# The College of William & Mary Interdepartmental Communication

To: Joe Dent & Bob Sonderman

From:

Anne Yentsch

**Date:** 12 August 1983

Subject: Revn

Reynolds Tavern Report

Enclosed is a preliminary draft of a field report on the work done last summer at Reynolds Tavern. I have completely revised the entire manuscript sent by Susan Mira, but it was done under severe time constraints and without some pertinent data. Mira still has her fieldnotes, the original feature list, and the only list of the Harris matrix numbers assigned to each level. I have worked back and forth from the bag book and my copies of the students' notes to prepare this material. I also wasn't present when some of the work was done and find that without personal knowledge/inspection I really can't understand to any great degree what is presented in the notes—these areas are so designated and include the XX-YY trench and the DDD areas.

I have done this at this time so that each of you will have some idea of what was done previously and because I want to put Reynolds Tavern out of my mind and concentrate on Calvert. If you could read what I've prepared and ask questions now, while you're in the field, maybe I could provide more information. If we wait until you are out of the field and ready to prepare a report—I'll be well into Calvert and it will be much harder for me to pull anything additional or useful out of my mind.

I also will need some information from you to complete this report. I can tell from Susan's sketch that she isn't showing the site accurately and I'm especially worried about the placement of the G,R,X, XX units. If you can send me a copy of the Tavern grid, I'll try to lay-out the squares over that and see if I can resolve the discrepancy. I would also like copies of your descriptions of the soil levels—I think that Susan asigned individual matrix numbers to layers that were, in reality, the same layer and, at times, did the opposite. I can work this through—and you will need it for the final report—but it would be easier if I had copies of your level sheets for some key squares/areas. I've noted which ones on a separate sheet.

At some points I've actually gone over into intrepreting the site and I think its really neat that we have as much of the 18th century yard lay-out as we do so that pulled me on a bit. You have copies available to you (or the originals) of everything I have here so you should be able to recheck stuff as needed and that will make the report clearer also. I would like my preliminary copies returned so that I can answer any questions and get them cleanly typed before placing them in the files at HA. If you weren't in the field and I didn't think it might in some small way be useful to have this data, I wouldn't even send it until it was retyped and revised,

This is insufficient - but we can use it to indicate we still more this Section written -

#### Site History

4

A description of the site as it exists today with topographic information and background will be prepared as part of the final report by Sonderman et al.

Previous archaeological work was done by Dr. Kennth G. Orr and Ronald G. Orr prior to repair and construction of the present sidewalk.

The work was supported by Historic Annapolis, Inc. A report and photographs are on file at Victualling Warehouse in the archaeology laboratory.

The objectives outlined in their report included the definition of structural evidence in the front of the tavern (windows, entrances, old pavements, etc.), the definition of the cellar entrance to the tavern

from Franklin Street, and the excavation of test pits in the tavern yard to assess the need for further excavation. Most of their work was done in front of the tavern building.

The three tests done in the backyard revealed a cobblestone feature, a midden consisting of 18th and 19th Century debris from the house, a relatively (19th Century?) recent brick "smokehouse" and an occupation zone indicating extensive activity over time (1978:26). They recommended that an intensive archaeological work be done in the yard. They found that the tavern had been built on a sloping hill, both E-W and N-S, on a grade of 10-15 degrees. The investigators also stated that the tavern served as a "stocking shop and livery stable". In (Bake 19) addition, archival data indicated the presence of a stable and servants quarters on the Reynolds property.

The excavations at Reynolds Tavern during 1982 are best described by arbitrarily dividing the yard into different sectors and discussing the excavation units that fall within each. Most of the activity that occurred took place within 60 ft of the original Tavern, although features were located further to the rear (c. 75-100 ft away) along the north side of the cobbie drive in the area that is today the Farmer's National Bank Parking Lot. There was only limited evidence of any activity to the south and west (Units Z and Y) once one reached a similiar distance.

While the summaries that follow are grouped according to area, one should note that four major periods of occupation/alteration are evident:

- (a) A 1730-1755 period which may include some activity at the site prior to construction of the Tavern by William Reynolds (c. 1747).
- (b) A series of rennovations and alterations that dates to the 1770s, possibly after Reynolds death and/or up to and during the Revolution.
- (c) Late 18th century and early 19th century changes which may be more tightly dated, in some cases, to permit a division between the tenants who owned the house in the late 1780s and 1790s and the tenure by the bank cashier/officer who occupied the house at 1804 when it became the property of the Farmer's National Bank.
- (d) Twentieth century activity.

There is almost no evidence of the overall 19th century occupation of the site by a series of bank officers with the possible exception of the small stake-holes (c. 1" dia) that literally riddle most of the yard and could be the result of plant stakes used in a backyard garden.

The arbitrary yard areas include: (1) the south-east corner of the yard where excavation took place in units D (E3,N1), F (E3,S1), and N (E2,N1). (2) the south side yard c. 35 ft from the Tavern where the primary activity noted is evidence of the dispersal of a thick oyster shell layer c. 1750 and deposition of a thick loam overburden in the 1770s. This is most easily seen in Unit C (S1W4), but we believe it would be seen in DD (N3,W4) and M(N1W3) were work completed. The oyster shell layer is also visible in the auger tests and appears to run west until it joins a mortar feature whose precise identification is still ambiguous. The mortar feature and its fill are summarized in the section that describes work done in units G, R, X, CC, XX, UU, ZZ, YY, and AAA.

The eastern sector of the backyard ranging from 25 - 40 feet of the Tavern is broken down into two areas--(3) the central portion containing Units Q (N5,W6), W (N6,W5), B (N5,W4), EE (N6,W4), and area DDD (N5-6, W2-3) and (4) the area to the north and east of the magnolia tree. The former area is distinguished by a rough flagstone terrace with a deliberate border while the northen portions have been robbed. on its southern edge that runs due west of the original lavern backdoor. Beneath the flagstones (laid in the ) is an oyster shell layer with mid-18th century materials that may link to those found in Units C and in the Auger Test holes. The area north and east of the magnolia tree is distinguished by a cobblestone paying, rough laid, that was put down in the early 19th century. Beneath the cobbles, in xxxxx unit A (N8,W4) was a moderate trash deposit dating to the mid 18th century but in most units the cobbles were left insitu and the underlying stratigraphy is not known.

