

# 3 Thames Street Wallingford Oxfordshire



## Archaeological Watching Brief Report



February 2012

**Client: Gordon Spencer**

Issue No: 1

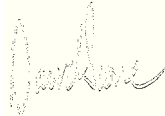
OA Job No: 5117

NGR: Centred on SU 6089 8941





Client Name: Gordon Spencer  
Client Ref No:  
Document Title: 3 Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire  
Document Type: Archaeological Watching Brief Report  
Issue/Version Number: 1  
Grid Reference: Centred on SU 6089 8941  
Planning Reference: P11/W00751  
Invoice Code: WA3THWB  
OA Job Number: 5117  
Site Code: WA3TH11  
Receiving Museum: Oxfordshire County Museum Service  
Museum Accession No.: OXCMS:2011.138

Issue	Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by	Signature
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Document File Location: Projects on Server1/3 Thames Street Wallingford/Report  
Graphics File Location: Sever go:/oaupubs 1\_RtoZ\*WA3THA11\*WA3THAWB\*3 Thames Street,  
Wallingford, Oxfordshire\*GS\*25.01.12  
Illustrated by: Georgina Slater

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## 3 Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire

*Archaeological Watching Brief Report*

*Written by Mike Sims*

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## **Summary**

*Between July and August 2011 Oxford Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief during the construction of a new extension at 3 Thames Street, Wallingford. The watching brief recorded evidence for two phases of medieval occupation on the site including a number of rubbish pits. These were sealed by post-medieval worked soil. No features or dating evidence earlier than the 12<sup>th</sup> century was observed.*



## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Gordon Spencer to undertake an archaeological watching brief of the site of a proposed extension to 3 Thames Street, Wallingford.
- 1.1.2 The work is being undertaken as part of the condition attached to the Planning Consent (planning ref: P11/W0075). A brief was set by the Planning Archaeologist, Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services (OCAS 2011) detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to discharge the planning condition and OA produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) showing how it would meet these requirements (OA 2011).

### 1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 3 Thames Street is located at NGR SU 6089 8941 in the east of Wallingford, on the eastern side of Thames Street and to the south of the junction with St Peters Street (Fig. 1). The site lies at approximately 47m OD and the underlying geology is river gravel overlain by alluvium. The site is situated in the rear yard of the building and was paved with stone slabs.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The site lies within an area of some archaeological interest located within the historic core of the Saxon defended town. The site is located immediately west of the suggested line of the Saxon defences. An archaeological watching brief carried out on the adjacent property to the south during excavation of a basement and foundations for a new house revealed numerous pits of early medieval and post medieval date. The site appears to have been occupied during the late 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries, abandoned in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and reoccupied later between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries (EOX 1386). A separate watching brief was undertaken on the adjacent property to the east which recorded evidence for a post medieval house. However, the investigation only consisted of the monitoring of eight 600mm square pads and a 1200mm square soakaway (EOX 1989).
- 1.3.2 The site is also located 65m NW of the proposed site of the Church of St John (PRN 7788) which was in existence by 1160 and destroyed by 1550 and a small investigation in the early 1980s 40m east, at Bridge House, recorded a number of substantial wall footings.

## 2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area.
- 2.1.2 To record the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains affected by the proposed works.
- 2.1.3 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features within the site and to take samples where appropriate.



- 2.1.4 To make available the results of the investigation.

## 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The watching brief was undertaken as a continuous archaeological presence during those groundworks likely to have an impact on any potentially significant archaeological deposits. These works included the hand excavation of foundation trenches and pads and the diversion of services. Investigation and recording was undertaken in line with the procedures outlined in the WSI for the work and the OA field manual (OA 1992).

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Description of deposits

- 3.1.1 The excavations comprised four discreet areas (Fig. 2), the excavation of two foundation trenches along the southern edge of the site, the excavation of a foundation pad at the north-west corner of the development and the excavation of a large trial pit/foundation pad against the centre of the northern wall of the excavation.

#### ***Foundation Trench 1 (Fig. 3: Section 1)***

- 3.1.2 This trench was dug inside an outbuilding to provide a foundation trench for an internal wall. It measured 2.5 m in length, 0.35 m wide and 0.9 m deep.
- 3.1.3 A layer of light grey-brown sandy silt (7) was exposed in the base of the trench. This deposit contained a number of small sub-angular stones and could be seen to be in excess of 0.32 m deep within the section. The western half of this layer was cut by a steeply sided pit (8) running the width of the trench. The top of this feature was filled by a dark grey-brown sandy silt (9). No dating evidence was recovered from this deposit.
- 3.1.4 Overlying these deposits was a 0.16 m deep layer of dark brown sandy silt (6). This in turn was covered by a layer of very dark blue-grey/black sandy silt measuring up to 0.22 m in depth (5). This deposit contained occasional gravel and small sub-angular stone inclusions. A brick drain/culvert (3) running out of the eastern side of the outbuilding appears to have been constructed at this level. Butting up to the drain was a 0.22 m deep layer of mixed sand and gravel (2). This appears to be a layer of made ground forming the bed for a brick and stone slab floor (1).

