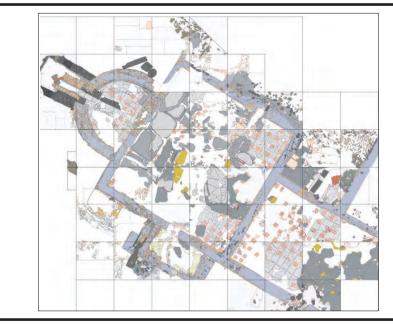
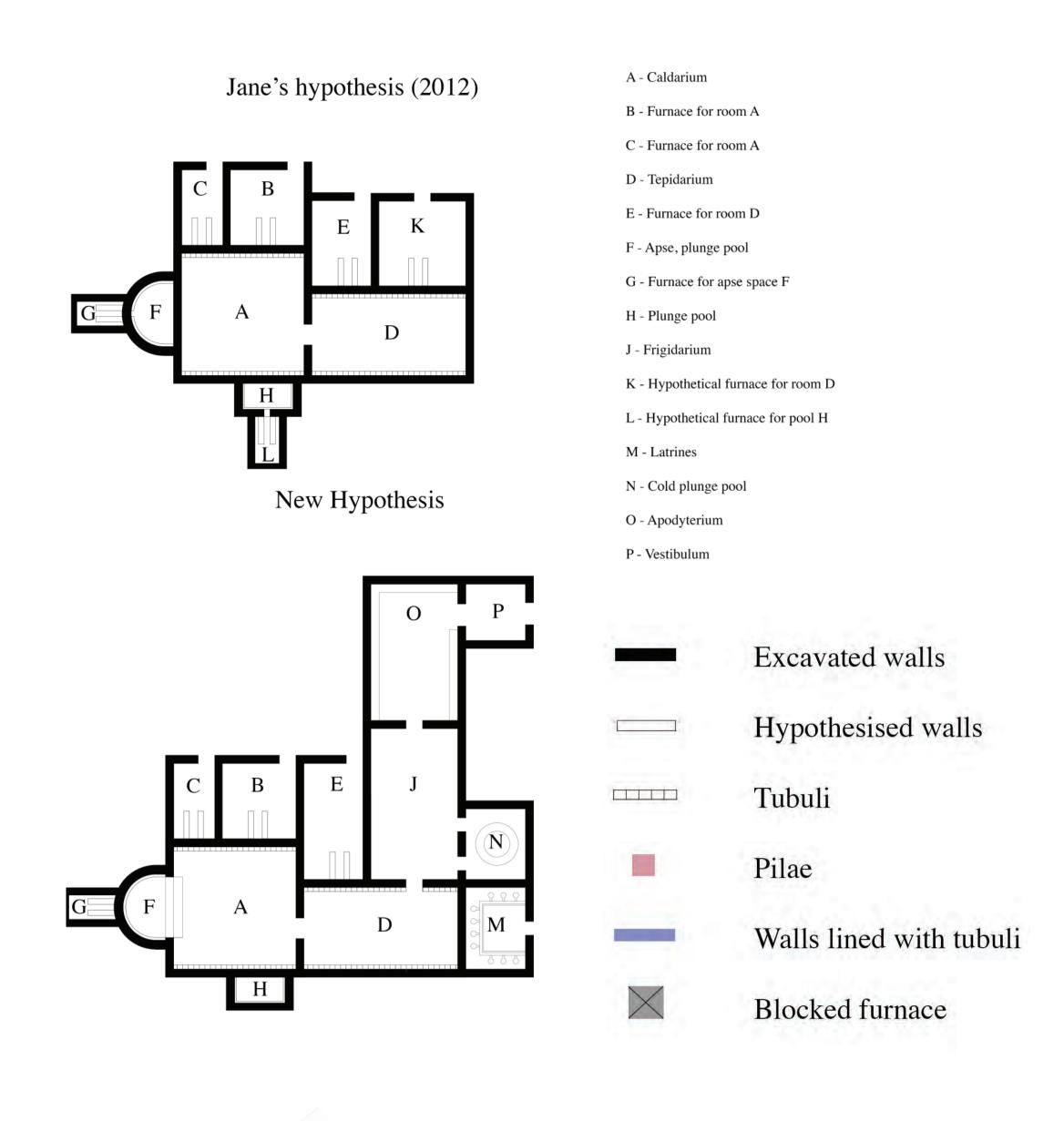


