Section 8.2

Trench Report
Area B

710 – 722 George Street
Haymarket

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January 2010
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Area B is the central part of the archaeological site at 710-722 George Street. The site was divided into three areas (A, B and C). Area B deals specifically with nos. 712 to 718 George Street. Archaeological structures, features and deposits from the early 1800s to the late nineteenth century were excavated and recorded in Area B. The main findings are as follows:

- Phase 3 1788-1823: Brickfield activity was identified in Area B (Lot 3) in the form of a dump of pottery wasters with thousands of sherds of lead-glaze pottery. This pottery has been interpreted as being related to the Thomas Ball pottery that existed at this time on the adjacent lot. The topography of the site, showing heavy erosion and gullies suggests that the lot was largely unused during this period.

- Phase 4 1823-c.1840: No remains were found of the historically recorded building on Lot 3 dating to 1831. Several early features including postholes and an aborted well were identified with this phase. These structures were the first in the area after the brick and pottery-making ceased. The lots were occupied by former convicts.

- Phase 5 c.1840-c.1860: The Lot was subdivided into four lots by this time. These were later numbered 712, 714, 716 and 718 George Street. Sandstone footings for 712, 714 and 716 were found belonging to this phase. A sandstock brick cesspit was excavated in the yard of 712. Evidence for a timber building with a brick fireplace and associated occupation deposit was found at 718.

- Phase 6 1860s-1890: By 1865 there was a substantial redevelopment of Area B and the timber building of 718 was replaced by one with sandstone footings. No. 712 footings were reused in a later structure. Numbers 714 and 716 George Street were rebuilt larger. Along with the footings, sandstone cesspits were also excavated to the rear of 714, 716 and 718.
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

The new development at 710-722 George Street, Haymarket was the subject of an extensive archaeological excavation that took place over a nine week period between August and October 2008. Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd were commissioned by Parkview to undertake an archaeological assessment of the study area prior to the excavation. Casey & Lowe on behalf of Inmark have already undertaken the assessments and excavations of similar related sites in this area, i.e., 16-20 Albion Street, 242 Elizabeth Street, and the adjacent Silknit House, 19-41 Reservoir Street and a site on the corner of Pitt and Campbell Streets.

The development site is triangular in shape and is on the eastern side of George Street, north of the corner of Campbell Street (Fig. 1.1). The new development consists of multi-storey residential and commercial buildings with two levels of underground parking. The site is situated above two railway tunnels which limits the amount of bulk excavation to two levels of carparking. This development will remove all surviving archaeological remains within the site footprint. The salvage excavation of the archaeological remains took place as part of the demolition works prior to piling and the bulk excavation for the basement.

This trench report details the archaeological findings within Area B. Historically this was Lot 3 and also contained 712-718 George Street following subdivision in the 1820s. The archaeological assessment identified this area was likely to contain the remains of early brickfield activity, pottery manufacturing and subsequent phases of building and occupation throughout the nineteenth century. This predictive model was based on the analysis of the historic records. A large pottery waster pit and several layers of re-landscaping fills were recorded as being part of the early brickfield activity on site. Three main phases of nineteenth-century building were recorded during the excavation. Along with the main structural remains were 4 cesspits associated with the occupation of the houses.

1.2 Study Area

The site 710-722 George Street is bound on the western side by George Street, on the eastern side by Cunningham Lane and on the northern and southern sides by the extant buildings 708 and 724 George Street respectively (Fig. 1.1). For excavation purposes the study area was divided into three areas; Area A (720-722 George Street) to the south, Area B (712-718 George Street) in the centre and Area C (710 George Street) to the north. These divisions into areas also correspond with the early allotment numbers assigned along George Street. This report will only deal specifically with Area B (Lot 3).

Area A also recorded as Lot 2, consisted of the southern end of the site which included buildings 720 and 722 George Street. Below these large footings were the remains of an earlier structure, the 1830s Woolpack Inn and evidence of early backfilling of a large cut associated with the brickfield era. Area A is the subject of a separate trench report.

Area B comprised the central portion of the study area (Lot 3) which included Nos. 712–718 George Street. This area contained extensive yet ephemeral remains from the ‘brickfield’ era along with early residential occupation and many phases of commercial occupation. Area B is the subject of this trench report.

Area C was No. 710 George Street, formally the southern part of Lot 4. Evidence was found of many phases of occupation, mostly commercial occupation from the 1840s to 2008. Area C is the subject of a separate trench report.

Context numbers 7301 – 7700 were assigned to the study area.
1.3 Plans
All the plans for this excavation were drawn to a scale of 1:50. A total of ten plans were drawn of the site, most of which contained overlays from the different stages of excavation. Plan nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 specifically cover Area B (see Volume 3, Section 10 of Report).

1.4 Phases
Area B has been divided into eight main phases. The analysis of the historical occupation of the study area presented in Section 2 and the archaeology found during excavation have helped identify these phases. While a number of phases were predicted for the site as a whole, not all phases were found in Area B.

- Phase 1: Natural Landscape
- Phase 2: Aboriginal Occupation
- Phase 4: c.1823-c.1840: Post-Brickfield occupation by former convicts and families.
- Phase 5: c.1840-1860s: Rebuilding of the structures in 1840s into a series of shops.
- Phase 6: 1860s-c.1890: Rebuilding phase associated with general cleansing of the block
- Phase 7: c.1890-1930s: Rebuilding c.1890 replaces shops with buildings that survive into twentieth century
- Phase 8: 1930s-1990s: Structures of previous phase survive

The natural landscape (Phase 1) followed quite a steep gradient from northeast to southwest, dropping nearly 1.5m in height. In the eastern part of Area B most of the natural deposits had been removed right down to the lower red and grey clay (C-horizon natural) during the brickfield era and then backfilled prior to the construction of houses. No evidence of Aboriginal occupation was found (Phase 2). A pottery waster pit was found in the southwest of Area B showing evidence of local pottery manufacture (Phase 3).

Stone footings of an early structure were found in Area B that was contemporary with the Woolpack Inn in Area A (Phase 4). A number of other structures were built on the street frontage during the 1840s as the area became more urban (Phase 5). There were several other later additions and redevelopments evidenced in Area B prior to the twentieth century (Phase 6). These buildings survived until the 1970s.

1.5 Limitations
This report was written without access to the artefact catalogue and any dates these may have provided to assist with phasing. The information came from the recording done on site and the historical material available from the Archaeological Assessment written by Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd in June 2008.

1.6 Authorship
This report has been written by Beau Spry and Abi Cryerhall with additions by Jill Miskella. Amendments to Phases 4 and 5 were made by Mike Hincks. The history included in this report all comes from the Archaeological Assessments completed by Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd in June 2008. This report was reviewed in detail by Mike Hincks and Dr Mary Casey.
2.0 Brief Historical Background

2.1 General Background

The site, prior to British settlement, was on the lower side of what became known as Brickfield Hill. The early plans show that the site was somewhat outside the town of Sydney. From an early stage it was subject to clearance and subsequent use of the area as ‘Brickfield Village’. Bricks were being manufactured here by 1788. Many of the Aboriginal occupants of the eastern shore of Darling Harbour would have disappeared from this area soon after settlement because of its proximity to the brickfields and George Street.

The original part of the brickfields centred on the blocks between Campbell, Elizabeth, Goulburn and George Streets. This includes the current development. Once the clay resources were used up in the original brickfield area, brickmaking activities spread out towards Darling Harbour and Surry Hills. Lesueur’s 1802 Plan of the Town of Sydney (Fig. 2.1), depicts allotments and houses on both sides of George (High) Street, labelled “Brickfield Village, where there are manufactures of tiles, pottery, crockery, etc”. Meehan’s 1807 plan has a notation that “These Houses are irregularly Built very few of them good”. By the 1820s brickmaking moved from the area as the available clay was used up or as the encroaching town made the process objectionable or uncommercial. Remains of a later brickfield were found between Reservoir and Albion Streets, to the east of Elizabeth Street.

The street layout in the area was settled in the 1820s, and from 1831 the plans of Sydney show how the study area had become part of the town proper. The frontages of the new streets were already dotted with buildings.

When William Jevons visited the colony in 1858 and carried out his Social Survey of Australian Cities his attention was often drawn to the more depressed parts of the places he visited. He stated:

That part of Sydney where the lowest & vicious classes most predominate & where the abodes are of the worst possible description is the square block of land between George, Goulburn, Pitt, & Campbell Streets. Towards the first & last of these streets it is occupied by shops or business premises, and among which are no less than seven public houses or inns & two or three livery stables, a stable yard of large size. It is however within this block of land that the bad features appear. Several lanes of irregular angular shape proceed into it burdened by very closely packed & chiefly brick cottages, the dirty low appearance of which defies description. Such is Durands Alley, some female inmate inhabitant of which is punished almost every day at the Police Court for offences chiefly connected with prostitution. I walked through these miserable alleys which are quite shut out from common view & form almost blind alleys. No more secure & private retreat for vice is afforded in Sydney.2

Jevons description of the block of land bounded by George, Goulburn, Pitt and Campbell Streets includes the excavation site, and it does indeed feature hotels and inns on its northern and southern perimeters. The description of the housing within the block, specifically within Durands Alley, does by association imply that the study area was associated with an area renowned for its more dubious qualities by the middle of the nineteenth century. This also suggests that the commercial enterprises located within this area were of a type, and in a location, that were directed towards a customer base comprising of the lower working class, Jevon’s so-called third class.

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1 The historical background is taken from the archaeological assessment written by Casey & Lowe
2 Jevons 1858:18
Figure 2.1: Detail from Leseur’s 1802 plan of Sydney showing structures within Brickfield Village lining both sides of George Street. British Library Map Room, C5864-02

None of the properties within the study area were resumed by Council but there was redevelopment of structures at 712–718 when the c.1840s buildings were replaced by four two-storey shops in the 1860s. They are then rebuilt in the 1890s. The first known building at 720–722 George Street survived for a long period of time from the 1830s to c.1880 and was the site of the Woolpack Inn. Two new buildings were built on these sites in the 1880s and were altered again in the twentieth century as part of the expanding business of Mick Simmons Ltd.
2.2 Background to Lot 2 / 712-718 George Street

This information relating specifically to Area B (712 - 718 George Street) comes from the archaeological assessment written by Casey & Lowe in June 2008. Historical sources used in the assessment included: Sands Directory, the Council Rate Assessment books, cartographic and pictorial material (plans and photographs) and land titles records.

The Council Rate Assessment books were recorded for the study area at a range of intervals between 1845 and 1948 (Appendix 1, Archaeological Assessment, Casey & Lowe, June 2008). The rates and assessments show who individual owners of properties are in a particular year, the occupant of the address, type of address (house, shop, etc), the fabric of the building and its roofing material, the number of floors and number of rooms, as well as its estimated value. Changes in the buildings fabric, or discrepancies in the number of floors and rooms between years surveyed, can indicate rebuilding. Sands Directory is an early form of street directory but with a focus on residents’ addresses and earlier on occupations of people living or working at many residences.

The Sands Directory lists residents from 1858/59 to 1933 (Appendix 2, Archaeological Assessment, June 2008). The study area is very confusing given that the street numbers on George Street alter considerably over the years, with the assigning of particular numbers changing on individual lots. Area B consisted of the modern street numbers 712, 714, 716 and 718. These were 724 to 730 in 1858. By 1883 nos. 712-718 had been adopted. There were some confusing subdivisions of 716 and 718 and in the later nineteenth and early twentieth century. Nos. 716 ½ and 718 ½ were listed in the directory and appear to have been accommodated by the existing structures. There is certainly cartographic evidence to show that these buildings were indeed subdivided. From 1858 the occupants of all the properties were operating commercial businesses. No. 712 was occupied by a baker and pastry cook until the 1870s. There different confectioners conducted business at the premises between then and the end of the century. From around 1913 various retailers operated from No. 712, including a jeweller, a milliner, a bag store and a tailor. Various businesses occupied No. 714 including a fruiterer, tailor, saddler, tobacconist between 1879 and 1893 followed in the twentieth century by a music seller for 30 years or so. The businesses at No. 716 were also quite varied and the longest lasting was Hand-in-Hand tailoring in the 1890s and early 1900s. There was a saddler in No. 718 up to the 1880s, and by the 1870s it had been subdivided and a hairdresser also operated from here. By 1888 the New York Novelty Co. took over from the saddlers. The hairdresser continued until the turn of the century.