#### ***Foundation Trench 2 (Fig. 3: Section 2)***

- 3.1.5 This trench was dug across the northern end of the outbuilding and also across the yard connecting to the existing house. It measured 5.1 m in length, 0.6 m wide and was up to 1.4 m in depth.
- 3.1.6 The stratigraphy exposed within the section of the trench showed a sequence of possible pits.
- 3.1.7 Exposed within the south-west corner of the excavation was a layer of light brown, possibly cess stained, sandy silt (26) at a depth of 1.15 m below ground level. Overlying this was a 0.5 m deep layer of greenish grey silty sand (12) which produced a quantity of animal bone. Both these deposits appear to be pit fills rather than occupation layers, however the edge of the associated pit was not observed.
- 3.1.8 The eastern extent of 12 was cut by a steep sided feature, circular in plan, which could be seen to be in excess of 0.9 m in depth (13). Exposed within the base of this feature was a tipline of dark brown sandy silt (25) measuring greater than 0.25 m in depth in





section. This deposit also produced a quantity of animal bone. Overlying 25 and running the full width of 13 was a deposit of grey-brown sandy silt (14), measuring at least 0.2 m in depth. This produced fragments of both pottery and ceramic building material. Covering 14 was a 0.2 m deep band of dark brown/ black sandy silt (15). The remainder of the pit was filled by a 0.4 m deep layer of dark brown sandy silt (16) which produced fragments of bone, pottery and building material.

- 3.1.9 Approximately within the centre of the section the eastern extent of 16 was truncated by a second circular steep sided pit (17). This could be seen to be in excess of 0.5 m in depth within the section. Exposed at the base of the section was the top of a layer of fill composed of redeposited gravel mixed with a grey silt (18). The remainder of the pit was filled with a dark grey-brown sandy silt 0.3 m in depth (19). No finds were recovered from either of these deposits.
- 3.1.10 The eastern extent of 17 was in turn cut by a third steep sided circular pit measuring approximately 2 m in diameter and in excess of 0.5 m in depth (20). This feature also cut a deposit of dark grey sandy silt (23) at the north-eastern edge of the trench. Within the base of the trench a layer of dark grey sandy silt (21) containing animal bone was exposed. Overlying this was a 0.45 m deep deposit of dark blue-grey silt (22) which produced charcoal flecking, slag, shards of pottery and animal bone.
- 3.1.11 Sealing pit 17 and also pit 13 was a 0.25 m deep layer of very dark grey silty loam (5), a probable horizon of worked soil. This had been cut by the foundation trench for the eastern wall of the outbuilding (11). A 0.22 m deep layer of crushed brick, mortar and gravel had been laid over 5 butting up to the interior face of wall 11.
- 3.1.12 East of wall 11 pit 20 was sealed by a 0.5 m deep layer of grey-brown mixed soil and gravel (24). This layer contained many small fragments of crushed brick. The concrete yard surface had been laid directly over this deposit.

#### ***Foundation Pad (Fig. 4: Section 3)***

- 3.1.13 This measured approximately 0.9 m square by 0.6 m deep and was dug in the north-western corner of the extension.
- 3.1.14 A layer of dark grey-brown silty clay loam in excess of 0.4 m in depth (28) was exposed within the base and sides of the excavation. This deposit contained charcoal flecking and produced fragments of post-medieval brick and pottery together with animal bone suggesting that it was a worked or garden soil.
- 3.1.15 A 0.1 m deep cement bed had been laid directly over this layer forming the base for the stone slab yard surface (27).

#### ***Trial Pit (Fig. 4: Section 4)***

- 3.1.16 A test pit measuring 1.9 m long, 0.8 m wide and up to 2.2 m in depth was excavated against the southern wall of the house in order to determine the depth of the underlying gravel and to provide information to the architect.
- 3.1.17 The underlying natural gravel, a fine yellow-brown ballast (37) was observed at a depth of 2.1 m below the yard surface. Overlying this was a 0.52 m deep layer of dark grey-brown silt loam (36). This contained charcoal flecking and produced fragments of pottery and animal bone. It was in turn overlaid by a compacted layer of greenish yellow-grey silt loam (35), up to 0.6 m in depth. It also contained charcoal flecking and produced fragments of pottery and animal bone.



- 3.1.18 Cut into the surface of layer 35 was a steep sided roughly circular pit, approximately 1.2 m in diameter and with a depth greater than 1.1 m (34). The feature was filled with a dark grey silt loam (33) containing charcoal flecking and which produced many fragments of early medieval pottery.
- 3.1.19 Sealing the fill and also overlying 35 was a 0.45 m deep layer of dark grey-brown clay loam (32). This contained charcoal flecking, sherds of pottery and animal bone and possibly represents an earlier worked soil horizon. Overlying 32 was a 0.6 m deep layer of dark grey silty loam (31), which produced fragments of post-medieval brick and is a possible continuation of layer 24.
- 3.1.20 Layer 31 had been cut by a post-medieval service trench (30) and both 30 and 31 were sealed by the cement bed for the stone slabs forming the yard surface.

