



CCC AFU Report Number 876

# **Medieval and Post-Medieval Occupation at Nos 21-23 St Benedict's Street, Norwich, Norfolk**

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**Archaeological Evaluation**

Rachel Clarke

September 2006

## Cover Images

Machine stripping, Soham	On-site surveying
Roman corn dryer, Duxford	Guided walk along Devil's Dyke
Bronze Age shaft, Fordham Bypass	Medieval well, Soham
Human burial, Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery	Timbers from a medieval well, Soham
Blue enamelled head, Barrington	Bed burial reconstruction, Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery
Aethusa cynapium 'Fool's parsley'	Medieval tanning pits, Huntington Town Centre
Digging in the snow, Huntingdon Town Centre	Beaker vessel
Face painting at Hinchinbrooke Iron Age Farm	Environmental analysis
Research and publication	Monument Management, Bartlow Hills

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Occupation at Nos 21-23 St  
Benedict's Street, Norwich,  
Norfolk**

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**Archaeological Evaluation**

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## Summary

An archaeological evaluation comprising four trenches was undertaken between 15th and 23rd May 2006 at Nos 21-23 St Benedict's Street, Norwich by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit. The site, which is located on a natural escarpment within the historic core of the city, was evaluated in advance of a proposed mixed residential and retail development. Three trenches were excavated along the St Benedict's Street frontage to establish the extent of modern cellaring; one of these, and a fourth trench located to the rear, were selected for full investigation.

A sequence of archaeological deposits up to 2m thick was recorded. The earliest find from the site is a small, unstratified Neolithic flint that has sustained modern damage. Although no *in situ* evidence of Late Saxon occupation was found, several sherds of Thetford and St Neots pottery were recovered as residual finds in medieval and later contexts.

Medieval activity dates predominantly to the 13th to 14th centuries; no clear structural remains were identified although a number of pits cutting the natural chalk were recorded, the largest of which might be a cellar. Initial levelling of the site probably occurred towards the end of this period when the pits were infilled and thick layers containing domestic rubbish were dumped, most notably adjacent to the frontage.

Fairly level ground appears to have been achieved by the 15th century, probably in preparation for the construction of several frontage buildings, represented by chalk and/or flint rubble foundations, some with associated floors and surfaces. Dating of the walls is not clear, although they are likely to be 15th or 16th century, and are reminiscent of similar structures excavated nearby at Pottergate. A number of probably contemporary pits and garden soils were identified to the rear, sealed beneath a c.1.5m-deep sequence of post-medieval yard surfaces, pits and garden soils. A notable discovery is a possible 15th or 16th century undercroft identified in the south-east corner of the site.

The finds assemblage is of moderate size and includes pottery, brick and tile, shell, slag, animal bone and fish bone. The small metalwork assemblage includes six 16th-17th century cloth seals, providing additional data for this important aspect of the city's association with the cloth trade. Environmental samples produced evidence of low-level disposal of domestic waste, including the remains of charred cereal grains, weed seeds, molluscs, fishbone and eggshell.

Despite the presence of cellars, a strip c.3-4m wide of archaeological deposits has survived along the frontage; earlier (medieval) deposits have also been preserved beneath thick levelling layers with relatively little impact. Stratified remains close to the frontage, including flint wall foundations and a probable undercroft, were revealed at a fairly shallow depth (c.0.25m) below current ground level, and are particularly vulnerable to future groundworks.

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# Drawing Conventions

Sections	Plans
Limit of Excavation	Limit of Excavation
Cut	Deposit - Conjectured
Cut-Conjectured	Natural Features
Soil Horizon	Intrusion/Truncation
Soil Horizon - Conjectured	Sondages/Machine Strip
Intrusion/Truncation	Illustrated Section  S.14
Top of Natural	Archaeological Feature
Top Surface	Archaeological Deposit
Break in Section/ Limit of Section Drawing	Excavated Slot
Cut Number	Wall
Deposit Number 117	Projected Wall
Ordnance Datum $\frac{18.45m}{\wedge}$ ODN	Mortar
Inclusions	Cobble Surface
	Stone
	Flint
	Chalk
	Pottery
	Brick
	Tile
	Glass
	Wood
	Bone
	Cut Number 118
	Sample Number

## **1 Introduction**

This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by A. Hutcheson of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA; Planning Application 4/2002/0749/F), supplemented by a Specification prepared by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit (CCC AFU).

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by NLA, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by CCC AFU and will be deposited with the appropriate county museum stores in due course.

## **2 Geology and Topography**

The site overlies chalk (British Geological Survey Sheet 161/162), which was encountered at c.2m below current ground level (c.8.9m OD). The immediate (modern) topography of the site is generally flat, although its location on the edge of an escarpment is attested to by the steepness of St Laurence Little Steps to the east. These steps connect St Benedict's Street to Westwick Street to the north; there is a drop of c.5m down to the lower street. The River Wensum flows 200m to the north of the site.

Located within the medieval city walls, the proposed development site lies within the Area of Main Archaeological Interest (HBE 1-7 of the Norwich City Deposit Local Plan). The position of the site, between two churches (St Laurence's to the immediate east and St Margaret's to the west) is of note, as is its location close to the St Benedict's street frontage.

## **3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

### **3.1 Prehistoric and Roman**

Relatively little evidence of prehistoric settlement has been uncovered within the historic core of Norwich. Traces of Bronze Age settlement have, however, been identified during evaluation at Busseys Garage (Emery and Aswin 2002), and significant palaeoenvironmental and lithic evidence has been recorded at both Riverside and the Norwich City Football Stadium at Carrow Road (Elizabeth Shepherd Popescu,



pers. comm.) on the opposite bank of the river. A few finds have come from the Castle area (Site 777N, Shepherd Popescu forthcoming; Site 416N, Ayers 1985, 33, fig.29). Larger quantities of finds as well as *in situ* features indicating cultivation were found at the new library site (Percival and Hutcheson, in prep.), on high ground to the south-east of St Benedict's Street.

St Benedict's Street follows the line of a possible Roman Road running west from a probable port at Brundall, east of Norwich. There are many Roman finds from the city but little settlement evidence, although ditches probably dating to the 3rd to 4th century have recently been excavated at the Chapelfield site to the west of the Castle and may represent field systems and trackways (Whitmore 2004).

### 3.2 Saxon

Five hamlets or villages founded in the 8th to 9th century had, by the 11th century, coalesced to form the town of Norwich (Westwick, Coslany, Conesford, Needham and Northwic). By the Late Saxon period the site lay outside the main settlement but within an area of ribbon development between the nuclei of Westwick and Conesford. The possible limit of Westwick was suggested as running along the line of the Little Cockey stream, although excavation suggested that the stream actually ran further east (Carter 1978, 200). A communal defensive work in the western part of the city was referred to in 1155-8 and could imply that the western side of Westwick was indeed defended. It may relate to the line of the stream, although this has yet to be proved archaeologically (Ayers, in prep.).

### 3.3 Medieval

By the medieval period St Benedict's Street lay inside the city walls (constructed 1297-1344). There have been several excavations close to the site, including that excavated in 1982 by the Norwich Survey at Nos 29-31 St Benedict's Street (Site 147N). Here occupation started in the late 11th century and continued into the 12th century; following an apparent hiatus, the site was re-occupied in the late 13th century. This small trial excavation took place in the yard area to the rear of the frontage and structural evidence from the frontage was therefore absent. Further investigation was abandoned after extensive cellars were discovered. It was suggested that almost the whole frontage on the north side St Benedict's Street between St Laurence and St Margaret's churches may have been truncated by cellars (Atkin 1982, 5).

To the south, excavations at Nos 31-51 Pottergate (so named after the Saxon kilns in the area) in 1973 showed activity, in the form of gravel quarrying, started in the 12th century with only limited settlement

evidence before 1470, when intensive occupation began. Evidence of the devastating fires of 1507 was also found, which had resulted in the survival of important domestic assemblages within some of the cellars (Atkin *et al* 1985). In 1988 an excavation at a site on Westwick Street uncovered a large number of medieval (13th to 15th century) pits, some over 3m deep, possibly associated with clothworking (NHER 813). Documentary evidence for this period shows that the river foreshore in the Westwick Street area was extensively colonised by particular industries and trades such as dyers and fullers (Ayers 1994, 67).

### **3.4 Post-Medieval**

Norwich emerged as a very successful town in the 17th and 18th centuries, partly as a result of the influx of mostly Dutch 'Strangers' who effectively revitalised the city's cloth industry. Norwich rapidly grew in wealth and population, becoming the richest provincial city, and earning the appellation of 'Second City' (*ibid*, 11).

There are a number of extant 17th (Nos 26, 27, 28 and 30) and 18th (No. 35) century buildings along St Benedict's Street, many of which are currently in use as shops. The remains of a possible brick undercroft have also been identified below No. 35 St Benedict's Street.

The 1885 Ordnance Survey map shows a number of buildings on the development site including part of a Mineral Water Works, which probably once stood at No. 21 St Benedict's Street.

## **4 Methodology**

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

The Brief required that trenching be concentrated on the street frontage: a 7m x 3m trench aligned parallel to the street with a second smaller (3m x 3m) trench to the back of the area was proposed. The site investigation report (S.I.C. (East Anglia) Ltd 2004), however, indicated extensive cellarage along the frontage and eastern edge of the site, which necessitated some amendment to the trenching scheme. Following consultation with A. Hutcheson (NLA), it was agreed that initial machining should focus on defining the extent of cellarage along the frontage before the final trench layout was decided on site.

Three small trenches were initially excavated along the length of (and at right angles to) the frontage; these revealed extensive truncation of later medieval and post-medieval deposits as a result of cellaring and subsequent demolition. A relatively undisturbed sequence of medieval and later deposits had, however, survived in a c.3-4m-wide strip along the frontage; deposits were also preserved beneath the cellar truncation. The middle of the three trenches (Trench 2) was chosen for further investigation and an additional trench (Trench 4) was excavated to the rear (north), which had not been affected by cellaring. Trenches 2 and 4 were excavated in two to three stages, (before and after shoring), whilst Trenches 1 and 3 were cleaned and recorded; no further excavation of these trenches was undertaken at this stage. Terram was placed over the exposed deposits in the latter trenches prior to backfilling. The combined trenching area comprised a maximum of 41.59 sq m, providing a c.10.2% sample of the area (0.04ha). The full archaeological sequence (down to natural chalk) was investigated in two trenches, totalling 19.6 sq m (4.8% sample).

Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using CCC AFU's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench plans and sections were recorded at 1:20 and 1:10 respectively and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits. Trenches were located using a Leica TCR 705 Total Station Theodolite.

Environmental samples were taken from a variety of deposits, including feature-fills and layers.

The site comprised a roughly level open plot at the time of the evaluation, partly overgrown with the remains of a bricked-up cellar and a boundary wall surviving along the eastern edge adjacent to St Laurence Little Steps. A building known as the indoor market, with a brick vaulted cellar or basement, had until recently stood on the site. A requirement of the brief had been to undertake a basic photographic record of the building and property boundary walls, however no such record appears to have been made; the building was demolished in c.2003.

The site conditions were generally favourable; heavy showers occurred on two of the days.

## 5 Results

Modern gravel surfaces and rubble backfill were removed in all four trenches, revealing post-medieval and medieval features, garden soils, dumped deposits, floors and wall foundations. The remains of a demolished cellar (comprising building rubble filling a large machine cut) running parallel with St Benedict's Street were identified in the three frontage trenches; associated brick rubble extended across the site into Trench 4. The cellar (and its destruction) had caused localised damage to the archaeology in Trenches 1-3.

The natural flinty chalk natural geology was encountered at c.1.6m and c.2.0m below current ground level respectively in Trenches 2 and 4.

The earliest indication of activity on the site comprised a small, damaged flint of probable Neolithic date that was recovered during machining of Trench 4 (see Appendix 2). Evidence of Saxo-Norman activity in the vicinity was also found in the form of sherds of Thetford, Stamford and St Neots type pottery (Appendix 3), all residual in later contexts. Medieval occupation on the site, represented by pits, possible floor layers, midden and dumped deposits, appears to date predominantly to the period 1250-1350. The later medieval and earlier post-medieval sequence includes dumping/levelling layers, a number of chalk and flint wall foundations and a possible vaulted brick and flint-built undercroft. Occupation appears to have continued on the site into the post-medieval period, largely represented by garden soils and yard surfaces.

The following section describes these deposits and features, supplemented by a tabulated list of context summaries that is presented in Appendix 1.

### 5.1 Trench 1 (Figs 2, 3a and 6; Plates 1 and 2)

Trench 1 (4.8m x 2.2m) was located c.2m to the north of the footpath/pavement of St Benedict's Street, in the south-east corner of the site. The deposits and structures identified in this trench, which was positioned to define the extent of cellarage along the frontage, were recorded but not excavated. Archaeological deposits, including a brick vaulted arch, were encountered at c.0.2m below ground level at the southern end of the trench, close to St Benedict's Street; the cellar demolition had removed deposits (including wall foundations) to a depth of c.0.35m towards the centre of the trench and at least c.0.95m at its northern end.

### 5.1.1 Late Medieval to Post-Medieval

The earliest deposits encountered in this trench comprised two wall foundations (126 and 127) located in the western half of the trench. These were roughly constructed from chalk blocks and occasional flint nodules bonded in a yellowish orange sandy mortar. No construction cuts were discernable. The most substantial wall (127) was 0.5m wide and survived to a height in excess of 0.8m; the base was not revealed. Both this wall, and wall 126 (0.15m wide and at least 0.3m high) were severely truncated to the north and west by cellar demolition cut **145**. The date(s) of these walls is not known, although they could conceivably be later medieval/earlier post-medieval. No obvious facing of the walls was observed.

It is likely that the two wall foundations were associated, as a sequence of layers (118-124 and 129-131) had accumulated against, and between, them (Fig. 6, S. 22). These are listed below (earliest to latest)

- 130: 0.13m-thick orangey brown silty sand with occasional fragments of brick and tile
- 124/131: 0.07m-thick layer of compacted chalk, possible floor surface abutting wall 126
- 129: 0.17m-thick deposit of loose orangey grey sandy silt with frequent chalk flecks
- 123: 0.25m-thick layer of dark brown sandy silt

Overlying 123 was a sequence of four layers of similar thickness (0.05m – 0.10m), comprising two deposits (122 and 120) of similar firm yellow silty sand separated by a band of dark brown silt (121), and overlain by a loose mixed pale brown silt and mortar layer (119).

Very few finds were recovered from these deposits: layer 129 produced a single small sherd of medieval (13th to 14th century) pottery that is probably residual.

The uppermost layer (118) consisted of a 0.23m-thick deposit of firm greyish brown sandy silt with chalk and charcoal inclusions, which contained brick fragments in addition to 19th century pottery and glass sherds. A 0.6m-thick layer (128) of mixed grey and black ash and silt was recorded against the northern face of wall 127; this was severely truncated by demolition cut **145**. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

One of the most significant survivals on the site was the partly destroyed remains of a possible vaulted cellar or undercroft (125; Plates 1 and 2) located in the southern part of the trench, adjacent to the street frontage. The earliest element of this structure was a curving wall of small, apparently unmortared chalk blocks on top of which was a shallow brick arch. The latter comprised two courses of

hand-made bricks, roughly finished in stretcher bond with sandy orangey yellow mortar. Initial appraisal of brick samples from this part of the structure suggests a late medieval or early post-medieval date (Appendix 2).

The bricks appear to have been roughly keyed into wall 126; the method of bonding with the chalk block wall was not visible. A loose grey brown silty backfill (unnumbered) with small brick and chalk fragments was observed filling the chamber, leaving a c.0.4m gap to the top of the vaulting (Fig. 6, S. 22; Plates 1 and 2).

The brick vault, wall 126, and associated deposits, were also truncated by a small modern cut (117) filled with very hard mortar/concrete with frequent flint nodules (116). Possibly associated with this was a patch of chalky mortar (132), recorded in plan, overlying 126.

The extensive cellar demolition cut 145 (filled by rubble backfill 144) was observed across the width and length of the trench (although at a shallower depth from the southern edge of the trench). The full depth of the cut was not reached in this trench, although it was machined to c.0.9m below current ground level.

A rough surface of 0.15m-thick loose gravel (143) overlay the rubble backfill.

## 5.2 Trench 2 (Figs 2, 4 and 7; Plates 3 and 4)

Trench 2 was located between Trenches 1 and 3, adjacent to the street frontage. Initially the trench measured 4.9m x 2.7m and was excavated to define the extent of cellarage along the frontage. Following recording of the exposed deposits, including wall foundations, floors, pits and modern intrusions, at this initial level the decision was made to investigate further this trench as part of the evaluation. The trench was widened to c.3.3m and machined to a depth of c.0.9m, at which point selected hand-excavation of later medieval and medieval dumped deposits was undertaken. Once the nature of the deposits was established (and natural chalk bedrock reached), the trench was shored in preparation for deeper machining. To facilitate this, the trench was decreased in size slightly to 3.5m x 2.6m. The remains of the hand-sampled deposits were removed by machine to reveal a number of medieval pits, at which point excavation continued by hand.

Natural chalk was reached at c.1.6m, although it was slightly higher against the eastern edge of the trench; there was a perceptible slope from south to north.

### 5.2.1 Medieval

#### *Pits and associated features*

Five features were identified in the base of the trench, all of which cut the natural chalk bedrock and appear to have been infilled during the mid-13th to mid-14th centuries.

A large, possibly oval, pit (**217**) was investigated in the south-west corner of the trench; no full dimensions were exposed in plan, although it appears to have been at least 1.2m across and 0.65m deep (Fig. 6, S. 27). Two fills (216 and 215) were recorded within the pit, overlain by a slumped layer or dump (258, see below). The western side of the pit was almost vertical, whilst the northern edge appears to have been more moderately sloped down to a fairly flat base. The primary fill (218) largely comprised redeposited chalk and flint nodules mixed with grey brown silty sand; upper fill (216) was a loose mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional stones and charcoal flecks. Both fills produced small quantities of finds including butchered animal bone, shell and mid-13th to mid-14th century pottery, all indicative of fairly low-level disposal of domestic waste. This was reiterated by the remains identified in an environmental sample from fill 216, which contained low densities of domestic waste/hearth debris, including cereal grains, weed seeds, molluscs and fish bone (Appendices 7, 9 and 10).

An unusual large rectangular pit (**229**; Plate 4) with vertical sides and a flat base was located in the centre of the trench, with a possibly associated channel (**221**) feeding in from the south (Fig. 4a, Fig. 6 S. 24 and 27). The pit, which was 1.8m wide, at least 2.4m long and c.0.6m deep, was orientated north-to-south and contained a series of seven dumped fills and lenses. The latter mostly comprised reddish/yellowish/greyish brown sandy silts (222 and 223) and silty loams (224, 226 and 227), although two distinct dumps of dark reddish brown peat ash (225 and 228) were also recorded. Most fills contained inclusions of chalk, charcoal, flint and pebbles in varying quantities; finds include moderate quantities of fired clay, shell and slag.

The fills produced some of the largest pottery and faunal assemblages from the evaluation. Main fill 224 contained a relatively large assemblage of pottery (0.56kg; Appendix 3), including 20 sherds of Grimston ware; similar pottery was also recovered from fills 222, 223 and 226. The faunal assemblage includes domestic fowl, swan, and coot, cat, cattle, pig, and heavily butchered sheep/goat remains. Fish remains were also present (most deriving from fill 223), representing a variety of species, including whiting, sprat, eel and herring (Appendix 7); remains of tench comprise the only freshwater fish. Environmental samples were taken from two of the fills (223 and 228); both produced low to moderate quantities of charred cereal grains and/or rare seeds

of common weeds/wetland species represented. Sample 8 (from 228) contained slightly higher quantities of charred sedge and spike rush, possibly brought to the site as litter, thatch or fuel (Appendix 10).

Channel **221** to the south of **229** was 0.7m wide, at least 0.8m long with very steep and sometimes undercutting sides. The base of this feature was not reached, although a redeposited chalk layer, very similar to 218 in pit **217**, was uncovered which is likely to be a primary deposit. The two excavated fills of **221** (220 and 219) comprised yellowish brown silty sands; upper fill 219 was loosely compacted whilst main fill 220 contained chalk fragments and flint nodules. A localised area of very loose fill was noted against the western edge of the channel overlain by a thin chalk dump (233); this could be the remains of a later feature (such as a post-setting) but too little was exposed to be certain. A similar finds assemblage (albeit smaller in quantity) to that from the fills of **229** was present, comprising animal bone, shell, baked clay and slag (including a hearth bottom; Appendix 6). Pottery of a similar type and date to that from **229** was also recovered. An environmental sample from fill 220 contained low densities of charred cereals, charcoal, eggshell and fishbone (Appendix 10).

The interpretation of these features is not certain. They appear to have been infilled at the same time, and it seems likely that they were associated although the relationship was not investigated. If they were related, it seems that channel **221** 'fed-into' pit **229**, rather than drained it as there is a natural slope from south to north. No lining survived to indicate whether the pit was originally designed to hold water, however the vertical sides and flat base suggest that this feature had a specific function. The fills (and finds) relate to the disuse of the pit, and are not necessarily helpful in establishing an interpretation. One possible interpretation is that the pit is the remains of a small medieval cellar (for a single-celled property), and the channel may have housed a stepped access.

A small, possibly rectangular pit (**231**) cut pit **229** on its north-eastern edge; the base of the cut could not practically be reached due to the narrow area exposed within the trench. The pit was over 1m long and 0.4m wide, with vertical sides. A single fill (230) of loose reddish brown silty sand was recorded, which produced two sherds of 13th-14th century pottery and a small amount of fired clay and animal bone.

Too little of the pit was exposed to ascertain its function, although it (as with the other pits) appears to have been backfilled with material containing domestic rubbish.