One unit was opened within the smokehouse; it revealed successive layers of brick and ash in a firepit dating to the late 18th century or later. Another major area comprises units H, T, E, U, NN, and Trench CCC which exposed a cobble drive-carriage way while work in the rear of the smokehouse and in the adjacent bank parking lot are each discussed separately.

Reynolds Tavern - Excavation Plan May 1982

Objectives: Assess sub-surface cultural resources prior

to construction

Data recovery prior to restoration/construction

Assemblage to use for comparative purposes

Known Features: Smokehouse probably built in 19th century

House with 19th century addition

Historically located features: Stables

North wing

Dairy

Archaeologically located features: Cobble-stone yard, extent unknown

and age undetermined although Orr

report implies 18th century

Plans for restoration/construction at site:

The building will be semi-restored to its 18th century period, but leaving important 1812 alterations intact. A kitchen will be constructed underground adjacent to the present cellar area and extending c. 20 feet into the yard. Other construction, as yet not fully planned, will impact the backyard substantially. Work will begin by the fall of 1982.

Suggested work to be done prior to fieldschool:

- 1. Two shovel test pits down to the cobblestones to establish the nature of the fill and to verify that they were laid down in the 3rd quarter of the 18th century.
- 2. Probing and/or coring to establish the extent of the cobblestone yard.
- 3. Depending on the outcome of Step 2, continued coring with a post-hole digger or stripping the topsoil to reveal features in the remainder of the backyard.
- 4. Sketch tavern with its conjectured north wing to see how this would affect the yard area and use of lot. This should be done by Russell Wright.
- 5. Plot doorways and access to yard area to determine logical locations for the well, dairy, stable, and servants quarters.
- Ask Nancy Baker to check other data to see if servants quarters would have been above the stables or a separate building.
- 7. Lay out grid with 5' squares, using 6" gutter spikes and metal tops for mason jars. Mark each metal top with proveniance using Marks-a-Lot.
- 8. Procure good map of lot to use as a base map.

line running from the east wall of the smokehouse, around the large magnolia tree west to meet the NW corner of the 1906 addition of the tavern.

These trenches have caused moderate disturbance in stratigraphy, but have not been problematic in the identification of features.

### The Stratigraphy of the Yard

The tavern yard was characterized by differing sequences of stratigraphy as a result of the 15 degree slope beginning at Church Circle moving both and south. These differing sequences could be put into six groups or areas, each with some variation.

Area I: Squares E (N7W8), H (N7W9), T (N8W9), U (N8W8) - Cobble Path

The initial ground cover for this area was a brown soil with a grass and weed mix. The first layer to occur was a charalate and/or medium brown fill with brick and oyster bits (2-6" DBS). In square H red brown soil occurred at the same depth (near the builder's trench against the smokehouse wall.) Following the fill and/or red brown soil was a dense layer of oyster shell with some brick fragments (7" DBS). Beneath this layer was the cobblestone (8-9" DBS). Where the cobblestone did not occur there appeared a medium brown soil with oyster shell fragments. Small sand lenses (often sand lense squares) occurred inbetween the fills and were usually a yellow brown.

A small quadrant was excavated within square U to note strati-graphy beside but beneath the cobble. The layer to follow the oyster and medium brown soil was a medium brown fill, followed by a red and yellow sandy soil, ending in the red brown soil which became sterile at 24" DBS. Note: A modern utility trench intersected squares T and U above the cobble.

John John

Area II: Squares G (N2W9), R (N3W8), X (N4W9) - Mortar

The ground cover for square G was gravel, which was placed in the southern half of the yard when the tavern building served as a library. The ground cover for squares R and X was sand and part of a brick walk, also the result of landscaping when the tavern building served as a library. These three squares were of particular importance because they exhibited a transition in stratigraphy from south to horth, moving with the slope. Square G began with a dark brown fill from 1-7" DBS, then moved into a red brown fill with brick and oyster bits 8-12" DBS, followed by some mortar at 12" DBS. This layer was, in turn, followed by a deep section of red brown soil & which became sterile at 24" DBS. Square R also began with a dark brown fill 1-6" DBS, but before moving into red brown fill, a layer of oyster shell with medium brown soil was encountered at 7-8" DBS.Red brown fill occurred from 8-12" DBS, then mortar at 12" DBS. Square X moved from a brown fill (1-7" DBS), to an oyster shell layer with medium brown soil at 8" DBS, into mortar at 11" DBS. Square R appeared to link X and G, the former showing more relationship with Area I than either G or R. Note: a utility trench intersected squares G and R; a sewage pipe intersected square X.

Area Illand IV: Squares Y (S3WIO) and C (S1W4) - Within gravel area near fence line on Franklin Street.

The ground cover for both Y and C was gravel. Square Y (Area III) had only two soil types, a medium brown fill 1-12" DBS followed by a red brown soil which became sterile at 24" DBS. Square C (Area IV), on the other hand, had its fill 1-12" DBS and red brown soil 18" DBS separated by a layer of dense oyster shell with a transitional brown-oyster fill immediately above and below the oyster. Square C seemed closest to R in Area II.

Area V: quares A (N8W4) and B (N5W4) - Closest to 1906 addition to the tayern.

The ground cover for both A and B was a brown soil with a weed and grass mix. Square A began with a dark brown fill 1-3" DBS which, in the southern half of the square, was followed by a gold brown clay 3-6" DBS. Beneath both types of soil appeared cobblestone at 6" DBS. Beside the cobblestone was found a medium brown soil with oyster bits. NO DENSE LAYER OF OYSTER WAS FOUND ABOVE THE COBBLE. In square B the initial layer was also a dark brown soil 1-3" DBS, followed by a yellow and beige sand lense. The next layer was a heavily disturbed fill 4-7" DBS. At 7" DBS the layer of flagstone was found. NO DENSE LAYER OF OYSTER WAS FOUND ABOVE THE FLAGSTONE.

Area VI: Squares Q (N5W6) and P (N6W7) - Most central between Areas I, II, and V.

These squares were of importance because they were most central in the tavern yard. Square P, which was closest to Area I, began with a chocolate brown fill 1-6", followed by a layer of dense oyster shell with brick 7" DBS. Cobblestone next appeared in the north wall of the square at 9" DBS. Beside the cobble was the medium brown soil with oyster bits. The next main layer was a medium brown fill which began at 16" DBS. The last 19 yer was a red brown soil which became sterils at C. 24" DBS. Square Q also began with a layer of dark brown fill 1-5" DBS. The next main layer was a medium brown fill 6" DBS, followed by a 18 yer of oyster shell with medium brown soil 8-16" DBS. This was interrupted by a yellow sand and red brown clay at 14" DBS. The next layer was medium brown fill 16" DBS. This soil gradually lost typical fill content and transitioned into red brown sterile soils at 24" DBS. Note: square Q was intersected by a utility trench.

