R ARCHAEOLOGY

Phase 1 archaeological investigation of 12 and 14 North Warren Street (and the alley in between) involved a thorough inspection of the basements, ground floors and outside portions of these properties and limited subsurface testing to establish whether intact archaeological deposits still survived in those areas where basements did not appear to be present. Phase 2 archaeological investigation involved the excavation of four units in areas where potentially significant archaeological resources were encountered. Three of these units were located inside the rear, uncellared portion of 12 North Warren Street. The fourth unit was located at the rear end of the alley between 12 and 14 North Warren Street (Figure 6.1).

The identification of the archaeological deposits beneath the rear section of 12 North Warren Street was largely the result of a close reading of the historic map sequence coupled with careful measurement of the basement (Figure 6.2; Plate 6.1). It was soon apparent that the easternmost section of this building, built sometime between 1908 and 1927 (Figures 4.20 and 4.21), had been erected directly on top of an earlier yard and did not contain a basement. A area roughly 22 feet north-south by 35 feet east-west was thus identified as being archaeologically promising.

In addition a strip of ground, 10 feet north-south by 30 feet east-west, adjoining the south side of the alley in the center of the 12 North Warren Street property, was also identified as being without a basement. This part of the property was built over during the same 1908-27 period as part of the same phase of construction that produced the rear section of the building.

Pick-axing and posthole testing through the appropriate floors confirmed the presence of archaeological deposits in these portions of 12 North Warren Street. Excavation Units A and B were accordingly laid out within the 22 by 35-foot area, while Excavation Unit C was located within the 10 by 30-foot strip. These excavations resulted in the examination of approximately 12% of the area available for archaeological excavation within the 12 North Warren Street property.

The basement of 12 North Warren Street, constructed of rough-dressed, random-laid fieldstone, proved to be of some archaeological interest in its own right (Figure 6.2). For reasons that are discussed further in Chapter 6C below these foundations are believed to be part of the house built in the early 1820s by Stephen Rose. The main entry into the basement from the street was formerly via a stair that led down adjacent to the northwest corner of the building beneath the sidewalk. The staircase and original sidewalk

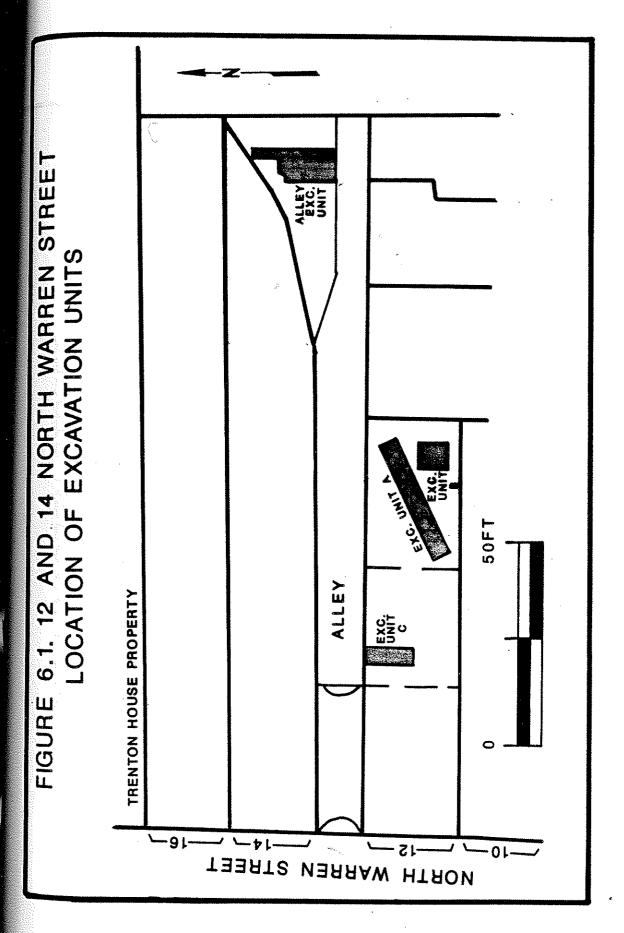




Plate 6.1. 12 North Warren Street: north wall of rear section of basement showing fireplace supports and possible oven; scale in feet [see Figure 6.2] (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

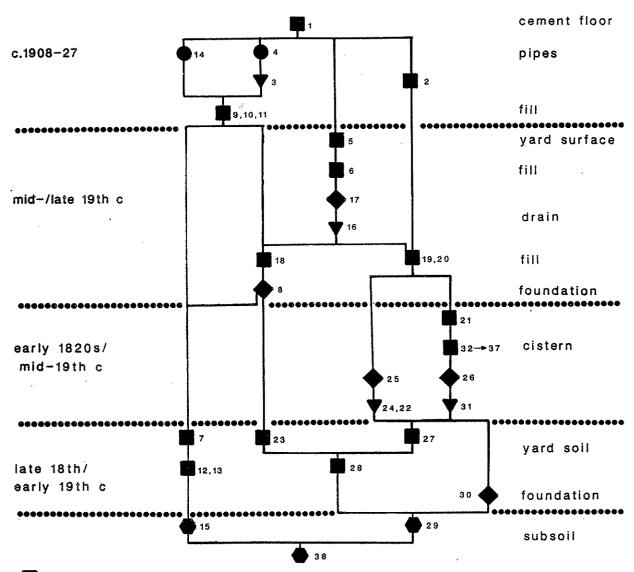
opening had been replaced by a simple hatch. A full basement underlay the entire front section of 12 North Warren Street, but 60 feet east of the street this narrowed to a 25-foot wide partial basement that extended east for another 60 feet beneath the center section of the building. While the rear portion of the basement was divided into two sections, the continuous foundation along the south wall suggested that the foundations were of a single "build." In the north wall of the rear basement section were substantial brick and stone supports for a fireplace (long since removed) at the first-floor level and evidence of a possible blocked oven (suggesting that cooking may have taken place in the basement) (Plate 6.1).

Excavation Unit A (Matrix 6.1; Figures 6.3 and 6.4; Plates 6.2-6.10; Appendices B.ii and C.ii), 4 by 18 feet in plan, was laid out diagonally, northeast-southwest, across the rear room of 12 North Warren Street (Figure 6.1). The excavation unit was laid out in this way to provide optimum coverage of the area available for excavation within the room without going so far as to excavate the room in its entirety.

The cement floor and its rubble base [1] were removed with a jackhammer, picks and shovels (Plate 6.2). Beneath this material was a discontinuous layer of fill [9] (probably a make-up level for the 1908-27 construction) and remains of a brick foundation [8] and brick yard surface or path [5] (Plate 6.3). These latter features appear to be of mid-19th century date, the foundation evidently being the remains of a one-story rear addition that was in existence certainly by the 1880s and perhaps even before 1870 (Figures 4.13 and This addition did not contain a basement and 4.15-4.20). was erected over a shallow crawl space. Its function remains unknown, although the structure appears to have been built during the period that 12 North Warren Street was a jewelry store and it may therefore have fulfilled some commercial purpose. The upper deposits inside the rear addition had been much disturbed by the early 20th-century construction and the installation of water pipes [4, 14], but below this zone was a yard soil, up to 18 inches thick, that contained a mixture of late 18th- and early 19thcentury cultural materials [7, 12, 13] (Plates 6.4 and 6.5).

Immediately outside the northeastern corner of the rear addition a ceramic drain [16, 17] gathered water from the roof and fed an unknown destination to the northwest. This drain, which was sealed by the brick yard surface, was either contemporary with the rear addition or was installed sometime in the very late 19th- or very early 20th centuries. If it dated from prior to the 1890s the pipe may have fed into a cistern between the rear addition and the alley, but if it dated from the turn-of-the-century (perhaps the more likely explanation), it probably connected with the city-wide storm drain system (Figures 6.3 and 6.4).