BATH COMPLEX - RECONSTRUCTION

CARSULAE BATHS RESEARCH PROJECT - SAN GEMINI PRESERVATION STUDIES



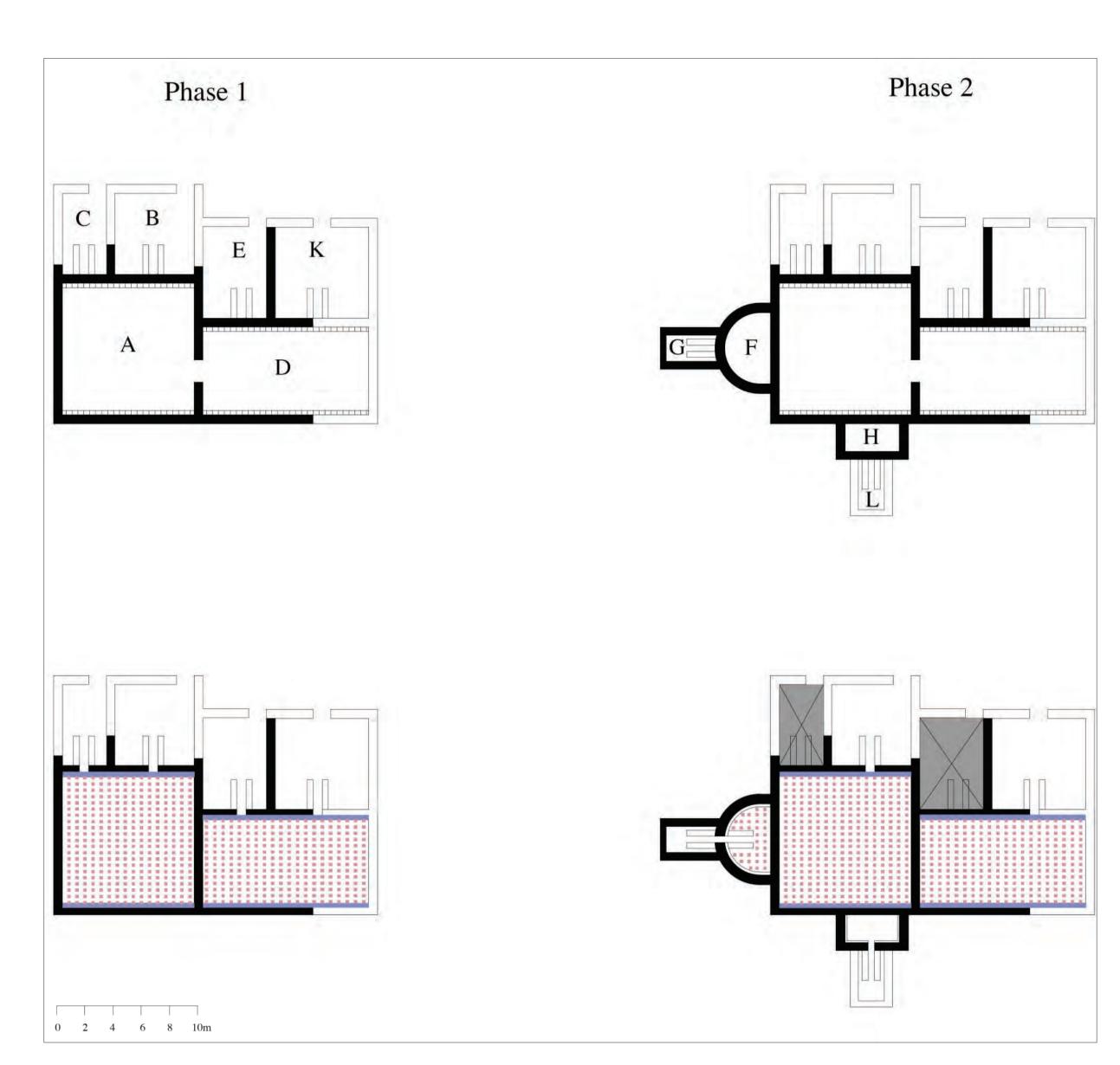


Hypothesis I, 2012

This hypothesis is discussed in the 2012 excavation report by Archaeological Director Jane Whitehead. The construction is split into two phases.

Phase 1: Heated rooms A and D were built with adjacent furnaces: C,B for room A and E,K for room D.

Phase 2: The apse (F) and room H have been added as heated plunge pools, F heated by furnace G and H heated by furnace L. There is clear evidence of hypocaust floors (F,A,D) and arched furnace openings (C,B,E), however, the existence of furnace L or the fact that space K is another furnace and not a room are only speculations.





Hypothesis II, 2018

This hypothesis is based upon field survey work and meetings with experts in archaeological interpretation, conducted between 10 and 31 July of 2018 by the San Gemini Preservation Studies team. Our team came up with a speculative plan with possible additional rooms not yet excavated. This hypothesis is based on 3 different phases of construction.

Phase 1: Room A was built with furnace B heating its hypocaust floor and possibly room D constituted a vestibulum to this very simple early bath building.

Phase 2: Entrance room D was also turned into a heated room with the addition of a hypocaust floor and furnace E. Room A became the caldarium by adding another furnace C and apse F, which probably had a labrum. Room J was added as the new vestibulum.

Phase 3: Is when the complete set of thermal bath facilities were added to the complex, such as pools, latrines, changing rooms, etc and is the time when the three primary rooms of Roman baths were clearly distinguished: the caldarium, the tepidarium and the frigidarium. Plunge pool H has been added to the caldarium (A). With the addition of furnace G and a hypocaust floor the apse (F) was turned into a heated pool. Furnace B has been closed, and thus only furnace A and possibly G were heating space A. Furnace E is closed off as well suggesting that the tepidarium (D) became heated only through heat transmission from the adjacent room. Room J becomes the coolest room of the thermal complex, the frigidarium, with cold pool N added to it. Further facilities were also added to the baths including: latrines (M), apodyterium (O) and a new vestibulum (P).

