29).
Figure 29. (left)
Excavation Location
No. 2, same as above;
view north.



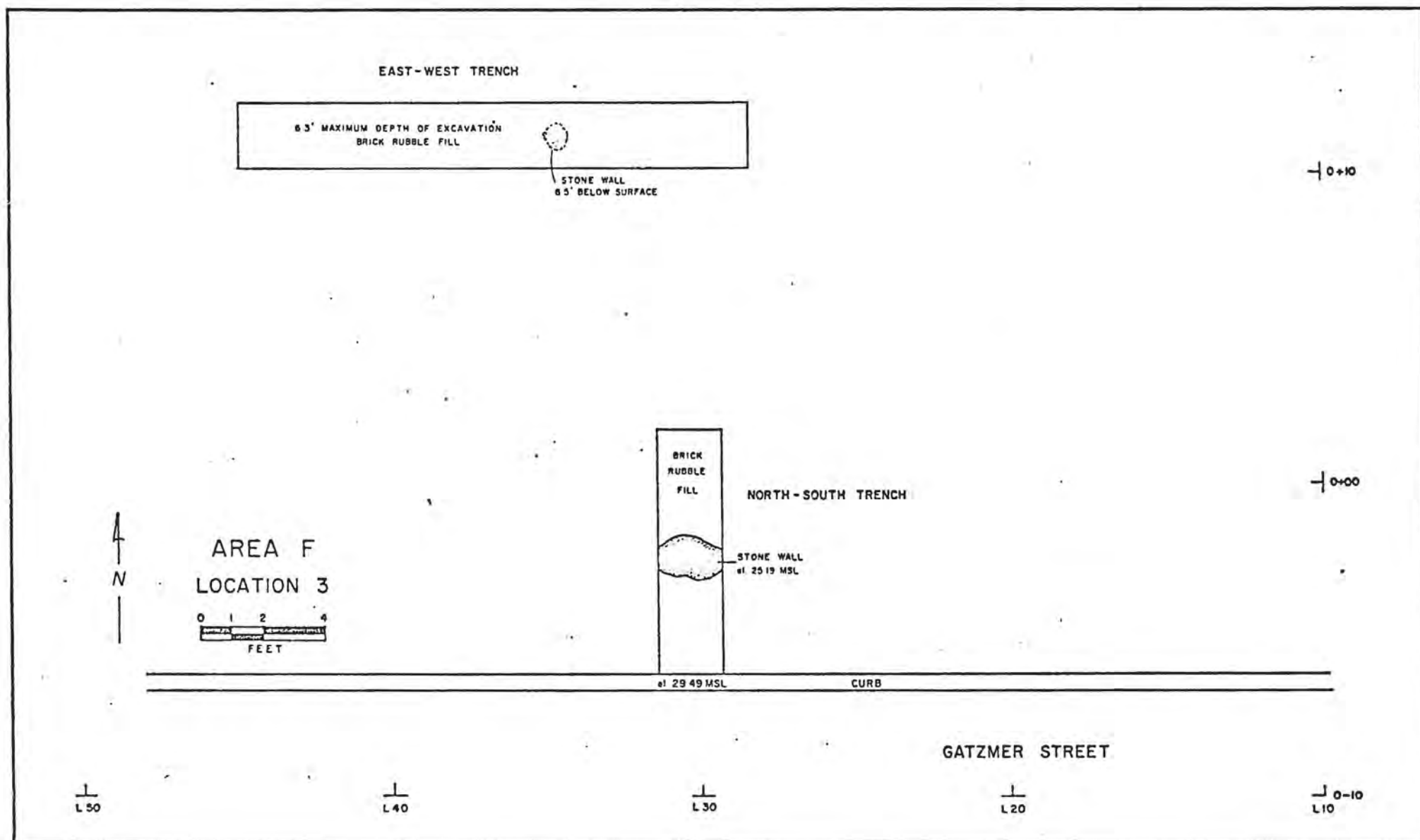


Figure 30. Excavation Location No. 3, plan view.

Figure 31. Excavation Location No. 3, view northwest; Front Street in foreground, Gatzmer Street at left.

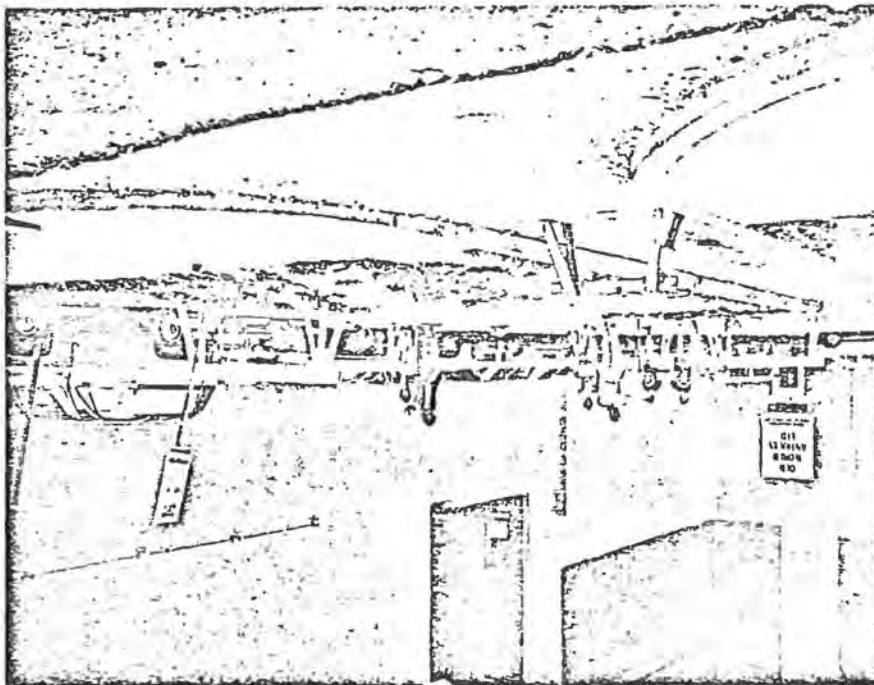


Figure 32. Excavation Location No. 3, view west; excavations backfilled.



INTERPRETATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this archaeological survey was to investigate limited portions of Area F, so that valid recommendations could be arrived at concerning the archaeological potential of this historic portion of Independence National Historical Park. The archaeological survey, though limited in scope, was most successful. Documentary and archaeological evidences strongly suggest that seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth century evidences remain in situ. Undisturbed portions of mortared (lime) stone (schist/gneiss) foundations were uncovered both north and south of Gatzmer Street; stratigraphic data exposed immediately north of Gatzmer Street (see Figure 18) indicates that some pre-nineteenth century soil remains undisturbed. Documentary data suggest that portions of foundations uncovered north of Gatzmer near Front Street may be remains of the Anthony Morris House. Excavations within Gatzmer and Sansom Streets uncovered cast iron pipes (water) at less-than 4 feet below present grade; excavations below this level may be productive.

