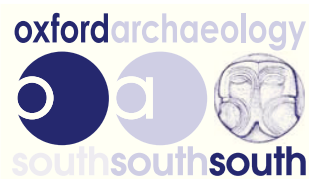


# 33-35 George Street Oxford



## Archaeological Watching Brief Report




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**33-35 George Street, Oxford**

*Archaeological Watching Brief Report*

*Written by Mike Sims*

*and illustrated by Georgina Slater*

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## Summary

*In March 2012 Oxford Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of a cellar extension at the rear of 33-35 George Street, Oxford (NGR: SP 5113 0635). The watching brief revealed a linear feature, probably the northern edge of the medieval city ditch. The feature was backfilled with early post-medieval material and sealed by a succession of occupation layers, dating to the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

## INTRODUCTION

### 1 Scope of Work

- 1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) were appointed by Gondola Group Ltd (GGL) to carry out a watching brief (with contingency for archaeological excavation) during works at 33-35 George Street Oxford.
- 1.2 Gondola Group Ltd have been granted planning permission (ref: 11/02519/FUL and conservation area consent (ref: 11/02520/CAC) in relation to proposed demolition and construction works and change of use at the site.
- 1.3 On the advice of the Oxford City Council Archaeologist a condition was attached to the permission and consent. This stated:

*No development shall take proceed including demolition until the developer has secured the implementation of a scheme of mitigation of the full engineering impact of the development, which may be achieved by redesign and/or by archaeological recording action in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason: Because the development may have a damaging effect on known or suspected elements of the historic environment of the people of Oxford and their visitors, including, medieval and post-medieval remains in accordance with policy HE2 of the adopted Local Plan 2001-2016.*

- 1.4 Subsequently OA were issued a brief for the required works produced by the Oxford City Council Archaeologist (OCC 2011). This set out the detailed requirement for work which comprises in summary - Stage 1: archaeological watching brief during targeted (intrusive) works Stage 2: a contingency for targeted excavation should more extensive foundations be required (re-use of existing foundations is currently proposed subject to survey).
- 1.5 In accordance with the planning condition and specification OA produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI – OA 2012) detailing the methodology that would be employed. This was submitted to and approved by the Oxford City Council Archaeologist in his capacity as advisor to the Local LPA.

### 2 Location, Geology and Topography

- 2.1 George Street is situated on the western edge of the historic core of Oxford. Nos 33-35 are located on the eastern side of George Street at NGR: SP 5113 0635 (Fig. 1). The site is currently occupied by 1930s retail premises and offices fronting George Street with an open yard to the rear. Prior to the commencement of excavation a small stockroom on the site of the cellar extension was demolished. The surrounding topography is roughly level at a height of 65m AOD.



- 2.2 The underlying geology of the area is Summertown-Radley river gravels overlying Oxfordshire Clay and West Walton Formation (Mudstone) (Geological Survey of Great Britain, sheet no 236).

### 3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The site has been the subject of a desk-based assessment (OA 2011). The conclusion of that assessment (as stated in the brief OCC 2011) was that potential existed for Late Saxon, medieval and post medieval remains associated with tenement activity in this location. The site is located on the line of the medieval city ditch and likely earlier Saxon defences. For detailed information the DBA should be read in conjunction with this document.

- 3.2 The following is an abridged version of the assessments summary.

*“The proposed development site lies within an area where the medieval city ditch formerly ran to the north of the city wall. As such it lay outside the medieval city. Once the medieval ditch was filled in, historic maps show that the site was fallow in 1573 and used as gardens in 1675. The infill of the ditch and the garden soil will therefore form the upper archaeological layers across the majority of the proposed development site away from the basement. The first buildings on the site were constructed between 1675 and 1751. These were demolished and the current buildings and basement on the site constructed between 1921 and 1939.”*

### 4 Project Aims and Methodology

#### **Aims**

- 4.1 The specific aims and objectives of the initial investigation (Stage 1) were:
- (i) To identify and record any significant archaeological remains revealed by the ground works, paying particular regard to the potential for the edges and fill of the town ditch and related features.
  - (ii) To bring to the attention of the city archaeologist any proposals for further foundation construction following existing foundation survey, in order that the necessity for any Stage 2 works should be addressed.
- 4.2 As part of the above objectives it was necessary to:
- (iii) Establish the extent, nature and date of any archaeological deposits encountered within the area of the excavation;
  - (iv) Preserve by record any archaeological deposits encountered during the course of the excavation;
  - (v) Secure the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual and ecofactual material recovered from the site;
  - (vi) Disseminate results through the production of a grey literature report.

### 5 Methodology

- 5.1 The watching brief was undertaken as a continuous archaeological presence during any groundworks which had the possibility of impinging upon areas of potential archaeology. These works included the excavation of the cellar extension, exploration of the building foundations and service trenching.



- 5.2 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was in accordance with established OA practices. Bulk finds were collected by context. Black-and-white negative photographs and colour digital photographs were taken of all recorded sections and features together with a general record of the works.
- 5.3 Site plans were drawn at an appropriate scale (normally 1:50 or 1:100) with larger scale plans of features as necessary. Section drawings of features and sample sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20.

## 6 Results

### *Description of deposits*

#### *The Cellar Extension*

- 6.1 Excavation for the cellar extension measured 2.2m wide, 5.2m in length and was to a total depth of 3.2m below the level of the existing yard surface (62.85mOD). It was sited against the south-west corner of the building (Fig. 2).
- 6.2 The underlying natural was an orange-yellow terrace gravel (Context 7). This was encountered at a depth of 2.7m below the current ground level (Fig. 3, Section 1). Above this deposit was a 0.4m thick layer of reddish-brown coarse sand and small gravel (Context 12). This deposit was very clean and showed no signs of disturbance. Overlying layer 12 was a 0.4 m thick layer of dark yellow-brown clayey loam, displaying a greenish tinge, possibly evidence of cess staining, (Context 6).
- 6.3 The southern half of this deposit within the cellar extension had been cut by the edge of a linear feature running east to west across the trench, roughly parallel to St Michael's Street (Context 13). This feature sloped to the south at an angle of approximately 45 degrees, running off into the base of the excavation. Approximately 1.2m of depth and 3m in width was visible in section.
- 6.4 Most of the cut was filled with a layer of grey-brown clayey silt (Context 14). Concentrations of charcoal could be observed within this deposit together with small to medium sized fragments of limestone, which were possibly broken roof tiles. Pottery dating to the early -mid 17<sup>th</sup> century was also retrieved from this fill.
- 6.5 Overlying deposit 14 and sealing the top of the cut was a 0.12m thick layer of very dark grey/black silty clay (Context 15). This deposit contained large quantities of charcoal together with some ash and clinker.
- 6.6 Throughout the trench (and across the top of the fills) was a layer of dark grey clayey loam (Context 5). The depth of this deposit varied from 0.5m at the north end of the trench increasing to 1m deep at the southern end, levelling the top of the slumping within Cut 13. This context produced quantities of charcoal together with large numbers of fragments of clay pipe stem and bowls whose form suggests a 1680s date.
- 6.7 Overlying layer 5 was a 0.6 m deep layer of grey-brown fine clay loam (Context 4). This deposit contained some charcoal flecking and also exhibited a greenish tinge suggesting possible cess staining. A number of clay pipe fragments were recovered, some of which could be dated to c 1710-1740. This layer was overlaid by a 0.35 m thick deposit of grey-brown silty clay loam (Context 3), This deposit contained similar dating artefacts to layer 4 but also contained fragments of red brick.
- 6.8 A 0.3 m thick, dark grey-brown clay loam (Context 2) sealed deposit 3 and was present throughout the length of the trench. This layer contained numerous brick fragments and



fragments of stone together with mortar flecking suggesting nearby construction or demolition.

