

2 STRUCTURES

2.1 Building 1

Catalogue of structures

The north wing

F958 Tr 1 B543092-B575078 Foundation trench for F927

Rel: b. (537); c. (565); same as F1032

Length: 3.8 m Width: 0.86 m Depth: ~

Linear trench with sloping north edge and flat base.

On the base was a level footing constructed of rammed chalk and broken flints 100–150 mm. Over this had been laid a bed of pale yellowish brown mortar as a base for F927.

Fill: (548) was packed against the side of the wall foundation along the north side of the trench. It was a dark yellowish brown compact clayey soil containing abundant subangular chalk up to 80 mm and a moderate density of broken flint nodules, some squared, up to 150 mm and angular flints 40–60 mm and a scatter of mortar fragments.

F930 Tr 1 B547082-B575075 Robber trench

Rel: b. (488), (546), (539), (655); c. (565), (548), F927

Length: 3.8 m Width: 1.3 m Depth: 0.35 m

Area of robbing running along the top of wall F927, varying in width and depth.

Fill: (539) Dark brown clayey soil with grey mottles contained an uneven scatter of broken flints, flint blocks, fragments of mortar, limestone slab, clay tile and subangular chalk fragments.

Samples: 3753 plaster

F927 Tr 1 B542086-B536075 Wall

Rel: b. (488), (537), (655); c.b. F926, F930; within F958/F1032; a. Nat.?

Length: 10 m Width: 0.75 m (W)–0.86 m (E) Height: 0.37 m

The north wall of the villa was constructed of flint nodules 80–280 mm, roughly shaped, set in mortar. Where the face has been exposed the flints appear to be set at a diagonal. The core is formed of flints up to 160 mm set in a matrix of light brownish yellow clayey mortar mixed with small chalk and flint gravel. In places there is a whitish and very hard mortar: this is most apparent over the top surviving course and may only have been used at the ground surface and possibly above. The wall had been robbed out to the level of the foundations.

F1023 Tr 6 B516036-B539082 Wall (W): W corridor

Rel: b. 640; c.b. F930; eq. F1018

Length: 6.0 m Width: foundation – 0.7–0.75 m, wall – 0.52 m

Height: foundation – 0.25 m, wall – 0.4 m

Two foundation courses were constructed of flint nodules 80–160 mm a few with shaped faces, set at a diagonal, overlapping and interlocking. The blocks were set in a soft yellowish cream chalky mortar mixed with chalk grit and angular flint gravel 5–20 mm. The foundation projects on the west side forming an offset 130 mm wide.

The wall itself survives best on the west side, the east face having collapsed in or been robbed. The lowest course was formed of smaller blocks c.60 mm high and 70–160 mm long. The two courses above were composed of larger flints 100–200 mm long, up to 280 mm wide

and 100–150 mm high. Nearly all have flat knapped surfaces exposed for the wall face. The wall core was made of unshaped flint nodules and occasional chalk blocks. The stones were set in a very hard cream mortar containing small chalk and flint. In places it can be seen that a layer of mortar was spread over the stone course and smoothed at the top in readiness for the next stone course.

F1024 Tr 6 B532054-B547046 Wall: internal in W corridor
Rels: b. 640

Length: 2.0 m Width: 0.85 m Depth: 0.05–0.2 m

This wall was made up of two separate sections projecting from either side into the west corridor to cut off the end of the corridor as a separate room or ante-chamber. On the west side it had been almost entirely robbed out leaving a faint outline in the mortar measuring 0.76 m wide and projecting 0.38 m. On the east side the projecting wall measured the same, but was slightly better preserved. The lowest course was constructed of small angular flint nodules 80–120 mm set in soft light yellowish brown clayey mortar mixed with flint gravel and pebbles. On the upper flat surface of this mortar skim there survived a few large flint nodules c.150 mm covered by a harder whitish brown chalky mortar mixed with fine flint gravel and pebbles.

F1025 Tr 6 B565070-B552046 Wall (E): W corridor
Rels: b. 655, abutted by 640; c.b. F930

Length: 3.6 m Width: 0.7 m Depth: 0.2 m

This wall was constructed integrally with F927, F1024, F1026 and F1027. The lowest level visible of this wall was a layer of creamish yellow mortar with chalk grit in which survived a series of flat impressions, probably made from limestone slabs set in it. The end of one of these slabs was visible, where the robbing ended. The slabs apparently ran along both wall faces leaving the core of the foundation to be infilled with tightly packed chalk blocks 100–150 mm. This however may be construction for a doorsill between the corridor and room 1 as the chalk core extends for a limited distance of 1.2 m and the chalk core does not appear to continue in the unrobbed section of wall continuing to the south. Where the wall survives above foundation level it was composed of large flint nodules 80–200 mm long by 120–180 mm wide by 50–100 mm high with either flat or knapped surfaces selected for the wall faces. The core was infilled with unshaped nodules and some chalk blocks 100–200 mm. All the stones were set in a light yellowish brown mortar mixed with flint gravel, the upper surface between courses being smoothed flat.

