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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS
AT
REYNOLDS TAVERN, 4 CHURCH CIRCLE,
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

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August, 1978

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Prepared for Historic Annapolis, Inc.
Annapolis, Maryland

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the help extended by Mrs. Anne St. Clair Wright and the staff of Historic Annapolis, Incorporated, in making this excavation possible. The kind efforts of Richard Kearns, Preservation Administrator, Karen Peterson, Curator, Nancy Baker, Historian, and Russell Wright, Historical Architect, were indispensable to the completion of the task.

We were fortunate in having the services of the following volunteers who assisted in the excavation: Robert McGowan, Karen Peterson, Bruce Friedland, Rita Orr (Mrs. Ronald G. Orr), and my granddaughter Cheryl Lynn Bedell. Dr. Leland Gilsen, Archaeologist of the Maryland Historical Trust, and Tyler Bastian, State Archaeologist, visited the site during the excavation and contributed helpful suggestions.

The three large, inclining screen tables used to sift the artifact-bearing soils of the site's strata were made and contributed by amateur excavator Herb Sappington of the Anne Arundel County Board of Education.

We were encouraged in our efforts by the keen interest shown by the Annapolis public who frequently stopped to talk with the excavators and often to impart some interesting information. Their questions indicated a widespread and intelligent interest in the archaeology of Annapolis.

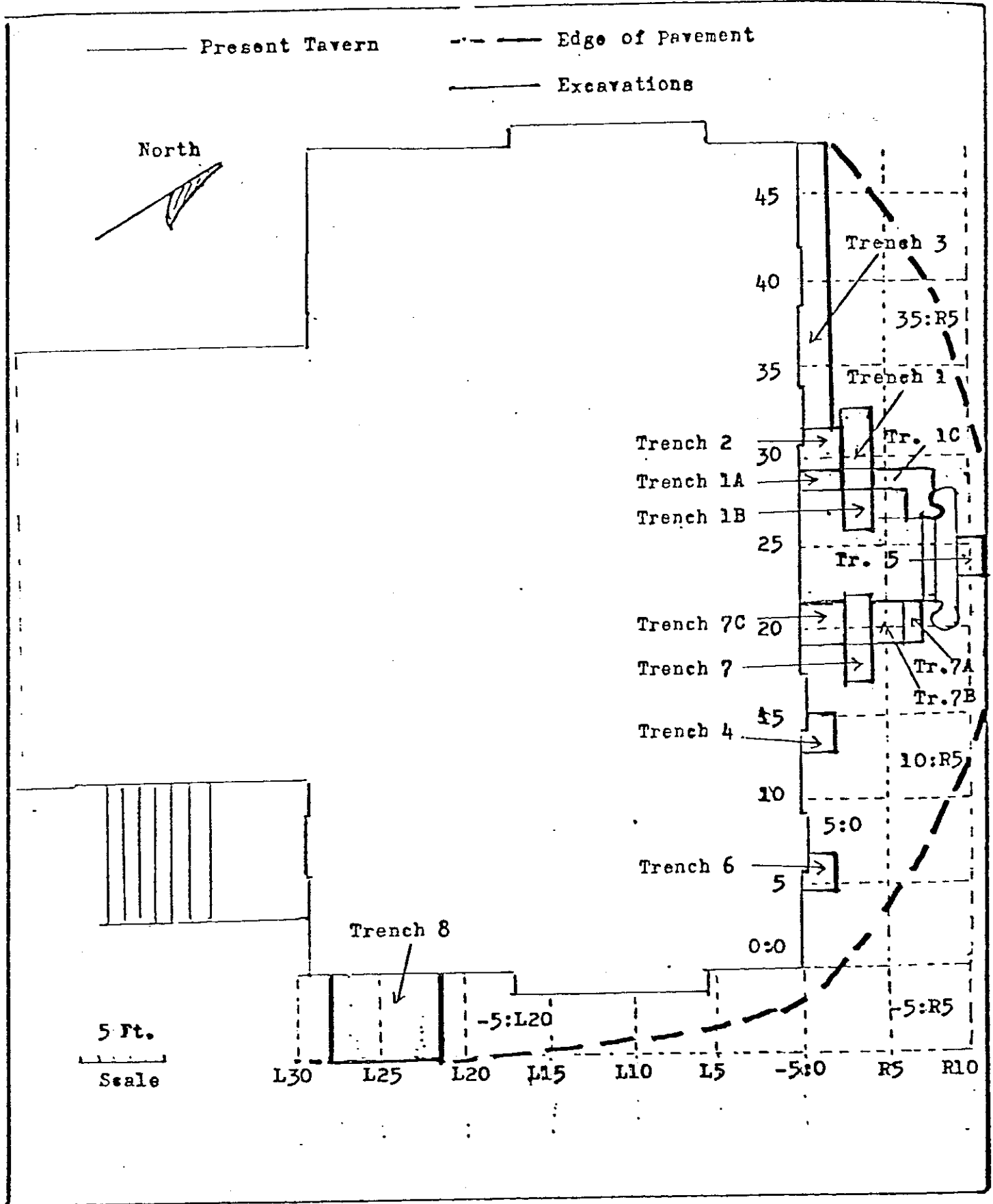


Fig. 1. Coordinated Grid and Excavated Trenches at Northeast and Southeast Fronts of Reynolds Tavern. (Base Map after Russell Wright, N.D.)

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The Finds

Over 1700 artifact fragments came from some 15 cultural layers or strata and 10 features. The artifacts consisted of: construction materials such as brick and stone fragments, mortar, cement, slate, nails, shell, and iron objects used in the construction of the house; and midden debris - fragments of broken dishes and glass, pipe fragments, animal bones, fruit seeds, and door keys, pins, buttons, wire. A coin (George III half-penny 1773) was also found.

As the artifacts were excavated they were scrutinized for diagnostic traits useful in dating the layers in which they were found. The period at which a given layer was laid down could not be earlier than the most recent artifact found therein. Standard references were used in the analysis of the finds. These included: Noel Hume 1976, 1969a, 1969b, McKee, 1973, Nelson, 1963 and Morrison 1952. Prior experience with related projects in the Annapolis area proved invaluable to the excavators in the analysis of the finds (Orr, 1975a, 1975b, Orr and Orr, 1978).

Artifact complexes were recognized for the Early Period (Stoop 1, etc.), Middle Period (Stoop 2, etc.), and Late Period (Stoop 3, etc.). These complexes were equated with the middle of the 18th Century, the early 19th Century, and the 2nd quarter of the 20th Century.

Previous Investigations

While the excavation undertaken here is the first archaeological investigation for the Reynolds Tavern, historical research has been undertaken by Nancy Baker (Baker, N.D.) and Russell Wright (Wright N.D.). Both investigators are associated with Historic Annapolis, Inc.

The public records indicate that William Reynolds leased the lots on which his house was built in 1747, but that the house wasn't built until 1751-55. The house was operated as a tavern, as well as a hat and stocking shop and livery stable during Reynold's life. After his death in 1777 the house was used as a boarding house and a residence until sold in 1812 to the Farmer's National Bank of Maryland. In the 20th Century it was a public library. Since the three centuries were equally involved in the history of the house the archaeological investigation gives equal emphasis to the features and remains of each period.