A number of the tenants listed in the Sands appear to have been quite long term, either staying at the one address or, perhaps after a rebuilding phase, moving to another address still within Area B. A good example of this is Arthur Leston, hairdresser. He is listed within the study area for at least 25 years, in 1873, 1879, 1880, 1883, 1888, 1893, 1895 and 1898. He appears at two different addresses within the study area, at No. 718 and No. 720 George Street. In 1873 he is named with Thomas Johnson, saddler, at No. 718 then by 1879 he has moved to his own premises at No. 720. By 1893 he is back at No. 718 George Street as the Commercial Bank has taken over No. 720, however here his address is actually listed as being No. 718½, probably suggesting that the numbering has changed slightly after a rebuilding phase.
Figure 2.2: This plan dates from c.1831 and shows that two structures existed within the development site (outlined in red) at this time. Area B (Lot 3) is highlighted with a dashed red line. A large rectangular building is shown within this lot that is owned by Thomas Ryan. To the south is Area A (Lot 4) and the building depicted here is the Woolpack Inn. *Field Books, Survey of the City of Sydney*, A. Hallen. c.1831, SR Reel 2628 (2/5195) Item 347, p5.

Figure 2.3: This plan dates from 1854 and shows the extent of subdivision and development in the area by this time. Within Area B there are 5 buildings fronting George Street. Woolcott and Clark’s Map of the City of Sydney, 1854. Kelly & Crocker 1978:21.
Figure 2.4: This plan shows more detail regarding the redevelopments that occurred on the site by the 1860s. *The Trigonometric Survey of Sydney, 1865.*

Figure 2.5: This 1895 plan shows the extent of redevelopment of the site by the end of the century. Notable in Area A the Woolpack Inn has been replaced with two large structures, one being a bank. There is a little change in the layout of buildings in Area B, for example no.718 appears to be divided into 2 separate shops as has 716. *Metropolitan Detail Series ML, SLNSW.*
3.0 Results of Fieldwork 712-718 George Street (Area B)

3.1 Methodology

3.1.1 Overview
This site was subject to an open area archaeological excavation and was done so according to best archaeological practice and in consideration of guidelines issued by the Heritage Office concerning archaeological excavation.

3.1.2 State of Site when Opened
The archaeological program began during the demolition phase of the development. Initial excavation work began on 29th August 2008 in Area A and moved northwards towards Area C. This involved the bulk excavation of unstratified fills above the archaeological remains. About 500mm of modern fills and surfaces were removed by machine. It was noted that the middle of the site was fairly disturbed by twentieth-century concrete footings and only subsurface features such as the cesspits survived.

3.1.3 Excavation and Recording Methodology
The Archaeological Assessment compiled for this site by Casey and Lowe Pty Ltd in June 2008 anticipated that, 712-718 George Street had archaeological potential as suggested by the central Sydney Archaeological Zoning Plan (1992). The approach to the site involved monitoring the removal of the slabs from the site and then using a machine to open up areas to determine where potential remains are likely to be found. When intact remains were found the area was subject to detailed archaeological open area stratigraphic excavation with detailed recording including: planning, photographing, videoing and contextual recording of the remains in line with current best archaeological practice and Casey & Lowe practices.

Initial site works involved clearing down to archaeological deposits using a mechanical excavator. Detailed recording of the various archaeological remains included:

- Underfloor deposits were recorded within a 50cm grid, 5 cm spits and 100% sieved.
- Well and cesspits were excavated in 10 to 20cm spits or tip lines (if identifiable), with changes of context numbers where relevant. These deposits were sample sieved.
- All structural remains, post holes and features were planned.
- All archaeological remains were photographically recorded to archival standards. A digital video archive was taken of the findings.
- All artefacts were labelled with the appropriate context number and excavation details. Artefacts were cleaned, labelled, sorted, bagged and boxed on site.
3.2 Phase 1: Natural Topography

3.2.1 Overview
The site was situated on the cusp of a change in the underlying geology. North of the site, the clayey soils of the open woodland associated with the Wianamatta group shales once gave way to the loose, sandy soils and dense vegetation of the Hawkesbury sandstone. No doubt this change in vegetation to relatively open woodland aided the early detection of appropriate clays for brickmaking, which were exposed at the surface and easily discovered by a walking party from the settlement to the north. Remnants of A and B horizons characteristic of shale country were present across the site.

The site was located on the southern slope of Brickfield Hill and the remaining natural deposits sloped from the northeast to the southwest, in accordance with the geomorphology of the wider area. The RL of natural deposits in the location of the most northern building (No. 712) was 5.5m and at No. 718 in the south it was 5m.

The natural deposits consisted of heavy clays (B Horizon) and other subsoils and old topsoils in places (A Horizon). The area was landscaped after the brickfields were no longer in use, resulting in truncation of deposits in the northeast and a build up along the street front. As a result, the natural soil horizons on the street frontage were still largely intact, but showed signs of erosion and displacement during wet conditions (see Phase 3 below). To the rear of the properties the natural deposits were truncated to the B Horizon clays.

In Area B several context numbers were assigned to the remnant A and B Horizon deposits. These layers formed the level at which all subsequent archaeological features were cut and deposits/fills sealed.

3.2.2 B Horizon Clays
B horizon deposits were represented by medium to heavy yellow orange clays with infrequent ironstone inclusions (7610). They were exposed at the east of Area B and in the south of the Area. The B horizon was numbered 7622 and 7623 respective to location and was sampled by Roy Laurie, soil scientist.

3.2.3 Remnant subsoil
Subsoils were represented in several locations by a compact and very pale yellow brown silty clay loam with flecks of charcoal and occasional iron oxide staining. In general these layers were pale and devoid of mineral colouring. They have been interpreted as ancient topsoil layers. Undulating and rutted remnants were present towards the street frontage. In the northern part of Area B (later to be Nos. 712 and 714 George Street) this A horizon deposit was numbered 7621 and overlaid the clay 7610. Further south on the street frontage this subsoil was numbered 7527. At the very southwest of Area B (later 718 George Street) it was numbered 7404. All contexts displayed the same characteristics and all were approximately a maximum of 250mm in depth.

3.2.4 Discoloured subsoil
Located in the southern part of Area B (later 718 George Street) was a fairly extensive patch of remnant subsoil that was stained yellow and orange. This subsoil 7456 had blended boundaries to the north with subsoil 7527. Context 7456 consisted of light grey to white silty clay with frequent flecks and chunks of charcoal at the surface. There was also a dense brownish orange mottle across the surface of the layer. The soil also appeared to have swirling patterns that may have been produced by the movement of iron oxide by water through the soil profile. The 'swirling' is likely to be the depths reached by particles after individual deluge events. Often, iron oxide and fine clay particles will combine under these conditions in a sandy profile and create thin bands where the water table has remained for an extended period. The localisation of the staining may reflect porous fills or fills with a high iron content above this location.
3.2.5 Remnant topsoil
There was one context that displayed characteristics of original topsoil in the very southwest of Area B (later No. 718 George Street). This topsoil (7472) consisted of mid brown fine silty clay with some charcoal flecking. The topsoil had been modified during the subsequent phases (phase 3 and 4) and included fragments of sandstock brick, some glass and lead glaze pottery. Within the topsoil layer 7472 was a tree bole (7473). This was slightly irregular in plan and measured 1.4m by 800mm and was 140mm in maximum depth. It contained a dark humic loam with fine roots. It also contained some intrusive items as the fill was soft. A deeper deposit of topsoil (7450) was located just to the south. This material had a similar soil matrix and was also later modified, and therefore contained historic artefacts such as fragments of brick and lead glaze pottery. There were also signs of tree/shrub roots within this soil. Both topsoils were likely to have been modified during the first occupation phase, either associated with Brickfield village or early former convict settlement after the brickfields were abandoned. Overlying 7456 subsoil was 7458, greyish brown silty clay that was also likely remnant topsoil. It survived in patches in south Area B. It was likely to have been modified during the later phases and contain a mix of artefacts.

3.3 Phase 3: 1788–c.1823: Brickfields and pottery manufacture

3.3.1 Overview
This area was once within the early Brickfields village where bricks, pottery and tiles were manufactured up until the 1820s. After this the area became increasingly urbanised and the industry moved eastward to Surry Hills and other suburbs. Area B was once Lot 3 Section 2 and the earliest records available indicate that it was owned by Michael Joyce, a convict who arrived in the colony in 1811. He was recorded as residing in Sydney and working as a baker in 1818. Lot 3 (and Lot 2 or Area A) was adjacent to Thomas Ball’s pottery and the archaeological evidence relating to pottery production from both Lots has been associated with him.

3.3.2 Impacts of land clearance
Several naturally formed depressions with gentle to moderately sloping sides were present in the tightly compacted and occasionally rutted clayey subsoils. Initial clearance of trees and shrubs from the site, followed by a period of neglect or only occasional use may have resulted in the erosion of looser and more mineral-rich topsoils from the surface. The subsequent creation of large depressions and wide gullies is likely to have occurred during the brickfield period, shortly after the land was cleared. Subsoil remnants suggested a broken surface and occasionally dynamic movements of water, creating a landscape of limited use. The depths and widths suggested considerable runoff, indicating that land clearance further up the hill was impacting heavily upon the site. These conditions may explain the lack of evidence for brickfield activity.

The gullies and depressions were partially exposed in several locations. The form of the eroded subsoils suggested at least one channel up to 2.5m wide running south-southwest from the centre north of the site. Its depth, width and morphology changed in several locations, perhaps indicating sporadic but dynamic flows that eroded or settled in different ways during each event. Shallower branching tributaries that were suggested in at least two locations are probably further evidence of this.

3 1822 Census, A11708
The erosional forms were initially recorded as cuts, and the descriptive terms reflect this. However, as the erosive properties of the moving water considerably incised the surface, the original terminology remains appropriate.

In the south of Area B (later 716 George Street) were two irregular and somewhat ill-defined shallow depressions in the surface. 7481 was an irregular but roughly north-south orientated erosional cut with a sharp to medium break of slope at the top and a shallow or gentle break at the base. Its full shape in plan was not determined due to modern activity. The sides and base were undulating and irregular. This feature was a maximum of 6.65m in length and between 1m and 3.4m in width. The depth ranged from 50mm to 300mm. At the base of the feature were several smaller indents that have been interpreted as impressions in a muddy surface.

Located to the north of this was another irregular-shaped feature (7558). Its full extent was not determined during the excavation. The erosional feature was roughly northeast to southwest in orientation and was found cutting the subsoil 7527. It had an irregular edge with a gradual break of top and bottom slope. The length of the feature was a minimum of 2.5m and 200mm in depth. The base of the feature was irregular and contained many ‘pockmarks’ and a number of stakeholes. The marks may have been animal hoof marks.

Located further north in Area B two test trenches investigated an area of post-Brickfield levelling fills. TT16 revealed a depression (7601) in the B Horizon clay 7548. 1m of this was exposed and it displayed the characteristics as the others mentioned above, being irregular and shallow in nature. The feature (7602) in TT17 was located to the east of TT16 and again displayed similar properties.
3.3.3 Pottery waster fills
Indirect evidence of the local pottery industry was found in the form of a large quantity of pottery wasters and baked clay located in the southern part of Area B (later 718 George Street). The material had been dumped in the gully close to where the eroded surface met George Street (as part of the levelling process described below).

Located in the southern part of Area B (later 718 George Street) was a shallow, gently sloping and wide section of gully containing a large quantity of pottery wasters. This was adjacent to Lot 2 (Area A) where several larger pottery waster dumps and a large backfilled clay extraction pit were found. The waster dump in Area B (Lot 3) was likely associated with the similar features in Area A. The cut of the gully (7489) was an irregular in plan and northeast-southwest in orientation. The sides and base were also irregular. The maximum length of the erosional cut was c.2m, the maximum width c.1.5m and the surviving depth was c.200mm. The fill 7460 consisted of lead glaze pottery and sandstock brick or baked clay fragments within a silty clay topsoil-like matrix. The material from the pit was excavated and sieved, therefore ensuring 100 per cent retrieval of the artefacts. Preliminary analysis of the pottery indicates that these were wasters and were discarded due to over-firing or breakage during manufacture. A number of items of kiln furniture were also found. Sandstock brick/burnt clay fragments were also present, though in lesser numbers.

