

The original metal sundial was replaced in the early 1970s by Bert Bailey's nephew, well-known entertainer Lionel Long who gave several concerts in aid of the Kendall Grange Special School.³³ However, this sundial has been replaced within the last five years.

The photographs of the interior of the house show timber-panel walls with high picture-rails. The floors appear to be of polished wood. Judging from the position of the sundial in relation to the front door of the house, 'Kendall Grange' stood in the vicinity of the present-day Chapel.

Another small photograph album in the collection shows views of 'Lake Macquarie, c.1900', which appear to be somewhat older photographs.³⁴ Some of these feature 'The House - Lake MacQuarie' and 'The Hut - Lake MacQuarie', a small weatherboard cottage and a slab hut with rough-cut log roof respectively. It is not clear where these buildings were located. If on Kendall Grange, they may be original dwellings used by the Gorrick and Bailey families. However, it is possible that they stood on the Gorrick property at nearby Sunshine Point.

Towards the end of her life, Ivy Bailey was nursed at the Lewisham hospital of The Little Company of Mary, an Order founded in Nottingham in 1887 by the Venerable Mary Potter, and dedicated to the care of the sick, poor, suffering, and dying. It was established in Australia in 1885 and in August 1887 a hospital was established at Lewisham, initially for the blind, later as a general hospital.³⁵

After Ivy's death at Lewisham on 24 September 1932, Bert and Tim left Australia for a time, and toured China and Japan in early 1933.³⁶ They returned only briefly to Kendall Grange, deciding to sell the property. On 1 July 1934 they moved into an apartment at 'The Beaufort' in Forbes Street, North Sydney, ending their occupancy of the site.³⁷

³³ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 17 August 1972.

³⁴ Papers of Bert Bailey, NLA, MS 6141, Series 8, Bag No.18.

³⁵ Little Company of Mary Global net:LCM-Australia/History

³⁶ "Biographical Note", Papers of Bert Bailey, National Library of Australia (NLA) MS 6141, 1831-1967

³⁷ Legal/Business documents and correspondence of Bert Bailey, 1915-1933 NLA, Series 17, Folder 106.

2.4 1934-1947: *The Little Company of Mary*³⁸

Following Ivy Bailey's death, the Sisters of the Company (also known as the Blue Nuns) sought to buy 'Kendall Grange' as a rest home for sick Sisters of the Order, but the Church hierarchy also became interested in the property. Following an inspection by Dr. Dwyer, Bishop of Wagga Wagga, "The Bluff" was bought for the Bishops (price £5000) and handed over to the Sisters as "a place of rehabilitation for priests off the mission". This heralded a new era for "The Bluff" as the site of St. Joseph's Convalescent Home.

When the property was acquired it was described as "a working rural property" with "a weatherboard cottage and the usual agricultural outbuildings and machinery". Ten Sisters moved into the homestead and "for a year, laboured under extreme difficulties to get the place started".

Funding was raised for "the erection of buildings more suitable to the plan envisaged". An unknown architect was paid £2,013 to design the new buildings, and contractors Irwin and Stewart began work in August 1934 on a £29,914 contract to construct a brick bedroom block, administration block, chapel (now used as a workshop by the caretaker) and boiler room. A farmer's cottage, staff quarters, garages and farm sheds were also built.

The main block was fitted out to take water pipes and electricity, though these services were not connected till 1941. Timber was ant-proofed, and guttering was of copper, as the saltwater lake was only a short distance away. Other building works included the construction of a road, a well and the erection of baths.

Particular care was taken with the gardens, a reflection of Bishop Dwyer's keen interest in botany and also of the desire to create a relaxing and beautiful environment for convalescents. Construction of terraces was included in the builder's scope of works and a professional landscaper, who later became "the Radio gardener expert", was engaged to design a series of rockeries that were planted with "an abundance of rare and beautiful shrubs". A photograph supplied

³⁸ Information for this section and also for the following section is extracted from information provided by the Brothers of St. John of God and the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary

by the Little Company of Mary shows "The Grotto", constructed near the water's edge.