The architectural analysis covers an exterior description and an interior investigation which was greatly facilitated by the existence of an inventory of the rooms and their contents following the death of Reynolds (May 17, 1777). During the excavation the archaeologists worked closely with the architect. His analysis of the porch complex follows:

"The front facade is virtually unaltered and is an important example of mid 18th century design. Minor changes include the existing six-panel entrance door, a 1950's replacement. The 4-lite transom has also been slightly changed. This central entrance has been provided with a later but important pedimented wood porch dating from the early 19th century. (The porch foundation and brick floor is even later than the porch, probably replacing a wooden floor, but this change is minor and can easily be rectified). The porch, which partially obscures the belt course over the entrance, is remarkably similar to that built by the important 18th-19th C architect John Shaw for his own residence on State Circle and is probably the work of this designer, engaged by the Farmer's Bank in 1812 to make improvements to their just-purchased property. The front rails of the porch are Chinese Chippendale, with square balusters in the side rails." (Wright, N.D. p.11).

With these introductory concepts in mind we are now in a position to examine in some detail the archaeological findings.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Basic Stratigraphy

The Subsoil.

The subsoil consists of a brown clayey sand which, within a few feet grades into a brown-grey sandy clay. It is a natural strata and is typical of the area. The subsoil was encountered at depth varying from 1 3/4th' to 3' below the surface. A darker brown stratum 6" in thickness forms the top of the subsoil. This is a humus zone which contained an occasional badly rusted square nail and one thick, dark, glass fragment from a wine bottle.

Layer H, Fill. (Fig. 4)

A dark brown loam was found located between the subsoil and the surface at the Church Circle front and along the Franklin Street side of the tavern. This strata has the consistency of fudge and is largely sterile. There is a consistent occurrence of sandstone spalls and brick fragments throughout the fill. These fragments are similar to the stone and brick types used in the construction of the tavern. It is believed to be a landscaping fill.

The Grade Line. (Fig. 2)

The grade line of the front of the tavern was determined to be 30-36" below the datum plane. Under the porch platform and on the west side of the front the grade line is well marked by a thin oyster shell layer on the top of Layer H, the landscaping fill. On the east side the grade line has been largely eroded away by the downhill ground water drainage into Franklin street. The grade line is also marked by a single course of four parallel bricks which rest on the top of the house wall gutter, a shallow trench of concentrated oyster shells flanking the west front wall.

The grade line of the Franklin Street side of the tavern is marked by the top of the north cheek-wall of the cellar entrance. The original grade line at the northeast corner of the tavern had been eroded away as a result of ground water on the Franklin Street slope.

The Backyard Tests. The sandy-clay subsoil occurred in Tests 1 and 2 c. 2' below the surface.

Interpretation.

The original surface of Lot 60-61 on which Reynolds built his tavern as irregular and hilly. There was no evidence of an earlier structure on this site, but the presence of iron and glass artifact fragments suggests

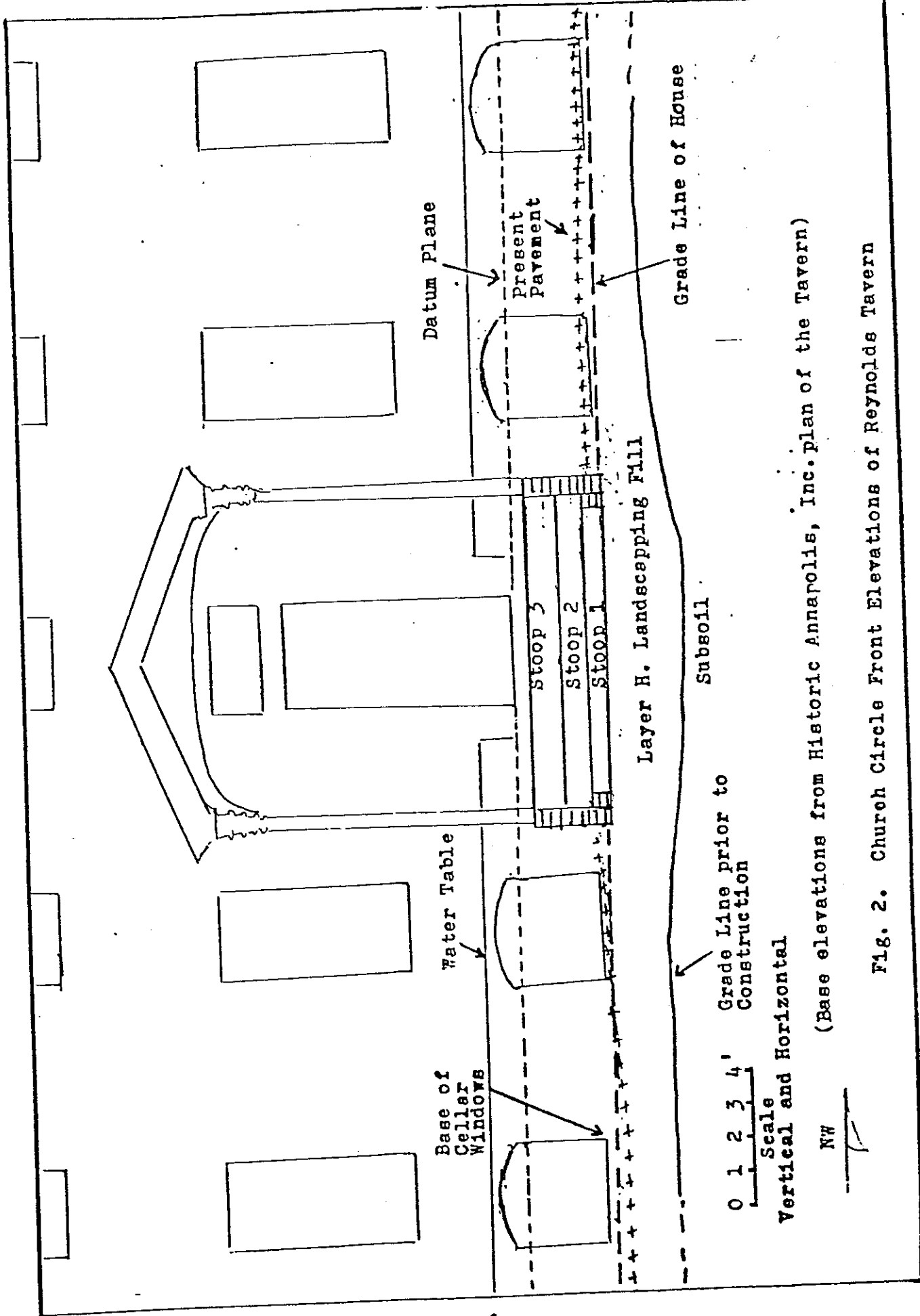


Fig. 2. Church Circle Front Elevations of Reynolds Tavern
(Base elevations from Historic Annapolis, Inc. plan of the Tavern)

earlier structures in close proximity. The builders dug the foundation cellar of the tavern into the existing surface and set-in the sandstone cellar walls against the subsoil. They then proceeded to build the brick wall above ground where they would be able to point the brick courses. Then a landscaping fill was put in, up to the grade line. This was probably done gradually as the walls were being built. Brick chips and stone spalls flew and were incorporated into the fill. A relatively heavy concentration of brick chips at the top of Layer H, landscaping fill, marked the debris accumulated as the rest of the house walls were erected.