Figure 3.2: Pre-excavation of the pottery waster pit (indicated by black arrow) cutting the subsoil and cut by the later wall (7341) of 718 George Street. The photo is taken looking north and the scale is 1m.
Figure 3.3: The eroded subsoils showing impressions made in the once muddy gully after excavation of the pottery fill. View to the northeast. Scale 1m.

3.3.4 Early structural evidence – postholes
Located to the north of the pottery waster fill and in the mid-west of Area B towards the street frontage were several postholes cutting the natural clays and sealed by the post-Brickfield levelling fills described in below (3.3.6). No clear structure could be interpreted from these postholes. They are described below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Posthole</th>
<th>Packing #</th>
<th>Description of packing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7551 square 200mm, 120mm depth In TT14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mottled mid brown sandy clay with white fleck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7552 sub-rectangular, 300mm by 240mm, 260mm in depth. In TT15</td>
<td>7553</td>
<td>Beige grey fine silty clay with occasional charcoal and tiny brick fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7554 sub-square, 280mm by 240mm by 130mm in depth. In TT15</td>
<td>7555</td>
<td>Mid grey silty clay with flecks of charcoal and sandstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7556 sub-square, 350mm of unknown depth. In TT15</td>
<td>7557</td>
<td>Sandy gritty beige silty clay with yellow mottle. 1 brick fragment and sandstone and ceramic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7606 rectangular, 460mm by 440mm.</td>
<td>7607</td>
<td>Pale beige grey silty clay with yellow clay mottle. Sandstone fragments and brick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.1: Postholes found in test trenches in Area B (later 716 George Street) towards the street frontage that were sealed by the levelling fills prior to c.1823.

3.3.5 Post-Brickfield levelling fills and introduced topsoil
Brick and pottery manufacturing in the immediate vicinity of the site had come to an end by the early 1820s. The site was landscaped in preparation for urban development with the introduction of extensive layers of fills to level the uneven ground. These fills may have been sourced on the site or imported, it was not possible to determine. In general they consisted of redeposited natural clays and subsoils. In Area B the levelling fills were recorded within the cuts of the gullies already described...
and throughout the area in various test pits. Mostly they were machined-off after recording and a
sample area excavated.
Depression 7481 contained three fills. Context 7490 was the initial fill. It consisted of compacted
brown silty clay with some sand content and was flecked with charcoal and occasional small stones.
It also contained lead glaze pottery fragments and occasional glass. This fill was a maximum of
150mm in depth. It shared the base of the depression with context 7474, a similarly constituted fill
containing small fragments of sandstock brick. Overlying these fills was a lens of blackish brown
silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions (7475). This material was quite friable on excavation and
had a pungent odour suggesting it had a high organic content.

Depression 7558 to the north of 7481 contained the fill 7461. This consisted of greyish brown silty
clay loam with frequent charcoal fragments and some iron oxide staining. There were also fragments
of lead-glaze pottery and sandstock brick/burnt clay. This fill was c.100mm in depth.

All these fills were sealed by the introduced topsoil 7305. This consisted of mid to dark brown sandy
clay loam with inclusions of charcoal, sandstock brick/burnt clay fragments, some sandstone, lead
glaze and pearlware pottery. Context 7305 was fairly extensive and it sealed the edges of the
depression (7489) and also filled and sealed the similar cut (7558) to the north. This introduced
topsoil appeared throughout Area B and has been assigned several different numbers dependent on
location, though it mostly survived in the southern part of the area and towards the street frontage.
Other numbers assigned to this re-topsoiling event are 7412. Both these fills were to the southwest
of 7305 and are likely associated with the ground preparations for 718 George Street. These topsoils
all contained the same range of artefacts including lead-glaze pottery fragments. Context 7545 was
also a levelling fill with frequent lead-glaze fragments found in this southern part of Area B.

The northern part of the gully was described as 7601 and was excavated within TT16. The eroded
bank was extensive and continued eastwards where it was eventually truncated by later activity. This
cut contained three fills; the bottom-most, 7548 mottled orange clay with iron oxide nodes and
charcoal throughout. Above this was 7546 was a mottled grey/yellow/beige silty clay with charcoal
fragments throughout. The upper-most and last fill within 7601 was 7547, a pale beige silty clay with
flecks of charcoal.

Context 7602 further described the slope of the gully in TT17. This cut was likely to be the
continuation of cut 7601 in TT16. The fills recorded within TT17 were 7574 at the base consisting
of dark greyish brown silty clay with charcoal flecking. This fill was 80mm in depth. Above this
was 7545, a pale grey silty clay with charcoal flecking and a glass bottle neck as the only visible
artefact. This fill was fairly thin at 40mm in depth. Over this was 7629 a mottled orange clay and
pale grey silty clay fill 30mm in depth. This was followed by 7628 a dark reddish orange clay with
dark red decaying ironstone nodules. This fill extended beyond the limit of the eroded gully. The
final fill recorded in the test trench was 7575. This consisted of dark reddish brown clay with
decaying ironstone nodules with a moderate amount of charcoal inclusions throughout. Also within
this fill was ceramic and brick fragments. This fill was 130mm in depth and also extended beyond
the limit of the eroded gully. These fills all appear to be redeposited natural subsoils and clays.

Two test trenches were excavated closer to the street frontage and in the later location of 716 George
Street. TT15 (Plan 8) revealed that two layers of levelling fills were deposited over the B Horizon
yellow/orange clays (7514). Overlaying this clay was a fill (7530) of soft mid brown fine clayey silt
loam with infrequent inclusion of charcoal flecking, tiny sandstock brick/burnt clay and lead-glaze
pottery fragments. This fill was c.150mm in depth and appeared to be filling the slightly undulating
ground surface below. Over this topsoil-like material was an extensive fill of redeposited subsoil
7529. This consisted of beige-to-grey bleached compact silty clay with a yellow tinge and frequent
charcoal flecking and inclusions of lead glaze pottery fragments. This levelling fill was c.150mm in
depth and extended over a wide area and was likely laid down in preparation for the development of
the site after brickmaking activities ceased. This material was also found in TT14. A localised fill
(7528) was found overlying 7529. This consisted of yellow clay with inclusions of sandstock brick
Casey & Lowe                      Area B, 710-722 George Street, Haymarket

and sandstone fragments. It also had a beige silty clay mottle. Both 7529 and 7528 were found over 7527, an *in situ* subsoil that existed to the east of the test trenches. TT14 (Plan 8) revealed a similar stratigraphy over the B Horizon clay surface. All test trenches revealed an attempt to level the surface with redeposited natural material. Once levelled, the surface was capped with tightly compacted clays. This consolidated the ground in preparation for building on the site.

### 3.3.6 Evidence for structure by 1820s

Lesueur’s 1802 plan of Sydney depicted the Brickfield village as having a number of allotments with structures off George Street (Fig. 2.1). Presumably these structures were houses for those who worked in the brickfields. There was no archaeological evidence from the site for the structures that are depicted as existing at this early stage. It is perhaps a matter of survival of the evidence given the constant development through the nineteenth and twentieth century rather than the maps being inaccurate. Plans from the early 1830s do depict ad hoc and permissive occupancy allotments and buildings in the area. On the site there was a structure on the street frontage in Area B (Lot 3) and a larger building, the Woolpack Inn, in Area A (Lot 2).

### 3.4 Phase 4: c.1823-c.1840: Post-Brickfield occupation

#### 3.4.1 Overview

After the brick-making businesses in the immediate vicinity of the site had moved from the area, allotments on the street frontage became occupied by former convicts. Harper’s 1822 plan and Hallen’s plan from 1831 provide the detail of the layout and position of the lots and structures within the study area. Area B (Lot 3) contained a fairly large rectangular building, its length facing the street, within a triangular shaped lot. The plans indicated that Lot 3 was initially owned by Michael Joyce. By 1831 the lot had passed to Thomas Ryan and the building was valued at £180. There was no archaeological evidence for this structure in Area B as it appeared on Hallen’s plan. However, several features that were not consistent with the later layout of the site were thought to belong to this early period. There was no evidence at the time of writing to describe the following archaeological remains as part of Phase 3 occupation of the site.

#### 3.4.2 Abandoned well (7600)

In the centre of Lot 3 was a circular cut backfilled with dumps of heavy orange/red clays and grey silty clay subsoil-type fills (Plan 9). The cut was through the post-brickfield levelling fills 7529 etc and the subsoil 7527. This appeared to be an early abandoned well. There was no evidence that the well structure had been built. The nature of the fills (redeposited natural material without contamination of construction material) suggested that this feature belonged to an early phase before the development associated with subdivision had occurred.

Test Trench 12 was excavated through the backfilled well cut 7600. The cut was circular in plan with a diameter of 1.6m. It was cut through the post-Brickfield levelling fills 7530, 7529 and 7461. It also cut the subsoil 7527 on the southern side. The full depth of the cut was approximately 1.3m. It contained four separate fills. Context 7513 was the earliest backfill recorded. It consisted of medium to heavy yellow/orange clay and was a minimum of 200mm in depth. Above this was context 7510, a fill comprised of mottled light grey silty clay and orange clay with flecks of charcoal throughout. This fill ranged in depth from 260mm in the east to 50mm in the west. Above this was context 7514, a light grey silty clay with frequent charcoal fragments with some ironstone and yellow clay lumps. This fill was between 400mm and 150mm in depth. Above this was a fill of orange/grey mottled medium clay (7624). Capping context 7624 was a fill of grey silty clay with charcoal fleck (7613). This was mottled orange clay and grey silty clay soil and was c.100mm in depth. The backfilled cut and some of the surrounding area was then sealed with context 7464, a dark red heavy clay with inclusions of decaying ironstone throughout. This heavy clay would have formed a fairly solid layer suitable to form part of the yard surface to the rear of the structure. The lack of even a small amount of naturally accumulated material at the base of the cut suggests that the cavity was not exposed for any great length of time before being backfilled.
Figure 3.4: This photo shows the backfilled abandoned well (blue arrow) to the rear of the footings 7402 (red). To the left is the topsoil-like material used as post-Brickfield levelling fill. The photo is taken looking west towards the George Street frontage and the scale is 1m.

Figure 3.5: Well 7600 during excavation. TT12 was a T-shaped test trench excavated to establish the stratigraphy of the backfills. The photo is taken looking north and the scale is 1m.
Figure 3.6: The remains of the well excavation. The backfill is 7513 and it is seen cutting the natural yellow/orange clay. The Scale is 1m.

Figure 3.7: The abandoned well was excavated by machine and the base (indicated by the arrow) was found about 1.3m below the level at which it was cut. The scale is 1m.
**Brick drain**

Located between No. 718 and No. 716 were the remains of a sandstock brick-built drain 7339 (Plan 9). The analysis of the brick type in the field preliminarily dated the drain to the 1830s. Further specialist analysis will clarify this. The drain runs from east to west, with the direction of fall to the west. At the eastern end the drain curved to the north, where it terminated in a rectangular sump. The remains of the drain structure were composed of a box base, vertical sides, and in parts the remains of a brick arched cover. The sump was filled with dark silty material (7463). The fill was sampled at the base and the top (Soil and Pollen Sample Nos. 33-36).

![Figure 3.8: Drain 7339 located between 718 (on right) and 716 (on left). The sump was connected to a curving drain that exits the site at George Street. The yellow circles indicate the location of the postholes for the side wall of a wooden structure (Phase 4) in 716. The sump for the drain seems to be on the same alignment and therefore may be associated. The sandstone footings are later in construction date. View to the east. Scale 1m.](image)

The box base was constructed of complete sandstock bricks (c.230mm x 110mm x 70mm) with a very shallow rectangular frog laid header-to-header as a ‘running bond’. This bond was altered at the eastern end of the drain where it curved to the north. The bricks were laid diagonally stretcher-to-stretcher. The arched cover was constructed of sandstock bricks laid horizontally face to face with a gap of c.15-20mm between each brick to help make the ‘arch’ shape. The bricks of each section of the arch were bonded with a fine silty clay shell mortar. The overall surviving length of the drain was 5500mm from the sump to where it exited towards George Street and the limit of excavation. The drain had a minimum internal width of 290mm, and a minimum outside width of 520mm.
Figure 3.9: Detail of the drain during excavation showing the sump (on the right) and the flat base and collapsed arched roof. The photo is taken looking southwest towards George Street and the scale is 1m.