F1026 Tr 6 B549036 Wall (E): W corridor
Rels: b. 655; eq. F1019

Length: 0.8 m Width: 0.68 m Depth: 0.33 m

Only a small section of this wall was exposed projecting into the excavation. In the W face two courses of flints were visible. These measured 80–150 mm long by 70–100 mm high and generally had shaped or flat surfaces exposed. On the E side the face was obscured by infill, but a number of large roughly rectangular chalk blocks c.150 mm appear to have formed part of the wall face. The upper exposed surface was covered with a layer of mortar, obscuring the wall core.

F1027 Tr 6 B563037 Wall: internal Rms 1/2
Rels: b. 717

Length: 2.6 m Width: 0.72 m Depth: 0.25 m

This wall aligned E–W formed an internal dividing wall between rooms 1 and 2. Very little

of the wall was visible at the edge of the excavation. The lowest course visible was a layer of flat tabular limestone slabs up to 180 mm long and 20 mm thick. They had been interrupted about 0.6 m from the west end by flint nodules and chalk blocks. These were overlaid by light yellowish brown mortar mixed with small chalk and flints over which were the remnants of a course of flint nodules 80–170 mm long by *c.*200 mm wide. The core was composed of irregular flint nodules and chalk blocks 90–130 mm. A single square cut chalk block 160 mm forming part of the next course survived at the west end.

F1028 Tr 6 B640056 Wall (W) of NE wing Rm 7
Rels: b. 652?; c.b. F996, F1051; within F1033; butted by F1030, 552, 654
Length: 3.1 m Width: 1.0 m Depth: 0.42 m

Aligned N–S this formed the west wall of the NE wing, constructed close against the side of foundation trench F1033. Three courses of flint walling survived with the lowest course off set slightly. This base course was constructed with few very long flints 200–370 mm; in the overlying courses the flints measured 80–180 mm long by 150–200 mm wide by 80–100 mm high. The facing blocks had frequently been shaped or selected to present a flat face and all were laid flat. They were set in hard concreted pale yellowish brown gritty mortar mixed with small chalk and flint gravel and grit. Little of the wall core was visible, but included rounded chalk blocks and occasional broken clay tile as well as flints. The exposed upper surface was predominantly a layer of mortar between stone courses.

F1029 Tr 6 B655063 Wall (N) of NE wing Rm 7
Rels: b. 652; within F1033
Length: 2.2 m Width: 0.86; 0.9 m Depth: 0.16–0.45 m

This wall was bonded with F1028. The internal face stood two courses high with a further two courses surviving intermittently along the outer face. The lowest course projected forward by 40 mm. The wall was constructed of shaped flint nodules measuring 80–200 mm long by 100–210 mm wide by *c.*80 mm high. Blocks used for the outer face close to the NW corner were rather larger being up to 250 mm wide. All blocks were laid flat set in a light yellowish brown mortar mixed with chalk grit and small flint gravel. The wall core was composed of closely spaced flint nodules 100–180 mm. A soft clayey mortar had been used for the core of the lowest courses but with the hard concreted mortar used for the facing blocks and laid as a skim over the top of the second course.

F1030 Tr 6 B636033 Wall: internal of NE wing Rm 7/8
Rels: b. 652; abuts F1028
Length: >0.6 m Width: >0.3 m Depth: 0.53 m

Only a small area of the N face of this wall was exposed. It clearly butts up against wall F1028 and was presumably inset as an internal dividing wall in a secondary phase in the construction of the NE wing. Four courses of flints survived with blocks of the lowest three all being laid flat, but those of the uppermost course laid overlapping at a diagonal. Most of the flints were large 150–240 mm frequently with shaped flat surfaces selected for the wall face. One had been deliberately selected so its shape fitted neatly over the foundation offset of F1028. The flints were set in a fairly hard pale greyish brown chalky mortar.

F1031 Tr 6 B542077-B559068 Slot
Rels: b. 698; c. 691, 708
Length: 2.02 m Width: 0.22–0.24 m Depth: 0.07 m

This straight linear slot with curving bowl-shaped profile appeared to cut through the tessellated pavement at the north end of the west corridor 0.55 m from the end wall. It

possibly represents the setting for some internal feature, such as a bench or cupboard, that was subsequently removed and the slot refilled with floor debris and roughly surfaced with broken tile and roof slates.

Fill: (4) Over the base and curving up the sides was a greyish brown silty clay soil with mottles of cream mortar and containing angular flints, gravel and rounded pebbles 10–50 mm, rare charcoal fragments and some white tesserae. This was overlain by crushed and degraded pink mortar (3) made with a high density of crushed clay tile and flecked with rounded chalk grit. The slot was levelled by a layer (2) consisting mainly of crushed tile and tile chippings in a grey clayey soil containing occasional angular flints, pebbles and occasional chalk grit. A fragment of burnt clay tile 120 mm lay flat lower in the fill in the small section excavated. Lying flat across the surface of the infilled slot were intermittent fragments of broken clay tile 140 mm, tabular limestone and pennant slabs 100–160 mm and a pennant sandstone tesserae (1).

F1032 Tr 6 B625045-B536075 Foundation trench for F927

Rels: b. 546; c. 565; contains F927; same as F958

Length: 6.5 m + Width: >0.15 m Depth: ~

Unexcavated. This was not excavated in 2001, but appeared as a narrow band alongside the outer face of F927 filled with broken flints, chalk lumps and mortar. In places the wall is tight against the foundation trench side.