The Cellar Windows

The cellar windows (4) on the Church Circle front were originally c. 1' longer than they are now. The windows were shortened by bricking in of 3 courses when the cement pavement raised the grade line. The original grade line was a few inches below the base of the original windows. The evidence for this is clearly seen in the line demarked between the original window base and edges, and the brick courses which filled in the bottom of the window. There was no evidence of bulkheads, window wells, or entrances along the front. (Fig. 2)

The Porch Platform

The front porch platform was explored through a series of short trenches on the west and east sides of the stoop.

Trenches 1, 1A, 1B, 1C. (Fig. 4 , Fig. 3)

The laborers who prepared the site for excavation had removed the present brick floor and most of the brick sides. A course or two of bricks of the side wall still remained. The earth core of the platform was shaved down revealing a number of strata. A narrow trench was extended to the west (Trench 1) and dug to subsoil, revealing an iron pipe parallel to the house wall. The brick side wall was designated Feature 1, the earthen core, Feature 2, and the iron pipe, Feature 3. The strata were excavated and the soil screened to reveal the following data:

Layer A: This layer was a sand zone supporting the present brick floor of the porch. The yellow sand contained pebbles, asphalt fragments, drawn nails, fragments of cement brick. The brick that rested on this layer was smooth, light red in color, and measured 8x4x2".

Layer B: An asphalt cement layer was a breccia composed of brick and mortar fragments, pieces of slate, and some animal bones. This hard layer covered the platform and extended over the sides of the earthen core.

Layer C: A light brown soil containing small brick, mortar, and shell fragments, pieces of a fine-grained yellowed cement, and pebbles with asphalt coatings was found directly below the asphalt layer B.

Layer D: A thick sand zone contained quantities of small beach-worn shell fragments. An area of solid cement of unknown extent was found within it. The cement was a white lime mixed with fine sand and contained

an occasional flake of charcoal. This layer covered the top and sides of the platform core, Feature 1.

Layer E: A hard brown soil layer contained animal bones, square nails, crushed shell mortar, shell fragments, thin clear glass, and brass pins. It had the form of a truncated pyramid with the sides cut back at the side walls.

Layer F: Concentrated shell (oyster) zone also containing cultural material: square nails, green window glass, China porcelain sherd, pewter(?).

Layer G: a thin, compacted lens of brown soil containing wineglass fragments, a glazed (brown and white) pipestem (2 fragments), dark green bottle glass, brass pin.

Layer H: Described above. Dark brown landscaping fill.

Subsoil: Described above. Sandy clay.

Trench 7, 7A, 7B, 7C. (Fig. 3)

The Trench 7 complex explored the stoop strata and the landscaping fill, Layer H, below the stoop to the subsoil on the opposite side of the porch platform from the Trench 1 complex. The excavation confirmed the platform stratigraphy indicated in the Trench 1 complex and added some new information:

Layer A, sand buffer zone: The following additional finds were made: metal overall button, clear bottle glass with raised lettering (milk bottle), rounded stream pebbles, worked quartzite pebble (Amerindian), bituminous coal fragment, fragments of smooth light-red brick (same as used for surface on Layer A) and white, fine-sand grain cement (modern).

Layer B: (Same asphalt beccia as described for Trench 1 complex)

Layer C: The following finds came from this hard brown soil layer: peach seed, white paint chip (3 layers, wall paint), cut nail, slate fragment, wooden button with copper rim, isinglass fragment, white cement mortar, yellow-white cement, brick fragments.

Layer D: Creamware sherd set in limestone mortar containing charcoal fragments, cut nail, yellow-white limestone cement, cup rim sherd of smudged blue/white China porcelain (cross-hatched design), white salt-glaze sherd, fragment of bituminous coal, jet button with metal back, and two white ware sherds (pearlware?). A brick step was found set in a yellow-white limestone mortar next to the door. The brick, set in two courses, was a dark red brick measuring $8\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. The mortar was resting on a white sand layer (designated D1) but was surrounded as were the brick steps by Layer D yellow sand.

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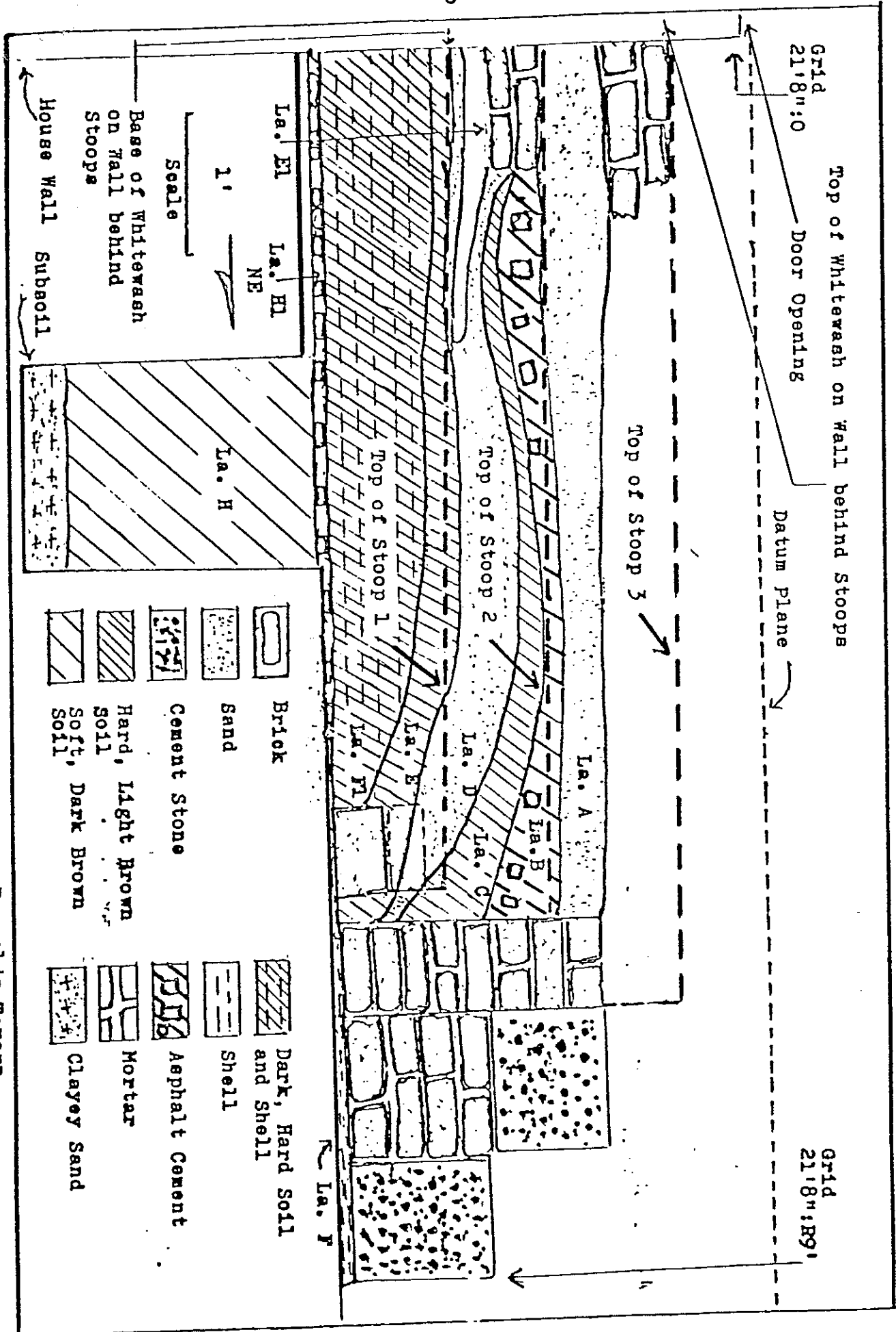
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Fig. 3. Northeast-Southwest Profile of Front Porch Stoop, Reynolds Tavern.