Figure 3.10: Detail photo of the drain in section. The capping consisted of a brick arch that later collapsed.
Figure 3.11: Detail of the sump located at the eastern end of the drain (7339). The scale is 500mm.

This drain (7339) was truncated by modern concrete sewerage installation. It contained two fills, graduating in colour from grey in the upper fill to a grey-brown lower fill. The lower fill (7432) was composed of a very mixed medium-coarse grey-brown silty/sedimentary fill with many artefacts of varying size, including bone, ceramic, glass, shell, iron fragments and sandstock brick fragments. The upper fill (7431) was composed of grey loose mostly homogenous silt containing some bone, shell, glass and sandstock brick fragments in less frequency than underlying fill 7432.

The bricks used in the construction of the drain (7339) were of a coarse, moderately mixed sandstock fabric with partly crushed red and white clay and occasional medium to large ironstone fragments. The bricks measured 225mm x 110mm x 60mm and had a very shallow rectangular frog 125mm x 70mm set off-centre on what is likely the strike face. A coarse grey sandy lime mortar with large lime flecks bonded the bricks.

Rubbish pit remains
Located to the north of the Phase 5 timber building and brick fireplace was the remains of a pit (7508) that has been interpreted as a rubbish pit relating to the early occupation of the lot. This was cut by the Phase 6 sandstone footings (7341). The drain (7339) was to the north of the pit and the two appeared to be the same phase, because the pit respected the line of the drain. The pit was loosely rectangular in plan. It had straight to gradually sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained (7509) a mixed grey loam with charcoal, dark brown sandy loam, brick fragments, oyster
shells, bottle glass, pottery and bone. The depth of the fill was 160mm. The range of artefacts suggests that this may be a rubbish pit used for disposing of domestic waste.

**Pit at the rear of 714**
The remains of a pit (7516) were excavated to the rear of the Phase 5 footing for No. 714 George Street. The fill indicated that the pit was likely to be quite early, and there was no evidence to suggest that it belonged to a later phase. Its function was unknown, but its morphology suggested that it may have been the result of two shallow and aborted postholes. The pit was irregular in plan. It measured 1.4m by 780mm and had a maximum depth of 210mm. The sides were irregular and sloping and the base uneven to concave. It was filled with a mix of greyish brown friable silty clay with brick and charcoal flecking throughout (7517). It also contained some sandstone fragments and ceramics.

![Image of Pit 7516](image)

**Figure 3.12: Feature 7516 (top half of image). The morphology of the feature suggested two shallow postholes. View to the northeast. Scale 1m.**

### 3.4.3 Postholes Phase 4
There were many postholes within Area B, but they did not appear to form any coherent structures. The fills suggested that they were early as they had few inclusions and appeared to be largely if not entirely constituted by redeposited subsoils. The following is a description of the Phase 4 postholes.

**Area of 712 George Street (Northwest Corner Lot 3)**
A number of postholes were found in this part of the lot (**Plan 9**). They were found cutting either the subsoil (7621) or the B-Horizon clay surface (7610). It was therefore difficult to phase them accurately. It is possible that they belonged to wooden elements associated with the later sandstone and brick houses. However, the packing fills from all the postholes discussed here would suggest they are early. The fills mostly consist of a mix of subsoil and old topsoil with few other inclusions. This would imply they were excavated through these type of layers and not the later imported fills.
Table 3.2: General layers in 712 George Street and the postholes cutting them.

At the rear of the later phased house (7603) were a series of postholes situated within four separate posthole cuts (Plan 9). These postholes were seemingly in a group and were related. Posthole cut 7594 was a mostly square cut 320mm x 360mm. This posthole contained two post pipes 7596 and 7598. Posthole cut 7592 was located slightly further south-east than 7598, was 280mm x 330mm. This posthole contained no post pipe. Posthole 7584 had dimensions of 330mm x 390mm and contained two post pipes 7586 and 7582. Finally, posthole 7588 was located immediately adjacent to posthole 7584. It had dimensions of 370mm x 320mm and contained the post pipe 7590.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Cut by Posthole</th>
<th>Contains Postpipes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7621</td>
<td>7578</td>
<td>7580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7562</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7609</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7592</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7614</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7617</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7610</td>
<td>7584</td>
<td>7586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7588</td>
<td>7590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7594</td>
<td>7596</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.3: Details of the postholes, packing fills and the remains of the structural elements – the post pipes.

Each of the postholes that contained post pipes cut into natural medium/heavy yellow orange clay (7610) in the yard area at the rear of houses 712 and 714. Posthole cut 7592 did not contain a post pipe and was cut into 7621, the bleached pale yellow/brown silty clay subsoil.

Associated with this cluster of postholes and re-cuts were three other postholes: 7578, 7609 and 7562. Posthole cut 7578 was a mostly square cut c.370mm x 150mm x 210mm. The packing fill 7577 was a predominantly yellow/orange clay loam with an unclear substrate boundary. This
posthole contained one c.50mm x 50mm x 400mm postpipe fill 7580 with a grey clay loam postpipe fill 7579. Posthole cut 7562 was located slightly further south-east than 7578, was c.300mm x 300mm x 50mm. The posthole fill 7561 was a fine grey clay/sandy loam with few charcoal inclusions. This posthole did not contain a postpipe. Posthole 7609 was a mostly square cut c.380mm x 340mm x 100mm, and was c.50mm out from the eastern wall of 7603. The posthole fill 7608 was grey fine sandy loam with few charcoal inclusions. This posthole did not contain a postpipe.

Located to the west towards George Street were two other postholes that appeared to belong to the same phase. Posthole 7614 was squarish in shape and contained the postpipe 7616. The pipe was circular and was 80mm in diameter. The packing fill 7615 within the posthole was mostly grey loam clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and orange clay nodules. Just to the north of this was posthole 7617. This was oval in shape with vertical sides. It was 270mm x 200mm. It contained the packing fill 7618. This consisted of light brown silty clay mottled with charcoal fleck and orangey yellow clay. There were some small sandstock brick inclusions. No post-pipe was evident.

All these postholes were found cutting the truncated natural clay or remnant subsoil. The packing fills suggest that they were early nineteenth in date as they do not contain significant amounts of brick or other inclusions generally found with later nineteenth century postholes that have been cut through layers subject to much more intensive occupation. There is nothing to indicate whether they are from the Brickfield phase (Phase 3) and therefore they have been included in Phase 4 as possible evidence of the early occupation by former convicts in the 1820s to 1840s. The postholes described above are likely related to the same structure, configuration and function unknown. There was evidence for repair as some of the postholes were re-cut.

**Area of 714 and 716 George Street (Northern and Mid Part Lot 3)**
There were a number of postholes from this part of Area B that may be related to either the early structure or later buildings (Phase 5). Any attempts to recreate the shape of a structure according to posthole alignments were frustrated by absences in the projected series or else demanded the creation of unlikely engineering solutions to explain the suggested configuration. The postholes discussed below may relate to either events and in fact three (7604, 7570 and 7653) are likely to belong to part of the later house and are discussed below. The postholes cut the remnant subsoil (7621).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Posthole</th>
<th>Contains Postpipes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>714</td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>7621</td>
<td>7604</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td></td>
<td>7570</td>
<td>7572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td></td>
<td>7563</td>
<td>7565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td></td>
<td>7499</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td></td>
<td>7501</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>716</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7527</td>
<td>7523</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>7531</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>7538</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>7497</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>7484</td>
<td>7486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>7491</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.4: Postholes found within 714 and 716 George Street. It was somewhat unclear what phase they belonged to.

In the location of the later house at 714 towards the street frontage were two postholes, 7499 and 7501. These did not appear to be part of the later stone and brick house. Posthole 7499 was circular in shape with a diameter of 180mm and a depth of 120mm. It contained the packing fill (7500). This consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with infrequent inclusions of brick and gravel. Located just to the north of this was posthole 7501. This was rectangular in shape with an undulating base. It measured 280mm x 165mm and contained the packing fill 7502. This consisted of greyish brown silty sand with very infrequent brick fragments. Based on the packing fills of these postholes it is
likely that they belong to a period subsequent to the initial development of the site. Their function is unknown.

**Other Postholes**
Several postholes associated by fill but unable to be designated to a structure were found near the future location of 714/716. They produced a sub-rectangular shape that was unable to be further interpreted. It is likely that other remains of this structure were destroyed by future building on the site. The postholes were found cutting remnant subsoil 7527, or a post-Brickfield levelling fill 7528 (the two unexcavated postholes cut this fill). All the postholes were rectangular or square in shape. Post-pipes may have been obliterated during removal, as none were found except in posthole 7484.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Posthole</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Packing</th>
<th>Packing Description</th>
<th>Pipe</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Fill</th>
<th>Fill Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7523</td>
<td>300 x 280 x 60mm min</td>
<td>7524</td>
<td>Mottled yellow/beige with light brown silty clay with infrequent inclusions of charcoal and sandstone</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7531</td>
<td>310 x 245 x 90mm min</td>
<td>7532</td>
<td>Mottled yellow/beige with grey brown silty clay with infrequent inclusions of charcoal, sandstone and tiny brick</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7538</td>
<td>310 x 260 x 60mm min</td>
<td>7539</td>
<td>Mottled yellow/beige and brown silty sandy clay with occasional charcoal, sandstone and brick fragment</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7497</td>
<td>530 x 360 x 160mm min.</td>
<td>7498</td>
<td>Light grey clayey silt with brown/red clay mottle. Charcoal and sandstone fragments throughout</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7484</td>
<td>290 x 260 x 100mm min</td>
<td>7485</td>
<td>Light greyish brown clayey silty mottled with red clay and charcoal</td>
<td>7486</td>
<td>Oval</td>
<td>180 x 100 x 280mm</td>
<td>7487</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.5: Detail of postholes that were part of a wooden structure from Phase 5 and associated with 714/716.

**Area of 718 George Street (Southern Part of Lot 3)**
There were a number of postholes within 718 George Street that were identified as being early in date due to the nature of the packing fills and general lack of historic artefact inclusions. These postholes may have formed a structure or a fence and been part of the early occupation of the lot. The precise date and function however was not clear during the excavation. They are described below (Table 3.5).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Posthole</th>
<th>Packing</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pipe</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pipe fill</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7413</td>
<td>Square</td>
<td>390mm, 260mm depth.</td>
<td>7415</td>
<td>Loose mixed fill, dark-grey sandy clay, brown loam and grey-yellow ashy/silty soil. Frequent charcoal flecks, some red decaying stone.</td>
<td>7414</td>
<td>Circular, vertical sides, flat base, 160mm diameter, 240mm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7477</td>
<td>square, 270mm, 30mm depth</td>
<td>7478</td>
<td>Grey brown silt with charcoal fragments and bone, sandstock brick and ceramic inclusions</td>
<td>7479</td>
<td>Square, vertical sides, concave base. 80mm by 100mm depth.</td>
<td>7480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posthole</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7482 sub-rectangular, 400mm by 340mm</td>
<td>highly bioturbated medium brown humic silty clay with evidence of small tree roots, and some broken glass and bone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7504 rectangular 500mm by 420mm by 270mm in depth</td>
<td>mix mid-dark brown/orange/grey silty clay with some small sandstone and sandstock brick fragments and charcoal fleck inclusions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7511 circular 350mm diameter, 270mm depth</td>
<td>grey brown clayey soil with charcoal, sandstock brick, shell, with some glass, and ceramic inclusions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.6: Postholes within 718 George Street that are considered early in date yet with no interpretation as to what structure or function they had.

### 3.5 Phase 5: c.1840-1860s Subdivision and Development of Shops and Houses

#### 3.5.1 Overview

After 1840 Area B was sub-divided into three or four allotments fronting George Street. These became Nos. 712, 714, 716, and 718 in the later nineteenth century though were known by different street numbers in the mid-century. Prior to c. 1840 there was one structure set back from the street in Area B. After subdivision houses were developed on the street frontage. There was evidence for a timber house in 718; and brick houses were built at 712, 714 and 716. Area B underwent redevelopment throughout the mid to late nineteenth century. This is supported by information from the Rates Assessments that describes the houses each year in terms of building materials, room numbers and roof type. There is even evidence for subdivision of the lots such as with Nos. 716 and 718. This is also verified with cartographic evidence that shows the footprint plans of the buildings front the street. In 1854 there are five premises, in 1865 four are depicted and in 1895 there are six. The lots were owned by Thomas Ryan until his death by the 1870s and then passed to his estate. The properties are not sold until the 1930s when it was acquired by Mick Simmons P/L. The premises fronting George Street housed various shops and businesses over the mid nineteenth century.

