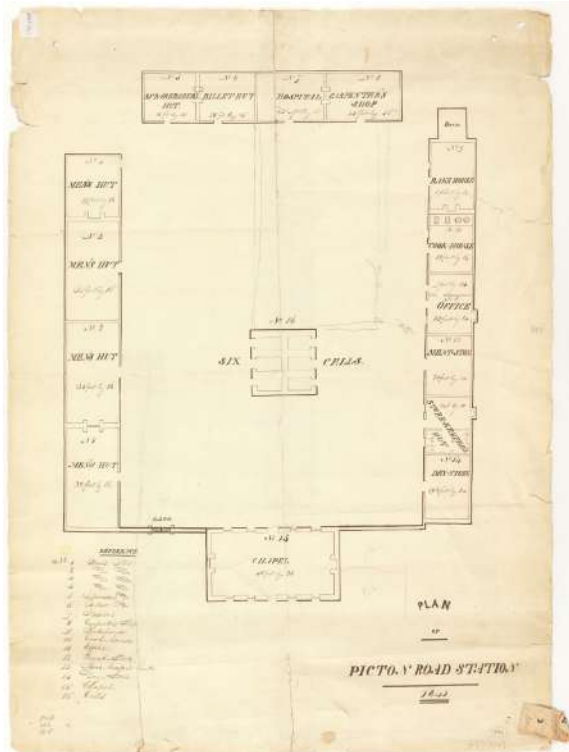


SOUTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL



UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA



Why we picked on Picton

Brad Williams – Manager Heritage Projects
Southern Midlands Council

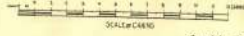




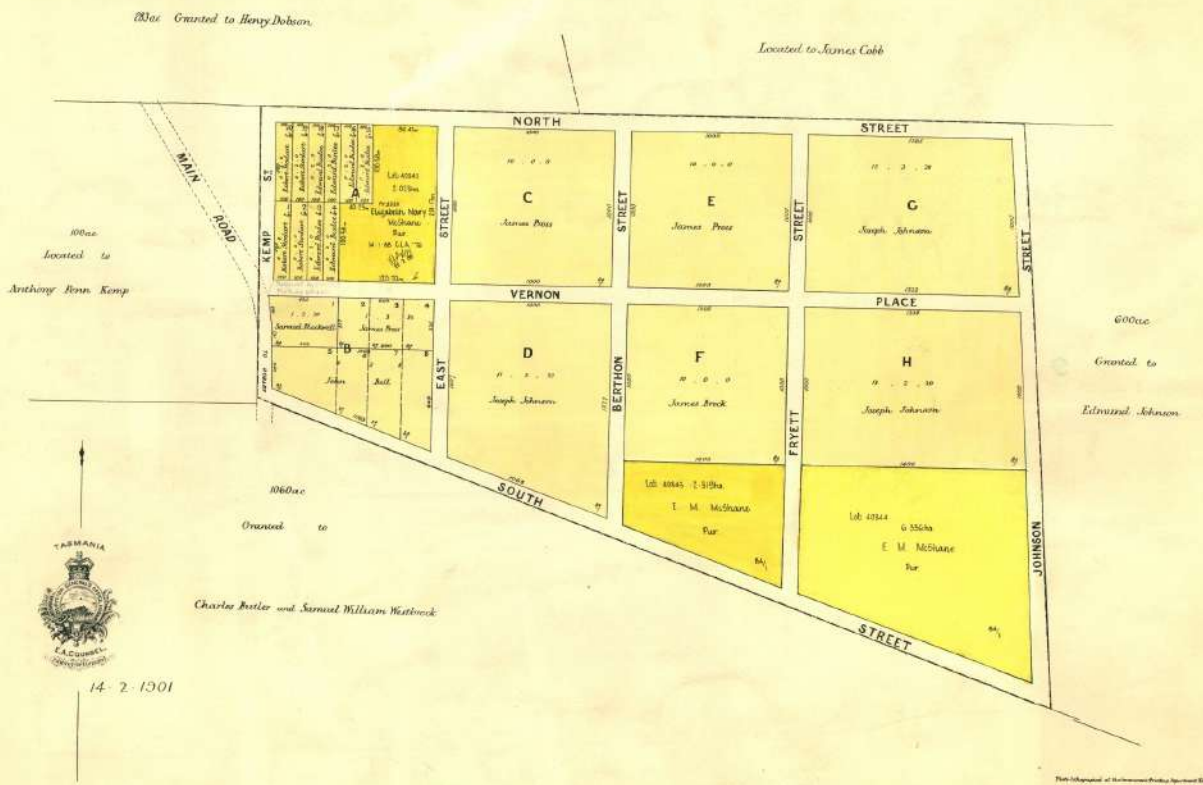


PICTON (NOT PROCLAIMED)

PICTON



MONMOUTH
DYSART
Compiled and drawn at the Survey Office, June 1882



14-2-1901

PICTON

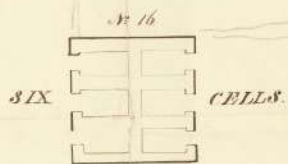








110



- EXPLANATION**
- 1 Mens Hut
 - 2 " "
 - 3 " "
 - 4 " "
 - 5 " "
 - 6 " "
 - 7 " "
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 - 10 " "
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 - 12 " "
 - 13 " "
 - 14 " "
 - 15 " "
 - 16 " "

PLAN

07

PICTON ROAD STATION

18-18

110

290/147

MS. P. 11. 226/1615

Pictou Road Station
13th Decr 1841

Sir

I beg leave to forward you a plan of this Station according to the instructions conveyed in your letter dated the 2th instants and to reply (as follows) to the several Queries therein contained.

Ans.

- 1 - The Station is on crown-land.
- 2 - The spaces intervening between Nos 4 and 5, 8 and 9, 15 & 14, respectively, are not, as yet fenced in. A stone wall is in course of erection between the two last mentioned buildings.
- 3 - Area within the Square exclusive of Buildings is 0 - 1 - 6 acres or perch.
- 4 - Furnished on Plan No 5 & 16.
- 5 - Furnished on Plan.
- 6 - Two-hundred men with Superintendent and three medical.

The
Director General -
Yours

No 7. No water on the Station,
The River Jordan is distant
about a quarter of a mile

I have the honor to be

Yours Most Obedt Servt.

Wm. R. G. G.
Supr.

ES

The enclosed Sheet, on which the plan is drawn, is too small to admit of four Buildings, (situate without the Square) viz -
Superintendent's Quarters
Blacksmiths Shop
Principal Overseers hut
Medical attendants - Do.

Upon being furnished with another Sheet I will construct a Supplementary plan of these buildings - should the Director General require it.

Wm. R. G. G.
Supr.

R.S. 936 / F 84 / (b)

109 13 49

- On Crown land
- Enclosed quadrangle of 0a 1r 6p (1140m²)
- ¼ mile from Jordan River
- Also included
 - Superintendent's quarters
 - Blacksmiths shop
 - Principal Overseer's hut
 - Medical attendant's hut

A brief history of the Picton Road Station

- Built 1838 originally as log huts – built by 8 men from the Green Ponds Road Station
- Housed up to 200 men
- Closed temporarily in 1840 due to an increase in crime in the district associated with men from the station
- Additions built, and reopened by December 1841
- Use as a road station was disbanded in 1844, however the buildings were maintained for occasional use by bridge and road repair parties until the 1850s
- The site was described as a 'ruin' by 1858 when the Archdiocese sought to use the site (presumably the chapel).

Initial questions:

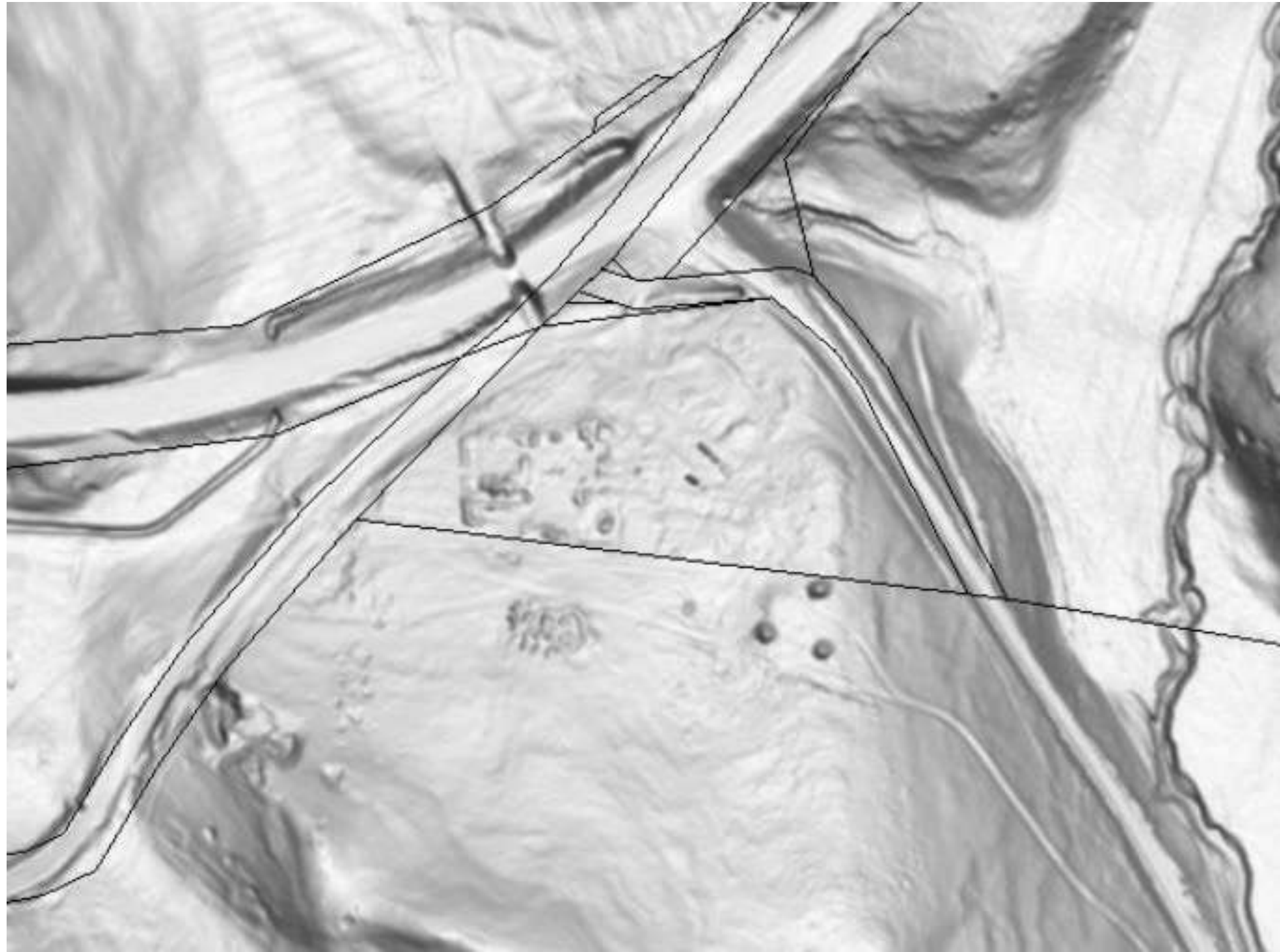
- Is it the station site?
- Do the remains fit the known plan?
- What is the integrity of the site?