A shallow (0.34m) cut (**240**) with a gently sloping profile was observed (in section only) cutting the natural chalk; no finds were retrieved from the single dark reddish brown loamy fill. Too little of this feature was exposed to suggest an interpretation of its function.



### *Levelling layers and dumps (Fig. 7)*

Overlying and occasionally slumping into the top of the pits was a sequence of dumped layers, largely deriving from (or containing) domestic rubbish. The layers varied in thickness from c.0.45m (e.g. 200) to thin dumps or lenses only a few centimetres thick (e.g. 152); most discernibly tipped from south to north, presumably infilling a hollow and/or levelling up the natural slope. Some layers extended across most of the length of the trench, whilst others were more localised. The layers were initially investigated by hand (Fig. 4b and Fig. 7 S. 18), and later removed by machine and recorded in section. The following comprises a summary of these deposits in approximate stratigraphic order (earlier to later):

- 258: mid yellowish brown silty clay with chalk and flint (filling top of pit 217)
- 155: dump of dark reddish brown fuel/peat ash
- 232: grey brown chalky silty sandy clay with lenses of peat ash
- 234: thin layer of crushed mortar
- 235: compact layer of chalk and dark brown silty clay (floor?)
- 159: mid yellowish grey brown chalky clayey sand.
- 158: small dump of dark reddish brown fuel/peat ash
- 242: light orange brown chalky sandy silt (over pit 240)
- 157: mid yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent chalk and mortar
- 255: thick layer of redeposited chalk
- 154: light yellow creamy brown chalky clayey silt
- 156: mid brown pebbly sandy silt
- 152: dump of dark reddish brown fuel/peat ash
- 200: thick layer of very dark greenish brown sandy silt
- 197: pale orangey brown - crushed sandy lime mortar

These deposits were not dissimilar to those recorded within the pits described above; the pottery is also generally comparable. This indicates comprehensive infilling and deliberate levelling of this part of the site in the 13th-14th centuries. Moderate quantities of pottery were recovered from a number of the layers, including Grimston ware jug fragments and sherds of local medieval unglazed wares (Appendix 3). The animal bone assemblage was also similar to that from the pits and largely comprises domestic mammal remains (mostly cattle), 60% of which shows evidence of butchery. Other species include bird (butchered goose, and a possible jackdaw bone from 156) and fish remains, such as cod and sprat (from 156 and 155 respectively); small quantities of rabbit (from 156) and cat bones (from 152, 155 and 156) were also recovered (Appendix 7).

Other finds include small quantities of smithing slag, shell (oyster, red whelk, mussel and cockle) and fired clay; a copper alloy rectangular

mount and several iron nails were also recovered from layer 156. Environmental samples were taken from three of the layers (154, 155 and 156); all produced charred cereal remains and charcoal. Other remains include weed/wetland seeds (not from 156), eggshell, molluscs, fish and small mammal/amphibian bone, all indicative of low-level disposal of domestic waste (Appendix 10).

## 5.2.2 *Late Medieval to Early Post-Medieval*

### *Levelling layers, dumps and contemporary features*

Overlying the medieval dumped deposits was an extensive, 0.12m-thick layer (151/251/?236; Fig. 7 S. 18 and 19) of greyish brown sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments and small stones. Although similar in appearance to the underlying deposits, this layer (and context 213 assigned to finds recovered during machining of this deposit) produced pottery datable to the 15th century. The layer shows characteristics of a midden deposit, as relatively large quantities of shell (mostly oyster with some mussel and cockle; Appendix 9), in addition to smaller amounts of animal bone (domestic fowl, fish (plaice) and cat), were recovered (Appendix 7). Disarticulated human remains (a clavicle and sternum; Appendix 8) were however also recovered from 151 and 213 respectively, perhaps originating from the adjacent churchyard.

A small pit (**199**), 0.35m across and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a flat base, was recorded in the main east-facing section, cutting layer 151 (Fig. 7 S. 19). No finds were retrieved from the single fill (198). A cut (**202**), possibly the foundation trench for wall 203 (see below), was recorded in the main east-facing section truncating layer 151 (Fig. 7 S. 19). If this is a construction cut, then layer 193 (see below), may have abutted wall 203, and could be associated; no equivalent cut was visible on the northern side of the wall, although a different layer (204) was recorded here.

Layer 150/182/?237, a c.0.2m-thick greyish brown chalky sandy loam with frequent stones overlay layer 151; pottery from this layer dates to the 13th century and is clearly residual. This may represent a hiatus in activity on the site, or possibly another levelling deposit.

Overlying 150/182/?237 was a 0.1m-thick layer of greyish brown sandy silt (193) containing moderate chalk and small brick fragments. This layer, unlike earlier deposits, appears to be relatively level (rather than dipping from south to north), although its full extent within the trench is not known as it was physically truncated by cellar demolition cut **43**. Pottery from 193 indicates a date of mid-15th to end of the 16th-century (Appendix 3). A thick (0.2m) layer of greyish brown chalky sandy loam (194) overlay 193, and appears to have been cut by wall construction cut **208** (see below). No finds were recovered although it is likely to be of similar date to 193. These layers could be the remains

of a 'platform' to facilitate the construction of late medieval frontage buildings.

The continuation of these dumped layers was also observed in the northern part of the trench, in the east- and south-facing sections:

- 250: 0.12m-thick localised dump of mixed chalky silt
- 249: 0.2m-thick deposit of mid orangey brown sandy silt with few inclusions
- 248: 0.10m-thick layer of fairly compact redeposited chalk

Layer 248 was cut by a shallow sub-circular pit (**214**), partly exposed against the northern edge of the trench. The pit measured 1.3m across and was 0.24m deep; a small quantity of animal bone and pottery datable to the late 15th to mid-16th century was recovered from its single sandy silt fill (215).

Overlying pit **214** was a 0.15m-thick dump of redeposited chalk dipping from north to south; this in turn was sealed beneath a 0.2m-thick layer of loose orangey brown sandy silt with charcoal and chalk flecks (247). A similar deposit (244), 0.3m-thick, of dark brown sandy silt overlay 247. No finds were recovered from either layer, although their stratigraphic position indicates a late medieval or earlier post-medieval date.

#### *Wall foundations, floors and associated deposits*

Possible construction and/or floor levels were recorded above layer 150/182/?237 in the main north and west-facing sections (Fig 6 S. 17 and 18), some of which appear to predate walls **168**, **203**, **205** and possibly **239** (see below). The following comprises a summary of these deposits in approximate stratigraphic order (earlier to later):

- 261 – localised dump of brownish grey sandy silt with mortar
- 183 – 0.06m thick layer of compact yellowish white crushed mortar (construction?)
- 184 – Lens/dump of greyish brown chalky sandy clay
- 185 – 0.06m thick layer of grey brown sandy clay with chalk and flint
- 171/246 – 0.15m thick layer of light grey brown chalky sandy loam
- 174 – 0.13m thick dump of light yellowish grey chalky sandy silt
- 166 – 0.04m thick layer of light yellowish grey chalky sandy loam, located to N of wall 168
- 165 – 0.07m thick compact mortar layer, located to N of wall 168 (construction?)

No finds are attributable to these layers, although on stratigraphic grounds they are likely to be late medieval. These deposits may relate

to an earlier structure, or could be associated with preparation for the construction of the building represented by walls **205** and **168**.

A cut (**172**) recorded in the main west-facing section, prior to the last phase of machining, could be the top of a pit, or could conceivably have been the upper part of a construction (or demolition) cut for wall 239. Unfortunately this was located between two phases of machining/recording and a partial section-collapse obscured this relationship. Whether 172 was associated with the wall, or a separate feature, it was sealed beneath dump 174 (see above), which in turn was truncated by a possible construction cut (**167**) for wall 168.

*Wall foundation 239* (Fig. 4a, Fig. 7 S. 25)

A fairly substantial (0.75m across and 0.55m high) foundation comprising uncoursed brick fragments and flint nodules bonded in a hard yellow sandy lime mortar was recorded in the lower west-facing section. The wall was cut into the chalk bedrock (and overlying deposits), but may not have extended very far into the trench. It was not observed during machining of the lower levels, and may have been removed by the cellar-demolition cut **43**, or perhaps in advance of earlier levelling; it did not continue into the east-facing section.

A possible construction cut (**238**) was recorded, although this was not very clear in section. It is possible that some of the layers described above (e.g. 235) could be associated with this wall, but again a small area of section collapse obscured this relationship.

*Wall foundation 203* (Fig. 4a, Fig. 7 S. 19)

A well-built and fairly substantial (0.5m wide and 0.25m high) wall foundation (203) was also recorded in the middle of the main east-facing section. It comprised at least two surviving courses of chalk blocks bonded in a hard light orangey yellow sandy lime mortar; a possible chalk construction layer (268) was also recorded in plan. Both the wall and chalk deposit had been truncated by later cellaring. A possible foundation cut (**202**; fill 201) was recorded on the south side of the wall; this interpretation is unlikely, however as it did not extend beneath the wall and was probably a small pit or localised dump. It is possible that this wall (and perhaps wall 168) was cut through the earlier deposits (including 204, a greyish brown sandy silt possibly equivalent to 247 (see below)). The date of this wall is not known, although it is likely to be late medieval on stratigraphic grounds. The construction of wall 203 was similar to that of wall 127 in Trench 1, in that chalk blocks were used instead of flint and brick.

*Wall foundations 205 and 168* (Fig. 4a, Fig. 7 S. 17 and S. 18)

Walls 205 and 168 (in the north and west-facing sections respectively) appeared to be of different construction, although they are likely to have been related. A series of distinctive floors and occupation layers were recorded within them that did not continue on either side, suggesting that they formed the remains of a building, or room within a

building. Both walls were initially recorded in plan (after the first machining phase) as extending for a short distance into the trench before being removed/truncated by cellar demolition cut 43.

Wall 205, constructed of flint, chalk and brick (including a green-glazed tile) roughly bonded with copious amounts of hard brownish orange sandy lime mortar, survived to a height of c.0.45m and was 0.35m wide. A possible foundation cut (208) was recorded on the eastern edge, which truncated layer 209 (see above). The mixed yellowish grey silty sand fill (206; with chalk dump 207) produced the handle of a glazed medieval jug dating from the 15th to the end of the 16th century. The construction of this wall is perhaps more reminiscent of wall 100 in Trench 3.

Wall 168 survived to a height of 0.82m, was narrower than 205 (0.24m, bulging out to 0.32m at the base), and much more regularly constructed of coursed hand-made bricks (possibly similar to those in 125 in Trench 1) bonded in a hard yellowish brown sandy lime mortar. Large cobbles/nodules were set in the base. A possible construction cut (167) containing a crushed mortar fill (169) was recorded on the southern side of the wall, above which a series of floor levels had accumulated.

#### *Floors and other deposits within 168/205*

A sequence of distinctive floor levels and possible disuse/demolition layers were recorded abutting walls 168 and 205; the following summary is presented in stratigraphic order (earliest to latest):

- 170: 0.03m-thick lens of dark grey brown charcoal-rich sandy silt
- 175: 0.03m-thick dump of crushed mortar (construction?)
- 186: 0.03m thick layer of compact chalk (floor?)
- 187: 0.10m thick layer of pale orangey grey clay loam (floor?)
- 176: 0.10m thick layer of mixed chalk, silt and pebbles
- 188: 0.12m-thick layer of mixed dark reddish brown and black sandy clay with frequent charcoal, fills possible trough/cut adjacent to wall 205.
- 177: 0.04m-thick layer of loose yellow sand (floor?)
- 178: 0.06m-thick layer of dark greyish brown loam with frequent charcoal (occupation?)
- 179: 0.07m thick layer of light grey sandy loam with occasional charcoal (occupation?)
- 189: 0.11m-thick layer of loose yellowish white mortar with occasional chalk, brick and cobbles (latter part recorded in plan; demolition?).
- 180: 0.04m-thick layer of white compact chalk/mortar (demolition?)
- 190: 0.12m-thick layer of dark grey sandy loam with frequent charcoal, brick, chalk and pebbles (demolition?)

- 181: 0.10m-thick layer of loose mid brown clay loam with frequent brick, chalk and flint (demolition/disuse?)

None of the above has any finds attributable to them; it is likely that these deposits could have been laid down or accumulated over a relatively long time, possibly into the later post-medieval period (but predating the building that was recently demolished).

*External soil accumulations (Fig. 7 S. 18 and 19)*

A different sequence of deposits was recorded to the north and west of these walls, presumably in what were external yards/plots.

A 0.37m-thick layer (195) of dark yellowish brown sandy loam with few inclusions (rare chalk and mortar) had accumulated to the west of wall 205. As with layer 194 below, this layer, and 196 above (a 0.15m-thick darker version of 195), were both fairly level compared with the later medieval and earlier deposits below.

A number of layers were recorded (earliest to latest) on the northern side of wall 168, in the west- and east-facing sections:

- 164: 0.07m-thick layer of dark grey brown silty loam
- 163: 0.05m-thick layer of very dark greyish brown silty clay with abundant charcoal
- 52/62: 0.12m-thick layer of light brown sandy clay with frequent mortar, brick and flint
- 61: 0.03m-thick spread of dark brown silty loam with frequent charcoal
- 60: 0.04m-thick layer of crushed mortar
- 59/162: 0.35m-thick layer of dark grey silty loam with frequent brick, charcoal, chalk and mortar
- 58/161: 0.12m-thick compact mortar layer (demolition?).
- 57/160: 0.06m-thick compact layer of broken bricks -demolition?

No datable material was recovered from these layers, which are likely to be earlier (and possibly later) post-medieval soil accumulations

### **5.2.3 Later Post-Medieval to Modern (Fig. 4a, Fig. 7)**

Relatively few later post-medieval features were present in the trench. Layer 57/160 (see above) was cut by a 0.4m-wide and 0.5m-deep pit (56) with steep sides and a single brownish grey silty loam fill (55). No finds were recovered, although the stratigraphic position and presence of brick fragments suggests a later post-medieval date.

Remnants of a possible feature (40), filled by 39, a yellowish grey sandy loam containing modern brick rubble were noted at the southern end of the trench. A number of layers/dumps (44, 45, 49, 48=52, 50, 51, 53, 54, 263, 264 and 266) were also recorded in plan and/or

section during the first phase of machining. Spreads of mortar (266) and of demolition rubble (263) were recorded in plan in the south-east corner of the trench and could relate to demolition of the building represented by walls 168 and 203. Many of the remaining deposits contained dumps of brick rubble, chalk and charcoal and could be relatively recent; some however may be equivalent to a number of the earlier deposits described above. Truncation of some of the deposits from cellar demolition cut **43** meant that too little was exposed to ascertain which layers/phase they might relate to.

The base of a square pit (**212**), 1.2m wide, was recorded in plan cutting late medieval layer 151. It is not certain what level this feature was cut from, as this relationship was removed by cellar demolition cut 43, and subsequent machining. Finds, including frequent brick and tile fragments, glazed red earthenwares and clay pipe, were observed in the loose dark grey silty sand fill (211). Although these finds were not retained, they indicate an 18th or 19th century date for this feature.

Cellar demolition cut **43** was quite extensive and irregular in this trench; it varied in depth considerably, reaching a maximum of 1.1m towards the centre of the trench. As with other trenches along the frontage, a (0.5m wide) strip of less-truncated deposits was preserved at the southern end of the trench, adjacent to the frontage. The lower fill (42) of **43** contained loose brick rubble, metal, glass, plastic and other modern detritus, whilst (as observed in other trenches) main rubble fill 41 was largely comprised of loose brick rubble. Redeposited 15th-16th century pottery was recovered from context 191 (equivalent to 41); no other finds were retained. As in other trenches, a loose levelling layer of brick rubble (38) was present across the trench, overlain by a rough gravel and crushed concrete surface (37).

### 5.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 3b, Fig. 6 S. 3 and 16; Plates 5 and 6)

As with Trenches 1 and 2, Trench 3 was located to investigate the extent of cellarage along the frontage; the exposed deposits were cleaned, photographed and recorded only, with no further excavation. The trench measured 4.9m x 1.7m and was located in the south-west corner of the site, at right angles to the street frontage. Archaeological deposits, including a wall foundation, were encountered at a relatively shallow depth (c.0.25m) at the southern end of the trench, close to St Benedict's Street. Cellar demolition cut **96** (equivalent to **145** in Trench 1) had severely truncated deposits in the northern two thirds of the trench. The truncation cut was cleaned and a small, stepped section created in order to record the wall foundation, floors and later soil accumulations.

### 5.3.1 Medieval to Earlier Post-Medieval

A chalk floor or surface (108) was the earliest deposit recorded in the trench, extending across its width. The thickness of this layer was not revealed; it (and all later deposits) was physically truncated to the north by a modern cellar demolition cut (96). No finds were retrieved from 108, although a sherd of medieval (13th-14th century) pottery was recovered from overlying orange brown sandy clay layer 107, which also extended across the width of the trench at an average thickness of 0.12m. Above this layer was a thin (0.03m) spread of creamy mortar (114), which produced no finds and appeared to have been limited to the western half of the trench. A second crushed chalk surface (106), c. 0.05m thick, overlay the mortar spread; this layer probably originally extended across the width of the trench, but was truncated by the base of wall construction cut 102 (see below). These layers are all likely to be the remains of later medieval floors or occupation levels associated with an earlier phase of building on this part of the site. They clearly extended across the width of the trench, whilst the later surfaces tended to be differentiated between east and west, separated by or associated with wall foundation cut 102/ wall 100 respectively.

A number of layers were recorded that predated the wall foundation, but may have respected a precursor to it as different deposits were noted to the east and west of the (later) wall. The following list describes the sequence of deposits on the western side of (and cut by) construction cut 102:

- 113: c.0.05m thick mid orange brown clay surface which overlay chalk surface 106.
- 112: 0.03m thick dump/spread of orangey red peat/fuel ash
- 111: 0.05m thick layer of mid orangey brown sandy silt with occasional chalk flecks
- 110: 0.05m thick clay surface (110) similar to 113; this may have been associated/contemporary with wall 100, although the stratigraphic relationship was masked by the section step at this point.
- 109: 0.02m thick dark brown clay layer with frequent charcoal flecks partially exposed in the section step; the relationship with wall 100 could not be ascertained.

No finds were recovered from these deposits.

A different sequence of deposits was recorded on the eastern side of wall construction cut 102. Layer 99, a c.0.2m-thick deposit of mid orange brown sandy silt clay with frequent chalk fragments and moderate charcoal flecks, overlay chalk floor 106, and was cut by 102. However, it was also recorded as abutting wall 100, suggesting that there might be two similar deposits (one predating the wall, and one post-dating it) that could not be distinguished in section.



### *Wall foundation 100*

Wall construction cut **102** was 0.4m wide and c.0.25m deep, with steep sides and a flat base which was filled with a mid orangey brown sandy silt (101) with occasional chalk lumps and mortar lenses. The wall (100) comprised a roughly-built foundation of flint nodules and occasional thin brick fragments bonded with a large quantity of hard orange sandy lime mortar. The wall extended south-north across the trench for c.2m before being truncated by cellar demolition cut **96**; it was c.0.35m wide (although appearing wider in plan due to a spread of demolition rubble to the east) and had survived to a height of c 0.4m. The date of the wall is not certain, although it is of similar type to walls uncovered in other trenches, and could conceivably be later medieval; later layer 97 (see below) contained 16th century pottery.

A number of deposits abutted the wall on its western side comprising a 0.08m-thick layer of mid orange brown silty clay (105), overlain by a thin (0.02m) spread of creamy mortar (104), sealed beneath a 0.13m-thick layer of mid greyish brown silty sandy clay (103). None of these layers, which could represent occupation build-up possibly within a building, produced any finds.

A 0.24m-thick layer (98) of mid orange brown silty sandy clay, similar to 99 below but with less chalk and occasional mortar fragments, was recorded abutting the eastern side of wall 100. This could represent an external soil accumulation, although a larger area would need to be examined to explore this further.

A distinctive layer of dark brown silty loam (97) with charcoal, mortar and chalk flecks and brick fragments was evident in plan on either side of the wall, and may once have extended over the top of it. The date of this layer is not certain, although sherds of 16th century pottery were recovered during cleaning.

### **5.3.2 Later post-medieval to modern**

Little clear evidence of later post-medieval/19th century activity was found in this trench.

Layer 97 (see above) was truncated by modern cellar demolition cut **96**, which began at a fairly shallow depth (c.0.25m) at the southern (street frontage) end and increased fairly abruptly to over 1m deep at the northern end. As with Trench 1 the full depth of the cut, which was filled with brick rubble (95), was not reached in this trench. Although causing major truncation, the cellar demolition appears to have left an area of c.2m of largely undisturbed stratified deposits within the trench, close to the street frontage. Evidence from Trench 2 indicates that medieval deposits may be preserved below the level of modern truncation in the northern part of the trench.

#### 5.4 Trench 4 (Figs 2, 5 and 6 S. 1-4 and 7-14; Plates 7 and 8)

Trench 4, located in the north of the site and to the rear of Trenches 1-3, initially measured 4m x c.3.5m; this was reduced to 3m x 3.5m to facilitate shoring in advance of the second phase of machining.

The first phase of machining investigated the later post-medieval features and deposits, including rubble layers, a ceramic drain, a cobbled surface and numerous soil layers and dumps to a depth of c.1.1m below ground level. The second phase of machining revealed later medieval and earlier post-medieval layers and features overlying medieval pits. Natural flinty chalk (through which the pits were cut) was reached in a central smaller stepped area (c.1m x 1m) at c.2m below ground level.