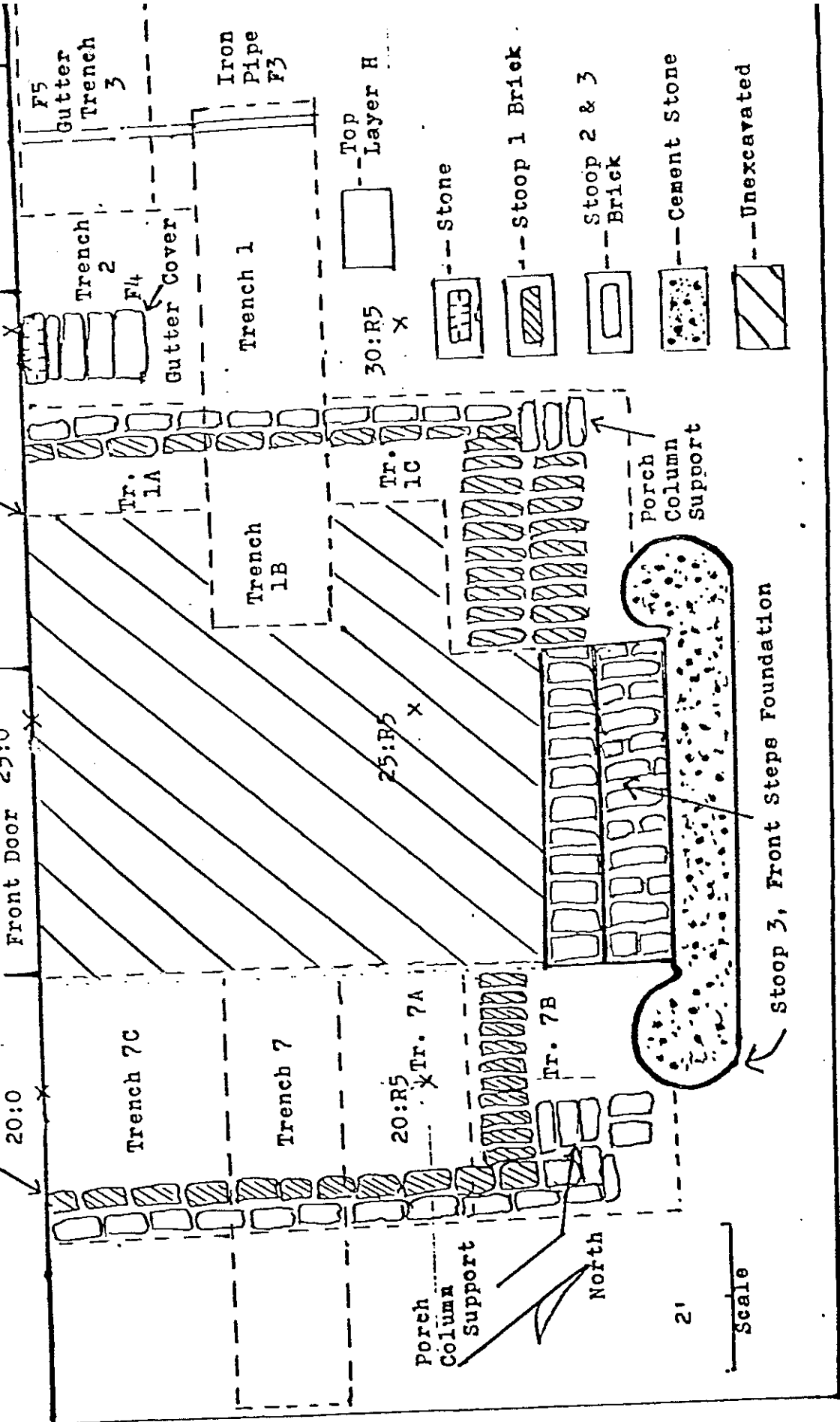


Fig. 4. Groundplan Base of Front Door Porch, Reynolds Tavern (3' below datum)

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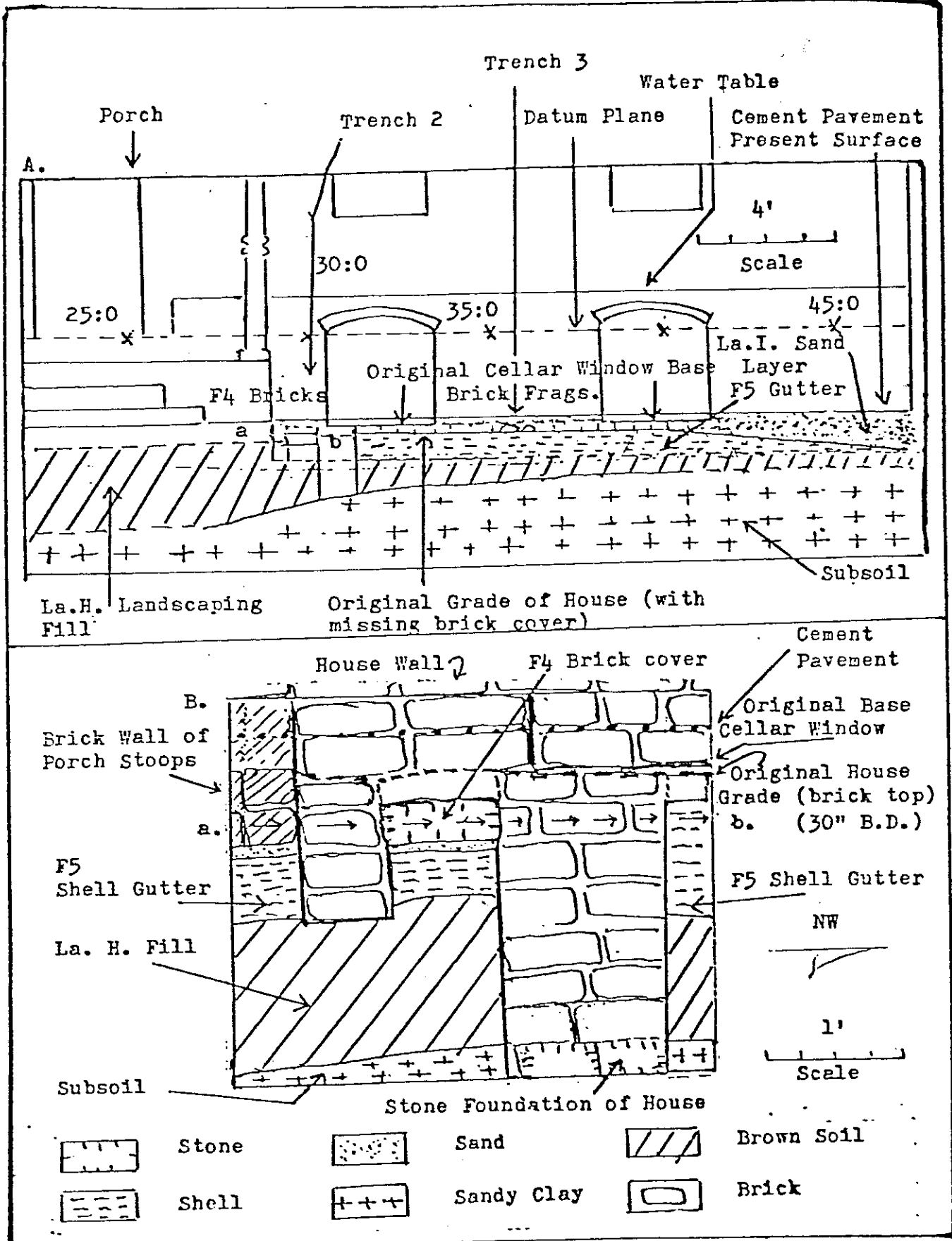


