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Cover Image
Image 4604, Full Excavation (AMAC 2009)
# Volume 1

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Newcastle’s first Anglican parsonage was constructed on the study site in 1819-21 for use by Newcastle’s first chaplain, Reverend George Augustus Middleton. The building which predated the laying out of the street grid, cut into both the later Church and Newcomen Streets. Plans and drawings from the 19th century detail the layout of the building with bay windows and outbuildings consisting of three wings.

The site was continuously used by the Anglican Church throughout the 19th century. In this time various changes were made to the building, however the most significant appears to have taken place in the 1880s when a two storey extension was constructed in the location of the original coach house.

In 1902 the parsonage site was resumed by the government to extend the facilities of the neighbouring Hospital for the Insane. For this means, the main part of 1819 building was truncated and incorporated into a new building (although the 1880s extension was retained) and a Reception House was constructed for the treatment of short term mental illnesses. The original 1902 building was added to in 1903, the 1930s, 1970 and 1990 with the interior of the building being repeatedly remodified.

Physical Evidence

Archaeological work has revealed a fully intact core of the original parsonage, including some walls standing to ceiling height, fireplaces and a cellar.

The interior underfloor areas of the former parsonage, later Vernon building, were largely covered with building and re-building debris, and although there was some evidence of earlier deposition, these had become largely mixed in with the building debris due to the sandy profile of the site. These fills were completely removed in the West room and partially removed in the East room with the lower levels tested and retained in situ.

The yard and outbuilding areas were substantially impacted by later constructions and only the east wing was reasonably intact. There was some evidence of artefact accumulation in part of the yard, possibly associated with the early kitchen wing. The privy area could not be tested, and potentially retains archaeological relics.

The native Aeolian sand deposition was identified on the site with a thin film of grey sand potentially indicating that the site had once been covered in a thin layer of vegetation.

Significance

The retained relics of the Parsonage, are considered to be some of the oldest European relics in Newcastle and one of the earliest examples of a building from the convict period, and in this way are considered of State significance.

The significance of the archaeological remains of the Parsonage complex have not been reduced through excavation, in fact they have been enhanced by the discovery of hitherto unsuspected features (a cellar, fire places, room arrangements and re-arrangements) and development phases of the site. Earlier renovation (c1902) works have left impacted upon underfloor depositions making it difficult to determine if deposition from the earliest periods existed, yet this is balanced by an as yet
unexcavated, and only partly understood yard area and outbuilding complex, that are likely (based on testing) to have retained the delicate artefacts that provide the data of day to day living in a convict settlement emerging into a township.

The works in 2008 and 2009 have augmented the understanding of the nature, condition and extent of the parsonage footprint, extended wings, yards and outbuilding complex, and they as a group are of potential state significance; they are tangibly in both a built and archaeological sense of demonstrable State significance and are considered to be exceptionally rare.

**Recommendations for Future Management**

The parsonage and curtilage including extrapolated outbuildings and wings should be listed on the State Heritage Register. The standing wall is the oldest visible, built relic of the convict period in Newcastle. No excavation for services or development should take place within the above zone without prior archaeological evaluation in liaison with the Heritage Branch of the Office of Environment and Heritage. The remains exposed are presently in a stable condition; they have been re-buried and were covered with bidum and sand fill, prior to reburial under the existing structure.

The standing wall from a visual perspective is robust and solid. The Department of Commerce have made an initial assessment of its integrity from an engineering/architectural point of view. A Conservation Management Plan should be prepared for the standing wall and other remains, and regular inspections should be made of the wall, as, while currently robust, the wall is a now isolated feature lacking other supporting walls, cover and internally is exposed to the elements for the first since c1819 (excepting a brief time in c1902).

**Artefact and Records Storage**

Artefacts from both Full and Test Excavation will be stored at the James Fletcher Hospital, 72 Watt Street Newcastle, within the Thwaites Building (No. 4) in Room 1193. Excavation records are presently stored at AMAC offices.

A copy of this report as well as the accompanying photographic report will be provided to the Heritage Branch, Hunter and New England Health and the Newcastle Region Library.

**Public Information**

The archaeological excavation of the Parsonage at Newcastle has been able to inform the local community about the construction and use of one of the oldest structures in Newcastle and clarify some of the local folklore surrounding the building. Public information came through two open days, a radio interview, newspaper reports and a Hunter New England Health article (see Volume 3 Appendix 12.6). The standing wall and proposed signage will provide ongoing reminders of the convict past of that corner of Newcastle. Public awareness also brought forward, local knowledge, reminiscences, firsthand accounts, documents and photographs that aided in the preparation of this report.

Final reports and records, including new research will be available for future generations to review in public libraries.
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UBD Newcastle Street Directory.

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UBD Newcastle Street Directory.
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Department of Commerce (Newcastle) commissioned Archaeological Management and Consulting Group to prepare a Final Archaeological Report for the former Kirkwood House, 15 Church St, at the James Fletcher Hospital site in Newcastle on the basis of a fee proposal dated November 2009. Full Archaeological Excavation, directed by Martin Carney, was carried out under an s140 of the Heritage Act 1977 Permit 2008/S140/15 in March and April 2009 (see Volume 3 Appendix 12.1.1). This work resulted directly from Archaeological Test Excavation carried out in July - August 2008 under an Exception Notification (Volume 3 Appendix 12.1.2). The results of test excavation were summarised in a report by AMAC Group (October 2008) which accompanied the application for the Excavation Permit, in order to carry out full archaeological excavation.

Numerous monitoring and call-out exercises were carried out during demolitions, between testing phases and following the completion of the major field works in April 2009, up to July 2010, when field based works ceased. This report consists of three volumes and incorporates and synthesises data from test excavations and the overall archaeological programme since 2007. This report replaces all previous drafts, the last issued in 2011.

Monitoring was also carried out at the Male Ward within the James Fletcher Hospital (outside the study area). The results of these finds have been provided in Volume 3 Appendix 12.8 and archival photographs have been included within the Photographic Report accompanying this document.

1.2 STUDY AREA

The study site is that piece of land described as part of Lot 10 in Land Titles Office Deposited Plan 1087691. The street address is 15 Church Street, Newcastle, Parish of Newcastle, County of Northumberland (see Figure 1.1-Figure 1.4).

1.3 SCOPE

Whilst no specific endorsement or commission for works related to the built environment was applicable, the demolition order for Kirkwood House included walls which were found to contain parts of the earlier 1820s structure. Data that became available during this phase was considered irreplaceable and recorded for synthesis with the archaeological programme. This data is also considered within this report. For the purposes of this report, any relics below the floor level of the 1902-3 Vernon building will be considered archaeology however the building has largely been assessed as a whole. The fabric and structure of the East Wing of Kirkwood House has not been considered here as this has been dealt with previously in the CMP.¹

The records, observations, synthesis and analysis set out here have in basis works and records made during inspections of the complex in (June 2007- April 2008), initial demolitions (April-July 2008), Archaeological Test Excavations, (July-August 2008), Archival Recording (Kirkwood and the Male Ward) (September 2008),

¹ NSW Department of Commerce (April 2005), p.109
Monitoring and recording (Male Ward) (September 2008), Full Archaeological Excavations (March-April, 2009), hand demolition of the bulk of the Reception House superstructure (June 2009) and subsequent minor excavations, monitoring, recording (such as the Boiler) and inspections during construction of the new development during 2009-2010.

This report does not consider the potential Aboriginal archaeology of the study site. However, artefacts of reducible material (that is, able to be flaked to form a tool); were identified in a late and disturbed European context, and incidentally collected and built into the fabric of the parsonage. Any Aboriginal sites and objects are protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Act (see Section 1.5.3).

1.4 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report was written by Kevin Hickson, Martin Carney and Ivana Vetta. Documentary research is in part drawn from the CMP (2005). Additional research was carried out by Carney and Vetta for the original Archaeological Assessment (AMAC February 2008). The collections used were the Mitchell Library, National Library of Australia, the Newcastle Region Library, State Records of NSW, and the PRO Richmond, London.

Michael Parker drew and computerised all site plans. The site was surveyed by Kerry Platt.

1.5 STATUTORY CONTROLS AND HERITAGE STUDIES

1.5.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended)

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 affords automatic statutory protection to relics that form archaeological deposits or part thereof. The Act defines relics as:

Relic means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:
(a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
(b) is of State or local heritage significance

Sections 139 to 145 of the Act prevent the excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of discovering, exposing or moving a relic, except by a qualified archaeologist to whom an excavation permit has been issued by the Heritage Council of NSW.

1.5.2 State Heritage Register and Inventory

The site is not listed in the State Heritage Register. The former parsonage is listed on the State Heritage Inventory as an archaeological/terrestrial site. It is noted that the site “is within road and footpath as well as the corner allotment”. The site falls within the “Hill Heritage Conservation Area” also listed in the Inventory.

1.5.3 National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)

The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (as amended) affords protection to all Aboriginal objects and is governed by the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water. These objects are defined as:

---

2 NSW State Heritage Inventory Database Number 2171678.
3 NSW State Heritage Inventory Database Number 2173906.
any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating
to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being
habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of
non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remain.\(^4\)

It is an offence to destroy Aboriginal objects or places without the consent of the
Director-General of the NSW DECCW.\(^5\) Section 86 discusses “Harming or
desecration Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places:

(1) A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an
Aboriginal object. Maximum penalty:
   (a) in the case of an individual-2,500 penalty units or imprisonment for 1
      year, or both, or (in circumstances of aggravation) 5,000 penalty units
      or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or
   (b) in the case of a corporation-10,000 penalty units.
(2) A person must not harm an Aboriginal object. Maximum penalty:
   (a) in the case of an individual-500 penalty units or (in circumstances of
      aggravation) 1,000 penalty units, or
   (b) in the case of a corporation-2,000 penalty units.
(3) For the purposes of this section, “circumstances of aggravation” are:
   (a) that the offence was committed in the course of carrying out a
      commercial activity, or
   (b) that the offence was the second or subsequent occasion on which the
      offender was convicted of an offence under this section.
This subsection does not apply unless the circumstances of aggravation were
identified in the court attendance notice or summons for the offence.
(4) A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place.
   Maximum penalty:
   (a) in the case of an individual-5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2
      years, or both, or
   (b) in the case of a corporation-10,000 penalty units.
(5) The offences under subsections (2) and (4) are offences of strict liability and
   the defence of honest and reasonable mistake of fact applies.
(6) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply with respect to an Aboriginal object that
   is dealt with in accordance with section 85A.
(7) A single prosecution for an offence under subsection (1) or (2) may relate to a
   single Aboriginal object or a group of Aboriginal objects.
(8) If, in proceedings for an offence under subsection (1), the court is satisfied
   that, at the time the accused harmed the Aboriginal object concerned, the
   accused did not know that the object was an Aboriginal object, the court may
   find an offence proved under subsection (2).\(^6\)

1.5.3.1 Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal
Objects in NSW

In October 2010 DECCW introduced the “Due Diligence Code of Practice for the
Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW”.\(^7\) This code should be used by individuals
or organisations who are contemplating undertaking activities which may harm
Aboriginal objects.

\(^7\) DECCW,
This code provides a process whereby a reasonable determination can be made as to whether or not Aboriginal objects will be harmed by an activity, whether further investigation is warranted and whether the activity requires an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application.

If through this or any other process that meets the standards of this code, such as an environmental impact assessment, you have already taken reasonable steps to identify Aboriginal objects in an area subject to a proposed activity and it is already known that Aboriginal objects will be harmed or are likely to be harmed by an activity, then an application should be made for an AHIP. Individuals or organisations who are contemplating undertaking activities which could harm Aboriginal objects should consult this code or engage the services of an appropriately qualified Archaeological consultant to carry out a due diligence study on any proposed development.

This code of conduct was released in response to changes in the NPW Act which are outlined below which now states “A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object” or that “A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place” (NPW Act, Amendment 2010).

1.5.4 Register of the National Estate
The former parsonage is listed as part of the James Fletcher Hospital Group, 72 Watt St, Newcastle on the Register of the National Estate (Place ID 101838). The Register of National Estate is no longer a statutory list.8

1.5.5 Newcastle City Centre Local Environmental Plan 2008
The item is not individually listed in the Newcastle City Centre Local Environment Plan 2008 however the Former Military Hospital and Barracks are both listed in Schedule 5 Part 1, Environmental Heritage, as 72 Watt Street, Newcastle (now the James Fletcher Hospital).9 The site is also part of “The Hill Heritage Conservation Area” listed in Schedule 5 Part 2.

Part 5, Clause 46 of this LEP, “Heritage Conservation”, deals with requirements for the development of heritage items, and properties within heritage conservation areas.

1.5.6 Newcastle Development Control Plan 2005
The site is located within “The Hill Conservation Area”, outlined in the Newcastle Development Control Plan 2005. Guidelines for development within this Area are provided in Element 5.7 of the Plan.10 The DCP does not deal with archaeology.

1.5.7 Newcastle Archaeological Management Plan
The Newcastle Archaeological Management Plan was prepared by Suters Architects in 1997 for the Newcastle City Council. The former parsonage is listed in the Inventory of this document as item 0060, while it is also listed as item 1162; the

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9 Schedule 5, Newcastle LEP 2008.
10 Newcastle City Council (2005)
Deanery. It is noted that the parsonage intruded into Newcomen and Church Streets.\textsuperscript{11}

\subsection*{1.6 CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE JAMES FLETCHER HOSPITAL SITE 2005}

A Conservation Management Plan was prepared for the whole James Fletcher Hospital Site in April 2005, by the Department of Commerce; this CMP covers the area known as Kirkwood House, formerly the Anglican Parsonage. The purpose of this report was to:

Formally establish the significance of the place and provide guidelines and policies for future adaptive reuse of the site.

Within this CMP, Policies 32-35 cover the archaeological resources of the site.

\subsection*{1.7 STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT}

Two Statements of Heritage Impact have been written for the current study site. The first, written in December 2005, is specific to the “Demolition of Kirkwood and Reception House” and is more comprehensive than the following document written in March 2007. This second document is an addition to the first SoHI and specific to the impact of the proposed development on the site and surrounding landscape. Both reports have been considered in the writing of this report.

\subsection*{1.8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT SUPPORTING EXCEPTION TO S140 HERITAGE ACT 1977}

This archaeological assessment was written by AMAC Group in February 2008 and provides a detailed examination of the site history and archaeological potential.\textsuperscript{12}

\subsection*{1.9 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST EXCAVATION REPORT AND DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING S140 APPLICATION}

This document provides an interim report on the archaeological test excavation conducted on Kirkwood House by AMAC in July and August 2008 in response to the recommendations from the previous report\textsuperscript{13}.

\subsection*{1.10 NOMENCLATURE}

The following nomenclature is used for the site and is based largely on the developmental history of the site and also those terms used in the CMP and SoHI (2005, 2007).

\textbf{Parsonage} - this refers to the original 1820s parsonage building and any extensions and modifications that occurred during its use.

\textbf{1820s parsonage} – this refers to the original 1820s parsonage building and any extensions and modifications that occurred prior to the 1880s additions (that is, excluding the 1880s construction).

\textsuperscript{11} Newcastle AMP (2007), p. 17
\textsuperscript{12} AMAC (February 2008)
\textsuperscript{13} AMAC (October 2008)
Parsonage outbuildings – the rear wings of the 1820s parsonage complex (also referred to as the eastern, western and southern wings). Note that generally, outhouses completely detached from the main complex are referred to as privies.

Parsonage Curtilage – the parsonage buildings and grounds including the kitchen garden and paddock.

1880s wing/extension/annex – this specifically refers to the two storey addition to the parsonage constructed during the 1880s. It should be noted that the CMP refers to this as the 1887 extension/annex however evidence from the SoHI (2005) proves this to be incorrect hence the “1880s” date has been chosen for this report.

Kirkwood House – for this report “Kirkwood House” has been used as a collective term for all the presently standing buildings (including components of all phases). Although the SoHI (2005, 2007) uses this term to refer to the 1880s extension only, both the CMP and the Early Works Package for the site use Kirkwood House to refer to the entire complex. This is the standard that has been chosen for this report.

Reception House – the Reception House is the name given to the building constructed in 1902 and 1903 as designed by Vernon. This includes the 1880s extension except where otherwise specified.

