

# **Gazetteer of Rural Baths: Kent, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex, and Gloucestershire**

**Giacomo Savani**

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To my parents

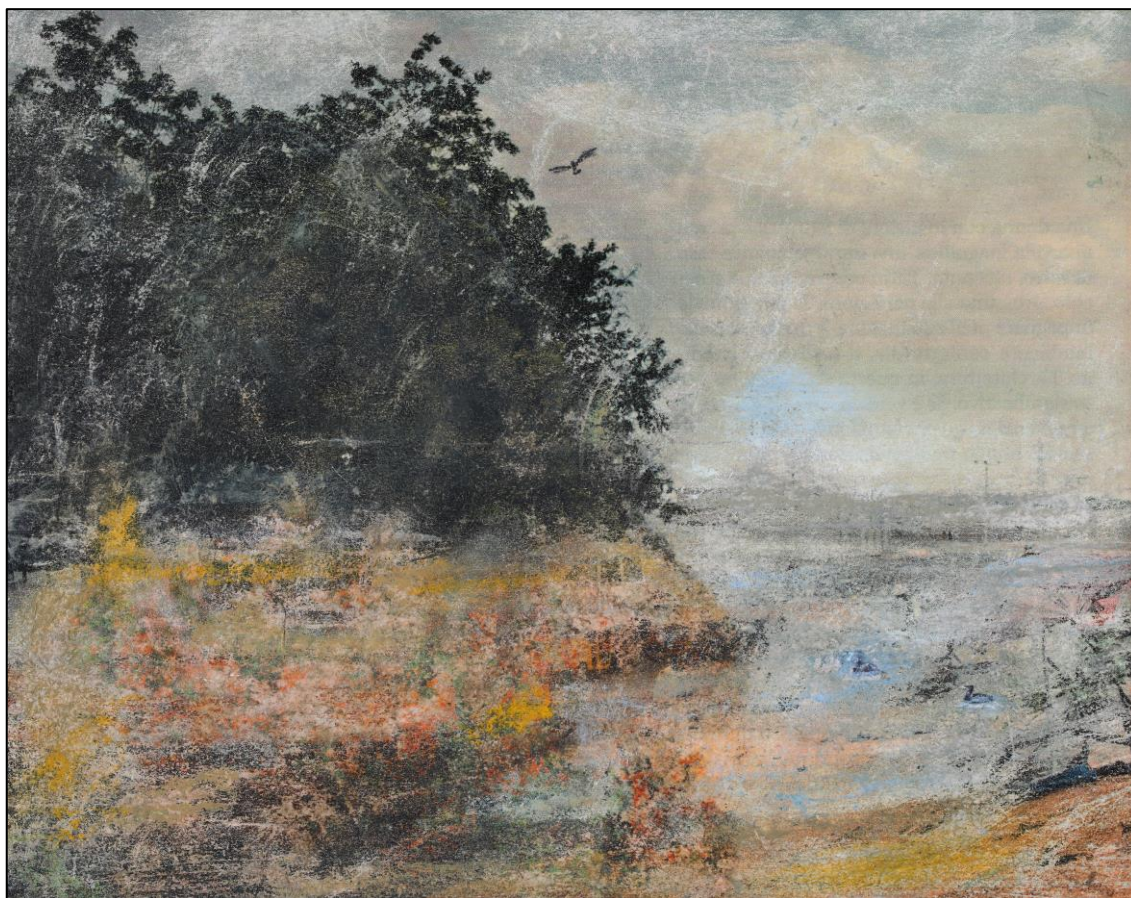


**Fig. 0. *The Countryside of Roman Britain* by Adelmo Savani. Photograph by Lucio Rossi. Reproduced with permission of the authors.**

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Special thanks are due to Tom Brindle, Martyn Allen, and the members of *The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain* project for sharing their dataset of rural sites in Kent, Surrey, and Sussex with me. I would also like to acknowledge the work of the hundreds of specialists who identified and studied the archaeological sites and published the excavation reports on which this catalogue of sites is based.

David Millum, Lacey Wallace, and Paul Wilkinson have been keen on providing comments and clarifications about specific sites. David Bird, Chris Blair-Myers, Neil Holbrook, and David Rudling were kind enough to check the sites included in this gazetteer and share references and previews on ongoing projects. Naturally, none of them is accountable for any remaining errors or oversights.



## **Note to the Reader**

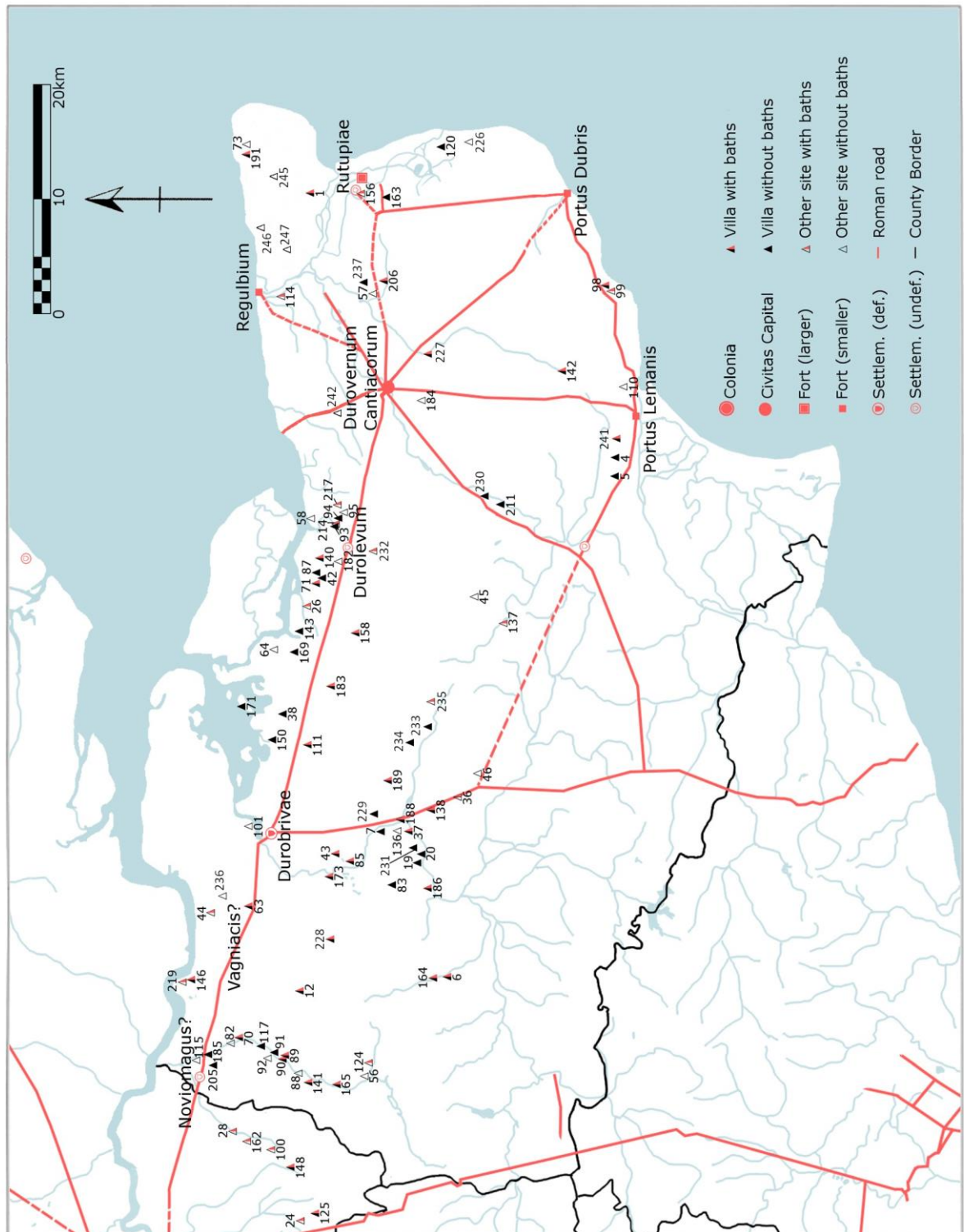
This resource is a catalogue of rural sites (therefore excluding urban and military sites) equipped with baths in Kent, the London Borough of Bromley, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex, and Gloucestershire. The catalogue is organised alphabetically by county and includes 133 sites with baths: 45 in Kent, 6 in the London Borough of Bromley, 14 in Surrey, 8 in East Sussex, 20 in West Sussex, and 40 in Gloucestershire.

The bibliography has been updated until the end of 2023. While every effort has been made to ensure the catalogue is comprehensive, it does not claim to be exhaustive. Villa baths feature prominently, and since there are only five rural non-villa and non-military sites with baths, these have been listed separately in the section titled ‘Other Rural Baths’. Each site is assigned an Individual Site Number, which is used to identify them in Maps 1–4. Villa sites without baths are also included in the maps and are listed in Appendix 1.

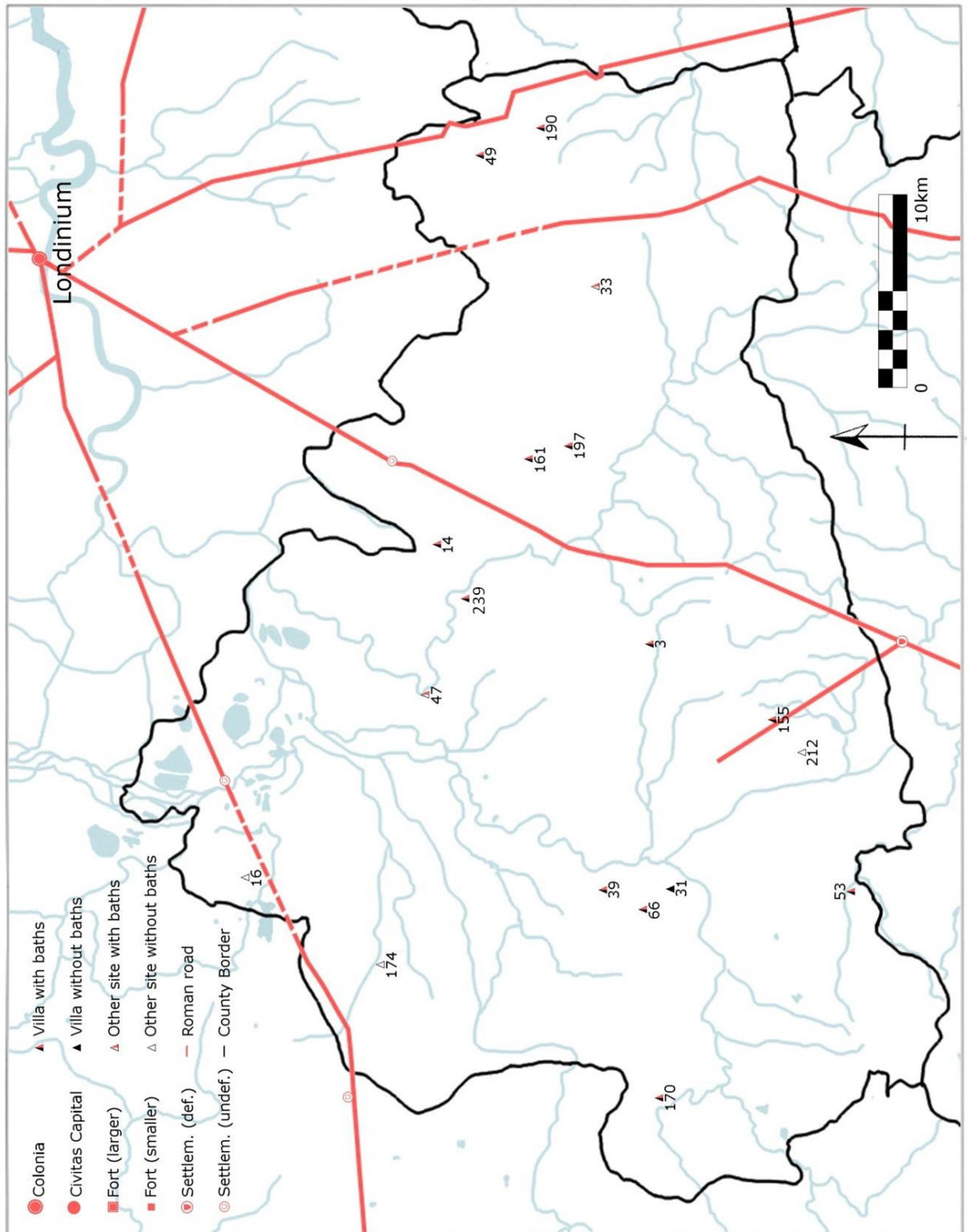
Each entry provides general information about the site and its excavation history. The baths are described in detail, including summaries of their various phases, decorations, and methods of water supply. Material culture directly (e.g., perfume vessels, oil flasks, toilet instruments) or indirectly (e.g., oyster shells, hairpins, game counters, valuable objects recovered from drains) associated with bathing found at each site is also documented. A list of bibliographical references is provided in alphabetical order at the end of each entry. When available, each entry is accompanied by a re-drawn plan of the baths.

If a site mentioned in one of the Gazetteer entries has its own separate entry (i.e., it features a set of baths), it is highlighted in bold the first time it is mentioned.

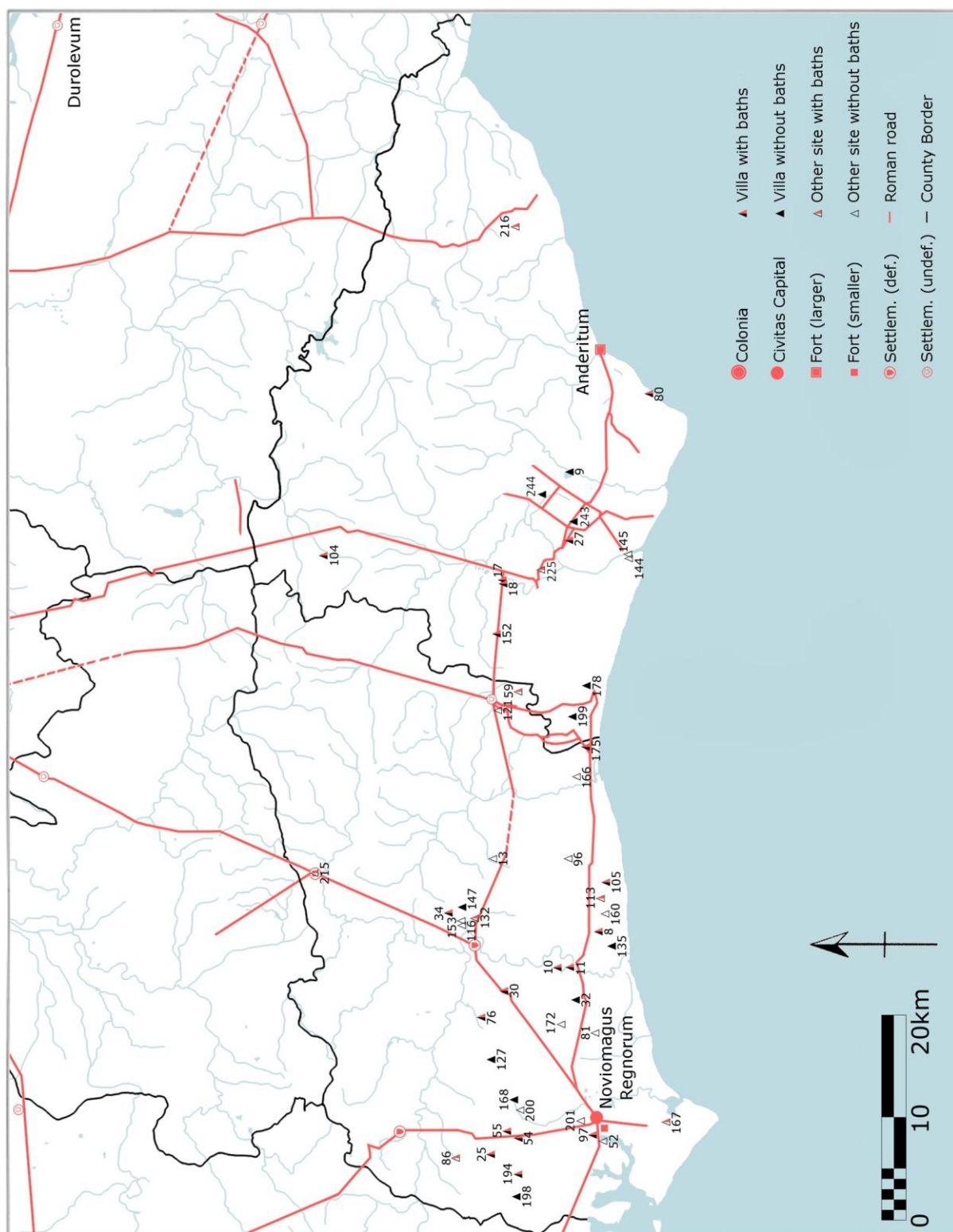
## Maps



**Map 1. Distribution of Roman villas and baths associated with other rural sites in Kent and London Borough of Bromley. See Appendix 1 for the sites corresponding to each number.**

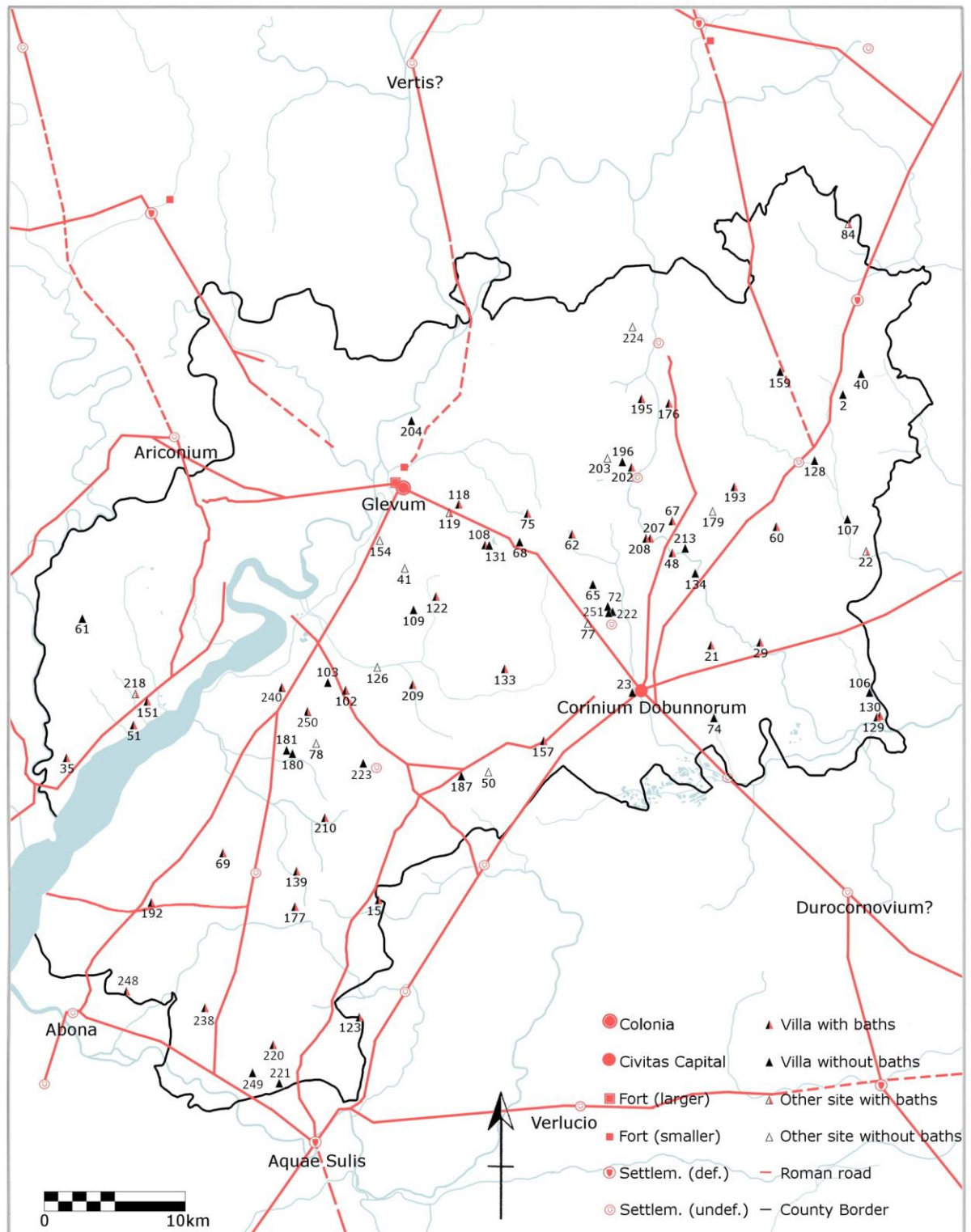


**Map 2. Distribution of Roman villas and baths associated with other rural sites in Surrey.**  
 See Appendix 1 for the sites corresponding to each number.



**Map 3. Distribution of Roman villas and baths associated with other rural sites in East and West Sussex. See Appendix 1 for the sites corresponding to each number.**





**Map 4. Distribution of Roman villas and baths associated with other rural sites in Gloucestershire. See Appendix 1 for the sites corresponding to each number.**

## Kent and London Borough of Bromley

ABBEY BARNS, FAVERSHAM (Kent)

**Individual Site Number:** 214

**Location:** TR 020 617

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is in an area of intense Roman settlement and activity, including the villa at Faversham 1, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School (located c. 150m to the northwest; see Philp 1968). An aisled hall or barn (52.4m long and 14.3m wide) with concrete and chalk floors was built near a stream, probably in the early second century CE. The outside walls were about 3m high and made of mortared Kentish ragstone and flint nodules (Wilkinson 2019). It was an 'arcaded stone building with clerestory lighting, a separate nave with two aisles, all roofed in tile' (Wilkinson 2023, vi).

Soon after its construction, part of the barn was transformed into a bathhouse. At the southeast end of the building, a courtyard wall continued for about 25m to the east. A crudely built, large semi-circular apse made of flint was constructed to the north of the building during a later phase (late fourth century?). A tiled rectangular feature at the centre of this room has been interpreted as the remains of a Christian altar, a hypothesis supported by the discovery of a pectoral cross pendant. Pottery from the site indicates that this structure continued in use to the late fourth century and into the early Saxon period (late sixth century?) when it was demolished and superseded by a platform for a timber hall (*grubenhäus*).

The complex might have been part of the villa at Faversham 1, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, separated from the building by a freshwater spring and stream leading to the tidal Faversham Creek. Wilkinson (2019, unnumbered) notes that 'the tidal waters of the Swale estuary lapped the building, and investigation has shown a large tidal inlet existed here in the Roman period and was deep enough to form a harbour for Roman ships'. He therefore suggests that the baths might have been used by merchant ship crews on their way to *Londinium*. Presently known site area: c. 2,400m<sup>2</sup>.

**Site chronology:** second–sixth centuries

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 2012 by the Kent Archaeological Field School, and excavations under the direction of Paul Wilkinson are on-going.

**Baths:** The bath-suite was built at the southwest corner end of the building and measured about 13m x 9.5m. Only a small part of it was investigated, but some of its rooms were heated with pillared hypocausts. (Wilkinson 2023).

**Decoration:** Large quantities of coloured wall plaster have been recovered. It was mainly white, 'but the hot sauna room on the north side of the building had plaster walls decorated in green, red and yellow panels' (Wilkinson 2019, unnumbered). Wilkinson (2016, unnumbered) notes that 'the decoration has the feel of municipal baths with none of the luxurious features one would expect of a private enterprise bathhouse'.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been supplied by the stream running to the west of the site.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Small finds from the building include silver jewellery, bone hair pins, and exotic glass vessels. Large quantities of window glass have also been retrieved (Wilkinson 2016; 2019).

**Key references:** Catling 2011; Wilkinson 2016; 2019; 2023.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

## ABBEY FARM, MINSTER-IN-THANET

**Individual Site Number:** 1

**Location:** TR 3135 6463

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on a sandy hilltop on the southern side of the Isle of Thanet, in north-east Kent, and the villa was ‘established within a landscape that had long been occupied’ (Perkins, 2004, 28). Six buildings have been located on the site: Building 1 was the primary residence; Building 2 was possibly ‘an elaborate corn-drying oven/malting kiln or a latrine’ (Perkins, 2004, 33); Building 3 was a small detached bathhouse; Building 4 was a ‘stone-built house, situated some 75m downhill (south) of the main villa’ (ibid.); Building 5 was a ‘small structure of uncertain purpose’ (ibid.); and Building 6 was a bath-suite during the second and third sub-phases of its first phase (6A), before being demolished to make way for a ‘large, rectangular, single-roomed structure’ (Fitzpatrick 2005, 445). Buildings 1, 3 and 5 lay within a large, walled enclosure, with a gateway probably at the centre of its south wall (Perkins, 2004, 30). Site area: c. 140 x 95m.

**Villa chronology:** Late first–late third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site has been known since the nineteenth century (Ireland 1829–31, vol. 1, 481), and in 1979, it was photographed and plotted by HBMC (Neg. no. NMR 1661, Frame 363). Excavation started only in 1996 when the site was adopted by the Fieldwork Committee of the Kent Archaeological Society (Perkins, 2004, 25–6). Excavations ran almost continuously until 2005 under the direction of Perkins and Parfitt.

**Baths:** As reported by Parfitt (2007, 293), Building 3 and Building 6A were both ‘in use during the second century and they must have been broadly contemporary’. Building 3 was likely used by the dwellers of the main house while Building 6 (built outside the villa enclosure) was perhaps ‘intended for the use of estate workers, whose presence within the villa owner’s private walled compound was not acceptable’ (ibid.).

Building 6 was probably connected with Building 4 (50m to the west), which ‘seems to have functioned as a modest dwelling’ and ‘was perhaps the villa bailiff’s house’ (ibid.). When the Building 6A baths were demolished, ‘Building 4 would seem to have been left without any such facilities, even though the structure itself had been enlarged and improved’ (Parfitt 2007, 293–4). Parfitt (2007, 294) speculates the existence of another set of baths, perhaps lying ‘by the stream in the valley below the site, hidden under a significant accumulation of down-washed soil’.

**Building 3:** This bathhouse was a small structure (c. 9.55 x 7.15m) located ‘immediately to the west of the main house’, with ‘less than a 2m gap between the buildings’ (Parfitt 2004, 33). Considering their proximity, ‘some sort of roofed connecting passage could easily have been constructed between the two buildings’ (ibid.). Building 3 was constructed after the completion of Building 1, possibly in the late first or early second centuries, and was probably abandoned in the early third century (ibid.).

The original structure (Phase 1), built of large flint cobbles, was subsequently refurbished and modified in Phases 2A, 2B and 3 (Parfitt 2004, 35). The structure was covered by two barrel vaults of tufa (Jones 2014, 202). After abandonment, the bath-suite was robbed in two different phases, the earliest one probably during the Roman period (Parfitt 2004, 45). The numbering of the rooms follows Parfitt’s plan (2004, 34, Fig. 5).

**Phase I:** During this initial phase, the bathhouse was structured as follows: Room 20 (c.2.75 x 1.25m) was not hypocausted and might have been ‘a sunken cold plunge bath’



(Parfitt 2004, 35). Room 21 (c.2.7 x 2.7m) was hypocausted and, considering its distance from the furnace, was likely a *tepidarium*. Room 22 (c. 2.7 x 1.23m) was not heated, and it might have been a small *frigidarium* or ‘an entrance lobby facing the main house’ (Parfitt 2004, 39). Room 23 (c. 2.75 x 1.85m) was also unheated and was the *apodyterium* or the *frigidarium* of the bath-suite. Room 24 (c. 2.7 x 3.55m) was the furnace room; Room 25 (c. 2.12 x 1.15m) was a hot plunge bath linked to the *caldarium* in Room 26 (c. 2.75 x 2.7m). Finally, Room 27 (c. 0.62 x 1.55m) might have been another hot plunge bath or, considering its small size, a *schola*, a small room containing a water basin (*labrum*) (Parfitt 2004, 41).

Parfitt (2004a, 43) reports ‘a shallow depression with heavily burnt sides about half way along the channel’ of the furnace in Room 24, which ‘appeared to represent the site of the actual fire’. He continues: ‘[t]his hollow, probably caused by the continual burning and raking out of the ash, had subsequently been repaired, using clay’.

*Phase IIA*: During this phase, the hypocaust system of the bath-suite was rebuilt entirely and was now ‘supported on flat-topped, sloping-sided ‘ramps’ set around the side-walls’ (Parfitt 2004, 42). As noted by Parfitt (*ibid.*), these features have been found at other sites in Kent, including **Lullingstone** (Meates 1979, 97), **Darenth** (Payne 1879, 61) and **Little Chart** (Eames 1957, 136). During the same period, the *caldarium* was enlarged (now c. 6 x 2.7m) by the removal of the wall between Rooms 21 and 26. According to Parfitt (2004, 42), this ‘could indicate a larger number of people were now using the baths, or perhaps it reflects the rising status of the villa occupants’. To this period belongs also ‘a flint base set in the north-west corner of Room 24’, which ‘seemed to represent the base for a wooden stairway giving access from the outside’ (Parfitt 2004, 43).

*Phase IIB*: During this sub-phase (possibly contemporary with Phase IIA), ‘a stone wall [...] had been added along the north [...] and part of the east [...] side of the original bath building, to create a sub-surface drainage channel, about 0.5m wide and at least 0.4m deep’ (Parfitt 2004, 43). This channel was connected with a latrine pit at the north-eastern corner of Room 23.

*Phase III*: At this stage, the noted drainage channel ‘was further extended by almost 7m, beyond the villa boundary wall’ (Parfitt 2004, 44).

*Building 6A*: This building had three phases. As noted by Parfitt (2007, 286), ‘it would seem that the construction, occupation and abandonment of Building 6A fall entirely within the second century’. During Phase I, it ‘consisted of a simple, rectangular two-roomed [Rooms 32 and 33] structure butted directly onto the outside of the pre-existing south villa enclosure wall’ (Parfitt 2007, 267). Its function at this time is uncertain, but it might have accommodated ‘slaves or other workers who needed to be housed outside the main villa enclosure’ (*ibid.*).

In Phase II, this structure ‘underwent a major programme of alteration, which saw the addition of several extra rooms (Rooms 36, 37, 38, 41a and 44) and the construction of a new hypocaust system within the original building (Rooms 34 and 35)’ (*ibid.*). The entrance to the new bath-suite (c. 10m N-S by 11m E-W) ‘may have been placed in the middle of the east wall, facing Building 4 and been reached via a small courtyard now created between Rooms 36 and 37’ (Parfitt 2007, 268).

During Phase III, the bathhouse was enlarged ‘with the addition of a range of five more rooms along the south and west sides of the existing structure (Rooms 39-43)’ (*ibid.*). Parfitt (2007, 286) suggests that ‘the structure was probably finally demolished around AD 200’. The numbering of the rooms follows Parfitt’s plan (2009, 266, Fig. 3)

*Phase II:* During this phase, the bathhouse was structured as follows: the south end of Room 32 (c. 5.65 x 6m) was ‘cut away by the excavation of the stoke-pit for the new hypocaust system’ and possibly ‘the untouched area beyond the stoke-pit could have served as a fuel store’ (Parfitt 2007, 269).

Room 33 (c. 8.25 x 6m) was modified, and ‘the western side of this Phase I room was now taken up by the newly inserted stoke-pit, hypocaust furnace and two new heated rooms, Rooms 34 and 35’. Its east part ‘perhaps now became a narrow corridor providing access between the main entrance and Rooms 37 and 38 to the south’ (Parfitt 2007, 269–70).

Room 34 (c. 1.2 x 2.4m) was hypocausted and was a hot plunge bath linked to Room 35 (c. 3 x 3m), the hypocausted *caldarium* of the bath-suite. Room 44 (c. 2.65 x 3.3m), even if unheated, was perhaps a *tepidarium*. Room 38 (c. 3 x 5.15m) was the *frigidarium*, and Room 37 (c. 4.55 x 3.1m) ‘might have functioned as the Undressing Room (*apodyterium*), perhaps situated adjacent to the main entrance into the building’ (Parfitt 2007, 274).

Room 36 (c. 6 x 3.1m) ‘did not form an integral part of the southern bath-suite, although it could have provided accommodation for attendants working at the baths’, as testified by a ‘large hearth [...] located adjacent to the east wall’ (Parfitt 2007, 273–4). A ‘shallow robber-trench’ (Parfitt 2007, 268) south of Room 44 may suggest the existence of another Room (41a) that ‘could have contained a projecting cold plunge bath (surface-built)’ (Parfitt 2007, 274).

*Phase III:* Five rooms were added to the original structure, and ‘three of the new rooms were sunken (Rooms 41–43) and must relate to another hypocaust system, unconnected with that previously constructed during Phase 2’ (Parfitt 2007, 274). Room 39 (c. 1.5 x 1.6m) was unheated and was seemingly a small storeroom; the function of Room 40 (c. 1.55 x 3.25m), also unheated, is uncertain.

Room 41 (c. 1.5 x 2.6m) was a hot sunken bath, and Room 43 (c. 3.05 x 2.1m) was a *caldarium* or maybe a *laconicum* that might have ‘formed a self-contained unit’ (Parfitt 2007, 281). Both rooms were heated by a new furnace room built in Room 42 (c. 1.6 x 2.75m), which formerly had a different (uncertain) function.

### **Decoration:**

*Building 3:* Fragments of painted wall plaster and *tesserae* were recorded, ‘demonstrating that parts of the bathhouse originally had brightly painted walls and plain red tessellated floors’ (Parfitt 2004, 35).

*Building 6A:* Parfitt (2007, 292) reports only large quantities of painted plaster from the area of Building 6.

**Water supply:** Ceramic water pipes were found during the excavation of Building 3 (Parfitt 2004, 47). A small stream emerges at the bottom of the valley below the foothill where the villa is located. According to Perkins (2004, 284), it ‘provided an important source of fresh running water (rare across much of Thanet from prehistoric to medieval times)’. However, ‘the problems of raising water uphill to the villa would have been very considerable’, and, perhaps, ‘a local spring issuing from the foot of the rising ground to the north of the villa was tapped, the water flowing down to the villa site by gravity’ (ibid.). Water for Building 6A was likely supplied by two wells (Fs 7105 and 7128), although both were ‘filled in at the end of the second century AD’ (Parfitt 2007, 283).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Three bone pins were recovered from the deposits associated with Building 3, two of which were found in contexts associated with the use of the building (Boast & Cunningham 2016, 3). The primary use of these pins was to secure and complement female hair decoration (Cool 1992, 150).

Moreover, Building 3 produced ‘an array of colourless tableware [...] and fragments from a large amber jar’, suggesting that the area around the bathhouse was ‘a convenient point for disposing of glass broken in the main house’ (Broadley 2017, 101).

Parfitt (2007, 292) reports ‘a range of small finds and food debris in the form of animal bone and marine shell (mostly oysters)’ from Building 6A. Generic bottle and window glass form the assemblage of glass from this building (Broadley 2017, 101).

**Key references:** Boast & Cunningham 2016; Broadley 2017; Fitzpatrick 2003, 357; 2004, 314–5; 2005, 445; Ireland 1829–31, vol. 1, 481; Jones 2014; Parfitt 2004; 2007; Parfitt *et al.* 2009; Perkins 1996; 1999; 2004; Perkins & Parfitt 2004; Tomalin 2022.

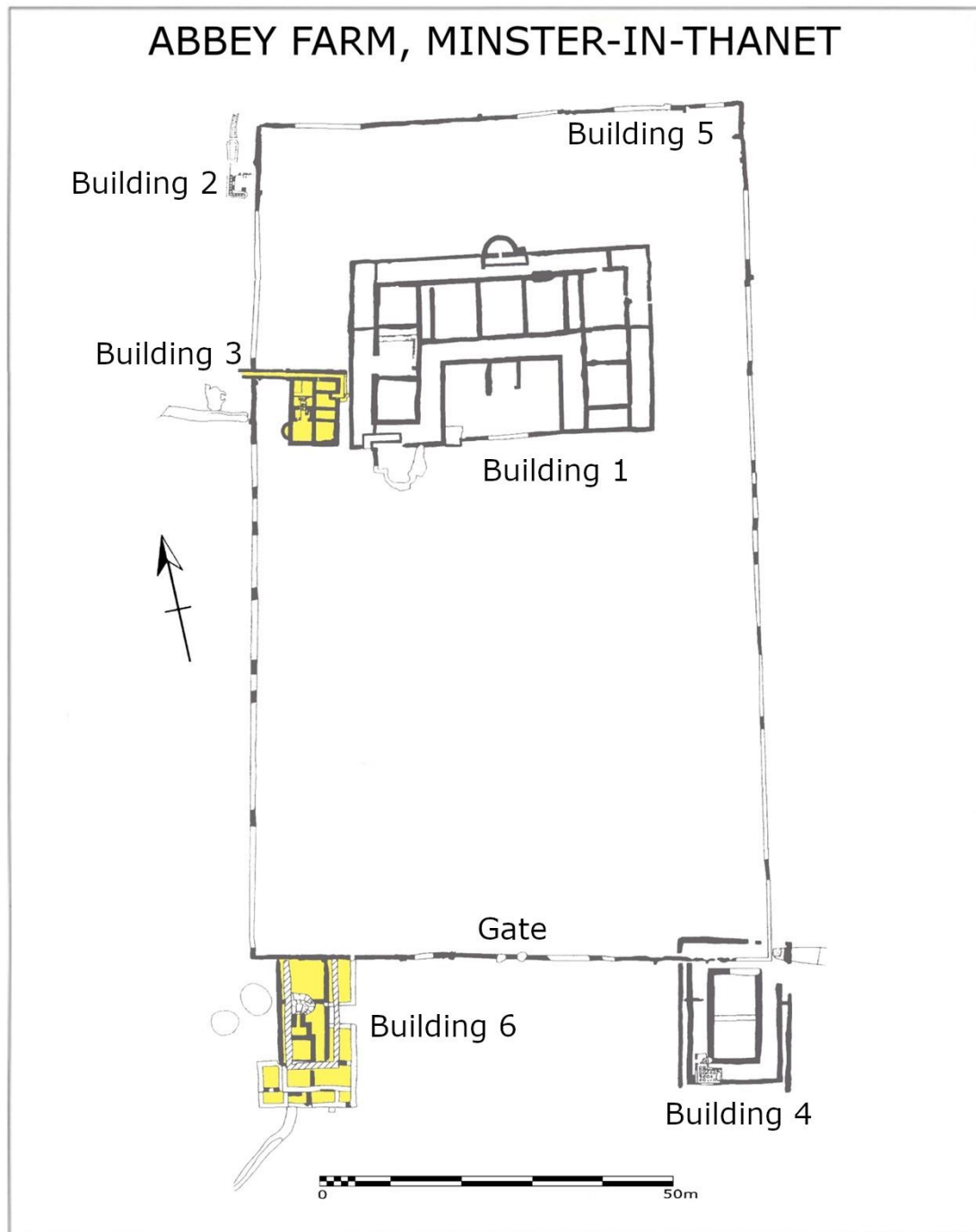


**Figure 2. Plan of the villa at Abbey Farm, Minster-In-Thanet (Kent). The bath-suites are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Parfitt 2007, 262, Fig. 1.**

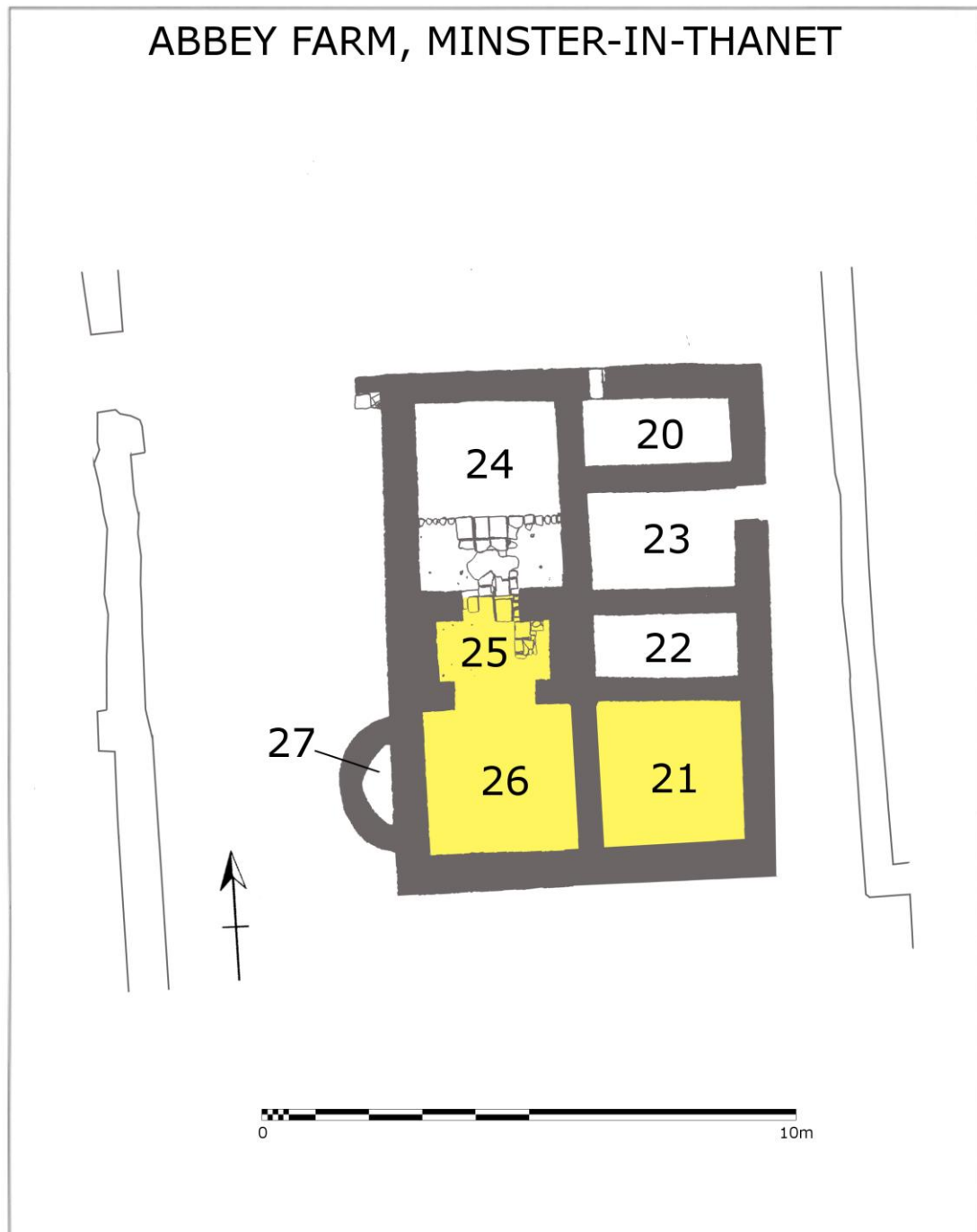


**Figure 3. Plan of Building 3 at Abbey Farm, Minster-In-Thamet (Kent) during Phase I. Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Parfitt 2004, 34, Fig. 5.**

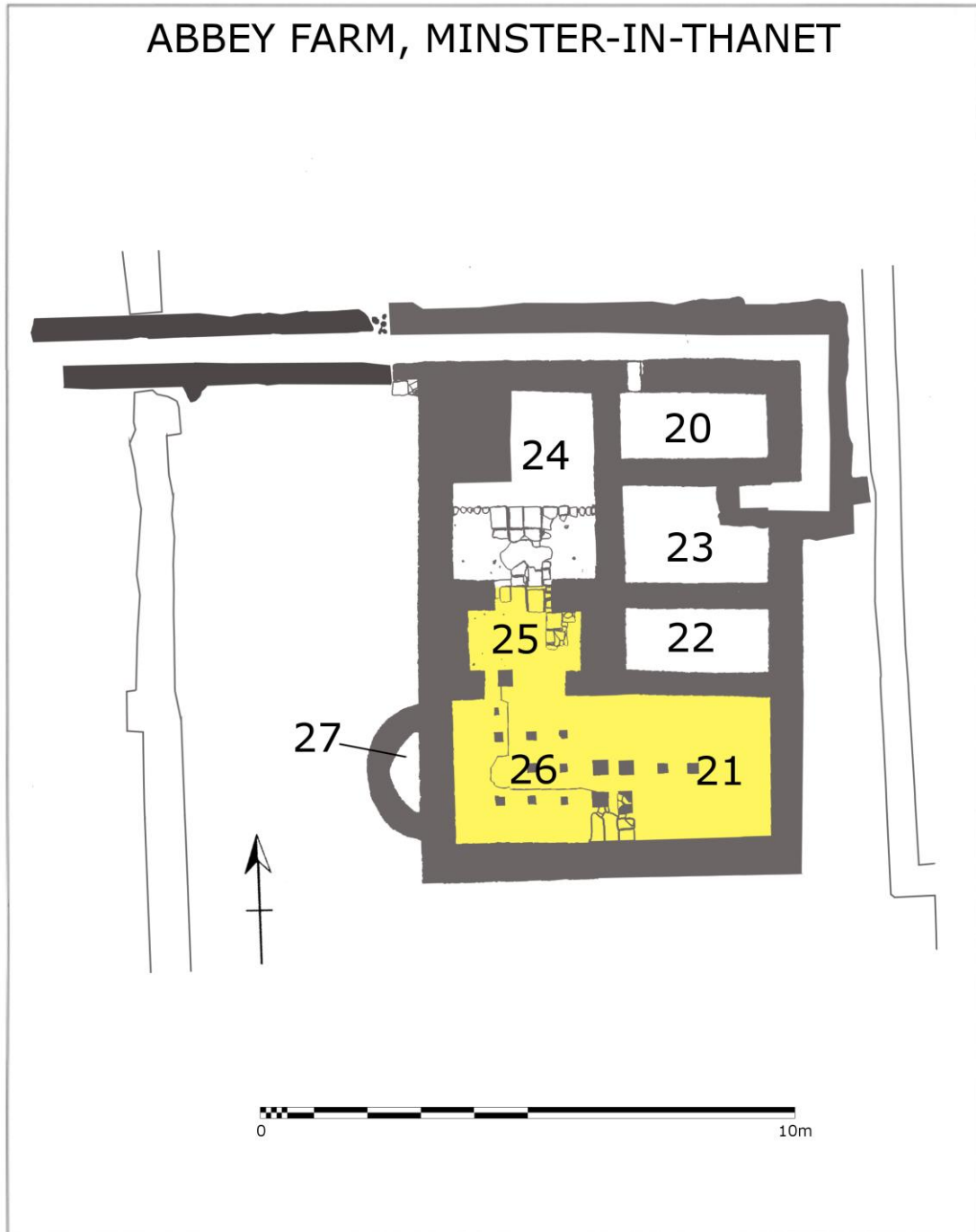


**Figure 4. Plan of Building 3 at Abbey Farm, Minster-In-Thanet (Kent) during Phases II and III (darker grey). Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Parfitt 2004, 34, Fig. 5.**

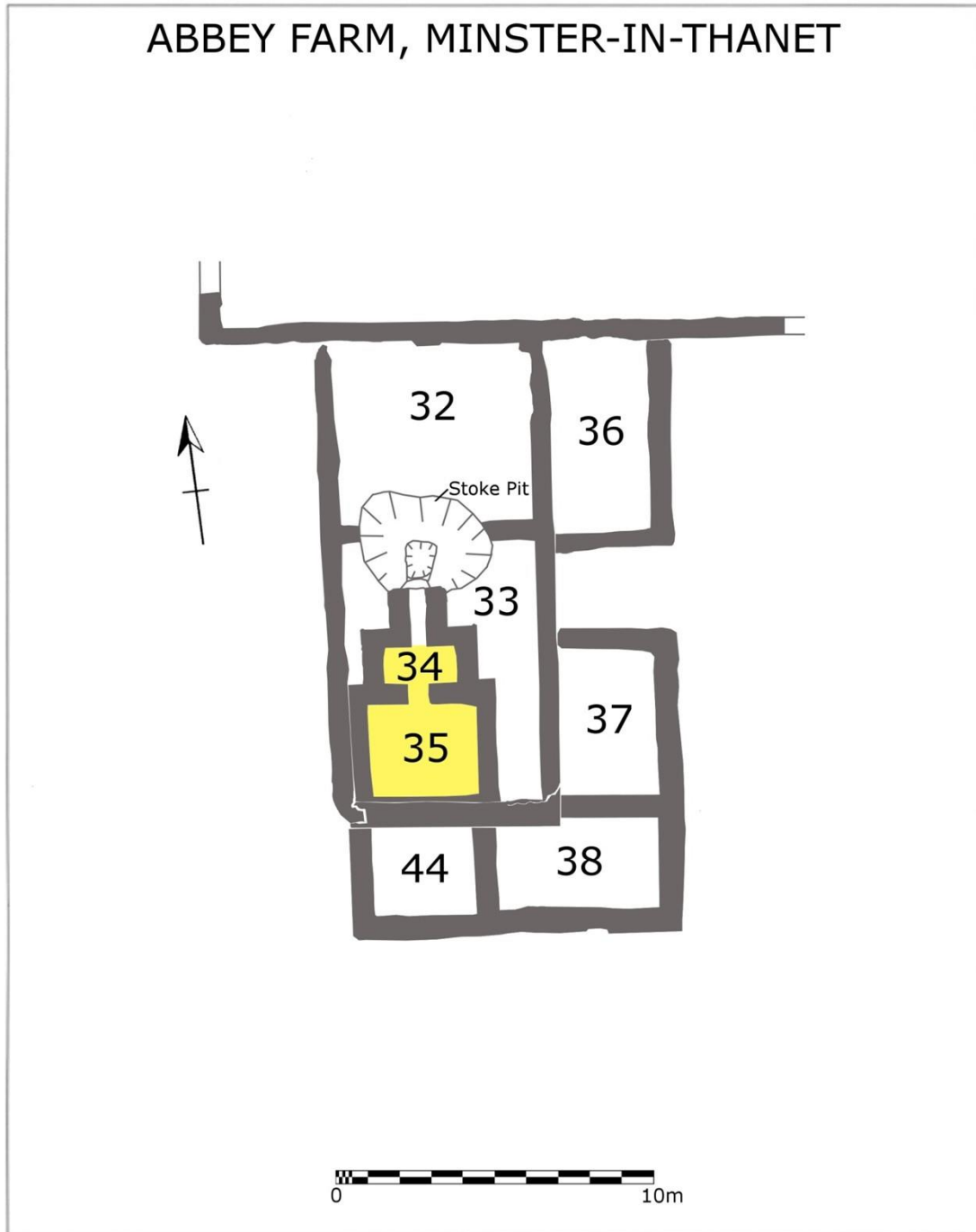


**Figure 5. Plan of Building 6A at Abbey Farm, Minster-In-Thanet (Kent) during Phase II. Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Parfitt 2007, 266, Fig. 3.**



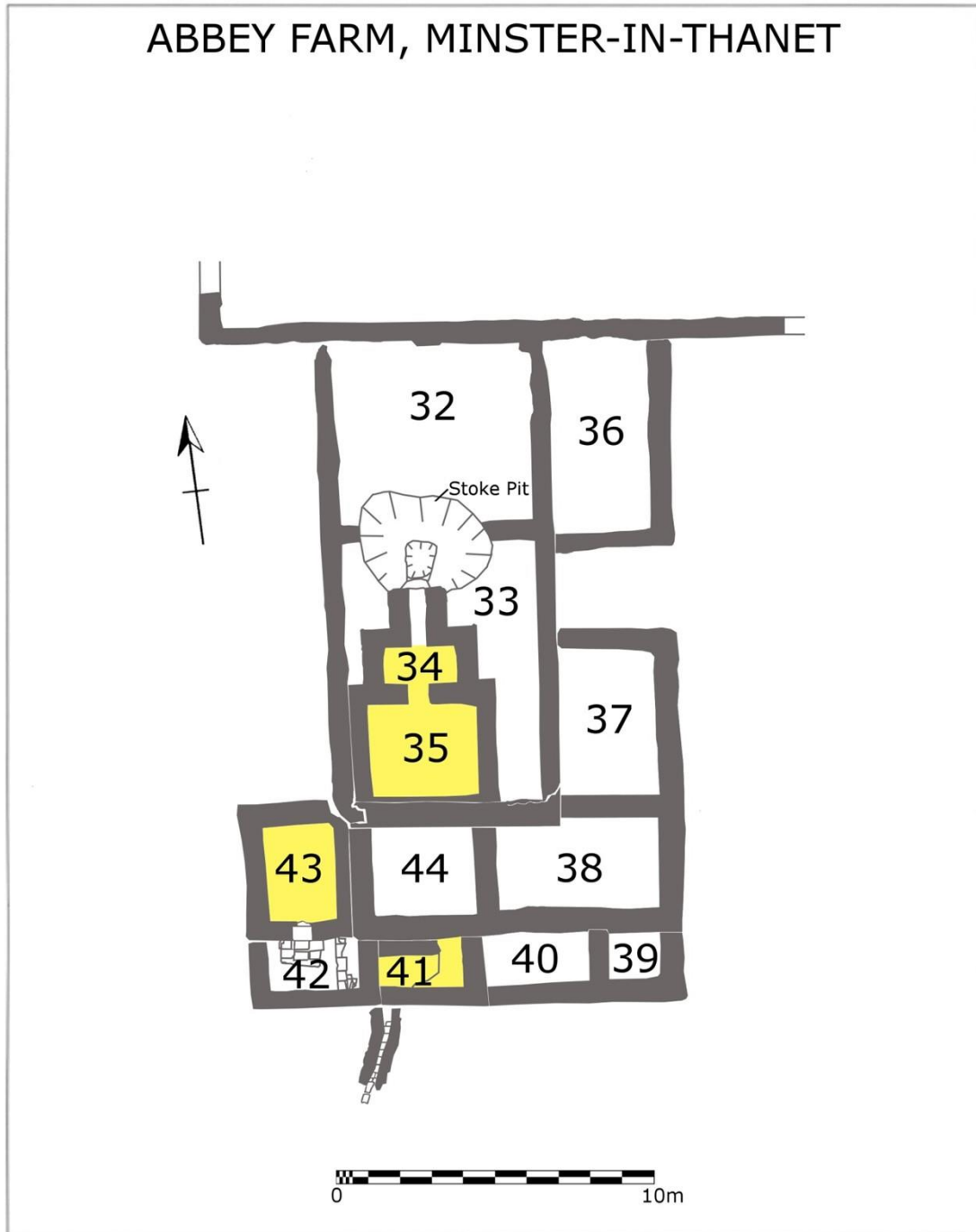


**Figure 6. Plan of Building 6A at Abbey Farm, Minster-In-Thanet (Kent) during Phase III. Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Parfitt 2007, 266, Fig. 3.**

## ALLENS FARM

**Individual Site Number:** 6

**Location:** TQ 6145 5308

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 50m to the north of the River Bourne, c. 600m to the south of the villa at **Sedgebrook, Plaxtol**, and c. 1.6km to the south-east of a Roman burial site in Dux Field, Plaxtol. As noted by Davies (2009, 274), 'it seems highly likely that all these Romano-British buildings were part of one farm estate'. According to his reconstruction, the original farm owners lived in the villa at Sedgebrook, and the simple structure at Allens Farm housed 'the estate workers or extended family' (ibid.). The farm building (c. 21.5 x 11.1m) was built in the second half of the second century and underwent at least one major redevelopment after the middle of the third century CE.

Discussing this structure, Davies (2009, 267) notes that 'the animal bone evidence indicates that the farm occupants kept sheep, cattle, chickens and geese and hunted red and roe deer and, all in all, followed a form of livelihood that differed very little from their Iron Age ancestors'.

During the second half of the second century, a kiln (c. 100m southeast of the farm building) and, shortly after, a detached bathhouse (c. 25m east of the farm building and 130m northwest of the kiln) were built. They both fell into disuse during the third century. Davies (2009, 264) reports that the kiln provided tiles (marked 'Cabriabanus') for the bathhouse and for the redevelopments of the farm building and of the villa at Sedgebrook in the second century. It also produced voussoir tiles for the villa at **Darenth** and a Roman building in Bishopsgate, London. Site area: c. 175 x 100m.

**Site chronology:** Second half of second–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** In 1858, Major Luard (1859) superintended a small excavation in an ash plantation southeast of Plaxton village, discovering the foundations of the bathhouse. It was possibly linked to another building found in 1857 but poorly recorded (the farm building?) when the area 'was converted from ploughland into a hop field' (Taylor 1932, 122).

During this first investigation, Mr Martin, the owner of Allen's Farm, also discovered a bronze statuette of Minerva Victrix imported from Gaul, now in the Maidstone Museum (Grove 1955). The bathhouse was re-dug in 1956 by the Tonbridge School (Davies 2009, 261–2). Extensive geophysical surveying and sample excavations were carried out between 1999 and 2006 under the direction of Malcolm Davies (2009).

**Baths:** The bathhouse (c. 18 x 12m) was built in the second half of the second century and was structured as follows: Room 1 (uncertain size) was the entrance to the bathhouse; Room 2 (c. 2.5 x 0.8m) was probably a latrine. Room 3 (c. 3.04 x 3.04m) was an apodyterium, perhaps heated by a brazier in the northwest corner of the room (Davies 2009, 262), where wood ashes and charcoal were found by Luard (1859, 5).

Room 4 (uncertain size) was hypocausted and might have been a *tepidarium*; Room 6 (c. 7.31 x 2.43m) was the *caldarium*, with an apse in Room 5 (c. 1.82m wide and c. 1.21m max. depth). Rooms 8 (c. 3.1 x 2.6m), 9 (c. 3.04 x 2.13m), 10 (c. 2.6 x 2.13m) were a suite of cold rooms. Room 8 had an apse (unnumbered, c. 3m wide and c. 1.3m max. depth) on its northern side where a small, tiled seat was found. According to Davies (2009, 263), this 'would have been where the bather sat, to be sluiced with cold water, before walking through the cold rooms (9 and 19)'.

Rooms 9 and 10 were two *frigidaria*, and Room 11 (c. 2.74 x 1.67m) was a cold plunge bath, 0.6m below the established floor level, perhaps with steps on its western side (Taylor 1932, 123). This plunge bath ‘would have been filled with water via the channel recorded by Luard in Room 9’ (Davies 2009, 263). Room 7 was the furnace room of the bathhouse. Fragments of peculiar hollow voussoirs keyed with a Latin inscription, ‘PARIETALEM CABRIABANU FARBICAVI [sic]’, ‘Cabriabanus made this wall tile’, were found at the site (Davies 2004, 165). The numbering of the rooms follows Davies’ plan (2009, 262, Fig. 4).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse was probably supplied by a nearby spring.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A pottery game counter was found in Room 4 (Davies 2009, 263).

**Key references:** Davies 2004; 2009; Detsicas 1983, 141–2; Grove 1955; Luard 1859; Scott 1993, 107; Taylor 1932, 122–4.

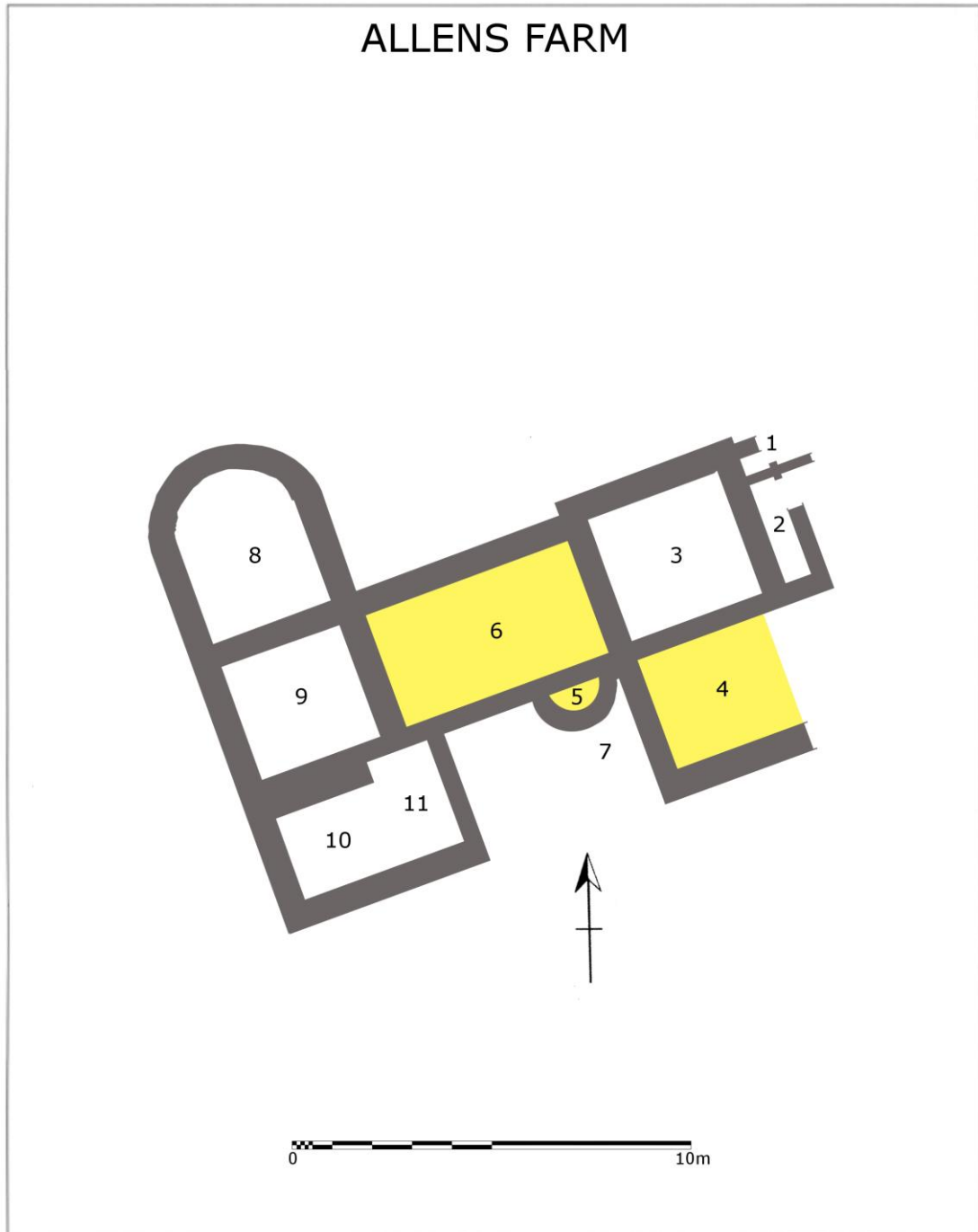


**Figure 7. Plan of the detached bathhouse at Allens Farm (Kent). Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Davies 2009, 262, Fig. 4.**

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY

**Individual Site Number:** 12

**Location:** TQ 6084 6500

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site includes a rectangular walled enclosure with a small house at the western end. The original villa (Phase 1) ‘formed a complete rectangle, 89 feet 3 inches [c. 27.2m] by 50 feet 2 inches [c. 15.29m] overall, with the main entrance in the West’ (Walsh 1970, 19).

At a later stage (Phase 2), ‘a complex of rooms with tiled roofs was added at the West end [of the main house] and a bath-block was formed’ (ibid.). Two outbuildings to the north (Rooms 3–4) and east (2) of the complex were also later additions. A metallised trackway and a rectangular ditched enclosure containing late-first-century pottery were found in the vicinity (TQ 608 651) (Cockett 1972, 237; 1973, 220). Presently known site area: c. 34.2 x 22.5m.

**Villa chronology:** Mid-second–mid-third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in June 1914 and soon after excavated ‘by Mr. Jas. Kirk, Mr. S. Priest, and others of the Dartford Antiquarian Society’ (Haverfield 1915, 18). Emergency excavations took place in 1969, directed by Roger Walsh (1970). Further investigations were carried out in 1972–3 (Cockett 1972; 1973).

**Baths:** The 1914 excavators identified Rooms D and H as part of a bath-suite (c. 2 x 6.5m). They noted that Room H was ‘excavated 1 foot 6 inches [0.48m] below adjacent Roman levels, indicating that the room may have been used as the cold plunge bath’ (Walsh 1970, 16). Fragments of *opus signinum* and yellow mortar were found in these rooms.

The *tepidarium* and the furnace room were probably located to the east of Room H. This room was linked ‘by a small drainage gully to a large pit or pond (Pit 12)’ (ibid.). The bath-suite was likely added during the second phase of the villa, but precise dating is uncertain (Walsh 1970, 18). The numbering of the rooms follows Walsh’s plan (1970, 15, Fig. 1).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** As observed by Walsh (1970, 18), a small pond to the north-east of the villa ‘may have been used as a water source in Roman times, but no evidence for this has yet been obtained’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 141; Cockett 1972, 237; 1973, 220; Detsicas 1983, 90–2; Haverfield 1915, 18; Scott 1993, 102–3; Walsh 1970; Wilson 1970, 303–4.

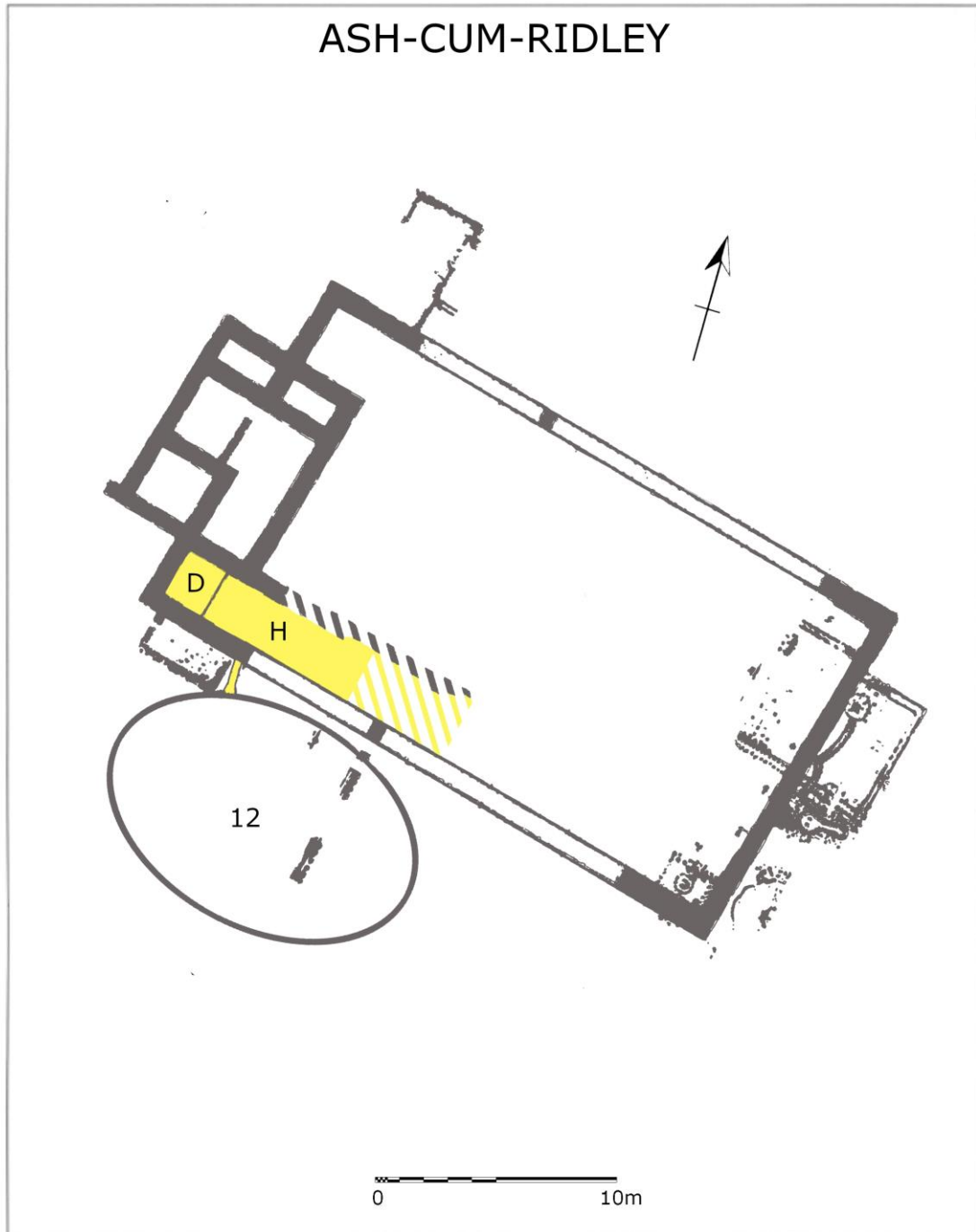


**Figure 8. Plan of the villa at Ash-cum-Ridley (Kent). The bath-suite (Rooms D-H) and the drainage gully linked to pit 12 are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Walsh 1970, 15, Fig. 1.**

## BASTON MANOR, HAYES

(Part of Kent until 1965, now part of the London Borough of Bromley)

**Individual Site Number:** 24

**Location:** TQ 4090 6460

**Typology and extent of the site:** Considering that apparently, ‘no other Roman masonry building existed at Baston’ (Philp 1973, 87), this structure has been classified as an ‘isolated’ bathhouse. Other examples occur in Kent (see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4, and Detsicas 1983, 139–44, n. 38). Philp (1973, 87) suggests that maybe ‘these detached bathhouses relate to developing farmsteads not yet evolved into the full villa-class’. Alternatively, they ‘may have been erected, on the model of town public baths, as a sort of rural public baths as well as meeting places’ (Detsicas 1983, 140). Site area: c. 12.19 x 9.14m.

**Site chronology:** c. 100–140 CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was first recorded in 1854 and rediscovered in 1964 by the West Kent Border Archaeological Group (Warman 1965a, 16; 1965b, 15; Philp 1973, 80).

**Baths:** Philp (1973, 81) reports that ‘the building was well-constructed with walls of flint, brick and chalk blocks held in a hard white mortar containing fine pea-gravel’. It was structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 2.43 x 2.13m) was an *apodyterium*; Room 2 (c. 3.65 x 2.43m) a *frigidarium*; and Room 3 (c. 1.82 x 1.21m) its cold plunge bath. A drain, possibly the outlet for the water in Room 3, traversed the centre of Rooms 1 and 2. Room 4 (c. 3.65 x 2.74m) was a *tepidarium*; Room 5 (c. 3.65 x 2.74m) was a *caldarium* with its hot bath in Room 6 (c. 1.82 x 0.91m). The furnace room was located southeast of Room 6. The numbering of the rooms follows Philp’s plan (1973, 82, Fig. 26).

**Decoration:** As reported by Clewley (1973, 91), ‘175 fragments of painted wall-plaster were recovered from the rubble inside the bath-building’. The walls in Room 2, 3, and possibly 4 were painted red.

**Water supply:** The cold plunge bath was ‘deliberately sited over or very close to a spring’ (Philp 1973, 83) that supplied the complex.

### Material culture associated with bathing

**Objects of glass:** 9 fragments of glass were found at the site. A ‘pale green vessel’ was found inside the bathhouse, together with three fragments of window glass, ‘all pale-green in colour’ (Philp 1973, 90). One of these pieces ‘has both surfaces matt and the others are matt one side and smooth on the other’, while ‘two pieces have bevelled edges to fit a wooden frame’ (ibid.).

**Objects of bronze:** A ‘flat, bronze nail-cleaner 2.1 in. long [c. 5.33cm] and about 0.2 in. wide [c. 0.5cm] was found on the bottom of the cold-plunge bath’ (Philp 1973, 91). Philp (ibid.) describes it in detail: ‘[i]t has a circular hole at one end for suspension on a ring, two small zones of horizontal lines and the normal forked-end’.

**Other finds:** Eight oyster shells were found, six ‘from the bath-building and two from the hillwash over the Neolithic area’ (Philp 1973, 90).

**Key references:** Black 1987, 145; Clewley 1973, 91; Detsicas 1983, 140; Hickson 1973; Philp 1973, 80–93; Warman 1965a, 16; 1965b, 15.



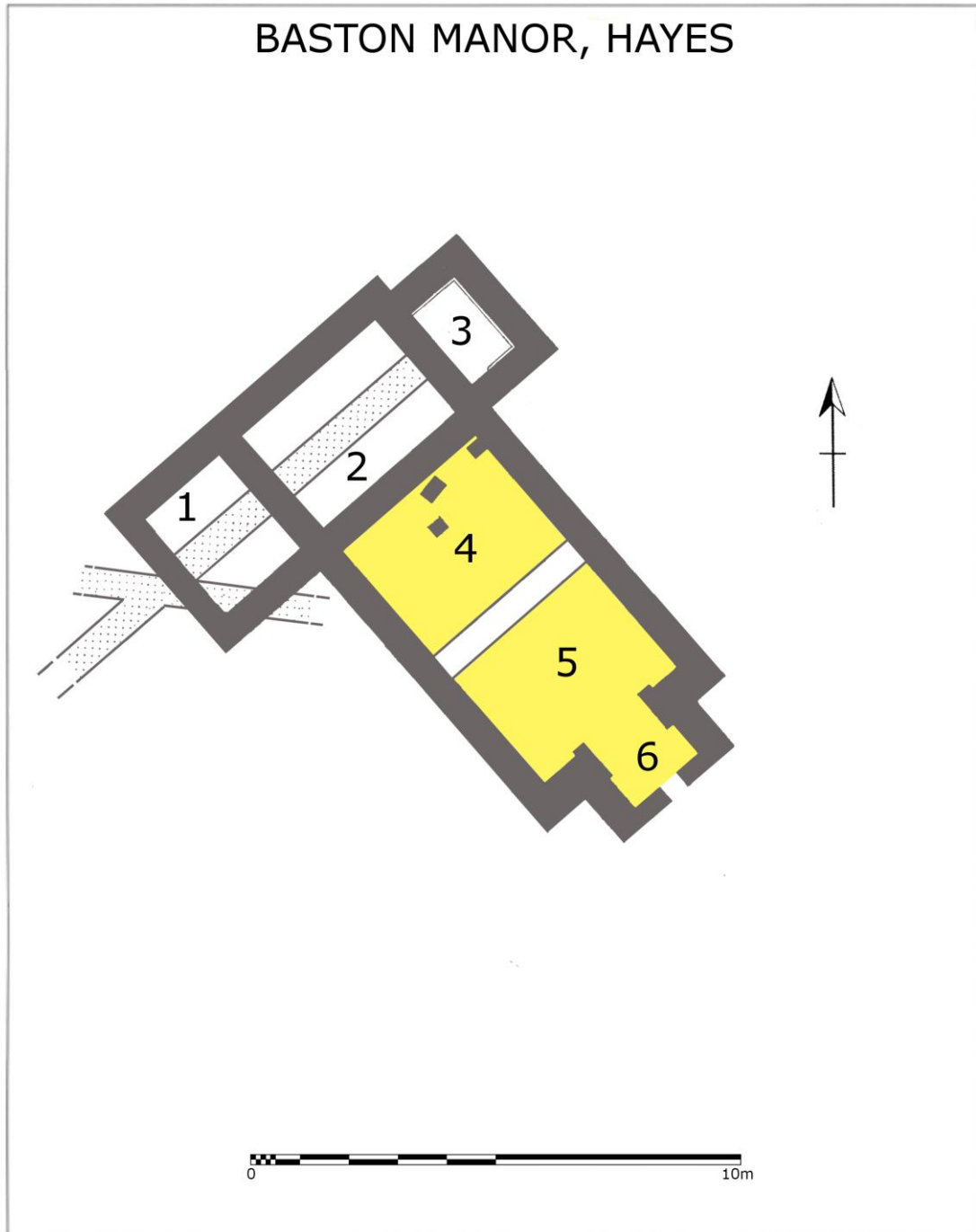


**Figure 9. Plan of the bathhouse at Baston Manor, Hayes (London Borough of Bromley). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Philp 1973, 82, Fig. 26.**

BAX FARM, TEYNHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 26

**Location:** TQ 9480 6421

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site ‘lies on a shallow, E-facing slope which leads down to freshwater springs’ (Wilkinson 2011, 407), c. 2.25 kilometres to the east of the villa at Mere Court and c. 2.85 kilometres to the west of the villa at **Deerton Street, Teynham**. In 2006, four masonry Roman buildings were spotted in the area thanks to a geophysical survey, although only an octagonal structure, identified as a bathhouse, was fully excavated. The building to the west of the baths was substantial enough (c. 40 x 20m) to be the main residential area. The complex probably had river access to the Swale estuary via a small harbour and was connected by a paved road to Watling Street. Site area: c. 200 x 80m.

**Villa chronology:** First half of the fourth–fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated in 1986 under Philp’s direction and re-explored in 2006–2009 when the octagonal building was excavated by the Kent Archaeological Field School under Paul Wilkinson (2011; 2012).

**Baths:** The bathhouse dates to about 307–337 or slightly later (Wilkinson 2011, 419). As reported by Wilkinson (2011, 410), ‘the basic plan is of two octagonal rings with radiating buttressing walls between them’. The outer ring (c. 14.5m in diameter, walls 0.76m wide) ‘was built of Kentish Ragstone blocks [...] and large knapped flint nodules’.

The inner ring (c. 7.1m in diameter, walls 0.7–0.8m wide) was of Kentish Ragstone (Wilkinson 2011, 410–1). The inner octagon probably supported a tower and was arcaded (Wilkinson 2011, 411). The bathhouse was abandoned during the fifth century: ‘after the demise of the baths, a large kiln was inserted into the rubble of the furnace room (II), its flue set into the remains of the north doorway’ (Wilkinson 2011, 419). The same happened in Room VIII, and both these modifications can be dated to c.450–650 CE (Phase 2) (ibid.).

As noted by Wilkinson (2011, 419–20), ‘the building should be considered in conjunction with the octagonal buildings at Halcombe (Devon), dated mid-4th c., and Lufton (Somerset), dated early 4th c., as well as villas at Littlecote (Wilts.) and Maidstone (Kent)’. Discussing the conflicting interpretations of these octagonal structures given by Todd (2005) and Hening (2006), Wilkinson (2011, 421–2) stresses the primary role of the building at Bax Farm as a bathhouse. However, he acknowledges that ‘we cannot rule out that an original bath was later converted to Christian use’. The numbering of the rooms follows Wilkinson’s plan (2011, 417, Fig. 3a).

**Phase 1:** The bathhouse was structured as follows: Room I (c. 5 x 2.56m) was hypocausted and was seemingly a *caldarium*. Wilkinson (2011, 416) notes that in this room, ‘the subfloor slopes down from both east and west, as do those in other Kent bathhouses at Lullingstone and Little Chart’. Room II (c. 2.95 x 2.65m) was a furnace room, ‘entered by a door (1m wide) on its N side’, and ‘the flue set in its NW corner would have provided heat to Room I, XI, and VIII’ (Wilkinson 2011, 415).

Room III was a large rectangular room (c.7.3 x 5.25m) ‘with *opus signing* floor, built onto the main octagon at the north’ and with a ‘substantial masonry and tile doorway at the S end’ (ibid.). It might have been ‘the main entrance, as well as the changing room to the octagonal baths’ (ibid.). Room IV lacked a hypocaust and was a circular plunge bath

(external diameter 3.92m, internal diameter 2.27m) built in dressed Kentish Ragstone (Wilkinson 2011, 411).

According to Wilkinson (2011, 411–2), ‘probably in its original phase the central pool was filled through room IX from the north [...] by a covered conduit in brick’. This conduit ‘seems to terminate under the floor in room III’, and ‘there is no obvious way for it to work as a water conduit unless water entered the conduit at this point from a water tower of which no evidence survives’ (Wilkinson 2011, 411, fn. 7).

*Phase 2:* At the beginning of the fifth century, a ‘shallower ornamental pool (too shallow for bathing) was set over the cold plunge bath [...]; it was now reduced to an interior [*sic*, read ‘external’] diameter of 2.28m’ (Wilkinson 2011, 413). During the same period, the brick conduit running from the northern entrance was blocked off at the point of entry to the central pool.

Also, ‘a lead pipe was installed [...] to feed (at a much-reduced rate) the pool and fountain’ (ibid.). The large amount of sediment found in a ceramic drain pipe linked to the pool ‘shows that it had seen considerable use’ (Wilkinson 2011, 414). A statue, ‘probably of a water divinity’ (Wilkinson 2012, 41), was also added at this time on a base located on the south edge of Room IV.

Room V (irregular area) was hypocausted (another *caldarium*?) and had a hot plunge bath on its northern wall (Wilkinson 2011, 419). The room was connected to an apsidal room (c. 3.2m wide and c. 1.85m max. depth) with ‘the mortared foundations of a large basin or *labrum*’. It was likely lighted up by a large window that ‘faced southwest to introduce solar heat in the early afternoon’ (Wilkinson 2011, 415).

Room VI (c. 4.9m on its external wall and 2.6m on the internal octagonal wall) was also hypocausted and might have been a *tepidarium*. Room VII (c. 4.2m on its external wall and 1.2m on the internal octagonal wall) was another furnace room. Room VIII (c. 4.1m on its external wall and 1.9m on the internal octagonal wall) was probably another *tepidarium*.

Room IX (c. 4.36m on its external wall and 1.35m on the internal octagonal wall) was not heated and was possibly a *frigidarium*. Room X (c. 3.5m on its external wall and 3.1m on its inner side) was a large hypocausted hot plunge bath. The function of Room XI (c. 4.9 x 2.33m) is not clear, but it might have been a linking room between Room I and Room VI.

**Decoration:** The first pool in Room IV ‘had been faced with *opus signinum* [...], and some small cubes (1 cm) of coloured mosaic survived on its vertical face’ (Wilkinson 2011, 411–12). The base of the fifth-century fountain in this room was decorated in blue fresco (Wilkinson 2011, 413). According to Wilkinson (2011, 415), Room V was ‘one of the most highly decorated, and three fragments of decorated stucco were also found in the area of the apse’.

Also, fragments of white Carrara marble from the basin in the apse of this room suggest that this feature ‘would have been impressive and an import from Italy’ (Wilkinson 2012, 37). The floor of Room X ‘was tessellated (in black, red, white and yellow stone or tile), the stones being set in a thick *opus signinum*’, and large quantities of painted plaster were found in this room (Wilkinson 2011, 415).

**Water supply:** The water supply for the complex has not been fully understood (Wilkinson 2011, 416). A leat ‘runs along the NW corner of the building coming from the direction of Conyer springs to the northeast (246 m distant), but it seems never to

have been finished' (ibid.). A stream runs not far from the complex (Wilkinson 2011, 407).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A lead seal depicting a Jewish menorah was found at the site (Wilkinson 2011, 420).

**Key references:** Wilkinson 2011; 2012.

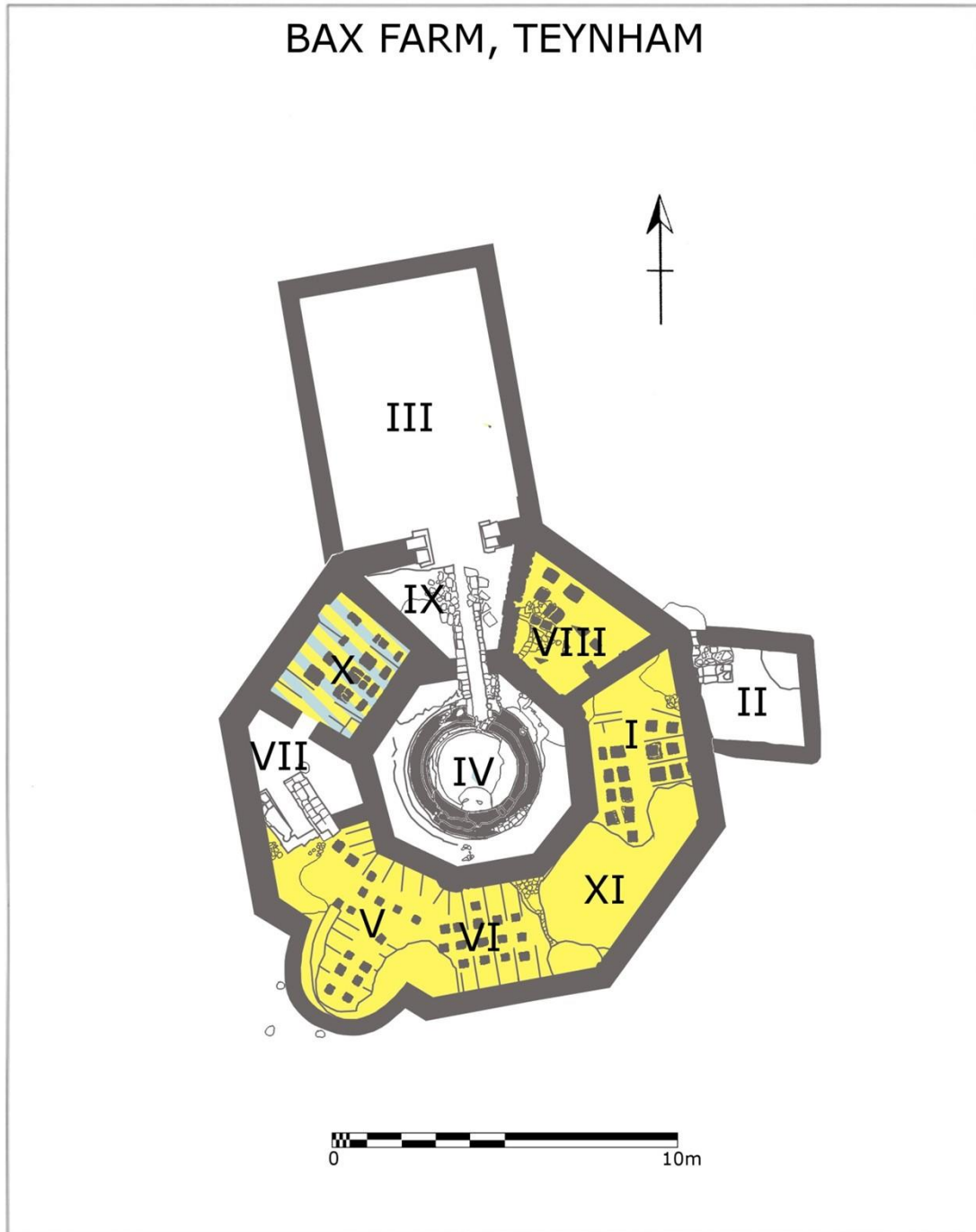


**Figure 10. Plan of the octagonal bathhouse at Bax Farm, Teynham (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow-stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Wilkinson 2011, 417, Fig. 3a.**

## BEDENS FIELD, FOOT'S CRAY

(Part of Kent until 1965, now part of the London Borough of Bromley)

**Individual Site Number:** 28

**Location:** TQ 4795 7118

**Typology and extent of the site:** This building is another example of an 'isolated' bathhouse located on the east bank of the River Cray (see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4). It lies c. 1.50km north of the baths at **Sandy Lane, St. Paul's Cray**. The building at Bedens Field, constructed of local flint stone, was associated with 'several chalk-floored structures' (Parsons 1973, 87). These have been interpreted as timber huts for stockmen, who may have been the primary users of the baths (Parsons 1973, 88).

Parsons (1973, 85) suggests that the bathhouse was built during the last quarter of the first century, while Detsicas (1983, 141) suggests a second-century date. It was abandoned at the end of the second century, probably 'because of the ground's instability' (ibid.). Parsons (1973, 85) notes similarities between these facilities and the extra-mural military bathhouse of the fort at Prestatyn (North Wales), built c. 120 CE and perhaps abandoned during the second half of the second century CE (Newstead 1937, 214–20; Blockley 1989, 34–41, 46–53, 56). Site area: c. 15.24 x 3.65m.

**Site chronology:** c. 80 (?)–180 CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1956 by Parsons for the Cray Antiquarians Association, 'on land being developed by Chislehurst and Sidcup Council as a housing estate' (Wright 1957, 224, n. 99).

**Baths:** The building was structured as follows: Room B (c. 6.18 x 3m) was an *apodyterium* or a *frigidarium*; Room A (c. 3.31m wide and c. 1.6m max. depth) was an apsidal cold plunge bath; Room E (c. 2.36 x 2.37m), hypocausted, was a *tepidarium*; Room F (c. 3.08 x 2.37m) was a *caldarium*; and Room G (c. 2 x 1.82m) was the furnace room with its fuel store in Room H (c. 1.78 x 1.82m)

A waste channel runs through Rooms A and B. It was 'built of square chalk blocks resting upon a red-tiled base and capped with similar tiles over which the 'opus signinum' flooring of the Bath was laid' (Parsons 1973, 85). Fragments of a chimney or ornamental roof-finial have been found at the site (Parsons 1956, 263). The numbering of the rooms follows Parsons' plan (1973, 86, Fig. 1).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been directly supplied by the River Cray.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Boyce 2007, 262; Detsicas 1983, 140–1; Parsons 1956, 263; 1957, 240; 1973; Wright 1957, 223–4.

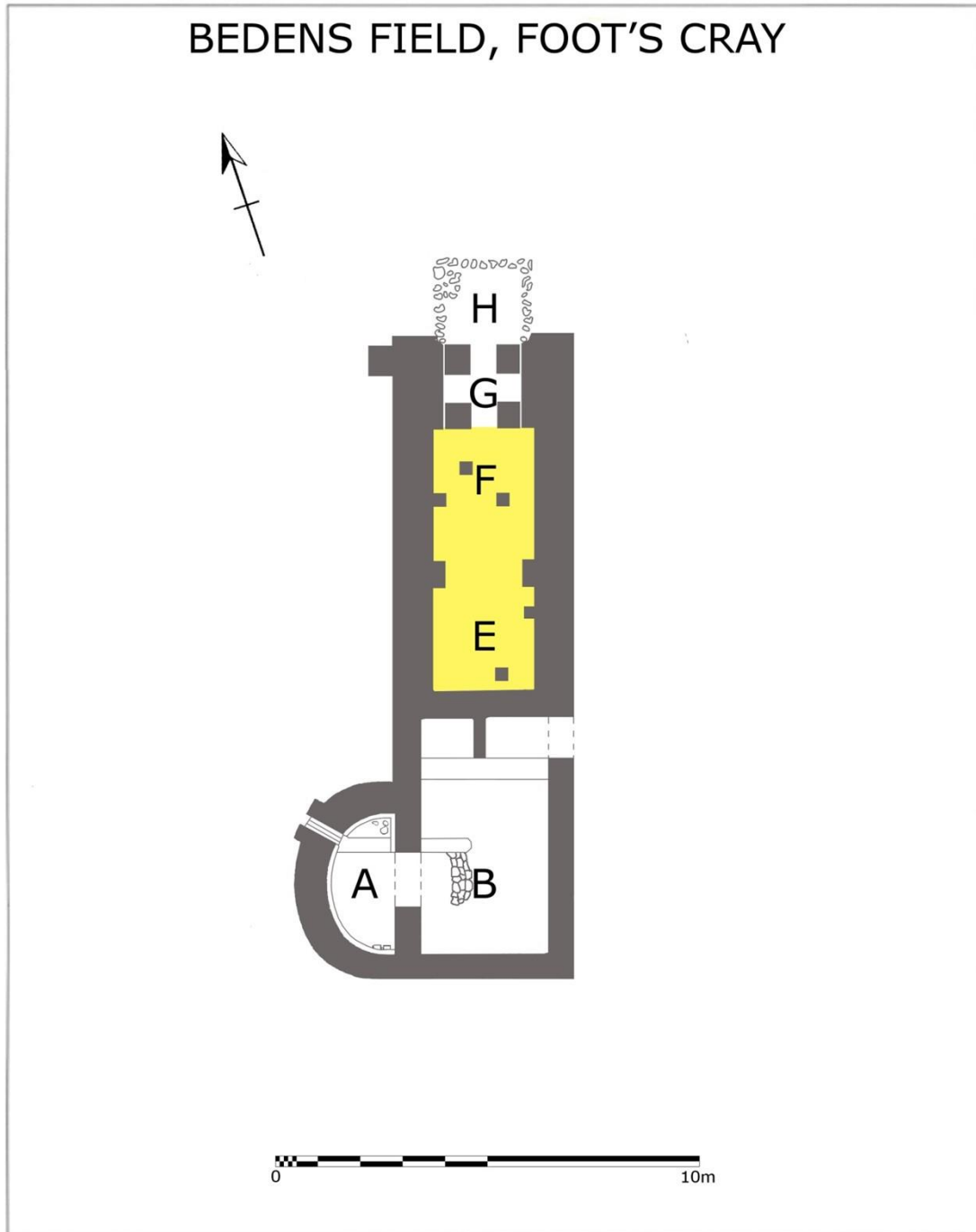


**Figure 11. Plan of the bathhouse at Bedens Field, Foot's Cray (London Borough of Bromley). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Parsons 1973, 86, Fig. 1.**



## BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

**Individual Site Number:** 36

**Location:** TQ 7792 5153

**Typology and extent of the site:** A bathhouse located 'in a large sloping field called The Slade, on the south bank of the little Brishing or Brushing stream' (Taylor 1932, 105). The site lies 300m west of the Roman road that linked Rochester to the coast, 700m south of a Roman walled cemetery and 400m southwest of a rural site recently excavated (Howell 2014). This was a minor road settlement or a small villa that evolved from an Iron Age industrial site with a bloomery and a kiln (Howell 2014, 44–51).

Three of the structures located were broadly contemporary with the baths: a ragstone-foundation rectangular building (B2), an aisled building (B3), and a possible masonry building with flint foundations (B4). The site lies in an 'important area for the quarrying of ragstone, a hard limestone, which was exported during the Roman period to London and widely used' (Howell 2014, 41). Site area: c. 18.3 x 9.2m.

**Site chronology:** second–fourth centuries CE (?).

**Excavation history:** The excavations were carried out on 5 and 6 August 1841 under the direction of Clement Taylor Smythe. He reports that after the excavation, 'the whole of these ruins except part of the basin has been destroyed and carried away' (Smythe 1842, 418).

**Baths:** The external walls (0.6m thick) of the building 'were of Kentish rag-stone, rudely hammered, and cemented without any mixture of tiles' (Smythe 1842, 415). It was structured as follows: Room A (c.3.04 x 1.82m) was the furnace room of the bath-suite and showed marks of intense heat (Smythe 1842, 416). On its northwest side, a large quantity of unconsumed charcoal was found, and on its east-west side, 'were the ashes and refuse of charcoal' (ibid.).

Room B1 (c.4.11 x 3.96m) and Room B2 (c.3.5 x 3.96m) (Smythe's Room B) were hypocausted. B1 was a *caldarium* and B2 a *tepidarium*, both equipped with apses (Room B3, c.2.31m wide and c. 1.82m max. depth; Room B4, c. 1.82m wide and c. 1.52m max. depth). Room D (c. 3.35 x 3.23m) was the *frigidarium* and had a floor 'formed of roughly hammered Kentish rag-stone slabs of irregular shapes' (Smythe 1842, 417). Room E was an apsidal, cold plunge bath (c. 3.35m wide and c.1.92m max. depth), the bottom of which was 0.05m under the floor level of Room D. Room C was another hypocausted room, possibly a steam sweat room (c. 3.35 x 3.04m), and Smythe (1842, 417) mentions that it was equipped with 'ventilating tiles', clearly identifiable with box flue-tiles.

In the southeast corner of Room B1, two fragments of a *labrum* have been found. Smythe (1842, 417) reports that 'it presented the form of a dish or modern sink and had been placed on a pier of large tiles'. At the northwest corner of Room B2, there was a flue 'running through the wall in a diagonal direction' (Smythe 1842, 416) into Room C. Another drain was found in Room E. Considering the fragments of stuccoed walls found east of Room D, Smythe (1842, 418) suggests 'a continuation of the building in that direction'. The numbering of the rooms follows Smythe's plan (1842, 414, Plate XLIV).

**Decoration:** Smythe (1842, 418) reports that 'within the ruins were found many portions of the stuccoed walls of red, brown, black, pink, and white, with stripes of other colours on them; part of a semi-circular pilaster of plaster, and many pieces of cement floors, but not the slightest vestige of tesserae'. The walls of Room E were painted in red (Smythe 1842, 417).

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been directly supplied by the Brushing Stream.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Smythe (1842, 418) mentions the discovery of ‘many fibulae of bronze, a pin of bronze, a glass bead of bright green colour, nails and other pieces of iron much corroded, a large pebble stone partly polished’, as well as several animal bones. However, it is not clear if the bathhouse alone produced all this material or if the list includes finds from the surroundings.

Fragments of seemingly cast window glass were found ‘more than four feet and a half [c. 1.37m] below the surface on the outside of the room marked C [...] and other within the ruins’ (ibid.). Some of these fragments were of the matt/glossy type (usually dating to the first and second centuries). Moreover, ‘two or three of the pieces appear to have been covered with a red paint on one side’ (ibid.).

**Key references:** Allen 2016, 110; Detsicas 1983, 142; Howell 2014, 40; Mackinder 2006; Smythe 1842; Taylor 1932, 105–6.

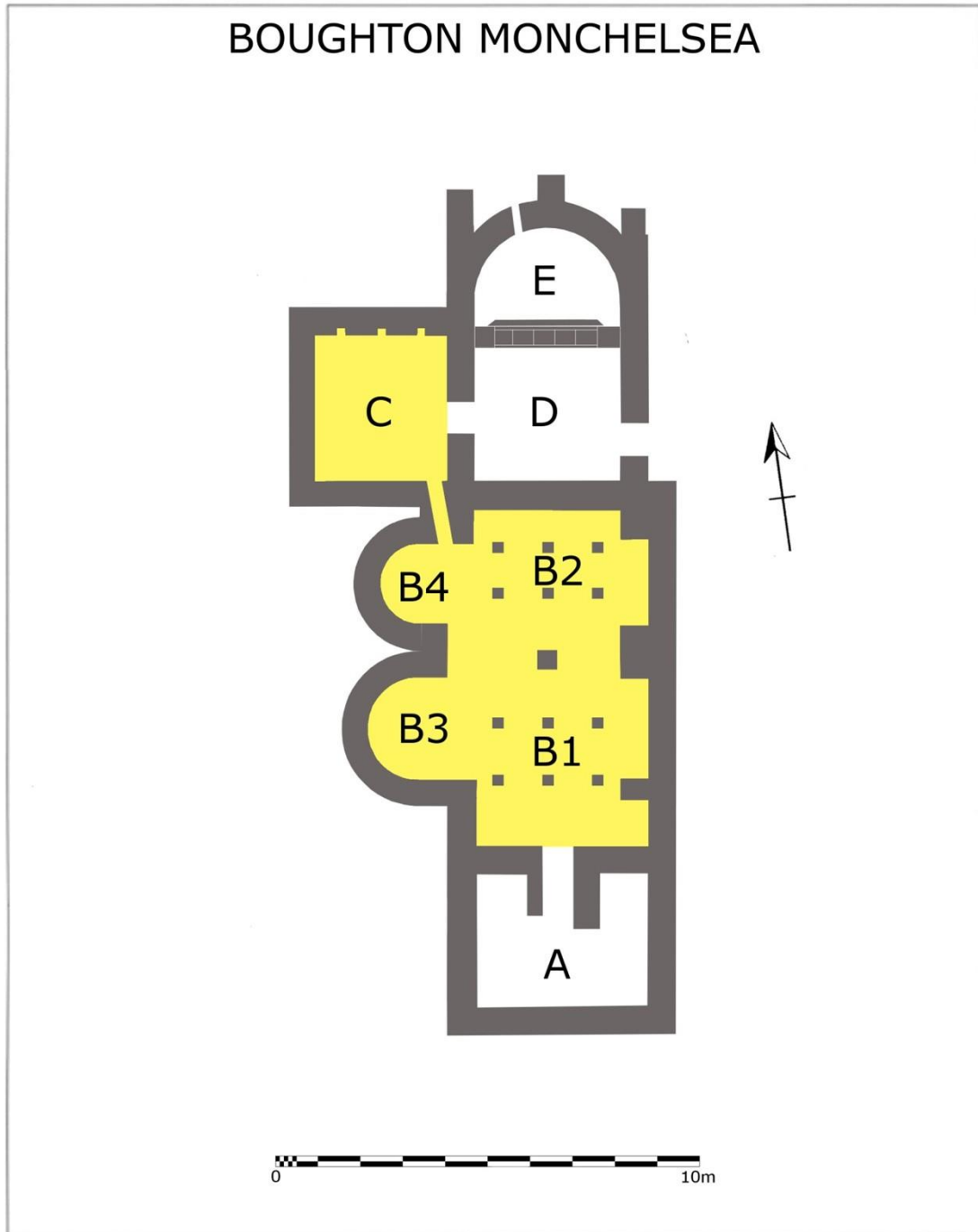


**Figure 12. Plan of the bathhouse at Boughton Monchelsea (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Smythe 1842, 414, Plate XLIV.**

## BOURNE PARK, BISHOPSBOURNE

**Individual Site Number:** 227

**Location:** TR 1831 5308

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 6 km southeast of Canterbury within a complex landscape of hillforts, temples, enclosures, burials, and high-status sites connected by trackways and paths (see Wallace & Mullen 2019). The villa was built within a large enclosure and included two buildings at right angles to each other. The eastern building was a winged-corridor villa with a façade measuring c. 30.6 m.

The western building ‘is of an unfamiliar form with a long ‘room’ along a frontage measuring c. 51.1 m, two wings projecting back from each end, and a T-shaped wing at the rear of the centre’ (Wallace & Mullen 2019, 91). Both buildings had walls of rough flint and ceramic-tiled roofs. An earlier rectilinear structure was identified under the western building, and there is some evidence of a possible third building possibly used for processing and storage. Site area (villa enclosure): c. 100 x 100m.

**Site chronology:** second–fourth centuries CE (?).

**Excavation history:** The villa was identified from aerial photographs in 2011, and geophysical surveys were carried out between 2011 and 2014 (Wallace *et al.* 2014; 2016).

**Baths:** A set of baths with at least three rooms was identified in the southwest corner of the winged-corridor building. Room A (c. 5 x 2.5m) was probably a *tepidarium/caldarium*, with a plunge bath in Room B (c. 2.5 x 2.5m). Room Q probably hosted a *labrum*. The numbering of the rooms follows Wallace *et al.* 2016, 261, with the addition of Rooms A and B.

Another possible set of baths was identified in the T-shaped wing of the western building (Rooms C and D). Wallace *et al.* (2016, 260) talk about ‘two identically sized ‘rooms’ or bases for features (bathing tubs?), together measuring 8.2 by 5.3m externally’. The numbering of these rooms has been provided by the author.

**Decoration:** Painted wall plaster was recovered from the site, and part of it might have come from the baths.

**Water supply:** Two springs to the southeast of the villa, located near a pathway linking the complex to the hilltop enclosure and temples, were tapped to supply water to the complex’s baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Wallace *et al.* 2014; 2016; Wallace & Mullen 2019.

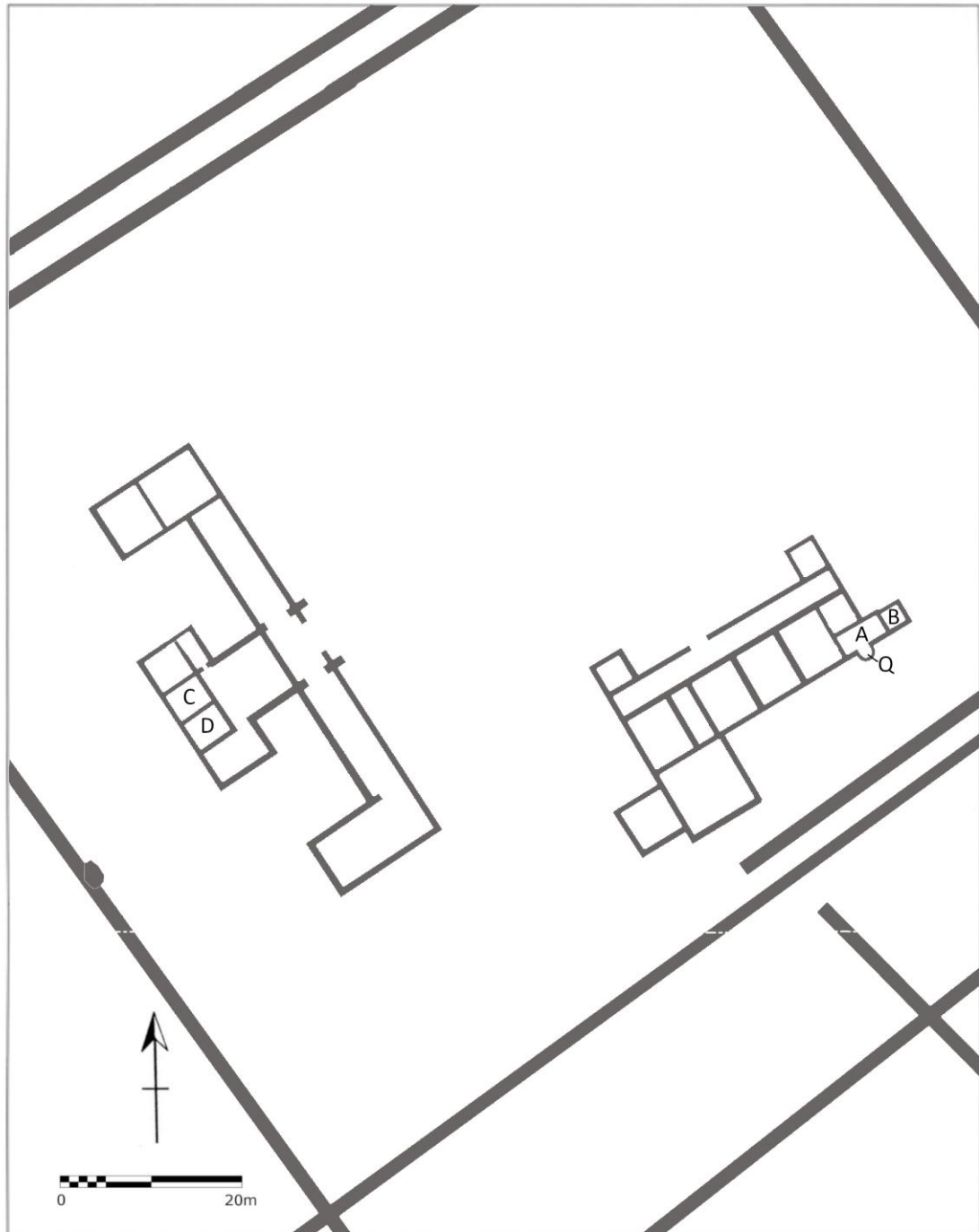


**Figure 13. Plan of the villa at Bourne Park, Bishopsbourne (Kent). Image: author. After Wallace & Mullen 2019, 92, Fig. 6.**

BOWER LANE, MAIDSTONE

**Individual Site Number:** 37

**Location:** TQ 7521 5502

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, also known as Florence Road, Maidstone, lies approximately 1.5km south-west of the villa at **The Mount** and approximately 2km north-west of the villa at **Loose Road, Maidstone**. So far, only two rooms of a bath-suite have been located. Site area: No information is available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The foundations of a Roman building were found here in 1893. The site was partially re-excavated in 2004 by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, but a complete report of these excavations is not yet available.

**Baths:** Two rooms were found: the westernmost room was a plunge bath with its walls and base lined with *opus signinum*. About 3 metres to the east, a similar plunge bath was located (Shand 2006, 40). The excavators also identified ‘part of a drainage system for the pools with pit, a tile-lined conduit and various channels draining into an open ditch’ (Canterbury Archaeological Trust 2007, 330).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Canterbury Archaeological Trust 2007, 330; Shand 2006; Scott 1993, 106.

**Note:** No plan available.

BURHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 43

**Location:** TQ 7265 6169

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the east side of the Medway alley, c. 1km north-east of the villa at **Eccles** and c. 2km south-east of the villa at **Snodland**. It was a small house of six rooms. One of them had a complex hypocaust heating system. Site area: c. 18.2 x 10m.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1896. Further small-scale research was carried out in the early twenty century by the Rev. E. E. Le Bas (Payne 1920).

**Baths:** Taylor (1932, 109) suggests that the heated room in the northwest end of the house (Room 1, c. 5.48 x 4.87m) and its furnace room (Room 2) could have been a small bath-suite. Patrick (1897, 32) gives a precise description of the hypocaust: 'channels cut in the chalk run round all four sides of the apartment, which connect with three other channels radiating from the mouth of the furnace'. Eight vertical flues formed by pairs of box tiles were found set in the walls. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** Several pieces of painted plaster were found in Room 1 (Payne 1898, 11).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Oyster shells were found in Room 1 (Taylor 1932, 109).

**Key references:** Patrick 1897; Payne 1898; 1920; Taylor 1932, 109; Scott 1993, 103.

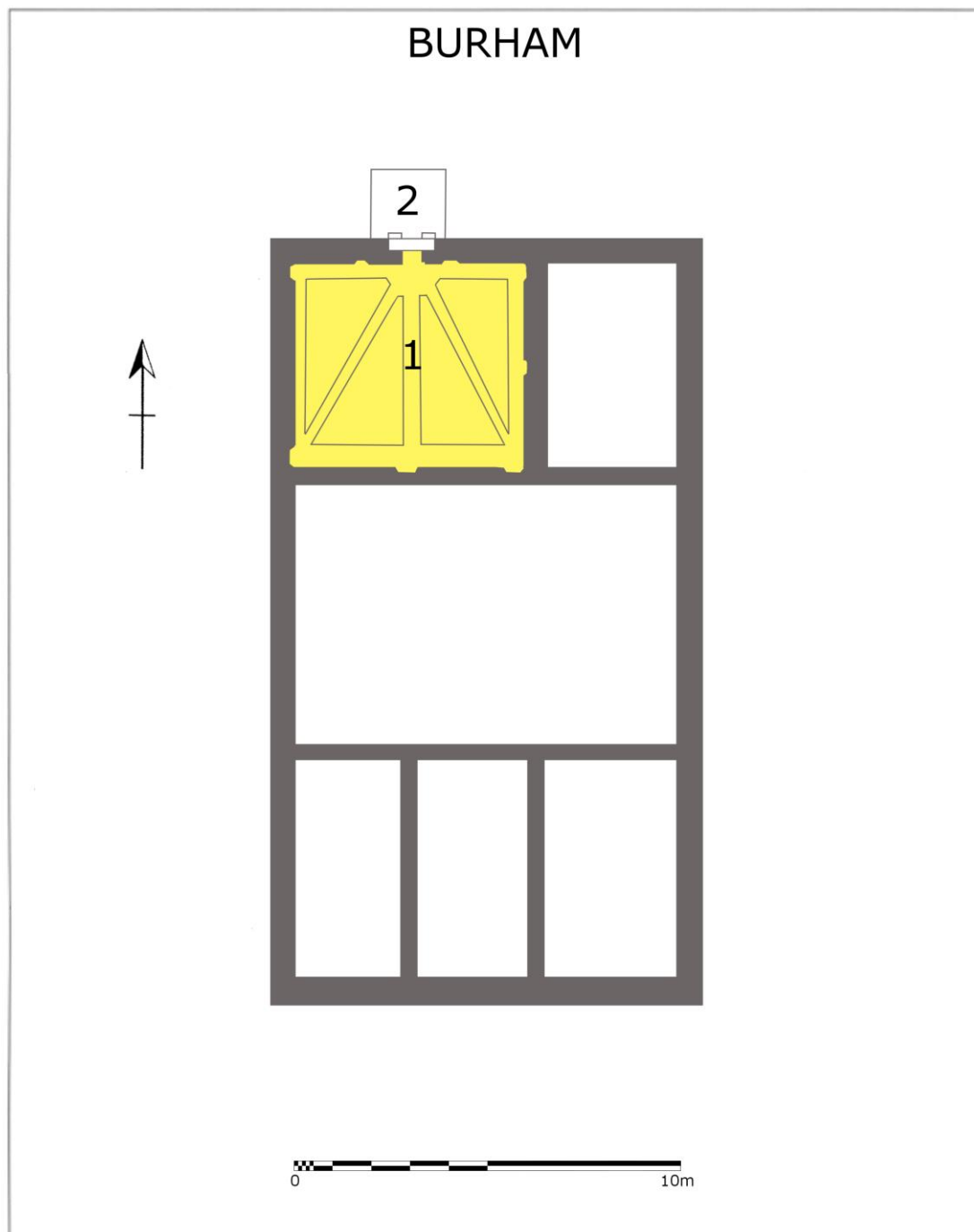


**Figure 14. Plan of the villa at Burham (Kent). Image: author. After Payne 1898, plate opposite page 10.**



## CHALK, GRAVESEND

**Individual Site Number:** 44

**Location:** TQ 67 72/73

**Typology and extent of the site:** Over the years a complex of buildings was found in the area near the mud flats of the Thames estuary. In 1959, Allen (1959, 208) partially excavated a Roman building with a hypocaust (TQ 6764 7299) 'in an area of some 150 feet (45.72m) by 50 feet (15.24m) by 60 feet (18.28m)'. In 1961, a rectangular storage cellar with an upper storey (c. 12.7 x 3.6m) was located some 30–40m west of the 1959 site (TQ 6760 7298) (Johnston 1972). A bathhouse (TQ 677 730) was excavated in 1974–75 by Harker (1975; Goodburn 1976, 374–6) 30–40m east of the storage cellar. Presently known site area: c. 7,500 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Site chronology:** early second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1959 by Allen (1959), in 1961 by Johnston (1972), in 1974–75 and 1979 by Harker (1975; 1980), and in the early 80s by the Thameside Archaeological group (Ansell 1982; 1983).

**Baths:** The bathhouse measures overall c. 12.4 x 13.9m and was 'built of mortared ragstone on flint foundations' (Detsicas 1983, 117) in the early second century. Repairs and modifications were carried out during the second century (Goodburn 1976, 375). In the later third century, the building was then converted for domestic use: 'a domestic heart was built over filled-in hypocaust flues' (Goodburn 1976, 375–6). Fragments of a chimney or ornamental roof-finial were found at the site (Johnston 1972, 117, 146–7). The numbering of the rooms follows Harker's plan (Goodburn 1976, 375, Fig. 27).

The bathhouse was structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 4.5 x 4.4m) was an *apodyterium* equipped with a channelled hypocaust with a cruciform plan; Room 2 was a *caldarium* (c. 4.0 x 3.1m) and Room 3 a *tepidarium* (c. 4.0 x 3.9m), with another heated room on its north side (unnumbered, c. 3.1 x 3.1m). Room 4 was a *frigidarium* (c. 3.5 x 2.9m) and was equipped with a cold plunge bath (unnumbered). Room 5 (c. 2.8 x 2.1m) was unheated, and its function is not clear. The furnace room of the baths was located at the western end, outside Room 2.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Allen 1959; Ansell 1982; 1983; Detsicas 1983, 117–119; Goodburn 1976, 374–376; 1979, 336; Harker 1975; 1980; Johnston 1972; Wilson 1975, 282–283; Wright 1962, 189–190.

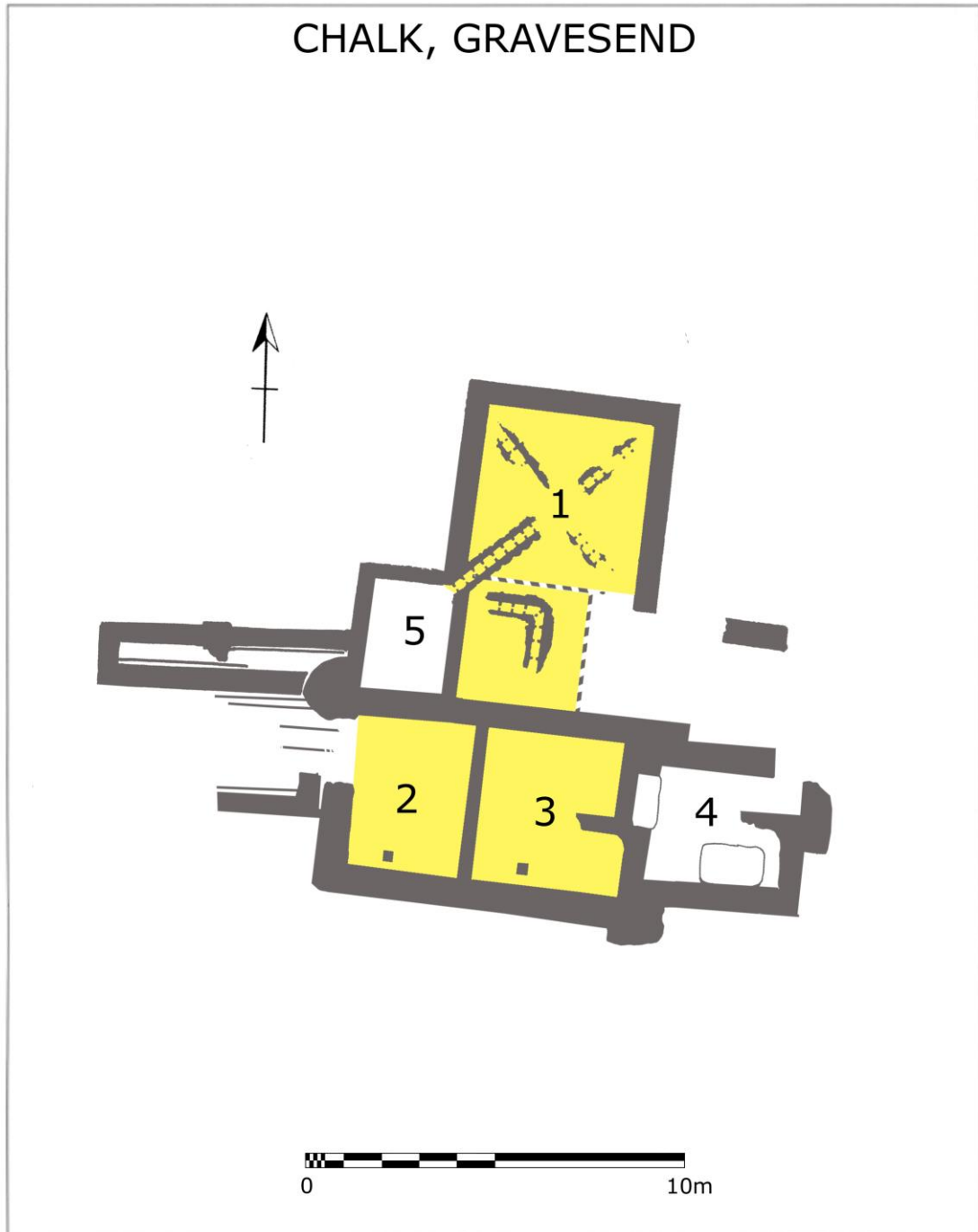


**Figure 15 Plan of the baths at Chalk, Gravesend (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Goodburn 1976, 375, Fig. 27.**

## COBHAM PARK

**Individual Site Number:** 63

**Location:** TQ 6832 6932

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies ‘along a low ridge, running N.W.-S.E.’, 5.6km west of Rochester (*Durobrivae*) and 7.2km east of the Roman settlement at Springhead (*Vigniaca*) (Tester 1961, 88). The main building was ‘an unpretentious Romano-British farmhouse, built c. A.D. 100 on the site of a first-century native settlement’ (Tester 1961, 97). This first house (c. 9.1 x 29.3m) ‘had foundations of mortared flint supporting a probable timber-framed construction, consisting of a series of five rooms behind a fronting corridor’ (Detsicas 1983, 92).

In the late second century, the house ‘received additions in the form of a small bathhouse on the S.E., and humble apartments—possibly slaves’ quarters—on the N.W.’ (Tester 1961, 97). A detached rectangular building, probably a barn, was found c. 18m southeast of the main house (Tester 1961, 92; Detsicas 1983, 92). The villa was damaged in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by a ditch containing a boundary fence that almost destroyed the bath-suite (Tester 1961, 88). Site area: c. 91.4 x 21.3m.

**Site chronology:** Early second–middle of the fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in 1959 and excavated in 1960 by the Kent Archaeological Society under the direction of Tester (1961).

**Baths:** As mentioned above, the bath-suite attached to the southeast side of the house was severely damaged in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and only its furnace room (Room 8, c. 3.2 x 2.6m) was preserved. Fragments of a chimney or ornamental roof-finial have been found at the site (Tester 1961, 103-104). The numbering of the rooms follows Tester’s plan (1961, Fig. 2).

**Decoration:** Fragments of wall plaster were found ‘immediately adjoining the N.W. side of Room 8, [...] having obviously been related to the destroyed hypocaust-heated room’ (Tester 1961, 91). They ‘included many pieces with a pink background splashed with blood-red’ and ‘parallel bands of red and green on a cream background’ (ibid.). Remarkably, ‘one fragment had what appeared to be part of a palm tree trunk in yellow and black’ and ‘another bore small open flowers—possibly roses—in dull crimson and pink, set among amorphous foliage’ (ibid.).

**Water supply:** Tester (1961, 91) reports that ‘just outside the S.E. wall of Room 8 there was discovered an iron joint-ring of a type used in Roman times for linking together wooden water pipes’. This can imply that ‘the water for the bath was conveyed by this means from a source on the hillside to the east, possibly that which still exists in the form of a pond 80 yards (73.1m) east of the villa’ (ibid.).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Detsicas 1983, 92; Scott 1993, 103; Tester 1959; 1960; 1961.

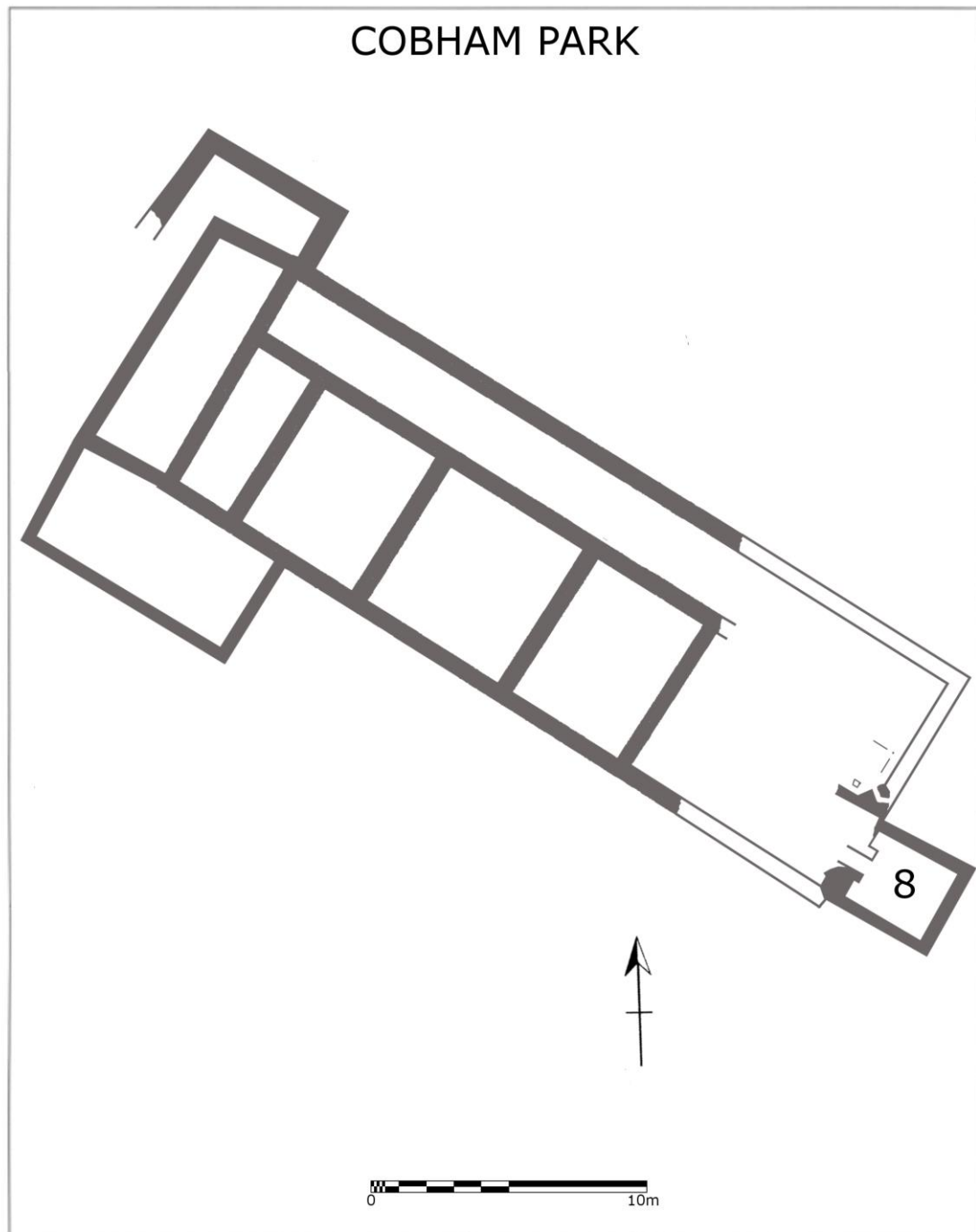


**Figure 16. Plan of the villa at Cobham Park (Kent) in the late second century. Image: author. After Tester 1961, Fig. 2.**

## DARENTH

**Individual Site Number:** 70

**Location:** TQ 5633 7064

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is one of the largest and most problematic villa complexes in Roman Britain, with more than 60 rooms and many detached buildings. The site lies c. 2km north of the villa at Horton Kirby and c. 3km southeast of the villa at Wilmington. A possible Roman building was identified at East Hill, Darenth, c. 1km north of the complex.

Payne (1897, 52) divided the villa into five blocks, assigning the letter A to the living quarter at the north-east side of the complex, B to 'the long chamber with massive walls' (Room 15), C to the living quarter in the centre of the complex, D to the bath-suite and the rooms nearby, and E to 'the western block consisting of workshops and water-tanks'.

To these blocks should be added the farmhouse (Building G in Black 1981) and the detached bathhouse (Building F in Black 1981) found by Philp in 1969 at the southwest corner of the villa courtyard. In front of the main building, there was an elaborate garden with an ornamental pool (42) featuring a nymphaeum on its southern end and a possible temple or shrine (Building 66).

Due to its early date of excavation, a precise summary of the villa's different phases is difficult to assess. Fox (1905) proposed three chronological phases and suggested – unconvincingly – that, during the second phase, most of the buildings of the complex were arranged as part of a large *fullonica*. E. W. Black published a re-examination of the villa in 1981, although his interpretation has been criticised by Brian Philp (1984a, 90) and Millet (2007, 171).

Black identifies Block C (initially a corridor-type house) and the detached bath-suite (Building F) as the oldest buildings of the villa (Phase I, c. late first century). Block A (initially 'an independent suite of rooms', Black 1981, 166, Table 1), Block E (probably built as 'an undivided work-hall fronted by a *porticus*', Black 1981, 181) and Building G were added during Phase II (mid-late second century). During the same period, Block C was equipped with a bath-suite (block D), and Building F was demolished.

In the early third century (Phase III), Building 71 (southeast of the main complex) was built, and Building G was enlarged. In the mid-third century (Phase IV), Building 65 (southwest of the main complex) and Building 66 (a shrine south of Block C) were built and Building 71 was disused. In the late third/early fourth centuries (Phase V), Block B was built to connect Block C and Block A, although at least a part of the latter fell out of use at this time. The bath block (D) was enlarged, and a swimming pool (Room 16) was added. Another bath-suite was built at the northwest corner of Block E. The inner courtyard in front of the villa was also formed at this time, with its gateway in front of Room 26 (Block C).

In Phase VI, the original gateway to this courtyard was obstructed by Cistern 43 and an ornamental pool (42) was built in front of Block C. Building 64 was probably built at this time. During Phase VII (second quarter of the fourth century), the bath-suite in Block E was remodelled. In the last phase of the complex (Phase VIII, second half of fourth century), the baths in Block D changed function, and a less elaborate bath-suite was built out of Room 36, the swimming pool' (Black 1981, 177). Baths in Block E and Building G fell out of use, and the ornamental pool (42) was filled in.