Approaches to future archaeological investigations, and methodologies utilized, need be those which will guarantee a rapid, phased excavation of the total site area. It is suggested that overall approaches and specific methodologies be discussed, and agreed upon, prior to the initiation of excavations; comprehensive rather than salvage excavations are indicated. It is strongly recommended that the

archaeological contractor:

- 1) investigate the site area by well defined phases of excavation; inconvenience to the parking lot contractor can be avoided for an extended period of time. Loss of revenue to Independence National Historical Park should be avoided as long as possible;
- 2) work with the demolition/construction contractor(s) where necessary, and by design. Pre-planned excavation schedules will negate potential loss of irretrievable data; administrators and contractors need not be frustrated by that last minute rush;

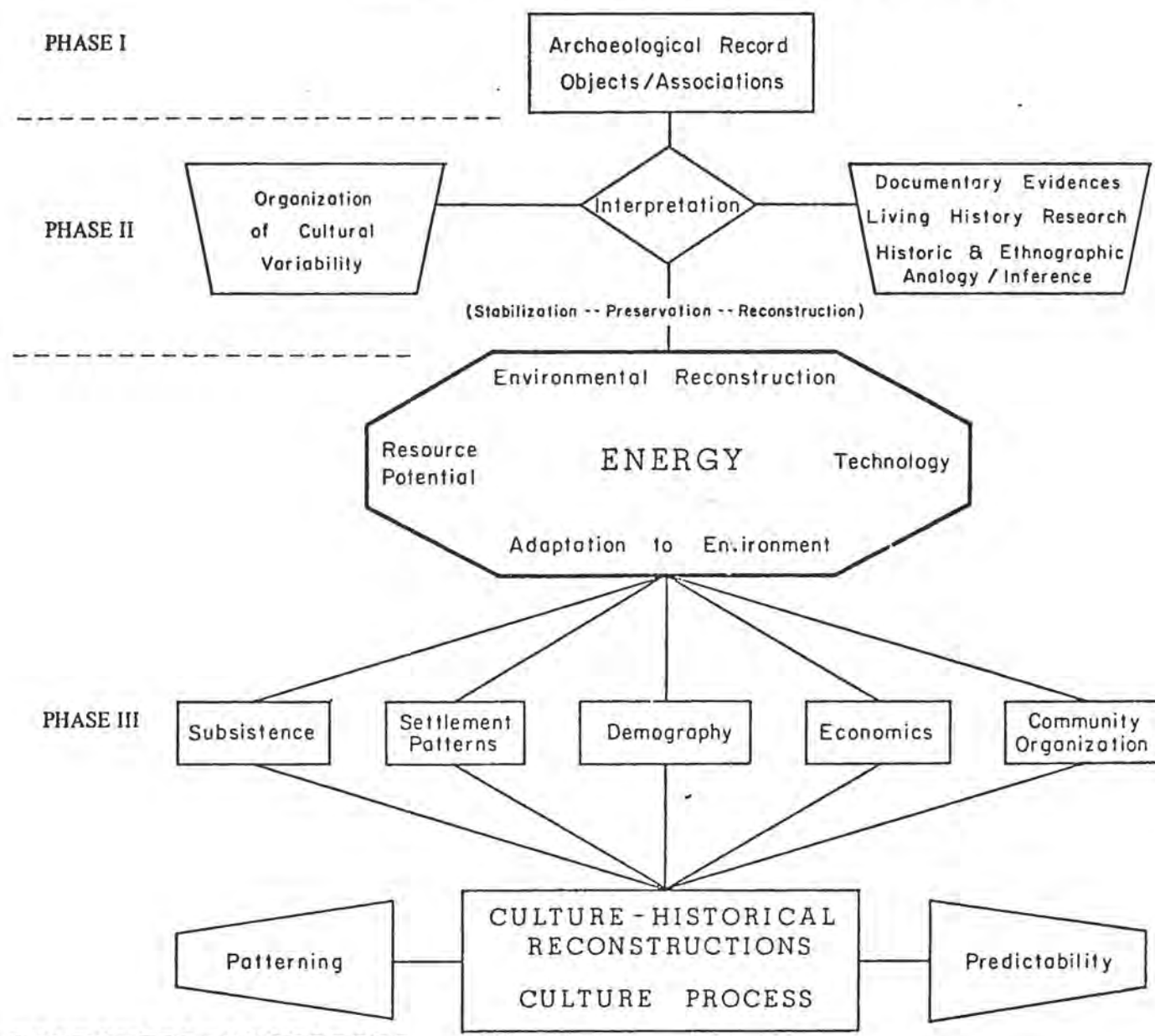
Suggested investigative approaches and methods include:

- 1) Utilities which enter and exit Area F should be severed beneath street or sidewalk at the earliest opportunity. As noted on the Philadelphia Gas Works print N5-27(7-7-76), pipes designed to transport gas are located beneath Second and Front Street sidewalks, and the easterly portion of Sansom Street. Water and sewer pipes located within Gatzmer Street should be removed and the area examined, after excavations to the north have been completed; Gatzmer as well as Sansom Street will need be utilized for work vehicles. In accordance with the General Development Plan of Area F, Figure 13, administrative decisions must be arrived at regarding the need to excavate Sansom Street and that portion of land immediately to the north.
- 2) Demolition of standing structures should be completed at the earliest opportunity. Concrete basement slabs should be removed by the demolition

contractor, working with the archaeological contractor. Should demolition not take place prior to the initiation of archaeological excavations, the archaeological contractor should remove concrete slabs; concrete rubble can be stored within the basement areas.

- 3) Site security need be considered at the outset. Dependent upon demolition/construction schedules, it is suggested that the demolition/ construction contractor(s) install fence around the northern portion of the site area. Fence located along Gatzmer Street can be moved to Sansom Street when excavations are initiated south of Gatzmer.
- 4) Prepare a series of base maps which will demonstrate changing settlement patterns within Area F through time. Working copies of these maps will, of course, aid archaeological excavations. Plan views of Area F prepared from the archaeological record should be reproduced as acetate transparencies and placed over the various historic base maps; the results should be most rewarding.
- 5) Excavation Phases I, II, III, and IV, as noted in Figure 35, are so designed as to negate the risk of data loss. The sequence of excavations by area is critical to the success of the overall project. The archaeological record will be an important body of raw data recovered from a delimited portion of land within the historic section of Philadelphia; this record will most certainly be of value in the continued development of theoretical approaches to historical sites archaeology (see Figures 33 and 34). Phase IV need not be considered for excavation at this time.