Table 1.1 Summary of excavation locations, phases and trench labelling used in this report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Excavation Phase</th>
<th>Trench Name/Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parsonage Building</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Room</td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
<td>Test Trench 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Open area Squares A-D/1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallway</td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Open area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Room: Cellar below North room</td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
<td>Test Trench 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Open area, undivided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Room</td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Open area Squares A-D/1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Wing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880s East Wing</td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
<td>Test Trench 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Trench II (abandoned)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trench III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Trench IV</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Trench VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exterior Trenches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West of 1880s wing</td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
<td>Test Trench 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Trench I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trench V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trench IX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East side of 1880s wing</td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Trench VII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trench VIII (not excavated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trench X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>Excavation Phase</td>
<td>Trench Name/Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsonage</td>
<td>Various, as needed during works</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining wall</td>
<td>Ditto</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boiler</td>
<td>Ditto</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscaping</td>
<td>Ditto</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.11 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many thanks to John Carr (formerly Department of Commerce), Jen Phelan, Curtis Lucknow and John Rutter of the Department of Commerce NSW, Newcastle, and Sarah Cameron of Newcastle City Council.
2.0 SITE HISTORY

2.1 HISTORY

Pre European

Aboriginal habitation in Newcastle is known from archaeology to have begun thousands of years ago. The group known to inhabit this area were the Awabakal Aborigines. Archaeological sites at the heart of the Newcastle CBD on the Hunter River attest to the population of the place at least after the last ice age. Shortland, the first white man to record the location in any detail, reported that when he visited the area in 1797 an indigenous population already occupied the place later to be known as King’s Town then Newcastle.

Newcastle

Newcastle was officially discovered by Lieutenant Shortland in September 1797. There was an attempt to create a settlement at Newcastle in 1801 and substantial investigation of the surrounding area was undertaken. However, the settlement failed, having only lasted a matter of months.

In 1804, a group of convicts and soldiers were sent to settle the area, and the town of Newcastle, originally named King’s Town was proclaimed. The settlement was intended for convicts sentenced for a further felony or misdemeanour committed while in the colony. However it was also intended to exploit the resources of the region, principally coal, timber, salt and lime. The population consisted of about 100 people for the first few years and then, through rapid growth progression between 1815 and 1821, increased to a total of 1051 people.

The main street of the convict settlement was High or George Street (now Watt Street) which ran from the wharf to the commandant’s house. The town was laid out in an irregular fashion around the commandant’s house. Most of the first structures were built of timber, however from 1816, there were small amounts of brick-making and stone-quarrying employed and used for the construction of government buildings. Until 1820, the majority of convicts lived in huts built of timber and plaster with bark or shingle roofs.

References:
14 CMP (2005), p. 10
15 Steele in AMAC (July 2002, p. 94
17 Bladen (1892-1901), Vol.4, p.404-409, 413-418, 447-453, 627-635; State Records NSW, A.O. Reel 6039 sz756, p.73-83.
18 State Records NSW, A.O. Reel 6039 sz756, p.283. Newcastle is the name intended for the settlement at Coal Harbour and Hunters River in this document, dated September, 1804.
19 Wood (1972), p. 1
22 Turner (1997b), p. 16
23 Turner (1997b), p. 17
During this time the study site was mostly used as a Government Farm, established to provide food for the nearby Government House.\textsuperscript{24} There stands some suggestion that as early as 1804, military huts and cottages had been built on the site.\textsuperscript{25} Just west of Government House, now within the hospital site, one of the first “productive coal shafts” was sunk by convict workers; this is marked on early maps (Figure 2.4).

In the early 1820s, a decision was made to open the Hunter Valley to free settlers. As a result, in 1822, most of Newcastle’s convicts were moved to Port Macquarie.\textsuperscript{26} It was intended that Newcastle would become a port for the surrounding settlers.\textsuperscript{27} Following the opening of the first “Christ Church” in 1818 (See Figure 2.1), within the 6 acres granted to the Anglican Church, the first Anglican Parsonage was built on the study site between 1819-21; this housed Reverend George Augustus Middleton, Newcastle’s first Chaplain.\textsuperscript{28}

Middleton arrived in 1820 aboard “Prince Regent”, first becoming Chaplain of Parramatta before being moved to Newcastle that same year.\textsuperscript{29} Following the resignation of Middleton in 1827, Reverend Frederick M. Wilkinson accepted the position in Newcastle. Wilkinson was replaced by Reverend Charles Wilton only 4 years later. Wilton, the last chaplain of Newcastle, had arrived in Sydney with his wife aboard \textit{Elizabethe} in 1827.\textsuperscript{30} He was initially given a position in the Parish of the Field of Mars in Castle Hill but after accusations of fraud he applied for the position at Newcastle.

During this period, Henry Dangar, the government surveyor, assessed Newcastle and subsequently laid out the town grid.\textsuperscript{31} Although Watt Street remained, there were substantial changes to the rest of the town and the new streets and allotments cut through many of the earlier buildings\textsuperscript{32} including the Parsonage building which was cut through by Church Street and later Newcomen Street (See Figure 2.9 - Figure 2.11; Figure 2.15 - Figure 2.19).

In the 1830s the Australian Agricultural Company had been granted 2000 acres to the west of Newcastle for coal mining.\textsuperscript{33} This grant restricted the growth of the town until the early 1850s, to land east of Brown Street,\textsuperscript{34} while the town was bounded on the south by Church Street (see Figure 2.4). In 1837, 5 acres of the Anglican Church’s land was obtained by the Colonial Government\textsuperscript{35} and the first military barracks and hospital were constructed on what is now the James Fletcher Hospital site between 1838-1843,\textsuperscript{36} to protect the now valuable coal resources.\textsuperscript{37} The

\begin{thebibliography}{99}
\item CMP (2005), p. 10
\item CMP (2005), p. 18
\item Turner (1997b), p. 18
\item Turner (1997a), p. 12
\item CMP (2005) p. 18
\item State Records of New South Wales, Colonial Secretary Index, 1788 – 1825.
\item ‘Wilton, Charles Pleydell Neale (1795 - 1859)’, Australian Dictionary of Biography Online.
\item Dangar (1828). The engraving of Dangar’s earlier survey work was undertaken by J. Cross of London and published in August 1828; Australian Dictionary of Biography (1966) Volume 1: p. 279-80. His original work in the Hunter was conducted in c1822-1824.
\item Turner (1997b), p. 17
\item Turner (1997b), p. 19
\item CMP (2005), p. 18
\item CMP (2005), p. 10
\item CMP (2005), p. 38
\end{thebibliography}
barracks housed up to 200 soldiers who policed the area until 1851 whereby the buildings were used to house the local police and as a boarding house.

From the late 1840s other companies began to open coal mines around Newcastle. These mines began to ship coal through the Port of Newcastle and the town became a centre for the smaller settlements around the mines. The following decades saw the expansion of the town with the opening of the Great Northern Railway Line and Newcastle Railway Station. During the 1850s, the Australian Agricultural Company began to subdivide and sell its land, which meant that the town could expand to the west.

In 1847 the Diocese of Newcastle was established with the Right Reverend William Tyrell becoming the first Bishop of Newcastle, his main residency having been in Morpeth. Reverend Arthur Selwyn was appointed as the first Dean of Newcastle in 1867. Selwyn arrived in Sydney in 1841 and was ordained a priest in 1853. After being appointed to the Parish of Grafton in 1854, Bishop Tyrell selected him for the Dean of Newcastle. Selwyn lived in the parsonage on the study site, until his death in 1899.

In 1851 the military barracks were turned into the Newcastle Industrial School for Girls and Reformatory, following public complaint about the initial plans to turn the site into an insane asylum. The reformatory did not last long; a riot caused its closure in 1871 and the initial plans for the site were pursued with the establishment of the Lunatic Asylum for Imbeciles and Institution for Idiots that very same year. This would later become the Hospital for the Insane in 1879 after the Lunacy Act of 1878 stated that all insane asylums would be known as hospitals (Figure 2.19).

According to Turner, by the 1880s the residents of inner Newcastle were primarily people engaged within service industries, while the majority of miners lived in the surrounding mining townships. In 1885 the principal streets, including Church Street contained a few private residences, although Hunter and King and their cross streets were largely given over to retailing and commercial offices.

The Hospital for the Insane continued to operate on the lot contained by Church, Watt, Newcomen and Ordinance Streets to the varying opinion of local residents and shop owners. In 1901 the decision by the government to build a Reception House, a facility for those with short term mental illness, saw the resumption of the Anglican Church's land containing the parsonage. In 1902 the parsonage, by this stage in a state of disrepair, was mostly demolished in order to make way for the new Reception House. This was to be the second Reception House built in NSW, the first having been in Darlinghurst. The Reception House, as opposed to the asylum, was for the treatment of short-term or curable mental disorders; this facility was a predecessor to modern psychiatric facilities.

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38 Turner (1997b), p. 19
39 "Newcastle City Centre – Second Fifty Years".
40 SoHI (2005), p. 6
41 SoHI (2005), p. 6
42 ‘Selwyn, Arthur Edward (1823 - 1899)’, Australian Dictionary of Biography Online.
43 CMP (2005), p. 10
44 CMP (2005), p. 12
45 Turner (1997b), p. 23
46 CMP (2005), p. 63-64
47 CMP (2005), p. 65
In the first part of the twentieth century, the collieries of the inner-city were closed and moved further away. This subsequently caused the movement of the population away from Newcastle. The opening of the BHP steel works in approximately 1915 brought people back to the city; however the character of the area had forever changed. The Hospital for the Insane became the Newcastle Mental Hospital in 1916.\(^{48}\) The continued disdain for the hospital by local residents (it being seen as unsuitable for the centre of the ever growing Newcastle) saw calls for its relocation throughout the 20\(^{th}\) century. Regardless the government was unmoved; the hospital was to stay, having been named the James Fletcher Hospital in 1989 after a prominent Newcastle parliamentarian of the 19\(^{th}\) century.\(^{49}\)

### 2.2 DEVELOPMENT

The land of the study site was part of 6 acres allotted to the Anglican Church in the early 19\(^{th}\) century. After the completion of the first Christ Church in 1818, the construction of Newcastle’s first parsonage commenced in 1819. The construction appears to be the result of convict labour and was conducted under the management of Patrick Riley.\(^{50}\) By January 1820, window and door frames had been installed and the roof shingled. Drawings dated to the early 1820s (Figure 2.2 - Figure 2.3) show the building while a plan from 1822 (Figure 2.4) confirms this construction date. The land associated with the parsonage contained both gardens and grazing land.\(^{51}\) The house itself was described as having stone foundations, with two bow windows at the front of the property (facing what is now Church Street, Figure 2.6) and a shingled roof. Governor Macquarie’s description of the building reads:

> A neat brick-built stuccoed, one-storied parsonage house with a veranda and all necessary out-offices, and also a kitchen garden and grazing paddock attached thereto, both enclosed with a paling.\(^{52}\)

This description is confirmed by assessing a plan from 1830 which clearly shows the three buildings which make up the complex, with the kitchen garden and paddock clearly defined and a possible outhouse located on the western side (Figure 2.6). The SoHI (2005) also quotes a letter from the military commandant Morisset to Governor Brisbane who describes the state of the house as containing:

> A handsome entrance hall, dining and Bed Rooms, with a study and store room.\(^{53}\)

The outbuildings referred to include:

> A detached kitchen and two servants rooms with a covered passage leading from the dwelling to the out offices, a yard enclosed by open sheds, a small enclosure at the back of and adjoining the offices, with two necessaries and a garden at the side.\(^{54}\)

This description is in part verified by a hand sketch of the house done by Reverend Wilkinson in 1827 (Figure 2.5) and another made in 1831 (Figure 2.7). Of note in the

\(^{48}\) CMP (2005), p. 78
\(^{49}\) CMP (2005), p. 91
\(^{50}\) SoHI (2005), p. 3
\(^{51}\) CMP (2005), p. 18
\(^{52}\) Quoted in CMP (2005), p. 18
\(^{53}\) SoHI (2005), p. 4
\(^{54}\) SoHI (2005), p. 4
1827 sketch is a verandah or room shown on the east side of the parsonage. Whether this was initially part of the parsonage is unclear although later plans from 1886 and 1896 (Figure 2.19; Figure 2.23) certainly show this feature as a verandah. The 1831 sketch also confirms some detail given in a drawing from c1821 (Figure 2.3) that shows the outside of the eastern wing clearly illustrating the covered walkway between the coach house and offices. This is one of the few drawings that show the eastern wing prior to its redevelopment in the 1880s.

Early drawings from c1821 (Figure 2.2 - Figure 2.3) also show that from the time of its construction, the parsonage was made up of several single storey buildings at slightly different heights due to the gradient of the land. Figure 2.8 - Figure 2.11 show little change to the structure of the building over the next 60 years though it is clear from various documentary records that several refurbishments and alterations occurred during this time.

It appears that plans were made in 1827 to pave the stables, kitchen and outer offices with brick, replace the fencing and construct two privies. In 1831 more repairs were planned as detailed in the plan from 1831 (Figure 2.7); these repairs were listed in a document describing the proposed works and have been summarised by the SoHI (2005):

- replastering of the verandah ceiling, the replacement of curb stones on the verandah and door with Sydney stone and shingling on the south side of the house's roof.
- Brickwork in the kitchen, wash house and servant's room was to be repaired and weatherboarding renewed. The other out offices at the rear were to be demolished and rebuilt in brick with shingled roofing according to plan.

The main house of the parsonage also appears to have been extended sometime between the late 1830s to early 1840s. This extension was made to the western part of the main house in line with Newcomen St. This extension is not shown in either the 1827 sketch or in the plan of 1830, nor in the proposed works of 1831 although it was possibly part of these repairs (Figure 2.5 - Figure 2.7). A plan from 1842 appears to show this extra room which was not quite aligned to the rear western wing of the house but fell just short of it (Figure 2.9). This is clearly illustrated in the 1849 painting of Newcomen St by John Rae (Figure 2.12), which shows that the roof of the parsonage had been extended to incorporate the room which was offset from both Church and Newcomen Streets with a window facing north.

In 1843, prior to the construction of the Military Barracks, there was a dispute over the land which contained the parsonage (Figure 2.9), a map from 1842 shows that the land of the parsonage was required for Barrack's purposes. Although 5 acres of church land had been resumed by the government it had been decided that the church would need to be compensated more for the loss of the parsonage; the decision was not approved. This issue caused the delay of the building of the Military Barracks as well as only partial construction of the Officer's barracks, which had been intended for the study site. Additionally an 1864 plan (Figure 2.17) shows two privies, one immediately to the rear of the western side of the parsonage complex and one further south near the boundary with the former military barracks.

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55 This detail comes from letters referenced in the SoHI (2005) 5, from State Records NSW.
56 SoHI (2005), p. 6: Appendix 3-5 from that document.
57 CMP (2005), p. 32
58 CMP (2005), p. 36
During 1880 an advertisement appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald pertaining to the tender for new extensions to be made to the parsonage.\(^{59}\) This work was for the construction of the two-storey building on the east of the parsonage (later to become part of the *Reception House*).\(^{60}\) It is uncertain as to the exact year in which these works occurred however James Henderson appears to have been the architect.

The SoHI (2005) suggests that these works had occurred prior to a c1885 addition of a skillion to the new building designed by German-born Frederick B. Menkens as described in a document featuring the contract for the works and the specifications for the new building.\(^{61}\) This document also mentions the removal of two 400 gallon tanks which were to be placed elsewhere.\(^{62}\)

A plan from 1886 (Figure 2.19) displays the parsonage. The dimensions of the eastern wing appear to match those of an 1896 plan (Figure 2.29), suggesting that the two-storey building had been constructed by this point in time.\(^{63}\) Similar to earlier plans, the plan depicts a building with two bay windows and the addition of an eastern verandah is also shown. It appears from this plan that a new south wing was also constructed during this time with a shingled roof, directly behind the original south wing. Photographs from this period (Figure 2.23) appear to show two separate roof lines possibly representing both stages of the south wing. This plan also shows two outbuildings associated with the parsonage at the southern end of the Church’s land. This plan labels the site as “Church and Parsonage”, suggesting that the parsonage may have acted as an interim Anglican Church during the construction of the Cathedral and Cathedral Hall (Figure 2.19).

The works had certainly been completed by 1889, with both the two-storey extension and skillion visible in drawings dated to that year (Figure 2.20; Figure 2.24). Two undated photographs (Figure 2.21; Figure 2.27) also show this extension which appears to be in the same location as the earlier single-storey eastern wing of the parsonage, although the original wing was somewhat smaller. Figure 2.20 - Figure 2.24 clearly show two privies at the rear of the property in a similar position to that shown in the 1864 plan (Figure 2.17).

The parsonage appears to have undergone further works prior to 1896 as shown in a detailed plan (Figure 2.23). This plan depicts verandahs surrounding most of the building and within the courtyard, while various staircases leading into the yard are also shown. It is an accurate plan of the parsonage following the 1880s extensions. When comparing this plan to earlier plans dating back to 1830 (Figure 2.29), and in particular the 1886 plan (Figure 2.19), it is clear that the original south wing of the parsonage had been demolished before 1896 therefore leaving only the new wing having been constructed prior to 1886. An additional outbuilding or privy is detailed next to the south-western corner of the parsonage, with a larger outbuilding at the rear of the property.