Symmary: The sequence being suggested by the six areas is as sollows. The squares occurring at the very top and bottom of the slope with reference to the tavern yard only are the least complex and include no less than two and no more than four stratigraphic layers. As the squares approach the center of the yard, they become more complex. (On a graph this would appear similar to a bell shaped curve.) The only real anomaly is square C which contains a dense layer of oyster shell. However, if the slope is moving E-W as well as N-S, then the shell in C may not be unusual at all, but an intended layer of fill for that area only.

Almost all the squares in the tavern yard began with a dark brown fill. At the highest point of the slope this fill was immediately followed by the 18th Century cobble at 6" DBS. In a somewhat central position (AREa I), the dark brown fill was followed by a layer of oyster, then the cobble appeared. As the slope continued downward away from the cobble, the oyster layer was found at greater depth and eventually ceased to appear, (e.g. squares G and Y). Sterile soils was encountered at a depth varying from 20" to 30" DBS.

The question arises, why use several fills, as characterized by square Q, particularly a layer of oyster shell, in the central area of the yard between the lowest and highest point of the slope?

The next question is, are they just fills? It was not uncommon for oyster shell to be used as paving in the 18th Century. Why, though, would a cobbie path be paved? Had the path lost its function?

A seventh area which has not been treated is that behind the smokehouse and storage house, near the present bank parking lot.

Two main features have been located in this area, an extensive

trash pit and a continuation of the cobble path. The stratigraphy in this area was somewhat different. In trench TT where both the cobble and trash pit occurred the sequence was as follows; dark brown fill, medium brown oyster fill, cobble 17" DBS, medium brown fill 22" DBS, a dense oyster shell layer with brick fragments 27" DBS, red brown fill 33" DBS, sterile soil. The soil or fill belonging to the trash pit began at 15" DBS and continued past sterile soil. It is a dark brown with heavy coal, shell and brick bets. What is particularly unique of this sequence was the dense oyster shell layer found beneath the cobble path.

A test was made between squares R and UU to learn of the sequence beneath the mortar. Approximately 8" of mixed soils (sand, clay, loose dry soil) occurred beneath the mortar followed by red brown sterile at approximately 20" DBS.

In agreement with the Orr's report of 1978, the original surface of the lots on which Reynolds built were irregular and hilly. What needs to be determined is the function, if any of the oyster layers throughout the yard and the meaning of the increase in layers of fill in the central area of the yard.

#### The Features

A. Structure Foundation (?) N.D.

The first feature to surface was located in squares D (NIE3) and F (SIE3), right against the iron gate and sidewalk on Franklin St. At 6" DBS excavators uncovered a concrete slab, ca. 1 sq. ft. surrounded by part of a brick foundation, one course thick. Extending NW from this slab was a 2' long semicircular brick wall (?) which may have been two courses thick. North of the slab, ca.

2', the remnants of a 2 course thick column (English bond) appeared. South of the semicircular brick wall and into adjacent square F

approximately 2' x 4'. If this feature belonged to a standing statcture, it would have stood right next to the SW corner of the original tavern. The meaning of this feature has not yet been determined.

#### B. The ]8th Century Cobblestone Path

Parts of a cobblestone path were located throughout the northern half of the tavern yard and behind the smokehouwe and 20th Century storage house, near the present bank parking lot. It was in its most complete form in squares E, H, T, and U approximately 30' N and 35' W of datum. These squares were right before the east entrance to the smokehouse. The original path was approximately 6' wide and had four linear rows of cobble. two in the center which probably served as a drain and one on either side used to establish its boundaries. Cobble was also located in squares P (N6W7), NN (N7W7), KK (N6W6), GG (N9W6), (?)\_menton trench
J (N9W5), a (N8W4), and QQ (N8W5) in the yard and trenches AA, BB, SS, TT, and WW behind the smokehouse. A different kind of rock pavement (flagstone?) was located off the west wall of the 1906 addition of the tavern in squares B (N5W4), EE (N6W4), JJ (N5W3) and MM (N6W3). Whether this pavement was associated with the cobble path is still in question.

In trench TT a 2' sq. section of cobble was removed to determine the stratigraphy and artifact content beneath. All other cobbles and flagstones have been left in situ. Upon examination of the cobbles removed, it was determined that their long end was placed in the ground, with the short end surfacing and receiving wear. Thus, first glance of these stones suggests that they were relatively small when, in fact, they were quite large. The short end of the

cobble which surfaced usually appeared flat and smooth from wear.

The cobbles were probably placed in an upright position for stability. All these stones were stream rounded cobble.

The cobbie path probably ran west of the tavern and curved in a northernly direction as is suggested by the slight bend before and behind the smokehouse. It may have had some important function with Dean and/or West Streets. Whether it is contemporary with or predates the tavern is still in question. The smokehouse

Thesmokehouse, however, sits right over the path; it has, therefore, been assumed that the cobble path predates the smokehouse.

C. The Trash Pit

The trash pit was located in trenches AA and TT behind or off the northwall of the smokehouse and 20th Century storage house. The fill associated with the trash pit surfaced beneath the cobble at approximately 17" DBS. Though the cobble did occur in AA, very few stones (five to be exact) were found. This may or may not have some association with the deposit of the trash. The stratigraphy of trenches AA and TT suggest that the pit had the form of a deep circular dish, narrowing towards the ground At 36" DBS the bottom of the pit had not yet been located. Elsewhere in the trenches, at approximately 32", DBS sterile soil had been located.

Bused on the observation of the field director, it has been two were suggested that what appears in trenches AA and II is but a qudrant

of the trash pit. The other portions were either under dirt or under the present bank parking lot. Much cultural material has been found in the pit, most of it dating to the first and second quarter of the 18th Century. A thorough artifact analysis is yet to be done.