F1033 Tr 6 B50 Foundation trench for NE wing

Rels: b. 655; c. 565, 713; contains F1028–F1030

Length: >3.0 m Width: >3.0 m Depth: 0.65–0.7 m

This trench was not excavated as the walls it contained were not dismantled, but the depth of the NE wing indicates an area was cut or terraced into the slope. The west edge was exposed as a vertical or steep-sided cut; the north edge was less clearly defined.

Fill: The gap between the cut edge and wall (F1029) was filled with broken flint nodules 100–150 mm, and large chalk blocks 80–220 mm, some shaped, had been roughly tipped into the gap in a matrix of brown clay soil mixed with flint gravel. On the west side the wall (F1028) was built tightly against the trench edge.

F1034 Tr 6 B645035 Slot

Rels: b. 697; cuts natural

Length: >1.2 m Width: top 0.4 m; base 0.14 m Depth: 0.17 m

F1035 Tr 6 B50 Robbing of floors

Rels: b. 640, 676; c. 708, 693, 698

Length: ~ Width: ~ Depth: 0.02–0.05 m

A series of irregular areas of robbing forming shallow scoops and hollows cut into the floors of room 1 and west corridor where areas of the tessellated pavements had been destroyed in antiquity to the level of the underlying mortar bedding. In the corridor one of the hollows was filled with burnt debris (676), which was probably associated with patches of burning on the tessellated pavement and mortar bedding.

The villa: central section

F963 Tr 4 D527850-D507811 Wall: E corridor

Rel: b. 686

Length: 4.95 m Width: 0.8–0.9 m Depth: ~

This formed the west wall of the east corridor and it appeared to abut the north wall of the bath suite F1015. This is unlikely to indicate a significant difference in phasing, merely the order in which the villa was built. The wall is constructed of tightly interlocking flint nodules, having the exposed face knapped flat and measuring 110–190 mm set in pale creamy brown mortar mixed with angular flints up to 25 mm and chalk grit.

F964 Tr 4 D537817-D522825 Wall: E corridor

Rel: c.b. F897

Length: 2.06 m Width: 0.77 m Depth: 0.26 m

This wall aligned E–W cut off the south end of the east corridor to form a small antechamber at the entrance into the baths. The wall had been severely damaged by the medieval field lynchet F897 cutting across it: three courses survived at the west end but only one at the east end. It was constructed of tightly packed very large flint nodules, 180–400 mm in the wall faces but generally smaller *c.*80–200 mm in the core, where several chalk blocks were also observed. The stones were bedded in a hard pale creamy brown mortar mixed with small angular flint gravel and pebbles and chalk grit.

F965 Tr 4 D532796-D570850 Wall: E corridor

Rel: c.b. F897

Length: 6.51 m Width: 0.6–0.8 m Depth: ~

This wall had been damaged by the medieval field lynchet F897 cutting across the top of it, leaving only the lower levels of the foundation. It is aligned N–S and formed the east wall of the east corridor and the outside wall of the villa. One course of flint nodules partially survived, best preserved just north of the junction with wall F964. The flints were quite large *c.*200 mm, but unshaped and were tightly set interlocking. They were set in a pale creamy brown mortar mixed with chalk grit, small angular flints and pebbles. Much of the wall survived only as this mortar bedding, though another course of flints may have existed below this. The wall appears to increase in width gradually from south to north.

F1018 Tr 4 D425860 Wall (W): W corridor

Rel: b. 686, c.b. F972; abutted by 595, 712; eq. F1023

Length: 1.98 m Width: 0.68 m Depth: ~

Only a short section of this wall was exposed running north from the bath suite. It formed the outer west wall of the villa. The upper surface of the wall was mainly the surface of one of the mortar levels between flint courses. A few flint nodules projected through it and at the south end where it had been cut by a modern disturbance (F972) at least two courses of flints *c.*120 mm were exposed and some chalk blocks were visible in the core. The mortar was hard light brown mixed with a high density of crushed chalk and a little angular flint gravel. The wall appears to be continuous with F1004 and F1015 of the bath block.

F1019 Tr 4 D448846-D460870 Wall (E): W corridor

Rel: b. 686; abutted by 705, 700; eq. F1026

Length: 3.14 m Width: 0.74 m Depth: ~

This internal wall formed the east side of the west corridor and was aligned N–S. It was constructed as one with F1015 and hobnailed boot imprints were visible in the mortar

overlapping both walls. Most of the exposed surface was a bedding layer of hard, cemented pale grey mortar mixed with small angular flints and much crushed chalk. A small part of a flint course survives in the middle of the exposed area and indicates the wall was constructed of tightly packed flints 80–160 mm.

The south wing: bath suite

F1021 Tr 4 D47/D57 Foundation trench for baths

Rel: contains F910, F914, F1002

Length: *c.*11.0 m Width: 4.4–5.2 m Depth: *c.*1.4 m

The stokehole, hot and tepid baths were constructed in a deeply cut foundation trench. The trench itself was not fully exposed as no masonry was demolished. However, its upper edges were most visible on the west and south (where it was separately numbered as F1022 and F908).