There was apparently a great need for a facility such as St. Josephs. It catered not only for priests who needed a rest from their duties but for a significant number, particularly those from Ireland, England, Italy and other European countries, who were suffering mental illness brought about by their inability to cope in the harsh and unfamiliar Australian conditions. Less than a month after the official opening on 1 February 1935 there were 11 priests in residence, and at times there were up to thirty. There can be little doubt that the Sisters were grateful for the generous assistance regularly provided by Dr. D.A.S. Fraser, Superintendent of the nearby Morisset Psychiatric Hospital.

Conditions were difficult for the Sisters, who brought 5 tons of furniture and household effects from Lewisham to establish St. Josephs. A very poor road was their only link to the nearest township of Morisset, four miles away. In an environment where survival depended on self-sufficiency, the sisters established a dairy herd and an orchard of orange, mulberry and grapefruit trees, and tended paddocks of oats and lucerne. Fowls and pigs were also kept, and fishing nets were cast over the side of the lake pool.

A family called McGrath later moved into the small cottage, providing some relief for the Sisters. Kevin McGrath managed the property while his wife Connie looked after her home and garden, and helped the sisters wherever she was able.

The success of this venture as a convalescent hospital in conjunction with the Sisters' hospital at Lewisham depended on transport from Sydney. Unfortunately, the state of the road deterred many from making the journey and, for a time, the Order took in guests in an attempt to maintain the economic viability of the property. Convalescing priests occasionally spent time at St. Joseph's but they were few in number.

A small cemetery was created on a rise overlooking the lake. Among those interred were a number of priests and Frank Plunkett, a wardsman who had worked at both Lewisham and Morisset. Mother M. Winifred Lucas was also buried there but her remains were later relocated to the Company's traditional ground at Rookwood Cemetery.

By October 1947 it had become apparent that the operation of St. Joseph's Convalescent Home was an increasing financial burden and it was decided to abandon the establishment. However, following what has been described as an act of "divine providence", the site was to retain its role as a rehabilitation centre for those with emotional and psychiatric problems.

2.5 1947- Present: The Hospitallers of St. John of God

Towards the end of 1947, two Hospitaller Brothers of St. John of God, - Brother Killian Herbert, OH and Brother Laurence O'Toole Hartley, OH – came from Ireland to visit Cardinal Gilroy. Founded by John Cuidad in the 16thC, the Order known as The Hospitallers of St. John of God traditionally devoted itself to the care of the chronically ill.

At the time of the Brothers' visit to Cardinal Gilroy, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was expressing concern at the lack of care for sub-normal children. Holding qualifications in both general and psychiatric nursing, the Brothers were well suited to assist and were invited by Cardinal Gilroy to establish their order in his Archdiocese. On 10 December 1947 two Brothers and the first two Australian Postulants took up residence at the Morisset site, which became their first Australian base. Within four months of arrival the property was handed over to them by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which had bought the estate (including 40 acres outside the old Kendall Grange estate) from the Little Company of Mary.

On 6 June 1948 the first boys – 88 in number, aged between 7 and 16, and from all religious denominations - arrived at Kendall Grange.³⁹ The boys ranged in ability from mildly to moderately retarded, with a small number of severely retarded students. The

³⁹ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 9 March 1972.

selection criteria for entry to the home are not known, but the final decision to admit a boy to the school rested solely with his parents.⁴⁰

The home provided a residence for the boys, as well as a programme of scholastic and physical training to enable them to integrate more easily into general society. They enjoyed the benefit of swimming baths, saddle horses and a motor launch.⁴¹ A dairy herd, pigs and poultry, which the boys cared for, provided most of their milk, cream, eggs, and bacon. Household cleaning, washing and ironing was also done by the boys, though a number of voluntary helpers, both professional and domestic, gave their time and services to the children.⁴²

The original site was extended in October 1955 when The Society of St. Vincent de Paul purchased the closed road (Morisset Road) that adjoined the previously mentioned lots in Portions 43 and 44.⁴³

In 1965, a training centre at the school was opened by the then Minister for Health, who praised the complex and the Brothers for creating a community for each boy, "where he is treated with love and sympathy and where he has no feeling of inferiority ... a home and school for 92 boys".⁴⁴