\(^{59}\) SoHI (2005), p. 6

\(^{60}\) The CMP (2005) dates these extensions to 1887 based on a comment printed in the newspaper in 1902 which stated that the extension was 15 years old. SoHI (2005), p 6

\(^{61}\) SoHI (2005), p 7

\(^{62}\) See Appendix 9 of SoHI (2005).

\(^{63}\) The eastern wing is marked with the number one in this plan suggesting it is only single storey while the main house is marked two making it possibly two-storey. It is possible that this is an error or alternatively may suggest that the renovations had not yet occurred.
The continued problem of overcrowding in the adjoining Hospital for the Insane influenced the government’s decision to resume the study site in 1901. The initial intention for the site was to turn it into a Reception House (now Kirkwood House) for those with short term mental disorders which were deemed curable by therapy. For this purpose, the original part of the parsonage was modified in 1902 with the removal of the northern façade and bricking in of doors and windows. The 1880s extension was retained although internally remodelled. In its place, the Department of Lunacy commissioned Vernon\(^\text{64}\) to construct a single-storey building to house the office and reception rooms.\(^\text{65}\)

Newspapers published around the same date suggested that part of the 1820s building may have been incorporated into the new building. This was confirmed during archaeological excavation at the site making the confirming the statement that the building would be one of the oldest buildings in Newcastle.\(^\text{66}\) A floor plan from 1902 by Vernon (Figure 2.30) clearly shows the existing walls of the 1880s building marked in black,\(^\text{67}\) and uses the same convention for some of the walls of the anterior part of the “reception house” indicating that these were also existing walls.\(^\text{68}\) Also noted on Vernon’s plan, are two windows in the west room of the Parsonage and two doors in the east room which are marked as “built up” (Figure 2.31). As part of the current demolition works for Kirkwood House, the removal of wall cladding revealed that these walls and a fire place of the parsonage were still partly intact; the sandstock brick used to make the wall were severely decayed in some areas and parts of the walls show signs of being bricked in later. It is also clear that some parts of the wall marked for retention in the 1902 plan were in fact removed while other parts were retained.\(^\text{69}\)

In 1903 another single-storey room was added to the south side of the 1880s building which provided more dormitory space for both males and females; this area was also fitted with padded rooms.

The growth of psychology in the early 20\(^{th}\) century saw the increased voluntary admittance of patients to the Reception House. The Sydney Morning Herald notes that Reception House received repairs to the external parts of the building and painting in 1927.\(^\text{70}\) This upkeep would further indicate the consistent use of Reception House during this period. In 1933 a further two single rooms were added to the eastern side of the main building specifically for male patients. Another two rooms and a bathroom were added to the western side facing Newcomen Street in 1939. The interiors were again renovated.\(^\text{71}\)

The Reception house had come to be known as Ward A by the 1960s and by the latter part of that decade, the building housed 20 male beds and 12 female beds.\(^\text{72}\) Further additions were made to the building in the 1970s when an Alcoholism Treatment Unit was constructed and attached to the eastern part of the building,\(^\text{73}\) with another room added to the eastern façade in the 1990s as well as the

\(^{64}\) CMP (2005), p. 109
\(^{65}\) CMP (2005), p 65
\(^{66}\) CMP (2005), p. 18
\(^{67}\) Similar convention is used for the 1903 plan.
\(^{68}\) SoHI (2005), p. 11
\(^{69}\) AMAC (April 2008), Inspection Report
\(^{70}\) The Sydney Morning Herald (Saturday 5\(^{th}\) November 1927)
\(^{71}\) CMP (2005), p 81
\(^{72}\) CMP (2005), p 89
\(^{73}\) CMP (2005), p 90
substation facing Newcomen Street. An outline of the development to the Reception house during the 20th century, detailed in the 2005 CMP, is shown in Figure 2.35.
Figure 2.1  Adapted from Plan of Newcastle August 7, 1818 by James Meehan. Note the location of the Christ Church newly constructed in 1818 and necessitating the construction of the parsonage (labelled No 1 on the plan). The red arrow indicates approximate location of study site. State Records NSW AO Map 83.
Figure 2.2  Panorama of Newcastle: Watercolour drawings attributed to Edward Close, c1821.
Inset shows detail of the original parsonage newly built in 1821, the southern side of the building is visible.
State Library of N.S.W, PXD 576.

Figure 2.3  Newcastle with Christ Church in the Distance by Sophia Campbell, c.1820.
Parsonage building outlined in red (eastern façade is visible); note that this is one of the few depictions of the eastern wing prior to the 1880s redevelopment of the building. The rear of the building appears to have been a carriage house and a covered walkway divided it from the office that adjoined the main parsonage building.
National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an4564445.
Figure 2.4 ‘Draft of the Town of Newcastle, 10th August, 1822’. 1822
Newly constructed parsonage and grounds marked in red. Note also
the nearby Government house and Coal Shaft.
State Records NSW, AO Map 80.
Figure 2.5  Reverend F.M. Wilkinson’s hand sketch of the Parsonage, 26 November 1827.
Figure 2.6 Early Map of the Town of Newcastle, Armstrong, c1830.
Inset shows detail of Parsonage and grounds which include a garden and a paddock. The parsonage appears to be made up three buildings with the main building having two bay windows with a possible outhouse in the southwest corner.
Virtual Coquun-Hunter River Project, Alexander Turnbull Library, The National Library of New Zealand, MapColl 817.95gbbe/1830/Acc.3580
Figure 2.7 Plan of the offices attached to the Parsonage House Newcastle, 1831. Taken from SoHI (2005) Appendix 3, State Records of NSW, CGS 781; 4/347B.
Map of City of Newcastle, Between 1836-1841.
Note that by this stage Church Street had been formally planned with the parsonage intruding into the new street.
Newcastle Region Library, Local History Map B 333.3/16.
Figure 2.9  ‘Sketch of Ground at Newcastle required for Ordnance Purposes’, H.W. Lugard, Lt Royal Engineers, November 1842. Note that the area of the parsonage is noted to be “occupied by clergymen” and “required for Barracks purposes”. From CMP (2005) 40, Plate 3.17. (State Records of NSW, SR 4683).
Figure 2.10  Town of Newcastle and its harbour 1844  
National Library of Australia, Map F 42.

Figure 2.11  ‘New South Wales Sketch of Ground to be vested in the Ordnance at Newcastle. To accompany the Respective Officers. Letter dated 12th June 1845’.

Figure 2.12  Detail of painting “Newcastle in 1849” by John Rae
The parsonage is indicated with a red arrow. Note the military barracks behind the parsonage and the western extension to the parsonage building.

Figure 2.13  ‘View of Newcastle, Hunter's River, N.S.W. From the Obelisk, Looking North’
Figure 2.14  1853 Plan of City of Newcastle.  
Note the location of the stone retaining wall.  
NSW Department of Lands.

Figure 2.15  Plan of town of Newcastle dating 1855-1864  
Newcastle Region Library, Local History Map C 333.3/90.
Figure 2.16  1860 Town map of Newcastle
Mitchell Library, Town Maps – Newcastle, ML 2 1860.
Figure 2.17  ‘Diagram of the Alignment of Part of the City of Newcastle’, 1864. 
Taken from SoHI (2005) Appendix 8: Source LPI.
Figure 2.18  Newcastle, Engraving, A.C. Cooke; Gibbs Shallard & Co. artists and engravers. 1874
Red arrow indicates location of parsonage.
National Library of Australia, nla.pic-an8422110.
Figure 2.19  Newcastle, N.S.W, 1886.
Note that the building is called "Church and Parsonage".
Mahlstadt and Gee, Plan of Newcastle, Newcastle Regional Library,
Local History Map C 333.3/17.
Figure 2.20  Engraving of Newcastle, 1889 by A.C. Cooke.

Figure 2.21  Photograph of the parsonage on the corner of Church Street and Newcomen Street, c1880-1902.
The 1880s extension is clearly visible while the original 1821 parsonage is hidden below the street level of Newcomen Street. CMP (2005) Plate 3.10: taken from Joan Murray, *The Vision Splendid*…p.52.
Figure 2.22  c. 1886 – 1896 photograph of Newcomen Street including Parsonage building.
Private Collection.
Figure 2.23  Detail of Parsonage, c.1866-1896
Note that in front of the back wing of the building there appears to be a separate roof line which is possibly remnants of the earlier wing.
Private Collection.
Figure 2.24  Engraving of Newcastle dated to 1889 by A. Scott Broad.  
Approximate area of parsonage outlined in red.  
Figure 2.25 Map of Newcastle vicinity of Newcomen & Tyrell Streets, Hunter Water Board, 1896
Inset details of parsonage (here called deanery).
Hunter District Water Board, C919.442/34/009, Hunter Photobank.
Figure 2.26  Overlay of 1827 plan (green) and 1866 plan (purple) on the 1896 plan
Note the addition of another south wing in 1866 and the demolition of the old south wing by 1896.
Figure 2.27  Photograph showing the Parsonage from Church Street facing southwest 1880-1902. This photograph was taken prior to the demolition of the original parsonage, the roof of which is just visible on the right. CMP (2005) Plate 3.47 from Joan Murray, ‘The Vision Splendid…’, p.53.

Figure 2.28  Procession along Church Street, Newcastle. The Parsonage is indicated by the red arrow. Note that the photograph has no date, however it is likely that it was taken around the early 20th century based on the buildings at the Parsonage. Hunter Photobank (reference 163 000537)
Overlays drawn based on historic plans made to best fit and are not necessarily to scale. The western extension of the building in the 1930s is clearly visible in the first two images. Note that the 1886 plan details area covered by roofing and does not imply that the front verandah and parts of the courtyard had been enclosed.
Figure 2.30  Floor Plan of 1902 reception house as designed by Vernon.
Note the walls of the 1880s building and parts of the office and reception rooms are filled in black; these walls were pre-existing and likely to be from the earliest phase of the parsonage.
SoHI (2005) 11.
Figure 2.31  Ground floor plan of reception house as designed by Vernon, with an inset of the reception room.
Note the identified pre-existing walls and the built up doors and windows in around the reception room and office. SoHI (2005) 11.
Figure 2.32  Elevation and floor plan of 1903 extension.
Note again the black lines indicating the pre-existing 1880s walls. SoHI (2005) 12.
Figure 2.33  1959 Floor plan of Kirkwood house.
Figure 2.34  
Church Street in 1973 with Reception House at the far left
Hunter Photobank, K.G. Edwards, 12/03/1973, 047 000398

Figure 2.35  
Taken from Plans in CMP (2005) Section 3.6.
3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Archaeological investigation at Kirkwood House was undertaken in two phases. Carried out under an Exception to s140 of the Heritage Act 1977 (see Volume 3 Appendix 12.1.2), initial testing in July-August 2008 aimed to expose and identify significant relics from the 19th century occupation was conducted in order to guide the proposed development. The proposed development sought to minimize the impact of foundations on any archaeological remains from that horizon. Six test trenches were excavated: Trenches 1 and 2 within the Parsonage building, Trenches 3 and 4 in the east wing and Trenches 5 and 6 in the courtyard flanked by these buildings (Figure 3.1).

Testing revealed that significant relics survived, particularly within the Parsonage building, and more comprehensive excavation proceeded in March-April 2009 under s140 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Permit 2008/S140/15 see Volume 3 Appendix 12.1.1). The location, extent and depth of these excavations were determined by the impact of the development. In the west room and hallway of the Parsonage building, the removal of all deposits above the natural horizon was required. In the east room excavation ceased at a layer of sand and structural debris, except for three tests pits which were excavated to a depth of the original foundation trenching and/or natural sand. The cellar was cleared of debris but a thin floor deposit was not removed. All structural elements were left intact.

Overall, excavation of the Parsonage underfloor spaces mainly involved the removal of debris deposits with cut features variously excavated and sampled. The lowest deposits in the hallway and east room appeared to be occupation accumulation on construction debris, and the thin deposit on the cellar floor also may have been an accumulation. Overlying debris in these spaces also contained occupation artefacts but no distinct accumulation horizons were observed. With equivalent debris over natural and a defined basal deposit as in the hallway and east room not evident, the west room appeared to have been heavily disturbed.

Outside the Parsonage building eight trenches 0.6m² were laid according to the location of pier foundations implemented for the development (see Figure 3.2). Exterior Trenches I, V and IX were west of the East Wing; Trenches III, IV and VI within that building; and exterior Trenches VII and X along its east wall. Trench II occupied by a brick wall and Trench VIII also on the east exterior were not excavated.

For a summary of the excavation areas and relevant trench numbers see Table 3.1.

The following sections summarise the results of Test Excavation,74 as well as detailing the results of Full Excavation.

See Volume 3 of this report for the context catalogue (Section 12.2), photographic register (Section 12.3), artefact catalogue (Section 12.5) and plans register (12.4.2).

74 Also discussed in previous report (AMAC, October 2008)
### Table 3.1  Summary of Area Names, Excavation Phase and Trench Numbers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Excavation Phase</th>
<th>Trench No./Square</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parsonage Building</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>West Room (W)</td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
<td>Test Trench 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Squares A-D/1-4</td>
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<td>Hallway (C)</td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Room (E)</td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
<td>Test Trench 2 (cellar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
<td>Cellar</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Squares A-D/1-4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Test Excavation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Exterior Trenches</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Trench IX</td>
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<td>East side of 1880s wing</td>
<td>Full Excavation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trench VIII (unexcavated)</td>
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<td>Trench X</td>
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<td><strong>Monitoring</strong></td>
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<td>Parsonage Building Retaining Wall</td>
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<td>Landscaping</td>
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Figure 3.1 Plan showing location of Test Trenches
M. Parker, 2008
Figure 3.2 Plan showing Trenches I-X
Figure 3.3 Overlay showing 1827 buildings (green), 1897 buildings (red), test trench locations (blue) and yard trenches (purple)
Overlay by Vetta (2012)
3.2 METHODOLOGY

Standard archaeological excavation techniques approved by the Heritage Council of NSW and in accordance with the Heritage Manual of NSW were employed throughout the excavation. The excavation and recording methodology is based on the ‘Regentville Method’ devised for the Centre for Historical Archaeology and adapted as set out in the AMAC Excavation Manual (2006).

All excavation was manual and proceeded in reverse stratigraphic order. Within the east and west rooms of Parsonage an alphanumeric grid of 1m squares (A-D/1-4) was established beforehand and deposits were excavated, identified, weighed and sieved (5mm) accordingly. The only exception to this was surface structural debris [201] in the east room with the deposit in Squares B4, C1-4 and D1-4 removed in bulk and not sieved or weighed.

Archaeological records were maintained in accordance with the system specified in the previous report (AMAC, October 2008). These included field diary and pro forma context sheets, photography (RAW, jpeg, monochrome and slide) and scale plans and elevations with AHD levels. Pro forma quantification sheets were used for recording the number and weight of buckets representing a context or part of a context from a specific grid square.

Soil samples retained for potential palynological analysis included natural soils, pit fills and deposits other than levelling fills. Other samples included mortars, wall renders and building materials.

Artefacts were cleaned on site, bagged and identified by their source context. In the cataloguing process they were sorted and inventoried according to the Minark system (University of Sydney as expanded to date). Bagged artefacts were labelled with unique database ID numbers. Specialist analysis of all artefact groups was undertaken, with particular emphasis on those directly related to the research questions.

3.2.1 Excavation Team

Full Archaeological Excavation at the study site was carried out under the directorship of Martin Carney. The team consisted of Kevin Hickson (supervisor, archaeologist), Ivana Vetta (supervisor, archaeologist), Ben Streat (supervisor, archaeologist), Natalie Blake (archaeologist), Michelle Lau (archaeologist), Kerry Platt (surveyor), Mike Parker (planner), Jo-Ann Nelson (field assistant), Ann Hardy (field assistant) and Paul Grace (field assistant). Photography during excavation was carried out by Vetta, Streat, Blake, Carney and Lau while archival photography of the heritage building was carried out by Tony Jenner.
3.3 PARSONAGE BUILDING

3.3.1 West Room

In the testing phase Test Trench 1, measuring 1.2m x 2.15m, was laid in the southwest corner of the West Room with the aim of revealing foundations below the preserved Parsonage walls and their relationship with internal deposits (see Figure 3.4). As shown in the Harris Matrix (Figure 3.12), excavation of the room after the complete removal of the timber flooring confirmed the sequence of deposits and exposed additional features. The matrix indicates equivalent test contexts (<100) and excavation contexts (>100) and where the former were reused. Prior to excavation, a grid of 1 x 1m squares were laid across the room, with A1-4 running east along the south wall and D1-4 east along the north wall. Squares A1-2 were located in the position of Test Trench 1. For the plan of the west room see Figure 3.10 and Figure 3.11.