APPROACHES TO HISTORICAL SITES ARCHAEOLOGY

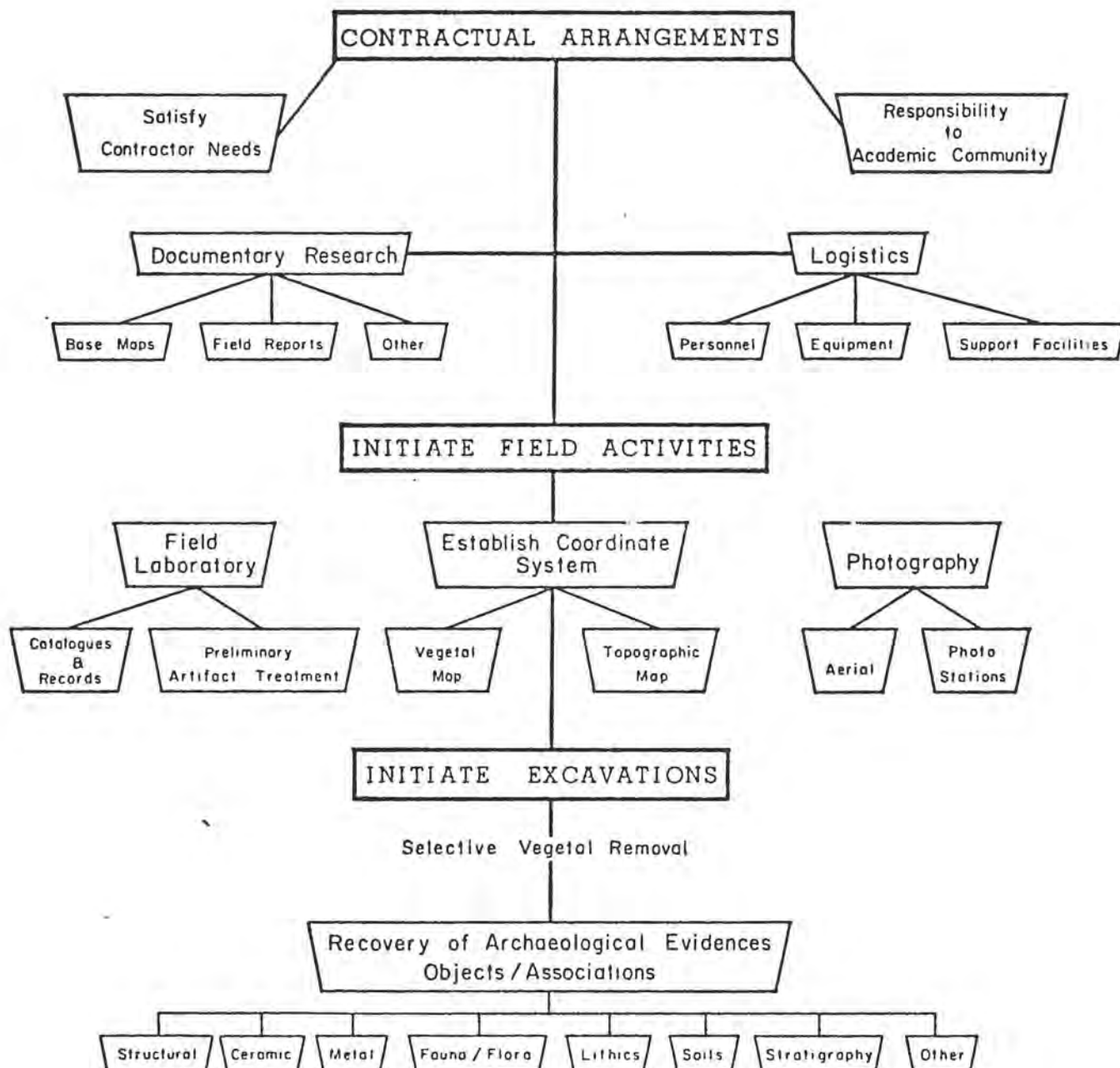


D.G. CROZIER
APRIL 3, 1976

Figure 33.

APPROACHES TO HISTORICAL SITES ARCHAEOLOGY PHASE I

Excavation Phase



D.G. CROZIER
APRIL 3, 1976

Figure 34.

Excavation methods should include the following:

- 1) Removal of fill from each basement. Power equipment may vary, depending upon available funds, although a Drott-Cruz Air Model 40, with attached Drott Esco Clamshell hydraulic one-half cubic yard bucket is suggested. Foundations should remain intact. If possible, spoil should be removed from the site area as excavated; consideration must be afforded access to excavation areas by power equipment.
- 2) Foundations and basement floors must be hand cleaned and, in accordance with standard procedure, plan and profile maps must be prepared. Archaeological features, as exposed in plan view, should be examined by N.P.S. archaeologists for possible inclusion within a completed garage; such features could be excavated and stabilized for interpretive purposes after other portions of the site area have been investigated.

In summary, documentary and archaeological survey evidences indicate that Area F, INHP, contains a considerable amount of cultural data, portions of which may date to the earliest habitation in the Philadelphia area. It is recommended that total retrieval of this data be initiated at the earliest opportunity.

Extensive archeological excavation in Area F should proceed as soon as possible and before the start of construction on the proposed parking garage. The district embraces part of the area of earliest habitation in Philadelphia, especially that bordering Front Street, and archeological work there would yield much information regarding the concentration of the settlement and its inhabitants.

(Greene 1974:55)

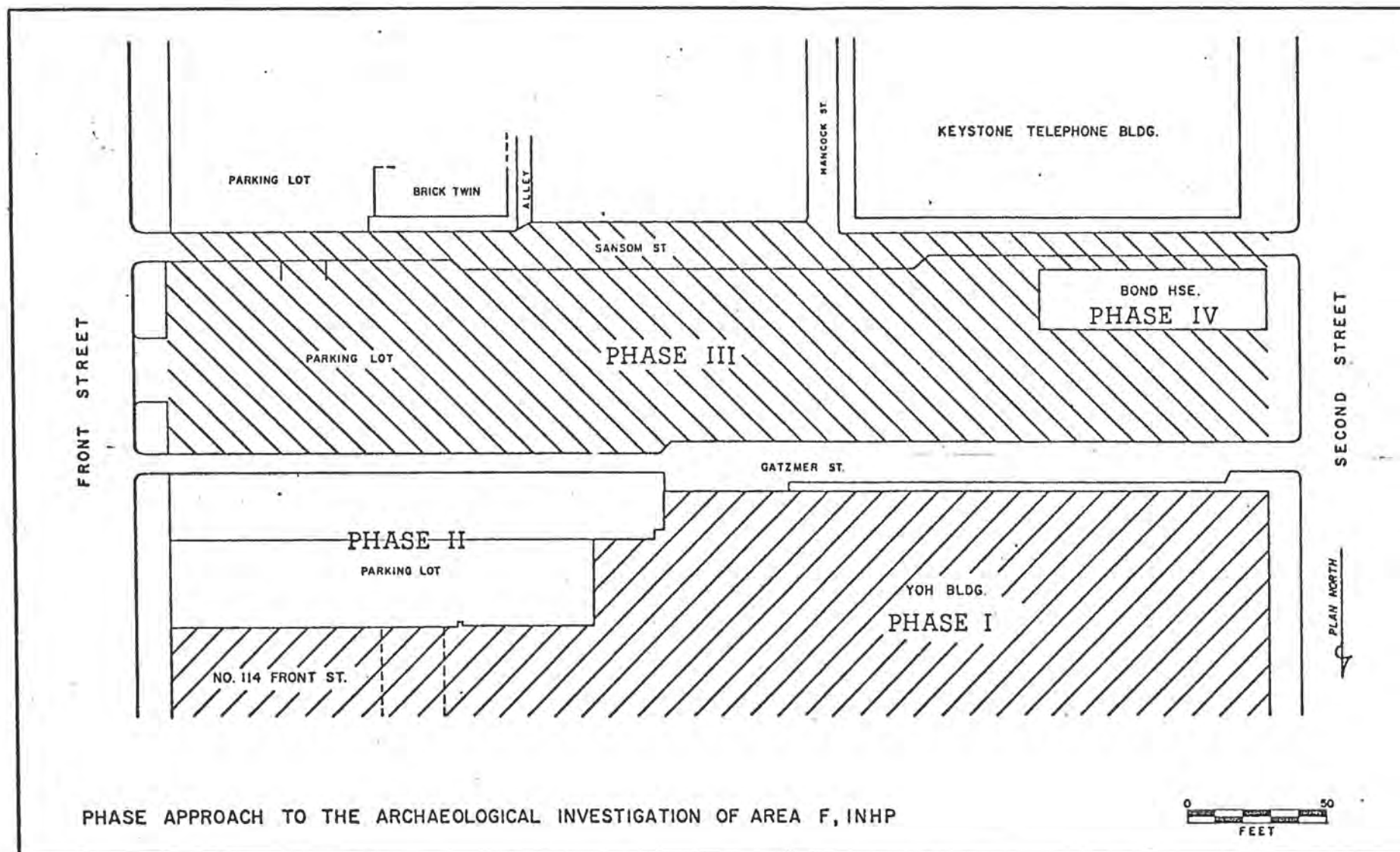


Figure 35.