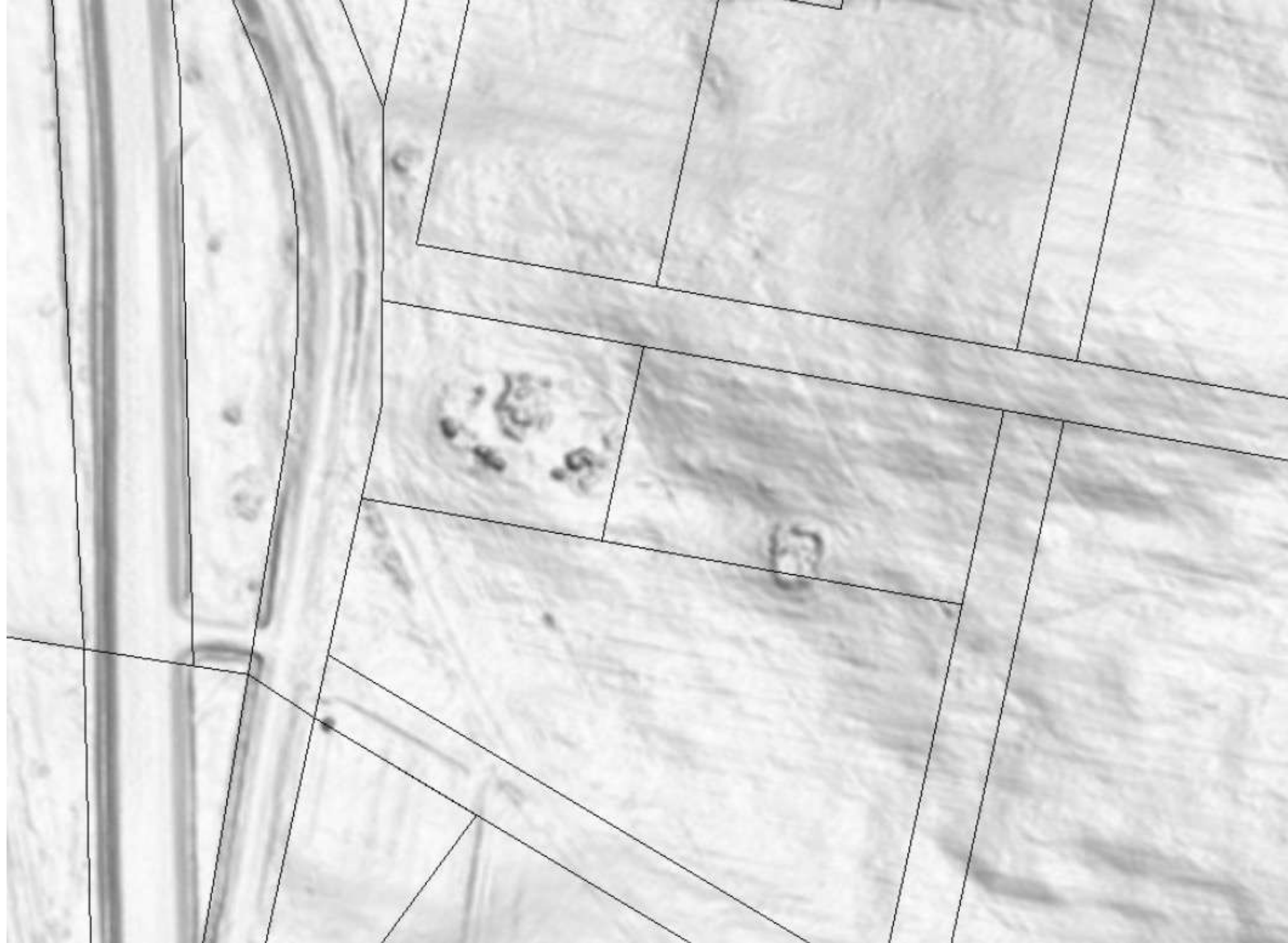
Actions:

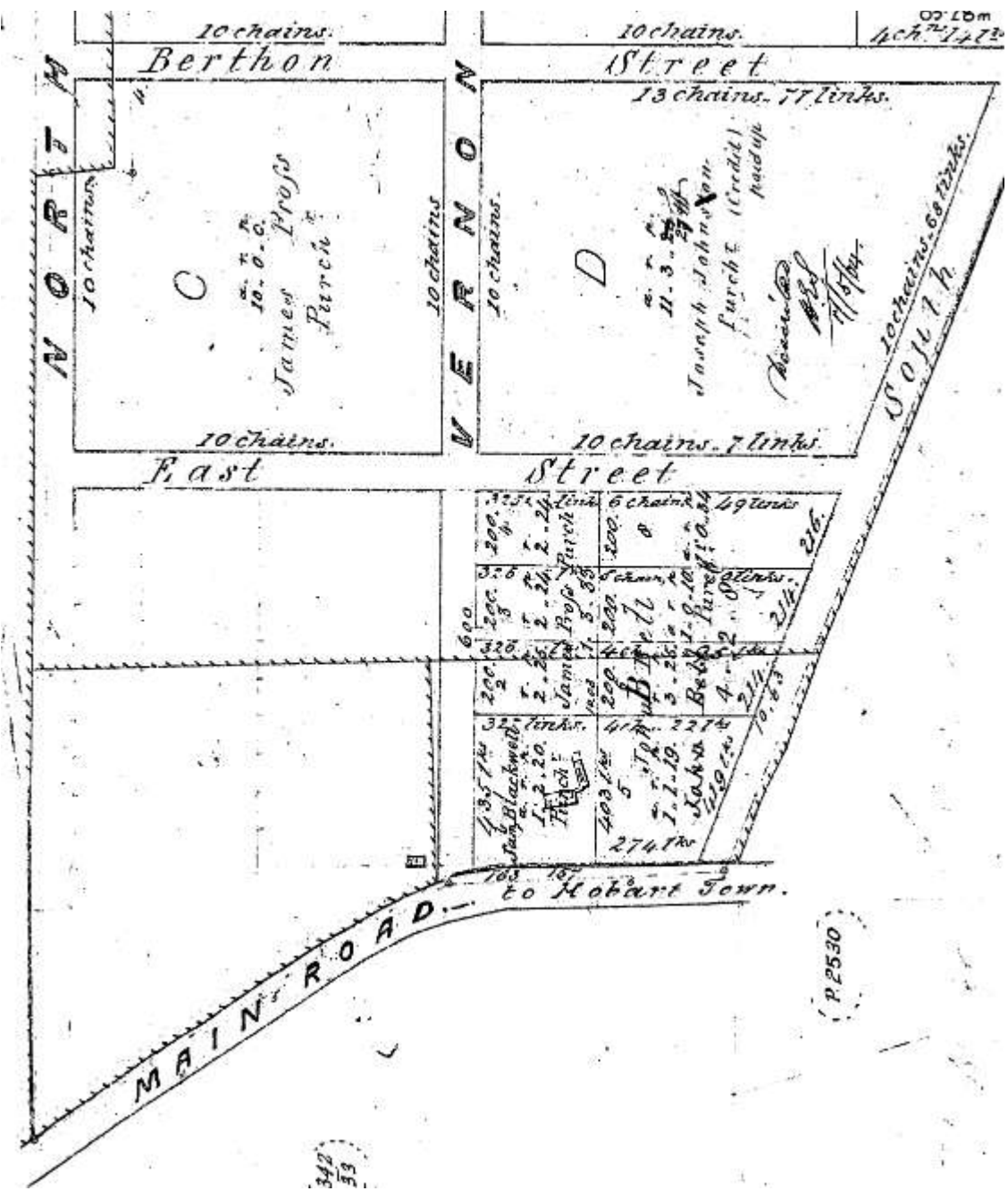
- Historical research first priority.
- Minimal invasive investigation as possible
 - Aim to only remove demolition and post-demolition rubble to expose structure and not touch occupation layers.
- Liaison with owner for preservation
- More detailed research agenda