- 6.9 At the northern end of the trench Layer 2 had been cut by a wall construction cut (Cut 8). This was 2.9 m in depth. Within this feature was the brick built cellar (Structure 11) at the rear of the building. This had been built using a plain red brick measuring 217 mm x 102 mm x 68 mm, laid using English Stretcher bonding and a lime mortar. The cellar wall incorporated a later inserted lightwell (Structure 9) built using a frogged red brick 215 mm x 100 mm x 67 mm in size laid using English Stretcher bonding and a cement mortar. Redeposited gravel (Context 10) had been using to fill the gap between the construction Cut 8 and the walls.
- 6.10 At the southern end of the trench Layer 2 had been cut by a rectangular pit (Cut 17) measuring 0.8m deep and 1.2m wide. This pit contained a cylindrical riveted steel tank and had been backfilled with a mixture of dark grey-brown clayey silt and irregular blocks of concrete and stone (Context 16).
- 6.11 The top of the tank had been subsequently flattened out and filled with concrete prior to the laying of the overall concrete yard surface (Context 1), which ran the length of the trench and butted up to the south wall of the building.

### ***Exploration of the Foundations***

- 6.12 As part of the works the cellar foundations were exposed within the body of the building. In all instances the foundations and cellar floor could be seen to sit directly upon the underlying natural gravel (Context 7). A comparison of the depths between the cellar floor and the level of the natural gravel exposed within the cellar extension suggests that the excavation of the cellars has completely truncated any stratigraphy above the natural deposits.

## **7 Finds**

- 7.1 Clay pipe fragments including bowls and stems were recovered from Contexts 2, 3, 4 and 5. These date to between the late 17th and early 18th centuries. Fragments of pottery were also recovered from the same contexts giving a similar chronology. Residual medieval and early post medieval pottery was recovered from the ditch fill Context 14.
- 7.2 Animal bone, some displaying butchery marks, were recovered from the majority of the deposits. Fragments of brick and tile were recovered from Contexts 2, 3 and 5.
- 7.3 The recovered artefacts have been assessed and the results tabulated in Appendices C, D, E and F.

## **8 Environmental Remains**

- 8.1 No suitable deposits for palaeo-environmental sampling were observed during the course of the works.

## **9 Discussion and Conclusions**

- 9.1 The exposure of the underlying terrace gravel (7) and a layer of probable loess (12) provide additional datum points for the underlying topography of Oxford (60.6 m OD and 60.2 m OD respectively).
- 9.2 The layer of dark yellow-brown clay loam (6) is presumably a gradually accumulating (perhaps cultivated) soil, which pottery; including a fragment of Late Brill ware dated to





- between 1500 and 1625 indicate was exposed to artefact deposition until the early 16th- mid 17th century.
- 9.3 The Agas map (Fig. 4) shows the area to be open and flat in 1571 indicating the Saxon ditch has been infilled by this time. Although this may be unreliable in its representation of earthworks, particularly if they are remnant rather than functioning and maintained.
- 9.4 However the fills of the ditch revealed during this watching brief contained residual medieval pottery alongside early 17th-mid 17th century ceramics. This accords with the possibility of a short-lived civil war re-cut of the ditch proposed by Brian Durham (Durham B et al 1984 p39) based on observations and recordings at 39 George St and various other sites.
- 9.5 Layer 5 is a substantial occupation layer. The dating evidence from the deposit including both clay pipe bowls and pottery spot dates suggests a late 17th or early 18th century date (1680 – 1725) which corresponds to the development of the site shown on the Loggan map of 1675 (Fig. 5). The inclusion within the layer of quantities of ash and charcoal and numerous clay pipe fragments, many showing no signs of use and one bonded with possible kiln furniture (see Appendix C) may indicate that the area was used to dump waste material from a nearby clay pipe kiln. The quantity of material was such that it was clearly visible in section. As well as the unused pipe material the presence of used pipe bowls together with a quantity of butchered animal bone, a number of pottery sherds and evidence of possible cess would indicate that domestic refuse was also being deposited within the layer. The southern edge of this deposit increased in depth to compensate for the slumping within the ditch fills, possibly to form a level yard surface.
- 9.6 Layer 4 is a similar occupation layer. Dating the deposit using fragments of clay pipe and also pottery suggest that it may have also originated between 1680 -1725. The similarity of artefacts recovered to those layer 5 may indicate that similar activity, possibly even the same business, was continuing.
- 9.7 Layer 3 is again similar in composition and also produced fragments of clay pipe showing the same possible date range as layers 4 and 5 but notably smaller quantities of domestic refuse.
- 9.8 Layer 2 also contained a large quantity of clay pipe fragments, together with a fragment of a wig curler, which can be dated to a slightly later period (1690 – 1720) than the previous three layers. All the fragments recovered show no evidence of use and it is probable that they wholly represent waste from clay pipe manufacture. As with the previous layers domestic refuse such as pottery and butchered bone were recovered, but the presence of fragments of a number of drinking vessels, including a salt glazed tankard, fragments of Bellarmine and a number of sherds from glass wine bottles may indicate a hostelry or drinking house nearby.
- 9.9 The structures 9 and 11 display two phases of construction. The main building (11) had been constructed using a lime mortar while the light-well 9 uses a more modern frogged brick bonded using a cement mortar, giving construction dates of c1920/1930 and c1950/1960 respectively. It is unclear which phase the underground tank observed within the section belongs to, but the use of rivets rather than welded construction may suggest the earlier date. The Concrete layer, 1, was the present day yard surface.



## APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Type	Depth	Width	Length	Comments	Finds	Date
1	Layer	0.12m	> 2m	> 5m	Concrete yard surface	-	C20th
2	Layer	0.3m	> 2m	> 5m	Occupation/ Levelling layer	Brick, clay pipe, bone, pottery	C18th/ C19th
3	Layer	0.35m	> 2m	> 5m	Occupation layer	Brick, clay pipe, bone, pottery, glass	C17th/ C18th
4	Layer	0.6m	> 2m	> 5m	Occupation layer	Clay pipe, bone, pottery, glass	C17th/ C18th
5	Layer	0.5m – 0.9m	> 2m	> 5m	Occupation layer	Clay pipe, bone, pottery, glass	C17th/ C18th
6	Layer	0.4m	> 2 m	2m	Occupation layer	Pottery, bone	C16th
7	Layer	> 0.7m	> 2m	3.5 m	Natural gravel	-	-
8	Cut	2.95m	0.8	1.8m	Construction cut for light-well	-	C20th
9	Structure	2.95m	0.8	1.8m	Later inserted light-well	-	C20th
10	Fill	2.95m	0.1m	> 0.4m	Backfill of construction cut 8	-	C20th
11	Structure	> 3m	> 2m	>5m	South wall of 1930s cellar	-	C20th
12	Layer	0.4m	> 2m	2.5m	Probable alluvial deposit	-	-
13	Cut	> 1.2m	> 3m	> 3m	Northern edge of possible medieval city ditch	-	C15th/ C16th ?
14	Fill	> 1m	> 3m	> 3m	Post-medieval backfilling of ditch 13	Clay pipe, bone, pottery, glass	Early C17th
15	Fill	0.12m	> 3m	> 3m	Post-medieval backfilling of ditch 13, much charcoal and ash	-	Early C17th



