Stand by Your Ruin: Strategies for Assessing a Built Environment

Dena Doroszenko

In historical archaeology, there has been an increasing emphasis on the archaeology of the homelot. This concern has fostered an interest in the arrangement of features within the homelot and the ways in which the landscape and buildings were used to define social relations. The nature, scale, and significance of earthmoving activities on domestic sites, urban and non-urban, are often dramatic reflections of changes in the household—changes in size, composition, economic and/or social standing, and division of labour. There is a need for an integrated methodology incorporating analytical tools that can provide fine-grained information on earthmoving activities as well as environmental changes. There is a need to understand site use over time from both an archaeological and documentary perspective. There is also a need for a comparative database on the treatment of the homelot in Ontario. The study of land use is best approached from a diachronic perspective, especially given the fact that what remains from the earliest occupation may be difficult to interpret without understanding what happened later. The analysis of landscape treatment should be combined with a quantitative analysis of fully delineated phases of feature construction and refuse deposition that relate to the documentary chronology of household composition. In this manner, the archaeology of domestic spaces can contribute to our understanding of how people in the past consciously altered their immediate surrounding as they sought to establish and maintain order in the larger context of the external world.

Introduction

Historical archaeological sites provide a unique data set to researchers who are interested in understanding material culture of the past and the people who created it. While historical archaeology often has been labelled the handmaiden to history, it has far greater potential for providing insights into the life course of a household and glimpsing the humanity behind the statistics. Projects can recover a wealth of information that can be directly and indirectly used not only for restoring a structure but, more importantly, for putting it into a historic context.

In historical archaeology, an emphasis on the archaeology of the homelot has fostered an interest in the arrangement of features within the homelot and the ways in which the landscape and buildings were used to define social relations (Beaudry 1986; Praetzellis et al. 1980). The nature, scale, and significance of earthmoving activities on historical sites, whether urban or rural, are often reflections of changes in a household—changes in size, composition, economic and/or social standing, and division of labour. Archaeologists should develop an integrated methodology incorporating analytical tools that can provide information on earthmoving activities as well as environmental changes when excavating domestic historical sites in Ontario. There is also a need to understand site use over time from both an archaeological and documentary perspective. The study of land use is best approached from a diachronic perspective, especially given the fact that what remains from the earliest occupation may be difficult to interpret without understanding what happened later. The analysis of landscape treatment should be combined with a quantitative analysis of fully delineated phases of feature construction and refuse deposition that relate to the documentary chronology of household composition. In this manner, the archaeology of domestic spaces can contribute to our understanding of how people in the past consciously altered their immediate surrounding as they sought to establish and maintain order in the larger context of the external world. This article is an attempt to provide strategies for and substantive examples of Ontario domestic sites historical archaeology in both urban and rural settings.

Domestic Historical Sites Archaeology

Established in 1967, the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) was modelled in part after England's National Trust. The mandate of the OHT states that identification, protection, and preservation of Ontario's heritage are its primary tasks. The Trust has carried out archaeological projects on historical properties in rural and urban environments since 1974. For the most part, most of the historical archaeology conducted was in support of architectural restoration, which placed restrictions similar to private sector contract situations on the scope of research that could be explored.

As an illustration, in the excavation of a church, the archaeologist may uncover specific information about the architectural features of the structure, but interpretations about the religious beliefs of those who constructed the building must be based on analogy and historical research. Similarly, the excavation of a courthouse would likely provide specific information about its location, its size, the number of rooms, and the construction materials used, but would provide little toward our understanding of the social structure, the political organization, or the legal framework of the people who once used the courthouse building. Archaeology can contribute certain types of specific information relative to a particular place, such as the details and location of architectural features, a temporal relationship, and, in some cases, something of the use to which the structure was put. But archaeology is limited in its contribution outside the technological area in the above cases. However, this temporal relationship of the site is often one of the primary reasons that sponsors and proponents of archaeological projects give as the reason for the excavation. The means for determining it relate to the basic archaeological method of stratigraphy. This stratigraphic interest establishes the relative position of forms in time and space. Studies of recovered artifacts in context from archaeological sites can be made by emphasizing the association of certain artifact types with particular individuals or families. This emphasis is frequently found in research for restorations, where the emphasis is often on one historical figure or event associated with a site.