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see also:

Cosans, B Selected Bibliography, p. 10.

PS9 ARCHEOLOGY

Daniel G. Crozier
July 1977

Independence National
Historical Park

AREA F

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Copy for DSC
Hist. Res. Team
Archaeologists -
from Pitt. Bankers
Hist. Arch.
9/8/77
(copy rec'd by PMS
from MARS - on
request Sept. 8 '77)



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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19122

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

July 15, 1977

Dr. S. Sydney Bradford
Associate Regional Director, P&RP
National Park Service
Mid-Atlantic Region
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Subject: Archaeological Investigation, Area F,
Independence National Historical Park

Dear Dr. Bradford:

In accordance with contractual arrangements, I
here forward an overview of recently concluded archaeologi-
ca: investigations within Area F, Independence National
Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Investigations initiated within that structure
located at 114 South Front Street and in the Yoh Building
required the removal of concrete from basement floors, a
task undertaken by INHP personnel. Initial archaeological
activities were so scheduled as to work with, and around,
concrete removal activities. Rooms within standing struc-
tures were mapped and sub-concrete earthen floors examined
for archaeological evidences (see figures 1 and 2); all
areas were mapped in plan view prior to in-depth excavation.
Where possible, a portion of the contents of privies, wells,
and cisterns was not disturbed, thus remaining in situ.
Pit contents were excavated only to that extent deemed
necessary to compile a sound archaeological record. In
accordance with standard archaeological procedure, plan and
profile data were recorded on paper and film; provenience

was assigned each object uncovered. Several thousand objects were recovered, including numerous mortar, brick, and soil samples. Objects have been transported to the Laboratory of Anthropology, Temple University, for future processing. Mortar, brick, and soil samples were placed in appropriate containers and boxed for transport and/or storage. Field records are presently being organized in their final form.

A coordinate system was established over that portion of Area F bounded by Front, Second, Ionic, and Gatzmer streets (datum for this system is noted in Figure 1). Vertical controls were maintained in accordance with the established City of Philadelphia bench. For control purposes, rooms within the various structures were designated as follows (see Figure 1):

114 South Front Street: Rooms A, B, and C.

Yoh Building: Rooms A through F.

Anthony Morris House Site: Rooms A and B.

Features were excavated by arbitrary levels where strata were not in evidence.

Archaeological evidences include a variety of sub-concrete disturbances, deposits, walls, and artifacts. A summary of circular or rectangular discolorations, and brick or stone lined features is as follows(see Figure 1):

114 South Front Street:

Room A:

Feature 1: delimited concentration of mortar and stone, with remains of wooden beams; probable coal bin; analysis not complete.

Feature 2: brick furnace foundations (see Figure 3).

Room B:

Feature 1: circular brick-lined structure, probable well (see Figure 4).

Feature 2: circular brick-lined structure, probable privy, capped with brick dome (see Figure 5).

Room C:

- Feature 1: basal portion of brick cistern (see Figure 6).
- Feature 2: circular brick-lined structure; probable privy (see Figure 7).
- Feature 2a: circular brick-lined structure found within and near bottom of Feature 2.
- Feature 3: circular brick and stone-lined structure; probable well (see Figure 8).
- Feature 4: brick-lined, marble-floored structure (see Figure 9).
- Feature 4a: brick-domed, circular brick-lined structure beneath floor of Feature 4 (see Figure 10).

Yoh Building:Room A:

- Feature 1: circular, brick-lined structure, probable privy (see Figure 11).
- Feature 2: circular soil discoloration, probable basal portion (unlined) of privy.

Room B:

- Feature 1: circular brick-lined structure with metal cover; functions as access (manhole) into Feature 3, Room C.
- Feature 2: brick and concrete furnace foundations.

Room C:

- Feature 1: circular brick-lined structure, probable privy (see Figure 12, lower left)
- Feature 2: circular brick-lined structure, probable privy (see Figure 12, center).
- Feature 3: brick-vaulted rectangular drainage conduit (see Figure 12, right)

Anthony Morris Site:Room B:

Feature 1: circular soil discoloration,
probable well or privy; support
liner not in evidence (see Figure 14).

Archaeological investigations within Area F were most successful; an excellent archaeological record has been compiled. It is recommended that this record be interpreted and a report prepared; artifacts are presently being processed within budgetary limitations. As noted in Figure 2, portions of Area F north of Gatzmer Street were not archaeologically investigated; an archaeological survey south of Gatzmer Street was limited in scope. In accordance with the preceding, I offer the following recommendations:

1. The archaeological investigation of Room F, Yoh Building, before demolition of standing structures (see figures 1 and 2).
2. The archaeological investigation of features 1 and 2, Room 8, and Feature 4a, Room C, 114 South Front Street, after demolition of standing structures.
3. The archaeological investigation of rooms D and E, Yoh Building, after demolition of standing structures.
4. The archaeological investigation of those areas within standing structures, presently nonaccessible due to structural instability and/or location beneath elevators, equipment, or walls, after demolition of standing structures.
5. It is of course recommended that Area F be investigated in total, prior to construction activities. Should this not be feasible, salvage excavations are in order. Should salvage be indicated, it is suggested that the archaeological investigator work closely and

amiably with the construction contractor. The loss of irretrievable cultural data should be minimal, working within the construction contractor's contractual deadlines. I will be pleased to consult with you regarding suggested approaches and methodologies for continued archaeological investigations within Area F.

Should questions arise, or if I can be of service in any way, please advise.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniel G. Crozier
Research Associate

DGC:dw

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A sincere thank you is extended you, Dr. John Cotter, and Mr. Hobart Cawood for assistance provided this project. All National Park Service personnel with whom we had reason to associate were most amiable, optimistic, and at all times helpful; we appreciated Bob Giannini's on-site visitations.

Consultation provided by Dr. Jacob W. Gruher, Temple University, was much appreciated. Information provided by Mrs. Maxine Dalsemer and Sharon Burnston, and consultation provided by Rabbi Musleah, Congregation Mikveh Israel, and Robert Goldstein, Curator, American Jewish History Museum, were most helpful. A thank you is extended Harold Loigman, P.E., Vice President, Site Engineers, Inc., for forwarding Area F core sample data.

The archaeological team is to be congratulated for a job well done -- an excellent archaeological record has been compiled. Team members were Doris Weiland, Field Supervisor; Phillip Bareiss, Field Engineer; Kathy Sareiss, Cartographic and Photographic Assistant; and Barbara Uphoff, Field Assistant. Part-time members were Jacqueline Thibaut, Roberta Taylor, and Judy Chase. Volunteers were Karen Foor, David Ewald, Bud Chase, Dean O'Brian, and Jim Workman. Survey work was done by Richard Rycharski.