An alternative reconstruction of the chronological sequences at Darenth can be found in Millet 2007 (171, Fig. 5.27), partially based on Philp's report (1984, 72–131) and Black's subsequent amendment to his reconstruction (1989, 52–53; 211, Fig. 15). According to this interpretation, the north block (C) was initially built as a corridor house similar to the Phase I house at Eccles. This structure then became 'the core of the principal house' and had 'a bath-suite added at its west end' (Millet 2007, 171, Fig. 5.27). The compact detached bath-suite excavated by Philp in 1969 (Building F) was built in this phase.

Later, Blocks A, G and the first structure of Block E, together with Buildings 65, 66 and 71, were added. Finally, Block A was connected to Block C through Block B and to Block E through Room 36, and the courtyard was formed. Block E was arranged as a bath-suite, 'screened from the main courtyard by an enclosure wall' (ibid.).

Finally, Beeson (2020, 47) has recently suggested that the complex was a 'public establishment with several bathing facilities, a grand reception room, and based on a shrine [Building 66, in Beeson's view, linked to a water cult] that was the focus of its aspect'. Site area: c. 225 x 150m.

**Villa chronology:** Late first–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** George Payne excavated the villa in 1894–95. When, in 1969, 'bulldozers working in the gravel-pit area of Darenth exposed a short length of a Roman wall', rescue excavations were carried out under the direction of Brian Philp (1969, 18). Two new buildings, a farmhouse and a detached bathhouse, were discovered southwest of the main villa complex. In 1972, Philp led further rescue excavations west of the villa, revealing ditches, an oven, part of a boundary wall, and a water channel (Philp 1984a, 72–92).

**Baths:** As noted above, during its long life, the villa was equipped with three different bath units, and these may have operated simultaneously for a time. Black (1981, 182) proposes that, from Phase II till Phase IV, the villa owner lived in Block A so that the baths in Block D were mainly used 'by the *vilicus* and workers on the estate' living in Block C. He also hypothesizes that in phase V, Block C became again the primary residence of possibly a new owner that 'reserved the baths in Block D for his own use and a new suite for his workers was built onto Block E' (ibid.).

According to Millet's reconstruction (2007, 171, Fig. 5.27), the baths in Building F and Block D were built during the same phase and Block E transformed into a bathhouse during the last phase of the villa. The numbering of the rooms follows Payne's plan (1987, unpaginated) and, for Building F, on Philp's plan (1973, 123, Fig. 37).

**Building F:** This has been interpreted as the Phase-I small bathhouse (14.2 x 9.14m) of the villa (Black 1981), perhaps connected to Building G or even to 'an unidentified building nearby' (Philp 1984a, 92). Black (1989, 52–3; 211, Fig. 15), in his subsequent amendment to his reconstruction, accepts Philp's idea and suggests a predecessor of Building 65, housing the workforce of the villa. It was in use from about 70 CE to 140 CE (Philp 1973, 86). As observed by Philp (1973, 122), 'only three rooms were detected, but had the excavation been more extensive, it is likely that other internal divisions would have been found'.

Room 1 (c. 5.39 x 4.87m) was a *frigidarium/apodyterium* with a 'U-shaped slot' in its southwest wall, 'which originally may have contained a drain pipe' (Philp 1973, 122). Room 2 (c. 2.65 x at least 1.43m), although only partially excavated, was a cold plunge bath connected to Room 1 by three steps. Its floor was c. 0.6m lower than that of the *frigidarium* (ibid.). Room 3 (c. 6.7 x 4.75m) was hypocausted, and it was 'probably a

combined hot and tepid room' (ibid.), initially separated into two compartments, c. 4.57 x 3.04m each. A gap for a lead pipe was located in the southwest corner of this room, possibly connected to the 'small rectangular gully' that 'was found flanking the south side of the bath-building' (ibid.).

The furnace room that supplied the channelled hypocaust in Room 3 was not identified (ibid.). A fragment of a peculiar hollow voussoir keyed with a Latin inscription (PARIETALEM CABRIABANU FARBICAVI [sic], 'Cabriabanus made this wall tile') was found at the site (Davies 2004, 165).

Block D: This L-shaped bath-suite closely resembles the Period 4 baths at **Eccles** (c. 20km to the east), which also featured a substantial rectangular pool (Room 17) matching Room 36. It was structured as follows: Room 30 (c. 3.74 x 3.01m) might have been an *apodyterium* (Black 1981, 175). Room 31 was a corridor leading to Room 32 (c. 3.56 x 2.59m), the furnace room of a large hypocausted room (Room 33, c. 10.5 x 3.04m).

This hypocaust featured 'curious slanting ledges of chalk in the centre' that 'possibly have influenced the draught through the hypocaust' (Payne 1897, 61, quoting a manager of a cement factory).<sup>1</sup> According to Black (1981, 175), 'the *caldarium* (c. 1.52 x 1.52m) must have been the part of room 33 nearest the furnace and the *tepidarium* (c. 2.13 x 3.04m) the part adjacent to room 34'.

Room 34 was probably the *frigidarium* with a plunge bath (0.43m deep). Room 35 (c. 8.44 x 1.67m) was partially hypocausted, and Payne (1897, 62) reports that a 'V-shaped opening' for a gutter was found on the north part of the west wall of it. This gutter may indicate that a hot plunge bath was located here (Black 1981, 177).

Black proposes that the bath-suite was enlarged during his Phase V (late third/early fourth century), with the original cold plunge bath filled in and replaced by Room 36 (c. 12.04 x 3.02m, 1.22m in depth). The latter was a large swimming pool supplied with four steps on its east side and recalls a similar, broadly contemporary pool (Room 17) at **Eccles** (Detsicas 1974, 127–8; 1983, 123–4). As noted by Black (1981, 180), 'emulation by the owner of one or other of these not-too-distant houses might seem reasonable'. Room 37 (c. 2.25 x 1.88m) and Room 38 (c. 2.04 x 1.92m), which was heated by a hypocaust and possibly stoked by a furnace room in Room 46 (Black 1981, 177), were perhaps part of this reconstruction.

At a later stage, Rooms 32, 33 and 35 might have been converted for other uses. In particular, a hypocaust, built on the east side of Room 32, suggests that this room became a 'corn-drying oven inserted where the wood store of the baths hypocaust had been' (Black 1981, 175).

Bath in Block E: A precise reconstruction of this bath-suite is problematic. Room 54 (c. 5 x 3.3m) was perhaps a *frigidarium*, and, considering that it was 'occupied by a foundation of rammed chalk with which was associated a fine drain', it could have been equipped with a 'cold douche' (Black 1981, 178). Room 61 (c. 10.57 x 2.92m) and the southern part of Room 54, 'where the bases of five *pilae* were found' (ibid.), were probably occupied by a *caldarium* and a *tepidarium*.

Black (ibid.) identifies Room 51 (c. 6.94 x 1.67m) with a latrine. According to his reconstruction, three cold plunge baths (Room 56, c. 1.58 x 1.15m, 0.05m deep; Room

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<sup>1</sup> As noted by Black (1981, 176), 'similar ramps or platforms have now been found in hypocausts at Lullingstone and Little Chart', showing that they were 'a feature of hypocaust construction'.



57, c. 2.52 x 1.28m, 0.3m deep; Room 58, c. 1.55 x 1.14m, 0.36m deep) were added during a later phase (ibid.).

Another significant feature of this complex is the large ornamental pool 42 (c. 25.66 x 3.38m), located in front of Block C and supplied by a semi-circular cistern at its south end, probably a nymphaeum (Room 43, c. 0.42m deep, 1.44m wide in the centre, the southern wall being 2.89m long) (Payne 1897, 65; Fox 1905, 225–6; Philp 1973, 119, 135; Black 1981, 162–3; Beeson 2020).

**Eccles** (Kent) features a comparable structure dating to the first century (c. 24.9 x 3.45, Kent). Other examples of pools associated with villa sites are known from Gadebridge Park (early fourth century, c. 20 x 12m) (Herts.; Neal 1974, 73–6), High Wycombe (early fourth century, c. 7 x 4.8m) (Bucks; Hartley 1953–1960, 240), Well (second century, c. 12.2 x 4.6m) (Yorks; Greene 1947, 466). Larger water basins occur at Haccourt in Belgium (Boe 1971, 23, Fig. 6; 1975, 8–10, 38, Figs. 16, 17), with a pool of c. 53.5 x 7m, and at Reinheim in Germany (Sărățeanu-Müller 2000; 2011), with a pool c. 40m long.

**Decoration:** Few traces of decoration remained in the three bath-suites. As noted by Philp (1973, 124), when Building F was demolished, ‘this operation removed all of the floors, most of the superstructure and the lead-pipes and left behind a thick layer of rubble’.

The floor and the sides of the cold plunge bath of this building (Room 2) ‘were lined with a 2-in. layer of *opus signinum* painted red’ (Philp 1973, 122). Payne (1987, 61) reports that Room 34 in Block D was ‘partially paved with red tesserae’. At an early stage, similar tessellated floors existed in Rooms 56, 57, and 58 in Block E (Payne 1987, 67).

**Water supply:** The Darent River flows quite near to the complex, although perhaps ‘not so near as to render a supply from it easily obtainable, and there seems no trace of such supply from the stream itself’ (Fox 1905, 221). Fox (1905, 222) also observes that ‘there is a report current in the neighbourhood that a spring ran down to the river from the higher ground, from which it might be inferred that springs then as now were to be found in the side of the valley’. Building 66 was a ‘substantial shrine enclosing a well’ (Philp 1984a, 92), but it is not clear if it also had a practical use.

In 1972, a water channel (at least 17.37m long, 1.67m wide and 0.46m deep) was found west of the villa (Philp 1984a, 78–80, 89–90). Philp (1984a, 90) suggests that it was possibly associated with a watermill, although it ‘may have been carrying water across the site for a variety of purposes’, e.g. to supply the baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Beeson 2020; Black 1981; 1987, 143; Detsicas 1983, 103–7; Fox 1905, 218–32; Millet 2007; Payne 1897; Philp 1969; 1970; 1973, 119–53; 1984a, 72–131; Scott 1993, 103; Smith D. J. 1978, 122–3; Taylor 1932, 111–3, Plates XVIII–XX.



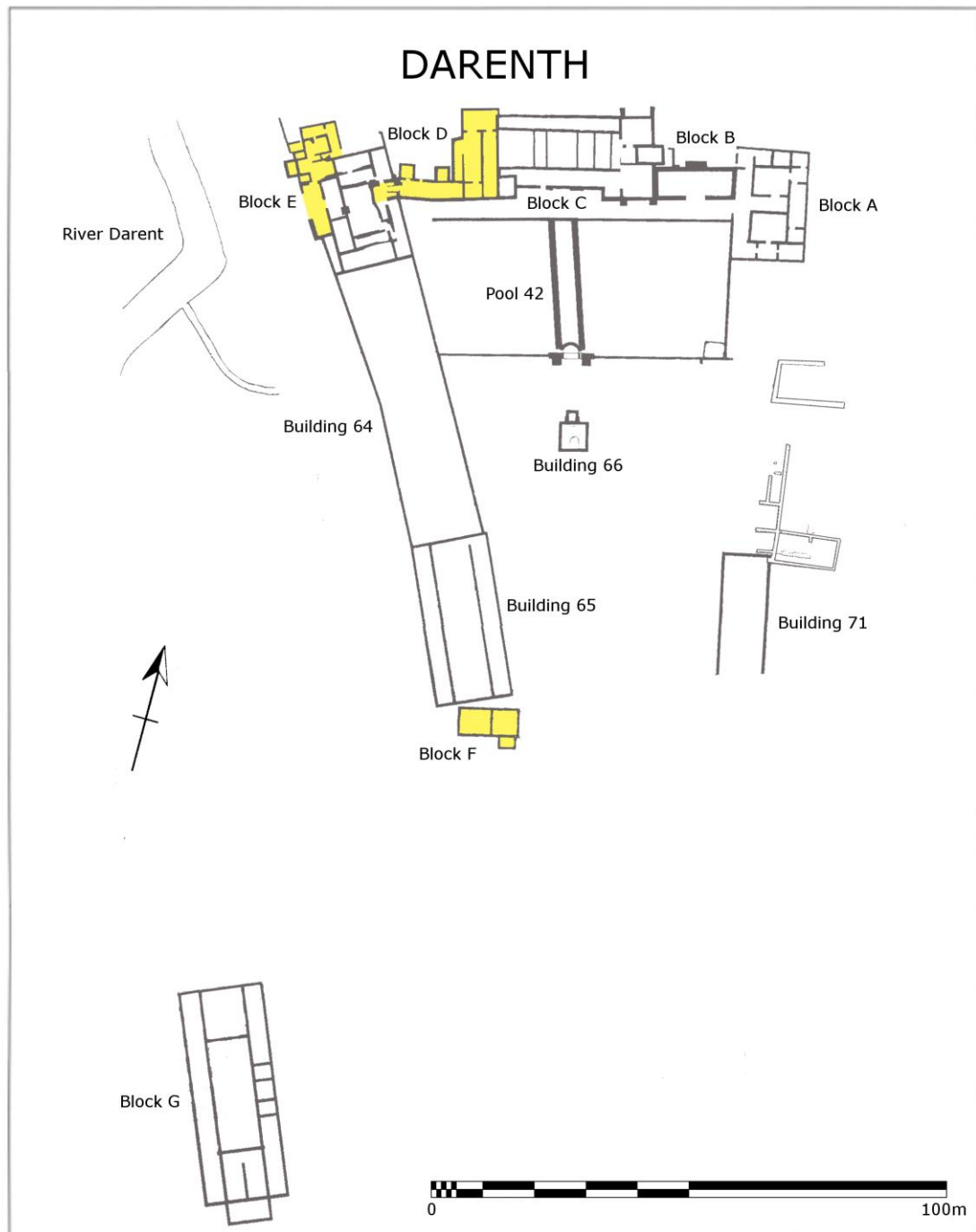


**Figure 17. Plan of the villa at Darenth (Kent). The bath-suites are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Payne 1987, plan; Philp 1970, 16–7.**

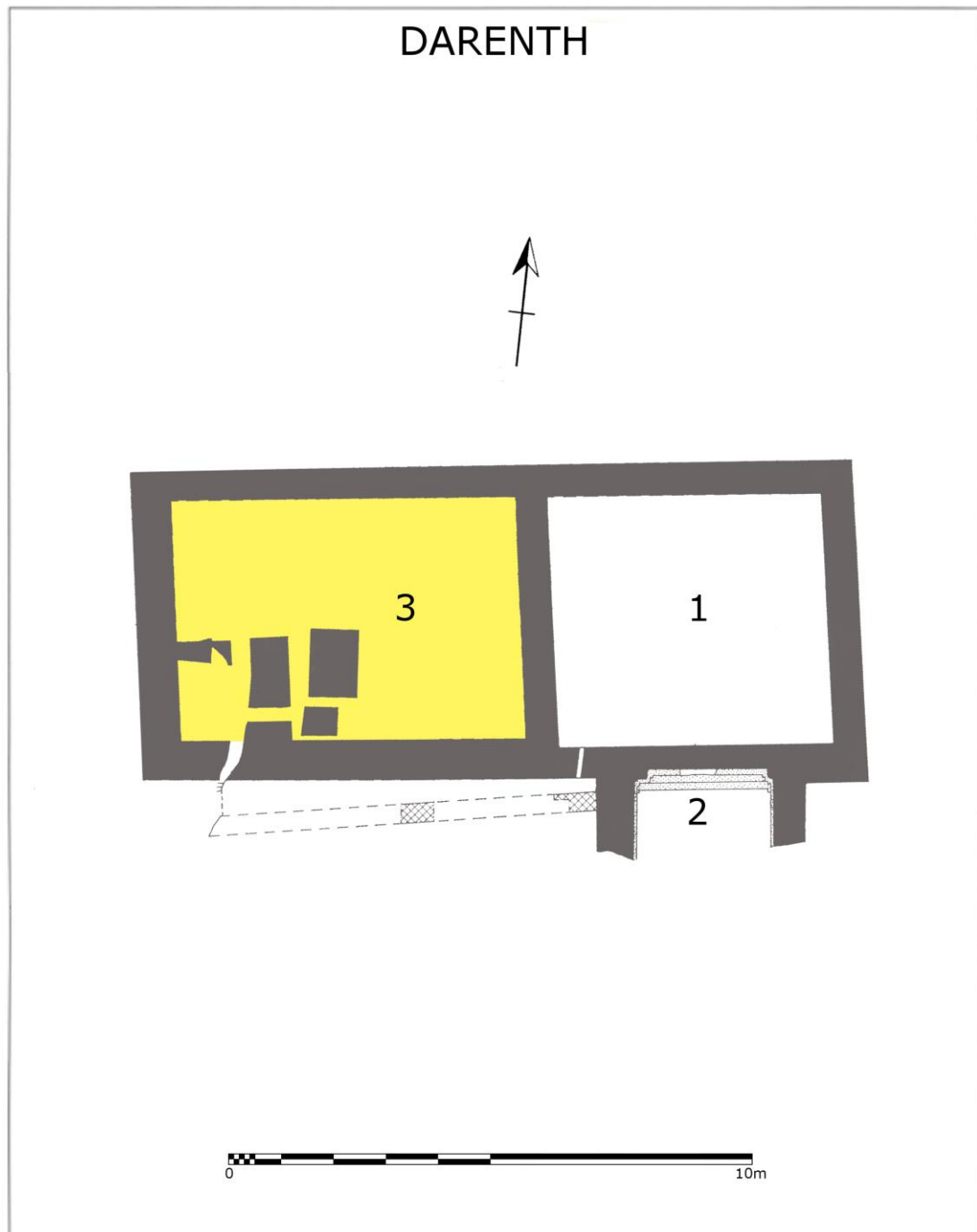


**Figure 18. The villa at Darent (Kent): plan of Building F. Room 3 (highlighted in yellow) was hypocausted. Image: author. After Philp 1973, 123, Fig. 37.**

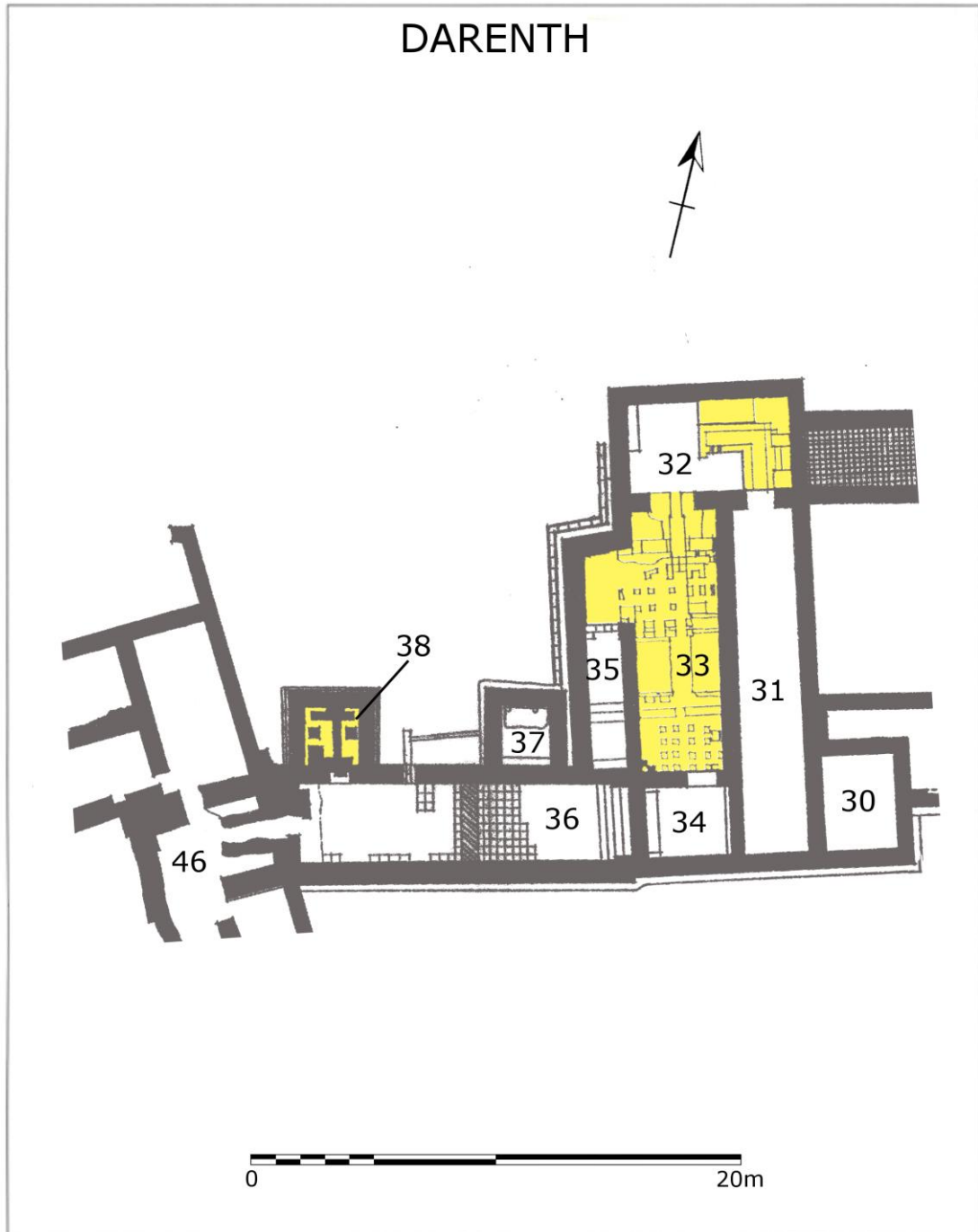


**Figure 19. The villa at Darent (Kent): plan of Block D. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Payne 1987, Plan.**

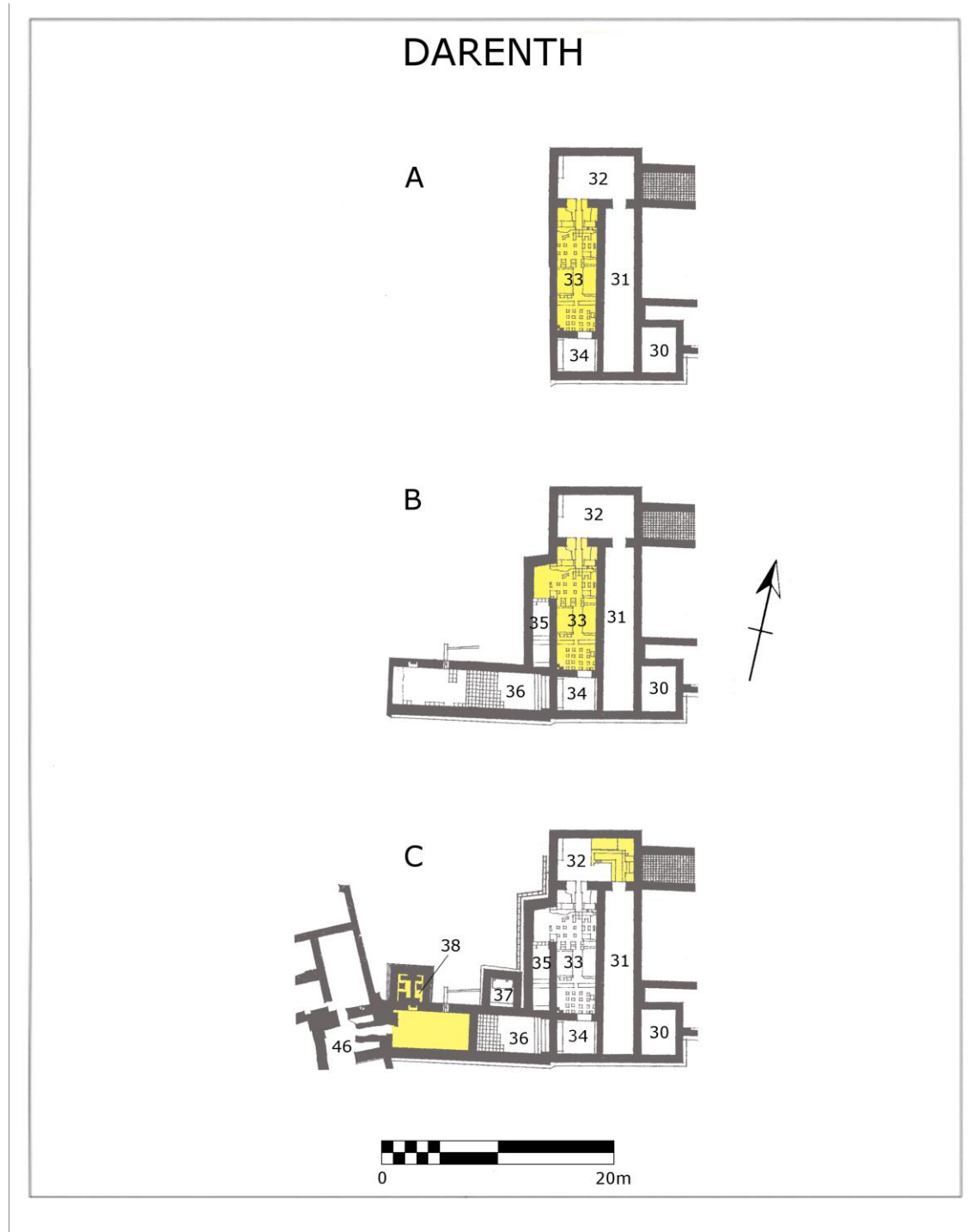


**Figure 20. The villa at Darenth (Kent): the evolution of Block D according to Black (1981). A. Plan of Block D during Phase II (mid-late second century CE). B. Plan of Block D during Phase V (late third/early fourth century CE). C. Plan of Block D during phase VIII (second half of fourth century CE). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Payne 1987, Plan.**



**Figure 20. The villa at Darent (Kent): plan of Block E. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Payne 1987, Plan.**

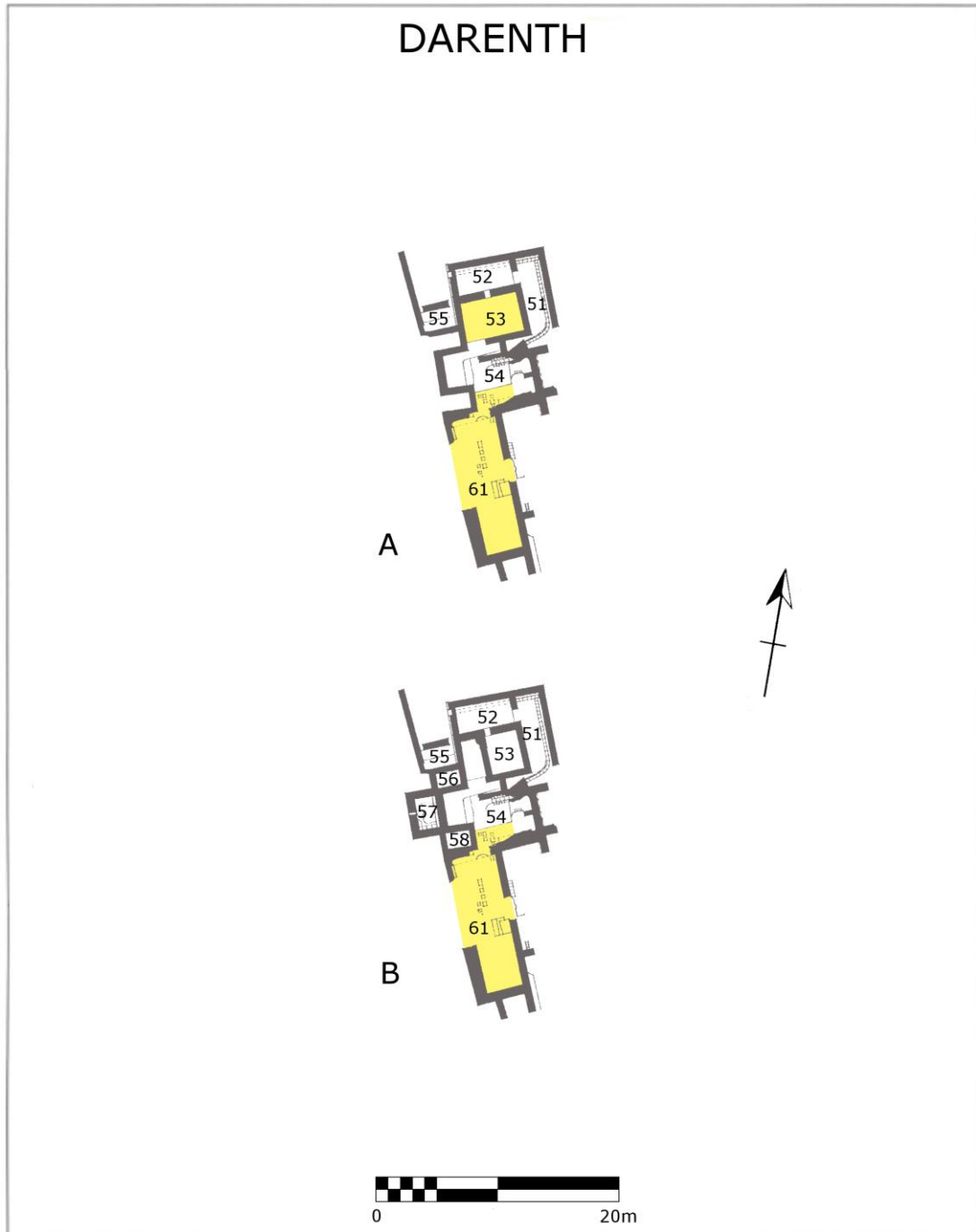


**Figure 21. The villa at Darent (Kent): the evolution of Block E according to Black (1981). A. Plan of Block E during Phase V (late third/early fourth century CE). B. Plan of Block E during phase VII (second quarter of fourth century CE). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Payne 1987, Plan.**

DEERTON STREET, TEYNHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 71

**Location:** TQ 9730 6295

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 80m to the west of a spring at Hog Brook linked to the Swale. The complex was a winged corridor villa, and its surroundings were particularly rich in Roman sites. It was located c. 500m to the northwest of the possible villa at Buckland Farm, c. 700m to the west of the possible villa at Elverton Lane, Luddenham, c. 1km to the southeast of the villa or temple at Teynham, 1150m to the north of Watling Street (the Roman road that linked London to Dover) and c. 2.3km west of the villa at **Luddenham Court**.

An exceptionally large barn has been found to the east of the spring, c. 110m to the east of the villa. Other Roman buildings have been explored to the north of the villa. Site area (not including the barn): c. 49 x 30m.

**Villa chronology:** Early second–fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was initially located in 1852. Field-walking with members of the Swale Survey Project under the direction of Paul Wilkinson rediscovered it in June 1996. Archaeological investigations by the Kent Archaeological Field School took place over four years (1997–2000). However, only an interim report of the first trial excavations (Wilkinson 1997) has been published so far.

**Baths:** The only information available about the bathhouse of this villa is concisely reported by Wilkinson (2009, 4, caption to Fig. 2): ‘The villa [...] includes an apsed bath suite decorated with painted plaster and a tessellated floor’. The rooms that were part of this bath-suite are not specified in his report, and the plan does not include the numbering of any room.

**Decoration:** As mentioned above, the bath-suite was decorated with ‘painted plaster and a tessellated floor’ (Wilkinson 2009, 4, caption to Fig. 2). Red, black, grey and yellow loose tesserae have been found during the excavation of these facilities (Cosh & Neal 2009, 391).

**Water supply:** The nearby spring was probably the primary source of water supply for the villa.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2009, 391; Wilkinson 1997; 2000, 86–9; 2009.

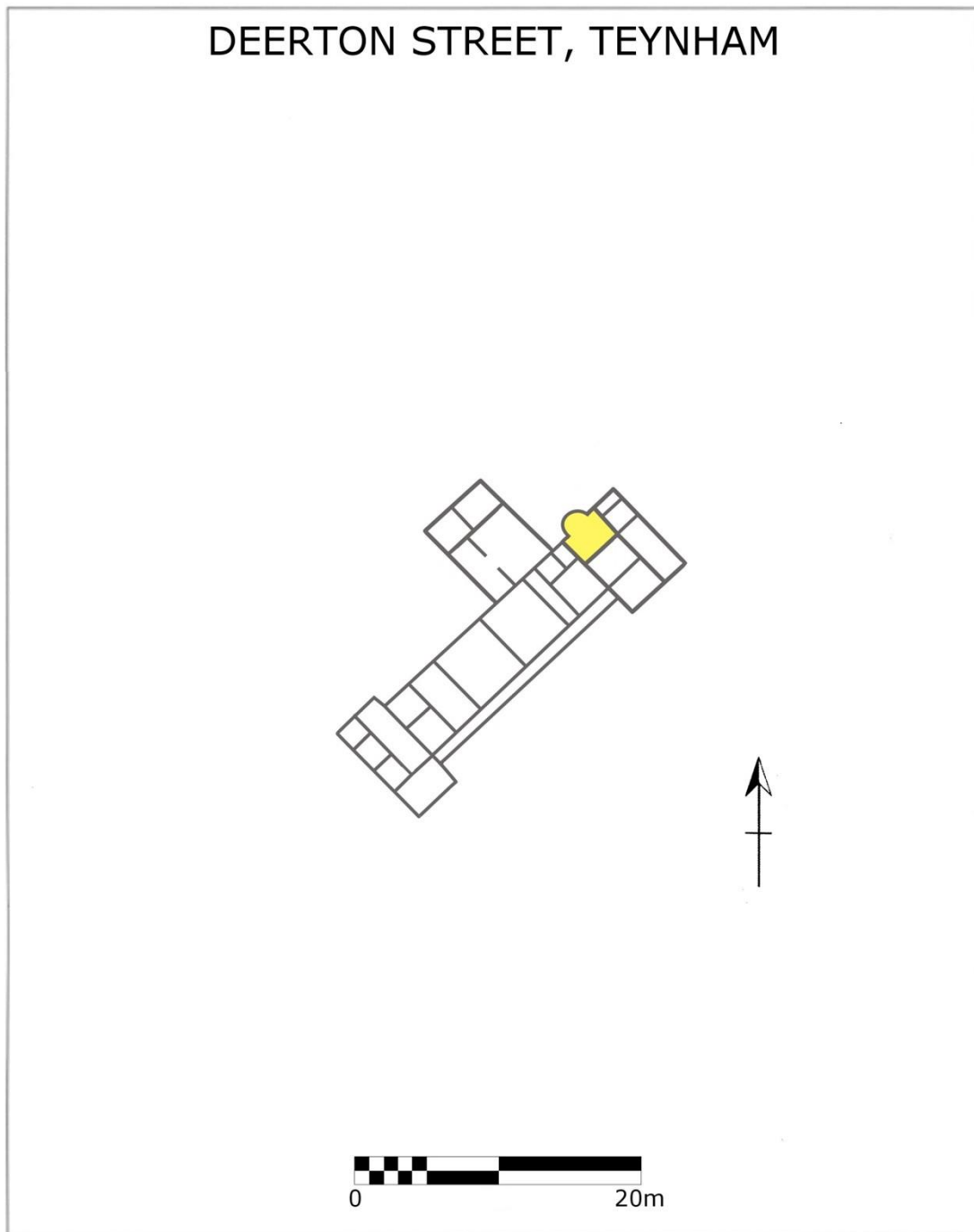


**Figure 22. Plan of the villa at Deerton Street, Teynham (Kent). The 'apsed bath suite' is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Wilkinson 2009, 4, Fig. 2.**



ECCLES

**Individual Site Number:** 85

**Location:** TQ 7210 6061

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the east bank of the river Medway, about 2.6km east of a Roman temple at Blue Bell Hill, Aylesford (Detsicas 1983, 145) and the road from Rochester to the Weald, about 2km to the north of the important Iron Age cemetery at Aylesford and about 2km south-west of the villa at **Snodland**. Another high-status building might have existed c. 2km north at Wouldham/Burham (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 82).

A pottery (c. 500m from the villa) and a tile kiln (c. 330m from the villa) were excavated close to the east bank of the river and may have been part of the *pars rustica* of the villa (Detsicas 1977a; McWhirr 1979, 158; Betts 1992, 259; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 81). An Iron Age settlement lay west of the villa and was probably abandoned in the mid-first century CE (Detsicas' periods I–II; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 7–8). A series of ditches found beneath the villa date to a later phase, pre-dating the establishment of the villa (Detsicas' period III; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 8–10).

The Roman complex originated sometime in the mid-first century as a small domestic building and a granary within a walled enclosure (Period 1; Detsicas 1974, 121–2; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 15–7). In the second half of the first century, a corridor villa of twelve rooms (c. 75 x 8.75m) was built on a different alignment to the former house and equipped with a massive, detached bath-suite (Period 2; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 14; Detsicas dates this phase to the 60s CE).

During the early second century, two wings linked by a fronting corridor were added. In the later second century, a new set of baths was incorporated within the northern wing (Period 3). During this period, the villa reached an exceptional large size (86m in length overall and c. 65 rooms) in comparison to other-winged corridor houses in Kent and neighbouring counties (for an overview of similar sites, see Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 69–70). Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 70–72) finds closer parallels in *Gallia Belgica* and *Germania inferior*, suggesting a mobility of architects across the Channel during the second half of the first century.

The third baths were built at the end of the third century or in the early fourth century, and the villa was further modified (Period 4). The second half of the fourth century saw a decline in living standards: hearths appeared in former residential rooms, and extensive robbing occurred (Period 5).

Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 68) offers a helpful summary of the various hypotheses regarding the nature of the ownership of Eccles. The villa might have been the official residence of a *procurator* overlooking the quarrying of Kentish ragstone, flint and chalk in the Medway area (see also Marsden 1994, 83). Alternatively, the villa 'was possibly the consequence of official support for a local aristocrat' (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 68).

Detsicas identified several periods with multiple sub-phases, but their numbering is inconsistent across the interim reports. Here, I will follow the revised periods established by Stephen R. Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 14): Period 1: early house and granary (55–65/80 CE); Period 2: first baths and main house (65/80–150/180 CE); Period 3A: north and south wings added (c. 120 CE); Periods 3B–C: second baths in north wing (150/180–300 CE); Period 4: third baths, alterations to the house (300–350? CE); Period 5: low-status occupation (350?–400 CE). Presently known site area: c. 116 x 89m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 55–400 CE.

**Excavation history:** While the site was known since the nineteenth century (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 12), the villa was extensively excavated in 1961–76 under the auspices of the Eccles Excavation Committee, directed by Alexander Peter Detsicas. In 1996, a geophysical survey detected a series of ditch-like anomalies, probably from the Iron Age site. In 2015, fieldwork north of the villa by Wessex Archaeology exposed a Roman quarry pit, field boundaries, and wall footings of probable Roman date (Wessex Archaeology 2015). The site has been recently reassessed by Nick Stoodley and Stephen R. Cosh (2021).

**Baths:** The evolution of the three baths reflects the villa's long and complex history. Considering that the baths were 'out of proportion with the likely needs of those housed in the villa', Detsicas (1983, 126) proposes that they 'may have been used by people living beyond the estate'. All three structures were mainly built of Kentish Ragstone.

Examples of imported and locally made relief-patterned box-tiles have been discovered at the site, although the context of their recovery is currently unknown (Bett *et al.* 1997, 81–2; 87; 89). Among the locally produced tiles, there are the only specimens of dies 12 and 16 keyed in an Eccles fabric, suggesting that 'the two dies must have been brought to the villa to be used for this one job' (Black 1996, 67). The numbering of the rooms follows Detsicas' plans (1965, 83, Fig. 2; 1966, Fig 2; 1974, Fig. 3; 1977, Fig. 2).

Period 1 (55–65/80 CE): Since the Period 2 baths share the alignment with the Period 1 dwelling, Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 16, 21–2) suggests that a first set of baths might have been built during this early phase. This set comprised a furnace (Room 52: c. 4.80 x 3.50m), Room 39 (c. 9.75 x 3.81m), Room 28 (c. 3.81 x 2.74m), and the two small extensions 29 (c. 2.74 x 0.76m) and 38 (c. 3.04m wide and c. 1.21m max. depth).

Room 39 would have had a rectangular hot-water bath at the west end nearest the furnace, 'conventionally raised to allow the flow of hot air beneath and subsequently totally demolished as was so often the case' (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 22). Cosh (*ibid.*) also suggests that Room 39 included a roughly square *caldarium* 'divided from the *tepidarium* above floor level (part of the under-floor support survives)'. Room 38 was the apsidal warm-water bath of the *tepidarium*. While later heated by a hypocaust, Room 28 was originally a *frigidarium* with a small cold-water bath (Room 29).

Period 2 (65/80–150/180 CE): These baths were associated with burnt material, and Detsicas (1965, 85; 1974, 123) suggests that they were probably destroyed by fire. His theory is cautiously supported by Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 36). The details of the building are extrapolated from various reports (Detsicas 1963; 1964; 1965; 1966; 1974).

**Phase A:** Following Cosh's reassessment, the Period 1 baths were substantially enlarged during this phase. They were structured as : Room 30 (c. 8.99 x 5.79m) was a *frigidarium* with a large cold plunge bath (Room 31, c. 3.96 x 2.13m). Room 28 (c. 3.81 x 2.74m), now hypocausted, became a *tepidarium* and Room 29 (c. 2.74 x 0.76m) a warm-water bath. Room 39 (c. 9.75 x 3.81m), also hypocausted, was a *caldarium* with a small apsidal room (Room 38, c. 3.04m wide and c. 1.21m max. depth).

Room 52 (c. 4.80 x 3.50m) was the furnace of Room 39. Room 58 (c. 7.16 x 4.42m), hypocausted, was another *caldarium*, probably with a hot plunge bath in the northwest corner later removed during demolition (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 23; Detsicas 1965, 76, interpreted the whole room as a hot-water bath).

Traces of the emplacement of a *testudo* were found in the arch between Room 58 and its furnace in Room 46 (c. 3.51 x 3.20m) (Detsicas 1965, 76; Plate IIIA). Room 46 was the furnace ‘supplying both the hypocaust in Room 58 and heating the water for the plunge bath’ (Detsicas 1965, 77). The cheeks of the furnace were rebuilt and lengthened on at least one occasion.

During the first phase, ‘the concave nature of the cheeks probably indicates the emplacement for a cylindrical boiler (*miliarium*), usually of lead and copper-bottomed, from which a pipe would have supplied the hot water to the bath in Room 58’ (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 23). This boiler was about 1.09m in diameter (Detsicas 1966, 47).

The function of Rooms 55 (c. 3.20 x 1.68m) and 56 (c. 3.20 x 2.29m) is unclear, and they might have initially been a single room (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 23). Room 55 was heated by a flue running through its east wall. The function of Room 57 (c. 4.57 x 3.20m) is unknown. Room 73 (c. 4.80 x 2.40m) might have been a latrine (Detsicas 1966, 48). Detsicas interpreted Rooms 70 (c. 7.49 x 12.19m) and 72 (irregular area, c. 110.88m<sup>2</sup>) as open exercise yards.

Room 47 (c. 7.31 x 1.83m) was a corridor, but its function is uncertain as ‘it is not an obvious route to anywhere and its shape is strange for a wood-store, as room adjacent to *praefurnia* are often interpreted’ (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 28). Room 32 was a circular *laconicum* (diameter c. 5.49m) heated by a pillar hypocaust, with its furnace in Room 48 (c. 1.82 x 1.82m). Room 49 (c. 4.14 x 2.43m) was probably an *apodyterium*.

Circular *laconica* (or *sudatoria*: see Nielsen 1990, 78) are exceptional at villa sites, with only one other example from **Ashted Common** in Surrey (diameter c. 5.18m) (Lowther 1927, 148; 1929, 4–5; 1930, 132–4, 139; Black 1987, 107–8; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 27–8).<sup>2</sup>

Detsicas (1964, 123) observes that they were usually a feature of military establishments and suggests that the architect of the first bathhouse might have had a military background (Detsicas 1965, 89). In his view, the army’s involvement could reflect the ‘official promotion of a local philo-Roman aristocrat, perhaps even Adminius returning to Britain in the wake of the army’ (Detsicas 1983, 125–6). Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 68) finds Adminius’ involvement implausible but does not exclude a military influence.

*Phases B and C:* After c. 100 CE, the large *caldarium* 58 was reduced in size and furnace 46 went out of use (Detsicas 1965, 79). Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 29–30) suggests that the floor of Room 58 might have collapsed, explaining why the mosaic in that room was discarded so soon. Rooms 56 and 58 were superseded by Rooms 61–66. Room 61 (c. 2.74 x 2.13m) was the new *tepidarium*, and Room 63 (c. 2.29 x 2.13m) was the new *caldarium*, with three flues connecting the two hypocausts. The floor of these rooms was initially made of tiles, but it quickly perished and was substituted with an *opus signinum* floor (Detsicas 1965, 73).

Rooms 62 (c. 3.05 x 1.83 m) and 64 (c. 3.35 x 1.83 m) were unheated. The former was entered from Room 30 and gave access to Room 61. The function of Room 64 is unclear. A long flue for the supply of hot water was found in Room 65 (c. 2.62 x 2.10m), supplying a hot-water bath in its eastern part (c. 2.10 x 0.90m). Room 66 (c. 1.52 x 2.31m) was the

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<sup>2</sup> Rectangular steam sweat rooms (an evolution of the circular specimens, according to Nielsen 1990, 78) are more common, with examples at **Boughton Monchelsea** (Kent), **Folkestone, East Cliff** (Kent), **Angmering** (West Sussex) and **Fishbourne** (West Sussex).

new furnace, with a *testudo* in the east of the room (Detsicas 1965). Black (1994, 104) interpreted Rooms 61, 62, 63, 65 and 66 as a small set of baths ‘inserted alongside the main bath-suite in the same building’.

This phase’s second major development was the alteration in the position of the furnace of the *laconicum*: furnace 48 was abandoned and replaced by Room 50 (irregular area, c. 2.44 by 3.00–3.50m). Room 69 (c. 4.65 x 2.97m) was possibly a fuel store (Detsicas 1966, 49). Room 59 (c. 9.14 x 2.44m) was floored in *opus signinum* and probably functioned as an *apodyterium*. Room 60, former Room 49, was now probably an anteroom with possibly a new doorway in its north wall towards Room 59 (Detsicas 1965, 80).

Cosh does not distinguish between Detsicas’ last two phases (D and E) and offers a new interpretation of this final period (*contra* Detsicas 1965; 1966). In his view, the creation of Room 71 (c. 7.62 x 5.18m) involved the demolition of Rooms 57 and 73. Since drains ran parallel to the walls, Room 71 might have functioned as a latrine (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 30). More importantly, Cosh also believes that Rooms 26 (c. 6.10 x 4.57m) and 27 (c. 1.83 x 2.44m), placed by Detsicas (1964, 127–8) as late additions to the Period 3 baths, were built at this time.

Room 26 was a large room with a pillared hypocaust heated by the furnace in Room 27. It probably ‘either acted as a heated *apodyterium* or a *laconicum*, perhaps replacing Room 32, which appears to have gone out of use early in the 2nd century’ (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 32). Moreover, Cosh interprets Room 1 (c. 2.44 x 2.74m) and 16 (c. 3.66 x 2.13), which apparently replaced the former, as built during this phase, although their functions remain uncertain. Since Room 16 had a drain through one wall, it might have functioned as a latrine. Detsicas considered both these rooms as part of the second bathhouse.

The Period 2 baths were thus still in operation when the villa was transformed into a winged corridor building in c. 120 CE (Cosh’s Period 3A). A large ornamental pool (Room 94: c. 49 x 3.45m internally) was probably built during this period (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 16, 52–3; *contra* Detsicas 1966; 1972). No narrow pool parallel to the house is known from Britain. In the case study area, **Derenth** (Kent) had a pool at right angles to the house (Payne 1897, 65; Fox 1905, 225–6; Philp 1973, 119, 135; Black 1981, 162–3). A similar feature existed at Bancroft (Bucks) (Williams & Zeepvat 1994, 188–9, fig. 101).

Examples of pools parallel to the house in *Gallia Belgica* include the broadly contemporary villa at Mersch in Luxemburg with a pool of c. 75.6 x 6.5m (Thill 1967, Fig. 2) and at Haccourt in Belgium (second century), with a pool of c. 53.5 x 7m (Boe 1971, 23, Fig. 6; 1975, 8–10, 38, figs. 16, 17). A villa (built in the first century, reached its largest extension in 190–250 CE) recently excavated at Liéhon, south of Metz in north-east France, not only had the same kind of overall plan with pool, but the bathhouse is in a similar position to that of Eccles and was equipped with a circular *laconicum* (Ferdrière *et al.* 2010, no. 44).

Another similar water basin (c. 40m) embellished the north façade of the large villa at Reinheim in Germany during its second phase (early second–early third centuries CE) (Sărățeanu-Müller 2000; 2011). Other basins occur at Anthée (Belgium), Biarre (France), Estrée-sur-Noye (France), Lébisey (France), Mienne (France), Noyers-sur-Serein (France), Romegoux-La Vergnée (France), Villemurt (France), Welschbillig (Germany) and Echternach (Luxembourg) (see bibliography in Detsicas 1989, 85–6, fn. 14, fn. 16; further examples in Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 70–5).

To the west of this large pool, there was a smaller, rectangular pool (c. 3.45 x 1.65m internally). A rectangular pool might have existed at the neighbouring villa at **Snodland**, and similar features existed at Gadebridge Park and Dicket's Mead (Herts.) (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 53)

Period 3B–C (150/180–300 CE): The Period 2 baths were demolished in the later second century and substituted by a new set of baths in the northern wing of the house (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 35). Detsicas (1965, 89) notes that, unlike his predecessor, the architect of the second bathhouse had 'marked civilian characteristics'. The details of the building are extrapolated from various reports by Detsicas (1963, 1964; 1965; 1966; 1974), but I follow Cosh's new interpretation (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 37–46).

*Phase B:* The second bath-suite was structured as follows: Room 3 (c. 8.99 x 2.74m) was probably separated into two rooms, a *tepidarium* and a *caldarium*, with a hot-water bath in Room 2 (c. 3.66 x 1.22m). No evidence of the furnace was found. A semicircular apse, Room 2a (c. 2.3m wide and c. 1.5m max. depth), was then added to the east of the *caldarium*. Its function is not clear as no drain was found. Room 5 (c. 2.44 x 2.74m) to the west of Room 3 was believed by Detsicas to be a hot-water bath, but this interpretation seems unlikely (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 40).

Room 6 (c. 5.94 x 2.74m) was perhaps the *frigidarium*, with a small cold-water bath to the west (unnumbered room, c. 1.80 x 0.90m). Alternatively, if the walls defining Rooms 5 and 6 were constructed later, Room 7 might have been a large *frigidarium* with a cold-water bath in its north end (unnumbered room, c. 2 x 3.75m). Rooms 11 and 12 (each c. 3m<sup>2</sup>), both hypocausted, also belong to this phase, perhaps functioning as a *laconicum*. Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 42) notes the interesting method used for positioning the *pilae* in the *opus signinum* base of these rooms: 'the floor was gridded up with lines two Roman feet apart, and the crosses at the intersections scored against a straight edge where the *pilae* were to be placed.'

*Phase C:* Room 9 (c. 7.31 x 2.43m) now became the *frigidarium*, with a cold-water bath in Room 13 (c. 2.44 x 1.83m). Room 11 was the new *caldarium*, with its hot-water bath in Room 132 (c. 1.60 x 1.37m), and Room 12 was the new *tepidarium*. There were perhaps two bath-suites working at the same time during this phase. However, the eastern rooms of the wing changed their function: Rooms 2 and 2a went out of use, and Room 6 was now given a channelled hypocaust, probably becoming a heated *apodyterium*.

The planning of the northern extension of the baths is difficult to reconstruct because the Period 3 baths were built over part of it. Room 41 (c. 10.36 x 2.13m) was probably a colonnade open on the west side of the bathhouse. Detsicas interpreted room 40 (c. 14.17 x 2.74m) as a furnace serving Rooms 10–12, but the corridor shape of the room makes this hypothesis unlikely.

The function of Room 45 (c. 0.76 x 1.22m) is uncertain; Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 45) suggests that it may have been a lobby/entrance or a shrine and notes that it was not axial to Room 40. Room 10 (c. 12 x 3.05m), hypocausted, was built over the southern end of Room 41, with its furnace in Room 25 (c. 3.35 x 2.97m). Room 8 (c. 2.74 x 2.44m) had a semicircular niche in its southern face and might have been a shrine. Room 51 (c. 3.12 x 2.59m) was a detached latrine to the north of the baths.

Period 4 (300–350? CE): The complex underwent major rebuilding in c. 300 CE. Parts, if not all the Period 3 baths were demolished, and a new L-shaped bathhouse (c. 26 x 24m, excluding the furnaces) was constructed to the west. The new baths closely resemble the first bath-suite in 'Block D' at **Darenth** (c. 20km distant), also equipped



with an exceptionally large pool (Room 36) (Payne 1897, 60–4). The baths built to the southwest side of the main house at **Folkestone, East Cliff**, are also of a similar design, albeit on a smaller scale (Winbolt 1925, 58–61).

Access to the baths was gained via the north *porticus*: a long corridor (Room 15: c. 21.03 x 1.43m) connected the living quarters to anteroom 14 (c. 2.74 x 2.43m). Detsicas (1968, 45) found painted wall-plaster on the external south-east wall of Room 15 and suggested that ‘a covered veranda or peristyle [...] may well have been built here’. The details of the building are extrapolated from various reports by Detsicas (1963; 1964; 1965; 1968), but I follow Cosh’s new interpretation (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 56–60).

The most remarkable feature of the new baths was Room 17 (c. 13.41 x 3.35m). It was an ‘unusually large cold plunge bath’ (Detsicas 1963, 137) that could be classified as a *piscina* or *natatio*. It had a platform with two steps at its north-east side and a large drain was located along the pool’s north side. Room 17 was delimited on three sides by Room 18, c. 2.13m wide, which created a *frigidarium* 19.20 x 9.14m overall.

A similar arrangement was found in the Roman baths at Whitestaunton (Som) (Wessex Archaeology 2004: 8–9, fig. 2). Some of the rooms of the Period 3 baths might have been retained in this part of the complex. Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 60) suggests that Room 9 might have been repurposed as an *apodyterium*, ‘with a good view along the length of the pool and with the steps leading into it directly in front’. Rooms 11 and 12 might have also been still in use.

The heated section of the baths was in the north-south arm of the complex. Room 23 (c. 5.10 x 2.74m) was a *caldarium*. Rooms 21 (c. 4.27 x 3.66m) and 22 (c. 3.96 x 3.66m) were probably *tepidaria*. Rooms 23, 21, and 22 had a rectangular recess on the western side (Rooms 20 [c. 3.4 x 1.8m], 133 [c. 4.27 x 1.83m], and 19 [c. 3.96 x 1.83m]), which probably contained baths. Room 24 (c. 2.74 x 2.28m) was apparently the hot-water bath of Room 23, but no drain was found there. The furnace was in Room 43 (c. 4.72 x 3.96m), and Room 44 (4.42 x 2.13m) was a fuel store. Both rooms might have been later additions. Two box flue-tiles were found in place in Room 20 and in Room 24.

Room 42 (c. 3.90 x 3.40m?) and its furnace (Room 25: c. 3.35 x 2.97m) are difficult to interpret. A hot-water bath probably occupied the northeast corner of Room 42. Room 42 superseded Room 10 of the Period 3C baths, and Room 25 was also probably retained from that phase. The furnace was not in axis with Room 42, ‘necessitating the cheeks, presumably to support and heat a water tank, to have been set at an odd angle’ (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 59).

Period 5 (350?–400 CE): The villa declined during the second half of the fourth century. The baths were no longer used, and the large *frigidarium* was probably transformed into a work hall ‘centred around a hearth and ash-pit’ (Detsicas 1963, 138; see also Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 67).

**Decoration:** *Period 2 (65/80–150/180 CE)*: At their height, these baths were extensively decorated with mosaics and wall paintings, including ‘panels and floral medallions’ (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 21). *Frigidarium* 30 was decorated with a mosaic or a plain tessellated pavement (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 21).

Detsicas (1965, 74, frontispiece and Fig. 4; Neal 1965, 90–1;) assumed the so-called Gladiator Mosaic was part of the decoration of this room. However, since these fragments were found in the fill of furnace 46 and probably associated with its demolition, Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 24) suggests that the mosaic paved *caldarium* 58 and its bath. D. J. Smith (1975, 271) claims that the fragments dated to the early second century and

Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 33) comments that, if this is the case, the mosaic might have decorated the floor of Room 58 after the reconstruction of the hypocaust.

A second group of fragments came from the main house (Room 95), but the curved profile of some of the tesserae depicting a band of three-strand guilloche suggests that they might have lined the seat or steps of a plunge bath (Cosh & Neal 2009, 371). Other smaller fragments from the same deposit show water staining and probably formed a figured design (a marine scene?) decorating the floor and, exceptionally, the walls of a plunge bath or another room (Cosh & Neal 2009, 372). This peculiar solution, rare outside Kent, would match the wall of the cold plunge bath at **Wingham**, lined with black and white bands of tesserae, and **Farningham 2, Manor House** (Cosh & Neal 2009, 392). Finally, fragments of mosaic floors were recovered in Room 26 (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 31).

The walls of corridor 59 were plastered and ‘painted with various polychrome designs, seemingly mostly leaves, flowers and plants’ (Detsicas 1965, 82). This room perhaps also had a mosaic floor.

*Period 3 (c. 120–300 CE):* Room 1, predating the construction of the second bathhouse, ‘had a rough tessellation of red and buff *tesserae* cut from tiles’ (Detsicas 1963, 136). Painted wall-plaster was found in Rooms 2 and 3 (Detsicas 1963, 130). Before the insertion of a channelled hypocaust in Room 6, it was decorated with a high-quality mosaic pavement and painted wall-plaster, consisting ‘mainly of geometric patterns and polychrome borders’ (Detsicas 1963, 131; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 40).

Alternatively, these decorative features might have been associated with *Frigidarium* 7 postulated by Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 41). Latrine 51 had ‘a tessellated pavement, consisting of red and buff tesserae’ (Detsicas 1966, 50).

*Period 4 (300–350? CE):* The walls of *Frigidarium* 18 were decorated with painted wall-plaster, consisting ‘mainly of borders and geometrical patterns of blue, red, green and yellow on contrasting light-coloured backgrounds’ (Detsicas 1963, 137). The south-east wall of corridor 15 was decorated externally with painted wall-plaster: ‘all that survived of this was a plain band of yellow liberally splashed with red, green, brown and black to give an impression of marbling’ (Detsicas 1968, 45).

**Water supply:** Traces of a wooden water pipeline were found southeast of the first-century bathhouse. This structure was ‘the main water supply to the first baths of the villa, with one branch skirting round Room 32 and 47 [...] to supply the *testudo* in Room 46, and another to supply the cold plunge bath (Room 31) of the *frigidarium*’ (Detsicas 1967, 165). Traces of another wooden water pipeline were found east of the second bathhouse (Detsicas 1968, 45). Both these pipelines seemingly brought water from the Medway River (Detsicas 1963, 138).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Betts 1992; Black 1987, 141–2; Cosh & Neal 2009, 369–73; Detsicas 1963; 1964; 1965; 1966; 1967; 1968; 1969; 1970; 1971; 1972; 1973; 1974; 1975; 1976; 1977a; 1977b; 1983, 120–6; 1989; McWhirr 1979, 158; Neal 1965, 90–1; 1981, 76; Scott 1993, 103; Smith D. J. 1969, 75; 1975, 271; 1978, 121–2; Smith J. T. 1978, 161–2; Stoodley & Cosh 2021; Walthew 1975; Wessex Archaeology 2015.

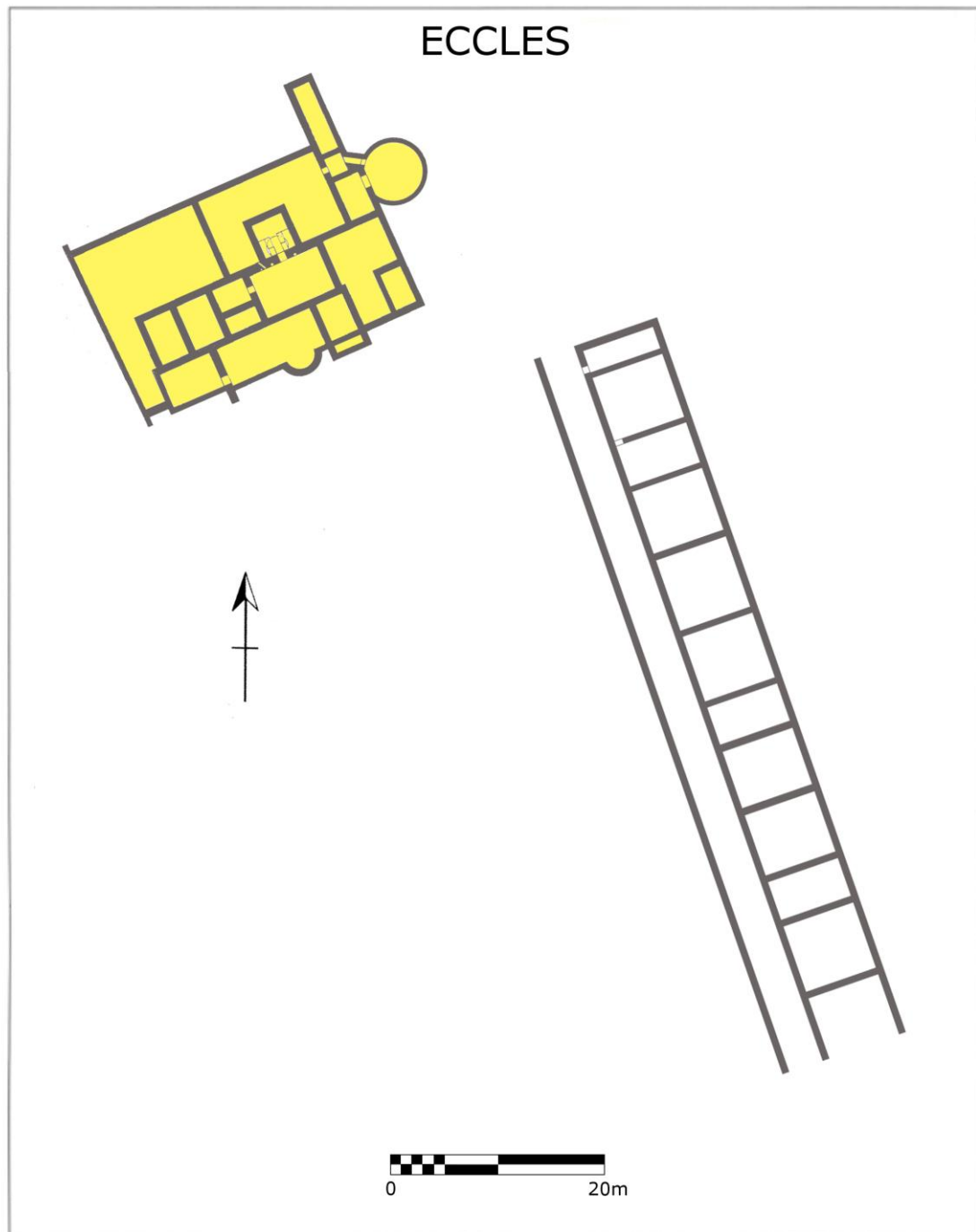


**Figure 23. Plan of the villa at Eccles (Kent) during Period 2 (65/80–150/180 CE). The detached bathhouse is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Detsicas 1966, Fig. 2; Detsicas 1972, Fig. 3; Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 18, Fig. 3.5.**



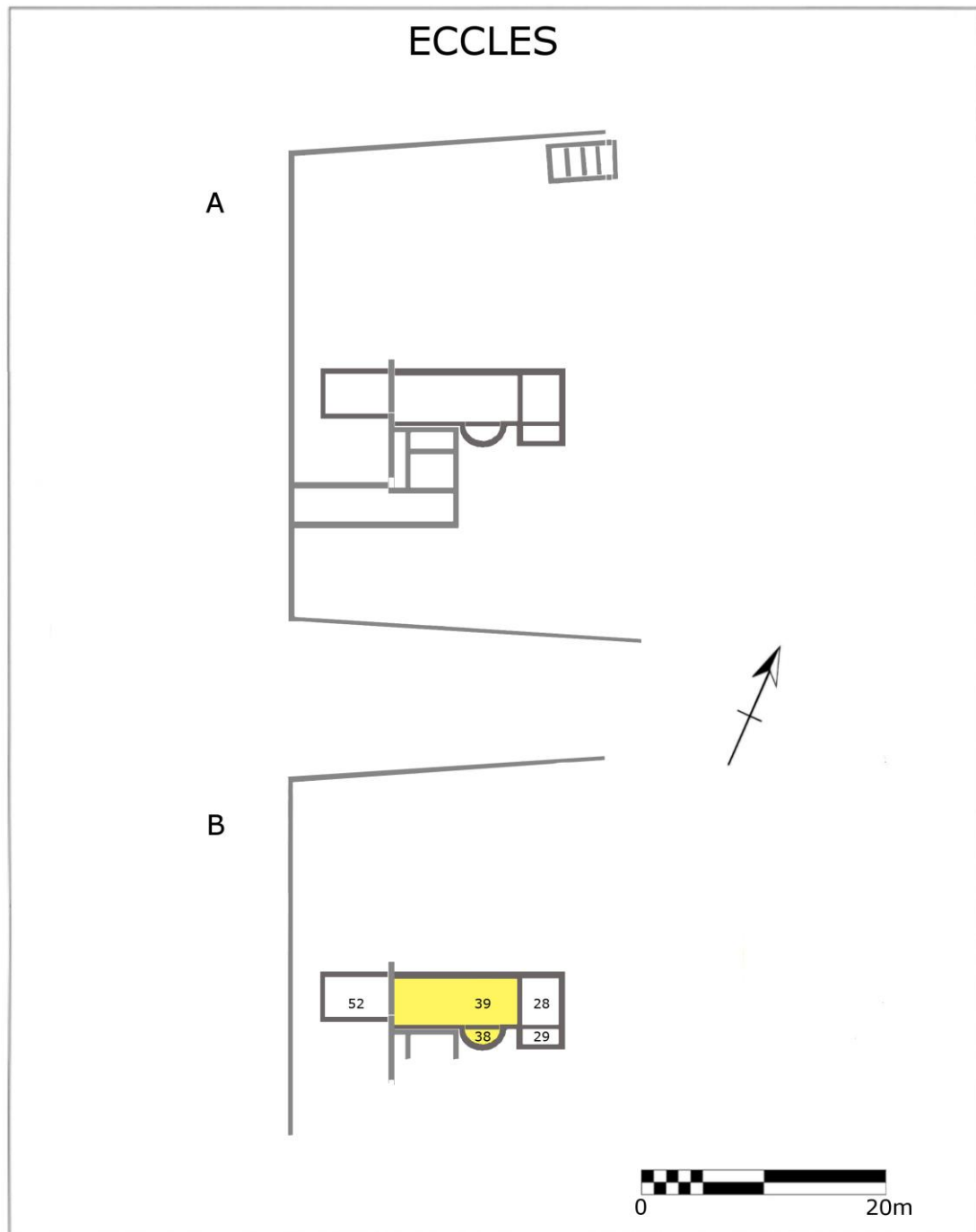


**Figure 24. A. Plan of the early baths at Eccles (Kent) in relation to early features, including a possible granary (Period 1, 55–65/80 CE). B. Plan of the Period 2 (65/80–150/180 CE) baths in their earlier phase. Rooms that might have been heated are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 18, Fig. 3.5; 21, Fig. 3.7.**

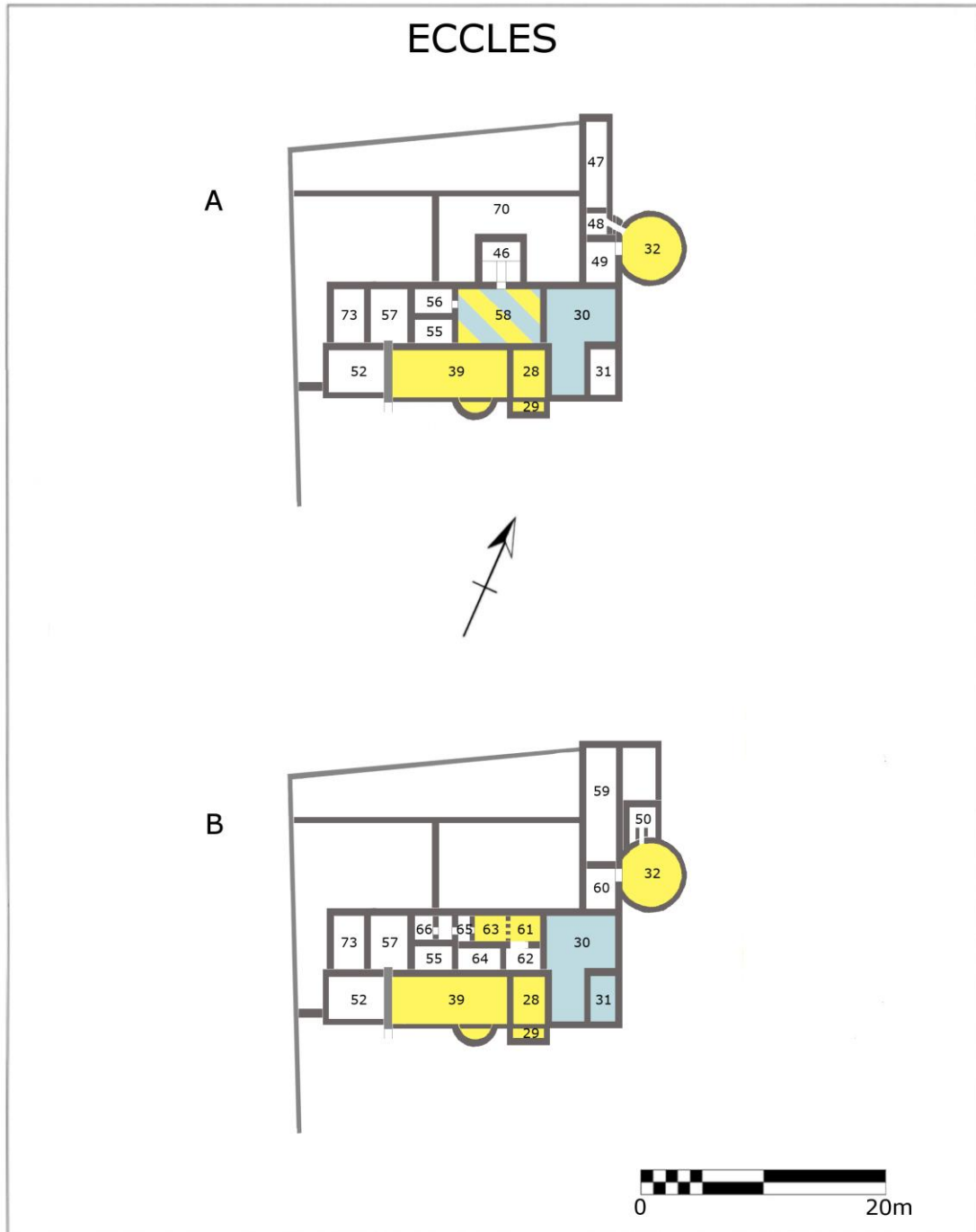


**Figure 23 A. Plan of the baths at Eccles (Kent) during Phases A of Period 2 (65/80–150/180 CE). B. Plan of the baths during Phases B and C. Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow, rooms with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 24, Fig. 3.10; 28, Fig. 3.15.**

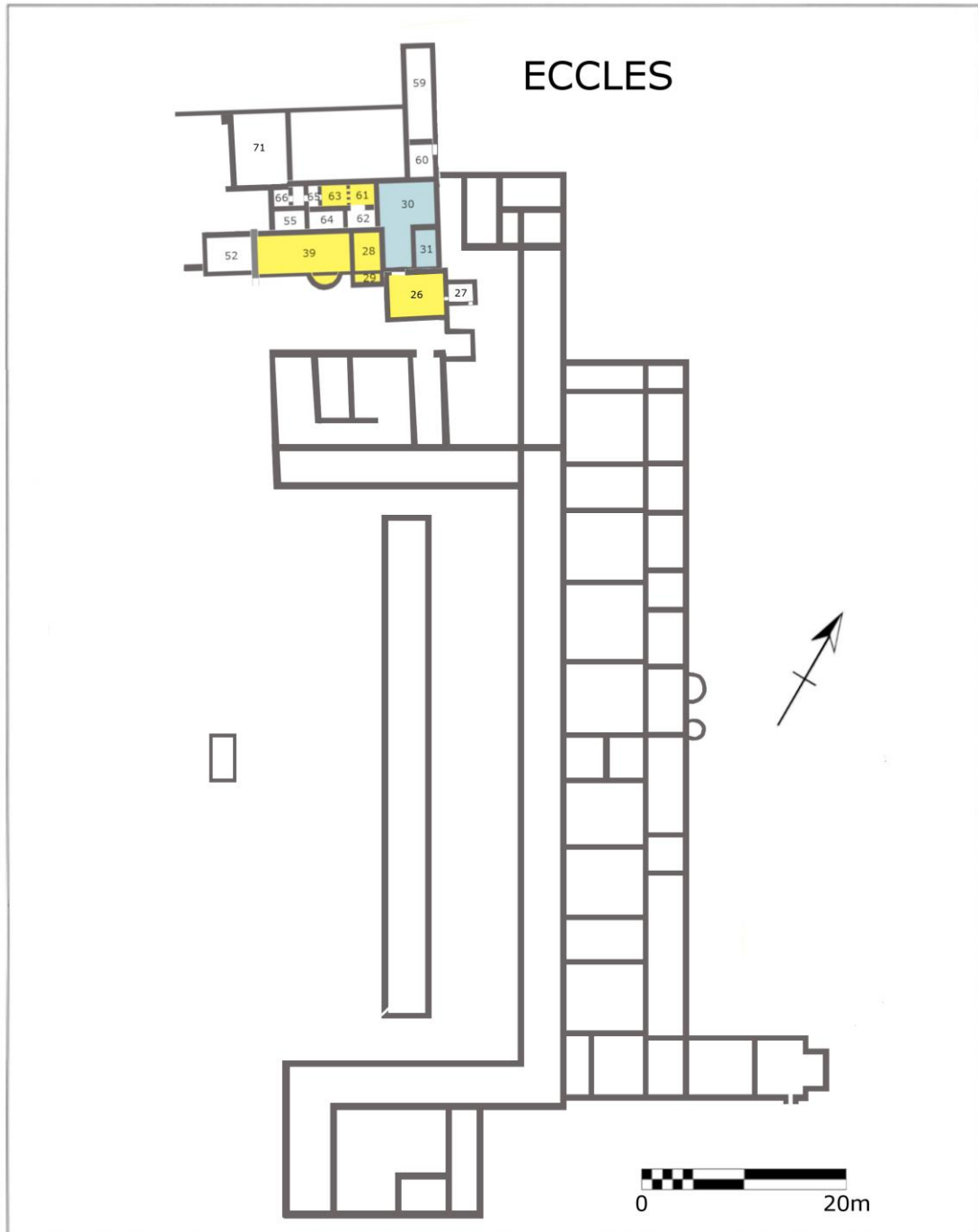


**Figure 24** The villa at Eccles c. 150 CE with the final phase of the Period 2 baths. The rooms of the baths with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow, those with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 31, Fig. 3.18; 34, Fig. 3.21.

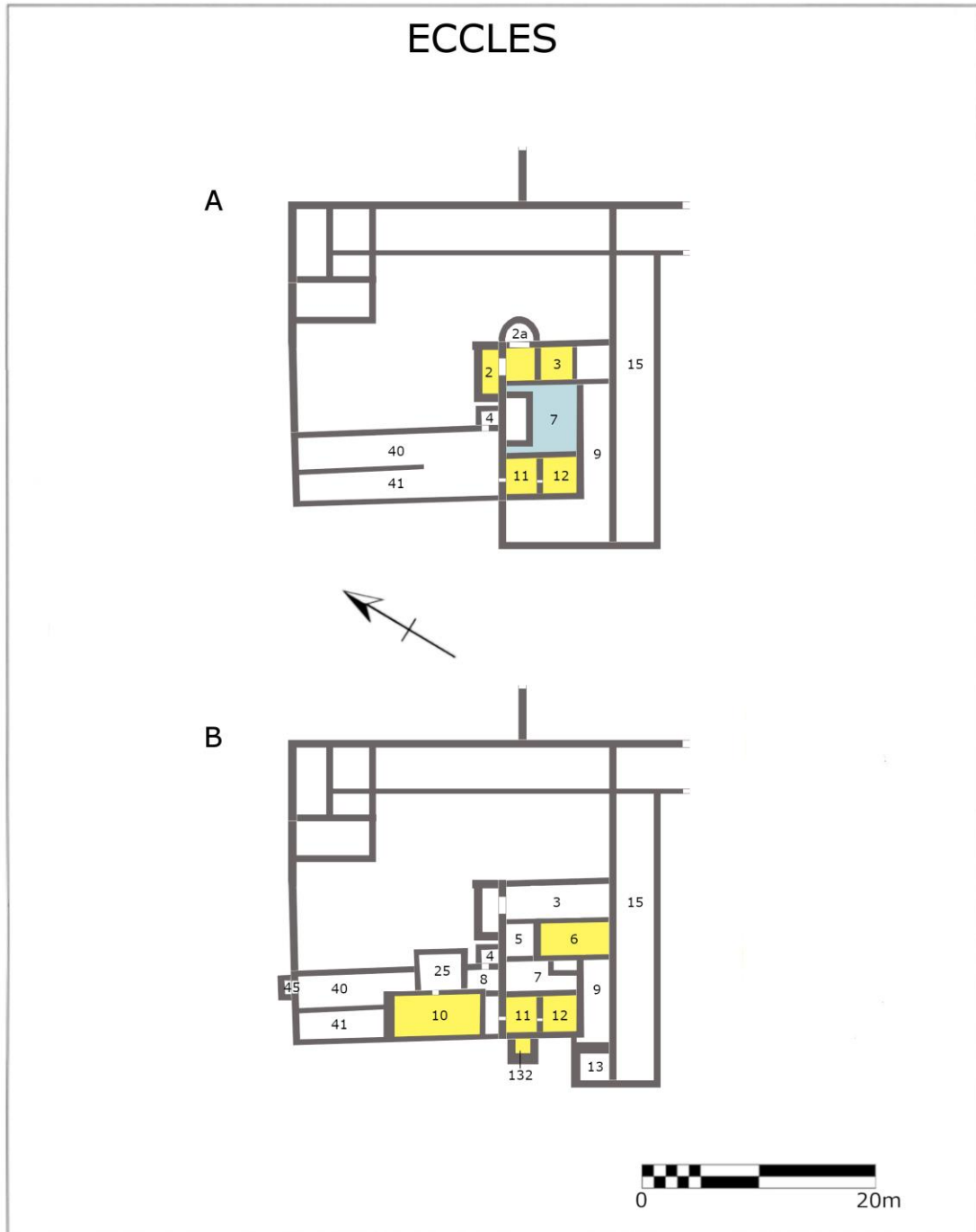


**Figure 25 A. Plan of the baths at Eccles (Kent) during Phases B of Period 3 (150/180–300 CE). B. Plan of the baths during Phase C. Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow, rooms with possibly embellished by mosaics in blue. Image: author. After Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 41, Fig. 3.25; 43, Fig. 3.27.**

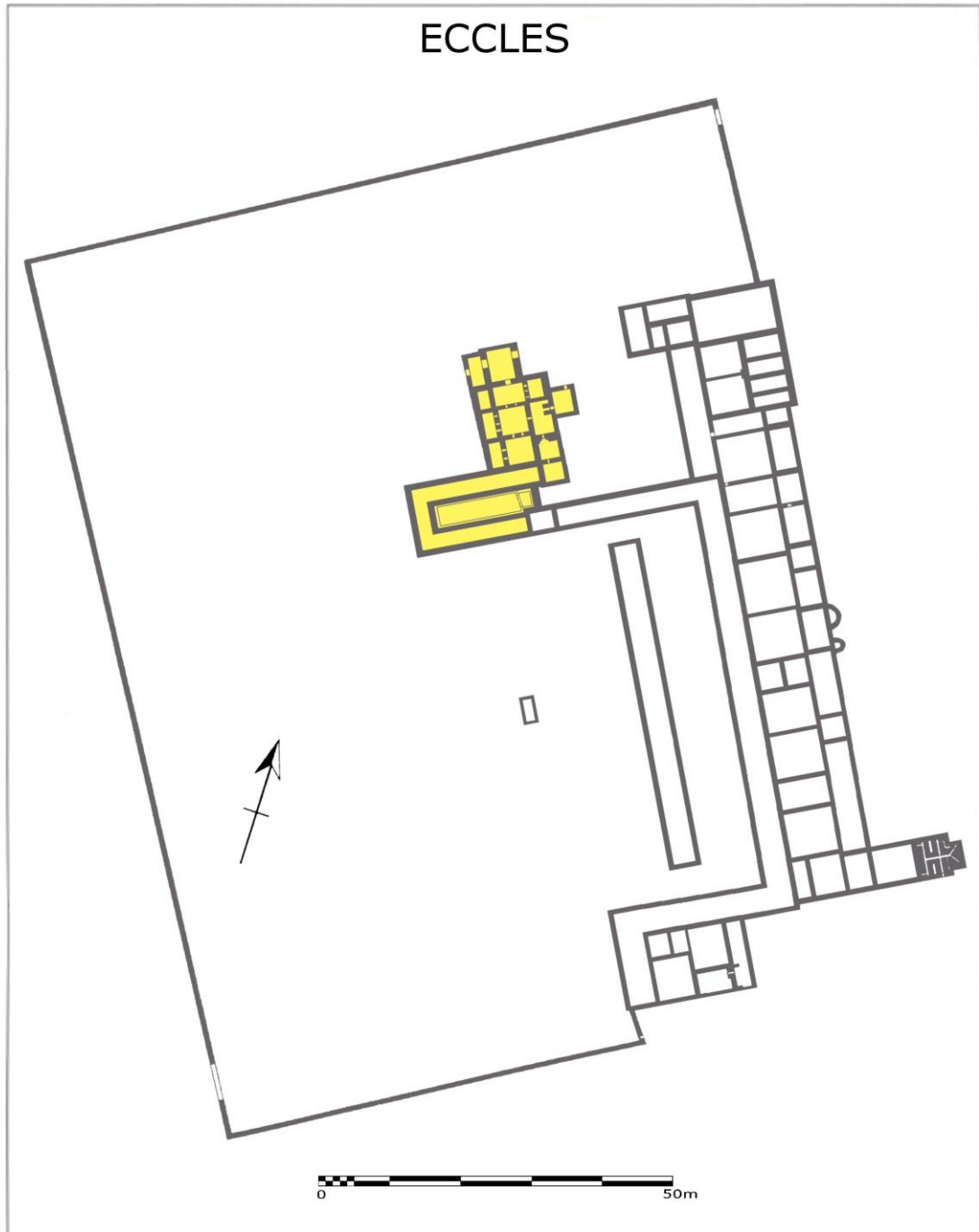


**Figure 26. The villa at Eccles c. 300 CE with the Period 4 baths (highlighted in yellow).  
Image: author. After Detsicas 1989, Fig. 2.**

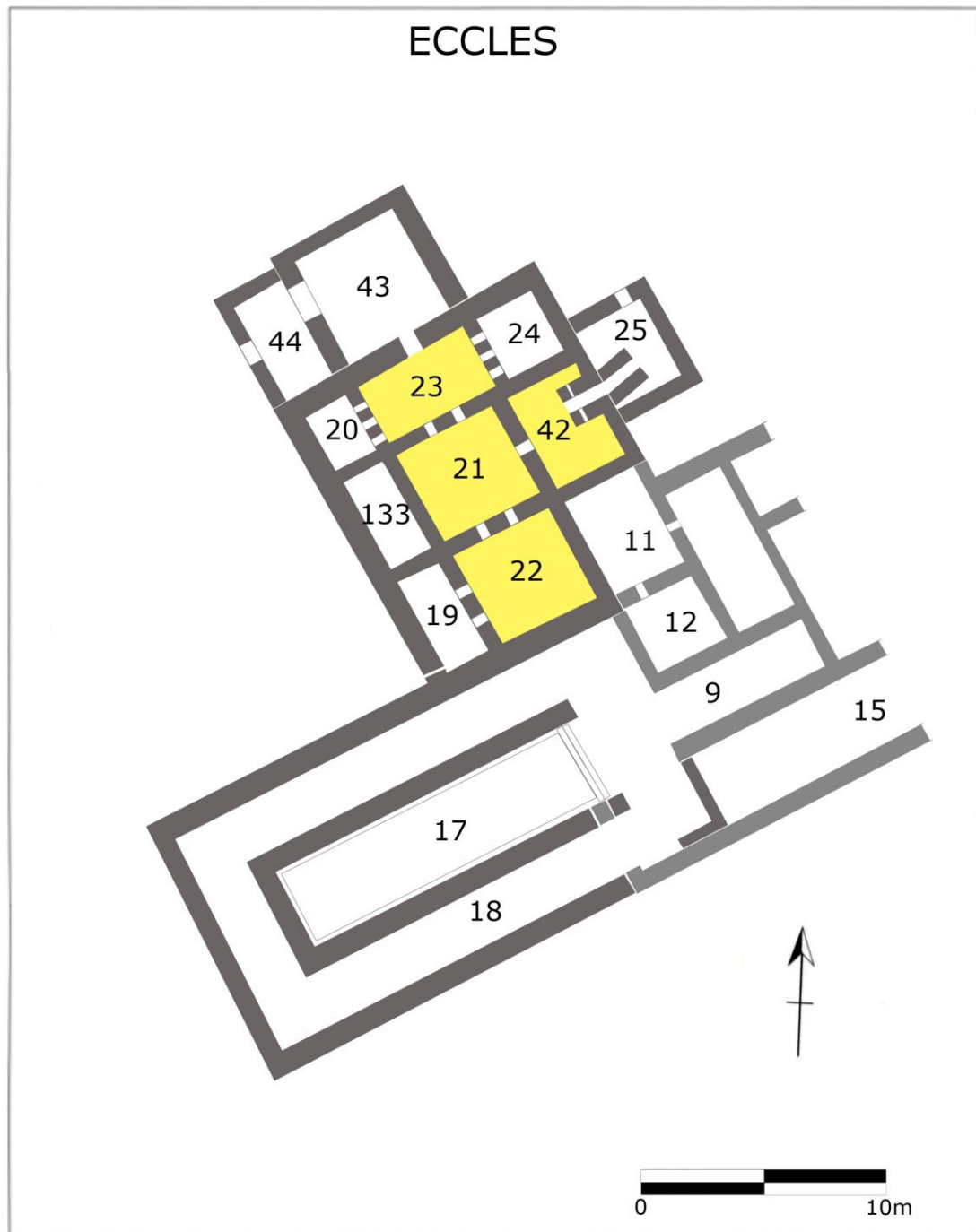


**Figure 27. Plan of the baths at Eccles (Kent) during Period 4 (300–350? CE). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The walls of the Period 3 baths that might have been retained in period are in light grey. Image: author. After Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 57, Fig. 3.40.**

## FARNINGHAM 1

**Individual Site Number:** 89

**Location:** TQ 5469 6664

**Typology and extent of the site:** This site was discovered in 1925 during house development in Oliver Crescent (numbers 36, 37 and 38). It lies c. 250m southeast of the villa at **Farningham 2, Manor House** (Greenfield, Meates & Birchenough 1948, 180). Priest and Cumberland (1931, 67) describe the remains as ‘three long walls, practically parallel, but not equidistant lying in N.N.W.-S.S.E. direction’, enclosing a small bathhouse. Presently known site area: c. 42.7 x 18.6m.

**Site chronology:** second century CE (?).

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1925 by the Dartford Antiquarian Society under the direction of F. G. S. Priest and A. Cumberland (1925). The area is now built over.

**Baths:** The part of the bathhouse excavated measures overall c. 4.5 x 2.34m. Priest and Cumberland (1925, 70) note that ‘the bath was approached by two floors’. The smallest one was 1.76 x 0.73m and was tiled. The largest one was probably the floor of a *caldarium* (Room 1, 1.76 x 1.72), rose by 0.27m from the other one. From Room 1, a step led to the hot plunge bath (Room 2, 1.4 x 1.09), which ‘had plastered sides with a tiled bottom, the angles were covered with a quarter-round fillet’ (ibid.).

An outlet lead pipe ‘emptied the bath into a waste-pit, and an overflow pipe, made from half-round tiles united by a mortar joint, passed straight through the wall and regulated the depth of water’ (Priest & Cumberland 1925, 70). Black (1987, 53) suggests that this small bathhouse may have been used by the workforce of the villa at **Farningham 2, Manor House**. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A nail cleaner was found at the site, although its precise provenance is not stated in the report (Priest and Cumberland 1925, 71). It is described as ‘a narrow plate of bronze, deeply notched at one end to form two sharp points, and an eye at the other end for suspension with other toilet accessories, on a ring from a girdle’ (ibid.).

**Key references:** Black 1987, 143–4; Greenfield *et al.* 1948, 180; Priest & Cumberland 1931; Taylor 1932, 112–4; Taylor & Collingwood 1925.

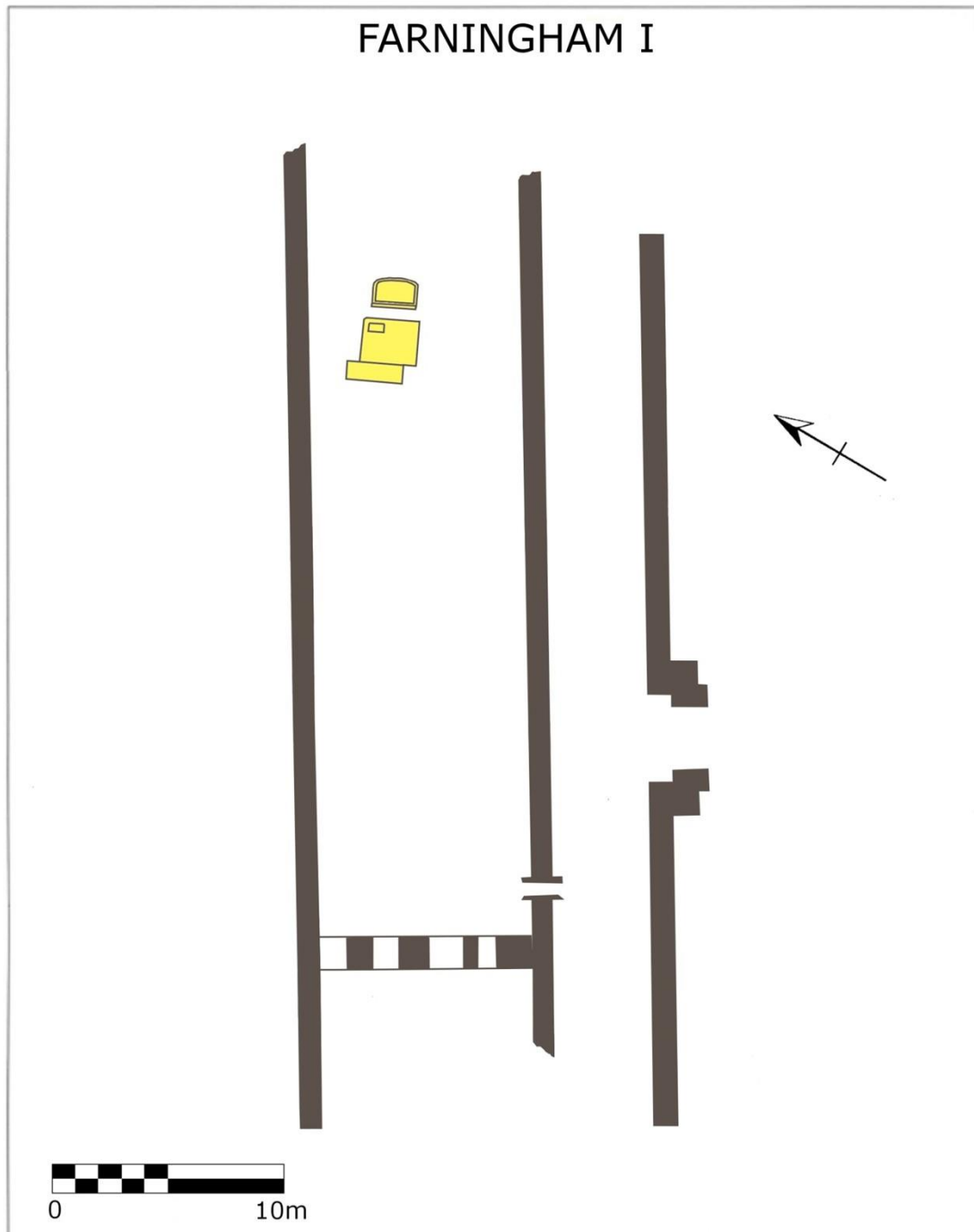


**Figure 30. Plan of the villa at Farningham I (Kent). The bath-suite is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Priest & Cumberland 1931, 66.**



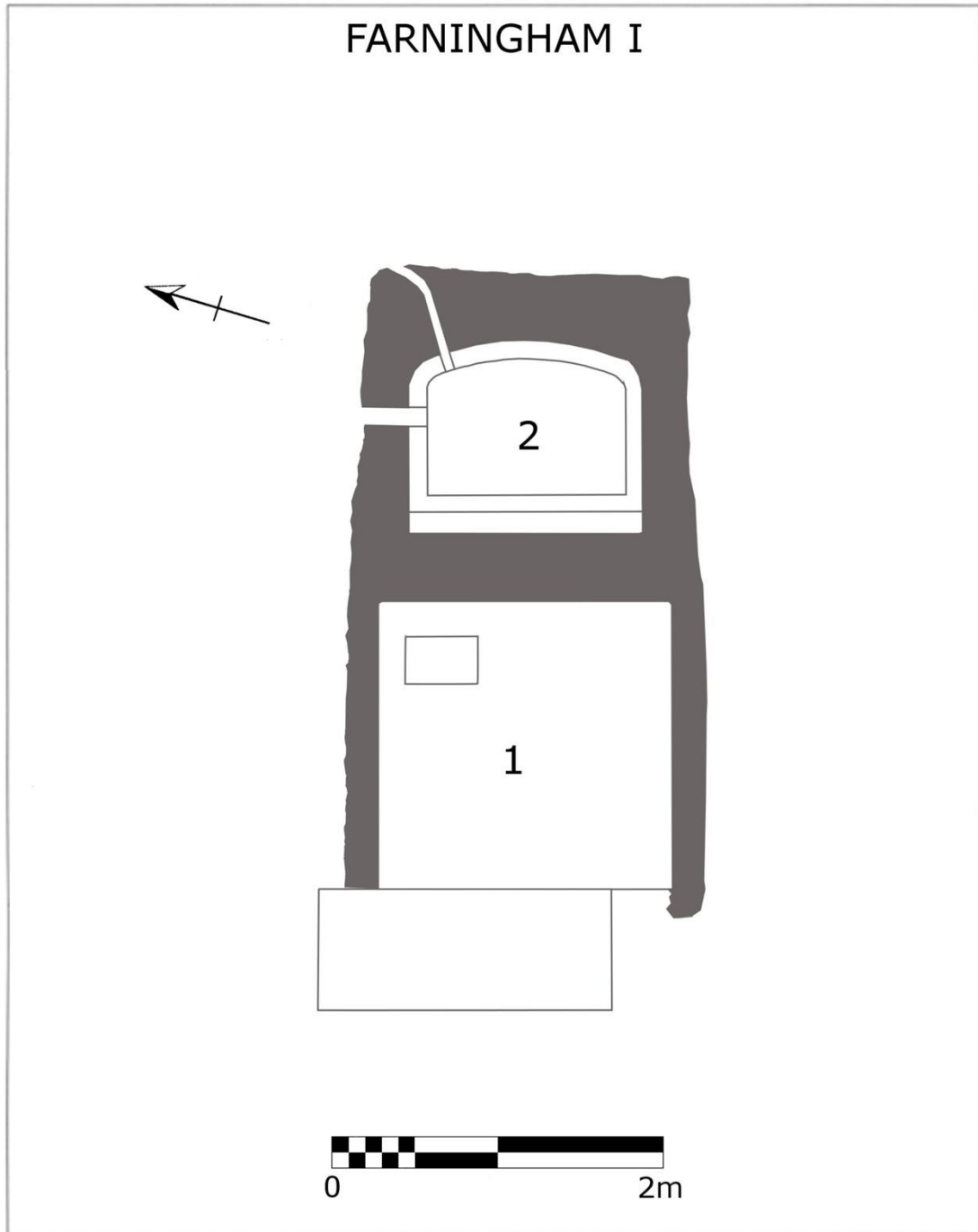


**Figure 31. Plan of the baths at Farningham I (Kent). Image: author. After Priest & Cumberland 1931, 72.**

## FARNINGHAM 2, MANOR HOUSE

**Individual Site Number:** 90

**Location:** TQ 5449 6674

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is the second site discovered at Farningham (Greenfield, Meates & Birchenough 1948, 180–1), c. 250m north-west of the baths at **Farningham 1**. The villa was built ‘on foundations of flint and mortar’ (Detsicas 1983, 108) in c. 80 CE (Period I). It was a corridor house ‘with a single wing containing a wide entrance, projecting eastwards at its southern end’ (Meates 1973, 2). In c. 100 CE (Period IA), it was enlarged with a narrow front corridor. As noted by Meates (1973, 7), ‘the fact that the narrow veranda or corridor turned at its north end and in the direction of the separate bathhouse suggests that the latter was now constructed’.

A few decades later (130–150 CE, Period II), ‘the front corridor was widened and a large central entrance constructed, the original entrance in the south wing being blocked off’ (Meates 1973, 2). During this period, ‘a rear corridor was also added, divided into compartments, with a large hypocaust at the north end of the central range of rooms’ (ibid.). In c. 300 CE (Period III), the northern part of the villa went out of use, and ‘it now consisted of four main rooms with tessellated floors, at least two of which had mosaic panels at their centre’ (Detsicas 1983, 107). The river Darent ‘eroded away the extreme south-western corner of the house’ (Meates 1973, 2). Site area: *villa*: c. 54.9 x 15.3m. *Bathhouse*: No information available.

**Site chronology:** Late first–mid-fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was initially excavated in 1948 (Greenfield *et al.* 1948, 180–1; Meates 1973). The bathhouse was partially re-excavated in 1981 by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit (Philp 2002a, 144–7).

**Baths:** The detached bathhouse was located 76.3 m. east of the house’s eastern wing, but ‘only part of the cold plunge could be excavated’ (Meates 1973, 7; see also Detsicas 1983, 108). As mentioned above, considering the eastward projection of the front corridor added in Period IA to the main house, Meates (1973, 2) assumes that it could have led to the bathhouse. In this case, the latter would have been a semi-detached structure.

Philp (2002a, 146) relocated the site in 1981 and excavated ‘only half of the bathhouse’, which ‘contained several large rooms, mostly with hypocaust’. He mentions an apsidal room and an ‘underground cold plunge bath of some size’, entered via three steps (ibid.). This room was drained by a ‘large drain in the west wall, later partly blocked’. It was ‘impressively built of large broken tiles’ (ibid.).

**Decoration:** The underground cold plunge bath ‘had been lined on floor and walls with a layer of white tesserae’ (Philp 2002a, 146). The room found on the west side of this plunge bath ‘contained a neat rectangular mosaic panel at its centre’ (ibid.).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 53; Detsicas 1983, 107–8; Greenfield *et al.* 1948, 180–1; Meates 1973; Philp 2002a, 144–7; Scott 1993, 104–5.

**Note:** No plan of the bathhouse available.

## FOLKESTONE, EAST CLIFF

**Individual Site Number:** 98

**Location:** TR 24084 36998

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site faces southeast by east, looking across the Channel, and lies c. 600m northeast of the illa at **Folkestone, Warren Road**. It ‘stands over 150 feet [45.72m] above the sea and has some of the finest sea-views anywhere in Britain’ (Philp 1990b, 206). This area was already occupied in the Mesolithic and evidence of Iron Age habitation and large-scale quern stone production has been found near the Roman site.

The first Roman building dates to c. 90/100 CE (Phase 1) and was a corridor house (Block A) with a detached bathhouse to the south (Block C). Three different stamps of ‘Classis Britannica’ were found on tiles, possibly associating the site with the Roman Navy (*contra* Peacock 1977, 246; see Weston 2019). Towards the end of the second century, Block A was rebuilt and equipped with a new set of attached baths (Phase 2). The new house ‘followed more or less the same outlines as its predecessor’ (Parfitt 2013, 42). During this period, a second house (Block B) was constructed, to which Block C was now attached.

The site was possibly abandoned in the late third century CE and partially re-occupied in the second half of the fourth century CE, ‘perhaps for agricultural or industrial purposes’ (Richardson 2013, 58). Unfortunately, the villa site is on the edge of a cliff, ‘which is rapidly crumbling into East Wear Bay’ (Taylor 1932, 114). According to Philp (1990b, 206), the cliff edge advances about 0.015m per year. Site area: c. 80 x 65m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site, known from the eighteenth century, was first excavated in 1924 by Winbolt (1925). The villa was re-excavated in 1989 by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit under the direction of Philp (1990b) and in 2010–2013 by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust as part of the “A Town Unearthed” project (Coulson 2013).

### **Baths:**

**Block C:** This detached bathhouse was built to the south of Block A, seemingly during the late first century CE. The numbering of the rooms follows Winbolt’s plan (Taylor 1932, Plate 21).

These baths were structured as follows: Room 1 (uncertain size) and Room 2 (c. 2.8 x 1.2m) were part of the furnace of the complex. Room 3 (c. 2 x 1.8m) was the hot plunge bath of *caldarium* 4 (c. 2.71 x 2.16m), Room 5 (c. 2.16 x 2.25m) was a *frigidarium* with a cold bath in Room 6a (c. 4.11 x 2.13m), and Room 7 (c. 6.4 x 3.5m) was a *tepidarium* with an apsidal warm plunge bath on its western side (Room 8, c. 2.8m wide and c. 1.3m max. depth).

**Block A:** A bath-suite was added to the southwest side of Block A in the late second century CE. There is evidence of at least two phases, but the details are difficult to reconstruct. The numbering of the rooms follows Winbolt’s plan (Taylor 1932, Plate 21).

These baths were structured as follows: Room 29 (c. 2.89 x 1.93m) was a *caldarium*; Room 30 (c. 2.89 x 1.9m) was a *tepidarium*. No *pilae* were found in Rooms 32 (c. 2.59 x 1.11m) and 33 (c. 2.89 x 1.11m), but they both probably contained plunge baths. Winbolt (1925, 60) notes that Room 31 (c. 1.19 x 1.11m) ‘has no entrance from the hypocaust and was probably a warm cellar’. However, this room might have also been

another plunge bath (for a similar arrangement, see **Eccles**). The function of Room 31a (c. 2.89 x 6.58m) is not entirely clear, but it might have been an *apodyterium*.

Room 35 (c. 2.77 x 1.73m) was a *frigidarium*, from which one could descend by two steps into the cold plunge bath in Room 36 (c. 3.65 x 1.76m). The steps were made of stone and covered with plaster, and the depth of the bath was c. 0.91m (Winbolt 1925, 61). North of Room 35 there was another heated room, 38 (c. 3.90 x 2.74m), that might have been part of an earlier phase of the bath-suite (ibid.). The furnace of the hypocaust was in the north-western corner of Room 28. Winbolt (1925, 59) describes ‘a masonry platform’ (c. 2.13 x 1.49m), on which were ‘two upright stones’, possibly supporting a boiler for hot water.

**Decoration:** *Block C*: Winbolt (1925, 50) reports that rooms 3 and 4 ‘were floored with fine mosaic and that their walls were covered with fresco painting’. Several fragments of wall paintings were recovered from the hypocausts under these rooms. Only two pieces are described in some detail by the excavator: ‘an angle of a cream pilaster, with Pompeian red, vertical bands on either side; and a chamfered edge of the same colour’ (Winbolt 1925, 106). 18 other fragments mentioned by Winbolt (1925, 107) might have also come from these baths.

Fragments of marble were found in Rooms 7 and 8, suggesting that these rooms ‘were faced with marble slabs’ (Winbolt 1925, 51). Furthermore, ‘triangular-shaped pieces’ and ‘a piece of good, moulded cornice’ of white marble with blue veins were found in Room 8 (Winbolt 1925, 109).

**Water supply:** Winbolt (1925, 31–2) did not identify the source of the baths’ water supply but suspected ‘a stream issued near Martello Tower No. 2’. He added that railway works probably broke the source of supply, and that ‘the level would have sunk considerably in 1,500 years.’

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A hairpin was found in Room 6a, and two rib bones in Room 8. Discussing the latter, Winbolt (1925, 100) notes that they were ‘probably used as strigils (scrapers)’.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2009, 376–7; Parfitt 2013; Philp 1990b; Richardson 2013; Taylor 1932, 114–5; Scott 1993, 105; Weston 2019; Winbolt 1925.

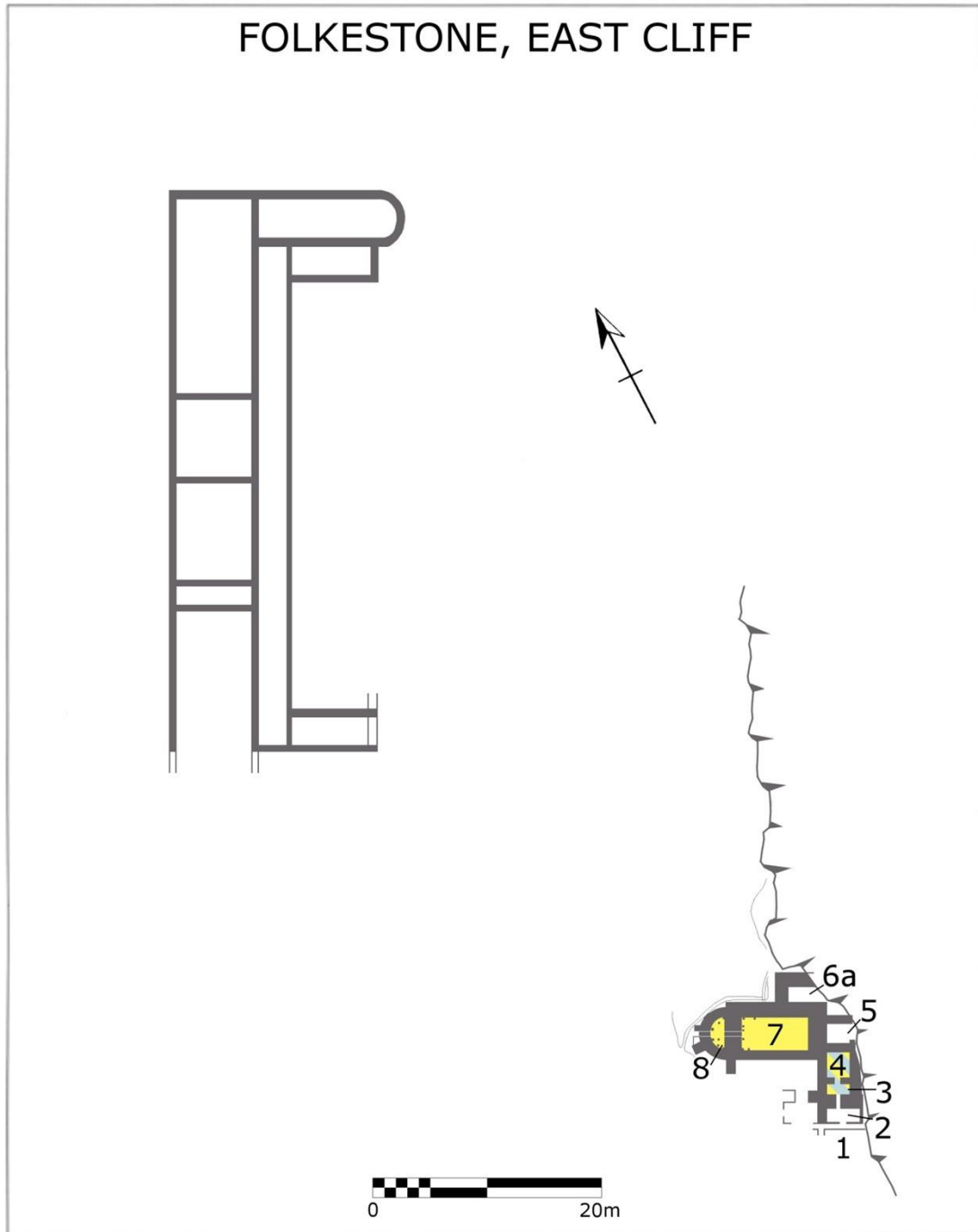


**Figure 32. Plan of the villa at Folkestone, East Cliff (Kent) during Phase 1. The rooms of the baths with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Taylor 1932, Plate 21.**

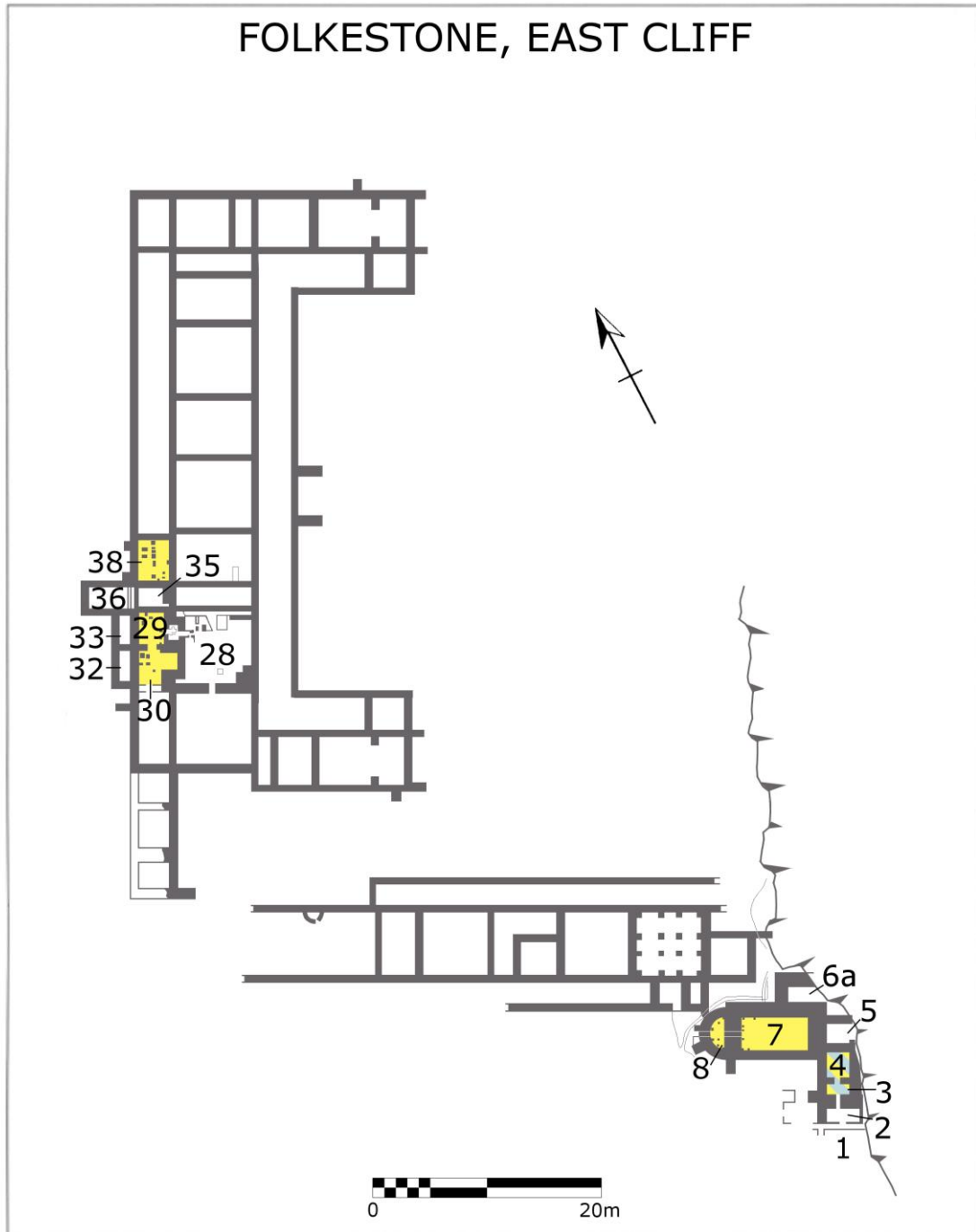


**Figure 28. Plan of the villa at Folkestone, East Cliff (Kent) during Phase 2. The rooms of the baths with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Taylor 1932, Plate 21.**

FOLKESTONE, WARREN ROAD

**Individual Site Number:** 99

**Location:** TR 2356 3671

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is located on the west slope of a ridge, close to a small stream now filled in, and c. 600m southwest of the villa at **Folkestone, East Cliff**. A group of five buildings have been excavated here in the nineteenth century, seemingly associated with a yet undiscovered villa. One was almost certainly part of a bathhouse. The other two buildings (a small two-roomed structure with an underground crypt and a circular feature) might have been funeral structures (Rigold 1972, 32). Presently known site area: c. 70 x 20m.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated between 1869 and 1875 under the direction of Canon R. C. Jenkins.

**Baths:** Only two rooms of the bathhouse were recorded: Room 1 (c. 4.57 x 3.04m), hypocausted, was linked to a hexagonal room (2, uncertain size), only partially uncovered. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A 'long bone needle' (Jenkins 1876b, 175) is mentioned among the finds from the baths.

**Key references:** Jenkins 1876b; Rigold 1972.

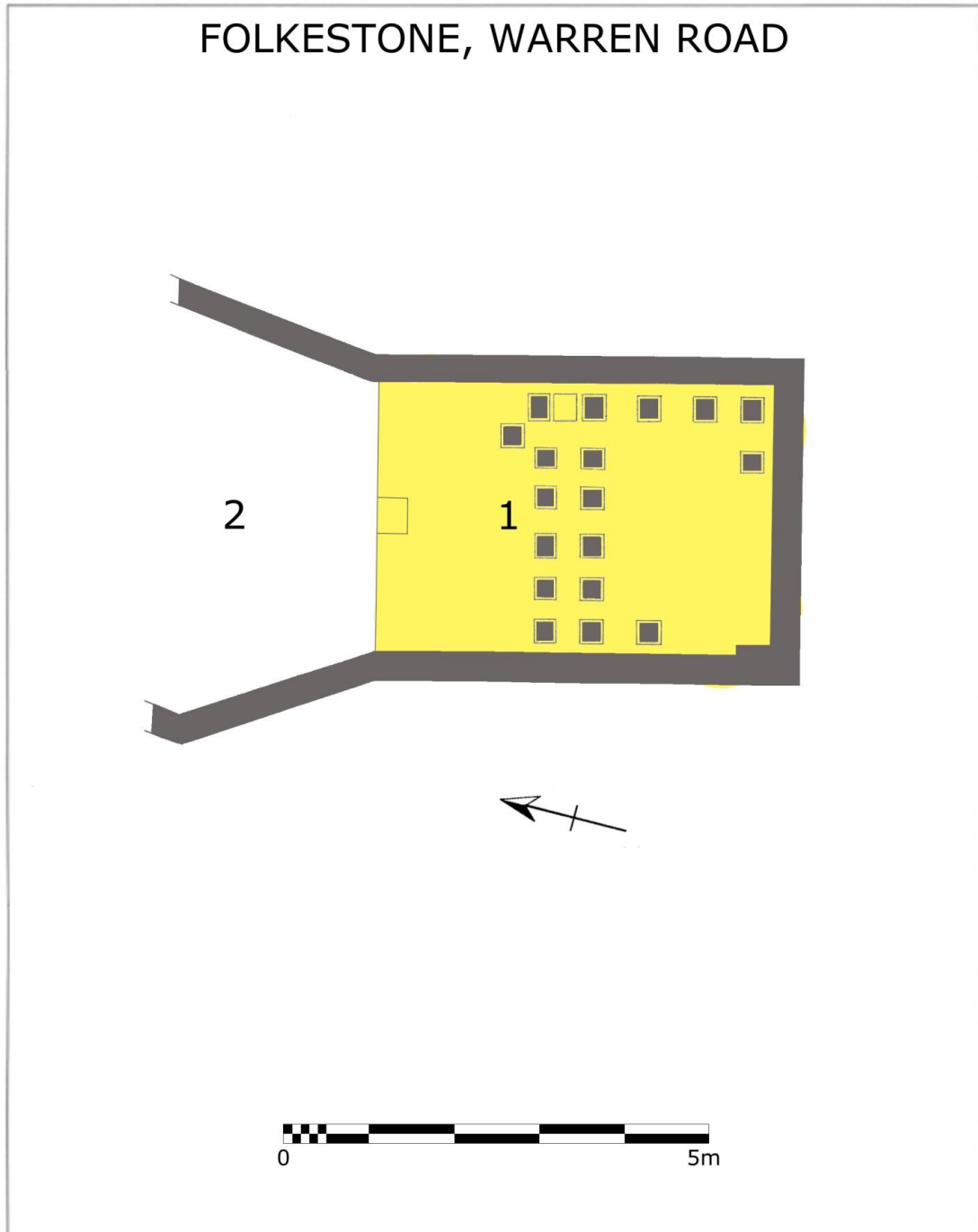


**Figure 29. Plan of the bathhouse at Folkestone, Warren Road (Kent). The room with hypocaust is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Jenkins 1876b, plate opposite page 175.**



## FORDCROFT, ORPINGTON, POVEREST ROAD

(Part of Kent until 1965, now part of the London Borough of Bromley)

**Individual Site Number:** 100

**Location:** TQ 4679 6758

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies at the bottom of the Cray Valley on the northern limit of the parish of Orpington (Philp & Keller 1995). According to Boyce (2007, 262), 'the main area of known Roman habitation [...] occurs 400m to the east, on the opposite side of the river Cray.' He lists this structure among the three 'isolated bathhouses' from the Cray Valley (the others being **Sandy Lane**, **St. Paul's Cray**, c. 2.30km to the north, and **Bedens Field**, **Foot's Cray**, c. 3.80km to the north; see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4).

A Roman cremation cemetery was found in 1974 c. 200m north of the site, and a corn-drying oven and a pit were excavated about 800m to the southeast in 1977 (Philp & Keller 1995, 1). Furthermore, the 1988 excavations revealed a 'broad metalled area, laid on dumped soil and seeming to form a major east-west road across the site'. The eastward projection of 'this substantial road [...] runs parallel to the Roman bathhouses and is only 12m from it' (Philp & Keller 1995, 41).

Philp and Keller (1995, 42), therefore, suggest that all these features could have 'formed a small Roman settlement flanking both sides of the river-road junction' and that 'the bathhouse was a detached element, perhaps serving the wider settlement and built in the valley bottom to guarantee a constant water supply'. Boyce (2008, 289; 2010, 246) assigns most of the site's principal features to the second century, including metalworking hearths, pits, gullies, postholes and a well. Site area: c. 14 x 6.2m.

**Site chronology:** second (?)–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1971–78 by the Orpington and District Archaeological Society under the direction of Suzanne Palmer (1984). In 1988, emergency excavations were carried out in the area near the bathhouse by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit under the direction of Brian Philp and Peter Keller (1995). Alan Tyler partially re-excavated the bathhouse in 1993 (Tyler & Tyler 1995). Other investigations were carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Boyce 2007, 262).

**Baths:** The walls of the bathhouse were 'of large, irregularly shaped flint cobbles (derived from the River Cray or the local Pleistocene gravels), arranged in fairly regular layers' (Palmer 1984, 7). Palmer recognised two building phases, although without a precise chronology. According to her reconstruction (Palmer 1984, 8–11), the original building had only two rooms: Room 2 (c. 2.7 x 2.7m), a *tepidarium* with a rectangular warm plunge bath (c. 2.1 x 1.5m), and Room 3 (c. 3.9 x 2.7m), a *caldarium* attached with an apsidal hot plunge bath (c. 2m wide and c. 1.5m max. depth). The two plunge baths were connected by a flue (Palmer 1984, 9). The furnace was seemingly situated outside the eastern wall of Room 3.

According to Palmer (1984, 10), Room 1 (c. 3.6 x 3.3m), a *frigidarium* with a cold plunge bath, was built in a second phase. It was subsequently 'altered and put to two or three varying usages throughout the time the Romans were on the site'. One of these alterations probably took place at the end of the third century (270 CE) when the bathhouse was possibly 'put to use as a smithy' (Boyce 2007, 262).

Detsicas (1985, 279) maintains that the evidence for two building phases is weak and argues that ‘the most telling objection to Mrs. Palmer’s interpretation and discussion [...] is that a bathhouse must have a cold room *ad initio*’. He, therefore, proposes that ‘the bathhouse was abandoned before its completion and its rooms largely used as a dump, as suggested by the finds in their filling’ (ibid.).

During their re-excavation of the site in 1995, David and Alan Tyler re-examined the fill in Room 1 and identified an earlier structure, housing a metalworking hearth, below this room. This feature implies ‘a pre-bath-building metalworking phase, dominated by iron smithing debris but with some evidence of non-ferrous metalworking, underlay what had previously been considered as the original floor layer’ (Tyler & Tyler 1995, 25). They also suggest that a coin dating to 270 CE found by Palmer below the ‘infill’ of Room 1 ‘provides the terminus ante quem for the metalworking phase’ (Tyler & Tyler 1995, 29).

On the other hand, Boyce (2008; 2010, 246) dates the construction of the baths to the late first–early second centuries and their abandonment to c. 200 CE. Discussing the metalworking hearth in Room 1, he states that it was ‘located on the broken remains of a mortar floor, associated with the original use of Room 1 as a *frigidarium*’ (Boyce 2008, 289). The numbering of the rooms follows Palmer’s plan (1984, Fig. 3).

**Decoration:** It is not clear how the walls of the building were rendered. Palmer (1984, 4) only mentions a ‘type of chalky plaster’.

**Water supply:** Palmer (1984, 1) reports that ‘the river [Cray] was originally much wider, right up to the last century, [...] and it would therefore have been nearer the Roman building during the time of its occupation’. Alternatively, the bathhouse might have been supplied by a well located 20m to the southwest of the building (Boyce 2010, 247, Fig. 4).

### **Material culture associated with bathing**

*Objects of bronze:* ‘Corroded fragments from tweezers’ (Palmer 1984, 54) were found in trench 17, outside the eastern wall of Room 3.

**Key references:** Boyce 2007, 261–2; 2008; 2010; Detsicas 1985; Palmer 1984; Philp & Keller 1995; Tyler & Tyler 1995.

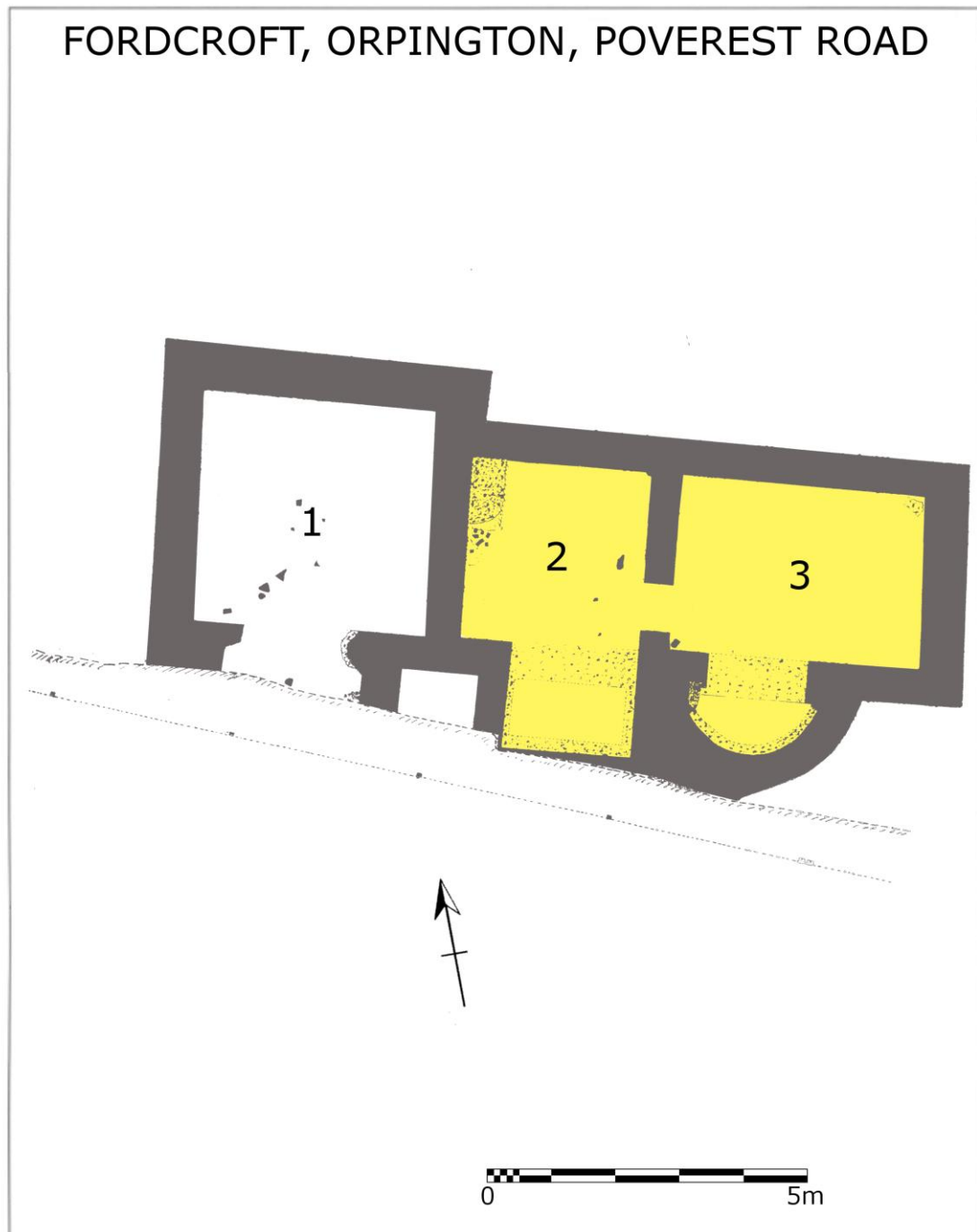


**Figure 30. Plan of the bathhouse at Fordcroft, Orpington, Poverest Road (London Borough of Bromley). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Palmer 1984, Fig. 3.**

## HARTLIP

**Individual Site Number:** 111

**Location:** TQ 8287 6403

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 3km south of the villa at Otterham Quay and c. 3km to the southwest of the villa at Boxted Farm. The large villa complex at Hartlip consisted of at least eight buildings, but its chronology is poorly understood due to its early excavation. The main house, only partially explored (c. 32 x 28.8m), was a corridor-type building with rear and possibly front corridors. A structure of uncertain purpose (Building O) was located a few metres to the east of Building M and, further to the southeast, a drainage ditch and two other features, the largest of which (Building N, c. 19.2 x 13.7m) was probably agricultural (Detsicas 1983, 131).

A small bathhouse (Building I) was found c. 70m east of the main house, close to a large aisled building (Building K, c. 21.4 x 15.3m), probably a granary. Considering the fire risk from the furnace of the baths, Detsicas (*ibid.*) suggests that these fell out of use when the granary was built (*contra* Black 1987, 124–5; see discussion below). Site area: c. 130 x 95m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–late fourth centuries CE (general period of occupation suggested by coins and pottery according to Detsicas 1983, 131)

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in the middle of the eighteenth century, again in 1845 and, more substantially, in 1848 by C. Roach Smith (1848–80, vol. 2, 1–24).

**Baths:** The bathhouse (c. 21.4 x 15.3m) was structured as follows: Room B (c. 5.57 x 2.9m) was a *caldarium* with an apsidal recess on its southwest side (Room B1, c. 1.4m wide and c. 0.8m max. depth) which presents a rectangular foundation, probably a base for a *labrum* (Black 1987, 124). According to Black (*ibid.*), Room B2 was a hot plunge bath, and another one ‘should have existed in the area marked B3’. C and D were two furnace rooms, although they probably represent two distinct phases of the building (*ibid.*).