### 3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 Dating evidence was recovered from the majority of the deposits. These finds included numerous sherds of pottery, ceramic building material and animal bone.
- 3.2.2 The pottery (Appendix B) has been examined and dated to two broad clusters, 1175 -1275 AD and post-medieval (late 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards). Two fragments (possibly from the same vessel) outside these groups dated to the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> centuries together with 3 pieces of clay roof tile provisionally dated to the same period. These were recovered from a possible occupation layer (7). No other evidence dating to the medieval period was recovered.
- 3.2.3 The majority of the brick and tile recovered (Appendix C) was of modern origin and its presence was noted but it was not retained.
- 3.2.4 The animal bone assemblage (Appendix D) was typical of domestic household refuse from the medieval period and included cattle, sheep/goat and pig. There was also a relatively high occurrence of avian bone although interpretation of this is problematic given the small scale of the investigation.

### 3.3 Environmental remains

- 3.3.1 No environmental samples were retained due to the possibility of contamination in the confined spaces of the excavations and the limited potential for interpretation of the features.



## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The watching brief observed several distinct phases of occupation of the site. The underlying natural, a terrace gravel (37) was encountered at a depth of 2.1 m below the current ground level. The layer directly overlying the natural, 36, was friable and may represent an earlier worked soil horizon. This was overlaid by two probable occupation layers (32) and (35). The lower deposit, 35, was loose and displays some evidence of it being a worked soil. The upper one, 32, had been compacted and displayed a greenish tinge possibly evidence of cess staining ? The compaction suggests that the area may have been heavily trodden either by people accessing the river or possibly by occupants of a building in the immediate vicinity. The presence of the cess staining may also be indicative of nearby habitation.
- 4.1.2 The pottery recovered has been used to date these deposits. The dating evidence was broadly similar in all three deposits and displayed an age range of between 1175 AD and 1275 AD. The rubbish pit sealed by layer 32 also displayed a similar age range. The depth (1.4 m) of these deposits may suggest that there was intensive activity in the area allowing thick deposits to build up.
- 4.1.3 The sequence of rubbish pits observed within the two foundation trenches also appears to be associated with this period of occupation with the recovered pottery also giving an age range of between 1175 AD and 1275 AD.
- 4.1.4 Although the archaeology observed is indicative of occupation no structural evidence for any buildings dating to this period was observed.
- 4.1.5 The sole evidence for medieval activity on this site was recovered from layer 7 and totalled two fragments of pottery and three of glazed roofing tile dating to the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. Although the investigation area was only small the low density of finds from this period may suggest that the area was no longer occupied and may indicate that the population of Wallingford had contracted from its heyday in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries leaving areas outside the city walls abandoned. This decline in activity predates the arrival of the "Black Death" from the continent.
- 4.1.6 The results recorded are similar to the observations made during work on the adjacent property to the south.
- 4.1.7 The post-medieval deposits and features observed relate to the buildings which currently occupy the site.



## APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Type	Depth	Width	Comments	Finds	Date
1	Surface	0.01 m	2.5 m	Outbuilding floor, mixture of brick, tile and stone slabs	Brick, tile	C19th/ C20th
2	Layer	0.22 m	2.5 m	Made ground/ levelling layer	Brick, tile	C19th/ C20th
3	Structure	0.28 m	0.3 m	Brick drainage culvert	Brick	C19th/ C20th
4	Fill	0.1 m	0.25 m	Silting within drain 3	-	C19th/ C20th
5	Layer	0.22 m	2.5 m	Buried topsoil horizon	-	-
6	Layer	0.14 m	2.5 m	Buried soil horizon	-	-
7	Layer	0.32 m	> 1.7 m	Buried soil horizon	Pottery	C14th/ C15th
8	Cut	> 0.3 m	> 0.74 m	Rubbish pit	-	-
9	Fill	> 0.3 m	> 0.74 m	Fill of pit 8	-	-
10	Structure	3.5 m	0.5 m	Boundary wall/ east wall of outbuilding	Brick	C19th/ C20th
11	Structure	2.5 m	0.5 m	West wall of outbuilding	Brick	C19th/ C20th
12	Fill ?	0.48 m	> 0.4 m	Possible layer of fill within earlier pit	Bone	-
13	Cut	0.54 m	> 1.9 m	Rubbish pit	-	c1275 AD
14	Fill	> 0.1 m	> 1.9 m	Lower layer of fill within pit 13	Pot, shell	1225 – 1275 AD
15	Fill	0.2 m	> 1.9 m	Layer of fill within pit 13	-	-
16	Fill	0.38 m	> 1.9 m	Upper layer of fill within pit 13	Pot, bone	1175 – 1275 AD
17	Cut	> 0.5 m	> 0.9 m	Rubbish pit	-	c1275 AD
18	Fill	> 0.2 m	> 0.9 m	Lower layer of fill within pit 17	-	c1275 AD
19	Fill	0.28 m	> 0.9 m	Upper layer of fill within pit 17	-	c1275 AD
20	Cut	> 0.5 m	2.2 m	Circular rubbish pit	-	c1275 AD