Although seemingly identical in nature, the surface depositions (see Figure 3.5) were removed in three parts: debris [100] on 20th century footings, debris [100a] on the original bearer footing along the west, and debris [104] on the ground. Consisting of dry press and sandstock bricks, sandstone, timber, renders and mortars in grey-brown sand, the ground deposit [104] was up to 10cm thick however particularly thinner in the central area. This debris abutted the north wall [056] and three piers [109] laid north–south across the centre of room (Figure 3.7). All four were constructed out of dry press bricks bonded with cement. With the exception of square A4 whereby a pocket of decayed timber intervened, debris [104] overlay another grey-brown sand [105] containing sandstock bricks, mortar and wall render. This sealed two deposits; occupying most of the room a mid-light grey sand [106] also had brick and render but higher amounts of mortar, and along the north a darker grey sand [107] was more rubbly and compact.

The cut levels for the later north wall and piers were unclear; below [104] and probably into [105] or possibly [106]. Along with abutting the bearer footing [103] along the west, deposit [106] sealed the foundation trench for the original south wall [053] cut into natural grey sand [108] overlying white sand [121]. Three sub-circular cuts [111, 115, 117] also occurred at this level, their fills consisting of mottled grey-white sand with a variable presence of small structural debris (sandstock brick, sandstone, mortar, render). Pit [111], measuring 63 x 75cm and 40cm deep, was the largest and all three appeared likely to be cuts for removal of vegetation.

On the north side the rubbly deposit [107] sealed a rectangular feature of sandstone blocks [119] with its length orientated east-west and also cut into the natural grey sand (Figure 3.8). It measured approximately 0.85 x 1.5m but the north side almost certainly had been truncated by trenching for the north wall. Given the likelihood of representing the base of a chimney pad, feature [119] suggested that the West Room was close to its original size.

Clearance of surface debris from the original stepped bearer footing [103] along the west wall showed continuation of the features revealed by the test excavation (see Figure 3.6). The timber lath [101] measuring $3/4 \times 2 3/4$ in\(^75\) set in mortar bedding [016] on the footing surface continued northward, as did the impression of a second lath [101a] of the same width. Like the Parsonage wall mortar, bedding [016] had shell lime but was slightly browner and with smaller shell fragments. Overlying the lath

\(^75\) Imperial measurements given for comparison with 19\(^{th}\) century standards;19 x 70mm.
and impression in one place was a corroded horseshoe, three ferrous wire nails and two fragments of thin ferrous plate [102].
Figure 3.4  West Room, Test Trench 1, final showing sondage into natural white sand [010] at junction of south wall footing [004b] and brick bearer footing [004a]. Facing south.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 1650)

Figure 3.5  West Room, start shot, showing location of Test Trench 1 and surface debris [104]. Facing west.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 248)
Figure 3.6 West Room, horseshoe & nails [102] on remnant timber [101] and timber impression [101a] in mortar bed [016] on surface of brick bearer footing [004a/103]. Facing south.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 262)

Figure 3.7 West Room, bearer piers [109] and natural grey sand [108], after removal of debris units [106, 107]. Facing west.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 266)
Figure 3.8  West Room, sandstone feature [119] set in into natural grey sand [108], later cut by north wall trench [113]. Facing west.

(AMAC 2009, Digital 286)

Figure 3.9  West Room, final after heavy rain, including excavated Pits [111, 115, 117]. Facing west.

(AMAC 2009, Digital 331)
Figure 3.10 Parsonage building, plan of West Room and Hallway, M. Parker (2009).
Figure 3.11  West Room showing location of excavation squares.
Base plan, M. Parker (2009).
Figure 3.12 Harris Matrix for west room of Parsonage building.
3.3.2 Hallway

The Hallway was not investigated during the testing phase, and all deposits above natural were removed during the excavation. Below the timber flooring [001], the surface deposit [300] (Figure 3.13), ranging between 6-14cm in thickness, consisted of timber, sandstock brick, wall plaster and rubble in a loose sand matrix with ferrous nails and a small amount of shell. The underlying layer [300a], ranging between 8-16cm in thickness, was very similar but contained a higher amount of brick and wall plaster. Between the two at the southern end was a patch of river pebbles within grey sand [301]. Layer [300a] sealed the foundation trench [304] for the northern wall [309] of dry press bricks bonded with cement. This trench cut grey sand [302] containing significant amounts of mortar, sandstock bricks and timber. Part of this deposit was initially removed as [302a] in a test at the southern end of the hallway and showed that it sealed the foundation trench for the original southern wall which was cut into natural white sand [305a] (Figure 3.14). The removal of the remainder of layer [302] revealed that parts of the foundation trenches for the east and west walls had cut a remnant patch of natural grey sand [306] overlying white sand [305]. Most of area’s surface was a mix of the two (Figure 3.15). Figure 3.10 is a plan recorded at this level. Consult Figure 3.17 for a diagram of the Harris matrix.

All three original walls were sandstock brick bonded with shell lime mortar, although the east and west walls had been reduced to near ground level and supported later dry press brick walls [318, 319] positioned on metal damp courses. As in the West Room, the south wall [310] of the hallway was set on a sandstone rubble footing [311] subsequently set in a foundation trench [317]. The east wall [307] also had a sandstone footing but at a lower level. The west wall [308] was very different, partly positioned within a trench but at the south end sitting on brick rubble at the trench surface (Figure 3.16).
Figure 3.13  Hallway, start shot showing surface debris [300]. Facing north (AMAC 2009, Digital 246)

Figure 3.14  Hallway Test Trench 1, cut into sand & debris layer [302], exposing original south wall [310] on sandstone footing [311] laid into natural white/grey sand [305], Facing south (AMAC 2009, Digital 293)
Figure 3.15  Hallway, final shot, showing metal damp courses over remnant Parsonage walls cut into natural grey sand [306] over white sand [305], later trench for Reception House wall at north. Facing north (AMAC 2009, Digital 373)

Figure 3.16  Hallway, wall [308] set on brick rubble [312]. Facing west (AMAC 2009, Digital 374)
Figure 3.17 Harris Matrix for Hallway of Parsonage building
K. Hickson (2011)
3.3.3 East Room

In the testing phase, Test Trench 2 of 1.2 x 2m at the northwest corner of the East Room revealed that this particular section of the original Parsonage had two rooms; the north over a cellar and a south room with underfloor space. The latter was not investigated at this time and, as shown in the joint Harris matrix (Figure 3.33), equivalence between test excavation contexts (<100) and full excavation contexts (>200) only occur with deposits in the cellar and with common structural elements. Prior to excavation of the southern underfloor space, a grid of 1 x 1m squares was laid, with A1-4 running north along the west wall and D1-4 running north along the east wall (Figure 3.32). For a plan of the room and cellar refer to Figure 3.31.

3.3.3.1 Southeast Room

The highest deposit [200] in the south room consisted of brick dust and mortar along the ledges of footings and on the ground surface below walls where it sealed the primary surface deposit [201] (Figure 3.18). This deposit was initially numbered in Square A1, with equivalents [205-211] in Squares A2-4 and B1-4 on the western side of a central bearer wall [231], however later applied to the bulk removal of surface debris from Squares C1-4 and D1-4 on the eastern side. It consisted of brown silty sand with plentiful sandstock brick, mortar, timbers and splintered floorboards. At the northern deposit [201], sealed grey sand [215] ranging 2-17cm in thickness and containing brick, wood, stone and larger amounts of mortar and plaster was found. At the southeast [201] overlay deposit [216] of brick dust, plaster and mortar was found to range between 10-16cm in thickness. Both [215] and [216] overlayed grey sand [204] containing sandstock brick, mortar, wood and sandstone fragments, whereby laid across the remaining area directly under surface debris [201]. Similarly with that deposit, [204] was initially numbered in Square A1 with equivalents [212-214] in Squares A2 & B1-2 however later applied to the whole room. Once fully exposed it was clear that three bearer piers abutting the east wall and two abutting the west wall had all been constructed with dry press brick and bonded with cement which had subsequently been cut into layer [204]. The cuts along the east wall were sealed by lens deposits [215] and [216].

No cuts for the original structural elements were found at this level. These included the south, east and west walls [236, 237, 256], a brick hearth-guard platform [236b] abutting the chimney part of the south wall, and a central brick bearer wall [231] running north from that platform (see Figure 3.19-Figure 3.20). Due to the level of impact of the development, excavation ceased with the exposure of [204] except for three tests pits laid in Squares A4, B1 and D1, of which two were excavated to the natural sand surface.

A test pit placed in Square A4 measuring 50 x 100cm was located at the northwest corner of the room, between an apparent pier [247] and the southern wall of the cellar. The sand and debris layer [204] here numbered [204b] and overlay the cut for pier [247], which was backfilled with grey sand [239b] containing small sandstock brick fragments. In order to clearly reveal that trench [242] for the western cellar wall was cut into natural, it required removal of some mottled grey sand [239a] (see Figure 3.21). While the excavator noted that pier fill [239b] and trench fill [239] were very similar, and that the cut for the pier through this trench was not clearly evident, its existence seems likely. This is due to the presence of bricks and mortar identical to the central bearer wall; this feature probably having been added after the construction of the west wall and laid into its filled trench. With the ends of both
showing cut bricks, the apparent pier may have been originally part of the bearer wall and the connecting section was later demolished so as to turn its west end into a pier.

The test pit in Square B1 measuring 50 x 50cm was located against the south wall and western side of the hearth platform [236b]. The sand and debris layer [204], here numbered [204c], overlay a mid to dark grey sand [240] with inclusions of sandstock brick and mortar and approximately measuring 5-7cm in thickness. This sealed 5cm of lighter grey sand [240a] with very small sandstock brick fragments abutting the hearth-guard platform. Although underlying sandstone rubble in light grey sand [240b] which prevented further excavation (Figure 3.22), it appeared to be construction debris possibly sealing or positioned within a foundation trench for the south wall. The sandstone footing for that wall continued downward, with [240b] running under the hearth-guard platform also confirming that this structure was added after the construction of the south wall and chimney, in which case, so also the central bearer wall [231].

The test pit in Square D1 of 1 x 1m was located at the southeast corner of the room. The sand and debris layer here numbered [204a] immediately overlay the foundation trench for the south and west walls cut into mottled grey-white natural sand (Figure 3.23). As with Square A4, the foundation trench was not excavated but both contained sandstock brick fragments.

Despite the numbering method giving matrix complexity to basal layer [204], it may be understood as to be sealing the Parsonage construction horizon and abutting all the original structural elements. However, whereas with the test pits in Squares A4 and D1, it physically overlays the wall foundation trenches cutting natural sand. Square B1, and most likely Square A4, showed that stratigraphically it followed the hearth platform and central bearer wall which was built after the wall and chimney construction.
Figure 3.18 East Room, start, showing accumulation of brick dust and mortar [200] below walls and surface debris [201], Facing south (AMAC 2009, Digital 254)

Figure 3.19 East Room, fireplace [230], after removal of ash deposit [203], showing cement hearth surfacing [257] also laid over brick hearth-guard structure [236b]. Facing south (AMAC 2009, Digital 260)
Figure 3.20  East Room final, showing grey sand & debris layer [204] cut for later piers; Test Trenches Sq.B1 at upper right, Sq.D1 upper left and Sq.A4 just visible at bottom right; in central area bearer wall [231] projecting northward from hearth-guard structure [236b]. Facing south  
(AMAC 2009, Digital 381)

Figure 3.21  East Room, Test Trench Sq.A4, pier cut [241] cutting foundation trench [242] for west wall and cellar wall cut into natural sand [233]. Facing west.  
(AMAC 2009, Digital 337)
Figure 3.22  East Room, Test Trench Sq.B1, showing hearth-guard structure [236b] constructed at higher level than sandstone rubble [240b] at which excavation ceased (above base of south wall footing). Facing south (AMAC 2009, Digital 354)

Figure 3.23  East Room, Test Trench Sq.D1, showing cut & fill [217-218] for pier [232] cut into surrounding debris layer [204], within test the surface of natural sand [233] cut by foundation trench [234] for south & east walls. Facing east (AMAC 2009, Digital 300)
3.3.3.2 Cellar

The revealed portion of the cellar below the northeast room consisted of three levels of sandstock brick paving; the floor, an upper level 62cm higher around the west and south (Figure 3.26), and a level 30cm higher at the southeast corner (Figure 3.27; Also see plan Figure 3.31). Referred to as floor, intermediate platform and higher platform; these levels respectively sat at 2.03m, 1.41m and 1.01m below the final timber floor surface. A slightly angled wall (about 84º) rising from the floor formed the edge of the intermediate platform. Whole bricks laid flat also formed the edge of the higher platform, although both sets of paving were mostly fragments. The floor was brick, but whether they were whole or fragmentary is not known due to a thin covering deposit [044/225] having been left in situ. An unusual aspect is the alignments of the intermediate and higher platforms being skew to the Parsonage walls, and for this reason their widths varied slightly. At the west the intermediate platform measured c41cm wide and the southwest part was around 152cm square. It narrowed to approximately 35cm in front of the hearth-guard pad then expanded to 70cms, with the higher platform being roughly 66cm in width.

The platforms abutted the east, west and south walls and a centrally located chimney pad integral with the south wall (Figure 3.24 - Figure 3.25). Having slumped forward, a brick hearth-guard pad [045] seemed not to be keyed in though both appeared to be built atop a single brick foundation pad. The west part of the south wall also had slumped however in an easterly direction (Figure 3.29). All the original brick features in the cellar appeared to be flat sandstock brick and were bonded with shell lime mortar.

In Test Trench 2, four debris deposits were recorded in the following downward order:

- **033** Surface debris [033] consisted of fragments of sandstock brick, sandstone, timber and ash, over the intermediate platform and partly within the lower cavity
- **035** Mortar patch
- **034** Coarse matrix of degraded mortar/render [034] with whole and fragmentary sandstock bricks and numerous fragments of plastered render, some with monochrome paint and the remainder a painted floral design (see Figure 3.30)
- **041a** Very similar to [034] but with plastered render carrying only monochrome paint.

In the excavation of the remainder of the cellar three debris deposits were recorded:

- **223** Loose white to brown rubble with silt, sandstock brick and sandstone fragments and large amounts of plastered wall render.
- **226** Equivalent of [223], on intermediate and higher platforms on east side.
- **227** Sandstock bricks and wood on west side of intermediate platform.

From this it appears that the platform deposits are both equivalent of test context [033], but no internal variation was observed in the debris above the cellar floor. Along with a thin (<5mm) silty/sandy/ashy deposit [044/225] left in situ on the cellar floor, deposit [223] sealed two areas of rubble sandstone blocks [219, 220] separated by a short line of sandstock bricks [221] (Figure 3.28). It is unclear if the blocks were also debris or formed some type of basic structure(s). That the bricks were likewise, or whether the excavator correctly identified them as formwork for the concrete footing for the north wall is uncertain. As shown in the Harris matrix (see...
Figure 3.33), the question posed by Test Trench 2 as to the debris having been cut for north wall construction; and if so, which deposit, also remained unresolved.
Figure 3.24  View into cellar. Facing north.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 376)

Figure 3.25  Cellar, central chimney pad and hearth-guard structure. Facing south.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 383)
Figure 3.26  Cellar, intermediate paved platform at west side, also showing concrete footing for north wall laid on the floor. Facing west.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 379)

Figure 3.27  Cellar, intermediate and higher platforms at east side. Facing east.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 380)
Figure 3.28  Cellar, sandstone blocks [219, 220] and brick line [221] sitting on deposit [225] on cellar floor. Facing east.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 351)

Figure 3.29  Cellar, west side of south wall slumped eastward, Facing south.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 352)
Figure 3.30  Cellar, sample of stencilled and hand-painted wall plaster from debris deposit [034].
(AMAC 2012)
Figure 3.31 Parsonage building, plan of East Room.
M. Parker, 2009
Figure 3.32  Plan of East Room showing square grid.
Base plan M. Parker (2009)
Figure 3.33  Harris Matrix for east room of Parsonage building.
K. Hickson (2011)
3.4 EAST WING

3.4.1 Test Excavation

3.4.1.1 Test Trench 3

Test Trench 3 (1 x 1m) was located in the southeast corner of the southernmost room of the 1880s wing (Figure 3.34). The tongue-in-groove floorboards in this room were thinner and narrower than those used in the rest of the East Wing ground floor. Surface debris [005] below the floor included fragments of bricks, timber, cement render and wall and cornice plaster in a grey sand matrix. The underlying sand fill [014a] around 17cms thick contained large amounts of yellow lime mortar, fragments of dry press and sandstock bricks, cement mortar, plaster, render, glass and ceramic artefacts and plentiful coal/coke. Although very similar the next deposit [014b], about 7cm in thickness, was distinguished on the basis of less yellow mortar, a lightening colour and fewer artefacts.