Room A (c. 3.5 x 3.1m) and A1 (c. 2 x 1m) were part of a *tepidarium*. The floors over the hypocaust in Room B and A were supported on box flue-tiles. Room J (c. 2.9 x 2.8m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room E (c. 2 x 1.2m). A seat was found in Room E. It was ‘composed of hollow tiles, placed lengthways, and coated over with a thick layer of cement’ (Roach Smith 1848–80, vol. 2, 8). Room F (c. 1 x 0.8m, c. 0.6m deep) was another cold plunge bath equipped with a seat. Leaden pipes were found in the southwest walls of Rooms F and E. The numbering of the rooms follows Black’s plan (1987, 246, Fig. 49a).

Black (1987, 124–5) attempted a reassessment of the construction phases of the bathhouse, identifying three major periods. Room B2 and Furnace D were ‘part of the earlier building, obliterated by a virtually total reconstruction’ (Period 1). Period 2 ‘is most likely to belong to the fourth century’, considering that ‘the re-use of tile was then a general phenomenon in the south-east’. At this stage, the bathhouse consisted of Rooms B, C, A, J and E. Before Building K was built, Rooms J and E were demolished, Room A was transformed into a *frigidarium/apodyterium* and a new cold bath (F) provided, so that ‘the bath-building was shortened, but continued in use beside the new aisled building’ (Period 3).

**Decoration:** Room F had the walls ‘painted of a pink or red colour’ (Roach Smith 1848–80, vol. 2, 8). The walls of Room E, as well as its floor (?), were also plastered and painted (ibid.).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** An ‘earpick and tweezers in bronze’ (Roach Smith 1848–80, vol. 2, 20) were found at the site, although their provenience is not specified.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 124–5; Detsicas 1983, 130–1; Scott 1993, 105; Roach Smith 1848–80, vol. 2, 1–24; Taylor 1932, 117–8.

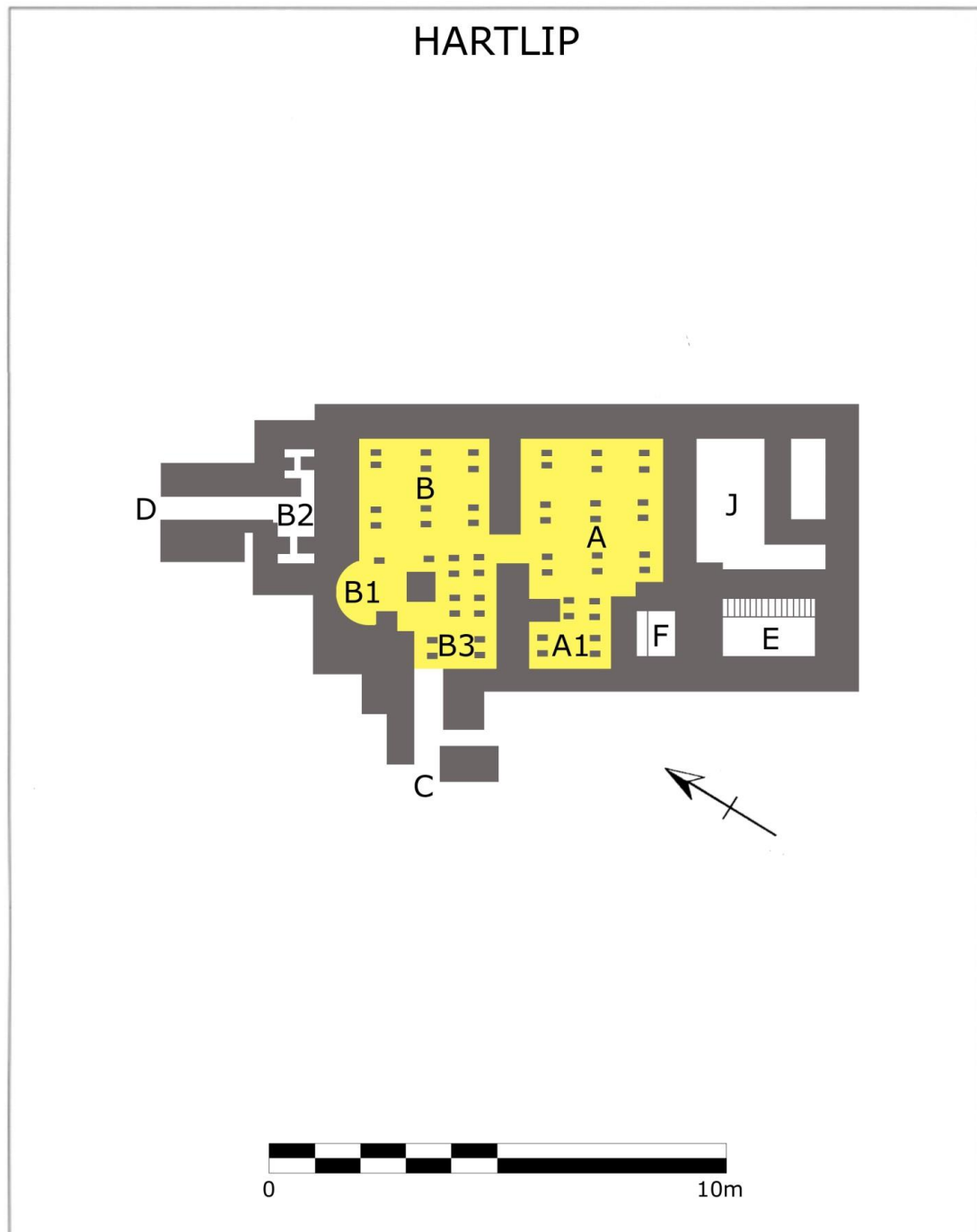


**Figure 31. Plan of the bathhouse of the villa at Hartlip (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Black 1987, 246, Fig. 49a.**

HIGHSTEAD, CHISLET

**Individual Site Number:** 114

**Location:** TQ 214 662

**Typology and extent of the site:** The earliest settlement in this area dates back to the Mesolithic (Period 1). In the three excavated areas (A, B and C), evidence has been found of field systems and possibly of a timber building (in area B) dating to the early Roman period (Period 5A, c. 75–150 CE). A small bathhouse was located in area C, dating to Period 5B (c. 150–250 CE). Since the site was only partially excavated, ‘any potential relationship with adjacent buildings can only be inferred’ (Jenkins 2007, 99). Site area: c. 6.7 x 6.4m.

**Bathhouse chronology:** Mid second–mid third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated between 1975 and 1977 by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, under the supervision of Macpherson-Grant and Erskine-Riall (Bennett *et al.* 2007, xxi).

**Baths:** The walls of the building were built of water-rolled flints and white mortar. The bath-suite was initially structured as a single-room facility. This hypocausted room (Room A, c. 2.44 x 2.51m) was a *caldarium*, probably equipped with a concrete bath carried by two rectangular plinths found in its northeast end.

The room, which might have ‘had a barrel-vaulted roof or sub-roof’, was connected via channel B (0.76m long) to Furnace C, ‘an external pit, cut roughly square and measuring 2.3m north-west to south-east by 2m’. Shortly after the completion of the main structure, a small hypocausted room (Room D, c. 1.5 x 1.3m) was added to the southern corner of Room A (Jenkins 2007, 97). The numbering of the rooms follows Jenkins’ plan (2007, 96, Fig. 54).

**Decoration:** Pieces of painted wall plaster were found in Room A (Jenkins 2007, 97).

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been supplied by the river Stour or by another small stream flowing nearby.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bennett *et al.* (eds) 2007; Jenkins 2007.

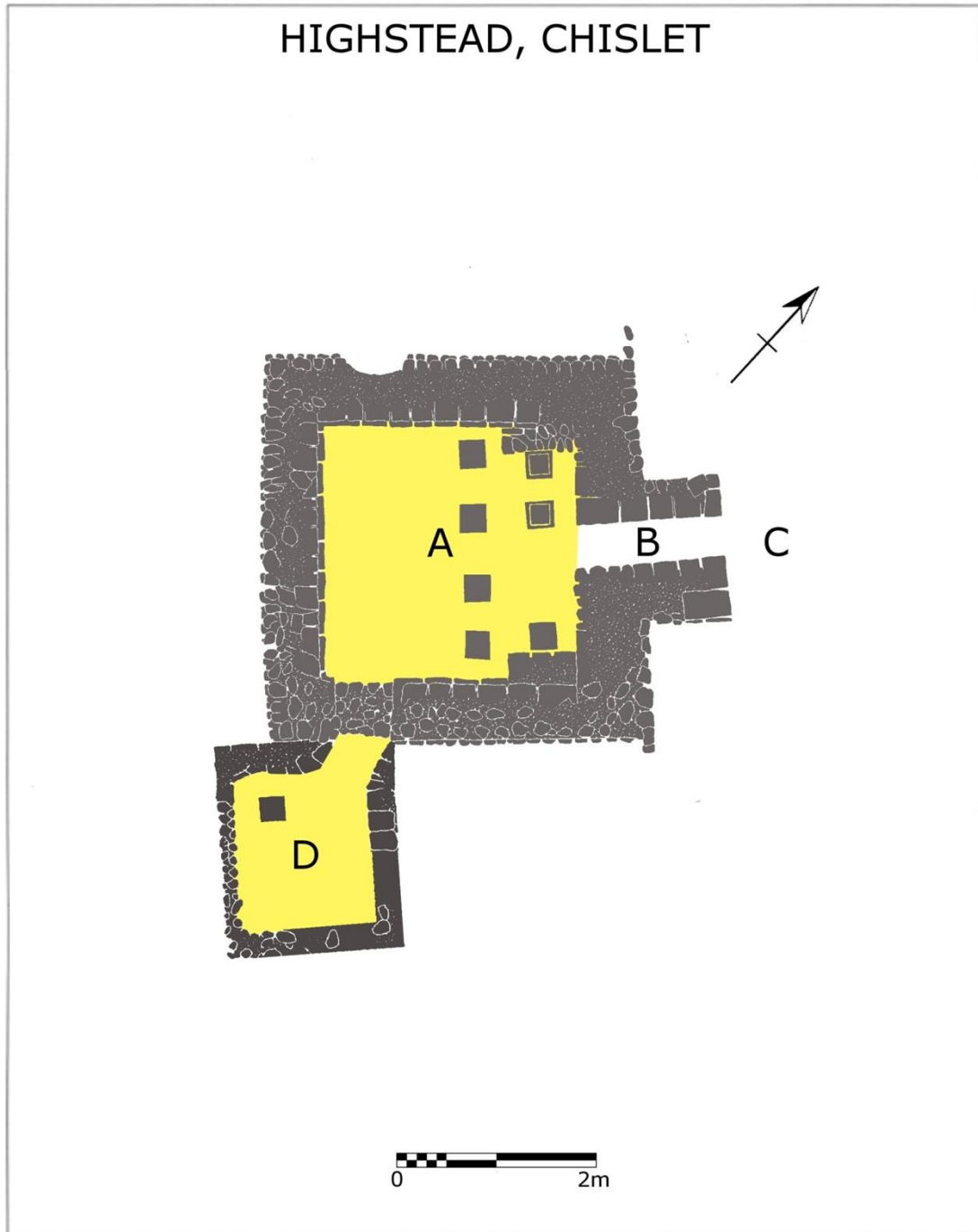


**Figure 32. Plan of the bathhouse at Highstead, Chislet (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Jenkins 2007, 96, Fig. 54.**



KEMSING

**Individual Site Number:** 124

**Location:** TQ 5436 5868

**Typology and extent of the site:** This apparently ‘isolated’ bathhouse (see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4) lies on the banks of a stream at Springhead, Dynes Road, Kemsing, c. 1.5km east of a Roman building at Church Field, Otford, and about 1km to the southeast of the villa at Progress (Harrison 1950, xlv). It was located ‘on the gentle lower slopes of the downland scarp and close to a permanent spring’ (Philp 2002b, 36). Philp (2002b, 35) maintains that the bathhouse ‘must have stood fairly close to a main domestic building which, in the absence of other masonry structures nearby, strongly suggests that these would have been timber framed’. Site area: c. 20 x 11.5m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–early second centuries CE (?).

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1948 and excavated in 1949 by C.H. Brett and L. Chandler (Harrison 1950, xlv–xlv). New excavations were carried out in 1978 by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit under the direction of Brian Philp (2002b).

**Baths:** The building was ‘substantially built and contained a maximum of eight rooms’ (Philp 2002b, 32). Philp recognised at least three periods of construction. Still, a precise chronology of these phases is difficult to determine since ‘most of the related stratigraphy had been removed during the 1949 excavation’ (ibid.). The numbering of the rooms follows Philp’s plan (2002b, 18–9, Fig. 5).

*Phase I:* According to Philp, ‘the original building seems to have consisted of four rooms, the West Room, Centre Room, South-East Room and the North-East Room’. The walls of both the West and Centre Rooms were built of sandstone (Philp 2002b, 33). The North-East Room (c. 3.5m wide, uncertain length [c. 4m?]) was possibly a *frigidarium*. Unfortunately, ‘it seems that most of the eastern part of the room had been destroyed, probably by erosion into the stream’ (Philp 2002b, 5).

The stream also eroded part of the South-East Room (c. 3.5m wide, uncertain length [c. 4.5m?]), and ‘it seems that only the north-west corner of the room survived’ (ibid.). This room was a *tepidarium*. The Centre Room (c. 3.2 x 2.5m) was a *caldarium* with a ‘water tank or bath’ supported by ‘two broad masonry offsets along the north and south sides each with a respond’ (Philp 2002b, 20). During this first phase, the West Room (c. 5.3 x 3m) might have ‘contained the furnace and original stokehole, but no trace survived the later rebuild’ (Philp 2002b, 33).

*Phase II:* A new, hypocausted room (North Room, c. 4.55 x 4.55m) was added to the bath-suite during this phase, and ‘this time the walls were built of flint’ (Philp 2002b, 34). Philp (ibid.) reports that ‘this new room contained an elaborated channelled hypocaust [...], which was fed from a large arched opening near its southwest corner’. It ‘was supplied by a wide curving flue leading directly from the West Room into which a pillared hypocaust had been inserted’ (ibid.). The furnace of this new hypocaust ‘was placed (unusually) near the south-east corner of the West Room’ (ibid.).

During this phase, the West Room perhaps became the *caldarium* and the North Room the *tepidarium* of the bath-suite, while the Centre Room was now possibly a *frigidarium*. The West Extension Room (c. 1.5 x 2m) and the D-shaped South Room (c. 2.5m wide and c. 1.5m max. depth) were also added during this phase as a hot bath and cold bath, respectively. Remarkably, ‘the external face [of the South Room] had been built square, a technique noted at some other Roman bathhouse sites’ (Philp 2002b, 21).

The unusually elaborated channelled hypocaust in the North Room deserves some attention. The original system ‘probably incorporated at least seven channels’ and was part of a ‘radiating system [...] aimed at distributing heat evenly throughout the room’ (Philp 2002b, 9).

*Phase III:* During this last phase, the original hypocaust in the North Room ‘was abandoned and replaced by a wide new channel (Channel B)’ (Philp 2002b, 35). According to Philp (ibid.), ‘it seems likely that this major change was done to convey heating into the adjacent North East Room, where a line of box-flue tiles had been inserted along its north wall’. The North West Room was added during this phase. It was ‘flint-built up against the west wall of the North Room, thus enclosing the curved flue-channel below’ (ibid.).

**Decoration:** As noted by Philp (2002b, 35), ‘the small amounts of painted wall-plaster suggest that at least some of the rooms were decorated, whilst the voussoir flue tiles indicate that at least one room had a vaulted roof’.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse was supplied by the nearby spring and stream.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Detsicas 1983, 141; Harrison 1950, xlv–xlv; Philp 2002b.

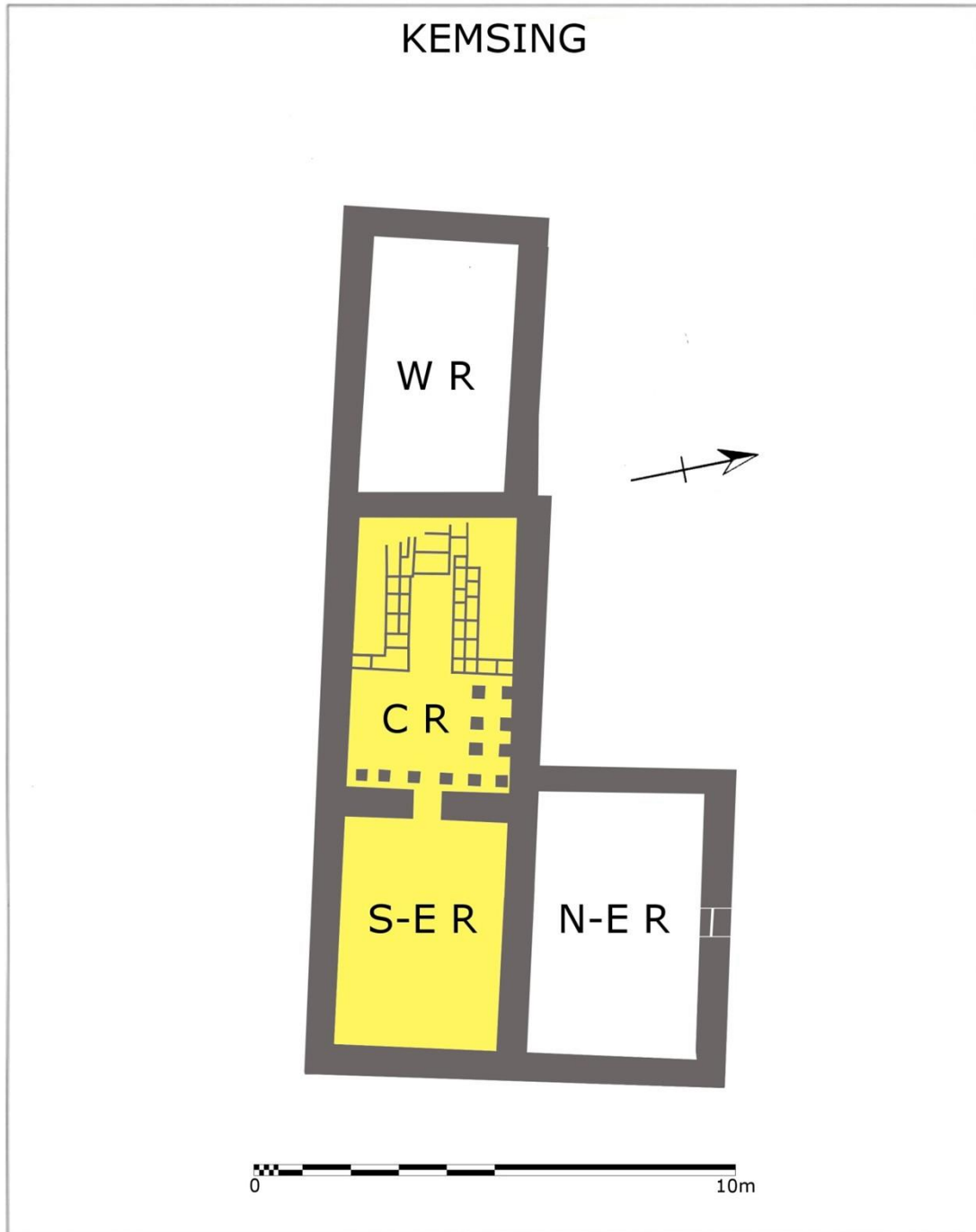


**Figure 33. Plan of the 'isolated' bathhouse at Kemsing (Kent) during Phase I. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Philp 2002b, 18–9, Fig. 5).**

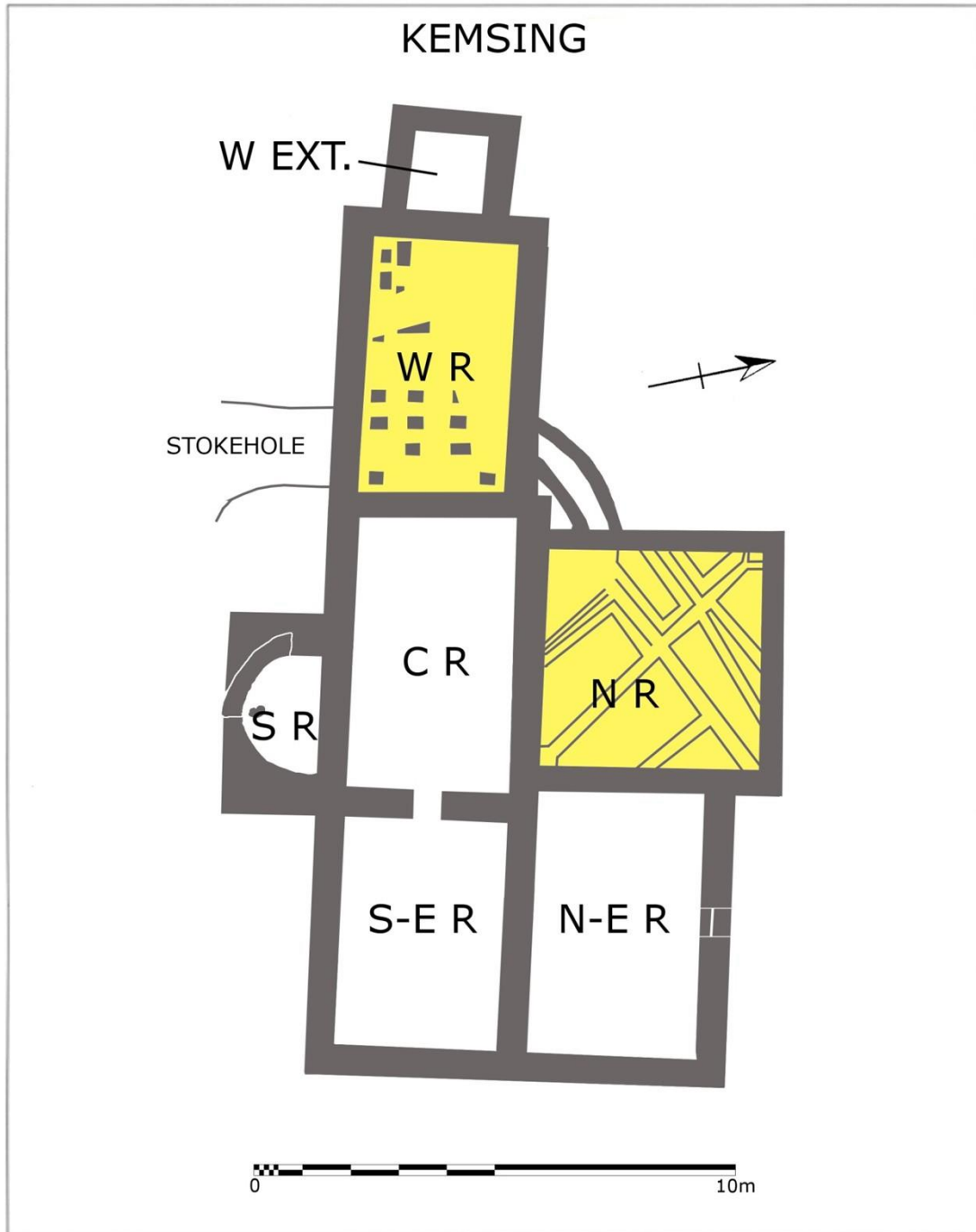


**Figure 34. Plan of the ‘isolated’ bathhouse at Kemsing (Kent) during Phase II. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Philp 2002b, 18–9, Fig. 5.**

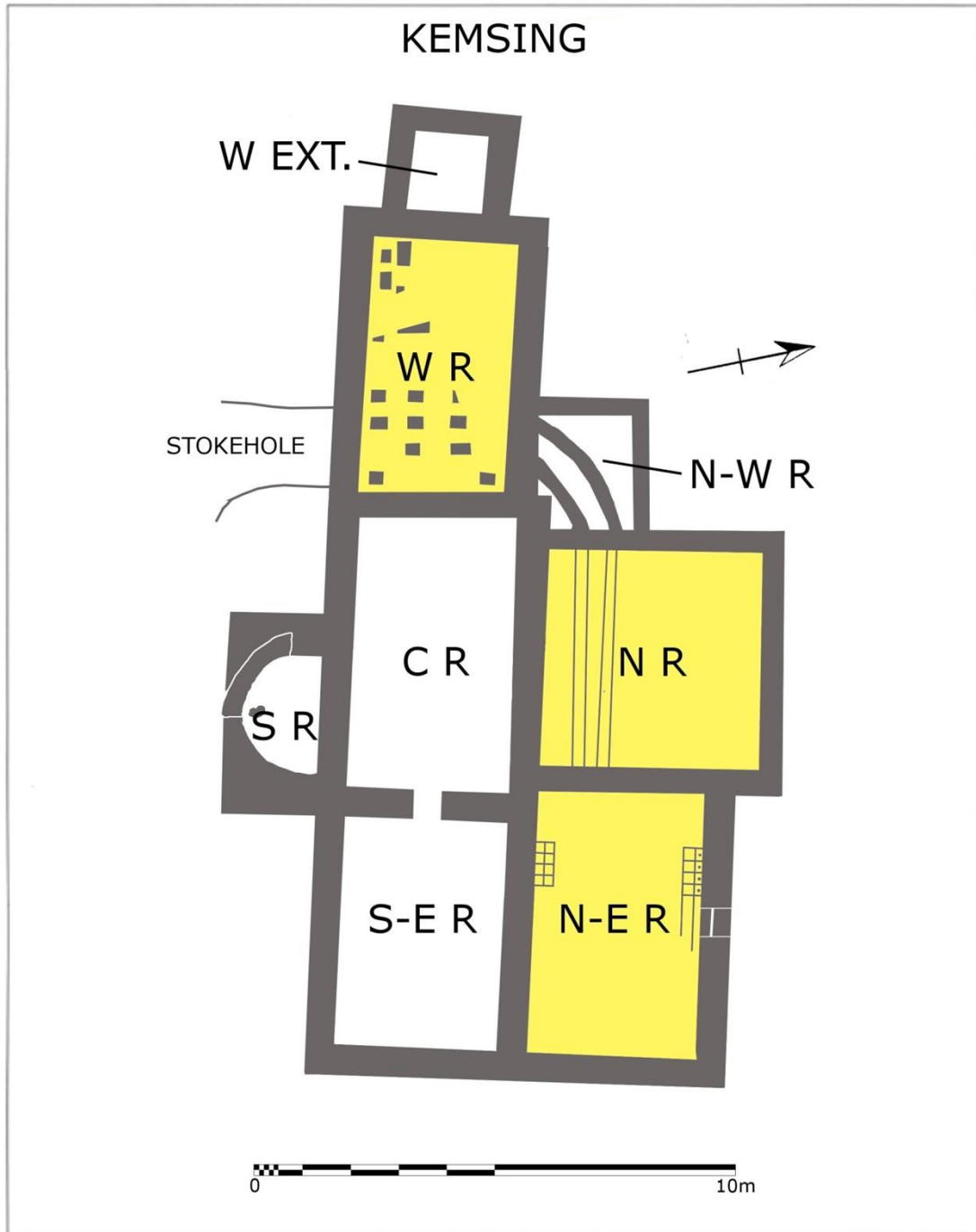


**Figure 40.** Plan of the ‘isolated’ bathhouse at Kemsing (Kent) during Phase III. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Philp 2002b, 18–19, Fig. 5.

## KESTON

(Part of Kent until 1965, now part of the London Borough of Bromley)

**Individual Site Number:** 125

**Location:** TQ 4131 6327

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site occupies a slight shoulder on the middle slopes of a broad spur which projects from the south-western side of Holwood Hill, about 1200m south of the 'isolated' bathhouse at **Baston Manor** (Philp 1991). The earliest settlement in this area dates to the Middle Iron Age, c. 600–200 BCE (Period II) (Philp 1999, 180). The site was abandoned and then re-occupied during the Late Iron Age until c. 50 CE (Period III), when an Early-Roman farmstead appeared (Period IV) (Philp 1999, 180–6).

In about 160 CE, the site was reorganised, and three large wooden buildings were constructed (Period V) (Philp 1999, 186–90). A more extensive reorganisation occurred at the end of the second century CE (Period VI), with 'the full development of the villa site on a grand scale with many new and sophisticated elements' (Philp 1999, 190). In this phase, the main residence was rebuilt in masonry.

Philp identifies four sub-phases of this building, with an original structure formed by a single range containing three rooms, then enlarged by the addition of a bathhouse on the south side in sub-phase 2 (Philp 1999, 192). Eventually, the villa evolved into a winged-corridor house (*ibid.*). It was still in use during the fourth century (Period VII). An Anglo-Saxon *grubenhaus*, tentatively dated 450–550 CE, was identified in the middle of the site. (Philp 1999, 194–6). Site area: c. 120.39 x 132.58m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 160–400 CE

**Excavation history:** This site was discovered at the end of the eighteenth century, and its excavation history is remarkably long (for a complete overview, see Philp 1991, 5–6). The villa was extensively excavated from 1967–1990 by the Bromley and West Kent Archaeological Group and the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit under the direction of Brian Philp.

**Baths:** The bath-suite, attached to the villa during sub-phase 2, Period VI, 'had been built upon a shallow terrace cut into the sloping chalk hillside' (Philp 1999, 64). Unfortunately, it 'had suffered extensive robbing and plough damage, to the point where even the base of the wall-footings had been destroyed in many places' (Philp 1991, 75). The baths had been already partially excavated by Nancy Piercy Fox in 1951–53 (Fox 1955). The numbering of the rooms follows Philp's plan (1999, 65, Fig. 30b).

According to Philp (1999, 66), 'internal divisions within the bath-suite were difficult to define'. These facilities initially comprised three hypocausted rooms axially arranged (Rooms D, E and F), with a smaller room projecting on the southern side (Room G) (*ibid.*). Room F (c. 5.7 x 3.36m) was probably a *caldarium* with its hot plunge bath in Room G (c. 3.46 est. x 2.74m min.). Room E and Room D were possibly part of the *tepidarium*, at least during the earliest phase of the baths.

Philp (1991, 76) notes that 'the hypocaust piers in the southern half of Room D had subsequently been removed to make way for a small sunken plunge bath', 0.04m in depth and with 'the base of a rectangular stone-built seat or step' in its northeast corner. Considering that traces of an earlier *opus signinum* floor were located in this room, Philp suggests that 'the entire bath was completely re-lined on at least one occasion' (*ibid.*).

During sub-phase 4, a rectangular wing room (South Room), with an uncertain function, was added to the southeast corner of Room D. The furnace of the bath suite was located at the western end, outside Room F (ibid.)

**Decoration:** As reported by Philp (1999, 66), a fragment of painted wall plaster was found in Room F, comprising ‘a small piece of plain white with a black stripe, 6 mm. in width’. During the small-scale excavation of the main villa building in 1951–53, Fox (1955, 99) found ‘few coloured fragments decorated in a refined and not garish taste’, together with ‘other large pieces of coarse plaster (4 in. thick) [10.16cm] [...] decorated to imitate marble’. Many tesserae (mainly orange or red tile fragments) came from the house, and some of them might have decorated the bath-suite.

**Water supply:** Philp (1999, 194) notes that ‘in Period VI at least, water was brought onto the site by two separate water-pipe systems’, both bringing in ‘constant supplies of fresh water from springs on the hill above, one of which still flows today’. Four water-storage tanks have been found at the site. Those closer to the main villa building ‘probably served the building, perhaps including its bath-suite’ (ibid.). One of these (the South Tank) was seemingly supplied by one of the two wooden water pipes.

**Material culture associated with bathing:**

*Objects of glass:* The ‘end of a stirring rod of blue-green glass’ frequently ‘used in mixing cosmetics’ (Philp 1999, 97) was found in the main villa building (unstratified).

*Objects of bronze:* A ‘pair of bronze tweezers with a length of 49 mm’ was found in the upper filling of the North-West Ditch of the Villa Enclosure (fourth century CE) (Philp 1991, 176–7).

Furthermore, a ‘small toilet spoon of bronze, with a length of 38 mm’ was found among the ‘lower filling of the Anglo-Saxon hut’ (Philp 1991, 176). Philp describes it in detail: ‘The handle has a square cross-section, and one end has been bent around to form a suspension loop. At the opposite end is a small bowl’ (ibid.). This object is quite peculiar and might have possibly been used as an ear cleaner.

**Key references:** Corner 1855; Fox 1955; Philp 1991; 1999; Scott 1993, 79, 106.

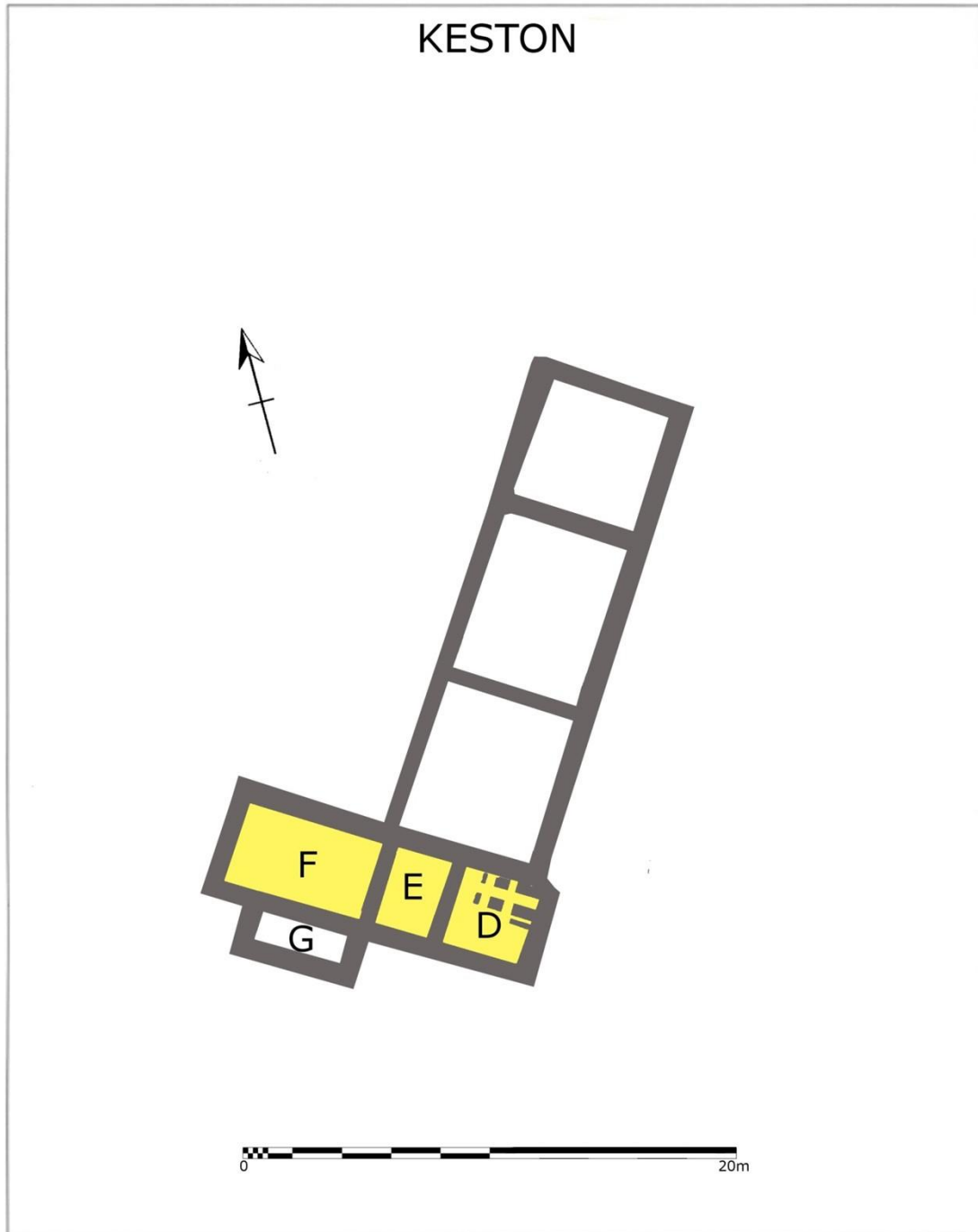


**Figure 35. Plan of the villa at Keston (London Borough of Bromley) during sub-phase 2, Period VI. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Philp 1999, 65, Fig. 30b.**



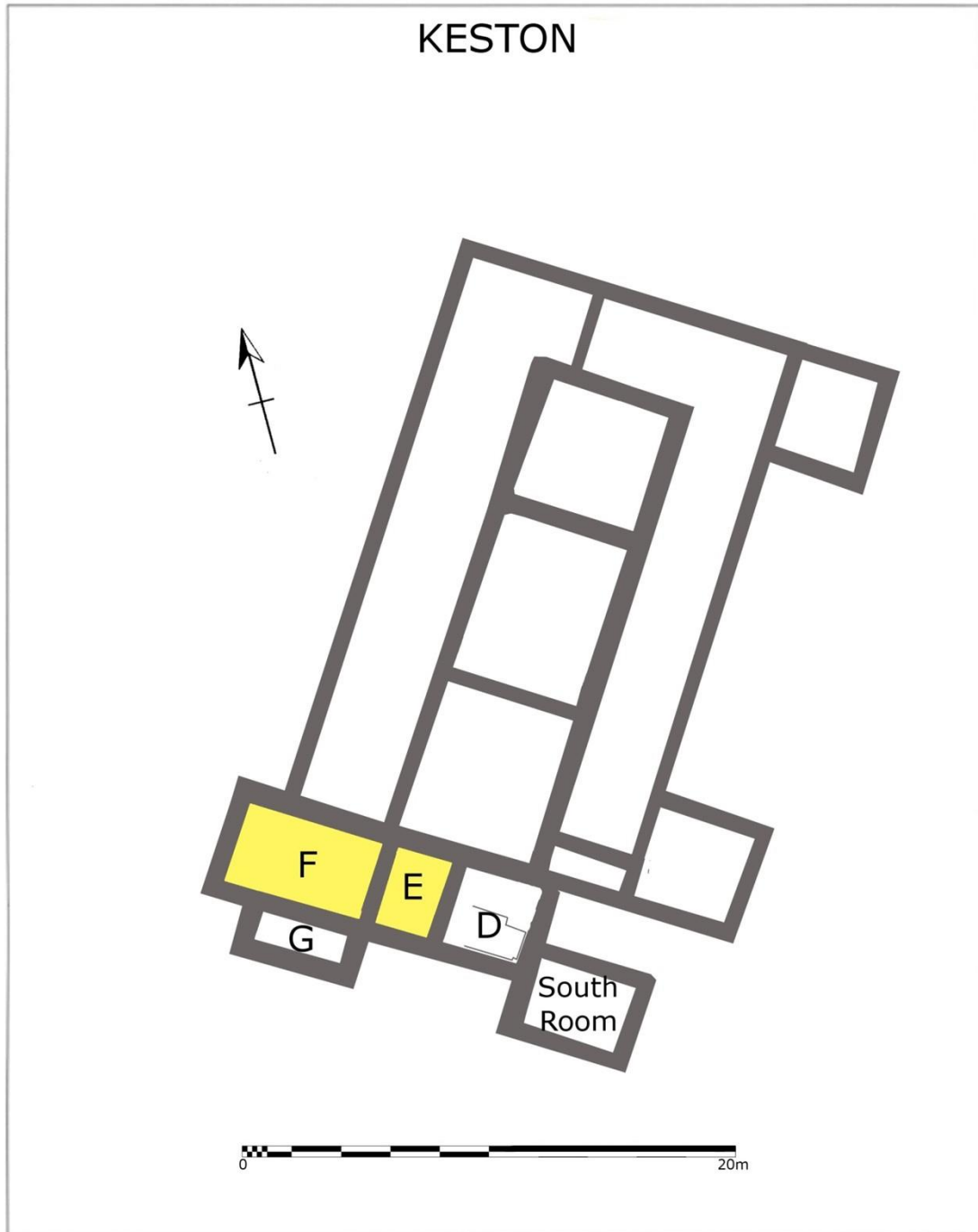


**Figure 36. Plan of the villa at Keston (London Borough of Bromley) during sub-phase 4, Period VI. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Philp 1999, 65, Fig. 30b.**

LENHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 235

**Location:** TQ 9030 5210

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 6km northwest of a possible Roman building at Charing. A series of emergency excavations revealed pits, boundary ditches, a road, and part of a building, identified as the north-western end of a bathhouse (second century?). A V-shaped ditch contained finds from the first to third centuries and has been interpreted as the drainage ditch of the baths. Presently known site area: unknown.

**Villa chronology:** first–third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was identified by MOLAS (2004) in 2002, and one of the ditches was excavated in 2014 (Feakes 2014; 2015). Further work was carried out in 2017 and 2019 by the Swale & Thames Archaeological Survey Company (STASC 2018; 2019).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Alongside several sherds of pottery, the V-shaped ditch, possibly the drainage ditch of the baths, produced many oyster shells, the lower jaw of a small boar, a bone sewing needle (35mm in length), and a piece of window glass. The excavator describes it as ‘curved’ and suggests that it could have been part of an oculus (Feakes 2014).

**Key references:** Feakes 2014; 2015; MOLAS 2004; STASC 2018; 2019.

**Note:** No plan of the bathhouse available.

## LITTLE CHART

**Individual Site Number:** 137

**Location:** TQ 9386 4568

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the north-eastern slope of the Lower Greensand, looking across the village of Little Chart, c. 3.5km southwest of a Roman building at Charing (Eames 1957, 130). The complex at Little Chart has been identified as an 'isolated' bathhouse, although part of another building was demolished by quarrying in 1947–48 14.6m northwest of the baths (Detsicas 1983, 143; see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4).

The site 'has in the past been extensively ploughed [...] and the bathhouse had been stripped to its foundations' (Eames 1957, 132). During Phases I and Ia, 'the quality of workmanship was everywhere of a high order'. However, later alterations shared 'a crudity of workmanship, being much inferior to the work of period 1' (Eames 1957, 137). The building was constructed of Kentish rag in lime mortar (Eames 1957, 132–3). Site area: c. 10 x 10.8m.

**Site chronology:** Late first/early second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was first identified and partially excavated in 1942 (Geering 1942). In 1947, the whole building was explored under the direction of John Eames, 'with the assistance of members of the Ashford Archaeological Society and others' (Eames 1957, 130).

**Baths:** The excavator dates this building to the late first–early second centuries CE (Phase I) based on first-century pottery from a pit c. 79m north of the bathhouse. According to Detsicas (1983, 143), the coins recovered at the site suggest that the structure was in use c. 250 CE.

During Phase I, the building was structured as follows: Room A (c. 4.57 x 2.37m) was an *apodyterium* and possibly the main entrance to the bath-suite. Room B (c. 2.46 x 2.4m) was a *frigidarium* connected by two steps to its apsidal, cold plunge bath (unnumbered, c. 2.43m wide and c. 1.15m max. depth). A fragmentary drain made of roof tiles was found through the southeastern wall at the southern corner of Room B (Eames 1957, 133).

Room C (c. 2.49 x 1.46m) was a *tepidarium*. Room D (c. 5.33 x 2.19m) was built over a hypocaust and was a *caldarium* with two sloping ramps 'running the full length of the room' (Eames 1957, 136). Similar structures are known from the hypocausts of the baths at **Darenth** and **Lullingstone** and seemingly served to reduce heat dissipation. Room E (length: c. 1.49m) was the furnace room. The numbering of the rooms follows Eames' plan (1957, Fig. 2).

During Phase Ia, the well-thumbed archway of the furnace was renewed in a dressed rag (Eames 1957, 137). At some point between Phase Ia and Phase II, the building was probably abandoned. The floors, exceptionally well preserved, appear to 'have been protected by an accumulation of material upon them'. According to Eames (1957, 140), the new occupiers of Phase II were 'obliged in part to excavate the building before re-roofing it and adapting it to their needs'.

During Phase II (fourth century CE), the drain in Room 2 got blocked or damaged, and a new one was inserted into the eastern corner of the plunge (Room 3) (Eames 1957, 138). The western walls of the building were thickened, and an apsidal tank was added west of

Room 5. Moreover, the hypocaust under the *caldarium* was partially repaired, and the furnace room was doubled in length (c. 2.74m).

**Decoration:** Room 1 was decorated with a mosaic of plain red brick tesserae (Eames 1957, 133). The floor of the *frigidarium* shows fragments of a mosaic floor ‘of patterned black and white tesserae, surrounded by a plain border of rag tesserae’ (ibid.). According to Cosh & Neal (2009, 378), this mosaic belongs to Phase I and dates to the first century, ‘like other black-and-white pavements paving bathhouses at Wingham, and Fishbourne and Sidlesham in Sussex’. The cold plunge bath was paved with brick tesserae; the *tepidarium* and *caldarium* were paved with the same rag tesserae found in the *frigidarium*.

**Water supply:** A cylindrical well was found c. 75m from the southwestern corner of the *caldarium*, and it was probably associated with the Phase I bathhouse, although, according to Eames (1957, 140–1), ‘its distance from the latter shows that its primary function was not to supply water for bathing’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2009, 378; Detsicas 1983, 143; Geering 1942; Eames 1957, 130–40.

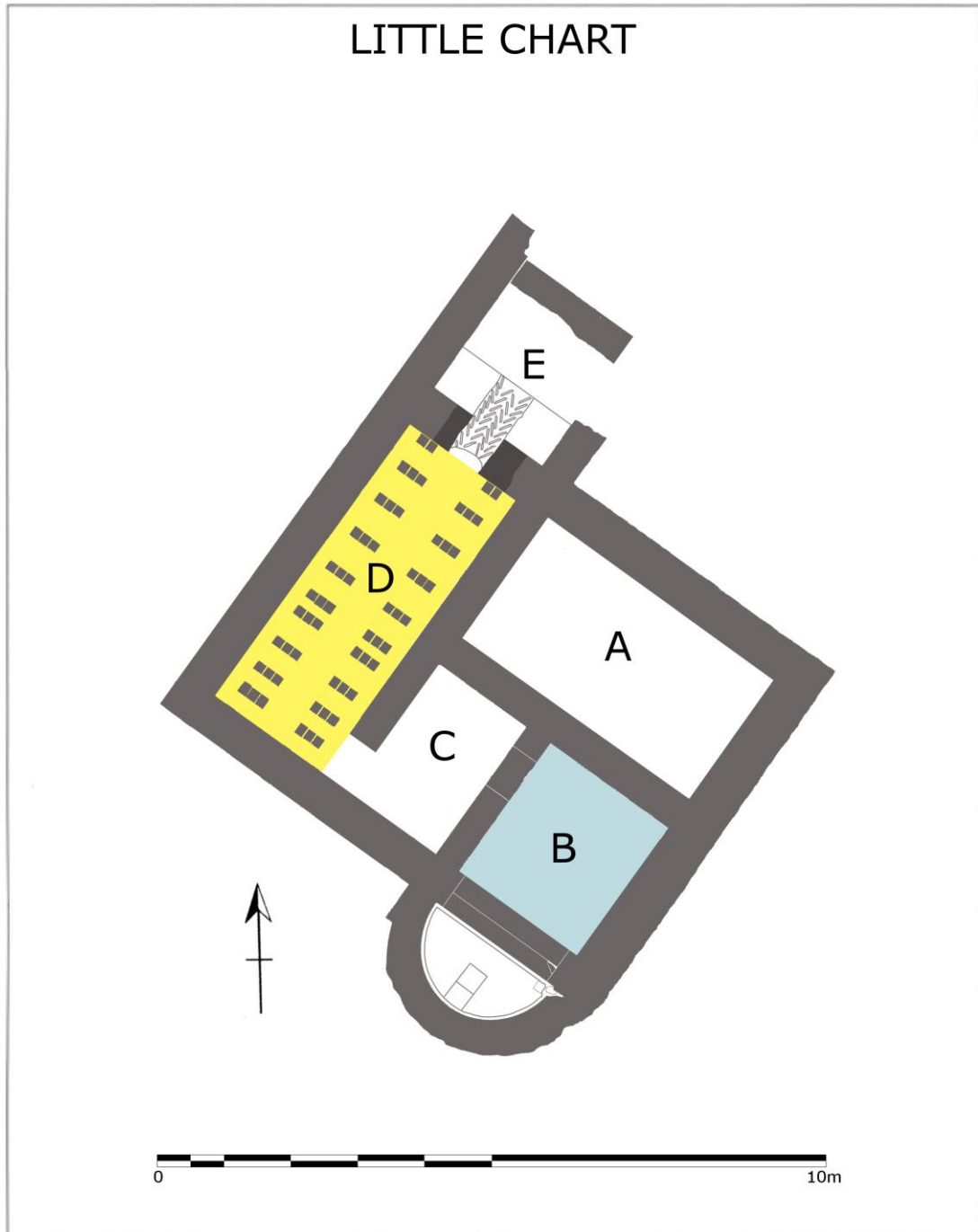


**Figure 37. Plan of the ‘isolated’ bathhouse at Little Chart (Kent), Phase I-Ia. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The archway of the furnace renewed in Phase Ia is in darker grey. Image: author. After Eames 1957, Fig. 2.**

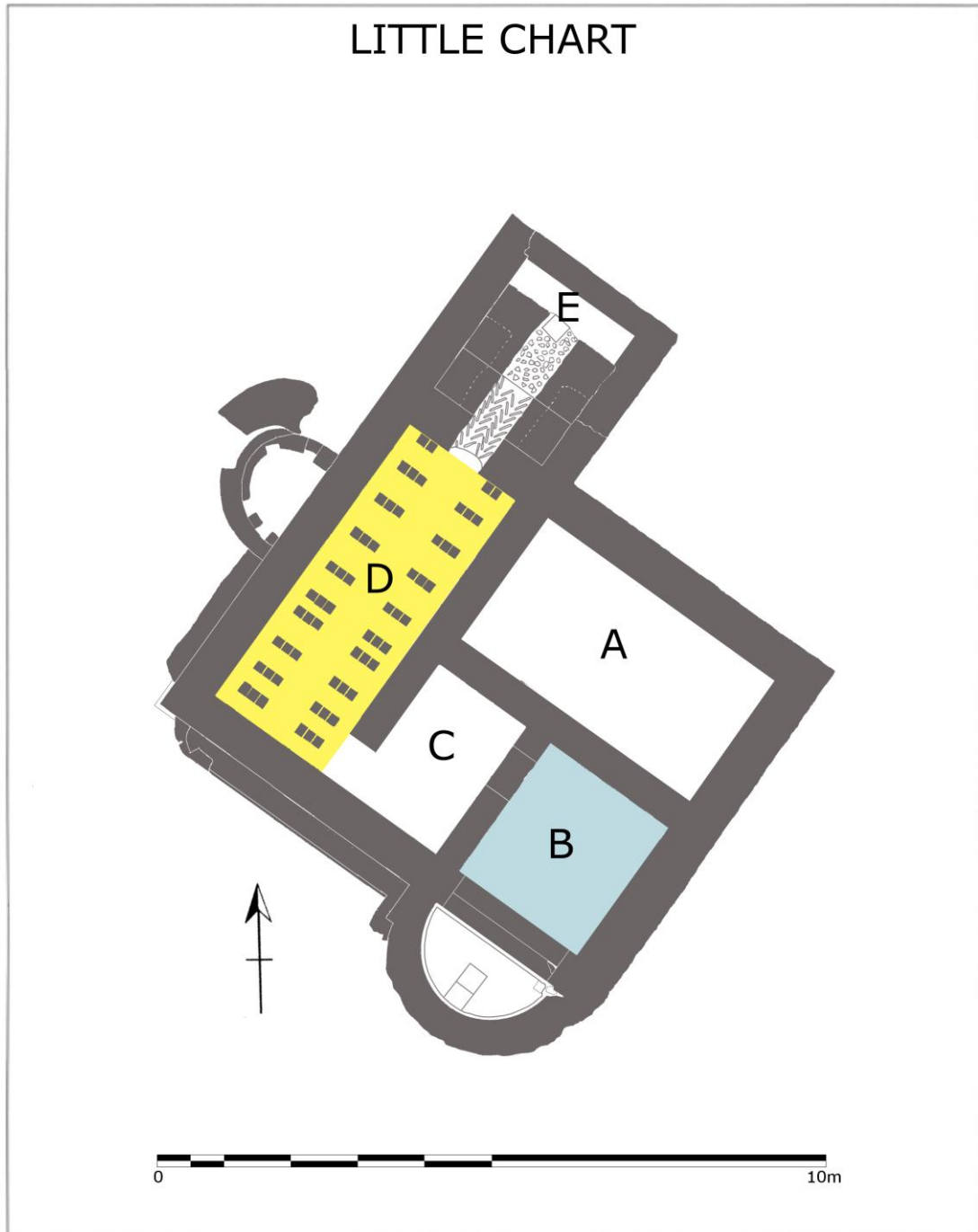


**Figure 38. Plan of the 'isolated' bathhouse at Little Chart (Kent), Phase II. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Eames 1957, Fig. 2.**

## LITTLES MANOR FARM, SHELDWICH

**Individual Site Number:** 232

**Location:** TR 008 584

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies south of the Roman town of Ospringe, located southwest of Faversham. Geophysical surveys identified a possible high-status Roman building, and two small test pits in the southwestern part of the site revealed the presence of a hypocaust.

**Site chronology:** A bronze coin minted between 364 and 378 CE was found within a ditch truncating the demolition layers over the hypocaust.

**Excavation history:** The site was first recorded in 2004. Members of the Kent Archaeological Society and the Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group carried out the first geo-resistivity survey and excavated a small trench. Another small trench was opened in 2006 when the hypocaust was identified. Wessex Archaeology conducted a detailed gradiometer survey of the site in 2013 (Wessex Archaeology 2013).

**Baths:** The hypocaust might have been part of a bathhouse. The structure consisted of a 'mortared flint wall and some hypocaust stack bases on a concrete base' (FSARG 2013, 3). The hypocaust had been backfilled in antiquity with building materials and painted plaster.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** FSARG 2013; Wessex Archaeology 2013.

**Note:** No plan available.

## LOOSE ROAD, MAIDSTONE

**Individual Site Number:** 138

**Location:** TQ 7657 5485

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, also known as Barton Road, lies c. 1.5km southeast of the villa at **Bower Lane, Maidstone** and c. 2km southeast of the villa at **The Mount, Maidstone**. The villa at Loose Road included 'a range of rooms lying north and south and opening to an eastern corridor, which is interrupted by a long projecting room with an apse at its east end' (Wheeler 1932, 99). Presently known site area: c. 50 x 29m.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated in 1870 under the direction of C. Roach Smith.

**Baths:** Rooms 1 (c. 7.13m in diameter) and 2 (c. 10.1 x 4.3m, with an apse on its eastern side, c. 4.3m wide and c. 1m max. depth) may have been part of a bath-suite (Wilkinson 2011, 16). Room 1 was octagonal and had a channelled hypocaust with 'radiating flues cut into the natural soil and lined with tiles' (ibid.). Octagonal rooms and octagonal buildings are typical of the fourth century, with examples at **Bax Farm, Teynham** (Kent), Halcombe (Devon), Lufton (Somerset) and Littlecote (Wilts.). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** Part of a 'red tessellated border' survived in the southwest margin of Room 1 (Cosh & Neal 2009, 387). Red tesserae were also found in the apse of Room 2, perhaps forming the border of a mosaic.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2009, 387; Scott 1993, 106; Roach Smith 1876; Wheeler 1932, 99–100; Wilkinson 2012, 16.



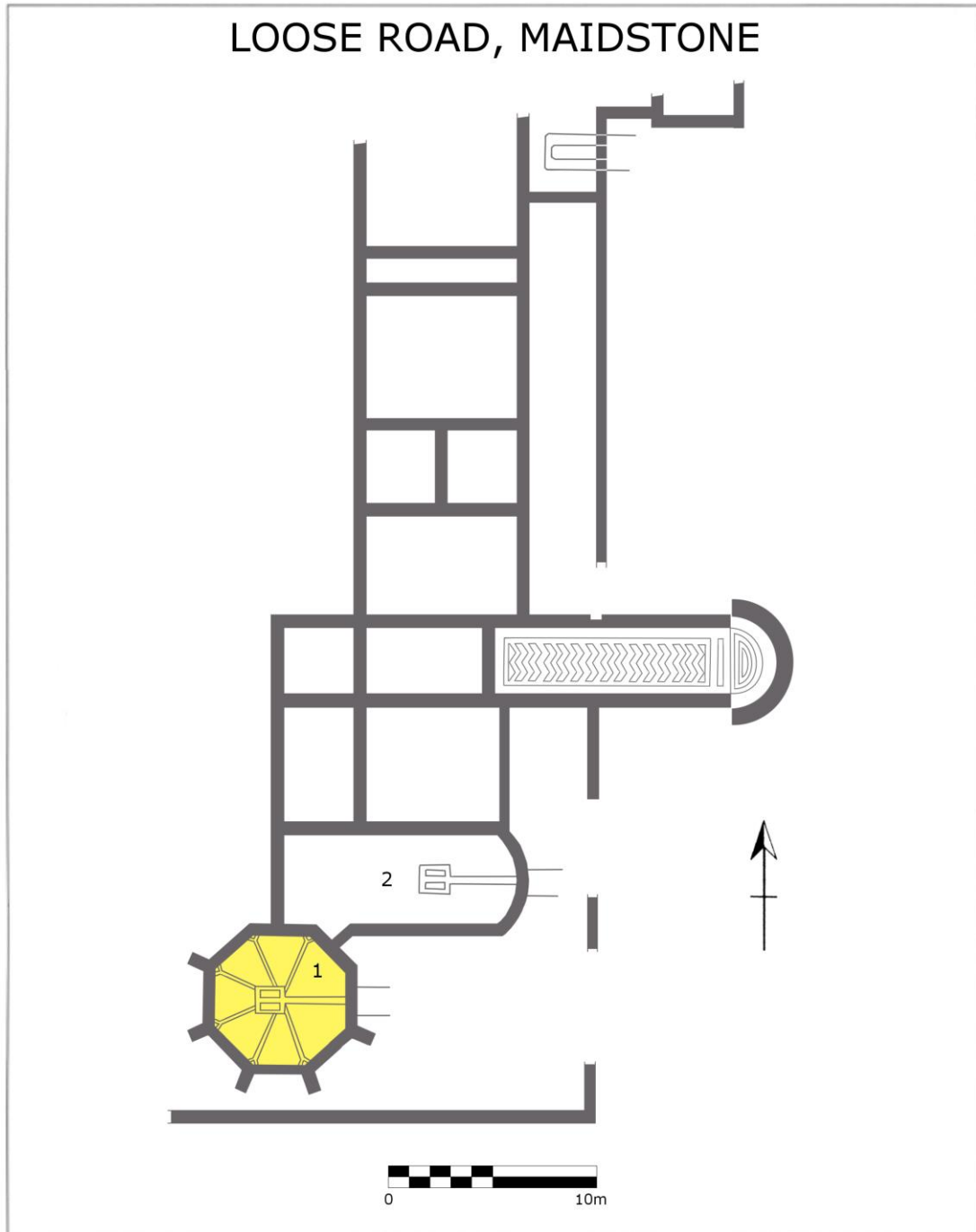


**Figure 39. Plan of the villa at Loose Road, Maidstone (Kent). The octagonal room with hypocaust is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Roach Smith 1876, plate opposite page 164.**

## LUDDENHAM COURT

**Individual Site Number:** 140

**Location:** TQ 9768 6262

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is the site of a possible villa partially excavated in the nineteenth century. It lies 1.7km to the north of Watling Street – the Roman road that linked London to Dover – and c. 2.3km east of the villa at **Deerton Street, Teynham**. It is sometimes referred to as Elverton Lane, Luddenham, a site mentioned by antiquarian sources that might have been part of the same complex. One of such sources mentions that the ‘foundations of two long apartments were traced, as well as two smaller ones’ (Bedo 1872–3, 143). Site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** According to Bedo (1872–3, 143), one of the two villas was discovered in 1952, and the second one a couple of decades later (Mortimer Wheeler 1932, 94). The Swale Survey Project tentatively relocated the site in the late 1990s (Wilkinson 2000, 90–1).

**Baths:** The antiquarian accounts suggest that a bathhouse was part of the complex. Bedo (1872–3, 143) reports that ‘[i]n removing the soil many Roman remains were found, flat tiles with two opposite raised edges, varying in size from 12 inches [30.48cm] to 18 inches [45.72cm] square, perhaps for covering ducts to baths; ridge tiles 16 [40.64cm] inches long were found; tiles 8 inches [20.32cm] square and 1.5 inches [3.81cm] thick, black from smoke were piled on each other, these were probably belonging to a hypocaust’.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bedo 1872–3, 143–4; 1874, 72; Detsicas 1983, 142; Mortimer Wheeler 1932, 94; Scott 1993, 106; Wilkinson 2000, 90–1.

**Note:** No plan available.

## LULLINGSTONE

**Individual Site Number:** 141

**Location:** TQ 53013 65080

**Typology and extent of the site:** This large, winged house can be classed as a terraced villa, considering how ‘the site had been planned to make use of the hill slope behind it’ (Meates 1979, 17). The villa was built on a terrace cut into the hillside 55m west of the River Darent. It lies c. 1.1km southwest of the possible villa at Eynsford and c. 2.1km southwest of the two villas at **Farningham 1** and **Farningham 2, Manor House**.

Small-scale excavations in the field immediately above the villa have identified a late Iron Age–early Roman enclosure ditch and a series of chalk pits, one of which had a ritual function and was filled in during the Late Roman period (A. Sassin, pers. comm.).

Five main phases have been identified during the Roman period (based on the recent reassessment by Mackenzie 2019, 8–20). The first house was built in flint and mortar in c. 90–100 CE (Phase I), together with a circular shrine 2.24m northwest of the villa. During the second half of the second century (c. 150 CE, Phase II), the villa was expanded with the construction of a bath-suite, a detached kitchen (later apparently transformed into a small tannery) and a set of cult rooms. At this time, a subterranean room (the ‘Deep Room’), possibly a former grain store, became ‘a place of worship of the water nymphs’ (Meates 1979, 24).

In c. 275 CE (Phase III), the house was partially remodelled (baths and northern rooms). A large granary (24.4m long by 10.68 m wide) was constructed southeast of the villa. Soon after (c. 300 CE), the terrace on which the circular shrine stood was extended to receive a 12.2m-square temple-mausoleum. By the middle of the fourth century, a large apsidal dining room was built, and the baths were repaired (Phase IV). During the last phase (c. 380–420 CE, Phase V), the baths were dismantled, and the north rooms were transformed into a Christian house-church.

The villa was eventually destroyed by fire and abandoned in the early decades of the fifth century. Recent small-scale excavations suggest that the granary was still being occupied well into the fifth century, possibly after the main house had burned down (A. Sassin, pers. comm.). Site area: c. 71.8 x 91m.

**Villa chronology:** First–early fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** Roman remains, including part of a mosaic pavement, were discovered here in the eighteenth century (Thorpe 1788, 126–8; plate XXIV, Fig. 3). The villa was excavated from 1949 to 1961 by members of the Darent Valley Archaeological Group, under the direction of G. W. Meates, E. Greenfield and E. C. Birchenough (Meates 1979, 16).

**Baths:** A large bath-suite was built during Phase II, and ‘it accounted for almost 25 per cent of the total area of the residence’ (Meates 1979, 91). A flight of steps connected the main building to the baths, which were constructed at a lower level from the central living unit. Fragments of a chimney or ornamental roof-finial have been found at the site (Lowther 1976, 41). The numbering of the rooms follows Meates’ plan (1979, 138, Fig. 6).

*Phase II (180–275 CE):* Considering the relatively simple structure of the original bath-suite, it is possible to reconstruct the path of the bather coming from corridor 17 in the living unit. After descending seven steps, the bather entered the changing room (Room

19: c. 3.2 x 5.33m; interpreted as a *frigidarium* by Meates). From there, they could decide to move to a possible *sudatorium*, a hot dry room (Room 20: c. 3.2 x 2.9m; interpreted as a *tepidarium* by Meates) or to the *frigidarium* on the eastern side of Room 21 (c. 9 x 2m; Meates interpreted the whole room as a *caldarium*), equipped with a cold plunge bath (unnumbered: c. 2.1 x 1.2m and c. 0.96m deep).

The bather then moved into the *tepidarium* and *caldarium* on the central and western side of Room 21, with its hot plunge bath (Room 22, c. 1.75 x 1.8m). Room 21 ‘may have been roofed with a long-arched roof of tufa blocks’ (Meates 1979, 97). The furnace room was located to the west of Room 21.

The hypocaust in Room 21 was equipped with two sloping ramps (Meates 1979, 96). Similar features have been found in the hypocausts of the baths at **Darenth** and **Little Chart**, and their function was perhaps to reduce heat dissipation (see discussion in *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 5).

Meates (1979, 97) tentatively calculated the fuel consumption of the heated rooms of the baths: ‘on an estimated tepid room temperature of 80° F. [26.66°C], and hot room temperature of 120°F. [48.88°C], with an exterior temperature of 40° F. (4.44°C), the fuel consumption, based on dry fuel, worked out at approximately 117 lb. [53.07kg] per hour’.

*Phase III (275–350 CE)*: At this stage, the baths were rebuilt. Room 19 (possibly now a *frigidarium*?) was re-floored, and a large cold plunge bath (Room 23: c. 2.44 x 3.2m) was built to its eastern side. Meates (1979, 93) records that ‘a complete samian bowl (Form 18/31) with the stamp of PATERATUS’ was found in the middle of Room 19’s floor, probably placed there ‘for ritualistic purposes before it was covered by the new rubble foundation for the later floor’. A narrow corridor (unnumbered, c. 0.85 x 5.1m) now led into the area occupied by the changing room and the cold plunge bath.

The floor of *Sudatorium* 20 was heightened during this period. Room 16 (irregular area: max. width c. 1.3 x 6.5m) was the new furnace room of the baths. In the western part of Room 16, there ‘was an extensive levelled area, probably for the storage of fuel which would have consisted of cut logs and heavy brushwood’ (Meates 1979, 92).

The plunge bath east of Room 21 was probably transformed into a cistern at this stage. Finally, the floor of Room 22 was heightened by 0.35m (it was now c. 0.61m deep) and equipped with a second outflow, and its size was reduced (Meates 1979, 95–6).

*Phase IV (350–385 CE)*: Meates (1979, 95–6) identified a further reconstruction of the baths during this phase, but most of the modifications he described likely took place in Phase III. It is likely that furnace 16 was repaired at this stage.

In c. 385, ‘the whole baths were [...] dismantled; the floors of the cold room, tepid room, hot room and hot bath were totally removed with their supporting *pilae*, and the establishment thus ruined was filled up with tips of earth and rubble’ (Meates 1979, 96). Meates (ibid.) tentatively links the dismantling to the adoption of Christianity by the owners or to their economic impoverishment.

**Decoration:** During Phase I, Room 19 was decorated with a mosaic panel of white and grey *tesserae*, although its subject cannot be reconstructed. More than 1,000 worn fine tesserae (mainly grey and white, with some red, yellow, brown and purple examples) have been discovered below the floor of the late-third-century granary. They might have been part of the mosaic removed from Room 19 (Meates 1979, 115; Cosh & Neal 2009, 386). Coarse elongated tesserae, mainly white, were also found. They were ‘of a type

often associated with early bathhouses' (Cosh & Neal 2009, 386; e.g., Gadebridge Park [Herts]).

The walls of the cold plunge bath were plastered and painted. Only a small fragment survives, 'showing a fish, possibly a trout, rendered in pink, red and dark blue, swimming in light blue water' (Liversidge 1987, 5; Meates 1987, Plate I; see also Meates 1955, 97). A rectangular painted panel was found still *in situ* at the end of the baths' stairs. It was 'dark red outlined by fine white and black lines, below it came a yellow splay outlined in black and white' (Liversidge 1987, 5; Meates 1987, 6, Fig.1).

The narrow corridor northwest of Room 19 'was decorated with painted wall-plaster depicting an attempt at marbling on a pink ground with occasional narrow green bands edged with black upon a white ground' (Meates 1979, 92). Liversidge (1987, 5) mentions that 'other fragments found in the baths are of the second-century or later date'.

**Water supply:** A well (24, top diameter c. 1.22m), found 4.27m south of the bath block, formed the main water supply to the Phase II facilities of the villa. Water was probably conveyed from the well to the baths by a small wooden aqueduct system, suggested by the discovery of a series of post-holes between the south walls of the villa and the well. However, the well 'went out of use after the second-century occupation, and the subsequent source of water-supply is not known' (Meates 1979, 101–2).

### **Material culture associated with bathing**

*Objects of glass:* Many fragments of vessels were found at the site, including four pieces of unguent flasks (nos. 354, 362, 364, 365 and 381) (Cool & Price 1987, 121, 132, 134, 137).

**Key references:** Black 1987, 147; Cool & Price 1987; Cosh & Neal 2009, 379–86; De Haan 2011, 286–7, K.55; Detsicas 1983, 108–15; Henig & Soffe 2022; Ling 1989; 2003, 9–10; Liversidge 1987, 5; Mackenzie 2019; Meates *et al.* 1950; 1952; Meates 1953; 1955; 1979; 1987; Scott 1993, 104; Thorpe 1788, 126–8; plate XXIV, Fig. 3.

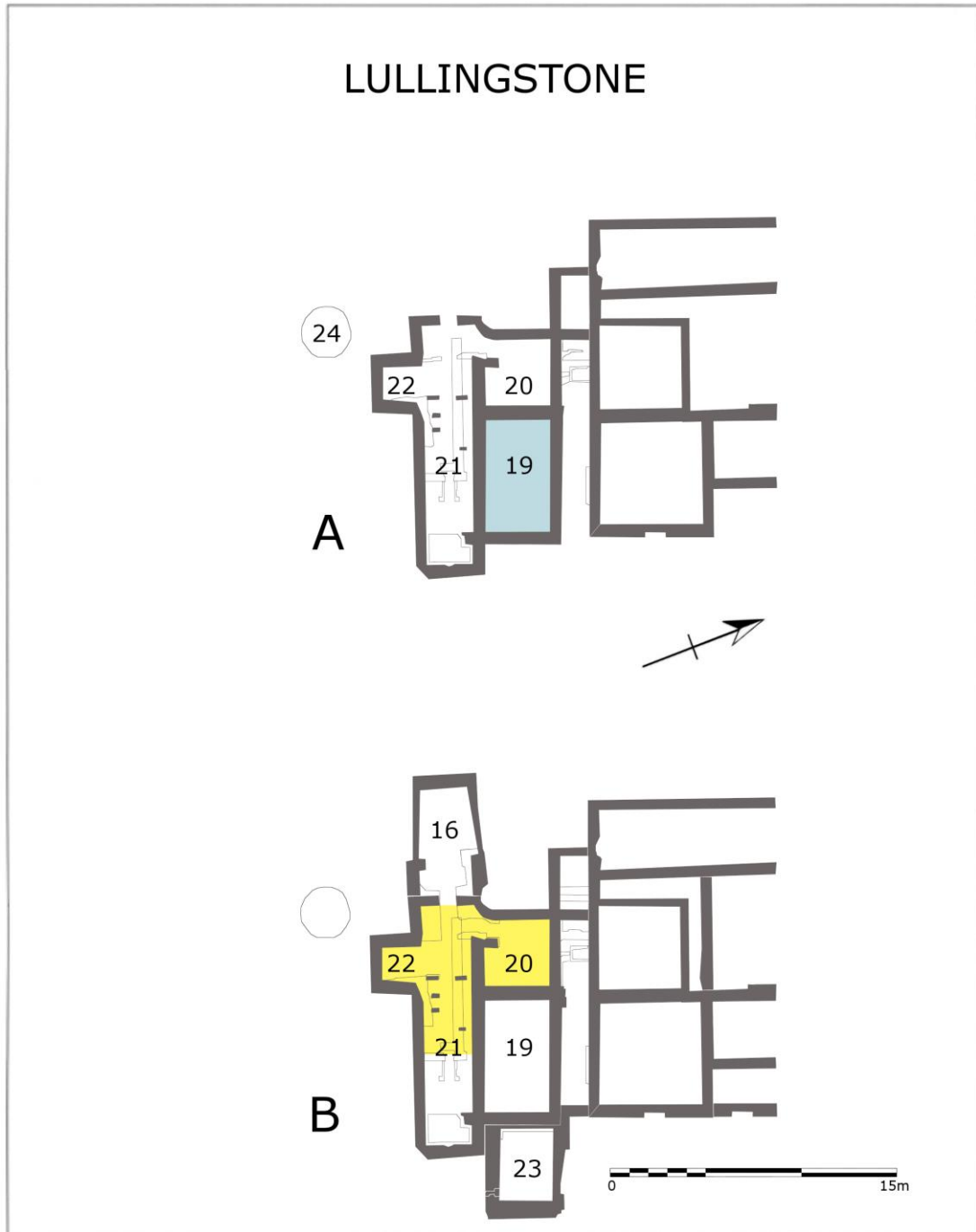


**Figure 40. A. Plan of the villa at Lullingstone (Kent) during Phase II (180–200 CE), with the bath-suite on the left. B. The villa during Phase IV (340–385 CE). The rooms of the bath-suite with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow, and those with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After Meates 1979, 138, Fig. 6 and Mackenzie 2019, unpaginated illustration before Chapter 1.**

## LYMINGE

**Individual Site Number:** 142

**Location:** TR 1610 4085

**Typology and extent of the site:** The foundations of a Roman building were found under the church of St. Mary and St. Ethelburga and in its churchyard. Although 'the ground plan has been destroyed by later building and grave digging', these structures were possibly part of 'the baths of a dwelling-house' (Taylor 1932, 121). Site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated by Canon Jenkins in 1873–74 and was initially interpreted as a basilica (Jenkins 1874, 207–8).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Jenkins 1874; 1876a; Scott 1993, 106; Taylor 1932, 121; Taylor & Taylor 1965, vol. 1, 408–9; Taylor 1969.

**Note:** No plan available.

## NORTHFLEET

**Individual Site Number:** 146

**Location:** TQ 6161 7406

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the south side of the Ebbsfleet River and c. 2km north of the Roman sanctuary and settlement at Springhead. The main villa building (a winged corridor house) is poorly understood due to its early excavation and its chronology is uncertain. However, the area to the north of the main house has been re-excavated as part of the High Speed 1 excavation project, and seven main chronological phases have been identified (Andrews *et al.* 2011; Biddulph *et al.* 2011).

The first stone-built building (Building 15773, 22 x 9m) was constructed 25m to the northwest of the main residence in Phase 2 (120–150/160 CE), superseding a previous timber structure (Phase 1, 70–120 CE). In Phase 3 (mid-second century), the masonry building was enlarged (now Building 15746), and a detached bathhouse was added northwest of it. In Phase 4 (second half of the second century), Building 15746 was replaced by a larger aisled building (Building 15747, 39 x 13m) with the bathhouse now attached to its northwest corner. Furthermore, during this phase, a quay was built alongside the river channel to the northwest of the bathhouse.

In Phase 5 (200–250/260 CE), a second aisled building (constituting the west range of the villa complex) was built c. 60m west of the eastern aisled building. At this time, the southern edge of the courtyard between the two ranges of buildings was defined with the construction of a wall and possibly two gatehouses. In Phase 6 (250/260–380 CE), the internal arrangement of the eastern aisled building was drastically re-modelled due to a fire, and a second small bathhouse was inserted in its southeastern quarter (early fourth century?). The quay was enlarged, and a malting oven was built to the west of the Main Bathhouse. The West and East ranges were abandoned in the late fourth century. Millet (2007, 169) suggests that ‘the site may best be understood as a small harbour and trading site rather than as a conventional villa’. Site area: c. 90 x 80m.

**Site chronology:** c. 70–late fourth century CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was located at the end of the nineteenth century and was initially excavated in 1909–11 by the Dartford District Antiquarian Society under the direction of W. H. Steadman. The western and eastern ranges of the villa complex were re-excavated in 2000–2003 as part of the High Speed 1 Archaeological Project.

### Baths

#### Main Bathhouse

**Phase 3:** This building was initially detached and had only three rooms: Room 10331 (c. 6 x 3.5m) was possibly a *tepidarium* with its furnace room (c. 7 x 3.5m) in Room 16805. Room 10330 (c. 3 x 3m) was a *caldarium* with its furnace room on its eastern side. Soon after, two other rooms were added: Room 10332 (c. 3 x 2m) was a *frigidarium* and Room 10333 (c. 3.5 x 2.8m) was an *apodyterium*. Three small deposits of coal were located close to the furnace (Ansell 1985), and chemical analysis suggests the Durham coalfield to be its probable provenience (Smith 1985, 222).

**Phase 4:** The bathhouse was now attached to the eastern aisled building (Building 15746). The hypocaust in Room 10330 was rebuilt at this time. The excavators (Andrews *et al.* 2011, 167) suggest that these alterations might ‘point to a change in function: the room remained a hot room, though the near-absence of *opus signinum* suggested that it was



used as a dry room (*laconicum*), rather than a wet one (*caldarium*)'. A new *caldarium* (Room 10581/200055, c. 2.6 x 1.8m) was therefore constructed to the north of Room 10333.

*Phase 5a:* The west end of the bath now included a new set of rooms. Room 10509/200240 (c. 3 x 3m) was a cold plunge bath with a tiled floor and a lead pipe in the northwest corner of its western wall. Room 10624 (c. 2 x 1.2m) was a *frigidarium* or another cold bath, with an alcove or small tub on its west side. Shortly after its construction, this room was enlarged (now c. 4 x 3m) to the south, and its floor was raised. Room 10697 (uncertain function, c. 3.2 x 2m) was added at the same time. Room 10581/200055 (now c. 4.2 x 2.5m) was extended eastwards, and a new flue was inserted. Finally, a hot plunge bath (10344, c. 2.5 x 1m) was built to the east of Room 10331.

*Phase 5b:* During this phase, Room 10697 (now c. 3.7 x 3.5m) was expanded to the south to create a new space (10563). This room was now hypocausted and probably transformed into another *caldarium*.

*Phase 6:* The main bathhouse was still in use despite the construction of the second bath-suite. It was abandoned around 380 CE.

### Second Bathhouse

*Phase 6:* This bath-suite was built in the southeastern quarter of the previously aisled eastern building (Building 15746). Unfortunately, its remains were highly fragmentary. Only part of wall 15246 survived of what might have been a *caldarium* (uncertain size) with an apse in Room 15851 (c. 3m wide and c.1.2m max. depth). Steadman (1913, 10) identified a furnace room to the north of the *caldarium*. It fell out of use when the East Range was abandoned in the late fourth century.

### **Decoration**

Main Bathhouse: The west wall of Room 10624 was decorated with pink plaster, probably with foliage motifs (Biddulph *et al.* 2011, 353). The walls of Room 10581/200055 were coated with red-painted plaster. Wall plaster was also found in Room 10563.

**Water supply:** The baths might have been directly supplied by the river Ebbsfleet.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Andrews *et al.* 2011; Ansell 1985; Biddulph *et al.* 2011; Detsicas 1983, 115–6; Scott 1993, 105; Smith, V. 1980; Smith, A. H. V. 1985; Steadman 1913.

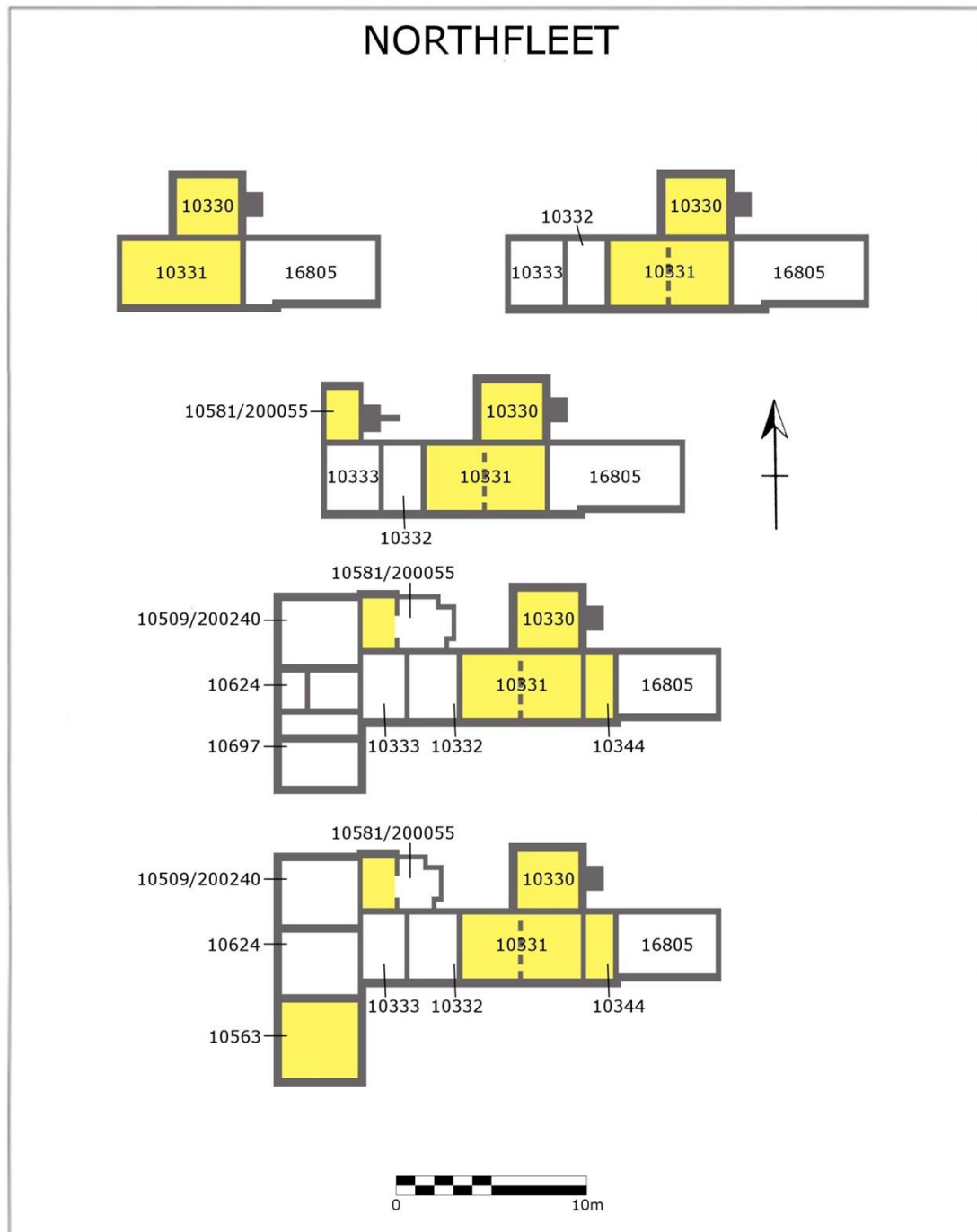


**Figure 41. The five phases of the Main Bathhouse of the complex at Northfleet (Kent). Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Biddulph *et al.* 2011, 219, Fig. 4.6.**

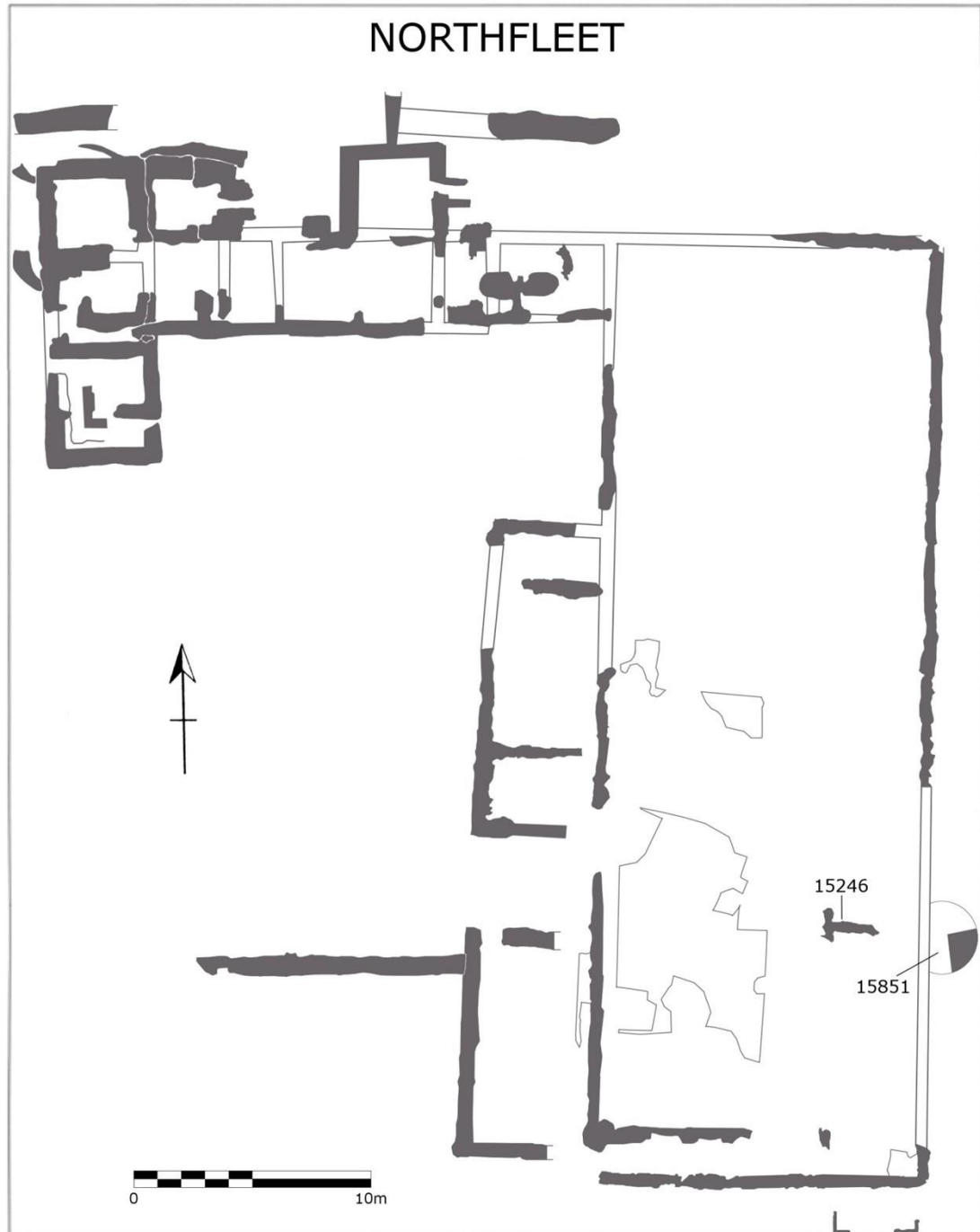


**Figure 42.** The buildings in the area to the north of the main villa building at Northfleet (Kent) during Phase 6. The few remains of the second bathhouse are visible in the southeast corner of the rectangular building. Image: author. After Biddulph et al. 2011, 182, Fig. 3.33.

## ORPINGTON

(Part of Kent until 1965, now part of the London Borough of Bromley)

**Individual Site Number:** 148

**Location:** TQ 4540 6583

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site ‘occupied part of the steep upper slope of the hill forming the west side of the Cray valley at an elevation of about 88–90 m. O.D.’ (Philp 1996a, 1). It lies c. 4.8km northeast of the villa at **Keston** and c. 2.2km southwest of the ‘isolated’ bathhouse at **Fordcroft, Orpington, Poverest Road**. The site was already occupied in the first century CE, ‘probably by a modest farmstead’ (Philp 1996a, 90). The Period I villa-house was built about 140–170 CE as a compact rectangular structure with a range of five rooms (Philp 1996a, 91).

This structure was enlarged about 170–200 CE (Period II). However, it was only during the first decades of the third century (Period IIIA-B) that the villa underwent a significant building programme, with extensions to its south and east sides. Philp (1996a, 92) sees this as a sign of ‘the increased affluence of the family who were adding refinements, changing some room functions and increasing the number of rooms’.

In a later phase (225–250 CE, Period IV), some ‘minor rebuilding work was undertaken at the southwest corner of the villa’ (ibid.). Finally, at the end of the third century (270–300 CE, Period V), ‘the most drastic programme of alterations was carried out, and this changed the whole character of the building’, which was substantially downscaled (ibid.). Presently known site area: c. 37.5 x 14.5m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 140–400 CE

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1926 and initially explored in 1927 by Mr F. C. Elliston Erwood (1954). It was subsequently ‘badly damaged by treasure hunters, and the excavation was abandoned’ (Philp 1996a, 2). In 1955–61, the site was re-excavated by the Orpington Historical Records and Natural History Society under the direction of John Parsons (1957; 1958; 1959). A third campaign of excavation was carried out in 1988–9 by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit under the direction of Brian Philp (1996a).

**Baths:** The main bathhouse of the villa has not yet been located. According to Philp (1996, 94), it ‘could have been attached to either of the damaged ends of the house or could have been detached and located some metres from it and near a source of water’. During Period IIIA, Room 14A was ‘the largest of the three rooms in the added south range’, and it ‘may have served as a tank, or bath and was designed to hold water’ (Philp 1996a, 22).

During a later phase, ‘this room was superseded by a slightly smaller room [Room 14B of Period IIIB], almost certainly built to contain water in the form of a tank, or bath’ (ibid.). However, no trace of drains, water inlets and outlets were found (Philp 1996a, 23). The numbering of the rooms follows Philp’s plan (1996, 54, Fig. 16).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

### **Material culture associated with bathing**

*Objects of bronze:* An ‘ornate toothpick/ear cleaner with a pointed, comma-shaped head, of gilded bronze’ was found among the filling of the West Ditch F1 (shaft: 52 mm long).

The object is 'spirally twisted with a decorative, squared terminal at the upper end'. The head 'is decorated with a simple open-work design' (Philp 1996a, 57). A pair of undecorated copper alloy tweezers (51mm in length) were found unstratified (ibid.).

**Key references:** Detsicas 1983, 141; Elliston Erwood 1954; Frere 1989, 326; Palmer & Phil 1973; 1974; 1975; Parsons 1957; 1958; 1959; Philp 1984b; 1988; 1990a; 1996a; Scott 1993, 107.

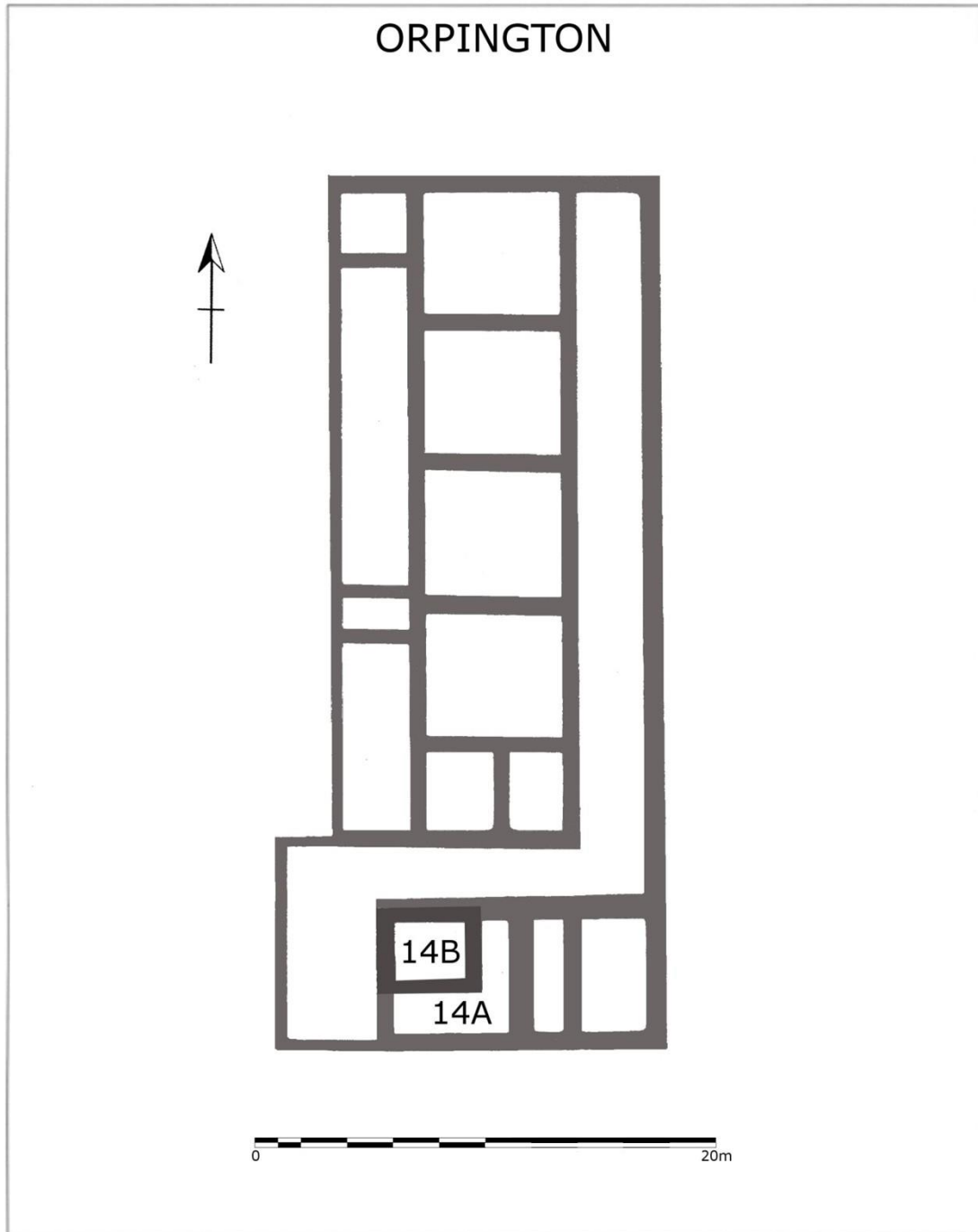


**Figure 49. Plan of the villa at Orpington villa (London Borough of Bromley) during Period III. Room 14B, built in Period IIIB, is in darker grey. Image: author. After Philp 1996a, 54, Fig. 16.**

## OTTERPOOL PARK

**Individual Site Number:** 241

**Location:** TR 11595 36557

**Typology and extent of the site:** Site of a villa only partially excavated, located c. 1 km north of the military base at Portus Lemanis, c. 3km east of the two villas at Aldington 1 and 2, and c. 2km west of the possible villa at Harp Wood, Saltwood. Two structural phases were identified. The buildings included a hypocaust, which produced fragments of painted wall plaster and mortar. A possible malting oven, a substantial boundary ditch and associated wall, a large posthole (a timber building?) and a road were also recorded. Known site area: c. 16m<sup>2</sup>.

**Site chronology:** first–third centuries?

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in 2018 during the development of a garden city (Headland Archaeology 2018).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** The wall plaster from the hypocaust fill was painted with a limited range of colours, and no designs were identified.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Harrison 2018; Trott and Bishop 2018.

**Note:** No plan available.

## RICHBOROUGH CASTLE

**Individual Site Number:** 156

**Location:** TR 321 596

**Typology and extent of the site:** Site of a building 'suggestive of a dwelling house or baths' (Haverfield 1932, 34), located c. 2.3km north of the villa at Sandwich. Flint-and-tile walls were found, and one of the rooms was apsidal in plan. Site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered and destroyed in 1846 during the construction of the Ramsgate–Deal railway.

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Haverfield 1932, 34; Scott 1993, 102.

**Note:** No plan available.



## RODMERSHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 157

**Location:** TQ 9252 5982

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 5km southwest of the complex of buildings at **Bax Farm, Teynham**. This small corridor villa with a bath-suite was severely damaged by ploughing, and its precise chronology is uncertain. A second masonry building with an underground room was found about 50m from the main house. Presently known site area: c. 26 x 8m.

**Site chronology:** first–third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered and excavated in 1986 by the Kent Rescue Unit under the direction of Brian Philp (Philp & Baxter 1986).

**Baths:** The baths formed an extension at the north end of the villa and were built below ground level. Four rooms have been identified: a *caldarium*, a *tepidarium*, an apsidal hot plunge bath with a drain on its north side, and a small cold plunge bath. A large furnace room was excavated at the north end of the baths. Philp and Baxter (1986, 52) report that ‘traces of moulding were found at the junction of floor and wall’.

**Decoration:** At least one of the heated rooms featured a plain tessellated floor (Philp & Baxter 1986, 52). The hot plunge bath had a floor of plain red tesserae, and its walls were lined with pink-red *opus signinum* (ibid.).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Philp & Baxter 1986; Scott 1993, 108.

**Note:** No plan available.

## SANDY LANE, ST. PAUL'S CRAY

(Part of Kent until 1965, now part of the London Borough of Bromley)

**Individual Site Number:** 162

**Location:** TQ 4743 6983

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 1.50km south of the baths at **Bedens Field, Foot's Cray** and 2.30km north of the baths at **Fordcroft, Orpington, Poverest Road**. A Roman building, possibly an 'isolated' bathhouse, was discovered during the excavation of the Gravel Pits in 1936 (Parsons 1956, 263; see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4). A 'wattlework' structure, seemingly dating to the early Roman period, was found about 300m to the south. A first-to-second-century cemetery and a fourth-century aisled barn were excavated 300m west of this early feature. Finally, an early Roman dwelling was found on Pilgrims' Hill, 750m to the southeast. Site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was located by Ernest Greenfield, though 'little is known of the details of the building as many of Greenfield's notes have apparently disappeared' (Boyce 2007, 262).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Boyce 2007, 262; Parsons 1956, 263.

**Note:** No plan available.

SEDGEBROOK, PLAXTOL

**Individual Site Number:** 164

**Location:** TQ 6148 5313

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 600m to the north of the Roman farm at **Allens Farm** and c. 800m to the southeast of a Roman burial site in Dux Field, Plaxtol. As reported by Davies (2009, 274), ‘it seems highly likely that all these Romano-British buildings were part of one farm estate with the original farm owners living in the Sedgbrook winged-corridor villa, overlooking the Bourne valley, and the estate workers or extended family housed at the simple farm building at Allens Farm’.

The main villa has three different phases. The three rooms forming the central core were built after 125–150 CE (Phase 1). The northeast and southeast wing rooms were added during Phase 2, and later linked by a corridor with a central entrance (Frere 1989, 326). During Phase 3 (second half of the second century), a bath-suite was constructed in the southern wing. The house was at least partially in use until the end of the fourth century. Site area: c. 25 x 10m.

**Site chronology:** Second half of first–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in 1986 by members of the Kent Archaeological Society and excavated under the direction of Roger Cockett (Cockett & Connell 1987).

**Baths:** During Phase 3, the southeast wing room (Room 1, c. 4.1 x 3.3m) was connected by a corridor (Room 2, c. 5.6 x 2.3m) to the southwest wing room (Room 3, c. 4.15 x 2.13m), and heated by a hypocaust flue. The furnace room was in the northwest corner of Room 1. Room 2 was possibly a *caldarium*, and Room 3 a *tepidarium*, with a plunge bath on its southern side. A fragment of a hollow voussoir keyed with a Latin inscription (‘PARIETALEM CABRIABANU FARBICAVI [sic]’, ‘Cabriabanus made this wall tile’) was found at the site (Davies 2004, 165). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse was probably supplied by a timber-lined well found nearby (Taylor 1932, 123).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available

**Key references:** Cockett & Connell 1987; Davies 2009; Frere 1987, 359; 1988, 484; 1989, 326; Scott 1993, 107.

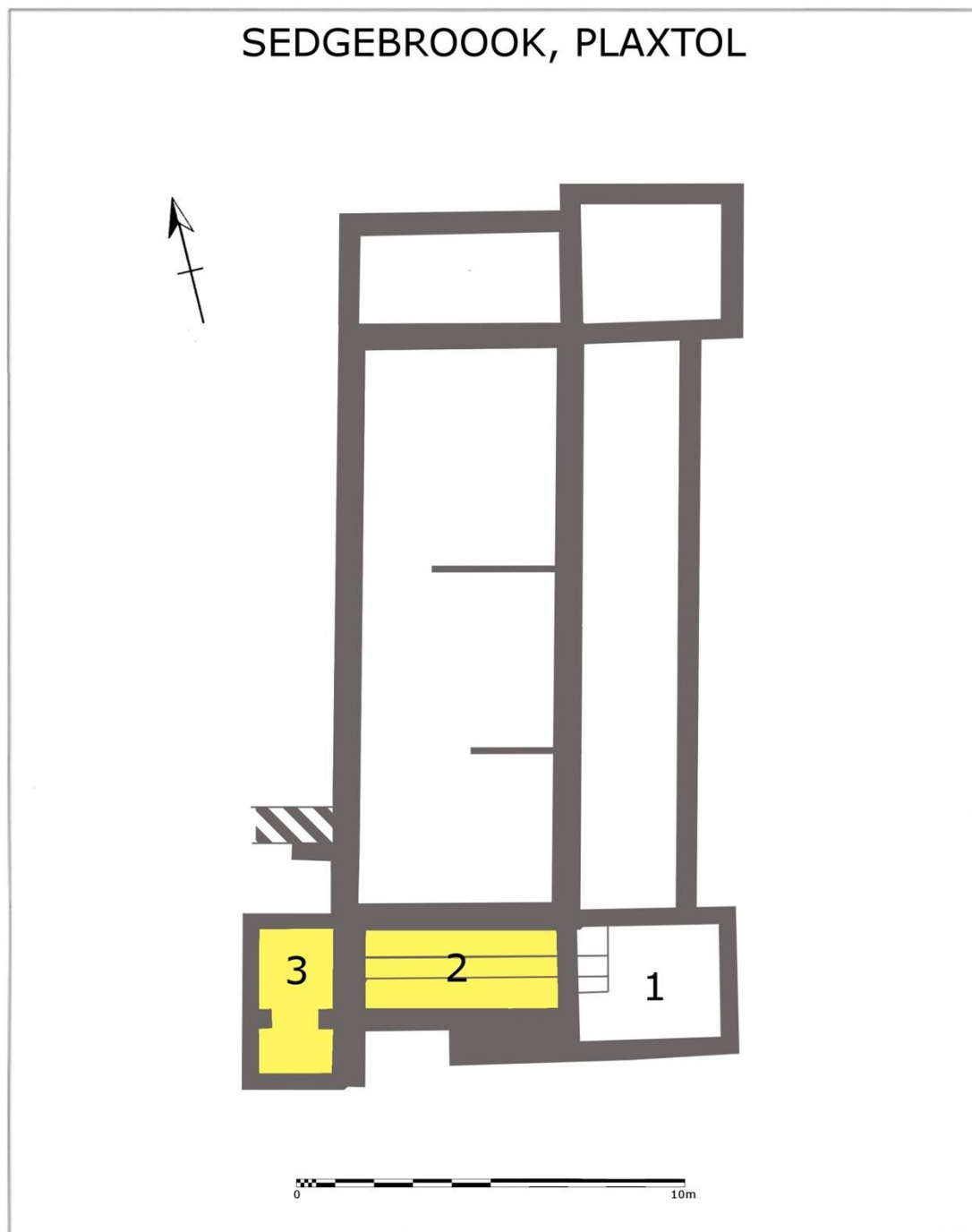


**Figure 43. Plan of the villa at Sedgebrook, Plaxtol (Kent). The rooms of the bath-suite with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Frere 1989, 324, Fig. 26.**

## SHOREHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 165

**Location:** TQ 5215 6226

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, located near the river Darent and c. 3km south of the villa at **Lullingstone**, was occupied by a structure with flint and chalk foundations and a hypocaust. Greenfield *et al.* (1948, 181) identified the walls and floors of the main building, which was c. 36.57m long. The hypocaust might have been part of the villa's baths. Site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1947.

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Greenfield *et al.* 1948, 181; Scott 1993, 108.

**Note:** No plan available.

## SNODLAND

**Individual Site Number:** 173

**Location:** TQ 7075 6201

**Typology and extent of the site:** This courtyard villa lies on an east-facing slope in an area known as 'the Church Field' or Churchfields, on the west bank of the river Medway (Birbeck 1995, 74). It is approximately 2km northwest of the villa at **Eccles** and approximately 2km west of the villa at **Burham**. Roman occupation at the site dates to the mid-first century CE, when a bathhouse was built.

The first phase of construction of the villa was previously dated to the second century (Birbeck 1995, 116), but it is now clear that Neronian and Flavian buildings existed here (Dawkes 2015, 111–5). Among these, two concentric buildings – Building 1 and its direct successor, Building 2 – were recently identified to the northwest of the villa. They had a similar layout with a central room surrounded by a concentric corridor and were in use from the late first until at least the early fourth centuries. They were probably multifunctional, possibly combining domestic and agricultural use (Dawkes 2015, 115–6). Site area: c. 170 x 110m.

**Villa chronology:** middle of the first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The presence of Roman features in this area was first reported in the nineteenth century (Roach Smith 1844, 164). Wright (1854, 189) remarks that at the beginning of the nineteenth century, 'a bath [had been] discovered in this field [...] and [had been] filled up without further enquiry'. The villa site was partially excavated in 1927 under the direction of Cook (1928, 79–83). A stone sarcophagus was found in 1935 (Keith & Ward 1936). In 1964–5, emergency excavations were carried out by the Lower Medway Archaeological Research Group under the direction of Ocock and Syddell (1967).

Further excavations by the Maidstone Area Archaeological Group took place in the following years, although little is known about the results (Harrison 1983). In 1992 and 1994, the site was partially re-excavated by the Wessex Archaeology and the Maidstone Archaeological Group under the direction of Vaughan Birbeck (1995). Finally, in 2008, Archaeology South-East (ASE) located and excavated the two concentric buildings (Dawkes 2009; 2015).

### **Baths:**

**Earlier baths:** The presence of a bathhouse built in c. 55–65 AD somewhere near the villa is suggested by residual ceramic building material, including flat, flanged half box-flue tile (T4) and a ceramic pipe. According to Dawkes (2015, 9), this building was 'constructed using tiles in fabric 7 (MOL 2454) produced at the Eccles villa, and incorporating a room heated by a pillared hypocaust with a cavity wall'.

**Later baths:** The second bathhouse – mentioned by Wright (1854, 189) in his report – was located during the 1964–5 excavations and dated to the second half of the second century CE (Ocock & Syddell 1967, 195–7). Part of a hypocausted room (Room 1), an apse (Room 4), and a square pool (Room 5, c. 3.32 x 2.82m), 'either a bath or a storage tank' (Ocock & Syddell 1967, 197), were recorded. In a later phase, the floor and moulding of Room 4 were covered with 'a second *opus signinum* floor of the same thickness [0.15m]', although the first floor 'displayed little sign of wear' (Ocock & Syddell 1967, 196).

Since Room 5 had a different alignment both to the baths and the house but the same orientation as the first-century concentric building to the southeast, Cosh (Stoodley & Cosh 2021, 36) suggests that it may have been a decorative water basin, ‘retained as an important feature during the villa’s aggrandisement’.

According to the two plans of the sites published in 1989 and 1995 (Frere 1989, 325, Fig. 31; Birbeck 1995, 76, Fig. 2), the bathhouse had four rooms (Rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4), plus Room 5. Room 2 seems to have been equipped with an apsed plunge bath. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

### **Decoration:**

Earlier baths: No information available

Later baths: ‘Several large red clay tesserae, iron nails, and some small fragments of red and green painted wall-plaster’ were found among rubble debris in the exterior filling layer of Room 1 (Ocock & Syddell 1967, 195).

### **Water supply:**

Earlier baths: No information available.

Later baths: The bathhouse might have been directly supplied by the river Medway or by a yet undiscovered well. Ocock and Syddell (1967, 197) note that the nearest stream ‘known today is at the lower level and at least a quarter of a mile away [c. 0.4Km]’ from the baths. Nineteenth-century excavations suggest that Room 5 was supplied via a channel connected to the river (see *Rural Baths in Roman Britain*, Chapter 4).

### **Material culture associated with bathing:**

Later baths: Harrison (1983, 6) mentions that, during the 1982 excavations, ‘a well-preserved toilet set’ was found.

**Key references:** Birbeck 1995; Cook 1928; Dawkes 2009; 2015, Frere 1986, 427; 1989, 325-326; Harrison 1983; Keith & Ward 1936; Ocock & Syddell 1967; 1968; Scott 1993, 108; Roach Smith 1844, 164; Wright 1854, 189.

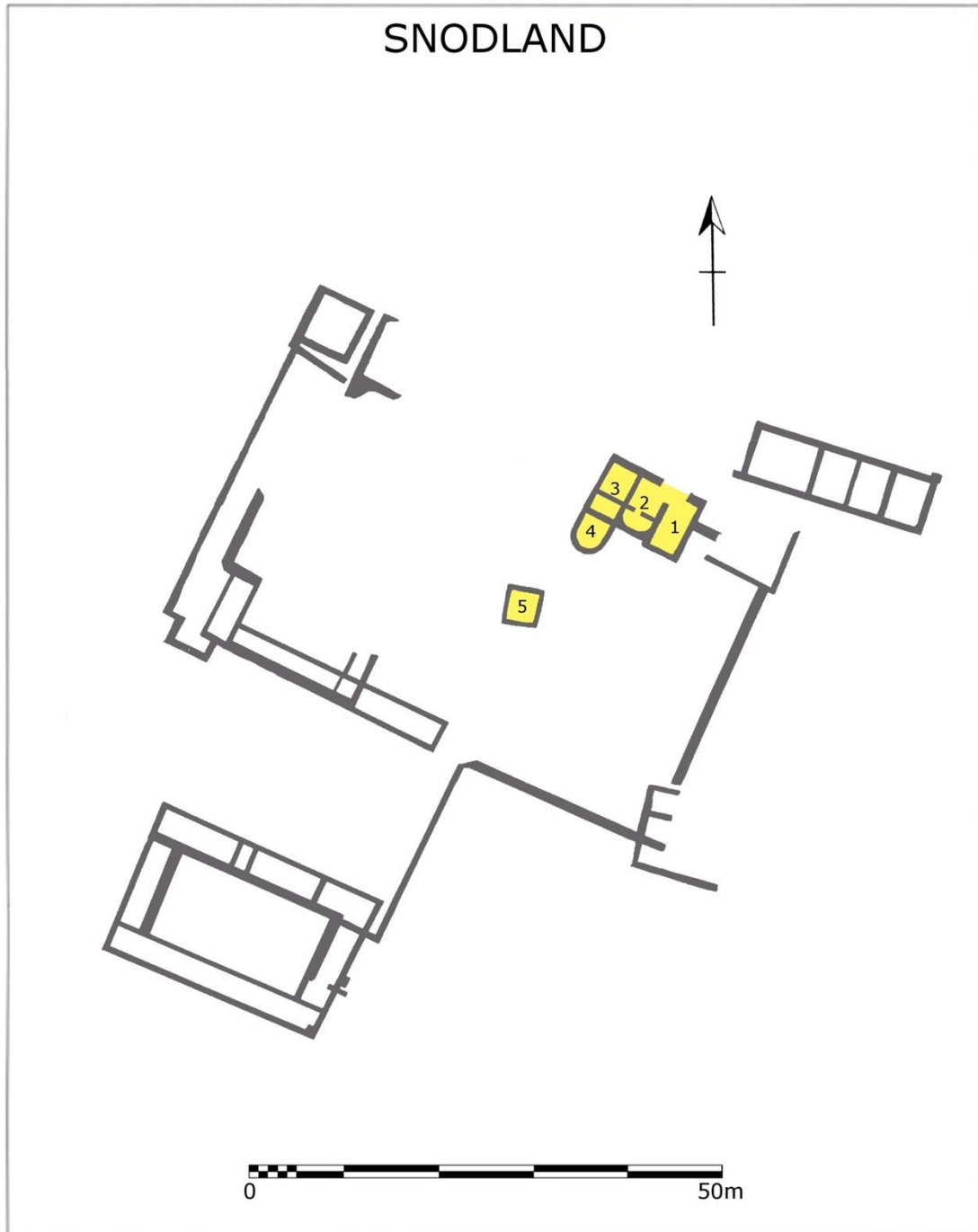


**Figure 51. Plan of the villa at Snodland (Kent). The bath-suite and the square pool (Room 5) are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Frere 1989, 325, Fig. 31; Birbeck 1995, 76, Fig. 2.**



## SUTTON BARON MANOR HOUSE, BORDEN

**Individual Site Number:** 183

**Location:** TQ 8791 6191

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is the site of a possible villa with a bathhouse, located c. 4.6km southwest of the villa at Sittingbourne and 5.4km east of the villa at Hartlip.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The remains of two buildings were detected in 1846 in 'a field called Fourteen Acres, near the old manor house, at Sutton Baron' (Smith 1849, 68), and another building was found nearby in 1850 (Taylor 1932, 105).

**Baths:** According to Taylor (1932, 105), one of the two structures found in 1846 was 'an oblong building with thicker walls, fitted apparently with a hypocaust' and might have been a bathhouse.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Detsicas 1983, 142; Scott 1993, 103; Smith 1849, 68; Taylor 1932, 105.

**Note:** No plan available.

## TESTON

**Individual Site Number:** 186

**Location:** TQ 6988 5316

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is ‘on a crest of a gently sloping valley looking over the river [Medway]’ (Grover 1873, 45), which connected it to Rochester and London. It lies c. 2.5km southwest of the villas at Barming 1, Maidstone and Barming 2, Maidstone. The complex at Teston was extensive and included several ancillary buildings, including a bathhouse. The main house, a winged corridor villa, was recently located to the southeast of the baths, but a full report is not yet available. At each end of the two wings of the villa, ‘bases of two substantial towers of pavilions were revealed’ (Elliott 2013, 44). Bathhouse area: c. 22.89 x 17.85m.

**Villa chronology:** first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** J.W. Grover excavated the site in 1872, uncovering the ‘foundations [...] of the thermal departments of the villa’ in the hop gardens of Arthur Fremling of Teston (Grover 1873, 45). In 1972–3, the Maidstone Area Archaeological Group ‘failed to locate any trace of a Roman building’ in the area (Panton & Elder 1992, 372). In 1991, ‘parts of a substantial Roman masonry building’ (Panton & Elder 1992, 374) were found near the estimated site of the villa, but no further investigation took place. Following a geophysical survey in 2012, the main house was finally located in 2014 by the Kent Archaeological Field School under the direction of Paul Wilkinson.

**Baths:** The bathhouse was constructed of ragstone masonry. Room 1 (c. 6.09 x 4.99m) was a large, flagged area, interpreted as an *apodyterium* by Grover (1873, 46), who reports a flue running along it and a ‘low wall [...] which seems to have served for a seat’. Detsicas (1983, 142) suggested that it might have been a *palaestra* instead. Room 2 (c. 2.74 x 2.74m) was the *tepidarium*, and room 3 (c. 2.74 x 2.74m) was the *caldarium*, with its hot plunge bath in Room 4 (c. 2.56m wide and c. 1.46m max. depth). Room 5 (uncertain size) was the furnace room. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Finds from the bathhouse included a bone pin and fragments of window glass.

**Key references:** Canterbury Archaeological Trust 1991; Detsicas 1983, 142; Elliott 2013; Grover 1873, 45–7, 71; Ocock 1974, 206–7; Panton & Elder 1992, 372–4; Scott 1993, 108; Taylor 1932, 125.

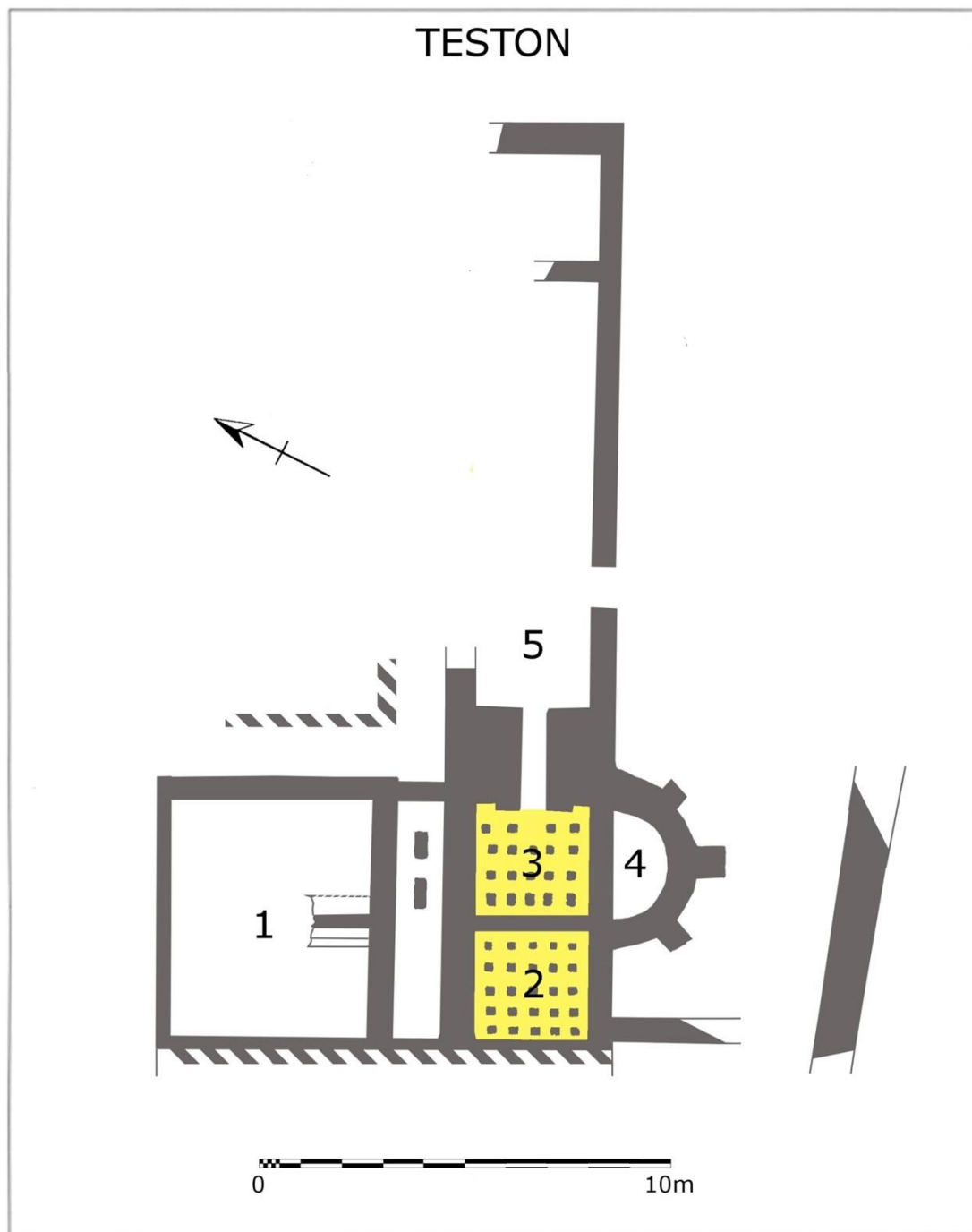


**Figure 52. Plan of the villa at Teston (Kent) with its bath-suite. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Grover 1873, Plate 1.**

## THE MOUNT, MAIDSTONE

**Individual Site Number:** 188

**Location:** TQ 7572 5621

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is on the east bank of the river Medway in the north part of Maidstone, c. 183m northwest of Maidstone East Station (Kelly 1992, 177). It lies c. 1.5km northwest of the villa at **Loose Road, Maidstone**, c. 1.5km northeast of the villa at **Bower Lane, Maidstone**, and c. 4km west of the villa at **Thurnham**. Two other possible villas existed at Barming 1, Maidstone, c. 4km to the southeast, and Barming 2, Maidstone, c. 3.5km to the southeast (Payne 1880). Part of a Roman cemetery was excavated c. 400m southeast of the villa (Edwards 2007), and a complex of buildings with at least one temple has been recently excavated at East Farleigh, c. 4km to the southeast (Clifton 2022).

Four phases of timber structures found to the south and east of the villa predate the masonry building. In Phase 5 (c. 175–225 CE), a house was constructed in local Kent ragstone as a winged corridor villa (c. 34.5 x 21.5m). It featured a corridor or portico on its eastern and western sides and a bathhouse attached to its northwest side. A large courtyard surface was laid in front of the baths. In Phase 5a (c. 225–250 CE), boundary walls were built around the courtyard, and a tank associated with a drain was added in its northeast corner. A new set of rooms was built to the northeast of the bathhouse.

During Phase 6 (c. 275–325 CE), alterations were made to the main house, including the enlargement of the bathhouse and the construction of a possible kitchen against the northern side of the northern wing of the building. The villa went out of use during the first half of the fourth century CE. Site area: c. 67 x 27m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 175–325 CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered and excavated in 1843 by Thomas Charles (1847). Only the south wing of the villa was exposed. In 1970, emergency excavations were carried out by the Maidstone Area Archaeological Unit (Oldham 1970, 189). Large-scale excavations started in the summer of 1972 under the direction of D. B. Kelly and continued at irregular intervals until 1980 (Kelly 1992). The Canterbury Archaeological Trust further investigated the site in 1992–94.

### Baths

*Phase 5:* The first bathhouse, unfortunately poorly preserved, consisted of a range of four rooms (Rooms 1–4) and occupied the northwest corner of the villa. Rooms 2 (c. 6.2 x 3m) and 3 (c. 3 x 3 m) were hypocausted. No traces of the furnace room were found, but it might have been located to the north of Room 2 (Houliston 1999, 92). In this case, the latter may have been a *caldarium* and Room 3 a *tepidarium*. The function of Room 1 (c. 8 x 3m) and 4 (c. 5 x 3m) is uncertain.

*Phase 6:* All the rooms of the bathhouse were rebuilt, and a new room was added (Room 5: c. 3.5 x 2.1m). During this phase, Rooms 2 and 5 were both hypocausted and, as reported by Kelly (1992, 203), ‘in the centre of the east wall [of Room 5] were the remains of a vent, lined with withe mortar’. During this period, the north side of Room 3 ‘was provided with an opus signinum floor, at the same level as the hypocaust floor of Room 2, but was not heated’ (Kelly 1992, 204).

A new furnace room must have been built at this time, but it has not been located. Houliston (1999, 94) suggests that it might have been inserted in the western side of

Room 2. Kelly (1992, 204) notes a lack of burning and blackening in Rooms 5 and 2, 'which would have been expected even if they were at the furthest remove from the furnace, and it is possible that they were in use for a very short time only or even not completed'. The numbering of the rooms follows Houlston's plans (1999, Fig. 6; 7)

**Decoration:** Room 5 produced pieces of 'off-white or pinkish plaster with a smooth surface' (Kelly 1992, 203). Many fragments of wall plaster were found 'in the heavy, mortar fill (L3), which lay above the layer of black soil' (Kelly 1992, 204) over the demolished bath-suite. They were mostly 'dark red, but some off-white or pink' (ibid.), like the ones from Room 5.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse was probably supplied by one of the springs located near the site, the closest being only 30m northeast of the main villa building (Houlston 1999, 73).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Charles 1847; Houlston 1999; Kelly 1992; Oldham 1970, 189; Scott 1993, 106.

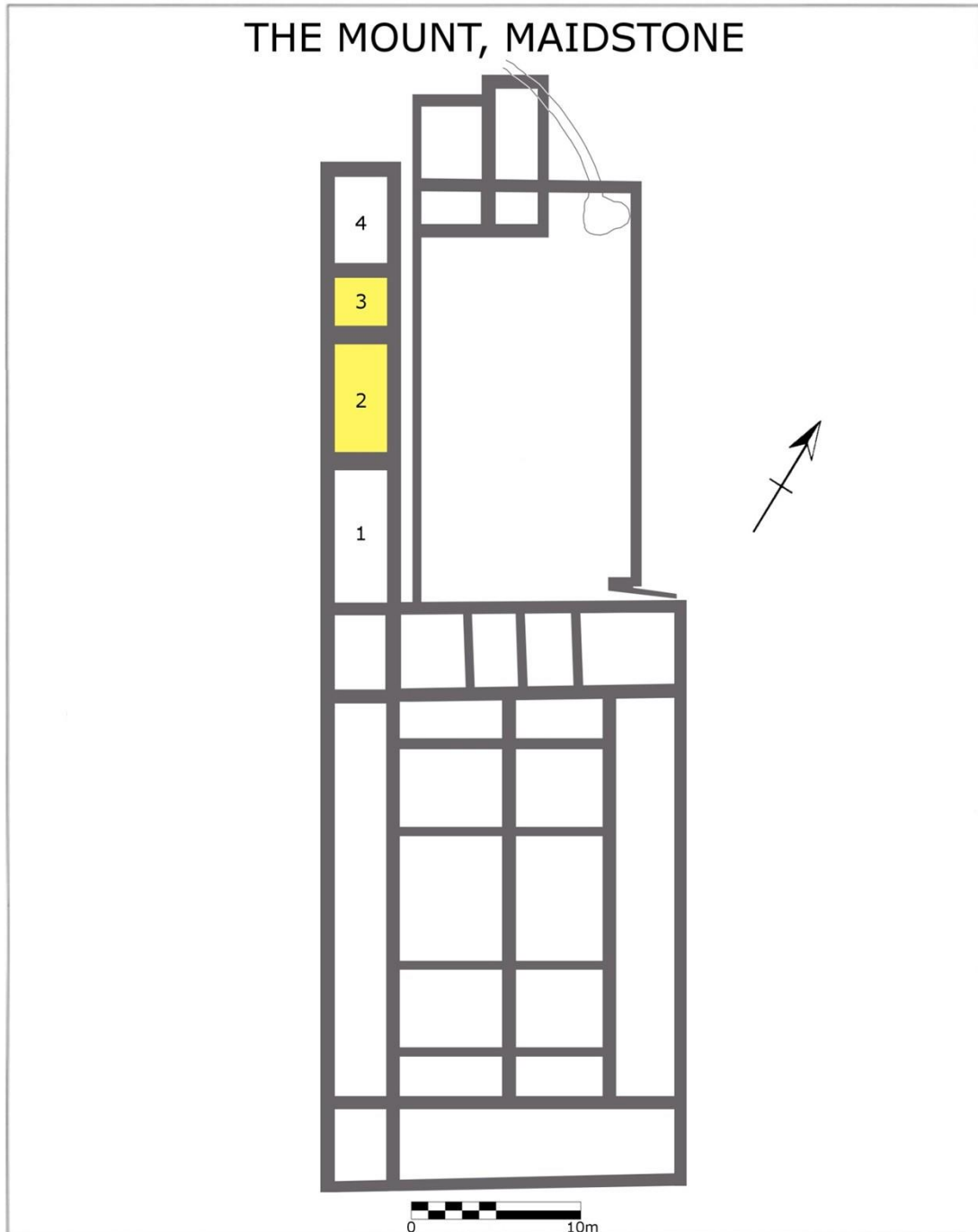


**Figure 44. Plan of villa at The Mount, Maidstone (Kent) during Period 5. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Houlston 1999, Fig. 6.**

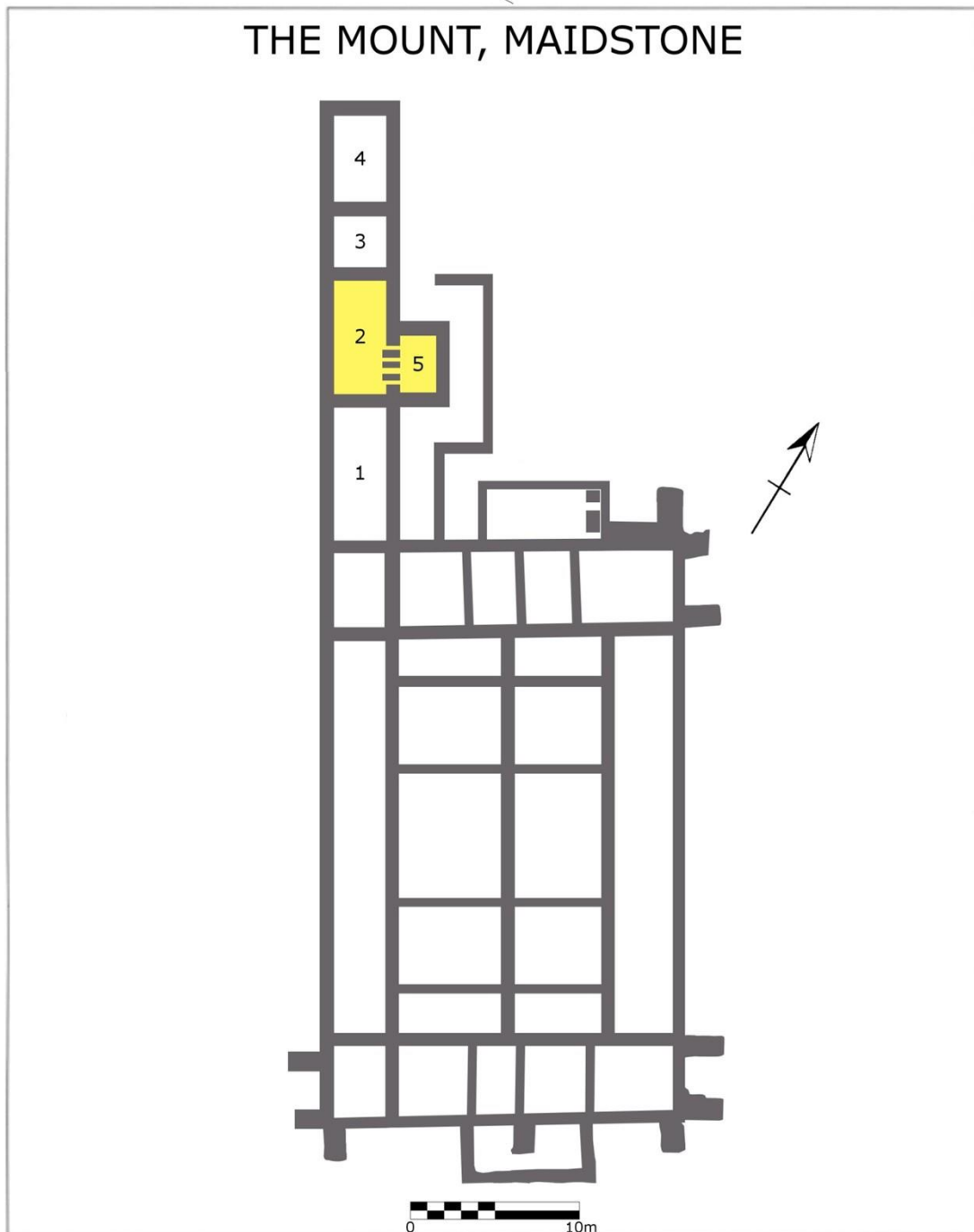


**Figure 45. Plan of villa at The Mount, Maidstone (Kent) during Period 6. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Houlston 1999, Fig. 6.**

## THURNHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 189

**Location:** TQ 7980 5720

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on an elevated plateau at 76.5m OD (Lawrence 2006, 3), c. 9.5km southeast of the villa at **Eccles**, 4km east of the villa at **The Mount, Maidstone**, 11km southeast of the villa at **Snodland**, and c. 4km east of the main Roman road south from Rochester to the Weald (Lawrence 2006, 6). As reported by Lawrence (2006, i), ‘the earliest evidence of human activity was represented by individual flint artefacts distributed across the site’, dating to the Mesolithic. In the late Iron Age, a large, enclosed settlement was established here.