#### D. Styrctural Material

Oyster lime mortar and brick bats have been found in an area encompassing 15 square feet in squares G (N2W9), XX (N3W9), X (N4W9), CC (N2W7), R (N3W8), UU (N4W8) and ZZ (N5W8). This structural debris is ]O' south of the cobble path and approximately 12" DBS. In square G, after the removal of some brick bats and mortar chunks, the remaining mortar appeared uniform and flat, as if it served to floor some structure. Elsewhere the mortar appeared chunky and mixed with brick fragments. No sills, postholes, etc. have been located near this material. A section of this mortar has been removed to determine the stratigraphy and artifact content beneath. It is presently felt that the structur lebras is later than the cobble path. It was undoubtedly associated with some structure, but where and how is in question.

The function and significance of most of these excavated features is yet to be determined. Standard 18th Century tavern features such as wells, privies, middens, outdoor kitchens etc. have been rare in the Reynolds yard. This may be an intended or unintended result of the urban setting.

Summary of Excavations at Reynolds Tavern and Tentative List of Objectives for further Archaeological Testing and Data Retrieval 13 May 1983

Kenneth Orr excavated in the front of the house and at the side before the new sidewalk was installed. No further work is required in these areas.

The University of Maryland Summer Fieldschool tested and partially excavated the backyard during 1982. Work was not completed and several significant trash deposits were located together with an impressive feature—a cobblestone carriage drive and/or Annapolis Street. The artifacts from this site have been processed at the College of William & Mary with conservation undertaken on a number of interesting items. The range of activies at this site is diverse and includes a scatter of debris from lead-casting, the refuse from tavern activities, and a number of objects associated with sewing, hatting, and other tasks related to the production of clothing.

The earliest deposits date to the first half of the 18th century, probably c. 1730-40 and underlie the cobblestone drive. While the site is heavily disturbed, there is still additional work that must be done adjacent to the library addition to retrieve the remainder of the material in the deposits at that end of the cobble drive. However, the overburden is not deep and the amount of work required here is not extensive.

Additional work should be done underneath the existing side porch - again the area is not large and the work required should not be extensive.

The remainder of the yard is problematic. We found structural debris from a building and have roughly defined its bounds. I would recommend stripping the topsoil using a mechanical grader, mapping, and limited testing for this portion of the yard. This should be scheduled to corrolate with other construction activity.

The most sensitive area of the site surrounds the smokehouse. If the cobblestone drive is not to be retained, we must take it up and excavate beneath it. We have another struture/feature on the side of the smokehouse that runs up to it and into the alleyway by the bank and bank parking lot. The artifacts from this indicate it was built before Reynolds Tavern. Any construction activity that would affect this area must have archaeological work included well beforehand as it is a top priority to understand this part of the site. No documentation of it exists and the structure itself must be defined.

If the garage is to be demolished and buildings to be erected at that end of the site, I would recommend that the building be taken down as soon as possible and that archaeological testing be done beneath it. If construction on this portion of the site is to take place later, it still might be wise to demolish the building so that the archaeologists can have access to the area.

Summary of Excavation in Area adjacent to magnolia tree bounded as follows:

Beginning with N7,W6 and running north to N9, W6

Running east-west between W2 and W6 as indicated on map

Beginning with N7, W2/3 and running north to N9, W3 as indicated on map

This area contains units GG, J, QQ, RR, K, A, FF, CCC and EEE as designated during 1982 fieldseason

The cobble drive is intact through N7,W6 and part of N7,W5. The fill over the cobble drive contained large quantities of creamware with small quantities of pearlware and showed little evidence of any mid to late 19th century disturbance.

The cobble drive is missing from a projected continuation in N7, W4 and N7, W3 and/or 2 (FF and EEE). These units contain late 18th and early 19th century materials at depths deeper than in adjacent squares to the north and south, but the reason for the disturbance was not evident, although a post-hole located at the north side of N6,W3 (see unit DDD) also dates to this same period. Unit N9,W3 also has evidence of similiar disturbance.

Modern intrusion consists of a utility trench running SW-NE through N7,W4 and extending further into the back of the yard. Its path once it traversed N7,W4 was not established.

Another cobble feature consisting of roughly laid cobbles 6-8 inches DBS was located in the units to the north of the magnolia tree (N9, W4; N9, W5; N9, W6 and possibly in N9, W7) and those to the north east (N8, W4; N8, W5). The cobble feature was not present in N9, W3 (unit K). These cobbles did not exhibit the same patterning as that of the cobble drive, but their appearance showed every indication of being the same cobbles - perhaps robbed from other sectors of the cobble drive either in the AA,SS,TT, region or from areas closer to the house.

Deposition of the cobbles is estimated to have occurred in the 1770s based on the contents of Level #121 (a medium brown fill) located 7.5 to 11 inches beneath the cobbles in Unit N8, W4 (A). Bag No. 336 contained 39 ceramics of which 3 were creamwares. This artifact sample is small; the cobbles were not removed in other squares and the date could be verified by doing so.

A layer of cultural debris extending from 11" to 17" DBS (6" thick) was located beneath unit N8,W4 (A) and rested on a yellow clayish soil that was sterile. A precise definition of the stratigraphy was not given but it seemed to consist of a 3-4 inch layer of brick rubble above the clay, beneath a layer of oyster shell or interspersed by a shell lens at 15-16", and containing from 11-14" large concentrations of mid-18th artifacts with slightly lesser concentrations in the shell layer at 15-16". Artifact fragments are large and the deposit does not seem to be the result of sheet refuse. Whether it might have formed a bedding for the cobble drive is unknown - further excavation beneath the drive elsewhere might demonstrate this fact.

The entire area was filled with a dark, humic soil deposited in the early 19th century.

Summary of Information on Mortar Feature (No number assigned or noted)	
Feature Number	
Size	
Tocation: Units G. R. CC. X. XX. R. UU: Auger Tests 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16	6.

This is an amorphous feature spread out over a portion of the site measuring some  $10 \times 15/20$  feet. Its orientation is slanted NW/SE and aligns with the cobble drive, although separated from it by c. 10 feet.

The feature is comprised of a dense mortar layer that varies in depth from 1.5 inches to several inches in thickness. The largest portion exposed was in Square R and the mortar 'floor' in this square showed distinct grooves that appeared to be wear marks and were definitely not wood impressions. The feature is located 11-12" DBS and seems level.

There were no walls, post-holes, robbed trenches, etc. associated with it. There was one possible post-hole excavated in Unit G to the south of the mortar and another excavated in Square YY that might be associated with it, but at this point the association of each is ambiguous.