Fig. 5. Oyster Shell Gutter, Reynolds Tavern Front. A. Northeast Elevation Section. B. Profile a-b through Trench 2.

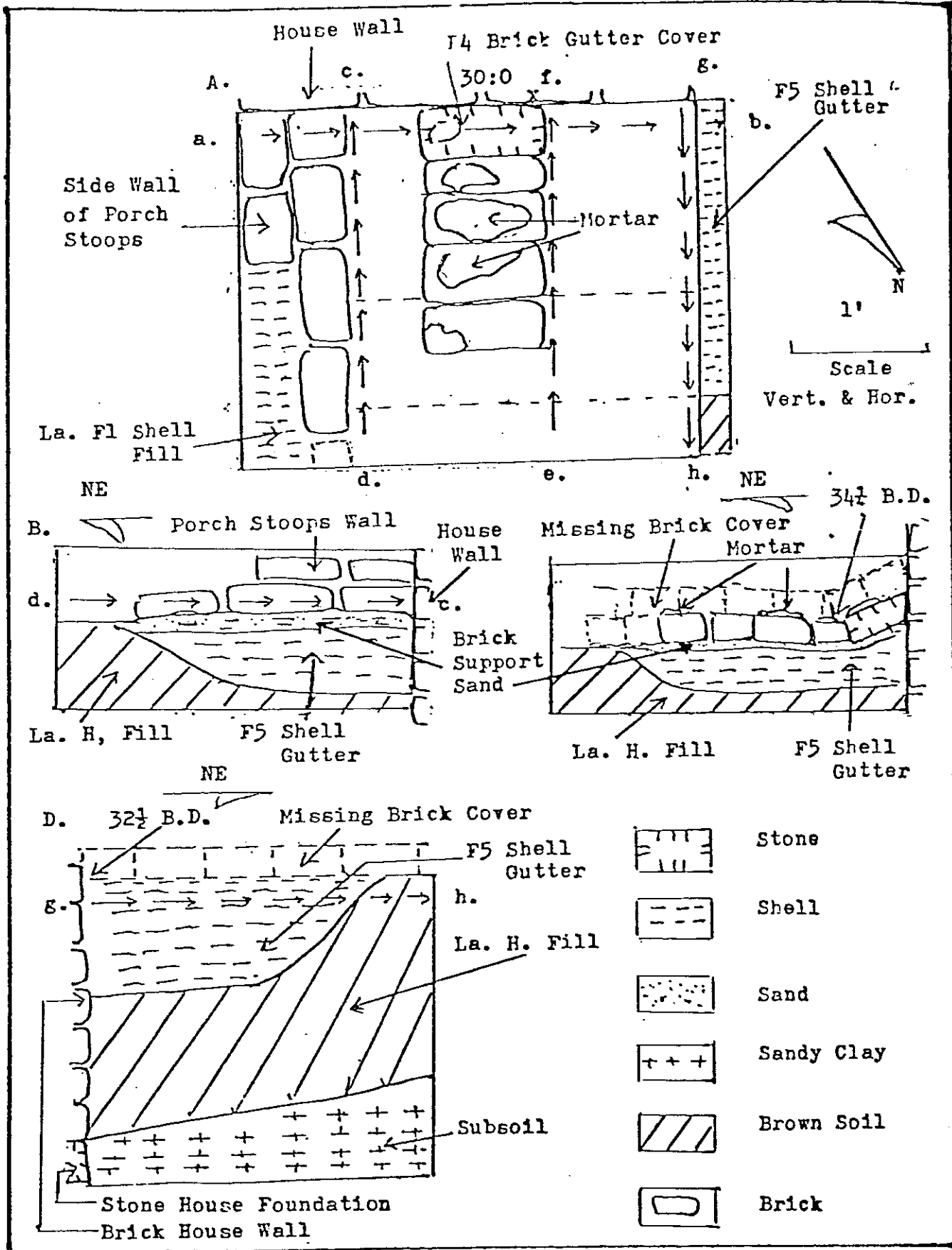


FIG. 6. Oyster Shell Gutter (contd.). A. Plan of Trench 2 ca. 33" below Datum Plane. B. Profile c-d. C. Profile e-f. D. Profile g-h.

Feature 5, Oyster Shell Trench. The trench had been cut into the dark brown soil, Layer H, the landscape fill, directly following the construction of the tavern. The oyster shells ranged in size from 3 to 6 inches and were densely packed in the trench.

Feature 4, Gutter Cover. A single course of bricks, 1 stone brick against the wall formed; a slight curved surface with 4 salmon-red bricks measuring $9 \times 4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ ". The bricks were held together by crushed shell mortar and were underlaid by a thin sand buffer zone. Disturbed remnants the stone-brick cover were found at intervals on the top of shell gutter.

Trench 3.

The identity of the shell gutter, Feature 5, was determined by a trench the length of west wall, excavated to a depth of 6 inches. The trench became increasingly shallow as it proceeded to the west. It was interrupted by a sand stratum, a modern intrusion from the direction of the Farmers and Merchants Bank directly to the west. The shells of Feature 5, gutter, were sifted in a $\frac{1}{4}$ " screen and yielded the following artifact types: copper tack, rose-head square nail, 3 pipestems (2 with $\frac{4}{64}$ " hole diameter, and 1 with $\frac{5}{64}$ "), iron key, salt-glaze grey stoneware, creamware, 2 China porcelain, wine glass stem, wine glass base, wine glass rim, light green thin window glass, dark green bottle glass, brass wire 4" loop.

Interpretation.

The source of the shell which packed the gutter trench was undoubtedly a nearby (say tavern backyard - see Test 1 below) midden since the mixture is unusually rich in artifacts. If the gutter was loaded with shell once then covered with bricks a homogeneity of cultural material would be expected. This seems to be the case. Middle 18th century.

East Front of House (Fig. 1)

Trenches 4 and 6.