Assessment strategies used on historical sites with extant buildings are different than those for a ploughed field and should be treated as such. The Ontario Ministry of Culture's *Technical Guidelines* (MCTR 1993), utilized by all licensed archaeologists, stipulate testing every five metres; this strategy can be employed successfully on most historical properties. However, when working on a site with extant buildings, the placement of test pits near structures needs to take into consideration an expectation that complex stratigraphy will likely be revealed with units as they are placed close to or up against a building. Small test pits are essentially fruitless in providing sufficient stratigraphic information about what may have occurred close around the building and should not be utilized other than to document the depth of stratigraphy in these areas. Interpreting complex stratigraphy in test pits 30 cm wide (let alone trying to excavate these to a depth of natural subsoil) is not feasible. Larger test pits provide better evidence of stratigraphic relationships against a structure and should be used when excavating against a standing structure. However, it is important to note that even 20 metres away from a structure, complex stratigraphy may be encountered, and once this is recognized, an increase in the size of a test pit may allow the excavator to document and interpret those deposits adequately. Depending upon the intent of the Stage-2 assessment work on a historical property with extant structures, the archaeologist should automatically determine what their strategy for excavating near or around these buildings will entail.

Since 1987, an assessment process has been developed to evaluate OHT properties archaeologically before any mitigative or public program (Figure 1). For example, the Inge-va estate in Perth (circa 1823) had a five-day assessment carried out by a consulting company in 1987. The terms of reference for this project outlined the following tasks: 1) inventory, identify, and describe the archaeological resources extant on the property; 2) develop a reliable statement of the significance of the archaeological resources; 3) note the condition of the site in terms of the degree of landscape alteration; 4) develop a map

Figure 1. *Homewood, Maitland. Assessment fieldwork in 2002. Photo credit Ontario Heritage Trust.*

of the resources in terms of their distribution across the site; and 5) provide recommendations on future research needs and a strategy for mitigating the adverse effects of any restoration or construction action, or both, on the affected archaeological resources. The techniques and methodology employed to carry out the above tasks have been standardized—that is, several manuals have been prepared for use by in-house staff and by consultants to standardize field recording procedures and the processing and cataloguing of artifacts. These manuals have been "field-tested" by staff of the Trust and by consultants. The results of the assessment at Inge-va clearly identified areas for future work and resulted in a document that has assisted the restoration and maintenance program with an archaeological component at every stage.

A large portion of the archaeological record on a historical property has resulted from discard and abandonment behaviour. Domestic sites in particular represent archaeological remains generated by the activities carried out during occupation of a property. The use of the term *disturbance* by most licensed archaeologists is misleading in terms of describing stratigraphic relationships on a site. *Disturbance* is a term that implies eradication, upheaval, and/or disorder of relevant stratigraphy; however, this term needs to identify the source of the so-called disturbance. In almost every example that can possibly be described, the so-called disturbance on domestic historical sites relates to man-made stratigraphic interventions and hence is not disturbance but rather a continuation of people's imprint on the landscape. If an area has been "disturbed" by the introduction of new services or re-paving, the result is an event or series of events that documents significant introductions, additions, substitutions, or even removals that can be dated—the introduction of electricity onto a property or asphalt (which can be dated *terminus post quem*) or even modern septic systems. For example, archaeology at the George Brown House in Toronto took a very traditional role with a slight twist. Normally, a property such as George Brown House, in an urban environment, dating to the 1870s, and consisting of a relatively small lawn or yard area, might not have had such an intensive archaeology program. Some archaeologists would have written off this property as being too "disturbed" below ground and unlikely to reveal any substantive archaeological findings. The field season in 1987 concentrated on finding data that would directly aid in the restoration of the building, and landscape archaeology on the front lawn of the property examined the area for evidence of nineteenth-century garden beds. The excavations encircling the house as well as those conducted in the basement brought to light the great concern George Brown had for making his home comfortable for his family, the methods by which,

prior to the archaeology program, were only known from primary archival documents. Double concrete floors in the basement and surrounding the foundations of the house outside a "shell" wall consisting of a buffer area and a secondary foundation wall of brick that was capped, preventing moisture from running down the sides of the stone foundation of the building, were contracted to ensure this was accomplished (Figure 2). The 1987 excavations and later monitoring seasons have aided directly in the restoration process by revealing previously unknown facts about the building envelope itself. As a result, the east shell wall has been stabilized and remains below ground.