21	Fill	> 0.2 m	2 m	Lower layer of fill within pit 20	Bone	-
22	Fill	0.45 m	2.2 m	Upper layer of fill within pit 20	Pot, bone, slag	1225 – 1275 AD
23	Fill ?	> 0.2 m	> 0.2 m	Possible fill within earlier pit	Pot, bone	1175 – 1275 AD
24	Layer	0.5 m	> 1.7 m	Made ground	Brick	C19th/ C20th
25	Fill	> 0.3 m	0.5 m	Lower layer of fill within pit 13	Bone	-
26	Fill ?	> 0.1 m	> 0.2 m	Possible layer of fill within earlier pit	-	-
27	Surface	0.1 m	> 2 m	Stone slab yard surface	-	C20th
28	Layer	> 0.4 m	> 0.9 m	Post-medieval garden soil (same as 31?)	Pot, bone, brick	C19th/ C20th
29	Fill	0.8 m	0.45 m	Backfill of service trench 30	Brick, salt glazed pipe	C20th
30	Cut	0.8 m	0.45 m	Service (sewer) trench	-	C20th
31	Layer	0.6 m	> 1.5 m	Post-medieval garden soil, contemporary with house	Brick	C19th/ C20th
32	Layer	0.45 m	> 1.5 m	Buried soil horizon	Pot, Bone	1175 – 1275 AD
33	Fill	> 1 m	> 0.8 m	Fill of pit 34	Pot, bone	1175 – 1275 AD
34	Cut	> 1 m	> 0.8 m	Circular rubbish pit	-	C12th/ C13th ?
35	Layer	0.45 m	> 0.8 m	Occupation layer	Pot, bone	1175 – 1275 AD
36	Layer	0.5 m	> 0.8 m	Occupation layer	Pot, bone	1175 – 1275 AD
37	Layer	> 0.2 m	> 0.8 m	Natural terrace gravel	-	-



## APPENDIX B. POTTERY BY JOHN COTTER

### *Introduction and methodology*

B.1.1 A total of 143 sherds of pottery weighing 3220g. were recovered from ten contexts. The pottery was examined and spot-dated. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.).

### *Date and nature of the assemblage*

B.1.2 The assemblage is in a fresh though fragmentary condition with many large sherds present and has clearly not been redeposited to any significant extent. Nearly all the pottery types present are covered in Mellor's survey of medieval pottery in Oxfordshire (Mellor 1994). The latest pottery comprises two sherds of probable 14th- or 15th-century date from Context (7) including a possible Cheam (Surrey) ware cooking pot rim and a developed-looking jug sherd of Ashampstead-type (Newbury C) ware. The rest of the assemblage is remarkably consistent in character and date with all contexts datable to either c 1175-1275(?) or c 1225-1275(?).

B.1.3 The dominant ceramic industry represented here is Wallingford ware (Fabric WA38; Mellor 1994, 61-3) which has a full date range of c 1025-1275 but the presence of flint- and limestone-tempered Newbury B (East-Wiltshire-type, OXAQ) ware in almost every context dates these to after c 1175 when this fabric became widespread in the region. A couple of contexts are dated after c 1225 by the presence of a few sherds of glazed Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM) jugs. The Wallingford ware assemblage comprises a typical range of wheel-thrown sandy ware cooking pots with large beaded rims or thumbled rims. One large cooking pot rim (ctx 23) has a band of characteristic rouletted decoration on the shoulder (ibid., fig. 16.23). Also present are a few early highly decorated and glazed pitchers (possibly tripod pitchers?) with characteristic braided and plain rod strip decoration inlaid down the length of a broad strap handle in the regional tripod pitcher style of c 1075-1250. A few of these might be in Ashampstead-type ware (OXAG) which can be similar, though generally redder, but more detailed analysis would be required to determine this.

B.1.4 Rarer Wallingford ware forms were present including a bifid- or hammerhead-rim bowl, a spike cresset-lamp and a perforated and sooted sherd possibly from a curfew (firecover). The Newbury B ware (OXAQ) assemblage is smaller but comprises a typical range of cooking pots rims, a jug/jar shoulder with stabbed or rouletted decoration and a perforated sherd from a curfew.

B.1.5 The earliest pieces in the assemblage (both residual) comprise a body sherd of possible late Saxon Oxfordshire shelly ware (OXB, c 775-1050) (ctx 33), and a classic St Neot's-type ware hammerhead bowl rim (OXR, c 900-1100) (ctx 36). Fuller details may be consulted in the spreadsheet.