##### 5.4.1 Medieval

###### *Pits and associated features and deposits*

The earliest feature recorded was a shallow pit (**68**) located in the north-east corner of the deeper central area of the trench. The full extent of the pit was not visible in the trench, although it appeared to have been an irregular oval in plan, at least 0.7m across with shallow sides and a fairly flat base. Two fills were identified: primary fill (69) was a greyish brown sandy clay with occasional chalk lumps, charcoal flecks and flint nodules; upper fill (70) was a reddish grey brown sandy clay with abundant chalk lumps. The pottery from these fills indicates a mid-13th to mid-14th century date for the infilling of this feature. A single human tooth from an adult was also found (Appendix 8), in addition to mussel and oyster shell and a small quantity of animal bone. An environmental sample from 70 produced similar evidence of low-level disposal of domestic waste to that found in other contemporary features and deposits (Appendix 10).

Deposit 84=90, a 0.15m-thick layer (or fill of a shallow feature) of soft light orangey brown sandy silt with occasional flint, chalk and charcoal was observed in the south-and east-facing sections only (where the natural bedrock dipped). No finds were recovered from this layer, although it is likely to be of medieval or earlier date as it was cut by pit **85** (see below).

Pit **85**, partially exposed in the north-west corner of the deeper central area, appeared to be sub-oval in plan, with almost vertical sides and a slightly concave base. A sequence of four mid to dark brown and orangey brown sandy and silty clay fills were identified (86 – 89), all of which seem to represent disuse deposits. Pottery was recovered from the primary (86) and uppermost fills (89), indicating a mid-13th to mid-14th century date for the infilling of this pit. Other finds from these fills include small quantities of animal bone, oyster shell and slag,

indicative of the disposal of domestic waste. An environmental sample taken from primary fill 86 contained fairly small quantities of charred cereal grains (in particular wheat), charcoal, eggshell and fishbone indicative of low-level disposal of domestic waste (Appendix 10).

A very shallow (0.12m) possible pit (74) was recorded in the south- and west-facing sections only, cutting the upper fill of pit 68 and layers 84=90. The shape and extent of this feature is not known, although it appeared to have been at least 2.10m long, with moderately steep sides and a fairly flat base. No finds were recovered from the single loose yellowish white chalky fill (73). This pit was cut by another shallow cut (71), recorded in the west-facing section only. As with 74, the full shape and dimensions of this feature are not known, although it appeared to be 0.2m deep (maximum), with fairly gently sloping sides and an undulating, but generally flat, base. A small area was investigated on the adjacent step, revealed the continuation eastwards of this feature in plan. No finds were recovered from the single yellowish orange sandy clay fill (72).

#### 5.4.2 *Later medieval to earlier post-medieval*

Two very shallow (0.10m maximum) oval pits (92 and 94) were located in the centre of the trench, cutting the natural chalk. Pit 92 measured c.1.1m across, whilst smaller pit 94 was 0.3m wide. The fills (91 and 93) of these features (dark orangey brown sandy silt with chalk and charcoal flecks) were indistinguishable, suggesting that they may have been infilled at the same time. Pottery recovered from fill 91 indicates a late 15th century date for the infilling of these pits; other finds include small quantities of animal bone, shell and slag. An environmental sample from this fill produced similar evidence (charred cereal remains, charcoal, eggshell and fishbone) to that from the earlier pits in this trench and Trench 2, indicative of low-level disposal of domestic waste (Appendix 10).

An intermittent layer or surface of redeposited chalk (75) was present across most of the base of the trench; this was overlain by a mixed mid grey brown clay loam with frequent chalk inclusions (67). The combined deposits increased slightly in thickness (from c.0.04m to 0.15m) from south to north, levelling off the natural slope; no finds were recovered. The layers were left *in situ* in the base of the trench, except in the central area, where they were removed to reveal earlier deposits. It is likely that these layers sealed pits 92 and 94, which would suggest that they are 15th century or later surfaces/accumulations.

Two small pits or post-holes (78 and 81) were recorded in the south-facing section of the central deeper trench, both of which cut layer 67. Feature/post-hole 78 was 0.23m wide and 0.28m deep with vertical sides and a moderately flat base. No finds were recovered from the

upper light orangey brown sandy silt fill (80) or the lower redeposited chalk fill (79). Pit **81**, located to the immediate east of 78, was slightly deeper (0.39m), and wider (0.42m), with moderately steep sides and a flat base. Again, no finds were retrieved from either the main mid-orangey brown clayey silt fill (82) or the upper light orangey brown chalky clay silt fill (83). On stratigraphic grounds, these features are likely to date to the 15th to 16th century.

Overlying the pits, and sealing layers 75 and 67, was a c.0.15m-thick layer of mid greyish brown clayey loam (66) that extended across the trench, becoming thicker (up to 0.25m) in the east-facing section. A small quantity of animal bone, tile and pottery was recovered from this layer; the pottery indicates a mid 15th to late 16th century date. A 0.09m-thick layer (65) of loosely set flint cobbles within a dark orangey brown sandy silt matrix was recorded overlying layer 66. This layer, which is likely to have been a yard surface, extended for c.0.5m into the trench from the eastern section, and continued for c.0.27m northwards. Finds recovered from this surface include a small amount of pottery and fired clay. The pottery suggests a 14th to late 15th century date, although the stratigraphic position of this deposit indicates that the latter end of this date range is more likely. No associated boundaries were revealed, although the location of this yard surface (to the rear of the street frontage) may indicate the position of a separate property in this period.

A distinctive group of deposits (combined as context 34) was recorded across the trench, overlying layer 66. Layer 34 comprised a loose white mortar with occasional brick fragments, charcoal and chalk flecks, overlain by a layer of light greyish brown silty loam with occasional brick, chalk and flint, above which was another mortar spread/layer. This layer was removed by machine, although an attempt was made to retrieve finds during machining, supplemented by metal-detecting of the spoil heap (assigned separate number 36). Datable finds from 34/36 include sherds of 16th century pottery, a decorated copper alloy lace-end (SF 9) dated to 1550/75-1700, a late medieval/early post-medieval jeton, a lead weight (Appendix 4) and six 16th/17th century cloth seals (Appendix 5).

An apparently localised layer (115) of mid greyish brown sandy clay loam with frequent brick and mortar fragments was recorded overlying layer 34 in the main east-facing section. No finds were recovered, however this deposit was cut by a pit (**64**) datable to the 16th century or later (see below), indicating that it is likely to be of similar date.

Pit **64**, recorded in the east-facing section (Fig. 6 S. 7) cutting layers 115 and 34, was 0.54m wide and 0.27m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Finds recovered from fill 63 include pottery, tile, animal bone and fired clay; the pottery indicates a 16th century date.

A 0.4m-thick layer of dark brown silty loam with occasional inclusions of hand-made brick fragments, chalk, flint, shell was present across the trench, physically overlying layer 34. The relatively small quantity of pottery from this layer indicates a mid-16th to 17th century date; the presence of animal bone, shell, coal and other finds represents the disposal of domestic rubbish. This layer is likely to be a garden soil that accumulated to the rear of the late medieval/early post-medieval properties on the St Benedict's frontage to the south.

#### **5.4.3 Later Post-Medieval to Modern**

A fairly complex sequence of late post-medieval and modern features and deposits was recorded in the upper 1m of the trench (Fig. 6 S. 2-4); all of which were excavated by machine. These are summarised here, with more detailed descriptions of pertinent deposits or features where appropriate. Additional summaries are presented in Appendix 1.

A 0.35m-deep pit (135) with a single fill (134) was noted in the north-west corner of the trench, possibly cutting layer 25; no finds were recovered. The pit was sealed by layer 24, which extended across the trench, varying in thickness from 0.04m at the southern end of the trench to 0.24m at the northern end. Layer 24 comprised a firm light grey sandy silt with creamy yellow mortar and degraded chalk; finds include animal bone, brick tile and pottery. The latter indicates a 17th-18th century date for this layer, which could be the remains of a rough yard surface. Various localised (undated) dumps (136 and 33) of mortar-rich soil were recorded between main layers 24 and 23 (see below), which do not warrant further description.

Layer 24 was sealed beneath a distinctive dark purplish grey ashy silt layer (23) that was most evident in the eastern half of the trench, becoming increasingly intermittent in the western half. As with 24, layer 23 varied in depth (from c.0.06m and 0.2m) and is likely to be deliberately dumped deposit rather than a natural soil accumulation; no finds were recovered.

A series of deposits (assigned context 32) of mortar and dark grey silts was recorded in the north-facing section, overlying layer 23. No finds were retrieved from these deposits, which are likely to be localised dumps or spreads of material of 18th century or later date. Layer 22, which overlay dumped deposits 32, was noted in the west- and south-facing sections of the trench, comprised a 0.2m-thick deposit of dark grey sandy silt with frequent chalk and brick fragments. No datable finds were recovered; this layer is likely to be a post-medieval (18th century or later) garden soil or levelling deposit. A small pit (21) was recorded in the main west-facing section, which cut layer 22 and produced no finds. The pit was sealed beneath undated layer 18, a 0.15m-thick mid-grey sandy loam with frequent chalk flecks and

moderate brick fragments which was recorded in the eastern half of the trench only.

Layer 18 was cut by two fairly large pits (**27** and **31**), recorded in the north- and west-facing sections; both contained a series of mixed fills with frequent brick fragments. Layer 16, a distinctive 0.08m-thick layer of yellow mortar was also cut by pit 31; this undated layer or surface was observed in all sections except the west-facing section. In the north-facing section, infilled pit 31 was sealed beneath a dump of burnt bricks and mortar (141), which in turn was cut by a large, shallow cut (**15**), filled by a single sandy silt fill (14); no finds were recovered from either deposit. This feature also truncated layer 17, an intermittent deposit of dark greyish brown clay silt with flint nodules, tile and clay-pipe stems (not retained).

A loosely set layer of large flint cobbles (13), 0.08m thick, was observed against the west-facing section, extending c.1m westwards into the trench. No finds were recovered from this layer, which is likely to be a yard surface associated with a frontage property similar to its precursor (65).

The cobbles were sealed beneath an extensive deposit (7) of greyish brown sandy silt with frequent brick fragments, chalk lumps, mortar and occasional flint nodules. This deposit was recorded across the trench and is likely to be a demolition or construction layer of later post-medieval or Victorian date.

Finds recovered during machining of these deposits comprise pottery (including a complete stoneware ginger beer bottle stamped with 'D. Drake, Norwich and Lowestoft'), animal bone, disarticulated human bone and a damaged Neolithic flint.

A large truncation cut (**139**), possibly for a cellar or associated with drain construction cut **9**, was present in the north-east corner of the trench, cutting rubble layer 7. This was filled by three deposits (138, 11 and 140), which in turn were cut by **9**, a service trench containing a ceramic glazed pipe (8) and associated backfills (10, 19 and 6), that ran obliquely across the north-east corner of the trench.

The pipe trench was overlain by a 0.35m thick (maximum) layer of brick rubble (5) that extended across the trench and is equivalent to 38 in Trench 2. The remains of a possible *in situ* shallow brick wall foundation (2) were observed within this layer during machining, running approximately east to west across the trench. The surface of the trench comprised a loose layer of pebbles and broken concrete (1), equivalent to 143 in Trench 1 and 37 in Trench 2. Part of a modern intrusion (4) was observed in the south-west corner of the trench, which could be the site of a possible borehole or geotechnical pit.

## 6 Discussion

Despite modern truncation, in the form of a large demolished cellar/basement, a relatively well-preserved sequence of stratified medieval and later deposits was recorded within the trenches.

The earliest find from the site comprises a Neolithic flint, recovered during machining in Trench 4. Although no *in situ* remains of Late Saxon or early medieval occupation were found, a small quantity of Saxo-Norman pottery (Thetford and St Neots ware) was recovered as a residual element in medieval and later contexts. This indicates some activity of this date in the vicinity.

### 6.1 Medieval

The primary occupation on the site appears to have been in the mid-13th to mid-14th centuries, represented by a number of pits cut into the natural chalk. It is perhaps surprising that pits were encountered at both the back of the site (in Trench 4), where they might be expected, as well as the front (in Trench 2), where buildings might be anticipated. The original function of the pits is not known, although most appear to have been backfilled with moderate quantities of domestic rubbish. The large rectangular feature (229) and possibly associated channel (221) in Trench 2 could conceivably be the base of a small cellar, although no obvious related structural evidence was identified. Another possible interpretation for this feature might be that it was related to some industrial, manufacturing or finishing process; no *in situ* deposits or lining survived to support this suggestion.

It is possible that the frontage was located a few metres further to the south in the medieval period, if the road was widened in more recent times, which might place any contemporary buildings beyond the area of trenching.

By the end of this period (?mid-14th century), the pits were infilled and the frontage in the area of Trench 2 appears to have been comprehensively levelled with a series of dumped deposits containing domestic rubbish, peat ash and industrial waste (slag). There may have been a localised depression or hollow in this area as the layers in Trench 4 a few metres to the north were generally fairly horizontal, with only a slight gradient from south to north. The origin of this quantity of material is not known, although the fairly unabraded nature of the pottery and other finds perhaps indicates that it originated from nearby.

### 6.2 Later Medieval to Early Post-Medieval

In the later medieval period (15th or 16th century), dumping and levelling appears to have continued, with the result that relatively level

ground was achieved. This was probably in preparation for the construction of a number of buildings along the frontage. Wall foundations constructed either from chalk blocks or roughly coursed flint, chalk and brick bonded in a hard sandy lime mortar were identified in all three of the frontage trenches. Most had been partly destroyed by the cellar demolition cut. The chalk-built walls appear to be more substantial than the flint and brick walls, and could be earlier. The lower courses (or at least the lining) of a possible undercroft (125) revealed in Trench 1 close to the eastern boundary, were also constructed of neat chalk blocks, capped off with a brick arch.

It is not possible at this stage to be certain of the dates of the walls, which may not all be contemporary. Two possible buildings (or rooms) were identified, one in Trench 1 (walls 126 and 127), and one in Trench 2 (walls 168 and 205). Both seemed to contain a number of possible floor and ?demolition levels. The handle of a late medieval jug was found within the foundation cut, immediately below one of the walls (205) in Trench 2, which suggests a 15th to late 16th century date for construction. Further work would be needed to define the plan, development sequence and date of these foundations.

The walls were often cut through the medieval and later medieval levelling deposits, although it was not always possible to identify which deposits they were cut through, as opposed to floors and occupation layers that related to the use of the buildings. In Trenches 2 and 3, there appeared to be floor layers that preceded the flint walls, suggesting the presence of earlier phases of building here, of which no other trace has survived. The walls could be later, although very few post-medieval features or finds were recorded in the frontage trenches (possibly removed by 19th and/or 20th century activities). It is likely that the buildings were established in the 15th or 16th century and possibly occupied into the post-medieval period.

Too little was exposed of the walls to suggest building plans, or the location of tenements (although the size of the development plot may indicate that at least three tenements may have once occupied the site). The foundations could be the remains of one or more phase of cellars beneath, or to the rear of, frontage buildings; they could equally be dwarf walls or plinths designed to support timber superstructures that would have been relatively level with the modern street surface.

Potentially contemporary layers and surfaces were identified in Trench 4, to the rear of the buildings uncovered in Trenches 1-3. A more continuous sequence of late medieval, early post-medieval and later post-medieval deposits appears to have survived here. Two layers comprising part of a loosely cobbled surface (65) overlying a possible garden soil (66), may be associated with the initial occupation of the dwellings as both layers produced very small quantities of broadly contemporary pottery.



Evidence of earlier post-medieval occupation was identified in Trench 4, which was not present (or had been removed) in the frontage trenches. Layers, including a thick dark loamy soil and a distinctive mortar-rich deposit containing pottery and finds (including cloth seals) datable to the 16th and 17th centuries were found sealing the cobbles.

### **6.3 Later Post-Medieval to Modern**

Deep accumulations (up to a metre) of later post-medieval garden soils interspersed with occasional pits, rubble dumps and a second cobbled surface, were recorded overlying the 16th to 17th century levels. Modern intrusions including disturbance from a cellar, a pipe trench and a possible trial hole were also observed.

### **6.4 Finds and Environmental Assemblage (Appendices 2-10)**

The finds assemblage from the evaluation was of moderate size and perhaps of fairly typical composition for this type of site. Pottery, brick and tile, shell, slag, animal bone, fish bone, and disarticulated human bone (presumably originating from the adjacent church yard; Appendix 8) were recovered from pits and layers across the site. The metal and other 'small finds' are perhaps a little sparse for a medieval urban site, although the presence of six cloth seals is of particular interest (Appendices 4 and 5). Limited evidence of iron smithing in the vicinity was also found, comprising slag, hammerscale and a hearth bottom, mostly deriving from medieval pits and dumped layers (Appendix 6). The condition of the finds ranges from very good (animal bone) to moderate (shell); the pottery is generally fairly unabraded.

The range of pottery, which although in relatively small quantities is only moderately abraded, indicates that the occupants may have been of some substance (Appendix 3). The assemblage is predominantly medieval, with some later (15th to 16th century) medieval and post-medieval elements.

The environmental remains provide useful evidence of diet and economy particularly in the 13th to 14th centuries. The animal bone assemblage clearly represents butchery waste; the age range indicates animals being reared to optimum weight elsewhere then slaughtered and butchered on or near to the site. The proportion and range of bird species recovered is similar to that found at other sites within Norwich, suggesting goose and domestic fowl were being raised for meat and other products such as eggs and feathers. The wide range of fish species is also similar. Sprat and whiting, (the two most prevalent species in the assemblage), were commonly netted in shallow water off the East Anglian coast, whilst herring were caught via drift netting from boats and then often salted (Appendix 7).

The small shellfish assemblage shows that oyster was the most heavily exploited resource, although some mussel, cockle and whelk are also present. Appraisal of the oyster shell indicates that exploitation was not cultivated, or particularly intensive; the presence of the largely inedible red whelk may indicate that the shellfish arrived on site in an unprocessed form (Appendix 9).

Analysis of the environmental samples indicates fairly low level disposal of domestic waste and hearth debris; the assemblages are fairly typical of sites of this type and date in Norwich. Remains include charred cereal, seeds of weed/wetland species, charcoal, fish, molluscs and eggshell; preservation was generally by charring (Appendix 10).

## **7 Conclusions**

The results of the evaluation, although only at a preliminary stage, are of interest and potential significance for understanding the development of the St Benedict's Street area of Norwich.

It is thought that St Benedict's Street lay outside the main Late Saxon settlement, but formed an area of ribbon development along the gravel terrace, linking the two nuclei of Westwick and Conesford (Carter 1978, 268). The absence of clear Late Saxon or early medieval occupation on the development site contrasts with the evidence from nearby excavations at Nos 29-31 St Benedict's Street (Site 147N). The earliest traces of settlement identified at this site, located to the west of the evaluation and adjacent to St Margaret's Church, were dated to the late 11th century. Other excavations in the vicinity of Westwick Street (e.g. The Bottling Plant; NHER Site 159) have also uncovered evidence of late 12th century (and earlier) colonisation.

It is possible that any earlier occupation (preceding the 13th century) on the current site was removed by medieval pits and other features. However, it is also feasible that this plot of land was not settled in this period, as was found at more extensive excavations at Nos 31-51 Pottergate (Site 149N). At this site, which was located to the south-east of the current evaluation, evidence of 12th century quarrying was found, with only limited traces of settlement being identified before the late 15th century (Evans and Carter 1985, 9). The development site clearly falls outside the main area of the Norman town (as depicted in Ayers 1994, 42), and this has been reiterated by the results of the evaluation.

The main phase of medieval activity identified by the evaluation appears to date to the 13th to 14th centuries. No definite structural remains or clear evidence of tenements was found, although this could reflect the relatively limited nature of the investigation. The presence

of pits and a possible cellar (or feature of unknown function) certainly indicates occupation, as does the succession of dumped deposits designed to level off and raise the ground level on the site. Similar evidence of attempts to level off the hilly nature of some parts of Norwich has been found on other sites (e.g. Pottergate); large quantities of rubbish appear to have been dumped at the rivers edge to raise the level of wharfage and industrial sites and combat the threat of flooding (Ayers 1994, 69).

Documentary evidence (NHER 1374) refers to a messuage located in a block between St Margaret's Alley, Westwick Street, St Benedict's Street and St Laurence's church, which housed late 13th to early 14th century occupants and occupations. The current site (and sites 147N and 160N) could all potentially fall within this block, although additional work (and refined dating evidence) would be required to explore this connection further.

At the Nos 29-31 St Benedict's Street site, there appears to have been a hiatus after the 12th century with the site being re-occupied in the late 13th or 14th century. The 14th century was represented by yard surfaces, succeeded by a garden soil level dating from the late 14th to 16th centuries (Atkin 1982, 5). This, unlike the current site was located to the rear of the main St Benedict's Street frontage in what appears to have been two separate tenements. A large number of medieval (13th to 15th century) pits, some over 3m deep, possibly associated with clothworking were found at a site on Westwick Street in 1988, to the north of the current evaluation site (NHER 813). This marshland area of the town appears to have largely been colonised for industrial purposes, particularly from the 13th century onwards (Ayers 1994, 66). Documentary evidence from this period shows that particular industries and trades such as dyers and fullers developed along the river foreshore, with distinct and considerable groupings in the Westwick Street area (*ibid*, 67).

The 13th century was a boom period in Norwich, which had developed into a thriving market, port, industrial and administrative centre with a rapidly increasing population (estimated to be between 20-30,000 before the Black Death) with nearly 60 parish churches (*ibid*, 63-68). The discovery of 13th to 14th century remains within the development site is perhaps not surprising given its location within the town walls, erected between 1297 and 1344, and adjacent to St Laurence's (Lawrence's in NHER) Church. The current church dates largely to the 15th century, although it is mentioned in Domesday and may have been rebuilt in 1388; it became redundant in 1991 (NHER 583). Based on current evidence, it is not possible to deduce whether the development site was continuously occupied from the medieval to later medieval/earlier post-medieval periods, or whether (as seems likely) there might have been a slight hiatus after the Black Death in the mid 14th century.