Figure 2. *George Brown House, Toronto. Excavation and monitoring activities revealed a shell wall surrounding the entire foundations of the house. Photo credit Ontario Heritage Trust.*

Application of Methodology

When researching archival documentation and then the resultant archaeological investigations on a domestic historical site, archaeologists should concentrate on abstracting information concerning the following topics. Examples from Trust sites are provided as illustration.

Waste and Water Management on the Property

Drains. Cartwright house in Kingston revealed an archaeological sequence of 19 attempts to resolve drainage issues surrounding this circa 1830s house.

Privies. Privies help document changes in sanitary facilities and utilities in keeping with changing technology and notions of hygiene (Beaudry 1986). Privy excavations at Inge-va in Perth illustrate this. Here, a 1987 test pit assessment hit the deposit, but its true nature was revealed only with the excavation of units in 1988. Artifact density was so high that excavating the test pit was actually abandoned during assessment at a certain depth because of the size and density of the ceramic and glass sherds. The larger units recovered over 15,000 artifacts, including approximately 400 ceramic vessels and 300 glass objects, reflecting a significant life event within the Radenhurst household (Figure 3). At Benares in Mississauga, early twentieth-century septic tanks beside the house were recorded in addition to the three-hole privy area to the east (Figure 4).

Figure 3. *Inge-va, Perth. Excavation of an abandoned privy pit uncovered over 15,000 artifacts. Photo credit Ontario Heritage Trust.*

Trash Disposal. At Benares, standard, five-metre-interval test pits during the assessment phase identified areas related to fire deposits, a refuse area for the family, and a nineteenth-century privy that

was infilled in the mid-twentieth century. All of these areas were fully investigated in subsequent field seasons.

Figure 4. *Benares, Mississauga. In this photograph, the extant foundation of Benares III (circa 1857) is visible to the upper left, while foundations of Benares I (circa 1835) are visible at the lower left of the photograph. Also of note is the twentieth-century introduction of a new drainage system. Photo credit Ontario Heritage Trust.*

Landscape Alterations

Paths, Walls, and Fence Lines. These are features that control the flow of people or animals. At Fulford Place in Brockville, archaeology preceding the restoration of this National Historic Site's Olmsted garden revealed a complex path construction, where larger units were needed to fully investigate the nature of the pathway system (Figure 5). This was an assessment project that required tailoring to the objectives of discovering information within a short time frame that would be relevant to the restoration project. At the Spadina Museum in Toronto, a series of walkways were archaeologically investigated through the formal garden as well as the orchard area.

Driveways. At Spadina, evidence of several driveway paving sequences was recorded in the rear yard area.

Other Depositional Events. Within the immediate vicinity of any given house, there are aspects of landscape treatment that help to provide insights into issues of class and status on a site. These activities may include infilling to create fast land or to alter grade levels or for aesthetic or practical reasons such as plantings and gardens.

Activity Areas. These are areas where household chores occurred, such as laundering and butchering.

Farmstead Layout. The spatial arrangement of house and farm outbuildings relative to terrain, roads, and water sources is evolutionary, dynamic, and changing (Adams 1990). The location of buildings on a property should reflect the prevailing attitudes for the period of construction, as interpreted by the builder and the owner and affected by traditional values and ideas. South's work (1977) has shown that household debris was very often found not far from the back door in a sheet scatter and/or in discrete pits dug for the purpose of getting rid of waste. Features

Figure 5. *Fulford Place, Brockville. Assessment of the formal Olmsted gardens took place in 2002. Photo credit Ontario Heritage Trust.*

relating to waste and water management are given their due as elements of the household's adaptive strategy for coping with universal problems. Their secondary function as trash repositories can, therefore, be seen as part of an ongoing series of changes made in response to technological innovations, shifts in fashion, economic and social pressures, spatial and environmental constraints, and the development of public services. These are most commonly what are the focus of archaeological investigations. Consideration of the farmstead plan involves a descriptive inventory of open and enclosed spaces so that the farmstead layout can be understood in detail. This should also include indications of the common additive and subtractive changes that farmsteads undergo through time. A farmstead is a collection of buildings and spaces that together provide a more or less acceptable set of "tools" to make a living from the soil and maintain the farm family. Depending on the history of farming in the region, the present modes of farming practice, and the resources available to people who live there the farmstead plan provides an accurate reflection of how the farm family used those "tools" on a daily basis (Stewart-Abernathy 1986).