**Table of pottery spot dates**

Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
7	14-15C?	2	61	Broad horizontal flanged cpot rim in fine white sandy fabric w splash of copper green glz under rim - Cheam ware? Brown-glazed WT ?jug bs in orange sandy fabric - poss Newbury C (OXAG)?
14	c1225-1275?	4	136	Bs poss Brill jug or sl coarser SE Ox (OX162) with prominent red-tinted quartz and a clear copper green glz. 1x thumbled cpot rim - prob Newbury B ware. 2x joining Wallingford ware (WA38) strap handle from a pitcher with 4 neatly inlaid strips inserted into handle - the 2 central ones are braided, & strips on body around handle - prob c1075-1275?
16	c1175-1275?	9	178	Newbury B cpot rim & Bss. Wallingford ware thumbled cpot rim & bss. Green-glazed med ?Wall ware bs glazed inside & out. Finer sandy cream unglz bs - poss OX162?
22	c1225-1275?	8	285	2x green-glazed ?Brill or OX162 jug handles - 1 oval & 1 rod. Wallingford ware incl glazed pitcher rim with edge notching like OXY & int/ext brownish-green glz (or poss OXAG?); Wall ware cpot rim & bss
23	c1175-1275?	8	181	Large fresh Wallingford ware cpot w thumbled rim & bands of horizontal square rouletting on shoulder; other Wall bss & small thumbled cpot rim. 2 Newbury B bss from same vessels with crude bands of square rouletting or notching
28	c1175-1275?	3	77	2x Wallingford ware from same glazed pitcher incl braided strap handle & shoulder bs w incised zig-zag dec & strips - JOINS (14). Base NEWB
32	c1175-1275?	42	884	Fresh Wallingford ware cpots with thumbled rims or large beaded/clubbed rims or hammerhead rims. Few glazed pitcher bss. Fresh NEWB cpot rims
33	c1175-1275?	20	432	Fresh Wallingford ware cpots with thumbled rims or large beaded/clubbed rims. Few glazed pitcher bss. 1 Wall ware bs with small pre-firing piercing & int sooting - curfew? 1x Wall ware long spike from a cresset lamp. 1x Wall ware unusual pitcher/jug rim w broad thumbled facets on edge of rim - each with central stabbed pit (like Laverstock etc) with strap handle stub and incised lattice dec on neck, greenish-yell glz int/ext. Few NEWB incl bs with oval pre-firing perforation 10mm diam & sooting int - prob curfew? 1x shelly ware bs with coarse fossil oyster - poss late Saxon shelly OXB??
35	c1175-1275?	23	563	Wall ware cpot rims & thumbled bifid bowl rim w ext knife-trimming of lower wall. Few dec glazed pitcher sherds incl horiz thumbled strip. Few NEWB incl cpot with broad hammerhead rim
36	c1175-1275?	24	423	Mainly Wall ware incl thumbled & beaded cpot rims, 2 glz pitcher bss. 2x NEWB incl cpot rim. 1x prob residual classic St Neot's ware hammerhead bowl rim c900-1100
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>143</b>	<b>3220</b>	



## APPENDIX C. CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL AND MORTAR BY JOHN COTTER

- C.1.1 The CBM assemblage comprises 4 pieces weighing 142g. These came from just two contexts. These have not been recorded elsewhere but are described here. The assemblage consists entirely of flat roof tile (peg tile) which appear to be of medieval date - although they cannot generally be closely dated.
- Context (7) - 3 pieces (124g.): 13th-16th century? Tiles in an orange-red firing sandy fabric. One very uneven piece (14mm. thick) is covered with a greenish-brown glaze externally and may be of 13th-14th century date. The other two smaller unglazed pieces are not closely datable. One piece (11mm. thick) has traces of a circular nailhole.
  - Context (36) - 1 piece (18g.): 13th-16th century? Spalled/worn tile fragment in hard orange-red sandy fabric.
- C.1.2 No further work on the CBM assemblage is recommended.
- C.1.3 Two pieces of building mortar (43g.) were recovered. These are fairly undatable but are described below.
- C.1.4 Context (32) 1 piece (9g.): Medieval/post-medieval? Small wedge-shaped section piece of hard dark grey mortar with narrow rectangular face (13mm. deep). Probably from pointing between rows of tiles or bricks - traces of reddish brown tile/brick-like material on one side. Fresh and not very old-looking.
- C.1.5 Context (35) 1 piece (34g.): Medieval/post-medieval? Slab-like piece of light grey mortar (8-12mm. thick). Probably from pointing or bonding layer between rows of tiles or bricks - traces of reddish brown tile/brick-like material on one side. Fine-grained sandy matrix with sparse coarse rounded inclusions of quartz, limestone and ironstone and some rounded voids containing sparry calcite or gypsum.
- C.1.6 No further work on the mortar assemblage is recommended.





## APPENDIX D. ANIMAL BONE BY LENA STRID

- D.1.1 A total of 314 hand-collected animal bones were recovered from this site (Table 1). The assemblage was rapidly scanned in order to ascertain the species represented in the features. The bones generally were in a fair condition. Only one bone was burnt.
- D.1.2 The distribution of species and skeletal elements suggests that the assemblage is household refuse. The predomination of cattle and sheep/goat is common in medieval urban households (Grant 1988, 153), but the frequency of avian remains is unusually high. It is unclear whether this is an effect of the household's diet choices or whether bones from larger animals were deposited away from the back yard to a greater extent than bones from smaller animals. However, it cannot be excluded that the large number of bird bones is a sign of bias from the overall small sample size.
- D.1.3 Judging by epiphyseal fusion and tooth wear, the majority of the cattle, sheep/goat and pig were slaughtered as sub-adults or adults. One unfused sheep/goat metacarpal (12) was short and wide, suggesting it might belong to a goat. One skull fragment from a calf and one scapula from a neonatal dog were recovered from context (35). Both juvenile and adult avian remains were present.
- D.1.4 Pathological conditions were noted on two bones: one goose humerus (36) with porous bone growth on the shaft, probably caused by an infection, and one cattle pelvis (12) with bone deformation on the rim of the acetabulum and eburnation. This is a common sign of degenerative joint disease for animals used for traction.
- D.1.5 While no further information can be gained from such a small sample of bones, the assemblage can be utilised for research into diet and animal use in medieval Wallingford. I recommend that they be stored for future research.