In around 60 CE, a proto-villa, ‘with a tiled roof and painted plaster walls’, became the focus of the settlement (Lawrence 2006, i). A possible temple was built at this time to the south of the house. In the early second century, the proto-villa was substituted by a larger stone-built building, and the complex was extended with the construction of an aisled structure (Lawrence 2006, ii). In the late second century, ‘the possible temple was demolished [...] and a large, gated entrance was added’ (ibid.). A small bath house was now attached to the southern end of the villa, and a large square extension, with a forward projecting apse, was added to the northern end (ibid.).

Further development included the construction of a ‘14-post timber agricultural building outside the core enclosure’ (Lawrence 2006, ii). The bathhouse went out of use at the beginning of the third century and was seemingly demolished in the late third century. At this time, ‘the central room of the villa was converted into a small smithy that was probably engaged in the recycling of collected scrap iron’ (ibid.). The site was abandoned at the end of the fourth century. Site area: c. 75 x 55m.

**Site chronology:** First–fourth centuries CE

**Excavation history:** The site was initially located in 1833, when ‘the pavements and foundations of a considerable Roman mansion were uncovered’ (Charles 1844, 536). Two tessellated floors were excavated in this area by Mr M. C. Cook in 1933 (Collingwood & Taylor 1934, 217). During emergency excavations in 1958, two ragstone and flint structures – site A, the bath-suite, and site B, the agricultural aisled building – were located (Pirie 1960). The site was re-excavated in 1998–9 by Oxford Archaeology as part of the High Speed 1 Archaeological Project (Lawrence 2006; Booth 2011, 276–90).

**Baths:** Booth (2011, 279–80) suggests that a detached bathhouse not yet located could have been associated with the proto-villa building. Although ‘there is no direct evidence for such a structure, [...] it is suggested by the presence of tiles, particularly box-flue tiles and voussoirs, in red-brown fabric 3226’ dating to the end of the first century CE. This bathhouse ‘would presumably have been located in the southwestern part of the enclosure’ (Booth 2011, 280).

The attached bath-suite (c. 16.9 x 6.5m) was built of ragstone and flint in the late second century and went out of use by c. 230 CE. Pirie (1960, 167) suggests that at least a part of it ‘may have been later used for kitchen purposes’, but her interpretation is unconvincing (Detsicas 1983, 142; Booth 2011). Lawrence (2006, 78) recognises two phases of construction, with the three apsidal rooms added at a later stage.

Room R (c. 2.76 x 1.1m) was possibly an *apodyterium*. Room Q (c. 3.08 x 2.85m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room S (c. 2.78m wide and c. 1.6m max. depth).



No traces of hypocausts were found, but probably Rooms P and O were heated. In this case, Room P (c. 2.34 x 2.85m) was a *tepidarium* with its plunge bath in Room T (c. 2.49m wide and c. 1.15m max. depth), and Room O (c. 3.18 x 2.85m) was a *caldarium* with its hot plunge bath in Room U (c. 2.19m wide and c. 1.1m max. depth) (Detsicas 1983, 143). The furnace room of the bath-suite ‘had been destroyed, though it must clearly have lain to the east of the *caldarium*’ (ibid.). The bath was probably demolished at the end of the third century (Pirie 1960, 165). The numbering of the rooms follows Booth’s plan (2011, 282, Fig. 5.26).

**Decoration:** Fragments of white wall-plaster were found in Room 6 and Pirie (1960, 167) suggests that the room ‘may have had some decoration by the doorways, on a base of tufa, and walls covered with plain white or red plaster, without design’.

**Water supply:** No information available.

#### **Material culture associated with bathing**

*Objects of glass:* the rim fragment of an unguent bottle was found in Ditch 20400 (Booth *et al.* 2006, 47).

*Objects of copper alloy:* A toilet spoon was found in Ditch 20400, and a ‘set of tweezers were recovered from a post-occupation silting layer’ (Booth *et al.* 2006, 17) associated with the Aisled building.

*Other finds:* A large quantity of oyster shells came from a pit under Room U (Pirie 1960, 168). Room S produced the ‘leg and rib bones of a hare’ (Pirie 1960, 169).

**Key references:** Booth 2011, 276–90; Booth *et al.* 2006; Charles 1844, 536; Collingwood & Taylor 1934, 217; Detsicas 1983, 142–3; Jessup & Taylor 1932, 173; Lawrence 2006; Pirie 1960; Scott 1993, 108; Taylor 1932, 125.

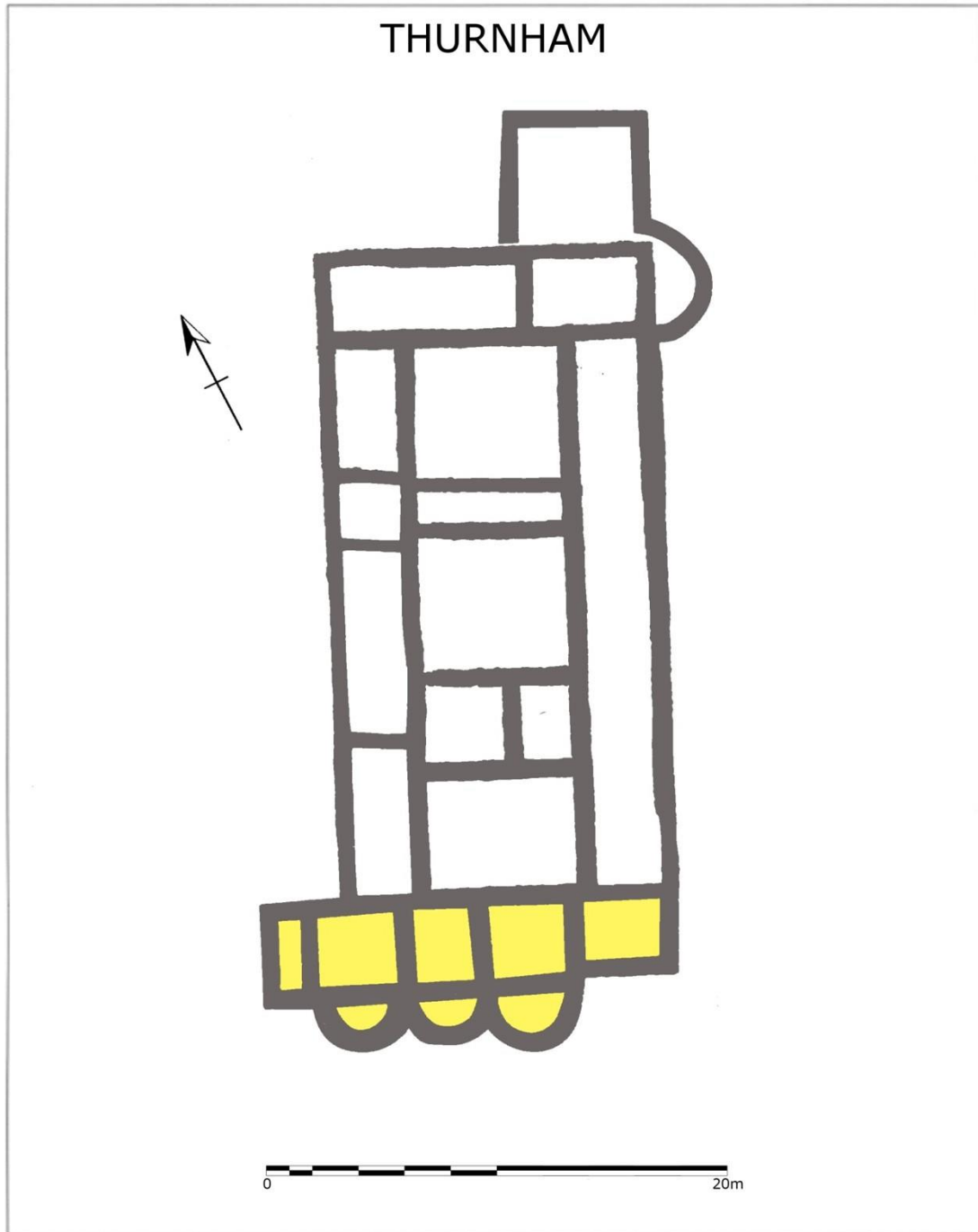


**Figure 46. Plan of the villa at Thurnham (Kent). The bath-suite is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Booth 2011, 282, Fig. 5.26.**

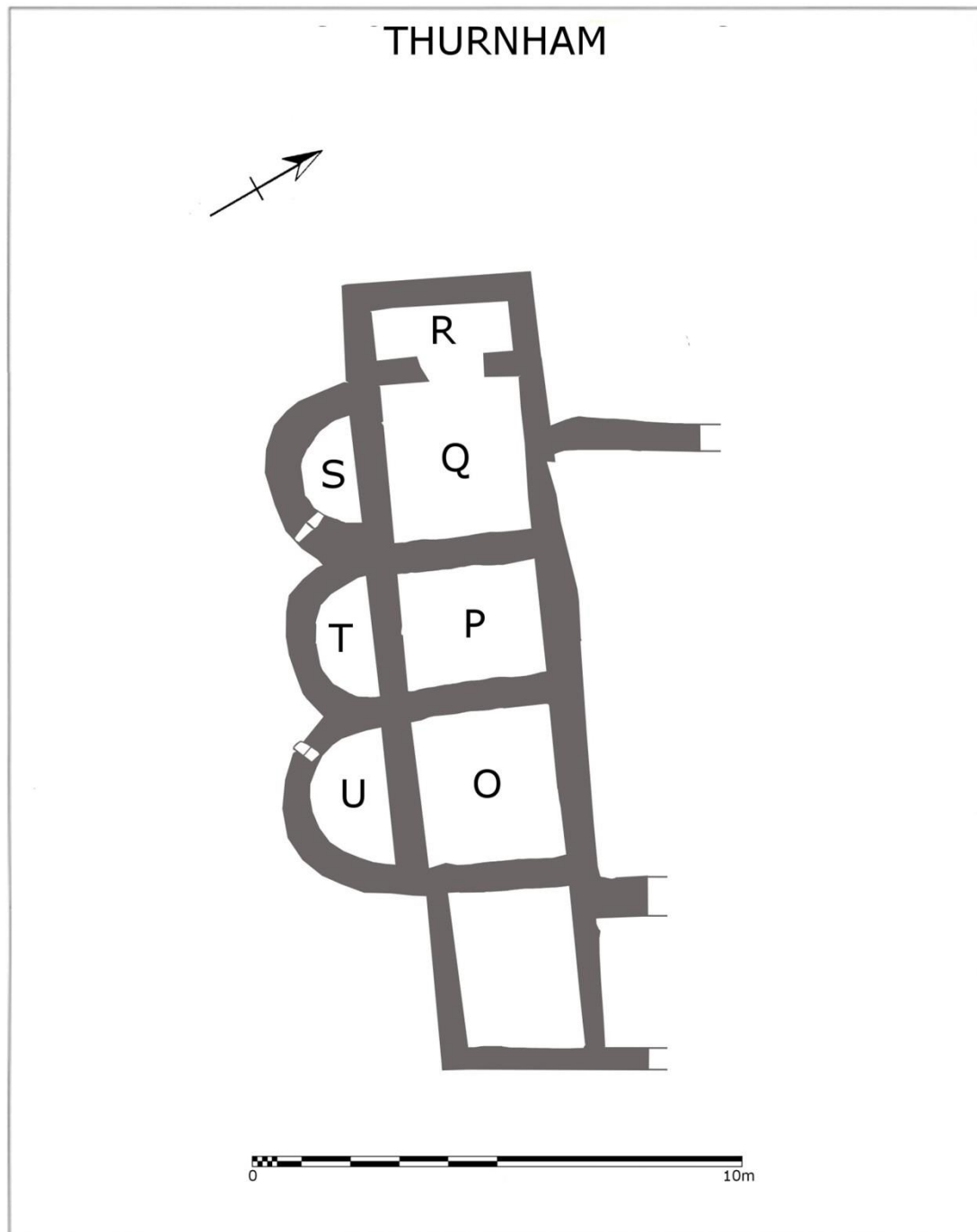


**Figure 47. Plan of the bath-suite attached to the villa at Thurnham (Kent). No traces of hypocausts were found, but probably Rooms P and O were heated. Image: author. After Pirie 1960, 163, Fig. 2.**

TIVOLI PARK AVENUE, MARGATE

**Individual Site Number:** 191

**Location:** TQ 8791 6191

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 1.1km west of the possible villa at Drapers Mill School, Margate, 6.5km northeast of the villa at **Abbey Farm, Minster-In-Thanet**, and 3.7km northeast of the possible villa at Woodchurch.

Very little is known of the complex discovered at Tivoli Park Avenue in 1924 during the construction of a road. Flint walls c. 1m thick were exposed, and ‘hypocaust tiles’ were reported among the finds, suggesting that the house might have been equipped with a set of baths (Collingwood & Taylor 1924, 240). Site area: no information available.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The remains of the villa were initially noticed by Dr Arthur Rowe in 1924 (Collingwood & Taylor 1924, 240).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Collingwood & Taylor 1924, 240; Scott 1993, 107; Taylor 1932, 121–2; Tomalin 2022, 287–8.

**Note:** No plan available.

## TROSLEY COURT

**Individual Site Number:** 228

**Location:** TQ 5642 1605

**Typology and extent of the site:** A recently excavated villa with a detached bathhouse, located c. 5.8km west of the villa **Ash-Cum-Ridley** and c. 6.2km west of the villa **Snodland**. Small finds from the house included third-to-fourth-century pottery and some fourth-century coins. The villa and the baths were connected by a metalled surface made of compacted flints (C. Blair-Myers, pers. comm.). Site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** third–fourth centuries CE

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in 2010, and the excavations are ongoing (C. Blair-Myers, pers. comm.).

**Baths:** The foundations and most of the lowest courses of the building's walls survived remarkably well. Access was gained through a door in the eastern wall, leading into an *apodyterium*. To the north of the *apodyterium*, a plunge pool was identified, and to the south, a larger pool featuring a stone bench around its entire length. A drain led out through the eastern wall of the smaller pool. To the west of the *apodyterium*, there was a hypocausted room with an apse on its northern side (C. Blair-Myers, pers. comm.).

**Decoration:** Fragments of the original small-square tiled floor remain in various parts of the building (C. Blair-Myers, pers. comm.).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** No information available.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

## WINGHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 206

**Location:** TR 2405 5724

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is close to Watling Street, the road that linked Canterbury to Richborough. It lies to the east of the western branch of the Wingham River and c. 1.3km of a possible Roman building at Church Ure Field.

A detached bathhouse was found here, standing ‘on the south side of a large courtyard, at the west end of which the remains of a building await excavations’ (Jenkins 1984, 97). In addition, an aisled building was located on the north side of this courtyard. Philp (2000, 224) identified a large Roman ditch (width of 2m and depth of almost 1m) on the east side of the site, perhaps part of an enclosure ditch forming the northeast boundary of the villa. While the baths were probably built during the late first–early second centuries CE, ‘the length of time the bathhouse was in use until it was rebuilt, and the reason why, are questions which cannot be answered with certainty’ (Jenkins 1984, 98). Site area: c. 69 x 83m.

**Site chronology:** mid first–fourth centuries CE

**Excavation history:** The site was initially identified in the eighteenth century and excavated by G. Dowker in 1881–1882. New excavations were carried out in 1966 under the direction of F. Jenkins (1984). In 1999, Philp (2000) oversaw a small-scale excavation during the construction of a bungalow near the site.

**Baths:** Jenkins (1984, 87) notes that the bathhouse underwent three major phases of construction but discusses in detail only the first phase in his report. Further information about the second and third phases has been recently identified by Dr Lacey Wallace (pers. comm.), and a re-appraisal of the archive materials and documents about the site is in preparation. The description of the building is based on an early version of such report, kindly provided by Dr Wallace. The numbering of the rooms follows Jenkins’ plan (1984, 89, Fig. 1), with the addition of Room 9. Only the plans of the first two phases are included.

*Phase 1* (mid-first–late first century CE): The building initially comprised a rectilinear range of four rooms (3–5 and 7: c. 19.11m x 4.57m externally) with a corridor along the northern side (Room 1, extending c. 2.29m north of the main range), which was divided into three rooms. Rooms 4 and 5 contained hypocausts of tile pilae to support the floors. Room 7 was the furnace room, while Room 3 was probably the *frigidarium*. Rooms 4–5 and 7 may have been half-timbered on chalk dwarf walls.

*Phase 2* (late first–second centuries CE?): The bathhouse underwent a large-scale rebuilding, possibly after a destruction by fire. Three separate hypocaust structures each with its own furnace were created within the area of the Phase 1 Rooms 4, 5 and 7, with the addition of an apsidal space on the southern side of the central hypocaust room. The tile-built *pilae* hypocaust was substituted by a channelled one.

The corridor rooms were dismantled, and two new rooms were added to the northern side (Room 2: c. 3.65 x 3.5m; Room 9: c. 3.79 x 3.15m). A further room (8: c. 2.56 x 1.98m) was added to the south of Room 3. The walls of the original structure were rebuilt, and mosaic floors were laid in Rooms 2, 3, and 8.

*Phase 3* (late second–fourth centuries CE?): A new furnace room and a V-shaped flue were added to provide more heat to the western hypocaust system. The western half of

the Phase 2 heating system was demolished to make room for this new flue. The apsidal room was demolished and rebuilt externally as a rectangular structure with a new white concrete bath.

*Phase 4* (late second–fourth centuries CE?): The Phase 3 furnace flue was blocked with tile work. A new, unheated room was created by filling in the hypocaust in Rooms 7 and 5 with stones capped by rough concrete. Within Room 9, a new furnace and flue was constructed, and substantial masonry blocks were inserted in the room’s southern side, probably to support a bath or a cistern. The northern wall of this room was partially demolished.

**Decoration:** During Phase 2, Rooms 2, 3 and 8 had tessellated floors with geometric motives in black and white tesserae (Cosh & Neal 2009, 391–2). The latter had also tessellated walls: ‘a broad band of black tesserae [...] above which was a broad band of white’ (Cosh & Neal 2009, 392). A mosaic of plain white tesserae was laid down in the doorstep between Room 3 and 4.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse was probably supplied by a nearby stream (c. 20m from the western edges of the baths).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** ‘Some bone pins’ (Dowker 1883, 353) were found in the plunge bath north of Room 7.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2009, 391–2; Detsicas 1983, 133–4; Dowker 1882; 1883; Jenkins 1984; Philp 2000; Taylor 1932, 125; Wallace & Mullen 2019, 80, n. 28.

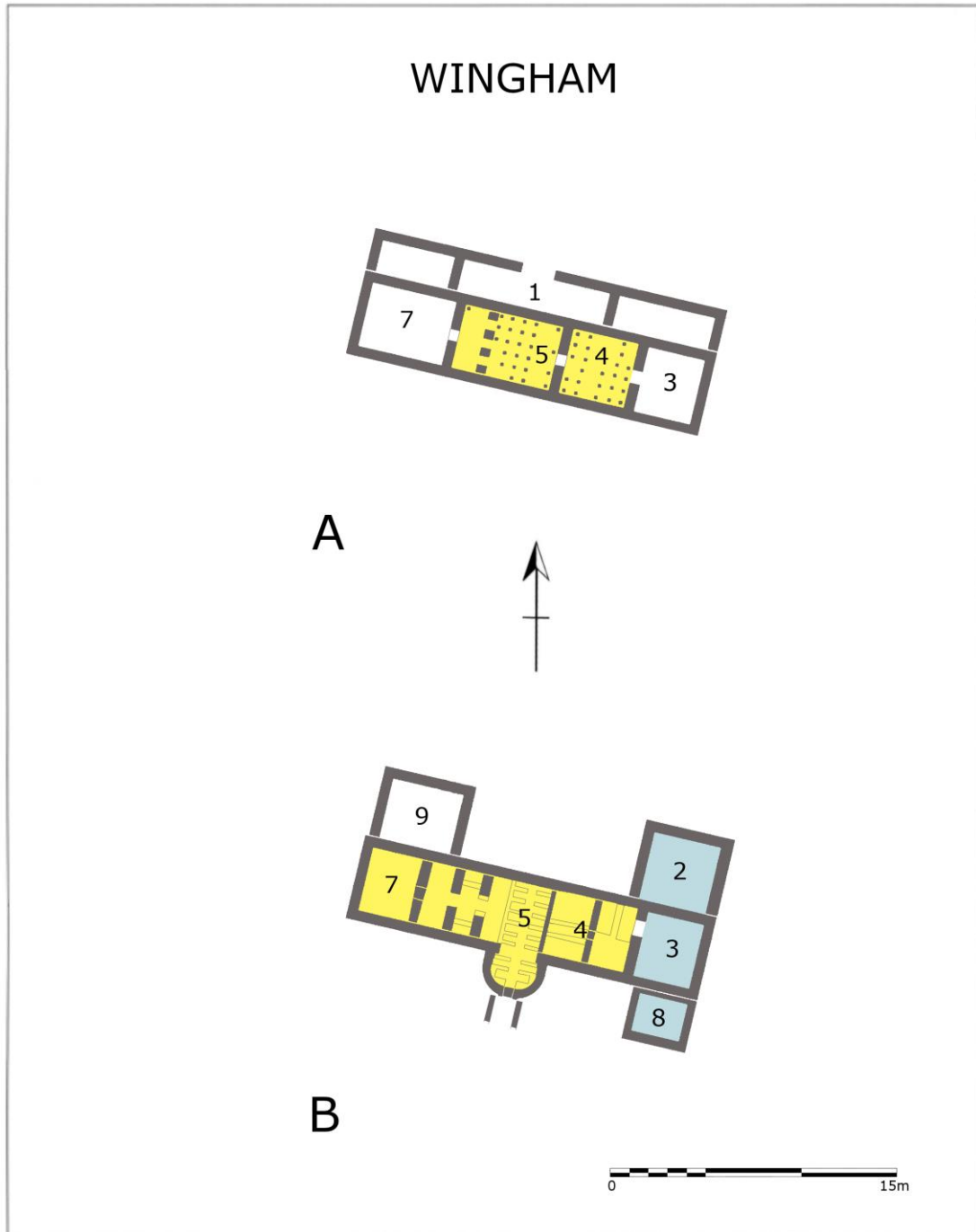


**Figure 48. A. Plan of the bathhouse at Wingham (Kent) during Phase 1. B. Plan of the bathhouse at Wingham (Kent) during Phase 2. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, and those with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After unpublished plans kindly provided by Dr Lacey Wallace.**



WYE

**Individual Site Number:** 211

**Location:** TR 04 47

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 8.7km east of a Roman building at Charing. A large building was partially excavated on the west bank of the River Stour, south of Harville Farm. The foundations discovered included a room with a hypocaust.

There were very few finds, including Samian ware of the first and second centuries, a complete mortarium for mixing materials and two coins dating from the third century CE. There was evidence for the processing and storage of foodstuffs, suggesting that at least part of the building was used for agricultural activities (Burnham & de Sax 2003, 16). However, considering the limited evidence, it cannot be ruled out that the hypocaust was part of a small set of baths. Site area: c. 30 x 15m.

**Site chronology:** first–second centuries CE

**Excavation history:** In 1972, part of the complex was investigated by amateur archaeologists from Wye and Ashford. In 1992, broken pottery dating from the late first to the second centuries CE was recovered from river dredgings c. 24m from the building (Burnham & de Sax 2003, 16).

**Baths:** The hypocaust under one of the building's rooms was of good quality, and, considering the limited evidence, it cannot be ruled out that it was part of a small set of baths.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Burnham & de Sax 2003, 16.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

## Surrey

ABINGER

**Individual Site Number:** 2

**Location:** TQ 1064 4746

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, also known as Cocks Farm, lies 6.5km northeast of the villa at **Rapsley, Ewhurst**. Several buildings have been identified here, although their chronological phases remain elusive. The main house was part of the northern side of a courtyard with ancillary structures in the western range. The villa had rooms equipped with hypocausts, mosaics, and painted wall plaster. It also featured a possible triclinium and a veranda on its southern side.

Susan Pringle notes that ‘the relatively high quality of some of the finishes for a rural setting implies that the Cocks Farm villa was exceptionally prosperous in the early Roman period, particularly the later 1st and 2nd centuries’ (reported in Bird 2011a, 7). Presently known site area: c. 100 x 90m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–early fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered and partially excavated in 1877. Further excavations took place in 1946 and 1995–1997, when geophysical surveys were also carried out. The Roman Studies Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society started a new archaeological campaign in 2009. The project is ongoing, and the final report is not yet available.

**Baths:** Excavations in 2013 revealed the remains of ‘a baths suite attached to the back (west side) of the earlier villa, which probably faced east’ (Bird 2014b, 5). Two hypocausted rooms were identified. One of them probably had an apse on its southern side. A recent ground penetrating radar survey discovered another set of rooms to the southeast of the villa, one of which may contain a hypocaust (Egginton *et al.* 2022, 255).

**Decoration:** Painted wall plaster and ‘two beautiful, polished Purbeck Marble slabs’ (Bird 2014b, 4) were found during the excavations of the baths in 2013.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bird 2009; 2011a; 2014b; 2017c; Dyer 1996; Egginton *et al.* 2022; Stephenson 1916.

**Note:** The plan of the baths is not available.

## ASHTEAD COMMON

**Individual Site Number:** 14

**Location:** TQ 1775 6017

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site occupies one of the highest points in the area and is surrounded by marshes. A stream called the Rye flows nearby, and a flint road links the site with Stane Street, the Roman road from Chichester to London. The villa lies 6.5km northeast of the villa at **Sandilands Road, Walton-On-The-Hill** and c. 9km east of the bathhouse at **Chatley Farm, Cobham**.

The complex at Ashtead comprised a peculiar type of corridor villa, with two rows of rooms behind the front corridor, a detached bathhouse, and a rectangular building (a proto-villa built in the later first century?) within a walled enclosure (Bird 2004c, 104; Bird 2022). This villa site was connected with a large-scale tile manufactory from the late first century onwards, and clay pits and two kilns had been found nearby. A military link for the early phases of the site has been suggested (Bird 2004c, 116–8).

Recent excavations identified a very early bathhouse under the foundation of the southeast rooms of the later villa building (facing south) (David Bird, pers. comm.). They also revealed a continuity of occupation from the Iron Age (pre-Roman earthwork enclosures) and three periods of the main villa: a first structure with chalk floors and timber-founded walls, seemingly dating to the late first century (possibly at this stage this was an outbuilding of the proto-villa); a stone-founded building with at least three phases; and a final rising of the main building (end of the second century?), which was also enlarged (Bird 2014a; 2022). Possibly during the second century, the villa was equipped with an attached bathhouse (Black 1987, 113). Site area: c. 59 x 42.3m.

**Site chronology:** Second half of the first–end of the third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1924–29 under the direction of A. W. G. Lowther and again in the 1960s by J. N. Hampton. New excavations started in 2005 with a joint project involving MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology), Surrey Archaeological Society and English Heritage.

**Baths:** The villa was equipped with two sets of baths, one detached (about 35m south of the main house) and one attached. While the chronology of these structures is only partially understood, the late furnace of the detached baths (Room P2) seems contemporary with the construction of the attached baths (David Bird, pers. comm.). A possible third set of baths has been recently identified under the foundation of the southeast rooms of the later villa. The numbering of the rooms follows Lowther's plan (1930, 149, Fig. 14) with Black's additions (1987, 242, Fig. 45).

**Early baths:** Recent excavations have identified a very early bathhouse under the foundation of the southeast rooms of the later villa building (facing south). The excavators found that each side of the supposed porch identified by Lowther had a small apsed feature, and there was a furnace to the south of it. Room 6 of the main house was also re-excavated and was found to be earlier than the surrounding rooms and perhaps initially freestanding.

This room was lined entirely with box-flue tiles starting at the sub-floor level, like the bathhouse at **Agmering** studied by Lancaster (2012). The tiles were fixed to the wall with ceramic 'fishtail' holdfasts attached at the top of the box, a peculiar feature not attested elsewhere. Though no linking walls were found, it's tempting to think Room 6 was part of the same complex. David Bird (pers. comm.) suggests that Room 6 was constructed

before 70 CE and possibly as early as the 50s CE, but more work is required to establish the size and precise chronology of this structure.

*Detached bathhouse*: This bathhouse (17.5 x 15m) was probably built in the 70s of the first century and had at least two phases, although their chronology is not completely clear. It was entered via a lobby at the north end of the building, and the flint road passed by its northeast side. An elaborated chimney-pot was found close to Room A. Black (1987, 116) speculates that these facilities were associated with some form of earlier occupation, ‘a collection of meaner buildings, probably housing for the men engaged in the extraction of clay and the manufacture of tiles’.

During the first phase, the building was structured as follows: from the lobby (Room G, c. 1.3 x 2.2m), the bather entered Room E (c. 2.6 x 2.2m), an *apodyterium*, and then moved to Room F (c. 3.1 x 2.2m), a *frigidarium* with a rectangular plunge bath in Room D (c. 1.6 x 1.2m). Room B (c. 6.1 x 2.9m) was apparently divided into two rooms, probably a *tepidarium* in its southern side (B1) and a *caldarium* (B2) in its northern side, the area closer to the furnace room (P1, c. 2.2 x 1.5m). Room A (diameter: c. 5.2m) was a circular *laconicum*, an exceptional feature with only one other example in a rural context: **Eccles** in Kent.

Room C (c. 4.1 x 2.4m) was another *caldarium* with a hot bath in C2 (Black 1987, 106) and another one in an apsidal recess (C1, c. 1.4m wide and c. 1.3m max. depth). A *labrum* might have alternatively occupied this apse. Room C was seemingly built during a different phase when Room B was no longer in use (Lowther 1926, 148). During this second phase, a second furnace room (P2, c. 2 x 1.5m) was built to heat Room C. The function of Room H (c. 5.5 x 3.2m) is uncertain.

Black (1987, 105–10) reassessed the construction phases of the bathhouse, identifying five major periods. I will report it here, although, in his revaluation of the site, Bird (2022, 251) notes that Black’s reconstruction can no longer stand. Black suggested that, in Period 1 (c. 100–125 CE), the bathhouse had six rooms: Room E (*apodyterium/frigidarium*), Room B (a cold bath), Room F (a connecting room), Room B2 (a *tepidarium*) and Room B1 (a *caldarium*) with its furnace room in Room P1.

In Period 2 Room C, C1 and C2 were built with a furnace room on their southwest corner, an earlier version of P2. Room C was now the *caldarium*, and Room B became a *tepidarium*. The *laconicum* (Room A) was added in Period 3 and was equipped with a separate furnace room not yet located. This may be because ‘the furnaces of *laconica* are generally much less substantial than those found with the *caldaria* of bath-suites because there is no need to support a hot water tank above them’ (Black 1987, 108).

During Period 4 (starting in c. 150–180 CE), the gravel path to the villa was built, and the alignment of the rooms on the northeast side of the baths was adapted to it. Rooms G and E became a single room (now functioning as an *apodyterium*). Room F became a *frigidarium* with a new cold bath in Room D. In Period 5 (starting in c. 170 or later), the entire northeast section of the building (Rooms G, E, F, D, B and P1) was abandoned and dismantled.

Room B was replaced by Room H, an *apodyterium/frigidarium* and the final version of P2 (the furnace room) was built. The building was apparently destroyed by fire, although this ‘destruction cannot be dated more closely than sometime in the last two or three decades of the second century or first half of the third century’ (Black 1987, 110).

The builders of this bathhouse used the same vaulting technique with hollow voussoirs identified at **Angmering**. This system, recently investigated by L. C. Lancaster (2012),

was based on the use of double flue box-tiles combined with Westhampnett voussoirs and allowed hot air to pass through the building's vaults.

**Attached bath-suite:** This bath-suite was structured as follows: Room B (c. 3.1 x 2.4m) was a *tepidarium* with a warm plunge bath in Room D (c. 2.4 x 1.4m) although, as noted by Black (1987, 114), 'a bath in this position obviously poses problems of access to rooms A, B and C'. Room A (c. 2.4 x 2.2m) was a *caldarium* connected to a furnace room (Room F, c. 1.4 x 1.4m). Room C (c. 3.1 x 1.8m) was also hypocausted and perhaps was another *tepidarium* or, as suggested by Black (ibid.), a *laconicum*. It seems likely that the baths continued southwestwards with the *apodyterium* and *frigidarium*, but this part of the building was in poor state of preservation.

**Decoration:** Fragments of white wall plaster decorated with 'bands of colour' were found in the attached bath-suite and in Room A of the detached bathhouse (Lowther 1929, 5). Several small tesserae 'of various colours, but mainly white' were found in Room B of the attached bath-suite, possibly showing 'that a good-quality tessellated pavement formed the floor to one or all of these rooms' (ibid.). Black (1987, 114) states that tesserae were probably set aside 'with the intention of re-using them' and may have come from the central dining-room in Room 8.

**Water supply:** Lowther (1926, 147) reports that 'the whole of the water obtainable from wells sunk in the vicinity is highly impregnated with Magnesium Sulphate, commonly termed Epsom Salts, rendering the water medicinal and useless for ordinary drinking purposes'. No well or other sources of water supply are otherwise known, although Black (1987, 109) suggests that water was probably brought from the north since 'iron rings for connecting lengths of wooden pipe' were found on this side of the building (Lowther 1928, 154).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A bronze amulet 'with a crescent shape attached to a 'tabula ansata'' (Lowther 1927, 155) and two bone pins were found in the detached bathhouse.

**Key references:** Bird 2004c, 116–8; 2011b; 2014b; Black 1987, 105–16; Gower 1984; Lowther 1927; 1929; 1930; 1934; Scott 1993, 175.

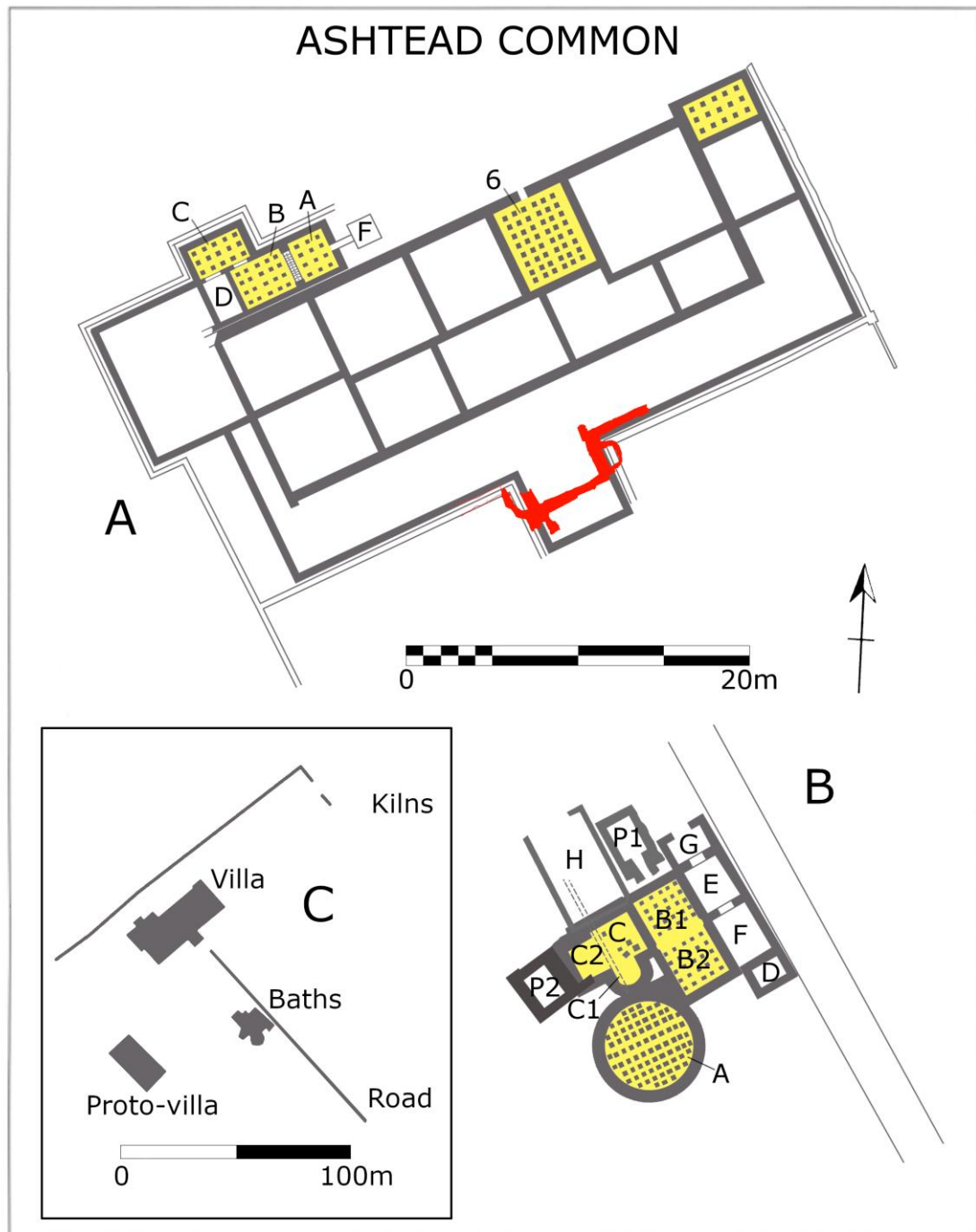


**Figure 49. A. Plan of the villa at Ashtead Common (Surrey). B. Plan of the detached bathhouse, with the later Room P2 in darker grey. C. Plan of the site. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The provisional plan of the recently-discovered early baths under the foundation of the southeast rooms of the later villa building is in red. Image: author. After Lowther 1930, 149, Fig. 14; unpublished plans kindly provided by Dr David Bird.**

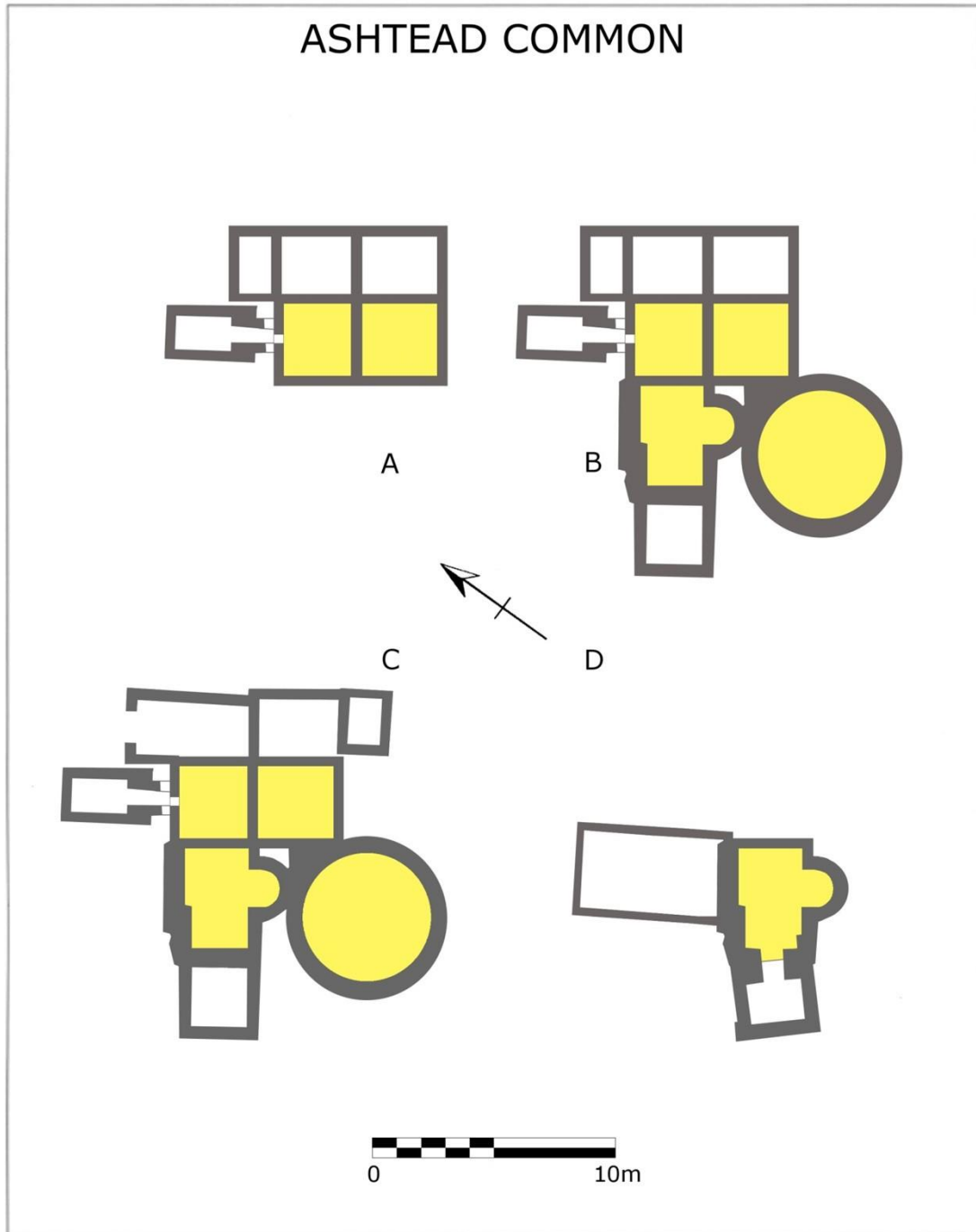


**Figure 59. The development of the detached bathhouse at Ashted Common (Surrey) according to Black's reassessment. A: Period 1; B: Period 2–3; C: Period 4; D: Period 5. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Black 1987, 243, Fig. 46.**

## BLETCHINGLEY

**Individual Site Number:** 33

**Location:** TQ 3186 5211

**Typology and extent of the site:** The foundation of a Roman building with a hypocaust was found here in the early nineteenth century. The structure may have been part of a bathhouse. Presently known site area: c. 12.19 x 7.31m.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1813 (Manning & Bray, vol. 3, cxxi and 657, plate 26; Page & Keate 1912, 358).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** Kempe (1846, 403) notes that if the building was a bathhouse, it 'might have been readily supplied by the numerous springs arising in the adjacent hills'.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Kempe 1846, 184; Lambert 1921, 18; Manning & Bray 1804–14, vol. 3, cxxi and 657, plate 26; Page & Keate 1912, 358.

**Note:** No plan available.



## BROAD STREET COMMON, WORPLESDON

**Individual Site Number:** 39

**Location:** SU 9689 5107

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site of this large villa estate lies on the west bank of the Honey Brook, 3.3km northeast of the villa at **Compton**. The chronology of the main house (a corridor or winged corridor building) is uncertain, but the main phase of an agricultural aisled building found c. 50m south of it dates from the mid-late second to the late third centuries. Presently known site area: c. 130 x 130m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–early fourth centuries CE (?).

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1829 by workers digging for road stones and was subsequently excavated under the direction of the Earl of Onslow. The area to the south of the main house was re-excavated in 1993, 1997 and 1998 by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit.

**Baths:** During the excavations in 1994, flue tiles were found in trial trench 8, suggesting a possible bathhouse nearby. This building was located near Honey Brook, c. 120m southeast of the main house. Poulton (2005, 86) notes that ‘the distance of the baths from the villa is, perhaps, surprising, although there are parallels’. He then lists the detached bathhouse associated with the villa at **Chelsham Court Farm** (Surrey) and the detached bathhouse at **Barcombe, Church Field** (East Sussex).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been supplied by the nearby brook.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Poulton 2005; Sibthorpe 1831; Scott 1993, 179.

**Note:** The plan of the baths is not available.

## CHATLEY FARM, COBHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 47

**Location:** TQ 0883 5955

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is located on the left bank of the River Mole, approximately 9km west of the villa at **Ashtead Common**. The excavated bathhouse appears to be isolated and has been partially eroded by the river, which may have also destroyed the associated villa. As recently suggested by Bird (2004a, 66–7), the baths could have been part of a horse-changing facility situated near the crossing of the River Mole on the still-not-clearly-located London–Winchester Roman road. The building was extensively robbed during Roman times. Presently known site area: c. 14.6 x 7.1m.

**Site chronology:** 320–360 CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was located in June 1942 by Mr. R. M. Brachi and soon after excavated under the direction of S. Frere (1949).

**Baths:** The building was raised on a floor of crushed chalk and the walls were of large chalk flints. Frere (1949, 76) identified two distinct periods of use, although the exact chronology remains unclear. A gully was found on the northwest side of the building, which was designed to carry wastewater from Room 2. The box flue tiles employed in these facilities ‘were obtained by the dismantling of hypocaust of earlier buildings, which were presumably then in a state of ruin’ (Lowther 1949, 94). The numbering of the rooms follows Frere’s plan (1949, 75, Fig. 2).

*Period 1:* During this phase, the bathhouse was structured as follows: Room 3 (c. 2.62 x 2.62m at least) was a *tepidarium* and Room 2 was a *caldarium* (c. 3.35 x 2.43m) with an apsidal room (c. 2.35m wide and c. 1.52m max. depth) which according to Frere (1949, 84) contained a *labrum*. Room 1 (c. 1.7 x 1.21m) at this stage was hypocausted and was possibly a hot plunge bath or a *sudatorium*. The furnace room was built of blocks of greensand and had its oval-shaped stoke-hole on its south side.

*Period 2:* Room 1 was now rebuilt and transformed into a flue with ‘massive tile and concrete blocks’ on each side, probably to ‘afford a firm foundation for a heavy boiler’ (Frere 1949, 82). Room 4 (a cold plunge bath, c. 2m wide and c. 1.39m max. depth) was also added during this period, linked to Room 3 by three steps. The floor of Room 3 was 8cm above the chalk base of Room 4 (Frere 1949, 86).

**Decoration:** Fragments of painted wall plaster were found in Room 3.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been supplied by the nearby river.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bird 2004a, 66–7; Frere 1949; Lowther 1949; Scott 1993, 175–6.

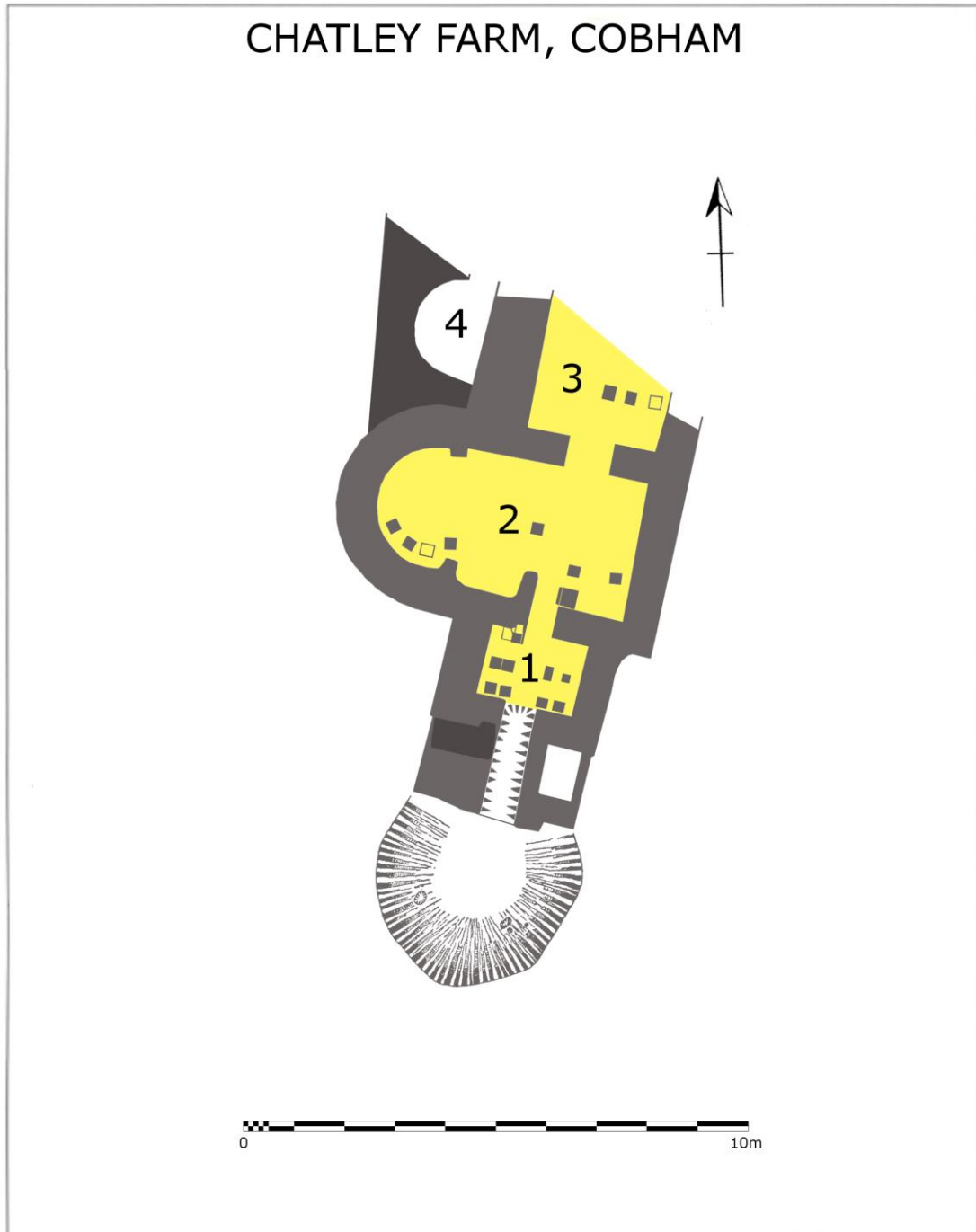


**Figure 50** Plan of the bathhouse at Chatley Farm, Cobham (Surrey). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The period-2 modifications are in darker grey. Image: author. After Frere 1949, 75, Fig. 2.

## CHELSHAM COURT FARM

**Individual Site Number:** 49

**Location:** TQ 3880 5853

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is a small, winged corridor villa situated on gently sloping terrain, approximately 1km west of the Roman road that linked London to Lewes, 4.3km north of the villa at **Titsey**. The main house (25 x 15m) had at least five rooms linked by the front corridor. A small, detached bathhouse was found c. 40m north of the main building. Site area: c. 80 x 40m.

**Villa chronology:** second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The buildings were first documented through aerial photography in 1976 and were partially excavated in 1997 under the direction of E. M. Davies.

**Baths:** The bathhouse (c. 21 x 5m) was constructed with flint rubble walls and consisted of at least four rooms. The available plan does not include room numbering; however, the report mentions a furnace room, a *tepidarium* and a *caldarium* are mentioned in the report (Davies 1997).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Davies 1997; Hampton 1996; Bird 2004c, 102.

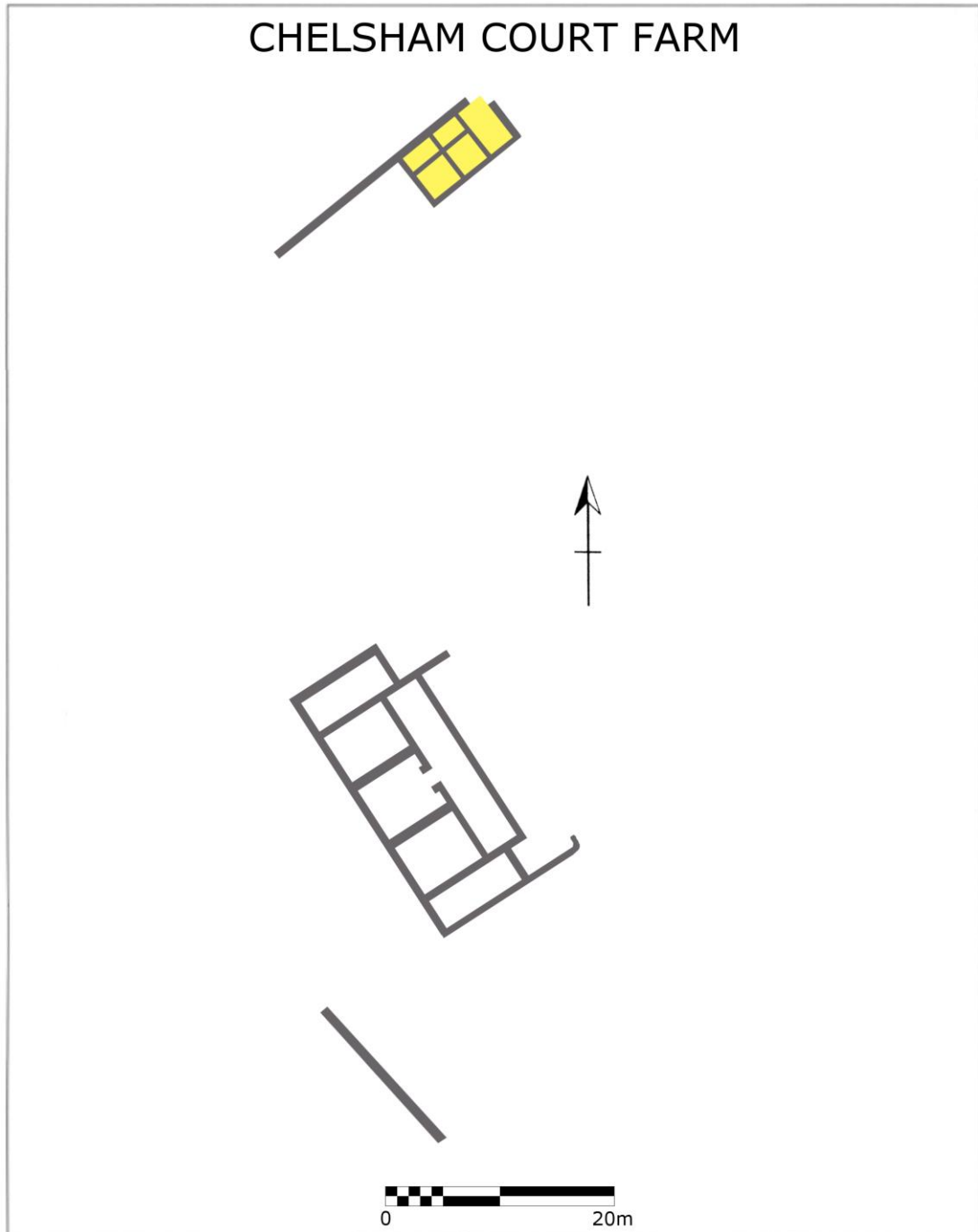


**Figure 61. Plan of the villa at Chelsham Court Farm (Surrey). The bathhouse is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Hampton 1996, 244, Fig. 1.**

## CHIDDINGFOLD

**Individual Site Number:** 53

**Location:** SU 9784 3610

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site 'is approximately 69m above sea level on ground that slopes gently downwards the east' (Cooper *et al.* 1984, 59). A Roman cemetery dating to the first and second centuries has been excavated at Beech Road, Haslemere, which is less than 10 km west of the site. No major roads were located nearby, but the North Bridge Stream and the Chiddingfold Stream (both leading into the Arun River) connected the site with the *mansio* at **Alfoldean** and the tileworks at Itchingfield (Cooper *et al.* 1984, 59–60).

The large complex, overlapping a series of Iron Age enclosures, has been traditionally identified as a villa and presents similarities with the villa at **Titsey**, especially the block of rooms 1–9 (Cooper *et al.* 1984, 81). Due to its unusual plan and location, the complex has been alternatively interpreted as a religious site linked to the nearby spring (Bird 2002b; Bird 2004b, 86–7). Site area: c. 106 x 56m.

**Villa chronology:** Mid-second–late third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was located in June 1883 and was soon excavated by. T. S. Cooper carried out extensive excavations from 1888 onwards (Cooper *et al.* 1984). Fieldwalking, trial trenching, and geophysical surveys took place between 2002 and 2010 under the direction of D. and A. Graham (2011).

**Baths:** Cooper identifies Room 3 (c. 2.2 x 2.2m) and 4 (apsidal, c. 2.2m wide and c. 2.6m max. depth) as the baths of the villa, but he does not provide any further details about them. The numbering of the rooms follows Cooper's plan (1984, 62, Fig. 2).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** As reported by Graham and Graham (2011, 189), 'a spring emerges downslope on the north side of the field' where the villa is located.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bird 2002b; Cooper *et al.* 1984; Graham & Graham 2011; Scott 1993, 175.

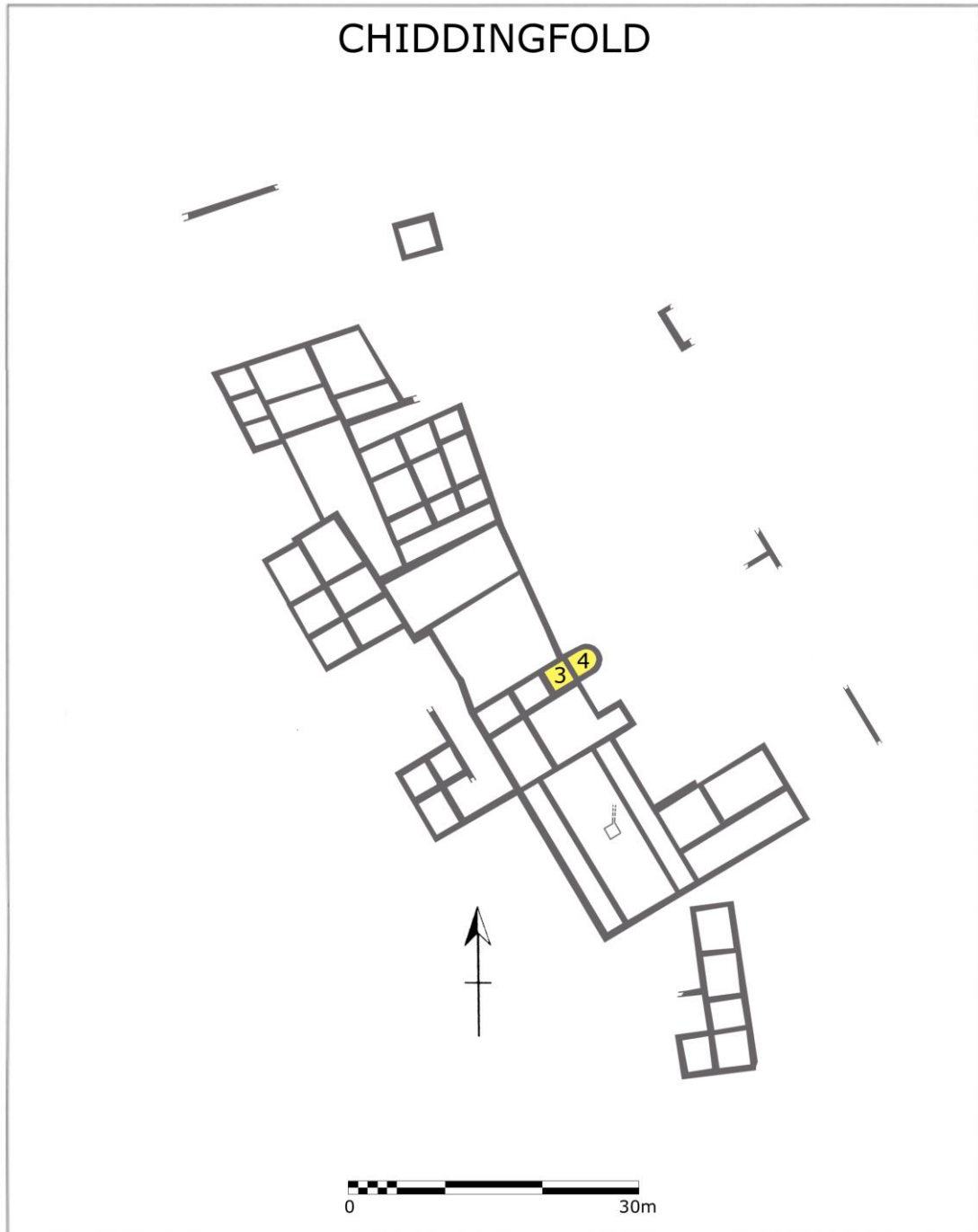


**Figure 51** Plan of the complex at Chiddingfold (Surrey). The possible baths (Rooms 3-4) are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Cooper *et al.* 1984, 62, Fig. 2.

## COMPTON

**Individual Site Number:** 66

**Location:** SU 9573 4798

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 3.3km southwest of the villa at **Broad Street Common, Worplesdon**, and 2.3km northwest of the villa at Binscombe. This is a corridor villa built in flint and Bargate stone featuring two corridors—one on the north side and one on the south side—and an attached bath-suite on the eastern side. Site area: c. 21.94 x 16.76m.

**Villa chronology:** second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was located in 1914 and subsequently excavated by the Surrey Archaeological Society under the direction of Mr Mill Stephenson (1915).

**Baths:** Stephenson (1915, 46) identified two periods of the bath suite (c. 8.83 x 2.43m), although their precise chronology is unclear. The numbering of the rooms follows Stephenson's plan (1915, 43).

*Period 1:* The bathhouse was initially structured as follows: Room L (c. 2.48 x 1.3m) was the *tepidarium*, entered by a doorway from corridor A. Due to poor preservation of this part of the building, Bird (2004c, 111) suggests the presence of two other rooms between Room L and the corridor: an *apodyterium* and a *frigidarium*. The latter was possibly located 'in the area of the corridor marked out as separate by its tiled floor' (ibid.).

Stephenson (1915, 45) reports that Room L 'was warmed from the main hypocaust by a couple of flues crossing the room in the shape of the letter V, with a box tile in each corner to produce a draught and to carry off any smoke'. Room K (c. 3.45 x 2.4m) was a *caldarium*, and Room I was the furnace room (c. 2.74 x 2.43m). Two blocks of masonry on the south side of this room likely supported a water tank. A drain was found piercing the eastern wall of the furnace room.

*Period 2:* At a later stage, a hot plunge bath (Room J, c. 2.4 x 0.76m) was inserted in the northern end of Room K, and the furnace room was partially reconstructed 'in a much rougher manner than the work elsewhere' (Stephenson 1915, 46).

**Decoration:** The southern face of the wall between Room J and Room K 'was plastered with cement, which was covered with holes, suggesting a keying for a more ornamental surface, but no coloured plaster was found in the hypocaust' (Stephenson 1915, 46).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Stephenson (1915, 49) reports the finding of a toilet spoon without specifying where exactly it was found.

**Key references:** Bird 2004c, 98, 111; Scott 1993, 176; Stephenson 1915.



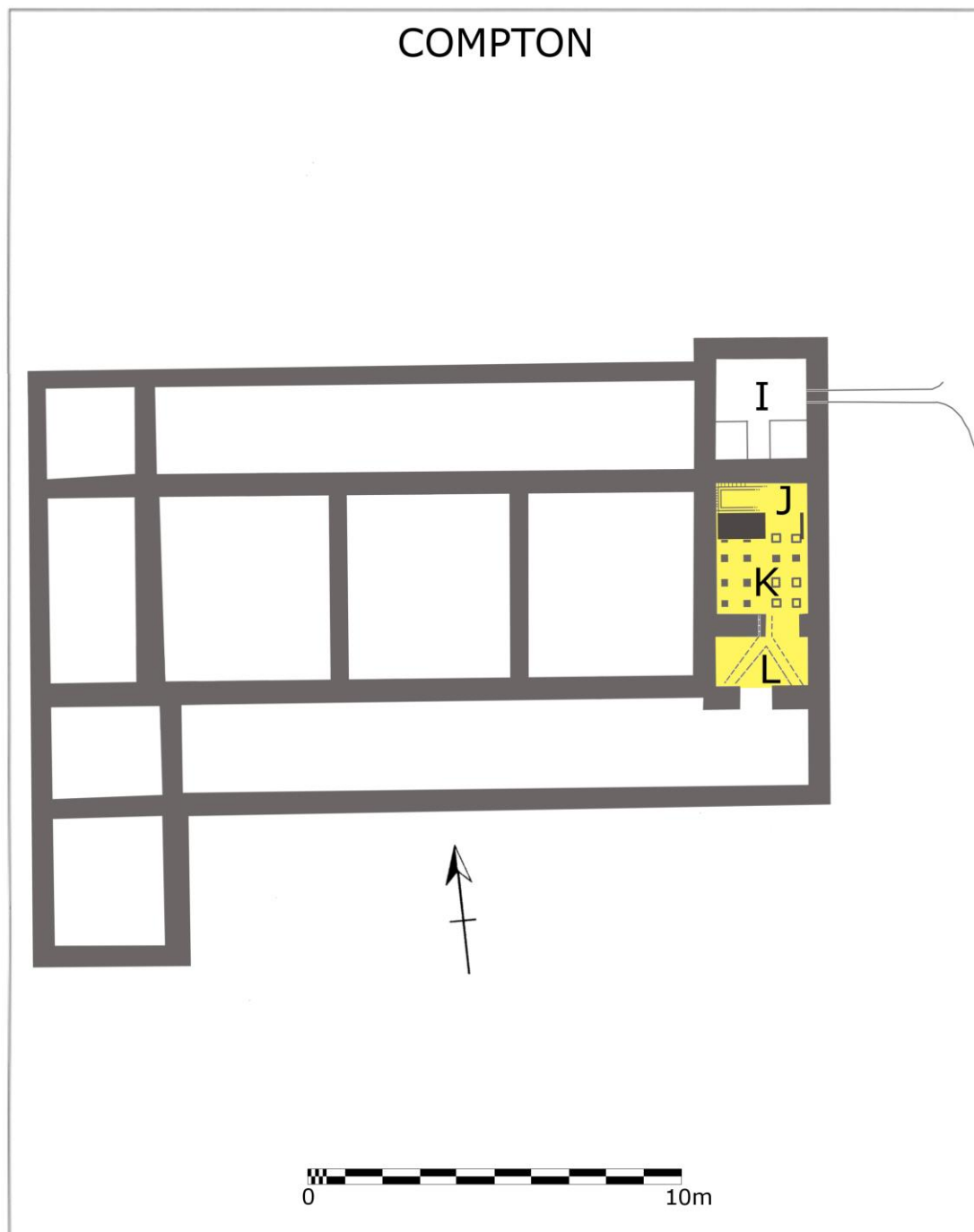


**Figure 52. Plan of the villa at Compton (Surrey). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The period-2 modifications are in darker grey. Image: author. After Stephenson 1915, 43.**

FETCHAM, LEATHERHEAD

**Individual Site Number:** 239

**Location:** TQ 15/16 56

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies close to the River Mole, c. 4.5km south of the villa at **Ashted Common**. A watching brief in 2008 identified the foundations of a Roman building forming part of 'a rectilinear structure, with flue tile above it, suggesting an association with a bathhouse' (Howe *et al.* 2011, 274). The remains were found reduced to the very bottom of the foundations. Presently known site area: no information available.

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in 2008 during a watching brief on a pipeline (Howe *et al.* 2011, 274).

**Baths:** The structure included two rooms, one of which was probably a small annexe (David Bird, pers. comm.).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Howe *et al.* 2011, 274.

**Note:** No plan available.

RAPSLEY, EWHURST

**Individual Site Number:** 155

**Location:** TQ 0803 4152

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site ‘lies in open ground with a gentle southern slope’ (Hanworth 1968, 2). A Roman road runs c. 320m to the west, and a tile kiln, likely associated with the villa, was located c. 530m to the south (Goodchild 1937). The villa at **Chiddingfold** is situated approximately 7km southwest, the villa at **Abinger** is about 6.4 km northeast, and the villa at Wyphurst lies around 2.5km southwest. The *mansio* and small nucleated settlement at **Alfoldean**, located about 5km southeast (Luke and Wells 2000), ‘presumably served as a local centre for the villas at Whyphurst and Rapsley’ (Bird 2017a, 46).

Five major periods were identified at Rapsley. The earliest features, dating to the late first century (Period 1), include a drain, two pits and ‘two cobbled hardstandings’ (Hanworth 1968, 7). They may indicate the presence of an early villa nearby (Black 1987, 151). A timber building (Building 3), built around 120 CE (Period 2), was substituted around 200 CE (Period 3) by an aisled masonry building (Building 1), a bathhouse (Building 6), and a possible shrine (Building 5). A fence set in stone foundations separated Building 1 from Buildings 6 and 5. To the west and south, the area was enclosed by a low wall, with a gate to the southeast (Hanworth 1968, 9).

Cunliffe (1973, 84) noted that ‘it would seem reasonable to suppose that at this stage the main house lay somewhere to the north in the area so far largely unexcavated, unless, of course, the aisled building served as the residential accommodation, which is less likely’. Hayman (2008, 290) suggested that the Period-3 buildings at Rapsley may have replaced the stone-built phase at Wyphurst. During Period 4 (220–280 CE), another aisled structure (Building 2, a workshop) was added to the complex and the bathhouse was transformed into a small, winged corridor house. Further modifications came during Period 5 (280–330 CE) with the addition of Building 4. The complex was destroyed by fire around 350 CE. Site area: c. 33.3 x 11.8m.

**Villa chronology:** second–mid-fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was identified in 1956 and soon after excavated by the Surrey Archaeological Society under the direction of John McCulloch. Further excavations were carried out in 1960–1968 under the direction of Lady Rosamond Hanworth.

**Baths:** During Period 3, Building 6 formed a bathhouse (c. 20.72 x 11.58m) ‘with two adjoining timber rooms to the north’ (Hanworth 1968, 11). The floors of these two rooms were about 0.27m higher than those in the rest of the structure. Two stone drains were found to the southwest and southeast of the structure. When Building 6 was converted to residential use in Period 4, ‘the establishment seems to have been robbed of its bathing facilities’ (Cunliffe 1973, 85). As suggested by Cunliffe (*ibid.*), a new set of baths may have been built in the unexcavated area north of the site. The numbering of the rooms follows Hanworth’s plan (1968, Fig. 8).

The building was structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 2.74 x 2.43m) was a furnace room which heated Rooms 2, 2a, 3 and 7 through two flues. The hot water tank might have been located between Room 2a and 1. Room 2a (c. 2.31 x 3.23m) was a *caldarium* and Room 2 (c. 2.83 x 3.23m) was a *tepidarium*. These two rooms were ‘probably separated [...] by a trabeated opening’ (Hanworth 1968, 13). Room 11 (c. 2.13 x 1.4m) was a hot

plunge bath. Room 9 (c. 3.53 x 3.04m) was a *frigidarium* connected by a door to Room 13 and by a step 0.27m deep to its cold plunge bath in Room 10 (c. 2.62 x 1.4m). A latrine has been identified by Hanworth (1968, 14) in the southwest corner of Room 9 (c. 0.91 x 0.6m).

Hanworth (1968, 15) proposed a possible west-facing window in Room 10, where fragments of glass have been recovered. Rooms 3 (c. 2.13x 4.75m) and 7 (c. 4.75 x 4.75m) were both heated and remained in use when the bathhouse was converted into a living unit. Black (1985a, 83) suggests that they may have formed ‘a ‘recreation room’ or social room, like those identified at Cramond’ near Edinburgh (Holmes 1979).

**Decoration:** The *frigidarium* was decorated with a mosaic with a simple design, ‘consisting of squares made up of seven rows of nine tesserae each’ (Hanworth 1968, 14). The mosaic ‘comprises a simple grid of double fillets on a red ground, with a plain red border’ (Cosh & Neal 2009, 472). When the bathhouse was converted into a residence, it was removed from the *frigidarium* and deposited in Room 10.

**Water supply:** As reported by Hanworth (1968, 13), ‘freshwater was probably brought down to the house in wooden pipes from the foot of Hareholt Copse where there is a strong spring today’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A silver ring, ‘for a very small finger, with bevelled shoulders’ (Hanworth 1968, 33) was found in the bath-drain of Building 6. As mentioned above, several fragments of window glass were found in Room 10 (Hanworth 1968, 15).

**Key references:** Black 1987, 151; Cosh & Neal 2009, 471–2; Cunliffe 1973, 84–7; Hanworth 1968; Green 1976, 220; Neal 1981, 1; Scott 1993, 176.

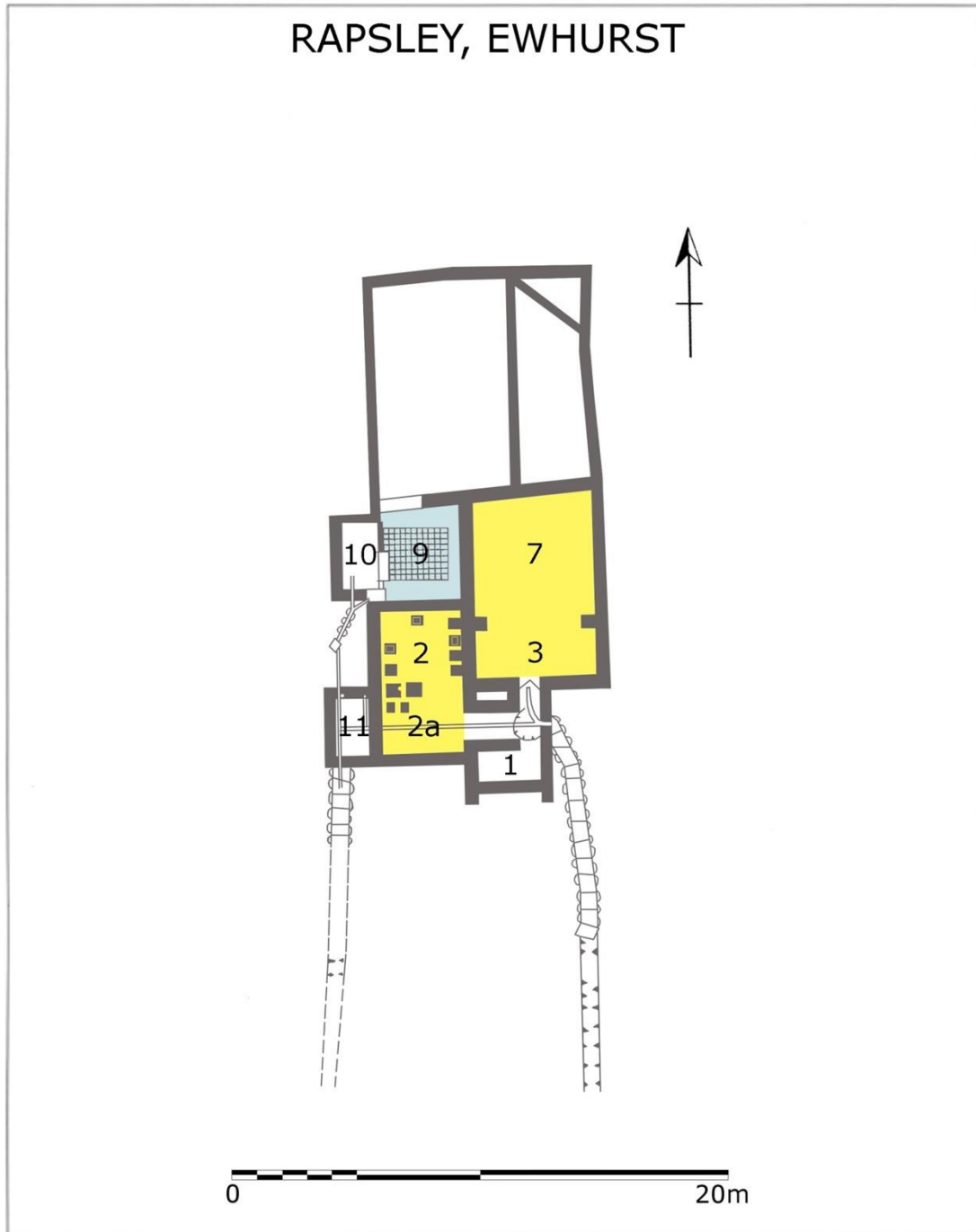


**Figure 53. Plan of baths of the villa at Rapsley, Ewhurst (Surrey) during Period 3. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Hanworth 1968, Fig. 8.**

## SANDILANDS ROAD, WALTON-ON-THE-HILL

**Individual Site Number:** 161

**Location:** TQ 2239 5567

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is situated on the northern edge of a plateau in the North Downs, 2.4km northwest of the villa at **Walton Heath**. This area was already occupied in pre-Roman times and apparently abandoned after the conquest until the end of the first century (Period 1). The first masonry building, probably a barn, dates to this period (Lowther 1950, 68). In c. 180 CE (Period 2), a corridor house was built. This building featured one corridor at the front and another at the back, with a bath suite located in the northeastern corner.

The baths underwent partial reconstruction at a later date but were ultimately abandoned by the end of the third century. In the second half of the fourth century, the northern part of the villa was rebuilt. A hexagonal reception room (Room 10) on the western side of the villa was likely an addition dating to this later phase.. Presently known site area: c. 52.5 x 23.6m.

**Villa chronology:** Late first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was located in 1915 and excavated only in 1948–1949, under the direction of Frere and Lowther (Lowther 1950). A sample excavation and watching brief were recently conducted near the villa site (Weller 2019).

**Baths:** Only two rooms of the bath-suite have been investigated. Room 1 (c. 3.1 x 1.9m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold-plunge bath (unnumbered, c. 1.9m wide and c. 1.4m max. depth), and Room 2 was a *tepidarium* (at least c. 5.4 x c. 3.9m). The *pilae* of the *tepidarium* were partially substituted during the third century (Lowther 1950, 70). The numbering of the rooms follows Lowther's plan (1949, 66, Fig. 1).

The function of a circular structure (14) with a polygonal-sided internal room found southwest of the main building is not clear (Lowther 1950, 70), but it was floored with *opus signinum*, and it may have contained water.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Lowther 1950; Scott 1993, 178; Weller 2019.

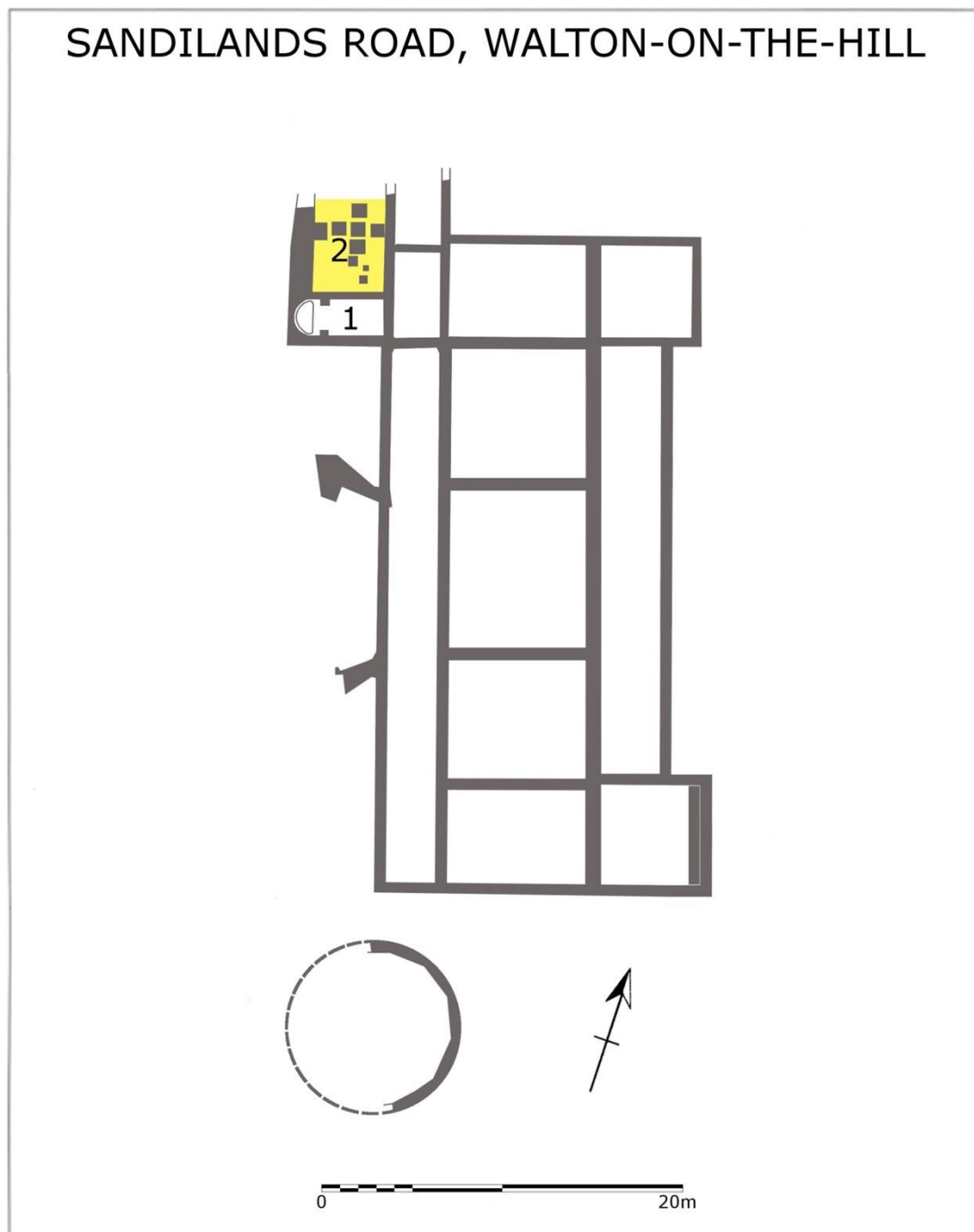


**Figure 54. Plan of baths of the villa at Sandilands Road, Walton-on-the-Hill (Surrey). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Lowther 1949, 66, Fig. 1.**

## SIX BELLS, FARNHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 170

**Location:** SU 8512 4777

**Typology and extent of the site:** This was a pottery production site equipped with an aqueduct dating to c. 120 CE. A bathhouse (Building 2) was built between 250 and 300 CE, ‘apparently for the use of the pottery workers’ (Lowther 1955, 56). At the beginning of the fourth century CE, the bathhouse was restored and enlarged, and a house (Building 1) was built to the northwest of it, perhaps for the ‘manager’ of the pottery works (ibid.).

This house had a large main room with a channelled hypocaust, a narrow compartment which ‘probably originally housed a staircase leading to some upper rooms’ (Lowther 1955, 49), and a large bath-suite. The site was apparently abandoned at the end of the fourth century. Site area (including the aqueduct): c. 202.69 x 94.48m. Site area (excluding the aqueduct): c. 42.67 x 30.48.

**Site chronology:** Early second–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was located by Dr J. H. Gibson in 1925. It was excavated in 1946–1947 under the direction of Mr. W. F. Rankine and Mr. A. W. G. Lowther.

**Baths:** The bathhouse (Building 2) could have been used by the pottery workers. The house (Building 1) was also equipped with a bath-suite, which occupied more than half of the building. Bird (2004c, 97–8) suggests that the house continued to the north and might have been part of a larger villa.

**Building 2:** The bathhouse (c. 16.24 x 10.06m) was built c. 250 CE (Phase 1). At the beginning of the fourth century, the original structure was rebuilt and enlarged (Phase 2). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Phase I:** The bathhouse was structured as follows: Room A (c. 2.92 x 2.61m) was the furnace room. Lowther (1955, Drawing 3) identifies Room B (c. 2.61 x 1.08m) as a *sudatorium*, but it is probably better understood as a hot plunge bath (Bird 2004c, 113). Room C (c. 3.06 x 2.61m) was a *caldarium* and Room D (c. 2.93 x 2.61m) was a *tepidarium*. Room E (c. 2.88 x 2.61m) was an *apodyterium*, and Room F (c. 2.5 x 1.9m) was a *frigidarium*.

**Phase II:** At the beginning of the fourth century CE, the walls of the bathhouse were buttressed, reinforced, and perhaps redecorated (Lowther 1955, 54). At the southwest corner of the building, an apsidal cold plunge bath with masonry steps (Room G, c. 2.8m wide and c. 3m max. depth) was also added during this phase.

**Building 1:** The bath-suite of the house was structured as follows: Room 5 (c. 2.64 x 1.92m) was a *caldarium* with an apsidal extension (a hot plunge bath) in Room 5a (c. 1.68m wide and c. 1.48m max. depth). Room 4 (c. 2.5 x 2.2m) was a *tepidarium*. These rooms were heated by a furnace room to the southeast of Room 5 (unnumbered, at least 1.82 x c. 1.31m). The tile courses of the furnace showed signs of heavy burning, and ‘a layer of ash and charcoal, intensely black, sticky and several inches thick, was on the bottom of the furnace and of hypocaust 5’ (Lowther 1955, 49).

Room 3 (c. 3.11 x 2.57m) was an *apodyterium*. Room 6 (c. 2.7 x 1.6m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room 7 (c. 2.7 x 1.51m). Lowther (1955, 49) suggests that this plunge bath could have been filled with hot water ‘from a tank (possibly of the “testudo” type, as used in Pompeii) situated on top of the brick furnace tunnel at the



western end of the bath'. The numbering of the rooms follows Lowther's plan (1955, Drawing 2).

**Decoration:** *Building 2*: Fragments of painted wall plaster were found beneath the *opus signinum* floor of the plunge bath added in Phase II. As reported by Lowther (1955, 54), 'much of the plaster could be pieced together, revealing panelled designs of red, yellow and green lines on a white ground, of the usual rather crude and garish nature'.

**Water supply:** A ditch or leat, described as 'V-shaped and 5–6 feet [1.52–1.82m] wide by 4–5 feet [1.21–1.52m] deep' (Lowther 1955, 48), running from northwest to southeast, was found c. 40m west of the site. This aqueduct, built around 120 CE, ran from northwest to southeast and provided a water supply to the potteries, as well as later to the bathhouse and dwelling.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Lowther (1955, 55) reports finding oyster shells, whelks and mussel shells during the excavation of Building 2.

**Key references:** Bird 2004c, 97–8, 113; Lowther 1955; Scott 1993, 176–7.

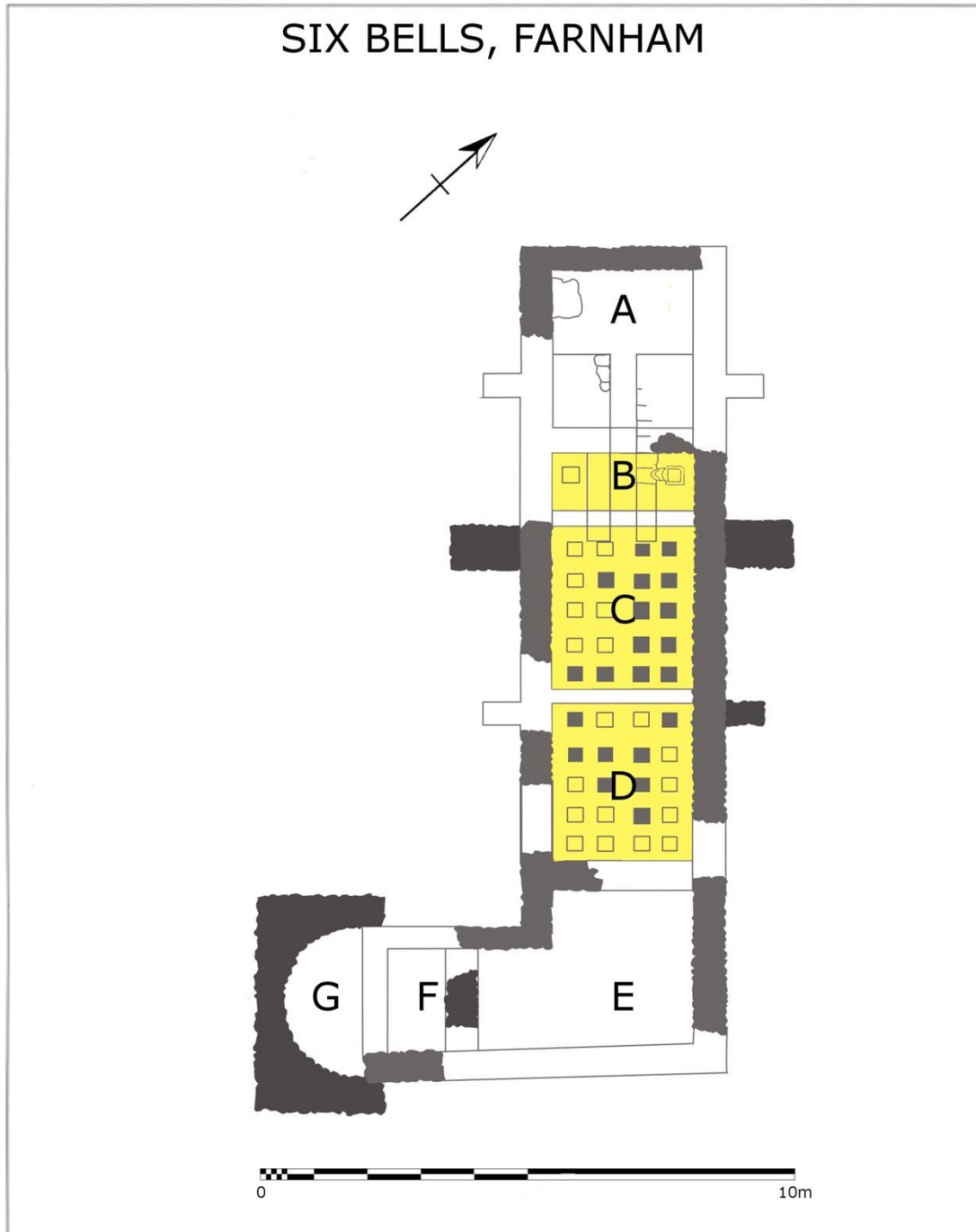


**Figure 55. Plan of the bathhouse (Building 2) at Six Bells, Farnham (Surrey). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The Phase-II modifications are in darker grey. Image: author. After Lowther 1955, Drawing 3.**

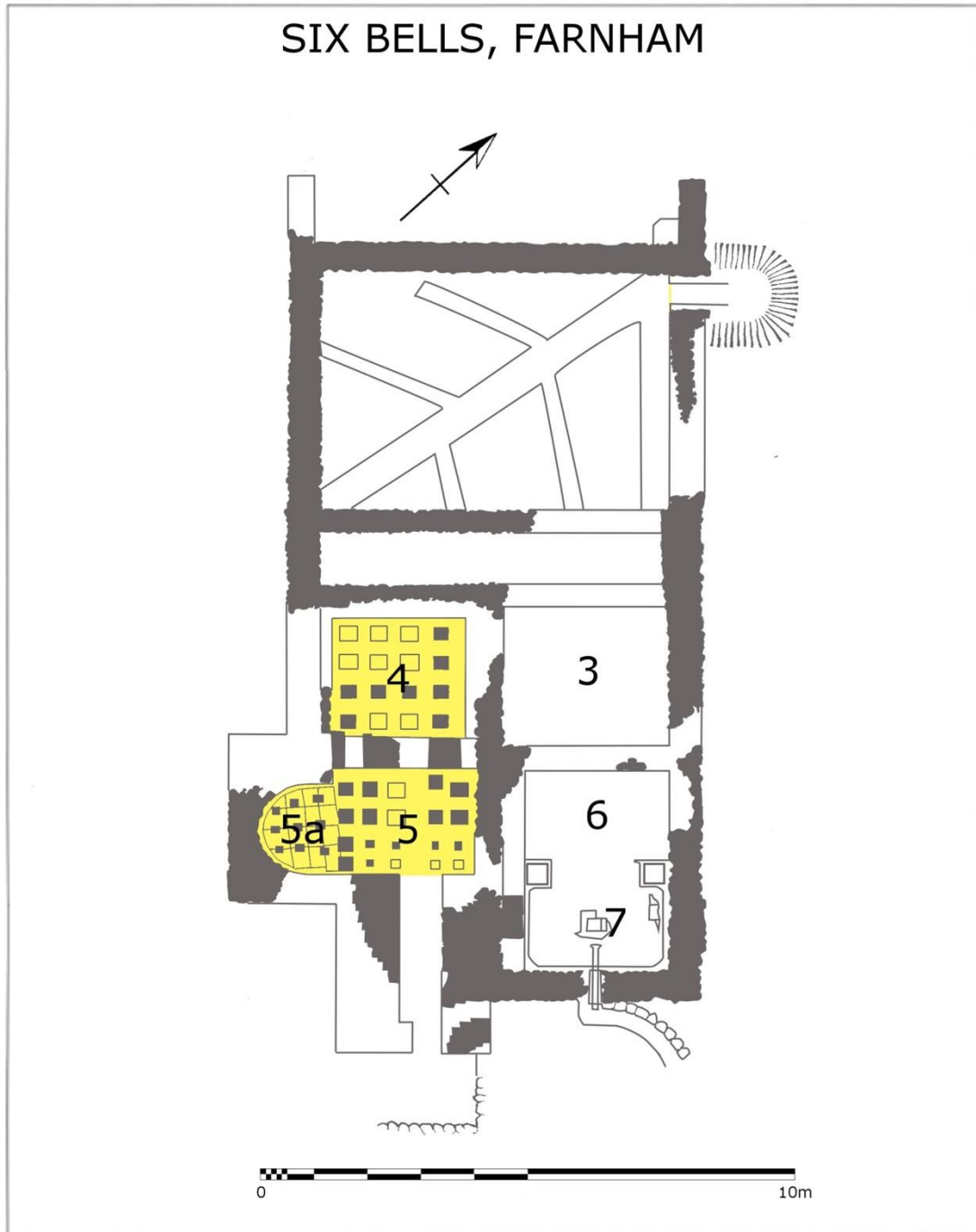


**Figure 56. Plan of the house (Building 1) at Six Bells, Farnham (Surrey). The large bath-suite had three hypocausted rooms (4, 5 and 5a, highlighted in yellow). Another sophisticated hypocaust was built under the main room of the house. Image: author. After Lowther 1955, Drawing 2.**

TITSEY

**Individual Site Number:** 190

**Location:** TQ 4048 5457

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies at the foot of a chalk hill near a spring and a stream, 4.3km south of the villa at **Chelsham Court Farm**. The nearest Roman road was probably the so-called ‘Pilgrim’s Way’ linking London to Lewes, which ran about 246m to the north of the site. A temple lies 1.2km to the northeast of the site (Graham 1936). Some features near the main house were interpreted as fishponds by the nineteenth-century excavators.

A recent geographical survey has identified another building—possibly a second winged corridor villa—60 meters to the east of the villa, across the stream, as well as a small structure located between the two buildings (Bird 2004c, 102).

The villa’s plan is not completely clear. The area in the centre of the house was interpreted as a large courtyard, but this explanation has been challenged by J. T. Smith (1978, 181), who considers the building as a hall-type house. The residence features a large bath suite on its western side. As reported by Leveson-Gower (1869, 234), the antiquarian W. W. Pocock suggested that the entire structure might have served as the bathhouse for a yet undiscovered villa. The residence seems to have been destroyed by fire. Site area: c. 38.1 x 18.28m.

**Villa chronology:** Uncertain. Coins from the late second (Marcus Aurelius) to the first half of the fourth centuries CE (Constans) (Leveson-Gower 1869, 229–32).

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1847. It was excavated in 1864–1865 under the direction of Granville Leveson-Gower.

**Baths:** As noted by Leveson-Gower (1869, 219), the bath-suite, built of large blocks of sandstone, is ‘considerably larger than any of the other chambers’. A drain was found running in the middle of Rooms O and P. In his reconstruction, Leveson-Gower identified Room O (c. 4.1 x 2.6m) with a *caldarium* with its apsidal hot plunge bath in Room P (c. 2.6m wide and c. 2.8m max. depth). However, no traces of a hypocaust heating system were found in these rooms. Levenson-Gower’s (1869, 222–3) explanation that the heat coming from the furnace room was ‘carried through flue-tiles immediately beneath the floor’ is unlikely.

More convincingly, Bird (2004c, 113) suggests that the hot room(s) of the baths were located south of the furnace room in Room K (identified by Levenson-Gower as a kitchen. In his view, Room O was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room P. Alternatively, considering the substantial construction of Room P, Bird (ibid.) proposes that the two rooms might have been part of a *nymphaeum* built over the spring. Room Q (c. 3.6 x 2.65m) was also possibly part of the bath-suite, maybe as a later addition (Levenson-Gower 1869, 222). The numbering of the rooms follows Leveson-Gower’s plan (1869, Fig. 2).

**Decoration:** Fragments of painted wall plaster are described and beautifully illustrated in Leveson-Gower’s report (1869, 228), but unfortunately, there is no indication of their provenance.

**Water supply:** The nearby spring was likely the source of water supply for the baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Leveson-Gower (1869, 233) reports that several oyster shells and ‘shells of a large species of snail’ were found during the excavation. However, he does not specify the exact location of these findings.

**Key references:** Bird 2004c, 101–2, 113; Leveson-Gower 1869; Scott 1993, 178.

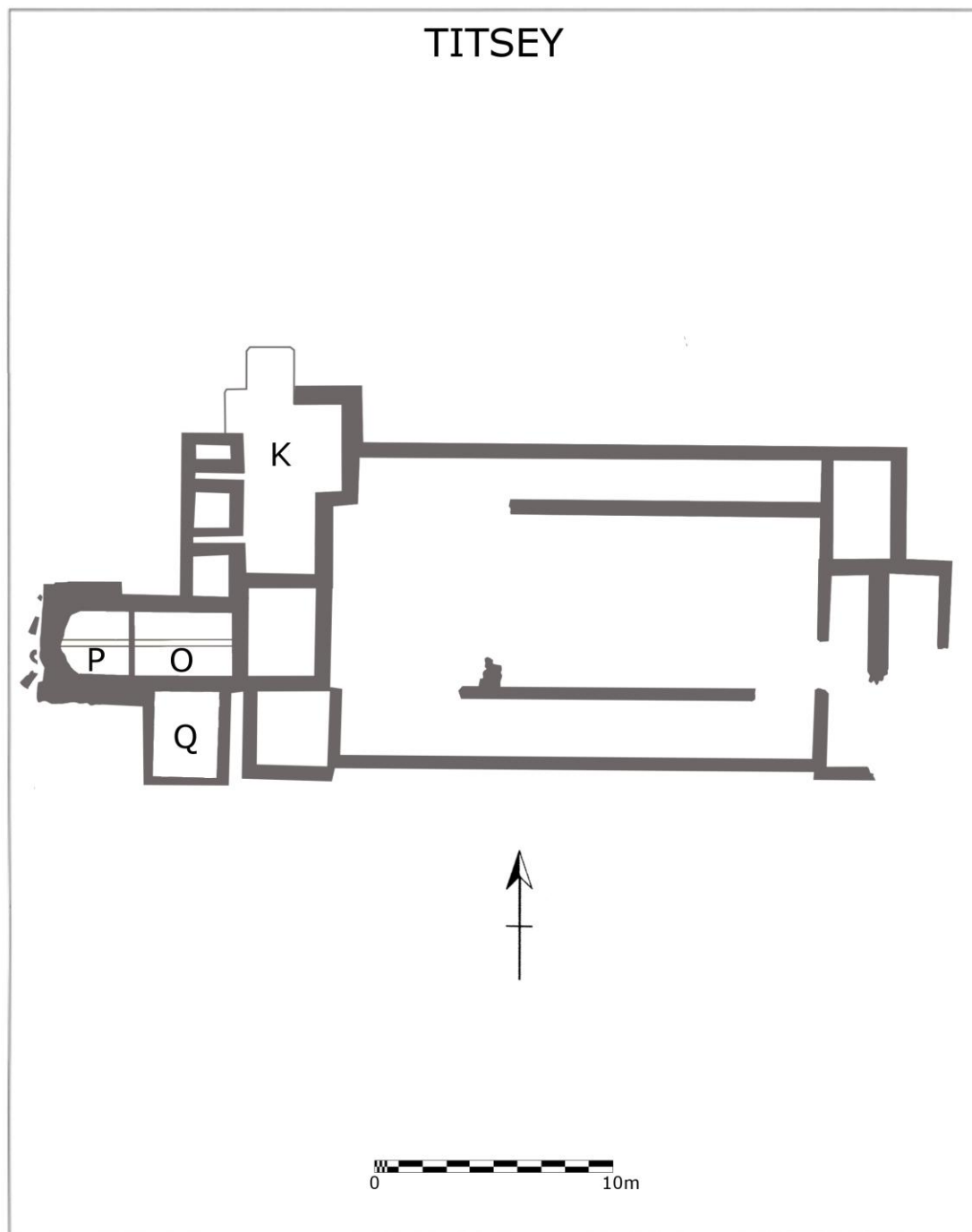


Figure 57. Plan of the villa at Titsey (Surrey). Image: author. After Leveson-Gower 1869, Fig. 2.

## WALTON HEATH

**Individual Site Number:** 197

**Location:** TQ 2316 5365

**Typology and extent of the site:** This villa complex is poorly recorded. Black (1987, 134–40) provides an account of the excavations at the site and offers a possible interpretation. According to his reconstruction, Building 1 was a corridor-type villa, potentially with two building phases. He interprets Building 2 as a detached bathhouse located on the west side of the villa and Building 4 as another bathhouse situated 150m northeast of the main house. Two additional buildings (Buildings 3 and 5) have been identified, although their functions remain uncertain.

**Villa chronology:** The only dating evidence indicates that ‘there was construction taking place at the villa in the second half of the second century, though it is uncertain if this represents its earliest phase and what earlier occupation there may have been’ (Black 1987, 139).

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, although only brief reports have been published.

**Baths:** Very little is known about Buildings 2 and 4. They both probably contained hypocausts, those in Building 2 possibly of a ‘composite hypocaust’ with ‘diagonal flues’ (Black 1987, 136). Based on the building material recovered from the site, Black suggests that ‘if building 4 was a bathhouse, it may have been supplemented later by building 2’.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bird 2004c, 101, 115; Black 1987, 134–40; Bray 1789; Pocock 1864; Freshfield 1882.

**Note:** No plan of baths available.

## East Sussex

BARCOMBE, CHURCH FIELD

**Individual Site Number:** 17

**Location:** TQ 418 142

**Typology and extent of the site:** This might have been the bathhouse of the villa at **Barcombe, Dunstall's Field** (in the field immediately to the west), possibly replacing its early small set of baths. Alternatively, it 'may be connected with an as yet undiscovered Roman building located even closer to [or underlying] the nearby Norman church' (Rudling *et al.* 2010, 27; Rudling 2016, 87). The latter might have been 'a temple or mausoleum, or perhaps another domestic building' (*ibid.*). The baths were robbed of reusable materials during Roman times (*ibid.*).

Rudling *et al.* (*ibid.*) note that 'in Roman time it may have been possible to access the bath house (and thus also the villa) by boat from the river Ouse' (*ibid.*). Because of this, Rudling (2017, 101) suggests that these baths 'may have served a much wider community, perhaps including those who lived at, or used the [nearby] Bridge Farm nucleated settlement'. It could also have served as an estate bathhouse. Site area: c. 20 x 6m.

**Villa chronology:** second–early fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** Excavations of this site started in 2008 as part of the second phase of the Barcombe Roman Villa Project, led by Chris Butler and David Rudling.

**Baths:** According to the excavators, 'there may have been at least three major phases of building at this site' (Millum *et al.* 2013, 5), although they do not give any further detail. Room 1 (c. 3.35 x 3.1m) was possibly an *apodyterium* connected to a small cold plunge bath (Room 2, c. 3.2 x 1.8m). Room 3 (c. 4.6 x 2.5m) might have been a *frigidarium*. Rooms 4 (c. 2.9 x 2.55m) and 5 (c. 3.75 x 2.55m) were two *tepidaria*. Room 5 was equipped with a small apsidal warm plunge bath (Room 6, c. 2.35m wide and c. 1.4m max. depth).

Room 7 (c. 3.8 x 3.1m) was a *caldarium* with two apsed rooms—Room 8 to the north (c. 2.4m wide and c. 2.15m max. depth) and Room 9 to the south, which was likely a hot plunge bath (c. 2.1m wide and c. 2.35m max. depth). Room 10 (c. 4.6 x 2.85m) was a furnace room. Room 11 (c. 6.55 x 2.25m) was perhaps a *laconicum* or even the *caldarium* of a different phase, equipped with a small apsidal hot plunge bath (Room 12, c. 1.8m wide and c. 1.4m max. depth). It was heated by another furnace (13). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** The building produced painted wall plaster (David Rudling, pers. comm.).

**Water supply:** The bathhouse was probably supplied by 'one of the springs near the church' (Rudling *et al.* 2010, 27).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Millum *et al.* 2013; Rudling *et al.* 2010; Rudling 2016, 84–7; 2017.



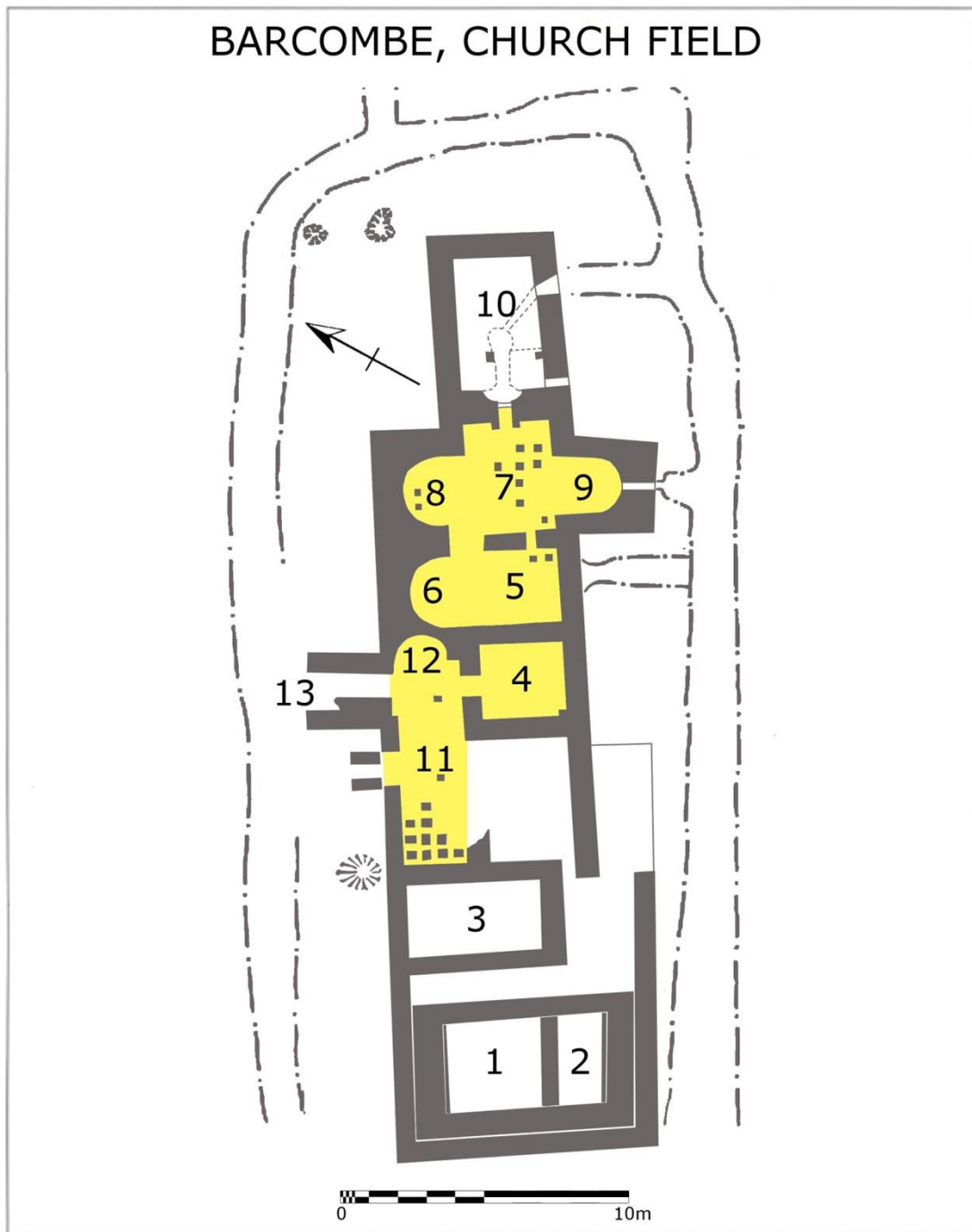


**Figure 58. Plan of the bathhouse at Barcombe, Church Field (East Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Millum *et al.* 2013, 5, Fig. 5.**

## BARCOMBE, DUNSTALL'S FIELD

**Individual Site Number:** 18

**Location:** TQ 417 142

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 5.7km east of the villa at **Plumpton**. An 'early bronze age ring ditch (c. 2200–1500BC)' was found here, and 'the mound within the ditch [...] was probably still largely intact in Roman times and may even have been one of the reasons why a settlement was established there during the first century AD' (Rudling *et al.* 2010, 23). During the first and early second centuries CE (Phase 1), timber roundhouses were built near the barrow, and the first timber-framed rectangular proto-villa appeared in c. 150 CE (Phase 2).

In around 250 CE (Phase 3), the first house was replaced by a larger, winged corridor villa of 15 rooms. A masonry wall connected the southeast corner of the villa to an aisled building, which delimited a large courtyard. An agricultural building was found to the west of the southwest corner of the courtyard. The Culver Archaeological Project (started in 2005) identified a Roman road to the south of the villa complex. The large building found at **Barcombe, Church Field**, was possibly the estate bathhouse of this villa (Rudling *et al.* 2010, 26–7). Site area: c. 80 x 85m.

**Villa chronology:** First–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1999 and excavated for seven years by the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team, the University College London Field Archaeology Unit, and subsequently, the University of Sussex under the direction of Chris Butler and David Rudling.

**Baths:** A small bathhouse of at least two rooms (Room 1, c. 2.9 x 2.8m and Room 2, c. 2.1 x 1.2m) was found in the southeast corner of the courtyard and 'may have served the proto-villa or an earlier phase of the corridor house' (Rudling *et al.* 2010, 26). Subsequently, a large aisled building was erected over part of this small suite of baths and overlay its eastern end. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** A well was found in the centre of the courtyard. It might have been contemporaneous with the baths and the source of its water supply.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Best 2015; Butler *et al.* 2006; Rudling 2003a; 2016, 84–7; Rudling & Butler 2002; Rudling *et al.* 2010.

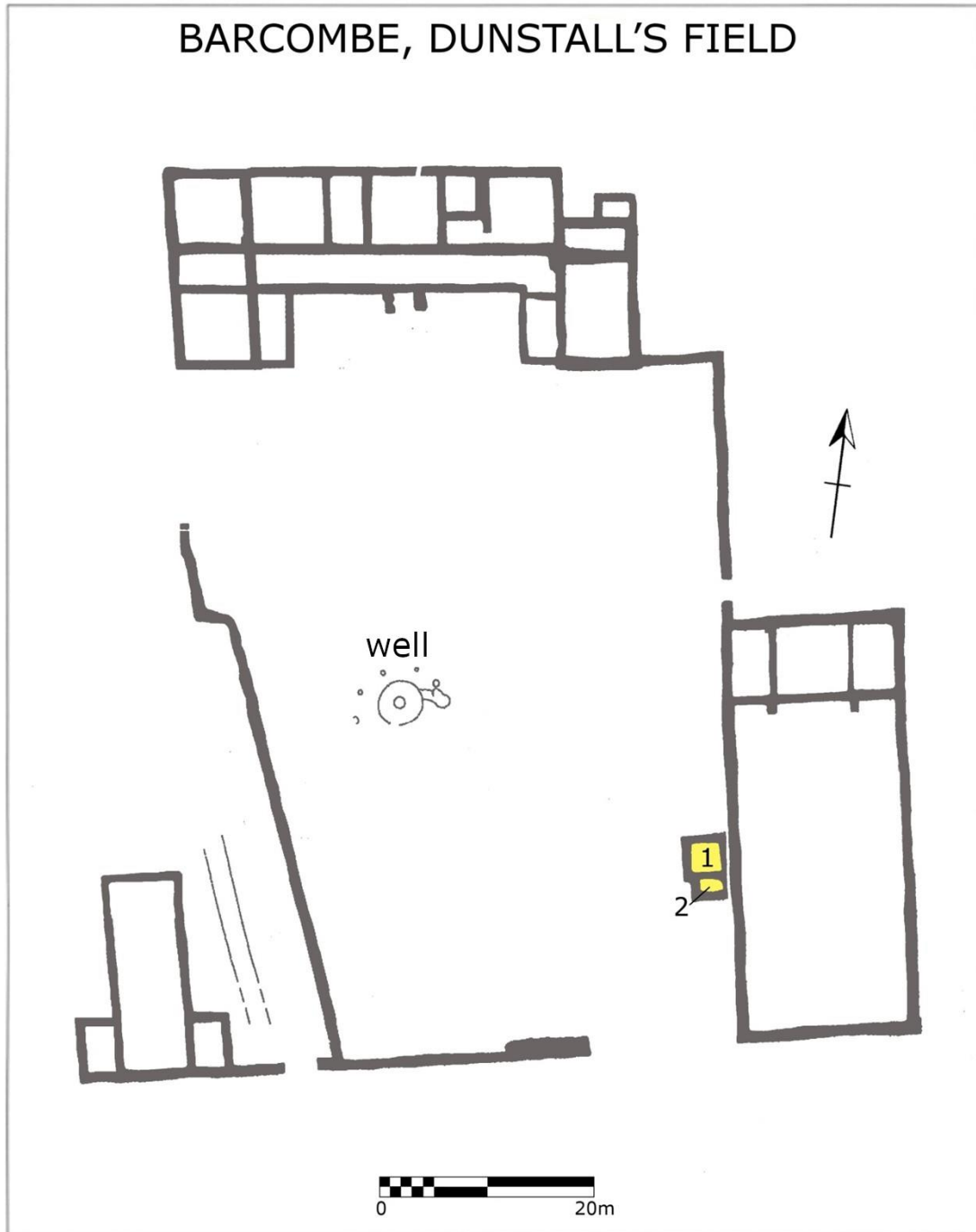


**Figure 70. Plan of the villa at Barcombe, Dunstall's Field (East Sussex). The small bath-suite is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Rudling *et al.* 2010, 25.**

## BEDDINGHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 27

**Location:** TQ 4587 0734

**Typology and extent of the site:** This rectangular villa lies ‘near the foot of the north scarp of the South Downs’ (Rudling 1988a, 4), c. 3.2km southeast of the site at **Ranscombe Hill, South Malling**, c. 7.8km west of the villa at Arlington and c. 6.2km north of the two possible villas at Newhaven 1 and Newhaven 2.

The earliest settlement at Beddingham dates to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age (Rudling 2003a, 11). During the Late Iron Age or soon after the Roman conquest, ‘a two-phase timber round structure/house’ (ibid.) was built here. Remarkably, ‘the location of this structure was apparently respected long after it had gone out of use’ (ibid.), and Rudling suggests that it could have been a shrine. He also notes that ‘this long period of respect for/memory of the location of the circular structure is an extremely important indication of continuity of ownership throughout most of the Roman occupation of Britain’ (ibid.).

The Phase I villa, consisting of five adjoining rooms aligned northeast/southwest, dates to the Flavian period (Rudling 2003a, 12). During Phase II, a bath suite was added at the northern end of the building and later modified during Phases III and IV. In phase Va (Antonine?), new rooms were added to the east and west of the villa. The baths were then demolished in the mid-third century and perhaps substituted by a detached bathhouse built to the east of the main building (ibid.). In Phase VI (c. 270 CE), ‘the disused Phase IV baths were replaced by a rectangular range of rooms’ (Rudling 2003a, 12).

During Phases VII and VIII, a veranda with chalk foundations was built at the southern end of the villa. It incorporated ‘an irregular curved section along the eastern half of its south wall’ which, ‘together with the east wall, overlies the northern part of the of the timber round ‘house’’ with an irregular wall (Rudling 2003a, 13). This was perhaps ‘designed to respect the location of the no-longer-visible structure’ (ibid.).

The house was located within two circuits of enclosure ditches (ibid.), the second dating to the half of the second century CE (Rudling 2003a, 13). To the west of the southwest corner of the house, there was a small masonry building, interpreted as a shrine, and apparently reused (squatter occupation?) during the early Saxon period. The main house was abandoned during the first half of the fourth century (around 330 CE). However, ‘by the end of the fourth century or early in the fifth century, part of the villa complex [e.g. the former ‘shrine’] [...] was occupied by people (Romano-British and /or Saxons) using Saxon pottery’ (ibid.). Site area: c. 40 x 20m.

**Villa chronology:** Second half of first–early fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated from 1987 to 1992 by the University College London Institute’s Field Archaeology under the direction of David Rudling (1988; 1990; 1997; 1998, 52-59; 2003; 2016; 2017).

**Baths:** As mentioned above, the villa was equipped with a bath-suite during Phase II, but unfortunately, ‘there is little direct dating evidence for the various phases of baths’ (Rudling 1998, 53). However, one of these phases may relate to two phases of hypocaust installation, that is, 90–110 CE and 100–130 CE, respectively, according to the kind of relief-patterned flue tiles utilised (ibid.). During Phase IIIa, ‘the intended addition [...] of a heated room at the western end of the baths was never completed’ (ibid.). As reported

by Rudling (1998, 54), ‘the eastern plunge-bath of the Phase II baths and the hypocaust of the Phase IV baths had gone out of use by the early 3<sup>rd</sup> century’.

The baths were structured as follows: Room 6 was a cold plunge bath, and Room 5 was unheated. Rooms 1–4, 7–9, and 10–13 may all have been heated or intended to be heated (David Rudling, pers. comm.).

The dismantling of these baths possibly ‘coincided with the construction of a detached bathhouse to the north-east of the farmhouse’, although this structure ‘has been only partially exposed by trial trenching [...] and remains undated’ (ibid.).

The box tiles used at the site were supplied by more than one source, with die 5a ‘represented in two distinct fabrics’ (Black 1996, 67). The author has provided the room numbering.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** Rudling (2003, 13) reports that ‘near the western end of the integrated baths was a conveniently-located stone-lined well’, the primary source of water supply for these facilities.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Best 2015; Frere 1987, 353; 1988, 481; 1989, 319, 1990, 358–9; 1991, 286; 1992, 306; Rudling 1988a; 1990; 1997; 1998, 52–9; 2003a; 2016, 79–83; 2017; Scott 1993, 58; Waldron *et al.* 1999.

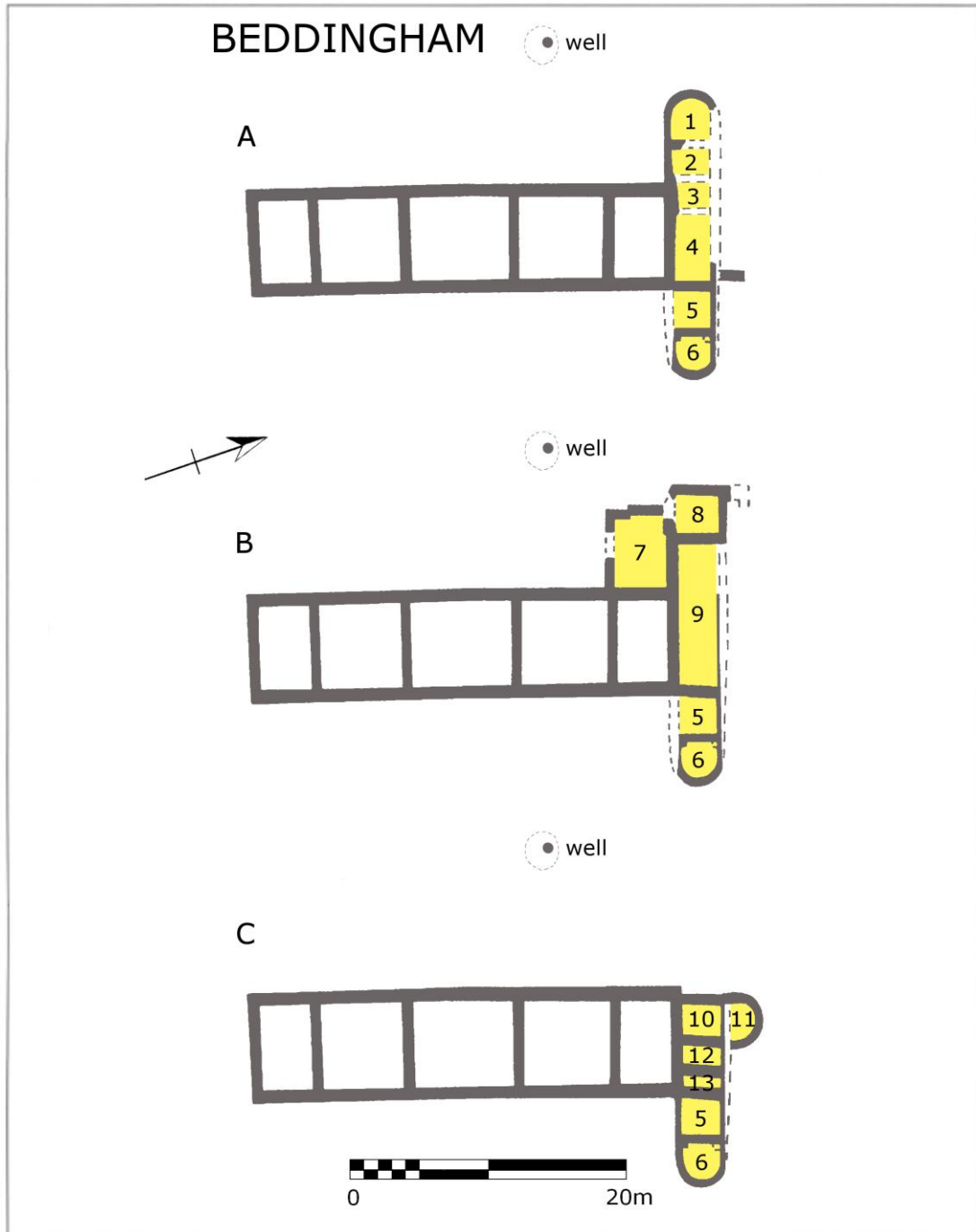


**Figure 71. Plan of the villa at Beddingham (East Sussex) during Phases II (A), III (B) and IV (C). The bath-suite is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Rudling 1998, 54, Fig. 7.**

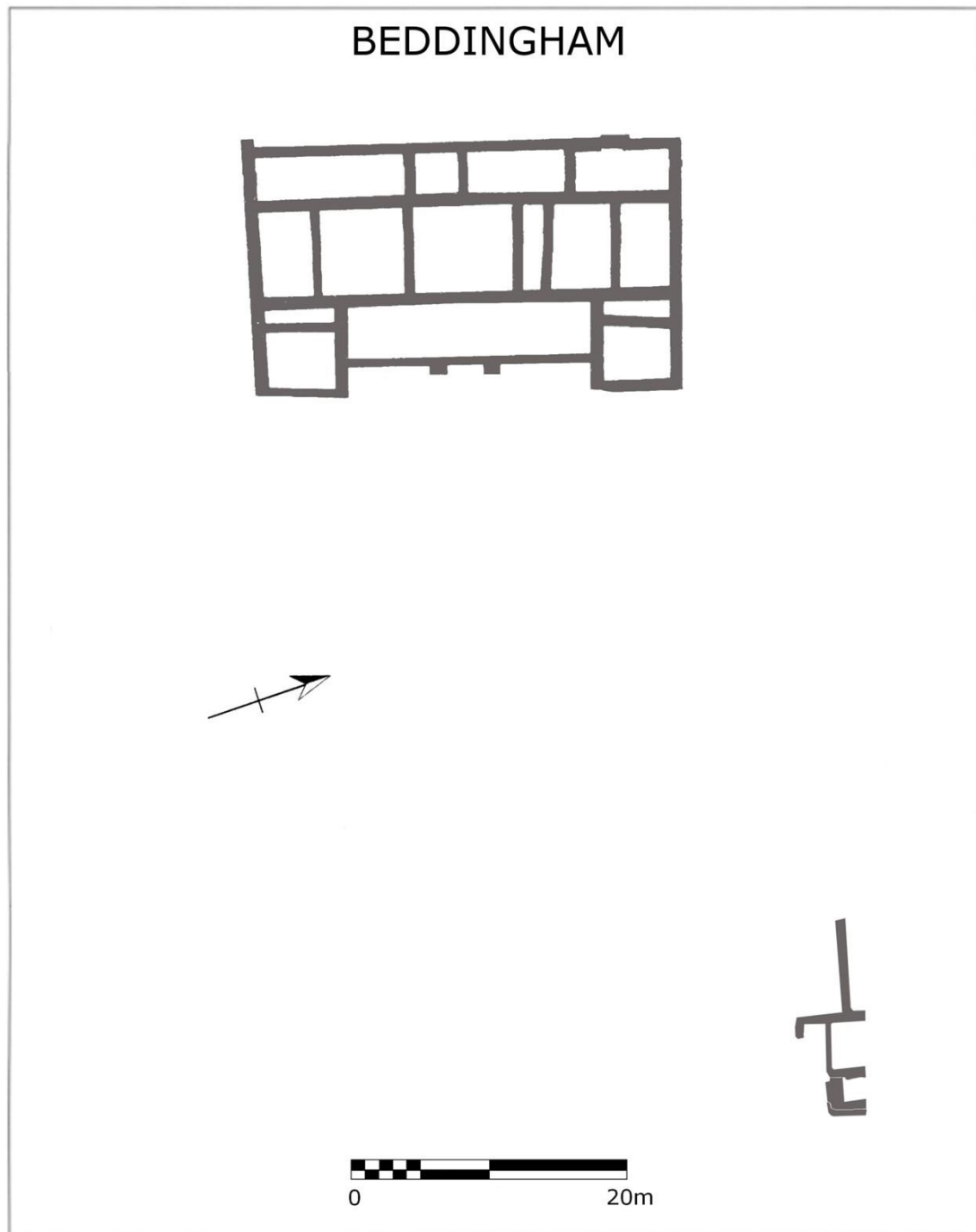


**Figure 59. Plan of the villa at Beddingham (East Sussex) during Phases V. The remains of the detached baths are in the lower right corner. Image: author. After Rudling 1998, 54, Figs. 1 and 7.**

## EASTBOURNE

**Individual Site Number:** 80

**Location:** TV 618 990

**Typology and extent of the site:** This was the site of a possible corridor villa (TV 6176 9893) facing east/southeast, at a little distance from the sea. The part of the house that has been excavated consisted of a range of rooms fronted by a corridor. Mosaics and box flue-tiles were found during the nineteenth-century excavations (Stevens & Gilbert 1973, 21–4). A bathhouse (TV 6174 9908) was found c. 90m to the north of the villa in the eighteenth century and partially excavated. Very little is known of both these structures (see the excellent overview of the antiquarian sources in Stevens & Gilbert 1973). Presently known site area: c. 150 x 80m.