F1015 Tr 4 D424850-D507805 Wall (N) of baths

Rel: b. 686; abutted by 621, 653

Length: 10.12 m Width: 0.8 m Depth: 1.22 m

This formed the north wall of the baths comprising the stokehole (F1002) and the hot (F914) and tepid (F910) baths. Where the wall continued alongside the cold bath (F908) it was numbered separately as F900. In F910 and F914 the wall face had been coated with a mortar render. Within F1002 however the render either never existed or had worn off during prolonged use of the room. Here the flint courses of the wall were clearly exposed. There were nine courses surviving in total, though the wall base rises and becomes shallower at its west end, where the base of the foundation trench slopes up.

The wall was constructed of flint blocks *c.*140–240 mm in size set in pale brown mortar and laid at angle, which reversed with each course resulting in a herringbone pattern. Several blocks had shaped surfaces and some had been knapped square. Three tabular limestone slabs had been laid flat along the south edge roughly at floor level and possibly represent the remains of a string course. The wall core was composed of flint nodules and chalk blocks and some tile fragments *c.*80 mm.

Room 11

F898 Tr 4 D565762-D544707 Robber trench of F941

Rel: b. (496); contains (527); c. F934, F936, F941

Length: 7.6 m Width: top: 1.7 m; base: 0.95 m Depth: 0.95 m

Fill: (527) Homogeneous light brown clayey silty soil mixed with a high density of degraded mortar and chalk grit contained a moderate density of flint gravel and chalk 20–50 mm with occasional subangular blocks 120–150 mm and infrequent clay tile, stone roof slates and pieces of mortar/plaster. Towards the base of the layer distinct tips of different mortars were visible. [Robbing debris.]

Small Finds: 2586 Fe nails Samples: 3734 stone; 3865 plaster

F941 Tr 4 D545715 Wall foundation

Rel: b. (927), (932); c.b. F898; c. F936; a. F934

Length: *c.*7.6 m Width: 1.1 m Depth: ~

The wall footing was partly exposed in the base of the cutting across the channel F936 and the robber trench F898 of the wall. It had been robbed to a depth of 0.92 m below the surface of the natural. The foundation consisted of tightly packed angular flint nodules mostly 150–

250 mm with a few smaller flints infilling gaps. The exposed area had been covered by a very hard compact layer of yellowish brown mortar containing chalk grit and small flint gravel *c.*20 mm. There were the remains of one higher course in the basal angle of the foundation trench, which included one very large flint 300 x 300 mm.

F934 Tr 4 D540713 Foundation trench for F941

Rels: b. F898, (527); c. F936; contains F941

Length: *c.*7.6 m Width: 1.2 m Depth: >1.22 m

Foundation trench cut for wall F941 had a steep/near vertical west side cut into the natural. On the east it had been terraced in from the channel, F936, but cut to a deeper level than this, though the lower part was not excavated. At the south and north ends, where the foundation trench turns at right angles, it became much shallower and disappeared *c.*0.7 m or less from the channel edge.

F875 Tr 4 D500770-D480730 Wall foundation

Rels: b. (483); c.b. F897; eq. F899, (499)

Length: 5.6 m (N–S); 2 m (E–W) Width: 1.15 m (N–S); 1.0 m (E–W) Depth: 0.55 m

The main section of wall was aligned NE–SW, turning at right angles at the south end to run NW–SE. Most of the southern length had been robbed or destroyed by the field lynchet F897. The wall appeared to have been constructed directly on the surface of the combe rock or clay with flints. It consisted of flint nodules *c.*100–200 mm, closely packed and carefully laid at the wall faces. Occasionally chalk blocks, small flints, gravel and pebbles had been used to infill gaps between the nodules. The stones were set in a pale creamish brown mortar containing coarse chalk and flint grit.

F900 Tr 4 D544772 Wall foundation

Rels: b. 496; c. Nat.

Length: 1.8 m Width: >0.66 m; 0.8 m Depth: 0.3 m

The wall was aligned SE–NW and was constructed of large flint nodules, few with evidence of shaping, ranging in size from 90–200 mm with the larger sizes selected for the south face (the north face was not exposed in the trench). The flints were set in a pale creamy brown mortar mixed with angular-subangular flint gravel and chalk grit. Occasional blocks of sandstone (greensand) *c.*80 mm were also set in the wall. A curious feature is that the foundation appeared to be narrower than the wall, but this may be an effect of building the wall directly on the natural sloping surface of the combe rock and as a result upper courses stepped out over the lower ones following the natural surface.

F935 Tr 4 D555769 Robber trench

Rels: b. (530); c. F900

Length: 1.5 m Width: 1.04 m Depth: 0.25 m

Length of robbing of F900 at east end at junction with F941. The robber trench had a flat base and steeply sloping sides. The base sloped down eastwards towards the corner of F941, indicating that the wall foundation gradually deepened to the corner where it joined with the very deep foundation F941 alongside the channel.

Fill: A light brown silty marly soil (1) containing a few small angular flints 10–30 mm and flint and chalk grit. This was overlain by (530), which extended beyond the edges of the robber trench.