The later medieval and earlier post-medieval period is of particular interest, as the first definitive structural evidence on the site appears to date from this time. Precise dating is not possible at this preliminary stage, although the combined study of stratigraphic and pottery evidence indicates that the chalk, flint and brick rubble walls date to around the 15th to 16th centuries. The limited nature of the evaluation means that it is not yet possible to identify specific building plans, or tenement plots, although any additional work on the site could target this important aspect of the site's development.

The type of wall foundations uncovered by the evaluation are in keeping with excavated structures of this date found on other sites. The Pottergate excavations identified whole tenement plots, representing wide-scale and intensive building activities in the late 15th century; many of the house forms indicated a high standard of living for the occupants. At this excavation, and at other large sites such as Alms Lane, the characteristic flint rubble walls tended to appear in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, often replacing clay-walled buildings (Atkin and Carter 1985, 4).

Undercrofts, predominantly dating to the 15th century have been identified at a number of locations. One such feature lies beneath an 18th century former ironmongers at No. 35 St Benedict's Street (NHER 26245) and a 16th century brick vaulted undercroft was discovered during excavations at Nos 6-12 St Andrew's Street (NHER 199N; Dave Adams pers. comm.). If the structure identified in the south-east corner of the development site is an undercroft, it would be a significant addition to the growing body of this type of late medieval/early post-medieval survival.

The development site is located on a street with many surviving 17th century buildings (Nos 27, 28 and 30). Although no definite buildings of this date were identified on the site, contemporary occupation levels and finds were discovered in the backyard plot(s). Of interest was the discovery of six cloth seals; these date to the 16th/17th centuries, a significant period in the history of the Norwich cloth trade. In 1565, 'Dutch' cloth manufacturers were invited to settle in the city with the aim of revitalising the dwindling cloth trade. The numbers of these 'Strangers' grew rapidly and by 1579 there were 6000 and by the early 17th century they amounted to one third of the city's population. The introduction of new techniques and fabrics paved the way for the great increase in the wealth of the city in the 17th and 18th centuries (Ayers 1994, 96).

The date of the building that until recently stood on the site is not known, although it is likely to have been 19th century. It was latterly in use as a shop (the indoor market) but may originally have had an industrial function; the building along the western edge is annotated as being a 'Mineral Water Works' on the 1885 Ordnance Survey. A 20ft-deep well, cut into the chalk, is known to be located at the western

edge of the proposed development area, and at least one other cellar exists in the north-east corner of the site.

Disturbance from the cellar (or rather its demolition) was most severe towards the front (south) of the proposed development area. A large cut, potentially running the length of the site (c.20m) was recorded; the full width of the cut was not established, but it was at least 4m across, although this seemed to vary from trench to trench. The maximum depth recorded for the cellar truncation was 1.1m in Trench 2; the full depth was not reached in Trenches 1 and 3 and the cellar did not continue as far as Trench 4. In Trench 2, it was demonstrated that medieval features had survived intact largely due to the depth of dumped medieval and later levelling layers that sealed them. The variation in depth and width of this modern cut indicates that any damage caused by the original construction of the cellar(s) was perhaps significantly compounded by its wholesale demolition. This appears to have been undertaken without record by machine following the demolition of the superstructure; possible gouges left by a toothed-bucket were observed in Trench 3.

The large cellar had clearly been located slightly away from the frontage, as the truncation was generally limited to an area stepped back by c.4m from the (modern) edge of St Benedict's Street. This has ensured that a strip c.3-4m wide along the frontage has survived with relatively little impact from modern cellarage. Deposits, including the flint wall foundations and possible brick undercroft, were revealed at a fairly shallow depth (c.0.25m) below current ground level, which may indicate some horizontal truncation. This may have occurred in the 19th/20th century in advance of construction of the various buildings that developed on the site.

Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

## Acknowledgements

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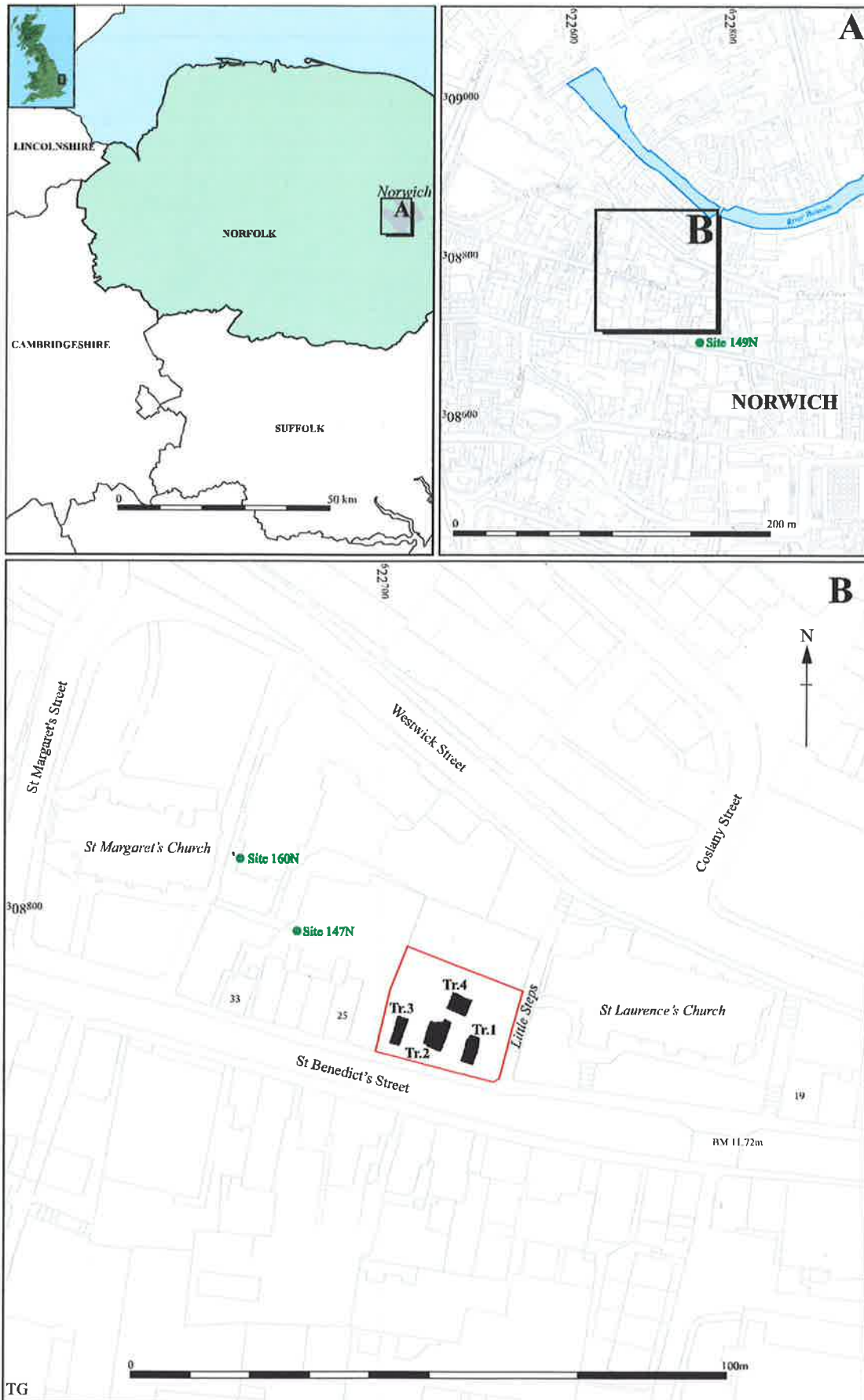
The brief for archaeological works was written by ARJ Hutcheson, who visited the site, and monitored the evaluation.

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Figure 1: Location of trenches (black) with the development area outlined (red)





Figure 2: Evaluation trenches overlaid on ground plan of proposed building with principal features annotated



Figure 3b: Plan of Trench 3

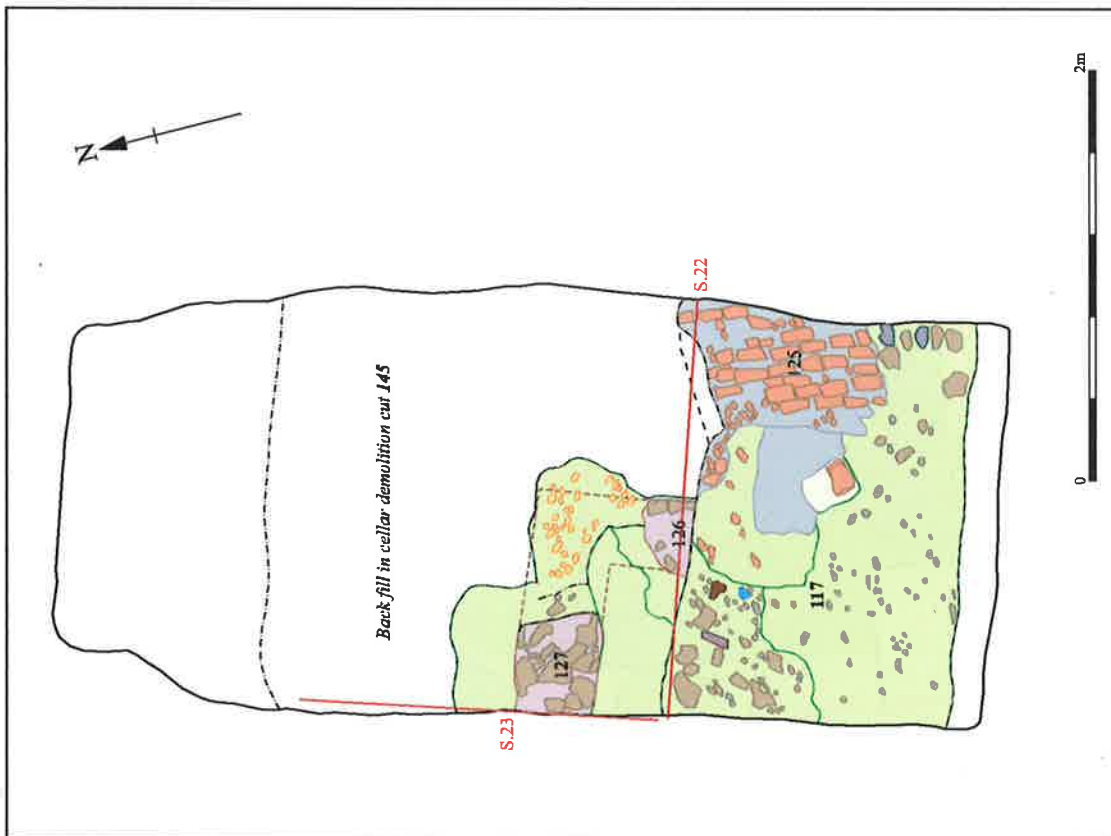


Figure 3a: Plan of Trench 1



Figure 4b: Plan of Trench 2 - Later medieval-post-medieval (prior to shoring) - Phase I + II machining

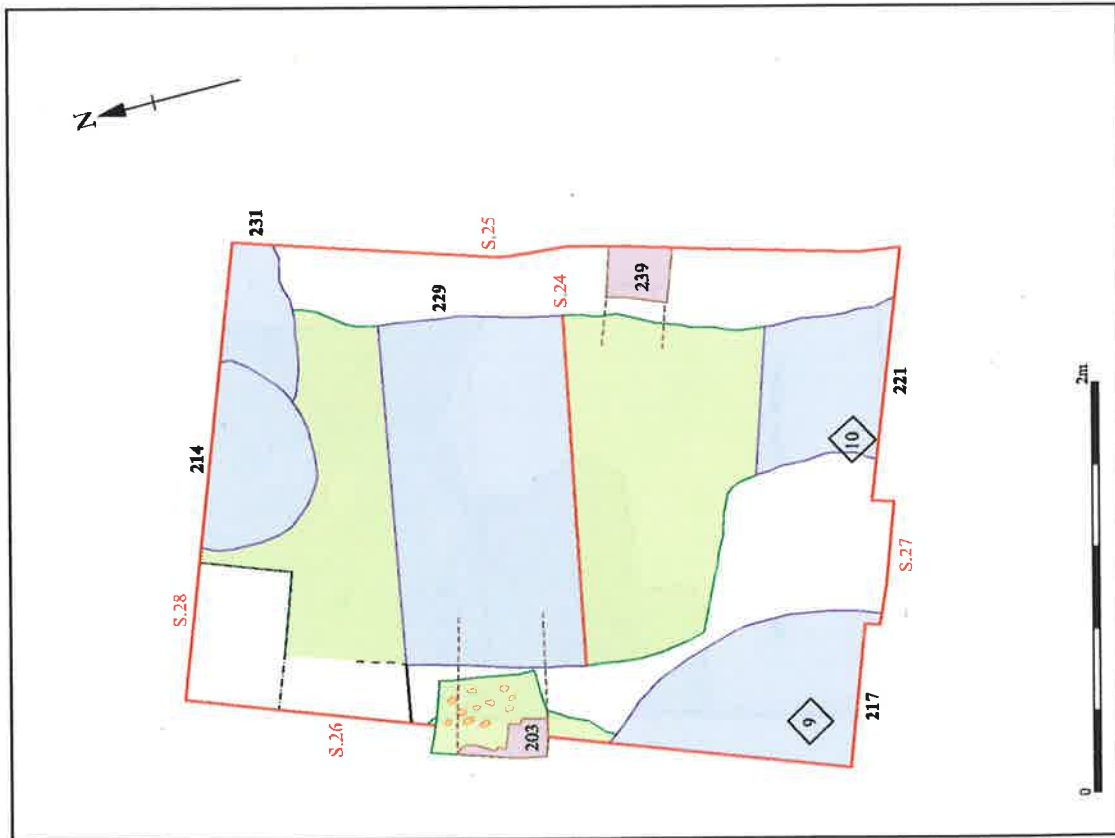


Figure 4a: Plan of Trench 2 - medieval features - Phase III machining

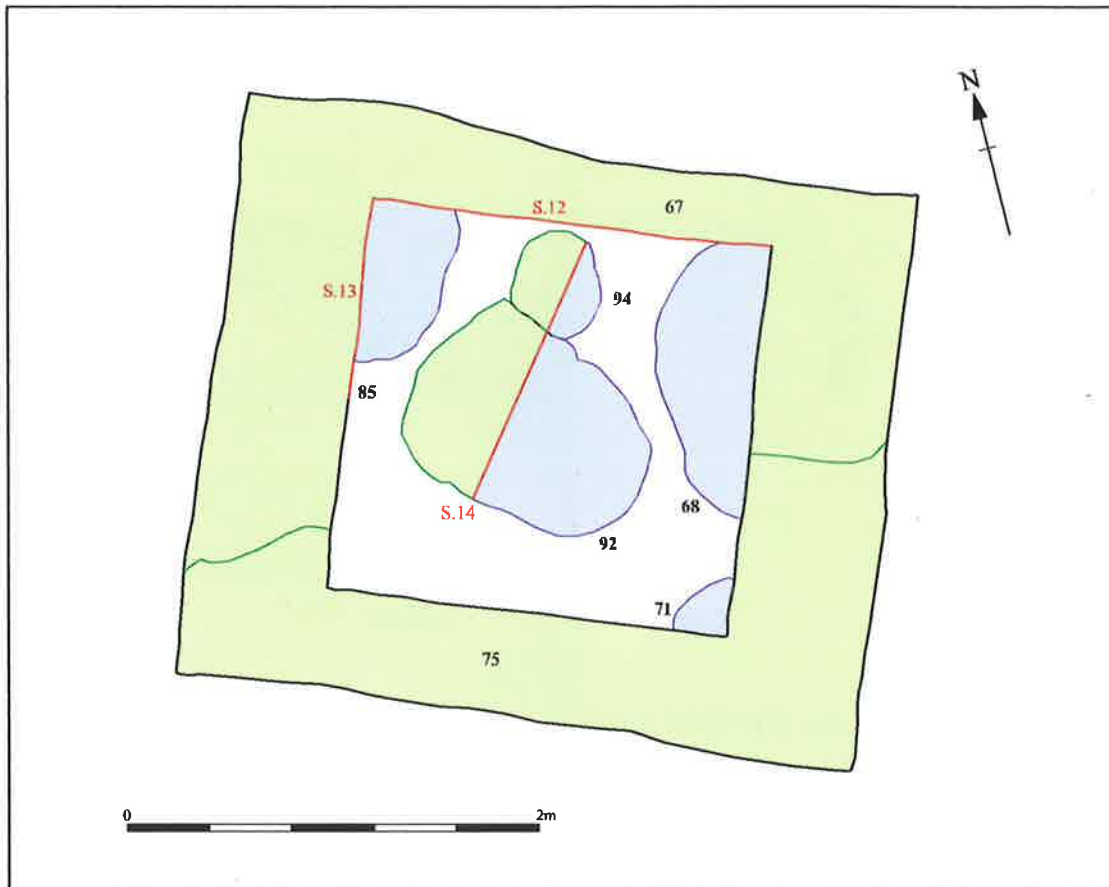


Figure 5: Detail plan of Trench 4 - Phase III machining

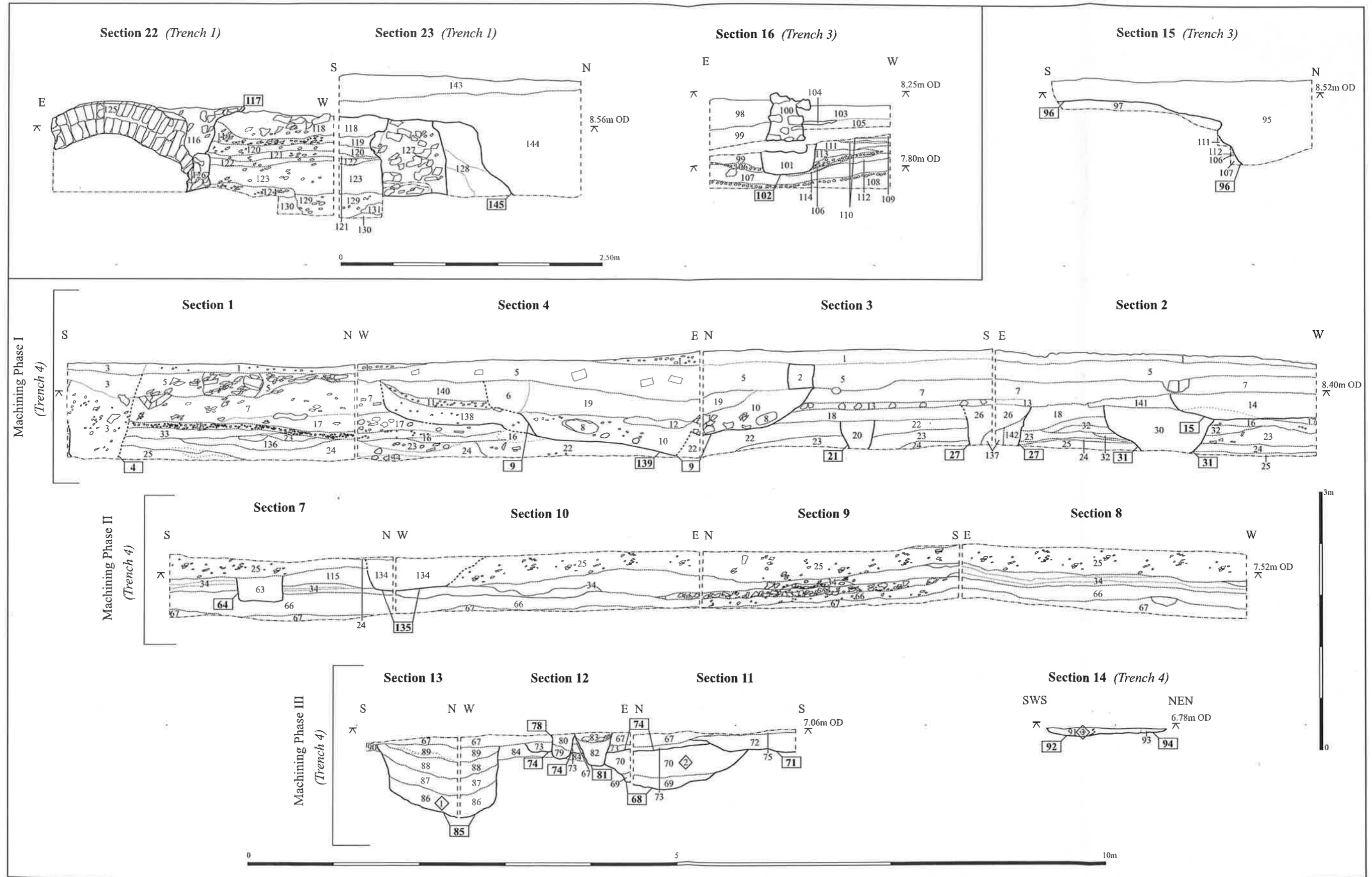


Figure 6: Section drawings (Trenches 1, 3 and 4)