MATRIX 6.1. 12 NORTH WARREN STREET EXCAVATION UNIT A (See Appendix B.ii for details of contexts)



horizontal deposit (e.g. floor, yard soil)

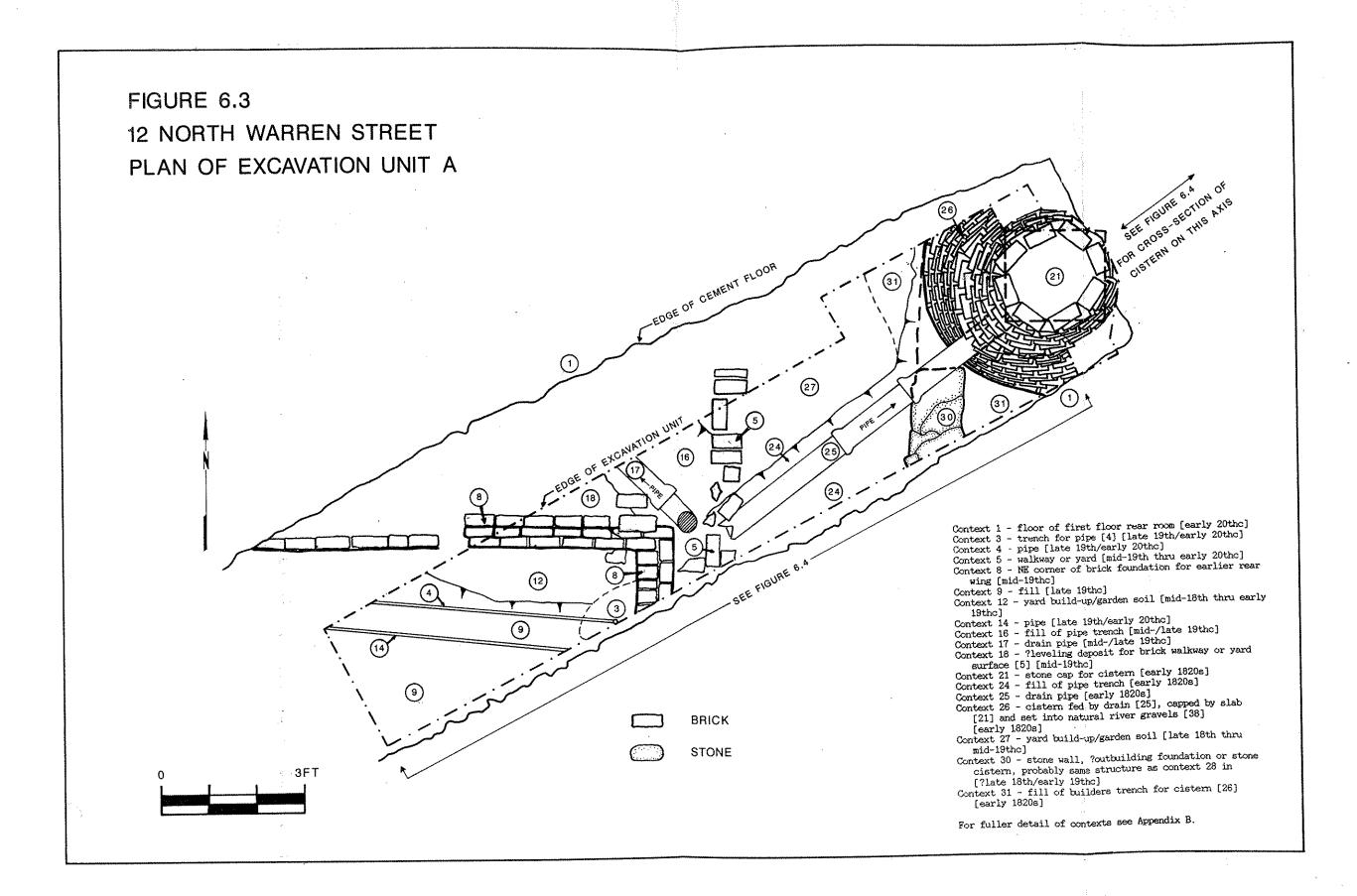
structural feature (e.g. wall, drain, cistern)

cut feature (e.g. builders trench, pit, posthole)

other features

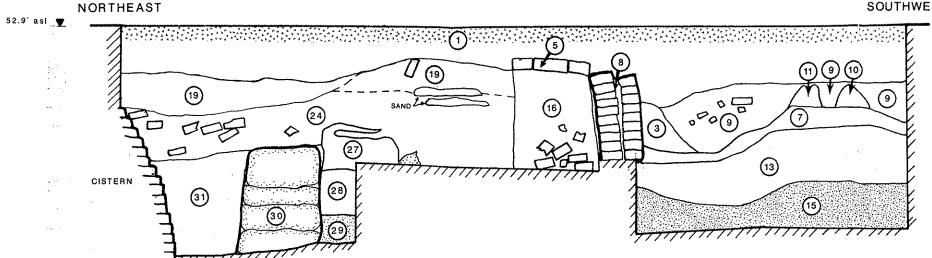
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connecting lines show stratigraphic relationships closest in time

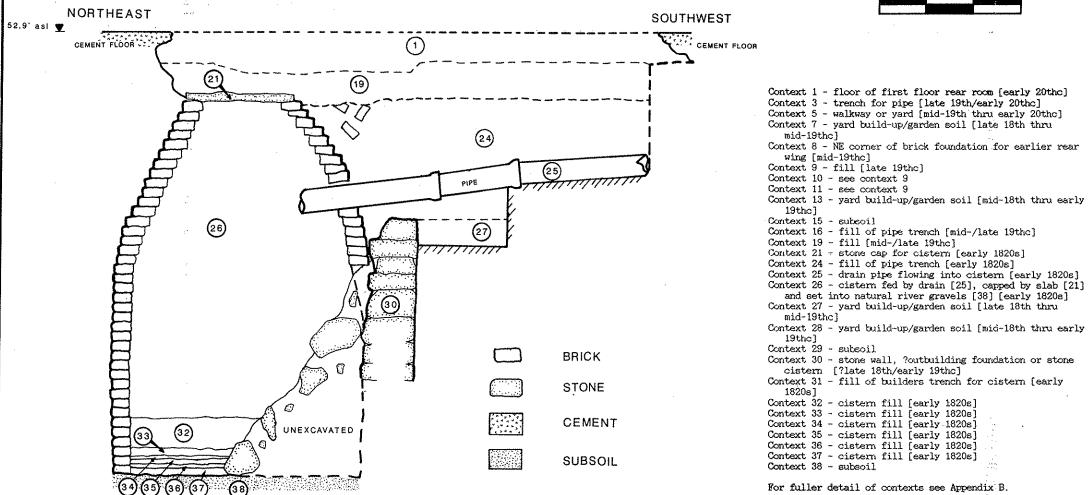




SOUTHWEST



CROSS-SECTION OF CISTERN



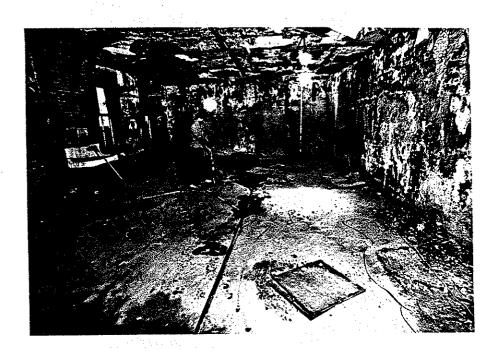


Plate 6.2. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: view looking east showing cement floor being removed by jackhammer; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).



Plate 6.3. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: general view looking northeast showing unit during early stages of excavation; northeast corner of foundation for mid-19th century rear addition to early 1820s dwelling visible in center of unit; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).



Plate 6.4. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: general view looking northeast showing northeast corner of foundation for mid-19th century rear addition fully exposed; vertical scale pole in angle of foundation rests on subsoil; slab at far end of trench covers top of early 19th century brick cistern; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).