16	Fill	0.8 m	> 1m	> 1m	Fill of pit 17	Steel cylindrical tank	C20th
17	Cut	0.8m	1.2m	> 1m	Pit dug to house steel underground tank	-	C20th



## APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- OA 2008                      10 George Street Oxford: Archaeological Watching Brief Report.
- OA 2011                      33-35 George Street Oxford. Desk-based Assessment.
- OA 2012                      33-35 George Street Oxford: Written Scheme of Investigation for  
an Archaeological Watching Brief.
- OCC 2011                      Oxford City Council Planning Control and Conservation. Brief for  
an Archaeological Watching Brief (with contingency).
- Durham, B,  
Halpin, C  
and Palmer, N 1984                      Oxfords Northern Defences: Oxoniensia XLVIII, 1983



## APPENDIX C. CLAY TOBACCO PIPES

*by John Cotter*

### **Introduction and methodology**

- C.1.1 The excavation produced a total of 421 pieces of clay pipe weighing 3461g. from four contexts (Contexts 2, 3, 4 and 5). These have been catalogued and recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. The catalogue records, per context, the spot-date, the quantity of stem, bowl and mouth fragments, the overall sherd count, weight, and comments on condition and any makers' marks or decoration present. Because there were indications that some of the pipes might represent kiln waste and because some pipes bore a maker's name and/or decoration, the assemblage was recorded and described in more detail than usual - particularly in the expanded comments field. The main results of this more detailed assessment analysis and catalogue are summarised below.

### **Date and nature of the assemblage**

- C.1.2 The pipes are mostly in remarkably good condition with an unusually high ratio of complete bowls and pipe mouth pieces and many quite long pieces of stem. In total there are 114 pieces of pipe bowl, 31 pieces of mouth and 276 fragments of stem. Most of the pipe bowls can be closely paralleled fairly closely with those published from excavations in St Ebbe's, Oxford (Oswald 1984) and to a slightly lesser extent with those published in Oswald's simplified national typology (Oswald 1975).
- C.1.3 The St Ebbe's pipe dates have been used in preference to more general national dating. Other close local parallels are provided in the large assemblage of 2,319 pipe fragments from Abingdon (Higgins 2007). Certain factors noted at the time of excavation suggested that the George Street assemblage might include wasters from an undiscovered pipe kiln in the vicinity. These include the relative abundance of pipe fragments from such a small site and particularly the fact that many of the bowls were very fresh and the majority appear to have been unused. The similar appearance of many of the pipe bowls also suggests that most of them may have come from the same pipe manufactory. The high percentage of bowls here - mostly complete - also suggests this is not a purely domestic assemblage.
- C.1.4 The 114 bowls comprise 27% of the assemblage compared to the 500 bowls at Abingdon which form 22% of the assemblage there, and although the 31 mouth pieces from George Street may not sound very many this is still much higher than the number known from any other Oxford pipe assemblage known to the author. For example, the assemblage of 830 pipe fragments from the Ashmolean Museum extension (OXASHE 06) produced only 24 mouth pieces. The pipes were seen in the trench section to occur as a number of pipe-rich spreads or layers.
- C.1.5 The number of obvious or likely waster fragments from the site is actually very small. A plain pipe bowl of c 1680-1710 (Context 5) is the most convincing piece as this has a fairly large patch of rough cream clay attached to one side of the bowl/rim. This is almost certainly a waster used in the construction of a pipe kiln wall or 'muffle' - with part of the muffle fabric still attached to the bowl. The rim of the bowl is also flawed in several places. Four other near-identical unused pipe bowls occur in the same context. These have small but prominent heels with a knife-cut circular or sub-square facet on the underside. Many other pipes from the site including the predominant earlier-style bowls (c 1660-1680 or c 1650-1690) also exhibit a similar hybrid form of heel/spur - the spur-like appearance suggesting a late 17th-century date for most of these.



- C.1.6 One other small stem fragment also has possible traces of muffle clay still attached (Context 5) and two unused pipe bowls of c 1650-1690 from this context have a light brown 'biscuit' scorching suggestive of kiln wasters. Many other bowls and stems show lesser degrees of similar light brown scorching. Three rough pale grey pipe stems from Context (2) also have the appearance of kiln waste. Apart from the slight traces noted on pipes above, no actual fragments of pipe kiln muffle or kiln structure were found.
- C.1.7 Pipe bowls of c 1680-1710, including the waster above, or c 1690-1720 (Oswald 1984, fig. 51.C, depending on which typology is consulted) only amount to around a dozen complete examples but these provide the latest dating for the pipe-rich contexts here. The majority of bowls from the site are of traditionally earlier type, either c 1660-1680 (*ibid.*, fig. 52.7), or the commoner Oxford-style of slightly hipped or carinated bowl of c 1650-1690 (*ibid.*, fig. 51.B). In more recently studied Oxford and Abingdon assemblages however David Higgins dates some examples of the latter form as late as c 1690-1730 (Higgins 2007, fig. 21.34-5).
- C.1.8 Most of the pipes from George Street have a reasonably good burnish and most are milled but almost always only around the back part of the rim/bowl nearest the smoker. Over half the assemblage here (218 pieces) came from Context (2) and the other three contexts produced between 30-90 pieces each. The earliest piece from the site is a single bowl of smaller form dating to c 1630-1650 but this appears to be residual (Context 5). Apart from Context (2), where all the pipe bowls appear to have been unused, the other three contexts all contain a few bowls that have definitely been smoked (especially Context 5) so the assemblage appears to contain a mixture of domestic and industrial waste. At least two highly burnished pipes of c 1680-1710 are of distinctive West Country shape and probably come from Wiltshire or Hampshire.
- C.1.9 None of the pipe bowls bears a maker's mark. However five non-joining pieces of stem from Contexts (2) and (5) are highly decorated in the late 17th/early 18th-century 'Oxford style' with scalloped rouletting around the stem (Higgins 2007). Two of these stems, from separate pipes, are decorated in addition with a small circular maker's stamp (c 11mm. diam.) in neat relief capitals giving the name 'ROB/GAD/NEY'. A similar stamp of Robert Gadney is published from St Ebbe's (Oswald 1984, fig. 52.8) and another example is published from Abingdon (Higgins 2007, fig. 23.55). The stamps from George Street however are different and appear to be from a previously unknown die as the two published examples have lower case letters rather than capitals. There were two pipemakers of this name - father and son - active in Oxford during the later 17th and early 18th centuries. Robert Gadney I was assessed for Hearth Tax during 1667-77, when working in St Giles, Oxford, and both father and son were still alive in 1722 when they defendants in a legal case (Oswald 1984, 253-5). The published (lower case) mark is attributed by Higgins to Robert Gadney I and was probably in use c 1660-80. Higgins also mentions a second type of Robert Gadney die which was in use on bowls of c 1690-1720 but unfortunately does not illustrate this or describe it in detail (Higgins 2007, 167-8). The upper case die may be the same the latter and may be the later die used by both Robert Gadneys c 1690-1720, or it may be a previously unknown type. Further research would be needed to demonstrate this. It may be that the Gadneys moved from nearby St Giles to George Street in the late 17th century and set up a pipe kiln near the site here. Alternatively St Giles may just have been their place of residence.



**Summary**

C.1.10 The assemblage suggests the presence of a nearby pipe kiln in the George Street area possibly operated by Robert Gadney I and II during the late 17th and early 18th century.