**Villa chronology:** Datable artefacts range from the late first to the mid-third centuries.

**Excavation history:** The site of the bathhouse was discovered in 1712 and reported by J. Tabor (1717). The villa was excavated in 1841 under the direction of J. Berry and reported by M. A. Lower (1849).

**Baths:** Tabor (1717, 549) reports that a plunge bath with a seat made of bricks was found to the north of a tessellated floor. This bath (c. 4.87 x 1.75m, 0.83m deep) was entered through three steps on its southwest corner and had a ‘Sink-hole’ at the bottom on its east side, with another similar passage 0.12m above it (Tabor 1717, 549). Box flue-tiles were found on the north side of the bath (Tabor 1717, 557–8).

The site produced specimens of both double-flue box tiles and Westhampnett hollow voussoirs (possibly recovered during Berry’s excavation; Harcum 1925, 287–8; Sutton 1952, 12, plates 1, 5b; Betts *et al.* 1997, 91), suggesting the use of the same vaulting technique employed at **Angmering** (West Sussex). This system, which allowed hot air to pass through the building’s vaults, has been recently investigated by L. C. Lancaster (2012; 2015, 132–51).

**Decoration:** The tessellated floor, left exposed and now lost, presented a simple bicolour geometric motif: it was ‘white with at least two red bands beside the walls, probably of course tesserae’ (Cosh & Neal 2009, 526).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Betts *et al.* 1997, 91; Cosh & Neal 2009, 525–6; Harcum 1925, 287–8; Lower 1849; Page 1935, 24; Scott 1993, 58; Stevens & Gilbert 1973; Sutton 1952; Sutton *et al.* 1973; Tabor 1717.



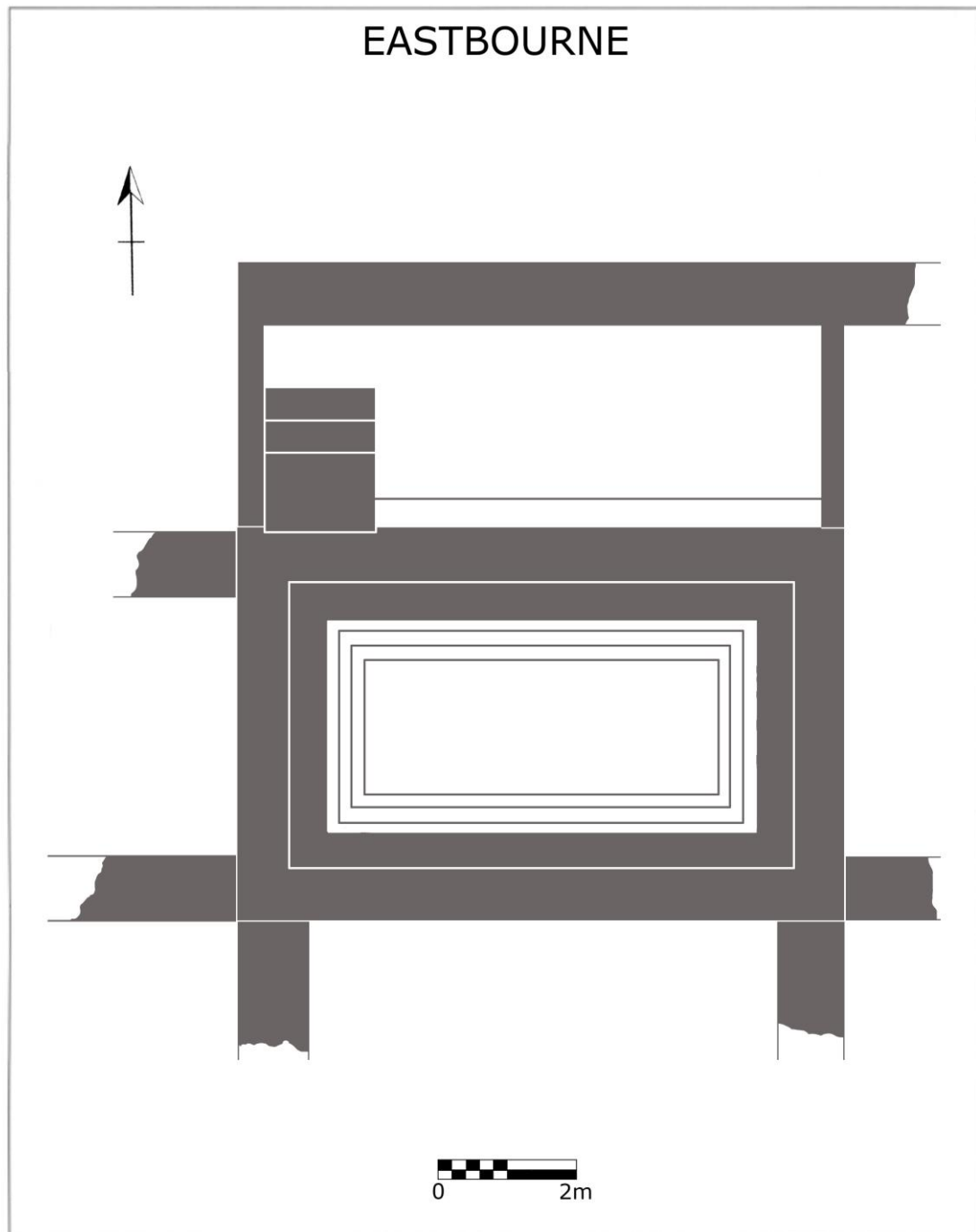


**Figure 60. Plan of the plunge bath discovered in the eighteenth century at Eastbourne (East Sussex). Image: author. After Stevens & Gilbert 1973, 14–5.**

## GARDEN HILL, HARTFIELD

**Individual Site Number:** 104

**Location:** TQ 4437 3195

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 18km north of the villa at **Barcombe, Dunstall's Field**. It was already occupied in the Neolithic and Bronze Age period (Period I). A late Iron Age hill-fort, with stone-revetted and palisaded defences, was built to enclose at least two roundhouses (Money 1977, 344). These fortifications were dismantled soon after their construction, and, at some point during the late first–early second centuries CE (Period III), the round houses were substituted by two timber buildings (Building C and F). These were initially interpreted as part of a settlement linked to iron-working activities (Money 1977, 344–5), but they more likely formed the first nucleus of the following small villa complex.

In period 4 (second century), a new timber building, Building B, was constructed on a stone platform to the east of Building C (probably still in use at this time). Building B was ‘substantial enough to be called a ‘villa’’ (Money & Streeten 1979, 21) and featured an attached bathhouse (Building A). Money and Streeten (1979, 24) suggest that the site ‘performed managerial rather than industrial functions, which could have included the supervision of nearby iron-working sites’.

Buildings B and A were abandoned during the late second–early third centuries (Period V), when the site was levelled and reorganised, possibly as a small iron works. At this time, another timber structure (Building E) was built. Site area: c. 90 x 60m.

**Site chronology:** First–third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1968 and extensively excavated by the Garden Hill Excavation Group between 1972 and 1982.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, the bathhouse (c. 9 x 6.1m) was attached to a timber structure (Building B). Its construction ‘was rough and has the appearance of a local attempt at copying a smarter Roman original’ (Money 1977, 346). This structure had quite a short life, and ‘after its abandonment, the hot room was used for some process of burning unconnected with bathing’ (Money 1974, 186). Money (1977, 346) reports that ‘in the debris of the hot room the remains of 18 backed-clay ‘spacers’ were found, one still treated on its iron hold-fast [...] for use in the vertical hot-air flues’.

The bathhouse was structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 2.35 x 1.9m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room 2 (c. 1.35 wide and c. 1.25m max. depth). Both rooms were equipped with outlet lead pipes drained into gullies. Room 3 (c. 5.65 x 1.87m) was a *tepidarium* and Room 4 was a *caldarium* (irregular area, c. 4.7 m<sup>2</sup>). Room 5 was a furnace room with position for a boiler (Money 1977, 346). These baths had a mixed hypocaust, with some of the *pilae* of the *tepidarium* made of local sandstone ‘rather than the more expensive tiles’ (Money 1977, 346). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Money (1977, 346–7) reports that ‘beside the cold plunge were found the pieces of an almost complete pane of Roman window-glass (9 x 10¼ in.) [23 x 26cm]’.

**Key references:** Harden 1974; Money 1974a; 1974b; 1977; Money & Streeten 1979; Scott 1993, 59.

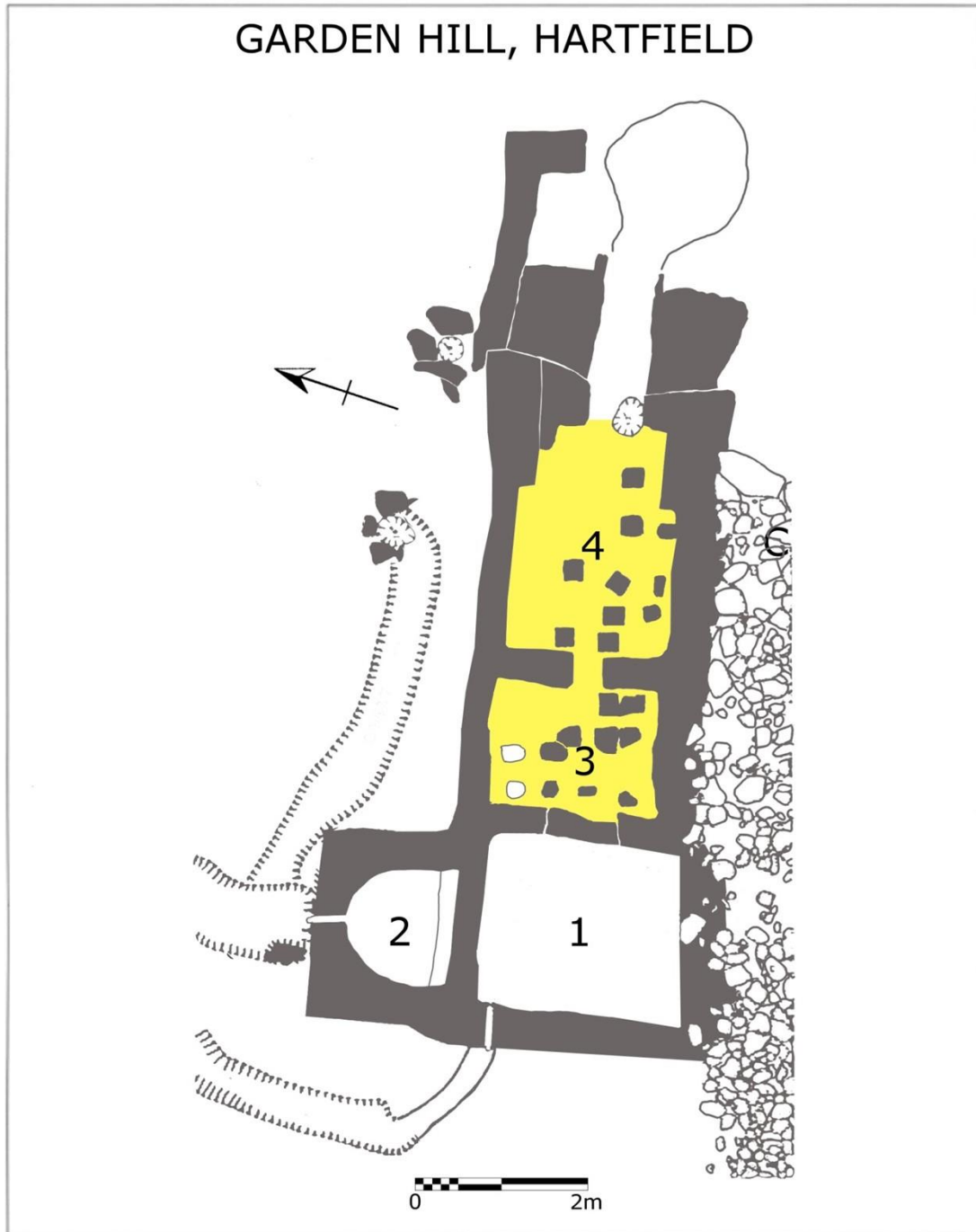


**Figure 61. Plan of the bathhouse at Garden Hill, Hartfield (East Sussex). Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Money 1977, 346, Fig. 5.**

## PLUMPTON

**Individual Site Number:** 152

**Location:** TQ 360 147

**Typology and extent of the site:** This site lies c. 5.7km west of the villa at **Barcombe, Dunstall's Field**, and c. 6.20km northeast of the baths at **Clayton, Hassocks** (West Sussex). The complex at Plumpton 'is situated one mile north of the downs-scarp slope and lies just to the south of the Roman Greensand Way, on Gault Clay' (Allen 1984, 219). The villa site has been surveyed by both fieldwalking and geophysics and has been partly excavated.

A geophysical survey carried out by the Sussex School of Archaeology under the direction of David Millum revealed 'a building of eight to nine rooms, around 40 metres wide and facing south with protruding wings at each end' (Holloway 2014). The more intense readings to the west of the western wing of the villa indicate a small bath suite. A subsequent magnetometer survey by David Staveley revealed that the villa buildings are located within a ditched enclosure. Site area: No information available.

**Villa chronology:** second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1973 by F. G. Burton. It was first field-walked by the Lewes Archaeological Group under the direction of Mike Allen (1977; 1984), who realised a partial plan of the villa. Plough damage assessment excavations were undertaken in 2014, followed by larger-scale excavations of the main villa house between 2015 and 2018 and partial excavations of the adjacent detached bathhouse in 2017–2018.

**Baths:** Only the footprint of the bathhouse was fully exposed and recorded (see Watson 2019, 457–8 and Fig. 33). The baths, which measure about 10.4 m long and 4.5 m wide internally, are orientated north-south and probably date to the third and fourth centuries. The building had a probable entrance room at its southeast corner. To the west of this room was the *frigidarium* with a very solid mortared floor. Along its west wall, there was a semi-circular apsidal area partly paved with thin slabs of 'Horsham' sandstone. These slabs probably formed the base of an apsidal plunge bath, which was emptied to the west by means of a lead pipe contained in a tile-lined drain. North of the cold room is a disturbed area, which is probably the infilled remains of two deeper rooms (probably the *tepidarium* and *caldarium*). An external stokehole with a tile flue-arch was found inserted within the north wall of the building. The stokehole was lined with pieces of Sussex Marble. The area to the north of the baths contained traces of walls, perhaps part of a fuel store.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Allen 1977; 1984; Garrett 1976; Holloway 2014; Rudling 2016, 87; Scott 1993, 59; Watson 2017, 420–1; 2018, 396; 2019, 457–9.

**Note:** No complete plan available.

## RANSCOMBE HILL, SOUTH MALLING

**Individual Site Number:** 225

**Location:** TQ 432 089

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 5.2km south of the villa at **Barcombe, Dunstall's Field** and 3.2km northwest of the villa at **Beddingham**. Two shallow ditches and a corn-drying oven filled with domestic debris were found at Ranscombe Hill, suggesting a farmstead nearby.

**Villa chronology:** first–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in May 1976 by O. Bedwin for the Sussex Archaeological Field Unit in advance of road construction.

**Baths:** The site produced a specimen of double flue box-tiles (Betts *et al.* 1997, 92, 143) and a Westhampnett hollow voussoir from the fill in a corn oven (Bedwin 1978, 253–4), suggesting that the same vaulting technique employed at Angmering (West Sussex) might have been used here for a yet-to-be-found bathhouse. This system, which allowed hot air to pass through the vaults of the building, has been recently investigated by L. C. Lancaster (2012; 2015, 132–151).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Betts *et al.* 1997, 92, 143; Bedwin 1978.

**Note:** No complete plan available.

## West Sussex

### ANGMERING

**Individual Site Number:** 8

**Location:** TQ 0531 0451

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 2.3km northeast of the villa at Littlehampton, c. 3.4 west of the bathhouse at **Highdown, Angmering**, c. 6 km southeast of the villa at **Arundel Tarrant Street**, and c. 19.3km east of Chichester. Gilkes (1999, 59) reports that ‘a small stream, known locally as the Black Ditch, runs past the site before joining the slightly larger Rustington Stream’, a tributary of the River Arun. Six buildings were identified, with a possible seventh timber building dating to the third century (Wilson 1947, 9–13; Gilkes 1999, 67). Gilkes (1999, 68) identified a concentration of roof tiles in the field north of the site’s detached bathhouse, suggesting a further structure.

Building B was probably the main house but has only been partially excavated. It ‘stood clear of the other buildings, apparently within its own enclosure’ (Gilkes 1999, 65). The other structures seem to have occupied a second enclosure, and Building F perhaps occupied a third enclosure. Building A was a large, detached bathhouse dating to the second half of the first century. Building C was another small bathhouse. The function of Buildings D, E, and F is not clear.

Gilkes (1999, 61–5) identifies four phases of the bathhouse. He suggests that Phases 1 and 2 are roughly contemporaneous with Buildings B and D and possibly with Building F. Building D and the large baths involved the same wall construction technique and were located in the same ditched enclosure, with Building B located in a separate enclosure (Gilkes 1999, 65; Rudling 2017, 89).

While the dating evidence for Buildings C, E, and F is poor, Gilkes (1999, 67) notes that ‘two unpublished plans, extant in Littlehampton Museum, show the relationship of these structures to each other’. He, therefore, suggests that they may have been ‘part of the same complex, perhaps a small later villa, reusing for some purpose the remains of the larger bathhouse’. Site area: c. 180 x 95m.

**Villa chronology:** Third quarter of the first–early third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was initially excavated in the early nineteenth century (Dallaway 1832). The Littlehampton Natural Science and Archaeological Society carried out further excavations in the 1930s and 1940s (1937–41; 1947).

### Baths

**Building A:** As mentioned above, Gilkes (1999, 61–5) identified four phases of Building A (c. 31 x 21m). The bathhouse was constructed on flint foundation with a superstructure of chalk and flint. The chronology of the building is still debated, but a pre-Flavian or early Flavian date for its construction is likely (Gilkes 1999, 64). The numbering of the rooms follows Scott’s plan (1938, Plate 1).

*Phase 1:* During this initial phase, the bathhouse was entered via Room L, which does not face the façade of the presumed main villa residence (Black 1989, 87). It was structured as follows: Room A (c. 2 x 1.9m) was a connecting space to the *apodyterium*

in Room B (c. 10.1 x 4.1m). According to Gilkes' reconstruction (1999, 62), the wall that in Phase 2 will become the western wall of Room C was built at this time. They acted 'as a buttress for the northern wall of this large vaulted room [i.e., Room B] against the slope which exists at this point'. As reported by Scott (1938, 9), 'the heavy foundations in B1 and B2 buttressing the main north-south wall of the building' might have carried 'a roof-tank, or tanks for swilling out the latrine and supplying the cold plunge bath'.

Room E (c. 3.3 x 2.8m) was a *frigidarium*. Scott (1938, 27) interprets Room M (c. 3 x 2m) as 'a rather elaborate type of latrine'. More likely, this room was instead a second cold plunge bath (Black 1989, 87; Gilkes 1999, 59). Room F (c. 4 x 2.6m) was a *tepidarium*. Room G (c. 5.8 x 3m) was a *caldarium*, with its hot plunge bath on its western side (unnumbered, c. 2.3 x 2.2m). Room H (c. 6.7 x 4.7m) was a remarkably large cold plunge bath 'surrounded on three sides by double breadth of walling, which would be carried up to support a promenade for the bathers' (Scott 1938, 26).

Room J (c. 3.5 x 2.8m) was a fuel room close to the oval-shaped furnace room on the north side of Room G. The western part of Room L (c. 11.3 x 2.8m) 'may have acted as an auxiliary wood store' (Scott 1938, 21). These two rooms linked to the furnace room were perhaps entered through steps supported by 'the timbers which passed through the north wall of L' (ibid.). Room K was a *sudatorium* (c. 5.3 x 5.1m) with its furnace room in Room N (c. 5.1 x 3.3m).

*Phase 2:* During this phase, Room C (c. 4.4 x 1.1m) was built either as a 'small veranda extension of the Apodyterium' (Scott 1938, 9) or, more likely, as a latrine (Black 1987, 87). Scott (1938, 26) notes that 'on the northwest [of Room C], a block of masonry of as yet unknown purpose joins the north wall, leaving a recess where a timber would support the corner of the presumed veranda room'.

Room D (c. 2.2 x 1.8m) also dates to this phase. Rather unconvincingly, Scott (1938, 9) interprets it as an *unctorium*, the room where bathers were anointed with perfumed oils. Black (1987, 87) suggests instead that this room may have been another latrine and notes that 'the two latrines and two plunge baths recall the duplication in some public bath-buildings where separate facilities for men and women were provided'. Room P (c. 6 x 2.8m) and O (c. 5.8 x 4m), interpreted by Scott (1938, 27) as two rooms 'for storing materials needed in the bath-building, wood, oil &c.', were added on the western side of the bathhouse.

*Phase 3:* During this phase, an additional furnace room was built on the west side of Room G. Room S (c. 1.8 x 1.4m) and T (c. 2 x 1m) also probably date to this phase. Scott (1938, 9) interprets them as antechambers added 'to provide an independent entrance for those wishing only to make use of the Sudatorium K'.

*Phase 4:* During this final phase, which lasted at least until the third century, the western half of the bathhouse was modified: 'a new series of walls were constructed over the presumably demolished walls of Room O, P and the furnaces in the area'; 'other walls were erected in room J which might have continued into room H'; and 'room F was robbed of its *pilae* and given a floor of clay and the hypocaust channels were blocked off' (Gilkes 1999, 64). The cold plunge bath in Room M was reused and apparently subdivided by wooden partitions. The room was perhaps now occupied by 'a wooden tank or vat', which 'may point to some industrial process, perhaps tanning or fulling, which could have made use of the still intact drain' (ibid.).

The drainage system of the bathhouse is described in detail by Scott (1938, 29): 'the head of the main drain lies at the outlet of the latrine'. From there, it continues north, 'run[ning]



straight until [it is] joined by sub-drain 1, which carries away the water from the basin in the Frigidarium, and sub-drain 2, which drains the cold bath’.

Cunliffe (1973, 76–8) notes similarities between this bathhouse and the baths of the proto-palace at **Fishbourne**. In particular, he argues that the date, size, decoration (‘black and white mosaic pavements, *opus sectile* floors and marble wall-inlay’), and constructional material (‘the distinctive tiles used for fitting out the bath-rooms’) of these buildings are closely comparable. He adds that ‘it is tempting to suggest that they may have been built by the same architect’.

The heating system of this bathhouse has been recently used by L. C. Lancaster (2012) as a case study for her research on a new vaulting technique. This technique was ‘invented at a tiler believed to have been located on the coast of W Sussex, probably around Chichester’ in the last quarter of the first century CE (mid-to-late 70s CE) (Lancaster 2012, 419). This system follows the use of double flue box-tiles combined with Westhampnett voussoirs. The hollow voussoirs ‘increased by four the amount of hot air that could be channelled into the vaults and would have provided much greater radiant heating capacity’ (Lancaster 2012, 419).

In particular, Lancaster analysed *caldarium* G and the *tepidarium* F. In both these rooms, together with the double flue box-tiles, she identified an ‘unusual variant with its side walls bowed inwards in an hour-glass shape’ (Lancaster 2012, 426). These tiles were put in place when the wall was constructed and, therefore, did not require iron cramps to hook them to it. In addition, ‘the box-tiles extend all the way down to the wall foundations’. This solution is unusual as they are typically attached ‘to the wall at the height of the suspended floor level so that the hypocaust gas could enter them from below’ (Lancaster 2012, 427). An arched opening was cut at the top of each tile to allow the hot air to enter the box tiles.

Building C: This was a ‘very roughly built structure lying approximately north and south’ (Scott 1939, 89). This small bathhouse (c. 10.6 x 5.2m), probably built after the middle of the second century, was structured as follows: Room A (c. 3.7 x 2.4m) was a *frigidarium* with a cold-water tank on its east side. Room B (c. 3.4 x 2.4m) was a *tepidarium*, and Room C (c. 3.4 x 2.1m) was a *caldarium* with its furnace room on its northern side. The numbering of the rooms follows Scott’s plan (1939, 90, Fig. 2).

### Decoration

Building A: Scott (1938, 26) reports that the *opus signinum* in Room H had ‘a quarter-round moulding at its edge which had been first painted entirely with red, and later received a roughly applied coat of white plaster’. In addition, ‘the remaining portion of the wall above it had a border of red stripes running round it, and judging from fragments was then carried up to the top in plain red’. The room produced ‘many fragments of coloured plaster, green and blue, red and yellow, red on buff, and red on white’.

Scott also suggests that ‘the promenade [around the plunge bath] had had a paving of *opus sectile*, as a large portion of the stones came from this room and the adjoining disturbed levels’ (Scott 1938, 26–7). These *opus sectile* floors were composed of ‘pink, yellow, and dark grey stones from the Wealden series, white limestone from northern Italy, together with Sussex marble’ (Scott 1938, 15).

These stones might have formed two different decorations: ‘one composed of geometric patterns [...], mainly different coloured triangles, kite-shaped pieces, and rhomboids of Sussex marble, and the other of stones cut to form components of some naturalistic design’ (Scott 1938, 17). According to Cosh and Neal (2009, 486), the *opus sectile* found

here was more likely used to decorate the room's walls rather than the floors. Loose grey and white fine tesserae were also found at the site. These are 'typical of mosaics in early baths': the tesserae are not cubes but have 'depths that are twice their breadth' (ibid.).

**Water supply:** A small stream, known locally as the Black Ditch, runs past the site before joining the slightly larger Rustington Stream and might have supplied the baths (Gilkes 1999, 59).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A 'pair of bronze forceps decorated with a silver band near the terminal knob' were found 'below the throw-up of the ditch north of the building and therefore probably to be dated to the late first century' (Scott 1938, 31).

**Key references:** Black 1987, 87–9; Cosh & Neal 2009, 485–6; Dallaway 1832; Gilkes 1999; Keef 1944–45; Scott 1938; 1939; Wilson 1947.

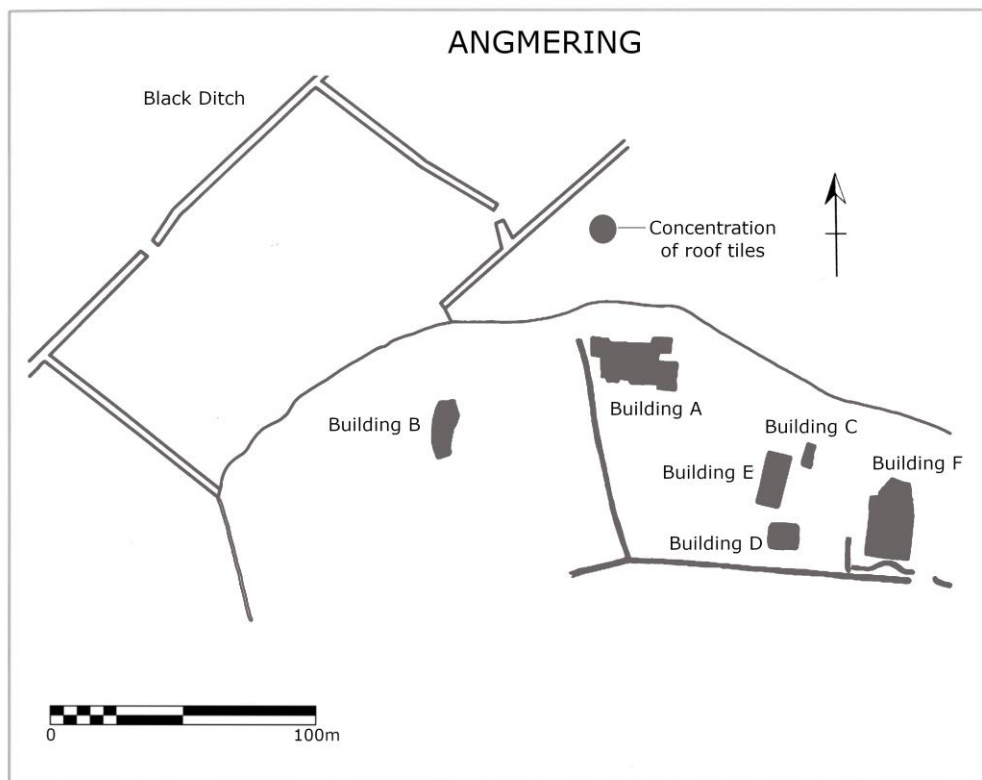


**Figure 62. Plan of the overall complex at Angmering (West Sussex). Image: author. After Gilkes 1999, 65, Fig. 6.**

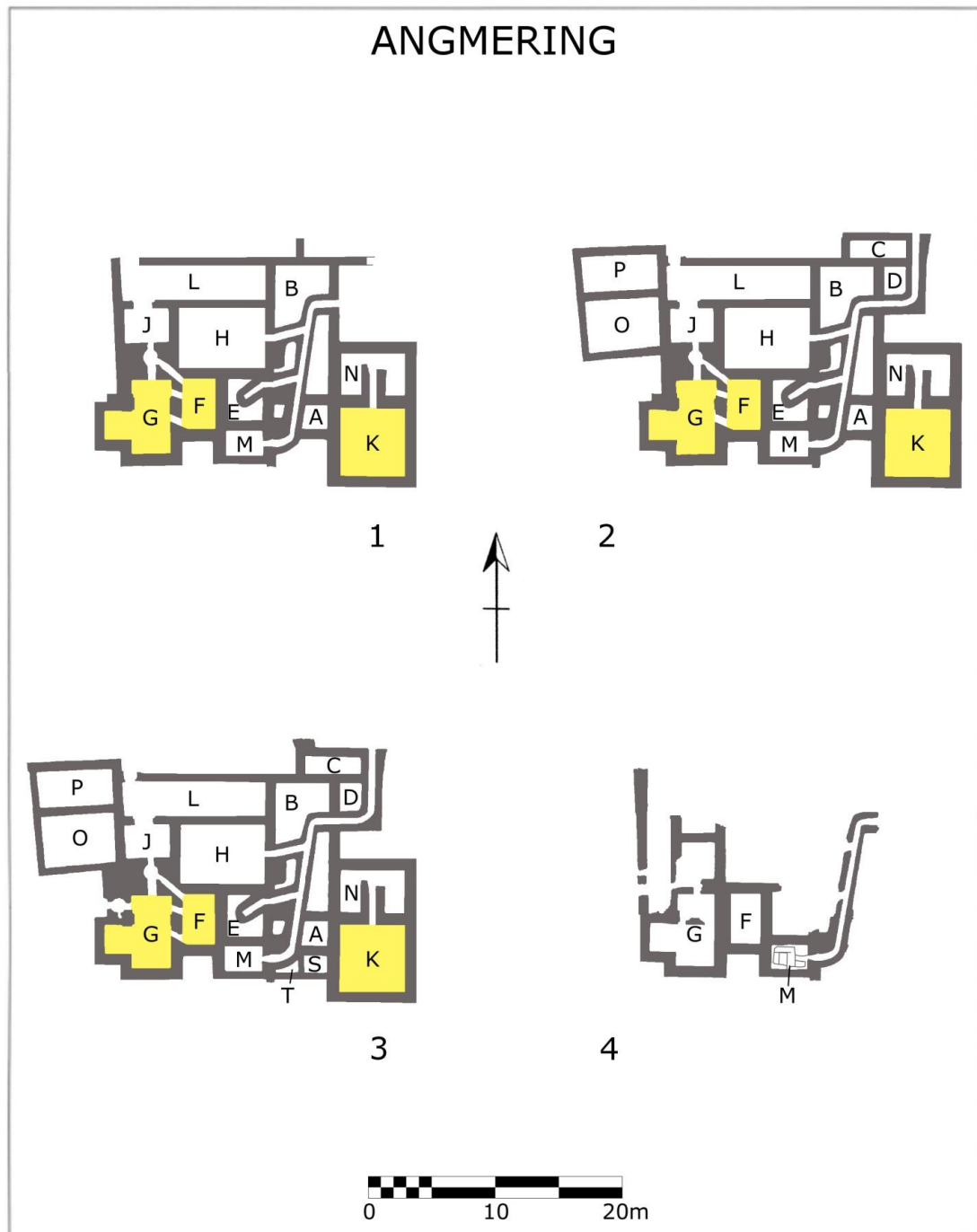


**Figure 63. Plan of Building A, part of the villa at Angmering (West Sussex). 1–4: the various phases proposed by Gilkes. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Gilkes 1999, 67, Fig. 8.**

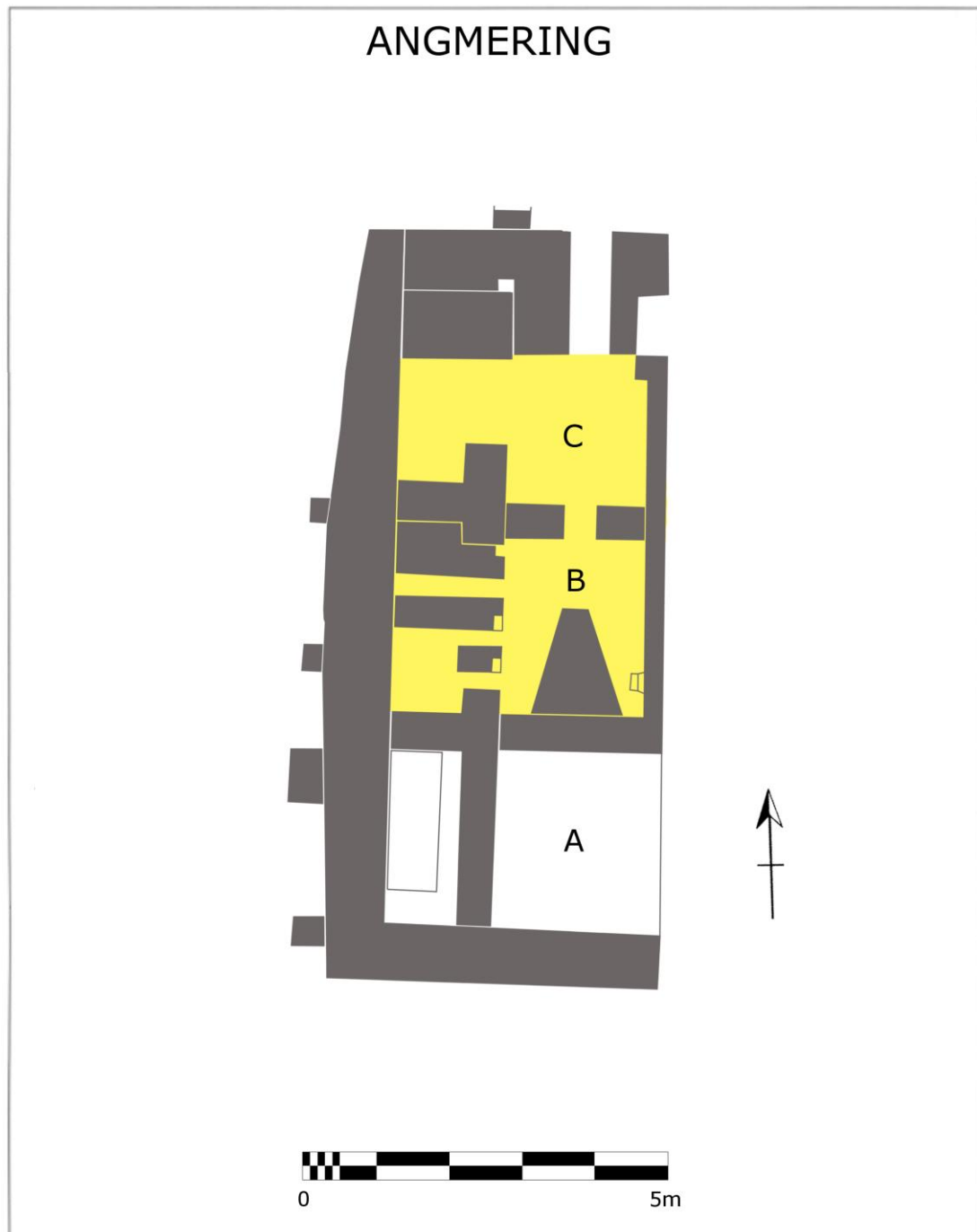


**Figure 64.** Plan of Building C, part of the villa at Angmering (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Scott 1939, 90, Fig. 2.

## ARUNDEL PARK

**Individual Site Number:** 10

**Location:** TQ 6084 6500

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 1.6km north of the villa at **Arundel Tarrant Street**. In the 1930s, a late Iron Age settlement and a first-century villa were identified. Very little is known about the villa, indicated only by finds of tiles and pottery. Site area: uncertain.

**Villa chronology:** first–fourth (?) centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated in 1931–5 under the direction of E. J. F. Hearne (1936).

**Baths:** Two possible half-box tiles found during the excavations suggest an early bath building (Hearne 1936, 231, 237; Black 1987, 152).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 152; Hearne 1936.

**Note:** No plan available.

## ARUNDEL TARRANT STREET

**Individual Site Number:** 11

**Location:** TQ 0154 0692

**Typology and extent of the site:** This villa, located 1.6km south of the site at **Arundel Park**, was only partially excavated, and very little is known of its plan. The findings point towards a first-century construction and a third-century abandonment. Site area: uncertain.

**Villa chronology:** First–third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site has been known since the late nineteenth century. Small-scale excavations took place in 1983 under the direction of David Rudling (1984b).

**Baths:** Thin-walled box tiles found during the excavations suggest an early bath building (Black 1987, 153).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 153; Rudling 1984b.

**Note:** No plan available.

## BATTEN HANGER

**Individual Site Number:** 25

**Location:** SU 8180 1533

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 2.9km northwest of the villa at **Chilgrove 2**, c. 3.3km northwest of the villa at **Chilgrove 1**, and c. 3.6km northeast of the villa at **Upmarden**. The villa at Batten Hanger, contained within a large ditched enclosure, 'is situated in a sheltered and secluded location in the middle reaches of a long narrow dry valley running from north to south through steep wooded hangers' (Payne 2008, 1).

Three main phases of the site have been identified, although their precise chronology is not specified in the reports published so far. During Phase 1, a structure with chalk floors and stone foundations was built. During Phase 2, the villa comprised two buildings, the north range and the west range. The north range replaced the Phase-1 structure and consisted of an aisled building (c. 40 x 15m) equipped with a bath-suite on its northern side. A further room with hypocaust lay in the southeast corner of the aisled structure. The building and its baths underwent at least two sub-phases (Phases 2a and 2b). The west range consisted of agricultural buildings.

During the late fourth or the early fifth centuries, a large hall (31.6m long by 11.5m wide, orientated approximately east–west) replaced the aisled building (Phase 3). Occupation at the site continued at least to the middle of the fifth century (Kenny *et al.* 2016). Site area: c. 100 x 60m.

**Villa chronology:** First–mid-fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated between 1988 and 1991 by the Chichester District Archaeological Unit under the direction of John Magilton. In 2006, Louise Martin and Andrew Payne carried out a geophysical survey of the villa's surroundings for English Heritage.

### Baths

Based on the coin evidence (Kenny *et al.* 2016, 200–1) and on the dating suggested by Cosh and Neal (2009, 487) for the mosaic floor in Room 16, the baths were probably built in the early fourth century and continued in use after the demolition of the aisled building. The numbering of the rooms follows Magilton's plan (1991, 28, Fig. 13)

**Phase 2a:** During this phase, the baths were structured as follows: Room 16 (c. 2.8 x 2.6m) was an *apodyterium/frigidarium*. Room 20 (c. 1 x 1m) was a cold plunge bath. Room 17 (c. 3.5 x 2.8m) was a *caldarium* incorporating a hot plunge bath (Room 18, c. 1.9 x 1.1m). As reported by Magilton (1991, 27), 'the hypocaust was stoked from outside the building, where a baffle wall had been built to direct the prevailing westerly wind into the arch of the furnace'.

**Phase 2b:** During this phase, a step was inserted into Room 20 and Room 16 was apparently converted 'into a shower-room by waterproofing the floor with *opus signinum* and inserting a drain through the north wall' (Magilton 1991, 27).

**Decoration:** Room 16 had a mosaic floor in Phase 2a. Parts of a coarse red border and few tesserae of its central panel survived (Cosh & Neal 2009, 487–8).

**Water supply:** Magilton (1991, 27) suggests that the water for the baths 'was supplied from a nearby (unexcavated) well'.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 157; Cosh & Neal 2009, 487–8; Frere 1989; 1990; 1991; Kenny *et al.* 2016; Magilton 1991; Payne 2008; Rudling 1998, 49; Scott 1993, 192.



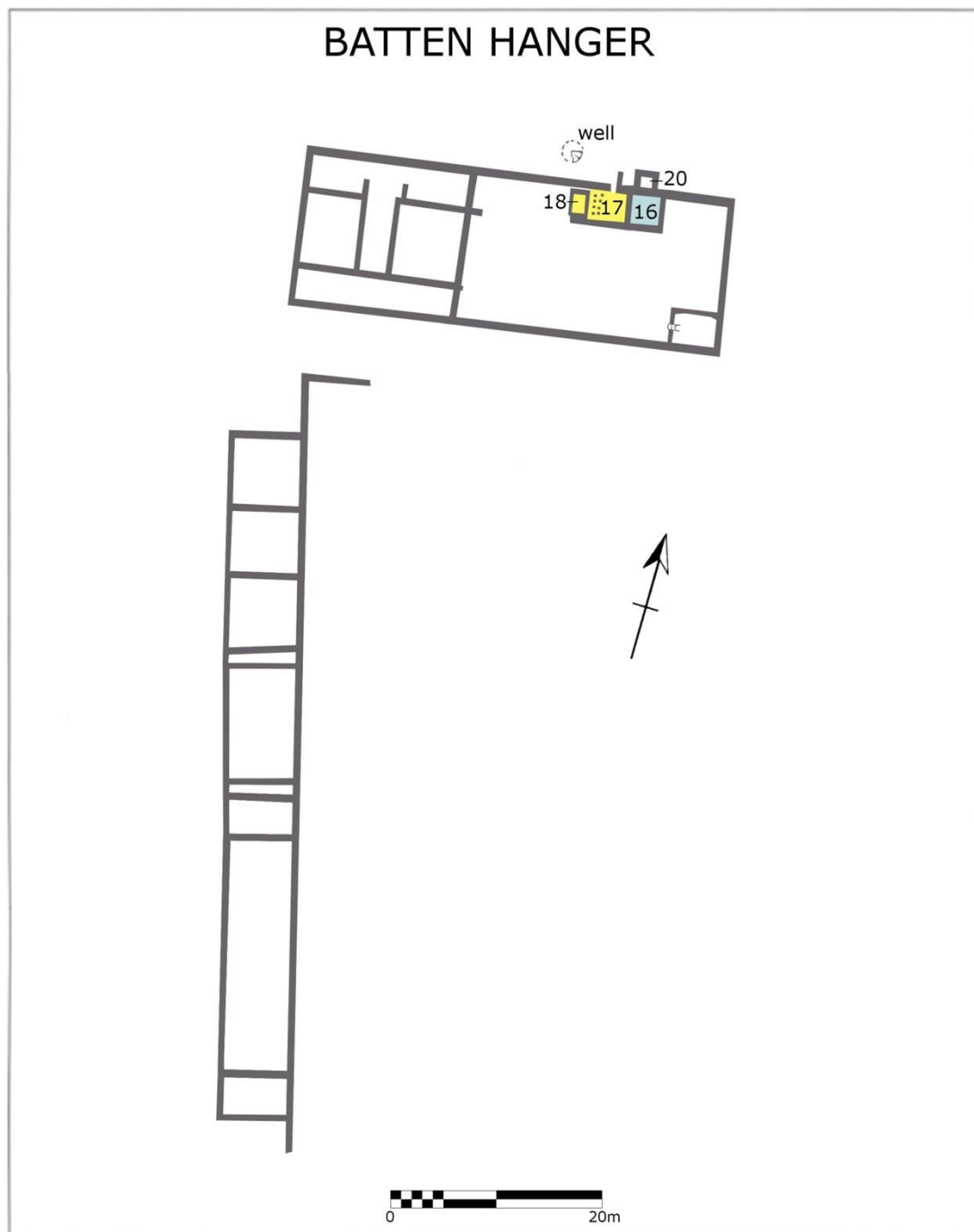


**Figure 65. Plan of the villa at Batten Hanger (West Sussex). The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, rooms with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After Magilton 1991, 28, Fig. 13.**

BIGNOR

**Individual Site Number:** 30

**Location:** SU 9884 1469

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on a gentle south-facing slope, close to the Roman Stane Street linking London to Chichester and c. 3.4km southeast of the bathhouse at **Duncton**. It is one of the largest villa complexes in Britain. In the mid-third century (Period II A), a first masonry building of corridor type superseded a timber structure dating to the late second century (Period I). The masonry house then evolved into a winged-corridor villa during the second half of the third century (Periods II B–II E).

At the end of the third century (III A), the building was extended eastward to incorporate a northern and southern range of rooms. A bathhouse was built on the west side of the west wing. At this stage, a large aisled barn and another agricultural structure were built to the east of the north wing. During the fourth century (Periods III B–III E), the villa was again enlarged to become a courtyard type. It was also refurbished and had many rooms now richly decorated with high-quality mosaic floors. The villa was probably abandoned in the late fourth–early fifth centuries, although there is ‘an absence of pottery certainly datable to the late fourth century’ (Frere *et al.* 1982, 143). Site area: c. 225 x 125m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–early fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1811 and excavated for seven years under the direction of John Hawkins and Samuel Lysons. New excavations were carried out in 1925 (Winbolt 1926b; Winbolt & Herbert 1930), 1956–1962 (Frere *et al.* 1982), 1985–1990 (Aldsworth 1983; Aldsworth & Rudling 1995), and 1991–2000 (Rudling and Russell 2015).

**Baths:** Two sets of baths have been identified. Based on the discovery of a re-used roller-stamped box-tile (Frere 1982, 182), Black (1987, 75) suggests that earlier facilities dating to the late first–early second centuries might have existed at the site.

**South Wing bathhouse:** It was probably built ‘towards the end of the third century, or perhaps even later’ (Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 137). Five sub-phases have been identified. The walls were made of greensand, a local type of limestone. The numbering of the rooms follows Aldsworth and Rudling’s plans (1995, 135, Fig. 21; 182, Fig. 62).

**Period III, Phase 1:** At this stage, the bathhouse might have been detached from the main villa building (Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 136). It was structured as follows: Room 51 (c. 6.8 x 3.6m) was the furnace room. Room 52a (c. 3.6 x 1.6m) was a hot plunge bath. Room 52 (c. 3.6 x 3.6m) was a *caldarium*. Room 54 was a *tepidarium* (c. 3.6 x 3.6m). Another room (unnumbered, c. 9.2 x 3.6m) was seemingly located to the west of Room 54 and might have functioned as a *frigidarium*.

**Period III, Phase 2:** The bathhouse was now certainly part of the main villa building. At this stage, Room 50 (c. 5.5 x 4.1m) replaced Room 51 as the main furnace room. Room 52b (c. 3m wide and c. 0.9m max. depth) was another apsidal hot bath, with Room 52a seemingly still in use at this time. An apsidal bench was found in Room 52c (c. 3.4m wide and c. 1.9m max. depth), which was not hypocausted and might have hosted a *labrum*.

Rooms 53 (c. 4.2 x 3.8m, with an apse on its west side c. 3.4m wide and c. 1.8m max. depth) and 54 (now c. 6 x 3.6m, including the recess on its south side) were two *tepidaria*,

the latter with a furnace room on its south side. The apsidal and rectangular recesses in Rooms 52, 53, and 54 probably contained ‘baths or labra or facilities for oiling or massage’ (Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 136). The function of Room 55a (c. 9.3 x 3.8m) and 55c (c. 9.3 x 4.1m) is not clear. They might have been part of a *frigidarium* with a cold bath on its south side (Room 55b, c. 5.5m wide and c. 2m max. depth). Considering its position, Room 56 (c. 8.3 x 7.8m) was probably an *apodyterium*.

*Period III, Phase 3:* During this phase, ‘the bath at the south end of Room 52 was extended by the addition of an apsidal-ended chamber on the south side of the room’ (Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 121). Moreover, a newly built wall now separated Room 55a from Room 55b.

*Period III, Phase 4:* The baths were now structured as follows: Room 56 was the *apodyterium* with the entrance to the facilities on its north side. Room 55a was a *frigidarium* with a new small but elaborate cold plunge bath. Room 55c was a passage that led to the *tepidarium* in Room 53. Room 53 gave access to Room 52, a *caldarium*, which contained a hot bath in Room 52a and another in Room 52e (now hypocausted). Room 54 was a second *tepidarium*. From there, the bather could return to *Frigidarium* 55a.

*Period III, Phase 5:* At this stage, ‘the stoke-holes at the south end of Room 54 and between Rooms 52 and 52b together with at least one of the flues between Rooms 53 and 54 were blocked, indicating the cessation of elaborate bathing activities at the villa’ (Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 137).

*West wing bathhouse:* These facilities date to Period III A or, perhaps, to the end of Period IIE (see Rudling & Russell 2015, 67–9). They were apparently left unfinished: ‘no floor had been laid, nor were there any ‘ghost’-traces of pilae on the natural surface; no wall-flues had been installed, nor were there any signs of heat or ash’ (Frere *et al.* 1982, 161).

When completed, this bath-suite would have had a *frigidarium* in Room 37 (c. 4.45 x 3.4m) with probably a cold plunge bath in Room 36 (c. 3.4 x 1.4m), a *tepidarium* in Room 38 (c. 2.5 x 2.33m, with an apse on its west side c. 2.4m wide and c. 1.34m max. depth), and a *caldarium* in Room 39 (c. 2.7 x 2.15m, with an apse on its west side c. 2.18m wide and c. 1.31m max. depth). The numbering of the rooms follows Frere’s (1982, 159, Fig. 14) and Aldsworth and Rudling’s plan (1995, 182, Fig. 62).

## Decoration

*Mosaics:* Fine mosaics and tessellated floors dating to the fourth century have been found in Rooms 52, 53, 54, 55c, and 56 of the South Wing bathhouse. The best preserved one paved the *apodyterium* 56 and presented the head of Medusa in its central compartment. As noted by Cosh & Neal (2009, 513), this high-quality floor was produced by a different workmanship than the one that operated in the north wing.

*Wall painting:* Four types of wall plaster fragments were found in the area of the baths: Type A (décor: coloured grounds and linear decoration; colours: red, yellow, green); Type B (décor: linear decoration; colours: red, yellow, green, white, blue, black); Type C (décor: coloured grounds, linear and spattered decoration; colours: red (two varieties), yellow, green, blue); and Type D (décor: coloured grounds; colours: red, white).

Some of these fragments are beautifully illustrated in the third volume of Samuel Lysons’ *Reliquiae Britannico-Romanae* (1813–17, vol. 3, Plate XXXII and vignette at the end of the List of Plates). Notably, Figures 3 and 7 of Lysons’ Plate XXXII portray three fragments that mimic mosaic tesserae, ‘two of them with a guilloche coloured white, blue,

red, yellow, and two shades of grey' (Davey & Ling 1982, 211). A feminine head of a painted stone statuette (height 10.8cm, breadth 8.2cm; see Henig 1982) was found in the hypocaust of Room 54 together with 'ornamented fragments of hard white stone' (Lysons 1813–17, vol. 3, capture to Figs 3, 4, 6 and 8, Plate XXXI).

**Water supply:** As stated by Frere (1982, 142), 'it is not known how water was obtained for the villa in its early periods'. A pipeline dating to Period III B was found to the northeast of Room 7a, in the north wing of the villa, conducting water to the fountain in the *piscina* of this room. Water may have been 'pumped up the steep 100-ft. [c. 30m] slope, which lies some 300 yards [c. 275m] N. of the villa, from the brook at its foot' (1982, 142). Overall, there is no clear evidence for the water supply of the baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Oyster shells were found in the area of the South Wing bathhouse during the 1985–1990 excavations (Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 173).

**Key references:** Aldsworth 1983; Aldsworth & Rudling 1995; Black 1983; 1987, 116; Cosh & Neal 2009, 489–513; De Haan 2011, 275–6, K.45–46; Frere *et al.* 1982; Henig 1982; Lysons 1813–17, vol. 3; 1815; 1817d; 1821; Rudling & Russell 2015; Scott 1993, 182–3; Winbolt 1926b; Winbolt & Herbert 1930.

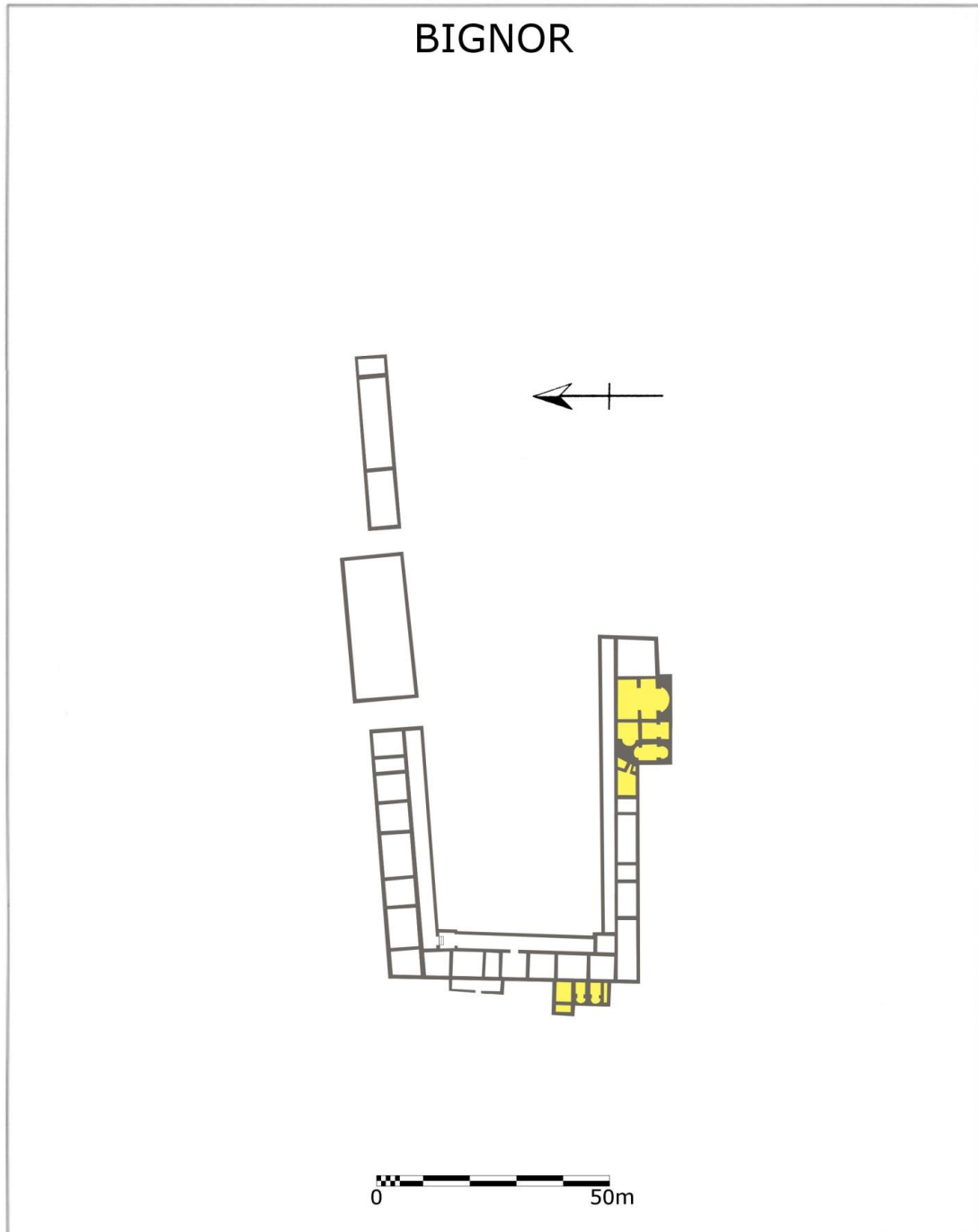


**Figure 66. Plan of the villa at Bignor (West Sussex) during Period III A. The two sets of baths are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 184, Fig. 64.**

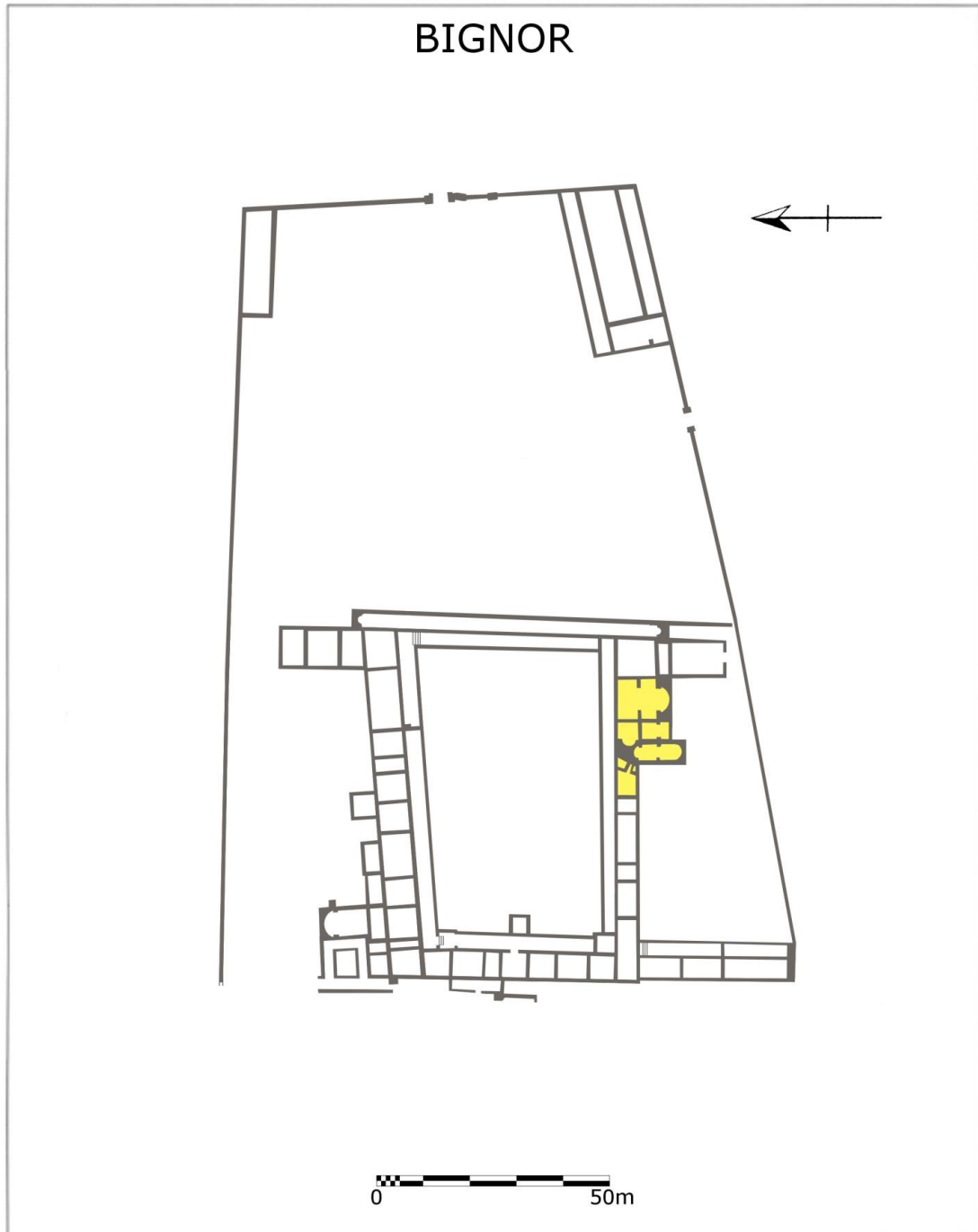


**Figure 67. Plan of the villa at Bignor (West Sussex) during Period III B and later. The South Wing bathhouse is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 184, Fig. 64.**

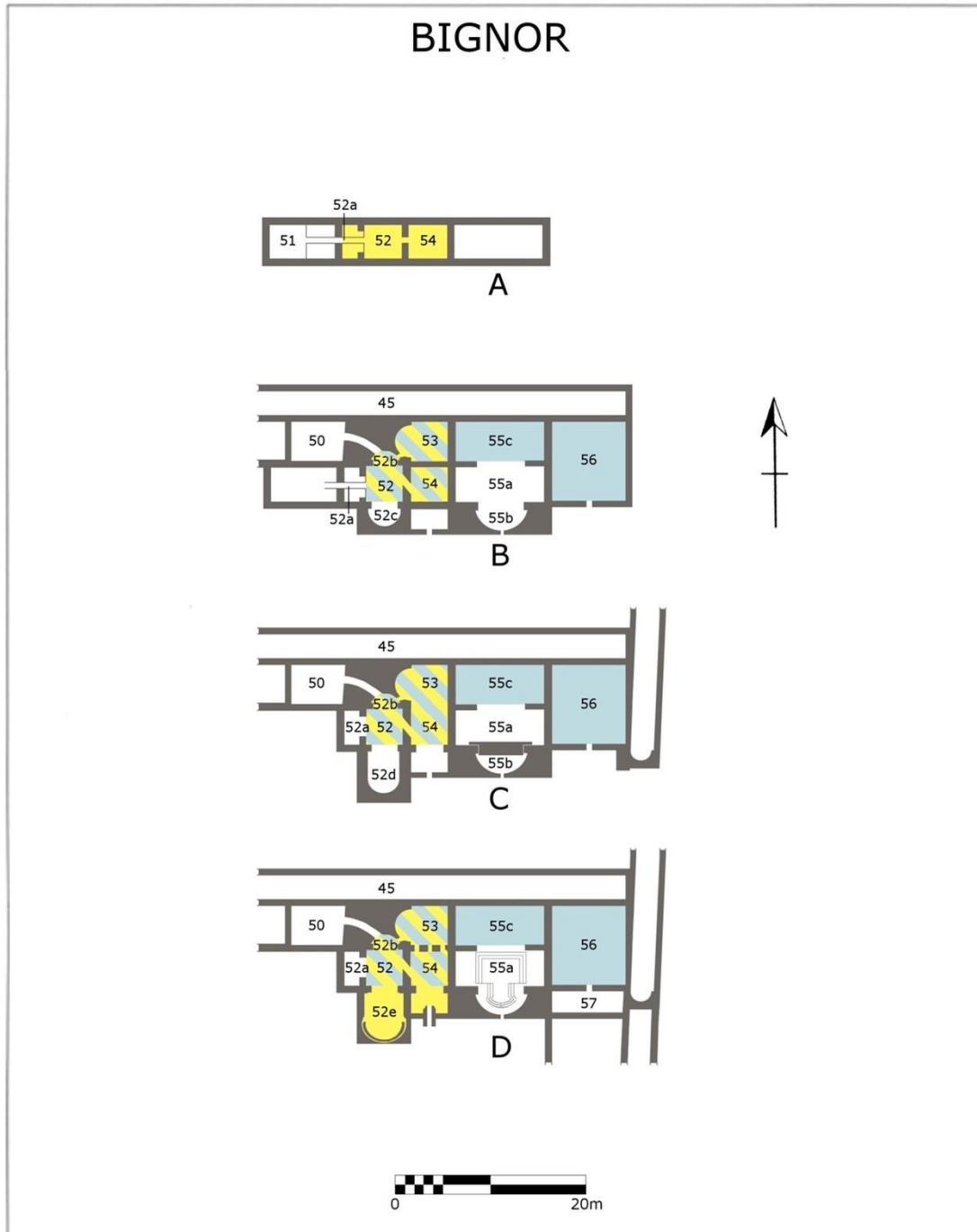


**Figure 81. Plan of South Wing bathhouse at Bignor (West Sussex) during its four main phases (Period III, Phases 1–4). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, and those with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Aldsworth & Rudling 1995, 135, Fig. 21.**

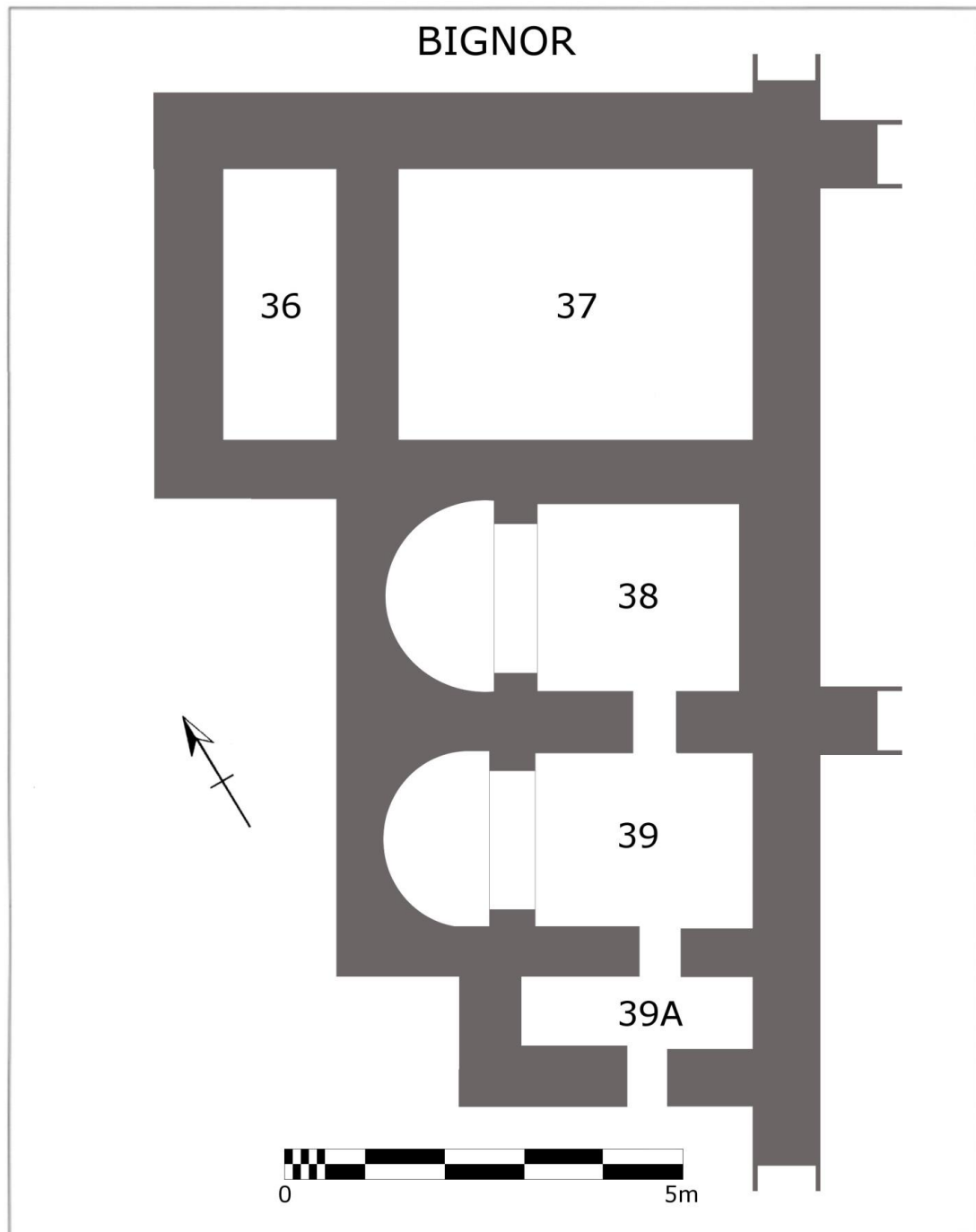


**Figure 68. Plan of the unfinished West Wing bathhouse at Bignor (West Sussex). Image: author. After Frere *et al.* 1982, 159, Fig. 14; Aldsworth and Rudling 1995, 182, Fig. 62.**



## BLACKSMITH'S CORNER, WALBERTON

**Individual Site Number:** 32

**Location:** SU 05 97

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the south-facing slope of the Coastal Plain, 1.5km to the south of the Chichester-Brighton Roman road and 4km west of the villa at **Arundel Tarrant Street**. This is a corridor villa with its long axis running approximately north-south. The building features five main rooms and two possible narrow corridors, with corridors/verandas to the east, west and south. A small bathhouse was discovered in the northeast corner of the house. Presently known site area: c. 50 x 20m.

**Villa chronology:** Mid-first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The Worthing Archaeological Society started excavating the site in 2006, and the final report is not yet available.

**Baths:** The bath-suite in the northeast corner of the main house has been only partially investigated. Two main features have been located: a hypocausted apsidal room and a furnace room to the south of it. Robertson (2008, 16) reports that ‘the area of burning to the south of the apse [...] appears to be related to a slightly curved wall feature leading towards the south of the apse’. This area might have ‘held a cauldron or pan of water that would have been heated by the fire to provide the hot water for the bath house’ (ibid.).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Robertson 2008.

**Note:** No complete plan available.

## BOROUGH FARM, PULBOROUGH

**Individual Site Number:** 34

**Location:** TQ 0688 2009

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 1.7km northeast of the possible villas at Pulborough and Homestreet Farm, Pulborough, and c. 1.4km northwest of the villa at Nutbourne. This was a large courtyard complex with ranges of rooms built of mortared sandstone blocks. The plan shows many similarities with the villas at **Fishbourne** and **Southwick**. Coins and pottery suggest a first-century date, but it is not clear how long the complex remained in use. Todd (1970, 122) proposed that the bathhouse at **Lickfold, Wiggonholt** (c. 2.4km south of the site) belonged to the estate of this villa. Presently known site area: c. 50 x 20m.

**Villa chronology:** First century CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1817 and re-excavated in 1909 by C. J. Praetorius (1911).

**Baths:** Half box tiles re-used in a hypocaust (Room 1) during the excavations suggest an early bath building (Black 1987, 155–6). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 155–6; Praetorius 1911; Rudling 1998; 2003, 112–4; Russell 2006, 138–40; 2016; Todd 1970.

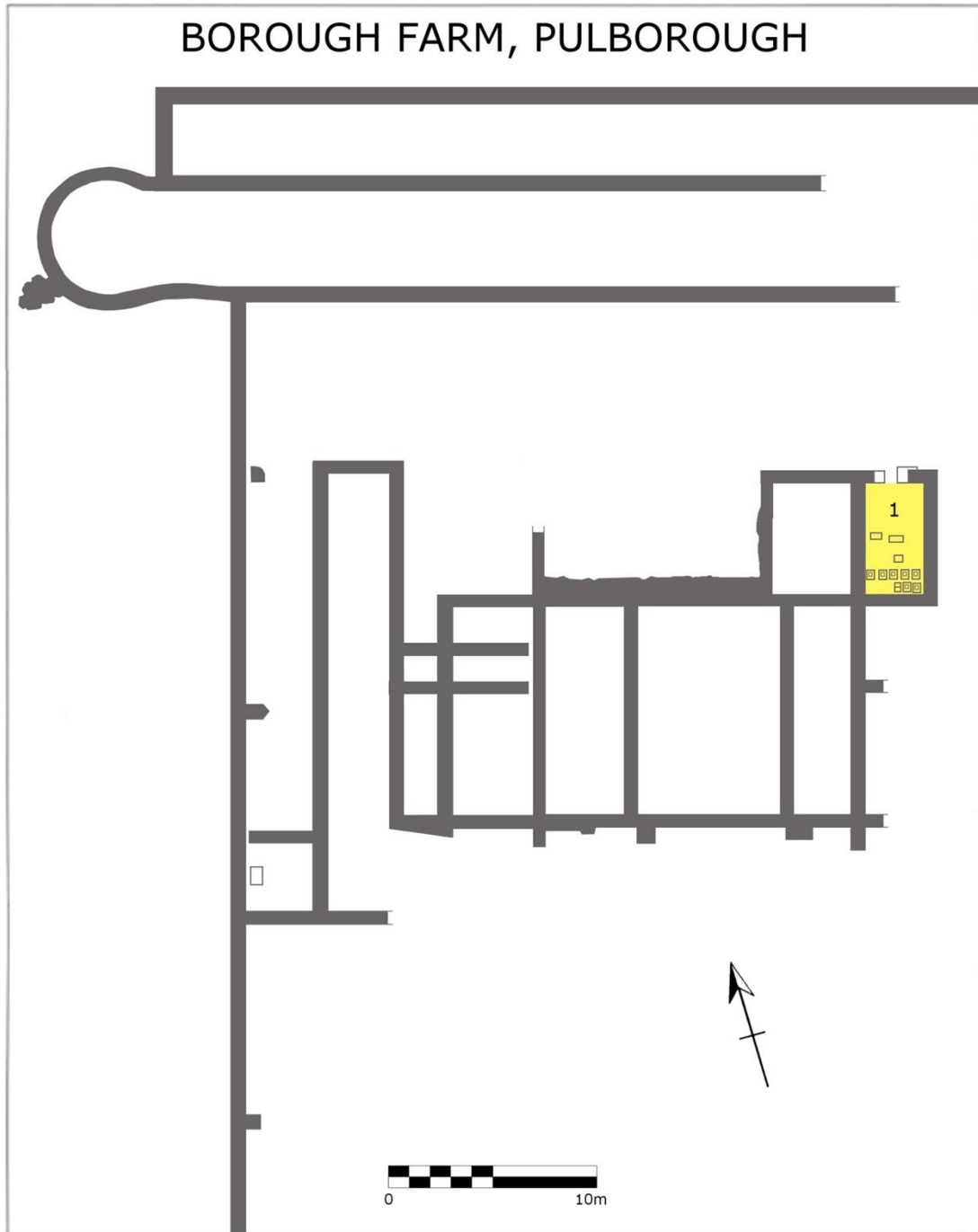


**Figure 83. Plan of the villa at Borough Farm, Pulborough (West Sussex). The room with hypocaust is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Praetorius 1911, opposite to page 122, Fig. 1.**

## CHILGROVE 1

**Individual Site Number:** 54

**Location:** SU 8344 1244

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site 'is placed in a small valley running north-south along the east flank of Bow Hill' (Down 1979, 41), c. 100m west of the Roman road from Chichester to Silchester, c. 1.3km southwest of the villa at **Chilgrove 2**, and c. 3.7km east of the villa at **Upmarden**. A trackway linked the villa to the main road.

Down (1979, 42) reports that 'there is evidence for slight occupation during the century or so preceding the Roman occupation'. The first Roman structure (Period 2) was probably a timber building dating to the late first century. It was later (Period 3) substituted by a building 'constructed with narrow ground cills of flint' (Down 1979, 43). Only five rooms were identified, and the chronology and size of this first house are not entirely clear.

At the end of the third–early fourth centuries (Period 4, Phase A), 'the villa was rebuilt on almost the same plan but on a larger scale, with a bathhouse at the south end' (Down 1979, 43). The baths were modified during the fourth century (Period 4, Phase B), giving the impression 'of a prosperous farmer equipping himself and his family with the latest modern luxuries' (ibid.).

By the late fourth century (Period 5), 'part of the villa had been burned down; the bath suite was robbed of building stone, and an iron-working forge had been built on the floor in Room 8' (Down 1979, 43). Down (1979, 48) suggests that at this time, the villa 'ceased to be used for domestic occupation, possibly as the result of a fire which affected part of the main building range, but, perhaps more likely, as a result of its amalgamation with Chilgrove 2'. Site area: c. 60 x 57m.

**Villa chronology:** Late first–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in the spring of 1963 and excavated for nearly 14 years by the Chilgrove Valley Landscape Project under the direction of Alec Down (1979).

### Baths

*Period 4, Phase A:* The bathhouse was initially structured as follows: Room 4 (c. 3.5 x 2.9m) was the furnace room. In this phase, this room 'was open-ended, the rear wall being added later' (Down 1979, 64). Room 1A (c. 2.9 x 3.05m) was a *caldarium* 'and had a small hot bath built within the apse at the south end' (ibid.). Room 1B (c. 2.9 x 3.05m) was a *tepidarium* and was probably connected to the *caldarium* by an arch. Room 11 (c. 3.96 x 2.13m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room 12 (c. 1.22 x 1.53m). The numbering of the rooms follows Down's plan (1979, 61, Fig. 12).

*Period 4, Phase B:* During this second phase, the furnace room 'had a back wall added', and 'a hot water-tank was placed across the flue, being supported on walls surfaced with tegulae' (Down 1979, 66). The *frigidarium* was enlarged (now Room 3, c. 5.64 x 3.05m) 'and the old cold bath was filled in and a new one constructed on the southeast corner of the building' (ibid.) (Room 9, c. 2.13 x 1.52m).

**Decoration:** Down (1979, 64) reports that 'quantities of painted wall-plaster were recovered from the black-fill of the baths, most of it being in small sections and being a uniform Pompeian red in colour'. The hot bath in Room 1A 'was painted red inside', and the ceiling of the small alcove above it 'was painted red, white and blue' (ibid.).

**Water supply:** According to Down (1979, p. 41), the valley where the site is located likely ‘supported a small stream in wet weather’ during the Roman period. Collars for wooden water pipes were found close to the bathhouse, although it is not clear if the building was supplied by the stream since this ‘would have meant first pumping it up into a water tower’ (Down 1979, 67).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 153; Down 1979; Scott 1993, 192–3.

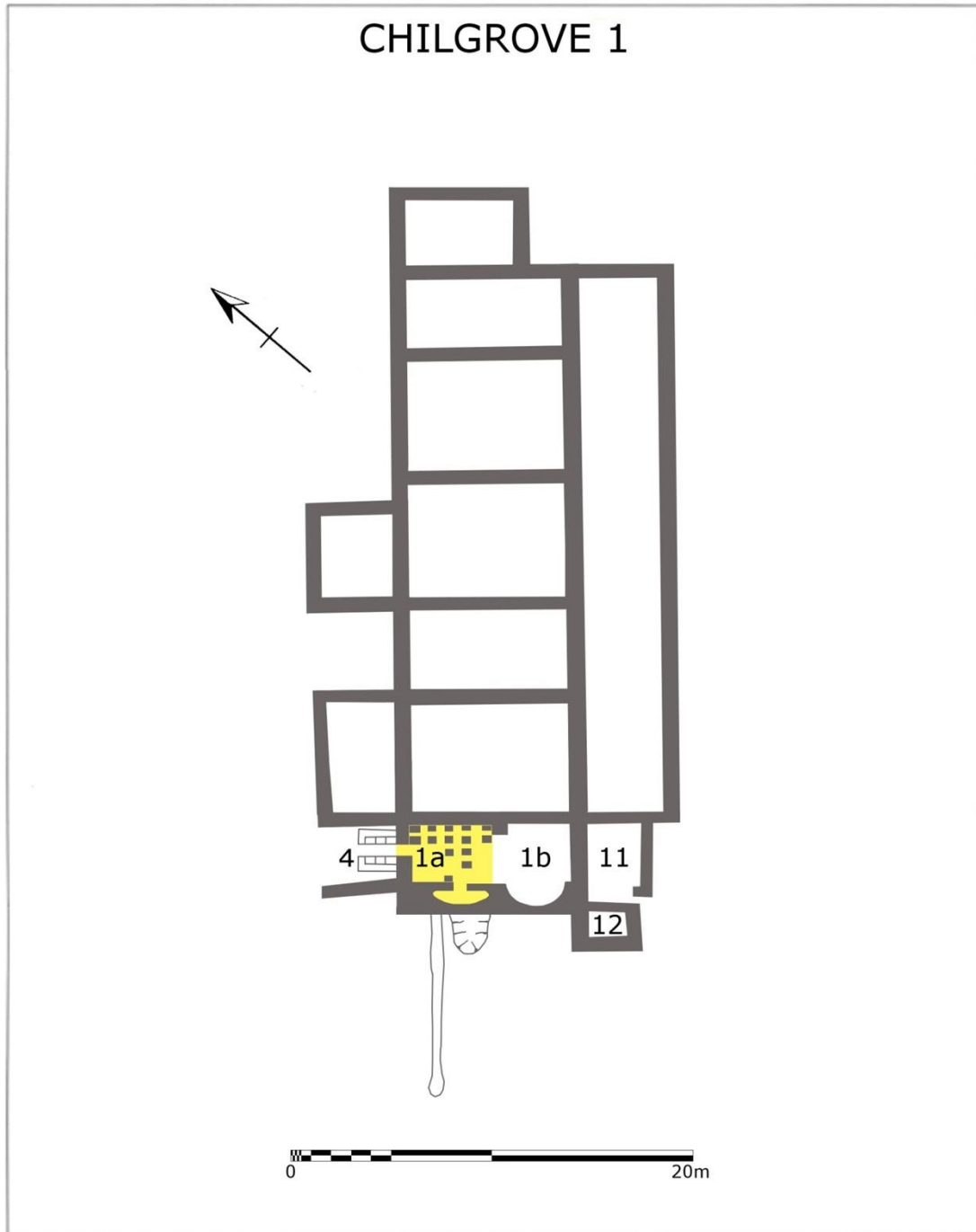


**Figure 69. Plan of the villa at Chilgrove 1 (West Sussex) during Phase A. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Down 1979, 61, Fig. 12.**

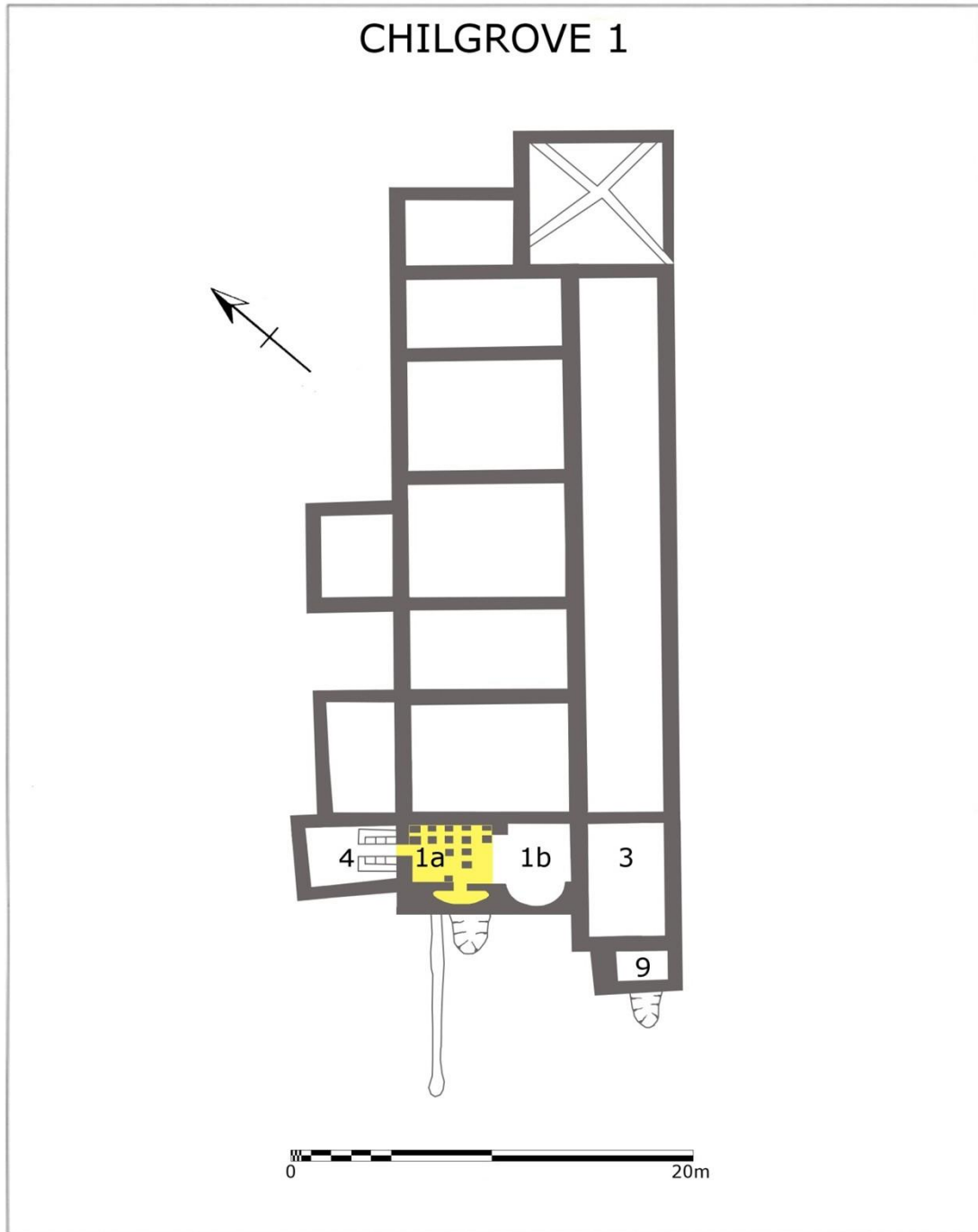


**Figure 70. Plan of the villa at Chilgrove 1 (West Sussex) during Phase B. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Down 1979, 61, Fig. 12.**

## CHILGROVE 2

**Individual Site Number:** 55

**Location:** SU 8412 1362

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site 'is positioned on the west slope of a small valley which branches off the main Chilgrove valley and runs northeast' (Down 1979, 41). It lies c. 1.3km northeast of the villa at **Chilgrove 1**, c. 4.6km east of the villa at **Upmarden**, and faces the Roman road from Chichester to Silchester, a few meters to the west. As at Chilgrove I, 'the earliest structures of the site appear to have been of timber construction and were surrounded by a ditched enclosure' (Down 1979, 80). Two buildings have been located, dating from the end of the first century to the early second century CE (Period 1).

At a later stage (Period 2), the main structure (Building 1) was rebuilt and 'another building, possibly a barn, was built on the north side of it' (Down 1979, 43). During Period 3 (late third–early fourth centuries), Building 1 'was rebuilt on masonry walls of flint and a larger plan' (ibid.). In Period 4 (first quarter of–mid-fourth century), the villa was again enlarged, and 'at the south end of the site, a new wing in masonry replaced the earlier timber buildings' (Down 1979, 44). A bathhouse (Building 3) was constructed at the east end of the complex. Two barns were also added at this time (Buildings 2 and 4).

Down (1979, 44) notes that 'a decline in the living standards is perceptible in the late fourth century' and 'it is possible that the bath-suite may have been partially demolished and turned over to corn drying'. In Period 5 (from the late fourth century onwards), Building 2 'was destroyed by fire and possibly part of Building 1 also' (ibid.). Site area: c. 65 x 63m.

**Villa chronology:** Late first–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1964. Excavations started in 1965 as part of the Chilgrove Valley Landscape Project under the direction of Alec Down (1979).

**Baths:** As mentioned above, a bathhouse (Building 3) was added to the villa complex at the beginning of the fourth century (Period 4). The four rooms (12, 13, 14, 15) on the west side of this building might have still been 'living quarters as in the earlier periods' (Down 1979, 85). If this was the case, the bath suite proper (Rooms 10a, 10b, 11) was added at a later stage. The numbering of the rooms follows Down's plan (1979, 82, Fig. 22; 87, Fig. 24).

The baths were structured as follows: Room 10a was a *caldarium* (c. 2.44 x 2.44m), joined to Room 10b (a *tepidarium*, c. 2.44 x 2.44m) 'by an archway supported on tiled buttresses' (Down 1979, 86). The hypocaust in these rooms, both equipped with apsidal plunge baths, was fuelled by a furnace at the southeast end of Room 10a, although 'the full extent of the stoking area could not be traced due to the complete destruction of the walls by the plough' (ibid.). Room 11 (c. 2.97 x 3.5m) was a *frigidarium*, with its cold plunge bath at the east end. The function of the other rooms is uncertain. Rooms 12 (c. 5.94 x 4.57m) and 13 (c. 2.74 x 4.42m) were initially separated by a wall. The wall was then demolished in c. 350–360 CE to form a larger room (c. 9.45 x 4.57m). Room 14 (c. 1.98 x 9.45m) was a corridor connecting Room 11 to Room 15 (c. 2.89 x 3.05m).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The baths were supplied by a well located to the south of the building.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.



**Key references:** Down 1979; Green 1976, 197; Morris 1979, 46, 62, 113, 130, 153, 155; Scott 1993, 193.

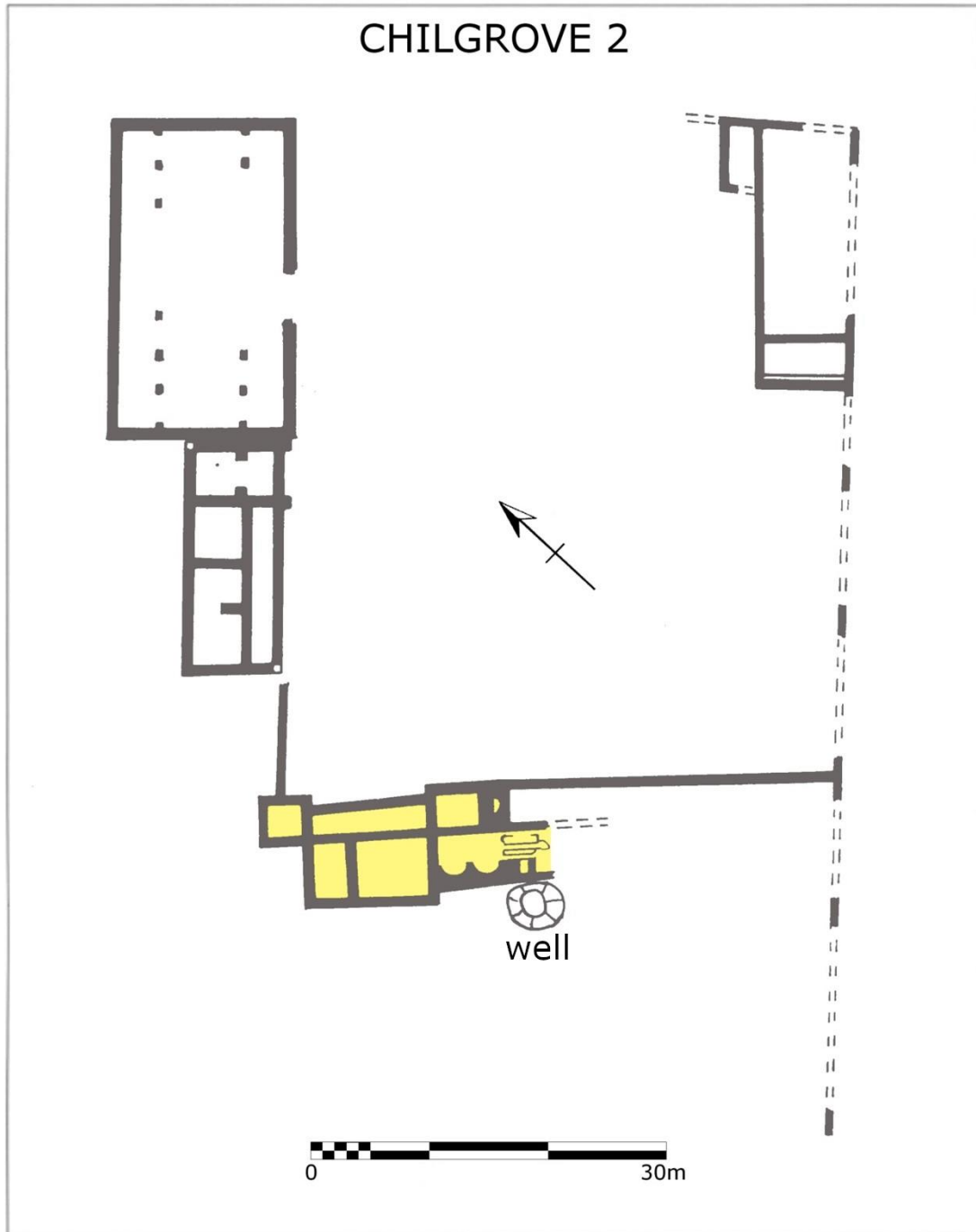


**Figure 71. Plan of the villa at Chilgrove 2 (West Sussex). The baths are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Down 1979, 82, Fig. 22.**

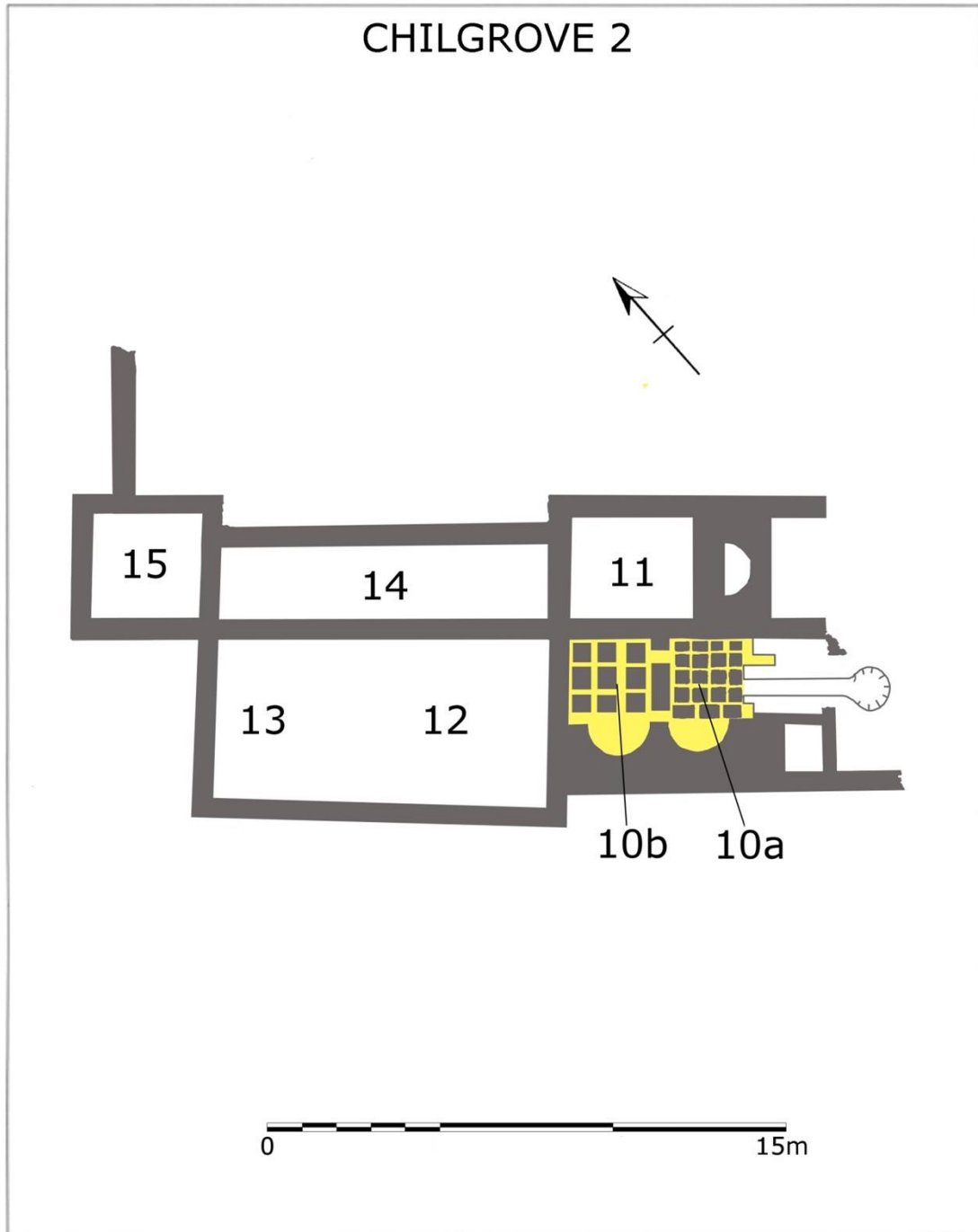


**Figure 72. The bath-suite of the villa at Chilgrove 2 (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Down 1979, 87, Fig. 24.**

## CLAYTON, HASSOCKS

**Individual Site Number:** 59

**Location:** TQ 3028 1395

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 2.8km southeast of the possible villa at Hurstpierpoint. Page (1935, 53) reports that ‘the remains of a figured mosaic and a Roman bath’ were found in the rectory garden at Clayton in c. 1810 and soon after reburied. Part of the bathhouse discovered in the nineteenth century was recently excavated by the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team at Clayton Manor (Butler 2002). Unfortunately, it was not possible to date any finds or deposits due to the nineteenth-century disturbance. Site area: no information available.

**Villa chronology:** No information available

**Excavation history:** As mentioned above, the site was partially excavated in c. 1810 (Page 1935, 53). The Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team recently relocated the bathhouse (Butler 2002), and the final excavation report is in progress.

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 153; Butler 2002; Page 1935, 53; Scott 1993, 184–5.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

## DUNCTON

**Individual Site Number:** 76

**Location:** SU 9602 1659

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is positioned ‘on a rising ground, with a gentle slope on the North and East sides, and a steep bank on the West (in the bottom is a fine spring of water)’ (Anonymous 1816, 18). It lies c. 3km northwest of the Roman road (the Stone or Stane Street) from London to Chichester and c. 3.5km northwest of the villa at **Bignor**. A bathhouse, probably associated with a yet undiscovered villa, was partially excavated here in the early nineteenth century. Site area: c. 15 x 7.5m.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was located and partially excavated in 1812 under the direction of George Wyndham, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Egremont.

**Baths:** The baths were structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 2.54 x 1.98m) was a furnace room. Room 4a (c. 3.4 x 2.4m) was a *caldarium* with an apse in Room 3 (c. 2m wide and c. 0.9m max. depth). Room 4b (c. 2.5 x 2.1m) was a *tepidarium*. The function of Room 5 (c. 2.5 x 1.6m?) was probably a frigidarium. The function of the circular feature marked 6 on the original plan is uncertain. Within Room 7 (c. 2.43 x 1.42m), there was ‘a curved division, formed of mortar and tiles (now destroyed)’ (Anonymous 1816, 18). A lead pipe linked this room to Room 9 (c. 1.3 x 1.1m?), probably an apsidal plunge bath (Winbolt 1935, 24).

Winbolt (1935, 24) suggests that ‘the building appears to have extended farther to the north and west’. The numbering of the rooms follows the plan published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* (Anonymous 1816, Plate 2, opposite page 17).

**Decoration:** Fragments of painted plaster were found in Room 7. Talking about Room 4a, the report (Anonymous 1816, 17) mentions that above the hypocaust, there was a ‘tessellated pavement; fragments of painted cement are found, but no tessellae [sic]’.

**Water supply:** Water for the baths might have been supplied by the nearby spring.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Anonymous 1816; Black 1987 154; Scott 1993, 185; Winbolt 1935, 24, 184.

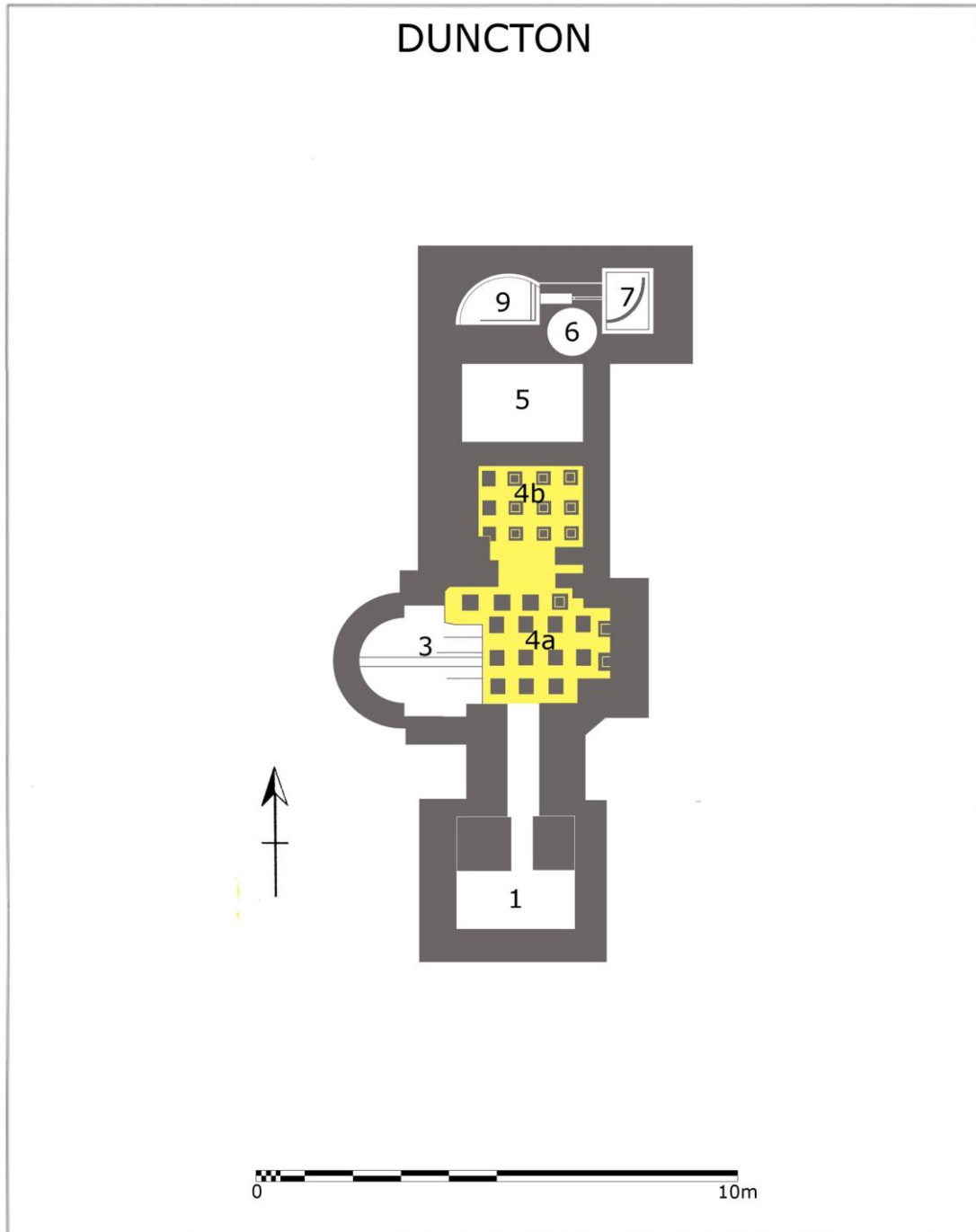


**Figure 73. Plan of the bathhouse at Duncton (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Anonymous 1816, 17, Plate 2.**

ELSTED

**Individual Site Number:** 86

**Location:** TQ 813 191

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site of this small Roman farmstead lies 'on a chalk outcrop to the north of the South Downs' (Redknapp & Millet 1980, 197), c. 3.70km north of the villa at **Batten Hanger**. A courtyard and field boundaries were located here together with a masonry building, 'detected by infra-red aerial photography and confirmed by resistivity' (ibid.). According to the excavators, 'the stone building probably represents the living quarters, although the simple three or four-roomed plan could also be a bath block' (Redknapp & Millet 1980, 205). Presently known site area: c. 45 x 30m.

**Villa chronology:** first–late third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated in 1975 by M. Redknapp and M. Millett on behalf of the Sussex Archaeological Field Unit.

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 154; Redknapp & Millet 1980.

**Note:** No complete plan available.

## FISHBOURNE

**Individual Site Number:** 97

**Location:** SU 8394 0479

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on a gentle slope near a stream flowing south into the Fishbourne Channel. It is located c. 3km northeast of the Roman building at Bosham (a temple?), 7.7km south of the villa at **Chilgrove 1**, and c. 1.4km west of Chichester. This vast complex is often referred to as a 'palace' (misleadingly, according to Millet 2016, 704) and lies over a late Iron Age *oppidum*. There is significant evidence of pre-43 CE occupation at the site, with a ditch (11) that produced imported and local pottery dated to c. 10 BCE–25CE, hinting at the possible presence of Roman or Gallic traders (Manley & Rudkin 2006; Russell 2006, 23–30).

The earliest timber structures seem to date soon after the Roman invasion in 43 CE and were probably part of a military base or a commercial port (Black 2008). During the Neronian period (Cunliffe's Period 1C), a series of large masonry buildings were built, including the apparently unfinished Building M1 (*contra* Black 2008, 295), Building M3, and Building M2, called the 'proto-palace'. Building M3, initially identified as a temple, was recently associated with the army (Taylor 2003) or with the commercial port (Black 2008, 297).

This early complex has only been partially excavated and was composed of four parts: 'to the north is a courtyard surrounded by verandas, to the south a bath suite and, along the east side of both, a range of rooms flanked by corridors' (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 61). The latter were perhaps a range of domestic quarters. This building has alternatively been interpreted as a large (possibly public) bath complex dating to c. 75–80, with the courtyard as an exercise yard and the east range of rooms as a covered basilica (Black 1993).

Recent excavations suggest that an early structure was built in Black's Period 1B (Neronian?) and subsequently enlarged in Black's Period 1C (early Flavian?) (Black 2008, 294–5). A defaced marble head, found by Cunliffe in the fill of a late third-century robber trench, was recently identified with a portrait of Nero. The fact that the sculpture was decapitated with significant attempts being made to strike and damage the face suggests that the owner of the proto-palace might have fallen into disgrace after Nero's death and his subsequent *damnatio memoriae* (Russell & Manley 2013).

During the Flavian Period (Cunliffe's Period 2, c. 75–80 CE), the complex comprised four ranges of rooms with a central garden and incorporated Building M2 into its southeast corner. Black (1987, 84–6) initially suggested a later date for this second phase (c. 90/110 CE) based on the use of box flue tiles with relief-patterned keying of the 'London-Sussex Group'. However, he has recently accepted Cunliffe's dating (Black 2008, 302–303).

In the early second century (Cunliffe's Period 3A), the earlier facilities were probably abandoned, and a new set of baths was inserted into the east end of the northern range. In the middle of the second century (Cunliffe's Period 3B), the complex underwent major alterations: the eastern part of the northern range was demolished, and a new bath-suite was built in the east wing. Many other minor improvements continued to be made during the third century. The complex was destroyed by fire in the late third century. Site area: c. 270x 200m.

**Villa chronology:** Mid-first–late third centuries CE.



**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1805. Systematic excavations were carried out in 1961–1969 under the direction of B. Cunliffe. Further excavations took place in the following twenty years under the direction of D. Rudkin (Cunliffe *et al.* 1996). More recently (1995–1999), the area in front of the villa was explored by J. Manley and D. Rudkin.

## **Baths**

### Building M2

*Period 1C:* According to Cunliffe (1971, vol. 1, 61), only the southern side of this building was occupied by the baths (Rooms 8–16). The complex was built of greensand blocks and was structured as follows: Room 8 (uncertain size) was a cold plunge bath with probably a bench around the walls. Room 9 (c. 4.5 x 4.1m) was perhaps hypocausted and has been labelled by Cunliffe (1971b, vol. 1, 64) as a ‘warmed ante-room’. Rooms 10 (c. 5.8 x 4.8m), 11 (c. 5.8 x 4.8m) and 12 (c. 5.8 x 4.8m) were hypocausted and ‘formed the main dry *caldaria* and *tepidaria*’ (ibid.). Room 13 (c. 4.7 x 1.9m) was a passage or an ante-room leading to Room 14 (c. 6.4 x 4.7m), interpreted as a *frigidarium*. Room 15 (c. 9.9 x 2.6m) was a corridor, and Room 16 (c. 9.9 x 6m) was a *sudatorium* for hot damp heat. The numbering of the rooms follows Cunliffe’s plan (1971b, vol. 1, opposite page 68, Fig. 18).

As mentioned before, Black (1993, 236) believes that the entire building was a large bathhouse built for a ‘proto-urban’ settlement, possibly ‘a port and commercial centre for Chichester’. According to his reconstruction, based on the similarities between these facilities and the bathhouse at **Angmering**, Building M2 was structured as follows: Room 8 was a *natatio*. Room 9 was an *apodyterium* or a passage room. Room 10 was a *caldarium* with its hot bath in Room 13, Room 11 a *tepidarium* and Room 12 a *frigidarium*. Room 16 was a *laconicum* entered through Room 11.

The *apodyterium* was possibly located at the south end of Room 5. Room 15 was a passage that linked the *apodyterium* with the furnace room in Room 14. The courtyard north of Room 8 ‘may have served as a small palaestra’ (Black 1993, 235). Rooms 17 and 18 ‘may have been storerooms or perhaps accommodation for slaves’ (Black 1993, 231). Finally, Rooms 6 and 7 ‘were both enclosed and formed a single-aisled basilica’ (Black 1993, 236).

Manley and Rudkin (2003, 137–8) have recently suggested that ‘the so-called proto-palace was at least a two-phase structure’ and that the first phase (dating to c. 43–50 CE) ‘was simply just a bath-suite’ likely built by the military ‘for a number of men billeted in the surrounding timber buildings’. The extension of the baths during the second phase ‘could then be viewed as a military decommissioning of the structure when it was turned over to private use’. Alternatively, the first bathhouse may have been built in the Neronian period for the customs personnel working in Building M3, ‘a headquarters for those in charge of collecting duties on and checking the inventories of goods entering and leaving Britain in Period 1B (and perhaps in 1A)’ (Black 2008, 297).

*Period 2:* The baths, now incorporated into the main villa building, were ‘contained within a square block measuring 58ft. by 59ft. (17.6 x 18m) externally’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 119). The wall dividing Rooms 15 and 16 was demolished ‘to create a large square room off which all the others opened’ (ibid.).

*Period 3A:* The southern bath-suite went out of use at this stage.

### North Wing Baths

*Period 3A:* The east end of the North wing was modified to host a small bath-suite. It was structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 4.3 x 3.2m) was a *frigidarium*, provided with two large gutter blocks reused as a drain, probably to flush a latrine on its southern side. Room 2 (c. 7.3 x 3.1m) was a *tepidarium* with a small warm plunge bath (Room 3, c. 1.5 x 1.5m) on its west side. Room 4 (c. 7.6 x 2.8m) was a *caldarium*; the hot air ‘was supplied by means of a flue outside the east wall, built of broken roof tiles, with elongated cheek walls large enough to support a hot-water boiler above’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 155). These baths were demolished in Period 3B. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

### East Wing Baths

*Period 3B:* When the North wing baths were demolished, a new bath-suite was built in what was before the northern courtyard of the East wing. These facilities were structured as follows: Room K (uncertain size) was the entrance hall and the *apodyterium* of the baths. From this room, the bathers entered the eastern part of Room I (c. 3.3 x 2.6m), a *frigidarium* with a cold plunge bath on its western side (Room J, c. 2.21 x 1.6m). A masonry drain was found under the floor of these rooms, ‘leading from the cold plunge bath and emptying into the old Second-Period gutter’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 176).

Rooms H (c. 3 x 2.7m) and G (c. 4 x 2.9m) were perhaps a single room, a *tepidarium* equipped with a channelled hypocaust and with an apsidal warm plunge bath on its eastern side (unnumbered, c. 1.8m wide and c. 1.5m max. depth). Cunliffe (1971b, vol. 1, 176) notes that this *tepidarium* was probably ‘a unit of carefully-graded heat, the southern part of the room closest to the *caldarium* being the warmest while the north end (‘room H’) possessed no under-floor heating at all’.

Room F (c. 3.3 x 3m) was a *caldarium* ‘divided into two separate parts by a sleeper wall’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 174). The southern part was a hot plunge bath (c. 2.7 x 0.9m), ‘with a red tessellated pavement which sloped to the west side towards a drain formed by a single ceramic water-pipe’ (ibid.). The furnace room was in Room E4, where a water tank might have been located. The numbering of the rooms follows Cunliffe’s plan (1971b, vol. 1, opposite page 178, Fig. 47).

### **Decoration**

Building M2: From the rubble above Room 10 ‘was recovered a number of small pieces of wall-plaster painted in green and white, and a number of white tesserae’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 63). Small sections from a black and white mosaic floor and fragments of wall plaster – ‘some pieces painted red and white, others green of various shades on a white background’ (ibid.) – were found in Room 11. Fragments of wall-plaster painted red were recovered from the rubble filling Room 13. Room 16 contained black and white tesserae and fragments of wall-plaster painted red and white.

Discussing the painted plaster of the ‘proto-palace’, Cunliffe (1971b, vol. 2, 55) states that ‘in general it will be seen that most of the walls were painted green with large panels of red, yellow and deep blue superimposed’ and that ‘the green usually served as a background for delicate flower paintings with deep blue, painted with coarser flowers, as a dado’.

Fragments of *opus sectile* (a rare feature also found at **Angmering**) were discovered in a builders’ yard beneath the east wing of the complex. The pieces were of various shapes: triangles (the most typical form), squares, lozenges, kite shapes, strips (primarily blue) and a single blue hexagon. Cosh and Neal (2009, 532) mention five colours: ‘blue

(Purbeck marble), white (rock chalk), grey (Wealden shale), red and yellow (both siltstone of Mediterranean origin)’.

*North Wing Baths*: Painted plaster found close to Room 3 shows that it ‘was decorated with a deep red dado or skirting with a white wall above’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 157). The walls were divided into panels by vertical bands of deep red, and ‘each area or panel was lined with a thin orange-red band (0.6 cm), a few centimetres from the deep red borders and concentric with them’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 2, 70). The ‘recesses or window-embrasures were painted white with the angles picked out in orange-red’ (ibid.). The other rooms of the bath-suite had similar decoration, but it was probably ‘enlivened with the limited use of black and yellow against its predominantly white background’ (ibid.).

*East Wing Baths*: The walls of Room I were ‘fairly elaborately painted, with areas of grey marbling splashed red, black and yellow, and red marbling splashed black, both probably serving as a dado’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 176). Above the dado, there were bands of composite colours (blue, black and white). Room J had a deep red dado c. 1m high with white panels above, divided ‘by vertical bands of deep red, which ran from the dado to a horizontal band of the same colour, representing a cornice’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 2, 75). Room G had a similar decoration, with ‘a small area of yellow [...] over-painted with thin black and white lines, 0.5 cm. thick’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 2, 78).

### **Water supply**

*Building M2*: The earliest baths were supplied by an aqueduct – a ditch with a wooden conduit at its bottom (Manley & Rudkin 2003, 34) – dating to Period 1b (c. 50–70 CE). Manley and Rudkin (2003, 138) note that this ‘may have been used to produce a more regular supply of water for the baths than that afforded by the stream’ that runs west of the building. They also suggest military involvement in the construction of the aqueduct (ibid.).

*North Wing Baths*: Water was supplied to these baths from the east through a wooden water pipe (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 157). Its source is uncertain, although the Period 1b aqueduct was still in use at this time and may have also been employed for these facilities.

*East Wing Baths*: Water for these baths ‘was brought in from the east through a wooden water-pipe, jointed with circular iron collars’ (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 177). A similar water pipe was found by Manley and Rudkin (2003, 34) near Building 3, c. 60m to the east of the main complex. As for the North Wing Baths, these facilities may have been supplied via the Period 1c aqueduct that went out of use only during the late second century (Manley & Rudkin 2003, 35).

**Material culture associated with bathing**: During the excavations, a fragment of a glass *aryballos*, a vessel used by bathers as perfume or oil containers, was found, unfortunately unstratified (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 2, 357). The handle of another *aryballos* dating to Period 3 was also recovered, although its precise find-spot is not given (ibid.).

*Aryballoi* have been found in a limited number of major urban centres and military sites in Britain but are rare in rural areas (Price & Cottam 1998, 189–90). Only three other examples come from the case study area: two from the Roman cemetery at Ospringe (Kent) (cremation burials 40 and 42) and a third one from a late-first-century context near Richborough (Kent) (Price & Cottam 1998, 190, with bibliography).

Many fragments of unguent bottles and flasks were also found at Fishbourne, dating to Period 1 and 3 (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 2, 357–8), as well as tweezers, nail cleaners and ‘ear scoops’, dating to Period 1 and 2 (Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 2, 110).

**Key references:** Allen & Sykes 2011; Black 1987, 84–6; 1993; 2008; Cosh & Neal 2009, 527–53; Cunliffe 1971b; 1971c; 1998; Cunliffe *et al.* 1996; De Haan 2011, 280–1, K.49; Manley 2000; 2003; Manley & Rudkin 2003; 2005; 2006; Russell 2006, 23–30, 98–133; Russell & Manley 2013; Taylor 2003; Scott 1993, 184.

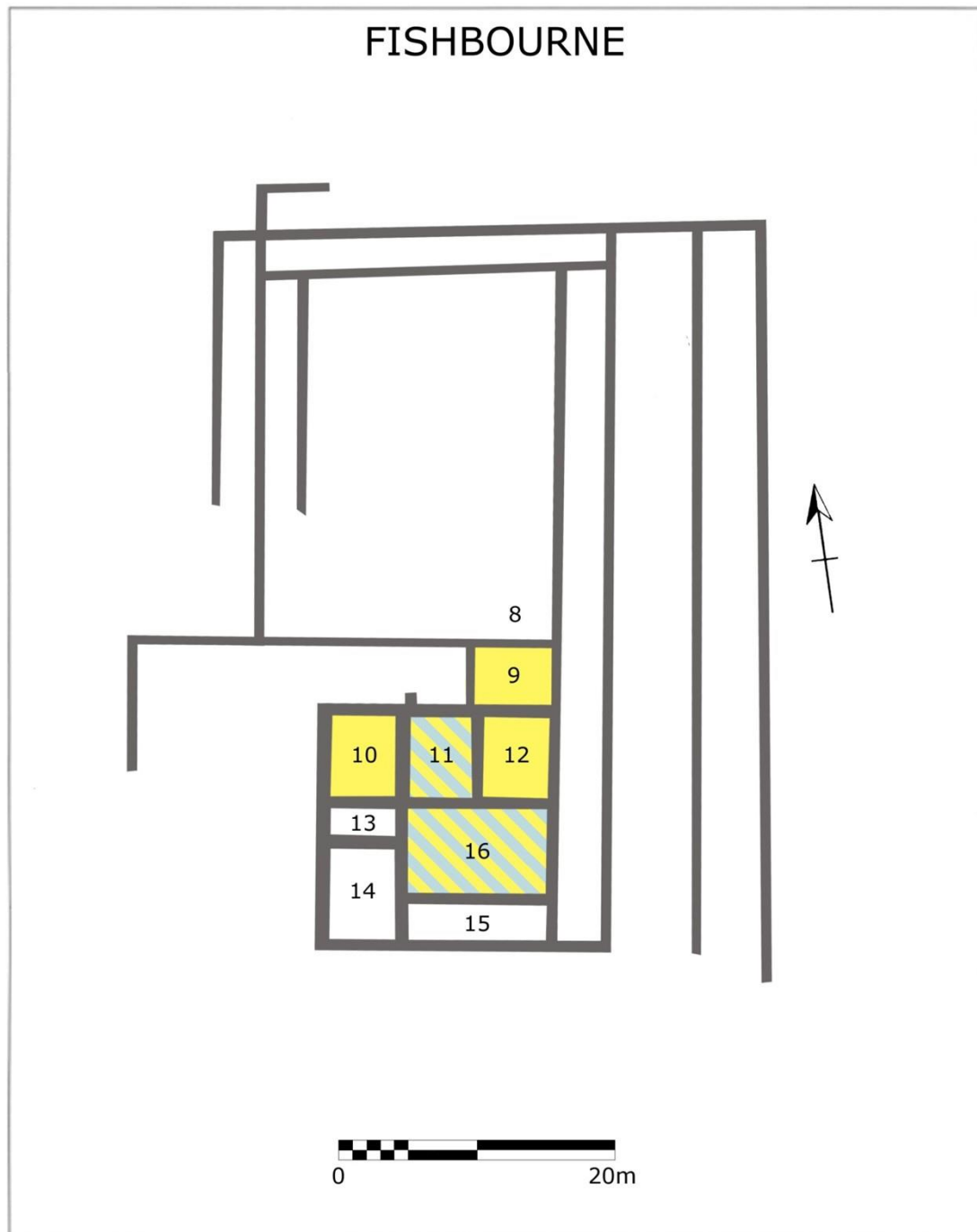


**Figure 74. Building M2 at Fishbourne (West Sussex) during period 1c. The rooms equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, opposite page 68, Fig. 18.**

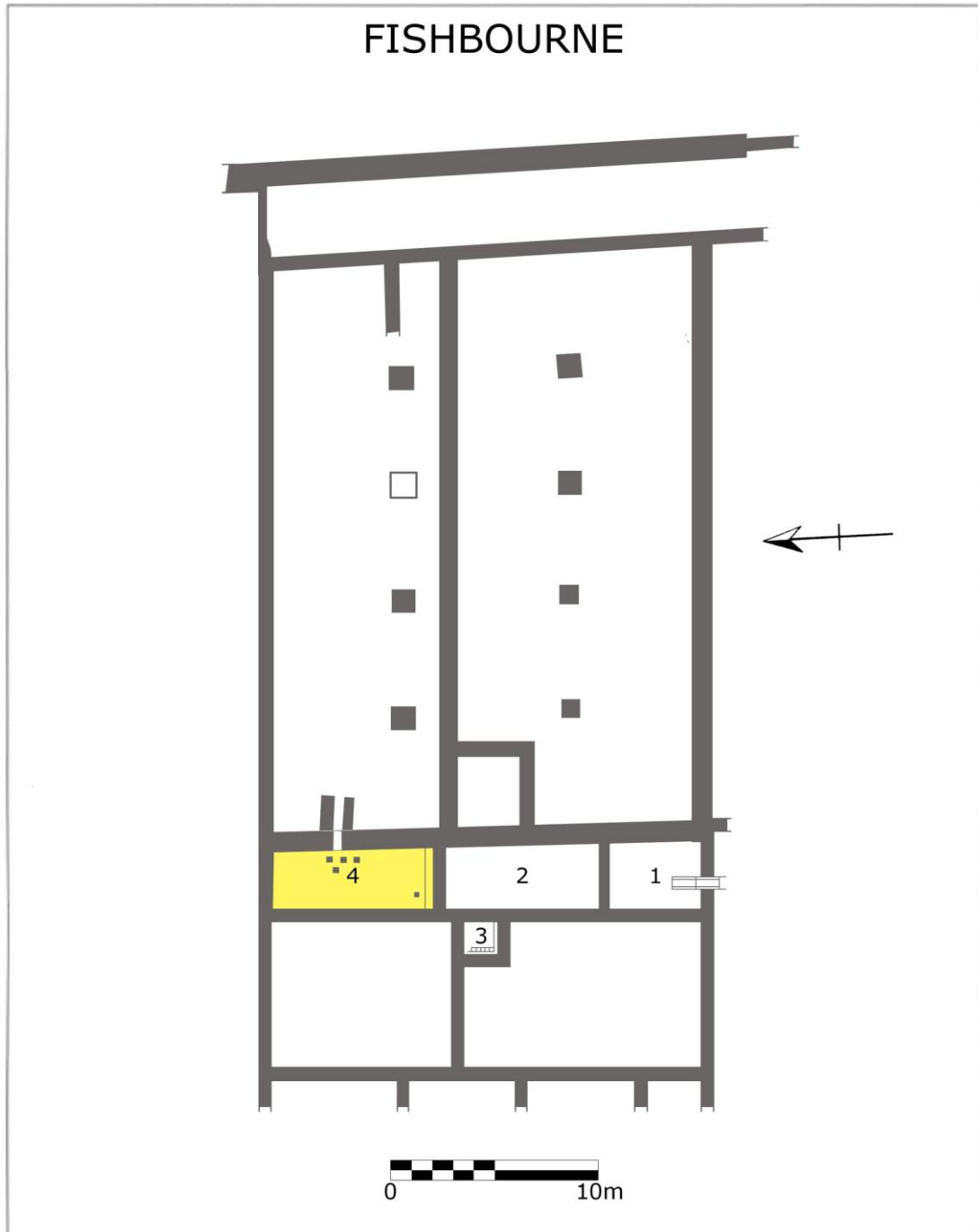


**Figure 75. The North Wing Baths at Fishbourne (West Sussex). The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 156, Fig. 43.**

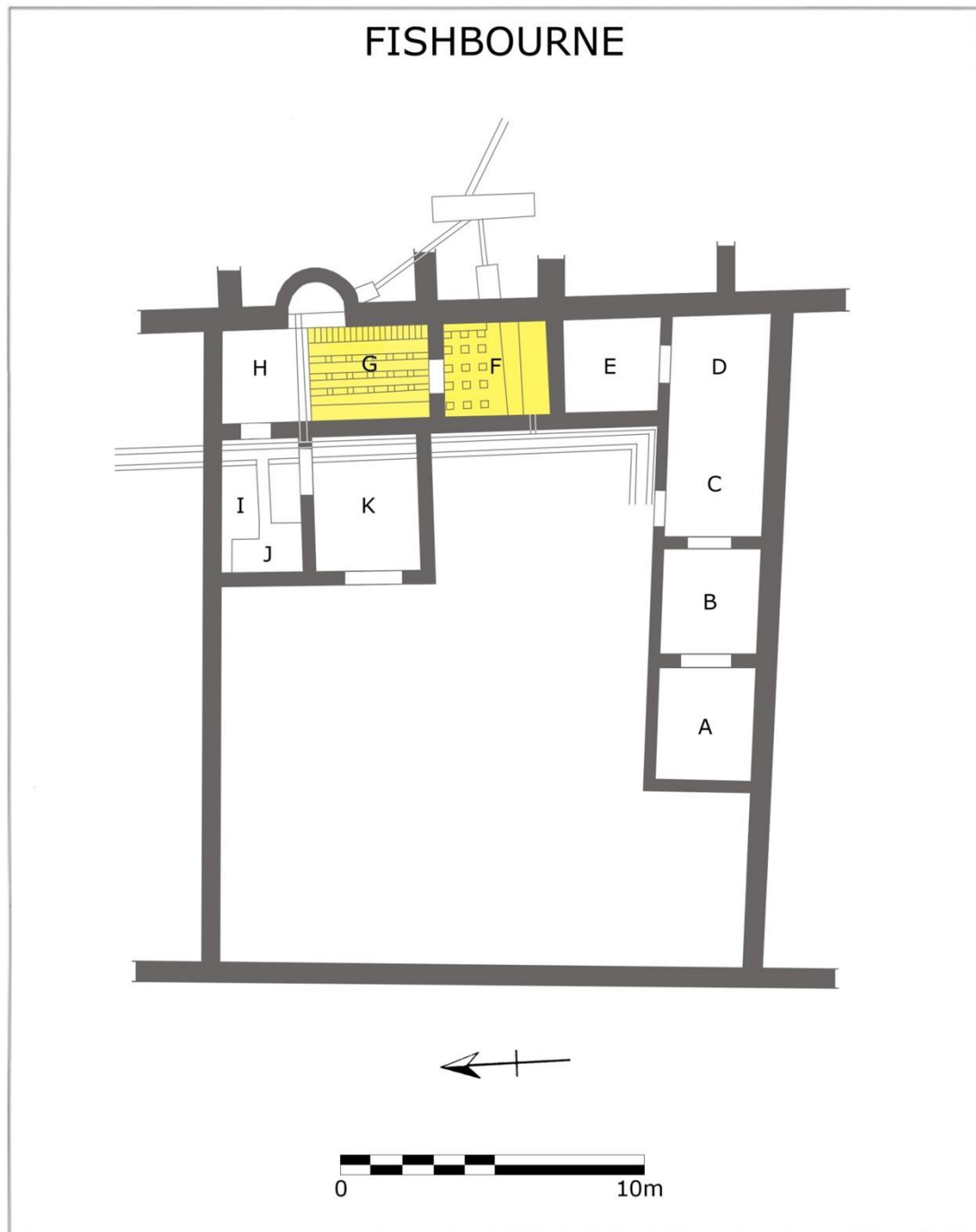


**Figure 91. The East Wing Baths at Fishbourne (West Sussex). The rooms equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Cunliffe 1971b, vol. 1, 178, Fig. 47.**

GORING

**Individual Site Number:** 105

**Location:** TQ 105 038

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 2km southeast of the bathhouse at **Highdown, Angmering**. The villa is a small corridor building with a 'central range of three rooms [...] flanked on all sides by corridors which had been subdivided to make a number of smaller rooms' (Rudling 1983a, 87). The wall footings were constructed of flint and chalk, and some of the rooms had evidence of mosaic floors. In 1987, a small bath-suite and a well were discovered 50m to the northeast of the main house. The site is alternatively referred to in the literature as Northbrook College. Site area: c. 64 x 53m.