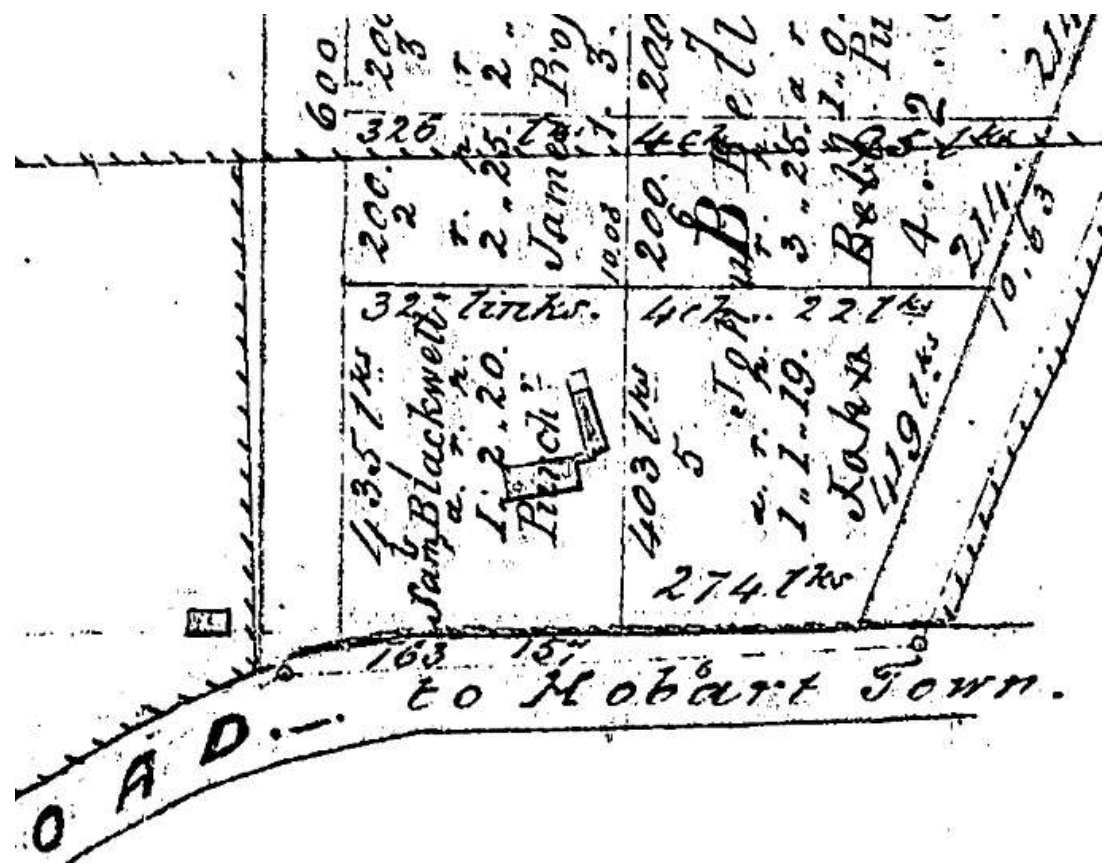


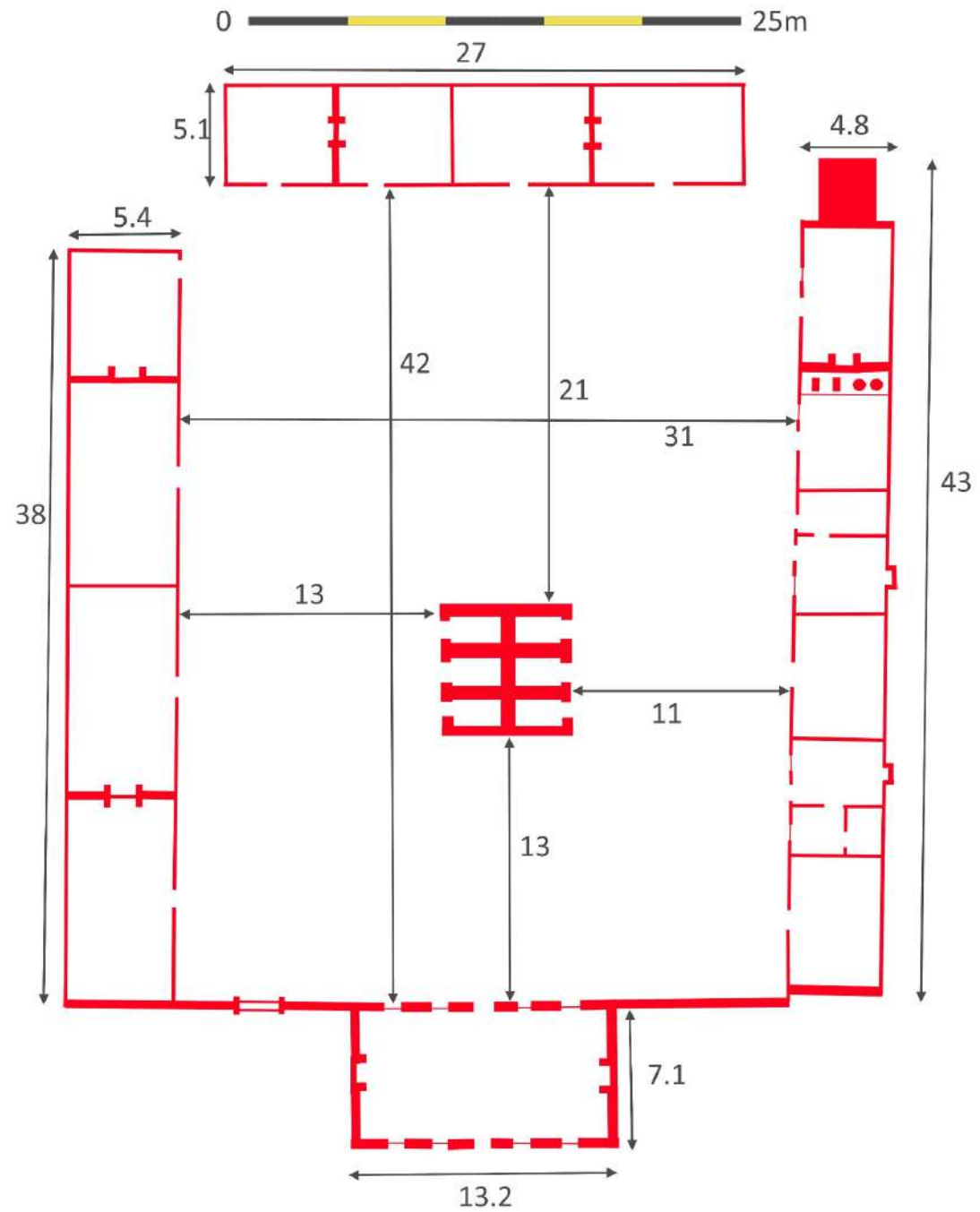


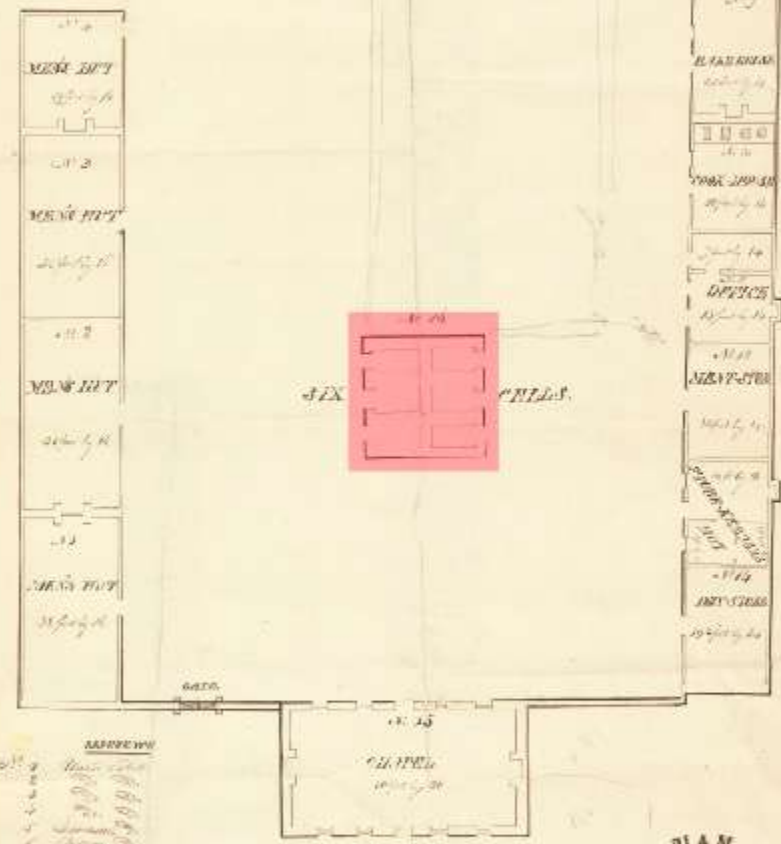