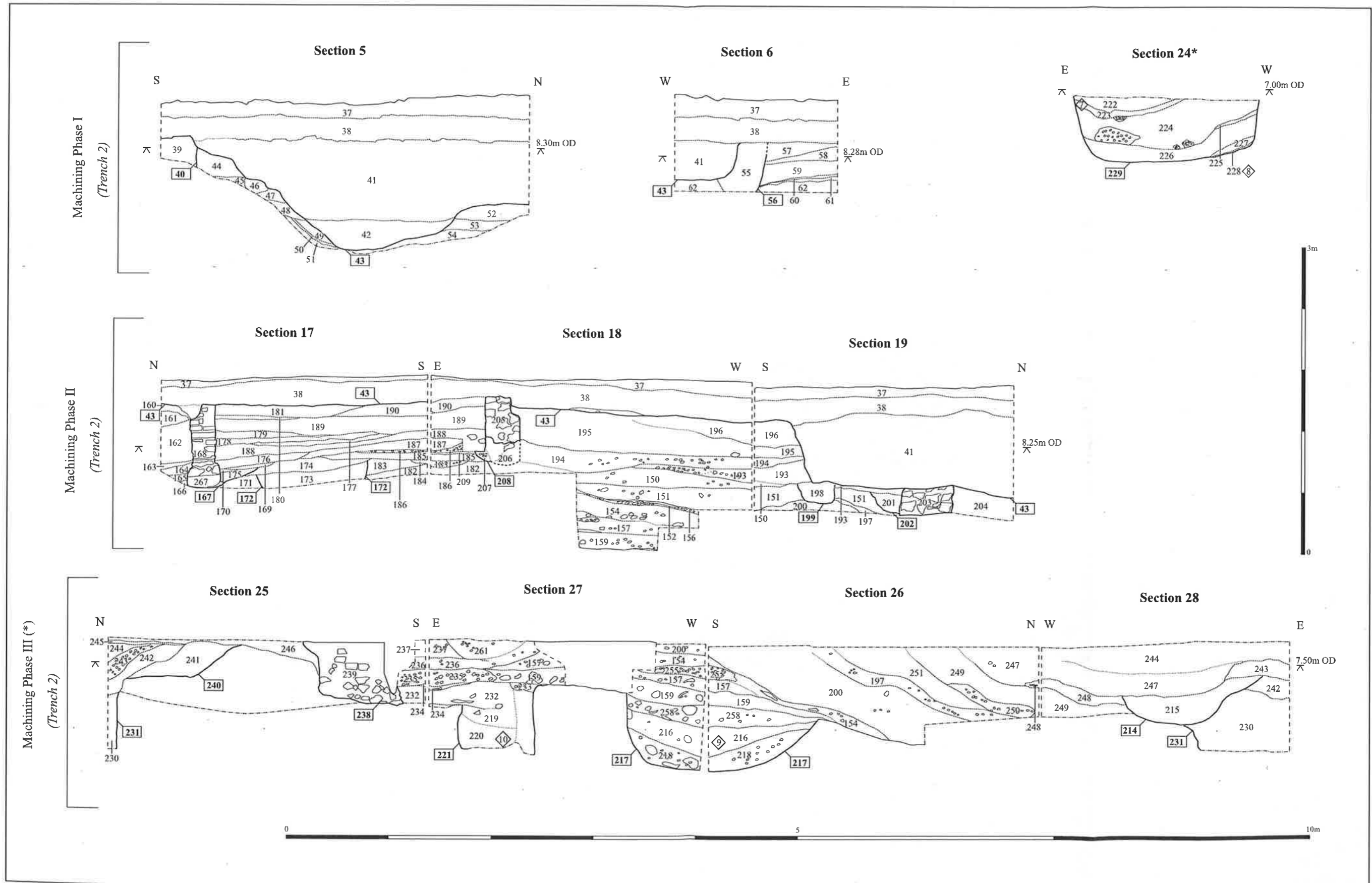


Figure 7: Section drawings (Trench 2)



*Plate 1: Trench 1 with possible undercroft 125 and wall foundations 126 and 127 (looking south)*



*Plate 2: Trench 1, detail of possible undercroft 125 showing chalk blocks (looking south)*



Plate 3: Trench 2 showing cellar truncation, medieval layers and wall 203 (looking west)



Plate 4: Trench 2 showing excavated pits and large feature 229/221 (looking east)





*Plate 5: Trench 3 showing wall 100 and associated deposits (looking south)*



*Plate 6: Trench 3 showing cellar truncation and surviving deposits (looking west)*



*Plate 7: Trench 4 recording of upper levels prior to additional machining, with St Laurence's church in the background (looking north-east)*



*Plate 8: Trench 4 showing excavated medieval pits cutting natural chalk (looking north)*

### Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
1	37	4	layer	surface	0			Loose broken concrete and pebble surface.	modern
2		4	masonry	wall		0.68	0.28	Cement bonded red brick rubble foundation of brick wall.	modern
3	4	4	fill	trial pit	0			Backfill of modern trial pit consisting of very mixed redeposited layers.	modern
4		4	cut	trial pit		0.92	1.09	Near-vertical sided modern trial pit noted in E-facing section. Trench just clipped the edge of the feature, so it only appears in this section.	modern
5		4	layer	levelling/makeup	0			Loose brick rubble/silt dump layer.	modern
6	9	4	fill	service trench	0			Loose mid grey silty sand. Freq brick frags, chalk lumps and mortar.	modern
7		4	layer	levelling dump/occupation buildup	0			Loose greyish dark brown slightly clay silt, with chalk lenses, mortar, and freq red brick and flint. Truncated by modern pipe trench 9.	post medieval
8	9	4	fill	service trench	0			Pipe and its smelly fill.	modern
9		4	cut	service trench	1.14	0.25	0.63	Modern machine cut NW-SE service trench containing ceramic pipe. Abrupt breaks of slope, near-vertical edges, flat base. Complicated by location within poss cellar 139, and the oblique angle. Filled by 8, 6, 10, 12, 19.	modern
10	9	4	fill	service trench	0			Soft orangy mid brown sandy silt with moderate brick frag, mortar and tile inclusions. Backfill around service pipe.	modern
11	139	4	fill	cellar (disuse)	0			Loose mid brownish grey silty sand with freq fine and medium pebble inclusions.	post medieval
12	9	4	fill	service trench	0			Firm yellow chalky mortar and clay dump.	modern
13		4	layer	surface		2.32	0.09	Flint cobble surface in yellowish brown sand. Single layer of nodules, quite loose.	post-medieval
14	15	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with occ brick, stone and chalk inclusions.	post medieval
15		4	cut	pit/modern truncation	0.7		0.4	Only east side of feature exposed. Side vertical, break of slope abrupt. The base is flat. Fairly large scale truncation, cutting through modern rubble layers. Filled by 14.	post-medieval/ modern

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
16		4	layer	surface/demolition	0			Compact yellowish orange crushed sandy mortar with occasional handmade brick frags.	late medieval
17		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Greyish dark brown clayed silt. Occ pebbles & flint nodules.	post-medieval
18		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft dark greyish brown sandy silt with freq brick, flint and mortar inclusions.	post-medieval
19	9	4	fill	service trench	0			Mixed soft mid grey silty sand with freq brick frags, chalk lumps and mortar, and occ coarse flint nodules.	modern
20	21	4	fill	pit/posthole (disuse)	0			Firm greyish mid brown sandy silt. Freq fine chalk, occ medium lumps. Occ brick/tile.	modern
21		4	cut	pit/posthole		0.4	0.33	Probably oval in plan, with almost vertical sides and abrupt breaks of slope. The base was unseen. Probably a little pit-rubbish disposal? Size wise it could be a candidate for a posthole. Filled by 20, sealed by 18, cuts 22.	post-post-medieval
22		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm dark grey sandy silt. Freq chalk flecks & brick frags.	post-medieval
23		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft purple/dark grey ashy silt. Moderate charcoal inclusions. Layer begins to dive down at northern end. Fire scrapings, domestic burning waste?	post-medieval
24		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm creamy yellow degraded chalk, with occ fine-sized flints & occ brick frags. Probably more likely an isolated dump than a surface.	post-medieval
25		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable greyish dark brown silty loam with occasional inclusions of hand made brick frags, chalk, flint, shell, & moderate charcoal flecking. Layer present in pre and post shoring sections, so a useful stratigraphic continuation between machining stages.	later medieval?
26	27	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Soft mid grey sandy silt. Freq chalk flecks, brick frags & charcoal flecking.	post medieval
27		4	cut	pit	0.4	0.32	0.48	Oval in plan, with vertical sides and abrupt breaks of slope. Recorded in section, located at the SE corner of tr 4. Post med ?rubbish pit. Filled by 26, 137, 142. Sealed by 13, cuts 18.	post medieval
30		4	fill	pit (disuse)				Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with rare occurrences of small stones, charcoal and brick inclusions.	post medieval
31		4	cut	pit		1.28	0.55	Almost vertical sided pit with abrupt breaks of slope at top, with another more moderate break of slope on the E side, forming an irregular U profile. Post med ?rubbish pit. Filled by 30. Truncated by 15, below 141, cuts 18 & 16.	post medieval
32		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft greyish & blackish grey sandy silt dumps with moderate mortar lenses making up dumps in layer. Finds retrieved from section.	medieval

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
33		4	layer	occupation buildup/demolition	0			Loose dark brown silt with moderate occurrence of mixed crushed mortar/fine chalk flecks & occ brick bits.	post-medieval
34		4	layer	occupation buildup/demolition	0			Friable light greyish brown silty loam. Sandwiched by two distinctive spreads of loose off-white crushed mortar. Occ brick, chalk, flint, charcoal. Present across the whole of tr 4. Quite a distinctive layer.	late medieval/post-medieval
35		4	u/s finds	pre-shoring	0			Context no for unstratified finds that came from tr 4 prior to shoring and the 2nd stage of machining.	post-medieval
36		4	u/s finds	post-shoring	0			Context no for unstratified finds that came from tr 4 following the installation of shoring. Also includes finds recovered during the 2nd stage of machining.	medieval
37	1	2	layer	surface	0			Broken concrete and pebble surface.	modern
38		2	layer	levelling/makeup	0			Loose brick rubble/silt.	modern
39	40	2	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable light brownish grey clay loam. Occ chalk, brick, stone.	post medieval
40		4	cut	pit	0	0.35	0.29	Rec in sect. Vertical sided modern pit. Filled by 39.	post medieval
41	95	2	fill	demolition rubble	0			Loose brick rubble/silt mix backfill of recent building demolition. Freq brick, stone, mortar, metal, glass, cobbles.	modern
42		2	fill	demolition rubble	0			Loose mixed brick rubble. Freq stone, mortar, metal, glass, cobbles. Mod brick.	modern
43	96	2	cut	demolition	4.9	3.46	1.08	Irregular machine cut demolition varying greatly in depth. Could well date to the recent demolition of the building that occupied this plot of land. Filled by 41 & 42.	modern
44		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose light greyish yellow crushed mortar. Freq chalk, rare brick.	post medieval
45		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose blackish grey silty loam. Freq charcoal, occ mortar.	post medieval
46		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose yellowish white crushed mortar dump.	post medieval
47		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose blackish grey silty loam. Freq charcoal, occ mortar.	post medieval
48	52?	2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose mid grey silty loam.	post medieval
49		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable pale brownish yellow grey sandy clay. Rare chalk.	post medieval

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
50		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft mid black grey silty loam. Occ brick, chalk.	medieval/post- medieval
51		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable yellowish grey sandy clay. Rare chalk flecking.	medieval/post- medieval
52	48?	2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid grey sandy clay. Freq flint, chalk, brick, mortar.	post medieval
53		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable light yellowish grey sandy clay. Freq brick, chalk, mortar, stone.	medieval/post- medieval
54		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable light greyish yellow sandy clay. Freq chalk, brick, mortar. Rare bone.	medieval/post- medieval
55		2	fill	pit/posthole (disuse)	0			Friable mid brownish grey silty loam. Occ mortar, charcoal, flint, brick.	post medieval
56		2	cut	pit/posthole		0.49	0.48	Rec in sect. Almost vertical sided pit with abrupt breaks of slope. Severely truncated by modern demolition 43. Filled by 55, cuts 57.	post medieval
57		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			friable mid brown silty loam. Freq brick, stone, chalk.	post-medieval?
58		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose whitish yellow crushed mortar layer.	post-medieval?
59		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm dark blackish brown sandy loam. Freq charcoal.	post-medieval?
60		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Isolated chalk and crushed mortar layer at extreme NE of tr 2.	post-medieval
61		2	layer	occupation buildup/floor?	0			Soft dark blackish brown silty loam. Freq charcoal.	post-medieval
62		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm light brown/yellow grey sandy clay. Freq mortar, brick, flint.	post-medieval
63		4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable very dark brownish grey silty clay. Occ hand-made brick, pea grit, charcoal.	post-medieval
64		4	cut	pit		0.55	0.3	Vertical sided pit, with abrupt breaks of slope and a flat base, forming a flat-bottomed U profile. Notably angular. Only a thin section of this pit survives due to nature of tr shoring. Filled by 63, sealed by 25, cuts 115.	post-medieval
65		4	layer	surface (external)	2.78	0.54	0.1	Loose unbonded cobble layer. Possible yard surface. Frequent medium sized pebbles within loose orangy dark brown sandy silt. Confined to the E side of tr 4.	late- medieval/post- medieval?

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
66		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid greyish brown clayey loam. Occ chalk, flint, brick. Present across the whole of tr 4.	medieval?
67		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid yellowish grey brown clayey loam. Freq chalk flecks, occ charcoal, mortar, flint. Present across the whole of tr 4.	medieval?
68		4	cut	pit	1.35	0.31	0.47	Oval in plan with moderately steep sides, gentle breaks of slope at the bottom, with a slightly concave base. Truncated to the E by 81, and above by 71 & 74. Filled by 69 & 70. Medieval pit with unknown function- cont. in m/c	medieval?
69	68	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable mid greyish brown sandy clay. Occ chalk lumps, charcoal, flint, medieval green glazed pottery and animal bone. Deliberate in-filling.	medieval
70	68	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable mid redish grey brown sandy clay. Abundant chalk lumps & redeposited natural. Enviro sample 2.	medieval
71		4	cut	pit		1.24	0.25	Recorded in sect. Gentle side, flat base. Filled by 72. Sealed by 75, truncates 73. Poss just the basal remnants of a pit with redeposited nat fill surviving.	medieval
72	72	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Loose mid yellowish orange sandy clay. Freq pea grit, occ flint, pebbles.	medieval
73		4	layer	surface	3.5	1.6	0.07	Compact off-white crushed chalk with moderate fine & medium chalk lumps. Confined to S side of tr 4.	medieval
74		4	cut	pit	1.24	0.94	0.12	Rec in sect. Moderately steep sides, flat base. Filled by 73, trunc by 72, cuts 70 & 84. Wide, shallow pit. Poss just the base remanant. Re-dep nat fill.	medieval
75	74	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Loose whitish yellow chalk. Re-dep natural.	medieval
78		4	cut	posthole		0.26	0.29	Abrupt breaks of slope, vertical sides, slightly concave base, forming a U-shaped profile. Very small pit or, more likely, a posthole. Filled by 79 & 80. Cuts 67. Poss assoc with poss posthole 81.	medieval
79	78	4	fill	posthole (disuse)	0			Soft orangy light brown sandy silt. Mod tuine chalk lumps, rare charcoal flecking. Represents disuse of feature.	medieval
80	78	4	fill	posthole (disuse)	0			Loose whitish pale yellow crushed chalk. Mod fine chalk lumps. Re-dep nat fill- edge collapse?	medieval
81		4	cut	posthole/pit		0.44	0.39	Rec in sect. Almost vertical sides, abrupt breaks of slope, flat base- flat-bottomed V profile. Filled by 82 & 83, cuts 67. Most likely a posthole, but just big enough to be a little rubbish pit.	medieval
82	81	4	fill	posthole/pit (disuse)	0			Soft orangy mid brown clayed silt. Mod chalk flecking, occ charcoal flecking. Represents disuse of the feature.	medieval
83	81	4	fill	posthole/pit (disuse)	0			Soft orangy light brown clayed silt. Mod medium sized chalk lumps.	medieval?

Context	Same as	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
84	90?		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft orangy light brown sandy silt. Occ chalk, flint, charcoal flecking. Two pits cut from this level- 74 & 85.	medieval
85			4	cut	pit	0.95	0.5	0.81	Hand exca. Oval in plan, with vertical sides & abrupt breaks of slope. Filled by 86-89, cuts 84. Deliberate infilling. Storage, quarrying, rubbish, material craft processing? Kept discreet from similar pits nearby.	medieval
86		85	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Firm dark brown silt. Freq chalk flecks, occ charcoal & oyster shell. Medieval green glazed pottery & animal bone recovered. Deliberate infill- domestic refuse dump? Enviro sample 1. One of a series of disuse fills which suggest periodic rubbish disposal.	medieval
87		85	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Soft mid brown silt. Mod charcoal flecking, occ chalk flecking. Deliberate dump.	medieval
88		85	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Firm orangy light brown clayed silt. Mod chalk, occ medium sized flint nodules. Deliberate dump.	medieval
89		85	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Firm brownish dark orange silt. Freq charcoal. Peat ash tip lines visible. Occ animal bone, mod pot inc distinctive green glazed black fabric & plain domestic ware. Deliberate dump.	medieval
90		84?	4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft orangy mid brown sandy silt. Occ chalk, flint, charcoal flecking.	medieval
91		92	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Firm brownish dark orange sandy silt. Freq chalk flecking, occ charcoal flecking. Rare animal bone, moderate pot- medieval green glazed.	medieval
92			4	cut	pit	1.28	1.1	0.11	Hand exca. Oval in plan, gentle sides & breaks of slope, flat base. Shallow pit/pit base remnants. Filled by 91. Contemporary disuse to small pit 94- no strat relationship discerned.	medieval
93		94	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Firm brownish dark orange sandy silt. Freq chalk flecking, occ charcoal flecking. Same deposit as 91 really, but separated out for strat reasons. Two pits filled with the same deposit.	medieval
94			4	cut	pit	0.5	0.44	0.06	Hand exca. Oval shape in plan, gentle sides/breaks of slope, concave base. Shallow pit. Contemporary disuse to 92. Probably result of the same activity as 92. Filled by 93.	medieval
95	41	96	3	fill	demolition rubble	0			Loose brick rubble/silt mix backfill of recent building demolition.	modern
96	43		3	cut	demolition	5	1.8	1	Irregular machine cut demolition truncating all archaeology at this level except for that in the lower reaches of the south side of the trench.	modern
97			3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm dark brown silty loam. Occ charcoal flecks, mod mortar flecks, occ chalk frags. Includes modern brick forced down from above during recent demolition.	earlier post medieval



Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
98		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft mid orangy brown 60% clay/20% silt/20% sand. Occ chalk flecks, occ mortar frags.	postmedieval
99		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft mid orangy brown 60% clay/20% silt/20% sand. Freq chalk frags, mod charcoal flecking	post medieval
100	102	3	masonry	wall	1.88	0.34	0.54	N-S flint/brick wall. Mainly flint, occ brick. Bonded with large quantity of very hard orange sandy lime mortar.	medieval/post-medieval
101	102	3	fill	wall	0			Firm orangy mid brown sandy silt with occ medium chalk lumps and mortar lenses. Basel fill of wall construction cut.	medieval/post-medieval
102		3	cut	wall	1.88	0.44	0.25	N-S linear shape in plan, with vertical sides, abrupt breaks of slope and a flat base. Construction cut for flint/brick wall. Filled by 100, 101.	medieval/post-medieval
103		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm mid greyish brown 60% clay/20% silt/ 20% sand. Freq mortar frags, occ charcoal flecks.	medieval?
104		3	layer	occupation buildup/demolition	0			Small mortar layer or lense possibly representing wall demolition.	medieval?
105		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm orangy mid brown 60% clay/40% silt. Freq chalk flecking, occ charcoal flecking.	medieval?
106		3	layer	surface		1.05	0.05	Firm and compacted crushed pale white chalk. Truncated by wall 102. Noted in section only.	medieval?
107		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm orangy brown silty clay with occ charcoal flecking & mod flint inclusions.	medieval?
108		3	layer	surface		1.42		Compact crushed chalk surface. Clean redeposited natural.	medieval?
109		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm very dark brown clay. Freq charcoal inclusions.	medieval?
110		3	layer	surface		0.41	0.04	Hard orangy brown clay surface.	medieval?
111		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm orangy mid brown sandy silt. Mod fine chalk lumps.	medieval?
112		3	layer	occupation buildup	0			Brownish orange peat ash.	medieval?
113		3	layer	surface		0.61	0.1	Hard brownish mid orange clay surface. Truncated by wall construction cut 102 (and cellar demolition)	medieval?
114		3	layer	construction/floor?				Firm orangy mid brown sandy silt with freq creamy mortar inclusions.	medieval?