Trenches 4 and 6, dug in the east front of the house, revealed Layer H, landscaping fill, superimposed on the subsoil 2' below the surface. The surface layer for the east front area was Layer H. A concentration of oyster shells on the top of Layer H near the stoop indicated that originally Feature 5, shell gutter, had paralleled the east as well as the west front of the house, but had been eroded away. The trenches also revealed the base of the cellar windows (see above). A few fragments of brick similar to that found elsewhere in Layer H were found, but no other features. The top of Layer H was "skinned" with a shovel but no intrusions were seen in the east front area.

Trench 5, Front Steps (Fig. 3,4)

The surface in front of the cement steps to the front porch was also that of Layer H, landscaping fill, which was exposed when the pavement was raised in preparation for the excavation. A small trench in front of the steps exposed a thin Layer F, shell fragments directly under the steps. Layer F is actually under all features of the porch platform and comprises a general grade line surface, which had been eroded away in the east area of the front. Although there was no evidence of a brick surface surrounding the stoop area, such bricks would have been

removed to accommodate the cement pavement.

Trench 8, Cellar Bulkhead Entrance (Figs. 7,8)

Description.

Trench 8 was a 5' square which was excavated to a depth of 4'9" to remove the fill from a bulkhead entrance at the southeast corner of the tavern. The excavation was originally planned to breach the house wall and remove the bricked-in wall area. It was seen that this would have resulted in exposing the house to groundwater flooding (the rains were severe during the excavation), as well as negating the empty buildings buglar alarm security system. The removal of the bricked-in door area was thus seen as an architectural problem. We were able to trace the outlines of the door, seen in the cracks between the brick courses, as in the case of the cellar window bases.

The excavation revealed that the east wall of the brick bulkhead had been removed to accomodate a large terracotta pipe which rested on a concrete floor 6" below the original stairwell floor. In addition, the south wall of the bulkhead leaned to the north at a 10 degree angle. It had been capped with a cement shield attached to the cement base of the backyard iron fence.

Wedges of the original floor remained with brick dust on the surface. The bricks had been removed. Pieces of white, painted wood, such as used for stair tops were found on a remnant of the original floor. There was no recognizable evidence of brick stairs. The brick and mortar of the bulkhead were of the same type as the original house walls. The door opening had been bricked-in with the use of white, fine-grained cement.

The fill contained a variety of cultural materials including: quantities of bituminous coal fragments, terracotta pipe fragment, punt or kick of a dark glass bottle base, brown glazed redware, creamware plates and bowl fragments, blue transfer print pearlware, clear bottle glass, square bottle fragment, 2 pipestems (4/64th" stem holes), painted wood fragments, and a bluish pearlware bowl with blue floral design inside and out.

Interpretation.

A bricked-in bulkhead with stairs entering from Franklin Street was the original entrance to the cellar door, built the same time as the rest of the house. Probably as a result of a cement wall mounting an iron picket fence around the backyard, groundwater erosion caused the south wall to sag. The wall was stabilized with a cement shield joined to the fence wall. This probably occurred in the late 19th century judging by the style of the fence. In the 20th century a large pipe, said to be carrying warm air for heating of the building, was inserted into the house from Franklin Street. To do this, a wall of the bulkhead and most of the floor, and stairs were removed. A cement floor and casing protecting the pipe was found 6" below the original floor.

Chimney Stack

Water Table

Bricked-up
Cellar
Entrance

Iron Fence
in Cement Wall

O:L25

Coal Port

Fill 1951

Trench 8

Water Table
O:L5

Datum Plane

O:0

Front Porch

5'

Scale

Present Pavement Surface

Cheek Wall of Bulkhead

Transverse Brick Wall removed 1951

Base of Cellar Door

Missing Brick Floor

Heating Pipe and Cement Floor Installed 1951

Remnants of Base under Missing Brick Floor

Partially collapsed Cheek Wall with Cement Shield

Dark Soil with
Artifact Fragment

Cement

Brick

(Base Elevations from Historic Annapolis, Inc. Plan of Tavern)

Fig. 7. Southeast Elevation of Reynolds Tavern showing Trench 8, Cellar Entrance Excavation.

The Backyard (Fig. 9)

The backyard of the tavern was tested in order to determine if archaeological resources were to be found which would justify an excavation in the future. Three tests revealed positive data as follows:

Test 1. (Fig. 10)

This 2' square test was excavated to subsoil at the northwest corner of the "smoke house", a single story building measuring some 14' square and located in the backyard of the tavern.

Description.

The excavation revealed 5 stratified layers and a builders trench. It was dug in 6" layers.

The top layer consisted of a light colored sand mixed with some soil and contained an aluminum button, a copper button, thick clear window glass, cut nails, wrought iron nails, coal fragments. The layer was up to 12" thick.

A series of four layers consisting of concentrated shell zones interspersed with sand followed. The 12-18" layer of heavy shell and cultural debris contained pipestems (4/64th inch stem holes), creamware, square nails, blue/white stoneware, light green window glass. The bottom layer (18-24") also of shell contained: delftware, square bottle glass, pipestems (4/64th" and 5/64th" stem hole diameters). Quantities of animal bone including a boar's tusk came from the shell layers along with wineglass fragments.

Beginning a few inches below the 1st shell layer is a narrow builders trench which extends 6" into the subsoil. The builders trench contained pearlware, a pearl button and cut nails. The trench was for the purpose of pointing the brick foundation wall. The bricks are a hard dark red type measuring $8\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ ". The mortar was a fine ground-shell type.

Interpretation.

The area was used as a kitchen midden from the mid-eighteenth century onward. Concentrated kitchen debris, including animal bones, and shell were periodically covered with sand lenses as a means of burying the garbage. The top layer is mainly a sand buffer zone for a surface - at present, it underlays a macadam drive extending to the bank next door. The stratigraphy and artifacts of the builders trench and smoke house wall suggest the house was built in the early 19th century.

Test 2, Occupational Zone (Fig. 10)

Test 2, a 2' square pit, was located 3' south and 2' east of the northeast corner of the "smoke house".