Below fill [014b] a localized patch of mortar [020] was found sitting on the top course of sandstone footing blocks and partly over a gravelly brown sand fill [019] with artefacts and structural debris (sandstock brick, substantial amounts of render). The underlying fills [025, 029] were very similar. Excavation of Test Trench 4 in the north end of the building (see below) showed that the foundation trench for the 1880s wing was a little over 1m wide. With the realization that fills [019, 025 & 029] were simply backfills of that trench, work in Test Trench 3 ceased. Further excavation appeared unlikely to yield data of any significance given an overlay showing that the Coach House did not extend this far south. For the Harris matrix see Figure 3.40.

3.4.1.2 Test Trench 4

Test Trench 4 (1.0 x 3.3m) was located along the north side of the northernmost room of the 1880s wing, adjacent to the stairwell. Overlay plans suggested that in this position the test trench was likely to cross any remains of the eastern wall of the Office north of the Coach House.

With a surface around 45cms below the existing floor level, the uppermost debris [017] (Figure 3.35) included dry press bricks, fragments of plaster cornice, unpainted plastered render with lath impressions, cement render, shell lime mortar, paper, timber, lead sheet and a piece of corrugated iron. Underlying this layer was further rubble in a fine, dusty grey sand [022] over mortar patches [023] of creamy, slightly pinkish colour and concentrated along the three walls. These sat on a second layer of rubble in fine dusty grey sand [024], sealing a line of un-bonded sandstock bricks [036] set north-south on the western side (see Figure 3.36; Figure 3.38). While the bricks were off alignment with the walls, an aligned brick partially exposed in section suggests that this is due to movement. The bricks sat upon an introduced sand fill of grey sand [028] with fragments of render, sandstock brick and plentiful amounts of coal/coke.

Fill [028] ran below several of the sandstone blocks forming the footing of the north wall [054], and sealed the foundation trench [030] for the east wall. The trench cut a fill of mixed white and grey sand [032]. A test into the trench showed it to be around 40-45cms deep with the backfill [031] almost entirely consisting of structural debris; sandstock brick, sandstone, wall render and lumps of mortar. A footing appeared at the base of the trench and to clarify the situation, the sondage was widened to remove part of fill [032]. This was found to also include large lumps of congealed
mortar and sealed the trench for a sandstone footing [037-039] with shell lime mortar on the surface of some blocks (Figure 3.37). The foundation trench cut a deposit of dark grey sand [040]; as this horizon was not excavated, it is not known whether the sand was fill or natural. Figure 3.39 shows the profile of the sondage area.

The construction level for the west wall of the room and the nature of its footing were not established. However, the base was lower than that of the north wall and a different construction method appears to have been used.
Figure 3.34  Test Trench 3, showing extent of excavation. Facing east.  
(AMAC 2008, Colour Slide, Roll 1: 01)

Figure 3.35  Test Trench 4, start shot, debris [017]. Facing northwest.  
(AMAC 2008, Colour Slide, Roll 1: 07)
Figure 3.36  Test Trench 4, brick line [036] at left and partial excavation of foundation trench [030] cut into sand fill [032]. Facing northeast. (AMAC 2008, Digital 1704)

Figure 3.37  Test Trench 4, base of sondage through fill [032], showing sandstone footing [038] in trench [037] cut into natural sand [040] at left. Facing north. (AMAC 2008, Digital 1714)
Figure 3.38 Test Trench 4 plan. M. Parker (2008)
Figure 3.39  Test Trench 4, schematic profile of sondage into fill [032].
K. Hickson (2011)
Figure 3.40 Harris Matrix for Test Trenches 3 and 4.
K. Hickson (2008)
3.4.2 Full Excavation

3.4.2.1 Trench II

This trench located between Trenches I and III was not excavated as it contained the footing for the west wall of the 1880s East Wing.

3.4.2.2 Trench III

Positioned within the same larger southern room of the 1880s East Wing as Test Trench 3, Trench III was located to the northwest but south of the Coach House, according to the overlay plan (Figure 3.3). Excavation reached a maximum depth of 57cm below surface (Figure 3.41).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench III was as follows:

- 424 Surface deposit, loose dark grey-brown sandy/silty soil with frequent structural debris (plaster, brick) and few artefacts (12-18cm)
- 440 Dark brown sandy/silty soil with frequent mortar, some small brick fragments, ferrous nails and coal
- 441 Dark brown sandy/silty soil with lenses of white sand, some small fragments of brick mortar and coal
- 442 White/grey natural sand (not excavated)

A significant find from the surface deposit [424] included a 1906 threepence.

3.4.2.3 Trench IV

Trench IV was located approximately 1m to the northwest of Trench III, still within the same room however south again of the Coach House according to overlay plans. Excavation reached a maximum depth of 30-35cm below surface (Figure 3.42).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench IV was as follows:

- 411 Surface deposit, loose dark brown-black sandy/silty soil with plentiful plaster, brick fragments and charcoal (average 20-23cm)
- 431 Fill of 432, grey sand with frequent charcoal flecks (depth 10cm)
- 432 Pit/Posthole cut, partially exposed at NE corner, 42cm x >32cm, cut into 425
- 425 White/grey natural sand (not excavated)
3.4.2.4 Trench VI

Trench VI was located in the southwest corner of the second room south of the stairwell (Figure 3.43), within the Coach House according to the overlay plan (Figure 3.3).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench VI was as follows:

• 414 Surface deposit, loose mixed grey and brown sand with structural debris (concrete, brick, mortar, wood) (9-17cm)
• 415 Grey sand with plentiful brick and plaster (20cm)
• 416 Grey sand with small structural debris, either a fill layer or fill of foundation trench for 1880s wing (not excavated)

Refer to Figure 3.44 for the Harris matrix showing these three pier trenches.
Figure 3.41  Trench III final, facing west
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 371)

Figure 3.42  Trench IV final, facing south
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 364)
Figure 3.43  Trench VI final, facing north
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 369)

**KIRKWOOD HOUSE - Interior Pier Trenches**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FILLS &amp; FEATURES</th>
<th>TRENCH III</th>
<th>TRENCH IV</th>
<th>TRENCH VI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>424 Fill (sand)</td>
<td>411 Fill (sandy)</td>
<td>414 Fill (sand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>440 Fill (sand)</td>
<td>431 Fill</td>
<td>415 Fill (sand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>441 Fill (sand)</td>
<td>432 Cut</td>
<td>416 Fill - possibly 1880s wing foundation trench</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATURAL</td>
<td>442 White/grey sand</td>
<td>425 White/grey sand</td>
<td>415 Fill (sand)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**DEPOSITS WITH MODERATE to PLENTIFUL STRUCTURAL DEBRIS**

Figure 3.44  Harris Matrix for interior Trenches III, IV and VI
K. Hickson (2011)
3.5 EXTERIOR TRENCHES

3.5.1 West Side of 1880s Wing: Test Excavation

3.5.1.1 Test Trench 5

The aim of this test was to establish the survival of the footing for the eastern wall of the west wing behind the Parsonage house. It appears that a robbed footing trench [060] occurs in the right location but the area was badly disturbed. While the concrete base for a modern retaining wall along Newcomen Street was one contributor to this disturbance, lower horizons indicate very uneven filling [059-059a] over a deposit of churned grey and white sands [061] on natural white sand [010] (Figure 3.45 and Figure 3.46).

The robbed footing trench was identified on the basis of localized fragments of sandstone and sandstock brick, a likely cut and, in a small test into the fill, what appeared to be the ghosts of stones set into the natural white sand (Figure 3.47).

Figure 3.45  Test Trench 5, mixed sands [061] over truncated natural white sand [010]. Facing west.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 1844)
Figure 3.46  Test Trench 5, north section showing mixed fills over churned grey and white sands over truncated natural white sand.  
(AMAC 2008, Slide Roll 3 Frame 16)

Figure 3.47  Test Trench 5, robbed footing trench [060]. Facing west.  
(AMAC 2008, Slide Roll 3 Frame 34)
KIRKWOOD - TEST TRENCH 5
West end - test of robbed footing trench
Indicative levels

Base (toe) of western retaining wall (Newcomen Street)

- 30.51 Surface of robbed footing trench
- 30.44 Surface of natural sand (white)
- 30.33 Base of robbed footing trench

Figure 3.48 Test Trench 5, schematic plan of west end.
K. Hickson (2008)
3.5.1.2 Test Trench 6

Test Trench 6 was positioned to determine the survival of the northern wall footing of the Kitchen & Servants Quarters wing on the south side of the courtyard behind the Parsonage house. Below overburden(s) disturbed by machine movements during demolition, a layer of dark grey loamy sand [062] 8-9cm in thickness was found on the west side running over the remains of a sandstone footing [066] (Figure 3.49 and Figure 3.50). While containing numerous small fragments of mortar and sandstone where it did so, this sand was otherwise generally clean. It sealed a layer of mid-grey loamy sand [063] 5-6cm in thickness, generally clean and appearing to abut the footing. Underlying was a deposit of mixed loamy grey and white sands [064] into which the footing trench [067] was cut. This horizon was partially revealed but not excavated. Figure 3.51 shows the profile of the footing and deposits along the north side.

The east portion of Test Trench 6 was badly disturbed, in part by machining and in part by a service trench with ferrous pipe (water/gas). The footing in this area had been robbed and backfilled, and while the relationship is uncertain it appears likely that the higher dark sand [062] also sealed the robbed trench. It also appeared that the mixed sands layer [064] cut by the trench was sloping eastwards.

Figure 3.49  Test Trench 6, final showing footing [066] and remnant fill [073] in robbed footing trench [067]. Facing east. (AMAC 2008, Digital 1875)
Figure 3.50  Test Trench 6, schematic plan.
K. Hickson (2008)
Figure 3.51 Test Trench 6, schematic section.
K. Hickson (2008)
3.5.2 West Side of 1880s Wing: Full Excavation

3.5.2.1 Trench I

Trench I was at the southwest corner of the piers grid; to the west of the 1880s wing and south of the location of the Kitchen & Servants Quarters wing on the southern side of the courtyard behind the Parsonage residence. The trench reached a depth of 81cm before encountering natural white sand (Figure 3.52 and Figure 3.53).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench I was as follows:

- **412** Surface deposit, dark grey sandy loam with some brick and plaster fragments, nails coal and slate (16-21cm)
- **413** Fill – orange-brown sand with rubble, on sheets of rusted/burnt iron (4-6cm)
- **426** Fill – grey sandy loam with plentiful burnt coal/coke (6cm)
- **426a** Fill – burnt coal/coke (0.5-4cm)
- **434** Fill – brown sand with some fragments of brick, mortar and charcoal (4cm)
- **435** Fill – yellow/grey sand (0.5-15cm)
- **436** Fill – dark greybrown sand with plentiful burnt coal/coke, some brick (0.5-17cm)
- **437** Deposit - two grey-brown sand lenses with brick and mortar fragments, mud oyster shells and artefacts (1.5cm)
- **438** Dark grey-brown sand (possibly natural)
- **439** White sand (natural, not excavated)
Figure 3.52  Trench I final, east section.
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 392)

Figure 3.53  Trench I final, west section.
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 393)
3.5.2.2 Trench V

Trench V was located 5m north of Trench I and, according to the plans overlay, within the eastern part of the Kitchen & Servants Quarters wing on the south side of the courtyard behind the Parsonage residence. Excavation reached a depth of 46cm mostly through natural white sand (Figure 3.54).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench V was as follows:

- 407 Fill – grey sandy soil with brick and sandstone fragments (9-20cm)
- 408 Natural grey-white sand (excavated to depth required)

![Trench V final, west section.](AMAC, 2009, Digital 360)
3.5.2.3 Trench IX

Trench IX was located on the eastern side of the courtyard at the rear of the Parsonage residence and 4.85m north of Trench V. It was initially positioned to partly incorporate a concrete slab but able to be moved southward to the edge of that slab. Excavation reached a depth of 55 cm below surface (Figure 3.55).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench IX was as follows:

- **417** Fill – Surface deposit, loose grey sand with structural debris (brick, wood, mortar) (11-13cm)
- **418** Concrete drain, along edge of concrete slab behind Parsonage building
- **419** Cut - trench for 418 cut into 422
- **420** Fill - yellow sand in 419
- **422** Fill of 421, grey sand with structural debris (brick, wood, mortar)
- **421** Cut, possibly for concrete slab behind Parsonage building, cuts 423
- **423** Fill – grey sand with charcoal and small brick and mortar fragments (5-7cm)
- **427** Fill – white to grey sand with shell and fragments of mortar and sandstone (7-9cm)
- **428** Fill – clean grey sand (10-12cm)
- **429** Fill – brick and sandstone rubble (2cm)
- **430** Natural sand, stained black by ash/charcoal
- **433** Natural white sand (excavated to depth required)

![Figure 3.55    Trench IX, final, west section.](AMAC, 2009, Digital 367)
3.5.3 East Side of 1880s Wing: Test Excavation

This area of the study site was not assessed during the testing phase of these archaeological works.

3.5.4 East Side of 1880s Wing: Full Excavation

3.5.4.1 Trench VII

This trench was located just outside the third room south from the stairwell of the 1880s wing and, according to the plans overlay, east of the location of the Coach House. Excavation reached a maximum depth of 38cm below surface (Figure 3.56).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench VII was as follows:

- 404 Surface deposit, loose brown-grey sand structural debris (mortar, plaster, brick) and some coal (ave.10cm)
- 406 Fill – loose mixed grey/yellow sands with frequent plaster and brick fragments
- 409 Salt-glazed ceramic service pipe & trench fill
- 443 Service trench, cut into 410
- 410 Yellow sand with grey mottling (not excavated)

3.5.4.2 Trench VIII

Located between Trenches VII and X on the east side of the East Wing, Trench VIII was not excavated as it appeared highly unlikely to yield additional data.

3.5.4.3 Trench X

This trench was located 7.25m north of Trench VII, immediately adjacent to the east wall of the 1880s wing and, according to the overlay plan, east of the Office to the north of the Coach House. Excavation reached a maximum depth of 42cm below surface (Figure 3.57, Figure 3.59).

The stratigraphic sequence in Trench X was as follows:

- 400 Surface deposit, mixed grey-brown sand with gravel and structural debris (brick, sandstone, wood, mortar, plastered render) (10cm spit)
- 401 Fill – mixed grey/brown/yellow sands with sandstone and brick fragments (20cm)
- 402 Trench cut for sandstone footing for 1880s wing, cuts 447
- 403 Fill – in trench cut 402
- 405 Sandstone footing for 1880s wing
- 447 Fill - mixed grey/brown sandy with sandstock/samel brick fragments (not excavated). Equivalent of internal Test Trench 4 [032]
Figure 3.56  Trench VII final, facing east.
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 363)

Figure 3.57  Trench X final, facing south.
(AMAC, 2009, Digital 341)
Figure 3.58 Harris matrix for exterior trenches.
K. Hickson (2011)
3.6 TRENCH DEPTHS AND NATURAL LEVELS

Table 3.2 shows the start and end AHD levels for the full excavation trenches. In the start levels the upper readings were taken during survey with a total station just prior to excavation, the figures in parentheses were taken earlier when the squares had been pegged. In the case of Trench IX the large discrepancy is explicable by movement off the concrete slab. Those that show slight difference are likely due to placement of the staff and/or the surface soil settling with rain, but the 10cm difference in Trench V is more difficult to explain. The survey readings were used for calculating trench depths since they were closer in time to excavation commencing.

Table 3.2 Full Excavation trenches, AHD levels and maximum depths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trench</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>III</th>
<th>IV</th>
<th>V</th>
<th>VI</th>
<th>VII</th>
<th>IX</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHD</td>
<td>30.74</td>
<td>30.40</td>
<td>30.36</td>
<td>30.62</td>
<td>30.48</td>
<td>30.49</td>
<td>30.69</td>
<td>30.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(30.78)</td>
<td>(30.36)</td>
<td>(30.52)</td>
<td>(30.50)</td>
<td>(30.50)</td>
<td>(30.99)</td>
<td>(30.40)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHD</td>
<td>29.93</td>
<td>29.83</td>
<td>30.01</td>
<td>30.16</td>
<td>30.03</td>
<td>30.11</td>
<td>30.14</td>
<td>29.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(cm)</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3.60 shows AHD levels on natural sand where exposed in test and pier trenches, and in the West Room and Hallway of the Parsonage building. Where larger expanses occurred the levels are representative (see full plans for the complete array of levels). The levels in Square A4 and Trench V are approximate; in the former some natural was removed to better reveal a Parsonage foundation trench, in the latter it is based on the recorded depth of the overlying surface deposit. The level in Test Trench 4 assumes the grey sand exposed at the base of the sondage and cut by the Office footing, was natural. See Figure 3.59 for final trench plans.
Figure 3.59 Full Excavation – Plan showing yard test pits
M. Parker (2009)
Figure 3.60  Levels on natural sand surfaces.
K. Hickson (2011)
3.7 MONITORING OF WORKS

3.7.1 Parsonage Building

In terms of additional data monitoring for reduction of the Parsonage building revealed that only the hallway walls survived below the concreted forecourt at the west (Figure 3.61).