Auger tests were used to establish roughly the boundaries of the feature. The excavation strategy was to open up adjacent squares to expose and define the feature, but this work was incomplete at the end of the fieldschool season. One unit (AAA) was taken down below the floor and data from this unit provides the following information:

Red-brown soil grading into sterile begins at 15-18" DBS. Artifacts from the interface of this level (#169) include pieces of white-salt-glazed stoneware and contain no creamwares or pearlwares; there were also no mid-18th century wares (Whieldon, Jackfield, etc.) in the sample obtained from this square. This level (#169) may represent sheet refuse or artifacts deposited during the construction activity associated with the mortar feature. Immediately above the red brown layer was a one inch lense of loose, yellow soil with a high clay content that was sterile. Above this and lying beneath the mortar was a packed, light yellow-brown sand with small brick, shell, and charcoal flecks. It contained a modest quantity of faunal material, large quantities of various stonewares and Chinese porcelain and some delft. These artifacts suggest a construction date for the feature of the 2nd quarter of the 18th century (i.e. 1730-1750) which would be contemporaneous with the construction of the Tavern.

Similiar artifacts were also associated with a yellow sand layer found in Square Q and beneath DDD. These sand layers were given different context numbers, but this may have been simply because they were in different squares and their relationship, during 1982, was unknown.

The feature also appears to be contemporaneous with Feature 8, a dense oyster shell deposit located in Square C. If, as I believe, the cobble drive also dates to this era then we have a series of discrete features associated with the Reynolds occupation and pre-dating the use of the building as a tavern. Whether these are indicative of a prior occupation of the site can only be determined by a closer analysis and dating of the artifacts using vessel form and fine-grained dates for the delft and porcelain (these are difficult to do).

The mortar 'floor' was seen by several architectural historians and other experts. A general conclusion shared by most was that it was something that would not have survived if it had not been covered—its spread seems to mitigate against it being the result of spillage as does the sand layer laid beneath it. Its precise function is unknown as is its precise form—but it does seem rather fragile to have comprised a working floor for any outbuilding like a kitchen, smokehouse, stable, etc.

In some of the units, the overburden included a red-brown layer immediately above the mortar floor. This is noted in Square R (imprecisely). In Square G, the red brown soil lay above and beside the small segment of mortar (Level 101) in the north-east corner of the square. This red-brown layer contained small sherds of creamware and pearlware down as deep as 24" where it graded into sterile. The artifact content of the layers in Unit G is much lower than in nearby units or units closer to the tavern, suggesting either a different fill or some barrier to the refuse-type deposition found elsewhere. The mortar floor/structure could have been such a barrier.

The amounts of pearlware and creamware found in the oyster shell and brick rubber above the mortar feature suggest it was destroyed and filled at the same time as the cobble drive was filled. In fact, the oyster shell/brick may be one continous layer extending from T in the north to G in the south—cross—mending of the artifacts from these units would clarify this point. A tentative conclusion is that this fill was deposited post 1780 when the Tavern was rented by the Truman family to the Davidsons (?) or when the bank cashier occupied the house (early 19th century) and it was no longer a working tavern.

The articulation of the mortar feature with the cobble drive is suggested by the parallel orientation/slant of the two features. The fieldnotes on units XX & YY do not corrolate and they should if these two units were adjacent and no conclusions concerning the relationship of the feature to the drive can be drawn at this time. Possibly opening up the unexcavated & previous units between the feature and the cobble drive would be feasible, and clear up some of the confusion.

A similiar feature was located at Calvert House and it dated to approximately the same era. Because it extended beneath present (then present) wall lines into the backyard, its full extent was not determined. Construction at that site has since destroyed it completely. However, there were post-holes at Calvert that analysis may show were associated with its mortar feature/floor.

Recommendations: The decision was made last summer to concentrate on the cobble drive and the flagstone features closer to the addition. I think input from Russell Wright and Steve Harris would be helpful on this one and that any decision made to follow it out and define it fully (which will be expensive) should be based partially on their needs to know about ephemeral folk buildings in the city.

More detailed information is given in the square summaries on work done in each excavation unit.

Summary of Excavation in Area containing units W, B, EE, and DDD.

This area is approximately 10 ft wide x 12 ft. It contained the rough flagstone feature (# ) first located in B. It is bounded as follows:

Extending to the north from N5,W4 to N7,W4 with the east half of Unit N6,W5 included.

Running east towards the 1906 addition to a point  $30^{11}$  from the addition wall that lies midway in W2.

This area contains

features of immediate concern.

Feature No.4 is the articulated, rough flagstone that runs east-west in Units N5,W4, N5,W3, and N5,W2. Its width is \_\_\_\_\_ and its northern edge runs east-west through the southern side of N6,W2, N6,W3, N6,W4.

The feature was covered by a layer of soil that included various lenses of different sands/soils deposited during the 20th century. Its immediate overburden consisted of a heavily disturbed brown soil with a mix of materials.

The Feature runs towards the central back door on the original tavern. The lack of distinctive material above it implies that it may have been open for a number of years during the 19th century—it did not beneath the type of fill, for example, that covered the cobble drive to the rear of the yard. Cobbles were set deeper toward west (like an 'iceberg').

The flagstones were removed in Unit DDD; Levels 204 and 205 lay beneath. These consisted of some heavily mottled soils (#204) and a red brown soil (#205), extending to 12.5" DBS or well below the flagstones. Bags 353 & 374 (Level 204) and 355 & 371 (Level 205) all contain creamware sherds with 1 pearlware fragment found in one of the DDD extensions. It isn't clear which level (204 or 205) lay beneath the flagstones.

Beneath the fill immediately lying underneath the cobbles was a layer of yellow sand in the western portion of Area DDD. (?) The sequence of fill is unclear. Towards the south sectors an oyster shell layer begins at 11-16" and it contains irry numerous datable artifacts. The largest amount were found in Bag #357 and the greater proportion (99 of 117) were delft. It would be interesting to know if this oyster shell deposit (which seems to date to approximately the same period as Feature 8-oyster shell--in Unit Sl,W (C)) can be linked to Feature 8 in any way. Can't tell from the notes if the oyster shell lay immediately beneath any of the flagstones, although in the eastern sector it clearly did not.

Unit DD could be re-opened and taken down further to delineate oyster shell. The deposit also was found in Auger Tests 1-4 (N5,W5; N4,W5; N3,W5; N2; W5). If the layers all date to the mid-18th century they would also help define the mortar feature.