Daniel G. Crozier

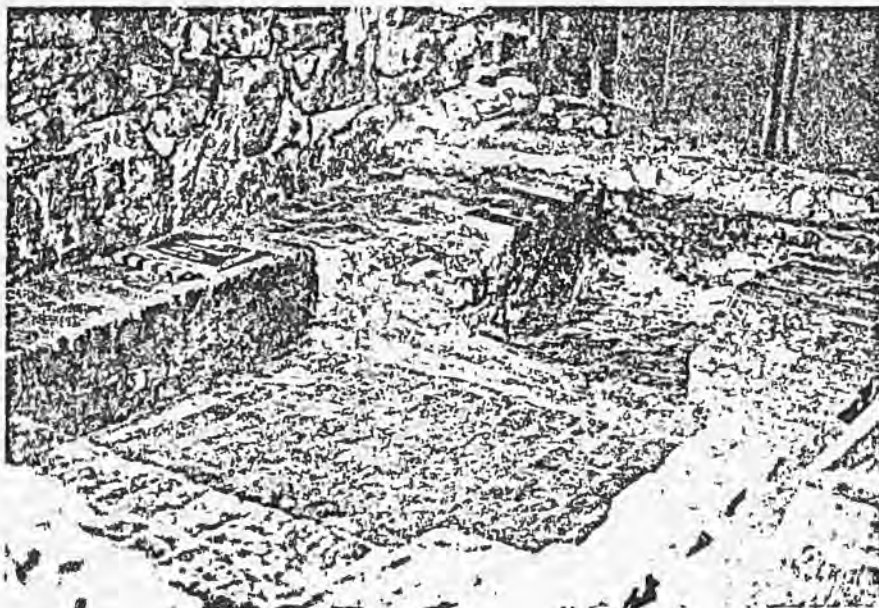


Figure 3. Feature 2, 114 S. Front St., Room A.
Furnace foundations; view southwest.



Figure 4. Feature 1, 114 S. Front St., Room B.
Circular brick lined well; view south.

Figure 6. Feature 1, 114 S. Front St., Room C.
Basal portion of brick cistern; view west.

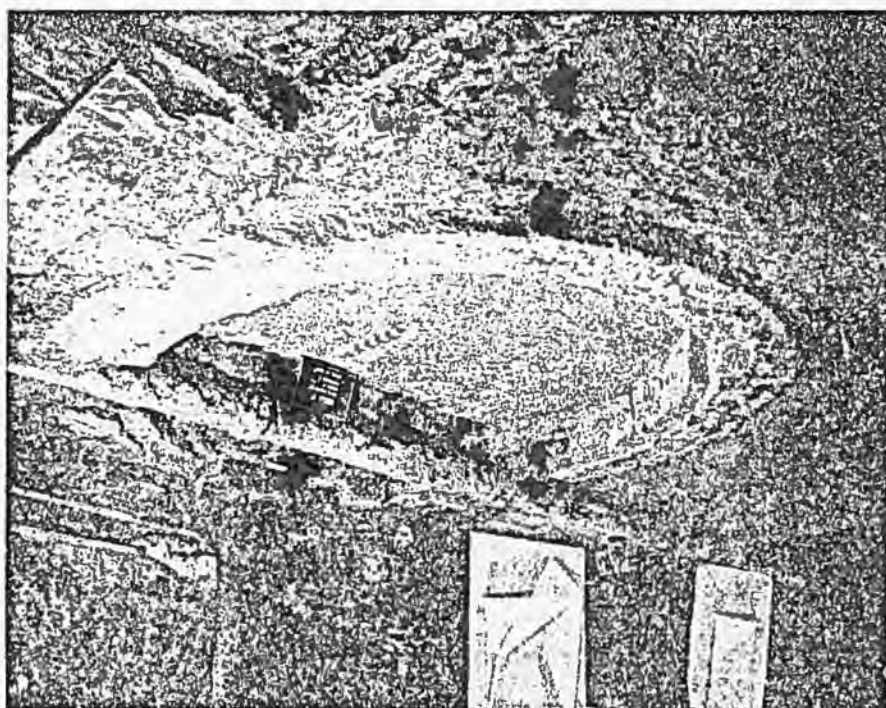


Figure 5. Feature 2, 114 S. Front St., Room 3.
Brick domed, circular, brick lined structure, probable privy; view south.



Figure 8. Feature 3, 114 S. Front St., Room C.
Brick and stone lined well; view north.

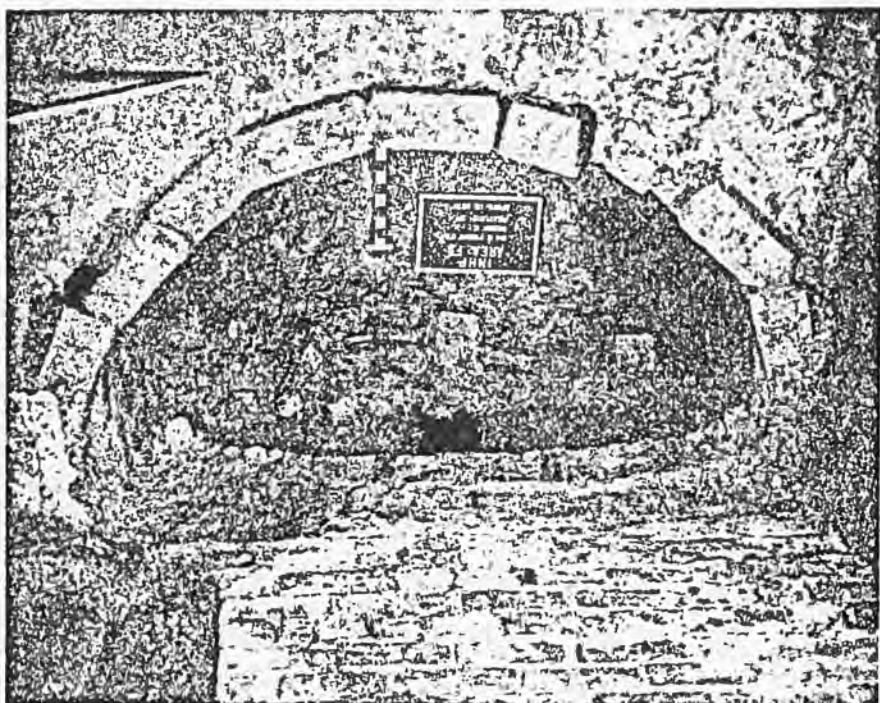
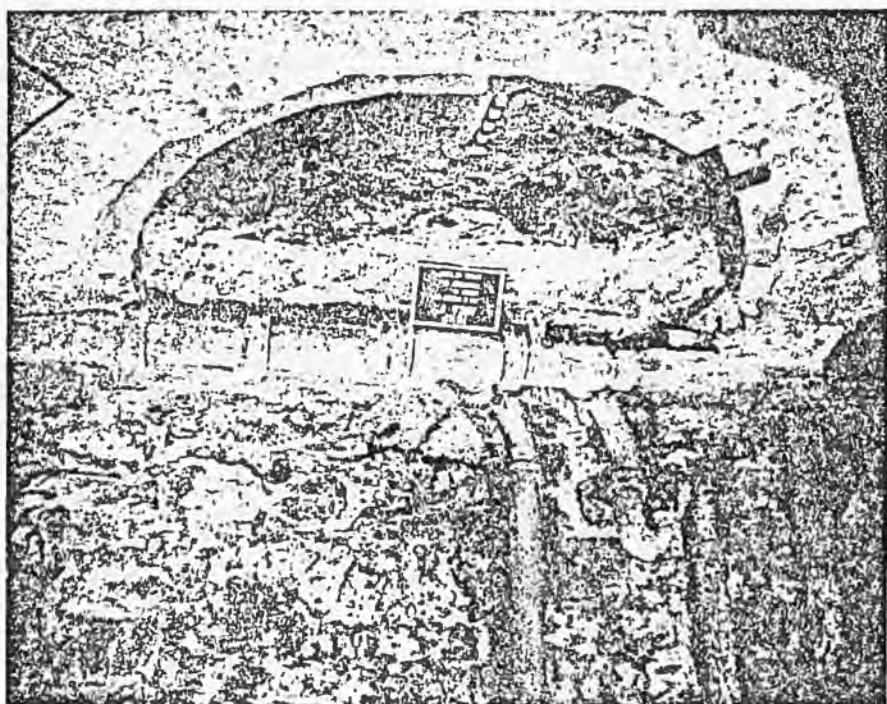