**Villa chronology:** second–third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** Members of the Worthing Archaeological Society located and partially excavated the site in 1978. Further work took place in 1982 and 1983. The baths were identified during a larger-scale excavation by the Field Archaeology Unit of Archaeology South-East in 1987. An archaeological evaluation was conducted near the site in 1997.

**Baths:** Unfortunately, only a summary of the excavation of the small, detached bathhouse (c. 9.6 x 5.5m) is available (Rudling 1988). It had three rooms: Room 1 (c. 1.9 x 0.8m), with a plunge bath on its northern side, Room 2 (c. 2.8 x 1.9m) and Room 3 (c. 4.7 x 2.8m). From a picture of the site taken soon after the excavation, Room 3 seems to have been hypocausted (Rudling 1988). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The baths were supplied by the nearby well.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 155; Rudling 1983a; 1983b; 1984a; 1988b; Scott 1993, 194; Stevens 1997.



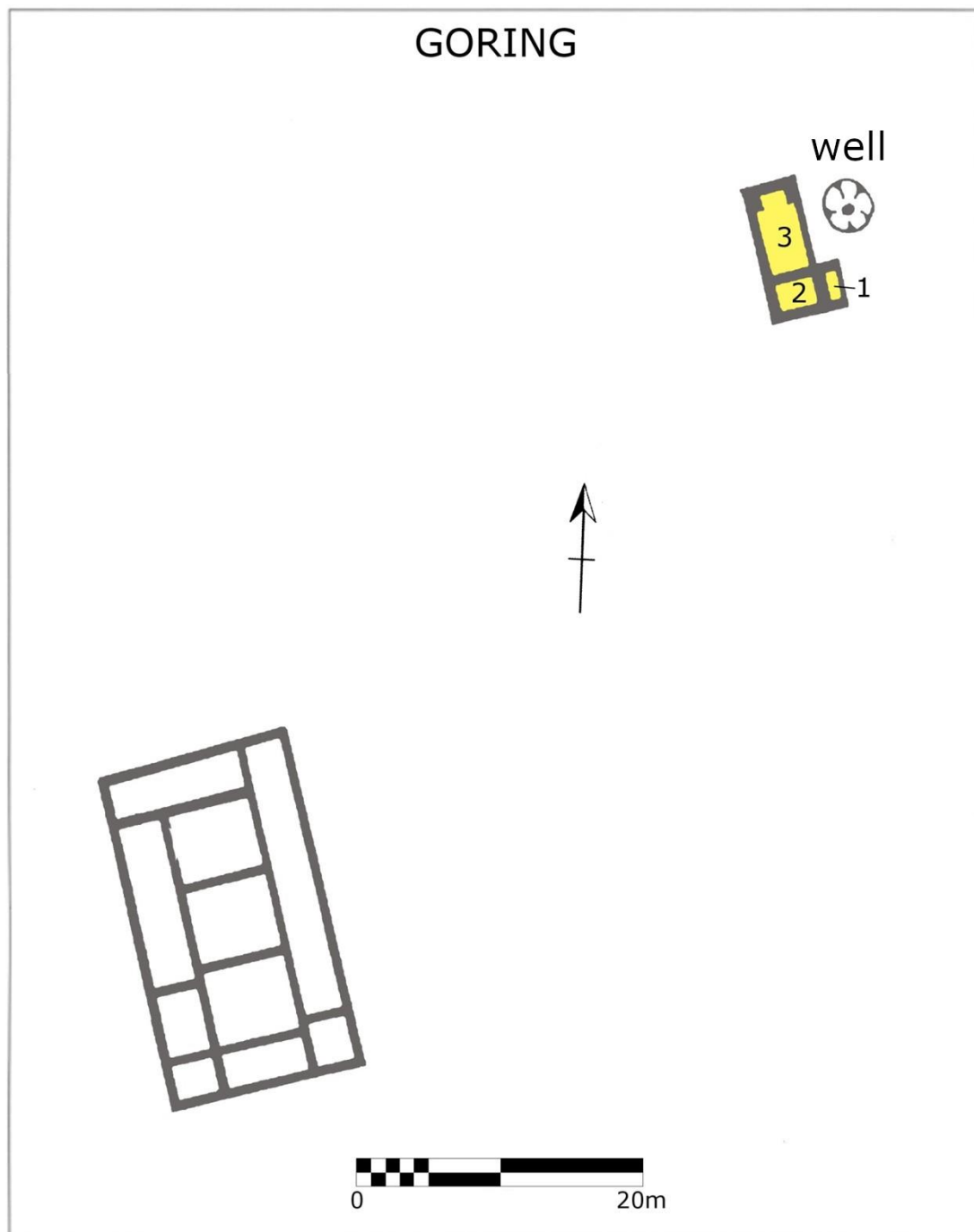


**Figure 92. Plan of the villa at Goring (West Sussex). The bathhouse is highlighted in yellow. (After Rudling 1998, Fig. 4).**

## HIGHDOWN, ANGMERING

**Individual Site Number:** 113

**Location:** TQ 0878 0436

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on an isolated chalk hill, c. 3km from the sea, c. 1.8km northwest of the villa at **Goring**, and c. 3.4km east of the villa at **Angmering**. An early Iron Age site was discovered here in the nineteenth century. Excavations in 1937 identified a Roman bathhouse apparently 'isolated', although traces of structural remains were found to the south and west of the building (Burstow & Wilson 1939, 64). A 'hot room', successively identified as a double-T type corn-drying oven (Goodchild 1943; Morris 1974), was exposed the following year to the southwest of the baths. The two structures seem to be contemporary. Site area: c. 14.4 x 9m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–late third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** W. H. C. Frend discovered the site in 1936, and the Worthington Archaeological Society excavated it in 1937 and 1938 under the direction of G. P. Burstow and A. E. Wilson.

**Baths:** The bathhouse's walls (c. 7.6 x 5.9m) were of flint and mortar. It was structured as follows: Room B was a cold plunge bath (c. 1.52m wide and c. 1.21m max. depth), with two steps in its northern corner 'leading to the floor of the bath' (Burstow & Wilson 1939, 66). A lead pipe, 'giving an outlet to a 'sump' outside' (Burstow & Wilson 1939, 67), was found close to the second step. Room C was a *caldarium* (c. 4.26 x 2.74m) with a hot plunge bath (c. 1.82m wide and c. 1.21m max. depth). Room D was the furnace room (c. 1.21 x at least 3.96m). Burstow and Wilson (1939, 67–9) suggest 'a tepid room made of timber on the farther side of the wall [of the *caldarium*] connected with the cold bath'. The numbering of the rooms follows Burstow and Wilson's plan (1939, 65, Fig. 2).

**Decoration:** The walls of Room B were painted red, and fragments of red, green, and cream wall plaster came from the hot plunge bath.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Two bronze surgical spoons (c. 10cm long) were discovered in Room B. A ladle was found in 'the black ash layer near the entrance to the furnace-flue, 12 in. long [c. 30.4cm], the bowl 3 in. long [c. 7.6cm] and 32 in. wide [c. 8.1cm]' (Burstow & Wilson 1939, 77). Oyster shells were also recovered at the site.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 152; Burstow & Wilson 1939, 66; Goodchild 1943; Green 1976, 219; Morris 1974; Scott 1993, 181.

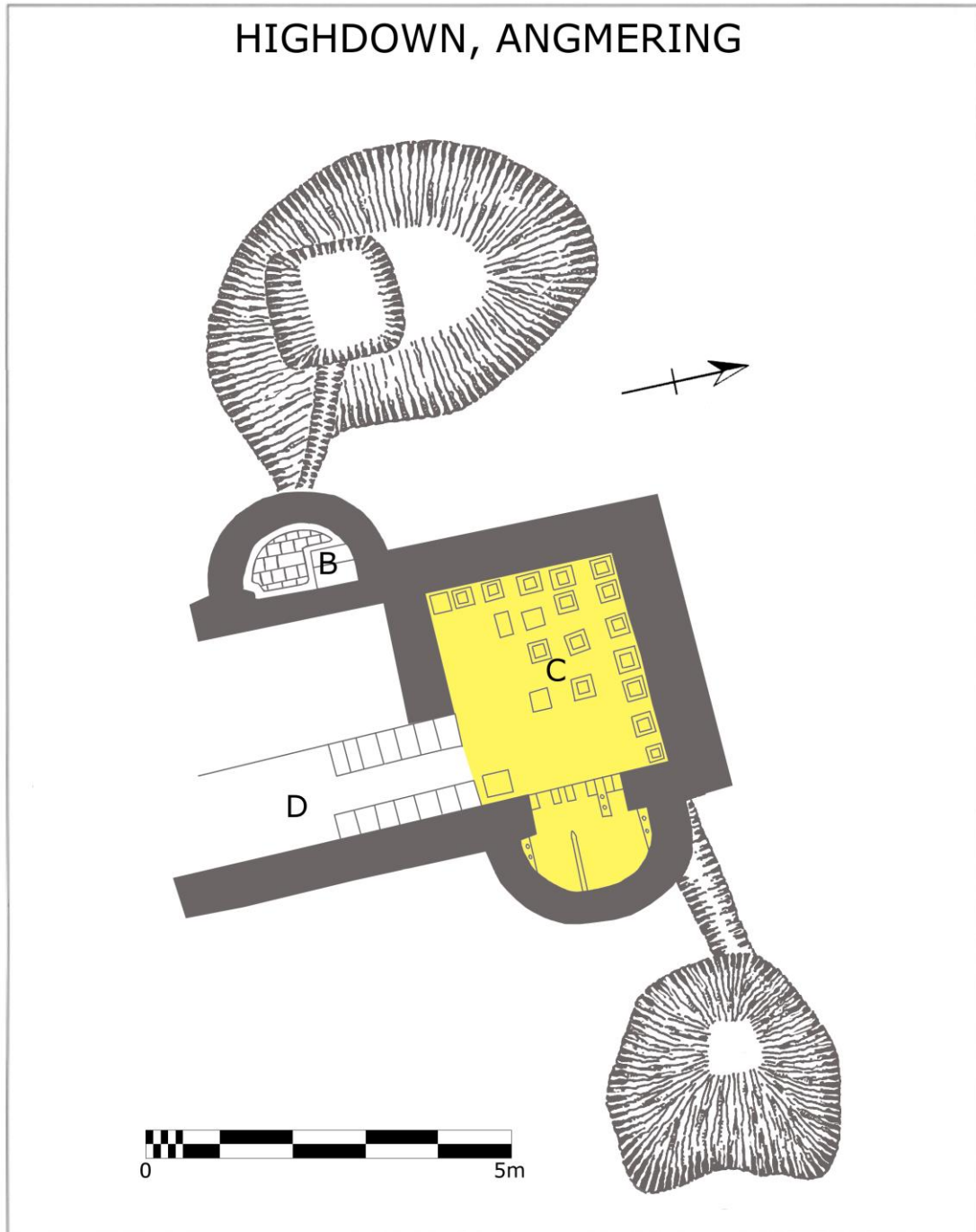


**Figure 93. Plan of the bathhouse at Highdown, Angmering (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Burstow & Wilson 1939, 65, Fig. 2.**

LICKFOLD, WIGGONHOLT

**Individual Site Number:** 132

**Location:** TQ 0647 1756

**Typology and extent of the site:** This bathhouse, probably associated with an industrial site, has been interpreted as part of a roadside village, although ‘the presence of industry does not preclude the site being a villa, many British villas had industrial functions’ (Scott 1993, 192). Todd (1970, 122) suggests that the baths belonged to the estate of the large villa at **Borough Farm, Pulborough**, around 2.4km north of the site.

A Roman mausoleum was found at Huddlestone, c. 1.5km north, together with another unidentified building. A possible villa at Nutbourne and a temple lie c. 1km east and c. 1km west of the mausoleum, respectively. Finally, the bathhouse is 50m north of a Roman road (Greensand Way) (see Russell 2016, 115–6, with bibliography).

As reported by Evans (1974, 99), ‘probably in the first century the plain [where the site lies] was drier’ but ‘the worsening climate in late Roman times, when tides rose probably 13ft. [3.96m] higher than now [...], must have converted the flood plain into a swamp’. Site area: c. 37 x 20m.

**Site chronology:** Late first–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** J. F. Hearne discovered the site in 1936. It was excavated in April 1937 under the direction of S. E. Winbolt and R. G. Goodchild (1937; 1940). Further investigations were carried out in 1939. In 1964, the site was re-excavated under the direction of K. J. Evans (1974).

**Baths:** The bathhouse was probably built in the late first–early second centuries CE (Evans’ Period 1 or Period 2a) and was subsequently enlarged (Evans’ Period 2b, c. 140–180 CE). After a possible flooding in around 180 CE, the building ‘underwent extensive repairs and alteration’ (Evans 1974, 115) (Period 3, c. 180–300 CE). In the late third century, the site declined, ‘perhaps due to the silting up of the drain’ (ibid.). In the fourth century (Period 4, c. 300–376 CE), the bathhouse was perhaps transformed into a habitation (Winbolt & Goodchild 1940, 61). It was destroyed by fire in around 375–376 CE. The numbering of the rooms follows Winbolt and Goodchild’s plan (1940, 54).

The builders of this bathhouse used the same vaulting technique with hollow voussoirs identified at **Angmering**. This system, recently investigated by L. C. Lancaster (2012), was based on the use of double flue box-tiles combined with Westhampnett voussoirs, which allowed hot air to pass through the building’s vaults.

*Period 1 or 2a:* The original bathhouse was c. 18.28 x 5.48m and was structured as follows: Room 2 was a *frigidarium* (c. 6.06 x 3.53m). Room 3 was a *tepidarium* (c. 4.14 x 3.53m) with ‘42 *pilae* supporting its floor composed of 9-in. [0.27m] square tiles’ (Winbolt & Goodchild 1940, 58). The only partition between Room 3 and Room 4 ‘was in the form of two small pilasters projecting inwards from the east and west walls’ (ibid.), possibly with curtains hanging between them (?).

Room 4 was a *caldarium* (c. 4.14 x 3.35m) and ‘possessed about 36 *pilae*’ (Winbolt & Goodchild 1940, 58). Rooms 4 and 5 were divided by small pilasters. Room 5 (c. 3.96 x 1.21m) was likely already used as a hot plunge bath during this phase. Room 7 (c. 2.43 x 0.6m) was a tiled flue fed by the furnace room in Room 8 (c. 3.96 x 1.21m). On the western side of Room 7, a ‘hollow space’ (c. 1.76 x 0.91m) ‘faced with tiles seems to have accommodated a tank which would supply hot water for use in room 5’ (ibid.).

*Period 2b:* Room 2 was now extended westwards and paved with a fine herring-bone floor presenting ‘an exceptionally heavy wear’ (Winbolt & Goodchild 1940, 57). Room 1 (c. 7.92 x 3.53m) was added south of Room 2. An altar base was found in its north-west corner. The earliest floor of this room was ‘a thin layer of cement resting on the natural sand subsoil’ (Winbolt & Goodchild 1937, 18). Floors of lower quality cement later replaced it in c. 175 CE and in the early fourth century. This room was probably an *apodyterium*, and the presence of an exercise yard on its south side has been speculated (Evans 1974, 114).

A large, tiled drain was found in the northeast corner of Room 1, seemingly ‘designed [...] to carry away the wastewater from the floor of Room 2’ (Winbolt & Goodchild 1940, 56). Room 6 (c. 3.53m wide, unknown length), of uncertain function, was also added at this time.

*Period 3:* After the hypothesised flooding in 180 CE, the bathhouse was restored and modified. The tessellated floors were ‘replaced by cement ones’ (Evans 1974, 115). In the late third century, the main drain silted up and the structure might have changed function.

*Period 4:* Rooms 9, 10, 11, and 12 were built during this phase. As mentioned above, the building was now converted into a dwelling or an industrial structure.

**Decoration:** During the first phase of the bathhouse, ‘one room at least [was decorated] with a fine mosaic’ (Evans 1974, 114). Winbolt and Goodchild (1937, 38) list colour tesserae among other miscellaneous finds, although they do not indicate their provenience. They also mention ‘much unusual wall-plaster, impressed with patterns of circles and scrolls, and painted white’ and ‘buff and cream wall plaster with broad zones of Pompeian red: one piece with thin green lines, and another mottled’ (ibid.).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** During the 1937 excavations, a pair of bronze tweezers and pins were recorded in association with the earliest floor of Room 1. Different molluscs (oysters, limpets, mussels, and cockles) were found in Rooms 1 and 2. Other finds include a bronze razor, a bronze spoon, and bone hairpins, unfortunately unstratified.

In 1939, a pila-tile with a graffito was discovered (unstratified). The fragmentary inscription reads:

pi(lares) (M)XX  
cuniati IIII  
tu (?) n d LX

he first line probably refers to pillar tiles, and the second line to the *cuneati lateres*, wedge-shaped hollow voussoirs. The last lines could refer to the *tubuli* (flue tiles). After ‘tu’, there is an inverted R, interpreted by Winbolt as a ‘b’. Winbolt and Goodchild (1940, 66) suggest that ‘a tile-maker recorded his score on an unbaked tile with a piece of stick’.

During the 1964 excavations, the site produced another pair of bronze tweezers and a bronze nail cleaner (unstratified).

**Key references:** Evans 1974; Scott 1993, 192; Todd 1970, 122; Winbolt & Goodchild 1937; 1940.

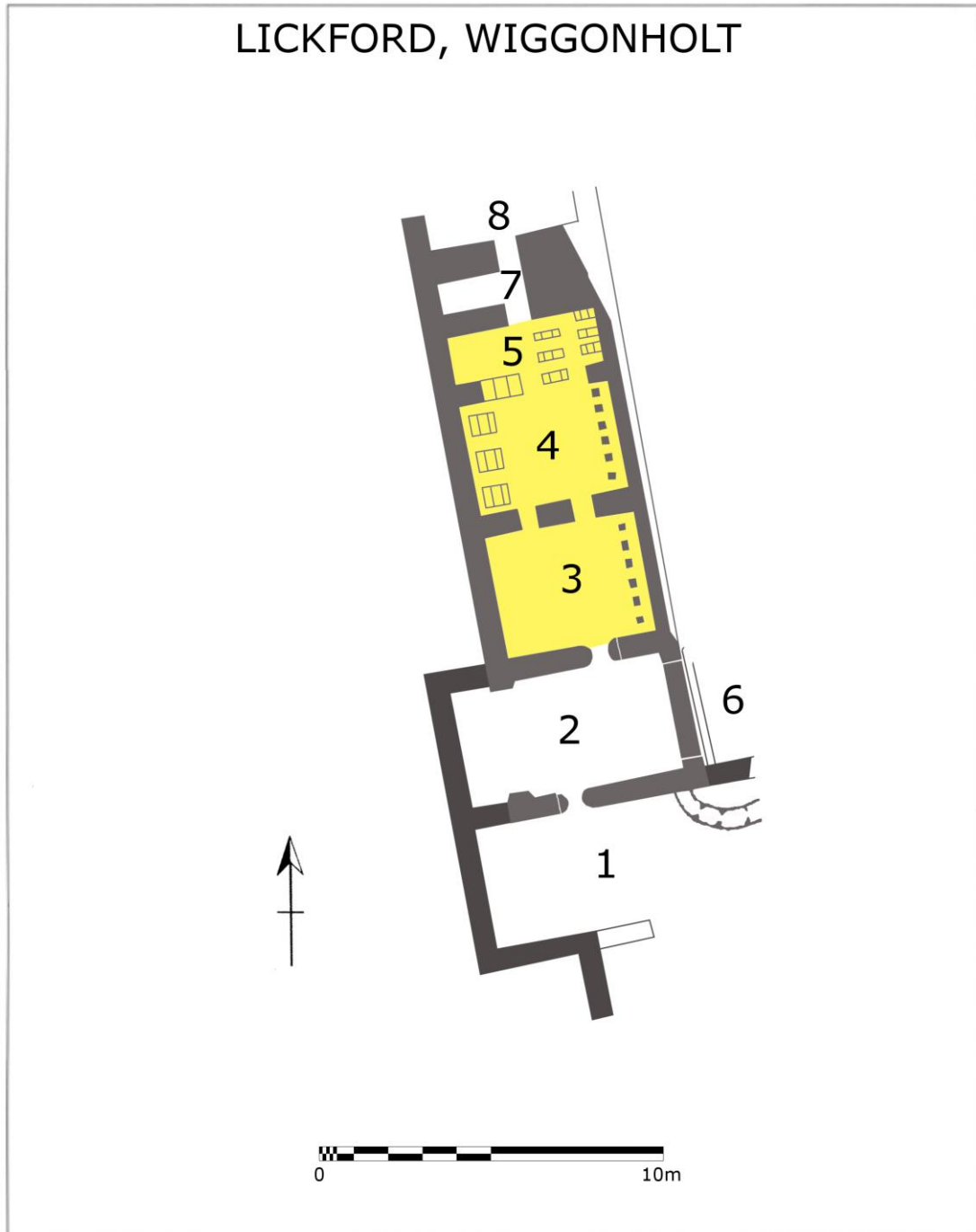


**Figure 76. Plan of the baths at Lickfold, Wiggonholt (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The Period-2b additions are in darker grey. Image: author. After Evans 1974, 111, Fig. 6.**

## SIDLESHAM

**Individual Site Number:** 167

**Location:** SZ 8547 9702

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site of a bathhouse, probably part of a complex of buildings as indicated by pottery and other finds found north of the structure (Collins *et al.* 1973, 2, 18). It lies 7.8km south of the villa at **Fishbourne**. The site was already occupied before the construction of the bathhouse, as testified by a ditch running beneath Room 9. Site area: c. 25 x 20m.

**Site chronology:** First–mid-fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1951 and excavated for five years under the direction of A. H. Collins, A. E. Wilson and C. Wilson.

**Baths:** The walls of the bathhouse were poorly preserved and heavily robbed. Two phases have been identified. The ‘earlier foundations consisted of un-mortared irregularly-shaped blocks of local stone (mixen rock)’ (Collins *et al.* 1973, 2). The ‘later foundations were of a different stone—some pieces well dressed, mortared, and most rooms laid on at least one layer of cobble, broken flint or shingle’ (Collins *et al.* 1973, 3).

The precise chronology of these two phases is uncertain. The baths were probably built in the late first century (Phase 1) and modified at the end of the second century (Phase 2). When the bathhouse was rebuilt, its foundations were strengthened, and the floor level was raised to accommodate a higher water level (Collins *et al.* 1973, 6). The numbering of the rooms follows Collins *et al.*’s plan (1973, 4, Fig. 2).

*Phase 1:* The bathhouse was initially structured as follows: Room 1 was a *frigidarium* (c. 5.8 x 5.3m) with an apsidal cold plunge bath on its west side (Room 1a, uncertain size). During this phase, the *frigidarium* was equipped with a black and white mosaic floor and the room was emptied through a drainage system located outside the north wall. Room 2 (size uncertain) was a lobby, and the baths were entered through its north end. Room 3 (c. 4.2 x 5.7m) was a *tepidarium*, with a channel running across its centre, which ‘served as a drain under the flue’ (Collins *et al.* 1973, 7). Room 4 was a *caldarium* (c. 4.5 x 5.7m) with a channel like the one in Room 3. Room 5 (c. 2.3 x 1.42) was apparently ‘a link between the northern and southern parts of the bathhouse’ (Collins *et al.* 1973, 11).

Room 6 (unknown size) was probably the main furnace room, with the other two furnaces hypothesized east of Room 4. Room 7 (c. 2.6 x 2.3m) was another *caldarium* with a flue running east-west across its floor. Room 8 (c. 1.85m wide and c. 1.2m max. depth) was a hot plunge bath. A flue, linked to the one in Room 7, runs under its floor. This flue ‘brought hot air from the furnace room (9), to heat the bath (8) and *caldarium* (7)’ (Collins *et al.* 1973, 12). Room 9 (c. 2.2 x 1.8m) was a furnace room. Rooms 10 (c. 3.15 x 2.35m) and 11 (unknown size) were ‘severely robbed’ (Collins *et al.* 1973, 7).

The channels underneath Rooms 3 and 4 find parallels at **Rapsley, Ewhurst** (Surrey) and **Hucclecote** (Gloucestershire). Their function was probably to collect condensation and rising dampness from the hypocaust (Younge 1960, 71–5).

*Phase 2:* The bathhouse was now structured as follows: the floor of the *frigidarium* was raised c. 0.45m and formed of red tesserae. The apsidal cold plunge bath (1b) was replaced by a rectangular one (c. 2.3 x 1.6m), which had its floor c. 0.45m below the floor of Room 1. The floor of Room 2 was not raised, so two steps were provided to give access to Room 1. The hypocausts in Rooms 3 and 4 were rebuilt. The floor of Room 5 was

raised c. 0.45m. Room 9 was enlarged, and a new wall was built, c. 1.21m west of the previous one. Its floor was raised, too, and a new entrance was opened at the west end of the south wall.

**Decoration:** As mentioned above, during Phase 1, Room 1 was decorated with a black and white mosaic floor. A similar mosaic was perhaps in Room 4 (Cosh & Neal 2009, 556). Fragments of painted wall plaster came from Rooms 4, 10, and 11.

**Water supply:** A 'foundation [...] composed of large cobble and flint' (Collins *et al.* 1973, 12) was discovered between the south wall of Room 1, the west wall of Room 5 and the north wall of Room 8. It might have carried 'a storage tank for rainwater collected from the roof of the adjacent building, to supply both the cold bath (1b) and the hot bath (8)' (*ibid.*).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Black 1987, 156; Collins *et al.* 1973; Cosh & Neal 2009, 556; Scott 1993, 190.



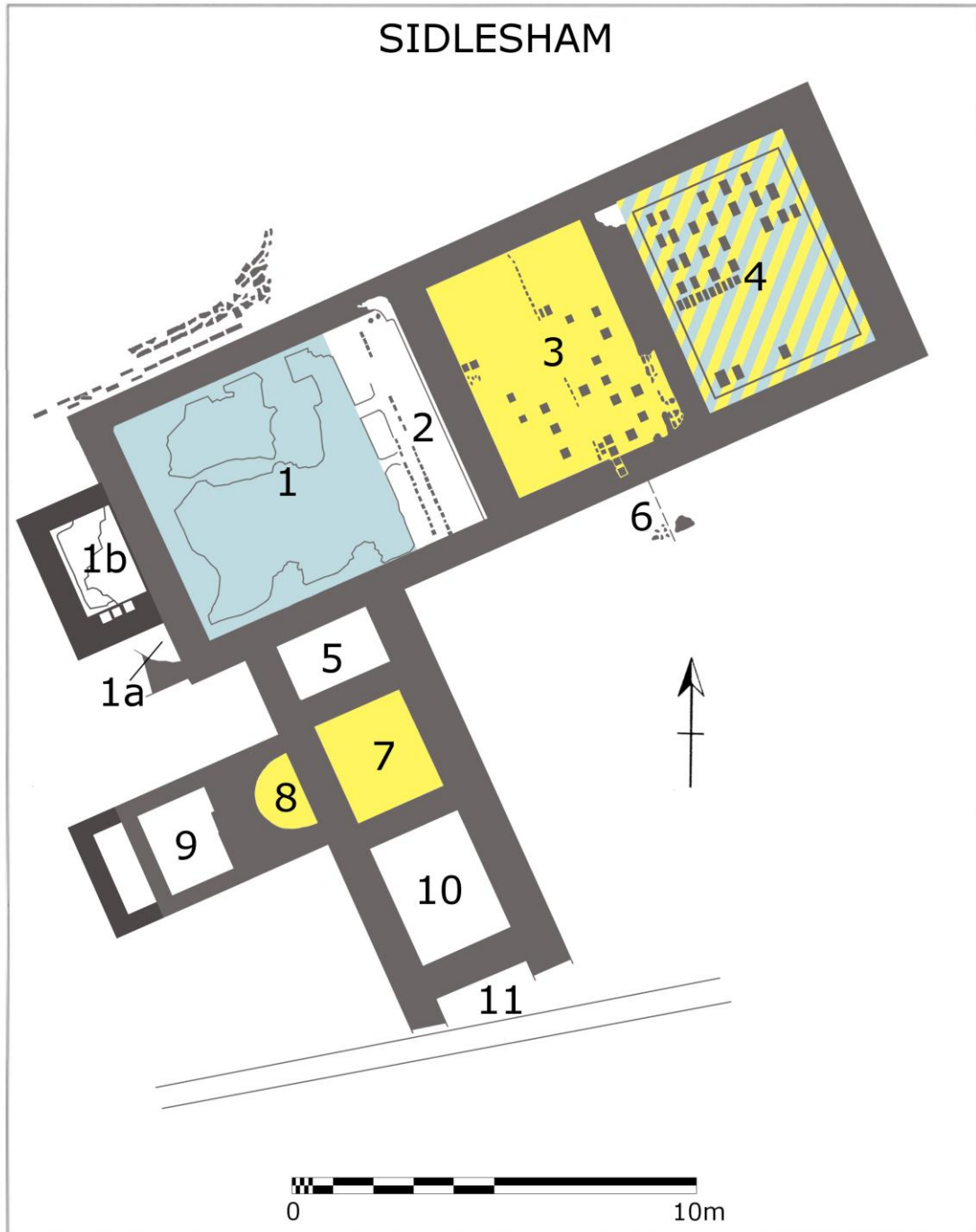


**Figure 77. Plan of the bathhouse at Sidlesham (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, and those with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Phase 2 additions are in darker grey. Image: author. After Collins, Wilson & Clare Wilson 1973, 4, Fig. 2; 5, Fig. 3.**

## SOUTHWICK

**Individual Site Number:** 175

**Location:** TQ 2446 0565

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is a large courtyard villa ‘with similarities in some aspects of design to the much larger Flavian palace at Fishbourne’ (Rudling & Leigh 2013, 37) and the villa at **Borough Farm, Pulborough**. It ‘lies on the fertile coastal plain south of the Downs, close to the River Adur and the Channel seaboard’, 3.5km southwest of the villa at West Blatchington (Allen & Standing 2012, 95).

Four periods have been identified, although without a precise dating. The northern range of rooms was the living unit, with two large reception rooms (Rooms 12 and 14) and various domestic rooms accessed from Room 13 (a *medianum* or ‘middle room’). The east range is quite problematic, and its main room (Room 29) has been interpreted as a cold plunge bath (Winbolt 1935, 27) or a *triclinium* (Black 1987, 102). The complex seems to have been entered through Room 25, on the west side of the central court (Room 27, possibly containing a garden as at **Fishbourne**). The construction of a road in 1931 badly damaged the south range of the complex. Site area: c. 64 x 53m.

**Villa chronology:** 70/80–mid-fourth century CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in the first half of the nineteenth century and unearthed in c. 1845 by N. Hall, the owner of the estate. Large-scale excavations took place in 1931 under the direction of S. E. Winbolt (1932). C. R. Ward (1934a; 1934b) undertook further excavations soon after Winbolt’s campaign. R. Canham (1966) re-excavated part of the site in 1965, and Rudling (1985) in 1981. Finally, small-scale investigations were carried out in 2008 to the south of the main residence (Standing 2010).

**Baths:** In Period 2, a bath-suite was built in the northwest corner of the northern living unit, and, according to Black (1987, 103), at this time or even earlier, another bath-suite was constructed in the southeast corner of the southern range of rooms. A fragment of Westhampnett-type voussoir (part of the so-called ‘London-Sussex group’) seems to suggest that this second set of baths dates to the late first century (c. 75–90 CE) (Rudling 1985, 82; Black 1985b, 356–8).

These facilities might have been part of a separate range of rooms (Rooms 36–39 and 42) intended for visitors, ‘dependent workforce and other non-household people’ (Rudling & Leigh 2013, 43) who did not have direct access to the main domestic area. Both these baths apparently went out of use in Period 4. The numbering of the rooms follows Winbolt’s plan (1935, 27).

**Northwest Baths:** This bath-suite was structured as follows: Room 50 (c. 2.9 x 2m) was a *caldarium*, and Rooms 51 (c. 2.8 x 2m) and 52 (c. 2 x 1.7m) were probably two *tepidaria*. The furnace room was in Room 49 (c. 3.2 x 3m). The *frigidarium* and *apodyterium* ‘may have been located in the remaining part of the former western gallery (11)’ (Rudling & Leigh 2013, 39). Alternatively, they might have been located in Rooms 3 and 8 (Black’s pers. comm., reported in Rudling & Leigh 2013, 39).

**Southeast Baths:** This bath-suite was damaged by the road built in 1931, and its structure is poorly understood. Room 47 (uncertain size) was a *caldarium* with an apsidal hot plunge bath. Room 44 (uncertain size) was a *tepidarium*, with its furnace room in Room 45. Room 48 (c. 8.3 x 2m) might have been a wood store. Room 40 (uncertain size) might

have been a *frigidarium*, and Room 46 (uncertain size) was a second apse, perhaps ‘represent[ing] a different phase of the baths’ (Rudling & Leigh 2013, 41).

**Decoration:** The Northwest Baths were at least partially decorated with a white, grey, and red mosaic (Ward 1934b, 91). The depth of some of the hundreds of fine tesserae recovered from this site was twice their breadth, and ‘such tesserae are normally associated with mosaics in bath-suite’ (Cosh & Neal 2009, 557). Fragments of wall plaster, ‘in bands of buff, Pompeian red, green, sky-blue, etc.’ (Winbolt 1932, 29), were found in the Southeast Baths, and tesserae came from Room 40.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Allen & Standing 2012; Black 1985b, 356–8; 1987, 102–4; Canham 1966; Cosh & Neal 2009, 556–7; Rudling 1985; Rudling & Leigh 2013; Scott 1993, 191; Standing 2010; 2011; 2014; Ward 1934a; 1934b; Winbolt 1926a; 1932; 1935, 25–8.

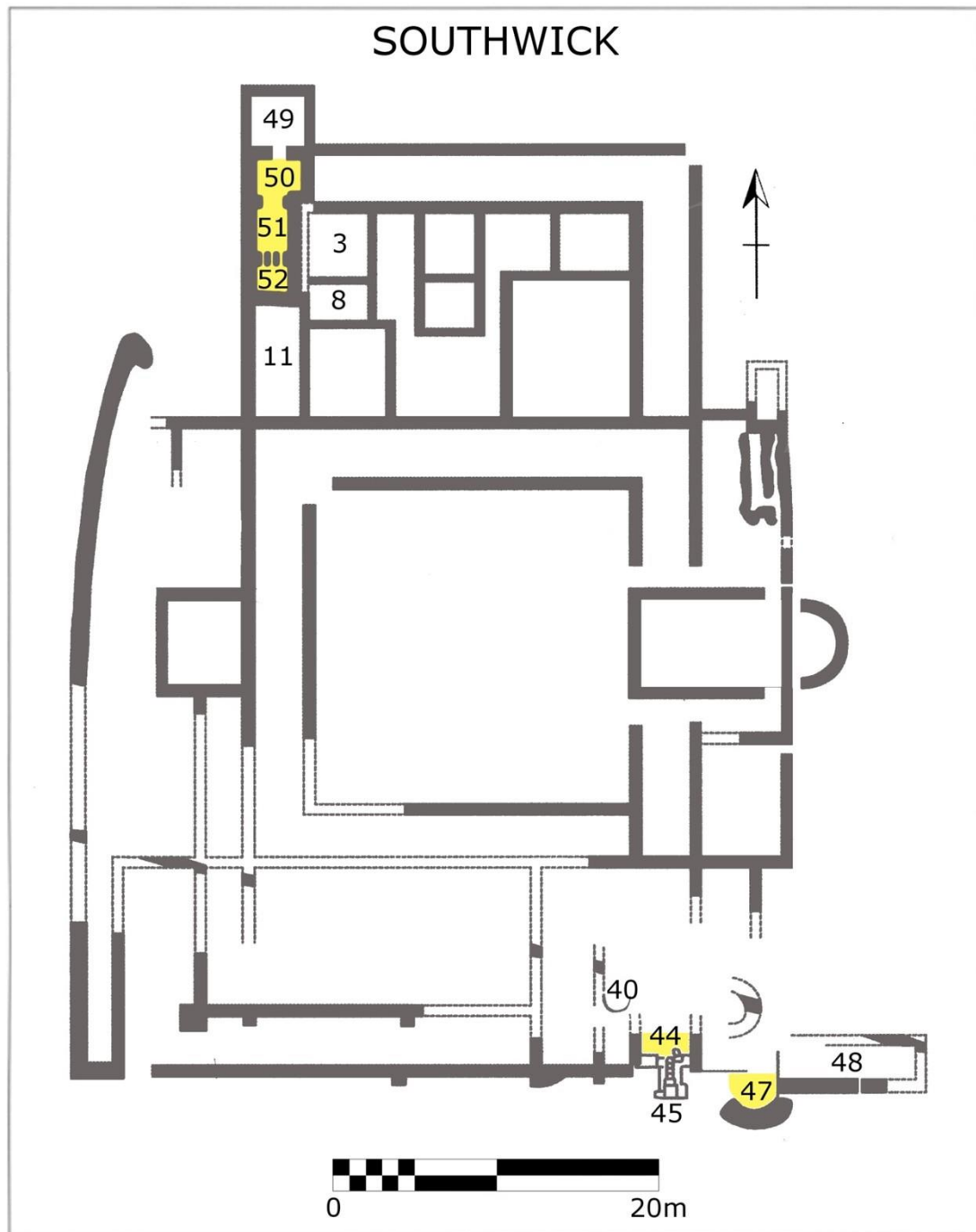


**Figure 78. Plan of the villa at Southwick (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts in the two sets of baths are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Winbolt 1935, 27.**

## UPMARDEN

**Individual Site Number:** 194

**Location:** SU 797 124

**Typology and extent of the site:** This villa, located ‘halfway up a small valley’ (Down 1979, 42), has been only partially excavated, and little is known of it. It is c. 3.7km west of the villa at **Chilgrove 1** and 2.8 km east of the villa at Watergate Hanger, West Marden. Since most of the site lies below a modern farm and its land, ‘only one wing of the main building, a small section of the stockyard and part of a ploughed-out structure uphill from the farm could be investigated’ (Down 1979, 44).

Four buildings were identified: a bathhouse (Building 1), a possible barn (Building 2), a small structure of uncertain function (Building 3), and an aisled building with evidence of domestic use (Building B, partially excavated in 1992–3), located 30m northwest of Building 1. Presently known site area: c. 80 x 80m.

**Villa chronology:** Second half of the first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated from 1965–69 as part of the Chilgrove Valley Landscape Project under the direction of A. Down (1979). Further excavations took place in 1992–3 by Down and J. Magilton.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, Building 1 was a bathhouse of seven rooms with a corridor ‘originally bounded by a wall’ (Down 1979, 101) along its north side. It underwent three phases of alterations. The numbering of the rooms follows Down’s plan (1979, 102, Fig. 33).

*Phase 1:* During this phase (undated), Rooms 2 (c. 4.34 x 4.58m), 3 (c. 3.05 x 4.58m) and 4 were heated and, together with Room 1 (c. 4.27 x 4.58m), were probably ‘the main domestic range of rooms’ (Down 1979, 103). Alternatively, they might have formed a ‘shorter bath suite, with perhaps Room 4 being the *caldarium* and Room 3 the *tepidarium*’ (ibid.).

*Phase 2:* In the late third century, the heating systems in Rooms 2, 3, and 4 were dismantled, and Room 4 was transformed into a *frigidarium* with an apsidal cold plunge bath (c. 1.68 x 4.27m, including the apse). In this second phase, a *tepidarium* (Room 5, c. 2.82 x 4.27m) and a *caldarium* (Room 6, c. 2.59 x 4.27m) were also added to the east end of the complex. The furnace room was in Room 7 (c. 4.57 x 4.88m). It ‘appears to have had several phases of alteration, the earlier flue being east of the later one, which probably had a tank set over it to supply hot water to the bath’ (Down 1979, 103).

Down (1978, 157) reports that ‘precautions were taken to insulate the *pilae* and the tiled buttresses that supported the dividing walls between the *caldarium* and *tepidarium* by plastering them with Reading clay’, a technique also used at the public baths of Chichester.

*Phase 3:* At this time, the north wall of the corridor (Room 8, c. 22.56 x 1.83m) along the north side of the baths ‘was replaced by a series of posts which cut the mortar footings’ (ibid.). Room 9 (uncertain function, c. 2.13 x 2.44m) also dates to this stage. These alterations ‘could equally have been executed in Phase 2’ (Down 1979, 103).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Down 1979; Down & Magilton 1994; Scott 1993, 185.

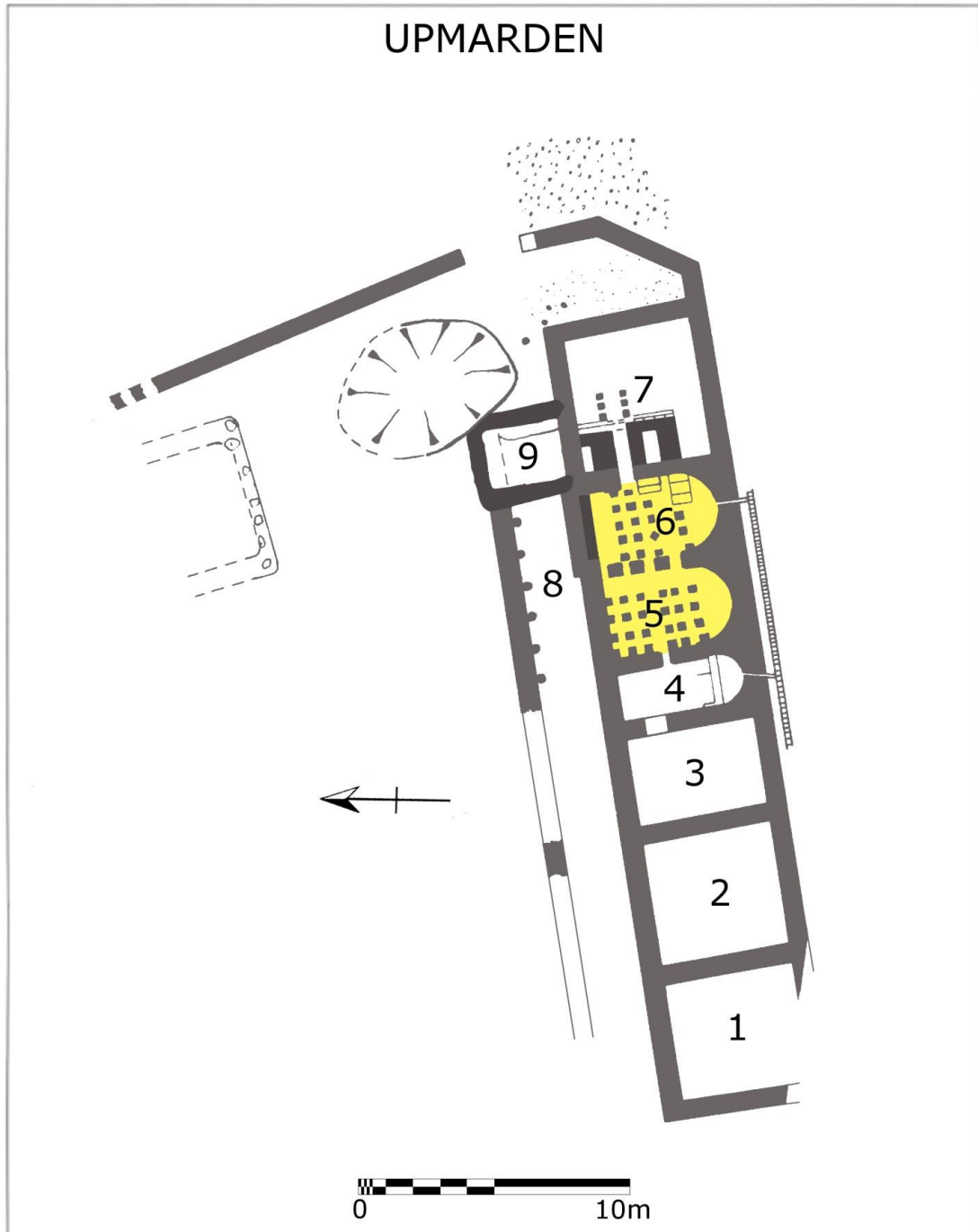


**Figure 79. Plan of the villa at Upmarden (West Sussex). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The Phase-3 additions are in darker grey. Image: author. After Down 1979, 102, Fig. 33.**

## Gloucestershire

### BADMINTON

**Individual Site Number:** 15

**Location:** ST 807 829

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 6.8km east of the villa at Springfield Farm, Horton, c. 7.1km southeast of the villa at **Lower Woods, Hawkesbury**, and c. 19km north of Bath. In 2003, a geophysical survey revealed the plan of a corridor villa surrounded by a boundary ditch forming a trapezium. The house (65 x 20m) had a porch on its east side.

A large room with an apse, seemingly added onto the main structure, was exposed by a trial trench on the northern side of the villa (Martin *et al.* 2003, 8). The mosaics from this and from a nearby room date to the fourth century (Cosh & Neal 2010, 43–6). A bath-suite was probably located at the southern end of the villa (Martin *et al.* 2003, 8). Two other buildings were located by the geophysical survey about 25m east of the main house. Site area: 118 x 124m.

**Site chronology:** Late fourth century?

**Excavation history:** Thomas Pigot discovered the site in 1686 (Aubrey 1898, 155). Poorly recorded excavations took place in the mid-nineteenth century (Osgood 2009, 203). A geophysical survey and trial trenches were carried out in 2003–2004 under the direction of M. H. Martin, J. Martin and A. W. Jackson.

**Baths:** The possible area of the bath-suite has not yet been excavated.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Aubrey 1898, 155; Cosh & Neal 2010, 43–6; Martin *et al.* 2003; Osgood 2004; 2009.

**Note:** No complete plan available.



## BARNSELEY PARK

**Individual Site Number:** 21

**Location:** SP 0812 0617

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 4.3 km west of the villa at **Bibury**, c. 6.4 km northeast of Cirencester, about 3km south of the Fosseway (linking Exeter to Lincoln) and 2.5k north of Akeman Street, a road to Alchester and Verulamium. A third road was found to the south of the site, probably starting from Akeman Street.

Ten phases of occupation have been identified. A farm centred on a wooden-framed farmhouse was built here in c. 140 CE (Phases 1 and 2). This structure was subsequently replaced by another timber house in c. 315 CE (Phase 3). A bathhouse was added at the northeast corner of the house in c. 340 (Phase 4). Twenty years later or so, the timber house was demolished and substituted by a winged corridor villa (Phase 5/6). A barn was constructed to the south of the main house.

The villa was subsequently enlarged during Phase 7 (c. 375–380 CE). In Phase 8 (c. 380–400 CE), ‘the domestic areas were abandoned and the main building converted entirely to agricultural use, although there is ample evidence of farmworkers still living there’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 93). In c. 400 CE (Phase 9), the main house ‘was reduced to a raised stone platform’, and further demolition occurred in Phase 10 (fifth century).

J. T. Smith (1985) has questioned Webster’s ten phases. He also suggested that the site was inhabited by more than one family, forming part of a kin group. Site area: c. 75 x 50m.

**Villa chronology:** 140–fifth century CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1950 and extensively excavated from 1961 to 1979 under the direction of G. Webster and P. J. Fowler.

### Baths

*Phase 4:* As mentioned above, the first bathhouse was built in c. 340 on the northeast corner of the second wooden-framed farmhouse after the construction of a large rectangular stone building (P). According to Webster (1981, 37), a door on the south side of Building P ‘was obviously to allow people access to the *frigidarium* through a door on the east side of the bathhouse, and there were clear indications that this was the entrance at all periods’. This arrangement would imply that ‘another group of people, other than those from the house, used the bathing facilities and presumably they were the farm-workers, though this privilege may not have extended to slaves’ (ibid.).

Building P might have worked as a large *apodyterium* ‘for those people coming from a distance’ (ibid.) and was entered through a door on its east side. A remarkable feature supports this interpretation: Building P had a ‘carefully constructed double door’ on its south side, which ‘would have made it possible to lock the outer door and so effectively seal off the bathhouse when in family use’ (ibid.). At this time the people from the house entered the baths through a timber-covered way.

The possibility that the bathhouse was open to the farm-workers is challenged by Smith (1985, 347), who states that ‘provincial Roman society can hardly have been as open and as unconscious of differences of class or status as that implies’. He also sees Building P as an ‘unusually ample provision for a bathhouse that could accommodate no more than 5 or 6 people at any one time’, arguing instead that it ‘may be regarded as a separate

house or, rather, a unit of accommodation, because not all the domestic functions were necessarily carried on within its walls – cooking for instance’ (ibid.).

The bathhouse was ‘well-constructed of good masonry’ (Webster 1981, 35) and was structured as follows: Room P (c. 9 x 5m) might have been an *apodyterium*; Room 1 (c. 2.6 x 1.2m) was a *frigidarium* with a small cold plunge bath with a lead pipe outlet in Room 2 (c. 1.2 x 0.6m). Room 3 (c. 2.6 x 1.2m) was a *tepidarium* and Room 4 (c. 2.25 x 1.75m) was a *caldarium*.

According to Webster (1981, 37), the size of Room 4 suggests that ‘it would have been very difficult for more than two people to have occupied the room at the same time and probably no more than 5 or 6 in the whole building’. At this stage, the furnace room was probably located to the east of the *caldarium*. A ‘disturbed stone foundation beside it may have belonged to the boiler stand’. Furthermore, ‘a channel through the north wall near the southwest corner suggests that a latrine may have been placed in this corner’ (ibid.).

*Phases 5 and 6:* When the masonry house was built, it incorporated the bathhouse and Building P (the entire structure was now c. 33 x 14m). At this stage, the *caldarium* ‘was enlarged with an extension to the east, which more than doubled its former internal area’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 91). This enlargement ‘was very unskilled work, perhaps by the slaves of the estate’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 73). The *caldarium* now measured c. 5 x 2m. A new door was opened into the south wall of Building P, suggesting that this was now divided into two rooms, maybe ‘to separate male and female bathers’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 91).

Alternatively, the primary access to the bathhouse for the inhabitants of the villa might have been through the veranda in front of the house, with the farm workers using a door in the west wall of Building P. The two doors in the south wall of P would have then allowed ‘the villa occupants to use the bathhouse independently of any farm-workers’ (ibid.). Another access to these facilities has been identified in the north wall of the villa, close to the well in the west yard. A timber partition separated the baths from the domestic area.

*Phase 7:* The *caldarium* of the bathhouse was now rebuilt with an apse at its east end (c. 4.5 x 2m; apse: c. 2m wide and c. 0.5m max. depth). This reconstruction ‘was work of a craftsman’s standard’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 73). At the same time, ‘the stoke-hole was then moved to a central position on the south side of the *caldarium*’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 93). The original double door on the south side of Building P was blocked.

The bathhouse was ‘presumably left standing’ (Webster & Smith 1982, 93) and still in use during Phase 8. It was destroyed during Phase 9 and subsequently ‘thoroughly robbed of its tiles’ during Phase 10. Except for Building P, the author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The primary source of water supply for the baths was a well (7.92m deep) located near its southwest corner. It was backfilled in Phase 9.

### **Material culture associated with bathing**

*Phase 7:* Several tubular twisted and globular beads in green, blue and ‘pearly’ glass were found in Building P. Two bronze bracelets were found in the area of the bathhouse (Webster & Smith 1982, 107).

**Key references:** RCHME Gloucester 1976, 9–10; Scott 1993, 68; Smith 1985; Webster 1967; 1981; Webster & Smith 1982; 1987; Webster *et al.* 1985.

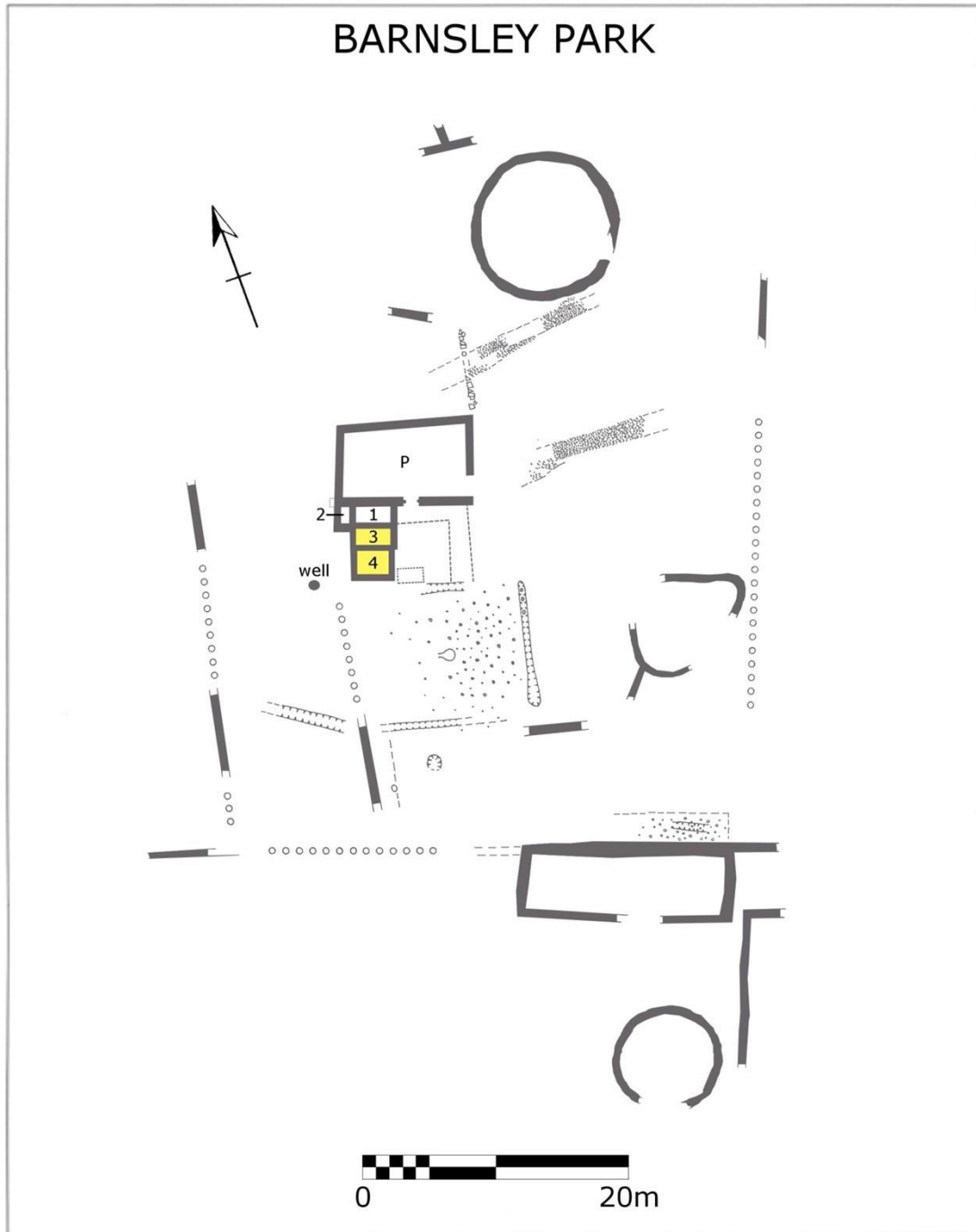


**Figure 80. Plan of the villa at Barnsley Park (Glos.) during Phase 4. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Webster 1981, 33, Fig. 6; 1982, 98, Fig. 17.**

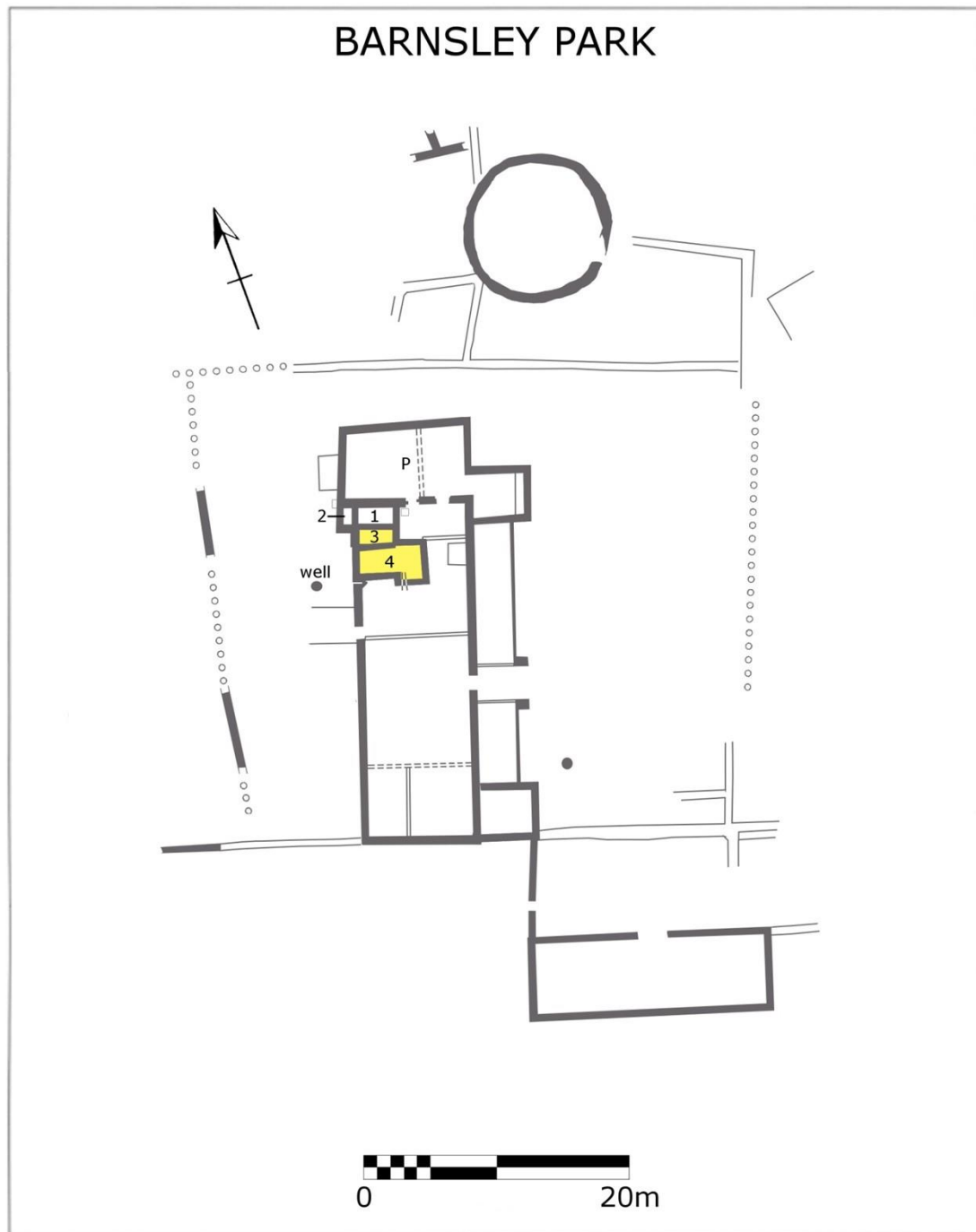


**Figure 81. Plan of the villa at Barnsley Park villa (Glos.) during Phases 5-6. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Webster 1982, 98, Fig. 17.**

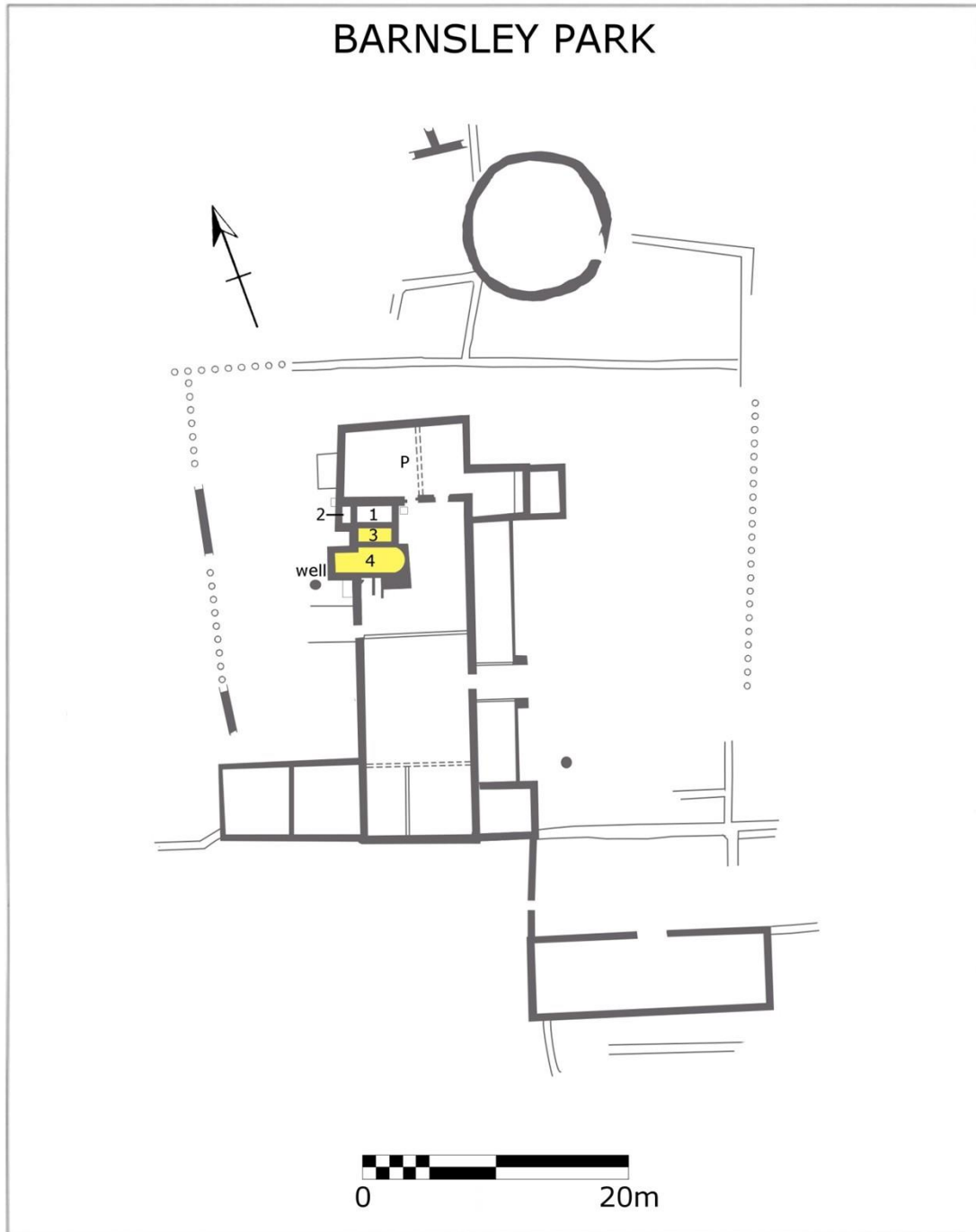


**Figure 82. Plan of the villa at Barnsley Park villa (Glos.) during Phase 7. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Webster 1982, 99, Fig. 18.**

## BARRINGTON PARK

**Individual Site Number:** 22

**Location:** SP 2041 1381

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies ‘on a gentle S.-facing slope’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 12), c 1.4km northeast of a Roman settlement (SP 217 132), c. 2.9km southeast of the villa at Great Rissington, and c. 7.4km east of the villa at **Clearcupboard, Farmington**. During the nineteenth-century excavations, ‘a well-built wall 4 ft. [c. 1.21m] thick, a plunge bath, roof slates and tiles, ‘grooved’ tiles, pottery and bones were noted’ (ibid.). Site area: no information available.

**Villa chronology:** No information available

**Excavation history:** The site ‘was discovered by chance about 1876 and was partly dug in 1882’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 12).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** RCHME Gloucester 1976, 11–2; Scott 1993, 68.

**Note:** No plan available.

BIBURY

**Individual Site Number:** 29

**Location:** SP 1222 0652

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site 'is contained within a loop of the R. Coln and is sheltered, particularly from the E., by ground rising steeply from the river' (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 14). It lies c. 4.2km east of the villa at **Barnsley Park**. Earthworks are suggestive of two ranges of buildings, and 'accounts refer generally to mosaic pavements, baths, pottery and coins' (ibid.). Small-scale surveys in the 1980s revealed a building dating to the late third–early fourth centuries, located c. 60m west of the earthworks (Bishop & Bishop 1987). Site area: no information available.

**Villa chronology:** late third–fourth centuries?

**Excavation history:** The site was first recorded in c. 1670 (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 14), and amateur excavations took place in 1877 and 1912. Brief emergency excavations were carried out in 1986 during the construction of a house (Bishop & Bishop 1987).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bishop & Bishop 1987; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 11–2; Scott 1993, 68.

**Note:** No plan available.



## BOUGHSPRING

**Individual Site Number:** 35

**Location:** ST 5596 9738

**Typology and extent of the site:** This villa lies on a small plateau near the River Severn, approximately 4km southwest of the villa at **Chesters, Woolaston**. It originated as a small corridor building that evolved into a winged corridor house, possibly in the late third–early fourth centuries. During its final phase, the building had six or seven rooms, with a main living area, a kitchen and probably a bath-suite in its western wing (Walker 1986, 37–8). Site area: c. 29.5 x 13m.

**Villa chronology:** second–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** Price located and partially excavated the site in 1969 (Bridgewater 1973). The Crickley Hill Archaeological Trust, under the direction of Briony F. Walker (1986), surveyed it in 1985.

**Baths:** The western wing of the villa (Room 1, c. 7 x 5.08m and 2, c. 6.5 x 5.08m) might have been a bath-suite. It was hypocausted and floored with *opus signinum*, robbed out in antiquity (Walker 1986, 37–8). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** Fragments of painted wall plaster came from the site (Walker 1986, 38).

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bridgewater 1973; Scott 1993, 69; Walker 1986.

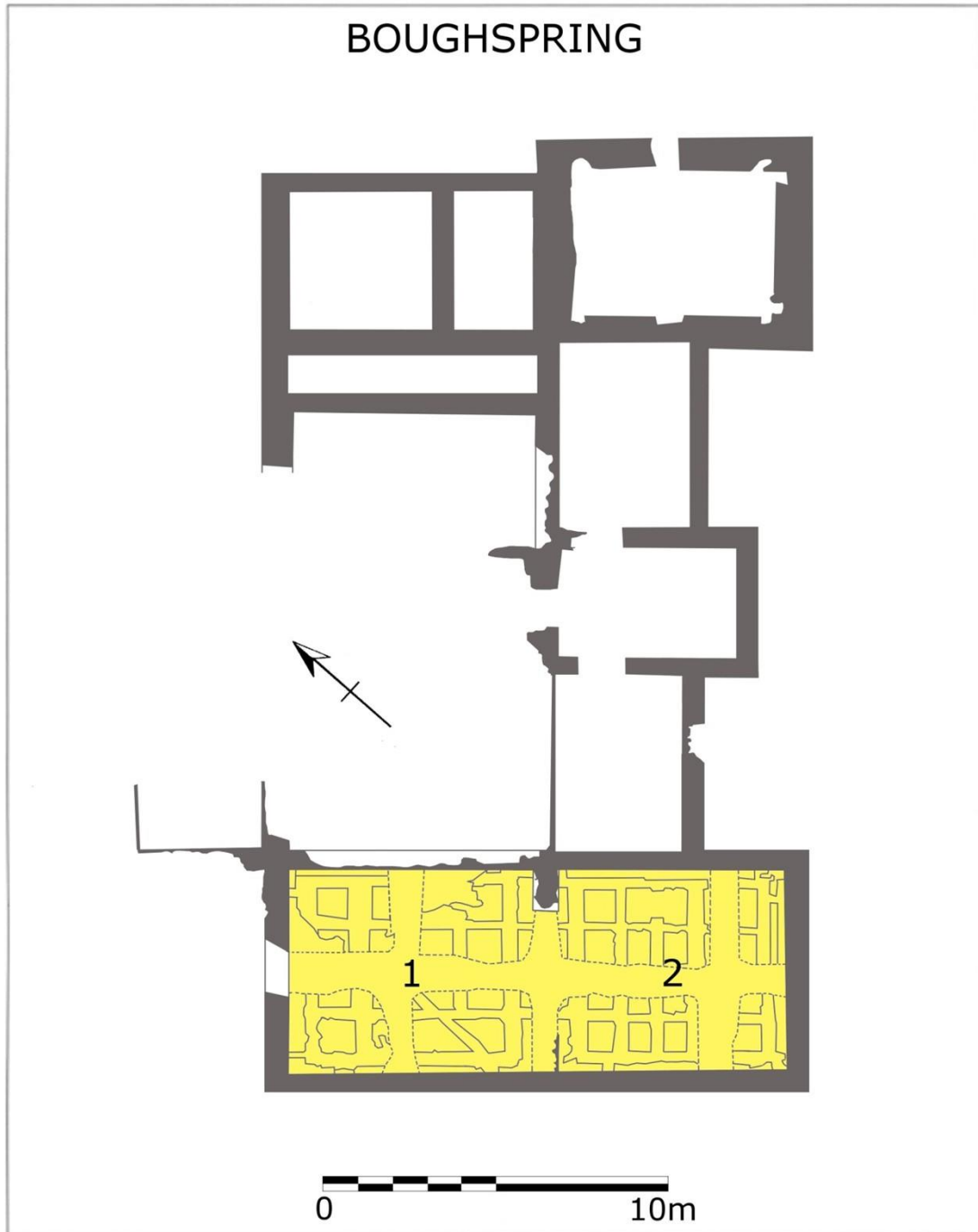


**Figure 83. Plan of the villa at Boughspring (Glos.). The hypocausted bath-suite (Rooms 1–2) is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Walker 1986, 39–40.**

## CHEDWORTH

**Individual Site Number:** 48

**Location:** SP 0527 1347

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is in a steep-sided valley or ‘combe’ running east-west (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 14), with a perennial spring in its northwest corner (later captured in the *nymphaeum* of the Phase 4 villa). It lies c. 2.6 km southeast of the villa at **Withington Wood** and c. 2.4km northwest of the villa at **Listercombe Bottom, Chedworth**. It lies c. 175m southeast of a Roman building, referred to as ‘The Capitol’ in the literature; c. 240m west of another unidentified late Roman structure; c. 100m southwest of a spread of limestone associated with third- and fourth-century coins; c. 900m west of a large stone Roman temple (c. 15.24 x 15.24m) found in 1864–5; c. 1km northwest of a possible Roman settlement; and c. 1km southwest of another possible settlement (see Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 489–92).

A recent reassessment of ‘The Capitol’ suggests that it was probably a tower-like building of pentagonal form with a water feature at its centre and that it functioned as a spring-line temple near the villa’s primary source of water supply (Walters & Rider 2022b, 153; *contra* Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 489–92, who interprets it as a mausoleum).

Evidence of human activity in this area dates to the fourth century BCE. However, due to the villa’s early excavation, very little can be said about the late Iron Age and early Roman occupation. Four major phases have been identified. The first masonry buildings date probably to the early second century CE and comprised at least three structures (Phases 1). In phase 2 (date uncertain), a bathhouse was constructed in the northern building.

The complex underwent a great rebuilding in the late third–early fourth centuries CE (Phase 3), becoming a courtyard-type villa with an internal court and an external courtyard divided by a cross-gallery with a gatehouse. The villa was further enlarged and modified during the fourth century CE (Phase 4) when a second set of baths was built into the west range of the complex.

Recent radiocarbon dating has revealed that a mosaic within Room 28 was created after 424 CE (Papworth 2021a; 2021b). Considering the significant religious landscape surrounding the villa and the alleged absence of living quarters, the site has been alternatively interpreted as a sanctuary linked to water deities and rituals (Webster 1983; Walters 2000; Walters & Rider 2022b). Site area: c. 115 x 75m.

**Villa chronology:** second–mid-fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1864 and soon after excavated by J. Farrer. The remains were later partly built up and roofed over. Sir I. Richmond carried out small-scale excavations in 1958–65 and 2010–12 as part of the National Trust redevelopment plan of the site. A new programme of excavations directed by M. Papworth began in 2012.

**Baths:** Two sets of baths have been identified in the north and west ranges of the villa. The North Baths were the oldest and had four major phases, corresponding to the first four phases of the villa. As emphasised by Esmonde Cleary (2013, 33), their history ‘is very difficult to disentangle’.

A previous building of uncertain function was transformed into this set of baths during Phase 2. During Phase 3, the baths were large and very elaborate before being reduced in

size and seemingly converted to dry-heat baths during Phase 4. The West Baths might have functioned as damp-heat facilities and date to Phase 5. Esmonde Cleary (2013, 35) emphasises that ‘for one villa to have baths of both types (rather than a hot, dry room attached to a normal damp-heat bath) was a mark of luxury, and as there is heavy wear on the stylobate [...] of the colonnade (Room 20) on the direct line between the doors of the two bath suites, it looks as though they were in use together’.

Another possible explanation for this duplication of baths is that ‘they were originally separate suites for men and woman’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 110). The numbering of the rooms follows Esmonde Cleary *et al.*’s plans (2022, 175, Fig. 3.15; 162, Fig. 3.9).

Regarding the hypocausts at Chedworth, Middleton (1890, 665–6) remarks that ‘in Italy, the pilae seem to have always been formed of baked brick, but in some parts of England, especially in Gloucestershire, bricks seem to have been costly and are very sparingly used. Thus [...] at the fine Villa at Chedworth [...] nearly all the pilae are made of stone, in spite of the local stone being a soft oolite which has no great power of resisting fire’.

The North Baths: Esmonde Cleary (2013, 33–5; Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 69–93, 171–81) identifies four major phases.

*Phase 1*: A pre-baths range of rooms.

*Phase 2*: The baths consisted of an *apodyterium* (site of later Rooms 19 and 19a), a *frigidarium* (Rooms 22, 22a, and part of 21; c. 6 x 4.8m) with an apsidal cold plunge bath to the south (part of Room 21b, c. 3m wide and c. 1.6m max. depth), a *tepidarium* (Room 21) with a rectangular plunge bath to the south (part of Room 21b, c. 2.8 x 1.5m), a *caldarium* (Rooms 21a and part of 25b) with a rectangular plunge bath and flue to the north-east (part of Room 21a), and a possible *sudatorium* (called *laconicum* by Esmonde Cleary) and flue to the south-east (part of Room 25b).

*Phase 3*: During this period (late third-early fourth centuries), the order of rooms was reversed so that the progression was now from east to west. The range of rooms included an *apodyterium* (either on the site of Rooms 24a, 25a, and part of 25b or only on the site of part of Room 25b), a *frigidarium* (Rooms 21a and part of 25b), with a possible apsidal cold plunge bath to the north (Room 24), a *tepidarium* (site of Room 21), with the original rectangular bath to the south now provided with a hypocaust (part of Room 21b), a *caldarium* (Rooms 22, 22a, and part of 21), with a pair of small apsidal plunge baths to the west (northern one: Room 22, c. 2.8 x 2m, with its apsidal plunge bath c. 2.1m wide and c. 1.4m max. depth; southern one: Room 22a, c. 2.7 x 2m, with its apsidal plunge bath c. 2.2m wide and c. 1.2m max. depth).

The original apsidal bath to the south was now provided with a hypocaust (part of Room 21b) and a furnace room (Rooms 19, 19a), with an additional heat source through the north wall of Room 22. In Phase 3, Room 25c was a decorative water feature unrelated to the baths (see Papworth 2015, 250).

*Phase 4*: During this final phase (fourth century CE), the baths were radically modified and were turned ‘from one of the common damp-heat types [...] to one using dry heat’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 35). The *caldarium* became smaller and was divided into two, the apsidal plunge baths being converted to *sudatoria* (called *laconica* by Esmonde Cleary) with the insertion of new shallow hypocausts (Rooms 22, 22a). The apsidal bath to the south of the room was removed. The furnace room was probably reduced in size (now sited only in Room 19a).

The former *tepidarium* was enlarged to the west, the hypocaust filled in, the north wall and rectangular bath moved, and external steps provided to what now became the *apodyterium* (Room 21, now c. 7 x 6.3m), accessed via a portico (Room 21b). Opening off the north side of the *apodyterium* was a large square cold plunge bath (Room 23, c. 4.2 x 3.7m) with two smaller apsidal ones to either side (left: Rooms 23a, c. 1m wide and c. 1.6m max. depth; right: 23b, c. 1m wide and c. 1.6m max. depth). In Phase 4, Rooms 21a, 24, 24a, 25, 25a, 25b, and 25c became a new entity comprising a suite of reception rooms separate from the baths.

**The West Baths:** This bath-suite was ‘entered by its own set of steps, suggesting it may not have connected with the rest of the [west] range’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 32). Two phases have been identified, although the extent of the baths during the first phase is uncertain (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 165–6).

In their final phase (villa’s Phase 4), they were structured as follows (see Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 52–62, 161–6): coming from the external corridor (or gallery), the bather entered a lobby (Room 10a, 5.46 x 1.47 m) that led to a heated *apodyterium* (Room 10, 4.5 x 3.97 m) and a *frigidarium* (Room 14, 5.10 x 3.02 m) with its cold plunge bath (Room 15, 3.02 x 1.77m, floor 1m lower than that of Room 14) in its northern end, which was entered via three low steps. This plunge bath emptied ‘into a [ceramic] drain that was cut through the gallery mosaic and then out into the inner courtyard’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 44).

From Room 14, the bather would have entered Room 11 (a *tepidarium*, 3.03 x 2.47m) and then Room 12 (a *caldarium*, 2.92 x 2.42m), with its hot plunge bath in Room 13 (2.28m wide and 1.38m max. depth). The furnace room was in Room 16a (3.61 x 2.43m), with the low walls at the entrance to the arch into Room 12 hypocaust acting as the emplacement of the boiler. Room 16 (3.61 x 1.86m) has been traditionally interpreted as a fuel store. The baths possibly had barrel vaults, as suggested by the recovery of hollow voussoirs, and a semi-dome over the plunge bath in Room 13 (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 304, 469).

**Decoration:** Painted plaster was ‘extensively used’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 27) at Chedworth. A group of 34 fragments probably came from Room 22, some of which show off-white ground and red emblems (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 294–5). These fragments and the tufa voussoirs that might have formed arches or vaults were likely part of the decoration of the Phase-3 North Baths (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 182). The mosaic floors are better-documented and described below.

**The North Baths, Phase 3:** Rooms 22a and 22b were ‘floored with geometric mosaics linked by a threshold panel in the opening between them’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 34). This mosaic is classified as 418.11 by Cosh & Neal (2010, 65–6) and is divided into two panels. Panel A in Room 22a ‘can be confidently reconstructed as an overall spaced swastika-meander, enclosing small squares divided diagonally by staggered white lines and parti-coloured dark blue-grey and red’ (Cosh & Neal 2010, 65). It was ‘framed by a band of simple guilloche and a pale blue-grey double fillet’ (*ibid.*).

Panel B in Room 22b is very fragmentary, and only ‘two lengths of simple guilloche survive on the east and south sides’ (Cosh & Neal 2010, 65). Between the two panels was located ‘a red double fillet flanked by bands of white (x 4), with a rectangular frame of pale blue-grey’ (*ibid.*).

**The West Baths:** Almost the entire bath-suite was embellished with polychrome mosaics. The lobby had a simple geometric mosaic (classified as 418.10 by Cosh & Neal 2010,

65). It featured ‘a panel of spaced double latchkey-meander enclosing rectangular frames of guilloche outlined in dark blue-grey with strands of red, yellow and white (contents lost)’ (ibid.). Room 10 had a complex mosaic (418.7) ‘much repaired in antiquity’ with a saltire scheme and a central circle enclosing ‘a cantharus with a fluted neck, jewelled band and gadrooned bowl’ (Cosh & Neal 2010, 61).

Room 14 also had a geometric mosaic (418.9) with ‘a scheme of tangent pelta-roundels [...] formed by peltae arranged point to point, creating two small circles here quartered and parti-coloured red and white’ (ibid.). The mosaic in Room 11 (418.8) consisted ‘of a simple (and not very well executed) geometric design’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 32) with ‘a rectangular panel of intersecting circles formed by double fillets of dark blue-grey, creating spindle-shapes (infilled with red) and concave squares of white with red centres’ surrounded by a coarse red border (Cosh & Neal 2010, 64).

**Water supply:** The spring in the northwestern corner of the villa was the primary source of water supply. It was conveniently located at the highest point of the site so that ‘the water could be fed throughout the complex by means of gravity’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 44). Initially, it was channelled into a reservoir, sited under the southeastern part of the later *nymphaeum* (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 192).

Subsequently, the *nymphaeum* (Room 17) of the villa was built. The spring was then ‘captured in a stone-lined chamber and led through the western side of the apse of the new building and thence channelled into an octagonal basin’ from where ‘a lead pipe took the water to a stone trough which was probably the distribution point’ (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 192).

Rectangular blocks of a ‘dense limestone with channels between 80 and 190 mm across and 100 mm deep’ were found during the early excavations on the site (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 196). These channels might have been the receptacles for lead water pipes or wooden pipes, acting as protection for the pipes themselves. Remains of pipes were found in the two small apsidal rooms beside Room 23.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A significant number of small finds have been found at Chedworth, although their original find-spot is uncertain. These include a few ‘miniature implements used for the preparation and application of cosmetics, plus fragments of the glass vases used to hold preparations and perfumes’ (Esmonde Cleary 2013, 87). Apart from a stone palette, the toilet instruments were all in copper alloy (one toilet spoon, one spoon probe, two nail cleaners and a pair of tweezers) (Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 403).

**Key references:** Cosh 2022; Cosh & Neal 2010, 49–69; De Haan 2011, 277–80, K.47–48; Esmonde Cleary 2013; Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022; Farrer 1865; Fox 1887; Goodburn 1972; Papworth 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018; 2019; 2021a; 2021b RCHME Gloucester 1976, 24–8; Richmond 1959; Scott 1993, 69; Walters 2000; Walters & Rider 2022b; Webster 1983.

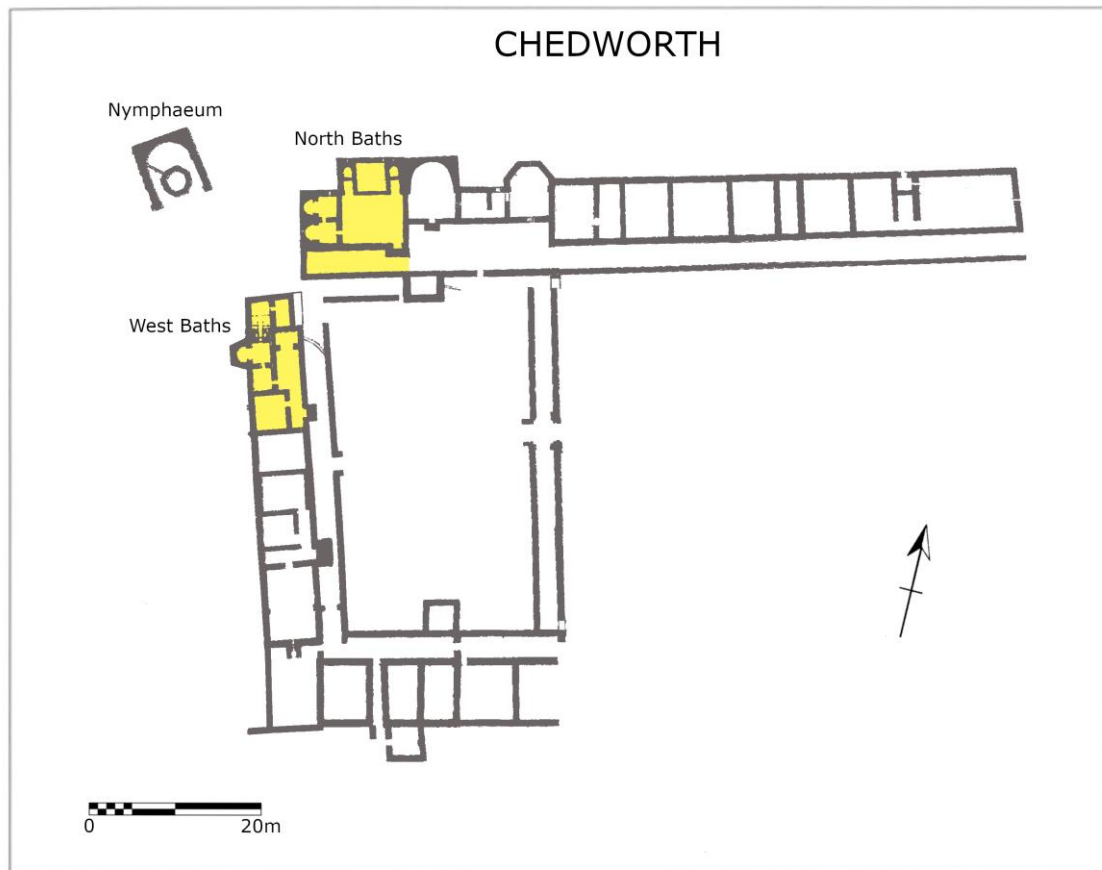


**Figure 102. Plan of the villa at Chedworth (Glos.) during Phases 4 (fourth century). The two sets of baths are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 134, Fig. 2.128.**

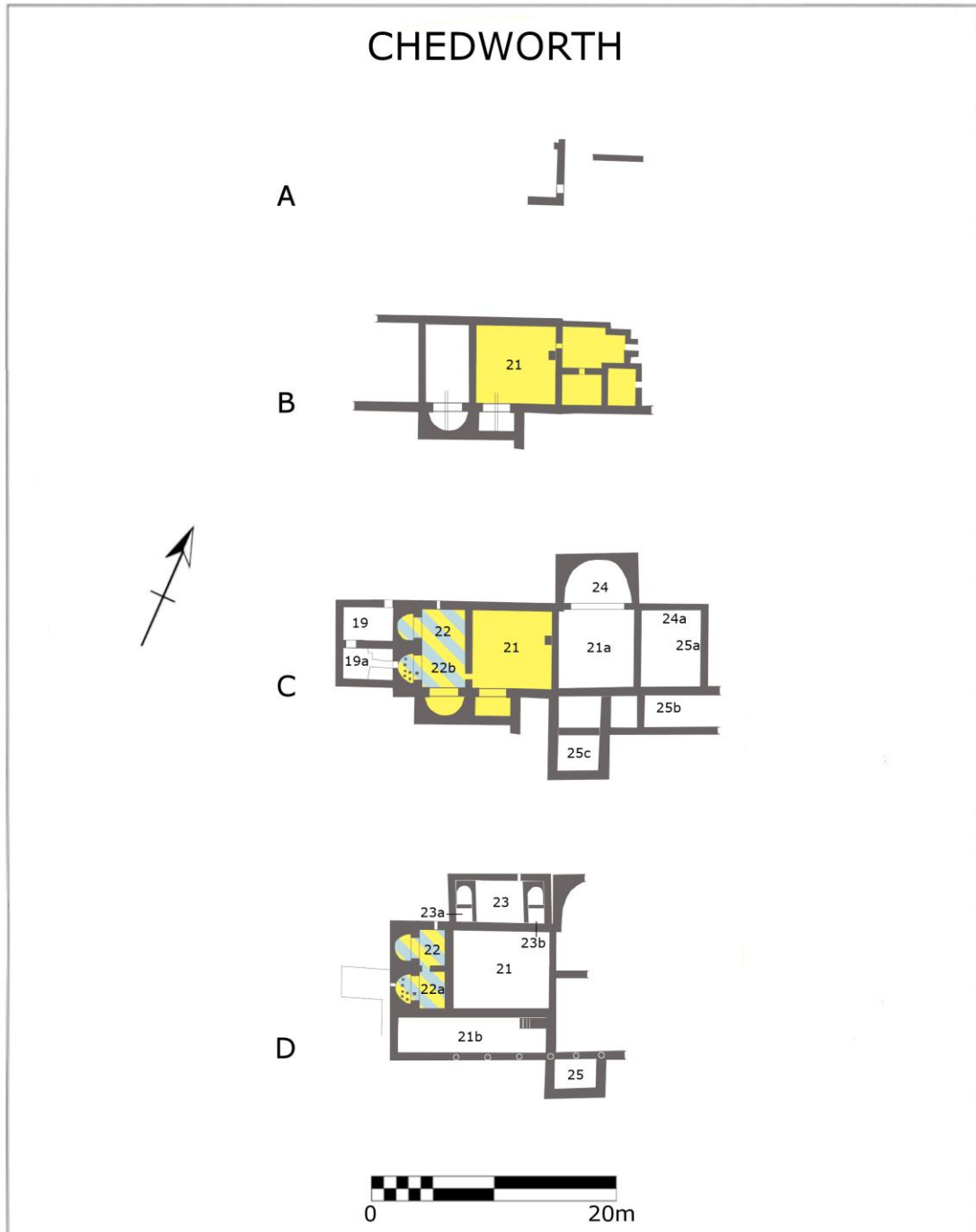


**Figure 103. Plan of the North Baths at Chedworth (Glos.) during Phases 1–4 (A–D). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 175, Fig. 3.15.**



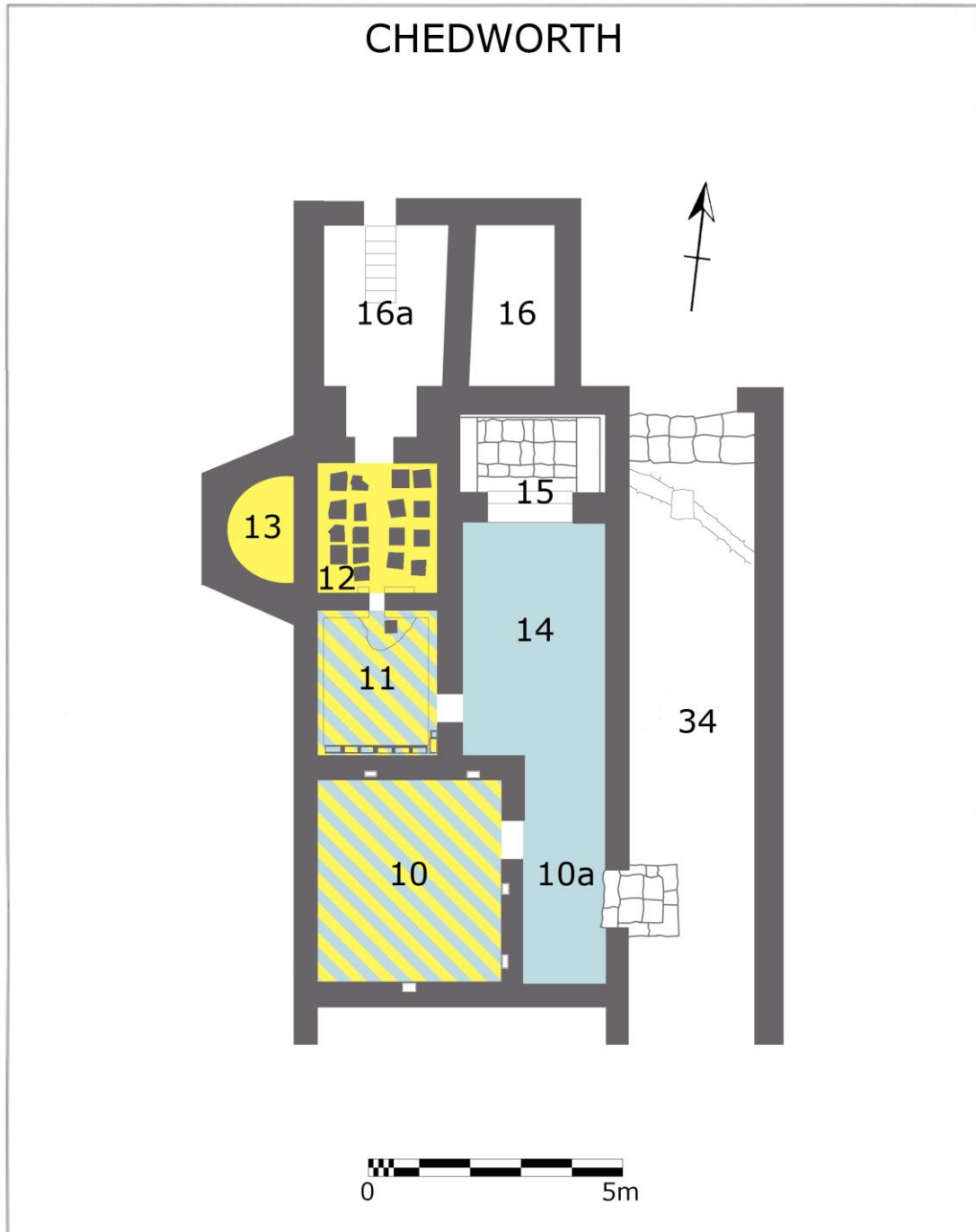


**Figure 104. Plan of the South Baths at Chedworth (Glos.).** The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, those with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Esmonde Cleary *et al.* 2022, 162, Fig. 3.9.

## CHESTERS, WOOLASTON

**Individual Site Number:** 51

**Location:** ST 597 987

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies to the east of a small brook on the right bank of the Severn Estuary. It lies c. 4.2km to the southwest of the villa at **Park Farm, Lydney**, c. 4.3km to the southwest of the temple site at **Lydney Park**, and c. 4km to the northeast of the villa at **Boughspring**. The villa (c. 47 x 47m) underwent two main phases of construction. Period I dates from the second to the beginning of the fourth century CE when the site was allegedly abandoned due to some catastrophic event (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 124). During this initial stage, the villa was a winged corridor house with a bath-suite on the western side of its southern wing.

The complex was then modified during Period II (c. 320–fifth century CE) when a new bath-suite was built on the eastern side of the southern wing. A boundary wall runs from the south of the villa to a square building (interpreted as a lighthouse). It then turns northwest and terminates close to a rectangular structure, interpreted as a barn (c. 23 x 9.5m). Recent excavations to the southwest of the villa revealed a timber building (c. 16.5 x 8.2m) dating to the mid-third–late fourth centuries CE. It contained two iron-smelting furnaces for an industrial-scale iron manufacture. Site area: c. 95 x 65m.

**Villa chronology:** second–fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated between 1932 and 1935 under the direction of C. Scott-Garrett and F. H. Harris. Further fieldwork, including a resistivity survey and small-scale excavations, took place between 1987 and 1991 under the direction of M. G. Fulford and J. R. L. Allen.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, two bath-suites have been identified: the western bath-suite (built in Period I) and the eastern bath-suite (built in Period II). According to the excavators, most of the rooms of the western bath-suite were abandoned in Period II, except for Rooms XIV, Room III, Room XI and its plunge bath (unnumbered). This reconstruction is problematic as the second set of baths occupies more than half of the house. The numbering of the rooms follows Scott-Garrett & Harris' plan (1938, 97, Fig. 1).

**Period I:** The western bath-suite was structured as follows: Room XVII (c. 3.1 x 1.1m) was 'clearly the entrance forecourt, as curved courses of heavy stone indicated entrance steps in the south wall' (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 104). Room XIV (c. 4.5 x 3.6m) was a latrine, and its 'northwest corner was boxed in by huge blocks of squared freestone', which could have been 'the emplacement of a heavy tank, possibly to collect water from the roof of the system so that it could serve to flush the latrine' (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 106).

Room XIII, perhaps an *apodyterium* (c. 3.8 x 3.1m), Room XII (a *tepidarium*, c. 4 x 3.7m), Room X (c. 3.3 x 1.8m), and Room XI (a *caldarium*, c. 4.1 x 3.8m) were hypocausted. At this stage, the function of the room south of Room XI (unnumbered, uncertain size) is not clear. Room III (c. 5.5 x 3.9m) was the furnace room of the baths.

**Period II:** According to the excavators, only four rooms of the original bath-suite were kept in use during Period II. The furnace entrance in Room XI was 'obliterated and buried under a rough floor of pitching' (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 105). Room XI probably became the *frigidarium* of the new bath-suite. It was now equipped with stone benches

(c. 0.4m wide and c. 0.38m high) along its eastern and southern sides (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 104).

The room (unnumbered, c. 4.5 x 3.1m) south of Room XI was now probably a cold plunge bath with a narrow bench (c. 2.89m long and c. 0.3m high) on its northern side. It was apparently ‘too narrow and too sloping to be normal’ (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 106). The maximum depth of the bath was only 0.38m, and Clair Baddeley suggested that it was a *piscina* (ibid.).

The new eastern bath-suite was structured as follows: Room IX (c. 3.3 x 3.2m) was a *tepidarium*, and Room VII was a *caldarium* ‘with two similar angular bays in its north and south walls’ (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 101) to form an irregular octagon. Scott-Garrett and Harris (1938, 102) report that ‘possibly there was a hot-water bath in one of the bays, but this was not investigated’.

Room XVIII (c. 5.5 x 3.7m), the new furnace room, was ‘roughly set out’ (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 101). A layer of unburnt coal was found ‘at the side of the furnace passage, outside the south wall’ (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 103). Room XIX is identified by Scott-Garrett and Harris (1938, 102) as another possible *frigidarium*, although ‘it stood quite isolated and unconnected with [the bath-suite] by any wall’.

**Decoration:** Scott-Garrett and Harris (1938, 103) report that Rooms X, XII, and XIII ‘had fine tessellated floors which, however, as found, were completely destroyed’. Fragments of a fourth-century mosaic were found in the cold plunge bath south of Room XI (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 106). The largest fragment is described by Cosh and Neal (2010, 70): it ‘has part of a conventional fourth-century form of cantharus with gadrooning on the bowl, flutes on the body and the lower portion of an S-shaped handle’.

Discussing Rooms X, XI, XII, and XIII, Scott-Garrett and Harris also state, rather vaguely, that these rooms had ‘plastered walls decorated in many colours, red, browns, purples, greens, and yellows’ (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 104). During Period 1, Room XI had wall plaster ‘with a buff or yellow surface-colour, with some green ornamentation’ (ibid.).

In Period II, the wall and bench in this room ‘were plastered and finished a reddish colour at the bases; judging from fragments found on the floor, this changed to panelling and designs of other colours higher up’ (ibid.). The cold plunge bath south of Room XI had a simple mosaic floor of ‘medium-sized whitish tesserae, which appeared to have been washed over with a cement coating’ and the walls plastered red (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 105).

**Water supply:** Scott-Garrett and Harris (1938, 112) suggest a yet undiscovered well as the more likely source of water supply. They note that ‘the creek lies too low, and in any case could supply only brackish water’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** As reported by Scott-Garrett and Harris (1938, 104), a pair of goat’s horns was recovered from the floor of Room XI. Two ‘well-patinated plain tweezers, 3 inches [c. 7.6cm] and 2 inches long [c. 5cm]’ (Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 121) were found during the excavation, but their precise findspot is not specified in the report.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2010, 70; Fulford & Allen 1992; Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938.

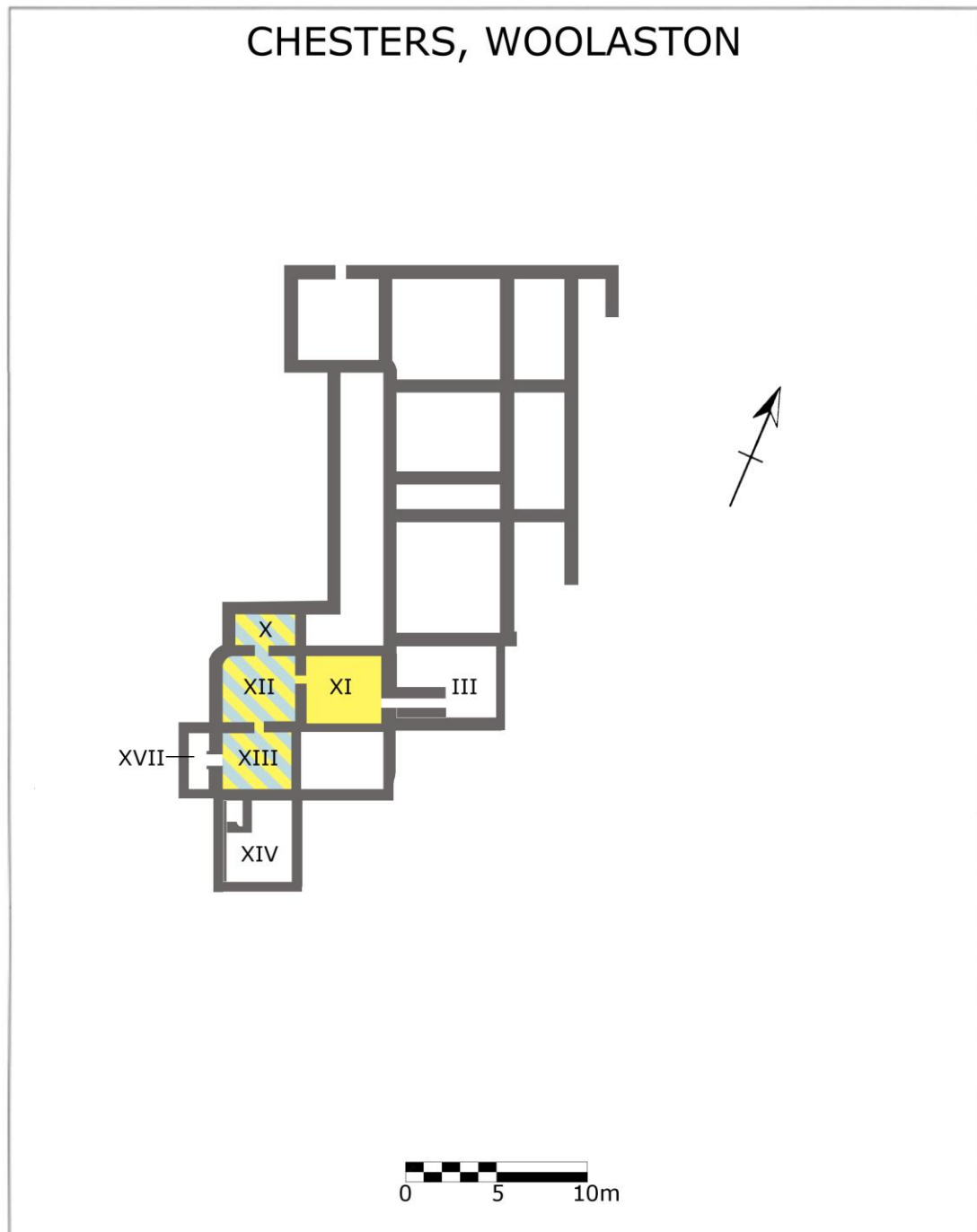


**Figure 84. Plan of the villa at Chesters, Woolaston (Glos.) during Period 1. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 97, Fig. 1.**

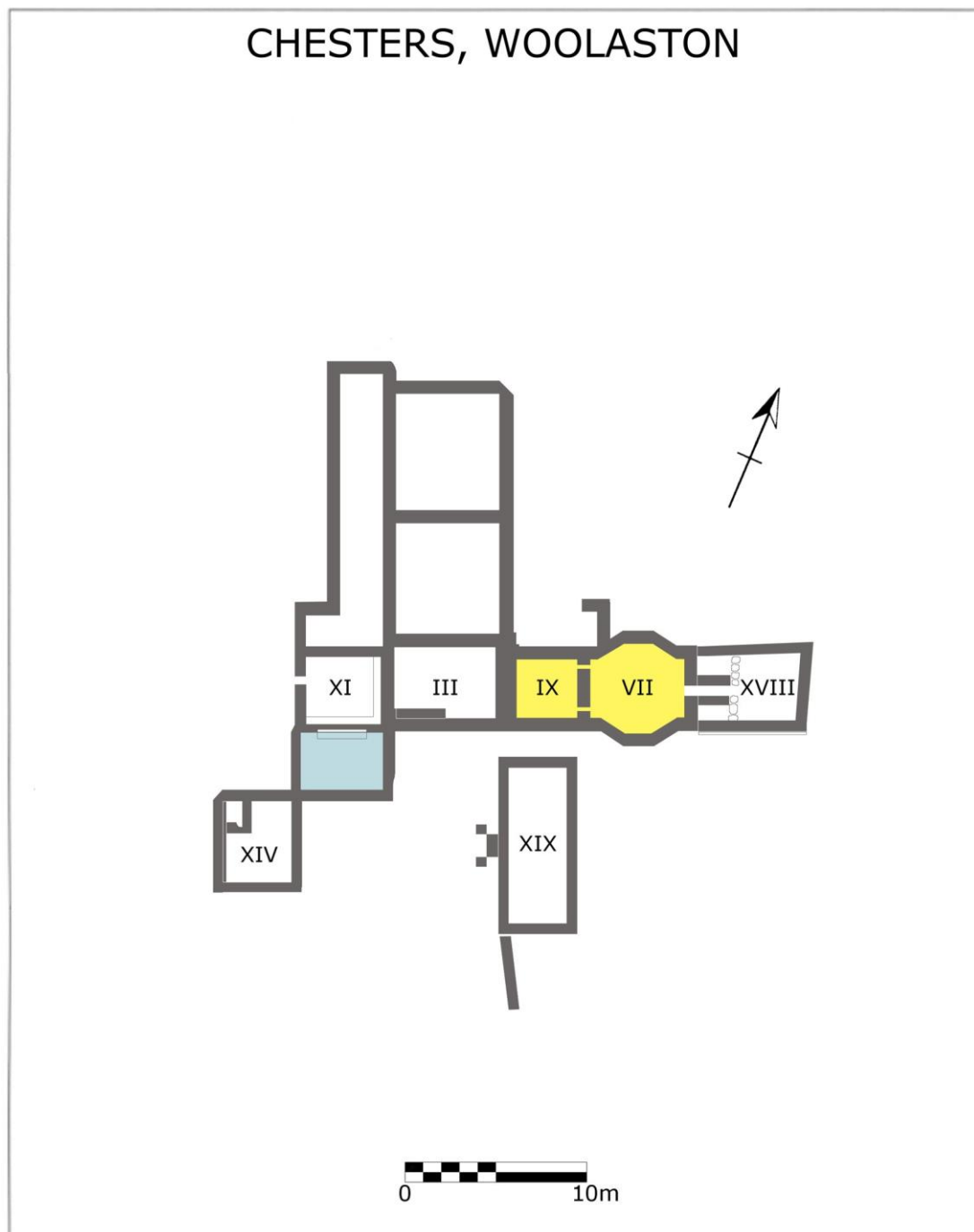


**Figure 85. Plan of the villa at Chesters, Woolaston (Glos.) during Period 2. The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, and those with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After Scott-Garrett & Harris 1938, 97, Fig. 1.**

## CLEARCUPBOARD, FARMINGTON

**Individual Site Number:** 60

**Location:** SP 1323 1582

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the top of a spur, c. 4.6km southeast of the villa at **Turkdean** and 5.7km west of the villa at Great Rissington. A rectangular building was built here at the beginning of the fourth century (Period I) and then enlarged to become a compact winged corridor house (Period II). During Period III, the villa was equipped with an attached bath-suite and a barn was added to the east side of the main building. Some minor changes took place during Period IV before the abandonment in the second half of the fourth century (Gascoigne 1969, 38–40). Considering the simple structure of the building and its heating arrangements, Gascoigne (1969, 54) suggests that it was the house of a tenant or bailiff who wintered here. Site area: c. 39 x 29m.

**Villa chronology:** Early–late fourth century CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1964–6 under the direction of P. E. Gascoigne (1969).

**Baths:** The baths were probably built ‘at the height of the villa’s prosperity, about the middle of the 4<sup>th</sup> century’ (Gascoigne 1969, 44). They had walls of local limestone like the rest of the house and comprised five rooms. They were structured as follows: Room III (c. 4.48 x 3.4m) was the *apodyterium* or the hall of the baths and was separated from the rest of the house’s main room (Room II) by a ‘light wood screen or partition’ (Gascoigne 1969, 46). The *apodyterium* featured a ‘4 ft. 3 ins. [c. 1.3m] cement surround on the north and east sides’ (ibid.).

Room XIII (c. 3.13 x 2.1m) was a *frigidarium* with ‘a wood partitioning wall on its south side’ (Gascoigne 1969, 44) and a cold plunge bath in Room XIV (c. 3.23 x 3.01m). The sunken plunge was c. 1.18 x 1.31m and 0.76m deep, and its main outlet was ‘a cemented conduit of 3 ins. [c. 7cm] bore, emptying through the north wall into a drain’ (Gascoigne 1969, 47). The drain was made of stones, and its joints ‘were sealed with roofing slab fragments’ (ibid.). Room XII (c. 3.13 x 1.52m) was a *tepidarium*, and Room XI (c. 3.13 x 2.1m) was a *caldarium* with its stokehole on its west side. Fragments of tufa have been recovered from the bath-suite, some ‘being of a voussoir shape suggesting barrel vaulting’ (ibid.). The numbering of the rooms follows Gascoigne’s plan (1969, 40).

Gascoigne (1969, 53) suggests that Room III was provided with ‘a roof opening or light well’ over the cemented area to illuminate Rooms XII and XIII, which otherwise would have been in near total darkness. He also speculates that a tank might have been ‘situated below the roof opening to catch precipitation which would then have been available for filling the cold plunge in Room XIV’ (ibid.).

**Decoration:** Room XIV was decorated with painted plaster and was ‘floored with patterned red tiles’ (Gascoigne 1969, 47).

**Water supply:** Water from a subterranean spring was channelled through a capped channel. However, Gascoigne (1969, 53) notes that ‘the bath suite had been sited at the further possible distance from the domestic water supply’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Gascoigne 1969; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 55; Scott 1993, 72.

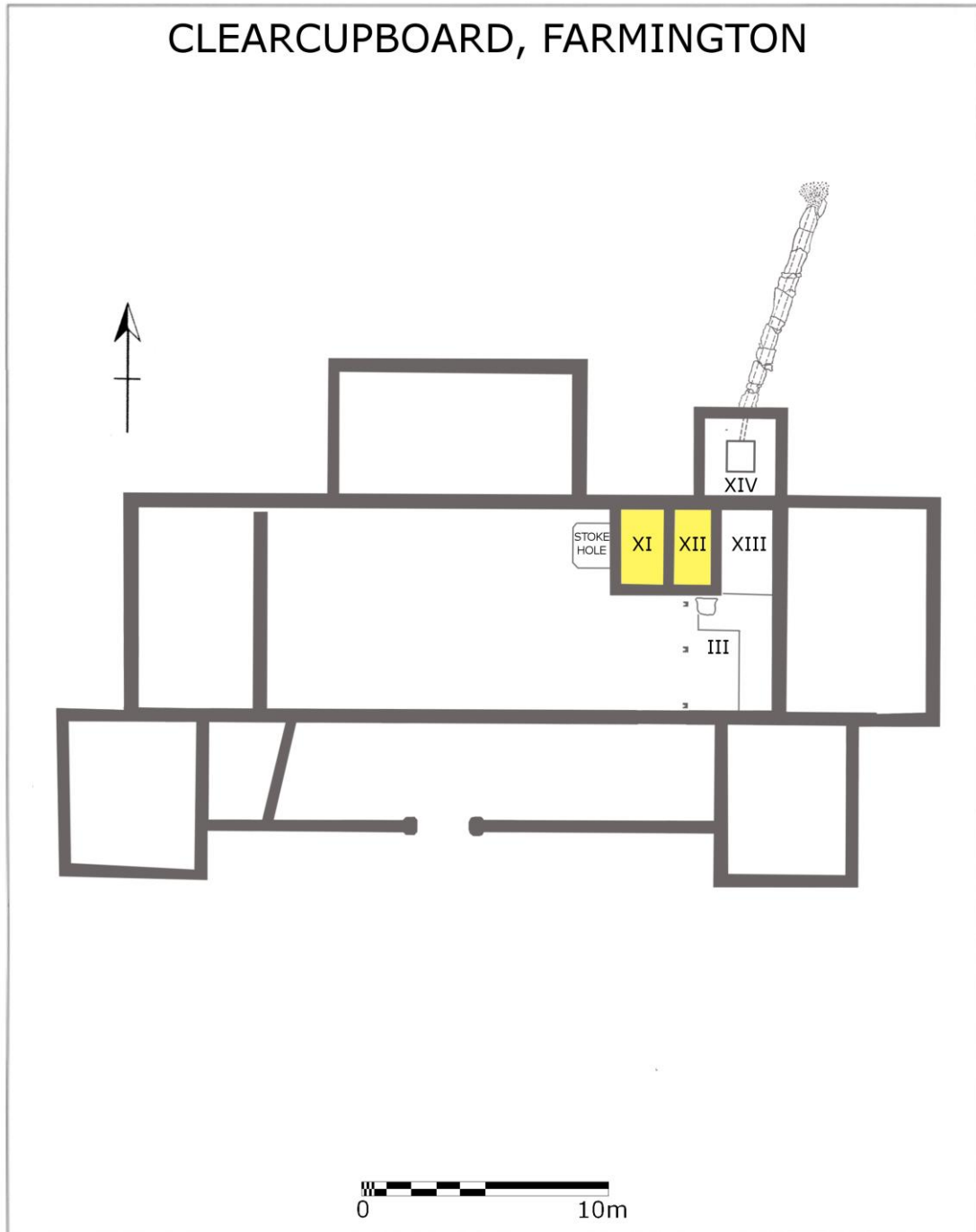


**Figure 86. Plan of the villa at Clearcupboard, Farmington (Glos.) during Period III. The rooms of the baths with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Gascoigne 1969, 40.**

COBERLEY

**Individual Site Number:** 62

**Location:** SO 967 152

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is the site of a partially excavated villa, c. 3.9km southeast of the villa at **Dryhill, Badgeworth**. A geophysical survey in 2004 showed that the main building was H-shaped, with a possible set of baths to the west. The villa was initially a corridor house that evolved into a winged corridor house. Evidence of tile production was found in the southeast area of the main villa building. Presently known site area: c. 75 x 50m.

**Villa chronology:** second–third century CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was first recorded in 1976. In 2003, metal detectorists unearthed a mosaic dating to the late second–early third centuries CE. After a geophysical survey in 2004, the mosaic was re-exposed in 2007. Wessex Archaeology carried out archaeological recording and post-excavation analysis of the site as part of the *Time Team* television series.

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2010, 130–1; Beeson 2008; Wessex Archaeology 2008.

**Note:** No complete plan available.



## CROMHALL

**Individual Site Number:** 69

**Location:** ST 6858 8974

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 6.1km northwest of the villa at **Lower Woods, Hawkesbury**, c. 7.1km northeast of the villa at **Tockington Park Farm**, and c. 150m west of a tributary to the Little Avon River. A winged corridor villa with a small bath suite was excavated here in the nineteenth century. Site area: c. 77 x 72m.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** Lord Ducie discovered and excavated the site in 1855 (Conder 1909–11, 20).

**Baths:** Conder offers a very concise description of this part of the complex. Room 1 (c. 2 x 1.9m) was probably a *caldarium* with a furnace room on its northern side. Room 2 (c. 2 x 1.9m) might have been a *tepidarium*. The function of Room 3 (c. 1.2 x 1.1m) and its association with the baths is uncertain. Two other small rooms (north of Room 2) might also have been part of these facilities. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The baths might have been supplied by the nearby stream.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Conder 1909–11; Scott 1993, 15.

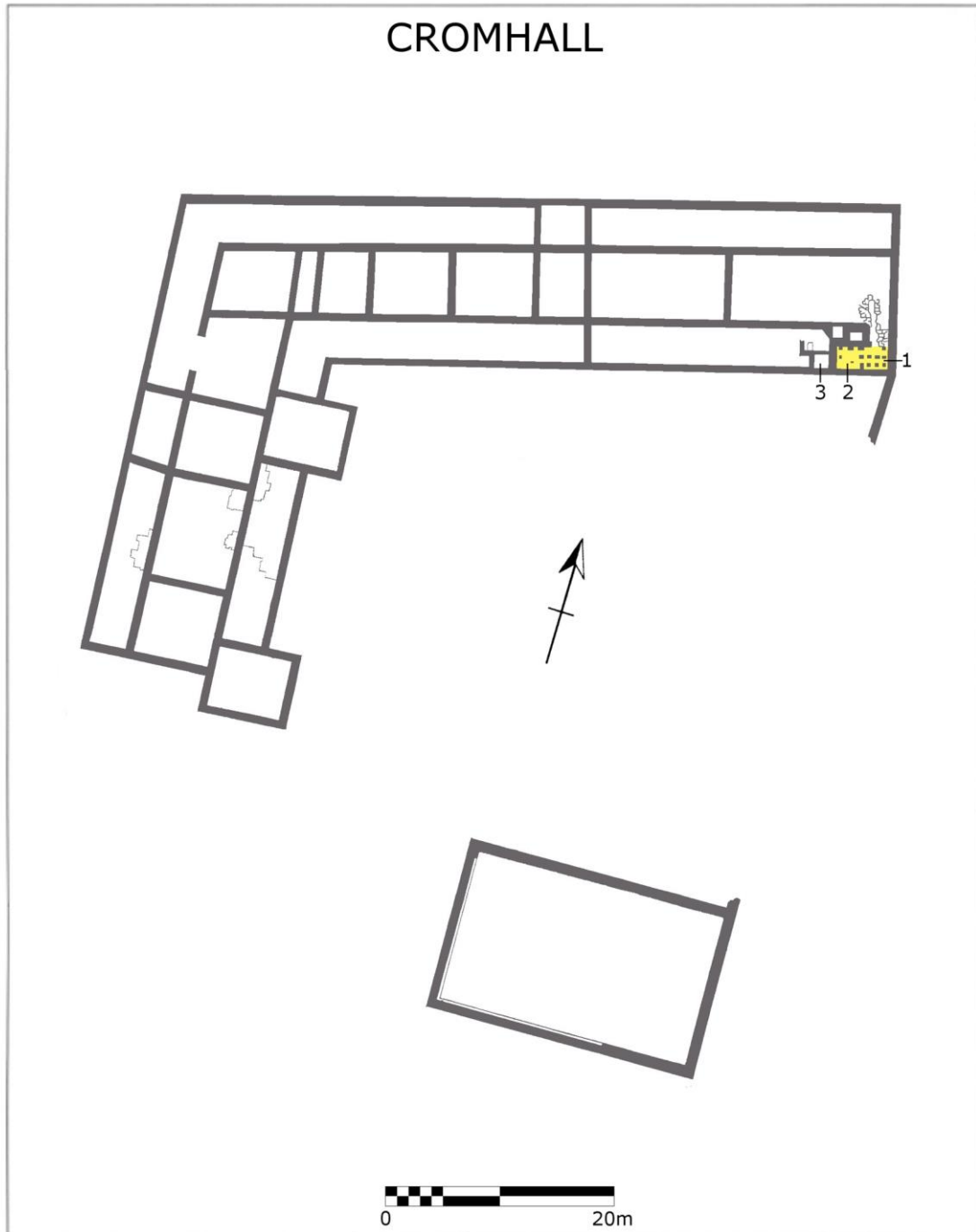


**Figure 87. Plan of the villa at Cromhall (Glos.). The rooms of the baths with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Conder 1909-11, unnumbered figure between pages 20 and 21.**

## DINGS, STOKE GIFFORD

**Individual Site Number:** 248

**Location:** SO 9132 0438

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 6.5km west of the villa at Lyde Green, Emersons Green, c. 7.5km east of the villa at Kings Weston, c. 7km north of the villa at Brislington, and c. 10km east of the Severn Estuary. There is evidence of late Iron Age occupation, possibly predating the Roman conquest (Period 1), including a roundhouse and a series of enclosures. In Period 2.1 (c. 100–250 CE), ‘the site saw the creation of a rectilinear network of enclosures and trackways’ (Brindle *et al.* 2023, 17).

During Period 2.2 (c. 250–350 CE), the enclosures and timber buildings were replaced by a stone-founded residence (Structure T1) and an ancillary building (Structure S). From the mid-fourth century (Period 2.3, c. 350–410 CE), the settlement was extensively redeveloped.

The main residence was significantly enlarged (Structures T2) and further modified in the late fourth century (Structure T3). It became a winged corridor villa with a portico at the front and wings along its northern and southern ends. Each wing projected east and west to create an H-shape in the plan. Structure S was demolished and replaced with Structure W. Structure R (an aisled barn) was also built at this stage, and a series of walled courtyards were created. Occupation continued at the site until the late fourth or early fifth centuries. Site area: c. 150 x 150m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 250–early fifth century CE.

**Excavation history:** Cotswold Archaeology excavated the site between the summer of 2016 and the spring of 2018.

**Baths:** At some point during the first phase of Period 2.3, a small bath-suite was built at the western end of the northern wing of the villa. Room T8 was ‘created by the construction of a wall butting the existing outer walling’ of a previous room (Room 5). The new wall created an apsidal room (c. 4 x 2.75m) (Brindle *et al.* 2023, 49). The new room featured an underfloor stone-lined channel, probably part of a hypocaust heating system. Room 5 might have also been part of the baths. No furnace was clearly identified, but it might have been placed to the north of the room.

**Decoration:** Painted plaster was found in Room T8, ‘indicating that it was decorated with a colour scheme which included white, plain duck green and plain red frescoes’ (Brindle *et al.* 2023, 49).

**Water supply:** While there is no evidence that a continuous supply of water came for the bath, water was probably provided from the two wells (AG and AH) excavated immediately to the northeast of Room 8T (Brindle *et al.* 2023, 206).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A copper alloy toilet spoon (from a Period 3 collapse layer) and two pairs of tweezers (one from a Period 3 [post-Roman] collapse layer and one unstratified) were found (Brindle *et al.* 2023, 134).

**Key references:** Brindle *et al.* 2023.

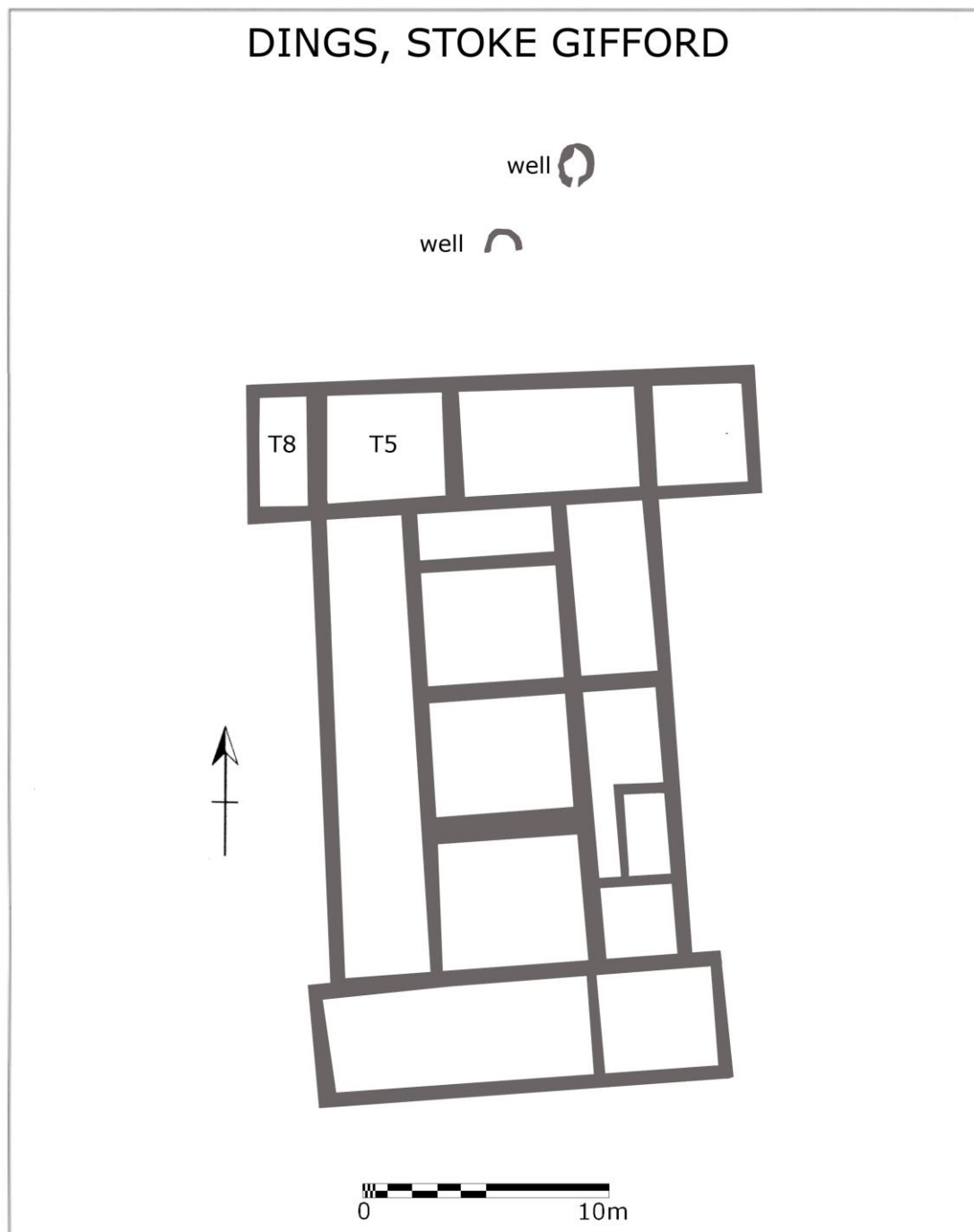


**Figure 88. Plan of villa at Dings, Stoke Gifford (Glos.) with the small bath-suite in Rooms T5 and T8. Image: author. After Brindle *et al.* 2023, 38, Fig. 2.23 and 46, Fig. 2.29.**

## DOYNTON

**Individual Site Number:** 220

**Location:** ST 7305 7419

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies 5.8km southeast of the villa at **Lyde Green, Emersons Green**. The villa complex at Doyton, only partially excavated, featured a series of buildings set within enclosures, a large courtyard to the northwest of the main building, and a workshop area. There is evidence of occupation from the Late Iron Age to the later Roman period. The excavators identified a second-century phase when a corn dryer was operating at the site and a main building phase dating to the fourth century. Presently known site area: no information available.

**Villa chronology:** first (?)–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was first recorded in the 1960s. In 2013, Archeoscan carried out a geophysical survey and small-scale excavation at the site, which led to the discovery of a partially-robbled hypocaust system.

**Baths:** The hypocaust system was likely part of the *caldarium* of a small bathhouse, included in the fourth-century extension of the complex (Archeoscan 2014). A furnace and a plunge bath were also identified (Archeoscan 2018).

**Decoration:** The plunge bath had plain terracotta tiled flooring and was decorated with red, white, and pink painted wall plaster.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Archeoscan 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018; 2019; 2020; 2021.