Plate 6.5. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: view looking southeast showing southwestern end of unit; northeast corner of foundation for mid-19th century rear addition at left; vertical scale pole rests on subsoil; 18th and early 19th century yard soils visible in bottom two feet of profile; these are overlaid by later 19th century yard build-up and fill; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

The dominant feature outside the rear addition in the rest of Excavation Unit A was a second, earlier ceramic drain [24, 25] which fed into a finely-constructed, beehive-shaped brick cistern [26, 31] located in the northeastern corner of the room (Plates 6.6-6.8). This drain may have been modified in the mid-19th century to gather rain water from the roof of the one-story rear addition constructed at that time, but, on the basis of the artifacts recovered from the trench for the pipe further to the northeast and from the builders trench for the cistern, these features appear to have been part of the early 1820s construction phase. The cistern is presumably contemporary with the building of Stephen Rose's house and was designed to collect rain water from the southeastern corner of the two-story, brick rear section of this structure (Figures 4.13 and 4.15-4.20).

The observed stratigraphic sequence and the artifactual evidence indicate that the cistern went out of use sometime in the mid- to late 19th century, probably being replaced by the larger cistern discovered nearby in Excavation Unit B (see below). Interestingly, its interior was not filled with refuse (as is usually the case when such features are abandoned), but was capped with a large slate slab [21]. The foot or so of deposits in the base of the cistern [32-37], which accumulated during its period of use, thus contained early 19th-century cultural materials (Appendix C.ii).

The most tantalizing feature of the cistern was the fact that it had been constructed up against and incorporated part of an earlier mortared stone foundation [30] (Plates 6.9 and 6.10). This section of foundation ran north-south and connected with a length of east-west walling discovered in Excavation Unit B [context 28] (the southwest corner of this structure was just discernible in the northwestern corner of Excavation Unit B). While the east-west dimension of this foundation is unknown, the property boundaries in force in the early 19th century require that it probably measured no more than 10 to 12 feet from north to south.

No builders trench was observed for this earlier foundation and, in Excavation Unit A, it appeared to have been laid flush against a cut in the subsoil [29] on its southern side, with a yard soil [27, 28] abutting its exterior surface. This suggests that the wall defined an open space below ground to the north, possibly an earlier square cistern or septic, or an outbuilding with a below-ground component (such as an ice house). Whatever the nature of this structure it clearly predated the brick cistern in Excavation Unit A and is therefore of 18th- or very early 19th-century date.

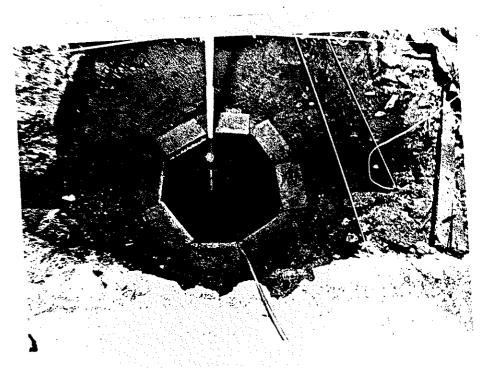


Plate 6.6. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: view looking southwest showing northeast end of unit and top of early 19th century brick cistern with slate slab removed; note ceramic drain feeding into cistern behind scale pole; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

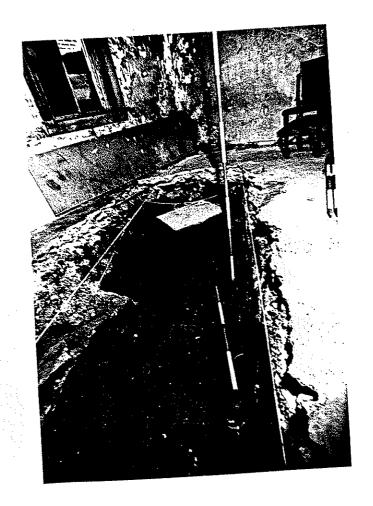


Plate 6.7. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: general view looking northeast showing northeast end of unit; ceramic drain in foreground feeds into early 19th century brick cistern at far end of unit; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).



Plate 6.8. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: view looking northeast showing early 19th century brick cistern; ceramic drain has been removed; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

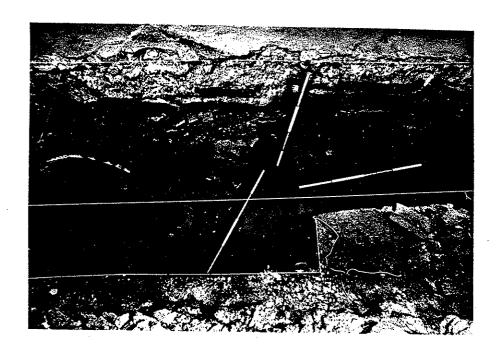
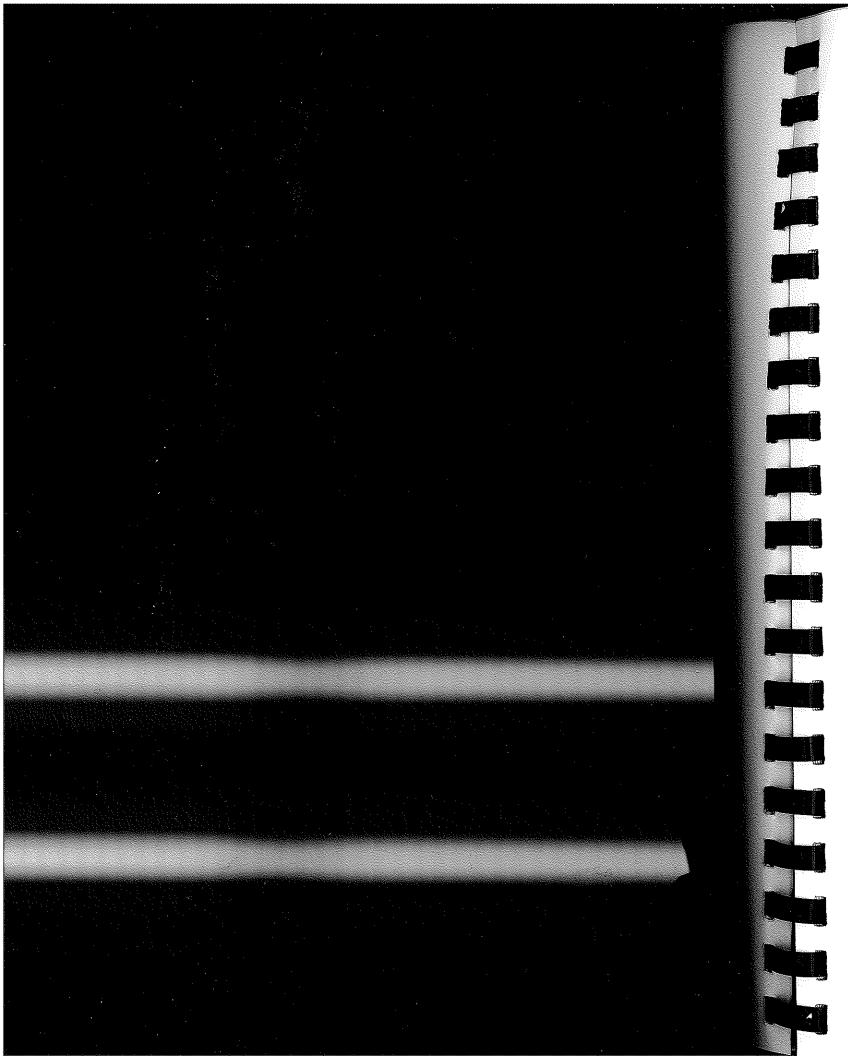


Plate 6.9. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: view looking southeast showing northeast end of unit; early 19th century brick cistern at left has been partially removed; note that the cistern cuts and has been built into an earlier stone foundation visible in the center of the view; a section of the ceramic drain feeding the cistern can be seen in base of unit; northeast corner of mid-19th century rear addition just visible at right; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).