347
53

P. 2530



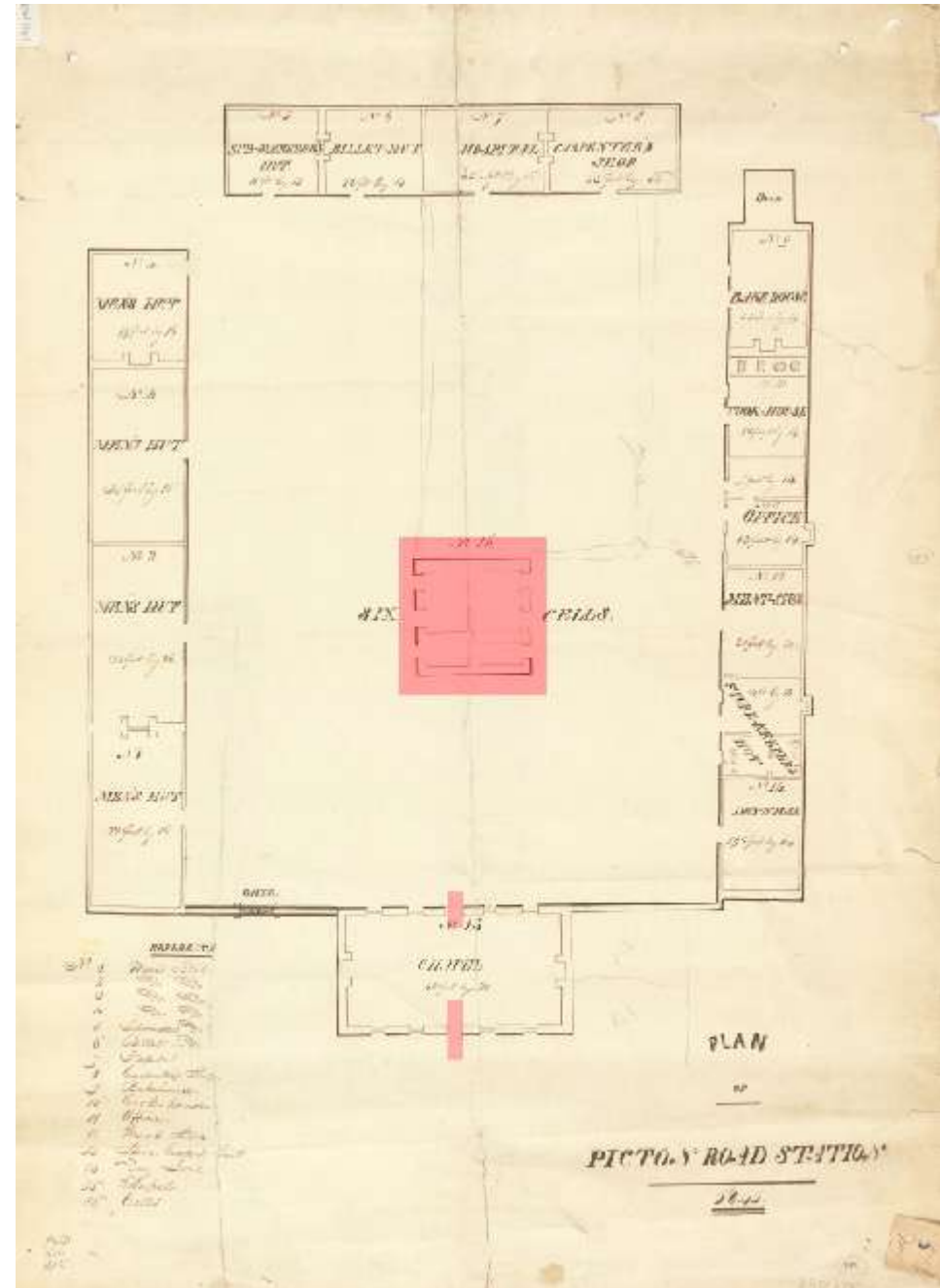
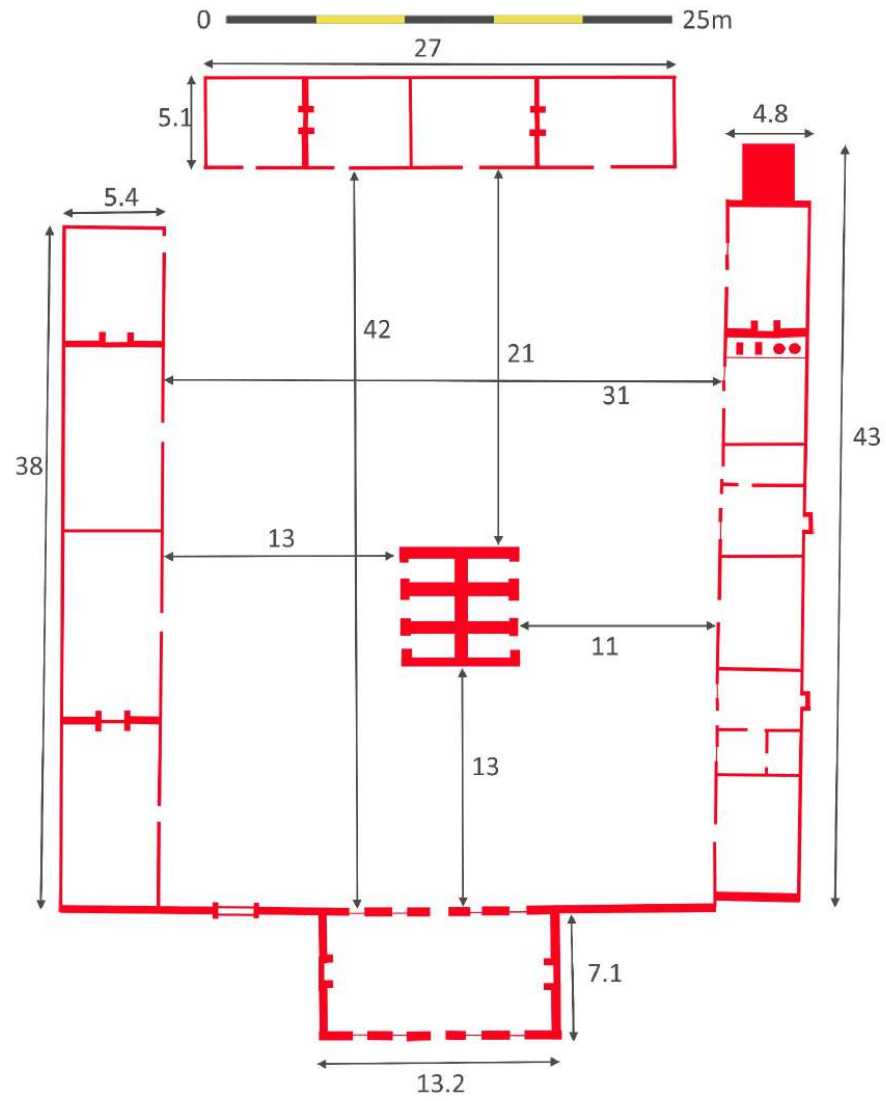