**Table of Clay Pipe Assessment**

Context	Spot-date	Total No.	Total Wt	Comments
	c1690 - 1720 2?	52	702g	<b>Bowls</b> Includes 43x complete or near-complete bowls, 8 pieces of stem with stubby spurs or heels attached & 1 small piece of bowl rim. All remarkably fresh with no convincing evidence of smoking use of the interiors. At least 2 bowls of c1660-80 have a light brown 'biscuit' scorching suggesting kiln wasters & other bowls have slighter brown scorching on rim or sides. One stem with small round heel has exfoliated part of its burnished surface - poss waster? 1 bowl is exceptionally thick-walled at front. 5x bowls of c1680/90-1710 as St Ebbes Type C (Oswald 1984, fig. 51C) with smallish circular or knife-cut sub-square heels, a single line of milling around the back of the rim, heavily bottered or knife-trimmed inside rim, all fair-poorly burnished, stem bores (SB) c2-2.25mm. The majority of bowls are of c1660-80 (ibid., fig. 52.7) or more hipped/carinated c1650-90 (ibid., fig. 51.B) SBs c2-3mm mostly c 2.5mm. with short stubby spurs or mostly with small prominent circular heels or hybrids of latter two. Good to poor burnishing on all & milling on nearly all but only around the back of the rim/bowl. 1 with 100mm length of stem still attached & a few others up to 70mm. 1 complete bowl has c13mm stem still attached with band of circular milled decoration around the stem
	c1690 - 1720 2?	131	683g	<b>Plain stems.</b> Remarkably fresh & unstained by the usual cassy brown deposits. Surviving lengths 15-122mm with most over 50mm, mainly c50-90mm.
	c1690 - 1720 2?	11	77g	<b>Plain stems.</b> Possibly wasters? The most convincing are 3 pale grey matt, fairly rough stems incl a tapered end piece with mouthpiece just missing - looks typical of pipe kiln waste. The other pieces have varying degress of light brown 'biscuit' scorching. Two are dark grey and are mottled/burnt
	c1690 - 1720 2?	3	36g	Three decorated stems 66mm, 93mm and 125mm. All with very similar rouletted band decoration in the Oxford style. All with bands of scalloped or egg-shaped decoration. The smallest has a central band of decoration with a circular or oval relief stamp (diam 11mm) containing the name <b>'ROB/GAD/NEY'</b> in neat serifed capitals. This is a different stamp from the lower case Rob Gadney stamp from St Ebbes (Oswald 1984, fig. 52.8) and the one from Abingdon (Higgins 2007, fig. 23.55) but the dec is the same. Possibly Rob Gadney II found on bowls of c1690-1720, Rob Gadney II active c1722 (ibid, 167-8). Non joining but from a minimum of 2 pipes. Average-poor burnish. ILLUS these
	c1690 - 1720 2?	21	52g	<b>Mouthpieces</b> Including 2 decorated. 1 is decorated on the stem 67mm from end with a single surviving cogged or milled line. The other 53mm long has pinched decoration along the stem (ILLUS) - 2 surviving pinched areas with traces of fingerprints (see Higgins Ashmolean Museum extension report in Oxoniensia forthcoming). Stems 23-77mm long, mostly 40mm+. Fresh, prob unused. 2-3 with slight biscuit browning near mouthpieces. Stem bores c2.5-3mm





3	c1680 -1710	83	731g	Bowls mostly complete or nearly so. 1x c1680-1710 with small prominent circ heel (Higgins 2007, fig.22.40. Oswald 1975, fig. 4G.19) with milling around back of bowl only. Burnished. Other bowls of c1660-80 (Oswald 1984., fig. 52.7) mostly with average burnish, or more hipped/carinated c1650-90 (ibid., fig. 51.B) but see similar bowls of c1690-1730 at Abingdon (Higgins 2007, fig. 21.34-5). SBs c2.8-3mm. All with short stubby spurs or mostly with small prominent circular heels or hybrids of latter two. Milling around the back of the rim/bowl - mostly faint. One with 125mm length of stem still attached and a few others up to 75mm. At least 7 have been smoked/used incl 2 burnt black all over. One clean bowl with biscuit scorching all over. Fresh stems c25-134mm long - several c130mm, some prob joining, Stem bores c2.5-3mm. Fresh mouthpieces up to 133mm long, Stem bores c2.8-3.2mm.
4	c1680 -1710	30	325g	11 complete bowls, 1 broken. 1x 1680-1710/20 West Country style bowl with broad circular heel jutting forward - best match in Higgins 2007 fig.20.14 (1680-1720) & fig. 24.64 (1680-1710), fully milled, good quality burnish all over, SB c3mm. Other bowls as above with stubby spurs/small heels c1660-80 or 1650-90. All fresh or fairly fresh. 3 bowls have definitely been smoked & are also greyish ext. Most burnished but mostly average quality. Most milled around back, 2 fully milled. 1 unused with biscuit scorching. Up to 80mm stem still attached to one. 1 complete unused bowl with spiral-effect milled line dec down the stem - although the spirals do not join on the underside so each loop was individually made - latter bowl has small prominent knife-cut heel/stubby spur & is unburnished. Fresh stems 35-85mm. Stem bores 2.8-3mm
5	c1690 - 1720 ?	90	855	Stems 22-115mm incl several over 90mm incl 2 burnt & 1 rusty brown. Mostly fresh. Incl 2 decorated stems 42mm & 67mm - the smallest with upper part of stem dec (nearest to bowl) with ROB/GAD/[NEY] broken stamp as in (2) & both pieces with identical scalloped rouletting as in (2). Average-poor burnish on these. The stamped pieces do not join those in (2) or any of the bowls in (5). 1 plain stem with poss traces of ?kiln muffle or poss just white mortar deposit? Bowls mainly complete, mainly fresh plus a few worn/slightly weathered. At least 8 bowls have been smoked/used. 5x complete unused heel/spur bowls c1680-1710 (Higgins 2007, fig.19.12 & slightly more spurred fig. 22.40; or Oswald 1975, fig.4G.19 sub-spurred) most have average burnish, 1 good. The heels are prominent and small circular or sub-square knife-cut. Milling confined to back of bowl. 1 of these bowls is definitely a waster (ILLUS) as still has part of kiln muffle pipeclay attached to left-hand side of bowl/rim, the rim is flawed in this area too, heel facet is knife-cut & sub-oval, poor burnish, possible median seam on this bowl and a few of the others. Other bowls mainly 1660-80 or 1650-90 stubby spurred types as above. 2 have forward hooked stubby spur. Milled on back bowl. Burnish mostly average, few good. Stem bores c2.5-3mm. 1 smaller yellower bowl possibly c1630-50 with stubby spur. 2 burnt. 2 bowls of main type with biscuit scorching - unused, possibly wasters?
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>421</b>	<b>3461</b>	

**Pipeclay wig curler**

by John Cotter

Part of a wig curler (weight 6g) in fine pure white pipeclay with one surviving complete bulbous terminal was recovered from layer 2. Unmarked but with irregular finger print marks all over end. A short length of stem is present - possibly widening towards the





missing end - which would make it unusually short. Burnished except on the apex/end. Max diam. 16mm, stem diam 10mm. in middle, surviving length 30mm. Fresh, unworn. Possibly produced in the kiln near this site? Associated with pipes of c 1690-1720? This should be published along with the pipes above.

### **Bibliography**

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## APPENDIX D. POTTERY

by John Cotter

### **Introduction and methodology**

D.1.1 A total of 52 sherds of pottery weighing 3417g were recovered from five contexts. Nearly all of this is post-medieval in date. All the pottery was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. 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.). Spot-dates provided by the clay tobacco pipes (see elsewhere) are, in this case, more accurate than those for the pottery but both sets of dates are in good agreement.