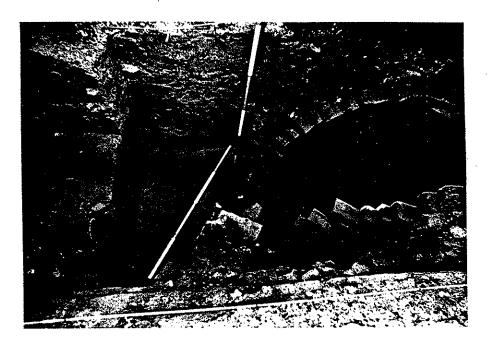
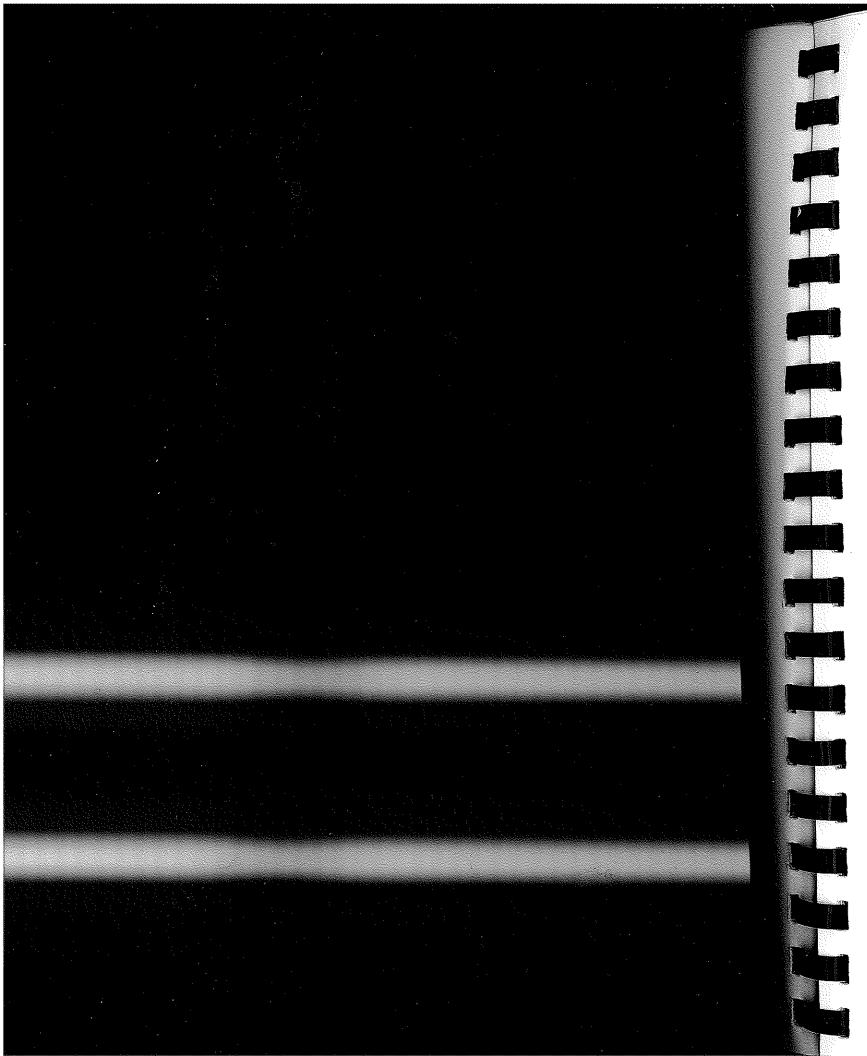


Plate 6.10. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit A: view looking northwest showing northeastern end of unit; partially removed early 19th century brick cistern at right; note how the cistern cuts and has been built into an earlier stone foundation visible in the center of the view; a section of the ceramic drain feeding the cistern can be seen in base of unit at left; horizontal scale pole rests on subsoil; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).



The yard soil between the cistern and the mid-19th century rear addition [23, 27, 28] appears to have corresponded to the very similar material [7, 12, 13] found within and below the rear addition. This deposit, as with similar deposits sampled throughout the Dunhams Block excavations, proved to be well-mixed and contained a range of late 18th- and early 19th-century cultural materials (Appendix C.ii).

Excavation Unit B (Matrix 6.2; Figure 6.5; Plates 6.11-6.16; Appendices B.ii and C.ii) measured 4.5 by 7 feet in plan and was located in the southeast corner of the rear room of 12 North Warren Street on the assumption that this would be a likely spot for privies, trash pits, cisterns, wells and the like (i.e., features that might be expected to contain large concentrations of artifacts) (Figure 6.1).

Immediately the cement floor [1] had been removed it was clear from subsidence and the presence of underpinning for the floor [3, 8, 31] that deep-cut features would probably be found in this area. Beneath the early 20th-century cement floor was an earlier brick yard surface [2], laid in a simple pattern with blocks of masonry oriented both with and diagonal to the main axis of the property (Plates 6.11 and 6.12). This yard surface is probably equivalent to the fragmentary brick surface observed in Excavation Unit 1 [context 5] and is therefore likely to have originated in the mid-19th century. However, because of the date of underlying deposits in Excavation Unit B, portions of this surface appear to have been laid or relaid around the turn-of-the-century.

The brick yard surface was laid on top of a variety of fill deposits [4, 7, 10, 13-16] and partially sealed a group of three large stone slabs [5, 9, 17] that served as capstones for an eight-foot-deep brick-lined cistern [20] (Plates 6.12-6.14). Probably circular in plan and roughly six feet in diameter, this feature was laid within a large construction cut whose fill [23, 29, 30] contained mid-19th century and earlier cultural materials. This cistern is interpreted as a larger replacement for the early 19th-century cistern found in Excavation Unit A. Unlike its predecessor, this second cistern had been filled with debris upon its abandonment (Plate 6.15). Based on the date of the cultural materials, notably the glassware, contained in these fill deposits, the cistern appears to have gone out of use around the turn of the century, probably circa 1895-1905 (Appendix C.ii).

MATRIX 6.2. 12 NORTH WARREN STREET EXCAVATION UNIT B (See Appendix B.ii for details of contexts)

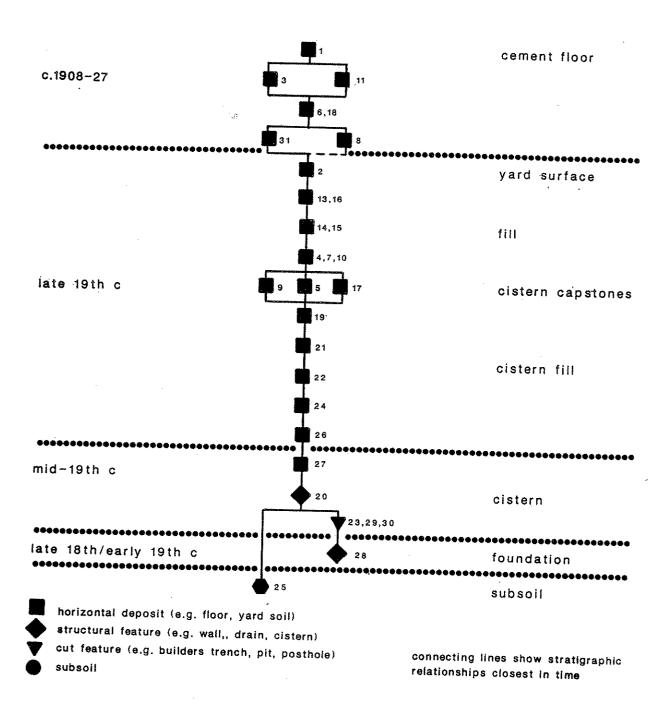
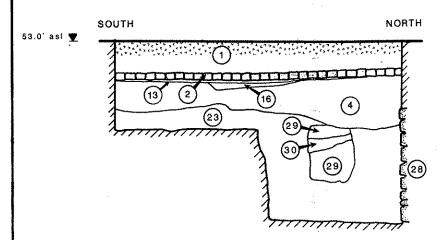