Stratigraphy and Depositional Events

It is crucial that archaeologists working on historical sites in Ontario use stratigraphic matrices to record and understand the complex, man-made deposits they encounter when excavating a site in a built environment, whether a rural farmstead or an urban lot. Archaeological deposits on historical sites may be seen to reflect either periods of continuity or intervals of transition in site occupation or use (Praetzellis et al. 1980). Discard occurring during periods of continuity often produces "sheet refuse" or gradually filled features. While specific rates of discard will depend on the intensity of site use and levels of consumption, continuous deposits are usually formed over periods of several months to several years. Because they accumulate gradually, these deposits are highly susceptible to depositional and post-depositional change. Transitional deposits accumulate very quickly, often through a single depositional event in response to abrupt change in the nature of site occupation (e.g., death, disease). Such deposits are more likely to retain their integrity than are continuous deposits and, therefore, possess both greater visibility and focus in the archaeological record (Deetz 1977:94).

While continuous and transitional deposits may be found on both rural and urban sites, their presence in each setting reflects different historical and behavioural factors, with transitional deposits exhibiting the most marked difference in this respect. On rural sites, especially those occupied by individual households for long periods of time, the periodicity that characterizes transitional deposits is mainly the result of the developmental process of the domestic group and, more specifically, the timing of inheritance and property transfers (Brown 1975). At the household level, conscious decisions are made regarding the relative value of particular objects, as evidenced by the large quantity of undamaged objects that are thrown away. The results of such "housecleaning" have been observed on both rural and urban sites, and in these deposits may be aspects of consumer behaviour and economic status that can be examined. For example, the quality, quantity, and value associated with the large number of ceramic vessels recovered in the excavation of an abandoned privy deposit at Ingeva demonstrated the level of economic status of this household, the acquisition process through time within one family's tenure on the property, and why the deposit was created (i.e., a housecleaning event associated with disease within the household).

The Archaeology of Urban Lots

Traditional archaeological techniques are somewhat inadequate for surveying and examining a dynamic and complex urban area. Surface obstructions, subsurface changes, and continual land development can greatly inhibit access to the historical environment. Documentary research enables identification of changing residential patterns in the city over time. In addition to describing settlement patterns, documentary research allows archaeologists to be specific about household size, composition, age and sex distribution,

mobility, and stability. This information permits archaeologists to select excavation areas with the best opportunity to answer archaeological questions related to the urban process.

Typically, the rear yard of a house contained a number of support structures, such as a privy, icehouse, smokehouse, or dairy. It became an area in which the sheet scatter of refuse and refuse pits could be found archaeologically. With industrialization and increasing urbanization, there was a shift to smaller lots, and a number of changes took place on house lots. This dynamic action of restricting space had implications for the usage of rear yards. With industrialization creating new power sources, it was no longer essential for certain activities to take place within the rear yard. Indoor plumbing, electricity, and refrigeration made privies, icehouses, and root cellars redundant. Archaeologically, it can be shown that this restriction of space results in the loss of domestic artifacts found within an urban rear yard. In an urban setting, rear yards have different purposes and functions. Rear yards, also known as backyards, became a recreational area for families to interact and relax, if not a true garden or green space. As a result, there is a sharp drop in the quantity of artifacts found within a truly urban rear yard. The concept of "artifact rain" (Cheek and Balicki 2001) is an attempt to develop a technique for measuring the accumulation of artifacts in a rear yard area and determine what the various ratios may relate to in terms of occupational history and creation of subsurface features. All that is required is to calculate the number of artifacts per square metre. That number is then divided by the number of years the surface was occupied. This procedure controls both the area excavated and the time a yard surface was available for receiving artifacts. Utilizing this concept may assist in identifying sheet middens, surface middens, and fill deposits. Calculating numbers of artifacts per surface area for different strata makes it possible to compare area densities over time and proceed to a study of what they mean (Cheek and Balicki 2001:2).