	Total	7	12	16	21	22	23	25	28	32	33	35	36
<b>Cattle</b>	<b>37</b>	2	1	3	2	8	1	4		8		5	3
<b>Sheep/ goat</b>	<b>38</b>	5	5	2		4	1	2		6	4	7	2
<b>Pig</b>	<b>9</b>		2	2		1			1			3	
<b>Dog</b>	<b>1</b>											1	
<b>Domestic fowl</b>	<b>24</b>			2		3				6	4	7	2
<b>Goose</b>	<b>22</b>			1		1				8	2	3	7
<b>Duck</b>	<b>1</b>										1		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>

Table 1. Number of identified species/context in the bone assemblage from 3 Thames St, Wallingford.



## APPENDIX E. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- Grant, A 1988            Animal Resources, in *The countryside of Medieval England* (eds G Astill and A Grant), 149-187, Oxford
- OA 2011                 3 Thames Street, Wallingford: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief
- OA 1992                 Field manual (1<sup>st</sup> Edition, edited Wilkinson D)
- OCAS 2011             Design Brief for an archaeological watching brief at 3 Thames Street, Wallingford



## APPENDIX F. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name:	3 Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire
Site code:	WA3TH11
Grid reference:	Centred on SU 6089 8941
Type of watching brief:	Hand excavation of foundations and service trenches for a house extension.
Date and duration of project:	July to August 2011
Area of site:	Approximately 100 m <sup>2</sup>
Summary of results:	The watching brief observed a sequence of possible medieval occupation levels and associated rubbish pits overlain by post-medieval worked soil.
Location of archive:	The archive is currently located at Janus House but will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum Service under the Accession Number OXCMS:2011.138