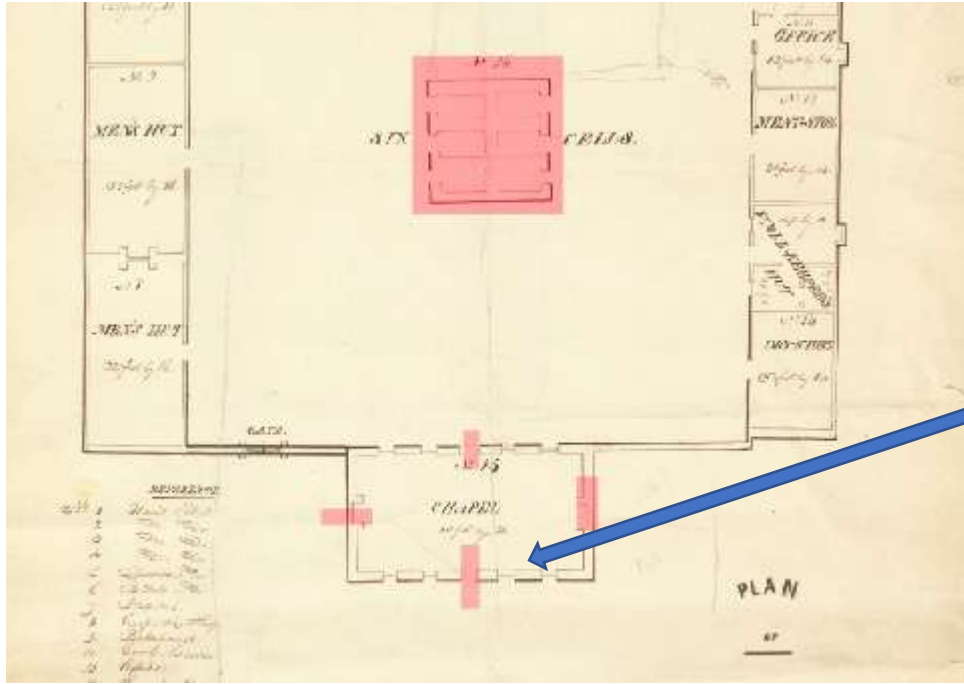


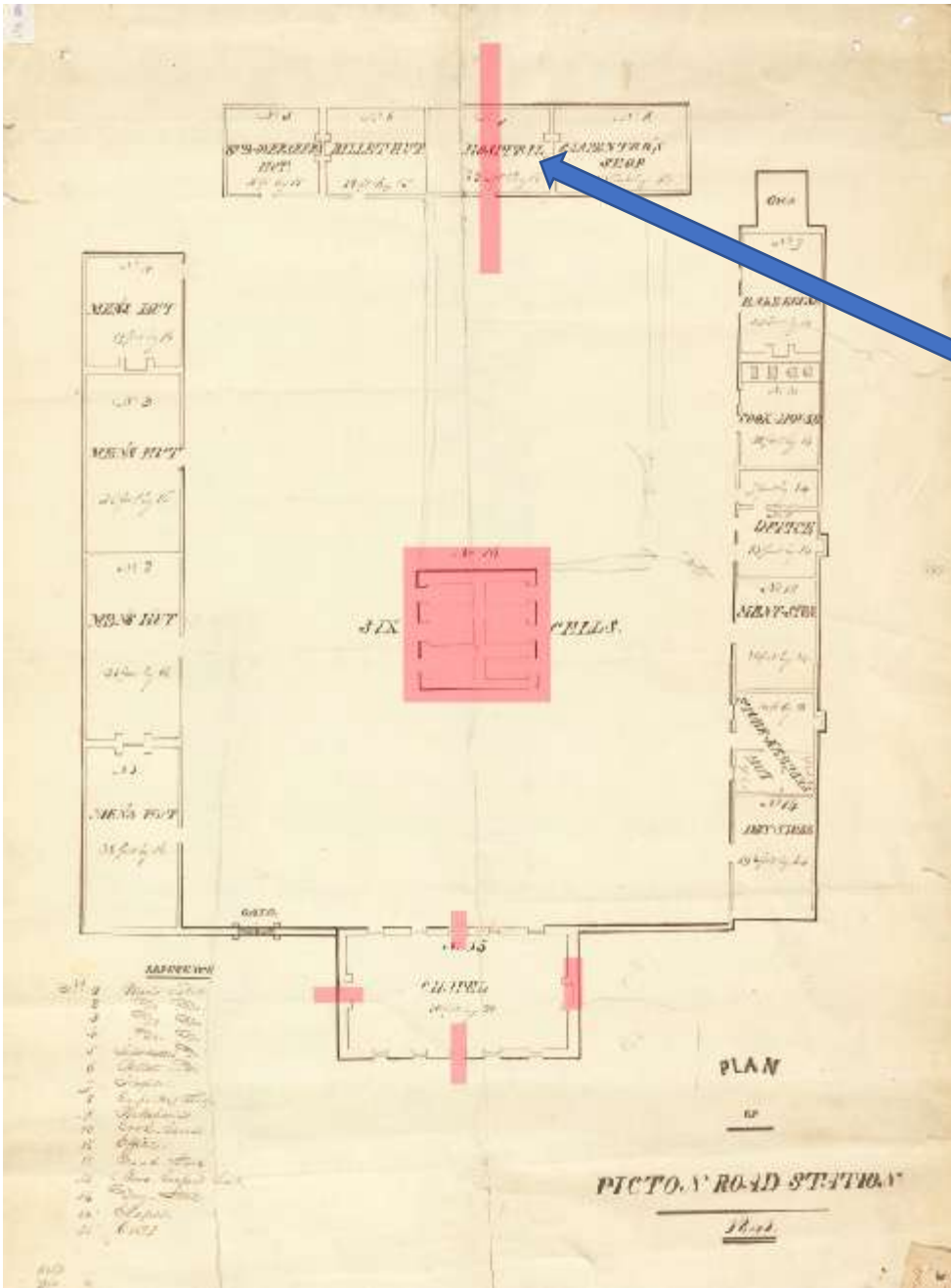
- SECTION
- 1. Hall
 - 2. Office
 - 3. Kitchen
 - 4. Dining Room
 - 5. Bath Room
 - 6. Toilet
 - 7. Stairs
 - 8. Corridor
 - 9. Men's Hut
 - 10. Women's Hut
 - 11. Garden
 - 12. Church
 - 13. Chapel
 - 14. Vestibule
 - 15. Entrance
 - 16. Reception
 - 17. Waiting Room
 - 18. Ticket Office
 - 19. Book Room
 - 20. Library
 - 21. Reading Room
 - 22. Music Room
 - 23. Game Room
 - 24. Billiard Room
 - 25. Snook Room
 - 26. Billiard Room
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 - 99. Snook Room
 - 100. Billiard Room