Samples: 3792 plaster

The cold bath: frigidarium

F909 Tr 4 D530740 Cold plunge bath

Rels: b. (483), (491); c.b. F897

Length: Ext: 4.6 m; int: 3.0 m Width: Ext: 2.6 m; int: 1.0 m Depth: 0.14 m

Rectangular plunge bath with the deepest foundation cut *c.*2.0 m wide directly below the bath stepped up and out to the sides to 2.6 m below the enclosing walls (F876, F899). The walls and floor had been rendered with pink waterproof mortar (493, 553) and the remnants of a mosaic floor (492) survived at the north end. The mortar base of a slot through the east wall (F899) drained waste water directly into the channel F936. The lack of underfloor heating indicates this to be a cold bath.

F877 Tr 4 D540758 West wall of F909

Rels: b. (491); a.b. (492); a. Nat.

Length: 2.5 m Width: 0.81–0.9 m Depth: 0.14 m

The wall was constructed of irregular flint nodules, few having signs of deliberate shaping, ranging in size from 80–230 mm. The facing blocks were tightly packed and set at an angle to overlap slightly. In the core the blocks were more spaced with small broken flints packed between in a brown gritty mortar. The inner face had a skim of pale brown mortar equivalent to that on F876.

F876 Tr 4 D530760-D514726 North wall foundation of F909

Rels: b. (491); a. (492), Nat.

Length: 4.6 m Width: 0.8 m Depth: 0.1 m

The wall was constructed of tightly packed flint nodules ranging in size from 90 x 50 mm up to 230 x 150 mm with most averaging about 150 mm. Many of the flints had shaped surfaces and had been carefully laid with clear alignments running through the core as well as both faces. They were set in a light creamy brown mortar mixed with small angular flint gravel and rounded pebbles 10–20 mm plus a few small chalk fragments. The inner face of the wall had been rendered with a light brown mortar containing clay tile grit up to 8 mm. This varied in thickness from 2–30 mm, depending on the irregularity of the flints.

F946 Tr 4 D524724 South wall footing of F909

Rels: b. (551); c. Nat.

Length: 1.7 m Width: 0.76 m Depth: ~

This wall footing or foundation appears to have extended continuously under the floor of the bath as well as the south wall in the deeper central foundation cut, in which at least three courses of flints (551) were exposed.

Fill: (551) was composed of close set flint nodules 110–170 mm, with some shaped faces and rare chalk blocks 70–100 mm packed in light yellowish brown chalky mortar with chalk and flint grit.

F899 Tr 4 D540738 East wall foundation of F909

Rels: b. (491); c. Nat.

Length: 4.65 m Width: 0.75 m Depth: 0.1 m

The southern and eastern extents of the foundation had suffered most damage from ploughing. The lower course of flint nodules appeared to have been set in rows with a N–S alignment along the length of the wall, compressed into the underlying chalky marl with light brown mortar spread over them. The main flint course consisted of tightly packed irregular flint nodules with some rough shaping ranging in size from 120 x 45 mm up to 250 x 150

mm. They had been carefully placed to accommodate shape and size. They were set in a pale brown mortar tempered with flint grit and small angular gravel up to 15 mm. Small angular flints had been packed between the nodules in the wall core. About 2.05 m from the south end of the wall there was a distinct and deliberate gap in the flints 0.15 m wide, which was filled purely by mortar. This almost certainly indicates the base of a drain for removing waste from the bath.

F911 Tr 4 D524724 Robber trench of wall F946

Rels: b. (491); c. F946

Length: 1.0 m Width: 0.7 m Depth: ~

Much of the south wall had been robbed, which resulted in a small area of robbing that was deeper than that of the adjacent walls.

Fill: The trench was filled with marl and lumps of light brown mortar mixed with small chalk and angular-subangular flint gravel up to 50 mm plus occasional larger stones including a fragment of pennant sandstone slab, c.60–80 mm.

Room 12: the tepid bath – tepidarium

F910 Tr 4 D485774 Plunge bath

Rels: b. (483); cont. (502) (503) (592) (596)

Length: >0.9 m Width: 1.55 m Depth: 0.75 m

Rectangular plunge bath bounded by walls F1015, F1040, F875 and foundation L499. The walls were straight and vertical covered in a mortar render continuous with that of the floor (504). The floor (504) had a rough flat surface of creamy brown mortar/clayey marl containing a high density of angular broken flints 10–50 mm, flint grit and rounded pebbles c.15 mm and rare clay tile fragments 20–60 mm. On the floor were the base pads of two rows of hypocaust pilae, each consisting of four pilae. Only two pilae occurred north of the flue line. Only one pilae had a brick surviving; it was 210 mm square (*bessalis*). At the south end the impression of two hypocaust pilae could be discerned only faintly on the surface, one measuring c.0.2 x 0.25 m. One of these in the eastern row appeared to be double pilae, or it may have been repaired or replaced at some stage. The southern half of this room is narrower than the north with the walls stepping in by about 0.12 m: this may have provided a ledge at the side of the room, rather than additional pilae to support the floor.