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Figure 1: Site location



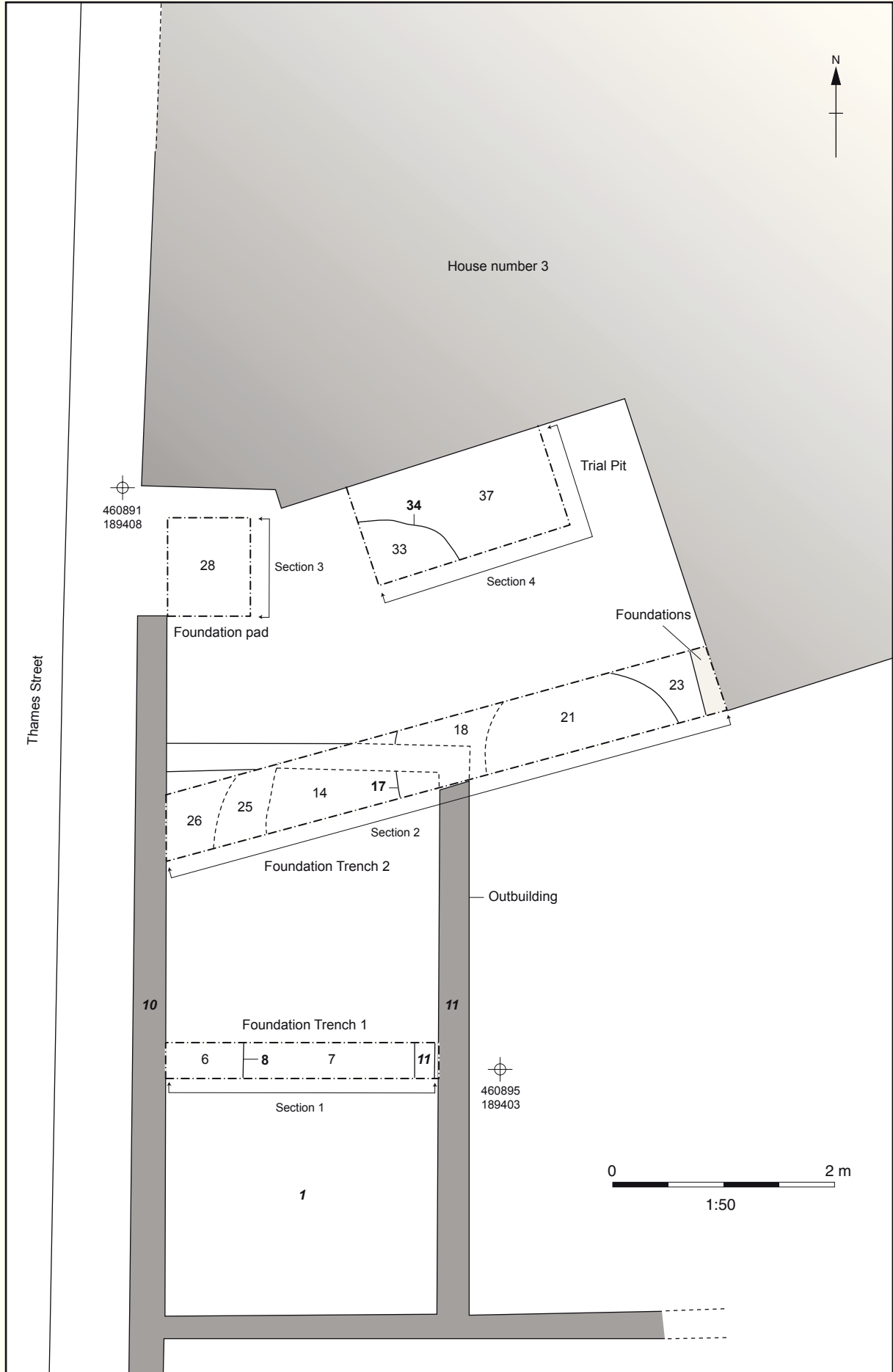


Figure 2: Site plan





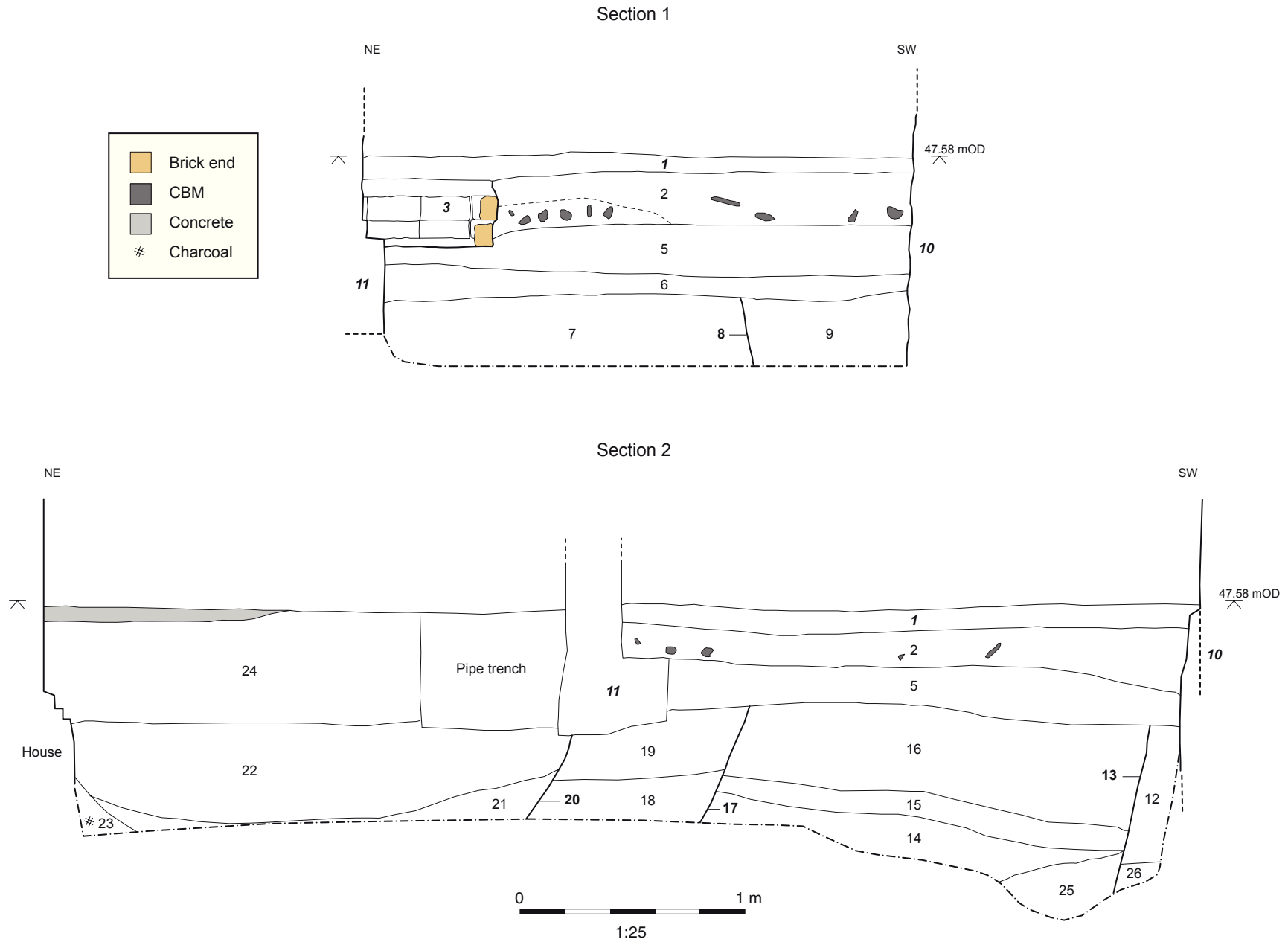
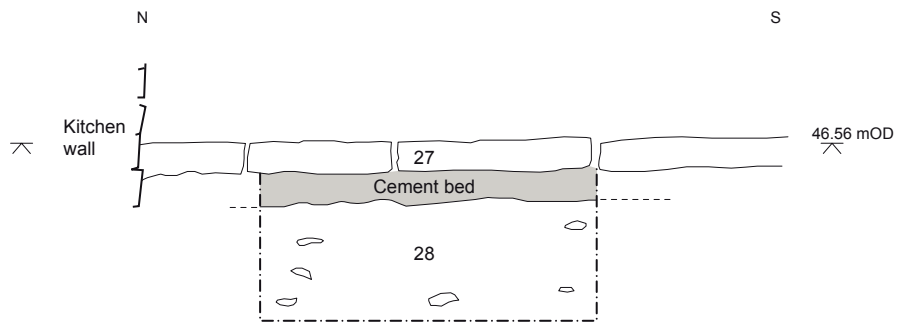