**Note:** No plan available.

## DRYHILL, BADGEWORTH

**Individual Site Number:** 75

**Location:** SO 9316 1688

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 3.9km northwest of the villa at **Coberley** and c. 4.2km northeast of the villa at **Great Witcombe**. It is located c. 45m south of a stream and c. 45m northeast of a spring. This corridor villa excavated in the nineteenth century had twelve rooms. Site area: c. 36.9 x 15m.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** Gomonde and Bell discovered and excavated the site in 1849 (Witts 1883, 60).

**Baths:** Room 1 (c. 1.4 x 1.3m) was identified as ‘a ‘bath’ with stuccoed walls and flagged floor’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 6). The plan suggests that a bath-suite occupied at least part of the northeast side of the villa, including the hypocaust in Room 3. The numbering of the rooms follows the RCHME Gloucester’s plan (1976, 5).

**Decoration:** Room 1 was ‘lined with stucco several inches thick, of a reddish colour’ (Witts 1883, 60), and fragments of painted plaster were found all around the site.

**Water supply:** The baths might have been supplied by the stream or the nearby spring.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Gomonde 1849, 7–13; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 5–6; Scott 1993, 68; Witts 1883, 60–1.

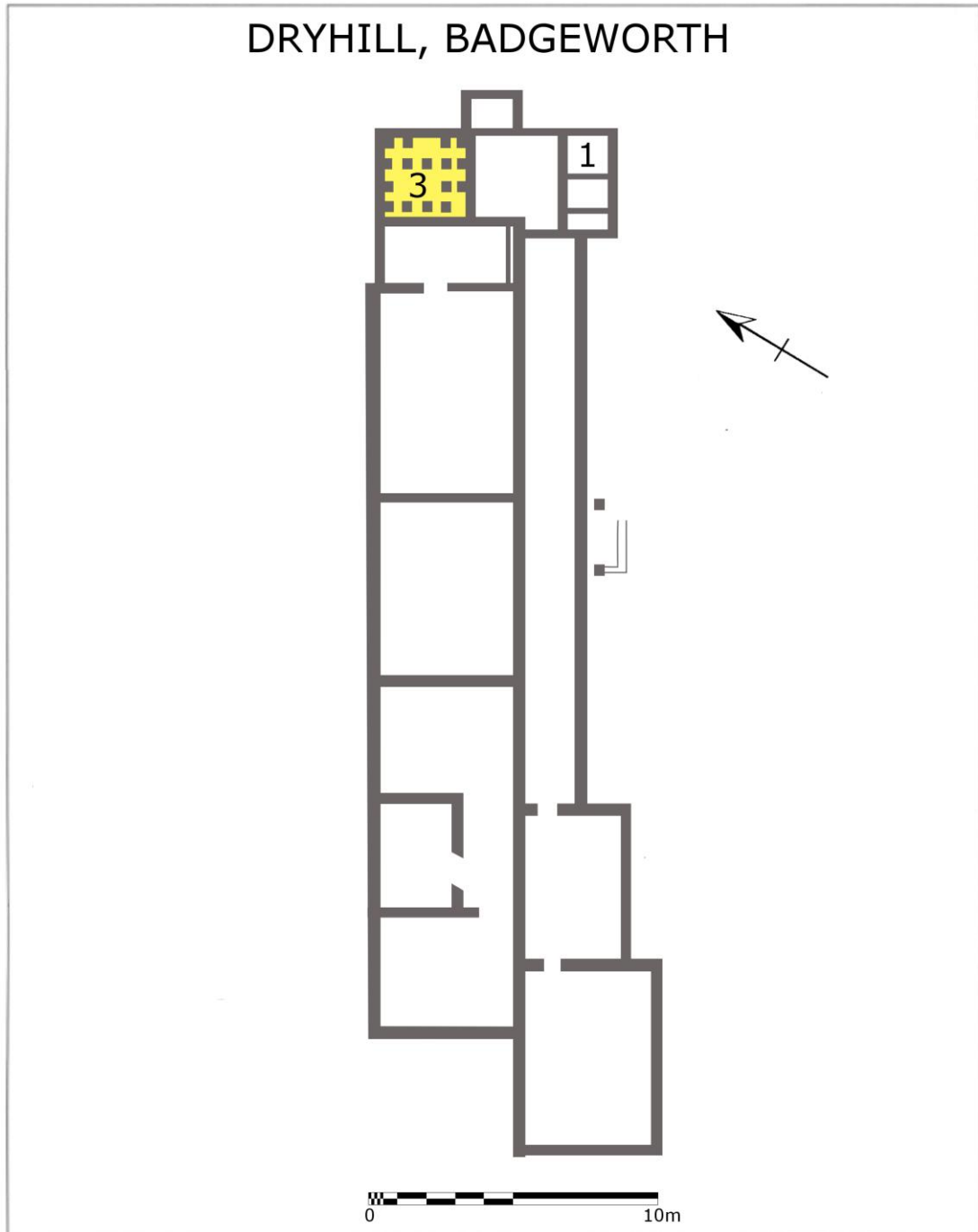


**Figure 89. Plan of the villa at Dryhill, Badgeworth (Glos.). The room with hypocaust (3), which was probably part of a set of baths with Room 1, is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After RCHME Gloucester 1976, 5.**

## EBRINGTON

**Individual Site Number:** 84

**Location:** SP 1892 3999

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, only partially excavated, lies on the west bank of a brook known as The Grove, about 4km west of the Fosse Way, the Roman road linking Exeter to Lincoln. A bathhouse and a large-scale drainage system were found here. Judging from ‘the size of the rooms and the monumental masonry’, they may have been ‘a house of wealth and magnitude’ (Wright 1959, 127). According to Ian Richmond (reported in O’Neil 1971–72, 89), ‘the site could have been that of a Shrine dedicated to the goddess or nymphs of the Spring’.

While the excavators could not identify any secure dating evidence, later work at a site 150m to the north revealed a series of ditched fields, trackways, enclosures, and a later cemetery dating from the second to the fourth centuries (Hood 2009). The baths’ imposing size and elaborate decoration might point to a fourth-century date. Site area: c. 30 x 25m.

**Villa chronology:** second–fourth centuries.

**Excavation history:** The bathhouse was discovered in 1955 and excavated in 1958–60 by H. E. O’Neil for the Ministry of Works. In April 2009, Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation commissioned by The Historic Environment Consultancy at a site 150m north of the baths, identifying ditched fields, trackways, enclosures, and a cemetery.

**Baths:** The baths included at least nine rooms and were luxuriously decorated. According to the excavator, ‘the entrance was through a small area from the west, probably forming a porch, very little of which remained’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 88). The numbering of the rooms follows O’Neil’s plan (1971–72, 93).

The building was structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 7.77 x 6.09m) was an *apodyterium*, ‘its walls well built in masonry of the local inferior olite’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 89). O’Neil reports (ibid.) that ‘a large tile was embedded in the pavement against the east wall [...] in the centre of which the top of a leaden pipe remained’. This pipe was linked to the main drain of the baths.

Room 2 (c. 6.09 x 5.7m) was hypocausted and was either a *tepidarium* or a *caldarium*. 102 *pilae* of the hypocaust were found still in situ, mainly ‘constructed of red bricks and tiles, but a few were made of complete box-flue tiles filled with mortar’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 90). The furnace room for the hypocaust in Room 2 was in Room 11 (c. 3.5 x 2.97m), possibly an open-air space. O’Neil (1971–72, 89) notes that ‘to augment the draught for the furnace in such an enclosed position, an air inlet or ventilation channel was introduced from the north side of the establishment, where another open-air area operated connected with the drainage system from the Bath and the Latrine’.

Rooms 3 (c. 5.33 x 1.9m) and 4 (c. 5.33 x 1.9m) were two parallel corridors: ‘the north one led to the cold Bath from the unheated room, while the other was for those returning to a warm room after the cold plunge’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 90). Room 5 (c. 4.95 x 4.8m), identified by O’Neil (ibid.) as an ‘Antechamber’, was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room 7 (c. 4.95 x 4.8m).

The plunge bath (c. 4.57 x 4.57m, 0.91m deep) had ‘its floor and sides thickly coated with *opus signinum* plastered onto a yellow mortar layer’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 90).



Fragments of ‘marble lining to the walls’ were recovered. The two steps leading down into the bath were also ‘embellished with white Carrara marble surfaces, fragments of which were still *in situ*’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 91). O’Neil (*ibid.*) calculated that the plunge bath ‘would have held about 4,200 gallons [19,094 litres] of water’. It was ‘drained by a lead pipe at floor level at its northeast corner which led into a stone-lined drain’ (*ibid.*).

This drain (number 9 on the plan, 28.65m long, 0.38m wide and 0.3m deep) ‘was stone lined and constructed with monumental masonry’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 91). It ‘led from the Bath northwards for a short distance curving westwards to flush the Latrine, continuing through a sunken open-air area to continue southwards below Rooms 1 and 2 to an exit into the open air under the south wall of Room 1’ (*ibid.*). O’Neil (1971–72, 88) notices that ‘by the planning of the flow of the drain it is seen that great care had been taken that the used bath water which also sluiced the latrine could not contaminate the [nearby] brook’, perhaps considered sacred.

Room 6 (c. 4.87 x 1.97m) was a latrine entered from Room 5. The east wall of Room 6 was a stone pier (c. 2.13m long, 1.52m wide), perhaps associated with the plunge bath in Room 7. It might have ‘supported a tank or cistern to hold a water supply conveyed by means of an aqueduct from the spring’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 91). The water was then conducted into the bath, perhaps through an arrangement ‘of a showy nature such a small trickling cascade’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 88). Room 10 (c. 4.11 x 2.43m) was partially investigated, and its function is unclear. Room 8 was ‘a sunken enclosed area but open to air’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 92), an open space probably used to control the flow in the drain. Rooms 12, 13 and 14 were only partially investigated. Room 14 appears to have been hypocausted.

**Decoration:** As mentioned above, evidence of marble lining the walls was found in Room 7, and the two steps leading down to the plunge bath were also covered with white Carrara marble. This room produced many fragments of painted wall plaster. They were ‘highly coloured, fragments of which showed a pattern with fishes’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 91). Furthermore, this room produced ‘a large fragment of the soffit from a doorway decorated with a pattern of green foliage on a white background’ (*ibid.*).

In Room 3, ‘fragments of two layers of wall plaster remained on the walls’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 90). A simple mosaic floor was discovered in Room 1. It shows ‘a simple grid delineated by blue-grey double fillets on a white ground; at the centre of each square is a tiny blue-grey cross made from five *tesserae*’ (Cosh & Neal 2010, 136). A mosaic floor was also recovered from Room 3: it formed ‘a simple pattern of small blue and white squares, c. 4 ½ [0.11m], so arranged as to form crosses in white’ (O’Neil 1971–72, 90). Finally, scattered *tesserae* were found in Room 2.

**Water supply:** O’Neil (1971–72, 88) reports that the water from the spring that originates the brook near the site ‘must have been conveyed directly to the bath along an aqueduct, starting some distance up the ravine to acquire the right level of flow’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2010, 135–6; Hood 2009; O’Neil 1971–72; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 52–3; Scott 1993, 72; Wright 1959; 1961, 186.

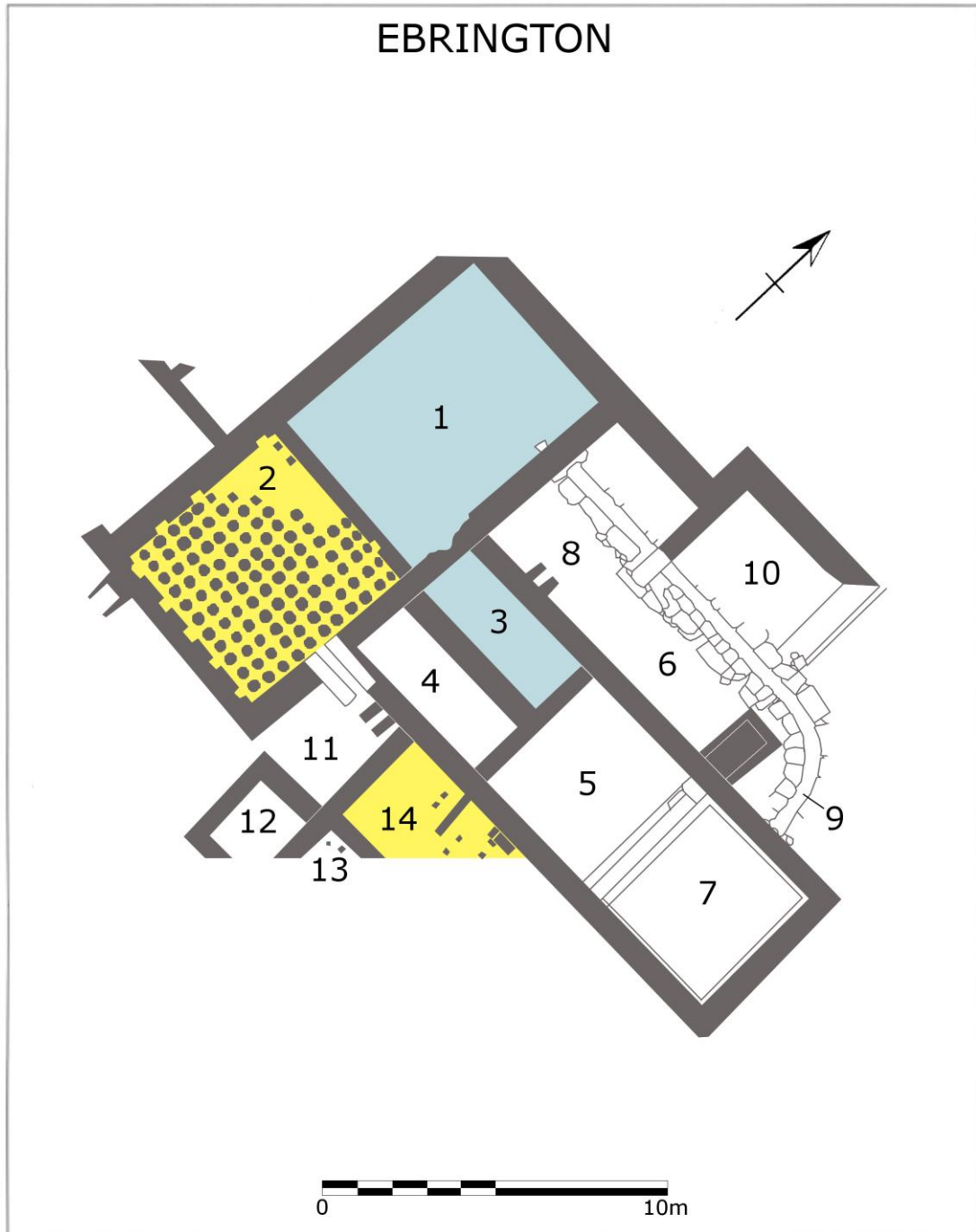


**Figure 90. Plan of the bathhouse at Ebrington (Glos.). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, those with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After O'Neil 1971–72, 93.**

## FROCESTER COURT

**Individual Site Number:** 102

**Location:** SO 7849 0272

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on a gravel terrace, c. 1km west of a settlement, c. 1.5 km east of a possible villa under St. Peter's Church and c. 5.5 km west of the villa at **Woodchester**. The area of the villa was already occupied in the late Bronze Age and produced evidence of a small Iron Age settlement. This settlement was enlarged in the early Roman period (Phases 3.1–3.3, 50–275 CE) and subsequently abandoned in the second half of the third century.

In c. 275 CE (Phase 3.4a), a corridor house (Building A) was built and soon after enlarged to become a winged corridor villa with a rectangular, walled front courtyard and a garden (Phases 3.4b–c). A bath-suite was subsequently added to the northeast side of the house (Phase 3.4d, c. 360 CE). In front of the villa, there was a third-century timber building that hosted an industrial complex, later transformed into a brewhouse involved in the domestic production of ale (Price 2010). The villa was destroyed by fire and abandoned at the beginning of the fifth century. Re-occupation occurred in the fifth and sixth centuries (Price, E. 2000a, 111–8). Site area: c. 90 x 60m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 275–early fifth century CE.

**Excavation history:** H. S. Grace and E. G. Price thoroughly excavated the site in 1961–79.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, a bath-suite was built in Phase 3.4d (mid-fourth century CE) on the northeast side of the house. It was probably entered through Room 11 on its south side and was structured as follows: Room 14 (2.9 x 3.4m) was the *apodyterium*. Room 13 (2.9 x 3.2m) was a *tepidarium* and was initially heated by a pillared hypocaust, later substituted by a channelled one. Room 15 (c. 2.4 x 3.4m) was either another *tepidarium* or a *caldarium*. Room 16 (c. 2.1 x 3.5m) might have been a *caldarium* or a hot plunge bath. Room 17 (c. 4.7 x 3.5m) was a *frigidarium* equipped with a cold plunge bath (c. 1.8 x 1.7m, at least 0.6m deep).

A lead waste pipe (50mm in diameter) was found in the northeastern wall of the *frigidarium*. Moreover, 'a trench 2ft 8in (0.8m) deep along the southeastern wall was the only evidence of what was probably a latrine in the southern corner of the room' (Price, E. 2000a, 104). Room 18 (c. 3.9 x 3.5m) was the furnace room. The numbering of the rooms follows E. Price's plan (2000a, 90, Fig. 5.3).

**Decoration:** When the hypocaust in Room 13 was rebuilt, the room was paved with a mosaic floor, although 'the fragments are too small to identify' (Cosh & Neal 2010, 138).

**Water supply:** Price (2000a, 184) reports that, while the source of water supply for Phase 3.4d is uncertain, there is 'ample room for a well in the unexcavated areas to the north-east of Building A'.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Two tweezers, dating to the mid-fourth century, were found near Room 17 (Price 2000b, 53). The site produced more than 300 pieces of fourth-century blow glass, 40% of which came from a ditch close to the bath-suite (Price, J. 2000, 122; Fig. 7.6:4).

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2010, 136–9; Gracie 1970; Price, E. 2000a; 2000b; 2010; Scott 1993, 72.

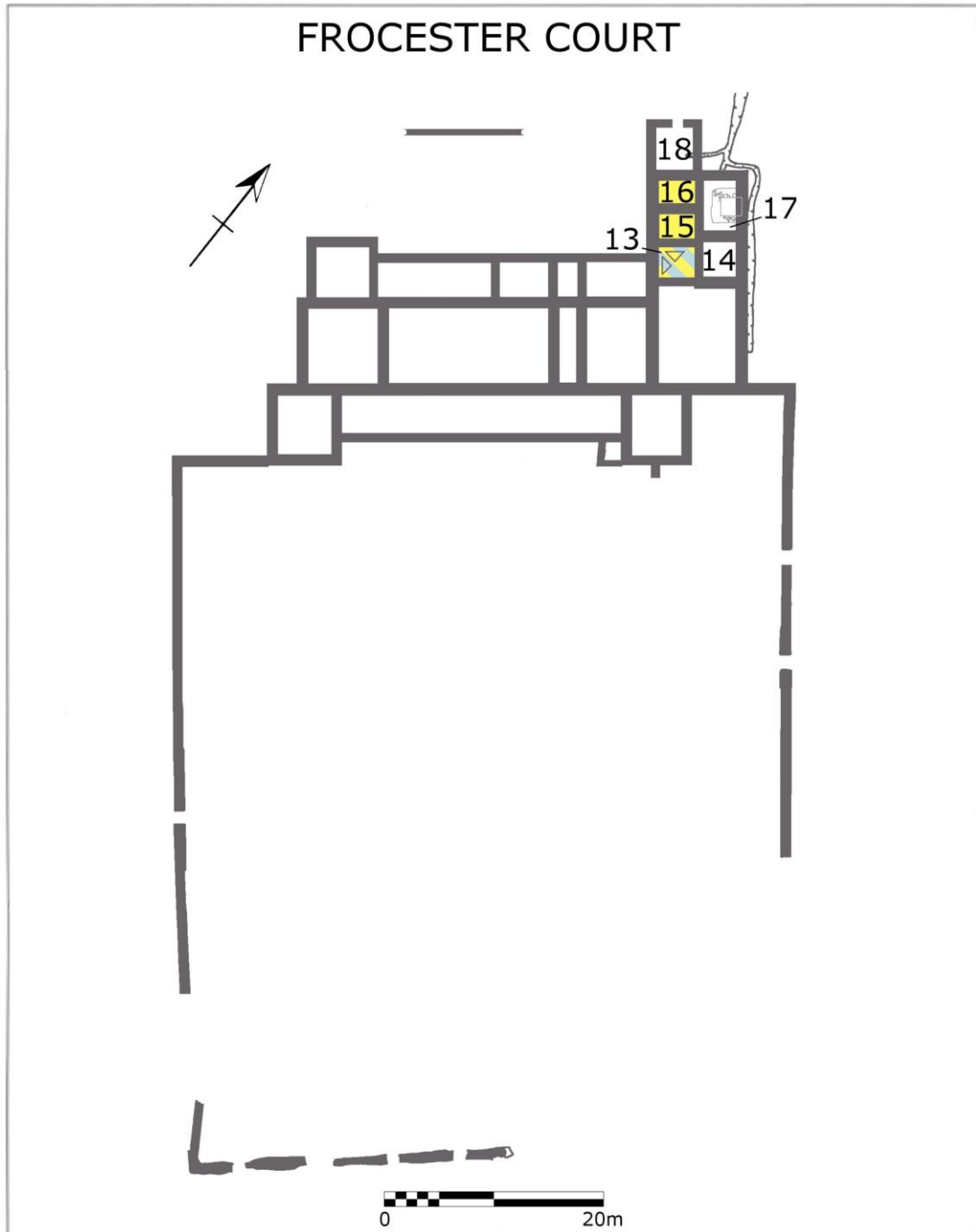


**Figure 91. Plan of the villa at Frocester Court (Glos.). The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Price, E. 2000a, 90, Fig. 5.9; 5.16.**

## GREAT WITCOMBE

**Individual Site Number:** 108

**Location:** SO 89938 14249

**Typology and extent of the site:** The villa site ‘occupies a fine hillside position, at c. 140m AOD, facing southeast’ (Leach *et al.* 1998, 1). Springs emerged above the complex and had a ritual significance. The site lies 1.5km south of the Roman road (Ermine Street) that linked Gloucester to Cirencester, c. 4.2km southwest of the villa at **Dryhill, Badgeworth**, 5km northwest of a Roman settlement, and 90m north of a Roman building of uncertain purpose (possibly another house, see RCHME Gloucester 1976, 61 and Clifford 1954, 13–5). There is evidence of Iron Age and early Roman occupation (Period 1) However, the early excavation of the site in the nineteenth century prevented a more nuanced picture of this phase.

The terraced, winged-corridor villa was probably built at the beginning of the third century CE (Period 2 in Leach *et al.* 1998), although Cosh and Neal (2010, 157) suggest that the mosaics found in the west wing of the building may date to the second century. A rectangular chamber (Room 15a) with an apse was located behind a grand gallery in the central range of rooms and might have contained a water feature or *nymphaeum*. The complex was equipped with a set of baths in the northwest range of its west wing (Upper Bath Suite) and a bathhouse (initially detached) in the southwest range of the same wing (Lower Bath Suite).

In the centre of Room 1, there was a 30cm-deep water cistern fed by water from the nearby springs. This elaborately decorated room was partially underground and has been interpreted as a shrine. It was perhaps connected with the Upper Bath Suite (Leach *et al.* 1998, 11–4, 130).

The site underwent significant alterations in the late third–early fourth centuries (Period 3) when it was transformed into a courtyard villa. The rectangular chamber was substituted by a larger octagonal room or tower (Room 15), possibly with a *cantharus* fountain at its centre (Walters and Rider 2022a, 112–4; Beeson 2022, 190–4). A semi-subterranean pool entered via a short flight of steps (32), possibly with a religious function, was identified in front of the new, massive portico built over the central face of the gallery in the villa’s central range.

At this time, a large, attached bathhouse was built in the southwest range of the west wing, incorporating the earlier detached facilities. The villa was possibly converted to a different use in the late fourth century and abandoned at the beginning of the fifth century.

Other features and structures, seemingly related to the main villa complex, were identified during field surveys in 1999–2000 and 2002 in the surroundings of the site, including what might have been further ranges of the villa around an outer courtyard (Holbrook 2003). A possible temple or mausoleum was recorded c. 80m southwest of the main building. Moreover, a long rectangular building (c. 35×17m), already excavated by Hicks in 1820 (see Clifford 1954, fig. 3), existed c. 90m southeast of the villa (Holbrook 2003, 188–9).

The main complex has been alternatively interpreted as a sanctuary linked to water deities and rituals (Webster 1983, 15; Walters 2000, 12; Walters & Rider 2022a). In their recent reassessment of the site, Walters and Rider (2022a) read the rectangular building excavated by Hicks as a villa and the main complex as a sanctuary. Villa site area: c. 75 x 65m.

**Villa chronology:** second/early third–early fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** S. Lysons and Sir William Hicks discovered and excavated the site in the early nineteenth century (Lysons 1817d). Extensive excavations were carried out in 1938–39 under the direction of E. M. Clifford and in 1960–73 under the direction of Greenfield. Field surveys took place in 1999–2000.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, the villa was equipped with two sets of baths during its first phase, which were subsequently modified and enlarged. There was no direct link between the two baths. The Lower Bath Suite could have been entered only through the south courtyard of the villa. According to Neal (1977a, 33), this may indicate that ‘the lower baths were intended for use by estate workers’ so that ‘the separation of the lower baths could have been designed to prevent bathers, when using these facilities, from passing through the main house’. The Upper Bath Suite might have been used by the villa household during the first phase. During Period 3, it was possibly devoted to members of the villa estate; at this time, Room 46 seems to have been added as another entrance into the building (Leach *et al.* 1998, 128). The numbering of the rooms follows Leach’s plan (1998, 4, Fig. 4).

Upper Bath Suite: Neal (1977a, 34) suggests that the access to this bath-suite was through Room 13, a low cellar linked to the front gallery of the villa’s central range. Leach (1998, 14) identifies Rooms 46/46a as the entrance, at least during Period 3. Walters and Rider (2022a, 109) interpreted Room 13 as an antechamber connecting both sets of baths to the rest of the building and suggest that in Period 3, this room gave access to the baths via two doorways connecting Room 13 with Room 2 and Room 46, respectively. The Upper Bath Suite was linked to a shrine in Room 1 through a shallow stairway in Room 2. This shrine had a stone plinth (interpreted as the base of an altar by Lyson 1819, 180), with a water conduit beneath it, which fed a rectangular cistern in the centre of the room.

*Period 2:* During this phase, these baths were structured as follows: Room 34a (c. 6.8 x 6.2m) was heated, but its specific function is not clear. Room 50 (perhaps a *tepidarium*; c. 3.7 x 1.6m) and 1a (perhaps a *caldarium*? c. 3.7 x 3.2m) were also heated. They were ‘at the same level as 34a and may have shared the same furnace to heat a hypocaust beneath the original floors above’ (Leach *et al.* 1998, 14). Room 49 (perhaps a hot plunge bath; c. 3.7 x 2m), 2m lower, might have been ‘heated separately from a flue in the southwest wall’ (*ibid.*).

In their recent re-examination of the site, Walters and Rider (2022a, 108–12) offer a different interpretation of the first phase of this complex. In their view, Room 34a was subdivided into a *caldarium* with a furnace room in its northeast corner and a *tepidarium* in its southwest corner. The plunge baths 45 and 48 were part of this first phase. Room 50/1a was a *frigidarium*, and Room 49 was a cold plunge bath, although they do not explain why they discard previous accounts clearly stating that both rooms were heated.

*Period 3:* Leach (1998, 14) interprets Rooms 46/46a (most likely a single room) as the new entrance to the bath-suite. Alternatively, the room might have functioned as an *apodyterium* (see Walters & Rider 2022a, 112). Rooms 48 (c. 2.43 x 1.21m) and 45 (possibly heated; c. 2.4 x 1.3m) were also added during this period as two plunge baths.

#### Lower Bath Suite

*Period 2a:* According to Leach (1998, 8), the detached bathhouse ‘may even predate the West Wing’ and may have been associated with an earlier sub-phase of Period 2. This hypothesis seems to be confirmed by the mosaics found in Room 10, dated to the second century CE by Cosh and Neal (2010, 160). During this sub-phase, the Lower Bath Suite



was structured as follows: Room 9 (c. 3.1 x 3m) was a *tepidarium* and Room 10 was a *caldarium* (c. 3 x 2.8m), with its hot plunge bath in Room 11 (c. 2.85 x 0.87m). The bath measured c. 2.48 x 0.71m and was c. 0.48m deep. The furnace room was possibly in the area later occupied by Room 11a, which had the same function.

As reported by Clifford (1954, 18), ‘the foundation of the floor of the bath [in Room 11] consists of *pilae* surmounted by two series of roofing tiles to provide air-spaces, such series being topped by a layer of concrete’. This solution would have ensured ‘a hotter and more quickly heated bath’ (ibid.). Also, he suggests that ‘there was a window in the north wall over the hot bath and that it was glazed, as much window glass was found in the partial blocking of the furnace on both sides of the wall’ (Clifford 1954, 19).

*Period 2b:* The West Wing of the villa was built at this time, and its southwest range was occupied by two large rooms, a northern one (unnumbered, c. 7 x 7m) and a southern one (Room 6, c. 6.2 x 5.7m). According to Leach (1998, 5), ‘the northern room may originally have been one, measuring approximately 7m square, but was subsequently sub-divided into three [Rooms 3, 4 and 5]’ in Villa Phase 2. This interpretation is challenged by the fact that, according to Cosh and Neal (2010, 157, 160), the mosaic found in Room 5 seems to date to the second century CE.

*Period 3:* During this final phase, the Lower Bath Suite was enlarged, and the original detached bathhouse was incorporated into the new structure. As mentioned above, this new block seems to have been exclusively entered through the south courtyard of the villa (Neil 1977, 33). However, Clifford identified a possible tessellated passage or open veranda leading down-slope from Room 13, where a series of steps might have existed already during Period 2 (Walters & Rider 2022a, 107–8).

Walters (2000, 12) suggests that the site was a sanctuary and notices that the enlargement of these baths and the addition of two large pools (Rooms 7 and 7a) would make sense only if they were ‘intended for use by more people than one would expect to inhabit a villa’.

The bath-suite was now structured as follows: Room 3 (c. 7 x 1.6m) was a latrine ‘through which ran the main northern drain’ (Leach *et al.* 1998, 5). Room 4 (c. 7 x 1.7m) was the entrance of the baths and a passage leading from Room 6 to the latrine. Alternatively, it might have functioned as an *apodyterium* (Walters & Rider 2022a, 109). Room 5 (c. 4.3 x 4.1m) was heated and was linked to Room 6 via a door and to Room 8 via a slype (a very unusual feature, possibly unique in Roman Britain—see Clifford 1954, 20). It has been interpreted as an *apodyterium*, but it is more likely understood as a *sudatorium* (Walters & Rider 2022a, 109). The hypocaust in this room had mainly tile *pilae*, while, in its northeast corner, capitals, bases of stone columns and a mortar-filled flue tile were used instead (Thompson 1955, 172).

Room 6 was now a *frigidarium* with two cold plunge baths, Rooms 7 and 7a. Room 7 (c. 5.4m wide and c. 2.9m max. depth) was apsidal. It was ‘internally lined with plaster and with a floor of brick tiles’ (ibid.). It was linked to Room 6 via three steps. Room 7a (c. 5.8 x 2.7m) was a rectangular room, with ‘two phases of concrete and plaster floor, wall and step lining’ suggesting ‘some refurbishment during an extended period of use’ (Leach *et al.* 1998, 6). It was linked to Room 6 via stone steps.

Room 8 (c. 4.8 x 3.2m) was a *tepidarium*, with a later addition of an apsidal room (Room 8a, c. 3.1m wide and c. 1.8m max. depth) on its southeast side, perhaps as a warm plunge bath. The latter ‘was supported to the south by two large buttresses, both of up to 6 mortared ashlar courses bonded with the apse wall’ possibly ‘to counter the subsidence

which may already have been affecting Rooms 7 and 7a' (ibid.). The original bath-block (Rooms 9, 10, 11 and 11a) was kept in use as a hot bath-suite. In Room 12 (c. 7.1 x 3.8m), there were two furnace rooms: one to heat Room 5 and the second to heat Room 8.

### **Decoration**

Upper Bath Suite: These rooms were 'almost certainly decorated with painted plaster' (Leach *et al.* 1998, 105), with Room 45 lined with cream and grey plaster and pink plaster in Room 34. The roof of the shrine located between the two sets of baths was decorated with at least two pierced panels ornamented with confronted S-shapes, functioning as acroterial decorations. The S-shape motif was consistently associated with sacred buildings, whether temples, shrines, or gravestones, and its use reinforces the religious connotation of this part of the complex (Beeson 2022).

### Lower Bath Suite

*Period 2a:* Room 10's walls were painted dark red, and the floor was paved with a mosaic, probably dating to the second century (Cosh & Neal 2010, 160). As mentioned above, this would confirm the bathhouse's early date. The mosaic shows a geometric design formed of dark blue-grey, white, and red tesserae. The same colours were used in the small threshold panel (0.6m<sup>2</sup>) in Room 9.

*Period 2a or 2b:* According to Cosh and Neal (2010, 157, 160), the mosaics found in Rooms 5 and 6 are contemporary to the ones found in Room 10. Room 5 'has a three-by-three grid of octagons in a simple guilloche' with a cantharus in the central guilloche (ibid.).

The mosaic in Room 6 'contains a rather ineptly drawn marine scene, almost entirely in dark blue-grey and white' (Cosh and Neal 2010, 160). Mythical sea beasts (a sea-goat, a sea cow and possibly a sea gryphon), fishes (including dolphins, eels and probably an electric ray), and a crab can be recognised. Cosh and Neal (ibid.) note that 'the black and white fish recall those in the military baths at Chester [...], and the site's proximity to the *colonia* at Gloucester is perhaps pertinent here'. In Gloucestershire, the only other example of an aquatic scene comes from the temple's *cella* at **Lydney Park** (Cosh & Neal 2010, 181-182).

Witts (2022, 30) has recently emphasised the unique characteristics of this mosaic, including the sheer number of species depicted (real and imaginary) and the peculiarities associated with some of them (one creature has a long, thin, pointed snout). She also noticed that the figures are limited to sea creatures, with no traces of marine deities or their attributes, which are common in many other marine scenes. The doorway of Room 6 presents a different decoration, with a threshold panel that might represent a stylised monumental gateway, with a central arch flanked by smaller ones with a double arch above (Cosh & Neal 2010, 160).

*Period 3:* Room 4 'had a mosaic floor of small red *tesserae* and its plastered walls were coloured pinkish purple' (Clifford 1954, 21). Clifford (ibid.) reports that 'the western wall of Room 5 [...] retains some of the original plaster, which is painted white'.

A watercolour by C. Stothard and S. Lysons showing the 1818 excavation of the villa (Cosh & Neal 2010, 158, Fig. 157; Red Portfolio (Gloucestershire) 3, fol. 28, 2, in the Library of the Society of Antiquarians in London), indicates that at least the northern and eastern walls of Room 5 were painted. They had a red dado and a white middle zone separated by a green horizontal band.



Room 7a initially presented ‘a thin, smoothed plaster skim painted pale green and bluff’ (Leach *et al.* 1998, 8). It was then refurbished, and its plaster skim was now painted ‘pale green/pink’ (*ibid.*). In 1962, fragments of plaster with painted fish were found in the cracks in the floor of this room (Davey & Ling 1982, 200).

**Water supply:** The springs nearby offered a ready supply of water. Two shallow ditches (Trenches A and B) were located north of the villa, and ‘the presence of iron pipe collar joints in one suggest[s] that they had contained wooden pipes supplying water to the Central and Northeast Ranges’ during Phase II (Leach *et al.* 1998, 20). Similar pipes might have been used for the baths in the West Range.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A fragment of a shale bracelet, dating to Phase II, was found in Room 11a or Room 12 (Bevan 1998a, 88). The area just outside Room 7 produced an elaborate toilet article of copper alloy, dating to Phase II. It is a ‘complete manicure set comprising tweezers with a poppy-shaped terminal decorated with a double band of transverse grooves, upon which are pivoted a probe, nail cleaners and an ear scoop’ (Bevan 1998b, 91).

**Key references:** Beeson 2022; Bevan 1998a; 1998b; Clifford 1954; Cosh & Neal 2010, 157–63; De Haan 2011, 281–1, K.50–51; Holbrook 2003; Leach *et al.* 1998; Lysons 1817d; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 60-61; Scott 1993, 73; Thompson 1955; Walters 2000, 12; Walters & Rider 2022a; Webster 1983, 15. Witts 2022, 30.

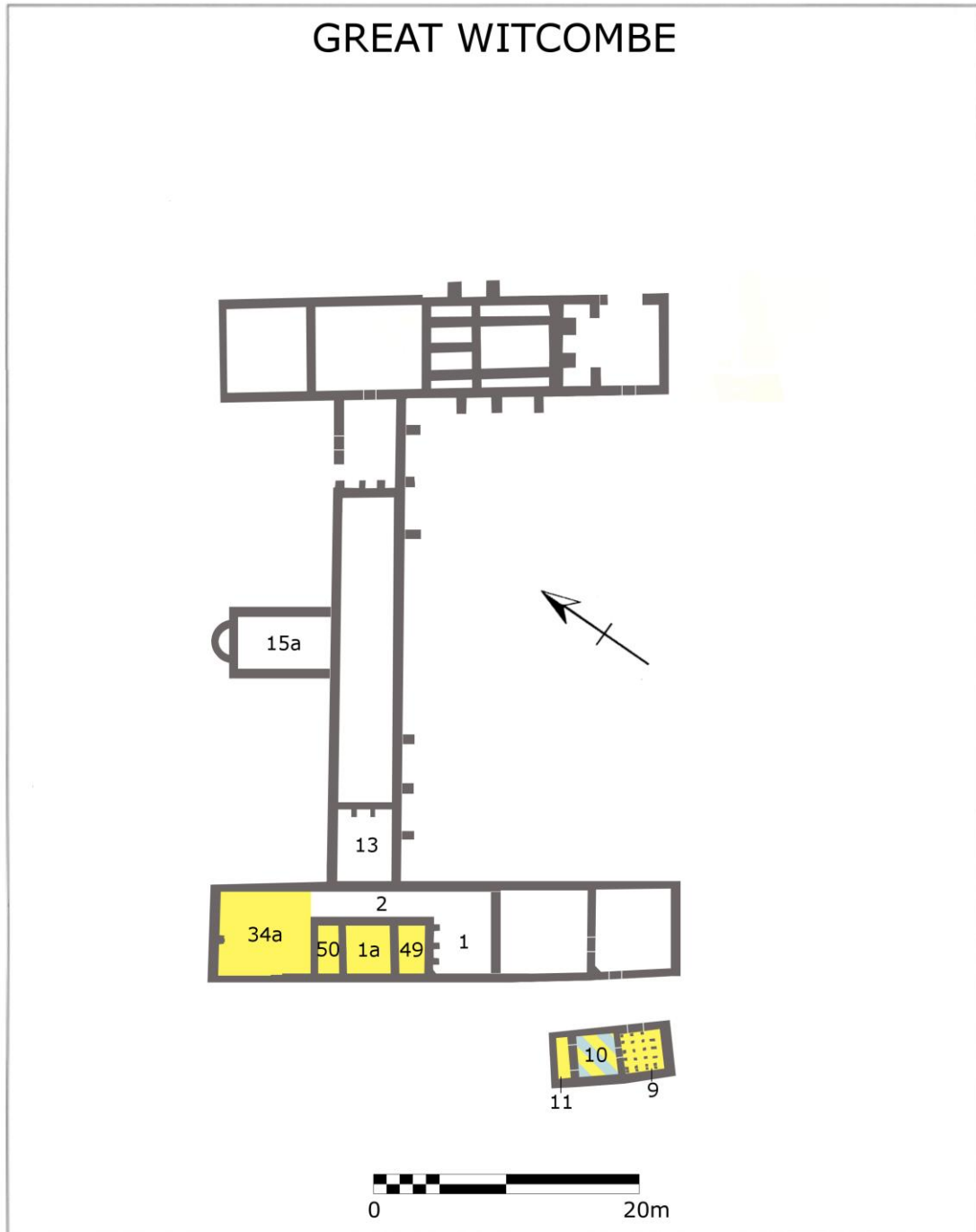


**Figure 92.** Plan of the villa at Great Witcombe villa (Glos.) during Phase 1. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Leach *et al.* 1998, 4, Fig. 4; 5.

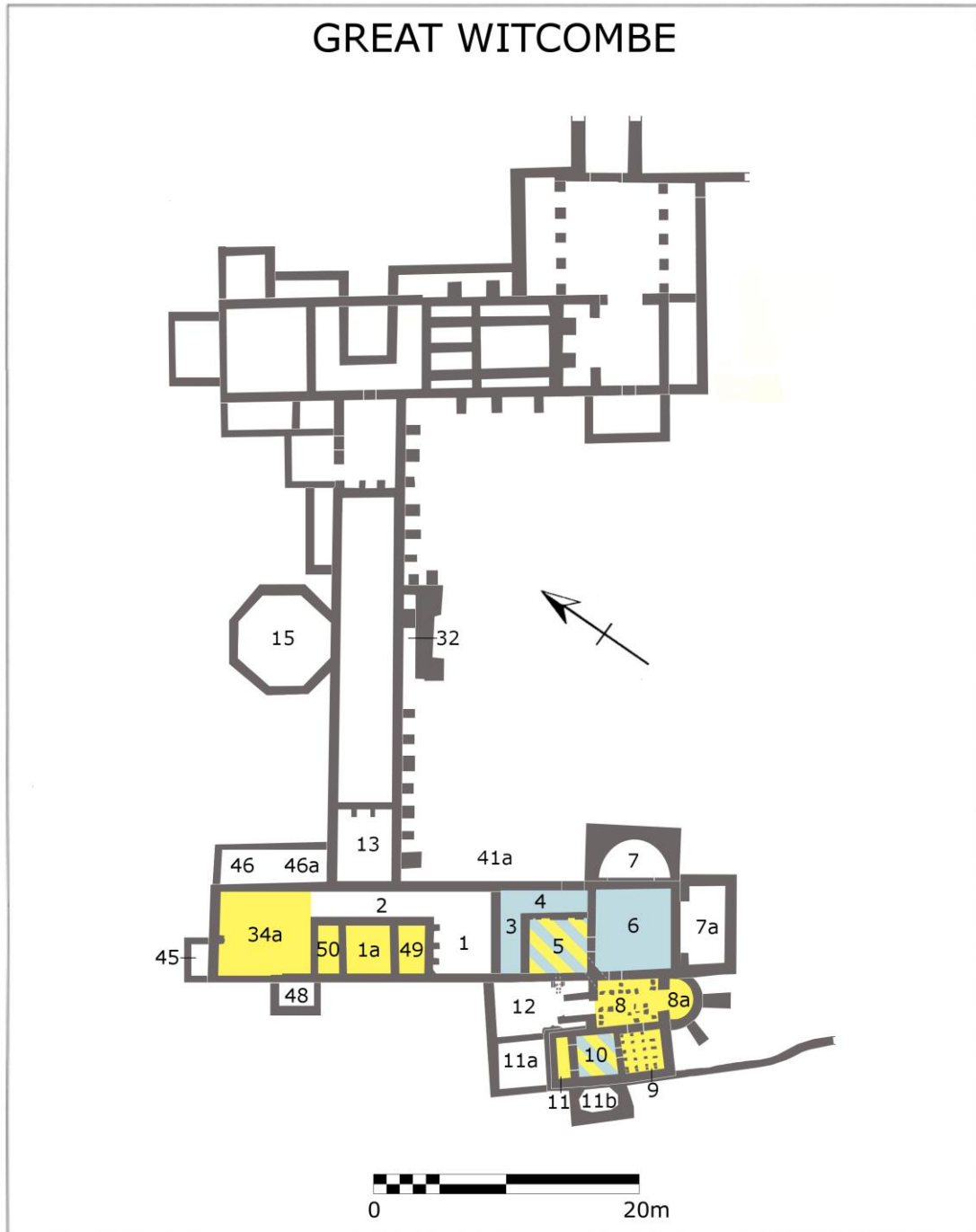


**Figure 93.** Plan of the villa at Great Witcombe (Glos.) during Phase 2. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, those with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Leach *et al.* 1998, 4, Fig. 4; 5.

## HUCCLECOTE

**Individual Site Number:** 118

**Location:** SO 8769 1755

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 1km northwest of the bathhouse found at **Hucclecote, Trevor Road**, c. 350m north of Ermin Street (the Roman road that linked Gloucester and Silchester via Cirencester), and 120m south of the Horsbere Brook. The first masonry building—a corridor house dating to c. 150 CE—was probably built over a previous wooden structure dating to the first century (Clifford & Scot 1933, 328).

The outbuildings excavated in 1958 were part of this first phase (Clifford 1961, 44). These structures overlay Early Iron Age and Late Bronze Age habitation sites (Clifford & Scot 1933, 331, 334). The corridor house was subsequently enlarged with a north wing and a south wing. The house was still occupied at the beginning of the fifth century. Presently known site area: c. 30.48 x 15.24m.

**Villa chronology:** first–early fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1911 by C. Bazeley and re-excavated by E. M. Clifford and W. H. Knowles in 1933. In 1958, E. M. Clifford supervised rescue excavations south of the main villa building.

**Baths:** The villa was equipped with two sets of baths. Unfortunately, their precise chronology is uncertain (Knowles 1933, 342–6). The first bath-suite (Rooms VIII, IX, IXA, IXB, XXI, and XX) is the older one and underwent two phases of construction. The second one (Rooms I, II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII) was built at a later stage when Room VIII was curtailed for the construction of Room III.

It is not clear if the first facilities were still in use when the second ones were built. Knowles (1933, 342) speculates that at least Room VIII and Room IX might have changed their function but remained in use after the construction of the second bath-suite. A channel was found running below the floor level of Room IX, VIII, III, and I and ‘beyond it into the open’ (Knowles 1933, 343). Knowles (*ibid.*) suggests that it might have ‘served as a sort of sump or a field drain below the floor and escape for stormwater about the furnace’.

This feature is probably better understood as an element inserted to collect condensation and rising dampness from the hypocaust itself (Younge 1960, 71–5). The latter explanation implies that when this drain was put in place, all the hypocausts under these four rooms were in operation.

Since there were no traces of drain stones, two v-shaped ditches or channels found to the west of Room XXI ‘may have sufficed to convey wastewater to the ditch enclosing the site on the west’ (Knowles 1933, 344). The numbering of the rooms follows Clifford & Scot’s plan (1933, Fig. 12).

### Earlier bath-suite

**Phase I:** The bath-suite was initially structured as follows: Room IX (c. 3.1 x 2.7m) was a *caldarium* with a hot plunge bath in Room IXA (c. 3.1 x 1.7m). The furnace room was in Room XXI (probably an open space, uncertain size), and Room XX (uncertain size) might have been a fuel store (Knowles 1933, 344). Knowles (*ibid.*) does not indicate if these two rooms were already in use during Phase I or if they were added in Phase II.

*Phase II:* At a later stage, Room VIII (perhaps a *tepidarium*; c. 3.1 x 2.7m) and Room IXB (c. 2.3 x 1.7m) were added to the bath-suite. Knowles (1933, 342) notes that the ‘massive walls below the floor of IXB [...] were, no doubt, in part intended to carry a water tank’.

*Later bath-suite:* Following Knowles’ interpretation (1933, 346), the second bath-suite was structured as follows: Room VII (c. 5.75 x 1.2m) was possibly an *apodyterium*. Room IV (c. 5.3 x 2.7m) was a *frigidarium* with its cold plunge bath in Room VI (c. 2.4 x 2.3m) or V (c. 2.3 x 2.3). Room II (c. 5.3 x 4.7m) was a *tepidarium*, and Room I (c. 3.5 x 3.2m) was a *caldarium* with two hot plunge baths on its southern side (unnumbered, c. 1.5m wide and c. 1.2m max. depth) and northern side (unnumbered, c. 1.9m wide and c. 1.3m max. depth).

The furnace room was to the west of Room I. Considering that probably at this stage, another furnace room was built to the west of Room VIII, Knowles (1933, 346) suggests that Rooms IX and VIII could have been converted into a *laconicum* (with an *unctorium* in Room III, c. 4.7 x 1.8m) or used as the women’s baths. Considering the ‘proportionately excessive’ area of these baths, another possibility is that Rooms VIII and IX were converted into a *frigidarium* ‘and the rooms IV, V, and VI were added to the domestic apartments’ (Knowles 1933, 347).

**Decoration:** Fragments of ‘wall plaster coloured in a variety of colours and decorated with scroll and other patterns’ (Knowles 1933, 344) were found near the ditch to the west of Room XXI. At least a part of them might have come from the baths.

**Water supply:** Clifford and Scot (1933, 326) did not identify any wells or water pipes. The nearby brook likely supplied the baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A brooch (3cm long) dating to the second century was found on the west side of Room I. It was ‘of lozenge form with raised centre (setting lost) and projecting disks at the angles with ring-and-dot pattern’ (Clifford & Scot 1933, 334). A ‘decayed sandal with hobnails’ (ibid.) also came from this side of Room I. The site produced large quantities of oysters, mussels, and snail shells (Kennard 1933, 374).

**Key references:** Clifford 1961; Clifford & Scot 1933; Kennard 1933; Knowles 1933; Scott 1993, 73.

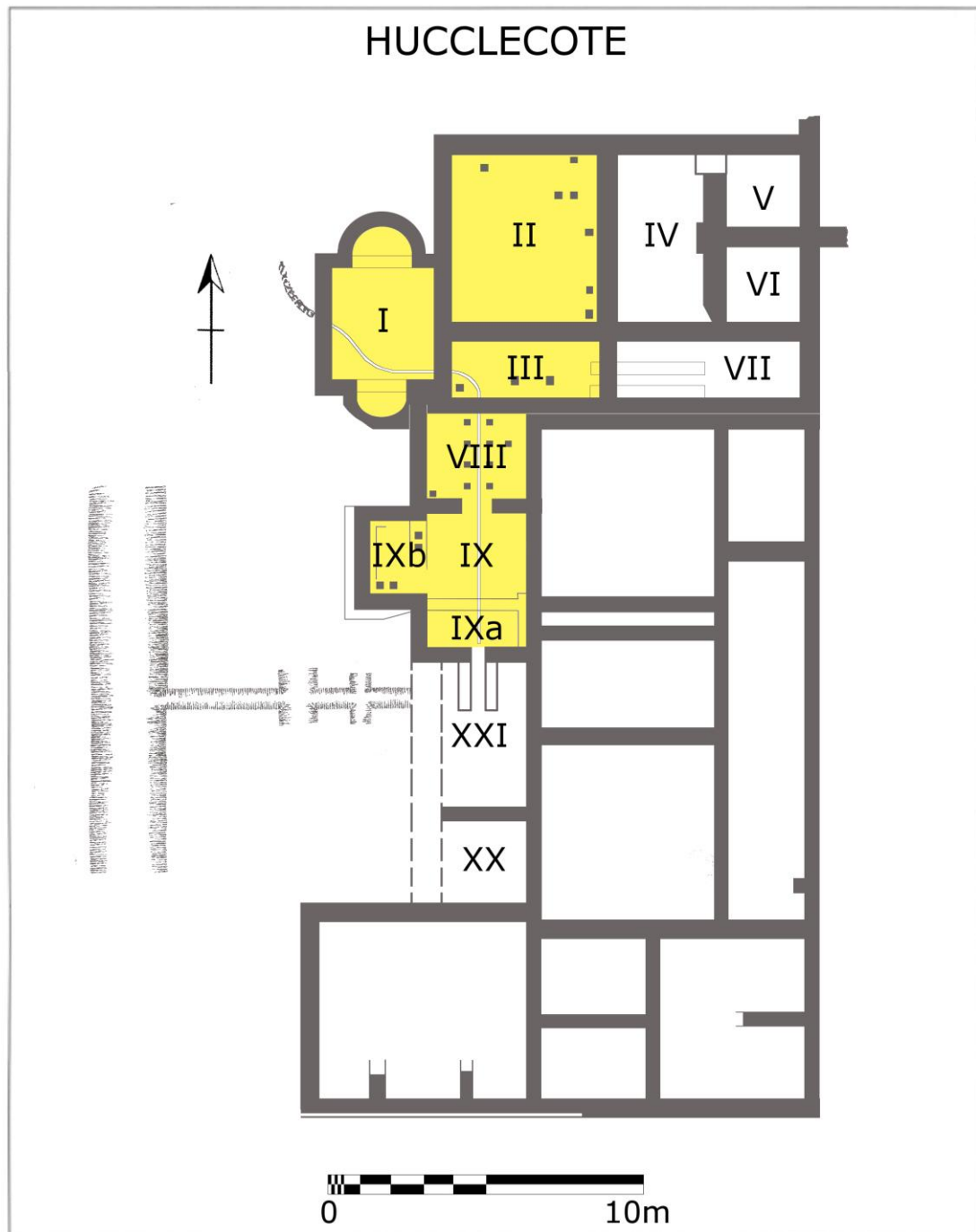


**Figure 94. Plan of the villa at Hucclecote (Glos.). Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Clifford & Scot 1933, Fig. 12.**

## HUCCLECOTE, TREVOR ROAD

**Individual Site Number:** 119

**Location:** SO 8687 1685

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies about 4km east of Gloucester, c. 1km southeast of the **Hucclecote** villa and c. 1.5km south of Ermin Street. Part of a robbed bathhouse, apparently surrounded by a ditch, was found here, and the excavator suggests that 'it may have formed part of a small villa mainly underlying I Ashwood Way/37 Trevor Road' (Hunter 1960, 160). A coffin burial was found near the building. Recent archaeological investigations following the redevelopment of No1 Ashwood Way confirmed the possibility of a building underlying the modern house but did not clarify if the baths were attached to it (Spry 2012). Presently known site area: c. 30.48 x 24.38m.

**Site chronology:** Second half of the second–Mid-fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1957 and excavated under the direction of A. G. Hunter, on behalf of the City Museum. In 2012, the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group carried out archaeological monitoring during ground works relating to the development of No1 Ashwood Way.

**Baths:** The baths, built of Lower Freestone and roofed with slates of Old Red Sandstone and oolitic limestone (Hunter 1960, 172–3), were structured as follows: Room 1 (c. 1.45m wide and c. 0.68m max. depth) was an apsidal cold plunge bath of 'good masonry'. The function of Room 2 (irregular area, c. 4.87m<sup>2</sup>), Room 3 (irregular area, c. 4.03m<sup>2</sup>) and Room 4 (c. 2.85 x 1.5m) is not clear. Hunter (1960, 166) suggests that Rooms 2 and 3 'served as *aptodyteria* for men and women'. A pipe, formed of a pair of *imbrices*, was used to drain the bath (Hunter 1960, 159–60). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

**Decoration:** Two kinds of fragmentary wall-plaster were found. The first one was purple and white and came from topsoil and layer 3. The second one was red and white and came from layers 3 and 4. A fragment of this second kind had a wide purple-brown stripe on white.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A bronze finger-ring (diameter: 2.2cm), with a simple decoration of incised lines, was found in Layer 1. From Layer 3 came a 'potter's stamp [3.4cm long] on inside of the base of the pot, with foot-ring, of red micaceous clay with a trace of red colour-coat' with a 'relief pattern, apparently of winged blobs enclosed by lines' (fourth century) (Hunter 1960, 171). Hunter (*ibid.*) speculates that it might have been used as a gaming counter. Another gaming counter (3.5cm long), 'cut out from pottery vase', came from the topsoil (*ibid.*).

**Key references:** Hunter 1960; Spry 2012.

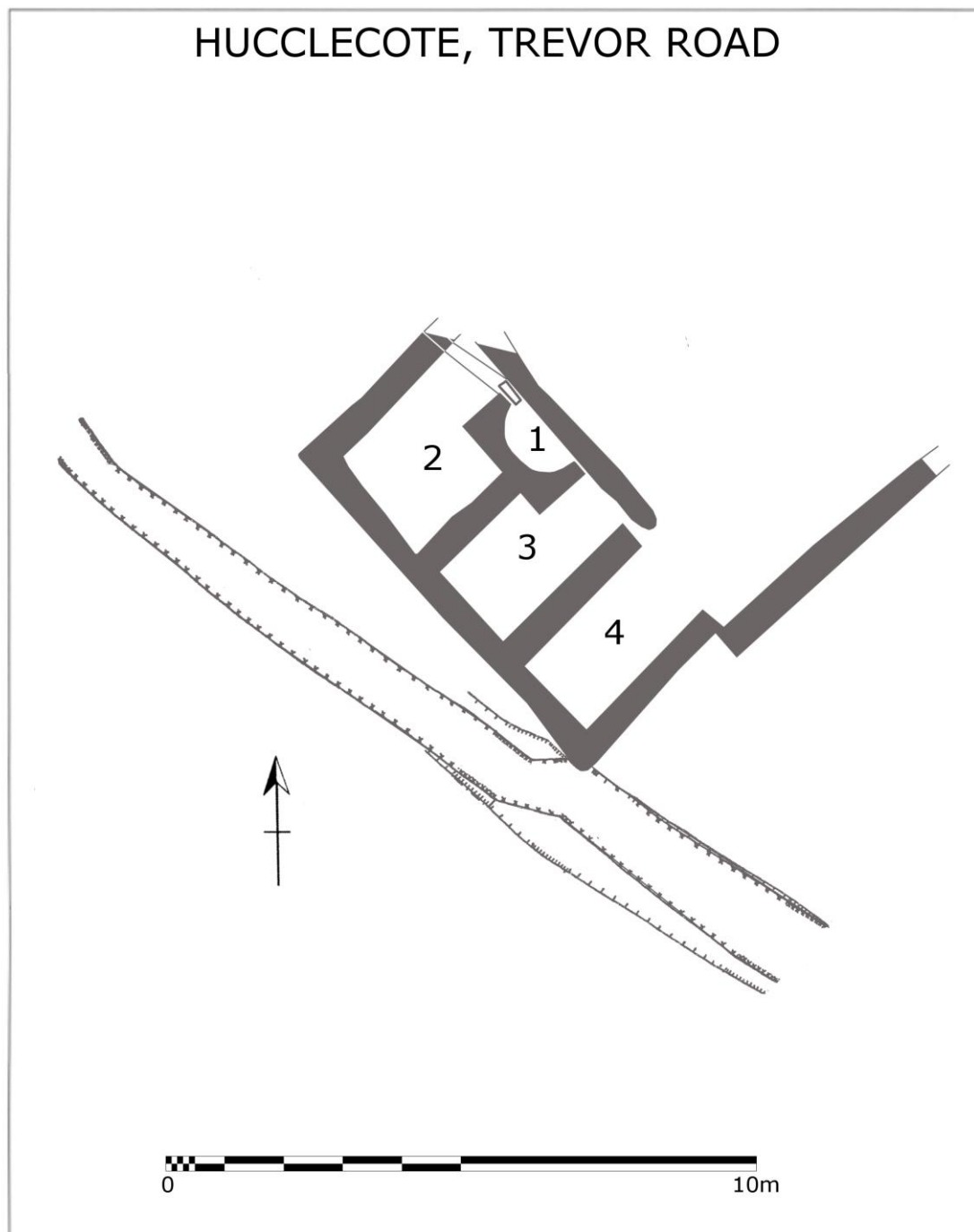


**Figure 95. Plan of the bathhouse at Hucclecote, Trevor Road (Glos.). Image: author. After Hunter 1960, 161, Fig. 1.**



IFOLD, PAINSWICK

**Individual Site Number:** 122

**Location:** SO 8576 1021

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies close to a spring line, 2km northwest of the villa at Harescombe and 3.3km southwest of the possible villa or settlement at Brookthorpe. It is also near a group of quarries of ‘valuable local stone, a fact perhaps of importance, seeing that both Roman and medieval Gloucester have been indebted largely to Painswick for their building stone’ (Baddeley 1904, 156).

This is a small courtyard villa, only partially excavated. Baddeley (1904, 164) suggests that at some point, the villa was abandoned and fell into decay. At a later stage, he claims that it was partially restored and used for housing cattle before being destroyed by fire. Presently known site area: c. 31.39 x 24.38m.

**Villa chronology:** Late second–fourth (?) centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1868 and excavated in 1903–04 under the direction of Clair Baddeley.

**Baths:** A bath-suite was inserted in the northern side of the house, linked to the central block by a corridor (Room 18). It was structured as follows: Rooms 20 (c. 1.23 x 1.21m, 0.03m deep) and 23 (c. 1.23 x 1.21m) were two cold plunge baths paved with *opus signinum*. A drain was found south of Room 20. A stone platform, ‘possibly made for the purpose of carrying a tank for rain-water’, was found between the two baths. Rooms 26 (c. 2.13m wide and c. 1.82m max. depth) and 27 (c. 2.13m wide and c. 1.82m max. depth) were two hypocausted apsidal rooms. The furnace room was in Room 29. The numbering of the rooms follows Baddeley’s plan (1904, Fig. 2).

**Decoration:** Baddeley (1904, 166) reports that in the northern part of Room 18, ‘quantities of coloured and striped wall-plaster occurred, both blue, red, and white, with purple stripe’.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Shells of oysters, whelks, and mussels were found during the excavation.

**Key references:** Baddeley 1904; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 93-94; Scott 1993, 75.

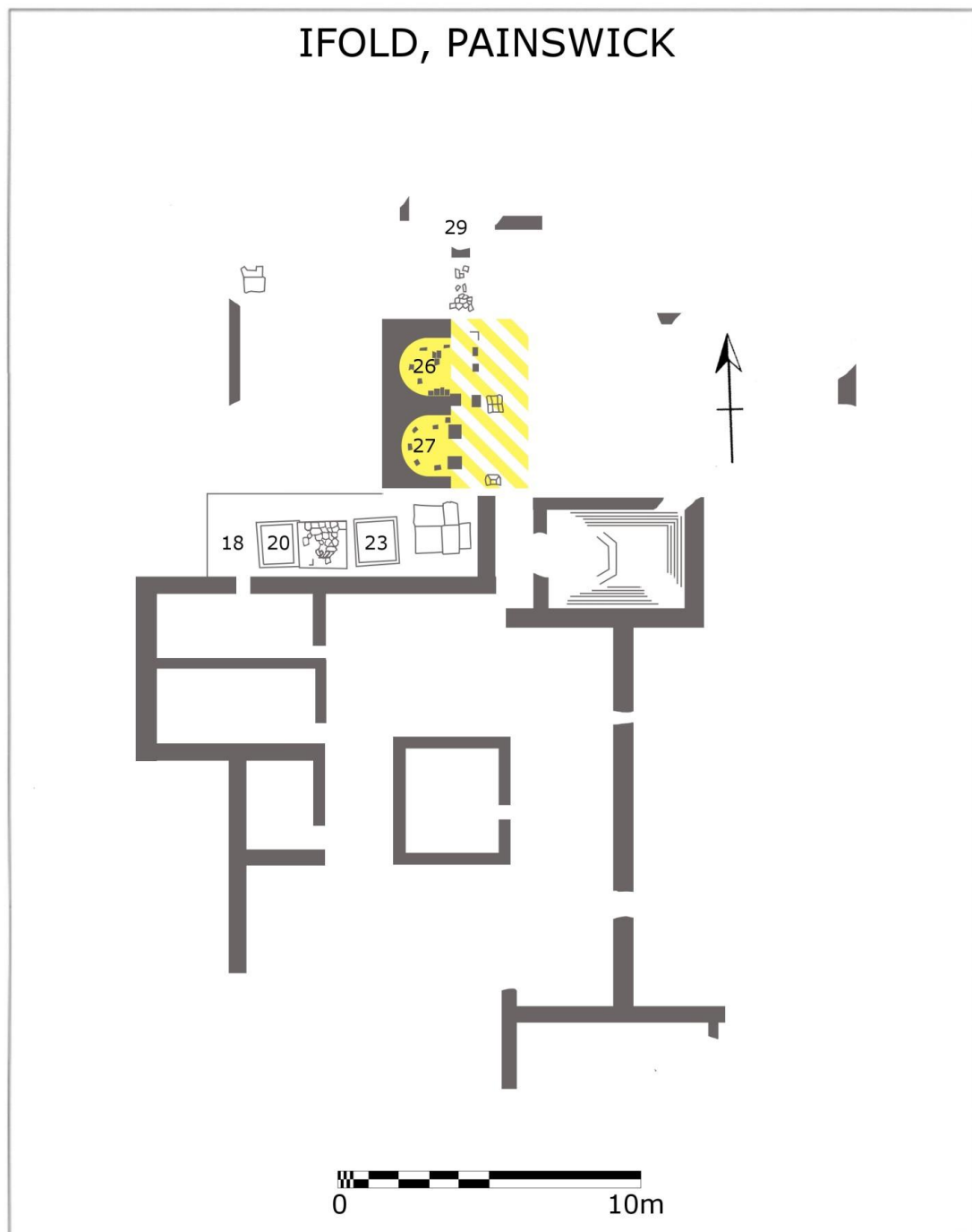


**Figure 96. Plan of the villa at Ifold, Painswick (Glos.). Rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Baddeley 1904, Fig. 2.**

## IRONMONGERS PIECE

**Individual Site Number:** 123

**Location:** ST 7985 7602

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 2.5km southwest of the Roman temple at Nettleton and 1.6km northwest of the Fosse Way, the Roman road that linked Bath and Cirencester. This area was already occupied during the Late Iron Age (Period I). In Period 2 (second half of the first century), the site might have been a ‘religious establishment’ (Blockley 1985, 374). A simple corridor house (Building R3) with four rooms was built in Period 3a (third quarter of the third century). The building was enlarged in Period 3b (c. 360–370). The house was abandoned at the end of the fourth century or early in the fifth century (Period 3c). Site area: c. 45 x 20m.

**Villa chronology:** Third quarter of the third–early fifth centuries.

**Excavation history:** K. Blockley and M. Day directed the excavation of the site from 1982 to 84.

**Baths:** During Period 3b, a small bath-suite was inserted into the southwest corner of the main house. It was structured as follows: Room 11 (c. 3.1 x 2.9m) was equipped with an L-shaped hypocaust and was ‘the only heated room in Building R3’ (Blockley 1985, 52). It had a flagstone floor on its northwest side (Floor 169) and an *opus signinum* floor in the rest of the room (Floor 161).

A ‘foot-bath (150) 49 cm. deep [...] with an oolite stone base and sides lined with *opus signinum*’ (ibid.) was found in the southwest corner of the room. It was probably equipped with a rough seat on its north side. A drain and a lead pipe were found to the north of this foot-bath. Blockley (1985, 55) suggests that ‘the room may have been subdivided [by timber partitions] into three units, one marked by Floor 169, the other two in the area floored with *opus signinum*’.

Room 12 (c. 6.9 x 2.9m) was the furnace room of the small bath-suite. It was floored with large slabs of oolitic limestone. Two main phases of the stokehole were identified (Blockley 1985, 58). The numbering of the rooms follows Blockley’s plan (1985, 45, Fig. 23).

**Decoration:** Fragments of painted ceiling and wall plaster were found in Room 11. As reported by Blockley (1985, 257), ‘the [wall] decoration seems to have been simple consisting of panels (although no corners were noted) of dark red lines’. The ceiling-plaster ‘is grey-buff soft plaster otherwise similar in fabric to the wall-plaster but distinguished from it by the impression of reed construction shown on the reverse’ (ibid.).

**Water supply:** Blockley (1985, 65) records ‘a possible well (247) [...] west of Room 12’ that ‘may have been used as a water supply to the bathroom in Building R3’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Four copper alloy nail cleaners and a fragment of tweezers were found during the excavations (Blockley 1985, 161–2).

**Key references:** Blockley 1985; Scott 1993, 16–7.

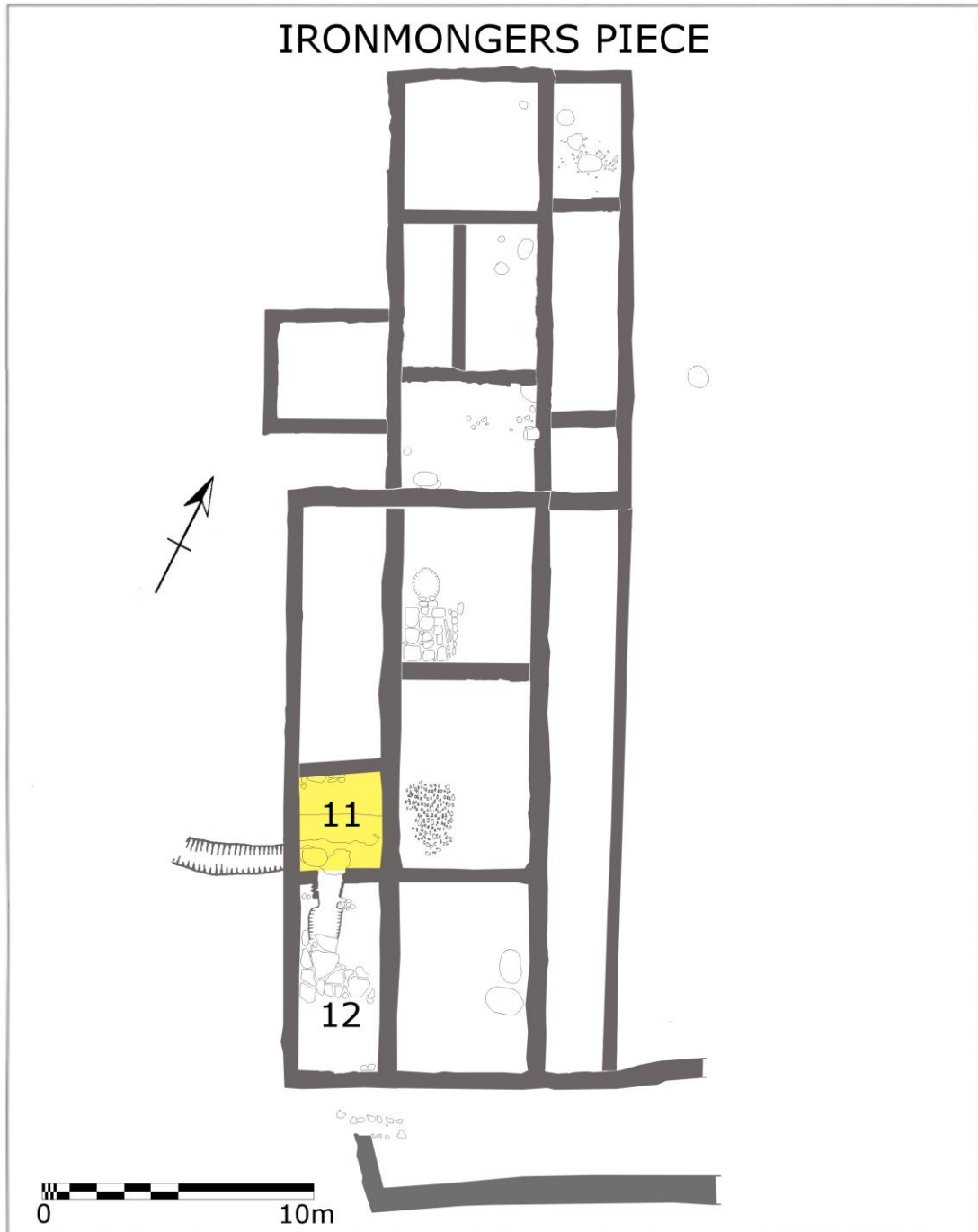


**Figure 97. Plan of the villa at Ironmongers Piece (Glos.). The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Baker 1847, 325.**

LECHLADE

**Individual Site Number:** 129

**Location:** SP 213 002

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 500m south of the villa at **Lechlade, Roughground Farm**. The possible bathhouse discovered here in the eighteenth century might have been part of the same complex. Defoe (1748, 276–7) states that the site revealed a tessellated floor supported on brick pillars. Site area: c. 15.24 x 12.19m (?).

**Site chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in the early eighteenth century (Defoe 1748, 276–7).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** Based on Defoe's passage, the building featured a mosaic floor.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Defoe 1748, 276–7; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 73.

**Note:** No plan available.

## LECHLADE, ROUGHGROUND FARM

**Individual Site Number:** 130

**Location:** SP 2160 0087

**Typology and extent of the site:** This is the site of an Iron Age and Roman settlement. It lies c. 1.5km south of the villa at Great Lemhill Farm and c. 1km west of the villa at Green Farm (dating to the later second–later fourth century). Five Roman masonry buildings (I, II, III, IV, and V), part of a large villa complex, were identified (Allen *et al.* 1993, 49–83). A sixth hypocausted building (B) ‘may have stood to the north between Building I and II’ (Miles 1984, 205).

Buildings I, IV, and possibly V were built in the mid-second century. Building III was built in the first half of the third century and was subsequently rebuilt. Building II dates to the fourth century and Building B ‘was probably in use at this time’ (Allen *et al.* 1993, 186). Two other stone buildings (A and C) without dating evidence stood to the south and the east of the villa. Settlement site area: c. 600 x 400m.

**Villa chronology:** Mid-second–second half of the fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** M. U. Jones excavated the site in 1958–65 before it was destroyed by gravel digging. Further excavations took place in 1981–2 and 1990 under the direction of T. Allen.

**Baths:** As reported by Allen *et al.* (1993, 186), ‘a bathhouse would be expected on the site, but none was positively identified’. He suggests that ‘some of the rooms in Building III could perhaps have been part of a bath-suite, but the plan was not sufficiently clear to clarify this’ (*ibid.*). Coal and coal dust were recovered from a large layer east of the hypocausts in Building III (Allen *et al.* 1993, 176–7).

Alternatively, the hypocausted Building B may have functioned as a bathhouse, although its hypocaust was not in use before the fourth century. Another option is that a bath-suite was incorporated in the missing east end of Building IV; indeed, ‘Building V may have been part of this if the reports of a hypocausted building destroyed by quarrying in the 1930s are correct’ (Allen *et al.* 1993, 186). This facility may have been substituted by Building B in the fourth century. Building A (c. 150m south of the main complex) was possibly hypocausted and ‘may have been a detached bathhouse for the use of the farm labourers’ (*ibid.*).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No evidence of water supply was identified. Allen *et al.* (1993, 186) suggest that ‘water may have been channelled via a leat from the river [Leach], or the baths may have been supplied by an internal well as at Shakenoak Farm in Oxfordshire’ (Brodribb *et al.* 1973, 23).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Allen *et al.* 1993; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 73; Miles 1984, 203–5, 16–7.

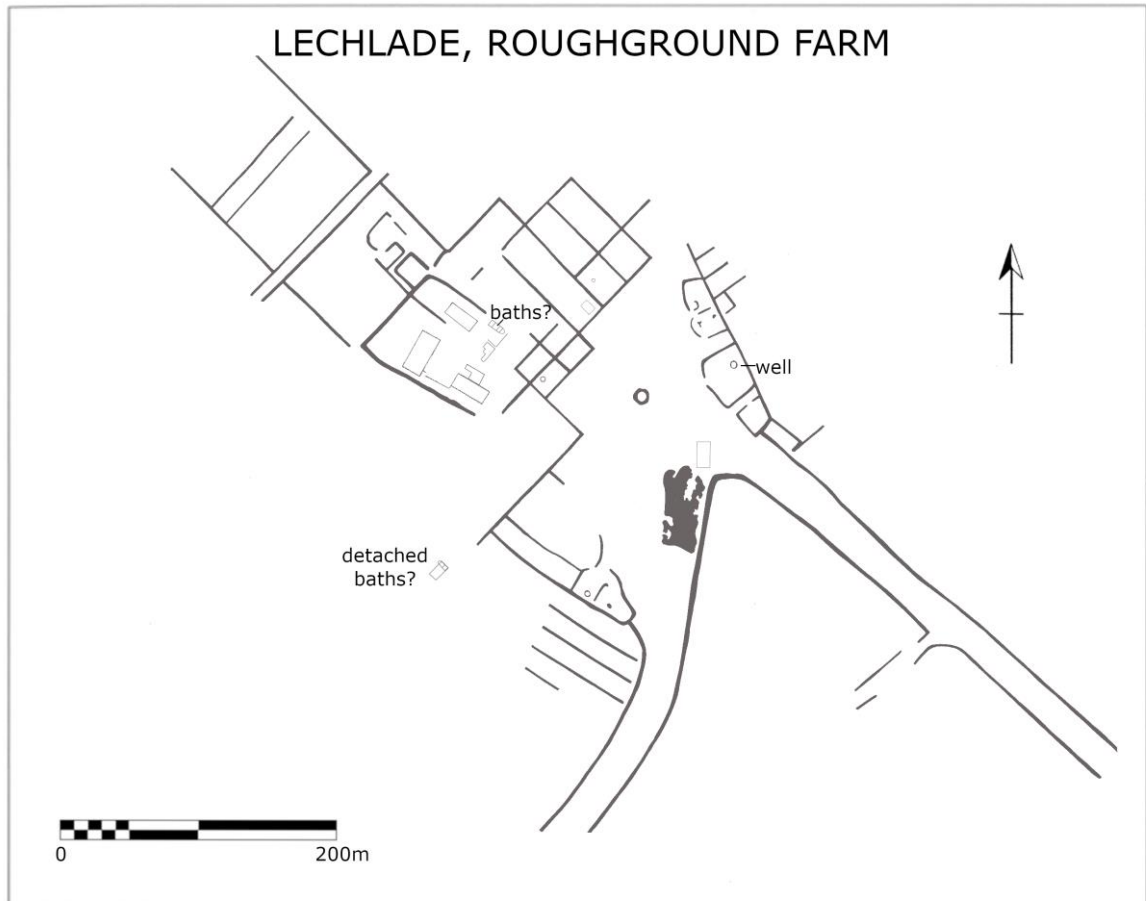


**Figure 119. Plan of the complex at Lechlade, Roughground Farm (Glos.) in the fourth century. Image: author. After Allen *et al.* 1993, 198, Fig. 115.**

LILLYHORN, BOURNES GREEN

**Individual Site Number:** 133

**Location:** SO 9132 0438

**Typology and extent of the site:** The villa, sometimes referred to as Bisley in the literature, lies on a gentle slope, c. 6.5km northwest of the villa at **Rodmarton**, c. 7.5km northeast of the villa at **Woodchester**, c. 9km northwest of a possible temple at Daglingworth, and c. 12km northwest of Cirencester. It is a large east-facing winged corridor house with 29 rooms, enclosed by a walled enclosure. A small bath-suite was inserted on the west side of the villa. Presently known site area: c. 142 x 92m.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was partially excavated from 1841 to 1846 under the direction of the estate owner, T. Baker.

**Baths:** The specific function of each room that formed the bath-suite is not clear. Probably it was entered via Room 13 (c. 8.61 x 4.57m). Rooms 22 (c. 3.04 x 2.13m), 23 (perhaps a *frigidarium*; c. 3.35 x 2.13m) and 27 (c. 3.04 x 2.13m) were unheated. Rooms 24 (perhaps a hot plunge bath; c. 2.13 x 2.13m), 25 (a *caldarium*; c. 2.74 x 2.13m) and 26 (a *tepidarium*; c. 3.35 x 2.74m) were hypocausted. The numbering of the rooms follows Baker's plan (1847, 325).

**Decoration:** In rooms 13, 23, and 24, Baker (1847, 326) found 'many fragments of the tessellated pavements, the largest piece 4 inches [100mm] long and 3 inches [75mm] wide, which form part of a circle of different colours'. According to Cosh and Neal (2010, 47), 'this may refer to a fragment of guilloche'. From the hypocausts in rooms 24, 25, and 26 came 'various sorts of coloured paintings from the walls' (Baker 1847, 324).

**Water supply:** A well, admittedly quite far from the bath-suite, was excavated in courtyard 18.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** The hypocausts under rooms 24, 25, and 26 produced 'pieces of flint window glass, which appear to be very coarsely ground on each side [...], brass tweezers, [...] oyster shells, with the shell of the common garden snail, in abundance' (Baker 1847, 324).

**Key references:** Baker 1845; 1847; Cosh & Neal 2010, 47; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 15–6; Scott 1993, 69.



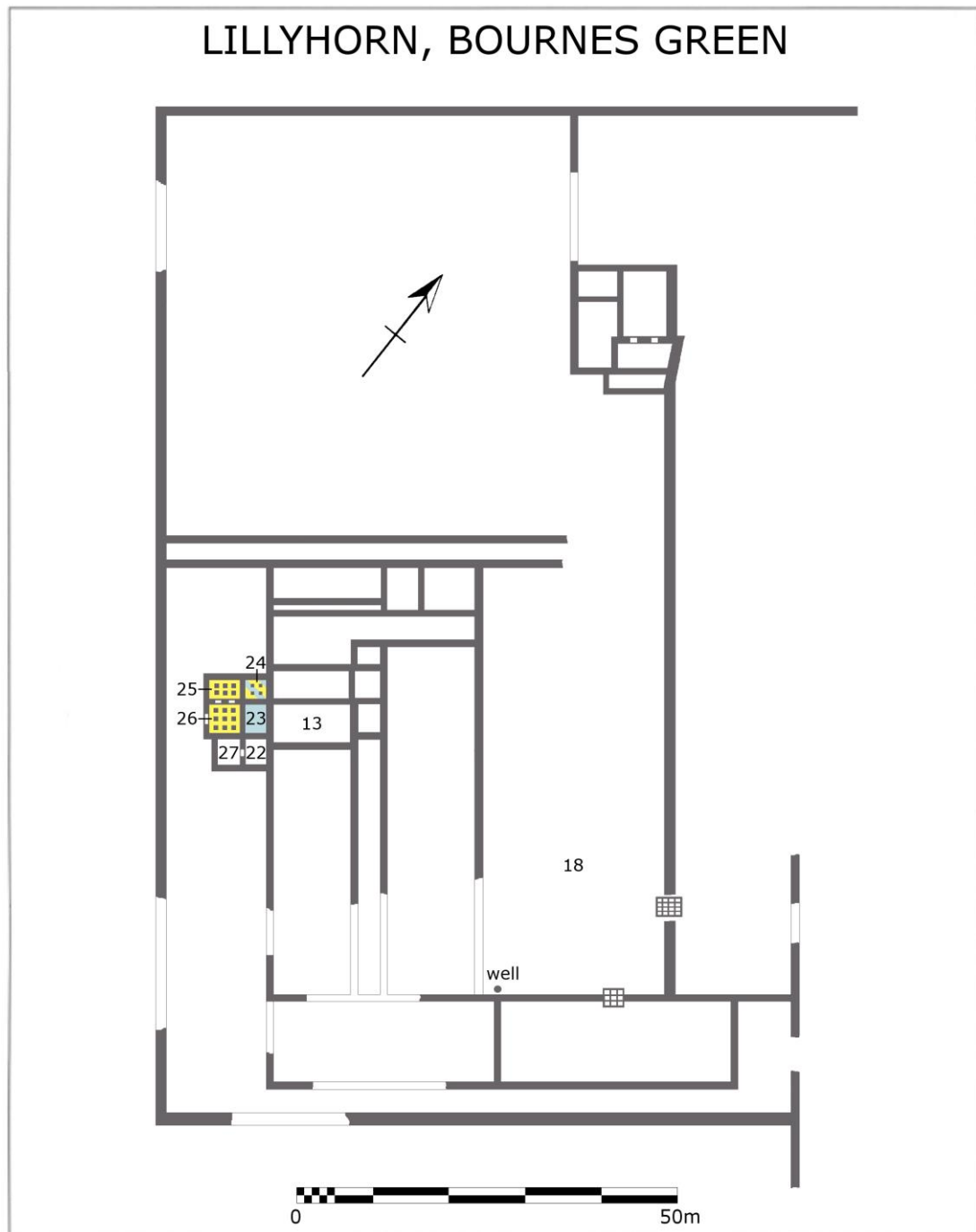


**Figure 98 Plan of the villa at Lillyhorn, Bournes Green villa (Glos.). The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, those with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After Baker 1847, 325.**

## LISTERCOMBE BOTTOM, CHEDWORTH

**Individual Site Number:** 134

**Location:** SP 0701 1174

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site of a villa only partially excavated that lies c. 2.4km southeast of the villa at **Chedworth**, ‘almost on the valley bottom [...], on ground sloping gently to an adjacent stream’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 28). A hypocaust was uncovered in 1930, and ‘former reports note a bath or cistern’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 29). Presently known site area: c. 60 x 30m.

**Villa chronology:** No information available.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1760 and ‘has been explored several times without publication of results’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 28).

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The baths, if present, might have been supplied by the nearby stream.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** RCHME Gloucester 1976, 28–9; Scott 1993, 70.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

## LOWER WOODS, HAWKESBURY

**Individual Site Number:** 139

**Location:** ST 7447 8817

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies at the top of a gentle northwest-facing slope, 2.8km north of the villa at Springfield Farm and c. 4.1km southwest of the villa at **Wortley, Wotton-Under-Edge**. The villa dates to the late second century CE and includes two ranges of buildings to the southwest and northeast within a large courtyard. A bathhouse was found near a spring, approximately 95m to the west of the house. The main villa building was probably converted into an industrial site in the late Roman period. Villa size: c. 70 x 60m.

**Villa chronology:** Late second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1996 and partially excavated between 2003 and 2008. A full geophysical survey was carried out in 2006. Reports of these fieldworks have not yet been fully published.

**Baths:** The detached bathhouse (c. 20 x 15m) was contemporary with the main villa house. No further information about this building is available.

**Decoration:** Fragments of painted wall plaster were uncovered during the excavations of the bathhouse.

**Water supply:** The baths were likely supplied by the nearby spring.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Ireland 2005a; 2005b; Holbrook 2006, 110; Osgood 2002; Pelling 2013.

**Note:** No plan available.

LYDE GREEN, EMERSONS GREEN

**Individual Site Number:** 238

**Location:** ST 674/5 773/8

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, continuously occupied from the Late Iron Age onwards, lies 5.8km northwest of the villa at **Doynton**. A first-century D-shaped enclosure was found south of the site (Area C). A probably thatched, half-timbered house (possibly with two stores) was built to the east of the enclosure in the early second century and lasted until the third century. This house was contemporary with a grain-drying kiln and a large rectangular (probably half-timbered) building 150m north (Area B).

In the late third century, a corridor villa (a two-story building, perhaps timber framed on dwarf walls of imported limestone, with a stone-tiled roof) was built over the kiln alongside a detached bathhouse, another large rectangular and probably agricultural building, and a possible latrine block (Area B). These features were part of a large enclosure, possibly with inner and outer wards. At this time, a new kiln was built in the outer ward in front of the main entrance into the villa complex.

Considering that a smithing industry occupied the area of the later villa in the second and third centuries, Hobson and Newman (2021, 85) suggested that ‘the necessary wealth to invest in the development of the [...] villa complex may have been generated through ironworking’. The villa remained in use into the fifth century and was subsequently deliberately demolished. Presently known site area: c. 500 x 500m.

**Villa chronology:** second–fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 2012–2012 by Wardell Armstrong LLP.

**Baths:** The baths (structure {4213}) lay on the east side of the main villa building facing its northern wing. The structure was poorly preserved and truncated by ploughing. It was initially rectangular (31.65m x 13.14m). The eastern third of the building may have been a later extension (Hobson & Newman 2021, 63). It was built with sandstone foundations, limestone walling and covered with stone roof tiles.

Hobson and Newman (2021, 63) report that ‘at the western gable end of the building, the space had been partitioned to form two square rooms with a corridor in between’. A pit with a stone lining (feature {3689}; 2.88m x 1.2m and 0.35m deep) was found outside the western external wall of the northern room: ‘the dark fills and heat-affected bedrock base of this pit suggested that burning took place within it’ (ibid.). They therefore interpreted the northern room of the western end of the building as the *tepidarium*. There was no evidence of a hypocaust, ‘but truncation may have occurred below the level where such evidence would have survived’ (ibid.).

On the southern side of the central third of the building, there was a large rectangular shaped tank or pool {3370} (9m x 3m and 1.15m deep). It was cut into the bedrock and was supplied ‘through cavities tunnelled into the bedrock under the external southern flanking wall, where a section of lead pipe (SF 62) was found in situ, housed in drain-cladding tiles’. These cavities were ‘linked to a drainage culvert {4218}, which ran for 17.7m southward away from the bathhouse’ (Hobson & Newman 2021, 64).

**Decoration:** Ten fragments of painted wall plaster weighing 352g were found in the fills of the fire pit, the plunge pool, and the nearby well. The plaster was painted a reddish-pink hue (Hobson & Newman 2021, 65).

**Water supply:** There were five definite wells and one further possible well recorded across the site (Hobson & Newman 2021, 159). A very large well was discovered next to the baths, ‘with a drainage culvert in between the two’ (Hobson & Newman 2021, 16). The well was ‘circular in plan, measuring 5m in diameter, with near vertical, curved sides’ (Hobson & Newman 2021, 66).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Hobson and Newman (2021, 16) report that ‘a group of non-cremated neonatal bones was [...] recovered from a demolition deposit associated with the bathhouse and was presumably not far from its original place of deposition.’

**Key references:** Hobson & Newman 2021.

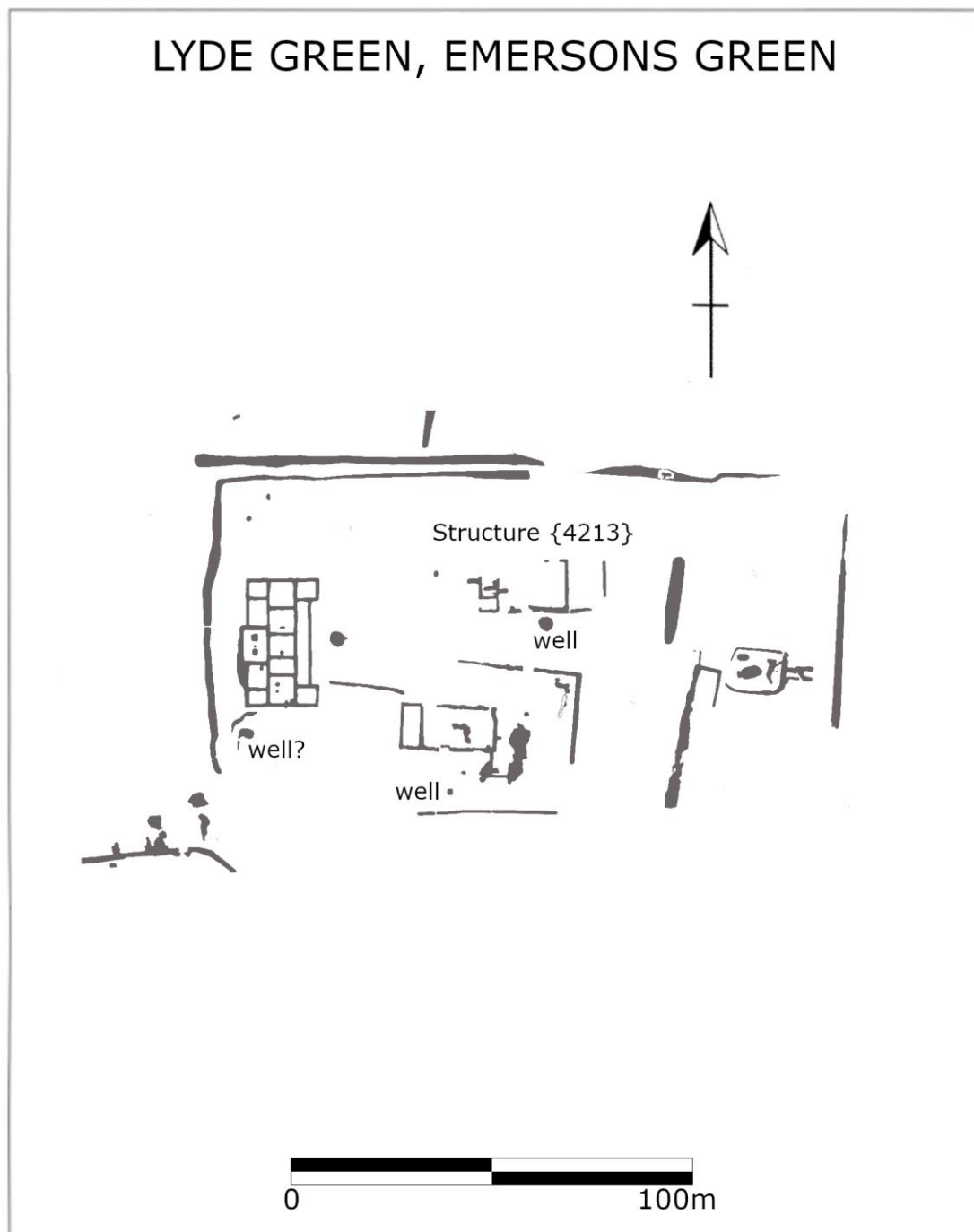


**Figure 99** Plan of the villa at Lyde Green, Emersons Green (Glos.) (Area B). Image: author. After Hobson & Newman 2021, 58, Fig. 5.7.

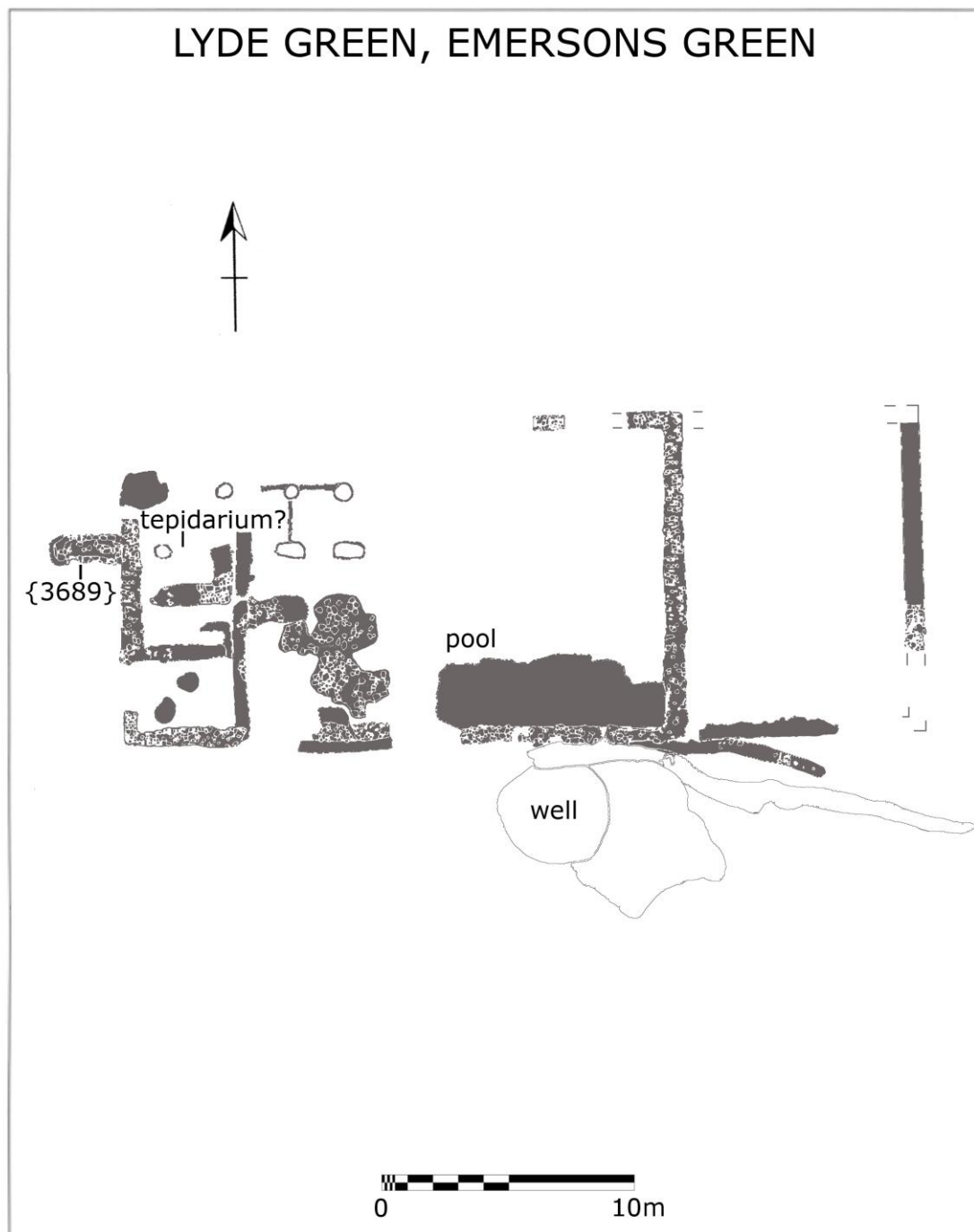


**Figure 100** Plan of the detached baths (structure {4213}) at Lyde Green, Emersons Green (Glos.). Image: author. After Hobson & Newman 2021, 63, Fig. 5.9.

MILLFIELDS, CAM

**Individual Site Number:** 250

**Location:** SO 7531 0185

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies near the River Cam, 3.6km southwest of the villa at **Frocester Court**. An early Iron Age roundhouse was identified in the north section of the site. There is some evidence of early Roman occupation (first century CE), and during the second century, there was a marked change in land use (see Dawson & Preston 2023, 8–21). A small villa was built in the late third–early fourth century and declined in the late fourth century. Apart from two ovens, no outbuildings were identified.

The villa underwent three phases of development, probably separated only by a few years. The original structure features a well-constructed outer wall and two separate inner walls, dividing the building into three distinct rooms. The second phase (of much poorer quality) involved an extension along the western side of the building, which created three additional rooms. The third phase included the installation of a hypocaust, a potential bath, and a corner pool, although this might have taken place during the second phase. Following the villa's abandonment, large sections of the walls were robbed for their stone, leaving only the remnants of the foundation trenches. Presently known site area: c. 300 x 200m.

**Villa chronology:** late third–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The Thames Valley Archaeological Services surveyed and excavated the site between 2002 and 2016.

**Baths:** The baths were structured as follows: Room 7 (3.5 x 2m) was a *caldarium* featuring a hypocaust heated by a stokehole in Room 6 (3.5 x 2m). Room 8 (2.5 x 2.2m) was also hypocausted and was a small *tepidarium*. Ox-flue tiles were also found on the west and north walls of Room 7 (see Dawson & Preston 2023, 76–9).

In the southeast corner of Room 3 (probably a combined *apodyterium/frigidarium*; 6.1 x 5.4m), there was a small, quarter-circular cold plunge bath, alternatively interpreted as a cistern (3b). On the south side, a lead pipe had been inserted in the wall. The pipe was carried on a large stone slab and would have drained into a nearby ditch/drain.

The hypocaust in Room 7 consisted of 18 brick pilae and 8 stone pilae. Dawson and Preston (2023, 8) note that 'Floor 1275, topping the hypocaust in room 7, was remarkable.' It is worth quoting their detailed description at length:

'Although only 0.40m by 0.2m area of this survived, it consisted of three layers of stone with two layers of waterproof mortar, 0.15m thick, butting against 1276 (a row of box flues in situ against the walls) and set onto the tops of the pilae (Pl. 38). It was overlain by the demolition layer 967 which filled room 7. The floor must have covered the whole room and would have been supported on 18 stacks of tiles (pilae) 1386 and eight further pilae formed of individual shaped blocks of moulded artificial stone (1387), each roughly 750mm tall and 200mm by 170mm in section. These survived up to 14 courses high [...]. (It is unclear if there would have been wooden planking in the gaps.) At the base of the same structure, floor 1385 was a simple single course of the same stone as the walls, (75%) mixed with a little gravel and sand in a silt matrix, on which the pilae sat [...]. This floor sat directly in the underlying blue-grey natural clay.'



**Decoration:** Several fragments of coloured wall plaster were found in the baths. Some featured ‘geometrical red motifs against a white background’ (see Dawson & Preston 2023, 82–5).

**Water supply:** The baths might have been directly supplied by the River Cam.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Dawson, & Preston 2023.

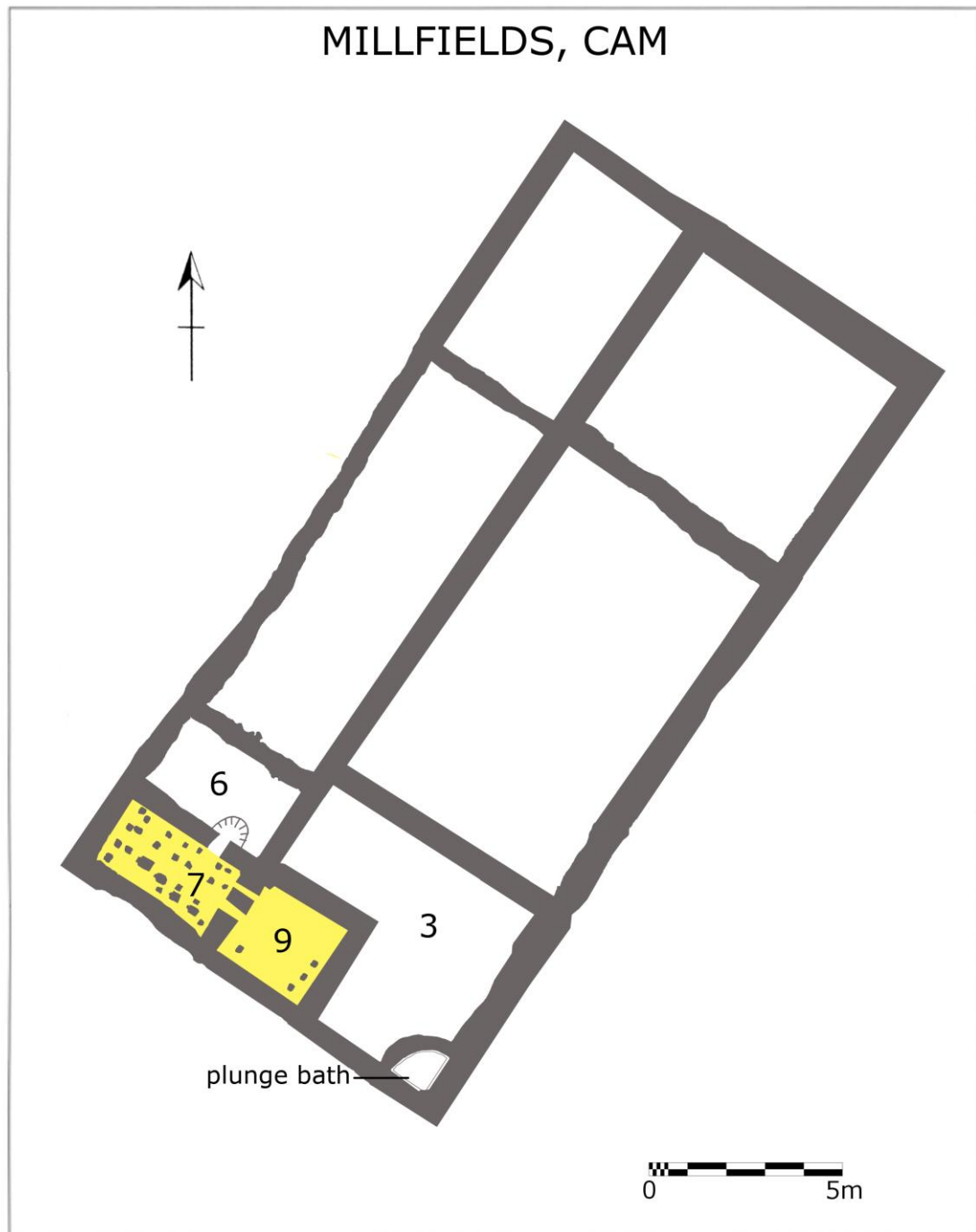


**Figure 101** Plan of the villa at Millfields, Cam (Glos.) during its third phase. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Dawson, & Preston 2023, 221, Fig. 16.

## PARK FARM, LYDNEY

**Individual Site Number:** 151

**Location:** SO 6250 0187

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 1.2km to the southeast of the temple site at **Lydney Park** and c. 4.2km to the northeast of the villa at **Chesters, Woolaston**. Two buildings (1 and 2) were excavated, and a third one was located. Very little information is available. Building 1 (c. 22.86 x 13.1m) was a small corridor house. The interpretation of Building 2 (c. 16.76 x 11.58m) is problematic. It was 'irregular in shape and may well have had a wing some 85/90' long x 48' wide [c. 25.9/27.43 x 14.63m] running NNW from its western end' (Fitchett 1986, 26). Site area: c. 75 x 35m.

**Villa chronology:** second–third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1955–1960 under the direction of C. Scott-Garrett.

**Baths:** Two features found in Building 2 may suggest its possible use as a bathhouse: (i) against the inner side of the outer northeast wall of Room K 'there was an indication of a 'much burnt' brick-lined furnace' with two flue channels; and (ii) Room L 'had the 'sump' in its central area from which an 'inverted V drain' ran appears to have been flagged'(Fitchett 1986, 27).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Fitchett 1986; Scott 1993, 74.

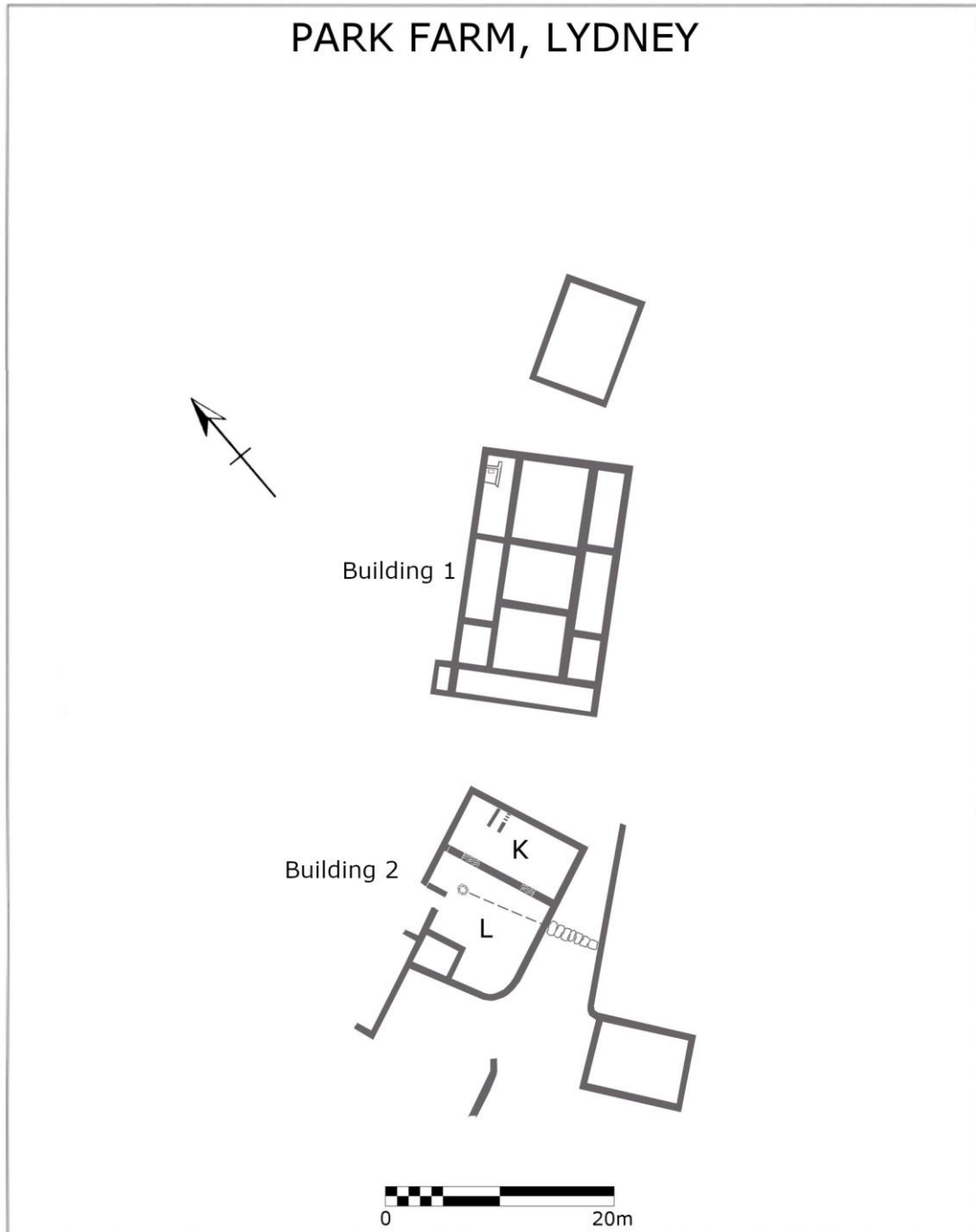


**Figure 102 Plan of the villa at Park Farm, Lydney (Glos.). Plan: author. After Fitchett 1986, plate opposite page 27.**

RODMARTON

**Individual Site Number:** 157

**Location:** ST 9443 9843

**Typology and extent of the site:** The precise location of this villa site is unknown. It probably lies within a field named Hocberry to the north of the Roman road from Gloucester to Cirencester, c. 7.2km northeast of the villa at Tetbury Upton and c. 8km southwest of Cirencester. It was a small courtyard-type villa with thirteen rooms. Presently known site area: c. 26.21 x 12.49m.

**Villa chronology:** Uncertain. A hoard of 200 fourth-century coins was found in Room L.

**Excavation history:** The site was first recorded in 1636 and excavated in 1800 by Samuel Lysons.

**Baths:** Rooms L (possibly a *caldarium*, c. 3.8 x 2.5m) and N (the furnace room, c. 2.5 x 1.7m) were part of a small bath-suite. The furnace room produced ‘considerable remains of burnt wood and ashes, among which were several bones of animals’ (Lysons 1817a, 115). The numbering of the rooms follows Lysons’ plan (1817a, Plate V).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A colander, coarse vessels and ‘an instrument of iron, which seemed to have been intended for culinary purposes’ (Lysons 1817a, 115-116) were found in Room N. The latter might have been a so-called bath-saucer (Koster 1997, 84). Room N also produced an iron ring with ‘an intaglia [sic] of blue paste with a figure of Mars rudely executed’ and a fibula of copper ‘ornamented with two serpents’ heads’ (Lysons 1817a, 116).

**Key references:** Lysons 1817a; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 98–9; Scott 1993, 75.

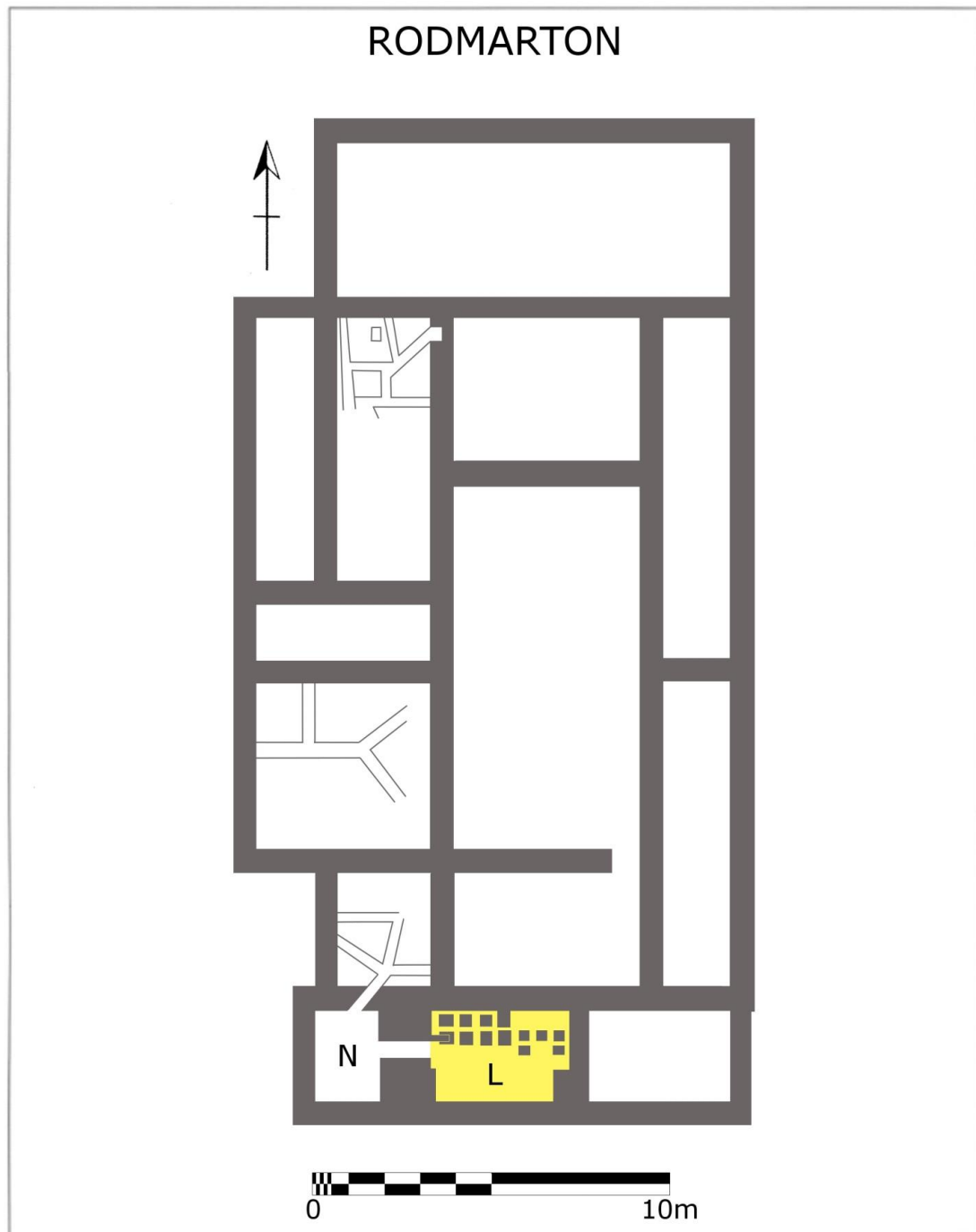


**Figure 125. Plan of the villa at Rodmarton (Glos.). Room L, hypocausted, is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Lysons 1817a, Plate V.**

## SLIMBRIDGE

**Individual Site Number:** 240

**Location:** NGR 3739 2035

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on what was once the bank of the River Severn, c. 4.5km west of the villa at **Frocester Court**. A villa was built here in the first century as a development of a previous Iron Age settlement. It may have fallen into disuse in the third century, although a coin of the Emperor Constantine from the early fourth century shows that economic activity in the area continued. The site featured three granaries, a possible latrine, and a bathhouse. Presently known site area: no information available.

**Villa chronology:** first–fourth (?) centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 2010 and has been excavated by the community project Archaeoscan since 2020.

**Baths:** No information available.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Neil Holbrook (pers. comm.); Thomas 2010.

**Note:** No plan available.

## SPOONLEY WOOD, SUDELEY

**Individual Site Number:** 176

**Location:** SP 0450 2568

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on a gentle slope close to the confluence of two streams, c. 2.2 km east of the villa at **Wadfield, Sudeley**. A winged corridor house, later enlarged into a courtyard building (c. 55 x 61m), was excavated here in the nineteenth century. A barn (c. 16.45 x 9.96m) was found 15–18m to the northwest of the main building, and a substantial bank and ditch ran to the east of the villa (O’Neil 1952b, 166). Site area: c. 90 x 70m.

**Villa chronology:** Some of the mosaics date to the fourth century.

**Excavation history:** The site was excavated in 1882 under the direction of Rev. W. Bazeley and J. H. Middleton.

**Baths:** A bath-suite occupied the south-east wing of the house. It could only be entered from the central courtyard. It was structured as follows: Room 4 (c. 9.4 x 1.6m) was an *apodyterium*. Room 6 (c. 4.87 x 3.53m) was a cold plunge bath with two steps leading to the bath. Rooms 8 (c. 5.1 x 5m), 7 (c. 2.9 x 2.8m), and 5 (c. 6.2 x 2.8m) were all hypocausted. Room 8 was perhaps another *apodyterium*. Room 7 might have been a *tepidarium*, and Room 5 a *caldarium*. Room 2 was the furnace room, with the furnace in Room 3. A door was open into the court close to the furnace room, ‘probably intended for the use of slaves passing from the interior of the villa to get wood and attend to the fire for the baths’ (Middleton 1890, 652). The numbering of the rooms follows Middleton’s plan (1890, Plate XVII).

**Decoration:** Floors in Rooms 8, 7, and 5 were ‘covered with elaborated mosaics’ (Middleton 1890, 653). O’Neil (1952b, 165) notes that ‘the remaining original tesserae show that the material and workmanship were of the usual type found on the Cotswolds, the stone being the white oolite, blue limestone and red tile’.

Cosh and Neal (2010, 184–6) give a detailed description of the geometric mosaics in Rooms 7 and 8 and date the former to the fourth century. Only a fragment from the destroyed floor in Room 5 survived, and it is now known only from a drawing. It ‘shows a small square formed by a red double fillet enclosing a rather crudely executed bust of indeterminate gender (probably male), with a rake rising from the right shoulder, all shaded as though lit from the right’ (Cosh & Neal 2010, 184–5). This figure might represent one of the Seasons, probably Autumn. Cosh and Neal (ibid.) note that this ‘is an unusual subject for a bath-suite, and therefore this may not be its correct provenance’. Wits (2005, 79) doubts the authenticity of this mosaic.

**Water supply:** The stream running on the northeast side of the villa might have supplied the baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2010, 184–7; Middleton 1890; O’Neil 1952b; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 113–4; Scott 1993, 76; Wits 2005, 79.



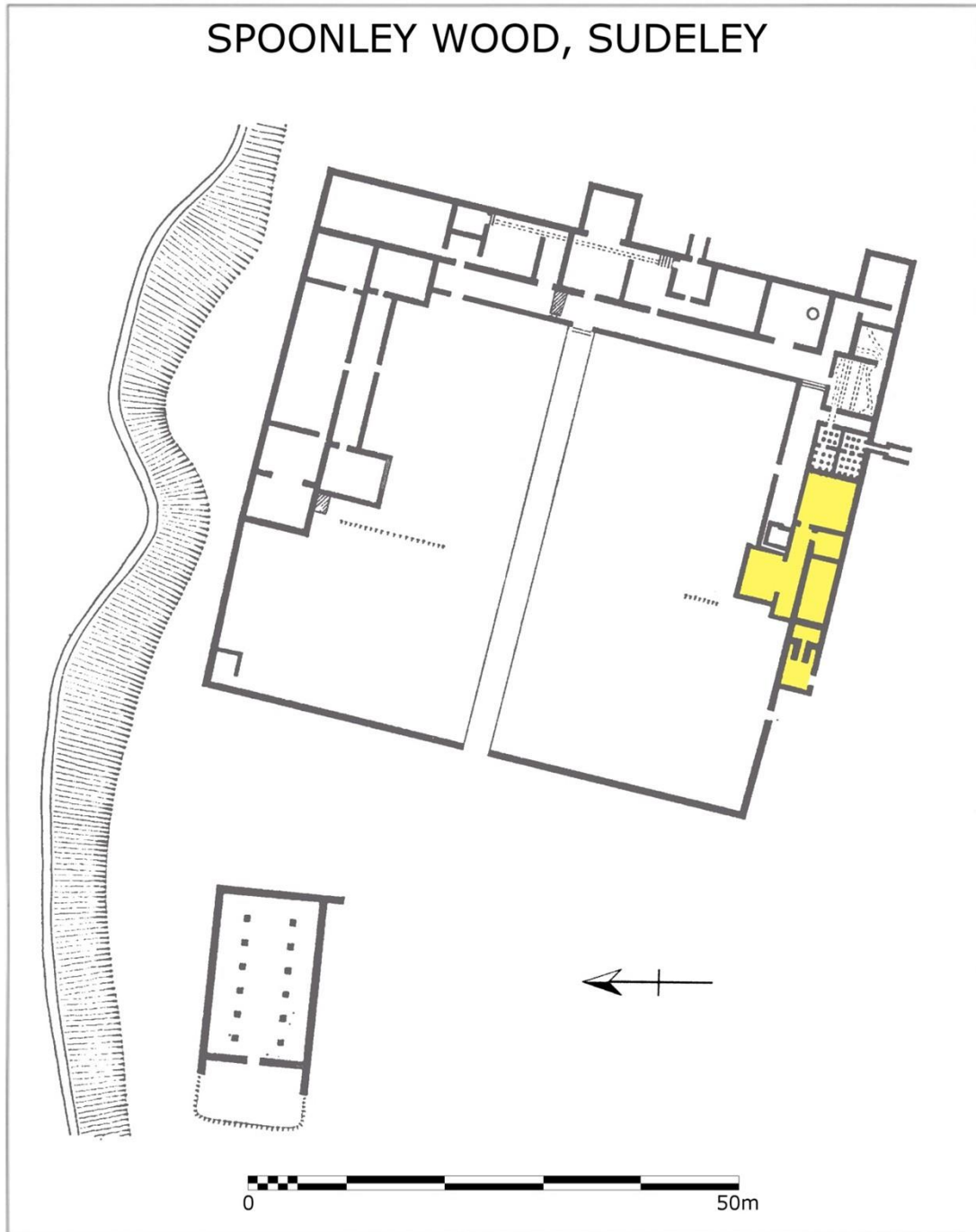


**Figure 103. Plan of the villa at Spoonley Wood, Sudeley (Glos.). The bath-suite is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After RCHME Gloucester 1976, 114.**

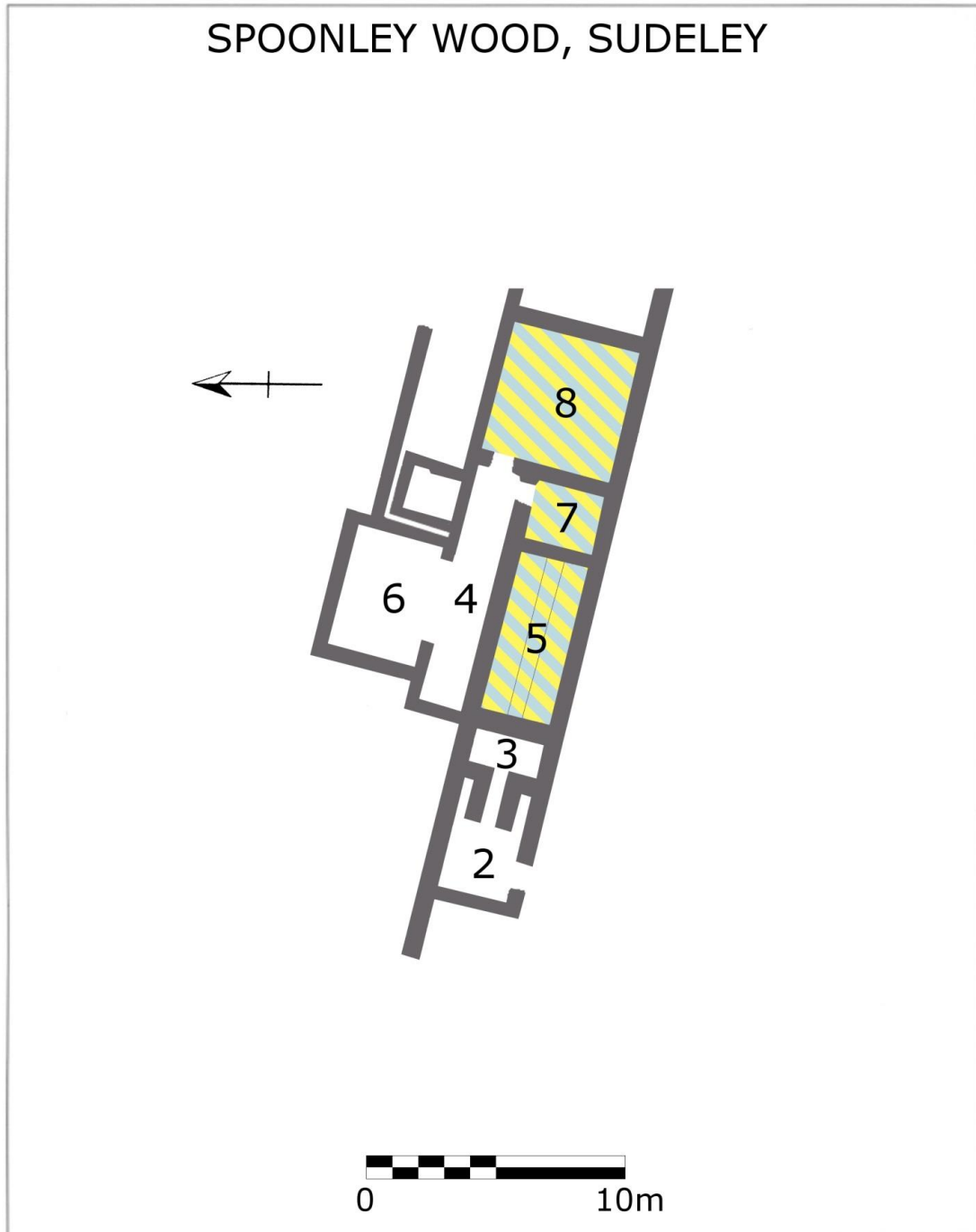


**Figure 104 Plan of the villa at Spoonley Wood, Sudeley (Glos.). The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Image: author. After RCHME Gloucester 1976, 114.**

## TOCKINGTON PARK FARM

**Individual Site Number:** 192

**Location:** ST 6272 8565

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies ‘on a gentle declivity falling eastwards and southwards’ (Maclean 1887–88, 159), c. 0.8km southeast of the Roman road from Gloucester to Sea Mills and c. 7km southwest of the villa at **Cromhall**.

A courtyard villa with a trapezoidal plan was excavated here in the nineteenth century. It consisted of ‘a series of buildings grouped around a courtyard with some interconnecting corridors’ (Masser & McGill 2004, 95). A bathhouse was identified to the east of the main house. The chronology of this site, only partially excavated, is uncertain. Considering the development of villas in this area, Masser and McGill (2004, 107) suggest that the villa was probably built in the late third century. A Roman cemetery, dating to the late second or early third centuries, was found southwest of the site. Presently known site area: c. 73 x 49m.

**Villa chronology:** Uncertain, possibly built in the late third century CE.

**Excavation history:** J. Maclean excavated the site in 1887 and 1888. Small-scale excavations, directed by Masser and McGill, took place south of the villa in 1997 when a gas pipeline was constructed between Pucklechurch and Seabank.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, a detached (?) bathhouse was built to the east of the main villa building. It was structured as follows: Room XXXII (c. 2.66 x 2.13m) was a furnace room, the bottom of which was covered with wood ashes (Maclean 1888–89, 200). Room XXXI (c. 5.02m<sup>2</sup> including the apse), hypocausted, was a *caldarium* with an apsidal hot plunge bath on its southern side. Room XXX (uncertain size) was hypocausted and was possibly a *tepidarium*. The numbering of the rooms follows Maclean’s plan (1888–89, Plate XIII).

**Decoration:** Tesserae were found among the *pilae* of the hypocaust (Maclean 1888–89, 199; Cosh & Neal 2010, 194–5), suggesting that Room XXX or another room of the baths was decorated with a tessellated or mosaic floor.

**Water supply:** Masser and McGill (2004, 95) report that ‘the bathhouse had been built adjacent to a natural spring, from which it took its water’.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Cosh & Neal 2010, 190–5; Maclean 1887–88, 159–69; 1888–89; Masser & McGill 2004, 95–107; Scott 1993, 13.