Fill: Over the floor surface was (503) (596) a thin black layer consisting of fine charcoal and ash. (Building debris from (502) pressed down into it.) [Cinders from heating of hypocaust.]

Filling most of the bath was (502) (592), loosely packed building debris subdividing into three tips. The upper 0.3 m formed a horizontal fairly compact dump of chalk and mortar grit, mortar fragments c.20 mm in a matrix of crushed mortar and grey silty chalky soil with occasional chalk and flint blocks up to 80 mm. The central horizon was very loose with voids between broken clay tile 150–200 mm, blocks of mortar and plaster, tesserae and blocks of mosaic in a matrix of crushed mortar dust. At the base was a compact mound of small mortar fragments and grit grading into looser mortar and tile rubble to the edges. [Destruction debris from robbing of tepid bath and its hypocaust.]

F1040 Tr 4 D474790-D483812 Wall: internal

Rels: b. 592, 593; abutted by 596, 597

Length: 2.5 m Width: 0.62 m (N), 0.74 m (S) Depth: 0.86 (S), 0.96 m (N)

This section of wall divided the *caldarium* and *tepidarium* and was pierced by a clay tile lined flue, which took the hot air through to the hypocaust of the *tepidarium*. The flue was not centrally placed, but divided the wall into two uneven projections measuring 0.75 m long

on the north and 1.25 m long on the south. These were constructed of tightly packed flint nodules set in a pale creamy brown mortar mixed with small angular flint up to 40 mm and chalk grit. The core was mostly composed of irregular flint nodules plus a few chalk blocks c.80–120 mm. Most of the north section had been robbed; only the lowest course of flint walling survived together with the mortar pad to take the base of the tile arch for the flue. On the south up to eight flint courses survived and six courses of clay bricks lining the flue. The complete bricks that were fully visible and could be measured were mostly *lydions* (c.370 x 290 x 36 mm), but some smaller sizes were present, but these may have been *lydions* split in half, rather than smaller bricks such as *bessales* or *pedales*.

Room 13: the hot bath – caldarium

F914 Tr 4 D455775 Apsidal plunge bath

Rels: b. (483); contains (518)–(520), (593), (597)

Length: ~ Width: c. 1.4 m Depth: 0.92 m

This structure was partly exposed in 2000 revealing the south end of an apsidal plunge bath, which was completely uncovered in 2001. The south side was formed by wall F889, the east side by F1040, the north by F1015 and the west by F1016, which was pierced by the flue from the stoking chamber. All the upper part of the room had been demolished and robbed leaving only the below ground hypocaust level. This had a flat floor and straight vertical sides, which were surfaced with a smooth creamy brown mortar that appeared to be the same as the mortar bonding the flints of the walls. At a height of 0.2 m above the floor there was the remains of a ledge around the SE side of the apse 0.14 m wide and 0.4 m long, which had clearly held three box tiles set on end, of which one survived. This one measured 200 mm high, 170 mm wide and 120 mm thick.

The hypocaust was formed of four rows of pilae running N–S with between three and seven pilae in each row. A total of 24 pilae supported the floor. Only rows two and four appeared to continue north of the flue, where the gap between pilae was 0.5 m as compared to 0.2–0.3 m elsewhere. The rows were 0.35–0.4 m apart. In the fourth (most easterly row) two adjacent pilae were of double width and an extra pilae was set against the corner of F1040. Most of the pilae bricks had been robbed out leaving only the mortar pads. Only six pilae had bricks surviving all measuring c.200 x 200 mm (*bessalis*). Only one of these had more than one brick in position. The mortar used for the construction of the hypocaust was very hard pale creamy grey mortar containing a high density of chalk grit and a little flint gravel. A few of the mortar pads had crushed tile mixed with it.

Fill: Over the base was the primary fill (520): this was a fine grey ash containing flecks and small fragments 2–5 mm of charcoal, thickest in the basal angle thinning to the centre. [Cinders from heating of hot bath hypocaust.]

The secondary fill consisted of debris from the robbing of the structures. In the lower part (519) a loosely packed mix of flints up to 100 mm, blocks of mortar (cream and pink) 30–90 mm, occasional chalk and clay tile fragments in a matrix of crushed mortar dust and grit with a little silty soil. Above was (518) consisting of fairly loosely packed broken blocks of cream mortar 10–40 mm, subangular chalk 15–70 mm, infrequent broken angular flint 20–50 mm and rare pink mortar. The lower part of the layer consisted of much chalk grit and granular grey silty soil.

F1016 Tr 4 D446810-D456824 Wall: internal

Rels: b. 653, 593; within F1021

Length: 1.12 m + 0.7 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: 0.74 m

This formed the cross wall between the stokehole and *caldarium*, cut by the flue F1006,

which would have had an arch across the top to support the overlying wall. The wall has been almost entirely robbed on the north and a considerable amount on the south. The stump of flint walling survived six courses high with a core of flint nodules *c.*120 mm and some shaped stones in the wall face. The lowest two courses of clay tile from the flue arch survived on the south side.