Rural households were responsible for many aspects of their daily routine needs, such as sanitation, production of food for immediate consumption, and trash disposal. On the other hand, the urban house was embedded in a lot filled with few service buildings, subdivided into fenced and unfenced specialized spaces, and crisscrossed by a network of paths and lanes. This reflects a response to the absence of certain services rather than an explicit complex of physical elements or lot patterning (Stewart-Abernathy 1986:6). The crowded house lot can be considered as a malleable tool used by the residents to adjust to changes in technology, resources, social organization, and the natural environment, along with changes in services provided by larger public and private institutions (Stewart-Abernathy 1986:6-8).

Following the removal of the workplace from the home as a result of urbanization and industrialization, the household was recast as the family's private retreat, and home emerged as a new concept and existence. Eventually, other agencies took over the functions that earlier had been concentrated in the family. Factories and business places took over the work and production functions of the family, and schools took over the family's former educational functions. In urban centres across North America, residential, commercial, and industrial areas are made up of "city blocks." Today, block histories are routinely prepared for urban archaeological projects. The preparation of block histories usually involves documenting changes in land values and boundaries and identifying land use, occupancy, and ownership of each property through time. These block histories provide urban archaeologists with data regarding the function of each property and the relative socio-economic level of the occupants of the block. The patterns derived for each block are then compared to the overall city pattern in order to determine the block's placement within the historic context of that city. The following variables are important in the collection of archival data:

A. Condition of tenure of property
    1. Owner
    2. Tenant
B. Assessed value of property
C. Characteristics of occupant(s)
    1. Ethnicity
    2. Occupation
        a. Professional/entrepreneurial/high white collar
        b. Proprietary/low white collar

c. Skilled crafts
d. Service/unskilled specified
e. Unskilled unspecified or other unskilled
f. Unclassifiable
g. No occupation reported

By using these variables, historical urban residential areas can be defined and street-faces with the highest density of occupation over time by specific status groups can be located. A 100-percent sample is not necessary to give accurate settlement pattern data on a quarter-block scale. Fifteen percent samples can allow generalizations to be made regarding residential distribution and density with a high degree of accuracy (Cressey and Stephens 1982:54-55).

Research on the Stadt Huys block in New York City concentrated on searching archival data for information directly related to the history of land use on the lots, such as tax assessment records, city directories, wills, and conveyance records (Rothschild and Rockman 1982:9). The combination of historical research, a program of bore holes, and an intensive testing program led to observations regarding community layout and the socio-economic structure of the block.

Historical research was undertaken to outline an interpretive historical framework for urban development in Providence, Rhode Island, which was used to reconstruct the land use history of an urban block and to analyze changes in land use and spatial patterning through time. Rubertone (1982) focused on information that specifically related to several dimensions of change, that is, population, density, and integration. Results of the historical research provided information on the location of potential archaeological properties. Rubertone was able to identify "types of space," that is, buildings were identified on the basis of their function for each developmental phase. For each phase, the area occupied by each type of space was calculated by block and for the entire area. A series of land use maps were constructed depicting the internal configuration of the settlement area over two centuries of development.

Block histories have also been developed for numerous urban projects throughout America, including Wilmington, Delaware (Klein and Garrow 1984); Washington, D.C. (Garrow 1982); Sacramento, California; El Paso, Texas; Charleston, South Carolina, and they continue to be developed today.

On properties that might contain evidence of city sanitation practices, the state of waterways, or the age of wharfs, or that are land fill projects, archaeology can provide an alternative source of data that would also provide evidence on vegetation changes, silt accumulation, erosion rates, and refuse disposal practices through time.

On urban sites, transitional changes to the landscape manifest themselves on two levels: 1) those that result from new use of a particular tract relating to the presence of a different commercial venture, occupant, or owner or from modifications made by a continuing enterprise; and 2) those produced by widespread responses to either a natural disaster (such as floods or fires); municipal regulations governing sanitation practices, water delivery, and storage; or street and lot improvements. These transitions are clearly interrelated, as natural disasters often prompt regulatory responses to the problems of public health and safety that their occurrence creates. More broadly, these transitions may be viewed as the movement of cities away from unplanned growth and development toward urban planning for the welfare of all their residents.

Features of the built environment that are most immediately affected by intervals of transition are the following: wells (water supply); privies (waste disposal); trash pits (trash disposal); cisterns (water storage, fire protection); and drains or sumps (drainage). As noted, each one of these features corresponds to an essential activity or service in the supply and maintenance of urban sites, both residential and commercial. These features are found in the rear yard of a lot, and that should be the focus of investigation when examining an urban lot. When an event such as new sewer or waterline construction or sanitation practices renders any or all of these features obsolete, they share the common characteristic of being "holes in need of filling."