Archaeological remains pertaining to this phase consist of the sandstone footings and associated cesspit for 712 George Street and a brick structure at 714/716. The drain between 718 and 716 was also likely to have still been in use.

The boundaries of these lots survive archaeologically in the later phased structures, although there were no yard fences or walls surviving in Area B. Street numbers for the houses were established during this period, though they did change a number of times throughout the nineteenth century. The modern street numbers will be used in this report and where the earlier street number is known it will be referred to in brackets.
3.5.2 712 George Street

The footings of No. 712 indicate that there were two rooms on the ground floor and the structure was east-west oriented with a George Street frontage. The rear room had an internal measurement of 3500mm in length (EW) by a minimum of 3750mm in width; however this (NS) width appears truncated by the more modern machine-made brick foundations at 710 of Area C.

The footings of No. 712 (7603) were aligned on an east-west axis and fronted George Street (Plan 10). The remains of this early sandstone structure consisted of the foundations of three walls; the southern (east-west oriented) side wall that abutted the footings 7403 for 714 George Street, the rear north-south oriented wall and an internal north-south dividing wall. This structure follows the residential allotment alignments, and therefore probably post-dates the division of Area B allotments sometime after 1840. It is likely that these footing remains (7603) belong to the building depicted on Woolcott and Clarks 1854 map. There was no surviving occupation material, such as an underfloor deposit or rubbish pit, associated with this house. There was a cesspit to the rear and the backfill of this likely related to the last use in the c.1870s.

The southern (east-west oriented) side wall which abutted the footings (7403) of No. 714 George Street was c.6150mm in length, c.500mm in width and survived to a depth of c.400mm (or two courses). It was built to an off-centre ‘running bond’ on account of the irregular length of the roughly cut sandstone blocks. The rear north-south oriented wall was c.3600mm in minimum length, c.500mm in width and survived to a depth of c.200mm or one course. The internal north-south dividing wall was c.3750mm in minimum length, c.500mm in width and survived to a depth of c.200mm or one course.

The footings (7603) were roughly cut sandstone blocks, aligned as a double row, bonded with small stones and a sandy/pale brown mud mortar. A wall trench (7619) was clearly visible along the inside of the eastern wall. The wall trench had a maximum width of 500mm, and cut through bleached silty clay pale yellow/brown charcoal flecked A2 layer (7621) and medium/heavy yellow-orange clay (7610). The wall-trench fill (7620) was a mid-brown sandy loam with occasional charcoal and sandstone fragments, and some bone, sandstock brick and ceramics.
Figure 3.14: No. 712 George Street structural remains. These footings (7603) were likely built by the 1840s and were reused throughout the nineteenth and twentieth century though the superstructure may have been replaced in the later nineteenth century. This was not evident from the archaeological remains on site. View to the northwest. Scale 1m.

Figure 3.15: Detail of the footings for the southern side wall of No. 712 (7603). The photo is taken looking north and the scale is 1m.

The wall on the northern side had been removed by modern activity, so the relationship with No. 710 George Street in Area C was not known. The front of the structure was not within the excavation area and remains may exist under the modern footpath. This was evidence that modern George Street is wider than the earlier nineteenth-century street. Supposing the length of the front room is
the same as the backroom, the footprint of which survived, the front wall of the house would be a further 1m beyond the limit of excavation. This is based on the width of the rear wall and the internal length of the room being 3.5m. The eastern 3m of the southern wall of these footings (7603) abutted the northern wall of the early sandstone rubble structure (7403) of Nos. 714/716 of Area B.

Cesspit for No. 712 George Street
Located in the rear yard of No. 712 were the remains of a sandstock brick cesspit (7625). The external measurements of the structure were 2m north-south by 1.75m (Plan 10). Internally the cesspit measured 1.5m by 900mm and had a depth of 800mm. The walls of the cesspit were built with sandstock brick, mostly complete though some were broken (reused?) bricks. Some of the bricks had a rectangular frog. The coursing method was random and the bonding material was a sandy shell mortar. There was an internal skim wall against the southern wall, suggesting a repair. The cesspit cut 7610, the level created by the truncation of the site to B Horizon natural orange/red clay during the Brickfield phase of occupation (Phase 3). Within the cesspit was a possible original cess material (7630). This was a dark brown silty material with a high organic content. The backfilling of the cesspit is likely to have occurred in the later nineteenth century when toilets were plumbed to the municipal sewerage system. The main backfill was 7627 and consisted of building rubble and sand. This type of material would have been used to backfill the cavity before putting the toilet in. It is likely that this material is Phase 6 in date and artefact analysis will determine this.

Figure 3.16: Cesspit to the rear of 712 George Street looking east. The scale is 1m.

3.5.3 Evidence of modification
Located in the rear room of No. 712 was a linear cut (7611) and fill (7612). It was 650mm in width and 210mm in depth. It was a minimum of 3.3m in length but it did not continue north of the lot boundary and was not present further south due to truncations by later activity. The trench was backfilled with mixed grey brown sandy clay with sandstone rubble. It is possible that this trench represents partitioning within No. 712, as it is limited to the internal space of the rear room. Backfilling of the trench is likely to have occurred after the partition wall was removed. The
inclusions of sandstone rubble in the mix contributes to this interpretation, as sandstone rubble is
conspicuously absent from most other fills on site. These fragments may represent broken elements
of the removed footing.

3.5.4 No. 714 and No. 716 George Street
Until 1863, a single brick structure occupied most of the area that was later to become Nos. 714 and
716 George Street. The structure occupied the entire street frontage at No. 714 and around half of
No. 716. The Rates Assessment books for the period suggest that the structure was single-storied
throughout its lifetime but underwent several changes to its interior division and possibly witnessed
add-ons at the rear. This led to the structure being listed as sometimes one and occasionally two
residences or shops. The subsequent construction of two-storied buildings at Nos. 726 and 728 (later
714 and 716) and the associated destruction of evidence relating to the earlier period made it difficult
to attribute structural features to any particular act of division or amalgamation. The remaining half
of No. 716 is thought to have been largely vacant (part of a yard and stables) or otherwise
occasionally occupied by a one- or two-roomed wooden structure, of which there was no convincing
archaeological evidence. This interpretation is based on entries in the Rates Assessment books and
the likely division of Ryan’s lot during this period.

Sandstone footings
The structure appeared to be aligned on an east-west axis and fronted George Street, the front wall
was beyond the limit of excavation beneath George Street (Plan 10). The sandstone footings were in
a rectangular plan with remains of divisions suggesting four rooms. Over the course of the 1840s and
50s this structure was to represent one, two and possibly three houses or shops fronting George
Street. As the various transitions were not clearly represented in the archaeology, the foundations at
714/716 will be referred to as one structure for the purpose of describing the footings. The remains
indicated that they were built simultaneously, and the earliest entry in the Rates Assessment for 1845
indicates it was a single-storey, two room structure. The northern side wall was abutted by the
foundations for 712 George Street. The southern side and back wall were truncated by the
foundation trench of the later nineteenth century building at No. 716 George Street. There were
truncated remains of the main north-south internal dividing wall and a very small portion of east-west
internal wall. The footings were comprised of rubble sandstone, mostly irregular in shape but some
were roughly square or rectangular. Between the larger stones was a bonding material consisting of
small stones and mud/shell mortar.

The minimum length of the northern side footing remains was 3.1m and 500mm wide. The footings
all varied in width from 400mm to 500mm. The southern side wall footing survived to a length of
4.5m. The full east-west dimensions of the house are not known. The north-south dimensions of the
house were 9m, and most of that wall footing survived to some extent. The footings survived to a
deepth of approximately 200mm or one course. There was a small stretch of the rear wall surviving.
This consisted of two displaced rectangular shaped sandstones to the south. It is possible that a
number of postholes to the north are part of the rear of the structure. These appear to be on the same
alignment as the rear wall and fit with the rest of the building. The four postholes were similar in
shape, being sub-circular, and were found cutting the in situ subsoil 7621 (same as 7527 to south).
Postholes 7570, 7604 and an un-numbered posthole may form the remains of a back wall to the
house. The ‘corner’ post may be 7570 and with 7563 it may form part of the northern side wall
connecting with the footings 7403. Details of the postholes are summarised below (Table 3.6).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Posthole shape</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Post-pipe</th>
<th>Posthole packing</th>
<th>Pipe fill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7604 cut 7605 packing</td>
<td>Ovoid, sloping concave sides tapering to point at base</td>
<td>360x280mm 470mm deep</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Mixed orange-brown and grey smooth plastic moist clays</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7563 cut 7564 pipe 7565 packing 7566 pipe fill</td>
<td>Sub-circular with vertical sides to base</td>
<td>300x250mm 120mm deep</td>
<td>Ovoid with tapering sides to flat base 250x100mm</td>
<td>Mixed orange and grey clay with charcoal inclusions</td>
<td>Light grey clay with frequent charcoal and orange clay mottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7570 cut 7571 pipe 7572 packing 7573 pipe fill</td>
<td>Sub-circular with vertical to tapering sides</td>
<td>340x280mm Min 100mm deep</td>
<td>Oval with tapering sides to flat base 150x100mm</td>
<td>Grey brown silty clay mottled with orange clay with charcoal and some glass inclusions</td>
<td>Grey brown silty clay with charcoal and brick inclusions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Un-excavated</td>
<td>Sub-circular</td>
<td>300x250mm</td>
<td>None visible</td>
<td>Mixed orange and grey clay with charcoal inclusions</td>
<td>None visible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.7: Table containing information about the postholes associated with the early structure 7402/7403 in Lot 3 or Area B.

Figure 3.17: The remains of sandstone footings for 714 and 716 George Street. The arrows indicate the location of the postholes. The photo is taken looking north and the scale is 1m.
Figure 3.18: Detail showing the northern side wall footings (7403). Photo taken looking south and the scale is 1m.

Figure 3.19: This photo shows the footings (7402) which form the foundations for the southern side wall of the building and the remains of the internal dividing wall (indicated by the arrow). The test trenches show the depth of the footings and also the material through which they were cut. This material was redeposited subsoil (7529) and topsoil (7530). View to the east. Scale 1m.
The footings were cut directly into the redeposited grey/yellow clay-rich subsoil 7528 and 7529, and a redeposited topsoil-like fill (7530) consisting of mid brown silty clay with various brick and ceramic inclusions. A wall trench (7438) was clearly seen along the inside and outside of the eastern wall. The wall trench was 600-770mm wide with vertical sides and a flat base to a maximum depth of 280mm. The wall trench cut through the remnant clay rich fill (7528) and redeposited A2-type fill (7529). The fill (7439) was a hard compact yellow/grey mottled clay with some sandstock brick, charcoal flecks and decayed stone inclusions.

Also associated with the footings (7402/7403) was a small section of sandstone rubble footing of a short wall (7550) located on the interior and to the western end of the southern side wall (7402). This would have been located within the southern front room of the building. The footing was had six irregularly-shaped roughly hewn sandstone blocks arranged roughly into a rectangle. Overall it had a maximum length of 700mm and a maximum width of 500mm. These blocks were set/cut into compact yellow silty clay redeposited subsoil 7529. The stones were bonded with a mud mortar similar to the surrounding soil matrix of 7529. Footing 7550 abutted the interior of the southern side wall (7402). The footing may be a partial support for a fireplace, however the projected location for the corresponding side was beyond the limit of excavation. Evidence for flooring support did exist in the room to the rear of this. Two groups of two sandstock bricks (red arrows in Fig. 3.5) were set in to the levelling fill 7528 just 200mm off the footing for the southern side wall and c.1m apart from each other. These bricks may have acted as pad supports for a wooden floor for this room.

There was no remaining evidence for the occupation of this building such as underfloor deposits. The footings displayed similar characteristics to those for the Woolpack Inn on the adjacent lot to the southeast (Area A). These footings consisted of rubble sandstone bonded with small stones and mud/shell mortar. The footings 7402 and 7403 became the foundations for at least two separate houses/shops at No. 716 and No. 714 George Street.