Size

Location

Excavation by

Excavation procedure

Objective:

Results

Other results

2' wide x 5.5' long

remainder

Immediately to left of east rear window on north wall of garage in strip of land adjacent to garage and bank parking lot. Trench runs north-south. See RT7-2

Mark Cramer - end of June; also Dobson, Dudek &
Maurer
Shovel topsoil - trowel and screen the

To test for presence of cobblestone feature behind smokehouse - to ascertain if smokehouse cuts through feature or if feature articulates with smokehouse

Smokehouse is intrusive and cuts through cobble feature - cobbles heavily disturbed in unit.

At 19" DBS, 4 cobbles were found in the south sector of the trench ranging in distance 8 - 15" from garage wall.

These can be seen in slides RT7-7 & RT7-8.

The gray soil had a heavy ash content but was classified as a medium to dark brown fill with oyster shell and brick fragments. (Level 126)—the notes are confused; the gray soil may possibly be Feature 103 taken out by Marty Dudek on 30 June (Bag 332), but a portion of it may also be in with the materials from Level 126 (Bag 303).

in the north end of the trench, about 21"DBS, Cramer located "a semi-circular brick and mortar foundation extending 15" to the south, running beneath the concrete wall of the parking lot". "On top of this is a deliberate, very compacted layer of oyster shells which measured about 2" in depth" This should be Level 126 (Bags 303 [23 June] and 204 [25 June]) -- there is no indication in the notes that this level was under any of the cobblestones. There appear to be no plans of the brick wall, nor does it have a known feature number. From Cassandra Richard's notes on Square PP and her drawings, it appears that this wall is separate from Feature 101. The artifacts from this level included a 1940 penny, a gun-flint, delft, creamware, and pearlware, some hand-wrought nails, some cut nails, and a large amount of faunal material (109 bones constituting the greater proportion of the artifacts).

Presumably RT-7 and RT-8 are the photos noted in Cramer's fieldnotes and he states "took pictures of the cobblestones and brick/mortar objects"—the latter are not clearly visible in the photos.

Mark's notes for 24 June (or 25 June ?)

I removed the cobblestones this morning and continued digging down with the trowel. Directly beneath the cobblestones is a very thick layer of oyster shells [given the same strat number as that above the brick/mortar feature—it may or may not be equivalent] loaded with hand-wrought nails, clay pipe stems with larger inside diameters than most stems that have been found previously [7 @ 4/64; 2 @ 5/64; 1 @ 6/64], bones, bricks, I semi-whole redware vessel found at 30 inches below ground level and delft found also at the same level. Portions of bottles, porcelain are among the artifacts. 18 inches from the north wall of the garage and 7 inches from the west wall of square AA at 22 inches below ground level is a single remain of a post with a diameter of 2.5 inches. Feature number unknown.

All the material from this work i was bagged in 204 and hence bag 204 has the artifacts from a  $15^{11}$  cut through Trench AA.

Work on Trench AA ceased -

Mark's notes for 28 June

At 30" the soil type was 126--a medium dark brown soil which is a bit moist. From 7:30 to 10:30 I have been involved with making the walls even and square, lowering the square to 32". [Artifacts were placed in Bag 206--recheck bag for evidence of disturbance or mixed levels]. Bag 213 contains artifacts from 30-32 inches [this bag has the North Devon & Buckley ware sherds; it also contains cut nails].

At 32 inches there is a soil change. Susan characterizes this soil as #132 which is medium to gold-mottled soil with brick fragments and little or no shell fragments. Photographs were taken by Jim Sorenson and Connie at 10:15. The next project is to draw a horizontal plan...A lot of interest might be the amount of charcoal and bone fragments found starting with the oyster shell layer which wasagain just below the cobblestones at 15 inches.

Mark notes a moderate amount of charcoal immediately below the curb - a dense concentration in the middle of the trench (i.e., 2.5 - 3 feet from the garage wall0 and mottled, orange sand at the garage wall extending out one foot or so - at the north end is found soil type 132 which has a decreased charcoal content.

Connie's notes on this square are sparse; Jim's notes are sparser; Susan's notes are not available.

At this point, Yentsch joined Cramer and suggested bisecting the trench. She also dug briefly in the square with Cramer and noted that the stratigraphy seemed homogeneous, yet late 18th century artifacts were coming out of the northern most portions while other sectors seemed to have early to mid-18th century material.

Cramer bagged the materials separately from this point forward.

Bag 231 was soil type 132 at a level of 31" across square/trench--it had delft, pipe stems, earthenware, and a bottle base. This should be checked for dating. There was no indication of any 3rd or 4th quarter 18th century ceramics in it.

Bag 232 was soil type 132 within the window and went from 31" to 34". These materials were similiar to those in 231.

Bag 233 contained materials from the 'window' exclusive of level 132--in the 'charcoal, ashy gray soil with crushed oyster fragments'. The amount of faunal material was substantially higher; there were no 3rd or 4th quarter 18th century materials.

Slide RT7-5 was taken at this point. (?) A profile of the east wall was drawn.

The 'window' extended the length of the square. Artifacts from 35-39 inches were bagged in 252. These include a copper button and some iron materials. Similiar to artifacts in Bags 231-233 (i.e, all early material with no mixing of levels).

Artifacts from lens of oyster shell were in bag 157 - including delft and 1 incised, decorated pipe bowl.

At depth of c. 39", the ash & charcoal deposits are lessening and most of the soil is a 'golden color'.

Squares SS & TT opened.

Sammary of Excavation in Square BB

Location:

Excavated by

Excavation procedure

**Objective** 

Results

Mid-way along strip of grass behind garage. A trench, 2' wide x 5.5" long that begins just to east of 2nd window (west) in garage wall.

Location of trench is shown in photo RT7-1.

Amy Maurer at the end of June. Help by Todd Sachs and Anne Mullins and Becky Dobson. Mark Cramer began unit.

Top-soil shoveled. Remainder troweled and hand-screened.

To test for presence and depth of cobble feature

A light-medium brown fill with small pieces of brick and oyster shell was located at 17" DBS (measured from top of curb). This contained a fair amount of bottle glass, creamware (3 sherds) and pearlware (3 sherds). Bags 302 & 237.

Cobbles were located in the middle of the square at a depth of 19" DBS. There was less disturbance than in unit AA and the cobbles formed a segment of drive 17" wide. A few randon cobbles were found at the north end of the unit.