### **Date and nature of the assemblage**

- D.1.2 Overall the pottery assemblage is in a good though fragmentary condition with a couple of complete profiles and several near-profiles present. Significant wear was noted on just a few pieces. Ordinary domestic pottery types are represented. These are detailed in the spreadsheet and summarised here. Fabric codes referred to for the medieval wares are those of the Oxfordshire type series (Mellor 1994) and those for post-medieval wares are those of the Museum of London.
- D.1.3 The range of medieval and post-medieval wares here is typical of sites along the main thoroughfares of central Oxford. The earliest pottery fabric here is a single small cooking pot rim of c 1075-1300 in Medieval Oxford ware (OXY) but this is residual in a post-medieval context (Ctx 14). Two or three other residual sherds are of 13th-15th century date. Context (6) contained a single late Brill/Boarstall ware (OXBX) dish of c 1500-1625. Apart from this (but possibly including it) all the remaining pottery dates to the 17th and early 18th centuries. Context (14) contains two substantially complete vessels including a large bowl in a transitional late Brill/early post-medieval redware fabric (with joining sherds noted in (2) and (3)) and the complete base and lower part of a jar of yellow-glazed Surrey/Hampshire Border ware (BORDY, c 1550-1700). Both vessels are of early post-medieval appearance and probably date to the first half of the 17th century.
- D.1.4 The bulk of the assemblage (37 sherds) comes from Contexts (2) and (5). These comprise large fresh sherds of pottery consistent with a date of c 1675-1725 - which is entirely consistent with the clay pipe dating of c 1680-1710/20. A range of domestic wares are present - mainly in the form of post-medieval red earthenwares (PMR) and related post-medieval slipwares together with tin-glazed tablewares from London and stoneware bottles and mugs from Germany. Notable vessels from Context (2) include a profile of a highly decorated Westerwald stoneware tankard and the complete pedestal base of a 'salt' (salt cellar) of c 1650-1675 in white tin-glazed earthenware. Context (5) produced a range of fabrics and forms including the complete base of a tin-glazed 'charger' dish with stylised blue floral decoration (c 1660-1700?). It also produced the complete base of a rare and unusually small chafing dish (portable stove/plate-warmer) in yellow Border ware (BORDY) which shows sooting and scorching from use. Similar Border ware chafing dishes are published from London (Pearce 1992, fig. 30.187) but the example here is one of the smallest ever found. A sherd from a possible Verwood-



type ware costrel/flask from Dorset/west Hants may be the first example of this ware identified from Oxford. A few cups/mugs in black-glazed redware were also present.

**Summary**

D.1.5 Though fairly small, the bulk of the assemblage is of interest for its unusually tight dating of c 1680-1710/20 provided by the much larger clay pipe assemblage. It also contains a small number of pieces of note which may be of value in any future study of local and regional pottery of this period.

**Table of Pottery Assessment**

Context	Spot-date	No.	Wt	Comments
2	c1680-1725	13	654g	Mostly large fresh sherds Profile squat cylindrical pale grey/cream Westerwald tankard (height 105mm) with scrolling central band of combed stems and applied tulip-like flowers - self-coloured body with no coloured glazes, just plain clear salt glaze ILLUS? 2x white tin-glazed earthenware (TGW) vessels incl near-profile smallish bowl with straight walls & low carination - prob Chinese copy? Other TGW vess is from the complete open pedestal base of a 'salt' (salt cellar) with trace of bowl wall. Base diam 101mm, L17C. 1x bodysherd (bs) mid/late 17C Frechen stoneware Bellarmine with radial rosette design in applied roundel JOINS (5). 2x Border ware vess, both fairly worn incl bs mottled light brown-glazed BORDB cylindrical ?butter jar & pad base of BORDY yellow jar. 2 joining bss from globular shiny black glazed red earthenware (PMR) jar or jug. Rim pale orange PMR/Brill wide bowl - JOINS (14) & small bs PMR jar/bowl unglazed ext with allover int white slip under clear glaze - Brill? 1x bs hard unglz prob 16/E17C late Brill OXBX & 1x small bs unident sandy pale brown medieval ware with mottled green glaze - poss Newbury C?
4	c1650-1750?	2	122g	1x PMR dish base with traces of white slip-trailed dec int - 3 parallel curved lines/sprays. 1x fresh PMR jar sherd with reduced int glaze
5	c1675-1725	24	1781g	Large fresh sherds. Complete footring base blue dec TGW 'charger' dish with int & ext tin glz & int blue radial 6-pointed star/floral dec - L17C+. 1x bs 2nd charger. 3x FREC bellarmine incl flat base & bss JOINS (2). 2 prob Brill Cistercian-like black-glz cups incl 1 bs with Jackfield-style shiny black glaze. Complete hollow pedestal base/lower bowl small BORDY chafing dish, aperture made by pushing finger through pedestal wall - heavily sooted ext - ILLUS (similar Pearce 1992, fig.30.187) Base di 63mm. Bs from globular cream/buff ?costrel - poss Verwood ware - unglz except for dribble of mottled brown glaze int, max girth 120mm, sooted ext. BORDG dish rim. lots PMR incl small base sherd dish JOINS (2) & (14). Small bs PMR jug/jar with steaky brown glz ext. Dish & jar rim. Worn base sherd dish with Metropolitan slipware-style dec - different from (2). 1-2 med incl prob late Brill OXBX jug lower wall & worn bs



6	c1500-1625	1	42g	Late Brill OXBX flanged bowl rim. Buff unglazed
14	c1600-1650/7 5?	12	818g	Large fresh post-medieval sherds. Lower part flat-based conical pale orange-buff Brill-type PMR bowl with internal glossy amber glaze with large reduced olive green patches, worn under, Joins (2) & (5). Complete pad base & most of body of BORDY globular thin-walled jar with lower handle stub, sooted ext - looks fairly early like an early-type chamberpot E-M17C? 2x BORDY dish rims. 3x residual med incl 2x late Brill OXBX incl slashed jug handle & bs. 1x OXY thumbbed cook pot rim c1075-1300
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>3417 g</b>	

### ***Bibliography***

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Pearce, J. 1992, Post-medieval pottery in London, 1500-1700, 1: Border wares



## APPENDIX E. GLASS

*By Ian Scott*

E.1.1 The glass comprises 11 sherds from 3 contexts and all from early wine bottles.

**Table: Summary of glass finds by context and identification (object and fragment counts)**

Context		Wine Bottle
2	Count	3
	Fragment Count	3
3	Count	1
	Fragment Count	1
5	Count	6
	Fragment Count	7
Total	Count	10
Total	Fragment Count	11

E.1.2 Context 2 - The glass from context 2 comprises 3 sherds from wine bottles. One sherd is from the base of a broad squat free blown wine bottle of early to mid 18th-century date, and 2 body sherds are from two different squat free blown bottles of early 18th- or possibly later 17th-century date.

E.1.3 Context 3 - The single sherd of vessel glass comprises the short tapering neck of a squat wine bottle of early 18th-century date. It has a cracked off fire-polished rim with a hand applied horizontal string rim below.

E.1.4 Context 5 - The 7 sherds of vessel glass from context 5 include 2 body sherds from free-blown wine bottles, which appear to be globular, but with angular shoulders and could be of late 17th-century rather than early 18th-century date. There are two further sherds from a small wine bottle with a definite angular shoulder and almost certainly of late 17th-century date. There is sherd comprising the complete short tapering neck from a squat free blown wine bottle. It has a cracked off fire-polished finish and an applied horizontal string rim, and dates from the early 18th century or just possibly from the very late 17th century. There is a sherd possibly from the base of free blown bottle, possibly a broad cylindrical wine bottle of 18th-century date and finally an undated body sherd from a wine bottle of uncertain form or date.