Figure 7. Feature 2, 114 S. Front St., Room C.
Privy; view northwest.



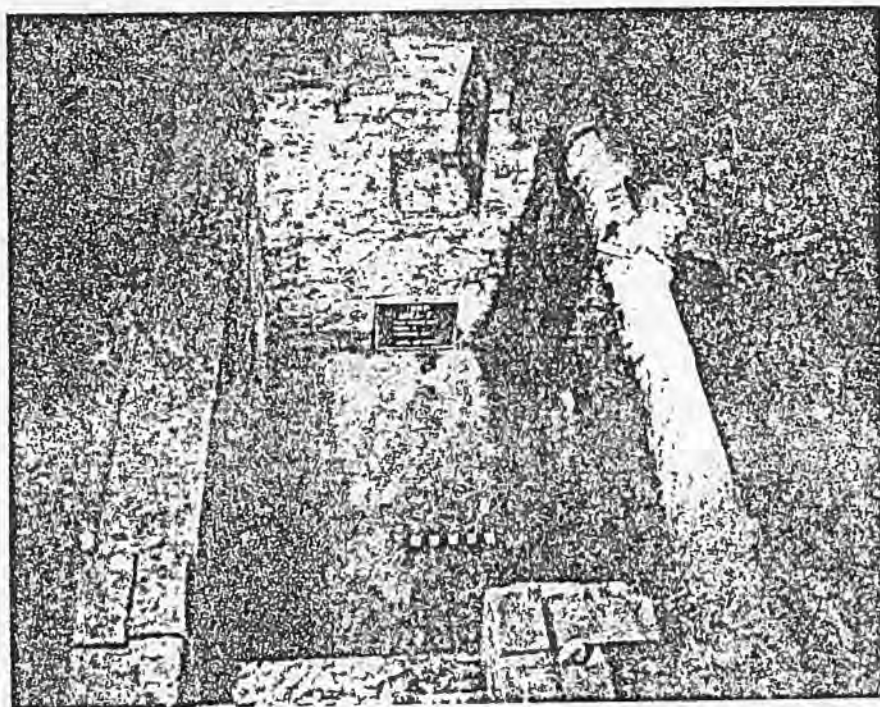


Figure 9. Feature 4, 114 S. Front St., Room C.
Brick lined, marble floored structure;
view west.

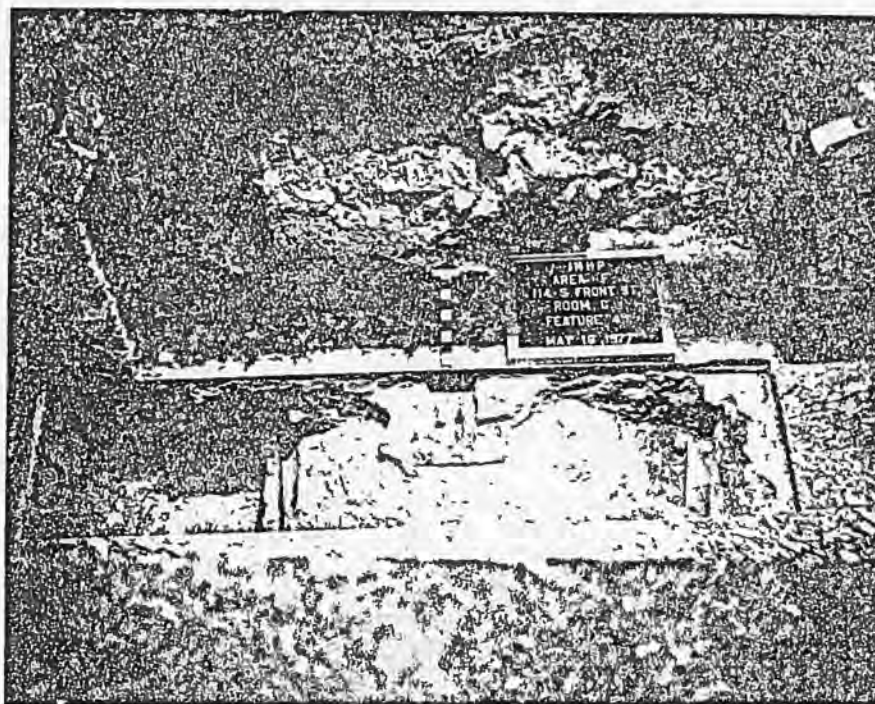


Figure 10. Feature 4a, 114 S Front St., Room C.
Brick domed, circular brick lined struc-
ture, below Feature 4; view north.

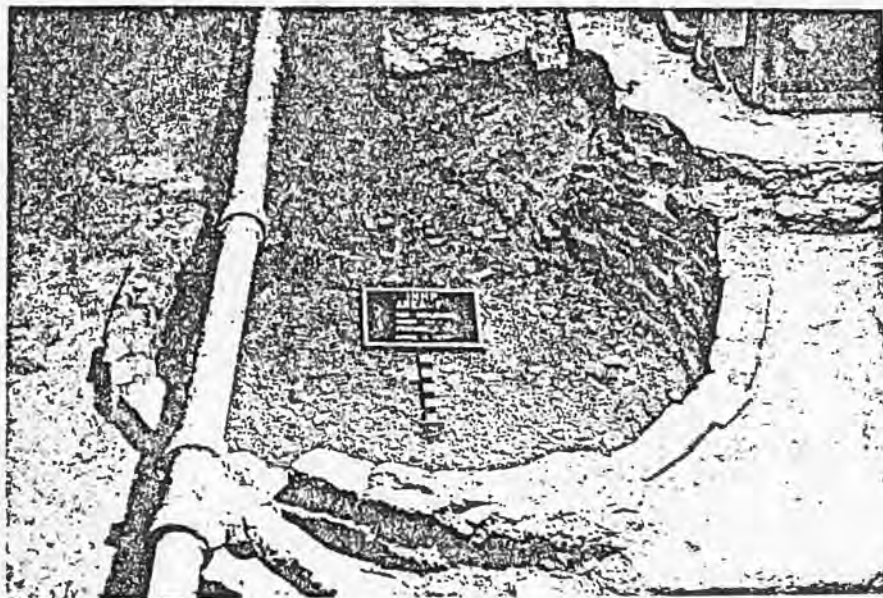


Figure 11. Feature 1, Yoh Building, Room A.
Circular, brick lined privy; view south.