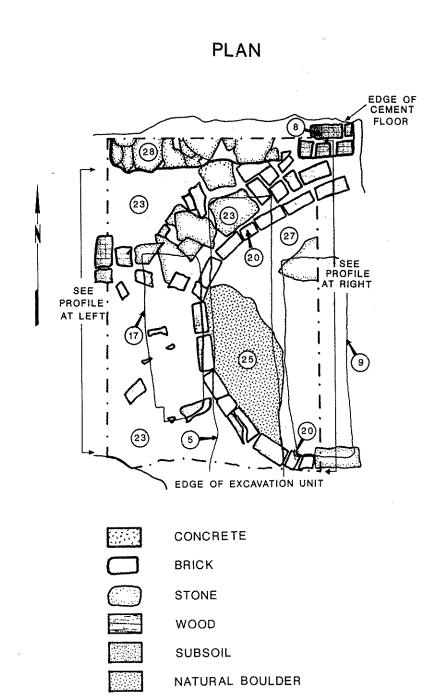
FIGURE 6.5. 12 NORTH WARREN STREET: EXCAVATION UNIT B

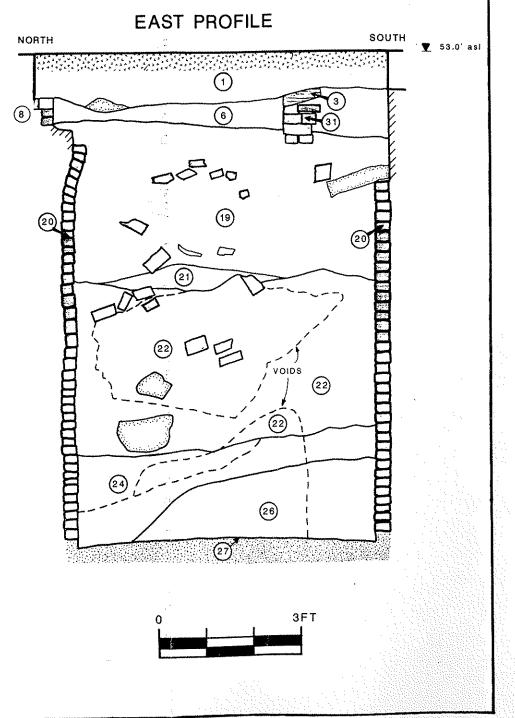
WEST PROFILE

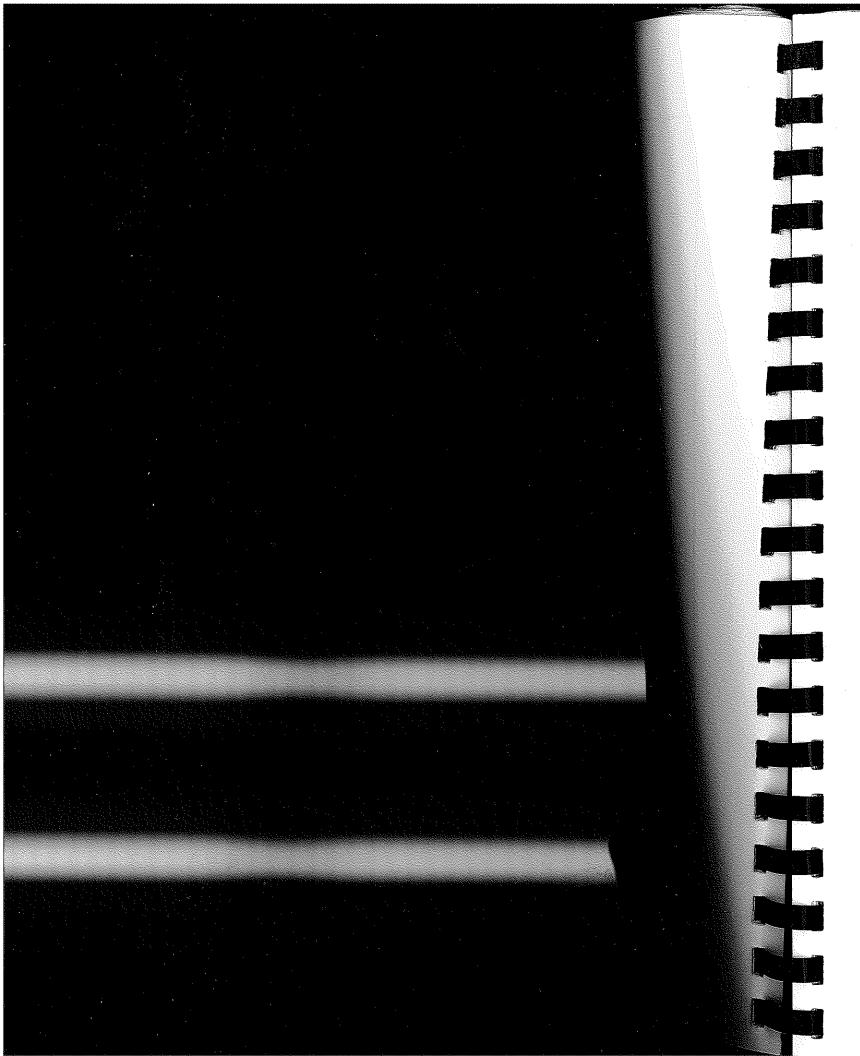


Context 1 - floor of first floor rear room [early 20thc]
Context 2 - brick yard surface [late 19th/early 20thc]
Context 3 - underpinning for cement floor [1] [early 20thc]
Context 4 - fill [late 19thc]
Context 5 - stone cap for cistern [late 19thc]
Context 6 - fill/leveling deposit [early 20thc]
Context 8 - 7underpinning for cement floor [1] [early 20thc]
Context 9 - stone cap for cistern [late 19thc]
Context 13 [16] - minor leveling deposit for brick surface
[2] [late 19thc]
Context 16 - see context 13
Context 17 - stone cap for cistern [late 19thc]
Context 19 - cistern fill [late 19thc]
Context 20 - brick lining of cistern [mid-19thc]
Context 21 - cistern fill [late 19thc]
Context 22 - cistern fill [late 19thc]
Context 23 [29] [30] - builders trench for cistern
[mid-19thc]
Context 24 - cistern fill [late 19thc]
Context 25 - boulder (bedrock)
Context 26 - cistern fill [late 19thc]
Context 27 - cistern floor
Context 28 - stone wall, southwest corner of ?outbuilding
foundation or stone cistern [?late 18th/early 19thc]
Context 29 - see context 23
Context 30 - see context 23
Context 31 - ?underpinning for cement floor [1] [early
20thc]

For fuller detail of contexts see Appendix B.