Figure 3: Sections 1 and 2



### Section 3



### Section 4

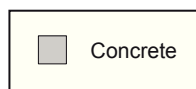
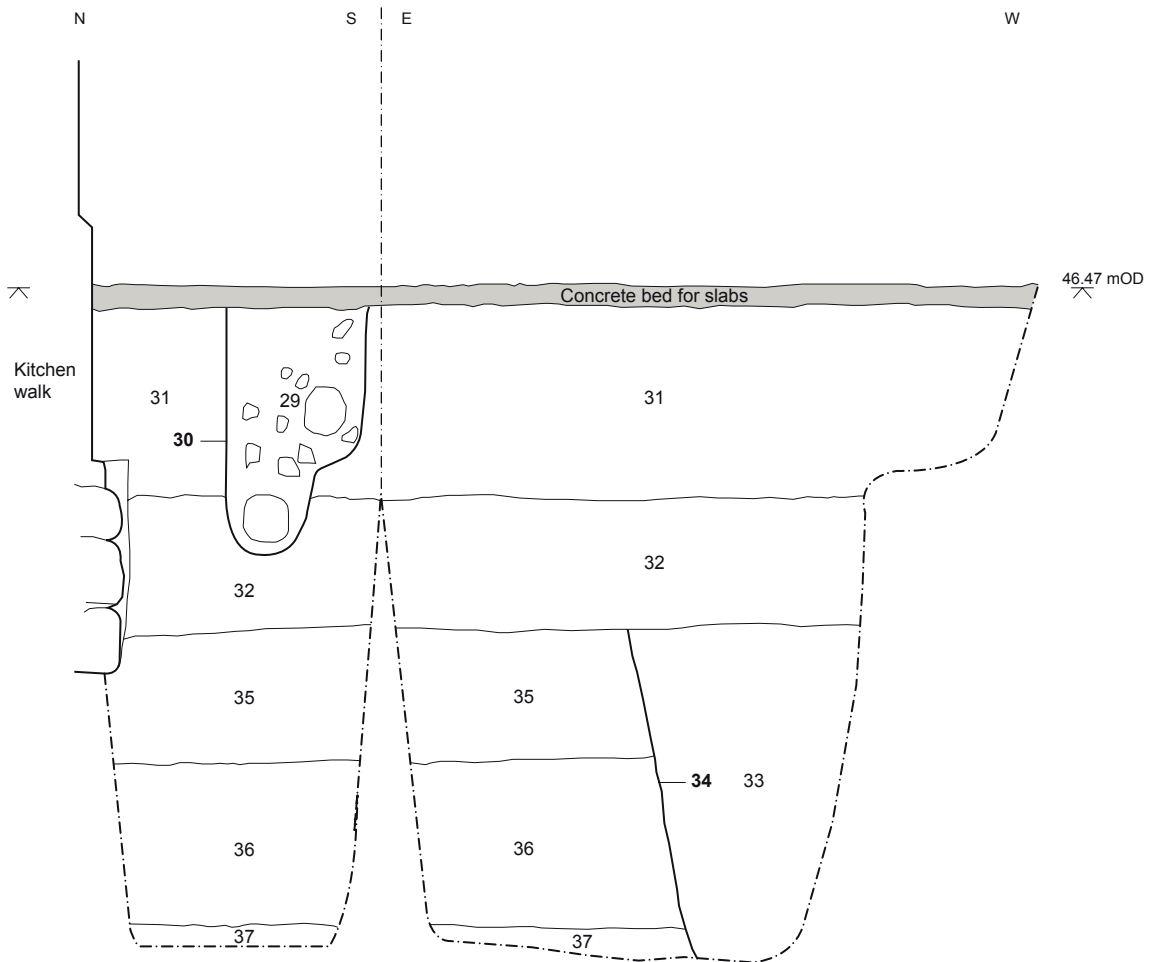


Figure 4: Sections 3 and 4







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