Archaeological and archival investigations for the Southwest Campus Archaeological Project at the University of Toronto provided the research team with raw data on socio-economic groups in

the area through time, changes in land values and ownership through time, and archaeological evidence for this process of urbanization noted above. The main premise of the archival work carried out for the Southwest Campus Archaeological Project was that differential land use, comparative residential patterns, and socio-economic groups would be clearly reflected in both the historical and the various archaeological levels of the urban study area. This archival study sought to establish the presence, or destruction, of sets of related historic resources as a result of industrial and urban development of the Crescent Gardens, today known as Spadina Circle/Crescent, which was laid out by Dr. William Warren Baldwin in the 1830s (Doroszenko 1984).

In 1848, Adam Wilson, who had articled with Robert Baldwin, built a house on the northeast block. In 1859, Wilson became the first elected mayor of the City of Toronto; he was re-elected in 1860. Excavations on the University of Toronto campus concentrated on obtaining data on the usage of rear yards from Wilson's occupation of the property through the late nineteenth-century changes, when Wilson subdivided the property and effectively parceled out urban lots (Figures 6 and 7). These excavations turned up a number of brick privies, refuse pits, and trenches (Doroszenko 1986).

The work at the Ryerson site by the Archaeological Resource Centre of the Toronto Board of Education had some of the same objectives. The site, or tract of land, was purchased by James Farrance, a blacksmith, in 1869. A house was constructed a year later, and Farrance subsequently rented it out. Archaeological excavations uncovered structural features related to a one-storey addition to this house, dating to the 1881–1892 period. Other features included a possible privy and drains.

In order to generate the amount of comparative site data needed to establish characteristic archaeological patterns corresponding to behavioural differences among cultural subgroups, standardized methods are needed. That portion of the urban archaeological record that provides direct, on-site evidence of discrete social, residential, and commercial units within the city will generally correspond to the interface between transitional and industrial stages of urban development.

Figure 6. *Excavating at the rear of a late nineteenth-century yard.*

Conclusions

In conclusion, application of a methodology such as that presented in this paper will better structure our archaeological inquiries on domestic historical sites and thereby obtain a greater understanding of past processes in a built environment. By excavating larger test units near standing structures than those specified in the Ministry of Culture's *Technical Guidelines* (MCTR 1993), enhanced evidence of stratigraphic relationships will be revealed. By concentrating the archival and archaeological work on areas that will reveal evidence of waste and water management, landscape alterations, activity areas, and layout (i.e., farmstead or urban) and