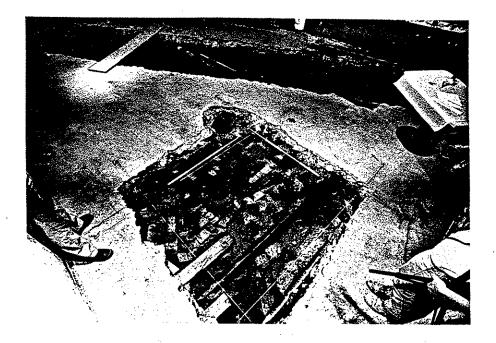


Plate 6.11. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit B: view looking northwest during early stages of excavation; late 19th/early 20th century brick yard surface visible over most of unit; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

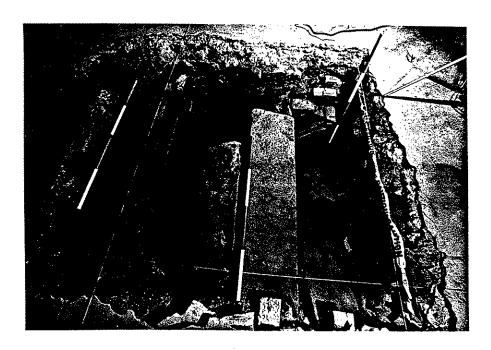


Plate 6.12. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit B: view looking north showing large stone slabs covering mid- to late 19th century brick cistern; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

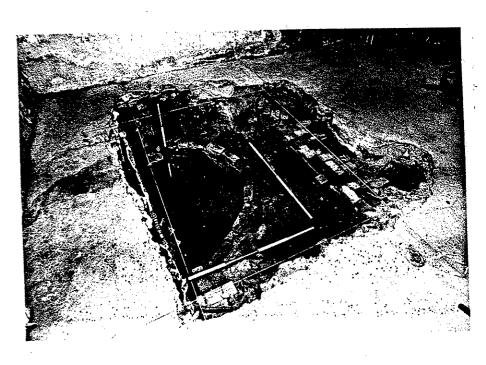


Plate 6.13. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit B: view looking south southwest showing mid- to late 19th century brick cistern partially excavated; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

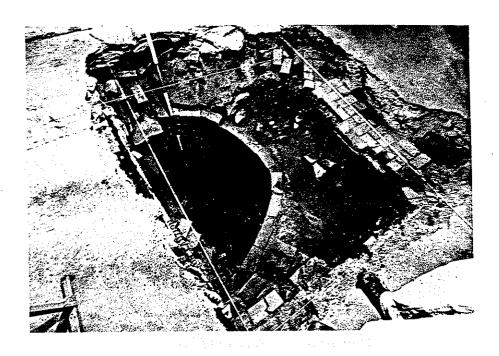


Plate 6.14. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit B: view looking south southwest showing mid- to late 19th century brick cistern fully excavated; note large natural boulder at base of cistern; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

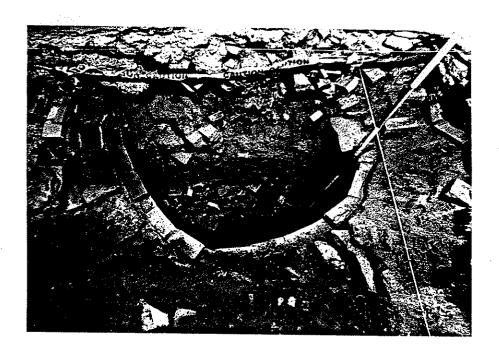


Plate 6.15. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit B: view looking east showing fill of mid- to late 19th century brick cistern; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

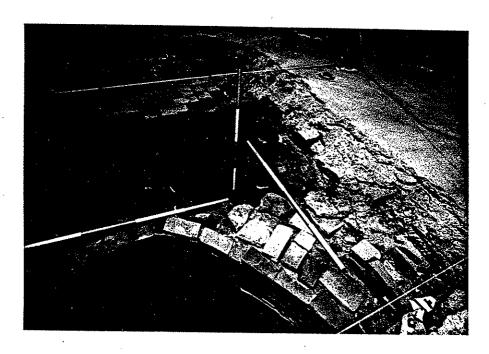


Plate 6.16. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit B: view looking northwest showing mid- to late 19th century brick cistern in foreground; far end of horizontal scale pole at right rests on southwest corner of possible 18th century structure that was also observed in excavation unit A; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

The cistern in Excavation Unit B, like the earlier cistern in Excavation Unit A, was also built up against the earlier stone foundation [28 and Excavation Unit A, context 30] discussed above. The southwestern corner of this square or rectangular structure was observed at the western end of the north profile of Excavation Unit B (Plate 6.16). Any evidence of a builders trench for this foundation had been removed through the construction of the cistern.

Excavation Unit C (Matrix 6.3; Figure 6.6; Plates 6.17 and 6.18; Appendices B.ii and C.ii) measured 3.5 by 9 feet and was located on the north side of the center section of 12 North Warren Street (Figure 6.1). The unit was oriented north-south, perpendicular to the main axis of 12 North Warren Street and the alley to the north.

The archaeological stratigraphy in this excavation unit displayed a major discontinuity. The construction activity between 1908 and 1927 that resulted in the erection of a two-story brick structure over the full width of this central portion of the property removed virtually all trace of pre-existing 19th- and 18th-century deposits. The early 20th-century construction and fill deposits [1, 5] lay directly over subsoil.

The foundations and their builders trenches observed at the north and south ends of the unit were the only major features of any antiquity. The northern brick wall of the early 20th-century structure [2] was laid on top of a stone foundation [11] that was probably the base of an earlier property wall. The builders trench [6] for this latter foundation contained early 19th-century artifacts, so this wall probably represented the property boundary established in the first quarter of the 19th century between 12 North Warren Street and the alley to the north. A line of bricks [13] adjacent to this foundation may have been a yard surface remnant or underpinning for a yard. At the opposite end of the unit, the outside face of the north wall of the rear basement section of 12 North Warren Street was revealed [3] (Figure 6.2). The builders trench [8] for this wall also produced early 19th-century artifacts, confirming that this portion of the building dated originally from the early 1820s. A single posthole [7] may have been related to the construction of this rear portion of the Stephen Rose house.

MATRIX 6.3. 12 NORTH WARREN STREET EXCAVATION UNIT C (See Appendix B.ii for details of contexts)

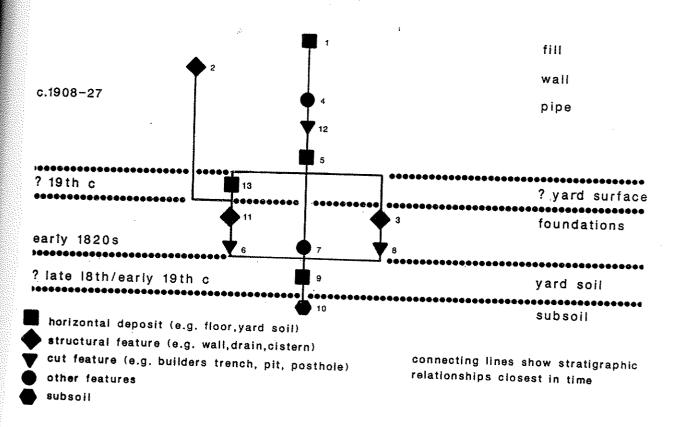
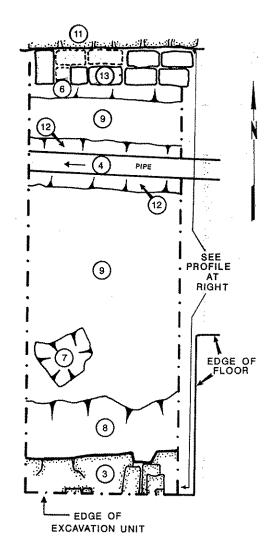
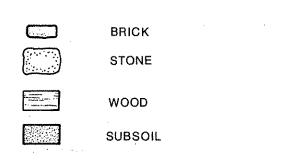


FIGURE 6.6. 12 NORTH WARREN STREET: EXCAVATION UNIT C

PLAN



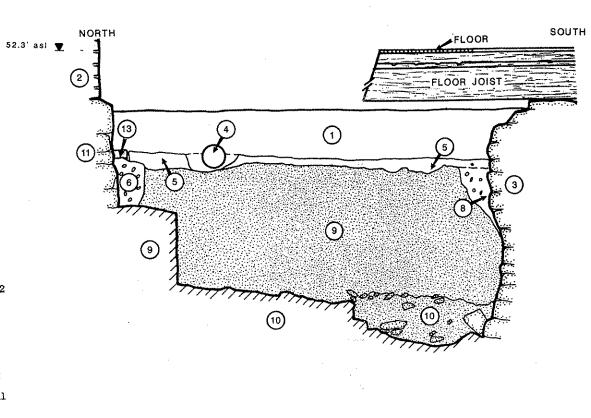


Context 2 - standing brick wall, north wall of 12
North Warren Street [early 20thc]
Context 3 - north cellar wall of 12 North Warren
Street [early 1820s]
Context 4 - water line [early 20thc]
Context 5 - construction deposit [early 20thc]
Context 6 - builders trench for north wall of 12
North Warren Street [?early 1820s]
Context 7 - possible post hole, ?for scaffolding
[?early 1820s]
Context 8 - builders trench for north cellar wall
of 12 North Warren Street [early 1820s]
Context 9 - base of yard build-up/garden soil
and subsoil [mid-18th thru early 19thc]
Context 10 - subsoil
Context 11 - stone foundation for north wall of
12 North Warren Street [?early 1820s]
Context 12 - pipe trench [early 20thc]
Context 13 - brick surface [?19thc]

Context 1 - fill/debris [early 20thc]

For fuller detail of contexts see Appendix B.