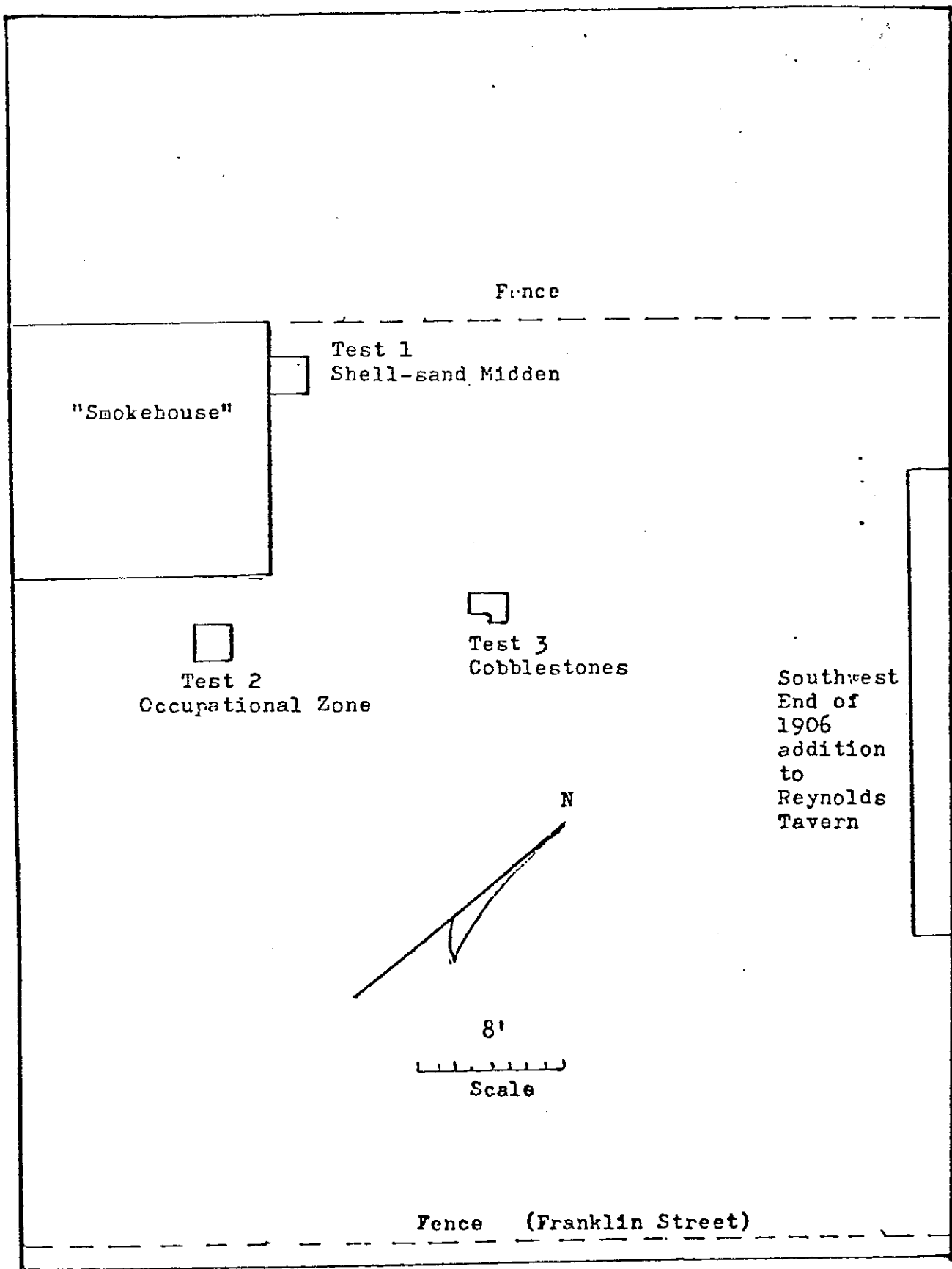


Fig. 9. Sketch Map of Reynolds Tavern Backyard.

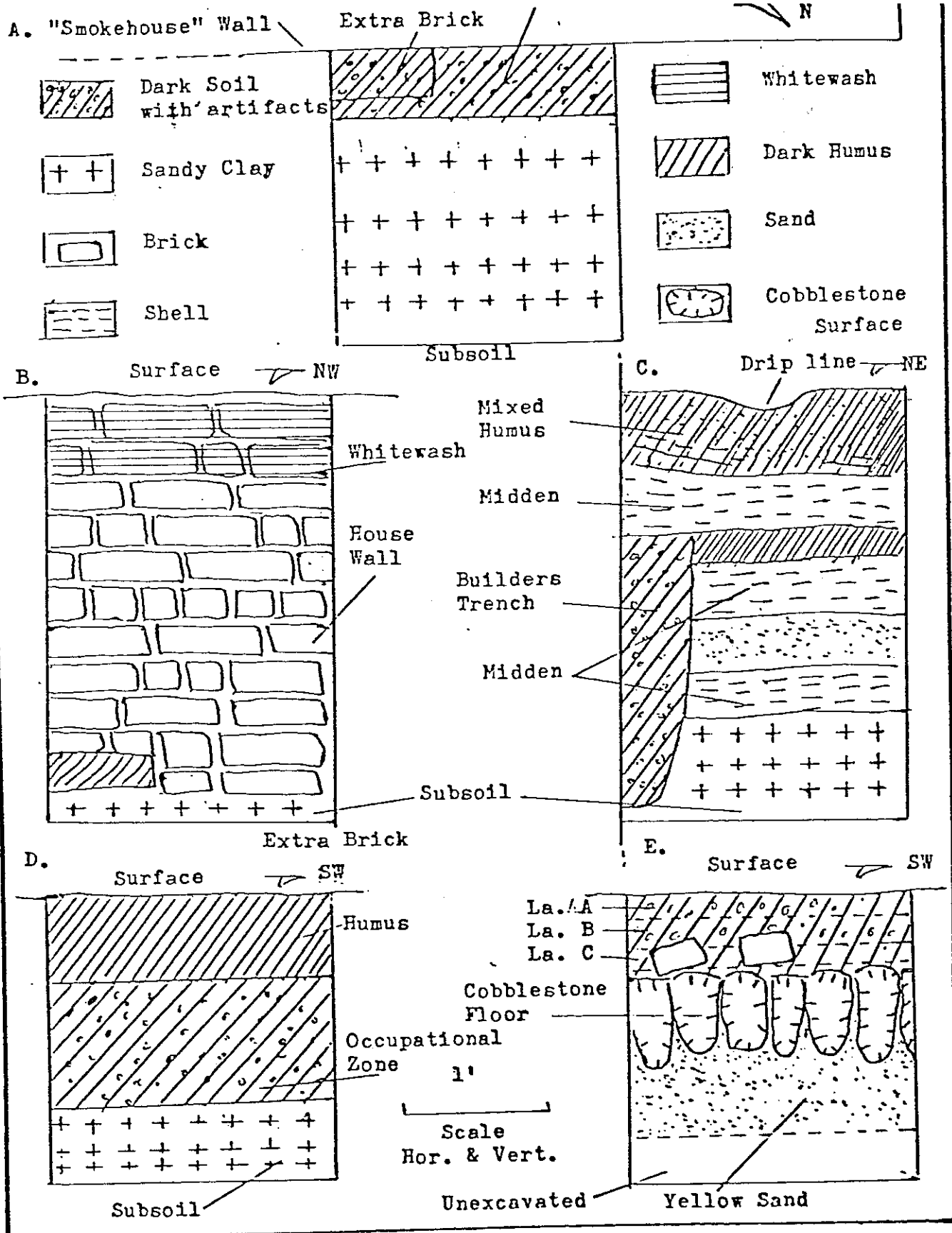


Fig. 10. Tests in Reynolds Tavern Backyard. A. Plan, Test 1. B. Profile a-b, Test 1. C. Profile b-c, Test 1. D. Test 2. E. Test 3.

COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS

The following analysis seems justified on the basis of our present understanding of archival, architectural and archaeological data.

Early Period

Pre-1747.

The land on which the tavern was built was a hill sloping downward to the southwest on a grade of 10-15 degrees. It appeared free of structures. The humus contained cultural debris, probably scattered from nearby buildings.

1747-1755.

This time period intervened between the leasing of the land and the definite occupation of the house. Layer H, landscaping layer above the original hill surface, indicated continuous building activity. Layer G is a short-period occupational zone - collected probably while the interior of the house was being finished.