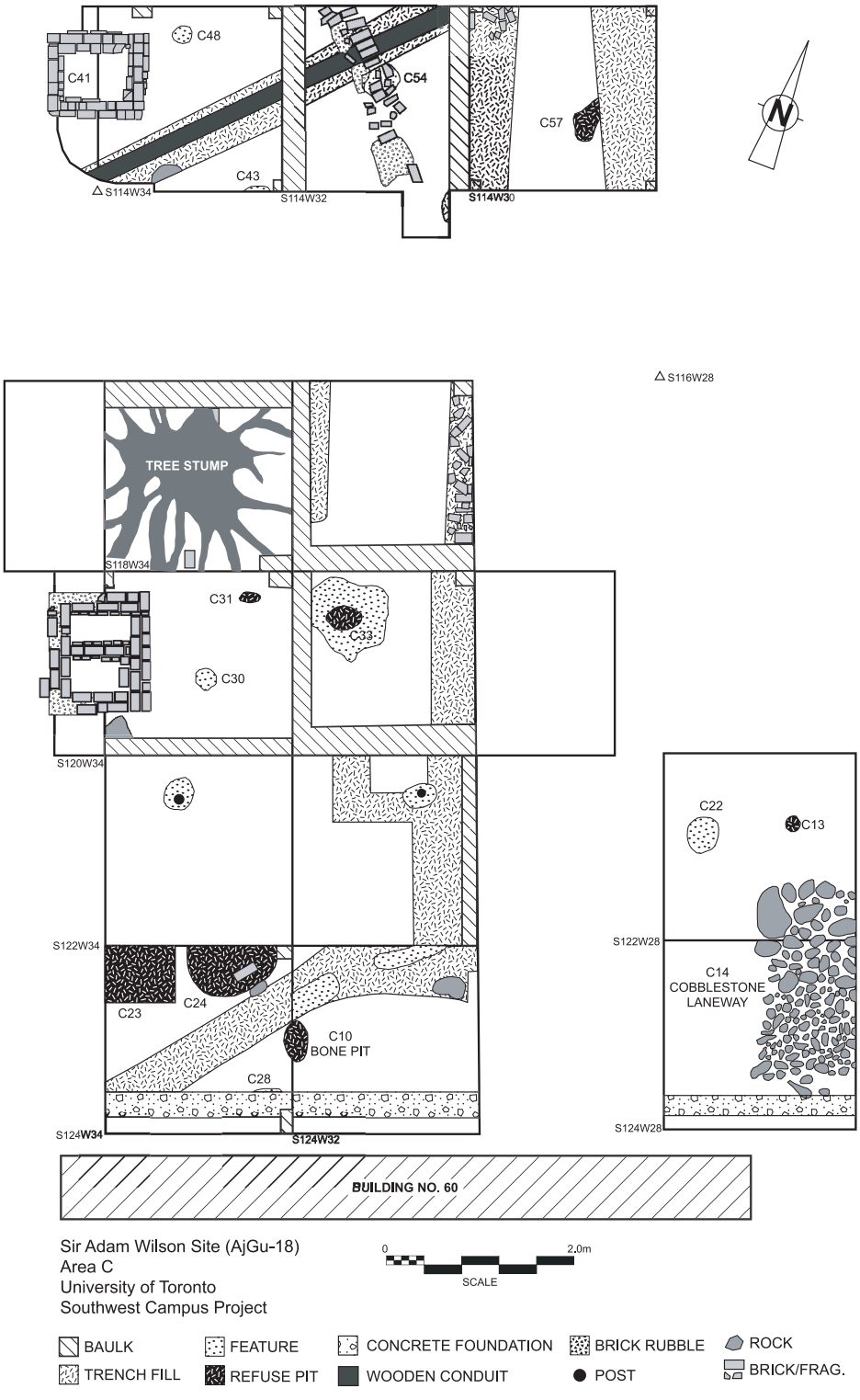

Figure 7. *Site plan of the South West Campus Project showing box privies, drains and other deposits noted in the urban rear yards.*

by paying special attention to morphological characteristics such as extant buildings and land use (the activities carried out on the land or in the buildings), better insights into how a domestic site has changed through time will be gained.

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Il y a une emphase croissante sur l'archéologie du lot familial dans l'archéologie historique. Cette emphase a encouragé un intérêt dans l'arrangement des constituants à l'intérieur du lot familial et dans la manière dont le paysage et les bâtiments étaient utilisés pour définir les relations sociales. La nature, la gamme et la signification d'activités de terrassement sur les sites domestiques, urbains et non-urbains, reflètent souvent et dramatiquement les changements d'un ménage, soient dans la grosseur, la composition, la position économique et/ou sociale, et la division du travail. Une méthodologie intégrée qui incorpore des outils analytiques qui peut fournir de l'information à grains fins sur les activités de terrassement et les changements environnementaux est nécessaire. Il est nécessaire de comprendre l'utilisation d'un site dans le temps d'une perspective archéologique ainsi que documentaire. Il y a aussi un besoin pour une base de données sur le traitement du lot familiale en Ontario. La meilleure approche de l'étude de l'utilisation du sol est à partir d'une perspective diachronique, puisque les vestiges de l'occupation la plus ancienne peuvent être difficile à interpréter sans comprendre ce qui c'est passé après. L'analyse du traitement du paysage devrait être combiné avec une analyse quantitative des phases délinées de construction des constituants et de dépôt des déchets qui se rattachent à la chronologie documentaire de la composition du ménage. De cette façon, l'archéologie des espaces domestiques peut contribuer à notre compréhension de la manière dont les gens changeaient consciemment leurs environs immédiats afin d'établir et de maintenir l'ordre dans le plus grand contexte du monde externe.

Dena Doroszenko
Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 1J3
dena.doroszenko@heritagetrust.on.ca