Figure 3.61 Parsonage building, west part, showing survival of hallway walls below forecourt concreting and fill. Facing northwest. (AMAC 2009, Digital 0916)
3.7.2 Retaining wall

A retaining wall of semi-dressed sandstone blocks preserved in the garden area, to the northeast of the 1880s wing (Figure 3.62), was in a position very similar to that shown on the 1896 plan (Figure 2.25). At the west it was butted a cement-rendered sandstock brick retaining wall (Figure 3.63) running northward to where it was truncated by the boundary wall of dry press brick. Both were overlaid by a dry press barrier wall along the east perimeter of a garden forecourt at the north end of the 1880s wing. The southward continuation of the sandstone wall was revealed by the removal of a wall and stair structure of dry press brick immediately in front. Preserved to a maximum height of 2m, the wall extended over 11.6m then curved westward and disappeared into fill.

Bonded with mineral lime mortar, the wall was built according to the ‘Squared Rubble in Courses’\textsuperscript{76} technique, whereby each main course consists of spaced large blocks with two courses of infill between. In subsequent courses the large block is set over the central part of the infill; here smaller sandstone blocks and occasional sandstock brick, which crosses the larger block below. As shown in the elevation (Figure 3.68), the technique was not precisely adhered to and Figure 3.67 shows a regularized schematic of the method. Where the wall curved west only, large blocks were employed and the technique was not used whereby a demolished steps structure was marked by projecting blocks and cavities (Figure 3.65). The wall was equipped with two seepage vents each side of the stairs. A notable feature was oysters adhering to some blocks, indicating that the wall at least in part was constructed through re-use of stone from a structure exposed to tidal movement (from possibly a site on the Hunter River).

\textsuperscript{76} Sharp (1946), Figure 5
Figure 3.62  Sandstone retaining wall to northeast of 1880s wing. Facing west.  
(AMAC 2008, Digital 1866)

Figure 3.63  Stone retaining wall abutted by rendered sandstock brick wall overlaid by dry press brick wall. Facing west.  
(AMAC 2008, Digital 1869)
Figure 3.64  Retaining wall, later walls to right and remnant in front. Facing southwest.  
(AMAC 2008, Digital 1856)

Figure 3.65  Retaining wall, location of stairs. Facing west.  
(AMAC 2008, Digital 1871)
Figure 3.66  Retaining wall, extending south then curving west. Facing northwest.
(AMAC 2008, Slide Roll 3 Frame 3)

Figure 3.67  Retaining wall, regularized schematic of construction method.
K. Hickson (2011)
Figure 3.68  Elevation of sandstone retaining wall.
M. Parker (2008)
3.7.3 Boiler

AMAC were called to the study site in September 2009 to inspect the accidental discovery of a boiler or tank. The tank was not within permit ambit and within an area expected to have been retained in situ. The NSW Heritage Branch was consulted, and in liaison with AMAC an endorsement for its removal and recording was obtained. The NSW Heritage Branch required archival records of the tank be made. This work was carried out in two phases: in situ recording, and ex situ archival recording of the form. Plans, archival photographs and elevations were made (see Figure 3.69 to Figure 3.72).

3.7.4 Landscaping

In July 2010 AMAC were called to site to discuss the impact of landscaping on the former bowling green area. At the same time inspections were made to the condition of the retained wall, and a collection of timbers retained from roofing and flooring that were believed to have been a part of the original parsonage.

AMAC provided recommendations about the potential impact of landscaping (nil), and the condition of the wall, and confirm that the timbers set aside were indeed those collected during works.

3.7.5 Further Work

In July 2010 AMAC reviewed a series of interpretation options and data proposed. It was noted at the time that the conditions of the permit prevented AMAC from carrying out this work other than assisting in the provision of archaeological data.
Figure 3.69  Plan and elevation of boiler. 
Platt (2009)
Figure 3.70 Location of boiler (tank) in context with the study site.
Platt (2009)
Figure 3.71  Boiler in situ.  
(AMAC Digital 1079)

Figure 3.72  Boiler post removal.  
(AMAC Digital 1162)
4.0 BUILT STRUCTURE: FORMER 1819 PARSONAGE & 1902 RECEPTION HOUSE

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The process of recording surviving elements of the original Parsonage building and later changes was undertaken in several stages. These observations were recorded during inspections of the complex (June 2007- April 2008), initial demolition works (April-July 2008), Archaeological Test Excavation (July-August 2008), Full Archaeological Excavation (March-April 2009), hand demolition of the bulk of the Reception House superstructure (June 2009) and also subsequent minor excavations, monitoring, recording and inspections during construction of replacement building during 2009-2010. A full register of images collected during these works can be found in the Photographic Volume accompanying this report.

The stages of data collection have been summarised in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1  Summary of Phases of Recording of Parsonage Building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase of Recording</th>
<th>Description of Condition</th>
<th>Recording</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Initial inspection of fabric</td>
<td>Prior to Demolition Works</td>
<td>Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>Inspection of various stages of initial demolition works</td>
<td>During roof/ceiling removal</td>
<td>Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>Inspection of various stages of initial demolition works</td>
<td>After removal of interior panelling and exposure of batons and a stud wall, prior to removal of timber floors</td>
<td>Archival photography and scale elevations of walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Archaeological Test Excavation and recording</td>
<td>After removal of interior panelling and exposure of batons and a stud wall, prior to removal of timber floors (floor boards lifted in location of test trenches)</td>
<td>Archival photography associated with test trenches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Full Archaeological Excavation and recording</td>
<td>After removal of floorboards, underfloor elements of walls exposed</td>
<td>Elevations completed, archival photography of underfloor elements of walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Final demolition and conservation measures</td>
<td>Demolition of walls to level required for development, retention and conservation of section of wall</td>
<td>Photography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Monitoring of construction works</td>
<td>Construction works</td>
<td>Photography</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This work, whilst not all within the ambit of the archaeological work, was considered necessary in the understanding the structure in toto.
structure, this site was not listed on the State Heritage Register; archival recording was conducted, however there exists no statutory requirement to carry out analysis of the built fabric. This work was not commissioned, contracted, subject to the act or any permit thereunder, however the situation demanded that this gap in statutory or contractual obligation be filled. The following section gives a detailed analysis of the built structure and how it was modified from the original Parsonage building to the later Reception House. These observations and their interpretation form a third matrix of data with which to augment and analyse the past of the Parsonage site.

Analysis of the interior fabric of the building, such as the ceiling and wall cladding, is given in Section 4.7. This data interlocks with both the core construction data (see Section 4.2 - Section 4.6) and archaeological material (Section 3.0), as was physically bonded to the core of the building and affected by its alteration, and has left remnants in the archaeological record.

Historical accounts of development and known plans can be found in Volume 1, Section 2.0. This section should be read in conjunction with the archaeological evidence (Section 3.0) recorded within the rooms, the initial inspection report (see Volume 3 Appendix 12.7), comments thereto by John Carr (April 2008) and on data relating to all portions of the Parsonage/Reception House structure presented in the preceding Sections 4.2-4.7.

4.2 SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION PHASES

The principal phases of use and construction of the former Parsonage and Reception building can be divided into three: Parsonage (1819-1902), Reception House (1902-1970s) and State Health Credit Union/ARAFMI Offices/Other (1970s-2007). An overview of the construction and modification to the building over these three phases is provided here.

4.2.1 Original Parsonage – 1819-1902

The form of the original Parsonage envelope was not apparently altered during this period. The Parsonage was erected atop sandstone rubble footings set into foundation trenches cut into natural sand sloping eastward. As shown along the south, the west part was laid into the slope and the footing dropped accordingly, with around 25-40cm exposed above the natural surface. The east part being set lower appears to have involved slope removal; the sandstone footings for the west wall and west part of the south wall being set deeper, and the lower parts of those walls acting as retaining walls. All of the original masonry was bonded with a very hard, exceptionally resilient and indurate, shell lime mortar. The strength of this bonding is very similar to that seen at other early colonial structures such as the Government constructed gaol at Port Macquarie (constructed between 1837 and 1840).

The walls were of samel-style bricks laid in English bond. The bricks ranged in size slightly with the height ranging between 56mm-70m while the length ranged from 214-227mm; an example of brick sizes as recorded during Test Excavation is presented in Table 4.2. Exposed only along the south wall, the height to which they were preserved above the footing varied, around 3.1-3.2m at the west and around 3.6m or just under 12ft at the east end. Perhaps excepting its height, the south wall survived in its entirety. About 5.6m of the east wall survived and about 3m of the west wall. The Hallway walls survived to just below floor level and, as shown by post-excision monitoring, they also survive outside the north wall of Reception House.
Analysis of the remaining fabric in the three rooms however shows that, apart from minor repairs, a door was in-filled on the eastern wall and remodelling of the south wall also occurred in the southeast room (see Section 4.3.1-4.3.2) and two windows were also bricked up on the south wall of the west room which were barely visible during inspection. These changes may have occurred as part of the 1902 refurbishment. Some modifications to the subfloor bearer support system were made in the southeast room during this phase (see Section 4.3).

All of the built sections in the northwest room and approximately 50% of the northeast room of the original manse were removed in 1902. Archaeological evidence for these rooms remains. The Hallway foundations are an original feature however the superstructure of the walls were removed and re-built, apparently in 1902 (see Section 4.4).

Table 4.2 Sandstock brick sizes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>DB No.</th>
<th>Height (mm)</th>
<th>Width (mm)</th>
<th>Length (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW ROOM – Test Trench 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003a</td>
<td>0116</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003a</td>
<td>0116</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003a</td>
<td>0115</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003a</td>
<td>0117</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003a</td>
<td>0114</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>104</td>
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<td>003a</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>003a</td>
<td>0045</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CELLAR – Test Trench 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>041</td>
<td>0018</td>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>105-107</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
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<td>67</td>
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<td>223-227</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>041a</td>
<td>0050</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.2 Reception House – 1902-1970s

Vernon’s Reception House, built in 1902-03, was an L-shaped structure longer at the east, and required the demolition of the Parsonage excepting for the parts that Vernon determined could be retained. New north walls of dry press bricks laid in so-called garden-wall bond and mortared with cement were built, with partial extensions southward along the east and west to join with the retained walls. New hallway walls were built atop the retained lower parts with a metal damp course between. New sections with air vents were also added to the tops of the retained east, south and west walls; whether these replaced demolished parts or raised the older ceiling level by some 60cm is not known. The exterior of the new and retained sections then being cement rendered is indicated by the render covering and encasing a window.
in the east wall of the East Room. Although these windows are shown on the 1902 plan they may not have been retained in the redevelopment of the building. Vernon’s plan for east room shows two doors in east wall as being “built up”, for the west room one window in the west wall and two in the south wall; the latter were also “built up” (Figure 4.1). Inspection of these walls has found that Vernon reused the original bricks and a mineral lime mortar in order to brick up these recesses. The northern window in the west room would have been positioned in the new wall however there was no evidence for this window during site work.

The following sections have been ordered so as to show the drawn elevation comprising features above and below floor level, photography of features above floor level then photography of features exposed below floor level.

![Figure 4.1](image)

Figure 4.1 A summary of the major changes recorded to the site. 1896; pre Vernon House, 1902, after construction of the Vernon Reception House and 1959, post Vernon House.

Note the changes in particular to the north wall.

Table 4.3 shows the room sizes for the Parsonage and Reception House. The truncated southwest room of the Parsonage was most probably the same length as the southeast room, which may have been a little longer than 4.21m, allowing for a bearer ledge on the north wall. The southwest room also may have been a little wider allowing for a bearer ledge on the east wall, and so too the hallway allowing for bearer ledges on both sides. The size of the west room in Reception House was originally slightly larger with the bay window in the north wall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Length (N-S)</th>
<th>Width (E-W)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parsonage</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest room</td>
<td>&gt;4.08m</td>
<td>4.13m / 13ft 6½ in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast room</td>
<td>&gt; 2.09m</td>
<td>4.32m / 14ft 2in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast room</td>
<td>4.21m / 13ft 10in</td>
<td>4.32m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallway</td>
<td>&gt;4.10m</td>
<td>1.52m / 5ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reception House</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West room</td>
<td>4.17m / 13ft 8in</td>
<td>4.3m / 14ft 1¼ in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East room</td>
<td>6.53m / 21ft 5in</td>
<td>4.32m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallway</td>
<td>4.17m</td>
<td>1.73m / 5ft 8in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2.3 State Health Credit Union, ARAFMI Offices & Other Uses c1970s-2007

By the 1970s, the decay of original and later additions, appear to have been beyond a satisfactory repair. A series of skin surfaces were installed on all walls and the ceiling, effectively concealing all earlier works, while narrowing the actual area of the rooms. The east rooms, like that of the west rooms, had separate functions. The physical evidence indicates different treatments among certain rooms; whether or not all of these occurred precisely the same time is not clear.

4.3 EAST ROOM

4.3.1 East Elevation

The original east wall exhibited the largest area of brick disintegration; in some cases half the brick had turned to dust (Figure 4.3 to Figure 4.5). Patches of adhering render showed the wall had been plastered (Figure 4.6). During the Reception House modification, this wall was retained to the edge of the intermediate platform in the cellar, above which it stood 4.27m\(^77\) high. In the lower cavity a form of concrete footing made with cemented sandstone and brick rubble built up to the level of the platform, supported the new wall (Figure 4.7).

In the south room three bearer piers were set against the lower part of the east wall (Figure 4.8), and removal of a door and closure of the cavity probably also occurred at this time. Vernon’s plan of 1902 (Figure 3.1) details a door in this location which it describes as “built up”. It is likely that the door was bricked in during the 1902 renovation using the abundance original bricks available from demolished sections of the building; however it may be the case that Vernon was indicating a feature that had already been filled in. There is no evidence of the northern doorway seen in the 1902 plan, this appears to have been removed during the 1902 works.

Two timber beams are set into the wall, just above the last floor level. It is likely that these timber beams once ran the length of the wall, as the bricks in line with these timbers appear to have been part of a repair and they may have been inserted to replace rotted timber beams. The function of this timber, built into the wall is unclear. It is possible that these beams are remnant of the original floor level however they have no practical purpose for a floor which would have been supported by bearers and joists and would have also made the floor level too high for the fireplace. Timber at this level was not noted on any of the other walls in this room however the south wall did have similar timber beams built in below the ceiling level (see below Section 4.3.2).

No foundations data is available for the cellar under the northeast room of the Parsonage. It had three levels of brick paving bonded with shell lime mortar; the floor, an intermediate platform 62cm higher around the west and south, and a small platform 30cm higher at the southeast corner. With its top of bricks laid flat forming the edging of the intermediate platform, the sidewall rose above the floor at an angle of about 6\(^\circ\) off the vertical (see Section 3.3.3.2). The small higher platform also had edging of whole bricks laid flat but both sets of paving were predominantly half-bricks. It is unclear if the floor consisted of half-bricks as the surface deposit was left in situ. The cellar floor sat 2.05m or just under 6ft 9in below the surface of the latest timber floor in the East Room. Even allowing for bearers and joists, this would

\(^{77}\) 14ft.
suggest the majority of people at the time of its construction would have been able to stand erect in the cellar.

Cellar platform widths along the south varied due to their walls having a slight NW-SE alignment, about 3º skew to the Parsonage walls. This resulted in the end width of the intermediate platform being 1.52m at the west and 1.32m at the east, with half the latter taken up by the higher platform approximately 66cm wide. Westward it narrowed to approximately 35cm wide in front of a hearth-guard platform then expanded into an area around 152cm². The exposed part running north along the west wall had a slight skew to the east, its commencing width of 41cm increased by 2cm over 68cm of length. For photographs of the cellar see Section 3.3.3.2.

The northeast room was equipped with a fireplace on the south wall; the chimney pad (0.47 x 1.16m⁷⁸) was integrated with the common wall. Laid prior to the intermediate level paving, a brick foundation pad for the chimney also supported a hearth-guard platform (0.55 x 1.22m⁷⁹), but this was not integral with the chimney. Reduced to below fireplace level, both platforms stood to approximately 1m above the intermediate level of paving then were used to support two Reception House bearer piers.