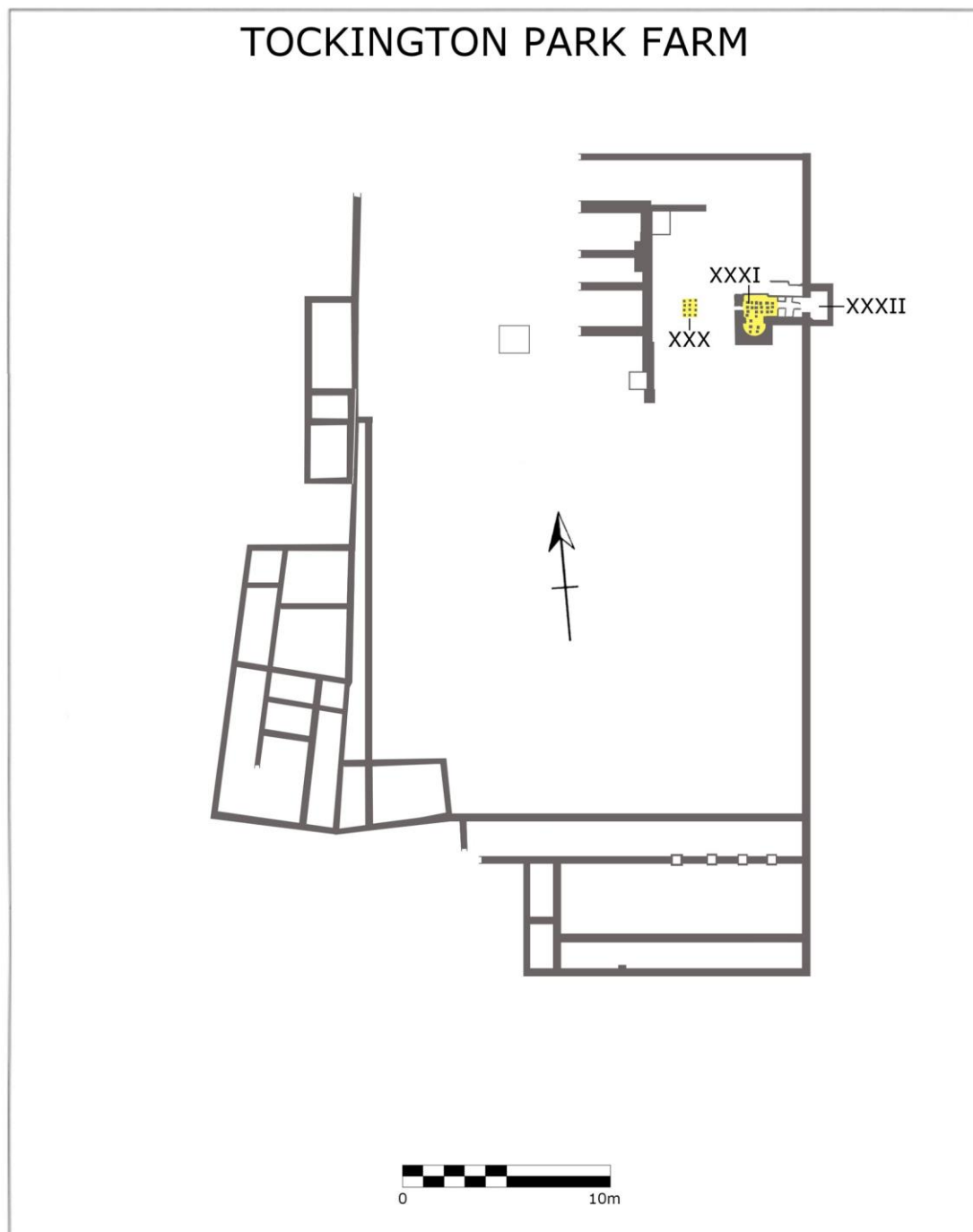


**Figure 105 Plan of the villa at Tockington Park Farm (Glos.). The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Maclean 1888–89, Plate XIII.**

TURKDEAN

**Individual Site Number:** 193

**Location:** SP 09881 18989

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site ‘occupies a flattish promontory, at c. 200m above O.D.’ (Holbrook 2004, 41), c. 4.5km northwest of the villa at **Clearcupboard, Farmington**, c. 3km west of the Fosseway (linking Exeter to Lincoln), and c. 19km northeast of Cirencester. The main villa building (c. 120 x 75m.) was ‘built around three courtyards, the inner and middle courtyards being separated by a cross-range’ (Holbrook 2004, 53). A gateway separated the middle and outer courtyards, and a perimeter wall surrounded the north, east and west sides of the villa.

The chronological development of the villa is not completely clear. Holbrook (2004, 65) suggests that, during the second century (Phase 1), ‘the north range must have faced southwards and comprised a long rectangular block of residential rooms with corridors or porticos to front and back’. It is not clear if one or more courtyards were also built at this time. Subsequently (Phase 2), the entrance into the inner courtyard was blocked by the construction of a bathhouse. This change ‘would logically be associated with a decision to remodel the north range to face northwards by the addition of the projecting rooms’ (ibid.). Nevertheless, there is no trace of a north-facing entrance, and this reconstruction remains hypothetical.

J. T. Smith (comment reported in Holbrook 2004, 65) proposes that the bathhouse ‘may have been inserted into the central range to reinforce a separation between the inner and middle courtyards in response to changing patterns of social occupation’. A large, detached structure was found 30 metres southeast of the main building. It was possibly an aisled building, ‘clearly of high status and at least partly residential’ (Holbrook 2004, 66). Site area: c. 230 x 150m.

**Villa chronology:** second–late fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was already known in the nineteenth century. It was identified as a Roman villa only in 1976 by the landowner, W. Mustoe, and, independently, by R. Box in 1996. Geophysical surveys and small-scale excavations took place in 1997–8, sponsored by the *Time Team* television program and under the direction of Neil Holbrook.

**Baths:** Probably during Phase 2, a large bath-suite was built in the central range between the inner and middle courtyards. Only a square cold plunge bath with flagstone flooring (unnumbered, c. 3 x 3m, 0.56m deep) was fully excavated. Since this room ‘contained abundant box-tiles, a hypocaust must exist somewhere within the complex’ (Holbrook 2004, 64). Holbrook (2004, 66) suggests that the sunken feature identified within the west end of the detached structure southeast of the main villa was also a plunge bath or a cellar. In the first case, at least a part of this building could have been a detached bathhouse.

**Decoration:** The cold plunge bath was decorated with red-painted plaster (Holbrook 2004, 45).

**Water supply:** A spring rises northeast of the villa. Its water is channelled into a culvert (of either Roman or later date), which is then ‘divided into a number of subsidiary channels’. These channels ‘ran both to the east and west of the detached building and discharged into the stream to the south of the villa complex’ (Holbrook 2004, 53).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Among the small finds, ‘there is a surprising lack of toilet instruments and other small personalia associated with hygiene and bathing’ (Holbrook 2004, 60).

**Key references:** Holbrook 2004.

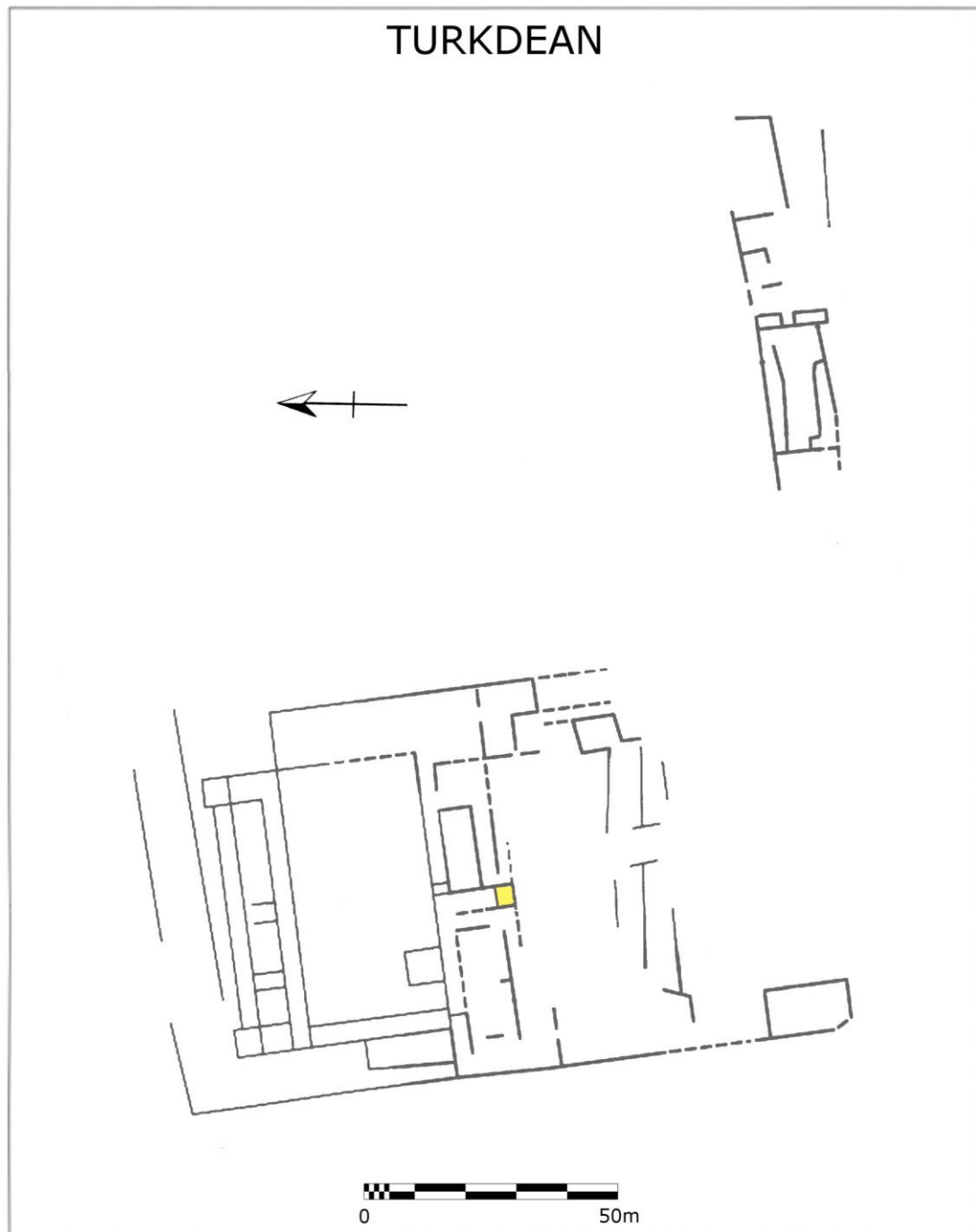


**Figure 106. Plan of the villa at Turkdean (Glos.). The cold plunge bath of the bath-suite is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Holbrook 2004, 44, Fig. 4.**

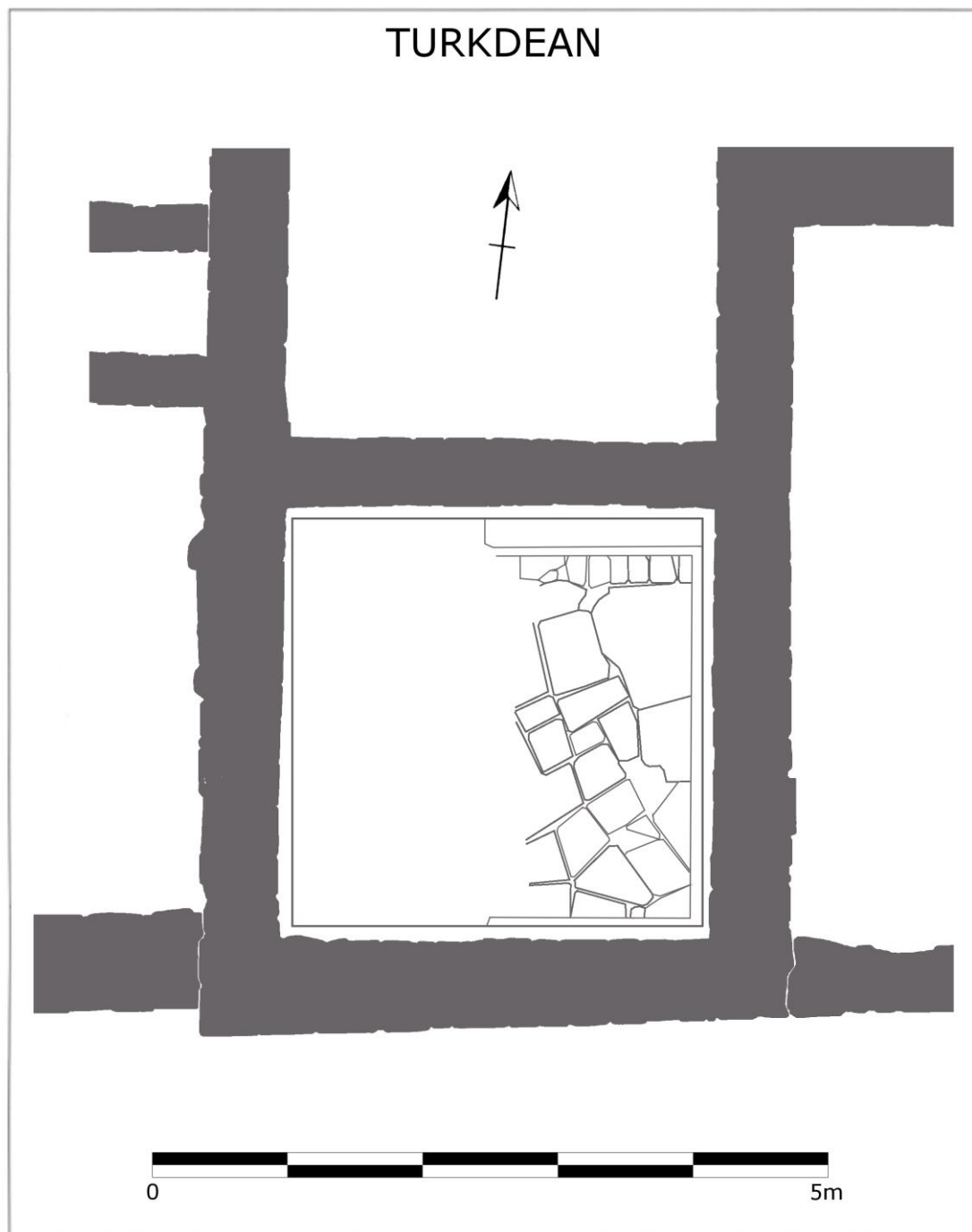


**Figure 107** Plan of the cold plunge bath of the bath-suite at Turkdean (Glos.). Image: author. After Holbrook 2004, 48, Fig. 7.



WADFIELD, SUDELEY

**Individual Site Number:** 195

**Location:** SP 0233 2604

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is ‘on a narrow natural shelf in a moderately steep E-facing slope, near springs’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 112). A courtyard villa was excavated here in the nineteenth century. It lies c. 2.2 km west of the villa at **Spoonley Wood, Sudeley** and the two sites ‘are within sight’ (Loftus Brock 1895, 249). Irregular walls on the north side of the house may indicate different building phases, although their chronology is uncertain. In 1969, another building (c. 11.88 x 8.76m) was found 49m to the south of the house. Site area: c. 60 x 40m.

**Villa chronology:** Uncertain. A coin of Domitian, two coins of Hadrian, and one coin of Arcadius were found during the excavation.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1863 and excavated in 1894–5 under the direction of P. Loftus Brock.

**Baths:** Room 5 (c. 4 x 3m) was hypocausted. It might have been part of a bath-suite ‘since there is a raised mass which may have formed a platform above the floor-level (now destroyed) for the descent of bathers’ (Loftus Brock 1895, 247–8). Its furnace room was in Room 6. The ‘traces of an aperture that may have been a drain’ (Loftus Brock 1895, 247) were also found. The numbering of the rooms follows the RCHME Gloucester’s plan (1976, 113).

**Decoration:** Loftus Brock (1895, 248) reports that ‘all the walls, internally, have been plastered, and painted in bright colours—Pompeian red, blue, buff, and yellow’.

**Water supply:** The baths might have been supplied by the springs near the house.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Loftus Brock 1895; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 112–3; Scott 1993, 76.

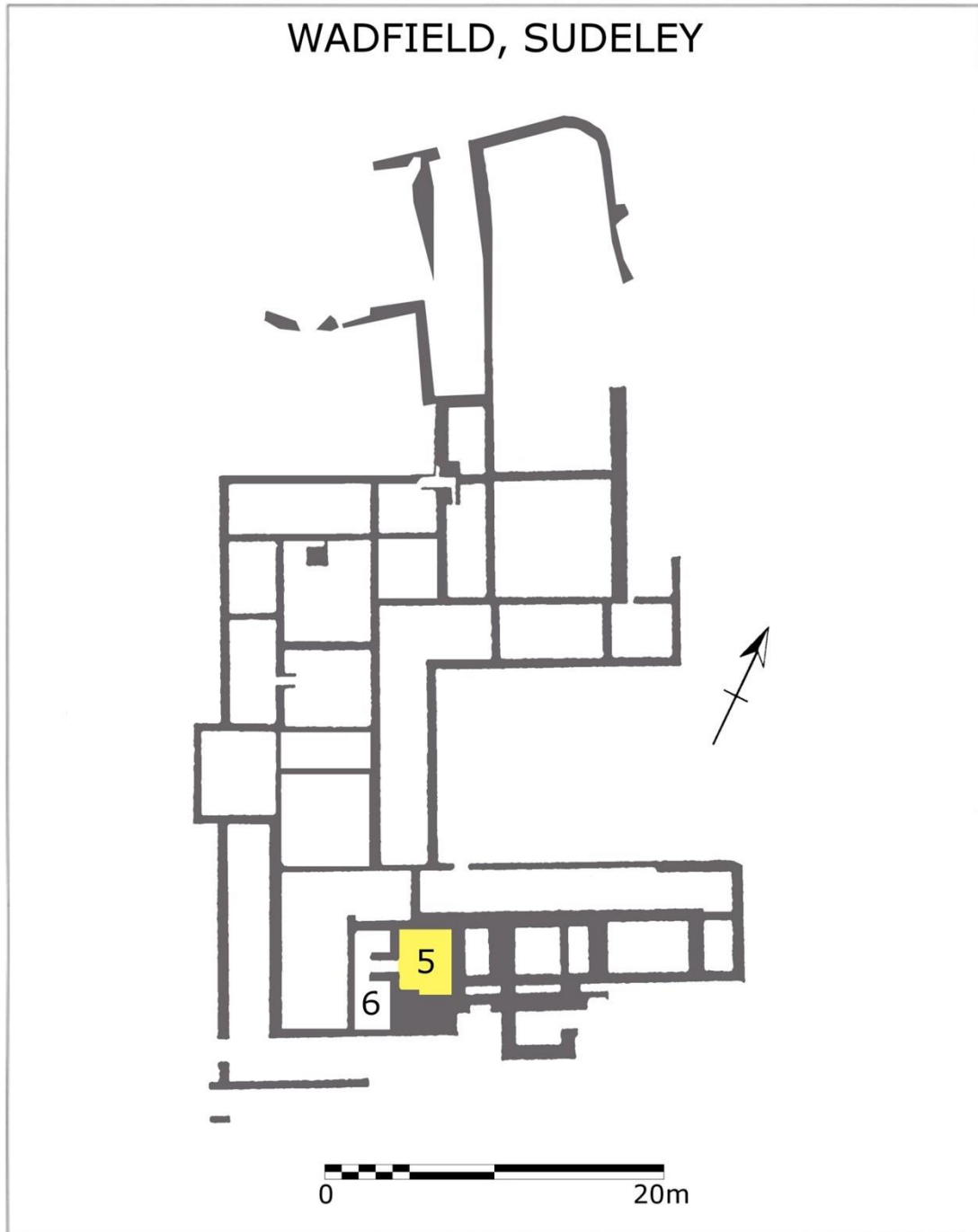


**Figure 108. Plan of the villa at Wadfield, Sudeley (Glos.). Room 5, hypocausted, is highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After RCHME Gloucester 1976, 113.**

## WHITTINGTON COURT

**Individual Site Number:** 202

**Location:** SP 0154 2053

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 90m east of the Anna Stream, c. 0.8km southeast of the villa at Waltham Field, Whittington (partially excavated by Cox [1979] and, recently, by the Time Team [Hirst n. d.]), c. 1.3km northwest of the Roman settlement at Wycomb, Syreforc, and 5.8km north of the villa at **Withington Woods**.

The earliest structure found here was a detached bathhouse dating to the second century (Period I). It was probably part of a villa complex, although the main house has not been located. Walls, possibly of Roman date, were found under a medieval cottage southwest of the baths (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 126). Probably in the second quarter of the fourth century (Period II), the baths were incorporated into 'a small, winged corridor house with an unusual apsidal room' (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 127). In Period III (late fourth century), the building was enlarged, and the bath-suite was dismantled. Occupation continued into the fifth century. Site area: c. 40 x 35m.

**Villa chronology:** second–fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1947 and excavated in 1948–51 by H. E. O'Neil.

**Baths:** As mentioned above, the first building built on the site was a detached bathhouse of a yet undiscovered villa (Period I). This was well constructed in small blocks of white oolite and roofed with slates of Stonesfield Slate stone (O'Neil 1952a, 24). At a later stage (Period II), it was incorporated into the back premises of a winged corridor house and soon after dismantled (Period III). The numbering of the rooms follows O'Neil's plan (1952a, Fig. 2).

*Period I:* During this initial phase, the bathhouse was structured as follows: Room III (c. 3.04 x 2.83m) was unheated and was either a *frigidarium* or an *apodyterium*. Room VII (c. 3.04 x 2.83m) was a *tepidarium* and Room IX (c. 7.01 x 2.05m) was a *caldarium*. These heated rooms had two separate furnace rooms and two different hypocaust systems. In Room VII, the floor was supported by masonry piers to form a channelled structure. Room IX featured stone piers of oolitic limestone and brick *pilae*. The latter were located closer to the furnace flue in consideration of their heat-resistant qualities.

In Room IX, 'the hypocaust occupied only 15 feet [c. 4.57m] of the eastern half of the room, while the remaining 8 feet [c. 2.43m] was occupied by a construction of tiles, masonry and clay' (O'Neil 1952a, 28). This solution was apparently 'designed to insulate the intense heat of the fire in the furnace from coming into contact with the masonry of the walls of the room and also formed a platform for a hot bath' (ibid.).

A large stone (c. 1.62m long, c. 0.17m deep and tapering from c. 0.66m to 0.58m in width) found at the south side of the bath was probably a step to get into the bath. This stone had a small sloping runnel cut into its east end and a small hole at the other end. O'Neil (ibid.) suggests that 'the runnel drained the drips left by the bather emerging from the bath' and that 'the small hole [...] may have held an upright which acted as a handle or support of some kind'.

Both the hypocaust in Room IX and its furnace show 'intense scorching' and 'in the stokehole the stone had been reduced to a pure white lime' (O'Neil 1952a, 29). A passage (exact measurements uncertain, c. 6.7 x 1.21m) between rooms VII and IX led to an

octagonal cold plunge bath (unnumbered, c. 2.59m across), paved with red tiles and perhaps equipped with two steps that led down to the bath.

*Period II:* Room III was now overlain by a new room (in O'Neil's plan, this is also marked as Room III), and the passage between Rooms VII and IX was lengthened.

**Decoration:** Fragments of red-coloured plaster were found in the octagonal cold plunge bath (O'Neil 1952a, 30).

**Water supply:** The stream running on the northeast side of the villa might have supplied the baths.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** O'Neil 1952a; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 126–8; Scott 1993, 77.

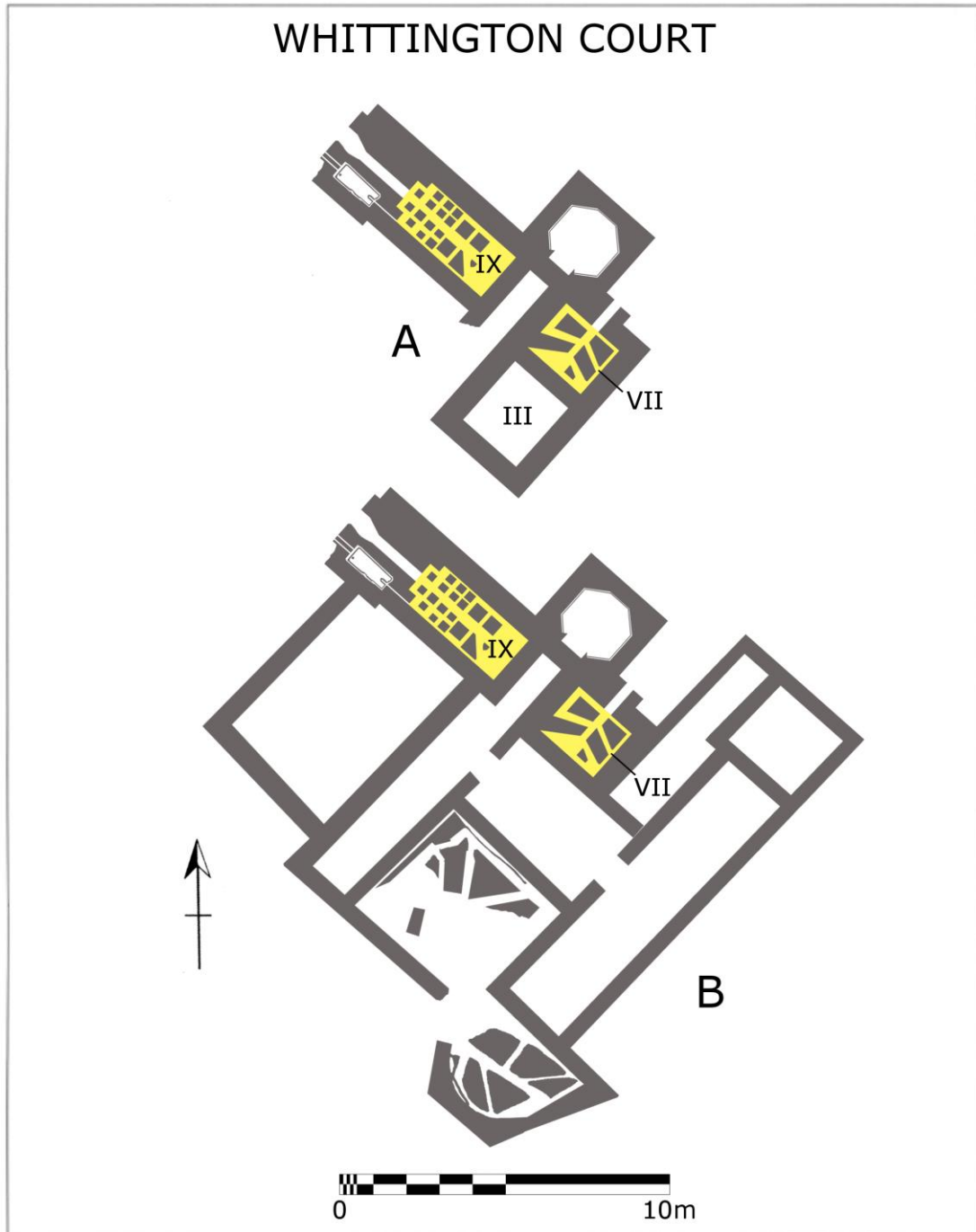


**Figure 109 A. Plan of the baths at Whittington Court (Glos.) during Period I. B. Plan of the villa at Whittington Court during Period II. The rooms of the baths equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After O'Neil 1952a, Fig. 2.**

## WITHINGTON MANOR COURT FIELD

**Individual Site Number:** 207

**Location:** SP 0338 1490

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies on the river Coln, c. 300m east of the villa at **Withington Woods**, c. 2.2km southwest of the villa at Compton Grove, c. 2.5km northwest of the villa at **Chedworth**, and c. 13km north of Cirencester. A spring emerges a few metres to the west of the site. A complex with a bathhouse was partially excavated here in 2005. Three phases of construction and a phase of robbing were identified. Thompson and Chelu (2009, 201) report that ‘the survey suggests that the complex is larger than Withington villa, although the full dimensions of the latter remain unclear, and indicates an ‘L’-shaped building with an east-west and a north-south range of rooms’. Each range was c.35m in length. Presently known site area: c. 2,400 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Villa chronology:** second–fifth centuries.

**Excavation history:** The baths were discovered in August 2005, when Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of the site on behalf of Channel 4’s TV program ‘Time Team’. Three trenches were excavated (1, 4 and 5) (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 22).

**Baths:** Thompson and Chelu (2009, 201) report that ‘the external wall of the bathhouse formed one side of a corridor, running alongside a second, parallel, wall to the west of the hypocaust heated room.’ The three trenches identified a *caldarium*, a sunken feature, and a hypocaust.

Trench 1 revealed part of a *caldarium* (unnumbered, at least 8 x 2.5m). As mentioned above, there were at least three phases of construction in this room. The hypocaust was built during the initial phase, probably dating to the second century since ‘it is rare to find hypocaust constructed from tile pilae at a later date’ (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 23). During the second phase (late third–early fourth centuries), the room was refurbished, and a new mosaic was laid over the hypocaust in this room. A corridor was located to the east of the *caldarium*, with a simple mosaic dating to the late fourth–early fifth centuries (third phase of construction). At a later stage, the walls of these structures were robbed.

Trench 4 revealed an external sunken feature of uncertain purpose and date. The excavators provide four alternative interpretations: (i) a cold plunge pool linked to the still undiscovered *frigidarium* of the bathhouse; (ii) a tank for the storage of water to be used within the bathhouse (‘this may have been necessary if access to water was sporadic and it needed to be stockpiled’ (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 24); (iii) a swimming pool (*natatio*); (iv) a structure not contemporary with the bathhouse.

If this feature was a cold plunge pool, ‘a number of aspects of the structure are unusual, chiefly the lack of *opus signinum* (and probably tiled) lining’ (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 23). The third hypothesis is also considered unlikely since *natationes* are exceptional in rural sites, and ‘the structure is quite small, just over 3m across, perhaps too small for a swimming pool’ (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 24).

Trench 5 revealed a channelled hypocaust, ‘potentially of fourth-century date, from the nature of its construction—there was a trend away from tile pilae towards channelled hypocaust systems in the fourth century because of the decline of tile production’ (ibid.). Alternatively, ‘it is possible the change in construction technique is due rather to the function than to chronology’ since this kind of hypocaust ‘provided gentle radiant heat in

contrast to the rapid and efficient heating provided by pilae constructed hypocausts' (ibid.). In this case, this room might have been a *tepidarium*.

The furnace was not located, although 'it is possible it would have been sited on the eastern side of the building close to the tributary of the Colne and close to the possible water reservoir identified in Trench 4, due to the potential fire hazard' (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 23).

**Decoration:** The mosaic in the *caldarium* dates to the early fourth century and 'belongs to the Corinthian *officina* or school of mosaicists based in Cirencester', which was 'also responsible for the Orpheus mosaic removed in the Withington villa and now in the British Museum' (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 23). Fragments of polychrome wall plaster were recovered from Trench 1 (red, yellow, blue and purple) and Trench 5 (monochrome, red or green).

**Water supply:** The baths might have been supplied by the river Colne or by the springs near the house, located between the villa and the site at **Withington Woods**. The 2005 geographical survey located a possible trackway connecting the two sites and 'revealed potential evidence for [...] a water management system and shrine associated with the spring', although 'the evaluation trenches [...] failed to confirm this' (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 26). Unfortunately, 'no evidence was identified of a conduit or aqueduct to feed water into the bathhouse from the main water source within the area, the river Colne and the tributary from it, or from the small spring to the west of the structure' (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 24).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** Six oyster shells were found in Trench 1 and one in Trench 5. They include 'both left and right valves—in other words, both preparation and consumption waste' (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 19).

**Key references:** Thompson & Chelu 2009; Wessex Archaeology 2006a.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

## WITHINGTON WOODS

**Individual Site Number:** 208

**Location:** SP 0311 1486

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies west of the river Coln, ‘on a gentle slope on which a series of streams rise and flow down to join the river’ (Thompson & Chelu 2009, 195). It lies c. 300m west of the villa at **Withington Manor Court Field**, c. 2.2km southwest of the villa at Compton Grove, c. 2.5km northwest of the villa at **Chedworth**, and c. 13km north of Cirencester. It is also close to the Withington ridge, ‘with its trackway leading directly to Corinium’ (Finberg 1955, 23). A spring emerges 200m to the east of the site.

This tripartite corridor villa was excavated in the nineteenth century and produced the famous Orpheus mosaic that was later donated to the British Museum (Thompson & Chelu 2009, 195). Recent evaluation trenches identified evidence of pre-Roman occupation at the site (Thompson & Chelu 2009, 199). The villa features a central range of rooms flanked on both sides by corridors and a bath-suite on its east side. The complex likely underwent ‘considerable structural alteration, including the blocking of the S. flues into the hypocaust [...] and the asymmetrical rebuilding of a wall in room D’ (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 132) before being destroyed by fire.

A Wessex Archaeology’s geographical survey in 2005 revealed ‘a possible surrounding rectangular walled courtyard’ as well as ‘clear field systems and possible trackways’ connecting this villa site to **Withington Manor Court Field** (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 25) Thompson and Chelu (2009, 201) list various possible interpretations of the relationships between the two complexes: ‘that one was a replacement for the other perhaps following Withington villa ‘being consumed by fire’ (Lysons 1817, 119); that they had separate functions, the building in Manor Court Farm serving primarily as a bath-house given its ideal location close to two sources of water; or that they serviced separate familial groups of the owners or occupiers of the estate that was run from the buildings’. Presently known site area: c. 690 m<sup>2</sup>.

**Villa chronology:** second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1811 and soon after excavated by H. C. Brooke and S. Lysons. In August 2005, Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of the site on behalf of Channel 4’s TV program ‘Time Team’.

**Baths:** Two apsidal rooms, Rooms H1 (c. 3.6 x 3.4m, the apse being c. 2.8m wide and c. 1.5m max. depth) and H2 (c. 3.6 x 3m, the apse being c. 2.7m wide and c. 1.4m max. depth), were excavated on the east side of the villa. They were equipped with hypocaust and may have formed a small bath-suite.

The furnace room was in Room H3, where ‘great quantities of wood-ashes’ (Lysons 1817b, 121) were found. As mentioned above, the plan suggests that at a later stage, the south flues of the hypocaust were blocked (RCHME Gloucester 1976, 132). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms (in Lysons’ plan (1817b, Plate VI) the set of rooms is marked H).

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The baths might have been supplied by the springs near the house, located between the villa and the site at **Withington Manor Court Field**. As mentioned above, the 2005 geographical survey located a possible trackway connecting the two sites and



‘revealed potential evidence for [...] a water management system and shrine associated with the spring’, although ‘the evaluation trenches [...] failed to confirm this’ (Wessex Archaeology 2006a, 26).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Finberg 1955, 22–9; Lysons 1817b; RCHME Gloucester 1976, 131–2; Thompson & Chelu 2009; Scott 1993, 77; Wessex Archaeology 2006a.

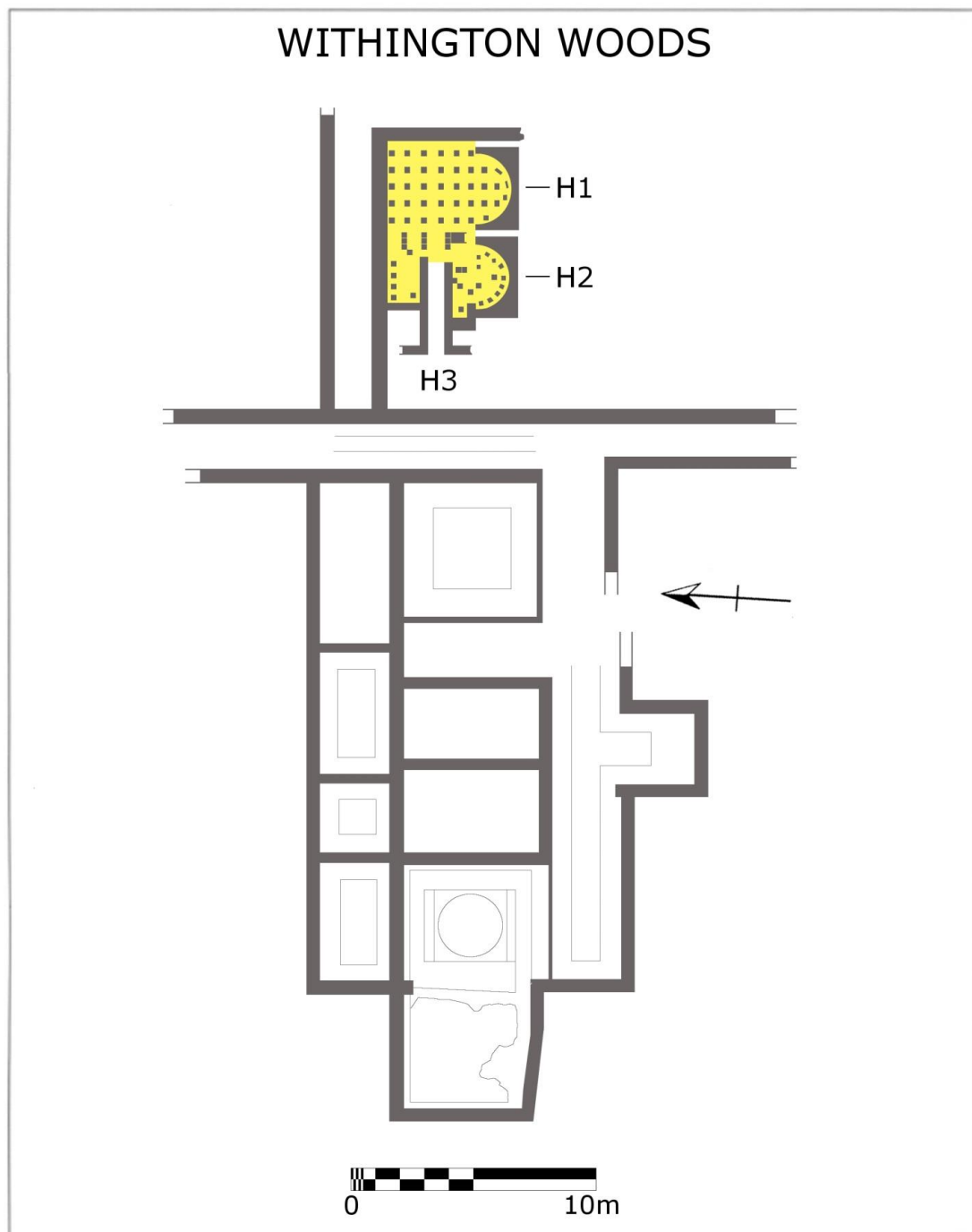


**Figure 110. Plan of the villa at Withington Woods (Glos.). Rooms H1 and H2, hypocausted, are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Lysons 1817b, Plate VI.**

## WOODCHESTER

**Individual Site Number:** 209

**Location:** SO 8396 0311

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 3km southeast of the Roman building found at King's Stanley and c. 5.5km east of the villa at **Frocester Court**. A substantial courtyard-type villa was excavated here in the late eighteenth century. It featured '65 rooms ranging around three axially planned courtyards' (Clarke 1982, 197). The earliest phase seems to be of Flavian or Trajanic date, with the addition of the centre and outer courtyards in the late second or early third centuries. The inner courtyard was added in the early fourth century (Clarke 1982, 218–9). Presently known site area: c. 189.5 x 108.5m.

**Villa chronology:** late first/early second–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The villa was excavated in the late eighteenth century by S. Lysons (Lysons 1797). Partial excavations, directed by Giles Clarke (1982), took place in 1973.

**Baths:** The villa's main baths have not been discovered yet (Richmond 1969, 62; Clarke 1982, 214). Clarke (1982, 215) suggests that the remains found under the churchyard in the area north of the villa 'most likely belonged to a bath-suite, for this would be an appropriate place for such a suite'. Two possible bath-suites have been identified in Rooms 31–32 and Rooms 38–40, unfortunately with uncertain chronology. The numbering of the rooms follows Clarke's plan (1982, Fig. 1).

**Rooms 31–32 (upper bath-suite):** several tile hypocaust-pillars and flue-tiles were found in Rooms 31 (c. 10.8 x 8m) and 32 (c. 15 x 8m) (Clarke 1982, 200). The archaeology is difficult to interpret, and several phases are probably represented here. The lack of floors and furnaces indicates that this bath-suite went out of use before the villa's final phase (Clarke 1982, 201).

**Rooms 38–40 (lower bath-suite):** This is a compact set of rooms (c. 15 x 4.2m), seemingly entered through the corridor in Room 38. Lysons (1797, 12–3, 16, pls. xxv–xxcii) identified Room 39 as a *laconicum* and Room 40 as a *frigidarium*. Beneath the concrete floor of Room 39, there 'was a channelled hypocaust, consisting of one longitudinal and four transverse channels, all linked by horizontal tubular flues' (Clarke 1982, 203). The longitudinal channel 'led into a furnace, with a stoking place beyond' (ibid.). A basin, 'from which a lead pipe passed through the external wall of the building' (ibid.), was documented by Lysons in the northeast corner of Room 38.

Clarke (1982, 214–5) notes that 'of the two possible bath-suites known, that in Room 31 is too disturbed to have served the villa in its final phase, while any bath-suite in Rooms 38–40 would have been used by servants'.

**Decoration:** Three fragments of *opus sectile* have been found at the site, probably associated with an early and well-decorated structure. Since they show traces of *opus signinum*, this building may have been a bathhouse or some other 'aquatic feature' (Clarke 1982, 209).

**Water supply:** A U-shaped stone water conduit, 'sealed by flat stone slabs' (Clarke 1982, 217), runs down the northwest side of the villa. The channel, starting from a spring 550m west of the villa, 'may be interpreted as an aqueduct supplying the villa, terminating perhaps near the putative bath-suite in the northern part of the churchyard'.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Baddeley 1926, 74–97; Clarke 1982, 197–228; Lysons 1797; Neal 1981, 115–22; O’Neil 1955, 172–5; Playne 1880–1881, 142–7; Richmond 1969, 61–2; Scott 1993, 78.

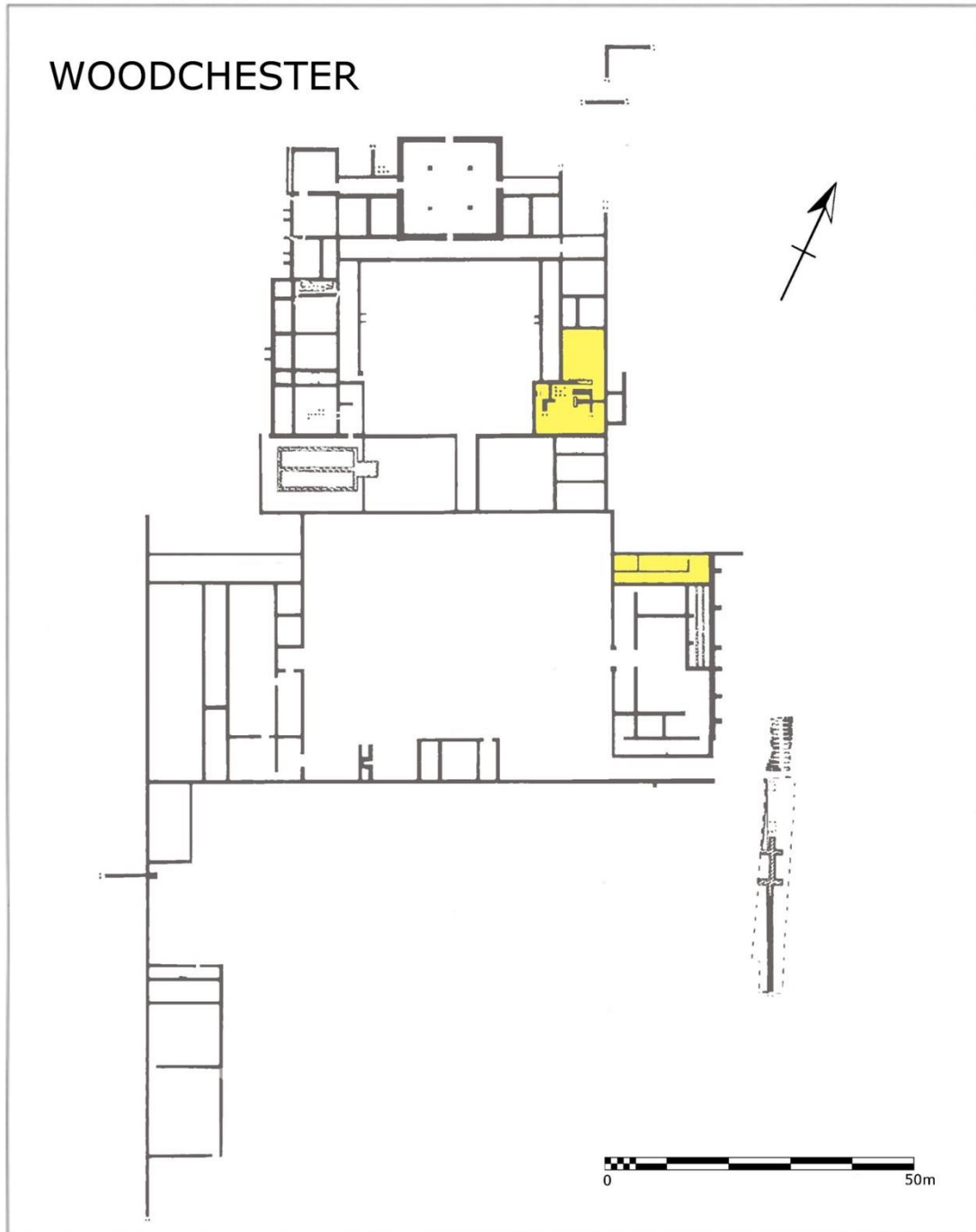


**Figure 111 Plan of the villa at Woodchester (Glos.). The two possible bath-suites are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Clarke 1982, Fig. 1.**

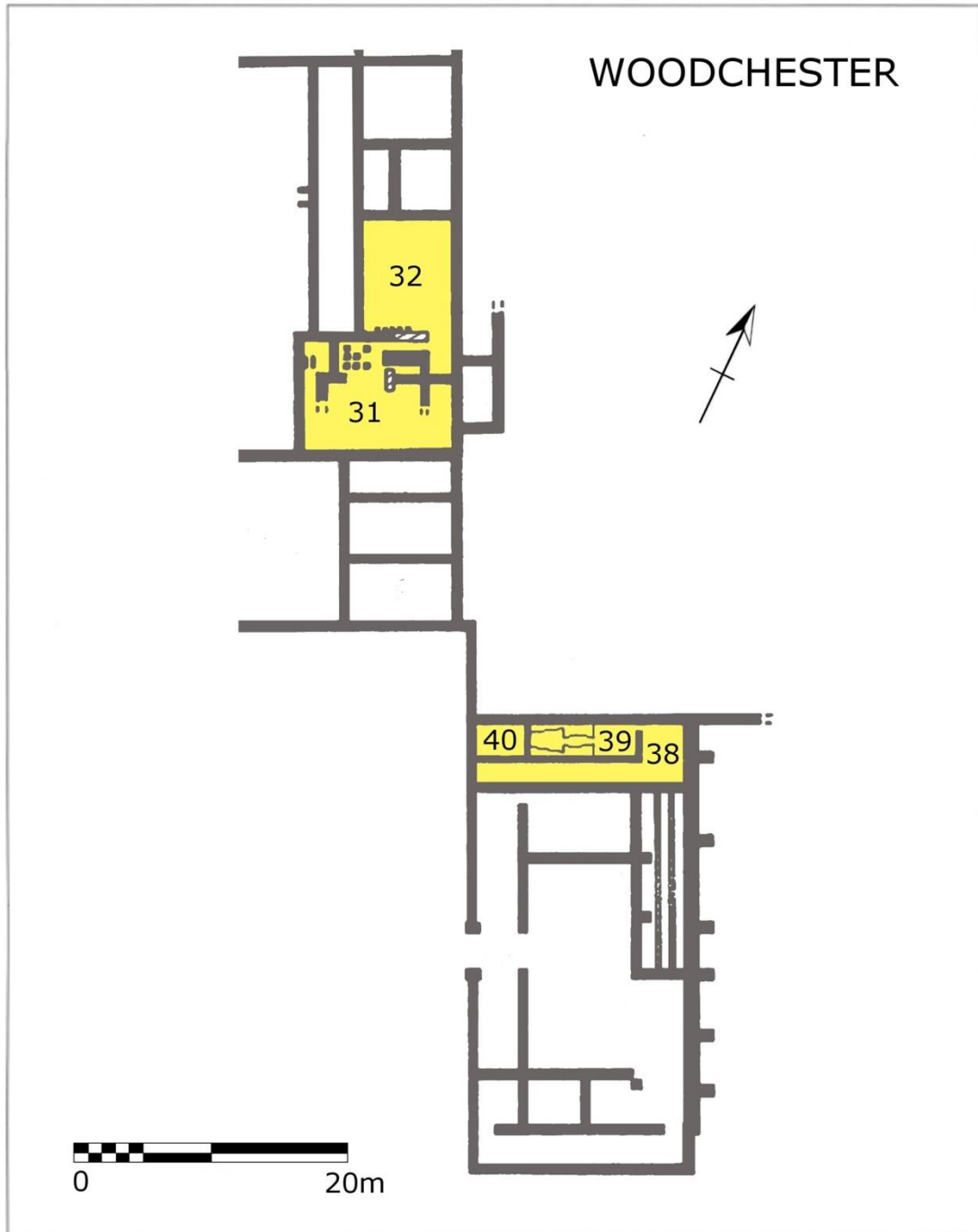


**Figure 112 Plan of the two possible sets of baths (highlighted in yellow) at Woodchester (Glos.). Image: author. After Clarke 1982, Fig. 1.**

## WORTLEY, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE

**Individual Site Number:** 210

**Location:** ST 7690 9184

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site lies c. 3km southwest of the Roman small town at Kingscote, c. 4km northeast of the villa at Lower Woods, Hawkesbury, and c. 6.1km southeast of the villa at Stancombe Park 1. The villa was initially built as a winged corridor house, and six main phases have been identified. During Phase 1 (c. 60–150 CE), the house (Building 1) was of timber framing set over stone footings, with a masonry bathhouse on its eastern wing and a cellar on its western wing.

Building 1 was then rebuilt and modified in Phase 2 (c. 150–250 CE), which might indicate ‘a change of ownership’ (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 21). During Phase 3 (c. 250–340 CE), Building 2 (uncertain function) was built to the south of the main house. Building 1 underwent minor alterations during Phase 4 (c. 340–360 CE).

During Phase 5 (c. 360–410 CE), the bathhouse was demolished, and the cellar went out of use. Buildings 1 and 2 fell into decay during Phase 6 (c. 410–450 CE) and were substituted by four timber-framed structures, one of which was a malting kiln. The site was finally abandoned in c. 450 CE. Site area: c. 45 x 35m.

**Villa chronology:** c. 60–450 CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1981. The University of Keele adopted it for a long-term excavation project. The digs started in 1985 and continued until 1996 under the direction of D. Wilson.

### Baths

*Phase 1:* As mentioned above, the bathhouse (c. 22 x 12m) is contemporaneous to Building 1. The clay soil ‘was quarried away to a depth of c. 2.3m, and the resulting void filled with large boulders between retaining walls and topped with smaller stones to level the surface’ (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 5). This approach was seemingly due to ‘the instability of the clay under the conditions of alternating heating and cooling, and the allowance of airflow by the stone core beneath the floor’ (ibid.). The building had glazed windows and was roofed with *tegulae* and *imbrices*. The numbering of the rooms follows Wilson *et al.*’s plans (2014, 19, Plan 1; 27, Plan 2; 37, Plan 4).

During this initial phase, the bathhouse had an external (through a porch on its south side) and an internal access (through a few steps on the southeast side of the veranda in front of the house). It was structured as follows: Room 5 (c. 3 x 2m) was a latrine. Room 4 (c. 5 x 3m) was a pentice (constructed with walls of clay) to the main building and included an *apodyterium* (unnumbered, c. 3 x 2m) and a cold plunge bath (unnumbered, c. 2.2 x 1.9m). The latter seems to have been equipped with a lead tank.

Room 3 (c. 3.6 x 3.3m) was a *tepidarium*, although ‘it was not possible to determine the form of the first phase of Room 3’ (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 7). Room 2 (c. 5.75 x 3.6m) was hypocausted (with brick *pilae*) and was another *tepidarium* or a second *caldarium*. Room 1 (c. 3.6 x 3.2m) was a *caldarium*, perhaps with a hot bath. The furnace room was located on the northern side of Room 1.

Room 6 (c. 13.7m long x 2.25m wide internally) was a *natatio* (or ‘*natatarium*’, as defined by Wilson *et al.* 2014, 6), which shared the western walls of Rooms 1, 2 and 3. This is an unusual feature in rural contexts (see the Period-4 baths at **Eccles**). Wilson *et al.* (2014, 7) state that ‘the pool took the form of a large lead tank sitting upon the pitched

stone surface (probably with a layer of sand between them which has since washed away)'. According to their reconstruction, 'a continuous flow of spring water entered the *natatarium* from the north and drained out at its southern end'. There, they join a series of linked drains that drained the cold plunge and 'provided a continuous flush to the latrine' (ibid.). A water pipe was seemingly passing through Room 8, the central room of the main house, 'perhaps indicating the presence of a water-storage tank in the second storey above Room 8' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 8).

*Phase 2:* During this phase, Room 4 was demolished, and its cold plunge bath filled in. The latter 'was re-sited in the *natatarium* (Room 6), where three low cross walls were inserted into its southern end as support for the wooden floor of the new *frigidarium/apodyterium* (Room 12), whilst the remainder of the pool would now have served as the cold plunge' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 21). These changes might have been caused by the decay of the clay walls of the original *frigidarium/apodyterium*.

*Phase 4:* During this phase, the *tepidarium* was modified, its hypocaust now being of 'tegulae filled with mortar and placed on top of each other' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 33) instead of bricks as in Room 2. Furthermore, 'at sub-floor level Rooms 2 and 3 were separated by a wall in which there was a gap to allow the flow of hot air from the former to the latter' (ibid.). Finally, the eastern wall of the baths was rebuilt.

In the late fourth–early fifth centuries (late Phase 5), 'the bathhouse was demolished and its site backfilled and levelled' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 39).

### **Decoration**

*Mosaics:* Many individual tesserae were found. Three groups of tesserae came from the bathhouse area and were interpreted as forming a small geometric mosaic (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 149, Plate 24), stylistically dating to the second half of the fourth century. Considering this late date and its size, the excavators suggest that it was probably laid down in Room 12 during Phase 4 (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 149).

*Painted wall plaster:* The walls and ceiling of the baths were decorated with painted plaster. Although many fragments survived, 'it was difficult to relate them to particular rooms of the bathhouse' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 133). Five groups of dadoes have been identified: (i) plain dark grey; (ii) plain dark red; (iii) dark red with darker spots; (iv) plain pink; and (v) pink with red and white splashes.

Most fragments came from the walls above the dados and show simple panel schemes (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 140). The first group of these fragments has stripes that may have been part of panel borders. The second group has 'small, plain white or light-coloured plaster' (ibid.), which seemingly formed the interiors of the panels. The third group has foliage and blossom that 'may, perhaps, have been painted as a swag across the top of a panel' (ibid.). The fourth group shows 'part of a fence on a blue background, which could have been part of a landscape scene' (ibid.).

The theme of the fifth group is unclear: there are 'several panel-border fragments brought together with patterned ones which, on the evidence of the green line edging the red border, are clearly related to them' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 140). The sixth group decorated the *caldarium* (presumably Room 1, although not explicitly mentioned in the report). It 'was based on a monochrome framework of octagons, squares and triangles fitted within bordered panels above a dark grey dado' and, unusually, 'the light grey/brown stripe of the framework has darker spots superimposed upon it, and there is a parallel line of smaller dots' (ibid.). Another fragment shows a green stripe instead of the grey one.



These stripes 'have been interpreted as the edging of either a door or window reveal in the bathhouse which probably also served as panel border' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 140). Combed impressions of box flue tiles were found on the reverse of some fragments, 'proving that they had been fixed to a heated wall surface' (ibid.).

**Water supply:** The baths might have been supplied by a spring near the house, 'which would have had an aqueduct to bring its water to the site, although this was not traced in the excavation' (Wilson *et al.* 2014, 3).

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Bagnall & Taylor 2011; Wilson 1986; 1988; Wilson *et al.* 2014.

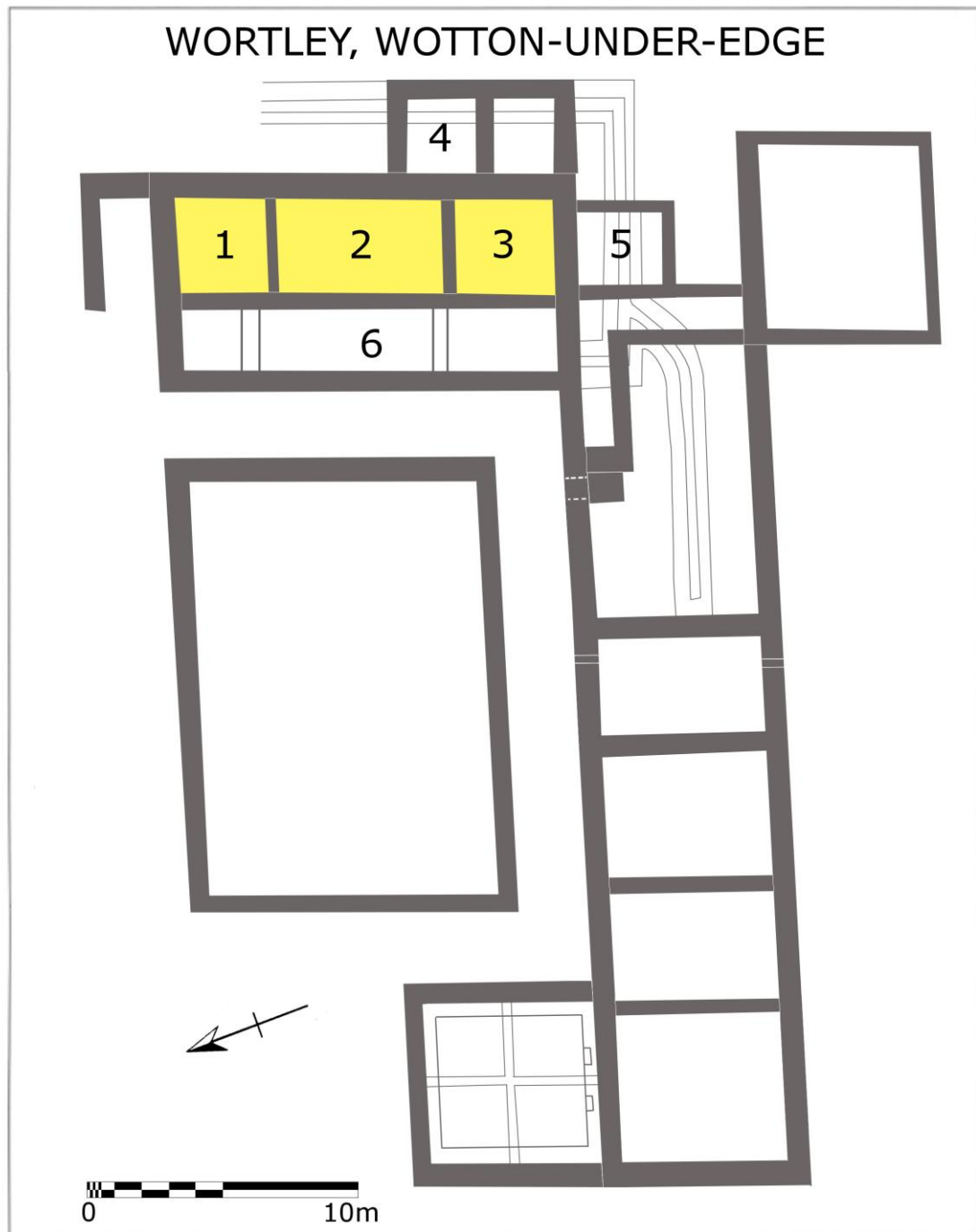


**Figure 113 Plan of the villa at Wortley, Wotton-Under-Edge villa (Glos.) during Phase 1. The rooms of the bath-suite equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Wilson *et al.* 2014, 19, Plan 1.**

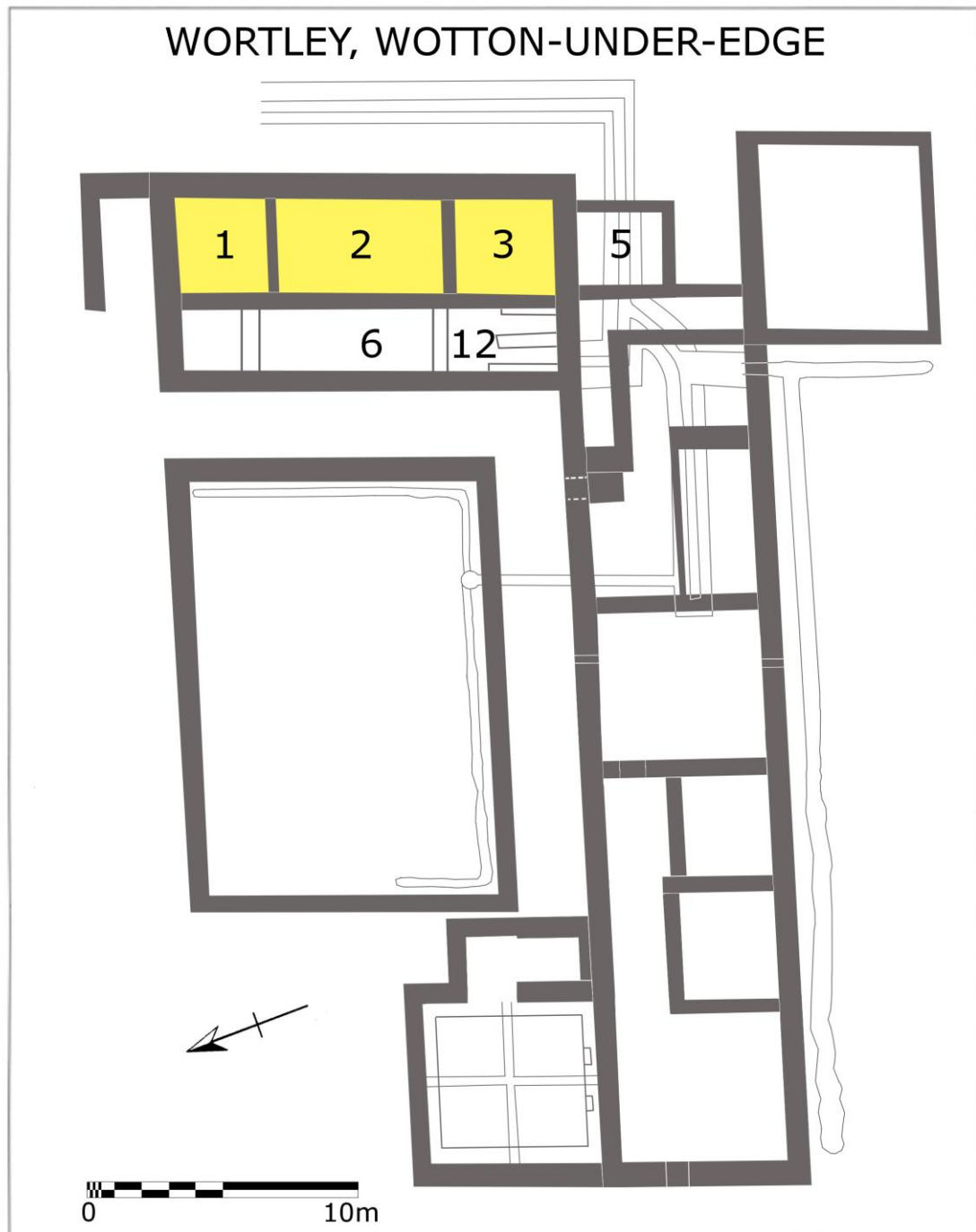


**Figure 114. Plan of the villa at Wortley, Wotton-Under-Edge villa (Glos.) during Phase 2. The rooms of the bath-suite equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Wilson *et al.* 2014, 27, Plan 2.**

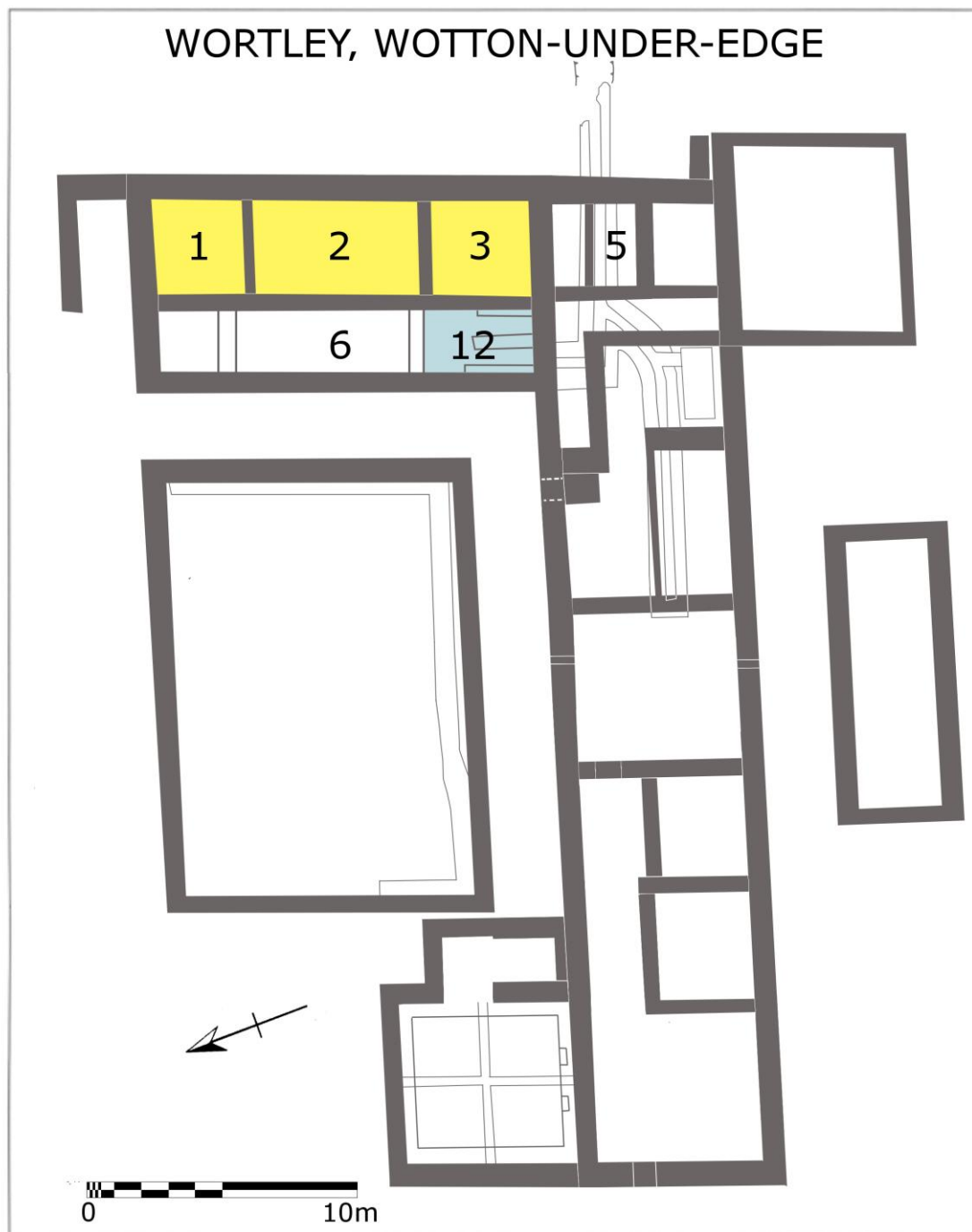


**Figure 115** Plan of the villa at Wortley, Wotton-Under-Edge (Glos.) during Phase 4. The rooms of the bath-suite equipped with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow, those with mosaics in blue. Image: author. After Wilson *et al.* 2014, 37, Plan 4.

## Other Rural Baths

ALFOLDEAN (West Sussex)

**Individual Site Number:** 215

**Location:** TQ 1173 3305

**Typology and extent of the site:** This roadside settlement, close to the River Arun, was possibly ‘one of a chain of deliberately planned settlements on the Chichester to London road (Stane Street)’ (Luke & Wells 2000, 75). The nearest Roman sites are the tileworks at Itchingfield (Green 1970), 4km to the southeast, and the villas at **Rapsley, Ewhurst** and Wyphurst Road, Cranleigh, both c. 9km northwest of the site.

The settlement was established in the mid-first century CE. A *mansio* complex was identified in its northeast corner, possibly dating to the late first century CE (Black 1987, 120–3; Luke & Wells 2000, 80). It ‘consisted of a central rectangular courtyard enclosed on all four sides and surrounded by a corridor or ambulatory’ (Wessex Archaeology 2006b, 30).

In the later second century, the *mansio* was enclosed by a bank and two ditches (Luke & Wells 2000, 80–3). The site’s occupation continued into the third century, and there is limited evidence for fourth-century activity (Luke & Wells 2000, 85–7). *Mansio* enclosure area: 140 x 140m.

**Site chronology:** mid-first–fourth centuries

**Excavation history:** The site was discovered in 1810 during the restoration of the Alfoldean Bridge on the River Arun (Martin 1859, 144). A mosaic floor was found in 1912 (Belloc 1913, 250), and systematic excavations were carried out in 1922 and 1923 under the direction of S. Winbolt (1923; 1924). Fieldwork investigations have been undertaken during the last two decades of the twentieth century (Luke & Wells 2000) and in 2005 (Wessex Archaeology 2006b). Geophysical surveys have recently provided new information on a series of ditched boundaries to the west of Stane Street (Booth 2016, 352).

**Baths:** The area immediately north of the accommodation building of the *mansio* produced flue tiles and *tegulae mammatae* and is the best candidate for a bathhouse (Winbolt 1924, 119; Black 1987, 122; Luke & Wells 2000, 77, 95; Wessex Archaeology 2006b, 30). Relief-pattern and combed flue tile have been found within the complex. The dies for the former were in use c. 90–110 CE and c. 150–80 CE, possibly indicating two construction phases (Black 1987, 122). The presence of *tegulae mammatae* suggests a first-century date.

**Decoration:** No information available.

**Water supply:** The bathhouse might have been supplied by the River Arun.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Belloc 1913, 250; Black 1987, 120–3; 1995, 43; Booth 2016, 352; Luke & Wells 2000; Martin 1859, 144; Wessex Archaeology 2006b; Winbolt 1923; 1924.

**Note:** Complete plan not available.

BEAUPORT PARK (East Sussex)

**Individual Site Number:** 216

**Location:** TQ 7867 1445

**Typology and extent of the site:** This was a large ironmaking site, part of the iron industry of the Weald. It lies 2.24km to the northeast of another Roman ironworks at Crowhurst Park (Cleere & Crossley 1985, 297–8). A bathhouse in a remarkable state of preservation, with walls surviving to 1.5m high, lies on the southern extremity of the site. An area of high magnetic response was identified to the northwest of the baths (Gater 1998, 2–3), and a habitation area was probably located to the east (Bird 2016, 287).

Despite the vast quantity of CL BR stamped tiles recovered during the baths' excavations, the discovery of women's and children's shoes indicates civilian involvement at the establishment, suggesting a settlement of civilian ironworkers under military supervision (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 240–1). Millett (2007, 178) is more cautious about this claim. Site area: c. 8ha.

**Site chronology:** Late first–mid-third centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** While the site has been known since the nineteenth century, the bathhouse was discovered only in 1969 and subsequently excavated under the direction of G. Brodrigg and H. Cleere (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 217–9). Further investigations by the Time Team were carried out in 1998 (Gater 1998).

**Baths:** A wooden tank lined with lead sheet and provided with a simple drain has been interpreted as a proto-bathhouse (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 242). The masonry baths were probably built in the second quarter of the second century and were 'located in exactly the same area as the wooden tank' (ibid.).

The building was 'very well built and a workmanlike structure' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 243), with an average wall width of 0.65m (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 271). The walls were 'made of regular courses of roughly dressed local sandstone, with larger quoins at the corners' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 232).

The baths seemingly fell into disrepair in the late second century before being refurbished and enlarged. An inscription found at the site indicates that one Bassus or Bassianus supervised the restorations (Wright & Hassall 1971, 289). The structure was abandoned in the mid-third century. The numbering of the rooms follows Brodrigg and Cleere's plan (1988, 223, Fig. 3).

**Phase A:** The original building consisted of five rooms. Room II was a *frigidarium* (c. 3.45 x 3.45m), and the building was seemingly accessed through a door (c. 1m wide) in the south wall of this room. A fountain or a basin might have stood at the centre of this room, carefully removed when the building was abandoned (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 224). It was paved with *bessalis* tiles except for the area in front of the cold plunge bath (Room III, 3 x 1.4m), where there is a slab of Purbeck stone measuring 1.3 x 0.7m (nicknamed by the excavators 'the bath mat'). This material 'would have been less hazardous to wet feet than the smooth tiles' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 224).

The cold plunge bath was 'lined with c. 5 cm of good-quality gravelly concrete, heavily iron-stained at its slightly concave base' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 225). Window glass from this room 'suggests that there was a clerestory above the bath' (ibid.). The roof of Room II was pitched and tiled, and 'a deep layer of tiles and stone, with some iron holdfasts in it' (ibid.), has also been found in Room III.

Room V, hypocausted, was a *tepidarium* (3.45 x 2.3m). It was initially floored with *tegulae* lying face downwards and had a pitched tile roof. An interior-splayed window was in the centre of its south wall (1.27m above the floor level), and its sill was well preserved, a rare feature in Roman Britain (other examples occur only at Chesters and Ravenglass—Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 228).

The doorway connecting this room to Room IV was probably closed by a wooden door since a round pivot hole was found in the northwest corner of the room (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 227). Room IV was a *caldarium* (2.8 x 2.3m) with a furnace outside its north wall. A window might have been located in this wall (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 226).

Room I was another *caldarium* (c. 3.5 x 3.5m), separated from Room IV by a c. 1.6m-across doorway. This room had a pitched tile roof and a window in the centre of its south wall. The latter was ‘probably glazed, so as to increase the light in the *caldarium* and at the same time conserve its heat’ (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 222). The floor of Room I consisted ‘of some 5 cm of *opus signinum* laid on large tiles, which were in turn located on the *pilae*’.

Evidence of the draining system was found within Rooms I, V, and II. In particular, two drains met at the centre of Room II, one from the plunge bath and one from Room V. The water was then ‘discharged below the door [in the south wall of Room II] into a slag-filled soakaway and down the gully which ran along the south wall of the building’ (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 224).

*Phase Bi*: Possibly after a short phase of abandonment, the building was refurbished, and five new rooms were added. During this phase, the plaster in Room II was renovated, and the inscription mentioning Bass[ian]us was inserted over the entrance door. The bath in Room III was relined due to the subsidence of the east wall, and its base was patched (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 225).

The west floor of Room V was pierced to communicate with the new Room IX. Its pitched tile roof was substituted by a barrel vault of stones set in concrete, and this ‘necessitated the reinforcement of the wall between it and Room IV with an additional 20 cm of material’. The size of this room was now 3.25 x 2.3m. The northern part of the floor of Room V was now replaced with *opus signinum*.

The roof of Room IV was also substituted by a barrel vault of stone set in concrete. It was now converted into a *tepidarium*. Its north wall was substantially rebuilt, and its hypocaust was partially filled. Moreover, the furnace outside its north wall was removed. The room was now floored with *opus signinum* over ‘a partial pillar hypocaust (in the centre of the room), exhausting through channels to flues in the southeast, southwest, and northwest corners’ (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 226).

A new furnace room (Room IV) was now added to the east of Room I, and its north wall was rebuilt and realigned. Furthermore, the room was re-floored, and the *pilae* under the eastern part of the room ‘were replaced in places by stacks of irregular fragments of *tegula* or pieces of stone’ (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 220–1).

The doorway between Room I and IV was narrowed to c. 1.2m and now had a stone slab at its centre, placed over an arch for the flow of heated air. Slots on either side of the slab seem to indicate the presence of a timber door. Room IX (3.5 x 3.5m), hypocausted, was added to the west of Room V. Its floor was of coarse *opus signinum* over a tiled surface, and it probably had a pitched tile roof. The room, perhaps an *apodyterium*, had two

rectangular niches (1m wide by 0.45m deep, c. 1m above floor level) on each of its north and south interior walls and a fifth (semi-circular) in the centre of its west wall.

The excavators interpreted the rectangular niches as spaces for wooden cupboards or 'lockers', as hypothesised for similar features in the Chesters bathhouse. The semi-circular one might have had 'a ritual function: an ox skull was found on the floor immediately in front of it, and nearby lay a *dupondus* of Lucilla (c. A.D. 170), with mortar adhering to the obverse, implying that the reverse, with its image of Juno, had been displayed' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 231).

Another *caldarium* (Room VIII, 3.5 x 3.5m), with a full pillared hypocaust, was added to the north of Room I. It was linked by a step to a hypocausted plunge bath (Room VII, with a radius of c. 1.2m) on its eastern side. The west side of the bath was initially slightly curved. The outlet of this bath was not identified. Room X was also a plunge bath at this stage, but its size is now difficult to establish.

*Phase Bii:* The furnace room in Room VI was abandoned and substituted by a new one in Room XI, the stoke-hole of which 'seems to have been used for a relatively short period, since the clay and stones were not reddened to the same extent as those composing III [*sic*, read VI]' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 232).

The west side of the bath in Room VII was now rebuilt as a straight wall. Room X was converted into a hot bath (c. 3 x 1.1m; 1m deep at its west end and 0.5m deep at its east end) built of mortared stone and lined with *opus signinum*. A drain hole was located at the centre of its south side. A stone arch in the north wall of this room might have hosted a *testudo*, later entirely removed (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 232).

A hole filled with ash and charcoal found in Room II has been interpreted as evidence of 'squatter' occupation. It contained 'a globular pot with anthropomorphic applied decoration, a shallow dish with applied groove, and a narrow amphora neck'. A large cooking pot was found on the floor nearby.

**Decoration:** Painted wall plaster survives *in situ* in Rooms II, III, and IV and fragments came from many of the rooms and building debris. Two phases of painting have been identified in Room III, 'one of which covers the original drain exit' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 272). A 'motif of maroon squiggles on a yellow background' (*ibid.*) probably decorated Room II.

Seven fragments showed a black-on-white spotted decoration imitating marble. Eleven different colours were found: 'basic surfaces were cream (Rooms IV and V), a dirty white (Rooms III, the cold bath), white (Rooms II), maroon (Rooms II and V), yellow (Rooms II), and mauve superimposed on white and maroon' (*Ibid.*). Bands of yellow, rose, red, black, and blue were also recorded.

As noted above, a fountain or basin might have stood at the centre of *Frigidarium* II, and a slab of Purbeck stone paved the area in front of the cold plunge bath in Room III.

The site produced two clay statuettes, a head of 'a figurine of the DEA NUTRIX type, showing a goddess suckling an infant', and the base of 'a statuette of the so-called Pseudo-Venus type' (Jenkins 1988, 266).

**Water supply:** No sign of the source of water supply for the baths has been identified. The excavators suggest the presence of a reservoir 'in the immediate environs of the bathhouse' (Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 234).

**Material culture associated with bathing**



*Animal bones:* Together with several animal bones from the area surrounding the building, a partial skeleton of a puppy dog was discovered among the *pilae* of the hypocaust in Room I and a hornless cattle skull was found lying on the floor of Room IX (Harman 1988).

*Bone objects:* Six bone pins (Greep 1988).

*Glass:* Together with many fragments of bottles, flasks, jars, etc., two fragments from the bases of two *aryballoi* (first to third centuries CE) were found: ‘both blown, poor quality, thick, greenish-blue glass [...]’. Their ‘bodies [were] decorated with thin applied marvered spiral trails of the same metal# (Shepherd 1988, 254). A significant quantity of window glass (121 fragments), mainly of the matt/glossy type, have been found at the site (Shepherd 1988, 255).

*Jewellery:* a silver ring with an intaglio (a hound leaping from a nautilus shell), dating to the third century. Two other intaglios were found (Henig 1988).

*Leather:* Five incomplete or almost complete nailed shoes (Brodrribb & Cleere 1988, 263-265).

*Wood:* A wooden sole, almost complete, ‘carved from a single piece of alder’. Wooden soled shoes or *sculponeae* ‘were worn to raise the feet from the hot floor of the bathhouse’ (Brodrribb & Cleere 1988, 264-265).

*Other finds:* A chimney pot was found lying on the floor of Room II, and three fragments of a similar pot came from the filling of Room I (Brodrribb & Cleere 1988, 270). From the filling of the plunge bath in Room III came ‘a number of flat elliptical or round smooth pebbles, which may have been used for toilet purposes similar to the use of pumice as an abrasive’ (Brodrribb & Cleere 1988, 225).

**Key references:** Bird 2016, 287; Brodrribb & Cleere 1988; Gater 1998; Greep 1988; Harman 1988; Henig 1988; Jenkins 1988; Shepherd 1988; Wright & Hassall 1971, 289.

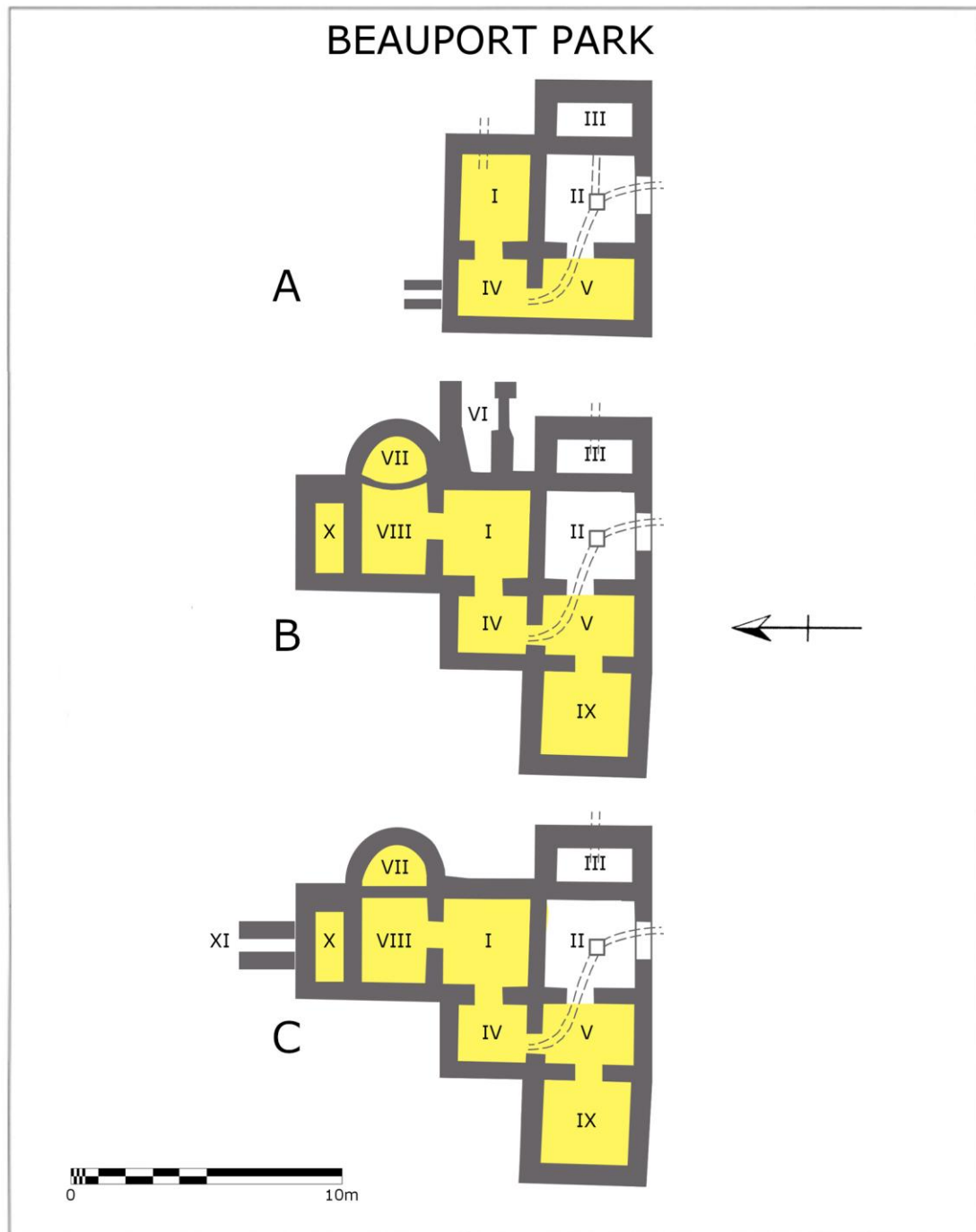


**Figure 116 A–C: the three main phases of the bathhouse at Beauport Park (East Sussex). The rooms with hypocaust are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Brodrigg & Cleere 1988, 235, Fig. 4.**

## BLACKLANDS SCHOOL FARM (Kent)

**Individual Site Number:** 217

**Location:** TQ 0375 6153

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site is in an area of intense Roman settlement and activity. It lies c. 2km to the east of the Roman villa at Faversham 1, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School (see Philp 1968), c. 540m northeast of a possible Roman building at Faversham, Ewell Farm (known only from the Historic Environmental Record), and c. 680m east of the villa at Faversham 2, Chambers Crossing (see Wilkinson 2013, 16, fig. 7).

Part of a Roman road, some 7 metres wide, was located to the east of the site (Wilkinson 2013, 11, 14–5). There is some evidence of early timber structures dating to the mid-first century, but the main construction phase started in c. 150 CE (Wilkinson 2013, 31). Ten buildings were identified, and three were excavated: a rural theatre, exceptional in Britain (Building 3, Wilkinson 2013, 42–8), and two bathhouses (Buildings 1 and 2–Wilkinson 2013, 30–42). The complex has been interpreted as a Roman sanctuary associated with the springs west of the site, which produced several votive offerings. Presently known site area: c. 90 x 80m.

**Site chronology:** Mid-first–fifth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was first mentioned by Edward Crow in his unpublished diaries of 1840 (Wilkinson 2013, 6). Field walking and surveying were carried out at the site in 1995–7 by the Kent Archaeological Field School. A small-scale excavation in 1996 identified part of Building 1 (Philp 1996b). Geophysical surveys in 1997 and 2007 revealed the real size of the site (Wilkinson 2013, Appendices 1 and 2). The site was subsequently partially excavated in 2007–8 by the Kent Archaeological Field School under the direction of P. Wilkinson.

**Baths:** Two second-century bathhouses (Buildings 1 and 2) have been identified. Building 1 was abandoned in c. 330 CE (Wilkinson 2013, 31), while Building 2 (rebuilt in c. 270–300) lasted until the mid-fourth century (Wilkinson 2013, 37).

*Building 1:* The building, constructed 'in Kentish rag-stone blocks and large nodules of flint set in a grey/cream lime mortar' (Wilkinson 2013, 30) during the second half of the second century CE, was only partially excavated. It measures 9.57m east to west and at least 8.10m south to north, with a boundary wall running to its east side, also dating to the second half of the second century (Wilkinson 2013, 30–1).

Between the bathhouse and the wall, two large stone platforms have been identified. The one to the south had 'a massive foundation' and 'may be a statue base' (Wilkinson 2013, 35). The one to the north 'was faced with Kentish ragstone blocks, which to the west were burnt by the intense heat of the furnace [of the baths] that was situated here' (ibid.).

The flue of this furnace (CRN 013) was 0.05m wide and was linked to two channelled hypocausts in Room A and B. Room B (at least 7.4 x 4.6m) had an apse on its west side (Room C, 3.4m wide and c. 5.4m max. depth), which might have hosted a cold or warm plunge bath (Wilkinson 2013, 36). Two other possible rooms (D and E) were located in 1996 (Philp 1996b). The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

In the late fifth century, a post-Roman timber building was erected on top of the bathhouse's remains (Wilkinson 2013, 33–4).

*Building 2:* Buildings 1 and 2 were built at the same time and with the same construction technique. Building 2 measured at least 15m east to west and over 15m north to south. It was rebuilt in c. 270–300 CE. Room 1 (possibly 2.50m wide) was a *caldarium* with a pillared hypocaust with *pilae* made of vertically placed box flue-tiles.

Its furnace room (CRN 081) was located to the south of Room 2. The latter has been interpreted as a *tepidarium* (c. 5 x 2.5m), but from the report, it is not clear if the furnace room predated it or if it is a later addition to this room (Wilkinson 2013, 40).

Room 3 had an *opus signinum* floor and has been identified as a *frigidarium* (5 x 4.4m). It was probably added to the complex during the rebuilding in c. 270–300 (Wilkinson 2013, 41). Room 4 had an apsidal plunge bath (c. 3m in length) at its north end. The numbering of the rooms follows Wilkinson's plan (2013, Fig. 5).

### **Decoration**

*Building 1:* 'Small marble multi-coloured tesserae, larger, tile-cut tessellated floor cubes, and painted plaster' were found before the excavation of the building in 1996. The hypocaust channels of Room A were then found 'filled with fragments of multi-coloured pictorial mosaics of the best quality and full colour pictorial painted plaster, some showing exquisite paintings of birds darting through foliage' (Wilkinson 2013, 12).

A fragment of very fine (c. 6 mm) red, pink, ochre, white, and dark grey tesserae formed part of a figure, possibly an eye (comment by Stephen Cosh, quoted in Wilkinson 2013, 33, caption to fig. 16; the fragment is illustrated at p. 36, fig. 18).

Fragments of mosaic floor and wall plaster were found in Room B during the 2007 excavations (Wilkinson 2013, 36). The colours of the wall plaster are mainly natural earth colours (light and dark red, purple, yellow, green, white, grey), 'with the addition of the synthetic, probably imported blue pigment Egyptian blue' (Morgan 2013).

*Building 2:* Room 1 'was infilled with large amounts of decorated plaster, box flue tile fragments and copious amounts of cube tiles from a destroyed floor of *opus tessellatum*' (Wilkinson 2013, 38). These cubes (3 x 3cm) were of different coloured tiles.

**Water supply:** No information available.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A fragmentary arm of a set of copper alloy tweezers and a spatula or unguent spoon came from two dump deposits (Trenches 4 and 2, respectively) (Riddler 2013).

**Key references:** Morgan 2013; Philp 1996b; Riddler 2013; Wilkinson 2013.

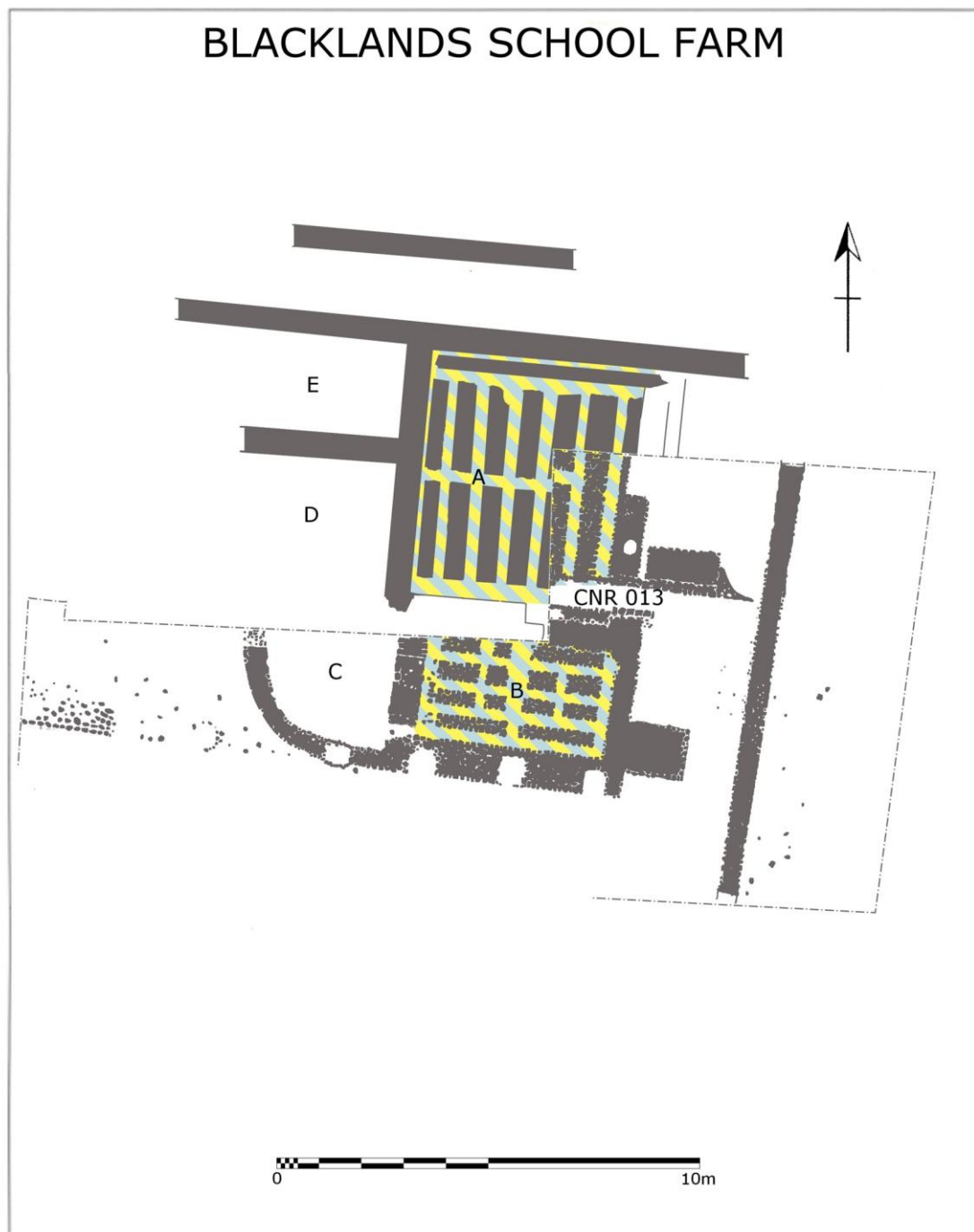


**Figure 117 Plan of Building 1 at Blacklands School Farm (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Wilkinson 2013, Fig. 7.**

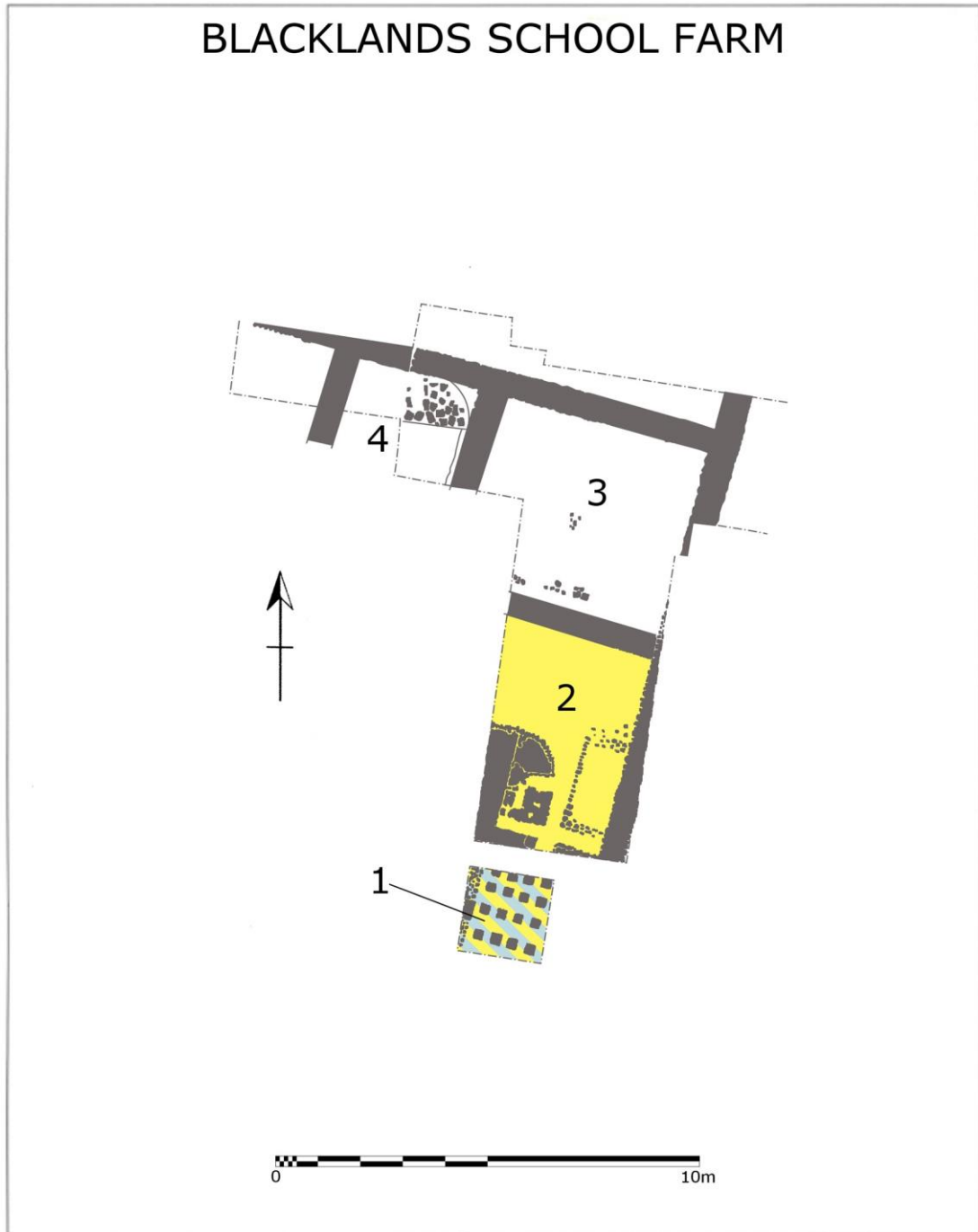


**Figure 118. Plan of Building 2 at Blacklands School Farm (Kent). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow. Image: author. After Wilkinson 2013, Fig. 7.**

LYDNEY PARK (Gloucestershire)

**Individual Site Number:** 218

**Location:** SO 61590 02674

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site occupies a high spur of land and lies c. 1.2km northwest of the villa at **Park Farm, Lydney**, and c. 4.3km to the northeast of the villa at **Chesters, Woolaston**. The earliest feature at the site was an Iron Age fort (Casey & Hoffman 1999, 82–4). Iron mining took place here, possibly starting in pre-Roman times (Casey & Hoffman 1999, 113). Two decorative relief carvings, found near the site and dating to the late second/third centuries, might indicate the presence of an earlier building (Blagg 1983).

The temple complex includes four main buildings, probably built in the second half of the third century CE. The temple, dedicated to the Mars Nodens, was probably the first structure to be erected. It was followed by a long narrow building (the Long Building or ‘Abaton’), the so-called Guest House, and a large bathhouse (Casey & Hoffman 1999, 114). Mars Nodens has been traditionally interpreted as a healing god, but Cousins (2020, 45) recently questioned the healing aspect of this site.

The site was refurbished in the mid-fourth century (post-364 CE, according to Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, but see Casey & Hoffman 1999, 115) when mosaics were laid in all the buildings and the ‘Abaton’ was enlarged. An inscription from the temple’s *cella* indicates that Titus Flavius Senilis, with the assistance of Victorinus, interpreter of dreams, commissioned the laying of at least one of these mosaics, which were financed from offerings (Wright 1985; Cosh & Neal 2010, 173, 181–2).

While Casey and Hoffman (1999, 115) propose a limited presence at the site in the late fourth century due to the low number of coins in comparison to other sanctuaries, Cosh and Neal (2010, 173) note that ‘several of the mosaics show evidence of repair, suggesting much wear over a long period’. Site area: c. 180 x 120m.

**Temple chronology:** second half of the third–late fourth (?) centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** The site was known since the eighteenth century (Anonymous 1775; Rooke 1779). The first large-scale excavations took place in 1805 under the direction of Ch. Bathurst (1879). The site was re-excavated in 1928–29 by R. E. M. and T. V. Wheeler (1932). Maintenance works at the site in 1958 revealed an iron mine under the southern part of the bathhouse (Scott-Garrett 1959). Small-scale investigations were carried out in 1980–1 (Casey & Hoffman 1999).

**Baths:** The massive bathhouse (40m long, with 15 rooms) was located north of the main temple and might have been used by the pilgrims housed in the so-called Guest House. Wheeler and Wheeler (1932, 57) suggest that bathing in this building might have been associated with healing (*contra* Cousins 2020, 45). The numbering of the rooms follows Wheeler and Wheeler’s plan (1932, Plate LI).

The baths were entered via a corridor (unnumbered) leading into a small lobby (Room XXXIII, c. 5 x 4.3m) with a floor of oblong stone slabs. From here, the bather entered a long ante-room (Room XXXII, c. 21.2 x 7.2m) with a similar pavement and a stone bench around its walls. Alternatively, this might have been a pool (Cosh & Neal 2010, 177).

Room XXXIV (c. 5 x 3.1m) ‘was at a slightly lower level and may have been connected with the service of the adjacent furnace’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 52), Room XXXVI. Room XXXV (c. 8.9 x 3.7m) was probably a *frigidarium*. According to the excavators,



‘southward from room XXXV, the building falls functionally into two or possibly three parts, which include the main system and one or perhaps two subsidiary systems’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 52–3).

The ‘main’ system was structured as follows: Room XXXVIII was a small *frigidarium* (c. 4.3 x 3.7m) with a cold bath with two apses in Room XLIV (c. 9m [max] x 4m). There were also two *tepidaria* (XLII, c. 6.2 x 5.7m; XLIIa, c. 6.2 x 5.2m) and a double-apsidal *caldarium* (XLIII, c. 8.60m [max] x 4m).

The latter had a rectangular compartment to the south, possibly to host a water tank. Maintenance works in 1958 revealed a hole between Rooms XLIIa and XLIII, identified as part of an iron mine. The hole contained much material from the baths, including flues featuring several ‘feathery carbon flakes’ (from coal combustion?). Two iron hypocaust-flue wall ties were also found. They measured ‘15cm at the clap ends but with the spikes broken or rusted off’ (Scott-Garrett 1959, 87).

Room XLV was a furnace room (c. 5.7 x 4.2m) with ‘massive stone cheeks, much disintegrated through the effects of fire and exposure’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 53). Three steps have been found to the south of this room, which was seemingly equipped with a stone bench.

A small channel was located under the furnace, interpreted by the excavators as a ‘channel to convey a current of fresh air into the *caldarium* itself’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 53). This feature is probably better understood as an element inserted to collect condensation and rising dampness from the hypocaust itself (Younge 1960, 71–5).

From Room XLII, the bather could enter a small apsidal room (XLI, c. 3.8m (max) x 2.4m) with a brick-pillared hypocaust. Wheeler and Wheeler (1932, 54) interpreted it as a *sudatorium*. Room XL (c. 4.8 x 3.5m [max]) was also hypocausted and was heated from a stone-cheeked furnace room in Room XXXIX (c. 4.1 x 3m).

Room XXXVII (c. 5.5 x 4.3m) had a herring-bone channelled hypocaust, ‘formed of oblong blocks of yellow cement’ (ibid.). The latter was probably initially intended to be heated via two flues that linked it with the one in Room XLI, but these were blocked, and another furnace room (XXXVI) was opened instead on its eastern side. A latrine (LXVI, c. 8.8 x 3.7m) was located on the northwest corner of the building.

At a later stage (mid-fourth century?), a precinct wall was built around the eastern corridor and along part of the western side of the building. A short wall was also added between the southeastern corner of Room XLIII and the rear wall of the Long Building. The original entrance to Room XXXIX was blocked. Two of the three flues between Rooms XLII and XLIIa were also blocked (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 55).

## **Decoration**

**Mosaics:** Evidence for mosaic floors has been found in Rooms XXXV, XXXVII, XXXVIII, XLI, and XLIII. Room XXXV was initially floored in *opus signinum*, later substituted by a rectangular mosaic with a pattern of running peltae in blue, red, cream and blue-grey (Cosh & Neal 2010, 177). The eastern two-thirds of this floor was later repaired with flagstones (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 56).

Large sandstone tesserae and small blue and white tesserae were recovered in Room XXXVIII. The floor showed signs of heavy wear, and ‘some of the breakages had been patched anciently with rough cement’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 56). A hoard was found under the cement repair in Room XXXVIII, where it was probably deposited in c. 353–364 CE (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 116–31; Casey & Hoffman 1999, 101–3). The apse



in Room XLI was decorated with a geometric motif and a *cantharus* at its centre (Cosh & Neal 2010, 178).

*Wall painting:* The external walls of the bathhouse were ‘rendered in cement with a deep crimson surface’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 55). Traces of red and yellow bands or panels have been recorded in Room XXXVIII. The walls in this room had ‘been keyed in Roman times to take a second coating of cement or plaster of which no actual traces remained’ (ibid.).

A stone statuette, identified with the goddess Fortuna, was found at the site during the nineteenth-century excavations (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 68, Plate XXIV). Its provenience is uncertain. Considering that these sculptures are often associated with baths where nudity made men vulnerable to chance (Henig 1982), it might have decorated one of the rooms of the bathhouse.

**Water supply:** A square stone tank (c. 5.84m<sup>2</sup>) was found some 32m northeast of the baths. It supplied water to these facilities via a conduit that contained wooden pipes with iron pipe junctions.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** A ‘bronze nail-cleaner decorated on the blade with incised concentric circles’ (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 84, Fig. 19, No. 83) was found in the filling of the bathhouse. A ‘bronze chain threaded with beads of white, blue, black, and green glass’ came from a ‘stratum which accumulated outside’ the furnace in Room XXXIX (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 87, Fig. 20, No. 104). The bathhouse produced also the fragmentary base of a bronze jug (Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, 87, Fig. 21, No. 112).

**Key references:** Anonymous 1775; Bathurst 1879; Blagg 1983; Casey & Hoffman 1999; Cosh & Neal 2010, 173–82; Lewis 1966, 88–92; Rooke 1779; Scott-Garrett 1959; Wheeler & Wheeler 1932; Wright 1985.



**Figure 119. Plan of the bathhouse at Lydney Park (Glos.). The rooms with hypocausts are highlighted in yellow, and those with mosaics in blue. The blue-and-yellow stripe pattern indicates rooms with hypocaust and mosaics. Later additions are in darker grey. Image: author. After Wheeler & Wheeler 1932, Plate LI.**

## SPRINGHEAD (Kent)

**Individual Site Number:** 219

**Location:** TQ 617 724

**Typology and extent of the site:** The site, identified with the Roman *Vagniacae* (recorded in the Antonine Itinerary in the dative, *Vagniacis*), lies c. 300m to the northwest of a walled cemetery (Davies 2001), c. 2km south of the villa at **Northfleet**, and 13km west of Rochester. It was a large religious complex and a settlement along Watling Street. A sanctuary, developed in the Late Iron Age around a large pool formed by the springs at the head of the Ebbsfleet River, was then monumentalised in the mid-second century CE, when a temple (seemingly abandoned in the early third century), a portico structure of uncertain function, and other features were built (Andrews *et al.* 2011, 60–83, 197–9).

The settlement was established in the mid-first century and reached its peak in the second century CE. A substantial temple complex was built at the heart of the settlement. Considering that it was located 80m south of the spring, it is possible that ‘its position in relation to traffic upon Watling Street’ might have been ‘of greater importance than immediate proximity to the springs’ (Andrews *et al.* 2011, 209).

The third century saw a contraction of both the religious and civilian elements of the site, with the resident population ‘eventually reduced to little more than that of a dispersed rural settlement’ (Andrews *et al.* 2011, 211). The main temples were left to decay from the mid-fourth century. However, ‘it appears likely that, despite the ruinous state of the buildings, some devotional practices continued right through the 4<sup>th</sup> century and perhaps beyond’ (*ibid.*).

The site had a strong association with healing, and Mars has been identified as one of the main deities worshipped here (Andrews *et al.* 2011, 212). A small bathhouse (Building B.8) was found at the end of a path leading east from Watling Street (Penn 1968, 171–6), and another set of baths (in Property 1), possibly associated with a *mansio*, was recently identified to the northwest of the springs, in the northwestern part of the settlement (Andrews *et al.* 2011, 89–93, 204). Site area: c. 900 x 600m.

**Site chronology:** Mid-first–fourth centuries CE.

**Excavation history:** B. S. Penn extensively explored the site between the 1950s and the 1980s. The area to the east and west of the springs has recently been re-excavated as part of the High Speed 1 archaeological project.

### Baths

*Building B.8:* This building was found at the end of a path leading east from Watling Street. Penn (1968, 171–6) reports that the building was built with flint walls reinforced with brick in the Hadrianic-Antonine period and abandoned in the late third century. Detsicas (1983, 64) suggests instead that it was erected in c. 150 CE and was in ruin by c. 350 CE. The numbering of the rooms follows Penn’s plan (1968, 175, Fig. 5).

The bathhouse was formed of four rooms: Room 1 (c. 2.48 x 2.34m); Room 2 (c. 2.48 x 1.68m); Room 3 (a later addition, c. 1.69 x 1.17m); and Room 4 (c. 2.46 x 1.04m). The hypocaust of these facilities was never used (the furnace room was not found). However, the fact that baths were linked to Watling Street via a path and that they were enlarged at a later stage suggests that they were ‘in use for a time even without heating’ (Penn 1968, 171).

Detsicas (1983, 64) disagrees, claiming that Room 3 might have been added immediately after the completion of the other rooms. He notes that Plat VI in Penn's report (1968) 'shows this area as a hollow, presumably after the chalk had been stripped, and it seems at least possible that a stoke-hole may have been at best all that was intended for the heating of such a small bathhouse' (ibid.).

When the bath went out of use (late third century/early fourth century?), three children were buried inside the building and one outside (Penn 1968, 172). Probably during the fourth century, a chalk floor was inserted in Rooms 2, 3, and 4, and the structure was seemingly reoccupied (Penn 1968, 172–6).

*Baths in Property 1:* The dating evidence for these facilities is meagre, and their identification with a set of baths is uncertain. Andrews *et al.* (2011, 91) suggest a second-century date for its construction. Two rooms were identified: Room 1 (3.75 x at least 3m), with a tile floor, and Room 2 (3.75m x at least 2.5m), which had an apse to its northern side. There was probably a third room, perhaps a corridor, south of them (ibid.). A possibly semi-circular wall was found to the northwest of Room 1, and a later wall was butted at right angles to the northern wall of this room. The author has provided the numbering of the rooms.

### **Decoration**

*Building B.8:* 2.5cm-square tesserae came from this building, suggesting a mosaic or tessellated floor. Penn (1968, 171) also recorded fragments of plain-coloured wall plaster.

*Baths in Property 1:* No information available.

**Water supply:** Both buildings were very close to the springs at the head of the Ebbsfleet River and were almost certainly supplied by them.

**Material culture associated with bathing:** No information available.

**Key references:** Andrews *et al.* 2011, 13–134, 189–213; Davies 2001; Detsicas 1983, 60–76; Lewis 1966, 20, 76–7, 92–3; Penn 1957; 1958; 1959; 1960; 1962; 1964; 1965; 1967; 1968; Wheeler 1932, 90–3.

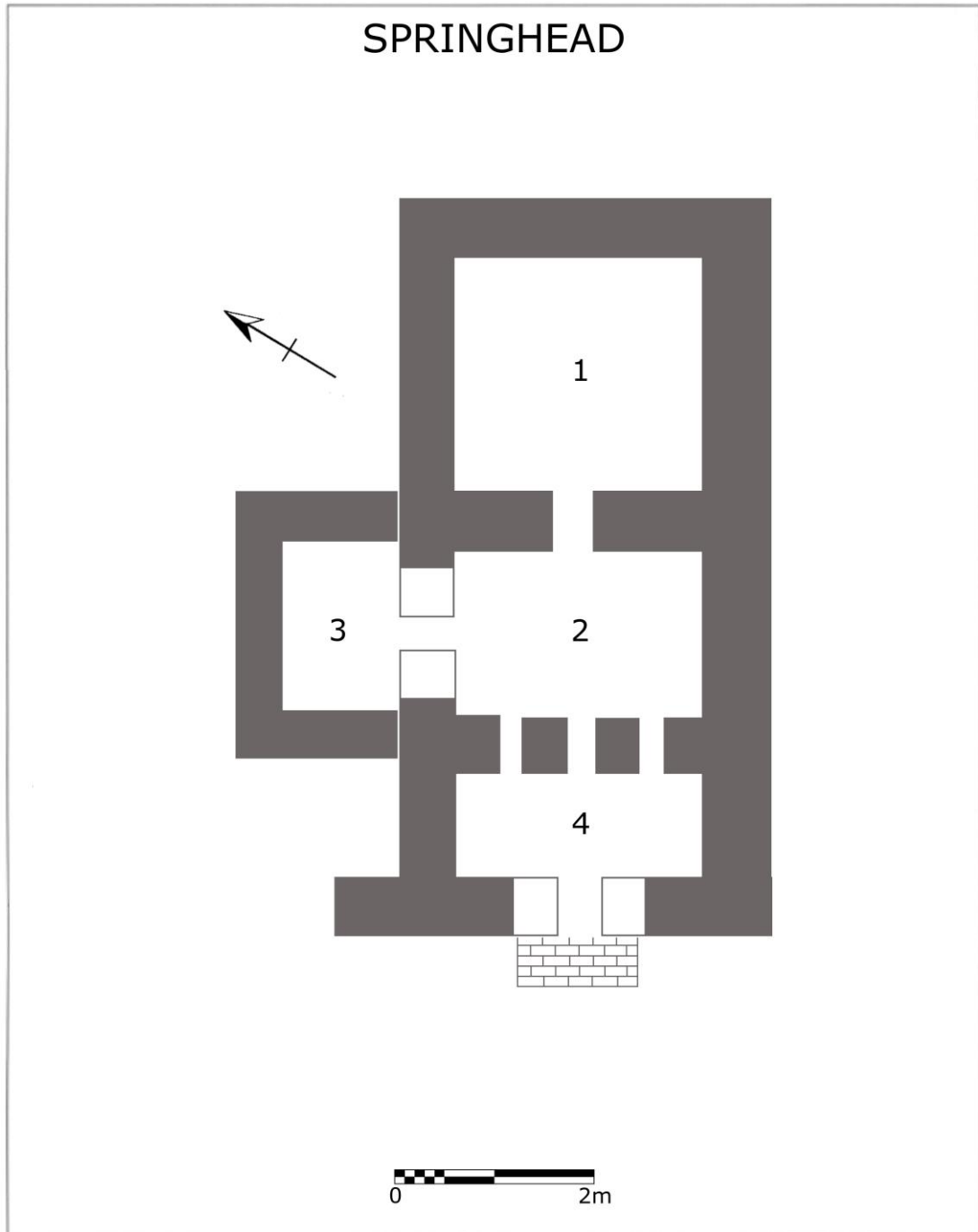


**Figure 120** Plan of Building B.8 at Springhead (Kent). Image: author. After Penn 1968, 175, Fig. 5.

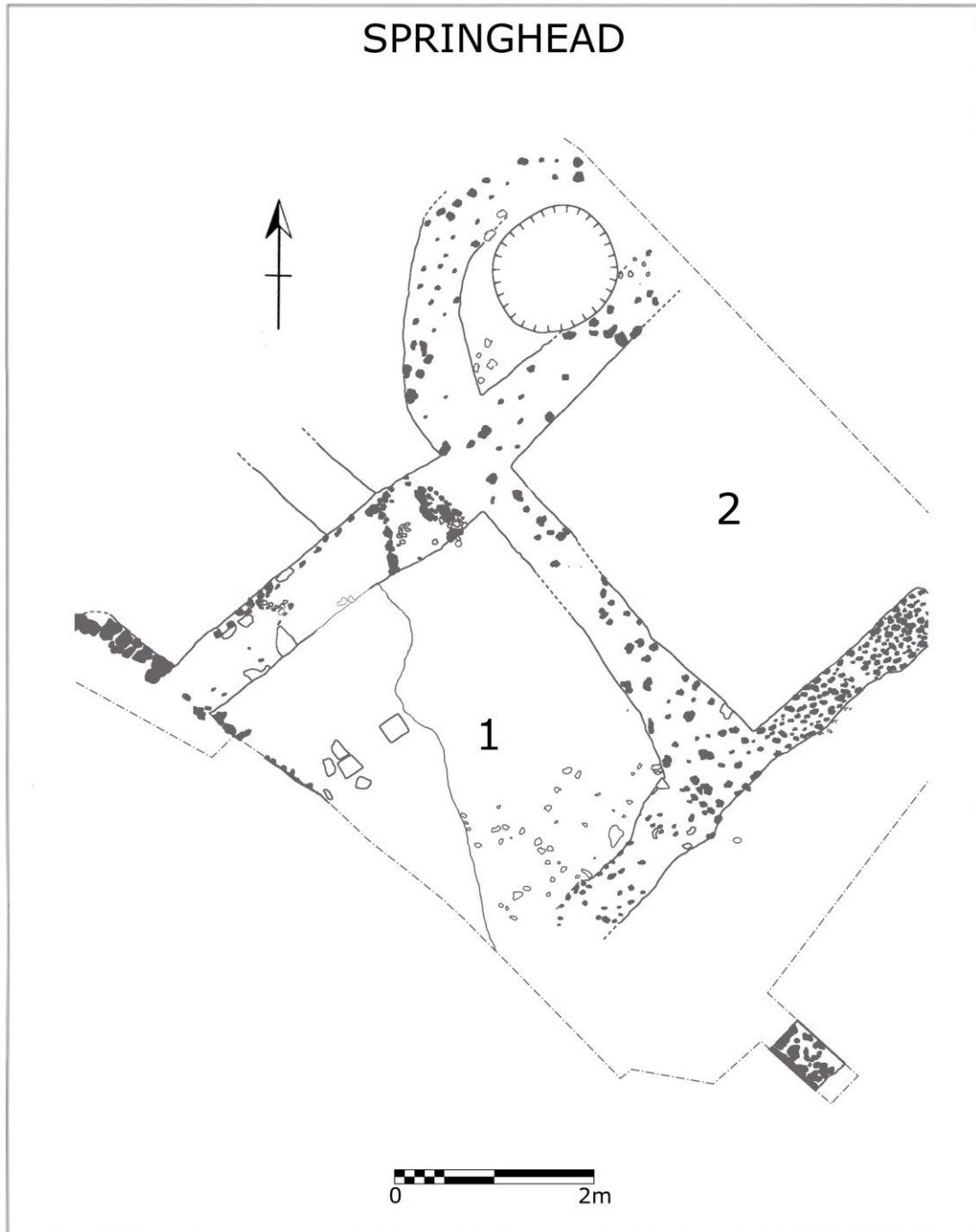


**Figure 121. Plan of the baths in Property 1 at Springhead (Kent). Image: author. After Andrews *et al.* 2011, 91, Fig. 2.64.**



## Appendix 1. List of Rural Sites

This appendix lists the sites (organised by county) included in the maps of Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and Gloucestershire (Maps 1, 2, 3, and 4).

### Kent and London Borough of Bromley

#### *1.1.1 Villas and possible villas (100 sites)*

- 214 Abbey Barns, Faversham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 1 Abbey Farm, Minster-in-Thanel (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 4 Aldington 1
- 5 Aldington 2
- 6 Allens Farm (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 7 Allington
- 12 Ash-Cum-Ridley (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 19 Barming 1, Maidstone
- 20 Barming 2, Maidstone
- 231 Barming, Fant Lane
- 24 Baston Manor, Hayes (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 26 Bax Farm, Teynham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 28 Bedens Field, Foot's Cray (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 230 Bilting
- 242 Blean
- 36 Boughton Monchelsea (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 227 Bourne Park, Bishopsbourne (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)



- 37 Bower Lane, Maidstone (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 229 Boxley
- 38 Boxted Farm
- 237 Britton Farm, Ickham
- 246 Brooksend Farm
- 42 Buckland Farm
- 43 Burham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 44 Chalk, Gravesend (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 45 Charing
- 46 Chart Sutton, Maidstone
- 56 Church Field, Otford
- 57 Church Ure Field
- 58 Clapgate Spring
- 63 Cobham Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 64 Coldharbour Fleet
- 70 Darenth (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 71 Deerton Street, Teynham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 226 Downlands, Walmer
- 73 Drapers Mill School, Margate
- 82 East Hill, Darenth
- 83 East Malling
- 85 Eccles (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 87 Elverton Lane, Luddenham

- 88 Eynsford
- 89 Farningham 1 (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 90 Farningham 2, Manor House (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 91 Farningham 3, Franks
- 92 Farningham, The Folly
- 93 Faversham 1, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School
- 94 Faversham 2, Chambers Crossing
- 95 Faversham, Ewell Farm
- 98 Folkestone, East Cliff (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 99 Folkestone, Warren Road (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 100 Fordcroft, Orpington, Poverest Road (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 101 Frindsbury Extra
- 110 Harp Wood, Saltwood
- 233 Harrietsham
- 111 Hartlip (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 114 Highstead, Chislet (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 115 High Street, Dartford
- 117 Horton Kirby
- 120 Hull Place, Sholden
- 124 Kemsing (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 125 Keston (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 235 Lenham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 136 Little Buckland

- 137 Little Chart (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 232 Littles Manor Farm, Sheldwich (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 138 Loose Road, Maidstone (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 140 Luddenham Court (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 141 Lullingstone (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 142 Lyminge (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 143 Mere Court
- 146 Northfleet (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 148 Orpington (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 150 Otterham Quay
- 241 Otterpool Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 149 Progress Otford
- 156 Richborough Castle (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 158 Rodmersham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 163 Sandwich
- 162 Sandy Lane, St. Paul's Cray (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 164 Sedgebrook, Plaxtol (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 165 Shoreham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 236 Shorne
- 169 Sittingbourne
- 171 Slayhills Marsh
- 234 Snagbrook Farm, Hollingbourne
- 173 Snodland (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

- 247 St. Nicholas Court Farm
- 182 Stone Chapel, Faversham
- 183 Sutton Baron Manor House, Borden (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 184 Swarling Manor Farm
- 185 Tenter's Hill Field, Dartford
- 186 Teston (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 188 The Mount, Maidstone (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 189 Thurnham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 191 Tivoli Park Avenue, Margate (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 228 Trosley Court (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 205 Wilmington
- 206 Wingham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 245 Woodchurch
- 211 Wye (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

**1.1.2 Non-villa rural sites with baths (2 sites)**

- 217 Blacklands School Farm (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 219 Springhead (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

## **Surrey**

**1.1.3 Villas and possible villas (19 sites)**

- 3 Abinger (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 14 Ashted Common (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 16 Bakenham House, Egham

- 31 Binscombe
- 33 Bletchingley (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 39 Broad Street Common, Worplesdon (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 47 Chatley Farm, Cobham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 49 Chelsham Court Farm (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 53 Chiddingfold (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 66 Compton (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 79 Earlswood Common
- 239 Fetcham, Leatherhead (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 155 Rapsley, Ewhurst (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 161 Sandilands Road, Walton-On-The-Hill (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 170 Six Bells, Farnham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 174 South Farm, Lightwater
- 190 Titsey (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 197 Walton Heath (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 212 Wyphurst Road, Cranleigh

## **East Sussex**

### ***1.1.4 Villas and possible villas (14 sites)***

- 9 Arlington
- 17 Barcombe Church Field (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 18 Barcombe Dunstall's Field (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 27 Beddingham (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

- 80 Eastbourne (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 243 Firle
- 104 Garden Hill, Hartfield (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 244 Mark Cross, Laughton
- 144 Newhaven 1
- 145 Newhaven 2
- 152 Plumpton (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 225 Ranscombe Hill, South Malling (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 178 Springfield Road, Brighton
- 199 West Blatchington

#### **1.1.5 Non-villa rural sites with baths (1 sites)**

- 216 Beauport Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

### **West Sussex**

#### **1.1.6 Villas and possible villas (36 sites)**

- 8 Angmering (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 10 Arundel Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 11 Arundel, Tarrant Street (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 13 Ashington
- 25 Batten Hanger (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 30 Bignor (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 32 Blacksmith's Corner, Walberton (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 34 Borough Farm, Pulborough (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

|     |                                                             |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 52  | Chichester Harbour, Fishbourne                              |
| 54  | Chilgrove 1 (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )          |
| 55  | Chilgrove 2 (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )          |
| 59  | Clayton, Hassocks (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )    |
| 76  | Duncton (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )              |
| 81  | Eastergate                                                  |
| 86  | Elstead (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )              |
| 96  | Findon                                                      |
| 97  | Fishbourne (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )           |
| 105 | Goring (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )               |
| 113 | Highdown, Angmering (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )  |
| 116 | Homestreet Farm, Pulborough                                 |
| 121 | Hurstpierpoint                                              |
| 127 | Lamb Lea, East Dean                                         |
| 132 | Lickfold, Wiggonholt (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> ) |
| 135 | Littlehampton                                               |
| 147 | Nutbourne                                                   |
| 153 | Pulborough                                                  |
| 160 | Roundstone Lane, Angmering                                  |
| 166 | Shoreham By Sea                                             |
| 167 | Sidlesham (see <i>Gazetteer of Rural Baths</i> )            |
| 168 | Singleton                                                   |
| 172 | Slindon Park                                                |

- 175 Southwick (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 194 Upmarden (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 198 Watergate Hanger, West Marden
- 200 West Dean Park
- 201 Whitehouse Farm, Broyle Road, Chichester

**1.1.7 Non-villa rural sites with baths (1 sites)**

- 215 Alfoldean (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

## **Gloucestershire**

**1.1.8 Villas and possible villas (76 sites)**

- 2 Abbotswood, Swell
- 15 Badminton (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 222 Bagendon House
- 21 Barnsley Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 22 Barrington Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 23 Barton Farm, Cirencester
- 29 Bibury (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 251 Black Grove
- 35 Boughspring (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 40 Broadwell
- 41 Brookthorpe
- 48 Chedworth (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 50 Cherington



- 51      Chesters, Woolaston (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 60      Clearcupboard, Farmington (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 61      Clearwell Farm
- 62      Coberley (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 249     Coldharbour Farm, Wick
- 65      Combend
- 67      Compton Grove
- 68      Cowley
- 69      Cromhall (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 248     Dings, Stoke Gifford (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 220     Doynton (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 74      Driffield
- 75      Dryhill, Badgeworth (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 77      Duntisbourne Abbots
- 78      Dursley
- 84      Ebrington (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 102     Frocester Court (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 103     Frocester, St Peters Church
- 106     Great Lemhill Farm
- 107     Great Rissington
- 108     Great Witcombe (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 221     Hanging Hill
- 109     Harescombe

- 118 Hucclecote (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 119 Hucclecote, Trevor Road (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 122 Ifold, Painswick (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 123 Ironmongers Piece (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 126 King's Stanley
- 223 Kingscote
- 128 Lansdown, Bourton-On-The-Water
- 129 Lechlade (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 130 Lechlade, Roughground Farm (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 131 Lias Clay, Great Witcombe
- 133 Lillyhorn, Bournes Green (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 134 Listercombe Bottom, Chedworth (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 139 Lower Woods, Hawkesbury (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 238 Lyde Green, Emersons Green (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 250 Millfields, Cam (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 151 Park Farm, Lydney (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 154 Quedgeley
- 157 Rodmarton (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 159 Rook Pool Piece, Swell
- 240 Slimbridge (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 176 Spoonley Wood, Sudeley (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 177 Springfield Farm, Horton
- 179 Spring Wood, Hazleton

- 180 Stancombe Park 1
- 181 Stancombe Park 2
- 187 Tetbury Upton
- 72 The Ditches
- 192 Tockington Park Farm (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 193 Turkdean (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 195 Wadfield, Sudeley (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 196 Waltham Field
- 202 Whittington Court (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 203 Whittington Wood
- 204 Willington Court
- 207 Withington Manor Court Field (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 208 Withington Woods (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 209 Woodchester (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 224 Wormington Farm
- 210 Wortley, Wotton-Under-Edge (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)
- 213 Yanworth

**1.1.9 Non-villa rural sites with baths (1 sites)**

- 218 Lydney Park (see *Gazetteer of Rural Baths*)

## Bibliography

### Abbreviations:

CIL = Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum

Mosaic = Journal of the Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics

RCHME = Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England)

RIB = Roman Inscriptions of Britain

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