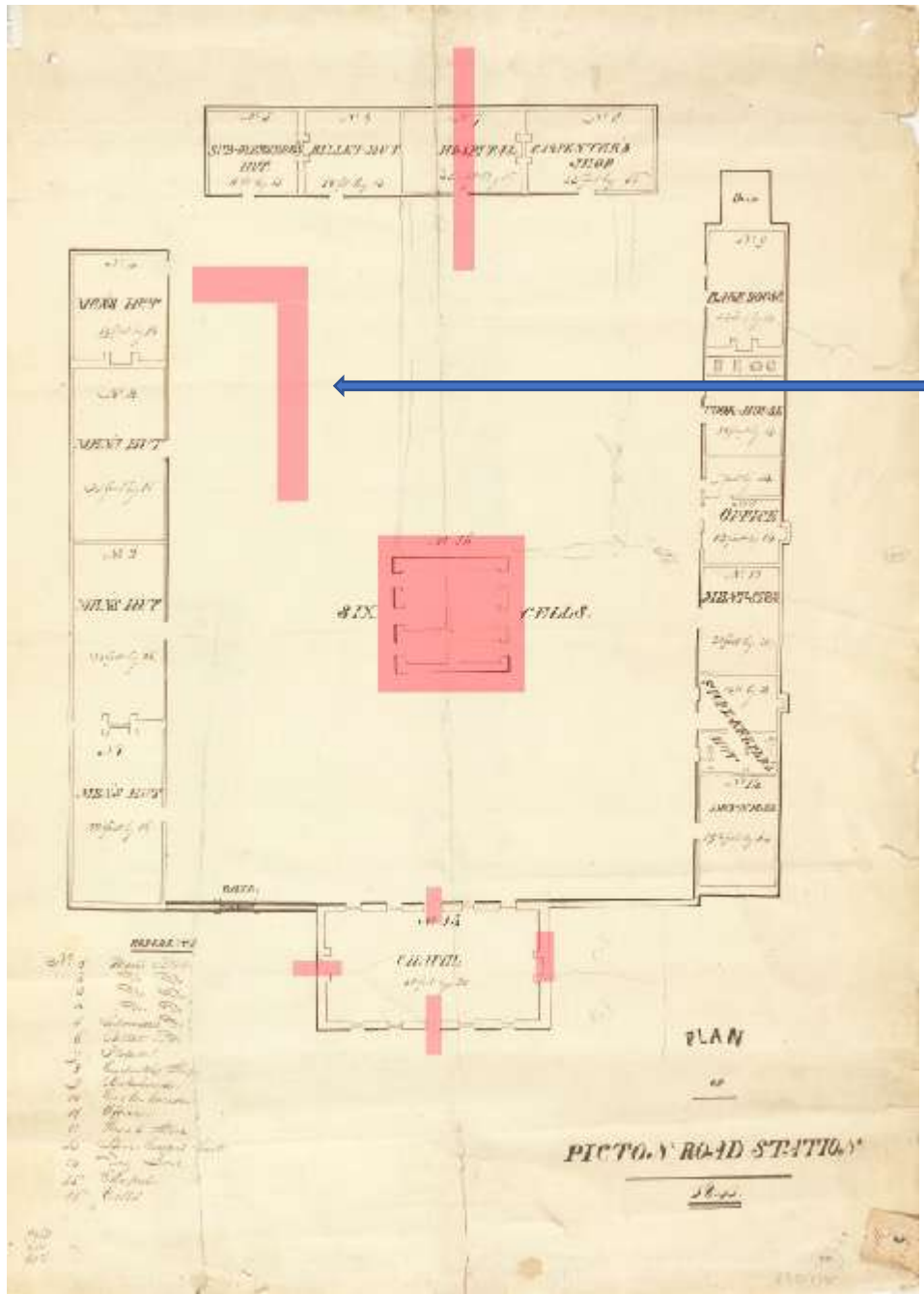
PLAN
 OF
 PICTON ROAD STATION
 1884



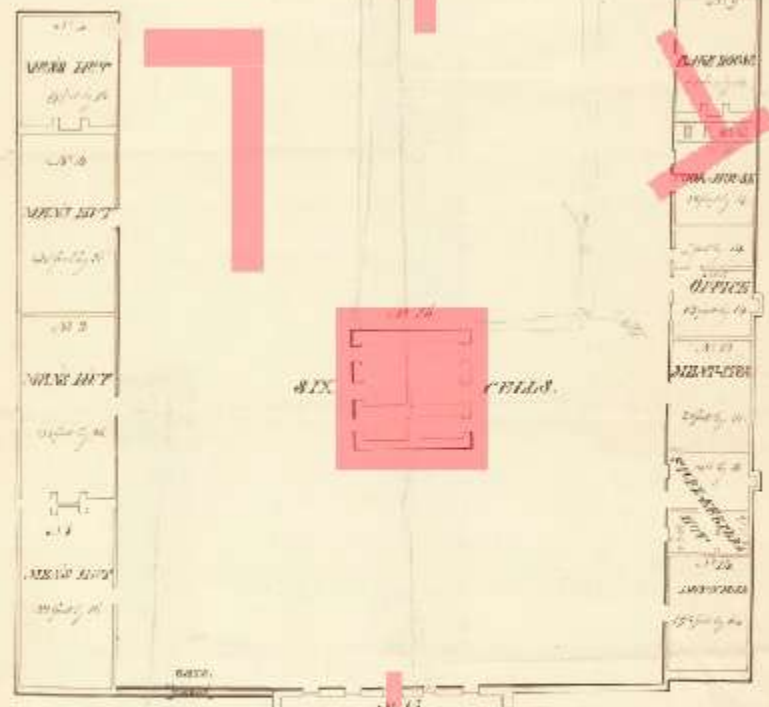








STATION	REAR	FRONT	STATION
100	100	100	100
100	100	100	100

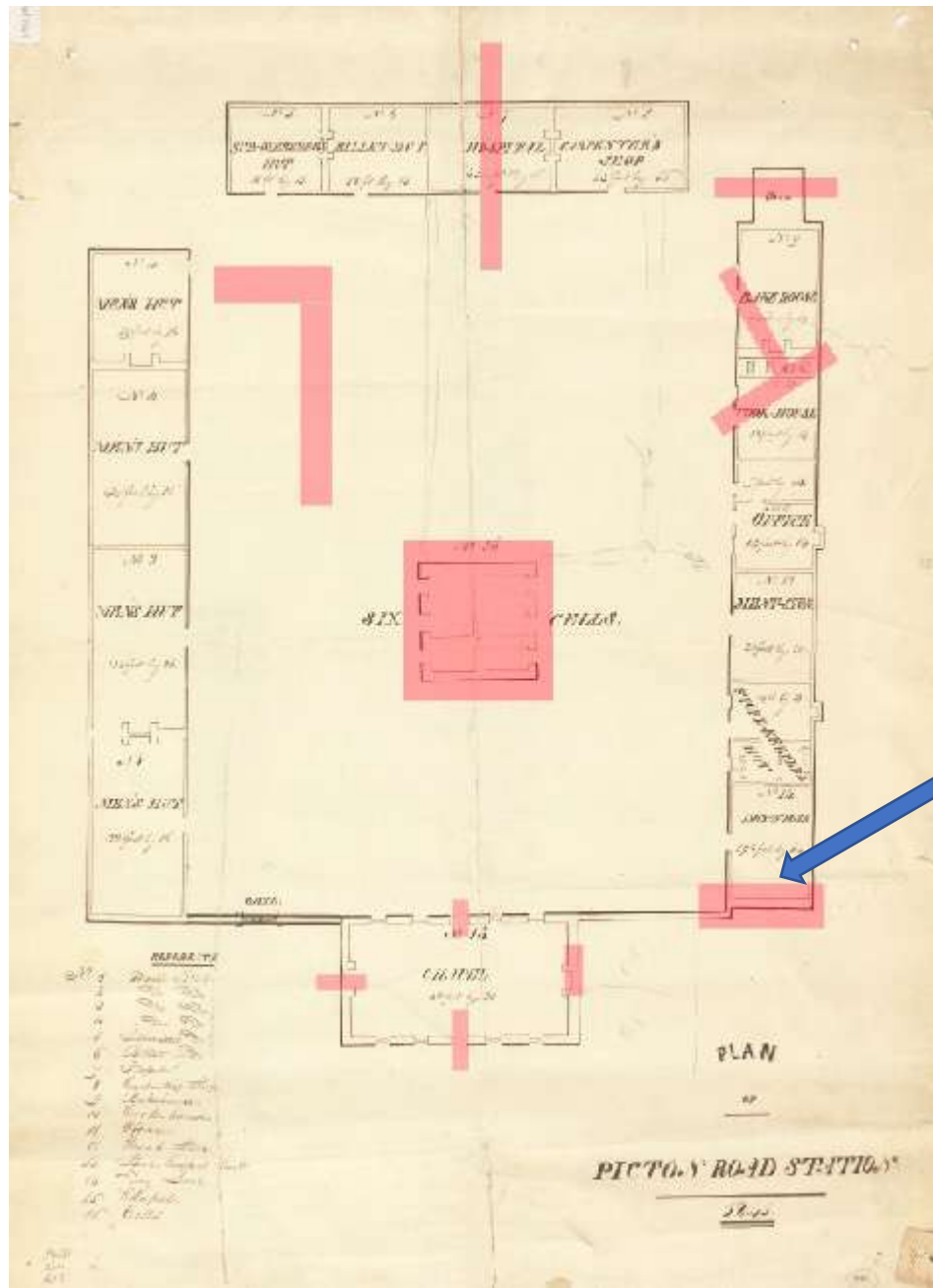


- 1. 100
- 2. 100
- 3. 100
- 4. 100
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- 18. 100
- 19. 100
- 20. 100

PLAN

PICTON ROAD STATION

1888





End of 2012 - Where to from here:

- Liaison with property owner about conservation
- Fitting with wider research agendas
- Potential training program



GUIDELINES FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROJECTS ON REGISTERED PLACES

These guidelines are aimed primarily at proposals for which archaeological research is the sole or primary catalyst for a Works Application. They are intended as an adjunct to the existing Practice Notes which remain applicable to Works Applications involving archaeological heritage.

1.0 Introduction

Sites of past human occupation and activities have the potential to contribute important information on a community's historical and cultural development. Many of these sites contain material or subsurface remains that can be identified and analysed using historical archaeological methods. Such resources can mean that a site has potential archaeological research value. Archaeological research on these sites using rigorous identification, recording and analytical techniques can add to our understanding of Tasmania's history and cultural development. It can also include other significant community benefits if the research project is opened to the involvement of community members either as observers or participants. The potential for archaeological research to add to our historical understanding, as well as provide avenues for people to interact with their heritage places, is a benefit for present and future generations.

The Tasmanian Heritage Council has issued Practice Notes on the identification and management of archaeological resources. Practice Note 2 (version 2, May 2006) discusses archaeological resources within the context of developments or other activities which may impact archaeological values. Practice Note 11 discusses the research values of cemeteries and burial grounds, and provides basic guidelines for archaeological investigations therein. Both are available from the Tasmanian Heritage Council website www.heritage.tas.gov.au

The aim of these Practice Notes is to mitigate impacts on a site's archaeological research potential resulting from other works, and to define a process for incorporating assessment and appropriate management of archaeological values into the works approval process. This ensures that standards and procedures are in place to minimise loss of important archaeological information and provides certainty in the planning and development process.

This document provides additional guidelines where the proposed impact is the process of archaeological investigation itself. The aim is to help researchers develop proposals for archaeological research at places listed in the Tasmanian Heritage Register, and to help position all archaeological investigations, whether arising from academic research, conservation works or development projects, within a common knowledge and social responsibility framework.

See Appendix 1 for terms and definitions.

For further information contact
TASMANIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL
103 Macquarie Street, HOBART TAS 7000
GPO Box 618, HOBART TAS 7001

TEL: 1300 850 332 (local call cost) | 6233 2037
FAX: 6233 3186
EMAIL: enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au
WEB: www.heritage.tas.gov.au

Tier One Questions: These questions outline the essential knowledge base needed for any site research or significance evaluations. Such questions are often empirical in nature, and straightforward answers can be sought and often identified. Examples of such questions might include:

- When was this site occupied?
- What were the phases of use?
- What activities were conducted on the site?
- What was the geographical extent of activities?
- When was this site abandoned?

Specific Picton questions

- Where was the station located?
- Did it conform to the plans?
- What was it built from?
- Are particular uses of areas evident?
- Are different building/use phases evident?
- How thoroughly was it demolished?
- What extent of post-demolition disturbance is evident?

Tier 2 Questions: Those that connect the material remains found on a site to specific behaviour. For instance, such questions might consider how the artefact contents of a privy pit or refuse area relate to the lifeways of the household that lived on the site.

Specific Picton questions

- Do artifacts found at Picton demonstrate any aspect of 'the convict experience'?
- Do artifacts provide insight into health, hygiene, diet and other living conditions of those at Picton?
- Do any artifacts represent a diversion from the 'text book convict experience' (e.g. contraband)?

Tier 3 Questions: These questions represent the highest level of inquiry considered by archaeologists. Such questions associate the activities and behaviour at individual sites with broad social and cultural developments such as the processes of industrialisation, or cultural change. Although these research inquiries are often framed as questions, they may not have any finite answer as such. Instead, they should be thought of as open-ended inquiries, in which questions are used to refine and situate the researcher's investigations. The goal of such research is to develop increasingly refined and nuanced understandings of human cultures within broader theoretical or comparative contexts.

Specific Picton questions

- Can the archaeological resource yielded at Picton contribute to a wide range of Tasmanian, Australian and/or international convict sites/sites of incarceration.
 - A detailed research design was provided by Prof. Eleanor Casella within a wide and detailed international framework as well as wider thematic and temporal frameworks.



Southern Midlands Convict Sites

Building the district

Previously endorsed documents and policy

- Southern Midlands Convict Sites Research Project 2013-14.
- Archaeological research designs and reports on Oatlands, Green Ponds Picton, Lovely Banks and Spring Hill Probations/Road stations (some forthcoming).

It has long been recognised that the Southern Midlands has a wealth of convict heritage, spread throughout the municipal area. No less than 12 of the 80 known convict Probation Stations are located in the municipal area as well as at least 10 other road, timber and bridge party stations etc. In addition, there are a number of other convict sites, ranging from watch-houses, police infrastructure, work sites etc. The convict probation system is unique to Tasmania and is a key part of the state's contribution to the world heritage listing of Australian convict sites.

During 2013-14 a major research project was undertaken to identify, locate, research and document Southern Midlands Convict sites. This culminated in a 20-page booklet and a substantial collection of data on these important sites. An exhibition was curated and interpretive installations were erected on several sites.

This research has endless possibilities for further analysis and potential for developing media and experiences reaching throughout the region (and indeed inter-regional linkages, i.e. the Convict Trail) as well as supporting the management and protection of these sites into the future.

With the world heritage listing of Australian convict sites, Southern Midlands sites have the potential to reap benefit

from an increased interest and knowledge of these sites, and being positioned in central Tasmania on a route used to traverse between these sites, is seen as a substantial opportunity.

The *Convict Archaeology of the Southern Midlands* project - a collaborative archaeological and research project (with an education component) with the University of Tasmania is to be piloted in 2019 with the view of an annual project (see also Initiative 9).