E.1.5 The glass forms a very small assemblage, but includes the short necks and finishes of two early free blown wine bottles probably dating to the early 18th century, and body sherds from three bottle possibly of late 17th-century date. None of the vessel sherds need date later than the mid 18th century.



## APPENDIX F. CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

*by John Cotter*

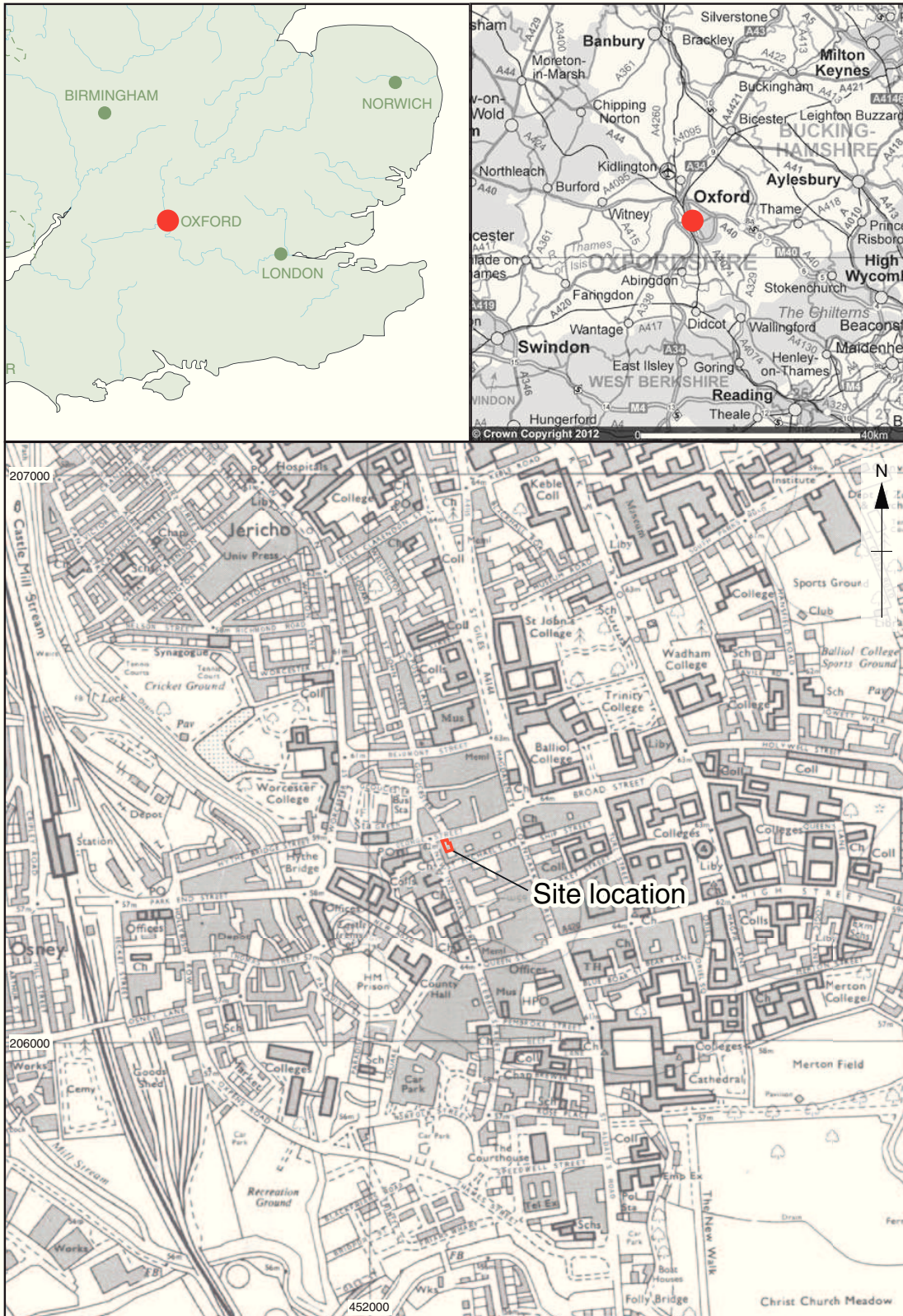
- F.1.1 A total of 6 pieces of CBM weighing 487g. were recovered from two contexts and are described below. As usual, the dating of broken fragments of ceramic or other building materials is an imprecise art and spot-dates derived from them are necessarily broad and should therefore be regarded with caution. No further work on this material is recommended.
- F.1.2 Context (2), 5 pieces (416g.). Date 17th to early 19th century: Comprises one large side piece of fresh red sandy post-medieval peg tile and one smaller thicker piece of late medieval peg tile. One small scrap from the corner of an early post-medieval red brick or quarry tile. One glazed edge fragment from a medieval ridge tile with a thin greenish glaze (probably 13th-14th century?). The totals include a single piece (68g) of hard pale grey post-medieval mortar of flattish tile-like form (11mm. thick) with a smoothed or rendered exterior and with an impression of a brick/tile/wooden board on the interior.
- F.1.3 Context (4), 1 piece (71g.). Date 16th to 18th century?: Comprises a single corner fragment from a fresh orange-red sandy peg tile with a circular nail-hole. Early post-medieval in appearance.



## APPENDIX G. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name:	33-35 George Street, Oxford
Site code:	OXGEGE 12
Grid reference:	Centred at NGR SP 5113 0635
Type of watching brief:	Machine excavation of a new cellar extension and hand excavation of foundation exploration trenches.
Date and duration of project:	22nd to the 27th of March 2012
Area of site:	Approximately 300 m2
Summary of results:	The watching brief observed a possible post-medieval re-cut of the northern edge of the city ditch. This was sealed by a succession of occupation layers, the majority dating to the late 17th and early 18th centuries. These observations are in line with the existing documentary evidence. The finds recovered from these deposits are indicative of a possible alehouse or hostelry nearby.
Location of archive:	The archive is currently stored at Janus House and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum Service in due course under the accession number OXCMS:2012.56.