With the change of diocese from Sydney to Maitland in 1968, Kendall Grange lost the support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, who had helped to provide for those boys who had no support from their families. Consequently, extra funding had to be raised from the local community and new diocese.⁴⁵ As a result of this change, the Trustees of the Hospitaller Brothers of St. John became the registered owners of the estate on 19 March 1969.⁴⁶

In the following year, the Trustees acquired four allotments in Alfred Street, Morisset (Lots 8, 9, 30 and 31), and Lot 25 in Bridge Street, Morisset from George Sydney Wicks, Florence Elizabeth Wicks, Charles Blakefield Wicks, and

⁴⁰ *Lake Macquarie Herald*, 10 October 1968

⁴¹ *ibid.*

⁴² *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 20 February 1965.

⁴³ NSW Land Titles Office, Vol.7035, Fol.139.

⁴⁴ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 11 March 1965.

⁴⁵ *Lake Macquarie Herald*, 10 October, 1968, *Maitland Mercury*, 15 January 1969

⁴⁶ NSW Land Titles Office, Vol.6393, Fol.204.

Mervyn George Sydney Wicks, all of Merriwa, who originally purchased these Lots on 19 March 1926.⁴⁷

In 1979, an addition to Kendall Grange - by now a Special School - was opened by the Federal Minister of Education, Senator Carrick. The \$250,000 block consisted of 5 classrooms, a manual arts room, and a music/movement room.⁴⁸

In 1987, in line with the Education Department's policy of de-institutionalisation, changes were made to accommodation arrangements. Now known as Kendall Grange Special School, for emotionally disturbed boys from 6 to 16, the facility received a Government grant of \$197,420 for the construction of group homes. Four brick homes were built, each with four bedrooms - three for students, and one for the house parent. Each house had full living, kitchen, dining, and laundry facilities.⁴⁹ In 1990/1991, a fifth house was added, together with a recreation/sports centre.⁵⁰

In more recent times, Kendall Grange served as a centre for weddings, receptions, conventions and holidays. The facilities included: a reception room for 70-120 guests, with its own dance floor; affordable overnight accommodation for 40 guests (weekdays) or 87 guests (weekends); 5 holiday cottages, 5 motel rooms and a holiday guest house sleeping up to 36; commercial kitchen and catering; and a gymnasium, basketball court, and pool, as well as the natural attractions of lake and bush in waterfront parkland.⁵¹

2.6 Historical Phasing

Historical research indicates six main phases:

1. Pre-European
2. Early Historical 1875-1908 (no occupations known)
3. Gorrick family 1908-1913
4. Bailey family 1913-1934
5. Little Company of Mary 1934-1947
6. Brothers of St. John 1947-2005

⁴⁷ NSW Land Titles Office, Vol.3843, Fols. 66, 77, 151 and 222.

⁴⁸ Newcastle Morning Herald, 22 May 1979.

⁴⁹ Lake Macquarie Post, 6 May 1987.

⁵⁰ Site plans, E.J.E. Architecture, October 1990

⁵¹ Brochure, St. John of God Kendall Grange, undated

2.7 Plates

All plates are sourced from the Bailey Collection held by the National Library of Australia (Papers of Bert Bailey, NLA, MS 6141).



Plate 0.1 View of front (looking west)



Plate 0.2 View of front of house and north side (looking west).



Plate 0.3 View of verandah (looking south).



Plate 0.4 View from house to the sundial (looking east).

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

3.1 *Monitoring*

Historical data indicated the existence of agricultural outbuildings at the time of sale in 1934, and soon afterwards the Sisters constructed a farmer's cottage, staff quarters, garages, farm sheds and a well. Along with the remains of these structures, refuse pits and cesspits and fence lines were also potential finds. On this basis, site visits were made throughout the demolition process to inspect the sub-surface situation in locations at various remove from the house area.

No archaeological remains were observed in the various locations. It was noted, however, that the natural soil profile across the area was consistent. This consisted of recent topsoil (A1) over older topsoil (A2) over a highly leached soil with plentiful gravel (B horizon) over clay (C horizon). The depth of the A1 topsoil increased down slope to the north.