F889 Tr 4 D445774-D480758 Wall foundation of F910/F914

Rels: b. (483); within F908

Length: 5.0 m Width: 0.45–1.09 m Depth: ~

Constructed within foundation trench F908 (forming part of F1021), cut for bath F914, where over five courses were present, but continued eastwards at a shallower level (only two courses surviving) to join with L499 and wall F875. The wall was constructed of roughly shaped flint nodules with knapped flat surfaces frequently selected for the wall face. They measured from 60–160 mm long. They had been set in a cream chalky mortar mixed with chalk and flint grit and fragments up to 40 mm. Flints were used exclusively for the wall face, but in the core a few subangular chalk blocks had also been used. The whole wall had been constructed as courses of tightly interlocking flints, over which a layer of mortar had been spread leaving some voids between the flints, where the mortar did not penetrate, followed by the next course of flints. The layers of mortar were generally 50–80 mm thick, but up to 120 mm in places. In the lower part of the wall at the north-east end a greensand block 310 mm had been placed at the corner. At a higher level of the same corner two clay bricks *c.*270 mm were also in set. Aligned E–W.

F908 Tr 4 D436774-D460762 Foundation trench for F889/F914

Rels: b. (483); c.b. F913; cnt. F914; c. Nat.

Length: 2.8 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: ~

A rectangular cut with vertical sides. The bath structure had been set tight against the edge of the cut on the east, but to the south there was a gap of 0.63 m. The fill was not excavated and the north and west sides of the trench were not exposed within the excavation.

Fill: Infilling the upper 0.5 m of the foundation trench was a mixed dump (1) of degraded silty chalk mixed with small chalk lumps 5–10 mm and angular flints 10–25 mm. Within this were scattered larger flint nodules 80–120 mm and a band of redeposited yellowish brown clay with flints. The lower fill (2) (not excavated) was a very hard and compact light greyish brown clayey silt containing small chalk grit, a low density of small chalk and angular flints 20–50 mm and rare fragments of clay tile. In addition there were a few shaped flint nodules up to 80–280 mm.

F942 Tr 4 D445770 Robber trench of F914/F889

Rels: b. (483); c. F889, F908, F913, F914

Dimensions: not recorded partly removed in 1960s trenches

Irregular cut resulting from robbing of wall F889 and bath F914.

Fill: (505) Loosely packed building debris, predominantly broken mortar fragments (cream with flint grit and pink with crushed tile) 10–150 mm, with a scatter of subangular chalk blocks 80–120 mm, some broken angular flints 30–100 mm, and occasional fragments of greensand and clay tile *c.*60 mm. [Debris from robbing of baths.]

(517) Grey clayey silty soil, fairly compact, contained a high density of chalk grit with occasional small angular flints 10–30 mm and charcoal fragments *c.*5 mm. [Trample on base of robbing.]

Room 14: the stoking chamber

F1002 Tr 4 D425825 Stokehole

Rels: constructed of F1004, F1005, F1015, F1016, F1020; contains F1003, F1006, 621, 651, 653, 666–71, 684

Length: 3.85 m Width: 4.4 m Depth: 1.4 m

This rectangular chamber was constructed below ground level to form the stoking chamber for the baths. It was set in foundation trench F1021/F1022 and was enclosed by walls F1015, F1004, F1005 and F1016. Alongside the west wall was a shallow bench or step F1003. At the east end was a large foundation F1020, which probably supported the hot water boiler heated by the firing chamber and flue F1006 which ran below F1020.

F973 Tr 4 D408830 Robber trench

Rels: c.b. F972; c. F1004; contained 656

Length: 1.7 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: c.0.2 m

An irregular area had been robbed from the top of wall F1004.

Artefacts: Flint

F1004 Tr 4 D406824-D420850 Wall (W) of F1002

Rels: b. 686, 656; abutted by F1003; within F1021

Length: 3.93 m Width: 0.7 m Height: 0.61–0.78 m

This formed the west wall of the stokehole F1002 and survived up to seven courses high. It was built of large flint nodules, several with shaped flat faces or squared, measuring 130–260 mm x 70–80 mm set in pale creamish brown mortar mixed with angular flint gravel and chalk grit. At the top of the wall at the north end, where it survives highest, the mortar was pale grey mixed with much chalk or lime and was extremely hard and concreted. Most of the flints were laid at a diagonal the direction of each course changing to create a herringbone pattern, but the occasional course had the flints laid flat. Little of the wall core was exposed and the upper exposed surfaces were levels of mortar to which the wall had been robbed. Much of the core appeared to be composed of rounded chalk blocks c.100 mm and small flint nodules.

F1022 Tr 4 D410813 Foundation trench for F1005 (S side of F1021)

Rels: contains F1005; part of F1021

Length: 3.4 m Width: 0.33 m Depth: 1.1 m

Effectively part of the main foundation trench for the baths, but specifically assigned to the cut alongside F1005, where a gap of up to 0.35 m but narrowing eastwards was visible between the trench edge and the wall.

Fill: The gap to the south of the wall was filled with brown clayey soil mixed with pale cream mortar containing chalk lumps c.50 mm, mortar fragments up to 140 mm and flints up to 100 mm.