Figure 12. Feature 1, 2, and 3. Feature 1, left
and Feature 2, center, circular brick lined
privies; Feature 3, right, brick vaulted
rectangular drainage conduit; view east.
Yoh Building, Room C.

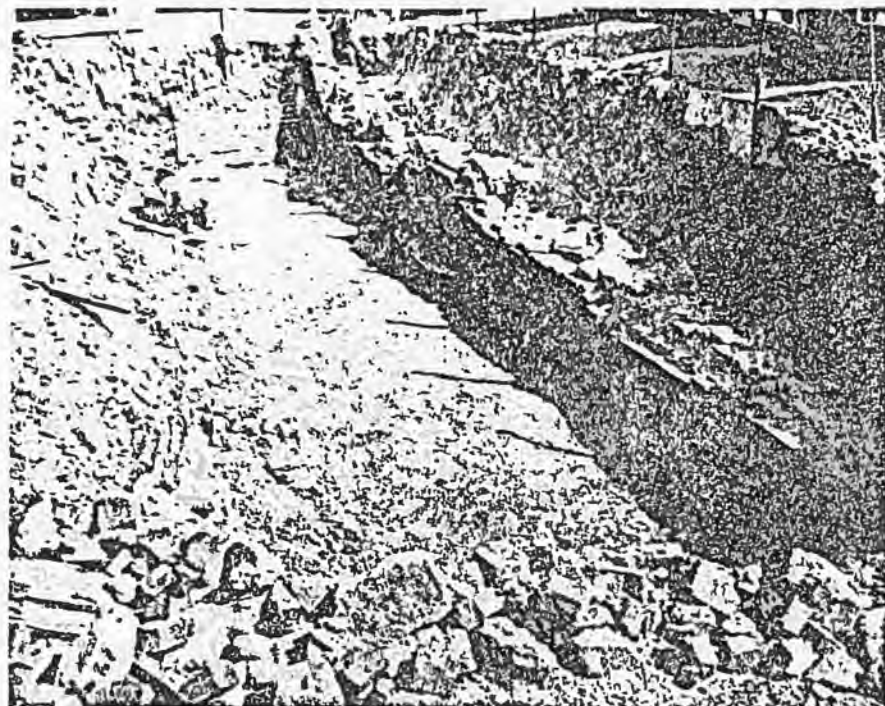


Figure 13. Anthony Morris House, site area, east and south walls; view east.

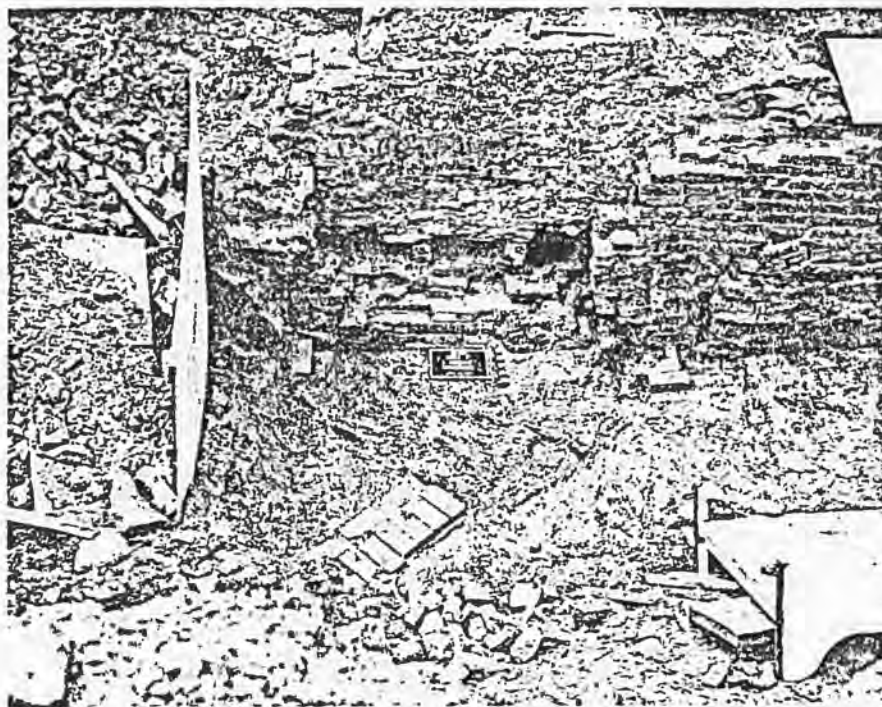
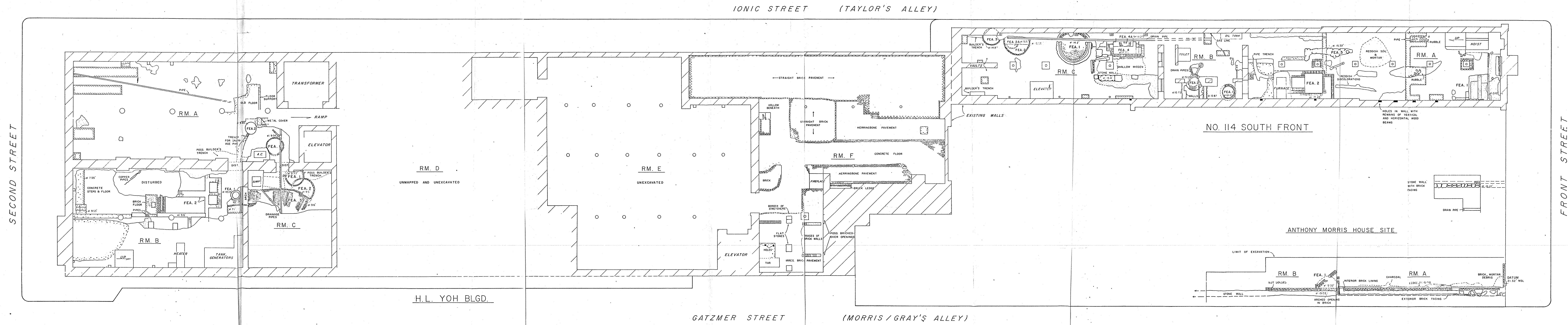


Figure 14. Feature 1, Anthony Morris House, site area; circular discoloration, probable well or privy; support liner not in evidence; view south.