Stoop 1, a low brick-walled platform probably with a wooden floor and wooden stairs leading to the front door, was the first porch. It was a typical early Georgian entrance lacking a porch roof.

The shell gutter, Feature 5, was constructed around the completed house walls to protect the crushed shell mortar below ground from the leaching effect of rain and ground water. The gutter was a part-stone brick concavity.

Fresh shell middens were used to provide the protective calcium in the gutter as well as Layer F1 which supported the Stoop 1 platform. The artifact content included thin window glass (quarrels?), light-green in-color, delftware, sharp-line China trade ware along with other artifacts and midden faunal remains. Several pipestems with 5/64th" stem diameters were found.

The cellar entrance, Trench 8, a bricked-in bulkhead probably with wooden stairs, with entrance toward Franklin Street, appears part of the original construction.

The house bricks and those of Stoop 1 were both soft-fired (red-orange) and hard-fired (magenta) measuring 8 11/16x4x2 1/2". A few salmon-red bricks 9" in length were found. Burnt crushed-oyster shell and brown sand formed the original mortar.

A brick pavement, largely removed by the cement pavement, probably

covered the original grade of the house.

The original grade of the house was c. 32" below the datum plane. with a brick pavement. The base of the cellar windows originally were c. 1' below the present base and at about the same elevation as the grade pavement.

1755-1777.

This was the period of the sites greatest utility as a tavern and hat and stocking shop.

The cobblestone area uncovered in Test 3 in the backyard was undoubtedly part of a stone courtyard for the support of carriages and horses.

A complex of stables and lodgings for slaves and indentured servants occupied the backyard area. (Wright, N.D. Appendix "Articles in the Yard" Reynolds Inventory, 1777). Test 2, occupational zone, probably relates to this complex.

Test 1, shell midden, was a debris area, the surface indications (shell of which extended toward the kitchen in the main house.

Stoop 1 continued to be used during this period without noticeable change. Probably several wooden floors were replaced. A thick area of whitewash is noted on the house wall directly about Stoop 1 floor elevation. The whitewash area is finally covered by the final Stoop 3 level indicating a long period when the house was whitewashed.

A most valuable indication of the artifact content of the site for this time period is given in the May 17, 1777 inventory. Among over 400 items totalling in value £2440.15..1 are listed the following items of special interest to the archaeologist: "42 Doz. Blew & White China Cups & Saucers (China trade porcelain); 2½ Doz plates and Queens China (creamware) and Delph Plates (delftware).

The archaeological remains include sherds of the above wares. The midden materials of Test 1 include wineglass fragments, room keys, pipe stems and the remains of many tavern meals. The ubiquitous oyster shells are recalled to mind in the 1777 inventory in the listing of "11 Oyster Knives" valued at 7 shillings 6 pence.

Middle Period

Early 19th Century.

Wright's date of 1812 for the existing porch structure is probably correct. Stoop 2, marked by Layers D and E and a reinforced brick wall cut into the house wall for support of the porch roof, is the logical base for the roof. The artifact complex associated with Stoop 2 include:

cut nails, limestone cement with charcoal flakes, smudged blue on white China porcelain (late period), pearlware, jet button, thin clear window glass for square panes, and bricks measuring $8\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ ". Some bituminous coal was also found in association (1820's and later), but could have filtered in through cracks between the house wall and the stoop. The stoop probably had a brick floor but about a foot lower than Stoop 3, the present porch.

The cobblestoned backyard was probably covered about this time or somewhat earlier since Layer C of Test 3 which covers the stones contains later 18th century artifacts. The old house was no longer a tavern and stable but had become a bank and finally a residence.

Middle 19th Century?

The "Smokehouse" explored by Test 1 has a builders trench which started toward the end of the shell midden. The trench cuts through the midden. The brick of the house measures $8\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ ". Materials found in the builders trench could not be readily separated from the midden materials in this test and the chronological position of the house was not definitely ascertained at this time.

Late Period

1906

The two and one-half story brick, gable-roofed addition to the back of the Reynolds Tavern was built in 1906 (Wright, N.D. p.1).

2nd Half of 20th Century.

Stoop 3 was raised with the addition of Layers A, B, and C sometime during this time period. The diagnostic artifacts included: asphalt cement, milk bottle glass with raised letters, isinglass, and smooth, light-red bricks measuring $8 \times 4 \times 2$ ". The pedimented porch built for Stoop 2 was raised to the floor level at the elevation of the door opening. Cement steps and a connecting "neck" leading to the stoop platform were also probably added at this time.

1951.

A heating pipe was put through the wall of the bricked-up cellar door at the Franklin Street side. The pipe trench destroyed the original bricked-in bulkhead entrance which had probably been in operation since the building of the house.

Another late feature was the cement pavement placed over an original brick pavement.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Church Circle Front

Three superimposed stoops formed the present porch of the old house. The first stoop, built in the middle of the 18th century, was a low platform in front of a typically flat entrance facade. In the early 19th century a full, late Georgian pedimented porch was built on a raised Stoop 2. The same porch roof was raised still further by Stoop 3 until the floor was flush with the door opening. This was probably in the 1930's when two cement steps, one scroll-like in form, were added. The florescence of a pedimented porch from a flat facade appears to have been typical of Georgian architecture (Morrison, 1952, p.306).

An oyster shell gutter, also typical of colonial buildings, was found flanking the western half of the front wall. This device for protecting the wall mortar from ground water leeching had probably encircled the house originally, but been eroded away on the east front and Franklin Street sides.

The original grade of the house was a few inches below the present pavement. There was evidence that a brick pavement originally covered the ground. The cellar windows base were a foot below the present level and had been bricked-in. No evidence of bulkheads or other entrances were found in the house front.

Franklin Street Cellar Entrance

The bricked-in bulkhead entrance was excavated to reveal an intrusive trench carrying a heating pipe that had been cut through an original wall, the steps and floor of the entrance. Enough remained to indicate a brick floor and possible wooden steps. The entrance clearly came from the Franklin Street direction. A similar entrance is situated on the opposite side of the house.

The Backyard

A preliminary survey consisting of three tests revealed a cobblestone area, a midden representing 18th and 19th century debris from the house, a relatively recent brick "smokehouse", and an occupational zone indicating extensive activity over a long period of time. In addition, archival data indicates the presence of a stable and servant quarters. Knowledge of other taverns (e.g. Noel Hume, 1969b) suggests the possible presence of additional features such as dairy, smokehouse, kitchen, well, and so forth.

Recommendations

1. It is believed that the data presented in this report will assist in the architectural decisions concerning restoration of the house

front and cellar entrance. The following seems indicated by the archaeological situation: (a) reconstruction of Stoop 2 with the present porch roof and railing, (b) restoration of the bulkhead entrance with brick floor and wooden steps (c) restoration of a section of the oyster shell gutter as an exhibit.

2. An intensive archaeological survey is recommended for the backyard in order to further define the features found to date, and to realize the additional rich archaeological resources suggested by the archival data on the site, as well as other tavern sites of the colonial period.

It is believed that further studies of the Reynolds Tavern site promise important contributions to our knowledge of Colonial America through comprehensive analyses involving the cooperation of History, Architecture and Archaeology methodologies as suggested in this initial effort.

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