⁷⁸ 18½ x 47in.
⁷⁹ 21 5/8in x 4ft.
Figure 4.2  East Room, east elevation. M. Parker (2011)
Figure 4.3  East Room, east elevation (north part).
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5329)

Figure 4.4  East Room, east elevation (south part).
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5332)
Figure 4.5  East Room, east elevation with closed door recess and render adhering to original wall at right.
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5324)
Figure 4.6  East Room, east wall, detail of bricks and adhering render.
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5374)

Figure 4.7  East Room, join of original east wall and Reception House wall. Facing northeast.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 4213)
Figure 4.8  East Room, Reception House piers abutting original east wall. Facing east.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 4894)
4.3.2 South Elevation

Most of the south elevation above floor level consisted of original wall with a central chimney flanked by arched recesses 2.23m\(^80\) high and one brick length deep, with the east recess 1.2m\(^81\) wide and the west 1.14m\(^82\) (Figure 4.9 to Figure 4.19). A load-bearing timber beam was inserted in the wall immediately above the peak of each arch. While the wall carried only traces of render, a layer of plaster which was painted salmon pink, was preserved on the underside of the west arch (Figure 4.12).

Whether by design or fault, most of the south wall and chimney of the east room, was entirely re-built at an early time during the use of the Parsonage. The chimney may have been faulty or unstable. The resulting works included an inglenook either side of the chimney (it is not clear if these replaced earlier versions) and chimney. The re-built section utilised much of the material from the modified section and the brick work includes bricks already subjected to fire and positioned in sporadic locations; presumably recycled from the earlier version of the fireplace (Figure 4.14).

Like the upper section of the wall containing air vents, the upper chimney was an addition to Reception House and comprised of cement rendered dry press bricks with plain linear mouldings around the upper part. The cast-iron fireplace was most probably installed at this time, following the cement surfacing of the fireplace and the hearth-guard platform. Its grate was intended for burning coal rather than wood, and the size of the original fireplace (38 x 70cm\(^83\)) suggests that this was also the case during the Parsonage period.

Below floor level and also partly forming the base of the arched recesses, the south wall had a bearer ledge either side of the chimney. With a ledge on its northern face at the same level, a hearth-guard platform (54 x 122cm\(^84\)) stood in front of the chimney and a nearby broken slab of sandstone appeared very likely to have been the original ember guard (replaced by the abovementioned cementing). As in the north room, this platform was not integral with the chimney. Instead it was integral with a bearer wall running northwards for 2.46m then turning west for 24cm and in rough alignment with an original feature on the west wall. Although the two having been connected was not determined archaeologically, both faces revealed cut bricks which suggested this was the case. If the south room contained two underfloor spaces, Reception House works demolished the connection and the west part was used as a bearer pier.

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\(^{80}\) 7ft 4in.  
\(^{81}\) 47½ in.  
\(^{82}\) 45in.  
\(^{83}\) 15 x 27½in.  
\(^{84}\) 21¼ x 4ft.
Figure 4.9  East Room, South Elevation.
M. Parker (2009)
Figure 4.10  East Room, south elevation (lower part). Facing south.  
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5321)

Figure 4.11  East Room, south elevation (upper part). Facing south.  
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5316)
Figure 4.12  East Room, south elevation, remnant plaster in arch of west recess.
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5363)

Figure 4.13  East Room, detail of chimney on south wall.
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5367)
Figure 4.14  East Room, south elevation. Facing south.
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5317)
Figure 4.15  East Room, lower part of south elevation, also showing the hearth-guard platform and central bearer wall, and Reception House piers along east and west walls. Facing south.  
(AMAC 2009, Digital 377)

Figure 4.16  East Room, south wall, detail of lower west part. Facing south. 
(AMAC 2009, Digital 4885)
Figure 4.17  East Room, south wall, detail of lower east part. Facing south.  
(AMAC 2009, Digital 4888)

Figure 4.18  East Room, detail of east sides of hearth-guard platform and central bearer wall. Facing south.  
(AMAC 2009, Digital 4891)
Figure 4.19  East Room fireplace. Facing south.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 260)
4.3.3 West Elevation

Only the lower part of the west wall (east wall of Hallway) was part of the original Parsonage. The new wall was featureless except for the doorway being topped by a slight arch supported by a ferrous lintel. The doorway was 96.5 cm wide and the peak of the arch sat 2.8 m above the latest floor level. Two bearer piers abutting the wall at the south were also part of the Reception House additions; the third to the north was the abovementioned original feature which appeared to have been converted to a pier. The lower surface level between this feature and the south cellar wall was exposed in the test pit in Square A4; it was subsequently excavated to a depth that revealed the foundation trench but not the sandstone footing. The part of the cellar shown in the elevation is the intermediate platform. The partly preserved timbers were bearers for the final timber floor of tongue-in-groove boards probably installed by the Reception House works in 1902-03.87

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85 38in.
86 9ft 2in.
87 The dating of the latest floor may be later. It should be noted that a Lindeman’s bottle was found below the floor in the West Room dated from 1917-c.1930 indicating that there is the distinct possibility that the floor was replaced or some repair to the floor occurred after the 1902 Reception House modification (DB No S22).
Figure 4.20  East Room, West Elevation.
M. Parker (2009)
Figure 4.21  East Room, west elevation (south part). Facing southwest.  
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5333)

Figure 4.22  East Room, Reception House walls and piers (two at left) built on and against lower part of original west wall.  
The brick feature at right is also original and probably joined with the central bearer wall. Facing west (AMAC 2009, Digital 4901).
4.3.4 North Elevation

The cellar floor and intermediate platform are the only original features to appear in the north elevation (Figure 4.23). The new north wall for Reception House was supported by a concrete strip footing laid on the cellar floor, excepting the far west side where it was set on the platform. It was furnished with two large air vents just below floor level and three small vents just above ceiling level (Figure 4.24 and Figure 4.25). The large window recess, approximately 2.33 x 2.44m, appeared to belong to the original Reception House phase although the timber-framed window itself was a later addition.

88 7ft 8in x 8ft.
Figure 4.23  East Room, North Elevation.
M Parker (2009)
Figure 4.24  East Room, north elevation. Facing northwest.
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5373)

Figure 4.25  East Room, Reception House north wall constructed in and above the cellar, with concrete strip footing just visible at bottom. Facing north.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 376)
4.4 WEST ROOM

4.4.1 South Elevation

Excepting the top addition with air vent, the south wall was entirely part of the original Parsonage, excepting two potential bricked up windows, and retained patches of lime render. Vernon’s 1902 plan indicates two bricked-up windows along this wall (Figure 2.31), the remanent render and wall cladding made it difficult to identify these features during the initial site works. A cleaned section of the preserved wall shows the presence of both the original hard shell lime mortar as well as a much softer mineral lime mortar most likely from this infill event (Figure 4.29). Should this be the case, the builder’s reused the original materials available to them in order to brick up these windows.

Due to the level of the footing dropping eastwards, the wall height ranged from 3.02m to 3.3m\(^{89}\), and a bearer ledge changed from sandstone at the west to brick at the east (Figure 4.26). This may be another indicator that the original floor was slightly higher than the later floor level.\(^{90}\) The lower level at the west in the elevation shows the footing as exposed in Test Trench 1, and the rectangular feature in profile lower than the ledge along the south wall is the brick bearer footing along the west wall (see below Section 4.4.2). The feature in profile at the bottom left is the remnant east wall (west hallway wall) (Figure 4.27 to Figure 4.28).

The centrally located dry press brick pier was one of three installed during the Reception House modification period. Two steel brackets with hooked end upturned, and mostly painted white, were inserted into the lower part of the wall at some later stage. The two small bars inserted higher probably relate.

\(^{89}\) 9ft 11in to 10ft 10in.

\(^{90}\) This has also been suggested for the timber bearers set into the east wall of the east room. See Section 4.3.1.
Figure 4.26  West Room, South Elevation.
M Parker (2009)
Figure 4.27  West Rom, south elevation (west part). Facing southwest.  
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5353)
Figure 4.28 West Room, base of east side of original south wall with brick ledge over sandstone footing, also showing lower part of original east wall at left overlaid by Reception House wall and same period pier at lower right. Facing south.

(AMAC 2009, Digital 4905)
Figure 4.29  Section of preserved wall showing bricked up window
Note the change in mortar from the hard shell-lime mortar above compared to the softer mineral lime mortar in the in-filled window. (AMAC 2012, Digital 1298)
4.4.2 West Elevation

Overlaid by the top addition of an air vent, less of the original west wall survived in this area due to the L-shaped form of Reception House. This wall displayed a more irregular join than was evident in the east wall. As with the south wall, patches of lime render were adhering. Along the base a stepped brick bearer footing 31cm (12¼in) wide and three courses high abutted the wall. It would have been laid over the foundation trench and as shown in Test Trench 1 (at bottom left), the sandstone footing was not exposed.

Represented by remnant wood (19 x 70mm\(^{91}\)) and an impression of mortar at the same width over the surface of the footing, two strips of timber ran the full length. Presumably these were the timbers on which the floor bearers rested. That the timbers were original was suggested by the mortar bedding containing shell lime inclusions. Probably intended for re-use, the north end of the top course of this footing was not demolished by the Reception House modification, but through undercutting for the new north wall which removed the lower two courses. As a result the cavity was packed with rubble (Figure 4.30 to Figure 4.32).

\(^{91}\)¾ x 2¾ in.
Figure 4.30  West Room, West Elevation.
M. Parker (2009)
Figure 4.31  West Room, west elevation. Facing west.
(Jenner, 2008, 5314)

Figure 4.32  West Room, sandstone footing for south wall abutted by brick bearer footing along base of west wall partly demolished at north and replaced by Reception House wall. Facing west.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 332)
4.4.3 North Elevation

The north wall showed two stages of construction. The Reception House modification was represented by walls to each side of later work which removed the bay window initially shown on Vernon’s 1902 plan. This involved: demolishing the upper and lower central sections of the wall, installing a concrete footing supporting brickwork across the lower gap, another concrete footing above a window recess and supporting the top brickwork. This alteration post-dates the 1959 plan showing the bay window (Figure 4.33 to Figure 4.35).

![North Elevation diagram](image)

**Figure 4.33 West Room, North Elevation**  
M. Parker (2009)
Figure 4.34  West Room, north elevation. Facing northeast
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5345)

Figure 4.35  West Room, later concrete footing and brickwork set between remaining parts of Reception House north wall. Facing northwest
(AMAC 2009, Digital 4285)
4.4.4 East Elevation

The east wall (west Hallway wall) was mostly a Reception House addition built atop a Parsonage wall retained to just above ground level, with a metal damp course in between. Later alterations enlarged the doorway northward, preserving the slight arch and ferrous lintel as evident in the East Room however reducing the doorway height to 2.18m\(^2\) above floor level and installing new brickwork over a timber beam lintel (Figure 4.36 to Figure 4.38).

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\(^{92}\) 7ft 2in.
Figure 4.37  West Room, east elevation. Facing southeast
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5369)

Figure 4.38  West Room, east elevation, detail of older arched doorway
(Jenner, 2008, DSC_5370)
4.5 HALLWAY

Both the east and west hallway walls consisted of a Reception House addition overlying a retained Parsonage wall with a metal damp course in between (Figure 4.39). The original west wall had been reduced to five courses whereas the east wall in the East Room was shown to be considerably higher and retaining the natural sand. The remnant west wall was notable in being set above the surface of natural, on brick and sandstone rubble in a trench. This difference compared to every other wall raises the possibility that the Hallway may not be original and it can be suggested that perhaps when constructed the Parsonage had just four rooms. However, as the hallway is an internal wall with a lesser load-bearing function may account for this difference. According to Wilkinson’s sketch, the hallway existed in late 1827 (Figure 2.5).

The south elevation shows the doorway providing egress to the courtyard behind. The wall is original as is likely the door location, but the doorway itself may be a Reception House modification. At 0.89 x 2.72m,\textsuperscript{93} it is slightly smaller than the doorway into the east room but the proportions are similar. Plastering within the hallway and perhaps a concrete threshold is most probably dated to the Reception House modification, though one or both may be later (Figure 4.39 to Figure 4.42).\textsuperscript{94}

The north wall is from the Reception House modification but the doorway occupying most of the Hallway width appears to be a later alteration. Vernon’s 1902 plan and the 1959 plan both show a smaller doorway on the east side.

\textsuperscript{93}2ft 11in x 8ft 11in.

\textsuperscript{94}The plaster stopped above the floor level possibly due the presence of skirting boards which may have once been in place.
Figure 4.39  Hallway, South Elevation.
M. Parker (2009)
Figure 4.40  Hallway, south elevation. Facing south.  
(AMAC 2008, Roll 1A Frame 16)

Figure 4.41  Hallway, north elevation. Facing north.  
(AMAC 2008, Roll 1A Frame 17)
Figure 4.42  Hallway, base of original south wall below doorway.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 375)

Figure 4.43  Hallway, remnant original walls. Facing north.
(AMAC 2009, Digital 373)
Figure 4.44  Parsonage Building, exterior south elevation. Facing northwest (Jenner, 2008, DSC_5308)
4.6 ROOFING

The roof and ceiling of the former Reception building was removed in early May 2008 and parts of the process was recorded. The ceiling interior and external roof cladding was inspected and recorded during late April and early May 2008 (see Section 4.7 below).

The roof form which existed in 2008 was the same basic envelope as installed by Vernon in 1902, however several elements of the roof's design had been altered over the proceeding century or so. These changes included the extension of the façade gable forward of its original position (Figure 4.53-Figure 4.54), and the removal of a gable or vent (Figure 4.47-Figure 4.48). The new roof included recycled timbers which were possibly from the original Parsonage.

The tiles in place at the time of inspection in 2008 (Figure 4.45) are not of the terracotta coloured variety common in 1902. They show no evidence of replacement, or change in pattern in the locations where demonstrable alterations and demolitions were made after 1902, suggesting that the tiles are a more recent addition. Vernon may have installed a slate or tiled roof both in vogue at the time.

While almost no archaeological evidence of slate was found at the site, the use of Oregon sheathing boards affixed to the rafter, supporting the battens in place in 2008 indicate the possibility. This treatment is typical of slate roofing and common for the period (1902). The battens in place in 2008 cross, uninterrupted or repaired, the area of the removed gable. This indicates that a new batten system was installed at that time and that its purpose was in supporting a ceramic tiled roof, presumably the one removed in 2008 however known to be in place in 1973 (Figure 2.34).

Additionally located at the extension to the façade gable (Figure 4.53), extra boarding; cut to fit only the extension, was inserted below the new battens. Almost no archaeological evidence was identified, or waste in the ceiling space (Figure 4.46) pertaining to any earlier form of tiled (slate or ceramic) roof was found. Only a few fragments of slate were found in an archaeological context and may have been from a damp course, while those few fragments of tile found were unmarked (one of which was in the fireplace) and are the only potential archaeological evidence of earlier roofing. It is likely that the sheathing boards affixed to the rafters prevented most material entering the building spaces during any roofing modifications.

The hypothesis formed from this data infers that a slate roof was installed in 1902 fixed to sheathing boards, and replaced as late as the 1950s (but prior to 1973) by a tiled roof. New battens were fixed to sheathing boards and a gable subsequently removed.

The tiles existing in 2008 were removed and taken away prior to any attempt to inspect the markings on them. However by viewing some interior images of the ceiling space (Figure 4.46) at their highest resolution, the word 'Underwood' appears to be impressed on one. The company Newman - Underwood operated, as tile makers, at Merrylands, NSW. Available listings indicate that they had commenced operations after 1915 and before 1919, and were still extant in 1955. If this attribution is correct then this is confirmation that the tiles in place in 2008, apart from not appearing suitable for the earlier 1902 date, could not have been installed.
by Vernon. This could be confirmed when a sample of an existing tile marked by *Newman- Underwood*, is available for comparison with those images archived.  