EAST PROFILE



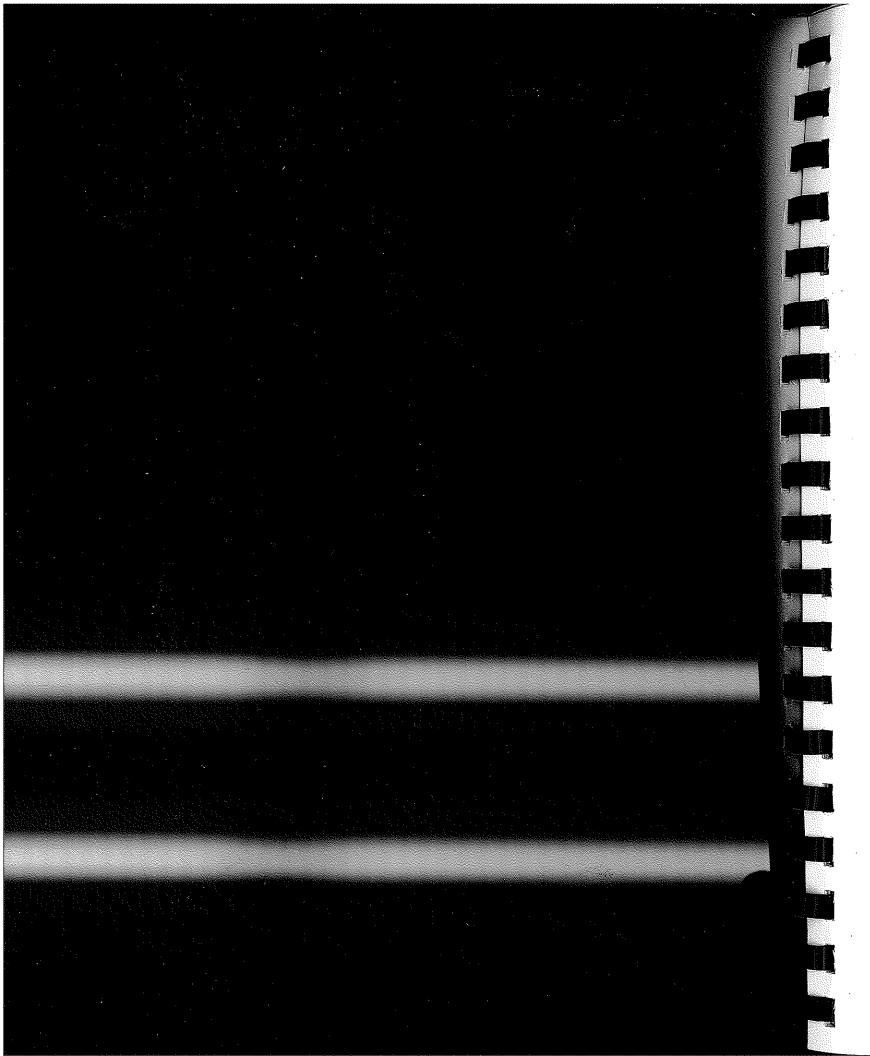




Plate 6.17. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit C: general view looking northeast prior to beginning excavation; horizontal scale pole marks location of unit; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

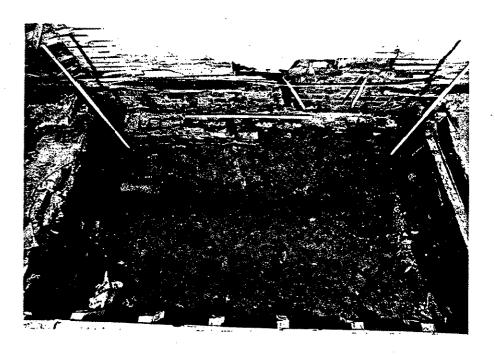


Plate 6.18. 12 North Warren Street, Excavation Unit C: general view looking north showing unit during early stages of excavation; cast iron pipe visible within 19th century yard soil; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, August 1987).

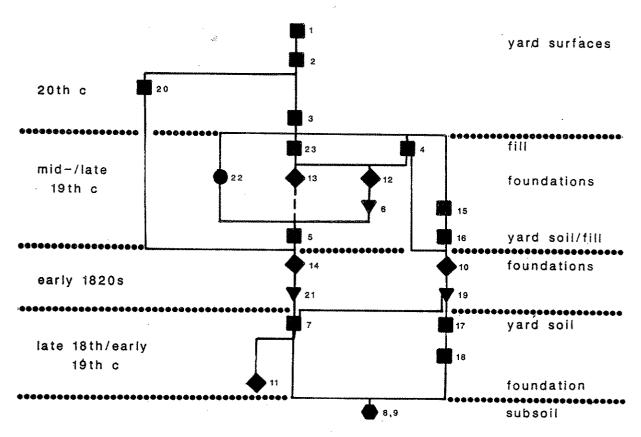
The Alley Excavation Unit (Matrix 6.4; Figure 6.7 and 6.8; plates 6.19-6.21; Appendices B.ii and C.ii) originated as a 16-foot long, 1.5-foot wide trench excavated in the Phase 1 investigations. This was then expanded westwards in the Phase 2 studies to encompass an area of approximately 70 square feet. This unit was mostly located in what was historically the rear portion of 14 North Warren Street, although its southern tip extended into the eastern end of the alley between 12 and 14 North Warren Street. The eastern end of the alley, in its final 20th-century manifestation, included part of the rear section of 14 North Warren Street (Figures 4.21-4.23 and 6.7).

Beneath the 20th-century asphalt and cobble alley surfaces [1, 2], a complex series of walls and other buried remains was encountered, ranging in date from the 18th through the 20th centuries (Plates 6.19-6.21). Unfortunately, intensive use of this area and the destructive effects of each successive building phase on pre-existing structures made full interpretation of the archaeological remains in this unit very difficult.

Two parallel east-west foundations [10, 14], from the associated stratigraphic and artifactual evidence, appear to have dated from the early to mid-19th century. These foundations correspond with structures shown in the rear part of 14 North Warren Street on historic maps of the last quarter of the 19th century (Figures 4.16-4.18). These structures were torn down sometime between 1891 and 1905 during the True American era, when the rear portion of 14 North Warren Street was remodeled so that a part of the This was building remained open at the first story. basically how the building appeared in 1987 (Figures 4.19-4.23). These changes to the rear of the building around the turn of the century were presumably to facilitate loading and unloading of materials used in the True American printing operation.