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
115		4	layer	occupation buildup/dump deposit	0			Friable midgreyish brown sandy clay loam. Freq flint, clay & mortar lenses, brick. Cut by pit 64.	post-medieval?
116	117	1	fill	mortar/concrete	0			Hard orangy light yellow sandy mortar/concrete with a moderate occurrence of medium sized flint nodules.	post medieval
117		1	cut	foundation	0.84	0.62	0.41	Sub-rectangular shape in plan with vertical sides and abrupt breaks of slope forming an irregular profile. A post-medieval intrusion filled with mortar/concrete which spreads in a thin layer beyond the top edges of the cut. Filled by 116.	post medieval
118		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm greyish mid brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of fine chalk flecks, moderate charcoal flecking and moderate brick fragments. Finds include victorian pottery and glass.	post medieval
119		1	fill	occupation buildup	0			Loose mixed pale brown silt and mortar. Occasional charcoal flecking and fine sized chalk lumps.	post medieval
120		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm yellowish pale green silty sand, with a moderate occurrence of fine chalk flecks.	post-medieval?
121		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft dark brown silt. Rare chalk fleck inclusions.	post-medieval?
122		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm yellowish pale green silty sand, with a moderate occurrence of fine chalk flecks.	post-medieval?
123		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm reddish dark brown sandy silt with moderate chalk flecking, occasional charcoal flecking and rare mortar lenses.	post-medieval?
124	131?	1	layer	surface		0.71	0.07	Compact brownish pale white chalk. Redeposited natural. Possible floor remnant. Regular depth and very compact. Possibly equivalent to similar truncated layer in adjacent section.	medieval
125		1	masonry	cellar	0.56	1.16	0.28	Double course brick arch of vaulted cellar. Handmade orangy pale red bricks, typically 0.22m by 0.11m by 0.06m, occ straw impressions. Fair face coursing, rough finish, stretcher bonding pattern from above. Sandy orange light yellow mortar.	late medieval
126	127?	1	masonry	wall		0.19	0.31	Heavily truncated chalk wall. Inc occasional flint nodules. Blocks roughly bonded (no real coursing) with very sandy orangy light brown mortar. 125 could sit upon 126. 126 could be equivalent to wall 127, and both walls could have formed a corner.	medieval
127	203?	1	masonry	wall		0.52	0.6	Roughly built E-W chalk block wall. Severely truncated. Occasional flint nodule inclusions. Very sandy orangy light brown mortar. Possibly equivalent to E-W wall 203 in trench 2.	medieval

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
128		1	layer	occupation buildup/rubbish disposal	0			Large quantity of grey/black ash/silt dumped against the south side of wall 127. Three tip lines discernable.	medieval/post-medieval?
129		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose orangy mid grey sandy silt, with freq inclusions of chalk flecks and occasional lumps. Minor hand dug investigation for finds retrieval as this is the earliest layer exposed in trench 1. Medieval pottery recovered, inc one early-looking im sherd.	medieval?
130		1	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft rustic orange silty sand. Occasional inclusions of burnt brick/tile and silt. Only small amount of layer exposed. Poss floor surface 124 sits on his layer.	medieval?
131	124?	1	layer	surface		0.17	0.1	Firm compacted brownish white chalk. Redeposited natural.	medieval?
132		1	layer	foundation	0			Compacted but loose chalky mortar. Shape in plan suggests probably related to post foundation 117 and its concrete fill	post medieval
133		1	masonry (chalk)	cellar?	0			Curved back face of vaulted cellar. Rough fair face coursing of medium sized chalk blocks, typically <0.10m in length. Bonding material unseen. No samples- exca not possible	late medieval
134	135	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Soft greyish very dark brown slightly clayey silt. Mod charcoal lenses, occ brick/tile, fine rolled pebbles, crushed mortar.	post medieval
135		4	cut	pit		1.35	0.41	Rec in sect. Almost vertical sides, abrupt breaks of slope, flat base. Post med pit cut down to layer 34 and no further. Filled by 134, cuts 25.	post medieval
136		4	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft greyish very dark brown silt. Freq charcoal, occ mortar lenses.	post medieval
137	27	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Firm mid grey sandy silt. Fairly clean.	post medieval
138		4	fill	cellar (disuse)	0			Firm very dark brownish grey silty sand. Occ pebbles, brick.	post medieval
139		4	cut	cellar		1.8	0.5	Rec in sect. Vertical sides, abrupt breaks of slope, fairly flat base. Substantial truncation of post-med layers. Poss edge of a disused cellar, judging by existing above-ground building dimensions. Complicated by modern service 9. Filled by 11, 138, 140.	post medieval
140	139	4	fill	cellar (disuse)	0			Loose mixed mid grey silty sand.	post medieval
141		4	layer	levelling dump/occupation buildup	0			Compact burnt bricks and mortar rubble.	modern
142	27	4	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable dark greyish brown silt. No inclusions.	post medieval
143	1	0	layer		0			overlying layer of loose gravel layer	modern

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
144		1	fill	intrusion/demolished cellar	0			brick rubble backfill in demolished cellar (equals 1 in Tr 4)	modern
145	1	1	cut	truncation	0			modern truncation/demolition of cellar	modern
150		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm dark greyish brown sand clay silt. Freq chalk, small stones, charcoal. Occ oyster shell.	medieval
151		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm mid greyish brown sandy silt. Freq chalk, pot, bone. Occ small stones.	medieval
152		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Burnt soil/peat ash dump. Dark reddish brown silt with black mottles. Freq charcoal, oyster shell, animal bone, shell.	medieval
154		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft light yellowish creamy brown clayey silt. Freq chalk, oyster, bone, pot. Enviro sample 5.	medieval (13thC?)
155		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Burnt soil/peat ash dumps. Loose dark reddish brown silt. Mod pot, bone.	medieval (13thC?)
156		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose mid brown silt. Freq fine pebbles/ pea gravel. Freq small animal bone. Enviro sample 156.	medieval
157		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid yellowish brown clayey silt. Freq chalk flecks, mod mortar lenses.	medieval
158		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose peat ash lense/small layer.	medieval
159		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid yellowish grey-brown clayey sand. Moderate chalk lumps.	medieval
160		2	layer	occupation buildup/levelling	0			Compact red brick fragment deposit.	post medieval
161		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Compact crushed mortar layer relating to modern brick structure.	post medieval
162		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable dark greyish brown silt loam. Freq brick, charcoal, chalk, mortar. Dark layer built up against wall 168.	post medieval
163		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft very dark greyish brown silty loam. Freq charcoal.	post medieval
164			layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable dark grey brown silty loam. Occ flint.	post medieval

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
165		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Compact crushed mortar/chalk layer.	post medieval
166		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable light yellowish grey sandy loam. Freq chalk. Only small part of layer visible.	post-medieval?
167		2	cut	construction cut (wall)	0.6	0.68	0.2	Rec in sect. S side gentle, N side vertical, base concave. Filled by 168-170. Sealed by 175, cuts 174. Shallow construction cut for brick wall. Wall constructed against N face of cut.	post medieval?
168	167		masonry	wall	0.6	0.28	0.8	Rec in sect. Double course handmade red brick wall with hard yellowish light brown sandy lime mortar. Post med building wall?	post medieval?
169	167		fill	construction cut (disuse)	0			Loose compact greyish light yellow crushed sandy mortar. Packed into void of construction cut against poss foundation material for brick wall.	post medieval?
170	167	2	fill	construction cut (disuse)	0			Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt. Freq charcoal.	post medieval?
171		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable very light grey brown sandy loam. Freq chalk, pebbles. Cut by 172, truncated by	late/post medieval?
172		2	cut	pit		1.09	0.15	Rec in sect. Almost vertical sides. Only top surviving level exposed. Sealed by chalk rich layer 174, filled by 173. Rubbish pit?	late/post medieval?
173	172	2	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Friable mid reddish brown sandy loam. Occ brick, mortar, shell, flint.	late/post medieval?
174		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable light yellowish grey sandy clay. Very freq chalk lumps/flecks. Possibly a surface. Seals pit 172.	post-medieval?
175		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Small shallow dump of brownish pale yellow crushed mortar.	post-medieval?
176		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Very mixed friable mid grey brown clayey loam. Freq chalk, pebbles, pea grit. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval
177		2	layer	occupation buildup/levelling	0			Loose orangy yellow sand. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval
178		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable dark grey brown silty loam. Abundant charcoal. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval
179		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable light grey brown sandy loam. Occ charcoal, pea grit. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
180		2	layer	occupation buildup/demolition	0			Compact crushed bright white lime mortar. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval
181		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid grey brown clayey loam. Freq brick, chalk, flint. Deposited/built up against post medieval wall 168.	post medieval
182		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable light grey loam sandy loam. Occ chalk, charcoal, pea grit.	medieval?
183		2	layer	occupation buildup/demolition	0			Compact whitish yellow crushed mortar layer.	medieval?
184		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid grey brown sandy clay. Freq chalk, flint. Only small extent visible.	medieval?
185		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable mid yellow grey sandy clay. Occ chalk, pebbles. Seals pit 172.	post medieval
186		2	layer	surface/occupatio n buildup	0			Compact slightly yellowish chalk layer. Thin layer & level- poss surface.	post medieval
187		2	layer	occupation buildup				Friable pale orangy grey clay loam. Occ chalk.	post medieval
188		2	layer	occupation buildup/demolition	0			Soft dark reddish brown to reddish black sandy clay. Very freq charcoal. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval
189		2	layer	occupation buildup/levelling	0			Loose whitish yellow mortar. Occ chalk, brick, cobbles. Fairly substantial dumped layer. Good levelling deposit. Deposited/built up against wall 168.	post medieval
190		2	layer	occupation buildup/levelling	0			Friable dark grey brown sandy loam. Freq charcoal, chalk, brick, pebbles.	post medieval
191	41	2	fill	modern demolition	0				
193		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Friable greyish mid brown sandy silt. Mod fine chalk lumps. Occ mortar, brick.	post medieval
194		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm grey brown sandy sily. Mod fine chalk lumps, occ rolled pebbles Cut by wall construction cut 208.	medieval?

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
195		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt clay. Few inclusions. Rare chalk, mortar. Built up/deposited against wall masonry 205.	post medieval
196		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Very dark yellowish brown sandy silt clay. Rare chalk, mortar.	post medieval
197		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Loose orangy pale brown crushed sandy lime mortar.	post medieval
198	199	2	fill	pit (disuse)	0			Soft yellowish dark orange silty sand. Mod chalk flecks. Occ fine flints.	post medieval
199		2	cut	pit		0.37	0.22	Rec in sect. Almost vertical sides, abrupt breaks of slope, with a flat base forming a regular flat-bottomed U profile. Filled 198. Cuts 151, sealed by 193.	post medieval
200		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Soft yellowish very dark green sandy silt. Occ chalk flecks.	medieval?
201	202	2	fill	construction cut (disuse)	0			Rirm orangy mid brown sandy silt. Freq chalk flecks. Occ medium sized chalk lumps. Silty backfill of wall construction cut 202 against chalk wall 203.	late medieval?
202		2	cut	construction cut? (wall)	0.4	0.82	0.18	Rec in sect. Moderate S side, vertical N side. Abrupt breaks of slope, flat base. Chalk block wall 203 constructed against N face. Filled by 201 & 203. Cuts 151.	late medieval?
203	202	2	masonry	wall	0.4	0.53	0.26	Rec in sect. Well built E-W chalk block wall. Medium sized blocks typically 0.09 by 0.07 by 0.06m. Almost a chalk coursing construction. Hard orangy light yellow sandy lime mortar.	late medieval?
204		2	layer	occupation buildup	0			Firm greyish mid brown sandy silt. Moderate lenses of orange sandy silt- cussy, decomposing stones? Unclear if this layer was deposited against chalk wall 203 or if the construction cut 202 cuts through it- only thin portion visible due to truncation/LOE.	late medieval?
205	208	2	masonry	wall		0.34	0.46	Rec in sect. Roughly constructed chalk/flint/brick fragment wall. No real coursing/bonding pattern. Bonded with very large amounts of hard brownish pale orange sandy lime mortar. Occ glazed tile inclusions; handle of glaze jug from interface with 206.	post medieval
206	208	2	fill	wall (foundation)				Compacted and firm mixed greyish yellow silty sand. Mod yellow sand lenses. Occ fine chalk lumps. Bulk of fill in wall construction cut, probably to provide a firm base for wall 205.	post medieval
207	208	2	fill	wall (foundation)				Compact yellowish white chalk. Redeposited natural chalk fill in wall construction cut.	post medieval
208		2	cut	construction cut (wall)				construction cut for wall foundation recorded in main north-facing section.	post medieval
209		2	layer	floor?	0			Thin mid grey clay sand silt layer recorded in main N-facing section, between layers 185 and 186. No finds	medieval/post-medieval

Context	Same as	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
210		221	2	fill	channel?	0			fill initially exposed in base of hand-exc slot through dumped deposits, some finds recovered. See 219	medieval
211		212	2	fill	pit	0			Very dark grey silty sand with frequent clinker/cinder/charcoal; brick, mortar, tile, glazed pot, clay pipe (not retained)	late post-medieval
212			2	cut	pit	1.2	1.2		Sub-rectangular post-medieval pit truncating medieval deposits in Tr 2, uncertain what level was cut from as removed by modern truncation	later post-medieval
213			2	finds unit	machining finds	0			finds from machining lower levels in Tr 2 (probably mostly from 151 and 154)	medieval/post-medieval
214			2	cut	pit	1		0.27	Sub-circular pit partly exposed against N edge of trench; fairly shallow with single fill; truncated	medieval
215		214	2	fill	pit	0			Firm mid greyish brown sandy silt with mod. charcoal flecks, occ. flint nodules, moderate chalk flecks	post-medieval?
216		217	2	cut	pit	0			Mid greyish brown sandy silt, very soft and loose; occ. Charcoal, rare small-medium stones and chalk lumps, pottery and bone	post-medieval?
217			2	cut	pit			0.6	Large ?subcircular pit partly exposed in SW corner of trench, cut into natural chalk. Steep sides and fairly flat base - contains 2 fills (and slumped layer). Unknown dimensions or function	medieval
218		217	2	fill	pit	0			Largely comprised of redeposited chalk lumps and flint nodules mixed with mid grey brown silty sand. Occasional finds	medieval
219		221	2	fill	channel?	0			Mid yellowish brown slightly clayey silt sand, occasional charcoal; fairly soft and uncompacted; occasional pot and bone.	medieval
220		221	2	fill	pit	0			Mid yellowish brown silt sand; Fairly mixed with grey silt mottles and chalk frags, small stones and rare large flint nodules. Occ pot and bone	medieval
221			2	cut	fill	0.75	0.76	0.4	Slightly curving channel with undercutting sides, exposed against S edge of trench. Excavated down to a weathered chalk. May be associated with pit 229 (may feed into it). Possible feature in NW corner? Cuts natural	medieval
222		229	2	fill	pit	0			Firm yellowish mid brown sandy silt with freq chalk flecks and silty lumps; occ oyster shell, moderate animal bone, rare slag	medieval
223		229	2	fill	pit	0			Mid reddish brown sandy silt with freq animal bones, shell, flint nodules, occ chalk frags, charcoal, peagrit.	medieval
224			2	fill	pit	0			Thick (0.45m) mid grey brown silty loam fill, freq chalk flecks and lumps, pebbles, bone, charcoal and shell	medieval
225		229	2	fill	pit	0			dump of peat ash (not in section)	medieval



Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
226	229	2	fill	pit	0			Dark grey brown silty loam fill (0.13m thick), inclusions as 224 (except chalk is occ)	medieval
227	229	2	fill	pit	0			Light grey brown silty sandy loam (0.08m thick), occ chalk flecks, pebbles and charcoal	medieval
228	229	2	fill	pit	0			Dark reddish brown dump of peat ash against W edge/base of cut, similar to 225; occasional charcoal	medieval
229		2	cut	pit	2.4	1.8	0.6	Large sub-rectangular cut with vertical sides and flat base. Section excavated across the middle. May relate to channel 221 to S (draining downslope?). Related to cloth finishing? Small cellar?	medieval
230		2	fill	pit	0			Loose reddish mid brown silty sand; occ charcoal and chalk flecks, rare small pebbles, occ pot and bone. Sole fill, truncated by pit 214	medieval
231		2	cut	pit	1		0.6	Possibly sub-circular pit partly exposed against N edge of trench, steep side; not bottomed for H&S reasons. Truncated by pit 215, may cut pit 229.	medieval
232		2	layer		0			mid grey brown silty sandy clay with occ charcoal, bone and chalk, recorded in section	medieval
233		2	fill/dump		0			dirty chalk dump ?in section	medieval/post-medieval
234		2	layer		0			Thin layer of yellow crushed mortar, observed in section. No finds	medieval/post-medieval
235		2	layer		0			Thick (0.15m) layer of chalk mixed with dark brown silty soil, compact. Floor? Located in lower W-facing Trench section - poss associated with wall foundation 239	medieval/post-medieval
236		2	layer		0			Light grey brown sandy clay loam with freq chalk, occ mortar and charcoal. Friable. No finds	medieval/post-medieval
237		2	layer		0			Light yellowish grey sandy clay loam with freq chalk, occ mortar. Friable. No finds, recorded in section. Dumped deposit?	medieval/post-medieval
238		2	construction wall foundation cut		0	1.6	0.5	Cut for wide wall foundation partly exposed in W-facing section. Survived in plan for less than a metre (removed by machine. Cut into natural chalk, which is higher at this point.	medieval/post-medieval
239	238	2	fill	wall foundation	0			Compacted brick fragments and flint nodules, no real bond. Hard yellow sandy lime mortar. Uncertain date, but could be later medieval?? Chalk etc layers could be associated floor levels	medieval/post-medieval
240		2	cut	pit?	1		0.34	Possible pit recorded in section only, or remains of terracing?	medieval/post-medieval
241	240	2	layer/dump	pit?	0			Dark reddish brown sandy clay loam, rare pebbles and chalk. Observed in section, possible fill of 240	medieval/post-medieval

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
242		2	layer/dump		0			Light orange brown sandy silt, moderate medium chalk lumps. Recorded in S and W-facing section, cut by pit 214.	medieval/post-medieval
243		2	layer		0			Layer /dump of compact redeposited natural chalk , tipping from N to S, may be fill in cut? No finds, recorded in section only (S and W facing)	medieval/post-medieval
244		2	layer		0			Orangey dark brown sandy silt layer, disturbed/masked by shoring. Recorded in section (S and W-facing) no finds	post-medieval?
245		2	layer	dump?	0			Thin (0.06m) layer of very dark grey silty sandy loam with occasional bricks and pebbles. No finds, recorded in section (S and W-facing)	medieval/post-medieval?
246		2	layer	dump/make-up?	0			Mid grey brown sandy clay loam with occ charcoal, chalk, peagrit and pebbles. Recorded in main W-facing section, poss equiv to 171?	medieval/post-medieval?
247		2	layer		0			Loose orangy brown sandy silt with occ fine rolled pebbles, occ charcoal and chalk flecks. Recorded in main S and E-facing sections. No finds. Dumped deposit?	medieval/post-medieval?
248		2	layer	dump	0			Compacted redeposited natural chalk, similar to 243 to E. Seen in S and E-facing section. No finds	medieval/post-medieval?
249		2	fill	dump/make-up	0			Thick (0.25m) dump of mid orangey brown sandy silt with few inclusions, tipping from S-N in section	medieval/post-medieval
250		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Dump (0.10m thick) of mixed chalk and grey brown silt, recorded in section (E-facing)	medieval/post-medieval
251		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Firm pale yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate chalk flecks, rare charcoal, rare mortar lumps and orange mottles. Dump recorded in E-facing section. No finds	medieval/post-medieval?
252		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Void - equals 197	medieval?
253		2			0			Void (equals 200)	medieval?
254		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Void (equals 154)	medieval
255		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit or floor?	0			0.12m thick layer of redeposited chalk, possible floor. Recorded in N and E-facing sections. Rare pottery	medieval
256		2			0			Void (equals 157)	medieval?

Context	Same as Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth	Other Comments	Provisional date
257		2			0			Void (equals 159)	medieval?
258		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Mid yellowish brown silty clay sand with frequent chalk and flint nodules and oyster shell and charcoal. Layer slumped into top of pit 217.	medieval?
259		2			0			Void	medieval?
260		2			0			Void	medieval?
261		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Mid brownish grey sandy silt with occ mortar, occ small flints and stones, rare charcoal and pottery. Dump?	medieval?
264		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Dump of dark brown sandy silt with brick and modern inclusions	post-medieval/modern
265		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Yellowish brown sandy clay layer with frequent chalk.	post-medieval/modern
266		2	layer	make-up/dump deposit	0			Dump of loose pale sandy mortar	post-medieval/modern
267	167	2	fill	wall foundation	0			Damaged wall foundation comprising silt/clay/mortar in base of cut 167	post-medieval?

Table 1 Context summary

## **Appendix 2: Finds Summary**

### **1 Introduction**

A moderate finds assemblage was recovered from the site, comprising pottery (4.564kg), animal bone (5.16kg), 35 metal/'small' finds (including cloth seals), 4 fragments of human skeletal remains, shellfish (1.493kg), slag (2.323kg), two whole and one partial hand-made brick, mortar (0.927kg), fired clay (0.522kg), four pieces of flint (one worked), one small fragment of lava, one clay-pipe stem and several glass fragments (0.087kg). Most finds were recovered from stratified medieval and later deposits; some are from metal-detecting and some were found unstratified during machining.

The assemblage is generally domestic in character, although evidence of other activities such as industrial processes (iron smithing; Appendix 6) and those associated with cloth manufacture/finishing/trading was also found in medieval and post-medieval contexts (Appendix 5). The presence of disarticulated human bone may reflect the location of the site adjacent to St Laurence's churchyard (Appendix 8).

Reports on the pottery, animal bone, human bone, shell, slag and metal finds are included as separate appendices; summaries of the remaining finds are presented below.

### **2 Flint**

Four pieces of flint were recovered, only one of which (SF26; post-medieval context 30) was worked. This small, fine flint has modern damage and has clearly been knocked off a larger core or blade. The fine working suggests a Neolithic date (Richard Mortimer pers. comm.).

### **3 Glass**

By Carole Fletcher and Rachel Clarke

A tiny sliver of undiagnostic glass was found in a medieval dumped layer (155) and several fragments of window glass were recovered from layer 156, both in Trench 2. The latter fragments appear to be from a sub-rectangular piece of medieval glass with grozed edges, which was originally clear, possibly with a greenish tinge. The 3mm-thick glass is now completely opaque, although areas of clear glass are visible on the recently broken edges. There is some granulation on the ancient breaks, indicating that the piece was not whole when originally discarded. There is no evidence of the piece having been

painted. The glass does not merit conservation due to its small size and fragmentary condition.

A small piece of vessel glass was also recovered from a post-medieval dumped layer (118) in Trench 4; no further work is required on this material.