8 Initiatives

		Short/Medium/Long-term or ongoing
a.	Continue to investigate, document and promote the convict heritage of the Southern Midlands where opportunities arise.	○
b.	Encourage and foster partnerships with other institutions for the investigation and promotion of the convict heritage of the Southern Midlands.	○
c.	Explore possibilities for multimedia interpretation of convict sites, in particular those that are difficult to access or have little above-ground remains.	○



Previously endorsed documents and policy

- Oatlands Gaol Archaeological Management Plan 2003.
- Archaeological research designs for: Oatlands Gaol, Callington Mill, Green Ponds Watch House, Oatlands Barracks, Oatlands Guard House, Picton Road Station et. al.



Archaeology Program

Unlocking the hidden heritage of the district

Between 2011 and 2013 Council ran a 2-3-week summer archaeology program based at Oatlands which, in conjunction with the Heritage Education and Skills Centre, aimed to partner with various universities to offer a range of archaeological management experience to graduate and undergraduate students.

The model of each season is to train 12-15 volunteer students, utilising council heritage staff and 2-3 volunteer professional archaeologists and undertake excavations on at least three sites and survey on several sites during the three-week program. Permits are gained, and research design and planning are undertaken ahead of each program and students gain experience in planning, excavation, survey, reporting and artifact management.

A public archaeology program is run alongside each season, culminating in an open day which attracts 500 people.

Students are invited to submit proposals for follow-up projects and publications and several postgraduate theses have been done on Southern Midlands subjects.

In addition (in collaboration with Arts Tasmania) a model has been formulated for student work-experience in collection management and curatorship.

The program has been on-hold since 2013 in order to deal with a backlog of reporting and curatorial requirements, which as of 2018 is largely up-to-date and the program will recommence as part of the Convict Archaeology of the Southern Midlands (see Initiative 8).

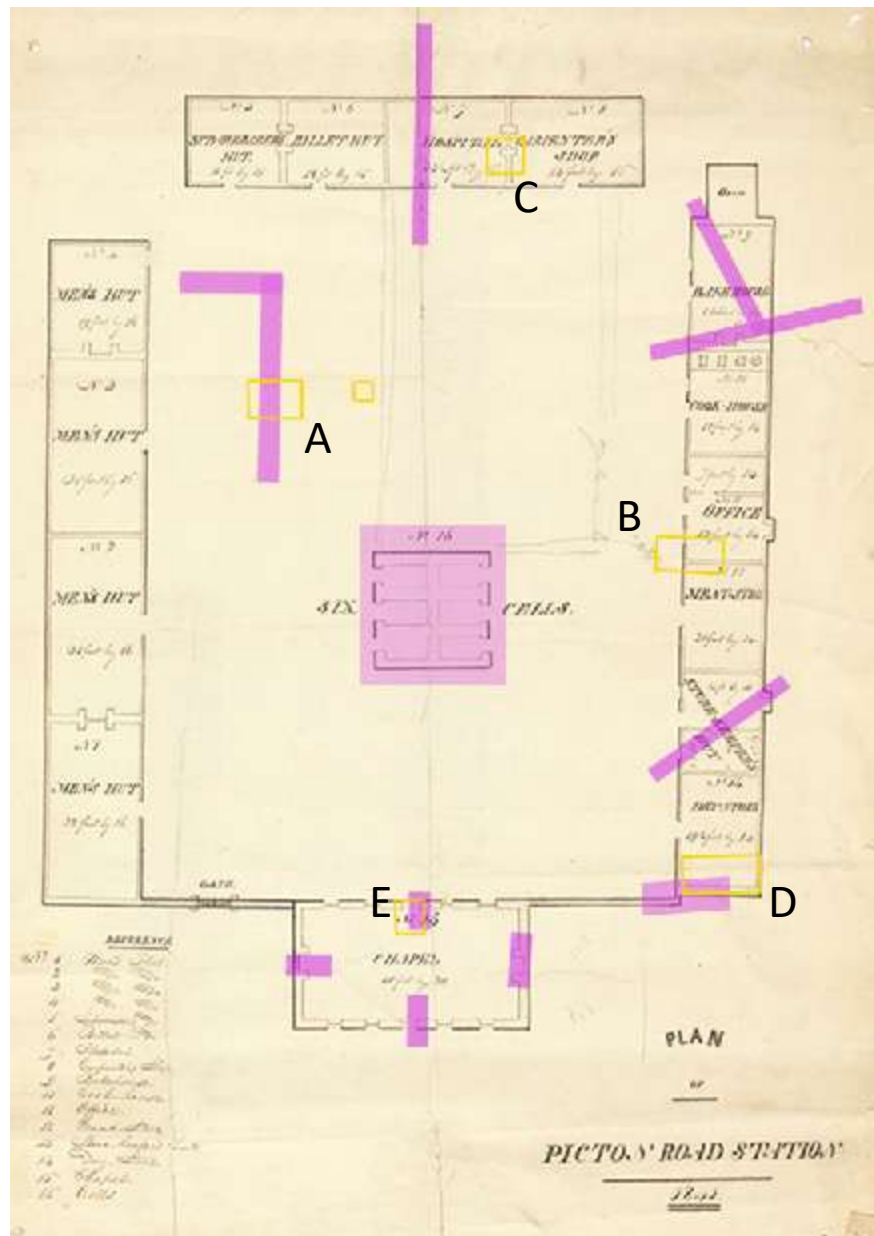
Whilst the excavation and research program has been somewhat ad-hoc to date, largely responding to works-driven archaeological needs, it is recognised that a comprehensive *Southern Midlands Historical Archaeology Strategy* is required in order to guide the future of the program through detailed research agendas, better understanding of resources and site significance and to set a more strategic direction for the program.

9 Initiatives		Short/Medium/Long-term or ongoing
a.	Formulate a <i>Southern Midlands Historical Archaeology Strategy</i> which sets initiatives, priorities and a research/works agenda for the next 5 years.	S
b.	Review and implement the Oatlands Gaol Archaeological Management Plan as a priority in the redevelopment of that site post-pool removal.	S
c.	Continue to facilitate public archaeology programs including an annual summer archaeology fieldschool in conjunction relevant education partners.	O
d.	Populate the archaeology schedule of the Southern Midlands Planning Scheme in order to offer adequate protection to important archaeological sites (as informed by the <i>Southern Midlands Historical Archaeology Strategy</i>).	M
e.	Encourage external researchers to utilise the archaeological resources (e.g. research, sites and collections) of the Southern Midlands (as guided by the historical archaeology strategy).	O

Convict Archaeology in the Southern Midlands (CASM)

- 2 x 2-week field seasons (2019-20)
- 12-15 students per season
- Undergraduate accreditation





CASM 2019

A – Inside, outside and wall of the men’s hut

B – Inside, outside and wall of the office and meat store

C – Interior and wall between the hospital and carpenter's shop

D - Inside, outside and wall of the dry stores

E - Chapel



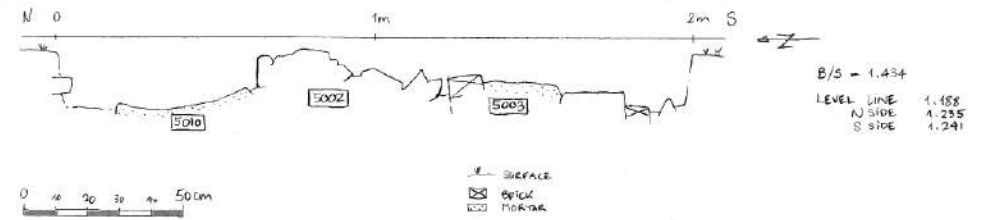
A – Inside, outside and wall of the men's hut



B – Inside, outside and wall of the office and meat store



CASM 2019
 PICTON (PAP)
 TRENCH 5, AREA C 1:40
 PLAN (S), SECTION N-S through hearth, wall, hearth @ 1.5 m E (PLAN 4)
 3/2/19 CREWE