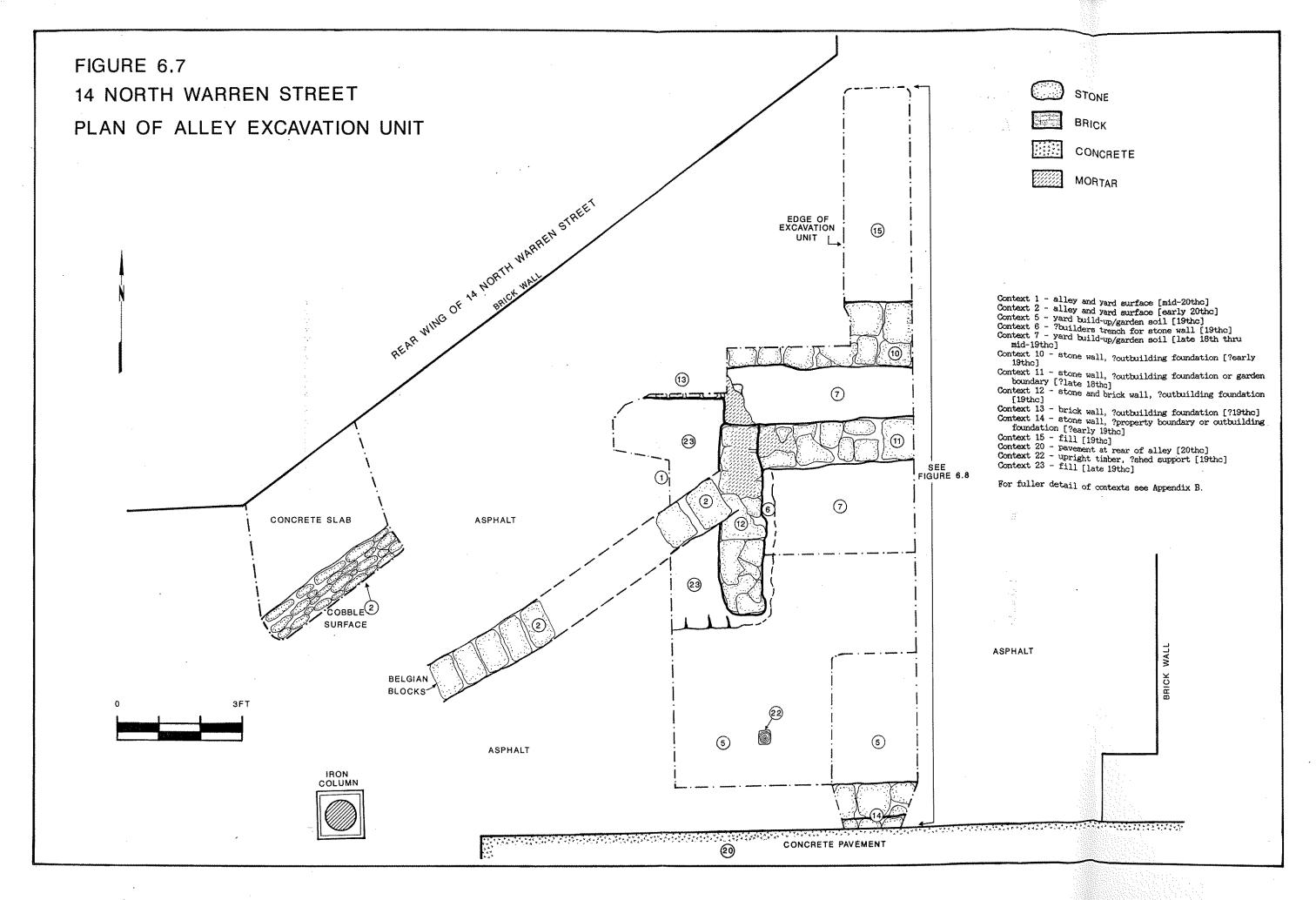
In the west central part of the Alley Excavation Unit, two stone and brick walls [12 and 13] defined the northern end of a square or rectangular structure that enclosed a rubble-filled, cellar-like hole cut down roughly two feet below the ground surface (Figure 6.7; Plates 6.18 and 6.19). A single upright post [22], three feet east of the east end of the north wall [12], may also have been part of this building. The structure was open on its southern side, as if to allow access from the alley. Stratigraphically, this structure post-dated the two east-west walls noted above [10 and 14] (Matrix 6.4), but it also clearly pre-dated the True American phase as it was overlaid by a line of Belgian blocks [2] that related to the turn-of-the-century

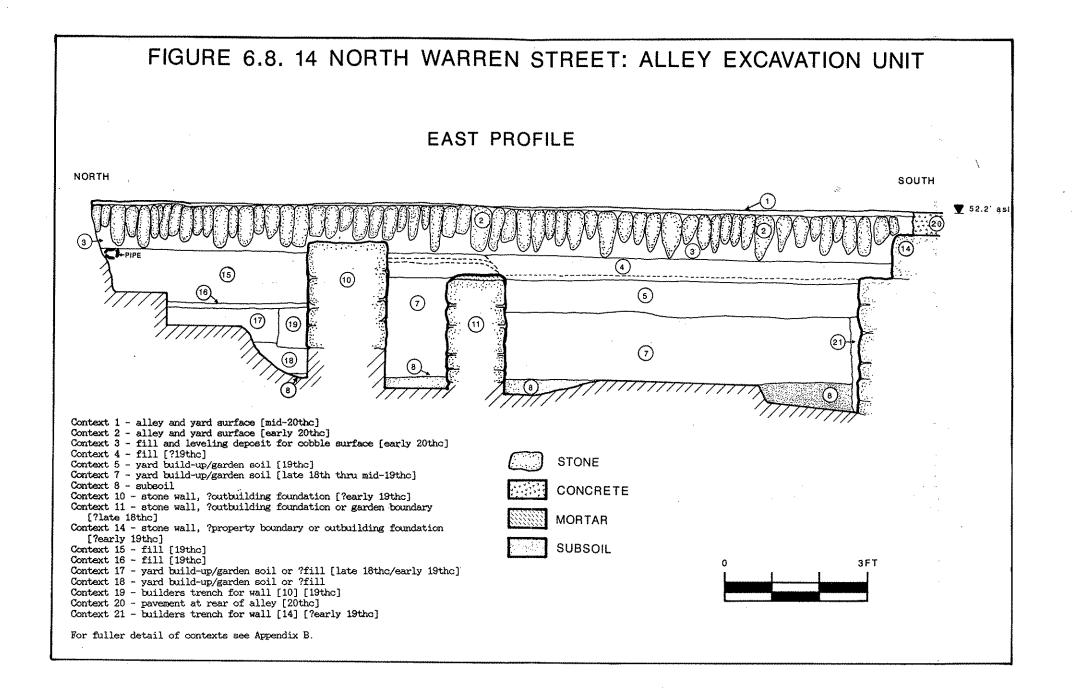
MATRIX 6.4. 14 NORTH WARREN STREET ALLEY EXCAVATION UNIT (See Apppendix B.ii for details of contexts)



- horizontal deposit (e.g. floor,yard soil)
- structural feature (e.g. builders trench, pit, posthole)
- cut feature (e.g. builders trench, pit, posthole)
- other features
- subsoil

connecting lines show stratigraphic relationships closest in time





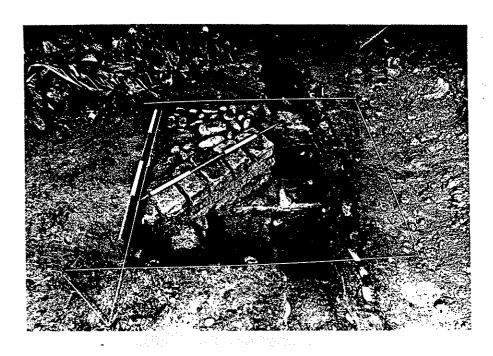


Plate 6.19. 14 North Warren Street, Alley Excavation Unit: general view looking north during early stages of excavation showing early 20th century cobble and Belgian block yard surface overlying earlier walls; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, May 1987).



Plate 6.20. 14 North Warren Street, Alley Excavation Unit: general view looking north showing series of 19th and possible late 18th century stone walls; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, May 1987).



Plate 6.21. 14 North Warren Street, Alley Excavation Unit: general view looking west showing series of 19th and possible late 18th century stone walls; scale in feet (Photographer: Richard Hunter, May 1987).