Scale 1:10,000

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Figure 1: Site location



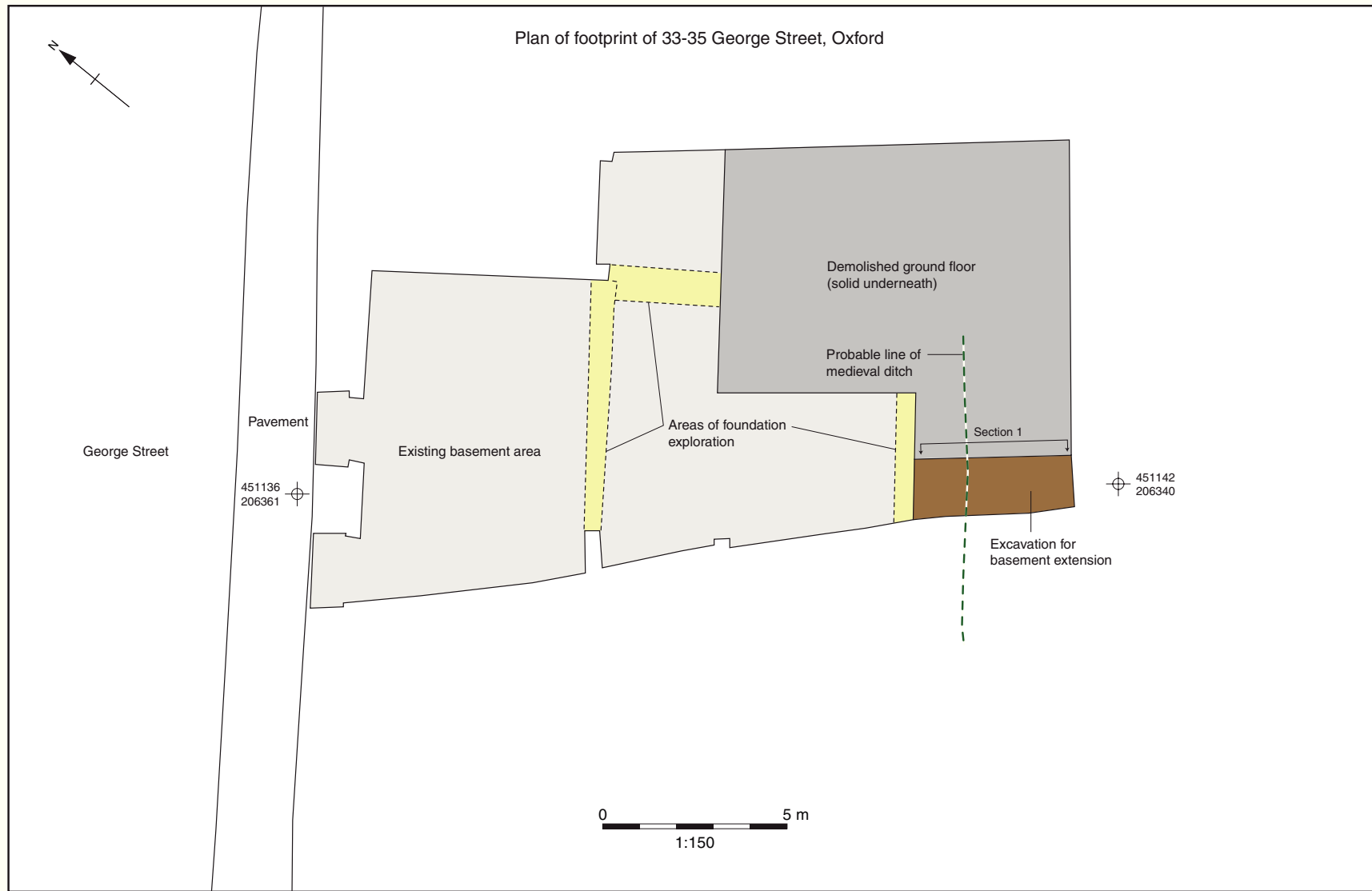


Figure 2: Site plan

Section 1

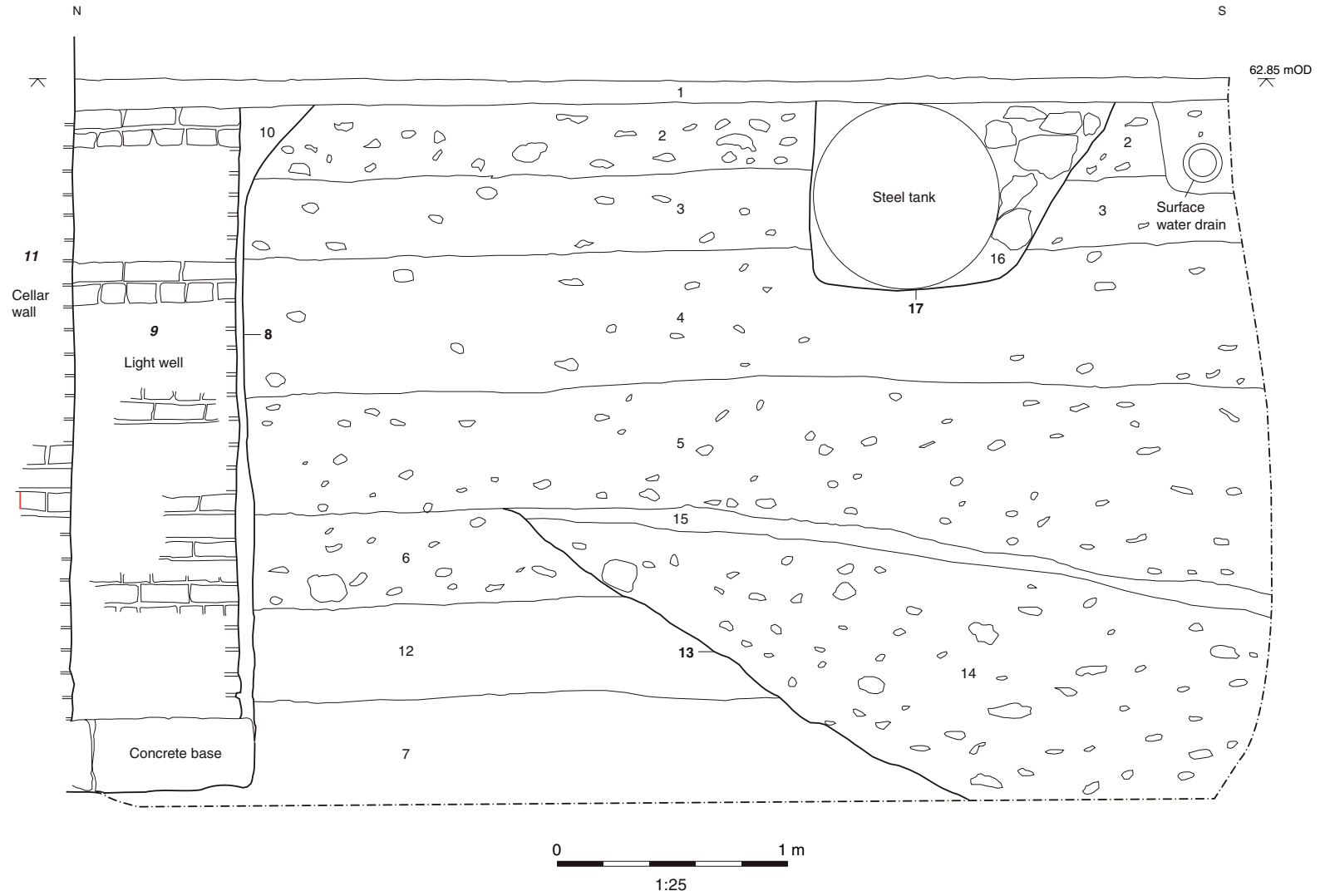


Figure 3: Section 1

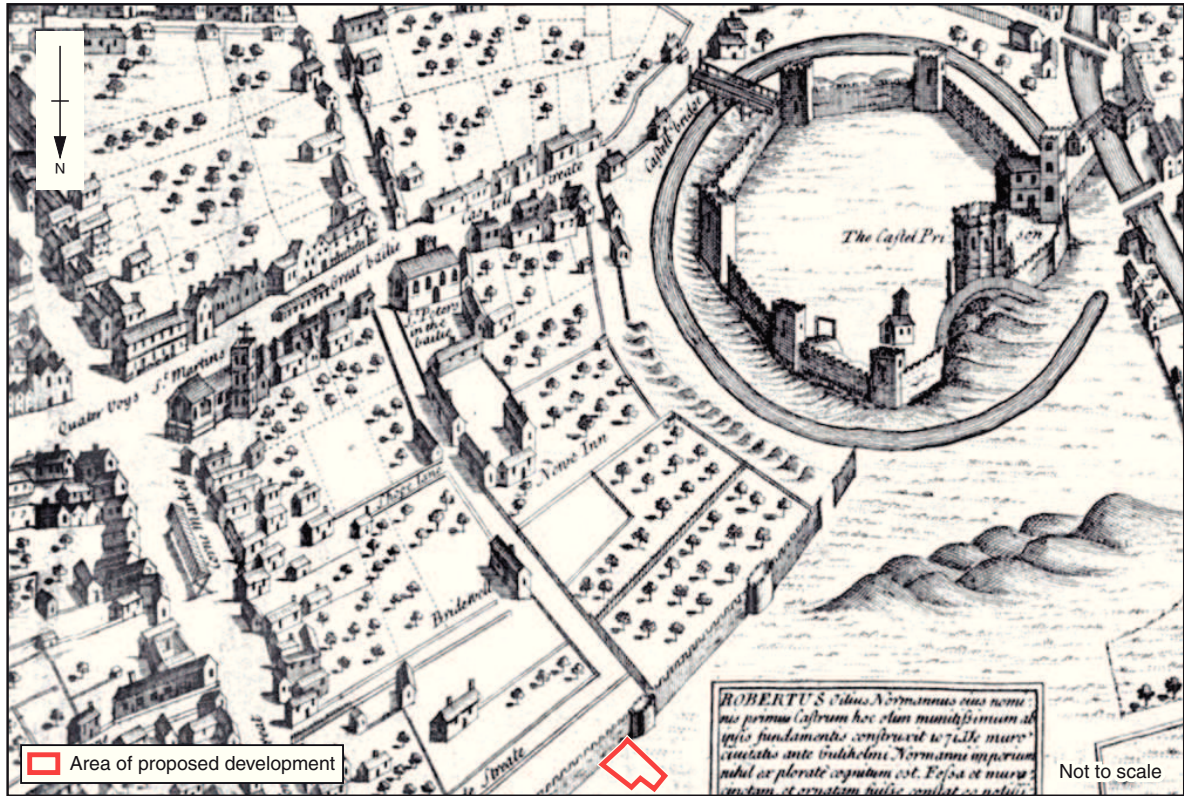


Figure 4: Agas' map of Oxford 1571

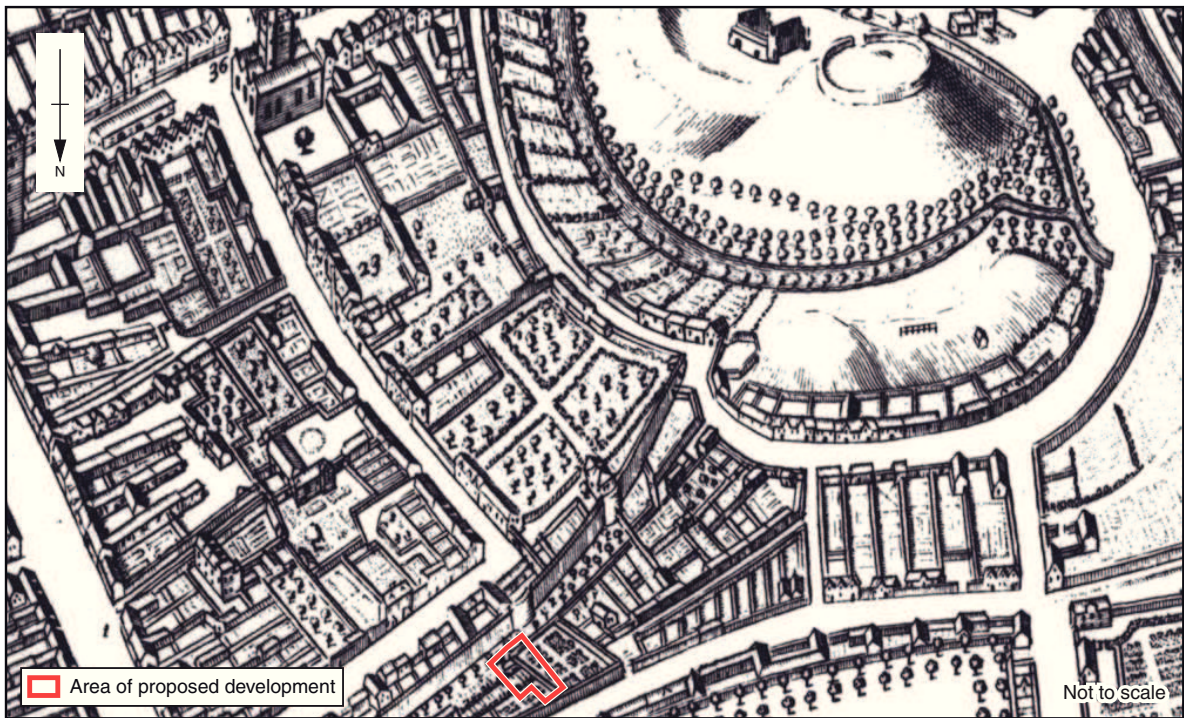


Figure 5: Loggan's map of Oxford 1675