Figure 3.20: Indicated with the red arrows are the two sets of sandstock bricks that may have formed the support for flooring within this rear room. Also shown in this photo is the sandstone rubble foundation for another support for an internal feature, perhaps a stair to an upper floor. The photo is taken looking east away from George Street and the scale is 1m.
3.5.5 718 George Street
The Rates Assessment books for the area of No. 718 George Street show up to three wooden structures occupying the location between 1845 and 1863. The number of rooms remains the same (four) but they are split between two structures from 1845-1856 and three structures between 1858 and 1861.

3.5.6 Timber building and brick fireplace
Located in the southern part of Area B at No. 718 George Street were the remains of a timber building (Plan 10). These were truncated by the later phases of building. The structure consisted of a brick fireplace, a posthole and some brick walling. The brick fireplace footings (7394) were built using flat sandstock bricks that may have dated to the 1820s but were likely re-used, as broken bricks were included. The walls were two bricks thick and bonded with silty clay and a sandy clay mud mortar. Two courses survived and in total the fireplace was 1.3m in length and 700mm deep. The bricks were mostly complete, though occasional broken bricks were included. The wall footing was found cutting the topsoil layer (7472). Associated with the fireplace was a possible occupation-related deposit (7397). This consisted of orange brown sandy clay with moderate charcoal flecking and small fragments of sandstone. This was a maximum of 100mm in depth. This material is likely to be a mix of fill and occupation-related material.

Figure 3.21: Remains of the fireplace and brick walling associated with the timber structure at No. 718 George Street. The locations of the postholes are indicated with a yellow circle. The sandstone footings are from a later phase of construction. The photo is taken looking north and the scale is 1m.
Figure 3.22: Detail of posthole 7521 with the remains of the post pipe at the base. On the left of the photo is the brick walling 7467 that was laid up to the post but partially over the posthole and packing fill. The scale is 250mm.

Figure 3.23: Detail of the sandstock brick fireplace after excavation. The fireplace was at the eastern end of the structure, facing George Street. Scale 1m.

Located to the south of the fireplace and on the same alignment was a line of sandstock bricks (7467). This consisted of incomplete bricks in a single line with some sandstone pieces too (Plan 10). It was 1.1m in length from where it abutted the southern side of the fireplace, and was 190mm in width. The southern end of the wall terminated at an associated posthole (7521). The walling was
partially covering the posthole fill (7522), suggesting it would have abutted the post (located roughly in the centre of the posthole). The posthole was ovoid with vertical eastern sides and a sloping western side, with a maximum length of 600mm, a maximum width of 400mm, and a depth ranging from 280mm to 380mm. It contained a sub-rectangular post-pipe (7525) measuring 120mm x 60mm and 80mm deep. The mottled and varied packing fill 7522 was composed of grey/brown silty clay mixed in places with reddish/brown silt with charcoal flecks and some patches of a coarser creamy sandy material with small fragments of crushed sandstock bricks and some larger sandstone pieces. The pipe was filled with 7526 a mix of greyish brown silty clay and dark brown humic material, probably decayed wood.

The sandstone and sandstock brick wall (7467) was between the fireplace and the posthole (Plan 10). It was not a main structural wall and was not load-bearing. It is likely to have been the base or flushing (skirting?) for wooden slab wall. The line of the southern wall was suggested by a posthole (7495). This was found below the gully fill of pottery wasters 7460. It was likely to have been later than the levelling event, but undetectable in the large fragments of the matrix. This posthole was circular in plan with a diameter of 300mm and a depth of 180mm below the base of the pit, giving it an approximate depth of 380mm (the pit was 200mm in depth). The fill (7496) consisted of dark brown clayey sand with lead-glaze pottery fragments. This posthole was likely the remains of the post pipe and the fill was what fell in when the post was removed. The post was put in through the waster pit, the backfill of the post-pipe contained lead-glaze pottery.

**Occupation deposit**

Within the remains of the structure was an occupation deposit (7395). This material was likely to have been disturbed by later activity; however it should also contain artefacts pertaining to the early occupation. The deposit was excavated within a 500mm x 500mm grid and in 50mm spits, and sampled sieved. From the sieving it was clear that the deposit was quite disturbed. Plan 24 (Fig. 3.25) shows the area containing the occupation deposit 7395. The grid squares shaded in grey are the squares that were sample sieved. The deposit consisted of dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt with some organic content. It contained brick and sandstone fragments throughout, along with charcoal, bone, ceramic, shell, glass and a coin. It was spread over an area of 5.5m x 6.5m on the western (interior) side of the fireplace (7394). The deposit was c.70mm in depth.
Figure 3.24: The occupation material for the timber building with brick fireplace at 718 George Street was disturbed and mixed with later material. It was also cut by the later 1860s sandstone footings as seen in this photo. The photo is taken from the street frontage and looking down and east. The scale is 1m.

Mixed topsoils
Within No. 718 were a number of separate spreads of imported topsoil. These were likely to have been introduced during this phase. The soils were later cut by Phase 6 structures. Located toward the street frontage was 7417, a brownish grey silty clay with frequent charcoal, animal bone, burnt bone, crushed sandstone, brick and ceramic. This was up to 40mm in depth and was probably an external area that had been consistently modified and mixed with domestic and other waste over the lifetime of the structure. It was over remnant original topsoil 7450 (Phase 2). Other topsoils within No. 718 that may have been modified and mixed with multi-phase material were contexts 7458 and 7412.

Rectangular cut
To the rear of No. 718 was a large rectangular cut (7453). This was found cutting 7454 the Phase 3 levelling fill and 7412 the Phase 3 imported topsoil. The cut measured 2.5m by 1m and was in an east-west orientation. The fill 7455 was compact yellow clay. The feature was 200mm in depth. The function was unknown. It was cut by the Phase 6 cesspit 7347.
Figure 3.25: Plan No. 24 shows the layout of the grid squares used to excavate the occupation deposit 7395. The grey shaded squares were wet sieved.
3.6 Phase 6: 1860s-c.1890 Redevelopment of shops

3.6.1 Overview
The Rates Assessment books show that between 1861 and 1863 considerable changes occurred to the lot, including the demolition of the brick and timber structures at Nos. 714-718 and the construction of two-storey brick shops and dwellings in their place. The two-storey structure at No. 712 remained. The 1865 Trigonometric Survey shows that the site had gone through some redevelopment by this time compared with the earlier 1854 plan. The houses in Area B are more substantial and the rear yards more developed with rear lane access and cesspits. No. 712 had buildings covering the entire lot; No. 714 and No. 716 are more substantial structures than indicated by previous plans. These properties are also accessed by a ‘right-of-way’. This would allow for the maintenance of the outdoor toilets and removal of cess. The outhouses are both triangular in shape. In this plan, No. 718 also seems to be a more substantial building and with a triangular shaped outhouse to the rear. This map does seem to confirm that development on the site intensified and a large amount of rebuilding had taken place.

Figure 3.26: The 1865 plan of the site showing the basic footprint of the buildings and small yards.

Figure 3.27: The 1880 plan shows the site as being roughly similar in building intensity. The right-of-way is indicated on this plan (highlighted in blue).
Archaeological remains for this redevelopment were found at Nos. 714, 716 and 718 George Street. These consisted of sandstone footings and sandstone cesspits. The earlier structure at No. 712 seemed to have continued through this Phase without alteration to the footings.

### 3.6.2 714 and 716 George Street

The external walls for both these houses were built at the same time. The footings that survived consisted of a single course of sandstone blocks within a construction trench (Plan 11). The two lots together created a trapezoidal shape and therefore the houses were not properly rectangular in plan. No. 714 had the most irregular footprint and appeared to be built abutting the existing building at No. 712. The main footing for No. 714 and No. 716 (7488) consisted of comparatively well-hewn and substantial blocks of sandstone in one row 700mm wide. The main rear and southern side wall footings survived as well as the party wall footing which was slightly less substantial in structure. A wall trench (7515) was clearly visible along the inside of the footing. The wall-trench fill (7306) was yellow heavy plastic clay with some glass fragments.

![Image](image_url)

**Figure 3.28:** The footings of No. 716 (outlined in red) showing the remains of the earlier building (outlined in yellow) beneath. The robbed-out wall trench is outlined in the centre of the image. The footings for the party wall are at the right. View to the west (from the rear of the building). Scale 1m.
Figure 3.29: The footings of No.714 George Street (outlined in red). The structure utilised the earlier wall of No. 712 to the north (here seen in the right of the image). The robbed-out wall trench is in the centre and the back wall can be seen in the foreground. View to the west (from the rear of the building). Scale 1m.

The footings for the party wall between No. 714 and No. 716 were more roughly cut square blocks in a very common pattern of one square block followed by two long rectangular stones laid side by side. The width of the dividing wall footing was between 500mm and 600mm. The footings were bonded with a gritty mud mortar of silt, clay and sand with inclusions of charcoal. There was no shell or lime visible. These footings cut the earlier structural remains (7402) for No. 716 George Street. Abutting the rear wall footing in No. 714 George Street were the remains of the add-on depicted on the 1865 plan. These footings also comprised of sandstone blocks and were similar in dimensions to the main footings. Similar footings existed to the rear of No. 716. These footings correspond with the structure footprint recorded on the 1865 plan (Fig. 3.26). There was evidence for the internal north-south or room dividing wall footing. This however had been robbed-out at a later phase, likely as part of a twentieth-century reconfiguration. The robber trench (7433) was 800mm in width, had a sharp break of top and base slope with a flat base. It contained a mixed clay backfill (7434) of compact mid brown clayey loam with yellow mottled clay. It also contained frequent inclusions of sandstone and brick fragments. The depth of the robber trench was up to 300mm.

The layout of 714 George Street was irregular-shaped or trapezoidal in ground plan with three downstairs rooms. There were two main rooms, one fronting the street and one at the rear. There was an extra add-on type room at the back of the house giving an overall typical layout for a later nineteenth-century terrace. From the Rates Assessments this was a two-storey structure and the footings were substantial enough to allow for this. There was no evidence for the superstructure though it is recorded as being brick. The front room was a minimum of 4m east-west and 5m north-south (parallel to the street front). The frontage was beyond the limit of excavation. There were no square angles within this room. The rear room was 5m in width and a maximum of 3.5m in depth. The third and small ground floor room was about 2.5m in width by 3m in length.

The layout of No. 716 George Street was slightly less irregular in shape than No. 714, though there were no right angles in the main two rooms. The third ground floor room was small and overall the ground floor plan was similar to No. 714 and typical of later nineteenth-century terraces. The front room was over 5.5m north-south near the street frontage and a minimum of 4.5m east-west. The
second main room was about 4.5m north-south at the rear and 3.5m east-west. The third downstairs room had an unknown length (at least 2.5m) and was about 2.5m north-south. The footings correspond to the 1865 and subsequent nineteenth-century plans. The archival records for this property also record a two-storey brick structure at this time.

Both properties were used as shops or businesses during this phase and it is not known what the function of each of the downstairs rooms was. It was likely the business was conducted in the front room with the residential rooms of parlour and kitchen to the rear with bedrooms upstairs. No evidence for the occupation of these houses in the form of underfloor deposits survived. However there were two cesspits in the rear yards. These were accessed by a laneway and would have been cleaned-out regularly. The cesspits were substantial in construction and very well-built. Once the toilets were connected to the municipal sewerage system the cesspits were probably backfilled. The materials often used to backfill contain domestic waste relating the later nineteenth century occupants. Generic imported fills are also used.

Cesspit at 714
In the yard area of No. 714 George Street were the remains of a single trapezoidal shaped sandstone cesspit (7626). The sandstone blocks of the cesspit appeared to have been laid directly against the walls of the construction cut, as no packing for the stone blocks was visible at the surface, and the cut through the yellow B-horizon clays (7610) was undetectable. This cesspit was constructed on a diagonal alignment with the right-of-way and in line with two other cesspits (Plan 11), 7625 to the west and rear of 712, and 7635 to the east and rear of No. 716.

Figure 3.30: The cesspits to the rear of 712, 714 and 716 George Street. The brick one is to the rear of 712. The middle pit is 7626, to the rear of 714 and the far pit is 7635, to the rear of 716. The photo is taken looking south.