3.2 *Investigation of House Site*

3.2.1 *Location and Overburdens*

The Chapel, a grassed area and part of the walled monastery courtyard occupied the house location indicated by historical photographs (Plate 3.1 p.27). Most helpful was a Norfolk pine growing during the Bailey period (see Plate 2.6 p.21) and still standing near the courtyard. Location relative to the sundial was also indicative (Plate 3.2 p.27, compare with Plate 2.8 p.22).

Subsequent to demolition of the chapel and monastery, residual rubble and turf were removed by machine (Plate 3.3 p.28). Deeper machining revealed the uppermost levels in the courtyard and open area to be imported topsoil (002) over sand fills (fine yellow 007b, coarse orange-brown 010).

Outside the Chapel the sand fills overlay a deposit of dark grey loam rich in structural debris (003). The loam also occurred across the south part of the Chapel, but at the north sand bedding (007a) for the concrete slab sealed structural debris. The debris in 003 included dry press bricks and fragments, small pieces of timber and much asbestos fibro. While several archaeological features were partially visible at this level, most were exposed only by removal of the loam deposit. It also sealed infrequent patches of A1 topsoil (004), the underlying A2 topsoil (005) or the leached B-horizon (006). Intact natural profiles were preserved along the north. Plate 3.4, p.28 show the site after removal of the overburdens and cleaning.



Plate 0.1 View of chapel and monastery, facing northwest [December 2005].



Plate 0.2 View from the Chapel to the sundial, facing east [December 2005].



Plate 0.3 Machining removal of residual demolition debris and overburdens [Roll 1:9, facing E].



Plate 0.4 View of excavation area after removal of overburdens and cleaning [Roll 2:18,19,21]

3.2.2 House Remains

Remains of the structure were limited to the bases of brick piers, ghost of piers and cuts for piers. All bricks were an earlier form of dry press and the mineral lime mortar weak and sandy.

Several short lines of piers were observable (see site plan Figure 3.1 p.33, contexts 015a-b, 018a-c, 021a-e). Piers 021c and 021d at the central south appeared to cut a patch of A1 topsoil remnant in this location. The vast majority of piers were missing.

The larger size of brick feature 019 makes identification as pier base uncertain, though it may have supported a major structural element. The nature of brick feature 023 at the southwest corner is unclear; the rectilinear shape differs to the piers and the brick surfaces lacked mortar. The latter is not necessarily indicative, however, given that some of the pier bases also lacked surface mortar.

Table 0.1 Details of units associated with the house remains.

Unit	Type	Dimensions (cms)	Description
015a-c	Pier bases	23 x 24/25	2 bricks laid N-S in cut, packed around with pale grey mortar, minimal surface mortar See Plate 3.5
017	Pier base?	Width 25	2 bricks laid E-W, no mortar apparent, potentially rubble
018a	Pier base	-	2 bricks laid E-W, one dislodged, in cut with mortar packing, mortar on surfaces
018b	Pier base	24 x 24	3 bricks laid soldier E-W, in cut with mortar packing, mortar on surfaces See Plate 3.15
018c	Pier ghost	22 x 24	Two bricks laid E-W, envelope frogs, no trace of mortar
019	Pier base	30 x 32	2 whole bricks & 5 half bricks in cut with mortar packing, mortar on surfaces with impressions of envelope frogs. See Plate 3.6
020	Pier ghost?	23 x 26	2 brick impressions, some mortar evident; rough alignment with Pads 018c & 019, but not with 015a-c
021a	Pier ghost		2 brick impressions, some mortar evident, skew to but in line with 021b-e
021b	Pier base	24 x 38	3 bricks in cut with mortar packing, mortar on surface with envelope frog impression
021c	Pier base		2 bricks at top disturbed, one course below, in cut with mortar packing, mortar on surfaces. Appears cut into A1 topsoil
021d	Pier base	23 x 24	2 bricks, in cut with mortar packing, no mortar on surfaces. Appears cut into A1 topsoil
021e	Pier cut	40 x 43	Fully rubbed
022	Pier base	22 x 24	2 bricks in cut with mortar packing, mortar on surfaces
023	Pad?	24 x 49	4 bricks laid flat in cut, no mortar on surfaces but evident in packing
024a	Pier ghost	23 x 24	Impression of envelope frog, no mortar evident See Plate 3.7
024b	Pier base		2 bricks plus impression of envelope frog – may have been 3 bricks, more likely dragged 2 out of place, specks of mortar around See Plate 3.7
037	Pier base?	23 x 23	2 bricks, one with shallow envelope frog See Plate 3.14
044	Pier cut	30 x 40, depth 20	Fill 044a mixed humic sandy with concrete fragments, over sand at base
045	Pier cut	35 x 42, depth 10	Fill 045a mixed humic
046	Pier cut	30 x 40, depth 6	Fill 046a mixed humic over sand at base
054	Pier base		1 brick, envelope frog, no mortar evident
055	Pier cut	25 x 39, depth 1-2	Sand at base