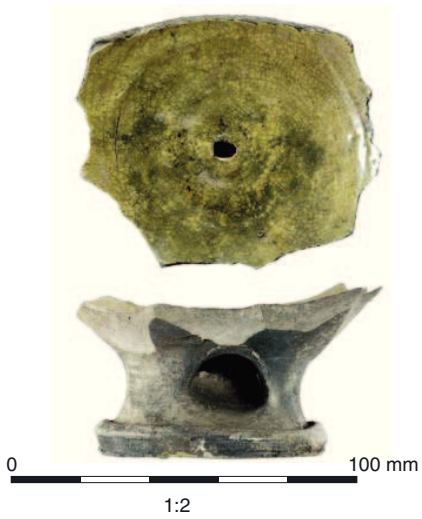


Plate 1: Base of small Chafing dish from context 5

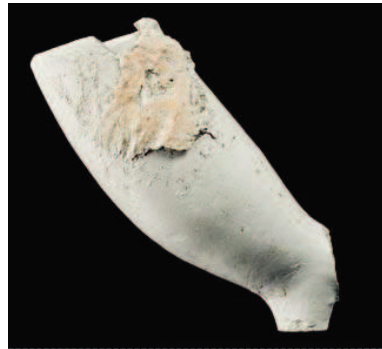


Plate 2: Waster clay pipe bowl showing muffle debris (context 5)

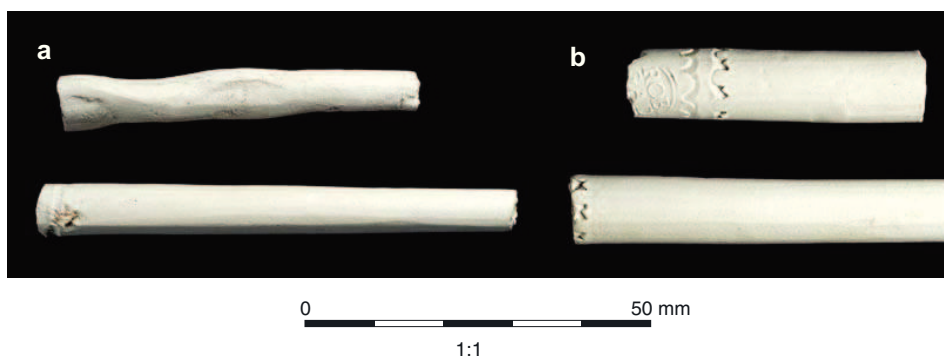


Plate 3: a. Decorated mouth pieces from context 2  
 b. Decorated clay pipe stems including one stamped "Rob Gadney" context 5