F1005 Tr 4 D408820-D440804 Wall (S) of F1002

Rels: b. 686; abutted by 651

Length: 3.86 m Width: 0.74 m Height: 1.18 m

This formed the south wall of the stokehole F1002 and joined with F889 and F1016 at its east end and F1004 at the west. A maximum of ten courses survived. It was constructed of large flint nodules 80–180 mm, several with shaped surfaces, set at an angle forming a herringbone pattern in pale creamish brown mortar mixed with chalk grit and angular flints. At the east end at the junction with F1016 a large greensand block 210 x 150 x 65 mm was set into the wall. The core was constructed of flint nodules and chalk blocks. At ground level a double

course of subrectangular limestone slabs 300–390 mm survived on the south side. They appear to be limited in extent running for 1.25 m set into a course of flints and may indicate the position of the door into the stoking chamber from the yard to the south of the building.

F1003 Tr 4 D416834 Step at W end of F1002

Rels: b. 653; a. 667; within F1002

Length: 1.61 m Width: 0.34 m Depth: 0.12 m

This feature was a step or bench constructed at the west end of the stoking chamber (F1002) alongside wall F1004. It was constructed of flint nodules 50–190 mm and a fragment each of clay tile and limestone slab *c.*120 mm set in soft pale creamy brown clayey mortar mixed with crushed chalk grit and containing small angular flints and pebbles.

Artefacts: (1) Tile

F1006 Tr 4 D444822 Stokehole flue

Rels: b. 651; within F1002

Length: 2.1 m Width: 0.52 m Depth: 0.1 m

This flue formed the firing chamber to provide hot water and warm air to heat the hot and tepid baths. The walls of the flue were formed by the foundation F1020 and wall F1016, which provided a clay brick lining. The base of the flue had been worn to a dished hollow. The floor surface and the surviving flue walls had been burnt to pink-red from firing. The mortar lining the flue was pale brown, mixed with clay tile grit, crushed chalk and grit, small flint gravel and including a few burnt flints up to 100 mm.

F1020 Tr 4 D440810-D446830 Stokehole wall

Rels: b. 621

Length: 2.4 m Width: 1.4 m Depth: 0.2–0.3 m

This structure is divided in two by the flue/firing chamber F1006. The section to the north was shorter measuring 0.7 m compared to 1.1 m to the south. Most of the structure had been robbed out leaving only a few clay bricks of the flue lining on the north side: three in the lowest course and one each in the two overlying courses. They all appeared to measure *c.*160–180 mm square (*bessales*). The surface of the bricks was heavily burnt and sooted. On the south side only the mortar bedding for the bricks survived. The mortar the bricks were laid in consisted of a pale pinkish brown clayey mortar, fairly soft, mixed with low densities of angular flints 10–40 mm and chalk grit. The flint walling behind the tile facade survived best on the south side. No facing blocks survive, only core, which was constructed of rough flint nodules 100–140 mm set in a very hard pale creamy grey mortar mixed with a high density of chalk grit and moderate amounts of small angular flint *c.*10 mm

The south yard

F912 Tr 4 D452723-D456700 Drainage gully

b. backfill; c. Nat.

Length: 3.2 m Width: top – 0.7 m; base – 0.25 m Depth: 0.3–0.22 m

This gully had a rounded U-shaped profile with sloping sides and rounded dished or nearly flat base. It had been fully excavated during the 1960s excavations and therefore the relationship to F913 has been lost. In plan it appears that F913 cut F912, but it is possible that F912 was in fact the later feature cutting through the fill of F913 at a shallower level.

Fill: A little of the fill (1) survived at the south end. It consisted of compacted dark brown clayey soil containing a moderate density of flint gravel 20–50 mm, occasional larger blocks of flint and chalk 80–100 mm and frequent chalk grit. Rare flecks of charcoal and red fired

clay was the only occupation debris evident. [Probably largely a result of natural silting and erosion of adjacent soils into the gully.]

F913 Tr 4 D471706-D450760 Drainage gully

b. backfill; c. Nat.

Length: 7.4 m Width: 0.4–1.08 m Depth: 0.2–0.6 m

A curving linear arc of gully running south from F914, turning east probably to flow into channel F936. The gully had sloping sides and a rounded base being widest and deepest close to F914, narrowing to the SE. [Probably a drainage gully for taking waste water from the baths to the channel F936.]

Fill: Most of the fill was excavated in 1960s trench. A small section of the original fill survived along the west edge at the north end.

(516) Brown clayey soil containing a moderate density of flint gravel and pebbles 10–60 mm, chalk grit and small fragments *c.* 15 mm plus rare blocks up to 80 mm and mortar fragments.

F1017 Tr 4 D401819-D390790 Wall: to external yard

Rel: b. 686

Length: 3.23 m Width: 0.75 m Depth: ~

This wall aligned N–S, extending southwards from the south-west corner of building 1 continuing the line of the west wall (F1018/F1004). This wall abuts the villa wall and probably enclosed a courtyard to the S of the building.

It was constructed of large flint nodules 100 x 70–340 x 240 mm, some deliberately shaped, set in pale creamish brown mortar mixed with small angular flints and chalk grit. The core was composed of small flint nodules and a few chalk blocks. The wall was set in a foundation trench and at least two courses were exposed at either end where robbing had occurred to a greater depth.