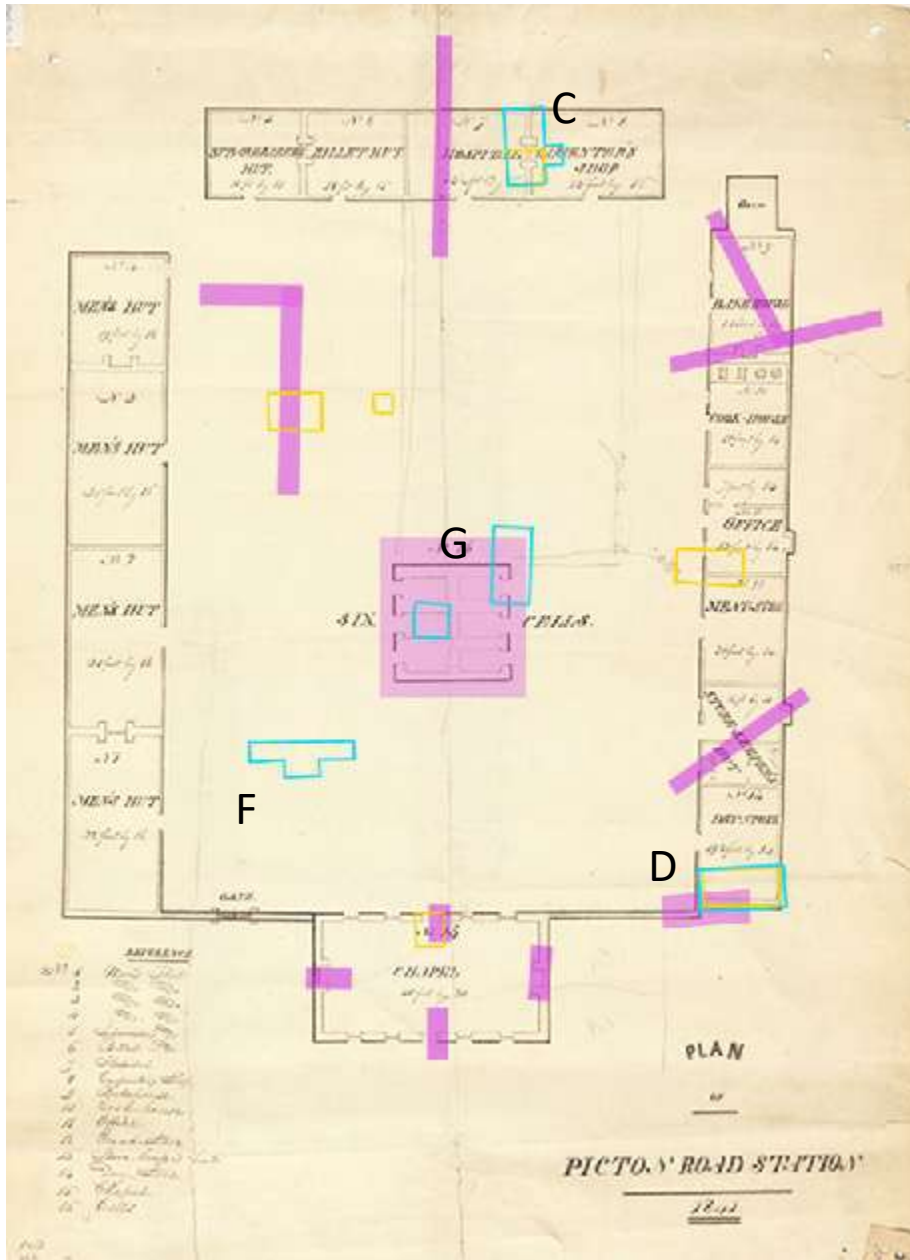
C – Interior and wall between the hospital and carpenter’s shop



D - Inside, outside and wall of the dry stores

E - Chapel





CASM 2020

C – Interior and wall between the hospital and carpenters' shop (extension of 2019)

D - Inside, outside and wall of the dry stores (extension of 2019)

F – Inside, outside and wall of the men's hut

G – Solitary cells



C – Interior and wall between the hospital and carpenter’s shop (extension of 2019)



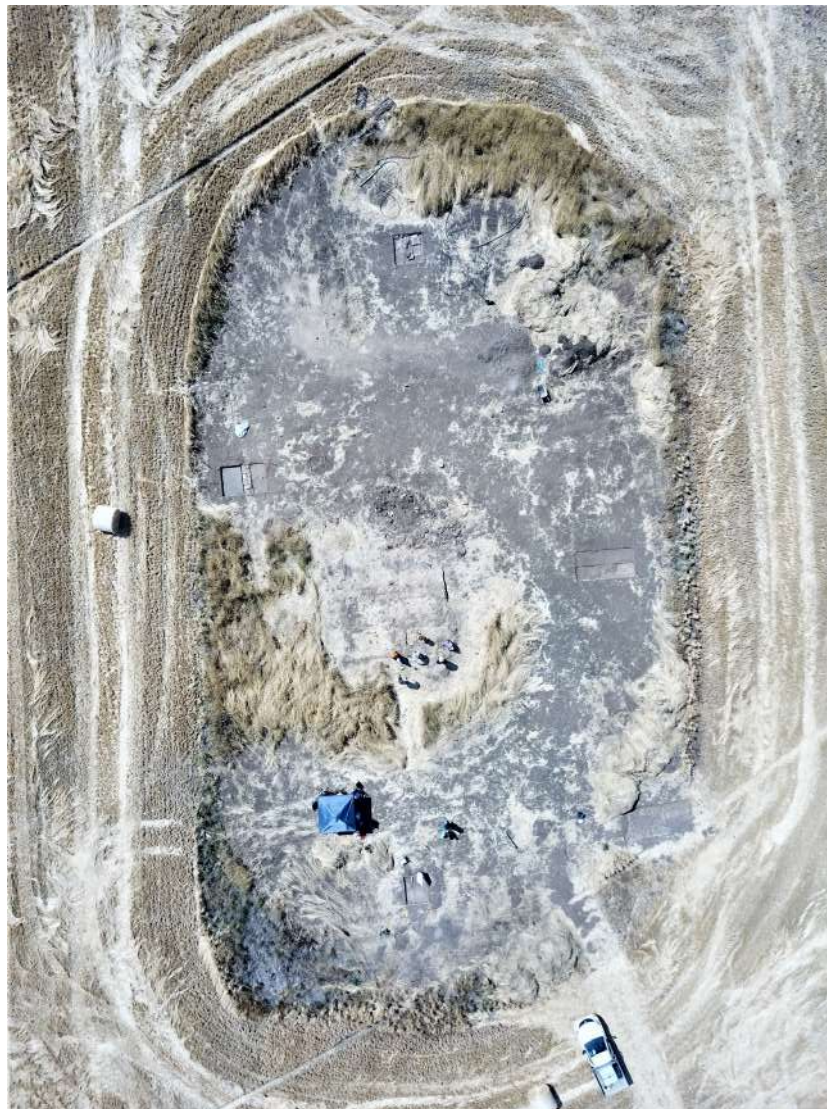
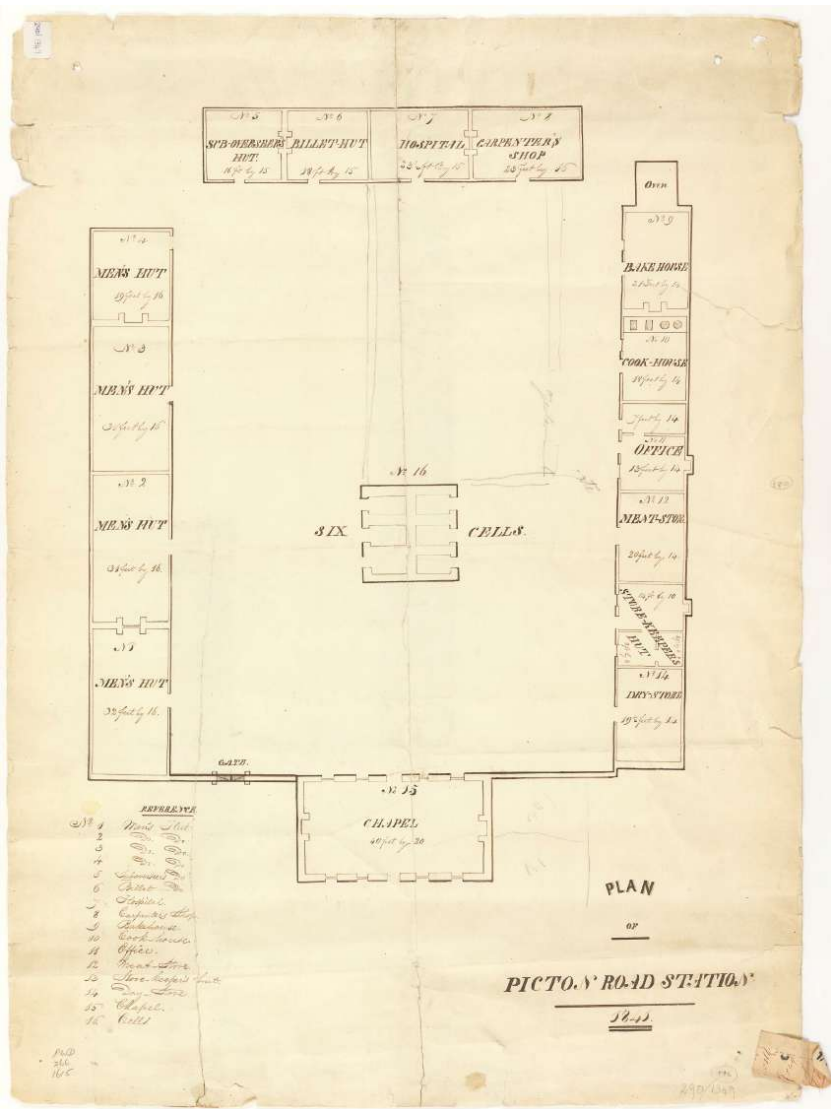
D - Inside, outside and wall of the dry stores (extension of 2019)



G – Solitary cells







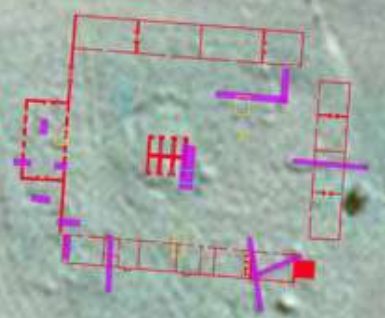
2019



2020



Green - PDA survey
Yellow - 2019 trenches
Blue - 2020 trenches
Purple - 2012 testing
Red - georeferenced 1841 station plan
(over 2013 aerial image)







**Convict Archaeology in the Southern Midlands
Convict Archaeology Field School**

Picton Road Station Exhibition

Showcasing the work that 20 University of Tasmania students
have been undertaking at the 1839 Picton Road Station, near Kempton

Held at the Kempton Watch House - 85 Main Street, Kempton

Friday January 31st and Saturday February 1st, 11-2.

Enquiries - Brad Williams 0418 303 184 bwilliams@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Please note that the Picton Station site is not open to the public





2024 – Where to from here:

- Possible third season
- Continued write-up of results and artifact analysis
- Permanent interpretation installation at Kempton
- Continued liaison with the owner for site preservation
- Encourage research to incorporate Picton results into Tier-3 research frameworks