Plate 0.5 View across pier bases 015a-c and part of chapel footing 008 [Roll 2:16, facing S]



Plate 0.6 Brick pad 024b & ghost 024a [Roll 2:8, facing W]

3.2.3 Services

At the west were several services - 025, 047, 047a, 050 - that probably connected as a single system. At the base of a broken up-pipe in Service 047a was the inverted base of a flowerpot (Plate 3.8, below). Three artefacts were recovered from soil (052) inside the pipe. Two services partially revealed towards the northeast (043) and southeast (013) appeared to be separate. All were salt-glazed ceramic, and one pipe in Service 025 carried a partial oval stamp with the inscription "[N or W?] F. B C L Thornton" (Plate 3.9 p.35). A ferrous water pipe (048) of 4.4cms (1¾ins) diameter was also evident near Service 047a, and another (053) of the same diameter near Service 050 may be part of the same system. A later PVC service (016) ran along the southeast side of the chapel footings. Initially identified as a service, partially exposed ceramic pipe (014) in the central east area proved to be impressed debris.



Plate 0.7 Service 047 with base of flower pot in broken up pipe [Roll 3:22, facing E]



Plate 0.8 Service 025, fragment with manufacturer's stamp [DB.No.002, SJOG 069]

3.2.4 Garden Features

At the east sat the remains of concrete edging (011, 011a, 012) for a path running north-south. A trench (032) had been cut and the concrete poured into formwork; the base was rough but the upper portion smooth, with a slightly trapezoidal profile 14cms high and 11cms wide at the top (Plate 3.10 p.36). While the soils along the outside (east) or edging 011 appeared to be the natural profile, any original path material seems to have been robbed. Orange sand (010) along the inner side of edging 011 containing fragments of sheet plastic suggested it was late fill. The same sand filled the upper parts of post pipes and packing in two postholes (028, 031) on the east side of the path. This appeared to be the result of partial excavation of the postholes for removal of the posts, just before the sand was laid. While the sand could be bedding for concrete path, debris from its removal was lacking. The sand being post-demolition fill appears more likely.

At the northeast a different type of edging (038a-b) occurred along each side of a concrete path (039) (Plate 3.11 p.37). Around 21cm high with rough base and formed upper portion, the edging had a stepped profile with top width 10.5cm, dropping 9.5cm to lower width of 8cm. Up to 5cm thick and 1.24m wide, the concrete path was laid over sandstone rubble (039a) - which may be bedding or an earlier path. At the east end of the path the edging turned south and formed the perimeter of a garden bed. The bed

contained gravel on black plastic sheet (040) overlying a remnant soil (041). Dusty brown humic with shell and gravel (otherwise sterile), this soil may be disturbed topsoil.

A line of concrete edging fragments (035) just south of edging 038 and of the same type ran east-west (Plate 3.12 p.37). The fragments sat on a remnant clay deposit (036) 4-5cm thick and overlying A2 subsoil. It is unclear if they mark the end of the path in this direction, a step up to the path to the south (011-012 were higher) or they are out of place. Also unclear was whether an adjacent pier base (037) cut the clay deposit; whatever the case, this pier base was isolated from the main area of pads.