Notes on this square are confused - It seems the light-medium brown fill (level 137) or a dark red clay fill with oyster bits (level 138) continues to 20" or lower in the south end of trench adjacent to garage wall.

Beside

With brick fragments and small oyster fragments was found extending from 19-22" in the northern portion of the trench. See Bag 245. Artifacts include a large amount of bottle glass, creamware (5), pearlware (1), and as well as various metal and other structural materials.

Underneath the cobbles, the fill was darker (#140). The number of earthenwares and coarse utilitarian wares increased as did the faunal material. A copper alloy button/coin was found (undated). The fill extended to 26" DBS.

Soil type #143 continued a bit deeper - Artifacts from this level are mixed with those from the side walls (the cobbles fell out) in Bag 249.

From 27 - 31" DBS few artifacts were = 607 350 found. There is no record of the soil coloration/composition. At 31" a 'window' was cut  $(7 \times 18)$  in the north sector. This went to 41" - the workers were in sterile soil.

Amy drew a profile of the east and west walls at this depth.

RT7-16 and RT7-17. Cobbles at 22" DBS.

No data from this excavation unit should be used in any fine-grained analysis. If the area becomes critical, open up the unit to the west between BB and square W and do further testing.

Photographs

Comments

Summary of work done on Square PP

Size:

Irregular and triangular

Location:

Behind smokehouse to east of test trench AA. The unit lies in the extreme eastern end of the strip of land between smokehouse and bank parking lot. Its shape is determined by the curbing of the parking lot.

Excavated by

Cassandra Richards, end of June

Excavation procedure

Shovel off top soil; trowel and hand-screen remainder.

Objective:

To test for presence of cobblestone drive and ascertain its relationship to smokehouse. Cobbles already located in test trench AA, but the latter show no articulation with the smokehouse and are disturbed.

Results

Brick wall running north-south appeared at 11.5 inches DBS (measuring from top of curb). The wall was numbered Feature 101 and its interface 102 (levels 141 and 142 respectively). See attached description.

Articulated cobbles were found west of brick wall extending to bounds of test trench AA; articulated cobbles were also found throughout the square. The brick wall overlies the cobbles.

The cobbles appeared at 15" DBS.

(west of wall)

Artifacts from the overburden immediately above the cobbles are in bags 253 & 254. No stratification layer was designated. Artifacts include 8 creamware, 1 pearlware and 1 cut (?) nail.

(east of wall)

The area adjacent to the cobbles (i.e., 15 - 18") was taken down separately in a l'xl' sq. and given level # 146 (medium-light brown sandy soil). Artifacts were bagged in 262 and contained mainly creamware. Oyster shell was appearing (this should be level ) beneath the sand at c. 18".

(east of wall)

Sandy soil above cobbles (level #146) was excavated in remainder of square. Level Began 7" DBS; at 10" a hone-handled knife and fork were found (Noel-Hume types 5 & 6, early to mid-18th century [undergoing conservation at W & M as of 8-1-83])

Brick rubble & whole bricks from 10"-16", with mortar.

Summary of work done on Square PP - page 2

Results contd.

(east of wall)

Photographs:

Comments:

Sandy soil above cobbles (level #146) was excavated in remainder of square. The level began 7" DBS and continued to cobbles; however, just above the cobbles a layer of brick and mortar rubble was located (not given new level number) - this layer contained a few whole bricks. It is significantly different from other layers above the cobbles, both in HT, E, U, NN (in backyard) and in BB and WW (in western part of land adjacent to parking lot). Artifacts were mixed and included creamware sherds as well as an early 18th century bone-handled fork--no late 18th century materials were found (i.e. pearlwares), but the small sample in the square makes this finding less meaningfull.

A tentative terminus post quem for fill would be c. 1780 and this does not seem reasonable given findings from other excavation units.

RT7-18 - RT7-25. Feature 101 also shows, in profile, in slide RT7-2

A tentative sequence for the features in Square PP would go as follows:

- (1) cobblestone drive is built
- (2) cobblestone drive is abandoned
- (3) smokehouse is built
- (4) a structure abutting smokehouse is constructed (see Fea. 101)

Neither the smokehouse wall nor the Fea. 101 wall were built with builder's trenches as far as is presently known, but the smokehouse wall extends considerably deeper than the depth excavated in Square PP.

Squares to the north and east of PP should be opened, but these are covered by the bank parking lot.

## HISTORIC ANNAPOLIS ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT FEATURE REPORT

Site: Reynolds	Tavern	Date: June 1982
Square: PP		Excavator(s): C. Richards
Feature:101		
Stratum (or strata):		
Elevation (at top):	NE 11 ½"	Elevations (at bottom): NE 2111 NW
Measurement:	C	Measurement: C
B.S. (tape)	SE	B.S. (tape) 🗹 SE
B.D. (transit)	SW	B D (transit) □ SW

Feature Description:

A 13" wide brick wall, abutting the north wall of the smokehouse, and running north-south. The north end of the wall was cut by construction of the parking lot. The wall is three courses high, laid in Eng. or common bond. Artifacts (diagnostic):

Artifacts within wall/curbstone bounds were primarily 3rd quarter of 18th century, but these are <u>not</u> considered diagnostic at this time. Interpretative Comments:

The wall is laid on the cobblestone drive (est. construction c. 1740) and abuts smokehouse (presumed c. 1790-1820 construction). Relationship to brick cistern (?) c. 10 ft. north is undetermined.

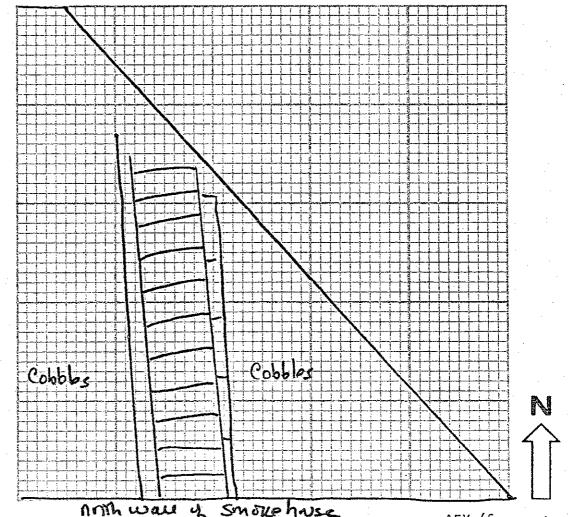
19th century terminus post quem

Bob redraw thrus

Bature in me

Square is

Square using



Scale: 1/10 foot

Photographs: R + M - Color IX Cross-Section: Vas - No XI

6 SHOREMOS

Recorder:

AEY (from notes)

Size

Location

Excavated by

Excavation Procedure

Objective

Results

Other findings

Irregular - see below
East half = TT; west half = SS
Between AA & BB, running from garage wall
to curb

Length of east wall is 65". Length of west wall is 82".