Although all three cesspits have different construction methods, two (7626, 7636) were built with the same style sandstone blocks which suggest they were probably built at the same time and by the same builder. This is in keeping with the assumption that the house structures were built simultaneously with a party wall. The cesspit at No. 714 was built to fit the space and angle created
by the boundary with 712 and the rear lane access, hence it was trapezoidal. There was also a gap in the west (alley-side) wall of the cesspit where a sandstone block had perhaps been removed to allow for plumbing access during reuse of this cesspit as a plumbed-in toilet. The cavity left by the absent block was backfilled with yellow clay.

Figure 3.31: Cesspit at the rear of 714 George Street was constructed using sandstone blocks. It was trapezoidal in plan and had a sandstone flag floor. The photo is taken looking east (to the lane access) and the scale is 1m.

Figure 3.32: Detail of the internal structure of the sandstone walling from the cesspit and the flagged floor. The scale is 1m.
The structure was a minimum of three courses deep and measured 2080mm x 1420mm x 280mm overall. Both whole and partial rectangular sandstone blocks were used in its construction. All of the blocks were roughly cut with visible tooling marks (i.e. shallow diagonal incisions) and measured 300mm wide with varying lengths (420mm-960mm). The walls of the cesspit were one course wide with the courses laid header-to-header alternating to the one below, creating a ‘running bond’. Evidence of a buff/yellow coloured sandy mortar was found between the blocks. The cesspit had a sandstone flagged base.

The cesspit (7626) contained four fills, graduating in colour from pale-grey at the top to yellow-grey at the bottom. The base fill (7634) was of yellow sand, small shell fragments and sandstone fragments of varying sizes. It had a maximum depth of approx 180mm and a minimum depth of approx 50mm. The yellow sand and small shell fragments suggest a mortar mix, but in this context it was employed as a fill. Above this was 7633, a yellow-grey sandy deposit with high but unconsolidated iron content and containing brick and sandstone fragments, with a maximum depth of approx 180mm and a minimum depth of approx 30mm. Capping 7633 was 7632, a dark brown to black sandy fill with some organic content and frequent ceramic and glass artefacts, with a maximum depth of approx 180mm and a minimum depth of approx 6mm. There was no artefact-rich cess deposit which suggests that this cesspit had been completely cleaned out and backfilled before being plumbed into a main sewer line and therefore not likely to contain artefacts securely relating to the occupation of 714. The deposits were excavated stratigraphically, revealing tip lines and undulations of up to 270mm at the interfaces. This suggested that the different fills were dumped in quick succession, leaving no time for the material to settle. Soil and pollen samples were taken of each deposit in the cesspit (Soil Samples 69-76).

Cesspit at 716
In the back yard of No. 716 George Street was a triangular sandstone cesspit (7635). The construction for cesspit 7635 cut the light-grey clayey silt (A-horizon, 7456). After the construction fill of the latest twentieth-century building was removed, the cesspit was visible. The cesspit was impacted by a concrete encased service trench running east-west. The cesspit was a minimum of two courses deep and measured 2300mm x 2000mm x 600mm (Plan 11). Mostly whole rectangular sandstone blocks were used in its construction. All of the blocks were well cut but poorly dressed with visible tooling marks (i.e. vertical and diagonal ‘tooling marks’), and measured 250mm wide x 250mm high with lengths varying between 150mm and 900mm. The walls of the cesspit were one course wide with the courses laid header-to-header alternating to the one below, creating an off-centre ‘running bond’. Evidence of a greyish/beige sand, shell, charcoal, clay mortar was found between the blocks. The cesspit had a sandstone flagged base made up of mostly rectangular well-cut, smoothly faced sandstone blocks, at times cut to fit the triangular shape of the structure.
Figure 3.33: The remains of the triangular shaped cesspit at the rear of 716 George Street. This would have been accessed for maintenance by a rear lane located to the east (top right corner of photo). Scale 1m.

Figure 3.34: Detail of the internal structure of the cesspit and the stone flagging. The scale is 1m.

This cesspit (7635) contained three fills, changing in colour from a white/yellow at the bottom to pale brown at the top. The lowest fill (7641) consisted of white/yellow sand with frequent brick, slate and sandstone fragments, and some shell and cut wood. On top of this was 7638, a dark organic sandy mix with frequent charcoal, ceramic and glass, and some bone and sandstock brick inclusions. Finally, the uppermost fill (7640) was a pale brown sand of uniform colour and texture with bone,
glass and some organic inclusions which were primarily concentrated at the interface with 7638. Fill 7638 was seen to be the most ‘cess-like’ fill however as the flagged base suggests, this cesspit was regularly cleaned out. Modern fill (7642) sealed the cesspit. This contained a sandy clay loam with frequent sandstone and brick fragments and also ceramic sewerage pipe and plastic (this is Phase 8). The deposits were excavated stratigraphically, revealing gently sloping tip lines and mild undulations of up to 270mm at the interfaces. This suggested that the different fills were dumped in quick succession, leaving no time for the material to settle. Soil and pollen samples were taken of each deposit in the cesspit (Soil Samples 77-81).

3.6.3 718 George Street
During Phase 6 a second structure was built at No. 718 George Street. The earlier timber and brick structure was replaced by a brick structure with sandstone foundations. The remains consisted of the solid, well constructed sandstone footing 7341 and associated footings 7468 and 7469 (Plan 11). The 7341 footings were aligned on an east-west orientation and fronted George Street. These footings correspond to the building depicted on the 1865 plan at this location. The footprint of a substantial dividing wall suggested that the structure could accommodate two separate premises. However it is not known if this was a later modification or reconfiguration (Phase 7). The largest room was described by the footings 7431. Footing 7468 described a smaller ground floor room at the rear. Footing 7469 created a small trapezoidal shaped room, wedged between the boundary wall (7462) to the south and the footings 7431 to the north. This created a third ground floor room that may have functioned as separate premises by 1891 (Phase 7).

Figure 3.35: The sandstone footings of No. 718 George Street formed two individual premises. The main structure consisted of footings 7341 and formed one large ground floor room. Attached to the rear of this was the footing 7468 that formed a second ground floor room. The footing 7469 abutted 7431 and was built against the main boundary wall 7462. This formed a third ground floor room, though may have later been converted to a separate premises. View to the north. Scale is 1m.
The sandstone footings (7341) were solid, well-constructed foundations for three walls; the southern east-west oriented side wall, the rear north-south oriented wall, and the northern east-west wall. The southern east-west oriented side wall was 4250mm in minimum length, 500mm in width and survived to a depth of two courses or 700mm. The rear/eastern north-south oriented wall was 3950mm in minimum length, c.500mm in width and survived to a depth of two courses. The northern east-west wall was 4500mm in minimum length, c.500mm in width and survived to a depth of two courses. Each wall was constructed with a double row of (usually) two long rectangular sandstone blocks laid header-to-header, followed by a large square sandstone block c.5000mm x 500mm, and then a double row of two long again. The south-eastern corner of this structure (7341) was intentionally truncated and did not form a traditional right-angled corner. This truncated section was 1m in length, c.500mm wide and survived to a depth of two courses. This section was therefore parallel to the boundary wall (7462) and allowed for easier access from ‘718½’ to the rear yard and toilet.

![Figure 3.36: Detail of the footing wall 7341 within the construction trench 7541. The construction trench was only visible on the inside of the walling. View to the north. Scale 1m.](image)

The footings (7341) were built from roughly cut long rectangular and square sandstone blocks, aligned as a parallel double row, bonded with soft sandy/silty sand/sandy clay with shell and grit aggregate (Plan 11). This soft bonding agent, however, could not really be called a mortar. The footings were c.500 mm wide. A wall trench (7451) was clearly visible along the inside of all three walls. The wall trench had a maximum width of 530mm, and a maximum depth of 600mm which varied to accommodate the change from one to two courses in the sandstone footings. The trench had straight sides, a flat base, and cut through three Phase 5 deposits. Deposit 7395 was a dark grey/brown sandy clay occupation deposit with organic material, occasional charcoal and broken sandstock brick and sandstone. Deposit 7417 was a brown/grey mixed topsoil with frequent charcoal fragments (up to 4cm in size). Deposit 7412 was a relatively compact silty-clay loam with charcoal, some bone and sandstock brick and lead glaze fragments. The trench fill (7452) was composed of a compact mix of yellow clay and grey/brown silty loam with sandstone and sandstock brick fragments.

The additional foundations 7468 and 7469 consisted of a L-shaped footing (a short north-south oriented wall with a long east-west oriented return), and a smaller north-south oriented wall (7469). Both of these walls abutted the boundary wall 7462 between Lots 3 and 2. The short north-south
oriented wall footing (7468) was a double row of rectangular sandstone blocks with a loose brown sand and sandstone rubble fill in between. The eastern part survived to an extent of one half a sandstone blocks and had a minimum length of 110cm, a minimum width of 30cm and survived to a depth of 300mm or one course. The western part was represented by only two sandstone blocks and had a minimum length of 195cm, a minimum width of 25cm and survived to a depth of one course. Attached to this short wall was a long east-west oriented return composed of a single row of roughly hewn rectangular sandstone blocks that abutted 7341. This long wall had a minimum length of 420cm, a minimum width of 50cm. These footings (7468, 7469) were cut into a relatively compact and silty introduced topsoil (7412) with inclusions of charcoal, sandstock brick and some lead glaze pottery and animal bone.

The north-south oriented wall footing (7469) composed of a single row of roughly hewn rectangular sandstone blocks. This short wall footing had a minimum length of 125cm, a minimum width of 50cm and survived to a depth of one course. It was cut into 7417 brownish grey sandy clay mixed introduced topsoil similar to 7412.

Figure 3.37: Detail of the sandstone footing (7468) abutting the main boundary wall (7462). View to the south. Scale 1m.

Cesspit to the rear of No. 718
In the back yard of No. 718 George Street were the remains of a single triangle-shaped sandstone cesspit (7347). The construction cut for cesspit 7347 was found cutting the light-grey clayey subsoil horizon (7456). This cesspit was constructed slightly off and to the northeast of the alignment of the other three cesspits in Area B: 7625, 7626, and 7635 (Plan 11). Although all four of the cesspits in Area B have different construction methods three (7347, 7625, 7635) were built with the same style sandstone blocks which suggest they were probably built within a relatively short time from each other and by the same builder. After the construction fill of the latest twentieth-century building was removed, the cesspit (7347) was visible. The western wall appeared to be keyed into the main boundary wall (7462).
Figure 3.38: The triangular shaped cesspit to the rear of 718 and its relationship with the boundary wall 7462. View to the east. Scale is 1m.

Figure 3.39: Detail of the cesspit to the rear of 718 after excavation. The scale is 1m and the photo is taken looking east.

The structure of cesspit was a minimum of four courses deep and measured 2000mm x 1250mm x 117mm overall. Mostly whole rectangular sandstone blocks were used in its construction. All of the blocks were well-cut but poorly dressed, with visible tooling marks (i.e. vertical and diagonal shallow incisions) and measured 200mm wide x 250mm high with lengths varying between 950mm and 400mm. The walls of the cesspit were one course wide with the courses laid header-to-header.
alternating to the one below, creating a ‘running bond’. Evidence of a dark grey coloured clayey sand mortar was found between the blocks. The cesspit had a sandstone flagged base made up of mostly rectangular well-cut yet poorly-faced sandstone blocks, at times cut to fit the triangular shape of the surrounding structure.

The cesspit contained four fills, graduating in colour from mixed-yellow at the bottom to light-brown at the top. The lower fill (7411) was a mixed grey/yellow clean sand with lenses of dark brown-black ash. On top of this was a grey plastic clay and grey sandy-clay mix (7401) with frequent brick, charcoal and loose sandstone block inclusions and a maximum depth of 1100mm. This fill blackened with depth. Above 7401 was a grey sandy fill with few charcoal inclusions (7387). It contained frequent bottles and glass fragments and had a maximum depth of 800mm. This fill also became darker with depth. Finally, the uppermost fill (7342) was a loose dark/light brown sandy loam with a maximum depth of 200mm, and some demolition material and glazed ceramic toilet bowl fragments throughout. There was no artefact-rich cess deposit which suggests that this cesspit had been completely cleaned out and backfilled before being plumbed into a main sewer line. All deposits were excavated in 20cm spits and sample sieved. Soil and pollen samples (samples 27 and 28) were taken of the lowest fill (7411).