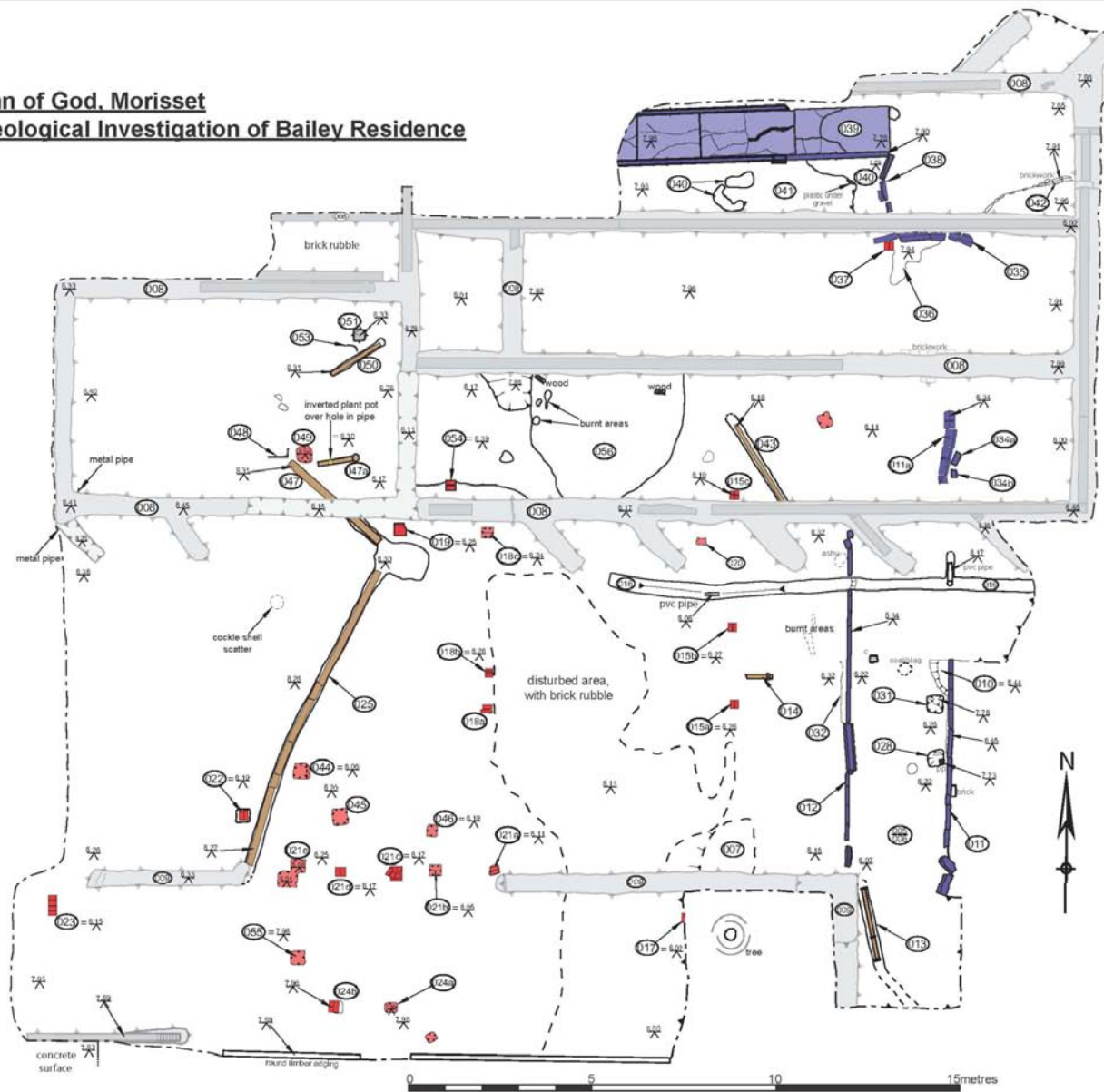
East of edging 038 was partially exposed garden edging (042) of dry press bricks faced with concrete. The remains were badly disturbed but possibly suggest a curved form (Plate 3.13 p.38).



*Plate 0.9 Concrete path edging 011, north end, also showing natural soil profile on east (left) side
[Roll2:6, facing S]*

St. John of God, Morisset
Archaeological Investigation of Bailey Residence

Key	
	Surviving brick wall
	Concrete footing
	Foundation trench
	Brick pillar support
	Cut for brick pillar
	Pathway edging
	Ceramic pipe
pp	post-pipe
c	concrete



3.2.5 Harris Matrix