#### 4 Bricks

By Rob Atkins

Two complete bricks and a partial brick from the vault of a possible undercroft (125) in Trench 1 were retained for dating purposes:

- 1) Complete brick 235-238mm x 122-123mm x 50-57mm

Mixed yellow-dull orange brick. Has some small voids mostly c.4mm in diameter; extremely crude and irregular, irregular arises; creased, rough cracked faces; very rough base and upper. Large number of large straw impressions on upper surface where it had been placed to dry after removal from the mould. Lime mortar still adhering to all six surfaces.

- 2) Complete brick 235-8mm x 118-122mm x 50-51mm

Mostly dull orange brick, some yellow. Has some small voids mostly sub-rounded c.4mm-6mm in size. Fragments of soft stones in some of the voids; very crude and irregular, irregular arises; creased, rough cracked faces; very rough base and upper. Large number of grass impressions on upper surface where it had been placed to dry after removal from the mould. Thumb print on upper face. A little lime mortar still adheres to four surfaces.

- 3) Part brick 131mm+ x 121-122mm x 50-58mm

Mostly dull orange brick, some yellow. Has some small voids mostly sub-rounded c.4mm-6mm in size. A few fragments of soft stones in the voids; very crude and irregular, irregular arises; creased, rough cracked faces; very rough base and upper. Large number of grass impressions and ?at least one straw impression on base where it had been placed to dry after removal from the mould. Thumb print on upper face. A little lime mortar still adheres to one surface.

All three bricks are very similar and were almost certainly manufactured at the same time, and are locally made. The extreme crudeness of these bricks, in this case, suggests a late medieval or early post-medieval date.

## 5 Miscellaneous

By Rachel Clarke

A total of 0.522kg of fired clay was recovered from medieval and post-medieval contexts. Most of these appear to be tile or brick fragments, which are too small to allow further identification. Other larger fragments (0.727kg) of ceramic building material were also recovered, most of which are brick and tile pieces found in post-medieval features and layers in Trenches 2 and 4.

Other finds include a small quantity of coal (0.027kg) found in later medieval and post-medieval contexts, an unstratified clay pipe stem from Trench 2, and a small, undiagnostic piece of lava (0.020kg) probably from a quern, from medieval pit **85** in Trench 4. A small assemblage (0.927kg) of sandy lime mortar was also recovered (mostly from medieval dumped layer 156 in Trench 2) in addition to a possible fragment of lime-washed plaster, also from 156.

## Appendix 3: Post-Roman Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

### 1 Introduction

A moderate assemblage of post-Roman pottery (328 sherds of pottery, weighing 4.564 kg) was recovered by the evaluation.

### 2 Methodology

The basic guidance in the Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2) has been adhered to (English Heritage 1991) In addition the following documents act as a standard: Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) documents 'Guidance for the processing and publication of medieval pottery from excavations' (Blake and Davey, 1983), 'A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms' (MPRG, 1998) and 'Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics' (MPRG 2001).

Spot dating was carried out using the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit's (CCCAFU) in-house system based on that used at the Museum of London. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed.

All the pottery has been spot dated on a context-by-context basis; this information was entered directly onto a full quantification database (Access 2000), which allows for the appending of quantification data.

The pottery and archive are curated by the CCCAFU until formal deposition.

Ceramic fabric abbreviations used in the following text are:

English stoneware	ENGS
Frechen stoneware	FREC
Glazed Red Earthen wares	GRE
Grimston ware	GRIM
Martincamp ware	MART
Medieval Ely type ware	MELT
Late medieval Transitional wares	LMT
Local Medieval unglazed	LMU
Raeren stoneware	RAER
St Neots or St Neots type ware	NEOTT
Stamford ware	STAM
Thetford Type ware	THETT

### 3 The Assemblage (Table 2)

The fieldwork generated 328 sherds of pottery, weighing in total 4.564kg including unstratified material.

The majority of the assemblage is medieval with 2.498kg (244 sherds) of pottery dating from the mid-12th to mid-15th century. Within this wide date range, a distinct group can be identified, with the bulk of the assemblage considered to be high medieval (mid-12th to mid-14th century, ceramic phase 5), comprising 179 sherds weighing 1.761kg. Some of this may be residual material within the stratigraphic phasing, however the majority of the sherds are only moderately abraded and some have sharp breaks. The medieval glazed vessels are almost exclusively GRIM and the unglazed wares are mainly LMU/LMT.

The 61 sherds of post-medieval and later material make up more than 36% of the assemblage by weight due in part to the large and unabraded nature of the 19th century material including a complete ENGS ginger beer bottle. By sherd number the majority of this later material is LMT and GRE, also present are sherds of RAER, FREC and a single sherd from a MART flask.

There is some early residual material from the excavation; a small number of Saxo-Norman sherds were identified. These include single sherds of STAM and NEOTT, in addition to seventeen sherds of THETT all of which appear to be residual.

The relatively tight dating of large parts of the assemblage indicate a distinct phase of medieval activity on the site beginning early in the

13th century, continuing until the middle of the 14th century. Activity continues on the site in the later medieval period, however at a lower level.

To summarise on a trench-by-trench basis: Trench 1 and 3 each produced only two contexts containing pottery, in each case one context is medieval, the other is post-medieval (in Trench 1 this is 19th century in Trench 3 16th century). Trench 2 is almost exclusively medieval producing the largest number of sherds of any trench. Finally Trench 4 has a mixture of medieval and post-medieval contexts.

The pottery assemblage recovered from the evaluation is broadly domestic in character, tablewares in the form of glazed jugs are found alongside cooking vessels in the features dating to the 13th and 14th centuries indicating domestic refuse from a household or households of some substance. This assemblage is important in dating the activity on the site and in providing information about the supply of pottery to Norwich in the medieval and early post-medieval period. The site should not be considered in isolation but should be used alongside other Norwich excavations (including Pottergate and Nos 29-31 St Benedict's Street, see main report) to provide a more complete picture of the development of this area of the town.

#### **4 Sampling bias**

The excavation was carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling procedures on a feature-by-feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases. Where bulk samples have been processed for environmental remains, there has also been some recovery of pottery. These are however only very small amounts and the small abraded nature of the sherds means that only those samples from contexts where there has been no other pottery recovered or where the recovered sherds were significant, have been examined. The remainder have not yet been added to the database. It is not expected that the examination of this material will effect the broad dating of the site.

#### **5 Condition**

This assemblage is of a small size; the average sherd size is moderate at 13.9g per sherd. Average weight is slightly skewed due to the presence of a complete stoneware bottle that weighs in excess of 0.5kg. No preservation bias has been recognised and no long-term storage problems are likely.



This assemblage has one complete vessel; however this is a 19th century stoneware bottle and though of interest will add little to the overall discussion of the site.

Though a small assemblage, the excavated pottery reflects domestic activity on the site from the 13th century through to the 19th century. It is a close grouped assemblage and the date of the assemblage makes full quantification and analysis of the main period groups desirable, especially if further work generates a larger assemblage.

Spot Dating					
Context	Fabric	Vessel Forms	Number of Sherds	Weight in kg	Spot dating Date Range
24	GRE	Jar	2	0.015	17th-18th century
	LMT/GRE	Jug	1	0.009	
25	FREC	Jug	1	0.054	Mid 16th century
	GRE		1	0.009	
	GRE	Jar	1	0.066	
	GRE	pipkin	3	0.069	
	MART	Jug	1	0.005	
35	BICR	Jug	3	0.152	Early 19th century
	ENGS	bottle	1	0.529	
	GRE	Bowl	9	0.215	
	LMT/GRE	Bowl	1	0.013	
	Iron glazed ware	Drinking Vessel	1	0.018	
	LMT		1	0.007	
36	BICR	Bowl	1	0.007	16th century
	FREC	Jug	1	0.017	
	GRIM	Jug	2	0.025	
	LMT	Bowl	1	0.005	
	LMT	Jar	2	0.041	
	LMT	Jug	3	0.063	
	LMU	Jar	6	0.053	
	LMU	Jug	1	0.057	
	THETT		2	0.059	
	RAER	Jug	3	0.053	
63	Iron Glazed ware	Drinking Vessel	1	0.034	16th century
	LMT		2	0.019	
	TGW	Bowl	1	0.002	
65	THETT	Jar	2	0.012	11th -12th century (residual)
66	LMT	Jar	3	0.056	Mid 15th century to end of 16th
70	GRIM	Jug	1	0.001	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
86	LMU		1	0.004	13-14th century
	LMU	Jar	7	0.082	
	THETT	Jar	1	0.015	
89	GRIM		2	0.013	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	GRIM	Jug	6	0.046	
	LMU	Jar	3	0.012	
91	GRIM	Jug	3	0.047	Late 15th century
	LMT	Jar	1	0.009	

Spot Dating					
Context	Fabric	Vessel Forms	Number of Sherds	Weight in kg	Spot dating Date Range
	LMU		2	0.008	
	RAER		1	0.004	
97	FREC	Jug	3	0.032	16th century
	LMT		1	0.002	
107	LMU	Bowl	1	0.034	13th to end of 14th
118	engs	bottle	2	0.052	19th century
129	LMU		1	0.006	13-14 th century
	THETT	Jar	1	0.039	
150	LMU?		1	0.003	13th century
	STAM	Jar	1	0.005	
	THETT	Jar	5	0.061	
151	LMT	Jug	2	0.014	Mid 15th century
	LMT?	Jug	1	0.001	
	LMU	Bowl	1	0.067	
	LMU	Jar	21	0.079	
	THETT	Jar	6	0.047	
152	GRIM	Jug	1	0.006	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	GRIM?	Jug	1	0.003	
	LMU	Jar	5	0.021	
	NEOTT		1	0.011	
154	GRIM	Jug	7	0.071	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	LMU		11	0.043	
	LMU	Bowl	1	0.071	
155	GRIM	Jug	10	0.088	Mid thirteenth to mid fourteenth century
	LMU	Jar	6	0.026	
	MELT		1	0.004	
156	LMU	Jar	7	0.038	13th/14th
	Yarmouth type SHW	Jar	1	0.01	
191	LMT	Jug	1	0.013	Mid 15th to end of 16th century
193	LMT?	Jug	2	0.013	Mid 15th to end of 16th
197	thett?		1	0.018	11th -12th century (residual)
206	LMT	Jug	1	0.051	Mid 15th to end of 16th
210	GRIM		1	0.015	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	LMU	Jar	2	0.02	
213	GRIM	Jug	6	0.231	15th century
	LMU		5	0.052	
	LMU	Jar	3	0.036	
	Surrey Whiteware/Cheam	Jug	1	0.05	
215	LMT	Jug	1	0.004	Late 15th century to mid 16th
	RAER		1	0.004	
216	GRIM	Jug	2	0.025	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	LMU	Jar	4	0.022	
218	LMU	Jug	1	0.003	Mid 13th to end of 14th century
219	LMU		1	0.017	13th to mid 14th century
	LMU	Jar	8	0.033	
	LMU?	Jar	2	0.032	
220	LMU	Jar	8	0.056	13th to end of 14th century
	non-local medieval coarse ware	Jar	1	0.013	
222	GRIM	Jug	5	0.028	Mid 14th

Spot Dating					
Context	Fabric	Vessel Forms	Number of Sherds	Weight in kg	Spot dating Date Range
	THETT		2	0.073	
	LMU	Jar	7	0.056	
	non-local medieval		1	0.002	
223	GRIM	Jug	4	0.032	Mid thirteenth to mid 14th century
	LMU		4	0.039	
	MELT		1	0.016	
	UNK	Jug	1	0.014	
224	East Anglian Redware	Jug	2	0.085	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	GRIM		1	0.009	
	GRIM	Jug	20	0.194	
	LMU		4	0.025	
	LMU	Jar	16	0.155	
	LMU	Jug	2	0.054	
	thett	Bowl	1	0.022	
	UNK	Jug	1	0.022	
226	GRIM	Jug	7	0.077	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
	LMU	Jar	3	0.022	
230	LMU		3	0.089	13th to end of 14th century
232	GRIM	Jug	2	0.044	Mid 13th to end of 14th century
	LMU	Jar	3	0.039	
254	LMU?	Jug	1	0.008	13th to mid 14th century
255	LMU	Bowl	1	0.012	13th /14th century

Table 2: Pottery spot-dating

## Appendix 4: Metalwork

By Nina Crummy

### 1 Summary

A minimum of 26 objects were examined; some bags and boxes contained more than one object. Very few objects were of datable types; those that could be dated were medieval or post-medieval.

### 2 Condition

The copper-alloy and lead(-alloy) objects are in fair condition. The corrosion on the ironwork varies from light to medium, making accurate description of a few of the objects difficult, but these items should produce clear images when X-radiographed.

The objects are packed to a high standard of storage in either polythene bags or small crystal boxes supported by pads of foam or acid-free tissue. The bags and boxes are stored in larger crystal boxes or airtight Stewart boxes with silica gel.

### 3 The assemblage

The assemblage can be divided by material thus:

copper-alloy	12
lead(-alloy)	2
iron	12
	<b>26</b>

The objects are briefly listed in Tables 3-5. Each has been assigned to one of the functional categories defined in Crummy 1988, and the only categories represented in this assemblage are: 1..dress accessories; 6 measuring and calculation; 10..tools; 11..general fittings; 18..miscellaneous.

The assemblage has no distinctive character, and the number of metalwork finds is in general low. There is a noticeable lack of the small personalia generally associated with medieval occupation sites, such as buckles, strap-mounts and strap-ends, and no household equipment. Small dress pins from post-medieval contexts are predominant among the copper-alloy objects, and a single lace-end is of 16th-century or later type. A jeton, used for reckoning accounts, is probably of 15th or 16th century date. The only tool, a small copper-alloy file, comes from a 19th century context; it is only hard enough to be effective on gold, lead and perhaps silver.

The lead or lead-alloy objects consist of a small weight and a tag of probable 15th-17th century date. Most of the ironwork are nails or fragments of nails, the exceptions being a wire loop and a strip fragment. None of the nails appears to belong to the distinctive later medieval to early post-medieval type with double lobed or narrow rectangular/oval head.

#### 4 Recommendations

1. To facilitate identification, dating and illustration, five copper-alloy objects should be conserved and six iron objects (or groups of objects) should be X-radiographed. It is recommended that this work be carried out at Colchester Museum (contact: [annemaria.bojko@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:annemaria.bojko@colchester.gov.uk)).
2. A brief report on the metal objects should form part of the final site report, with most of the objects listed only briefly in archive and only a selected number taken through to full publication. In the latter case references to comparable items should be given where appropriate and/or possible, with particular reference to the Norwich assemblage published in Margeson 1993.
3. A maximum number of eight items, as indicated in Tables 3-5, should be drawn to accompany the published report. This figure may fall following conservation and X-radiography.

#### Bibliography

- |              |      |  |
|--------------|------|--|
| Crummy, N.   | 1988 | <i>The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85</i> , Colchester Archaeological Report 5 (Colchester)                     |
| Margeson, S. | 1993 | <i>Norwich Households: the medieval and post-medieval finds from Norwich Survey excavations 1971-8</i> , East Anglian Archaeology 58 (Norwich) |

## Catalogue

Table 3: Copper-alloy

SF	Context	Pottery spot-date	Identification	Date	Functional category	Conserve	Draw
15	25	mid 16th cent	small pin, Norwich Type 1	post-medieval	1	-	-
14	25	mid 16th cent	small pin, Norwich Type 1	post-medieval	1	-	-
16	25	mid 16th cent	small pin, Norwich Type 1	post-medieval	1	-	-
3	34	-	Jeton	late medieval/early post-medieval	6	y	-
13	35	early 19th cent	small pin, Norwich Type 1	post-medieval	1	-	-
18	35	early 19th cent	file fragment	post-medieval?	10	y	y
8	36	16th cent	nail	post-medieval	11	-	-
12	36	16th cent	small pin, Norwich Type 1	post-medieval	1	-	-
9	36	16th cent	lace-end, decorated	1550/75-1700	1	y	y
17	75	-	small pin, Type 2	post-medieval	1	-	-
1	156	13th-14th cent	mount, rectangular, pierced	medieval	1	y	y
2	226	mid 13th-mid 14th cent	capped tubular object, in fragments	-	18	y	y

Table 4: Lead (-alloy)

SF	Context	Pottery spot-date	Identification	Date	Functional category	Conserve	Draw
30	36	16th cent	weight, conical	medieval/post-medieval	6	-	y
20	151	mid 15th cent	tag with raised vegetal decoration	late medieval/early post-medieval	1	-	y

Table 5: Iron

SF	Context	Pottery spot-date	Identification	Date	Functional category	X-ray	Draw
35	155	mid 13th-mid 14th cent	bag 1) nail, shank incomplete bag 2) 4 shank fragments bag 3) 2 nails	-	11	y	-
27	156	13th-14th cent	2 nail shank fragments	-	11	-	-
21	156	13th-14th cent	nail, shank incomplete	-	11	-	-
32	213	15th cent	?nail shank fragment	-	11	y	-
33	213	15th cent	wire loop	-	18	y	y
25	216	mid 13th-mid 14th cent	nail	-	11	-	-
31	218	mid 13th-end 14th cent	2 nails, shanks incomplete	-	11	-	-

SF	Context	Pottery spot-date	Identification	Date	Functional category	X-ray	Draw
23	222	mid 14th cent	1 nail, 1 shank fragment	-	11	Y	-
34	222	mid 14th cent	strip, in 3 fragments	-	18	Y	Y
29	223	mid 13th-mid 14th cent	nail shank fragment	-	11	-	-
24	224	mid 13th-mid 14th cent	1 nail, 1 shank fragment (?same object)	-	11	Y	-
28	228	-	2 nail shank fragments	-	11	-	-

## Appendix 5: Lead Finds

By Geoff Egan

### 1 Introduction

The assemblage comprises seven items - six diverse cloth seals, all of which appear to be from the 16th/17th centuries (site phasing/dating not seen), and a piece of scrap metal. There are ?four weavers'/clothiers' seals, one of which may have a second stamp from a dyer and another could be from a foreign import, and two corporate seals - one for the Norwich Walloon community and one for London. The group thus includes one recognisable local element and an indication of trade with the capital, while the other, personal seals provide less specific information in the present state of knowledge.

The cloth seals comprise a further significant group from the city, with some previously unrecorded marks. They should be published in full.

### 2 Catalogue

#### 2.1 Cloth Seals

SF10, context 36

(Incomplete disc) scratched (?)3 // (on rivet) heart-shaped privy mark with .. I at top; rosette stamp on strip

This would routinely be taken to be a 16th/17th-century weaver's/clothier's seal; the rosette stamp may possibly be the enigmatic dyers' 'rose' mark referred to in documents.

Recommendations: Clean and draw

**SF 4, context 34**

Corroded and folded: scratched X // G-like motif with (?)

? Weaver's/clothier's seal, or possibly a Continental import.

Recommendations: Clean and draw

**SF 5, context 36**

- // privy mark with S etc.

16th/17th-century weaver's/clothier's seal.

Recommendations: Clean and draw

**SF 6, context 36**

- // ornate shield with arms of London, CIVITATIS LONDON 1627 around // ornate shield with arms of London, (?)foliate motif around top // A W/AS

Dated London alnage seal.



Recommendations: Cosmetic clean, Photo X2

**SF 11, context 36**

Missing // perimeter part of large, right-angled ligature etc.; imprint of fine textile.

(?) 16th/17th-century weaver's/clothier's seal.

**SF 7, context 75**

Part of disc with sprue attached: ship

Norwich Walloon community seal, ?17th-century.

Recommendations: Clean, photograph and draw (ship)

**2.2 Miscellaneous**

**SF 19, context 67**

Irregular offcut/trimming.

Recommendations: ?Not worth including in publication.

## **Appendix 6: Slag and Hammerscale**

By Tom Eley

### **1 Introduction, Methodology and Summary of Results**

Slag weighing 2.323kg was recovered from 15 separate contexts during the evaluation at St Benedict's Street (Tables 6 and 8). Morphologically the slag could be grouped into two categories: smithing slag and undiagnostic slag. Smithing slag is characterised by having a rough lumpy morphology often stained red due to iron oxide, undiagnostic slag also has a rough texture but cannot confidently be ascribed to a particular metallurgical process due to its small size. Smithing slag was the most common slag present, weighing 1.944kg, much of which can be attributed to a potential smithing hearth bottom (SHB) found in late medieval dumped deposit 151. Some of the slag displayed a ropey structure usually characteristic of tap slag a by-product of the iron smelting process during which furnace temperatures are hot enough to turn slag molten.

Category	Weight
Smithing	1.944
undiagnostic	0.35
hearth lining	0.029
<b>Total</b>	2.323

Table 6: Types of slag

Magnetic residues were collected from the environmental samples and analysed under a microscope for the presence of spheroidal and flake hammerscale (Table 7). All samples were found to contain some spheroidal and flake hammerscale but contexts: 86, 91, 220 and 223 contained more than the others. The presence of hammerscale can be evidence for *in situ* iron smithing, in this instance the fills are make-up deposits or dumps within features and the hammerscale must therefore be redeposited.

Context	Sample	Spheroidal Quantity	Flake Present?
86	<001>	12	Yes
223	<007>	9	Yes
155	<004>	2	Yes
91	<003>	13	Yes
70	<002>	4	Yes
220	<010>	11	Yes
156	<006>	1	Yes
154	<005>	4	Yes
228	<008>	2	Yes

Table 7: Instance of spheroidal and flake hammerscale in samples

## 2 Conclusions

The slag and hammerscale residue found can be taken as evidence for iron smithing in Norwich during the medieval period, possibly in the vicinity of St Benedict's Street.