3.6.4 Boundary wall 7462
The boundary wall between the original Lots 3 (Area B) and Lot 2 (Area A) was likely to have been rebuilt during this phase of redevelopment, as the cesspit to the rear of 718 was incorporated into the fabric of the wall. Although a boundary is likely to have been in place previously (c.1820s subdivision), no archaeological evidence of it was found. Development in the mid-nineteenth century in Area A or 720 George Street did intensify and this is clearly evident from the plans of 1854 and then of 1865. The remains of the wall 7462 consisted of a double row of long roughly hewn rectangular sandstone blocks in two courses atop a more substantial base of a three course footing running along the boundary of 718 and 720. The boundary wall was later truncated and modified by the twentieth-century footings (7308) for 720 George Street.

The wall was constructed as a running bond and had a minimum length of 15m, minimum width of 420mm and survived to a depth of 1200mm. The blocks were of varying size with the largest having maximum measurements of 1020mm x 400mm. The wall was bonded with a loose and coarse sand-shell mortar with grit and occasional charcoal flecks. The construction cut (7470) was c.600mm wide with vertical sides with a sharp break of top slope and a flat base to a maximum depth of c.600mm. The trench fill (7471) consisted of heavy yellow clay with charcoal and sandstone fragments. The wall trench cut through two Phase 5 deposits. Context 7458 was a mid-brown/orange fine silty clay fill with some sandstock brick and lead glaze pottery fragments as well as charcoal inclusions, and deposit 7412 was a relatively compact, mid-brown and silty introduced topsoil with charcoal, sandstock brick and some lead glaze pottery inclusions.
3.7 Phase 7: c.1890-1930s

3.7.1 Overview
A plan from 1895 indicates that the buildings in Area B had not gone through any major redevelopment since their construction in the early 1860s. The footprints of the structures are very similar to that of the previous 1865 and 1880 plans. However there were changes in the yards at this stage. For example the right-of-way appears to have been built over in several locations. This may indicate that the buildings had been connected to the main sewerage by this time and there was no reason to provide access to maintain the outhouses at the rear of No. 714 and No. 716. The plan from 1901 also shows little change to the footprint of the buildings in Area B, although No. 718 is shown occupying the land originally used as a right-of-way and previously annexed by No. 716. Nos. 712-718 George Street remain more or less the same through this phase and this is in contrast to Area A (720-722 George Street) and Area C (710 George Street) which both go through major redevelopments during this time. By 1930 most of the site was owned by Mick Simmons.

Figure 3.40: The plan from 1895 indicates that Area B (dashed red line) had not changed much from the 1860s in terms of footprint. The right-of-way to the rear of 714 and 716 has been built over in several locations. Metropolitan Detail Series, City of Sydney 2 (8), 1895, ML M Ser 4 811.17/1.
Figure 3.41: The 1901 plan of the site showing the changes in Area A and C though Area B remains virtually the same as previous plans. Fire Underwriters Association of NSW, c1901: City of Sydney detail survey maps ‘Ignis et Aqua’ Series, Sheet II Vol. I, ML MAV/FM4/10537.

Figure 3.42: A 1930s photo of the site showing the large building now occupying 720-722 (Area A) George Street and the two storey buildings at 712-718 George Street (Area B).

Archaeological evidence from this phase was not a focus of the excavation program. Structural materials and fills that related to activity during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were not subject to detailed recording. However it is likely that some of the upper backfills within the cesspits and over the earlier phased structures may relate to occupation and activity from this time. Further artefact analysis will help clarify this.
3.8 Phase 8: 1930s-1990s: Structures of previous phase survive

3.8.1 Overview
A 1949 map depicts Nos. 712-718 George Street as being one building and this is also reflected in the Rates Assessments where the properties are amalgamated as No. 712/718 in a single entry. This phase was not archaeologically investigated as the structures that were demolished prior to the archaeological excavation program are those belonging to this phase. There were a number of relevant fills and cleaning layers that required hand excavation and these were numbered if artefacts were present. However, for the most part the following fills were removed by machine. Artefacts from these contexts will be a mix of modern and earlier dated items.

Figure 3.43: A plan of the site from 1949 that shows that most of the site was owned by Mick Simmons and that Area B is now depicted as one block. Historical Atlas of Sydney.

3.8.2 Fills and unstratified finds
Fill 7314 was located at No. 712, and was composed of mostly sand with some mixed clays. This modern fill was removed directly down onto sandstone footings and subsoils/natural clays. This fill had been introduced to level the demolition surface prior to establishing a carpark on the site. The fill (7314) sealed the nineteenth-century archaeology.

Fill 7315 was located at No. 714, and was composed of mostly sand with some mixed clays and modern rubble. This modern fill was removed directly down onto late nineteenth-century and earlier footings as well as the Brickfield clay surface, indicating that the lot had previously been scraped/cleared before this fill was introduced.

Fill 7304 was located in No. 716, and was composed of mostly sand with some mixed clays and loam. This modern fill was removed as part of an exploratory test hole in the yard of No. 716. Context numbers 7332 and 7457 were allocated to the material removed during clearance in lot No. 716 after the machining. These contexts represented mixed deposits (material redistributed by the action of the machine).

Fill 7316 was located at No. 718, and was composed of mostly yellow clays mixed with rubble and sand. This modern fill was removed directly onto nineteenth-century footings, indicating that the area had previously been scraped/cleared prior to the modern fill accumulating. Fill 7316 was introduced to level the surface in preparation for a carpark on the site. Context 7322 was a demolition rubble deposit that was removed by machine from over the sandstone footings of No. 718.
Context 7503 was an extensive layer of compact yellow clay that sealed the southern sandstone footings of No. 718 and was removed by machine.

**3.8.3 Cuts and fills of unknown date**

There were a number of cuts and fills throughout Area B that were identified after the machine clearance. From test excavation of these features it was clear that they post-dated the late nineteenth century. They have been included in this Phase and are described below.

**No. 716 George Street**

At the George Street frontage a small group of later features were clustered together. Cut 7424 was a circular to sub-circular cut with a sharp break of top slope, vertical sides, a sharp break at bottom slope and a flat base (Plan 12). The shape is almost that of two circular cuts intersecting. The cut had a maximum length of c.570mm, a maximum width of c.490mm, and a maximum depth of c.90mm. This cut was located c.1650mm north out from the east-west oriented southern external sandstone wall of 7488. The fill (7425) was brown soft friable silty clay with small stones, occasional charcoal flecks, sandstock brick fragments and metal.

Cut 7426 was a mostly symmetrical circular cut with a medium break of top slope, steep to sheer sides with a sharp break of bottom slope and a flat base. The cut had a maximum length of c.500mm, a maximum width of c.500mm, and a maximum depth of c.10mm. This cut was located c.1500mm north out from the east-west oriented southern external sandstone wall of 7488. The fill 7427 was a compacted dark brown silty clay with some sandstock brick fragments (<10cm) and occasional charcoal, shell, metal and ceramics.

Context 7429 was a localised area of re-used sandstock brick paving within No. 716. It was within the cut 7428. Posthole 7491 was part of a late feature. It was located 790mm east of posthole 7497 (discussed above, Phase 4). It was 400mm by 280mm in plan and had a surviving depth of 40mm. It contained the postpipe 7493 and this was rectangular in shape and measured 150mm by 50mm and had a depth of 115mm. The packing fill was mixed brown soil with stone, brick and charcoal inclusions (7492). The pipe contained rotten wood (7494). This feature may be late nineteenth century and is from an unknown structure.

A service trench containing a pipe with a modern poured-concrete packing ran alongside the footings of No. 716, in the location of the mid-nineteenth century right-of-way. The service cut the early drain 7339 and the subsoil 7456 as well as several levelling fills associated with early development on the site. The service trench was 370mm wide and extended east from the George Street frontage for at least 8.5m. It was not excavated.

Two square concrete pads (800mm x 800mm) were located at the rear of No. 716, 1.5m east of the rear of the 1860s structure. They were on a north-south alignment at an interval of 3.75m. Their precise structural function was not known.

Modern concrete had also been used to reinforce the footings at No. 712, in the rear ground floor room and along the boundary with No. 710. A trench around 600mm in width had been filled with concrete to support the sandstone footing on the southern side of the rear room of No. 712, which may have been re-used in the twentieth century. Concrete had been used over the footings (7603) at the boundary of 712/710 to support a machine-made brick wall.
4.0 Overview of Main Results

4.1 Phase 1 – Natural strata
As with much of the city the natural soil horizons were considerable disturbed and truncated during the early years of British settlement and throughout the nineteenth and twentieth century. The site was within the limits of Brickfield village, the brick and pottery manufacturing centre of the early colony. The natural strata in Area B had been significantly altered during this period. The street frontage was least affected, where patches of surviving natural subsoil horizons. There were even patches of original topsoil left intact. Back from the George Street frontage the site had been truncated to the clay layers (C Horizon), this was likely during an attempt to level the site. The surviving original topsoil was modified during Phase 3 and contained lead-glaze pottery sherds and other items. The subsoil in places was heat-affected and contained frequent charcoal and orange-staining, this may have been due to Phase 3 activity as the topsoil had already been removed.

4.2 Phase 3 – 1788-c.1823 Brickfields
The site was within the historic area of the ‘Brickfields’ and there was some evidence for the local potter Thomas Ball within Area B. In the southern part of the lot was a dump of pottery wasters containing thousands of lead-glaze sherds. Within the pit were misfired items and some kiln furniture. The site had also gone through significant alterations in topography as discussed above. This was due to activities associated with the Brickfields. After brick and pottery making ceased in the immediate area, the site was levelled and the ground prepared for development. There were many fills and redeposited natural soils recorded in Area B. Most of these contained early lead-glaze pottery indicating the ubiquity of this material in Area B.

4.3 Phase 4 – c.1823-c.1840 Post-Brickfield occupation
A plan of the site from 1831 depicts a large structure on Lot 3 (Area B). There was no archaeological trace of this structure, however there were several postholes and features including a brick drain and aborted well that are likely to have belonged to this phase.

4.4 Phase 5 – c.1840-c.1860 Redevelopment into a series of shops
Area B was sub-divided in this phase into a series of shops and dwellings fronting George Street. The lot was subdivided by 1840 into four lots and by 1845 five shops had entries in the Assessment Books. At No. 712 sandstone footings for a substantial two-storey building survived from this period. A cesspit to the rear of the lot was also excavated. Sandstone footings in the middle of the Area were identified as likely to be remains of Nos. 714 and 716. Remains of a timber building and brick fireplace at 718 George Street were also identified on site as being part of this main phase. The timber building at 718 continued to be used and there were remains of an occupation deposit within it. There was a brick eaves-drip drain between 716 and 718 dated to this phase.

4.5 Phase 6 – c.1860-1890 Rebuilding associated with general cleansing of the area
By 1863, the Assessment Books show that four shops/dwellings were represented by four two-storey buildings along the street frontage. This was reflected in the archaeological evidence. No. 712, which was already a two-storey building appeared unchanged during this phase. Nos. 714 and 716 George Street were rebuilt and increased in footprint size. The footings were built with much more substantial sandstone blocks. There were two sandstone cesspits to the rear. No. 718 was also rebuilt and solid sandstone footings that remained would have supported a two-storey brick structure. No. 718 was probably divided into two separate structures, either when originally built or at a later date. There was a cesspit to the rear.

4.6 Phase 7 – c.1890s-1830s
A plan from 1895 indicated that the buildings in Area B had not gone through any major redevelopment since their construction in the early 1860s and the archaeological remains supported
this. During this phase, the right-of-way was built over in several stages, so that by 1901 the plans show No. 718 occupying the land that was originally used as a right-of-way (and previously annexed by No. 716). However, the archaeological record had not preserved evidence of this. By 1930 most of the site was owned by Mick Simmons. Archaeological evidence from this phase was not a focus of the excavation program. As a result, structural materials and fills that related to activity during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were not subject to detailed recording.

4.7 Phase 8 – 1930s-1990s
This phase was not archaeologically investigated as the structures that were demolished prior to the archaeological excavation program are those belonging to this phase. There were a number of relevant fills and cleaning layers that required hand excavation and these were numbered if artefacts were present. However, for the most part the fills associated with late twentieth-century demolition and development was removed by machine. Artefacts from these contexts were a mix of modern and earlier dated items.