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Figure 4.45  Reception House Roof before removal of tiles, facing west.
Site Inspection, 30/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Image 0589)
Figure 4.46  Interior roof cavity.  Shows the removal of the gable vent which is not evident from the outside. Site Inspection 02/05/2008 (AMAC 2008, Image 0667)

Figure 4.47  Ventilation Gable. Note tile ghosts in flashing  (AMAC 2008, Digital 15310006; detail)
Figure 4.48  Former Gable (note battens).
(AMAC 2008, Digital 15310005; detail)

Figure 4.49  Detail Former Gable (note infill rafter joins/bracing).
(AMAC 2008, Digital 15310003; detail)
Figure 4.50  Roof demolition, showing earlier roofing systems preserved below tiles. Facing east.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 15310007)

Figure 4.51  Roof demolition, showing recent battens, earlier (?) board sheathing, and gable ghost below former ceramic tile covering. Facing south.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 15310005)
Figure 4.52  Roof demolition, frame construction, and alterations to 1902 skillion. Facing northeast.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 15310001)

Figure 4.53  Roof demolition, facing east. Note additional front gable.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 15310003)
Figure 4.54  Roof demolition, east room, slatted air vent on older brick gable preserved behind later gable. Facing east.  
(AMAC 2008, Digital R001-004)

Figure 4.55  Roof demolition, west room, crown, gable vent frame and frame. Facing east.
(AMAC 2008, Digital R001-005)
Figure 4.56  Roof demolition, interior view (note timber clad ceiling). Facing west.
(AMAC 2008, Digital R001-012)

Figure 4.57  Roof demolition, interior view above east room – rear of original (1902) gable. Facing north.
(AMAC 2008, Digital R001-014)
4.7 INTERIOR ALTERATION, FINISHES & CLADDINGS

4.7.1 Introduction

The material discussed in the following sections relate to the interior ceiling and living space construction and the alterations that were observable during demolition of the building in 2008 and 2009. As the building was not long vacated when inspections began in 2008 it was possible to see much of the evidence for alteration and additions internally; even negative events, such as the removal of wallpaper for example, usually leave some trace evidence.

4.7.2 Original Parsonage Building – 1819-1902

Flooring, Ceilings and Roofing

All of the flooring and roofing pertaining to the original parsonage period had been removed, principally during the Reception House modification. It is clear from inspections that some roofing (discussed in Section 4.6) and flooring timber of a much earlier date were incorporated into the new roof, or utilised as bearer/ joists in the flooring system present in 2008. The origin of this recycled material cannot be determined with any degree of certainty, however it included cross sawn timbers, early nail types, and former wall studs or ceiling joists that had once supported lathe and plaster. These were used mostly as a collar ties (or like) in the roof (Figure 4.46), and a few as bearers/ joists in the flooring during the 1902 remodelling. A selection of these materials has been retained by the Hunter- New England Health (see Volume 3 Appendix 12.6.2).

Finishes

The original walls were plastered. There was no evidence for paint, wash or staining (indicating pre-plastered use), found upon any brick work. All of the surface plaster on the original walls had been removed (or in some cases probably fell off) during earlier refurbishments, with one small exception prior to 2008 works (see Figure 4.12). Plaster within the 1902 hallway modification remained in situ (Figure 4.59-Figure 4.60).

From the evidence available, the original plaster was applied directly to the brick walls, without any lathe system. No evidence for the fixing of any lathe plastering system was observed during the early use of the building. A single wall was observed to have later had lathe applied, that is, the south wall of the west room; this is discussed below. All of the walls determined by fabric to have original, or early Parsonage phase walls demonstrated remnants of the initial application of plaster. This was either through a ‘render’/’scratch coat’ or ‘float’ application, dependant on whether two or three applications were used.\(^\text{96}\) The evidence provided by the original walls is mute on the number of applications; however some data is available for hypothesis in the archaeological depositions (see Section 6.0). Additionally the markings or scratches left on the scratch coat were not in evidence except for one possible example on the east wall of the east room to the south of the in-filled door (Figure 4.5).

The only plaster, however, that survived in situ was within an inglenook, within the south wall of the east room that was not a part of the original building, but an early

modification. The surviving section is pure plaster-of-Paris with a single painting episode, of a type not identified elsewhere in the parsonage. This includes both built and archaeological contexts, and must be inferred to be a part of some later work which had been removed before there was any opportunity for fragments of the plaster to enter underneath the floor area (Figure 4.12).

4.7.3 Reception House – 1902-1970s

Vernon’s Federation style Reception House was constrained in style by the need to occupy a specific space and incorporate existing elements of the earlier building. Here again built elements are discussed where they have relevance or impact upon interior fittings or finishes.

Ceiling

A timber panelled ceiling which was in place in 2008, is consistent with the style during the Vernon construction period. This ceiling was hidden by a false, additional ceiling installed in the 1960-70s (Figure 4.64). The ceiling in 2008 (though encapsulated since c1970s) was painted cream in the west room (Figure 4.65), skillion (Figure 4.67) and in the reception building, and green in the East room and hall way (Figure 4.68- Figure 4.69). These colour schemes match no other surviving painted surfaces within the envelope of the surviving manse and reception house or in archaeological contexts.

Wall claddings

Original Vernon Works & Early Alterations (1902-1910s)

A single section of the south wall of the west room was found, upon the stripping of current claddings, to have sections of earlier battens and there appears to be evidence of a modification made for a specific problem with those wall surfaces. The battens show evidence for a form of plaster work found only in the east wing building ceiling (1880s) but not in the Reception House or Parsonage (Figure 4.71). This system of laths was nailed to the battens and the plaster applied. Ghosts can be seen on the battens delineating the laths (Figure 4.63). This section of battens on a single wall was, where feasible, included in a later batten arrangement for a separate cladding treatment which was done some time after Vernon’s modification. The evidence available shows that the battens span the Vernon addition to the wall height, respect the ceiling installed and continue beyond it although on this wall alone (Figure 4.66). This data indicates that these battens were added after the wall height was increased by Vernon and although they interlock with the Vernon ceiling, they could have been installed at the same time or after. In fact, the entire Vernon timber ceiling respected the location of former plastered surfaces, leaving a gap as wide as the surface.

The south wall of the west room, from available evidence, appears to be the only wall which was treated with applied laths/plaster. However in all other locations the Vernon timber panelled ceiling does not abut directly the brickwork added in that phase (Figure 4.65). From this observation it is indicative that original, modified, repaired and new rendered surfaces were already in place on the other walls when the ceiling was installed.

Plaster flaking off the walls may have derived from a decay in the fabric of the wall. No other walls in the building exhibited a similar dowel arrangement (Figure 4.61
and Figure 4.63) to support the lath, whereby the pegs were inserted into the mortar of the brickwork. The other two peg arrangements were equally spaced and clearly related to what are inferred as interwar and 1970s claddings, whereas the west wall of the west room were set in spaced pairs. All other peg systems for the attachment of battens, where applicable, crossed/covered the Vernon wall modifications (either vertically or horizontally) at the front of the building.

Apart from the single instance above, the evidence for the treatment of surfaces in the east and west rooms which had already been stripped of plaster and render when exposed in 2008, and the surviving render in the hallway which had been laid on Vernon walls, supports a theory that Vernon retained the original render; repairing and supplementing it whereby the building was changed or added to. The data to support this hypothesis is found in in the very east and very west walls (Figure 4.31) of the building. It is evident that new render was added to the original walls in 1902 although the extensions of these walls, being the upper courses and the northern section, show evidence of rendering, however clearly different. Additionally it is clear that Vernon rendered the new hallway walls (Figure 4.69). Where render had been removed from these walls in 2008, the effect was not particularly different from where the render had already been removed on the northern extension of the east and west wall; also a part of the Vernon works.

Later Refurbishments (1930-40s)

Probably during the interwar period up until the 1940s, the majority of the internal wall cladding system of the reception house was altered. The remaining original, repaired and Vernon era render and plaster was removed, the only exception being the interior face of the hallway walls. Dampness and or crumbling brickwork appears to have affected the original plaster; the lath/plaster repair and possibly the new renders were applied directly to the new walls. Apart from the state of the walls in 2008, evidence for this can be found in the fact that the inglenooks were also stripped of plaster; whereas they could in the scheme of the interwar works, have simply been covered over.

The interwar additions included new Oregon battens, to which panels of fibrous plaster wall sheeting was affixed with cover straps at the join.\(^\text{97}\) It is understood that this format became available in Australia in 1917, and thus precludes it from being confused with Vernon’s work (Figure 4.62). Evidence for the new fit-out survived in the east room where it was encapsulated in even later work. Cladding on two walls survived much to the quality in which it was installed. The colour scheme surviving in this fit-out match a surviving colour scheme in the upper quarter of the hallway walls; that is cream walls with a green timber board ceiling. The sole survival of a vent (Figure 4.70), installed in this work, is also stylistic evidence for the general period of installation.

No specific tender records for this work have been found, however in 1927 a tender was issued for the completion of external repairs and painting of the reception house at the Newcastle Mental Hospital.\(^\text{98}\) In the west room the cladding was stripped away in c1970s and new cladding installed, thus leaving only the battens as evidence of this earlier phase in that room (Figure 4.61). A plan dated to 1959 most probably shows that this arrangement had not altered at that time. The fireplace is still operative and the inglenooks concealed (Figure 2.33). This 1959 plan, along with the physical evidence, indicates that the window planned by Vernon in 1902 for

\(^{97}\) Sharp (1946), p. 285-7  
\(^{98}\) Sydney Morning Herald (5th September 1927)
the west wall of the west room may not have eventuated (see Section 4.3 and 4.4) though later modification of this wall has removed any potential evidence. A projected window or door in the south wall of the east room, east of the chimney, was also never constructed.

Table 4.4 summarises the modifications to the East Wall both to the built structure and render. The modifications to the East Wall represent what is happening throughout the Parsonage building spanning the period of the original construction, Vernon renovation and interwar period alterations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Phase</th>
<th>Alteration</th>
<th>Sketch of East Wall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original Building (1819-1820s)</td>
<td>East wall as built and rendered</td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Sketch of East Wall" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Or East Wall as built and rendered with door (it is unclear if the door was part of the original building or cut in during an early phase)</td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Sketch of East Wall" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair</td>
<td>Closures of Doors (date unknown, likely to be Vernon)</td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Sketch of East Wall" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Original Modification (1902)</td>
<td>Vernon Additions</td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Sketch of East Wall" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Original Modification (1902)</td>
<td>Vernon re-rendering</td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Sketch of East Wall" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Vernon – final form (1920s-30s)</td>
<td>Wall stripped of all renders for installation of Interwar Panelling</td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Sketch of East Wall" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exposed brick: [Exposed brick color]  
Rendered/painted finish: [Rendered/painted finish color]
4.7.4 State Health Credit Union, ARAFMI Offices & Other Uses c1970s-2007

West Room

In 2008 the west room was painted mauve, over a renewed cladding surface. The new cladding, where available for inspection, was Masonite constructed in large almost square sheets and subsequently nailed to battens. The admission of the Masonite also caused a renewal of some battens at this time, replacing some post Vernon repairs and interwar battens. In the west room, the hall doorway was modified and widened to include window panels on either side. This was subsequently covered with faux timber panels. A false ceiling was installed which was lower by more than 30cm compared to the 1902 ceiling. Light weight composite square panels, painted white, formed the ceiling in 2008 (Figure 4.64).

Hall Way

The hallway was similarly treated. Vernon’s 1902 replacement walls and render were battened over and covered with Masonite. An identical ceiling format and colour was installed in the hallway and the east and west rooms (Figure 4.64), in all cases concealing the 1902 ceiling intact (Figure 4.65; Figure 4.67-Figure 4.69). A later faux panelling was added from the entrance along the hall to its connection with the 1880s addition, which was still in place in 2008, to offset the wear in a high traffic zone. This surface may have been laid over the Masonite however some evidence of possibly wood glue indicates that it probably replaced the earlier Masonite in this area as it did in other locations. This material is not to be confused with the faux cladding in the banking chamber which was adhered with epoxy style glue.

The form of the street entrance doorway into the hallway was altered sometime after the Vernon works; based on the relationship to other modifications and the form, this probably occurred during the 1960-70s works.

East Room

The east room received a similar, but not identical treatment to the west. On the south and east walls the interwar cladding was simply built over with a stud wall. The Vernon period north wall and hallway wall (the west wall of the east room), were battened and covered with Masonite. The few sections visible in 2008 indicate that the room had a similar treatment and possible function to the west room for a period after the renovation, and the mauve paint was visible above the later additions. The window modifications in the north wall of the east and west rooms were apparently made at the time as this renovation.

The ARAFMI office and State Health Credit Union were the last two occupants of the former Reception House. The State Health Credit Union was in occupation of the east room up until at least 1990. Staff members of the current Newcastle branch at Tudor St, Hamilton, recall that two earlier locations were on Hunter St and previously on Church St, taking their occupation back 15-20 years ago and giving a possible closure date of 1991-1996. It is likely that in the 1980s, the Credit Union took control of the use of the east room and set up a banking chamber. This included a formal and sealed staff area with timber counter and glass panels for customer service. The floor was carpeted and faux timber panelling was set at three quarters of the wall height around the banking chamber.
The evidence gathered during demolition show that the 1960-70s Masonite, installed in this room, was removed excepting the top quarter and replaced by faux timber panelling. This panelling was largely glued into place. A similar panelling was used to conceal the relatively recent addition of windows next to the west room hall doorway entrance.

Floor Coverings

Composite or linoleum cream and olive tiles in a herring bone pattern were laid over the retained Vernon floor during the interwar period. These remained in patches in both the east rooms and the hall, having been covered and recovered several times. No evidence survives for these tiles in the west room; therefore some doubt may be raised to whether they were actually present in this room. Blue-grey carpet overlaid all previous surviving surfaces in both the east and west rooms and hall way in 2008, although other floor covering may have been replaced of which there is no longer evidence.

4.7.5 Summary of Interior Alterations

Table 4.5 forms, a dendrochronological-like sequence for the treatment of the render and plaster surfaces on the various walls throughout the building’s history; from the original Parsonage to the 20th century Reception House.

The importance of this sequence is that a great variety of plaster fragments, of varying paint and material, were located in the sub-floor areas during excavation and no doubt many other remain unexcavated in the underfloor space. The table shows the longevity of various plaster surfaces, based on information collected during demolition regarding the sequence of various wall finishes. No one section of wall cladding survived the entire period of the existence of the structure (c1819-2009), however sufficient overlaps exist to match colour presence and absence, and potentially affix time periods for the use of various plaster fragments and thus phase, date and source the archaeological deposition.

The hallway retained the only section of Vernon era rendering up to the time of demolition.

In Figure 4.58 and Table 4.5, The Vernon 3 sequence refers to the lower three quarters of the hallway wall covered in c1960-70s with possible two separate cladding exercises, which may have prevented further painting. Vernon 2 refers to the upper quarter of the hallway walls that were concealed in the 1960-70s and remaining unpainted from that time. Vernon 2 and 3 may be indistinguishable archaeologically as despite different treatments, neither may have ever been repainted. The application of the various claddings on studs, excepting lath and plaster, is not shown. The lath repair (inferred as post Vernon) is shown over the original surface; however this repair replaced the earlier one. For the purpose of the exercise, plaster fragments with an exclusive painting sequence (perhaps also lath impressions) could have emanated from the demolition of this wall.

Changes to the hall doorways have not been shown, as these widened spaces were created at the Vernon period. Thus date periods were based on the mortar / render material or composition and the sequences of paint, and assuming that not all rooms and walls were the same colour at any one time. Also allowing for repairs, and the differentiation of the walls from which certain plasters/ renders originated can be
determined in correlation with the paint sequence discussed in Volume 2 Section 6.0.

**Table 4.5** Table of Render/Mortar Sequences by phase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1820-30s</th>
<th>1840-50s</th>
<th>1860-70s</th>
<th>1880-90s</th>
<th>1900-10s</th>
<th>1920-30s</th>
<th>1940-50s</th>
<th>1960-70s</th>
<th>1980-90s</th>
<th>2000-10s</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vernon1</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NR = Not rendered
Original = original manse form/fabric from 1819
Vernon = means post Vernon form/fabric (not solely Vernon works)

**Figure 4.58** 1902 Vernon Ground Plan (see Table 4.5 for Key) showing mortar render sequences expected.
M. Carney (2012)
Figure 4.59 From west room of the parsonage, facing hallway, east.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 0488)

Figure 4.60 From west room of the parsonage, facing hallway east.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 0441)
Figure 4.61 West wall in West Room of Parsonage.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 0384)

Figure 4.62 South wall in East Room of Parsonage.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 0392)
Figure 4.63  South wall in West Room of Parsonage.
(AMAC 2008, Digital 0385)

Figure 4.64  Ceiling in Hallway prior to demolition works.
Site Inspection 10/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0096)
Figure 4.65  Ceiling in west room associated with Reception House.
Site Inspection 29/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0433)

Figure 4.66  West room after removal of cladding, shows battens associated with Reception House.
Site Inspection 30/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0490)
Figure 4.67 Ceiling in skillion associated with Reception House.
Site Inspection 30/04/2008
(AMAC 2008, Digital 0534)

Figure 4.68 Ceiling in east room associated with Reception House.
Site Inspection 30/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0502)
Figure 4.69  Ceiling in hallway associated with Reception House.
Site Inspection 30/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0550)

Figure 4.70  Vent in upper portion of south wall, west room, associated with
Reception House.
Site Inspection 30/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0500)
Figure 4.71  **Ceiling the East Wing, Kirkwood House.**
Site Inspection 29/04/2008 (AMAC 2008, Digital 0436)