Context	Weight (kg)	Slag Type	Description	Provisional date
151	1.003	smithing		late medieval
154	0.207	smithing		medieval
232	0.203	smithing	ropey/platey	medieval
223	0.03	smithing		medieval
224	0.1	smithing		medieval
222	0.099	smithing		medieval
220	0.028	smithing		medieval
219	0.226	smithing		medieval
156	0.048	smithing	Slightly magnetic	medieval
151	0.013	undiagnostic	Glassy?	medieval
219	0.007	undiagnostic		medieval
220	0.029	hearth lining		medieval
154	0.001	undiagnostic		medieval
155	0.005	undiagnostic		medieval 13thC?
152	0.009	undiagnostic		medieval
70	0.028	undiagnostic	<002>	medieval
156	0.009	undiagnostic	<006>	medieval
228	0.016	undiagnostic	<008>	medieval
91	0.014	undiagnostic	<003>	medieval
220	0.068	undiagnostic	<010>	medieval
86	0.089	undiagnostic	<001>	medieval
155	0.042	undiagnostic	<004>	medieval 13thC?
223	0.047	undiagnostic	<007>	medieval
216	0.001	undiagnostic	<009>	post-medieval?
154	0.001	undiagnostic	<005>	medieval 13thC?

Table 8: Summary of slag by context

## **Appendix 7: Animal and Fish Bones**

By Chris Faine

### **1 Introduction**

A total of 267 "countable" bones were recovered from the St Benedict's Street evaluation, with 501 fragments being unidentifiable to species (15.7% of the total sample). Fragments were obtained from a variety of features including pits, and occupation layers. The condition of the assemblage is extremely good, with the majority of fragmentation being attributed to butchery rather than any taphonomic processes.

### **2 Methodology**

All data was initially recorded using a specially written MS Access database. All elements identifiable to species and over 25% complete were included in the database. Loose teeth, caudal vertebra and ribs without proximal epiphyses were noted but not included in any quantification. Elements not identifiable to species were classed as "large/medium/small mammal" but again not included in any quantification. Initially all elements were assessed in terms of siding (where appropriate), completeness, tooth wear stages (also where applicable) and epiphyseal fusion tooth wear was assessed using Grant (1982). Completeness was assessed in terms of percentage and zones present (after Dobney and Reilly 1988). Initially the whole identifiable assemblage was quantified in terms of number of individual fragments (NISP) and minimum numbers of individuals MNI (see Table 9).

Any instances of butchery were noted and recorded using a separate table from the main database. The type of lesion, its position, severity and direction were all noted. The presence of any further taphonomy, i.e. burning, gnawing etc was also noted. A separate table for any pathology, giving the position and type of lesion was also used.

### **3 The Assemblage (Tables 9 and 10; Chart 1)**

Contexts containing faunal remains can be broadly divided into two phases, with the majority of contexts provisionally dated to the medieval period, along with a number of unstratified contexts. However, two layers (154/155), can more securely dated via pottery analysis to the mid-13th to mid-14th century. Table 9 shows the broad distribution of mammal and bird species in the assemblage, with Table 10 showing the fish species recovered from sieved samples.

In terms of the assemblage as a whole it is dominated (as would be expected) by the major domesticates. Cattle make up the majority of the sample (35% of identifiable fragments), with lesser amounts of sheep/goat and pig (29% and 11% respectively). Fragments from the medieval occupation/dumped layers consist largely of domestic mammal remains, the majority (43.1%) being cattle (see Chart 1). Sixty per cent of the elements show signs of butchery, with long bones being split midshaft using a heavy knife or cleaver. A single cattle scapula from context 156 showed severe chop marks at the glenoid process, indicative of disarticulation of the shoulder joint. In addition to the domestic mammals a variety of other species were recovered from the medieval layers. Context 154, in addition to the butchered cattle, pig and sheep remains, contained 4 whiting (*Merlangius merlangus*) vertebrae. Fish remains were also recovered from 151 (15th century), 155 and 156. Context 151 and 156 contained plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) and cod (*Gadus morhua*) respectively. Vertebrae from both species were recovered, with the cod vertebra being extremely large (individuals of such size are almost exclusively confined to offshore waters). Context 155 contained large numbers of small sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) vertebrae.

	NISP	NISP%	MNI	MNI%
<b>Domestic mammals</b>				
Sheep/Goat ( <i>Ovis/Capra</i> )	63	35.5	19	35
Cattle ( <i>Bos</i> )	53	29	18	33
Pig ( <i>Sus scrofa</i> )	20	11	3	6
<b>Other mammals</b>				
Cat ( <i>Felis sylvestris</i> )	7	4	1	2
Rabbit ( <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> )	2	1	1	2
Dog ( <i>Canis familiaris</i> )	1	0.5	1	2
<b>Birds</b>				
Domestic fowl ( <i>Gallus sp.</i> )	19	10	3	6
Goose ( <i>Anser sp.</i> )	12	7	3	6
Swan ( <i>Cygnus sp.</i> )	1	0.5	1	2
Coot ( <i>Fulica atra</i> )	1	0.5	1	2
Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> )	1	0.5	1	2
Small corvid ( <i>Corvidae</i> )	1	0.5	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 9: Species distribution for mammal and bird assemblage

Bird remains were found in several contexts, most notably 151 and 156. Context 151 contained a number of elements broadly identified as domestic fowl (*Gallus sp.*), including a butchered radius, tibia and sternum. Context 156 contained butchered remains broadly identified as domestic goose (*Anser sp.*), in addition to a carpometacarpal from a small corvid, most likely a jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*).

Few small remains were recovered from the medieval and late medieval layers, apart from a single rabbit scapula from 156 and a number of cat remains from 151, 152, 155 & 156. None of these showed signs of butchery.

In terms of the medieval pit contexts domestic mammals again dominate, with sheep/goat being the most prevalent species (50% of identifiable fragments), with lesser proportions of cattle and pig (38% & 10% respectively). Again a large proportion of this portion of the assemblage shows evidence of butchery, with much the same pattern emerging, that is to say; severe chop marks on many elements, with long bones either split midshaft or at the epiphyses. The vast majority of fragments appear to come from adult animals, with some representing young/juvenile individuals. Again a variety of other taxa were recovered from all contexts.

Species	NISP	NISP%
Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> )	36	43
Whiting ( <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> )	19	23
Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	17	20
Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )	6	7.2
Eel ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> )	4	4.8
Tench ( <i>Tinca tinca</i> )	1	1
Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 10: Species distribution for fish assemblage

One of the largest faunal assemblages was recovered from three fills (222, 223 and 226) of a single pit (229). Context 222, in addition to large amounts of heavily butchered sheep/goat remains, contained butchered domestic fowl, goose and two freshwater species; coot (*Fulica atra*) and tench (*Tinca tinca*). The latter was the only evidence of exclusively freshwater fish in the assemblage. Context 223 contained small amounts of sheep/goat, domestic fowl and cat remains, along with over 60 fish elements (mostly vertebrae) from a variety of species, including whiting, sprat, eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) and herring (*Clupea harengus*). Further herring and sprat remains were recovered from context 91. Context 226 contained butchered cattle and sheep/goat remains, along with some domestic fowl.

Bird remains were also found in pit fill 224. Along with butchered sheep/goat, cattle and pig, a number of domestic fowl and swan (*Cygnus sp.*) were recovered. Elements from both species showed signs of butchery. Further domestic fowl remains were recovered from fill 86, along with herring vertebrae.

Far fewer elements were recovered from the unstratified contexts, which represent finds recovered during machining. The species distribution is far more limited (although this is partly due to the nature of the contexts and their small number.). Sheep/Goat make up the largest proportion of this part of the assemblage (58% of identifiable fragments), with smaller amounts of cattle (34%) and sheep/goat (8%). Context 35 is the largest of these contexts (17 fragments) and has been dated to the post medieval period. This context largely contains butchered sheep/goat elements such as humerii and tibiae, along with smaller amounts of cattle remains. Context 213, dated to the 15th century, contained small amounts of butchered cattle, sheep/goat and pig remains along with a single butchered goose radius. Context 36, provisionally dated to the late medieval period, contained 3 butchered sheep/goat long bones (two radii and one femur).

#### 4 Conclusions

In terms of the domestic mammal species the assemblage clearly represents butchery waste. The age range of the skeletal population indicates animals being reared to optimum weight elsewhere then slaughtered and butchered. This is reinforced by the wide variety of elements recovered, suggesting livestock was brought to the area alive. The younger animals present may indicate the processing of some animals at an earlier age, but the sample size here is too small to make any further conclusions. The proportion and range of bird species recovered is similar to that found in similar sites within Norwich, with goose and domestic fowl being raised from meat and other products such as eggs and feathers (Albarella *et al* forthcoming, 27). There is some evidence here for the exploitation of wild species, but again the small sample size precludes any further analysis at this stage. The small mammal remains most likely represent accidental deposition.

The wide range of fish species is also similar to that at other sites in the town (*ibid*). Sprat and whiting, (the two most prevalent species in the assemblage), were commonly netted in shallow water off the East Anglian coast (sprat being most abundant during the summer). Herring were a valuable commodity throughout this period (being caught via drift netting from boats and often salted). Cod were often caught by long lining in deep water (accounting for the large individual found in context 156).

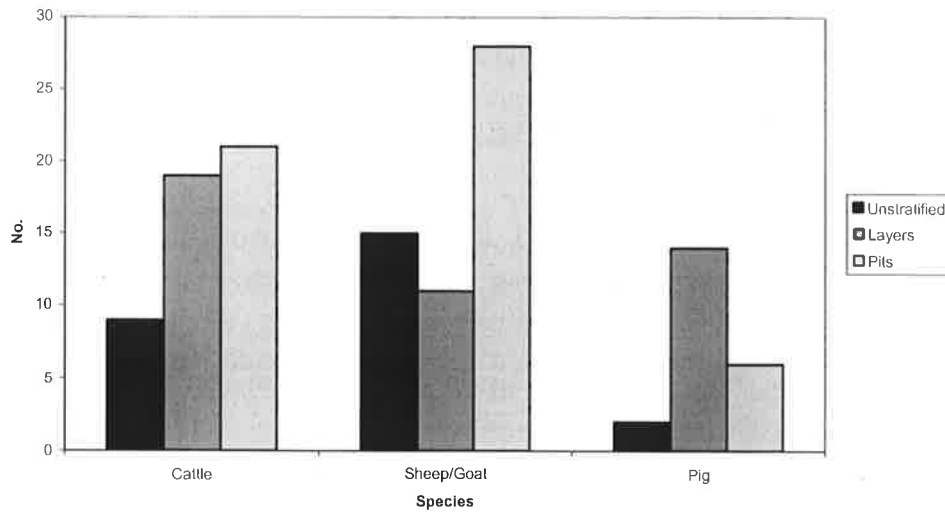


Chart 1: Species distribution by feature type

Despite these conclusions this is a very small assemblage from an urban site (albeit an evaluation) of this period, and a larger sample would certainly help clarify some of the points raised here. In particular a larger assemblage would help answer more detailed questions about the domestic mammal population, such as age and sex profiles and any morphological traits attributable to breeds.

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## Appendix 8: Human Skeletal Remains

By Natasha Dodwell and Rachel Clarke

The evaluation produced four fragments of disarticulated human skeletal material, including one tooth, from medieval and post-medieval contexts (Table 11).

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Description	Spot date
35		4	u/s finds	pre-shoring	Single thoracic vertebra from young adult	early 19thC
70	68	4	fill	pit (disuse)	Right central maxillary incisor. Adult, heavily worn	medieval 1250-1350
151		2	layer	occupation buildup	Adult sternum	mid 15thC
213		2	finds unit	machining finds	Left clavicle, mid shaft from sub adult/adult	15thC

Table 11: Human skeletal material by context

The material is in fair to poor condition. The origin of the human bone is not known, although it could derive from periodic clearances in the adjacent churchyard of St Laurence's church to the east of the site.

## Appendix 9: Shellfish

By Helen Stocks

### 1 Introduction

A small shellfish assemblage (total 1.493kg; Table 12) was recovered from a variety of dumped deposits and feature fills, most of which date to the medieval period.

The assemblage largely comprises oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), accounting for 91% of the total assemblage, with occasional inclusions of mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) and two types of whelk (*Buccinum undatum* and *Neptunea antiqua*).

## 2 Method of Recovery

All molluscs were recovered from stratified deposits within Trenches 2 and 4 with the exception of context 213, machine-excavated finds likely to source originally from contexts 151 and 154.

The shells were recovered by hand. Further bulk samples were taken from contexts 86, 154, 155, 156 and 216. The residues were sieved through a 2mm mesh from which whole shells and fragments were collected. This may account for a slight skew in the abundance data as small fragments, especially mussel shell, may have been missed.

Shell analysis was carried out to identify the assemblage to species and count for minimum number of individuals; preliminary examination of the condition of the shells was also undertaken.

## 3 Quantification

Context	Provisional date	Oyster (MNI)	Burnt oyster (MNI)	Common Whelk (MNI)	Red whelk (MNI)	Mussel (MNI)	Cockle (MNI)
154	Med 13th	3			1		2
155	Med 13th	1					
70	Med	1				11	
86	Med	1					
89	Med				1		
91	Med	1					
151	Med	90				1	3
152	Med	1		1			
155	Med	8	1			1	3
156	Med	5				1	
213	Med	5					
216	Med	2		1		1	1
218	Med	1					
219	Med	6		1			
220	Med					1	
222	Med	1		1			1
223	Med	13	1			1	
224	Med	6		1	1	1	
226	Med	1					
228	Med	2		1		1	
216	Post Med	2					

Table 12: Minimum Number of Individual (MNI) per species

## 4 Condition

Overall the shellfish assemblage is very fragmentary. Oyster shells were all nearly complete though breakage around the edges was present on almost all shells. A third of the assemblage showed evidence of encrustation mainly by the attachment of other oysters and micro biota in some cases leading to severe pitting. This indicates presence in the water for a length of time and may explain the fragile

nature of the assemblage. The outer layer of the shells showed an orangey brown discolouration believed to be post depositional.

The whelks all showed signs of fragmentation around the aperture and the shell is abraded. The mussel shells within the assemblage were all fragmentary therefore only allowing a MNI of one per context. Cockle shells showed little deterioration largely due to their more robust shell.

## **5 Distribution**

The majority of shells were from the occupational build up and dumped layers (151, 152, 154, 155, 156, 213) in Trench 2. The other medieval assemblage (70, 86, 89, 91, 216, 218, 219, 220, 222, 223, 224, 226, 228) was retrieved from domestic refuse deposited within pits. The occurrence of burnt oyster shell probably results from the accidental inclusion within a fire.

The post-medieval assemblage was collected from a pit fill, though the function is unclear.

## **6 Discussion**

The relatively small size of the assemblage and the fragmentary nature of the individual shells would preclude further analysis, though a general picture can be drawn up to show that shellfish along with the fish remains recovered contributed towards the medieval diet.

The assemblage shows that oysters were the most heavily exploited of the species with occasional occurrence of cockles, mussel and whelk. A full range of harvesting techniques is apparent, both on the intertidal zone and within the sea.

The preliminary aging of the oyster shells showed a varied range with older specimens evident in half the population, along with the high frequency of shells that showed signs of encrustation. This suggests that the exploitation was not overly heavy or cultivated.

The occurrence of red whelk within the assemblage may show an accidental inclusion as although common in British waters it is largely inedible, possibly suggesting that the shellfish arrived on site before being processed.

## Appendix 10: Charred Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains

By Val Fryer

### 1 Introduction and method statement

Samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and ten were submitted for an evaluation of their content.

The samples were bulk floated by the CCC AFU, and the flots were collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Table 13. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997) for the plant remains and Macan (1977) for the mollusc shells. All plant macrofossils were charred.

### 2 Results (Table 13)

#### *Plant macrofossils*

Cereal grains and/or seeds of common weeds/wetland plants were present at low to moderate densities in all ten assemblages. Preservation was moderately good, although a proportion of the grains were puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded, with barley and wheat occurring most frequently. A bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis node, noted within sample 9, was the sole chaff element recorded.

Weed seeds were rare, occurring mostly as single specimens within only six of the assemblages. All were of common segetal weeds including persicaria (*Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia*), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and vetch/vetchling (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.). Wetland plant remains, comprising sedge (*Carex* sp.) and spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.) nutlets, were recorded within only two assemblages (Samples 4 and 8). A single fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell was present in Sample 1.

Charcoal fragments were present or common throughout, but other plant remains were rare. Those recorded included pieces of charred

root/stem (including heather (Ericaceae)), a ling (*Calluna vulgaris*) capsule and an indeterminate bud.

### **Molluscs**

Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, shells were recorded within most assemblages. A number of these shells, which retained excellent surface coloration and delicate surface structuring, were almost certainly modern in origin, but burnt specimens of wetland/aquatic species, noted within five assemblages, were probably contemporary with the contexts from which the samples were taken.

### **Other materials**

Fish bones were present or common in all but one sample (8). Other materials probably derived from dietary refuse included fragments of bone, eggshell and marine mollusc shell. Other remains were rare.

## **3 Summary of Evidence**

With the possible exception of Sample 8, domestic waste/ hearth debris would appear to be the prime constituent of most of the assemblages studied. The density of material recovered may not be indicative of primary deposition, but the intense re-working of deposits within this area of the city during the medieval period almost certainly resulted in the distribution of material throughout many of the excavated features. Cereals would have been arriving on site as batches of prime grain, hence the lack of chaff and weed seeds, and other dietary elements commonly recorded from the city include the fish and mammal bone fragments and the marine mollusc shells. Wood/charcoal were almost certainly the primary fuels in use on site, although some heather may have been imported from the Mousehold area to the east. Although the site is relatively close to the river, riverine macrofossils are rare. Small quantities of sedge and spike-rush, along with their attendant molluscs, may have been imported on to the site for use as litter, thatch or fuel (cf. Sample 8). However, the river frontage in this area appears to have been intensively used for a range of industrial activities throughout the medieval period and, as a result, it may not have been a good source of useful materials.

## **4 Recommendations for further sampling**

If further excavations are planned within this area of Norwich, additional samples should be taken to supplement the existing data for the settlement and development of this western area of the walled city. Although the samples reported on here are almost certainly largely derived from scattered refuse, they clearly show that plant macrofossils are well preserved within the archaeological horizon, and

may yield valuable data about diet and economy during the medieval period.

Therefore, it is strongly recommended that the following be included within a comprehensive strategy for environmental sampling:

- Additional samples of 10 – 30 litres in volume should be taken from all well sealed and dated contexts, to include pits, post-holes, ditches and other discrete features. Further samples can be taken from other contexts at the discretion of the excavator.
- Samples for pollen analysis should be considered, although specialist advice should be taken before any samples are taken.
- All samples should be stored in cool, dry, dark conditions if possible, and should be processed with a minimum of delay.
- All relevant documentation should accompany samples at all times.
- Special note should be taken of possible industrial waste – all residues should be checked with a magnet for the retrieval of hammer scale etc.
- All specialists should be consulted at the earliest opportunity, and informed immediately if samples are taken.

### References

- |              |      |  |
|--------------|------|--|
| Macan, T.T., | 1977 | British Fresh- and Brackish-Water Gastropods<br>Freshwater Biological Association Scientific<br>Publication 13 |
| Stace, C.    | 1997 | <i>New Flora of the British Isles</i> . Second edition.<br>Cambridge University Press                          |

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Context No.	86	70	91	155	154	156	223	228	216	220
Feature No.	85	68	92				229	229	217	221
Feature type	Pit	Pit	Pit	Layer	Layer	Layer	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit
Date	14th	13/14th	15th	13/14th	13/14th	13/14th	13/14th	13/14th	13/14th	13/14th
<b>Cereals</b>										
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	x	xcf	x	xcf	x				x	
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	xx	x	x	xcf	x	x	x	x	x	x
<i>Hordeum/Secale cereale</i> type (rachis node)				x						
<i>Secale cereale</i> L. (grains)				xcf		xcf	x			
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	xxx		x	x	x		x		x	x
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis node)									x	
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Herbs</b>										
Fabaceae indet.		x		x	x		x			
<i>Galium</i> sp.							x			
<i>Parsicaria maculosa/agrifolia</i>		x								
Small Poaceae indet.			xcf	xcf						
<i>Rumex</i> sp.							x			
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp.	x						x			
<b>Wetland plants</b>										
<i>Carex</i> sp.				x				x		
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.								xx		
<b>Tree/shrub macrofossils</b>										
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	x									
<b>Other plant macrofossils</b>										
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	xx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx
Charcoal >2mm	x	x	x	xx	x	x	xx	x	x	xx
Charred root/stem	x	x	x		x		x		x	x
Ericaceae indet. (stem)							x			
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> L. (capsule)							x			
Indet. bud							x			
Indet. seeds	x							x		x
<b>Molluscs</b>										
<b>Wetland/aquatic species</b>										
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>									xb	
<i>Bilhyia</i> sp.				xb						
<i>Gyalus alba</i>				xc/b						
<i>Lymnaea peregra</i>				xb						
<i>L. truncatula</i>								xb		
<i>Valva cristata</i>					xb	xb				
<i>V. piscinalis</i>				xb						
<i>Vertigo substriata</i>								xb		
<b>Other materials</b>										
Black porous 'coke' material	x	x		x				x		x
Black tarry material					x			xb		
Bone	x	x	xb			x				
Burnt stone				x						
Eggshell	x	x	x	xb		x	x		x	x
Ferrous globules			x							
Fish bone	x	xb	x	xx	xx	xx	x	xxx	x	x
Marine mollusc shell	x	x	x				x			x
Small mammal/amphibian bone				x		xb				
Vitreous material	x	x	x				x			
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>										
Volume of flot (litres)	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Key: x = 1 – 10 specimens    xx = 10 – 100 specimens    xxx = 100+ specimens    b = burnt

Table 13: Charred plant macrofossils and other remains



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