Width is 94"

Mark Cramer, Becky Dobson, Amy Maurer

Shovel without screening to level of cobbles - trowel and screen thereafter

To determine the extent of feature in Trench AA - to search for wall parallel to Feature 101 in Square PP.

No parallel wall located. Cobbles uncovered at 16" DBS.

The material above cobbles (from 15" down) and among the cobbles was removed and placed in Bag 279 (?). There was some modern material among the artifacts, but no hard whites. Looks like late 18th or very early 19th century deposition primarily.

A circle deposit (13" wide) of clay appeared at 18" DBS to south of cobbles (Feature ). The cobbles in area SS/TT are still articulated and show clear pattern of disturbance in eastern sector (towards AA).

Clay deposit is 30" to center from north wall of garage and 26" from the east wall of SS. It was taken out separately - contained no artifacts; it tapered down to 8-9" dia. and ended 23" DBS.

Medium brown layer with brick & Oyster shell fragments adjacent to cobbles was taken out separately. This was level #157 extending down to c. 27.5 inches—it contained late 18th/early 19th century materials (recheck Bag 282) and a lot of faunal material. It was adjacent to cobbles and proceeded down to level where a heavy oyster shell layer (level 158) underlay both cobbles and level #157.

Cobbles are underlined with a brick border along the norther edge of cobbles in square (note width here not same as in Sq. H & T)

Artifacts from dense oyster shell layer beneath cobbles (level #158) are in Bag 281. [Something is mixed up here - Bag 281 reads level #157 and notes do not yet mention that cobbles have been removed. I believe they mean that this was a level that would have been under cobbles had cobbles been found throughout unit without any disturbance—i.e. in same pattern and dimensions as in squares east of smokehouse].

Do Not use materials from Bag 281 to date cobble walk/driveway.

Layer beneath bricks (Feature Number not known; no plan nor photographs present). was level #156-large brick frags, oyster shell & medium brown soil extended from 19" to 27.5 inches. Bagged in #284.

Bag 284 contained only faunal material and a few corroded nails—nothing that could be dated.

Level #158 (c. 6" thick - dense oyster shell, mocha soil, charcoal) was excavated. Materials were placed in Bags 285. The only ceramics were earthenwares and 2 pieces of delft. A bone-handled knife was recovered with a bone-handled fork. [the fork was used in a display during the summer (Haunted Bookshop?) and was not in the Bag on 13 October--AEY can (can not) locate it as of August 1983). Both these implements were early to mid 18th century forms. Knife was a modified pistol-grip (Noel-Hume type 5).

Based on this material, the cobblestone drive was constructed at the same time as or earlier than the Tavern. A larger sample could be procured from remaining sections of Sqs. SS & PP without disturbing cobbles in the Tavern yard.

The quality of the artifacts in this layer is high - if Pearson's work will disturb any sections of the cobbles - archaeology should first be done and/or done in tandem with the construction.

Bag 292 also contains material from Level #158 and includes a large faunal concentration, I delft and 2 porcelain sherds.

Level #159 - a red brown fill with small brick fragments and charcoal and small oyster fragments underlay Level #158 and appeared at varying depths in the square (from 33" at north end underneath the brick underpinning (?) for cobble drive - to 28" in the south portion of the unit --i.e. closer to the garage).

Bags #286 and #291 contain materials from this layer to the point (38") where square was level with trench AA.

This level contains creamware sherds in small quantities - this is impossible if it truly underlies the cobble drive, assuming the drive is earlier. It is impossible to tell from the notes if the crew was excavating beneath cobbles or in areas where cobbles were disturbed.

This level sounds as if it is the mottled area visible in the upper right in slide RT7-12. Please draw a profile of the west wall of this square and photograph it when the unit is re-opened.

A plan view was prepared by Becky Dobson at this point.

We did not do a very good job on these

at all. It is unclear whether level #158 in Sq. SS/TT is the trashpit (the slides suggest this) or is a fill underlying the cobbles. Level #159 could occur from something happening to the south towards the garage and be unconnected to the cobblestone feature. When it is time to analyze these features again, let's look at these one levels one more time based on the 1983 findings and then decide which

There definately <u>is</u> an early deposit here, but what it is from is ambiguous - maybe the cobbles were once part of a wider yard - like the brick-paved area at Calvert?

sets of artifacts have to be discarded from

any final analysis.

Comments

Size: 5 x 5

Location: Behind garage. Western bound of unit was formed by the sidewalk running from Franklin Street along garage. Northern bound was formed by the curbing for the bank parking lot.

> This square lay in the extreme north west corner of the strip of land behind garage/smokehouse.

Excavated by

Sandy Wilson in late July

Excavation procedure

Shovel. No soil was screened. No artifacts were found in the topsoil nor in the 1st 10", but 5 were found subsequently. This square was not rich in artifacts with the exception of level 160. Troweling & hand-screening from 16 - 21". To test for presence of cobblestone drive.

Objective:

Results:

A small group of articulated cobbles was located at 21" DBS (measured from top of curb) in the north-east corner of square underneath a thin layer of oyster shell.

The layer of oyster shell was labelled #160--a medium dark brown fill with brick and oyster bits, extending 16-21" DBS.

There was a moderate concentration of artifacts in level 160 including a mixture of creamware (16) and pearlware (6), some faunal material, a cut nail, 2 cartridges, a copper ring (l' dia), and assorted bottle class. Bags 290 & 294.

Photographs:

Sandy notes square photographed, but slides are missing.

Drawing:

A plan view is given in Sandy Wilson's notes.

Excavation of the square was not completed and work ceased at the level of the cobbles (i.e. 21" DBS).

Comments:

No cobbles were located elsewhere in the square other than NE corner, and 2 in NW corner that appear unarticulated. The cobbles may form a corner, indicating a shift in the cobble drive or its termination. The square to the north in the parking lot should be opened before any other test squares further west are undertaken.