- KEY
- WALLS OF EXISTING STRUCTURES
 - ITALICS INDICATE FEATURES OF EXISTING STRUCTURES
 - WALL CONTINUES
 - APPROXIMATELY DELIMITED
 - DEEPER EXCAVATIONS
 - MORTAR
 - CONCRETE
 - WOOD / TRACES OF WOOD
 - BRICK



AREA F
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
JUNE 1977

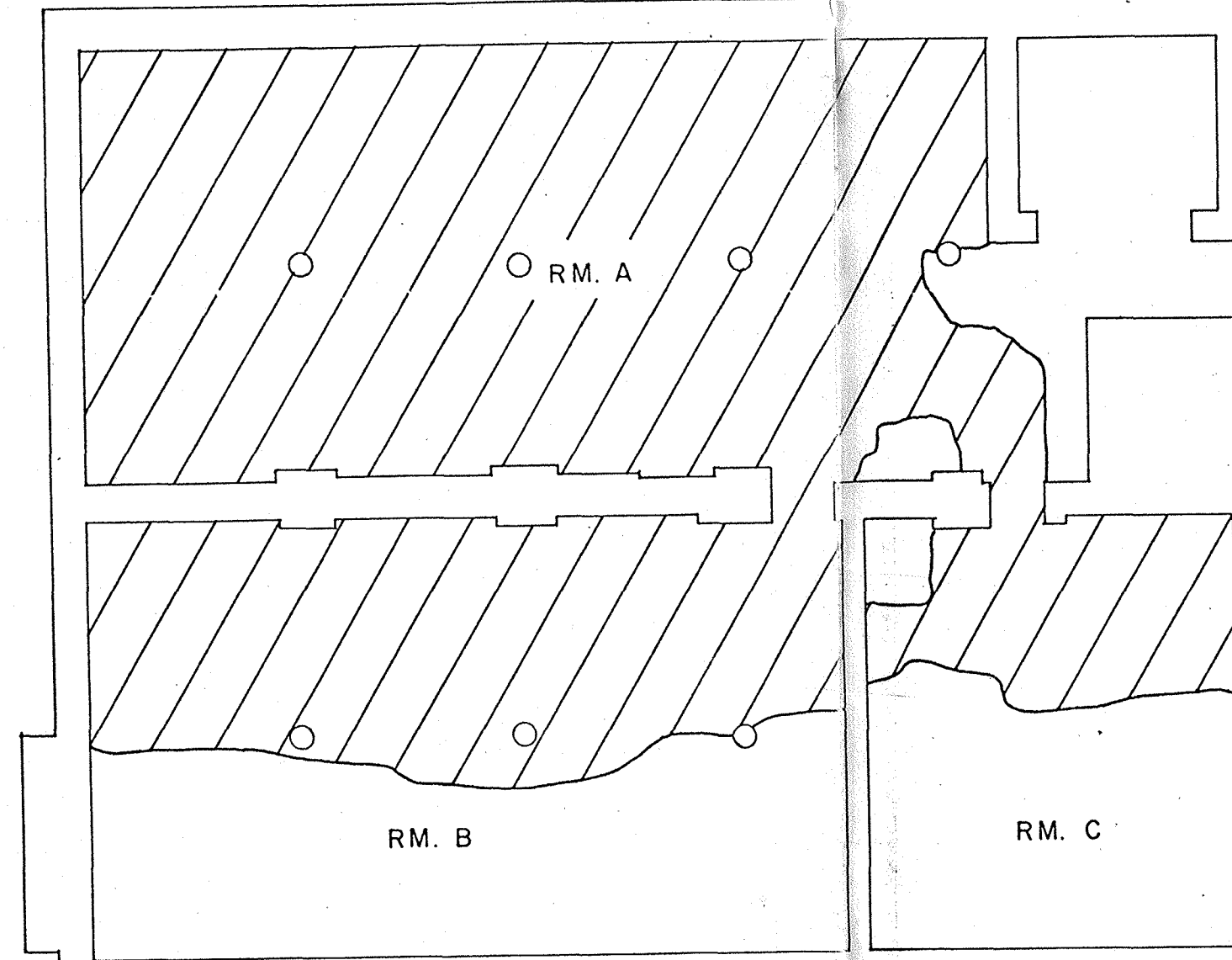
D-62

PLAN NORTH

SECOND STREET

IONIC STREET (TAYLOR'S ALLEY)

FRONT STREET



RM. D

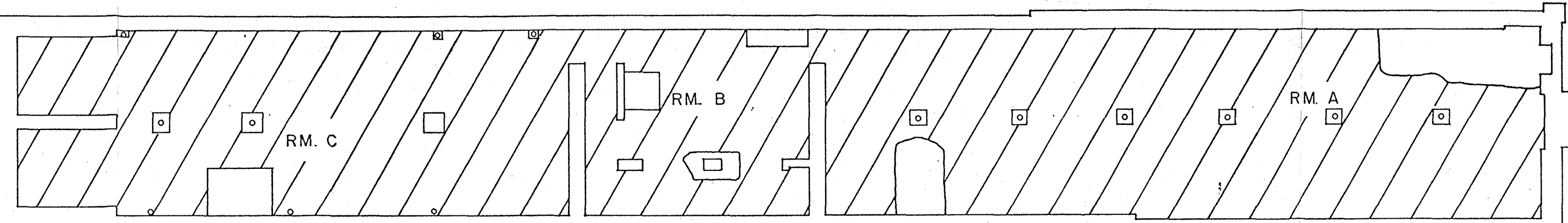
RM. E

RM. F

H.L. YOH BLGD.

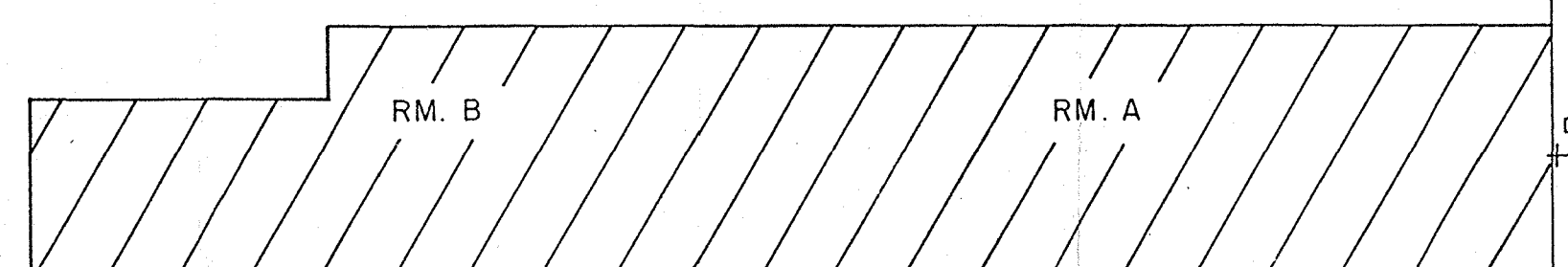
GATZMER STREET

(MORRIS/GRAY'S ALLEY)



NO. 114 SOUTH FRONT

ANTHONY MORRIS HOUSE SITE

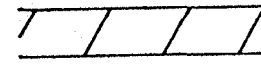


DATUM

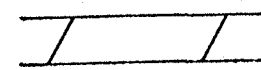
KEY



1976 EXCAVATIONS



1977 EXCAVATIONS



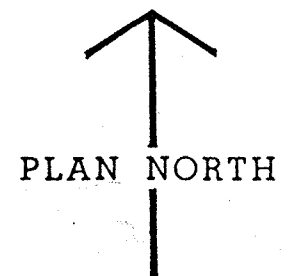
EXISTING (WOOD) FLOOR REMOVED
EARLIER FLOOR EXPOSED BUT
NOT EXCAVATED - 1977



AREA F

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

JUNE 1977



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